

Counting Esquimo Noses a Serious Undertaking for the Census Bureau

ESTIMATES of the population and cost of the coming enumeration of Alaska have been submitted to United States Census Director Durand by W. C. Hunt, chief statistician for population who has direct charge of the work. The estimate of 1909 cost a total population of 67,382. It is estimated that the coming enumeration will cost considerably less than the above figure, and that the population may not be so large. This latter fact is due to certain peculiar conditions existing in Alaska at the time of the enumeration in 1900, whereas the present enumeration will be taken under more normal conditions.

The date of the enumeration is to be December 31, 1909, instead of April 15, 1908, which latter is the date beginning the general enumeration of the United States. Alaska has been divided into four districts for census purposes, the first being in charge of Chief Special Agent Andrew Thompson, headquarters at Juneau. The other three districts will be controlled by Chief Special Agents Joseph H. Romig, headquarters at Seward, with twenty special agents assisting him; the third, Chief Special Agent William T. Loom, headquarters at Nome with thirteen special agents under his orders and the fourth, Chief Special Agent William A. McKenzie, stationed at Fairbanks, with twenty special agents detailed to his charge.

With the exception of Mr. McKenzie, the other chief special agents are representatives of the United States Bureau of Education and are the school superintendents of their respective districts. They have spent many years studying the people and conditions in Alaska. Mr. McKenzie has been in the employ of the Census Bureau a number of years and is an expert on Alaskan matters. In addition to these, the services of the school teachers and of others in the territory connected with the Bureau of Education will be largely utilized in the actual work of enumeration, and when this is not practicable, others usually familiar with the conditions will be selected.

Director Durand believes that co-operation on the part of the Bureau of Education in permitting its representatives to serve in the census work, together with the advanced date of enumeration, December 31, will result in a very thorough census of Alaska.



ESKIMO WOMEN ON BOARD THE BEAR.

The last census there was taken as of July 1, 1908, but it was necessary to send enumerators into some parts of Alaska as early as the middle of July, 1908, and it was not until nearly the end of October, 1908, that their work was completed.

It is expected that the coming enumeration will be finished in less than half the time taken before, owing chiefly to the earlier, mid-winter date of the work. Director Durand has made several important exceptions regarding the time of enumeration in order to meet radical variations in the conditions in certain of the principal census districts. In the second district, Chief Special Agent Romig points out in a report to the director, that there are between 3,000 and 10,000 persons who would be missed by a winter enumeration. These persons, who, to a great extent, represent the mining and canning industries, come out of Alaska during the closed, or winter season, but return early in the spring. As a consequence, they would be missed in the census of April 15 in the states. Besides, they make their living in Alaska and should be counted there, it is held.

Accordingly, Dr. Romig will make preparations for their enumeration about the latter part of next spring. His district comprises to a large extent outlying territory, including the Alaska peninsula, the Aleutian and Pribilof islands, and other inaccessible points along the southwest coast, where an enumeration in the winter months is practically impossible. Even in the summer the question of visiting these points is a most serious one and would involve the hiring of a steamer, if one could be obtained, which is doubtful. Knowing, however, that the revenue service annually sends a vessel to cruise in Alaskan waters, the secretary of the treasury was appealed to and he has given his consent to the detail of a cutter to survey the special representative of the census bureau to such points in this district as may be necessary for the purpose of enumeration. It is estimated that the trip will take about a month and a half, starting from Seward about the middle of June.

The Alaskan population schedule agrees in general with that to be used for the enumeration in the United States, except that the former has an additional column

for the statement of the tribe and class of the native population.

In his report to the bureau relative to conditions in his district as he found them last September, Chief Special Agent McKenzie states that the conditions in the territory, particularly in the interior, differ very materially from those of ten years ago. At that time the people were, for the most part, located in well-defined camps easy of access, comparatively speaking, but now they are scattered widely over all the creeks in the territory. Compared with the work done in the summer, the mining in the winter is very much greater and men who have been idle during the summer will be scattered far out on the creeks this winter. Mr. McKenzie stated that winter conditions are more favorable in his district for mining operations and for travel than in the summer. He has been besieged by men seeking appointment. His plan is to have local men designated and then he will proceed by dog-sled to their homes and appoint and instruct them.

Chief Special Agent Thompson in a report dated Juneau, October 18 last, stated: "Most of the native people are at home

in the home villages during the winter months, November, December, January and February, and practically all are at home during Christmas week, that being their great week of festivities. During the fall and spring months they are in and out from their work of hunting, trapping, logging, fishing and of putting up native foods. Generally speaking, about half the population are in the villages at that time. During the summer months, however, the villages are entirely deserted, with the exception of a few old, blind and crippled people, and sometimes a few children. All able-bodied men, women and children are then out at work, some fishing for the canneries, some logging, some mining, some working in the canneries, while many are simply camping and hunting and preparing winter food on their own account."

Mr. Thompson goes on to state that he believes it safe to say that a typical Indian village of 300 people is scattered in fifty different places during the summer months, and that it would be a hard task and an expensive one to locate the Indians in the woods, on the waters and in the temporary camps, especially in a



ESKIMO FAMILY AT POINT BARROW.

country like southeastern Alaska. He points out that, by using the services of school teachers during the Christmas vacation, the cost of enumerating the native population will be very nominal and about one-fifth of what it would cost in the summer, and, at the same time, it will be more nearly correct.

Mr. Thompson says further that the conditions he mentioned concerning the natives apply, to a less pronounced extent to the white population also, and he believes, therefore, that the enumeration in the mid-winter will be comparatively simple. He says, however, that "there is one objection to a census in January and that is, that a number of regular residents go out to the states for the Christmas holidays and do not return again until towards spring, and also that this year a few who are outside, because of the extra attraction of the exposition will remain outside until spring. This objection, however, can be obviated by making careful inquiry for all such bona fide residents who are outside, and securing their names and addresses in the states and then getting them enumerated here where they belong. It

should be said that the work here will be done largely by such men who know practically everybody in their districts, and also to where they are."

The waters in Mr. Thompson's district are open the year around and such of his enumerators as might be required to travel would, he says, charter gasoline boats, at about \$20 per day, the average price.

No attempt was made by the United States government to enumerate the people of Alaska at the decennial census of 1870, three years after the purchase of the territory from Russia. This necessarily incomplete one taken in 1880 disclosed a population of 23,426. The census in 1890 showed a total of 25,952. During the decade ending in 1900, the population nearly doubled. Of this number 20,338 were native Indians and 5,614 native whites. There were 45,972 males, 17,730 females, 50,931 native born, 12,661 foreign born, 30,603 whites, of which 17,694 were native whites with native parents, 4,215 native whites with foreign parents and 8,704 whites. The total colored was 25,088, of which 188 were negroes, 2,116 Chinese, 279 Japanese and 23,276 Indians.

PALADINO NOT UP TO DATE

Magicians Say She Has Lost One Great Opportunity.

EXPERT OPINION ON "MEDIUM"

Feats of Spooks Not Up to Standard of Commercial Magic—Table Tipping and Leggerdom that is Really Great.

NEW YORK, Dec. 4.—If you want to know just what the magicians think of Eusapia Paladino you ought to drop around to their headquarters on Sixth avenue. Once a month the club, known as the Society of American Magicians, meets in a hall at the back of the small shop in which is sold everything in the way of conjuring. A grinning skull greets you from its position on a counter and along the walls are framed autographs of Herman, Houdini and other masters of the art, with souvenirs of their triumphs.

Herrman was once himself an officer of the society, and today it boasts a very distinguished membership—Kellar, the dean of magicians; Dr. Sargent, an ex-president; Carter, who is described as the coming magician, for though one of the youngest members, he has already shown great promise as an inventor; Downs, Thurston, Leon Herrman, nephew of the great Herrman; Carl Germaine, inventor and magician, who has, it is sadly acknowledged, left the profession for his mistake; Elmer Hanson, known as the magician for the Four Hundred, who went to the White House to entertain Ruth Cleveland and her little friends and who, as he expresses it, "used to make the eyes of Mrs. Harry Payne Whitney start from her head when she was a little one, and now doing the same tricks for her children. Then there is Matinka, the proprietor, who has delved in magic properties for some twenty-four years as the same places.

It was to this shop that one of the Paladino entourage went to buy luminous paint some time before the medium's arrival. The purchase was recently admitted. Mr. Matinka was quite pettish about this and said frankly that there was no earthly reason why Mrs. Herrman Carrington or her husband should have spoken of the matter at all.

"We certainly wouldn't," he said. "Oh, yes, of course, they had a plausible reason for buying it. Mediums always have a plausible reason for buying luminous paint—and other conjuring apparatus."

It is the pettiest opinion among the magicians that Paladino has too many people about her who could help her and that trick apparatus is too easy of access. "Not that we say she resorts to our tricks," says an emphasis on the "our," "but we do say that so far we have heard of her doing nothing that hasn't been done by loads of other people and that every member of this club hasn't been familiar with for so long that he would be afraid of being shot dead if a magician he advertised anything so crude and raw."

Makes the Table Dance.

Sometimes a magician can attach them himself," explains the owner, "sometimes they have to be put on by a confederate, something easily accomplished in the dark, and once fastened a table can be lifted as easily as a blotter laid up high. Naturally when you see the medium's hands flat on the surface of the table and the table takes flying leaps and lilt like a catboat in a hurricane you are inclined to believe there must be something afoot in the theory of departed spirits coming back in the guise of little comrades to tip tables in line of better employment."

Mr. Kellar offered Paladino \$500 if she would come to his rooms in the Hotel Astor and give a seance there. She was to have any companions she desired to have, but could not do any refurbishing in the way of cabinets, trunks, cans of luminous paint, or anything else that would seriously interfere with the existing domestic arrangements. So far Mr. Kai-



MATINKA, THE HAUNT OF GOOD SPIRITS.

lar's invitation has not been accepted. Dr. Ellison, treasurer of the Society of the American Magicians, was at the first seance of Eusapia Paladino and is reported by his friends to have said that he did not see anything that was less than fifty years old, and though invited for the second seance he was not enough interested to spend the time necessary for witnessing further manifestations.

One of the Real Cases. "Paladino, to my way of thinking," interposes a middle aged member of the group. "Ain't a patch to Margaret Fox. She was the star member of the celebrated Fox sisters and I was one of her assistants in her halcyon days. She had all the spiritualists of her time haled and would have kept the Society of Psychological Research, if it had existed then, up all night every night in the week guessing what next."

"After she had taken in all the money she saw about as a medium, acting as a witness between the quick and the dead, she exposed her own tricks and made a lot of money that way. As soon as peo-

ple got tired of the exposure game she became a medium again and advertised seances. All of her old timers came back and believed in her just the same. "Like all magicians and conjurers, she had one special trick peculiarly her own. It just happened that as some people can snap their fingers and make a loud, pistol-like report with each, so she could snap her toes. She would stand alongside a door with her arms raised and her hands in full view, while just peeping out from her long dress the client would see her two slippers, but did not see that she had slipped one of her feet out of its covering.

"Placing this foot behind her against the panel of the door, she could strike with each of her toes, keeping up a continual rattling, she fooled everybody. Think what a sensation Paladino would create here if after being berated the way she has been she could do something as novel as that trick was when Margaret Poe first essayed it."

Tough on the Indian Fakir. "It is the power of the traveler's talis-

and the desire of the narrator in print to make a good story that is responsible for the idea that more wonderful tricks and illusions are performed in India than in any other country in the world—and that nothing in the western world compares with the magic of the east. The East Indian conjurers when they come here and are deprived of atmospheric effects—the peculiar native music which accompanies their exhibitions and the self-yielding in advance which is the usual attitude of the stranger there—are ludicrous, absolutely ludicrous, in their attempts to compare with our magicians.

"They simply cannot do it," he is all. On their native heath, attired in some strange fabric, with a tom-tom playing some incense burning, a crowd of wide-eyed disciples about, the whole atmosphere of that marvelous country to draw on as aid, an Indian fakir can come along, stick his three sticks in the ground, put over them a bit of drapery, crouch over this and presently disclose a flower pot, into the earth of which he puts a seed.

"Crouching still lower he manages dexterously to take a small slip of a plant from some of the folds of his gown and opening the drapery of his little tent again it is found to be where the seed was a moment before. Wonderful," says the American traveler.

"Again the fakir crouches, while the tom-toms beat louder and the incense fumes are thicker, and lo and behold the plant has grown several inches! The hemp seed trick is known to every magician, but none of them has the temerity to lay it on an American audience, for the same reason that withholds them from other tricks mentioned, the fear of being shot dead in their tracks."

Effect of Liberty Paint. Mr. Matinka interrupts the conversation to show some luminous paint. A small can of strong light for a few moments until it has absorbed the radiance desired. In a small room, made absolutely dark, the paint gives a faint bluish, white light like that of the moon shining on a cloud. It is



ADJUSTING THE TABLE LIFTER.

ghostly, world tint and applied to the desired surface might easily affect the nerves of a believer at a spiritualistic seance.

It is explained how a filmy fabric like liberty silk can be covered with this and then concealed in some place easy of access by the medium.

"There was one medium," says a magician, "who always kept her silk robe in the heel of her shoe, from which it could be taken in a moment and put on. Sometimes it is hid in the handle of a banjo or it can even be rolled up and tucked away in the coffin."

"Spirit hands are made of paper or cardboard, and covered with this paint and exposed against a black surface they will create a weird effect in a dark room. Of course the one unfulfilling help of the spiritualistic medium is the darkness; that she must have."

Work from the Cabinet. Another bit of very popular apparatus which is shown is a slim aluminum rod, which works on the principle of the lazy tong, and can be lengthened from six inches to five or six feet. At one end of this rod is a loop and when the medium is carefully tied in a cabinet to the satisfaction of the skeptics, this rod, either given to him by a confederate or concealed in the cabinet, is used to gather whatever objects may be within reach.

One of the magicians who in earlier days was a medium admitted that his favored tool, the rod, had been invented there, was a regular fish line sinker, covered with camellia to render it noiseless. To this were attached fish hooks, and this he could throw from the cabinet to the stage and gather in all sorts of flotsam and jetsam.

"It must be realized," explains one of the group, "that no matter how closely the medium is tied and even though the tapes may be sealed and marked with the names of the doubting Thomases, if he is any kind of a contortionist, and that is a requisite of the medium, he can usually manage to work his hands in some way or other, if he does not happen to

have a confederate, which is usually the case."

De Kolts's Famous Trick. The proprietor disappears for a moment, to return from some dark corner holding a small wire birdcage, the edges bound in stout leather and the whole encased in a glass covering.

"This is the famous cage used by



THE SPIRIT AS IT WOULD APPEAR IN THE LIGHT.

Bustier de Kolts, now deceased, who by the unanimous vote of the society was the greatest magician who has ever been in America," he says.

"The bird cage trick was invented by de Kolts, who would hold it in his hand so that the audience could see it and the confederate inside on the perch, and while it was being watched he would cause it to disappear so that the empty hand was all that met the astonished gaze of people."

"Think of the excitement Paladino could produce with something like that," remarks one of the society from a far corner, where he is showing a novice how to write the names of four living people and one dead one on slips of paper, and after the slips, exactly similar in shape and size,

have been shaken in a hat, how to pick the name of the dead person each time without effort. It is the first lesson offered the amateur, and he learns in a minute, paying 50 cents for the information."

The Zanigas are members of the society and their mind reading act is next referred to.

"There are at least," explains a magician, "a hundred ways of doing the mind reading act, as with slate writing, every magician has his own method. The Zanigas have one that probably requires the greatest feat of memory or the most complicated system of signals. Often a so-called mind reader, working with a confederate, will actually memorize a thousand articles, so that when a clue is given the medium knows at once whether it is a handkerchief, a hat, a chair or a table that is in question."

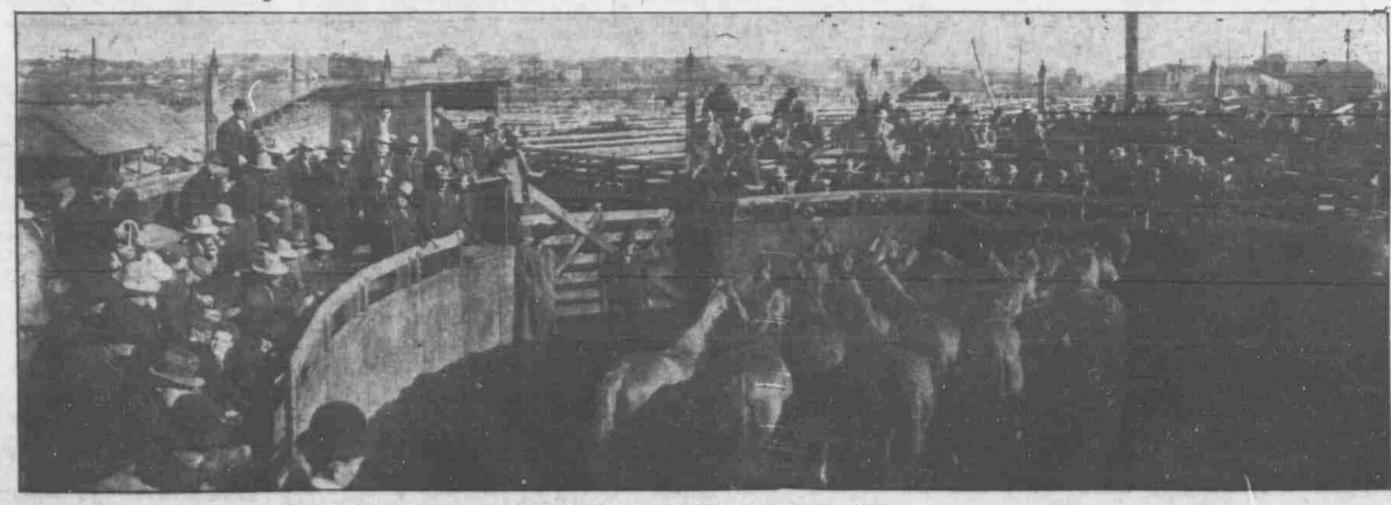
Making the Clanny Hand.

"Spirit hands are very easy to make. Sometimes a kid glove immersed in ice water after being stuffed with flour is held on the hook of the aluminum rod and when a medium is strapped in a chair inside a cabinet is brushed against the faces of the breathless audience. That gives a charming sensation, and must convince the most sceptical that the loved one is surely there."

"Occasionally a medium has his hands closely held by the hands of the inquirer into psychic lore and with his teeth manages to take a turkey feather from inside his coat and with this tickles the face or fingers of someone nearby, who is sure to be convinced, for, as they truly say, 'the hands are closely held, there is no possibility of a trick being played.'"

"Bishop was the best of all muscle readers, as that art is known in the profession. His advertised mind reading was really done by a marvelous power of telling from the involuntary contraction and relaxation of the muscles, as well as from the beating of the pulse whether he was wearing the hidden object. Bishop contended that this slight change in the pulse and muscles was just as absolutely beyond the control as was the knowledge that it existed, the subject believing that he really gave no evidence of his thought. Really dead when the post mortem was performed? Certainly not, not any more dead than the young chap in New Jersey who was hypnotized. He might have remained in that state for a week, but would have come out of it eventually, we believe."

Where Many Thousands of Horses and Mules Are Annually Sold



THE UNION STOCK YARDS, SOUTH SCENE AT THE HORSE MARKET AT OMAHA.