

Washington.

Placards—U. S. Dept. of Labor, Children's Bureau, Washington, D. C.

Baby Week bulletin—State College, Pullman, Washington.

Suggestions—Mrs. N. S. McCready, Chairman Health Committee, Snohomish, Washington.

Very sincerely yours,

CHARLES M. BUCHANAN,
Superintendent, etc.

ALASKAN INDIANS

At the recent Citizenship Day Celebration at Hampton Institute Thomas B. Reed, of the Middle or Beaver Tribe, Anvik, Alaska, was the main attraction of the evening. He entertained the audience with a wonderful dance of the Medicine Man, and also gave a talk on the customs and superstitions of his people. The discerning smile which covered some of his statements plainly indicated that his Indian sense of humor is very keen. In substance his remarks follow:

"My home is in Alaska, about 400 miles up the Yukon river and about 125 miles inland. The Indians in that part of the country are very timid and backward. They still believe in and stick to their old customs and way of living. Formerly they lived in huts hollowed out of the ground. The entrance was so low that people had to go in on their hands and knees, nor could they stand erect when inside. The people have now moved to log cabins which they call the "white man's house." In these houses there is usually one room about 18 by 20 feet, and sometimes three or four families live in the same cabin. In many of these houses the floor serves as table and chairs at meal time, and as bedsteads at night.

"The main food is meat and fish. In the winter a good many people do not cook the fish at all. In the summer berries, fruit, and roots are added to the diet. It is easy for these people to have ice cream at any time. There is no cream about it, but tallow and berries are mixed with snow, sometimes fish is added, and when it is frozen it makes a fine dish.

"In Alaska the people have all kinds of superstitious beliefs. They must not throw away or burn any old clothing, for that would be the same as destroying a part of themselves. All fish bones must be taken out into the middle of the river or stream and poured overboard. Every bone will turn to a fish and thus is the supply kept up. When