BLOW AT FISHERIES

Alaska Packers Oppose Compulsory Propagation.

WOULD CLOSE THE CANNERIES

Trenspry Department Asked to Sus pend the Regulation and Appoint Commission to Locate Sites for Hatcheries.

Portland packers who are interested in the sulmon fisheries of Alaska have headed a petition asking Secretary Gage, of the Treasury Department, to abrogate the regulation of May 2, 1900, and February 18, 1901, requiring canners to establish and maintain artificial propagating plants. They say enforcement of the regulation would close every fishing estabnment in Alaska, and involve a loss of millions of dollars.

Six companies and corporations have signed, and Puget Sound, Astoria and California canners will be asked to co-operate. The signers are: George T. Myers & Co., Boston Fishing & Trading Com-pany, by D. W. Crowley, president; Thiinket Packing Company, by J. T. Barron, president; Western Fishing Company, by M. G. Munly president; Taku Fishing Company, by J. L. Carlson, president; Alaska Portland Packing Association, by Frank M. Warren, president.

The petition sets forth that artificial propagation under present unfavorable ditions would be a costly experiment of doubtful value. The packers are not opposed to artificial propagation, but they think the work should be undertaken by the Government. They ask that a com-mission be appointed to study the question and select sites where the Govern-ment should build hatcheries. They offer

to pay for fry furnished to them.

The regulation to which exception is taken is, in part, as follows:

Each person, company or corporation taking milmon in Alaskan waters shall establish and conduct, at or hear the fisheries operated by him or them, a suitable artificial propagating plant or hatchery, and shall produce yearly and place in the natural spawning waters of each fishery so operated red salmon fry in such ms shall be equal to at least four times the number of mature fish taken from the said fisheries, by or for him, or them, dur Discussing the regulation, the cannery-

men say, in their petition: Would Close All Canneries.

The meaning of this provision is not clear. It is not certain what is meant by the word "fisheries." If it is the intention of this regulation to require a hatchery at each paricular river, stream or inlet fished, the duties of those coming under its provisions would be rastly increased, as those engaged in that business in Alaska are obliged to fish many streams in order to secure enough fish to make a pack. But it may be assumed for the mes of this petition that the word "fish-as used in this regulation, means a salmon cannery or saltery, as those operating salteries or conneries are the only ones en-

This regulation was no doubt made with the best of intentions to subserve a wise purpose, that is, to preserve the salmon finieries of Alaska. The undersigned, with a view of taking steps to comply with the law, as well as to conserve their own interests, have given much study and consideration to shject covered by this regulation, and are resistibly impelled to the conclusion that it mposes impossible obligations upon those enraged in the fishing industry in Alaska, and enforced, would close up every fishing es-hilshment in that district, and involve the oss of millions of dollars. The objections to the said paragraph, briefly stated, are as fol-

First-The business of propagating salmon and the measure of success thus far attained in this field has been accomplished under the most skilled, scientific management, and un-der the most favorable conditions. Those conditions are not present in Alaska, and skilled help is unavailable to meet the immeskilled help is unavailable to meet the demands of the great number sing enterprises required to observe this

Second-The conditions which present the greatest difficulties may be classed under the following heads: (1) Proper Food Supply. (2) Sufficient supply of pure water. (3) Climatic differences between Alaska and the states where batchery experiments have been hither-to conducted, and (4) owing to the numbers and destructiveness of the natural enemies of the salmon fry which are found in vasily greater numbers in the initural salmon spawn-ing waters of Alaska than elsewhere, the planting of fry in the ordinary way would result in their destruction in such number

as to make results valueless.

Third—The artificial propagation of salmon is science requiring special scientific knowl edge, special training and special skill. (1) in the construction of suitable buildings and mechanism, and in the operation of the hatchery plant; (2) in the manipulation and care of salmon for spawn; (3) in the care and treatment of salmon eggs and salmon fry, both subject to many peculiar allments and diseases which can only be diagnosed and treated by persons having proper scientific knowledge and practical skill.

These difficulties will be discussed in the inverse of the order above stated.

No Skilled Help in Alaska. A cureful study of the manual of fish culbelow referred to makes it plain that only those with scientific knowledge and practical experience and skill could hope either to construct buildings suitable or proper for hatchery purposes, or operate the same, or properly take or transport or manipulate the salmon in securing the spawn, or care for the spawn until intched, or the fry after hatching, and until the period for planting arrives. This is apparent from a reading of the said manual from pages 22 to 36 inclusive. This is particularly true as to the diagnosis and treatment of diseases and aliments of the spawn and fry, which subject is explained of the ordinary commercial products; and yet it cannot be doubted that there is as much knowledge and experience required as in making cheese or chocolate, boats or brandy. lumber or leather. Some idea of the scope Eggs, "Winter Care of Eggs," "Hatching Apparatus and Methods." "The Sac Stage," "Care of the Fry," etc. At least one experienced and skilled person would be required to superintend each hatchery; but it would not be possible to provide even that number of competent help for the number of plants required under this law. In brief, all successful ery work predicates experienced and capable management, as the discussion of the

mintters which follow will show. Food Supply Insufficient.

The regulation required the "production and planting of fry in such numbers as shall be equal to at least four times the number of matured fish taken from the fisheries by him matured fish taken from the fisheries by him or they during the preceding fishing season. There are annually over 750,000 cases of 48 one-pound cans each of red fish put up in the District of Alaska. This would represent about 7,500,000 red fish, and the fry required to be produced under this regulation would be 30,000,000. The food found most satisfactory and successful in the conduct of salmon hatcheries is raw meat or beef liver, or butchers offal, alternated with wheat middlings as the fish grow older. Maggots produced from freel meat have also been found to be most satisfactory food. The revised edition of the satisfactory food. The revised edition of the anual on fish culture issued by the United | the wind will blow

States Commission on Fish and Fisheries (1900)

on page 15, says:

The best food for salmon fry is some kind of meat, finely pulverized. Boiled liver is especially good for this purpose, partly because it is inexpensive and easily obtainable, and also because it can be separated into very fine particles. Baw liver is also excellent, and may be reduced into as fine particles as the cooked liver by grinding or chopping, and then properly straining it through a fine-mesh screen. The yolk of boiled eggs is also suitable; but is much more expensive than liver, and is not so good for the fish as liver, unless largely mixed with it. As the fish grow older they continue to thrive best on meat food, but if that is not always obtainable in sufficient quantities or on account of its expense, a very good substitute is a mixture of shorts or commeal with the meat.

An ordinary pack of a small cannery would An ordinary pack of a small cannery we

be 20,000 cases, averaging 10 fish to the case. This pack would represent 200,000 salmon. Allowing for losses after spawning and before the fry are matured, this pack would, under this regulation, oblige the production of about 1,000,000 fry, and, according to the best authorities, this number of fry would require at least 1500 pounds of beef liver per month, in addition to other food. The food requirement of the total annual Alaska pack, as above stated, would be a simple matter of Owing to the distance of Alaska from any large meat-consuming center, it would be impossible to secure this, the best class of food, or breed maggots on account of the climate, or supply any food except the wheat middlings preparation. Canned salmon has been fed to salmon fry as an experiment, but we have been assured by E. N. Carier, the efficient supervisor of the Clackamas hatchery, in Oregon, from whom much valuable information has been obtained in this connec-tion, that this food is not to be recommunded, as, according to his experience, the fry fed on it have been attacked with an ol tervous disorder of an acute character, which resulted in the death of the young fry in large numbers. Fresh fish of some suitable kind would have to be provided, but what kind of fresh fish, and its preparation, would be a

Artificial Supply of Pure Water. This is of the utmost importance, as we shall learn from discussion of this particular branch of the subject in the manual of fish culture above referred to. It is well known, however, that the fresh waters of Alaska are either surface of glacial waters. Large areas in that district, especially along the coast, are absolutely without soil, except a thin layer of vegetable mold, and no stream or water supply is found which is fed by springs. This makes it difficult to secure any suitable fresh water supply without the aid of some expens-ive artificial method of purification to free the waters either from glacial matter carried in

solution and suspension, or surface impurities and fungus, both destructive of salmon spawn. In his report of the "Salmon Fisheries of Alaska" (1899), by Captain Moser, a refer-ence is made to this feature on page 115 of that report, relating to a small hate ated at Klawak, Aluska.

Climatic Differences. These are apparent. There have been one two attempts at artificial propagation of sai-mon in Alaska, but with doubtful results. It would be most difficult in many of the can-nery and fishery sites to erect suitable buildings, except with enormous expense, or to operate the same successfully, on account of the low temperature prevailing during the Winter season, when salmen spawn, and fry would be in need of most protection. In a small hatchery at Redfish Bay, Baranoff Island, Alaska, in 1896, the salmon eggs were frozen selld and destroyed. (Report of Captain Moser, page 120.)

The Enemies of Salmon Fry. The greatest enemy of the salmon fry is the salmon trout. Each particular species of salmon is followed by schools of salmon trout, almost equal in numbers to the salmon themselves, which prey upon the eggs and salmo fry, and the planting of salmon fry before it is capable of defending itself from this enemy, and also the herring and other enemies of the salmon trout, which infest Alaskan waters in large numbers, would almost nullify efforts in this direction. It may be said that where salmon can breed naturally they may be batched artificially, but the answer is that artificial methods and natural processes are widely distinct in their operations. In their natural course salmon spawn may be safely hatched under a glacier or grinding toebergs

where spawn artificially taken requires a com-paratively high and equable temperature, and the most careful and delicate treatment. What the Canners Want. Hatcheries are undoubtedly required to per-

petuate the salmon industry, and those who have invested in salmon fisheries are more concerned in their preservation than any other class. It is the wish of the undersigned to avoid the appearance of dictation to the department as to the course to be pur-sued in this matter, but would suggest that two or more central hatching stations be constructed by the Government at some favorable point where the same can be sue erated, and where fry can be reared in suf-ficient numbers to a suitable age for planting in those waters, and could be supplied to those interested in the fishing business upon terms and conditions both just and equitable. Inasmuch as canneries are now obligated to pa ya heavy license tax to the general Government, they feel that the Government might see its way clear to undertake this work as a return for the same. To the end that this work may be intelligently and premptly initiated, the undersigned recommend that some person or persons with the proper scientific knowledge and equipment be appointed to select proper sites for such hatcheries, and until the final determination of these matters that the regulation in question be abrogated

SUCCESSOR TO BROSIUS.

Speculation as to Who Will Be Chairman of Banking and Currency.

WASHINGTON, March 20.-The death of Representative Broslus makes vacant the chairmanship of the much-sought committee, that of banking and currency. In the natural course of events, this osition would fall to the next ranking Republican member of the committee, who is Charles N. Fowler, of New Jersey. There is some speculation as to whether or not this place will be tendered Mr. Fowler, for the reason that in the past he has had some serious differences with the Republican members of that committee, which may operate against him. At any rate, some of the members of the committee will use their bes tefforts to prevent the appointment of Mr. Fowler to this chairmanship.

The next ranking member to Mr. Fowler is E. J. Hill, of Connecticut, a member who has made a good record for himself while in Congress, and who is quite pop-ular among his colleagues. The remainder of the Republican membership of the committee, as now made up, is as follows: at length on pages 52 to 50, in said manual. It is certain that no one would be expected to prince of Illinois, Capron of Rhode Islanced who, without previous experience or knowledge, would engage in the manufacture ass, Overstreet of Indiana, Lovering of sas, Overstreet of Indiana, Lovering of Massachusetts and Shattue of Ohio.

In this connection, it is interesting to note that for several years past Representative McCleary, of Minnesota, has been the ranking member of the banking of hatchery work may be obtained from a glance at the various subheads and titles in the chapters on salmon propagation in the said ginning of the 56th Congress be surrenmanual, to-wit "Site." "Dams and Conduits."

"Aeration," "Flitering," "Collection of Stock Ralmon," Taking and Impregnating the Eggs," "Conditions Affecting Pecundation of the committee on banking and currently of the committee on banking and currently the committee on banking and currently the committee of the committee on banking and currently the committee of the committee o cy. Mr. McCleary has made a great study of financial questions, and since his entrance in the House has been closely identified with currency legislation. He is peculiarly fitted for this vacant chairmanship, but it is doubtful if he would surrender his place on the appropriations committee for the chairmanship, as appropriations is by far the choicest committee in the House. There is a possibility that he might be appointed chairman of the banking and currency committee and still retain his position on appropriations, but two such plums as that seldom

fall to the lot of any member in the House of Representatives. Meanwhile, owing to the complicated state of affairs, there will be a mighty scramble for this choice chairmanship, and from now until the organization of committees in the 57th Congress, the Speaker will be flooded with requests, petitions and all sorts of indorsements and applications. If neither Mr. Fowler nor Mr. Hill secure the chairmanship there is little or no clew as to which way

DR. LORD ON GAMBLING

MAJORITY OF PORTLAND PROPLE OPPOSED TO GAMES.

Play Is Wholesome, but Playing for Stakes Brings Out Man's Base Instincts.

Rev. W. R. Lord's subject at the Uni-Church yesterday morning was ling." He aligned the forces 'Gambling." which favor and oppose gambling and stated the interest which each has in the subject. Summing up, he said the majority of the people of Portiand are against public gambling. People, he said. love play, but playing for money brings out their baser instincts. In the intro-ductory, Dr. Lord referred to present confitions relating to gambling in Portland. Continuing, he said:
"There is a struggle on between thos

organized in the interest of law enforce ment and the gambling element and their friends. Those opposed to law enforce-

"First-Those directly interested; that is, the professional gamblers,
"Second—Those indirectly interested saloon-keepers and keepers and occupants

of brothels.
"Third-Those few whose business, more or less legitimate, is really benefited by public gambling. "Fourth-Those who think the city is

benefited in a business way, a benefit which they, perhaps, suppose they share. 'Fifth-Those who believe that gambling will be carried on extensively any way, and that the city should recognize it. and derive revenue through systematic

"Sixth-Those, they are few, I believe who in the name of liberty, would let the worst come to pass.
"Seventh-Political interests, in league

"Eighth-Cowards, who uphold outward-ly, what they inwardly disapprove. The men who are willing that others should stand on the firing-line for the sake of these cowards' own families and the city's welfare, and who whisper, 'Don't tell anybody how I stand.'
"On the other side are arrayed:

with this civic and moral curse.

"First-Those who see clearly that moral conditions are necessary to the true wel-fare of the city. These act in entire disregard of so-called business considerations. It would not matter if the busi-ness prosperity of the city depended upon gambling. They act as most any father and mother would with reference to their children. They would not purchase finan cial prosperity for their offspring which involved the offspring in crime. These are the energetic, unfalling, persistent enemies of gambling, on grounds of public

welfare, "Second-The few who see clearly that public gambling is bad for the city- in

business way. Third-The large number who have ome religious sensibilities and whose sympathies are, consequently, on the right side, but who are not as yet much in evidence in the struggle, but are to be relied upon when the call is given. There are some people, no doubt, who cannot see how religion can be opposed to gambling in an organized and effective way. They do not see how religion should take hold on the practical things of life. They are like the colored brother who informed the new minister that he would have to let chicken-stealing alone and stick to the gospel, or he would have no congrega-tion. This story has been suggested by the expressed objection of some to ministers taking an active part in the sup-pression of public gambling. "Between these two opposing forces,

there is a larger or smaller indifferent class. But, counting all the heads, as things now stand, there is, undoubtedly, in this city, a large majority against public gambling. There are, however, too many who favor it. We must expect the people of the first three classes who favor to remain arrayed against any effort to suppress or repress it. But there should be gathered on the opposing side every one else in this city. To all those who have not yet joined in law enforcement, let me speak a plain word upon games,

gaming and gambling.

"Every wholesome man and woman, like a wholesome child, loves play within the limits of adult activities and duties. The play instinct has no ulterior end. A child playing dolls has perfect satisfac-tion in the play itself; it does not play dolls for candy or anything beyond. The Greeks understood the nature of pure play and never corrupted it by any touch of mercenariness. The winner in the great. est contest in the Olympic game away, as symbol of his victory, only a laurel wreath.

"Gaming begins when into the game is introduced something to be reckoned in terms of price, something to make the game more interesting, small takes, etc. When this is done, one of two things is true: Something is the matter with the game, or with us. A game which cannot command our interest without some ad-ditional inducement to engage in it, lacks an essential element of a pure game. Games which depend upon betting for their interest and support are evil."

Mr. Lord used as an illustration of a pure game the American game of baseball, "This, for 40 years," he said, "has kept the enthusiastic interest and support of the people, the game being always conducted without any dependence upon gambling or the gambling element, al-though gamblers, of course, have used that game as they have any game, as an opportunity for chance.

"On the other hand, horseracing has never been able to maintain itself in this country or in England apart from gambling. Now, what is the matter with us when we cannot be interested in a game unless something of value is involved? The answer is, We have corrupted our pure-play instinct with the basest of desires, namely, the desire for gain. Nay, more, is it not true, that when a person gets to the point where a game is more interesting because he may gain from another, or lose himself something of money value, the fountains of pure character have been poisoned?

"We see that card parties with prizes are, therefore bad, because they substitute an illegitimate for a legitimate interest. Again, see how money considerations in games are destructive of true relations in social intercourse. How impossible the finer sympathies and subtle bonds of friendable, when I carry away from my friendable, when I carry away from my friend money won at the card table, or leave with him money lost there! If money is sufficiently valuable to us to odd interest to a game, it cannot, when lost or won, no matter how wealthy we are, but affect these finer personal rela-tions. It is notorious that parlor gaming is most practiced everywhere in that class

of society recognized as hollow and insin-"And now, about what is recognized as gambling. It is fairly startling to find an occasional man who does not see that gambling in its very nature must be wrong In all legitimate money trans-actions between men, there must be the element of value received and given. If there is anything short of this, one party has been robbed of the difference between value received and value given. This is the basic principle of all honest trade. Gambling is trying to rob another at the risk of being robbed yourself. Justification is not to be found in that the chances may be even; so they may be in dueling, but civilized society has come to look upon a man who kills another under such condi-

tions as a murderer. Why, then, is a gam-bler not a robber? "Again, see what effect the living by chance has upon character. Take a man who has the self-respect which comes from the consciousness of earning his way in the world. The food he and his family eat, the clothes they wear, are the equivalent of honest service rendered to so-clety. Let him substitute for this honest service the chances of a game, and see the rapid decline in manhood. Next, it is trifling with a passion that may lead one to stake at the gaming table not only the

bread of his family, but even a child. It is well known in certain circles that this GOOD FIELD FOR GRAFTERS

was once done by a member of a distinguished family, who stood high in the councils of the Nation.

"Then let us see that gambling belongs essentially to barbarians. It is a recog-nized fact that gambling is more genera among savages and semicivilized peopler than among the more advanced and civilized. It is because these people have not yet arrived at a consciousness of the moral relations of propriety. An apology that many make for indulging in gambila is that some sorts of business are essen tially gambling. The argument in substance being that because there is a good deal of stealing in the world already. there is no harm in there being more of it. A man might as well argue that be cause half the city is burned, he may as

well burn a few more houses. What are the legal aspects of public gambling? Why ought it to be repressed, and, as far as possible, suppressed? Principally to remove temptation from all classes, especially from the innocent and young. It has been said that such temptation is needed to develop strong characters in our young men. God knows there will be temptations enough left to try us after we have removed every one we possibly can. Do we not pray, 'Lead us not into temptation'? What a mad denial of our prayer to leave in our paths

such an allurement to vice!
"The second reason for repressing public gambling is that it is against the pub-lic welfare, not alone on the moral, but on the economic side. In a large way and in the long run, moral and economic considerations are coincident. If it were possible that they could be contrary, this world would be a universe without moral order. It is astonishing that any man can be so ignorant of the simplest economic principles as not to see that gambling is destructive of genuine business prosperity.

"In the first place, professional gam blers are leeches on society. They must be supported by the work of other people. They are enemies of thrift. That city or town is prosperous whose inhabitants build and adorn homes and invest their money in productive industries? Gambling business men and clerks are dissipators of They lose at the gaming table wealth. money which should go to discharge given indebtedness at the grocer's, at the tailor's, and so on. How absurd, because public gambling benefits a few stores in certain lines of business, to argue that it is good for the city at large.

"The third reason for repressing public gambling is that it is against the public welfare on the political side. It is notorious that whenever public gambling is recognized or tolerated by public officials, the moral level of civic life is low. and the expense of civic government is large. It has been true in New York. It is true in Chicago, It must be true every-Vice and crime are costly, no alone in the character of men and wome but in dollars and cents, when our municipal governments are on good terms To license gambling, under with them. To license gambling, under the guise of fines, because our public revenues are low, would be like pouring a stream of foul water into one of our reservoirs because the water was low, and

thus poison our public life at its sources. "From the economic as well as the moral side, our city cannot afford to be, through our officials, on tolerant and intimate terms with gamblers whom they have sworn to treat as criminals. For every dollar so obtained our city must pay awful interest, in the character of our citizens, young and old, and in the expensive government which gambling interests always maintain."

Mr. Lord concluded by reading a state-ment by Judge William Travers Jerome, of the Court of Special Sessions, New York City, concerning the character of professional gamblers and gambling in Judge Jerome has been the leading spirit in the recent gambling raids in that city, and has before him all those

NO CALLERS AFTER THREE Secretary Root Departs From Prac

tice of Cabinet Officers. WASHINGTON, March 19 .- Reference has been made several times to the in-dependence of Secretary Root. Of course, somewhere. The latest is because of his determination not to be interrupted for any purpose whatever after 3 o'clock each day. All the doors leading from the corridor into the Secretary's office, the chief clerk's office or any adjacent office which can reach the Secretary are to be closed at 3 o'clock. The messengers are to disappear from the corridors and go inside the big walting-room, there to carry such messages as the Secretary desires, and to assist in clearing up the business of the Secretary's office. Of course, if a man thoroughly understands the ropes he can get inside and take his chances of seeing the Secretary some time between the hours of 3 and 5 or 6 o'clock, whenever the Secretary goes home. Some Sen-ators are occasionally admitted if they know how to get in. There are also ways of telephoning into the Secretary's office and announcing that some particular personage wants to see the Secretary of War and is opened. But the general public is shut

The Secretary's reasons for closing up the office are that he cannot transact the business of the department that actually needs his attention unless he has a por-tion of the day undisturbed. That being the case, there is no particular reason why he should be disturbed. It is clearly a matter of taste with him, and if he does not possess that faculty of seeing a lot of people and turning them off, going back and continuing his work, then he is right in refusing to see them. This ac. tion on the part of Secretary Root is rather an innovation, as Cabinet officers generally do not close up their offices, although they reserve the right to refuse to see visitors who come to see them on business. Secretary Root does not seem to care whether his course is approved by the general Washington public or not.

FOR VANCOUVER B. C.

Steamer Mainlander, in order to accommodate Portland patrons, now leaves Seattle at 10 P. M. Mondays, Wednesdays

Feeling

That's the way it begins. Little things

disturb you. You are irritable, restless

and worry over trifles. Your heart jumps

and palpitates at every sudden noise, you

can't concentrate your mind on your

work, your memory fails and you do not

sleep well at night. In the morning you

feel weak and exhausted, with no appe-

tice for food and no ambition for exertion

of any kind. Nervous prostration has no

ALASKA EXPENSES COME HIGH TO THE UNITED STATES.

Official Reports Show That Di Jerent Prices Are Paid for Same Articles -Prisoners Revel in Luxury.

WASHINGTON, March 21 .- A perusal of he recent report of the Attorney-Genera on account of judicial officers for the second district of Alaska, brings out som rather amusing, and, in some cases, surprising disclosures. It is true that sup-piles cost more in Alaska than in the states, and that transportation charges are heavy, but the fact remains that much might have been saved in many in tances if certain classes of supplies had been purchased in the states and shipper to Alaska. Moreover, there is a vast dea discrimination in many instances. The price paid in one instance does not govern the price paid in another. But as to de-

It is interesting to note that a desk wa ourchased for the United States After ney's office at a cost of \$150, and a type writer deak for the same office at \$5. No doubt this was fine furniture. But added to this, the United States Attorney tousted his feet on chilly days on a "Charter Oak" heater which cost the Government \$50. How humiliating it must have been to Judge Noves when he learned of thes prices, and found that he was writing or a \$75 desk, although he may have derived ome comfort from a \$40 Turkish rug and a \$5 bookcase.

Judge Noyes, however, had some ad-

vantages over the United States Attorney For instance, he paid a carpenter \$8 for eight hours' work in the courtroom, using up \$1 25 worth of lumber and patls More than this, he had the satisfaction of seenight sacks of his mail hauled to his chambers on one occasion, and an addi-tional \$8 for hauling 12 sacks a week or o later. Moreover, even when his duties beset him most thickly, he must have re-membered a Pullman ride from Minneapolis to Sattle at Government expense and 12 days when his subsistence cost the Government \$10 per day, while en route. These things, all in all, must have con-soled him in a measure for having been slighted in the matter of desks.

The expenditures at the Nome tall are sometimes appailing, at other times amus-ing. Think of paying \$45 a ton for coal, in the middle of July. There were pris-oners eating a smoked tongue, for which \$12 50 was expended. It is rather amusing, in looking over a full list of supplies pur chased for the subsistence, to fitem, "two bars Ivory soap, 25c." the other supplies are in sufficient quantitles to last a month. Think of two barroof soap going the rounds of the jail for three or four weeks. The item, "two cans lye and two cans chloride lime." may of-fer some explanation, however. Roast eef, peaches, cream and syrup are among

the articles furnished the prisoners.

In the matter of clothing for prisoners are found the greatest discrepancies. For instance, one man charged with murde was outfitted with socks pair and overshirts at \$1 25 apiece. A lit tle further along we find that \$6 is the price of a full suit of underwear, and \$1 the price of a pair of socks. Prisoner wearing \$1 socks, even at Alaska or Nome rices, could have no cause for complain on that score. Five dollars seems to be the prevailing price for a pair of shoes, and \$4 is the uniform price of blankets. Evidently women prisoners are favored at Nome, for the statement contains this item: "Two mattresses for women prisoners, \$10." There may be some question whether mattresses at that price are an advantage over the ordinary juil bed, how-ver. Coal, at Nome, as elsewhere, seems to be a fluctuating commodity. We fin-that at the end of August Governmen coal cost \$37.50 per ton, but by the middle of September it had risen to \$50 per ton Yet these prices are certified to as "reasonable." By way of contrast, it is stated by miners who spent the season at Nomplenty of coal could be had for from

\$20 to \$30 a ton. Evidently one good way to get rich at Nome is to engage as court stenographer, The gentleman holding down this position last year drew a salary of \$250 per month and an additional allowance of \$102.50 cov. ering board at \$2.50 per day, and room rent at \$40 per month. Contrast this with the allowance for the janitor who cared for the Judge's chambers and offices, receiving only \$20 per month and no expenses. Of course, the janitor had no pull As heretofore stated, it may be said that some of these items are not extravagant because Alaska prices were high. But this does not excuse the payment of prices in advance of what was paid by private individuals. Alaska seems to be a good place for grafters, almost as good as Washington when Congress is in ses-

Morgan's Precarious Task.

San Francisco Bulletin. success of the Morgan Steel Trust is by no means assured. The Napoleon of finance who organized this trust treated his prospective customers with cor tempt. He took the stock of companies most of which had already inflated thei stock beyond its real value, and added at least 25 per cent to their inflated values. The lowest estimate of "water" the stock of the Morgan syndicate is \$300,000,000. This is in round numbers onefourth of the stock and bonds of the new company. The ability of the new company to earn dividends on this wat ered stock depends entirely upon its abil ered stock depends entirely upon its abli-lity to control the output of from mines. In an effort to control the output of from mines—that is, of the natural sources of supply to a great industry—the new company will encounter obstacles that do not lie in the way of the trust operator who relies upon superior skill in workmanship and superior business methods to acquire conis not probable that all the iron and coal mines the earth contains are known at the present time. A monopoly of those known to be in existence will stimulate capital to seek new treasures. The Morgan trust, with its inflated capital demanding compensation, will be subject to competition against steel plants that will eradicated by Newbro's Herpicide, which only have to pay interest on the cash in-

ested in their works. At the present time the Morgan trust bears all the earmarks of a speculation. A good many nillions may, however, be made by selfing the "watered" stock on a market comed by trust newspapers. But combi-sations org nized to permanently control great industry must be constructed on cash foundation and conducted on illie principie.

But the State Pays for It.

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