

What Uncle Sam is doing for the Alaskan Indians.



INDIAN TRAINING SCHOOL JUNEAU ALASKA



ALASKA SCHOOL TEACHER J. V. CHARR

SCHOOL BUILDING IN SOUTHERN ALASKA



HOUSE HANGING ON SIDE OF CLIFF KING ISLAND



WORK OF NATIVE WOMEN AT KAKE AND YUKATAT ALASKA



ONE OF UNCLE SAM'S REINDEER TEAMS IN ALASKA

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THIS is a story of the natives of Alaska—the Alaskan Indians and the Eskimos—and what Uncle Sam is doing for them. Everybody has heard of the Alaska coal lands, the gold fields at Yukon, the copper mines, the need for railroads, and monopolies endeavoring to grab the whole territory, but little if anything has been said or written of the natives—the original inhabitants of the vast country. Uncle Sam is fully alive to the situation, and while doing his best to ward off attempts to grab the territory, he

The Doctor and the Divorce

(Continued from the First Page of This Section.)
states, such as accompany or create abnormal sexual conditions, be made grounds for divorce. Six per cent did not so recommend. Two per cent did not answer the question.
The latest census analysis of American divorce conditions declares that apparently the divorce rate, like the velocity of a falling body, is constantly increasing. Within the period embraced between 1887 and 1906 there were 945,625 marriages that were dissolved by divorce, 72,962 of them in 1906, against 27,219 in 1887. Two thirds of them were granted to wives. Although the law may make no distinction between the parties to a marriage in respect to the grounds on which divorce may be granted, the government statisticians point out the fact that there are certainly well known, comparatively common grounds, that apply to the husband rather than the wife.
For one thing, there is the ground of non-support, which any husband would find mighty slippery before judge, jury or master in divorce, although there turned up half a dozen cases in Utah where the husbands got divorces for the wives' neglect to provide. Then again, cruelty is relatively rare as a charge made by the husband; for one divorce obtained by a man on that score five are granted to women.
Out of the total number of these divorces, there were 306,344 in which the actual duration of the marriage was ascertained. There are 578,718 that had lasted 10 years, and 336,520 that lasted six years.
When it comes to the causes that served as the legal grounds for all these partings, the figures quoted by Mr. Leach are wholly at variance with those secured by the comprehensive census. Out of a total of 945,625 divorces granted, unfaithfulness was responsible in 152,752 cases, 49.9 per cent being the fault of the men, 50.1 per cent the fault of the women. Cruelty caused 206,225 divorces, 82.9 per cent blamed on the husband, 16.1 per cent on the wife. Desertion parted 267,562 pairs, 57.1 per cent of the deserters being the men, 42.9 per cent the women. Drunkenness was the cause in 36,516 cases, with the men drunkards 90.6 per cent and the women only 9.4 per cent. Neglect to provide figured distinctly in 24,379 divorces, the men, of course, being at fault in all except the few Utah cases. Combinations of these causes were alleged in 85,949 cases, 82.9 per cent of the men

has been going steadily along carrying out his ideas for the good of the country. First and foremost has been the policy of educating the natives. The work at first was carried on under almost unsurmountable difficulties. But the natives being of a receptive nature and after fully understanding the motive of the government, were not averse to being taught to live like the white man.
Haircuts, insecticides, and sanitary training were first taken up. This was necessary because of the universal ignorance regarding even the simplest rules of hygiene among the natives. The children were the first to appreciate the treatment, once it was done. From the children it spread to the parents.
After a while there was a board on cleanliness appointed among the scholars in many of the schools, and when the teacher had a dirty scholar the case was submitted to the board.
Often the scholars would bring their fathers and elder brothers for sanitary treatment, and while this treatment is not usually included in the curriculum being to blame and 16.1 per cent of the women. And there were 53,104 divorces in which other causes figured, with the men responsible in 69 per cent of them.
Mitigation for Women.
There is some small mitigation to be made in the reproach attaching to women for the comparatively large number of separations in which they are proved unfaithful to their marriage vows. The qualified exculpation doesn't apply to the women actually convicted, but it does leave the sex in a little better light. When the offense is committed by the wife, it is much more likely to be discovered, and far less likely to be forgiven.
It is these official returns that Mr. Leach believed to be superficial and dangerously misleading. He finds that the physicians who have replied to his searching questions refer, as he suspected they would, the vast majority of the million and more divorces, to which the number has risen by this time, to origins that have been carefully kept concealed. He has supplemented the estimate made by his medical correspondents with an analysis that emphasizes the horror of the conditions under which he believes the innocent party to an unhappy marriage must exist.
"In classifying these conditions," he remarks, "we find, in the first place, some persons who ought never to have married at all, it being impossible for them ever to make satisfactory mates for any one. Then, there is a much larger class of men and women who never ought to have married the persons they did. To use a common expression, they are now mismatched, but might, if married to other spouses, experience all the superlatives of conjugal bliss. Lastly, there is a still larger class which includes those whose marriages were satisfactory in the beginning and seemed to promise a long and happy union, but because of ignorance, indiscretion or actual abuses, have been turned into veritable hells.
"The conditions included in these three classifications are not recognized by the church, the law or the general public, although physicians and those possessing special medical knowledge believe that they are the inspiration of a majority of all domestic difficulties."

of the public schools in the states; especially to the extent of soaking the heads of the parents in kerosene, the missionary work was always extended in Alaska. More trouble was found with the women than with the men, as they usually refused to allow their heads to be touched.
But this was merely the beginning of the good work. When Uncle Sam got down to tacks with the natives, he sent a number of bright eyed teachers from all sections of the states to Alaska, to carry out his desires. And the qualifications he demanded of these exponents of the rule of three were that they should be not only well grounded in arithmetic, grammar, history and geography, but that they should also know something of first-aid-to-the-injured treatment, with a working knowledge of medicine and its application when doctors were not available. Doctors as a rule in that far country are few and far between, and it would appear the teachers are the only persons in many communities who have even a smattering knowledge of medicine.
Crude Manner of Living.
Some of the houses consist of only one room. In this room from six to 18 people cook, eat, and sleep, usually with several consumptive cases among them. The windows were kept sealed all the time and the stove hot. The floors were filthy, and everything for which there

was no other place gravitated under the beds. This was before Uncle Sam inaugurated his crusade.
Since the work was started, however, in many of the villages the natives have been taught to clean and improve their houses. Since they have come to understand the reasons for sanitation, they try to keep clean, and there is now some attempt made to isolate the cases of infectious disease. Some idea of the work of the teachers may be gained when it is said that 68 teachers rendered medical assistance last year 14,159 times. There are 77 government schools in Alaska, with more than 3000 scholars.
One of the first things taught in the schools was vegetable raising. To raise vegetables in latitude 65 degrees north, very close to the Arctic circle, is a rather arduous undertaking, but at Juneau, Unalaska, Rampart and Eagle the native school children have been taught to clear ground and plant vegetables. And from all reports received, it would appear they have been very successful with a cold climate. In many of the schools the teachers made hot-wind showers from the school buildings, and with these frames they were able to start vegetables that would mature out of doors during the short summer months.
Training for Work.
In addition the natives are given a thorough training in the mechanical arts. Practical training has been given the Eskimos in carpentry, boat building, etc., while cooking, sewing, dressmaking, and basketry, are taught the native girls in many of the schools. In Sitka and other places in southeast Alaska the unsightly native huts have been replaced by neat frame buildings erected exclusively by native carpenters.
At Sitka and Unalaska, where instruction has been given in building boats upon the models used by white men, the natives have met with equal success in the construction of their boats. At Unalaska may be seen the unique spectacle of eight small schooners, built, manned and managed entirely by Eskimos. In many instances Alaskan natives have shown themselves competent to run launches and to operate the machinery in sawmills, mines and canneries. The plans for the ex-

tension of the school service in Alaska include the systematizing and extension of the industrial training of the natives so as to include all the industries adapted to the various sections of that country.
Meeting Social Demands.
There is much social work done by Uncle Sam in Alaska. The commissioner in commenting on this part of the work said: "There is perhaps no feature of the educational system for the natives of Alaska that has been so encouraged and so full of possibilities as the social work. Bringing us as it does into close relation with young and old, parents and children, it gives us an insight into their home life and enables us to establish a friendship and intimacy with the natives that no amount of routine school work could ever accomplish."
Uncle Sam's efforts with the natives at Kake, Alaska, have shown encouraging results. Here it seems both the men and women are very industrious. The work of the women along the line of the native arts and crafts is especially good. When it is compared with that done by other native women it stands out for its neatness, exactness and cleanliness. The skins they tan and prepare for their use in making moccasins and other curios, and those they care for after being trapped, such as mink, otter, etc., show they realize the market value is increased according to the quality of the work they do. From the sale of curios, including moccasins and baskets, these natives realized more than \$2000 last year.
The Reindeer Service.
In addition to the work of educating the natives, a novel and promising industry has been introduced into Alaska by Uncle Sam—the reindeer service. This industry was started in 1892 with the importation of 172 reindeer from Siberia. The government continued to import reindeer until 1902, when a total of 1280 had been brought from Siberia. From this small beginning the enterprise has grown until it now includes 42 herds, operated from 31 stations, with a total of 27,325 reindeer, representing a capital of more than \$430,000.
The idea of the government in the establishment of this industry is to distribute the reindeer among the villages as rapidly as the natives can be trained, by means of a system of apprenticeship, to care for and use the reindeer, supporting basis.
At each station throughout Alaska, promising and ambitious young natives are selected for a term of four years. At the end of the first year, if the ap-

prentice shows proper aptitude, he receives six reindeer for his own use. At the end of the second year he receives eight more, the third year 10 more, and the fourth year 10 more, making a total of 34 reindeer. Providing his four years have proven satisfactory, he then becomes a herder, and assumes entire charge of his herd. The only exchange Uncle Sam asks for all this is that the herder must in turn employ and reward apprentices thus becoming an additional factor in the extension of the enterprise.
Reindeer meat and skins for clothing are in great demand in the towns and mining camps of northern Alaska. The total income of the Eskimos from the reindeer industry during the year 1909-10, including salaries earned by service in connection with the herds and the proceeds from the sale of meat and skins, was \$24,656.00.
Strange People of King Island.
In the summer of 1904 Dr. William Hamilton of the United States bureau of education made an extended trip of inspection through Alaska, and he called the writer's attention to the unique and peculiar huts of the natives of King Island, south of Bering straits.
This island is a mass of basalt about a mile in length rising more than 300 feet straight up from the sea. It is one of the most remarkable places in Alaska. The rocks rise perpendicularly from the ocean, except upon the south side, where a ravine rising from the ocean at an angle of about 45 degrees, scars the cliff. Beside this ravine cluster about 40 huts, apparently hanging on the side of the cliff, but really resting on a ledge which has been partly excavated in the side of the hill and partly built up with stone walls. Across the top of these walls the poles of drift-wood, on which hides and grass are placed to form a roof. These huts are the winter dwellings of the natives.
In making their summer homes the islanders use the roof of the underground house as a floor, and over it build a rectangular tent of walrus hides stretched over a wooden frame. These tents are gaped to the rocks with moccasins to prevent them being blown out to sea. On the opposite side of the ravine is a cove, into the mouth of which the sea dashes, and at the base of the side of a bank of perpetual snow. On the side of the mountain is a shaft from 50 to 100 feet in depth, leading down to the snow in the cove. The cavern is used as the village storehouse. Walrus and seal meat are dropped from the shaft and stored in the snow. The natives gain access to their storehouse by letting themselves down and using a hand on a rawhide rope, and ascend in the same manner.

By Way of a few Smiles

The Original Sextet.
"WONDER who really made up that original sextet we hear so much about?"
"The original sextet was composed of Heien of Troy, Sappho, Cleopatra, Madame du Barry, Lucretia Borgia and Delilah. They were all trouble makers."
Weighing His Words.
From the Yonkers Statesman.
Patience—He takes an awful long time to weigh his words, doesn't he?
Patrice—Yes, but it takes such a lot of them to weigh anything, you know.
Either Half.
From the Philadelphia Inquirer.
John S. Sargent, the eminent painter, was being discussed in a Philadelphia studio.
"Sargent," said a magazine illustrator, "gets \$5000 apiece for his portraits. Well, one day when he was in America, a deputation waited on him and asked him to paint a certain colonel of volunteers."
"For this work," said the spokesman, "we are willing to pay you, Mr. Sargent, \$2500."
"But—" the painter began.
"The spokesman, however, interrupted hastily: 'That's what they say.'"
"Of course, sir, at that price, we would only want a half length."
"Oh, very well," said Sargent. "And which half would you prefer?"



Tact.
Tact is what enables a woman to boss her husband without letting him know it.
That's the Way to Lie!
From Louisville Courier-Journal.
"Yes; I'm saving for a house."
"I can't save any money. How do you manage it?"
"By getting my wife to go without things. She thinks I'm saving for an automobile."
North Dakota Weather.
A St. Louis traveling man, making his first trip through North Dakota, woke up one May morning to find the ground white with snow. "For heaven's sake," he asked the hotel clerk disquietedly, "when do you have summer out in this country?"
"I don't know," replied the clerk. "I have been here only 11 months."
Foolish Question.
From the Ocean Gazette.
A gentleman with decided tendencies towards looking after everybody's business but his own, saw a furniture removal van being loaded near his house.
"I say, carter," he said, bluntness, "are the people upstairs removing?"
The carter looked at him scornfully, and, wiping the perspiration from his manly brow, replied:
"No, sir, we're just takin' the furniture out for a drive."

FOR THE LANDS SAKE BOY