# The Santiam News

SCIO.....OREGON


# NEWS OF THE WEEK

**Interesting Collection of Current Events In Condensed Form From Both Continents.**

No appointments will be made by the president during the recess of congress except in case of emergency. Despite the announcement of this fact, the number of visitors at the White House are unusually large.

The long-continued cold and heavy snow of the past month are beginning to have a serious effect upon sheep in Wyoming, and it is feared that, unless there is a break in the weather soon, the losses will be heavy. Sheepmen report that a number have already perished.

The controller of the currency has received information of the failure of the First National bank, of Pembina, N. D. The bank has a capital of $50,000, and, according to its last statement, had deposits aggregating $95,000. Bank Examiner Aubeiser has been placed in charge.

Mr. Coffin, the acting controller of the currency has called attention to the fact that the retirement of national bank notes during the first 20 days of December reached the sum of $3,000,000. This is said to be the first time during the last 10 years that the voluntary retirement has reached this amount in any one month.

After a week of conference in Boston, Justices Putnam and King, the commissioners for the United States and Canada, respectively, in the arbitration of the Behring sea claims, have completed their work for the present, and it is understood will soon begin the preparation of their reports to their respective governments.

The first meeting of the National Building Trades Council was held at St. Louis, and was marked by a scathing denunciation of the American Federation of Labor for having passed a resolution at Nashville opposing the formation of the national council. The Federation of Labor opposed the new organization as tending to create a further division in the ranks of labor.

Fireman Martin J. Oakley was killed at a fire in a five story tenement on East Forty-fourth street, New York city. Oakley was suffocated by smoke and escaping gas. Assistant Fireman Thomas Head, James Davis and Peter Connelly, of the same company, were rendered unconscious by inhaling smoke and gas, and were with difficulty revived. They are in hospitals, and their condition is serious.

While skating on the ice near Gardner, Miss., three young people suddenly broke through, and before assistance could reach them were drowned.

At Tonawanda, N. Y., while a party were skating, the ice gave way and precipitated four young people into the water. Three of them were drowned.

China approves of the Russian fleet wintering at Port Arthur, being persuaded that this action is taken in the interest of China, and necessitated by the German occupation of Kiao Chou.

A rate war is on between the various river transportation lines running to The Dalles. A reduction of fare from The Dalles to Portland is the result. This cut in rates has been looked for by the public since the opposition line was put on, some two months ago.

F. M. Gideon, the clerk of the general land office, who was referred to by Thomas Reddington in the testimony before the senate Pacific railroad committee, Saturday, as having changed the land-office records so as to throw 5,000,000 acres of government land to the Southern Pacific, has made a clear denial of the charge.

A dispatch from Christiania, Norway, to the London Chronicle, says the political situation, since the failure of the united committee on foreign affairs, has become critical, and it is feared that Sweden will seek an occasion for armed intervention in Norway. The dispatch adds that the Swedish press hopes for assistance from Emperor William.

The committee appointed at the house civil service conference 10 days ago to draft modifications of the civil service law have met and gone over the various bills pending before the house. The committee expects to have a measure framed by the time congress reconvenes. Its members are opposed to the present law as including too many offices within its scope.

A freight train of 21 loaded cars, traveling down the mountain to Altoona, Pa., became unmanageable in consequence of the slippery condition of the tracks, making the 12 miles from Gallitz into Altoona in as many minutes and crashing into a freight train directly in front of the passenger station. About 50 cars were completely broken up, and the Hollidaysburg passenger train, which was standing on the track near the passenger shed, was thrown over on its side. Three of the train crew were fatally injured.

Secretary Alger has cabled to William Akellman, chief government reindeer herder, who is now in Norway, to inform the war department immediately how soon 600 reindeer can be shipped to this country. These are wanted for use as draft animals in getting supplies to the miners in the Klondike region. They must be transferred at New York to railroads, and in that manner carried across the continent, and again by sea from the Pacific coast up to Dyea, or some other point that may be selected as a base of operations.

An eight-pound dynamite cartridge exploded in the rear of the Arbuckle coffee building in New York. Nearly 5,000 panes of glass in the neighborhood were shattered, and that the explosion was not attended by loss of life is remarkable. The explosion was heard 20 blocks away. The dynamite cartridge was to have been used in blasting a huge rock that has obstructed an artesian well drill. It had been frozen and placed in an iron pipe, wrapped with paper, to thaw out. John Gallagher, a workman, was thrown 15 feet in the air, but escaped injury.

## ADRIFT IN A GALE.

**Rough Experience of the Steamer Kaiser Wilhelm Der Grosse.**

New York, De. 27.—The giantess of ocean liners, the Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse, of the North German Lloyd line, arrived from Bremen a day late. She brought over 461 cabin and 393 steerage passengers. The passengers told of a terrible experience. From Cherbourg she met gale after gale.

On the third day out from Cherbourg, while a heavy sea was running and nearly all of the passengers were seasick in the berths, the ship's machinery was suddenly stopped. Some of the officers thought the malicinery had broken, others that the engines had gone to pieces, and still others that the rudder was disabled. After the ponderous vessel was hove to she began to drift. For eight hours she was adrift till she was 50 miles out of her course, when she started again.

The facts in the case are that on the evening of the 19th the head of the main boiler was wabbling. Investigation showed that one of the steel bands had broken off. To prevent the boiler from vibrating and a possible explosion, it was necessary to draw the fire, stop the ship and allow the parts to cool. Captain Englehart laughed when the idea of danger in connection with the break was mentioned.

## THE METHOD WAS FIENDISH.

**Jacob Weinan Strangled With Cloth Rammed Down His Throat.**

St. Louis, Dec. 27.—A post mortem was held yesterday on the remains of Jacob Weinan, who was found dead in his kitchen Friday evening, having been murdered. At the time a towel was found tightly twisted about his throat, but the post mortem revealed a peculiarly fiendish method the murderers had resorted to. Far down in the man's throat, tightly imbedded in the bronchial tubes, was a wad of thick cloth, which had been wrapped with horsehair. Fingers could not have reached that far, and a stick was probably used to ram the wading down. In 1893 a soldier at Jefferson barracks was murdered in a similar manner, and the similarity of the murder of Friday with the latter has caused excitement in police circles.

## TO CONTROL COAL MARKET.

**Plans of a Great Combine Forming in the East.**

New York, Dec. 27.—It has developed that a big coal-selling combination of the anthracite railroads whereby the production is to be doled out by the supreme head, is only a part of a vast project for control of the entire coal industry in the East. J. Pierpont Morgan's plan involves the creation of a similar central selling agency to cover each of the great bituminous coal districts of Pennsylvania, Ohio, West Virginia, Indiana and Illinois and a uniform working arrangement between them that shall put a stop to rate cutting and demoralization of trade. The companies are to agree upon the proportion each is to mine and haul, and the buying company is to call upon them accordingly as fast as it needs coal for the market.

## TRAIN WRECKERS AT LARGE.

**Futile Attempt Made to Ditch a Burlington Passenger.**

Thayer, Ia., Dec. 27.—An attempt was made between here and Murray last night to throw from the track the Burlington train No. 2. Whether the attempt was made for the purpose of robbery or for maliciousness is not known at present. About 9:30 o'clock as the train was approaching the foot of Murray hill, the engine left the track. Fortunately no particular damage was done to it or to the train, nor was anyone on board injured. On examinations it was found the track had been tampered with, and footprints of men were seen on the hill leading away from the roadbed. Spikes had been pulled out of the ties for three rail lengths, the work being done with a wrench and pinchbar, which had been stolen from the carhouse at Thayer.

**Would Abolish Coroner's Office.**

New York, Dec. 27.—The December grand jury handed to Judge Hurd, in the county court today, a recommendation that the office of coroner be abolished, because that office is of no practical effect in ferreting out crimes; the methods are open to the most severe censure; the manner of conducting the business is inefficient, and the power of the coroner is delegated to subordinates, whose chief functions seem to be to collect fees incidental to their office for their chief.

**Good News for Hawaii.**

Honolulu, Dec. 27.—The Mariposa arrived from San Francisco yesterday, bringing news of the opening of congress. Regarding the annexation treaty, the Hawaiian government received advices from Washington on the day the steamer sailed, which state that the opposition is not as strong as indicated in the press dispatches.

**Wages in the South Go Up.**

Birmingham, Ala., Dec. 27.—The Ceronna Coal Company and the Virginia & Alabama Coal Company, employing about 1,200 coal miners, in Walker county, today announced that January 1, they will advance wages from 60 to 70 cents per ton.

San Francisco, Dec. 27.—Charles W. Richards, a mechanical expert of Cleveland, O., arrived today from Japan, where he has been superintending the construction of a wire-nail plant, costing £250,000, at Tokio. The capacity of the works is 500 kegs of nails and 1,000 wooden kegs daily. As skilled labor in Japan is paid but 35 cents a day, against $100 in this country, the output of the factory will cause a corresponding reduction in the demand for the American product.

New York, Dec. 27.—At the Cuban junta today, official confirmation was given to the story that General Blanco has sent to this country a man whose mission is to join one of the filibustering expeditions to the coast of Cuba and secure the assassination of General Gomez.

"Yes, we know all about Blanco's emissary," said a representative of the junta. "We know the steamship he is on, and we know his name. He is not likely to join any of our expeditions."

Sawdust which has been allowed to rot is said to make excellent fertilizer.

# THE SEALING AWARD

## Findings of the Commission Reach State Department.

## TOTAL NEARLY HALF A MILLION

**Damages for Prospective Catch Were Not Allowed—Congress Will Be Asked to Pay It.**

Washington, Dec. 27.—The findings of the British-American commission chosen to assess the damages for seizures of British ships in Behring sea have been received by the state department and the British embassy. The strictest reticence is maintained, however, on the general character of the findings, though it is admitted the total award against the United States is 464,000, which includes principal and interest. The finding against this government is no surprise.

The controversy has occupied the attention of the authorities here and in London for the last 11 years. At the outset the tone of the controversy was belligerent, suggesting a possible resort to arms. This was following the seizure, by the United States steamer Corwin, of the British sealers Carolina and Thornton, on August 1, 1886. The facts of the seizure were not known until some time later, and in the meantime, the Corwin had taken the Onward and Favourite. The same policy of seizure and confiscation occurred during the next sealing season, despite the protests of Great Britain, the United States steamer Rush taking the Sayward, Grace, Anna Pack, Dolphin, Alfred Adams, Triumph, Junita, Pathfinder, Black Diamond, Lilly, Arctic and Kate and Minnie, and the cutter Bear taking the Ada.

The claims for these seizures took a wide range, beginning with the value of the vessels and outfits, and including not only the value of sealskins confiscated, but also the skins which might have been taken if the ships had not been seized. This last feature of prospective damage caused the main contention. In the case of each British ship, the largest item of the claim was for estimated future catch. For instance, in the case of the Carolina, the claim for the ship was only $4,000, while that for skins which might have been taken that year if she had not been seized was $16,667. Each ship estimated a prospective catch of from 3,500 to 5,000 skins, the value being from $3.50 per skin in 1887 to $12.25 in 1889. The total of the claims, without interest, amounted to $439,161, and with interest at 8 per cent and other charges, the total reached $786,166.

The only official statement that could be secured here of the judgment reached by the commissioners is contained in the following announcement given out at the state department:

"The award of the Behring sea claims commission has been filed in the department. The claims as presented by the British government on account of British vessels seized in Behring sea, aggregated, with interest, $1,500,000. These included several cases not embraced in the settlement proposed by Secretary Gresham. The award now made amounts to $294,181.91, to which will increase the total about 50 per cent. The award is final, and disposes of all cases before it. Payment under the treaty must be made within six months."

The departmental officials, it is assumed, will proceed at once to prepare a bill or an amendment to one of the appropriation bills for submission to congress, covering the necessary appropriation to pay the judgments, for, being bound by treaty not only to pay any judgments rendered, but to pay them promptly, the government is in honor bound to take the remaining steps toward a settlement in short order.

There appears to be little doubt that the United States carried its point on the question involved, as the prospective damages were evidently scaled down to an insignificant amount, or rejected entirely. While the department officials will make no definite announcement to this effect, intimations are given that the smallness of the award precludes the possibility of any allowance having been made on account of prospective damages. The American claims commissions established the precedent that no prospective damages could be included in a claim, and the present award is evidently on the same line.

General J. W. Foster, who is now in general charge of Behring sea affairs, said tonight, as to the award, that he was not surprised at the result. President Cleveland having officially declared that $425,000 was a just and equitable sum in settlement, and having appointed as the American commissioner to adjudicate the claims a close personal and political friend, it could hardly be expected that the latter would strenuously contend for an award of a less amount. Mr. Foster was absent from the country in Japan when congress took action on President Cleveland's recommendation, but he regarded the commission as the proper method of reaching a settlement, and the only one which would satisfy the country.

**Slain by Congo Natives.**

Lisbon, Dec. 27.—A dispatch from St. Paul de Lonada, Portuguese Lower Guinea, says that the natives of the Humbo plateau, in the Portuguese colony of Angola, have massacred a Portuguese officer, a sergeant and 12 men. Reinforcements have been sent from St. Paul de Loanda. Angola is south of the Congo Free State. The colony has been held by the Portuguese since 1486, and they have a number of forts and commercial establishments.

**Explosion of Firedamp**

Dortmund, Prussia, Dec. 27.—An explosion of firedamp took place today at the Kaiserstuhl II pit, with terrible results. Eight corpses have been brought to the surface, and seven men, living, but severely injured. There are five still missing.

**Carried Dynamite and Fell.**

San Jose, Cal., Dec. 27.—Amazon Hernandez, a Mexican woodchopper, tripped and fell, exploding giant powder cartridges which he carried in his pocket. He was terribly mangled and will die

## THE ALASKAN FLEET.

**Steamships Headed for the Northwest Business.**

The fleet of steamships which is heading for the Pacific Northwest to participate in the Alaska rush is still receiving additions. The latest vessel reported is the British steamship Amur, which a Victoria trading company has purchased in London. The Amur is a comparatively new vessel, having been built in 1890. She is 216 feet long, 28.1 feet beam, and 11.2 feet depth of hold, and is 570 tons net register. In addition to about a dozen resurrected vessels already on this coast that will be in the Alaska service the following steamships are now reported as listed for the Pacific Northwest, some of them having already sailed: Bothnia, Scythia, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Indiana, Cottage City, Curacoa, Conemaugh, City of Columbia, Valencia, Amur, Brixham.

**Oregon Notes.**

Sleds are now being used on the Union-Cornucopia stage line, from a point four miles east of Medical springs to Cornucopia, in Union county.

The heaviest surf experienced since 1884 prevailed on the Curry county beach during the storms last week. Many of the miners lost their beach fixtures.

The report of Agent Emery shows a total of 1,020 Indians on the Klamath reservation, an increase of 59 over last year. These red men have been deprived of allowances for the past 12 years, and most of them are supporting themselves well.

A Lakeview paper says that a scow, to carry freight, has been put on Goose lake, in Lake county. The scow will be fitted with sails and will be navigated as well as may be that way until gasoline engines can be put on board of her.

A Southern Pacific official says that up to December, the present season's shipment of hops out of Oregon amounted to 26,000 bales, and, since that time, 5,000 more bales have gone forward, making a total of 31,000, or nearly one-half of the 1897 crop.

The city council of Salem has accepted the proposition of E. J. Swafford, ex-city treasurer, and George Williams and J. A. Baker, his bondsmen, whereby they agree to pay $4,000 before December 31, in full payment of the balance due the city from ex-Treasurer Swafford.

Stock Inspector Vandvert, of Crook county, will soon have finished his semi-annaual inspection of the sheep in Crook county. Only about 15 bands, out of about 330,000 head, remain uninspected. In all this lot, he has only found three bands infected with scab, and heard of two others that he will inspect later.

The Brownsville Times is authority for the statement that the greater part of the hops in that vicinity are yet in the hands of the growers. Joseph and Pierce Hume and Michael Weber last week shipped their '97 crop to a New York commission house, and the hop men are anxiously awaiting the returns of this shipment.

The work of clearing out the dirt from the quarry at Point Terrace, on the Siuslaw, was finished last week. Part of the machinery has already been taken to the mouth of the river, and stored in the buildings there, and the rest will be placed there soon. Mr. Jacoburger, who has had charge of the work, informs the Florence West that he hopes to have all this business in Florence arranged so he can leave this week. About 45,000 tons of rock have been used and about 450 feet of jetty built this year, says the West. The channel has changed so that nearly all the water flows through the south entrance.

In the trial of Allen Logan in Dallas last week, on the charge of murdering Enoch Sylvester, the head of the dead was produced in court. The prosecution secured identification of the grewsome piece of evidence, and showed the jury fractures in the back part of the skull sufficient to cause death. The defense, however, produced as witnesses three of the physicians who had been present at the post-mortem, and established that the careful examination these physicians had made was with special reference to establish the fact whether or not the blow delivered by Logan had fractured the skull, and each swore positively that at the post-mortem no such fractures were to be found. The head turned out to be a boomerang for the prosecution, and it probably contributed to the verdict in Logan's favor.

It has been many years since the tax collections of Umatilla county have showed such satisfactory footings as they do this fall. For the last two preceding years there was not an attempt made to collect the overwhelming list of delinquencies with which the books at the sheriff's office were filed, for the taxpayers were in such straits that it would have been of little avail to do so. But it remained for 1897 to be the banner year, and for the last several weeks the delinquent accounts have been rapidly paid off, until there remain but comparatively few to collect. For three years preceding the present tax collection year, the amounts of delinquencies that have been paid this fall amount to $32,417.06, apportioned among the periods as follows: Taxes of 1895, $23,602.75; 1894, $7,314.31; 1893, $1,500.

E. P. Wier, of Fossil, in Gilliam county, shipped several carloads of hogs from Fossil to Portland last week. Hoffman & Hastain, of Fossil, are purchasing hogs and turning them into bacon. Last week they received 20 head from Frank Knox that averaged 271 pounds in weight, and 10 head from J. D. Livingston that averaged 170. The prices paid were 4 cents and 3.90 per pound, live weight, respectively, which made the hogs bring over $11 a head.

Representative Ellis says that there is a great deal of interest being manifested in Oregon in the subjects of deputy United States district attorneys. There are a great many candidates for these positions, and if it should come under the civil service they would have to take their chances in an examination. Some members of the civil service commission told a senator in Washington the other day that deputy district attorneys would not come under the civil service regulations, and as a consequence these appointments can be distributed to those who are politically satisfactory.

# A YUKON OUTFIT

## WHAT THE GOLD HUNTER SHOULD TAKE.

**Sound Advice for Those Who Contemplate Seeking Their Fortunes in the New Gold Fields of Alaska and the Northwest Territory.**

[Special Correspondence.]

The most practical and vital question to be decided by the man who intends to go to the Yukon next year is the composition and quantity of his outfit. What should he take and how much of it. This is far more important a question than that of the route he shall select, since by any regular route he would probably reach his destination, while should he not have a proper outfit, he would be likely to find his labor to have been all in vain, with failure and possible starvation staring him in the face.

Whatever a man would require to eat, to wear or to work with he should take with him. To go into that country depending upon being able to purchase any of the necessaries of life or successful work is to run the risk of utter failure and calamity. Again and again was this asserted by experienced Yukoners when the excitement broke out in July. Publicly through the press and privately on all occasions they advised gold seekers to take with them a complete equipment for 18 months, certainly not less than a year, and to place no dependence whatever upon being able to purchase what they might need from trading posts. This advice was based upon the well-known conditions of work and transportation in that region. The miner might be located several hundred miles by a trail impassable in winter from the nearest trading post, while the post itself, even if accessible, might fail to secure a stock of goods.

The soundness of this advice has been amply demonstrated the present season. Hundreds who did not give it sufficient weight, have rushed into Dawson City with not enough food to last them through the winter, only to find that not a pound of food is to be purchased there, and that they are but adding to the distress of those already threatened with starvation. They have not done this in ignorance, but in defiance of the advice of men of experience. The golden mirage of their imaginations has blinded them to the practical, and they have rushed headlong to needless hardships, if not destruction. Yet the majority of them took this advice seriously at first, and equipped themselves well for the journey. Very few, indeed, of those who have reached Dawson with almost nothing for their support this winter, landed at Dyea or Skagway with less than a thousand pounds of supplies each. The secret of their present shortness is the difficulties of the trail and their intense eagerness to reach their destination. They have disposed of or abandoned the bulk of their outfits, trusting to luck, or the deity supposed to have fools in his special charge, to get through the winter somehow. They would have done better to have camped at the lakes till spring, than to have gone on to Dawson short of supplies. They would have done still better, when they found they could not get through this fall in good shape, to have returned to the coast and waited until spring for another attempt fully equipped. Those who followed this course are infinetly better off than those who sacrificed everything to their insane eagerness to get through, and are now at Dawson with nothing to do and threatened with being overwhelmed by a calamity of their own creation.

The value of the advice given to those who started last fall has been demonstrated by their experiences. The same advice is as valuable to those who will go in the spring. Take everything with you that you anticipate to need for a year for any purpose, and do not depend upon being able to buy anything whatever. It is folly to take for granted that there will be so many new steamers on the river next year that the country will be amply supplied with food and other necessaries. Assuming that transportation facilities will be increased ten times, this will be offset by the undoubted fact that more than ten times as many persons will go in as are there now, and that the added transportation facilities will be used to carry them and their outfits. To the thousands who are already there and must depend entirely upon supplies brought in for sale, must be added the other thousands who will not heed the voice of prudence and will rush in lightly equipped, depending upon purchasing what they need for the winter. It is extremely doubtful whether enough goods for sale can be taken in next summer to supply this demand. Indeed, in view of the experiences of this year, it is almost certain that they can not.

Even if it were not for this uncertainty, the conditions of successful work there require that the miner take in a full equipment and have it with him wherever he goes. The Yukon gold fields cover a great area of country, while the trading posts are few and at present only along the Yukon river. Other posts will doubtless be established next year, near such new districts as may become populous, yet even these will be only at points accessible to steamers. Those going to the gold fields must not expect to find claims near the present centers of population. They will be compelled to prospect distant streams and gulches, and if successful, they may locate several hundred miles from the nearest store. To be compelled to make a journey after supplies might cause the loss of the entire season's prospecting, even assuming that the things needed could be purchased at all. Every prospecting party should be fully equipped to subsist itself for a year. Otherwise it can not carry on its work under the conditions necessary for success. This is made clear when one understands the method of mining and the difficulties of travel in the winter season, in a mountainous region without trails, the ground covered with snow and the thermometer almost continuously below zero.

The ground is frozen from surface to bedrock, a distance varying in mining claims from 20 to 40 feet. Even in summer it thaws out less than a foot from the surface. The best pay dirt or gravel is just above the bed rock, and to sink a shaft down to this requires a great deal of fuel, and it takes many weeks of hard work in the open season to gather fuel enough to last through the winter for heating and working purposes. Water for washing out the dirt and extracting the gold can be had only in the summer and early fall. In some districts water flows only a few weeks each year. All the dirt taken out of the shaft is piled up near it till the following summer, and until then the miner can not tell what will be the result of his year's labor.

This is the ordinary programme of the Yukon miner. He reaches the gold fields in June or July. He spends the next few weeks in prospecting and finally locates a claim. There is then but a short time left in which to gather fire wood and prepare for work. During the winter he sinks his shaft and piles up the dirt to be run through sluice boxes the next summer. When he can get water he begins washing, and by the time he has completed it more than a year has passed from the time he first arrived in the gold fields, and it may then be too late for him to get out of the country that season. If he went in supplied for 18 months and has kept his supplies he is all right. If not, he may be in the position of those Klondike miners this winter, who have not supplies to carry them through till spring and can not buy them at any price.

So much for the necessity of an ample equipment. Now a few words about the nature of it. Some things are absolute necessitites, and one of these is quicksilver for saving the gold. Take five pounds. To be without it would be like a soldier without ammunition. It should be in a metal flask of some kind, something that will not break, and care should be taken not to spill it. A pick and long-handled shovel are necessary tools, also a gold pan. You will want a kit of tools for making a boat, as well as for building a cabin, flumes, etc. It should consist of whipsaw, handsaw, jack plane, drawknife, axe, claw hatchet, hammer, square, chisel, files, whetstone, chalk line and wire and galvanised nails, also oakum, pitch, oars, rowlocks, caulking iron, boat cotton, twine, sail needles, wooden block and manila cotton rope.

The necessary camping outfit consists of a tent, a Yukon stove, a nest of three camp kettles, fry pan, bake pan, water bucket, plates, cup and saucer, coffee pot, knives, forks, spoons, two large spoons and a butcher knife. The best materials for utensils are aluminum, graniteware and steel in the order named. No tin, china or glass is desirable. There is no economy in not getting the best and a full equipment. Food must be good and properly cooked if one would retain health and be in condition to work. Insufficient or poorly cooked food, with little variety, is the chief cause of scurvy. Too much care cannot be exercised in this particular.

As for food, an adequate supply for 18 months weighs about a ton. The chief items are 600 pounds of flour, 300 pounds of bacon, 150 pounds each of beans and sugar, 75 pounds each of rolled oats or other mush material and corn meal, 50 pounds of rice, six dozen cans of condensed milk, 35 pounds of butter in sealed cans, 150 pounds of evaporated vegetables, 100 pounds of evaporated fruit, 50 pounds of prunes and raisins, 30 pounds of dried fish, 40 pounds of coffee, with baking powder, soda, salt, pepper, ginger, mustard, yeast cakes, tea, soap, matches, lime juice (very important), dried beef, extract of beef, soups in tins, sausage, tobacco, etc., as desired, bearing in mind always that variety of food promotes health. There has more or less been said in the papers about various concentrated foods, but with the exception of evaporated vegetables and fruit, condensed preserves, condensed milk and beef extract there is nothing yet been brought forward which has been proved desirable. One can not afford to experiment with his stomach in Alaska.

All supplies should be carefully packed in canvas sacks of a total weight of 50 pounds each as nearly as possible. Canvas of superior quality should be used, the object being to preserve the food from loss by dampness as well as by breaking or tearing of the packages. Fifty pound packages are the most convenient for handling, and this is often as great a weight as one man can carry. It is better to have these canvas sacks paraffined, to resist dampness. Do not use oiled canvas, as the extreme coldness causes it to crack, with consequent loss of the contents of the sack. This is true also of oiled clothing, sleeping bags, etc. Plain canvas is better than oiled, and paraffined better than plain. A canvas tarpaulin is necessary as an outfit cover, and this may also be fitted up and used for a sail. The canvas sacks should be numbered and a list of the contents of each kept. The owner's name should be plainly marked on each. Such necessaries as matches, candles, etc., should be distributed throughout the sacks, so that a loss of a portion of the outfit will not deprive the owner of these things. Put matches in tin boxes. The camper will require a tent, 8x10 or 10x12 being the usual sizes taken. Each man should have a canvas sleeping bag, preferably paraffined, with a hood to draw over his head. He can have another heavy woolen sleeping bag to go inside this, or use blankets, as he may prefer, though there is more warmth to the same weight in the sleeping bag.

As for clothing, the essentials are mackinaw suits, heavy woolen underwear and overshirts, heavy woolen socks, woolen mitts and fleece lined leather mitts, heavy leather boots, gum boots, overalls, woolen cap, soft felt hat and a waterproof clothing sack. To this equipment one may add whatever he may think desirable, but these at least are necessary. The question of footwear is an important one. Gum boots are worn only while at work in the water, either in a claim or along the trail. Leather boots crack and are easily ruined in the snow and cold. The Indians make a moccasin boot called "muckluck," which is the usual footwear along the Yukon, but it will of course be impossible for them to supply the demand for them next year. This renders it advisable for the gold-seeker to take at least one extra pair of boots with him. The most desirable is the style of boot worn by lumbermen.

There are numerous little things that are a necessary part of an equipment. Every man should have a small kit of shoemaker's tools and supplies, also a complete mending outfit for clothing, toilet articles, etc., all in a case with pockets, one that can be rolled up and tied. A few yards of mosquito netting are necessary, for mosquitoes are a pest. Goggles to protect the eyes from snow blindness are necessary. Pens, ink, pencils, paper and government stamped envelopes, both Canadian and United States, should be taken. A few books are worth their weight. Fishing tackle and shot guns are likely to prove of service, as the streams teem with fish and water-fowl are extremely abundant in summer. Traps are useless, as all taking of animals for their fur is done by Indians. A compass is desirable, also snow calks for the feet. For travel on the snow a Yukon sled is needed. No matter by what route one travels or how he expects to transport his outfit, there will be times either on the journey in or later when he will have to pack supplies on his own back, and he should be equipped for it. The ordinary packing straps cut and gall the shoulders and let the load lie like a dead weight on the small of the back and the kinders. There are various devices for overcoming these troubles. The best of them are the Merriam pack, by which the weight is thrown upon the hips, and the Yukon packing frame, which places the weight on the shoulders. Either is worth far more than it costs to the man who has to pack his outfit. In packing it is a great mistake to overdo oneself or to carry a load too far. The best plan is to move the entire outfit along by short stages, and then to stop work before completely exhausted. One should be especially careful not to sit around without a coat when heated or to wear wet clothing when not at work.

Every man going to Alaska should take a small supply of medicines and surgical necessaries. These outfits, both regular and homeopathic, may be procured in specially prepared cases, and cost about $10. He should also understand the use of the remedies and appliances.

Finally, the best advice of all is to take only the best quality of everything, whether clothing, proivsions or utensils, and to procure them from experienced outfitters, who know just what is wanted and how to pack it. It is poor economy to save a cent or two a pound on provisions and then pay a dollar a pound to get this cheap food to its destination.

These things can all be bought cheaper and to better advantage at the outfitting points from which the steamers sail than at any other place. It is both economy and wisdom to wait until the final starting point is reached before outfitting, as a perfect equipment, selected under the advice of reliable outfitters and properly packed, is half the battle for success.

**Girl Ushers in a Church.**

Because the members of his church were negligent in attending Sunday services and still more so in contributing to the support of himself and the church, Rev. Maurice Penfield Fikes, pastor of the First Baptist church at Trenton, N. J., decided to try an innovation to attract people to hear him preach and their nickles and dimes from their unwilling pockets. He introduced pretty girls as ushers, and is more than pleased with the results of the first experiment. Mr. Fikes had the sagacity to make announcement of the fact that the young women would show folks to their seats and take up the collection. He was careful, too, to pick out six of the prettiest girls in his flock, so the church had more young men in its pews than had ever before been seen there. Every seat in the church was filled long before services were begun, and it was necessary to get chairs in the aisles. As ushers the girls were a grand success, but their best services were given when the time came to take up the collection. The innovation doesn't meet with the approval of the other preachers, who say that when people are drawn to a church simply for the privilege of looking upon a bevy of pretty girls there is no lasting good to be expected from it. But Mr. Fikes says that he believes in getting people into his church and he doesn't care how he does it so long as the means are legitimate and honest. It took a long time to take up the collection, but when it was over and the money counted there was nearly $300 to add to the treasury of the church.

**Zertucha's Treachery.**

Dr. Zertucha, who was the physician of the late General Maceo, has been appointed mayor of Bejucal, Havana province. Zertucha has belonged, in his day, to all the political parties in Cuba. At one time he was a bandit in the Vuelta Abajo, and his record was very discreditable. It was quite inexplicable to the friends of Maceo that he kept the physician on his staff for so long a period, notwithstanding the warnings given him. Maceo used to say that Zertucha's fault was his drinking habit. At the time the famous Cuban commander was killed, Zertucha was charged with leading him and his party into the fatal ambush, but he issued a long statement in which he tried to show that Maceo met his death in battle in the usual way. Zertucha also bitterly assailed the honor of the Cuban leaders. After the killing of Maceo the dishonored physician was allowed to go free by the Spaniards, and it was said, and generally believed, that his pockets were well lined with Spanish gold.

**King of a South Sea Island.**

About six weeks ago John F. Hobbs, a citizen of South Carolina, was cast upon the island of Iilika, in the South sea. He lived among the natives, for he could not get away then. He taught the uncivilized people many things and instructed them in arts unknown to them. So, when a year later their king died, he was chosen to rule over the four islands. Mr. Hobbs had a commission to the World's Fair and to the Atlanta exposition. While in New York last year in May on his way to Australia, and his far-off kingdom, he met Miss Ella Collin and made her his wife, wife of King Oumalea, of ka, and postponed his trip to this glom. But now, as soon as the princess is able to go, the royal family will begin the journey. The natives of the island of Iilika are akin to the Samoans. It is said Mr. Hobbs once refused an offer by England of £15,000 and a knighthood for his little kingdom.

It is reported that quite a serious landslide occurred in the neighborhood of the Seven Devils, below Cape Arago, during the recent storm.