

JUST ANOTHER ONE

And then there's the story about the Scotchman who stayed away from a municipal banquet because he didn't know the meaning of the word "gratis" on the invitation. The next day he shot himself over an open dictionary in the public library.

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**ITEMS OF ALASKA
INTEREST AT THE
NATIONAL CAPITAL**

Eastern paper mills are urging President Hoover to take action to halt pending negotiations for the sale of National Forest timber in Alaska for conversion into pulp and news print. It is alleged that this additional production of pulp in Alaska would "thrust" unwarranted production upon an over-expanded industry struggling with a diminished demand and vanishing profits. The matter has been referred to the Interior and Agricultural Departments, where it is stated that action by the government to prevent development of the industry in Alaska is not probable at the present time, as the forests are ripe for cutting and considerable cost is involved in deterioration. It is stated that conditional permits for the purchase of two important west coast groups of 10,000,000,000 board feet of pulp wood in the Tongass National Forest are involved in the negotiations. It is expected that

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large water power projects near Juneau and Ketchikan would furnish sufficient energy to produce between 200 and 500 tons of news print each day. There is sufficient timber to keep the plants running 50 years. The promoters of the Alaska development have been tendered a license by the Federal Power Commission for power projects. Neither has accepted. An improvement in the news print market conditions it is expected, will govern their acceptance.

In July 1909, the National Editorial Association held its annual meeting in Seattle and one of the strong drawing cards that induced a decision to go to the Pacific coast was a promised excursion to Alaska. One hundred berths were reserved on the steamer Northwestern, but over 150 editors and their wives from all over the United States finally made reservations, but only 136 could be accommodated. And that number sailed from Seattle on July 24, returning on August 12, being the largest tourist party that had made the trip up to that date. And they certainly had an enjoyable trip that took in South-eastern Alaska, Cordova and out to Mile 50 on the railroad then building, Valdez, Seward, and a side trip to Kodiak Island and Cook's Inlet. The writer was the chairman of the committee on arrangements and was reminded of the big event by a pencil pusher in Washington the other day who submitted a copy of a rather facetious article that one of the excursionists published after his return. It may prove interesting reading now, and is resubmitted as follows:

"Alaska is a syndicated, refrigerated territory of the United States, bounded on the North by the Polar scandal, on the East by the Northwest Mounted Police and on the South and West by the Japanese seal poachers.

"The Territory is inhabited by federal judges, Esquimaux, pelagic sealers, faro dealers, mining engineers, Athabasca Indians, and the United States Signal Corps.

"The government is administered by the Secretary of the Interior, the Revenue Cutter Service, and the Campfire Club of New York.

"Alaska produces gold, coal, fur, fish, icebergs, totem poles reindeer, and Congressional investigations.

"The climate compares icily with that of Blitzen and Etah.

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most approved red tape methods. "Fairbanks, the capital of the Interior, is named for the discoverer of the buttermilkcocktail.

"Alaska possess the highest mountain on the North American continent, Mt. McKinley, now famed in history as the receptacle of the lost copper cylinders of Dr. Frederick A. Cook.

"Concerning Alaska, our friend, G. Pinchot, says, "Conserve it!" L. R. Glavis says, "Investigate it!" S. Guggenheim says, "Syndicate it!" Rex Beach says, "Copyright it!" and R. A. Ballinger says "Forget!"

Dr. George L. Barton and Mrs. Flora Sharick, of Juneau, were married a few weeks ago in Bellingham, Wash. They are spending their honeymoon in Seattle and Vancouver, B. C., according to the Juneau Empire.

"The Majestic," last word in modern refrigeration, at Brown & Hawkins.

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