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### Current Topics.

It is proposed to make the dollar bill smaller hereafter-to correspond, no doubt, with s diminished purchasing power.

The electric furnace can generate a heat of some thousands of degrees, more or less-the exact figures are immaterial, -and now famly ice machines operated by electric power are promised. One trinks instinctively of the old fable of the man who astimished his satyr host by blowing hot and cold with the same breath. What would the simple satyr have thought of a power that freezes water and melts iron?-The Youth's Companion.

PARIS-and the rest of the wor' -had its laugh when a few women attempted to earn their living by cab-driving. But the women have succeeded; they make the living they are after, and incidentally better the lot of the Paris cab horse-never a very hap py one-as far as they can. It is said in one of the cab stables, that a certain horse, regarded as so vicious that no man driver would use him, has by a woman's kind and gentle treatment been so tamed that it is one of the best animals in the stable.-The Youth's Companion.

Thirty-six members attended the recent meeting of the national association of Mexi can War V sterans in Indianapolis. . Their ages ranged from seventy-eight to eighty-sev en years. At the end of the last session the secretary announced that they would part 'to meet again on that beautiful shore," and ask ed all present to rise and declare the associa tion adjourned forever. It will not be many years before the Grand Army of the Repub lic will be compelled to draw its life to a close with a similar touching ceremony .-The Youth's Companion.

Under New York City is a foundation of solid rock, and engineers are now planning to bore an immense water tunnel for eight seu miles at a great depth through this rock. It is an engineering feat which will take rank with the greatest wonders of the metropoles. After experiments for gen erations with pipes of iron and conduits of cement, the engineers are going back to the methods used by the Romans to convey a supply of pure, fresh water to their city. The tunnels made by the Romans through the solid kock were in use for sever al centuries. In Greece, and in older civili of the sea, in which breed inexhaustible snp zations in Asia which crumbled away plies of deep sea fishes while the bank and long before Rome was founded great water tunnels were in use. The New York project will cost twenty five million dollars, and thousands of men will work upon it for the next fours years. The tunnel will be fifteen and fish appears in some form on the table feet in diameter at the beginning, and the wat of every Japenese family daily, if not at er which it will bring to the city will be every meal. The annual value of water pro distributed by the present system. Its ducts is in excess of thirity million dollars. capacity will be five hundred million gallons Half a million boats are engaged in fishing daily, which is about the present consump of which eighteen thousand are more than

ion of the city. The depth of the tunnel under the East River and the city itself will be from one hundred to six hundred feet below the surface, in order to follow the solid rock. - The Youth: Companion.

#### TABLE OF COST.

Often the lousekeeper wants to count up he cost of any meal or especial article and is unable to do so because when supplies are bought in a quantity it is hard to estimate the value of the amount used, and a table of average costs is useful. The cost of some ar ticles may vary a little in different localities.

One cup of flour or meal One cup of sugar .03 One cup of butter .20 Butter size of an egg .05 Tablespoonful of butter One egg One cup of milk

The following articles are estimated to cost 1 cent: One teaspoonful of wine, teaspoonful of vanilla, teaspoonfull of olive oil, two of tes, one of sods, one of spices, two of cream of tartar. Salt and pepper are generally us ed in too small quantities to be estimated.

For 2 cents, one teaspoonful of brandy one tablespoonful of grated chocolate, one carrot, one trunip, one large onion, one tablespoonful of coffee, one tablespoonful of gelatine.

#### JAPANESE FISHERIES. (New York Tribune.)

Japan is to-day the leading fishing nation. Not, it is true in the actual value of its fish products, for in that two or three other na tions rxcel it; but in the number of persons who make their living by fishing in the pro portion of fishes to the rest of the people, in the relative importance of fisheries in the do mestic ecoamony, in the ingenuity and skill of the people devising fishing apparatus and in preparing fish and in the zeal shown by the Coverenment in promoting the interest of he fishing population, Japan is pre-eminent

The Island Empire stretches diagonally from northeast to southwest between two and three thousands miles, giving a greet range of climate, and consequently of waters from almost tropical to almost arctic. The slands are for the most part long and narrow and at no part is the interior too far from the sea to allow of the easy transporation of fresh fish. Within a few miles of the coast n many places are tremendonsly deep parts top feeding sorts swarm about the shores in countless schoois.

As a result, one person in twenty in the entire Empire is more or less of a fisherman



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thirity feet long, Almost a million men are professional fisherman and one million tour hundred thousand more give part of their ime to fishing and the rest to farming or other pursuits. Only one hundred and seven ty five thousands men are so employed in the United States.

A thousand species of fish have already been identified in Jepenese waters, and al ost very one of them is edible. One of the commonest, most wholesome, and most sought after is the shark, which we have never learned to eat, but which a fishery ex pert of this Government who has visited Japan pronounces excellent. Dog-fish, the common member of the shark family along o r North A lan c coast would never be permitted to go uncaught in Japan. Even the octopus is a table delicacy in the Island Empire.

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## Savings Accounts

PARLIAMENT WILL MEET IN NO. VEMBER.

The date of the opening of the parliamentary session has not yet been considered in the cabinet council, but there is little disposition in the best informed circles to place any credence in the report that the House will not meet till January. The estimates are now being prepared by various departments, and these can all be dealt with by council in course of a

While there are a variety of important matters to be dealt with this session, the legislation to be introduced will not involve such lengthy consideration as did the Insurance and Anti-Gambling bills of last session, interests from the Atlantic to the Pacific were heard. The bill which will involve the most consider ation will be the act to amend the Bankers' Act.

Another reason why the Honse should meet in November is that it must rise early in the summer in order that the premier may attend the coronation of King George. The decoration of the Senate chamber may cause a short delay, but the House is almost certein to meet not later than Novemder 17.

