

DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES OF WHITEFISH (*Coregonus nelsonii*),
FROM ALASKA.

BY TABLETON H. BEAN,

Curator of the Department of Fishes in the United States National Museum.

Coregonus nelsonii Bean. Hump-back whitefish.

This species is known from Alaska only, occurring from the Bristol Bay region northward to the extremity of the Territory.

This whitefish, which appears to be still undescribed, has long been known from Alaska, but it has been confounded with a Siberian species, *C. syrok*, from which it is really very different. The Russian name of the species is *Korabati*; the Tinneh tribes of the Yukon call it "*Kolo-küh*." Mr. Dall, in the report of the Commissioner of Agriculture for 1870, page 386, speaks of it as a common species, characterized by the strongly arched back and broad tail. He says it is rather bony and inferior in flavor, and that it is generally used for dog-feed, except in times of scarcity.

This species is related to *C. clupeiformis* and *C. labradoricus*. From *clupeiformis* it may readily be distinguished by its greatly arched and much compressed back. The body is oblong and compressed; the head is one-fifth as long as the fish without the caudal; the maxilla extends to the front margin of the eye, and is about one fourth as long as the head; the gill-rakers are only moderately long, the longest a little more than one-half length of eye, and their number is about 26. The greatest height of the body is a little more than one-fourth of the total length in the typical example, which is about 14½ inches long to caudal base. The adipose fin is large and scaled for nearly half its height. The ventrals are a little nearer the tip of the snout than the root of the caudal; they are about as long as the head without the snout. D. 12; A. 12; scales 10—88—10. The type of the species is No. 29903, taken at Nulato, Alaska, by Mr. E. W. Nelson, to whom the species is dedicated in recognition of his important zoological researches in that Territory.

ON THE LITERATURE AND SYSTEMATIC RELATIONS OF THE
SACCOPHARYNGOID FISHES.

By THEODORE GILL and JOHN A. RYDER.

About sixty years ago a most remarkable fish was first introduced into scientific literature under the generic name *Saccopharynx*. Other examples have been found in the meanwhile, and yet until the present the form has had no established place in the system. Notwithstanding the alleged existence of two specimens in one of the richest ichthyological collections extant, under the custody of one who has professed to give the most complete system of fishes, the type has been involved in