SOUTH STREET HAS STRIKING CONDITION IN ITS REAL ESTATE

Every Foot of Space Being Utilized on This "Foreign Boulevard"—Values Are Bounding.

Striking real estate conditions, the like of which are not likely to be found elsewhere in the city, prevail on South street and other thoroughfares running into it between Front and 4th streets.

Below South street, on 4th, extending all the way to Moyamensing avenue, which meets 2d street at Christian, is the "curbstone market." Here are lined up, mostly on the west side of the street, farmers from New Jersey, who offer their produce for sale. Formerly they were to be found on 2d street, where they still can be seen near South; but now they have gone further to the west, where the trade comes from the rapidly extending area of customers.

South street is the "foreign boulevard," and at 2d and South streets, where the thoroughfare narrows again, after widening to take in the market sheds south of Pine street, the centre of activity is located.

Below this point was the old district of Southwark.

PROPERTY VALUES BOUND.

Remarkable advances are seen in sales and transfers, as follows:

1908, September 24—304 South street, lot 22.1 by 72.2 feet, S. J. Friedman to E. Katzenbegan, assessed $12,000 ..... $13,275
1908, September 26—305 South street, lot 14.7 by 54.6 feet, M. O'Brien to Isaac Dentsch, assessed $8000 10,500
1908, June 24—109-11 South street, 15 by 30 feet each, assessed $6400 7,000
1908, December 14—334 South street, lot 20 by irregular, subject to ground rent of $80 per annum, assessed $8000 15,100
1909, August 14—622 South 2d street, 18.6 by 77.6 feet, assessed $7000 7,530
1910, March 28—119 South street, lot 19 by 109, assessed $5000 5,900
1910, July 8—250 South street, lot 15.10 by 39.5 feet, sold June 15, 1905 for $7000 8,500
1910, July 9—620 South 2d street, lot 21.8 feet by irregular, assessed $8500 9,500
1910, September 19—604 South 2d street, lot 19.6 by 97.6 feet 17,700
1911, January 21—523 South 2d street, lot 20 by 100 feet, assessed $10,000 13,500
1911, December 12—235 South street, lot 20 by 70 feet, store and dwelling, Cora C. Heading to David Preis 8,500
1912, March 25—430 South street, 18.4 feet by irregular, assessed $9000 6,100
1912, May 10—607 South 2d street, lot 20 by 65 feet, Sheppard G. Young to Herman Lichtenstein 10,000
1912, March 4—416 S. 2d street, 20 by 72 feet, Mary A. Bowen to M. Tuttle, assessed $12,500 13,000
1914, August 3—720 South 2d street, lot 14 by 121 feet 4,500
1914, December 9—530 South 2d street, 4½-story brick store and dwelling, lot 23 by 129 feet, estate of J. A. Culver, sold by S. T. Freeman & Co. for 12,500

This last sale was at the rate of $540 a front foot, which is a record price for property between Lombard and South streets.

All through this section rentals are high and easily obtainable. In March, 1909, a lot 14x38, southwest corner of 3d and South streets, was sold for $28,325. June 6 of the same year, northeast corner of 3d and South streets, consisting of Nos. 249-51 South street and 257 South 3d street, entire lot 42x49.4, was sold by Christ Church to Louis Dilke for $30,500, or $726 a front foot. It would cost a good deal more to buy the same kind of property now.

The rush of business has a great deal to do with advancing values at this point. The native population, unaccustomed to the "store-and-dwelling" proposition to its fullest meaning, moved, many going to West Philadelphia. The foreign element soon took possession, and, needless to say, utilized every foot of space.

STREET HAS GREAT FUTURE.

South street has a great future. Twenty-three squares of stores between the Delaware and the Schuylkill Rivers, all busy and making money. Think of it! They have shrewd and careful buyers and sell bargains. Stouth street is not in competition with department stores, but has a distnct trade. Buyers come from all parts of the city.

Much money is going into this district on mortgage trust companies seeing the stability of the advance. Values will rise until the price of ground reaches a point at which buildings must be built higher to give the necessary space for adequate rental returns.

NOTES OF THE STREET.

Mortgages for the week ending Thursday are:

Building associations loaned	$388,270
Individuals	261,100
Trust companies	121,800

Among the largest mortgages were the following:

$14,000—G. J. Crumble to Mutual Guarantee Building and Loan Association, on north side of Allegheny avenue, 122.4½ feet west of 13th street.

$50,000—H. C. Hollinger to the Land Title and Trust Company, on northwest corner of 40th and Walnut streets.

$16,500—W. H. Keim to B. W. Fleischer, on 5248-50 Market street.

Among the notable properties disposed of this week at sheriff's sale are the following:

Nos. 85 on 8th street and 849-51 Darien street, rear lot 24 by 98.2½ feet, East side 6th street, 42.5¼ feet south of Jackson street, lot irregular	$5,000
Northwest corner 29th and Thompson streets, 17 by 54 feet	22,500
Southwest side Allegheny avenue and southeast side Salmon street, 37.6 by 122.10½ feet	4,100
Northwest corner Pulaski avenue and Butler street, 42 by 94.9½ feet	10,200
No. 239 Race street, 21.8½ by 100.6 feet	5,750
No. 1122 Walnut stret, 23.6 by 106 feet	8,500
West side 6th street and south side Rockland street, 40 by 143.1½ feet, etc	60,000
No. 1821 Chestnut street, 20 by 100 feet	6,000
	56,400

Mortgage matters are dull, the demand easing up from builders, owing to the approach of the closed season for outside work. Interest rates are unchanged.

LESSOR.

ENSIGN EDWARDS TO WED

Miss Annie Powell to be Bride of Navy Officer.

Ensign Walter Atlee Edwards, U. S. N., of 2119 Locust street, and Miss Annie Hare Powell, darghter of Mr. and Mrs. Pemberton Powell, of Newport, R. I., will be married at Newport at noon on December 31.

Ensign Edwards is the son of Mrs. Joseph Edwards. E. Baldwin Edwards, Ensign Edwards' brother, will be best man, and Miss Mary Louis Edwards, his niece, will be the bride's attendant as flower girl.

GARBAGE COLLECTOR ARRESTED

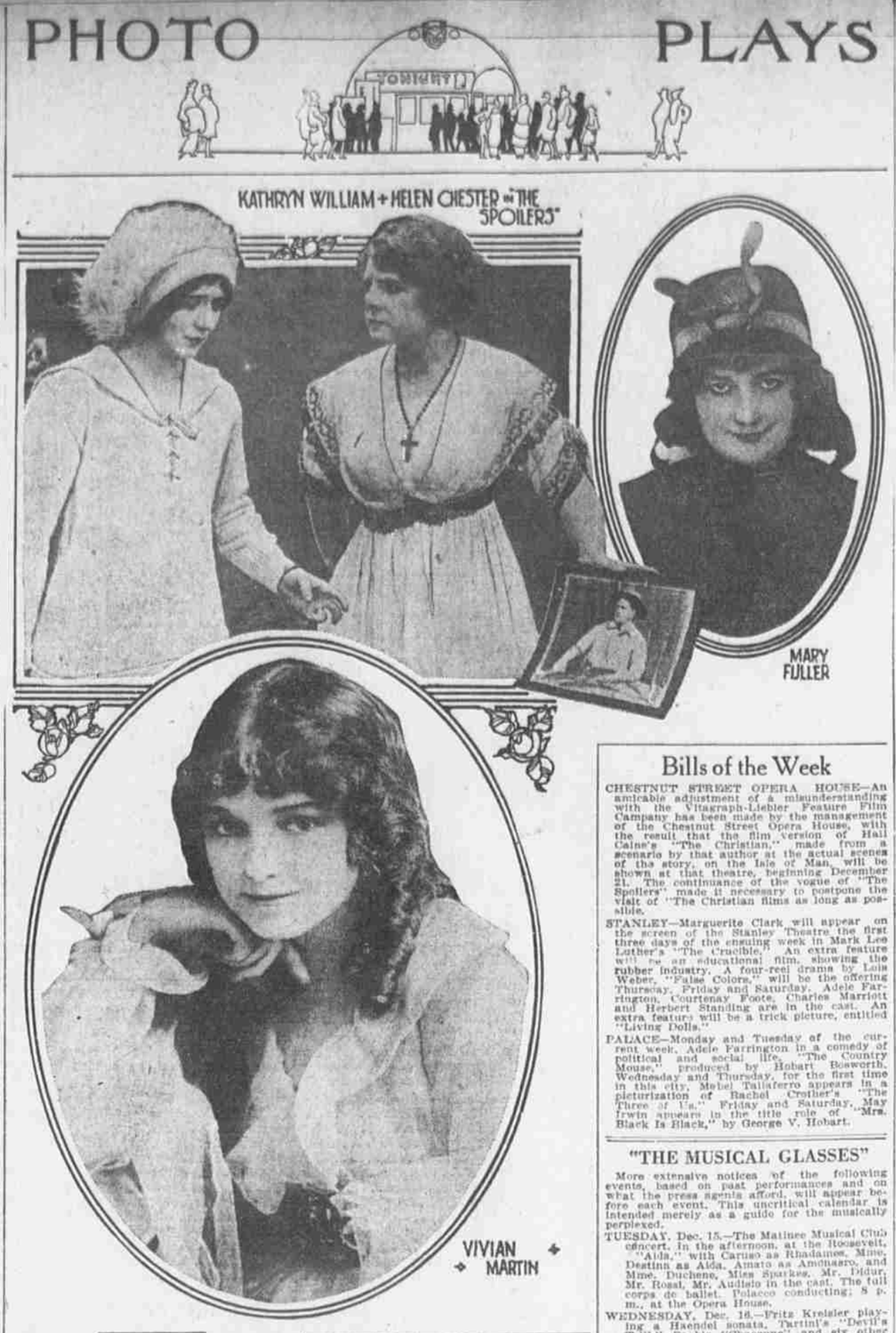
Pigs must eat and as Joseph Klapa, 801 Kingston avenue, owner of several little swine, had no food, he took a wheelbarrow and started to make a round of his neighbors' garbage boxes. Now he is awaiting trial on the charge of violating a rule of the Bureau of Health by gathering garbage in the wheelbarrow.

DR. KRAUSKOPF TO LECTURE

Dr. Joseph Krauskopf will begin a series of lectures tomorrow morning on "Patriotism Versus Humanitarianism" in the Kenesseth Israel Temple, Broad street and Columbia avenue. The lectures are to continue through three weeks, and will be given each Sunday morning.

The topic tomorrow morning will be "Patriot and Patriotism." The second one will be "Egs and Patriotism" and the third, "Man and Patriotism."

PHOTO PLAYS



The tendency of schools and churches to enter the picture-exhibiting arena has many exhibitors owning small theatres in residental neighborhoods a trifle worried. The neighborhood theatre manager has yet to reach the stage where he can look with unconcern upon the nickels and dimes of the children.

Exhibitors cannot combat this tendency solely by the plea of illegal competition. As long as the average photplay theatre program is made up as at present the balahce of right is in favor of those who would furnish more carefully selected programs to the children. This is a condition beyond the control of the exhibitor. He cannot adopt the attitude of the radical consorship boards and choose all his pictures from the viewpoint of the children, for his adult patrons will soon tire of the childish fare. And while he is aiming to please the elders the educators will make strong use of the argument that the children should be given programs combining educational and entertainment value.

A movement that is gaining strength with "mothers' societies" throughout the country should therefore be studied by the exhibitors with much interest. In several large cities and many more smaller communities these societies are advocating that the exhibitors put aside certain days on which special "children's matinees" shall be given. The programs for these performances are to be balanced between purely educational pictures and dramatic offerings based upon classic works. There is no scarcity in the market of pictures dealing with historical incidents, others based upon the works of Dickens, Shakespeare and many writers whose names are found in the school curriculum.

In most instances where this policy of special performances has been adopted, the initiative has come from outsiders, and in several cases the "mothers' societies" have had to expend considerable effort in bringing exhibitors around to see the wisdom of co-operation.

LIGHTS BLIND PLAYERS.

As the result of working for several hours directly in front of six Kleig lights in an effort to obtain a certain desired lighting effect on the film, Romaine Fielding, actor, author and director of the Lubin Company, and several of his leading players had their eyes burned to the extent of forcing them to remain in a dark room for several days. The work was being done at Betswood, the Lubin farm, and the scene was one in "The Hour of Disaster," a six-reel drama which Mr. Fielding is just completing.

While the scene was in progress the effect upon the eyes by the strong lights was unnoticed. When the injury was discovered Mr. Fielding, who is a graduate physician, gave first aid treatment and then had the sufferers and himself rushed home in his machine. Mr. Lubin's optician was called in and after an examination decided that several days of rest for the eyes was necessary.

PERSONALITIES.

Blanche Sweet has left the Mutual and joined Jesse Lasky's company.

Pauline Bush steps into comedy in "The Peacemaker," and proves her versatility.

Laura Sawyer, formerly of the Edison and Famous Players and now with Dyreda, has a strong part in "One of Millions"—four reels.

Alice Hollister has given up the siren business, and in "The Hate That Withers" she plays the wife and lets somebody else do the enslaving of her husband.

Arthur Ashley has left the Vitagraph for the Thanhouser. Chester Barnett has gone to the Peerless and Margaret Risser (Paine) is now a resident of Lubonville.

Cleo Madison, after her rest, has rejoined her "Trey o' Hearts" company with George Larkin and Wilfred Lucas, at San Gabriel Canyon, in the heart of the Sierras.

Ethel Grandin celebrated her 20th birthday by becoming a Warner feature of the Grandin Film Company brand.

D. W. Griffith says he has broken the record for mob scenes, in "The Clansman," with 15,600 mobites.

Warren Kerrigan has signed a contract with the Universal Company for two years more. He is still doing "Terrance O'Rourke."

Lillian Russell, famous beauty, is now being filmed in "Wildfire."

Billy Quirk (Vitagraph) says that as near as he can calculate he has been married 7848 times, and that if he isn't married at least twice a week he gets lonesome.

It was five below zero, and they had been wading all day through the icy waters of a river, when Hobart Bosworth found a suitable setting and took a scene in Jack London's "Burning Daylight."

KNICKERBOCKER

"The Mystery of the Hills" is the fourth episode of the Zudora series, and will be shown here Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Many of the scenes in this subject show the btautiful hills and surrounding country of a little town near New Rochelle, N. Y. New characters introduced into the story are John Storm's parents and a half-witted boy. It is around one of his pranks that the story of this episode is written. George Ade's "Fables in Slang" were used in making a new series of photoplays, and they will be shown here every Thursday, Friday and Saturday, in connection with the regular vaudeville acts and other motion pictures. The program is changed every Monday and Thursday.

WEST ALLEGHENY

The second episode of the Zudora series of mystery photoplays will be shown here Tuesday and is about "The Mystery of the Sleeping House. "Quincy Adams Sawyer," a five-part feature, will be shown on Wednesday. It is based upon the well-known book by the same name. "Cabiria," the great spectacular masterpiece, will be the attraction for Thursday and Friday. This production cost more than $250,000, and it took nearly a year to complete it.

THE GARDEN

Clara Kimball Young in "Lola," by Owen Davis, will be shown here on Monday. It is a Shubert feature picture in five parts and affords Miss Young an opportunity to fully show her ability as an actress. Beginning next Monday, this theatre will show special features of the World Film Corporation.

THE LEHIGH THEATRE

Another episode of the Zudora photoplay series will be shown here on Monday. Marguerite Snow, Henry Benham and James Cruze are the principals, and they are assisted by a capable company. Other feature pictures are shown every night.

JEFFERSON

Alfred Sutros' play of modern society, "The Walls of Jericho," with Edmund Breese in the leading part, is the attraction for Monday. The story is a modernization and a practical application of the biblical story "When the priests blew their trumpets, the walls of Jericho fell down flat." "The Seats of the Mighty," by Sir Gilbert Parker, is booked for Thursday, while "The Adventures of Kitty Cobb," by James Montgomery Flagg, is the feature for Saturday in connection with the regular program.

LINCOLN

Daniel Frohman presents Hazel Dawn in "One of Our Girls" for the main feature of today's program. "Dope," with Herman Lieb, in the title part, will be shown Monday, and on Wednesday the special feature is Thomas Wise, in "A Gentleman from Mississippi." Other pictures will be announced later.

SOMERSET

The photoplay of Oriental mystery, "Zudora," will be shown here Monday. "War Is Hell," a four-part feature for Tuesday, and another timely war subject for Wednesday is called "For King and Country." Thursday's special picture will be "The Gangsters," the "Criminal Code" on Friday, and "Jack of Diamonds" on Saturday.

Bills of the Week

CHESTNUT STREET OPERA HOUSE—An amicable adjustment of a misunderstanding with the Vitagraph-Liebler Feature Film Campany has been made by the management of the Chestnut Street Opera House, with the result that the film version of Hall Caine's "The Christian," made from a scenario by that author at the actual scenes of the story, on the Isle of Man, will be shown at that theatre, beginning December 21. The continuance of the vogue of "The Spoilers" made it necessary to postpone the visit of "The Christian films as long as possible.

STANLEY—Marguerite Clark will appear on the screen of the Stanley Theatre the first three days of the ensuing week in Mark Lee Luther's "The Crucible." An extra feature will be an educational film, showing the rubber industry. A four-reel drama by Lois Weber, "False Colors," will be the offering Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Adele Farrington, Courtenay Foote, Charles Marriott and Herbert Standing are in the cast. An extra feature will be a trick picture, entitled "Living Dolls."

PALACE—Monday and Tuesday of the current week, Adele Farrington in a comedy of political and social life, "The Country Mouse," produced by Hobart Bosworth. Wednesday and Thursday, for the first time in this city, Mabel Taliaferro appears in a picturization of Rachel Crother's "The Three of Us." Friday and Saturday, May Irwin appears in the title role of "Mrs. Black Is Black," by George V. Hobart.

"THE MUSICAL GLASSES"

More extensive notices of the following events, based on past performances and on what the press agents afford, will appear before each event. This uncritical calendar is intended merely as a guide for the musically perplexed.

TUESDAY, Dec. 15.—The Matinee Musical Club concert, in the afternoon, at the Roosevelt. "Aida," with Caruso as Rhadames, Mme. Destinn as Aida, Amato as Amonasro, and Mme. Duchene, Miss Sparkes, Mr. Didur, Mr. Rossi, Mr. Audisio in the cast. The full corps de ballet. Polacco conducting; 8 p. m., at the Opera House.

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 16.—Fritz Kreisler playing a Haendel sonata, Tartini's "Devil's Trill," Bach's "Chaconne" and six other pieces; 2:30 p. m., at the Academy.

Miss Gertrude A. Dohman's song recital; 8:15 p. m., at Griffith Hall.

FRIDAY, Dec. 18—Mme. Schumann-Heink as assisting artist with the Philadelphia Orchestra, singing "Andromache's Lament," from Bruch's "Achilles," and the "Ah, mon fils" aria from Meyerbeer's "Le Prophete." The symphony in B Schubert's ninth. Excerpts from Berlioz's "Romeo and Juliet" and the overture to "The Flying Dutchman" make up the program; 3 p. m., at the Academy.

SATURDAY, Dec. 19.—The Philadelphia Orchestra, repeating Friday's program; 8:15 p. m., at the Academy.

Yesterday's Concert

The amateur of fine sensations was richly endowed yesterday afternoon in all the circumstances of the Philadelphia Orchestra concert. If he (or she) chanced to walk up Chestnut street in the unearthly olive-gray light which never was on land or sea before it came to make the city wonderful; if he was fortunate enough to see the yellow light-spots in the skyscrapers and the ineffectual arc lights flickering over the crossings, and could feel how bizarre and mystical the city looked under them, he was already prepared for the tender loveliness which was being prepared for him on the Academy's stage. And if he turned southward against the bulking black cloud there, and saw the unnatural colors of the faces which came out of it, the ruddy faces of men and the lovely pallor of women, the concert with its manifold beauties fell in with his humor, made its world the high-toned picture of the world without.

So at least it was for some. For others the merry Mozart and the highly colored "Oberon" must have been consolation for the dreariness of the day. But the day was too rare and portentous really to be dreary; and Mozart, and the Brahms scherzo and even "Oberon," held something of its beauty. The day should have been devoted to D'Indy and Debussy and Franck (though Franck is beyond such company), but Mr. Stokowski, yesterday, knew how to bring meanings and melodies from his music which did not console, but exalted. Once before Mr. Stokowski has shown that he knew his Mozart well, and could distinguish between the "Marriage of Figaro" and the "Don Giovanni." Yesterday he conducted the "Magic Flute" overture with a fine justness, distinguishing even in its limited compass between the silver and the golden. It is easy, far too easy, to conduct and to play Mozart; it is very difficult to play him well.

Brahms, in this program, yielded to Beethoven, but it was not without its own perfect time. That was in the andante. The major melody of this movement is a song, so sweet as almost to be languorous, yet against the tender voices of the strings it acquires a lightness of utterance which takes it into the atmosphere of a scherzo, not frivolous, but of good cheer; not dainty, but fulfilled of graciousness. Again the conception of the conductor was irreproachable; and here the orchestra, mauger the dead tones of strings loosened by rain and weather, overcoming even the hoarseness of the brass, played as the conductor, and as Brahms, might have wished them to play.

Only in the very difficult finale did the spirit fail off. The technical hardship of carrying an almost unbroken, unmelodic accompaniment, to melodies which falter almost before they are heard, was a bit too much for the orchestra.

Leonard Borwick took his seat at the piano, and in the long orchestral movement which preluded his first notes sat attentive, following its rhythms, even essaying inaudible notes upon his instrument. When he began to play he made his work, for a time, the expression merely of an orchestral unit. It was in his cadenza that the power and beauty of his musical diction began to be felt. The tone he drew from the piano was more fluid than clear; the runs and trills, the sharp arpeggios, still had something of a tender and supple tone. In no place were the outlines sharp; even when playing contrapuntally against the strings or woodwind, the melody was kept, where only the strength of the chords seemed to be demanded. It was this feeling for the sinuous lines of his melody that made the largo so complete a triumph. Mr. Borwick's playing was quiet; it was poetic and eloquent. And toward the close of the movement it had a high and breathless beauty. He persuaded his hearers, in that time, that nothing beyond that beauty existed; and it was enough. The finale, excellently played, fell from this high estate. But it brought a feeling of satisfaction with it. Mr. Borwick had the ungracious task of convincing those who heard him that the piano is justified as an instrument with an orchestra. It is not easy, because the instruments which can be heard alone with the orchestra are chiefly those which the orchestra employs. The piano and the voice (except in choral) are interlopers. Mr. Borwick made the intrusion wonderful. He cannot win himself great repute by such work; but the critical judgment which has honored him since he came to this country must continue to praise him until his name is established beyond the power of advertising to do or undo.

"What's Doing Tonight?"

Building Association League, Spring Garden Institute, 8 o'clock.

Philadelphia Orchestra, Academy of Music, 8 o'clock.

Anti-liquor meeting, Flying Squadron, Scottish Rite Hall, 8 o'clock; Y. W. C. A., 8 o'clock. Free.

Banquet, Central High School Alumni, Adelphia Hotel, 6:30 o'clock.

Reunion, 121st Regiment, Moschatel's, 8 o'clock.

Alumni Association, School of Industrial Arts, 8 o'clock.

Clinton W. Howard, of the Temperance Flying Squadron, address at Y. W. C. A., 17th and Arch streets, 8 o'clock. Free.

Play, "The Wife of Forty," Theophilus Club, in 23 Tenths, 8 o'clock.

DR. BERKOWITZ DENOUNCES MILITARISM IN AMERICA

Declares Demand for More Armaments Would Lead to War.

Rabbi Henry Berkowitz, in a discourse on "Militarism in America" at the Rodef Shalom Synagogue this morning denounced "the spirit of militarism which seems to be growing in this country."

Doctor Berkowitz declared that "the same voices which decry the dominant militarism of European lands as the cause of the ghastly war now raging are readiest to shriek 'American is unprepared for war.' Forthwith bills are prepared for adding millions to our public budget for increasing armaments and the public press publishes urgent calls that 'America delay no longer, but take up arms and settle the war in Europe.'

"A proper antidote against such 'hysteria' is offered in the wise, sane and deeply earnest message on this subject which the President of the United States presented at the opening of Congress. We, the common people, hate war more keenly than ever. Thank God, we have a leader who voices our love for peace."

The speaker declared that Europe was at war because of the false doctrine, fostered for centuries by the Governments, that all nations were inevitable foes. He pointed out that America, on the contrary, fostered the belief that all nations were and should be friends.

"Our Government," said Doctor Berkowitz, "is, as the President declares, 'not the master, but the servant of the people.' Now is the time for the people to take a strong stand with the President. It will be too late after the Government has imposed war taxes, rushed into the madness of war preparations and, as a consequence, ultimately led us into war. Then the people will have nothing to say, but millions must dumbly follow, sacrificing their homes, their families and their all, lest they be called 'unpatriotic' or be denounced and shot down as 'traitors.'"

MOTHERS' PENSION FUND NEEDS $1,000,000 MORE

State Will Be Asked to Relieve Present Shortage.

Trustees of the Mothers' Pension Fund are handicapped in their work by lack of funds, and an effort will be made at the next session of the Legislature to obtain appropriation of $1,000,000 to relieve this shortage, according to a statement made by State Senator John O. Sheatz today.

Although more than 1400 applications for aid have been received, only 150 cases have received attention. The State appropriated $200,000 for the fund at the last session of the Legislature, $40,000 of which was apportioned to Philadelphia for two years' work. Councils, according to its agreement, appropriated a like amount, making a total of $80,000 a year available.

There is considerable opposition to the mothers' pension fund from country districts that do not understand conditions of the poor in the large cities, Mr. Sheatz said. Since it is necessary for the counties receiving part of the State appropriation to appropriate a like amount, only one-third of the counties have taken advantage of the State appropriation.

The fund is distributed among the counties according to population. Should $1,000,000 be appropriated by the Legislature, approximately $200,000 would come to Philadelphia. Councils would then appropriate an additional $200,000 for the fund to cover two years' work. This would give the trustees $200,000 a year, an amount, according to Mr. Sheatz, which would be sufficient to permit the trustees to care for all the cases now coming to their attention.

TO ENLARGE NAVY YARD SLIP

Accommodations to Be Provided for Warship Building.

The building slip at the Philadelphia Navy Yard is to be enlarged within the next year to a capacity large enough for a battleship. This will be in accordance with the policy of Secretary Daniels as announced yesterday to the House Committee on Naval Affairs. Mr. Daniels, when questioned by Representatives Lee and Butler, said that ships could be built more cheaper in Philadelphia than anywhere else. The cheapness of freight, the nearness of supplies of armor plate, and the fact that Philadelphia was well sheltered and free from attack, all entered into the consideration, he said.

The last session authorized the building of a slip at the Philadelphia Navy Yard to cost $300,000. This is hardly large enough to accomodate a battleship, but it can be enlarged without great additional expense.

NEW BLANKS FOR INCOME TAX

Old Forms Will Not Be Accepted in 1915.

New income tax return blanks were received in Philadelphia today by Internal Revenue Collector Lederer. These forms must be used by all persons making returns during 1915 on incomes. The old forms will not be accepted next year by the revenue collectors.

The collector will mail this month new income tax forms to all persons on his list, but failure to receive forms will not excuse a person from the need of making a return. Forms may be obtained at the office of the collector of internal revenue in the Federal building.

DELIGHT OF DANCE NOT CONFINED TO FASHION'S REALM

Recreation Centres Scenes of Joy for Thousands Who Give Less Thought to Clothes Than to Art.

A lame duck or a canter for Christmas sounds ridiculous, of course, any way you take it, even when modern dances are considered. The fact is that the mention of a tango, a lulu fado, the fox trot, and other steps bring to mind visions of sweet debutantes, bare shoulders, dashing gowns and jewels of society matrons, and men in evening attire. But the fact remains that many of the most enthusiastic dancers in the city don't own a dress suit, never have owned one, and many no doubt, never will.

The recreation centres where the city conducts free dancing classes are crowded to overflowing by thousands of ardent dancers, both old and young, all enthusiastic to learn the latest steps of the latest dances.

Some are rough, some are uncouth perhaps, clean collars and white gloves are not essential; they do not have to bother about social etiquette or fancy suppers—they dance because they really like it. The Christmas idea is truer than one would at first suppose, as many of the city's poor who dance in the recreation centres may not be able to afford much else. Dancing there is their only luxury perhaps, and that costs them nothing.

To watch the six public dance halls is, indeed, an interesting sight. It is even inspiring to watch the many couples, who under proper supervision, use every effort to become efficient in the latest steps. They learn the fox trot, maxixe and any other dances, old or new, that are considered within the bounds of propriety by the censors.

Some of the pupils have reached a high state of efficiency, but even among the beginners there is no hanging back. All who attend seem to have the dancing "craze," so to speak, and are determined to learn.

Starr Garden Park, at 7th and Lombard streets, is undoubtedly the most crowded centre. There dancing classes are held nightly for both those who wish to learn to dance and for those who know how. Afternoon classes have been arranged where children under 14 are taught the preliminary steps, and the more adept pupils are taught fancy and folk dancing.

Although thousands attend these dances monthly, the number would be largely increased if the Board of Recreation had more time and space to devote to the dancing art. Many are turned away because the teachers realize that a large crowd, or a crowd that is too large, would spoil the class for all concerned.

At Happy Hollow, on Wayne avenue, above Wyoming street, there is only one gymnasium for the men and women's classes and the dancing. The result is that the dancing has to make way for the physical education, much to the sorrow of the dance enthusiasts. The room is too small for large dances. An attempt was made to hold a dance there after the Thanksgiving party. More than 300 attended, but the idea had to be abandoned as the floor was too crowded.

Athletic Recreation Park, at 26th and Master streets, probably has the best facilities in the city, having two large gymnasiums, a dancing floor and auditorium. Classes are held every evening, and these are divided into sections. After being a member of the beginners' class the pupils are advanced to the intermediate class. They are then promoted to the advanced class, which meets only once a week.

WEST PHILADELPHIA WILL HAVE COMMUNITY TREE

Lancaster Avenue Business Men Plan Merry Christmas for Children.

West Philadelphia will have a community Christmas tree of its own this year at 40th street and Lancaster avenue. Plans for a week's celebration are being completed by the Lancaster Avenue Business Men's Association, and the program, it is said, will be elaborate.

The tree will be 65 feet high, and is a donation of Anthony J. Drexel estate, Drexel Hills. It arrived at 63d and Market streets Thursday. Monday morning it will be erected. Hundreds of West Philadelphians will assemble to join in the exercises.

The tree will be brilliantly decorated with electric lights, which will be turned on by Mayor Blankenburg, Monday, December 14. Christmas morning members of the Lancaster Avenue Business Men's Association will assemble at the tree and start through the poor districts of West Philadelphia in automobiles. They will distribute 1200 baskets of food and 1000 boxes of candy to the kiddies. Those in the automobiles will be dressed as Santa Claus and will personally present the baskets.

MOTHER'S SERVICE TO BABY ALMOST COST HER LIFE

Exhausted by All Night Vigil, She Falls Asleep at Task.

An attempt to relieve the suffering of her baby almost cost the life of Mrs. Sarah Palonsky, 40 years old, of 634 Reed street, early this morning, when she was overcome by gas at her home. She is in Mt. Sinai Hospital in a serious condition.

Mrs. Palonsky's 18-month-old daughter Minnie was suffering from earache and kept her mother awake nearly all night. The woman, tired by the all-night vigil, fell asleep.

While asleep, she stretched out her hand and knocked the jet from the gas fixture, causing the gas to fill the room. William Scherlas, who lives on the first floor, detected the odor of gas and, upon finding the unconscious woman, had her sent to the hospital.

PROMINENT MEN AT DINNER

Edwin S. Stuart, ex-Governor of Pennsylvania, and Dr. Martin G. Brumbaugh, Governor-elect, are in New York today to attend the 16th annual dinner of the Pennsylvania Society, which will be held in the Waldorf-Astoria tonight. Other guests of honor will be Richmond Pierson Hobson and Dr. R. S. Naon, the Argentine Ambassador.

At the same time the dinner of the Society of Pennsylvania Women will be given in the Waldorf Apartment, the guests later taking boxes, where they will listen to the after-dinner speaking of the Pennsylvania Society.