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THE AVERAGE NET PAID DAILY CIRCULA-TION OF THE EVENING LEDGER

FOR JUNE WAS 92.857. PHILADELPHIA, THURSDAY, JULY 29, 1915.

The man who would do a big business without proclaiming his wares is like the man who would bore auger holes with a gimlet.

# The Problem of Being a Mother

"Do you advocate raising children for county charges, the poorhouse, or what? I am a mother of seven children and feel that I have my right to ask. Perhaps you have never had the experience of raising seven children on \$80 a month and then suddenly losing the position and have your house threatened with foreclosure." -Mrs. McHonney to Theodore Roosevelt.

MR. ROOSEVELT has yet to meet Mrs. McHonney face to face; and he has yet to meet her argument in any fashion whatsoever. He tells her "to keep right on being a mother, the best, highest, most worthwhile job on earth, no matter what the temporary conditions that surround it may be." But he fails to wonder whether such conditions are really temporary for most mothers of the poor, whether the job of being a mother is more worth-while on a basis of quantity or quality, and whether it can be better improved by individual initiative or by social forces. Perhaps the European war may give a little light.

Germany and France supply two glaringly contrasted methods of dealing successfully with the mother problem. Germany stood for a high birth rate, for more minds and more workers; but she also stood for the essential concomitant of protecting that increase of minds and workers from the poverty and destruction that their very numbers would otherwise bring. France took the opposite view. She fell back on individual thrift. She cut down the birth rate, and the chances of poverty took care of themselves. Germany's policy undoubtedly was suited to a nation in a period of renalssance. France's was the product and the fit accompaniment of more stable conditions. Both achieved a more or less prosperous and happy people.

But what about England? England has practiced both racial profligacy and social profligacy. Do we want to follow her?

# The Cure for "Playing Hookey"

RECENT issue of that useful little pub-A lication of the Bureau of Municipal Research, "Citizens' Business," announces the plans of the Board of Education for providing a school where habitual truants may be cared for and trained back into a normal outlook on life. This "parental school," as these institutions have been called since Boston founded the first in 1896, will take the place of such methods as boarding out truants in good families or sending the more incorrigible to reformatories. Psychopathic cases also will thus be skilfully cared for by the school as they have not been before,

The analysis of habitual truancy and the part the city must play in its cure can hardly be more succinctly or better stated than in "Citizens' Business":

Among these causes are (a) poor home conditions, (b) bad companions, (c) dialike of school, (d) desire to work, (e) illness, (f) feeble-mindedness. Death, desertion, divorce, intemperance, poverty, insanity and degeneracy are constantly taking their toll degeneracy are constantly taking their too sof young lives, beginning with truancy, a stepping-stone to vice and crime. Over most of these contributing factors the child has no control. The community, then, is reist work out a plan to arrest incipient social wastage.

There are ways for the community to aid besides through a parental home. One of the most potent is to elect a Councils which will strive for the best of living conditions in Philadelphia and not sit back contented with the worst.

# Seam in the German Armor

MUD-SLINGING never won a battle. Calling the German race "second rate" will no more dispose of its military power or Its industrial vigor than it will dispose of Beethoven or Mozart or Wagner. There is a weak spot in the armor of Imperial Germany, but even so distinguished an antagonist as Lord Northeliffe doesn't find it with a Statement of this sort:

It is not possible \* \* \* whatever may be the fluctuating fortunes of war, that nations composed of free men and individualists shall composed of free men and individualists shall be ruled by such second-rate and imitative ruces as the Prussians, Saxons and Bava-rians. I have always haid that this massed attempt of the second-rate to dominate the world will fall, because it is unjust and engineered by the second-rate.

It is somewhat the same attack which G. Chesterton phrased in his "Appetite of Tyranny." To the world the Prussian is second-rate; to the Prussian he is first-rate; there lies the difficulty. And it permits of the same answer, an answer that demolishes both Lord Northeliffe's verbal attack on the Germans and Germany's military assault on The world.

The simple fact of the matter is that though the Germans are undoubtedly secondrate in the polity of the world, among themsulves they are as manifestly first-cate. They have organized an admirable industrial matths in all points but one. Their energy has been send to the full because it has been elasly husbanded. By abolishing abject povarry and unemployment through governmarital intervention, they brought niors soulth and mays freedom to their ichabitants ion has one other Burneau nation. Ourwhich has been the bank of every burgeoning people since Athens rose and fell.

German civilization as a home growth is admirable. It is an experiment from which the world might learn much. But German civilization as a panacea to be forced down the throats of the rest of us is a very different thing. It is a thing to be resisted to the last gusp.

Nations as well as individuals must win to their own salvation.

'The New System Is Necessary": That

Answers All Objections THE projected transit system is needed;

nobody denies that. The city offers to build and then lease it to the P. R. T. No proposal for a competitive system has been made; not a single objection has arisen to granting the existing company a monopoly of transit in the city. It has been conferred with, its wishes considered, its interests carefully balanced. The city has sought to guarantee it against any financial loss, to give it valuable rights in exchange for universal transfers. The only thing that prevents complete harmony, under the fairest possible terms, is the com-

pany Itself. In these circumstances it is positively startling that any same person should advance the argument that the whole project should be held up indefinitely and that Philadelphia should forever give up hope of rapid transit until it receives the permission of the Union Traction Company to go ahead. But there is going to be no tail wagging the

dog in this transit matter. Fortunately, the city is making no experimentation in deciding to go ahead and build the new subways and elevated lines with or without the sanction of the transit company. New York did the experimenting from which Philadelphia is to profit. In a situation almost identical, when the operating companies were dogs in the manger, holding back and refusing to do anything, the municipality took the bit in its teeth, awarded contracts and began construction work. Did the transit companies then hesitate? Not a bit of it. They could not come to an agreement fast enough. They talked when faced with possibilities; they acted when confronted with

The P. R. T. cannot afford not to operate the new system. It could never countenance the admission of a competing company. It is on record as believing the Taylor plans to be sound and practical. It would be better off financially, under the new system than It is under the present one. It may be pardoned for looking a gift horse in the mouth. but its inspection has been thorough enough by now to convince it that the animal is as

Let the proposal that everything be held up until the existing company says "Yes" be recognized for what it is-a device to confuse citizens, to becloud the issue and to accomplish the purpose of the obstructionists. Let no man be deluded by such sophistry.

The building of the new system will mean universal transfers. Failure to build means the perpetuation of the present exchange tickets. That is what experience elsewhere teaches. It is the conclusion to which present conditions inevitably point.

It is the city, not the P. R. T. or any of its subsidiaries, which has the whip hand. Philadelphia would like to have the P. R. T. as a partner, but, partner or no partner, it will go ahead.

Laying the Ghost of Graft

PART from all sentimental considerations, A the signing and sealing of Charles Becker's doom will have a profound moral effect on the American community. There has been, from the tragic day of the Rosenthal murder, a sustained belief that Becker is guilty, that his guilt is black and bitter and that no equivocation could redeem him. At the same time the American public, always cynical of its own capacities for honesty, asserted that "Becker won't die!" For so many years has the power of graft been invincible, it seemed impossible to throw it off.

Yet Becker is to die. With the denial of his application for a new trial his case returns to Governor Whitman. And Whitman is Governor of New York chiefly because of the relentless prosecution of Becker and his associates. Hope ends there. With the ending of that hope the ghost of graft is

It is possible that Becker's promised revelations of other names, more prominent than his own, was made in good faith. It is even possible that other men were as deeply involved in that shameful tragedy as Becker surely was. That does not absolve the murderer. It does not detract from the satisfaction of knowing that, at last, the man "higher up" will be punished.

No one will ever deny that Warsaw saw

The Braves have just recalled name and

Madness and hate began to get a grip on the world only a year ago. My, how they have grown!

want to know what kind of whisky the Kniser's generals drink. If the German submarines really have tor-

If President Lincoln were alive he would

pedoes for Churchill and Grey it's a pity they don't try to deliver them to the right "Italy paves way for war with Turkey,"

jokes which began with "Italians digging trenches on Isonso." "Torkey did not desire this war," says Fashun Effendi, "and would gladly see the arrival of peace." Here at last is the old, old

suggests a recrudescence of the occupational

plaint with a bit of truth in it. Judging from reports of conditions at the Georgia prison farm, esrtain Atlanta gentle-

men were not only right but highly humant-

tarian in not wanting Lee Frank to go there. A surgeno time invested an artificial blood to sectificate wounded soldiers. Now if he stude branch an arributed more for give

# WARSAWISLIKEA CAPTIVE VIRGIN

She Waits Indifferently for the Arrival of the Germans, Knowing There Would Be Only a Change of Masters-Ancient City's Story.

### By GEORGE W. DOUGLAS

WARSAW, with the Germans thundering at her gates and the Russians striving to repulse them, is like a beautiful virgin, for the possession of whom two savage chiefs are contending. Whoever wins, she will be a captive, ferced to submit to the offensive blandishments of her captor.

Reports from the city indicate that the people are taking little interest in what is going on. Their ancient freedom is not offered them, and so long as they are denied that nothing matters. They may not speak their native language in the schools or in the public offices. It is only in their theatres that Polish is permitted. Whether the official language of Russia should be displaced by the official language of Germany is a question that does not interest them.

Yet they are now striving to be gay, as they have striven for more than a hundred years. But beneath the mask of mirth there is the grim face of tragedy and the unspoken expectation that the tragic conditions will continue.

Warsaw has been called the Paris of eastern Europe, and in its external aspects it reminds the traveler of the French capital. It has broad boulevards, pleasant parks, many statues in the streets and some ancient palaces. But the whole city is in decay. The street pavements are worn in ruts, over which cab drivers race their horses in indifference to the comfort of their passengers or to the safety of the springs. The public buildings are in bad repair and no new ones have been bullt for several generations, unless the Greek Cathedral of St. Alexander Nevski can be called a public building. It was started in 1894 and completed in 1912, yet with all its newness it seems an allen in a strange land. It is Asiatic in architecture in a city of Gothic and Renaissance structures, and with its buffs and blues and many domes is out of keeping with its surroundings.

### Founded in the Ninth Century

The city today has a population of 775,000, the business of which is chiefly in the hands of alien races. The Jews and the Germans dominate and every educated person speaks French or German with ease, while when he remembers the history of his country his heart burns with indignation at the necessity of using a strange tongue. He knows that there has been a Polish stronghold on the Vistula at this point ever since the ninth century and that the records of 1224 indicate that there was a city at that date. In the intervening centuries it grew, great. The Poles know that they established in Cracow their ancient capital, the first university in northern Europe, and that for centuries they maintained an independent national life with a high degree of civilization while Russia and Germany were in a state of semibarbarism. They lost their independence in the eighteenth century, but have been dreaming of regaining it ever since. In 1831 they rebelled, but the Czar succeeded in subduing them, and to let them know what they might expect if they became restless again he built a great citadel with barracks for 15,000 men, with an arsenal, a hospital and a political prison. When this was completed, in 1835, Czar Nicholas visited the city to inspect it and said:

have caused this castle to be built, and I declare to you that at the least attempt at insurrection it will blow the city to pieces. I will then have it razed to the ground and, depend upon it, it will not be rebuilt during my reign, or that of my successor, or of his

But the warning did not suppress the national spirit. A generation later the Varsovians revolted again. The city was not razed

Neuchatel a very timely and interesting

pamphlet by Professor van Gennep, entitled

"The Spirit of Organization; a Contrast of the

French and English Formula as Opposed to the

German," in which he states what one may call

the democratic-individualist point of view as

opposed to the German conception of order,

very brilliantly and ably. He chooses Pro-

fessor Ostwald as his antagonist, and he writes

his case against the German idea, he it noted,

with scarcely a mention of either Nietzsche or

Bernhardi. So shifts the front of the intellect-

ual conflict. The Germany of 1915 has passed

away from Bernhardi; Ostwald is its prophet.

Professor Ostwald fares hadly in this pamphlet

both as a dialectician and as a patriotic and

amateurish ethnologist; but Professor van

Gennep has the wisdom and generosity to go

behind the Ill-advised forms and phrases

of the great German's expression, to his funda-

mental proposition. That fundamental proposi-

tion is this: that "individualism" as a stage of

accial development has to give place to "organ-

ization"; and that "erganization" is a new and

higher level to which Germany is leading the

nations. It is not difficult for Professor van

Gennep to show that in social, intellectual and

economic development as distinguished from

political elaboration America and France and

England and not Germany were the ploneers

of organization, and that the real opposition in-

tended is not between order and chaos, as Pro-

fearor Ostwald linagines, but between authori-

tative State socialism and volunteerism-as a

synonym for which Professor van Gennep fre-

quently uses the word "co-operation." \* \*

mood to accept Professor van Gennep's inter-

pretation of its motives. It is very largely oc-

cupled with a number of the less pleasing con-

sequences of the individualist formula in prac-

tice. It is out of lone with individualism.

Many American minds must also be find-

ing an interest in consequences of a kindred

sort. The first of these less satisfactory con-

sequences of individualism is the relative in-

effectiveness of a democratically chosen govern-

And the deficiencies of the "liberty State" as

we know it are by no means confined to the

badness of its governmental product; that is

marely the initial (weakness of an extensive

ment in all practical things. " " "

At the present time the English mind is in no

to the ground, but the leaders were executed, or banished, or their property confiscated in a series of terrific reprisals that left the city cowed for another generation. In 1906, when revolution was brewing in Russia, Warsaw was a hotbed of sedition. But another era of reprisals followed, from which the city is still suffering. Its face is smiling, but there is bitterness and hate

in Ha heart. One of the proudest possessions of Warsaw is Thorwaldsen's statue of Copernicus, for the people look with swelling bosoms upon the image of this great astronomer, who received lils education at their ancient University of Cracow. Another of their treasures is the Capuchin Church of the Transfiguration, built in 1693 by Bobleski as a thank-offering for his victory over the Turks at Vienna. At the right of the high altar in one of the chapels are a gray marble sarcophagus, containing the heart of Sobleski, and a marble urn in which the heart of King Stanislaus Poniatowski is preserved. And the urn bears an inscription in Latin: "What is stronger than death: Henor and

The Poles, like the Austrians, preserve the hearts of their great in special sarcophagi. and Chopin's heart, which beat with melody that still charms the world, is withering away in the Church of the Holy Cross.

Art Treasures Removed to St. Petersburg Whether the Germans would ravish these churches if they should take the city no one knows. There is little left, however, that is worth taking away, for after the insurrection of 1831 the art treasures were removed to St. Petersburg. Napoleon, who held Warsaw in 1807, carried off to Paris a Madonna that had adorned the high altar of the anclent cathedral, but it was taken back to its place by Czar Alexander in 1815.

The place in all the city that is reminiscent of Warsaw at the height of its gayest era is the garden park about the ancient Imperial chateau of Lazienki. This chateau and park were built by Poniatowski, the favorite of Catherine of Russia. It is a maze of shady alleys, mirror-like lakes, beautiful summer houses and rippling streams. Its gem is an open-air theatre. The seats are arranged amphitheatrically on a slope overlooking a stream. The stage is built on a little island, adorned by an artificial ruin and other permanent settings. The spectators look upon the performance across a streamlet that runs between the front row of seats and the front of this stage. The Varsovians delight to wander through the park, to see amiable comedies presented in the picturesque surroundings and now and then to stroll through the chateau, where the portraits of Polish beauties of past generations look down upon them from the walls, beauties as frivo lous and as merciless as those who even now gaze upon the stranger from their carriages that rattle over the rocky streets.

## WHAT'S A PALTRY MILLION?

And now the glaring headlines announce, "Ten Millions more" In orders from the nations that are shedding Europe's gore; "Ten millions" reads the passerby, and calmly

passes on So lacking in excitement that he almost has to For every one who stops to read knows what

the cash is for, And what are pairry millions when the orders are for war? Forgotten now in factories the idlness that was, For every mill within the land gives out a busy buzz;

And every honest laborer who had been out of Now finds it rather difficult to dodge a job or But do the people marvel that we turn out such

Not so, they know the tons of stuff are destined for the war, Alas, the one-time magic phrase, "A million The people of this smiling land shall never thrill They've had a look at billions now in headlines,

day by day, And one who speaks of lesser sums is told to go away,
Accused of talking "small-time stuff," of being
quite a bore,
For what's a pairry million when the orders are

in men and a power in public opinion that will

make all free citizens who are conscious of their

citizenship exert and sacrifice themselves for

the general good to an extent greater than

they would do under any sort of compulsion.

An immense note of interrogation hangs over

this proposition at the present time. That the

disposition of the majority will be to do so is

unquestionable; the perplexing question for our

democratic States is: What happens in the case

of the exceptions, and how do these exceptions

affect immediately and ultimately the morale

Through books, newspapers, pulpits, theatres,

cinematographs, schools and colleges the mind

of a people can be systematically molded and

modified. Professor Ostwald's "organization

State" is prepared to do that not only with its

own people, but, as the recent German prese

campaign in America shows, with the minds

of any other peoples who stand in its way.

That campaign has been clumsy and unsuccess-

ful so far, but there is no intrinsic reason why

it should always be clumsy and unsuccessful.

The individualistic democratio State has no sure

protection whatever against that form of at-

It is possible then for a firm believer in free-

dom and democracy to read Professor van

Gennep's eloquent assertion of those ideals at

the present time in a very critical and chastened

spirit. The relative feebleness, the practical in-

competence, the forensic quality of democratic

governments may excuse - doubt whether, in

the method of election by a single nontrans-

ferable vote, democracy has really found its

effective method of governing; the existence.

prosperity and predominance of evadura, saif-

seekers and profiteers may open the question

whether an unrestricted "go as you please" to

the ultimate rule of freedom; and the unlimited

possibilities in a free press run for gain, of

Venality, vulgarity and treason, the fluctuations

and light-mindedness of such a press, may per-

force open up the prespect of ultimately mak-

ing the press a power in the State at least as

responsible as the State's educational organ-

instion. The strains and experiences of this

world conflict may, in fact, he bringing us to

realise that democracy is not only a newer

thing in the world than the authoritative State

It seeks to destroy, but also that it is some-

of the general body? \* \* \*

for war?

WHY DEMOCRACY FAILS

By H. G. WELLS

By Special Arrangement with the New Republic.

THERE comes to hand from the University of , thesis of democracy is that there is a nobility

tack.

system of failures that this war making vary thing much less mature, with a completer de-

many people to realize now for the tirst time. velopment of its powers and a completer mental

The first of these problems of follows in the organization will be come. At best if may be "abreaded who is instead in relation to the major at these then he infant framely fellows to the description of the electric which is a new at the theorem in the problem.

# Philadelphians, like all Americans, are om-

nivorous readers of fiction. Out of a year's circulation, which in round numbers amounted to 2,500,000 volumes, those devoted to fiction reached a total of a little more than 1,500,000. In other words, 60 per cent. of Philadelphia's reading public which depends upon the Free Library and its branches regale themselves with fiction. This proportion, holds true throughout virtually the entire city. It fluctuates in some branches, but this may be due to a number of causes, such as an insufficient quantity of books for a given branch or a district peopled largely by a foreign element.

While sociology as applied to reading is a general term and contains a good many subdivisions, all the books grouped under it are serious reading. Under it are classified the following subjects: Statistics, political

# WHAT PHILADELPHIANS READ

Fiction, of Course, Is Most Popular, but There Is an Astonishing Demand for Works on Sociology in the Mill Districts. Religious and Mechanic Books Trail Behind.

By EDWARD R. BUSHNELL

DHILADELPHIA was the first city in Amer- | science, political economy, law, administralca to have a public library. Among the many benefactions for which we must thank Benjamin Franklin is that he established the Philadelphia Library in 1731, an institution, which became the mother of the subscription libraries which quickly sprang up all over the country. To the impetus this library gave to good reading may be ascribed the fact that the residents of this city have always been noted for their eagerness to read and to study.

In his autobiography Franklin remarked upon the intelligence and learning of the tradesmen and farmers, and was greatly impressed by the fact that the Bbrary system had 'Improved the general conversation of the Americans, made the common tradesmen and farmers as intelligent as most gentlemen from other countries, and perhaps has contributed in some degree to the stand so generally made throughout the colonies in lefense of their privileges."

Within the period of 184 years since the formation of this first library the library system of this city has expanded and improved until today, in addition to the subscription libraries which this city fosters, Philadelphia has scores of university, college, public and private school and club libraries, all supplementary to the great Free Library organized in 1891 by Dr. William Pepper, then provost of the University of Pennsylvania. This organization now has 25 branch libraries in all sections of the city, together with a department for the blind and a traveling branch, which sends books to the police stations and firehouses.

### Follow Franklin From Afar

If the progressive Franklin were alive today he would doubtless be impressed by the character of the books and periodicals which are read by the workingmen and the tradesmen, who in the main are responsible for this city's leadership in so many varied American industries. Not many of them folow the example of the great Franklin, who early made it a rule of his life to spend at east one hour a day in library study. But a visit to any of the branch Hbraries in such industrial centres as Kensington will reveal an unusual number of men-and women, too -who call for books and periodicals which require and induce thought.

The average Philadelphian would never suspect that next to fiction the Free Library circulates more books dealing with sociology than any other subject. Yet that is what the reports from the branch libraries month by month show. And, oddly enough, the greatest interest in books of this nature is shown in the industrial districts. In some of the suburban and residential districts books on literature and history are more frequently called for. But in those sections of the city where the textile and other manufacturing industries are located there is a strong and sustained interest in sociological reading. It is accentuated particularly in the districts where the skilled workingmen live.

In order that the library statistics may be understood, it should be explained that the Free Library uses the Dewey system of classification with a few further subdivisions. The Dewey system divides books into the following 10 classes: General works, philosophy, religion, sociology, philology, natural science, useful arts, fine arts, literature and history. To these the Free Library adds three classes: Travel and description, biography and fic-

#### tion. Popularity of Fiction and Sociology

tion, associations and institutions, education commerce and customs. Next to fiction then, books and periodicals on these subjects constitute the most important group of books which the Philadelphia public reads. During the last fiscal year the Free Library circulated 156,129 books dealing with sociological topics, or about 6 per cent, of the total numher of books taken out. The actual percentage of such books read and studied was probably greater than this, because many of these books belong to the reference class, and as such are either too heavy to take home or cannot be taken from the libraries.

In several of the industrial centres the number of books belonging to this class which were taken out surpassed the average of the city. For example, in the Kensington branch, located at 2055 East Dauphin street, the number of books on sociology taken out was 8166 out of a total of 95,094. This was nearly 10 per cent., or 4 per cent. above the average. Statistics from the Richmond. branch, at Indiana avenue and Almond street, disclose the fact that out of 64,160 books called for 9037, or approximately 14 per cent., dealt with this same subject. In the Lehigh avenue branch, located at Lehigh avenue and 6th street, out of a total of 193,786 books taken out in a year 16,561 dealt with ciological matters.

Drawing too positive deductions from the statistical reports of the branch libraries is a hazardous business. The interest of Philadelphia in religious subjects can hardly be measured by the number of books asked for and circulated on religious topics. As a matter of fact, in the 13 classifications of books circulated, those dealing with religion are third from the bottom of the list. This is probably due to the fact that most persons get their religious instruction from churches and similar organizations and from their personal libraries. Under the classification of religion are grouped the Bible, books on natural theology, the church, church his-

### Significant Figures

To give some conception of the characterof books circulated by the Free Library, there is given herewith a table showing the number of books called for and circulated on the four general groups of religion, sociology, useful arts and fiction in the main and the

25 branch libraries		of the	city:			
Main	Re- ligion. 4,404 3,641	9,417	Useful Arts, 13,604 278	185,597	Total, 309,314 21,975	
Chestaut Hill.	235 283	10,554	1,192	64,646 33,877		
Falls of Schuyl- kill Frankford Germantown	232 627 820	3,278 6,818 5,490	528 1,268 1,599	33,406 77,891 96,805	14,350 103,224 120,071	
Holmesburg	81 922 1,078	1,051 9,166 16,561	288 1,562 2,845	22,045 67,675 189,015	29,212 96,694 193,763	
Manayunk McPherson Nicetown	382 378 544	4,118 8,282 5,754	744 1,681 1,875	45,535 76,239 74,859	100,583 100,539	
Oak Lane Paschalville	177 138 318	1,786 3,654 6,839	478 621 1,044	32,022 48,451 45,383	39,417 64,768 63,088	
Richmond Ryersa St. Matha's	784 20 205	9,037 586 8,425	1,527 70 112	55,921 15,826 10,702	24,768	
Spring Garden	232 2,054 677	2,828 17,806 6,091	2,016 1,845	10,529 78,975 92,886	18,472 195,497 118,002	
Traveling Wagner	1,611	2,837 1,008 11,977	598 288 8,863	43,068 27,520 147,875	53,171 31,475 198,972	
Wanamaker W. Philadelphia Wissahlekon *Open for nine	1,338	5,854 2,508	1,881 493	80,513 110,203 81,915	74,107 140,998 41,323	
-Open for nine		m only i				

tOpen-for 3 months only in 1914.

The library and its branches contain a total of 510,728 evolumes of books and 200,271 pamphlets. For reference purposes alone the library was used by 1,622,420 persons last year, a number greater than the population of Philadelphia. It was an increase of 245.769 over the year before

Not only does the Free Library encourage reading among the older members of every community, but it especially endeavors to give an impetus to good reading by the children of the public schools. This movement is aided by a registration of the school children by districts and visits to the schools by the librarians and their assistants on opening days to furnish children with reading cards and to explain to them how to use the library intelligently. This sort of supervision has been largely responsible for the interest taken in topical and graded reading by the public school children. The circulation of books in the children's departments of the various branch libraries for the year was 893,570, a gain of 23,799 new registrations.

and the first man killed was George Poinsetts, seaman, from the Florida." Poinsette lived in Philadelphia.—Editor of the EVENING LEDGER!

HOW TO KEEP COOL

It is easy enough to keep cool if you will follow any one of the suggestions given below: Buy or lesse a comfortable ocean-going steam

yacht and go cruising around the shores of Greenland, or Set sail for Iceland by the northern route

n the Baltimore Sun.

Answer-It can't be done.

### THE SOLDIERS' GREAT SACRIFICE To the Editor of the Evening Ledger:

Sir-I am very much interested in what other people write about God's curse, the war, but up to date I have not read anything which will show us Americans why we should again sac-rifice ourselves and our posterity. For example, let us take the Civil War and what it did for some of us Americans in the North. I will cite what I know to be facts and will use my own family as an example. My father and his three brothers and my mother's four brothers all responded to the first call of our President, Abraham Lincoln, April 15, 1861. At the time of their enlistment they were all in business and wrenessus. One upde feel at the battle of their enliatment they were all in business and prosperous. One uncle fell at the battle of Bull Run, in July, 1851. Two make at the battle of Antietam, in 1882. Three fell at the battle of Gettysburg, in July, 1852. My father and my Uncle Oliver, the remains of eight healthy men, were with General Sheridan's command at Five Forks when General Lee surrendered at Appomattox, in April, 1865.

Well, they were mustered out of service to enter civilian life again. But was it to start where they had their former business and home investments? Not by any means. What did they find? Several gentlemen who were not American citizens and who had been in their employment before the war had taken their business in hand, and it was a case of start What was the result? Did their old customers

what was the result? Did their old customers flock back and patronise the men who for four years had suffered untold hardships and lost six of their loved ones? No.

The dear friends and patrons would sconer give their trade to a chest of people who do not pay for the upkeep of our glorious country, and when we are called to the front to give our life these same people can grab all the conditions we leave when duty calls.

JOHN E. HAWKEY.

Philadelphia, July 27.

Philadelphia, July W. THE FIRST MAN KILLED

To the Editor of the Hvening Ledger: Sir-Kindly put in your paper something vary important about the very first American soldies that was killed in the Muxican and American gar that put the first American flag there. Was he an American or was his father an American? I have a hig bet he was an American, but the other man says he was an Italian. can, but the other man says he was an Italian and he says he was born somewhere in Jerser. I said he was born in Philadelphia. Please see who is right ar wong.

NICHOLAS PROPLEO.

Dunbarton, N. 2. July II. The Evenine Lemma does not decide where Bear Affaired Balger reported to lear communication bings (6) little than "the larger made to make the larger made to make the larger made to be the larger made the larger made to be large Set sall for Iceland by the northern rouse and spend the summer on one of its alaciers, or Get a special car, with a refrigerating plant attached, and go to Meunt Ranier or one of the Canadian peaks and live in a sungalow just above or just below the snow line. But the people who must say at home—how are we to keep cool?

Answer, It can't be done

THE NATIONAL POINT OF VIEW The demand for the repeal of the seamen's act s growing every day, and unless the signs fall longress will be compelled to heed it.—Springfield (Mass.) Union.

The Austro-Hungarian protest against the export of munitions from the United States to the Allies would come more convincingly from a Government with clean hands,—Macon Tele-

To prohibit the expertation of cotton or levy an expert tax upon it would merely impound the crop in the United States and subject it to

whatever pressure the American spinners would choose to put upon it. That would not help the producers. It would sacrifice them.—Houston

So far as the scheme for a world league to enforce peace is concerned, the Colonel puls matters into their proper relationship very well when he declares that before promising to carry on offensive war in the interest of other people it is a matter of comman sense to prepare to carry on defensive war in our own interests.

# AMUSEMENTS

B. F. KEITH'S THEATRE HESTNUT AND TWELFTH STREET LILLIAN SHAW

GRAND BELLEVILLE

hell Parnity; Risgs & Witchne; Dateiner & Sheppark and Others. Kathering Witches Will Art as Sermald Today. Life he 5:30 to Crystal liness