THE EVENING NEWS

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MONDAY, JULY 21, 1919.

ANOTHER "OPEN" COVENANT.

The President is reported to have refused to authorize publication of he text of the treaty with France, in the ground that is was properly to be regarded as confidential until that been laid before the Senate and that body had itself removed the signer of recrease.

and that body had itself removed the injunction of secrecy, says Harvey's Weekly. That was, of course, the old-time rule, but we had scarcely expected to find it recked and upheld by the author of that resounding and glittering generality about "open covenants openly arrived at."

Besides the President himself revealed—after denying—the existence of such treaty, and its general purport. With such disclosure already made, why maintain the fiction of secrecy? We should say that the statement which the Presiden himself made about it was one of the strengest possible reasons for making the complete text known, in order that there might be no misaprehensions about it, such as might rise from merely partial knowledge of it. rise from merely partial knowledge

rise from merely partial knowledge of it.

It sens to us mistaken policy for the President thus to disclose merely selected portions of treaties for publication, while keeping or trying to keep the instruments as a whole profoundly secret. He has done it before, notably in the case of the treaty of peace. He gave out for publication the literal and complete text of one long chapter of that instrument, and insisted that the rest of it should be kept under the seal of secrecy.

Why? Was it because he wanted to conduct a propaganda in favor of the Covenant of the League, that he thus blazoned it to the world in advance of the rest? If courtesy required that this French treaty he held confidential until it was given to the Senate and that body saw fit to publish it, why did it not require similar treatment of the Covenant We are ourselves sufaciently old-fashioned to recegnize the desirability, in many cases, of withholding treaties from publicity until they are completely made—which means, of course, ratified by the Senate as well as negotiated by the President. But we trust that it does not require one to be old-fashioned to insist upon the neatter.

the need of consistency and courtes in the matter.

There are said to be only 22 dif-ferent and distinct scraps going on in various parts of the world right new. We presume the peace con-ference devotees are waiting for authority from the senate to set the machinery in motion, to quelch those outhursts of human hatred. It will take just about one-half the world to compell the other half to be good. And it will be some light.

BOOKS ON VACATION,

ROOKS ON VACATION.

If you were asked to make a guess, what sort of books would you say people are taking with them to the neashore and the mountains Fiction? Yes, or course. Fiction is always a safe bot, and yet of the more than 1909 books already issued on vacation time tuntil October 1) at the Puelle Library, only 36 per cent are fiction.

What then is the next most peoplar subject? Is it religion, or travel or cooking? No, it is hone of these, it is fine arts with a circulation of 236 books. Of these, 88 are music scores and books about music.

The remaining vacation circulation is guestion is described as follows:

Literary History and Travel Useful arts (agriculture, in	Books 224 206
slicine, cooking, etc. Hiography Philosophy Social science	115 101 80
Rollgion Language study	Notes

AN EXPERT PROFESSION.

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the best abstractor and get the best add.

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