

Military Training Camps and Libraries

At this time when a million of our young men are entering the military service of the federal government, one of the difficult problems presenting itself is that of recreation and especially the collection, organization and distribution of reading matter. Doubtless the Y. M. C. A. will be the chief agent directing all sports, entertainments and reading facilities.

The theme, however, that I wish to emphasize here and now is that this is not "charity work." We should render much aid, especially those of us who live near the great camps and our largest services will be to direct the collection of reading matter. What we are likely to do, however, and I have already heard it proposed, is to "donate" discarded books from our public libraries to be used in the camps. This is the one form of "charity" that I want to oppose with whatever power I have. There are but two reputable uses for discarded books; one is for fuel, and the other is for waste paper.

Let us kindly and generously remember that these are not defectives not dependents who "desire to be fed with the crumbs which fall from the rich man's table"—and dirty, filthy crumbs at that—but they are rather our sons and brothers who are giving their time and service and risking their lives as our defenders. They do not deserve the "left overs" but new fresh, clean books fitted to their taste, occupation and environment, also fresh up-to-date magazines, not the castaways of years past.

It has been said that men in such situations will read anything; that is perhaps true. In Alaska men walked ten miles to borrow a magazine. Starving men will eat anything. But our young men who are devoting their

lives in defense of the country should not be driven to such extremities. It will be said, Why give new books to men when they cannot and will not be well cared for. Books will cost money and these books will not be returned to "civil life." But what of that? Many of our young men will not come back either. Let us not be niggardly with our books and our money. There will be plenty of both books and money when the crisis is past.

Many clean second-hand books can be used, but let us not insult our devoted brothers by offering them what no one else can use. They wear the best of wool clothing, much of which will be blood-stained. They wear the best of leather shoes, many of which will not be worn out, but they will have done their service. Give the soldier good clean books and late magazines, whatever may ultimately be the fate of this material. From article by W. E. HENRY, in Library Journal.

GIBSON'S COMEBACK ALMOST AS STRIKING AS WAGNER'S

By H. C. HAMILTON

(United Press Staff Correspondent)
New York, July 14.—"They never come back" is a phrase that applies only with reverse English to the performances of George Gibson and Hans Wagner, two surviving members of the National league's most famous pennant winners. Both, after having been voted out of the game, are back there, and are back there with such a vengeance that they have rooted youngsters out of the lineup.

Gibson's comeback was delayed somewhat more than Wagner's. Hans was playing regularly for the Pirates while Gibson was still doing bench duty for the Giants. The need of a catcher to help Bill Rariden and the

unwillingness of McGraw to use Ernie Kreuger, a youngster, in the important games the Giants were then playing brought Gibson back to the box scores.

Gibson was turned out of the Pirate fold almost a year ago by Jimmy Callahan. Under the rules of baseball he was entitled to an unconditional release, but McGraw refused to waive and Gibson was sent to New York. For a time he refused to report, but differences were patched up last spring.

Gibson is 37 years old now—an old man as baseball players are rated. He began playing baseball in 1903 with the Kingston club of the famous old Hudson River league—an organization that took in towns along the river, and where the players were supposed to make the jumps as best they could.

Then Gibson got into the old Eastern league, now the International league and did service with Buffalo. He played only twelve games and amassed a batting average of .287. He was dropped by Buffalo, however, and Montreal took him on. He took part in eighty games in 1904, and batted .204. Two years was his limit in Montreal and then he was purchased by Pittsburgh, where he stayed until last summer.

Gibson was a regular almost to the last day of his engagement with the Pirates. One year he caught 150 games, and that was the Pirates' big year of 1909, when they defeated Detroit in the world's series.

FULTON PROVES HE DESERVES ATTENTION

By H. C. HAMILTON

(United Press Staff Correspondent)

New York, July 14.—Fred Fulton, despite all the harsh words said of him by critics everywhere when he lost on a foul to Carl Morris in New York, nevertheless stands out above all the rest in the development of a fighter who will be worthy of a match with Jess Willard.

It began to appear as if Fulton's almost tearful claims were something near right when he claimed he had been grossly discriminated against when the referee stopped his bout with Morris and declared the latter the winner. His recent defeat of Sam Langford, clear-cut at every step of the game, was the thing that turned the fight fans back to his side. If there was a man, including Morris, who could step into Langford, and make him quit in seven rounds the opinion would be just as lively for him—but there isn't. Fulton has proved he has something besides a weak stomach.

Post-mortems are objectionable, even to the post-mortem subject, but it is a fact, just the same, that Fulton was flung into a small ring with Morris. It is