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NATIVE-BORN POPULATION IS STEADILY INCREASING

Has Risen Twenty-Two Per Cent in Past Ten Years, as Compared With Foreign Increase of 12 Per Cent.

Notably interesting and significant are some of the figures presented in an abstract of the tenth census, just published by the department of commerce.

Few realize that the native born population in 10 years rose 22 per cent and the foreign born less than 12 per cent. It is apparent "hard times" were the chief cause of the comparative decrease in the foreign population.

As a matter of fact the actual number of English, Irish, German and French residents decreased in these 10 years, while Poles, Hungarians, Russians and Italians increased by a large percentage.

Not entirely disconnected with the decline in immigration is the pleasing demonstration by figures that illiteracy in the United States is decreasing. Even with the increase in population of more than 20 per cent from 1890 to 1900, the number of illiterates fell nearly 150,000 in the decade. Yet, even in 1900, there were 6,180,000 persons 10 years old or more in the United States unable to read or write.

Many Illiterate Whites.

While the negroes in the south are largely responsible for this huge total, there are still 3,200,000 whites in the illiterate class. Of foreign born illiterates New York state has 258,000, or almost 20 per cent of the total in the country. But the Empire state has in addition 47,000 natives who cannot read or write. In view of the immense throng of immigrants that settle in New York state, it is one of the surprising facts that the percentage of increase of native born in 10 years slightly exceeded the percentage of increase of foreign born. The showing is contrary to that of nearly every other populous eastern state.

What might be called family statistics present some novel phases. An exhibit pleasing to the social reformer is a demonstration that the average number of persons to a dwelling is falling. Thus, in 1900 it was 5.3 persons, while in 1890 it was 5.5.

New York Homes Crowded.

New York state has the unpleasant but natural pre-eminence of having more persons to a dwelling (seven) than any other state in the union. This, of course, is due to the tenement houses of the metropolis.

Not so agreeable as a national showing is the fact that the number of families owning their houses is decreasing. It is worthy of note that the percentage of homes owned rises generally with the increase of the farming population and falls with the growing preponderance of the industrial classes.

The average number of persons to a family in the United States is 4.7. In 1900 the per centage of married among all persons 15 years or over was 55.5; of single 36; of widowed, almost 8 per cent, and of divorced, four-tenths of 1 per cent.

Coast Women Marry.

Judging from the figures, the Pacific coast states are the best for marriageable women, 60 per cent being wives, against 59 per cent in the central west and 54 per cent in the east.

Contrariwise, the Pacific coast shows the smallest percentage of married men—45 per cent, against a general average of 55 per cent in the east and middle west.

The mortality statistics show that the increase in pneumonia deaths from 1890 to 1900 was 5 per cent; of heart disease, 12 per cent; of kidney disease, 44 per cent, of apoplexy, 17 per cent; of cancer, 12 per cent.

On the other hand, the figures show a decrease in deaths from consumption of nearly 55 per cent.

HANGS HERSELF TO BEDPOST.

Family Troubles Thought to Have Unbalanced Her Mind.

Davenport, July 7.—When Godfrey Wagner carried his aged mother's breakfast to her room yesterday morning he found her lifeless form huddled in a heap at the foot of the bed, where she had slowly strangled herself to death.

Two heavy sack strings had been sewed together and a loop made at one end of the improvised rope. The woman tied the other end to the foot of the bed, then deliberately lunged forward and strangled herself.

The discovery of the suicide was not made until after the woman had been dead 24 hours. Her son attended the celebration at Reardan and returning home did not attempt to awaken his mother, who slept in an adjoining room.

Family troubles are said to be the cause of the tragedy. At the last term of court the mother sued another son, Fred Wagner, for money alleged to be

due her. The case was lost and later the mother filed another suit for \$5,500 damages, claiming her son threw her down a flight of steps, injuring her internally.

"Death by strangulation" was the verdict of the coroner's jury. Some of her neighbors say the woman acted strangely for some time, and they believe her mind was affected by her troubles. Mrs. Theresa Wagner was 74 years old.

CARS COME TOGETHER.

Odd Accident Occurs With But Little Damage.

Tacoma, July 8.—At 9:05 o'clock Wednesday evening car 515, on the Interurban line, ran into car 52 on the Old Town line a few feet south of Ninth street and shattered the glass on the front of the Old Town car and broke the fender, but no one was injured.

The accident was a peculiar one. A switching crew was making up a train in the yards of the Interurban depot and car 515 had been cut off. When the car was cut off it seems that the air controlling the brakes had all escaped from the reservoir. Accidentally the coach was given a light "kick" from the motor car engaged in making up the train, and it started down the slight grade toward Ninth street. A yardman made an effort to stop the car by turning on the air, but as there was no air in the reservoir it was impossible for him to do anything, and the car slowly swung around on to the Pacific avenue track at Ninth street.

The motorman of the Old Town car was not looking for obstruction at that point, but he saw the Interurban car in time to check his car, so that when the two cars came together the jar was so light that some of the passengers on the Old Town car did not realize for a moment that an accident had occurred.

Professor Boyer Accepts Chair.

Salem, July 8.—Professor C. O. Boyer, vice president of the University of Puget Sound, has accepted the chair of physics in the Willamette university.

The position was tendered to Professor Boyer at a meeting of the board of trustees on Monday. When it became known that Professor Boyer had declined to become a candidate for the presidency of the University of Puget Sound, a special meeting of the trustees of the Oregon institution, in which his ability is well known, was called and he was unanimously elected on Monday. His acceptance has been sent in and he will assume his new duties at the opening of the next term in September.

The Tacoma Ledger says of him: "Professor Boyer's friends think that he would have accepted the presidency of the university with which he has been connected for the past eight years if it had been tendered to him at the June meeting of the board, but since the board took the election under advisement he declined to become a candidate."

The professor is a graduate of Puget Sound university and was connected with it for seven years until he became vice president of the new institution, the University of Puget Sound. During the last year of the existence of the Puget Sound university he was acting president.

When the election of a president to succeed Dr. E. M. Randall was under consideration in June, a petition signed by all the students of the university, and another signed by 150 business men, were presented to the board asking for Professor Boyer's promotion, but there seemed no possibility of his being unanimously elected, and for that reason, it is believed, he withdrew from the contest."

Should Have Less Disturbance.

The order-loving people of our town have been waiting patiently for several weeks for the fulfillment of promises that we should have a policeman and a house of detention. Brawlings and drunken street fights are getting altogether too frequent, and there is no sense in remaining any longer in a helpless condition, at the mercy of rascals who see fit to drop in and run the town. Shall we wait till we are disgraced by murder?—Enumclaw Courier.

No Dessert More Attractive

Why use gelatine and spend hours soaking, sweetening, flavoring and coloring when
Jell-O
 produces better results in two minutes? Everything in the package. Simply add hot water and set to cool. It's perfection. A surprise to the housewife. No trouble, less expense. Try it to-day. In Four Fruit Flavors: Lemon, Orange, Strawberry, Raspberry. At grocers. 10c.

RUSSIAN FORCE PREPARED TO MEET JAPS' ADVANCE.

Heavy Firing Reported From Direction of Kai Chou—Serious Fighting Has Probably Occurred.

Niu Chwang, July 7.—(Delayed.)—The Russian forces are everywhere preparing actively to meet the next Japanese advance. Heavy firing was heard again last night from the direction of Kai Chou, and it is reported serious fighting has occurred.

Heavy Firing Heard.

Chefoo, July 8.—Junks which passed through the gulf of Pe-Chi-Li Thursday, July 7, report having heard heavy firing at sea all afternoon.

Is Blockade Effective?

Tientsin, July 8.—Three Frenchmen who arrived at Taku yesterday from Port Arthur on a Chinese junk report that the Russian torpedo-boat destroyer Lieutenant Burukoff has made in all four trips from Port Arthur to Niu Chwang.

Brutally Tortured.

A case came to light that for persistent and unmerciful torture has perhaps never been equaled. Joe Golobick, of Colusa, Calif., writes: "For 15 years I endured insufferable pain from rheumatism and nothing relieved me though I tried everything known I came across Electric Bitters and it's the greatest medicine on earth for that trouble. A few bottles of it completely relieved and cured me." Just as good for liver and kidney troubles and general debility. Only 50c. Satisfaction guaranteed by Chas. Robers, druggist.

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If more men would think and fewer wonder the number of failures in life would be greatly reduced. Think! That is the word and having thought, act.

In declaring that all teachers should be married, Dr. Bayard Holmes of Chicago, should remember that it is frequently not their fault that they are not.

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