

the rapid increase of the artificially introduced rabbit and the cactus itself, grow the insects in quarantine through at least one generation before they turn them loose to do their worst.

SMITH AND JOHNSON LEADING U. S. SURNAMES

The expression, "As common as Smith, Brown and Jones", is not based upon scientific investigations, but it is a close approach to the facts, according to a report by Howard F. Barker, of Riverdale, Md., in a recent issue of American Speech.

The three most popular surnames of America are, Smith, Johnson, and Brown, according to Mr. Barker, who has lately made a study of the frequency of surnames. Smith is a name borne by more than one in each hundred of our population. Johnson has come into second place; and even Brown and Williams have taken the lead over Jones.

Certain cities show peculiarities of their own. The name Johnson leads in St. Paul and Minneapolis, for instance, by virtue of being a favorite name among Scandinavian-Americans. Smith leads in New York City with Cohen, Miller, Brown, and Schwartz following in the order named. In Chicago, Johnson leads again; in Boston, Smith leads with Sullivan close on its heels.

There are more Smiths and Johnsons in the United States than there are people in Detroit. The Browns brought together would fall little short of making a city the size of Boston. The Williamses total somewhat more, the Joneses some what less than the population of Los Angeles, the Millers could almost take command of Pittsburgh; the Davises would fill San Francisco or Buffalo.

The number of people bearing our ten leading names in a 112,000,000 total are as follows: Smith, 1,304,300; Johnson, 1,024,200; Brown, 730,500; Williams, 684,700; Jones, 658,300; Miller, 625,800; Davis, 537,900; Anderson, 477,300; Wilson, 422,300; Moore, 363,400. The ten names are all from the British Isles and may be traced to different parts of the islands.

TABLOID BOOK REVIEW

THE DECLINE OF THE WEST. By Oswald Spengler. New York: Knopf. 1926. \$6.00.

At last a publisher has been found with the courage to carry out the translation of this colossal work. If not an epoch-making book, it is undeniably an epoch-marking book. Though prepared before the war, *Der Untergang des Abendlandes* measures the depths of despair into which the war has plunged thinking men of both the victorious and defeated nations, alike victims of the Great Catastrophe. In scope of conception, profusion of learning, boldness of generalization, impressiveness of utterance, eloquence of language, Spengler ranks with the German philosophers of the old school, with Hegel, Schopenhauer and Hartmann. He also shows the characteristics of the German philosopher in his overloading of sentences, cloudiness of meaning,