

SURPLUS CHURCHES IN COUNTY FOSTER RURAL DEPRESSION SAYS DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS SURVEY

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—One vital cause for the present rural depression is the alarming surplus of unproductive country churches, Dr. Edmund de S. Brunner of the institute of social and religious research, 370 Seventh avenue, New York, declared today.

Churchmen are working an injustice upon the land worker of the United States, according to Dr. Brunner, who, as director of the town and county studies of the organization, recently completed a survey of the rural church situation in the United States, during which data was collected in 1,000 counties and more intensive studies made in 179. Home mission societies of the various denominations are among the worst offenders against the prosperity of the rural population by aiding the competitive fight for existence of unnecessary and chronically unsuccessful churches. The burden of the support of these non-productive churches, partly subsidized by home mission societies, falls upon the rural population, increasing existing financial depression.

"One-fifth of all rural churches receive home mission aid," stated Dr. Brunner. "Of these subsidized churches, a large number are in active competition with other subsidized churches. A considerable proportion of the aided churches are of the chronically non-productive sort. It almost appears in many districts that the fewer churches a county is economically able to afford, the more it is apt to have. Subsidized competition is sometimes even found between churches of the same denomination, and very frequently between those of almost identical doctrines. Out of 211 aided churches in certain typical counties, it was found that 149 could be dispensed with without loss. The use of home mission money to further unproductive competition

is difficult to justify, especially in view of the hardship it works upon the rural population."

Only one person out of every five of the rural population is a churchgoer, according to further statistics secured in the survey, and now given to the public in "The Town and Country Church in the United States" by H. N. Morse and Edmund de S. Brunner. This decline in church attendance is partly the fault of the churches themselves, says this survey, since the average country church has failed to adapt its program to the changed conditions of rural life.

Two-fifths of all rural churches are today standing still or losing ground, the figures obtained in the survey show. Seven out of every 10 rural churches have only a fraction of a pastor apiece. These pastors are, moreover, so badly paid that one-third of all rural ministers can live only by working at some other occupation.

One-fifth of all rural churches have no Sunday school. The old adage, "Train up a child in the way he should go" is being largely disregarded by the rural population. The young people's movement has failed to take hold also in the rural sections.

"The average church provides a program that ignores the yearnings and ardors of youth," says the survey. "The Roman Catholic and the Jewish communions have more to teach Protestant bodies in this field than in any other."

GIRLS AT UNIVERSITY FORM DANCING CLUB TO IMPROVE STYLE

AUSTIN, Dec. 26.—"Orchesus," meaning "to dance," is the new name of the girls' dancing club at the University of Texas. This name signifies the aim of each of the club, according to Miss Susie Fisher, dancing instructor. The purpose is not only to have each member dance but to dance exceptionally well, Miss Fisher said.

Miss Fisher states that in their class work the girls work out the fundamentals of dancing in combination with all of the difficult details. The dancing club affords a great deal of individual and corrective criticism which cannot possibly be obtained to such a high degree in the regular classes.

At present the members of the

dancing club are working on themes of various dances individually. Later the girls will combine them into a definite whole.

Guests are usually present at the open meetings held by the dancing club on Monday evenings because many people appear to be unusually interested in the progress of the members, said Miss Fisher. At these meetings certain girls who are interested and have been watched in a general way are permitted to dance with members of the club.

EASTLAND PERSONALS

Mr. and Mrs. Dick Barton of Dallas are here visiting Mrs. Barton's brothers, Tom and Dick Crutcher. Harry W. Crutcher, insurance ad-

juster of Dallas, is here to adjust the fire loss of Maurice Rubin which happened Christmas eve night.

Mr. Copeland and family of Hico spent Christmas day here with Mrs. Copeland's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Chandler.

Walter Wilson, who is a traveling engineer for the Fairbanks-Morris people with headquarters at Cincinnati, Ohio, is here to spend a few days with his mother, Mrs. Sallie Wilson and other relatives and friends.

Raymond Wilson of Enid, Okla., is here for a few days visit to home-folks.

Judge A. E. Firmin is here from Ranger today.

Editor W. T. Curtis of the Rising Star X-Ray and Mrs. Curtis were

here today en route home from Carson where they had been to spend Christmas with relatives.

W. I. Allison and wife have gone to Carson, Texas, to visit Mrs. Allison's folks.

BULLET REMOVED FROM SKULL OF LITTLE CHILD

RANGER, Dec. 26.—Leroy Flow, 2-year-old child, who was struck by a stray bullet at the home of his grandfather, James Bradford, of La-

casa, was taken to his home from the Clinical hospital after the removal of the bullet, which had lodged in his skull after passing through the right temple.

LIBERTY THEATRE
RANGER
LAST TIME TODAY
a hit!
DOWN TO THE SEA IN SHIPS
A Hodkinson Picture

CONNELLEE

EASTLAND

—Today Only—

"You don't know the sea Anna. Tug come an' ve gat towed out on voyage—yust water all round, and sun, and fresh air to make you strong, calthy gel. Aye, it make you all clean, Anna."

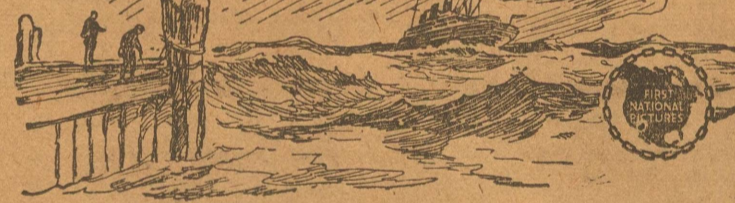


Eugene O'Neill's Pulitzer Prize Play



A play of tremendous power and dramatic fire and stark realism. A play that took New York and London by storm. A picture with all the strength, the pathos and sheer beauty of the original. With Blanche Sweet, William Russell, George Marion, Eugenie Besserer.

Thos H. Ince presents "ANNA CHRISTIE"



—ALSO—

4-ACTS VAUDEVILLE-4

The Two Merrills

"The Cyclogeical Pair." See the egg-laying Rooster.

Jack Collins

In "Flames and Philosophy."

Fields & Brown

Comedy, Songs, Dancing

Kole Komedly Trio

A boob and two blondes in Harmony Singing and Comedy Chatter

MATINEE 3:30—NIGHT 7:30—9:30

Prices10c, 40c, 55c

WANT ADS

- 0—LODGE NOTICES.
- 1—LOST AND FOUND.
- 2—MASONIC SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTION 2 to 5 p. m., Wednesday and Thursday. Instruction in all degrees. Masonic Hall.
- 3—HELP WANTED—FEMALE.
- 4—ACTS VAUDEVILLE—4.
- 5—SPECIAL NOTICES.
- 6—HOUSES FOR RENT.
- 7—LOST AND FOUND.
- 8—HOUSES FOR RENT.
- 9—HOUSES FOR RENT.
- 10—LOST AND FOUND.
- 11—APARTMENTS FOR RENT.
- 12—WANTED TO BUY.
- 13—FOR SALE—Miscellaneous.
- 14—HELP WANTED—FEMALE.
- 15—SPECIAL NOTICES.
- 16—AUTOMOBILES.
- 17—WANTED—Miscellaneous.
- 18—WANTED—Miscellaneous.
- 19—LEGAL NOTICES.
- 20—LEGAL NOTICES.
- 21—LEGAL NOTICES.
- 22—POULTRY AND PET STOCK.

Friday, December 28
AT THE
LIBERTY THEATRE

L.B. HOLT KAMP Presents
FAMOUS GEORGIA SMART SET MINSTRELS
28th ANNUAL TOUR

Greatest Colored Show on Earth --
Famous Army Band and Orchestra
Court Days in GEORGIA
"JASSIE BURNIE" World's greatest Blue Singer
GEORGIA Quartette and Sextette
ALMA RUFFINS GOONSHOUTER
"BILLY HUDSON" The Champion buck & wing dancer of the colored race
GEORGIA SMART SET COMEDIANS
FEATURING "SAM RHODES" and "JAMES RUFFINS"

ONE NIGHT ONLY
GET RESERVATIONS TODAY

Ford
THE UNIVERSAL CAR
CARS—TRUCKS—TRACTORS
Write, Wire or Phone
Dee Sanders
Sells them any place, any time, any terms
Terms as low as \$100.00 down
Phone 217—Ranger

NOW BOOKING ORDERS
For baby chicks and hatching eggs.
Will also do custom hatching.
OAK RIDGE POULTRY FARM
Dan Dudley, Jr., Manager
Breeder's English S. C. White Leghorns

BUY IT AT HOME

BARNEY GOOGLE AND SPARK PLUG

DON'T WORRY, SPARKY, I'LL GET 'SUNSHINE' BACK AS YOUR JOCKEY — THAT TRAIN HE'S WORKING ON STOPS AT THE NEXT STATION FOR TWO HOURS — WE'LL SEE IF HE CAN LEAVE US FLAT LIKE THIS!! HE AIN'T GOT A CHANCE IN THE WORLD!!

AHH, THERE'S THE LITTLE RASCAL!!

SO AH TOOK DEM FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS..

HELP!

I'LL SHOW 'EM WHO'S BOSS AROUND HERE!

DIE AM A FINE WAY TO SPEND CHRISTMAS!

COME ON, YOU SPARK PLUG

Copyright, 1923, by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

By Billy de Beck

DE BECK HEBERY CHRISTMAS 12-26

HALF-PRICE SALE

On All Toys and Dolls Left Over From Xmas

If there's someone you overlooked on your gift list, buy here and save one-half. This Sale will continue until Saturday night.

The Boston Store
A. Joseph R.
THE SHOPPING CENTER OF RANGER
PHONE 50 RANGER, TEXAS.

Society

AND THE ACTIVITIES OF WOMEN IN RANGER

Mrs. Chas. G. Norton, Editor Telephone 224

SCHERTZ-HILL WEDDING SOLEMNIZED.

The marriage of Miss Margaret Schertz, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. Schertz of this city, to Mr. E. R. Hill of Fort Worth took place Christmas eve at 9 o'clock in the parlors of the DeGroff hotel, Rev. A. W. Hall officiating. Only members of the immediate family and Miss Ruth Beeson were present. The house had been prettily decorated for Christmas day and presented a festive air for the occasion which had originally been planned for Christmas morning, but was changed at the last moment to the night before on account of illness in the family. The bride was attended by her sister, Miss Joan Dean Schertz and her brother Edward Schertz.

During the war Miss Schertz spent two years in France going over with the Red Cross as a nurse in the unit of Dr. Mayo. For the past two years she has been with her parents at the DeGroff hotel and has endeared herself to all who knew her by her charming personality. Mr. Hill is a salesman for the E. M. Schenckler Produce company of Fort Worth in which city he and his bride will reside. They left Christmas morning on the Sunshine for their new home, followed by the hearty good wishes of scores of friends.

TEE-PEE CHRISTMAS PARTY GREAT SUCCESS.

Elaborate decorations, symbolical of the Yuletide, an enormous Christmas tree with gifts for everyone, and delightful music furnished by the Coleman orchestra, provided one of the merriest parties of the season at the Tee-Pee clubhouse Christmas eve.

The invitations numbered several hundred, and the dancers covered the large floor during the evening. Those who did not dance enjoyed card and domino games and every one had a royal good time.

CHRISTMAS DINNER-GUESTS

Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Heister had for their Christmas day noon dinner guests, Mrs. Anna Barman and son Howard Barman.

RANGER PERSONALS

Dr. H. A. Logsdon has returned home from Marietta, Okla., where he spent a few days with his mother, Mrs. J. E. Logsdon.

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Colner of Clinton, Okla., are the holiday guests of Dr. and Mrs. H. A. Logsdon. The Colners are the parents of Mrs. Logsdon.

and placed in a small enclosure arranged in novel fashion with a picket fence inside of which, at the foot of the tree, was piled the bright colored bags of fruit and candy which were presented to the children at the close of the program. Pieces were spoken by Garvin Clastain, Peggy Jones, Sybil White, Marguerite and Lee Vandervoort, and verses from the Gospel given in a splendid way by Robert Barr.

Gifts from the tree were distributed to each child in the Sunday school and a few visitors.

Each child brought a gift of canned goods or fruit, the entire amount being presented afterward to the Salvation Army.

MRS. NANNIE WALKER GIVES FAMILY PARTY.

Mrs. Nannie Walker, entertained her children and grandchildren Christmas day with a family party enjoyed by all members of the immediate family. Mrs. R. H. Stafford of Oklahoma City with her two boys, Mrs. A. E. Keeler and daughter of Dallas, Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Newham, son and daughter, and Mr. and Mrs. Hall Walker of Ranger were all present. A lovely Christmas tree, full of beautiful gifts for everyone was enjoyed in the morning, and an old-fashioned Christmas dinner was served at noon.

MR. AND MRS. MOYER GIVE DINNER PARTY.

Mr. and Mrs. John H. Moyer entertained Christmas night with a turkey dinner. Guests for the occasion were Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Benton, Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Ward, Mrs. Anna Barman and son Howard Barman, and Mrs. Lorrairie Mitchell. The evening was spent in games and dancing.

PERSONALS.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Judy entertained the following guests at a turkey dinner Christmas day at their home on the Caddo road: Mrs. Alice Stephens, Mrs. Frank Beard and daughters, Madge and Berlin, and son, Wilbur, of Breckenridge; Mr. and Mrs. William Weber and son Forest of South Austin street.

Mrs. Alice Stephens is visiting her daughter, Mrs. Richard Judy on Caddo highway after an extended trip in Wyoming, Kansas and Oklahoma.

Mrs. Frank Beard and children, Madge, Wilbur and Berlin, are spending the Christmas holidays with her sister, Mrs. Richard Judy.

MR. AND MRS. HARDY VISITORS FROM PACIFIC.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Earl Hardy of Long Beach, Calif., are spending the holidays with Mrs. Hardy's sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Wade H. Swift, and son Ogie. Mr. and Mrs. Hardy motored through from Long Beach and with Mr. and Mrs. Swift will go to Dallas Jan. 6,

to attend the performance of Ruth St. Denis and Denishawn dancers and visit their daughter, Miss Martha Hardy, who is a member of the company. While Mr. and Mrs. Hardy had an enjoyable trip to Ranger they report many hardships encountered, especially near Demming, N. M., where the roads were made almost impassable by heavy snows and where several persons perished from cold and exposure. They plan their return to Long Beach about Jan. 10.

PRESBYTERIAN WHITE SERVICES WELL ATTENDED.

The beautiful white service at the Presbyterian church Monday night was well attended and the program of readings and Christmas carols given by the children of the Sunday school much enjoyed. The Christmas tree was beautiful with its gay trimmings and the children were presented with gifts and candy from its branches. Mrs. J. B. Fitch arranged the program. Many gifts of food and toys were brought and distributed to the poor.

FIRST BAPTIST SUNDAY SCHOOL ENJOYS TREE.

The splendid program given in connection with the Christmas tree, and the lovely tree itself, gave great pleasure to members of the First Baptist Sunday school who gathered at the church Christmas night. The body of the large auditorium was well filled and everyone received something from the tree.

The program of readings and music given by the Sunday school was a delight to all who heard it.

DRAMATIC PICTURE AT CONNELLEE THEATRE

EASTLAND, Dec. 26.—In all the history of motion pictures, no mightier scene ever has been screened than the "crux" scene of "Anna Christie," Thomas H. Ince's latest picture offering, which will be shown at the Connellee today only. Adapted from Eugene O'Neill's successful stage play, the scene has been filmed with even more daring than marked the stage offering. It portrays a girl, deserted in childhood by her father, who thinks he is helping her by sending her far from the influence of the sea which she fears, trapped into a confession of the life into which her father's spurning of responsibility forced her. It is intense and dramatic throughout.

FORD TOURING CAR PARKED ON MAIN STREET STOLEN

RANGER, Dec. 26.—A Ford touring car was stolen from in front of the old Hippodrome theatre building on Main street Monday. The auto, the property of J. B. Richardson, Spring road, teaming contractor, was a 1920 model. The car was not insured.

Sale of All Holiday Goods

Maybe there was someone you forgot. Then here is your opportunity to get them something at a saving. If there was something you wanted for yourself and didn't get, then come and make yourself a present of it.

Dolls==2 for 50c

Two dolls packed in Holiday Box, boy and girl, 13 inches high, fully dressed. Formerly sold for \$1.50 per box, but now only50c

All Toys Go at 1-2 Price

In keeping with our policy not to carry anything over, we offer you all toys that were left at just exactly

One-Half Price

Mail Orders Filled

Hemstitching Done Here

Joseph Dry Goods Co.

Ranger's Foremost Department Store

CHILD WELFARE SOCIETY SENDS GIFTS TO POOR ON CHRISTMAS DAY

RANGER, Dec. 26.—Human kindness, the kindness brought to a despairing world by Jesus of Nazareth, was evidenced in Ranger Christmas day. Fraternal and charity organizations showered gifts of baskets of groceries upon needy families.

The Child Welfare society distributed 47 baskets to families, who were reported upon by an investigating committee of the society, which visited all sections of the city. The funds for buying the groceries were provided for by the Elks, Rotary club and the Ranger carpenters' union.

Many of the baskets were sent to needy families, who have children and some to old folks.

All of the churches held special services in the morning hours at which the lesson of Christmas was told.

Thursday night at 7:30 o'clock, the Salvation Army will have a Christ-

mas tree party and services at the post's station on South Austin street. Rev. H. B. Johnson, pastor of the Christian tabernacle, will be present. Captain J. W. Batson will be in charge of the services, which will include recitations and songs.

There will be gifts on the tree for needy children. Business houses of the city have provided decorations for the tree. Toys also have been supplied by stores, who sold toys during the holidays.

CHRISTMAS DINNER-GUESTS

Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Heister had for their Christmas day noon dinner guests, Mrs. Anna Barman and son Howard Barman.

RANGER PERSONALS

Dr. H. A. Logsdon has returned home from Marietta, Okla., where he spent a few days with his mother, Mrs. J. E. Logsdon.

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Colner of Clinton, Okla., are the holiday guests of Dr. and Mrs. H. A. Logsdon. The Colners are the parents of Mrs. Logsdon.

candy and nuts will be distributed. On the army list are three little boys, 6, 8, and 10 years of age, without shoes and a little girl 5 1-2 years old who has no shoes. Anyone who will donate toys, food, candy, fruit, nuts, or anything for the tree which can be distributed to young or old are asked to send them early to Salvation Army headquarters.

POLI NEGRI IN "SPANISH DANCER" AT LAMB THEATRE

RANGER, Dec. 26.—Poli Negri in "The Spanish Dancer," now being shown at the Lamb theatre, is one of the most delightful pictures seen in Ranger for some time. The pictures are splendid in themselves, the castle scenes and warriors of the middle ages taking the audience back many years in the history of the world, and in the midst of these appears the beautiful and gifted actress with all the charm and advancement of modern years. The music throughout the picture adds much to it. The star's support is excellent.

Sale Starts 9 a. m. Thursday
Closes December 31, 1923



Step this Way

SAVE—25%
Jewelry and Diamonds

This Is Your Golden Opportunity
---Buy Now!

Every piece of jewelry and every diamond in the store will be sold between now and Jan. 1 at a 25 per cent discount. Diamonds, watches, bracelets, cut glass, silverware, silver pieces, silver sets, beads, pins, etc.

We carry the largest and finest stock of fine Diamonds and Jewelry in this part of the state. Our Guarantee:—Every diamond, watch or piece of jewelry sold is guaranteed to be as represented and to be of our high grade, select stock. This great 25 per cent off sale is for cash only. Remember sale opens at 9 a. m. tomorrow morning. No goods charged at these prices, no refunds and no exchanges. Every sale must be final.

W. E. Davis

Jewelry and Music

Ranger

Gholson Hotel Bldg.

