

# REV. M. C. SMITH CONTINUES FIGHT ON THE DANCE

THE SUNDAY EVENING SERMON SECOND IN SERIES OF THREE.

Makes the Charge that the Modern Dance is Harmful Physically, Mentally and Morally.

The second sermon by Rev. Mearl C. Smith in his series against dancing was given at the Methodist church Sunday night. Mr. Smith took for his subject "The Dance of Death," and made the charge that the modern dance is harmful physically, mentally and morally. He said, in part:

Proverbs 14:12 "There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death."

Tonight, I make the charge that the modern dance is harmful physically, mentally and morally, and that it is in reality a "dance of death."

Physically, the dance is not a recreation, but a dissipation. Bishop Hughes says, "The physical effects are apparent the next day when one sex drags itself to work and the other lies able to recover. It is nonsense to attempt to describe this sort of thing as physical exercise or a wholesome recreation."

Dr. G. Stanley Hall, most eminent American educator, says, "We have in the dance of the modern ball room only a degenerate relic with at least but a very insignificant cultural value and too often stained with bad associations."

Ex-dancing Master T. A. Faulkner who was at one time proprietor of the Los Angeles Dancing academy, and president of the Dancing Masters' association of the Pacific coast, was converted and wrote the well known book, "From the Ball Room to Hell." Mr. Faulkner says, "One may work six days in the week and arise fresh every morning. But let him attend a dance only a few hours each evening and see what will occur. Health and vigor will vanish like the dew before the sun." He states that "the average age of the excessive male dancer is thirty-one years."

### Effect on Scholarship.

Dancing is harmful mentally. It creates a distaste for mental application, resulting in lower scholarship. My friend W. H. Coleman, school superintendent of Crawford, gathered statistics of two hundred high school pupils in his schools. He found that 30 per cent were dancers and 70 per cent non-dancers. Of the dancers 43 per cent did not pass, and of the non-dancers only 20 per cent failed. He also states that the dancing girls have lower department grades, and that their parents come to the school authorities oftener complaining that they are no longer able to manage them.

But the most serious charge I bring against the dance is that it is harmful morally. Not to all in the same degree, but, like alcohol, it ranges from a degree that would be imperceptible to the observer to the extreme cases where the victim falls into utter moral ruin.

Promiscuous dancing originated in Greece, among men and women of loose morals and questionable character. With such an origin, it is no wonder the churches look upon it with suspicion.

One thing that makes the dance dangerous for young girls is that vile men and professional seducers of girls attend dances for the purpose of procuring innocent girls and bringing them to moral ruin. Mr. Faulkner describes a case that came under his observation as a dancing master, where a male procurer won the confidence of an innocent girl through a select dancing school, then ruined and abandoned her. Then he says, "I have seen it just as described, hundreds, yes thousands of times and have known many and many a case with the same sad ending. Do not delude yourself with the thought that such scenes occur only at the low public dances. Some of the lowest and most disgusting things of which I have had knowledge have occurred in and in connection with the most fashionable parlor dances." He further states that many dancing masters are a party to such deeds, as it is from these men that a large part of their income is derived.

One may say that the dance is not the only place where vile men go. True, but in no other place would they be permitted to take such liberties with innocent girls.

### Must Dance With Objectionables.

"But I would never dance with any except respectable people." I leave it to those who are familiar with the etiquette of select dancing parties, to tell me if it is not next to imperative to dance with partners introduced by the hostess. The adopting of a rule to dance only with those whom you know will mean that you will wear a queer label, if not subject you to non-invitation.

City authorities have many times tried the municipal dance hall, and these have often been the cause of so much immorality that they have been closed up. In Cleveland, O., they were tried and the sheriff had to close them up. The War Camp Community service recommended that the city of Little Rock, Ark., establish a public dance hall for the benefit of the men of Camp Pike. The chief of police said, "We found that a very low class of people frequented these places. Women of the street, panderers and bootleggers gathered here to carry on their work. We closed them up and do not allow them to run at all."

There are said to be 500,000 public prostitutes in America. It has been said that 65,000 girls disappear every year. We do not vouch for the exact number, but we know there are many. What is the cause of their downfall? According to the most careful investigation, from 50 to 75 per cent come to their ruin through the dance.

The chief of police in New York said that three-fourths of the abandoned

creatures there came to their downfall through the dance.

Mr. Faulkner, after his conversion, worked in a mission in Los Angeles. He personally talked to two hundred inmates of brothels, to ascertain the cause of their downfall. He found that in one hundred sixty-three cases it was the dance.

I have the record of a Catholic priest who in defending the confessionals said, "We at least have the advantage of knowing when our people fall, where they fall, and how they fall; and we have found that almost every lapse of female virtue in our community is traceable to the round dance." Archbishop Spaulding of New York said this was true of 19 out of 20.

As to Mr. Faulkner, I admit that his book is out of date. It was published in 1894. You may say, "Conditions have changed now." I understand they have. Popular magazines like the Ladies Home Journal are today denouncing the modern dance. They are not against dancing in itself, but only against the "modern jazz dances." All they ask for is a return to the conditions of a quarter of a century ago. If at that time the ball room led to hell, is there any language to express the evils of the modern dance?

### Equal Danger for Men.

I have spoken mostly of the harm that may come to innocent girls through the dance. I will not close without showing that there is equal danger for men.

Superintendent Coleman stated that of the high school boys who danced, in his investigation, 90 per cent of them also drank, and that 65 per cent of that drinking was in connection with dances.

Dad Elliott, the great Y. M. C. A. evangelist for men in colleges and universities, says that the aftermath of the dance among university men in cities is a flocking to vice resorts. He says, "I have investigated this point in almost every university city in the United States, and the evidence is always in the same direction, the university dance increases business in the vice district."

I do not say that all who dance meet a tragic end, but no one can deny that many have. It may never have harmed you morally, and possibly it never will. But who knows but what someone without your power of resistance, following your example, will enter the stream of the dancing amusement, and be carried by the rapids of temptation into the destruction below.

### OFFICIALS FOR G-P-C ARE HERE FOR MEETING

(Continued from Page 1.) over the proposed state-aid route with Mr. Draper, and judging from Mr. Draper's remarks, the state man is going to have the time of his life explaining his stand if he doesn't approve the plan. He also had the promise of Mr. Johnson that that gentleman will condescend to view the route with him also, but Johnson is going to be a busy man during the next few weeks, and may not get time to do it. Mr. Draper felt that the Box Butte commissioners were favorable to the G-P-C route.

### G-P-C Coming Along Fine.

"Mr. Hamilton was then called upon and he read some extracts from a letter from President Godman of the Colorado organization, in which information was given that the highway is now a fact from Corpus Christi, Tex., to Deadwood, S. D., a big percentage of the route now being traveled. The twenty-mile stretch of sandy road near Wray, Col., has been arranged for by a state appropriation of \$30,000, and an annual appropriation sufficient to continue the work through a term of years. The county commissioners of Sedgwick county had secured an appropriation and would spend about \$20,000 on the highway through that county, the letter said, and the road would be graveled and put in the best possible condition. Mr. Hamilton offered many suggestions as to the further work up this way and was ready with any information asked of him.

"Lou Hagemester made a promising talk on the situation from his town, and assured those present that the markers were all ready to put up as soon as the weather would permit and that they would do all they had agreed to do and some more if necessary.

"Then followed a general discussion and many plans were suggested. It has been known all-along that the towns up the valley had been working out a plan to have the road run up to Mitchell, passing through Bridgeport, Bayard, Minatare, Scottsbluff and from Mitchell north to Ardmore. This plan was a favorable one to those present unless the road to Alliance could be properly worked out. The fact is this highway is a good one and should be asked for by the towns en route and not have to be forced upon any community.

### Think Interest Lacking Here.

"Considerable regret had been expressed that no towns north had shown enough interest in this meeting to be present with a small delegation at least, and it was felt that possibly this lack of interest was a reflection of the feelings of those places toward the proposition.

"It was decided to appoint a committee to handle the signing of the papers in order to get them filed with the state. It was then suggested that just as many more as could make the trip should be with this committee when they made the trip over the route and on up to Alliance, where they planned to meet with the chamber of commerce of that city Tuesday, February 21. The Dawes county people were notified to meet with this delegation.

"This meeting did just what was needed to the organization and considerable enthusiasm was felt. It was also learned through first hand methods that considerable road improvement had been done on the valley road east of Broadwater and the fact is the boosters got a lot of interesting and surprising information. It is probable that the members of the advisory board and the several vice presidents from the different counties

will get a chance to meet and take some action on matters from now on, and if this is done there can be but one outcome. One more good move was suggested and that was to request the resignation of any member of the advisory board or vice president who were not heart and soul in the organization. This is sure a good plan, for in divided interest much can be lost. The boys up the line will have no cause to complain of the Garfield county bunch, we are sure."

# STOCK PRICES HAVE REACHED LOWEST LEVEL

The decline in live stock production since the war seems to have reached its lowest level, according to the annual live stock report of the state and federal bureau of markets and crop estimates released today by A. E. Anderson and Leo Stuhr. The estimates of the past three years which have been revised on the 1920 census basis have show heavy decreases in number since the war. Prices, while advancing in some classes, have reached their lowest levels. With the exception of sheep the average values range from 13 to 40 per cent below pre-war prices. Comparing present average values with January 1, 1914 average values, the report shows the value of horses to be 49 per cent less; mules, 34 per cent less; milk cows, 13 per cent less; other cattle, 28 per cent less; sheep 15 per cent less; and swine 15 per cent less. These facts show very vividly one reason why the purchasing power of farmers has diminished so heavily in the corn belt states. If present prices are compared with maximum war prices the contrast is more striking. The average value of swine for example is 62 per cent below the average on January 1, 1919. One encouraging feature is that live stock prices seem to have reached the lowest point and are now advancing in the meat classes, and with the decreased supply, the future of the live stock business appears brighter than it has for some time.

The January 1 estimate of swine is 3,680,000 head as compared to 3,505,000 head a year ago, 3,436,000 head in 1920 and 4,250,000 head in 1918. The market receipts for swine from Nebraska show decreases in about the same proportion. The average value per head of all ages was \$10 on January 1, \$13.50 a year ago, \$20.90 in 1920, \$26.50 in 1919 and \$11.80 in

1914. Total averages for the same dates were \$36,800,000, \$47,318,000, \$71,812,000, \$101,362,000, and \$38,090,000, respectively. The report for the United States shows about the same decrease in numbers which may account partly for the present increasing price in spite of cheap corn and general economic conditions.

**The Cattle Situation.**  
Cattle, other than milk cows, declined in number from 2,940,000 head in 1919 to 2,427,000 head in 1921. Market receipts for Nebraska indicate a decrease at the same rate. The average value per head of all ages was \$27.40 on January 1, \$33.10 a year ago, \$44.90 in 1920, \$49.90 in 1919 and \$38.10 in 1914. Total values for the same dates respectively: \$66,500,000, \$81,161,000, \$118,401,000, \$164,706,000 and \$71,724,000. The cattle supply of the United States has not decreased as heavily as sheep or swine.

Milk cows changed in number from 620,000 in 1919 to 517,000 in 1920, 501,000 in 1921 and 516,000 in 1922. The average value per head was \$53 on January 1, \$63 a year ago, \$83 in 1920 and \$60.70 in 1914. Total values are as follows: \$27,348,000 in 1922, \$31,563,000 in 1921, \$42,911,000 in 1920, \$52,700,000 in 1919 and \$37,209,000 in 1914.

Horses have decreased from 1,049,000 head in 1919 to 923,000 head a year ago and 961,000 in 1920. The drop in average value per head is very marked, being \$94 in 1914 as compared to \$56 at present, \$71 a year ago, \$77 in 1920 and \$101 in 1918. Total values were \$52,192,000 on January 1, \$65,553,000 a year ago, \$73,997,000 in 1920, \$105,049,000 in 1918 and \$98,512,000 in 1914.

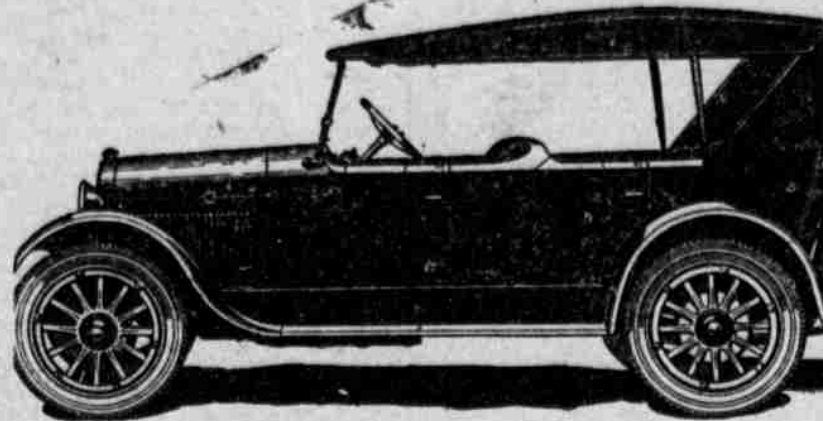
The estimate of mules is 106,000 head, the same as the number a year ago, 100,000 head in 1920 and 109,000 head in 1919. The average price per head was \$70 on January 1, \$90 a year ago, \$106 in 1920 and \$105 in 1914. Total values for the same dates are \$7,420,000, \$9,540,000, \$10,600,000 and \$9,820,000.

**Sheep Values Higher.**  
The estimate of sheep is 521,000 head at present, being the same number as were on hand one year ago, and 573,000 in 1920. These estimates were revised to the census basis of January 1, 1920 which included a large percentage of feeder sheep that were not given consideration previously. Nebraska is not an important sheep breeding state but ranks high as a sheep feeding state, the market receipts exceeding one million annually. Sheep are the only class of live stock that have a present value exceeding the 1914 value. Average value per head on January 1 was \$5.10 as compared to \$5.70 a year ago, \$10.10 in 1920 and \$4.50 in 1914. Total values for the same dates are as follows:

\$2,657,000, \$2,970,000, \$5,787,000 and \$1,693,000. The decline in numbers for the United States is much heavier than that of any other class of live stock.

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# Good Renewed Cars



We have the following used cars for sale at right prices:

- REO, 5 passenger Touring Car.
- REO, 5 passenger, Touring Car.
- HUDSON, 5 passenger, Speedster.
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Can give easy terms on any of above jobs.

## A. H. JONES CO.

REO GARAGE

# W. R. Harper Dept. Store

BIG STORE ALLIANCE, NEBR.

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Aren't these warm days filling you with thoughts of summertime, of gardens, of your vacation of straw hats, organdie dresses, and such inspiring things?

And since each day of sunshine makes you more certain that your winter hat resembles last year's bird's nest, and that your winter suit is equally uninspiring—

## Emphatically a Special Sale

### Strap Pumps, Slippers and Oxfords

For Women  
---at \$5

The price reduction is more than half former price (actually an average reduction of \$6.50).

Probably never have these value been offered before. Included are:

Patent leather, black kid and 1-strap street and afternoon pumps.

Black and tan calf and grain oxfords with low walking heels.

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## Boys' High Shoes



204 pairs of boys' black lace shoes have been taken from our regular stock and have been reduced to less than half price.

\$2.95

These have solid leather soles and Goodyear welts. Sizes up to 6 in B, C and D widths, priced Wednesday at \$2.95.

## Wednesday Buy Your Men's High Shoes



This is an extra fine bargain—a very good lot of Men's Shoes, reduced especially for Wednesday selling.

\$3.00

Wonderful shoes, with a Goodyear welt sole, made of brown calf or black kid leather of good shape. Sizes 6 to 11, widths A to E.

## About New Millinery For Spring

That all engrossing problem of selecting a new Spring Hat ceases to be a task and becomes a joy to the women who discover the interesting assortment that has made its appearance in the Harper's Millinery Shop during the last few days.

There are charming little sailors—their brims weighed down with springlike bouquets of flowers and fruit. There are smart toques. There are hats with brims a trifle larger—and droopy lines. A good assortment at—



\$7.50, \$8.00, \$10.00

We Sell for CASH  
We Sell for LESS

# W. R. Harper Dept. Store

BIG STORE ALLIANCE, NEBR.

We Sell for CASH  
We Sell for LESS