

Random Shots

At future boxing matches, Young Billy Papke will miss one face that he once shook hands with.

TODAY'S BEST STORY.

She was from Boston, he from Oklahoma. "You have traveled a great deal in the West, have you not, Miss Bacon?"

"Oh yes, indeed—in California and Arizona and even in New Mexico." "And did you ever see the Cherokee strip?"

There are people who condemn sin just to have an excuse to talk about it.

OUR LEGAL DEPARTMENT.

Dear Random Shootist: Me goil accepted a karat and a half diamond ring from me and gave me the go-by. She says it's all off. That doesn't fret me much, but can I recover the diamond? —Unfortunate Ambrose.

Friend Ambrose: Perhaps this will help you decide on a course of action. It's always been a question as to who owns an engagement ring when the engagement is broken. The question came up in a New York City court the other day. The ring, worth \$660, was put in the judge's hands. "Do you want this precious ring or this precious girl?" he asked of the man. "The girl," was the reply. "Will you have this man or give up this ring?" the judge asked the girl. "I'd like to think it over," was her non-committal reply. The court gave her three months' time for deciding, and meanwhile gave the ring into the custody of the man's lawyer, indicating its opinion that an engagement ring belongs to the suitor if he is finally rejected.

OLD STORY.

(Scottsbluff Star-Herald.) There is a man in Scottsbluff who is very much wrapped up in his business, so much so that he leaves home early in the morning before the youngsters are up and returns in the evening after they are abed. But the other night his wife was called to sit up with a kinswoman who was ill and it was up to the husband to care for the youngsters. The wife arrived home in the morning and asked as to how he fared.

"Oh, I got along fairly well," he replied, "but that red headed girl of ours I had to spank before I could make her go to bed."

"Why that wasn't our girl," the wife gasped. "She belongs to the neighbor family across the street."

This is a companion yarn to the old one about the railway brakeman who worked nights and who didn't have much time to get acquainted with his family. One morning he got up on the wrong side of the bed and his small son annoyed him by screeching and yawning out in the yard. He ordered the boy to pipe down, but got no results. And so, in the time hono-way, he "attended" to his offspring. The latter, howling louder than ever ran into his mother. "Mamma," he bawled, "that strange man who sleeps here nights spanked me."

Brings back old times when we read an editorial telling how much the Harding administration has accomplished.

Remember the billboard slogan: "Let's Be Done With Wiggle and Wobble," so prevalent before the 1920 landslide? Well, at Fremont they tell us that one of those signs is still standing. The bill poster forgot to cover it up, and now they say it's needed more than ever.

CHURCHES

CHURCH OF CHRIST
Next Lord's day being "Neighbor's Day" you are requested to come and bring your neighbor to all the services. There are many who do not attend any church. Get the whole family to attend. The sermons will be in keeping with the day. For the morning subject the minister will answer the question, "Who Is My Neighbor?" At the evening hour the subject will be, "The Kingdom of Heaven." With this subject we shall endeavor to find out what our Lord meant by the use of the term and its relationship to humanity. We have been helped so much in our worship and praise by the Junior Orchestra. They will continue to play each Sunday. Mrs. Fosdick has from twelve to fourteen pieces in this orchestra. A large choir will sing at both services. At the evening hour special music by men's voices will be rendered.

You will be benefited by attending the Endeavor prayer meeting at 6:30 in the evening.

When you are in need of worship that thrills the soul remember the house of God is open at all services. open at all services.

Come to the church with a message and a welcome.
STEPHEN J. EPLER, Minister.

METHODIST CHURCH.
(Corner Seventh and Box Butte.)

It was a great day last Sunday in the new church. All services were largely attended. The Sunday school numbered 290, with many more promising to attend. Plans are being made as rapidly as possible for a program of activities that will practically take all the time. Our trustees and official members plan to have the social hall of the church a place where all who wish can find plenty of innocent helpful amusement. It will be a center of the best entertainment the community affords, as well as plenty of fun, the best of all, where religion is not left out.

Services will be at the usual hours next Sunday. The Sunday school meeting at 10 o'clock, has been partly reorganized. Dr. E. C. Drake has been elected general superintendent, and one more department has been organized, the Elementary, including the second, third and fourth grades of children. Mrs. Nellie Wilson will be superintendent of this department, and it will have one of the large rooms in the basement.

Epworth league will be held at 6:30. Very soon some new features and activities will be added to the league. We invite all young people who want a good time and a chance to serve, to become members.

The sermon topics will be as follows: 11 o'clock, "Modern Infidelity"; 7:30 o'clock, "A Fearless Prophet."
M. C. SMITH, Pastor.

BAPTIST CHURCH.

A splendid prayer meeting was enjoyed last Wednesday, with Winifred Tibbitts as leader. She took for her topic "The Reasonableness of Prayer." The pastor is glad to announce that he will preach at both services Sunday. However, he will not baptise until the following week owing to the fact that there are several who want him to explain several questions as to church, etc. So we will wait and baptise a larger number later.

We are beginning to prepare for our Easter services. The pastor will preach during "His Last Week," beginning April 9, and we will study every evening the last week of our Lord's life. These sermons will be evangelistic in tone and we are expecting additions to the church as the result.

We hear much praise of our orchestra, this makes us feel proud of them, and the choir also is making headway. Subject for the men's Bible class is the first in a series of studies in "The Great Crisis of Christ's Life."

Sermon topics as follows: Morning, "Growing Faith." Evening, "A Thrilling Example of Brotherhood."
Welcome to the friendly church with the friendly grip.
B. J. MINORT, Pastor.

In The MOVIES
Tonight Alliance movie patrons will have a second and last opportunity to see Betty Compson in "The Little Minister." This film proved most popular last night, and it is expected that there will be enough readers of this popular book by Sir James Barrie to fill the theater again this evening.

Saturday, in addition to the usual four acts of vaudeville, Miss DuPont in "Shattered Dreams" will be the feature photoplay. It's a story of a woman who loves her art a great deal and men not so much—until a man came along who is bad enough and hopeless enough to interest her. She is a sculptress. Her art is her life. But she wants to do a statue of an Apache and for that she must have a perfect type. And Apaches are not fond of appearing in daylight. They're not simply bashful; they have a few murders apiece to their credit and can't afford daylight. Then an Apache

appears in her room at midnight a perfect specimen, as though made to order for her purpose. But he's there with intent to rob, which complicates matters somewhat. The working out of the plot from this point is interesting and full of suspense.

Sunday comes Charles Ray in "The Old Swimmin' Hole." The press agent chortles: She was fleckle and faithless to Ezra. She took his candy, his apples, n' everything; n' then she turned him down! The Wamp! Come laugh and cry through six reels of youth in James Whitecomb Riley's famous poem, screened as he wrote it!

On Monday Pearl White in "Know Your Men" is the attraction. It is the story of a girl's awakening to the realities of life and its hardships just when she was happiest. When the blow falls it carries with it her father, her fortune and even the man she loves—who turns out to be a cad. Her subsequent life is an effort to make up for the light moments she frittered away, but again, when she has a chance to be happy with a husband who really loves her, she is driven to misfortune and desperation.

THE PARSON'S CORNER
By Rev. B. J. Minort, Pastor of the First Baptist Church, Alliance

ARE PREACHERS COWARDS?
How two or more preachers could sit still at the recent "welfare" meeting held at the court house and say nothing when the president said that the preachers should exchange pulpits and speak on a certain subject, "because preachers can tell other congregations the truth much better than they can tell their own congregation, because they are not so afraid to say some things to strangers as they are to their own people," is beyond me.

It reveals the old conception of the ministry that we too often find in fiction—that the minister is a man who is so soft that he dares not sit down, who dares not say anything for fear some godless member of his church will open his, or more often, her, mouth. This wishy-washy conception of the ministry is the curse of the church today. The man who is so good that he dares not say anything; the man who has a backbone made of a fiddle string, and legs out of putty, that are too often too soft to hold him up, therefore he seldom wanders far from his study-cot for fear some long-tongued woman who is everlastingly trying to reform this or that will say, "Ooh."

Exchange pulpits, so that the preachers will "dare to tell the truth." Shades of Wesley and Spurgeon. What are we coming to? Exchange pulpits because a preacher does not dare to say anything to "his" congregation. Good Lord, what are we coming to in this Western country? Is this the conception that the people have of us? Shall we remain silent and let the world get such a flimsy idea of what we are? Are we less men because we are preachers?

Do our congregations expect us to sugarcoat the truth, because we are their pastor? Do these same congregations expect only an outsider to tell the truth? Are we such miserable cowards that we must hire another or exchange with another occasionally in order that people get a little truth? Perhaps this "welfare" organization will do some good yet if it doesn't do anything else than point the world to the fact that our pulpits are filled with a lot of cowards. If such we are, the world ought to know it, for it pays our salaries.

Personally, I have nothing but contempt for such a conception of the

ministry. No doubt there are too many such misfits in the pulpit, but not as many as there were. But if we remain quiet under such a suggestion, we certainly cannot blame the world for thinking we are cowards. Who has a better right to tell the truth to my people than I? And from whom have they a better right to expect the truth than from the one they have called to be pastor, and whose salary they pay?

I have no objection to exchanging pulpits for other reasons, but not for the reason that I am afraid to tell my people the truth. The members of the Baptist church are told the truth, and often it hurts them, but they love their pastor for it. We have never had a more loyal people, and I am sure they would not think much of me if they thought I invited another preacher to my pulpit to tell them what I was afraid to say.

Personally, if I thought they had such a flimsy conception of the moral character of their pastor, there would be another preacher leaving town. Such a coward is not fit for the ministry, for the minister, whether he wishes or not, is looked upon as a leader and an example for the young life of the community.

A preacher should be a perfect example of moral and physical courage. His people ought to demand this of him. His education may not be perfect and he can be a good preacher; his social standing may not be high, neither was Christ's, but he still can be a good preacher and pastor. But if he lacks physical and moral courage, he is not fit for the pulpit.

The man who is afraid to tell the unvarnished truth to his people, yet will go to another's congregation and tell what he is afraid to tell his own, in my way of looking at it, is a hypocrite and nothing else. Yes, sister, I will perhaps tell my people what you want me to, if it is of sufficient importance, but for goodness' sake don't insult my people or their pastor by intimating that another must do it because he is afraid to. At our church the truth is told twice a Sunday and often during the week and instead of the people getting mad, they love us for it. They pay me a comfortable salary to do that very thing. And, God helping me, it will be done. We are neither afraid of devil or woman.

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