

MARRIAGES FEWER, DIVORCE GROWING

STATISTICS FOR ILLINOIS

Census Bureau Report Covering Four Years Indicates This Condition; Economical Factor Noted

Marriage decreased and divorces increased in Illinois during 1925, according to a report just made by the bureau of the census.

The decrease in marriages was 2.4 per cent, while divorces increased 1.2 per cent.

The most interesting disclosure made by the bureau is that the four years covered by its report, running back to 1922, that while there has been a steady increase in divorces granted, there has been a corresponding increase in marriages for that period.

Some Statistics

In 1922 there were 75,208 marriages; in 1923, 84,068; in 1924, 81,179; and in 1925, 79,964.

In 1922 there were 11,057 divorces; in 1923, 12,317; in 1924, 13,658, and in 1925, 13,822.

The marriage rate per 1,000 of population increased with moderate annual variation from 8.7 per thousand in 1887 to 10.5 in 1906. After a period of 10 years, the rate increased to 10.7; then it dropped to 10.3 in 1922 and then rose to its highest point in 1923, 11 per thousand of population. In 1924, however, the rate declined to 10.4 and it declined further in 1925, to 10.2.

Economical Factor

Each of the declines in the marriage rates is said to have been preceded by a commercial depression which doubtless was an important cause, if not the chief contributing reason for the decline.

Of divorces granted in Illinois in 1925, 3,401 were sought by husbands and 10,382 were sought by wives. Cruelty and desertion were the rocks upon which the marriages were wrecked, 4,555 women having given the former as the reason for their desire for a separation and 3,768 having alleged desertion as a divorce cause. Seven hundred five husbands and 732 wives charged adultery, and 950 wives and 54 husbands sued on grounds of drunkenness.

Danger Period

The danger period in marriages, according to the bureau is between the tenth and fourteenth years, when nearly 15 per cent of the divorces originate. Of marriages of less than a year's duration the bureau points, the percentage of divorces is fairly constant at about five. Between 15 and 19 years the divorce percentage is 8.5, while after 20 years the bands of matrimony apparently fall, since 10 per cent of the divorces granted were to couples that had been wedded more than two decades.

In early years, it appears, women are most likely to seek divorces, while in cases where marriage has continued over an extended period it is the husband who seeks relief from the divorce courts.

PREDICTS ARTIFICIAL LIGHT, FOR ATHLETICS

Famous Umpire Says Time Coming When Fields Will Be Illuminated at Night

General use of artificial night-time illumination for the enjoyment of all sorts of sports until far after dark is predicted by Billy Evans, famous American League umpire, who has been making a study of floodlighting for athletic fields. Many municipal tennis courts in the east have been successfully lighted, permitting office workers to play in the outdoors during hours when they ordinarily would have only indoor recreation available.

The Briarcliffe (N. Y.) golf course has been lighted so that Gene Sarazen and other stars could play a mid-night eighteen holes there recently. Football and baseball fields have been successfully lighted throughout the east and many after-dark games have been played with few errors, Evans declares. Lights are adjusted so that rays are cast into the air, clearly showing the flight of the ball.

Calling baseball games on account of darkness, "the bane of every umpire's life," according to Umpire Evans, will be done away with and the tie-game evil eliminated. The cost of floodlighting athletic fields is low in proportion to the gate receipts, he has found.

"A great many people cannot take the time off from their work during the day for the exercise which is every American's birthright. I have no doubt that in a short time lighting of outdoor sports by night will have extended the playtime of the nation to long after sundown," Evans believes.

THIS ELECTRIC IRON CERTAINLY WAS HOT

There can no longer be any question as to the heat of an electric iron. The Woman's Home Companion tells of one of them left by mistake on the ironing board, which burned its way through the board, dropped to the floor, burned through that and landed in a basket of potatoes in the cellar before the homemaker who was doing the family ironing got back from having a little chat over the telephone.

Fortunately it was almost dinner time, so the fried potatoes came in very handy for the meal.



One of the unique features of the dedication of the "Cabin of the Woods" to be held on Sunday afternoon, June 26, at 2:30 p. m. will be the dedication of the "flag pole with roots." A straight oak tree that would otherwise have been removed to provide light and open space around the cabin, was trimmed instead and left standing to be used as the flag pole. It presents a unique appearance and will be one of the novelties of the overnight hike objective of the North Shore troops.

For Year Round Use

The "Cabin in the Woods" is for overnight hike use the year around. The logs are carefully chinked, and the fire-place being so built that the cabin will be as warm and comfortable in the winter time as a house.

The invitations issued to all parents and friends of scouting and to all who are interested in learning more about the principles and objectives of the character-development program read as follows:

Council Issues Report

In an eight page report issued to the parents of scouts and contributors to its growth, both financially and in service, the North Shore Area council covering the territory from Wilmette to Lake Bluff and to the west for a period of eight miles, outlines some accomplishments of the past six months and objectives that

it is trying to accomplish in the months and years ahead.

The report states:

The North Shore Area council—which is nothing more nor less than a group of men banded together by a common interest and desire—is wholeheartedly in earnest in its desire to draw out of the boy life of our communities its very best.

We have been charged with the responsibility and entrusted with the privilege of being trustees of the Boy Scout program in our communities.

We have been given a charter and authorized to extend the use of the scout program to those institutions that will earnestly and wholeheartedly use it in enriching boy life. It is our duty to co-operate and aid in the widest and most effective utilization of scouting in conserving the finest forces in boy life.

Our happy task is one of community leadership, the inspiring of institutions and individuals in providing those experiences for youth that will appeal to a boy nature and serve boy needs.

The Council's relationship to institutions sponsoring troops.

This council does not administer scouting to boys.

It does, however, provide, enrich, and co-operate in the proper utilization of the scouting program by the various churches, schools and service groups which are making scouting a part of their work.

ILLINOIS TO BUILD 1,000 MILES OF ROAD

Under the schedule being pushed to completion by the Division of Highways on orders of Governor Small, to construct not less than 1,000 miles of hard roads in the state during the year 1927. Illinois will build between one-eighth and one-sixth of the improved highways constructed in the United States during the year.

Federal allotments totalling \$73,125,000 will be available to the various states on July 1, 1927. To this must be added a certain percentage by the states, which makes possible the construction of between 6,000 and 8,000 miles of improved highways.

The federal government is giving aid to the construction of a network

of 185,000 miles of improved highways in the country at large.

Of the federal allotment Illinois will receive \$3,154,429, the largest amount of any state in the union, because of the important work being done in this state.

PROHIBIT IMPORTING OF DISEASED "SPUDS"

The Illinois department of agriculture has issued restrictions, which are effective immediately, against the importation of potatoes from areas infested with the tuber moth. The insect deposits eggs upon the surface of potatoes as well as on the under side of the leaves of the growing plants. The restrictive order bears the signatures of S. J. Stanard, director of agriculture; O. T. Olsen, superintendent of the division of plant industry, and Governor Len Small.

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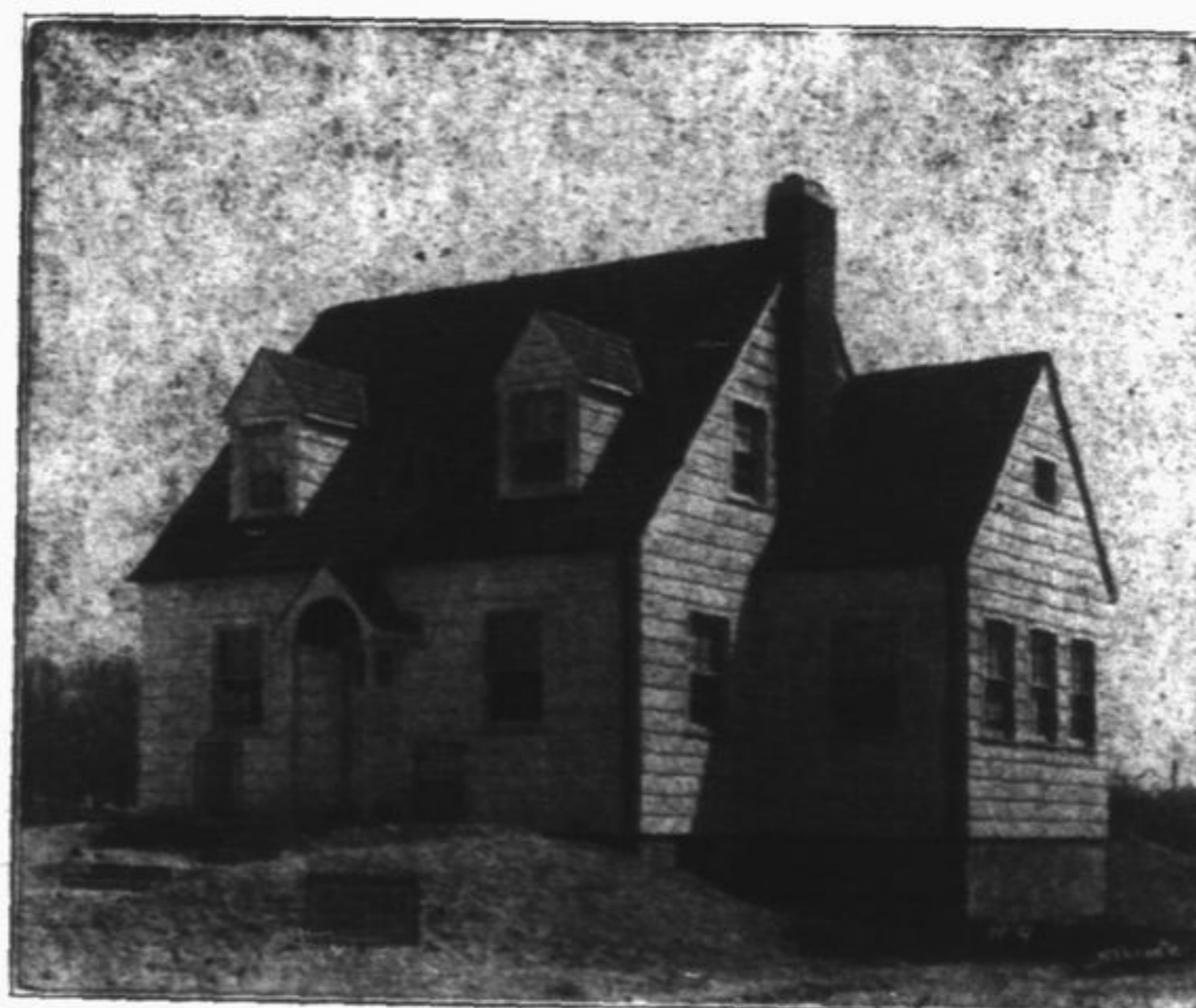
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