

PLAY WILL FURTHER CAUSE OF MISSIONS

Community Drama Club and Young People's Group Combine to Present "Little Poor Man"

By G. W. C.

The Winnetka Community Drama club and the Young People's society of the Winnetka Congregational church are joining forces in planning a very interesting and worth-while project.

On the evenings of June 8 and 9, these two organizations are to present "The Little Poor Man," by Harry Lee, a play which tells with poetic beauty of the life of Saint Francis of Assisi. The roles in the play are to be taken by members of the Drama club; while the Young People's society is attending to the business side of the production. Mrs. Sherman Goble, who is well-known for her splendid work with the Drama club, is directing the play.

A very worthy cause lies behind the presenting of this drama. The Young People's society has pledged two hundred dollars to Clarence E. Wolsted, their church's missionary in India. This money will enable a youthful native leader to go among the young people of inner India and work with them for a year. Thus in order to raise this sum, the young people in Winnetka are presenting "The Little Poor Man."

The play certainly has been well-chosen, for it embodies the true spirit of brotherly love that so inspired Saint Francis. It reveals Francis as a little man, with human emotions, but that revealing only makes one more aware of his great, great soul. It brings be-

fore one's eyes the Assisi that Francis knew. One sees the pious trades-folk, the mad revelers, and the crying beggars. Above all, the play is a very human document; it is honest, true, and, written in smooth clear verse, it must be a shining example of poetic loveliness, for it was awarded the five hundred dollar prize for poetic drama given by the Poetry Society of America.

The story of the play takes one through the main part of Francis' life. First he is the gay reveler, heeding not his mother's words of wisdom, rushing headlong into any enjoyment that may chance to come his way. Then he is the young man beginning to see the light, the real meaning of his life on earth. Then he is the poor little man, going to far parts of the land to help his brothers and to give spiritual guidance to those who are in trouble. And finally he is the Saint. Nothing left to him but "a cloak, a staff, a lute, and a little song to sing," yet the Bishop calls him Saint Francis of Assisi.

This is a great play, a powerful play, and it will be a milestone in the lives of those who have the good fortune to see it.

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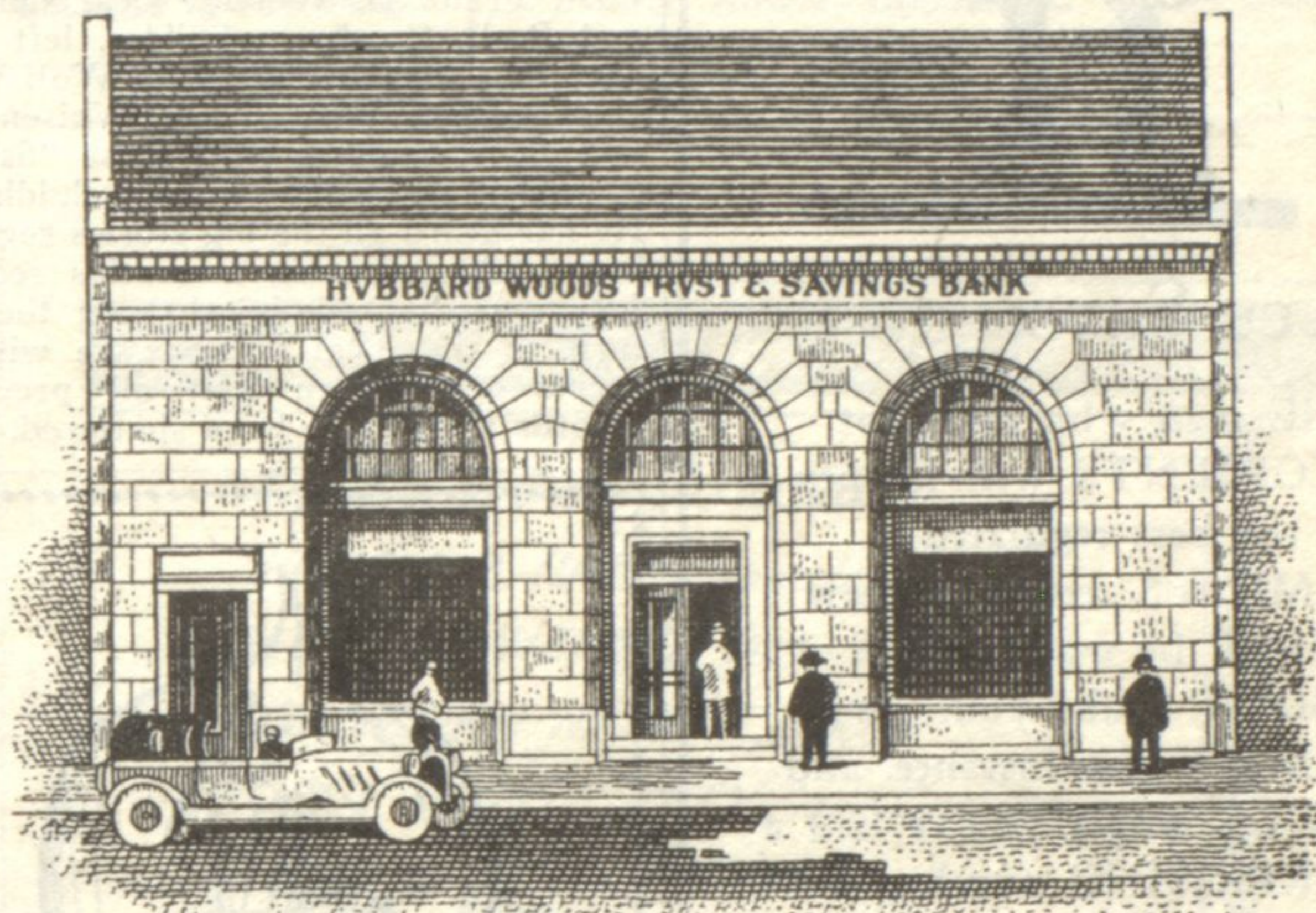
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