Birth Rate in France Decreases.

France is worried over the comparatively small number of births and marriages throughout the country. For the first half of 1923 there were only 395,363 births in all France.

Crowds Attend United Meeting of Drama League and Music Club.

SPLENDID PRODUCTION

In the presentation of a combined Christmas program in the Collegiate Institute auditorium last night, the London Drama League and the Women's Music Club created a precedent which might frequently be followed. The two arts, music and the drama, are so closely wedded that they may be united with advantage to both. And such was the case last night in the presentation of "The Other Wise Man." That the members of both clubs had anticipated something very fine, was evinced fifteen minutes before the scheduled time for starting, when every available seat in the auditorium was taken and chairs were filling the aisless and back of the hall.

Without any doubt whatever the honors of the evening go to Miss Margaret Glass, who dramatized and In the presentation of a combine

Without any doubt whatever the honors of the evening go to Miss Margaret Glass, who dramatized and then produced Henry Van Dyke's immortal story, "The Other Wise Man."
This was so in spite of the fact that Vincent Perry's acting in the title role was superb; in spite of the fact that the incidental music composed that the incidental music composed where he finds out that the Three that the incidental music composed after the star The fourth scenario. This was so in spite of the fact that Vincent Perry's acting in the title role was superb; in spite of the fact that the incidental music composed and directed by Charles E. Wheeler was very fine, and in spite of the fact that the very brief appearance of Miss Blanche Tancock as the Slave Charles and appearance of the says appearance of the says appearance. Girl gave opportunity for a very fin-ished piece of acting. It was not the cting, it was not the music, which tood out last night. It was the play, is a whole, the wonderfully true inpretation of the Van Dyke story.

Adhered to Original. Miss Glass, in dramatizing the story, adhered closely to the spirit of the original. The costumes were correct, even to the bare feet of the rect, even to the bare feet of the maidens. The scenery was simple and yet by the clever combination of colors, and very fine lighting effects, something quite extraordinary in amateur stage settings was produced. That the sets had all been manufactured by members of the league was

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the clock.

thoughtfulness.

evident. Yet the effect produced would have done credit to the professional stage.

Each member of the rather large cast, fitted in perfectly to make a

cast, fitted in perfectly to make a beautiful whole.

Of the musical bits introduced into the play by Mr. Wheeler, the decidedly Oriental chorus in the opening scene sung by the followers of Zoroaster, was perhaps the most effective. Another lovely little musical introduction was the lullaby sung by Miss Eula Kennedy in the role of a Bethlehem mother.

Bethlehem mother.

The play cast included James Talman, Lawrence Glass, Walter Bagnall, Sydney Kingsmill, Mel. Dickinson, A. J. Nichols, A. L. Christiani, Ed. Webster, A. E. Ball, W. J. Ross, Luta, Lawrence, Durst, Frances Gunn. Luta Laymon Durst, Frances Gunn, Florence Foote, Gussie Wilson and Margaret Scatcherd.

The Story of the Play.

after the star. The fourth scene is in Bethlehem, just too late to see the child Jesus, but in time to save the life of a Bethlehem child from the life of a Bethlehem child from the soldiers of Herod. The last scene is thirty-three years later in the streets of Jerusalem on the day of Christ's crucifixion. Again he has arryled too late, but he spends his last jewel in the ransom of a slave girl who runs to him for protection.

Musical Numbers. In addition to the play the program included attractive vocal numbers by Mrs. Ed. Wyatt, who is heard too rarely; a brilliant violin selection by Miss Gurll Hausch, and several de-lightful selections from the Hausch Quartet, including Miss Gurll Hausch, Miss Ingeborg Hausch, Miss Pauline Wilson and Miss Ilene McDougall.

Col. Francis Ware, president of the Drama League, acted as chairman, the program being introduced by a Mrs. Martha McClurg, of Euclid avenue, who is spending the winter with her daughters, Mrs. S. A. Connor ew words from Mrs. C. R. Somerville, president of the Women's Music Club. Mrs. Arthur Brickenden, convener of

the Drama League production com-mittee, prefaced the play by a brief synopsis of the story of the Other Wise Man. Old-Time Bottles. New York, Dec. 17 .- The pudgy old-fashioned bottles-square, gold rimmed and ample—are being given a variety of uses now. They hold perfume or table relishes or candles, each bottle being deep red, green, or purple and fitted with a stopper in the shape of a bouquet.

WOMEN and THE HOME

Social and Personal

Miss Margaret Bragg was a week-end visitor in Toronto.

Mrs. E. J. Masuret is entertaining at bridge this afternoon. Mrs. E. H. Nelles, Huron street, spent the week-end in Toronto.

Miss Mable Scott of Woodstock was a recent guest with Mrs. William Little, Princess avenue.

Mr. Bert Hannah of the Columbia University staff is expected in the city for the Christmas holiday. Miss Irene M. Jones of London was a recent visitor in Hamilton with Mrs. Norman McLeod MacPhail.

Mrs. W. E. Robinson, entertained yesterday afternoon at Mah Jong and bridge, at her home in St. James street.

Professor and Mrs. John D. Det-wiler will spend Christmas in Kitch-ener, the guests of the former's father, Mr. A. B. Detwiler.

Hugh MacMahon of Detroit will spend the holiday week-end in Lon-don with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. P. MacMahon, Huron street.

Mrs. F. P. White, 202 John street accompanied by her little daughter Dorothy Jane, is spending a few weeks in Brantford, with her mother, Ross Somerville, woh is attending Toronto University, will spend the Christmas vacation with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Somerville, Cen-

Mr. and Mrs. John Peat of Petrolia M. Wilkie.

and Mrs. G. G. Reid of Niagara Falls, N. Y., was called to Pittsburg to attend the funeral of her sister, Mrs. Sarah Moffatt, who died Dec. 15.

Radio

Programs

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 19.

KDKA—East Pittsburg, Pa.—920 Kilocycles, Frequency, 326 Metres,

Wave Length.

Eastern Standard Time.

9:45 a.m.-Union Live Stock mar-

et report. 11:55 a.m.—Arlington time signals

WBZ-Springfield, Mass.-890 Kilo-

cycles, Frequency. 337 Metres,

Wave Length.

Eastern Standard Time.

KYW-Chicago, III.-560 Kilocycles

Frequency-536 Metres, Wave

Central Standard Time. 9:30 a.m.—Late news and financia

story. 8:00 to 8:58 p.m.—Musical pro-9:05 to 9:15 p.m.—Sport talk. "For-est Fires Put the Wreck in Recrea-

9:15 p.m.—Reviews of the lates

WGY-Schenectady, N.Y.-790 Kilo cycles; 380 Metres.

Eastern Standard Time.

11:55 a.m.—Time signals.

12:30 p.m.—Stock market report.

12:40 p.m.—Produce market report.

12:45 p.m.—Weather report.

6:00 p.m.—Produce and stock market quotations; news bulletins.

6:30 p.m.—"Adventure Story."

Silent Night.

Silent Night.

WWJ—Detroit, Mich.—400 Metres—
580 Kilocycles.

Eastern Standard Time.
9:30 a.m.—"Tonight's Dinner" and a special talk by the Woman's Editor.
9:45 a.m.—Public Health Service bulletins and talks on subjects of general interest.

general interest.

10:25 a.m.—Official weather fore-

Mr. Charles Tutt, of Columbia University, will spend the Christmas holiday with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Tutt, Chesley avenue. They will also have as their guest for the holiday season their daughter, Miss Nellie Tutt of Ingersoll.

Plans for the filling of Christmas baskets for needy families will take place this evening at the meeting of the Social Service Club, which is being held this evening at the homo of Miss Gertrude Fraser, North London. The club will also fill stockings to be distributed among children

The 1921-22 class of the Normal School is holding a re-union at Smallman and Ingram's tea room, Friday evening, when about 60 teachers, who graduated in 1922 will be present. Following supper, an impromptu program will be enjoyed. Mr. C. R. McGill is in charge of the

arrangements.

The members of the Kiwanis Jollies were guests of honor last evening at a jolly supper party given at Wong's Cafe. Mr. J. B. Hay, president of the Kiwanis Club, acted as chairman, and the program included numbers by several members of the cast. Dancing was enjoyed following supper. T. H. Yull was in charge of the affair.

A hig Christmas tree from which

Toronto University, will spend the Christmas vacation with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Somerville, Central avenue.

Professor A. D. Robertson and Mrs. Robertson are going to Rockwood for Christmas, where they will visit their mothers, Mrs. Margaret Black and Mrs. Katherine Robertson.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Landon, accompanied by Mrs. Landon's brother, Mr. P. A. Stewart of Omaha will be Christmas guests in Lobo, with Mrs. Landon's parents, Mr. and Mrs. John A. Smith.

Mr. and Mrs. John Peat of Petrolia

of the affair.

A big Christmas tree from which gifts will be distributed to everyone will be the feature of the Western University Christmas lit. to be held at the Oxford street gymnasium tonight. And not only is there to be a Christmas tree, but a special stunt as well from each year at college, the whole joyous evening to end with a dance. The officers of the Literary Society, arranging for the event are: Mr. Arthur Waring, Miss Alinda Nugent, Miss Eunice Moorehouse, Mr. Leslie Gray, Miss Darch, H. Blackwell, Eleanor Grant, and Miss M. Wilkie.

The members of the Pi Sigma Chi
Fraternity were the hosts of an enjoyable theatre party held at the
Grand Opera House last night, when
the guest of honor was Dr. John E.
Gordon, who leaves shortly to attend
the Rush Medical School in Chicago.
About thirty-five were present, re-

Each Child Receives a Toy and Elmville Class Forwards One Quantities of Delicious Apples.

Weather forecast.

12:00 noon—Market reports.
6:30 p.m.—Dinner concert.
7:30 p.m.—A talk on books.
7:45 p.m.—John Matins' Evening 8:00 p.m.—John Maths Evening with the Children. 8:00 p.m.—Market reports. 8:15 p.m.—Address "The Advant-age of Physical Examination in Industry,"
8:30 p.m.—Concert.
9:55 p.m.—Arlington time signals
Weather forecast. ceived a toy and many baskets of ap-The toys were brought in at a recent meeting of the institute, when the roll call was answered by the do-Eastern Standard Time.

11:55 a.m.—Arlington time signals;
weather reports; Boston and Springfield market reports.
6:00 p.m.—Dinner concert.
7:00 p.m.—Humorous program.
7:30 p.m.—Twilight tales for the
kiddies. Farmers' period. Story for nation of a toy for the shelter. The meeting was held at the home of Mrs. S. E. Facey who gave a practical demonstration of table setting, showing how the table should be arranged grownups.
8:00 p.m.—Program given by the
Williams College Musical Clubs.
9:55 p.m.—Arlington time signals.
11:00 p.m.—Program of chamber for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Plans were also made to bring Christman cheer to shut-ins and the needy of the community; in charge of a committee including: Mrs. Dan McVicar, Mrs. Adams, Mrs. Ball and Mrs. Birchmore. The cook books, which the organization has made to raise funds, were also displayed at the comment. (This service is broadcast every half hour during the twenty-

meeting.

An enjoyable program was given including: solos by Mrs. Ormiston Smith of Brownsville; plano numbers by Miss Beatrice Brooks; and readings by Miss Ruby Crossett. A paper on Christmas in India, given by Mrs. Dan McVicar was also greatly enjoyed. Dainty refreshments were served by the hostess. our). 11:05 a.m.—Weather report. 11:35 a.m.—Table talk. 6:50 p.m.—Children's bedtime



WILL PRESENT A PLAY

ber Meeting Held Last Night at the School.

At the regular meeting of the Chesley Avenue Mothers' Club held last evening, a committee was appointed to look over a number of plays and

Children Donate PRESENTS TO SHELTER A Penny a Year

Dollar for Memorial Children's Hospital.

The president, Mrs. Earl O'Neil, A penny for every year of their and secretary, Miss Hazel Cornish of the Harrietsville Women's Institute the Children's Hospital from the members of the Residue of the the Harrietsville Women's institute members of the Beginners' Class of the Elmville Sunday school. And it with them a generous donation of counts up to the splendid sum of toys and apples for the kiddies at the children's shelter. Each child re-memorial children's Hospital, Mrs. Cl. T. Campbell, this morning. And with oles were distributed amongst them. the dollar, by parcel post, came three beautiful scrap books, made by the children themselves for the wee sick

Fashions By Wire

Paris, Dec. 17.—One silhouette worn here today is extremely tailored; a long tube from the high collar to the ankle-length hem. The coat, which is a trifle more than hip length, is as slim and plain as the skirt. Culy the sleeves have a flare. Must Discard Frills.

London, Dec. 17.—Women who desire to look slender in the new long to the are forced to discard all sucoats are storced to discard an su-perfluous and frilly lingerie. Con-sequently, woolen underwear — very lightweight, soft, and attractive—is coming into fashion.

CHRISTMAS?



wife of Harold F. McCormick, multi-millionaire, who has returned to the opera stage. She sang, incognito, at Albany, N.Y., last week.

Members Make Plans at Decem

Mr. and Mrs. John Peat of Petrolia who have been honeymooning in England, paid a brief visit with Dr. and Mrs. G. L. Jepson of this city yesterday before proceeding to their home in Petrolia.

The Western University sophomores are arranging a dance to be held in the iWnter Garden on the night of January 8. The dance committee includes: Miss Helen Hughes, Miss E. Berry, Miss M. Garbutt, Mr. A. Grant, and Mr. G. Elson.

Mr. E. F. Waller is going to Ottawa in the New Year, where he has accepted a position with the Ottawa branch of the United Typewriter Company. Mrs. Waller will remain in London until the spring, before going to Ottawa to reside.

Mr. Mrs. Martha McClurg, of Euclid Mrs. Martha Mrs. Martha McClurg, of Euclid Mrs. Martha McClurg, of Euclid Mrs. Martha Mrs. Martha McClurg, of Euclid Mrs. Martha Mrs. Martha McClurg, of Euclid Mrs. Martha Mrs. Martha Mrs. Martha Mrs. Martha Mrs. E. Pellow Mrs. Martha Mrs. E. Pellow Mrs. Alarge Christ, A large Christ, Mrs. Alarge Christ, A large Christ, Mrs. Alarge Christ, Mrs. Alarge Christ, Mrs. E. Pellow Mrs. Martha Mrs. E. P

cast.
3:35 p.m.—Market reports.
8:30 p.m.—The Detroit News Orchestra. Fred Moehring, pianist;
Aleen T. Warner, soprano.

mas.
At the next meeting of the club a debate will be held, "Resolved that the world is growing better." The negative side will be taken by Mrs. Pellow and Mrs. Philmore, and Mrs. J. H. Moir and Mrs. A. E. Tutto or and Mr J. H. Moir and Mrs. A. E. Tutt ar

Special to The Advertiser.

WHERE WILL YOU SPEND

WHERE WILL YOU SPEND
In all the cycle of the year there is no time that brings families together as does the Yuletide. Though you were at the ends of the earth you would long to be home for christmas and if it were at all possible you would be there. In the long ago when traveling facilities were very limited, people journeyed many weary miles and endured great hardships that they might be with friends and loved ones on Christmas Day. Today it is so different. The modern realiway enables you to cross the continent in a few days in comfort. This year there promises to be the usual heavy Christmas and New Year travel, north, south, east and west, and in order that you may reach your destination as comfortably and speedily as possible. Canadian National Railways are making preparations far in advance. Anyone wishing to pay for the traveling expenses of relatives or friends from any point, need only to place the money in the hands of nearest ticket agent a splendid success. A paper. "The W. M. S. as the Hadmaiden of the Chirch," was given by Mrs. Ironsides.



One table of BEAUTIFUL SILK

WAISTS, assorted sizes, collars and com-

binations, self or fancy colors. Regular \$7.50 and \$8.50. All at one special price

.....\$4.95

JAPANESE CREPE KIMONOS, pink

only, fancy embroidered, satin or self

collars. Special at\$2.19

COTTON EIDERDOWN KIMONOS.

medium weight, full assortment of de-

signs and colors, silk cord trimmed. Sale

price \$3.95

Gray's-Third Floor.

Mother, Sister, Sweetheart, Wife, Daughter. Our entire third floor is now turned into a

real gift department showing hundreds of pretty and practical gifts all marked at moderate prices.

Christmas Suggestions

Practical and Attractive

Gifts for Women

Leading Men Come From Farms.

A college professor has computed that 80 per cent of the leading businessmen of the United States were brought up on farms.

GRAY'S, LIMITED

NOTICE—This store will be open on Thursday, Friday and Saturday of this week

white, shawl or roll collar, all sizes. Specially priced \$4.95 and \$5.95 LADIES' CHAPPIE COATS, fawn and sand, braid trimmed. Exceptional value

Skating Sweaters

HEAVY WOOL SWEATERS, red or

at \$7.50 CHILDREN'S WOOL SWEATERS, coat style, high or low neck, and belt shades, sand, peacock, brown, navy, cardinal \$3.25 to \$4.25

Caps to match 75c, \$1.00 and \$1,25

Gray's-Third Floor.

Ladies' and Misses' Coats About Half Price

Coats of Imported Velour, plain or fancy trimmed. Some Burberry style \$14.95 fur trimmed. \$15.00 Sale price,

Children's Middy Skirts

PLEATED SKIRTS, of Botany wool serge, sizes 4 to 12 years. Regular \$4.50. Sale price \$2.50 CHILDREN'S SERGE AND FLANNEL

ONE-THIRD OFF REGULAR PRICES NURSES' UNIFORMS, of middy twill cloth, straight line or gathered at waist, sizes 34 to 44 \$3.50 and \$3.75 Gray's—Third Floor.

Corsage Bouquets

For Coats, Furs and Dresses, exquisite colorings 50c to \$2.98 Gray's-Third Floor.

Black Princess Slips

Of English Sateen, hemstitched and ribbon trimmed. Sale price 98c LADIES' SATINETTE BLOOMERS, all good colors, double elastic knee, full sizes. Special\$1.59 WHITE FLANNELETTE GOWNS, full sized. Extra special at \$1.00

Babies' Bib and Tray

Made of rubberized cloth, stamped in nursery rhymes designs. Set 50c Gray's-Third Floor.

GRAY'S, Limited "Hope" Label Basket Work, made at the National Institute for the Blind on sale.—Second Floor. 140 DUNDAS ST. PHONES 115-116

Danny and Mr. Mocker Have a Mid- just as far back in the hole as he could and shivered and shook. No even when he heard Mr. Mocker call. night Conversation

By THORNTON W. BURGESS. How long Danny Meadew Mouse had been shivering and shaking at the sound of the dreadful voice in the night he didn't know. It seemed to him as if he had been shaking and shivering for hours and hours and hours. That was simply because he was so frightened. At last he saw light peeping into the entrance to his hiding place under the old stump. Danny sighed with relief. "It must be daylight," thought he. "Perhaps that dreadful voice will stop in the



ing did Danny move. (Copyright, 1923, by T. W. Burgess.) The next story: "Danny Finds Out About the Terrible Voice."

Odd Candelabra.

New York, Dec. 17-The odd candelabra are being installed in boudoirs now. Sturdy black from candlesticks hold the fattest and aquatilest of bright candles, the latter being not more than six inches high. These Gothic ernaments bring out the daintiness of the other boundoir fixtures.

For 15 Years Was Troubled With

was and attractive—in.

YOU SPEND TMAS?

You spend that dreadful voice will stop in the daylight. But it was a despited to the part that of readful woice will stop in the year there is not the year there is not the remaining almost as light as by day. And then as Danny and then as Danny and then as Danny and the took care there. In the loom in facilities were at all posterior in the remaining the four the

C. H. BEARD, Local Manager.

We know an Old Couple

like this

The old folks sit alone beside the fire. Sons and daughters have married and gone — the

house that used to ring with the shouts of

happy children now echoes to the ticking of

It is Sunday night. A bell tinkles—the tele-

"Hello, mother? How are you and father?"

It is son George speaking from his home three

hundred miles away. This is his night to call

the old folks. Tuesday will be Mary's turn;

Charlie usually calls on Wednesday; Alice on

Long Distance is the greatest boon in the lives of this old couple. Four nights a week the loved

voices transform the old house and bring back

vanished days—a blessed conspiracy of loving

A Station-to-Station call always serves because he old folks are always at home; and the

So simple; so effective; the practice is grow-

ng! Long Distance is brightening countless

Evening rate makes it so inexpensive!

phone! Mother hurrys to answer it!

