



Colorful procession of Indians on their way to a ceremonial.



A primitive wooden bridge is used by Taos Indians for crossing the Rio Pueblo. In the background, Taos Pueblo.

IS NEW MEXICO NEW?

New Mexico itself is not new. Visitors from the Northern and Eastern states find the country strange and romantic. As the story of the landing of the Pilgrims at Plymouth Rock will ever be a lure to historians, so pilgrimages to the ruins of communal cliff dwellings and council chambers in New Mexico tell of peoples whose coming to this country is so far back as to be shrouded in mystery.

There the Indians cling to their ancient forms of pagan religion, the strangest relics of worship on this continent. Weird ceremonial dances are held in thanks for the harvest and as prayers for rain.

Accompanying pictures are from William L. and Irene Finley, writers for *The Journal*, on nature and wildlife subjects, who spent the winter at the Ghost Ranch, New Mexico, not far from the upper stretches of the Rio Grande.

New Mexico State Tourist Bureau Photos



(Circle) Mr. and Mrs. Finley at Ghost Ranch.



A Taos Indian family climbs a ladder to reach their apartment on the second story in ancient Taos Pueblo.



(Below left) Feather head-dress and tom-tom are familiar at San Ildefonso, a few miles north of Santa Fe, during pueblo fiesta.