

# LAS VEGAS TIMES

VOLUME I.

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## WAS A BRILLIANT FLARING FIRE

What Was Once a Lively, Bustling Business Place Is But a Memory.

## THE ORIGINAL TOWN IN ASHES.

The City Is, the Hospitable Home of the Moneyless Is Gone.

## IT IS FAREWELL TO OLD TOWN.

The Old Town is but a memory. It does not even bear today the significance of a deserted village. In its day it was a roysterer with all the vitality and spirit of a typical frontier rag town. Bustle, hustle and jostle was its lot when it was in the heyday of its existence. All this is gone. It was—it is a has-been. The ending of it was characteristic of its time, because it had fire and fire consumed it.

On Tuesday evening the bells rang as the fire went along the line. The optics observed the dark, rolling clouds of smoke as it ascended heavenwards. The cry went forth, "The Old Town is burning up!" What excitement—what intensity of feeling was aroused! Pell mell they all rushed. With a crash and a roar the flames, with an intense luridity, shot skyward. How grand the fierce fiend looked at his work. As it swept and blazed and rushed, it left in its trail destruction and ashes of what once had been the scene of vigor and life.

It is but to relate the original Las Vegas has had its day. The demon fire gave it the finishing touches. Railroad street, the once busy business

mart, is but ashes. No hope that, Phoenix like, it will rise again.

The loss is estimated in the thousands. Fortunately Clark's Las Vegas had deflected most of its active business factors. As a consequence, only a few were driven and scourged from home. The saloons that were open distributed their particular sort of groceries after the fire. The losers are Bob Camden, Old Dad, John S. Wisner, Morgan & Hawkins, J. H. Douglass, Dick Western, Steel & Mintell, Charley Paulsell, Mr. O'Donnell and Taylor, and the poor habitues, the victims of circumstance, who found shelter and lodgment in the hospitable and silent sentinels of a once better day.

How the fire was caused no one could tell, but the safe deduction is that it was incendiary. And what a fiend he must have been to destroy the free and independent lodging quarters of the poor, moneyless, way-faring victims. This is the bitterness of it. This is gone and the poor fellows, though down and still having soul and manliness when it is but encouraged, still at this time, can find a solace in heaven's dome, and feel the coming of their better day.

Yes, McWilliams' townsite is what McWilliams is—no good.

The fire came, saw the fire, the fire conquered. Thus ended, the "old town" is truly but a memory.

## BECOMES SOLE PROPRIETOR.

J. O. McIntosh has purchased the interests of his former partners, Tom Royal and Jacob Dernlander, in the "Arizona Club" sporting headquarters. The club is a nightly rendezvous for the talent and is the most lively place in Vegas.

Mrs. D. C. Huddleston has opened a bakery on First street opposite Bank Row. Bread, pies and everything in the bakery line always on hand. It is home baking. The patronage of the public solicited.

## BOARD OF TRADE VERY ACTIVE

Bright Alert Citizens Who Are Alive to Vegas Opportunities.

## IT IS FORWARD AND UPWARDS.

Subjects That Tend to Advance Development of Valley Discussed.

## GET INTO THE GAME MEETING.

The side of prosperity's pleasant pathway is here. Our citizens, through the Board of Trade, are reaching out and laying the basis upon which a people's superstructure for energy, enterprise and success will be founded.

A largely attended meeting of the board was held at the Hotel Las Vegas Wednesday evening. N. A. Kuhn presided, and Geo. A. Ward, the secretary, kept the record of proceedings. The perfecting of an efficient fire department was under consideration. Reports as to equipment and funds on hand to increase the fire fighter's facilities were received.

The most important matter to entertain the meeting was the fertile subject of irrigation and artesian water. The action resolved is that a definite move is to be organized to test the subterranean water resources of the valley.

The feasibility and advantage of a free library had its attention. It is the purpose of the board to provide the necessary means to take care of building and site, and solicit a donation from the great library benefactor, Andrew Carnegie.

The board also passed a resolution deprecating the unwarranted reports that the Las Angeles Times has been circulating about conditions at Las Vegas.

It was an altogether ginger-up and get into the game meeting.

## A SUNDAY OUTING.

The Society Forces Known as the Hee Haw Sociable Have Gala Time.

It was an event of unusual pleasure for the participants. It was just such a time as the jolly members of the hee! haw! society always are bound to have. The spirit of vitality, the vibratory action of youth; and that gay, wholesome, girlish, play-fellowish, chatting, romping, catch and escape, hold fast, tumble over and ducking in the limped water, in fact all the fetes that assenting smiles could invent had their part with these foxy summer girls and young fellows upon this time. The pranks and gaffes were such that only nature reveals in the unconfined and unconventional sprites of the desert climate.

For all this they had a pleasing landscape—like unto "these our scenes so we today" ruled right jocosely. All this was beneath the mammoth cottonwoods near the desert's historic great spring and alongside of that rivulet that rushes and bubbles from thence Vegasward.

Similar to the bright and clear running water were the assembled friends and companions of the hee haw fraternity. It was not rough, but lively. At times one's head would be a whirl from the many prankish tit tats for naught a minute one knew where to stand, and more times than off it was landing a flop in the bubbling and running waters. Al and Len Myers, Fred Collins and John Harris, O. E. Hicks, P. E. Blake and, say we don't know the other fellows' name, all took a bath with a modern every-day suit for a bathing paraphernalia. Katie Martin and Maudie Yake enjoyed the novel sight of these bathers, so that they too craved the delight of the pure water, and accused they were from head to foot, but with firm tread and joyous laughter they took their part. The whole combination was oblivious to all things except fun and enjoyment in this their day for outing. An eclipse to all previous times had by the same genial sports. They were all the better for it.

Amongst these lively life enjoying folks were Miss Maudie Yake, as sprightly and agile as a cat full of life and full of fun; Miss Alice Bishop, a charming, graceful and winsome lass of the desert; Miss Dixie Williams, the beautiful and enticing daughter of

a splendid mother; Katie Martin, as full of life and as sweet as they make them; Jerry Joy, bright-eyed and with such rosy cheeks as to make handsome John Harris courtesy every time he would look at them. Mary Bishop, so wondrously ingenious, as to make us all admire her; Mrs. T. E. Blake, as young as the most youthful present, and Mrs. O. E. Hicks with all the friendly qualities that endears good womanhood, and Mrs. Genevieve Williams, the pride of a daughter and so clever as to be a general favorite.

Fred Collins, say, he is a peach, be with him and one gets enjoyment. He is the motor spirit of these parties. Leonard Myers, with character and charm and gaily and life; Al Myers, the principal hee hawer, and what a volume of sound he had; John Harris, well, he was too busy most of the time for the rosy cheeks enchanted him; they did; T. E. Blake, the liveliest of the crowd and O. E. Hicks, who was there before; and the fellow who got the first good ducking in the flowing water. His name is forgotten.

Such a time as they had and such a good time, too.

Besides fun and pleasure there were plenty of good things in sight to eat and drink.

These hilarities kept up until the sun began to wane and the cool shadow of eventide impressed the desire enough and home and back to their bowers they did go.

## IT WAS SO DELIGHTFUL.

The Veritable Desert Blossoms and Buds with Some of the Matured Frolics Together.

Society in general on Tuesday evening repaired to the rancho. "The Oasis of the Desert," to indulge that naught might mar their pleasure. It was charm and life and grace and the joyous pace that meet the average heart's desire.

The dancing fetes were like hasty runs and lofty bounds. How they did press around and in the glowing sphere "a courtly mein did reign." Beauty's very spring, full gushing to the inmost sense, was revealed; and pithily illustrated "the hour that is the sweetest, is between dark and light."

This fine light-hearted spirit was enhanced by the superb music, so full of melody, and with inspiring rapture and gladness enforced the joy and bliss of those who upon this occasion enjoyed the felicity of freedom from selfishness and greed and acted together with a joyous unity that reminded one of the "lyric period of history. It was good-natured simplicity that makes all one with another.

The orchestra was par excellence, and the performers were Upwell and son. They are the entertainers at the Arizona club. It was a special selection for merry-making, and the enjoyers are distinctively indebted to Mrs. M. C. Thomas, the splendid type of woman who realizes the importance of giving full sway to life's better side.

Those who enjoyed this "silver-ling" event were: Mr. F. Fleming and wife, Mr. C. Smith and wife, Mr. T. E. Blake and wife, Mr. Hicks and wife, Mr. Tuckfield and wife, Mr. Huddleston and wife, Mr. McGee and wife, Mr. Pauff and wife, Mr. Russell and wife, Mr. Arthur Frye and wife, Mr. Joy and wife, Mr. Hunter and wife, Miss Stella Adams, Mrs. Murphy, Jennie Joy, Katie Martin, Alice Bishop, Mary Bishop, Mrs. Williams, Dixie Williams, Laura Moffit, Maud Yoke, Mrs. Collins, Mrs. Cox, Mrs. Caution, the Misses Gibson, the Misses Squire, Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Tyler, Mrs. McIntosh, the two Mrs. Kramer, Mrs. Blozer, Miss Ager, Miss Tuckfield, Miss Wadsworth, Mrs. Chaffe, Mr. and Mrs. Ronnow, Will R. Thomas and wife, Mrs. W. Stewart, Walter Bracke and wife, Dr. Keyes, Dr. Martin, Mr. Block, Mr. Beatty, Mr. Botkin, Mr. Herrick, Mr. Doherty, Mr. Taylor, the only and very gayest Archie Weaver, Mr. Ward, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Boggs, N. A. Kuhn, C. Kersalec, Al Myers, Leonard Myers, Fred Collins, Frank M. Grave, Mr. Merrigan, J. P. Harvey, Mr. Bushnell, Mr. Sperry, Mr. Harris, W. J. White, Mr. Harper, V. S. Ward, J. Hundley, Loyd Smith and wife, D. Dalonoe, F. Brandt, J. A. McQuillan.

## NOTICE.

T. L. Royal and J. C. Demands, formerly of the firm of Royal & Co., have withdrawn from said firm. The sole proprietorship of the "Arizona Club" headquarters is vested in the undersigned. J. O. MCINTOSH, 414-995, formerly of Royal & Co.

## BRIGHT PROSPECTS

Whittemore Expresses Pertinent Views as to Vegas in Los Angeles Times.

## THE DAWN OF A BETTER DAY.

The Great Improvements Being Made Mean Something for the Residents—Investors Are Satisfied.

That the future of Las Vegas, both industrially and commercially, is promising, is the conviction of C. O. Whittemore, president of the Las Vegas Land and Improvement company, who left last night for the young Nevada city accompanied by a party of local investors who are considering the establishment of a modern hotel in the town.

"The company has its extensive scheme of street improvements well under way," says Mr. Whittemore. "We expect to have the entire seven miles graded, curbed and paved before the first of October."

"The piping for the six and eight-inch mains of the waterworks system has already been shipped, and when installed will be as complete and serviceable as if planned for a city of 25,000 inhabitants."

"All of these improvements are going ahead without regard to prevailing local conditions, which the company realizes are temporary, and mostly the result of certain lines of business having been overdone. We confidently expect that with the return of cooler weather Las Vegas will gain renewed business activity and a considerable growth in its population."

"We have under consideration plans for a first-class modern hotel and a number of fine residences which will all be built with as little delay as possible."

"As to the frame of mind of our investors, I desire to say that there has already been paid in final payments on property about 75 per cent of the entire amount represented in the total purchase. And we know of but one instance in which a purchaser has voluntarily relinquished his property and refused to make final payment."

"Of the 25 per cent unpaid, all purchasers represented are willing and anxious to make final payment, but for the moment are financially unable to do so. They have asked for additional time in which to meet these payments, which has been granted them. But of these, not one has expressed dissatisfaction with his investment or a lack of confidence in the enterprise."

"In short, the future prospects of the new city are in my estimation as bright as ever, and I am sure that the fullest confidence in the city will be ultimately justified. As it is, there is at present a resident population of 1,500, which we expect to see increased in the near future."

## BEN SANDERS.

Lincoln County's District Attorney Gives His Views on Public Issues.

We have had handed us the following communication and we, with Hon. Ben Sanders as we do with every citizen of Lincoln county contribute the use of our columns for the discussions of all public issues. Ben, is our attorney of this county and the following is what he has to say. Now let us hear from the other fellow:

Pioche, Nev., Sept. 2, 1905.

To Editor Express, Caliente, Nev.: Dear Sir: The following is a copy of a letter I received some time ago from the state superintendent of public instruction:

Benj. Sanders, Esq., Co. Supt. of Schools, Pioche, Nevada. My Dear Sir: Yours of the 16th, at hand. As to the census of Las Vegas: If the people were there, in Las Vegas, residing there when the census was taken, it is all right, although they have left since.

Las Vegas will draw the money according to the census from the state fund, also from the county fund. I know it looks bad, but many in Nevada, are emigrating here today and there tomorrow.

I think the letter of the law is that none should be taken in the school census unless they are residents of the district on the first day of May, but it is usually the custom to take all

who come into the district and are there during the month of May. Of course, the census marshal should take all the law allows, but no more, if they move away after, the census will stand. Yours truly, ORVIS RING.

To De Lamar School Trustees:

This is a true copy of the letter. I have sent the notice you sent me to the state officers, and have asked them to submit it to the attorney general. I have also stated the facts fully to him, hence, I look for an opinion from them, as they are as deeply interested as we are. There was a full board of school trustees at Las Vegas at the time those census were taken, and the law as it now stands, makes them the sole supervisors of the taking of the census. The marshal has to report to them, and they pass upon his or her work. There is no doubt but what the people were there at the time the census were taken. As it has been reported to me, they were sworn, and they testified that they were residing, or residents of the district, and it was their intention to remain there, that their children would attend school at its next term. There is no question but what the trustees can support this report with that kind of testimony. Conditions have changed, the hot weather came, the people left with their families—many will return; because they have vested interests there.

The stuffed census in De Lamar a few years ago was different. There and then, the people were not there. They had left, intending never to return, and the census marshal knew it, yet he swore to the affidavit, knowing at the time he was taking a false oath. And, notwithstanding that, under the advice of the district attorney, the superintendent of schools ignored the marshal's report, and went back a year later, just because there were 244 children that year, and only 160 according to the marshal's report; but, in fact, under the order of the supreme court, we had the census retaken, and there was just 96. That was an absolute fraud on its face, and the parties must have known it at the time, all the facts in that case tends to show that they knew they were acting fraudulently. This is different. In this case the people were there, and they swore to the marshal that it was their intention to remain with their families.

To Mr. Richard Gorden, County Commissioner:

By the way, Mr. Roder, our county assessor, has returned from Las Vegas. Mr. J. A. Nesbitt says he has assessed about \$50,000 worth of property there. If he has assessed that property as he has Bamberger's at De Lamar, it is safe to say there was \$300,000 worth of property there which he had overlooked. The true fact is then, by reason of the district attorney's strict attention to county affairs, he has caused our assessor to place in our county treasury \$1,500 more money than would have been in, had he winked at it as district attorneys usually do in such cases. He should be congratulated, instead of originally labeled as he is by those gentlemen.

I see those gentlemen are publishing some tasty articles about me. I have hit them hard somewhere. I have other things in store which will make them squirm. Won't they advertise me. They are doing some good electioneering for me. I thank them very much. Every one I meet asks what I have found out now? What is making those kickers and grafters kick so hard.

Yours very truly, BENJ. SANDERS.

## IS HERE FOR BUSINESS.

J. P. Harvey, one of the best known mining experts in the west, is making Las Vegas his headquarters. He is the field representative of one of the greatest and most successful mining man of the last decade, Mr. Patry Clark of Spokane. Harvey, like Clark, received his mining training in Butte and the Conoe de Alamos. Both that have turned out the best and whose students, pass muster in any country or clime.

Mr. Harvey is here for business. He has the backing and wherewithal with which to go business. His personal representation bodes much good for the development of our fabulous latent resources.

Dr. Roy W. Martin is an addition to the professional fraternity that promises a high class education, who need the care of a physician.

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