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# LAS VEGAS TIMES

**IT IS THE BEST!**  
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X X JOHNSON & WARD

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## OLD-TIMER RELATES HIS EXPERIENCES

Jim Cronin, in a Racy Manner, Talks to a Times Man and Emits Matters of Interest.

In the Days Gone By Conditions Along the Sierra Mining Belt Were the Reverse from Sunday Services.

From 1871 to 1906 is a Long Stretch, and Great Have Been the Changes in That Time.—Is Soul of Honor.

One of the most enjoyable visits The Times has had in a long time was when the Hon. James Cronin—"Jim Cronin," as he has been known for the last thirty-five years from Idaho to tide-water—dropped in on us and drifted into reminiscence talk of the early days of southern Nevada and past and present mining in this section of the state.

In 1871 Mr. Cronin came from Idaho to Nevada, engaging in general merchandising in a wholesale and retail way at Pioche, which at that time had a population of about six thousand depending entirely upon its mines, prominent among them being the Raymond & Ely, Meadow Valley, Pioche, and American Flag.

The typical "bad-man" and "gun-fighter" was much in evidence at Pioche in those days, and as title to some of the richest mines was in dispute, many of these professional fighters were in the employ of the mining companies and mine owners under

wages running from fifteen to fifty dollars per day. Their duties consisted of going armed to the teeth and guarding the miners who were extracting the rich ore, and the property in dispute from which they were taking it. Shootings were of such common occurrence as to attract but momentary attention; one hardly becoming a leading topic of conversation before it was followed by another and perhaps a more sensational one.

The graveyard grew apace and the local undertaker flourished.

At that time the Raymond & Ely mine was paying monthly dividends of seven dollars per share, and the famous Bonanza of the Con. Virginia and California was being developed into a mining wonder with its monthly dividends of over a million dollars a month, and southern Nevada camps, notwithstanding crude methods and great cost of transportation, held high rank as producers.

Mr. Cronin's first visit to Las Vegas was in 1874, when he leased the famous Techatticup and bought interests in some other properties in Eldorado Canyon.

In 1876 the Southwestern Milling and Mining company of Philadelphia purchased the Techatticup and other claims in Eldorado, installed a fifteen-stamp mill, but only worked the properties about six months. The Colorado river was open and transportation continued from Fort Yuma by boat and was maintained from April to October, but hay, grain and other produce came from Las Vegas and the Muddy.

Rock salt for working silver ore came to the canyon from the Virgin river via St. Thomas, Moapa and Vegas, and cost \$135.00 per ton.

Mr. Cronin mined salt on the Virgin, sent it by boat to Bonnell's Ferry (then Stones Ferry) and laid it down at Eldorado for \$50 per ton. Later

the Colorado River Transportation company reduced the cost to \$30.

In 1878 Mr. Cronin built a boat at Silver Reef, Utah, hauled it to Bonnell's Ferry and took it with six tons of mining supplies down the river safely to Eldorado, though reports were industriously circulated that Mr. Cronin had been drowned in the Grand Canyon of the Colorado. Following in Mr. Cronin's footsteps (for boat wake) Mr. James Ladd, now of Las Vegas, built and launched a boat at the same place, and, going down the river about four hundred miles to Ft. Yuma, took the S. P. R. R. at that point to Tombstone as the shortest and cheapest route. In 1879 prices at Vegas were, for whole barley, 6c; hay, 3c; with 2c freight to Eldorado.

Mr. Cronin laughingly relates how on his first trip to southern Nevada the "oldest settler" to a man agreed that the country had been thoroughly

prospected and requests the Times to urge upon the county commissioners the necessity for the appreciation of by all prospectors just such work as Commissioner Baldwin is now doing in sinking the first county well at the forks of the Searchlight and Eldorado canyon roads and gives his opinion in the most forcible and positive manner that before southern Nevada can be prospected at all in any systematic or thorough manner these supplies of water for the prospector must be provided and maintained at convenient and well known locations so as to minimize the danger and expense of travel on the desert, with all the hardships of which Mr. Cronin has been oftentimes familiar and to use his own words, "has lived on wheat ground in a coffee mill and Vegas beans and musty bacon were a feast fit for the gods."

One of the serio-comic sides of life in those strenuous days is related by Mr. Cronin who says the graveyard at Eldorado canyon was located on a piece of flat mesa land and during the summer nights was not only the coolest and favorite, but the only lodging house, and strangers were taken up there in the dark, given a blanket which answered for bed and covering, and a place between two graves as being the softest and smoothest spot to spread it. His surprise on awakening the following morning and discovering the surroundings amidst which he had passed the night, can be imagined.

With reminiscences of this sort this splendid type of the veteran frontiersman, prospector and mining operator, related his experiences. Wherever Jim Cronin is known, he is recognized for his manly worth and uprightiness and though grizzled in the service to make refractory nature give forth its fortunes, he is yet vigorous and forceful and possesses that intellectuality and keenness that will maintain him the active factor of the future.

### IT IS A HAPPY DAY.

Into the Life of Mr. and Mrs. R. Thomas Came That Which Makes Home Blessed.

It was the stork. Its affection for the young brought results. These results make Ralph Thomas and his better-half happy. It even makes grandpa—the honored Judge Thomas—smile all over and say, "Behold the Jehovah's injunction is fulfilled." As a grand daddy he rejoices, and in the spirit of family union a spirit of delight expresses itself as they behold Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Thomas's eight-pound girl.

True happiness rings in that home and in the lovely child all rejoice, for it was He Who said, "Suffer little children to come unto me, for of such is the kingdom of heaven."

It is one of the few births at Vegas and as of old posterity extorts our homage and guardianship. The Times compliments the happy family.

### A CONNECTION.

Fred L. Fallas Was a Prize Contributor to Eagles' Celebration.

One of the principal contributors on prizes for Eagles' celebration of Thanksgiving day was Mr. Fred L. Fallas, the merchant who has for his trade mark "If you get it at Fallas's, you know it's good." This statement is due the popular merchant from the fact that in making out the programme the committee inadvertently duplicated the Fallas prize as a credit to the New York store.

The mistake was inadvertant and no intentional error on the part of the committee. Such is committee's explanation.

## ELECTRIC LIGHT IN USE BY CHRISTMAS

Buildings Are Being Wired and Safeguarded in Accordance with National Underwriters' Insurance Rules.

The Advantage of the Installation of This System is Not Alone in Pleasure and Comfort, But Lower Insurance Rates.

This is Not a Speculative Enterprise, but a Legitimate Investment Seeking Fair Returns on Capital.

C. E. Dutcher, the gentlemanly engineer in charge of the preliminary and constructive work in installing an up-to-date electric light and telephone plant, informs the Times that residences of Vegas will be supplied by Christmas, as The Times some months ago prophesied, with the volatile fluid that means such comfort and labor saving service to the average householder and office man, and at the same time supplies the best of light.

The apparatus will be here this week and immediately the mechanics will be at it hammer and tongs to put it in shape to do the work in the generating and distributing of the electric currents. During the past week buildings were being wired in strict accordance with the National Underwriters' insurance rules.

The advantage of the installation of electricity into residences is not alone in the conveniences it affords, the pleasure it gives, but also has a salutary effect upon the insurance rates of the community. The fact that the wiring is done in accordance with National Underwriters' requirements means a lower rate of insurance and an enlarged scope and risk by insurance companies as against the restrictions prevailing in Las Vegas.

The wiring of buildings is done at actual cost. The promoters of this enterprise are not speculators. They are seeking an investment for legitimate returns upon their capital and as a consequence are not practicing the highwayman's method of holding up a community.

The following schedule of prices shows the reasonableness of the Southwest Power and Telephone Co.:

Residences, 1 to 5 lights to 12 o'clock, 75c each.

Residences, 1 to 5 lights all night, \$1 each.

Commercial, 1 to 5 lights to 12 o'clock, \$1.

Commercial, 1 to 5 lights all night, \$1.50.

Residence, 5 to 10 lights, to 12 o'clock, 60c.

Residence, 5 to 10 lights, all night, 75c.

Commercial, 5 to 10 lights, 12 o'clock, 75c.

Commercial, 5 to 10 lights, all night, \$1.

Residence, 10 to 25 lights, 12 o'clock, 50c.

Residences, 10 to 25 lights, all night, 60c.

Commercial, 10 to 25 lights, 12 o'clock, 60c.

Commercial, 10 to 25 lights, all night, 75c.

Twenty-five lights or over, residence, special.

Twenty-five lights or over, commercial, 12 o'clock, 50c.

Twenty-five lights or over, commercial, all night, 60c.

Based on 16 C. P., 110 volt lamps, 16 C. P., 110 volt lamps, 25c each.

\$1.50 per month, minimum, for all connections.

### IT CAN BE DONE.

The Opportunity is at Hand and Well-United Effort Will Make Las Vegas the Beautiful.

G. E. Sherwood has the credit that belongs to pioneers in any movement. The man who dares and ventures is ever deserving the commendation that associates with the doing of things that means the upbuilding, beautifying and making productive a new community. He is demonstrating the faith that brings him to Las Vegas. Mr. Sherwood has purchased a tract of land near to town which he will

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## MYERS BROS.

Are Scienced in the Art of Plumbing

Have a Thorough Knowledge of the Business  
Carry a Full Line of Plumbers' Supplies  
Do the Best Work in Vegas

Shop on Ogden Street, Between Main and First, Las Vegas

utilize for nursery purposes, or a place where fruit, shade, nut and ornamental trees and flowers and plants will be propagated for the purpose of being transplanted, thus providing a supply that will bring beauty and nature's art to our arid situation and make green and verdant our city and surroundings.

The establishing of this plant and tree propagation in our midst is worthy of a full and cordial support by every citizen and individual in this community.

Much that is unpleasant to the average individual now will be removed by encouraging Mr. Sherwood in his undertaking and securing his fruit and shade trees to embellish our streets and avenues, and securing his flower and shrubbery seedling to beautify and artistically arrange your yards and homes.

Mr. Sherwood sets the pace; let others follow, and ere many years Las Vegas will be known far and wide as more than an "oasis of the desert." It will be recognized as the most beautiful spot on God's footstool. It can be done. Let us all strive to attain the beautiful in nature. Let us, with enthusiasm, take up not possibilities, but those things we know can be made a reality here.

With the incessant brightness of our atmosphere; with a sky line that cannot be surpassed; with a climate which for healthfulness is superior, and a soil that is adapted to work in harmony, man can make the responsive brilliancy of the Las Vegas valley the theme for the poet and the tribute of the historian, and the home for those who can enjoy the comfort and pleasures that come with the light of "summer morning and the glow of winter sunsets."

Las Vegas can be made a dream; a sphere where enchantment will cause her devotees the world over to celebrate her splendors and sing her praise, and where will congregate those who seek true enjoyment in life. Let all Vegas be inspired with the example of Mr. Sherwood and break forth in united effort to make our city bloom and fructify in those things that will make us a greater and more notable community.

Remember it can be done. Go and do it.

FIFE'S for dry goods and fancy goods.

### WILL PUSH WORK.

Rails for Temporary Use Purchased for Service in Las Vegas Yard.

Owing to the inability to secure in time the heavy steel rails ordered by the Las Vegas & Tonopah Railroad company, the representatives of the new railroad enterprise have negotiated the purchase of a lighter rail from the San Pedro Railroad company to be utilized in a temporary sense for gridironing the yards at the Junction with S. P., L. A. & S. L. R. R.

These rails will be installed for yard service at once. This is done so as to facilitate the work of storing the construction materials that arrive daily for the line into Bullfrog.

When the steel that has been ordered from the east commences to arrive these temporary rails will be replaced with the new and permanent rails.

### A WELCOME VISITOR.

A Pioneer Lady Who Deserves Praise and Admiration of Those of Today.

Mrs. Wadsworth, a pioneer of Nevada, a lady who bore the trials and tribulations of early hardships, is visiting her daughter, Mrs. Ronnow, and friends. Characters like Mrs. Wadsworth have rendered a noble service to the cause of mankind. The praise due them is of more worth and value than all the gaudy flattering that falls at the feet of your lordlings. Such as her have set the pace for homes and empires out of nature's wastes. The lordlings are parasites. The Mrs. Wadsworths are useful factors in society and all honor to her and such like her.

### WITH BEST WISHES.

A Popular Couple Assume Matrimonial Responsibilities With Greetings of Friends.

I. W. Botkin and Miss Bertha Taylor were united in the bonds of matrimony on Monday evening. Their honeymoon journey partook of a general line-up of friends and the breaking forth into those hifalutin and pleasant swings that come when it is "on with the dance."

The uniform wish is that this happy couple may have a splendid voyage through life and be ever on the side of the good and enjoyable.

## The RED CROSS DRUG STORE

KENDRICK AND SHANNON, Prop's.

Our Stock is all New, Fresh, and especially selected for the market. A complete line of Drugs, Medicines, Stationery, Brushes, Fine Soaps, Sponges, Perfumes, Fancy and Toilet Articles.

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Lath, Shingles, Shakes, Mouldings, Doors, Windows, Building and Roofing Paper, Etc.

Elaterrite Roofing—It Never Wears Out  
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## REAL ESTATE AND MINING Information Bureau

BUSTEED & CO., LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

MINES and Mining Property of every description bought, sold and promoted X X

1 Real Estate bought, sold and rented.

1 Money loaned X X X X

1 BUSINESS CHANCES of every description bought, sold and investigated X

INFORMATION GIVEN  
CORRESPONDENCE SOLICITED