

MERITS OF VEGAS ABLY PRESENTED

With Facts That Are Irrefutable the Natural Superiority of the Queen of the Desert is Demonstrated.

Has an Abundance of Water and Resources that Harmonize With the Development that Means the Most Prosperous City in Nevada.

Vegas Will Be the Supply Point for the Commerce and Exchange of Trade Necessary to Keeping the Enterprise of the Surrounding Country in Action.

(From Anniversary Edition, Los Angeles Examiner.)

This valley, which nature sunk between the hills, is about thirty miles wide and forty miles long. Nearly in the center of this valley is the town, and through this town flows a stream of the purest water. To the west of the city is the snow-capped peak of Charleston mountain, piercing the clouds; to the south is the Potosi range, where the famous lead mines of the Mormon settlers are located; to the east is the Vegas range. The scenery is beautiful—it cannot be described. With the first view of this valley no one can doubt nature's intentions.

In this valley all kinds of semi-tropical fruits grow in great quantities. Here is the home of the olive, fig, pomegranate, almond, English walnut, nectarine, apricot, prune, plum, cher-

ry, pear, peach, apple and grape; all of which are raised in every variety and highest excellence. Strawberries, raspberries and blackberries grow profusely, and the finest Muscatel raisin grapes are raised here to the highest degree of perfection.

Would you like to know a few of the main facts about this city and the empire of which nature decreed it to be the capital? Here they are:

It is alike old and new. It is old, because the Spaniards saw it more than a century ago, because Fremont found it later, because the Mormons colonized it for a brief time in 1855, and because it has been continuously under cultivation since 1862. It is old, because here is the old Potosi lead mine, worked by the Mormons in early days and still having a million tons of ore in sight. It is old, because near by is El Dorado canyon, from which years ago millions in gold was shipped.

It is new because of the new order of things—the new railroads, the new city, the new colonization, the new mineral discoveries, the new development of the storehouse of nature.

The old and new blend. The old was revelation and demonstration. The new is achievement.

Marvelous New City.

The city itself is interesting. Six months from the germ it has: Population of 1,500 energetic persons.

A bank with capitalization of \$50,000 and deposits of \$60,000.

Round house and shops of the San Pedro, Los Angeles and Salt Lake railroad.

Street improvements costing \$60,000.

Water system costing \$50,000.

Buildings costing \$250,000.

Ice and cold storage plant costing \$125,000.

Business establishments of every

kind, including three newspapers.

This is a virile city. Had it not been it could not have accomplished what it has. It is still achieving and still is planning for the future.

It is building a railroad through Indian Springs, Bullfrog and Goldfield to Tonopah.

It is building an exceptionally fine commercial hotel.

It is outfitting hundreds of prospectors to search for additional mineral riches.

It is developing markets for the agricultural products of the country.

It is furnishing supplies to thousands of men working in mining camps and on ranches.

It is planning for large smelters, for which the scarce fluxing ore is at hand.

It is working out details for one of the most elaborate sanatoriums in the West, to cost a half million dollars or more.

It is determined to be the great industrial center and mart for the mineral and agricultural regions of southern Nevada.

Thus, like Rome, the city melts, into the empire. We have the name of a city, but the reality of wide dominion, and the empire is worthy of the city.

Effect of Railroad.

Undoubtedly the greatest event in southern Nevada for many years was the building of the Salt Lake railroad. Not only was the great wealth of the country known to exist, but in a small degree it had been developed. Nothing of importance could be achieved, however, without means for transporting products to the outside world.

When Senator William A. Clark took hold of the Salt Lake railroad enterprise, bringing to its aid his great fortune, he made all things possible in the development of the country, and he did not hesitate in selecting Las Vegas as the site for the principal town on the road. Having built the road and planned the city, he has aided its every enterprise, and thus things have been made possible that could not have been done without large capital.

With this road, as with most enterprises, new developments called for additions to the original plan, and thus it became necessary for the road to have a branch leading to the new gold mining sections of western Nevada, including Bullfrog, Goldfield and Tonopah, and construction of the road was at once begun.

Dry Ore and Flux.

How completely these camps will harmonize with the affairs of Las Vegas can be seen from the fact that while the great Potosi mine has been lying idle, the ores from the new camps can scarcely gain entrance to the smelters, all of which are suffering for lack of fluxing (lead) ores. Smelters built at this point will inevitably centralize here the interests in mining throughout Nevada.

And while trainloads of ore will come here from points to the north, there can be no doubt that the supplies for the mines will go back over the same route.

But the mineral wealth of the region does not all lie to the northward. In the immediate vicinity of Las Vegas there are many very promising properties, and Las Vegas will certainly prove the supply point of El Dorado Canyon to the south, already referred to. Fifty million dollars in gold was taken out of this canyon in early days. At that time it was necessary to haul the ore hundreds of miles by team. Of course, the country could not be properly developed under these conditions, and the coming of the railroad will make it possible to take up where it was laid aside years ago.

Abundance of Water.

In Nevada, as in all the southwest, the abundance of water is the first point to be considered in determining the value of land for agricultural pursuits, and water throughout this region is present in large quantities. This is true of Las Vegas and Moapa valleys in particular, but there are many other valleys in this section of the state where agriculture has large possibilities.

For Better Health.

One of the most attractive features of Las Vegas is its pure atmosphere, possessing health-giving properties to so great an extent that it is believed to be one of the choicest locations for a sanatorium, and it is planned by Senator Clark to erect here extensive buildings with a view to making of this a resort for the afflicted. To this

end he will spend from \$500,000 to \$1,000,000, or whatever is necessary to make a success of the venture.

HE WAS A KLONDYKER.

Fortune From Thence But a Greater Source of Wealth in the Funeral Range.

Charles Sinclair, an old-timer, frontiersman and prospector, who has followed the mineral-bearing ridges of the Apes in South Africa clean across the summits of the Pacific mountains to the north pole, was at Las Vegas Sunday and Monday, en route to Los Angeles. Since 1868 he, when he came up the Missouri river to Fort Benton, Mont., on the historic Rosebud steamer, has followed the mining excitements and stampedes.

In that period of time he has had his ups and downs, but very much more downs. When the Alaska excitement was on Sinclair was in it. In fact, he is so constituted that he could not keep out of it. His being in it brought him fortune. As a Klondyker he located 6 and 13 on famous Eldorado. These claims netted him more than \$300,000 in the first three months. Fortune being his, he thought of the dear old states, and out he came with his gold. Half of it he invested in real estate and the balance became a quaff in the sphere of champagne avenue.

Bullfrog today has him as an interested factor. He owns property there. It is good property. His samples of ore would indicate that the Sinclair holdings in the Funeral range had their "millions in it." Anyhow, Sinclair says it is not for sale, and that he has four feet of ore that means many times the fortune he packed from Eldorado Creek. Couer De Alene. Well, Charley don't care to say much about that.

SEVENTEEN CARLOADS.

The Iron Bands to Tie Las Vegas to Bullfrog Arrive Daily.

Looks businesslike. The Las Vegas & Tonopah Railroad company received a shipment of seventeen cars of rails this week for the Bullfrog branch.

The material yard is filled with ties and features that mean great work from now on to reach the inland mineral empire of Nevada.

The contractors, Mendenhall & Co., are shipping their teams, grading utensils and operating factors and inside of a week will be at it in a manner that will have the roadbed prepared to Indian Creek for the rails to connect to that point by March 1, if not before.

Manager Grace confirms these evidences of go-ahead with construction by the statement, "The road will be constructed and pushed to completion, consistent with the work required, with every dispatch possible."

WILL LEAVE ON A VACATION.

The Best Wishes of His Associates Will Ever Be His, No Matter Where He May Be.

A. L. Jones, engineer and superintendent of construction for much of the work that shows itself in the San Pedro railroad from Utah to California, will take a holiday vacation lasting for some weeks in California. It has seldom been the lot of the writer to meet with a more pleasant and gentlemanly official in his life. Eminent as a civil and constructive engineer, he is equally clever as a gentleman and as a citizen of the Vegas valley. He has that respect and confidence that attests the civic qualities of the true Nevadan. No matter where Mr. Jones may be located in the future he will always carry with him the best wishes of his associates.

HAS OPENED BUTCHER SHOP.

Has Confidence in the Opportunities of Las Vegas and Will Take Advantage of Same.

Charley Culverwell is here. He has opened his butcher shop in Bank row. He knows his business and knows how to supply the trade with the best in the market.

Charley states that he believes that competition is the life of trade and that since the citizens of Las Vegas are numerous enough to afford competition that will provide them with the best, they are to have it. He solicits patronage.

Fife's trust buster of catalogue prices.

SUGGESTS ODDIE FOR GOVERNOR

Internal Revenue Collector Blakeslee Visits Las Vegas on His Official Rounds and Incidentally Mentions the Probable Next Governor of Nevada.

The Evidences of Development and Enterprise at Las Vegas Are Pronounced as Marvelous and as a Monument to the Promoters.

All Nevada is in a Prosperous Condition and Resources in a Mineral Way Uncovered that Will Put the Halcyon Days of the Comstock in the Shade.

Deputy Collector of Internal Revenue Blakeslee was making his official rounds during the week.

While at Las Vegas, he, in conversation with the Times, mentioned that Nevada was in a more prosperous condition than it had been since the days of the Comstock and commented with favor upon the splendid improvements and showings of the Las Vegas valley. He pronounced these evidences of development and enterprise as marvelous and a monument to the promoters, to be admired in all future time.

Incidentally he mentioned politics, and prophesied that the next governor of Nevada would be Hon. T. L. Oddie, one of the Tonopah pioneers. He recognizes the ability of Mr. Oddie and thinks that he is the natural selection of his party for this very important and honorable position.

Regardless of politics it may be stated that Mr. Oddie is a very able man. He has served his constituents with ability in the upper legislative body of Nevada and in an industrial sense is one of those mighty factors who have transformed the bleak mountains of the Sage Brush state into that humming sphere of action that today attunes the music that comes with a prosperous wealth-producing population. Men of the Oddie stripe deserve the recognition of their fellow citizens. Their merit entitles them to this. In this case merit of the highest order both from the civic and industrial point of view associates with the life work of Hon. T. L. Oddie. At all times the results achieved by such factors are the mirrors of these bold pioneer characters. The mirrors that present the reflex of this enterprising individual are the scenes that one can behold in the travels that one takes through Bullfrog, Goldfield, Tonopah and the contiguous environs. Wherever one turns are the evidences of this man's enterprising genius. They are registered facts, panned as it were with looking

glasses, impressing the handwork of the character, or the reflex of the human motive power, whose influence is for the good of a state and the ennoblement of those who in the everyday social life become the beneficiaries of the courage and enterprise of the Oddie class of builders. Whenever giant factors of this sort become the object of public recognition it is well to render unto them the merit that is their due.

AN INTERESTING CHARACTER.

For Forty Years He Has Trod and Prospected the Mountains and Plains of the West.

An old-timer of vast experience as a prospector and of the gentle, manly qualities that make the companionable and clever man is Mr. Henry Nelson of Cuna, California. This quaint and splendid frontiersman was lately at Las Vegas.

In 1867 he crossed the plains and landed at Salt Lake, Utah. From that day until a few years ago he roamed the mountains and valleys of the Sierras and the Rockies in search of the undiscovered fortunes that its fastnesses hold for those who can discover it.

In 1868 he discovered what is now the great Rock Springs, Wyoming, coal deposits, and the source from which the central west draws its main fuel supply. But alas, he then did not attach the importance to this find to what it has proved itself to be since then.

In 1877 he was in the Vegas valley and with a remarkable fertility relates the incidents and facts of that period. It is interesting to listen to him as he relates the discovery of the now famous Quartette mine at Searchlight; how by the merest accident he missed possession of this great property. Anyhow, the original owner, when he discovered same, sold it for \$800 and congratulated himself that for once he did not make a fool of himself and dig the ore all out before he got his price. It goes without saying that as Henry relates it, Suggest, the man who got his price, immediately started to have a good time and wasted his new fortune.

Lately, or for the past nine years, Nelson, after having undergone many hardships, located near the old workings of Ivanpah and is now the possessor of property that will bring him fortune and comfort in that period of life that denotes the serene and yellow.

He is a splendid illustration of the manly and honorable fellow and whoever becomes acquainted with this mountaineer character will recognize at once the honesty and integrity that communion with true nature always brings to the surface.

Fife's for holiday books; also law books.

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