



LAS VEGAS AGE



VOLUME XV.

LAS VEGAS, CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA, SATURDAY, JANUARY 4, 1919.

NUMBER 1.

CITY COMMISSIONERS MAKE RETRENCHMENTS

Night Police and Fire Truck Driver Made One Officer—Street Lights Reduced.

The Board of City Commissioners held its January meeting Thursday morning, with Mayor Hawkins presiding and all the members of the board present.

After the reading of the minutes and passing upon claims against the city, the matter of the financial condition of the city was taken up.

It appeared that owing to the discontinuance of the liquor licenses the city funds will not be sufficient for the year 1919, especially so in the light department on motion of Commissioner Miller, seconded by Commissioner Ball, the following resolution was adopted:

WHEREAS, The contract with the Consolidated Power and Telephone Company for furnishing lights to the City of Las Vegas under and by virtue of that certain resolution adopted by this board on February 18, 1918, expired by the terms of said resolution on January 1, 1919.

WHEREAS, On account of the low conditions of the funds in the special fund for lighting purposes, it is not deemed advisable at this time to renew said contract for a long period of time;

NOW THEREFORE, Be it resolved that the Commissioner of Lights, Water and Sewerage, the Hon. W. H. Elwell, be and he is hereby authorized on behalf of this board to enter into an arrangement with said Consolidated Power and Telephone Company for the furnishing of electric lights at the rate of \$1.25 per light per month, but such arrangement to be only from month to month until the further order of this board; and provided further that the number of lights to be supplied shall immediately be reduced to one-half the number now being supplied and that the lights to be maintained and those to be discontinued be designated by the Commissioner. It being further understood that the arrangement for supplying said light system shall be the same as provided in said Resolution of February 18, 1918, but that the arrangements so to be made with the Consolidated Power and Telephone Company be terminated at the pleasure of the board upon notice to said company.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be served upon said company.

Said resolution was adopted by the unanimous vote of the board.

It was further ordered that the telephone in the fire house be discontinued and that the Clerk notify the company to that effect.

E. E. Smith was appointed a member of the City Library Board to succeed George Hayes who resigned some months ago.

At this time the question of consolidating the positions of night police and fire truck driver coming up, and it appearing to be to the best interest of the people and to the financial condition of the city to consolidate these two departments and for one man to look after the duties of both; the Fire and Police Commissioner was authorized to employ one man for the position of night police and fire watchman in the city, at a salary not to exceed \$150 per month. There being no further business, the board adjourned.

NEW YEAR'S EVE AT

THE McGRUFF RANCH

The Hostess' Club held its regular New Year's Eve dinner at the home of Mr. and Mrs. E. G. McGruff Tuesday night. The affair has come to be an annual event. Following the sumptuous turkey dinner which the ladies had prepared, and served at two long tables in the spacious dining room, there were music, dancing, games and jolly informality until after the New Year had been properly ushered in. Among those present were the following:

Mr. and Mrs. E. G. McGruff, Mr. and Mrs. Will Beckley, Mrs. O. D. Hicks, Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Squires, Mr. and Mrs. David Farnsworth, Mrs. Dunlap, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Ingles, Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Ball, Mr. and Mrs. T. F. Ball, Dr. and Mrs. W. E. Ferron, Dr. and Mrs. C. M. Jewell and Mr. and Mrs. Fuller.

ROEDEL CONVICTED OF PETIT LARCENY

Charles Roedel, whose trial before Judge Breeze and a jury on a charge of having stolen lumber from Dr. R. W. Martin, by whom he was at one time employed in the remodeling of the Palace Hotel property, attracted considerable attention, was found guilty of the charge by the jury.

He came up for sentence on January 2, and was fined \$50 with the alternative of 25 days in the county jail. The defendant gave notice of appeal to the District Court and was released on a bond for \$200 pending the hearing of the appeal.

The jury which brought in the verdict was composed of J. M. Keith, Arthur Woods, E. S. Sheppard, Ed. Murphy, Frank Hawn and H. H. Sparks.

NEVADA SCHOOL HEAD ANSWERES LAST CALL

John Edwards Bray Died at His Home in Carson City of Heart Disease.

At the family home in this city John Edwards Bray, pioneer educator of Nevada, passed away shortly before eight o'clock Wednesday evening, January 1. All the immediate members of his family were present when the end came.

Professor Bray had not been in the most robust health for a number of months, but it was not until a couple of weeks ago that he was confined to his home. In fact, early last evening his condition was not regarded as alarming. His wife had been giving him a light bath and he was sitting on the edge of the bed when he was seized with trembling, and before a physician could arrive he had passed into unconsciousness and death.

John Edwards Bray was born in St. Johnsbury, Vermont, October 8, 1852, therefore had just passed his sixty-sixth year. He had been a resident of Nevada for nearly forty years, the first twenty-five of which were spent as teacher and principal of schools at Dayton, Gold Hill, Virginia City and Reno. He was deputy State Superintendent of Schools under the late Orvis Ring, and on the latter's death in 1910 he was appointed to fill his superior's term. He was elected to the position in the November election following and again re-elected in 1914. He was again a candidate in 1918, but was defeated by W. J. Hunting.

Professor Bray was a man of high and splendid qualities and as an educator he ranked with the best. He was both aggressive and progressive and the high rank which the schools of Nevada have attained under his direction and supervision may be charged to those qualities. He had recently introduced vocational extension work in the schools of the state and it was his most ardent wish that the success of this movement would prove the monument of his life work.

Surviving the professor are his wife, two daughters, Florence and Mildred, and two brothers living in the east.

Funeral services will be held at the late home of the deceased next Sunday afternoon, Rev. J. L. Collins officiating. The remains will be taken to Reno on the evening train and be buried in the cemetery of that city the following day.

The Appeal, together with thousands of friends that Professor Bray possessed throughout the state, extends its sincerest sympathy to the bereaved relatives.—Carson Appeal.

BECKLEY'S WINDOWS VERY ATTRACTIVE

The display windows of the Beckley store have been especially attractive at this holiday season. The New Year's display was especially fine and dignified and the artificial frost and snow gave a brightness and sparkle which made them very attractive.

Miss Willora Williams entertained a party of young people very pleasantly on New Year's Eve.

DEC. WEATHER SHOWS NORMAL TEMPERATURE

January Comes in With a Cold Snap—Review of Weather For 16 Years Past.

The month of December just closed, went through with nothing unusual in the way of cold weather. The lowest temperature recorded during the month was on the morning of December 26, when the mercury dropped to 21 degrees (above zero, of course.)

However, the new year opened with the coldest weather of the winter to date, the thermometer registering 15 on the morning of the first and 18 on the morning of the second of the month. This is somewhat colder than it gets most years, being lower than for five years just past.

The lowest temperature recorded in Las Vegas during the past sixteen years was on January 7, 1913, when the mercury slid down the tube until it reached eight above zero. The minimum temperatures for each of the years from 1913 to 1918, inclusive, were as follows, all figures being above zero:

- 1913—January 7, 8 degrees.
- 1914—December 15, 19 degrees.
- 1915—January 24, 17 degrees.
- 1916—December 9, 16 degrees.
- 1917—January 15, 16 degrees.
- 1918—February 1, 16 degrees.

The lowest temperatures recorded in the various months of the year during the past sixteen years were as follows:

- January, 8 degrees.
- February, 10 degrees.
- March, 16 degrees.
- April, 26 degrees.
- May, 28 degrees.
- June, 35 degrees.
- July, 40 degrees.
- August, 47 degrees.
- September, 38 degrees.
- October, 29 degrees.
- November, 14 degrees.
- December, 12 degrees.

The above figures, it will be understood, show the extreme for the whole 16 years, and are not to be taken as a mean or average. For example, the lowest temperature recorded in any January for 16 years past was eight degrees above zero. This was on January 7, 1913.

The mean minimum (that is the average of the lowest temperatures for each day of the month) during a period of 13 years, is as follows:

- January, 29.7 degrees.
- February, 31.8 degrees.
- March, 37.5 degrees.
- April, 45.9 degrees.

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HAS MORE TROUBLE OVER WILSON CATTLE

John Esser Again Arrested On Complaint of Jim Wilson On Rustling Charge.

John Esser was again arrested on Thursday on complaint of Jim Wilson, cattle owner. The complaint alleges that said defendant, John Esser, on the 27th day of December, 1918, or thereabouts, "did then and there wilfully, unlawfully and feloniously steal, take, carry, lead and drive away one head of cattle, branded with the figure 5 on the left hip and marked with both ears split, which said cattle was not then and there the property of said defendant, but was then and there the property of James B. Wilson and George T. A. Wilson, co-partners, then and there doing business under the name of Wilson Brothers."

The hearing was set for January 8, 1919, before Judge Lillis, Justice of the Peace, and the defendant was released upon a bond for \$500.

It is alleged that the complaint is based upon the action of Esser in butchering a heifer which was running in the valley, and selling the meat without the knowledge or consent of Wilson Brothers.

John Esser, being interviewed by the Age, claimed that the charges were without foundation and gave the following circumstances as surrounding the case.

Since the date of the former charge against him which is now awaiting trial before the District Court, in which case Jim Wilson was also the complaining witness, Tweed Wilson, brother of Jim and one of the firm of Wilson Brothers, sold to Esser on November 19, a bunch of cattle, which were delivered to him on November 25. After that date, he reported that two head of cattle belonging to Wilson Brothers, came down with a bunch of cattle which May was driving down, and were left to range in the country between the Eglington ranch and Tule Springs. Tweed Wilson was later in Vegas, and it is stated by Esser, wanted to sell the two head to Esser for \$50. Esser declined to take them until they were found and delivered to him, but finally agreed to pay \$25 each for them when he found them and at request of Tweed, paid \$300 down to bind the bargain, agreeing to pay the balance when he got the cattle. Following this, Esser states, Tweed went to the butcher shop and got Stanley to make a further advance of \$12.50 on the deal, to be

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INFLUENZA SITUATION VERY SATISFACTORY

The influenza situation in this city has become very satisfactory during the past week or two. There are very few cases being reported and most of those are light in character.

In the Moapa Valley where the disease broke out last week with considerable violence the cases are reported to be doing well and no deaths have been reported from there to this time.

It seems to be the opinion of the physicians as well as of people generally that the influenza epidemic has practically run its course here.

BOY'S WORKING RESERVE EMPLOYMENT WEEK

All Boys 16 Years of Age and Over Are Asked to Aid Relief in Europe.

Rev. Wm. H. Rogers, county director of Clark county, of the U. S. Boy's Working Reserve, has received the following letter:

The Department of Labor has named the week beginning Monday, January 20, 1919, to be National Enrollment Week for the United States Boys' Working Reserve.

The importance of settling aside a special week in order to bring to the attention of the young men of the Nation the all but overwhelming needs of the impoverished Europe is so obvious as to require no accentuation from me. A very large part of the task of rebuilding a devastated world belongs to the young men of the Nation. It is not enough that the whole nation shall have been mobilized to win the war; it is vital that the whole nation shall be mobilized to help broken Europe to its feet and to get it once more into the paths of a felicitous progress.

We want all the young men of the country of 16 years of age and over, not now permanently employed, and especially the boys in our high schools, to respond to this appeal as they so finely responded to the other appeal made to them one year ago. We want them to enter heartily into the work of bringing relief to populations appallingly destitute; and so urge them to join the U. S. Boys' Working Reserve to finish what has been so well begun. The war has been won. The far more difficult task remains to secure for the highest interest of mankind the fruits of victory.

The Government will issue, shortly a proclamation for National Enrollment week, calling on all boys to enroll.

Please give this the widest publicity and have your country newspapers co-operate.

Yours very truly,
BREWSTER ADAMS,
Federal State Director.

Mr. Rogers earnestly appeals to the boys to enroll themselves in this patriotic service as requested by the government. Enrollment may be made with Mr. Rogers, county director, or with any of the following who have been appointed enrolling officers: T. W. Chapman, S. E. Merrill, A. W. Ham, C. P. Squires.

SHERIFF-ELECT GIVES NOTICE AND WARNING

At the last general election the people of the state of Nevada voted on the Initiative Prohibition Law. The drys won with a majority of 4,188 votes.

At the same election the people of Clark County, Nevada, elected me sheriff to enforce the law, and I am going to enforce the prohibition law to the letter. Mr. Bootlegger, this is your first and last notice from me. Your next notice will be a warrant of arrest.

All drug store clerks should read this notice. I will be on the job Monday, January 6th, 1919.

Very truly yours,
SAM GAY, Sheriff-Elect.

Dr. and Mr. H. L. Hewetson have returned from Los Angeles and are now getting their home settled. As soon as this is completed Dr. Hewetson will again take charge of the railroad hospital.

GEORGE TATE SLAYS HIMSELF WITH RAZOR

Found New Year's Eve With Wrists Slashed and Throat Cut From Ear to Ear.

About four o'clock in the afternoon of the last day of 1918, Mrs. Robert T. Hill found the almost lifeless body of George Tate lying on a mattress in one of the cabins in the rear of his residence on Fourth and Ogden streets. He was a ghastly sight, covered with blood from gaping wounds in his throat and slashed wrists.

Mrs. Hill immediately screamed for help and in response Dr. C. E. Bulette, who lives near, came. Drs. Lewis and Martin were also summoned and made every effort to save the life of the unconscious man, but in vain, death intervening at 12:40 a. m., January first, soon after the New Year had been ushered in.

As near as could be judged by the circumstances, Mr. Tate had gone into the back room of his cabin, seated himself on a cot and there inflicted the wounds which caused his death. Before becoming unconscious he had gone into the front room, where he was found.

In the morning of the day upon which he committed the act, Mr. Tate had gone down town to Mr. Buol's office to complete a deal for the sale of his property, but as the abstract could not be obtained that day the matter was postponed. He had been despondent for some time. Since the death of Mrs. Tate several months ago, he had complained of being lonely. Recently his former wife, now Mrs. Robertson, from whom he had been separated for 18 years, came to Las Vegas, and Mr. Tate had confided to his friends that he intended to sell his property and remarry her. It was in pursuance of this plan that he was arranging to sell his home place and accompany Mrs. Robertson to Sacramento, Cal. However, there was something troubling him greatly as he had threatened to kill himself several times recently.

A coroner's inquest was held on the remains under the direction of Judge C. D. Breeze, with the following acting as jurors: M. M. Riley, I. C. Johnson, Peter Buol, P. J. Sullivan, M. J. Sullivan and W. I. Roberts.

The first witness was Mrs. Isabella Robertson, former wife of the deceased, who testified that they had been separated for 18 years. She was in Vegas several weeks ago but left. She was called back by reason of the noticeable despondency and threats of self-destruction made by the deceased, arriving Friday, December 27th.

She last saw the deceased on the morning of the 31st between eight and nine o'clock when he left for town to see about the sale of the property. He seemed at that time to be all right although he complained of not having slept well and feeling badly. She said that they were planning to go to Sacramento.

Mrs. Robert T. Hill testified that she and Mr. Hill were over to the Tate home the night before and that George then seemed in good spirits. On the 31st she again went over to see Mrs. Robertson, who was ill in bed. George not having been seen since he went to town in the morning, Mrs. Hill went down town about three o'clock to hunt for him, but did not find him. Going back to the Tate house she went up stairs and made a search of the rooms. Then Mrs. Robertson suggested that he might be in one of the cabins in the back yard. Mrs. Hill then went to one of the cabins, opened the door and found the dying man lying on a mattress on the floor with his head propped up against the wall.

Dr. C. E. Bulette testified as to the nature of the wounds and that they were evidently self-inflicted; also as to the efforts made by himself and Dr. Lewis to save the dying man.

Ed. Martin testified that he had stayed with Mr. Tate at his request for several nights; also that Mr. Tate had made the remark on several occasions that he would kill himself.

The coroner's jury returned a verdict, finding, "That said George Tate died in Las Vegas, Clark County, Nevada, about 12:40 a. m. on the first day of January, 1919; that the cause of said death were cuts and wounds inflicted with a razor by himself with

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NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION



AMONG YOUR NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS WHY NOT THE FOLLOWING:

"I RESOLVE this year to trade with the Beckley Store;

"BECAUSE there I am sure of High Class Goods;

"BECAUSE there I am sure that Prices Are Right;

"BECAUSE there I am sure of Courteous and Obliging Service and Satisfaction.

"BECAUSE I know that the above are the methods which have built the Beckley Store from a small beginning to its Present Splendid Proportions."

Will Beckley

— THE HOME OF —

Hart, Schaffner and Marx

BLYTHE, CALIFORNIA BRANCH STORE AT