

# LAS VEGAS AGE

VOLUME XV.

LAS VEGAS, CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA, SATURDAY, JULY 19, 1919.

NUMBER 29

## CHARLESTON PARK A DELIGHTFUL RESORT

### Our Mountain Play Ground Grows in Popularity as Beauties Become Known

As knowledge of the many attractive features of Charleston Park becomes more widespread, its popularity as a summer vacation resort is rapidly increasing. In fact the demand for accommodations is closely crowding the program of improvements being carried out by the owner, Senator Griffith.

When one first visits the place, one is astonished and delighted, and each subsequent visit adds to the pleasure. One who has never been there naturally has his opinion of the place, based upon his knowledge of the general run of mountain canyons in this section. But one visit changes this entirely, because Charleston Park is entirely different from the general run of the Nevada mountains.

The camp is located in the midst of a forest of great pines interspersed with groves of quaking aspen trees and a variety of beautiful mountain shrubbery. Wild flowers bloom in abundance. The central building of the camp is used for the kitchen and dining room and is about 30 by 60 feet in size. Surrounding it are many tent houses for sleeping accommodations and furnished with stoves and equipment for light housekeeping for those who desire. The sanitary arrangements are good. Fly proof receptacles for garbage are placed near each tent and the camp is kept free from refuse. A systematic campaign against flies has nearly eradicated that pest. Albert Curtis and Joe Kutcher, lessees of the camp, are doing everything possible to make all comfortable.

The dining room is well conducted and the meals served are good. Albert Curtis is the presiding genius in the kitchen, and he certainly knows how to cater to mountain appetites. Joe Kutcher looks after the outside work, and keeps the camp in excellent shape. Room and board may be had for \$15 per week, or room alone for \$5.00.

The dining room has an excellent floor for dancing, and among other things, has an Edison phonograph and a pool table for the entertainment of guests. Outside, swings are provided for the children. There is plenty of parking space for cars and a big camp fire is a feature of each evening.

Water for the camp comes from springs on the hill near by. It is cold as ice and pure as the snows which is its source. Water pipes have been laid to each tent for the convenience of campers.

The road to the camp is, on the whole, excellent, the worst places being between Las Vegas and Tule Springs. From Tule to the camp the road is excellent. The grade is quite uniform and most cars make the entire trip on high gear, except for a few places. For those who have no car, there is an automobile stage operated by Peter Mescher. The fare for the 38 mile trip is \$2.00 each way, or \$4.00 for the round trip of 76 miles. This is cheaper than travel by rail and the automobile ride is a pleasure.

Camp Charleston lies at an altitude of 8,000 feet, so that one rises 6,000 feet in going from Vegas to camp. The rise from Vegas to the old railroad crossing near Tule Springs is 500 feet. During the 22 miles from the railroad crossing to camp the rise is 5,500 feet, but is so gradual that it is hardly realized except by the little old engine in the automobile.

The grandeur and beauty of the mountain scenery which surrounds Charleston Park fills the beholder with wonder and admiration. On all sides are towering pinnacles and sheer cliffs standing out in bold relief from the more distant mountain peaks. Directly opposite the camp is a magnificent rock rising sheer 1,200 feet above the camp. A short walk of half a mile over the trail, brings one to what is called "Little Falls." It is in a narrow gorge and a stream of water falls by successive steps for about eight hundred feet, only the two or three lower steps being visible from the foot of the falls by reason of a turn in the gorge. It is very picturesque.

At a distance of 2 1/2 miles from camp are the "Big Falls." Here is a larger stream of water than at Little Falls, and in one place it takes

a leap of 400 feet. The water for the stream comes from the melting snows on the shoulder of Mt. Charleston, and just a short distance above the falls, the stream flows out from an ice cave into which one may walk for many feet. Not only here, but in several places quite close to camp, one may reach snow at any season of the year. It is a strange sensation to leave Vegas some morning with the mercury hovering about the 100 mark and to eat noon luncheon sitting on a snow bank, but this may easily be done.

Charleston Park, rising to an elevation of 11,920 feet, one of the highest if not the highest peak in Nevada, is frequently climbed by visitors to Charleston Park. The favorite plan is to leave camp about noon packing luncheon and blankets, making camp for the night on the shoulder of the peak at timber line, and then going to the peak early the next morning in time to see the sunrise. The view from Charleston peak is said to be sublime, the country for hundreds of miles in every direction lying spread below like a map. Portions of four states lie before the gaze, California, Nevada, Arizona and Utah. To illustrate the wonderful range of vision, looking to the west one may see at the same time, both the highest and the lowest points in the United States. Death Valley, lying about 276 feet below sea level is stretched out below, and beyond is the towering height of Mount Whitney, the highest mountain in the United States, 14,444 feet.

There are many delightful and beautiful journeys to be made to points of interest near Charleston Park. Deer Creek, with its roaring stream falling over fantastic rock forms, is five miles distant over a good trail. It will be visited by hundreds, especially after a burro train is a valuable for transportation. It is the intention to have the stream stocked with trout another season. In the winter months, from perhaps the middle of December to the middle of March, Charleston Park is frozen in under 8 to 12 feet of snow. During the summer months the climate is most delightful. The days are cool, and an occasional shower adds novelty for residents of the desert country. The nights are cool enough to require warm clothing and the heat of the camp fire is grateful.

As yet, Camp Charleston, is new. Comparatively few even of our local people have visited it and knowledge of its advantages has not spread very far. But Senator Griffith since first taking hold of the scheme about three years ago, has done wonders in the way of fitting it for visitors. Of course lumber is growing on the ground and with the aid of the saw mill recently completed, there will be available an unlimited supply of building material. The plans for the future include a large central building of logs, in which will be the kitchen, dining room, a large lobby or room for social assembling with a great fire place in one side, a dancing hall, and a variety of games and amusements.

Surrounding the main building will be built a little city of one and two room log cabins, giving each guest his own little camp home, instead of putting the whole thing under one roof as is frequently done.

In all the great west there are few spots with such ideal attractions for summer visitors as Charleston Park. It will always be a feature of great value to the people of Las Vegas. Whenever the proposed tourist hotel materializes, and that is but a question of a little time, Charleston Park will be found to be a perfect complement to it—as a place for week-end parties and such, and its value in bringing people and money to Las Vegas will be beyond computation.

### MARRIED

WEST—HOOKER: At Long Beach, California, Saturday, July 12, 1919, Miss Grace West to Mr. Harry Hooker. The bride is the youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Tom West and formerly resided in this city. She has many friends here who extend congratulations. The groom is a well to do resident of Long Beach.

### ON THE JOB

If the Republican Congress continues its policy of lopping off the big appropriations the Wilson administration is asking, there will be some enthusiastic receptions awaiting Republican members when next they get a chance to visit their constituencies.

## MRS. GREEN FILED SUIT FOR DIVORCE

### Tangle of Litigation Enmeshes Parties to Mahana-Green Mixup.

Mrs. Helen Green, through her attorney, C. D. Breeze, filed suit for divorce Wednesday, against T. H. Green, in the district court in this city.

The filing of this suit, following as it does the filing in Los Angeles county, Calif. on Saturday of last week, of a complaint in divorce action by T. H. Green against Helen Green, produces an amazing tangle of litigation affecting the interests of the Green and Mahana families. Here is the way the game stands at the present writing:

Mrs. Miriam Mahana vs. George T. Mahana.—Suit filed in Los Angeles for separate maintenance, in which the complaint alleges that the defendant deserted plaintiff while she was sick in bed.

T. H. Green vs. George T. Mahana.—Suit filed in Los Angeles for \$50,000 damages, plaintiff alleging that defendant stole the love of Mrs. Green leaving the husband desolate.

Mrs. Miriam Mahana vs. George T. Mahana.—Suit for divorce, filed in Los Angeles.

T. H. Green vs. Helen Green.—Suit for divorce, filed in Los Angeles.

Helen Green vs. T. H. Green.—Suit for divorce, filed in Las Vegas. In all probability another suit will serve to still further tangle the skein. George T. Mahana, who has nearly completed his six months' term of residence here, is understood to be contemplating divorce proceedings in the local court.

### "LAVADA" IS THE NAME OF CLARK COUNTY SHIP

The name "Lavada" has been accepted by the shipping board as the name of the ship to be christened in honor of the record made by Clark county in the Fourth Liberty Loan. The name "Las Vegas, Nevada" was first suggested by the committee as being the most distinctive, but this name had already been appropriated by Las Vegas, New Mexico, therefore it was necessary for the committee to choose another name. The result, "Lavada", is a contraction of "Las Vegas, Nevada." It is sufficiently euphonious, but its significance will scarcely be apparent to those not in on the secret. We would all prefer Las Vegas.

Keep your War Stamps pledge.

## TO BUILD MIGHTY DAMS ON THE COLORADO RIVER

### Vast Project Undertaken By Government of Immense Importance to Clark County

The report comes from Washington that the Flood Control Committee of the House has reported favorably a bill providing for surveys on the Colorado river preliminary to building a series of dams and reservoirs for impounding the flood waters.

The action of the committee makes it practically certain that the great project will be pressed to completion by the government.

For months past, government engineers under the direction of the Department of the Interior have been busy working out the details of that portion of the work to be located in Clark county. St. Thomas has been the base of operations. While there has been general knowledge of the fact that work is being done, there seemed to be no positive assurance until recently that the government would proceed at once on the work of construction.

The Colorado river project is a stupendous one. The general plans upon which it is understood the government is working, contemplate the erection of seven dams and reservoirs, the location of the upper one being in Colorado, and the site of the lower and greater of all, being a short distance west of the mouth of the Rio Virgin in this county, something like 25 miles directly east of Las Vegas.

At this point the plans contemplate the greatest body of impounded water on the continent—greater even than the famous Elephant Butte reservoir, heretofore regarded as one of the engineering wonders of the world.

The Clark county dam, according to the details so far worked out by the corps of engineers on the ground, will be four hundred feet in height, but so constructed that it may be increased in height to 500 feet.

With a height of 400 feet, the dam will fill the basin of the Colorado river at that point for many miles. But probably the greater portion of the storage capacity will be in the valley of the Rio Virgin, the water backing up in that basin to a point near St. Thomas. The increase in height to 500 feet would submerge St. Thomas under many feet of water and would fill the Moapa Valley probably to a point above Overton, necessitating the purchase by the government of most of the valley. It is estimated that this lower dam,

which it seems probable will be first constructed, will require the employment of from one thousand to two thousand men for about five years, and that under normal conditions of flow it will require about five years to fill the reservoir.

The building of this dam will of course bring great activity and prosperity to Las Vegas during the period of construction. It will make available almost unlimited power which the government will lease to power companies and will result not only in cheap power for local uses, but probably also in the electrification of the Los Angeles and Salt Lake Railroad over their division.

Whether or not the project will prove of any value in irrigating lands in Clark county is a question. The river at the point where the dam is to be built is approximately 1,000 feet lower than the Las Vegas Valley.

The chief ends which the government seeks in building the project are: First—The impounding of the flood waters of the river so that they may be available for irrigation of several hundred thousand acres of additional land in the Imperial Valley in California. Second—To control the flow of the river so as to protect the hed works of the irrigation companies supplying the Imperial Valley from danger of floods, and to keep the flow of water for irrigation at a constant level, so that on ample supply of water may be available during the summer months when most needed and when the river naturally is at its lowest stage.

### HOW'S THE WEATHER SINCE THE BIG RAIN?

Jupiter Pluvius paid Clark county a brief visit on Thursday evening, and although the old fellow mixed things up a bit, his call was not unwelcome. The week had been rather trying from the point of humidity, each day seeing patches of cloud floating in the sky, a condition which is not viewed with satisfaction in this climate. Tuesday evening the clouds gathered into a big lump and sent out a roaring blast of wind and dust, but just a little—to be exact .12 of an inch—of rain.

Despite the several previous attempts to cool things off, Thursday evening's storm was a howling success. It opened shortly after nine o'clock with a rush of noisy wind which seemed to be attempting to tear the world up by the roots. Then when Old Boreas found he couldn't worry us, even to the point of stopping the picture at the Airdome, J. P. got on the job. And he worked at it too. How the rain did come down—a perfect torrent—in drops as big as a Satsuma plum. He kept his wand whirling and juggled the lightning into all sorts of fantastic shapes, and every two seconds he would slam a bolt into the middle of things until the whole world seemed to tremble with the crash.

After fifteen or twenty minutes of the real stuff, things calmed down a bit, but until the small hours of the morning the cool, refreshing down-pour continued in moderation. The total rainfall for the storm amounted to 1.10 inches.

So far as we have been able to learn no damage was done to property. The Salt Lake Route suffered slight delay by reason of unimportant washouts, and in some places the county roads are damaged by the running waters. On the whole the storm was beneficial and even the roads will be better for it. The storm was followed by a very pleasant moderation of heat and it is pretty certain that the worst of the summer is over so far as heat is concerned.

We give below the report of the local weather station for the week ending last evening at 6 o'clock:

July	Max.	Min.	6 p. m.
12	102	69	95
13	104	70	97
14	103	71	90
15	104	72	39
16	101	70	93
17	101	73	92
18	92	66	87

FOR SALE: Typewriters—Royals, Underwoods, Remingtons, L. C. Smiths, Oliviers, Multiplex Hammonds and Coronas. Some new, rebuilt and second-hand. Cash or easy terms. Ribbons and repairs. Paul L. Ross Typewriter Co., Fordonia Bldg., Reno, Nevada. t2.

Peter Buol returned from Salt Lake Sunday sans crutches and a pluribus unum again.—Picche Record.

## LAS VEGAS IDEAL FOR RAISING COTTON

### Capital and Enterprise Might Develop Great Industry for Clark County.

The development of the Las Vegas Valley in an agricultural way has seemed to us who are on the ground, to be a slow process, perhaps. But in view of the very few years since the town was established and communication with the outside world opened up, the results achieved have been very satisfactory.

The development of water has, of course, been the chief obstacle in the way of the settler with little money, the necessary outlay for drilling an artesian being a deterrent to many. Yet in practically every case where a man has seriously undertaken farming and given his time and attention to it he has made a success. We have many fine little ranches in the valley which have brought prosperity to the owners, and which represent mostly new wealth created out of effort.

Unlike the Imperial and the Blythe sections, Las Vegas farmers have never specialized in any one thing with perhaps the one exception of the McGriff ranch which is growing heavily into peaches.

Cotton is a crop which is attracting attention everywhere just now, but it is not raised in this valley. The reason is that to make cotton raising successful, acreage must be planted to warrant the building of a cotton gin costing perhaps ten thousand dollars. You can't raise cotton without a gin, and you can't get a gin until you have cotton, and here we are.

There is a great acreage in the valley which would compete with the Imperial or the Blythe countries or any other portion of the United States in cotton growing. Cotton is no new thing in this section. It was grown successfully 20 or 40 years ago when it was necessary for people to make their own cloth for their clothing. In more recent years, patches of cotton have been grown in and about Las Vegas just as an experiment, and all were successful. There is no reason in soil, climate, length of season or anything else to prevent Las Vegas becoming one of the richest cotton raising centers in the country. True, water must be developed, but many wells drilled, with practically but few failures, has taught us that water is to be had when one goes after it seriously. Close observers, men who have studied the situation carefully, believe that we have as yet scarcely made a beginning in the matter of developing the underground water supplies.

We need to go into operations on a larger scale—to raise sufficient of some one product to permit shipping in quantity. To be sure there is money in market gardening and in fruit. But the local market alone cannot make a rich farming community. There are tracts of land which might be leased on favorable terms. There are wells which would water hundreds of acres which are not in use at all. There is plenty of good land where water may in all probability be obtained, which can be purchased for a few dollars an acre.

There are portions of ranches already partly under cultivation which would be available for cotton.

Men flock in and pay \$250 per acre or more for land in the cotton raising sections. Would it not be a good plan for some of them to come here where land is cheap, every condition favorable and the experience of years of success in raising cotton in a small way available as a guide, and try it out? We believe it would only require a leader to make the start and that others would quickly follow. It is entirely within the range of possibility to make the Las Vegas valley rich through cotton growing. Somebody said, "labor conditions are not good." Neither are they good in Arizona, Imperial Valley or Blythe. If it came to hunting a cool place to loaf, good pay would bring plenty of cotton pickers just as it does in those places. Clark county may become just as rich and famous as those other cotton raising districts if the effort is made.

The fact that the establishment of great industries at Los Angeles is creating an ultimate market for cotton almost at our door is a strong reason why steps should be taken to induce farmers to raise cotton in Clark county.

## HARTMANN



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