

### LAS VEGAS AGE

Published Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday Afternoons  
Entered in the Postoffice at Las Vegas, Nevada, as Second Class Matter.

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MEMBER OF  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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#### THE ZONING SYSTEM

UNDER THE CAPTION "Time Will Tell," the Elko Free Press publishes an editorial criticizing, mildly to be sure, the adoption of the zoning system by the Block N Society in the handling of the Nevada Interscholastic basketball tournament.

Let us look at some of the disadvantages of the old system, and consider some of the possible advantages of the new plan which it has been decided to try.

At the inception of the basketball tournament 10 years ago, high school attendance was only about one-fifth of what it is today. Lack of highways made travel between schools difficult, and for the most part impossible.

At that time the establishment of the tournament made it possible for the high schools of the state to get together once a year. The students had a chance to look over the University and it is true that this opportunity widened their vision and often gave them new ambitions.

Times have changed however, and at the present time the high schools send debating teams, domestic science teams, and experts of the commercial departments to Reno each year, in addition to the athletic activities.

The University is finding it necessary to limit enrollment to the best students rather than to encourage it as in the days ten years ago.

Every little high school, within a radius of 100 miles of Reno, which has five boys, sends a basketball team to the tournament, even though they have no possible hopes of winning the tournament. Now these schools are all so near Reno, that, with the improved highways, most of the people visit the metropolis several times a year, anyway. It is as easy for the people of those communities to visit Reno, as it is for the people of the Virgin and Moapa Valleys to come to Las Vegas, a matter of two or three hours at the most.

Such distant portions of the state as Nye, Esmeralda, Clark and Lincoln counties can send only their best teams as the cost is so great.

For instance, it costs \$600 to take a team from Clark county to Reno. Naturally it must be the best team in the county that goes. It would be financially impossible for he community to send two teams.

When the champion teams from these distant communities to Reno to the tournament, under the old plan, it meant waiting around for two or three days while the teams from the smaller schools played off. In other words, two days each way, and a four-day tournament, meant eight whole days the team had to be away. The best part of two school weeks was ruined if the time spent on preparing and recovering was considered.

Under the zoning system, the state has been divided into three districts. That includes the high schools of Clark and Lincoln counties, making a total of seven schools, and two teams will be sent from this district.

Winnemucca, Eureka and all north and east, make another district, and will also be entitled to send two teams.

The rest of the state, which includes the west central portion, around Reno, will be the third district, and will be entitled to enter four teams.

The plan was adopted after much discussion and every high school with a basketball team was allowed one vote. The result was 15 in favor of the plan and 8 against.

This arrangement is for this year only, as those in favor of the zoning principle, have in mind a plan which will divide the high schools of the state into two classes according to enrollment, the teams of the smaller schools

## Young Northcott Goes To Trial In January For Alleged Murder



Gordon Northcott (upper left) 22, accused of the murder of four boys on his Riverside, Cal., chicken ranch, will be tried there early in January. Mrs. Sarah Louisa Northcott (upper right), his mother, and he were arrested in Canada on information supplied by his nephew, Sanford Clark (lower left). Cyrus G. Northcott (lower right), Gordon's father, may testify against the accused at the trial.

to play against each other, and the teams of the larger schools to compete. This is the plan of Mr. Earl Wooster, principal of the Wells High School, and when finally worked out should prove satisfactory.

For the past few years the tournaments have become almost too unwieldy for the Block N Society to handle well. The zoning will cut the entries to 8 teams, and the contest can be played off in two days. The plan should stimulate interest in the small schools rather than kill it. It would be much easier for a small school team to defeat teams in the same district, than teams of the whole state, and the district tournaments will mean a chance for the small schools a long distance from Reno.

On the whole it appears to us that the change will be for the benefit of the majority, but, as the Free Press observes, "time will tell."

#### THE FEDERAL COURT QUESTION

IN THE CONTROVERSY now raging between Reno and Carson City regarding the removal of the Federal Court from the capital to the Washoe county seat, it has been suggested as a compromise, that a second Federal Court be established at Reno.

If there is to be a second court established anywhere in the state, it would seem that common sense would dictate that it be placed at Las Vegas or Tonopah, so as to be more easily accessible to citizens of the southern and eastern portions of the state.

Reno grumbles about traveling the thirty miles to the capital, but gives no thought to the 450 miles which must be traveled by the people of Clark county to reach Carson City. Of course, moving the court to Reno would add only thirty miles to the distance which our lawyers and litigants must now travel, and what's thirty miles to the south end of the state just so Reno is satisfied.

It would seem that the state capital would be the proper place for the Federal Court to hold its sessions.

Offhand we can see no really legitimate reason for removal of the court from Carson City, and most assuredly no reason for the establishment of a second court at Reno.

#### COMMEMORATES BYRD'S LANDING

VER-SUR-MER, France, Dec. 15, (AP)—Citizens of this tiny Normandy village have put up a tablet on the walls of the cottage in which Commander Richard Byrd and his companions of the airplane "America," recuperated after their flight over the Atlantic. The tablet reads: "Here was received and refreshed, on the morning of July 1, 1927, the crew of the airplane America which had just landed on the beach after its crossing of the Atlantic."

#### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

All having bills against Preston M. Bentley, deceased, are hereby notified to present same properly itemized to B. LeRoy Bentley, 415 So. Fifth street as soon as possible. (Signed) B. LeROY BENTLEY. (128-3t)

#### LOTS FOR SALE

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#### NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION

Department of the Interior,  
U. S. LAND OFFICE  
at Carson City, Nevada  
November 30, 1928.  
NOTICE is hereby given that Laurence O. Bates, of Las Vegas, Nevada, who, on January 14, 1924, made homestead entry No. 014735, for the N<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> Section 27, Township 21S., Range 61E, M. D. Meridian, has filed notice of intention to make Three Year Proof, to establish claim to the land above described, before A. A. Hinman, U. S. Commissioner, at Las Vegas, Nevada, on the 10th day of January, 1929.  
Claimant names as witnesses:  
R. F. Jameson,  
A. F. McCarter,  
Robert Kincaid,  
E. V. Breckenridge, all of Las Vegas, Nevada.  
CLARA M. CRISLER,  
Register.  
First Pub. Dec. 4, 1928.  
Last Pub. Jan. 5, 1929, each issue.

#### BOLIVIA WILL RE-ENTER CON.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12, (AP)—The resumption tomorrow by Bolivia of participation in the Pan-American conference, from which it withdrew because of the Paraguayan controversy, is generally expected in the light of recent developments here and in South America. Instruction from the LaPaz government to the minister instructing him to re-enter the conference are expected to reach Washington tonight.

#### CHURCH ACTS TO RESCUE VALUABLE WORKS OF ART

MOULINS, Dec. 15, (AP)— Art treasures of the church in this diocese have been placed under the supervision of a group of eminent churchmen and qualified lay artists. Even the churches themselves are to be controlled, from the point of view of repairs and transformations which affect valuable art pieces, by this committee. The Bishop of Moulins has for-

#### SOCIETY

Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Grant and Mr. and Mrs. H. P. Marble entertained with a charmingly appointed bridge dinner at their home on Fremont street last evening. Decorations in keeping with the Christmas season lent a holiday effect, and the occasion was a most happy one, the guests being in gala mood on account of the Boulder Dam victory.

Mrs. A. W. Ham and Mr. C. C. Boyer won prizes for high scores, while second prizes went to Mrs. Roy W. Martin and Mr. A. W. Ham. Guests were Messrs. and Mesdames A. W. Ham, W. E. Ferron, C. C. Boyer, Dr. and Mrs. Roy W. Martin, Mrs. Charles P. Squires, Miss Maud Prazier, Miss Laura Wilson and Mr. C. Russell Squires.

bidden priests of his diocese to make any modifications or do any new building without the approval of the committee. They are also required to make any changes required by the committee in the interest of good taste and sacred art.

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