

LAND VALUES RISE AS STATE UNITY NEARS PRICES ON LOTS CLIMB AS HEAVY DEMAND CONTINUES

With the nearing of the zero hour at which the signing of the seven state pact for Boulder Dam is expected, realty values in and around Las Vegas continue to rise, land which was bought a week ago selling now with substantial increase in price in instance after instance.

Boulder Addition lots, which have sold at \$500 from the time the subdivision was opened, through the signing of the bill and down to the present, have increased in price to \$650 for inside lots and \$750 for corners, E. A. Ferron, manager of Boulder Realty Corporation announced this morning.

But 70 out of the original 340 lots are left unsold, according to Ferron.

A five acre tract nine miles out the Boulder Dam highway from Las Vegas was bought yesterday from Johnson Realty by B. C. Wilson of San Francisco and L. H. Smith of Los Angeles, who plan to build a highway cafe and dance hall on the land.

A well is being drilled on the land, and the building will be a one story structure about 54 by 30 feet.

CRIME CODE IS DEBATED

LANSING, Mich., Feb. 14, (AP)—The subject of much public comment, both favorable and adverse, Michigan's crime code with its habitual criminal clause has become the vehicle of some sharp words on the floor of the state legislature and between Gov. Fred W. Green and the Rev. R. N. Holstaple, superintendent of the state Anti-Saloon League.

Governor Green and the administration forces in the legislature are determined that the habitual criminal clause shall be modified so that the possession of a point of gin shall not be classified as a felony, for which upon a fourth conviction a man or woman must be sent to prison for life.

The legislature now has before it amendments that will strike more than 200 offenses from the list of felonies now included in the habitual section by providing that a fourth conviction must be for a crime demanding a maximum penalty of not less than five years for a first offense, if a life sentence is to be imposed.

"The bootlegger and the moonshiner," says Mr. Holstaple, "with a supreme contempt for the law, not only corrupt society, but leave their victims or patrons in weakened and poisoned condition. They are potential murderers."

Voicing his determination to have the habitual section of the law amended, Governor Green said that some members of the legislature have complained they did not realize liquor law violations were included in the blanket description of felonies contained in the code.

"If there was such a misunderstanding it should be corrected," he said.

The crime code became effective September 6, 1927, and since that time 15 men and one woman have been given the mandatory life imprisonment sentence.

The fourth offense of six of these, including Mrs. Etha Mae Miller of Lansing, was a violation of the liquor law. The first to feel the provisions of the law was Fred Palm of Lansing, convicted on a liquor law violation charge September 29, 1927.

His case came to be known as the "life for a pint" case, because his final conviction was based upon the possession of a small amount of liquor. In Palm's case, however, his previous record included convictions for various other crimes.

That of Mrs. Miller was entirely on liquor law offenses. She was sentenced December 31, 1928. It was her case that indirectly led to the furor over the law's provisions and inspired the legislative activity for an amendment.

Here's the Way Court Expense Is Kept Down

Of the last 50 men sent to the state prison from Clark county, 46 plead guilty, thus saving the county the cost of conducting trials for them, according to Sheriff Sam Gay.

"If they can beat that record in any county I'd like to see the records of it," said the Sheriff today.

Four of the five men sentenced to prison from this county since January 1 plead guilty.

"How do you do it," he was asked.

"Well," he replied, "We simply get enough 'goods' on them that they see they can't get out of it. We go in and talk with them and lay all the cards on the table. If we can show them that the case against them is so strong it's useless to fight it, they come across and plead guilty."

RATIFICATION SUNDAY 17TH IN LAS VEGAS

ALL CHURCHES TO OFFER PRAYERS FOR PROJECT

The next Sabbath is "Ratification Sunday." By proclamation of the Mayor and with the enthusiastic endorsement of local pastors, the day has been dedicated to the offering in all Las Vegas churches of prayers for speedy agreement at Santa Fe upon terms under which the construction of Boulder Dam will go ahead without delay.

Prayers are offered in time of war and in time of peace; prayers are offered upon great occasions and small; and it is eminently fitting that a prayer for the settlement of this great question be offered by the citizens who will be among those most benefited by its speedy settlement in a manner which will assure the Southwest of receiving this great boon.

Every Las Vegas man will set aside a few moments Sunday to ponder upon the significance of that for which this proclamation is made and to hope for its speedy consummation.

STAGE ALL SET FOR WRESTLING MATCH FRIDAY

BULL MONTANA IS DUE HERE TONIGHT FOR BOUT TOMORROW

When Bull Montana and Lieut. Sam Vaneman tangle on the wrestling mat tomorrow night before a crowd of 500 at Elks' Hall, Las Vegas sport lovers are promised a contest the like of which they have not seen here for many a moon.

Both limb-twisters have made themselves felt in the sport world, Montana as wrestler and movie "bad man," and Vaneman as wrestling champion of the army, and both have beaten men high up in the mat sport.

Sam Herman of Las Vegas will have about the two 200-pounders to see that they do not damage the furniture, and Roy Wilson, promoter, will hold the purse strings of the \$5000 side bet put up for the match by the two contestants.

Bull Arrives Tonight "The Bull" is expected to arrive here with a party from Hollywood by auto this evening. He and the Lieutenant are scheduled to be introduced between shows at El Portal this evening, according to Wilson.

Strangler Lewis and the two Zybscos are among those Vaneman has out-wrestled, in addition to his record of five years as army champion. A colorful story is told of a match "fought" while a top sergeant in the Second Division overseas by Vaneman, who is credited with having been presented a Croix de Guerre with Star from Soissons.

Accepts Challenge The army champion, it seems, was limbing quite heavily with a bunch of the boys when a challenge from the "Greco-Roman wrestling champion" was brought to him. His buddies carried him two miles on their shoulders, to make sure he got there, and when he found himself face to face with the Greco-Roman, Major C. M. Brisby asked him what they should do about a mat. Looking at the cement floor before them, Vaneman said, "What's the matter with that?"

And it was one minute and a half before he had "changed the Greco-Roman's face to the features of a bloody Magyar," to use the words of the narrator. The \$300 Vaneman won in this match went to supply the boys with more Vine Rouge and Cognac, it is said.

Trained with Dempsey Bull Montana's wrestling record

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SPECIAL POLICE FOR RESTRICTED DISTRICT

The restricted district will have a special police officer, to be paid by the resorts, there, but who will work under the city chief, according to the chief of police.

STOCK MART OPENS TODAY IN LAS VEGAS

FINANCE CONCERN TO PUSH DEVELOPMENT OF INDUSTRY HERE

A stock exchange opened today in Las Vegas, probably the smallest city in the country to have stock quotations service from New York covering the entire country.

With the promotion of local industry and the resulting stabilization of land values as its avowed aim, the Las Vegas Securities Company opened its doors to the public at 106 South Second street at 9 o'clock this morning.

Complete Quotations "By furnishing Las Vegas both local and national stock quotations we hope to make our office the nucleus of financial affairs in this city and environs," said J. H. Miller, chief advisor of the new company, who is also vice-president of the Consolidated Outfitting Company of America, which company plans to institute two chain stores in Las Vegas, one furniture and one clothing.

"Complete quotations from New York, Reno, San Francisco, Curb, San Francisco Exchange and San Francisco Mining Exchange will be furnished here; local stocks and securities will be sold, and bond issues will be underwritten.

"Five new local industries are already being organized by us, and announcements of these will be made in the near future."

"Stabilization Needed" A club offer of Clark County Gas and Consolidated Outfitting stock is being pushed as an opening offer today by the new firm.

"We want to push local development especially," said Miller today, "because, although the present boom is going to be fed by the building of the dam, the future of the city will depend for its stability upon the industries which will be made possible by the completed dam, and which will continue to function and give value to the land, after the income from the building of the dam has ceased."

FINAL SURVEYS ON DAM BEGUN

Engineers who will gather data upon which bids will be based for the construction of Boulder Dam encamped near the dam site yesterday afternoon under the leadership of Paul A. Jones, associate engineer for the Bureau of Reclamation, who has recently been in charge of construction on a division of the Kittitas high line canal in Washington.

Jones, who assisted Walker R. Young in the preliminary survey for Boulder Dam, will be encamped with his assistants for two or three months near the dam site, and his findings will be submitted to John L. Savage, chief designing engineer of the Bureau, for use in drafting the final plans.

The making of topographic maps of the region around the project will first occupy the attention of the party. This will be followed by data on the actual canyon walls themselves.

Jones is also in charge of the work of laying out the ground for supply yards and construction operations base.

MILLER ENTERTAINS

Mr. J. H. Miller will be host tomorrow evening to a group of a hundred prominent Las Vegas at the Montana-Vaneman wrestling match and at a dinner following the affair.

Proclamation WHEREAS, the delegates from California, Nevada and Arizona are in a duly authorized session by virtue of an order from their respective governors at Santa Fe, New Mexico; and WHEREAS, these delegates are assembled in an earnest endeavor to settle a dispute affecting the lives and welfare of the residents of the above mentioned states, particularly in the Colorado River Basin; and WHEREAS, these delegates are entrusted with the critical use of their judgment; THEREFORE, I, J. F. Hesse, Mayor of the city of Las Vegas, Clark County, Nevada, do hereby officially set aside and name Sunday, February 17, 1929 as a day of prayer and supplication and designate said Sabbath Day as "Ratification Sunday" and further recommend that all places of business suspend their activities until after twelve o'clock noon of said day for the purpose of permitting those in their employ to attend services at their respective church edifices where prayer will be offered for Divine Guidance for the delegates at this important conference. DONE UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL THE 14TH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 1929. J. F. HESSE, Mayor.

Withdrawn Lands Are Not Subject Preference Of Previous Applicants

REGISTER DECLARES NEW ENTRIES MUST BE MADE; ALL PRIOR APPLICATIONS ARE VOID

A letter which is very clear in its import and which will, perhaps settle in the minds of claimants the questions concerning government land entries was received by the Age this morning from Clara M. Crisler, Register of the U. S. Land Office in Carson City.

The letter in whole is as follows:

Editor Las Vegas Age, Las Vegas, Nevada. Dear Sir: In reply to your request by long distance telephone to me for information as to certain laws and forms of procedure of this office in handling applications filed on Government land, I welcome the opportunity to enlighten you on the same.

Most of the filings in your vicinity are made under the Homestead, Desert Land or Pittman Acts. Any application filed in this office is given the current serial number and a receipt is issued for the same. After each application has this office, the applicant is notified of its suspension, rejection, or allowance, as the case may be. Under the 160 Acre Homestead Act, if the applicant has met all requirements and there are not conflicts with other entries or withdrawals this office may allow the same and the applicant can begin residence any time he wishes within six months of the date of allowance. He has six months within which to receive notice of allowance. Any surveys or improvements made before the date of allowance are done at his own risk and may result in the applicant losing considerable money.

Desert Land Applications, after all conflicts have been eliminated and the application is in proper form are sent to the Chief of Field Division. Agents of this department examine the land, and if they make a favorable report to this office, the application is allowed, the applicant is given time to meet further requirements, if such are called for, or rejected. In case of rejection on desert lands or any other filing the applicant is given 30 days in which to appeal. You will note that the procedure with desert land applications naturally takes a much longer time than those

under the 160 Acre Homestead Act. The enlarged Homestead act which allows the applicant to file on 320 acres of land and the Stockraising Homestead Act which allows the applicant 640 acres in all, must be designated under their respective acts before allowance can be issued. In these cases applications for designation must be filed in duplicate and a copy sent to the geological survey for their inspection. If the land is designated then application may be allowed in accordance with the procedure in such cases; if designation is refused, the application is rejected.

In the case of the Pittman Act the procedure is somewhat different. All Pittman applications, when in correct form, are sent to the General Land Office. The General Land Office issues all permits, and if they find the application faulty, in other words, if some requirement has been overlooked, they notify the local office, which in turn notifies the applicant, who is given ample time to meet the requirement, and in course of time permit issued, and mailed this office, which in turn, transmits the same to the permittee. In many instances the Geological Survey refuses to designate land under the Pittman Act because it does not come within the requirements of the land law. In this case he permit is rejected subject to appeal.

When land has been withdrawn from all entry, any application filed on the same will be rejected and the applicant given 30 days in which to appeal to the Commissioner of the General Land Office. All rejection notices are transmitted by registered mail and the applicant has 30 days from signing the receipt for the registered letter to appeal. The

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COUNTY IS SECOND IN AUTO LISTINGS

Clark county is second among the counties of Nevada in the number of automobiles licensed, according to figures issued by the state department. Washoe county leads with 3,700, Clark county has 1,946, and Churchill has 1,014 to date.

DELEGATES OF ARIZONA SEEN IN 'YES' MOOD

PRELIMINARIES COMPLETED TODAY AT SANTA FE MEET

ARIZONA DELEGATES IN FAVORABLE MOOD

SANTA FE, Feb. 14, (AP)—Before this evening commissioners at the Tri-State Colorado River Conference here are expected to have completed organization work and to have reached the stage of making preliminary statements.

It had not been decided at noon today whether William J. Donovan, representative of President Coolidge, would preside, or whether the states would elect a chairman from among representatives.

The scene of the meeting shifted this morning from the Federal Building in Santa Fe to Bishop's Lodge, five miles from the city in the foothills of Sangre de Cristo, where the 1922 Santa Fe compact was drawn in conference with Herbert Hoover as chairman.

Quick Decision The general tone of the conversation among the various delegates at the conference was that a quick decision would be reached.

I. A. Smoot of Utah said: "The decision of the conference will govern largely the future position of Utah. Our delegation is here to observe, and we brought along part of the legislature so that we might be in a position to act hurriedly if a decision is reached before the legislature adjourns. Our people are anxious to see the river problem adjusted quickly in a satisfactory manner so that the work of carrying out the provisions of the Swing-Johnson bill may start as soon as possible."

SANTA FE, Feb. 14, (Special)—Arizona's delegation to the Tri-State Conference here for action on the Boulder Dam situation is in good humor and ready to talk business, according to Dr. Roy W. Martin, Las Vegas delegate at the conference, who communicated with The Age today by phone.

That a favorable agreement will be reached by Monday night is the belief of Dr. Martin. Charles P. Squires and Dr. Roy W. Martin, both Colorado River Commissioners for Nevada, arrived here yesterday. Ed Clark, the other commissioner was expected today with State Engineer Malone.

A delegation of 12 arrived last night from California, including W. B. Mathews, Earl Pound and John L. Bacon, Colorado River Commissioners; William J. Carr, member of the railroad commission, as personal representative of the Governor; F. H. McIver, M. J. Dowd, C. L. Childress and Mark Rose, representing the Imperial Valley; Tom Yeager of Coachella Valley; T. A. Painter, electrical engineer of the Los Angeles power department, and Joe Timmons, of the Los Angeles Examiner.

The Arizona delegation consists of Chas. B. Ward, Senator Favour and John M. Ross, Commissioners; K. Berry Peterson, attorney general; C. C. Lewis and C. H. Threlkeld.

7 CHICAGO GANGMEN SLAIN BY RIVAL GANG

CHICAGO, Feb. 14, (AP)—Seven north side members of the George "Big" Moran gang were lined up against a wall and executed today and two others probably fatally wounded by hand men who posed as police officers.

After forcing entrance to the gang's headquarters and flashing police badges the likers lined the men up in a back room and shot them with a machine gun, leaving the seven bodies piled in grotesque positions, and the wall bullet-pocked and blood spattered.

Kennedy Gets Champion on Dotted Line

KEEPS PROMISE MADE TO LOCAL MEN THAT FIGHT WOULD GO

Mickey Walker, middleweight champion of the world, signed a contract this afternoon to fight Ace Hudkins in a 20-round battle on July 4, for the championship, according to word received by wire from Tom Kennedy, promoter.

The signing took place at 3:30 p.m. today in Los Angeles.

Tom Kennedy, who is promoting the bout, is scheduled to arrive in Las Vegas Sunday. Hudkins, the challenger, is now in the city, having arrived today to begin training for the fight.

Thus is Las Vegas assured of the greatest athletic event in her history, aye, one of the greatest sports events in the world, an event which the eyes of sport fans the world over will be trained.

Construction of the arena, which will seat 100,000, will be begun immediately, and training camps will be established in this city for both the champion and the challenger.

Four weeks ago Kennedy gave Las Vegas citizens his word of honor that he would bring this fight to Las Vegas, and since that time he has been devoting his unrestrained energies to the task of making his word good.

The benefits which will accrue to this city from the bringing of this championship battle to Las Vegas are beyond reckoning, far sighted citizens agree. Not only will the great throng which will come to see the fight bring thousands of dollars, but the nation-wide advertising for the community will literally place Las Vegas on the map as no other event outside the actual work on the dam could possibly do.

HABEAS CORPUS IN MILLS CASE IS CONSIDERED

A writ of habeas corpus to prove the act to be unconstitutional under which Charles Mills was sent to prison this week, is under consideration by T. A. Wells, attorney who defended the former beauty shop operator in his recent trial.

"Some action will be taken in Mills' behalf, but I'm not certain just what it will be," said Wells today. "An appeal to the supreme court would take so long it probably would do but little good. I believe Section Three of the act pertaining to the operation of motor vehicles under which he was convicted can be proved unconstitutional."

Lon Somers, formerly manager of Bimini Bath in Los Angeles, is here today looking over the field for investment.