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LAS VEGAS AGE

SOUTHERN NEVADA'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

COMPLETE ASSOCIATED PRESS, UNITED PRESS AND NEA SERVICES; NOW A MORNING PAPER

VOLUME TWENTY-FIVE | LAS VEGAS, CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA, TUESDAY MORNING, JUNE 18, 1929. | NUMBER SEVENTY-TWO

BOULDER DAM DAY CELEBRATION

Las Vegas Prepares for Her Greatest Occasion When Bill Takes Effect

OIL AND AGRICULTURE PRESENT A PLEASING APPEAL TO CAPITAL

Frank A. Gesell, California Banker, Purchases 25,000 Acres In Virgin River Valley. —Littlefield Dam to Be Completed For Irrigation of 15,000 Acres.—Oil Rights In Virgin River Oil Structure Reserved and Two Test Wells Will Be Drilled.

The purchase of 25,000 acres of land in the Virgin River Valley, including the unfinished Littelfield dam on which $300,000 has already been expended, by the Virgin Oil and Mines Corporation, presages developments of outstanding interest to Las Vegas.

The plans of the company are far reaching. They contemplate the expenditure of $100,000 in completing the Littlefield dam and raising it to a height of 150 feet; planting 3,000 acres of alfalfa and stocking dairy cattle; and selling the improved lands to settlers on a small cash payment with the balance on long time at low interest.

But more interesting still are t he possibilities of oil and gas in the great Virgin Valley oil structure on which the company plans to bore at least two wells in the near future.

Nevada may, in the near future, be able to boast of one of the largest oil and gas fields in the United States. This is the opinion of prominent oil men and geologists of southern California who have made an exhaustive examination of the Virgin River structure.

Such in brief are the outlines of the great enterprise as given to the Age.

The new corporation is Virgin Oil & Mines company, the officers of which include many prominent men of Nevada and California, including the following:

Frank Gesell, inventor of the Success Saving Bank account which has been adopted and is issued to the public by many banks throughout the United States; Hugh Bran, formerly president of the Toledo State Bank, and formerly of the Union Oil company of California, also deputy of California Real Estate Commission; Mr. William Morris, formerly vice-president of the Pan-American Bank of Los Angeles; Mr. A. F. Mercer, oil geologist and engineer, and L. W. Sowles, formerly vice-president of the Halloran-Judge Bank and Trust company of Salt Lake City; Frank A. Strong, a driector of the Bank of Italy; L. W. Soules, formerly active vice president for 15 years of the Halloran-Judge Bank and Trust company of Salt Lake City; Walter R. Wheat, of Los Angeles, a regional director of the Bank of Italy and president of the United States Oil & Royalties company.

The attorneys for the corporation are Harley Harmon, district attorney of Clark county, Nevada, and his partner, T. J. Salter, who are among the directors and stockholders of the company.

Prominent Geologist

The geologist of the company, Mr. Mercer, is a graduate of the University of Virginia, and completed an extension course in the university at Heidelburg, Germany, and a post-graduate course at Oxford University, England. Several other geologists of high standing with other oil companies have passed favorably upon the Littlefield and Mesquite oil structure, which covers the land owned and controlled by the Virgin Oil and Mines corporation.

Mr. Gesell, the president of the company, stated that a limited amount of the stock of the company will be open for public subscription and that the plan of the company is to sell this agricultural land minus the oil rights to make a sufficient profit so the company can pay the stockholders a good dividend and make the stock worth more than it originally sold for to the purchaser. This plan will make the company a success, and profitable for all of its stockholders, even though the company fails to obtain gas or oil as a result of drilling wells on the property.

The reason that the Virgin River Oil and Mines corporation expects to make a good profit by selling the land, with water, to the public at a reasonable price is because the land was originally obtained for about $5.00 an acre, from the gov-

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She Counts Them Coming to Vegas From the East

"Driving over the desert to Los Angeles Saturday I just sat and counted the couples we met that were coming over here to get married."

Dorothy Keeler, who was dubbed "Cupid's Secetary" a short time ago because of her work as official marriage license vendor in the court house, was responsible yesterday for this statement. Mr. and Mrs. Keeler went to the coast to spend the week end.

Four licenses issued yesterday, supplementing the three filed Saturday, brought the total for this month up to 39, but three below last month's record of 42, all-time record for the county. This presages another record for this month which will be the third consecutive new record.

A local couple Herbert C. Harshbarger and Edith Ruth Fell were among applicants yesterday.

Alternate Care of Children Asked

Alfred W. Blackman Seeks Custody of Daughters Part of Time in Suit for Divorce; Three Cases Filed.

Seeking to keep custody of their two children during alternate years, giving custody to his wife the other alternate years, Alfred W. Blackman filed suit yesterday for divorce from Ethel Blackman.

The two children are now in Blackman's custody, and he seeks their custody for the first year after the granting of the divorce, which is sought on grounds of abandonment.

The children are Mary Ann Blackman, aged 4, and Martha Elizabeth Blackman, aged 2. The couple were married in Nashville, Tenn., in 1923.

Richard Busteed is attorney for the plaintiff.

Two other suits for divorce were filed yesterday.

Warren R. Greenlee seeks divorce from Alice B. Greenlee, to whom he was married in Los Angeles in 1908. Desertion is the basis of the complaint, and J. R. Lewis is attorney for Greenlee.

The two daughters, 19 and 17 years of age, are now with the defendant.

Ivy Marie Hartzog filed yesterday also for divorce from Charles Marvin Hartzog. Lewis Elliott Hartzog, aged 2, is in his mother's charge at this time, according to the complaint. I. S. Thompson is attorney for Mrs. Hartzog.

SAN FRANCISCO, June 17.—(U.P.)—Another month of life was granted today to Gordon Stewart Northcott, convicted for slaying on the Riverside murder farm, by order of the state supreme court here.

Second Traffic Accident Death In Week Occurs

The second automobile accident death within a week within a radius of twenty miles of Las Vegas occurred, yesterday, afternoon, about eight miles south of the city on the road to Los Angeles, when the driver of the car lost control.

Mrs. E. S. Beebe, 244 Magnolia avenue, Riverside, is the dead woman. She is believed to have been killed almost instantly.

Her husband, who was driving the Marmon roadster toward Las Vegas at a high rate of speed when he lost control of the car, was a bit bruised but virtually uninjured, although the automobile is believed to have skidded more than a hundred feet, and then hit the bank after one of the wheels had broken, turning completely about and facing in the opposite direction before it returned to the road.

Mrs. Beebe, whose body was badly cut and bruised in the impact which

The car, the front end badly damaged, was towed into Las Vegas and is said to be in extremely bad shape.

The other fatal automobile accident within the week was that in which Adolph Levy of Los Angeles was killed last Wednesday while taking his son to Salt Lake City to be married. He failed to see a detour sign in time and, due to excessive speed, and lack of sleep, perhaps, lost control of the car, caused her death, was brought to Las Vegas. Funeral arrangements had not been announced last night.

Seven Drowned When Passenger Plane Crashes

Six Survive When Airship Hits Water of English Channel; Americans Reported Among Passengers.

FOLKSTONE, Eng., June 17—(U.P.)—A huge passenger plane, the "City of Ottowa" carrying six women and seven men from Croydon Airdrome for Drurich, halted while over the English channel today and plunged into the sea three miles off Dungeness.

Seven of the passengers, including four women, were knocked unconscious by the impact and wedged so tight in the wreckage of the plane's cabin that they were drowned before aid reached them. One was identified as A. Meister, of New York.

The four others—two women, the pilot and mechanic—were saved by the quick action of an American business man, H. W. Gaitham, who kicked a hole in the side of the cabin, and threw three of them out. When rescuers climbed into the water-filled cabin, it was only to find the bodies of the others wedged under fallen luggage.

The City of Ottowa left Croydon on its regular scheduled flight at 10:30 a.m. The big plane got away nicely and kept in communication with the control power at regular intervals.

The pilot signalled at 11:30 a. m. that something had gone wrong and a moment later said he was trying to land beside a ship.

"Going down! Help me!" then flashed from the radio.

At that moment the spectators on nearby vesseds saw the big plane hurl itself at the water and strike with great force.

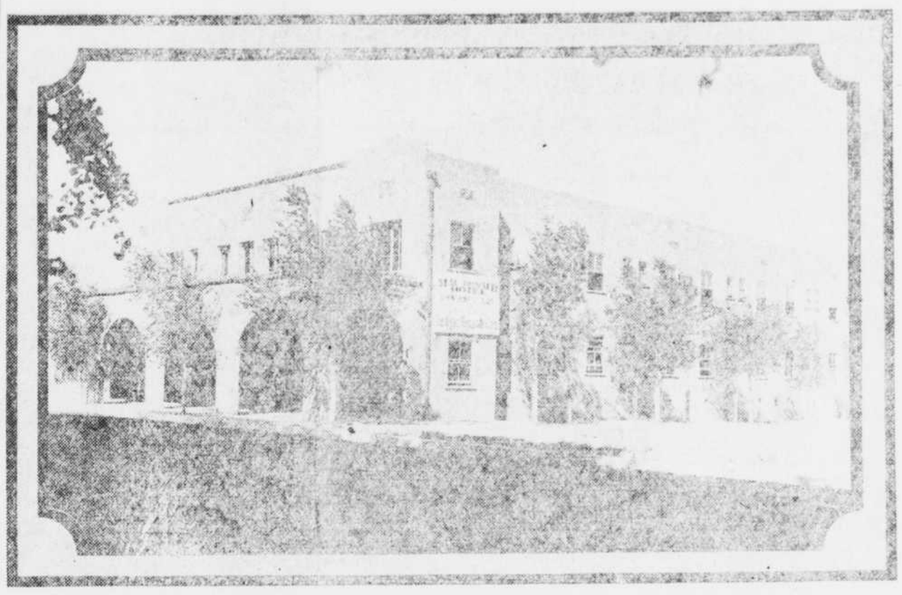
LONDON, June 17 (U.P.)—A passenger plane carrying 13 persons plunged into the English channel three miles off Dungeness today.

Seven of thos lost their lives. The other six were injured. Several Americans were aboard the plane, and were believed to have been among the injured, with one possible exception.

Those saved included Allan Fleming and Miss Marjorie Fleming, American tourists; Homer Gaitham, American business man from the middle west; Mrs. R. B. Smith, address unknown; H. R. Barnett, mechanic and R. G. Brailly, pilot.

An official statement of Imperial Airways, Ltd., operators of the plane, said all the dead were British, with the exception of A. M. Meister. His nephew told Imperial airways by telephone that Meister was a New York business man who lived in London.

New MacDonald Hotel Opens Today



River's Volume Now on Decline

Flow Passes High Peak; Has Been Lessening for Past Four Days, Says Report from Grand Canyon.

The Colorado river has passed its peak, and is going down, reports from the Grand Canyon during the last three days by the Boulder Canyon Navigation company show.

From a flow of 95,100 second feet passing Grand Canyon Friday, the following decrease is shown by the reports.

Saturday ..... 88,500 sec. ft.
Sunday ..... 82,900 sec. ft.
Monday ..... 80,800 sec. ft.

"This may mean the highest point for this spring is past," said Paul Swartz, of the navigation company, yesterday. "It is barely possible, however, that there will be another rise when the weather warms up."

It takes about a day and a half for the water passing Grand Canyon to reach Black Canyon, according to Swaartz.

Builder Planning 20 Bungalows

As pleasant news to home-seekers in Las Vegas comes word that a prominent Los Angeles builder intends to start construction immediately of twenty bungalows on as many lots the deal for the purchase of which was closed last night by W. K. Cox of Vegas Boulder Addition Number One.

These houses, all of which will be located on Vegas Boulder Addition Number One, will be sold on easy terms as fast as they are constructed, it is believed. They are on Fifth street and Harvard boulevard.

The builder, whose name has not as yet been disclosed, will remain in this city to attend personally to the construction of the bungalows, it is planned.

Hoover Son Modest As He Receives Stanford Diploma

PALO ALTO, Calif. June 17—(U.P.)—Desire of Allen Hoover, youngest son of President Hoover, to live as an ordinary citizen of the country was noticeable here today when he walked quietly across a stage and received a diploma of graduation from Stanford University.

The President's son received his diploma from Secretary of the Interior Ray Lyman Wilbur, without any more ceremony than attended a similar presentation to his mother and father here 33 years ago.

Eagles Baseball Team Lines Up 4 Games Ahead

Eagles Will Meet Los Angeles Outfit During First Two Days of Elks Convention in Las Vegas.

The Eagles ball team will be kept busy playing California teams for the next few weeks, with four games newly scheduled, according to an announcement made yesterday by Murray Golden, captain.

The thus-far undefeated squad of lodge boys will meet the Los Angeles, which has licked every professionals, next Sunday.

Then will come the Gur Smith club of San Bernardino, a game which has been in the offing for some time, and which is certain to be a nip-and-tuck affair between two good machines, according to dopesters.

During the first two days of the Elks' convention, July 4 and 5, the Eagles will play the healthy Pacific Fruit Express club, of Los Angeles, which has licped everything that came within range this year so far. These games are expected to be corkers, for when two habitually victorious teams come together, they are both going to be hard losers.

M'Donald Hotel To Open Today

New Two-Story Structure Has Forty Attractive Rooms; Will Cater to High Class Commercial, Tourist Trade.

One of the most attractive hotels in Las Vegas, the new forty-room MacDonald hotel, at 211 NoNrth Fifth, will open today.

This two-story structure, Spanish style and with an arcade over the sidewalk, was completed several days ago, since which time the furnishings have been installed.

Mr. and Mrs. A. H. MacDonald, proprietors of the hotel, are well-known old-time Nevadans, having owned and operated the Menlo hotel in Reno for eight years. They left Reno six years ago, investing in the Roosevelt hotel, on West 37th street in Hollywood, and the West Adams apartments, which two establishments they still own.

Mr. and Mrs. MacDonald will make their home in Las Vegas, attending to their other hotel interests from headquarters here.

The new structure is one of extreme beauty and taste, finished artistically within and without, and furnishings promoting both comfort and pleasure. There are thirty rooms with baths, and two two-room suites to the front, besides the suite to be occupied by the MacDonalds, and a spacious lobby.

Simmons beds and mattresses are used throughout the hotel, everything being of steel, and sanitation being one of the prime considerations in the outfitting of the place. The furnishings were all ordered through the Las Vegas Mercantile Corporation, Mrs. MacDonald stated.

The A. S. O'Neil Construction company of Los Angeles built the structure, which cost in the neighborhood of $75,000, it is stated. The hotel will cater to high class tourist and commercial trade.

Mrs. Freida Eich, whom Mrs. MacDonald knew in Reno, has been engaged as housekeeper, coming here from Detroit, with her daughter, Gertrude. Mrs. Eich was one of the heirs of the famous Robert Sheel estate at Yerrington.

Congress Votes $151,500,000 For Farm Fund

WASHINGTON, June 17 (U.P.)—Congress demonstrated how quickly it can act when necessary today by its speedy approval of an appropriation of $151,500,000 for operation of the farm relief bill, signed by President Hoover last week.

The President sent up his recommendation for the appropriation shortly after noon. Within three and a half hours both house and senate had passed the emergency resolution and the measure was ready to go back for Mr. Hoover's signature.

This opens the way for the beginning of farm relief. The final step will be appointment of the farm board by Hoover, which is expected within a few days.

Boulder Dam Day to Bring Distinguished Guests to Las Vegas

Dr. Ray Lyman Wilbur, Secretary of the Interior.
Tasker L. Oddie, United States Senator.
Key Pittman, United States Senator.
Samuel S. Arentz, Member of Congress.

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION OFFICIALS

Dr. Elwood Mead, Commissioner.
Mr. R. F. Walter, Chief Engineer.
Mr. J. L. Savage, Chief Designing Engineer.
Mr. L. N. McClellan, Electrical Engineer.
Mr. R. W. Steele, Designing Engineer.
Mr. Walker R. Young, Construction Engineer.
Mr. A. J. Wiley, Consulting Engineer.
Mr. L. C. Hill, Consulting Engineer.

June 21st Will See Memorable Occasion Here

Joint Committee of Mayor's and Chamber Plans Details for Reception of Boulder Dam Officials.

Plans to make June 21, Boulder Dam Day, the greatest event in the history of Las Vegas were brought near to completion at a meeting of the joint committee appointed by Mayor Hesse and Presiden Ham of the Chamber of Commerce held yesterday afternoon.

As a fitting recognition of the great part labor will play in the construction of the Boulder Dam project, the following names were added to the committee:

R. L. VanDusen, of the Carpenter's Union; Reynolds A. Putnam of the Painters' Union, Robt. Elser of the Plumbers' Union, Howard Hines of the Plasterers' Union, E. Roland Brauch of the Electricians' Union and L. O. Bates of the Barbers' Union.

Otis J. Smith, street commissioner, reported that all preparations have been made to have Fremont street and the adjacent streets as clean as possible.

Attractive Appearance

The committee appeals to citizens generally to remove all waste papers and other rubbish from their property so that the city may present an attactive appearence to the distinguished officials who will be here.

The welcome arch, being erected in permanent form across Fremont street at Main, will be completed and a dedication ceremony will be carried out Thursday evening beginning at 9:01 (1201 Washington time) the instant the signal is flashed over Western Union wires that the Boulder Dam bill is in full effect.

The streets will be decorated with the American Legion flags and streamers carrying flags will span Fremont street for seven blocks of its length, the whole forming an appropriate symbol of the greatness of the United States government under whose authority the Boulder Dam project will be constructed.

Will Broadcast

A committee on publicity to arrange for broadcasting the proceedings was appointed, consisting of J. G. Scrugham, Frank F. Garside and C. P. Squires.

Dr. Roy W. Martin was appointed a committee of one on decorations.

Ed W. Clark, J. G. Scrugham and C. P. Squires were appointed a committee to confer with Secretary Wilbur, Dr. Mead and Engineer Walter and to give them all possible information and assistance in planning to carry out the project.

Las Vegas is thoroughly alive to the significance of the occasion, the timeliness of the visit of the high officials of the government, who will have charge of all the details connected with the Boulder Dam project, and the celebration will be in a way a confirmation of the faith which Las Vegas for many years has held!

Blum to See Sister After 27 Years

For the first time in 27 years Edward A. Blum, of the Review staff, will see his sister, Estelle, of New York when she visits him coast to Pacific through the Panamhere after sailing from Atlantic by Blum.

Blum was the first Las Vegan to talk long distance from here to New York when he talked for three minutes with his sister, a short time ago. That was the first time in 27 years they had heard each other's voices.

The Blums moved from New York to San Francisco in the early days, leaving that city in 1898 and returning to New York. Blum, however, returned to the west later. That was 27 years ago, and most of his time he has spent in Nevada since then.

"My sister will see San Francisco for the first time in 46 years when she arrives there," said Blum. She sailed from New York Saturday on the S. S. Magnolia, according to a wire received here by blum.

She will visit Mrs. I. Guggenheim in Beverly Hills for a few weeks during her stay on the coast.

Unique Ceremony For Welcome Arch Dedication

Pageant to Be Climaxed in Unusual Fashion at Moment Boulder Dam Bill Becomes Effective, 9:01 P.M. Thursday.

With a unique feature probably never before used, the new welcome arch will be officially dedicated at 9:01 p.m. Thursday evening, June 21. At the moment the word is flashed to the Western Union circuits that it is 12:01 in Washington, D. C., and that the Boulder Dam bill is in effect, the pressing of a switch will send an electro-magnet crashing against a bottle of Colorado River water, splashing the contents over the newly completed arch.

This arch has been made possible by the generous donations of local business men, and through the labor furnished by the labor unions of Las Vegas.

Honoring the Swing-Johnson bill, authorizing the construction of a dam in Boulder Canyon, which bill will become effective at 12:01 a.m. eastern standard time, a mammoth celebration is being prepared under the direction of the local American Legion post.

The dedication of the arch will climax a pageant of dignity and beauty depicting the history of Las Vegas from the time when dinosaurs and sloths roamed the earth, until the present era, finding its highest development in the advantages to be procurred from the construction of a dam at Boulder Canyon.

To Be Permanent

The arch, by the newest plans, will be a permanent structure, one that will serve for other occasions after the arrival of the three prominent officials for the welcoming of whom the arch is being constructed.

In the first place, it will serve during the Elks' convention the first week in July, to welcome Elks from all over Nevada and the United States to this city, the Gateway to Boulder Dam.

It will then remain all summer and fall, and possibly for a year or so, to welcome the many thousands of visitors who are certain to flock to Las Vegas after actual construction to Boulder Dam is started.

Three Officials Coming

The officials to be received Friday are Secretary of the Interior Ray Lyman Wilbur, Dr. Elwood Mead, director of Reclamation, who has supervision of the whole operation of the construction of the dam, and Engineer Raymond Walter, who will be in direct charge of the construction of this great marvel of engineering.

E. Roland Brauch organized the project for the building of the arch, which was planned by James F. Brower, engineer, and the building of which is already well along, the foundations having been set and the superstructure begun.

The arch will have 13½ feet clearance and will be more than 50 feet wide, with two huge gates fastened open, as token of welcome. It is declared to be one of the most ambitious projects of its kind ever attempted in this city, and is being planned on a scale which will make it an object of pride, according to backers.

Actors' Union Battle Begins

NEW YORK, June 17.—(U.P.)—The long-awaited "battle of the movies" began today with a boom.

The Actors' Equity Association fired the first gun and claimed victory in the first skirmish in the war to unionize the actors in motion pictures as those on the legitimate stage have been organized.

A manifesto issued from Equity headquarters tonight announced that C. Cordoba, legitimate stage star, had prevented a filming of "On the Stage" by Pathe by refusing to report for work under open shop conditions.

C. Cordoba, the statement admitted, was the only actor to walk out on the production, but since he had been cast for the leading part, the action was sufficiently serious to hamper the picture.

Cordoba is a member of Equity's council. He was instructed not to sign his contract unless he received an Equity contract and "the cast conformed to Equity demands."