

LAS VEGAS AGE

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SATURDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER, 28, 1929.

MONEY NOT ALL-POWERFUL.

THE CONVICTION of Mrs. Pantages by a Los Angeles jury, proves once more that money is not all-powerful. Mrs. Pantages was charged with being responsible for the death of Juro Rockumoto who died as the result of her car chashing into the car in which the Japanese with his family was riding.
Money was spent lavishly—perhaps too lavishly—by the defense, but it was not powerful enough to convince the jury that the lady was not responsible for the loss of life. And, it should be said, the fact that the victim was a Japanese, did not change the opinion of the jury.

BIG VS. LITTLE.

WHEN WE come to compare the advantages of big and little cities we might as well begin with the most important item, the sum of human happiness. We in Las Vegas have all had experience in both kinds of cities, and come to get right down to the honest facts, we find more happiness in Las Vegas than in cities much greater.
It seems that we of the smaller cities have more closely knit friendships and more really happy times socially than is possible in the great centers of population. Here we may mingle with and enjoy our friends every day. In larger cities one is fortunate to see a friend once a month.
For a really jolly existence the small town is the best and judging from the busy social life of our people, the sum of human happiness reaches its apex right here in Vegas.

STARTING RIGHT.

LAS VEGAS is just entering upon some of the most important projects it has ever undertaken. Chief of these is the matter of planning and building a sewer system for a city of several times the size of the present Las Vegas.
It is a serious problem for the city commissioners to undertake, but the necessity is pressing and action cannot be deferred.
At yesterday's meeting of the board the city commissioners decided to employ a firm of eminent sanitary engineers to plan and carry out the building of the new system. At first glance it seems like an expensive undertaking. But, judging from past experience, the board believes that it would be poor economy to take any chances where the expenditure of something like a quarter of a million dollars is involved.
In deciding to employ Koebig & Koebig for the work, the city commissioners have, we believe, acted wisely.

AIRFIELD PROBLEM SOLVED.

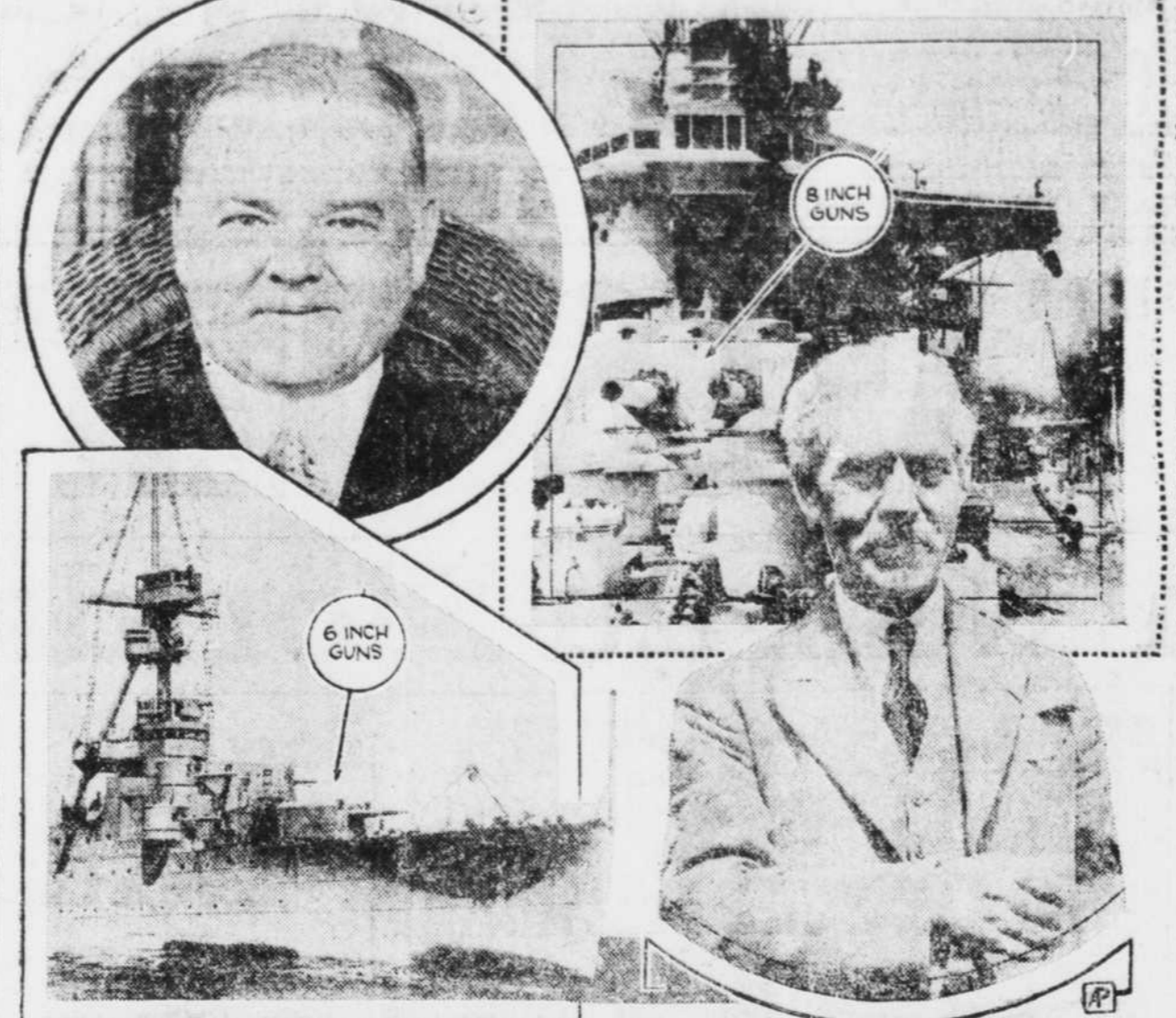
LAS VEGAS is fortunate that the problem of providing a modern, improved airport for Las Vegas is solved without the necessity of the city's undertaking to finance a municipal airport.
It has seemed to the Age that the business of air transportation has reached a stage where it no longer needs to be nursed at the expense of the people. For the most part the air lines are becoming self supporting and some of them, notably the Western Air Express, are on a dividend paying basis.
The City of Las Vegas and the Chamber of Commerce have spent considerable money providing a field for air traffic. It was done to assist and encourage a struggling infant industry.
Now that air transportation is an assured enterprise, there seems to be no more reason for the city to provide terminal facilities than there is to provide a railway station and yards for the railroad.
Las Vegas recognizes the joining of the Western Air Express with the Simon Airport as the logical and happy solution of a problem which has long troubled us. The result is doubly happy because it assures the cooperation of the government in making Las Vegas airport the equal of any in the country.

PAVING PUZZLE.

THE CITY Commissioners are again in the midst of the consideration of varying opinions concerning the proposed improvement of the southern portion of the townsite.
As a matter of fact we are just where we were 18 months ago on the first project. The great majority would like some type of paving. Some advocate an expensive pavement like that on Fremont street; others a cheaper improvement of the oil-bound gravel type.
There is no question but that the asphalt-concrete pavement is better. But the question is, what is it possible to have?
Because of the low valuation of property it is impossible to issue improvement bonds on the assessment district plan in an amount sufficient to secure the more expensive type of paving. It just simply can't be done.
But it is possible to improve the streets with oil-bound gravel. This type of paving, not so good, admittedly as the other will answer all purpose for a series of years, the time depending on the growth of traffic. It removes the dust nuisance, which alone is worth its cost. It provides a clean driving surface and immeasurably improves the appearance of and adds to the value of abutting property.
Then, whenever the necessity arises for a higher type of street surfacing, the new surface can be placed on the base already in place at comparatively small cost. At least nothing of the first expenditure will be lost.
All, of course, contingent upon doing the new work according to strict specifications and without any freak engineering such as we suffered on the first project.
The Age believes it would be good business for the property owners to agree unanimously that the city go ahead and improve the remainder of the streets with oil-bound gravel.

Naval Differences Measures Only Two Inches Now

Britain Wants 6-Inchers for Merchant Vessels; U. S. Wants 8-Inch



President Hoover and Premier MacDonald look genial enough here as compared to the rather vicious appearance of the 8-inch guns on the U. S. S. Pittsburgh (upper right) and the 6-inchers on the U. S. S. Detroit (lower left). It is the difference between 6-inch and 8-inch guns that has held up Anglo-American naval accord.



By DEMING SEYMOUR
NEW YORK—The schemes by which New York's astute men are occasionally tricked out of money are not always as complex as the currently famous ruse by which a Colorado banker obtained an unsecured \$300,000 credit from six Wall street financial institutions.
Often the swindler appeals to the same trait in the banker which appeals to in the small fry sucker with only a few dollars to lose—the desire to make some easy money.

A little while ago a well dressed man in his forties, with a business-like air about him, came into a big New York bank, presented his card and asked to see the president.
He got to the seventeenth vice president and refused to tell that subordinate the nature of his errand. Finally he was taken to the president's secretary, and even to her he declined to divulge his mission.
By this time the president had overheard the insistent caller. His interest piqued, he had him ushered in.

A Plausible Story.
When the mysterious caller was alone with the bank president, he explained:

"I'm a bank robber—cracking safes, mostly. I've been in the business almost a dozen years, and I'm ready to quit it. My money is in a Toronto bank. I'm going up there now to put most of it into permanent investments, and then I'm going to retire.
"I've pulled my last job. But some dicks from Pennsylvania are after me, and I want to get out of the United States and get out quick. I need \$5,000.
"If you'll give me your personal check for that amount, I'll write you a check for \$10,000 on my account in a Toronto bank. Here are my bank books—savings and checking."

He tossed onto the bank president's desk two worn bank books. They showed fairly steady deposits over a ten year period, and substantial balances.
"It's an unusual story," said the bank president finally, "but I believe it. You look to me like you're on the level, and so do these bank books."
He wrote out a \$5,000 personal check and sent it to be cashed. The visitor drew out his check book and gave the banker an order for \$10,000 on his Toronto bank. When the currency was brought to the stranger he thanked the banker and departed, leaving the financier smiling a bit quizzically, but certain he had made a neat \$5,000.

Epilog.
It was not until several months later that the banker told the story to his Wall street colleagues.
He told it a little sheepishly, for the \$10,000 check had come back from the Toronto institution marked "No Such Account." The bank books that looked so genuine had been forged and the personable stranger had been merely another bold swindler with a new story.
But the bank president wasn't alone in his sheepishness for long. Once his story was out, he learned that six other financial giants had been victimized in the same way on the same day.

MARRIAGE LICENSES
GRILL—ROLPKE; Saul Bernhard Grill of Gary, Indiana, to Ellen H. A. Rolpke, of Fort Crook, Nebraska. The application recites that Mr. Grill was previously married and that said wife is deceased. The bride also was previously married.

Stimson Hints at New Formula In Determining Cruiser Parity

By KIRKE SIMPSON
(AP) Feature Service Writer

WASHINGTON, Sept. 27.—Two factors loomed prominently among the hints given by Secretary Stimson as to terms of the impending British-American naval accord as he announced that the way had been reached for a new naval conference. They were:
First—That an extension of the naval building holiday of the Washington treaty and further reduction of battle tonnage, or deferment of replacement of battleships, was in prospect.
Second—That the contemplated cruiser parity under a new formula of measuring relative fighting power also would be reached in the future and by way of replacement agreements.

In the absence of detailed agreements still to be formulated, it would seem impossible to say just how many years would elapse before parity between the fleets of the two great naval powers would be reached in fact. Contemplated battleship parity under the 5-5 ratio treaty negotiated seven years ago has not been reached.
If the cycle of replacements of that treaty is to be revised as Secretary Stimson suggested, actual battleship parity may be set even farther away, although a reduction in size of the existing battleship fleets might begin at once.



By DUANE HENNESSY
United Press Staff Correspondent
HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 27 (U.P.)—"The Rogue Song," in which Lawrence Tibbett, the well known baritone, is starring for Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, will be an all-color production.
With Tibbett's voice, his appearance, his personality and the color, the studio thinks it has a box office winner.
Lionel Barrymore, who apparently has deserted the acting end of the film business for the director's chair, is making "The Rogue Song."

"Play Boy," the picture in which Harry Richmond, Clara Bow's current finance, is making his debut, is well under way at United Artists.
The combination of Victor McLaglen, star, and Raoul Walsh, director, is altogether too successful to break up, Fox believes. So an untitled feature is in preparation for the pair and will go into production next month.
Jean Eagles and Clive Brook will co-star in "The Laughing Lady" for Paramount.
Jean Marsh, who is remembered as a child actor, is a big girl now. She has been signed by Universal as a featured player.
Out at Fox they are going to make "The Lone Star Ranger." They dug it up for George O'Brien.

Doris Hill, Paramount's red-haired feature player, is to have the leading feminine role opposite Hal Skelly in the all-dialogue production "The Show Off." The picture probably will not be known as "The Show Off" on the screen, although it was divorced in the City of Mexico, March, 1929.

Six Entombed in Oklahoma Mine

COTEAU, Okla., Sept. 27, (U.P.)—Rescue workers were continuing their efforts to reach six men entombed in the Covington coal mine at Tahoma, eight miles northeast of here.
Faint hope is held by mine officials that any of the six are alive. They were imprisoned late today along with two other mine workers whose bodies have already been recovered, when gas in the mine exploded after several dynamite shots had been set off.



By KIRKE SIMPSON
WASHINGTON—Somebody on the Senate Naval committee named to investigate the Shearer-ship-builder activities during the General Naval conference, seems to think that W. B. Shearer and his associates might be chargeable with treason.
If you look up "treason" in the law books, you are compelled to wonder how he gets that way.
Even a layman must have the general notion that treason is confined to efforts to break down the government's war making powers in favor of an enemy. Just how it might be possible to bring treason charges when efforts were directed to forcing the government to increase its naval strength it is difficult to see.

Turning to the "annotated" constitution of the United States prepared and published in 1924 by G. Gordon Payne under the direction of Senators Charles Curtis and Frank B. Brandegee, chairmen respectively of the committees on rules and the judiciary, you find this to be the constitutional provision—and treason is a constitutional, not a statutory offense.
"Treason against the United States, shall consist only in levying war against them, or in adhering to their enemies, giving them aid or comfort."

Constitution Is Specific.
Summarizing the effect of cited supreme court decisions construing this clause, Mr. Payne says: "No other facts than those defined in the constitution can be declared to constitute the offense (of treason). Congress can neither extend, nor restrict, nor define the crime. Its powers over the subject is limited to prescribing the punishment."
And there you are. Now who among the trio of senators sitting on the Shearer investigating committee might have had that treason notion?

Two of them, Shortridge of California, chairman, and Robinson of Arkansas, the Democratic leader, are rather noted lawyers. They are classed among the senate's group of constitutional experts as a rule. The third member is Senator Allen of Kansas, holding down the seat so long ornamented by Vice President Curtis.
Is it possible that Mr. Allen is the source of the treason suggestion?

Allen Hoover Ally.
Allen's brief senate career has already had rather striking aspects. He figured in the news as a sort of Hoover spokesman during the farm bill fight, although it was never clear whether it was a voluntary spokesmanship.
Because of that, however, Allen's appointment to the Shearer investigating committee was coupled up by some commentators with President Hoover's special interest in and relation to the Shearer matter. There was speculation as to whether the Kansas sat as in a way presidential spokesman on the sub committee. Nobody claimed to know.
Newspaper Washington also awaited with interest Allen's entry into the tariff debate. It was figured he might prove to be a Hoover spokesman on that, or rather, those issues. But clearly the treason suggestion as to the Shearer matter seemed a little far fetched to be of White House origin, whoever put it forward.
A Sidney, Iowa, business man wanted to show friends how easy it was to cash a worthless check. He signed it "E. Z. Mark," and a few days later the sheffiff traced it back to him.

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