

Santa to Preside Over Community Christmas Tree in Park This Evening

For Reliable News

Of Las Vegas, Gateway to Boulder Dam, And of the World at Large, Read The Age; Complete Associated Press and United Press Services. A Leader For Nearly A Quarter of a Century



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THE WEATHER

LAS VEGAS—Yesterday: Max. 60; Min. 25. NEVADA—Fair Tuesday and Wednesday but unsettled in extreme north. Freezing at night. NEW YORK, Dec. 23. (U.P.)—Copper slow; at 18 cents domestic and 18.30 cents foreign. Lead fair. 6.10 at St. Louis and 6.25 New York. Zinc light. 5.25 to 5.50 E. St. Louis, low for year. High for year was 6.80.

RUSSIA ASKED TO AID SEARCH

Congress Fight on Rail Merger is Expected

FARM BLOC IS AGAINST PROPOSAL

They Do Not Believe Organization Would Cut Freight Rate; G. O. P. Pushes Plan

By PAUL R. MALLON
United Press Staff Correspondent
WASHINGTON, Dec. 23 (U.P.)—A fight in congress was foreseen today over the massive railroad consolidation plan of the Interstate Commerce commission. While the farm bloc members are priming with material to oppose the project because they do not believe it will reduce freight rates to the farmer, Republican leaders are planning a way to put teeth into the commission proposal. The issue probably will be taken up in the house and senate interstate commerce committees immediately after the holidays. The commissioners who signed the majority and those who attested the dissenting reports probably will be called as witnesses. The farm bloc is not yet decided as to how it can oppose the plan, or if opposition will be necessary. Under the law the proposal is largely up to the railroads involved. Most railroads have been inclined to favor a voluntary consolidation. The Republican leaders are wholeheartedly in favor of the commission proposal to link the rail systems of the nation into 19 extensive units, five in the east, two in New England, three in the South and nine in the West. They believe the consolidations will enable the gradual reduction of railroad rates.

'City Licenses Must Be Paid'

"Beginning Thursday we're going to insist vehemently that merchants who have not paid their quarterly city licenses fees make their payments immediately," said City Clerk Viola Burns yesterday. It will soon be time for the January 1 payment, for the first quarter in 1930, she pointed out, and it is urged that this be not allowed to accumulate. "Payment was due October 1, almost three months ago," she stated, "and we'll go to court to get these paid if those who have neglected to pay up do not come to time. That would add a fine, perhaps."

Saturday Golf Tournery Planned

A golf tournament will be staged by the Las Vegas Country club on Saturday, December 28, according to Dr. Wm. S. Park, president of the club. The tournery will start at 9 a. m. promptly, he stated yesterday, and will be an eighteen-hole medal play handicap.

MARRIAGE LICENSE ISSUED TO NEVADA COUPLE

William Howard McNeil of Goldfield, Nevada, and Thelma Gerber of Metropolis, Nevada, were issued a marriage license Saturday in Las Vegas.

INVALID MOTHER SEES SON BECOME OREGON GOVERNOR

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 23. (AP)—A. W. Norblad, 48-year-old lawyer of Astoria, Ore., and president of the state senate, stood beside the chair of his invalid mother, Mrs. Essie Norblad, 77, here today and took the oath of office as governor to fill the unexpired term of Governor I. L. Patterson, who died suddenly last night. Funeral services for Governor Patterson, 70, were conducted at the hall of representatives at Salem this afternoon.

BOULDER PROJECT GROWS

Editorial
The Boulder Dam project is fast reaching the final stage of its political life and will soon enter the phase of physical construction.

For nearly ten years the project has been buffeted here and there by those who have had political ambitions or financial interests to serve. It grew and thrived, gaining strength through the rough buffets it suffered and emerged, finally, into the stature of maturity. And just now the politicians are making their final threat toward it, and the project, secure in its legal position as a child of the government of the United States, stands confident and unafraid. It is now up to California and Arizona to compose their differences or forever after hold their peace. Governor Phillips shortly will announce his decision as to whether or no Arizona will again confer with her sister states of the lower basin in an effort to secure an agreement. If the conference shall be held, there is some hope for an inter-state compact, which, of course, is devoutly to be desired because it will remove all feeling of uncertainty from the public mind. On the other hand, should Arizona consider herself aggrieved, she would have no remedy through an injunction. She must first show that she has been injured—that her sovereignty as a state has been unlawfully invaded. Under the constitution of the United States the government has full power to build dams such as this and has many times done so.

An injunction, if ever, will be possible only after the government has begun to develop the power. It must be remembered that, under the Boulder Dam bill, Arizona is in no degree whatever, restricted in her right to appropriate and use all the water in the Colorado River. But, it is claimed, her grievance lies in the proposal to develop and sell power generated on a river partly within her border. The government has done this with practically all the dams it has built for reclamation or flood control purposes. It is an inevitable by-product of such an enterprise and is very properly made to repay some portion of the cost.

But, even in the matter of power, the Boulder Dam bill provides that Arizona may take if she chooses, one third of the power for use within the state. If she fails or refuses to avail herself of so much of a privilege, how can she maintain her demand for it all? It is the fixed and immovable policy of the government to proceed with the construction of Boulder dam, with or without the consent of any state. And the government of the United States has the power so to do. Just as soon as Arizona chooses her position, be it in or out, the Secretary will announce his final allocation of power and proceed through to completion just as has been done in many other similar cases.

NOMINATION KIDDIES TO LIST FOR LINE UP FOR GIFTS

Committee to Present Suggested Ballot For Election to Be Held on January 22
Singing of Carols and Music Led by Boys' Band to Be Followed by Presentations

By FLORENCE DONELY
Nominations for offices for the coming year in the Chamber of Commerce will be submitted to the organization this noon by a committee headed by A. S. Henderson. The luncheon meeting today will be devoted, with the exception of routine matters, to affairs pertaining to the annual election, which will be held January 22.

Please pay your dues
Lagging accounts hurt progress
Every member's help is needed
Advertising builds business
Solid progress follows
Except substantial development.

Please pay your dues
Advertising costs money
Your dues will help.

Yesterday is past
Opportunity lies before us
Underneath this is cooperation
Read—think—remit.

Dollars advertise
Unpaid yesterday—paid today
Easy—wasn't it?
Sincerely we thank you.

BUSINESS IN '29 SHOWS INCREASE

Merchants Pronounce This Year Best Yet Seen in Las Vegas For Total Turnover

Asked how business had been for the year 1929, Las Vegas business men show various reactions, the year being summarized, in general, as the most prosperous the community ever has seen. Fourteen statements, picked at random from business men, are published herewith as the first of a series to be run in four issues of The Age. Business men who have not as yet given quotations are asked each to prepare a brief statement summarizing the prosperity of the year 1929 in their respective businesses.

Will Beckley, clothier, Beckley's: "Our business was much better during 1929 than during the year before, and we anticipate a year of even greater prosperity for 1930."

A. Corradetti, Vegas Cleaning Works: "Business has increased more than 25 per cent this year over 1928. Right now there is more business in our line than there was last year at this time, and there are two establishments whereas there was but one two years ago."

O. J. Smith, Troy Steam Laundry: "We have increased our capacity about one-fourth during the past year by increasing space and equipment, and by employing a fourth more persons than we employed a year ago."

M. W. Davis, Jeweler: "We have increased our stock by three times during the last year, and our business in 1929 has increased fully 100 per cent over the previous year. Our outlook for the coming year is brighter than ever. We're going to do some expanding after the first."

Al Mimetle, Boulder Realty Corporation: "Boulder Realty corporation has had its best year in 1929, having sold out Boulder addition, the H. F. M. and M. addition and Garden Acres, almost entirely during the year. We've also sold a small addition in Block J, Park Place, almost entirely."

Leo Roth, Las Vegas Mercantile Corporation: "The first year of my business in Las Vegas has far surpassed my fondest anticipations. I feel that Las Vegas, regardless of any big building program, is well able to take care of its own, and conditions here are far better than those existing in the greater parts of the United States."

H. L. Perry, manager, J. C. Penney store: "During eight of the twelve months of this year the Las Vegas store of Penney's chain has led the entire business. We have had an increase in business every month of 1929 over the month previous, and a total increase of about 25 per cent of business this year over 1928."

Ed Clark, President, First State Bank: "The year 1929 has been the largest year in the history of the bank, which is now going on its twenty-fifth year. The last year, of course, has been unusual because of legislation pertaining to Boulder dam, which raised our resources for a time. Subsequently they have been reduced to more normal conditions. The entire year showed about a third increase above normal, with total deposits, clearings and loans correspondingly increased. While things in certain lines seem to be a little tight at present, in our judgment there has been an over-indulgence in use of the credit system, which necessarily causes a mild depression in payment of obligations." (Continued on Page Six)

\$200,000 IS GIVEN AS SEWER COST

Mains, Disposal Plant Estimate Submitted To City Board With Improvement Plans

The sewer mains and disposal plant for which tentative plans have been formed will cost Las Vegas \$200,000, according to estimates presented yesterday to city officials by Mr. A. H. Koebig. This does not include the laterals, which probably will be laid as a later improvement. It is believed. It is likely that there will be two improvements, the first to comprise the mains and new disposal plant, and the second the laterals, according to City Attorney Frank A. Stevens. The reason for this is the low assessed valuations of the properties affected.

U. P. Train in Crash in Kansas

HAYS, Kan., Dec. 23 (U.P.)—A head on collision between east-bound Union Pacific train No. 128 and west-bound train No. 21 at Gorham, near Ellis, Kan., at 5:30 a.m. today resulted in the turning over of two engines and a number of coaches of the trains and injured five members of the crews. Road officials were advised here. There were no fatalities and no passengers severely injured, according to reports received here. The injured were as follows: Engineer Walton on No. 21, severe bruises on head. Fireman Eblevin on No. 21, injured on head and arms. Mail clerk A. W. Berger, on No. 21, bruises on head. Tom Morgan, baggage man, on No. 128, bruised and cut, but extent of injuries not determined. Express messenger Hibbs, cut on head. Mrs. Lola Pitebaugh, Rawlins, Wyo., was slightly injured. She was removed to Hays Protestant hospital. Eblevin, Moran and Dalton were most seriously hurt. All were brought to Hays Protestant hospital. Traffic along the line was held up for three hours while wrecking crews cleared the tracks. Doctors from Hays and from Russell were sent to the scene of the crash.

Gore Is Elected To Head Barbers

The barbers' union yesterday evening elected William Gore president for the coming year. The other officers elected were as follows: Vice president, Arthur Parvin; secretary-treasurer, L. O. Bates; recording secretary, A. T. Berry; guide, C. K. Watson; guardian, J. A. Berry, and press secretary, W. O. Christie.

Cabaret Postponed Until Saturday

The Elks' Cabaret will be staged Saturday instead of tonight, it was announced yesterday by Art Harris, chairman of the committee in charge. Too many functions had been planned for Christmas Eve, he stated.

Stone Hit Him as He Rushed In to Place 2nd Charge

Because he returned to place the second dynamite charge before all the rocks had fallen from the first charge, J. Mendoza, employed at the United States Lime Corporation workings at Sloan, was struck on the head by a stone recently, and a deep two and a half inch gash was cut in his head. Three stitches were taken in his scalp at Las Vegas hospital, but fear that his skull had been fractured was found to be groundless. Mendoza will be absent from work for about two weeks, it is believed.

Maniac Armed With Sabre, Gun Spreads Terror

Man Attempts to Plunge Weapon Through Aged Rancher; Carries Suitcase, Framed Picture.

SANTA ROSA, Calif., Dec. 23 (U.P.)—Percy Walker, 45, San Francisco, was charged with attempting assault and held in jail here today after an alleged attack on Peter Larsen, 72, rancher, with a cavalry sabre earlier in the day. Walker, a lather who formerly lived here, denied the attack, and claimed that he visited Larsen, a rancher living just south of town, to collect \$57 due him for Christian Science nursing of Larsen's daughter.

Auto Hits Corradetti Delivery, Damaged

A collision yesterday morning at about 8 o'clock on Fremont at First caused slight damage to the delivery truck of Al Corradetti and about \$100 damage to the Chrysler touring car of Donald Williams when Williams became sun-blinded and ran into Corradetti.

Attractive New Dog Licenses Are Ready

Attractive new dog licenses have arrived in the office of the city clerk and are ready for dissemination. They are unique in dog-house design. The cost is \$2.50 for male dogs and \$5.00 for females.

FIGHT FARE INCREASE

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23 (U.P.)—The California state railroad commission and the city of Los Angeles today petitioned the supreme court for a rehearing of the case in which the court recently granted an increase from five to seven cents in Los Angeles street car fares.

Penney Consolidation Negotiations Are Off

NEW YORK, Dec. 23. (AP)—E. G. Sams, president of the J. C. Penney company, which operates a nationwide chain of 1400 retail dry goods and apparel stores, announced today negotiations for a merger with Sears, Roebuck and company have been definitely terminated. Reports that the two concerns were contemplating a merger were first heard a few weeks ago when it was heard the possible advantages of such a merger were to be surveyed. Sams said the survey is now terminated, results being negative.

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 23 (U.P.)—

Christmas cheer valued at \$3,000 fell into the hands of police today when they arrested Joe Williams, 21. The cargo, riding in Williams' automobile, consisted of rum and ale.

U. S. OFFICIALS SUGGEST SOVIET SEND SHIPS TO HUNT FOR LOST FLYERS

Letter From V. Steffansson, Famous Arctic Explorer, Moves Secretary Wilbur to Send Message Asking Aid in Finding Eielson, Borland, Lost in North Since November 9th

Santa Will Visit Japanese Children Tomorrow Evening

Japanese kiddies will have the opportunity to meet Santa Claus Wednesday evening at 7:30 at their little church west of the Union Pacific shops. Under the auspices of the Baptist church, gifts will be given out to these little tots. Mrs. C. H. Sloan and Mrs. Al Stone conduct regular American classes there each Sunday.

Gas Franchises Are Revoked

City Board Takes Away Permit Transferred From Crittenden to "Las Vegas Gas Company," Also Another.

Two Las Vegas gas system franchises were revoked yesterday afternoon by the board of city commissioners. The franchise granted some months ago to Mr. Crittenden of Los Angeles, which was transferred to the "Las Vegas Gas company," was revoked, the time limit for commencing of construction activity having passed.

Leaving the Clark County Gas company the privilege of continuing to conduct its business on its present basis, the franchise for laying of gas mains was revoked also from this company.

This franchise was granted originally to C. O. Lauritzen, head of the Clark County Gas company, and George Peabody, and was then transferred to Clark County Gas company.

New Yorkers Marvel At Bullet-Watching Exhibition on River

A party of six New Yorkers was visibly impressed Sunday not only with the trip by boat from the landing down to the Boulder dam site, but also by the sight of a bullet train of gas mains at the rate of 1500 feet a second across the river into a cave, in full sight during the entire distance.

This phenomenon, discovered three weeks ago by Murl Emery, boatman, Leon Schurr, Reno mining man, and another Reno man, was exhibited for the benefit of the six New Yorkers and H. G. Kellogg of this city.

Emery shot with a 44 Winchester, and for the 700 foot distance across the river into the cave the bullet was plainly visible to the eye.

It was 2:30 in the afternoon when the exhibition took place.

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