

# LAS VEGAS AGE

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TUESDAY MORNING, JANUARY 13, 1931.

### COMING ALONG

**YESTERDAY** morning government engineers opened bid for the construction of another half million dollar preliminary to the Boulder Dam project. Contracts already let cover the Union Pacific branch line, the Government Railroad and the Boulder Dam City to the River highway. The Union Pacific branch is now nearing completion. Work on the other contracts is about to begin.

About a week from today, in Washington, bids for the construction of a pipeline and other parts of the proposed water system for Boulder City will be opened. And on March 4, bids for something like one hundred and ten million dollars for construction of the great tunnels, power houses and the dam itself, will be let.

The great work is getting under way—slowly at first like a great steamship leaving the dock. Before we know it, the greatest engineering and construction works in the history of our country which has been a little slow in getting under way but now has a fair start, will be going full speed ahead with an activity which will not slacken for the next six or eight years.

### WHY HESITATE?

**JUST AT** this time the benefits and economies of building in Las Vegas are greater than ever before in the history of the city and, probably, greater than they ever will be again.

Pretty soon we will see prices of material increasing and labor becoming scarce. In the hurry to complete one job, so as to begin on another work will be sighted. And just at this time the investment of money in building operations will do more to benefit the community than it will when things get busy.

There seems no longer the slightest excuse for hesitation about the future of Las Vegas. If you contemplate taking any part in the big game of development into which Las Vegas is just entering, do it now.

### PAVING MEETING

**TOMORROW** (Wednesday) afternoon at 3:00 o'clock, the city board will meet again to hear the report on the checking of names on the paving protests. Those who are interested one way or the other should attend the meeting. And they should feel perfectly free to state their wishes and their preferences in the matter.

There will always be two sides to every question. And the mere fact that we do not agree with somebody else is no reason why we should be bitter or hateful about it.

The Editor of the Age has been observing things in Las Vegas a long time. We have seen a lot of bitterness and some nasty hates. But it seems to us that none of them were justified.

This paving business has given rise to much difference of opinion and considerable hard feelings in the past. Perhaps it is inevitable that our eagerness to have things our own way should cause us to lose our consideration for the other fellow.

What we are trying to say is, why can't we devote ourselves more to facts and figures and ways and means and the merits of the matter and less to personalities and abuse of the other fellow who happens to see the problems differently from ourselves.

The Age realizes that we have made mistakes in our paving programs in the past because of too much personal bitterness and too little attention to the practical details of the project.

### PROPERTY OWNERS' RIGHTS

**THE WISHES** of a majority of the property owners, it seems quite proper, should guide the board of city commissioners in their consideration of street improvement programs. Sections of the city where the owners of a majority of the street frontage are against the improvement should be left out.

This applies in the case of the present improvement program to the blocks adjoining Mesquite street in the northeast corner of the proposed district and also to that portion south of Garces street. The owners of property in those portions of the district appear to be opposed to the improvement at this time.

As to Fremont between Fifth and Eighth, there seems to be a difference of opinion as to whether they should leave the street as it is, or should take advantage of federal aid to get a better street than they now have.

Since the city proposes to assess the entire cost of the improvement over and above the amount of federal aid money, to the property owners, it seems that it is their own problem. The board of city commissioners probably is perfectly willing to do whatever those who will have to pay the bill wish to have done.

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## House of His Boyhood Escapades Is LaFollette's Home as Governor



Philip LaFollette, Wisconsin's new governor, goes back to scenes of his boyhood in returning to the state's executive mansion (above). He lived there more than 25 years ago when his father was governor.

MADISON, Wis., Jan. 12 (AP)—As boy and man Philip LaFollette has lived in the governor's mansion here.

Going back as Wisconsin's governor this January, it is to the house in which he played as a boy.

He first moved there as a boy of three in 1901. He lived there about five years while his father was governor.

The region along Lake Mendota's shores where the house stood then was known as "Big Bus Hill." Its residents comprised Madison's elite, and they had pretentious homes.

One of the residents was Judge John B. Cassaday of the supreme court. On his porch Phil first learned to make speeches—and at the age of five or six he gave a discourse on the primary election day.

It was in the governor's home where Phil first learned about party avors—during preparations for a party to be given by his sister, Fola.

Guests were mystified to find at their places at the table small locks of hair, tied with bits of ribbon. Phil's appearance afterward told

the story—with great gaps in his hair.

One night the LaFollette boys spent a state occasion by dumping a cloud of dust and cobwebs on the middle of a dinner table around which sat Governor and Mrs. LaFollette and some of the major lights of the state government.

The house was heated in those days by stoves, and "registers" permitted heat to rise to the rooms above. Denied a place at the table the boys stationed themselves at a "register" immediately over the center of the table and opened it to hear better.

The dust cloud fell on the centerpiece. Mrs. LaFollette laughed about it, but "Fighting Bob" was not so genially disposed and Bob Jr., spent the next afternoon alone in his room, "thinking it over."

The mansion's lawn ran down to the lake and the boys learned to swim and row. There were stables, and they learned to ride. The stables now are gone—to make way for a modern garage, and "registers" have given way to central heating.

### HOLLYWOOD'S FILM SHOP

By DUANE HENNESSY (United Press Staff Correspondent)  
HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 12 (UP)—Marlene Dietrich, the German importation who established herself on the American screen in "Morocco," won her screen chance principally through one sentence spoken in English.  
"Three cheers for the gentleman who has won the grand prize."  
She was appearing on the stage in Berlin in "Zwei Kravatten," a musical show currently popular, and the sentence was part of her role.  
Joseph von Sternberg, American motion picture director in Germany at that time to direct Emil Jannings' first all talking vehicle, "The Blue Angel," was experiencing difficulty in finding a leading woman. The picture was to be made in both German and English.  
"We had cabled to America offering the part to Gloria Swanson," von Sternberg said. "She was unable to accept. Then we cabled Phyllis Haver, who had played opposite Jannings in his first American picture, 'The Way of All Flesh.' She cabled back that she had re-

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NEW YORK — Typical New Yorkers:

Ella Maxwell—New York is just a week-end visit for her. Then she sails for London or the Riviera again. She gives the grandest parties in town, and she is an excellent mimic and pianist. Once she said, "I can only describe New York as waste, but want not."  
Eddie—He's the stage doorman of a theater in West Forty-seventh street. Nine years ago he wrote a song, but he's never been able to sell it. We asked him if he never got discouraged about his song. "Nepe," he answered, "why should I? When the theater is empty, I sit on the stage and sing it to myself. I like it, even if no one else does."

Prof. Fernandez—If you wander around the cheap taverns of Greenwich Village you are sure to meet him. He is a teacher of elocution and etiquette, but, as he says, business isn't so good these days. In other years, when they believed in such things, he taught young debutantes the proper way to accept a proposal of marriage, and other such points of etiquette.  
He is rather discouraged about the present generation which won't be bothered about niceties of behavior. He still carries around a chair which illustrates the proper ways for young ladies to express different emotions, such as love, anger, anguish, horror and happiness.

Blonde Ingenue—Miss Insincerity—that, of course, isn't her real name, but that is what

they call her around Broadway. She is a striking blonde ingenue, with all the tricks of a born coquette. She gushes in her enthusiasm over every new person she meets. In three years this gift for flattery has raised her from the chorus to the throne of a star.  
Nancy Carrell—She went to Hollywood to win fame and fortune, but she is still a red-headed Irish girl from the Bronx. When she was in the chorus of a Broadway show, she married a newspaper man. She is still married to him, and they have a baby, Patsy. She doesn't like publicity about Patsy. She has a quick wit.

Southern Ladies—Mrs. Cavendish—She lives in Astoria, on Long Island, and she hasn't the least idea where she is going to get this month's rent money. As the beautiful debutante daughter of one of the First Families of Louisiana, she was reared in all the luxury of a southern plantation.  
Six months ago her properties failed, and she and her daughter were left penniless. The daughter is a lovely girl of 21, and she wanted to come to New York for a career. The mother spent their last dollar to bring the two here.  
The daughter is not equipped for a stage, business or artistic career. She was educated to be a lady.  
Helen Hayes—She is one of the most sweet tempered of stage stars. She is married to Charles MacArthur, one of Broadway's most successful wags.  
Once she had to make a radio ad-

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**DROUGHT CUTS DANGER OF SPRINGTIME FLOODS!**  
WASHINGTON, Jan. 12 (UP)—Last summer's drought, which proved so disastrous to farmers, will provide some compensation in the form of fewer floods in the larger rivers during 1931, according to M. W. Hayes, chief of the river and flood division of the U. S. weather bureau.  
The outlook for floods this spring is less than it has been for many years. Subsoil moisture has been depleted by the drought and this supply must be replenished by a vast amount of water soaking into the ground before there will be enough water in the large rivers to cause floods.  
The Mississippi river has a lower water supply now than it has had since 1925. In 1926, after the dry season of 1925 there were no floods of consequence along the Mississippi.

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