

LAS VEGAS AGE

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SATURDAY MORNING, JANUARY 17, 1931.

A FUTILE SACRIFICE

THE TRADEWIND with its brave pilots, Mrs. Beryl Hart and Lieut. Wm. S. McLaren, left Hamilton, Bermuda last Saturday at 11:25 a. m., hoping to fly through a stormy sky and over a rough sea to the Azores, 2,000 miles away. They have not been heard from since and without doubt perished miserably.

It seems that there are too many futile and foolish attempts being made to perform spectacular feats in aviation. Too often no reasonably complete efficient equipment is used and those making the attempts are themselves not qualified by education or training.

Some authority should be established to prevent such disastrous efforts. The risk is great enough when every factor is favorable.

Instead of assisting in the development of aviation such attempts as this are immeasurably harmful. It is pitiful enough to see two fine, brave spirits lose their lives. It is more pitiful when we realize that their sacrifice is futile.

FEDERAL BUILDING

BIDS FOR surveying the site of the proposed federal building will be received by the supervising architect of the treasury and opened January 27, 1931, in Washington.

This is apparently a small matter, but it is a very necessary detail in the preparations for building.

Tentative plans for the building have been under way in the office of the supervising architect and after the site is surveyed the final details of the plans will soon be perfected.

The government is slow but sure. And once it embarks on an enterprise there is no stopping it.

A GREAT ENTERPRISE

WE ARE REMINDED that the Naval Ammunition Depot at Hawthorne, Nevada, is another great enterprise which the government has been constructing in this state.

The news columns tell us that the government has expended \$982,000 on the work since July first. The storage plant itself is said to be 95 per cent complete, the total cost of the station being nearly three million dollars.

In addition to the station construction there are still to be built a mine-filling plant at a cost of \$333,800 and a dam for storage of water costing \$165,000.

The Hawthorne work has been of much benefit to Nevada and will continue to be a source of some income to the state for as long as the navy floats.

Senator Oddie is cooperating with the Navy department to have the necessary appropriations for carrying on the work included in the first deficiency bill.

It is hard for us to realize that the station is open and ammunition has already started moving in.

COUNTY JAIL NEED

THE BOARD OF County Commissioners has been looking forward to the time when a new county jail would become a necessity and have devoted some time to a preliminary study of the needs of the county.

Just now the county jail is crowded. Holding sittings of the United States court in Las Vegas has made it necessary to keep federal prisoners in the jail here and adds greatly to the need for more adequate jail accommodations.

The city jail is also over crowded and as time goes on will be more so. The present county jail is none too large and if it could be taken over by the city would only partially relieve the situation.

The Age believes that the time is ripe for the county to start a building on the court house block to house the jail, the district attorney's office and the law library and perhaps an additional court room. And the benefits of building now rather than waiting another year or two would be great.

WASTED EFFORTS

AFTER MONTHS of discussion, much labor and some expense the street improvement proposal, except for the federal aid project on Fremont east of Fifth, has been abandoned by the city board.

A very large majority of the property owners have for many months sought to have an improvement program undertaken. Meeting after meeting was held and finally a committee of citizens reported a plan of action which had general approval. Those sections where there was any substantial opposition were dropped out of the program. And finally it appeared that there was practical unanimity in favor of improving a certain limited district. And just when the thing was put in shape where the property owners involved were practically a unit, the whole thing was dropped and the work of a year or more thrown away. Which is not encouraging to the forward-looking citizens who believe in improvements.

Leave Your Address With Western Union



WASHINGTON BYSTANDER

BY KIRKE-SIMPSON
WASHINGTON—In that all but forgotten day when the tariff fight started in the senate, the Hon. Jim Watson of Indiana, Republican leader, arose to make a speech.

He does not do that very often; he just dips into debate now and then. Most times he's busy behind the scenes with duties of leadership.

Yet on that long ago occasion, Senator Watson said one thing that impressed itself on the Bystander's memory particularly:

"We all have a good time when- ever I make a speech," he remarked at the conclusion of a tilt with somebody over on the Democratic side.

Free-For-All

And that is true. Senator Watson on his feet to do an outward and visible job of leadership means invariably a political free-for-all of the sort much loved by the press gallery.

He makes it a habit to yield to anybody who likes to interrupt him and shoot barbed political darts at him. He seems to like the give-and-take of that kind of debate.

And being a man of quick wit with a liking for humorous jibing, he usually manages to give as good as he gets.

That Watson trait cropped up instantly when he undertook after days of Republican silence under the steady fire of Hoover relief program criticism from the Democratic trenches in the senate, to say a few words about non-partisan cooperation.

It was not an easy job to do, for that White House "playing-politics-at-the-expense-of-human-misery" statement complicated things. Watson had no intention of talking about that at all. And he didn't.

Back and Forth

But before anybody brought that up, Watson and Thad Caraway of Arkansas, that rambling verbal sharp-shooter of the Democratic cohorts, had tangled repeatedly.

Watson stands at his own desk while he talks. Caraway roams around the senate, hands in trousers pockets, head tilted forward. Up and down the aisles he goes, in and out among the desks, and comments and retorts fairly drip from his tongue.

"Did I understand the senator to say this cooperation was going forward?" Caraway asked.

"That is my understanding," said Watson.

"Then why is the senate being lectured?"

"I am not lecturing; I am exhorting."

"Exhorting?"

"Yes; I am exhorting the senator. He goes to church often enough to know the difference between a sermon and an exhortation."

So it goes. Everybody had a good time when Jim Watson makes a speech.

Suits Filed In District Court

Christopher J. Horan, plaintiff, vs. Margaret M. Horan, defendant. The parties married June 10, 1914, at Lowell, Mass. Four minor children. Divorce sought on grounds of insanity. Stevens, Henderson, Noland & Noland, attorneys for plaintiff.

Boulder Canyon Land Development Co., plaintiff, vs. General Realty Corp., formerly named T. J. Lawrence Co., defendants. Suit to recover on note for \$300,000. Mortgages given on Artesian Park Estates and Winterwood ranch. Frank R. McNamee, Leo A. McNamee and F. R. McNamee, Jr., attorneys for plaintiff.

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Brest Seeking U. S. Tourists

BREST, Jan. 16 (UP)—A campaign to make the port of Brest the gateway to France for American tourists has been started by the Chamber of Commerce. This may further reduce the sea-voyage from America to Europe by 12 hours.

Brest was the principal maritime base of the A. E. F. because it was the port nearest to the United States and that is why, the local boosters assert, Brest should also become the port of entry for American peace time visitors.

Advantages claimed for Brest are that its harbor is eight kilometers long and five kilometers wide, capable of receiving the largest liners; also, that the ocean voyage can be reduced 20 hours by debarking at Brest instead of le Havre, thus avoiding the Channel, often covered by fog, or very rough; further, that the port equipment is the most modern and efficient in Europe today.

Formerly, it was argued, that Brest was too far from Paris, but the new express of the State Railways cover the distance in eight hours instead of ten hours, 30 minutes as formerly.

Orchids Popular For Street Wear

WASHINGTON, Jan. 16 (AP)—Orchids are popular for mid-winter street wear, dark coats and furs providing an effective background. Mrs. Arthur Vandenberg, wife of the senator from Michigan, wears orchids with a tight-fitting black coat trimmed with brown mink collar.

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MARK BARRON ENTERTAINS YOU IN HIS COLUMN A NEW YORKER AT LARGE

NEW YORK—New Yorkers are so used to being given synthetic stuff, they feel they are being swindled if offered the real product. If a New Yorker orders pork, he cannot be too sure that he is really getting to get hog meat.

Not until we went to the country did we discover that when we ordered calf brains and scrambled eggs in New York, that what we really were given was a sort of oatmeal mixture and eggs.

So one can understand the telegram which came from Rouben Mamoulian, who is directing Clara Bow's new picture. He is in California now, and wired a produce firm here to ship him "a box of real New York oranges."

A similar incident happened to Francis Albertani, who stages fights at Madison Square Garden. Albertani was in Florida recently and ordered a glass of orange juice. He had been drinking the synthetic juice in New York so long, he thought these sleek Floridians were trying to serve him something else.

Moneyed Acres

If New York skyscrapers must push their spires 250 stories into the air, they cannot encroach upon Central Park. That plot of ground remains Nature's independent fortress amid the materialism of Manhattan.

For that reason, the land in Central Park is practically invaluable.

It is estimated that the land along the Fifth Avenue side is worth \$30,000 a front foot. The plot on which the Casino stands is valued at three billion dollars.

The Casino is municipally owned, but only the wealthy voters can afford to go there. Every Sunday night a lavish party is given. We went to one given by Eddie Dowling, the actor. Mayor Walker was there, and so was Boxing Commissioner Farley and Molly Picon, the Jewish actress.

Tests His Theories

There is a well known writer (he comes from Georgia) who likes to test theories that occur to him.

A few months ago he wondered if modern men retain any of the fighting spirit which made knights in the middle ages challenge one another to a joust whenever they met along the road.

The author's plan was to enter a restaurant and loudly shout, "I can whip any man in the place." The first place he tried out his theory was in a bar in Paris. The man who accepted his challenge is the champion duelist of France.

He decided to postpone his experiment until he returned to his own country. His first challenge in a New York restaurant was taken by Mickey Walker.

The author discarded his experiment.

Clarence Buddington Kelland tells of an author who had just finished a new book. "Just before publication started," he says, "one para-

graph was discovered in it that somebody understood. This necessitated revising the whole book."

A broken right wrist has added the game of Sidney Yates, Chicago university forward. He practiced last season with it in a cast and is now ambidextrous.

Al Rogero, Florida halfback, went through the football season un-injured, only to slip in the back yard of his fraternity house and break a leg.

BARBER AIDS UNEMPLOYED BY GIVING THEM HAIRCUTS

WATERLOO, N. Y., Jan. 16 (UP)—Unemployed men and poor children of Waterloo were "spruced up" recently by William F. Menzer, a local barber, who believes that a fellow stands a better chance of landing a job if he looks neat.

Menzer gave over a day to free barbering, cutting hair and shaving gratis every man who entered his shop and said he was out of work.

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