

# LAS VEGAS AGE

PUBLISHED TUESDAY, THURSDAY and SATURDAY Mornings by Charles P. Squires, Editor and Publisher, at the AGE BUILDING, Fremont Street, Las Vegas, Nevada, and entered in the Postoffice at Las Vegas as Second Class Matter.

MEMBER OF— ASSOCIATED PRESS — UNITED PRESS ASSOCIATION  
Associated Press is exclusively entitled to the use for republication of all news dispatches credited to it or not otherwise credited to it, and also the local news published therein. Rights of republication of special dispatches herein are also reserved.

DESCRIPTION RATES — By Carrier or Mail — Per Year, \$5.00  
Six Months, \$3.00, Per Month, Fif y Cents  
ADVERTISING RATES, ON APPLICATION

SATURDAY MORNING, MARCH 28, 1931.

### COTTON FLYING.

**A**GAIN Las Vegas air is all fluffy with cotton from the feminine variety of the cottonwood trees.

We hope not to be accused of being ungallant, but it would seem quite proper to put such offending trees to death. A year or two ago a survey was made of all the cottonwood trees in town and the offenders marked.

The survey developed the fact that there are comparatively few of the cotton bearing trees in proportion to the others, and that to cut them down would very slightly reduce the amount of our shade. They are nearly always crowded in where they are doing no particular good.

Just about the only drawback to the growing of cottonwoods for shade in this climate is the cotton nuisance, produced exclusively by the female trees.

Perhaps we do have too many laws already, but it seems that an ordinance declaring these cotton bearing trees a nuisance would add much to the spring-time pleasure of Las Vegas.

### LOW FARES

**T**HE Union Pacific spasmodically offers low excursion fares as it is doing this Easter. Which is pleasant for those who plan to travel just at this time.

But such spasmodic competition with the motor busses will do but little toward bringing back the business that the railroads have been losing. Most of us would prefer to travel by rail, were it not for the fact that we can travel either by bus, or by our own automobiles, both quicker and cheaper than by train.

There is in some high places in railroad organization, the suspicion creeping in that the railroads have gone to extremes in building powerful, heavy and very expensive locomotives and coaches and freight cars, and running such heavy trains in passenger and freight service.

The railroads have the finest highways in the world. It seems strange they cannot compete in speed, safety and cost with trucks and busses which have to bump along over ordinary highways. To the ordinary citizen not versed in the intricacies of railroad operation it does seem that light transportation units operated by gasoline on the railroad tracks would give better, faster and cheaper service than busses or trucks on highways can.

### CITY ZONING

**O**NE of the things which is putting the brakes on the steady advance of Las Vegas is the lack of a zoning ordinance. Those who furnish money for building operations in other cities are accustomed to the protection which a system of zoning provides. When they come to look the field over in Las Vegas they are shocked to learn that there is no protection whatever in the way of zoning. If they build a handsome residence they have no assurance but that a garage or service station or blacksmith shop may establish itself next door and greatly damage the character of the property.

It really is a serious thing. Zoning is considered a most important part of city government in most cities. Here we seem afraid to take the first step.

A year or two ago the city planning commission after much study and consultation reported a suggested zoning plan to the city board. That is as far as the matter went. The plan was as good probably as could be developed for a start, although probably not nearly perfect. But the important thing is to make a start and then change from time to time as the city grows and conditions change.

No zoning ordinance is ever perfect or final, yet Vegas would find it much easier to secure the necessary financing for buildings if we had at least the skeleton of a zoning ordinance.

### EMBARRASSING

**A** WOMAN, apparently a stranger in town, accompanied a man into the Boulder Club the other evening just to see the wild and woolly west she had read so much about. They stopped at the roulette wheel.

After looking on a few moments she timidly reached over and dropped a half dollar on the board. It landed on the 00, just as the little ball stopped spinning and popped into the 00 pocket. As the croupier shoved a stack of silver dollars to the lady she showed that she was extremely embarrassed. She expected to lose her half dollar; in fact was paying for her entertainment and had no expectation of winning. And she reached for the stack, hesitated and drew back. Then as the croupier started the little ball spinning again, she made a quick decision, seized the winnings and made for the door as fast as she could go.

Now, what's the moral? If any.

Leave Your Address With Western Union



### WASHINGTON BYSTANDER

**By KRKE SIMPSON**  
WASHINGTON—What contracts as the seventy-first congress jogged its way into history?

In the senate clashing opinion vented itself in a die-hard filibuster that resulted in what many considered as a retort discourteous to President Hoover.

In the house an hour of formal expressions of regret at parting, voiced regardless of party lines, bade farewell to the more than three-score lame-ducks; then a strange and impressive hour of old songs and fellowship, with politics forgotten.

The senate adjournment, however, was not unprecedent. In rare instances that body has walked out before without complying with the President's formula of notifying the President it was ready to quit; if he had no further communication to make. Mr. Hoover said in the room set apart for presidential use at such times, a dozen steps from the senate doorway. Yet he was ignored.

It is difficult to see what anybody could gain by such a happenstance; nor is it certain that any senator deliberately set out to bring it about. Quite likely it was just a product of the tense and irritated feelings in the senate which produced the one man filibuster under the blight of which the session just flickered out, like a spent candle.

**Love Feast**  
But that drab scene in the senate served to throw into stronger relief the utterly different mood in which the house shut up shop. Such a love-feast of farewell to the lame-ducks; such a hearty and vigorous rendering of the old, homey songs for the hour's sing-fest, that followed house adjournment never was known before. It could not happen in any other of the "parliaments" of the world.

Speaker (or ex-speaker, as he now is) Longworth contributed something to the tempo of that parting of the house. His little speech of appreciation for a resolution introduced from the Democratic side of (the house) thanking him for his services as a square-shooting speaker had just the right mixture of sentiment and lighter touch. It takes tact to make a good speaker, and Nick Longworth again proved himself.

**Even Tears**  
Woodrum of Virginia, as presiding genius of the post-adjournment song-fest, was in his element. He has a flair for that sort of thing and a mighty good voice of his own. He even got the press gallery to contribute a few "barber-shop" chords instead of barbed criticisms. To the Bystander it was all significant of one thing. Despite popular election of senators, the house is still a lot more human and close to the home folks than the senate.

Under the lure of those old songs the house of the seventy-first congress demobilized singing "God Be With You Till We Meet Again," and with a good many wet eyes. Such is American politics.

A bill which would require lobbyists to register in order to visit the house chamber, under penalty of \$1,000 fine, is before the Iowa house of representatives.

### Navy Veteran Hoover Skipper On Rest Cruise

WASHINGTON, March 27. (AP)—A man with 18 years' sea service, who is physically and mentally the "Hoover type," is the skipper-host of the President on his Caribbean cruise.

Capt. Charles S. Freeman, commanding the battleship Arizona, long ago was nicknamed "Horaz" Freeman by fellow officers because of his zest for work and remarkable endurance.

Five feet 11 inches tall, big and deep chested, he looks like a fitting commander for the old warship.

Fond of the sea and devoted to the service, Captain Freeman has spent much time developing a broad knowledge of naval affairs. He has made an intensive study of tactical and strategic problems and has a reputation as an organizer of high ability.

Under the eyes of the Chief Engineer, he has an opportunity to demonstrate his talent in piloting the newly-modernized Arizona and its crew into shape to take a regular position in the battle fleet in June.

Captain Freeman has commanded ships and squadrons in peace and war. His assignments have taken him to almost all of the seven seas. Distinguished service in commanding transports which carried American troops to France through waters infested with German submarines and mines won him the Navy Cross.

For three years Captain Freeman was superintendent of the naval observatory in Washington, being the first man of his rank to be given that post in modern times. He is 52 years old and a native of Erie, Pa.

### Mellon Approaches 76th Birthday Untouched By Strain Of Big Task



Andrew W. Mellon, secretary of the treasury, enters his 77th year March 24, seemingly in excellent health despite the strain of holding the world's biggest financial job under three presidents.

WASHINGTON, March 27. (AP)—A shy, delicately-featured, slender man, custodian extraordinary of money bags the world has known, soon will enter his 77th year.

And the indications are that Andrew William Mellon, secretary of the treasury and dean of the Hoover cabinet, will take the next lap with the placid, sure-footed stride that has brought him apparently untroubled through combat with congress and the other turbulent periods of official life under three presidents.

March 24 Mr. Mellon celebrated his 76th birthday. He spent the day very quietly here in his Pittsburgh home.

A year ago, after three-quarters of a century of living, he said he found "life full and interesting." He expressed the wish that he could live to see the next three-quarters of a century in American life.

Mr. Mellon's father, from whom he inherited a great banking business and a fortune, lived to be 96. His mother attained the age of 93 years.

He does not look, however, like a man of great physical stamina. Thick white hair on a long slender head above sharply-cut features, and a pinkish white complexion

gives him the fragile appearance of fine china. A gentle, diffident manner and dreamy blue eyes belie the title "watchdog of the treasury."

From his 15-room apartment on Massachusetts avenue, he often walks the mile to his office, ever on business mornings. Frequently he walks home again to enjoy a substantial lunch more like the old-fashioned midday dinner.

Returning to the treasury department in his motor car, an old black limousine as aristocratic-looking as its occupant, he usually stays at his desk until 6 o'clock.

His dislike of display and personal propaganda is proverbial. Rated a poor "mixer" in the ordinary sense of the word, he is reputed a delightful companion and gracious host, who enjoys small dinner parties where the guests are selected friends.

### White and Brown For Evening Wear

WASHINGTON, (AP)—White and brown are combined in an evening dress of white satin. Cut very low in the back, the dress has a huge bow at the waist line.

The only other trimming is a narrow edge of brown net around the low cut neck in front.

Democratic leaders who suggested a substitute for the 18th amendment started a riot in the party that is still going strong. We are wondering if the Republican statesmen who oppose this amendment will have a more acceptable alternative to offer.

Part of the government's flood control program along the Mississippi involves protection of levees by concrete slabs. At right slabs are shown in shingle-like format on a levee bank, and a barge (left) is shown laying a concrete "mat" outward from the shore.

WASHINGTON, March 27. (AP)—"In time of drought prepare for flood," is Uncle Sam's watchword in the Mississippi valley.

Work on the federal government's huge flood control project there is being expedited while lack of rain keeps the river at a low level. The Mississippi will be tamed "for years," army engineers believe, when the job is finished.

Building levees, sinking huge protective mats of concrete and brush, and straightening channels usually are confined to the low water period from June to December.

This year, however, the drought has enabled work to continue almost without interruption, says Col. Ernest Graves, member of the Mississippi river commission.

So far more than \$100,000,000 of the \$325,000,000 authorized for flood control has been spent. Over 60,000,000 cubic yards of earth have been placed in levees during the last year.

Already New Orleans, near the Mississippi's mouth, is well protected in case a serious flood should occur. A gigantic spillway at Bonnet Carré, 20 miles above the city, has been built to divert excess flood waters into Lake Pontchartrain. From there the water will find its way harmlessly to the Gulf of Mexico.

The spillway is designed to carry more water than flows over Niagara Falls. Its gates will be opened whenever the river nears the 20-foot level, considered the danger point for New Orleans.

Hundreds of thousands of workers are employed on the flood control project, either directly as laborers for contractors, or indirectly in supplying materials purchased for work along the river. No one professes to know the exact number. Two million persons in the areas subject to overflow will benefit when Old Mississippi is confined within safe limits.

A vast array of steam shovels, dredges, tractors, trucks, mule teams

### Stocks Drift To Near Low Levels

NEW YORK, March 27. (AP)—Many leading stocks drifted about to their lows of the year today in selling that gathered momentum as the end of the session neared.

Steel common slid down toward the 140 level, while such high grade oils as Standard of New York, Standard of California and Texas Company made new lows for the year.

Losses ranged to more than 3 points. Grains and cottons moved narrowly, while silver dipped fractionally. Rubber futures made new lows. Price cutting was carried into the anthracite coal division today. Dividend reductions of yesterday also played havoc with issues affected.

### Charlie Chaplin Is Made Knight

PARIS, March 27. (AP)—Charles Chaplin was made a Knight of the Legion of Honor in ceremony at the foreign office today. The citation said the honor was awarded the film star in recognition of his artistry.

### Large Hankies Smart for Daytime

PARIS. (AP)—Large chiffon handkerchiefs for daytime as well as evening will be smart this spring. The new handkerchiefs vary in size from 18 inches to a yard square and have the owner's name stenciled in the border. Their shades range from pastel to purple blue and black.

### Flowers Effects Smart for Evening

PARIS. (AP)—Flowers are trailing over evening gowns in every conceivable place. One of the newest models of heavy black crepe de chine has a garland of creamy gardenias beginning of the right shoulder, trailing down the edge of the low back and ending under the left shoulder blade.

### Paris Tests New Color Combinations

PARIS. (AP)—Costume color combinations are growing more varied each day. Brown is combined with pale green, yellow or brick red; dark blue accompanies pale blue or cherry red; and black is worn with pale green and aquamarine. Sunlight yellow and cloud grey are another favorite combination.

Democratic leaders who suggested a substitute for the 18th amendment started a riot in the party that is still going strong. We are wondering if the Republican statesmen who oppose this amendment will have a more acceptable alternative to offer.

### Drought Speeds Mississippi Flood Control Job

Part of the government's flood control program along the Mississippi involves protection of levees by concrete slabs. At right slabs are shown in shingle-like format on a levee bank, and a barge (left) is shown laying a concrete "mat" outward from the shore.

WASHINGTON, March 27. (AP)—"In time of drought prepare for flood," is Uncle Sam's watchword in the Mississippi valley.

Work on the federal government's huge flood control project there is being expedited while lack of rain keeps the river at a low level. The Mississippi will be tamed "for years," army engineers believe, when the job is finished.

Building levees, sinking huge protective mats of concrete and brush, and straightening channels usually are confined to the low water period from June to December.

This year, however, the drought has enabled work to continue almost without interruption, says Col. Ernest Graves, member of the Mississippi river commission.

So far more than \$100,000,000 of the \$325,000,000 authorized for flood control has been spent. Over 60,000,000 cubic yards of earth have been placed in levees during the last year.

Already New Orleans, near the Mississippi's mouth, is well protected in case a serious flood should occur. A gigantic spillway at Bonnet Carré, 20 miles above the city, has been built to divert excess flood waters into Lake Pontchartrain. From there the water will find its way harmlessly to the Gulf of Mexico.

The spillway is designed to carry more water than flows over Niagara Falls. Its gates will be opened whenever the river nears the 20-foot level, considered the danger point for New Orleans.

Hundreds of thousands of workers are employed on the flood control project, either directly as laborers for contractors, or indirectly in supplying materials purchased for work along the river. No one professes to know the exact number. Two million persons in the areas subject to overflow will benefit when Old Mississippi is confined within safe limits.

A vast array of steam shovels, dredges, tractors, trucks, mule teams

### L. A. Churchman To Stand Trial

LOS ANGELES, March 27. (AP)—Frederick Grant Whyte, Venice churchman and financier, was today held for trial in superior court on 23 counts of grand theft and violation of the corporate securities act.

The churchman, recently brought back from Havana, Cuba, to face charges of swindling fellow parishioners out of thousands of dollars, was bound over to the higher court by Municipal Judge A. B. Edler, after the prosecution closed its case.

Throughout the preliminary hearing Whyte was not represented by counsel.

### Slit Skirts Back In Paris Vogue

PARIS. (AP)—Slit skirts, relic of pre-war days, are back in vogue. Many daytime models are displayed with skirts slit both front and back and worn over bright-colored, plaid or monochrome slips. Evening frocks are slashed in six or eight places around the hem with slits eight to ten inches deep.

### FIDEL LA BARBA GETS DECISION

NEW YORK, March 27. (AP)—Fidel La Barba, stocky California leatherweight, gave Kid Francis of Italy a nest trouncing to win the ten round feature bout before a slim crowd of 7,800 fans. There were no knockdowns. La Barba weighed 125 and Francis 127½.

### Coral Jewelry Is Spring Favorite

PARIS. (AP)—Coral is slated to replace turquoise in fashion's favor this spring. Coral necklaces, pins and bracelets are worn with black daytime and evening frocks. Hip-length jackets of coral velvet and matching crepe slippers are worn with white or ivory evening frocks.

The battleships New Mexico, Mississippi and Idaho are to be modernized and made equal in speed and equipment to the battleships in the Battle Line navy. Believe it or not, this will be constructive work for peace.

### MARK BARRON ENTERTAINS YOU IN HIS COLUMN

### NEW YORKER AT LARGE

NEW YORK—An Irishman we know has opened a little tavern in an Eighth avenue cellar that once served as a speakeasy.

It is a handsome and unique place. The walls, doors and other furnishings appear to be genuine Japanese antiques. They are covered with oriental paintings and decorations, all hand work.

It seems that the fellow who once ran it as a rendezvous for the sale of illegal beverages started his career as an artist. He is one of the few men in this country who can make near-perfect copies of Japanese art and he used to apply his talent to new furniture fresh from Grand Rapids.

After a few months' aging the article was sold as a genuine antique at a price dozens of times its real value.

Business fell away, and he decided there might be more money in synthetic gin than in synthetic antiques.

It was purely an accident that ended the unfulfilled career of his cellar. The place extends under Eighth avenue and the end wall rests against the new subway tube.

One evening when everything was merry in the tavern, that end wall suddenly crumpled in. A half dozen subway diggers, thinking perhaps they had excavated a modern King Tut's tomb, peered through the opening. They had dug into a barroom.

The subway people put an end to that place. They had to get their diggers back to work some time.

**No More Searchlights**  
For more than a year two giant "beams" sent their rays flashing from New York to a point 20 miles away. One was a beacon atop a Broadway hotel, and the other was on the roof of a Brooklyn hotel.

The long fingers of light sweeping around in slow circles became almost a landmark of the town. No long ago the Broadway hotel abandoned its high, and now the federal government has ordered the Brooklyn beacon discontinued.

At first the light confused ships at sea, so the government ordered the rays changed from yellow to red. But that proved more dangerous to air pilots, because a red light is a signal to them of a safe place to land. And the roof of that Brooklyn hotel is no spot for a plane to make a three-point landing.

**Personal Notes**  
Jim Corbett still lives on his Long Island estate. He can't remember names, so he greets everyone with "Hello, Kid."

New York has gone crazy (again) over Cuba music. Most of the hit songs with a Havana atmosphere were written by a Jewish boy from Rochester.

Millon Work, the bridge expert, once was a movie producer.

Capt. Irving O'Hay, lecturer, has purchased a New Mexico ranch. But he still serves as toastmaster at local dinners.

"Little Billy," once the town's best known midget, is now managing a restaurant in Hollywood.

Both Tammany Young and "One Eyed" Connelly, famous "gate crashers," now have regular jobs.