

LAS VEGAS AS SEEN BY A PIONEER

Nicklin Writes His Thoughts After Absence of Years

By T. G. NICKLIN,
In Barstow Printer

Judge Lubin J. Henderson and the reporter visited Las Vegas, Nevada, last Saturday and Sunday, and noted many progressive changes during the past 27 years. About that date U. S. Senator Clark of Montana, and brother, J. Ross Clark of Los Angeles, were arranging to build the Salt Lake R. R. through to Los Angeles. At that time the Salt Lake railroad had only reached Caliente and Pioche, from which point copper, gold and silver ores were hauled to the Salt Lake smelters. Horses and oxen then hauled ores to the railroad at Caliente from the Muddy River mines and settlements—and Las Vegas townsite had not yet been surveyed.

Capt. Ladd, the old frontier stage driver, had a leaky old tent on the Las Vegas townsite where Miller's present up-to-date hotel now stands. The writer complained about the rain that poured in, and Ladd charged him a dollar extra for a bath. The Age newspaper was then established at Ragtown, in a tent half a mile north. Pioneer Mother Stewart, husband and son, Bill, then lived on a farm near the big springs south, and have since passed away.

Chas. P. Squires, now editor and owner of the Age, and others, became active in selling the present Las Vegas townsite, and later purchased the Age from T. G. Nicklin.

The Arizona club, furnishing all sorts of refreshments and sports, was for a few years the talk of Las Vegas, but is at present nailed up and silent. But other refreshment parlors now entertain the public. A new law permitting open gambling is in vogue, and a visit there reminds one of Tijuana. Legal arrangements have also been made for short order divorces, all same Reno. Liquor and gambling have good revenues to the city of Las Vegas. With it all it is a handsome, orderly town, where churches, school houses and happy residences attract attention.

The city water supply is adequate, and the wonderful growth of beautiful trees astonishes the beholder. The warm waters of Muddy river, 50 miles north, which is not muddy, supply early vegetables to the Mormon towns and Las Vegas. In fact, it was the rugged thrift of Salt Lake Mormons that built up originally all the towns of consequence between Salt Lake and Los Angeles.

Many progressive old pioneers, like Mayor and Merchant Bill Hawkins, Sam Gay, sheriff and peace officer, and fifty others, who have seen their dreams come true, are resting on their oars, enjoying the harvest of active lives. For many years Walter Bracken has been one of the active managers of Las Vegas, enjoying dreams of present day Boulder dam activity.

Our sympathy goes out to one pioneer town on the Muddy river that is to be crucified by the flooding of the old Mormon town, St. Thomas, to the depth of fifty feet, to raise water high enough in the Boulder dam. About 27 years ago we spent a week at St. Thomas looking for freight for a railroad that was not yet built. About 1000 years before that some early settlers had built a ring of mud huts among the rocks on the river, that had been covered up by volcanic action or otherwise—and now comes the flood, for the grandeur of the Boulder dam and Las Vegas. The railroad building Clarks have gone, but their heirs are still in the harness.

A race track will also be added to the gayeties of Vegas in the very near future that will put the Mexican race track in the shade. And the building of Boulder dam goes on, where other sports will follow.

Las Vegas has a population of between five and six thousand, about one-half of them working and eating in regular form, but they are building a big city there, sure enough, and an excellent highway leading through Barstow, which they use frequently.

The two Las Vegas newspapers, the Age and the Review, furnish interesting news of Boulder dam and the up-to-date city.

Reported at Las Vegas that Reno will also open a race track to rescue some Nevada money from Mexico. Canada already competes with Nevada in the retirement line.

For courtesies at Las Vegas, the Barstow visitors return thanks to Editor Equires of the Age. He has been a useful citizen there for the past 25 years.

PERSONAL

Miss Adeline Cline has returned to Redlands where she will resume her studies at the University of Redlands, after spending her Easter vacation as the guest of Miss Alice Doherty.

Mr. and Mrs. Claude Curran and children motored to Beatty Saturday. They made the return trip Sunday by way of Death Valley.

Mrs. John Williamson and daughter of Glendale visited last week in Littlefield, Ariz.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. A. Mundy, son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. B. Mundy of Cedar City, Utah, visited in St. George recently, according to the Washington County News.

Mr. and Mrs. Gomer Thomas of Los Angeles left yesterday noon for their home in Los Angeles after spending the week-end here greeting friends. Mrs. Thomas was formerly Miss Margaret Haman.

Mrs. Paul Nash has gone to the coast for a week. She will visit relatives in San Bernardino and Los Angeles.

Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Derby and Miss Beverly Douglas of Costa Mesa, Calif., are in Las Vegas visiting their friends Mrs. Henrietta Brockman and Mrs. Norma Ulm.

Fred S. Alward, Clark county assessor, returned Saturday from San Francisco, where he spent a few days following the legislative session.

Mrs. George Arthur Fayle of Delano, Calif., accompanied by Miss Jean Fayle, will arrive today for a short visit at the home of Mr. and Mrs. O. C. Boggs. Miss Fayle is enjoying her spring vacation and next week will return to Mills college where she is completing her junior year.

Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Boyer returned Saturday evening from Reno and Carson City.

Dr. Roy W. Martin and daughter, Mazie, have returned home from a short trip to Los Angeles.

Miss Helen Garner, who is a student at Long Beach junior college, is visiting her mother, Mrs. Dan Jondahl.

Mrs. Jack Albers of Glendale is visiting her mother, Mrs. Minnie Westlake.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Buntin of Ely are spending a few days in Las Vegas at the Hotel Nevada. Mr. Buntin is connected with the Ely Daily Times and was at one time a member of the Age staff. The Buntins are returning to Ely after a business trip to Reno.

DEATH IS CAUSED BY SUFFOCATION

The coroner's jury investigating the death Sunday evening of Mrs. Clyde Hunchendorf, returned a verdict that death was caused by suffocation due to the depletion of oxygen in the room caused by the burning of a gas plate.

Mrs. Hunchendorf had been in poor health for a number of years. Her husband, returning from work on the construction job of the Southern Sierras Power company Sunday evening found the door to their cabin locked and failed to receive any response after repeated knocks. He finally gained admittance with a borrowed key and found his wife's lifeless body on the bed.

Mrs. Hunchendorf was 37 years of age and a native of Iowa, moving to Las Vegas two months ago. Mr. Hunchendorf left last night with the body for Versailles, Missouri, where burial will take place.

WOMAN FIGHTS FOR SHARE OF FLOOD ESTATE

Claims To Be Daughter of Late Jas. Flood

LOS ANGELES, March 30. (U.P.)—Constance May Gavin, 36, today began a deposition here in connection with her claim to share in the estate of the late James Flood, San Francisco capitalist, on the grounds that he was her father.

Mrs. Gavin calmly told of events she said she remembered from her early life.

She declared that she remembered years in a convent, the information from the executor of the Flood estate that Flood was her father and Mrs. Endora White of Oakland, her mother.

Under questioning during the deposition taking, Mrs. Gavin said she had been told as a child that she was baptized in Kansas City under the name of Flood, although during her early life she lived as Constance May Stern. This was the name under which she knew her mother, she said, but did not explain from whence the name had come.

The deposition hearing began before Garret W. McEmery of San Francisco in the offices of Gibson, Dunn and Croucher, Maxwell McNitt, attorney, represented Mrs. Gavin.

Mrs. Gavin, in her deposition, told of visits to her mother in Oakland and San Francisco since 1926 when Flood died. She said she also knew her mother as Mrs. Rose Flood.

Mrs. Gavin said she spent ten years in Romona convent. She said in the deposition that when James Walsh, executor of the Flood estate, told of her parentage she said she would like to see her mother. She declared Walsh advised against this, saying the elder woman would merely become a burden on Mrs. Gavin and her husband.

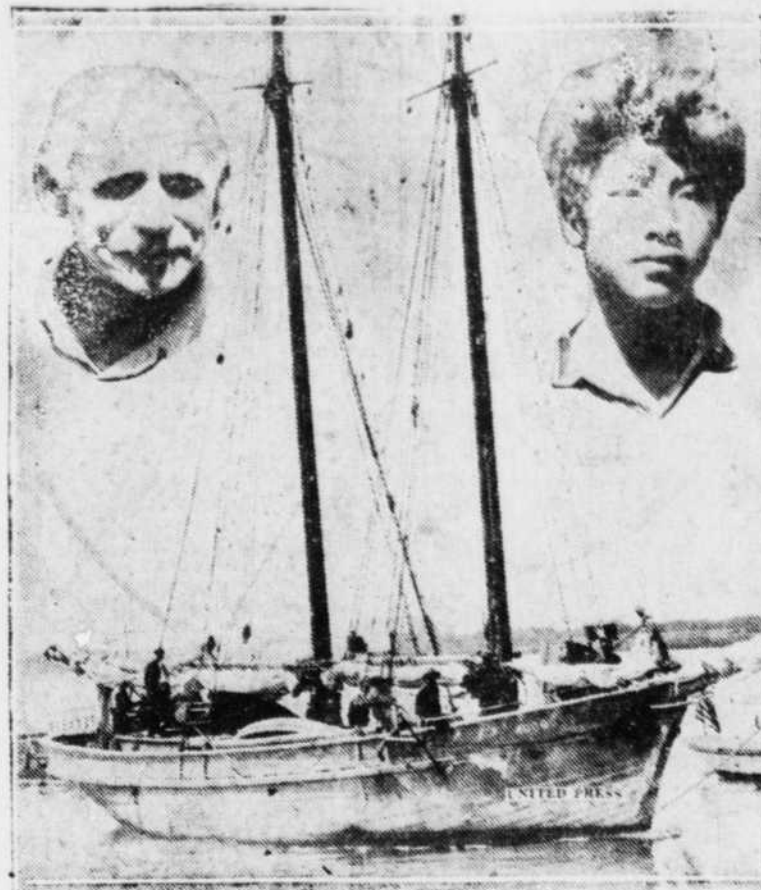
According to the deposition, Mrs. Gavin took the advice for some time Mrs. Gavin was asked if she ever had called Mrs. Willette "mother" and replied: "No, I never could make myself realize that she was my mother when I was with her."

"Once," she added, in writing her a letter I addressed it to "mother" just to please her."

Mention was made of a series of articles which had appeared in a San Francisco newspaper under the title "Memories of Constance."

Although the articles were signed "Constance May," Mrs. Gavin declared she had not written them. She said the "Memories" were written by a newspaper woman, Mrs. Gavin merely permitting her name to be used.

ADVENTURERS



A harrowing tale of the sea was unfolded recently when the tiny schooner Coquet put into Honolulu, 83 days out of Hongkong. For weeks the schooner, manned by George Waard, left; Robert, right, his son by a Chinese wife, and a Chinese crew of six, was tossed about by storms and blown far off its course. Upon making Honolulu the vessel's tanks contained less than a bucket of water, and the only food on board was a cup or so of rice. The Waards and crew had lived for a month on two spoonfuls each of rice and a mere sip of water. Waard, who lives in Victoria, B. C., is sailing the Coquet to that port, where it will be used in the fishing trade.

Aimee Aide To Open New Church

LOS ANGELES, March 30. (U.P.)—Este Binkley Lucy, for eight years a worker in Aimee Temple McPherson's Angelus temple, has resigned and will open a new evangelistic church in downtown Los Angeles, it became known today.

It was rumored that 500 members of Mrs. McPherson's congregation were to withdraw and follow

Miss Lucy. Miss Lucy however denied the rumors, as did F. C. Winters, manager of Mrs. McPherson's affairs while she is in the Orient. Mrs. Lucy said she resigned from the temple before Mrs. McPherson sailed.

"I want it understood that I am not taking anyone away from Angelus temple," Mrs. Lucy said. "All I am offering is a place of worship open to everyone."

The new church will be known as the "Los Angeles Revival Center." Services will start next Sunday.

ROBBERS TAKE TIME WHEN STORE LOOTED

CHICAGO, March 30. (U.P.)—Seven Chicago bandits did a full day's work of eight hours Sunday in robbing the Weibold department store of approximately \$50,000.

The bandits entered the store about 7 a. m. overpowered engineer Christ Swanson and Watchman Henry Melver and sent the day blowing open a wall and thoroughly searching every place from top floor to basement. Every half hour during the day they took time off to feed Melver to make his regular rounds of the alarm boxes. They told him if he "pulled the boxes" wrong and police arrived they would shoot him first.

The robbers left about 3 p. m. after binding and gagging the two employees.

The \$50,000 loot was all in cash and U. S. bonds. Credit manager F. J. Demery said "not a cent" was overlooked.

Although the bandits were equipped with elaborate safe opening tools, the first four hours of their "working day" were spent getting the money in the vault.

Acetylene torches and a charge of nitroglycerin were used. The explosion was muffled with expensive rugs.

Police expressed a belief that two of the men had hidden in the store Saturday and opened a door Sunday from the inside so the others could enter.

Swanson was bound and his eyes taped early Sunday at he remained that way until half hour after the bandits left, when Melver freed himself, then freed the engineer and called police.

Heavy Toll In Cal. Accidents

SAN FRANCISCO, March 30. (U.P.)—Auto accidents again caused a high toll of violent deaths in California over the weekend.

In all, nine persons lost their lives in traffic crashes.

Eleven persons lost their lives from miscellaneous causes.

The toll by cities:

Fresno—Howard Sothern, jr., 4, killed by automobile while playing in street.

Pixley—W. A. Albright, 55, a rancher, hanged himself.

Sacramento—O. N. Smith, 45, killed in auto crash. Masso Mastri, 19, killed in auto crash.

Stockton—Robert Lessman, 16, killed in auto collision.

Los Angeles—Phyllis Bouchee, 2, drowned; Martin T. Eliasasser, 10, crushed beneath truck.

San Francisco—George Didier, 26, killed in airplane crash. Modesto—An unidentified man, found dead in irrigation ditch, with officers investigating murder possibilities.

breathing auto exhaust fumes; William Mazella, 47, hit by Western Pacific train.

San Quentin—Walter Zwick, 24, crushed beneath truck.

San Jose—William F. Howe, 60, struck by automobile.

Lodi—Shiasho Hiramono, 7, struck down by auto.

Suisun—Irving Lippstreu, 2, hit by train.

Oakland—Peter Rizzo, drowned.

San Jose—Herbert S. Bradford, 26, killed in airplane crash.

Modesto—An unidentified man, found dead in irrigation ditch, with officers investigating murder possibilities.

GIVES SELF UP, BUT NOT WANTED

Feeling dispondent over the fact that he had cashed a bad check in a Southern California city, a man gave himself up to Sheriff Joe Keate yesterday, and asked that he be returned to face trial. Sheriff Keate communicated with police officers in the southern city and was informed, after investigation, that payment had been made on the check by friends and that the man in Las Vegas was not wanted.

APPROXIMATELY
ONE CENT PER MILE
ROUND TRIP
EXCURSIONS
Going April 1-2-3-4
Return Limit April 9

From All Nevada Stations To All Union Pacific Stations in California, Utah, Nevada, Idaho and Montana.

FARES FROM LAS VEGAS

LOS ANGELES	\$ 7.25
LONG BEACH	7.70
SALT LAKE CITY	9.75
OGDEN	10.50
BUTTE	19.15

SIMILAR REDUCTIONS FROM OTHER POINTS

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Chevrolet 1½-ton chassis with 131" wheelbase \$520
(Dual wheel option, \$25 extra)

1½-ton chassis with 157" wheelbase, \$590
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CHILD FOUND IN OLD SUITCASE

LOS ANGELES, March 30. (U.P.)—A baby girl only a few hours old was found locked in a suitcase behind the Arlington grill at 2518 West Washington street today, by H. F. Kelly, owner of the grill.

Physicians at Georgia street receiving hospital said the infant had suffered from exposure but had a chance to live if pneumonia did not set in.

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