

LAS VEGAS AGE

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FRIDAY MORNING, MAY 8, 1931.

THE ADMINISTRATION

WITH THE passing of the emergencies which assailed the country so acutely last winter, we can take a more calm and dispassionate view of President Hoover's administration.

A few months ago we in Las Vegas were railing against the administration because work at Hoover dam was not under way. Now we are filled with wonder that the enterprise is advancing so swiftly. Nothing in the history of government peace-time activities approaches in swiftness the progress of the work here.

In the field of national and international policies, President Hoover, we now see, has been generally right and highly successful. We recall the frenzied clamor for quack remedies against which the President took a firm stand. Had he consented to the adoption of the "dole" it would doubtless have established itself as a permanent system, a great incurable sore on the body politic as in England. Instead we find that the distress is gradually being relieved by natural means.

The President's unfaltering stand against many of the dangerous proposals for artificial relief, it is now recognized, saved the country from vastly greater distress.

SEWER BONDS

TONIGHT at eight o'clock the board of city commissioners will meet again to take up the business of canvassing the vote of the recent city election.

It is of the utmost importance that the status of the sewer bond election be established without any delay. The city board should act through the city attorney to secure an order of the district court for a recount of the ballots on the bond question. If the bonds have been voted and the legality of the election is sufficiently established, well and good. If there remains any question, a new election on the one question of bonds should be held.

First, however, it would be wise for the board to adopt a plan of action and announce to the people just where new main sewers are to be built, what laterals are to be built, the estimated cost and the details of the work so far as may be. There is a feeling among people that certain parts of the plans of the sewerage engineers should be built at once; that other parts may well be left until further growth of the city creates the necessity for them.

It appears obvious to most of us that West-side should be provided for in the first project built. If that is the case the people should be so assured. Then it is obvious that, although the general sewer plan covers a large area, a portion of that area is only very sparsely settled, and the building of sewers there might very properly be delayed a while. Anyhow it is felt that it is not necessary to carry out the whole plan of sewer building at once, but the people should be advised fully what the intentions of the board are.

A GOOD SHOW

HENRY FORD has the qualities of a good showman, judging by the Ford auto show now in Las Vegas.

The organization traveling in several portions of the United States and Mexico are expensive, of course, but they sell the goods.

Moreover, it is apparent that there is nothing which so closely binds all sections of the United States into one homogenous country as Ford cars. Even Mexico is being brought

Russia---New Spectre of the Oil World



WASHINGTON—When republican leadership in the New York legislature decreed an effort to re-shape congressional district without deference to the vet powers of democratic governor, it started something.
A new constitutional question has been raised never before in the history of the United States; that has surrounded every decennial fight over congressional reapportionment.

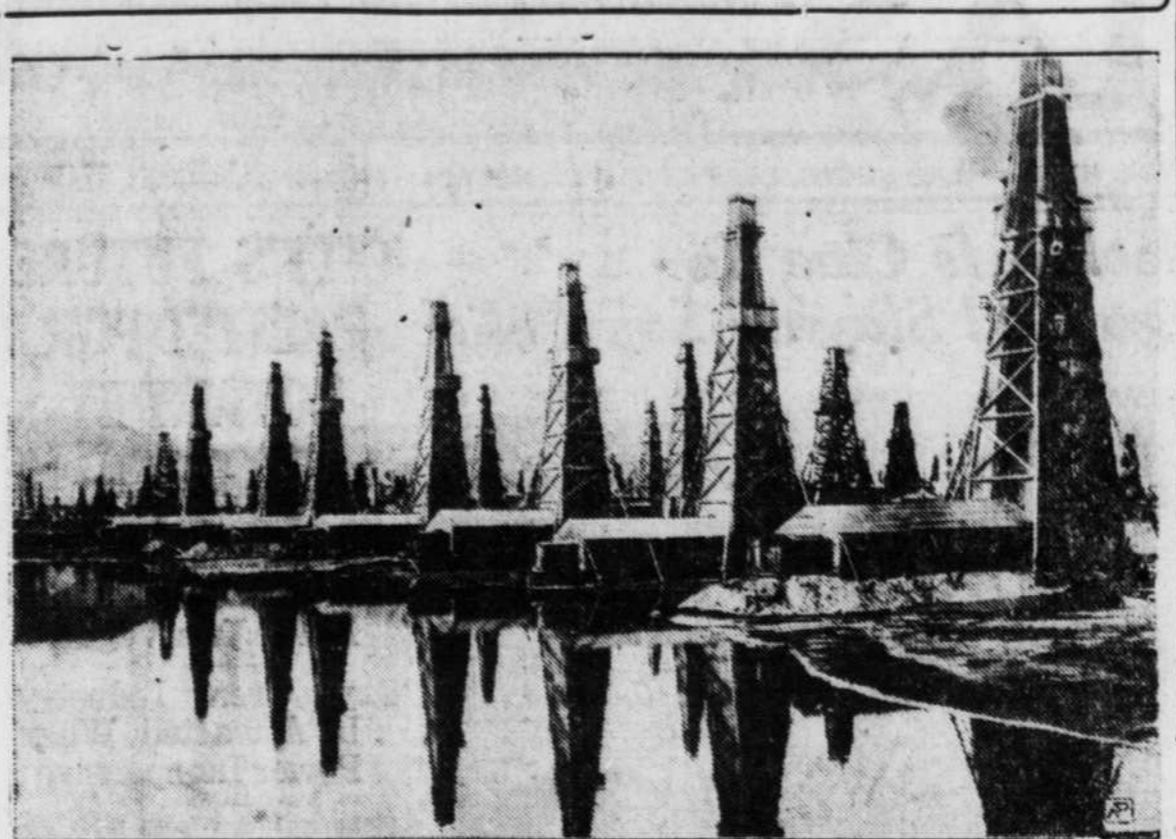
By last accounts Governor Roosevelt seemed inclined to pass by the constitutional issue in favor of a legal attack on the legislature's resolution, based on failure to repeal previous redistricting statutes. Yet sooner or later the constitutional issue must be settled.

GOVERNOR'S ROLE

A dozen of the 32 states which face redistricting legislation between now and the election of 1932 have passed necessary enactments or are struggling with them.
Many cases of deadlock between the legislatures and the governors seem indicated.
And the final action of the United States supreme court on this new, constitutional question might conceivably decide who is to be next president of the United States.

Take the New York situation as an example.
The republican legislature is charged by democratic opponents with an effort to "re-mander" in the republican column the two additional house seats to which the state is entitled in the seventy-third congress. By employing the concurrent resolution device a veto by the democratic governor was avoided. Should that move be overturned

POURING OIL ON TROUBLED MARKETS



Russia is pushing development of her oil fields, and has surpassed the goal set in her five-year plan, adding to the problems of the world industry. New derricks in the Illich bay field are shown above.

by the courts, state or federal, for any cause the two additional representatives would be elected at large, short of new legislation.
In view of New York City's predominant democratic majorities the democrats might hope reasonably to capture both in a statewide election.

PRESIDENTIAL ASPECT

Now as to the presidential aspect. A three-way fight always may result in an election, a clear majority in the electoral college being necessary. In that event the house elects voting by states, one vote per state.

In the seventy-second congress, the present congress, New York has 43 representatives in the house. Twenty-three are democrats, the other 20 republicans.
Should the lines within the state remain substantially the same in the 1932 election the question of which party captures the two additional seats that New York will have in that house might have a vital bearing on the question of the presidential election.
The same thing is true in a half dozen other states.

A New Yorker AT LARGE

By MARK BARRON

NEW YORK—Paris has its Rue Margue and Grand Guignol. New York, too, has its horror mys eries, blood-curdling tragedies and inhuman crimes.
Numerous are the cases where police stumble upon dismembered parts of the human body, murders that cannot be proved murders because there is no evidence of corpus delicti.

Only a few weeks ago a young patrolman found a woman's thigh on an East River bridge. How it got there, to whom it belonged, and the identity of the body is still a mystery.
Anna Uroas, who knew too much for kangaroo's good, was fished out of the East River one morning. A wire was pulled around her throat, and her body was tied and weighted with longer strands of wire. Virginia Brannan, young and red-haired, left her Maine home to be a dance hall hostess. Her body, with two bullet holes through the head, was found where it had been tossed behind a hedge.
Louise Lawson, Dorothy King and Vivian Gordon—the triumvirate of Broadway butterflies—became too involved in the Broadway underworld. All their murders are still mysteries.

There is the revolting Ruth Snyder-Judd Gray murder case. The two, in a crime passionel, used a window sashweight to beat the life from Mrs. Snyder's husband.
DISAPPEARING JUDGE
Judge Crater, an eminent jurist, suddenly and completely disappeared from the face of the earth. His name was linked with night clubs and show girls, but no one knows what became of him after that night, several months ago, when he was last seen dining with a theatrical lawyer and a chorus

girl.
There are the Elwell and Rothstein murder cases—both unsolved. An examination of police records would show that the list goes on and on—and in the daily newspapers of New York are written murders, mysteries and crimes more horrible than anything fiction or the theater has yet produced. It is little wonder that the effort to start a Grand Guignol theater in Greenwich Village failed because the shows were too tame.

DRAMA BACK STAGE

The most dramatic and tragic Rue Morgue-like case in New York was never published in the newspapers. It happened four years ago in a Broadway musical comedy.
One of the featured show girls was then one of the world's best known beauties. Her pale, Madonna-like face, framed in long, raven-black hair, made her sought after by numerous producers and artists.
She always wore her long hair rolled in a knot, low in the back of her neck. Her companions in the dressing room noticed that never did she comb or brush her hair at the theater—it was always dressed for the performance when she arrived.
Besides appearing in the show she posed for several artists. She was courted by wealthy men, and frequently was seen at gatherings of celebrities.
One day she disappeared from Broadway, and it was announced that she had gone to Europe. She has never been seen since then.
The real story is that that coil of hair low on the back of her neck concealed the first ravages of epilepsy.
When it was discovered what her malady actually was, this beautiful girl was taken away from her career, her luxurious life and exiled in a leper colony.

REDS SPEED UP OUTPUT OF PETROLEUM FIELDS AND PASS 5-YEAR GOAL

Soviet Russia has the oil world guessing. When communist leaders drafted their five-year plan, they called for vigorous development of Russia's oil fields.
The goal they set has been passed—two years ahead of time.
Is Russia planning to "dump" this oil into world markets already over-supplied? Will she have any to dump?
Associated Press writers outline the situation seen in Moscow and in New York City, in the stories printed below.

By J. R. BRACKETT

NEW YORK—Does Soviet Russia, already a disturbing factor in the oil industry, intend to spill even more of the black fluid on the markets of the world, or will she retain it in increasing quantities for her own use?
The world oil industry would like a question that even Russia "ably can" answer, since her own needs of the product are as yet indeterminate. But even comparatively small sales by Russia to any oil company, American and foreign, have an important effect on a market already over-supplied.

Russia's official statement that she has exceeded the 57,000-ton daily output scheduled for 1933 under the five-year plan indicates that she is bending every effort to develop her admittedly huge resources.
ROLE IN OIL WAR
The present international oil war is largely between American and British companies. Reputedly American companies are buying oil from Russia, for their foreign markets, that British companies claim was expropriated from them by the revolution.
Russia's anticipated production of 75,000 tons by the end of 1931 is still but 19 per cent of the American production, and less than Venezuela produces. Right now her position in the oil war is minor.
But the future?
The Russian Oil Syndicate admittedly has established marketing companies in England and other countries, and no doubt intends to use them. To what extent is problematical.
Russia needs oil. Her trucks and tractors and machinery, the basis of the five-year plan, need oil. Can she afford to sell much oil, no matter what her need for credits abroad?

By VICTOR EUBANK

MOSCOW—Soviet Russia's vigorous development of its oil fields gives evidence of intention to develop a great oil industry—quickly.
Already, two years before the end of the five-year plan, the country's daily output exceeds the quota projected for 1933.
The communists regime claims Russia has the largest oil fields of all countries.
Grozny, Baku and other fields now under development are expected to produce this year 26,633,000 tons of oil.
This may be considered soviet optimism, but official figures place the average daily output for the first 10 days of March at 58,000 tons. Under the original five-year plan, the daily output for 1933—the last year of the plan—was put at 57,000 tons.

WORKERS FAVOR OIL FIELDS

Russian workers, seem to favor the oil business over other jobs in the U.S.S.R. While the government is battling night and day to get workers on the railroads, where the labor shortage is seriously handicapping the success of the "plan" here seems to be an abundance of labor for the petroleum industry.
Oil men totaled 72,000 last year and in 1931 this figure is expected to rise to 81,000. In 1913 there were about 52,000 employed in the industry.
Working conditions have been radically changed from the pre-war times. The average wage in 1930 reached 1,144 rubles against 430 rubles in the czarist days.
In addition, the oil worker now gets a yearly vacation with full wages. He gets full wages when he is sick and is sent to sanatoria and health resorts for recuperation. Before the war, it is claimed, his working hours were 10 per day. Now he is on a 7-hour basis.

PUSH BAKU DEVELOPMENT

Of the 400,000,000 rubles budgeted this year for the oil industry, about 160,000,000 will go to the Baku district, as a large part of the exploitation is assigned to this part of Russia.
New electrical power plants also are being built to take care of the growing refineries.
Much attention is being paid to the refinery question. There were over 16,000 tons of oil refined in 1930. This year the program calls for refining some 22,000,000 tons. This is far in excess of the figures for the five-year plan.
Drilling is also booming. In 1913 it amounted to 370,000 meters. This year it is planned to drill 1,054,000 meters.
Oil exports to Italy—Russia's biggest customer—totaled 8,500 tons in 1923. In 1930 they reached 826,000 tons, comprising 620,000 tons of crude, 86,000 tons of benzine and 46,000 tons of kerosene.
But during the first two months of 1931, around 150,000 tons of oil products were exported to Italy. Exports to Italy are based on contracts with Italian firms under which their purchases steadily increase.

RACING DRAWS BIG CROWDS TO TRACK

During 1930 Chowan county, N. C. farmers shipped 4,330 hogs for which they received about \$85,000.
Wages of Mississippi farm laborers average between \$46.85 and \$58.78 a month.
The average size of Georgia's 13 "master farms" is 823 acres, with an average value of \$38,173, land only.
Howard county, Texas, landowners have petitioned the legislature for a five-year closed season on pheasants, quail and doves.
Between 75,000 and 78,000 bales of hops are harvested annually in Oregon.
been proportionately good on larger and smaller days.
Downstairs, where "options" are "purchased" at \$5 and \$4, the "hat act," or gross turnover, on an average day last week exceeded \$200,000. The management claims that there are no larger "handles" on ordinary days at such well established western tracks as Tijuana and Agua Caliente. Besides running a more widely-known field of horses, the Mexican tracks allow \$2 bets, it was pointed out, while there is a \$4 minimum "option" at Tijuana, and that for second place "options." "Nose" bets must be \$5 or more.
GROWTH IS PROBLEM
How big racing may grow in northern California is problematical. The Tanforan crowd is saying little, but the general feeling is that with another meeting as successful as this plans will undoubtedly be made to dress up the track and grounds, bid for some of the larger and better known stables, and perhaps lower the "option" prices.

HOOVER DAM PROGRESS

Resume of Present Activities and Those of the Near Future on Greatest Engineering Project of the Age
MAIN CONTRACTS
The principal contract was awarded March 10 at Denver to Six Companies, Inc., of San Francisco, a combination of Utah Construction Company of Ogden, Utah; Henry J. Keiser and W. A. Bechtel, McDonald & Kahn, Morrison-Knudson Company, J. F. Shea Company, and Pacific Bridge Company.
Amount of bid \$48,890,995.00.
The contract covers tunnels, penstocks, outlet works, spillways, coffer dams, excavations for main dam, main dam construction, valves and gates, and power houses.
UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD—Main line to Boulder City, 22 miles, completed. Cost estimated at \$800,000.
GOVERNMENT RAILROAD—Boulder City to dam site, 8.6 miles under construction by Lewis Construction Company. Contract price \$455,969.50.
GOVERNMENT HIGHWAY—Boulder City to dam site, 10 1/2 miles of 22-foot highway, under construction by R. G. Le-Tourneau, Inc., subcontractors. Contract price \$329,917.15.
BOULDER CITY
Excavation for water tanks—Contract let to Butterfield Co., Los Angeles.
Tanks for water system—Contract let to Lacy Manufacturing Company, Los Angeles.
Residences—Bids for first group of 12 three- and four-room cottages were opened at Las Vegas office of the Reclamation Service March 12.
Laying out of final plans for the city—As soon as these are approved, contracts will be let for the streets, sidewalks, curbs, paving, water system, sewer system, pole lines for electricity, etc. Administration buildings, dormitories, garages, etc., to follow as soon as possible.
POWER SUPPLY—Transmission line from Southern California under construction by Southern Sierras Power Company.
Substation—Earl Roche, General Construction Company of Las Vegas, grading site near dam for Southern Sierras Power Company.
COMMUNICATION LINES—Telephone Lines—Line from Las Vegas to Boulder City was built by Southern Nevada Telephone Company and is now in operation.
Telegraph Lines—Joint Western Union and Union Pacific line to Boulder City now in operation.
ELECTRICAL MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT—To be installed by the government and includes turbines, alternators, switchboards and transformers.

OIL DISCOVERY STARTS BOOM ON COAST

WOODLAND, Cal., May 7 (AP)—Oil has been discovered in the foothills of the Pacific coast range mountains in the Sacramento valley side, and thousands of acres of land have been leased by major refining companies.
Already several concerns have started drilling operations on an extensive scale and if oil is produced in paying quantities many more wells will be sunk.
Property has increased in valuation during a race by big concerns, for leases.
Near Orland, Glenn county, a well is going down and crowds are flocking to the small city.
In the foothills west of Woodland another well is being sunk by the Getty Oil Co. Large sections of range land in the Dixon and Vacaville area have been leased and drilling is under way.
In Colusa county a well has been brought in that is said to produce a medicinal oil similar to that used for rubbing purposes.
The counties of Solano, Yolo, Colusa, Glenn and Tehama are all potential oil fields, geologists say. Just how much oil lies under the soil and what depths the drillers must go to reach it is now occupying attention of drillers.
It is possible the subterranean pools may be shallow and quickly pumped empty.
The land on which drilling operations is being carried on is used only for cattle and sheep ranges. Owners already have realized considerable financial return from the land through leases.
Already one large lawsuit has been filed as the result of the oil boom.
A. M. Gilstrap of Yolo county is suing the Standard Oil Co. for \$1,000,000. He alleges that the company drilled on his property and

WAKE COUNTY, N. C. FARMER CUT THREE TONS OF FINE HAY FROM TWO ACRES OF LEISPEDEZA

A Wake county, N. C. farmer cut three tons of fine hay from two acres of lespedeza.
A sailboat race from Galveston to Corpus Christi, Tex., is planned with June 19 the probable starting date.
Virgil Moore and Felix Roberts are among the jockeys expected to ride in the May meeting at River-side park, Kansas City.
Six of the eight managers in the Western league are at new posts this year.
Dan Lamont, football line coach at the University of Washington, directed spring training when Jimmy Phelan, head mooker, attended the funeral of Knute Rockne at South Bend, Ind.
Clarence Edmundson, No. 5 oarsman in the University of Washington freshman crew, has the same name as Clarence "Hee" Edmundson, noted Washington track coach but is not related.
The Henderson State college "Reddies" have won the Arkansas college football championship for the last three years.
Eighty per cent of the men student at the University of Kentucky participate in intramural sports.
Seven nationalities are represented on the 1931 edition of the Birmingham, Ala., Baron baseball team.
German astronomers have discovered a rapidly whirling object in the heavens which they say is probably a "peculiar asteroid." Our guess is that it is another of those 1932 Democratic presidential booms getting ready for action.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 7 (AP)—HORSE RACING, AN INFANT BORN IN TRAVEL IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA, APPARENTLY WILL LIVE AFTER ALL.

On the other hand, American companies are able to meet foreign competition through the transportation savings made possible by buying close to the market.
There is no question that receipts from the sale of oil abroad form a substantial surplus for many companies, American and others, and of course the American producer is penalized when oil is purchased from Russia.
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