

# LAS VEGAS AGE

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## HORRIBLE HOOVER

**I**F WE should believe a small fraction of the things blackmailing writers have said about Herbert Hoover during the last few years, we would have to consider him one of the most horrible characters in all history. Moreover, we would have to acknowledge that falseness and treachery and crooked dealings and robbery and murder of friends and associates bring a reward of high position and world-wide respect.

Only a few small souls ever believe such baseless and savage attacks on a President's private life as those made against Washington, Lincoln, Grant, Cleveland, Roosevelt, Wilson, Harding and Hoover by would-be blackmailers.

However, it is pleasant and reassuring to us all when such an outstanding character as Arthur Train takes the time to go into the records, and publish the facts as in his article "The Strange Attacks on Mr. Hoover" in Collier's Weekly for February 20.

Mr. Train has quoted the records and ascertained the exact facts in connection with the most recent and damnable of the outpourings against President Hoover. He has refuted many charges with which enemies have studiously sought to blacken Mr. Hoover. Collier's has done a service not particularly for Mr. Hoover, but for the country, in showing the absolute falseness of the general run of sensational attacks on public men.

The attacks on public men, often animated by political motives, are terrible to endure, yet they rarely have any lasting effect upon the reputation or the standing in history of our Presidents. Future generations recognize the sterling qualities of men better, sometimes, than those who were contemporaneous.

## MAINTAIN DEFENSES

**W**HATEVER the financial depression, the nation must maintain its defenses.

In such times as these, congress makes an effort to reduce the cost of government, which is quite laudable. But it would be a mistaken economy to neglect the things which are necessary to keep the country in a state of reasonable preparedness.

Probably the most important work in connection with our national defense is to keep in training a sufficient number of reserve officers to supply the officers personnel for an army in time of war.

The lack of such training at the beginning of the World war cost America vast treasure and many lives. It might, under some conceivable circumstances, cost the United States her possessions or her independence.

Whatever is done in the way of retrenchment, we should not refuse the little money needed to train officers for duty. The reserve officers are our best and most valuable defense in time of trouble.

## SEEK PROVISION FOR U. S. VETS IN FEDERAL PROJECT

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 10. (AP)—Because of the success encountered on the Hoover dam project, Nevada labor and Legion officials advocated to the Pacific National Employment commission here today that an ex-service men's preference clause should be included in all legislation involving expenditure of federal funds on construction work.  
The Hoover dam project in southern Nevada is the first government project on which preference has

been shown ex-service men seeking employment.  
William Royle, state labor commissioner of Nevada, told the commission that the preference provision has operated so successfully at Hoover dam that 35.5 per cent of all placements since Aug. 13, 1931, have been war veterans. Hiring of labor on the project was taken over by the cooperative federal-state employment service on that date.  
The percentage of veterans employed at one time has varied from 32 to 43 per cent, Royle said. On Jan. 30, 3,006 workmen were on the job and of these 1,061 were veterans who came under the preference clause in the contract between the federal government and Six Companies, Inc., dam builders.

## THE WASHINGTON BYSTANDER

**By KIRKE SIMPSON**  
WASHINGTON — The records seem to show that no two men have entered the White House as President holding more idealistic views as to what the relationships of nations should and could be toward one another than Woodrow Wilson and Herbert Hoover.

The repugnance of both to armed force as an agency of national policy was clearly understood by their countrymen when they were elected.  
Yet fate intervened to mark the administration of each with tragic moments in world history, moments when actual or threatened wars blackened the fair skies for which they had hoped.

By Wilson's word, two million armed Americans went to war in France. Where he had hoped that history would rate him a great peace President, the fall of the cards made him a war President in the greatest war of their all.

For Hoover, 15 years later, a long-smouldering Chinese-Japanese rift in the Far East flamed into the most alarming threat to the peace of the world since the great war.  
He, too, set American fighting men and fighting ships in motion over the seas to safeguard American lives.

President Coolidge was in office when the first Shanghai crisis occurred. Yet that was a wholly different situation.

The danger to Americans or other foreigners in Shanghai, those incidental to battle at which they were spectators through no will of their own, were the same. Yet there the parallel between the Shanghai crisis of 1927 and that of 1932 ends.

In 1927 it was a Chinese civil war that threatened to engulf the great westernized metropolis that stands on Chinese soil.  
There was little reason to dread that the conflict might spread to draw other nations into the whirlpool.

Today, with Japanese statesmanship embarked on military measures in Manchuria, at Shanghai or elsewhere that to western eyes lack only the name of war, the passions of the two peoples have become inflamed.

As new, bloody incidents occur, new and fearful burdens are placed upon the governments involved to keep the conflict within that twilight zone of international contacts, military pressure that yet is not war.  
In his inaugural address Mr. Hoover laid great stress upon the hopeful signs he saw of continuing world peace.

Yet the first policy declaration of the Hoover administration, made less than 24 hours after he took office, of necessity dealt with arms.  
It confirmed the right of Mexico to buy weapons in the United States while denying arms to Mexican revolutionaries.

## WEDNESDAY IN CONGRESS

**By UNITED PRESS**

**SENATE**  
Railroad labor representatives continued before the judiciary committee their fight to block the confirmation of Judge James H. Wilkerson as circuit judge.

Finance committee resumed investigation of international banking methods and hears charge state department forced Haiti to accept \$24,000,000 loan.

Indian affairs committee reported favorably a bill permitting any Indian having restricted funds under supervision of secretary of interior to create trust funds.

Senator W. E. Borah, Repn., Ida., in bitter debate with Senator Fess, Repn., O., supported \$375,000,000 direct federal aid bill.

Confirmed Ogden L. Mills to be secretary of the treasury.

**HOUSE**

Chairman Vinson of naval affairs committee announced he would try again to get the navy committee to report his bill calling for expenditure of \$616,000,000 for naval construction.

Secretary of War Hurley opposed independence for the Philippine islands because of the troubled conditions in the far east.

Ways and means committee considers sales taxes, once discarded, as means of raising additional revenue to balance federal budget.

Commissioner Eastman of the Interstate Commerce commission warned that if economic conditions become worse the government may be compelled to assume control of the roads.

Judiciary committee dropped its consideration of impeachment charges against Andrew W. Mellon.

Passed Davis rail bill barring from the air lottery broadcasts.

**STUDENTS WOULD DISARM**

CHAPEL HILL, N. C., Feb. 10. (AP)—Seventy-five per cent of the students at the University of North Carolina favor the United States disarming itself, if other nations of the world join in similar movement. A poll by a student newspaper showed 41 per cent of the students favored complete disarmament.

**Pair-O-Dice**  
Valentine Nite, Sunday, Feb. 14th, will be Las Vegas nite. We will serve roast young turkey with all the trimmings, for one dollar. A good time to be had by all. advt 639

## EVERYDAY MOVIES



**SHOW BIZZNESS**  
"... and if it weren't for the mascara on my eyes I'd of burst out crying."

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters Must Be Signed, But Names Will Be Omitted On Request

Editor, The Age.

Sir:  
With the war clouds hovering over the Far East, and complications of the Sino-Japanese conflict occasioning deep concern at Washington, according to press reports, we may well consider our state of military preparedness in the event that, through some overt act, we are suddenly confronted with the necessity of having to take part in this, or a similar struggle, to defend our rights or our shores.

During times of peace our citizens are particularly apathetic to the requirements of national defense, although in time of emergency approximately 85 per cent of our military forces are composed of citizen soldiery. Our state of preparedness upon our entry into the wars we have fought in the past has cost us needless billions of dollars and many thousands of lives. Yet each threatened emergency has found us similarly unprepared through heedless slashing of military appropriations from year to year, with utter disregard of the minimum requirements of national defense.

In an effort to eliminate many of the costly errors of the past, and to prepare trained leaders in time of emergency, congress wisely passed the National Defense act of 1920, at a time when we had not yet forgotten the lessons learned from the conflict of the years immediately preceding. It was based on the minimum requirements of our land forces as indicated by our then recent war experience. It provided for an extreme minimum of troops as a standing regular army, suitable only to garrison our outlying possessions, provide for the maintenance of our mainland fortifications, and furnish instruction to civilian components.

The main reliance, as always, was placed on the civilian components, and this reliance has caused appropriations for the regular army to be slashed from year to year, until this component is unable to fully carry out its proper functions, and in case of invasion of our shores would be unable to muster a suitable force to offer more than temporary resistance, with comparatively obsolete materiel worn out from constant use since the World War. Of munitions, experts agree that we have an insufficient quantity to permit of continued operations until such time as the wheels of industry could be geared up to provide for minimum requirements.

For a two weeks' period each year a small fraction of the reserve officers which constitute the officer requirements of our initial

mobilization of citizen-soldiers, have been receiving some intensive training, aimed to fit them for their immediate military duties in case of such mobilization. The number of officers so trained each year, and the extent of the training, has been seriously curtailed due to lack of funds. Many of these officers have been unable to receive any active duty training for the past several years, although many, sincere in their effort to be of real value to the country in an emergency, have spent considerable of their time, money and effort to better prepare themselves for their military duties. It is only proper that these officers should be given active duty training to the fullest extent. Except for the active duty training period these officers serve without remuneration of any kind, and yet are expected to be constantly prepared to serve the nation efficiently and promptly in any emergency.

Other civilian activities such as the R. O. T. C. and C. M. T. C., upon which the nation must place its reliance for the preliminary training of officer and non-commissioned officer personnel in the event of a major emergency, have also been curtailed beyond the limit consistent with any sincere attempt to provide for even the simplest elements of an adequate national defense program.

Notwithstanding the annual reductions in the army appropriations already made from year to year, curtailing its activities far below that contemplated in the national defense act and cutting down the standing army to a mere skeletonized force; and notwithstanding the fact that the war department recommendations, out of a patriotic desire to cooperate with the administration in the serious condition of our government finances, have already been reduced \$33,723,968, it is indicated that it may be further reduced by congress!

Every effort should be made to indicate to congress that it is the desire of the American people, while not a militaristic nation in any sense of the word, that they do insist upon the adequate upkeep of a force consistent with SAFETY. We have no appetite for finding ourselves confronted with the same situation as China is facing today—inadequate military forces, with inadequately trained reserves, and worn-out, obsolete equipment. If the time comes when our citizenry must again take up arms, we will require TRAINED leaders, who may,

## MESQUITE NEWS

Lewis and Zella Pulsipher, who are attending the Dixie college at St. George, Utah, spent the week end here with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Pulsipher.

Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Dimick will make their home here for the next few months while Dimick is working on the highway.

Miss Lucile Thorley spent the week-end here visiting friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Abbott and Mr. and Mrs. George Abbott went to St. George Sunday to attend the funeral of William Gardner of St. George.

Mrs. Lewis Pulsipher, David Abbott, Bishop and Mrs. Howard Pulsipher, Emily Hughes, Annie Hughes, Jennie Barnum, Mr. and Mrs. Charles M. Hardy, Orilla Hughes, Josephine Hughes, Leah Abbott, Mr. and Mrs. Orval Abbott, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Reber, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Abbott, Ernest Walker, Delma Tobler, Leonard Hardy, Mr. and Mrs. Lester Leavitt, Ashel Barnum, William E. Abbott, Clara Sylvester, and Mrs. Flora Burgess attended the Wednesday night session at the St. George temple last week.

Odell Leavitt, Leon Frehner, Miss Cooper, and Miss Miriam

by their efficiency obtain decisive results quickly with a minimum of expense and bloodshed. To do this we are willing to bear the slight additional cost of providing ADEQUATE "insurance" against future developments, which means that—  
We must immediately advise our congressmen that further slashes in military appropriations do not meet with our approval.

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## MANHATTAN MIRRORS

**By United Press**  
NEW YORK, Feb. 10. (AP)—Petty rackets are developing in peculiar trades in New York during these days of economic stress and consequent business rivalry.  
A young man who operates a dry cleaning establishment in the west eighties, catering to the apartment house trade, is the latest inventor of ingenious devices to catch and hold trade.

His competitors have been cutting prices, giving rapid service and generally ingratiating themselves with the customers. Then cur hero had his idea.

Each person having a suit cleaned and pressed during a period of two weeks received a surprise. When the suit was delivered the boy handed the customer a dollar bill.

"We found this dollar in the vest pocket," he said.  
Naturally the customer was astounded at the cleaner's honesty. Any one that honest, he reasoned, deserved steady business. Further than that, the return of the \$1 was so unusual that friends were informed of it. The young dry cleaner has about as much business as his shop can handle now.

Reports come, too, of a new racket in the rental business. The rental agent who is showing an

apartment or house to a prospective tenant, places a penny on the floor of each room. The prospect usually finds one or more of these coins. Most people, the real estate men have found, consider finding a penny a sure omen of good luck. The apartment or house is associated mentally with the good luck. The good luck piece is associated mentally with the house or apartment, which is usually rented forthwith.

The machine gun murder of Vincent Coll has proved a trade stimulant for the London Chemists, the drug store in which the young gangster was killed.

Wide publicity was given the killing and since it occurred hundreds of persons, obviously curious to see the telephone booth in which Coll was standing when his enemies opened fire, are visiting the store daily.  
For the price of a soft drink, a package of cigarettes or a tin of aspirin tablets, they may view the bullet-riddled booth at close range.

Workmen engaged in making excavations in Washington Heights, site of Fort Tyron, have unearthed a number of interesting relics. These include several three-inch cannon balls which historians say were fired by the British frigate Pearl in the Revolutionary war. Grapeshot, muskets, and English half-penny dated 1775 and an 1878 dog license tag also have been dug up.

## RAIL SPLINTERS

**BY JOHN H. LIGHTFOOT**

General Manager Knickerbocker spent Tuesday night and Wednesday in Las Vegas looking over the local conditions. He was accompanied by Supt. Coey.

Engineer William Ogle has surely got the habit, as his name appears on the layoff board. Right with you, Billy.

Fireman Williams, on account of an attack of illness, has been obliged to keep off his run for a few days. Careful, old man.

Fireman McEvoy is falling right in line and consequently decided to take a little rest. Nothing like it, Mac.

A relief engineer has been sent to Yermo to relieve Engineer Callaway, who has been taken ill. Colds have put quite a few of the boys on the sick list.

The athletic club has had an offer to buy the old fence that formerly composed the U. P. baseball fence. What was not stolen was stored in the city stockade. President Lightfoot of the U. P. club has taken the matter up with the general manager, as the park is no longer needed.

Whipple took a trip to the mountains Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Don Burgess are here visiting Stanley Punker.

Mr. and Mrs. James Bunker and Mrs. Dell Lincel were visiting Mrs. George Huntsman and relatives at Bunkerville last week.

Mrs. Clara Sylvester has returned home after visiting in Las Vegas a month.

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