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OBSERVATIONS

Grist from the Daily Grind

By C. F. S.

LEGION CONVENTION

One of the big events of the year in Las Vegas will be the American Legion state convention next June 9, 10, 11.

There will be several hundred young fellows in town for three or four days and all business will receive a stimulus.

The Legion plans to sell 2,000 tickets to the grand ball at Lorenzi Lake park and will give as a grand prize a new Ford V-8 automobile. There will be a night parade and a wonderful display of fireworks.

The Legion boys hope to have enough money left out of the fund to send the Legion drum corps to the Portland convention. It will be a great advertisement for Vegas and the boys will be instrumental in attracting many visitors to Vegas.

NAME WANTED

The new downstairs cafe just being completed in the basement of the Hotel Apache will be one of the most novel and attractive places in all Nevada. It is full of relics of the Indian country and of the desert and contains many cozy barn corners where old cronies may gather to chew their jerky and sip their bitters.

But the thing needs a name. Mine Host Brown has offered a prize of \$25 to the person suggesting the most appropriate name for the new place, and quite a number are sending in names.

Five judges will undertake the task of selecting the name and awarding the prize this evening, this being the last day of the contest. You who are naturally poetic, or who are versed in Indian lore, should get the old bean working and try for that \$25. Someone is going to receive an unexpected young fortune. Which is what \$25 is nowadays.

THE JUMPING FROG

The bearded men of Angel's Camp are preparing for the annual jumping frog contest to be held off May 14-15.

"Warty Jim" is pulled to be the favorite, but several entrants are being actively touted as you may learn by reading the news dispatches.

This jumping frog contest is of interest chiefly because it gives some fancy writers the chance to copy after the style of the immortal Mark Twain. It is valuable, perhaps, because it may encourage some of us to dig up old volumes of Mark Twain and read them again.

AN INSTITUTION

The state highway department has developed into something of a sizeable institution.

The writer had the pleasure of stopping a short time at the equipment yard of the highway department near Sparks. There is a tract of about five acres or more surrounded by storage sheds and shop and office buildings, in which is stored a large amount of equipment and material for highway construction and maintenance. The yard and the system of accounting whereby the cost of each piece of equipment is accurately known, its life and the service it has performed are recorded, has been perfected under the direction of Jack Rawson, equipment engineer.

We were interested to know that the department owns 101 light cars and light trucks; 150 heavy trucks, 12 caterpillar tractors, 4 oil distributors and 23 snow plows, besides various other things. They have a well equipped machine shop in which all kinds of equipment are repaired and rebuilt. There are 19 men employed in this main shop.

In addition to the main shop, there are four branch shops in different parts of the state, one of these being in Las Vegas.

The equipment department has been the means of rescuing a vast amount of partly worn-out equipment from the junk pile and either rebuilding it or utilizing it in some entirely different machine. For example, we saw a costing \$4,500, which the fore had created almost entirely out of odds and ends of old machinery which they rescued from the junk pile.

MEN FROM VEGAS SEEKING PAROLE

Eleven criminals, sentenced to the state penitentiary from Clark county will appear before the parole board on May 23, and seek to be released on probation or parole. They are: Ed Becker, sentenced for first degree burglary; Stanley Burns, grand larceny; William Clancy, first degree burglary; Elwood E. Cline, assault with intent to commit criminal assault; Newton Goodwin, grand larceny; T. K. Hoak, first degree burglary; James O'Connell, first degree burglary; C. McKerrigan, first degree burglary; Frank E. Stanley, second degree burglary; Rudolph Wedemeyer, forgery; and J. H. Williams, forgery.

OFFICERS FIND BEER IN RAID

City Officers Jones, Mackey and Smith raided an establishment at 211 North Second street late yesterday afternoon and arrested Miss Lena Tucker on a charge of possession of intoxicating liquor. The raiding officers confiscated twenty bottles of beer. Miss Tucker was released on a \$250 property bond and will appear in municipal court this morning for a hearing.

LAS VEGAS WEATHER

May 11—Maximum, 96; minimum, 56.

METAL MARKETS

NEW YORK, May 11. (U.P.)—Copper, 5 1/2-5 3/4; cents a pound. Lead, 3 cents a pound. Zinc, 2.87 cents a pound. Silver, 23-50.28.60 cents an ounce.

GIANT AIRCRAFT IS TAMED

L. A. ATTACKERS ARE HUNTED

MAY QUEEN ASPIRANTS



One of these five girls will be chosen queen of the Raisin Festival and the West Coast winners in Fresno, Calif., this month, but no one will know the winner until May 13. They were chosen from among 25 of central California's fairest high school students. Left to right, Margaret Lease, Madera high; Freda Hartman, Fresno Tech; Claudine Ostrander, Fresno high; Eloise Ward, Taft high, and Dorothy Fink, Reedley high.

JAPAN OPENS GRAND SCALE WAR ON CHINESE 'REBELS' TODAY

Decides At Same Time To 'Withdraw' All Forces

TOKYO, May 12. (U.P.)—Japan decided today to withdraw all land forces from Shanghai and simultaneously, opened a "grand scale" offensive against Chinese rebels in Manchuria.

Chimexing months of sporadic campaigning against irregulars in Manchuria, Japanese troops there have been reinforced and joined with Chinese forces loyal to the new Manchukuo government in an effort to wipe out some 50,000 guerrilla soldiers. Some troops withdrawn from Shanghai have arrived at Changchun to aid in the offensive.

The big drive will be chiefly in the north along the Kirintunhua railroad where 12,000 rebels are operating under Wang Te-Lin; along the north and eastern branches of the Chinese Eastern railroad where 23,000 rebels are led by Ting-Chao and others; and in the area northwest of Changchun where 13,000 are directed by Li Hai-Ching.

The first encounter in the renewed fighting came when Japanese airplanes this morning raided Li Hai-Ching's troops at Fongleichen, some 60 miles west of Harbin. At the same time Japanese planes bombed rebels attacking Pataoku, inflicting heavy casualties.

One other incident was reported from Harbin, where four Korean communists were arrested for plotting to attack the League of Nations investigating commission under Lord Lytton of Britain.

CANBERRA PLOT NIPPED BY COPS

SYDNEY, New South Wales, May 11. (U.P.)—A plot to stage a "march on Canberra" and capture Premier Joseph A. Lyons was disclosed tonight by police, who raided the headquarters of the so-called new guard organization. Canberra is the capital of Australia.

Texas Rangers Open Investigation Into Kidnaping Of Young Woman

BEEVILLE, Tex., May 11. (U.P.)—Texas rangers began investigation tonight of kidnaping threats reported to have been made against the 20-year-old daughter of a local farmer and the alleged payment of \$2,500 by the girl's mother. Mrs. Ida Wood, reported to have received the threatening note, refused to comment. It was learned the note made reference to the kidnaping and slaying of Marian Parker by William Edward Harkman in 1927. The rangers denied they were working on the case but it was learned from other authoritative sources an investigation was being made.

'Army Man' and Four Negroes Assault White Girl

LOS ANGELES, May 11. (U.P.)—Victim of asserted criminal attacks and other brutalities, Patricia Park, pretty 24-year-old stenographer, was in serious condition in a hospital tonight and police had started a search for a white man dressed in an army lieutenant's uniform, and three negroes, her assailants.

The young woman was returned to her home by the "army man" today after she had been subjected to a night of abuse. The officer slugged her mother when she attempted to detain him, and escaped in an automobile.

According to the story Miss Park told police, she visited a negro night club with an acquaintance named "Frank." Her escort went out of the place with four negroes and failed to return.

Shortly afterward, the "army man" approached her and volunteered to help her find "Frank." They drove to another night club, then the "officer" took her outside the city and helplessly beat and attacked her.

Two weak and dazed to cry for help, Miss Park was returned to one of the night clubs, where the officer was joined by four negroes. The sextet drove to a deserted point on south Central avenue, where the white man and three of the negroes were said to have attacked the girl.

After taking the negroes back to the cafe, Miss Park said, the "officer" drove her to a shack, forced her to drink liquor, and attacked her again before he took her home.

Physicians said the girl's body was covered with bruises, apparently from kicks and blows, and that her nose was broken.

NO TRACE OF JAIL BREAKERS

At an early hour today, no trace of Joe Schultz and Fred Paxton, escaped desperadoes, had been found, although officers were being kept busy running down clues.

It is the general belief that Schultz is escaped to Mexico and that Paxton is en route to either Kansas City or Chicago, his former stamping grounds. Schultz was scheduled to appear in district court late this month to answer to a charge of criminal assault, while Paxton was to be tried shortly thereafter on a grand larceny charge.

USES HIS RADIO TO TAKE OWN LIFE

CHICAGO, May 11. (U.P.)—Phil Harris, 45, a dependent iron worker, made his old radio set into a virtual electric chair today, turned on the "beautiful thoughts" program being broadcast over a Chicago station and electrocuted himself through "stepped-up" current from the machine.

His radio was believed to be the first "radio suicide."

He was an accomplished amateur electrician and had been workman for a year and a half.

PUBLIC INVITED TO SEE HOSPITAL

Today is American hospital day, set aside in memory of Florence Nightingale, famed philanthropist and founder of military hospitals during the Crimean war. All American hospitals are open for public inspection, in an effort to show the public what the modern hospital is doing for the citizen.

The Las Vegas hospital, in accordance with the custom, has invited residents of Boulder City, Las Vegas and other nearby towns to inspect the new hospital at Ogden and Eighth today.

STOCKHOLDERS IN NEW YORK CO. FIGHT

NEW YORK, May 11. (U.P.)—Heavy forces of insurgent stockholders, backed by overwhelming batteries of proxies, besieged offices of the Consolidated Copper Mines corporation on Broadway today, but the defending management, reinforced by police, held them off until midnight.

GASTON MEANS IS RELEASED ON \$50,000 BONDS

WASHINGTON, May 11. (U.P.)—Gaston B. Means, former special investigator of the Department of Justice, walked out of jail and into a limousine today after his bail had been reduced to \$50,000 on charges of defrauding Mrs. Evelyn Walsh McLean of \$104,000 in connection with the Lindbergh baby kidnaping.

Means' bonds had been fixed at \$100,000 following his indictment on two charges of alleged fraud. Judge James Proctor reduced the figure to \$50,000 over the opposition of District Attorney Leo A. Rover, who sought vigorously to keep Means in jail.

The former investigator, who said his former business was "that of being indicted" and who has served a prison sentence for violation of prohibition laws, stepped jauntily out of the jail and smiled at reporters gathered at the door.

He wore an expensive dark hat and suit and a bow tie that was slightly askew. Small eyes twinkled in his broad face as he pursed his lips into a grin.

"I've been well treated in jail," was all he would say.

A moment later he had stepped across the sidewalk and into a costly limousine, where his wife sat in the rear seat and a chauffeur moved nervously at the wheel. With a wave of his hand, Means was whirled rapidly away and to his suburban home. This house recently was searched by authorities in an effort to find the missing money paid him by Mrs. McLean, wife of the wealthy Washington and Cincinnati, O., publisher.

Means insists he does not have the money. He had, according to his story, a number for all parties concerned in his efforts to regain possession of the Lindbergh baby. Mrs. McLean was "number 11." On one occasion, Means said, someone who turned "number 11" to him and he turned the money over to the whisoperer.

SUSPECT IS HELD FOR ISSUING BAD CHECKS IN VEGAS

A wholesale broadcast of forged checks, assertedly made by J. C. Boge, came to light last night following the investigation of Manager Lawes of the Alameda Oil company, who claims he was victimized by Boge.

Maudlin accounts of the distress of Boge's family, who were returned to Las Vegas by Lawes after he found checks he had taken were bogus, were discredited when it was discovered that Gilbert Brothers, R. M. Michaelson, A. C. Delkin, Las Vegas Land and Water company and T. Nakamma were also recipients of the forged \$9.00 checks allegedly spread about the city by Boge.

The suspected forger drove into Lawes station Sunday with two flat tires and refused the offer of free tools and facilities, demanding that Lawes fix the tires himself. He then presented the bad check in payment for gasoline, Lawes said, and left in a hurry.

Lawes also found that Boge had offered a similar worthless check on a previous occasion, and finding out that Boge was heading for Tonopah, Lawes started out and brought him back.

Boge's connection with the theft of checks from the Clark County Gas company, and their subsequent issuance to several business firms, will also be investigated, it is believed.

FLIES TO HIS SWEETHEART TO TAKE OWN LIFE

CHICAGO, May 11. (U.P.)—Mason Page Mitchell, who flew to Chicago with a discouraging letter from his sweetheart in the same pocket with a bottle of poison, committed suicide in her apartment today when she refused to give up "the other man."

Mitchell, a 24-year-old Indianapolis chemist, swallowed the poison, of his own concoction, said Miss Rose Fergus, after she reiterated her refusal to marry him.

"I'd forgotten to latch the door when I came home from work last night," explained Miss Fergus, pretty 23-year-old night cashier. "Early this morning he broke in and said:

"Rose, we've been sweethearts since we were school kids in Indiana. Now is it going to be me or the other fellow?"

"I told him it would be the other fellow."

"Then he ran into the bathroom and drank poison. I called a doctor, who took him to Lakeview hospital."

8 REDS FACE FIRING SQUAD

LIMA, Peru, May 11. (U.P.)—Eight sailor leaders of the communist naval mutiny in Callao harbor last Sunday were found guilty by court martial today and executed by a firing squad.

The leaders of the outbreak, which was suppressed by a loyalist airplane and submarine attack, were tried secretly by a military court at San Lorenzo island, off the port of Callao. The leaders included Corporal Pozo, an ardent communist, Corporal Cobon and a seaman, Madrona Chiquero.

While they were being sentenced, President Luis M. Sanchez Cerro was warmly congratulating Jorge Casapia, a sailor who leaped overboard from the cruiser Almirante Grau and swam to shore to warn authorities of the outbreak on the "Grau and the cruiser Bolognesi."

The president of the republic shakes the hand and heartily congratulates Sailor Caspia for his brave action on the night of May 7, 1932, a card given to Casapia said. He also received a monetary award.

ATTACKERS ARE STILL AT LARGE

At a late hour last night, police were still unsuccessful in their search for the gunmen who brutally beat and robbed J. H. Ladd, Civil war veteran and Clark county pioneer, Tuesday evening.

Ladd was kicked and choked into unconsciousness, and had \$64 taken from his pockets. Though 90 years old, the yesterday he was recovering rapidly from his ordeal.

YOUTHS SENT TO CITY STOCKADE

Harry Ramp and Hiram Branley, youthful burglary suspects, arrested Monday night by Officers Ott, Roy and Horde, were sentenced to ninety days in the stockade on a vagrancy charge when they appeared before Judge W. G. Morse in municipal court yesterday morning for sentence.

According to testimony the youths apparently planned to break into a South Fifth street root beer stand.

ECONOMY BODY GETS DOWN TO REAL WORK

WASHINGTON, May 11. (U.P.)—President Hoover gave congress another injection of economy virus today and that body moved promptly to carry out his proposal for \$300,000,000 savings to accomplish the balancing of the budget.

Even as the newly formed senate economy committee left the White House after a breakfast conference with President Hoover and went to the capitol for an all day session, Treasury department figures showed a deficit of \$2,497,262,965.

Chairman Wesley L. Jones, of the economy committee, announced after the meeting that considerable progress had been made. The committee tentatively accepted some provisions of the house economy bill, which it is using as a basis, and rejected others, he said.

The committee bound itself to secrecy, Jones explained, in order to guard against a flare-back from the "locust swarm of lobbyists" whom President Hoover denounced recently as active against his economy and tax program. It was learned, however, that the President's original proposal for a 3-day week and payless month furlough for government workers to save \$80,000,000 which was defeated in the house, was discussed at the committee meeting and at the White House conference.

The program agreed upon at the White House conference today at which Secretary of the Treasury Ogden L. Mills and Budget Director K. Clawson Rood also were present, is designed to save \$300,000,000. Later in the day house and senate leaders met and agreed to expedite all necessary economic legislation, in order that congress may adjourn by June 10.

Jones promptly announced an "eight-hour day" for his committee and immediately committed the house economy committee headed by Rep. John McDuffie, Dem., Ala., whose bill contained only \$40,000,000 in savings after it had been ripped apart in the house.

Meantime, Chairman Reed Smoot of the finance committee, in his formal report on the \$1,030,000,000 tax bill submitted to the senate today said a total of \$200,000,000 in economies is necessary to balance the budget and projected \$3,000,000,000 treasury deficit on June 30.

FELAND HAILED BEFORE JUDGE

Tom Feland, erstwhile house of floor in a downtown club, appeared before yesterday of the Peace Frank M. Ryan Justice, to hear a complaint read charging him with assault with a deadly weapon with intent to do great bodily harm. The complaint was signed by Mrs. Claude Williams, wife of the U. S. ranger Feland is alleged to have beaten.

Judge Ryan set the date for preliminary hearing for Saturday morning, May 14, at 11 a. m. Feland was released when he furnished the \$500 bond required by the justice.

Feland has retained George Marshall as counsel.

COMMISSION TO MEET

The board of city commissioners will meet in the city clerk's office Friday, at 3 p. m. It will be an open meeting.

Lindbergh Negotiations Continued After Attempts At Sea Futile

that naval protection was being furnished the yacht Marcon. John Hughes Curtis, chief negotiator, left for the north Friday night, only a few hours after the Marcon returned to the Hampton roads submarine base from its seventh cruise to sea in search of the baby.

Shortly after the Akron had been moored at Camp Kearney, San Diego, tonight, Admiral Schofield, commander of the fleet, officially cancelled orders that called for the dirigible to participate in the maneuvers at sea.

TWO MEN DIE IN PLUNGE FROM BIG BLIMP

SAN DIEGO, Calif., May 11. (U.P.)—The navy dirigible Akron, moored safely to a mast at Camp Kearney after a unsuccessful landing attempt which killed two men and left a third fighting for life high in the air on a whipping, snapping rope, was to cast off its ties and fly to Sunnyvale, Calif., at 10 o'clock this morning.

ONE SAVED Charles "Bud" Cowart, young sailor from San Springs, Okla., was jerked 300 feet into the air with Michael Henton, Fresno, Calif., and Robert Edsel, of South Bend, Ind., when the giant ship was whipped upward.

Henton and Edsel were unable to maintain their grips and dropped to their deaths, but Cowart fashioned himself a bosun's chair from a loop of the rope and for an hour and a half swung wildly in the air, 300 feet below the dirigible and 1,000 feet above the earth until he was pulled up to safety.

Weather and an inexperienced ground crew were blamed for the disastrous landing attempts. Heat of the sun's rays caused the helium gas of the dirigible to expand, while 200 sailors, unused to handling the craft, were on the ropes, and sudden gusts of wind whipped the Akron upward.

FOUR ATTEMPTS Four attempts were made to bring the Akron up to the mooring mast. Three times the ground crew "walked" the dirigible forward, but each time gusts of wind whipped the giant ship up, and the sailors let go the mooring cables.

At the fourth attempt, a cable on the starboard side snapped. The Akron rolled on its port side. The nose shot upward, and the portside ground crew—all but four men—let go the cables.

As thousands of spectators held their breath, one by one walked of the men let go. E. G. Walker fell a short distance. His arm was broken.

Henton and Edsel fell 300 feet and were killed. Cowart, lashed wildly about, was carried further upward. The Akron shot to a height of 1,000 feet as Cowart wrapped a loop of rope about his feet, fashioned himself a seat and prepared to ride it out.

Swinging to and fro like a tiny pendulum, it seemed that he must be snapped loose as the cable whipped in the wind, suspended from the swaying dirigible.

FIRE NETS CALLED Firemen were brought to the scene with nets, hoping to catch him should he fall. Naval officials conferred on some method of saving him.

At first it was thought the Akron might be brought low over the water, where Cowart could drop and be picked up by a boat. Finally a volunteer from the Akron climbed hand over hand down the rope to determine how securely Cowart had made himself.

The landing deaths were the first recorded by the United States navy. At Lakehurst men have been slightly injured, but their experience with dirigibles has prevented any serious accident. The men at Camp Kearney never before had moored such a craft. An experienced crew of 1000 men, sent there from Lakehurst, awaits the Akron at Sunnyvale, near San Francisco, the destination of its turbulent transcontinental trip.

NAVY CAN'T WAIT

SAN FRANCISCO, May 11. (U.P.)—The United States fleet will resume its "war game" maneuvers on the Pacific tomorrow without the naval dirigible Akron.