

# OBSERVATIONS

## Grist from the Daily Grind

By C. P. S.

Reno, June 27, 1932.

### OVER THE DESERT

Four fifteen Sunday morning, with a busily humming motor and a congenial, if somewhat politically mixed group of Vegas people, we are setting a pace of fifty miles an hour out of Vegas toward Reno. It is an early start to be sure, but justified by the comfort we enjoy in facing the cool morning breeze and in getting over the hottest part of our route before the midday heat comes on.

District Attorney and Mrs. Harley A. Harmon, County Assessor Frank C. DeVinney, Attorney A. W. Ham and your Observer occupied the car, with Harley driving. As we sped toward the Corn Creek sector, the sun came above the horizon, far towards the north, in gorgeous splendor, playing hide and seek behind the jagged peaks of the mountains before it lifted itself clear.

### THE HIGHWAY

The first 120 miles of the road, as far as Beatty, are not so gooding the distance in two and one-half hours is quite in contrast with conditions a few years ago when it was a hard day's drive from Vegas to Beatty. The slowest part of the route is the portion which leaves the old railroad grade to detour the vast salt beds between Corn Creek and Indian Springs. Even that 18 or 20 miles, located by the late County Commissioner W. J. Stewart, is a great improvement over what once was. Well we remember the years when it was a hard drive of four hours to negotiate the 44 miles between Las Vegas and Indian Springs. And on one occasion, our old friend and neighbor, Dr. E. G. Murtaugh started from Vegas at 11 in the forenoon and reached Indian Springs at 11 at night. His tires were pretty well cut to pieces and he had resourcefully stuffed the casings with corn stalks on which he rode the miles through the salt beds.

Now it is one hour, moderate driving. And we are told that the State Highway department contemplates relocating and improving a portion of the mileage between Corn Creek and Indian Springs the coming season.

From Beatty north we find the highway well high perfect until we reach a place twenty miles south of Goldfield, which is under construction, but there are no really bad pieces of road on the detours.

### THE OLD CAMP

In Tonopah we lunched at the famous old Tonopah club, its long mahogany bar converted now into a lunch counter and the famous old paintings of ladies who have forgotten to put on their nightgowns still adorning the walls.

The town, we are told, is hard hit by the closing of mines because of the low price of silver, but the people believe that "silver will come back" bringing with it another era of that rich prosperity which had characterized the camp for more than 30 years.

### ALONG WALKER LAKE

From Tonopah northward the highway is all improved, much of it surfaced with oil-bound gravel. The recently relocated and improved Walker lake is much better than the old road, all dangerous curves and grades having been eliminated. That thirty miles from Hawthorne along the lake shore to Schurz, with the white peak of Mount Grant towering above us to the west and the deep, vivid blue of the lake to the east, is one of the most beautiful scenic drives of the west.

### WE SEE THE GEYSER

At Schurz we took the cut-off to Fallon, moved mainly by the hope of the Observer that we might be able to again see "Bob's Geysers." We found this portion of the highway in excellent condition.

At a point about 20 miles south of Fallon, we saw the sign, "Bob's Geysers, one mile." And we had but little difficulty in inducing our driver to turn into the track toward the east. Just a little rough, but all right if you do not drive more than 15 miles an hour.

We found Bob and Mrs. Bob in a little tent at the spot where they have established a soft drink stand for the benefit of visitors. They told us that the geyser is not quite regular in its spouting, its fiercer (Continued on Page Five)

## ODDIE FIXES CLAIM ERROR

Following the discovery yesterday afternoon that an error had been made in a house resolution which the senate later adopted providing for the suspension of annual assessment work for 1932, it was revealed that a one year gap in mining laws prevailed in the new statutes.

Senator Tasker L. Oddie, who discovered the error, immediately introduced and had passed in the senate a resolution amending the former resolution and correcting the error, by providing that assessment work be suspended for the year beginning July 1, 1931, and ending July 1, 1932.

It has been ascertained that members of congress will endeavor to push this amendment through immediately to compensate for the erroneous report that has been broadcast.

**LAS VEGAS WEATHER**  
June 29—Maximum, 108; minimum, 76.

### METAL MARKETS

**NEW YORK, June 29. (U.P.)—Copper, 5 1/2 cents pound. Zinc, 2 1/2 cents pound. Lead, 3 cents pound. Bar silver, July, 26.90-26.98 cents ounce.**

# LAS VEGAS AGE

SOUTHERN NEVADA'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

VOL. XXVIII LAS VEGAS, CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA, THURSDAY MORNING, JUNE 30, 1932

No. 157

### BOULDER DAM PROJECT

The Progress of this Vast Engineering Work is Fully and Accurately Covered and United Press Wire Service Brings News of the World to This Paper—A Leader For More Than a Quarter of a Century.

# DEMOS SOLID FOR REPEAL SEN. ODDIE WINS SILVER FUND.

## FEDERAL JOBS IN NEVADA WILL GO AHEAD

Predicated upon the authorization contained in the resolution requested of the President to call an international conference for the discussion of silver legislation, introduced by Senator Key Pittman of Nevada and unanimously passed in the senate, Senator Tasker L. Oddie yesterday finally forced a roll call and obtained a large majority in favor of his amendment to the second deficiency appropriation bill providing \$40,000 to defray the expenses of the United States to attend the international monetary conference for the discussion of silver, in London, during 1932.

### PITTMAN AIDS

Senator Pittman contributed able and effective support on this resolution on the floor of the senate today.

Senator Oddie yesterday said that the discussion that will take place at this international conference will, undoubtedly, result in great improvements in the monetary demand for silver, which will be reflected in both direct and indirect benefits to the silver mining industry in Nevada, and furthermore will expand the trade possibilities of the United States with the orient and other silver using countries.

At the same time, it was revealed that yesterday evening's senate passage of the post office and treasury department appropriation bill, carrying nearly \$1,100,000,000 meant that funds will be available for the completion of the four federal buildings to be constructed in Nevada at Reno, Elko, Las Vegas and Ely.

### MINT FUND SECURED

Senator Oddie was also successful in having the item of \$375,000 included in the bill to restore the night mail service between Salt Lake City, Las Vegas, Los Angeles, and San Diego.

He was also successful in restoring the appropriation for the Carson City mint and those at Salt Lake City, Boise, Ida., and Butte, Mont., all of which the house had eliminated from the bill.

Senator Oddie's success in forcing the passage of this bill is regarded as being significant, due to the fact that the bill has undergone, for the four months since it came from the house, the longest and most difficult campaign of opposition and attack of any appropriation bill in recent years.

## WOMAN DRIVER IS SENT TO JAIL

Found guilty of violation of the Nevada state motor vehicle act, Wilfred Roabe was fined \$25 yesterday for lack of Nevada license plates. Unable to pay the fine, he chose to serve twelve and one-half days in the county jail.

Mrs. Anna Perkins, arrested yesterday for violation of the state motor vehicle act, is serving out her fine in the county jail. Her husband, who is reported to be missing, is reported to have been using California license plates issued for another car on the truck which was the cause of Mrs. Perkins' arrest.

## She Rides 'Em, This Dainty Cowgirl



A high prancing cowpony brings thrills to the heart of pretty Jane Emerald McHale of Placerville, who has been named El Dorado county's "finest outdoor girl." She will compete for California state honors in that title at the Salinas rodeo July 20-24.

## VEGAS HOME IS STRUCK BY BLAZE

Fire yesterday virtually destroyed the home of John Colbert, U. P. employe, now stationed at Kelo, California.

The house located at 19 Tenth street, was gutted by the blaze before the flames could be extinguished.

The Las Vegas volunteer fire department, answering the call with usual dispatch, arrived in sufficient time to save the surrounding buildings, although the interior and roof of Colbert's house was destroyed by the blaze.

From indications observed by the members of the fire department, it appeared that the fire was caused by an overheated water heater.

No estimate of the damage caused by the blaze was available at press time last night.

## V. F. W. OPENS 1932 MEETING

VALEJO, Calif., June 29. (U.P.)—Veterans of Foreign Wars of California and Nevada, holding their annual convention here, held their parade tonight after a day devoted to recreation.

Election of officers was to be held tomorrow and a convention city selected Friday.

## TWO HELD IN SLAYING

BAKERSFIELD, Calif., June 29. (U.P.)—Footprints left by fleeing bandits after they killed a storekeeper in an attempted holdup resulted today in the arrest of two youths identified as Jee and Elland Knoll, both of Michigan City, Ind.

## LINDY WANTED TO LEAP OFF BOAT, SAYS FRIEND

By H. ALLEN SMITH  
(United Press Staff Correspondent)  
FLEMINGTON, N. J., June 29. (U.P.)—Col. Charles A. Lindbergh was so distraught by his inability to contact the kidnapers of his infant son that he had to be restrained from leaping off a boat and swimming through a stormy sea to a second vessel, supposedly the one on which his baby was held captive, according to testimony today in the hoax trial of John Hughes Curtis.

### OBSTRUCTED JUSTICE

Testifying as a witness for the prosecution, William E. Haskell, Jr., of the New York Herald Tribune, said Curtis, the Norfolk shipbuilder who is accused of obstructing justice in the kidnap investigation, told him of the incident at sea.

Haskell quoted Curtis as having said he made contact with the kidnapers off Norfolk but that rough weather had prevented transfer of the baby from the kidnapers' boat.

"He said that at that time," Haskell testified, "that Colonel Lindbergh had to be restrained from diving overboard and swimming to the other ship."

Haskell proved an important witness with his assertion that in his own mind he believes Curtis actually was in contact with the kidnapers. He talked with Curtis in the Hunterdon county jail following his arrest, Haskell said, and the shipbuilder at that time denied he had admitted trying to hoax Lindbergh.

"Curtis told me," the witness said, "that he would have signed anything in order to get some sleep. I asked him if he had really been in contact with the kidnapers and he replied indignantly: 'Yes, I certainly was, and the story is still to be told and is in Norfolk.'"

### KIDNAPERS DESCRIBED

Frank J. Wilson, a special agent for the internal revenue bureau, testified today of his part in the Curtis negotiations and he, as well as another witness, furnished descriptions of the five members of the kidnap gang as given by Curtis.

The gang included a woman named Inez, described as "a good looking," and married to a sea captain; a "good looking blonde" named Hilda; Hilda's husband, Olaf Larson; a man named Sam Goldberg, and a man named "John" who supposedly received \$50,000 in ransom money from Dr. John F. "Jafsie" Condon.

The boat used by the kidnapers was described by Curtis, witnesses said, as being about 80 feet long and having three masts and other equipment making it possible to change its appearance on short notice.

Wilson said he had gone to Cape May, N. J., to check up certain details of Curtis' story and that he had been "unable to locate or verify the information Curtis had given him."

Defense Attorney C. Lloyd Fisher asked Wilson to state in what manner Curtis had hampered the investigation.

"He aided the people who were (Continued on Page Eight)

## WIELDS A KEEN BLADE



Dorothy Jordan, motion picture actress, is touching up her fencing ability, fired by the enthusiasm of Olympic games preparation. She is one of the best fencers of the movie colony.

## AL SMITH GETS THUNDEROUS OVATION AT PARLEY

CONVENTION STADIUM, CHICAGO, June 29. (U.P.)—The Democratic party adopted a dripping wet platform calling for repeal of the 18th Amendment and immediate modification of the Volstead Act at its national convention tonight.

### MINORITY REJECTED

Action came with the rejection of a minority report, after Alfred E. Smith of New York, Gov. Albert C. Ritchie of Maryland and Senator David I. Walsh of Massachusetts had thrilled the crowd with appeals against prohibition.

The "massed thousands" went into a delirium of cheers when Smith, the former New York governor and the "happy warrior" of 1928, went to the speaker's stand shortly before 10 p. m., Chicago time.

Smith smiled and waited. Cheers followed cheer. The huge stadium rang with the din.

The big pipe organ sent the lilting strains of the "Sieghe of New York" to make a joyous overture. Delegations lifted their standards and waved them. They cheered wildly. The rafters vibrated with the rolling chords of "The Side-walks of New York."

Smith stood still, gazing on the scene. Nearly 25,000 people were shouting and waving in tribute to the man.

The reception tonight seemed to wipe out the bitter memories of one November night nearly four years ago.

The audience struck up a chant, "We want Al Smith."

Standards of many states were waved aloft while the organ played "We Won't Go Home Until Morning."

SMITH WITTICISMS

Replying to a dry argument by Senator Cordell Hull of Tennessee, Smith shouted:

"The fact that the senator just found in the past two or three days that there was sentiment for repeal in the country is just too bad."

"But there is absolutely nothing that the convention can do about it, except possibly to extend sympathy."

The sally brought another salvo of cheers.

"We desire emphatic repeal as a warning and a lesson to generations to come that they must not even put anything like that amendment into the Constitution again," Smith said.

Smith referred to the fact that Hull had quoted from his speech of acceptance four years ago.

"That was four years ago," Smith said. "Did the senator agree with me four years ago? He did not."

"And because of the fact that it happened to be four years ahead of my time just look what happened to me."

A burst of laughter came from the crowd.

WILDLY CHEERED

"I earnestly hope in the interest of the party, country and the taxpayer, in order to put the government into position to meet demands of economy that the report of the majority of the committee be adopted by this convention."

Smith finished amid a burst of whoops and cheers. His face was the bright red color of a broiled lobster. Perspiration was rolling out of every pore. But Smith smiled in satisfaction as he went down the steps and returned to his seat in the New York delegation to await the vote on the minority report, which like that of the Republicans, favored resubmission and modification.

The majority report, favoring outright repeal, was adopted by the simple process of eliminating the minority report with an overwhelming vote of "no" against its adoption. The vote was:

Alabama, yes 21, no 3; Arizona, no 6; Arkansas, yes 13, no 5; California, yes 11, no 33; Colorado, yes 1, no 11; Connecticut, yes 14, no 15 3-4; Delaware, yes 4, no 2; Florida, yes 1, no 13; Georgia, yes 28. Boss followed Georgia's vote. Indiana, no 30; Iowa, no 36 (Iowa's vote was cheered); Kansas, yes 12, no 8; Kentucky, no 26; Louisiana, yes 8, no 17; Maine, yes 2, no 10; Maryland, no 16; Massachusetts, no (Continued on Page Eight)

# HIGHLIGHTS OF BOURBON PARTY PLATFORM

1. Competitive tariffs for revenue; an international conference "to restore international trade and facilitate exchange" and tariff commission freedom from "executive interference."

2. Government costs; not less than 25 per cent reduction in federal expenses; zealous efforts for proportionate reduction of state expenses.

3. Budget balancing by taxation on "the principle of ability to pay."

4. Preservation of sound currency at all hazards and a pledge to call an international conference "to consider the rehabilitation of silver and related questions."

5. Federal loans to states for unemployment relief; shorter hours of labor; federal public construction in the public interest "such as flood control and water ways including the St. Lawrence - Great Lakes project."

6. State unemployment and old age insurance.

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8. Agriculture: Improved credits at low rates of interest "on an amortization plan"; extension of the farm co-operative movement; effective control of surpluses; enactment of every constitutional measure that will aid the farmer.

9. An army and navy "adequate for national defense."

10. Conservation, use and development of water power in the public interest; impartial, strict enforcement of anti-trust laws but revision for better protection of labor, small producers and distributors.

11. Protection for the investing public by requiring public records of "true information" respecting all foreign and domestic stock and bond issues; federal regulation of securities and commodities exchanges; holding companies and utilities doing an interstate business.

12. Banking: Quicker liquidation of closed banks; rigid regulations against speculation with bank deposits; divorce of security affiliates from commercial banks; further precautions against leakage of federal reserve credits into speculative channels.

13. Full justice and generosity for disabled war veterans and their dependents.

14. Unqualified opposition to cancellation of debts over the United States by foreign governments; adherence to the world court subject to reservations pending in the senate foreign relations committee.

15. Independence for the Philippines; ultimate statehood for Porto Rico.

16. Simplified legal procedure.

17. Continuous publicity of political contributions and expenditures. The platform concluded with condemnation for:

1. Excessive and improper use of money in political activities.
2. Lobbying through personal contact.
3. Actions or utterances by high officials designed to influence the stock market.
4. Administration resistance to congressional efforts toward economy.
5. Extravagance of the farm board; its stabilization operations and surplus policies.
6. Usurpation of power by the Department of State in "assuming to pass on foreign securities," offered in the United States.
7. The Hawley-Smoot tariff.