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CHRISTMAS CONTRASTS

We of Las Vegas have a great resource which nothing can take from us in our wonderful winter climate.

We read of the suffering, distress and sometimes death which comes to those in other climates with a feeling of wonder that such things can be. Yet we know that the snows, blizzards and bitter cold of less favored regions take a terrible toll of human suffering every year.

So we in this pleasant land have, perhaps, more good reasons for a Merry Christmas than have any others and not the least of these is the bright, warm congenial sunshine which we are so apt to take for granted.

Las Vegas has many advantages aside from its climate, but we have seen great cities built on climate alone. Las Vegas is awake to her opportunities and will capitalize her golden sunshine into golden dollars.

"PARADE OF THE DEAD"

The authorities of Los Angeles are planning a strange and gruesome parade — a ghost-like procession of one thousand shrouded figures through the holiday streets, each one representing the soul of a person killed in that county during the past year in automobile accidents.

It is appalling how the modern mania for speed has slaughtered our children, our aged, our strong and vigorous men and women of middle age, rich and poor alike, until we have become calloused to the thought—until one near and dear is brought to our door torn, mangled, bloody—dead.

Why wait for that terrible lesson? If every driver would operate his car with care and courtesy the awful slaughter of forty thousand a year in the United States with several hundred thousand additional maimed and crippled, would be avoided and death by automobile cease to be commonplace.

Perhaps it would be a good plan for every community to stage its "Parade of the Dead" occasionally.

SEARCH NEVER CEASES

The search by Western Air Express for its ship will never cease until it is found. The report that the company has or is about to abandon its search is unfounded. Every possible effort will be put forth and no expense spared to find the ship, care for the remains of its dead and, if possible, ascertain the cause of so unusual a disaster.

Air transportation has long since passed the experimental stage and, just as in case of disaster on any railroad, steamship or motorbus line, the proper authorities will study each accident and, if possible, find the cause so that a remedy may be applied.

OBSERVATIONS

BY CHARLES P. SQUIRES

LAS VEGAS' FIRST CHRISTMAS

There are only a few left in Las Vegas who remember that Christmas of 1905 in the raw little city of which we had high hopes even then.

Items in The Age for December 30, 1905, include mention of the following:

The garage building of the automobile stage line (designed to operate between Las Vegas and Goldfield, but which failed dismally because of lack of roads) was the scene of Las Vegas' first Christmas entertainment. Participants in the elaborate program included Dr. Bain, Miss Alma Tuttle, Mrs. Dillon, Edith Yake, Minnie Holland, Julia Westlake, Edith Aplin, Willa Cottrell, Katie Stone, Ollie Cavaleri, Olive Lake, Gladys Nichols, Katherine Kuhn, Miss Bertie Wier, Jennie Wing, Wanda Ball, Claud Yake, Leon Ronnow, Nellie McWilliams, Geneva Laravey, Joanna Latche, Teresa Matteucci, Victor Matteuci, Alfred Kuhn, Herman Rhodes, Henrico Matteuci, John Kramer, Don Gram.

How many of them do you know?

NEWS ITEMS CHRISTMAS 1905

"No more waiting. Plenty of hot water at Kramer Brothers bath rooms."

"The Tonopah & Tidewater railroad of Borax Smith is to go through Beatty."

"Salt Lake line may build its own tracks through Cajon Pass."

"Excavating for a building adjoining First State Bank on the east."

"First locomotive arrives for Las Vegas & Tonopah railroad."

"Dan Noland returned from Riverside."

"Mrs. Helen J. Stewart, who is seriously ill, suffered a relapse."

"J. O. McIntish, proprietor of the Arizona Club, 'remembers' The Age force."

Capt. Jas. H. Ladd plants some fruit trees on his ranch east of Vegas."

LAS VEGAS WEATHER

The weather is promising for a warm, sunny Christmas day. December to date has been pleasant, providing the ideal winter weather for which Las Vegas is famous.

Maximum and minimum temperatures for December registered by the thermometers of the U. S. cooperative weather station in this city are as follows:

Table with 3 columns: Date, High Temperature, Low Temperature. Rows from December 1 to December 22.

"A FAREWELL TO THE DESERT"

A Salute to Winter! But alas, farewell to the golden summer desert in whose warm and ample bosom have I learned to forget!

Oh, mighty desert, thou hast aligned thyself so closely to my heart that upon parting, I find unconsciously I have come to love thee.

In the infinite stillness of thy impregnable bigness, I have taken counsel with my very own, and in doing so have found the peace on earth our Master taught so many years ago.

In the magnanimity of thy soft embrace, thou hast healed the heart that was bleeding, lifted the spirit that had been crushed, recalled the faith that had died.

Thou hast sealed the translucent veil of my yesterdays, and loved by the glorious sun above me, caressed by the passing zephyr at play, steadied by the millions of sands beneath my feet, I have become free.

Oh well, may the cold winds blow from the distant mountains, they cannot hurt me any more. For once again with soul and body united I fear not the chilling blast of winter as summer is still in my heart.

Oh calm and imperturbable desert, to leave thee now 'ere another summer comes, is to leave the embrace of my beloved—selfdenied—memories of a fullness that might have been—had I but known.

Farewell, I will never forget thee, thou vast and impeccable desert—Farewell.

RUTH ELIZABETH GARBE.
Box 1741, Las Vegas, Nevada.

Lutherans To Hold Services

Edward H. Wessel, who recently came to Las Vegas as pastor of the Lutheran church, announces that services are held every Sunday morning at 10:30, at the club house of the Mesquite Club. A cordial invitation is extended to the public to attend.

JACK WILLIAMS IS DEAD

DIED — In his city Monday, December 20, 1936, James Alfred Williams, aged 49 years.

Deceased, a former engineer on the old Las Vegas and Tonopah railroad, first came to Las Vegas in 1912 and remained here but a short time. He again came in 1918 and has been a resident of Las Vegas ever since.

He is survived by his widow and five children, Jack Williams of Las Vegas; Don, of Carson City; Mrs. Lloyd Rannells of Reno; Virgil and Virginia, both of Las Vegas. He leaves also three sisters, Mrs. Geo. H. French and Mrs. G. D. Heath, both of Los Angeles, and Mrs. F. A. Stevens of Las Vegas; and two brothers, Ernest and Thomas Williams, whose whereabouts is unknown.

Deceased had been in poor health for some time. Death is ascribed to heart failure.

Mr. and Mrs. Guy Baker left on Tuesday for La Jolla, Calif., where they will spend Christmas with Mrs. Baker's brother and his family.