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City Board On Municipal Power

In response to an inquiry, Mayor Arnett and the Board of City Commissioners issued the following statement of the Municipal Power Issue, directed to the Building Trades Council of Southern Nevada:

This is in answer to your communication of January 10, 1937, addressed to the mayor and board of city commissioners, wherein you requested the board to issue a statement as to why municipally owned and distributed power is not available to the citizens of this community.

The board fully realizes that this is a matter of great concern to you as it is also to the board. You are assured that your interest and support was greatly appreciated, furthermore, you are assured that we welcome this opportunity to furnish this information.

Even before the present administration took office your present mayor, who was then finance commissioner, and Commissioners Down and Marble, anticipating that probably some charter changes would be necessary in order to enable the city to establish its municipal plant, and, with that end in view, the then city attorney was directed to study and prepare such amendments as would be necessary to enable the city to establish its municipal plant. Agreeably with such direction the city attorney proposed certain changes which were in turn proposed by the above named commissioners to the legislature then in session and by the legislature adopted.

As an advisory proposition your board caused to be submitted to the voters at the general city election in May, 1935, the question as to whether or not the city should establish a municipal plant. The vote upon this question was 2,117 for the municipal plant and 275 against it thereby demonstrating that there was an overwhelming sentiment in favor of such plant.

Your present mayor as such was inducted into office on the first day of June, 1935. Immediately upon contract and engagement was made on with the board, undertook an intensive study of the power situation and it was deemed essential that a careful and authentic survey be made of the local plant, the estimated cost of a new plant and the like. And with that end in view, Mr. Barry Dibble, formerly chief elec-

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Kimball Now Chamber Head

The meeting of Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce Tuesday noon was devoted largely to the installation of the newly elected officers, as follows:

President—O. A. Kimball.

First Vice-President — Robert Griffith.

Second Vice-President — Murray Wollman.

Treasurer—C. S. Wengert.

Directors and Committee Chairmen—R. B. Kaltenborn, E. A. Clark; H. P. Marble, R. R. Russell, Mrs. O. C. Boggs, James Cashman, Dr. Wm. S. Park, Bud S. Barrett, James H. Down, Sr., R. O. Gibson, Mrs. Viola Burns, C. D. Baker, E. W. Allen, A. H. Harrington, A. C. Grant, James Fleming, K. O. Knudson, Bryan Bunker, and Ryland G. Taylor.

Harvey Luce, retiring president, expressed thanks to the Chamber for the loyal support given him and asked the same consideration for his successor.

Mr. Kimball replied briefly, saying that he is proud to serve as president of the Chamber and asking the cooperation of the members.

A. H. Harrington spoke on the matter of financing the high schools of the state by state funds rather than by local taxes.

Marion Earl recommended that the tax rate permissible for public purposes be raised from three cents to seven cents on the hundred dollars of assessed valuation.

Jay Carpenter, of the Mackey School of Mines, now engaged in making an engineering survey of the Boulder Dam power question for the Colorado River Commission, said that Reno is the Queen City of the north and Las Vegas Queen City of the south, and predicted that Las Vegas will develop important industries through the use of Boulder Dam power, at the same time saying that such developments take a little time.

Berkeley Jones was elected to membership. The applications of McDonald Hotel and Percy Nash were referred to the membership committee.

Paul Ralli, president of the Junior Chamber of Commerce, reported that the receipts from the President's Ball amounted to more than \$500.

Mrs. F. Goldstein, who has been the guest of her daughter, Mrs. Arthur Brick, the past three weeks, is leaving for her home in Los Angeles Saturday evening.

City Wins In Supreme Court

The Supreme Court of the State of Nevada today handed down what appears to be a decisive victory for the City of Las Vegas in the litigation over the right of the city to build and operate a municipal power system.

The news was received this afternoon by Ham & Taylor, attorneys for the city, in a brief telegram from George Brodigan, clerk of the Supreme Court, which reads:

"Opinion filed this date, Ronnow vs. City of Las Vegas. Judgment appealed from is reversed and orders appealed from set aside. Appellants and respondents will pay their own and his own costs respectively."

The appeal taken to the Supreme Court by the city was from a judgment of Judge Lockhart to the effect that the city under its charter had not the power to issue bonds and build and operate a municipal power system. The decision, so far as its purport is known at present, reverses Judge Lockhart and clears the way for such action as the city may wish to take in the matter of a municipal power system.

Date Is Fixed For Helderado

The Las Vegas Horsemen's Association, cooperating with the Las Vegas Elks lodge, Junior Chamber of Commerce and other civic bodies, has set the dates for the 1937 Helderado for May 13-16, inclusive.

They plan this to be the biggest event of the kind ever held in Nevada. In the afternoon there will be entertainment at the City Park—horse racing, bronco busting, etc. In the evening a grand time with the bewhiskered gentry at the Helderado village.

MRS. ROSS JAMISON DIES IN BOULDER CITY

Mrs. Ross Jamison passed away at her home in Boulder City Tuesday morning. The cause of death was apoplexy. The body was sent east for burial and was accompanied by the husband and two young children.

Professor Tugwell is going to find out that it is taking on a pretty tough job to try to resettle molasses, especially in January.

High School Aid Survey Planned

Surveys to determine need for state financial aid to high schools will be made within the next few weeks, Chauncey W. Smith, state superintendent of public instruction, revealed recently.

"There is no doubt that many Nevada high schools are in a bad financial condition," Smith said, "but until we complete this survey, we shall not recommend any further allocation of state funds to high schools."

The state school tax of 20 cents now provides funds for the university and elementary schools, but only in a few isolated cases of extreme need are funds given to secondary schools. The university and elementary schools also receive \$125,000 a year from the state liquor taxes.

"Various groups are asking more money for schools to be taken from the liquor revenue," Smith admitted, "but it looks as if the counties might be forced to continue supporting their high schools."

"Many secondary schools are attempting too much in the way of courses. For instance, schools with an enrollment of 50 students or so will offer four years of Spanish and three years of mathematics when only two years of each are required."

These schools are overstaffed for this reason, he explained, since teachers are forced to devote their time to classes with only two or three students attending.

"Consolidation of high schools in many cases would permit economies," the school superintendent pointed out, "but it is a difficult problem. Each town is jealous of its high school and would resent any attempt to consolidate with that of another town a few miles distant."

"Weather conditions and bad roads at times makes transportation of pupils in buses hazardous. And then there's the matter of buildings. It may not be more economical to consolidate two or more schools if a new building with more rooms and added facilities becomes necessary. It would be many years before the savings effected by reduction of teaching personnel, building maintenance costs and other things could make up the large outlay for a new building."

The most glaring example of the need for consolidation is the operation of two high schools at Fernley

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