



LAS VEGAS AGE

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POWER CELEBRATION

Las Vegas, without regard to differences of opinion as to municipal power systems, politics or religion, should celebrate the advent of Boulder Dam power when it is switched into the Las Vegas distributing system for the first time Tuesday evening, March 16.

The occasion marks the most important step which Las Vegas has taken since her first interest was aroused in promoting Boulder Dam twenty years or more ago.

It provides an occasion for priceless publicity which will go out over the world when the lights of Las Vegas are first energized by Boulder Dam power.

Los Angeles had a great celebration of the turning of Boulder Dam power into her transmission lines, spending thousands of dollars in a show which went out over the entire world to show that the metropolis had cheap power. Las Vegas may, and should, do the same thing on a smaller scale with results of the utmost importance to this entire region.

The city, the county and the state should take part in the affair and contribute in every manner possible to its success. The Southern Nevada Power Company and the Union Pacific Railroad should be asked to lend their cooperation. Boulder City should also be asked to cooperate and be included in the publicity given the event.

The Chamber of Commerce has an opportunity to attract the attention of the world to this section in an unusual way. The time for preparation is short, but with the vigor for which the Chamber is noted, a notable spectacle can be prepared which will attract many visitors and arouse the interest of the entire country.

Most important perhaps is the effect which the knowledge that cheap power from Boulder Dam is an actuality in Las Vegas and Southern Nevada will have on our own people. There has been what seems to many long delay in getting power. That delay has generated a certain pessimism and uncertainty of the future in some of our own citizens. A celebration such as we have suggested would remove.

Las Vegas is today at the beginning of her epoch of greatest growth and prosperity. We should employ every bit of optimism to hasten it.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FUNCTIONS

At Tuesday's meeting of Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce controversy over the municipal power question arose and threatened, possibly, to disrupt that body. Fortunately, the crisis was averted by adjournment without any unhappy results.

The function of the Chamber is to promote by publicity of various kinds the welfare of the community and to give encouragement to such matters as may advance the prosperity of its people.

However, political or religious questions, or those which

OBSERVATIONS

By CHARLES P. SQUIRES

"THE ROSE OF SHARON"

There is nobody who has such a wide and intimate knowledge of the romantic lore of pioneer days in Nevada as Judge Frank H. Norcross of the United States Court for the District of Nevada.

I have talked with him many times of the early history of Nevada and each time have brought to light some choice morsel of information of which I had not heard before.

Happening to mention the death at the age of 90 of Sarah Althea Hill Sharon Terry in the insane asylum at Stockton recently, Judge Norcross volunteered the following:

"When Judge David S. Terry, who was an ardent supporter of the Confederacy, came to Nevada (then the Territory of Utah) during the Civil war, he fully expected to be governor of the Territory and carried in his pocket a commission as governor issued to him by Jefferson Davis, president of the Confederate States.

"It happened, however, that the trend of sentiment in the state was toward the Union side, and Judge Terry finally left Nevada filled with distress at the ungrateful people who preferred to remain in the Union."

Judge Terry was a fiery and impulsive individual of strong personality, so we are told. In 1859 he picked a quarrel with Senator David C. Broderick, whom he killed in the ensuing duel. He, himself met death under somewhat similar circumstances in 1892, when he was slain by a gunman body guard of Judge Stephen Field after he had picked a quarrel and slapped the Judge's face.

Sarah Althea Hill was said to be a woman of great beauty and compelling personality. She, after her marriage with Senator Sharon, was called "The Rose of Sharon," and ranked in romantic interest with the two other most brilliant women of the era, Lola Montez and Eilley Orrum (wife of Sandy Bowers).

When she sought a divorce from Senator Sharon whom, she declared, she had married under civil contract, Judge Terry became her attorney. After a bitter fight Terry won the case and a comfortable allowance for the wife. By this time Perry and Mrs. Sharon were in violent love with each other and married.

With the death of Judge Terry, his widow became insane and was committed to the asylum. However, she never lost her delusions of grandeur and still at the time of her death the other day, lived in the glamour of the days of gold.

SWEET AUBURN

Speaking of "The Days of Gold," I had the privilege of spending a couple of days at the Freeman Ho-

tel in Auburn, California, recently. I think it is one of the most delightful little cities I ever was in, especially is this so in the summer.

Most of my readers have passed through Auburn on the railroad or highway between Reno and Sacramento. It lies in the rolling foothills which build themselves as the traveler goes eastward, into the towering Sierra Nevada mountains, and was the very center of the great placer mining region which added countless millions to the wealth of the world.

There is an astonishing revival of mining in the Mother Lode country, of which Placer county, of which Auburn is the county seat, is a part. Improved methods of mining with the increase in the price of gold has given an impetus to the work of reopening some of the old Mother Lode mines and has led to some entirely new discoveries of ore.

It is very probable that Auburn may again become the center of the world's most important gold mining enterprises.

It was down the American river near the site of Auburn that the ill-fated "snow shoe" party made their terrible trip from Donner Lake to the Sacramento in an effort to get to civilization and bring aid to their starving comrades, along in the 50's.

DONNER LAKE

Going from Auburn to Reno we pass over the Donner Lake Summit, where heavy snows served as a barrier to pen the starving Donner party in with starvation, cannibalism and lingering death. When we passed through that region recently, the snow was so deep for miles that we could not see out of the trench which was the highway. We saw buildings which were collapsing under the tremendous weight of snow, their walls bulging out and waiting only release from the snow at their sides to crash to the ground.

SKIING GREAT SPORT

For miles along this highway we found places where the highway has been cleared of snow in an area wide enough to serve as parking places for cars carrying parties of skiers. It was Saturday, and there were thousands of people dressed in ski clothes, with the long, clumsy-looking runners tied to their feet, having a wonderful time. They came from San Francisco, Sacramento, Reno and all places within a hundred miles.

I found that Reno is ski-crazy—at least many of the young fellows of the University belong to ski clubs and spend their holidays at Lake Tahoe, Truckee, Cisco or some other cold and snowy place getting their faces cooked to a rosy red by the reflected sunlight. An entertaining sight, some of the young chaps, with their spanked-looking faces fringed by the yellow glow of whiskers being raised for the annual "Whiskerino." Youth is a happy time!

have become the subject of controversial and conflicting interests and opinions, should be rigorously excluded from debate at Chamber of Commerce meetings. Not that they may or may not be important to the future of the community, but there are other and proper channels through which such questions may be settled without appealing to the Chamber of Commerce made up of men of all political, religious and business interests.