

OBSERVATIONS

By CHARLES P. SQUIRES

A PLACID LAKE

Lake Mead has taken its first toll of life by drowning, a toll which will be added to from time to time during the coming years, but which for the most part, is entirely unnecessary.

Ordinarily, the waters of the lake are placid and peaceful. But when, as perhaps once in a while, a heavy wind sweeps up the canyon and across the broad reaches of the lake, the waters are whipped to a degree of roughness dangerous to small sail boats, especially when manned by those not accustomed to sailing.

However, with proper boats such as those operated by Merle Emery, veteran riverman, trips on the lake may be made with absolute safety. Many fine boats are also being put on the lake by private parties and boating as well as bathing in Lake Mead is assuming wide popularity.

PIONEERS HONORED

I stopped the other day while riding up from Las Angeles with my friend, Jas. H. Down, Sr., to read the inscription on the monument erected some years ago near the southern end of Cajon Pass. I had seen it many times, but never before when it was convenient to stop.

The inscription reads:

SANTE FE
AND
SALT LAKE TRAIL
1849
ERECTED IN HONOR
OF THE
BRAVE PIONEERS
OF
CALIFORNIA IN 1917
BY PIONEERS
SHELDON STODDARD
SYDNEY P. WAITE
JOHN BROWN
GEORGE MILLER
GEORGE M. COOLEY
SILAS C. COX
RICHARD WEIR
JASPER N. CORBETT

Some of those whose names are inscribed I knew more than 40 years ago. Most of them have long since crossed the last divide. They were heroic characters who traveled the Salt Lake-California trail through Las Vegas when it was only a name denoting a place where grass and water were available. It occurs to me that our Historical Society might well consider the idea of erecting some monuments in commemoration of historical events and notable persons in the Las Vegas City Park.

AN OLD FRIEND

In Hollywood the other day I dropped into the Hollywood Plaza hotel to see our old friend, Clayton V. Smith, who is now manager of that splendid hotel.

We had a pleasant visit and, in company with another veteran California hotel man, Pat Shanley, had luncheon in the famous "Cinnabar" cocktail lounge and cafe which is an important element in the popularity of The Plaza.

The Cinnabar appears to be one of the popular resorts for movie people and is doing a constantly increasing business under the management of Clayton Smith.

The Plaza is one of the most charming of all the beautiful Hollywood hotels. It is one of the chain of Hull hotels, which includes, be-

sides the Plaza, Hotel Roosevelt, Hollywood; Hotel Mayfair, Las Angeles, and Senator, Sacramento, all of them hotels of the highest type. I am told that the Californian in Fresno will be added to the Hull chain.

Clayton tells me that he recently sold his interest in the Hamilton chain of hotels to his long-time associate, Senator Charles Hamilton, retaining, however, his interest in Hotel Fresno which he long operated. The sale gave Hamilton the sole operating ownership of the Savoy, Los Angeles; the Western, at Marysville, and the Tracy, at Tracy, Calif.

Clayton Smith still retains a friendly feeling for Las Vegas, where he spent much time in the years between 1905 and 1910, when his father was superintendent of the noted Potosi mine 25 miles southwest of Vegas. Both Mr. and Mrs. Smith have almost entirely recovered from the injuries they suffered when Clayton's plane crashed some months ago. He still has a lively interest in aviation, although he does not spend as much time flying as he did.

Production Of Gold Is High

According to preliminary figures the total mine production of gold in the United States, territories included, amounted to 4,329,273 fine ounces in 1936, which represented an increase of 640,364 ounces, or 17 per cent over the 1935 production of 3,688,909 ounces.

The 1936 production was worth \$151,524,555, which was \$22,412,740 or 17 per cent greater than the 1935 value of \$121,111,815. The price

TESTED RECIPE

By Frances Lee Barton

ELUISIVE as a bad boy is the knack of making truly excellent layer cake and at the same time combining with it exactly the right filling to make the whole cake a work of culinary art. Your choice of filling can make or break an otherwise successful cake. Here's a filling which, if used judiciously, will never let you down.



Chocolate Cream Filling

1½ squares unsweetened chocolate; 1 cup milk; 6 tablespoons sugar; 2 tablespoons cake flour; ¼ teaspoon salt, 1 egg yolk, slightly beaten; ½ tablespoon butter; ½ teaspoon vanilla.

Add chocolate to milk and heat in double boiler. When chocolate is melted, beat with rotary egg beater until blended. Combine sugar, flour, and salt; add gradually to chocolate mixture and cook until thickened, stirring constantly; then continue cooking 10 minutes, stirring occasionally. Pour small amount of mixture over egg yolk, stirring vigorously; return to double boiler and cook 2 minutes longer, stirring constantly. Add butter and vanilla and cool. Makes 1¼ cups filling, or enough filling to spread between two 9-inch layers, or for 2½ to 3 dozen small sponge cakes.

of gold in both years was \$35 per fine ounce.

The increase in production for 1936 over 1933 was 65 per cent in quantity and 126 per cent in value, and for 1936 over 1932 the increase was 68 per cent in quantity and 185 per cent in value. The disparity between the quantity and value increases reflects, of course, the 69 per cent increase in the value of gold—\$20.67 to \$35 per fine ounce—that resulted from government decrees and legislation, between August 9, 1933, and January 31, 1934.

Of the total production in 1936 California contributed 24 per cent, Philippine Islands 14 per cent, South Dakota 14 per cent, Alaska 12 per cent, Colorado 8 per cent, Arizona 7 per cent, Nevada 7 per cent, Utah 5 per cent, and Montana 4 per cent. In 1935 California contributed 24 per cent, South Dakota 15 per cent, Alaska 13 per cent, Philippine Islands 12 per cent, Colorado 9 per cent, Arizona 7 per cent, Nevada 5 per cent, Utah 5 per cent, and Montana 4 per cent.

In 1936 California showed a gain of 159,170 ounces over 1935; the

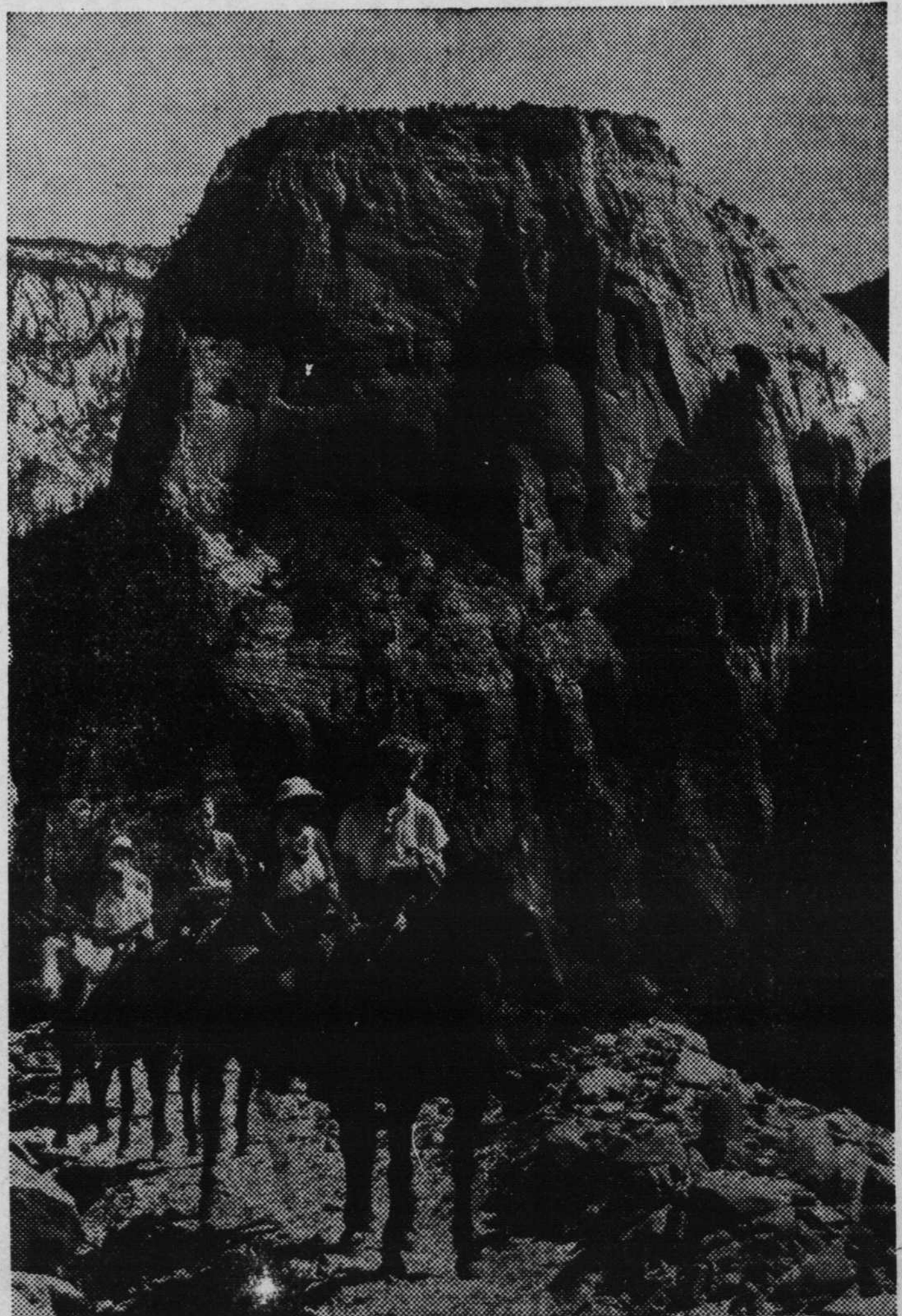
Philippine Islands 147,186 ounces, Nevada 96,669, Arizona 68,245, Alaska 60,505, Utah 38,662, Montana 27,912, South Dakota 23,449, and Colorado 15,432. Of the smaller gold producing states, Alabama showed the only striking proportionate increase (96 per cent) in 1936 production over that for 1935, and South Carolina and Georgia showed the only large decrease—89 per cent and 63 per cent respectively.

Our printer who goes around with a near-widow says he is going to marry her as soon as she gets Reno-vated.

It's too bad that the sit-down strike wasn't in vogue when crossword and jig-saw puzzles were popular.

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Great White Throne



Zion National Park in southern Utah is famed for the beautiful red colorings of its many towering formations. Outstanding among the vivid peaks in this strange area is the Great White Throne, seen in the background above. The horseback party is on one of the trails which winds to the rim of the canyon.

Union Pacific Railroad Photo.