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BOOSTING PRICES

The practice of boosting or "kiting" prices for cabins, rooms, meals, supplies or services on busy week-ends in Las Vegas has always been frowned upon and vigorously condemned by the business element of Las Vegas. Such practice has never been tolerated here and has never occurred except in some few cases by irresponsible employees.

Just now, however, the Chamber of Commerce has received two complaints of overcharges of automobile travelers by tourist camps. The complaints are being investigated.

Las Vegas has been singularly favored by tourists. They have been for years stopping here by thousands each week end and, so far as we can observe, have been pleased with their experiences and satisfied with the prices charged for accommodations.

This good reputation which Las Vegas bears can be easily blemished by a few short-sighted persons who make a practice of boosting their prices for week-end accommodations. The result will be, first, discredit and ruin for those found guilty of such charges; second, a loss of thousands of dollars each week in the business of the community.

There is no use thinking that tourists have to stop over in Las Vegas. Now they stay here because they like to. But once let the word be spread that Las Vegas is a nest of grafters and chiselers and price-kiters who take unfair advantage of travelers, and our prosperity will melt away like our mountain snows

The names and places of those who persist in this practice of price "kiting" are known and must be advertised to the world so that they may be avoided. The responsibility for the future rests very largely in the hands of the fair-dealing element of the community. It is their duty to cooperate with the Chamber of Commerce and other civic organizations in putting a quick and decisive end to the practice complained of.

LAS VEGAS WEATHER

Following are the maximum and minimum temperatures as registered by the thermometers of the United States Cooperative Weather Station in Las Vegas for the past week:

	Max.	Min.
June 18	100	62
June 19	106	62
June 20	108	63
June 21	110	69
June 22	105	69
June 23	102	77
June 24	102	77

The thermometers of this station are accurate and are correctly read each day, the recorded figures being for the 24 hours preceding 6:00 p. m. of the date given. The instruments are contained in the regula-

tion slat shelter five feet above the ground provided by the government and are located in a spot approved by the Weather Bureau where they will not be unduly affected either by heat reflected from nearby objects or radiated by buildings which have absorbed the sun's heat. The object of the United States Weather Bureau is to record the temperatures of the general atmosphere unaffected by radiated or reflected heat. Reports of Las Vegas temperatures which are at variance with these are probably accurate readings of thermometers which are not exposed under conditions similar to those of the government instruments.

C. P. SQUIRES,
Cooperative Observer.

OBSERVATIONS

By CHARLES P. SQUIRES

A CITY OF BEAUTY

When Las Vegas was born, May, 1905, it was far from being a thing of beauty. Its streets were a series of crooked, deep ruts filled with silty dust. Its buildings were tents, with a few board shacks as the more pretentious business blocks. The townsite was covered with weeds and brush with a few stunted mesquite bushes here and there.

There was not a vestige of shade and the sun beat down with merciless heat on the heads of those who were here, going through the tent and board roofs as though they were not there.

The wise desert rats ridiculed the idea that trees would grow on the townsite or that there would ever be shade and lawns and flowers.

I am reminded of those conditions which persisted in Las Vegas for several years, by the visit the other day of Tom Ebersole who lived here from 1907 to 1911. I asked him what he thought of the city Las Vegas has grown to be.

"I did not expect to see anything like such a fine city as you now have," Tom said, "but what surprises me the most are the beautiful streets lined with shade trees meeting in the center overhead. Why, when I left here in 1911 there were no shade trees."

Which is quite true, although then The Age had been for three years promoting the idea that Las Vegas should plant trees and lawns and flowers.

So now, sometimes, we are astonished to hear visitors exclaim at the beauty of the city of Las Vegas. Yet our shaded streets with the great cottonwoods meeting overhead, the miles of green lawns, and the climbing vines and roses clustering about our homes are as beautiful as can be found in any city — more beautiful, in fact, for here we are given the amazing contrast of this green gem set in the midst of the silver-gray desert.

Not only has nature, with the aid of our abundant artesian water, done wonders in beautifying Las Vegas, but the art of man contributes greatly. Where can one find more beautiful school buildings and grounds than those two great plants of the grammar school and the high school, where better paved streets in a city of this size? Where a more brilliant and colorful display of street lights and neon signs than in our business section.

Yes, some of us have been slow to realize and acknowledge it, but Las Vegas has grown from a miserable shack town to be one of the most beautiful little cities in the west.

The Age is proud to have had a hand in it.

CALIENTE PLANS

Caliente has programmed a big Fourth of July celebration Monday, July 5, and there will be something doing every minute of the day, from the salutes at daybreak until the close of the grand ball that night.

The committee announces "Everything Free" including a high class boxing card and the grand ball. Of course they expect people from miles around to crowd into Caliente to enjoy the big time.

Security Board Perfects Plans

Nevada employees in commerce, industry and professional service covered by the federal old-age benefit system of the Social Security Act will be issued social security account numbers through the Reno office of the Social Security Board after June 30, according to an announcement today by Mr. William Royle, Reno manager of the Social Security Board.

"The present arrangement between the board and the post office department in which the latter accepts applications for social security accounts and issues the numbers at the end of the month," Mr. Royle said. "Thereafter, the Social Security Board will handle this work through its field offices except that the post offices in cities where the board does not have an office will continue their cooperation on a limited basis by maintaining a supply of application forms (SS-5) for the convenience of local employers and employees."

Roy's also urged all employees working in occupations covered by the Social Security Act to file applications for social security accounts with their local post offices at once if they have not done so. He emphasized that a social security account is essential to setting up a record of the employee's wages upon which monthly retirement benefits at age 65 are computed. Also, that it simplifies the employer's task when he hires new employees.

By June 30 every employer in industry, commerce or professional service must have the social security account number of each employee under 65 years of age who has worked for him since January 1. This information is required in connection with a report to be filed with the collector of internal revenue in July. If an employee fails to obtain a number, the employer must file an application for an account number on the employee's behalf, according to treasury department regulations.

DEATH OF PIONEER

George Lee Edwards, aged 77, pioneer resident of Panaca, Lincoln county, died at his home Monday morning, June 21. It is said he had been a resident of Southern Nevada longer than any other person except, possibly, his brother John.

He was born in Wellsville, Cache county, Utah, March 4, 1860. The family moved to St. George in 1863 and in May, 1864, moved into Lincoln county with the first permanent migration to southern Nevada.

The life of Mr. Edwards was active and useful and although not in political office, he was always engaged in work for the public welfare.

The funeral was held in Panaca Tuesday afternoon at 2:30.

The deceased is survived by his wife and six children: Mrs. Quincy Keele, of Sparks, Nevada; Osborne Edwards of Panaca; Leslie Edward of Carson City; Elbert Edwards of Las Vegas; Mrs. Richard Schuenman of Winnemucca, and Mrs. Rufus Hurst of Panaca; four brothers, John, William, Eli and Hosea, all of Panaca, and 13 grandchildren.