

LAS VEGAS AGE

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BANISH FIREWORKS

The proposal of the County Commissioners that firecrackers and fireworks be banned throughout the county as well as in Las Vegas city, will meet the approval of the vast majority of people.

There are no benefits from the sale or use of explosives which to the slightest extent compensate for the danger, suffering and loss which inevitably result.

Provision should be made whereby fireworks displays may be made under proper supervision in proper places, but the indiscriminate shooting by people generally should be strictly prohibited.

LAKE HALF FULL

Today, with the water standing but a few inches below the 1,100-foot elevation contour in Lake Mead, the lake is half full of water, and still rising slowly.

The top 128 feet of the lake will store approximately the same amount of water as the lower 450 feet. Yet, because of the necessity of keeping sufficient storage capacity to accommodate the expected spring floods each year, it is probable that none of us will ever see the lake filled to its capacity.

We can well imagine, however, that with an additional hundred feet of water on top of what is now in the lake, we will have a body of water of amazing extent. As it is Lake Mead is one of the most strikingly beautiful spectacles in the world and in time it will attract thousands of sports lovers from all nations.

DINING ROOM CONTROVERSY

Just why there should be any real opposition to the Union Pacific continuing to serve the community by providing a suitable dining room for banquets and service club luncheons is difficult to understand.

For many years the railroad company has accommodated the community in this matter and, although a spirit of loyalty to local restaurants and hotels has many times caused the Chamber of Commerce, Rotary Club and other organizations to hold their meetings elsewhere for a time, they have almost invariably gone back to the U. P. dining room as the only suitable place.

In discussing the matter the statement was made at the meeting of Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce the other day that should the Union Pacific include a dining room in its new depot it would take \$100,000 per month out of business channels of Las Vegas. If this were true, there would be not the slightest question of the duty of all service clubs and all lines of business to oppose vigorously the new dining room proposal. And if it is true, it naturally follows that Las Vegas during the many years that its service clubs have been meeting in the Union Pacific dining room has been robbed of nearly \$25,000,000.

More careful consideration of the matter would lead us to far different conclusions. If Chamber of Commerce, Junior

Chamber of Commerce, Kiwanis Club and Rotary Club, all hold their luncheon meetings in the U. P. dining room with an average attendance of 50 at each meeting, the total income to the U. P. at the rate charged would be approximately \$5,000 per year instead of \$100,000 per month. The amount of other business the dining room attracts from the community is exceedingly small.

If any private enterprise will provide accommodations for the service club luncheons even approaching those now enjoyed, there is no doubt but that the Chamber of Commerce and other clubs would be glad to patronize the local enterprise. The U. P., we believe, would have no criticism of such a course. And the U. P. is asking no contract or assurance of any kind that the service clubs will continue to patronize its dining room if a new one is provided.

We will be exceedingly shortsighted as a community if we fail to encourage the expenditure of an additional \$50,000, or even a smaller sum, in improvements by the Union Pacific. And, instead of considering the Union Pacific as an interloper in the business of the community, we should remember that it is the source of our largest payroll and that it pays approximately sixty percent of the taxes necessary for the support of the city and county and our proportion of the state government.

The question is not one of requesting the Union Pacific to provide something new, but simply as to whether they shall continue to provide what we long have enjoyed.

OBSERVATIONS

By CHARLES P. SQUIRES

REVIVING CAMPS

Last week I commented on Reno, "The Biggest Little City in the World," and the fact that it is still bright and fair in spite of the decline of the great mining camps which once poured millions of dollars through her channels of business.

I did not mention, however, that there are signs of reviving prosperity in some of the old camps.

GOLDFIELD HOPEFUL

In Goldfield we stopped a short time and were told that the Deep Mines company is working 100 men and that there is a strong likelihood of striking rich ore bodies at great depth. Work on that property has been going on for more than twenty years in the effort to reach the rich ore bodies which some engineers and mining men are convinced exist. Other properties about Goldfield are being developed we were told and it is quite possible that Goldfield may again become an important producer of the precious metals.

TONOPAH BUSY

The great camp of Tonopah appears to be improving in activity. We noticed big trucks rumbling down the streets with ore and places of business seemed well filled with customers with money to spend.

WALKER LAKE

We skirted the shores of Walker Lake for 35 miles just as the sun was setting and were treated to a display of coloring more vivid than is usual even there.

The lake took on the color of dark turquoise fringed with pink reflected from the sunset skies. Here and there near the shores we saw flocks of pelicans doing a little fancy fishing.

Walker Lake has lowered its level perhaps fifty feet since I first saw it thirty years ago. Year after year more and more of the waters of Walker river and its tributaries is diverted to farming enterprises both in Nevada and across the state line

in California, so that less water flows into the lake today than ever before. The water level seems to be steadily lowering. At the north end of the lake there is an area several miles long now only a strip of marshy land, where a few years ago was clear, blue water.

A level will be reached eventually where the water flowing into the lake will be sufficient to balance the loss by seepage and evaporation, and the lake will become stable again. Just how small it will become before the balance is established is hard to tell.

At any rate, Walker Lake is still one of the most beautiful in the entire state, and when our old friend, Governor Emmet D. Boyle, insisted the north-south highway be routed along the western side of the lake he provided a charming scenic drive.

By the way, those who are so insistent that Lake Mead, formed by Boulder Dam, will change the climate of the surrounding country, are respectfully referred to Walker Lake. It has been there for some centuries apparently, but the surrounding territory has not been modified in the slightest degree. Desert climate and vegetation still persist right down to the water's edge on all sides. There is no indication that Walker Lake has even contributed to the fury of the occasional summer storms which provide the desert cloudbursts.

Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Ferron were guests of Mrs. C. P. Squires at Deer Creek over the Fourth of July holiday.

Marie Hall of Pittsburgh has ambitions for fame, but does not choose an oversea flight as a means of self-expression. She wrote the Niagara Falls police department: "Please tell me how I can go over the falls in a barrel; I am 32 and sure do want to go over the falls in a barrel."

On the body of Pat Noonan, 73, who died in a "flop house" in Denver, was found \$100 in cash, \$2,500 in postal savings certificates and two bank books listing deposits of \$18,000.