

OBSERVATIONS

By CHARLES P. SQUIRES

THE GOLDFIELD

Coming home from Tonopah with a party of Rotarians recently, we stopped an hour at the famous Goldfield Hotel, once the brightest and busiest hotel in the west.

We found the place, although partially deserted as compared with

30 years ago, in a fine state of preservation and with every sign of hotel comfort for the traveler.

Miss E. M. Armstrong, business manager of the hotel, took pride in showing us some of the wonders of the place, especially the great music box which stands in the lobby. Years ago before the advent of the radio, this was one of the musical attractions of the place and we enjoyed hearing the tinkling tunes which it gave out.

We were told that considerable

work was going on in Goldfield and the hotel is enjoying a revival of business after years of quietude. It is now owned by Ray Holbrook and operated by Louis D. Snader. Marion Eakese is publicity manager.

The hotel brought memories of the former greatness and glory of Goldfield. I stopped there many times when Goldfield Consolidated was yielding more than a million dollars a month besides many thousands in high grade which the miners would carry away in their pockets.

That "high grading" feature of the camp made it the greatest "ready money" town in the world, because when a man was getting forty or fifty dollars a day besides his regular wages, he naturally became a free spender.

The gambling resorts stacked twenty-dollar gold pieces on the tables to tempt the unwary to play. And I have seen the roulette wheel in The Goldfield surrounded by men playing \$20 gold pieces on the numbers which makes a real sporty game.

The Goldfield was rather aristocratic in tone, although the miner was as welcome so long as he had money.

Sunday evening dinners in the great dining room, were made social events. The ladies all wore their showiest evening dresses and many of the men were in evening clothes. The lights were bright and the tables were glittering with their cut glass and silver. And of course, nearly everyone drank champagne or something else equally as expensive.

It was a gay town 25 or 30 years ago!

EUNICE BECKLEY COMES

Miss Eunice Beckley arrived Wednesday evening from Reno to spend her vacation with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jake Beckley.

A Christmas Song For the World

By Daniel I. McNamara



WHEN Pietro A. Yon, organist-composer, plays the music of his own pastorate, "Gesù Bambino," on the great organ of St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City Christmas morning, its majestic echoes literally will sweep over the world, for in hundreds of churches in almost every country of the globe this famous creation of the master musician has come to be a permanent fixture in the Christmas programs.

"Gesù Bambino" is sung and played in more than a dozen arrangements. Famous artists have recorded it for phonograph and it has been played for automatic organ reproduction by its own composer. It has been translated into several languages and has been sung by the world's greatest concert artists.

Pietro A. Yon credits the success of the composition to a memorable event of his early days as a church organist in his native Italy. On a lofty Alpine mountain in Piedmont, the northern section of Italy, he was playing a Mass before dawn on a cloudy Sunday morning at the dedication of a monument to Jesus the Redeemer. Several thousands of worshipers were thronged in the darkness. Suddenly the gloom and fog were dispelled by a brilliant sunburst at the very moment when the celebrant of the Mass began chanting the Credo. As if exalted, the great congregation took up the chant. The sublime beauty of the moment so impressed the young organist that he sought to express his feelings in music. His Christmas hymn to the Infant Jesus composed around the main motive of the Adeste Fideles (Come, All Ye

Faithful) was the happy result.

Several years later, when Pietro Yon had become organist in St. Xavier's Church in New York City, Giovanni Martinelli, famous Metropolitan star, entered the choir loft during the midnight Mass on Christmas and sang the song to an enraptured throng of worshipers. This was before Pietro Yon was appointed by Cardinal Hayes to supervise the installation and take charge of the great organ of St. Patrick's Cathedral.

Every year the inspiring pastorate is sung in an increasing number of churches. Although its composer has done much other creative work, the widespread acceptance of his beautifully wrought devotional miniature has made it the one usually identified with his name.

Pietro Yon is a native of Italy who many years ago became an American. As an outstanding member of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, he is of the "standard composer" type as exemplified by such other members as John Alden Carpenter, Ernest Bloch, Deems Taylor, Percy Grainger, Walter Damrosch, Charles Wakefield Cadman, Frank La Forge, Fritz Kreisler, Leopold Godowsky and others whose works are of substantial and permanent nature.

Yon's other compositions include Masses, motets, cantatas, oratorios and other ambitious music in larger form. But however brilliant these may be in the appraisal of his fellow musicians, none has a more lasting appeal to the great mass of lovers of sacred music than his little Christmas hymn, "Gesù Bambino."

RECUPERATING FROM BURNS

Walter K. Fraser, houseman at Furnace Creek Camp, spent a few days during the past week, recuperating from burns over his face, forehead and left arm. The explosion causing the burns occurred when Mr. Fraser struck a match and attempted to light a fire in a large oil heater, in Recreation hall at the camp.

EL PORTAL

PROGRAM

Sunday — Monday — Tuesday

CAROLE LOMBARD
FRED MacMURRAY
In
"TRUE CONFESSIONS"
With
John Barrymore—Una Merkel
And
Color Cartoon "Wayward Pups," "Schubert's Serenade" in Technicolor and Latest News of The Day

Wednesday—One Day Only

TWO BIG FEATURES
"NIGHT CLUB SCANDAL"
With
John Barrymore
Lynne Overman ¼
Louise Campbell
Charles Bickford
Evelyn Brent
And
Another Thrilling Hop-A-Long Cassidy
"TEXAS TRAIL"
With
William Boyd
George Hayes
Judith Allen
Also Latest Fox News

Thursday—Friday—Saturday

Whoop in the New Year With
1938's New dea Musical Hit
Walter Winchell
Ben Bernie
Simone Simon
"LOVE AND HISSES"
With
Bert Lahr
Joan Davis
Dick Baldwin
Also
Pete Smith Specialty and
Our ang Comedy.

Christmas Greetings

From Ed Baggett

TO MY FRIENDS AND
MANY CUSTOMERS:

I wish for you a contented and Merry Christmas and prosperity for all the New Year.

Let contentment lighten your burdens. Forget the troubles of the past and look hopefully to the future.

I thank you all for your friendship and patronage.

ED. BAGGETT.