

LAS VEGAS AGE

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WESTSIDE WATER

The people of Westside are amply justified in their demand for a more adequate water system. They have created a populous and prosperous community which has long since outgrown the water system which, fifteen years ago was considered ample.

There are two basic necessities for the protection of any community—an ample water supply and a sewer system. Just what steps are necessary to provide those necessities may be uncertain at the moment, but decisive steps must be taken to make and carry out plans for relief of Westside people from conditions which they describe as intolerable.

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OUR ARTESIAN WATER

The artesian water supply of Las Vegas Valley has been very properly called the most valuable asset of this community.

As early as 1907, a little group of Las Vegas business men, believing that the presence of "water mounds" with small springs on top indicated the presence of underground water under pressure, contributed \$100 each to sink a well.

A small drilling rig was brought in from Los Angeles and a site three miles north of Las Vegas selected for the test. After the usual discouragements, a flow of water was encountered at about 350 feet depth. That well is still flowing unrestricted, wasting its water on the desert, as it has been doing for more than thirty years.

Since then many wells have been drilled into the artesian basin in Las Vegas Valley. Some of the wells have been properly cased, the flow controlled and the water put to beneficial use in the irrigation of land or for domestic use.

Unfortunately, most of the wells were improperly cased and have been for a long term of years, pouring out their precious waters to waste on the desert. And, still more unfortunately, the constantly flowing waters have waterlogged thousands of acres of our good lands and created unsightly swamps where should be profitable farms.

As early as 1914 the subject of controlling the flow of artesian wells was considered and in 1915 an Act of the Legislature was secured giving the power of control to the state engineer.

Later, it was found that the state engineer was reluctant to assume the burden of enforcement of the Act. Amendments to the Act were secured at various times, the last by the Legislature of 1935, giving the state engineer such additional powers as he deemed necessary, for capping wells and protecting the water sources in Las Vegas Valley.

A fund of \$1,000 has been contributed by the government, the City of Las Vegas, the County of Clark and the Las Vegas Land & Water Company, for the purpose of getting expert advice as to how to prevent the deplorable waste of water through uncontrolled artesian wells.

We are offered for the money a partial survey which will tell us that certain wells are constantly pouring out their precious waters to waste on the desert—a thing which we knew and regretted many years ago.

It would have been better had the available fund been devoted to the control of even one well, so that we might have had precedents established which would guide us in the

Observations

By CHAS. P. SQUIRES

THESE HERE POLITICS

This business of running for office is no fun for me. For more than 50 years I have been trying to help this candidate or that whom I thought deserving of election, and I have asked thousands of people to vote for them.

But when it comes to asking a person to vote for me I find it extremely difficult, embarrassing and—er, impossible. I find I can tell the other fellow why I want to be elected, and put up a little argument, but when it comes to telling how good I am I find myself at a disadvantage.

This much I will say in strict confidence—if I were half as good as some candidates try to make the voters think they are, it would not be necessary for me to campaign at all

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JUDGE "BARNEY" MORAN

I am grieved by the death of my fine old friend, Judge Thomas F. Moran, affectionately known among his friends as "Barney" Moran.

For many years Judge Moran occupied the bench of the district court in Reno and rendered decrees in thousands of cases. His decisions came to be widely respected as clear statements of the law interpreted in the light of simple, human justice.

As a delightful companion he occupied a warm place in the hearts of many Nevadans and his death brings deep sorrow to all who were fortunate enough to know him.

His epitaph might well be written, "An upright man, a just judge and a kindly friend."

MEN MUSTN'T PAY FOR WOMEN IN THIS CLUB

(Australian Press Bureau)

MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA.—Sex equality is the objective of a new club formed at the Melbourne University. Male members, who number 100 to date, have pledged themselves not to pay for women at student entertainments, and women, who are much in the minority, have also declared that they will allow no one to pay for them.

Since, they say, both men and women students enter the university on equal terms it is considered unfair that distinction should be made in any sphere.

The rebel army in Spain is calling the 18-year-old class to the colors. But this hardly makes unhappy Spain a young man's country.

News of Nevada From the Press

GOLDFIELD LION'S CLUB

ENJOYS TURKEY DINNER

Goldfield's Lion's Club, the town's only service club, organized a couple of weeks ago, held its first club dinner at the Goldfield Grill Tuesday evening, when Charlie Stringer served a turkey dinner with all the trimmings to the 26 in attendance, and it was thoroughly enjoyed.

After the repast a couple of numbers were presented, Miss Louise Johnson giving an exhibition of tap dancing and Mrs. Ardis Sylvain rendering selections on the piano.

During the business session a resolution against changing of train time out of Reno was passed and later forwarded to the Nevada State Public Service Commission.

A resolution endorsing the founding of a \$100,000 tubercular home in Nevada by government, state and private aid was endorsed.

The new club has 20 members, with additional prospects for membership.—Goldfield News-Tribune.

MIRACULOUS ESCAPE

FROM ROLLING AUTOMOBILE

In what is considered to be one of the most miraculous escapes from death ever to occur in this county, Robert Bacon, young Echo Lake vacationist, lost control of a light coupe he was driving early last Sunday morning on the Kingsbury grade, the machine going over the embankment and hurtling an estimated 500 feet down the mountainside into the canyon near the first major turn on the lower part of the grade, reports the Record-Courier. Bacon was thrown free of the car after it had turned over three times and escaped with one minor scratch. The car, in its mad plunge, turned over 15 or 20 times and was a total wreck when it came to rest.

The driver reported that he failed to make a turn on the third switchback of the road and that his machine went directly over the edge of the road to begin its wild flight down the steep mountainside until it came to rest near the creek.

After the mishap Bacon walked to the Ernest Bartels ranch and telephoned for a wrecker to remove the car. The garage machinist had great difficulty in extricating the car from the canyon and was assisted by several passing motorists, who reported that Bacon's escape from death was without question one of the most miraculous ever to occur here.—Carson City Daily Appeal.

control of others. It is probable that when one well is successfully controlled, nearly all of those owning artesian wells would give complete co-operation in the effort to control all wells in the valley.

It is obvious that we started with a wrong assumption more than thirty years ago, when we assumed that the power of the state is necessary to force control of artesian wells. We are now shown that if anything is to be done along that line it must be done by local authorities. We commend the question to the county and city governments as one of the most important problems they have ever had before them. If they do not act within a reasonable time, our precious resource of the finest artesian water supply known will vanish. Then will come the necessity of spending hundreds of thousands of dollars for pumping water from Lake Mead to supply the city of Las Vegas with domestic water.