

# LAS VEGAS AGE

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SOLD

England and France should be proud of their one great achievement since they begged America to come to their aid when the Germans were at their very doors—the sale of little Czechoslovakia to Hitler. In the very near future these two nations will again hear the knock of Germany at their doors—but we will not have forgotten Czechoslovakia—when the call for help comes to America.

### THE LEGION

Las Vegas will long remember the trek of the American Legion to the national convention in Los Angeles. We have enjoyed the thousands of World War veterans who have visited here. Come again.

### THE TWO-MIL LIMIT ON EDUCATIONAL TAXES

The Nevada constitution contains a clause which provides that the state shall levy a special tax for educational purposes not to exceed 2 mills on one dollar of assessed valuation. At present the tax produces approximately \$180,000.00 per year. This revenue is divided between the public schools and the state university, 55 per cent going to the schools and 45 per cent to the university. Efforts to repeal the two-mill limit clause have been made in different sessions of the legislature but without success until the last two sessions. In 1935 the legislature passed a joint resolution for an amendment to the constitution repealing the limit, and the legislature in 1937 adopted the resolution, which now goes to the people who will vote on the question at the coming election in November.

The constitutional limitation was adopted at a time when the generally accepted opinion held that it was the duty of parents and the communities, and not the state, to educate their children. That opinion has been changing during the past quarter of a century, and in its place has grown up the theory that the state as a matter of self-protection must see to it that its people are educated and should therefore share in the financial costs of public schools to a greater degree than heretofore.

So far as the financial support of the public schools is concerned there is no pressing need for repeal of the two-mill limit. The schools are now generously supported. A comparatively few schools in the state need more funds than they now receive; many more schools expand more than their real needs require. This discrepancy could easily be adjusted by changes in the methods of apportioning the state school funds, which should be made in any event, and which the legislature has authority to make. The prime object of the repeal of the limit from the standpoint of the schools is to secure a nearer approach to equalization of taxes for school purposes. If effected, this would theoretically result in a decrease in school taxes in the counties and districts where the school tax is above the average, and a corresponding increase in counties and districts where the tax is below average.

The support of the university also comes under the two-mill limit, but its position is different from that of the public schools. During the past twenty years attendance at the university has practically doubled; its income from the state

## POLITICS

State politics hold the center of interest today. It was only a few days ago that we hear the "political wise guys" betting that Harmon would be the democratic candidate for governor — to the tune of two-to-one bets. Today these "wise guys" are trying to explain how it all came to pass — and pay their bets.

Not only are the "wise guys" taking it on the chin, but some of our state appointive officers are bemoaning the fact that they took too much personal interest in the primary election. The first of the year will see many new faces driving state cars down the highways.

Judge Carville has the inside track on the job of chief executive of the state — and when he assures the people of the state that there WILL be an official house cleaning J he can be pretty well assured of election.

Maurice J. Sullivan is a sure shot for the lieutenant governorship. Our local republican candidate, Frank McNamee, Jr., will receive the bulk of his party's votes but will be defeated by an overwhelming majority.

A lot of speculation is going on as to the outcome of the race for state senator between Archie Grant and Dick Arnold. Don't overlook Arnold from Searchlight, Archie—he is a tough number to beat.

In the Assembly race we expect to see court action started to force the names of more democrats upon the ballot. The hard losers are starting action — within the next day or two in the district court. Those in the assembly race who were on the short end of the count just can't seem to figure out why the people of Clark County didn't want them to represent us in Carson City — especially so after some had served us for two LONG YEARS.

Sheriff Gene Ward will have as opposition — if we may call it that — Alf Hardy. Hardy is no doubt a fine man and possibly well qualified to act as sheriff. —but you can bet that Gene will get another four year ticket to his present job.

The race for the office of district attorney is drawing the most attention of any for county officers.

during the same period has actually decreased. It unquestionably needs greater state support if it is to preserve its prestige and properly perform its educational duties. The argument in favor of repealing the two-mill limit is stronger from the university standpoint than from that of the public schools. The schools may look to the communities for increased support when needed; the university can look only to the state.

Even the needs of the university and a more equitable distribution of the tax burden for schools could be provided without changing the constitution if the legislature so desires. Almost any degree of equalization can be effected by apportioning the state distributive school fund. And the same problem will confront the legislature even if the constitution is changed.

There seems to be no logical reason why the constitution should restrain the legislature from levying taxes for the one purpose of education and for no other; on the other hand, taxpayers can hardly be blamed for clinging to any restriction that promises to help to keep tax rates down.

Roger Foley, present district attorney will have as his opponent Roland Wiley, local attorney. Wiley who has aspired to many political positions and elected to none, has a chance to defeat Foley. That chance rests with Wiley's decision as to whether the district attorney's office is going to be a training school for young attorneys or a business institution with some trained legal talent. The district attorney's office is not a place merely to get convictions—it is an office TO FIND OUT THE TRUTH before spending the taxpayer's thousands of dollars on jury trials.

A new justice of the peace is about as certain as anything could be at the November election. George Marshall will have a walkaway over Marlon Earl. I remember well a few nights ago, just before the primary election when an enthusiastic woman at a rally on the west side said to the chairman of the evening, "the Earls are here now, we can start the meeting." Today we hear the saying, "the Earls are going."

Speaking of the Earls — Commissioner Earl was defeated by a good margin by Harold Stocker. Stocker will be one of the next county commissioners — and you can make a safe bet on it. And it might interest you to know that Commissioner George Hanson will be the next chairman of the county board.

And can you believe it—with the city election still eight months away — next May — the election fever has started the "Whos Who" for mayor. Present Mayor Marble undoubtedly will be a candidate to succeed himself. Bob Kaltenborn is sniffing the air under his ten gallon hat and eyeing the mayor's chair. Two former mayors — and good ones too — are getting the bulk of the street corner gossip. Fred Hess and Ernie Cragin. Both say "never again" — but you never can tell.

### ENTERING UNIVERSITY

Harold Earl, Gay Myers and Max Leavitt left Wednesday for Provo, Utah where they will enter Brigham Young university.

### RETURNED FROM CONVENTION

Mr. and Mrs. R. R. Russell have returned from the Arizona Hotel Men's convention held at the North Rim of Grand Canyon.