

# LAS VEGAS AGE

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## THE SCHOOL QUESTION

In our issue of September 23d, we discussed editorially the question of removing the two mill limit on state tax for schools. This vital question will be presented to the voters—tax payers—on the November ballot. The question that comes into the minds of the taxpayers is this—**SHOULD ANY BOARD IN THIS STATE BE ALLOWED TO SPEND MONEY WITHOUT THE TAXPAYER HAVING ANY CONTROL WHATEVER?**

The school question is one of vital interest to every person within our state. We want, and must have schools second to none in the country. What does the taxpayer get for his school dollar? What does the school spend each year for the education of our children?

We wish to thank A. H. Harrington, member of the Las Vegas school board for his letter of October first regarding the school question. On page five we are publishing this letter which we believe is worth reading.

As long as the school question seems to be one of interest to the people at the present time, and due to the fact that Mr. Harrington takes issue with us, we will give the public some figures that we believe will be of interest to the taxpayer. These are not OUR figures — they are the figures of the county auditor and treasurer of Clark county.

During the past year—ending June 30th, 1938, the total funds received by the county of Clark, for expenditure within the county amounted to the total of \$717,450.94. Of this amount the schools of Clark County expended the grand sum of \$362,346.64. The total bonded debt of the County of Clark amounts to \$563,750.00. Of this amount the schools owe \$524,750.00. The only bonded debt of the county, exclusive of schools, amounts to \$39,000.00—and this is for water systems and highway bonds.

On June 30th, 1938 the balance of school funds held amounted to the grand total of \$105,377.91 — **AND THE SCHOOLS ARE BROKE AND WANT MORE MONEY.**

We may not be able to understand the method used in rearing our children — but we believe that we understand **FACTS and FIGURES.**

We read a few weeks ago that all of a sudden, Boulder City found that the school board had no money to operate the schools. If this type of management is the same that is moulding the minds of our children — then we are in for a change — and soon. If the school board of ANY school can't stay within the budget that it sets itself — then the board should trade places with some of the pupils.

## OUR FAIR CITY

Shoot the Mayor and hang each and every member of the board of city commissioners seems to be the cry of the day. We almost expect to be awakened some night and hear that the famed vigilantes are running the town.

Dis-incorporate the city — a city manager form of government—etc. — etc. — A taxpayers league is formed — with a secretary that just arrived in our city. The Chamber of Commerce has finally found out that the city contemplated—yes—had already raised the license rate for businesses within the city. The Junior Chamber of Commerce also got wind of the increase — result — a lot of committees that will

study — and take the city commission for a ride. We heard at the last meeting of the Chamber of Commerce of the "secret" passage of the ordinance raising licenses — when the contemplated raise has been published in the local press and the topic of conversation for the past two months.

## WHAT IS WRONG?

Why did NOT these business men—if they had any objection to the contemplated raise in city licenses—meet with the city board and assist them in their problems—**BEFORE THE RAISE WAS PASSED AND BECAME A LAW?**

We do not take any stand — for or against the raise in licenses — but we do believe that the mayor and members of the city commission are entitled to the co-operation of the citizens of this city — which they do NOT GET.

What has caused any shortage of funds within the city treasury — if such exists? It is only **THE DEMANDS OF THE TAXPAYERS OF THIS CITY THAT WANT IMPROVEMENTS MADE BY THE CITY.**

One bright individual at the recent meeting made an insinuation that the city clerk of the city of Las Vegas had funds deposited to her credit in violation of law. It is just such brazen lies and insinuations by poor, misguided individuals that will defeat any good that might be accomplished by **CONSTRUCTIVE CRITICISM.**

Viola Burns, Mayor Marble and every member of the city commission, are honest and trying to the best of their ability to serve the people of this city. To question their honesty will only defeat any good that might come from problems that we now face.

**LET'S HELP THE CITY BOARD WORK OUT THEIR PROBLEMS.**

## A LITTLE MORE

While we are running the city board up one side and down the other—we might enlighten the people of this city that the total bonded indebtedness of this city—including all improvements that have been made since long before the starting of Boulder Dam — amounts to only \$122,000.00—and every dollar of this amount **WAS VOTED BY THE TAXPAYERS OF THE CITY OF LAS VEGAS.**

## OBSERVATIONS

By CHAS. P. SQUIRES

### "FRANK CRITICISM"

Speaking of hotels, one of the first things one notices when he is assigned a room at The Biltmore, Los Angeles, is an envelope addressed to Baron Long, and a "Suggestion Blank" with this printed at the top:

"Realizing that our guests are in a position to observe our faults and failures in service, we will appreciate their frank expressions of criticism, or their suggestions for the betterment of our service. Words of approval are not sought.

This letter may be unsigned, if desired, and left in accompanying addressed envelope with your Floor Clerk. Thank you.

"BARON LONG"

Perhaps this accounts for the fine personal service every guest at this great hotel enjoys. Nothing effusive or embarrassing, but just the friendly little attentions which make every guest feel like one of the family.

Only a few of the many hotels I have stopped at have the personal touch with their guests which we find at The Biltmore. The Palace Hotel at San Francisco is one of these. It has been charged Los Angeles, because it is still young, is lacking in background, character, traditions and romance. I think The Biltmore is developing all these things for the city, just as The Palace, for many years, has helped

to give color and character to San Francisco.

### SAN FRANCISCO, THE SORROWFUL

I have recently spent a few days in San Francisco and found it a discouraged and sorrowful city. Their industries and business enterprises are in a slump. Their shipping has largely disappeared.

I sat in the office of The Argonaut, the old and distinctive magazine of San Francisco, with my old and distinguished friend Will W. Chapin, its owner and publisher. With tears in his eyes he said:

"I have seen thirty-two great ocean liners steam out of the Golden Gate never to return. We seem powerless to help ourselves."

Whose fault it is I cannot tell, but strikes and distress are still rampant.

### THE PALACE

Getting back to hotels, I will never forget the old Palace which was destroyed by the earthquake and fire of April 16, 1906. I stopped there fifty years ago for the first time. I came through the Golden Gate on the old Santa Rosa, long since gone to her last resting place in "Davy Jones' locker."

The cab I took at the dock was drawn by a tired horse who ambled, clickety-clack, clickety-clack, over the rounded cobblestones with which the streets were paved. We went what seemed an interminable distance up Market street before turning into New Montgomery street. Then the driver turned to

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