Death Valley's Doin's Related

By THE RAMBLER

DEATH VALLEY JUNCTION, Cal., December 26 — Mr. and Mrs. Vernard Davis, of Sacramento, are passing the holidays as guests in the home of Mrs. Davis' parents, Mr. and Mrs. Owen Montgomery. Mrs. Davis will be remembered here as the former Miss Frances Montgomery. Mr. Davis is with the Pacific Gas & Electric company, located at Sacramento.

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Miss Mary Lillian Gower, freshman at U. S. C., in Los Angeles, is passing the holiday vacation with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. P. Gower, in their Death Valley Junction home.

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Bill Walsh, machinist at the T. & T. railroad shops, is now the head of a Death Valley Junction family. Mr. Walsh removed his family, consisting of Mrs. Walsh and three children, from San Bernardino to the Junction during the past week.

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Mr. and Mrs. Roy Himes (nee Miss Doris Greene) visited Christmas day in the home of Mrs. Himes' parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Greene, at Death Valley Junction. They were accompanied by their young son, and returned to their Riverside home on Monday.

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Mrs. James O'Connell was called to Barstow early last week by the illness of her sister, Mrs. Fred Clooney, who was threatened with pneumonia. Mrs. O'Connell returned home on Thursday and reported Mrs. Clooney improved.

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Mr. Benjamin S. Horton, veteran roadmaster of the T. & T. railroad located at Death Valley Junction, departed last Saturday for a week's holiday visit in the families of his son and daughter, near San Bernardino. Mr. Horton first entered San Bernardino nearly 70 years ago — in 1869 — accompanying his parents and elder brother, Sidney Horton. The latter is still a resident on a ranch east of San Bernardino.

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Mr. Charles Kreidler, employed by the Di Giorgio Fruit Farms company at Arvin, near Bakersfield, is visiting old-time friends in the Death Valley and Shoshone districts. Mr. Kreidler was injured two years ago, on Christmas eve, while making the ascent to Dante's View, his automobile going into the ditch. He was layed up in the Emergency hospital for a couple of weeks, but says he enjoys revisiting the scenes in and about the valley. Mr. Kreidler reports the present as a quiet period on the big fruit farms, but that early in the year several hundred additional employes will be added, until in the peak summer season a total of around 1500 to 1800 persons will be employed. He states that about 1800 carloads of fruit are shipped out from the farm annually.

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During the past week the Death Valley and also the Junction district have received the greatest precipitation of rain since the big storm which did so much damage last March. At intervals for several days and nights a slow, steady rain fell. The Amargosa river, which most of the time is simply a dry bed, has been overflowing its banks for the past few days. This has necessitated routing travelers over the old detour known as Dead Man's Pass, as the swollen stream flows over the highway in eight or nine places between here and Shoshone. However, Saturday was a beautiful day, with cooler temperature and clear skies, which will soon check the flow and permit passage over the regular route.

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In the absence of the regular priest, Father J. J. Crowley, who was occupied with his duties at his parish at Lone Pine Catholic, services were conducted at midnight Christmas eve in Corkill Hall by the Rev. Father Watson, of Loyola university, Los Angeles.

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Bill Huston and family came out last Saturday and spent Christmas with Mr. Huston's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Will Huston, at Death Valley Junction. Mr. Huston, Jr., who formerly lived at Death Valley Junction, now operates a ranch, including a large apiary near Corona, Calif.

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Miss Ruth George visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Mickey Devine, and her many friends here over Christmas. Miss Ruth is now operating a beauty parlor in Riverside.

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The Rambler was informed early Monday morning that the highway south of Death Valley Junction which has been flooded and overflown by the Amargosa river, resulting from the recent heavy rains in the Nevada mountains, was opened up to traffic Sunday afternoon so that travelers can now drive through from Los Angeles, Barstow and other southern points without making any detour. As a result a large number of tourists came in late Sunday evening and Sunday night. The highway forces have been faithfully working overtime in repairing damage and washouts between here and Shoshone. The local forces were augmented by Mr. Dwight Wannatott, division superintendent, who came over from Bishop, and remained at the work until the highway was opened up. He left for home late Sunday night.

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Judge William Dehy, judge of the Inyo County Superior court, of Independence, and his brother John Dehy, of Bishop, passed through the valley last Friday and were registered at Hotel Amargosa Friday night. They left early Saturday morning for Las Vegas, and thence to the big Boulder dam for their first sight and inspection of that wonderful work. They then proceeded to Kingman, Ariz., where John boarded the train destined for Phoenix, where he plans to pass the winter months. Judge Dehy on his return passed through Death Valley Junction Sunday night.

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Senator-Elect and Mrs. Charles Brown, of Shoshone, are preparing to leave early in the new year for Sacramento, where Mr. Brown will sit as one of the Democratic members of the upper house of the California state legislature. At the recent November election there were 22 Democratic and 20 Republican state senators elected. This majority was reduced to 21 by the recent accidental injury and subsequent death of Senator-Elect McColl, who was elected from one of the northern senatorial districts. McColl was injured in an automobile collision on Cajon Pass in a heavy rainstorm last week, and passed away a short time later in a San Bernardino hospital. In connection with Senator-Elect Brown's vote at the recent election, it is interesting to note that he received nearly as many vo es as both candidates for governor — Olson and Merriam! Olson received, in the county, 1,184; Merriam, 1,450, and Brown, 2,433!

Another interesting feature of Mr. Brown's election was that, while strictly temperate in all things, he is not and did not claim to be a prohibitionist, not a teetotaler. So while he placed his name on both the Democratic and Republican tickets in the primary, he did not place his name on the prohibition ticket, thus practicing duplicity and deception (as many candidates did, regarding "ham and eggs," "Townsend," etc., in trying to "catch" a few unwary, unfair votes among us old simpletons with one foot in the grave"). Even so, a number of "prohibition" voters wrote Mr. Brown's name in on that ticket at the primary, thus making him the nominee of that party! So Mr. Brown received the nomination for state senator from Mono and Inyo counties on three tickets — one of them without his solicitation — and was elected as a Democrat at the November 8 election by the largest vote of any candidate on the ticket.

MAKE A NOTE OF IT

Living at today's fast pace, thoughts, impressions, observations, ideas, crowd upon us with such speed that unless we do develop the habit of making notes, ideas of great potential value are likely to escape or be smothered. Even more important is the fact that note-taking will prove to be a real boon to the person who wishes to wake up and think!—Robert R. Updegraff in the Rotarian magazine.

Pictorial History of Baseball

PRESIDENT WILLIAM HARRIDGE looks over a print of the new American League sound motion picture, "First Century of Baseball," following the world premiere in New York. With him are Lew Fonseca (left), director of promotion for the league, who wrote and supervised the film, and William S McLean, director of advertising for the Fisher Body division of General Motors, whose firm produced and will distribute it without charge next year in celebration of the one hundredth anniversary of the national pastime.

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