

# LAS VEGAS AGE

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## WE ARE PATIENTLY WAITING

A week has now passed since Mayor John Russell's statement that "certain gambling houses were operating crooked games." The mayor has done untold damage to our gambling industry, which we had prided ourselves in the fact that Nevada's legal gaming houses were operating upon a square basis.

The people of Las Vegas are entitled to have the truth—if any—of the mayor's charges. The mayor should be forced to prove his charges or resign from the office he now holds.

We have state laws that govern gambling games—very drastic and strict laws. Why don't you place your information on this subject—if you have any—before the district attorney and the sheriff? Why don't you make an attempt to be honorable—if you can—and help remove the stigma of dishonesty you have laid at the doors of the Boulder Club, The Las Vegas Club, The Frontier Club, The Silver Club, The Northern Club, The Apache Club and the Mission. The owners of these clubs enjoyed a reputation of unquestioned honesty in this community until you, as a one man investigator of the city commission, made your clouded charges against them.

And while you are investigating, Mr. Mayor, why don't you turn your flashlight upon your own personal record during the World War? That might be an investigation that the people of Las Vegas would like some information on.

For the best interests of Las Vegas, Mr. Russell, and to save the city and State any more such unfounded blasts as you have just given us, RESIGN YOUR OFFICE. Such action would come in for at least one bit of praise for an honest act while mayor. Resign or be removed by the recall route.

## INDEPENDENCE DAY

The time is approaching for another celebration of Independence Day. There is something about the word "independence" which has a special appeal to the average American. It seems to imply freedom from European dictators and monarchs, and freedom for the individual citizen to do as he pleases so long as he does not infringe on the rights of others. The original inspiration for the observation of July 4, to commemorate our freedom from British tyranny has now faded into the remote past. The British and the people of the United States are no longer enemies. There are many among us who would, forgetting Washington's advice, now even prefer that Uncle Sam should become an ally of John Bull, both in war and in peace. Evidence that the old enmity between the two people has faded into oblivion was evidenced by the reception given the King and Queen of Great Britain during their recent visit to the United States.

In fact our political independence has been so firmly established for so many years that nobody would even dream of questioning it. That, however, does not mean no danger is apparent for the average citizen. After all, the nation is made up of individuals, and if these individuals permit their personal independence to be taken away from them, there is grave doubt about the political future of the country. Dangers can arise within our borders as well as beyond our shores.

of individual as well as national freedom in the United States. The spirit of Independence Day has always been a spirit. But are we sure it is to continue that way? There are strange prophets in the land. We are told that the old days of national development in America are over, that the individual can no longer win competence for himself and his family through his own efforts and his own personal independence. These prophets tell us that since we have become an "old" people we must depend on the government for support. The things we formerly accomplished in the spirit of personal freedom and individual effort must now come to us from the government. Uncle Sam at Washington is to become the

great father of us all, to think for us and to govern our actions.

That these prophets of a new order are aided in their efforts by the feeling of doubt and uncertainty—even fear—in the country is a pertinent fact. A great many people who want to be self reliant and thrifty are asking: "What's the use of working and saving for an old age when the government may step in and take from us the fruits of our labors in order to support those who have used no sacrifice and no judgment in planning their lives?"

## A GOOD BATTLE

Nevada's senators, McCarran and Pittman, are staging a hard battle for a proper price on silver. Present indications are that western senators will get some forced recognition before their filibuster in the upper house of Congress is ended. A higher price for the white metal will mean re-opening of the majority of the silver mines in Nevada and result in untold wealth to the state and nation.

## OBSERVATIONS

By CHARLES P. SQUIRES

### BILTMORE, BAROMETER

The Biltmore, Los Angeles, as I said once before, is the "Crossroads of the World." It is not only that, it has become the "Barometer of World Travel."

I stood in the Biltmore lobby the other morning and saw travelers by the hundred surging through the doors. They came by railroads, motor bus, ocean liners, airlines and private automobiles. The lobby carpet was covered with hand luggage and one could tell where many of the owners came from by the pasted labels.

There were bags from Australia and New Zealand; from Hong Kong and Singapore; Manila and Honolulu; from London, Rome and Paris and there were several pieces with foreign labels I could not understand. Airline stickers were well represented and I noticed some from the Union Pacific Challenger, but the bulk of the baggage was obviously from the east, many pieces having the labels of great hotels of such eastern cities as Washington, New York, Detroit and Chicago.

I turned to Charles Baad, managing director of the Biltmore, who was standing near watching the tide of travel, and asked: "Why are so many people traveling and where do they all come from?"

"Well," said Mr. Baad, "they come from all over the world. The Biltmore lobby has come to be the barometer of world travel. Such a crowd as this indicates that the vacation season has arrived and that the annual tide of world travel has set in. Now that schools are closed America will start its surge of travel to the expositions and summer resorts in real earnest."

Some hotels have had reason to complain a little that summer travel is slow in starting. Not so with the Biltmore. I find that the entertainment features of the hotel are also enjoying their usual large share of popularity and patronage. The Rendezvous, beautiful "Night Club in the Afternoon," is crowded with its gay parties every day from noon to night. The Biltmore Bowl, said by good authorities to be one of the finest and most famous night spots of the world, keeps its popularity in a most amazing way.

Only a few years ago, in 1933 I think it was, when the business of America, especially the hotel business, was at its lowest ebb, Baron Long took over the Biltmore. During that summer I remember that

five entire floors of the hotel were completely closed.

Baron Long then showed both the work of remodeling the fine old vision and courage when he started Sala de Oro ball room, spending more than \$50,000 in building the Biltmore Bowl at a time when business and enterprise seemed dead and gone forever.

From the day of its opening the Bowl has been a popular success. Its management has constantly followed the policy of providing the best of food and the finest music and entertainment at popular prices. For the past two months Pinkey Tomlin with his orchestra and floor show has attracted nightly crowds and his popularity seems never to wane.

On the writing desk of each of the fifteen hundred guest rooms of the Biltmore is a booklet, "Within These Walls," which is an interesting bit of reading. It describes the many public features of the interest of its guests, although it says nothing of the important industrial community with its many departments and workshops, some of them hidden four stories below the surface, which keep the great hotel fine and fit, spick and span, bright and fair for the constant pleasure of its guests.

### Mrs. Rapoport's Sons Return

Georgie and Bobbie Rapoport, sons of Mrs. Ethel Rapoport, have returned for summer vacation from Urban Military Academy in Los Angeles.

Georgie, eleven, has completed the seventh grade and won a gold medal for spelling championship in his class.

Bobbie, twelve, will be a freshman next fall.

### "MISS BOULDER DAM" VISITS

"Miss Boulder Dam," Bettina Norberg of Burlingame, California, visited Boulder Dam and Las Vegas this week enjoying a boat trip, and airplane trip over the dam in the Grand Canyon amphibian and a trip through the night spots of Las Vegas.

Miss Norberg was selected from entries throughout the eleven western states at the San Francisco Fair as "Miss Boulder Dam." As a prize for the contest she came to Boulder City via TWA plane and is the guest of the Grand Canyon-Boulder Dam Tours Inc. during her visit and is a guest at the Boulder Dam Hotel.

### TOM BELLIS TRANSFERRED

Tom Bellis state traffic officer and wife left Friday to make their home in Reno, where Bellis has been transferred.