

**LAS VEGAS WEATHER REPORT**  
By CHARLES F. SQUIRES  
Cooperative Observer

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# LAS VEGAS AGE

SOUTHERN NEVADA'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

LAS VEGAS, NEVADA, SATURDAY, MARCH 16, 1940

SHOPPING NEWS

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VOLUME XXXVI

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## OBSERVATIONS

By CHARLES F. SQUIRES

**VIRGINIA CITY**  
Thousands of people including an important element of Hollywood are in the famous old mining camp of Virginia City today to celebrate the perpetuation of the city on the Comstock Lode in a great motion picture, "Virginia City."

The old town will be alive again today, revived for the purpose of entertaining the crowds who are thronging both Virginia City and Reno. The old resorts are restored to something like their original life and, so far as the casual visitor can tell, will be just as they were in the great days of the Bonanza Kings.

Yet I am sure they will not be able to revive the hospitable spirit which survived in the camp even as late as 30 years ago, when I made, not my first visit but my most interesting visit to Virginia City.

Some of my readers may remember that rare character, Con Ahearn who in those days was something of a politician. It was July 2, 1910, I think when I took the train, drawn by the little brass-trimmed locomotives of the Virginia & Truckee railroad, at Carson City and rode to Virginia City in response to the invitation of Con Ahearn. I had just arrived in Carson the day before, clad in my light grey suit, W.D.s and straw hat, suitable to the summer climate of Las Vegas. When I took the train in Carson City, the day was pleasant. But when I got off at Virginia City there was a driving snow storm, a regular blizzard and colder than Greenland.

I stood on the platform in the open with snow pelting me in the face, looking for some conveyance to take me up town, when up came Con with an over coat, which he put on me, and an umbrella. We walked through the slush the several blocks to Con's Crystal Bar, where a good drink set our blood circulating and then sat down to a bang-up dinner which Con had arranged for me and a few of the choice spirits of the camp.

Following the dinner I was taken to the old Con-Virginia shaft and allowed to go under ground. The shaft was then equipped with the ponderous machinery and hoisting works which had been in use since the '60's and which had been used by all the bonanza kings and which carried President U. S. Grant and party on his notable visit to the camp.

The great hoisting works dropped us at the rate of better than 1000 feet per minute to the 1600 foot level. There was a great clamor hewn out of the solid rock, filled with powerful machinery which pumped water from the 2000-foot level to the Sutro tunnel, which drained the mines.

Then we were dropped 400 feet more to the 2000 level where we saw the pumps from which the water (almost boiling hot) was pumped.

Going along this drift for about a quarter of a mile we came to another shaft or winze where we entered the cage of a small hoist and were dropped to the 2450-foot level. On this level we saw many of the white rats which infest the entire workings. Following the drift for some distance we came to the face of the drift where the power drills were working with a terrific din.

The heat was terrific and the water streaming from the roof of the tunnel in many places was scalding hot, so that the heavy rubber boots and slicker in which we were attired were very necessary for our protection.

The power hammers were manned by two men each, working fifteen minute shifts, so that it required eight men to carry on the work on that face. A hundred feet or more back of the face were a couple of big tubs filled with ice and water. When coming off their fifteen-minute shifts the men would thrust their heads and arms into the ice water and splash it over their bodies. It appeared rather rigorous but, almost unable to stand longer because of the intense heat and stifling steam, I tried it myself and found it refreshing and pleasant.

At that time the operators of the property believed they could open new bodies of bonanza ore on the 2450-foot level, but the hot water and the terrific heat made operation so difficult and expensive that the effort was given up.

The great hoisting works of the Con-Virginia shaft were long ago given over to the junk heap and only recently the shaft was burned and utterly destroyed, the timbering being burned out of it so that it will probably never be used again.

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## NOBLES OF MYSTIC SHRINE FROM ALL PARTS OF WEST PLAN CARAVAN TO BOULDER DAM

Nobles of the Mystic Shrine to the number of between 1600 and 2000 will invade Boulder City and Las Vegas Sunday, April 7, with all the colorful paraphernalia and ceremony for which the order is noted, including the famous Al Malaikah Shrine band and other uniformed bodies.

The caravans coming for the purpose of adding the majesty of Boulder Dam, Lake Mead and the colorful mountains surrounding them, to the ceremonial to be held by Al Malaikah Temple in Los Angeles the afternoon of Saturday, April 6. Shriners from all over the west are planning to make the pilgrimage to what promises to be the most gorgeous spectacle ever staged by the Shrine in this section with the exception, perhaps, of the greatest spectacle in the history of the Shrine when more than six thousand Nobles assembled in the depths of Black Canyon at the up-stream face of the nearly completed dam at midnight to perform the colorful rites of the order.

Nobles who were fortunate enough to witness that ceremonial in 1934 carry with them indescribable memories which will remain with them through life. Those who are fortunate enough to be present at the dramatic meeting at eleven o'clock Sunday morning, April 7, 1940, will likewise carry with them a picture the like of which can be seen nowhere else on earth.

The ceremonies will be held on the great terrace near the north end of the Arizona spillway, according to present plans, with the Shriners looking out over the majestic surroundings at the Dam, the gigantic intake towers, the spillway and the deep waters of the lake.

Plans are being perfected for either a special train or special Pullman cars attached to the regular trains, from Salt Lake City and Ogden. Word comes that an automobile caravan from Phoenix and other Arizona points will come in through the Arizona gateway. In addition to these there will be hundreds traveling by motorbus and private automobiles, including, it is hoped, a large delegation from Kerak Temple at Reno.

Members of the Boulder-Vegas Shrine Club met Monday evening for dinner at the 91 club, and made plans to assist in entertaining the visitors and to provide them with necessary automobile transportation.

The special trains will go direct to Boulder City the first arriving at 7:00 a. m., Sunday, April 7, and the others following at ten minute intervals until all are in. At the Boulder City depot six of the Union Pacific motor buses will be pressed into service to take the visiting Nobles to breakfast. It is estimated that it will be necessary to have at least sixty-five private automobiles with drivers to assist in the transportation.

Following breakfast the serving of which may require two hours, the visitors will be taken by bus and automobile to the dam and the scene of the ceremonial, which is set for eleven o'clock a. m. As soon as the ceremonial is concluded, the Shriners will be brought by train, bus and automobile, to Las Vegas.

The famous band of Al Malaikah Temple will give a band concert at the court house for the benefit of the public, probably about 2:30, following which the Shriners will be shown the interesting features of Las Vegas and entertained by local Shriners until the special trains leave late in the evening.

At the 91 Club dinner Monday evening twenty members of the local Shrine Club with President Howell Garrison presiding, discussed the details of entertainment and committees were appointed by the president as follows:

Permanent committee on entertainment—Noble J. R. McDaniel, chairman; Elmer Mikkelsen and W. B. Mundy, representing Las Vegas; Paul Webb, Bob Ferguson, George Clark and R. E. Middaugh, representing Boulder City.

General chairman of transportation—Oliver Goerman, secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, with assistants appointed to interview other service organizations as follows:

Ed Von Tobel, Lions Club; C. P. Squires, Las Vegas Rotary Club; Bob Ferguson and Paul Webb, Boulder City Rotary Club; Oliver Goerman, Junior Chamber of Commerce and Lions Club.

It is the belief of all those in touch with the situation that the proposed caravan will be one of the most notable parties ever to

visit this section and an appeal is made to the general public not only to provide cars but to assist in the entertainment in every way possible.

This will be the first of several large gatherings scheduled for this spring, others being the Rotary Conference of the 107th district, 600 to 1000 delegates, April 14, 15, 16; Footprinters' Convention, 1000 delegates, May 2, 3, 4; Helderado Celebration, May 16, 17, 18.

It is considered very necessary to make each of these events attractive and entertaining to visitors in order that the reputation of Boulder City and Las Vegas for hospitality may not suffer and detract from the success of future events.

A delegation of local Shriners headed by Nobel Howell A. Garrison Elmer Mikkelsen, Fred Reim, Paul Webb and Bob Ferguson, will go to Los Angeles and return with the caravan as a special welcoming committee.

## LDS Conference Set For Sunday In Bunkerville

Richard R. Lyman, one of the Twelve Apostles of the LDS church will represent the church council and will be the principal speaker at the Moapa stake conference which will meet in Bunkerville Sunday, March 17th.

Richard Lyman is a most distinguished gentleman and is the grandson of Amasa Lyman who with Charles Rich made the long journey with five hundred followers under the guidance of Jefferson Hunt. They made the purchase of the Lugo ranch just south of Cajon Pass and founded the City of San Bernardino. While the negotiations were being made the families lived in the Pass and motorists may call to mind the monument to the Pioneers which stands there and which bears the names of Hunt, Lyman and Rich.

Johnson W. White, has been appointed as Bishop of the North Las Vegas ward with James Christensen and Tom Adams as counselors and William D. Whipple as clerk.

The North Las Vegas ward has just been created. It is a ruling in the LDS church that when a ward reaches a certain membership another one is created to care for the overflow. The Las Vegas church on Ninth street has reached that number hence the formation of the North Las Vegas ward.

Bryan L. Bunker is president of the Moapa stake, while Berkeley Bunker is Bishop of the Las Vegas ward and Johnson E. White of the North Las Vegas ward.

## Death Comes To Vegas Pioneer

Mrs. Rose Henderson wife of A. S. Henderson passed into life eternal Tuesday morning at 6:30 after a long illness. Her husband and two daughters, Mrs. Reginald Pegram and Mrs. Raymond Doll, with their husbands and the young son of Mrs. Pegram, Bertie Farrow, were at her bedside when she died.

Mrs. Henderson had been in poor health for several years but on February 10th, she suffered a stroke of paralysis and has been gradually failing since until death came as a welcome relief from suffering.

Mrs. Henderson was born to Mr. and Mrs. James Wadsworth in Panama, Nov. 8, 1877 and had spent her entire life in Nevada. Two brothers and two sisters had already passed away. She is survived by three sisters, Mrs. C. C. Ronnow, Mrs. O. K. Adcock and Mrs. Sina Norris, all of Las Vegas.

Mrs. Henderson was a woman of character and charm and had contributed much to the social life of the community. She was devoted to her home and to the welfare of her family and was a staunch member of the LDS church.

The family came to Las Vegas from Eureka, Nevada in 1910 when Mr. Henderson became superintendent of the local schools.

Funeral services were held in the LDS church Thursday afternoon and interment was made in Woodlawn cemetery.

**MEMBERS OF COMMERCE CHAMBERS ELECTED**  
The Pilot Sea Food Grotto, First and Fremont streets, was elected to membership in the Chamber of Commerce Tuesday by unanimous vote. The application of B. M. Hillis Commercial Credit Co., was received and referred to the membership committee.

**ST. PATRICK'S DANCE AT ELK'S CLUB**  
The annual St. Patrick's dance and card party will be held this evening in the Elk's Club at nine o'clock. This annual affair is sponsored by the women of St. Joan of Arc Catholic church.

**RETURNS HOME**  
Mrs. Richard Carville and little daughter, who have been guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ivan Pinjuy have returned to their home in Carson City.

## Rotarians Honor St. Patrick's Day

Rev. Fr. Lambé was the program chairman at Thursday's meeting of Las Vegas Rotary Club and made the occasion a real St. Patrick's Day celebration.

First on the program were a group of Irish musical numbers given with excellent effect by Pete Allen, vocalist, Claude Denny, violin and Bob Musser, piano.

Fr. Lambé, delivered a most interesting and appropriate address, sketching briefly the history of the Irish race from earliest times. He said, in part:

"Two thousand years ago Julius Caesar said that the Irish were great talkers and great fighters. The same seems to be true today. There are between thirty million and fifty million people in the United States with Irish blood in their veins.

"In 1803, Ireland had little or no representation in the British Parliament and this brought on a rebellion in protest ruling two countries by one parliament, under leadership of Robert Emmett. Another rebellion followed in 1848. It is a tragic thing to read of a people who had to fight 900 years for their freedom.

"It is said that when St. Patrick's Day falls on Sunday as it does this year there will be great changes in the world. There was a great disaster in 1847 — a great famine during which one million died of starvation. The following fifty years more than three million Irish left Ireland and settled in America. Many of them fought in the Civil War. They had great hatred against England because they had been forced to leave their native land.

"They looked for help in the United States and the Penian Rebellion movement was started in 1867. The cause of the great emigration was the unjust laws, especially the system of 'tenants at will' under which the people worked their farms. The landlords lived in London and their agents ground the people down until they could not afford to eat the good products they raised on the farms, but had to sell it to pay their rent.

"Charles Stewart Parnell was an Irish leader who was half American. By his own will power he brought about the passage of the 'land purchase' act by Parliament, under which the Irish now own their own farms.

"DeValera, president of the Irish Republic, is the only head of a Foreign government born in the United States. We hope that the Irish will soon have the complete right to work out their own destiny."

## CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BANQUET CELEBRATES CITY BIRTHDAY TONIGHT

The annual banquet of the Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce held in conjunction with the celebration of the anniversary of the passing of the city charter by the legislature, March 16, 1911 and its approval by Governor Oddie, March 17, 1911, promises to be an interesting event not alone from a historical and civic standpoint, but as a gala social event, according to President Bob Kaltenborn of Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce.

### CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS IN LAS VEGAS

- March 16—Annual Banquet Chamber of Commerce and Celebration of City's 29th Birthday.
- March 30—Dedication Masonic Temple by Grand Master Carlson.
- April 7—Shriners Pilgrimage to Boulder Dam, sponsored by Al Malaikah Temple of Los Angeles. Delegates expected from Los Angeles, San Francisco, San Diego, Phoenix and Salt Lake City in special trains leaving April 6 and arriving here the morning of Sunday, April 7. 1600 Shriners expected.
- April 12—Jefferson Day banquet of Young Democrats.
- April 14, 15, 16—Rotary Convention 107th District of Rotary. (600 to 1,000 visitors expected.)
- May 2, 3, 4—Footprinters' Convention. (One thousand delegates.)
- May 16, 17, 18—Annual Helderado and Rodeo (Las Vegas' most thrilling event).

## Thank City Board For Illumination

The splendid cooperation of the Mayor and City Commissioners and City Electrician in illuminating Fremont street last week end, was called to the attention of the Chamber of Commerce last Tuesday. "The City is to be complimented for the splendid showing," Mr. Luce declared.

Mr. Luce suggested that it would be well worth while to make such illumination a permanent feature of the city streets, even to increasing the size of the many lamps strung across the street. The brilliant lighting is proof that Las Vegas has cheap Boulder Dam power and is excellent advertising, Mr. Luce said.

A motion made by Mr. Luce expressing appreciation of the Chamber of the street lighting display was passed by unanimous vote.

## Business Closing On Good Friday

Rev. Ford Gilbert at Tuesday's meeting of the Chamber of Commerce, asked that, in accordance with the custom established, all stores, bars, casinos and other business activities be closed on the afternoon of Good Friday.

He expressed appreciation of the manner in which all business houses complied with his request last year.

## ENTERTAINS "PAN" CLUB

Mrs. R. R. Myers was a charming hostess to her pan club Wednesday when she entertained with a one o'clock luncheon at her home, 225 South Sixth street. The members attending included Mesdames C. W. Woodbury, Forest R. Mildren, R. R. Russell, A. W. Han, Ryland Taylor, Roscoe Thomas, Arthur Briek and the hostess.

## Bud Doherty Wins Cedar City Races

Charles S. Doherty, business manager of Las Vegas Age, won first honors in both the slalom and down hill events at the Cedar City Ski Meet last Sunday.

Louis Wells and Doherty were the representatives of the Desert Ski Club at the Cedar City meet. There were thirty contestants in the various events, Louis Wells taking fourth place in the slalom and fifth in the down hill events.

Approximately 150 ski enthusiasts gathered at the ski course in Cedar Canyon it is reported. Interest was expressed by the Cedar City folks in forming a Utah-Southern Nevada organization for promoting winter sports next year.

## LEAVES ON OFFICIAL VISITS

Mr. and Mrs. James Farndale left Friday morning for Fallon and Yerington where Mr. Farndale, as head of the Veterans of Foreign Wars will make his official visits.

## IN LOS ANGELES

Mrs. Lloyd Payne and little daughter are spending a few days in Los Angeles.

## L. P. KIMBALL DIES IN BEATY

L. P. Kimball of Beatty died Monday evening.

Mr. Kimball and his wife will be remembered pleasantly by many of the Vegas pioneers as he was here frequently when he drove a stage from Vegas to Beatty. For years he lived on a ranch at Springdale, a few miles from Beatty but in later years has resided in the town where he served as justice of the peace.

Mrs. Kimball died in 1939.

## Chamber Studies Many Problems

The meeting of Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce Tuesday noon under direction of President Bob Kaltenborn, presented food for serious thought along several lines, first of which was a letter from Senator McCarran, suggesting that the Chamber give careful study to the proposal to take the Boulder Dam-Lake Mead recreational area away from the control of the Reclamation Service and make it a part of the National Park system.

A letter from Congressman J. G. Scrugham was read, as follows:

"I note from a recent issue of the Las Vegas paper that you have before you a proposal to convert the Boulder Dam area into a National Park, and the intimation that a half million dollars will be spent thereon.

"In my opinion, if any such bill is introduced before the House it would be defeated and would probably result in a cessation of the very substantial support now given the Boulder Dam recreational area."

Congressman Scrugham also protested to James J. McEntee, director of CCC at Washington, protesting against dropping the CCC camp at Las Vegas on the ground that this camp is very new and its projects very incomplete.

"If our funds were to be used, said Scrugham, I suggest that some of the long established camps in other states be dropped first."

The secretary suggested that in all cases where solicitors from out of town are seeking patronage, a check-up be made by calling the Chamber of Commerce office. There are many rackets being worked and great care should be taken to separate the meritorious propositions from the frauds.

Bob Griffith, discussing the future of aviation in this region, said: "We are definitely on the map in air transportation," and he read portions of an article from the New York Sun showing that Las Vegas is one of the permanently established routes.

Wes Houck following the subject, declared that "the Las Vegas area has everything necessary for successful development of air business." He cited instances where concerns in the east are coming to the west seeking trained men, such as the local ground school is preparing.

Tim Harnedy called attention to the career of Charlie Lodwick who graduated from Las Vegas high school three years ago, brought a small plane and trained to be an instructor. He was hired by the Texaco Oil company and sent to Columbia, South America as a pilot, recently came back to the U.S., married and is now back in Columbia drawing \$385 per month.

County Commissioner George T. Hanson who was present, and his fellow members on the board were given a vote of thanks and appreciation for setting the rate of 8 cents for general publicity in the tax budget for 1941.

A. H. Harrington of the Board of Education, explained that the rate of 35 cents per \$100 placed by the board for high school purposes, was necessary to prevent the loss of relief funds, which are now allocated.

J. H. Wittwer called attention to the work being done on flood control projects for Moapa Valley and asked that members of the Chamber visit the \$200,000 flood control spillway works being constructed in Meadow Valley Wash. He suggested that every effort be made to retain the CCC camp near Overton until the project is completed.

Murray Wollman, chairman of the publicity committee called attention to the publicity this area is receiving through the desert wild flower booklet of Richfield Oil Company.

He also expressed the appreciation of the Chamber for the many things the Union Pacific has done the past year to promote travel to Las Vegas, especially the bringing here of many newspaper writers and photographers last week.

**RETURN HOME**  
Mrs. C. C. Boyer, Miss Alice Doherty and Miss Frances Batte returned to their home in Ely Sunday after attending the Sigma Beta Phi convention. They were accompanied by Mrs. W. E. Ferron who will visit the Boyers in Ely and attend the premiere of "Virginia City" in Virginia City today.

## INCORPORATION OF LAS VEGAS DIRECT RESULT OF ACTIVITIES OF THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

(By Charles P. Squires)

The following rather brief and incomplete account of events leading directly to the organization of the present efficient Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce and the incorporation of the City of Las Vegas, is written on the occasion of the joint Annual Banquet of the Chamber and the celebration of the birthday of the city, so that the history of these accomplishments shall not be entirely lost.

The history of the City of Las Vegas is inseparably connected with that of the Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce, and incorporation of the city was brought about as the direct result of the work of the business men who realized the necessity of an organization through which to work.

On the evening of June 2, 1905, a meeting of the citizens of the new town was held to consider sanitary measures and other things of interest to Las Vegas. At a meeting of about 300 citizens a committee was chosen to make recommendations, with John Eisenhart, Dr. M. J. Davis, C. P. Squires, Charles McCaule and W. E. Hawkins as members. They created the Las Vegas Sanitary Committee which immediately took up the matter of authority to act with the board of county commissioners at Pioche. In the meantime the committee had no legal standing or authority under the law. There was but little law in Las Vegas and practically no means of enforcing what there was. The county seat being 150 miles away the men of this raw, new town agreed upon sanitary regulations and in the face of some protests and objections, enforced those regulations rigorously and without favor, thereby saving the town from a threatened epidemic which, once started, would have brought disaster to the community.

About a month later the group which organized the Sanitary Committee sensed the necessity of extending the scope of the organization to include all civic matters and the Las Vegas Board of Trade was organized. On July 6 a committee was appointed to report on plans of organization, consisting of the following: N. A. Kuhn, A. Russell Crowell, John S. Park, Fred L. Falas, Hugh Percy, Frank Clark, Judge Brennan, C. P. Squires, H. M. Fullmer, John Eisenhart and Mr. Sevier.

The committee reported at a meeting July 9. N. A. Kuhn was elected president and standing committees appointed. Among the matters discussed at that meeting were promotion, transportation, fire protection, the establishment of public schools, and the adoption of one standard time instead of being in a state of confusion on account of the use of both Mountain and Pacific times. We had the entire problem of creating and maintaining a new community thrown into our laps, with the unknown staring us soberly in the face.

The Board of Trade functioned with reasonable efficiency until the need of a new organization on lines a little different was felt and then the "Boosters Club," one of the direct ancestors of the present Chamber of Commerce was organized by approximately the same group.

The publicity put out by the "Boosters Club" sounds, after more than thirty years, as if it were an appeal by President Bob Kaltenborn or Secretary Oliver Goerman to the Las Vegas businessmen of this year 1940. I quote:

"The businessmen are waking up to the fact that a new era of progress is at hand. This section has wonderful natural resources which must be made known to the world in order to be developed. Men and money are ready for the opportunities we can offer did we but make them known.

"To encourage new industries; to make known the advantages of our soil, climate and artesian water; to call attention to the mineral riches in the surrounding mountains; in short, to 'Boost Vegas' to the position that should be hers as a mining and commercial center is the object of the proposed organization."

A vital civic organization for the advancement of Las Vegas was the "County Division Club," which carried on the fight which brought about the creation of Clark county out of a portion of Lincoln county and the establishment of the county seat of the new county at Las Vegas. In this connection it is interesting to recall that during this period, the "Clark County Court House," costing \$1,818, now the city library building was constructed and donated to the county by Las Vegas businessmen in carrying out the promise they had made during the county division campaign, to provide quarters for the officers of the new county for five years, without any cost to the county. Of course we had to celebrate, and I quote again from the Las Vegas Age:

"Officers elected for the first year were: W. R. Thomas, president; M. S. Seal, secretary; First State Bank, treasurer; Directors, J. M. Heaton, E. W. Griffith, W. R. Thomas, F. A. Clark, A. N. Pauff, Peter Buol and M. S. Seal.

That same week engineers were busy setting stakes preparatory to beginning construction of the million dollar ship plant undertaken by the San Pedro, Los Angeles & Salt Lake railroad. The next week there were 120 men on the job.

Now we are approaching the impending reason for the creation of the City of Las Vegas.

On the third of May, 1909, before Clark county had been organized, franchise was granted by the county commissioners of Lincoln county to F. J. Siebert, to build a sewerage system in the unincorporated town of Las Vegas.

The Age of the following week (May 22, 1909) voiced dissatisfaction with the situation, saying in part: "In a matter so vitally affecting the future of Las Vegas as the

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