Story of "Battle-Born" Nevada

(Continued from Page One) between those pioneer silver miners and the Utah Territorial government under Governor Brigham Young. A movement was started to be prohibited . . .

President Buchanan. The coming of the Lincoln Administration was immediately met en an opportunity to speak to the with the problem of secession. came reports that the attitude of telegraph line, which was within the more troops was a serious problem allel in history. Here are the varythe State of California was in serious doubt and might cast its lot with the Confederacy. If it did so, it might quite, probably carry with it the entire West Coast comprising the great precious metal mining section of the nation, a most powerful adjunct in any time of war. How to keep in touch with the situation and obtain reliable information which would necessarily be delayed in transmission pending the completion of the telegraph line then under construction across the mountains and desert, presented another serious problem

From known recorded history other incidents are deductable. Shortly following the inauguration of President Lincoln there was presented ident Lincoln and Secretary Stew- Francisco, which read ard respecting the appointment as who had the energy and ability to ascertain and who could be relied upon to furnish reliable information. The circumstances appear to afwithstanding the salary inducement own horse. as fixed by Congress was but \$1,500

per year. Governor Nye arrived by Overland stage at Carson City in June 1861, and a month later the Secretary of the Territory, Oren Clemmons, arrived from his home in Missouri bringing with him his younger brother, Samuel Longhorn, who was destined to become world famous as Mark Twain. Governor Nye got busy at his big job immediately. The first thing was to get the Territorial government organized including the election of a Legislative Assembly to enact laws The Assembly, comprising a Council and House of Representatives was elected and convened for its first session October 1, 1861. Governor Nye delivered an address at its opening making one of his characteristic, forceful, eloquent, convincing, patriotic, speeches, as well as including recommendations for legislation.

A few excerpts from his address will throw some side lights on this then "tenderfoot," as the newcomers of the Far West were called and why he is accorded a place along with Thomas Star King, the orator clergyman of San Francisco in keeping California steadfast for the Union during the War between the States, and why President Lincoin felt he could rely on Nevada to maintain the Union of States. The following quoted therefrom:

"In the conflict now waging be tween the seceding states and those that remain loyal to the Union there is no such thing as neutrality All must, and will participate, to a greater or less extent, and the infantile voice of this Territory will be heard on one side or the other; and in order that we may determine correctly, let us look impartially at the position of both, and make up our minds from admitted facts."

" . . . If you so speak, the youngest of the heirs to this richest of inheritances, it will cause a thrill of joy throughout this now agitated country. Say by your action. that young and feeble as you are you will stretch out your arm and shield your Government from the parricidal blow now aimed at it. . . . the day is not far distant when those who now differ with you in sentiment will bless you for so speaking."

"One of the most important duties that will devolve upon you is the establishment of a system of Common Schools. A government like ours, that rests upon the basis of universal intelligence, cannot exercise too much care, or vigilance, in providing for a mental and moral culture of its youth."

"The consequences attendant upon the almost universal habit or practice of carrying concealed or deadly weapons, by the citizens of

this Territory, lead me to recomuse than by tolerating it."

"I also recommend that laws be passed for the regulation of the sale of intoxicating liquors . proper regard for the well-being of society, demands that the sale on Sunday or the Sabbath . . . should

create the Territory of Nevada out "I particularly recommend that of Carson County Utah. Such an you pass stringent laws to prevent Ace was passed and approved the gambling. Of all the seductive vices last day of the administration of extant, I regard that of gambling

The Territorial Assembly was giv-Nation. The Assembly met just as Committees of the two Houses presented a draft of the proposed telegram was approved and sent the day the line was completed, October 23. 1861. The telegram read:

"Nevada Territory, through her first Legislative Assembly, to the President and People of the United States, greeting:

"Nevada for the Union, ever true and loyal. The last born of the Nation will be the last to desert the flag. Our aid to the extent of our ability, can be relied upon to crush rebellion.

Nevada lived up to that telegram. the matter of the appointment of It accepted the burden of statehood the Governor of the Territory of to accomplish a great national pur-Nevada. James W. Nye, of the City pose but that is not the whole story. of New York, who had never been That was not the first call for aid. west of the Mississippi river, was It had raised troups of volunteers the appointee. He had been a Judge to fight the warring Pah Utes. Maof a New York Court; had served jor Ormsby had been killed and his as the first President of the then troup defeated shortly following a recently created Metropolitan Board similar fate which befell Major Lasof Police of New York City. With sen, for whom a National Park, a William H. Steward, Secretary of Monutain Peak' and a County in State in the Lincoln Cabinet, he had California are named. A second batstumped the then so called Western the at Pyramid Lake forced the In-States, comprising the Great Lakes dians to retreat. Later in the Spring and Mississippi Valley regions, in of 1863, Governor Nye received a the first Lincoln campaign. The call from General Wright, then conclusion naturally follows, that a Commanding General of the Paconversation occurred between Pres- cific coast with headquarters at San

"The Indian disturbances along affording an opportunity of having the line of the Overland Mail Route some one in that far West region east of Carson City, threaten the entire suspension of our mail facilities, as well as preventing any portion of the vast emigration approaching from the East reaching ford conclusive proof that Secretary Nevada. My force immediately Seward in effect said to President available for operation on that line Lincoln: "I know the man for the is small. . . . I would earnestly recplace if he can be induced to ac- ommend that one or two companies cept, he is James W. Nye. He is of Cavalry be promptly organized a man of force of character, of and prepared for muster into the learning and ability, a leader among service of the United States. It is men and I'll say is the best stump impossible for us at this moment speaker in the United States." Nye to purchase horses and equipment. was appointed and accepted, not- Each man will have to furnish his

What did it mean if the Overland

he fact that most of the regular kept open. troops stationed on the Pacific Coast had been transferred across perience with battles before it be

and silver coin. In addition com- in excess of half a million dollars.

fully believing that human life will to reach ports in California via the third and last call upon Gover- into the story. be much safer by prohibiting the Cape Horn or the Isthmus of Pana- nor Nye was made at Virginia City ma because of naval disasters on by Major General Irwin McDowell, the State Assembly Chamber at Carthe Atlantic. If the Indian uprising who deemed the situation warranted son City hangs a portrait of Abraclosed the Overland Route, it meant his presence upon the line of waralso the closing of the telegraph fare. The Territory raised a regi- five dollar bill and you will see furnishes the answer to any possible line which closely bordered it. How ment of cavalry and a battalion of a copy of this portrait. When Genserious was the situation from a infantry, a total of 1180 men. With military viewpoint is evidenced by their aid the Overland Route was ber of President Lincoln's cabinet

So Nevada had some actual exthe continent for Civil War service. came the Battle-Born. Fighting with The Territory of Nevada respond- Indians isn't the whole story either. ed to the first call with four troops Faith had to be kept with the solof Cavalry. Then in December fol- diers for the extra pay promised. lowing came a second call for two That required \$110,000. The faith more troops of cavalry and a regi- was kept. It required a bond issue Among other disturbing matters the last gap in the transcontinental ment of infantry. The raising of which for interest paid has no parnot only because of the lure of the ing rates per cent per annum: 24, be closed. To the Assembly was desert hills where mines of gold and 18, 15, 12, 9 until the year 1879. extended the privilege of sending the silver might be found, but the pay Therefore for a half century the of the soldier, small as it was, was State paid upon a State bond issued in greenbacks worth sixty cents on to the State School Fund five per ed have been mentioned. When the the dollar, while the medium of ex- cent. Then the National Governchange on the Pacific Coast in all ment reimbursed the State for business transactions was in gold money and interest thus expended

modity prices in the Territory were | So much for the high lights of a hundred per cent higher than why Nevada was made a State, was the case in the Far East. The though after the lapse of nearly situation was met by an act of the three-fourths of a century it has Territorial Legislature providing for never bee nable to reach the hundred

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Mail Route were closed? It was the additional pay of five dollars in coin | thousand mark in population. Just | ven of the delegates, one-third of | McNAMEE IN ELY mend that some law be passed mak- last remaining means of reaching per month to each soldier. More sol- in conclusion here are a few facts ing it a penal offense to carry them, the Pacific Coast. Ships had ceased diers were induced to enlist. Finally of interest which in a way dovetail the State of New York. When the

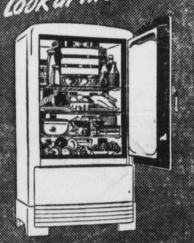
> Back of the Speaker's chair in ham Lincoln. Take a look at a eral Horatio King, son of a memfirst saw it in the artist's studio in the State from the great American artist, Charles M. Shean, as a fitting

tieth anniversary. If Nevada is the Omega State in were New Yorkers who played lead-

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the total number, were natives of ON BUSINESS constitution was ratified and ap- in Ely attending to legal matters. proved, and the State Government organized. Governor Nye was pro- PITTMANS VISIT IN moted to the United States Senate. BOULDER CITY

criticism: "I have sometimes heard people and sister, Dr. and Mrs. George and petty, not big enough to be a ington. State; but when I hear that complaint I always hear Abraham Lincoln saying, 'It is easier to admit | Nevada than to raise another mil-

lion soldiers.' '

Leo A McNamee spent Wednesday

Another quotation from Mr. Dana Mr. and Mrs. Vail Pittman of Ely

complain that Nevada is superfluous Brewington and Miss Frances Brew-

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Bellis and young son were week-end visitors

spent the week-end in Boulder City

BRUCE BECKLEY VISITS PARENTS

Bruce Beckley of San Francisco spent the week-end in Las Vegas visiting with his parents and enjoying the Helldorado.

Mrs. Frank Scott and little son, visiting with Mrs. Pittman's parents Richard, have returned to their home in Del Mar, California after a brief visit at the home of Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Stephens.

LEAVE FOR OKLAHOMA

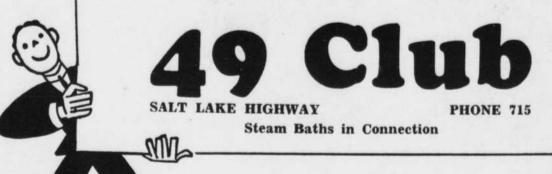
Mrs. R. T. Baskin and daughter, Betty, have gone to Tulsa, Okla-

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undoubtedly will. month Dealers buying any of these cars for resale, as you as as me privileges as undoubtedly will, accorded the same privileges iust the individual we don't care who gets them. undoubtedly will, accorded the same privileges just them, bring the individual... we don't care who gets them, bring the individual... we don't handican Dealers. the individual... we don't care who gets them, fust so we get from under the handicap... Dealers, bring so we license plates and drivere own license plates and drivers. "Due to the Popularity of the New Chevrolet, we have slashed prices to the bone on our fine stock of "O K" Used Cars to make room for more Trade-Ins"....

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