

LAS VEGAS AGE

SOUTHERN NEVADA'S OLDEST NEWSPAPER
Established in 1905

A weekly newspaper published every Sunday morning for general circulation in Las Vegas, Nevada, and entered in the Postoffice as second-class matter.

CHARLES P. SQUIRES Editor



A Great Show

The AVIADA celebration has developed into an occasion much more spectacular and of far greater importance than was at first envisioned by the young fellows of the Junior Chamber of Commerce who devised the plan. Instead of being entirely local in its character, AVIADA is already attracting nationwide interest and many other localities will in coming years be having celebrations or commemorations in connection with air navigation very similar to that now being held in Las Vegas.

The affair is serving two major purposes: that of stimulating the activities of the great organizations engaged in air transport, and that of bringing increased knowledge and aroused interest to the general public.

A few years ago perhaps one person in ten thousand had any real interest in air travel and that interest was generally expressed by the desire to keep entirely out of airplanes and to have nothing to do with the enterprise except to send an occasional letter by air mail. Today most of the people have had the pleasant experience of the speed and comfort of air travel and air mail is one of the indispensable conveniences of everyday life.

The Las Vegas AVIADA will serve both to sharpen the desires of the companies to serve the people and at the same time heighten the demand on the part of the public for still better and more widely distributed air service.

Welcome to Las Vegas

In connection with the Las Vegas AVIADA we have with us many visitors who are distinguished in finance, government and politics, as well as the great new world of air transportation.

The entire City of Las Vegas extends a cordial welcome to these former strangers. Through Mayor Cragin they have the key to the city which fits every door in Las Vegas (except possibly some of the hotels, which, we understand, are already filled to the limit and have no use for locks or keys).

The service clubs (and clubs of other kinds), our fraternal societies, and even our churches are waiting to receive you and to serve you. And the very particular sponsor of the occasion, the Las Vegas Junior Chamber of Commerce, is yours to command.

While you are here, fellows, get in and have a good time, and in case of trouble the Mayor will bail you out.

Killing the Goose

The policy upon which the War Production Board at Washington has embarked in respect to the great plant of Basic Magnesium, Inc., appears to be financially unsound and economically a fallacy.

The principal reasons given by the board for its action in ordering four units of the plant shut down are to conserve electricity and release manpower.

These reasons are not in harmony with the facts as they are understood here, which are that there is ample power already available for use in southern California, and that there are no housing facilities available there for additional workers.

The most important objection to reducing the capacity of the BMI plant is that the old combination whereby the Aluminum Company of America and Dow Chemical Company had monopolistic control of the light metals industry may thereby be re-established.

The Aluminum Company of America, with its practical monopoly of aluminum pro-

duction, and Dow Chemical Company, principal producer of magnesium metal until the plant at Las Vegas was completed, were long operating under an agreement which served to protect aluminum as the chief of the light metals and restricted the production and use of magnesium which, until quantity production was achieved at BMI, did not constitute a threat.

Senator McCarran made a noble fight against closing any part of the BMI plant and is to be commended for his efforts. It is safe to say that the end of the fight has not yet been reached. The suspicion that a desire to re-establish the old monopoly in the light metals industry is at the bottom of the effort to restrict the production at BMI is becoming strong in the minds of the general public.

Our Foreign Policy

Secretary of State Cordell Hull has been placed in an embarrassing position by the growning insistence that the foreign policy of the administration be clarified and put into words which are not mere generalities but which mean something definite.

The Secretary's seventeen-point report to the nation broadcast to the world a few days ago was a masterly attempt to satisfy the desires of the people for information without taking a stand on the practical details of world affairs. It did indicate that the administration is concerned much more with an idealistic view of what the United States should do to, for, or with other nations, than with what it is hoping to do for the people of the United States.

The first obligation, and perhaps the only excuse for the existence of a government, is for the protection of its own people and for the advancement of their interests. True enough, all of us, or very nearly all, wish to deal justly with other peoples and to treat them in a way to bring prosperity to all. Yet self-preservation still remains the first law of nature.

However, the idea that the people of the United States should reduce themselves to the same level of impoverishment as that suffered by less fortunate nations by saddling themselves with an intolerable burden of indebtedness is resented by a vast element of the American people.

Moreover, nothing was added by the statement to public knowledge of what vast obligations the United States has assumed by reason of the various secret conferences held here and there in foreign countries.

Admitting that winning the war is our first and most important duty, whatever the cost may be, the people of the United States still are convinced that the administration at Washington is squandering the resources of the country without restrictions or control. It would be reassuring if Secretary Hull would tell us something of the advantages he hopes to gain for the people of America through the complicated seventeen-point theory of foreign relations which he has so studiously prepared.

We must realize that in all parts of Europe now dominated by Germany, democratic institutions have been abolished. Somehow we must restore the fundamental that every citizen is responsible for the government.—Jean Monnet, commissioner-at-large, French Committee of National Liberation.

If a catastrophe were to occur to the allied armies which could be traced to the retention of German and Japanese representatives in Dublin, a gulf would be opened between Great Britain and Ireland which even generations wouldn't bridge.—Winston Churchill.

In Hollywood

By ERSKINE JOHNSON
NEA Staff Correspondent

EXCLUSIVELY yours: It isn't often that the real and imaginary become one in Hollywood. But with many discharged men from the armed forces turning to the screen, the war is continuing for them. Three of the war pilots in the 20th Century-Fox film, "Wing and a Prayer," actually are playing chapters out of their own lives. Jerry Shane, not yet 20, plays a heroic gunner in a torpedo bomber. Jerry wears the Southwest Pacific ribbon, a Presidential citation and an extra star for service on Guadalcanal. John Hardin flew with the RCAF and the RAF Spitfire Squadron until he got a slug in the back. Now he's a pilot in the picture. John Miles, who flies another pilot role in the film, starring Don Ameche and Dana Edwards, spent 17 months in the Army Air Forces until he was washed out by injuries.

Robert Cummings' chicken ranch is yielding so many eggs he's put them on the market. The cartoon labels read: "These eggs are fresh. I know. I've laid plenty of 'em."

Frank Sinatra has purchased a home in Hollywood and brings Mrs. Voice and their little whippersnapper out to live in May.

Only thing holding up the Johnny Weissmuller's reconciliation is the housing problem. They can't find a house.

Karloff vs. Cregar
Sight of the week: Boris Karloff and Laird Cregar in opposite booths of the Brown Derby mugging horrific glares at each other. A waiter, caught in the cross-fire, squirmed like an impaled moth.

After seven months' idleness on the Warner lot, Joan Crawford steps in front of the camera this month for "Mildred Pierce."

No truth in those Joan Davis-Fannie Brice feud rumors. They're a constant gin rummy twosome.

Now it's "Sensations of 1945." Producer Andrew Stone upped the title because many play dates will not be reached until next year.

Linda Darnell, who ought to know, denies those baby rumors.

During filming of "Since You Went Away," Claudette Colbert and Shirley Temple became great friends. One day Shirley, who is now a grown up young lady of 16, was talking to Claudette about boy friends. Seems Shirley has lots of them. "Tonight," she said, "I'm going out with an air cadet. He's 21." "But isn't he a little old for you?" Claudette asked. "Maybe so," replied Shirley, "but he acts young."

"Taint Funny"
Jim (Fibber McGee) Jordan's illness brought him thousands of fan letters. But the note that made the greatest impression was penciled on the envelope of a telegram delivered to his room. It read: "Get well quick, McGee." It was signed, "The Western Union Boy."

Monty Woolley's recipe for a long and healthy life: "Shun all avoidable exercise. Your arteries will harden soon enough anyway. Personally, I have found that it I confine my exercise to turning over in bed, I do very well."

Anna Lee, just returned from getting a divorce in Las Vegas, tells an amusing story about one of the theaters there. With the true Las Vegas spirit, the cashier invites patrons to toss a coin and pay double the 50-cent admission or nothing at all.

Roger W. Babson

BABSON PARK, Mass., Apr. 15—Many letters come to me from men in the service and from their families asking as to what lines of business should offer the best opportunities after the war. Personally, I prefer the merchandising group, which includes everything from the small retailer who lives over his store and employs only his family to the great distributing concerns such as Sears, Roebuck and Montgomery Ward. It is impossible for anyone to make a profit on inflation, but good merchandisers should suffer least from inflation as their stocks of goods are constantly becoming more valuable. Merchandisers can usually pass along taxes and quickly adjust themselves to changing conditions.

How to Select an Employer
It takes a little capital and patience to operate a retail store for one's self. Furthermore, it takes time and patience to work up to a good executive position in a chain store organization or even in a department store. Hence, most men wind up by getting connected with some special industry or manufacturing concern. The question is as to which has the greater opportunities and which pays the largest salaries and highest wages. Following will be found a list of the leading American industries.

These industries, I have grouped and, in fact, arranged in an order according to their rates of return on their total investment, before interest and income taxes. My theory is that the best opportunities lie with the companies that are making the most profits. (There are those included in Group 4, which showed prewar earnings are from 15% to 25%.) I have divided these seventy-two industries into four groups of employers as follows:

Group No. 1—Low Profits.
The first group includes 8 industries. During the last prewar year these earned only from 3% to 6% on their capital investment. These 8 follow:

- Railroad Equipment
- Fertilizer Products
- Timber and Lumber Products
- Coke Oven Products
- Cane Sugar
- Silk Products
- Textile and Sewing Machinery
- Steel and Rolling Mill Works

Group No. 2—Small Profits
The second group contains 28 industries. The last prewar year for these industries showed a profit on the investment (before interest and income taxes) of 6% in the case of Clay Products up to 10% in the case of Knit Goods. The entire list of Group 2 follows:

- Clay Products
- Agricultural Machinery and Tractors
- Petroleum Producing and Refining
- Cotton Textiles
- Bolt, Nut, Rivet and Screw Products
- Paper and Pulp
- Matches
- Textiles Dyeing and Finishing
- Hat and Cap
- Steel Castings
- Copper
- Tanned, Curried and Finished Leather
- Heating and Cooking Apparatus
- Cement
- Flour Milling
- Malleable Iron Castings
- Furniture
- Plumbers Supplies
- Bread and Bakery Products
- Book and Magazine Publishing
- Beet Sugar
- Rayon and Allied Products
- Heavy Machinery
- Saw, File and Hand Tools
- Paint and Varnish
- Rubber Products
- Knit Goods

Group No. 3—Fair Profits
The third group contains 18 industries starting with Silver and Plated Ware, earning 10% on the invested capital, and running up to Corn Products, earning 15% on the investment, during the last prewar year, before deducting interest and income taxes. This is a very good list and includes some of the most satisfactory industries for the long pull, although I don't advise anybody into Distilled Liquor. It will be noted that this Group 3 includes Refrigerator Equipment, Gypsum and Asbestos Products, Business Machines and Clothing, all of which are growing and profitable industries.

- Silver and Plated Ware
- Pump, Pumping and Air Compressors
- Hardware
- Woolen and Worsted Goods
- Refrigerator and Air Conditioning Units
- Lead and Zinc
- Gypsum, Asbestos Products and Roof Coating
- Firearms and Ammunition
- Utility Industry
- Biscuits and Crackers
- Engine Turbines, Water Wheels and Windmills
- Business Machines and Typewriters
- Distilled Liquors
- Tin Cans and Tinware
- Electrical Machinery and Apparatus
- Men's, Youths', and Boys' Clothing
- Cranes, Dredging, Excavating and Road Building
- Corn Products

Group No. 4—Good Profits
The fourth group contains 18 industries which were the most profitable of all during the few months before the war. They earned from 15% to 25% on the capital invested. The radio and Phonograph group showed a profit of 15%, and this profit increased in the following order up to and including Drug and Medicine group, which showed 25%. (I might add that there were also two other industries not included in the above—the Aircraft industry, which showed a profit of 35% and the Soft Drink Industry, which showed a profit of 45%.)

- Radios and Phonographs
- Glass and Glassware
- Men's and Boys' Cotton, Leather and Miscellaneous Garments
- Automobile Parts and Accessories
- Wool Carpets and Rugs
- Chemicals
- Machine Tool Accessories and Precision Tools
- Canned Fruits and Vegetables
- Perfume and Cosmetics
- Motor Vehicles and Accessories
- Cigarette and Tobacco Products
- General Preparations
- Soap, Cottonseed Products and Cooking Fats
- Food Specialties
- Shipbuilding
- Confectionery
- Malt and Beverage Brewing
- Drugs and Medicines

Study the Management
Too many young men and women take the first job which comes along. This will especially be true after the war. To avoid being a rolling stone, it is wise to take a little time in selecting the industry which you are willing to master and especially the concern with which you wish to stay for life. The money which the industry is making is not the only concern. Look up the character of the men for whom you are considering working. Do they attend some church? Are they interested in civic affairs? Have they a reputation for fair dealing and good treatment of their employees?

But in selecting an industry, consider also your own qualifications. Are you mechanical or not? Do you get on well with other people? Are you slow but accurate; or are you rapid but a little careless? Are you good at figures? Do you prefer to work in an office? Would the pavement and ring door-bells at selling? What about YOUR character? The industry should be chosen which fits into your temperament. Don't necessarily select an industry from Group 3 or 4. None of these may be suited to your training, physique or temperament.

That Rat of a Jap Fleet Isn't So Dumb



Victory Garden

By J. H. WITWER
Irrigation

Irrigated soils carrying a high alkaline content are deserving of careful consideration. Items are given in order of importance as follows:

1. Make sure that ample drainage is provided for; that is, if the subsoils are not of such character as will enable reasonable percolation and removal of free water which carries with it alkaline salts accumulated through the process of percolation, the drains must be provided.

2. Plot levelling should be carefully done in order to avoid excessive surface run-off.

3. With the plot properly levelled, water should be applied without surface run-off, which means that the water should be allowed to pool and percolate through the soil, adding additional water as may be needed to keep a constant supply over the plot. This practice might be carried on for a period of several days until, through the percolation process, a major portion of alkaline salts have been removed.

4. Following the above practice, the plot should be left to dry to such stage that might be spaded, applying an ample covering of barnyard manure of four to six inches depth, and worked into the first 10 inches of soil by the spading process; then,

5. As a further precaution against excess alkali accumulations within the seed bed area, proceed with laying out the plot in preparation for irrigation by the furrow method. (Furrows should be of such distance apart as to meet requirements of the various vegetable crops to be grown.)

6. After furrows are made, drop seed (no matter what the kind) in the bottom of the furrow, not on the ridge; cover to such depth as may be recommended according to kind and type of seed. (Alkali accumulations will rise to the top of the ridge on either side of the furrow and almost invariably will retard, if not prevent, germination if seeds are planted on the ridge. Subsequent plant growth, if placed in competition with such alkali accumulations as rise on ridges, makes for little better than stunted growth and poor returns.)

7. Apply water in furrows in such amount as will barely flow to the end of the furrow without "washing" (or eroding). A plot treated thusly should have water applied every three or four days until germination has been completed. These frequent irrigations are made to avoid the rising of the alkaline salts within the seed bed area, thus permitting germination and growth more advantageously. After germination has been completed and the plant begins making its growth, application of further irrigations might be governed according to need of plants concerned. Ordinarily, good practice advises against having plants in the furrow where irrigation water comes in direct contact with the plants. In instances wherein soils are heavily impregnated with excess alkali, such practice is the only possible chance for successful germination and continued plant growth. Should the first attempt at securing seed germination and plant growth fail, begin with the exception of applying manure. Persistence will win. (To Be Continued Next Week)

Washington Column

By PETER EDSON
Las Vegas Age Washington Correspondent

Madam Secretary of Labor Perkins will be sitting pretty and right in her element when the 26th session of the International Labor Organization opens in Philadelphia on April 20 for three or four weeks of talk and the resolutions by delegations from 40 nations. I.L.O. is one of madam secretary's pets. She got us into it in 1934. She has been a delegate several times and she presided over the last session, held in New York in 1941. She is U.S. delegate-in-chief—with Senator Elmer Thomas as co-delegate—to the coming Philadelphia session and is now lining up the 12 technical advisers from government.

The full U.S. delegation from government, labor and management will number about 30.

It probably won't do to kiss all this off as a convention of international do-gooders about to make over the world by passing pious resolutions. I.L.O. is entitled to a bow and better acquaintance if for no other reason than that it is almost the only usefully functioning survivor of the late Treaty of Versailles and the League of Nations. I.L.O. has kept going since 1919, and it has done things.

What has the United States got out of the I.L.O. participation? Well, for one thing it has ratified, through congress, five of the 67 "conventions" or resolutions which I.L.O. has passed. These five relate to minimum standards for employment and hours of work, protection of women and children, industrial accident prevention and compensation, employment conditions for merchant seamen, and social security.

Ratification Is Optional
Having accepted the principles of these conventions, it is incumbent upon any ratifying country to live up to their minimum standards.

Ratification of conventions is not compulsory on any country belonging to I.L.O., so the Philadelphia session is in no sense a world parliament or super-state, telling governments what post-war social security labor laws they must enact. The codes are simply there, in case any country wants to adopt them.

One of the delicate points to be considered at Philadelphia, however, is whether I.L.O. should have the right to inspect countries on compliance with conventions, or whether the countries should be required to report to I.L.O. on compliance.

Benefits of I.L.O. to the United States fall broadly in two classes. Specific benefits accrue when the United States is considering new legislation on such subjects as social security, wages and hours, or the prevention of industrial diseases such as silicosis. It can then call upon I.L.O. for the experience and technical advice of experts from other countries.

Long-range benefits to the United States accrue from helping other countries with less developed economies raise their conditions of employment to something approximating the American standard of living. The higher the standards of other countries, the better the chance of American industry to compete for world trade on equal terms.

It's an International Uplift
The agenda for the forthcoming Philadelphia I.L.O. session is a large order of social workers' uplift on an international scale.

It will try to write recommendations to the United Nations on how to expand employment, make international investment to restore devastated areas.

It will try to set minimum standards of wages, social insurance and worker representation in dependent, liberated and defeated countries.

It will try to write an international charter of social rights based on the Four Freedoms.

It will try to say something about the need for international full employment and might even take a stand on post-war international public works to help along.

Just what stand the United States delegation will take on these things won't be announced till Madam Perkins gets her alternates and advisers together, just before the session. The U. S. will have one vote, which will be cast by Madam Perkins herself.

Cost of U. S. participation in I.L.O. is \$247,947.40 a year.

I am kind of an under-dog fancier. Lots of folks are the same, but just don't pop off an dsay anything about it—everybody is not so windy. But anyway, I am going to write a little essay on bankers.

You will look far and wide to find somebody more jumped on than bankers. There must have been some duck, here or there, in the banking business sometime or other, that folks didn't think was shootin' square, or something. I don't know about that. It is possible. However, you could maybe run across a barber, or a plumber, or a cook, or most any trade, who is not a person you would want to loan 10 bucks, or whom you would care to have in for dinner. But all in all, and if I was to pick out somebody to hold my gold watch and chain, when my back was turned, I would pick a banker every time—and so would most people.

It has been kinda open season on bankers, for politicians. Bankers don't talk back much. If I was to give the old boys some advice, I'd say, "Next time some jaybird starts heckling you, haul off with a haymaker." Folks like people who show spunk—and fight back.

FIRST WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON, Mass., Apr. 15. (UP) — Though several other towns claim the honor, Mrs. Charles Schultze says that research proves that this was the first community named for George Washington, and incorporated in 1777.