

LAS VEGAS AGE

SOUTHERN NEVADA'S OLDEST NEWSPAPER
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The OPA Explains

The Age last week, discussing the loss and inconvenience which have resulted through removal of the files of the local OPA board to the state office at Reno, made a plea for closer and more friendly cooperation between Reno, metropolis of the north, and Las Vegas, metropolis of the south.

This comment was made following a resolution adopted by the board of directors of the Las Vegas chamber of commerce addressed to the OPA asking that the Las Vegas rationing board be given authority to pass upon local problems.

As the result, Guy R. Kingsley, of San Francisco, regional director for the Pacific coast, James H. Bradshaw, state director of the OPA for Nevada, and other members of the state board, met in Las Vegas Wednesday with the board of directors of the chamber of commerce and Jack Price, chairman, and other members of the local ration board.

The discussion revealed that the files removed from the local office to Reno, were authority for the purpose of auditing and that the removal of the local board is curtailed only by such orders as come direct from Washington.

The regional director with the state director promised sympathetic cooperation with Las Vegas in solving the problems peculiar to this area. In a large measure the growing distrust between the north and the south was overcome, and a more cooperative spirit substituted.

Las Vegas appreciates the promptness and the fairness with which the regional and state officials of OPA acted and the helpful spirit they showed in helping to solve Las Vegas' problems.

Elks and Helldorado

There has been some criticism—a little, not much—of the policy of allowing the Elks Helldorado committee to handle the Annual Helldorado as they have for the past ten years.

The criticism has been based apparently upon the fear that the Elks would benefit financially through the enterprise.

Ten years ago the need was felt for some means of giving to Las Vegas some distinctive advertising such, for example, as that brought to Cheyenne, Pendleton and Salinas by their annual wild-west rodeos.

The city government had no authority to assume the risks, financially and otherwise, of such a community enterprise. Neither had the chamber of commerce nor any other organization or fraternal society.

However, a little group of members of Las Vegas Elks Lodge No. 1468, who were filled with the ambition to promote the welfare of the community, volunteered to assume the task of creating something which might be of advantage to Las Vegas.

That group, because they enjoyed the confidence of people generally, were able to enlist the support of the businessmen of Las Vegas. They took the lead in devising plans for a celebration. They chose the name "Helldorado." They collected funds and assumed the financial obligations of what, for a number of years, proved to be a money-losing enterprise.

They contributed their own labor and money toward building Helldorado Village as a permanent site for the annual show and

took chances on getting anything back out of what was a purely community enterprise.

Through the activities of approximately the same group from year to year the Helldorado developed into a successful enterprise. A profit over and above expenses was developed out of the annual deficit of the first six or eight years.

The profits, when there were any, came entirely through the donated services of public spirited citizens under leadership of the Elks committee. Those profits were invested in war bonds which are held by the Elks lodge, which itself is a community enterprise.

If in the future, as is very probable, improvements and additions are made to Helldorado Village, the expense will be borne by the Elks committee. When it becomes necessary each year for someone to assume the obligations of Annual Helldorado celebrations, the Elks Helldorado committee has financial backing.

The worry of critics seems to be lest profits from the Helldorado should be applied to some activities of the Elks lodge. In view of the fact that Las Vegas Lodge No. 1468 is one of our outstanding community enterprises; that it has built a handsome clubhouse; that it has assisted in practically every movement for the good of the community for many years and contributed liberally to every worthy cause, it seems entirely reasonable that it should have the benefit of any funds which the enterprise of its members has created.

If, in the future, Las Vegas Annual Helldorado celebrations should develop into really profitable enterprises, we can think of no organization so worthy of its bounties as Las Vegas Lodge No. 1468, B.P.O.E.

How About This Fourth Term?

By J. E. JONES

WASHINGTON, D. C. May 27 — When George Washington refused to continue as President of the United States after serving two terms, he established a precedent that was followed until four years ago, when the Democrats nominated and the people elected Mr. Roosevelt for a third time.

Evidently, public opinion has changed, and the proof that it has changed is shown in the state primaries, where the Democrats are choosing Roosevelt delegates who will nominate him for a fourth term. Unless there is a change in the situation, Mr. Roosevelt will receive practically the unanimous endorsement of his party. The facts are that nobody can stop Mr. Roosevelt.

History has been made, and is being fortified, which breaks down George Washington's precedent regarding two terms.

As matters stand, President Roosevelt and Governor Dewey are practically certain to be the nominees of the two great political parties. The peculiar thing about Dewey's candidacy is that he isn't a candidate, which—after all—turns out to be the best way to run for office.

Of course either one of the gentlemen may refuse the nomination; but that never has happened.

The only question that remains unresolved is whether the country will elect Mr. Roosevelt or Mr. Dewey. Your Washington correspondent will have to offer an alibi. The alibi is that he doesn't know, and he refuses to record a "guess" in cold type.

In Hollywood

By ERSKINE JOHNSON
NEA Staff Correspondent

EXCLUSIVELY YOURS: The John Wayne attorneys are getting together to cook up a property settlement. Divorce will follow immediately.

Columbia studio has discovered that Ann Miller is worthy of something besides dancing roles. She is a straight role, minus dancing, with Kay Kyser in "Battleship Blues." Shares star billing with Kay, '00.

Judy Canova hopes to have her baby, due in September, at Johns Hopkins Hospital.

Dennis Day picked up \$25,000 in radio guest shots before checking into the navy. Nice shooting.

If his film schedule permits, Bing Crosby will make his first overseas entertainment tour this summer. He'd like to visit England.

Alan Curtis is receiving fan mail from Governor Earl Warren's daughter, Dorothy.

Aside to the ladies: Your hero, Alan Ladd, is wearing underwear "longies" made out of kitchen-vanity oilcloth for his role in "Two Years Before the Mast." Doctor's orders because the majority of his scenes have him drenched to the skin in storms at sea.

Maria Montez lost that argument with Universal for a light comedy role. Her next movie is "Queen of the Nile." Sounds familiar.

Hospitals Are Hexes
Bud Abbott and Lou Costello will build that rheumatic fever hospital in the San Fernando valley instead of Palm Springs. But so far they have been unable to find the 20 acres of land needed for the site. It's sad but true that real estate agents are reluctant to sell land for a hospital.

And it's Porter Hall's story about the producer who was asked how many people worked at his studio. "Oh," he replied, "I should say, at a rough guess, about one-third."

And it looks like Brian Donlevy will get the title role in "The Great John L."

At a WAC recruiting rally in Long Beach, Frank Sinatra drew 5500 gals. At a WAC recruiting in Flint, Michigan, Gene Autrey drew 7000, mostly women. Draw your own conclusions.

Fanny Brice won't do that musical on Broadway for ex-husband Billy Rose after all. Doctors nixed the idea and she'll summer vacation at Malibu Beach.

The new draft rules probably will stay the induction of Norris Goff of the Lum and Abner comedy team and Red Skelton.

The Merry Macs are publishing their own dude ranch travesty titled, "We Dude It."

Marlene Dietrich is doing a mind-reading gag on her overseas tour. Also warbling "See What the Boys in the Backroom Will Have," which the boys can't get enough of.

Jack Haley has co-authored and will produce a Broadway show this fall titled "Good Reviews of 1945."

Bellamy to Go East
Ralph Bellamy goes east after "Guest in the House" to appear with the Philadelphia Symphony for some recordings of a specially written war ballad.

Ruby Keeler's sister Gertrude has a singing role in the new Hedy Lamarr movie, "The Conspirators."

Signs of the times: Little Gloria Jean will smoke her first cigarette on or off the screen for her role in Universal's "That Reckless Age."

Producer Hunt Stromberg has signed Ruth Warwick to a five-year contract and will groom her for Irene Dunne type roles.

Roger W. Babson

BABSON PARK, Mass., May 27—From a civilian point of view the tire situation is currently more critical than the gasoline supply. The production of synthetic rubber will about equal, by the end of this year, our inventory of natural crude rubber, namely about 600,000 tons, which was on hand at the end of 1941. Meanwhile all natural rubber and most of the synthetic must go for military purposes. The over-all rubber supply is now particularly acute. I do, however, believe that the end of our rubber shortage is in sight. But do not think that tires for civilians are just around the corner.

Natural Rubber Data

With all pre-Pearl Harbor sources of natural rubber shut off, our major supply now comes from the Island of Ceylon. In addition, some is coming out of the revived Amazon river valley district. We also are picking up a little Mexican guayule and perhaps a small amount of natural rubber from Brazil and Africa. However, with the exception of Ceylon, the great middle east sources are naturally out until we lick Japan.

Our consumption of natural rubber, and remember that it is all for the military, is estimated at 150,000 tons for 1944. This compares with an all purpose use of natural in 1943 amounting to 340,000 tons and in 1942 to 370,000 tons. Our stock pile at the beginning of the year was about 140,000 tons with receipts estimated at 80,000 tons. We will cut our inventory in half by the end of 1944.

What About Synthetic?

The production of synthetic rubber was slow in getting under way but increased in 1943 from a January production of 600 tons to a December production of 39,000 tons. The entire year's work produced under 185,000 tons or about one-half our total 1942 consumption. Synthetic production capacity has expanded rapidly during 1944 and for March, 1944, reached an annual output rate of 670,000 tons. As plants are exceeding their rated capacity, output should progressively rise. I estimate for the full year that about 870,000 tons will be made.

Who Will Get Our Rubber

Our 1944 American rubber consumption should look something like this:

Natural crude	150,000
Reclaimed	250,000
Synthetic	700,000
Tons	1,100,000

The difference between our synthetic production of say 870,000 tons and of the 700,000 tons which we use, or about 170,000 tons, will be lend-leased or stocked for our future use. All natural reclaimed will be used or set aside for war purposes. Out of the above synthetic supply about 18,000,000 tires will be made this year for civilians against an estimated need of over 30,000,000.

Postwar Outlook

Natural rubber, and perhaps total rubber supplies, will be short for from two to five years after the war. It will take some time to clear up the Far East plantations after the Japs are driven out. Not much more than 250,000 tons a year for the first two or three years can be expected from pre-war sources. The United States alone will require 1,000,000 tons of rubber annually which may be close to 50% of the needs of the entire world. Estimating our production of synthetic at 1,000,000 tons it looks as though our synthetic plants might have 100% capacity operation ahead of them for a few years after the war is over; but after 1950 look out!

Tire Company Securities

Tire company stocks, while selling at about their best prices since the war, may not be too high; but I do not know. Earnings for 1944 should run close to 1943 and dividends may run a little higher as provisions for postwar conversion and other reserves have been largely taken care of. For the long-term and as a businessman's risk, I am not adverse to the best tire stocks. Here as in all other situations the best management—especially those which have the confidence of labor—will provide the best profits.

G-5

First reports on G-5, the American and British armies' corps of civil government specialists, are encouraging. G-5 is faced with the appalling job of bringing speedy and orderly government to liberated Europe. But the announcement of its general plan indicates better preparation and promises less confusion than has prevailed in Italy since the allied landing.

The general aims seem to be these: to turn over details of local government to acceptable leaders as soon as possible (except in the case of Germany) and to make sure that resumption of civil life does not interfere with military activity.

For France it is indicated that an earlier American position will be reversed and that G-5 will deal through the National Committee of Liberation at least to the extent of the committee's specific knowledge of the loyalty of local officials. There will be no contact with the Vichy regime.

Exiled governments and loyal groups will be dealt with in Belgium, the Netherlands, Denmark and Norway.

The G-5 decision to let the citizens of these countries dispose of their own war criminals is sound. Those who have suffered will know best which of their countrymen contributed most to their suffering. And it is only just that they should supervise their trial and punishment under a free, restored judiciary.

Germany presents a particularly complex problem. Stern military rule will have to be enforced, and the opposition is bound to be fierce and determined. But certain civil functions are to be entrusted to natives who can convince G-5 officers that their Nazi party membership was a means to employment rather than a political conviction.

This is not ideal, but the only alternative is complete chaos, with G-5 not only hounded but bogged down in the endless details of local administration. Reorganization can come later, along with the final decision on the debated guilt or innocence of the entire German people. But in the meantime, German railroads will have to run, utilities will have to function, roads and ports and communications will have to be kept open in conquered territory.

We may trust that the softness and defeat-measures which marked the treatment of defeated Germany after the last war will not be repeated by G-5.

Slowing Up His Footwork



Victory Garden Washington Column

By J. H. WITTEW
County Agent

To those who find it difficult to effect insect pest control measures it might be of interest to follow practices of those who observe one or more of the following methods of control:

1. Clean up all rubbish about the premises and adjoining lots. Be burning is dangerous to surroundings, and if there are no facilities for hauling the rubbish away, apply the water hose to such area as might be needed for digging a trench, then bury all waste material, covering completely with a three or four inch covering of soil and follow up with an irrigation to insure thorough coverage and ultimate decay.

2. Determine whether your garden crops are being damaged by sucking or by biting insects: Good spiders, sucking insects are red spiders, aphids sometimes called plant lice, leaf hoppers, white flies, thrips, and psyllids. In general, an effective treatment consists of Tobacco Leaf 40 or Nicotine sulphate, (which is the same thing), spray. This spray should be prepared and applied according to instructions on container.

Should there be any question regarding this preparation, the following is a dependable formula: One teaspoonful of nicotine solution and two tablespoonfuls of liquid fish oil soap to one gallon of water. Should tomato or potato plants be sprayed with this nicotine solution, use one teaspoonful Nicotine Sulphate to one and one half tablespoonfuls of the liquid fish oil soap to one gallon water. This difference in proportional quantities is practiced to avoid injury to leaf growth. Spraying should be done thoroughly, covering both the upper and under surface of leaf growth. Applications are most effective if done during early morning hours.

Spraying should be repeated every three or four days for a week or ten days with repeated spraying as soon as any of the insects of this group appear following the first series of sprays. Another type of sucking insects are those of the biting group that cause damage by sucking. Outstanding of this type are the striped cucumber beetle and the squash bug. These insects do most of the damage about the main stems just above the ground surface of respective plants attacked. The cucumber beetle can be best controlled by the use of liberal dusting with a preparation known as a ten percent Nicodust. Dusting should be done at three and five day intervals, and later treatments, should beetles re-appear.

Squash bugs are most difficult of all to control. Though there are one or two commercially advertised dusting preparations that might be effective, it is generally conceded that this pest can be most effectively controlled by hand picking and destroying by dropping into an oil (fuel oil) bath. Close follow-up attention must be given these bugs. Claims have been made by some gardeners that a heavy dusting of squash bugs during their early nymph stages (just hatched) with sodium flouride helps to keep them under control.

The most destructive biting or eating group of insects will be discussed next week.

TO KEEP CITY DUST DOWN WITH ASPHALT ON STREETS

Dust is something that's always with us, here as elsewhere, but a few days ago the city commissioners took action to control it, beginning next Thursday with initial expenditures of \$10,000. Repair and use of asphalt to keep it down on thoroughfares is the plan, and distribution will be throughout the city where most needed for the benefit of the largest number of persons possible. City Manager Charles McCall stated. Pleading results are anticipated.

It is presumptuous and impossible for a stranger to go into a community like Wichita, Kansas, for only a few days and know all there is to know about it. But you can go in with a few specific questions that are bothering you, as I did in Wichita a few days ago, and come out with answers, though they may not be right.

For this quick spot-check, I talked to a newspaper publisher and politician, the city's leading manufacturer and the county agricultural agent, a federal and a city official, a couple of chamber of commerce men and a couple of labor leaders, a school teacher and a minister. There you have a dozen so assorted that they should be able to answer anything, including the \$128 question.

Who will the next president be? Even in historically republican Kansas the majority were honest enough to say that it all depended on the progress of the war. With Germany still unlicked it would be Roosevelt again. With the invasion established, there was a chance to beat him. They were all glad to be rid of Willkie, though he carried Kansas in 1940. Bricker, in a recent personal appearance in Wichita, drew a scant 200 people, but it was a rainy night. Dewey was acceptable, though didn't know much about him. The idea that women didn't like him because he was too dapper-looking and not enough of a he-man didn't bother them.

Expect Republican Congress

There was no doubt—except from the labor officials—that the next congress would be republican in both houses. The Kansas delegation is that way already. Labor officials cautioned against selling the democrats short, for the state has been greatly industrialized during the war and labor organizers have been busy. The CIO has imposed a \$5 fine on any member who doesn't register. They're not worried about how their members will vote, if they can just get them registered.

There was general acceptance of the war restrictions and the needs for the rationing programs were understood. Even farmers were said to appreciate the shortages of metal and the resulting lack of new farm machinery manufacture. Annoyance at the multiplicity of federal government agencies was, however, general. Everyone volunteered the thought that Washington must be a terrible place to live in with all those bureaucrats.

There is no discernible tiredness with the war. Some of the people working in war plants have changed jobs to get into something permanent, but a chamber of commerce survey showed 91 per cent of the people would stick at their jobs till it was over.

There's Little Isolationism

There was little feeling that when the war is over the United States would go isolationist. That was one of the things supposed to have licked Willkie in Wisconsin. It is significant that Wichita does not feel that way for Wichita is the home of two of the super-isolationists to be indicted and brought to trial on charges of sedition in Washington—the late Elmer J. Garner and the Rev. Gerald Winrod.

For all Wichita is concerned, they were prophets without honor in their own community. Garner was regarded as an old crank, soured on the world. Winrod is regarded as an opportunist whose views were shaped by the profit he might derive from them. Kansas never paid any attention to Winrod and voted its disapproval when defeating his candidacy for the senate six years ago. They still have no use for him or his ideas in Wichita, and that's encouraging.

Le Petit Fleur

Anyone who ever read a perfume ad will understand why the New York City board of estimate acted as it did in that matter involving Coty, Inc., the perfume people, and Mayor LaGuardia. Coty's, as you may have read, offered \$25,000 for the privilege of broadcasting the mayor's weekly "talks to the people." The board turned them down.

What undoubtedly prompted the board's action was the mayor's first name. Fiorello, as you know, means "little flower." But the perfumers, following professional custom, would certainly have translated it into French. First thing his honor knew, he'd hear himself being announced as "Le Petit Fleur."

Then they'd probably name a perfume after him. Just think what commercials would be: "The zesty fragrance of an effervescent personality . . . the tantalizing aroma of City Hall . . . Le Petit Fleur."

Perhaps President Roosevelt's chiding accusation that people were "looking under the bed" in the Montgomery Ward case might apply to both sides of the controversy. Take the case of Paul D. Sowell, which was dismissed at the government's request since the "ends of justice" no longer require his prosecution.

Mr. Sowell had quite a buildup as a desperado. A mild-looking minor executive at Wards, he was arrested for the heinous offense of tearing a government poster off the wall.

He was handcuffed, finger-printed, held incommunicado until his lawyer threatened habeas corpus proceedings. Maybe it was a Chicago atmosphere. Maybe the boys were expecting a Dillinger to jump out from behind the catalogs and go bo!