Jack Bortz'

May 30, 1953

Fabulous LAS VEGAS Magazine

MEMORIAL DAY, MAY 30, 1953



IN THIS ISSUE

—o—

Lady Michael's WATCHBIRD

PAGE 7

15¢

IN THE OPERA HOUSE - THEATRE RESTAURANT . . .



KATHERINE DUNHAM

PLUS HER ENTIRE COMPANY OF 22

SINGERS, DANCERS and MUSICIANS

BOB ELLIS & ORCH.

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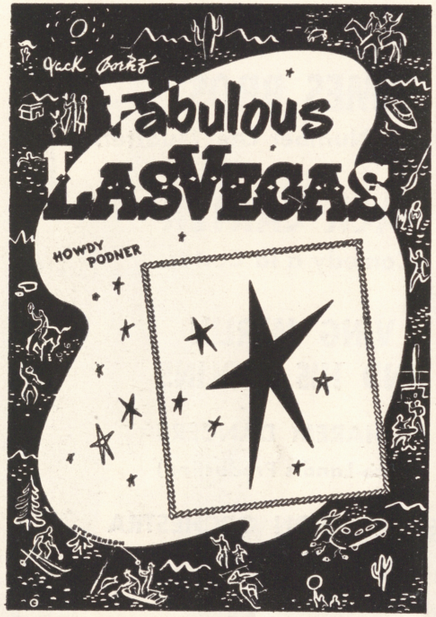

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MAY 30, 1953

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EMBASSY CLUB—Burlesque, in North Las Vegas on North Main. Phone 1633.

7TH ONE CLUB—Chuck Wood's newest late spot. Bar, casino, dining, dancing, shows. Boulder Highway. Pittman, Nevada.

OBSERVATIONS

. by CHARLES P. "POP" SQUIRES

TWO WEEKS AGO I was trying to tell about the historic sale of lots in Clark's Las Vegas Townsite, which was attended by a great array of railroad officials, adventurers. speculators and just plain people looking for a good place to live. I ended my narrative with the little story of the manner in which our tent "Hotel Las Vegas" of 30 completely furnished rooms, dining room, kitchen and bar, attained a degree of fierce heat on that first hot day of summer, May 15, 1905, when we found it necessary to stand out in the direct heat of 107 degrees in the shade to drink our beer, because the canvas walls and roof of the hotel had stored up the heat all the forenoon until it was unbearable.

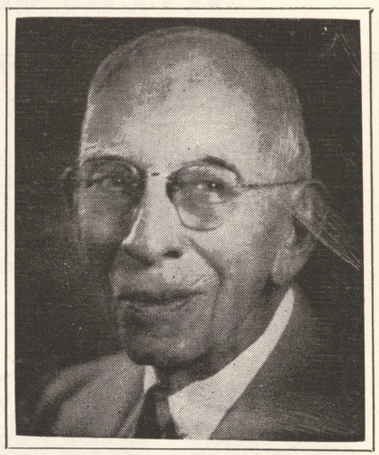
After an attempt by the hotel to serve a "cold lunch" the crowd went back to the slender shade of the mesquite tree where the railroad officials had built the auction stand for auctioneer Ben E. Ward. Ben was not of slender build, but he tried his best to sell lots, while half or more of the crowd were at the railroad station trying to buy tickets home on the evening train to Los Angeles.

However, some of the would-be lot purchasers were pleased that some of the severe competition of the morning session of the auction sale had been removed and so it was easier to bid in the lots of one's choice at a reasonable price. Quite a crowd of people continued to follow the auction sale until the middle of the afternoon when everybody gave up and took such shelter as they could find from the afternoon heat.

Before darkness came over us we noticed something unexpected and unusual. From every direction the course of teams and wagons coming toward Las Vegas were marked by clouds of dust. From McWilliamstown two or three teams were hauling tents with wooden floors and sidewalls and seemed to be hunting for certain lots in Blocks 16 and 17, the only blocks in Clark's Las Vegas Townsite on which the sale of intoxicating liquors was not prohibited.

From the Las Vegas creek, where they had been bragging of the shade all the spring, other tent houses were being brought. Each marked by its own particular cloud of dust, other tents or board shacks were finding their way to the new townsite seeking out the lots their owners had that day bought for them.

Generally the right lot stakes were found. Once or twice there was some conflict as to ownership of lots, but all



were straightened up peacefully without bloodshed. From far out on the prairie at a place where the Fifth Street Elementary School now is, business houses were coming to town from Navajo City.

There was much grading, and spreading, and smoothing of the new locations along Fremont Street between Main and Third streets. I think there were two tents erected that evening on the south side of Fremont, about where the Thrifty Drug Store is now located.

That was really the birth of Las Vegas. When the morning of May 16, 1905, came around, there were three or four saloons, going full steam ahead in Blocks 16 and 17 on First and Second streets. There were about five mercantile houses on Fremont Street, and about five on First and Second streets near Fremont.

It was quite a job for each of those business houses to get a few shelves and perhaps a rough board floor built, but just the same they were in operation.

The start of business by the new townsite was greeted with ridicule by most of the inhabitants of McWilliamstown who had been living there, some of them, for nearly a year. Their business houses and saloons had been in operation, some of them, for as much as a year.

It was obvious to all of those people that their townsite would remain the

(Continued on Page 33)

Accent on
Comfort



THE JOHNSTON & MURPHY SHOE

15.95

"The Navajo"

Arnold's Ltd.

"For the man who prefers only the finest"

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THE WATCHBIRD

. . . by LADY MICHAEL (Michael Neale)

IT SEEMS everybody is "whipping up an act" to appear in Vegas and grab the big dough they're paying here and no where else. The majority of their acts look as though they were "whipped up." Everybody with a big name does not have talent for entertaining on a nightclub floor, as we have witnessed. Now it's heavyweight champ ROCKY MARCIANO who is being submitted here at $7500 per, to emcee and generally act as host. He ought to be utterly charming as a host! Really now! If any of the hotels take him, let's hope he can at least say "hello" with aplomb . . .

OPENING THURSDAY: A uniquely refurbished casino at the Villa Venice. which will proudly boast of the only chemin de fer game in Las Vegas. NOLA HAHN says, and we quote: "Since Monte Carlo honored American's by putting in a game of 'le crap,' we shall put in the favorite game of kings and emperors, on which millions have been won and lost on the turn of a card." Sounds exciting, doesn't it?

JAN MURRAY promised to give us an exclusive! Here it is, two hours to deadline, and we're still waiting . . . LOU HOLTZ and OSCAR LEVANT were in Lindy's some months ago. The waiter handed them menus, which in Lindy's are very large, in fact they border on the gigantic. Oscar called Lindy over and said: "Mind if I take this home with me tonight, I have nothing to read before going to sleep" . . . Rumor hath it that Lou Holtz is looking for a girl who will love him for his money only . . . FRED ALLEN'S acid-etching of MICKY ROONEY: He's the Beverly Hills Toulous-Lautrec . . . It's a well known fact that CHICO MARX is broke. A wag asked him how much he lost. He said: "Go ask HARPO how much he has. That's how much I lost" . . . Don't be the least bit amazed if MILTON BERLE and RUTH COSGROVE marry during his two week stand here . . . JACK CARSON cancelled his June 2nd opening at the Sahara, to appear in Paramount's "Red Garters." He replaces DON TAYLOR. Now who will replace him at the Sahara?

Don't be shocked at that large bucket CECELIA TERRY is toting around. It's to collect pennies to finance her trip to Europe. JOYCE NIVEN collects mink coats. Terry collects pennies . . . ROXANNE REED, stately Sahara showgirl, gets her all-over tan at DR. DOMINQUES solarium at the Desert Inn . . .



It's CANDY KING'S closing engagement at the Last Frontier. She joins the Cover Girls at the Cal-Neva at Lake Tahoe for the summer . . . RITA RICHMAN of the Dottie Dee Dancers, has switched amours from her Greek god to her Roman Angel . . . DONNA JENSEN is a full blooded Cherokee Indian and has a beaded wampum to prove it . . . JEANNE MALONE is ready to give up the trials and tribulations of Hollywood for a chorus job in Vegas . . .

GEORGE GOLDIE and SOL GREEN have acquired a fifty year lease on a strip of Hiway 395, three miles outside of Reno. They will establish the long-threatened trend to build a very-much-needed resort hotel in that part of the state . . . HOWARD BROOKS will open the Sky Harbor at Lake Tahoe June 25th with the RED CAPS and song stylist HADDA BROOKS. This promises to be the late spot at the lake, and for those who do not wish to drive that perilous road to get to the south end, they will have a fleet of limousines at your service. Quelle chic! . . . LOU WALTERS opens his Casino de Paree at the south end of Tahoe, June 26th. The show is fresh out of his New York Latin Quarter . . .

Is it true that certain factions have offered NICK KELLY backing to open his own place here? . . . MILTON

(Continued on Page 32)

SOUTHWEST BEAT

. . . by CARL PAIGE

THIS WEEK our column will be necessarily short! Passing through Las Vegas this weekend, and a mighty good sight it was at that!

I was amazed at the cool weather — Yuma was about 95 degrees when we left, Las Vegas about 65 degrees.

It was so good to see Mr. and Mrs. N. V. Wood again, Ann Richards and daughter "Chris," and other friends. In the trade, only able to contact Bill Binford of KORK.

So amazed at fabulous Las Vegas, from the new "7th One" and Para-a-Dice Inn all the way to Wilbur's new Colonial House — it's great!

Will be back in the fold of Yumans next week, and will say hello from there on "Southwest Beat."

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DAVID Evins

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EL Cortez HOTEL

DOWNTOWN

HELD OVER!!

THE COOPER SISTERS

"Madcaps of Melody"

DICK CURTIS

"Comedy Capers"

EDDIE SKRIVANEK'S SEXTETTE FROM HUNGER

DIXIELAND BAND

Dancing from 9 P. M. 'til 4 A. M.

Show Times: 10 P. M. - 1 A. M. - 3 A. M.



JEST WRITING

. . . by STAN IRWIN

Editor's Note: We will try to bring to our readers a guest column every week, written by a local visiting personality. We thank Mr. Irwin, entertainment director of the Hotel Sahara, for being our first contributor. In the meantime, we are taking a week's vacation. After six years of continuous writing we think it is about time— and that's for sure.



A PROFILE OF JACK CORTEZ . . . It was suggested that I write a profile of Jack Cortez. Those of you who know Jack Cortez realize one thing. With his build there is no profile. The front looks like the back, the back looks like the front, the top looks like the bottom, and the bottom looks like the middle.

Jack has many friends — close friends and acquaintances, some near, some afar, and those afar are closer than those near. He's a man . . . yes, he is a man. In fact. Christine Jorgensen said of him: "Jack Cortez was the prime reason for the changing of my sex." Jack has a wide acquaintance with many wide acquaintances. If his mirth was as big as his girth, it would increase his worth, but it happens to be as small as he was at birth.

Jack is a man who came forth to Las Vegas and was so slow that he came fifth. He is a non-conformist, as can be proven by the shirts he wears and the way he writes. He has a literary style that dates back to the Smithsonian Institution. He has carved a niche for himself in the literary world, which is more than we can say about the literary world carving itself into Jack Cortez.

Carrying on a private survey concerning what people have said when meeting Jack Cortez, I am happy to report that nine out of ten people who were introduced to him said: "Hello."

Jack Cortez is a generous man. He will give you the shirt off his back or the suit off his hanger. And why not? Who else wears his size!

For the short time I have known him, I have found out that his main hobby is dieting. This he does strictly between meals. However, he is a handsome man. When viewed in a dense fog facing the sun at night. He is a man that money can't move; in fact, he is a man that a derrick can't move.

Yearly he turns down offers from large advertising companies to advertise their products, and only because of one stipulation . . . he has to be filled with helium. carry neon tubing on his side, and float three hours nightly up and down the Los Angeles area. Very few people realize that Jack was in the Navy during the last war, not as a sailor, but as one of their blimps.

Jack impresses people in different ways. When his name is mentioned, rich people say: "Who?" When his name is mentioned, the poor people say: "Who?" This led to his believing he is a night owl. In fact, if you say "Who?" to an owl, it will say: "Jack Cortez."

Jack has an enviable reputation on radio in our town. He owns a set on which you cannot get a local station. His reputation as an adventurer and a pioneer is unanimous. He isn't either one.

Truthfully, though, I have known Jack since 1949 and admire him . . . all of him, mainly because he is a man of conviction, is a friend to those in need, and very clever as proven by this column. This is supposed to be a "Profile of Jack Cortez," but, as I said at the beginning, Jack Cortez has no profile.

SILVER SLIPPER

SPECIAL PARTY BINGO

6 CARDS $3

ENTIRE AFTERNOON'S PLAY

6 CARDS $3

ENTIRE EVENING'S PLAY

RUNNING SPECIAL
GAMES FROM
$10 TO $100

FREE PARKING
FOR
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"Too Sinful for Broadway"
Says WALTER WINCHELL

FUNNIEST AND BEST SHOW IN TOWN

10 – BIG ACTS – 10

STARRING

THE EBONAIRES
BILLY BARTY

WITH

HANK HENRY
SPARKY KAYE
VALERIE BARD
JIMMY CAVANAUGH
BILL WILLARD
5 PALOMINOS
GEO. REDMAN'S BAND

SHOW TIMES — 9 P. M. - 11 P. M.
1 A. M. - 2:30 A. M.
NO COVER OR MINIMUM

SILVER SLIPPER SALOON
LAST FRONTIER VILLAGE

Phone 1800

TABLE-HOPPING

. . . By MARY JANE BURROUGHS

EVENT of the week was the APPLE VALLEY WILD FLOWER INVITATIONAL GOLF TOURNAMENT held in APPLE VALLEY, CALIF. . . . A good time was had by all; and WE WON, too! . . . Our own CHARLIE TEEL came in first . . . BOB TAYLOR (of Henderson) was second and JACK NELSON third . . . Also winners were RUBE JOLLEY and MIKE NECHAK who had 4 out of 8 in the Calcutta Pool . . . Social touch was the steak-fry, the second night of the tournament, for the golfers and their wives . . .

Belated anniversary greetings to SANDY and BARBARA SAUNDERS . . . celebrated their third wedding anniversary . . . BARBARA is a COPA dancer at the SANDS, and SANDY is bartending at the COLONIAL HOUSE.

The new blonde cigarette girl at the DESERT INN is KENNY WALKER'S wife, FREDDIE . . . yes, KENNY is still on the graveyard shift at DUFFY'S . . . (how well I know!) . . .

Have you seen BILL BARTY yet? . . . He's a little guy, 3' 10" . . . with a dynamic personality and is currently "rocking the rafters" at the SILVER SLIPPER . . . with his music and antics as a comedian . . .

FINALLY, after a two-year lapse, heard from ALEX HENIG . . . remember ALEX wrote for this magazine, titled "Round the Clock with the Rounders." . . . We've had numerous inquiries as to where and what . . . so now we have answers! . . . ALEX is a maitre d' in LAKE GEORGE SAGAMOR HOTEL in BOLTON LANDING in NEW YORK . . . Sends best wishes to all, would love a word from you now and then . . .

Regular visitors to our city are MRS. ESTHER ROBERTS and blonderful daughter, SHIRLEY . . . Husband BERNIE ROBERTS will join them at the SANDS HOTEL this week-end . . . MR. ROBERTS is owner of the MODELINE COMPANY in CALIFORNIA . . . One of the country's outstanding manufacturers of lamps . . .

Another new cigarette girl . . . ELLIE ROGERS at the THUNDERBIRD HOTEL . . . ELLIE worked at the EL RANCHO VEGAS a short time ago and made many friends . . . We know you'll love the 'BIRD, Ellie . . . Truly a break for you . . . as well as for KATIE JENKINS, your employer . . .

JIMMY BILBRAY'S SHOE SALON didn't open at the COLONIAL HOUSE last week, as was planned, due to unavoidable delay in shipments . . . But wait . . . girls — for some of the most



beautiful . . . latest styles . . . it won't be much longer . . . and will be well worth your time! . . .

Back in our midst, at the FLAMINGO HOTEL, are ANDY and DELLA RUSSELL . . . a great singing team who have been currently starring with the David Rose show . . .

Happy to see LARRY MUSHKIN and wife, MAE, building such a terrific business in their store . . . LARRY'S SHOE STORE on North Fourth . . . one of their best customers, LOUISE (co-owner of PATIO FLOWER SHOP), bought seven pairs of shoes because she couldn't resist the savings on these nationally known brands . . . few more customers like this and we KNOW your store will be a success! . . .

A new shop is to open around June 15, called MILA DE MEXICO . . . It will be where the old Desert Galleries used to be, on Highway 91 . . . The shop will feature hand-painted skirts and dresses and is to be one of the most amazing stores of its kind in America!

Glad to see ABE FELLER back and in business at his RESTAURANT CAPRI . . . also to see his place booming with business! . . .

I know her many friends join me in wishing a speedy recovery for MRS. BUDDY MORGAN . . . (HOTEL SAHARA) . . . who is in the Good Samaritan Hospital in Los Angeles . . . We're all pulling for you, EMMA! . . .

Another story-book-dream-come-true is that of young dancing genius ROY

(Continued on Page 33)

The **PLAYLAND**

FIRST AND CARSON • DOWNTOWN

A GEORGE PARRY ENTERPRISE — OPEN 24 HOURS

★ RESTAURANT

★ ARCADE

★ BAR

Las Vegas' finest

CHINESE and AMERICAN

CHOP SUEY — CHOW MEIN

CHICKEN EGG ROLL

SWEET AND SOUR PORK

WATERCHESTNUT CHOP SUEY

— ALSO —

CHINESE DINNERS FAMILY STYLE
Served Around the Clock at Most Reasonable Prices

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★ ★ ★ YOU'LL WIN ALL THREE WAYS ★ ★ ★

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OUR DEALER'S SPECIALS
ARE THE TALK OF THE TOWN

FOR THE FINEST ITALIAN DISHES

VISIT . . .

The WESTERNER

23 FREMONT STREET, LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

WHAT'S DOIN'?

. . . with JOHNNY UHLMAN

CAN ANYONE explain a cold wind coming from the south at this time of the year? The coldest nights on record for this time of the year, too! Until a few nights ago I had never had any frozen assets . . . then I was asked to drive some place in a convertible with the top down. I suppose you are supposed to feel sporty that way, but all I could feel was numb. Right here I was gonna say that I was "frozen to the nub," which you've heard people say many times. Then I got to wondering just to what point I'd be refrigerated if my "nub" was frozen. After delving into my Webster's New School and Office Dictionary, I've come to the conclusion that I should hope to die if ever I got that cold. See if you don't agree with me after you've looked it up!

(Here's another sneaky build-up to a punch line) . . . Most of you have, at one time or another, seen the diminutive chef who walks along our Hiway 91 to and from work. Most of the time he is wearing his tall white chef's hat and a bulky jacket. One day the wind was blowing and I warned him that, if he didn't take to carrying some ballast, the wind would catch him and he'd fly into Moapa Valley before he knew it . . . and right then it happened . . . (ya ready?) . . . "the wind blew and the chef flew"!

"ANY THREE OF A KIND" and you win a JACKPOT at BUCKLEY'S JACKPOT CLUB on downtown Fremont Street! The newest type of play on the newest type of machines, according to PAT; and this guy, Pat Buckley, has a string of "firsts" under his belt when it comes to this field of entertainment. By this "any three of a kind" he means that if you line up three bells, plums, oranges, peaches, pears, pomegranates, apricots, numbers, figures, bars . . . anything that happens to be on that particular machine . . . if you line up three of them across the center line, you'll jingle a JACKPOT in your jeans in short order! There's plenty o' ways to beat Buckley's and the people who play there prove it.

COURTNEY carries some of the classiest clothes to be found on the Strip. And that statement will be backed by a lot of satisfied customers. I rarely drive by his shop at THE COLONIAL HOUSE but what my eyes are automatically drawn to his expertly dressed windows, and to note the style and taste shown in the choices made. You can depend on whatever Bert tells you, 'cause he knows what's best concerning his line of business.



Have you taken a whirl at that Chinese food at the PLAYLAND CAFE? "Shorty" WOO serves it 24 hours a day and, believe you me, it's the best. I really love a big bait of Chinese food late at night (or early in the ayem, I guess you'd call it) just shortly before calling it an evening. "Shorty" has spent thousands of dollars redecorating and putting in new equipment in his restaurant, and now has one of the cleanest places to be found downtown . . . and certainly the BEST to be found in Chinese food; 'Course they'll serve you anything you want down there, in case you don't care for the Oriental touch.

They've been having such crowds at the HACIENDA CLUB in North Las Vegas that they had to rearrange the setup of the room to make more room for dancing. Shuffled the pit around a bit, and it not only makes more room but makes for a better set-up all around, it seems to me. Attractive and blonde CAROLE LaVERNE is dealing the No. 1 twenty-one table and says she's never worked for nicer people than ROY RITNER and TEX DIEHL. . . . In the music department we still have the popular NEVADA RIDERS under the able leadership of likeable RAY BUTLER.

(Continued on page 31)

GET THIS FOR EXTRA STYLE . . .

Arrow Stay-Roll



5.00

Christensen's
MEN'S WEAR
316 FREMONT STREET
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

PHONE 1001

OPEN SATURDAY NIGHTS
UNTIL 8:30

RENO BEAT . . .

by ART STEAGALL

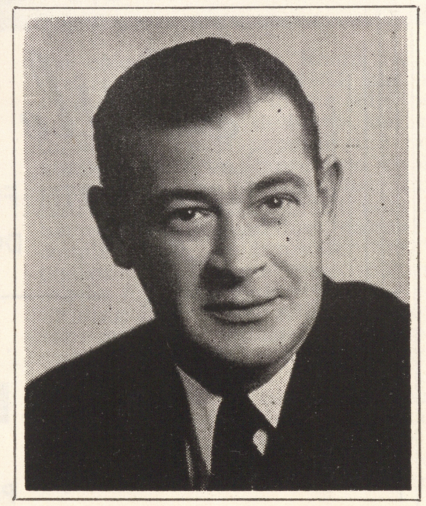
TONIGHT, Saturday, five of the most beautiful and talented young ladies in the State of Nevada will vie for the title of MISS NEVADA and a chance to represent this state in the MISS AMERICA contest to be held in Atlantic City this coming September. The show will take place at the State Building in Reno. MISS BEATRICE KAY will act as mistress of ceremonies and introduce each girl.

The contest committee of the Reno Junior Chamber of Commerce has taken great pains in selecting all OUT-OF-STATE judges to be present at the contest. These judges, five in number, will meet with the contestants at a luncheon Saturday noon. This will give the judges an opportunity of talking with the contestants and go over the various rules, etc.

The contestants will appear on stage in street dress, in an evening gown, and in a bathing suit, and will be judged on beauty, personality and talent.

Each of the following towns are expected to send representatives: Reno, MISS BEVERLY GRIGGS . . . Las Vegas, MISS JEANNIE McCOLL . . . Yerington, MISS CONSTANCE CRAWFORD . . . Tonopah and Ely have not announced the names of their hopefuls as yet . . . so as we go to press on the eve of the event we wish the best of luck to all . . .

AGVA: AL VEGOD of Oakland has replaced GENE RIDDLE as drummer with EDDIE FITZPATRICK'S orchestra at the MAPES. GENE joined BILL CLIFFORD at the RIVERSIDE . . . MIN LEVY, of Astor Pictures in San Francisco, in Reno over the week-end . . . HELEN WABBE and MAS MAURADA of Los Angeles — they have a personal management agency there — also in town. MAC pulled a line that I love. Talking of a comic, said Mac: "He started at the bottom and liked it so well that he stayed there." . . . B'day greetings to VAN WINKLER . . . the CALIFORNIA INDIANS climaxed a five day "shoot" here with a banquet in the MAPES SKYROOM . . . FRITZI STROH, who operated an art school in New York, here now and raving about the beauty of Nevada . . . Good news from England: There are a few seats still unsold for the coronation. If you hurry you can still make it . . . A very successful benefit dinner was held in the REDWOOD ROOM of the RIVERSIDE HOTEL Sunday. THE UNITED JEWISH APPEAL raised better than $10,000. The LANCERS and MISS BEATRICE KAY were present at the



dinner. MISS CHARLOTTE HUNTER, entertainment chairman, did a swell job in setting it up. Among those who helped were the PARKERS, owners of Reno's leading western store, and the GINSBURGS, who own the HOME FURNITURE STORE . . . Good luck to the newly opened TRADE WINDS, a beautiful restaurant that will feature foods from the Orient . . . We are now waiting for FOUR dimension pictures; that is, THREE dimension with a story.

CURRENT SHOWS: The GOLD ROOM started their second week of a highly entertaining show, featuring the CAPITOL RECORDING QUARTETTE, THE FOUR KNIGHTS. These boys do some nice arrangements of old and new favorites. Featured also is the comedy of HELEN BOICE, who has given up working at the piano in favor of working in front of a mike. She has always done a great job here and this trip is no exception — the Reno audiences love her. DAVID POWELL, who combines dancing with drumsticks, has a very fast paced routine, and does it well . . . GARWOOD VAN and his orchestra and the GOLDEN GIRLS complete the show.

The MAPES SKYROOM also goes into a second week with lovely MARGARET PHELAN, a gal with a good voice, swell delivery and some very great special material. The DORNAN BROTHERS supply the comedy and their bit that they do with the help of four people from the audience, to me,

(Continued on Page 31)

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"CURTAIN TIME"

SHOW REVIEWS OF STAGE AND SCREEN PERSONALITIES APPEARING THIS WEEK IN FABULOUS LAS VEGAS

Flamingo

May 28 thru June 10
(Not a Review)
Show: Dave Rose, Andy and Della Russell, Rafael Mendez
Line: Flamingo Starlets
M.C.: Herb Flemington
Mural Room: Bobby Page and Orchestra

Another conspicuous first in the Flamingo Room! DAVID ROSE and his "Holiday for Strings" Revue! Mr. Rose is concluded to be one of America's outstanding young composers, and reached a lasting popularity with his great composition of the perennial favorite, "Holiday for Strings." He brings with him for this first engagement on any nightclub stage, THIRTY master musicians who will, with his conduction, play thrilling arrangements of his more popular compositions, along with some of the well known semi-symphonic melodies of the day . . . More stars! ANDY and DELLA RUSSELL return to Las Vegas after all too long an absence to lend their lovable personalities and untold talents to the success of this review. The presence of beautiful, brown-eyed Della on any

(Continued on Page 17)

LAST FRONTIER

May 18 thru June 1
Show: Margaret Whiting, Jimmy Wakeley, "Excess Baggage"
Line: Devlyn Dancers, featuring Roy Fitzell and Dolores Frazzini
Orch.: Bob Millar
Gay '90 Bar: Tommy Doyle Trio, Buster Hallett Trio, Bill Britt Trio

A greater-than-ever MARGARET WHITING, the smooth western songstylings of JIMMY WAKELY and a dash of dogdom bring an outstanding round of entertainment to the stage of the colorful Ramona Room . . . The exciting MISS WHITING has added a touch of frivolity to the solid beat of her sincere song delivery and romps through a dozen popular and novelty numbers with an impressive display of versatility. The tremendously popular radio and recording artist puts across her songs with a mellow, natural style, coupled with an intimate "feel" that transmits to her audience, making the reason for her popularity very clear . . . Smiling JIMMY WAKELY displays the showmanship, wholesome personality and talent that he has parlayed into movie and musical greatness in the highly competitive field of western song stylists. Backed up by a trio of vocalizing musicians, the personable radio star delivers western tunes in a catchy style that has his listeners "yipping"

(Continued on Page 29)

El Rancho Vegas

May 27 thru June 9
(Not a Review)
Show: Katherine Dunham and Her Review
Orch.: Bob Ellis
Steak House: Guy Landis and Jim DiStephano, Chuy Miranda and Paul Gardos

We are most happy to welcome back KATHERINE DUNHAM and her dancers after a successful engagement at the Fairmont Hotel in San Francisco. KATHERINE DUNHAM is the world's leading exponent of the sensuous native dancers of the West Indies who have traveled the world to thunderous applause and acclaim. The company consists of 22 musicians, singers and dancers, and we are looking forward to another outstanding and most enjoyable performance. To the very few who do not know of "Miss D" — we would like to give a brief resume: She danced and acted in the smash Broadway hit "Cabin in the Sky," which led to Hollywood and "Star Spangled Rhythm" and "Stormy Weather." Her own brilliant productions which she conceived and directed, "Tropical Review" and "Bal Negre," scored sensational successes the length and breadth of the United States



and Canada. The tremendous personal appeal and success of KATHERINE DUNHAM prompted S. Hurok, impresario par excellent, to pay her this tribute in his book of memoirs: "The story of Katherine Dunham is one of the seven-day wonders of the American Entertainment world." BOB ELLIS and his orchestra supply the background music and play for your dancing pleasure.

Wilbur Clark's DESERT INN

May 19 thru June 8
Show: Jane Powell, Darvas & Julia, Frank Libuse and Margot Brander, Marquis and Family
Line: Donn Arden Dancers
M.C.: Don McKay
Orch: Carlton Hayes
Lady Luck Bar: Grover-Shore Trio, Danny Cassella and Orchestra, May-Caruso Trio

In this triple-star show you will find one of the greatest assemblages of diversified talent in some time! Beauteous and sweet Miss JANE POWELL steps forth in song with a well placed soprano voice that had the first-nighters wrangling for more at the end of her performance. Miss Powell displays a wealth of technique in her presentation of "The Jewel Song" from Faust, then shows evidence of wide versatility by following that number with an original by her accompanist, EARL BRENT, that covers all phases of the blues. Her program selection includes all types of singing, and she seemingly adopts a personality to fit each one . . . DARVAS AND JULIA! Here is an amazing dance team that will never cease to astound you and thrill you, no matter how many times you see them perform! The sauve sophistication of Darvas and the beauty and charm of Julia are matched only by the thrilling feats of their performance. These two have mastered split-second timing and complete physical control to bring you the utmost in thrilling entertainment . . . "The Mad Waiter," FRANK LIBUSE, is here again, and the Painted Desert Room

(Continued on Page 29)

SAHARA

May 19 thru June 2
Show: Jan Murray, Toni Arden, The Langs
Line: Moro-Landis Sa-Harem Dancers
Orch.: Cee Davidson
Casbar: Jose Mellis Trio, Three Majors and Al Day Trio

JAN MURRAY, radio and TV comedy star, has returned to Las Vegas and was welcomed by a packed room of fans. Jan won over every member of his audience from the moment he walked onstage. Although the lad claimed "first night jitters," he appeared to be completely at ease and delivered his individual brand of comedy with a solid impact. The handsome funster specializes in the type of stories that bring memories to all who listen. He embraces his audience with his ingratiating manner and infectious wit. He is a master of comicry and showmanship. Jan Murray will long retain his niche on the ladder of success . . . Petite TONI ARDEN is one of our leading songstresses. Her beautiful voice fills everyone with love of music and song. She is truly America's dramatic song stylist. No matter which adjective you use about Miss Arden, you couldn't exaggerate. She is one of the most gifted people in show business. Her humble attitude is one that en-

(Continued on Page 27)

The Sands

May 20 thru June 9
Show: Tallulah Bankhead, The Clark Brothers, Hi, Low, Jack and the Dame
Line: Copa Girls
Orch.: Ray Sinatra
Silver Queen Bar: Johnny White, Ernie Stewart and Arnie Koppitch Trios

Las Vegans could very easily become blase as a result of the many stars who have appeared in our local spots.

However, when word got out that MISS TALLULAH BANKHEAD was opening as the star and making her debut in the nightclub circuit, telephones jangled crazily and a countless number of patrons demanded more reservations than were available. Unless you're present you just can't imagine the tremendous ovation that greets this great and talented star of stage, screen and radio when she offers a dramatic bit, "Phone Call," and a hilarious comedy skit, "Gaming Room." She has the patrons sharing both moods. Everyone admired Miss Bankhead's superb presentation and truly a most gracious performance . . . On the same bill are the

(Continued on Page 27)

Thunderbird

May 28 thru June 17
(Not a Review)
Show: James Melton, John Sebastian, Dorothy Jarnac, Los Gatos
Line: Kathryn Duffy Dansations
Orch.: Al Jahns
M.C.: Barney Rawlings
Navajo Lounge, Jack Martin Five, Normandie Boys

Appearing in our city for the first time is "America's favorite tenor" and a great personality, JAMES MELTON. The musical career of James Melton, star of opera, concert, radio, television, recordings and screen, is known to audiences all over the country. He offers an irresistible combination of talent and personal warmth. Mr. Melton is one of today's top singing stars on television. and was the first to have his own show on a nationwide scale. A fluent linguist, he catches the mood of Italian, French and German classics as skillfully as those of his native tongue . . . Once again we have the pleasure of seeing and hearing the harmonica virtuosity of one JOHN SEBASTIAN, a young good-looking entertainer who not only plays a lot of harmonica, but has a few comedy kicks up his sleeve. Appearing with John is a pixie-like dance humorist by the name of DOROTHY

(Continued on Page 29)

El Cortez

May 21 thru June 3
Show: Cooper Sisters, Dick Curtis
Orch: Eddie Skrinanek's Sextette from Hunger
Buncaneer Bar: The Instrumentalists, The Star-Kings

Held over by popular demand are those super COOPER SISTERS! Three times a night these two unpredictables appear in the Pirates Den, and three times a night they are wowing the audiences. Audrey plays straight to the

(Continued on Page 29)

SILVER SLIPPER SALOON

Show: "Too Sinful for Broadway," Ten Big Acts
Line: Marah Gates Palominos
M.C.: Jimmy Cavanaugh
Orch: George Redman

An all-new extravaganza, getting its title from the comment made by Walter Winchell when he visited here and saw one of these shows. This is true slapstick burlesque, and, when taken in the light it is intended, is the greatest entertainment on earth. Newcomers to local niteries are THE EBONAIRES, four young men who sing with a good blend and a beat that's unbeatable. These up and coming recording stars do a variety of arrangements and have a bass singer with them who really gets down in the basement vocally . . . Another new member of these Silver Slipper shows is an unforgettable little fellow, BILLY BARTY, billed as "Four Feet of Dynamite" and he goes like a house-on-fire. Sings, dances, plays trumpet and does some tumbling. A lot of drive the whole time he is on. You

(Continued on Page 29)

TO: EVERYONE at the SAHARA

It's been wonderful again!

Second appearance within six months!



Thanks, for everything

Jan Murray

HILLSWAY

. . . by ROLAND HILL

Editor's Note: A continuation of Mr. Hill's observations in Copenhagen, during his European travels).



THE PALACE HOTEL Viking dining room deserves a word. It is off the lobby and wide open with a fantastic use of green and white umbrellas, yellow table cloths, green furniture, red carpeting throughout, all terraced with an oval skylight that is covered in an ingenious way with white and yellow shirred striped cloth. Court in center is of cement, planted with trees and potted plants and shrubs. There is a dance floor, too. Japanese lanterns are all over. Fantastic and fine is all I can say. I found myself dining here often.

Frederiksbergade Street, just off City Hall Square, is the best shopping district. It changes its name at will and by the time you wander its full length to the d'Angleterre Hotel Square, you will have gone on at least six differently named streets. It winds along like Last Chance Gulch — the main street out in Helena, Mont. But Frederiksbergade is quaint, charming, and restful; you'll love it. Stores for tourists along this street include the ROYAL COPENHAGEN PORCELAIN COMPANY and the BING & GRONDAHL PORCELAIN COMPANY.

JULIUS KOPP is a good big men's and women's store and excellent choices are offered, should you be in the market for clothes. Cafe METROPOLE and many little chocolate and tea shops will beckon you in again and again. What Danish pastries! Don't be shocked if you find men getting permanents alongside the women in the Herrer Frisor or Damer Frisor. It is as common as cutting your hair. They all do it and, had I had more hair on my head, I know I would have succumbed, too. Be sophisticated and don't bat an eyelash.

The little SNAP CAFETERIA across from the Frascati Restaurant is an American soda fountain of sorts — but why one wants to always go American as much as possible when abroad is something I cannot understand.

There is a good newsreel at the Central Station near Tivoli Gardens. And here is a good tip to remember — at Central Station there is also an excellent travel bureau that gets you any kind of accommodations and rooms you prefer, should you find yourself without a place to hang your hat — pardon me, beret. Yes, you'll be wearing one, too, once you have gotten this far inside Europe.

A small restaurant I almost forgot is the INDUSTRIEN Restaurant at Borgersgrade 2, with first class French cuisine. It evidently belongs to labor unions and the figures and wood carvings of workers are beautiful. Small, intimate and cozy; a good place to relax over a beer or to dine in style. And, don't miss coffee hour (2 to 5) in the TERMINUS HOTEL, just across from Central Station. The domed stained glass ceiling, almost Tiffany-like, like the glass curtain in the opera house in Mexico City, the plush carpeting, the rich Louis XIV furnishings in this almost "hall of tapestries," and the silver coffee service and Danish cakes and pastries will make you hate to miss a single afternoon here. Just like being invited to tea where liveried servants wait on you in grand drawing rooms on Park Avenue or at Palm Beach.

You know by now I really hated to leave Copenhagen — wonderful Copenhagen, as the song goes — and this also means leaving the Scandinavian countries where you feel so at home; nothing seems strange. LIVE LIFE, DON'T JUST PASS THROUGH IT, has been my motto for years and I find the Scandinavians do just that — they really live!

Now, we are on our way to Germany to do all of Southern Europe. I'll not dwell on these countries as much because I realize you all know much more about them — few go to the Scandi-

(Continued on Page 25)

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HOLLYWOOD HAPPENINGS ... by TED WICK

HOLLYWOOD, where oddities are the rule rather than the exception, could be combed for a weird assortment of characteristics among its renowned personalities. Trademarks is perhaps the correct word for the distinguishing traits of cinema celebrities. Anyway, by their quirks ye have known them.

Lionel Barrymore's wheezy tones, Bette Davis' gestures while smoking, Tallulah Bankhead's gutteral laughter and Betty Hutton's madcap antics are but a few of the recognizable traits which set these players apart from their fellows.

Frequently these oddities of conduct and character are exploited to the hilt during a performance, simply because the movie public wants it that way.

It wouldn't be Jean Arthur, for example, without that hollow yet penetrating voice, to be heard again in an epic film titled "Shane," in which she is co-starred with Alan Ladd and Van Heflin. It is a voice compounded of tearful desperation and elfin charm, according to George Stevens, who directed Miss Arthur in "Shane."

"Jean's delivery always puts me in mind of sounds issuing at once from Peter Pan and a woman in distress," Stevens says. "Here is a voice almost impossible to analyze and difficult to train to a director's bidding, but you wouldn't have Jean Arthur without it."

To explore further the field of oddities, there is the famous node in Bing Crosby's throat which makes his singing voice unique. Other items literally on the curio shelf are Humphrey Bogart's lisp, Groucho Marx's crouching lope, Billy Gilbert's frequent sneezes and Maurice Chevalier's protruding underlip.

Then, too, there are such marks of identification as Jimmy Cagney's habit of hitching up his trousers, Veronica Lake's peek-a-boo hair style and the taciturn vocal delivery of the strong, silent men like Gary Cooper with their monosyllabic "Yup."

Fernando Lamas, an Argentine star who came to Hollywood where he won stardom again, says the most gratifying thing about his work in films is the opportunity it gives him to meet American girls! "Her freedom and independence make an American girl an exciting companion," he says with a smile. "American girls are frank and free of subterfuge." Well, looks like Lamas met the right American girls . . . Jerry Lewis and Dean Martin are off for Europe on a tour of top theatres and army bases. Keeping the home fires burning are their wives, who never accompany them on business trips . . . Elizabeth Taylor's injured eye has healed and she's due to face the cameras soon again in "Elephant Walk." This is the hard-luck movie of the year. Miss Taylor's predecessor in the starring role, Vivien Leigh, had to withdraw after several weeks work because of illness . . . Gordon Cole, who heads the property department at Paramount, has his hands full these days. At one and the same time he is working with elephants for "Elephant Walk" and tiny ants for "The Naked Jungle" . . . Dick Powell says he'll probably never be an actor again. Success of "Split Second" convinces him his future lies in directing, and he'll megaphone his wife, June Allyson, in a movie later this year . . . Alan Ladd returns to the United States in August after a busy movie making schedule abroad for over a year. But he and his family will visit Denmark and Sweden before crossing the Atlantic . . . But they won't tarry long in the United States since Alan must report in Canada for another picture . . . His performance in George Stevens' "Shane" already has previewers predicting an Academy oscar for the likable Ladd . . . Arlene Dahl has auditioned her own radio show as summer replacement for the Doris Day program. But Arlene won't sing — she'll give beauty hints to milady if the program finally materializes.

Bing Crosby has purchased 100 acres of ground near Hayden Lake in Idaho, just about 40 miles from Spokane. He'll build himself a hideaway there . . . Crosby already has a summer home at Hayden Lake but he'll sell this when the new one is completed . . . You won't be seeing first run motion pictures on television until there are at least four times the number of sets now in operation. That's the opinion of Dore Schary, top MGM executive. As things now stand there simply isn't enough money in the TV market to pay for new feature films . . . Looking for a nice, comfy home? Lana Turner's is for sale. The price is only $175,000 — but that's not bad considering the spot has eight built-in television sets! . . . Lana, incidentally, is not included in the deal . . . There may be more Cadillacs in Hollywood than anywhere else in the world, but one Beverly Hills agency reports it had to repossess 42

(Continued on Page 27)

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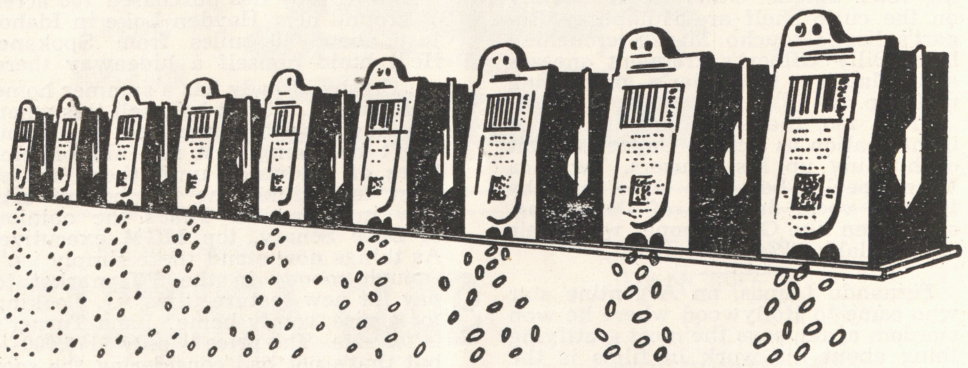

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WILLIE SHORE
and
ROSE MARIE

DESERT INN

JUNE 9 THRU JULY 6
Noel Sherman's
MERMAID CAPERS
STARRING
JOHNNY WEISMULLER

LAST FRONTIER

JUNE 1 THRU JUNE 28
PAUL WHITEMAN
His Orchestra
and Revue

SAHARA

JUNE 30 THRU JULY 13
VAUGHN MONROE
JOEY BISHOP
THE SZONYS

El Rancho Vegas

JUNE 10 THRU JUNE 23
GORDON MacRAE
with
SHEILA STEPHENS
STEVE GIBSON
and His Red Caps

The Sands

JUNE 10 THRU JUNE 23
ROBERT MERRILL
LOUIS ARMSTRONG
JUNE 24 THRU JULY 14
LENA HORNE

Thunderbird

JUNE 18 THRU JULY 1
DIOSA COSTELLO
and the
SLATE BROS.
JULY 2 THRU JULY 22
GALE STORM

HILLSWAY:

(Continued from Page 21)

navian countries in comparison with Italy, France and England and so I have tried to bring you more of a picture of Norway, Sweden, Finland and Denmark than I will have to in telling about the balance of Europe.

Now to travel south through Europe: I certainly hated to leave wonderful Copenhagen but I know that much was in store for me on the rest of the continent. While I know that my readers are not bus riders, I am going to insist that the very best way for you to see Europe is by bus and by LINEJEBUSS in particular.

Linjebuss is a Swedish bus-line operated by the A. Johnson & Company located at Riddargatan 19, Stockholm, Sweden, with American offices at 61 Broadway, New York City. No mode of travel on the continent could possibly be more efficient, less costly, nor more comfortable, with the maximum of sight-seeing made available to the riders.

Each bus is equipped with two courteous young drivers, a hostess that speaks every language in the countries in which the bus operates, a snack bar, a radio and loud-speaker and a lavatory. As you glide along, the hostess tells you what you are seeing and some history of the countries, etc.

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(Continued on Page 27)



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KAY PARSONS

NIGHTLY AT THE PLAYLAND — IN THE COCKTAIL LOUNGE

(Your Girl o' Yesterday)

HOLLYWOOD:

(Continued from Page 23)

cars last month. Those losing their caddies were not movie folk, but mainly hot oil operators whose wells never came in . . . James Mason made a record album of scenes from "Julius Caesar," but the discs are gathering dust in warehouses because Mason refuses to sign a contract permitting their sale unless MGM pays him more money! . . . New definition of an old-fashioned girl: An actress who still works only in radio! . . . When Danny Kaye is in Washington for the White House Photographers dinner he'll give President Eisenhower a golf lesson, if time permits. Danny shoots in the low 70s consistently . . . Shades of his father! John Barrymore Jr. paid a traffic fine for speeding, walked out of the courtroom and across the street to his parked car. Up stepped a police officer and gave him another traffic ticket — this time for jay-walking!

HILLSWAY:

(Continued from Page 25)

I cannot impress upon you too much the importance of this mode of travel in Europe. I recommend you get in touch with the Johnson Company in New York City before you plan your trip and let them plan it for you. You can have stop-overs in various cities and they will have your room reserved for you for as long as you want. Then you can get on another Linjebuss and continue on your way.

I Linjebussed from Copenhagen to Rome, back to Nice and then picked it up again at Paris and took it back to Copenhagen. My entire trip was less for room and board and transportation than I would pay for train fare alone from Los Angeles to New York. If Greyhound did this in our country, I fear we would all travel that way, instead of by private car.

(More on Southern Europe in next week's edition).

SAHARA:

(Continued from Page 18)

dears her to all. Once you see and hear Toni Arden, you're just bound to love her . . . THE FIVE LANGS seem to have developed many more thrilling acrobatics since their last local stint. Armed only with their springboard and physical capacities, the Langs perform stunts that have you gasping in awe and admiration. Their timing is perfection, their routines breathtaking. We actually cringed when the blindfold stunt was introduced . . . THE CAVALIERS and JOAN LARSON offer a striking vocal background for the MORO-LANDIS production numbers . . . The SA-HAREM DANCERS perform with such precision and beauty they draw blatant applause . . . Featured with the dancers in their closing numbers are FREDDIE LETULI, ARONA SU'A and LANI McINTIRE. Lani does a marvelous hula while Freddie makes the room tingle with his drum antics. When Freddie and Arona combine to perform authentic knife dances, look out! Those knives are sharp . . . CEE DAVIDSON and his music makers are superb and their musical background is one to be envied by competitors. Opening Tuesday, June 2. is the sensational quartet, THE AMES BROTHERS. Costarring on the same bill will be comedian JACK CARTER.

FLAMINGO:

(Continued from page 17)

stage, and the unpredictable antics of Andy, are positive pointers to priceless entertainment . . . One of the greatest masters of the trumpet is also being starred in this revue, RAFAEL MENDEZ! You've undoubtedly heard recordings by this inspired musician, but not until you've actually witnessed a performance in person can you properly appreciate his marvelous mastery of this instrument . . . The FLAMINGO STARLETS bring two new LINDSAY-SAPHIRE PRODUCTIONS which are based on the music of our great composer-conductor, DAVE ROSE. We also welcome back the personable HERB FLEMINGTON, who is the master of ceremonies, as well as doing the vocals for the production numbers . . .

SANDS HOTEL:

(Continued from Page 19)

CLARK BROTHERS, two guys who tap dance "like mad." They are most rhythmical, their challenge dancing is excellent and they are about the finest we've seen in a very long time . . . HI, LOW, JACK and A DAME offer their songs in a "pleasant to listen to" style. They blend their voices in good harmony and present a various array of tunes both novel and popular . . . THE COPA GIRLS are 10 lovelies wearing gorgeous costumes and delivering routines which show versatility and talent . . . Backing the show is that favorite maestro RAY SINATRA, ably assisted by his talented crew of assistants.

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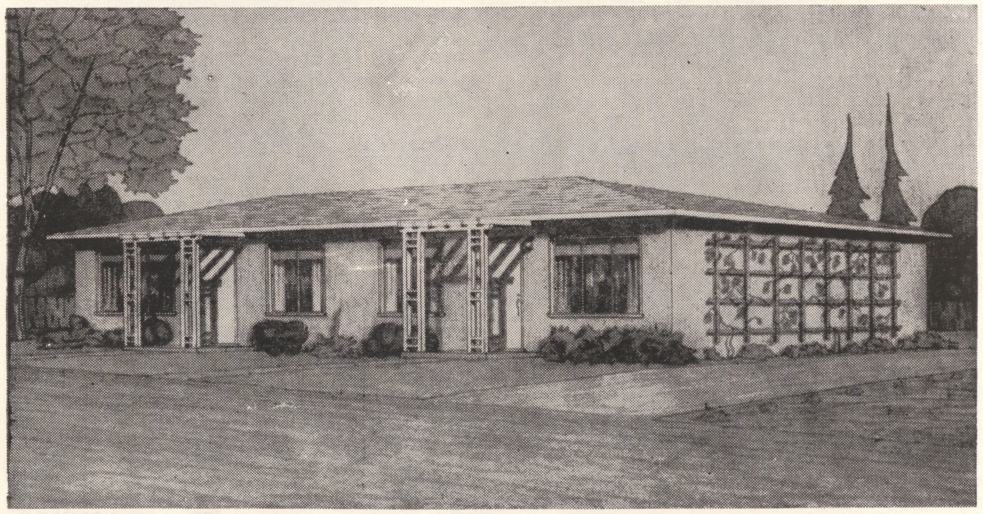

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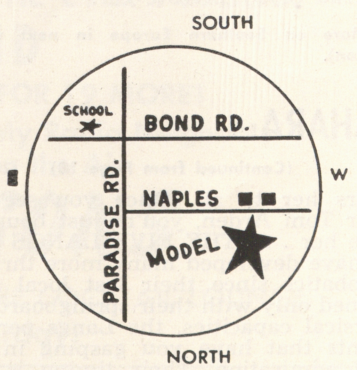

LAST FRONTIER:

(Continued from page 17)

along. Jimmy has a marvelous ability for making people relax and enjoy themselves . . . The doggy bit in the show is served up by the clowning canine comics, "EXCESS BAGGAGE." They are a superbly trained group of Maltese Terriers and English Sheepdogs that caper through their paces in a fast-moving bit of unusual comedy . . . The delightful DEVLYN DANCERS round out the show with a pair of great line numbers, highlighted in the "Carmen Boogie" finale. When you view this remarkable routine you'll join the crowd in tossing verbal bouquets. Miss Devlyn has certainly extended herself in this production. It is magnifique! Featured are ROY FITZELL and DOLORES FRAZZINI. Roy is outstanding with his fancy footwork and rhythmic rollicking . . . BOB MILLAR and his boys present background music that is scintillating and inspiring. Their contribution to the entire production is excellent . . . And remember, June 1, Monday, making his first appearance in our town, PAUL "POPS" WHITEMAN, world famous orchestra leader and showman. We suggest early reservations!

DESERT INN:

(Continued from Page 18)

is utter pandemonium! Appearing with Mr. Libuse is his partner, Miss MARGOT BRANDER. Between these two, the hilarity never lets up from the time they begin right up until they take their last bow. We might offer this suggestion: That you get to your seats as soon as possible before the show. Otherwise you might miss some of the funniest situations you've ever seen . . . MARQUIS and FAMILY is one of the most entertaining animal acts you will ever see, four chimpanzees by the names of MARQUIS, BARON, BARONESS, and little AXEL, who is just one year old. Their trainer, GENE DETROY, has taught them to ride bicycles and even unicycles; dance; hand-balancing; and the way they look in their costumes is in itself worth the price of admission . . . The DONN ARDEN DANCERS return to home grounds once again and open with a number based on "Dark Town Strutter's Ball," featuring the dancing of FLUFF CHARLTON and the singing voice of DON McKAY. Their second offering is a beauty, based on "The Continental" . . . Of course there's always CARLTON HAYES and his wonderful orchestra.

EL CORTEZ:

(Continued from Page 19)

bombastic outbursts of Blanche, and between the two of them they are doing a magnificent job in this room. A note of credit to their conductor and arranger, TONY ROSE. If you've seen them once you'll see them again, 'cause this is one of those acts you can see over and over again . . . never knowing just what is going to happen . . . The male section of this comedy cataclysm is a newcomer by the name of DICK CURTIS, a young man you might keep your eye on for future reference. Dick also acts as the master of ceremonies here . . . Still in full force, and holding their audiences after each show, is EDDIE SKRIVANEK and his SEXTETTE FROM HUNGER! Here are six excellent musicians who do a fine job of cutting the show as well as providing some music that makes you want to dance, no matter how tired you might be.

THUNDERBIRD:

(Continued from page 19)

JARNAC. Following many stints in Broadway shows, this little dancer comes to us for the first time with her own inimitable style . . . Those sensational "acro-cats," LOS GATOS, are here again to thrill you with their fast and "impossible" feats in hand-balancing and in tumbling. These three young artists stop every show! . . . It is another miniature musical by the KATHRYN DUFFY DANSATIONS, in a completely new wardrobe by Elizabeth Owen . . . Your fine production singer and master of ceremonies is BARNEY RAWLINGS

SILVER SLIPPER:

(Continued from Page 19)

may have seen this energetic performer previously on television, as he has appeared on most of the top programs of the day . . . Then we come to the part of these shows which is fast becoming legendary around the country . . . the skits and blackouts which star our favorite comedians, HANK HENRY and SPARKY KAYE, ably assisted by VALERIE BARD, your smilin' master of ceremonies; JIMMY CAVANAUGH, BILL WILLARD and everyone else in the show, including Marah Gates' PALOMINO GIRLS, who display some delectable dance routines . . . Music for these shows is capably and completely controlled by the knowing hand of GEORGE REDMAN.

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WHAT'S DOIN'?

(Continued from Page 13)

A new business undertaken by old friends: ROD MORRIS and his attractive strawberry blonde wife, SUE, have opened a new liquor store at 1232 South Fifth Street. Rod and Sue have a lot of friends around town 'cause they've both been here for a long time and have been connected with gambling in a lot of establishments. Because this place of theirs is a new building and all, I'm gonna tell you right where it is, so you won't miss it. The McPeck Realty Office is in the same building and it is almost directly across the street from the Desert Motors Building. It's called SUE'S LIQUOR STORE and they are open 24 hours a day so, no matter what shift you're working, you can drop in to see them.

It will be a reunion for PAUL WHITEMAN and AL QUODBACH when "Pops" opens next Monday night at the Hotel Last Frontier. Some years ago, when Al owned the famous Granada Cafe in Chicago, "Pops" worked for him with his band, and played coast to coast every night of the year. Al retired when the Granada burned to the ground and since has operated small places from time to time. He recently bought the building housing the Silver Cafe and the LITTLE CASINO, on North First Street, which he now operates.

About a month ago an old friend of mine took over the general managership of SAM BAKER'S VILLA VENICE on the Strip. FRANK LONGO has run almost the same course as I, since we've been in this town, and I'm glad to see him getting ahead. The chef who prepares your choice dishes is another old friend of yours and mine. Did you know that ANTONIO MAZZUCO was at the broiler and barbecue for your satisfaction?

"Mitch" took "Gran'ma" MITCHELL out for her birthday celebration last Monday night as she passed another mark in the pages of history. I call her "Gran'ma" in jest because, to look at her, you'd never guess that RUTHIE MITCHELL was old enough to be spoiling grandchildren. Congratulations, little girl! Theirs is the EMBASSY CLUB in North Las Vegas, where entertainment gets right down to the bare facts.

Now I'm sellin' real estate! I happen to know of a guy who has a little better than two acres for sale just behind the Desert Spa, facing on Morrison Road (that's the road north of the Spa that runs over to the race track). He got 340-foot frontage at less than $200 a front foot. I don't know too much about prices. but that's gonna be good ground before long, it seems to me! . . . Danny Cassella . . . Desert Inn.

POLLY POSSUM, JOE WOLVERTON and the DOGPATCH COUNTY BAND are closing at the GOLDEN NUGGET this next week. As a matter of fact, the Nugget Saloon is closing for remodeling purposes. Gonna expand into the bingo parlor and make it into one big room for bigger shows. Polly and Joe are going back East and we may not see them around here for a while, unless maybe if you all went in and told them how much we'd like to see them back some day soon.

I've just been sittin' here lookin' at this dog of mine. KID is all curled up on her bed, sawin' off the south 40 without a care in the world, while I sit here poundin' my pointin' pinkies to a pulp on this typewriter, eatin' NoDoz tablets to stay awake, and thinkin' about what I have to do tomorrow! Hers is a dog's life? . . . I'll step down!

That'll do it for this week, I guess. When a guy starts feelting sorry for himself it's time to get to doing something! . . . ME? . . . I'm going to bed! . . . So until next time . . . your ever lovin' . . . Johnny.

RENO BEAT:

(Continued from page 15)

is one of the funniest I have seen in a long time . . . JOHNNY BACHEMIN, a terrific dancer, is called Mr. Excitement, and you can see why. He sings, plays a lot of piano, and is one of the fastest dancers that has come along . . . the LOVELY MAPES SKYLETTES and the fine music of EDDIE FRITZPATRICK round out the show . . .

THE THEATRE RESTAURANT of the RIVERSIDE HOTEL opened a new show on Thursday, headed by PETER LIND HAYES and MARY HEALY, and introduces a newcomer to the nightclub circuit, SY MILANO, who was spotted by MERT WERTHEIMER on EDDIE CANTOR'S TV show and signed on the spot. SY has a great voice and does both pop tunes and seim-classics, WARREN, LATONA and SPARKS, a comedy acrobat trio; the lovely RIVERSIDE STARLETS and the music of BILL CLIFFORD and his orchestra are the rest of the show . . .



505 FREMONT ST. PH. 5440

THE WATCHBIRD:

(Continued from page 7)

DEUTSCH, booker for the El Cortez, is planning on bringing big name attractions to that down town popular night spot . . . JACK DENNISON is sporting a brand new convertible, and can't wait to drive the love of his life around when she plays her return engagement here . . . JACK GARN, of the Desert Inn Men's Shop, has been offered a free trip to Europe to travel about searching for unique fashions for men. He departs in August . . . RICKI LA RICOS, Fifi D'Orsay's ex-husband, had the pleasure of meeting TALLULAH BANKHEAD, and still says Fifi sounds huskier when she gets up in the morning. We run a close second in that department . . .

Leftover from Helldorado note: CHUCK GOULD parked his shiny convertible at the Frontier Village, and when he returned half hour later he found the whole back end smashed in. An innocent by-stander explained to him that he'd missed all the fun. A tiny burro, hitched to a wagon for the parade, ran amok and rammed the wagon into the back of the car. Chuck smiled weakly and left to have the cost of the damage toted up. $101.00 said the man. Chuck's smile was even weaker. His insurance covers $100 deductible . . .

Here's something to REALLY try for: Shirley Thomas. femcee of "The Hollywood Story," launched a three week "If I Were Queen Elizabeth" contest for teen-agers in conjunction with the picture "Young Bess." The winner gets a five-day trip to Victoria, B. C.—(probably just where she's always desperately wanted to go!) . . .

DONNA LEE HICKEY landed the much coveted femme role of the girl in "The Caine Mutiny." A wonderful break for a former Copa-chorine . . . BETTY GRABLE'S naughty again and 20th-Fox suspended her for the third time in two years. She refused to be loaned out to Columbia. Now can you blame her? . . . According to MIKE CONNOLLY, GEORGE RAFT told a London interviewer he's quitting pictures because of the many mistakes he's made, among them this: "I never should have admitted I couldn't act. Maybe I was better than I thought I was" . . . This should make VIC DAMONE fans happy. He's booked into the El Rancho for July 15th . . . Our TV favorite, the Kupke Kid, otherwise known as RED BUTTONS, will do two weeks at the Sands the latter part of July . . . JACK CASTANZA, bongo player for ESTELITA, will go back to NAT KING COLE and his group when Nat gets out of the hospital. They are booked for the Cal-Neva . . . JOHNNY GEORGE, one of the fastest crap dealers at the Thunderbird, and popular man-about-town, has resigned to tour South America at his leisure . . .

NELSON EDDY follows the RITZ BROTHERS into the Copa in New York and will probably pack to the rafters the morbidly curious who will attend just to hear his "inhooman" version of "Shortnin' Bread" . . . A big fat tah everso to BOB TWITTY of Locks Laboratories, Mt. Vernon, N. Y., for the Curley Hair Styling Kit that is guaranteed to make your hair curl. And we sure hope it does . . .

LOOK ALIKES: CEIL LINDSAY and MAXINE LEWIS, and both have the same sweet personalities . . .

Long time no see dept.: LOIS SAPHIRE, wife of Don Saphire who choreographs for the Flamingo. We met Lois way back in '45 when we were all hoofing it up a bit in a fun show called "Follow the Girls" . . .

QUESTION OF THE WEEK: Who's good looking, has personality and two hundred dollars? . . .

Last minute notes: Was supposed to get an exclusive interview with the great TALLULAH, but her secretary couldn't find her—well, better luck to us next time . . . Caught a glimpse of wonder-boy CY HOWARD and a very pretty redhead, cocktailing at the Sands . . . From HOWARD CAPPS, pro of the Desert Inn Golf Course, comes word that TOMMY CANINO is hitting them farther and straighter than ever . . . LARRY KERT, formerly of the Beau Jesters, opens at the Last Frontier as both production singer and dancer. His debut is June 1st . . . MEL GREENE, of Chicago, is hear for a fortnit' with a dozen cronies, to prove all the wonderful things he's heard about our town are true. So far, nothing has been exagerated, he claims, and hates to waste time on sleep . . .

Marc Wilkinson
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POP SQUIRES:

(Continued from Page 5)

permanent city. It was, they thought, evident that the first townsite, McWilliamstown, was too well established to be changed. People would stick to the old townsite. Why should they take the trouble to move?

Yet here we could see quite a defection of loyalty from the old town to the new. McWilliams, himself. poopooed the idea that even the new railroad could take business from the established town and move it to the new.

The new First State Bank, backed strongly by Mr. J. Ross Clark and other officials, had bid in the lots corner of Fremont and Second on which to establish business. But Mr. Park, the proposed cashier, felt that was too far out. So in a day or two when the First and Fremont street lots were released by the original bidder, the bank promptly bought them for their bank.

Within a day or two a gang of men were furiously working on the little two story frame building in which the First State Bank opened in about a week. And the Second and Fremont street site where the Shell oil station is now located was taken by our little group as a site for a palatial hotel which never materialized.

A short time later Judge W. R. Thomas announced that he would build on the corner where Bill Ferron's Las Vegas Pharmacy has been for many years. He bought the brick kiln established by Pete and Frank Buol to get the bricks with which to build. Practically all of us judged that the bricks were too soft to stand long in the walls of a building, but Judge Thomas went ahead just the same and built the first good building in town, which is still housing the drug store. If you examine those bricks you will see that those very soft bricks hardened with the application of mortar.

Somewhere among my papers I have a list issued by the Las Vegas Land and Water Company, showing the name of the purchaser and the purchase price of the lots sold at the auction sale and one of these days I will quote some of those prices just so the present owners can gloat a bit.

The truth is that I intended to use those figures in this little Observation, but that list just now is hiding from me, so I have to generalize a little.

TABLE HOPPING:

(Continued from Page 11)

FITZELL . . . with the JEAN DEVLYN DANCERS at the HOTEL LAST FRONTIER . . . ROY leaves when this show ends to go into a BROADWAY SHOW in NEW YORK CITY . . . Good luck! . . . Hope it means stardom! . . .

. . . Looks like CHRISTINE JORGENSEN won't make the originally planned opening at the HOTEL SAHARA . . . She's in London for the coronation . . . after which suppose she'll go back to Denmark for a physical check-up??? . . .

NICK KELLY was most surprised and grateful to receive a money clip from VAN JOHNSON and a gold St. Jude medal from PETER and MARY LIND HAYES . . . we aren't too surprised as we know this fellow to be most jovial and gracious to all he meets . . . NICK is the genial assistant to JACK ENTRATTER at the SANDS HOTEL and he comes to us from the famous COPACABANA in NEW YORK . . .

ANGELA CIANCI is now change-girl at the THUNDERBIRD HOTEL . . . where her hubby plays in AL JAHN'S BAND . . .

Don't forget, girls . . . MICHEL ANTER is no longer at the SANDS . . . He is now styling hair at the FLAMINGO BEAUTY SALON . . .

. . . Stopped in the GREEN SHACK to say hello to friend JIMMIE and was so surprised to see CHUCK GITS bartending there . . . After some of their ever-wonderful chicken and more visiting . . . this time with another old friend we all know, BILL SWARNER . . . Said my "byes" and headed for . . . DUFFY'S . . . where else??? . .

Received word from the East . . . DANNY BASARIC has been "balling it up" with HARRY WISOTZKEY and HAROLD MOUL . . . in YORK, PA. . . . Yes, they are still coming out here . . . and soon! . . .

MRS. BOB WESLEY (formerly PAT GALLAGHER) and MRS. PAUL LADD (formerly TRUDY MUELLER) . . . have had a most wonderful shopping trip to Los Angeles for the past five or six days . . .

June 5 is a big day for TEDDY and ANNA CRAWFORD . . . It's their 41st wedding anniversary . . . Isn't that wonderful? And don't we all wish them many many more? . . . They're both well known residents of Las Vegas and TEDDY CRAWFORD is a co-owner of the famous PIONEER CLUB . . .

MIKE BENEDICT of the HOTEL LAST FRONTIER has left for the East, where he will vacation for two weeks, then bring his wife back here to stay . . . Don't worry, MIKE, she'll love LAS VEGAS! . . .

. . . Kinda' long-winded this time, huh. . . . So, before you get tired . . . I'll just get on with my TABLE HOPPING . . .

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THE CLARK BROTHERS

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