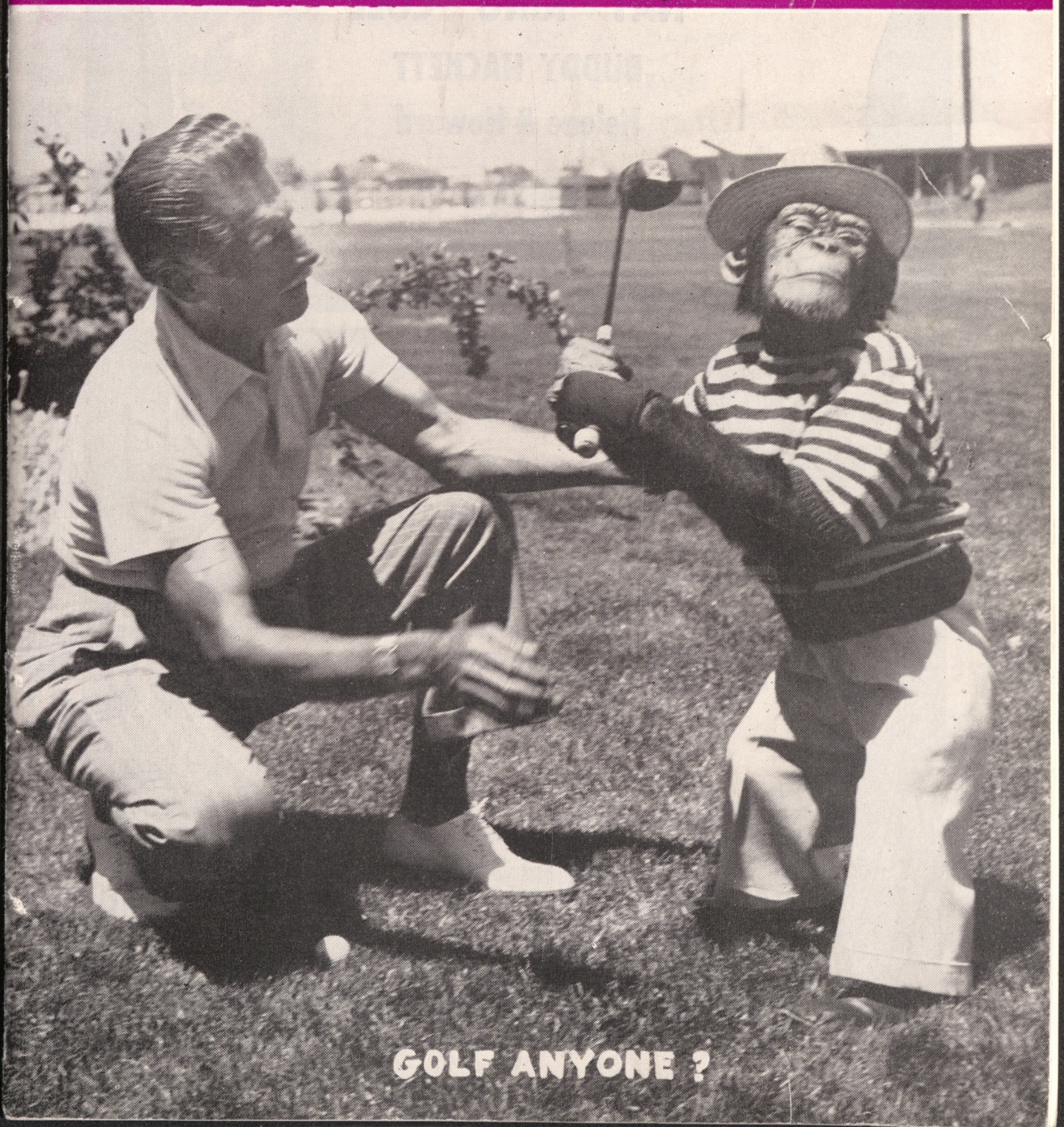
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THE OTHER day I heard from an old friend with whom I became acquainted something like 35 years ago, who is now living in Burbank. Calif. His name is Clarence O. Prest. He is one of the real pioneers in air navigation and was, I believe, the first person to fly an airplane into Las Vegas.

There were no landing fields for planes at Las Vegas, and Prest landed his plane safely on the comparatively level ground where the Las Vegas City Hall now is, in November 1920.

The name of the plane, very appropriately, was "POISON" and painted on its side beneath the name were the words "Good to the Last Drop." Mr. Prest and "POISON" came to Las Vegas in November 1920 and gave flights to would-be adventurers who cared little for their lives, on Thanksgiving Day.

"POISON" was claimed to be the smallest airplane ever to carry a passenger and land safely. The most amazing thing about it, as I remember, was its size—16 feet wing spread from tip to tip.

Ernie Cragin and Bill Pike were instrumental in getting Prest interested in Las Vegas and Jim Cashman joined very soon because he has always been a believer in speed.

Prest's first great ambition was to do what had never before been accomplished, that was to fly from Mexico to Alaska, and Bill Pike helped finance the grand flight. Of course most of us did not believe it could be done because, in those days, there were landing fields in only a few places in the United States; and those fields were not the beautifully paved and lighted fields such as we have today, but generally strips of open ground from which the brush and most other obstacles had been cleared.

So with the aid of Bill Pike, Prest set about building a plane for the trip and in due time made the grand take-off from Tijuana, Mexico. Remember, there were no great fueling stations and stores of parts and shops in which repairs could be made.

So by the time Prest, flying mostly by instinct and without the elaborate maps and radio communication such as we have today, finally reached Prince Rupert in Canadian Northwest Territory, the plane was about all gone, worn out by the long flights and difficult landings, but Prest was O. K. with his appetite for adventure sharpened.

He came back to the Southwest and adventured about a while and finally financed and built a second Mexico to Alaska plane. This time Dame Fortune treated him a little better. He flew across the United States into Canada, thence by a series of lucky flights reached Alaska and managed to land in the wilderness not very far from Fairbanks. He was found in a few days, by hunters, where he had landed in a herd of caribou.

Of course his plane by then was worn out, but Prest had won his goal, being the very first to fly a plane from Mexico to Alaska. He made his way home somehow, and found that the Government was having a sale of old planes and parts and parachutes left over from World War I, at Riverside, Calif.

Terms were easy and Prest bought heavily. He fashioned new planes from the multitude of parts and soon had his own plane in the air again.

He liked Las Vegas and Las Vegas liked him, so with his new plane he flew to Las Vegas and, after some

(Continued on Page 27)

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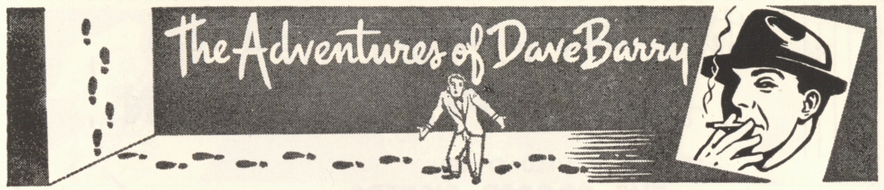
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WELL, they're going to let me visit my money again. Come January 13th of the year 1954, thanks to the invitation of Mr. Jack Entratter of the beautiful SANDS HOTEL, your humble servant will return to Las Vegas, the shrine of forgotten loot.

I will visit once again with the crap tables, the cemetery where my salary was buried. I will mix with the dealers, the pallbearers who gently laid my loot in its grave. There will be the cashier, who graciously administered the last rites to my disappearing bankroll.

I trust the pit-bosses will be available, as always, to act as undertakers when my bets die again.

All in all, I am looking forward to a delightful reunion with all my friends who are ready to share in sympathy, the PLAYERS. God must love the losers. He made so many of us.

Please don't get the idea that I'm not excited or happy about coming back. I'm thrilled about it! So what's money? You can fondle it, but it won't hug you back. I'm looking forward to the other side of Las Vegas. The fun, the gayety, the food, the . . . the . . . oh, what's the use of kidding?

I'm going to try to get my money back.

And if I don't succeed, I'm going to try to get someone else's money back.

Incidentally, I've got a lot of new ideas. One, which was inspired by Marlene Dietrich, is a transparent tuxedo. This will come in very handy in case friends want to borrow some money.

They can save themselves the trouble because this way they can see right through my pockets and tell right away that I'm broke.

By the way, I think that transparent dress is the apparel of the future. Now there's something to look into! I also predict that next year dresses will be made out of a new material called compressed wood.

Can you imagine that? Every time a girl breaks a shoulder strap she's gonna yell "TIMBER!" But I think that transparent clothing will be conducive to good living. Get to know your friends better. See them as they really are! Fat or skinny. I'm sure this will put Senator McCarthy out of business. Nobody could be accused of hiding anything!

What I'm really looking forward to, however, is my first book, which I intend to complete while I'm in Las Vegas. If you see me at the SANDS pool, lugging a typewriter, you'll know one thing. I haven't had time to hock it yet.

I'll also be looking for local color . . . BLOOD! This is the most popular color in Las Vegas. Every tourist leaves some here. Never mistake anyone in Las Vegas for being healthy simply because they're sporting a beautiful tan.

This is very deceiving. Because underneath that tan is a gorgeous complexion of drained skin! I often wonder why they've never referred to Las Vegas as ZOMBIEVILLE. There are more left-handed people in Las Vegas than anywhere else in the world. You always hear folks around these parts complaining: "Boy! They took my right arm!"

I may write about this. There will be a lot to write about when I'm in Vegas next. Writing home for money, writing to my agent for money, writing to my friends for money. It probably won't help.

They'll all be wearing transparent barrels. Gee, I may write about that too. I'll have to admit that it's very difficult to concentrate on writing a book when you're in Las Vegas because, instead of typing words, you find yourself typing systems.

I'll have to write about systems. One of my friends has perfected a sure system to beat roulette. First, he starts out by betting a little on the red, after which he switches to the black. If he loses at both, then he pulls out a gun and holds up the joint.

That's his system. He's sitting in his cell at Alcatraz right now trying to figure out what happened to his system.

He was way ahead but something went wrong. They caught him. Seeing as he has so much time on his hands, I may let him help me with my book. He's working on his first sentence right now!

This may not be such a funny joke, but I'm getting close to the end of the column and thinking about getting back to my favorite city has me so excited.

I'm sure you'll forgive me. If you don't I'll get even with you. I'll write about you in my book and if it's not a best seller, boy will you be sorry!

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THAT'S FOR SURE...

BY Jack Gortz



IT CERTAINLY was gratifying to note the reaction to our 1954 calendars. Although we ordered a greater number than ever before, our supply is exhausted. We're making mention of the depletion for we still get daily requests for this item. Hence, we cannot possibly distribute what we don't have. Anyway, our grateful thanks to all of you who admired and asked for our "Fabulous" calendar. Many requests have also reached this desk for our gigantic year book, bearing the Christmas date. This is one precaution we definitely did make, after having to turn down so many friends the past few years. We have put aside a sizable number of these editions in our offices at 721 Fremont Street (Suite 5). If you missed yours, or desire an extra copy for a friend, drop by and pick one up, with our compliments.

Oh, lest we forget, we'd better inject a thought here about our front cover. The gentleman who is deriving a great deal of amusement from his chimpanzee companion is MILTON ROSS, golf pro at WILBUR CLARK'S DESERT INN Golf Course. We're fortunate in this town for golf enthusiasts can indulge in their favorite sport at any time of the year. A good idea for winter vacationists, living in cold climes: Head for Las Vegas and brush up on your game—golf, that is!

The VARIETY CLUB Induction Dinner will be held at the HOTEL LAST FRONTIER January 13. ERNIE CRAGIN will be installed as the new Chief Barker, along with his new crew. Stars currently appearing at the Strip hotels will appear on the evening's entertainment rote. Our local Tent 39 will make its first Humanitarian Award on this date. Everything about the recipient is strictly hush-hush. Even the Variety crew will not be aware of the identity until their meeting, a day before the dinner is held. This promises to be a truly outstanding event.

The rush of Christmas work kept us from extending sincere congratulations to RUTH and GEORGE MORO at the proper time. (They are head of the MORO-LANDIS productions at the HOTEL SAHARA.) So, although belated, we're still very happy to announce that the new addition was wrapped in a pink blanket when she joined the Moro clan last month.

MAURICE HORWITZ (pit boss at the SANDS HOTEL) blushed and stammered his embarrassment this week. He just couldn't understand why we, along with many others, insisted upon adding a second zero to his last name. In order to prove it wasn't so, Mr. H. graciously extended his engraved calling card. However, this gesture didn't go far in supporting his argument for it bore two zeros in his name, contrary to his denial. Last we saw of him, Maurice was headed for the printer's office with flames in his eyes.

Good news for music lovers! HARRY JAMES and his famous orchestra are getting set to return to the HOTEL EL RANCHO VEGAS, come March 17. From what we hear, Harry has added a bit of glamor to his organization in the form of a singer-dancer. She is spoken of as a most attractive blonde. Harry must have a lot of faith in her to allow her to "break in" in Las Vegas. Some of you folks might have heard of her—the advance publicity refers to her as BETTY GRABLE.

MARCUS DALY (owner) and DANNY BASARIC (manager of the CAMERA & HOBBY SHOP) are deeply engrossed in the remodeling of the shop, with business going on as usual. While visiting these benign gentlemen last week they showed us a film of the "Harlem Globetrotters," one of the hottest (in fact THE hottest) basketball teams in action. We naturally had the opportunity to see them in the East and watching them on celluloid made us feel we were seeing old chums. The members of this team are simply unbeatable. Their teamwork and physical coordination is superb. You should see them keep tempo with their theme song, "Sweet Georgia Brown." It would just tickle you silly. Reason we mention the Globetrotters now is that they are due to play exhibition games in Reno, January 14 and 15. How we wish we could be there. Why on earth can't we do something to bring these fellows to Las Vegas? It would be a treat of a lifetime for all sports-minded folks.

Now that the holidays are over, the management of the FLAMINGO HO-

(Continued on Page 23)

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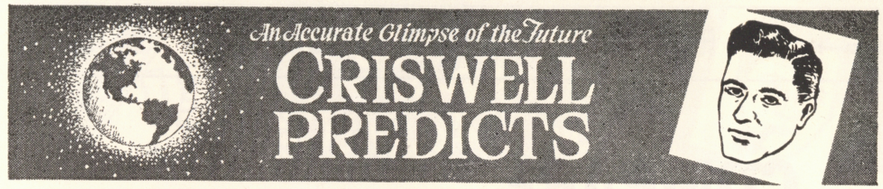
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FRANK PIMENTAL



WHAT PEOPLE WILL DO: The world will be shocked by a tragic self-inflicted death of a member of one of the world's most famous families out of London. . . . Argentine Dictator Peron will make a most startling marriage. . . . Ring these three dates on your calendar as coming tragic days: March 27, August 5 and October 18. . . . W. L. LaCour, the patent medicine king, will soon perfect a vitamin formula for women only, which will open new chemical fields for the use of scientific food supplements. . . .

The next political expose to hit the news stands will be "Scum-on-the-Top" which will cause much comment and excitement. . . . The organized gang of hoodlums all under 18 which is terrorizing many of our cities will be traced to narcotic pushers who enslave these boys and girls into this vicious habit and then force them to rob, pillage and even murder for money. . . .

Supreme Court Justice Warren will make a most important decision which will affect every man, woman and child in America in April . . . O. Henry, the famous short story writer who died in 1910, will again emerge as a best seller in 1954. . . . Ex-Vice President Henry A. Wallace should watch his health. . . . Pearl Bailey will sensationally divorce her present husband. . . .

Princess Margaret will write her official autobiography for publication in August. . . . Hollywood producers will make one final effort to capture your interest with a new series of films based on American historical and known incidents due to your complete lack of interest in the present European cycle. Yes, 1954 will be a buyer's year in entertainment. . . .

WHO YOU WILL TALK ABOUT AND WHY: Charles Chaplin and his plea to re-enter this country, which will be turned down by our State Department in no uncertain terms. . . . J. Edgar Hoover, the head of our FBI, and his warning backed by documented proof, of communist infiltration into our colleges, universities and schools. Judy Garland and her coming breakdown after her present and last picture is completed, "A Star Is Born.". . . Lily Pons and her triumphant return to the Metropolitan Opera House at the peak of her career. . . . Mrs. Richard Nixon and her own personal account of the diplomatic journey made with her husband. . . . Maurice Chevalier, the French emperor of song, and his new captivation of American audiences starting with his Las Vegas engagement. . . .

Eileen Bennett and Robert Shelton Martin and their new chain of "funeral churches" throughout the nation. . . . Adlai Stevenson and his declining political future! . . . Victor Herbert, the noted composer, and the revival of many of his past hits. . . . Senator Jenner of Indiana and his latest expose of paid spying for Russia in our State Department which was known by officials who refused to take action as it would harm "party harmony" during the 1939 to 1943 years plus the 1951 and 1952 diplomatic crisis. Senator Jenner will be joined by Senator McCarthy, and together they will tear the wraps from former hush-hush events for you, the public. . . .

Mae West and her invasion of the television field in the role of a lady detective of the 1890s. . . . A leading star and her fatal illness which will take her to the Golden Shore before the month of February is over.

FOR PEOPLE AND PLACES: Newspaper Editors: Clear the front pages for a most dramatic announcement out of Russia. . . . Gayla Peevey: Your next song hit will concern a man who shot a couch for his wife and made a dress for her out of the upholstery. . . . Chicago: Prepare for the wildest weather you have ever had in March. . . . Drunk drivers: You will have your car impounded for one year on your first offense. . . . Rural areas: You will have mail by helicopter in July. . . .

Shoplifters: A new law will soon be on the books which will permit a "citizen's arrest" to stand without benefit of bail. . . . Belleville, Illinois: The coming governor of Illinois is in your midst. . . . Blood donors: You will get more per pint for your blood in 1954. . . . Mrs. Babe Ruth: You will write about the little known facts of your famous husband for spring reading. . . .

Hollywood: You will be asked to tone down your advertisements by the Parent-Teachers and other school groups. . . . Wilbur Wright: Your far-fetched

(Continued on Page 30)

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A FRIEND of mine was almost put in jail the other night. He had committed the crime of driving a car while under the influence of an out-of-state driving license. His chauffeur license and driver's license were both issued by the state of Washington. Picked up on a most minor offense, he was fined, NOT for the offense, but for not having a "proper" driver's license. Trying to take his place in the community, to build a bigger and better Las Vegas, he had overlooked, and was ignorant of this item in the obstacle course of becoming a member of the local citizenry. Luckily, the car he was driving had Nevada plates or he would have had to spend ALL the grocery and rent money, just to stay out of jail so he could EARN grocery and rent money. . . . I don't like ANY kind of racket!

HULIHAN'S doin' a jig! There's dance music galore at HULIHAN'S SHANTY since DENNY put a group of musicians on, who call themselves THE DUKES. Steel, standard, bass and violin is what they use and, from all I hear, they do a bang-up job of entertaining and setting the tempos for terpsichory. Maybe you've been wondering, just for sure, where the Shanty is located out there in the desert. Now's your chance to give it a go. The Dukes start playing at 3 p.m. on Sunday afternoons, and it'll give you something to do, to take a run out to the Shanty . . . west on Charleston Boulevard to Arville Road. Turn left and follow your snoz to the Shanty. . . .

Somethin' else is new, too! The LITTLE ROOM . . . ! This is a little bar and lounge located at Sal and Rusty's AMUSEMENT CITY out on Boulder Hiway. Now the way I said that, you may be thinking that this is half way to Arizona. Actually the LITTLE ROOM is only about one-fourth mile past the intersection of Charleston Boulevard and East Fremont Street, on the left as you go. It's operated by KEN WALKER and DUANE COLLINS. Most of you know Ken, as he has worked the plank around town for quite a spell. Duane is a sort of a newcomer, but he's here to stay. The Little Room is a cute little spot . . . just a few stools with a few chairs and tables. You've read many times about cozy little rooms . . . wait until you've seen this . . . the coziest LITTLE ROOM. . . .

TOM DOUGLAS has done wonders with the Opera House Theater Restaurant at Hotel El Rancho Vegas. You'd hardly believe that it's the same room, and he isn't nearly finished with the "complete" remodeling. Another big project is the remodeling of the Stage Door Lounge and chuck wagon room at the rear of the casino. When TOM is through working his wonders around this place, El Rancho will be one of the musts on tourists' lists for scenic attractions. . . .

It's another ALL-NEW SHOW at the EMBASSY CLUB in North Las Vegas. JOE BAILEY says he really has a show this time, too! The star of his current show is RENEE DARNE, and Joe is complaining because he only has her booked for two weeks, with not much chance for holding her over . . . so, by the time you're reading this, you have only a little over a week to get out to the Embassy and see this gal with the "uh-huh" eyes! . . . VALENTINA is the other tow-headed tantalizer on the bill. and takes a back seat to none. . . . The new man to curb the comedy concession of the club is AL BEST, and this man doesn't stop. He works with a lot of drive, and is alive with jest. Four shows a night ought to offer you at least ONE show time that is convenient for you to catch. . . .

SYL GREGORY is pretty proud of his crews at the WESTERNER BAR downtown. Syl's the bar manager, and tells me he hasn't a worry in the world while away from the place, with five good men on the job. SYL and EDDIE OTERO work the day shift while CLIFF ROSSBERG and DON WANE hold down the swing spot. JOE WASHINGTON takes over in the wee sma' hours of the graveyard and DAVE CHALMERS is the fellow who makes the rounds, to give them all a day off, so they can see how the other half enjoys life. If these masters of mixology can't muddle you a mixture to your desired satisfaction, you're too darned finnicky in the first place. The Westerner Bar is located, of course, in the WESTERNER CLUB. . . .

Right now, during and after inventory time, is the time for you gals to

(Continued on Page 25)

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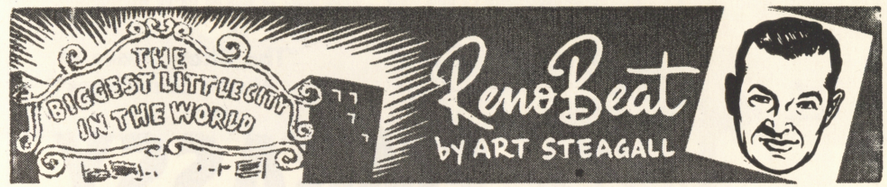
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IT WAS a big week-end in Reno this past one. With New Year's Day falling on Friday, most of the business houses closed Saturday to give their employes an extra long holiday. From the out-of-state cars in town, I'm sure that most of the near-by California firms did the same.

Starting late Thursday afternoon, New Year's Eve, it was almost necessary to have a reservation to play a slot machine in any of the downtown clubs. New Year's Eve itself was one of the biggest on record here. The three hotels —that is, the three hotels with entertainment—did a capacity night in their dining rooms.

The RIVERSIDE and the MAPES had a $15 charge, while the GOLDEN charged $12. This included dinner. a show and favors. Most of the spots located outside of the downtown area reported a very satisfactory play.

The nearby ski resorts, helped by a new snowfall, also reported a big week-end.

All of the highways into Reno were open, although chains were required over Donner Summit late Sunday afternoon. Capt. LOU SPITZ, head of the traffic division of the Reno Police Department, did a swell job in keeping accidents to a minimum.

AGVA: MR. and MRS. HARRY WIETZ off to Las Vegas for a ten-day vacation. HARRY is one of the owners of the newly organized PALACE CLUB . . . BEATRICE KAY and husband SYLVAN GREEN at home at their ranch here after being up in the old country for a month . . . the microwave telecast of the Rose Bowl game and the Tournament of Roses parade was great, reception was very good and many Renoites enjoyed it . . . Must be something to this: THREE of Reno's well known food experts, WALTER DIXON, maitre d' at the MAPES; JOE RAMOS, maitre d' at the RIVERSIDE, and HENRI DAVIS, maitre d' at the GOLDEN, were ALL reported seen eating at the newly opened RED BARN . . . DAVE and WANDA SMITH, owners of the WILLOWS, one of Reno's better eating places, off to a holiday in New York, due back the last part of January . . . In the face of opposition from two major hotels here, the Reno City Council delayed their boost in the liquor and gambling licenses. CHARLES MAPES, of the hotel bearing his name, and GEORGE WINGFIELD, representing the RIVERSIDE, both have come to the front with opposition. The Council held a secret meeting to discuss this problem . . . The PAGANINI QUARTET gave a special concert in the State Building last Monday. Following in this series will be ALEX TEMPLETON, on January 22 . . . "How to Marry a Millionaire," in its second capacity week at the CREST THEATRE here. Guess everyone wants to know how . . . BEA and RAY GOMAN, of the famed GOMAN'S GAY '90s in the International Settlement in San Francisco, are bringing their revue into the MAPES SKY-ROOM . . . The Reno Ballet Guild will present Oscar-winner AGNES MOOREHEAD at the State Building on January 26, MISS MOOREHEAD will be remembered for her award-winning work in "Sorry, Wrong Number' . . . RAY PETERSON, head of the Reno Rodeo Association, off to Denver for a meeting of the International Rodeo Association. RAY is also president of IRA . . . So many people from the bay area were in town last week-end that the Southern Pacific ran a second section to their Overland, carrying over 600 persons back to S. F. . . . BASIL O'CONNOR, president of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, will be a speaker here on January 15. He will address the workers in the 1954 March of Dimes campaign . . . Rumors are flying! A new downtown club? The rumor was strengthened this week when "The Main Entrance Club" was incorporated with a capital of $150,000 . . .

CURRENT SHOWS: GOLD ROOM of the GOLDEN HOTEL goes into the final week of a highly entertaining show headed by HELEN BOICE. Loaded with talent and a knowledge of how to sell it to her audiences, MISS BOICE is making her second appearance here in the past six months. She is a real grand entertainer. Supporting her in the show are the LANCERS, four gentlemen of song. These boys are show-stoppers for sure. The show opens with the fast acrobatic act called the EASTERN BROTHERS. The GOLDEN GIRLS and STERLING YOUNG and his orchestra complete this gala holiday revue . . .

THE MAPES SKYROOM opened New Year's Day with a new act in show business made up by two old-timers in

(Continued on Page 33)



The "The Show Place of North Las Vegas"

EMBASSY

NORTH LAS VEGAS PHONE 1633

JOE BAILEY, Manager

COMPLETE NEW SHOW

STARRING—

RENEE ANDRE "Bothersome Brunette" • **AL BEST** "Hollywood's Zaniest Comedian"

FOUR SHOWS NITELY
11:00 — 12:30 — 2:00 — 4:15

VALENTINA — BOB LEE'S BAND

THE DUNES MOTEL

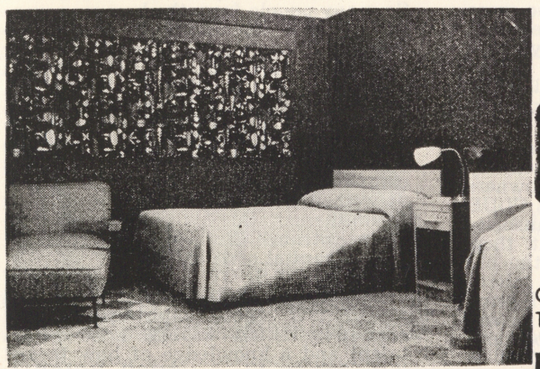


Photo shows spacious Dunes room
—New & modern furniture
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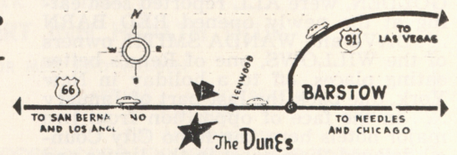
ON YOUR NEXT TRIP TO THE WORLD'S PLAYGROUND . . .

PLAN TO STAY AT THE DUNES MOTEL

. . . You'll Like Our Place!



S-o-o Rest-ful



ON ROUSE 66 — 8 MILES
WEST OF BARSTOW, CALIF

"CURTAIN TIME"

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

Flamingo

December 28 thru January 13

SHOW: Tony Martin, Alan King

LINE: Ron Fletcher and the Flamingo Starlets

ORCH: Torris Brand

Back once again to entertain us during the holiday season is one of the greatest nightclub entertainers gracing the stages of modern day show business. Many times TONY MARTIN has been likened to the great masters in this field of entertainment, and he has justly so earned that recognition. He is humble but with a sophistication that commands the respect and attention of everyone in the room. Aside from all this, he is one of the greatest phraseolo-

(Continued on Page 29)

LAST FRONTIER

December 28 thru January 10

SHOW: Zsa Zsa, Eva and Magda Gabor; Senor Wences; Amin Brothers.

LINE: Jean Devlyn Dancers featuring Temply and Kirby.

ORCH: Garwood Van.

The glamorous, gorgeous, contradictory GABOR SISTERS strutted their stuff before a star-studded opening night audience at the Ramona Room and, as Van Johnson quipped: "They're great—but I think Jolie should have been in the act!" The famous movie star was referring to the mother of these beautiful dolls. 'Tis said that beauty is its own excuse for being—but when ZSA ZSA, EVA and MAGDA undulate across the boards one realizes that beauty enhanced by personality, charm and talent is preferrable. It takes a lot of moxie to kid yourself and these sisters do it very well indeed, aided by the very clever writing and staging of HERBERT BAKER. The production manager, GEORGE SCHLATTER, also deserves much praise, as does BOBBIE WARREN, the arranger, and BILL POWERS, choreographer. Magnificently gowned by MARUSIA, the three sisters are a sight to behold in all their splendorous and fabulous jewels, unexcelled only by their own natural beauty. It is difficult to say which is the more beautiful. MAGDA'S magnificent facial bone structure is a painter's dream, complete with the titian tresses, emanating a depth of character and rich maturity. EVA, snow blonde and petite,

(Continued on Page 28)

El Rancho Vegas

December 30 thru January 19

SHOW: Nat "King" Cole, Buddy Hackett, Helene & Howard.

LINE: Dot Dee Dancers.

ORCH: Bob Ellis.

NAT COLE is the undisputed "king" when it comes to his style of singing! This fact he has proved beyond a shadow of a doubt since his opening here in the beautifully redecorated Opera House Theater Restaurant. The "King's" voice is smooth, hushed, relaxed and completely under his control at all times. Strictly a stylist, he handles any and all tempos with the greatest of ease. Seeing him perform is to triple the enjoyment you may know from hearing his hundreds of popular records. His attitude and pleasing disposition are made known to you solely through his interpretation of the various types of tunes he has included in his full program. The lazy "Calypso Blues" with only a bongo background, the fast tempoed "Lover, Where Can

"CURTAIN TIME"

You Be?", the very slow and expressive "Tenderly". . . these and many more you will enjoy when you see and hear NAT "King" COLE. . . . Making a super fast return engagement to this room is a young comedian's comedian, BUDDY HACKETT. This Brooklyn breeze

(Continued on Page 28)

Wilbur Clark's DESERT INN

January 5 thru February 1
(Not a Review)

SHOW: Frankie Laine, Carl Fischer at the piano, Jack Durant, Rudy Cardenas, Carol Lynne.

LINE: Don Arden Dancers.

ORCH: Carlton Hayes and His Orchestra.

One of America's greatest and most popular song stylists, FRANKIE LAINE, stars in his current revue in the Painted Desert Room. With his "Can't Do Without" Carl Fischer at the piano, Frankie presents a program of songs. old and new, which he has made famous. "Mr. Rhythm" runs true to form by giving out with his rhythm styling, but, when the time comes, shows the extent of his great versatility with his full interpretation of such grand numbers as "Granada," which is done almost completely ad lib. Mr. Laine's big personality and big smile makes him as popular on personal appearances as his records are on every juke box. . . . You've heard of comedians who will "kill themselves" if you ask them to, but Jack Durant is literally that in truth. This favorite funny man of Broadway is a past master in the art of "prat-falls" with which he punctuates the punch lines of his routine. . . . RUDY CARDENAS is without a doubt one of the fastest jugglers on any nightclub stage. This wiry little gent accomplishes amazing feats of balance and precision manipulation. . . . The grace and beauty of an artist on ice is MISS CAROL LYNNE, who displays amazing versatility on the ice. . . . The DONN ARDEN

(Continued on Page 28)

SAHARA

January 5 thru February 1
(Not a Review)

SHOW: Donald O'Connor, Sid Miller, Scat Man Crothers.

LINE: Saharem Dancers.

ORCH: Cee Davidson.

Bill Miller proudly presents, for the first time in the Conga Room, a complete Broadway production starring one of the greatest young talents of all time, DONALD O'CONNOR. Mr. O'Connor appears intermittently throughout the entire revue. The show opens with a fast moving production based on the old-time tune "Has Anybody Seen My Gal," with everyone leaving the stage at one point to go down among the audience. One of Mr. O'Connor's out-

(Continued on Page 29)

The Sands

December 23 thru January 12

SHOW: Lena Horne, Al Bernie.

LINE: Copa Girls.

ORCH: Ray Sinatra.

LENA HORNE is in town, captivating everyone within the range of her sensuous voice. When a feminine performer has talent, adorned by a sizable heaping of beauty and physical attractiveness, the ingredients add up to explosive material. Miss Horne is completely feminine. Her singing is hypnotic and compelling, every gesture is warm with vibrancy and her eyes sparkle the lure of a Lorelei. To watch Miss Horne in the spotlight is to watch a masterpiece. imbued with life and desirability. If you've never experienced hypnotism.

watch La Horne and you'll be mesmerized. . . . AL BERNIE is the complete opposite. Instead of creating a hush (a la Horne) he fills the room with continuous, unabashed laughter. The lad has a wealth of material at his command and presents a stream of comedy that stimulates your sense of appreciation and keeps your funny-bone quivering from sheer delight. Al is a very clever showman who accomplishes his main intent to gratify your desire for good comedy. When this Bernie lad is onstage the smiling eyes and laughing mouths are very much in evidence. We're warning you — you're missing a good treat if you don't see this lad. . . . The COPA GIRLS are breathtaking in their lovely costumes and contribute excellent choreography to this stellar production. . . . RAY SINATRA and his music makers really extend themselves to provide the ultimate in musical backgrounding.

El Cortez

December 31 thru January 13

SHOW: Cooper Sisters, the Gerick Twins, Jimmy Husson

ORCH: Eddie Skrivanek and His Sextette FROM HUNGER

The COOPER SISTERS have been held over for another two weeks in the Pirates Den. They sing and mug their way through routines which have made them favorites in Las Vegas for some time. The antics of "the little one" are wholly unpredictable . . . The GERICK TWINS, lovely Lou and Lee, present their "Mirror Magic" in Las Vegas for

(Continued on Page 31)

Thunderbird

December 28 thru January 20

SHOW: James Melton, Eleanore Warner, Richard Hankinson, John & Rene' Arnaut

LINE: Kathryn Duffy Dansations

ORCH: Al Jahns

JAMES MELTON has delighted audiences in all phases of musical entertainment and through all vocal mediums, but never more than his new festival of music delights the listening audiences currently packing the Navajo Room. Mr. Melton has surrounded himself with a host of young talent for his musical presentations and the resulting effect is some of the finest you've ever heard. Exceptionally beautiful is the velvet soprano voice of Mr. Melton's new find, Miss ELEANORE WARNER. This Conderella of song joins Mr. Melton, following superb rendition of "One Fine Day" from "Madame Butterfly," to present an authentic, emotional and dramatic

(Continued on Page 29)

SILVER SLIPPER SALOON

January 8 thru February 4

(Not a Review)

SHOW: "Carnival of Fun" with Slapsie Maxie Rosenbloom, Hank Henry, Eugene Jackson Trio.

ORCH: George Redman.

The first production of the New Year in this fabulous room is a gala presentation by Eddie Fox—"Carnival of Fun"—a title that fits the situation to a tee. Show consists of a series of scenes and blackouts, featuring various members of the talented cast in their tried and true capacities. New to the room is SLAPSIE MAXIE ROSENBLOOM, who fractures every audience with his "Romeo and Juliet" scene with the beautiful VIRGINIA DEW in the role of Juliet. . . . Featured in the show is the

(Continued on Page 31)

Continuing the Tradition of
Top Entertainment
IN THE GAY '90 BAR
We Turn Night into Play!



JOE MAIZE
AND HIS CORDSMEN
Appearing Midnight to Dawn
Nightly Except Sunday with the
DAVE RODGERS TRIO
BUSTER HALLETT TRIO
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HOTEL LAST FRONTIER
GAY '90 BAR
CONTINUOUS ENTERTAINMENT FROM 5:30 P. M.



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LARGEST AMUSEMENT CENTER IN NEVADA
Last Frontier Village
OPEN ALL YEAR

Merry-Go-Round—Miniature Train
Bumper Cars — Arcade
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A MUST VISIT - - -
For Authentic
DESERT SPLENDOR
BAR - - -
COCKTAIL LOUNGE
Dancing - 4 p. m. til 4 a. m.

Directions: Take West Charleston to Arville
Road — Turn left and Straight to Shanty



Hollywood Happenings

ONE of Hollywood's most challenging and least understood tasks is that of creating a DANNY KAYE musical number. Mr. Kaye, as all his fans know, is a highly stylized performer. No one else does what he does—at least, not as well—and he does nothing any other entertainer does. This makes the creation of material for him a decided problem.

Danny is unbelievably fortunate in having his source of material close by at all times. This **source** is his wife—the talented SYLVIA FINE. Sylvia has been writing special material for Danny since they collaborated on a well remembered Broadway musical, "Straw Hat Revue."

Of course, there is one more source of material—and that is Danny himself. This particular source is unpredictable and quite spontaneous. It can not be depended upon to come up with what's demanded by the rigid production schedules of motion pictures.

Sylvia and Danny have come up with specialty numbers for his pictures that his fans recall years after they have seen the picture. For instance, "Popo the Puppet," "Pavlova" and "Anatole of Paris" are bits of insanity relished by just memory long after they were seen.

The creative process follows no definite pattern. Danny and his wife might be sitting around the kitchen—driving—or tucking in their little daughter Dana when a thought might strike them.

They "kick" it around for a while—might even try a portion of a joke or something—or a few lyrics. They might put it on paper or just leave it for the moment—Danny probably will dismiss it completely. A few days later Sylvia will use what is salvageable and combine it with something else, and then suddenly a completed routine will just fall into place.

There is no record of how much time went into the four wonderful numbers Danny does in his latest technicolor zany comedy, "Knock on Wood," but when Paramount releases this production it's assured that Danny's fans will recall his double-talk Irish burlesque tongue-twister, "The Drastic, Livid History of Monohan O'Han."

CLARK GABLE is back in Hollywood, and his answer to questions regarding the French model SUZANNE DADOLLE is that she's in Paris, and he's in Hollywood. . . . And Paramount is talking to Clark about the gambler in "Guys and Dolls" with BOB HOPE, JANE RUSSELL and BETTY GRABLE planned for the cast. Gable would really round out the boxoffice big guns for the famous musical. . . . DANA ANDREWS has let his far away location trips for films get into his Christmas gift planning—Dana and ELIZABETH TAYLOR spent several months on the island of Ceylon while they were filming Paramount's "Elephant Walk"—Dana has just been in Africa for another picture, and now he's reported to have brought home Christmas gifts of shrunken heads! . . . By now you've heard of the wild fisticuffs RICHARD WIDMARK and GARY COOPER got into during the filming of their latest picture—Gary's wife ROCKY says no such thing happened. . . . KIRK DOUGLAS insists he had nothing to do with recent headline stories concerning JACK DEMPSEY—it's awfully good publicity if Kirk is to be starred in the life story of the most famous of all fighters. . . . BING CROSBY is adopting a 5-year-old Korean war orphan under the Foster Parents Plan—by the way, the plan is worth looking into. . . . Did you ever hear that RUDY VALLEE couldn't make the glee club during his college days at Yale? Rudy just took Yale's "Stein Song" and made it into the best known college tune for two long decades. . . . A new twosome in New York—PAT CROWLEY and singer, VIC DAMONE—nice kids! . . .

FRANK SINATRA has purchased a beautiful white mink coat with the initials A. G. S. stitched to the lining intended to appease AVA—a "stitch in time" might have done more good, but we'll see. . . . JERRY LEWIS and his wife PATTI are adopting another baby in 1954. . . . Speaking of Jerry—the voluble comic was standing near the camels CECIL B. DeMILLE was auditioning for his upcoming "Ten Commandments" the other day—he watched them for a long time—kicked around in the straw they were munching on and finally picked up one piece and placed it on one of the camel's back—nothing

(Continued on Page 33)



THANK YOU, LAS VEGAS, FOR YOUR WONDERFUL WELCOME!

ZSA ZSA GABOR

You're Invited

FOR COCKTALS

WITH

KEN WALKER and **DUANE** COLLINS

IN THEIR

"LITTLE ROOM"

AT

Sal and Rusty's

AMUSEMENT CITY

¼ MILE EAST OF FREMONT AND CHARLESTON BLVD.

THAT'S FOR SURE:

(Continued from Page 9)

TEL, INC., is ready to begin serious reconstruction of their dining room. The plans are proof enough that this section will match the beauty of the rest of the hotel, when completed. (At present, its attractiveness is nothing to be sneezed at.) We'll mention only one feature. There will be no straight chairs for the patrons, at the conclusion of the task. Seating will consist of booths alone—just roomy, comfortable booths. That's a pleasant thought for any eater-outer.

The GOLDEN NUGGET is establishing a policy of bringing the finest of entertainment to the downtown area. We got a peek at the future bookings and it's a wonderful line-up of talent in store for you. We want to wish MARGE FRIEND success in her new post as publicity director of this spot. The place just can't miss with a combination such as Miss Friend and UCINDA PORTEMER at the helm of the publicity and public relations wheel.

Well, it is finally coming and Las Vegas is marking calendars, like crazy. On January 12 EL PORTAL THEATRE will unveil its first presentation of the much-discussed film, "THE ROBE." Yep! Cinemascope is here. Owner ERNIE CRAGIN and Manager LOU ATKINS supervised the installation of 14 speakers, plus a 41-foot screen. Here is one picture that is a definite "must" on our agenda and should be on yours, also.

FERN and JAKE KOZLOFF were beaming broadly throughout the entire length of our recently past holiday season. Reason for their unabashed happiness was the presence of their three sons. The boys attend the ELSINORE MILITARY ACADEMY in California and Mother Kozloff gets mighty lonesome for her brood. TED. CHICK and BERT looked very handsome in their uniforms and we could just picture them as future West Point cadets.

Belated felicitations to MITZI and JOHN HUGHES (of the HOTEL SAHARA). The couple celebrated their 20th wedding anniversary December 30. Handsome John presented lovely Mitzi with a gorgeous, eye-popping remembrance. It was made by the famous jeweler HARRY WINSTON (of New York). The little item consists of two eight-carat pear-shaped diamonds in a stunning ring setting.

As you know, tiny BILLY BARTY recently completed an engagement at the SILVER SLIPPER. He did his first television show under the SPIKE JONES banner last week, with 12 more to go. We certainly hope this popular comic returns to the Slipper at the conclusion of this TV commitment.

News from the Keystone Room of the HOTEL TEXAS (in Fort Worth) recently reached us about songstress MARGARET PHELAN'S engagement there. Her contract was extended for a second time. Miss Phelan will give additional performances to accommodate persons who wish to hear her before she retires from professional life. The lovely lady was recently married to localite COL. CLARK COLEMAN and we expect the newlyweds to return shortly.

About a month ago we ran an item about MICKEY McCANN'S hospitalization. Recently we were saddened to learn this wonderful man had answered his maker's call December 28. (Mickey was associated with the CAMERA & HOBBY SHOP here.)

Have you had a chance to speak with LES STIVERS yet? He is the manager of BUCKLEY'S JACKPOT CLUB, downtown. Here is a person everyone would welcome as a friend. Mr. Stivers and Mr. Buckley have been close associates for many years and Mr. B. finally managed to talk Mr. S. into coming here to accept his present post, a year ago this past August. That was a lucky day for Las Vegas because it added a fervent booster to its list.

One of the nicest couples you could ever hope to meet are MR. and MRS. MAURICE KATLEMAN. whose son BELDON presides over the HOTEL EL RANCHO VEGAS. The senior Katlemans are visiting in town, stirring up many friendships and leaving many pleasant memories in their wake.

When the BARBARY COAST BOYS appeared at the SILVER SLIPPER one of their members had a wonderful reunion with a gal who is beloved to Las Vegas. The gal is "Your Gal o' Yesterday," KAY PARSONS, and the fella—BOB FISHER. Bob and Kay have known each other for many years and worked together on countless shows in New York.

Six years ago our columnist CRISWELL predicted that JAMES WARNER BELLA'S novel "The Valiant Virginians" would win the 1953 Pulitzer prize. According to the grapevine, that prediction is close to realization. Don't ask us how "he does it." We can just admire the lad for his accurate forecasts.

Here is a mystery that has thrown all concerned for the old proverbial loop! The builders out at the MORNING VIEW HEIGHTS HOMES (at 17th and Oakey) had a tremendous Ford tractor, with wheels the size of a house. One day the crew checked in to discover—no tractor! So—wha' hoppen! Where on earth could such a tremendous ob-

(Continued on Page 27)

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RAY RYAN'S

EL MIRADOR HOTEL



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PAGE 13:

(Continued from Page 13)

reap the harvest of bargains in groovie girlie gear and gowns from the various ladies' dress shops. They've had these things lying around the shop too long, and they're just as anxious to get rid of 'em as you are to save the money. Funny thing is . . . it may just happen that the dress, skirt, blouse, etc. that you've had your eye on, but couldn't open your purse for, is one of the ones marked down. Just because something is marked down is no indication that the article is a "dog"! If such WERE the case . . . I've been wearing a "canine collection" for quite some time. This whole bit is to let you know that now is the time to hie yourself to the halls of BONNIE BEST, out on the Strip! (sneaky, huh?)

Another new show at the GOLDEN NUGGET SALOON! That maniacal mirth-man JIMMY AMES has been held over, and the two new acts should add to the bill sufficiently to make this a laff riot from beginning to end. MORRISON and REEVE are two ambassadors of nonsense who make their initial bow into Las Vegas with this engagement, which also holds true for PATTI BUTTON. attractive songstress-comedienne. Of course, JOE VENUTI and his orchestra take over in their usual spot, and these men really "take over". . . fine musicians, every one of 'em. During the intermissions you'll listen to EMIL GRAY TRIO. If you happen to be a newcomer to Las Vegas, you gotta see the Golden Nugget. This famous downtown gambling casino is known the world over for its authenticity of decor and genuine atmosphere.

New Yorkers by the name of ROSS have taken over the BAR-W GUEST RANCH out in Paradise Valley, and have plans galore for remodeling and changing things around . . . expand the dining room area, put in their own corrals, build more rentals, etc. . . . MAE and STU ALBERTSON are taking themselves an extended vacation after turning the Bar-W over to the Rosses. They've made a host of friends since their coming here, and it would surprise me none to see them back here soon. . . .

JIMMY CAVANAUGH, of the SILVER SLIPPER set, is a little puffed up in the chest section these days due to a series of events concerning his son, JIM Jr. . . . Young JIM is a hero, having been decorated by the military of France. He is seeing service on a radar boat, and it was last November 14 while in the Bay of Biscayne that they received an S.O.S. from a burning French freighter. Young Jim and the 14 members of his crew went to their aid and, under a heavy blanket of fog, with fire hoses playing on him to keep him wet, he boarded the burning freighter to rescue a half dozen members of the ill-fated crew. . . . Mr. and Mrs. JAMES CAVANAUGH are mighty proud of their son. . . .

I have yet to hear one bad word about the food at THE ALGIERS! The food, the service, the personnel . . . everything seems to be just about right according to the folks I've spoken to regarding this restaurant of FRENCH cuisine and service. Small wonder, though, with a master of the business at the helm such as JIM BLANKENSHIP. His reputation as a restaurateur became international through his popular PATIO LAMAZE in Denver, and we feel certain as soon as the people become acquainted with the quality and flavor of the food at the ALGIERS that reputation will continue to climb. BILL RYFF is the manager of the restaurant and bar, and JOE HAMILTON the maitre 'd in the dining room (these men know their business). . . .

Another reason KAY PARSONS is so popular with those who frequent the PLAYLAND BAR is that she considers them all her "family". . . She ALWAYS has a can of peanuts sitting around, and every once in a while she'll make up a big batch of fudge at home, and bring it to the club for her friends. . . .

Have you settled back into a normal routine since the ending of the holidays? Now you've time to do things. but you don't know what to do first, so you do nothing! Right? I'll never enjoy anything more than I did that first night of full sleep that I'd had in weeks. . . . Speaking of sleep . . . that's all for this week. . . . Your ever lovin' . . . JOHNNY.



FLOYD J. COPE

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EL GRINGO ORK

ERNIE STEWART TRIO

GENE ENGLUND TRIO

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Prepared By
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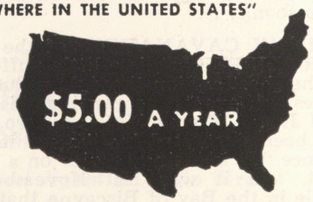
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POP SQUIRES:

(Continued from Page 5)

effort, sold a plane to Bill Pike and James Cashman.

Jim went to Los Angeles and received delivery of the plane from Prest, who agreed to teach him to fly. So he took off from the Los Angeles airport with Jim. bound for Las Vegas. When they tried to fly over Cajon Pass they had trouble and had to make several attempts, but finally made it and finally landed safely on the ground where the City Hall is located, near the corner of Fifth and Stewart.

I am not sure, and I have not had time to ask Jim about it, but I think that was about the end of Jim's air navigation. At any rate I do not remember of his filling the sky with song after that.

Prest returned to California and went into the parachute business with a friend. At various times he engaged in the manufacture of parts for planes and for a time was in the employ of the Lockheed Company.

Prest was fortunate in having but few forced landings, one of which was in Las Vegas. He took off in "POISON" one morning and reached a height of perhaps 75 feet when the engine stopped. With so small a wingspread it was difficult to make a safe landing but, as I remember it, Prest escaped with only a few bruises.

I am writing this mainly to let Prest know how very little I really know about him and about aviation.

But of one thing I am sure. Prest laid the foundation for navigation in Las Vegas and I think it is very probable that the impulse he gave aviation in Las Vegas was largely responsible for the enthusiasm with which we all boosted the early efforts of Western Air Express to establish its Los Angeles to Salt Lake service for passengers and mail and to establish landing fields and finally to create our present beautiful airport at McCarran Field.

GEORGE ROSEN, local casino manager, almost walked out of his socks, he was in such a hurry to begin his month's vacation in New York City. He doesn't care if there is a blizzard or earthquake back there, just so he can spend some time with old friends. (We have it on good authority that the weather is fine at this writing.) Another chap with a vacation is HARRY EPLAN, pit boss at the HOTEL LAST FRONTIER. But Harry isn't rushing anyplace. He has four free days and decided to spend them right here in Las Vegas.

Another round of belated congratulations go winging their way to MR. and MRS. SAMUEL FIRKS, who exchanged love vows here on New Year's Eve. JUDGE TAYLOR presided over the ceremony. The bride is the former GERI LANDSMAN of Los Angeles. The groom is the president of CONSOLIDATED BUILDERS, Inc., the largest organization of its kind in the state of California. HELEN and LOUIS TOWNE were respectively the matron-of-honor and best man. (Mr. Towne is vice president of C.B.I.)

On January 6 a public auction sale was begun at the PARKE-BERNET GALLERIES in New York City. Sales consist of modern American and French paintings and drawings from the HILDEGARDE-ANNA SOSENKO collection, with a few additions from private owners. This doesn't mean the famous duo have given up collecting. Instead, they have new plans to begin a different collection, based on a synthesis of contemporary American regional art, particularly from those cities where they are known and loved.

The kick-off dinner for the building fund of the Jewish Community Center will be held January 10 at the SILVER SLIPPER BALLROOM. Admission is free to all. There will be prizes for attendees and all the little details that make such gatherings entertaining, as well as charitable. Proceeds from the evening's auction will be immediately turned over to this worthwhile fund. We hope that Las Vegas will extend full support . . . and that's for sure.

THAT'S FOR SURE:

(Continued from Page 23)

ject disappear, without being seen? CLAUDE WILLIAMS can be constantly heard muttering: "I don't believe it." Neither do we. In order to make off with it, the culprits would have had to go through some portion of town. Yet the tractor hasn't been seen by anyone. Is this the great unsolved mystery of the ages?

Chic Hecht

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LAST FRONTIER:

(Continued from Page 17)

may be compared to a fine Dresden china doll, with a wonderful voice and a definite flair for comedy, delivering her lines without a hitch and with excellent timing. And ZSA ZSA? Her cameo beauty, combined with her hilarious personality and contradictory nature, makes it difficult to describe her adequately. Let it be said that she could be clothed in sack cloth and stand out like the aurora borealis. It is obvious why these beauties have been able to bring the opposite sex to their knees throughout the world. Born to be admired, they have known nothing else and, what's more, expect nothing else but! Their script portrays their pride in being Americans now, satirizing their Hungarian background and the continental men, as compared to American males. The audience seemed disappointed that their appearance amounted to only 15 minutes, with no encore material. However, the writers promise to remedy this immediately. No matter what your opinion may be regarding the thespian ability of these fascinating femmes, you can't disregard the fact that for charm. beauty and individuality they have no peers. Hordes of photographers dotting the audience proved unequivocably that the GABOR SISTERS are NEWS, no matter what they do, and Las Vegas holiday revelers are knocking their brains out trying to get reservations. 'Nuff said. Held over for two weeks and coming through with a sterling performance, as always, is SENOR WENCES, the greatest living ventriloquist. Tagged as the "Ambassador from Spain," the suave gentleman is charming minus the "oiliness" frequently associated with so many continentals. In addition to throwing several voices simultaneously with his expert juggling (no easy thing to do!), WENCES is an excellent comedian. His performances bring whistles and cheers and much palm pounding. The AMIN BROTHERS' return to the Ramona Room after only a month's absence marks them a Las Vegas favorite for many moons to come. The Egyptian acrobats create waves of fearful gasps with their unbelievable skill in maneuvering their bodies with such speed as to challenge perpetual motion. A great deal of concentration is undoubtedly required, but throughout the act the genial Egyptians smile and twinkle as though they were doing simple handsprings. During the finale the audience virtually stand up and deliver accolades. JEAN DEVLYN comes through with some of the best choreography of her career when her pretty dancers, featuring TEMPLE & KIRBY, present "Winter Frolics" and "Hungarian Dance Festival," with costumes of breathtaking beauty for the holiday season. If the rumor is true that this is the last two weeks for JEAN DEVLYN at the Ramona Room, it will be a great loss to that club's devotees, for this charming gal is top-drawer. BOB PEOPLES, the production singer, has the opportunity for a short moment to expose his acting ability when he does a bit with MAGDA GABOR and, let us repeat, here is a lad to watch—his versatility will score with the wiser ones ere long. GARWOOD VAN and his ORK are to be highly commended for doing a difficult job with seeming ease.

EL RANCHO VEGAS:

(Continued from Page 18)

spreads joy and laughter no matter where he is or what the occasion may be. An unfunny incident becomes a belly-yok under his treatment. Buddy has a bit which is fast becoming a Hackett highlight . . . that of the Chinese waiter. If you've seen him in it, you're no doubt smiling as you read . . . if you haven't you have a laugh treat in store. . . . HELENE & HOWARD are a comedy dance duo who begin their routine in all sincerity, but before long something seems to happen . . . mostly to Jan Howard. Mitey mighty Patrice mugs her way to your applause as she pulls her pack of surprises. Although the feats of their performance may seem to be sort of catch-as-catch-can, they actually require a lot of experience and expert timing on the part of both parties. . . . The DOT DEE DANCERS offer two brand new routines in truly eye-catching wardrobe. One . . . a winter scene, will keep you busy catching your eyes as they pop to the parading of the very attractive girls in fur adorned nothingness. . . . BOB ELLIS and the men of his orchestra do an outstanding job with this show. . . .

DESERT INN:

(Continued from Page 18)

DANCERS, whose prowess in the field of musical productions once more measures up to their high standard, offer two outstanding numbers; one a beautiful spectacle on ice, featuring Miss Lynne, Miss Flo Walters and Jimmy Baron. The other is of an African setting, in which rhythm runs rampant. Once again we give plaudits to the fine aggregation of Carlton Hayes and his orchestra.

THUNDERBIRD:

(Continued from Page 19)

love duet from the same opera. The show begins with a medley of French numbers featuring most everyone in the cast at one time or another. Then Mr. Melton steps forward to sing a few choice numbers backed by four lovely young ladies with their violins and RICHARD HANKINSON at the piano, such beautiful selections as "Sorento," "The Autumn Leaves," etc., and each selection a gem as done by Mr. Melton. . . . One of the outstanding production numbers of the evening is the "Black Satin Ballet" staged by CHARLES TATE, who does most all of Mr. Melton's choreography, and in which is featured the lovely voice of Miss Warner, backed by the FESTIVAL SINGERS. Miss GINGER LYNN is the little lady in white . . . An extra added attraction to this great festival is the international comedy of the ARNAUTS, John and Rene. Full of fun with two fiddles. but most outstanding is their unmatchable interpretation of two birds in love. In this they have no equal. and you must see it to fully appreciate their cleverness. . . . The KATHRYN DUFFY DANSATIONS take a big part in the success of this mammoth production and feature at various intervals the dancing prowess of MISSIE DORAN and CHRISTINA CARSON. . . . There is a lot happening in this show, but the relaxing presence of Mr. Melton seems to make everything go as it should even when something chances to go wrong.

FLAMINGO:

(Continued from Page 17)

gists in the business when it comes to giving a song its just interpretation, whether the song be a sentimental ballad, or a novelty song such as "Philosophy," an original by HAL BORNE, Tony's musical conductor; the very beautiful "Paris in the Springtime" or a bit of comical nonsense with the comedy star of this show, ALAN KING. The big finale of the show consists of these two clowning their way through two or three numbers, together with results that bring down the house. . . . ALAN KING is a fine comedian in that the bulk of his material is made up of instances that have happened to you or me many times over. He takes his humor from every-day life, a source that knows no equal. These funny sides of life are made doubly so through the great sense of timing and voice application that is the rare talent of a good comedian. You'll agree that ALAN KING has these talents. . . . New to the Flamingo Room is the dancing interpretations of RON FLETCHER and the all-new FLAMINGO STARLETS. The ideas in modern choreographic presentation, as set by Mr. Fletcher, are exceptionally good; colorful and easily understandable to the novice as well as the experienced dancer. Group consists of eight girls, three men and a mixed vocal quartet. . . . Music for the occasion is capably carried out by the augmented band of TORRIS BRAND.

SAHARA:

(Continued from Page 18)

standing presentations is that of "Me and My Shadow," which presents an amazing finish. . . . Sid Miller joins in a thing based on a song writer on television, which registers to the rafters with first-nighters. These two exceptional artists go even further toward stopping the show as they satirize such present-day stars as Marlene Dietrich, Liberace, Frankie Laine, Eartha Kitt and others. . . . SCAT MAN CROTHERS comes on like the whole "Gangbusters Program" as he displays more rhythm in his being than an average room full of people put together. Anyone who can sit still while listening to the Scat Man would have to be made of steel. . . . Filling a vital spot in this sensational revue is GEORGE PRENTICE and his puppets. This paramount puppeteer puts on a "Punch and Judy" show nonpareil. . . . A grand finale, "I Got Rhythm," is presented by GEORGE MORO with the assistance of LOUIS DA PRON, who staged Mr. O'Connor's choreography. This finale features Donald O'Connor and the Scat Man with the Saharem Dancers and is set in a roof top locale. Great credit is due SID KULLER, who with SID MILLER, wrote the special material, and BERT PELLISH, who did a marvelous job with the musical arrangements. Set designs are by FURTH ULLMAN. The augmented orchestra of CEE DAVIDSON deserves great credit for the execution of these difficult television scores, which required a full week's rehearsal.

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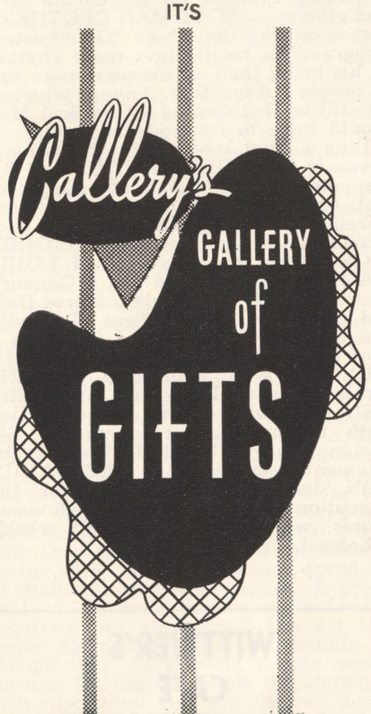
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EVERY DAY AN OCCASION

CRISWELL PREDICTS:

(Continued from Page 11)

idea of the space ship will be utilized next year. . . . Police and Firemen: The future life of your families will be protected by a new insurance and pension plan paid for by your city. . . .

France: You will have another new leader by October 1954. . . . Queen Elizabeth II: Some of your present activities will prove to be ill-advised and will boomerang on your popularity all over the world. . . . Dictator Franco: You will have three new international air bases in Spain. . . . Louis Rangno: Your "See America First" society will reach a new high in membership in 1954. . . . Tulsa, Okla.: Expect a tragic fire next month.

COMING HUSH-HUSH EVENTS: One of our top TV, radio and movie funny men will soon be the object of a nationwide boycott of all decent Americans as this comic ridicules religion openly, attacks the idea of marriage and the home and is singularly lacking in respect to any woman. His bosses have managed to keep his remarks from publication by practically making him a prisoner, but you can expect fireworks from this source by late March. . . . One of the biggest promotions in the history of American merchandising will start in April for the sale of apples to be used as a cornerstone of your daily diet. . . . The coming broadside attack on cigarette manufacturers by the medical profession for their "it-won't-harm-you" type of advertising.

WATCH OUT FOR THIS FRAUD: A man will tap on your door or will stop you on the street and will show you a folder of photographs, telling you that for only $1 you can get a portrait picture of yourself in your own home.

You accept his offer and he shows up at the appointed time with two other rough looking men who take over your home completely. The man demands that you pay him $25 plus service charge of $1 for each picture you pose, and, to get rid of them, you sign the order and are forced to pay, as it is a chattel mortgage on your personal effects.

You could have secured the photographs at one-fourth the price from your local photographer. This fraud usually works on single women, widows or those who are alone. If this man confronts you, call the police or your Better Business Bureau at once!

YOUR HEADLINES OF THE FUTURE: Shocking conditions found in mental hospitals! . . . Strange comets terrify South Africa! . . . Wonder drug conquers the scourge of cancer! . . . Shifting populations to suburban life

(Continued on Page 32)

SILVER SLIPPER:

(Continued from Page 19)

EUGENE JACKSON TRIO with rapid-fire singing and dancing. Young Jackson first attained popularity as "Farina" in the legendary "Our Gang" comedies. . . . One of the greatest comedy men in the business is the master-mugger HANK HENRY, one of the main reasons for the continued success of the shows in this room. When he and the diminutive SPARKY KAYE come together in a scene roars of laughter are assured. . . . For feminine beauty, each scene in which they appeared is enriched by Misses VIRGINIA DEW and JOAN WHITE, both very talented and beautiful additions to any show. . . . Also bolstering the scenes with their able and needed assistance are "Smilin'" Jimmy Cavanaugh and Bill Willard. . . . Music for all these Silver Slipper revues is arranged and supplied by GEORGE REDMAN and the members of his fine group of musicians.

EL CORTEZ

(Continued from Page 19)

the first time. Lou and Lee are identical twins. They began their career in show business at the early age of 6 in Hollywood, Calif. Their first appearances were in motion pictures. Their mirror reflection act will amaze the audience as one never knows whether it is Lou or Lee, or BOTH that is doing the entertaining. Outstanding among their accomplishments is their acrobatic adagio dance . . . Young JIMMY HUSSON is a veritable machine gun of gags as he comes on with his funny stories and fast running line of chatter. He is to satirize the leading celebrities of Hollywood among which is his impression of how Bing Crosby developed his style for singing . . . Still in the band box and doing a first class job of it is EDDIE SKRIVANEK and his SEXTETTE from HUNGER, who not only play for the shows, but provide the dance rhythms also . . .

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El Rancho Vegas

JANUARY 20

RONALD REAGAN
and REVUE

DESERT INN

FEBRUARY 2

JACKIE MILES
LES CHARLIVELS

SAHARA

JANUARY 26

JUDY CANOVA

The Sands

JANUARY 21

EZIO PINZA
DAVE BARRY

Thunderbird

JANUARY 21

SAUTER-FINEGAN ORK.
HELEN GALLAGHER

CRISWELL PREDICTS:

(Continued from Page 30)

brings crisis to politicians! . . . Growth of supermarkets open new era in merchandising! . . . Construction boom starts in Kansas! . . . Women granted more pensions than men! . . . New atomic tests scheduled! . . Industry faces good year ahead . . . New styles for men astound women by using simple lines! . . . Street corner prayer meetings held regularly by all faiths in 1954! . . . New tidal waves sweep India coastal areas! . . . Pentagon makes important announcement to world in March! . . . New wave of suicides sweep iron curtain countries! . . .

A VERY FAMOUS PREDICTION: "If I told anybody that I had returned from the dead they would think I was crazy." writes Mrs. Helen Yourely of Toronto, Canada, "but that is exactly what I did. The doctors pronounced me dead, and I could hear their voices saying so, but I could not move a muscle. I remember my ride to the mortuary and how they tenderly placed me on a preparation table. It seemed like an eternity until I was able to move and return to life. All during this time I could hear faint music resembling a string quartet and sensed that many people whom I knew dead were around me, and perhaps it was my idea of being alive which kept me connected with life. I have later found out that my experience was not so unusual!"

Thank you, Helen, and if you other readers have adventures of this type as true ghost stories, please write me today!

FOR WOMEN ONLY: Extra money can be made right in your own home by baking cakes and cookies in animal patterns for children. You will find that these pretty little cakes sell quickly to

(Continued on Page 33)

CRISWELL PREDICTS:

(Continued from Page 32)

parents with children who wish to use them as "rewards" for good behavior. . . . The coming tax on single men will drive many into matrimony who have never ventured before, so start dressing up! . . .

You women will completely take over barber shops in many areas for the coming test will prove that men prefer women to cut their hair and shave them over men. The Barbers Union will actively fight this innovation but to no avail. . . .

The next hostess delight will be plates which have a stone bottom which keep food hot for as long as twenty minutes. . . . Card players will soon be able to automatically keep track of the game through a wheel score card. . . . A new telephone stand which can be carried to any place in your home with a new non-twisting extension cord. . . .

You will soon be able to protect your best furniture upholstery with a foam rubber plastic transparent covering which clings to the fabric. This will also be available for your automobile by July. . . . A portable home water heater which can be attached to any faucet in your home. . . .

Florida will make a strong tourist bid for your traveling dollar by offering you many free items as you cross the state line. . . . The latest scientific diet for weight reduction will be to drink two glasses of buttermilk before each meal which will tend to burn up the calory content of what you will later eat.

RENO BEAT:

(Continued from Page 15)

the business, ROSEMARIE and LENNY KENT. Both are well known by night-club audiences throughout the nation. This is the first time that they have worked together in one act. They work the whole show and have a well-paced act that is lively, mixed with comedy and song. The lovely MAPES SKYLETTES and the fine music of EDDIE FITZPATRICK and his orchestra add much to the entertainment.

The THEATRE RESTAURANT of the RIVERSIDE opened Thursday with the young comic PAUL GILBERT, headlining a new Moro-Landis production, with the RIVERSIDE STARLETS and BILL CLIFFORD and his orchestra . . .

See you next week, ART STEAGALL, RENO 2-9736.

HOLLYWOOD:

(Continued from Page 21)

happened—he grunted in disgust and walked away—DEAN MARTIN asked his little pal what was wrong—"Oh," muttered Jerry, "it was the WRONG straw, that's all.". . . The stork is on the spring schedule for RITA and DICK—Rita hopes he will bring a boy this time. . . . GRETA GARBO and GAYELORD HAUSER are spending the warm days strolling in New York's Central Park—most likely discussing yogurt and carrot juice—and Greta is showing some interest in doing a movie based on the life of the famed woman novelist George Sand, which Paramount is discussing as a probable vehicle for the directorial hand of WILLIAM WYLER. . . . JUNE HAVER is discussing movie roles again—her agent announces she is interested in personal appearances any place other than nightclubs. . . . "The Stars WILL Be Singing" for true at Paramount in 1954—studio has plans for eight, count 'em, eight big musicals. When BOB HOPE accepted his award as "Man of 1953" the other night in Los Angeles he quipped: "My old friend Bing would have been here tonight, but he's taking driving lessons!"

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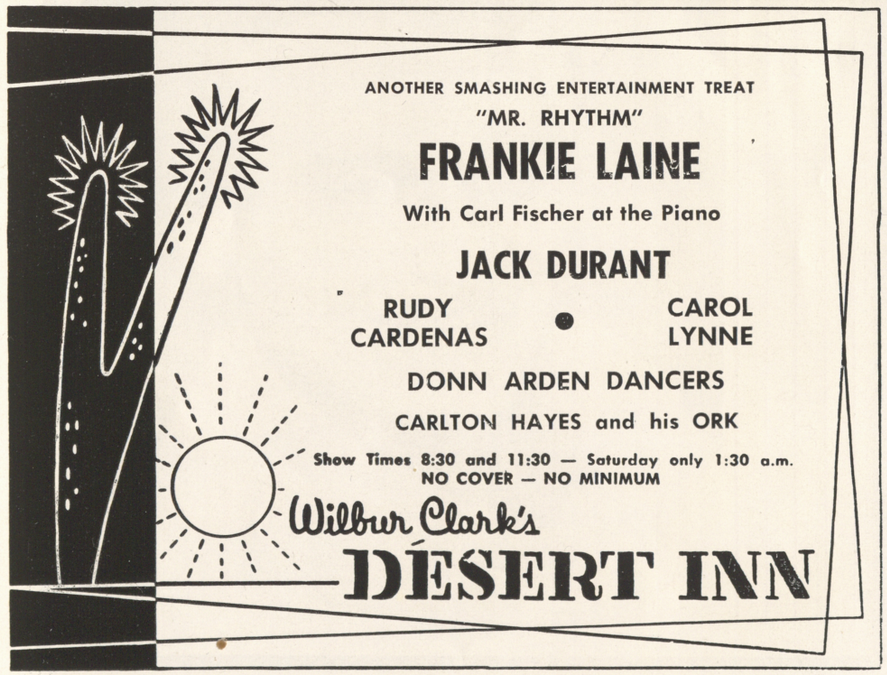
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CARL FISCHER AT THE PIANO