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MARCH 6, 1954

Fabulous

LAS VEGAS *Magazine*



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CLUB

The Biggest Little Casino
in the World



by CHARLES P. "POP" SQUIRES

THE MEADOWS: Soon after the Boulder Canyon Project bill was finally passed by the Senate and signed by President Calvin Coolidge, making it a law, there was much activity in Las Vegas. The general idea was that the building of the great dam on the Colorado River would bring a great crew of several thousand workers, but some people thought that when the dam was completed the men would leave and Las Vegas would no longer profit by the payroll.

We of Las Vegas, some of us, did not share in that view. We believed that cheap power would bring some industries to this region and create some new payrolls and that the greatest dam in the world would bring many tourists and prosperity with them.

The bill became a law on the 21st day of December, 1928, and we expected immediate activity; that is, some of the Las Vegas people did. But they overlooked the fact that the bill which was passed simply authorized the building of the Dam. The money to build it must be provided by law and the pessimists were sure that something would happen so that Congress would never appropriate the money.

Nevertheless, when the bill was passed a group of Las Vegas people organized a day of thanksgiving. About 50 automobiles carrying about 200 people made the long, hard trip to the banks of the Colorado River and at the head of Black Canyon knelt on the sand while the preachers offered up prayers of thanksgiving.

Pictures of the affair went all over the country and were printed by many newspapers. For a short time Las Vegas

felt that she was really on the way to greatness, but the pessimists got the upper hand and we really felt low.

When Herbert Hoover, who had been the most important factor in getting the bill through, became President we felt better, with good reason. He asked Congress to appropriate \$10,500,000 with which to start the work.

The town buzzed with excitement. The Union Pacific announced a date for starting the building of a railroad to the dam site. The secretary of the interior and high officials of the Government, including Senators Oddie and Pittman, congressmen and many other notables gathered beside the main lone track six miles south of town.

There the first rail was spiked down with a silver spike, speeches were made and the crowd, estimated at about 3100, sweltered in the sun for three hours. The secretary of the interior formally named the structure Hoover Dam in accordance with long established custom. We were on our way!

There was considerable worry on our part as to where the official offices of the Government controlling the work would be located. I well remember one hot afternoon when a party of us were driving back to Las Vegas from a trip to the river. We stopped at the engineers' camp a short distance down the canyon from where we now enter Boulder City. We walked up through the brush to a piece of level desert.

"There," said Walker R. Young, government engineer in charge, "is the site of the new government city which will be headquarters for building operations."

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DOWNTOWN — FIRST and CARSON STS.

The Adventures of Dave Barry



HERE'S so much snow up here in Reno I feel like I'm sitting in front of my television set. They've got a ski slide here that lands you right in a gambling casino. In fact, the dealers are being instructed in giving first aid and repairing broken legs. You can go hustled both ways now. Financially and physically.

They have a ski lift with a slot machine attached to it. During the 20-minute ride up to the top you can lose your sweater. I heard of a guy that hit a jackpot just before he got to the top and the weight carried him right down to the bottom.

I think the skiers are very lucky if they get any broken bones this week. There's a surgeons convention in town. You should see the way these doctors gamble. One of the surgeons was playing blackjack and when the dealer handed him the deck and asked him to cut, the doctor refused. He claimed he was on a vacation.

He wouldn't even shoot dice. He said the rattle reminded him of kidney stones. Besides he was sick and tired of hearing the expression, "They're coming out!"

Their convention was followed by a Shriners' whoop-de-doo. The doctors were cutting out and the Shriners were cutting up. You know the definition of a convention, don't you? That's what the hotels put the revolving doors back in after.

There has been so much noise up here this week you couldn't even hear the losers crying. All in all, I'm having a great time back at my favorite Reno workshop, the beautiful MAPES HOTEL. I have a room overlooking my bets. The service is wonderful. Maids come in every hour to check for suicides.

I heard a rumor that they also clean up the room but I haven't been there to see. I've been living at the crap table since I arrived and the only thing I see changed are the dice. Still, I'm enjoying the lovely scenery. That is, what I can see of it on post-cards.

This must be a beautiful place in the daytime. I must make a point to get up some day. Come to think of it, it would be so nice to make a point. Any kind of a point. So far the only point I've seen is on the top of my head. My other

head happens to be normal.

By the way, dear readers, I'd like to tell you about a very nice guy who is one of the nicest millionaires I know. His name is Charles Mapes who, spelling RENO backwards, is the ONER of the hotel I'm working.

This is one of those off-the-record stories you don't hear about too often. But it's an indication that there are still some great guys around that reaffirm your faith in the human race.

I was booked to appear at the Mapes Hotel last Christmas. About a week before I was scheduled to open I was offered a featured comedy role in the Universal-International picture "PLAY-GIRL." It meant working with Miss Shelley Winters and was a wonderful opportunity.

Hopefully, I put in a long distance call to Mr. Mapes and he consented to let me out of my contract so I could appear in the film. It was the nicest Christmas present I ever received. So, a nod of the Barry noggin to a swell person, CHARLES MAPES!

As a matter of fact, the part went so nicely that I'm up for another role in a new musical being planned at the same studio. See, kids? Keep your fingers crossed and be nice to those who may some day be nice to you.

It was nice to see all the old gambling gang here again. Things are very comfortable up here. I wish everybody felt as good as I do right now.

I was sorry to hear that Marilyn Monroe returned from Korea with a chest cold. I hope that the doctor who examined her will recover. She did a great job entertaining the boys over there. All she had to do was run out on stage, stop quick and let nature take its course.

Then she spent 15 minutes picking up eyeballs and handing them back to their owners. I heard that the 38-degree line shot up to 300 degrees Fahrenheit!

The GIs had to wear special gear to watch Marilyn perform. Asbestos uniforms with a built-in oxygen tent. I hope she gets back to making movies in a hurry. I used to get a terrific tan from the heat of the screen!

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"The Friendliest Corner in the West"



TA O LOOK at our front cover. anyone would believe it was June in Las Vegas. We had all the ingredients of that calendar month when this event materialized. Sentimental Sol shone brilliantly and must have infused the bride with some of his romantic rays to inspire her absolute radiance. Here indeed is the story-book couple who are respectively lovely and handsome. The smiling bridegroom is JOHNNY UHLMAN, our advertising manager and columnist. The charming addition to the Uhlman household is CHILI WILLIAMS, who achieved fame a few years back as the nationally-publicized "Polka Dot Queen." Both of these wonderful people were certain they had true love in their grasp from their first meeting. It didn't take long for Cupid to realize he had shot the matrimonial arrow in their direction. On February 28, Chili and Johnny exchanged their vows at First Baptist Church. The ceremony was officiated by the Honorable Reverend WALTER BISHOP. Many friends and relatives were present and Best Man Cortez managed to execute his part in the proceedings without dropping the ring or tripping over his nervousness. It was truly a beautiful ceremony. JEANNE WELBORN'S rendition of "Because" was highly moving and cast an ethereal aura over the attendance. It was a distinct pleasure to witness the devotion that was shared by the newlyweds. We wish them a constant love, as unending as the circle in their marriage bands. May they both enjoy full health and happiness through their entire lifetime. It looks as though the gods have blessed this union . . . and that's for sure.

Manifold are the comments that have been reaching this desk in reference to the advertisement we are currently running for the HORSESHOE CLUB. BILL DORSETT (general manager of that spot) has appealed to the readers with the thought he injected: "For security—it's Government Bonds . . . For a gamble—it's the Horseshoe Club." No one could be franker or more honest than that. This bit of candor has added many more patrons to the extensive group who have already termed this their favorite downtown gaming center. A June 27 wedding will unite two of the leading families of Las Vegas. Pre-

paring her trousseau is SANDY ROSEN while DANNY KOLOD fidgets impatiently, wondering why it's taking so long for the hours to expire between now and then. Danny's dad is RUBY KOLOD, part owner of WILBUR CLARK'S DESERT INN, and Sandy's father GEORGE is associated with the THUNDERBIRD HOTEL. We believe both youngsters are approximately 17 years of age. Needless to say, the parents of the future newlyweds are extremely happy and have taken full charge of the matrimonial plans.

Certainly is wonderful to see MARY BECKER back on The Strip once more. Mary is currently selling the cigars and cigars at the HOTEL SAHARA. She had to leave an identical post at the FLAMINGO HOTEL when illness beset her. However, the lovely Mrs. B. looks the picture of health now and we earnestly hope that many, many years pass before she finds it necessary to consult another doctor.

Darn! Even though we are just a wee bit late, we did so want to be prompt with these congratulations. However, the utmost sincerity is contained in our tardy felicitations to JEANNE and VERN WELBORN, who celebrated their third wedding anniversary March 4. Jeanne is the gal with that beautiful voice (recently appearing at the HOTEL EL CORTEZ) and Vern is our leading local architect.

Oh, no! Here's one for the "Groan Department!" The latest fashion release advises us that a certain novelty concern will soon launch a campaign to popularize MINK EYEBROWS! Can you feature that? Now, what on Mother Earth could a person want with such an item?

You can always tell when BOB GANS' sister is in town. (He is a pit boss at the FLAMINGO HOTEL.) His "happy register" jumps to the million mark and just exudes contented joy. We don't know if he has any other sisters, but BEA RUBIN is certainly his very favorite relative. Mr. R. makes an annual visit to Las Vegas and it's a pleasure to see how her presence affects him.

CHARLES WATSON (pit boss-graveyard shift at the SANDS HOTEL) can once more be seen at his post. He re-

(Continued on Page 33)

ANOTHER

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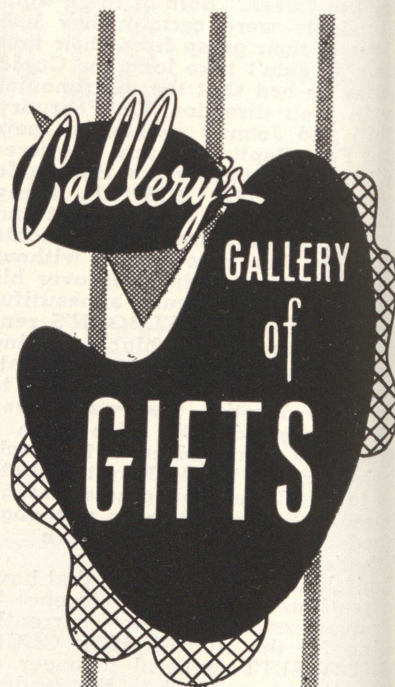
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EVERY DAY AN OCCASION



An Accurate Glimpse of the Future

**CRISWELL
PREDICTS**



WHAT PEOPLE WILL DO: The most amazing invention of our century will soon be made known to a startled world by a German scientist now in Spain who will demonstrate a machine which can recapture the human voice and reproduce it exactly PLUS presenting a full image of the person speaking after a full 24 hours have elapsed, through the use of magnetic electrons! . . . Princess Margaret will retire from public life after her coming marriage in September! . . . Billy Rose, the No. 1 Broadway showman, will soon tour a spectacular production based on the life of George Washington despite British influence to curtail the musical!

Mamie Eisenhower will have great effect on the millinery business the world over through her personal preference of the "little girl" type of hats! . . . Family deserters who dump their wives and children on public charity will face a great surprise when they are forcibly brought back and under law forced to provide or go to jail! . . . Sinclair Weeks, the secretary of commerce, will soon issue a most revolutionary outline to be followed on world trade, which will be accepted as the new international policy! . . . Eileen Bennett will soon issue a most shocking scientific report on the coming revolution in the weather and how it will affect your property, your health and your welfare!

Craig Hosmer (Calif. R.) will soon make his sensational plans known to span the nation from coast to coast with monorail travel! . . . Shelton Martin and his national sales organization will soon offer pre-contracted funerals on the installment plan to ease the immediate financial burden which is placed on families at the passing of a loved one!

WOMEN WHO WILL MAKE NEWS: The Duchess of Windsor will permit her life to be filmed with no punches pulled, and it will truly make one of the top movies of 1955! . . . Pola Negri, the winsome silent vamp of the flickers, who once had every man at her feet, will write of her life and loves in a very frank and open manner which will shock every man and woman in the nation; . . . Hettv Green, the world's richest woman, will inspire many girls

in the business world with her clear and simple valuation of men—which was "Simply don't trust them!"

Clare Booth Luce, our present Ambassador to Italy, will soon present a series of weekly broadcasts from Rome which will keep the American public up to date on Italian affairs! . . . Rita Hayworth will find that her many troubles have been through faulty advice from the man nearest to her at the present moment!

Ada Martin of the Martin Holiday Tours will accept reservations for a flight to the moon in 1960, as this is how sure science can be of coming interplanetary travel! . . . Oveta Culp Hobby, our secretary of health, education and welfare, will soon present a plan to Congress in which unwed mothers are given legal aid to force the admitted fathers of the children to assume responsibility on a federal level!

A noted magazine editor will testify that all her co-editors follow the Communist Party line! . . . The late Eva Peron will soon have a shining marble city built in her memory by the citizens of Argentina which will outshine the Taj Mahal, the tomb of Napoleon, Lenin or Stalin! . . . The Methodist Church will soon open its pulpits to women for the first time in their religious history!

Lenore Ulric, David Belasco's greatest star, will make a startling comeback to the silver screen in the role of a woman dictator who rules her mythical nation without the aid or use of men, to re-establish peace and harmony in the world. This film will have a similar theme to the forthcoming "God's Front Porch" by Ketti Frings where the new saviour of mankind is a woman. Yes, mark this prediction: 1955 will be a woman's year!

Etta Cortez, the wife of Jack Cortez, the man who made Las Vegas famous, will write for a national woman's magazine the trials and tribulations of being a wife who rarely sees her husband due to the demands of business, and yet has achieved happiness for both her husband and herself. I predict this secret will help many women who are tortured by this same problem of a professional husband such as a doctor, lawyer, dentist, or public figure!

(Continued on Page 31)

Thanks, NEW YORK

Thanks, LAS VEGAS

FLORIDA, - - - - "Here we come!"

ROSE *"The Pizza"* MARIE

AND

"The Blintza" LENNY KENT

"Me, too!"

BOB JACOBS
PIANIST - ARRANGER



ALL WEEK LONG I've been answering the inevitable question . . . "Well, boy, how does it feel to be an old married man?" . . . And I happily resort with the inevitable word, "Wonderful!" . . . When actually Chili and I have come to the agreement and conclusion that we really don't feel much different at all. Ours seemed to be such a perfect understanding and companionship from the beginning that, now that we're an "old married couple," we don't feel any different. I'll wager that very few other newlyweds have ever enjoyed the thrilling pleasure that comes with unselfish cooperation and understanding. Right now I'd like to thank all of our friends who were so kind with their wires, letters and gifts. A man's castle would be a dungeon with no friends to light the passages, and my castle knows no shadows.

Once again I come to one of those rare occasions where I venture an opinion about a new act I've see! A little over two months ago two very good friends of mine got their heads together to form one of the finest comedy teams to come along in quite some time. This is only their fourth engagement but with each one the managements have tried to hold them over for a continued run. They set New York on its ear with their engagement at LA VIE EN ROSE, getting rave notices with every turn. ROSE MARIE sings a fine rhythm tune, tells jokes like a man, and takes a back seat to no one when it comes to throwing lines, or catching them. LENNY has a great sense of timing, a wonderful ad lib artist, also sings good rhythm and matches Rosie when it comes to throwing fast lines. So what could be more natural? Watching them perform you'd swear that they hated one another and, so far, these two have had everyone holding their sides and loving the both of them. Top bracket, these two!

If all goes well, it looks as though the new PATIO on The Strip will open come next week, with or without the deck and domino department. MAX STETTNER and JOE COHEN have been thrown more curves on their project than you'd find on a back road through the Rockies. But they've got one of the most beautiful spots I've ever seen, to which you'll agree when you see the 3-D perspective that TOM

DOUGLAS has achieved in the interior decorating of the place. So you'll just have to watch for the opening date.

The KIRBY STONE FOUR are beginning to bring 'em into the Gay Nineties Bar every night for "repeats" of watching their zany antics and hearing their "crazy" lyrics. "Little Poison's" voice is enough for a laugh no matter what he might say. MIKE'S dead-pan and serious sounding voice make his lines the funniest, while all "DOC" has to do is stand out front. "KOIBY" is the linguist, or dialectician, and, with this feature to his credit, can tell a joke to fullest advantage. But we musn't lose sight of the fact that they were, and are, primarily a musical group . . . a fact they prove over and over with each show in the Last Frontier's Gay Nineties.

TAMARA came two weeks ago, and little 4½-year-old MICHAEL BADIK Jr. has a little baby sister. Michael Sr. and his lovely ELEANOR accepted the responsibility of their new exemption the afternoon of February 20. She settled the hospital scales to a mean 7 pounds 10 ounces and made the statement to the press that she was well satisfied with her new parents . . . Congrats to you both, Mike and Eleanor.

It was a complete change of scenery all around for CHILI this past week. Not only did we slip the noose around one another to share the same sheets, but she also is in the employ of Miss BONNIE BEST as of Tuesday last. So if you want to meet the "Mrs." you'll find her alongside the other wonderful salesgirls at Bonnie's. There's KAY, who'd look smart in anything she might put on . . . TERRY, who can be in more places at one time than a formation of flying saucers . . . ELISE, who is up to her ears in pins and needles with alterations. CATHERINE, without whom nothing'd ever get done, and we may as well include the boss, BONNIE, who, when she's wearing high heels, you can see above her books and invoices.

Say, have you ever lobbed your chops around one of those "Dealer's Specials" that are to be had on the menu of GAM'S RESTAURANT located in the WESTERNER CLUB downtown? Here's about the best deal you'll be able to find anywhere in these parts. A COM-

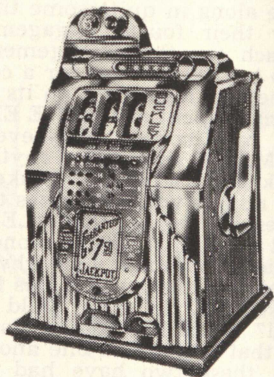
(Continued on Page 40)



THE Buckley GIRL

Says . . .

I'd
even
bet
my
shirt
on
these
Buckley
machines



MEET ME AT

BUCKLEY

JACKPOT CLUB
DOWNTOWN

What's Doin' Downtown...

by
HARRY INGRAHAM

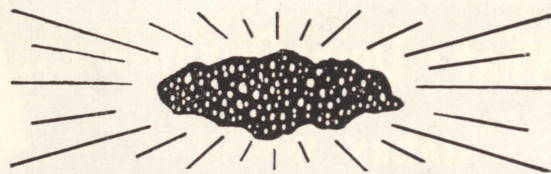


AS THIS is being written, I am a very sentimental guy—the most sentimental in town . . . "MAMMY JOHNNY" got married to CHILI (lovely-as-a-picture) WILLIAMS. MARGE FRIEND, drum beater for the GOLDEN NUGGET, married HAL WIENKE—LORA ANN CONIGLIO married DANNY STEIN. Yes, siree! That old gang of mine is sure breaking up. Think I'll go cry over a glass of cold, juicy, yum-yum buttermilk—and here I wind up alone with the "Kid" (Johnny's Doberman). If it weren't that I feared the editor of this hyar sheet, I would probably start smokin Bering cigars, but you KNOW the editor, so who can afford a Bering cigar? (even a 5-center)? I'm just a rovin', roamin' miserable columnist (?) and nobody loves me—some of you may feel sorry for me . . . but don't! I like it this way—we were taught this sort of life when I attended that elegant and most refined reformatory in Tacoma, Wash., better known as the College of Puget Sound.

Speaking of glitter, two bar boys at the GOLDEN NUGGET who earn approximately \$10 per day just bought new Cadillacs. Must have a "piece of a piece" . . . GEORGE JOHNSON (CLOTHES HORSE) has been on a buying spree in Arizona, procuring some choice cottons and has also brought back some new spring sportswear and cocktail dresses from Los Angeles . . . BONANZA AIRLINES, under the new guidance of MR. HERNSTEIN, is really flying high and is giving excellent service to ail nearby cities . . . I made my usual stop at DUFFY'S TAVERN the other night, and who should be there but BILLY GRAY and BEN LESSY; man, I thought I was champion, but I will challenge any big-eater in the country to consume more Italian food than Mr. G. I also took notice of a frequently-present group, two of whom were CALVIN HESSE and NELSON McNARY—they are both of HAVAS MOTORS . . . I discovered that Texans who are always preaching Texas don't always prefer it—TOM FORD (bar manager at EL CORTEZ) lived in El Paso for 40 years and is now a confirmed Las Vegan. It looks like our Silver State has outshone the Lone Star . . . GEORGE CAVANAUGH, RONNIE QUINN, JACK SIMPSON and SAMMY AMARELLI, four of the friendliest and best-known

bartenders in Las Vegas, have always made it a point to be friendly and courteous and make the customers feel at home in the SHILLELAH ROOM at the SHAMROCK HOTEL. They make a person want to go back again and again . . . EVE SAVOY, one of the really beautiful cocktail waitresses at the GOLDEN NUGGET, is also a successful photographer's model, besides being a model housewife . . . Beyond a shadow of a doubt, the NEVADA CLUB can boast of perfect lighting which never casts shadows . . . JERRY McCLONEY is doing the art work for KAY PARSON'S cozy piano bar (Gay Nineties setting). Kay has the only place of this sort that has adequate seating. She is one of the most gracious and accommodating persons I have ever had the pleasure of meeting. I have a special admiration for her efforts in going out of her way to make servicemen feel at home . . . Attention faro bank players, if you're looking for action, and I MEAN action galore, stop in at the HORSESHOE CLUB. Their limits are stupendous and the friendliness that prevails throughout the club exceeds that stupendous limit. The man who is captain at the helm and responsible for this is its manager, BILL DORSETT, which brings to mind the old cliché: "The crew is only as good as its captain" . . . Not to sound repetitious, like the rest of the people in Las Vegas (and the tourists), I just can't stop raving about the tremendous crowds that keep flocking to the CALIFORNIA CLUB. If reservations were available you would still have a tough time finding a vacant stool at the bar or even a spot to elbow in. It is an almost impossible feat . . . To those of you who haven't met DOROTHY and ED CALLERY, you are missing a treat you would always remember. These people are not only tremendous personalities, but they also feature outstanding gifts which bear originality and an exclusive touch; CALLERY'S GALLERY is located on North Third Street . . . Mr. and Mrs. ROCKY CICHETTI are to be congratulated on the opening of their new Italian Restaurant on The Strip. "ROCCO'S" will have its grand opening Monday, March 8. This couple has worked objectively towards this dream. Through sincere efforts and determination they have transformed it

(Continued on Page 41)



MARY BRINEY AND BOB CARTER

JILL ADAMS and DUDE KIMBALL

Joe Venuti & Orch
Lisa Alonso and Her Tropicares

SHOW TIMES: 10 P.M. - 1 A.M. - 3 A.M.

GOLDEN NUGGET

GAMBLING HALL
DOWNTOWN - LAS VEGAS

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RENO, from all indications, is headed for the biggest season in its history. The past week-end gave every promise that the near-by ski area is fast becoming the ski mecca of the West. The University of Nevada's Winter Carnival will bring many contestants to Mt. Rose from the eastern part of our country when Dartmouth and Harvard universities send their teams to compete in the intercollegiate meet this week-end.

In and around Reno, thousands of dollars are being poured into construction of luxurious accommodations to take care of the hundreds of tourists expected to visit Northern Nevada this coming summer. New eating places are in the making, the downtown clubs have plans, some already in work, for enlarging their facilities.

At the nearby Lake Tahoe many new resorts are being readied to greet the lake visitors. The "biggest" of the "big name" talent are putting their names on contracts to appear in Reno and at the lake this summer.

With the forming of the Reno All-Year Committee, a new organization to further promote and publicize this area, Reno should come into its own this year . . .

AGVA: A fast rundown on Renoites in show business: BEATRICE KAY at the Beverly Country Club in Covington, Ky. CARL RAVAZZA headed north to VANCOUVER, to be followed there by ELLA MAE MORSE . . . San Francisco Ballet to appear here March 15 . . . Highway 40, main Reno-San Francisco route, open to traffic after being closed for 12 days by a giant rock slide . . . LAVERNE MacDONALD of the Mapes Skyettes, off on a two-week vacation . . . MR. and MRS. JAMES McKAY in from LA for the week-end. Congrats to BUSTER McCLURE, new president of the Reno JCs . . . The south end of Lake Tahoe reports the biggest off-season week-end in its history last week, due to Route 40 being closed. All motor traffic from the Bay Area was forced to go right by their front door . . .

The Nevada State Tax Commission has again deferred action upon the application of JOHN DREW for a 25 per cent interest in the BANK CLUB-GOLDEN HOTEL CASINO . . . still no manager named for the post at the Reno

Airport . . . Another land rush hit the Reno office last week as a result of the oil discovery by Shell Oil Company. Applications for oil land and gas leases totalling nearly 1,800,000 acres were received in one day . . . Fishing is back at PYRAMID LAKE, rainbow trout are flourishing in this lake supposedly "dead" for fishing for the past 25 years . . . RUSTY DRAPER set to follow DAVE BARRY into the MAPES SKY-ROOM . . .

CURRENT SHOWS: Going into the final week, the GOLD ROOM of the GOLDEN HOTEL offers CHARLIE CHANEY, truly a man of mirth. CHANEY'S mixture of piano antics and real swift humor marks him as a top entertainer. Adding to the show are JACQUELINE FONTAINE and the CLARK BROTHERS. MISS FONTAINE, a lovely songstress, has a pleasing voice and a style of delivery that will take her along the road to showtime headliners. The CLARK BROTHERS, two boys that dance as one, are really great. STERLING YOUNG and his orchestra provide the background music for the show as well as music for your dancing . . .

THE SKYROOM of the MAPES HOTEL are in the second week of a show that is full of fun and laffs, headed by DAVE BARRY, a top comic. DAVE is one of Reno's favorite entertainers, and for a reason—his material is always new, well chosen and his style of telling a story without an equal . . . The singing and dancing of CHARLIE AARON and the puppets of STAN KRAMER plus the MAPES SKYLETES and the fine music of EDDIE FITZPATRICK complete the show

THE THEATRE RESTAURANT of the RIVERSIDE opened Thursday with GEORGE PRENTISS, world's master Punch and Judy Puppeteer, and his family of little people. The RIVERSIDE STARLETS and BILL CLIFFORD and his orchestra round out the show.

See you next week . . .

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"CURTAIN TIME"

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

Flamingo

February 25 thru March 10

SHOW: Rose Marie and Lenny Kent, Bill Kenny and the Ink Spots

LINE: Flamingo Starlets in Ron Fletcher Productions

ORCH: Torris Brand

The recent merger of ROSE MARIE and LENNY KENT has proved to be one of the greatest things that ever happened, not only to them but to those who have known and followed their careers as singles. This union has formed one of the most relaxed team of performers you will ever have the pleasure of seeing and hearing—a pair of comedians, each a star in his or her own right, but who work together as a team for the benefit of both and for the

(Continued on Page 39)

can words describe such a voice?" This reviewer and the entire audience heartily agreed! From the moment KEEL's glorious voice sounded the first note of "Oklahoma!" the audience was enthralled and burst into spontaneous ovation. Generously he sang 12 numbers chosen from his former Broadway stage and screen successes, embracing medleys from "Show Boat," "Annie Get Your Gun," "Oklahoma," and "Kiss Me, Kate." His swashbuckling rendition of Petruchio of MGM's screen version of the stage hit "Kiss Me, Kate" climaxed a repertoire of magnificent musical fare that will long remain as the most cherished memory in Las Vegas nightclub history. ANGEL MARLO, beautiful young non-professional singer discovered by KEEL at the studios of their mutual voice coach, Leon Ceppara of Hollywood, scored mightily, dueting with KEEL in the Show Boat and Kiss

(Continued on Page 39)

El Rancho Vegas

February 17 thru March 9

SHOW: Billy Gray, Patti Moore, Ben Lessy

LINE: The El Rancho Girls

ORCH: Bob Ellis

LAST FRONTIER

March 1 thru March 14

SHOW: MGM singing star Howard Keel, Carsony Brothers, Blackburn Twins and Evelyn Ward

LINE: The Frontier Girls

ORCH: Garwood Van

A male movie star with a physique unexcelled by any Greek god, and with a bass singing voice that is unmatched—that's HOWARD KEEL! "He's great, great, great—but then I am not surprised!" stated movie star Louis Calhern, who was among the star-studded audience opening night. "Never has Keel sung greater!" exclaimed handsome movie star Jeff Chandler. "How

The laff riot of the year! That's what they're saying about this new show in the Opera House Theater Restaurant which stars these three perpetual funsters! They've scored great successes here before, and are out to surpass even them! . . . BILLY GRAY is a comedian who can be appreciated by one and all. His are the kind of performances that you can see time and time again, and never tire of them through his flawless method of presentation and timing. In this statement you will agree if you've seen him perform as many times as we . . . and still find them hilarious! His "western" bit is a classic that will live in infamy . . . His associates on stage for some time has been a team of two top entertainers who are fast becoming legendary figures in the nightclub



"CURTAIN TIME"



realms . . . PATTI MOORE and BEN LESSY, in a comedy class all by themselves, and possessing a "know-how" of Show Business that is the envy of many. PATTI is a tower of effervescence and enthusiasm seldom seen today. When she and the lovable LESSY go

(Continued on Page 38)

Willbur Clark's
DESERT INN

Show Opening March 2

SHOW: Carmen Miranda, Billy Vine, Lebrac & Bernice

LINE: Donn Arden Dancers

ORCH: Carlion Hayes

CARMEN MIRANDA, the favorite "Souise" American, is back and the telephone operators at this bistro are being besieged by a steady stream of callers who refuse to pass up this show. We have as yet to meet one person who isn't a staunch admirer of this stellar performer. Her diminutive stature is rife with dynamic talent. Miss Miranda combines a delightful accent with pixie-like comedy, strong vocal projection and an endearing stage personality. Her colorful costumes are a trademark known to all and her bombastic qualities insure her of success with every audience. (Miss Miranda is backed up by the BANDA DA LUO BOYS.) . . . To listen to BILLY VINE'S brand of humor is to be regaled with one of the outstanding treats Show Business has to offer. This lad uncannily displays a psychic quality as he selects a store of repartee and wit that reaches every one's sense of appreciation. You must be somewhat of a miracle man to be able to please the multitudes. Billy is an artist in his own field. It takes a degree of genius to transport folks from their earthly concerns to a land of happiness and laughter. And that's what Billy is—a genius and a master comedian . . . rounding out the bill are

(Continued on Page 38)



SAHARA

February 23 thru March 15

SHOW: Sonja Henie and her Ice Revue

ORCH: Cee Davidson

If you want to see a modern-day "Alice in Wonderland" take a good long look at SONJA HENIE on this magnificently adorned stage and you'll want to return as often as reservations permit. The beautiful Miss Henie is an exquisite portrait of perfect timing. She glides through her enchanting choreography on feet so fleet it would seem she were a feather, borne by the wind. Even Mercury would be envious to note her agile, competent movements

(Continued on Page 38)



The Sands

February 10 thru March 9

SHOW: Tallulah Bankhead, Byron Palmer, Page and Bray

LINE: Copa Girls, featuring Chuck Nelson

ORCH: Ray Sinatra

Yes, dahlings, TALLULAH is here and folks are flocking to see and hear this world-famous personality. MISS BANKHEAD has returned to bring more of her remarkable versatility to local supper-clubbers. She is a complete and thorough actress, as exemplified by her amazing transitions. Miss B. can bring tears to your eyes and then almost imperceptibly raise you from the low mood she inspired to the crest of hilarity. Here is one of the greatest

(Continued on Page 29)

Thunderbird

February 18 thru March 10

SHOW: The Four Aces, Mickey Shaughnessy, Irving Fields Trio, Rafael and Parisienne Models

LINE: Kathryn Duffy Dansations

ORCH: Al Johns

It's another conspicuous first in the Navajo Room as we see and hear the FOUR ACES, a group of four young men whose vocal blendings have made them one of the male quartets of our times. In a comparatively short period of time they have managed to get a dozen or more hit tunes on record . . . Their latest two being "Stranger in Paradise" and "Heart of My Heart" In their rendition of "Heart of My Heart" on this occasion they encourage audience participation . . . In this their warm personalities and genuine enthusiasm spills over into the audience and wholesale participation is almost spontaneous . . . MICKEY SHAUGHNESSY

(Continued on Page 27)

El Cortez

February 25 thru March 10

SHOW: Jay Jason, Laverne Pearson, the Dewey Sisters, Wild Bill Davis Trio

ORCH: Eddie Skrivanek and His Sextette From Hunger

JAY JASON, a versatile young comedian, is back at last with "Jest at Its Best." He has played many of the nation's top niteries, and is always a sensation. JAY's fast-paced routine of impressions and characterizations make

(Continued on Page 38)



SILVER SLIPPER SALOON

SHOW: Bela Lugosi, Hank Henry, Virginia Drew, Joan White, Silver Slipper Players. Extra added attraction, Tere' Sheehan

ORCH: George Redman

The No. 1 maniac of all horror pictures, BELA LUGOSI, is now starring at this show spot. In a "heavy" scene from DRACULA he makes the audience shudder, but later joins the Silver Slipper Star Players in a zany, satirical bit . . . Dagnet. This is MR. LUGOSI's first nightclub appearance and seeing him in a comedy hit is almost unbelievable . . . As usual, HANK HENRY is on hand to lend hilarity to the show. His impersonation of TALLULAH BANKHEAD is indescribable. You can well be assured of the utmost in fun and frivolity at this SILVER SLIPPER

(Continued on Page 39)



GOLDEN NUGGET

(Not a Review)

March 3 thru March 17

SHOW: Mary Briney and Bob Carter, Jill Adams, Dude Kimball

ORCH: Joe Venuti, Lisa Alonso and Tropicaires

Headlining the new show at this spot are MARY BRINEY and BOB CARTER. Their extensive repertoire of musical hits and accomplished delivery make this duo a No. 1 attraction for all . . . Sultry brunette dancer JILL ADAMS adds glamour to the show with her eye-catching routines . . . Many localities will remember DUDE KIM-

(Continued on Page 39)



BILLY GRAY ★

PAT MOORE ★

BEN LESSY ★

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Hillsway
BY ROLAND HILL



GOSH, I am happy—back in good old Las Vegas after too long gone, and back at the old Last Frontier—my first love in Las Vegas, and can't say I am too happy about the remodeling plans in the offing for this swank hostelry, because to me and to those others of us who have literally grown up with the Last Frontier, it has a charm and quaintness and tradition that to change would be almost like changing the antebellum homes of the pre-Civil War days.

Just finished the English Hunt Breakfast, which is positively the most terrific served anywhere on this continent. Try it and you will agree. And it does seem wonderful to have my old and good friend Harold O'Hara back at his old stand here as assistant manager. He is without a doubt the finest front man a hotel could have. He assists able and personable Bob Cannon, whom everyone knows far and wide.

Another person at the Frontier who deserves mention is Charley Speck, the best and most agreeable casino cashier in Las Vegas. Stop by and have a chat with him—used to be with Tanner and was therefore then in the greeting business too.

Las Vegas is like a world's fair to me—something doing on every corner every minute of the day and night and I have more darned fun when I come here.

I even enjoy the otherwise painful things in life, such as going to the dentist, the foot doctor, the eye doctor—which things I always do here and not elsewhere. not even in my own home town. Yesterday I had a pleasant session with the finest dentist in the business, Dr. George Rasqui, who holds forth in the Stearns Building. Positively the best dentist you could ever hope to go to. Why don't you, too, get your dental work done while enjoying your stay in this desert town?

Then I went overtown and bought my spring wardrobe. First I got some new Arrow shirts at old reliable Christensen's Men's Wear at 316 Fremont. Up the street a block you will find ALLEN & HANSEN'S Men's Store. Three of the nicest guys are there, the two bosses, Jack Hansen and Hardy Allen, and ably assisted by young Don Teigen. It's fun to shop where they all know you and remember you and I never pass this shop without buying

something—in fact I got my entire European trip wardrobe here a year or so ago.

LIVE AND LEARN DEPARTMENT . . . went to a prominent foot doctor on South Sixth Street and had a fine treatment, but when I came to pay my bill he confronted me with a "disappointment sheet" as he called it—seems as though I had had an examination of my feet by him way back in '50 or '51 and had forgotten all about it.

He had made an appointment for me three days hence, but I was called back to L.A. and had to cancel this appointment, but seems I disappointed the poor fellow and yesterday I had to pay \$5 for that appointment I had never had.

I was going to urge you to get your feet fixed up while here, but now I won't. Nuf sed. And while we are on the subject of gouging, now that the "boss" has gotten to the name-calling stage, a thing I never thought I would see, I am going to tell about an incident last fall.

We got here from the East a day too early for our reservations at the Last Frontier and so stopped at the HOLIDAY INN MOTEL, and was told that the rooms would be \$16 a day single. My friend had gone in and, when she returned and told me that, I blew my top and went into the HOLIDAY INN OFFICE and was told there was nothing they could do about it, that the Chamber of Commerce set the rates for their rooms as it did for all rooms in town. Such a blatant and libelous statement I had never heard before. Needless to say, I "Unrecommended" the HOLIDAY INN but fast in this year's issue of HILLSWAY.

And so we went down the street to a little motel that we knew and got fine rooms for \$7. The OUTPOST is the name and one I heartily recommend—not swank, but two of the grandest young folks run it, Harvey and Hazel Wright. They deserve your patronage, and they do not gouge.

Got my car all taken care of at my favorite station—the UNION OIL at Fifth and Charleston—Buck Evans' station. They do wonderful work and are dependable beyond a doubt—an out of town car is the same as one they know—the service is no different, and that

(Continued on Page 29)

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 AND BRILLIANT
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*Hollywood
 Happenings*

NORMALLY blonde JAN STERLING doesn't feel as though she should "sound off" with her personal opinions. But the other evening when your reporter took her aside for a short interview at the Hollywood premiere of "Red Garters" she was "sounding off" with a vengeance. She had pretty strong feelings on this point—so strong, as a matter of fact, she didn't even mention her co-starring role with ROBERT RYAN and BRIAN KEITH in "Alaska Seas," which will go into release soon. What Jan had to say made good and sound listening. Here is what she wanted to say:

"I'm continuously amused by those who declare that a husband and wife shouldn't both be in films. 'Let the husband act,' these people say, or 'let the wife act,' but not both. Sooner or later there'll be trouble.

"I'm at a loss to explain such logic—if such it is. If anything, I say that when both husband and wife act, they'll be better actors for it, because the work of one complements the other.

"My husband, PAUL DOUGLAS, is a continual source of inspiration and help to me. He says that my comments and advice help him, too, in his work—I hope so.

"We're one couple who not only go to our own rushes daily, but to each other's as well. I'm delighted when Paul comes through with a hit like 'Forever Female.' And he's more happy when I manage to click.

"Because we are both so intensely interested in acting, we can think of no better way of spending our conversation time than by talking shop. In fact, it's a gala night for us when another married couple—the CHARLTON HESTONS—can drop by and we enlarge our shop talk by one more couple.

"Charlton and his wife, Lydia, feel the same as we do about husband and wife being in the same business.

"My advice to girls is to marry in the business. After all, marriage is the ultimate goal of those having the same interests."

Can you imagine somebody not wanting to look like RITA HAYWORTH? Lovely French star NICOLE MAUREY (MOE RAY) finds it can be a liability.

Nicole caught the attention of Hollywood when she was brought to this

country to star with BING CROSBY in "Little Boy Lost." When Life Magazine featured her on the cover Bing was quoted as calling her a "combination of MARLENE DIETRICH, RITA HAYWORTH and the farmer's daughter."

That was enough for Miss Maurey. She was pleased with the distinguished comparisons, but she decided to do something to squelch any further comparisons. The outstanding point of comparison was her long auburn hair falling in soft waves around her face. This was the solution for Nicole.

When Paramount paged her to star with CHARLTON HESTON in the technicolored "Secret of the Incas," Nicole tramped over to Paramount make-up artist WALLY WESTMORE and persuaded him to whack off several inches of that lovely hair.

That did the trick. The sacrifice of the long lush hair completely changed the way Miss Maurey photographed. Wonder what Life and Bing Crosby will say to the new Nicole Maurey?

THUNDERBIRD:

(Continued from Page 21)

claims that there's "nothing to laugh at" . . . which may well be true until this burly comedian comes on stage and proceeds to tell a few of his stories . . . and he has some fine ones this trip. No matter what new material this fellow might come up with, he will always have to do his "kids in the movie" bit. One of the greatest faces in the business . . . A fact now known to movie producers, as witness his role in "From Here to Eternity" . . . Held over are the fabulous fingers of IRVING FIELDS and the two excellent musicians who make up the trio . . . Recording stars in their own right . . . RAFAEL outfits his PARISIENNE MODELS with lightning speed to accomplish some most striking gowns. Truly an eye-fel from the land of Eiffel Tower . . . The KATHRYN DUFFY DANSATIONS continue to prove their right to the line regarding them as "America's Most Versatile Dancers," executing routines which feature the dancing delights of Miss CHRISTINA CARSON . . .

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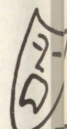
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DESERT INN

MARCH 16 THRU MARCH 29

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PATTI PAGE



LAST FRONTIER

COMING

**XAVIER CUGAT
 TOMMY and JIMMY
 DORSEY
 HERB SHRINER**

SAHARA

MARCH 16

JUDY CANOVA

Thunderbird

MARCH 11 THROUGH
 MARCH 31

**LES COMPAGNONS
 DE LA CHANSON**



El Rancho Vegas

COMING

**LES PAUL
 and MARY FORD**

The Sands

MARCH 10

ROBERT MERRILL

HILLSWAY:

(Continued from Page 25)

is something, and you tourists will know what I mean.

Am happy to see Nick Fish back in the furniture business after too long away from it. Used to have a wonderful shop near the point on The Strip, and now is located at 1040 South Main. He has the most charming mother—have attended many teas and affairs chair-maned by her for church circles in town. Pop, his dad, is known far and wide, and is terribly well liked. He now owns and runs a fabulous ranch in the Klamath, Oregon, country and I hope to spend a week or so there fishing and riding.

Of course, one of my favorite spots is EL CORTEZ. Going into the casino at night is like coming home from the wars. Everyone remembers me and it makes me feel kind of good and important. Whitey Shugart is the casino manager and Harold Hines is the credit manager. They are ably assisted by Frank Hoover, Rodney Starr, Bill Lir-ette, Herb Waldman, George Yale and Morton Daly. Sorry not to see Jonesy, the very first person I ever knew in Las Vegas, or Red Morgan here any more. Hear tell they run a place out in North Las Vegas now. Must drop out this evening.

Enjoyed a cocktail as usual at the Bar-W Ranch out in Paradise Valley, and then to the Rocking Horse for another (Mother, I'm only foolin'!) before going to see my very old friend Tallu Bankhead at the Sands. Used to bump into her real often in and out of the White House in Washington when I was secretary to F. D. Roosevelt and her dad was a senator from Alabama and her uncle a congressman. Isn't she terrific, though?

And the young, handsome and debonair singer Byron Palmer she has with her almost steals the show. It is wonderful to hear a man sing who also has looks and personality and stage presence. Am so sick of these bean-pole type of guys that emote all over the place when they are supposed to sing.

Dinner last evening at the Sahara was another pleasure. Sonja Henie was at her best and her company was even better. The nicest aggregation I have seen on ice since the Ice Follies Days when my beautiful niece, Val Ray Kohner, was one of their performers. Aileen McNamee was our waitress and we had the best service we have ever had. And she finds time to be a bit human and talkative at the same time as giving excellent service.

And now with apologies to Harry Ingraham for doing a downtown column, and to Johnny Uhlman, whose

wedding I am going to crash this p. m. at 4, for stealing their stuff and writing on what should be their exclusive beats, will say with regret that I must hurry back to the old grind in smog-filled "sunny" California, but just want to say that I have had a wonderful time in your city, and my only regret is that the marriage business is so booming that I haven't even had time to have a drink with my very good friend Judge Frank McNamee to exchange ideas on our recent European trips.

The only times he is able to visit with me, it seems, is when he steals away and comes to California for a rest.

Maybe I'll see him at Mass today—or at least at Johnny's wedding.

Did bump into that grand gent and his charming wife, the Wilbur Clarks, having a late cup of coffee at the new Algiers Coffee Shop. It's good to see competitors patronize competitors. Only in Las Vegas will you find this camaraderie.

Am sure the boss is ranting and raving now at the length of this column, but there is so much to see and so much to do in Las Vegas that it is hard to contain oneself—it is truly the finest entertainment spot and the best food in America, and if you don't mind, Jaek, I'll just say—and that's for sure.

SANDS:

(Continued from Page 20)

drawing attractions ever staged in any spot. Tallulah never loses her audiences. All eyes are turned in her direction, constantly. She is a superb showman. . . . Newly-added to this bill is BYRON PALMER. This lad has a baritone voice that is replete with quality and good training. He has been the singing star of various Broadway shows and appeared in the popular favorite "Where's Charlie?" Twentieth Century-Fox has his name on a contract and we're glad to see this showman enjoying great success locally. . . . Rounding out the bill are PAGE & BRAY. This is their first Las Vegas appearance and they are stirring up appreciation hereabouts. P & B indulge in some fascinating routines. They specialize in interpretative dancing that stimulates lusty applause. . . . The COPA GIRLS glide into the spotlight, garbed in lovely costumes that highlight the smooth execution of their clever sequences. . . . Featured is the rich voice of CHUCK NELSON. Watch this lad. He's great. . . . RAY SINATRA and his capable music makers enhance the entire production with their smooth rhythms.

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CRISWELL PREDICTS:

(Continued from Page 11)

Margaret Chase Smith, the senator from Maine, will soon open a congressional battle for equal rights in all states concerning the property of husbands who try to disregard their widows by "spite" wills drawn up to "get even" after death. A federal law will be asked to give the widow 75% of the estate after funeral and doctor bills have been paid!

Eleanor Roosevelt, the widow of the late President, will soon hit the headlines of newspapers with an announcement of her forthcoming marriage! . . . Mrs. Winston Churchill should watch her health! . . . Princess Margaret will retire from public life! . . . Peggy Hopkins Joyce will make the wealthiest marriage of her career!

FOR PEOPLE AND PLACES: Horatio Alger Jr.: Your novels, which inspired many millions of boys during the past 60 years to attain great heights through rugged individualism, will soon be a television series, a radio program and will be reprinted in many newspapers and magazines. Yes, there will be a wholesale revival of interest in your famous "Sink or Swim," "Tom the Bootblack," "Strive and Succeed" and, of course, "Dan, the Newsboy"!

Walla Walla, Wash.: Prepare for a wholesale migration to your area due to a new industry moving to your city!

. . . Janet Gaynor: Your coming Broadway play will be a great success! . . . Cardinal Spellman: You will soon have new honors awarded you for your great service to mankind! . . . Evansville, Ind.: Prepare for new dredging of the Ohio River along your waterfront, due to the new flood control measure to be passed by Congress in April! . . . School Teachers: You will have an increase in pension by late 1955!

Grocers: Prepare for the market to fall in coffee, leaving you with many high priced jars on your shelf! . . . Marjorie Main and Bert Lahr: You will be re-teamed in a new series of rustic comedies after your hilarious performances in "Rose Marie"! . . . Mary Nolan: Your tragic life will be filmed and will show the result of narcotic addiction, and will reveal actual conditions for the first time on the screen of a hospital for drug cure!

Atlantic City: You will have a new boardwalk as a tourist attraction this year! . . . President Eisenhower: Your present popularity will soar to new adoration with your coming public health plan. You are now the most beloved President by fan mail count and personal loyalty!

Rise Stephens: Your coast-to-coast concert tour will be the most successful

since that of the late Grace Moore! . . . Pittsburgh, Pa.: Prepare for a boom in real estate and a growth in population! . . . Winston Churchill: Watch your health more carefully than you have! . . . Mobile, Ala.: You will figure tragically in the headlines!

Judge Walter Scott Criswell: Your new plan of giving a duplicate sentence to the father of the juvenile delinquent will be copied by courts everywhere! . . . San Francisco: Your plans for a new civic opera house will be completed by early 1955! . . . Charles Wireman: Your new picture, "Tanga Tika," will open a new vista for South Sea films! . . . James Mason: Beware of unfavorably publicity! . . . Las Vegas: You will be the top tourist city for 1955, according to Louis Rangno and his See-America-First clubs!

Congress: You will vote a new tax on alcohol so that those who have become alcoholics can get the proper treatment and keep them off the public relief roles! . . . Jane Russell: Your next film will also be banned as unsuitable for the general public!

Ministers: You can expect a new high in church attendance and church membership in 1955! . . . Wall Street Journal: Your forecast made in November 1953 will prove amazingly correct where foodstuffs are concerned! . . . Edna Ferber: Your next novel will be based on the career of a famous medical family and will receive wide acclaim!

New York City: Expect a new wave of violent teen-age hoodlum gangs in open warfare! . . . Ex-President Truman: You will accept this new offer for a lecture tour! . . . Peggy Hopkins Joyce: There is another wealthy marriage coming your way! . . . Miami, Fla.: You will make a special plea for open gambling next season!

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THAT'S FOR SURE:

(Continued from Page 9)

ently returned from a well-deserved vacation. This man is one of the most respected in the gaming profession. Charles has been in this business for the greater part of his life and could certainly teach others the finer points of gaming.

We were completely shocked to learn that a seemingly happy pair had decided to travel separate paths. It is regretful that MARTHA and CARLTON HAYES chose to write "finis" to their marriage. Ye Editor (along with everyone else) believed this union was one for all eternity. This is one time we are rebellious at having been proven wrong. C. H. is the orchestra leader at the DESERT INN.)

KAY PARSONS (Your Girl o' Yesterday, currently at the PLAYLAND CAFE) is one gal who very determinedly keeps her word. Some of the airmen from NELLIS AIR BASE raved so highly about the fudge Kay makes that she immediately promised to have some for them on a certain night. When that night arrived Miss Parsons learned all men had been restricted to their quarters. This official decree didn't dampen Kay's enthusiasm one bit. When she was finished work at 2 ayem she drove the 18 miles to the base and left her fudge for the boys so their sweet teeth wouldn't suffer a long wait. What a wonderful person!

Believe it or not! If you doubt us, just ask MR. STIVERS, manager of BUCKLEY'S JACKPOT CLUB. One patron stood in front of the same dollar slot machine and hit ten \$150 jackpots within a very short time. Most folks would have quit after the first one. This lad must have been psychic. Then this is one fact to which we can definitely attest. Ye Editor's "Princess" jokingly called "Jackpot!" before she placed a coin in one of the slots. Then in went the coin and down fell the jackpot. At first Mrs. C. was just grateful for hitting triple oranges on one attempt. But her husband reminded her that 3-of-a-kind took the jackpot also and this information was greeted with a startled yelp! Some people are just plain lucky!

HERMAN HOVER (entrepreneur of Hollywood's CIRO'S) normally has a chest expansion that any wrestler envies. However, when he booked JULIUS LaROSA into his flickertown club his chest seemed to swell to three times greater than usual. This will be LaRosa's initial West Coast appearance. We enjoyed the invitations that read: "Make your reservations early. With all due humility," this opening will be


the biggest cafe event of the season." Mr. Hover also books the shows at the HOTEL LAST FRONTIER and we're jest a-wondering if Julius could possibly have signed a contract to appear locally at some future date? (No harm in thinking, is there?)

One of the most outstanding conversations of our lifetime was recently shared with DR. L. W. HOSFORD and his associates. The eminent doctor has a clinic at 231 Ellis Street in San Francisco. He has devoted 16 years in constant research on cancer.—His wonderful, heart-stimulating claim is that they have this dread disease beaten, 90 per cent of the way. And these gentlemen have the proof to substantiate their contentions. For 13 years animals were the subject of their experiments. For the last three years human beings eagerly volunteered with tremendous success. With a little more research, Dr. Hosford is confident that a 100% cure can be effected. What miraculous news for all! At his clinic the doctor accepted patients who were released as "hopeless" by world-famous authorities. Patience and skill invoked sufficient cure for the sufferers to return to normal living with some patients considered completely recovered. In spite of their results, folks have found the clinic does not demand their patients to be wealthy. We understand their fees are nominal and people of meagre means are never turned away. We seldom go out on a limb in such fervent support of something that isn't in our line. However, after seeing the documents verifying these marvelous achievements, we are firmly convinced that cancer can be cured.

It warmed the cockles of our heart to note the stupendous response to our predicting J. K. CRISWELL'S visit. More people wanted to see him than he had time to spare. However, he is planning to return to Las Vegas again (very soon) and will then manage to include all who wish appointments. Although we had spoken and corresponded with him, it was our first meeting with this modern Nostradamus. And he is a person whom we shall ever remember, should our paths separate. We were amazed by his interesting stories, unbiased opinions and predictions. Before he left, Criswell appeared on the MARTIN BLACK television show. He and Martin renewed an old friendship that had its origin on the Coast more than 11 years ago. Incidentally, quite a few inquiries have arrived asking the price of a consultation with Criswell. We're happy to inform you there is no charge. He is a man who completely believes in his work and places it far above financial retribution if he can help others through his gifted talents.

(Continued on Page 35)

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WHAT'S FOR SURE:

(Continued from Page 33)

Easterners living or visiting here are well acquainted with Steeplechase and Luna Park. Well, there is a new amusement center being constructed on the Boulder Highway. And it will resemble one of the aforementioned East Coast parks. They plan on many thrilling rides and games. It certainly would seem that Coney Island and its boardwalk have moved to the desert. The project is expected to reach completion some time around July.

We are anxiously awaiting the arrival of THELMA and CLAY MILLER, those wonderful creators of fashion. The couple is scheduled to fly here March 5 and will be accompanied by one of their daughters. Due to a very hectic schedule, the Millers plan a short, two-day visit. We're sorry they can't extend that period and settle here permanently. Their styles are the variety that Las Vegas adores and wants. If any of their friends wish to contact them they will be stopping at the HOTEL SAHARA.

Aside to LOUIS GLAZER, manufacturer of JANTZEN apparel. What else can we possibly say except thanks—from the bottom of our heart? It's just grand, knowing people as nice as you!

It has taken us quite some time but we thought we'd best take a moment now to introduce the newest member of "Fabulous Las Vegas." He is young, handsome HARRY INGRAHAM, who joined our staff last December. We're sort of proud of him and have faith in his eventual success. Even though his years are tender ones, he has managed to include quite a variety of experiences in the past. He devoted some time to being a lumberjack in Seattle and was a champion wrestler in college. Then the Las Vegas "bug" stung him and he came here to adopt this as his home town. Harry is now on our sales staff and our readers were recently introduced to his "What's Doin' Downtown" column. We wish him unlimited success and believe his perseverance will assist him in reaching his goal.

Yep! Seems once Las Vegas wriggles its way into your blood there's no antidote for it except to return. So goes the story of LEO KIND. Years ago, Mr. Kind was a co-owner of the HOTEL EL RANCHO VEGAS. He sold his interest and left town in retirement. But he just couldn't stay away. He is now back at his favorite spot (El Rancho), working as a pit boss. We must confess he looks younger and better than ever. Incidentally, his son LEON used to tend the slots at this bistro and dream of becoming a flyer. The lad achieved his

ambition and is an Air Force lieutenant. He has received many commendations, one of which was personally presented by President Eisenhower, "for valor and duty over and beyond the call of duty." Can't you just picture Dad's pride?

Have you ever seen a man retain his composure while someone else was winning thousands of dollars from him? Well—we did! A few days ago BEN PALEY (pit boss at the HORSESHOE CLUB) stood close by while a patron had a lucky streak at the dice table. He became aware of his employer's presence and was hesitant to peek at the face peering over his shoulder. When he did, he was amazed to note that owner JOE W. BROWN was actually smiling and rooting the winner to greater victory. We doubt that there are many such good sports in this world.

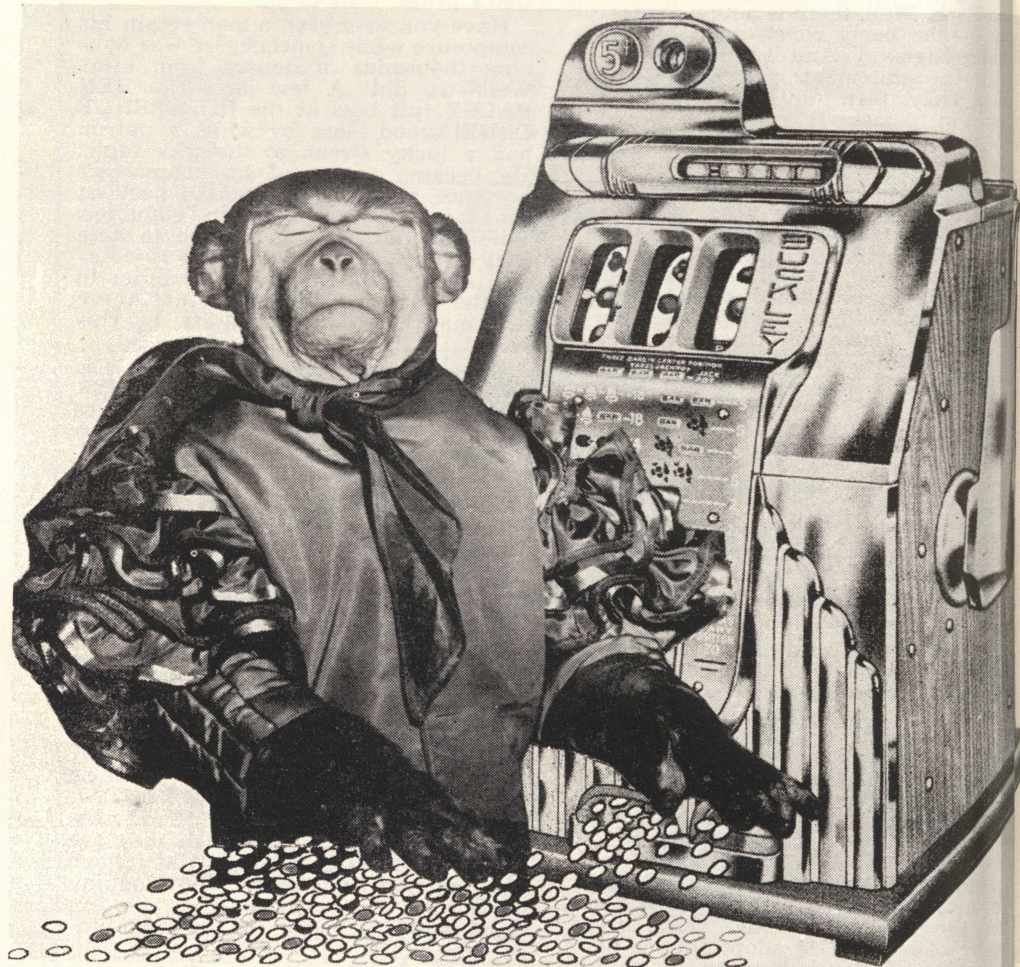
A gal who deserves many laurels is PETIE MYERS, publicist for WALTER PARMAN'S CALIFORNIA CLUB. Here is a diligent worker who seems to be on a 24-hour schedule. She is highly cooperative and never fails to make certain that others are advised of important details, necessary in the provision of good publicity. Incidentally, co-owner GEORGE ARQUILLA left town on short notice when he learned his wife was quite ill in San Jose. We hope Mrs. Arquilla shakes off whatever is ailing her and would like to see both back in town soon.

Two fellows, who have spent quite some time experimenting in various tasks, went into business this past week. We extend best wishes to JACK BROOK and TONY PITCH on their new venture, the STRIP CAR RENTAL SERVICE. They have about 12 automobiles at present. Even though they are newly opened for business, they have had full patronage daily. We're looking forward to the day when they can expand and reach the 150 to 250 auto-for-hire mark.

JACK LEVENSON (one of the owners of BLAINE'S FURNITURE STORE) provided us with some interesting facts of his past life. He spent many years in the newspaper field years ago when such a job was much more demanding than it is today. At that time a newspaperman had to do many tasks that have since been relegated to a group of men. We wish to welcome Jack's lovely wife MARION to our midst, well in advance of her arrival, some time toward the end of this month. She is one of the top legal secretaries in the country. She is currently working for ROLAND SWAFFIELD, a leading West Coast barrister. When Mrs. L. served her notice of resignation her

(Continued on Page 37)

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DOWNTOWN

THAT'S FOR SURE:

(Continued from Page 35)

employer almost tore his hair out, insisting he would never be able to replace her. So—look here, local attorneys! Here is a secretary who is competently able to take over her duties from the moment she sits at a strange desk.

If you're a gourmet, fer hevvin's sake make it a point to drop in at the NEW YORK MEATS & PROVISION COMPANY on North Main Street. They just received a variety of Viennese imports and it's enough to make a vegetarian drool! They have treats for everyone. Try their out-of-this-world peppered beef and you won't stop smacking your lips for hours after. Only a fool would pass up such tempting delicacies.

Hearty congratulations to another pair of newlyweds. On February 26 JOHN J. CURRY (dealer on the graveyard shift of the SANDS HOTEL) and ALICE MARIE STONE (of Odessa, Tex.) trod upon the orange-blossom path and dedicated their lives to each other. This is a romance of long standing that had its culmination in our wonderful town.

On March 8 ROCCO CICCHETTI will open his new ROCCO'S ITALIAN RESTAURANT on The Strip, adjacent to the DESERT INN. Mr. C. also owns FILIPO'S on South Fifth Street. We wish Rocco and his wife the greatest of success. The new spot will feature all kinds of your favorite Italian dishes. Need we say more?

LENNY KENT and ROSE MARIE, currently co-starring at the HOTEL FLAMINGO, are the hottest comedy team to hit the boards in years. SAMMY LEWIS (PATTI MOORE'S husband) is their manager. We wonder if he realized the gigantic jackpot that would follow when he originally conceived the idea of teaming Lenny and Rose Marie? Man! We'd like just 1 per cent of what these kids will make in the next two years.

DOROTHY and TED FRIEND have known many privations in their lives up around San Francisco way. They now have a highly-popular column and are Variety reporters. Looks as though their struggles are finally going to be rewarded. Their lifetime review, "Friends, Just Friends," will soon be published. Advance information spurs us to the belief that this will be the book of books. We're for it because the Friends are deserving of everything life has to offer in the way of comfort and fame.

Ye Editor silently wonders if he will prove to be the same type of father as BILLY GRAY (currently starring at the

HOTEL EL RANCHO VEGAS with PATTI MOORE and BEN LESSY)? We guess we shall be able to match his paternal pride when the time is ripe. Billy's son CARY MITCHELL was recently selected "Baby of the Year" by the auxiliaries of the MT. SINAI HOSPITAL. The infant's pictures will appear on all of their posters. Well, you just can't blame Billy for grinning so broadly these days. He worked hard for years and achieved success as an adult. Along comes his baby son and the Gray offspring will have millions of people familiar with his person before he is old enough to go to school. C'est la vie, my boy!

One of the most active of current performers is glamorous songstress DOROTHY DANDRIDGE. This delightful bundle of femininity has taken supperclubbers by storm. Last week she appeared on the GEORGE JESSEL show within a short period after doing guest shots on the DONALD O'CONNOR and RED BUTTONS telecasts. Miss Dandrige is currently in Canada and follows that engagement with one in Miami. From the South she heads to Buffalo, just prior to her date in Las Vegas. JAKE KOZLOFF contracted the seductive songstress to open at the HOTEL LAST FRONTIER April 2.

Although the ADAMS brothers opened their NEVADA CLUB last October we didn't have an opportunity to meet them until this past week. It was quite an experience, talking with these gentlemen. They hail from Idaho, where they own ranches, transportation companies, etc. They are amazingly young to have amassed such a great fortune. They travel a great deal and are fortunate in owning their own plane. At present the Messrs. Adams are involved in negotiating to purchase the famous plane that received a tremendous spread in "Life Magazine." It is the airship that has its own bar and restaurant, among other unusual conveniences. This little package will only set them back \$69,000. Despite their solid financial footing, it's gratifying to note the Adams brothers are just plain nice folks.

It was good news to learn that the state board has approved RUBY KOLOD'S application for a gaming license. The benign Ruby is now co-owner of the DESERT INN and everyone agrees he is a definite asset to that bistro.

Another happy localite is smiling JACK DENISON, maitre d' of the FLAMINGO HOTEL. Jack's parents left Montreal and are definitely set to take up residence here. Perhaps the elder Denisons will prove a good influence and help their son answer the call of the wedding bells. (This J.D. is

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SAHARA:

(Continued from Page 20)

Can anyone actually challenge Miss Henie's right to the title of "Queen of Ice"? She is completely proficient and endowed with the coveted qualities that comprise a true showman. The skating star has a franchise on delicate pulchritude, talent and fluent grace. Miss Henie is one performer we could watch for months on end, without tiring . . . Comedian PAT HENNING is a local favorite who never wears out his welcome. Pat is the type of fellow who brings his audience close to him. He jumps the barrier of the microphone and introduces an atmosphere of friends at a home gathering. Comedy and quick wit come easily to this Henning lad. You just can't avoid the tickle-dust he sprinkles through the spectators. Pat controls your emotions, taking you from a grin and leading you to a point bordering on hysteria . . . Sensational is the dance team of PAMELA DRU and ALLAN DeJON. These youngsters exhibit a remarkable facility of swift, concise performance on the treacherous ice, with nary a mishap. Their adagio sequence is stirring! . . . Backing Miss Henie is a group of Hawaiians, the EDDIE BUSH TRIO. Their music enhances the star's Hawaiian presentation . . . Compliments to TOM DOUGLAS for his artistic decoration of the stage. It is really a splendid example of his creative ability . . . CEE DAVIDSON and his men of music are also to be commended for their accomplished background for this production.

EL CORTEZ

(Continued from Page 21)

him a special favorite of local showgoers . . . LAVERNE PEARSON, recently with the Spike Jones aggregation, is a blonde songstress with a bombshell personality. Here is a lyric soprano with a powerful and well placed voice that makes listening to the semi-classics a pleasure . . . Completing this fine bill of entertainment in the PIRATES DEN are the DEWEY SISTERS with their excellent acrobatic interpretations of the dance. They have won wide acclaim on the Ted Lewis show, the Spike Jones show, in movies, and on tour with Gene Autry . . . Orchestrations for this show are provided by that favorite Dixieland band EDDIE SKRIVANEK and his SEXTETTE FROM HUNGER . . . Playing for your listening and dancing pleasure 'til 5 a.m. is the WILD BILL DAVIS TRIO.

DESERT INN:

(Continued from Page 20)

LEBRAC & BERNICE, billed as "The Golden Wheel." Here is an act you simply must see. These daring individuals perform acrobatics atop a one wheel bicycle that soars eight feet into the air. Man! There's something you wouldn't attempt without a thousand nets. Lebrac and his charming blond assistant provide many breathtaking moments . . . The DONN ARDEN DANCERS are literally stupendous. Their production numbers are so vivid and realistic the spectator feels as though he is drawn into living the magical sequence along with them. Mr. Arden never fails to inject the choreography that has made him outstanding . . . CARLTON HAYES and his aggregation provide a smooth, accomplished musical background and should be included when the bouquets are passed out.

EL RANCHO VEGAS:

(Continued from Page 20)

into their gold mine of special material you can expect anything to happen. Ben's "popcorn pursuits" and famous EL RANCHO GIRLS offer new productions, with costumes approaching their own loveliness, and which have been conceived by the amazing imagination of BILLY DANIEL and the incomparable capabilities of Miss Dottie Dee . . . The brass, reed and rhythm section is in the knowing hands of BOB ELLIS and his orchestra . . .

THAT'S FOR SURE:

(Continued from Page 37)

determined to remain a bachelor, but we've sent a bribe to Cupid. Wonder if that little rascal has an arrow strong enough to penetrate Jack's stone-cold heart?)

We are humbly grateful to acknowledge the prodigious response to our last week's article anent certain local motel owners and their unfair practices of rent-gouging. It was refreshing to note that the phone calls and comments offered full support to our suggestion that steps be taken to rectify such atrocity. It is our pleasure to report that we have been contacted by certain authorities who have assured us that action is being taken. It's about time someone did something to teach these vultures the Golden Rule still exists . . . and that's for sure.

FLAMINGO:

(Continued from Page 19)

complete enjoyment of every audience which has seen them on the stage. Rose and Lenny are both great ad lib artists, which makes each and every show a new experience for everybody concerned. They've received deserved rave notices with every engagement since the inception of the act. When you see them we feel you'll agree that here will be one of the top "him and her" comedy teams of the country. The capable arranger and conductor for this new duo is talented BOB JACOBS . . . Co-starring on this bill is the one and only BILL KENNY and the INK SPOTS, internationally famous recording stars whose style and manner of presentation is more imitated than any other like group in existence. Their program consists of presenting first-hand the arrangements of melodies they've made popular by way of wax during the last decade or so. BILL KENNY is a singer who sings with his whole being with every song he attempts . . . The FLAMINGO STARS present two new RON FLETCHER productions in very attractive and colorful costuming, which are executed flawlessly by his excellent troupe of dancers and singers. The first is based on the Cuban theme and called "Sans Souci." The second presentation is built around the song hits from the great musical "Kismet" . . . TORRIS BRAND is the man with the band . . .

LAST FRONTIER:

(Continued from Page 19)

Me, Kate numbers. The generous KEEL is to be commended for giving this lass her big break. The blending of their voices, the skill of their acting is a beautiful thing to see. The audience clamored noisily with much palm-pounding and shouts of "More!" The CARSONY BROTHERS, the younger two of whom are identical twins, and big brother PAUL CARSONY defy proper description. PAUL balances himself atop two champagne bottles that are neck to neck, simultaneously juggling rings in his mouth and on his hands and feet—not to mention the one-finger balance on a bowling ball magically teetering on a bowling pin! He then balances the combined weight of himself and one of the twins (325 pounds) upside-down with only a scene for support. All three do a one-hand on a walking stick, among many other unbelievable tricks, all of which you will have to see to believe. THE BLACKBURN TWINS and EVELYN

WARD, held over for two more weeks, are even greater than during the Ronald Reagan engagement, if that is possible. "Baby, It's Cold Outside" and "Amy" register high on the applause meter, and prove the wisdom of the holdover. The handsome TWINS combine their talents in some fancy hoofing and blending of marvelous voices, joined by their vivacious and beautiful partner EVELYN WARD. This trio would do credit to any stage by standing still and merely smiling, but when beauty is backed up by great singing and dancing talent — well, they're a complete show within themselves! Including good looking maestro GARWOOD VAN in the "Cold Outside" bit is clever and the TWINS' running line of chatter and ad libbing draws a syndrome of yocks. Following in the wake of some of the prettiest and most talented gals around—Janet Blair, Martha Stewart and Vivian Blane—EVELYN WARD is just another proof positive that the BLACKBURN TWINS are not only great showmen, but have that sixth sense of choosing beauty and talent in femme partners. HOWARD KEEL will do an SRO business and that he will do repeat engagements in Las Vegas for many years to come is an indisputable fact.

SILVER SLIPPER:

(Continued from Page 21)

production . . . Pretty, blonde JOAN WHITE plays "straight" in the comedy skits and sultry VIRGINIA DEW lends her haunting vocal qualities with a style all of her own . . . An extra-added attraction is the tantalizing, glamorous, TERE' SHEEHAN. Her stimulating "Champagne Fantasy" complete with effervescent bubbles is more than enough to make your blood boil . . . Skits by the SILVER SLIPPER star players (SPARKY KAYE, BILL WIL-LARD and JIMMY CAVANAUGH) together with the fine orchestrations of GEORGE REDMAN, round out this "funatic" fun fest.

GOLDEN NUGGET:

(Continued from Page 21)

BALL, "the Country Plumber." He is the versatile musician who plays 22 instruments. He constructed these instruments himself from ordinary plumbing equipment . . . Rounding out the show is JOE VENUTI and his orchestra, who capably provide accompaniment and for your intermission listening pleasure a pulsating Latin tempo is set by LISA ALONSO and her TROPICALES.

(Continued from Page 13)

PLETE meal for a tab from a buck to a buck ana half. You may be able to beat that price somewhere else for a "meal," but NOT for a dinner like you'll get at GAM'S for such a price. Naturally, I don't have the space here to tell you what all you'll get for that offer, but I guarantee that you won't be disappointed if you'll pop the body inside for a trial run.

The shows at the EMBASSY CLUB in North Las Vegas are getting bigger and bigger! If I'm not mistaken, it seems that I've said that same thing a few times before in reference to these shows at BILL BORDEN'S place, but each time I say it I'm telling the truth! For instance, this week-end the bill will boast two dancers, a clever ventriloquist, a violin soloist, a girl singer, a singing master of ceremonies, and two musical groups! Now if that isn't a lineup for a show for this small nightclub I'll put in with you. It all goes as further proof that Bill is doing all he can to bring more and more entertainment to those of you who do him the honor of visiting his late nitery. Straight out North Fifth or Main Streets and you can't go wrong.

I still maintain that one of the greatest singing groups I've ever heard is that of the 3 DONS and GINNY, who appear nightly on the Stage Bar at Hotel FLAMINGO. They're all excellent musicians; sing better'n boids as individuals, and when they do a vocal as a group they sound like a mixed-voice choir. Anyone who has heard them will agree to that!

You may not have heard that there are some new owners at the SPORTSMAN'S CLUB in Pittman and that they've brought in JOHNNY TOCANO from the Coast to manage the place for them. Johnny is well known in nightclub circles down there, having owned or operated quite a few in past years. They have entertainment out there every night and in the very near future plan to bring their customers the voice and rhythms of AUDIE ANDREWS, who has been heard many times on Victor recordings.

It may be just the time of the year, but I'm beginning to wonder if maybe the city hasn't brought in a new artesian well with some peculiar results to the users of same H2O . . . It seems that everyone's gettin' married. Another one I just heard about is "Brownie" SAMS, Frontier coktl gal, who married RUSSELL FREY last Wednesday. He's a special agent with Army Intelligence

and they plan to go to Germany some time in April.

Have you seen the "girl in the champagne glass" at the SILVER SLIPPER? Here's a shapely lass who pops out of a huge glass and proceeds to adorably dress for a date; decides it isn't worth it and winds up back in the glass. Now that's just a short, SHORT run-down of what she does. It's what she's doing all the time she's doing these other things that'll have you sitting up straight so you won't miss anything. A good act and well done. Out at the Slipper and on the billboards she's known as TERE'.

Here's a surprise wedding to me, which isn't the ONLY surprise I've had lately! Last Tuesday night Miss PHYLIS ADAIR (Sands coktl) slipped into a ring that made her the bride of Mr. DARRELL FARREN (Beaux Arts). Here is a couple of kids who really have my best. Both fine people and deserving of a lot of happiness. (I still say that something has gone wrong with the water hereabouts.)

She's dancing at the EMBASSY under the name of NIZA, "the Lady in Red." Up until recently she had been a school teacher locally (full and part time), but this wasn't giving her 7-year-old son the things she wanted him to have. So this very attractive blonde, who has lived most of her life in Las Vegas, took the bull by the horns and threw it at the management by asking for a job at the club. She not only got the job, but is getting the cooperation of everyone in the business to try and help her get ahead. People like to help people who help themselves.

And with these last few lines we come to the end of another sleepless trail. With sagging eyeballs, and a posterior of a like nature, I'm tucking my Underwood underneath the cover . . . and intend doing the same shortly with my underwear . . . with me in 'em!

. . . So 'til the next time we meet . . . your ever lovin' . . . JOHNNY.

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WHAT'S DOIN' . . .

(Continued from Page 15)

to a reality. The CICCHETTIS are featuring the same delicious foods they provided the public at FILIPO'S. They are now going to bring a touch of New York to Las Vegas and we know this beautifully decorated spot will rapidly become a by-word in Las Vegas . . . as a closing thought, I just can't help wondering if "Mammy Johnny" (now that he has taken unto himself a wife) will have time to see if the grass is coming up.

OP SQUIRES:

(Continued from Page 5)

It looked to me like the most worthless area in the whole desert and I felt much disappointed. But now when I go to Boulder City I see one of the most beautiful towns in the whole western country. What a change!

I started this story to tell you about the new addition to the night life of Las Vegas, The Meadows, which came with the start of building the dam.

Three brothers came from Los Angeles and announced they would build a fine nightclub to be named The Meadows. We had already enjoyed a modest start in nightclubs and were not quite sure that the Cornero Brothers would give us anything better. But they went vigorously to work and in due time had a real nightclub with dining and music and dancing and an occasional vaudeville act on the stage and, of course, a few gambling tables.

I think Las Vegas up to that time had never thrown so many really good parties. And it was generously patronized by the workers on the dam. It was generally considered the very top in elegance.

It was located on Charleston Boulevard about half a mile east of the junction of Charleston and Fremont, outside of the Las Vegas city limits. There had been some controversies between the corneros and the city commissioners. The commissioners instructed the Las Vegas Fire Department not to take the city fire-fighting apparatus outside the city limits.

One day there was a fire alarm—The Meadows was burning! The fire department answered the alarm and took their hose cart and other apparatus out Charleston Boulevard as far as the city limits and stopped. There they stood

while The Meadows (part of it) burned to the ground.

The Corneros naturally were furious and that was the end of Las Vegas' most pretentious nightclub. We had other resorts—at the moment I remember China Town, the "91" Club, the name of which was changed to the "Pair-o-Dice," and various other small clubs, but none so popular as was The Meadows for a time.

About 1940 Tom Hull and his sister, Sally, came up from Los Angeles and built El Rancho Vegas.

Griffith and Bill Moore came out from Texas and started work on the Last Frontier. Many were pretty sure this would be slow in getting started, but it rose swiftly to greatness. Then some "foolish" people came out from the East and spent several million building the Flamingo on 40 acres of worthless desert Delphine and I had owned for 20 years or more.

Then a group of our friends built and operated very successfully the "Thunderbird." Then came Wilbur Clark, who at one time had owned El Rancho Vegas. Then came Mr. Prell's beautiful Sahara and after that a group quietly got together and built the Sands.

What a drama we have seen in the building of so many great resorts and nightclubs. There is nothing in America to compare with them.

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