Jack Portz'

November 22, 1952

Fabulous LAS VEGAS

Magazine



Happy Thanksgiving

THURSDAY
NOVEMBER 27
1952

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BEN BLUE
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PUBLISHED WEEKLY VOL. 4, NO. 33
NOVEMBER 22, 1952

OBSERVATIONS by POP SQUIRES
RANDOM THOUGHTS by B. B. BARTON
THAT'S FOR SURE by JACK CORTEZ
WHAT'S DOIN' by JOHNNY UHLMAN
WATCHBIRD by LADY MICHAEL
RENO BEAT by ART STEAGALL
★ SHOW REVIEWS ★
HOLLYWOOD HEADLINES by MARTIN LEWIS
HEAVENLY STARS by BABETTE

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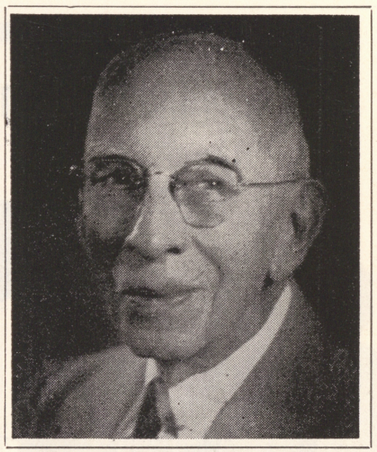
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OBSERVATIONS . . . by CHARLES P. "POP" SQUIRES

THANKSGIVING IN LAS VEGAS



SINCE I first came to Las Vegas, February, 1905, Thanksgiving has seemed a mighty important — and pleasant day — and it was not always easy to be thankful when this Fabulous Las Vegas was a bubble in the air.

Fortunately a group of our fellows, anxious to put life into the puling infant Las Vegas, organized Las Vegas Aerie 1213, Fraternal Order of Eagles. The Aerie was instituted by Con Ahearn, famous as owner of the Crystal Saloon in the then fabulous Virginia City, on September 15, 1905 and immediately took its proper place as a leader in all public activities.

When Thanksgiving Day rolled around, November 30, 1905, the Eagles took the lead in preparing public exercises—a program of races for the afternoon and a dance in the evening, neither of which I attended because I was really thankful for the opportunity to spend a day or two at our home in Los Angeles with Delphine and the children. But according to the Las Vegas papers the day was a howling success. I quote from The Las Vegas Age (which I did not then own):

"PUNCTURED PLUMBING

"A man carrying the name of 'Tim' Sullivan and a Winchester rifle, took a shot at another man whose name is not known, in the Arizona Club. It is stated that both had been drinking and had quarreled earlier.

"The bullet pierced a neat hole through a rear window and tore to pieces the brass joints of the plumbing on one of the toilets to the rear of the building.

"No arrests were made. W. D. Worrell repaired the plumbing and the incident appears to be closed."

So we can see that there was a sense of human sympathy and forgiveness in Vegas then, even in the face of the fact that practically everybody lived in tent houses through which the desert winds made their cold and blustery paths with little hinderance. And, we should remember, there really was some reason for getting drunk in those days.

But Thanksgiving Day of 1906, November 29th, we really had good reason for being thankful. Some of us had comfortable and pleasant homes. Delphine and the children and our household goods had arrived in Vegas and we moved into the home on Fremont street (which we occupied almost forty years) on June 21, 1906. When November came and brought another Thanksgiving Day, Las Vegas was beginning to take on the flavor of a permanent town instead of a boom camp.

Early in Thanksgiving week I went to the booming town of Rhyolite hoping that I could collect quite a gob of money a couple of Rhyolite lumber companies owed to Las Vegas Trading Company, of which I was secretary and manager, for lumber which went into building that city of four or five thousand people.

Of course our debtors complained that they could not collect their bills until a lot of Rhyolite people, who had temporarily returned to civilization, returned in the spring. Which did not look good to me, and by putting on a little pressure (all I could) I induced the two companies to borrow sufficient money to pay our claims. I managed, after a bit of compromise and allowances for breakage, etc., in getting a check for about $12,500 from one company and another check for something over $4000 from the other. Both checks I presented at the Rhyolite Bank before closing time on the day before Thanksgiving — and to my surprise, got the cash.

So that afternoon and evening I spent at the famous Rhyolite Club, then almost deserted, but still elegant with its walls hung with black velvet drapes and the lingering flavor of good whiskey and stories of fabulous mining deals the details of which had been

(Continued on Page 37)

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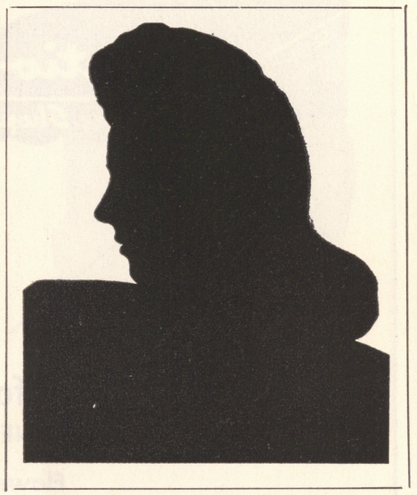
FREMONT THEATRE

FREMONT AND THIRD PHONE 3654

RANDOM THOUGHTS

. . . By B. B. BARTON

TODAY, it might prove interesting to talk about a woman who is "mother" of a brood, consisting of approximately 50 children. She is nurse JEAN LEWIS, of Jersey City's MEDICAL CENTER HOSPITAL . . .



Mrs. Lewis has a position that could qualify her for national recognition. Her task could not be performed without the necessary attributes of selflessness, devotion and unlimited patience. It is not a simple matter to preside over such a large amount of children and still smile, at the day's end. However, Mrs. L. heads the class of humans who **do care** about the welfare of fellow-humans . . .

Perhaps it would be advisable to inform you right now of the details involving this situation. In the Medical Center, on the sixth floor of building C, homeless (or temporarily homeless) youngsters have been boarded. Varied are the reasons that bring the children to this shelter, which has been nicknamed "boarder floor." . . .

One heartbreaking episode occurred when an undernourished three year old was brought to the center, quivering in agony. It was discovered that his own mother had beaten him unmercifully, smashing three of his ribs and temporarily robbing him of the use of one arm and leg. Just why did this woman inflict the severe punishment? The lame excuse was that this frail creature wasn't as pretty as her other four children. Investigation revealed the father had a police record and the mother was only happy when taking drugs. Upon this revelation, all five children were taken to the "boarder floor," after the city department of welfare filled out the proper admission papers . . .

The hospital personnel report that the mistreated child is completely mended now and his youthful frame is filling out, under the careful guidance of Mrs. Lewis and her 18 attendants. Like most of the other children in that section, this boy craves sincere affection. Whenever a visitor speaks to him in a kind manner, he flings his arms around that person, wanting more of the love and attention he never received at home . . .

If a mother has to go to the hospital for a necessary operation, she doesn't have to be concerned about her children during her period of disability. Her small fry are in one section of the hospital (the "boarder floor") while she is recuperating in another wing. Many women have known blessed relief from this knowledge and it has helped them to regain their strength more rapidly . . .

The children in this section range from 1 to 12 years. Younger babies are taken care of in another section, known as "Mothers' Institute." The children receive fresh vegetables, milk, sleep, play and loving care in their daily diet. In the children's dining room and entrance hall are murals, painted by Mrs. Lewis. The chairs in the small fry dining room are pastel colors, instead of hospital white. This bit of color has brought many a smile to heart-weary and nervous youngsters . . .

The children are treated to walks in the city parks and are treated to ice cream and candy, paid for by the attendants from their own wallets. Holiday cakes are baked for them by Chef LOUIS PERINO, on his own time. Christmas baskets of toys and candy are contributed by local service organizations.

During the hot weather, the terraces at each end of the "boarder floor" are converted into playgrounds. The terrace drains are plugged with any available rags and a sprinkler system creates very effective wading pools. During winter, a local teacher holds classes for children of school age. Throughout the year, the television set (donated by a Jersey City welfare organization)

(Continued on page 31)



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OF THE
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24 Hour Service

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COMPLETE LINE OF BLUM'S CANDIES

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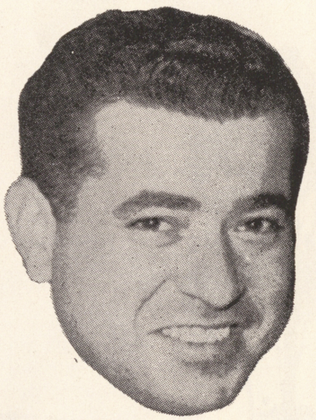
WHEN Thanksgiving Day dawns upon your household, take a few moments from your busy activities to offer thanks for your possessions, no matter how small. Let's continue to offer our prayers for less fortunates. Remember our men in uniform and pray for the end of the turmoil that keeps them from their homeland. Try to devote some energy to making life happier for those around you. If you know of someone who will be alone on this festive day, invite him to share your holiday meal and happiness. Life is more desirable when you bring a smile to a lonely heart . . . and that's for sure.

The passing of TED SHORIE (November 12) was greatly felt by all who knew and loved him. He was a well-liked personality and a member of good standing in our community. We will miss this wonderful gentleman and his memory will long remain in the hearts of his friends and admirers.

We just couldn't believe it! Maybe that's why we didn't use this item in last week's column. MRS. ANNA ZION celebrated her 75th birthday, November 19th. It doesn't seem real, somehow. Mrs. Zion doesn't impress anyone as being a woman of that many years. We usually pictured people of that age in rocking chairs but this active lady could probably display more energy on the tennis courts than a much younger edition. She is the mother-in-law of MILTON PRELL, General Manager of the HOTEL SAHARA. (Shucks! We still don't believe it.)

If you see a few torn five and ten-dollar bills around town, then you'll know that JAKE KOZLOFF (of the HOTEL LAST FRONTIER) has carried out his threat. With the rising cost of entertainment budgets, Jake conceded he just might as well destroy the aforementioned bills. He claims they (the fives and tens) wouldn't even pay for the necessary correspondence to arrange the contacts. Oh, for the troubles of a hotel owner!

Since LENNY SHAFER (of the EL RANCHO VEGAS HEALTH CLUB) introduced the MAC LEVY method of slenderizing, his center has seen constant activity. Seems the lovely ladies have been waiting for this type of slenderizing and take full advantage of the period set aside for them, from 8:30 a. m. to 2:00 p. m. KAY HESTWOOD, the consultant, sets up the schedules for the women and has many satisfied patrons thanking her for the personal attention. If you don't feel you're in need of loss of girth, the



mechanical massage is a fine method of relaxation. The balance of the afternoon is set aside for the gentlemen.

The EL CORTEZ has come up with a "Deflation Special." It is a 14 oz. steak (you're invited to weigh it) for a mere $1.95. This tempting specialty will be offered from 5:00 p. m. to 5 in the morn, in the Coffee Shop. Incidentally if the hostess at that spot looks familiar, she is HELEN WHALEY, who served in that capacity at the THUNDERBIRD HOTEL for 3½ years.

Well, the smile has finally returned to the balding proprietor of DOMENIC'S ITALIAN RESTAURANT. Yep! The little fellow is mighty happy these days. His frau, BARBARA VELONA, recently returned from a sojourn to San Francisco, where she was vacationing with friends. Good to see you back in town, Barbara.

At the end of the LIBERACE show at the HOTEL LAST FRONTIER, GARWOOD VAN will conclude his engagement and take his orchestra to the EL RANCHO HOTEL in Sacramento for a December 3rd opening.

We have a hunch that the birthday celebration for TEX COOPER will long remain in his memory of exciting moments. The party was held at the THUNDERBIRD HOTEL, November 13th. During the course of the evening, Tex's associates from the GOLDEN NUGGET presented him with a pair of gold pistols, complete with holsters. Wonder if any gold bullets went with

(Continued on Page 29)

the finest in food...
the finest in music,
and the
best shows in town...

OPENING SOON!



the Sands

A PLACE IN THE SUN...

THE STRIP • LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

WHAT'S DOIN'?

. . . with JOHNNY UHLMAN

A DAY set apart annually in the United States, usually the last Thursday in November, for thanksgiving to God for bountiful harvests and national mercies." That's what my Webster says about this coming Thursday, November 27, 1952. And how do you go about the act of thanksgiving? I also looked this up! You express your gratitude for favors and mercies, past and present. I don't imagine that there is one of us that hasn't, at one time or another, thought that ill fate had singled us out and was swinging us around by the seat of the pants. True!! But at least we're still on our feet and have a chance when they touch the ground. Then, if your goal is worth fighting for, you will be wise to KEEP your feet on the ground and drive ahead. You may think you're getting all the bad breaks; so does the guy next to you, and that fellow on the other side of HIM!! Instead of envying either of them, be thankful that you are neither of them. Their "green grass" also has thistles!! I haven't had a "bad break" yet that didn't eventually turn out for the best. Put your trust in God and be thankful that you aren't one of the people involved in 98 per cent of what you read in your newspapers . . . I know that through Him I will one day find the solution to my personal problems . . . and we'll both be very happy!!



A new business is born! Soon you will be hearing a lot of VEGAS VALLEY DEVELOPMENTS. The three men who head this firm are three of the nicest you will ever want to meet, and a lot of you already know very well. There's JEROME "Joe" HUGHES, who for a long time was in charge of the Skyroom at the Desert Inn, and more recently of the Terrace Room at the Hotel Flamingo. Then GEORGE CASSOVEL, a captain at the Flamingo for some time and now of the Navajo Room at the Thunderbird, and BEN SILBERMAN, who recently came from the coast to join the dining room staff in the Navajo Room. They plan to be the distributors, not only locally but for the western states of quite a few fine products, the names of which I am not at liberty to divulge at the moment. They also have a lot of other plans in which you will be interested, so all I can say at this time is for you to watch for the official opening date of their offices and give them a call. Good luck, men! . . . As you know by now, the Dancers of Bali are now at the Thunderbird, but here's an item of interest that I learned a few days prior to their opening. The hotel received a list of the food stuffs necessary for the proper diet of the members of this group and were requested to have it available to them on their arrival. Said list included: 400 lbs. of rice, 32 chickens (unjointed and ready for use), gallons of Wesson Oil, garlic, assorted green vegetables and a few other items. This has become an international situation of the first magnitude! . . . Starting last Wednesday evening the EL CORTEZ Dining Room has gone hog wild on cow meat! At 5:00 P.M. on that date they began serving a delicious 14 oz. charcoal broiled steak for the price of only $1.95, with servings of the same continuing on into the ayem until 5:00. I guess they just aren't interested in money as it were. **You** fill their room; they fill YOU, and your pocket-book loses very little weight! This is an arrangement I like! With the advent of this new innovation we night owls can take advantage of this belt-tightening set-up without going out to the SILVER SLIPPER, if we happen to be downtown when the tummy growls. Meet me there one of these early mornings and we'll have a go at it, eh? . . . If all goes well we should be taking part in the opening of the FORTUNE CLUB on Fremont Street by the end of next

(Continued on Page 25)

SILVER SLIPPER SALOON

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New Comedy - New Songs
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9:00-11:00 p. m.—1:00-2:30 a. m.

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14-oz. U. S. Eastern Beef
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THE WATCHBIRD

. . . by LADY MICHAEL
(Michael Neale)

GOTTA hurry, gotta hurry, gotta hurry. The deadline for this bit of informative nonsense is for ten pee-em, and here it is five minutes to the hour. La! That means we must use our speedy system (hunt and peak) instead of typing and trying not to look at the keys. SO-oo-o, forgive us our errors and we forgive those who etc. . . .

TRIPPING ABOUT THE STRIP: MARILYN HECHT, lovely young harpist who accompanies LIBERACE, has a rich uncle in Las Vegas. He's LOUIS HECHT of Hecht's Ladies Shop, and owner of several other choice properties around town . . . And speaking of Liberace, smoothe is the word for his performance. His rendition of our eternal favorite "September Song" had us wiping away a furtive tear . . . Did you all know that BONNY HUNT is in town? Well she is, and is doing the choreography for the new show at the Desert Inn which will star FRANKIE LAINE . . . MURIEL ROTHKOPF and MUFFIN are due back in town from visiting her mother in San Francisco any day now . . . LOU SMITH, owner of Rockingham Park in Salem, N.H. is here to close the deal on the race track here . . . SHIKEY TOUSHIN, who has the Jewel Box at the Sands Hotel, will not only sell "pretties" to please the ladies, but will be the sole dispenser outside of New York and Beverly Hills, of Dunhill cigars, for those gentlemen of discriminating taste . . .

HERE AND THERE: Former Lady-in-waiting to the "Coo-time Court," DOROTHY ARNOLD, will make her New York singing debut at the La Vie en Rose . . . ERNIE MC COOK, who went to Phoenix for a two-day orange convention, says that the crop was pretty bad this year due to the atomic blasts or some such phenomenon, and proceeded to drown his disappointment in vodka and grapefruit juice. Traitor! . . . CARMEN CAVELLERO is off to South America to tinkle the ivories for the cafe society set of Rio de Janeiro, at a fabulous figure . . . RAY RYAN, of **all** that oil, opens his Palm Springs El Mirador on December 7th, and has invited the creme de la creme of the show world and society to the grahnd opening . . . The wonderful aggragation of BILLY GRAY, PATTI MOORE and BEN LESSY have returned to the Band Box in "the valley" by popular demand. In case some of you don't know what we mean by "the valley"—we'll enlighten you—it's somewhere near Hollywood, as the crow flies . . . ALAN



GILBERT, of L.V. and L.A. is back in N.Y. in "South Pacific" and is featured in the "Nothing Like a Dame" number.

APROPOS OF NOTHING: A Korean soldier received the following cabled message from his girl friend: "Tired of waiting for you so married your father. Love, Mother" . . . No? . . . Alrighty . . . here's a big tah everso to the male gossips of this town who have nothing more exciting to do than snoop around and erroneously report and heavily embroider anything they think they see. If you feel a hot flush creeping up the back of your collar at this moment, then you'll know we mean **YOU!** . . .

CUFFNOTES: HICKEY KAMM, genial dealer at the Thunderbird, went to Los Angeles for his sabbatical and had a simply mah-vellous time . . . MARION'S back in town, and never looked lovelier,—or plumper. Claims the food in N.Y. is **THAT** good. Oops—almost forgot to say that her last name is Collier, that she's a Red-head, is five feet six, has a tuxedo and will travel . . . . Our friend FRANK, bartender at the Chatterbox Bar, played host to the 7th (month) birthday of GIGOLO and APPLE, two of the most adorable French poodles we know . . . DON REYNOLDS, who bowed into town in the DIOSA COSTELLO REVUE, will be the new singing-emcee at the Desert

(Continued on Page 23)



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LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

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HEAVENLY STARS

. . . by BABETTE

SAGITTARIUS — under the influence of Jupiter, ("The Good-Luck Planet") and symbolized by the Archer, is the Ninth Sign of the Zodiac. If you were born between November 23rd and December 21st, consider yourself fortunate indeed, for natives of this sign have all the powerful forces — that lead to success and glory — at their command.

Jupiter's benevolent rays bring wealth and position, and those born under its influence are temperate, wise, magnanimous and happy.

Like many of the other signs, they are dreamers — but unlike most dreamers, they see the result of their dreams. Action and directness are their mottos and they are fearless in their ventures.

In love and friendship Sagittarians are loyal and idealistic. They despise the obvious, the sensual and the gross natures in mankind. Perhaps it is because of this fastidious and highly idealistic tendency that there are more bachelors and bachelor girls under this sign than any other. It is important, therefore, that they seek someone with the same high standards for their lifemate — primarily someone who understands them. One always knows where they stand with a Sagittarian, for they are blunt and outspoken to an extreme. But they often lose friends through this tendency and understandably so — they must learn to cultivate tact — frankness is not always received kindly.

If they follow their intuition, they should go far in the business world and they are at their best in a sudden emergency. They are highstrung and proud, sensitive and easily hurt. Sagittarians are usually in excellent physical condition and should spend a part of their time outdoors, have plenty of exercise and watch their diet — avoiding all rich foods. They should do well in sports having to do with horses and dogs.

Their concentration is excellent, but when interrupted — they lose interest. To be truly successful, they must learn to finish one thing before beginning another.

The following horoscopes are guides for the week beginning Saturday, November 22nd and ending Friday, November 28th.

ARIES (Those born between March 21-April 19)

Strong and friendly influences this week—get together with friends to find answers. The 28th best for profit.



TAURUS (Those born between April 20-May 20)

Hold on to cash and savings — news from a distance may be favorable. Watch diet and general health — Take it easy.

GEMINI (Those born between May 21-June 21)

Consider carefully before making new plans. Avoid money deals the 21st. Make sure abilities match ambitions. Working with another brings profits.

CANCER (Those born between June 22-July 22)

Grasp opportunities but don't push luck around the 25th. Avoid depressive thinking — people are on your side.

LEO (Those born between July 23-August 23)

Avoid wrong impressions and unnecessary moves near the 24th. But the 26th might be just the right time — consult partners for guidance.

VIRGO (Those born between August 24-September 23)

An advantageous change in your way of life. Everything is new this week — perhaps even new romances. Waiting preferred to forcing your opinions.

LIBRA (Those born between September 24-October 23)

Not a week to be timid — go ahead with plans in business and romance — the stars are with you.

(Continued on page 23)

...in the center of Reno's fun...

MARGARET WHITING
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HI-WAY 91

"CURTAIN TIME"

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

Flamingo

October 30 through November 26

Show: Sans Souci Revue—cast of 40
Orch.: Miguelito Valdes

The SANS SOUCI REVUE, direct from the Sans Souci Club in Havana, Cuba, is an exciting and colorful revue filled with fiery Latin and Afro-Cuban singing and dancing. Featured in this revue is the music of MIGUELITO VALDES and his "Music of the Americas" Orchestra. "Mr. Babalu" takes the spotlight during the show to offer a few vocals that are synonymous with his name . . . Sultry OLGA CHAVIANO, in gorgeous gowns, does a straight vocal before going into some of her own interpretations of the mambo and Latin dancing in general . . . The vivacious blonde beauty who becomes bewitched in the Voodoo finale of the first show is SKIPPY, the only non-Latin in the show. You will further enjoy her dancing talents when you see the second show, which is different than the first . . . The Spanish and flamenco dancers are ROCIO and ANTONIO, two of the best we've seen

(Continued on page 23)

LAST FRONTIER

November 14 through November 28

Show: Liberace - Lucille Norman
Line: Jean Devlyn Dancers (featuring Buddy Bryan, Dolores Frazzini, Candyce King and Pat Castle.)
Orch: Garwood Van

The show that is currently appearing in the Ramona Room is a true classic LIBERACE, in his eleventh return engagement to this bistro, was reecived with thunderous ovations. You just can't get near the place unless you have a reservation. This brilliant pianist is so clever a showman, one is prone to believe he is witnessing a stellar Broadway production of Ziegfeld's day. Liberace's inimitable sense of comedy creeps into his clever patter, winning the admiration of everyone within earshot. We believe he is the most dramatic showman of our era. Conducting the unparalleled musical background is brother GEORGE LIBERACE. Doing an outstanding job on the harp is MARILYN HECHT. Drummer BOB SANDY rounds out the musical production . . . Blonde LUCILLE NORMAN possesses an exquisite beauty that is complemented by her charming voice. She is a songstress who can sing low-down blues and then make an amazing transition to classical arias. The change of theme is performed with the greatest of artistry. When the spotlight glows upon her delicate pulchritude, Miss Norman is an absolute master of attention and appreciation. Her voice and appearance hypnotize every supper-clubber into fascinated concentration. Lovers of music nominate Lucille Norman as the most versatile of all singing artists.

El Rancho Vegas

November 12 through November 25

Show: Ben Blue (with Syd Slate), Don Cornell, Carmen D'Antonio
Line: El Rancho Dancers
Orch.: Ted Fio Rito

Starring in this production is BEN BLUE, a showman who has always enjoyed great popularity in any spotlight. We always derive a great amount of pleasure from his "mugging" and situation comedy. With Ben is his able assistant, SYD SLATE. Together, the two gentlemen of smiles and humor manage to disarm you of your composure and replace it with infectious enjoyment. The audience gets a chance to take part in the fun when Syd pauses at certain tables. The skits that Ben has devised for this performance are laugh-provoking and will win your sincere praise . . . The smooth singer, DON CORNELL, has returned with a vast repertoire of song favorites. His vocal selections will stir the nostalgia and arouse fond memories. When you listen to Don's voice, you'll know why he is a leading favorite with record collectors. His presentation endears him to the feminine populace and his air of good fellowship attracts the applause of the masculine listeners. Accompanying Don is the tal-



ented pianist, JERRY CARR. You'll really enjoy Don and his ingratiating style . . . CARMEN D'ANTONIO is a most vivacious performer. If you were one of the fortunate ones who saw the stage show, "Panama Hattie," you'll remember this lovely lady. She is a standout in any production. The scintillating Carmen has a remarkable sense of rhythm and stirs your appreciation with her Cuban routines. Any spotlight glows brighter when Miss D'Antonio walks onto the stage. She has a most magnetic personality.

Wilbur Clark's DESERT INN

November 4 through November 24

Show: International Revue
Ming and Ling — Buddy Hackett
Tippy and Cobina — The Clark Bros.
M. C.: Buck Young
Orch: Carlton Hayes

With fast continuity and a ship-board setting, the INTERNATIONAL REVUE got off to a smooth sailing start and a three week cruise this past week! Co-starring in the revue are BUDDY HACKETT, with fast funnies, and MING and LING, those Chinese Hillbillies. This is the first time aboard a Las Vegas package for the young, quick-witted BUDDY, but MING and LING have made the trip quite a few times. Buddy is a Brooklynite and his speech is as such; which is no disadvantage whatsoever, for a comedian! His material is original; his delivery quick and sure, and he never misses an opportunity to ad lib. Buddy carries a lot of props (one rubber band) which he uses "at eye level" during his Chinese bit . . . MING and LING are still favorites with local audiences. Their vocal interpretations and impressions are done very well, especially that of the Ink Spots and the late Al Jolson . . . TIPPY and COBINA seem to manage to steal every show on which they appear. The Vieras have trained them well and their "monkey shines" really captivate the audiences . . . The CLARK BROTHERS are billed as "fast and furious fun-makers" but they are really two of the cleverest, most rhythmical tap dancers we've seen in some time. They're both young, confident, relaxed and every tap is clearly audible . . . Miss RUTH CHIO does the specialty dancing with the INTERNATIONAL LOVELIES, while the production singing is done by BUCK YOUNG who also is your genial master of ceremonies . . . .

SAHARA

November 18 through December 1

Show: Buster Keaton; Day, Dawn and Dusk, Dolinoffs and Raya Sisters
Line: Moro-Landis Saharem Dancers (featuring Gene Nash)
Orch.: Cee Davidson

After many successful years of screen stardom, Hollywood's favorite pantomimist, BUSTER KEATON is currently making his nightclub debut here in the Conga Room. The great comedian offers a variety of humor-filled skits. We don't want to go into any details, revealing the exact type of production Mr. Keaton presents. If we did, we would undoubtedly spoil the enjoyment in store for you. However, we do want to state that his type of comicry brings entertainment to all age groups and stimulates your sense of appreciation . . . A popular singing group in our local circle are DAY, DAWN & DUSK. They are best identified as the gentleman who introduced the stimulating calliope song. For this show, the boys have combined their talents with the MORO-LANDIS SA-HAREM DANCERS to bring a refreshing minstrel type of production, involving community participation. Aside from modern ballads, Day, Dawn & Dusk offer spirituals and tunes written especially for them . . . .The DOLINOFFS & RAYA SISTERS offer deception in motion. The foursome have an extremely clever manner of presentation. Through the use of lighting effects and stage props, they create illusions that will cause you to blink your eyes in wonderment. You will be completely intrigued until their finale, when the mystery is revealed . . . Featured with the talented Sa-Harem Dancers is GENE NASH. This lad does a wonderful bit of work in both dance routines and handles the emcee chores with polished capability.



Thunderbird

November 20 through November 26
(Not a review)

Show: Dancers of Bali
Orch: Gamelan

For the first time in history, a complete company of Balinese dancers and musicians, numbering 45, is visiting America for a limited tour made possible by an air-transportation subvention of the Cultural Department of Indonesia and the enterprise of Columbia Artists Management. The entire presentation has been produced by British-born JOHN COAST, who is on leave from the Indonesian Foreign Office for this purpose. Core of the performance is the famous Gamelan orchestra of the village of Pliatan, under the direction of ANUK AGUNG GDE MANDERA, who conducted a similar orchestra at the Paris Exposition of 1931, the only previous time such an orchestra has been abroad. This entirely original orchestra, invented by the Balinese, consists of metallophones, gongs, cymbals, drums and reed instruments . . . The classic dance of Bali is the EGONG. According to Balinese tradition this dance is only performed by maidens, and to witness their work is a new experience in stage

(Continued on Page 23)

SILVER SLIPPER SALOON

Show opened November 7

Show: Las Vegas Follies
Line: Wanda Smith's Hollywood Cover Girls
M. C.: Jimmy Cavanaugh
Orch.: George Redman

Continuing its popular policy of offering you a variety of acts, the management of the Silver Slipper presents its latest production—the "Las Vegas Follies" . . . Heading the bill is RUSS CLARK, the puppeteer whose skillful manipulation of manikins is winning him local acclaim . . . You all know HANK HENRY and his unlimited store of comedy. He is such a favorite, his fans just want him to remain as long as possible . . . WOO-WOO STEVENS best exemplifies that community enjoyment is highly desirable. His songs and humor are appreciated by his followers . . . THE BEAU JESTERS are wise in their knowledge of song favorites. Listen to them and you ride the wave of nostalgia . . . GENII YOUNG and her exotic dancing relaxes your tired eyes and stimulates your appreciation of the arts . . . JO ANN MALONE is developing a greater sense of comedy and patrons are well aware of her many talents. Also B. Willard.

El Cortez

November 20 through December 3
(not a review)

Show: The Four Knights - Fulton Burley Hector and His Pals
Orch: Dave Rodgers

HELD OVER for another two weeks are THE FOUR KNIGHTS!! These four Capitol Recording artists sing fine simple harmonies that are a pleasure to hear, and seem to have more fun during their performance than the people in the audience! Their recordings of "Sin" and "Charmaine" have been best sellers and they have more hits coming up. We'd like to hear these boys do a complete show with some serious singing . . . HECTOR and HIS PALS is one of the greatest dog acts you will ever see. His "pals" exemplify variety being the spice of life, however, as they include various breeds of dogs!! Whether you love animals or not, we are certain you will find enjoyment in the "Canine Comics" of Hector and His Pals . . . FULTON BURLEY is greater than ever!! This lad from Ireland puts his whole heart and soul into every song he sings. And when it comes to relatin' rib-rousing stories, Burley's hard to beat! Especially when it comes to dialects . . .



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GEORGE LIBERACE

Thank You, Jake Kozloff

AND THE PATRONS OF THE

HOTEL LAST FRONTIER



IT'S A THRILL TO BE BACK

AND SINGING YOUR FAVORITE SONGS

Lucille Norman

THE WATCHBIRD:

(Continued from page 13)

Inn . . . EDITH PIAF follows DANNY THOMAS into the Sands Hotel in January . . . And speaking of the Sands—our sneak preview of the rooms, accoutrements and so forth, left us positively gasping, it's that lovely. Their eastern architecture and marble facade will be a welcome change out here in the desert . . . JANIE CARLSON tells us that people back in Erie, Pa. are so un-hep that they think "cool" means slightly cold . . . BOB GOLDSTEIN is in town for a rest before leaving for Yurrop and picture and money making . . . A friend of ours bought two acres of land behind the Desert Spa and decided he liked being a land-owner so he decided to buy several more parcels of the same, but to his chagrin he found they'd jumped the price one hundred percent in a matters of hours. Now, is that fair? . . .

Things - we're - glad - we-didn't-miss dept: TALLULAH BANKHEAD'S great performance in "All About Eve" over the airwaves last Sunday . . .

WANTED: A convincing new alibi for married men who like to stay out late . . .

HEAVENLY STARS:

(Continued from page 15)

SCORPIO (Those born between October 24-November 22)

Money matters are extremely favorable this week. Try to avoid all extravagant tendencies and critical remarks.

SAGITTARIUS (Those born between November 23-December 21)

This is a good time to go after that promotion — money matters also very favorable. Don't neglect home and family matters.

CAPRICORN (Those born between December 22-January 19)

This is a constructive week especially near the 26th. Don't endanger interests by being temperamental or argumentative.

AQUARIUS (Those born between January 20-February 18)

Some secret wish should come about this week. Maintain cheerful attitude even if others don't. Good contacts near the 23rd.

PISCES (Those born between February 19-March 20)

Danger of losing things on the 27th. Otherwise this is a week to relax and visit. Something new in business might be suggested—watch and listen.

THUNDERBIRD:

(Continued from page 19)

beauty and theater art. . . . Bali's foremost male soloist, SAMPIH, will be seen in the KEBIAR and BARIS, two dances calling upon enormous skill and physical prowess . . . A new creation called TUMULILIGAN (Bumblebee) introduces the company's most sensational performer, NI GUSTI RAKA, a young lady destined to delight and bewilder American audiences with her amazing personality and phenomenal virtuosity . . . KETYAK, without music, is something akin to an American college cheering section, performed by a chorus of thirty men and led by the clown SEROG . . . The performance concludes with a giant beast, the BARONG, who will chase away all evil spirits that may have strayed into the room.

FLAMINGO:

(Continued from page 17)

locally for quite some time . . . NANCY and RUDY are the two youngsters who so energetically interpret the various phases of Cuban dancing, in routines of their own designing . . . The first show finale, "Sun Sun Dambae," is an authentic abridgment of the native religious Voodoo ceremony, the original of which might last from a few hours to a few days. The appearance of the bata drums and the four authentic drummers marks the first time they have ever been used in public. If you know or appreciate Latin music, you will enjoy this revue to the fullest.

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Stuffed Celery en Branche — Cheese Tidbits
Ripe and Green Olives — Green Onions
Shrimp Cocktail or Fruit Cocktail
Cream of Chicken a la Reine
French Onion Soup, Cheese Croutons

Roast Young Goose, Wild Rice, Giblet Gravy 2.25
Roast Tom Turkey, Sage Dressing, Cranberry Sauce 2.00
Broiled Whole Lobster, Drawn Butter 2.50
Grilled Prime New York Cut Steak Bordelaise 4.50
½ Spring Chicken, Pan Fried Country Gravy 2.25
Roast Prime Rib of Beef au Jus 3.35

Whipped Potatoes — Sweet Potatoes
Tossed Green Salad, French Dressing
New Green Peas or Baby Green Lima Beans
Spiced Pumpkin Pie — Home Baked Layer Cake
Ice Cream — Fruit Jello
Coffee — Tea

BENNY BINION'S

Horseshoe

DOWNTOWN LAS VEGAS

WHAT'S DOIN'?

(Continued from page 11)

week. (where the old 49'er was). I certainly wish Cecil and Harry a lot of luck when they do get open. Heaven knows they've had to wait long enough for the day. None of us likes to see a dark store on our downtown streets . . . Another comparatively new business in town that bears your investigation is TAFFY HILL's School of Self-Improvement at the corner of 7th and Ogden. There are so many different courses available to all age groups that it would take the rest of my column to name them, so I'll only catch the highlights, such as modeling and physical culture, ballroom techniques, tap, ballet, baton instruction, etc. Miss Hill also has formed a Self-Improvement and Recreation Club which entitles members to participate in all parties, lectures, fashion shows, use of gym, etc. THIS is a good deal!! Of course anyone who buys a course of instruction automatically becomes a member in the club. With the fast approaching holiday season Miss Hill is offering a Christmas Special wherein the receiver gets a certificate entitling entry in classes to begin right after the first of the year. This also includes the selection of a course in make-up and the proper application of the exclusive line of professional cosmetics which Miss Hill handles. Like I was saying, there are so many things to tell you about what you'll find at TAFFY HILL'S Studio that I'd better leave it up to you to call her about the rest of it. Phone 5211 . . . BONNIE WEST now has beautiful furs from which you may choose. These are some of the finest I've ever seen. They are designed and manufactured by WILLIAM BAER of Beverly Hills, Calif., and Bonnie's is the exclusive shop for them in this area. Mr. Baer himself is in town this week-end to personally attend to the initial showing of his lovely furs. Not only does BONNIE BEST have these fine furs at amazingly low prices but you are missing something if you haven't dropped in to see the eye-catching "day and after five originals" she has for your choosing. I guess it sounds funny for a bachelor like me to be talking about women's things this way, but that's the way I was impressed. Go take a look for yourselves . . . and then, you're with me! . . . By the way, BONNIE BEST is located out on the Strip just south of the Desert Inn . . . I often wonder what MIGUELITO VALDES is saying, if anything, when he does all that tongue-twisting as he sings one of his Latin tunes! Most Latins do it, but I've never heard anyone go as fast as he does. You listen the next time you catch the Flamingo show and then see if you can come close to saying what HE does. If I find out what's going on I'll let you know! . . . BUCKLEY's "Three of any kind" machines are the talk of the place lately. Their liberality is shown by the number of people playing them every time I go into the store. Three of any kind hits the jackpot; plums, bells, bars, oranges, numbers, etc. They even have "criss-cross" machines that are also "three of a kind" machines at the same time. If you happen to be a tourist or a novice at slot machines you probably don't know what I'm talking about, but let me tell you this; BUCKLEY'S JACKPOT CLUB is the best place in town to learn what it is all about. They're in the first block on Fremont Street . . . Next Thursday night will see the opening of a new band in Las Vegas as the show changes at the Flamingo Hotel. TORRIS BRAND and his ORCHESTRA, with "your 'brand' of music." How's that for a slogan? And it couldn't be more correct! I've heard this band rehearse and there isn't a weak man in the entire eleven. Five reeds, three brass and three rhythm. In some of the arrangements the voicing is so great that you'd swear that there were more than eleven men on the stand. This band is made up of men who have made Las Vegas their home, and we wish them the best of luck! . . . GORDON JENNINGS' wife, FRANCES, gave him a 7 lb. 4 oz. girl last Monday evening and came through with flying colors. Gordon, service bar, came apart at the seams! Congratulations to two lucky people! . . . That's all for now. Come in again, won't you? . . . Johnny.

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EDITORIAL...

This is our response to the sullied, under-handed, slanderous collection of verbosity that has been appearing in the Los Angeles DAILY NEWS, recently. We were greatly disappointed to discover that a periodical of good community standing would deign to print such trash, without making any advance attempt to check on the veracity of the writings of the writer.

We are referring to the penned vagaries of a perfidious form of humanity; a person who has used the names of WILBUR JERGER and DICK THANE. The nomenclature that heads his questionable columns in the L. A. Daily News is WILBUR JEGER.

If the purpose of this self-important character was to stimulate the ire of residents of Las Vegas, he certainly achieved his goal. We are suffering from near-apoplexy, induced by the vicious fiction of his dreams. This W. J. is a leading example of what happens when a public newspaper gives freedom of the press into the hands of a disgruntled, ambitious (but indolent) vagabond who wasn't presented with a gift of a million dollars.

In the summer of this year, a certain production arrived from Chicago to play one of our leading resort hotels. In the cast was a certain dancer, who was accompanied to Las Vegas by her husband and two children. When the show contract expired, this family of four decided that Las Vegas was the haven for which they had sought and made plans to remain. As in any other city or town in the United States, they soon learned that the process of building toward future security was slow and tedious.

The father could have taken many of the lower paying jobs available in order to keep his brood housed and nourished. BUT, as fate would have it, he believed he was too intelligent to work for anything under a three-figure weekly pay-check. His so-called pride took precedence over the knowledge that his wife and children needed food for their existence. Taking the reins into her own firm hands, the young wife explained the situation to a local hotel proprietor and requested a job as a "shill" in the gaming casino. Thus, the wife became the breadwinner, once again, while friend husband was busy boosting his ego and waiting for Las Vegas to welcome him with thousand dollars arms. He certainly was a rising genius. The only trouble was that no one else would share that opinion with him. He was too far above the acceptance of a mundane position; nothing less than a leader's job would satisfy this ingrate.

Before becoming cognizant of these facts, we hired W. J., after learning of the plight of his family. Mind you, we weren't in any dire need of his services, our main concern was to see that he could provide for his family. Anyone connected with the advertising business knows that it takes steady plugging and a great deal of persistent energy before a person in this field can reach the upper class of monetary benefits. To cite another side of this despicable temperament, W. J. approached a member of a competitive organization with the proposition that he work for them on the days of the week he wasn't in our employ. Now, wasn't that a fine display of loyalty and trust? Was his move inspired by the thought that he could perhaps blackmail one or the other by carrying tales (and adolescent inspiration)? Needless to say, W. J. didn't last in our employ longer than a couple of days.

Finally, this mastermind (and we say that with complete derision) approached JEAN DEVLYN of the HOTEL LAST FRONTIER and virtually pleaded with the choreographer to give his wife a job as a dancer. Here is a so-called man who was too good to work, begging Miss Devlyn to give his wife a job so that she could feed him and their two children. Very honorable, isn't he? Well, Miss Devlyn gave her a job as a showgirl, not a dancer. The work wasn't very hard. If you're familiar with show business, you know that showgirls wear outstanding costumes and are primarily decorative in production numbers. They are considered stage models, not requiring any knowledge of dancing.

On one occasion, we encountered W. J.'s wife while she was indulging in some chuck wagon at one of the local spots. Chuck wagon is a food buffet that is served in the late evening and early morning. While speaking with Alice, her purse fell and we bent down to retrieve it. The catch had opened and we unbelievingly stared at two pieces of bread in the handbag. Reading the question in our eyes, Alice explained that there was no food in the house and she took the bread home with her so there would be some "breakfast" the following morning. Does that sound as

(Continued on Page 33)

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THAT'S FOR SURE:

(Continued from Page 9)

the gift? Nope! Guess not. They say gold is too soft for things of that nature. Many happy returns, Tex.

ANN and JIM BILBRAY have purchased a home at the DESERT INN COUNTRY CLUB ESTATES. Unlike most of the others who reside (or plan to reside) there, the Bilbrays were fortunate in buying a home already constructed. Ann and Jim are the proprietors of BILBRAY'S on Fremont Street, specializing in fine shoes and accessories.

On November 20th, BENNY BINION was joined by his family in a mammoth celebration of his birthday. We're hoping that a belated gift will be notification that Benny will not have to return to Texas. We recently learned that Mr. B. paid the second highest income tax for the state of Texas; quite a feat considering the amount of Texans who own healthy (and wealth-producing) oil wells. We feel that Benny Binion is being unduly persecuted and this move to return him to Texas is being instigated by politically ambitious gentlemen who will stop at nothing to gain fame.

BABETTE GEORGE, our lovely star-gazing columnist, has retired from show business, leaving her place with the JEAN DEVLYN DANCERS. She is now employed as the hostess in the HOTEL SAHARA'S CARAVAN ROOM.

TRICIA HURST (of the HOTEL EL RANCHO VEGAS) certainly did a fine job of publicizing the marriage of ELAINE MAHNKEN and MICKEY ROONEY, the screen star. Tricia has long been a friend of screendom's "Andy Hardy" and made all the arrangements for the ceremony when Mickey and Elaine arrived early November 11th. The couple took their vows at 2:30 ayem at the Wee Kirk o'Heather Chapel. It was his fourth marriage and the bride's second. Tricia notified WALTER WINCHELL and all other national columnists, resulting in a great deal of publicity. Nice going, Tricia!

LIBERACE and his revue are very excited about their impending engagement at Los Angeles' Paramount Theatre. They open the spot on Christmas Day and will appear there for one week. There's good cause for happiness in the Liberace family. His albums are proving to be the Nation's No. 1 sellers. Managers GABBE-LUTZ & HELLER are planning a 1953 European tour for the brilliant pianist and his conductor-composer, brother GEORGE LIBERACE.

Sincere congratulations to BETTY and HAROLD HIND, who toasted their eleventh Wedding Anniversary, November 14th, at DOMENIC'S ITALIAN RESTAURANT. They enjoyed a very special menu, prepared under the special guidance of proprietor DOMENIC VELONA. Harold is one of the top brass of the EL CORTEZ HOTEL.

Well, miracles will never cease — or so "they" say! LADY MICHAEL (the horse, that is) won her first purse at a New York track a few days ago. You'll probably read about that in our LADY MICHAEL'S (the columnist, that is) column. Wonder if she had a small wager on the horse, this time? The quadruped is owned by JAKE FREEDMAN of the SANDS HOTEL and was named in honor of our lovely staff member.

BILL KOZLOFF is now in complete charge of the SILVER SLIPPER. The place is just humming with activity since the handsome lad stepped into the top spot. Bill has many ideas of increasing the already flourishing business. Good luck, B. K.

We are doubtful but STAN IRWIN (head of publicity and entertainment at the HOTEL SAHARA) insists it's the truth. Stan is trying to convince us that he saw LIBERACE without a smile on his face. We just can't picture the pianist without the perpetual smile that is virtually a trademark. Are you sure, Stan?

BEA RATCLIFFE, former publicity head of the HOTEL EL RANCHO VEGAS, is settling down to the duties of her new position. The charming lady is now a writer for the COCA COLA radio and T. V. shows. The gal who has replaced Bea at the hotel is DOROTHY GUNN. About two years ago, Dorothy's husband, ED PARHAN, was the tennis pro at WILBUR CLARK'S DESERT INN. At that time, Miss Gunn was a free lance photographer.

Well, NINA and FRED SOLY are preparing for their annual trip to his home town in Mexico. They will leave on November 28th for a three week visit to the colorful spot. The difference in their trip will be that nine-month-old FRED, JR., will go along, this time. (Fred Sr. is General Manager of the MONTE CARLO CLUB, Downtown.)

The adorable BELL SISTERS who appeared at the HOTEL LAST FRONTIER a few months ago, will make their film debut in COLUMBIA'S technicolor musical, "Melancholy Baby." It's a wonderful arrangement for the girls for they will be working with DICK HAYMES and BILLY DANIELS.

We have more than a suspicion that MAE PARKER (of the RINGLETTE WAVE SHOPPE) is the direct cause of the appearance of many new silver blondes. The gals are discovering that Mae's professional attention provides

(Continued on page 31)



My second visit
has been even nicer
than the first!

Doretta Morrow

THANKS TO HAL BRAUDIS AND
HOTEL THUNDERBIRD
FOR A WONDERFUL WEEK!

My first visit
has me looking forward
to a second!

Earl Wrightson



THAT'S FOR SURE:

(Continued from Page 23)

natural coloring and attractive coiffures. No wonder there's a bevy of beauties at 109 North Third Street, every time we pass the place!

DON CORNELL, the singer currently at the HOTEL EL RANCHO VEGAS, has signed a straight contract with UNIVERSAL PICTURES. It wasn't too many years ago that we saw Don at the springboard of fame, as a vocalist with the SAMMY KAYE ORK. Our good wishes go with you, lad.

JEANNE and DAVE MESSING are having a lot of fun, squiring Jeanne's aunt, MRS. RUTH ROSENBERG, of Detroit. Mrs. R. is being treated to a very thorough sight-seeing tour and we wouldn't be surprised if someone would hire Jeanne as official guide for our fair town.

We were happy to learn that CONNIE MORMON is recuperating nicely. The petite blonde recently underwent surgery at Los Angeles' GOOD SAMARITAN HOSPITAL. All of her friends send fond regards and wish for Connie's speedy recovery and return to the place she loves so dearly.

On December 5th, DOLORES FRAZZINI opens as the featured dancer with JEAN DEVLYN SKYLETTES at Reno's MAPES HOTEL. The girls will not appear at the HOTEL LAST FRONTIER during the PHIL SPITALNY engagement but will return at the conclusion of it.

Looks like LEFTY SELMAN (of the HOTEL EL RANCHO VEGAS) likes variety. He was pit boss on the swing shift and STANLEY McDONALD was pit boss on the graveyard shifts. The two esteemed gentlemen have exchanged their shifts. If this goes on much longer, the poor typewriter will become mighty confused.

Note to DOMENIC VELONA: The two bowling teams, sponsored by ye Editor's publication are now in first spot. Of course the season is still young and one never knows what the future holds — but — we just thought we'd let you know. On our foursome team, MARTY PAES has come through with a nice 641 (high series for the league, thus far) and 605 series. Last Sunday, Etta chalked up the enviable score of 266 (high game for the league and season) and finished with a 605 series (her third for this season). Speaking of bowling, everyone had fun at the Sponsor-Captain tournament, held last week. But, we wonder why most of the sponsors didn't show up at their jobs the next day? Could it have had anything to do with unused muscles that were suddenly called into play?

Vacationing in our midst is TED LAWSON, author of "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo." You undoubtedly saw the film version, starring VAN JOHNSON as one of the boys who went on that flight with GENERAL DOOLITTLE. We had a very interesting conversation with the distinguished novelist. Many are the amazing tales he has to spin . . . and that's for sure.

RANDOM THOUGHTS:

(Continued from page 7)

brings a great deal of enjoyment. . .

Personal hygiene is taught daily to offspring who were either neglected or came from homes where the practice was considered unimportant. Good manners are stressed and it isn't long before a newcomer learns to say "please" and "thank you." It is a gratifying scene to witness when the small voices join to say a small prayer, before each meal. . .

Some youngsters remain for a short period — other have been sheltered for years. One mother never returned to claim her three babies. How can you just forget your children? . . .

Our heartfelt salute to MRS. JEAN LEWIS and the MEDICAL CENTER HOSPITAL for proving that people are wonderful and for providing a haven for youngsters who otherwise might never have known gentleness or consideration. May He who guides us in our earthly missions extend His blessings to you. . . .

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EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 27)

though W. J. deserved to be either father or husband? Perhaps this world is completely cock-eyed but it was always our belief that the man was supposed to provide for his family. If W. J. were incapacitated, we could understand the situation. But, he has all the physical requirements to expend in that direction.

Now for some of the sordid misrepresentations made by W. J. He speaks of a girl named "Alice." This lowest form of humanity states that the female shill could not keep her job unless she was "nice" to her "bosses" and wealthy patrons. Oh, brother! What we have to say in retaliation to that is not fit to print! Instead, we can only advise you that the "bosses" are so busy with their organizations, they don't have time to make any advances, ESPECIALLY during working hours. Another falsification that appeared in W. J.'s column was that a girl shill had to accept drinks from patrons and the "talk at the tables was always about sex." Good Lord! What fantastic accusations. If you've ever seen participants of a gaming table, you'll readily understand our disbelief that any person could make such a ludicrous statement. When people are gaming, complete concentration is placed upon the outcome of the dice or the stopping of the roulette wheel, or the turning of the cards. They are so engrossed in the determination of their winnings or losses, every other emotion is temporarily forgotten. Can you picture a man who is winning (or losing) taking his eyes away from his money, in order to ogle "a tight skirt" or bursting bodice? IT JUST ISN'T BEING DONE. Incidentally, W. J. must not have taken fashion into consideration when compiling his fictional fantasies. Las Vegas women are wearing bouffant skirts—not "tight" ones.

This sulking individual further states that husbands and sweethearts of dancers (appearing in the hotels) "were nixed—couldn't come near the place." The further we get into this editorial, the more we realize W. J. must have spent most of his time in Las Vegas, with his eyes shut tight, under a covering of adhesive tape. Not one night passes, during which you can't witness the girls, seated at their own table, enjoying the company of either family members, or steady boy-friends. These visitors are NOT barred and have shared many such occasions; sometimes being joined by the proprietor of the place. The dancers are NOT forced into circulation by their employers as implied by W. J. In the smallest town or the largest metropolis, you will find women of questionable character. The proprietors of our hotels take a great deal of pride in their palatial bistros and prefer to keep the reputation of their places on a high level. If visiting women seek disreputable distinction, it is not the fault of residents or employers. You can only get into trouble by looking for it; not by walking away from it.

If this W. J. is set on a literary career, why doesn't he take a hint from a really good writer such as LUCIUS BEEBE? This renowned author has a true article about Las Vegas in the December, 1952, issue of HOLIDAY magazine. Take the bad taste out of your mouth (left by undesirable W. J.) by reading Mr. Beebe's true conception of life in Las Vegas. When you compare the two, you'll preserve Mr. Beebe's writings and use that of W. J.'s for house-breaking your new dog.

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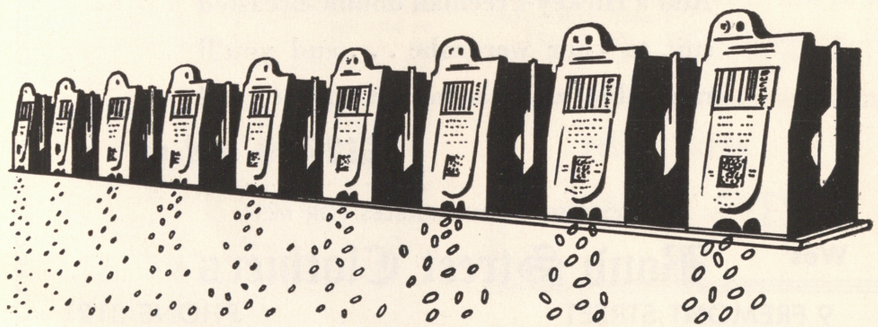
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POP SQUIRES:

(Continued from Page 5)

worked out there over a flavorsome glass. I well remember that, in July, 1906, when I first was privileged to enter the sacred precincts of The Rhyolite Club, it was filled with prospectors and stock promoters, and anybody who mentioned or suggested a deal involving less than one hundred thousand dollars was a "cheap skate," unworthy of the high privilege of being allowed to enter the Club.

That evening, I hung around the Southern Hotel and watched the wealthy mining promotors from the east play gold pieces on the roulette tables and was not a little uneasy as to how best to keep safe the sixteen thousand dollars I had in an envelope in my inside coat pocket.

So when I went to bed I carefully folded my trousers and placed them under my pillow but the envelope with the money I pinned inside my cotton flannel night gown. The hotel rooms were just large enough for two beds with about two feet of space between them. Each bed was supposed to be assigned to two lodgers for a stint of eight hours only.

It was a dismal and cold and nervous night. At six in the morning I arose, with my money still safe, dressed as quickly as possible and went down to the barroom where there was a most welcome pot of hot coffee on the stove. Then when I looked out the door, the world was white with six inches or more of snow. I walked up the hill to the depot (still standing as the Ghost City) got on the L. V. & T. train and at seven o'clock we were on our way to what to me was already good little old Las Vegas.

All that Thanksgiving Day the train jogged along down through the cold and desolate desert of snow which covered the ground almost down to Las Vegas. Finally, after a long dismal day I reached home at about six o'clock in the evening. When I entered our home, there was a long table extending from the living-room fireplace almost the length of the room. It was warm and cheerful and bright (yes, we had electric lights of a sort even that early). And Delphine had the table set for twenty diners. The smell of roast turkey and dressing filled the air —and was I Thankful?

Delphine hustled me out to the bedroom with orders to put on my evening clothes. At that early, almost prehistoric date, it was customary for the men as well as the women to dress up occasionally, although the custom has become almost obsolete. With a feeling of supreme Thankfulness (I still had the large envelope with more than sixteen thousand in currency) I complied.

The guests came in groups — Mr. and Mrs. W. J. McBurney, Mr. and Mrs. Dan V. Noland, Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Murphy, Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Bracken, Mr. and Mrs. John S. Park, Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Thomas and Mrs. Chris Brown, Mr. Mr. E. W. Griffith and ourselves, nearly all the party in their evening clothes, which in itself gave Las Vegas a new, higher and more dignified standing in our minds. I think it was about the first really formal party in the history of the new Las Vegas. The other day I came across a photograph of the guests seated along the table and I then thought that Thanksgiving Dinner party of sufficient interest to deserve this little story.

If you have ever been so Thankful you could hardly contain yourself, you will surely pardon me for being personal. For us who were trying to lay a foundation upon which you moderns could build this Fabulous Modern Las Vegas, that was about the finest Thanksgiving of our almost half century in Las Vegas. Of course things have changed some since then. I was young — only forty when I came to Las Vegas. There are not many left who were guests at our first Thanksgiving dinner, the happiness of which cannot ever be equalled even by Thanksgiving Dinner at Mr. Prell's Fabulous and Beautiful Sahara, or Wilbur Clark's Desert Inn, or The Flamingo, or The Thunderbird, or the Last Frontier, or Tommy Hull's first effort at The Fabulous Hotel El Rancho Vegas. To us the whole thing seems like an unbelievable dream!

(Yes, I am writing Happiness and Thanksgiving with caps, on purpose.)

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