

Jack Boritz

October 24, 1953

# Fabulous

## LAS VEGAS

*Magazine*



SPECIAL IN THIS ISSUE

BETTY HUTTON'S  
NEW YORK OPENING  
BY  
DR. MARGARET CHUNG  
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- 2 -

OCTOBER 24, 1953

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DOWNTOWN, LAS VEGAS



**THE FAILURE** of the Southwest properly to support a race track at Las Vegas to me is a bitter disappointment. Since the earliest days of the poor, skinny little infant Las Vegas a few of us have dreamed dreams about racing.

That first Fourth of July in the year 1905 found us at low ebb. The spurt of business activity following the auction sale of the townsite lots had cooled off. Our big advertisements in Los Angeles newspapers had ceased to attract purchasers. The world had passed us by with a general "go to hell" salute and, with all the dust and flies and heat, we felt that we were well on our way.

But the Fourth of July came around at the same old time of the year and we did not, quite yet, feel that we had fallen low enough to ignore our national holiday. So we prepared a celebration, which was to include, in addition to a cool drink or two now and then at Harry Beale's bar, a few foot races and, the supreme attraction, several horse races over a quarter of a mile track down the creek below the ranch, most of which we cleared after we reached the ranch.

Our means of transportation then was a foot path through the brush along the banks of Vegas Creek, which then was a fine, clear little stream. You cannot find it today because it long ago was swallowed by the water mains of the Las Vegas Land & Water Company system. Our own two feet provided the motive power for most of us, but we did not mind the walk to the ranch because there we knew would be the shade of green cottonwood trees, while the only shade in this townsite was inside a shack or tent where the heat had stored itself.

I remember the walk to the ranch that morning because it just happened

that I found myself walking with a rather dapper army officer in a new uniform, who sorrowfully confided in me that he was completely out of money and must get enough to take him to Walker Lake where he had government checks awaiting him, etc., etc. So, of course, I loaned him a little money and I haven't ever since heard of my military friend.

Arriving at the ranch we found quite a crowd, maybe as many as a hundred people. Near the bar a "bowery" had been built where the young fellows and the girls danced between drinks. Most of the rest of us took what shovels and picks we could find and went down the creek to a plot of comparatively level ground where we cleared, roughly, a baseball diamond and a straight-away race track which we guessed to be a quarter of a mile.

We tried to play an inning or two of ball, then came the big doings—the horse races. Those of us who were there will never forget the thrill of seeing those cow-ponies struggle and smash their way through the dust heaps, in dead earnest. There was no make-believe but serious struggle every race. And perhaps it was that first Fourth of July in the new Las Vegas that inoculated the town with the love of horses and of races.

Our next big races were on Labor Day of 1905, along Main Street near Fremont. The railroad company by that time had done some street work. On those blocks in the heart of town, some of the streets such as Main and Fremont had been graded, graveled, oiled and curbs of 3x14-inch redwood planks built.

Again there were horse races this time along Main Street. At the corner of Main and Fremont we had a lot of

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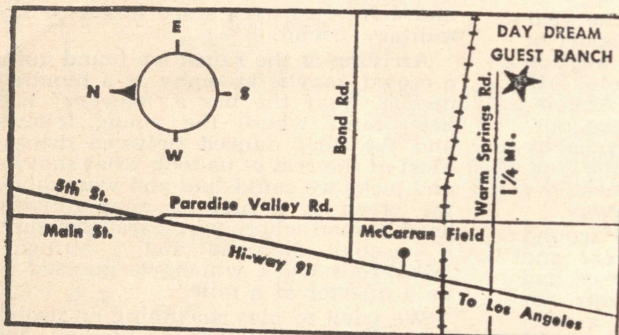
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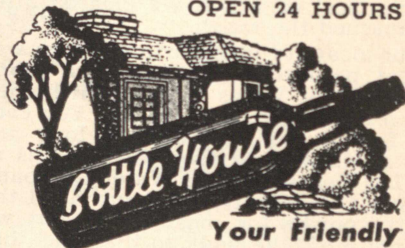
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**I** LOVE to drive on a freeway. You bump into the nicest people. These express highways are supposed to save you a lot of time. They sure do. You get to a traffic court faster than ever before. They're even thinking of putting up drive-in motor courts.

I can think of a faster way to expedite speeding cases. The judge should travel alongside the traffic cop. The cop hands you the ticket, the judge fines you and then paints black stripes on your window instead of sentencing you to jail.

I saw a movie the other night. There was a prison scene. Three rough, grizzly convicts were nervously pacing in their cell. Finally one snarled to another: "What are ya in 'for?" "Armed robbery," growled the other. "They gimme 20 years!" The others winced.

Looking at a calendar, another loser sighed: "What're you complaining about? I got 40 years for one lousy moider!" They turned to the third criminal. His head was shaved. His face drawn.

He stared into space. "What about you?" the others asked. "I got the chair tomorrow," he whispered hoarsely, "for parking on the freeway."

There's one trouble with these modern freeways. They cut right through the city and in so doing they cut out a big chunk of the city. More and more chunks are being cut out every day, as a matter of fact. This means that in the near future there will be only freeways and no cities. UNLESS they move the cities somewhere else.

That is the only solution as I see it, and I'm the guy to see it. I have 20-20 vision. I can see 20 inches out of each eye.

But, dear reader, if you haven't turned to another column by now, can you imagine what will happen, when cities are moved to other states? We'll have to get used to a whole new set of names. You'll hear people say: "I'm from Chicago, Arizona!" Others will list their addresses as Los Angeles, West Virginia; Pittsburgh, Colorado; Milwaukee, Tennessee, and Dallas, Wisconsin.

And if they ever build a freeway through Nevada, it will be Reno, Missouri, and Las Vegas, Texas. It's pos-

sible!

At the beginning it will be confusing, but after a while nobody will know what's going on. But we must take these things in our stride. The whole world is in a state of turmoil. Things in Washington are so confused even the spies don't know what's going on.

I have faith, however. I believe things will get better. Of course, we may not be alive to see it, but they will get better. All this talk about a recession. It's silly. It's coming, so why worry? You know, the trouble with a depression is that it comes when most people are out of work.

What we must do is prepare ourselves. Move to the ground floor so when the stock market crashes, and you jump out of the window, you won't have far to go. If we are prepared, then a depression can't hurt us. I've been advising this to all my friends with the result that I have no more friends.

We must learn to act now, as we will act when the thing hits us. I personally am coming to your city to conduct classes in how to prepare for the depression. First we will learn how to cut holes in our shoes. This will save you the trouble of wearing them out. Then I will show you how to avoid stepping on cigaret butts.

Then you will be shown how to pick them up. Etiquette demands that the little pinky be raised as you stoop over to pick up a butt. If you do this properly, you will gain the respect of all the bums in the neighborhood. You will be assigned a street corner and taught how to mooch.

As a graduation present you will get a corner all for your very own. Mooching on my corner will be considered trespassing and give you one demerit. Two demerits and we break your little pinky.

Three demerits and we exile you to a movie theatre where you spend one year scraping chewing gum off the seats.

The most important thing in preparing yourself for the depression is a federal project to keep the unemployed working. My plan is a giant scheme to break up all the freeways, move all the cities back to their original states and move me into a nice, padded cell.

Anyone second the motion?

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THAT'S FOR SURE...

BY  
Jack Berkz

**B**Y NOW everyone is cognizant that October 24 has been proclaimed UNITED NATIONS DAY. This is one holiday for which the world should be eternally grateful. When the United Nations was founded it meant a giant step was being taken to establish solid unity between many different countries, removing barriers that prevented understanding between humans living on opposite sides of the globe. Just as the United Nations inspired the perfection of a method to combat the ancient problem of language (the simultaneous translation system), we pray they will some day be able to offset serious altercations in favor of the sensible family-type discussions. We are proud to be able to salute UNITED NATIONS DAY . . . and that's for sure.

"Holiday" magazine photographers are in town, busily snapping their shutters, collecting many lens-images to decorate their planned feature story on the state of Nevada. Although the tale will deal with our state, it will dwell mostly upon the highlights of our own Las Vegas. You'll be able to read about it in their July 1954 edition.

Currently enjoying a well-deserved vacation is SI LIEN, coordinator of entertainment at the HOTEL SAHARA. Si is enjoying a reunion with his folks and will celebrate his birthday October 25 with his parents in New York City. The only blue note in his happiness is the absence of his love, DONNA RAY-BOLD. At the end of his vacation, Si wouldn't surprise us if he headed straight for Los Angeles, kidnapped his lovelight and brought her back here for a visit with the Preacher.

Time out to send a gigantic nod of appreciation to ROY BABICH, pit boss of the swing shift at HOTEL LAST FRONTIER. Despite the many trying episodes that Roy encounters in his daily routines, he never fails to display the patience and finesse that label him a "gentleman."

The FLAMINGO HOTEL is certainly carrying out its policy of "everything new." The management is having a new air conditioning system installed, containing chlorophyll.

Congratulations to WILBUR CLARK and his associates on their recent purchase of Hollywood's EARL CARROLL

THEATRE. FRANK SENNES has been contracted to produce the shows. Patrons will be afforded the luxury of Broadway productions and delicious dinners at a very nominal cost.

The SILVER SLIPPER is unquestionably the hot spot on The Strip. If you wander around looking for celebrities you'll find them at this spot nightly. Here you will see a greater collection of star-studded personalities than any other place (with the exception of Hollywood, of course). Casino Manager JOHN DONAHUE has greatly enhanced the wonderful atmosphere of the Slipper with his cordial attitude.

MAL CLARKE (co-owner of the SANDS HOTEL) is bursting with enthusiasm. Stimulating Mr. Clarke's gleeful attitude is the scheduled appearance of JANE WYMAN at that spot. Miss Wyman is expected to begin her engagement immediately following the JEANETTE McDONALD show. Miss Wyman and Mal have been friends for many years. During the actress' last local visit she and her husband were regally hosted by the Sands magnate.

The picture that is being talked about by millions of movie goers will make its local debut October 28. On that date the FREMONT THEATRE will present "From Here to Eternity," starring MONTGOMERY CLIFT, with FRANK SINATRA in the role that might bring him an Academy award. In order to enable odd-shift workers to see this specific film, PAUL SPERLING has announced that the first reel will be run at 11 a.m. The last complete performance will begin shortly after 10:30 p.m. You've asked for it, Las Vegas, and here it is!

After noting the absence of her column in last week's magazine many people inquired about VI TAYLOR. Miss Taylor has been a victim of ill health and was advised to limit her activities for a few weeks. As a result, her very entertaining column will not be carried for a few editions. However, just as soon as Miss Taylor regains her strength she will resume her outstanding contributions to our readers. Please be assured that we are just as impatient to have her return as you are.

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GETTING THERE  
IS HALF  
THE FUN ----

Stop at

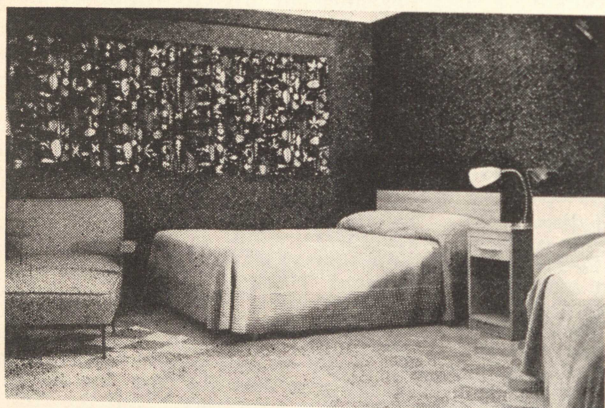
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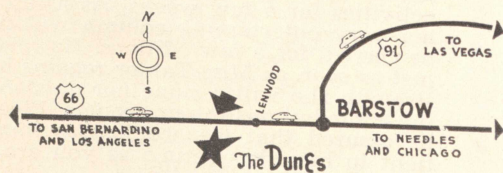
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## Betty Hutton's New York Opening

... By Dr. Margaret Chung

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Bless you, "Mom" Chung! Our heartfelt thanks for your wonderful columns!)



ON OCTOBER 14 BETTY HUTTON opened her International Revue at New York's Palace Theatre. It was terrific! Stupendous! Crowds blocked the streets early in the evening, trying to catch a glimpse of all the celebrities in attendance. The turn-out was very fashionable. It was reminiscent of a Hollywood opening or the advent of the opera season. The ladies wore more glamorous furs and stunning jewelry. Men sported formal attire and many stage and screen stars appeared.

Among those present were glamorous Marlene Dietrich, Mel Ferrer, Jose Ferrer, lovely Lena Horne (accompanied by her distinguished husband Lennie Cayton), Jinx Falkenberg, Earl Wilson, Milton Berle, George Jessel, Abe Lastfogel (president of William Morris Agency), Mr. and Mrs. Harry Gould (of AGVA and the Jewish Theatrical Guild), Harry Brandt, Red Buttons, Mr. and Mrs. Wheelock Bingham (president of Macy's), and many, many others of New York society and the entertainment world.

Following the format of her previous show, the first act was high class vaudeville, including the Shyrettos (a fast-moving bicycle act), Bill and Cora Baird (in a very cute puppet show), Les Charlivels Trio (three talented young brothers who danced, tumbled, played piano, violins, clarinet, saxophone, guitars and accordion in fast tempo), and a very funny young comedian, DICK SHAWN, who had them rolling in the aisles. (He received rave notices from all critics.) Then there was a group of Spanish musicians, Los Chavales of Espana, with fiery flamenco gypsy dancer Trini Reyes.

The second act was all BETTY HUTTON. The house lights dimmed and a hush of expectancy pervaded the capacity audience. You could hear a pin drop as a big spotlight swept up the center aisle to catch the blonde vision of loveliness shyly and demurely walking down the aisle. She bowed and smiled to her friends.

The tremendous ovation must have warmed her heart and hushed the butterflies in her stomach, which all great artists seem to have on opening night. She was greeted, aided and abetted on stage by the SKYLARKS, the troupe of songsters who accompanied her when

she went to Korea at the beginning of the Korean war to sing for our boys there.

From that moment Betty captured her entire audience, even when she was wistful in a well-modulated voice, wishing she could sing ballads instead of shouting them, wishing she could do a Broadway show. (As a matter of fact, she can sing ballads tenderly and pull on heart strings sufficiently to bring out the handkerchieves. And, as far as doing a Broadway show, she certainly has given a transfusion of new life and pep to an old institution like the Palace.)

Then she suddenly startles her audience with her exuberant "Murder, He Says," followed by "You Can't Get a Man with a Gun," accompanied by a pair of roaring pistols in her own hands. Then she does "Rocking Horse Ran Away" and "I Want to Belong to You," a number written especially for her by Livingston and Evans. They also wrote "Born to Do" for her.

To demonstrate her versatility she does a wonderful imitation of Benny Fields in sleek, black trousers, high silk hat and cane. Then a quick change into a fluffy Gay '90s outfit for her imitation of Blossom Seeley, followed by the Charleston, keeping up the terrific tempo with "Toddlin' the Toledo" and "Sexy Sadie."

Following her theatre engagement, Betty will go to Hollywood where she is scheduled to star in the film "Life of Sophie Tucker." So, toward the end of her act, she paid a glowing tribute to Sophie, telling how much Sophie had helped her by her good advice.

She sang "Some of These Days" with such feeling and vitality the enthusiastic response and cheers of bravo brought genuine tears of gratitude to Betty's eyes. The applause reached a crescendo when Sophie Tucker rose from her seat, walked on-stage, embraced Betty and wiped away her tears.

It was a great night for a truly great star. She is a one-woman show: versatile, artistic, dynamic, exciting and very impressive in her showmanship. Once she is on-stage she dominates and holds her audience.

When her regular show was completed, people refused to move from their seats. So Betty came out in her dressing gown, wringing wet from her

(Continued on Page 32)

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HOW MANY TIMES have you heard something like this: "Certainly there's a lot to do in Las Vegas if you like to drink, gamble or to shows, but there ain't no culture, no legitimate shows, opera, concerts, symphony, etc." You may have said something like this yourself. And how many times do you think such things have been brought to Las Vegas, or attempted, and have met defeat from lack of support by the local populace?

True, the city may have been too small at the time, but certainly we're grown to the point where we could well afford such luxuries as some of the above-mentioned arts.

My compliments to the LAS VEGAS OPERA ASSOCIATION for bringing about the event of its first annual opera season. This will be the presentation of Bizet's "CARMEN" a week from this coming Tuesday, on November 3, at 8:30 p. m. in the new Las Vegas High School Auditorium.

Now's the time for all of us supposedly civic minded to get behind this group and show them some support in their great undertaking. I have it on the best of authority that the principals are all of the best caliber, and all concerned are expecting a presentation of which the community can well be proud. Tickets are on sale at the ELECTRIC CITY APPLIANCE, 752 Fremont, phone 7108.

JOE MAIZE and his musical maniacs, THE CORDSMEN, are back at the GOLDEN NUGGET SALOON! For those of you who remember this loco outfit from their previous visits at the Nugget, I could just as well close this item with the opening statement. You'd KNOW that the room is the scene of the nightly musical mayhem with this bunch on the stand. Joe is one of the cleverest manipulators of the steel guitar we've ever heard. Some of the sound effects he drags from that amplified agonizer are almost unbelievable. . . . BENITO "Pat" MORENO shares the bill here, and the versatility of his well trained voice make for pleasant listening. . . . Also on the bill is RAY PARKER with his salty pal "Porthole." These two bring a few clever surprises to the audience concerning the realm of ventriloquism. . . . Of course, the ever present and ever popular JOE VENUTI

and QUINTET are a real blowin' group, and they handle the show very neatly. The EMIL GRAY TRIO plays the intermission spots and GEORGE & SANDY play for your cocktail hour listening. . . Show times are 10 p. m., 1 and 3 a. m.

DOROTHY DANDRIDGE is fast becoming one of the most sought after vocal entertainers in the country. After completing her two-week engagement here at the Rancho she plans to take a two-week vacation, during which she will make a few sides for Capitol, undergo some tests at MGM Studios, read picture scripts and maybe rest a bit! Offers are pouring in from all over the country, vying for her appearance in some of the finest spots in existence. Producer Joe Pasternak is at present searching for the proper vehicle for Miss Dandridge for a picture he intends shooting, with Dottie in the leading role. Yes . . . it looks as though our little girl is beginning to arrive!

Lotsa things happening at the BAR-LODGE lately. It seems that a goodly majority of the local sororities and social clubs are making this spot the locale for most of their get-togethers. . . and a nicer spot they could hardly find, either. JACK, the chef, has been handling parties of 40 people or more, one right after the other. . . and everybody's happy. If you happen to be interested in getting up such a party for yourself, you need only to phone 3277M and talk to either STU or MAE ALBERTSON. . .

From the trend of recent events it seems to be all in favor of FRANK SINATRA's "From Here to Eternity" being one of the smash hits of the year. Frank has published the tune through his own publishing company and already it has sold over a hundred thousand copies. Then, too, there are three or four sides out by various artists, and such as this certainly doesn't hinder the progress of a young hit! Good luck, Frank!

With this sudden cold weather hitting us, I wouldn't be surprised at all to walk into the shop of BONNIE BEST out on The Strip and find she had "longie balbriggans" in stock to meet the situation. This Bonnie is on her toes all the time (or some one's). All kidding aside, she does have a whole host of

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# FRANK SINATRA



*Sands*



**S**PEED with King in Reno this past week-end. A two-day sports car race meet, held at Stead Air Base just north of town, drew a crowd of spectators estimated at 20,000. The vast crowds were rewarded with thrills galore as the drivers from six states sent their cars into turns in the feature race of the final day, a two and one-half hour endurance race.

In this type of race, based on the Le Mans, France, competition, the drivers stand away from their cars and at a given signal run to the car, start the motor and the race is in progress. It was a gala two days and the officers and crew at Stead Air Base did a remarkable job taking care of all the vast crowds.

AGVA: ROY POWERS, who has done such an outstanding job as public relations director of the RIVERSIDE HOTEL for the past year, has resigned to accept the position of manager of COMMUNITY ANTENNA, INC. This company will bring a special television service to the Reno area by means of micro-wave relays and coaxial cables. It will offer ALL the programs now seen in San Francisco. This can't miss going over with Renoites now that they have had a taste of Television. All the best, ROY, in your new enterprise . . . Movie star JIMMY STEWART has purchased a one-third interest in a 150,000 acre ranch near Elko . . . CHAZ CHASE, that very, very funny man, after two smash weeks at the GOLDEN here, off to Portland and the Northwest before sailing for England on November 28 . . . The WEST INDIES, one of the leading Chinese restaurants in the town for the past few years, has closed . . . WALTER HART back at the JOLLY JOLLY CLUB on South Virginia Street after being away for three weeks . . . MARK CURTIS, popular local DJ, has a new show at 12 midnight from the TRADE WINDS in downtown Reno.

CHAZ CHASE brought me a copy of a newspaper ad from a San Francisco newspaper in APRIL 1925. Here's the show and billing: (Let's see how many of you can remember some of the stars.) (1) The distinguished dramatic actor, MR. RICHARD BENNETT. (2) CHAZ CHASE from the Ziegfeld Follies. (3) A few minutes with JACK

BENNY. (4) HERMAN GENIN and his Orchestra. (5) OLGA STECK, America's Tiniest Prima Donna. (6) PAUL KIRKLAND & CO. in The High Steppers. (7) TED and KATHRYN ANDREWS in Dance Vanities. (8) "HERB" WILLIAMS, Vaudeville's favorite buffoon. At the bottom of the ad were the prices, which read: "700 reserved seats—25 cents. NO WAR TAX." That's the ad, and what a show, the Old Orpheum two-a-day!

GRANT CHAPLIN, a real swell guy, down off the hill to Reno where he has made a host of friends. Grant operates the SODA SPRINGS HOTEL up DONNER way—he is real busy getting set for the winter season. He has a resort there that is becoming a MUST with skiers . . . This magazine really gets around. EDDIE FITZPATRICK, genial band-man at the MAPES, showed me a letter from a HERB SEXTON, a friend of his whom he has not seen for 15 years. Herb is in the U. S. VETERANS ADMINISTRATION domiciliary in Clinton, Iowa. May I quote a part of his letter: "From the looks of things, matters are well with you. I get my dope from the magazine FABULOUS LAS VEGAS and ART STEAGALL." . . . If HERB sees this, and I'm sure that he will, all of our best wishes for a speedy exit and that planned trip to Reno . . . The board of regents of the University of Nevada have rejected a bid by Morgan & Peacock to buy a farm owned by the U. of N. located on South Virginia. The farm was to become a ten million dollar resort hotel . . . BOB NORTHMORE of the real estate department of Fox West Coast Theatres, in Reno for a week's vacation. Bob has his office in Oakland . . . BEATRICE KAY set to do a one-nite concert in the Sacramento Civic Theatre on November 6, then on to the Fairmont Hotel in S. F. for three weeks . . . Reno Community Chest Drive, with MERRILL INCH as chairman, started last Monday . . . HAROLD'S CLUB has announced intentions of building an eight-story addition to their present club site in downtown Reno. At the same time the club also announced the construction of a six-tier parking garage, also downtown. Work is expected to start in about three weeks . . . Reno has been alive

(Continued on Page 33)

EDDIE FOX PRESENTS  
**The Funniest and Best Show in Town**  
**Hawaiian Holiday**

"A SOUTH SEA ISLAND SAFARI"

STARRING  
**CARRIE FINNELL**

**HANK HENRY** The Funniest Guy  
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**ALL NEW SKITS ★ GAGS ★ LAUGHS**

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EVERY TUESDAY AT 1:20 A.M.

"SHOW-PEOPLE'S  
MATINEE"

**"CURTAIN TIME"**

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



*Flamingo*

October 15 through October 28

SHOW: Shelley Winters, Jackie Kannon, The  
Four Ramses, Barbara Perry, the Dupree  
Trio.

LINE: The Flamingo Dolls and Guys

ORCH: Torris Brand

MURAL ROOM: Bobby Page

With an abundance of special material, and a pair of beautiful eyes, Miss SHELLEY WINTERS has made her debut into local nightclub circles. In her appearance here Miss Winters is a different Shelley Winters than most of us have ever seen. Her entire act has been written and staged by the noted Ray Gilbert, whose touch is seen throughout the performance. The truly high spot is when she enacts a scene from the picture "A Place in the Sun" . . . in this

(Continued on Page 23)

brass and percussion sections ample opportunity at the outset and sets the audience to patriotic ecstacy with the stirring "Dixie." . . . Baritone JEFFREY CLAY singles with "No Other Love Have I," registering mightily with "Vaya Con Dios," duoning with one of the cutest Canadian products, SALLY ANN SUMMERS. The little girl is headed for the Big Time. She has everything: sex appeal, a gorgeous set of pipes and the ability to sell. . . . PAUL KING, sepia tap dancer, tapped on everything except his noggin. This lanky bean combines tapping, acrobatics and comedies with the speed of a needle-nosed jet. Shades of "Bojangles!" . . . Sammy, the KAYDETS and the KAYE CHOIR make a transition from the bombastic to sweet swing in a medley of hits of yesteryear . . . JERRY (Loverboy) MESSNER is featured in the "It Isn't Fair" number, stopping the show. This lad projects that inexplicable something that spells stardom. . . . The psychological effect of the medley of songs on the order of Kaye's "Sunday Serenade" program, with the pianissimo

(Continued on Page 32)



**El Rancho Vegas**

October 21 through November 17

(Not a Review)

SHOW: Billy Daniels, Judy Johnson & Dates,  
Clifford Guest, Georgine Darcy.

LINE: Dottie Dee Dancers

ORCH: Bob Ellis

STAGE DOOR LOUNGE: Steve Gibson's Red  
Caps, Landis & DeStefano, Johnny White

After a five-month tour of the Continent, during which he set all kinds of box office records, BILLY DANIELS returns to this room once again with his "Old Black Magic" singing style, and his able right arm, BENNY PAYNE, at the piano. In the past few years these two have scaled the heights of success and are repeatedly imitated by every impressionist in the country . . . no greater tribute to popularity! This man has established himself with his style of sexational singing and, yet, his ver-

**LAST FRONTIER**

October 5 through October 26

SHOW: Sammy Kaye and his Orchestra, featuring his internationally famous radio and TV personalities. Extra added attraction: Bobby Sargent.

LINE: Merriel Abbott Dancers

GAY '90s BAR: Starring antics and music of the Mary Kaye Trio

SAMMY KAYE, the man with the infectious grin, is going into the final two days of his three-week engagement in the Ramona Room. Mr. Kaye, with 17 musical artists and versatile entertainers, delights everyone with his "Swing and Sway" presentation. Kaye offers a cut-time rhythmic overture type of popular selection, offering the



# "CURTAIN TIME"



satilily is not to be denied when the lights are dimmed and he interprets the highly emotional "Yiddisher Momma." . . . You'll thrill to the vocal blendings of Billy Daniels and the multi-talented Benny Payne. . . New to the eyes of local nightclubbers are JUDY JOHN-

(Continued on Page 33)

*Willmar Clarke's*  
**DESERT INN**

October 13 through November 23

SHOW: Lou Walters' "A La Folies Bergere," starring Darvas & Julia

ORCH: Carlton Hayes

LADY LUCK BAR: Grover-Shore Trio, Bob Baring Trio, Herbie May Trio

When the curtain parts upon Lou Walters' colorful production the animated display that one beholds would bring a gleam of envy to the exalted Ziegfeld. Here is perfection of artistry . . . and yet, in the midst of this outstanding assemblage, DARVAS & JULIA are brilliantly set apart by their world-shattering spectacularity. Here is a dance team that is undoubtedly one of the most impressive in the history of contemporary entertainment. Every sparkling second of their presentation is filled with intense impact. NO ONE can ever discharge from memory the potent scintillation of Darvas & Julia. They are the Einsteins of the dance and will never have an equal . . . and that's for sure. . . . Assisting Darvas & Julia in this fantastic, exciting revue is a brigade of singers, dancers, comedians and gorgeous girls, including ROB MURRAY, MAZZONE ABBOTT DANCERS, RUBY RICHARDS, MARY MONTOY, LEE SHARON, the DEBONAIRES, JACQUELINE MARCY, MARGIE & LEE MURRAY, STAN NORTH and the GOLDEN MERMAID. This is truly one of the most extraordinary productions ever seen locally. The revue is sparked with the beauty of 24 dancing lovelies whose pulchritude offers

(Continued on Page 23)

FABULOUS LAS VEGAS

**SAHARA**

October 20 through November 2  
SHOW: Horace Heidt show, featuring John "In the Book" Standley, Ralph Sigwalt, Dick Kerr, Liz Lynch and Alan Breimann  
LINE: Moro-Landis, SaHarem Dancers and Heidt Steppers  
ORCH: Horace Heidt, Conley Graves at piano  
CASBAR: Al Day Trio, Sando Deems Trio, Sonny Kendis Trio, The Triads

Chalk up another victory for Sahara! The Horace Heidt show opens in the Congo Room with a jet-propelled musical comedy production featuring the voices and entertainment of the outstanding professional youthful talent of America. Horace Heidt shows great pride when introducing the personalities he discovered. He also exhibits

(Continued on Page 23)

*The Sands*

October 7 through October 27

SHOW: Frank Sinatra, Nicholas Brothers

LINE: Copa Beauties, featuring dancer Palmer and singer Charles Nelson

ORCH: Ray Sinatra

SILVER QUEEN BAR: The trios of Ernie Stewart, Teddy Noell, Gene Englund

Credit Jack Entratter for signing one of the most desired performers of our day, Frank Sinatra. Frank's current rising popularity even surpasses that which he enjoyed when he first became the idol of the bobby-sox crowd. He is a more matured showman and his vocal quality has developed so greatly even one enjoys an evening with Sinatra. His impressive screen portrayal in "From

Here to Eternity" has set his fame skyrocketing to untold heights. The lad injects a wonderful selection of tunes and injects dramatic currents in his spotlight presentation. . . . THE NICHOLAS BROTHERS are dancing stars of stage, screen and television. You undoubtedly saw them in pictures or on TV but we prefer to see these dynamic personalities in person. An oral description cannot begin to do justice to the intricate choreography created by the Nicholas boys. Their terpsichorean performance is equalled only by their unanny sense of showmanship. These ads are just plain terrific! . . . The COPA BEAUTIES combine Nature's gift of pulchritude with outstanding dance sequences to bring sparkling productions to the program. . . . RAY SINATRA and his superb orchestra offer excellent background strains for the show and continue for patron dancing.

*Thunderbird*

October 8 through October 28

SHOW: Helene Francois, Homer & Jethro, The Mar-Vels.

LINE: Kathryn Duffy Dansations.

M.C.: Barney Rawlings.

ORCH: Al Jahns.

NAVAJO LOUNGE: Jack Martin Five, Normandie Boys.

In the Navajo Room you are currently entertained by the captivating personality of the very chic HELENE FRANCOIS, whose exciting French and English songs have come to Las Vegas for the first time. Miss Francois works directly to, and with, her audience, creating a warm feeling of friendliness with her most infectious and gleaming smile. Her program consists of the popular French tunes of the times and a few of the hits from the current musical "Can Can." Her interpretations of these are well deserving of the full rounds of applause they receive. . . . HOMER and JETHRO have also hit Las

(Continued on Page 32)

FABULOUS LAS VEGAS

*El Cortez*

October 22 through November 4  
(Not a Review)

SHOW: Joe Cappo, Hector and his Pals, Jilla Webb

ORCH: Eddie Skrivanek

BUCCANEER BAR: The Instrumentalists, the Star-Kings

"Everybody's Friend," JOE CAPPO, is back in the Pirates Den. A pirates den is where a pack of thieves hang out, and Joe is the head man, 'cause he can steal more laughs per minute than anyone else his size. He works real fast . . . has a million fast running gags . . .

(Continued on Page 23)

*SILVER SLIPPER SALOON*

October 9 through October 22

SHOW: Carrie Finnel, Hank Henry in an Eddie Fox presentation, "Hawaiian Holiday," with a cast of 17.

LINE: Marah Gates' Palominos.

MC: Jimmy Cavanaugh.

ORCH: George Redman.

Written and staged by HANK HENRY and BILL WILLARD, this current luff riot continues to be another sell-out for every performance for ALL FOUR SHOWS each nite . . . New to the revue recently is one of the most unusual acts in show biz . . . the one and only CARRIE FINNEL. This fun-loving and mirth-giving lady has appeared in Las Vegas only once before, and was a show stopper at every performance. You are certain to be enjoyably surprised with the entertainment she has in store for you . . . RUSS CLARK and his puppets

(Continued on Page 32)

After **14** Weeks  
Still the Hottest Act  
in Las Vegas!

★  
THE  
**MARY  
KAYE  
TRIO**



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NIGHTLY IN THE  
**GAY '90 BAR** HOTEL  
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JUST NORTH OF SANDS HOTEL



*Coming Attractions*  
ON THE FABULOUS STRIP



*Flamingo*

OCTOBER 29  
GUY MITCHELL

LAST FRONTIER

NOVEMBER 16  
PATACHOU  
BOB WILLIAMS

*El Rancho Vegas*

COMING  
GORDON MAC RAE  
with Sheila Stephens

DESERT INN

NOVEMBER 24 thru JANUARY 4  
MINSKY'S FOLLIES  
OF 1954  
JANUARY 5  
FRANKIE LAINE

SAHARA

NOVEMBER 3  
CHRISTINE JORGENSEN  
and MYLES BELL

*The Sands*

OCTOBER 28  
JEANETTE McDONALD  
LARRY ADLER

*Thunderbird*

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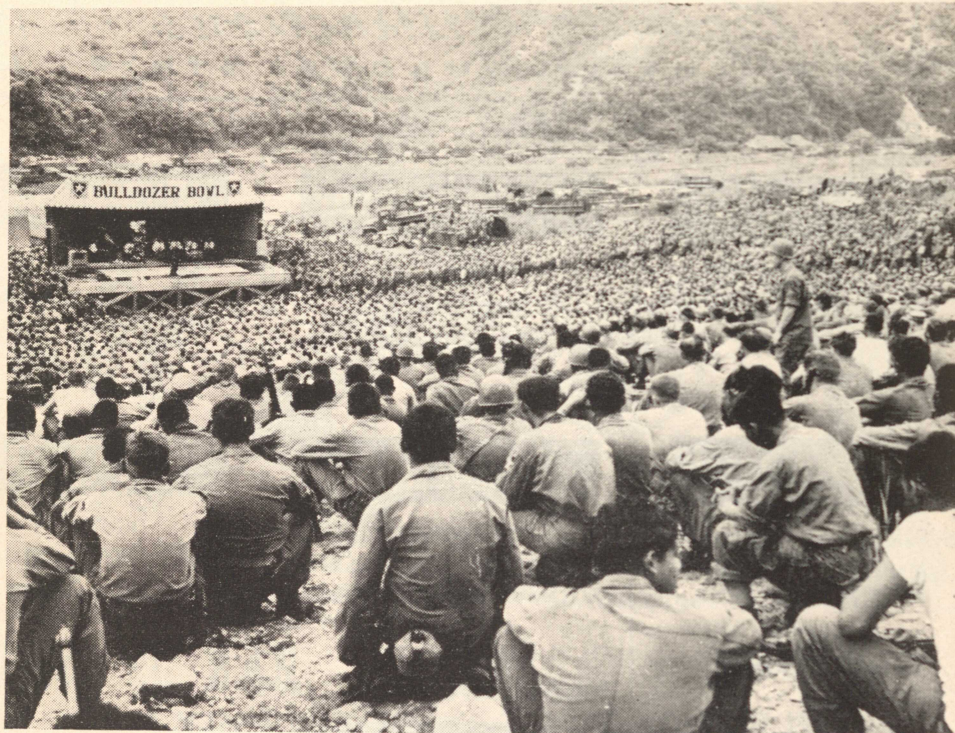
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FROM CROWDS SUCH AS THESE IN KOREA  
TO FOLKS SUCH AS YOU IN THE CONGO ROOM  
IT WILL ALWAYS BE

**"OUR PLEASURE"**

THANKS FOR YOUR MARVELOUS RECEPTION

AT



THE

# HORACE HEIDT SHOW

FOR LUCKY STRIKE

## FLAMINGO:

(Continued from Page 17)

she has the attention of the entire audience . . . JACKIE KANNON was held over from the previous show for this current two-week run, and the major change of scenery is the eye-ful addition of his attractive blonde wife. The bit they do together is very cute, and a tribute to the showmanship of both. Any comedian worth remembering has a routine by which he is identified . . . Jackie is such a comedian and has such a routine. After you've seen him do his India bit with the egg and the paper bag you'll never forget JACKIE KANNON . . . THE FOUR RAMSES are one of the most sensational hand balancing and tumbling acts we have ever seen! Three young men and a girl who do things you've never dreamed could be possible! And the most amazing thing is that the GIRL is the BOTTOM for the lifts. They build a three-high pyramid in the usual manner, but come out of it in such a way that each is in a sitting position on the floor. THEN . . . from this position they proceed to rebuild the formation in REVERSE . . . and they DO it! You'll have to see this one to believe it . . . Miss BARBARA PERRY does some fast and fancy footwork with four boy friends and, in her solo spot, proves herself to be a finished artist in both tap and ballet . . . The DUPREE TRIO shines in a modern number with the colorfully costumed FLAMINGO DOLLS . . . TORRIS BRAND and His Orchestra are the men of note in the music section . . .

## THE SAHARA:

(Continued from Page 18)

great field for comedy and a humility which immediately endears him to the hearts of his audience. . . . The show consists of over 50 people and the grand finale glitters in the shadows of a Broadway production. . . . Twelve-year-old Alan Brenneman starts off the show to a fast pace with his excellent drumming and exuberant personality. . . . Johnny "In the Book" Standley is an immediate hit with his fans since his Capitol record of the same name has sold over two million copies. . . . Other highlights of the show include the voice of Ralph Sigwald and the special choral production given to his rendition of "The Lost Chord." . . . Fourteen-year-old Sylvia Marie can do more with her voice than a barnyard full of animals. . . . Russ Budd, dancer extraordinaire, is tops when it comes to taps. . . . The

hoedown sequence features the Sa-Harem Dancers and the Heidt Loves-lies. . . . One of the most beautiful girls in the entire aggregation is the charming soubrette Liz Lynch who is definite to sing and dance her way to movie stardom. . . . Show-stopper is handsome Dick Kerr, youthful comedy singing impressionist, whose voice mimicry is the closest to the true personalities these ears have ever heard. . . . All in all, the Horace Heidt show is outstanding for its entertainment value and definitely one of the fastest paced shows ever to appear in Las Vegas. . . . Conley Graves conducts the orchestra to whom this show is old hat, having traveled with it for over a year. All musical executions are perfect.

## EL CORTEZ:

(Continued from Page 19)

throws 'em all, and you **have** to be on his side before long. Joe is one of these comedians who never knows what he's going to do when he goes on. Mainly because his program is made up from the requests from the audience . . . most of whom are familiar with most of his routines. His greatest bit is his impression of the great pantomimist Charlie Chaplin. . . . Also making a return to this room are HECTOR and his PALS. Hector's "pals" are a half dozen or more canine caper cutters of various and undetermined breeds. These little pooches seem to have the time of their lives while they're on stage. 'Course most of us are suckers for cute and well-trained animal acts. . . . JILLA WEBB is a newcomer to Las Vegas stages, but not a new one to the realm of girl vocalists. She for some time was with the Vaughan Monroe organization and more recently has been scoring many successes in television on the West Coast. Her program ranges mostly in the pop field. . . . Remaining on the band stand for your toe-tickling dance tempos and for backing the shows musically is EDDIE SKRIVANEK and his SEXTETTE FROM HUNGER . . .

## DESERT INN:

(Continued from Page 18)

pretty stiff competition to the balance of the cast. The costumes are as glamorous as only LOU WALTERS can present and the entertainment is superb. Here is a definite hit for everyone to see and enjoy . . . CARLTON HAYES and his splendid musicians leave nothing to be desired with their split-second timing and excellent background music.



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FABULOUS LAS VEGAS

— 24 —

OCTOBER 24, 1953

THAT'S FOR SURE:

(Continued from page 9)

We would like to remind everyone of the significance of November 3. On that Tuesday the Las Vegas Opera Association will present Bizet's "Carmen" in the Las Vegas High School Auditorium. A symphony orchestra has been engaged for this event. Tickets are on sale from \$1.65 to \$6.60 per ducat. There are 1533 seats available for music lovers and we have been assured that the acoustics are perfect for such a presentation. The finest opera artists will perform. One of the guests of honor will be JEANETTE McDONALD. The association is also sending an invitation to MR. and MRS. JAN PEERCE. Our compliments to HARRY W. PARKER JR., publicist and chairman of the board of directors. Mr. Parker has exerted a commendable amount of effort in behalf of this affair and deserves sincere accolades for his accomplishments.

At HOTEL EL CORTEZ, MILT RAYMER, executive secretary of the AMERICAN BOWLING CONGRESS, took time out to rave about "the steaks in the Pirates Den, the fabulous night life in Las Vegas and the wonderful bunch of kids." The latter rave was the result of the Junior Bowling Congress Clinic he conducted at VEGAS LANES, with hundreds of Las Vegas small fry in attendance. Ravmer was assisted in the clinic by JIMMY PAYNE, president of the Southern California Bowling Proprietors. After the bowling school the two were guests of Hotel El Cortez for dinner, and the show.

Correct us if we're wrong! About four years ago the HOTEL EL RANCHO VEGAS had a doorman, SPENCER WILLIAMS JR. Today that same fellow can be seen on television, playing the role of ANDY BROWN in the AMOS & ANDY series.

It looks as though BILLIE GELLER has definitely decided to change her name again. In the not too distant future Mrs. Geller will return to her maiden nomenclature of SKOLSKY. (She is the popular shutter-queen at the HOTEL SAHARA.)

SAMMY KAYE'S closing show at the HOTEL LAST FRONTIER on Sunday evening promises to be one for show business history. Previous to this writing Mr. Kaye has had no inkling of anything unusual and we're not going to give any more information here. However, we guarantee that the "Swing and Sway" gentleman will be wide-mouthed with astonishment. (We love surprises, too.) Incidentally, in the short three weeks he has been here, Mr. Kaye has accumulated a vast num-

ber of friends and will be sorely missed when he bids us adieu.

Have you seen JACKIE KANNON at the FLAMINGO HOTEL yet? If not, you're missing a great bet. Jackie presents a parody with a background of Rogers and Hammerstein music. His words deal with the Kinsey Report and they really are clever.

MR. CAHOON of the MOTOR-VU THEATRE was very happy with the turnout for his "Show People's Matinee" last Tuesday evening at 1:00 a.m. We want to remind you stayer-uppers and late shift workers that this special show will be presented every Tuesday for your convenience. It's a good idea and proved a wonderful way for us to relax for a few hours.

MR. and MRS. JAMES CONWAY are justifiably proud of their DUNES MOTEL, located on Route 1, halfway between Las Vegas and Los Angeles. So far, we've only been able to appreciate the beauty of the place via photos and comments from many friends who have patronized this lovely motel. Believe us when we say those comments have been raves. We only hope it won't be too long before we get a chance to take a reprieve from the office and head for the Dunes for some comfort and rest. Incidentally, telephoned reservations are invited and we advise you phone in advance to ascertain accommodations.

There have been a lot of huddles between CARL COHEN and GUY McAFEE of late. Could it be that there is some sort of big business brewing between these two gentlemen?

Just about two years ago MATT MARTIN (one of the owners of the GOLDEN NUGGET) was forced to leave town because of ill health. He went to his ranch in Lebanon, Ind., where he received the necessary quiet and rest. We're happy to report that Mr. Martin is back in Las Vegas again and is once more filling his post as day shift casino manager at the Nugget. Her certainly looks like a healthy specimen of manhood and 'twould seem he has even shed a few years.

JOHNNY HARRELL, graveyard shift boss of the SILVER SLIPPER, is strutting around town, mighty proud of his wife's talents. TERRY has busied herself with copper craft and her hobby is proving that she has the professional touch. Mrs. Harrell is creating some lovely copper pictures which she plans to put under the Christmas trees of friends.

It certainly is good to see MORRIS KLEINMAN back in town again. Mr. Kleinman is one of the owners of the DESERT INN. Here is a fellow with a

(Continued on Page 27)

FABULOUS LAS VEGAS

— 25 —

OCTOBER 24, 1953



Las Vegas' Newest

**Downtown** Club

**BAR** NOW OPEN 24 HOURS EVERY DAY

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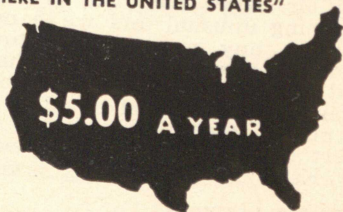
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**LAS VEGAS**  
MAGAZINE

POST OFFICE BOX 748

"ANYWHERE IN THE UNITED STATES"



**THAT'S FOR SURE:**

(Continued from Page 25)

smile for everyone and a good selection of stories to warm your sense of humor.

Well, it looks as though it won't be long before the CASABLANCA HOTEL will begin its stages of creation. SAM COHEN (owner of Florida's CASA-BLANCA and SHERRY-FRONTENAC HOTELS) and IVA BLACKER are in town, earnestly discussing the last-minute details that usually precede construction work on such a venture.

We doubt that there is any other similar place that can offer you the friendly and comfortable atmosphere that is yours on a visit to the DAY DREAM GUEST RANCH. Owners RUTH and KENNETH DAY are just wonderful to each and every person who enters through their portals. PAUL LADD and KEN DUNCAN are two hosts who cannot be beaten for smiling welcomes and top service. We personally enjoy the soft lighting system and that cheerful blaze in the fireplace. And — did you ever taste such luscious "dreamburgers"? Man! That's the end!

NICK DONDOLAS was in town for a few days and spent a bit more than his time at the HORSESHOE CLUB. He is now back in HOLLYWOOD, discussing a picture deal. HUMPHREY BOGART is interested in producing the life story of our "Nick the Greek" and has shown a great desire in playing the leading role himself. If there is an agreement made, Nick may get a down payment of \$25,000 and 10 percent of the gross of the picture. We are hoping that this film proposition does materialize. It would give Nick that boost he needs and put him up on the ladder again.

BETTY and HAROLD HIND (of the HOTEL EL CORTEZ) are back home again. The couple enjoyed a very pleasant vacation in the East, marred only by the world series defeat of their favorite "Brooklyn Bums."

We certainly have a galaxy of visitors to boast about. Among the out-of-towners who find Las Vegas fascinating is TOMMY (Whistle) McDONALD, co-owner of Chicago's SINGAPORE RESTAURANT. Tommy came here to spend a few days and is now going into his ninth week as a "visitor." It looks as though Mr. McDonald is looking around for some rich topsoil in which to plant his roots. We would be very happy if such was his decision. He is a great person to know. If you're ever looking for this chap, you can

trace him by his whistle, a habit that is part of his make-up.

Another gentleman who has chosen to spend his vacation in colder climes is ED WILEY, host of the Casbar in the HOTEL SAHARA. Mr. Wiley is so well liked by his co-workers, the waitresses combined forces and presented him with a lovely cigarette lighter before he left. Ed is going to meet AL WINTER and MILTON HYATT in Portland and the trio plan to get in quite a bit of duck shooting. They should have wonderful results because Mr. Winter owns three lakes that are favorites of these web-footed birds.

We greatly regret the necessity of having to see the gates close on our LAS VEGAS RACE TRACK. Our only hope is that this will be but a temporary measure. Although our town is growing constantly, some folks claim there just weren't enough people here to support such a venture. We don't know the true cause that instigated this move. It's just an outright shame that such a place of beauty is now being pointed out as a "white elephant."

KATHERINE and BEN RUTTMAN (of Denver) are visiting her brothers, JACK and JOE POCRAS. (Jack is a floorman at the FLAMINGO HOTEL and Joe works in the HOTEL LAST FRONTIER Casino.) The Ruttmans are planning a visit of a few weeks—but from their astounded attitudes we wouldn't be surprised if they remained beyond their proposed limit.

CAPTAIN WOODWARD of the Sheriff's Department was still wearing a glazed expression when he related a very confounding experience to us. Seems that our friend "Woody" was traveling along the highway, peacefully making certain that motorists were keeping in line with the law. Suddenly "Woody" almost choked on his own breath. A car passed by and our hero was incredulous over the appearance of its driver. This happy tourist was nonchalantly piloting his chariot at 30 miles an hour. That was perfectly legitimate for he was in a 35-mile zone. But everything else he was doing was quite unorthodox. The cheerful fellow was steering his car with the toes on his left foot, freeing his hands to strum a ukulele and was singing gaily. (Did anyone ever investigate the champagne qualities in the Las Vegas ether?) When "Woody" told him to pull over, the grinning tourist asked him if he had a special tune he wanted to hear. Knowing "Woody," we can just imagine his being close to the bursting point. He couldn't make an authentic arrest so he had to resort to a polite lecture and the

(Continued on Page 29)



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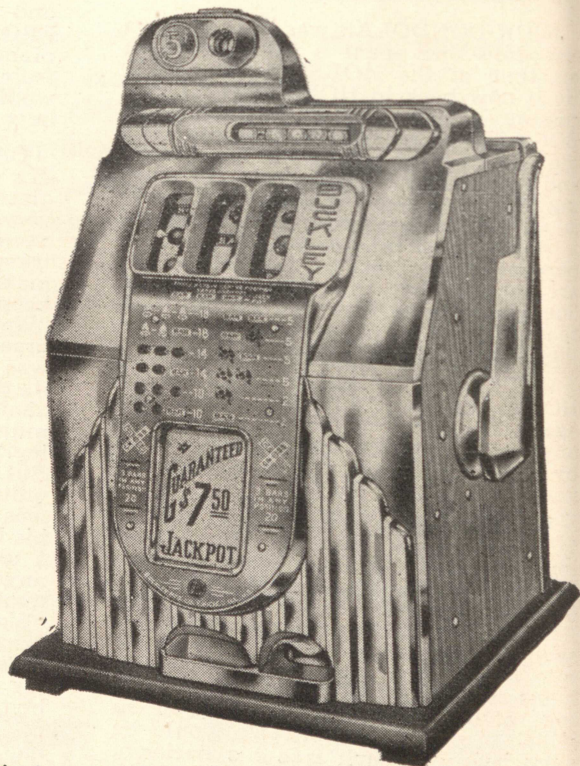
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**THAT'S FOR SURE:**

(Continued from Page 27)

removal of the ukulele. Oh, well! Guess it's all in a policeman's line of duty!

New York certainly sends us some terrific gaming enthusiasts. MRS. ALICE KAHAL of that great metropolitan city and her daughter, beautiful TONI, spent 28 consecutive hours just traveling from one place to another, trying to see all they could of Las Vegas. The lovely ladies refused to take time out for slumber and looked as fresh at the end of that period as anyone else would after that many hours of sleep.

It's always a pleasure to buy your favorite cigarettes from SUE PEARL at the HOTEL EL RANCHO VEGAS. Miss Pearl never makes an appearance without her infectious smile and warm greeting. However, when she gets serious, she confesses she misses her mother and is hoping that Mrs. Pearl will arrive for another lengthy visit soon.

Our congratulations to HARRY WILLIAMS for the wonderful results he is achieving with the VILLA VENICE. Although he never had any previous experience in the field. Mr. Williams appears an accomplished restaurateur. He can be justly proud of the script neon sign over the establishment, reading: "Harry Williams' Villa Venice."

Another booking triumph for the HOTEL EL CORTEZ is the signing of LYNN CARTER and his FOUR CARTIERS. This is the sensational nightclub act featuring a terrific impersonation of RAY THOMPSON, complete with four pseudo WILLIAMS BROTHERS. They recently completed a record 12 weeks at CHARLEY FOY'S.

JOE RIGGIO, box man at WILBUR CLARK'S DESERT INN, brought a lot of happiness to his wife KAY when he surprised her with a birthday party last week. Actually it was a dual celebration because the RIGGIOS reached their second wedding anniversary mark. Present for the festivities were Mr. R's brother and sister-in-law and MR. and MRS. KARL MAIER. During dinner Kay's proud husband presented her with a beautiful diamond wrist watch. It proved to be a memorable occasion for a lovely lady.

Here's very good news for the damsels of Las Vegas. Pretty soon Milady will be able to shop around the clock. That's a feature that should appeal to the late workers who cannot find time or opportunity to patronize the shops that close in the late afternoon. MR. J. T. CHORMAN will soon open his MARIANNE'S shop, specializing in apparel for women. You've probably seen

it on our Highway 91. As soon as all of the fixtures arrive Marianne's will have its gala opening.

Visiting from South Orange, N. J., were MR. and MRS. GEORGE BERSCH. (He is vice prexy of BAMBURGER'S DEPARTMENT STORE.) Don't be too amazed if you hear that this well-known outfit decides to install a branch here.

When we hear of all these vacations we wistfully wish we could indulge in one also. But when you have to work you have to work. Another recruit for the vacation lists is BILL KOZLOFF, assistant general manager of the HOTEL LAST FRONTIER. Bill has headed for the East where he will spend all of his time telling his family and friends of the wonders of Las Vegas.

LANNY IRWIN is having a grand time cajoling his grandmother into submission. MRS. JESSIE FISHBEIN flew in from New York to spend some time with her daughter RUTH and son-in-law, STAN IRWIN. Unless we're grossly mistaken, Mrs. Fishbein looks as though she'd like to take Lanny home with her, just so she can baby-sit with him for the next ten years or so.

SHELLEY WINTERS (currently starring at the FLAMINGO HOTEL) was explaining a fight she had with hubby, VITTORIO GASSMAN. She admitted having an argument and being so angry she was practically crying. The couple shouted at each other. "But," Shelley says, "we were just having a stimulating, emotional discussion on whether the movies are an art form."

Aside from being a very handsome fellow, YALE STOKES is one of the nicest persons any guy or gal could hope to meet. He is floorman on the graveyard shift of the HOTEL SAHARA. You can tell he's tops by the amount of friends who would do anything for him.

ALFRED HITCHCOCK, who will direct "The Rear Window," says no two people are alike—and both are glad of it.

Here's another one for your Texas Guinan books. As we all know, lawyers are intelligent, clever people. But even they are caught off guard at times. A very smooth con artist talked his way into the confidence of three local attorneys. This experience should be noted and remembered by all lawyers in the state of Nevada. The distinguished gentleman of whom we speak approached his quarry, explained that he was from some distant city and asked the attorney to file his application for divorce. Throughout the course of conversation the husband made sad remarks about maintaining his love for

(Continued on Page 31)

HAPPY  
BIRTHDAY

# TOM MCGINTY

OCTOBER 17, 1953

PLACE: WILBUR CLARK'S DESERT INN



Photo above shows a few of the many who turned out for the Gala Occasion: Standing, left to right: Val Ernie, co-owner of El Patio Hotel, Palm Springs, Fla.; Wilbur Clark, Tommy McDonnell, co-owner of Singapore Restaurant, Chicago, Ill.; Tom McGinty, co-owner of Desert Inn; Jack Goldman, owner of the Clover Club, Miami, Fla., and a co-owner of the soon-to-be-built, Casablanca Hotel in Las Vegas, Nevada. Front, center, beaming from ear to ear, Billy McCann, life-long friend of Mr. McGinty.

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## POP SQUIRES:

(Continued from Page 5)

foot-races for men, women and children. The really big race, as I remember it, was the 100-yard free-for-all foot-race.

I then had a new friend, Dr. Roy W. Martin, just graduated from medical college, who had picked Las Vegas as the best place in the whole world for him to settle. And so all his life Roy Martin was our most enthusiastic booster and the leader in about everything attempted.

He had arrived in Las Vegas about the middle of August and he entered the 100-yard race on Labor Day. I had thought it was foolish of him, fresh from college, to compete with some of our tough lads from the ranches, but Roy entered the race and won. I asked him why he had entered such a tough race and he confided:

"Charlie, I had spent the last dollar I had and I JUST HAD to win that \$5 purse!" And after that we all looked up to Roy as one of our best boosters for any kind of a race, especially horse racing.

When Al G. Barnes, head of the wild animal show and circus which came this way occasionally, came to Las Vegas to establish residence for divorce purposes, he announced loudly that he had chosen Las Vegas as the winter quarters for his big animal show, bringing a new and important enterprise to Las Vegas. We welcomed him warmly.

Soon after Al's arrival a lovely little lady with two small children arrived in town and rented a cottage on Fourth near Fremont. She drove a rather fancy little car, on the doors of which was painted the name "Jane." Rumor had it that she had formerly been a bare-back rider in Al's circus. The rumor proved to be about right, because when Al called on Jane in the newly rented cottage the children came running out and called him "Poppy."

The same day he received his decree, Al married Jane and for a little time they lived in the Fourth Street cottage. Then they faded away and Al, at the moment, had nothing further to say about making Las Vegas winter headquarters for the circus.

But a few months later Al again appeared in Las Vegas, this time establishing residence for the purpose of divorcing Jane. He had quite a struggle cutting loose from Jane and, when the

decree of divorce was granted, the case was promptly appealed to the Supreme Court. In the meantime Al again became enthusiastic about making Las Vegas winter quarters for his big circus, but nothing ever came of it after he had his decree confirmed by the Supreme Court.

Of D. G. Lorenzi's efforts to establish horse racing in Las Vegas I wrote recently in this column. Lorenzi made a fine start and it took the great depression starting in 1929 to stop him.

But for the mass of suspicions, jealousies and hatreds poured into the minds of stockholders and all connected with the great race track enterprise, it would have been a success.

Perhaps the right way would have been to start on a more modest scale and gradually teach the people of the Southwest to love Las Vegas and her great racing plant.

There are now more than five million people in Southern California, all of whom would have been anxious to see Las Vegas and enjoy her many fine entertainments, including the race track.

The whole thing has been unnecessarily made a bad mess from which careful nurture and plenty of patience can rescue it.

## THAT'S FOR SURE:

(Continued from Page 29)

the little woman but "This was the only thing left to do." When the lawyer had all the information required, the "client" stood up and prepared to leave. Then he suddenly remembered the subject of money. The lawyer named his fee of \$300. The "client" unawerfully took out a checkbook and made out a check in the full amount. A couple of days later the "client" returned and explained he had a long distance telephone reconciliation with his mate. So naturally he had no need for a divorce. When the subject of the fee was discussed, the "client" told the lawyer to keep \$100 for his troubles and just write a check for the balance. Of course, the lawyer was duped because his check was good. However, the "client's" check came rolling merrily back a month late, marked "unknown—payment refused." What a sweet racket! Heading the list of our local attorneys to fall foil to this gimmick is our own HARRY CLAIBORNE. We're glad to see that Mr. C. can get a chuckle out of his experience. (That was a chuckle, wasn't it, Harry?) So—beware all of you Nevada barristers. To what P. T. Barnum had to say, we can only add . . . and that's for sure.

## BETTY HUTTON:

(Continued from page 11)

exuberant performance and, still grateful and anxious to please, she sat atop the grand piano and gave a terrific after-show.

Down the aisle came a score of usherettes, bearing tremendous baskets of flowers, including two of the biggest baskets of American Beauty roses ever seen. There must have been at least 300 roses in each basket, flanking the other huge baskets of chrysanthemums which stretched across the entire stage. Most sensational of all was a standard, 10 feet high, on which were secured the hundreds of corsages of orchids which her many admirers sent her.

So many of her friends crowded back-stage to congratulate her, they filled the stage. Beaming happily was her devoted and talented husband, CHARLES O'CURRAN, producer of the show. The tremendous success of opening night must have been very heart-warming for these two wonderful people. Maybe it was their well-earned reward for their unselfish tour of the battlefields because it was through this tour that Charles O'Curran produced a similar show for the armed forces. The response was so great they were encouraged to put on this show.

It will be many a day before the Palace will be able to book a show to equal this one. It was a privilege to be present. It is a wonderful experience that will live in my memory for a long, long time. There was so much heart and sentimentality in this opening. The tears and stars in her eyes were real, and Betty deserved all the approbation and acclaim she received.

## LAST FRONTIER:

(Continued from Page 17)

legatos of the woodwinds predominating in the soft, smooth passages, is in pleasant contrast to the bombastic first half of the show. . . . BOBBY SARGENT, Broadway's and TV's newest comedian, shakes the rafters with his magnificent material. "Joe Dobrevich," a Ukrainian dialectic interpretation of a newcomer to our shores, "The Book-maker," and "Groucho Marx" routine are indescribable. Words cannot do justice to this genius of laughter. . . . The "So You Wanna Lead a Band" gimmick proves sensational. . . . THE MERRIEL ABBOTT DANCERS feature MISSY DORAN in routines that merit plenty of accolades.

## THUNDERBIRD:

(Continued from Page 19)

Vegas for the first time, but certainly not the last! These radio stars and RCA recording artists fill the room nightly with roars of laughter brought on by the rib-tickling lyrics of their paradoxical parodies. You have no doubt heard some of their records, but you've never fully enjoyed these men until you've seen them in person. Personally, we'd like to hear Jethro really cut loose on his mandolin some time . . . he cuts some fancy figgers on those frets . . . Returning to the local scene are those Las Vegas favorites THE MAR-VELS, "Virtuosos of the Teeter Board" . . . a half dozen acrobatic artists who will have you sitting on the edge of your chair before they've finished their stint of stunts. What with existing ceiling limitations, these tricks are all the more spectacular . . . The KATHRYN DUFFY DANSATIONS offer up for your approval another of their now famous miniature musicals, featuring beautiful ballerinas and the voice of your singing master of ceremonies, Barney Rawlings . . .

## SILVER SLIPPER:

(Continued from page 19)

return to the stage of the Slipper with the revue this week, also, and if you saw this man and his little people perform on his last visit, you needn't be told that the entertainment value is high in that field . . . You will see an exhibition of Tahitian knife dancing such as you've never seen before when you see the artful MANU perform this ritual dance of the islanders . . . and those knives are SHARP! . . . Also new to this stage is an old friend of yours and mine, JOHNNY O'BRIEN, as well as a beautiful addition to the scenery under the name of LISA STARR . . . Don't think we've forgotten our favorite funny man. HANK HENRY, without whom there would be no Silver Slipper, and that "Big Little Comedian" SPARKY KAYE who, along with Hank, makes up one of the finest comedy duos of all time . . . In the all-important master of ceremonies section we have the ever present, smilin' JIMMY CAVANAUGH . . . The HOLLYWOOD PALOMINOS supply the buck and whing-ding part of the revue and these tow-headed ladies of the line have become a big part of each and every show . . . Last, but far from least, is the music of GEORGE REDMAN and his fine little aggregation of musicians who cut these nightly shows to the 'nth degree of perfection.

## PAGE "13":

(Continued from Page 13)

new fall things in stock to fill in your sagging winter wardrobe. My ww sagged to the snapping point last fall, and I may just have to carry a small can of canned heat with me at all times for thawing-out purposes!

One of the nicest guys you'll ever meet anywhere, not only as you traverse The Strip, is the new maitre d' at the SANDS HOTEL, that quiet, easy mannered young fellow who always has a smile, JESS KIRK, an ex-navy man. Jess is the only natural American maitre d' on The Strip, by the way, and came into his present position in the hard way. If there were more nice fellows like Jess there were be a lot less dissension in the staffs of the dining rooms and better service to the guests. People work their best when they're happy!

With winter settin' in, and the cold air with it, you'll be finding stiff muscles also settin' in. To counteract this sudden blight to the comfort of the human race, I might suggest an occasional steam bath and rub-down at the LAST FRONTIER HEALTH CLUB and Steam Bath. Here you'll find the capable hands of VICTOR PILTCH, along with his long-experienced assistants, always at your service. Especially go for the rub-down . . . man, I know of nothing that can make you feel the same as you do following this . . .

Well, this has been a hectic day for me! It seems like I started this column three days ago! I've had so many interruptions that I was bein' to think I'd have to keep the whole thing over until next week . . . and if I don't get it to the printer pretty soon I may have to do just that! . . . So until we rub elbows again, I'll fold up the Underwood right about here and remain . . . your ever lovin' . . . JOHNNY.

## RENO BEAT

(Continued from page 15)

with Hollywoodites the past 10 days. TONY CURTIS and PIPER LAURIE and a large crew of workers from UNIVERSAL-INTERNATIONAL have been in town filming shots for a sports car picture called "Johnny Dark." Over this past week-end COLUMBIA PICTURES brought in a crew headed by MICKEY ROONEY to do some shooting on "THE LITTLE GIANT." Most of their shots were taken at STEAD AIR BASE during the races. However, I am sure some

"SHOTS" were taken at the RIVERSIDE CORNER BAR.

CURRENT SHOWS: The new GOLD ROOM of the HOTEL GOLDEN opened a new show Wednesday. The INTERNATIONAL FOLLIES is almost the same show that played the room last April. The only change is FIFI D'ORSAY, MARTY ALLEN and MITCH DEWOOD. THE APPLETONS, CLIFF FERRE and THE ZERNYS, plus STERLING YOUNG and THE GOLDEN GIRLS.

THE SKYROOM of the MAPES HOTEL also opened a new show this week. Opening Thursday was the DE CASTRO SISTERS and KIRBY STONE and his great quartette, plus EDDIE FITZPATRICK and Orchestra and the MAPES SKYLETTES.

THE THEATRE RESTAURANT of the RIVERSIDE HOTEL goes into the second and final week of THE SONS OF THE PIONEERS. This act is always very big here, and for a reason. They open with a punch and never let down. In the show are the great dance team of RAUL and EVA REYES, two of my favorites entertainers, the RIVERSIDE STARLETS and BILL CLIFFORD and his Orchestra.

See you next week . . . ART STEAGALL, Reno 2-2658.

## EL RANCHO VEGAS:

(Continued from Page 18)

SON and her Dates. This lovely lady and her two gentleman friends set out to entertain with fast moving song and dance routines that will have you lauding their talents and asking to see and hear more. . . . It has been some time since we've had the pleasure of witnessing the feats of ventriloquism that are the forte of CLIFFORD GUEST. This young man from Australia, with the many hidden voices, has achieved great popularity recently through the media of television. Those of you have who have never seen nor heard him perform are in for a few surprises in what he accomplishes in his field of entertainment. . . . HELD OVER from the previous show is the very attractive and talented dancer GEORGINE D'ARCY, who portrays an interesting story on stage solely through her achievements in acting and dance artistry. . . . The dozen dancing adorables who make up DOTTIE DEE's DANCERS are all bedecked in alluring new wardrobe and will present new routines that warrant the well deserved applause. . . . In the musical corner is the established aggregation of BOB ELLIS and his Orchestra.

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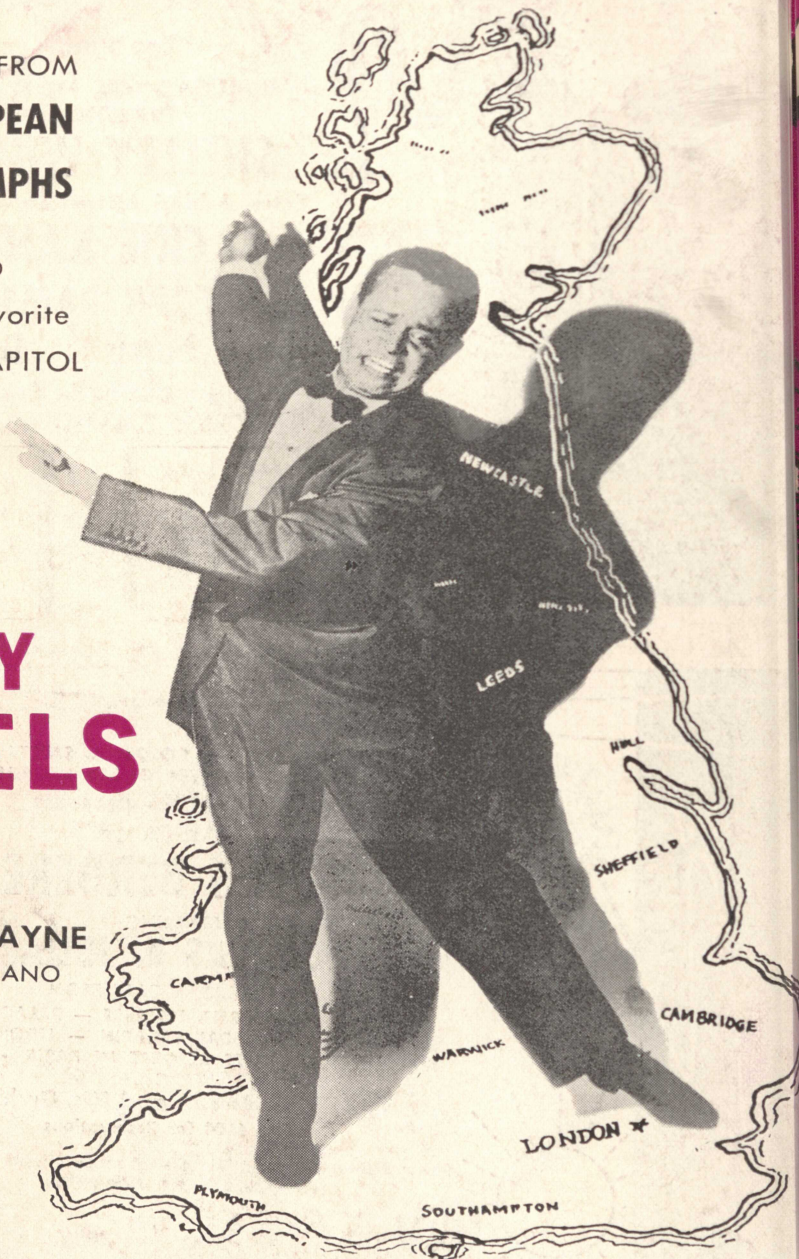
# "BLACK MAGIC"

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## BILLY DANIELS

WITH  
BENNY PAYNE  
AT THE PIANO



## HOTEL EL RANCHO VEGAS