Jack Cortez'

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JANUARY 16, 1954

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EL Cortez HOTEL

LAS VEGAS, NEVADA



THERE IS, to me, a fascination of a sort in looking back to the beginning of Las Vegas. Whether we go back to the days when 30 strong and vigorous missionaries sent out from Great Salt Lake by Brigham Young in 1855 were trying to bring Christianity, civilization and well-filled stomachs to the dirty, shabby and hungry Indians of this region (in which attempt they failed miserably after doing their utmost for several years) or the long period when Las Vegas Ranch under the ownership of O. D. Gass and, later, Mr. and Mrs. Archibald Stewart; or whether we take the activities of Sen. William A. Clark of Montana to build a railroad through here, is immaterial.

I like to think of Las Vegas when the railroad came through as the beginning of this modern city. Of course there were several preliminary or false starts. For example, about the year 1902 when representatives of Senator Clark paid, according to reports, $10,000 to Mrs. Helen J. Stewart for an option to purchase 1800 acres of the Old Ranch and allowed the option to expire. forfeiting their option money; or whether we take the time in 1903 when Senator Clark made another offer for the Old Ranch, which was promptly accepted by Mrs. Stewart; or whether we consider the date (October 4, 1904) when the construction crews laid the first rails into Las Vegas; or whether we consider the date when J. T. McWilliams put his "Original Townsite of Las Vegas" plat on record and began to sell the lots; or whether we take the date (May 15, 1905) when the railroad company held its auction sale of lots in Clark's Las Vegas Townsite, makes but little difference. Each of those dates was important in our history.

However, I prefer to think of the auction sale of lots in Clark's Las Vegas Townsite as the real beginning of this modern Las Vegas. But I remember the spring and summer of 1905 as the time when about every unpleasant and harmful thing that could happen to an ambitious new town happened to us.

In spite of those unpleasant things, a few of us who had everything we had invested in Las Vegas insisted on trying to do something about it. One of the main spurs to action was the large stock of lumber and building hardware Chris Brown and I (Las Vegas Trading Company) had. We just had to make a market for it by starting building projects.

The first important project was the new Arizona Club owned by Jim McIntosh, about which I wrote several weeks ago. I think it really was the payroll on this building, and a few others, which kept Las Vegas as a town from fading away. During the fall and winter 1905-6 that helped us to keep the flame of hope alive. The club was completed and opened for business in March and gave us a real boost.

Another building project which helped us build hope in the minds of the few hundred people who hoped to make Las Vegas their home was the First State Bank Building, still standing at the corner of First and Fremont and now occupied by the Bank of Nevada. It was an unusually fine building for a town like this at that time. The graceful Corinthian columns designed by our architect, Chamberlain, made people say to themselves:

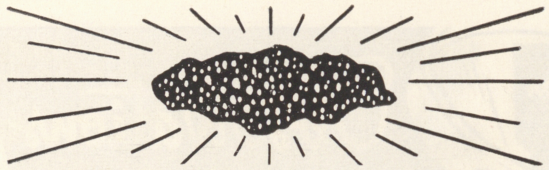
"Senator Clark and his brother, J. Ross Clark, who put their millions into building the railroad and who are the principal stockholders in the bank, must really believe in the future of Las

(Continued on Page 31)

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Caricaturist (Colors in Rhythm)

—o—

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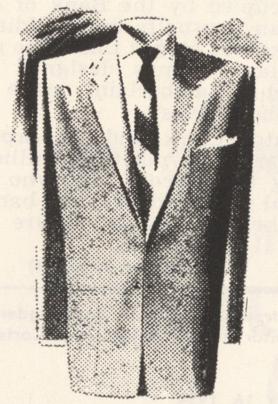
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THEY TELL ME I had a wonderful time New Year's Eve. I had three Crosby cocktails. Ever drink a Crosby cocktail? One drink and BING! Everyone at the party was so rude they kept stepping on my fingers all night. We played a wonderful game. First you line all the women up against one wall, then the men line up against the other wall. Then you turn the lights out, then the men line up against the other wall. Then you turn the lights out. The men advance toward the women and start swinging and the first woman they sock on the jaw, they get to kiss her.

Well, the women were smart. As soon as the lights went out, they ducked out of the room. Naturally, the guys beat their brains out. By now the guests were so punchy, I saved a lot of liquor. However, some of my friends were still yelling. I couldn't tell whether it was for more drinks or for first aid.

Being a gracious host, I poured alcohol and iodine into the mixer and served the next round. It's funny. I lose more guests that way.

After that, I served a special concoction of my own. It's called a "Slumgullion." If you can pronounce it, you can mix it. You take a quart of rubbing alcohol, a pint of bay rum and two quarts of rain water (domestic). You stir it and then set it out in California smog for a few hours.

After that, one of your friends dips a wet rag into it and places it on a tattooed battleship on his arm, and if the ship doesn't sink it's alright to drink. Yessir, it was really a party!

I don't remember just when it was I started drinking but I recall going to the closet, taking out a bottle, opening it, tasting it, pouring some down the sink, putting the cork back into the bottle and putting it back into the closet.

Later, feeling a little thirsty, I took the closet out of the cork, poured myself a sink, and put the bottle back into the glass.

Now, I was feeling pretty good. So I poured the sink into the closet and filled the cork, and put the bottle into the closet, which I drank.

I had three quick closets and closed the sink. Things were really humming now. I set up the corks and poured the glasses into the closet with one hand and held up the wall with the other.

Now I mixed the walls with the sinks and cracked some closets which I poured into the cork and closed the ice cubes. Just about this time my first pair of guests arrived. So I poured him into the cork and served the sink which I drank.

Now the guests were pouring out of the sink. I was running low on corks so I went next door and borrowed some closets from my neighbor. Just then there was a heck of a commotion. One of my bottles dropped a guest and the corks were complaining that the neighbors were keeping my ice cube awake.

I dialed the sink and called the cops and served one to each of my closets. That's all I remember. The next thing I knew I woke up in a cell moaning with 12 other party-goers.

Then a man in a blue uniform marched me in front of a judge. What a sight I was! An ice bag on my head, a bottle of aspirin in each hand, blood pouring out of my eyes and lying on the floor.

"You're drunk!" the judge said sternly. I demanded to see my lawyer and the court doubted that I could see anyone. They asked me to take the chair and I asked for a bed. When I was asked if I had anything to say before sentence was passed, I asked for fresh ice for my head.

The judge was very nice. He took some ice out of his ice bag and gave it to me. Then I recognized the judge. He was the guest I had poured down the sink New Year's Eve. I immediately called for a mistrial on the grounds of HABEAS CORPUS HANGOVERITIS.

The judge called a recess and asked to see me in his private chambers. When we were alone he requested the recipe for mixing a "SLUMGULLION."

Fortunately there was quite a smog downtown that morning so for his maiden mixture the judge did me proud with a paralyzing set-up. The judge and I crawled back into court and he took the chair. I sentenced him to one year of broken resolutions and ordered him to get into his car and drive home.

I'm glad he did.

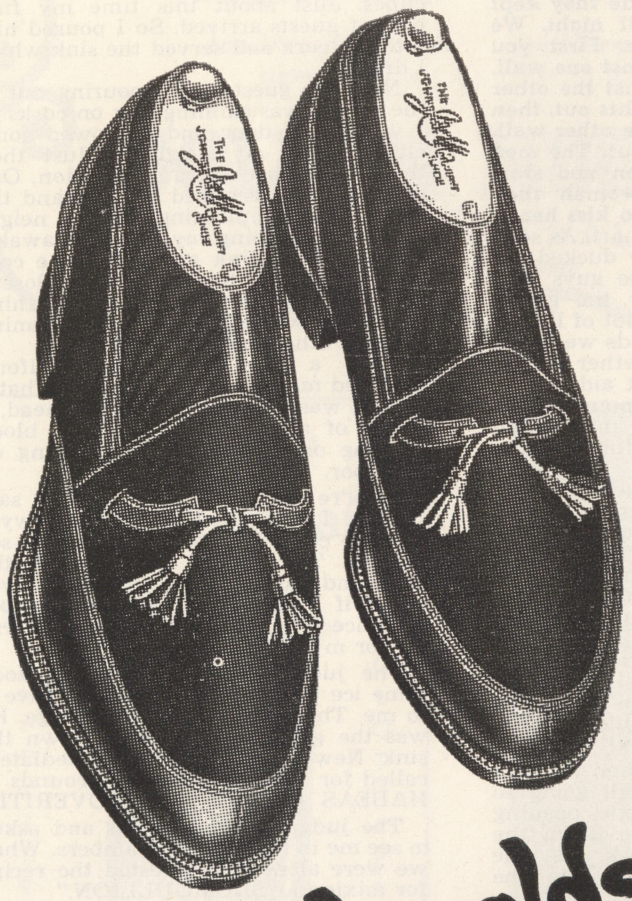
He was in no condition to walk!

Happy New Year! (Hic!)

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THE GENTLEMAN we are featuring on our front cover this week is ample proof that the staunchest metropolitan supporter is highly susceptible to the attraction offered by the Golden West. He is JACK ENTRATTER, formerly of New York City. In anyone's estimation, Jack is highly deserving of every laurel or bouquet tossed in his direction. We personally recall the time this ambitious young chap entered nightclub life, many years ago, via a post at the famous New York 52nd Street spot LEON & EDDIE'S. We suspect that Jack must have set a goal for his future and perseveringly worked toward it. In the years that have passed since his Leon and Eddie days he proved highly enterprising and later became a familiar figure at New York's glamorous COPACABANA. At this latter club Jack was part owner, along with JULES PODELL. Most folks would envy a fellow this possession, but Mr. Entratter was lured by the call of the West and is now part owner of the SANDS HOTEL, where he also reigns as general manager. Mr. Entratter moved his lovely wife and two daughters to our fabulous town and the entire family has planted its roots firmly into our soil. We can't say enough in salute of this gentleman whose struggle, though arduous and long, has culminated in the appreciated success that only a self-made man can experience. He strives for perfection in all his duties but can always be relied upon to be as humble as he was before Lady Fortune smiled upon him. He's a wonderful person . . . and that's for sure.

If you want to feast your eyes on a gorgeous bit of scenery, just take a look at those beautiful windows, newly redecorated, at CALLERY'S GALLERY OF GIFTS on North Third Street. Not only is the decor attractive, but those gifts on display are really exquisite. Mr. and Mrs. Callery do not believe in tossing "anything into stock" just to keep their supply filled. They spend many painstaking foot-weary hours at the merchandise markets, selecting only those items of which their clients can be completely proud. Even the husbands are stimulated with interest when they visit Callery's. If you don't think that's an accomplishment — then you have never been a wife seeking advice from her spouse.

Something just has to be done about a certain traffic condition before it drives most motorists to distraction or destruction. In New York a new law was recently instituted, legalizing the presentation of traffic tickets to drivers who impeded the smooth flow of traffic by traveling too far below the minimum allowed on the highways. Just as speed can create accidents, a snail's pace is equally as harmful. In our town (especially on The Strip), we are being plagued by drivers who insist upon maintaining a 15 m.p.h. speed in the outside lanes. If these lovely (?) people want to indulge in sight-seeing, let them do it safely in the right lane, which is provided for slow traffic. Many of us have jobs to do and wish to hit the 35 m.p.h speed allotted us in order to keep appointments on time. We certainly can't live within any professional schedule if our traffic is going to be snagged by inconsiderate drivers who hog the speed lanes. Why can't we adopt that same law mentioned earlier in this paragraph? You just can't tell an irate client that you are late because of this. For some reason, a person who is kept waiting doesn't find this excuse plausible. So Motor Vehicle Department — help!

Have you heard the funny about our friend LIBERACE? Well, the country's outstanding pianist recently recorded "The Story of Three Loves" on a Columbia disc. In San Antonio, Texas, the record hit the top selling bracket. Now, we don't wish to underplay Liberace's talents but the mistake of a printer in that town was importantly responsible for the reaction. The record was plugged as "The Story of Free Love." Quite a difference, we would say!

Looks like records are really being smashed over at the HOTEL SAHARA. When LAURITZ MELCHIOR appeared at that bistro he set a record that looked as though it would be unbeatable. But along came RED SKELTON and set one of his own. It didn't take MARLENE DIETRICH (and her unusual wardrobe) very long to top all previous. Now DONALD O'CONNOR has performed the impossible and shattered Marlene's ap-

Continued on Page 16)

"Carnival of Fun"

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WHAT PEOPLE WILL DO: President Eisenhower will dramatically bring into the open the advancement of cancer control outside the American Medical Association within the next 90 days. This will give hope to afflicted millions. . . . Vice President Nixon will personally write a series of federal laws on blackmail which will contain very strong teeth. . . .

Secretary of State Dulles will soon reveal a new Russian peace move in spite of the present Thailand revolt. . . . Warning to all women: The old Spanish custom of a strange man rushing up to you and kissing you on St. Valentine's Day is fast finding favor in our Southwest and will spread to other areas this year. . . . The Duke and Duchess of Windsor will purchase property in her home town, Baltimore. . . .

Hunting for wild life will be prohibited by federal action in 1955 for one year due to the fast disappearance of many species. . . . John Harvey, known as "Cousin Harvey" to millions of Americans, will soon publish a factual book about his home town, Harvey, S. D., with all the fabulous characters included. . . .

Your state will soon maintain its own personal fire department which can be dispatched to any point when a disaster occurs. . . . Arlone Twyman's latest household gadget will be a tiny electric whirling complexion brush which will cleanse the skin and also firm it at the same time, to be used for both men and women. . . . Senator McCarthy will uncover a huge spy ring now operating within one of the most powerful maritime unions out of Canada. . . . One of our foremost weekly magazines will cease publication in March due to an undercover boycott by women.

WHO YOU WILL TALK ABOUT AND WHY: Juvenile hoodlums and their organized lawlessness masterminded by active communists, and the full expose by J. Edgar Hoover in March 1954. . . . Whale steak and its growing popularity because of its high protein content for those who wish to diet and have sure weight reduction. . . . Generoso Pope Jr., the New York publisher, and his valiant fight against charity racketeering. . . .

Gov. Thomas E. Dewey and his forthright stand concerning lung cancer caused from cigarettes, which will eventually padlock all vending machines near schools. . . . Your local board of health and its new rulings where rest homes and private hospitals are concerned. . . . Arthur J. Connell, the national commander of the American Legion, and his coming plans to personally have each and every ex-G. I. interviewed about their progress in their community since service discharge. . . .

Terry Moore, the Hollywood star, and her very poor taste by befouling our religious holiday Christmas with dissolute indecency, and this will cause church-goers to omit movies as a religious duty. Many letters on my desk ask why an industry that can turn out such wonderful pictures as "The Robe" could permit such shameless action, plus flaunting it at Christmastide.

Bing Crosby and his coming announcement of curtailing all activities except one television appearance per week. . . . Sen. Margaret Chase Smith of Maine and her new Credo for Women which will protect the property rights on a federal basis. . . . Fanny Brice and her coming biographical film using her famous voice recordings of yesterday.

COMING HUSH-HUSH EVENTS: The S.E.C. will carefully investigate the new manner in which stocks are now being sold on Wall Street through your bank or investment house, and will soon issue a definite statement on this pay-by-the-week policy. . . . The approaching battle over the precontracted rights to carry the United States mail between the airlines and the railroads which will build to a sudden fury within the next three months. . . . The widening breach between two labor leaders in the garment trade which will head toward eventual court battle. . . . The mounting discontent in the British colonies which will come out in the open by July 1, 1954. . . .

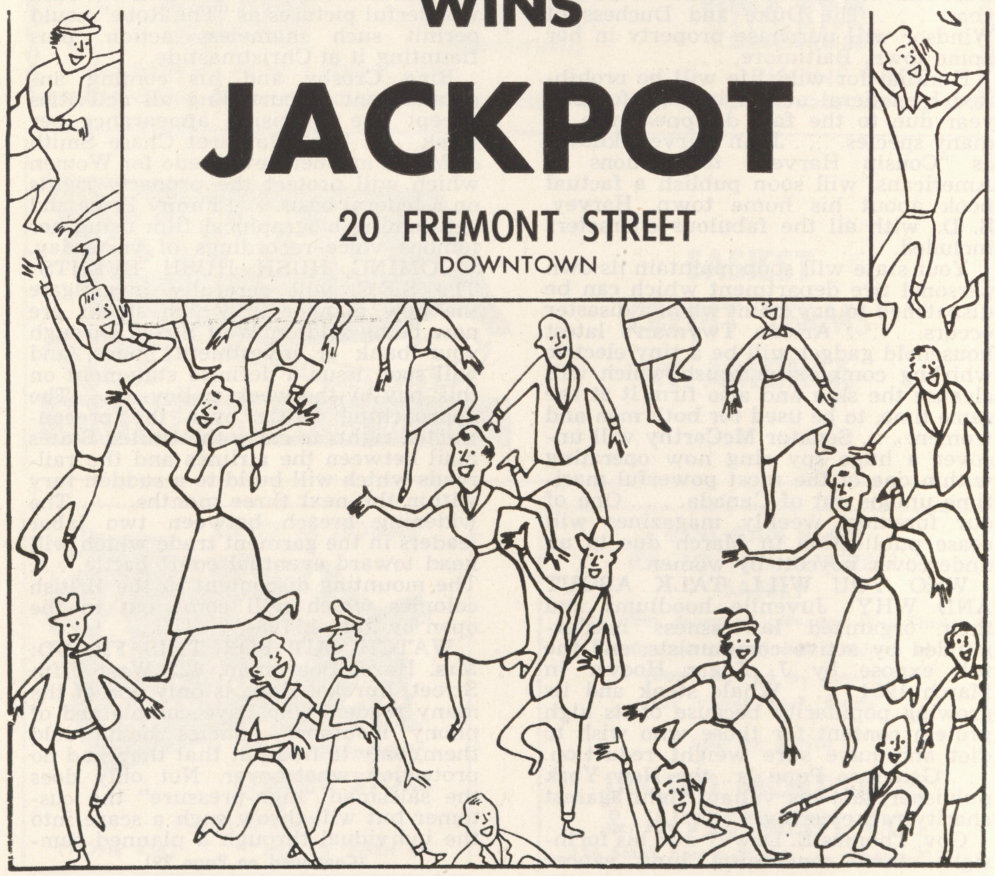
WATCH OUT FOR THIS FRAUD: Mrs. Hazel Boardman, 422 West Fifth Street, Eureka, Kan., is only one of the many readers who have complained of phony insurance policies being sold them, only to find out that they had no protection whatsoever. Not only does the salesman "high-pressure" the customer but will throw such a scare into the individual through a planned cam-

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BUCKLEY'S

ANY THREE OF A KIND WINS JACKPOT

20 FREMONT STREET
DOWNTOWN





I SUPPOSE I should be big about this whole thing, and let all of you know that you can expect another session of high winds most any time now! The section of my lawn that went south during the last "breeze" has been replaced . . . seeds, sand, and . . . uh, plant food! All I'm hoping is that I get the "green thumb" with this re-seeding . . . and NOT where I got it the last time! . . . Another thing: How can I explain to The Kid that every time the wind whisks the sod away it also blows away her chances of freedom when she gets to go outside. Each time I put that dog out on the end of her chain she gives me a disdainful dig with her eyes that would wither the heart of a shill boss. . . . I've had one stroke of luck regarding my lawn, however. The folks next door have installed a sprinkling system and, every time the wind blows, my lawn gets the benefit! . . . On the other hand, I've got grass up to my knees in some spots . . . but only when I get down on all fours to look at it. . . . Oh, well . . . I know where there are a lot of people who still have to live in piano boxes and egg crates! It takes me quite a while to count my blessings. . . . and YOU?

For the first time in a long time I attended a jam session last Tuesday night. Remember a few years ago you couldn't pick up a column of mine without reading about my having been to a session some place or another? This one the other night was gathered out at HULIHAN'S SHANTY. There was a good turn-out, and BUD CROUCH handled the whole thing very nicely. Bud tells me that the session on the West Side last Saturday night was "the most" it's been for some time. We must "pick up" promptly! Back to last Tuesday, though, it looks like that'll be the night for a while, for all of us to hie to Hulihan's for hours of unhampered hilarity. "The least" describes the Piano DENNY dug up at the last moment. but next week promises a decided change in the keyboard corner. . . . Where's the Shanty? So I tell you again . . . through the Charleston Boulevard underpass, west on Charleston to Hyde Park, left on Arville Road to the Shanty. Sounds like a lay-out for a tour of the valley, but actually it's only about four or five minutes from the underpass. . . .

The energetic young comedian now appearing at the EMBASSY CLUB in North Las Vegas is one of the best they've ever had out there. He works clean, works hard, and ties the show together beautifully. His own work is a high spot in the show. The young man's name is AL BEST, and his work has proved so satisfactory with the customers, as well as the management, that JOE BAILEY has decided to hold him over for a while. They still have four girlesque shows a night at the EMBASSY, and there's undoubtedly one of the four that you could get to see. The times are 10, 12 midnight, and 4:15 a. m. . . .

CLEM MALONE's still tearing up and fixing his SHAMROCK HOTEL over on North Main Street. The latest expansion of the SHILLELAH ROOM was one of the best moves yet. Within the next few weeks he plans to blacktop the grounds to the rear of the club and make a larger back entrance. This will eliminate the parking problem which is getting more and more acute since the great upward trend in popularity. I think I told you that he has continuous dancing at the Shamrock, didn't I? . . . There are two trios, and both of them are good! . . .

It would seem that DICK MALONE's big trouble is keeping you ladies supplied with the smart styles he selects for you at his shoe department in BAIN'S APPAREL SHOP downtown. He no sooner gets in a smart line of footwear than you gals find out, and he's re-ordering. Here's something about Dick and his sales staff. . . . If they don't happen to have the shoe you're looking for, they won't try to sell you everything in the joint . . . they'll tell you so and, if they know of another shop that might have it, they'll tell you where it is. BAIN's is located at 223 Fremont Street. . . .

The "LITTLE ROOM" is doing a big job this past week or so. KEN WALKER is the head plankman, and DUANE COLLINS is the hub of the wheel around whom the business revolves. That's another way of saying that he signs the checks. Their "Little Room" is located in the same building along with Sal & Rusty's Bar-B-Q out on Boulder Hiway. This is the spot where the miniature golf course and driving range are located. . . .

(Continued on Page 33)

The Silver Queen Bar

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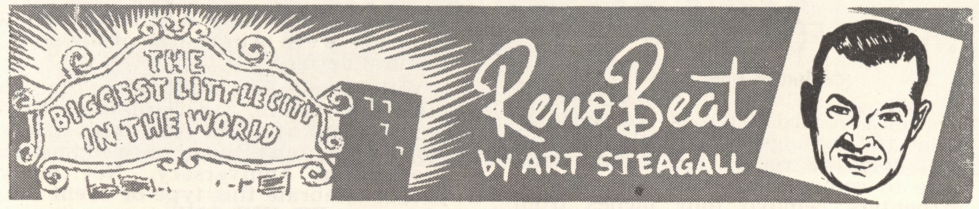
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GOOD NEWS for the outdoor lovers came to Northern Nevada this past week in the form of a 20-inch snowfall on the Sierra - Nevadas, making for ideal skiing conditions. The two giant lifts on Slide Mountain were running, as were the lifts at Squaw Valley and on Donner Summit. The north face of Reno Ski Bowl is in excellent shape. This is really the first time in the '53-54 season that there has been enough snow to make it worthwhile for the out-of-state skiers to come into this winter play area.

The first meeting this year of the Reno Ski Club is set for the 20th of this month, to be held at the SNOWSHOE LODGE, located on Mt. Rose Road just at the foot of Slide Mountain. The Reno Ski Club is making plans to send a team to Sweden this year to compete in an international meet. The heretofore lack of snow has been tough on the resort owners and also has delayed the starting of the Reno junior ski program.

The FWSA (Far West Ski Association) is holding its fifth annual Birthday Slalom competition at Squaw Valley next Sunday, January 20, with the junior divisional championship to be held at Yosemite on January 29, 30 and 31. After a year of no activity, the club announces a return to jumping competition, with the state championship to be held at the newly completed jumping hill at Sky Tavern.

BILL NELSON, veteran Reno jumper, will be tournament director. The contest will be held on February 28. That's a young man's sport—ski you later! . . .

AGVA: HARRY WEITZ, back at the PALACE CLUB here after a 10-day vacation in Las Vegas. He reports that it was really jumping there. . . . BEATRICE KAY at home here for the month of January. Her husband, SYLVAN GREEN, told me of their closing night in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, January 31, which was the last day that slot machines were legal in the state. They had a complete funeral, a slot laid in a casket, with a death certificate signed by the coroner. . . . The West lost a great legendary figure this past week with the death of DEATH VALLEY SCOTTY. Not too many years ago SCOTTY was a very frequent Reno visitor. . . . Community Antenna, a new micro-wave TV service about to invade Reno, has a public showing in the Redwood Room of the Riverside this weekend. . . . The GOLDEN HOTEL has let their line of girls, the TERRY TRUE DANCERS, go for the balance of the "off season"... The LANCERS did a TV shot while appearing at the GOLDEN, Sunday on Station KTZV. With the exception of a few interview shots, this marks the first "name" act to appear on the local station. . . . THE RIVERSIDE has booked three outstanding attractions for future appearances: JACK HALEY, THE MILLS BROTHERS and PATTI PAGE. . . .

Current Shows: The GOLD ROOM of the GOLDEN HOTEL opened a new show on Wednesday of this week, headed by the nation's top recording artists, JERRY MURAD'S HARMONICATS, and featuring ART "COW EYES" ENGLER. ART was last seen here, and at the GOLDEN, with the KIRBY STONE QUINTET. Also seen are the lovely OLIVETTE MILLER, harpist, plus STERLING YOUNG and his ORCHESTRA. . . .

THE MAPES SKYROOM opened Thursday with the singing voice of MERV GRIFFIN and the comedy of JOHNNY BACHEMIN, plus the MAPES SKYLETTES and the fine music of EDDIE FITZPATRICK and his orchestra.

The THEATRE RESTAURANT of the RIVERSIDE goes into their second and final week of a variety revue headed by PAUL GILBERT, a young comic with plenty of know-how, the "pop" and semi-classical singing of TARA SUMMERS and some expert juggling by RUDY HORN, the RIVERSIDE STARLETS and the music of BILL CLIFFORD and his orchestra.

See you next week . . .

ART STEAGALL, Reno 2-9735.

THAT'S FOR SURE:

(Continued from Page 9)

pearance record. This is one engagement the management firmly believes will hold the record for a long, long time to come. BILL MILLER had the carpenters remove four inches from each table in the dining room, making way for 75 more seats. Last Saturday Donald performed for 1972 guests and a multitude more had to be turned away. His engagement is a complete sell-out! And well it might be! This lad has the most tremendous talent ever witnessed. The special material written for him by SID KULLER is refreshingly original. Mr. Kuller deserves a tip of the old pork-pie also for his outstanding contribution to Donald O'Connor's nightclub debut. What a combination!

ABC plans to introduce "The Will Mastin Trio" to TV audiences soon. The program will naturally star SAMMY DAVIS JR. (currently at the HOTEL LAST FRONTIER), with dancer FRANCES TAYLOR playing opposite him. This is one show we would like to see on our Las Vegas sets.

Here's surprising news: BEN BLUE has always appeared at the HOTEL EL RANCHO VEGAS locally. However, we received word that he will open at the FLAMINGO HOTEL come March 11.

JIMMY AMES (who closed at the GOLDEN NUGGET last week) is starring now at the ITALIAN VILLAGE in San Francisco. Before he left town, Jimmy quipped: "In order to be successful you have to have a million dollars' worth of publicity. And if I had a million dollars—I wouldn't want any publicity."

Everyone is still talking about the fund raising event for the Jewish Community Center, held at the SILVER SLIPPER last week. Even though the attendees gave wonderful support, DOC STACHER proved he had a generous nature and did his utmost to swell the fund with his bids. He added a great deal to the evening's enjoyment and proceeds.

We received a letter from JOHNNY DESMOND, telling us he was "snowed under" with his picture work but is looking forward to playing a return engagement here shortly. When he appeared at the DESERT INN he introduced the tune "Woman," which is also given prominence in the RUSS COLOMBO picture in which he stars. Looks like Johnny's recording of this tune will keep climbing to ceiling height.

It won't be long now before remodeling is begun on the HORSESHOE CLUB. "KING" DORSETT is constantly huddling with VERN WELBORN about the plans. Vern is in charge of the architectural design.

Well, come February, we're due to give our sincere congratulations to a person celebrating his first anniversary. Nope! We don't mean a wedding or professional anniversary. Not many people celebrate this type of event but, of course, ED HYLAND is a quite unusual person. (He is owner of the SILVER STATE ENGRAVING & PRINTING COMPANY.) In February of 1953 Ed vowed he would keep away from the gaming tables completely. He has kept that vow so constantly he hasn't even spent one moment in front of the penny slot machine. Here is a man with intestinal fortitude—for sure.

People are saying very nice things about youthful AL BEST. currently taking care of the emceeing chores at the EMBASSY CLUB. Al is a very clever performer and we wouldn't be surprised if his comedy carried him to stardom in the future. The boy has the "it" that is necessary for all those who wish to click in the spotlight business. Incidentally, on January 18. "SIRI, The Dutch Doll," will open at the Embassy Club and her advance publicity makes us believe she really is a doll!

How wonderful it is to see SANDY SAUNDERS walking the plank again. Sandy is comfortably ensconced as the bartender at the HOTEL EL CORTEZ. Now his staunch following can order their favorites again from their favorite mixologist.

Lunching at the GOLDEN NUGGET RESTAURANT this past week was MARY PULFREY, who is home to stay, after resigning from Congressman CLIFF YOUNG'S staff. Before her year in Washington, D. C., Miss Pulfrey was information chief at the Chamber of Commerce.

Is this a twosome that's heading for the orange blossom path? HELEN O'CONNELL made a special trip here and has been seen constantly in the presence of CHUCK BENNETT (graveyard pit boss at the SANDS HOTEL). We hope Helen and Chuck agree with us that they make a wonderful couple.

Another event that is being talked about by localites was the debut of that wonderful television program conceived by DOROTHY YOUNG and JOHNNY RYKEN. They do the research for the musical offering which was so wonderfully received by all viewers. Outstanding on the program was MRS. MARJORIE DICKINSON, musical director of the LAS VEGAS HIGH SCHOOL. Mrs. Dickinson has a lovely soprano voice and her showmanship was a delight to behold.

(Continued on Page 27)

"CURTAIN TIME"

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

Flamingo

December 28 thru January 19

SHOW: Tony Martin, Alan King

LINE: Ron Fletcher and the Flamingo Starlets

ORCH: Torris Brand

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

(Continued on Page 35)

LAST FRONTIER

January 11 thru January 31

SHOW: Will Mastin Trio starring Sammy Davis, Jr.; Janik & Arnaut

LINE: The Adorabelles featuring Bob Peoples

ORCH: Garwood Van

The newest skyrocket to blaze across the theatrical skies is SAMMY DAVIS JR., featured with the WILL MASTIN TRIO, all of whom are a riotous trio of song and dance men. Picture a championship runner running for his life—and you've got an idea of the pace, speed and energy young Davis burns up in his non-stop 45 minute routine. Close your eyes and sit back, and listen, and you'll swear you're listening to the voice of Frank Sinatra, Billy Eckstine, Edward G. Robinson, Humphrey Bogart, Jimmy Stewart, James Cagney, Lionel Barrymore, or anyone else that the fancy of SAMMY DAVIS brings to mind. In an iron-rhythmed exhibition of Danny Kaye's high scoring "Melody in 4 F," more than one patron from New York to Hollywood to Las Vegas admit that Sammy does the impersonation better than Kay himself. For those in the know of Show Biz, SAMMY DAVIS JR. is credited with an ear of a Toscannini. He can duplicate any human or animal sound once he hears it, perfectly, in the pitch, and with perfect nuance. His mastery of mimicry is unbelievable. Even to see and hear is not to believe, so perfect is this coordination of ear and voice. A graduate student of the immortal Bill Robinson, the half pint of dyna-

(Continued on Page 37)

El Rancho Vegas

December 30 thru January 19

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

LINE: Dot Dee Dancers.

ORCH: Bob Ellis.

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



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

(Continued on Page 35)

Wilbur Clark's DESERT INN

January 5 thru February 1

SHOW: Frankie Laine, Jack Durant, Rudy Cardenas, Carol Lynne

LINE: Donn Arden Dancers

ORCH: Carlton Hayes

FRANKIE LAINE, one of America's greatest and most popular song stylists, stars in this stellar production. (Frankie is accompanied by talented CARL FISCHER at the piano.) Here is a singer who is really "Mr. Rhythm." And we doubt that anyone will ever come along to seriously challenge his right to the title. Naturally, an evening with Laine wouldn't be right without an inclusion of songs he personally brought to fame. Frankie is a scintillating performer. When this lad is on stage, his infectious personality seems to spread through the audience, firing everyone with pulsating rhythm and stimulating the senses to complete enjoyment. . . . JACK DURANT is an old-time favorite whose popularity will never be extinguished. One of Broadway's leading citizens of comedy fame, Durant doesn't hold back one iota when it comes to delighting your sense of humor. He even tosses in his well known "pratfalls" to punctuate his humorous tales. There's nothing this performer won't do to bring the gleam to your eye. . . . RUDY CARDENAS is a juggler extraordinaire. There are jugglers and there are jugglers—but Rudy is in a definite class of distinction. He is definitely one of the fastest jugglers on any nightclub stage. This wiry little

(Continued on Page 35)

SAHARA

January 5 thru February 1

SHOW: Donald O'Connor, Sid Miller, Scat-Man Crothers, George Prentice

LINE: Moro-Landis Saharem Dancers

ORCH: Cee Davidson

From the very moment he stepped onstage in his nightclub debut, DONALD O'CONNOR made history in Show Business. We doubt that any other star ever made such a successful bow into the supper club field. This youngster has the stage mien of a seasoned performer and the talents most of us dream of in our youth. His ability as a showman is absolutely amazing. Believe us when we say everyone is happy that the lad appears intermittently through-

(Continued on Page 37)

The Sands

Show opening January 13

SHOW: Ezio Pinza; Dave Barry

LINE: Copa Girls

ORCH: Ray Sinatra

You've demanded a return engagement and the management proudly presents EZIO PINZA as star of this new Copa Room revue. When he last appeared here, Mr. Pinza's talented vocal chords made such a lasting impression on supper-clubbers that folks from near and far traveled to the Sands just to listen to him. Mr. Pinza makes any evening an enchanted one with the magnificent projection of his voice and his wisely chosen repertoire. The star

(Continued on Page 37)

Thunderbird

December 28 thru January 20

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

LINE: Kathryn Duffy Dansations

ORCH: Al Jahns

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

(Continued on Page 35)

El Cortez

January 14 thru January 27

(Not a Review)

SHOW: The Wilder Bros.; Arthur Walsh; the Jazz Trio of Wild Bill Davis

ORCH: Eddie Skrivanek and his Sextette from Hunger

The WILDER BROTHERS, the nation's newest "rave" act, bring their refreshing talent to the Pirates Den for a preview of the tops in entertainment. These three brilliant artists all sing, play saxophones, and act in interpretive

(Continued on Page 23)

SILVER SLIPPER SALOON

January 8 thru February 4

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

ORCH: George Redman.

The first production of the year in this fabulous room is a gala presentation by Eddie Fox, "Carnival of Fun," a title that fits the series of situations to a tee. Show consists of a number of blackouts and scenes which feature the various members of the Silver Slipper Stock Company. . . each a specialist in their particular field and each a big contributor to the fast growing, nation-wide reputation of these riotous laugh riots. . . . New to the room is SLAPSIE MAXIE ROSENBLOOM, who fractures

(Continued on Page 23)

GOLDEN NUGGET

January 13 thru January 19

(Not a Review)

SHOW: Wally Overman; Morrison and Reeve; Loretta Miller

ORCH: Joe Venuti

This week-end the downtown entertainment spotlight rings the bright and bouncing revue at the GOLDEN NUGGET. A trio of terrific acts are on the agenda. WALLY OVERMAN proves his tagline—"Colors in Rhythm"—by gathering models from the Nugget audience for his speedy caricatures. Once finished, these portraits are presented to

(Continued on Page 23)



El Rancho VEGAS

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EL CORTEZ

(Continued from Page 19)

style, providing a full production act that is wholly different from any act in Show Business. Their style is an entirely new and different approach to light comedy, straight singing and tricky routines, all of which combine for an evening of top-notch star entertainment. . . . ARTHUR WALSH, the "miracle man of comedy," combines an unlimited amount of good material with an equally abundant supplv of terrific showmanship. . . . As many critics have said: "It would be an impossibility to tell you what Arthur Walsh does, for he does everything!" He dances, does impersonations, crazy comedy, sings and, in general, keeps the audience in stitches. . . . A new policy has gone into effect in the Pirates Den. There will be continuous entertainment from 10 p. m. until 5 a. m. . . . Between shows the sensational jazz trio of WILD BILL DAVIS, WONDERFUL SMITH and CHRIS COLUMBUS will take over. Featured as the "nation's newest musical sound," the trio combines a Hammond organ, drums and guitar. . . . Continuing in the all-important spot of backing the show with his excellent band of musicians is EDDIE SKRIVANEK and his Sextette from Hunger.

SILVER SLIPPER:

(Continued from Page 19)

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

GOLDEN NUGGET:

(Continued from Page 19)

their namesake with Wally's compliments. . . . MORRISON and REEVE, comedy specialists. take you back to the roaring '20s in the highlight of one of their many fast-paced routines. Al Morrison and his wife. Betty Reeve (she's an Arthur Godfrey talent scout winner), are troupers who have successfully played all over the western hemisphere. . . . Redheaded and supple, dancer LORETTA MILLER adds a delightful touch of feminine pulchritude to the Nugget line-up. JOE VENUTI, his swing violin and his orchestra, stand by as the world-famous main attractions to the G. N. lounge . . . and for your intermission pleasure vou'll laugh to the cheerful antics of the EMIL GRAY TRIO. Emil and the boys are particularly hilarious when they act out the letters in the song M-O-T-H-E-R. A new show bows in at the Nugget on Wednesday, however, when JOHNNIE TURNER is welcomed to the scene. Johnnie is a ventriloquist with an amazing talent in the mystifying art. JIMMY VEY, the dashing young man on the flying xylophone, also will headline, come January 20.

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KING SISTERS
ALVINO REY
GENE WESSON

LAST FRONTIER

FEBRUARY 1 THRU FEBRUARY 14

MARILYN MAXWELL
KIRBY STONE QUARTETTE

El Rancho Vegas

JANUARY 20

RONALD REAGAN and REVUE

DESERT INN

FEBRUARY 2

JACKIE MILES
LES CHARLIVELS

SAHARA

FEBRUARY 2

KATHRYN GRAYSON

The Sands

FEBRUARY 10 THRU MARCH 9

TALLULAH BANKHEAD

MARCH 10

ROBERT MERRILL

Thunderbird

JANUARY 21

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FRANK PIMENTAL

THAT'S FOR SURE:

(Continued from Page 16)

We have all sorts of conventions here but the topper is the one that will be held in our fabulous town on February 26 and February 27. This will be a meeting of funeral directors. How about that! But don't expect the gentlemen to arrive in sombre dress. We understand their wardrobes are replete with the latest in sportswear.

NORMAN BLAKE, handsome son of JIMMY (of the STRIP RACE BOOK), is being tutored and coached by BILL BURTON. We're happy to report that NORMAN is just about ready to launch his professional career under the guidance of this man who is well known and admired in Show Business. Bill is also manager of the MARY KAYE TRIO, HELEN O'CONNELL and many others. We wish the utmost of success to both of these nice gentlemen.

SID SHEPPARD is currently engrossed in the remodeling of the front of his furniture store. When it is completed he should have one of the most beautiful furniture emporiums in the country.

Congratulations to DIANE LEE and GORDON ROSENBERG. who were married in the Congo Room of the HOTEL SAHARA January 14. The bride is the daughter of HARRIET and CEE DAVIDSON. Because of their friendship with JEANNE WELBORN, the Davidsons were able to add more beauty to the ceremony with Jeanne's rendition of "Because." It was a beautiful wedding and we're only sorry we couldn't be in attendance. At the time we were in San Francisco, catching up on some sorely needed rest.

Tourists so often ask to see the million dollar golden nugget and ask how much it weighs, how large it is, etc. CHET ("Lum") LAUCK suggests GOLDEN NUGGET operators place a gold-painted rock, locked under glass on a satin pillow in full view. to satisfy these curious sight-seers.

If you want to hear some moving music, drop into the DESERT INN and listen to the FRANK GUSTO TRIO, who appear between 5:00 p. m. to 11:00 p. m. The trio hails from New York and are simply great.

JIMMY YAO, the Pearl King of the world, was recently a welcome visitor in our midst. We were very happy to see him having so much fun at the blackjack tables, with the GABOR SISTERS and CORINNE CALVET rooting him on into a winning spree. Incidentally, we understand that the glamorous Corinne is here for the six-week cure, shedding her handsome mate, JOHN BROMFIELD.

We sincerely hope that every one of our localites will contribute as much as they can to the new YMCA Building. Here is a project that is earnestly needed. We're surprised that our town does not have a modern building such as can be found in most of our United States' leading communities. This is a vital center for youth to express himself in sports and to be helped in the molding of his future. As we grow, so do our obligations to the younger members of our city. Come on, Las Vegas. You've always been ready with assistance before. Don't neglect this worthy project. Every dollar you can afford will make this dream become a realization.

More familiar faces loomed into sight on the visiting list this past week. From Casper, Wyo., came MR. and MRS. WILLIAM SCHOUHOE. Owners of the WERT HOTEL in Jackson Hole, Wyo., MR. and MRS. JESS WERT and daughter SKIPPY seemed to forget that there was such a thing as sleep when they discovered the many attractions our town has to offer. It was nice seeing these charming people and we do hope they make Las Vegas a habit.

AL ABRAMS, well known sportsman, is now in Hollywood. His latest heart throb is DOROTHY HARTFORD. Miss Hartford works at the CLIFT TRAVEL AGENCY in the CLIFT HOTEL, San Francisco. While speaking with him, Al told us to pass along some information to horse-lovers. He feels that there is champion stock in a steed called "Mintaka." Watch this horse and see if Al's prediction is right.

Work has been resumed on the shuttered PATIO. TOM DOUGLAS is very busy decorating the place. JOE COHEN and his partner MAX STETTNER hope to open their place some time around Washington's Birthday. It will be a late spot, with all-night dancing. Incidentally, the new owners will retain the name of Patio.

If JOE LOCO and his Mambo group seem to have extra spark these days it's because Joe's wife has arrived for a visit from New York, Mrs. Loco is just as famous as her husband. She is the IRMA, designer of exclusive clothes. Her latest expensive creation costs $700. Irma's place of business occupies one entire floor of the BUCKINGHAM HOTEL, at 57th Street and Sixth Avenue in Manhattan.

Sincere congratulations to MR. KATZ who celebrated his 73rd birthday January 10th. (His son LLOYD is vice president of the NEVADA THEATRE CORPORATION.) Mr. Katz and his lovely wife left Brooklyn to spend some time here with their grandchildren and

(Continued on Page 33)

2 FAMOUS NAMES ... when you think of fine food!

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CRISWELL PREDICTS:

(Continued from Page 11)

paign of fear that you are forced to buy! This is a shocking situation in many states, and if you policy holders will write to your insurance commissioner at your state capitol I know this will be taken care of quickly. I know the editor of this magazine would welcome any further reports of these 20th Century bandits who sell you useless insurance. If you are in doubt call in a salesman from a well established firm or consult your bank on the matter. Read and understand before you sign, and refuse to be duped! Thank you, Mrs. Boardman, I know you will be able to straighten this matter out locally.

FOR WOMEN ONLY: You can earn money right in your own home during your spare time by contacting a laundry in your area and offering to do all types of mending for them, resewing of buttons. zippers and other items. Mrs. J.L.T. of Meriden, Conn., has proved this can be most profitable. . . . Turkey will soon be a year-around food due to a coming promotion of the gobbler industry . . . There will be more adequate pensions for you women in 1954. . . . A coming perfume with a heavy oriental scent will find great favor. . . .

You women make the best detectives and you will find that this great field will place the welcome mat out for you this year more than ever before. . . . The airlines will soon offer a special inducement of reduced fare to get you girls on the flying habit. . . . A new body form mattress which will "erase the tired lines from the face" by relaxed elevation will soon be on the market. . . .

Your next reducing diet will center around drinking a quart of buttermilk before each meal, which will really thin you down. . . . Public speaking will be the new profession to follow, coupled with the selling of some commercial item. . . .

When in Washington, D. C., do not fail to see the display of inaugural gowns of our first ladies, which is the history of this nation fashionwise. . . . By law in some states, you women are entitled to a separate bank account or a joint account. . . . Jap silk will find great favor this summer. . . The next hostess craze will be a Hawaiian party complete with grass skirts, the hula, music plus a buffet featuring all food flavored or prepared with pineapple. 1954 will truly be the year of you women coming into your own'

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TUTOR PREDICTS!
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"I Love to Love"



LAS VEGAS

AND The Sands

LENA HORNE

POP SQUIRES:

(Continued from Page 5)

Vegas." And so they had to believe in Las Vegas, also!

The building was completed and occupied by the bank about January 10, 1906, and that was also a red letter day for Las Vegas. The Las Vegas postoffice, which had until then been housed in a tent, was permitted to occupy the east 15 feet of the building and the people subscribed the money to provide the postoffice with a good set of lock boxes, which also appealed to our civic pride and helped us build hope.

Then we promoted another important public building, the "Opera House" block on the corner of First and Fremont where the Pioneer Club now is. Not all was smooth sailing with that building. We built the walls of concrete blocks made in our yard at the corner of Fremont and Second Streets where the Shell Oil Station now is. We had the walls built to their full height of two stories when, one night, a wind storm hit Las Vegas and blew the "Opera House" down. It was quite a disaster for us, but we got the building completed and it provided us with a fine, large hall, in which the Masons and other organizations, including the Eagles and Stray Elks, could meet. There we had our political meetings and it was there that our great Senator Key Pittman first met a Las Vegas audience.

Several private residences were under way. John S. Park was building a concrete block home at Fourth and Fremont where Corey's Restaurant now it. Chris Brown was building a fine home at Fourth and Fremont where the Cornet building now is and this writer was building the home between the Cornet and Professional buildings. This home still stands and a tree I planted still stands watch over it, as may be noted if one looks across the street from the Ferron Building or Johnson's Store.

Las Vegas was really started with the town lot auction, I think, and the nursing we gave it kept the town alive and provided a foundation on which this modern, most brilliant town of Las Vegas is built.

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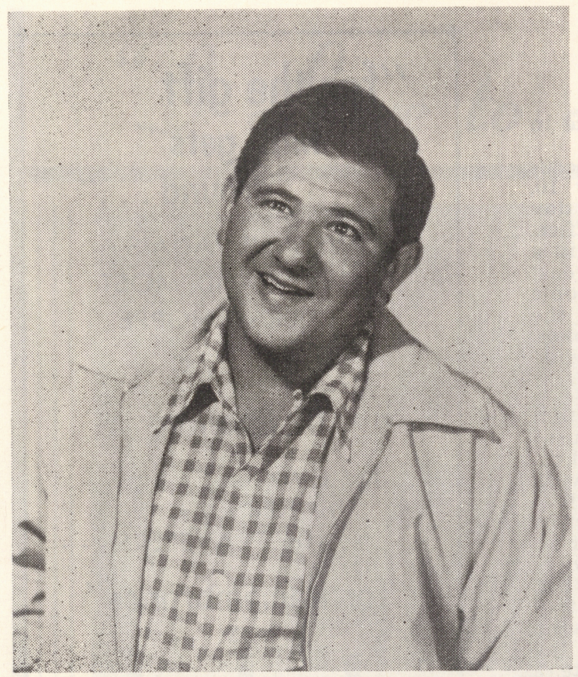
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for TRAVELERS - - -

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THAT'S FOR SURE:

(Continued from Page 27)

it looks as though the elder Katz is learning to love Las Vegas above his home town.

ALICE BUCKLEY is back in town, looking prettier than ever. That extra sparkle in her eyes seems to have been inspired by her new mink coat and convertible car. Alice tells us that Lady Luck smiled down on her at the gaming table and she invested her winnings in these things a girl loves. She spent a short vacation with her folks in San Francisco and enjoyed her family reunion.

CARMEN MIRANDA (soon to appear at the DESERT INN) and XAVIER CUGAT are planning a TV musical variety show. There are many sponsors interested in subsidizing the show.

There are some people who simply can't avoid working their way into top positions. Such a person is PEGGY GODWIN. Peggy was recently appointed as head cocktail waitress at the HOTEL LAST FRONTIER. She is a very earnest worker and never neglects her duties. Placing Peggy in any key position is a wise choice . . . and that's for sure.

PAGE 13:

(Continued from Page 13)

SNAX FIFTH AVE. has not only become the spot for seekers of fine barbecued meats, but it has also become the second headquarters for taxi drivers. It seems that the local dispatchers have wised to the fact that here is a stopping point for their men, and make frequent calls regarding the presence of certain drivers. RAY and NORM are well pleased with the reception you folks have given the opening of their new business in our town . . . and you, as customers, must be pleased or you wouldn't be going back so often for more. SNAX PIT BARBECUE is located right next to Snyder's Slacks on South Fifth Street across from the Grammar School. . . .

POLLY POSSUM and JOE WOLVERTON are back in town! This time they're appearing in North Las Vegas at WALT ABLES' new HACIENDA CLUB. These powerful performers have been here many times before and have a great following of friends in all walks of life. POLLY is quite a versatile performer, to say the least. She can sing the BG's out of a hill-billy tune, and then do a perfect sentimental ballad, or modern pop tune. And JOE is just one of the best guitar men in the business . . . on one string or on all six. They've just opened at Walt's Hacienda and they'll be there nightly from 9 p. m. to 3 a. m. . . . Shall we?

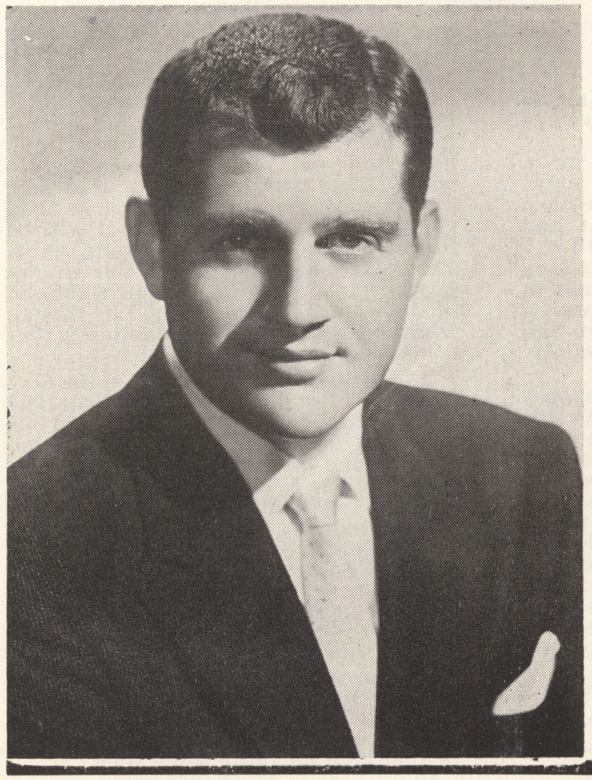
Keep your eyes open for a giant new amusement park out on the Boulder Hiway. . . . This one will be out almost four miles, which you will say, as I did, is a long way out. But, according to what I hear about what all is to take place out there, you will be more than glad to drive out for a visit—it will be that sensational, and worth your while. The men who are putting this in are good friends of JACK METLER, of one of our local casinos, and if they're friends of his they automatically become okay in my book. . . .

There's new entertainment in the Gay Nineties Bar of Hotel Las Frontier! ONE MAN is the center of it and his name is BOBBY SHORT, a talented vocalist and pianist with a style of singing all his own. Bobby started here last Monday night after a very successful engagement at the Black Orchid in Chicago. His vocals are cut on Trend Label and you may have been hearing a few of them being played by the local disk jockeys such as HENRY LEWY, JOE JULIAN, etc. . . . Bobby does a lot of old, smart and sophisticated tunes as well as a lot of the newer ones. Well worth your dropping in for a listen. . . . He is backed by the DAVE RODGERS TRIO, which has been doing a good job in the room for quite some time. . . .

It's amazing what RUSS MILLER can do with those old player pianos he picks up all over the country. He has his latest acquisition in operation now and running perfectly. Some of those old-time pieces of his date back way into the 1800s and yet he gets them to running as if they were almost brand new. You'll find most of them in his arcade located in the LAST FRONTIER VILLAGE. There's all kinds of amusement in this arcade, and with the warmer weather coming up you'll all want to take your turn with the kids on the merry-go-round, the miniature train and aboard one of the bumper cars. . . .

I went out to move my lawn sprinkler right after I wrote that last paragraph . . . the wind is blowin' again! The fellow next door is watering part of my lawn and I'm doing the same for the fella on the other side. If we don't keep watering one another's parts during these winds, however, we're liable to wind up without a part to water on. (Some how that don't sound just right!) . . . Well . . . whataya gonna do? . . . I'll tell you what I'm gonna do right now! I'm doing to have a bite of breakfast . . . drop what you're doing and come along! We might find a "live one.". . .

So long for now, and until I see you somewhere on the rounds . . . I'd like to be your ever lovin' . . . JOHNNY.



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TO

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AND

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HACIENDA CLUB

PROUDLY PRESENTS

"The One and Only"

POLLY POSSUM

AND

JOE WOLVERTON

LAS VEGAS' FAVORITE FUNSTERS

APPEARING NITELY

9 P.M. to 3 A.M.



FLAMINGO:

(Continued from Page 17)

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

THUNDERBIRD:

(Continued from Page 19)

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

EL RANCHO VEGAS:

(Continued from Page 18)

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

DESERT INN:

(Continued from Page 18)

gent accomplishes amazing feats of balance and precision manipulation. . . . Lovely CAROL LYNNE is well known to us from the many times we saw her in the East. Her ice sequences display an admirable versatility, embellished with charming grace. She is a real trouper. . . . The DONN ARDEN DANCERS present two more of their stupendous productions. One is a beautiful spectacle on ice, featuring Miss Lynne, Flo Walters and Jimmy Baron. The other is an African background with torrid rhythm. . . . As usual, CARLTON HAYES and his men deserve the highest commendation for their marvelous musical contribution to this four-star show.

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LAST FRONTIER:

(Continued from Page 17)

mite Sammy has learned not only the trigger-like turns of heel and toe, he has captured the liquid body movement, the lightning-like thrust of arms and legs, the amazingly rapid twist and turn of body, and the thrill-packed finale that inspires the burst-of-glory ending. An electrified audience demanded curtain call after call, with the gracious entertainer complying with a magnificent interpretation of Frankie Laine's "Jezebel," followed by a jam session on the "skins," with a speed that defies forked lightning. JANIK & ARNAUT, an unusual European novelty dance team making their first American appearance, will be the talk of this nation. JANIK, the feminine member of the duo, will be the Ophidia of our generation and as famous as another reptile who conned Eve into snaring Adam. Costumed in a skin-tight, green inter-striped affair, molded to her sensuous, lithe body realistically, the beauteous French danseuse moves sinuously around and around, slithering within and without the entwined arms, legs and entire body of her partner, ARNAUT, with eerie flutes whispering excerpts from Debussy's "Syrinx," hypnotizing the audience into rapt attention. The girl appears to be completely limbless, her very elongate body writhing, twisting, coiling, with even her head, which is encased in tight material representative of a snake's head, taking on the characteristics of the serpent. Magnificent choreography is "The Dance of the Serpent," superbly interpreted by two of the world's greatest dancers. The ADORABELLES add the light and gay froth to a well integrated show, featuring BOB PEOPLES, while GARWOOD VAN continues to carve a niche for himself and band among nightclub habitues.

SAHARA:

(Continued from Page 18)

out the entire revue. You just can't seem to see enough of him. He inspires a friendly warmth and completely ingratiates himself with his audience. Following his pattern of different entertainment, Donald scores the highlight of the evening with his interpretation of "Me and My Shadow," with a startling climax. We can safely say that Donald O'Connor will soon write his own ticket in the supper clubs across the country. . . . SID MILLER is another stage personality who is gifted with versatility. He works together with Donald on skits that literally "has 'em rolling in the aisles." What a terrific duo they make as a team! In his own right, Mr. Miller proves to have a wonderful sense of comedy. His impersonations are uncannily accurate. He has a marvelous sense of timing and is no slouch when it comes to drawing raves from audience and critics alike. . . . SCAT MAN CROTHERS is one of the most hep performers you can witness. He is a jive artist from the word go and sings it as though he had written it himself. Man! Cool is the right word for the beat that comes out of Scat Man's vocal chords. If you can sit still while this fellow is in the spotlight, that's ice water you have, brother! Where did the red stuff go? . . . Rounding out this elite program is GEORGE PRENTICE. Here is an act that sends the kiddies squealing with delight and tugs at the hearts of the adults. Mr. Prentice presents the "Punch and Judy" routine with lifelike animation. We guarantee you'll like him. . . . Adding colorful beauty and graceful charm to the entire presentation are the gorgeous MORO-LANDIS SAHAREM DANCERS with their spectacular sequences. . . . CEE DAVIDSON and his orchestra wrap up the perfection of the revue with a wonderful musical background.

SANDS:

(Continued from Page 18)

chooses favorites from leading Broadway musicals and spices them with his inimitable interpretations of classics. We're happy to note that Mr. Pinza uses no artifices to capture the audience. He doesn't need any. His voice is magnetic and inspires complete attention and admiration. . . . Here is another return engagement that makes us happy along with everyone else. Our own columnist DAVE BARRY finally returned (after a few months' absence) to bring us more of his clever comedy. Dave is truly a wonderful showman and that is EVERYBODY'S opinion. Folks seem to favor his laughable and accurate impressions of various radio personalities. He is a master in the art of story-telling and can hold his own against any purveyor of comedy. If you're looking for a lift in spirits and someone to chase Old Man Gloom away, Dave is your man. Not one face can resist his irrepressible humor. It must be a grand feeling to bring so much enjoyment to so many people. . . . The COPA GIRLS really look smart in their beautiful costumes and their beauty and grace add greatly to the success of this show. . . . RAY SINATRA and his music makers provide the ultimate in musical backgrounding.

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my thanks, also, to the maitre d's of all the hotels along the strip, for their many courtesies to my wife and to my guests throughout the holiday season.

sincerely,

Jimmy Durante