

KIWANIS PLAYS U. S. DAM POLICY

Criticise Government for Allowing Conditions as They Exist in Reserve

6/3/32
Criticising the government for allowing conditions to exist in the Hoover dam reservation which are contrary to all state's rights and which are holding back the development of Las Vegas and Clark county, the Kiwanis club last evening issued a call for its own members and the citizenry of Clark county to awake and start a fight for an equitable adjustment of the situation as it now exists.

Three major points were brot out during the discussion that followed a speech on "Crime, Criminals and Rackets," by J. R. Lewis, and were:

1—That Six Companies Inc., has collected in the neighborhood of \$40,000 in poll taxes from the employes on the job and has this money in the treasury of the company drawing interest; and that numerous workmen have moved away, thus precluding any chance of the state collecting for these workers.

2—That certain equipment, used on the project has been purchased by the government, in direct violation to the contract which calls for the government to furnish all the materials for the project, only. This was cited only as an instance where the state might be robbed of taxes on personal property should the suit, now pending in the courts, be settled in favor of the state.

3—That Six Companies is allegedly forcing everyone in the res-
(Continued on page six)

Wanias

(Continued From Page One)

ervation working for the firm to either rent houses from them or move into the dormitories and that the employes of the company have been notified that all roomers and boarders, living with families in the cottages owned by Six Companies, must move out or that the employe will be dismissed.

Several members suggested that the state of Nevada should make some move toward forcing the government to allow taxation in the reservation and that one way that might work would be for the state to send several companies of militia to the reservation to take the area for the state.

This move the members declared, has been steadily growing in favor of late and several times, during the discussion last evening, was brought forward as one method of forcing the issue.

The members of the club were not so much bitter against Six Companies, declaring that they were doing what any big corporation would do under the same circumstances, but censured the administration and Secretary Wilbur for allowing such a situation to exist.

It was called to the attention of the club that the state of Nevada was not entirely blameless in this situation, having ceded rights to the government which makes the

Hoover in a reservation possible. This, it was pointed out, was done in the now famous statute passed in 1921 upon which Six Companies is basing its defense in the suit now before the federal court.

The debate started after Lewis had finished his talk on crime when R. B. Griffith cited the Hoover dam reservation situation as the "biggest racket in America today". He called attention to the several items listed above and declared that unless the state of Nevada awoke, a gigantic "steal" would be perpetrated in the river area.

Lewis, in his speech before the club, told of the rise of crime in Las Vegas and declared that there was a well defined movement toward gangsterism and racketeering in Las Vegas at the present time.

He cited the murders of Santini and Decimo as an instance and declared that "there are others planned" which may materialize in the next few weeks. He called on the citizenry of Las Vegas to awake to this situation and do the utmost toward electing officers who would crush crime before it got a real foothold in Las Vegas.