"Trailer Vagabond" Visits Arizona

By WARREN BAYLEY

No tour through Arizona would be complete without at least checking into the story of one of the state's greatest mysteries: the tale of a lost gold-mine, fabulously rich, which refuses to be rediscovered.

Naturally stories surrounding such a mystery are many and with each telling something has been added, with each repetition something changed. However, a recent scientific study of the mountain and a complete check on various maps and stories revealed two indisputable facts: There was such a mine and it was fabulously rich. Here is a part of its history—a tale of massacre, thievery, earthquake and murder.

In 1845 one Miguel Peralta journeyed into this great unexplored area in search of gold. After numerous small finds, he became convinced that somewhere in these mountains there was wealth in untold quantities. Returning to his home in Chihuahua City, Mexico, he organized a party of six and placed it under command of his three sons, Pedro, Ramon and Manuel. In 1846 this party re-entered the territory and discovered a rich placer mine at the present site of Mormon Flat. While two younger brothers mined this rich bonanza, Pedro went further into the hills in search of the source of placer gold. He discovered not one but eight rich veins.

Sacred to Indians

In the winter of 1846-47 the three brothers returned to Mexico where the two youngest bought ranches and retired to a life of ease. Pedro, however, organized a party of 60 men and returned for more gold. For months the party worked the veins, until a scout reported that Apache Indians were concentrating their forces for an attack. Quickly burying the major part of their wealth, the party tried to escape.

The attempt was unsuccessful and every member was massacred. The Indians, not knowing the value of gold, emptied the remaining gold on the ground and kept the canvas bags. In 1914 two prospectors recovered $18,000 of this gold while digging at the site of the massacre.

To Indians, Superstition Mountain was sacred ground. Hunting was taboo. Traveling was banned. In an endeavor to keep out future intruders, shafts were filled and all traces of white men removed. That is, all but one shaft which was believed to be inaccessible. In 1860 this one was rediscovered by two men named Jacobs and Ludi. While working the mine they were murdered by Jacob Walz "the Dutchman" and his partner, Jacob Weiser. As soon as Walz realized the wealth of the mine, he in turn murdered Weiser.

For many years Walz worked his ill-gotten mine. Numerous attempts were made to follow him and locate the source of his wealth. In every case he outwitted or killed his pursuers. In 1877 he retired in Phoenix where he passed away in 1891, aged 83 years. He had not visited his mine in 10 years.

On May 3, 1887 an earthquake shook the mountains. Cliffs toppled and hillsides were shaken down. Somewhere under the debris there lies "The Lost Dutchman," Arizona's most famous mine.

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Survey Shows Demand for Student Dance

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strong even though all were advised that answers could be omitted and no names were to be on their answers. Narbonne high, for example, has three girls and six boys that drink occasionally, and yet they are not numerically equal. Of course the older age groups had more 'yes' answers to this question. While we strictly keep out those who drink we think it is important that those who do drink occasionally do not have the occasion on Friday night. However, we think that many more than admitted are occasional drinkers.

Could Stand Price-Raise

"Eighty-eight boys and 30 girls smoke occasionally. This answer was probably more accurate than the drinking reply. Torrance high had nine boys and three girls in this group while Narbonne had ten boys and five girls. As we do not permit smoking on the dance floor, and as there has not been great criticism on this score, we did not classify these answers much further except to note again, that as the age gets greater so does the amount of smoking.

"Forty-nine boys and seven girls attended no school. Their average age was nineteen. Fifteen neither smoked nor drank occasionally. Two girls did not smoke or drink while five drank, four smoked occasionally. Twenty-one of this 56 did not drink at all, and 20 did not smoke.

"The great majority said that they could stand a price lift of five cents, which we may find necessary. Only six thought more restrictions were necessary—and this question was asked directly. It took an average of one hour for the dancers to get home but as many live out of town and because many get food after the dance, this answer was not of great significance. About 25 percent came in mixed couples, the rest coming with friends of the same sex or alone," Shidler's survey concluded.

Council Acts On Minor Civic Items

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and the County Regional Planning commission for consultations services at the rate of $10 per interview. The assistance will be given members of the city planning commission.

Buy New Equipment

Expenditures totaling $2,611.32 were authorized. These were: $132 for 129.1 tons of rock for street repairs; $170.26 for repairs to the city bitumuls machine and $1,616 for the purchase of a two-ton truck to repair and replace equipment damaged by the recent fire in the city yard; $75 for an electric turntable for the civic auditorium public address system (the present equipment was loaned to the city six months ago); $75 for the removal of two wooden poles at the city park picnic grounds and installation of underground conduits; $175.20 for replacement of the present inadequate water heater at the city park with two new heaters with capacity to handle the need for hot water there; $254 for the purchase of new water meters; and $113.88 for equipment, repair parts and supplies for the municipal water district.

No action was taken on the offer of the Whitehead Aerial Photo company to sell the city an aerial photo of its area, scaled to one inch to 300 feet, and making a map 102 by 130 inches in size for $198.90.

It's Spring In Toledo

TOLEDO, O. (U.P.)—Add signs of summer: Bird house and kite-building contests have been announced by the city recreation department.

GEORGE VI AS A HIGHLANDER . . . King George VI, in the uniform of colonel-in-chief of the Cameron Highlanders, which he is expected to wear during his Canadian visit.

Four-Day Holiday Ahead for Schools

All school students in Torrance will have a four-day holiday, starting Friday, May 26, and ending the following Wednesday. The board of education this week declared Monday, May 29, a holiday, since Memorial Day this year comes on Tuesday.

Harbor Chambers Meet at L. B.

Brief talks by all five Los Angeles county supervisors will be given at the dinner-meeting of the Harbor District Chambers of Commerce tonight at the Long Beach recreation clubhouse, according to Secretary L. J. Gilmeister. A number of local residents are scheduled to attend.

39 Children Going to Fair at S. F.

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few high school students will be composed of:

Jon and Helen Ericson, Lamar and Bobby Watson, Jimmy Crawford, Walter Smith, J. C. Young, Billy and Betsy Ruth Morgan, Harry Paul, Junior Fisher, Joe Marek, Nadine Paour, Betty Jo Tucker, Katherine Turner, Ruth Korber, Patricia Rojo, Norma Levy, Margaret Taylor, Frances Thebois, Mary Olive Jones, Myrna Lou Fossum, Harriett Sparelich, Jean Clark and Barbara Lee Watson.

Rotarians Date 'Demotion' Party

The annual president's "demotion party" of the Torrance Rotary club will be held Thursday, July 13, it was decided at a meeting of club directors held Monday evening at the home of President Harry Abramson on Post avenue.

President-elect Harold E. Appenzellar was authorized to attend the convention of Rotary International at Cleveland, Ohio, which will be held the latter part of June.

The Herald—3 months, 50 cents.

Judge Finally Is Witness

GREAT BARRINGTON, Mass. (U.P.)—Judge Walter B. Sanford had a novel experience. After serving as justice of the Southern Berkshire District Court for 45 years, he was a witness in his own courtroom.