"Trailer Vagabond" Tours El Paso, Texas

By WARREN BAYLEY

Over the period of the past 10 years I have had occasion to visit this border metropolis many times. Each visit has added to my perplexity. It presents one of the most unique racial problems of any city in the United States.

Back in the beginning the entire town was on the Mexican side of the Rio Grande River. Early Spanish Conquistadors, in search for the Seven Cities of Gold in Arizona and New Mexico, founded the settlement and named it El Paso del Norte, which translated means, "The Pass to the North." Later, when a town was started on the American side, the name was shortened to El Paso — "The Pass" — and the Mexican town was renamed Juarez. Today the combined population is approximately 150,000 people; 45,000 in Juarez; 105,000 in El Paso.

Of the 45,000 people in Juarez, practically all are Mexicans. That, of course is to be expected. But here is the unusual part — of the 105,000 people in El Paso over 70 percent are also Mexicans. Because of this high percentage of Latin speaking people and because of the unusual trade relations between the two countries, a very nasty problem rears its head.

Mean Shopping Situation

Connecting the two cities are the international bridges spanning the Rio Grande. Pedestrians may cross, one way, for ten centavos, Mexican money, or two cents American. On Saturdays the traffic is terrific. An obliging customs officer explained the reason why —

A large percentage of El Paso residents do their weekly shopping in Juarez. It's cheaper. For instance take meat. Because of the more lenient government sanitary regulations on the Mexican side of the border, it costs much less. For this and other reasons the same is true on most all other commodities and as you are allowed to bring into this country, duty free, a certain amount for home consumption — El Paso shops in Juarez. You can imagine how this sets with the American shop keeper.

If you take American goods into Mexico its a different story. Cigarettes, for instance — American popular cigarettes sell for 20 cents a pack in Juarez because of a high tariff, El Paso residents can bring in a carton of Mexican cigarettes duty free. Liquor is much the same. Texas has a law forbidding its sale by the drink. Mexico is wide open. Result—El Paso goes to Juarez to raise whoopee.

Excellent Climate

Then there's the salary question. On the American side its pretty hard to command a living wage. Mexicans, because of lower living conditions, will take the job for less. I asked the girl at the Chamber of Commerce what effect the new wage and hour law would have. She couldn't see how the merchants could afford to meet the minimum requirements.

Anyway, you'll like El Paso. It's surrounded with interesting things to see and the climate is wonderful. Thousands of people suffering with lung trouble go there each year to regain their health.

The country abounds with the history of many civilizations and all in all its well worth your time to see. The chances are good you'll go back many times.

"Trailer Vagabond" is sponsored and appears in this newspaper thru the courtesy of **HOWARD G. LOCKE,** fire and automobile insurance agent, 1405 Marcelina, telephone **135-M.**

People

what they're doing

Harold Massie, son of **Mr. and Mrs. Harry E. Massie,** 1101 Engracia avenue, and **Berton Rand,** 2225 Gramercy avenue, enrolled at Santa Barbara Teachers' college Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Kendrick, Mrs. Rose Kendrick and **Miss Doris Kendrick,** 1720 Arlington avenue, spent Sunday at Lake Elsinore.

Mr. and Mrs. Dean L. Sears, 1428 El Prado, had as their week-end guests, Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Simons of Bakersfield and their son Bill, a student at Occidental college.

Mmes. Charles Woodcock, I. C. Rous, J. O. Bishop, William Jolley and **A. C. Golden** represented the High school P. T. A. at the Gateway Council meeting held in Gardena, Monday.

Mrs. Mina Shidler, 1448 Post avenue, has as her house guest for several days, Mrs. William Moss of Cleveland, Ohio.

Police Chief and Mrs. John Stroh returned last Friday from attending the 50th wedding anniversary of Stroh's parents at Loveland, Colo.

Mrs. Johanna Sands, 2322 El Dorado, has returned from two weeks' visit with her daughter Mrs. Frank Wagner at Lake Elsinore.

Mrs. Ruth Walter, sister of **Mrs. L. F. Stephenson,** 1424 Beech avenue, sailed for Honolulu Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank P. Kneiseler, 1008 Amapola avenue, visited Friday and Saturday with Kneiseler's sister, Mrs. George Coleman, in Bakersfield.

Visitors at the home of **Mr. and Mrs. Theo Cheesman,** 2118 Carson street, this week-end will be Mr. and Mrs. Roy Hicks and niece, Miss Frances Hicks; Mr. and Mrs. John Cosner of Sargent, Nebraska, and Mr. and Mrs. Alva Sininger of Bradshaw, Nebraska.

Raymond McIntier, who for some time has been stationed at the C.C.C. Camp at Stony Point, visited last week with his parents, **Mr. and Mrs. J. J. McIntier,** 1735 Gramercy avenue.

Week-end visitors at the home of **Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Bishop,** 1412 Manuel avenue, were Mr. and Mrs. Charles Cromwell of Pasadena.

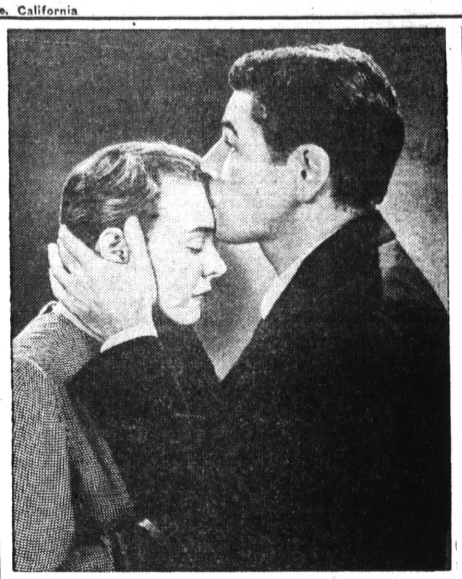
Representing Elementary Parent Teachers Association at the District meeting in Los Angeles, this morning are Mmes. **H. R. Lee, E. W. Lock, E. C. Prime** and **Rufus Page.**

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Phillips and son, Robert; Mrs. B. Bever and Mrs. A. Phillips of Cadillac, Michigan, who were recent visitors at the home of **Mr. and Mrs. Fred Bever,** 1512 Acacia avenue, left for their home Friday.

Perry Hinds, local printer, received word yesterday morning that his mother had passed away at Pueblo, Colo. Hinds left immediately to attend the funeral.

FAIR AND FIESTA

Riverside County Fair and Coachella Valley Date Fiesta will be held in Indio Feb. 15-17.



ILL-STARRED ROMANCE . . . Paul Muni and Jane Bryan are shown here in a tender scene from "We Are Not Alone," Muni's first modern, romantic production in several years. It opens Sunday at the Lomita theatre.

SHARE ROMANTIC ROLES . . . William Holden and Jane Bryan co-star with George Raft in "Invisible Stripes," opening at the Plaza theatre Sunday. The story revolves around the difficulties a paroled prisoner encounters.

TENSE MOMENT FOR QUINTET . . . Above is a scene from the dramatic production, "Invisible Stripes," starring George Raft, Jane Bryan and William Holden. The film opens at the Grand theatre next Sunday.

Cook Sues State For Relief

OAKLAND, Cal. (U.P.) — Allen Washington, 45, cook, has the distinction of being the first citizen who ever brought legal action against the state to force it to provide him with relief. He petitioned the Superior Court for a mandate to compel the state to act in his behalf. He stated that he was without funds to clothe and feed his destitute family of five.

The custom of English parents selling their children to the Irish for slaves was prohibited by King Canute about 1617.

Alimony Check Sent To Judge

REDWOOD CITY, Cal. (U.P.) —Robert Shoots was haled into court on a charge of allegedly failing to make an alimony payment on time. Shoots insisted he had sent the check. The judge demanded to whom. Shoots replied he had sent it to the judge himself. The judge checked up on his mail accumulated during his vacation. The alimony check was there.

Among 20 songs selected for harmonizing by the St. Louis Society for Preservation of Barbershop Harmony, "Sweet Adeline" didn't get a single vote.

20-30 Club Show Is Ready For Staging Tonight In Auditorium

Tonight at 8 o'clock the curtain at the Civic Auditorium will go up on "Headlines Revue," a tuneful comedy production sponsored by the 20-30 club and directed by Isabelle R. Keene. Divided into two parts, the presentation opens with 13 "flashes" based on newspaper production.

The second half of the bill is titled "The Colored Comics" and this will consist of a modernized negro minstrel show with a large cast.

The Torrance Conservatory of Music is cooperating with the 20-30 club in presenting a number of its talented song and dance students during the first part of the show. Mrs. Walter Evans will be pianist and Walter Evans will man the drums.

Tickets for the show may be obtained at the box office of the Auditorium tonight. Those who will appear in the production are Don Mitchell, Bobby Jordan, Beverly Kelley, Jean Gerke, Norman Hammond, Dorothy Intermill, Mary Slover, Anna Malloy, Doris Armitage, Vera Kieffert, Virginia Legg, Betty West, Doris Daniels, Walter Amyrauld, John Lymo and Robert Carlson.

Benny Gartzman, Richard Miller, Virginia McNally, Joe McNally, Dale Howe, Jeanette Mikelson, Jim Wilkes, Bob McNally, Louis Murray, George Figueredo, Joe McNeil, Roy McReynolds, Robert Carlson, Thomas Justice, David Jacobs, Eddie, Elmer and Bill Jessen, Carl Quayle, Dick McNally, Jimmy Seeds, Elmer Riley, Jack Avard, Paul Kasper, Frances McNeil and Ann Seeds.

Alum is said to have been discovered in Roccha, Syria, in 1300.

March of Dimes Nets $352.48 in Communities

By the combined efforts of Lomita and Harbor City $352.49 was cleared above expenses in the Drive Against Infantile Paralysis, according to Mrs. Frances Hathaway, secretary of the local committee.

Besides this sum, the Lomita theatre remitted $30.64 which will be added to the local quota. Proceeds from buttons sold in Harbor City netted the tidy sum of $164.

U. S. STEEL PENSION PLAN IS REVISED

Revision of the United States Steel pension plan, which has provided retirement benefits for eligible employees of the Corporation and subsidiary companies such as Columbia Steel of this city since Jan. 1, 1911, was announced this week. The revised plan is explained in a special article in the January number of U S STEEL NEWS, the Corporation's publication distributed to all employees of United States Steel Corporation and subsidiaries.

For 29 years the Corporation has provided old-age benefits to eligible retiring employees. From time to time the provisions of the plan have been amended to meet changing conditions. The revisions announced in U S STEEL NEWS serve to correlate the Corporation pension plan to federal pension laws, the Social Security Act and the Railroad Retirement Acts, which provide pensions to retiring employees based on earnings within certain wage and salary limits.

The provisions of the former Corporation plan will continue to be applied in the case of employees retiring after 1939 with respect to service up to Jan. 1, 1940, but benefits paid under the plan will be superseded or reduced by the amount of benefits received under the federal pension plans. Provisions are made for eligible female employees and for eligible employees retiring after Dec. 31, 1939, on account of permanent incapacity or discontinuance of operations, who are not eligible for public pension at the time of retirement until such time as they qualify for public pension or until federal or state pension laws provide benefits for such cases.

The revised pension plan and rules are voluntary provisions, as were the former, for the benefit of eligible employees and may be modified or changed from time to time.

Woman Turns Trapper

PLYMOUTH, O. (U.P.)—Richland county boasts of one of the few woman trappers in the state. Mrs. Jacob Arnold, who lives near here, started trapping to protect her flock of chickens.