

M. G. Watkins,
29 Palms Realtor,
Desert Pioneer

One of the real pioneers of this desert area, M. G. "Watty" Watkins, realtor, has not only played a prominent part in real estate development, but has been an active worker in civic affairs ever since coming here in 1936.

"Watty" was the first vice president of the Twentynine Palms Branch Board which was organized in 1946 and since that time was president of the group for three successive years. Presently he heads the Southern Highway Improvement Assn., Inc., as president, and is active in many local Chamber of Commerce, Lions club and other organizations. He was twice president of the Twentynine Palms Chamber of Commerce.

His real estate here has been varied. When he first arrived in 1936 he was employed by Hamilton Sales Corp., and in 1935 he organized his own office in the present Watkins-Bear building. The first year of independent operation total sales of his office exceeded \$100,000. Among the well known subdivisions developed by this office have been the new Estates and Sun of Twentynine Palms, the Palm Vista tract on a site in the Mesquite, and the Mariposa Heights tract and many others.

To meet living requirements occasioned by the new \$100,000, 800 Mariposa House, the Watkins office has been offering widely diversified properties including being exclusive agents for Silas S. Stanley subdivisions, the Watkins firm has business opportunities, business frontage and income properties of all descriptions. The long and wide experience in the area gives him a knowledge of realty and realty values second to none. Watkins said.



A cucumber is something you'll not only be so cool in, but cooler than when you hot-bath with Bob at Bob's Manly Bar, open all Summer. You can enjoy cool refreshment in Bob's backwashin' Bar or in Bob's pickled Pool. Fact is, you'll find everything cool at Bob's—except the traditional warm welcome that knows no season at Howie's Home.

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Construction Workers at Base in Bowling League

Twists, Marjion Knudsen and Maceo construction workers are enjoying league bowling at the Bowldrome on Wednesday evenings, starting at 7 o'clock. The league is in its third week of play and is receiving enthusiastic support from the construction companies. The Twists Co. is providing trophies, and D. G. "Bud" Hall, general manager, has made a substantial contribution to the prize fund.

Liner, Cottrell, John P. Hayes, assistant resident engineer in charge of the Navy, is president of the new league, and captain of one of the teams. While the men-folks are rolling their league wares, two of the two spare lanes "to improve their own game."

Second Addition Made to McClain's Auto Service

McClain's Auto Service, Richfield service station and garage on the highway in Mesquite, is being expanded for the second time this year to keep up with its rapidly growing business. Ivan H. McClain, owner, announced this week.

In May 1951, McClain leased the property which he purchased last fall. Early this spring he built an addition 2 1/2 to 3 feet, to accommodate the new second addition. In 2 1/2 to 3 feet was begun. It will house a new Volkswagen, most sign modern machine, one of the most modern stream, which enables

Sam's Character Room One Colorful Amusement Spot

Sam's Character Room is one of the most colorful amusement places in the desert, and is known as a "must" for many visitors who feel that their visit to Twentynine Palms is incomplete unless they have called at this fun emporium, says Sam Marks, owner, operator and creator of the unusual atmosphere of the Character Room.

Marks, a self-confessed "character" has had a checkered and colorful career. For nearly 14 years, as a youth, he traveled the country with carnivals and circuses, and before moving here from Long Beach in 1935, was engaged in the garment business in various cities in Southern California.

In 1935 he purchased a pool hall, located where his present entertainment stands, and in 1940 he built the first Character Room. Having realized a life-

Threat to Road Voiced by C. of C. of 29 Palms

Dangerous threat to future expansion of the present Twentynine Palms Highway by plans of the J. M. Montgomery civil engineering company of Los Angeles were cited last week by Chambers of Commerce through out the Mesquite Basin area, after the Twentynine Palms Chamber had sounded the alarm.

Protests against proposed installation of a new power line 3 1/2 feet from the center of the highway, right-of-way area, have been filed with the San Bernadino county board of supervisors by all Chambers of Commerce in the affected area.

When California Electric requested the additional high-line required to meet power demands of a new \$100,000 power line, Twentynine Palms, the Navy engaged the engineering firm to make a survey for a line to be installed by the Navy itself.

It was stressed that if the present power line is followed from Garret to the Base, some poles would have to be installed, and as an alternative, the engineering firm proposed to run the highway instead, instead of the present route.

If this were to be permitted by the county board, no future widening of the highway would be possible, and the right-of-way remaining would certainly be inadequate for a six-lane highway, which traffic to military installations in this section of the desert will undoubtedly ultimately require.

Last week, protests were filed by the Chambers of Commerce of Twentynine Palms, Joshua Tree and Palm Wells, with additional objections announced this week by the Yuma Valley and Mesquite Chambers and the Base-Line Highway Improvement Assn. Valle de las Viras club, old-time civic group, Twentynine Palms, in a letter to the local Chamber, endorsed their action in opposing the proposal.

Work and plans for the new highway and plan, for the one highlighted by an illuminated keyboard, which is visible from the bar. The Character Room features Italian food, dining, dancing and entertainment.

Forgets to Play Hotel: Goes to Jail

Arrested at the Greyhound Bus depot as she prepared to leave her trip to Los Angeles after a brief stay here, Mrs. Doris Galt, 55, was sentenced to Judge J. E. Therman's court to ten days in jail.

The charge was vagrancy, the hotel neglected to pay her bill at Palm Springs hotel.

SIX AID FUND FOR GIRL AT HOSPITAL

Six Villagers to date have contributed to the Christie Thayer fund to aid the little girl who is ill at Desert Hospital.

Leaving checks or cash at The Desert Sun office, where other contributions may be made were Mrs. Louise McCormick, Mrs. Cecil Isenapple, Mrs. Wilson O. Gibbs, Paul Green, George Murphy, and Burnie Chase.

Coffman Attends Hotel Meeting

Earl Coffman of the Desert Inn, chairman of the resort location of the American Hotel Association, was in Ojai early this week as director of the California Hotel Association met to map plans for their 1952 convention at Coronado.

Plans for a regional convention at Lake Tahoe in July were also discussed. Coffman will report on resort hotels at the Tahoe meeting.

Valley Children Get Chance to Shine in Movies

Yuma Valley and Joshua Tree produced some motion picture actors and actresses, almost overnight, this week when Gene Aubry's Flying A productions currently producing at Pioneer town, have several local children to play parts in "Dixy Gulch at Devil's Elbow," a motion picture to be released over television as one of a series.

Damon "Whizzer" Johnson, Stephen and Franklin Hoard, Kenneth Muratori and Shannon Boldman of Yuma Valley were the aspiring young thespians. And according to Mrs. Clara Cottrell, child supervisor for the Premier Elms, Hollywood, the children will also be discussed. Coffman will report on resort hotels at the Tahoe meeting.

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day and were supervised by Mrs. Cottrell of Joshua Tree, former studio teacher, to see that as intons they were acting in accordance with studio ethics.

The local "stars" will see themselves on television sometime this fall.

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