DXIII.

H. H. Hair, is local head of the State Beverage Department, and he reads Miami Life.





Miami, Florida, Sunday, February 11, 1940

"YOUR SKYLINE REMINDS ME OF NEW YORK"

Reubin Clein, Publisher

GAMBLING WAS in full-tilt at the Royal Palm Club Saturday night—in spite of all public statements to the contrary. It's been going on steadily for the last several nights. But Saturday night patrons were being turned away!

"See how much MIAMI LIFE is hurting us," remarked Manager Art Childers to newsboys selling MIAMI LIFE's in front of the club-and he pointed to the record-breaking swarms of cars, the overflow of which extended out onto city sidewalks and the Boulevard itself in the vicinity of the bayfront gambling place and nite-club. "We can't take care of the crowds. We've got to turn 'em away!"

Not long ago Manager Childers told the publisher of MIAMI LIFE that he had the O. K. to operate this winter from chief G-Man Edgar Hoover himself!

Childers said that Hoover had told him it would be all right for the Royal Palm Club to gamble as long as out-of-town racketeers were not allowed to have anything to do with its operation.

We don't know whether Art told Mr. Hoover that the local Mob he was dealing with was directed by three locally convicted felons! namely, "Mealy-Mouthed" Charlie Thomas, "Welsher" or "Ace-Deuce" or "Schnozzle" Jake Solomon, and "slot-Machine Eddie" Padgett. Or that their connections are out-of-state, too!

We DO know that the Royal Palm gambling is going—and that it's crooked gambling, to boot. Can't be otherwise. The "nut" (operating expense) is said to be the greatest in history. The payoff is tremendous, 'tis said. It's got to be crooked!--and crooked every night, every play!

Last week MIAMI LIFE told of three men being cheated out of \$90,000 at the Royal Palm. Since then one party stopped a check for \$3,000 he had paid the Royal Palm gamblers, after he had found out he had been cheated. Col. Kelly from New Jersey was gyped out of \$15,000.

The Royal Palm is apparently the only immunized gambling spot south of Palm Beach county! And it is running WIDE-OPEN!.. Even churches, even the Shriners here were forced to stop their semicharity enterprizes that had a lottery element to them!

But there are no restrictions on the Royal Palm Club!.. It's manager, apparently the owner, is Art Childers, who not many years ago was bell-hop and lowly clerk at the Floridian Hotel, Miami Beach, and the flunkey of Mert Wertheimer, operator of the old Beach & Tennis Club as well as the gambling concessions in the Floridian hotel back in '29 and '30 and '31.

Art's daddy-in-law is Frank Pepper, head of the Model Land Company, F. E. C. Railroad subsidiary—and this railroad enterprise owns the land upon which Art erected his nite-club a few years ago.

See the multifarious connections? F. E. C. Railroad—which has always been able to get choicest Tallahassee connections. One of the F. E. C.'s standardized pets for the last thirty years has been Ev Sewell, who at this juncture happens to be mayor of Miami--and therefore most likely to be one of the three of the commission majority now permitting the RoyalPalm to enjoy exclusive gambling privileges in Miami-the other most probable members being Alex Orr-whose stooge, Dan Reynolds, heads our police department under the recreated Department of Public Safety-and Under C. D. Van Orsdel, who was put on the commission by the Power Combine to second everything that Alex Orr wants done.

The Model Land Company, is closely connected with Alex Orrwho is that company's favorite plumber! . . One of the Model Land Company's buildings is the Ingraham Building--just one of them! It has a lot of business for a man of Alex Orr's unwavering fealty!

Illegal gambling never operates without a pay-off. That is certain. No one ever heard otherwise.

Now the question arises: How much is the Royal Palm paying off -and to whom? If it runs even another week it's take can easily be over a million—and the pay-off a good percentage of that. Who's getting it?

- ROUND TWO -

I told you last week how Mike Jacobs, largely through the Ross-Klick fight in Miami six years ago, got his first coast-to-coast recognition as a fight promoter. It was here (where he's returning soon) that he perfected the metamorphosis from ticket scalper to fight promoter-which, considering everything, was actually all that the word metamorphosis

And then I told how, with the backing of Hearst, which meant Mrs. William Randolph Hearst's milk fund as sponsor for his 20th to accumulate the gold of the the anti-Sherman Act to proserealm. And how he whipped Jimmie Johnston, Madison Square Garden matchmaker-and then boxing monopoly. stepped into Madison Square as

big boss-and then, that not being enough for him, set about to perfect a complete monopoly of box-

This is the gentleman that is going to stage the world's light heavyweight championship fight in our midst on February 28,

Now with what I pointed out last week, sports fans who read MIAMI LIFE should be in the mood to learn more about Mr. Mike Jacobs, what he has done, what he is accused of having done, and what the future holds in store for him.

Now United States Senator Edwin C. Johnson of Colorado is after Mike Jacobs. Senator Johnson is investigating his activities of the last year and is almost ready to begin tossing bombs.

Jacobs has been able to fix the ordinary run of political appointees who have charge of boxing, but he has finally run into the battling Senator from the State of Colorado. Johnson is determined to clean up the boxing Century Athletic Club, he began game, may invoke the powers of cute Jacobs, the ticket scalper, who now is at the head of the

Senator Johnson has an able

assistant in the Hon. Ambrose J. Kennedy, Congressman from Maryland, who is also gunning ous Garden has been peddling for Jacobs and Col. J. Reed Kil- tickets marked Box Office Price patrick of Madison Square Gar- Twenty-Five Dollars, for as much den. Kennedy, it is said, has been watching with a great deal of stops at nothing in his madness interest, the investigation of the to make all the dough, stealing Max Schmeling-Harry Thomas fighters, and breaking other profight staged by Mike Jacobs in moters are merely a pastime to Madison Square Garden. Thomas this Adolph Hitler of the Amerihas signed written confessions can prize ring. Whether Sen. Johnthat he made a deal to take a son and Congressman Kennedy dive to Schmeling. The writer stop Jacobs and his monopoly resuggests to these two eminent mains to be seen. statesmen that a bill should be passed making it a crime to sell MIAMI LIFE for the low down fight tickets over the box office on Mike Jacob's Fight Racket.

Make Jacobs and the sanctimonias \$100,00 and over. Uncle Mike

Watch next week's issue of

"LORIDA'S MOST COMPLETE NEWSPAPER" demonstrated its completeness on Page 6-B

Above the pictures of three pretty stars, the Herald had the caption, "Streamlined Stars Will Appear in Operetta 'Blossom Time.'

Under the pictures were the cut-lines, starting thusly: "Streamlined operetta singers will be seen in the cast of Opera Under the Stars, etc." "Slim, sleek, streamlined and beautiful," were

the opening adjectives in the story that followed. If the reader by this time isn't gagging over the word "streamlined," the next paragraph will supply the fatal wretch: "Taller, but still on the streamlined side is Zella Russell!"

# Chamber of Commerce

CVER SINCE, back in 1925. the Miami Chamber of Commerce directors tried to keep Miami Beach from developing its harbor facilities through the purchase of Fisher, or Terminal Island south of the Government Cut, we have seriously questioned the right of the Miami Chamber of Commerce to exist, except as a strictly private and selfish institution, solely concerned with furthering the economic ambitions of two or three of the biggest grabbers in the com-

munity. In the many years he was president of it, the "Great-I-Am" Ev Sewell used to partly satisfy his abnormal vanity and mostly to protect and please the F. E. C. railroad. (Publicizing Miami was only incidental to publicizing Sewell, by the way-or was it necessary to remind anyone of that?)

next idol-and remains the

Only a few weeks ago the Chamber of Commerce directors begged the people of Miami to vote for the "Power-Trust Steal." Although in so doing it ran the risk of angering more than half its dues-paying membership, the directors scarcely hesitated before giving their full approval to what will some day be known as a "Steal" second only to the original Power-Trust franchises back in ago.

Last Tuesday, however, the Chamber of Commerce went beyond the bounds of decency.

It gave to both papers here (and undoubtedly to the eager newspapers of North Florida) its private estimate of Miami's 1940 populationjust as the .U S. Government is getting under way the fedderal census here- and incidentally just as the rail-The Power Trust was its road commission begins a hearing to determine wheth-

C. treat us more decently, through track removal downtown or a union depot.

Just why the Miami Chamber of Commerce should take it upon itself, right at this juncture, to do any forecasting about population can't be laughed off.

Dade county's population, says the Chamber of Commerce, is now 225,000 -as against 180,998 five years

Miami, says the Miami Chamber of Commerce, now has a population of 140,000! . . . Alhough in 1935 it was given credit for 127,000, and in 1930 it was 110,637.

In other words Miami has gained no more in the last five years than it did in the five years preceding -- although those first five years were all Depression years! . . Similarly Dade countywhose increase, according to Chamber figures, was only

(Continued on Back Page)

# Miami Life

"Florida's Most Influential Weekly" LIFE PUBLISHING COMPANY (A FLORIDA CORPORATION

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VOL. 14 Miami, Fla., Saturday, February 10, 1940 No. 18 Entered as Second-class Matter, May 25, 1934, at the Post Office at Miami, Florida,

# "Cabbages and Kings"

The time has come, the Walrus said To speak of many things; Of ships and shoes and sealing wax, And cabbages and kings.

-The Walrus and the Carpenter. A total of 28,300,000 telephone calls were made last year in the United States. . . This country has 29,-485,680 automobiles and the rest of the world has 14,-334,240 motor vehicles . . . A phylcian's official color is green . . . A dentist's color is lilac, and a horse-doctor uses gray . . . Out of 21,587 students attending 77 schools last year, studying medicine, only 5,194 were graduated . . . This is approximately 400 less medicos than were turned out in 1905 . . . Montreal University, the largest in Canada, has 8,539 students enrolled . . . Columbia University, in New York, has an enrollment of 17,639 . . . Only 49 persons paid income tax on net incomes of \$1,000,000, or more, in the United States last year ... There were only 20 in 1932 ... The gross debt of the United State at the end of 1939 was \$40,439,532 all which means \$308 per capita . . . The per capita debt in 1897 was \$11.83 and laughable as it may seem, a panic was sweeping the country at that time . . . Isabella d'Este, the Marchiones of Mantua, posed for Leonardo daVinci's "Mona Lisa" in 1504 . . . The famous painting was stolen from the Louvre gallery, in Paris, but was later returned . . . Verdi, the Italian composer, and Richard Wagner, the German, were contemporaries, and critics claim that each drew inspiration from the other.

Greta Garbo was born in 1906 . . . Clark Gable was born in 1901 . . . When it is "eight bells" what time is it?.. It is 205 miles from London to Paris via air . . . It is exactly 600 miles from London to Berlin via air . . . The liver is the heaviest organ in the huhuman body . . . The brain is next heaviest . . . Muscles and flesh of the average body weigh three times as much as the skeleton . . . General election day this year will fall upon Nov. 5, in all states except Maine where it will be held September 9th and that's where we got the slogan, "As goes Maine so goes the nation"... Most people do not know it but Florida once went Republican . . . In 1928 Herbert Hoover received 144,168 votes against 101,764 for the Democrat, Al Smith . . . Only four persons rate a 21 gun salute according to army regulations . . . They are, the President, Ex-President, Chief Magistrate or sovereign of a foreign country and members of a reigning family . . . The Secretary of War gets a 19 gun salute and a Brigadier General receives just one shot ... Four ruffles and flourishes accompany the upper bracket salutes . . . A deserter, in time of war, rates one shot—but he don't hear it . . . Approximately 450 aviators are graduated each year at the Naval Air Station in Pensacola.

Air speed of 600 miles per hour is predicted by Hugh Latimer Dryden, noted engineer . . . He says "When we learn how to make air currents flow evenly across the wings of a plane, ships will need only one-fifth of the power now used to travel 200 miles per hour" . . . "The Star Spangled Banner" is the official National Anthem, but do you know how long it has been designated as such . . . Only 9 years . . . Congress approved an act March 3, 1931 designating it as the National Anthem . . . Original title for "Star Spangled Banner" was "Anacreon to Heaven" . . . The song has never been copyrighted . . . Although Robert H. Harrison was nominated and confirmed by the Senate as associate justice of the supreme court in 1789 there is nothing affirmative on the records to show that he ever accepted the commission or took the oath of office . . . Massachussetts has fewer divorces than any other state . . . The reason is because a residence of three years is required before a suit can be filed . . . Idaho and Nevada require only 6 weeks . . . A total of 4,687 persons have been lynched in the United States since 1882 . . . Of this number 3,398 were negroes and 1,289 white . . . The highest year on record was 1892 when 231 lynchings were reported . . . Mississippi leads the nation with Georgia as runner up . . . Since 1882 a total of 568 lynchings have been staged in Mississippi and 480 in Georgia . . . The Florida chart shows 276 for the same period . . . Only 10 white persons have been lynched during the last 10 years . . . Six negroes took care of the total lynching figure for 1939 . . . Tuskegee Institute keeps a strict record of all lynchings . . . A year's subscription free to any person who can give the text of the twenty-third ammendment to the constitution of the United States.

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## NO THIRD TERM SAYS GREEBY

Man who has dodged "Hobo Express" for two consecutive years makes definite prediction

R. HAMMERHEAD GREEBY, who boasts that he has avoided the "Hobo Express" for two consecutive years, come next St. Swithen's Day, was found this week by the MIAMI LIFE reporter sprawled on a bench in Bayfront Park.

"I do not desire no publicity," he yawned as the reporter approached.

"Pipe down stupid," thundered the reporter, 'and come out from under that tree. I want to talk



"I ain't got nothin' to say to you and besides why should I come out from under this

" Because I don't want those pigeons doing to me what they have been doing to you,"

answered the scribe. "I thought it was hailin", belched Greeby crawling out from under the tree, "Now I'm mad. I'm gonna have me a mess of squab. No damn birds can do this to me."

"So I see," remarked the scribe sarcastically, "But enough of this trivia and drivel, I wouldst have important words with thee. I want to interview you upon your opinion of the third term. Do you think there will be one?'

"Certainly not," flared Greeby, "And furthermore I resent you insinuatin' that anyone could be that dumb.'

"Oh," answered the reporter, "Then you think he is a dummy. I know, a lot of others who think the same thing but I-----.

"He ain't no dummy", shrieked Greeby, "He is the smartest feller in the world and he'll make his mark in a big way. Why he

already knows----"Hold it," roared the reporter, "Make up your mind. First you say he is dumb to consider the third term and then you start telling me how smart he is. Be definite, is he dumb or is he smart?"

"He's smart," yiddled Greeby, "and I'm gonna get him a new bicycle and a airgun just as

"A what?" gasped the scribe. "You heard me," replied Greeby, "A bicycle and a airgun and maybe I'll get him some new roller skates too.

"Give me air," gulped the re-

"I guess you think he ain't good enough for roller skates and a airgun," snorted Greeby, "I only wish I had more money I'd buy ponies and a little two wheeled cart. Then I'd start lookin'

"Quiet," bellowed the reporter fanning himself with his hat, "Who do you think you are kid-

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fun carries on. 233 - 23rd St. 1449 Wash. Ave. MIAMI BEACH

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ding?" kiddin'?" snapped "Who's

Greeby. "Nuts," grunted the reporter, "You talk like a crazy man. Just imagine you giving President Roosevelt a Shetland pony and an airgun. Jeez----

"Who said anything about givin' President Roosevelt anything," wheezed Greeby irately.

"You did," thundered the srribe, "And if I remember correctly there was something said about a bicycle and some roller skates. It's a wonder you didn't think of a hobby horse and a tin whistle. Why do----.'

"Whoa, whoa," inturrupted Greeby, "We are all mixed up. I wasn't----,"

"We are all mixed up. We," shouted the reporter, "Someone is mixed up bt it isn't we, it's ou Didn't you---.'

"No I didn't, rasped Greeby, "All I said----.'

"Be calm, be calm," soothed the reporter, "Now I'll tell you what I'll do. I'll walk up the street while you get back on that bench and then I'll come up just like I did before and we'll start all over. I'll come up and ask you what you think about President Rosevelt seeking the third term

"Gangway, gangway," shrieked Greeby, "You are as crazy as a bed bug. I ain't been talkin' about President Roosevelt at all. I've been talkin' about one of my twin boys, Absolutely, who is just finishin' up the third grade. He's only been in the third grade two terms and his teacher has told me he is gonna get demoted and put back in the second grade and won't have to serve, er, er, I mean take no third term. You are the most stupid feller ---."

"Goom bye," shouted the reporter as he kicked a couple of pigeons out of his way and dived into the bay.

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MIAMI BEACH

### They Tell Me ...

THAT there won't be any postmaster named for Miami-soon . . the dope is that the appointment will be stalled off at least until after the primary election-so it can be seen for certain whether Rep. Pat Cannon is going back to

THAT Pop Burns, veteran bartender, said the other day, when a patron complimented him on winning a horse-race, "Yes, I sure beat the horses-out of all the money I got!"

THAT "when rogues fall out," as is lkely to happen now that the state and FBI are jailing some of the principal gamblers, it's likely to become an epidemicand finall a plague—that may tear the high and mighty down from their perches

THAT the pretty moll who knew the top investigators (or said she did) has disappeared from her usual haunts in the last week . .

and some local mobsters are uneasy

1 1 1 THAT Carol has found that Jimmie's Bar may not be a sure cure for lonesomeness, but it's a move in the right direction . . . only she hasn't gone under the name of Carol since she left a certain institution up north

THAT .. Captain.. Billy .. "Whizbang" Fawcett, who died this week of heart disease in California, had many friends in Miami, where he used to vacate often

THAT many Miamians would like to have a transcription of Wednesday's Farm and Home Hour program, broadcast from Hawaii, in which the Iowan announcer had a lengthy conversation with Hawaiian girls about "leis" (pronounced "lays") how much they sold them for, what kind of lei an American seemed to like best-all sounding deliciously funny and dirty-if one's mind tends that way

THAT the fat principal has crawled into her shell . no more Irish McCartys for

1 1 1 THAT simply because all is

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quiet on the Power-Trust front, don't think that activities behind thick doors aren't keener and more obvious than ever

THAT Dr. Jim is still encountering repercussions from his nocturnal journey of the other night when he absent-mindedly walked into the wrong house-and a red-headed widow happened to be home-and not alone

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