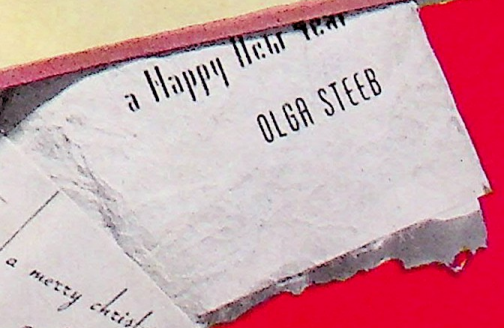
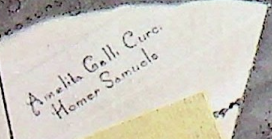
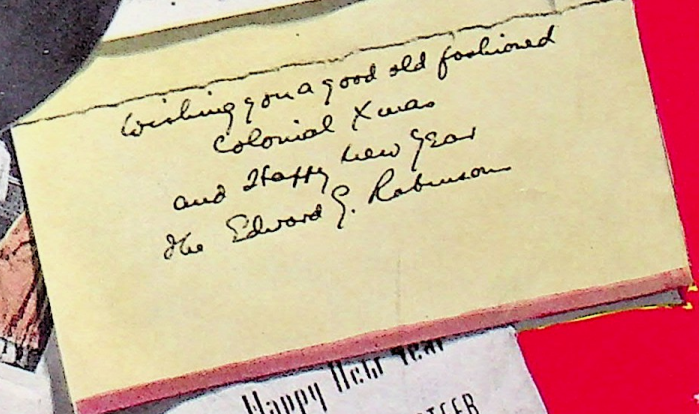
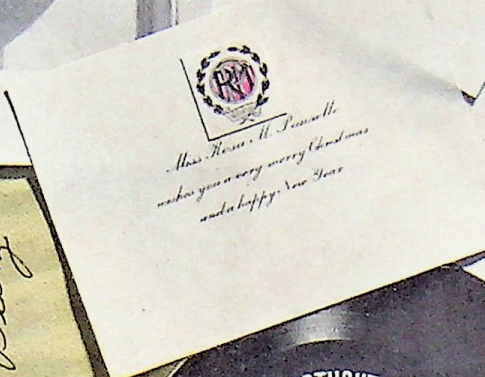
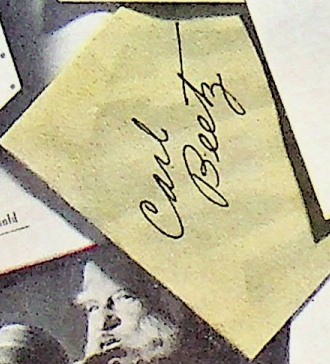
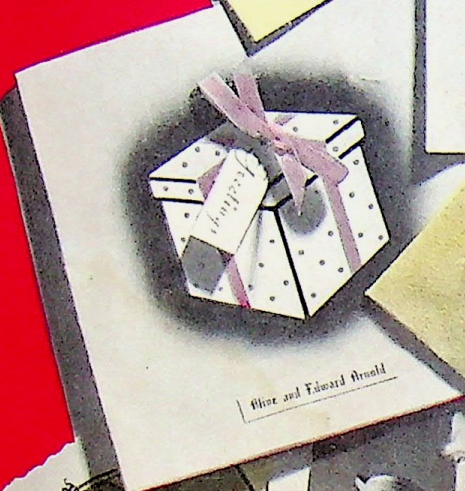
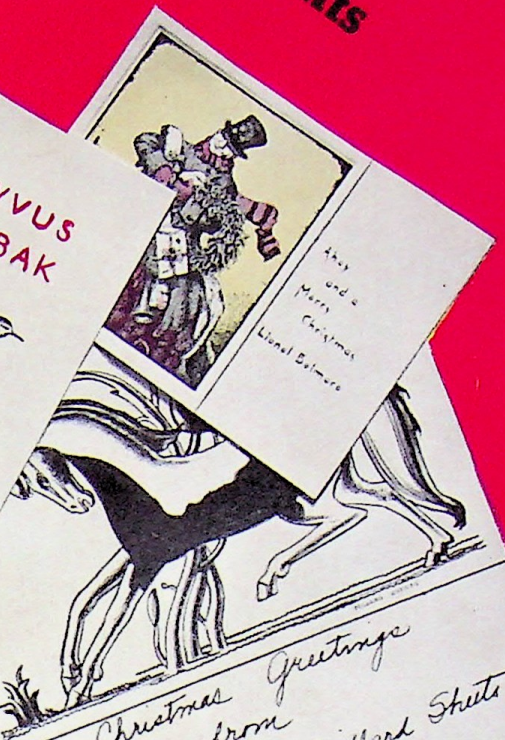


WESTWAYS

December, 1937

20 Cents



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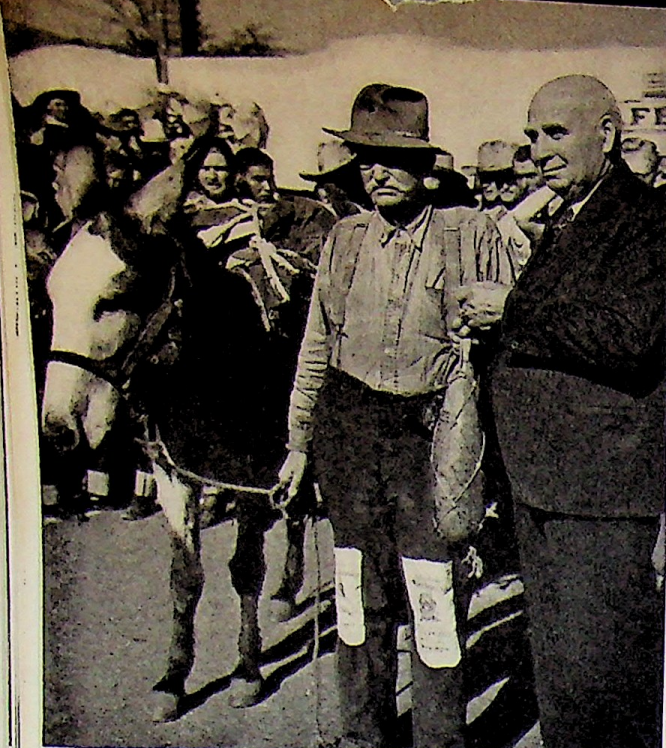
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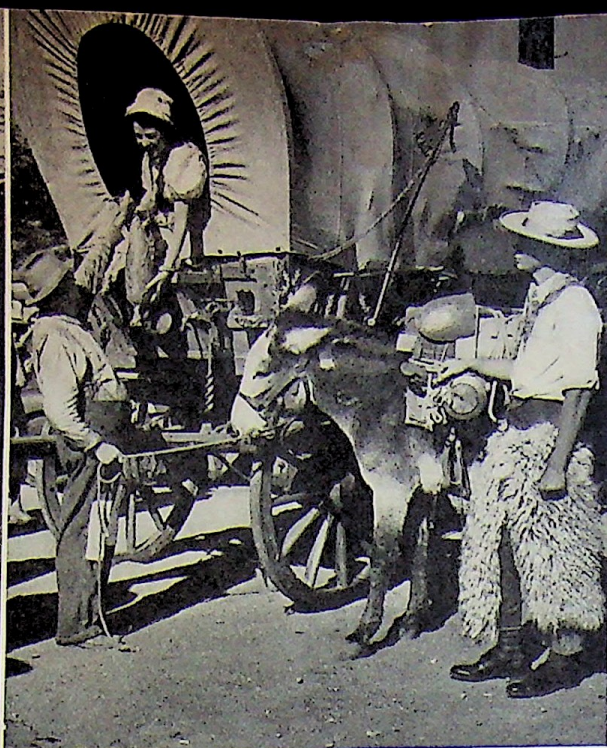
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2 Saturday morning, Governor Frank F. Merriam received the gourd from the bank and turned it over to old Sam Ball, prospector, who in battered hat, patched pants, and leading a burro, carried the water a few miles



3 Sam Ball and his burro placed the water in an ox-drawn covered wagon in which rode comely young Josephine Breen, descendant of the ill-fated Donner Party, and Sidney Doty, descendant of the Jayhawkers



PHOTOGRAPHS BY DAVE PACKWOOD



1 In the morning of October 30, Jerry Emm, a Piute Indian runner, dipped the ceremonial gourd into the waters of Lake Tulainyo and ran with it, in bare feet, Indian style, to Whitney Portal, the ultimate terminus of the Death Valley-Whitney highway. Here he delivered the water to a Pony Express rider, who turned it over to the bank at Lone Pine for the night



5 A high point of the celebration was the transfer of the ceremonial gourd from Mule-skinner Johnny O'Keeffe to old Ollie Dearborn, a veteran stage-driver who belying his 76 winters, held the lines with a steady hand and piloted his team over a longish stretch of the journey. On the coach rode no less a person than Governor Merriam



WEDDING OF THE WATERS

TO MARK the opening of a new eighteen-mile link in the Mt. Whitney-Death Valley highway, the people of Inyo County last month staged a celebration the like of which could not have been held anywhere else in the world.

The three-day program centered about the wedding of the waters of the highest lake in North America—Tulainyo, 11,045 feet—and of the lowest spot in the continent—Bad Water, 279.6 feet below sea-level. The nuptials were solemnized by spraying a gourd-full of water out of Tulainyo from an airplane into the lake.

Throughout the celebration, the emphasis was on transportation—properly so, for it is transportation, and transportation alone, that has brought Death Valley into the living world. During its journey from high point to low, the gourd traveled on almost every form of land and air transport yet developed by man.

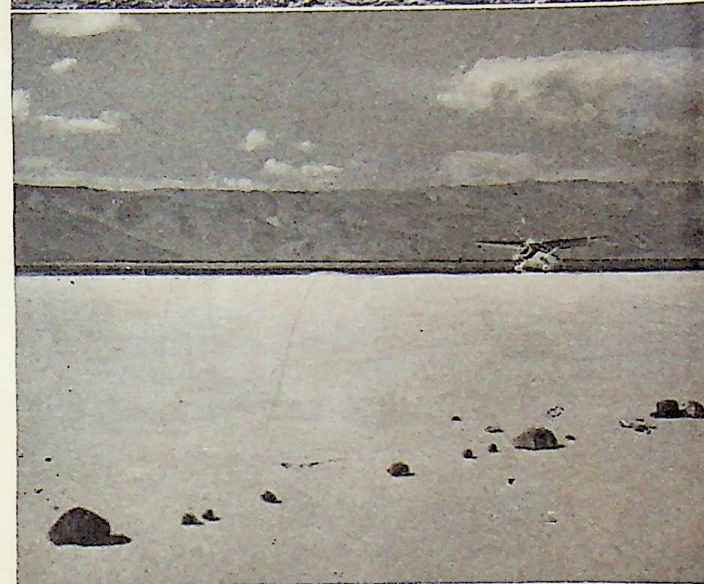
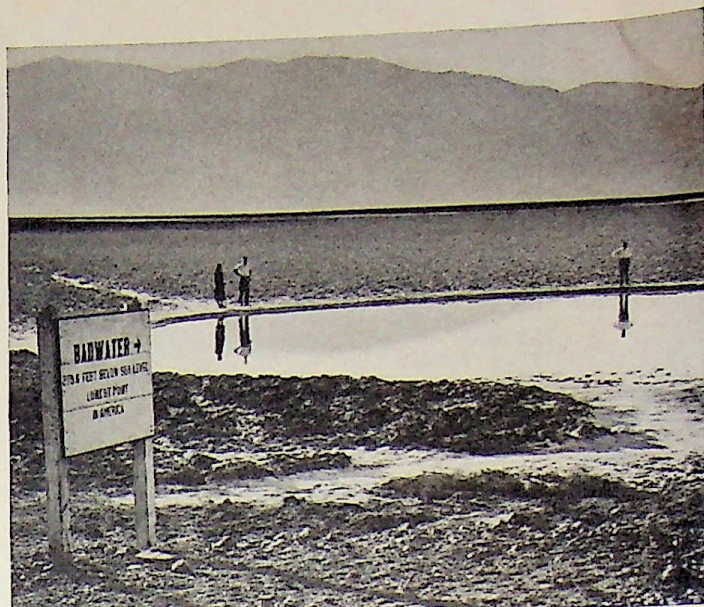
4 The oxen, forsaking their customary leisurely gait, caused a near-panic by galloping briskly over their assigned portion of the journey. Miss Breen and Mr. Doty surrendered the water to a genuine twenty-mule team

11 At the right is the ceremonial gourd, carved with appropriate inscriptions and decorations. The gourd traveled approximately 41 miles horizontally and 11,324.6 feet vertically on its nuptial trip



10 At the right is Bad Water, in Death Valley, the lowest point in North America, 279.6 feet below sea-level. Here the Wedding of the Waters was consummated as the gourd was opened and the waters of America's highest lake fell in a silvery mist to mingle with the still water of America's lowest lake

9 Airman Carey, flying a Stinson monoplane, took off from one of the most remarkable airports in the world. Built on a dry lake, the runways are over a mile long, being simply sections of the lake-bed marked off with black volcanic rocks. Carey's plane was said to be the first ever to land there



6 Stage-driver Ollie Dearborn found a special train waiting for him at the junction of the road and the railway to Keeler. He handed the gourd to Engineer J. M. Henry who took it into Keeler, and kept it that night

7 At Keeler the following morning, Engineer Henry turned the gourd over to Louis Meyer, famed automobile racing driver who in a 1938-model automobile prepared to take the water on its last stage but one

8 At Panamint Valley Airport, Meyer delivered the gourd to Warren Carey, air pilot. Meyer had taken the gourd through the point of formal dedication of the new highway

