

Feb - Upper Truckee R.

ED

4/25/63 Tahoe Daily Tribune

Dear Editor:

Your Editorial in Tuesday, April 23, 1963 edition of the Tahoe Daily Tribune, which indicated that I am playing a crooked game of poker, is the very thing that causes the Civic sickness you so often refer to.

You also implied that I, as president of the Lake Valley Taxpayers Association, used that position to feather my nest. I defy you to prove this statement. I also defy you to publicly state what favor or favors Supervisor Chism has gotten from the taxpayers group.

Now as for the Government Center site, the Johnson's have been working at master planning our Estate for approximately five years. The most important factor involved was the routing of the proposed U.S. Highway 50 freeway, because either route taken (A or B) it would cross the Johnson holdings. After the determination was made, we found that it would cut our holdings in half and therefore an interchange would be beneficial, so in 1960 we made several trips to the

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The Sailor

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Department of Highways office in Marysville and to the El Dorado County Planning Department to work out the details. We were greeted enthusiastically everywhere we went with a plan that would be a credit to Lake Valley.

The master plan included an area that could be used for civic purposes, city hall when incorporation is feasible, convention center or other type of government facilities. This idea was not one of the Johnson's but a survey made on the development of the Lake Tahoe Basin. It pointed this out as a logical and centrally located site.

Paul Brace, El Dorado County Planner picked up the idea and consequently the idea was finalized and adequate area was reserved.

When my brother Knox and I were approached this January about donating this property, we were agreeable, however the property is still managed by the Executors of the Estate of Stella V. D. Johnson, namely: Mr. Knox Johnson, Crocker Anglo Bank and Mr. Paul Lailo, so in order for this donation to be made the heirs of the Estate (Knox Johnson, William Johnson and Marjorie J. Springmeyer) would have to unanimously agree to donate this site. Because there is not unanimous agreement nothing can be done.

It would have been wrong as well as ridiculous to make announcements of certainty concerning this donation when we have not even agreed to it among ourselves. You even admitted I told you we were considering it but have not come to any agreement as yet. I don't go around saying things that I know I cannot produce.

It is this type of slanderous insinuations that you repeatedly use without justification that cause trouble to good, sincere, wholehearted and honest citizens. Just the thing you tell us you deplore but I guess that only applies when you are on your team.

William V. D. Johnson