

## Nassau Proves Beautiful, Sunny And Expensive Spot

By HAL BOYLE  
 NASSAU, Bahamas, March 14 (AP)—Nassau highlights: Yes, George Washington slept here, too.  
 Years before he laid a firm foundation for antique New England inns by overnight stopovers during the Revolutionary war, young Washington came here to visit a dying brother.  
 If he came now during the winter season and put up at the swank British Colonial hotel it would cost him \$32 a day up-way up—for an ocean view.

One of the biggest real estate developments in the Nassau area during the last decade was launched just before the war by Axel Wenner-Gren, the Swedish multi-millionaire industrialist.  
 He is the largest landowner on Hog Island, site of famous Paradise beach, and is expected shortly to resume construction on "Paradise Town," a cluster of expensive villas near his own magnificent mansion, "Shangri-La."  
 In 1941, before he was put on the allied blacklist, Wenner-Gren was the largest employer of Bahamian labor.  
 The trading ban was lifted after the war and Wenner-Gren, who is personally popular with many social leaders of this British colony, will resume winter residence here. He has been active in Mexico recently.

Nassau, which is only 70 miles by clipper from Miami, has harvested its best tourist crop since the war.

Visitors  
 Among those reported seeking winter homes here are Lord Beaverbrook, London publisher, and Kenneth Roberts, American historical novelist.

A number of movie stars—also came to escape the rigorous southern California climate and learned to sign autograph books with an English accent.

Tourists here fall into two classes—the excursionists from the New York staterooms who come ashore for a few hours to buy souvenirs and sample the rum at Dirty Dick's bar, and the stopovers, who usually remain for a week or month.

The excursionists get only a glimpse of the real social life of Nassau as there are few night-clubs. The colony is quiet and somewhat clannish. It is also on the dressy side, and "sunburned Nellies" are encouraged to do all their bareback parading at the beach instead of in town. A visitor here without formal dress would be as lonesome as Robinson Crusoe without his Friday.

Most of the night entertainment consists of riding "the cocktail circuit"—a never-ending series of home parties given each evening by winter residents for friends with whom they fried on the beach during the afternoon.

Light On Noise  
 "Nassau goes light on noise and heavy on outdoor romance," said one developer here. Like Palm Beach dwellers, the habits of Nassau get the dry heaves over the suggestion that the colony will ever become "a Miami beach or winter Coney Island."  
 The present price scale should keep it fairly exclusive.

Strolling native troubadours give the island a medieval romantic touch at night.  
 They go in pairs—one singing an old Bahamian love song, one strumming a guitar—and

his blouse and vent to call on the police chief to deliver an ultimatum. But he got his wires crossed before he reached the office. No. 13 lapsed. They've never used the number since.

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bludgeon murder of Sir Harry Oakes, immensely wealthy mining man who came here from Canada because the Bahamas have no income tax.

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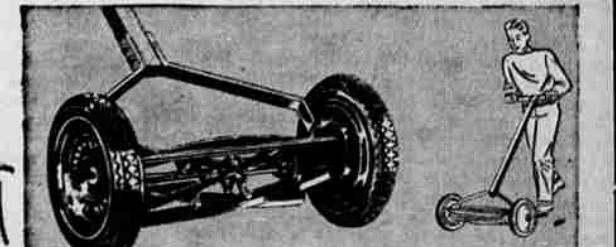
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