

WEDNESDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 23, 1905.

CELERY SHIPPING IS IN FULL SWAY ENTIRE TRAINLOAD SENT OUT DAILY

Industry at Smeltzer Is Experiencing Steady Growth—Peat Lands Now Worth Hundreds of Dollars an Acre

One of the most interesting sights in western wonderland is that of the celery trains which roll out of Smeltzer. Seventeen carloads daily are now sent forward, bound for the large cities of the east. Three thousand seven hundred and fifty dollars are the figures at which these daily shipments are valued and so heavy is the demand for the Thanksgiving trade that there is much doubt as to all of the orders being filled.

When one considers that it was by chance this great industry was started, the contrast of ten years ago and today, is amazing. Before that time the peatland section of Orange county was considered both useless and dangerous and was inhabited by a low class of Americans who earned a livelihood by selling the peat cut from their lands. The surplus impure water has been carefully drained by means of canals leading away to the ocean and a fresh, pure supply has been replaced from artesian wells.

These wells vary in depth from 50 to 500 feet. One is said to be sufficient for irrigating hundreds of acres.

Beginning of Industry

The man to whom Orange county owes its wonderful celery industry was a German named D. E. Smeltzer, who came to California for his health about thirteen years ago and whose name is perpetuated by the little town. The sight of vast stretches of wild celery on the peatlands suggested to him the possibilities of rearing a land for the cultivation of this wholesome vegetable. This he tried with marked success.

The peatland, formerly worth less than \$5 an acre, now readily brings \$200 on ten rents for \$40 an acre for the crop.

At the present time these Orange county celery fields are credited with being the largest in the world.

In preparing the ground for cultivation, heavy plows are used, drawn by immense horses that in other days wore large wooden shoes to keep them from sinking into the bogs. Improved methods of cultivation have now done away with all that.

The cost of raising celery is but little, the planting amounting to \$1 an acre.

The seed beds are planted early in April. The little plants require a six weeks' start before they are ready to set out in the broad fields. Here they are placed much like cabbages, in long endless rows, as people are one looks over the thousands of acres. The plants are set about six inches apart, and to permit of easy cultivation and irrigation the rows are made fully four feet apart.

Work of Transplanting

In June and July, when the transplanting is done, the water is turned into the ditches, giving the plants a thorough soaking, which is all they need during the summer. The large force of men employed for transplanting is much needed after the generous irrigation to keep out the weeds.

Of the two favorite varieties the White Plume is the earliest and requires very little earthing up to blanch. The Golden Heart is the hardest and is generally free from pitting green stalks and strings. The heart of this hardy variety is a rich golden yellow, which turns to a lighter color when blanched. One ounce of seed will produce 5000 plants.

The transplanting team is made up of ten men, each with his separate duty—one to furrow out, one to prepare the hole for the little plant, four to trim and pull and four others as planters and setters.

The grower who does not market his own production. This is done by the California Vegetable Union.

The growers have formed a union called the Celery Growers' association, which takes charge of the crop early in October. This association does the final cultivation, such as blanching and irrigating, as well as the cutting, tying, crating and carloading.

The plants are cut off underground by means of a long knife fastened to a frame and operated much like a cultivator. After cutting it off the grower carefully pull out the blanching celery from under the heavy bank of soil, arrange it in bunches, tie it up and crate it, when it is ready for shipment. The work of tying and crating is done in the fields. From here the crates are conveyed to the warehouses and then loaded into the cars.

The grower is netted about 15 cents a dozen. As the cost of production is only from \$50 to \$60 an acre he receives a handsome profit.

The celery is now in excellent condition and the work of shipping the enormous crop of 2500 cars at which it is estimated goes steadily on. Last December the shipments increased to such an extent that the Southern Pacific put on a special celery train from the fields in Smeltzer to Los Angeles, where the vegetable is routed for the east. About twenty cars was the daily output at that time and was increased gradually as the rush of the season approached. This increase was owing to the demand for the holiday trade.

New as this celery culture is, over 3000 acres were planted in the peatlands last year with the acreage largely increased during the present year, and undoubtedly the production will be much larger in 1906.

HERALD Y. M. C. A. TEAM IS FORGING TO FRONT

The Herald team in the Y. M. C. A. membership contest showed what it was made of yesterday and is forging to the front rank in gaining new members. Twelve points were added to its already bright record yesterday, making its total 212. Capt. Oscar Smith is sanguine of success. He is being ably seconded by his team, which is composed of some of the most prominent young men of the association.

CELERY GROWING IS GREAT INDUSTRY AT SMELTZER



A Field of Celery

ASK IMMEDIATE INCORPORATION

RAILWAYS MAKE MOVE IN WILMINGTON CASE

Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce Takes Up Battle Against What Is Characterized as Water Front Grab

The old fight over the proposed incorporation of the settlement of Wilmington as a city of the sixth class was renewed yesterday before the county board of supervisors, when attorneys representing the Banning interests and the Salt Lake and Southern Pacific companies demanded an immediate incorporation of the harbor town.

Attorneys for the Los Angeles chamber of commerce and for some of the smaller property interests of Wilmington declared that the action was an attempt on the part of the corporations to grab the land.

The question of the incorporation of Wilmington has been worrying the supervisors for several months, and now that the big corporations have begun the fight in earnest it promises to be a hot one.

According to statements of attorneys for the Banning interests the incorporation of Wilmington means the life of the little settlement, as people are now alleged to be leaving the town because it is not incorporated. The attorneys claimed that the people of Wilmington wanted an incorporation and that it did not matter what the other people wanted.

Attorneys for the local chamber of commerce and for other property interests contended that the matter was of vital importance to everyone in Southern California as it involved the practical ownership of the entire coast front of the Wilmington harbor.

The settlement of the dispute was continued until December 5, when a definite understanding will be reached.

PREPARE FOR FRUIT RUSH

Orange Packers Get Ready for Big Run of Holiday Goods

Every employe of the Southern California Fruit Exchange is busily engaged preparing for the heavy shipment of oranges that is expected next week. E. A. Woodford, general manager, states yesterday that the fruit in the south is coloring very rapidly and that large quantities will be ready to move during the coming week.

According to his statement, the fruit that has been shipped to the eastern market is not of the best quality and is fruit that could not be sold at home. It is of bad color, woody and contains very little juice.

He reported that the early citrus fruit market conditions in the east has been very satisfactory, and his report in part follows:

"Prices on oranges are fully up to expectations. Navels are bringing from \$2.50 to \$3. The market now has a tendency to become lower on account of the direct shipments that are being made to New York, where high-grade navels have sold the last two or three days from \$1.75 to \$2.

The early California oranges are in much greater demand than the Florida or Jamaica oranges and are selling for at least 50 cents a box more.

"Lemons have held up exceptionally well in price this fall, but seem to be weakening somewhat. The prevailing prices range from \$2.50 to \$3 per box."

"They say the dialect business is dying out." "That's what. But who cares?" "I do. I don't know grammar enough to write plain English."—Atlanta Constitution.

SHOWS SMALL INDEBTEDNESS

Los Angeles County in Exceptionally Fine Financial Condition, According to Controller's Chart

A chart of values of property and indebtedness of each county in California for the year 1905 has just been issued by E. P. Colgan, controller of the state. In this chart Los Angeles county is shown to be in exceptionally good financial condition, with a total indebtedness of only \$110,000 and a lower rate of taxation than any other county in California.

Los Angeles county is in the second class with values as follows: Value of real estate, \$129,177,281; value of improvements on real estate, \$38,491,615; value of personal property, \$38,546,105; money and solvent credits, \$1,006,358; total value of property, \$227,221,359; value of railroads, \$5,389,414; grand total value of all property, \$232,610,773; original assessed value of mortgages, \$5,590,180; assessed value of university and other state mortgages, \$914,005; funded debt, \$110,000; floating debt with in-



An Artesian Well by Which Celery Lands Are Watered

terest, none; total county indebtedness, \$110,000; total state and county rate of taxation, each \$100, \$1.10—\$1.70. The lesser rate of taxation is levied upon property situated within the limits of the city.

QUESTIONS POWER OF POLICE BOARD

MAY HAVE NO RIGHT TO REFUSE LICENSES

Decision Affecting San Bernardino Causes Local Commission to Call Halt on Granting Permits

Has the police commission discretionary powers under the state law to refuse to grant any kind of license without proven cause?

This question, brought up by Commissioner James at the meeting of the police commission yesterday caused all applications to be laid over until the city attorney shall have given his opinion on the proposition. It was the result of action taken by the commission last week when it was decided to grant no more billiard hall licenses, on the ground that there are enough already in existence.

The first man who dared to brave this rule of the commission was T. Ota, who yesterday asked that he be granted a license to conduct a billiard hall at 222 Commercial street. The place is next door to a saloon, but all connecting doors have been nailed up and Ota promised that if he was granted the license he would brick up the doorways. Acting on its rule of the week before, the commission ordered the license refused, when Commissioner James cited a recent case in San Bernardino on which the supreme court had decided that the trustees of that place could not, under the state law, refuse to grant a liquor license without good and sufficient reason.

"This decision may embrace all kinds of licenses in the state," said James, "and before we go any further we had better learn from the city attorney whether or not we have any discretionary powers. It would certainly be unfortunate to learn that this commission has no power to refuse licenses as

it sees fit, but if that is the state law we must abide by it."

The powers of the commission are given by a city ordinance, and under this ordinance the body has a wide latitude. The ordinance provides that the commission may grant or refuse licenses as it sees fit and revoke them at will. It is probable that the city attorney will declare that the San Bernardino case does not affect the Los Angeles commission.

Some, who are well versed in the law, declared yesterday that "sufficient cause" was a moot question and that any cause the commission might give for refusing a license was sufficient.

Said one: "If a commissioner should say that man has red hair and a red-haired man might sell whisky that would be sufficient cause, for there is no going behind the findings of the commission. In the cases which it handles the commission is a court of last resort."

Should the city attorney declare, however, that the commission had no discretionary powers some highly interesting sessions would probably be held, for ever and anon, and especially anon, the commission is overcome by a spasm of virtue and they have refused licenses, wholesale, retail, restaurant, billiard hall and shooting galleries, on numerous occasions without attempting to find "sufficient cause."

ADVANCE WORK OF S. P. C. A.

Prominent Citizens Will Address Big Mass Meeting to Be Held in Aid of Cause

A big mass meeting in the interest of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals will be held Friday evening in Simpson auditorium. Prominent ministers of the city will be present, as will leading business and professional men. The subject of coursing will be discussed and plans for furthering the work of the society will be taken up.

Following is the program:

Selections on the organ by Prof. Frank Colby from 7:30 to 8.

Opening address by Dr. W. A. Lamb, president Los Angeles S. P. C. A.

Singing and impersonations by Miss Hailee Q. Brown. Miss Brown will imitate birds and animals, for which she is famous throughout the world.

Address of the evening by Rev. Baker P. Lee.

Recitation by Mrs. Frank I. Wheat.

Short addresses by George Beebe, prosecuting attorney, and other prominent citizens.

SUGGESTS REFORMS IN METHOD OF TAXATION

STATE TAX COMMISSION ISSUES STATEMENT

Makes Proposition to Tax Railroads, Telegraph, Telephone and Express Companies and Other Corporations Not Localized

Prof. C. C. Plehn, a member of the state tax commission, has just issued a statement regarding the work that has been done up to date by that commission. It states that the line of reform which the commission has suggested is virtually that recommended by the governor in his message to the last legislature.

The separation of state from local taxation as to sources of revenue is the line of reform which the commission says has been successfully pursued in a number of eastern states, and it is thought that its application here in California would lessen several of the most glaring evils that now exist in the operation of the general property tax.

The statement is made that the annual revenue of the state of California is \$9,500,000. Of this sum \$7,500,000 is raised by taxation and the other \$2,000,000 is received from the income of public property. Of the \$7,500,000 raised by taxation, approximately \$4,500,000 is for educational purposes. It is thought that, if the other \$3,000,000 could be raised from sources independent of those used by the county and local governments, the state rate might be very materially reduced.

The idea upon which the commission is at work is that railroads, telegraph and telephone companies, express companies and all other corporations whose business extends throughout the state and is in no sense localized, should be taxed for state purposes alone, and that the taxation of real estate and of tangible personal property, which is easily reached by the assessor, should be left to the counties and local governments.

The commission is also at work trying to solve a means whereby the cost of the collection of taxes may be reduced. The present cost is stated to be \$780,000 for the collection of \$25,500,000 state and county taxes not including city taxes, or a little over three per cent of the total amount collected.

Only 27 More Shopping Days Until Christmas

Toyland and Doll-dom

Our preliminary showing this week in these holiday departments, while a very creditable showing in itself, is not by any means as great an exposition as you will be able to witness in a few more days. Just wait. You cannot have a want for toys or dolls that we cannot supply, and remember that you will be able to choose from European novelties purchased at first hand.

THE GREAT PLACE TO TRADE

Hamburger's

127 to 147 N. SPRING ST. LOS ANGELES

"The Ebell" Shoe for Women

Our implicit belief in the superior wearing qualities of "The Ebell" shoe is founded on the fact that we pay more for "The Ebell" than is paid for any other \$5.50 shoe on the market. You may have your choice of all leathers and 36 styles.

Hamburger's Millinery Inimitable

In Style, Quality and Price

\$15.00 Dress and Suit Hats

An extra assortment for Wednesday's selling; all the latest shapes and styles and every one of them exclusive; are of satin felt plateaus or felt with velvet or pheasant feather breasts; all the new colors and combinations and are better than any \$15.00 hat shown in any other millinery store in Los Angeles.

Special leader for the one day at, choice \$9.00

The Only Gloves That Save You Money in Buying

Women's \$1.50 Real Kid Gloves

Positively the best glove at the price ever offered in the city; are of real kid in black, white and all the newest shades of the popular colors; made with 2 metal clasps; cable sewed; also 2 or 3 pearl clasps with Paris point embroidery and colored pipings. Every pair warranted and fitted at our counters. Would not be overpriced at \$1.50. A special leader at \$1.05

\$3.00 Ready-to-Wear Hats at \$1.39
Nearly all in turban shapes, hand made, of stitched felt with velvet and wings over wire frames and are in all the wanted colors; very serviceable, stylish street hats that are positively worth \$3.00.

\$4.00 New Street Hats at \$2.50
Black and colored street hats in close fitting shapes of silk braid or mohair felt, with shirred ribbon and wings; though low in price high in quality, for they cannot be duplicated in other stores under \$4.00. On special sale Wednesday.

\$4.00 New Untrimmed Hats at \$2.50
All the new shapes, including bell or cup crown felts; also soft hoods; are of best quality French felt in white and all colors; very little trimming required to make them into stylish hats and are the same as sold all over the city at \$4.00.

\$8.00 Smart Suit Hats at \$5.00
In turbans and larger shapes of white cloth, with colored velvet or of velvet and French felt, with flowers, wings and ribbons. The most stylish hats of the season, that will go very nicely with any of the new suits, and every one of them an \$8.00 value.

\$2 "La Mazeno" Kid Gloves \$1.50
Real French or Italian kid gloves with English welts; 3-clasp style; Paris Point embroidery or two-tone Scotch embroidery on backs; are Cable sewed and warranted to be the best fitting glove made; equal to any \$2.00 value sold elsewhere.

Women's \$3 Long Kid Gloves \$2.25
12-button length; both Glace and Suede gloves with Fillet embroidery on back; Cable sewed and are the proper length to be worn with the new popular short sleeve jackets. We ask comparison with any shown elsewhere at \$3.00.

"La Mazeno" Suede Gloves at \$1.65
3-clasp gloves of the popular "La Mazeno" brand of finest selected Suede stock made with square welts; Cable sewed; finished with Fillet embroidery; have Reynier thumbs and every pair warranted and fitted. These are a glove that has stood the test of years of selling and we know there are no better anywhere at \$2.00.

\$4 Elbow Length Suede Gloves \$2.50
The popular mousquetaire style of elbow length Suede gloves; 16 button; are in black, white, mode, champagne, light pink, dark blue and lavender; finished with 3 rows of silk embroidery on back; are Cable sewed; every pair warranted and fitted and are as good as the usual \$4.00 grades.

75c Silk Finished Wool Goods, Yard 25c
An exceptionally good material for dresses for substantial wear combined with style. More than 100 pieces in semi-Persian effects, mixtures of gray, green, blue, brown, black and white; scroll and floral patterns and positively worth 75c a yard.

89c Cream Wool Storm Serge, Yard 69c
A much wanted sponged and shrunk all-wool Storm Serge; of good weight; rich shade of cream and very fashionable at present for street costumes; 10 pieces on sale Wednesday at 69c a yard.

\$1.25 Black Mohair Sicilian, Yard 59c
A handsome silk finished firm Mohair Sicilian; reversible weave, for coat suits, waists and skirts; is 56 inches wide and the same as sold in other stores at \$1.00 and \$1.25; our special leader Wednesday at 59c a yard.

35c 20-inch China Silks, Yard 19c
Every shade of all popular colors; also black, cream and white; are soft silks for evening dresses or waists; also for Christmas fancy work; will launder equal to linen and sells regularly at 35c.

Hosiery and Knit Underwear

Women's 50c Allover Lace Lisle Hose 29c

Both all-over lace and lace ankle hose of good quality lisle; made double soles, heels and toes; are in black and tan only and there are just 40 dozens in the lot; every pair pure Hermsdorf dye and regular 50c values. Priced for Wednesday to close quickly at a pair 29c.

Children's Hose—Fine French ribbed; full fashioned; regular made; Boys' Hose refunded if they do not wear satisfactorily; are 25c values priced at 3 pairs for 50c or, a pair 17c

Women's Union Suits—Jersey ribbed; fleece lined; white or gray; or button-down-front styles; high neck, long sleeves, ankle length; are nicely finished and regular 69c values specially priced for Wednesday at, a suit 50c

For Women's \$1.50 Wool Underwear \$1.00

Fine French ribbed vests in white or gray; with silk hand crocheted edges and silk taped; also heavy wool vests in gray or white with ankle pants to match. \$1.50 values, special at \$1.00

HOLIDAY BOOKS

\$1.00 "Sunbonnet Babies." By Grover, 69c.
75c "Wozzie Bug Books." By Baum, 58c.
50c "Queen Zizi of Ik." by Baum, \$1.25.
\$1.50 "Humpty Dumpty." By Alice Chapin, \$1.39.
50c "Fun in Painting and Drawing." 35c.
50c "Girls Bound Books." 50 titles, 25c.
\$1.25 "Elsie Books," choice any title 65c.
\$1.50 Alcott book, "Little Men," etc., \$1.05.

Notions and Rubber Goods

English cube pins, 100, best quality, 7c.
English steel safety pins, 12 on card, 2c.
Howe pins, 360 on paper, best quality, 2c.
Jet pins, unbendable, 40 in box, 2c.
Pearl top hatpins, 8-inch stem, 5c.
Genuine rubber hairpins, dozen, 25c.
Best German bonnet pins, dozen, 12c.
Rubber Goods—Just received from the manufacturer, a large assortment of pure gum water bottles and fountain syringes; all of best quality; every one guaranteed; divided into three lots; prices as follows:
2-quart water bottle or syringe, 63c.
3-quart water bottle or syringe, 69c.
4-quart water bottle or syringe, 75c.

Ruffs, Neckwear Ribbons

\$7.50 Silk Ruffs, Capes and Scarfs, choice \$3.98

Of Liberty Silk and Chiffon; some round capes with long plaited ties, puffed and shirred with braided motifs; fine buffy round ruffs trimmed with silk ruching; long full ties; and marabout boas, 3 or 4 strands; black, white and their combinations. Actual values to \$7.50. Special Wednesday.

Women's Neckwear—Actual value to \$1.25; stocks, tabs, ties and jabots of hand-made point lace; linen, Madras or scrim, heavily embroidered; Point Gaze or Venice lace in pompadour; also Messaline or Taffeta silk with lace medallions or braid; white and color effects. Choice Wednesday 35c

New Ribbons—Worth to \$2.50; are in 9 and 10-inch widths only; two tone and multi colored effects; excellent for sashes, trimmings, opera bags and millinery; in all the pastel colorings and white; are of superior grades and the very finest in their respective classes. Specially priced for Wednesday at, a yard \$1.39

A Yard for 50c and 75c Persian Ribbons

25c Of Taffeta, Messaline and satin Taffeta; bright vivid colors or dark rich combinations, also plain black; are 6 inches wide and suitable for trimmings, girdles and millinery purposes. Special for Wednesday only, at a yard 25c