

IN SALINAS VALLEY.

One of the Most Fertile Spots in the Coast Range.

MID FIELD AND ORCHARD

What the Rich Alluvial Soil is Capable of Producing.

THE FAIR CITY OF SALINAS.

It Promises to Become One of the Great Centers Along the New Coast Line.

SALINAS, CAL., June 30.—Historic Monterey County of wondrous extent is a locality of great possibilities, as it is yet comparatively undeveloped.

Those who are saying dolefully, "The earth is overcrowded," should drive over the great waving grain fields and grazing pastures of valley and foothill in Monterey County and they would hold less pessimistic views on that point at least.

Apples and pears come to a very high state of perfection here because of the cool nights which are death to the codlin moth.

This strong breath from the sea insures health and energy to the people, and work in all lines is accomplished with more ease in this invigorating climate.

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three-story hotel building adjoining the old property, which he expects to have fitted up within the next thirty days.

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The Pajaro Valley Railroad runs out to tidewater at Moss Landing where the coast steamers touch. Here the Pacific Coast Steamship Company own immense warehouses covering an area of three acres, the largest on the coast except at Port Costa and San Francisco.

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Those who are handling the tract for Mr. Lynn are expecting some very desirable immigration in the near future.

The company has also promised that Salinas City shall be a freight terminus. The advantages of being a freight terminus are very great, as all interior towns that are not freight terminals know to their sorrow.

Mr. Coats, who has been largely instrumental in making Castroville station the most charming and restful depot in the State, with its wealth of flowers and winding walks in the little park, is to come to Salinas and manage the new dining place.

Quite a large number of dairies, with 200, 300, and even 500 cows of the very best stock, are scattered about Salinas Valley.

and some grading done on a projected road from Monterey by way of San Miguel Canyon, through San Juan and Hollister, out through the pass called Los Angeles to the San Joaquin Valley and Fresno.

Salinas people have more hope and interest, and would likely take stock in the Pajaro Valley Road if its owners would extend it from Salinas over the same feasible route decided upon by Colonel Jones.

They think a road run as a feeder to the great San Joaquin Valley a much better proposition.

Salinas has a substantial well-to-do air about it. There are some very fine residences, that of Don Pedro Zabala, a native of Castile, Spain, is possibly the most modern and exquisite bit of architecture.

The pleasant feature of Salinas is the very many pretty cottages, with extensive, well-kept grounds. Almost every one owns his home, and vies with the other in its adornment.

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The present Mayor, Thomas Harris, for years the independent editor of the Salinas Democrat, and the City Councilmen Charles Francee, C. F. Lacy, John Berges, Dr. Faulkner, Ed McGuire and John Parker are dubbed "the progressive board," because they are unanimous in urging varied improvements.

An election is ordered to bring out a vote on the question of issuing bonds to raise money for a complete system of sewerage and for the city to own its own water and light plants.

The fraternal organizations, particularly the Masons and Odd Fellows, are very strong here. The Odd Fellows have a good building of their own, which contains the public library which Jesse D. Carr gave \$5000 toward establishing a few years ago.

Mr. Carr is one of the pioneers of the State, having come to San Francisco in 1849, where he worked for about one year in the Custom-house—Military Collector's office it was at that time.

In talking of these old and exciting days Mr. Carr—"Uncle Jesse," as he is known to every one in Salinas—says they were the hardest days of his varied and active life.

Mr. Carr owns about 20,000 acres around Salinas and 20,000 in Modoc County, where he has extensive cattle interests.

The largest mercantile interests of Monterey County are those of Vanderhurst, Sanborn & Co. This partnership was formed in 1868, and their first store building was also among the first foundations laid in the town, which was not then six months old.

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A MILLION FOR SCHOOLS.

Proposition Advanced to Radically Improve the Public Schools.

VILE SANITARY CONDITIONS.

Starting Report by Director McElroy—\$339,000 Needed at Once. The Schools Concerned.

The fever of progress and development along large lines of local improvement has quickened the pulses of the gentlemen of the Board of Education, and they want something like \$1,125,000 for the permanent improvement of the seventy-three school buildings of San Francisco over and above the demand for maintaining them.

And in this connection School Director McElroy has submitted for the first time in the history of the department a report which is a startling demonstration of the wretched, unclean and rickety condition of the public schools.

It seems that after nearly fifty years of corporate existence, after fifty years of municipal legislation, after fifty years of appropriating millions of money to secure durable schools, nearly half a million dollars is needed for immediate repairs on over one million for their permanent improvement.

But starting as these facts and figures are, they are not a counter to the statement Director McElroy made yesterday while fingering his four typewritten pages of report.

"There isn't a school building in San Francisco," said McElroy, "that is in true sanitary condition, except the few new buildings in course of erection. Some are not connected with the street sewers; others are not fit to be inhabited and are positively dangerous to health and limb."

Now School Director McElroy is a mechanic as well as a School Director, and what he says is entitled to respectful consideration therefore.

For six months past, School Director Henry T. Scott and Head Carpenter Kincaid have been making thorough examinations of the condition of every school in the city—a task never before attempted on so large and productive a scale.

Director McElroy filed his report with the Board of Education last Wednesday evening and his associates have been doing lots of hard thinking ever since.

The Board has already asked the Supervisors to appropriate \$1,237,000 for the schools, but when the sum of \$905,000 steps down and out as the total for salaries, and a few other amounts follow after, little will be left for school improvements—and it is not certain, even, that the Supervisors will grant the amount asked.

Then the sum of \$140,000 is expected from the State, but here again the amount will be distributed into as many "funds" as there are star clusters in a big skyrocket.

The Directors have reached the conclusion that some heroic measures must be taken to meet the present sanitary condition; and in fact, not any of the schools have proper sanitary conditions. Many of them are crowded to suffocation. The ventilation in several is wretchedly insufficient. Several others are uninhabitable, and an offense to every sense but that of hearing. There are districts where, altogether, over 1000 children live for whom there are actually no school facilities.

The Lincoln School on Fifth street is a disgrace from rattle to basement. The roof is ready to fall in. The sanitary condition is too shocking to describe in detail, and more room is needed for pupils.

In the Sunnyside and Sunny Valley districts there are no school facilities at all.

"The Marshall Primary School, in the rear of the Mission Grammar, is not fit to be inhabited. It contains twelve miserably ventilated rooms, where 600 ragged, sickly day, and the sanitary conditions are sufficiently bad to cause a healthy development of typhus.

To remedy this horrible condition of affairs we shall try our best to secure enough money from the Supervisors to make any radical improvements, but our first effort will be to meet the necessities indicated in my report."

The following table shows the character of the repairs and improvements needed, the number of schools requiring them and the estimated cost as prepared by School Directors A. McElroy and Henry T. Scott and J. Kincaid, the head carpenter of the department, and condensed from the Improvement Committee's report:

Table with 3 columns: Proposed Repairs or Other Improvements, Number of Schools, Cost. Total: \$339,000

It will be seen that the "other improvements not classified" in the table aggregate nearly \$100,000 alone. Many of the improvements included in this section are of a nature to surprise any one who has taken an interest in the school buildings of the City.

Among the more expensive and noteworthy items in this list are the following: A bulkhead for the Denman Grammar School to cost \$8000.

A new system of heating and ventilation for the Horace Mann School to cost \$8000. New stairs for the Bernal Heights, Redding and Stanford schools to cost \$8500.

Extensive repairs to the Lincoln Grammar to cost \$20,000. Repairs to the Polytechnic High School to cost \$10,000.

Repairs to the Richmond School to cost \$2000.

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HON. JESSE D. CARR.

[From a photograph.]



THOMAS HARRIS



WM VANDERHURST



J. B. IVERSON