

Imperial Press

AND FARMER

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Edgar F. Howe Editor and Manager

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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1901.

SAN DIEGO OR LOS ANGELES?

There are some indications of a coming contest for the trade of Imperial between San Diego and Los Angeles. The latter town is now manifesting a desire to retain and extend the trade with Imperial of which it has thus far held a monopoly. If the Southern Pacific railroad should come to the belief that its interests lie in promoting the growth of a country on its lines into which hundreds of people are passing and where hundreds of thousands of acres are to be brought under intensive cultivation, it will undoubtedly seek an inlet into Imperial before other railroad projects are consummated for the valley, and Los Angeles would thereby be the gainer.

But the engineers on the San Diego-Eastern railroad and the men at the head of the company are bending every energy to get through to Yuma, by way of Imperial, and independent forces have for some days been at work on a projected route through the valley to connection with one of the three main roads in Southern California.

Imperial is a shy and modest maiden, as becomes one so young, but she is perfectly willing to be courted, notwithstanding her brief fractional year of existence, and whether it be Los Angeles, with which her destiny has thus far been allied, or San Diego, which lies nearer and has some advantages to offer, the great Imperial valley will prove a prize to the victorious city which first secures her attachment.

This is not a time for long waiting. The solution of the railroad problem will soon be at hand.

COUNTY OFFICIALS

Supervisor J. A. Jasper is escorting Game Warden Weitzel over this supervisory district, the two having spent Monday night in Imperial. Jasper says that Weitzel is a famous nimrod, and that while at Blue Lake at one shot he brought down two ducks and four fish, all of which were served by the camp fire. Whether the ducks were in the water or the fish in the air Jasper did not explain.

The Supervisor also tells a remarkable story of a man near Imperial who discovered in a neighbor's possession the hide of a calf which he had raised, producing two witnesses to identify the hide. An arrest was about to be made, when along came the calf whose hide had been identified. Jasper thinks the climate of the Imperial valley is responsible for the calf shedding its hide and growing a new one. He will not have it that a species of hide-shedding cattle is being evolved.

The supervisor has a force of men at work on the Mountain Springs Canyon

road, thirty-six miles west of Imperial, on the line of travel between this place and Los Angeles, and another on the Campo road, between Imperial and San Diego. The former road has been in a particularly bad condition. Water troughs are being provided at a number of new points on the roads. Mr. Jasper promises to assist in improving Imperial avenue from Calexico through Paringa and Imperial to the railroad when the route is decided on, and recommends that wherever other roads are needed in the valley easements be made out to the county for rights of way.

Mr. Weitzel is not here because of violations of the game law, but to get acquainted with the country. He has in view the stocking of the lakes of this vicinity with bass or some other varieties of fish, which he thinks can make their way against the carp now in the waters of the valley.

RATHER RICH

Some of the Arizona papers are objecting to the employment of Indians in the mines, insisting that only "American" labor be employed. It had been imagined by the Press that the Indians have a tolerably clear title to the designation American. The best school for the Indian is to work with Caucasians, and the latter owe it to the aborigines that they be taught to work.

Flowers in the Soil

Floriculture has not yet attracted much attention in the valley, but Mrs. Horn of University Place, Nevada, recently took to her home some of the soil, in which she has geraniums growing, and Miss Clark recently grew roses in Imperial soil in Los Angeles. This idea of sending the soil hundreds of miles away to grow flowers might be improved on by growing some here. Mrs. Huddleston of Imperial has been making a start in that direction, and is seeking to domesticate some of the wild flowers of the desert, one of which has developed great beauty and fragrance when the flowers are placed in water.

On the East Side

Work is now actively in progress on the East side of the Salton, water having been turned down that channel, while a force of men is preparing to take out the water lower down, with a view to distributing it over the 15,000 acres which have been filed on as soon as possible.

Housewarming Tonight

The dance to be held this evening (Saturday) at Calexico in the new store of the Imperial Mercantile company will undoubtedly be well attended and the occasion for great pleasure. Being the first dance in the valley aside from the social affairs of the Cocopah Indians, it will mark a stage in the development of society in this section.

John L. Ingram of Redlands was a land seeker in the valley the past week.

Hay and Grain At Diamond Lake.

Many people driving in from the west bring stock feed further than necessary, not knowing that they can get a supply at Diamond Lake, on the ranch of Arthur Ewens. This is the first feeding and watering station on the plains after leaving the mountains on either the Julian or Campo road, being east of the junction of the two routes; 26 miles from Carriso Creek, 15 miles from Coyote Wells, 12 miles from Imperial and 13 miles from Calexico.

Imperial Water Rights

We have opened a branch office at Imperial, in charge of our Mr. H. C. Oakley, who is thoroughly familiar with the whole

IMPERIAL COUNTRY.

In addition to our DISTRICT AGENCY for the Imperial Land Company, we are prepared to handle any of the early filings that the owners may wish to dispose of at reasonable price; or we will furnish stock to all Homestead or Desert filings in No. 1, before December 1st, that have not yet bought water, at a much less price than will be possible after that date.

For special reports on lands or for general information, address

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FREIGHT OF ALL KINDS

assigned to Patton will be handled with the utmost care. He has freighting outfits to haul anything from a water bucket to a locomotive, and if you are coming to the Imperial country you will find it to you interest to correspond with him.

CROPS PLANTED

If you have land in the Imperial country that you want planted to alfalfa, barley, or to anything else, don't forget that he is in the business, and that he knows how it should be done. His address is

Imperial, Cal.

Imperial Mercantile Co.

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