

# Imperial Press

AND FARMER

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**Edgar T. Howe Editor and Manager**

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### GROWING SORGHUM

It is not out of place for the Press and Farmer to present the subject of sorghum growing in this issue, even though at considerable length. In four months time from the arrival of water last summer, one man sold to the California Development company \$2,300 worth of sorghum, besides feeding his own stock and holding a reserve of feed for them for the winter, and the growing of this crop represented but a portion of one man's labor. Other growers have done equally well. Sorghum is a crop which is well worthy of study by all persons interested in the Imperial valley.

A writer in the Oceanside Blade predicted a population of 3000 for Imperial within thirty-six months after the arrival of water. That will be about January 1, 1903. The writer now says the statement was at first laughed at, but is now believed to be conservative. The fact that the fame of Imperial is spreading rapidly and everybody is expecting rapid growth is insuring that which is expected.

Warner Ranch Indians are to be cast adrift without an abiding place unless Congress takes action in their favor. There are 200 of them, and the Supreme Court has decided that they lose the ground their people have occupied for centuries because they failed to file notice of their rights.

Santa Maria Valley, Santa Barbara county, has produced this year 200,000 bags of beans valued at \$600,000, believed to be the most valuable crop ever grown there, the value being due to good prices and large yield.

Redlands Daily Review is a new publication, the first issue of which has eight pages and twenty-eight columns of advertising. It is an avowed champion of temperance and of the Republican party.

### SAN DIEGO RAILROAD

San-Diegan Sun: Treasurer Hilton of the San Diego Eastern railroad reports that Chief Engineer Richards left the camp of the surveyors east of Potrero yesterday morning for a trip to the desert. He met Luman Gaskell and Mr. McCain at Campo, and is now probably on the route between Jacumba and Coyote wells. Mr. Richards' intention is to make a pretty thorough reconnaissance of the route from Jacumba to Coyote Wells, so as to be as familiar as possible with the country before the surveyors get there.

The highest elevation on the route will be about 3700 feet, and as Coyote Wells is only about 700 feet, some way must be found to drop down without

encountering too heavy a grade. Mr. Richards does not anticipate any serious trouble in this regard, but at the same time he wants to secure the very best route. Mr. Hilton thinks he will be back at the camp by Friday night.

In the meantime the surveying party has passed what is generally believed to be the most difficult part of the route between San Diego and Yuma, and the grade of a trifle over 1 1/2 per cent is the steepest encountered. However, it must be understood that the committee do not propose to rest with one survey across the mountains, but in all probability the route below the Mexican line will be thoroughly investigated if not actually surveyed. That route would proceed across the line almost immediately after leaving this city, proceed up the Tia Juana valley and coming into the United States at or near Campo, thence across the line near Yuma, after having passed through the Imperial country.

Again, a more northerly route may be considered, and even the old Poole route up the Mission valley, through Los Cocheros ranch and eastward, has not been entirely lost sight of. So it will be seen that there is a good deal yet to be done in a survey way alone before any route can be decided upon, for after all the route is probably the most important thing to be considered.

One point, however, seems to be pretty well established, and that is that the people of San Diego have finally awakened up to the absolute necessity for action in the matter of an eastern railroad, and scarcely anyone now doubts that the undertaking will be completely successful.

### Dance at Calexico

The house warming given by the Imperial Mercantile Company at its new store building in Calexico Saturday evening was a most enjoyable affair, and will go down in history as the first dance ever held in the Imperial valley by white people. Naturally an event of the character aroused a great deal of interest, and people were in attendance from every part of the valley, the difficulty of getting across country where conveyances are not numerous only preventing a much larger attendance. Those who were able to attend, however, were ample to demonstrate the fact that there is in the valley the elements for making many social events in the time to come.

Dr. Heffernan officiated as host, responding in a neat address on the development of the valley when called on by those present, and in numerous ways he made the event an enjoyable one for everybody.

The new store building was well adapted to the occasion, the room being vacant as yet and ample for dancing purposes for those in attendance, while an orchestra composed of Messrs. Hoffman, Razy and Ortega furnished excellent music.

At 8:30 the grand march was led by Dr. Heffernan and Mrs. Ortega, dancing continuing until 11 o'clock, when a light supper was spread at headquarters building, after which dancing continued until 1 o'clock, the orchestra rendering "Home, Sweet Home" as a finale.

There was no surprise in the fact that the number of gentlemen present exceeded the number of ladies, the latter not yet being numerous in the valley, while their favors were greatly sought after.

Among those present were: Mr. and Mrs. Thing, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Elliott and Miss Elliott, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Beach, Mr. and Mrs. Moberly Meadows, Mr. and Mrs. G. Ortega, the Misses Forrester, and Messrs. C. N. Perry, George A. Carter, Garnett Holmes, George Thompson, Heber, Estudillo, Gaines, Reinhardt, Hiestand, Hall, Russell, Turner, Hoffman, Rose and Chaffey.

## 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

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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.

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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.

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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

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