

THE IMPERIAL PRESS

"Water is King—Here is its Kingdom."

VOL. IV.

IMPERIAL, CAL., SATURDAY, JULY 16, 1904.

NO. 13

Published at the center of the greatest irrigated territory in America, in the heart of the Colorado desert, San Diego county, Southern California, 67 feet below the level of the sea. Under present canals, 250,000 acres; under irrigation system when completed, 400,000 acres. Adjacent to irrigated land in Arizona and land to be irrigated by the National Government from the same grand Colorado river which will make a combined body of more than a million irrigated acres.

STOCK FEEDING IN NEW MEXICO

Bulletin of the New Mexico College of Agriculture.

Few people realize how extensive the stock-raising industry has become in New Mexico. According to the 12th U. S. census there were 1,051,022 cattle, 54,192 horses, and 1,225,022 sheep in New Mexico in 1900, valued at \$31,727,400. The increase in value of the live stock in the territory during the ten years from 1890 to 1900 was a little over six and one-half millions of dollars.

The stock-raising is the source of no inconsiderable portion of the income of the people of the territory. The industry is surrounded by conditions peculiar to those of the arid west. Most of the live-stock must find a market wholly outside of our borders. Not infrequently a light rainfall on the ranges farther north, a short crop in the corn belt or other influences cause fluctuations in the large markets. The conditions naturally react upon the industry within the territory since all who handle range grown stock are affected by depression in prices.

Any means that will tend to counteract adverse influences will be for the interest and advancement of the industry. Feeding is resorted to in some parts of the territory, in fact not a few ranchmen feed out their range grown stock upon the valley ranches. Should feeding become general, even to the extent of supplying the home demands, fewer animals would have to be exported, less meat imported and less alfalfa sold in the form of hay.

In order to throw some light upon the question of feeding in New Mexico a series of experiments have been inaugurated by the Territorial Agricultural Experiment Station. The results thus far obtained from the investigations made have just been published in Bulletin No. 50, entitled "Steer and Lamb Feeding." A set of photographs and tables are included in the bulletin.

In these experiments it was found that when the price of alfalfa dropped below \$9 per ton baled it could be profitably fed to steers from the stack, and when it dropped below \$10 per ton baled it could be profitably fed to lambs from the stack. One lot of steers returned \$12.81 per ton for the alfalfa hay fed, and one lot of lambs returned \$13.82 per ton for the alfalfa hay consumed. The lambs that paid the highest price for the alfalfa hay consumed were fed all of the cracked corn they would eat. This corn cost \$1.27½ per 100 pounds.

This brief article space will not allow of a full discussion of the results; but those who are interested in feeding can secure a copy of Bulletin No. 50 by writing to the Director of the Agricultural Experiment Station, at Mesilla Park.

Chas. H. Smith, of Tilton, New Hampshire, writes that he expects to join us soon and to find many improvements in Imperial. Right; he will find them—a new city, new hotel, new railroad and we trust also street sprinkling, and a few sidewalks and street lights.

AN IMPERIAL HOME



RESIDENCE OF JUDGE AND MRS. T. P. BANTA.

Above is a picture of what is sometimes called the first "house" in the Imperial Valley, the habitations that had preceded it being little more than tents, or shacks. The people who had the good taste to build this are Judge and Mrs. T. P. Banta, half a mile west of the city at the junction of Eighth street with the Dahlia canal.

Mr. and Mrs. Banta came to the valley, from Mesa, Arizona, in February 1901, and settled first at Cameron lake. Later, Mr. Banta engaged in the real estate business here, and built in September, 1902, the beautiful cottage which since has been

their home. It is 28x46 feet in size, containing five principal rooms besides porches, baths, etc., and is handsomely surrounded by lawns, flowers, and ornamental trees. The picture shows Mrs. Banta and some of the children, the Judge himself happening to stand too far to one side to be caught by the camera.

Mr. Banta is our local magistrate as well as an active business man, and is one of the most enterprising, public spirited and successful of the pioneers of Imperial. He and his good wife are popular society leaders, and their charming home the scene of many a social gathering.

THE BAND CONCERT

A Good Audience and a Good Program.

A most enjoyable recital was that given Friday evening of last week by the Imperial Valley Band at the new Methodist church.

The program was as follows:
Grand March.....Imperial Valley Band
Piano Duet.....Misses Gross and Holman.
Song.....Miss Flora Waters,
Baritone solo.....Prof. G. E. Pozatto,
Waltz.....Imperial Valley Band.

INTERMISSION 20 MINUTES
March.....Imperial Valley Band.
Piano Duet.....Miss Allen and Mrs. Thomas.
Recitation.....Carl Huddleston.
Solo.....Mr. Pauff.
Solo.....Mr. Slane.
Cornet Solo.....Mr. Belcove.
Good Night March.....Imperial Valley Band.

The piano duets by Misses Gross and Holman and Mrs. Thomas and Miss Allen were delightfully played and the songs by Miss Flora Waters showed her to be an artist of ability and a valuable acquisition to Imperial's musical talent. Messrs. Leslie, Pauff and Slane rendered enjoyable vocal solos and the selections by the band and individual members gave evidence of marked progress along musical lines.

During the evening Judge D. C. MacDougal gave a brief talk, and on behalf of the campaign committee of the

"Citizens Imperial Ticket" in the recent city election, presented the band with fifteen dollars.

Ice cream and cake were served and a tidy sum was added to the treasury of the band as a result of the evening's entertainment.

City Trustees.

Trustees Varney, Edgar and Morrison met Thursday evening pursuant to adjournment, and, Clerk Dyke not having yet returned, adjourned again to Tuesday evening, 19th inst.

The dairy ranchers of Heber, will in the future send their cream by train instead of team.

We can now speak of Imperial as the Desert City, the election held for the purpose of incorporation having developed but 7 noes to 63 who said yes.—Escondido Times.

It is now the city of Imperial. The legal technicalities have passed and Imperial, with almost an unanimous vote, is entitled to place the title of city after its name. It is incorporated and is now expected to don the habiliments of citydom. It has risen from the desert like a Sphinx in strength and may it so continue in growth.—Needles Eye.

IMPERIAL BOTTLING WORKS

A Local Factory With a Capacity of 400 Dozen a Day.

"Sweetened wind" is what the Indian called soda and effervescent drinks generally, and this can be produced at the rate of 400 dozen a day by the Imperial Bottling Works, the purchase of which, from John Gottlob & Sons by Vaclav F. Kucera, was lately noted in the Press.

The establishment is located at the foot of Eighth street, near the Southern Pacific station, and includes all the appliances for making soft, non-intoxicating drinks.

The building is 28x96, and the machinery is extensive and costly. It includes a three horse-power gasoline engine.

A bottle washer that handles eight bottles at a time and cleans them much more thoroughly than by hand.

A "magic automatic" carbonator of a capacity of 150 gallons an hour.

A bottling table.

A still, for mineral water.

Filters, for filtering water.

A crown bottler, for bottling up sanitary bottles.

A gas gauge for charging tanks.

Laboratory for flavoring extracts, etc.

Altogether, the plant is very complete, and has a capacity of about 400 dozen a day.

The product is shipped all over the Imperial Valley, from Old Beach to Calexico, and has a large and rapidly growing field.

TRACKLAYING AT LAST

On the Holtville Road—Completed in Few Days.

At last, after weeks' delay, caused by the lack of laborers, Mr. Holt has been able to get the work resumed, and it will be completed to the river probably within ten days.

It is being done by the Southern Pacific construction department, under the direction of Mr. Mariner, and to the force already here has been added a construction train and crew from Los Angeles.

The junction, ("Carbarker") with the main line of the I. & G. is three miles below here, and from this junction track was already laid two miles, leaving only about eight miles to the Alamo river, which is practically at Holtville.

This eight miles may be laid, barring accidents, within eight or ten days, but when it arrives at the river, tracklaying will stop for the building of the bridge, which may take a month, before the end of the road in Holtville is actually finished.

But completion of the road to the river will practically mean to Holtville, for it is so near the town that passengers and goods will be easily transferred.

Monday's Los Angeles Herald has a picture of Miss Nellie McPherrin, of that city, who is a prominent musical artist. Miss McPherrin is a sister of our talented young townsman, Roy D. McPherrin Esq. and his brother P. H. McPherrin Esq. of Los Angeles. She is also a land owner in this valley.