

THE IMPERIAL PRESS

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1904.

State of California, ss.
County of San Diego, ss.
James G. Ellis, being first duly sworn, deposes and says: that he is the manager of the IMPERIAL PRESS, and that the paid circulation for the issue of December 10, 1904, is nine hundred and sixty-six.

966

copies. And he further deposes and says that the above figures are for the actual paid circulation of the IMPERIAL PRESS.

JAMES G. ELLIS,
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 9th day of December, 1904.
[SEAL.] F. G. HAVENS,
Notary Public in and for the county of San Diego, state of California.

IMPERIAL SHOULD HAVE A U. S. LAND OFFICE

In the State of California there are ten land districts. The total area of the state is 99,000,000 acres. It is divided between the land districts as follows: Eureka land district 5,388,500 acres, Marysville district 4,982,000 acres; Redding district 7,399,000 acres; Sacramento district 5,171,500 acres; Stockton district 6,716,500 acres; Susanville district 6,677,000 acres; Visalia district 7,821,000 acres; Independence district 15,658,000 acres; San Francisco district 15,520,000 acres, while the Los Angeles district covers approximately one-fourth of the entire area of the state or 24,270,000 acres.

In regard to the Independence land district, it is safe to say that there are more people living in the Imperial Valley than there are living in the entire Independence land district, consisting as it does of the high mountain ranges of the Sierra Nevada Mountains and the desert on the eastern slope of those mountains bordering on Nevada. In the San Francisco land district there is an enormous area of the best land that was covered by the Spanish grants and was never public land, while in the Los Angeles land district there was at the last report, 1902, 10,786,139 acres of unappropriated and unreserved lands as against 5,860,136 acres of appropriated lands, that is lands, the title to which has passed from the government or that had been filed on or claimed. There are also 7,381,225 acres in the Los Angeles land district now included in forest reserves, a very great proportion of which had been filed on or title acquired before the reserves were made. From these figures it can be readily seen that the matter of providing conveniences for the transaction of the land business in the southern part of California has not kept pace with the settle-

ment and development of the country.

As an illustration of this matter we call attention to the fact that in Oklahoma eight land offices are provided for an area of 20,000,000 acres.

OUR POLICY.

Since the PRESS has changed hands there has been considerable comment about the "policy" the new management would pursue. Some have looked for a very different paper than has so far been published, while the majority of land owners and business men look upon the new venture with much satisfaction.

It will not take columns to tell just what our policy will be for it can be expressed in very few words. The PRESS will be a people's paper, first, last and always. "For the people, of the people and by the people"

The PRESS will endeavor to publish the TRUTH at all times. To publish it without fear or favor, and give to its readers all the truthful information obtainable.

The PRESS is working and will continue to work for Government Ownership, and will do whatever is within its power to assist the Reclamation Service.

The PRESS will do everything to help and nothing to injure the welfare and prosperity of this community and the Valley at large. We want everyone to succeed, and hope if there is any success lying around loose that we may find some. It has been well said that "Nothing succeeds like success."

The PRESS has no connection that will hinder its growth and advancement along the path of truth and right. Your confidence in the PRESS will never be shaken your trust will be held sacred.

RIGHT DOING

One's rightful work is often halted by fear of what others say about it. This may be even more a barrier to the work than the fear of not doing the work at all. It takes courage to do what we believe we ought to do, when we think we shall be criticised, or misunderstood, or scorned. But the real calamity lies in not doing in what we ought. Of this it is well to have so strong a fear that we shall have courage to face whatever others may say of our right doing.—Ex.

MAXWELL'S Talisman is found among our exchanges and is indeed a gem. It is not afraid to speak its convictions and is champion to the cause of irrigation. It should appear in the household of every farmer.

THE PRESS is a paper for the people, and in view of the fact that the people have many different views about politics we hereby open the columns of the PRESS to those who wish to discuss their political opinions. It is not our desire to monopolize, so we invite you Republican, Democrat, Socialist and Populist.

ANNOUNCEMENT

I have resigned the office of United States Commissioner at Imperial and the office has been discontinued. The policy of the United States Land Department is that all proofs shall be made in the United States District Land Offices. Where proofs are made before other officers they will be held up subject to investigation by one of their special agents. The objection advanced by the United States Land Office against the taking of proofs at Imperial was that it entailed a great expense upon the Government to send their examiner out to this country to make the necessary investigations required to be made by the land laws. The conditions in the Los Angeles Land District are such that I believed it would be far better for the people of the Imperial Valley that I should resign and that an effort should be made to secure the establishment of a United States Land Office at Imperial.

The Los Angeles Land District is nearly twice as large as any other Land in the state. Its extreme length from east to west is 384 miles and its width from north to south is about 180 miles. The total area of the district is more than 24,000,000 acres. With the development of National Irrigation in the Imperial Valley and the utilization of the waters of the Colorado River there is no question but what abundant business will be provided for a land office at Imperial.

Since my return to the Valley I find such a unanimous sentiment in favor of the move that I consider success certain. No effort will be spared and no time lost in preparing our arguments for a land office at Imperial and presenting them to the proper authorities for action. F. G. HAVENS.

THE following was clipped from the editorial page of the Citrograph of Redlands, Cal.:

"Chas. A. Gardner has sold the Imperial Press to F. N. Chaplin, F. G. Havens and S. J. Ulrey of Imperial, G. W. Bothwell of Los Angeles, and J. G. Ellis of Brawley, the latter of who is to be editor. The PRESS ought to be a powerful factor in the upbuilding of the whole Imperial country with such a live company as it now has behind it."

B. R. Singletary is the local solicitor for the Imperial PRESS, and will write your receipt for subscriptions to the best paper in the Valley. Mr. Singletary is well known, having been here last winter. If he don't find you hunt him up.

NEW CITY ATTORNEY

City Fathers Buckle Down to Work—Health Ordinance

A special meeting of the City Trustees was called for Monday night, at which time the resignation of City Attorney Dyke, on account of continued illness, was accepted, and D. A. Thomas appointed as his successor.

At the regular meeting Wednesday night the salary of the City Attorney was fixed in an ordinance at \$25 per month.

A much needed ordinance providing for a Health Officer and proper sanitary regulations was submitted by the Board of Health and passed its first reading.

A verbal agreement regarding the price of fire plugs had been made between Trustee Hawes, as fire committee, and F. C. Paulin, president of Imperial Light, Water and Power Company, but for some reason the terms prescribed by the City Trustees at the previous regular meeting, when it was voted to put in five four-inch fire plugs at \$5 per month each, and the water for street sprinkling to pay for this at \$25 per month, was not satisfactory to the Water Company, and Mr. Paulin will be asked to appear before the Board at the next meeting and arrange for some terms on which fire plugs may be secured.

Engineer Vickrey presented a plat for the guidance of sidewalk builders and it was accepted as the official plat. He has also prepared a plat for the proper grading of the streets and after legal opinion has been rendered on the proper way to compel sidewalks to be built, the City Fathers will also accept this plat.

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GEO. H. P. SHAW, ATTORNEY AT LAW, Imperial, California.

Office upstairs in Imperial Land Company's building.

HEBER IN WASHINGTON

Is There in the Interest of the California Development Company.

A. H. Heber, president of the California Development Company, is in Washington on his way to New York. Mr. Heber said here today he is wholly without information as to when the government will make a decision on the proposition to purchase the Imperial enterprise for settlers at \$3,000,000, but he hoped that some sort of announcement will be made soon.

He says that all he cares for now is an announcement that the government will, or will not, buy it at the price agreed upon. If the government wants to buy he says it can have the property at the price named, and if it does not buy he expresses himself as ready to express satisfaction with that decision and says he will proceed on his work of development at Imperial and will be prepared to protect water rights there.

It is evident that there is being framed great and probably long and bitter struggle over water rights on the Colorado river, in which the United States government, the Mexican government, land owners and water users of the American side, and land owners and water users on the Mexican side will take part. Divergent interests are represented in Washington as being so extremely wide apart that there is bound, so it now seems, to be friction as soon as the United States government gets ready to put in irrigation works on this river.

Mr. Heber says that so far as he is concerned, he feels that his position is strong and that he can maintain it. On the other hand, some members of the reclamation service say they believe that Mr. Heber's position toward the waters of the Colorado River is not strong. It is believed that when F. H. Newell returns from the West the position of the government will be made known.—Times.

A word to the wise is to "Advertise."