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SATURDAY, JUNE 3, 1905.

BEACH'S GOOD WORK

The report of the directors and officers of Water Company No. 5, concerning the conditions at the Colorado river and possibility of controlling the situation is given elsewhere in this paper. This statement is certainly reassuring to the people of this Valley. It has been so persistently reported that the whole Colorado river was turning down into this Valley and that we would be drowned out, that a good many people, who were not conversant with the actual conditions were becoming apprehensive. However, all can rest assured that there will be no flood from that quarter. All the situation needed was some Imperial brains in the head of Thomas Beach, to take charge of matters and put the dam in where it is needed, and where it can be put in, and now that Beach is in charge and the long reign of California Development Company dilatoriness is broken, we hope that Beach will stay in charge. Then our people can feel assured the situation will be taken care of.

Let the California Development Company's abdication in favor of the Imperial settlers be made perpetual. Mutual ownership is the only sane condition for irrigation enterprises, and the work now being done by Mr. Beach is an abundant demonstration of the entire ability of the Imperial people to cope with the Colorado river.

Go to it Thomas Beach. Your work is doing more to show that the people of this Valley are the only ones who can safely own the canal system, than anything else that could happen.

A CARDINAL principle in our creed is the trite axiom that the world is getting better, and that humanity on an average is more good than bad. We are pleased to say that a recent incident that came to our notice here in Imperial has done more to confirm our faith in this regard than anything we have seen in many a day. Some time ago a family came to Imperial, perhaps for the same reasons most of us came, that is to better themselves. After stopping at hotels awhile they decided to build a

tent house to spend the summer in. After the house was completed, an arbor for shade was found to be necessary, and the lady of the family spoke to someone regarding the matter of employing them to secure the materials and put it up. This party said something to someone else about the matter, and in order to designate the party wishing the work done, referred to him as the sick man. Well, just how it came about, on one seems to know, but anyway, the report started that there was a sick man, living in a tent, needed an arbor built over him. In a very few minutes \$16.80 in cash was subscribed, the lumber was bought and delivered, and sturdy volunteers quickly erected the arbor over the surprised and non-plussed family. Imperial lived up to her reputation in this instance, and everyone who contributed to this work, though it be only a small matter in itself, showed himself a Prince of the order of human kindness. This family's needs may, or may not be such as to absolutely require this help, but every man who contributed to it is a better man for doing it and the parties for whom it was done will accept the situation and appreciate the favor and accept it as that touch of kindness which makes the whole world kin.

LATEST FROM RIVER

To Stockholders of Imperial Water Company No. 5

Many alarming reports have reached the Imperial Valley regarding the dangers likely to result from the high waters during the present season at the various intakes at the Colorado river. Hence we deemed it our duty to go and learn the truth by actual observation.

Accordingly Directors O'Brien, Silliman, Chaplin and Supt. Joel Anderson went with Capt. Mellen on a barge loaded with a pile-driving outfit and fifty piles of an average length of fifty feet, from Yuma, down the Colorado river to Hanlan's heading at the Mexican line. These piles are to be used in making a dam across the lower Mexican intake, which is four miles below Hanlan's heading. The barge was billed for the site of the dam selected by the California Development Co. two and half miles down the lower Mexican canal, at a place where all the various intakes had concentrated to pass by the end of the great range of sand hills, where the canal glances off toward the southwest into the Alamo channel about ten miles farther.

The barge had to wait the pleasure of the Mexican authorities at the line, so Capt. Mellen sent an Indian with us in a row boat on down Smythe's "mighty Colorado" to the lower Mexican canal heading, then down the canal to the sand hill dam site. There we met the steam boat starting for the river with the workmen and a barge of brush. Thomas Beach had arrived, and in the name of Imperial Water Co. No. 1, he ordered the material removed to, and the dam built at the place where the lower Mexican canal leaves the river. Here the canal starts out at right angles with the river. The opening is about one hundred feet wide. The current of the river runs very rapidly off toward

the south, while the canal is only a side current and can be easily dammed, since the dam will be required to hold up against only the side flow of the river. The back water of the canal below the dam, so Beach says, will rise within four feet of the top of the water in the river, hence the dam must sustain only four feet of pressure.

Had the dam been built at the site first selected, if effective, all the water would have been shut out from Imperial, and a pressure of twenty five feet must have been sustained by the dam.

The introduction of mutual water company engineering ability in the person of Thomas Beach has changed the whole situation, so much so that every man, woman and Indian from Captain Mellen to the lady cook of the steam boat has full faith that the dam shutting off the excess water will be successfully built and maintained. We have no doubt that if the heading had been turned over to the safe keeping of the mutual company as it is now, Beach would have had that dam built three months ago.

A dense forest of trees and brush grow along the river shores protecting the banks. The water is about as high as the river banks. The gauge shows 27 1/2 feet at Yuma. There are two other branches of the river through which the waters go to the Gulf of California, above the lower Mexican heading.

The lower Mexican canal for the first three miles is from eighty to one hundred feet wide, very rapid, and an average of seventeen feet in depth of water. It is slowly washing deeper.

Measurements at Yuma and at the Imperial canal that carries all the water now flowing to the Salton sink, show that 10 per cent of the Colorado river water is now flowing through Imperial Valley.

Conclusions: First. There is no immediate danger of the whole Colorado river flowing down through the Imperial country, even if nothing is done to prevent its coming.

Second. The present management will undoubtedly dam the lower Mexican canal where it leaves the river.

Third. The two higher intakes are safe and adequate to supply all the water Imperial Valley needs until next fall at low water time.

Fourth. At low water stage, the lower Mexican heading can be opened and is of sufficient capacity and depth to take out all the water we need.

Fifth. The high water has scoured out all the canals, and especially the one leading from the lower Mexican heading, so that at all seasons an abundant supply of water can be secured for all of our needs, thus insuring us the water.

Sixth. We believe the farmers can plant their summer crops in the full assurance that water will be regularly supplied them.

Seventh. (a) As soon as low water comes next fall the mutual water companies of the Imperial Valley should see to it that the permanent gate is built at Hanlan's.

(b) They should know that an effective structure be built at the lower Mexican heading for use in low water, but to be closed during the high water season.

(c) A levee should be built ten feet high and thirty feet wide on the west bank of the Colorado river, extending from Hanlan's to a sufficient distance below the lower Mexican heading to prevent any overflow water going into Imperial canals.

Signed by the
Directors of
Imperial Water
Co. No. 5

{ THOMAS O'BRIEN.
IRVING P. SILLIMAN.
F. N. CHAPLIN.
JOEL ANDERSON, Supt.
and Chief Engineer.

The hard winds of the past week are reported to have blown out considerable of the grain in the fields still unthreshed. However, in this dry climate, all this grain is available for hog pasture, and can be gleaned very closely and profitably in this way. The demand for stock hogs has received quite an impetus and lean porkers are quoted above par.

David DeWitt Lawrence and Mrs. Eileen B. Lynde were married on last Thursday evening in the parlors of the Hotel Imperial, by the Rev. H. C. Mullen. The newly married couple are the recipients of the hearty congratulations of their many friends, and the Press wishes them every happiness in their new estate. Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence will make their home in Brawley.

Volunteer weather observer Dyke reports the Imperial weather for May as follows. Mean maximum 93.7; mean minimum 56.3; mean temperature for month 75 degrees. The hottest day was the 16th when the mercury climbed up to 112 degrees and it was coldest on the 5th when the minimum temperature was 46. There were 29 clear days and two days that were partly cloudy. Taken in all it was a pretty decent month and far better than the average May in Imperial Valley, from the standpoint of both heat and windstorms.

To Detect Leakage

The United States Reclamation Service has just completed the establishment of a cable across the Colorado river at a point near Hardyville, Mohave county, to be used in the work of measuring the flow of the river to obtain data upon which to estimate the loss of water between that point and Yuma, where the measurements are taken daily. Such information as can be thus obtained will be of great value in figuring on the various contemplated government projects along the Colorado river.—Yuma Sun.

Damage Done by the Salton Sea

Breakers of the Salton sea in the Colorado desert are menacing the Southern Pacific tracks for a distance of 40 miles. It is expected that the suit of the Salton Salt Co. against the California Development Co., which is to ascertain whether the latter company is responsible for the presence of the vast body of water in the Salton basin, will be determined very soon in the Federal court. A recent storm on the sea demolished the last of the Salt company's 800-foot warehouses and other buildings. They were partially destroyed some weeks ago the finishing touches being accomplished by heavy breakers which swept over the structures. At present the water is reported as being within 100 feet of the railway tracks, which are on a roadbed of mixed sand and a peculiar clay that is disintegrated rapidly by water. If the sea continues to approach the rails and is accompanied by a desert gale the consequences might be very damaging. As the sea is shallow, when a heavy wind blows it lashes the surface into billows that rival in size those of the real ocean.—Examiner.

Lawing Comes High

J. C. Blackington recently had some experience that emphasizes the necessity of dividing the Imperial Valley from the rest of the world and erecting ourselves a county of Imperial at the very earliest moment. Mr. Blackington had occasion to have some papers served in a civil action and as there are no deputies vouchsafed us by the powers that be at San Diego, he was perforce compelled to have a Deputy Sheriff journey to the Valley to serve the papers. The Deputy figured it out and decided that it was 295 miles from San Diego to Imperial, and the legal rate is 15 cents per mile so Blackington got stuck for \$44.25 as the price of admission. The other charges which would have been the same had the court house been at Imperial, run the bill up to more than fifty dollars. Our Sheriff refuses to appoint a deputy in our Valley, so this expense is maintained. There must be a profit in traveling from San Diego to Imperial and return for \$44.25, and that is one way that we contribute to the welfare of the City of Bay and Climate.