THE IMPERIAL PRESS

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ENTERED AS SECOND CLASS MATTER

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23. 1905

AN IMPORTANT MATTER

Ever since the early days in the settlement of Imperial Valley there has been trouble and complaint concerning the cattle and hogs getting into the ditches and fouling the water. As everyone knows, the ditches are our only sources of supply for water and we must perforce use water for domestic purposes out of the same canals we use for irrigation. The natural condition of the water in these ditches is muddy. It comes from the Colorado river, which is a notoriously muddy stream, and as this water will not clarify itself except by settling and cannot settle as long as it is in motion, it follows that the water arrives in our Valley and flows through our ditches in practically as muddy a condition as it flows in the Colorado river. The muddiness of the water can be easily remedied by putting it in a tank or barrel and letting it settle. The muddiest water will become perfectly clear in about 12 hours. It is then, to all appearances, as clean and wholesome as any water need be. But it is possible for the clearest of water to reek with disease germs, and while water in which cattle have stood or hogs have wallowed, can be settled and made perfectly clear, it is by no means clean and may be vile and filthy. It is this condition of things that has been a prolific source of trouble and hard feelings in the Valley from its early settlement. Careless and indifferent people would turn their stock loose and they would naturally seek the ditches. The Water Companies have made regulations against the practice, the Farmers' Club discussed it and tried to find a remedy for it more than three years ago, the Chamber of Commerce took up and tried to mitigate the evil and when Imperial was being incorporated, one of the arguments used in favor of the move was the protection afforded to the people residing in incorporated cities and towns against the pollution of their water supply. So when Imperial was incorporated it was felt that a step had been taken which would insure the cleanliness of the water in at least one ditch in the Valley. Since the incorporation of the town, very little, if any improvement in the matter has been noted, conditions continuing about in the same old way. From time to time cases of pollution of the water have been investigated, but as there was always more or less of the element of accident accompanying the presence of the offending stockman's animals in the ditch. No action has been taken; the officials preferring to give the offender the benefit of the doubt, rather than be in haste to bring a prosecution. But it was inevitable that this state of affairs could not last always and when, on August 29th, three men drove a herd of nearly 800 head of hogs for several hours in the ditch from which Imperial's water supply is taken, it was felt that the time for action had come. So warrants were issued, the parties were arrested, and on last Wednesday were haled before Justice Banta for trial. The evidence adduced on both sides was very much alike, there being practically no difference between the testimony of the witness on either side. On Thursday the Justice made his ruling, dismissing the complaint and setting forth that inasmuch as a publicly traveled road paralleled the canal and the defendants had a legal right to drive their stock on this road, there was no obligation on their part to travel a more roundabout way in order to keep their hogs out of this ditch. Also, that as long as the defendants did not drive the hogs into the ditch, and made an effort to get them out, when they went in of their own accord, any pollution of the water which resulted was accidental and defendants were not responsible for it. The results of this decision are far reaching in the extreme. It means simply that not only must Imperial drink whatever filth the farmers send down, but also that the farmers themselves must stand for whatever their neighbors higher up the ditch, put into it. There is a public road running alongside almost every ditch in the Imperial Valley. The ditches cannot conveniently be fenced, for they must be accessible to the zanjeros and employees of the water companies. Every man's stock can "accidentally" foul the water and the owner be blameless. The inevitable result will be, hogs and cattle in the ditches, ad libitum. The dilemma in which this state of affairs places the people of Imperial is a serious one. Can we risk our health by using the fouled and nasty water from the ditch for drinking and domestic purposes? We say, No. What then? Get clean water, pure and clear. Where from? The main canal, 9 miles south of Imperial This water can be brought in a pipe from a protected settling basin, and will be clean and pure, will be under pressure and there will be no danger or possibility of pollution. Water brought to Imperial in this way will have pressure enough to generate sufficient power to run the ice plant, electric lights and creamery and the cost of the pipe will not much exceed the cost of the steam power plant and fuel for a year that is now in use. Let the Chamber of Commerce think this over.

For a New Creamery and Ice Plant

During the past week there has been more excitement and a greater stir in creamery and dairymen circles than has ever been witnessed in this Valley before. For some time there has been talk of the farmers and dairymen in the southern part of the Valley putting in a co-operative creamery.

This proposition came to a head last Monday when D. H. Chaplin, on behalf of the El Centro Town company, offered to give the dairymen a lot and loan them the money to build their creamery if they would put it at El Centro. This opened the ball and caused the Imperial business men to "sit up and take notice" more than anything we have ever seen. A meeting of the Chamber of Commerce was held Tuesday evening and the matter discussed with the result that a business men's meeting was called for Wednesday evening.

At this meeting there was more spirit shown and more of a determination to get in and do something for the town than has been witnessed in this place for many a long day. The meeting discussed the matter from several standpoints and it was decided that whatever inducements were offered elsewhere to encourage the building of a co-operative creamery, would be duplicated by Imperial and whatever cut price or offer of rates on ice was offered by anyone else must be met by Imperial. This brought up the question to the point of facts and figures and it was shown that it would take about $20,000 to build the creamery and ice plant that will be required to put the town in position to meet any offer from any other quarter to take its business away from it.

A committee from the dairymen was present and stated their position, which is that they are going to put in a co-operative creamery and were open for propositions, the best one to win. "And gentlemen" said the spokesman for the dairymen, "you know it is the man who comes to town every other day with his milk cans in the back end of his wagon who pays cash for his goods and supports your business. The $5000 a month or more paid to the dairymen by the creamery nearly all passes over your counters and you know what that means to you, even now, when the industry isn't fairly started." Several of the business men spoke in like strain and Messrs. Stevenson, Varney, Shaw and Banta were appointed a committee to meet the dairymen and find what inducements they would require and report at another business men's meeting to be held on Friday night at the Imperial Land Company's office.

The business men of Imperial are fully aroused to the importance of having the new creamery located in their town and will see that no effort is lacking or inducement wanting to bring it here. It is just such occasions as this has produced which bring our people together and builds up the spirit of loyalty to the town and devotion to its interests which is so essential to the welfare of any place.

By pulling together Imperial will continue to be the Hub City as Brother Lawrence puts it, the capital city of the Imperial Valley and county seat of the future Imperial County. Let no one lose confidence and let everyone help and support the business men and Chamber of Commerce in their efforts for the city's progress.

Virgil Patterson will buy your fat hogs.

NO. 5 AUTHORIZES BONDS

Era of Great Prosperity at Hand for the Entire Eastside Country

The stockholders meeting of Imperial Water Co. No. 5, held at Holtville last Thursday partook more of the nature of a love feast than anything which has happened there-abouts for many a day. The questions submitted to the stockholders for decision were first, the issuing of bonds of the company for $100,000; second, the disposition of the assessment that had been called for by the board of directors to raise funds for immediate repair and construction work, and third, to decide upon what kind of a canal system they wished to have built, with the proceeds to be derived from the unsold stock of the company.

In marked contrast with recent meetings, there was an entire absence of discord and inharmony, the serpent of distrust and gloom having apparently been banished from the Eastside Eden, and the spirit of mutual confidence and respect to have taken its place. In this sane and hopeful attitude the good people of Number Five met the questions submitted to them and disposed of them in an orderly and harmonious manner. In a short time a sufficient number had given their assent to authorize the issuance of the bonds Then the Board of Directors were authorized to cancel assessment No. 5. The matter of the kind of canal system and waste way they wanted built and the disposal of the unsold stock was a longer task, and albeit a pleasant one to discuss. For the first time the Board of Directors were in position to assure everyone that the rights of the Company to this unsold stock would be respected. They have an agreement direct with President Randolph regarding the matter, in which the ownership of the stock by Number Five is confirmed and the possession of the stock and right to sell and locate the same and retain all the proceeds, is agreed to. It is provided that, if, after Number Five has constructed a canal, irrigation and drainage system to the satisfaction of all her stockholders, should there then remain any money on hand, derived from the sale and disposal of the stock over and above what it has cost to build the canal and drainage system, then the moneys so left shall be divided equally between Number Five and the California Development Co.

Number Five and all its people are to be congratulated on the outcome of the whole matter. It has been a long, hard pull for the Board of Directors and no less loyal or determined set of men would have stood up and battled for the rights of their people under such bitter and discouraging conditions. Now, however, that victory is theirs and a united and harmonious people are behind them, a near at and glorious future opens before the Eastside. President Randolph has given the Number Five Board his personal assurance of support and help in marketing their bonds. This means that the bonds will be quickly sold and without discount. The money thus available will be used to put in first-class order the present canals of Number Five and to build others to the new lands on which stock will be sold. The proceeds of the new stock will be used to build more canals as needed and to pay off the bonds at maturity. All this means that Number Five will take on new life almost at once. There will be work to do and money to pay for it. The teams will go to the ditches again, land will be leveled, new homes will be established, business will revive and the old time era of bustle and activity will return. The harmonious spirit shown by the people of Number Five in the final outcome of this matter bodes well for the future of the Eastside. United in one grand purpose, as they now are, and with the best Board of Directors of any Water Company in the valley as they now have, there is no reason to fear for the future of Eastside. To the rest of the people of our valley the action of Number Five is a great benefit, too. Business activity, such as they will speedily have, will quickly spread over the whole valley for the spending of $100,000 in any part of our valley will greatly benefit the whole. We hail the outcome in Number Five as a glad omen of the time when our Water Companies will become the great force in our valley and the people will be united and harmonious and our development uninterrupted.

Imperial, Cal., Sept. 21, 1905.

IMPERIAL PRESS:

There will be a meeting on Monday, September 25, at 1 p. m. sharp, to consider a plan and location of a cooperative creamery for the Imperial Valley All those interested in the dairy business or planning on starting are invited to attend. At office of Water Co. No. I, Imperial. H. R. Kyle, Secretary,

Imperial Valley Dairymen's Asso'n.

The maximum and minimum temperature registered by the Government thermometer as given by Weather Observer Dyke for the week ending September 21st was as follows:

Date	Maximum	Minimum
Sept. 15	109	68
16	107	63
17	104	62
18	103	59
19	105	59
20	109	65
21	108	67

Attacked by a Mob

and beaten, in a labor riot, until covered with sores, a Chicago street car conductor applied Bucklen's Arnica Salve, and was soon sound and well. "I use it in my family," writes G. J. Welch, of Tekonsha, Mich., "and find it perfect." Simply great for cuts and burns. Only 25c, at all druggists.

Leave your orders for Alfalfa Seed and Strawberry Plants with E. R. Fairbanks.

BRAWLEY

Happenings of the Week From the North End.

W. H. Best returned Friday from Santa Ana bringing with him a car load of cattle.

Dr. J. L. Pitner, the Henry Clay of Southern California Methodism, preached Sunday night to a full house.

Some of the townspeople were held up at Indio for several hours last Monday by a wreck of a freight train.

Dr. Miller has moved into the house formerly occupied by Leroy Keener. He is expecting Mrs. Miller this week.

Henry J. Wilson of Silsbee came up last Sunday to represent the Silsbee Methodists at the Quarterly Conference held at Brawley.

Myron D. Witter of the News, accompanied by F. G. Havens and D. D. Dawrence, went to the heading on Saturday, returning Monday.

John Brenners and George Stormer, brothers-in-law of Sauil Garber, came in last week from Sissna Park, Ill. They expect to locate here.

A. H. Heber, accompanied by his eldest daughter was a Brawley visitor last week. He contemplates extensive improvements on his Keystone ranch.

C. H. Frederick and wife are back from their trip to Campo. Mrs. Frederick will teach the seventh, eighth and ninth grades in our public school for the coming year.

Our new passenger station, though not entirely completed, has been drafted into service. Agent Reid says it feels like an ice box compared with the box car where he lingered all summer.

The festive Mexican was in evidence on the 16th inst, "full as a tick". He was supplied with whoops and hollers of apparently unlimited capacity, if the number of bottles he emptied might be used as proof.

William Malan, oldest son of R. Malan, returned for a visit last week. He left, accompanied by his father, on Sunday morning for Los Angeles. Mr. Malan is studying for the ministry and expects to enter the University of Southern California.

Mrs. Wallace and family have returned from their visit to Elsinore.

Rev. H. H. Croco has returned from his visit to the north. He occupied the Brawley pulpit last Sunday morning and evening, in his graceful way to show his hearers that vacations were a necessity to a business man as well as a clergyman.

The amount of drunkenness occurring in Brawley is reaching alarming proportions. This sort of thing bids fair to continue till some one loses his life, then the people will wake up to the fact that the abolition of the dives rests upon them. The district attorney will not do his duty and it will be some time ere the Grand Jury can take action so that unless summary action is taken these gross violations of the law must continue. The bucket of tar and feather bag will have a more deterrent effect than anything else.

Those who were fortunate enough to be on our streets on last Tuesday evening were treated to an exhibition of horsemanship and a display of ground and lofty tumbling such as has not been witnessed in our town for many a day. Editor Lawrence of the Imperial Standard was the star performer, Count DeBlois was ringmaster and Editor Witter endman. The performance was an unqualified success but the performer refused to respond to an encore. A meek-eyed cayuse with a blaze face and an editor who didn't know it was loaded were the dramatis personae.

Card of Thanks

We wish to express our sincere thanks to all those who were so kind to us in our berevement.

MR. C. T. HOWARD AND FAMILY.

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He may well think he has got off cheap, who, after having contracted constipation or indigestion, is still able to perfectly restore his health. Nothing will do this but Dr. King's New Life Pills. A quick, pleasant, and certain cure for headache, constipation, etc. 25c at all druggist; guaranteed.

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Is the Policy and Desire of the Company

To Find Homes for the Homeless And to Locate Them Thereon

Any one owning lands or town lots in the Imperial Valley in excess of their needs will do well to communicate with the company, with a view of listing the same with the resident manager

Those desiring to purchase lands or town property in the Valley will best serve their own interests by calling at any of the company's offices, and obtain bargains and a

SQUARE DEAL

EDWARD DOOL, Resident Manager

Calexico, San Diego County, California

A. H. HEBER, President and Gen'l Manager

Los Angeles, California

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