

# IMPERIAL VALLEY PRESS

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## OFFICIAL RETURNS

### Webster's Plurality 36 Over Hoffman Full Returns From Fourth Supervisorial District

HE CROWS FOR WEBSTER



The official canvass of the votes cast in this Supervisorial district has been made by the Board of Supervisors at San Diego, and the result declared. As announced in the PRESS last week F. S. Webster is elected, his magnificent lead in the Valley carrying him beyond the power of the precincts along the Colorado river to overcome. In the precincts of Hanlon, Hedges, Old Beach, Palo Verde and Picacho 54 votes were cast, of which 47 were cast for Hoffman and 7 for Webster. This gave Hoffman 40 plurality outside the Valley. Webster has a plurality of 76 in the Valley, giving him the election by a plurality of 36. The following is the official returns of vote cast for Webster and Hoffman:

	Hoffman	Webster
Brawley	36	46
Calexico	88	30
El Centro	5	45
Hanlon	21	3
Holtville	18	61
Hedges	2	0
Imperial	40	27
Imperial Outside	12	16
Old Beach	4	0
Palo Verde	3	1
Picacho	14	6
Silsbee	7	51
	250	286

It is rumored that a contest will be made on behalf of Hoffman an effort made to seat him in spite of the fact that the people elected him down. Mr. Hoffman is in the east and we do not believe will be a party to such a thing. Some of his friends are awfully and no doubt this contest talk is put up by them.

## AS LARKIN SAW IT

Noted Correspondent of Los Angeles Examiner, Thrillingly Describes the Subjugation of the Colorado River

YUMA, Nov. 11.—Suppose you were building a house according to a set and drawn plan and when partially done some event should occur to completely prevent carrying out the design of the architect, but you had to build and build in a hurry, too, or lose \$25,000,000. And unless you had your wits about you, ready for instant action dire calamity would fall, then the mind would be indeed active. The chances are that failure would come and the loss would be yours.

Now, the Panama canal will doubtless present great engineering difficulties, but it is doubtful if any will be more intricate than those that came to the three great engineers, Epes Randolph, H. T. Cory and Thomas J. Hind. These three men saved the rich Imperial Valley and have elicited the admiration of engineers here and in Europe.

The Rockwood gate, upon which the original plan entirely depended for success, suddenly collapsed under the cutting and eroding action of the floods. There was not a moment to lose. The bursting of this gate left no hope of any kind of aid from partial diversion of the water. So, actually, the engineers had to build the colossal dam by mere force and under stress of constant hurrying. These three men literally dashed into the very jaws of the flooding river. Every engineering feat of either ancient or modern times was wrought in deliberation; the engineers had ample time in which to work, but here work had to be carried on with feverish haste, for the regular rise of the Colorado river would soon be due.

### ACRES IN DANGER

Human beings even in the midst of a battle with each other have seldom been under greater stress. For, if the floods continued much longer, the vast area of one and one-half million acres of land, so rich that any description would be thought exaggerated by those who do not know the facts, would soon be beyond all hope of irrigation for all coming time. For the bottom of the river would shortly wear away and be lower than the beds of all the canals.

When the great gate toppled over and went down stream the mighty problem instantly became as follows: A dam 200 feet wide, 44 feet high and 3000 feet long had to be speedily erected. See the difficulties: The dam must stand on the bottom of a river, composed entirely of very fine silt. This dissolves almost at sight when it comes in contact with water. The silt was supposed to be practically without bottom anywhere from 500 to 2000 feet deep. The dam must be raised in a broad stream with water rushing at great speed.

Now, here was the trouble: As the dam advanced and the river became narrower the velocity of flow began to increase. Narrow and narrower became the passageway and faster and faster the current. It finally became swift enough to appall the hearts of all engineers who came to see the terrific roaring, rushing river. They all said that the dam could not be finished. A stone weighing five tons was pushed off a car into the seething flood. The boiling currents rolled it along the side of the dam over other jagged rocks to an actual distance of sixty feet. But

our three engineers said that the dam could and would be built.

And it is there now as I write; standing as an impregnable wall. Not one drop of water is seeping through it.

### PEOPLE MAY DWELL IN PEACE

The people of the entire Imperial Valley may dwell in peace. This dam is so solid, so wide, so high, so strong that no floods in the Colorado and Gila rivers combined can harm it. The new levee and dam are nine miles long. This dam, without a parallel case in human history, was commenced on August 10 and closed at noon on Sunday, November 4, 1906. Let these dates be recorded in the histories of the United States and in school and college text books on engineering and geology.

Water weighs sixty-two pounds to the cubic foot and presses with enormous force when its speed becomes high. Just before the opening was closed and when the Colorado river was seething through the pent-up place the velocity became fearful to look upon, to say nothing of human hands being able to stop it. When great rocks weighing tons were rolled like sticks, hope almost fled. But they hurled carload after carload into the boiling place at intervals of less than five minutes. This wonderful feat taxed the resources of the Southern Pacific railway to the extreme limit; for human hands could not work faster. Nor could the solicitude and anxiety of the engineers be more intense.

The great engineers did not falter nor waver before the terrific sight, but persevered. Boiling floods were turned the awful roaring became hushed into silence. Safety and peace fell upon the people in the richest valley in the world.

C. F. Stone, of Long Beach, is one of a large party of land seekers that came in last Tuesday night to look over the Valley.

## ASTONISHINGLY FERTILE

Reclamation Officer So Describes Imperial Valley Lands

The closing up of the Mexican intake has attracted world wide attention to this Valley and from every side we are receiving the recognition our wealth of resources deserve. Aside from the favorable notices the newspapers of California and the west are giving us, the following interview with a high official of the reclamation service proves the good will and appreciation in which this Valley is held by that branch of the government:

WASHINGTON, Nov. 12.—C. E. Blanchard, executive officer of the reclamation service, returned to-day from an inspection trip to Klamath, Yuma and other points. He said:

"The Klamath irrigation project has attracted attention to that fertile and undeveloped country and there is a boom on. A railroad is to be built into the Klamath Falls country and the land is rapidly rising in value.

"The Imperial Valley is now assured of immunity from the overflow of the Colorado river and settlers will pour in upon these astonishingly fertile lands. Work is progressing favorably on the Laguna dam and at Roosevelt dam, at the head of the Salt river, immense activity is displayed.

"Owens river I found was to be diverted to Los Angeles and surrounding country. The city of Los Angeles having completed the purchase of rights of way, there is no obstacle to construction of the big canal. We have surveyors in the Owens river country gauging the streams and so on, but the government will do nothing, of course, to interfere with the rights of the city of Los Angeles. In fact, we shall cooperate with the city officials."

WHERE MORE THAN  
**\$350,000**  
IS BEING SPENT

The town of El Centro was started in the fall of 1905 and is now about 11 months old. It is located in the center of the best part of the Imperial Valley, and is destined to become the metropolis.

The following improvements now completed, or under way, make a record to be proud of:

Ice and Cold Storage Plant (Burned)	\$75,000
Ice and Cold Storage Plant (Brick)	75,000
Hotel El Centro (Brick)	30,000
Transformer Station and Power Lines	20,000
Opera House Block (Brick)	40,000
Cement Sidewalks	10,000
Water Works System	10,000
Electric Light Plant for El Centro	5,000
S. P. R. R. Depot and Stock Yards	11,000
Holt Block (5 brick stores)	15,000
Machine Shop and Equipment	2,500
Blacksmith Shop	900
Hotel Franklin	5,000
Hardware Store	2,000
El Centro Cantaloupe Association Packing House	2,000
Creamery	6,000
Peterson Building (Brick)	1,200
Fuller's Residence	1,500
Three Cottages	3,000
El Centro Land Co's Office	800
Blinn Lumber Co. Yards	2,500
Fuller & Aten's Office	600
Grading Streets, Etc.	1,000
30 Cottages	30,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$350,000</b>

For information regarding El Centro and the Imperial Valley, and its opportunities, address

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