

# IMPERIAL VALLEY PRESS

AND THE IMPERIAL PRESS

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NO. 2

## BETTER SYSTEM WANTED

### Telephone System Throughout the Valley Really Should be Improved

At a meeting of the board of directors of the Central Creamery company, last Monday afternoon, the subject of telephones was taken up and discussed to some extent. It was suggested that the many stockholders of this company, who are all practically farmers and either users or would be users of telephones, should petition the board of directors of Imperial Water company No. 1 to take the matter in hand and build within its district a complete telephone system and make provision for connection with any other existing independent system and with those also which may be built in the future.

Water company No. 7 already has a system and it is said to be working admirably, but of course they are not allowed to connect with the old company known as the "Imperial Telephone company," but even at that their loss is not so great.

No. 5, we understand, has had this same matter up for consideration for some time. Should No. 1 start to build a system there is little doubt but what No. 5, No. 4 and No. 8 would see the advantage of a system of its own where connections could be made to any part of the valley quickly and without hindrance. In this way each company would have its own central office and connections could be had without disturbing so many 'phones each time the wire was used.

The stockholders of No. 1 are of the firm belief the present board of directors could build a system and at very little cost to the outstanding stock and the expense of maintaining, figuring on the basis of what can be learned from the No. 7 system, is not very large. A system rightly constructed should not cost excessively to run.

At a meeting of prominent farmers held lately it was agreed that a company could be formed throughout the valley with sufficient capital to put in a thoroughly adequate system and everyone of them present was willing to take a block of stock in case the water company would not take hold of it. This would be a paying proposition.

It would seem from the expressions heard at times throughout the valley that there is a great deal of dissatisfaction at the poor service received from our present telephone system. In days past when everything in the valley was new and hastily constructed, the inadequacy of the system could be overlooked and condoned, but now the time is at hand when the Imperial valley should have the very best telephone system going, but instead, every day sees more 'phones attached to the same old line and the subscriber is taught to listen patiently to central's cheerful voice, "number, please; line busy." How could it help but be busy when telephoning to another part of the valley you have to be connected with a line with, perhaps, no less than thirty 'phones attached. One of them, we believe, has thirty seven.

However we get a better service, let us have it. Not because the Press has been hampered and bothered until the patience of Job would be exhausted does it advocate this, but because it is not right that the valley should be made to condone any proposition which gets lots and gives little. It is not by any neglect or incivility of the employees of the present company that things are in the shape they are. No doubt they do the very best they can with the means provided them, which at best are very poor.

San Diego will then have direct communication with the east.

Mr. Spreckels, according to the report, said that the San Diego, Cuyamaca and Eastern railroad has been sold, but that he does not know the name of the purchaser.

Following is the reported interview given by Mr. Spreckels at the Alexandria hotel, Tuesday, prior to his leaving for San Francisco:

"Yes, the San Diego, Cuyamaca and Eastern railroad has been sold, but whether General Sherman and his associates have purchased it for Mr. Harriman, I cannot say.

"But it is certain that the Spreckels interests have not bought it.

"The San Diego, Cuyamaca and Eastern railroad may possibly be made a part of the Los Angeles Pacific system and in this way it may be extended to Los Angeles from San Diego, but of this fact I have no knowledge whatever."

Concerning the San Diego and Arizona railroad, Mr. Spreckels is quoted as saying: "Our plans are maturing nicely. We will have the road built from San Diego to Yuma in two years.

"Although we have not figured on eastern connection yet, I can positively state that we have not tied ourselves up with Mr. Harriman or any other man.

"We may build our own line from Yuma on to Chicago, or we may make arrangements for through tracks with the Rock Island."

## TO ADVERTISE

### IMPERIAL VALLEY

#### A Good Chance is Open to Tell of Our Advantages

On a recent visit to the valley Prof. Samuel Fortier, in charge of the irrigation investigation of the department of agriculture for California and chairman of a committee appointed by the president of the irrigation congress, suggested plans whereby the Imperial valley could reap great advantage by advertising itself in a dignified way before the congress to be held in Sacramento in September.

This matter should properly come before the Imperial valley board of trade, which meets at Imperial next Friday, April 26. Let it be urged by each town in the valley that their representative be present at this meeting. Mr. Tate, who is conducting experiments here, will probably be present and will aid the board in learning what the plan of Mr. Fortier's is and why it should work for good.

Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Travers entertained a few of their friends last night. Flinch and bunco was played, there being four tables, and the games were played progressively. Refreshments were served, and then the party broke up, each present having spent a very pleasant evening.

C. C. Tony left for Ukiah, last Thursday evening, where he expects to remain a couple of weeks in order to straighten up his affairs at that place before returning to the valley to remain permanently.

W. H. Webber is moving his family and household goods from Imperial to El Centro today. This will be his permanent home.

The lumber for the El Centro Fancy Melon Growers Association packing house is being put on the ground and construction work will soon begin.

## WILL INCREASE CAPACITY

### Added Contracts for Ice Necessitates a Larger Output

While in town this week W. F. Holt, of the Holton Power company, informed a PRESS representative that his company had let extensive contracts for furnishing ice for the next five years averaging in amounts to \$75,000 a year, which necessitates the adding to the present plant of another engine, which will increase the capacity sixty tons a day, making the combined output of the plant 100 tons of ice every twenty four hours.

The new machinery has been ordered and will be installed and ready for operation for next year's business. In the present engine room provision has

been made for another engine and an additional freezing room can be provided for quite easily.

This addition to the ice plant places it in the rank of the largest manufacturing plant in Southern California; in fact, there is no other which exceeds the capacity of 100 tons a day.

Naturally the officers of the Holton Power company feel quite satisfied with their business venture here and they are to be commended on the fact that they are ever ready to expand in order to meet whatever demand there may be in the use of ice or electricity throughout the Imperial valley.

## SPECIAL MEETING

### No. 5 Directors Hold Special Meeting and Pass Resolutions

A special meeting of the board of directors of Imperial Water company No. 5 was called by the president for Wednesday, April 17.

All members of the board were present and signed a written consent to the holding of a special meeting.

The following resolutions were adopted by the unanimous votes of the board of directors:

Resolved, that whereas the crops under our company's canal system are now and have for some time past been suffering for the want of water, and, whereas, the officers of this company have received repeated promises to fill the order for water, but during the greater part of February and from the first of March, 1907, until the present time the California Development company has not done so, and, whereas, the Holton Power company has been and is now taking water from this already insufficient supply for power and not for irrigation purposes. Therefore be it resolved that this company close their canal through which the above water is passing, to the end that all the water in our canals may be delivered to our stockholders for irrigation of their suffering crops.

Resolved, that this company offer its capital stock for sale on the following terms: \$15 per share cash in advance or \$20 per share on the following terms: \$5 per share cash in advance and \$2 per share each year for four years and \$7 per share at the end of five years, with six per cent interest payable annually on all deferred payments.

On motion of Chaplin, seconded by Stevenson, it was decided that no commissions should be paid on the sale of water stock.

On motion of Chaplin, seconded by Stevenson, the superintendent was instructed to construct a telephone line to the residence of P. N. Ferguson.

On motion of Chaplin, seconded by Silliman, the president was instructed to have constructed a waste canal along the north line of the NW 14 of section 34-14-15.

R. E. Jauman expects to move his family from Imperial to El Centro next week. They will occupy the house soon to be vacated by Mr. and Mrs. Buttress, they to move into their new bungalow on Brighton street.

## The Whist Party

The whist club met at the home of Mr. and Mrs. T. B. Blanchard last Tuesday evening. Four tables were placed and progressive whist played. The places of the players were determined in a very novel way. On each table was placed a small vase containing sweet peas, each vase claiming a different color. Two baskets, one for the ladies and one for their partners, were provided with sweet peas, the different colors of which corresponded with those in the four vases. The baskets were passed and each player took a flower and those not color blind easily found their table and likewise their partners.

Mrs. Blanchard had arranged her cozy little dining room as a refreshment booth, where fruit punch and light refreshments were to be had and after each game this room seemed to be the center of attraction.

The first prize, a beautiful bouquet, fell to Mrs. Irvin, she having gained the highest number of points. Mr. Blanchard had taken upon himself the solemn duty of providing the second and consolation prizes. The second prize fell to J. L. Travers and he has enough Missouri meerschau pipes, smoking tobacco and star plug to last him a life time. Mrs. Sherman received a "good luck" horseshoe by way of consolation. R. P. L. Moore fell heir to the "booby" package, which took him a little less than an hour to unwrap and find—a lemon. He firmly asserts, however, that even this does not sur his ardor for whist parties.

At a late hour the party broke up, one and all voting Mr. and Mrs. Blanchard delightful entertainers.

## Drug Store Opens

The Valley Drug company opened its doors for business this week and is now able to supply the want for drugs to any extent.

The fixtures for this new drug store arrived the latter part of last week and were immediately put in place. They are very handsome and help materially to make this a handsome store room.

The store is in charge of Mr. A. L. Cook, who is a thorough and competent pharmacist of many years' experience.

In a very short time a large soda fountain of late design will be placed in the front of this store, where ice cream and soft drinks will be served to the thirsty. One side of the front is to be fixed for a pleasant resting room for lady patrons and altogether the people of El Centro and vicinity will find this one of the pleasantest places to visit.

## No Power, No Lights

The power and lights have been off again this week on account of the shortage of water on the Eastside, the farmers just at present requiring all the water the ditch could carry.

This is of only temporary duration, as the demand will soon diminish and there will then be water for the power canal. Work on the auxiliary power plant is to be rushed so the lack of water will not necessitate the shutting off of power and lights. Every effort is being made by the Holton Power company to prevent happenings of this sort.

Quite a few El Centro people attended the ball at Imperial last night.

## IN TWO YEARS

### The Spreckels Road Will Be Completed to Yuma in That Time

According to a Los Angeles paper, John D. Spreckels visited that city last Tuesday and denied that he had purchased the San Diego, Cuyamaca and Eastern railroad.

Mr. Spreckels also specifically denied, according to the report, that he had formed an agreement with E. H. Harriman, looking toward an outlet for the San Diego and Arizona railroad after it is built from San Diego to Yuma.

He stated that the S. D. & A will be built inside of two years and that

## JUST OPENED FOR BUSINESS

Prescription department in charge of a Competent Pharmacist.

We have opened our drug store and are ready to wait upon you. Our stock of Drugs are absolutely new and fresh

We particularly invite you to call on us when in need of drugs of any kind.

Drug Sundries, Patent Medicines, Toilet Articles and stationery. A complete stock.

Next to the Bank,  
El Centro Cal.

Valley Drug Co.