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GOVERNOR IS COMING TO IMPERIAL VALLEY

Reception to Chief Executive at County Seat Next Wednesday

Party of Distinguished Visitors Coming to Get Acquainted With The People and the Resources of the American Nile Country and to Meet King Cotton.

Governor Gillett will make his first visit to Imperial Valley next week and on Wednesday afternoon he will meet the people at a reception in the Holt Opera House at the county seat. Although the Governor lives away north in Humboldt county, he has been enamored of the south ever since his campaign tour of the southern counties, and he is interested with Mr. Holt and others in the development of this region. He comes now as a guest of Mr. Holt in the "Francisca", accompanied by several friends among them Alfred Holman, of the Argonaut, Harry Chandler, Gen. M. H. Sherman and others, and will visit Calexico and other towns during his brief stay in the valley.

The reception at the opera house will be held at 3 p. m., and everyone is invited to attend and become acquainted with the stalwart Governor of California. The El Centro Chamber of Commerce will see that the Governor has an opportunity to inspect some of the cotton fields and become acquainted with the great industry that has been established by the people of the youngest county in the state.

CHRISTMAS FIESTA

Holtville Invites Everybody to Attend and Fill Up With Turkey and Good Things.

Holtville is working up a grand fiesta for Christmas day and invites everyone from everywhere to drop in and take pot luck at a big barbecue, at which the celebrated Imperial Valley turkey will be served roasted to a turn, with cranberry sauce on the side and all the fixings of a real Christmas dinner.

The program of the day includes broncho-busting, steer roping, a ball game between the Yuma and Holtville teams and a grand ball at night. Holtville proposes to make the Christmas fiesta the biggest good time the valley ever had and expects the greatest crowd ever seen in the town.

SMASHED TO KINDLING

The bursting of an air hose on a freight train at Ogilby Friday night caused a car to be smashed into kindling wood and shook up the train crew "something fierce."

CALEXICO'S BIG DAY

Good Sports Enjoyed by Large Crowd at Celebration of Railroad Opening at the Border City.

Calexico's celebration of the completion of the Inter-California railroad last Saturday was a great success and was attended by a large number of people from the other cities of the valley. The size of the crowd is indicated by the fact that it consumed 1,000 pounds of barbecued beef and several barrels of coffee, and shouted for more.

The sports opened with trap shooting in the morning. Joe Estudillo, Calexico's crack marksman, began by breaking nine out of his first ten targets, and George Thrasher followed with ten straight. A stranger to most of the crowd, a man named Clark, entered with a cheap borrowed gun and smashed targets like a professional, and Mobley Meadows got into the game late and made it interesting, but the Sheriff shot a bit too rapidly and made some misses that he might have avoided had he been more deliberate. Estudillo and Clark tied, with 23 out of 25. Thrasher broke 22 and Meadows broke 21.

Four horses were entered in the

quarter mile race, which was won by the Hammers horse. The sorrel entered by Andreas Dominguez won the 600 yard race against two competitors, one of them a thoroughbred mare from the C-M ranch.

A bad horse was ridden by a bronco buster, but the crowd could not be persuaded to keep out of the way of the riders and the sport was cut short after the horse and rider had a bad fall in consequence of the crowding of the ground.

The chief attraction was the ball game between Calexico and Imperial. Every seat in the stands was occupied and the crowd got its money's worth of exciting baseball. Calexico won by 5 to 4, piling up the winning runs in the eighth inning.

NEW CITY ATTORNEY CHOSEN BY TRUSTEES

Ex-Judge Ansel Smith Becomes Legal Advisor to the Board

Plans and Detail Estimates For Water Works Submitted By Engineer and Taken Under Advisement For a Week—Gas Company Asks Permit to Lay Pipes.

The Board of City Trustees of El Centro met at the City Hall in regular session at 7:45 o'clock. Roll call showed present: Pearson, Brown, Blackinton, Hamilton and Pellet.

Minutes of previous meeting of October 26 were read and approved.

Under reports of officers, City Engineer Pearson presented the plans and details for the proposed water system. Same were examined by the Board and explained by the engineer. The matter was taken under advisement for one week.

The City Treasurer reported the sewer fund overdrawn, in that only \$2662.79 is on hand, whereas \$3000 should be in this fund to meet interest and sinking fund.

The Trustees voted to pay first sewer bond and interest due.

A communication from the Imperial Valley Gas Company regarding the location of gas pipes in the streets and alleys was read, and this was followed by a general discussion and explanations from the City Engineer.

It was moved by Trustee Blackinton, seconded by Trustee Hamilton, and duly carried, that the Imperial Valley Gas Company be permitted to lay its pipes three feet south of the north and east lines of alleys, and six feet west of curb lines on the east sides of streets running north and south, and six feet south of the north curb line of streets running east and west.

On motion of Trustee Pellet, the Board voted to request the Imperial Valley Gas Company to file with the City Engineer a map showing the profile and depth of the proposed gas mains and pipes in the city of El Centro.

A communication from J. D. Murphy asking for an exemption from the payment of the occupation tax was read and laid on the table.

Various bills were presented and the City Clerk was authorized to draw warrants for their payment.

Under the head of new business, Trustee Brown moved that the City Trustees proceed to appoint a City Attorney, prefacing his motion by stating that at present the city simply employed the firm of Conkling & Brown to do its legal work, and that he believed the time had arrived when it was proper to regularly appoint a City Attorney. The motion was seconded by Trustee Pellet, and was carried by the following vote: Ayes: Brown, Hamilton, Pellet; noes: Pearson, Blackinton.

Trustee Brown nominated Ansel Smith for City Attorney, the nomination being seconded by Trustee Pellet. On roll call Trustees Brown, Hamilton and Pellet voted yes, and Trustees Pearson and Blackinton were recorded as not voting.

M. W. Conkling addressed the board and commended the Board's choice of a City Attorney.

On motion of Trustee Brown the contract heretofore existing between the city and the law firm of Conkling & Brown was cancelled.

The Board adjourned to meet Tuesday, November 16, at 7:30 p. m.

ERRATIC COLORADO ON GOOD BEHAVIOR

Change of Course to the Gulf Effected Without Injury to Canal System

Engineers Find Entire River Flowing By Way of Abejos and Pescador, and Old Bed Above Bottom of Headgate at the Intake. No Menace to Valley in New Freak.

Engineers of the C. D. Co. have completed their exploration of the new course of the Colorado and found that the whole volume of the river is leaving the old channel at a point nearly opposite the Arizona-Sonora boundary line and flowing by way of the Abejos channel into the Pescador and thence by way of the Hardy to the gulf. The old channel from the point of diversion to the mouth of the Hardy is dry. The ten foot fall reported recently in the Abejos has disappeared in the process of cutting back and the Colorado is flowing smoothly and peaceably by the new route to the gulf.

It was feared that the change of course might be accompanied by a scouring of the channel that would lower the water surface at the canal heading and make trouble for the irrigation company, but nothing of that sort has developed. On the contrary, the channel has silted up so that the bed of the river is now several feet above the sill of the cement headgate and more water than is needed may be taken into the canal at any time. There is no danger of a shortage of water in the valley and there is no menace to the levees or any of the works in the present behavior or probable future freaks of the river.

The work of dredging and straightening the main canal below the headgate is progressing satisfactorily, and changes in the river bed above the gate are throwing the channel over to the west side at the intake, thus dispelling the fears of the engineers that expensive work might have to be done to safeguard the intake and insure sufficient supply for the canal.

COMING ENTERTAINMENT

Potter Sisters Will Appear at Holt Opera House Next Saturday in Fine Program.

Under the auspices and for the benefit of the Park Committee of the Ten Thousand Club, the Potter Sisters, entertainers, impersonators, monologists and concert readers, will give an entertainment in the Holt Opera House next Saturday night, November 20.

The Potter Sisters come highly recommended by "Bob" Burdette, and other well known personages and have been highly commended by the leading daily papers of the country. They will give a varied programme, including their own novel specialty, scenes from Shakespeare. Popular prices will be charged.

COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

The Imperial County Bar Association met at El Centro last Saturday for the first time since the summer court vacation. Ex-Judge F. C. Farr, of Imperial, was elected president, and Mr. O'Connell, of the law office of Eshleman & Swing, was elected secretary. Attorneys John M. Eshleman, R. H. McPherron and G. H. P. Shaw were elected delegates to attend the meeting of the State Bar Association at San Francisco.

LAND AND STOCK COMPANY.

The Imperial Land and Stock Company is one of the latest business combinations to handle Imperial Valley properties. This company is composed mainly of San Bernardino men. It holds 640 acres of valley land and 6000 head of sheep. Its capital stock is placed at \$100,000. The directors are H. L. Peck, A. M. Hamm, H. E. Harris, Victor C. Smith, I. Benjamin and Judge Oster. J. L. Adams is the manager and treasurer.

PICKING PROGRESSES IN COTTON FIELDS

Second Carload of Bales Is Ready For Shipment to Oakland Mills.

First Picking Averages Close to a Bale to the Acre—Price of Thirteen Cents a Pound Maintained—Many Thousands of Acres to Be Planted Next Season.

Up to Nov. 12, the gin at El Centro had turned out 89 bales of cotton and the growers had shipped 42 bales to Oakland and three to Los Angeles. Another carload is on hand and may be shipped next week. The mills are still offering 13 cents.

First pickings are running close to a bale to the acre as a rule. The Buttram field of ten acres was injured by softening of the ground, which caused the plants to fall over, and the first picking gave only six bales, but the later picking will bring the product up to a full bale to the acre. The late fields are not yet ready for pickers.

Many persons are coming into the valley to grow cotton on a large scale, and fields of 320, 640 and even 1000 acres will be planted next season. It is probable that the aggregate will run close to 20,000 acres, and that will give employment to 1500 pickers.

Secretary Srack, of the Imperial Valley Cotton Growers' Association, has been in correspondence with D. S. Cage & Co., cotton oil millers, of Texas, concerning the establishment of an oil mill in the valley, and has received from them a letter in which they say:

"The proposition is indeed very attractive to us, and with any reasonable assurance, say of 15,000 tons of seed per annum for two or more years, we would have no trouble in providing the necessary capital for the construction of such a mill. We could so arrange the stock of the institution that we could carry the major part of it and the balance could be distributed among the growers of your association, permitting them to pay for the same in cotton seed. Or in the event of their unwillingness to take stock, we beg to assure you that under favorable conditions we can readily furnish every dollar that is necessary to construct a mill without calling upon them at all.

"Now, therefore, it is only a question of detailed information and further investigation with reference to the reasonable certainty of obtaining a sufficient quantity of cotton seed, under contract of two or more years, to justify the investment of the capital required to construct the mill. All other conditions are a foregone conclusion, insofar as we are concerned, and we beg to assure you that we will be glad to take sufficient interest to make a thorough investigation upon receipt of further advice from you as to the encouraging prospects for the supply of raw material. If you will kindly get this data up for us, and you conclude, after a more thorough investigation of us, to work with us in the enterprise, we will be pleased to join you, everything being favorable to the investment."

MASONS AT BRAWLEY

Visitors From Valley Cities Assist in Installation of New Lodge.

Brawley Lodge No. 402 F. & A. M. was installed by Deputy Grand Master D. R. Weller, of Los Angeles on Saturday night in the presence of a great many visiting Masons from Imperial Valley cities. The following acted as Grand Lodge Officers for the occasion: D. R. Weller, Most Worshipful Grand Master; Walter O. Hamilton, Deputy Grand Master and Master of Ceremonies; Byron H. Cook, Grand Senior Warden; H. H. Peterson, Grand Junior Warden.

The following officers of the Brawley Lodge were installed: C. J. Park, W. M.; Adolph Eckert, S. W.; H. L. Fulton, J. W.; W. H. Whalen, Sec'y.; W. T. Dunn, Treasurer; Rev. A. R. Moore, Chaplain; Philo Jones, S. D.; Chas. Eckert, J. D.; E. B. Stiglbauer, Marshall; Dr. J. L. Cooke, S. S.; J. L.

Klasgys, J. S.; Jerome Alkin, Tyler. After the ceremonies were completed, visiting Masons and their wives were the guests of the Brawley Lodge at a banquet to which about 150 were seated. Among those from El Centro were Samuel W. Dunaway and wife, Dr. and Mrs. Virgil McCombs, W. E. Morton and wife, D. S. Elder and wife and W. O. Hamilton.

Brawley Lodge is the youngest Masonic Lodge in Imperial Valley and has been working under dispensation for the past year.

PORTER RANCH IS SOLD

James Porter, of Los Angeles, has traded his 320-acre ranch near Imperial for a forty-two-acre orange ranch owned by J. W. Henderson at Claremont. The trade was made on a valuation of \$125 per acre for the Imperial ranch. The new owner will convert the Porter place into a high class stock ranch. Mr. Porter does not lose his interest in Imperial Valley because of the sale of his property, but announces that he will make other realty investments here and will probably engage in the cotton industry on a large scale next season.

WORK ON YUMA PROJECT

Siphon to Carry Water From Laguna Dam Under the River Begun.

Dispatches received by the chief engineer of the Yuma project, Francis L. Sellow, from Washington last Sunday authorized the immediate resumption of the government work which has been in abeyance for several months.

As a consequence a force began sinking the shaft for the siphon under the Colorado on Monday.

It is definitely stated that the project, which is already 70 per cent completed, will be finished before any stoppage of work ensues.

This will mean that by this time next year water will be flowing through the canals, and irrigating 30,000 acres of rich land in the Yuma Valley.

CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL SITE

Ten Acre Site in Subdivision West of Date Canal Donated to Union District by Mr. Balcom.

Patrons of the Central Union High School will be gratified to learn that the present week has brought about the closing of the details whereby the high school district becomes the possessor of a ten-acre tract of land for a high school site, donated to the district by Mr. Balcom.

This tract is located west of the Date Canal, about on a line with Orange street, and its easterly line lies about 600 feet west of the Date Canal road. With the trend of residence building to the south and west, this will make a fine location.

The trustees have under consideration plans for the improvement of the grounds this season, so that they may be in fine condition when the proper time arrives to erect a permanent high school building. The gift of ten acres will allow ample space for athletic grounds for the local games and Imperial Valley Inter-scholastic League contests.

COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Executive Committee of the County Chamber of Commerce held a meeting in El Centro on Monday and all the members of the committee were present with the exception of Mr. Chaney of Holtville.

The principal business transacted was the settlement of the valley directory matter.

The committee after a lengthy discussion cancelled the contract with A. W. Fisher & Co. on account of non-performance of the requirements of the contract and awarded the new contract to A. G. Thurston & Company.

Under the new contract the County Chamber will receive \$1000 during the next five years from Mr. Thurston and will have the satisfaction of knowing that the directory will be published as agreed.

President Giles and Secretary Jones presented their resignations to take effect on November 17th, when the County Chamber will meet again at El Centro.

CLASS A BASEBALL FOR DESERT LEAGUE

El Centro, Calexico and Holtville Are Winners of the First Games

Yuma and Imperial Have Hard Luck While Brawley's Unprepared Team Was Outclassed—El Centro to Play Imperial on Home Grounds Sunday Vance and Jones Opposing Pitchers

The winter baseball season on the desert has opened with a rush. Calexico won from Imperial Saturday by good luck in the eighth inning. El Centro ran away from Brawley by a one-sided score and Holtville took advantage of Yuma's hard luck and Wigg's hurricane pitching to get away in the lead. Today Yuma will play at Calexico and Nagle will try to win for the Arizonans against his old Calexico friends. Brawley, strengthened since last Sunday will play Holtville and El Centro will meet Imperial on her own grounds. Jones will pitch for Imperial and Vance for El Centro. El Centro's line-up will not be far different than that of last Sunday except that Stovall will be absent on account of illness in his family. McCune, who was expected to play shortstop has not arrived; if he is not here by Sunday Watson will play in the infield and Roubush in the outfield. It will be a great game here Sunday and everybody should be present to witness the contest. El Centro will endeavor to hold her lead, while Imperial with a better infield and Jones pitching his best will try to get even for their defeat of last Saturday.

The El Centro grounds have been put in fine condition; the grand stand has been improved and new bleachers erected, so that everybody can view the game comfortably; it is expected that fully 500 people will attend.

The Game at Brawley

El Centro made an auspicious start in the Imperial and Yuma Valley League by trimming Brawley by the score of 14 to 1. Brawley was handicapped by the non-arrival of four of their regular players. The El Centro boys were all in proper position, and played as though they had been together for years.

Vance for El Centro worked out in fine shape, and kept Brawley swinging wild throughout the game. Berger pitched good ball for Brawley, but the support he received was hopeless.

Holtville at Yuma.

Big Jim Wiggs had plenty of speed at Yuma Sunday and while he was hit for eight safe ones he struck out sixteen men and was scored on only once. Dolly Gray pitched for Yuma and might have had better success if Nagle hadn't made three errors at first and if his catcher had not been disabled in the second inning. Twice during the game Yuma had three men on bases but Wigg's speed pulled him out of the hole each time.

(Continued on page 4.)

BLAISDELL ADMITS GUILT

Imperial Valley Land Operator Fined For Defrauding the Government.

Hiram W. Blaisdell, one of the pioneers of the Imperial Valley, pleaded guilty to a charge of conspiring to defraud the government of its public lands, in the United States District Court last week. His attorney made a strong plea for leniency, stating that Blaisdell had taken the course he did because he was in feeble health and feared a long trial. It was argued that even if the defendant were technically guilty of land fraud that he acted from good motives in an effort to bring settlers into the valley. After some consideration, Judge Wellborn imposed a fine of \$4000. Blaisdell was indicted upon fourteen counts, together with Arthur H. Kemper, Paul H. McPherrin and F. C. Paulin, Kemper, who acted as notary public in the alleged fraudulent assignment of desert land entries, pleaded guilty, some time ago, and was fined \$250. McPherrin is on trial with the Chaplins in a similar case.