

## NO RAISE OF RATES TO USERS OF WATER

### Receiver and Mutual Companies Come to an Amicable Agreement out of Court

#### Water Companies to Pay Rate of Fifty Cents in Advance and Supply Receiver With Suction Dredge Which to Keep Alamo Channel Open.

Hearing on the question of increase of water rates was suspended in the Superior Court last week to give the water companies and the receiver of the C. D. Co. an opportunity to come to an agreement on a proposal advanced by some of the attorneys and made known to the receiver during a recess of the court. The water companies manifested a willingness to supply the receiver with funds under conditions that would not affect contract relations or prejudice the legal rights of either party, and the receiver thought he could pull through without raising the rate if the companies would help him in other ways. The following letter, addressed to the mutual companies, explains the situation:

October 24, 1910.  
Gentlemen: Pursuant to a conversation with the president of Water Company No. 1 and Hon. Mr. Britt, attorney for that company, I submit the following proposition, upon the acceptance of which, and compliance with all the conditions named herein, the Receiver agrees to withdraw his demand for an increased water rate and the abrogation of the water contract.

#### PROPOSAL.

All water companies agreeing to pay all arrears, for water delivered between December 13, 1909, and July 1, 1910.

Further, that all water companies pay, prior to November 15, 1910, for all water delivered between July 1, 1910 and November 1, 1910.

Further, that on December 1, 1910, all Imperial Water Companies shall pay for water delivered during the month of November, 1910, and shall also pay in advance for water estimated to be required for the month of December, and thereafter monthly in advance at 50 cents per acre foot minus 10 per cent. reduction for seepage and evaporation.

Further, that the Imperial Water Companies immediately provide some means for the purchase of one hydraulic dredger of modern type and at least 12 inch pump capacity. This dredger to be placed in the canal under the Receiver's control below the structure known as Hanlon's Heading; the Receiver to pay a reasonable fixed rental charge for the use of this dredger, the title of which shall remain vested in the Imperial Water Companies, or such company, person or corporation as they may designate.

The Receiver wishes it distinctly understood that he believes the total sum named in Estimate "D," \$176,346.50, together with the sum of \$158,887.45, for maintenance and operation expenses, between October 1, 1910, and June 30, 1911, to be a necessary amount, but in the maintenance and operation of the canal system of the California Development Company he will make diligent effort to deliver the water demanded, not assuming responsibility for decay and failure of structures, and silting of canals, that he is unable to remedy from lack of funds.

Respectfully submitted,  
W. H. HOLABIRD,  
Receiver.

#### CALEXICO HOTEL SOLD.

A deal has been closed whereby W. F. Holt sells to the Calexico Savings Bank for \$20,000 the Hotel Calexico brick block, located at Second street and Paulin avenue, Calexico. The property consists of the hotel block and two vacant lots west of the building. Mr. Holt took in payment for this property bonds of the Holton Power Company held by the bank.

#### KIRMESS A SUCCESS

### Central Union High School's Second Annual High Jinks a Money Maker and Fun Producer.

Central Union High School Kirmess, which took place on Friday and Saturday of last week was a notable success as a fun-maker and money producer. The affair is the second of the kind given by this school, and it is the intention of the student body to make it a regular annual affair.

The high school campus was used, and within the enclosure were placed booths of various side shows and a large open-air auditorium, provided with seats for 400 people. Here on a large stage was given a creditable vaudeville performance, which on the first night attracted an assembly that more than filled the seats. The grounds were lighted with many electric bulbs. The attendance was estimated at 800 for the two nights. The main features of the vaudeville

performance, which was given entirely by the high school students, were the chorus of girls, a clowns' camp, a sprightly black-face sketch and a playette, "For Her Sake," written expressly for this affair by Wilbur Jay Hall, a local newspaper man. All the parts were well sustained and each number received warm applause each night.

The total sum of \$328 was taken in, of which about \$200 is profit. This money will be used by the student body to sustain high school athletics and to purchase pictures and a piece of statuary for the high school auditorium.

#### CORNER-STONE LAYING

### State-Street Christian Church to Have Formal Ceremony at New Building on November Fifth.

Sunday, November 5 is to be an interesting day in El Centro religious circles. On that day the State-street Christian Church will have rally day exercises for the Sunday school at 10 o'clock in the forenoon, at the Holt Opera House, and at 3 o'clock in the afternoon the cornerstone laying at the new building, at Fifth and State streets will take place. A good musical programme will be rendered and addresses will be made by prominent speakers.

Rev. W. G. Conley, the pastor, has moved his family to El Centro, and will devote his entire time to the church work here.

Good progress has been made on the church edifice. The frame has been raised and is being enclosed. The lines are graceful and the building, situated in an open space, makes a fine showing.

#### SHOT IN SHERIFF'S OFFICE

### George Sexsmith Puts Bullet Through His Own Body.

George Sexsmith, a civil engineer, who was engaged on canal work in the valley in the early days of the C. D. Co., shot himself in the sheriff's office at the county jail yesterday noon. Sexsmith was alone, having offered to attend to the office during the brief absence of the deputy in charge, and nobody saw what he did, but circumstances told a plain story. He opened a drawer under the counter, took a 32-20 Colt single action revolver that a deputy had placed in the drawer, and shot himself in the left breast. The bullet passed above and to the left of the heart, taking a downward slant, came out of the back and broke a glass upon a desk behind Sexsmith. The missile was steel-jacketed and made a clean wound, and there is a chance that the man may recover. Mr. Sexsmith had been worried and depressed for some days, and his friends had been careful to keep firearms out of his reach. There is just a possibility that he shot himself accidentally. When he recovered consciousness, after removal to the hospital, he gave that explanation. Sexsmith died at 8 o'clock last night.

#### SUICIDE OF JAKE MEADOWS

### Deputy Sheriff of Imperial County Fires Rifle Bullet Through His Breast and Dies Within Two Hours.

"Jake" Meadows, deputy Sheriff of Imperial County, brother of Sheriff Mabley Meadows, and one of the best known men in Southeastern California, is dead from a gun-shot wound by his own hand.

About 11:30 o'clock last night passers-by heard groans coming from Meadows's room back of the County Jail and notified night watchman Havens, who made an investigation. He found Meadows lying on his bed, with his gun beside him, and a bullet hole through his left breast. Medical aid was immediately summoned, but Meadows died within two hours without regaining consciousness.

The tragic affair, happened less than four hours after the death of George Sexsmith, who shot himself in the Sheriff's office yesterday noon.

Meadows was 55 years of age. He was a widower, but leaves four children. He had served as deputy Sheriff for Imperial Valley when this territory was a part of San Diego County, and had been a deputy Sheriff, under his brother's incumbency of this office, since the formation of Imperial County.

#### GOULD-HAIR WEDDING.

Last Thursday afternoon at 2 o'clock, at the ranch of Mr. and Mrs. John Hair, of Jasper, Miss Jennie Gould, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. N. Gould, and Earl Hair, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Hair, were married by Rev. R. L. Glasby, of Calexico. After the ceremony the bridal party repaired to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Gould where a wedding dinner was served. Mr. and Mrs. Hair left on the evening train for Los Angeles, where they will spend the honeymoon. Their permanent residence will be in Old Mexico.

## CANDIDATE IRVING VISITS THE VALLEY

### Democratic Opponent to Stand-pat Smith Talks Reasonably and Frankly

#### Man From Riverside Makes Good Impression Upon Hearers at Meeting in El Centro Opera House. Democratic County Candidates Present Their claims to Support.

The democratic candidate for Congress in the Eighth District, W. G. Irving, now City Attorney of Riverside, visited the valley towns this week and spoke at several meetings. Mr. Irving was not a candidate in the primary, but was put upon the ticket in the place of Mr. Kirby, who, although a Republican, received the Democratic nomination but declined to run because he had sought and failed to obtain the Republican nomination. Thus Mr. Irving comes late into the field and has but a short time in which to canvas the eleven counties in the district covering nearly one half the area of the state.

Last Tuesday night, Mr. Irving addressed a meeting in the Opera House at El Centro and made a rational, clear-cut statement of his attitude on all important political questions before the people. He spoke as a consistent, conscientious Democrat and advocate of gradual revision of the tariff to the Democratic ideal of a revenue tariff, and he argued that the Democrats and the Insurgent Republicans can work together consistently, as they profess the same principles and advocate virtually identical policies.

Mr. Irving advocated abolition of the special privileges that have created trusts and placed ninety per cent. of the wealth of the nation in the hands of four per cent. of the population; favored regulation of public service corporations, the establishment of government steamship lines between Pacific ports and Panama to break the Southern Pacific's monopoly; declared his belief in the justice of a graduated income tax, and his adherence to the principles and policies of reform in government for which his party stands.

Mr. Irving cited Congressman Smith's record and speeches to show that Smith is a standpatter and a Cannonite and a fervid eulogist of the Aldrich-Payne tariff bunco game.

Other speakers at the meeting were E. C. Capps, of San Diego and some of the Democratic county candidates. Walter Simons was chairman of the meeting.

#### WILL BUILD APARTMENTS

### Charles E. Sprouse to Erect Handsome Two-Story Building on State Street This Fall.

El Centro is to have its first modern apartment house. Charles E. Sprouse is to be the builder, and has his plans prepared for the erection of one of the finest buildings in Imperial Valley. This is to be a sixteen-room building, 40x60 feet, of modified mission style, and will be arranged in four-room suites. It will cost approximately \$8000.

The Sprouse apartments, will be located on the south side of State street, between the State-Street Christian Church and the \$10,000 Carnegie Library, giving this block three of the best buildings in Imperial Valley. The structure will have all of the modern conveniences usually found in first-class apartments, and the prospect is so attractive that already Mr. Sprouse has had applications for leases on all of the suites. The building will be erected this fall.

#### WATER WORKS IN COMMISSION.

All the pipe of the El Centro city water system has been laid, and the pumps are to be tested today. The city engineer notifies residents that books are open for applicants for connection with the new system, and that the old pipes will be put out of use about November 20.

#### BUILDING AT TECOLOTE RANCHO.

Harold Bell Wright has awarded to Jasper L. Travers the contract for the erection of a residence on the Tecolote Rancho, at Meloland. Mr. Travers has a force of men engaged on the structure, which is to be completed early in December. The building is of hollow tile, of Spanish style, with an enclosed court and spacious screen porches.

#### WHOLESALE GROCERY FIRM.

The Imperial Valley Mercantile Company is now housed in the cold storage building at El Centro, and is opening up its wholesale stock of groceries for the valley and Arizona trade. H. L. Peck is president of this concern; E. J. Eisenmayer is vice president, and A. W. Rogers is secretary.

## CARLOADS OF COTTON GOING OUT OF VALLEY

### About Five Hundred Bales Turned Out By Valley Up to Date

#### Indian Pickers Treat Gathering of Staple as Sedentary Job and Prove Unsatisfactory. Japanese Spinners Bidding for the Crop and Paying Fourteen Cents This Week.

About 500 bales of cotton have been ginned in Imperial Valley so far this season, and seven carloads have been shipped out. The El Centro gin has handled more than 400 bales, Calexico about sixty and Holtville more than thirty. The Brawley gin will begin operations next week, and then the new gin at El Centro will be put in commission and the old gin moved to Heber.

Three carloads of cotton were sold this week to Mr. Kimbara, representing Morimura, Arai & Co., of Yokohama, at 14 cents a pound. One carload was shipped to Oakland by Mr. Chappell, who paid 13.80 net to the grower. The Japanese spinners will take all the Imperial cotton they can get, and so far they have paid the highest prices.

The Valley has some advantage over Texas in the matter of freight rates. The rate from Texas is 85 cents a hundred, 10 cents for compressing for ocean shipment and 40 cents steamship tariff, or \$1.35. The railroad rate from Imperial valley is 65 cents, with an equal amount by steamship, or \$1.50, due to the fact that no compressor has been established on the coast to reduce the size of the bales. Mr. Arai, who is in Los Angeles, said to the Examiner that he would arrange, if possible, to install a compressor in the valley this year that his company might take advantage of the freight tariff on compressed bales, which would reduce the rate to 3 cents less than the Texas rate. The cotton shippers are also seeking lower freight rates from San Francisco.

Los Angeles will not be considered as a port for shipment, due to the condition that the railroads demand as much for transporting the cotton to that port as to San Francisco.

The experiment of importing Indians from Arizona to pick cotton has not proved satisfactory, partly because most of the thirty Indians brought here were picked up in the streets of Yuma and are not in the habit of hustling at work. Their scheme is to get enough cotton in a sack to make a comfortable cushion, and then sit down on the sack and pick the bolls within reach, holding a branch with one hand and carefully extracting the lint with the other. They pick very clean cotton but only from forty to seventy pounds a day, and their wages barely pay for what they eat. They do not like the work and they do not satisfy their employers. Supervisor Odle, of the Indian labor bureau, admits that the plan has not worked out well, and no more Indians will be sent here. The Hindus, however, are doing well and are said to be satisfied with the job: They pick much faster than the Indians and make better wages.

The Imperial Valley Cotton & Oil Co. moved its office yesterday from the Oregon building to its own building east of the track. The walls of the seed house are rising and machinery is due to arrive in a few days. Excavations for other buildings are in progress, and thirty-eight men are at work getting the plant into shape. Material is now unloaded on the ground from cars on the new switch. Stock of the company is now in demand and business men are trying to invest money in the oil mill, but stock can be issued only to growers in exchange for seed.

Some growers, who did not sign up for stock, are selling their seed to the Imperial gin people at \$15 a ton, and the seed is sold to cattle raisers for feed at the same price. By this operation the growers are losing the oil value of their seed and foregoing a profit of \$15 to \$20 a ton above the \$15 in stock that they could get by joining the mill company. The seed is just as good for feed after the oil is extracted, and the grower, the Imperial ginners and the feeders are simply throwing away the oil and the larger part of the value of seed. The Imperial ginners are figuring on handling 1,200 bales and are ordering bagging for that number.

#### SEVENTEEN LOTS SOLD

### Tract Between Orange and Holt Avenues, Seventh and Eighth Streets, Taken For Residences.

Immediately after H. C. Griswold used a quarter-page advertisement in the Imperial Valley Press to set forth the advantages of a tract of seventeen lots he offered for sale, the buyers began to come to him at his temporary office in the Press building; and early

this week he closed a deal for the last of these lots.

The lots are located on the block between Seventh and Eighth streets, Orange avenue and Holt avenue, and are slightly residence properties. Within a few months the present bare tract will be dotted with cottages, and the present season will bring about the extensive planting of trees on streets and lots.

Many of the buyers have purchased these properties for their own home sites. The buyers are: C. R. Dally, two lots; C. L. Davis, two lots; Fred C. Shawley, three lots; J. E. Oldham, two lots; S. H. Sterner, two lots; and one lot each to T. C. Pyle, O. W. Carrell, C. L. Cressey, Miss Florence Pyle, J. H. McDonald, O. M. Patton and M. S. Hughes.

#### THEATRE'S OPENING NIGHT

### Monday Night-First Performance Under Appletill's Management in Holt Opera House.

The first entertainment in Holt Opera House under the new management of C. M. Appletill will take place Monday night. A fine programme has been provided and the usual patronage of the Airdome will doubtless be transferred to the show at the Opera House as well as many new show-goers, as the accommodations are first class.

Three fine motion picture films will be shown, having been secured at an extra expense for opening night. They include one of Esney's famous films, "Take Me Out to the Ball Game" a Selig film "Ranch Girls of the Great Southwest," taken at the scene of a great cattle round-up in Oklahoma, and a war scene film.

The Ladies' Orchestra, with H. A. Richardson as leader and soloist, will give several selections, and the Chaparral Male Quartette will sing.

The usual admission prices which have prevailed at the Airdome will be charged, at Mr. Appletill's new show house.

#### OPEN AIR CONCERTS

### El Centro Concert Band to Play at New Band Stand This Evening.

The El Centro Concert Band during the present week has had a band stand erected on the north side of Main street, about midway between Fifth and Sixth streets, and tonight will give an open-air concert at the new stand. Citizens are invited to assemble on Main street and enjoy the music.

The programme for tonight will begin at 7:45 o'clock, and will include the following:  
Overture....."The Boquet"  
Waltz....."Budding Flowers"  
Cornet Solo....."Killarney"  
H. A. Richardson.  
Novelty....."Mesmerizing Mendelsohn"  
Novelty....."Mesmerizing Mendelsohn Tune"  
Waltz....."The Brook"  
Selection....."Operatic Mingle"  
Serenade....."Starlit Night"  
Andante and Galop....."Paradox"  
"Star Spangled Banner."

#### MURDER TRIAL

### Reidy Facing a Jury Under Charge of Killing Bud Henderson.

A murder case has taken up the time of the Superior Court this week, Charles Reidy being on trial for the killing of Bud Henderson at Calexico last June. Henderson, drunk, invaded the Thacher House, and Reidy struck him with a piece of gas pipe, breaking his head and killing him. The only feature of the trial out of the ordinary was the testimony of witnesses who said attempts to "fix" them with offers of money had been made by Bob Davis. Their statements will be considered by the District Attorney after the trial.

District Attorney Eshleman is assisted by J. S. Ross, of Los Angeles, and the defendant's counsel are C. L. Brown and E. C. Capps. Arguments to the jury were in progress last night.

#### CITY HAS TWO FIRES.

El Centro's fire department was called out twice during the present week. On Wednesday forenoon fire was discovered under the window shelf in the Old Mission Confectionery. It caught in the woodwork and destroyed bagged goods in the window and a show case. The fire was caused by escaping gas. It was quickly extinguished by the use of the chemical engine. On Thursday afternoon the light frame building on Sixth street, north of the First National Bank block, occupied by Mrs. W. E. Cox, caught fire in the roof and was partially destroyed. Nearly all the household goods and Mr. Cox's law library were saved. Mrs. Cox was prostrated by the excitement, and has been seriously ill since the fire.

#### CONTESTS SEELEY TOWNSITE.

Promoters of the town of Seeley, at the New River end of the eastern section of the San Diego & Arizona railroad, have struck a snag. Their right to the townsite is contested by J. E. Daly, who alleges that the filings are fraudulent and that the assignee, R. B. Crabtree, is a dummy for A. M. Seeley. The case is being heard in the Los Angeles Land Office.

## BUILDERS ARE BUSY AT THE COUNTY SEAT

### Constructing Churches, Library and Many Private Residences

#### Work For All Carpenters and Other Building Artisans That Apply. Continuous Growth of City Keeps Pace With Development of the Valley.

El Centro's building boom continues to grow, and all indications point to a notable increase in the number of buildings during the fall and ensuing winter. Every artisan in El Centro who wants work has employment. Carpenters have been in especial demand, and contractors have been advertising for extra help.

The Loftus building, at Fourth and Main streets, is being roofed and the inside work is in progress. Dick Barbarick's 100-foot building will soon be completed, and make a good showing on Main street, between Fourth and Fifth streets.

Allan P. Nuffer has material on the ground and the excavations have been started for a large residence on the north side of Olive street, between Scott and Morton residences. This structure will have hollow tile walls and a tile roof, and will have a basement dining room—an innovation in house building here. Mr. Nuffer's parents are coming from Huntington Beach to reside with him.

Walter Packard, stationed in Imperial Valley to conduct researches and experimental work for the agricultural department of the State University, has begun the erection of a cottage of five rooms at Fifth and Holt avenue.

W. T. Bill is completing three additions to his business block on the north side of Main street, between Fifth and Sixth streets. These provide additional quarters for the Old Mission Confectionery, the Royal Cafe and the Free Lance office.

The Chaffey Art Metal Company has erected a sheet metal building on its lot at Fourth and Broadway.

The Valley Lumber Company is completing new sheds and warehouse at its new lumber yards, Fourth and State streets.

The Joseph R. Loftus Company has plans for the erection of a loading platform, 40x80 feet, on the company's lots between Main and Broadway.

W. F. Holt is having prepared a parking, with lattice and out buildings, for railroad trackage on which will stand his private car when he visits El Centro.

Mrs. Pyle is building a cottage on west Brighton avenue.

P. T. Cunningham has plans prepared for the erection of a cottage for his own home at State and Seventh streets.

The El Centro Methodists have in preparation plans for an \$8000 church edifice, to be erected at the northeast corner of Sixth and Commercial streets. The present church building will be fitted up for parsonage purposes.

Several other plans for buildings are pending and will be brought to completion within the ensuing week.

An indication of the building activities now in progress is given by the fact that one contractor, Jasper L. Travers, now has a force of thirty carpenters working on his contracts.

#### AUTO RACE TO PHOENIX.

The annual automobile race from Los Angeles to Phoenix, Arizona, will start from in front of the Hollenbeck Hotel in Los Angeles at 10 o'clock on the night of Saturday, November 5. The route is by way of Pomona, San Bernardino, Beaumont Pass and the Coachella Valley, thence to the upper end of the Imperial Valley and across the mountains to the Palo Verde Valley, crossing the Colorado river to Ehrenberg, and thence to Phoenix. Nine autos will enter the race.

#### PATENTS ISSUED.

The United States Land Office has issued patents to Imperial Valley lands as follows:

- To John Miller, tract 100-13-13.
- To Cornelius Greeden tract 64-13-13.
- To John Strunk, tract 51-16-13.
- To Irvin R. Elder, tract 101-13-13.
- To Franklin P. Rand, tract 113-15-15.
- To John L. Wehnart, tract 119-15-15.
- To Nathaniel W. Tilton, tract 47-17-15.
- To Nathaniel W. Tilton, tract 51-7-15.
- To Heirs of Laura B. Miller, tract 151-16-13.
- To Ella S. Salbach, tract 106-13-15.
- To Benjamin Jones, tract 92-16-16.
- To Robt. Smith, tract 131-14-15.
- To Agnes Cate, tract 79-14-15.

#### MARQUEZ SENTENCE COMMUTED.

After standing in the shadow of the gallows four times, and each time receiving a temporary reprieve, Francisco Marquez, slayer of Peter B. Hodges, a well-known Colorado river character, has had his death sentence commuted by Governor Sloan, of Arizona, to life imprisonment. Powerful influences in Mexico were brought to bear through the State Department to secure this result.