

THE ESTANCIA NEWS.

VOLUME I.

ESTANCIA, TORRANCE COUNTY, NEW MEXICO, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 1904.

NUMBER 5.

PROSPECTIVE ORGANIZATION. THE COUNTY SEAT.

Settlers Will Organize to Advise and Develop Torrance County.

ENTHUSIASTIC MEETING HELD WEDNESDAY

Permanent Organization to Occur Tuesday Evening, November 29. Everybody Interested Invited to be Present.

In response to the call in last week's NEWS, a number of the settlers held a meeting at this office to discuss the organization of an association to advise and develop the Estancia Valley. The general opinion was that the Estancia Valley is the best place in New Mexico if not in the United States and the prospects for improvement are as bright as Old Sol himself. What can be done in the growing of vegetables has been demonstrated to a certain extent, but all were of the opinion that like the ancient queen "the half has never been told" and this is only an experiment as to what we can and will do next year and the years to come.

Temporary organization was effected with John W. Corbett as chairman and P. A. Speckmann as secretary. The matter of disposing of the premium, received as First Prize on Vegetables at the 24th Annual Territorial Fair, was taken up. After some discussion it was decided to purchase a number of Seedless Apple Trees, with the money, giving one to each contributor to the display. The fact that frost and worms do not affect this variety makes it well adapted to the valley and its introduction here, especially now when the first are placed on the market is very desirable.

The work of such an organization was discussed both as to the development of the county and the personal gain each one might derive therefrom. People all around us are looking toward the Estancia valley and are anxious to obtain reliable information concerning it. They do not want pipe dreams nor fancies but stubborn facts. Such an organization could greatly benefit the valley by supplying these. The people of the new county want settlers who will build homes and help to make this what nature intended it to be—a good place to live. These will come when they get the real facts.

There are some who are fearful that if we raise vegetables, we will overstock the market, and that transportation rates will eat up the profit and that competition will force down prices, and what not. All these an association working as a unit could and would control. By advertising a market would be created, the association could control the shipping rates as well as the selling price, not of one but of all. By this we do not

mean fabulous returns, but fair prices, fair rates and fair profits.

Committees on Permanent Organization, and Constitution and By-Laws were appointed to report at the next meeting. It was decided to hold the next meeting at the school house, Tuesday evening, Nov. 29th, and in connection therewith have a box social. Everybody in the county, interested in the progress of Torrance county is invited to be present. After the organization and a few short addresses, a social good time will be had that we may become better acquainted with each other. Each lady is asked to prepare a lunch, placing her name within the box for identification. The boxes will be sold at auction, the gentleman purchasing to share the lunch with the lady having prepared it. The proceeds will go into the treasury of the association. It is expected that a large number will be present and all are asked to bring their friends.

LAWS ENFORCED.

The Pass City—A Closed City.

The city of El Paso has long been the Monte Carlo of America, but that name is a farce for the present at least. Sheriff Boone has put a stop to the nefarious business and is strictly enforcing the Sunday law along with it. Probably there are more people reading law in the Pass city than any where else. They want to know just where the Sunday law stops. Things had run wide open so long that the best citizens at last got together and formed a Citizens League, asking the sheriff's aid, and promised their support in enforcing the law.

The law is very radical, probably too much so, but the sheriff is not interpreting the same for or against friend nor foe, but is enforcing it literally. It will probably result in the law being amended but at the present it appears that El Paso is a closed city.

It is gratifying to know that occasionally there appears a man even in politics, who having sworn to enforce the law, does it, if it strikes his best friends along with the rest. Nothing was ever truer than "Teddy's" now famous statement. "The surest way to secure the repeal of a bad law is to enforce it."

Where is it? Ask the Palma People Where They Left It.

The Palma delegation, which started to deliver the ballot box of that precinct last week went to Progreso, which place is designated by law and named on the maps as the county seat of Torrance county. After spending the night at Col. Chavez' sheep ranch and finding nothing that resembled a county seat, they heard a rumor that Estancia had big notions and great ideas in this direction and accordingly boarded the train for this place. At Willard they met a Republican candidate, who had heard that the county seat would be in the Manzano neighborhood a few days. So the delegation started across the prairie and snow westward. Arriving almost at the county line, Col. Hesch spied something and sent forward his cowboys, who finally succeeded in rounding it up and securing it, when, Presto! the county seat was there.

Col. Hesch thinks the next time he goes to the county seat, he won't go, but will let someone else have the pleasure as he is afraid it will be some place else when he puts his hand on it.

Shipment of Sheep.

Now that election is over again, a number of our sheepmen have decided that they have more sheep than they care to winter and accordingly are disposing of a few.

On Wednesday of this week thirty-six cars were loaded at the local yards, averaging 150 to the car. These were shipped to Nebraska to feed for market.

To Drill Wells.

Milton Dow and T. J. Heady have arranged the purchase of a well drilling outfit, which they hope to have ready for business about New Year. They are planning to sink a number of wells in this neighborhood. Probably their first venture will be at Mountainair where they will drill an 8 inch hole. With a good outfit they ought succeed.

Yet They Come.

The Estancia Valley is receiving advertising that is doing telling work. Almost every day brings some, who come to prospect for homes. Some come for themselves along while others are sent to represent parties of several families.

P. V. Wooley of Amarilla, has come back to be one of us. Mr. McCarty of Claude, will return shortly. Mr. Carswell and nephew have taken claims northeast of town.

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