

# ARIZONA SENTINEL

AND YUMA WEEKLY EXAMINER

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Pioneer Paper of Arizona

## Different Water Users' Associations To Form Federation; Political Power

Yuma, Ariz., Dec. 27.  
Editor Examiner:

A conference of paramount importance to the land owners of this project was held in Chicago early in this month. It was the initial move on the part of the various Water Users' Associations of the west to form a Federation through which they can more readily bring about changes that will result in legislation and departmental rulings that will improve their condition.

The associations that were represented in this conference were the Truckee-Carson, Shoshone, Klamath, Belle Fouché valley, Salt River valley, O'Kanagan, Flathead, Umatilla, El Paso valley and Lower Milk River.

Communications expressing approval of the object of the meeting were received and read at the meeting from the Elephant Butte, the Finney county, Fichow, Pecos, Sunnyside, Uncompagne, Yuma County, North Platte, Minidoka and Southside Minidoka Water Users' Associations.

It will be patent to anyone what a tremendous political force can be exercised at Washington through the team work of this organization and as our interests are common with theirs, it is a duty we owe ourselves to join them for the general good that will result.

So far as the physical work on this proposition is concerned, it is being forced along in a magnificent manner, and everyone is perfectly satisfied with that feature of the undertaking, but there are legislative matters apart from the delivery of the water upon the land that must be adjusted in the near future and it is time to begin, and the way to begin right is to cooperate with the other projects and get the benefit of their political power.

I submit some resolutions that were adopted at the initial meeting, also a list of other matters that were brought up and will be disposed of at the coming meeting at Salt Lake City.

These do not touch one subject that is not of interest to us, and one is a ruling by the department of the Interior that will confirm the right of an entryman to all the land he was allowed to homestead.

We are also interested in a modification of the law in regard to residence upon patented land, after the government water right is issued.

If that law is rigidly enforced along the lines as laid down by the Reclamation service, it will tend to depress values, as the owners are scattered from Alaska to Georgia and New York to the Philippines, and a great many of them will close up their business or give up good positions for the fun of learning how to handle an irrigated farm in the Yuma valley.

The question of joining the Federation referred to and sending a delegate to Salt Lake City at an early date will come up at the meeting of the Board of Governors on January 2, 1912, and I hope that those interested will instruct the members as to their wishes in the matter.

Respectfully,

R. G. STITT,

President Yuma Water Users' Association.

The following are the resolutions spoken of above that were adopted:

Whereas, at an informal meeting of duly appointed delegates from the Truckee-Carson, Shoshone, Klamath, Belle Fouché Valley, Salt River valley, Okanogan, Flathead, Umatilla, El Paso valley and Lower Milk River Water Users' Associations, held in the city of Chicago, Dec. 1 to 5, 1911, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted, to-wit:

Be it Resolved, That we favor an amendment to Section 4. of the Recla-

mation Act, approved June 17, 1902, so as to permit the repayment to the reclamation fund of the cost of any project, by the land owners under it in annual installments not to exceed twenty such installments, to be in equal or graduated amounts as may be determined by the Secretary of the Interior.

We believe that homestead entrymen upon lands to be irrigated under any reclamation project should receive patents on making final proof as required by the reclamation act, upon payment of such charges apportioned against such tracts as may then be due, under such regulations as will safeguard the collection of the remaining charges apportioned against such entries.

We believe that a full understanding of the plans, progress and cost of irrigation works on the part of the water users' associations will promote good will and harmony between the representatives of the government and the water users.

To that end, we believe that complete plans and specifications of any work contemplated on any project should be delivered to the Project Water Users' Association, or Associations, before the work contemplated in any such plan or specification is begun.

We believe that quarterly itemized reports of charges and expenditures under any irrigation project should be furnished to the governing authorities of the Project Water Users' Association under such project.

The following are the subjects proposed to be discussed at the first meeting of the Federated Water Users' Association:

1. The homesteader to be given an absolute title as soon as cultivation and residence provisions of law are complied with. (covered by recommendations at recent conference.)
2. The three-year homestead law.
3. Recognition on the part of the water users' in the matter of expenditures. (covered by resolution at conference.)

4. The question of competency of the engineers, and better service generally from the Reclamation Service.

5. As to whether proceeds from the sale of government town lots shall be applied locally or turned into the general reclamation fund.

6. The more liberal terms in the way of payments be granted the water users.

7. The enactment of adequate laws protecting the water users in the ownership of all canals, reservoirs, power sites, water-rights, and other properties and resources acquired under the reclamation act.

8. A plan by which individual water users may be granted relief in emergencies through the local association in the way of extension of time of payments.

9. That every government irrigation project affected adversely by seepage conditions, be provided with adequate and timely drainage facilities.

10. That with the approval of the board of directors of the project Water Users' Association, the secretary of the interior may extend time of payment of construction and maintenance charges for not to exceed one year at any one time, adding interest at a reasonable rate per annum on all such deferred payments.

11. That the reclamation act be so amended that the secretary of the interior may, upon petition, turn over to the local water users' association the management of any completed project, or portion thereof, upon payment of the first installment of construction charges for the major portion of the

## Deputy Sheriff Neal Held For Manslaughter

Following is the coroner's jury's verdict in the cause of the death of the young Mexican who died in Yuma Tuesday afternoon.

In the Coroner's court, of the First precinct, county of Yuma, Territory of Arizona.

In the matter of the inquest on the body of Quirino Calderon, deceased with the following jurors duly summoned and sworn to enquire into the cause of the death of the above named deceased, up on our oaths do find that the deceased's name is Quirino Calderon

That he was a native of the Republic of Mexico, of the age approximately of 30 years. That he died in the town of Yuma, county of Yuma, Territory of Arizona about four o'clock on the afternoon of December 26, 1911.

That he came to his death by reason of a wound inflicted upon his body in an altercation with the officers attempting the arrest of the deceased.

Signed:

S. D. Cunningham.  
R. E. Black,  
R. A. McPherson,  
J. M. Harris,  
J. H. Fuquay,  
A. M. Bandy,  
D. B. Hinds,  
H. Winchester,  
J. Dockery,  
Leander Speer.

J. W. Fuquay signed a minority report finding the same facts, but also stating that the deceased came to his death by means of a pistol in the hands of an officer and that said killing was justified.

Deputy Sheriff M. C. Neal has been held in custody for the past two days pending the finding of the coroner's jury.

After the coroner's jury had been dismissed, Prosecuting Attorney Timmons filed a complaint against Neal charging him with manslaughter and when the Examiner went to press this afternoon he was being held in the sum of \$1,000 bail which he had been unable to furnish up to that time.

## Gas Pouring From Well Near Tucson

Tucson, Dec. 27—With gas in dangerous quantities issuing from the oil prospect well of the Catalina Exploration company 17 miles southeast of Tucson, orders have been given out by Superintendent Frank Craycroft prohibiting the employes from lighting matches or from smoking within a given distance of the well. He has also issued orders for the removal of the blacksmith shop to a place of greater safety.

Two feet of oil is now declared to rest on top of the water in the well, and the drill is bringing up quantities of black sand common to oil wells.

Craycroft expects to get oil in commercial quantities before the well has been drilled to a much greater depth. It is now down about 700 feet.

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lands covered thereby.

12. That an extension of time for making payments on the construction charges be granted, giving the water users' thirty years from the opening of the project in which to pay the same.

13. That the 160-acre unit of ownership and residence requirement as to private lands be eliminated.

14. That the Reclamation Act be so amended that it will be possible for water users to borrow money on their lands for improving the same.

## Cartridges Explode; Cause Consternation

For a few moments last evening about 7:00 o'clock it was thought that somebody was trying to dynamite the E. F. Sanguinetti Department store.

The explosion was a little weak for dynamite, but coming unexpected as it did, it was just as terrifying for a moment as if it had been the more deadly explosive.

Somebody had gone off and left a few blank cartridges in a drawer in the desk of the office. The cartridges were in the back of the drawer and were not noticed.

Underneath the desk and placed there for the benefit of the bookkeeper, is an innocent looking gas heater.

The gas heater was busy all the time; the cartridges were in the rear of the drawer and couldn't get away.

Presumably they would have gone while the going was good and before they got too hot, but no chance, so they exploded.

The bookkeeper was not at the desk at the time. No one was hurt, but for all that there was a mighty scramble to get away from the immediate vicinity, and no wonder.

The top of the desk was practically torn off, papers were blown hither and thither, and enough scare thrown into the clerk's present to last them for quite awhile, thank you.

## Another Bad Check

Several days ago a man blew in to Yuma and started to work an advertising gag, in that he wanted to put a few advertisements on hugh Yuma directory cards to be placed around in various conspicuous positions.

Incidentally, while here he wrote a check or two. The checks were drawn on the Whittier National Bank, Whittier, Cal.

Last night one of the checks came back to a local business man, marked "Account withdrawn last August—no funds."

This check was only for the small sum of \$2.00; hardly worth sending after the man unless it was just to punish him, but certainly it ought to show that the quicker business men quit cashing out of town checks, unless the party is well known, the better off they will be.

Aside from this there is always the doubtful quality of any advertising scheme not put on by home people, but by out of town men, who simply seek to have the merchants pay their car fare and board bills.

## Death To Cactus Discovered by Science

Los Angeles, Dec. 27—The University of California has announced the discovery of a solution that will destroy the giant cactus. Dr. T. B. Robertson, acting head of the department of physiological chemistry in the university is the inventor of the solution.

Dr. Robertson is reticent about his new discovery, and outside of admitting that it had been tested and found sufficient, he would not discuss the invention. The solution will be tested further in the southwestern part of the United States where the cactus is found, and if it is successful on a large scale Dr. Robertson will probably make a visit to Australia.

It is claimed that the solution can be manufactured and used a great deal cheaper than the land can be cleared by manual labor.

A. T. Hillman, of Tucson, is in the city on business.

## California Orange Men Fighting Frost

Night before last was the coldest night experienced in this country in many years. In part of Los Angeles county, California, the temperature was down to 16 above. In San Bernardino county it went down to 18 above.

All the orange men were out smudging to prevent frost, and at that the orange crop was badly damaged.

Here in Yuma the mesa orange lands and the orange crops were not only undamaged, but the temperature never got below 22 above, which is certainly again scoring for the Yuma orange lands over the California orange lands.

When the water from the Colorado is placed on the mesa orange lands by the reclamation service, Yuma will be able to show the greatest orange belt in the United States for productiveness and freedom from frost.

## NOTICE OF CONTEST

(For Publication.)

08320

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Department of the Interior,  
United States Land Office  
Phoenix, Arizona, Dec. 18, 1911.

To Oscar E. Herlach, of Wellton, Arizona, Contestee.

You are hereby notified that Nye A. Patterson who gives Box 330, Bisbee, Arizona, as his postoffice address, did on September 29, 1911, file in this office his duly corroborated application to contest and secure the cancellation of your homestead entry No. 08320, Serial No. OS320, made March 2, 1910, for southwest quarter (lots 3 and 4, east half southwest quarter) Section 30, township 8 south, range 18 west, G. & S. R. Meridian, and as grounds for his contest he alleges that Oscar A. Herlach has not made settlement on said entry within six months from the date of entry thereof, or at all, that said land is unoccupied and unimproved in any manner whatsoever, and that said entryman has wholly abandoned said land and entry for more than six months last past.

You are, therefore, further notified that the said allegations will be taken by this office as having been processed by you, and your said entry will be canceled thereunder without your further right to be heard therein, either before this office or on appeal, if you fail to file in this office within twenty days after the fourth publication of this notice, as shown below, your answer, under oath, specifically meeting and responding to these allegations of contest, or if you fail within that time to file in this office due proof that you have served a copy of your answer on said contestant either in person or by registered mail. If this service is made by a delivery of a copy of your answer to the contestant in person, proof of such service must be either in the contestant's written acknowledgment of his receipt of the copy, showing the date of its receipt, or the affidavit of the person by whom the delivery was made, stating when and where the copy was delivered; if by registered mail proof of such service must consist of the affidavit of the person by whom the copy was mailed, stating when and the postoffice to which it was mailed, and this affidavit must be accompanied by the postmaster's receipt for the letter.

You should state in your answer the name of the postoffice to which you desire future notices to be sent to you.

FRANK H. PARKER,  
Register

Chas. E. Arnold, Receiver.  
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