

THE IMPERIAL PRESS

"Water is King—Here is its Kingdom."

VOL. V.

IMPERIAL, CAL., SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1905.

NO. 22

Published at the center of the greatest irrigated territory in America, in the heart of the Colorado desert, San Diego county, Southern California, 67 feet below the level of the sea. Under present canals, 250,000 acres: under irrigation system when completed, 400,000 acres. Adjacent to irrigated land in Arizona and land to be irrigated by the National Government from the same grand Colorado river which will make a combined body of more than a million irrigated acres.

COURT AGAINST GOVERNMENT

Tribunals Action Endangers Reclamation Work on Lower Colorado —California and Arizona Vitally Interested

Prompt and Decisive Steps Necessary to Protect Irrigation Interests Below Grand Canyon—Joint Convention to Consider Matter Should Be Called At Once

The Rio Colorado, that wonderful stream of liquid richness; Uncle Sam's greatest asset in all the arid west; the foundation stone on which the hopes for a home of many thousands of people are built, is now menaced by the greed of a corporation.

For more than a year a conflict has been waged between the Denver, Northwestern and Pacific Railway Company, a corporation controlled by one D. H. Moffatt, a multi-millionaire, on the one hand, and the United States Reclamation Service on the other, concerning the control of a canon, known as Gore canyon, in the state of Colorado.

Back of this fight has been arrayed, on the corporation side, all the sinister influences of the powerful and unscrupulous corporations which have controlled its legislatures and courts, deposed its governors and made of that state a shame and a stigma on the fair name of free America. This combination, controlling the press of that state, has waged such a war of vilification and slander against the Reclamation Service and their work as has been a shame to journalism.

Ostensibly, this fight was over the question of whether the Reclamation Service should build a dam in Gore canyon, and use the Kremling Valley for a reservoir, thus impounding a large amount of the flood waters of the Upper Colorado, and constructing one of the necessary parts of their great plan for the conservation of its water and its use on the arid lands further down the stream, or whether Multi-millionaire Moffatt should build his railroad through this canyon.

Back of Moffatt's fight, however, is the great coal interests, which saw in a dam in Gore canyon, possibilities of a great electric plant, which should light and heat the cities of Colorado, and thereby release them from their clutches. So the fight soon resolved itself into a contest between the allied monopolies on the one hand, with the people of Colorado prostrate under their feet, their press suborned, their courts debauched, and their public servants controlled, and the United States Reclamation Service on the other, manfully battling for the rights of the landless man.

Through the control which the Moffatt side has wielded over those whose duty it was to protect the people from the harpies they have been able to steadily and stealthily encroach on the situation until at the present time they endanger the entire project of water storage and flood regulation, not only on the Colorado river and its tributaries directly, but on all western rivers indirectly. This matter is one of so much importance to the people of Imperial Valley that we herewith present some facts regarding it, and offer some suggestions as to how we may take appropriate action to protect our interests.

In the first place, when the Denver, Northwestern and Pacific railway was planned and the prospectus issued, there was no intention to build through Gore canyon, another route being proposed. This was several years ago. The matter laid in abeyance for some time, being merely a railroad scheme.

During 1903 and 1904, however, the Reclamation Service done a great deal of topographic work on the upper Colorado and its tributaries and by their investigations determined that a great controlling reservoir that would impound the summer floods and largely regulate the flow of the river, could be constructed by the building of a dam in this particular canyon. In the meantime, the monopolies, always alert and jealous of their advantages, saw, through the development of electrical appliances

and methods, that a great power plant could be installed at this dam, which could effectually checkmate their cinch on the people of Colorado. So Millionaire Moffatt at once changed the course of his railroad and began pushing to build it through Gore canyon.

The Secretary of the Interior, in defense of the public interests and in compliance with law, withdrew all the public lands in and around this canyon from all forms of entry and set it aside as a reservoir site for the great and beneficent purpose of conserving the waters of the Colorado river. Moffatt then, through a truculent State Land Board, bought a small tract of land in the canyon and began to build the railroad. The Secretary of the Interior then applied to the United States District Court for an injunction to restrain Moffatt from building his railroad through the reservoir site. This injunction was asked for about six months ago, and has ostensibly been under consideration by the august court all this time.

In the meantime, the corporation control over the great papers of Denver has been shown to be complete. These sheets have abused the Reclamation Service and its officials, have lied and blasphemed the entire project to impound the flood waters of the Colorado and its tributaries, and have carried on just such a tirade regarding the matter as might be expected of recalcitrants serving boodling monopolies and antagonizing the public interests. During this shameful and remarkable exhibition the leading papers of Denver have boldly advanced the contention that Colorado should control the waters within her borders and that no reservoirs should be permitted within her borders except to irrigate lands within the State. The Reclamation Service and their plans have been ridiculed and derided and the importance of the new railroad to Denver dwelt upon and magnified.

Owing to the restrictions imposed by official courtesy the Reclamation officials were compelled to sit still and take this torrent of abuse, blasphemy and lies and make no reply except such as they were permitted to make in official reports to their superior officials. The object of the newspaper campaign on the part of the allied monopolies became apparent, when a few days ago the United States Court handed down a ruling, refusing the injunction asked for by the Secretary of the Interior. It is now apparent that Multi-millionaire Moffatt owned a judge and that the decision was only withheld until the corporation sheets could make a showing of public opinion in favor of it.

It is now announced by Moffatt that he will go ahead at once with the building of his railroad and with the help and protection of the same thugs and ruffians who disgraced Colorado during the past two years, will over-ride the Reclamation Service and prevent the storing of the flood waters of the Colorado river.

Now let us see what this will mean to the people of California and Arizona and especially the people of Imperial Valley.

The average annual flow of the Colorado river will irrigate and reclaim more than one million acres of land. This amount of irrigated land will support a population of at least 250,000 souls, the character of the soil and climate is such that the range of possible productions may include fruits and vegetables of such a character as may greatly increase this estimate of possible population. The area of reclaimable land within reach of the

Colorado is determined by the Reclamation Service to be as follows:

Irrigable lands above the Grand Canyon not now irrigated	Acres
Colorado.....	200 000
New Mexico.....	50 000
Utah.....	100 000
Wyoming.....	40 000
Arizona.....	80 000
Total.....	470 000
Below the Grand Canyon there are in—	
Arizona.....	394 000
California (Blythe Estate and Palo Verde).....	102 000
Needles Valley.....	17 000
Yuma Indian Reservation.....	23 000
Imperial Valley.....	275 000
Total.....	417 000
Mexican Territory.....	688 000
Grand total of lands irrigable but not now irrigated.....	1 969 000

In this estimate no account is taken of the lands already irrigated. From this it can be seen that the Reclamation Service estimate about a half million acres as the reclaimable acreage of this Valley. In an ordinary dry year the Colorado river will serve, without any regulation, about 400,000 acres of land. On an ordinary dry year with the flood waters of that year alone, stored, the river will serve one million acres. Whenever a wet year comes a surplus supply of water can be stored and this water will make possible the reclamation of several hundred thousand acres in addition to the million acres the average year's flow of the river will irrigate.

All the impounding dams must be built above the Grand Canyon for the reason that there is no bed rock found in the river bottom below that point. This makes it necessary that the reservoirs be located in Colorado on the main tributaries of the Colorado river. The best places to construct these dams are at what is known as the Kremling reservoir site on Grand river where a dam 185 feet high will impound 1,500,000 acre feet of water and at the Browns Park reservoir site on the Green river where a 200 foot dam will store 2,500,000 acre feet. This will make a total storage in these two reservoirs alone of 4,000,000 acre feet of water or enough to irrigate a million acres of land.

When the saving of the surplus water that falls in wet seasons is taken into consideration it can be seen that it is possible to reclaim and redeem every desert acre that can be reached by the fructifying waters of the Colorado. Also that the plans set forth by the Reclamation Service are the grandest ever contemplated by the mind of man. These gentlemen have made careful studies of this river and its problems as a whole, have measured its flow and that of its tributaries for so long that they know what its waters can be made to do. Their plans involve the control and impounding of its floods at points where natural conditions make such a thing possible and the regulation of the flow of the river by the release of the waters as needed. This will make possible the redemption of every arid acre under its flow.

What this means to California and Arizona can be readily seen. There is enough arid land in the States above the Grand Canyon to consume the normal flow of the river and if state laws are to be permitted to interfere with this great work as appears to be the case in this Colorado conflict it would be possible for those states to take out all the water at certain seasons leaving the lands below the Grand Canyon to return to a desert waste.

This same man Moffatt is also setting up a claim to a right of way for his railroad through the Brown's park reservoir site, and if he is allowed to over-ride the government in the Gore canyon case, which involves the Kremling reservoir, his same judge will give him his

way in the Brown's park case. If this monstrous iniquity is carried out it will mean that at least three quarters of a million acres of the best land in California and Arizona will be doomed to remain a trackless and forbidding desert.

The situation sums itself up thus: If Moffatt and his gang are to be permitted to thwart the plans of the Reclamation Service, and prevent the impounding of the flood waters of the Colorado, the danger line will be reached when 400,000 acres are being irrigated from this stream. All plans to irrigate lands in excess of that amount will be unsafe. The annual summer floods will continue to sweep unimpeded to the sea endangering the irrigation works of those who are endeavoring to use its waters, and subjecting to alternating floods and drouth, large areas in California, Arizona and the Republic of Mexico. Also if the doctrine of state supremacy over the operation of the Reclamation Service is to be sustained there is nothing to keep the people of the states of Colorado, Utah, Wyoming, and the territory of New Mexico from making use of all the available waters of this stream, thereby robbing the people of this state and this Valley of their water.

We know this proposition is preposterous, but it is no more so than the pretensions of this man Moffatt and his puppet, the Federal Judge who is protecting him. The carrying out of the governments plans on this river will mean the reclamation of from 750,000 to 1,000,000 acres in California, Arizona, and the Republic of Mexico. This will create values of at least \$50,000,000 in property, and will establish an enormous population in the Imperial Valley and on the delta below the line. The Reclamation Service have plans for irrigating the lands above the Grand canyon as follows:

In Colorado—	Acres
Gunnison Project.....	100,000
Grand Valley Project.....	70,000
White and Yampa Project...	30,000
In New Mexico—	
La Plata Project.....	50,000
In Utah—	
Uintah Project.....	100,000
In Wyoming—	
North Fork Green river P'jt	40,000
In Arizona—	
Little Colorado river.....	80,000
Grand total.....	470,000

Besides the great gain in irrigated lands to the United States by the preservation of these reservoir sites and the supremacy of the Reclamation Service over the waters of this stream, the ability of the government to fully control the situation on the upper river and its tributaries is vital to the problems to be faced in the adjustment of our international questions with Mexico concerning the division of the waters of this stream.

In short the attitude of the Reclamation Service is so thoroughly our attitude and the fight they are making is so essentially the fight of the people of California and Arizona—our fight—that we believe the matter should be taken up in the papers and discussed, and the people informed concerning this matter, and how their homes and property are menaced by the greed of this Moffatt and the boot-licking subserviency of the Colorado courts. We have had Colorado people tell us that it was no use, Dave Moffatt owned the courts, the legislature, the governor, and the newspapers of Colorado and would do as he pleased.

We are loth to believe this, but if it is true let us ask that the Secretary of the Interior appeal this case to the Supreme Court of the United States. Let us agitate and educate the public so that when Congress meets there will be such a unanimous demand from the people of the arid west for the complete supremacy of the Reclamation Service over the reservoir sites and water courses of the arid land states that Congress will quickly pass the appropriate legislation to carry this demand into effect. For this purpose let Governor Pardee of California and

PROFESSIONAL CARDS

D. R. A. G. TOPRAHANIAN, MD, DDS
Dentist and Oral Surgeon
Crown and Bridgework a Specialty
Over 1st National Bank. Imperial, Cal.

L. T. HALE, D. D. S.
Graduate & Licentiate Dentist
Here to stay. Parties from outside points will have their car fare deducted from dental bill. Office in Garner Block
Imperial - - - California

GEO. H. P. SHAW, ATTORNEY AT LAW, Imperial, California.
Office upstairs in Imperial Land Company's building.

F. N. BURLEIGH, ATTORNEY AT LAW, Imperial, California.
Abstract certificate of title to all property in San Diego County, protected by \$100,000 fully paid up Capital Stock. Insurance—Conveyancing.

FARR AND McPHERREN
Attorneys at Law,
Land Law a Specialty
Garner Block Imperial, Cal.

J. I. SHEPHERD, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, Imperial, Cal. Office, corner Sixth street and Imperial avenue, south of the Press office. Entitled to practice in all the Courts of the State, Department of the Interior at Washington, D. C., and all the bureaus thereof.

H. N. DYKE, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, Imperial, Cal.
Contracts and legal papers of all kinds carefully executed.

Brown's Express and
BAGGAGE DELIVERY
D. A. Brown, Prop. Staud Cor. Ninth and Imperial Ave. Phone Res. 159.
Trunks 25c in city, 35c outside. All orders carefully attended to. Trunks stored: 25c a month.

IMPERIAL BAKERY
HENRY G. KERKER, Prop.
Wholesale and Retail Baker
NINTH ST. TRY OUR GOODS

JAS. T. MOORE

Candy and Ice Cream Parlors

Best Ice Cream in Town Soda Water and all
Melons and Berries :: Kinds of Soft Drinks

Everything Fresh and First-Class
Electric Fans to Cool You At—

JAS. T. MOORE'S ICE CREAM PARLOR
Imperial Ave - - Between 8th and 9th Sts

We Did'nt Bribe The Doctors

They stick up for our store and send their prescriptions here because they can rely upon us, and because

They Get The Best Results From Prescriptions That We Fill

Remember this: It restores confidence when you'r sick
H. A. F. MILLER
Prescription Druggist Phone 37

IMPERIAL POOL AND BILLIARD PARLORS

Finest Line of Cigars, Tobaccos and Soft Drinks Always On Hand :: ::
H. E. GROVE
Opposite Post-Office

TIME IS MONEY—YOU CAN DO BOTH, SAVE TIME AND MAKE MONEY.

If you run a combined harvester, threshing machine, header or hauling grain or hay to the cars, whether you work for some one or for yourself, you can not afford to lose time. Perchance you may be calculating a trip to the Coast, and surely you ought to be on time or you'll miss your train. The only way to be on time is to get one of those ELEGANT TIME PIECES SOLD BY THE IMPERIAL JEWELRY CO. Or have your own watch put in order, to keep accurate time. Remember that we guarantee our work and will compete in price and quality with any dealers from Chicago to San Francisco. We will not let them undersell us.

IMPERIAL JEWELRY COMPANY.