

WITLESS WISNER'S WAIL

Misfit Member of the Reclamation Service Bloviate Against Imperial Valley

The people of this Imperial Valley, in common with the residents of the entire Pacific Slope, welcome all agencies who engage in the work of developing Uncle Sam's arid west. As a representative of our people, the PRESS has, therefore, consistently supported and upheld the work of the United States Reclamation Service. We regard the work which these men are doing as the greatest and most humane undertaking that has ever engaged the energies or challenged the endeavors of the sons of men since first the flight of time began.

To harness the floods and dam the canyons of the mighty mountains, to convey the waters to the desert wastes, to create places of beauty and homes of plenty for the landless millions is assuredly a work well befitting our twentieth century civilization. Such a work is one in which any man may be proud to engage and it is a matter of much felicitation that the officers and members of the Reclamation Service are justly proud of their work and give to it their undivided loyalty and devotion.

While our government has been busily exploring the irrigation possibilities of the west and the Geological Survey through its various bureaus have been gathering data and determining definite conclusions concerning the different regions and projects, their work has been carefully followed by a number of keen eyed capitalists. In a number of cases conflicts of more or less intensity have arisen between the private capitalist endeavoring to handle the irrigation business on a profit producing basis and the Reclamation Service, seeking to install a project on the lines set forth in the Reclamation law.

While as a general thing the officers and members of the Service are very reticent regarding any expression of views concerning other than their own work and in some cases even regarding that, there seem to be one shining example of a "buttincky" in the Reclamation Service in the person of one George Y. Wisner, of Detroit, Michigan, a member of the consulting board of engineers of the Reclamation Service. This man seems to have an especial grudge at the Imperial Valley and loses no opportunity to vent his spleen and show his ignorance concerning this region.

The first instance we have of his hostility and misrepresentation was published in the Detroit Journal in May, 1904, at which time he held this country up as a gigantic swindle and stated that "the Imperial Irrigation Company" had sold water for 217,000 acres of land and only had water for 50,000 acres, and couldn't keep that up on account of the impossibility of keeping their canal open on account of silt. In this interview he represents the Imperial farmers as the victims of such a bunco game as no American would tolerate and held up to ridicule the entire Valley and its irrigation project.

Since the delivery of this wisdom by Mr. Wisner, however, it has been demonstrated that the water of the Colorado river can be brought to this Valley on such a grade as will eliminate the silt problem; that we can get the water from the river in any quantity and without hindrance.

Now, however, he changes his tune, takes the other tack and in an address before the Detroit Engineering Society on September 22 makes the statement that "thousands of people who have taken up government lands in this Valley will be driven out and their homes and fields will form the bottom of an immense inland sea." He ascribes this impending disaster to bad engineering in diverting the course of the Colorado river for irrigation purposes and states that the river has "cut into the banks of its new course to such an extent that nearly all of the Colorado river flows down into the Valley." Can it be possible that this man don't know the difference between the Imperial Valley and the Salton sea?

In further exposing his ignorance and showing his spleen he says, "not for twenty years will the evaporation down there be equal to the inflow into the Valley. By that time a million acres of the Valley, which is from 60 to 265 feet below sea level, will be covered with an inland sea," says this Detroit wisecrack. It is possible to conceive how this man, in the frenzy of his jealousy, sought to hold us up as

a horrible example of the dangers of privately owned irrigation works as compared with those the Reclamation Service will build. If so, it is to be regretted that he saw fit to make such radically false statements and to misrepresent what few facts he did use. There is nothing on which to base any such assumptions as he makes.

The entire flow of the Colorado river for at least eight months in the year will all be needed to irrigate the lands along its lower course and if Mr. Wisner don't know it, it is because he refuses to read the statistics prepared with such labor and exactitude by the Service of which he is a member. The magnificent plans of the Reclamation Service for the control and utilization of the waters of the Colorado contemplate the impounding of the flood waters of this stream by the construction of gigantic reservoirs in the state of Colorado. Even now, public opinion is being aroused to remove all obstacles in the way of the realization of this wonderful undertaking.

When the plans of the Reclamation Service are complete the Colorado river will be simply a great main canal for the purpose of carrying the waters of its immense drainage area to the arid lands along its course, where they will be taken out and used for irrigation. By this means there will be no floods nor overflow of waste water to go into Salton Sea or anywhere else. Is Wisner trying to "knock" the Reclamation Service in behalf of Moffatt and the gang of grafters who would thwart their noble work?

To the stout hearted and loyal pioneers of Imperial Valley, the venomous attitude of this man toward our enterprise is beyond comprehension. Used as we are to the open hearted and noble men who represent the Reclamation Service in California and Arizona; men of lofty minds, whose hearts are wrapped up in their work, men above jealousy and above reproach; it is a shock to think of Wisner as a colleague of these, our friends.

So far as we can learn this man was never in this Valley, knows nothing of our people or our country. Perhaps if he had visited our Valley and met our people, he would have been less free with his direful prophecies. In his ignorance and spleen he made those assertions, thinking perhaps that thereby he might magnify the work of the Reclamation Service. But in the end, he predicted a worse failure for it than for the "Imperial Irrigation Company" as he calls it.

And now, since Mr. Wisner has had his fling into prophecy, the PRESS will essay the role. We predict that the work now being done by the California Development Company will be successful and that the water will be under control and no more of it coming to this Valley than is needed, by the first day of January 1906. We predict that we will never have any floods to fill up the Salton Sea again but that after January 1, next, that "sea" will begin to fall and will continue to do so till it is all gone. We predict that Moffatt and his band of grafters will get "done up" and that the Reclamation Service will carry out its magnificent plans for the control of the Colorado river and the utilization of its waters. We predict that before the twenty years Wisner mentions have passed, this Valley will have a population of 100,000 souls and will be one of the richest agricultural regions on the globe.

We are sorry for Wisner because he can't enter into the western spirit nor believe in the great creative work the west is doing. Frozen up in his Detroit home, how can he believe in the great things that are being done beyond the ice bound rocks of that forbidding climate. When Wisner is forgotten, Imperial Valley will be famous for the richness of its soil, the wealth and culture of its people and the beauty and comfort of its homes.

Are You Engaged?

Engaged people should remember, that, after marriage, many quarrels can be avoided, by keeping their digestions in good condition with Electric Bitters. S. A. Brown, of Bennettsville, S. C., says: "For years, my wife suffered intensely from dyspepsia, complicated with a torpid liver, until she lost her strength and vigor, and became a mere wreck of her former self. Then she tried Electric Bitters, which helped her at once, and finally made her entirely well. She is now strong and healthy." All druggists sell and guarantee them at 50c a bottle.

Like Finding Money

Finding health is like finding money—so think those who are sick. When you have a cough, cold, sore throat or chest irritation, better act promptly like W. C. Barber, of Sandy Level, Va. He says: "I had a terrible chest trouble, caused by smoke and coal dust on my lungs; but, after finding no relief in other remedies, I was cured by Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, Coughs and Colds." Greatest sale of any cough or lung medicine in the world. Sold by all druggists; 50c and \$1.00; guaranteed. Trial bottle free.

Subscribe for the Press. The best newspaper in the Valley.

E. R. Fairbanks

Opposite Post Office

•• Poultry and ••
•• Poultry Supplies ••

Petaluma Incubators and Brooders
Midland Poultry Foods
International Stock Food

Ellwood Poultry Fence and Poultry Netting

ELLWOOD STEEL FENCING — A
Perfect Fence for Horses, Cattle,
Hogs and Sheep. Every
Rod Guaranteed

MODEL RESTAURANT

Next Door to Post Office

GOOD MEALS, POPULAR PRICES
Everything CLEAN and Wholesome

WILLIAM ANNABEL, Proprietor

HEDDEN & HULL

Contractors of
all kinds of **Cement Work**

Estimates Furnished
On Application

IMPERIAL — — — CALIFORNIA

DESERT LAND, FINAL PROOF— NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION.

Department of the Interior, United States Land Office, Los Angeles, Cal., August 17, 1905.

Notice is hereby given that JOHN R. HAVENS, of Siskiyou, assignee of James F. Jackson, has filed notice of intention to make proof on his desert-land claim No. 1615, for the E½ of NW¼, Sec. 22, Twp. 16 S., R. 13 E., S. B. M., before Register and Receiver at Los Angeles, Cal., on Monday, the 9th day of October, 1905.

He names the following witnesses to prove the complete irrigation and reclamation of said land:

Oren N. Miller, of Imperial, Cal.; F. G. Havens, of Imperial, Cal.; James F. Jackson, of Riverside, Cal.; John A. Jackson, of Siskiyou, Cal.

A. J. CROOKSHANK, Register.

sept 2-30

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned citizen of the United States is in possession of the land described as the SW¼, Sec. 3, S½ of SE¼ and NW¼ of SE¼, Sec. 4, Tp. 15, S., R. 14 E., S. B. M., according to the survey made in 1900 and commonly called the Imperial survey. The numbers properly describing these lands according to said survey have been taken by other parties and applied to other lands two miles east and one mile north from the lands so occupied, so it is impossible to make any filing on said land at the present time in the United States Land Office. I further declare that I have been in possession of this land since September 25th, 1905, and that there is no other claim or occupation of or to said land in opposition to mine. And I further declare that it is my bona-fide purpose to make a homestead entry on said land as soon as the survey of the townships in this part of the county, provided for in the Act of Congress dated July 1st, 1902, Statutes at Large Vol. 32, part 1, page 728, shall be completed and the maps properly describing said lands filed in the U. S. Land Office at Los Angeles, Cal.

Witness: W. H. ALLEN
Imperial, Cal., Sept. 25th, 1905.
sept 30-oct 21

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned citizen of the United States is in possession of the tract of land lying between the South line of the SW¼ of Sec. 34, and SE¼ of Sec. 33, Twp. 15 S., R. 15 E., S. B. M., according to the Eastside or Bothwell survey, and the north line of Sec. 1, Twp. 16 S., R. 15 E., S. B. M., according to the survey made in 1900 by the Imperial Land Company and commonly called the Imperial survey. Said tract of land is shown on the map of Imperial Valley published by the U. S. Department of Agriculture in their soil survey of the Imperial area, 1904, and is about one-half mile wide, north and south, and one mile long, east and west. There are no numbers or descriptions in the U. S. land records by which said lands can be entered, consequently no entry can be made at the present time. I hereby certify that I have taken possession of this tract of land on this 5th day of September, 1905, and that there is no adverse claim or possession to said land in opposition to mine. I further certify that it is my bona-fide intention to enter said lands under the land laws of the United States as soon as the resurvey of this tract provided for in the act of Congress approved July 1st, 1902, Statutes at Large, Vol. 32, Part 1, page 728, shall be completed and the correct map describing these lands filed in the United States Land Office.

Signed, Mrs. E. A. DUNDON.
Witness: C. J. SCHENCK.
Holtville, Cal., September 5, 1905.
sept 9-30

SUMMONS

In the Justice Court of Holtville Township, County of San Diego, State of California.

I. P. SILLIMAN, Justice.

C. M. Tyner, Plaintiff,

vs.

G. E. Pozzota, Defendant,

The people of the state of California send greeting to G. E. Pozzota, Defendant.

You are hereby directed to appear in an action brought against you by the above-named plaintiff in the Justice's Court of Holtville Township, San Diego County, State of California, and to answer before the Justice at his office in the Alamo hotel building, in the town of Holtville, in said township, the complaint filed therein, within five days (exclusive of the day of service) after the service on you of this summons, if served within the township in which this action is brought; or, if served out of said township but within said county within ten days, or within twenty days if served elsewhere. And you are hereby notified that unless you so appear and answer said complaint as above required, said plaintiff will cause your default to be entered and take judgment for any money or damages demanded in the complaint, as arising upon contract, or will apply to the court for the relief demanded in complaint, together with the costs of suit.

Given under my hand this 10th day of July, 1905.

I. P. SILLIMAN,
Justice of the Peace of Holtville Township,
County of San Diego, State of California.

VIRGINIA DIXON, Holtville, Cal.,
Attorney for Plaintiff.

Sept. 2-oct 28

CALIFORNIA COLONY INVESTMENT COMPANY CALIFORNIA

The **RELIABLE**
Colony **MEDIUM**
Investment
Company

Acting as agent for the people in matters pertaining to the interests of Colonists, Colonization and Industrial Advancement of the Imperial Valley :: :: :: :: ::

Is the Policy and Desire of the Company

To Find Homes for the Homeless
And to Locate Them Thereon

Any one owning lands or town lots in the Imperial Valley in excess of their needs will do well to communicate with the company, with a view of listing the same with the resident manager

Those desiring to purchase lands or town property in the Valley will best serve their own interests by calling at any of the company's offices, and obtain bargains and a

SQUARE DEAL

EDWARD DOOL, Resident Manager

Calexico,

San Diego County, California

A. H. HEBER, President and Gen'l Manager

Los Angeles, California

CALIFORNIA COLONY INVESTMENT COMPANY CALIFORNIA

F. G. HAVENS

Notary Public
Fire Insurance
Public Land Records
Land Office Practice
Complete Record Of All Land Entries
In Imperial Valley and Palo Verde

IMPERIAL CALIFORNIA

FREE To All Our
Subscribers

THE GREAT
AMERICAN FARMER
Indianapolis, Indiana

The Leading Agricultural Journal of the Nation,
Edited by an Able Corps of writers

THE AMERICAN FARMER is the only Literary Farm Journal published. It fills a position of its own and has taken the leading place in the homes of rural people in every section of the United States. It gives the farmer and his family something to think about aside from the humdrum of routine duties

Every Issue Contains an Original Poem by SOLON L. GOODE.

Within the Next Thirty Days We Offer
Two For The Price Of One
The Imperial Press

The Leading Paper of Imperial Valley
and THE AMERICAN FARMER

Both One Year For \$1.00

This unparalleled offer is made to all new subscribers and all old ones who pay up all arrears and renew within thirty days. Sample copies free. Address—IMPERIAL PRESS, PUB CO., IMPERIAL, CAL.