

THE IMPERIAL PRESS

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ENTERED AS SECOND CLASS MATTER

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1905.

IMPERIAL'S PROSPERITY

That a new era of activity and development is opening up in this Valley is apparent to every one. There has been a very marked improvement within the past two weeks. The merchants all report increased sales, the people are coming into the Valley at the rate of about fifty per day. Vacant houses in Imperial are getting scarce, and those that are still unoccupied are already rented and will be tenanted in a short time. We are informed by Mr. D. R. Stevenson that the arrangements are all complete for the erection of a new and complete ice plant at Imperial, and that in conjunction with this a modern up-to-date creamery will be installed. Also that a capitalist is in the Valley now who is ready to furnish the farmers all the money they want to buy dairy cows, put in alfalfa and get into the dairy business.

That this man will loan his money on such security and at such rates, the farmers can deal with him and still see something in it for themselves. Mr. Stevenson said this man and his terms would be made known to the dairymen at their meeting next Monday, and he felt confident the outcome would be such a boom in the dairy business as it had never had anywhere.

We suspect this man will make it a condition with his loans, that the dairyman shall patronize the Imperial creamery and ice plant, for very likely he will be interested in the entire operation. Such a course would be a substantial thing to do for the town and one that would be very much appreciated by our people and business men. The people of Imperial must be loyal to their town and support all movements for its development and the furtherance of its interests. Every effort must be put forth to secure the location of the high school here. A meeting in the furtherance of this movement will be held at the office of the Imperial Land Company on Wednesday, October 4, at which time the petitions bearing on the matter will be prepared and parties secured to circulate them. This work is under the direction of the Chamber of Commerce.

Then there is the Agricultural Experiment Station—Imperial is the proper place for that, too. This Experiment Station can be had if we go after it, and that it will be gone after goes without saying, for the people of Imperial are aroused and united in the work of building up the town and are not going to permit any opportunity to do so to pass unnoticed.

The construction of a bridge over New river northwest from town will bring the great deposit of building stone and sand, referred to elsewhere in our columns, to within easy access to this place and that will give Imperial a big advantage over the other towns of the Valley in the matter of first-class building material. While the other towns of the Valley all have their advantages and are each backed by good country surrounding them, Imperial is pre-eminent in general advantages, and with its central location and substantial lead will easily distance all its competitors and continue to be, as it always has been, the Hub City, the capital of the desert Empire and county seat of the future Imperial County.

For An Experiment Station

Imperial Valley has "made good" on every proposition that it has ever had to face, and it has been done single handed and without promotion or help from any public source. The pioneer farmers took up the work of redeeming this Valley in the face of the most discouraging advice and pessimistic reports from the government soil experts. By their perseverance and loyalty to their work they have demonstrated that there was something the soil experts didn't know. They have shown that Colorado river water and Imperial Valley brains will make crops grow, where the rules of the book say the seeds won't germinate. Our farmers have done a great work in overturning these formulas of the doctrinaires and proving that there is more in irrigation and culture than had been supposed by the bookish attaches of the soil survey. But there is a very great work the government can do in this Valley and one that will benefit not only the people of this Valley, but those of every arid state and all the west where similar soil and climatic conditions obtain. And that is to establish an Agricultural Experiment Station. Congress appropriates money liberally for the use of the State Agricultural Colleges in this work and we learn that there was an extra appropriation given to California during the present year of \$30,000 for this purpose. There is nowhere else in the arid west where such typically desert conditions are present and in no other region is so large or so successful an irrigation work being done. Here all the unsolved problems of arid region agriculture and horticulture are present and ready for determination. What we need is a complete experiment station that can take up and test all the different plants, grains, fruits and economic trees that have been found by our agricultural explorers in other parts of the world where the climate and soil is similar to ours and which promise to be successful here. They should also conduct irrigation investigations and look into the matter of drainage. Such a station would be highly appreciated by our people and they would be glad to co-operate with the government officials in the matter of establishing it and in its work after it was established. We are certain that a tract of land and free water could be secured for the site of the experiment farm and all the government would be asked to do would be to put up the buildings and maintain the work. The man to confer with regarding this matter is Professor E. J. Wickson, Director of the Agricultural Experiment Station, Berkeley, California, and we suggest that the Chamber of Commerce take this matter up with him at once. Professor Wickson was here with the Irrigation Committee on June 10th and got some idea of our country then and we have reason to believe he will be willing to listen to our claims and will do what he can for us in this matter. The fact that funds are available with which this work can be done makes the present a very opportune time to urge the matter. The value of such a station to our people and Valley would be very great. Just think what it would be to have the government reporting on our early grapes, our cantaloupes, our immense crops of alfalfa and money making crops of alfalfa seed. Also our hogs and cattle, as well as the dozens of valuable plants they would introduce and adapt to our Valley's production. Let an organized effort be made to secure the Experiment Station. There is plenty of money to support it and Imperial Valley is the proper place for it. The government should do all they can to promote our welfare now to even up matters for the "knocks" they have given us in the past.

W. V. Hardy, the United States Hydrographer, is having a little less strenuous time with his work than he had while the water was rising and he had to measure the rivers flowing through this Valley. All he measures now is the canals and some flumes he has installed to see how much water is used on certain tracts during the year. The work of measuring the run-off of water in New river and Salton channel has been discontinued by the government. Water has been measured in this Valley now for nearly three years by the government hydrographers and enough data has been secured to show what the loss is by seepage and evaporation. So, now they measure the Colorado river at Yuma and, again below the Imperial heading, then measure the water in the ditches in this Valley, make the deductions for seepage and evaporation, according to the tables they have prepared and the rest of the volume is being discharged into Salton Sea. They call such a table a "rating curve." There is no more correct or painstaking work done anywhere than is done by Uncle Sam's boys in the Reclamation Service and the work done in this Valley is as good as the best.

The Creamery Matter

Last Monday afternoon there was a meeting of the Dairymen's Association and the Imperial business men, at the vacant room in the Water Company block. This meeting was held by pre-arrangement on both sides and it was disappointing that more definite progress was not made. The dairymen met by invitation from the business men, to consider a proposition from them regarding the creamery business. At the appointed hour, the room was well filled and the business opened by President Wilsie of the dairymen stating the object of the meeting.

It was then stated that the offer of the El Centro Townsite Company was, and Mr. Banta on behalf of the business men, made an offer to do just as much for the dairymen as the other people proposed and some better under certain conditions. There was an evident uncertainty of mind among the dairymen in regard to just what they wanted; some advocating a co-operative creamery and some wanting a stock company with limitations on the amount of stock one person could own.

After a good deal of discussion pro and con on this matter, Mr. Banta proposed that the business men would build such a creamery as the dairymen wanted and sell it to them at cost without any cash payment and only charge eight per cent on the notes. By this means the dairymen could organize any kind of a company they choose.

This appeared to be about to bring matters to an issue, when Mr. Chase, who owns the creamery that is now in operation, took the floor and told the dairymen that he was not altogether a hopeless proposition. He reminded them that he came into this Valley in last April and bought the creamery from Mr. Hage with the express promise from the dairymen that he should have the business as long as his work and treatment of them was satisfactory. He then wanted to know if there was any dissatisfaction and if so, what was the cause for it, and promised that it should be removed. He offered to furnish the dairymen with milk testers, so they might test their own milk, and asked them to select a man and put him in the creamery as their representative, to see that all tests were properly made.

Several of the men recognized the obligation they are under to Mr. Chase and expressed a desire that he be interviewed and an effort made to secure satisfactory terms from him. After quite an animated discussion a committee consisting of Messrs. Webster, Haskell and Allen was appointed to confer with Mr. Chase and with the Imperial business men and the El Centro people and get the propositions offered by these various parties and report to an executive session of the Dairymen's Association to be held at the same room in the Water Company block on next Monday afternoon, October 2, at 1 o'clock.

While the meeting was in session the discussion took quite a wide range and while some of the talk was not quite to the point it was all "for the good of the order", and was very interesting. One of the best speeches of this character was made by Mr. H. H. Sheets, who lives out near Mesquite Lake, and is strongly opposed to any move to lessen the creamery business of Imperial. Mr. Sheets said that what this Valley needed was more dairies and more dairymen instead of more creameries. He told the Imperial business men that what they should do would be to help the farmers get their farms into alfalfa and then help them get good dairy cows. That if they did this they would promote the welfare of Imperial by promoting the welfare of the farmers around the town. That if there were only enough dairymen close to Imperial there would always be a creamery here, and if the business men of Imperial always sold their goods the cheapest the farmers would always come to this town to trade. He told of a man in his old home in Iowa who loaned \$300,000 to dairymen to buy cattle with and never lost a dollar of it.

There was a general tendency among the dairymen to deprecate the suggestion that there was anything either antagonistic or otherwise in regard to any of the towns of the Valley in their movement. It is but natural that a dairyman would prefer to have a creamery as close to him as possible for the time he spends on the road adds to the cost of his cream.

They know, however, that more dairies is what is needed before their wishes can be realized. It is freely stated by those in position to know, that the outcome to be expected will be satisfactory arrangements between Mr. Chase and the dairymen, and no further agitation on their part concerning more creamery facilities at the present time.

E. E. Razor of San Bernardino is in the Valley for a few days this week.

B. G. Bartels, who has been employed on the Sisson ranch for about two months, returned this week to Santa Ana.

Frank Barbours wife and family arrived in Imperial this week from their summer home at Banning and now occupy the Ernest Heber house on G street.

A. H. Rehkopf was in Imperial Tuesday night to meet his sister and sister-in-law, who came in on the evening train from their old Iowa home, on a visit to Imperial Valley.

Rev. H. C. Mullen left Tuesday for Los Angeles to attend the annual conference of his Church, which meets in that city this week. Mr. Mullen's pastorate in this City has been very successful. During his work among the Methodists here their new Church edifice has been erected and the membership built up to its present strength from a very small beginning.

G. W. Denny and family came in Wednesday night from a month stay at Los Angeles and Escondido. While out he made final proof on his land. Like Charley Fernald he failed to stay here during August and sweat all the impurities out of his system, so he is suffering from severe boils which have so prostrated him that he has to go on crutches. We hope Imperial climate will soon fix him up all right.

Last Monday morning's train brought to our town five young men direct from Illinois looking for employment. When they got off at the depot and looked around they were quite a bit disheartened and had very small hopes of success here. Imperial was so different to what they had expected or had been used to in their eastern homes. However, they plucked up courage and came up town, where they found plenty of men looking for farm hands. They were all hired out before two o'clock and each one gets forty dollars a month, board and lodging. This looks nearly as big to an Illinois farm hand as a job as cashier of a bank. There is a good demand for labor in this Valley and reliable hands can always get top prices.

H. C. Oakley is in the Valley for a few days and spent part of the time in Imperial. Mr. Oakley was a pioneer promoter of the Imperial project and has made a fortune dealing in water stock and promoting new companies. As a member of the Oakley, Paulin Company and the Imperial Land Company, he and his partners controlled the California Development Co. in the palmy days of the Valley's promotion and many and profitable were the deals he engaged in at that time. At present he is looking after his large property interests, having his lands improved and working to build up his property and settle up the Valley. He owns a large tract in the heart of the cantaloupe belt at Brawley and is one of the solid property owners who has made his fortune in the Imperial Valley.

NOTICE

The members of the Imperial Valley Dairymen's Association are hereby notified to meet at the office of Imperial Water Company No. 1 at 1 o'clock sharp, on Monday, October 2, 1905, to consider the proposition of the Imperial Business Men, that of Mr. Holt and of Mr. Chase on the subject of creameries.
H. R. KYLE,
Secretary Imperial Valley Dairymen's Association.

The maximum and minimum temperature registered by the Government thermometer as given by Weather Observer Dyke for the week ending September 28 was as follows:

Date	Maximum	Minimum
Friday.....	104	65
Saturday.....	98	74
Sunday.....	102	69
Monday.....	104	70
Tuesday.....	105	69
Wednesday.....	106	72
Thursday.....	90	65

Imperial Market Reports

Barley per 100.....	80 to 90 cts
Wheat " ".....	\$1.25
Hay, Grain per ton.....	\$9.00
" Alfalfa, baled.....	\$8.50
" loose.....	\$7.00
Kaffir corn.....	
Alfalfa seed, per pound.....	15 cts
Eggs per dozen.....	25 cts
Butter, ranch, per pound.....	20 cts
Poultry, old hens, per pound.....	7 cts
young roosters, " ".....	9 cts
turkeys, per pound.....	12 1/2 cts
Hogs, live weight, per lb.....	4 1/2 to 4 3/4 cts
Cattle, live weights, " ".....	3 cts
cows, live weight, per pound.....	2 1/2 cts

Los Angeles Market Prices

Butter—Board of Trade Creamery, 57 1/2 cents per two lb roll; Fancy Valley, 57 1/4; Fancy Dairy, 47 1/2; Fancy Coast Creamery, 50; Storage, 50.
Eggs—Local Ranch, 36 to 37 cts.; Eastern Fresh, 30; Eastern Storage, 27 to 30; Seconds, 23 cts.
Potatoes per cwt.—New crop, Fancy Local Burbanks, \$1 to \$1.20; Northern Highland, \$1 to \$1.15; Woodward Island, \$1.10 to \$1.20; Salinas, \$1.25 to \$1.50.
Onions—New crop per cwt., Silverskins, 50 to 75c; Yellow Danvers, 75 to \$1; Watsonville, 90 to \$1.10.
Poultry—Dealers are paying, live weight for broilers, two lbs and under, 17c; Fryers two to three lbs, 16c; Old Hens, 14c; Old Roosters, 14c; Roasters, 3 1/2 to 4 lbs, 15c; Ducks, 12c; Turkeys, 20c.
Honey—Extracted, Water White, 12 to 13c per lb; Comb, 6 1/2 to 7 1/2c; White 12 to 13c; Light Amber, 5 1/2 to 6 1/2c.
Hay—Barley per ton, \$14.50; Wheat, \$11 to \$12.50; Alfalfa, \$9 to \$10; Oat, \$13 to \$14; Red Oat, \$9 to \$11; Off Grades, \$7 to \$9.
Live Hogs, 5 1/4 to 5 1/2c per lb.
Live Cattle—Steers, 4 1/2 to 4 3/4; Cows, 3 1/2c.
Sheep, \$3 to \$4 per head.

Post Office

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