

IMPERIAL VALLEY PRESS

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Editor and Publisher

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EVIDENCE OF PROSPERITY

Beginning with this issue we resume the publication of our paper in its five column eight-page form. When we moved to El Centro we expected to only publish a six column folio for some time to come. This however, soon proved too small for us. The generous recognition of the value of the PRESS as an advertising medium, compelled an enlargement of the sheet, so last week we published six pages, six columns. The six page form, however, is unsatisfactory to our readers and more expensive to us, so we this week resume the issue of the PRESS as a five column, quarto. A glance at our columns will illustrate our point. In this issue we are carrying about 350 column inches of advertising. Our paper contains 720 column inches of space. Of this, less than 700 inches is available, the rest being taken up in head, date lines, etc. It is always the rule to give as much space to news matter as is taken by advertisers. So it is clear, our patronage calls for an eight page paper, and we congratulate both our readers and advertisers on the fact. The more our patrons advertise, the better paper we can furnish our readers. The better paper we publish the more subscribers we will get, and the more valuable our paper will be as an advertising medium. So it is an endorser chain, and the advertisers are an indispensable link. So here is long life and prosperity to our advertisers, and may their tribe increase.

THE WATER SITUATION

The sudden raise in the Colorado river noted in last week's issue, began to arrive in the New river and Alamo, last Sunday. At Calexico the water rose rapidly until on Thursday it reached a height several inches above any previous gauge. It drowned out the Calexico water works, greatly to the inconvenience of the people of that town, and would have flooded the town itself but for a hastily constructed levee along the railroad track. All the lowlands south of the main canal in Water Co. No. 1 was covered and the canal itself for about three miles from the head of the Dogwood lateral, west, to the big bend, was in danger for three or four days. Superintendent Farnsworth gathered his clans, and by most heroic efforts kept the bank built up above the rising waters till the tide was stemmed and the waters began to fall. It was a very close call all around. The water reached its highest on Thursday and all most at once began to fall. It has gone down about three inches a last report, and the canal banks are believed to be safe. Had the canal given way, the very heart of Imperial Water Co. No. 1 would have been flooded and a great deal of damage done. Plans are now already to begin the work of putting up a powerful levee to protect the canal, and this will be done just as soon as possible. Then there will be no danger of damage from the Colorado's floods, no matter when they come. On the Alamo the raise put a stop to the work that was being done at Sharp's Heading. The water got under the new spillway that was being put in and washed it out. It was carried down the stream several hundred feet, before it was caught and made secure to trees on the bank, with ropes and cables. This section of the canal is 30 feet deep. The damage estimated at

\$1500. Concerning the conditions at the Mexican intake and what happened there when the flood was raging, we quote the following from the Yuma Sun of March 22nd:

"George Sexsmith came up from Imperial Heading yesterday and will remain here a month or six weeks in charge of the work of shipping material down the river and the construction of the great dredge that is to be built here for use on the canal.

Speaking of the late high water Mr. Sexsmith says the works at the heading suffered no damage "but it made us sweat blood for about six hours" to keep the water from breaking through the embankment into the excavation where the head gate is to be built. The water level in the river was fifteen feet higher than in the excavation and had it raised a foot or two higher it would have been all up with the head gate."

The magnitude of the work of building a dam across the Mexican Intake is suggested by the fact that a railroad track is to be built on piles across the river for conveying earth from the bank to be thrown on the brush foundation of the dam. This railroad is to be a mile in length.

Holtville Happenings

Dr. E. A. Lee, of Los Angeles, was in Holtville Monday and Tuesday of this week making the final arrangements for the purchase of a fine quarter section from J. V. Taggart and wife.

A. Randolph, of Los Angeles, was in and around Holtville the first part of this week buying stock for the Los Angeles market.

The dance given by the Holtville "Alfalfa Club" was a very enjoyable affair and was largely attended by the young people of the east side; also several from Imperial and El Centro.

Fred Bayless left for Los Angeles Wednesday where he expects to make his future home. He will be missed by his many friends in Holtville.

The Holton Power Co. is working a large force of men putting in a new headgate at the head of the power canal and expects to have the same completed in about two weeks. The electric power plant is rapidly nearing completion and in about another month electricity will be in use on the wires of the company and the electric lighting service will be greatly appreciated.

H. A. Wright and wife of San Francisco are registered at the Hotel Almo and will spend several weeks here while Mr. Wright attends to the supervision of the placing of the water wheel and other machinery now being installed in the plant of the Holton Power Co.

C. L. Hayes of Redlands arrived in Holtville Wednesday and will spend a few days looking after his interests in the valley.

W. F. Holt accompanied by Geo. A. Parkyns, W. L. Brent and C. F. Heath were in Holtville Wednesday looking over our growing town and looking up our prospects for promoting further industries. Mr. Holt is the promoter and owner of our leading industries and Geo. A. Parkyns is owner of much valuable land in Districts No. 1 and No. 5.

The Holtville brick plant is working to their fullest capacity at the present time and are now burning a kiln of 275,000 bricks. There is a large demand for the Holtville brick in all parts of the Valley as they are of the finest quality produced.

Miss Cora C. Boyd was a visitor at Holtville during the past week spending the time with her father and brother of the Boyd Realty Co. and looking over the country for the purpose of making a selection of a choice piece of land on which to make a desert entry.

Supervisor Joseph Foster, accompanied by Joel Anderson, was looking

over the roads and bridges of the east side Wednesday and we may soon look for some extensive and permanent improvements on the same.

G. E. Hammer, of Anaheim, Calif., was in Holtville last week and purchased two fine pieces of land on which he intends making some improvements in the near future.

M. P. Harris, who was quite seriously ill on Tuesday evening is rapidly improving and in a few days will be as well and strong as before.

Dr. C. S. Lombard, who has been spending several weeks on his ranch making extensive improvements, left Wednesday for his home in Redlands, Calif.

A HISTORIC SHELLFISH.

The Purpura Was Quite a Factor in the World's Civilization.

A small sea creature has done a lot to assist the development of civilization. It is known as the nurex or purpura. From it the Phoenicians manufactured the Tyrian purple, the origin of their wealth and prosperity. As each shellfish yielded but one drop of the dyeing material and as 300 pounds were needed to dye fifty pounds of wool the home fisheries became in time exhausted. Then, finding it necessary to seek a supply elsewhere, the traders started on the first voyage of discovery ever made. Owing to this voyage the Mediterranean, with all the countries that surround it, was discovered.

Through this small creature also the first colonies were founded. The Phoenicians, finding it impracticable to bring home large shiploads of the fish, built at those spots where the raw material abounded factories, which gradually developed into permanent settlements.

And as many of these colonies were founded on Grecian islands the apt natives quickly acquired the arts and industries of their visitors, which were soon diffused throughout Greece, and the first seeds of civilization were sown.

BELLS AS BAROMETERS.

Their Tone Will Indicate What the Weather Will Be.

Church bells can serve another purpose besides ringing you to worship. They make a good substitute for a barometer. As the atmosphere is the sole conductor of sound from the bell to the ear, it is obvious that the intensity and quality of the sound as perceived by the ear will depend on the state of the medium through which it comes. For instance, if bells sound very distinctly on an evening, this points to the probability of a wet day following, since air heavily charged with moisture conducts sound better than dry air. So, too, as dense air conducts better than light air, bells sound more clearly when the barometer is high than when it is low, other things being equal, and so, too, with hot and cold air. These principles are familiar to all country folk living within the sound of church bells. About five miles from Lebekke, in Belgium, there are some small bells which are called "water bells." When they are heard distinctly in the town rain is sure to follow.—London Spectator.

The Better Half Indeed.

An English judge recently had an inspiration. A defendant appeared too dull to make a defense or answer intelligibly questions put to him by the judge. Suddenly the judge said, "Where do you live?" and the intelligible reply, "About five minutes off," was at once forthcoming. "Then just run home and fetch your wife, and run a little quicker than you talk." It was done, and the wife's clear and businesslike statement of the facts won the day for her helpless husband.

Not a Safe Rule.

"I believe," said the enthusiastic young author, "that the first thing a man should do when he proposes to write a paper of any kind is to get full of his subject."
"I disagree with you," replied his more mature friend. "In fact, I shudder to think of what might result if I followed your advice."
"What are you working on?"
"An address on intoxicating liquors to be read before our temperance society."

The Prize Medal Holder.

First Athlete—Do you see that gentleman yonder? He holds the largest number of prizes and medals ever possessed by any one man. Second Ditto—What, that fellow? He doesn't look a bit like a champion. First Ditto—It is just as I tell you, though. He is a pawnbroker, you see.

One Woman's Way.

Husband—Why are you buying such an expensive present for Mrs. Shoddy? I thought you told me you hated her.
Wife—So I do, but I know she can't afford to give me a return one as handsome, and it will make her perfectly furious.—Baltimore American.

THE USEFUL YAWN.

This Lung Ventilating Process Serves a Double Purpose.

The act of yawning is distinctly beneficial in two ways. In the first place it serves the purpose of lung ventilation. The lungs are not filled or exhausted by ordinary respiration. There is a certain quantity of air which physiologists call "residual air" left in the recesses of the lungs after the ordinary respiration. This in time becomes vitiated and affects the blood and, through it, the nervous centers.

The result is a yawn, which is really a stretching of the respiratory chamber to its fullest capacity and the filling of it with freshly inspired air which drives the vitiated air out. Yawning is also beneficial in so far as it opens, stretches and ventilates the vocal, nasal and auditory chambers in immediate connection with the mouth.

The cracking sound often heard when yawning is due to the stretching and opening of the eustachian tubes, which form a communication between the middle ear and the back of the throat. The deafness which often accompanies a cold is due to the congestion of these tubes.—London Hospital.

Heroines, Old and New.

Most modern heroines are married women, whereas the nice ones in Shakespeare and in novels before 1890 were almost always unwedded maids. You like Beatrice and Portia and, above all things, Rosalind. You do not lose your heart to Lady Macbeth (though a fine figure of a woman), and you do not desire to compete with Othello in the affections of Desdemona. This may be a too nice morality, but to Victorian taste even widows, in novels at least, come under the ban of the elder Mr. Weller. Nobody but Colonel Esmond ever cared for Lady Castlewood, and Dobbin is alone in his passion for Amelia.—Andrew Lang in London Post.

Postponed.

A bashful young couple who were evidently very much in love entered a crowded street car in Boston the other day. "Do you suppose we can squeeze in here?" he asked, looking doubtfully at her blushing face.

"Don't you think, dear, we had better wait until we get home?" was the ow, embarrassed reply.—Life.

The Clock.

The clock has a strange way of telling different tales with the same face. If it is telling one man to hurry up, it tells the next man who looks that there is plenty of time.—Atchison Globe.

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