

POSSIBILITIES OF YUMA REGION UNFATHOMED

The Soil Simply Marvelous in Its Productiveness

And the Climate is Intoxicatingly Salubrious

BY GEORGE N. BURTON,
In Los Angeles Times.

It is very far from a semi-millennium since three little open boats under the flag of Spain first touched the waters of the western hemisphere and revealed the new world to the eyes of Europeans. It is only a little over a century since the United States of America sprang, so to speak, like Pallas Athena from the brain of Jove, a completely armed addition to the family of nations. It is but little over half a century since California became a part of these United States of America, and less than a generation since the settlement of the Great South-west began.

In all the 125 years since the Republic was founded, also in the half century since California became one of the States of the Union, and during every year of the last thirty, a realization of the vast riches of the American continent, of the territory of the United States and of this Great Southwest has been more and more astonishing to the minds of men. One would suppose that by today we knew pretty thoroughly what the undeveloped resources of the Great Southwest might reasonably be expected to become. We have not reached the depths of this great ocean of wealth with our plummet line yet.

In a residence of forty years on the Coast the writer thought he knew a little about what there is on the Coast, and as most of these years have been spent in and around Los Angeles, he naturally had a little concept that he was pretty well acquainted with the Great Southwest. Last week a trip to the Colorado River bottoms, below Yuma made him feel as a tenderfoot who had come in on the last train. New to him, this wonderful region and its possibilities are pretty well known to a great many readers of The Times by the stories published, if not by the demonstration of their own eyes.

Yuma lies on the map just twelve miles from where the government is putting in the great Laguna dam, at the confluence of the Gila and Colorado Rivers. It is twelve miles from Yuma down the river to the Mexican boundary line on the Arizona side of the river. At one point, just below Yuma, the international boundary line runs up along the river which takes a westerly trend and from Yuma to Mexico is only a few miles.

ONCE A MIGHTY STREAM.

As the mountain ranges of Arizona and California towered toward the stars, at least twice as high as they do now, rains were frequent and came down in torrential volumes all along these mountain ridges. The Colorado River in these past ages was a mighty stream, sweeping down debris in tons every second of its flow. The Colorado sink was at that time a great inland sea, which spread over the country on both sides of where the river now runs. As the erosion of winds and storms, landslides and glaciers wore down the mountain ridges year by year, the great river carried down a vast amount of silt, erosion from the rocks full of phosphates, limes and disintegrated granites, as well as the vegetation along its banks; and this was all deposited in what are now the banks of the Colorado.

As the mountain tops were worn down, the rains became less frequent and less in volume but the erosion of rocks and river banks, the trees and vegetable mould from the banks still came down and settled into the bottom of the great inland lake. This geological process went on from age to age to our time, leaving the Colorado at Yuma a stream about half a mile wide and being at its present time about twenty feet deep in the deepest portion.

It is not necessary to remind Californians that the Spanish missionaries and explorers called this river the Colorado because of the reddish color of its waters. It is the Colorado up in the Grand Canyon in Arizona and down past the Needles. But at this time of the year, after passing the mouth of the Gila, instead of the red river it becomes the brown river. It actually looks today as if ten per cent of its flow was silt and only ninety per cent water.

RICHES OF SOIL WONDERFUL

But the object of this story is to call attention once more, and for perhaps the thousandth time, to the riches of the soil along the Colorado on both sides, incident to the depositing of this mass of debris during all the past ages. Going through the country on the Arizona side of the river, for several miles below Yuma, one can see the same type of country and soil that is found in the Imperial Valley country around Brawley, Calexico and other points west of the river. The fertility of the black prairie soils of Illinois has astonished people engaged in agriculture for nearly one hundred years. The fertility of the valleys of the Nile has been a matter of history for at least 6000 years. Those who are familiar with Illinois prairie soil, and those who know what the valley of the Nile is for agriculture, know that this lower Colorado River region surpasses both of them.

If you ask a farmer along this stretch of country if the soil is six feet, his eyes will open with astonishment at your ignorance. He will tell you no one knows whether it is 60 feet, 800 or 6,000 feet deep. It is practically without bottom. It is so thoroughly well mixed with sand, disintegrated granite and other rocks that it never breaks. It is as easily worked as a heap of ashes, and responds to cultivation in a way that is marvelous.

CUT SEVEN CROPS YEARLY.

Arizona has established an experiment station in the heart of this big valley, which is some twenty-four miles and in spots ten to twelve miles wide, down on the lower level. The results are wonderful. Last week they were cutting a crop of alfalfa on this experimental farm, and for seven consecutive months they will cut succeeding crops. The only months when the crop is not cut here are December and January.

Cotton and tobacco grow with the greatest luxuriance, and this rich alluvial soil will be noted in a very few years as the ideal spot in the whole country for dairying, hog raising, the production of poultry and vegetables, which one hesitates to call early or late, as they will be possible. New potatoes will be produced in the middle of January, tomatoes will be ripe by the first of March, rice grapes will be gathered in the early days of May, and apricots by the middle of the same month. Chickens and turkeys flourish there in the winter time beyond all experience anywhere else.

The rainfall is exceedingly light and comes only three or four times in a whole winter. With an abundance of green alfalfa and vegetable the dry and not overcast climate prevailing in the winter months, chickens are free from the disease that make their raising difficult elsewhere. There is no spot in Southern Illinois or Missouri so adapted to the production of corn as this valley along the Colorado River. With alfalfa and corn, the butter, eggs, poultry and pork to be raised on a twenty-acre farm will amaze those who have the experience in American agricultural affairs.

The winter climate around Yuma is a thing so intoxicatingly salubrious that no words can describe it. Those deserts of America, as we have regarded them heretofore, seem to defy the idea that human nature elsewhere is so prone to contract and suffer from. The atmosphere is as dry as powder, the skies cloudlessly clear, the air mild as possible, and every breath seems to be an inspiration of new life.

The United States has an experiment farm on the mesa just on the outskirts of Yuma. Here are even more marvelous than in the valley are produced. Even on the lower levels there are little bits of frosty mornings occasionally during December and January, but on the mesa the breath of frost never touches the most delicate vegetation. Oranges grown at the Federal experiment station are unsurpassed in their delicious quality.

Yuma is a busy, up-to-date town. The more modern improvements consist of several blocks of attractive brick buildings, a three-story post office building, also of brick, and many other nice structures. Among some of the greater improvements which are being made, are a \$25,000 school building, a \$75,000 ice plant, a fine club-house for the railroad employes, a larger passenger depot, and the probability of a new court house to cost \$75,000. There is considerable business done there, but the people have not begun to awaken to the vast possibilities of the place. They should at once erect an up-to-date tourist hotel. It should have ample grounds around it and be planted with all kinds of tropical vegetation. If atmosphere were only transportable like mineral waters, and one could send consignments of this Yuma winter air to the East, the inspiration of its health-giving qualities would bring 25,000 tourists every winter to the banks of the Colorado River.

Yuma needs only to make known its climatic attractions in the parts of the East swept every year by blizzards and snowstorms to attract a city full every winter. The fertility of the valley below Yuma is almost unknown, with all kinds of tropical vegetation. If atmosphere were only transportable like mineral waters, and one could send consignments of this Yuma winter air to the East, the inspiration of its health-giving qualities would bring 25,000 tourists every winter to the banks of the Colorado River.

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Serial 0907

Notice for Publication.

Department of the Interior,
U. S. Land Office at Phoenix, Arizona.
December 12, 1909.
Notice is hereby given that Myron J. Kingsbury, of Gila Head, Arizona, who on Aug. 19, 1908, made Homestead Entry No. 597, Serial 0907, for the SW 1/4 of Section 3, Township 9, South, Range 23 West, G. & S. R. Meridian, has filed notice of intention to make final five-year proof to establish claim to the land above described, before Charles H. Utting, Clerk of District Court, at his office in Yuma, Arizona, on the 22nd day of January, 1910.

Serial 03089

Notice for Publication

Department of the Interior,
U. S. Land Office at Phoenix, Arizona.
December 16, 1909.
Notice is hereby given that Camille Evans, of Yuma, Arizona, who on August 2, 1904, made Homestead Entry No. 363, Serial 03089 for the SW 1/4 of section 4, Township 9, South, Range 23 West, G. & S. R. Meridian, has filed notice of intention to make final five-year proof to establish claim to the land above described, before Charles H. Utting, Clerk of District Court, at his office in Yuma, Arizona, on the 21st day of January, 1910.

Serial 02742

Notice for Publication.

Department of the Interior,
U. S. Land Office at Phoenix, Arizona.
December 16, 1909.
Notice is hereby given that Jesse M. Leon, of Picoche, California, who, on Dec. 18, 1901, made Homestead Entry, No. 464, Serial 02742, for lots 3 and 4, section 21, lot 1 and E 1/2 SW 1/4, section 20 township 4, south, range 2 west, G. & S. R. Meridian, has filed notice of intention to make final five-year proof to establish claim to the land above described, before Charles H. Utting, Clerk of District Court, at his office in Yuma, Arizona, on the 22nd day of January, 1910.

Serial 03080

Yuma Project.

1st Form Withdrawal.

Notice for Publication

Department of the Interior,
U. S. Land Office at Phoenix, Arizona.
September 11, 1909.
Notice is hereby given that Ansel Tenail, of Yuma, Arizona, who, on August 21, 1904, made Homestead Entry No. 597, Serial 03080, for the W 1/2 of NW 1/4 and W 1/2 of SW 1/4, section 14, Township 9, South, Range 23 West, G. & S. R. Meridian, has filed notice of intention to make final five-year proof to establish claim to the land above described, before Charles H. Utting, U. S. Commissioner, at his office in Yuma, Arizona, on the 22nd day of October, 1909.

Serial 03103

Notice for Publication

1st form withdrawal—Yuma Project.

Department of the Interior,
U. S. Land Office at Phoenix, Arizona.
December 28, 1909.
Notice is hereby given that Mary Jordan, widow of Walter Evans, deceased, who, on September 28, 1901, made Homestead Entry No. 602, Serial 03103 for the SW 1/4 of Section 5, Township 9, South, Range 23 West, G. & S. R. Meridian, has filed notice of intention to make final five-year proof to establish claim to the land above described, before Charles H. Utting, Clerk of District Court, at his office in Yuma, Arizona, on the 8th day of February, 1910.

Serial 03108

Notice for Publication

Department of the Interior,
U. S. Land Office at Phoenix, Arizona.
December 29, 1909.
Notice is hereby given that Mary Jordan, widow of Walter Evans, deceased, who, on September 28, 1901, made Homestead Entry No. 602, Serial 03108 for the SW 1/4 of Section 5, Township 9, South, Range 23 West, G. & S. R. Meridian, has filed notice of intention to make final five-year proof to establish claim to the land above described, before Charles H. Utting, Clerk of District Court, at his office in Yuma, Arizona, on the 8th day of February, 1910.

Serial 03108

Notice for Publication

Department of the Interior,
U. S. Land Office at Phoenix, Arizona.
December 29, 1909.
Notice is hereby given that Mary Jordan, widow of Walter Evans, deceased, who, on September 28, 1901, made Homestead Entry No. 602, Serial 03108 for the SW 1/4 of Section 5, Township 9, South, Range 23 West, G. & S. R. Meridian, has filed notice of intention to make final five-year proof to establish claim to the land above described, before Charles H. Utting, Clerk of District Court, at his office in Yuma, Arizona, on the 8th day of February, 1910.

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Charter of the Yuma National Bank

No. 9608.

Treasury Department, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Washington, D. C., December 14th, 1909. Whereas, by satisfactory evidence presented to the undersigned, it has been made to appear that "The Yuma National Bank" in the town of Yuma, in the county of Yuma and Territory of Arizona, has complied with all the provisions of the Statutes of the United States required to be complied with before an association shall be authorized to commence the business of banking:

Now, Therefore, I, Lawrence O. Murray, Comptroller of the Currency, do hereby certify that "The Yuma National Bank" in the town of Yuma, in the county of Yuma and Territory of Arizona, is authorized to commence the business of banking, as provided in Section Fifty one hundred and sixty-nine of the Revised Statutes of the United States.

In Testimony Whereof, witness my hand and seal of office this fourteenth day of December, 1909.

LAWRENCE O. MURRAY,
[Seal] Comptroller of the Currency.

Articles of Incorporation of the Interstate Gold Dredging Company.

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS: That we, the undersigned, a majority of whom are citizens and residents of the State of California, have this day voluntarily associated ourselves together for the purpose of forming a corporation under the laws of the State of California, and:

WE HEREBY CERTIFY:

FIRST:—That the name of said corporation is Interstate Gold Dredging Company.

SECOND:—That the purposes for which this corporation is formed are as follows:

1. To engage in all ways and manner, both generally and specifically, in all kinds of dredging for any and all kinds of minerals and substances, including hydraulic and mechanical dredging, using any and all kinds of dredging devices that may be devised and used, and visible for the purpose of extracting or taking in any way or manner all minerals and other substances and things of all kinds from the earth; to enter into contracts for dredging or otherwise developing any mining property wherever the same may be located.
2. To buy and otherwise acquire, own, hold, lease, rent, let, sell, use in and otherwise dispose of lands and water and water rights, mill sites, and mining claims, mining properties and all other kinds of real property wherever located; to mine, level, dredge, operate and otherwise deal in all kinds of minerals, metals, precious stones and mineral substances of every kind and nature wherever located; to work and operate smelters, mills and other works for reducing and treating ores and minerals; to manage, improve and develop mining claims and mines of all character and kind, and wherever located; and generally to deal in all manner and kinds of real property within and without the State of California.
3. To buy, contract for, or otherwise acquire, own, improve, let, lease, hire, sell, and otherwise deal in, either at wholesale or retail, all kinds of dredging machinery and machinery supplies; to obtain, manufacture, purchase, sell, market, and otherwise acquire and deal in all manner and manner patents of all kinds and patent rights, both within and without the State of California.
4. To buy and otherwise acquire, hold, own, let, lease, sell, dispose of, and otherwise deal in, in all ways and manner, all kinds of personal property, including notes, stocks, bonds, mortgages, franchises and all other securities, including the stock, securities and bonds of this corporation, whether within or without the State of California.
5. To borrow and raise money and to give and take as security therefor promissory notes, bonds, mortgages, pledges, trust deeds, certificates of indebtedness and securities of every kind.
6. To act as agent, broker, attorney in law or other lawyer or other person, firm or corporation in the doing of any of the business or carrying out of any of

the powers or purposes in these articles provided.

To create bonded indebtedness and, in order to secure the same, to deed in trust, mortgage or pledge all or any of the corporation's property.

To do or cause to be done any and all other acts and things deemed necessary, convenient or proper or related to or connected with the carrying out and accomplishing any or all of the purposes and objects herein specified.

THIRD:—That the place where the principal business of said corporation is to be transacted is the city of Los Angeles, County of Los Angeles, State of California.

FOURTH:—That the term for which this corporation is to exist is fifty years from and after the date of its incorporation.

FIFTH:—That the number of its directors shall be five and that the names and residences of those who are appointed for the first year are:

Named as each: Residence

Edward Maag, Los Angeles, California

A. F. Handall, Los Angeles, California

C. R. Harris, Los Angeles, California

H. E. Andrews, Pasadena, California

E. Andrews, Pasadena, California

SIXTH:—That the amount of Capital Stock of said corporation shall be Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000) divided into Five Thousand (5,000) shares of the par value of One Hundred Dollars (\$100) per share.

SEVENTH:—That the amount of Capital Stock which has actually been subscribed is Five Hundred Dollars (\$500), and the following are the names of the persons by whom the same has been subscribed and the amount subscribed by each, and the amount subscribed by each:

Names of Subscribers, No. Shares, Amt.

Edward Maag, 1, \$100

A. F. Handall, 1, \$100

C. R. Harris, 1, \$100

H. E. Andrews, 1, \$100

E. Andrews, 1, \$100

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hands and seals this 14th day of May, A. D. 1909.

EDWARD MAAG,
A. F. HANDALL,
C. R. HARRIS,
H. E. ANDREWS,
E. ANDREWS.

Notary Public,
State of California.

County of Los Angeles, ss.

On this 14th day of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and nine, before me, Mattison B. Jones, a Notary Public in and for the county of Los Angeles, State of California, residing therein, duly commissioned and sworn, personally appeared Edward Maag, A. F. Handall, and C. R. Harris, known to me to be the persons whose names are subscribed to the within instrument, and acknowledged to the within and annexed instrument, and acknowledged that they executed the same.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal, the day and year in this certificate first above written.

(Seal) MATTISON B. JONES,
Notary Public,
State of California.

In and for Los Angeles County, State of California,
County of Los Angeles, ss.

On this 14th day of May, in the year nineteen hundred and nine, before me, John D. Anderson, a Notary Public, in and for the county of Los Angeles, State of California, residing therein, duly commissioned and sworn, personally appeared H. E. Andrews, Edward Maag, A. F. Handall, and C. R. Harris, known to me to be the persons whose names are subscribed to the within instrument, and acknowledged to the within and annexed instrument, and acknowledged that they executed the same.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal, the day and year in this certificate first above written.

(Seal) JOHN D. ANDERSON,
Notary Public,
State of California.

In and for Los Angeles County, State of California,
County of Los Angeles, ss.

I, C. G. Keyes, County Clerk, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a full, true and correct copy of the original Articles of Incorporation of Interstate Gold Dredging Company on file in my office, and that I have carefully compared the same with the original.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the Superior Court, this 23rd day of Oct., 1909.

(Seal) C. G. KEYES,
County Clerk,
By W. C. AYVA,
Deputy Clerk.

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NEW LAW

passed by Congress forbidding railroad operators working more than nine hours a day, has created demand for about 30,000 more telegraph operators than can now be secured. Railroad companies have cut railroad wires into Telegraphy Departments of

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