

1901

THE FIRST

1931

THIRTY YEARS

— IN —

IMPERIAL VALLEY, CALIFORNIA

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1901

THE FIRST

1931



THIRTY



YEARS

BEING

AN ACCOUNT OF THE PRINCIPAL EVENTS IN THE

HISTORY OF IMPERIAL VALLEY

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA, U. S. A.

COMPLETE IN ONE VOLUME

By OTIS B. TOUT

Newspaper Editor and Publisher—Author of the Novel "Silt"

With

CHAPTERS DESCRIBING IMPERIAL VALLEY AS IT IS TODAY

ILLUSTRATED

WITH MAPS, PORTRAITS, SCENES, CARTOONS AND SKETCHES

OTIS B. TOUT, Publisher — 4612 Terrace Drive, San Diego, Calif.

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Inscribed



TO THE PIONEER PLOWMEN AND PLANTERS
WHOSE COURAGE AND ENDURANCE
ENABLED THEM TO BREAK THE SPELL
OF THE DESERT THAT THE PEOPLE
MIGHT HAVE BREAD—
TO THE HARDY ENGINEERS AND MASTERS
OF FINANCE WHO FIRST MADE IT
POSSIBLE FOR THE PLOWMEN AND THE
PLANTERS TO COME—
TO THE WORKING MEN WITH STALWART MUSCLES
WHO MANNED THE SCRAPERS, DIGGER THE DITCHES
LAID THE TIMBERS AND STOPPED THE RIVER—
TO THE TEACHERS AND PREACHERS AND
DOCTORS AND LAWYERS WHO
LAID THE FOUNDATION FOR CULTURE AND HEALTH—
AND TO THE WOMEN—GOD BLESS THEM—
TO ALL WHO HAD A HAND IN THE TRANSFORMATION
OF THE DESERT TO THE GARDEN IT IS TODAY—
AND TO THE PEOPLE OF TODAY WHO ARE
CARRYING ON THE IDEALS OF THE
PIONEERS
WHO CREATED THE GREATEST AGRICULTURAL
COMMUNITY IN THE WORLD
THE IMPERIAL VALLEY OF CALIFORNIA
THIS WORK IS RESPECTFULLY AND LOVINGLY INSCRIBED.



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FOREWARD AND INTRODUCTION

THE opportunity to set down in permanent form the facts that concern Imperial Valley is a rare opportunity and unique in a way. The localities that have started at zero and have reached a population of 60,000 within a period of thirty years within the confines of the United States may be numbered upon the fingers of one hand. Imperial Valley is one of these. While three decades do not mean the span of a great length of time they do cover the whole life of the community concerned in "The First Thirty Years." We say the opportunity is unique because seldom does it come within the lifetime of a citizen to record the whole story of a community's existence and to know that the events recorded happened well within his own experience.

Thirty years ago, in May, 1901, George Chaffey turned the first water into the main canal and in June it reached the floor of the Valley. With that first trickle of water the planters started experimenting for they all had to learn from first hand experience what to grow and how to grow it. Previous experience on the plains of Kansas, for instance, was of little value. Theories were just theories until experience proved them to be facts. With what pride did those early experimenters exchange knowledge gained in this great laboratory of nature where water, soil and sunshine had to be mixed in the proper manner!

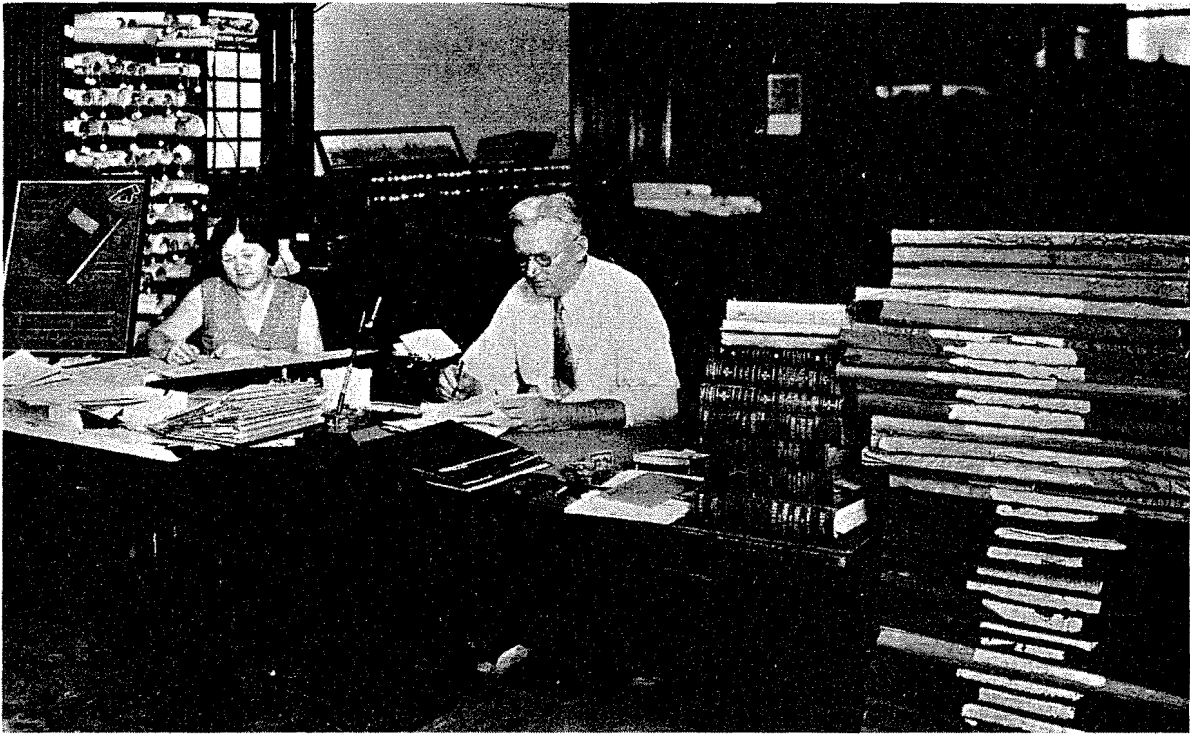
So, in 1931, we pause to review the experiences of the first thirty years. We pause to pay reverent respect to the pioneers who had the hardihood to brave the worst stretch of desert on the American continent in an attempt to wrest happiness and prosperity from its rough, forbidding surface. They had their nerve—to use a modern expression. Still, they had a wonderful time in those early days. Ask any one of them if he would exchange his experience with that of any of the ease-loving lads of today and he will tell you quickly. Most of them were young, hardy and venturesome in 1901 and 1902. Many of them were college men and women. Some arrived on the desert with stiff collars and derby hats—but they did the quick change act and compromised with the desert sun immediately. Many families arrived with all their belongings on one wagon, pitched their tents, boiled their beans and went to work without further ado to reclaim a desert square for their own.

The publisher believes that the reader will appreciate the stories of these pioneers as they appear in Chapters IV, V and VI. These stories furnish, better than any other means, an intimate account of how folks lived during the first ten years of the Valley's existence.

There is a real thrill in the story that concerns water. Many attempts have been made to tell this story in the form of fiction but no creation of the novelist's brain can compare with the plain, unvarnished tale of this community's efforts to secure, conserve and make sure of its water supply from the Colorado river. Starting 'way back in 1849 when Dr. Wozencraft visioned the watering of this waste almost exactly as it came about; on through the years that the idea possessed the very soul of that courageous engineer, Charles Robinson Rockwood; on through the exciting arrival of multitudes who came in response to the news that George Chaffey sent out—that water was flowing; on through the years that the settlers battled with the wild river—finally being forced to call upon the great railroad company and the nation itself to save them from utter ruin; on through the period of readjustment that followed and through the final acquisition of the distributing system in the name of the people themselves; on through the years that taught them that the river must be fully controlled by storing its water behind concrete dams in the upper basin; on through the years of uncertainty while the Valley's representatives pleaded, with success after eight years, with the Congress of the United States to undertake this job; through to this very day in September, 1931, when less than enough water in the river again proved the necessity of storage—through it all there runs a story full of thrills; full of triumphs and defeats; full of bitterness and joy; full of tragedy mixed with very little comedy—a story of a people's fight with the elements of nature that has challenged the admiration of not only the state and nation but also the admiration of the world.

The bare facts concerning water as set down in this history are inspiration enough for any man who aspires to write.

A Valley stocked with such sturdy pioneers, weeded down to the most courageous by the threats of flood and drought, naturally fostered an independent spirit. This spirit was expressed frequently by mass meetings that frankly told the powers that were that their way of doing things was not satisfactory. Many have noted the fact that this independent spirit is conducive to controversy and it is true to this day. Imperial Valley's population can enter into any political campaign or take up any controversial subject with more vim and vigor than any other community in the state. When they fight they give their attention to the matter with keen enjoyment. When they play they play just as hard, and when they take a notion to change their public servants or to approve their leaders they do so in no un-



Compiling the Data for this History was Twice the Task First Estimated. The stack of Newspaper Files Shown was one of Seven Similar Stacks Which were Scanned. Mr. and Mrs. Tout are Shown in History Headquarters, 576 State Street, El Centro, kindly placed at their disposal by the Irrigation District.

certain manner. So the task of recording the actions of such a lively population over a period of thirty years was not an easy one, the reader will agree.

No sooner was there a feeling akin to security experienced after the floods than Imperial Valley seceded from San Diego and set up house keeping on its own account. This story of governmental entity is also interesting. In 1907 the people, thrown together in the melting pot—which some agree was some real melting pot—from all states in the Union and from many foreign countries, undertook to set up a county government for themselves. Nearly every man put into office was a novice, without any sort of experience. It is said the good Lord looks out for His people. In this case He sent the brainiest legal light in the state—John M. Eshleman—who told everybody what to do and how to do it. The county machinery began to move and it has continued most successfully without interruption.

Feeling the keen desire for some of the comforts of life after years of arrow weed roofs and back yard shanties the towns were incorporated and took on the powers of sewer regulation, sidewalk building, park cultivating, tree planting and, later, street paving. These steps in community betterment make pleasant reading, for in towns people find opportunity to meet their fellows, to trade and barter, to sell their produce and send their beef to market. In towns they organize their lodges, their churches and their service clubs. Imperial Valley's six incorpo-

rated cities have interesting histories. The facts in these histories are known to many who have lived in them since the first brick was laid. So in this volume we present each town's history. The reader should be lenient, however, realizing the fact that there must of necessity be numerous omissions in a volume attempting to cover the scope that this one does.

How did this desert people act when the country was drawn into war? This subject is given a chapter of its own. Let it be said here and now that no more brilliant war service was rendered by any other County in the United States; more men were sent to the front, based on population, than any other county; each and every drive for funds, for the Red Cross or for service of any sort was met and over-subscribed unfailingly. The list of dead and wounded is the most complete that has appeared in public print. However, the publisher will appreciate it if errors or omissions are called to his attention before the publication of a second edition of this history.

From the first Imperial Valley has carefully and almost extravagantly provided for the education of the children. Excellent school houses are found everywhere in the towns and in the country.

Then there is the interwoven story of commerce that runs its threads through all the other stories. The farmer plants in order to sell in order to buy the things he and his family desire. That is the briefly

told reason for all existence for that matter. Imperial Valley, being so very productive, has been able to compete with other produce raising regions because the "overhead" or cost of operation is low. Then it is able to raise things when other gardens are under snow or not producing. Lettuce is a good example of this. Planted in September and harvested from December until April this crop is sent under ice to the four corners of the nation. Statistics on this crop are interesting as are the statistics on all other crops, numbering more than sixty, found in the latter part of this history. The story of the Valley's commerce is simple. It raises food and sells it where people are hungry for it. The increase in population in the Los Angeles area during the last few years has created an increasing demand for this produce and it will continue to increase. The threads of this story can be traced throughout this entire volume. The last two chapters refer especially to the "Imperial Valley of Today" wherein crops and commerce are discussed in detail.

USE THE INDICES

The reader is urged to study the arrangement of the book in order to get the best use of it. The Table of Contents will acquaint him with the chapter titles and the contents of each chapter. Here he may select a subject and turn to the chapter which treats of it. The use of the index in the back of the volume is important. In the Index to Names will be found a comprehensive list of men and women who have had a part in the Valley's history. The figure after the name indicate the page on which the name appears. The Index to Subjects will be found useful in tracing facts related to any subject such as the river break. He will also find in this index the names of all organizations, churches, lodges, etc., and will thereby be able to turn directly to the page where the subject is mentioned. Then the Index to Illustrations will be a useful guide to the reader.

COMPILING A HISTORY

The publisher estimated in the beginning that he, with the assistance of his good wife, could compile a history of Imperial Valley in five months. We figured that, having lived some seventeen of the earlier years in the Valley we could sail right along with the preparation of copy. We also figured that, having spent nearly all these seventeen years in the newspaper business here, it would be somewhat of an easy task. But when we got into the work in earnest we were appalled at our ignorance of subject matter and detail. It was dig, dig, dig. We read almost every file of every newspaper in the Valley, all the minute books of the Irrigation District, many of the county's records; we enlisted the aid of friends and acquaintances, requested information from the secretaries of nearly two hundred organizations, interviewed hundreds of pioneers and found, at the end of five months, the job but half completed. It has taken more than ten months to complete the work.

The publisher wishes to here express his gratitude to the people of the Valley who subscribed in advance for copies of the "First Thirty Years." Every order was an expression of faith in the quality of a book that at the time was nothing but a promise. The fact that these good people are securing their copies at less than half the retail price of today is more than offset in the faith and good will their advance subscriptions indicated.

In compiling the work more than 22,000 miles were covered by auto.

MRS. TOUT'S HELP

The publisher wishes to publicly acknowledge the fact that most of the hard work in connection with this history has been done by his wife. She took the field to secure advance orders and shot the list up to nearly 2000 before it was discovered the costs were mounting and the advance price was far too low. She worked a bit too fast on that job. Then she helped wade through the file papers of every city; took dictation hours at a time directly on the typewriter from her husband—which is rather remarkable in this day of independence. She gathered many pioneer stories, business sketches and looked after the pictures. In compiling the index she shouldered most of that burden. Did you ever compile an index? You have to read every page of your book, set down every name, place, picture and subject on slips of paper—there were more than 7000 slips for this volume—and then you classify alphabetically by throwing the slips into file boxes and rethrowing them three times for proper order. Then you eliminate duplicate slips by putting all page numbers on one slip and that is pasted on a long sheet for the printer. Without Mrs. Tout's help this book would still be on the press at Christmas time.

For some unknown reason the tradition of history publishing requires the picture of the historian to appear in this part of the volume. Inasmuch as Mrs. Tout did most of the real work her picture appears as well.

THANKS TO MANY

The cheerful help of a great many friends is gratefully acknowledged by the publisher. While this list is not complete thanks should be especially extended to:

Mrs. Jessie Hoyt Hatch for unearthing 1901-1904 files of the Imperial Press.

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Otis B. Tout



Mrs. Otis B. Tout

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All the secretaries of lodges and clerks of churches who answered requests for information.

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Mr. Emmett O'Neill, of the Sunset Engraving

Company of San Diego, for excellent service.

And especially do we wish to add a word of appreciation for the splendid, thoughtful and courteous co-operation of Mr. Phinnie S. Packard, of the Arts & Crafts Press, San Diego, where the "First Thirty Years" was mechanically produced. There never was a gentleman of finer quality in the printing business.

NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS

From the files of the Valley's newspapers and periodicals have come most of the facts that go into this history. The publisher is deeply indebted to the newspaper men for invaluable assistance and cooperation. While individual histories of each existing publication appears in the town histories through this volume a brief resume of the list here will acquaint the reader with the names of the papers and the men who have done their best to portray to the world the development of the desert throughout the years.

Imperial Press. Imperial. Est. April, 1901. Moved to El Centro and named *Imperial Valley Press* in 1906. Managing editors: H. C. Reed, Edgar F. Howe, F. G. Havens, Denver Pellett, Allen Kelly, Lewis Havermale, Edgar F. Howe & Sons, Edgar Johnson, R. W. Weeks, Merrill D. Davis, and W. C. Costello.

Imperial Valley News. Brawley. Est. September, 1903. Name changed to *Brawley News* in 1905. Willard Beebe, F. H. Stanley, Myron D. Witter, Allan Witter.

Imperial Valley Herald. Imperial. Est. July, 1904. J. G. Overshiner. Plant moved to Calexico after one month.

Calexico Chronicle. Calexico. Est. August, 1904. J. G. Overshiner, C. A. Gardner, John B. Baker, O. B. Tout, Bert Perrin, Myron Watson, Ray Oliver, Randall Henderson.

Imperial Standard. Est. 1906. David de Witt Lawrence, Edgar F. Howe & Sons. Discontinued 1911.

Holtville Tribune. Holtville. Est. 1905. John B. Baker, O. B. Tout, Norman Parks, Bennitt Bros.

Daily Real Estate. El Centro. Est. 1909. Changed to *Daily Free Lance*. A. D. Medhurst. Discontinued 1911.

Desert Farmer. El Centro. Est. 1908. Agricultural monthly. J. B. Baker, C. W. Collins. Discontinued 1910. Republished a few months in 1916.

Imperial Valley Magazine. El Centro. Est. 1909. Pictorial monthly. T. J. Boyd. Discontinued 1909.

El Centro Advance. El Centro. Est. 1910. A. W. Atherton. Discontinued 1910.

Imperial Valley Outlook. El Centro. Est. 1910. H. W. Moorehouse. Discontinued 1911.

Morning Star. El Centro. Est. 1911. Kelly & Havermale. Discontinued 1911.

El Centro Progress. El Centro. Est. 1912. O. B. Tout. Merged with *Imperial Valley Press* 1922.

Allen Kelly's Report. El Centro. Est. 1911. Allen Kelly. Merged with *El Centro Progress* and later with *Zanjero*. Discontinued 1913.

Imperial Enterprise. Imperial. Est. 1909. Alexander & Kennedy, Victor Sterling, S. E. De Rackin, Harry N. Dyke, Wm. Burtcher, L. M. Thompson, Mrs. L. M. Thompson and Earl Waugh.

Imperial Valley Republican. Imperial. Est. 1909. J. V. Alexander. Discontinued 1909.

Holtville Leader. Holtville. Est. 1913. Richard McGregor. Discontinued 1914.

Heber Times. Heber. Est. 1913. Geo. Hullinger. Discontinued 1913.

Seeley Sentinel. Seeley. Est. 1913. Oscar Sweeney, Edwin J. Parke, W. R. Snow, Wiley MaGruder. Merged with *Imperial Valley Farmer* 1920.

Niland Review. Niland. Est. 1914. Everett King. Discontinued 1915.

Date City Sun. Date City. Est. 1914. Changed to *Calipatria Herald* 1915. J. Win Wilson.

Calipatria Herald. Calipatria. Est. 1915. C. J. Pfaffenberger, S. E. De Rackin, Norman Parks, S. C. Sorensen.

Morning Telegram. El Centro. Est. 1914. E. F. Howe & Sons. Discontinued 1914.

Westmorland Tribune. Westmorland. R. F. Cheesbro. Discontinued.

Westmorland Mail. Westmorland. Est. 1926. T. M. Hancock.

Calexico Plaindealer. Calexico. Est. 1919 Frank Roach. Discontinued 1919.

Brawley Star. Brawley. Est. 1914. L. J. Kintz. Combined with *Calipatria Herald* in 1917.

Imperial Valley Farmer. El Centro. Est. 1920, combining *Seeley Sentinel*, *The Zanjero* and *Farm Bureau Bulletin*. W. A. Magruder, W. R. Snow, John McKinney, Arthur Burke, Claire Burke, Carleton T. Joy and Geo. Bennitt.

The Zanjero. El Centro. Est. 1919. Edgar F. Howe. Discontinued 1919.

Farm Bureau Monthly. El Centro. Supplied by the State. Local Editor, Scott B. Foulds.

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Imperial Valley, because of its romantic development from desert to garden, has been the subject of many fiction stories. Then, because of the difficult engineering problems connected with the Colorado River and the recent eight-year period of consideration by the Congress of the United States of the bills that culminated in the passage of the Boulder Canyon Project Act, the Valley and the Colorado River have been the subject of more exhaustive investigations, government reports and the like than any other similar area. There are ninety-six different Congressional reports in the reference files on the Bureau of Reclamation in Washington. Scientific journals have dealt in detail with all phases of the irrigation project for the past thirty years.

In the offices of the Imperial Irrigation District, in addition to the volumes of fiction and government reports, are more than one hundred scrap books filled with clippings from newspapers that have given Imperial Valley nationwide publicity during the last twenty years. Much of this writing was done because of the appeal to the imagination made by the undertaking to harness the Colorado, the greatest engineering feat ever attempted by man.

If the reader is interested in more detailed information than is presented within the limited confines of this history he will find in the following list of publications and articles enough to keep him busy reading for a long time. From such sources the facts for "The First Thirty Years" were gathered and to each writer and author the publisher herewith acknowledges a deep debt of sincere gratitude for his help.

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A STUDY WORTH WHILE

In the following pages, now, let us study the facts
 that have gone into the history of Imperial Valley, the
 region that lay shunned and dormant century after
 century; the land that no man coveted—a barrier in
 the westward progress of the human race; a land
 dominated by a merciless sun and threatened by the
 vagaries of a wilful river; a region that financiers
 scorned when asked to help irrigate it and laughed at
 the men they called crazy for even suggesting that a
 white man could live there. This is the same land
 now peopled by 60,000 human beings; it is the land
 that has proved to be the agricultural marvel of the
 age.

The first thirty years of its life have hurried into
 history. On the pages that follow the reader will
 meet the record of events as they happened, year by
 year. We commend you to a careful study, a study
 worth while, of the land that God remembered with
 His greatest munificence in richness of soil and
 lavishness of sunshine and water.

OTIS B. TOUT,

El Centro, California
 October 6, 1931.



A SECOND EDITION

*Judging from the widespread interest exhibited by friends who
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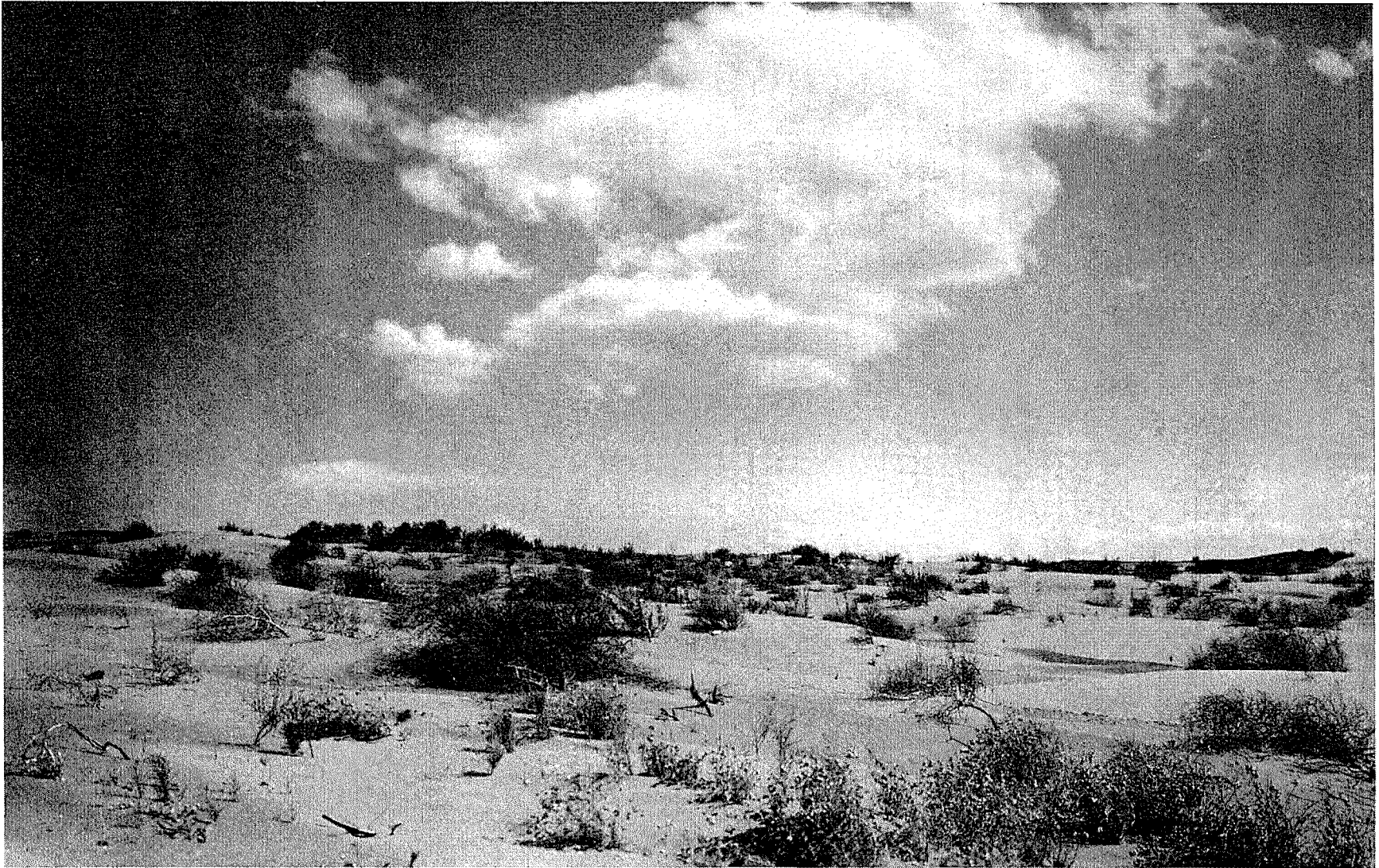
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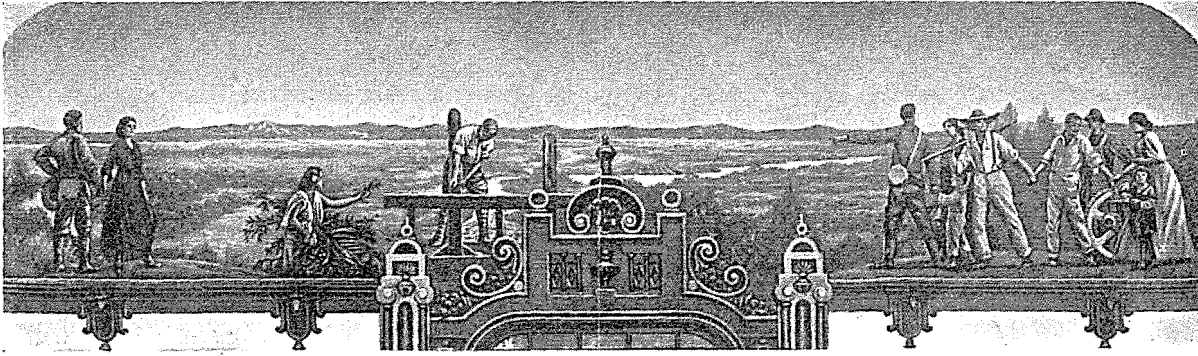
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The Pioneer Points the Way to Opportunity Created by the Engineer. Agriculture, Industry, Building and Culture Quickly Follow

CHAPTER I

AT THE BEGINNING

WE ARE interested in that portion of the west lying in the southeast corner of the State of California and the land adjacent in Mexico, known now as the Imperial Valley. The Colorado River bounds the region on the east; the Chuckwalla Mountains on the north; the San Jacinto Mountains on the west and the Gulf of California on the south. The Imperial Valley, or northern portion of this region, was known as the Colorado Desert for many years. The area, roughly, includes some 6000 square miles. It is the delta of the Colorado River. This great stream has sources in six western states and its collective waters, carrying a vast amount of sediment, have been building up this delta for thousands of years.

Eliminating the southernmost stretches of half-marsh lands south of the Cocopah Mountains and the waste mountains and sand hills within the boundaries described there remain some million and a half acres of tillable, irrigable lands, bisected by the international boundary line, leaving half in the United States and half in Mexico. While this history deals mostly with the region north of the line the whole is so closely welded together by development that it is really a natural unit, although not a political unit.

GEOLOGY

The first study of any subdivision of the earth's surface is naturally of a geological nature. This old earth of ours was formed "some time or other" and the gradual separation of solids and liquids made life possible. The upheavals in the course of time created mountains. The rains of ages wore away at the mountains depositing silt in the low places.

Far back in this history of time the waters of the Gulf of California extended as far north as the

Chuckwalla Mountains and perhaps farther. Evidences of marine life, mollusks and shells, high on the sides of the mountains convince scientists that the entire region experienced an uplifting process that changed the area from salt to fresh water by cutting off the head of the gulf.

At the same time these great forces of nature were working the basin was being filled with alluvial deposits from the Colorado River. That turbulent stream moved billions of tons of silt from its upper regions to the delta. It built levees for itself and allowed the plain region to dry up. Then it would break the levees and pour the basin full again. The Valley plain slopes from south to north, from above sea level to 287 feet below. This process of flooding by overflow would still be going on were it not for the settlement of the region and the control of the river effected in 1907.

More than a passing mention should be made of the evidence of marine occupation referred to above. The waters of the old sea must have been extremely favorable to the propagation of mollusks, especially oysters. There are many square miles of fossil beds, especially of oyster shells, which, in places, are 200 feet thick and may be much deeper. There are many varieties and sizes, some a foot long and others that would have weighed several pounds. Some of the shells are as big as a dinner plate. There are other deposits of marine shells, including shark's teeth, to be found in the Carriso creek country, some of them 375 feet above the present sea level.

Among the varied phenomena of the desert none are so little understood as are the concretions that weather out from some of the clay strata. D. F. Harbison, of Seeley, has gathered many of these curiously shaped forms. Some of them look like cakes,

breakfast rolls, dumb-bells and the like. Many are formed exactly like the bulbous portions of kelp. These are due to chemical action of solutions by which particles of clay are drawn together and cemented in a systematic fashion around some central object or core. Some of these geometrically shaped stones are laid in such regular fashion as to lead one to think they are foundations of ancient houses.

Age after age the prevailing winds from the west picked up the lighter sands from the plains, whirled them eastward and built the range of sand dunes along the eastern rim of the Valley. These dunes are still moving slowly eastward.

THE FIRST WHITE VISITORS

Even as late as 1721 maps drawn by Spaniards show that they believed that Lower California was an island and that the gulf joined the waters of the sea somewhere to the north. Little was known of the delta of the Colorado until about one hundred years ago. Occasional visits by boat from larger vessels were made by the early Spaniards, who made excursions up the Gulf from Acapulco.

Facts concerning the earliest navigators who came to the head of the Gulf of California are not very numerous. Writers seem to agree* that Francisco de Ulloa sailed from Acapulco July 8, 1539, with a fleet of three vessels, and after many difficulties reached shallow water at the head of the Cortez Sea now known as the Gulf of California. Ulloa did not see the river but surmised that one might be there. He sketched a map which indicated its supposed position.

DISCOVERY OF THE COLORADO

In May, 1540, the actual discovery of the Colorado River took place when three explorers, one by sea and two by land, reached the region. Hernando de Alarcon, the first to arrive, entered the Colorado River and ascended it in small boats for fifteen days. He reached a point about one hundred miles above the mouth of the Gila River. The land expeditions under command of Francisco Vasques de Coronado separated near the present site of Ures, Mexico. One portion of the expedition under Melchior Diaz journeyed to the mouth of the Colorado and proceeded by land up the river to a point several leagues above the Gila where he crossed the Colorado River and explored some of the country to the west. Diaz was the first white man to set foot on the soil of the region now known as Imperial Valley. Coronado proceeded by a route farther north to search for the legendary "Seven Cities of Cibola."

In 1542 Don Lopez de Cardenas, another lieutenant of Coronado, made a trip across what is now northern Arizona and discovered the Grand Canyon of the Colorado. This magnificent chasm however did not seem to impress the Spaniards very much for it remained unexplored for the next 327 years—until 1869.

The next written record was set down in 1604 by Don Juan de Ornate, Spanish Governor of New Mexico, who traveled from the Rio Grande to the Williams River and followed the course of that river through to the main stream. He went on to the Gulf, coming upon the Little Colorado, which he named the Colorado. As far as any record goes this is the first time the name was used. On his way to the Gulf he came upon the Gila River of which he made note. He returned the same way.

Another century and sixty-four years more went by before the Mission Padres in Old Mexico appeared in the Colorado region. In 1768 Padre Francisco Garces, a Franciscan friar, started a series of five trips on the third of which in 1771 he came down the Gila to the Colorado. On his fourth trip in 1774 he was in the expedition with Captain de Anza. This expedition also followed the course of the Gila to its junction with the Colorado which was forded. It crossed the Colorado desert by way of New River on the way to the missions of San Gabriel. When de Anza's band set foot on the west bank of the river and followed the water holes to the south and west towards the mountains, which he crossed, it was the first party of any size to actually cross the section now known as Imperial Valley.

In the following two years—1775 and 1776—Garces made his fifth and most important exploration. He accompanied Captain de Anza as far as Yuma, went down to the mouth of the Colorado and then back up the river to Mojave. He struck eastward from Mojave, passing close to the rim of the Grand Canyon, returning to his mission at Xavier del Bac near the present site of Tucson, September 17, 1776. We say this trip was important because it was then that Garces and de Anza laid plans to establish two missions on the west banks of the Colorado near where Yuma now stands.

THE TWO VALLEY MISSIONS

This history is indebted to Miss Estella Falla, who is a student of early Mission lore, for an account of these two missions which few people realize once existed within the confines of what is now Imperial County.

MISSIONS PURISIMA CONCEPCION AND SAN PEDRO Y SAN PABLO

By ESTELLA FALLA

There was always more or less strife between the missionary forces and the military forces which Spain compelled to travel together. Captain Don Gaspar de Portola was named First Commander of all California forces, as well as Governor of California; Captain Don Fernando Rivera y Moncada was named second in command, but the active military command was placed in his hands. It was Rivera's duty to clear the way for the Governor; to recruit the necessary soldiers; to see that no mission was started without its presidio manned by eight leatherjackets to protect it.

Father Junipero Serra's work prospered. It was easy to find donors in Spain to give bells and furniture and vessels for new missions, but not so easy

* First Reclamation Service Report 1903, "The Colorado River," L. R. Freeman, 1923. "Heroes of California," George Wharton James.

to find men ready to enlist for military service thousands of miles from home, in a wild and unknown land of savages. As a consequence, Serra felt the restraint and sought means to break the military bond which hampered him. For years, since the beginning of his work in California in 1769, Serra had all the equipment ready for new missions, but no soldiers were available.

Smarting under this delay, Serra made the journey to the City of Mexico, traveling from San Diego to San Blas in Old California (Lower California) a-foot, then by boat to the mainland of Mexico, then a-foot again to the City of Mexico. He so won the Vice-roy, that Lt. Col. Don Juan Bautista de Anza was sent in 1774 to find an overland route for colonists and supplies, to assure the safe arrival of supplies which were then so frequently lost when shipped by leaking frigates. De Anza succeeded, mapping a route from Tubac, Sonora, to a fording place near the present site of Yuma on the Colorado River, then following the water holes to the south, and then over the mountains to San Gabriel.

Serra further won the Vice-roy to the point where the establishment of missions was left to his own discretion; and so it was that two missions were set up on the California side of the Colorado River near the present site of Yuma and eight miles down the river. They were the Missions Purisima Concepcion and San Pedro y San Pablo. These missions were without presidios. They were manned by eight colonists and their families, by two priests, and a sergeant in one case, and by eight colonists and their families, two priests and an ensign in the other. The missions were to serve as way stations for all overland travel. This overland route, over what is now the Imperial Valley, was dubbed by the leather-jackets EL CAMINO DEL DIABLO (the highway of the Devil) in contradistinction to the coast route, EL CAMINO REAL (the highway of the King).

In 1776, de Anza brought the expedition which was to found the city of San Francisco. The Yuma Indians seemed so peaceful, that Serra was encouraged to carry out his dream of three missions on the Santa Barbara Channel on the same plan as used in the Colorado River Missions. He was delayed by an uprising at the Mission of San Diego, and Rivera would not consent to the rebuilding of the San Diego mission until he had captured the ringleaders and had released the soldiers for presidio duty. This quarrel continued for some time, until finally Serra succeeded in having Rivera demoted to the outpost at Loreto, in Lower California. A new military commander was put in charge of the Northern district.

Following the advice of this new commander, Serra strengthened his line of missions from San Diego to San Francisco before undertaking the new work. In 1781 he again prepared to carry out his plan of building the three missions on the Santa Barbara Channel on the quick plan of those located on the Colorado River.

On March 27, 1781, Serra was on his way to the Santa Barbara Channel to fulfill his dream of many years, when a courier caught up with him with the

news that the Colorado River Missions had been destroyed and all of the inhabitants killed. Father Garces was also killed.

This massacre is of particular interest this year (1931) because of the 150th anniversary of the founding of the city of Los Angeles soon to be celebrated. It was this expedition, bringing the colonists for the new city of Los Angeles, which excited the Yumas to action. It was one of the most difficult groups brought into California, because of the large herds of stock and because the colonists were of a mixed class. Rivera had been put in charge of the train and he had brought them safely to the Colorado. He sent the colonists ahead with a Lt. Commander, while Rivera, with 1000 head of stock, the colonists unable to travel further, and six soldiers, camped on the site of Fort Yuma until he could safely take this part of his expedition across the desert. The Yumas, believing that their grass lands were to be taken by Rivera, attacked Rivera who had little chance against the hundreds of Yumas fighting against him. In this massacre, the River missions were destroyed. It was Rivera's fate that he, who had constantly fought against the establishment of the missions without presidios, should be the one called upon to give up his life to prove the wisdom of his contention.

The missions on the Santa Barbara Channel were established, but, the presidios were first built. And, as a consequence of what had taken place on the Colorado, there was no further talk of dispensing with the soldiers. Imperial County has not been numbered among the counties famous for their missions, but it was by the sacrifice made within its present boundaries that the colonization and the civilization of California were preserved.

FIRST TO SAN DIEGO

In 1782 Don Pedro Foges made the trip from the Colorado River to San Diego. This was the first recorded journey from the desert across the mountains to San Diego, the forerunner of—how many should we say?

VISITS BY TRAPPERS

James O. Pattie, a trapper from St. Louis, is given the credit by some writers for being the first white man to visit Black Canyon, which is the site of the Boulder (Hoover) Dam. He did this in 1825, going down the Gila and up the Colorado with a party.

After 1825 there are records of several visits being made to the Colorado's lower basin and the Salton Sink by trappers from the middle west. Among these were Kit Carson, Jedediah Smith, Wm. Wolfskill, Capt. Bonneville and Thos. Farnham. Smith is credited with being the first white man to make the trip over the overland route later followed by the Santa Fe railroad.

In 1826 Lieut. R. W. H. Hardy, of the British navy, explored the lower delta region in the interest of British pearl and coral fisheries. He sailed in a small schooner, the Bruja, anchoring at Baja and making minor excursions upstream. He charted the delta and his maps show one of the smaller streams

that flowed from the marsh lands as the Colorado. This has been known as Hardy's Colorado since. The following year he made a trip down the Gila and up the Colorado.

The first flood waters making their way to Salton Sea were noted in 1828. They were again mentioned by Wozencraft in 1849, by others in 1852, 1859, 1862, 1867, 1892, 1899, and, within our own history in 1905, 1906 and 1907 when the last big flood was stopped by the Southern Pacific.

COL. KEARNEY'S EXPEDITION

Complaints from Americans in California in 1846 that they were suffering from insults and threats from the "Californians" brought an order from the War Department to Colonel Phillip Kearney, stationed at Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas, to take a troop of cavalry and proceed to San Diego. Supplemental orders followed attaching Lieut. W. H. Emory and two companions to accompany the expedition as officers of the line but with engineering and observation duties added. Lieut. Emory's reports were written wherever a stop was made long enough for him to set down the story.

The column reached the Colorado River below the mouth of the Gila, November 25, 1846, after four months' hard going which left the troops and horses in poor shape. They forded the stream where it was 1500 feet wide and four feet deep. Taking a north-westerly direction they came upon the sand hills which they skirted. At dawn the next day every man tied a bunch of grass to his saddle and the venturesome cavalymen, with captured Spaniards as guides, headed for the Alamo which they found dry. A pit fifteen feet deep yielded a scant supply of water. The men drank first and then the horses. The next day they headed straight into the desert and by the middle of the afternoon many of the horses and mules were completely exhausted. The guides told of a stagnant lake but said its waters were unfit to use because of dead animals and birds that lay strewn around the edges. The lake (probably one of the depressions like Cameron Lake) was reached at 8 p. m. The water was utterly unfit for man or beast although several of the troopers could not be kept from drinking. The brackish waters only increased their thirst. After a short rest the column moved forward on a forced night march.

At dawn the men were all favoring their tired mounts by walking at their sides. The detachment dragged along toward the mountains which had been in plain view for four days and at noon found water in Carriso Creek. The desert trip of ninety miles from water to water was extremely wearing on the men and when they reached the western side of the mountains they suffered from extreme cold and were drenched by rainstorms. They were in extremely poor condition to meet the expert horsemen of the Spaniards and Mexicans in the Valley of the San Pasqual where heavy losses were sustained in California's only real battle.

Lieut. Emory described the terrain of the desert accurately and made observations of a geological nature that are surprising taking into consideration

the hardships under which they were made. He saw that the basin had once been an inland lake. He did not discover, however, that the plain was below sea level.

THE DESERT TEEMS

In 1849, the year gold was discovered in California, travel across the desert started in earnest. Some authorities assert that more than 70,000 people found their way to California by way of the desert and across the mountains via Carriso Creek and Warners' Hot Springs. Many wagon trains came up from Sonora in Old Mexico, forded the Colorado and followed the water holes and lakes toward Signal Mountain. Cave Coutts, a lieutenant in the army, saw the business possibilities of a ferry at the mouth of the Gila and established one in 1849 in time to reap much profit from the gold seekers.

This was the year that Dr. Oliver M. Wozencraft discovered that water could be brought to the floor of the Valley by gravity. His efforts are discussed in a subsequent article.

In 1850 General Anderson also built a ferry boat which was operated by Indians for many years.

Fort Yuma was established in 1851. The War Department sought an easier way to send supplies to the fort and detailed Lieut. George H. Derby, in 1851, to survey the river below Yuma to see if steamboats could operate from the Gulf. The first steamer on the river was in 1851, the "Uncle Sam." As a result of Derby's surveys the Government built an iron steamboat fifty feet long and shipped it in sections to San Francisco and thence to the mouth of the Colorado, where it was assembled in 1857. This boat chugged up and down the stream reaching as far north as Las Vegas, Wash. An iron boat was found in the mud some twenty miles below Andrade by a party of which J. E. Peck was a member in 1930.

In 1850 the Government ordered the boundary surveyed and for three years survey parties worked under the direction of J. R. Bartlett. These surveys included facilities of irrigation in the territory. New boundary line surveys were made in 1854-55 by Major Emory and Lieut. Mickler. Judging from the jog in the boundary line, the surveyors carried the line to the mouth of the Colorado on the east bank and when they crossed at Yuma and resumed on the west bank they went as far south as they could, took a look at the vast expanse of flooded delta country and decided that Uncle Sam did not have any use for such a district anyway, so struck west for Signal Mountain and let it go at that. They should have, at least, included enough land for an All-American canal below the sand hills.

THE WILLIAMSON EXPEDITION

When the conquest of the west was under way, the Government at Washington was besieged with all sorts of requests for help to put over different schemes. The steam railroad, a comparatively new invention, was an attractive thing to promote. In response to demands for co-operation, the Congress agreed to pay the bill for surveys of possible rail-



Shore and Water line of Lake Cabuilla of Ancient Times. Dr. Wm. P. Blake, Geologist with the Williamson Expedition in 1853, published this picture in his report to the Government. The scene is at the eastern portal of the San Gorgonio Pass.

road routes to the Pacific coast. The order was signed by Jefferson Davis, then Secretary of War. A party of Topographical Army Engineers was organized under the direction of Lieut. R. S. Williamson, in 1853, and was sent west to find the most feasible routes for possible railroads. This party was well equipped. Williamson had as an assistant Lieutenant J. G. Parke. The party was composed of: "One mineralogist and geologist; one physician and naturalist; two civil engineers; one draughtsman . . . accompanied by a mounted escort of three non-commissioned officers and twenty-five privates." Four six-mule teams, wagons, etc., were furnished by the Quartermaster's Department. Five teamsters and eight helpers, cooks, etc., were added.

The expedition was assembled at Benecia, in Central California, and worked southward, dividing at San Bernardino. The San Gorgonio Pass was explored. This report of 1853 was the first record written about this unusual Pass, the only one of its kind on the entire Pacific slope. The party made its way along the western side of the Valley to the south, encountering famishing experiences because of delays to build roads and the lack of water. The two divisions met at Warner's Springs, rested a while and then divided again, one party crossing the desert to the mouth of the Gila. Shortly before the arrival of the party at Ft. Yuma a severe earthquake, or a series of them, was felt. A portion of Chimney Peak, a rocky height, was shaken off. Violent action in the mud volcano section to the south was seen.

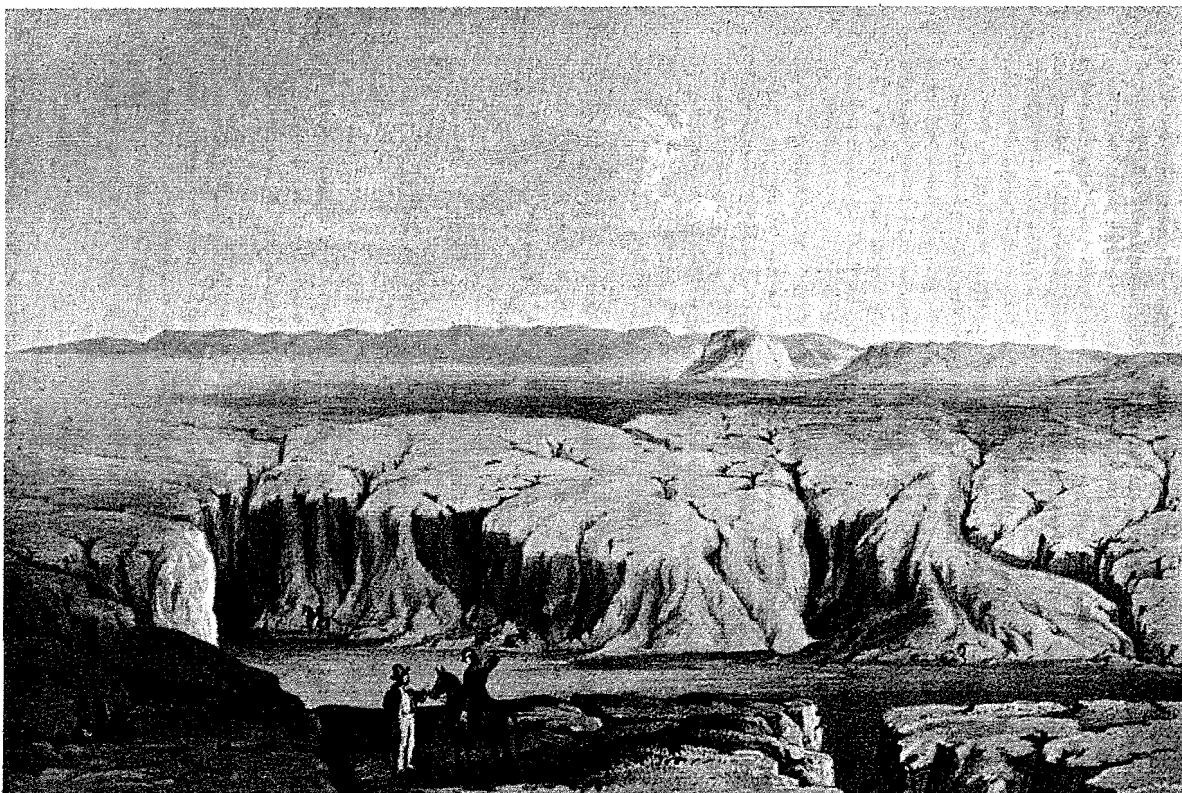
Dr. Wm. P. Blake was Geologist with this party. His reports are models of their sort. Dr. Blake later became Professor of Geology at the University of Arizona and made a close study of the Colorado region for more than fifty years.

LAKE CAHUILLA—SALTON SEA

When the head of the gulf was finally cut off the water to the north became an inland lake of salt water. Evaporating and refilling, the water became fresh. It is a surprise to many people today to find the waters of Salton Sea drinkable, although brackish.

Such conditions continued for centuries. Prof. Blake named this body of water Lake Cahuilla. He used the Indian word "Ka-Wee-Yah" spelling it phonetically in Spanish Cahuilla, the name of an Indian tribe which inhabited the fringes of the desert from time immemorial.

Evaporation of the water revealed vast deposits of salt in a great white field at the bottom of the former lake. This salt was mined in commercial quantities and the railroad station nearest the salt deposits in later years was named Salton. When the lake was filled again it then became known as Salton Sea. During the floods of 1905 and 1906 this sea attained a length of 45 miles, a breadth of 17 miles and an area of 410 square miles with a maximum depth of 83 feet. It submerged the railway trackage for many miles, and completely covered the New Liverpool Salt Company's works. H. T. Cory estimates that if the inflow of the Colorado and waste



Ravines cut in Colorado Desert by River Overflow. This picture was published in Dr. Blake's report to the Government in 1853. The cuts are identical with those made in the New and Alamo River beds in 1906

water of the irrigation system were entirely stopped the sea would practically dry up by evaporation in eighteen years.

At the beginning of irrigation in Imperial Valley in 1901 the bed of Salton Sea was dry, the salt company was harvesting vast quantities of salt and the seven lakes in the low depressions on the plains were beginning to dry up.

THE COLORADO DESERT

Prof. Blake gave the name "Colorado Desert" to this depressed area below sea level in 1853. This was before the State of Colorado received its name. It was a desert, owed its origin to the river and it was deemed most appropriate to call the region the Colorado Desert. The area of this desert is approximately 2100 square miles. It ranges from 135 feet above sea level at Yuma, to minus 287 feet at the bottom of Salton Sea.

FERTILITY

Since 1849 the fertility of most of this alluvial plain has been recognized. Dr. Wozencraft then noted it. In an official report to the War Department in 1855 attention was called to the fact that the Cahuilla Indians were raising abundant crops of corn, barley and vegetables in the northwestern part of the desert. The soil appeared to be rich for wherever water touched it, vegetation was abundant. The Indians had their houses in the thickly growing mesquite trees. The following remarkable prophetic sug-

gestion was made by Prof. Blake in this official report, made in writing to the government in 1855:

"If a supply of water could be obtained for irrigation it is probable that the greater part of the desert could be made to yield crops of almost any kind . . . by deepening the channel of New River or cutting a canal so low that the water of the Colorado would enter at all seasons of the year a constant supply could be furnished to the interior portion of the desert."

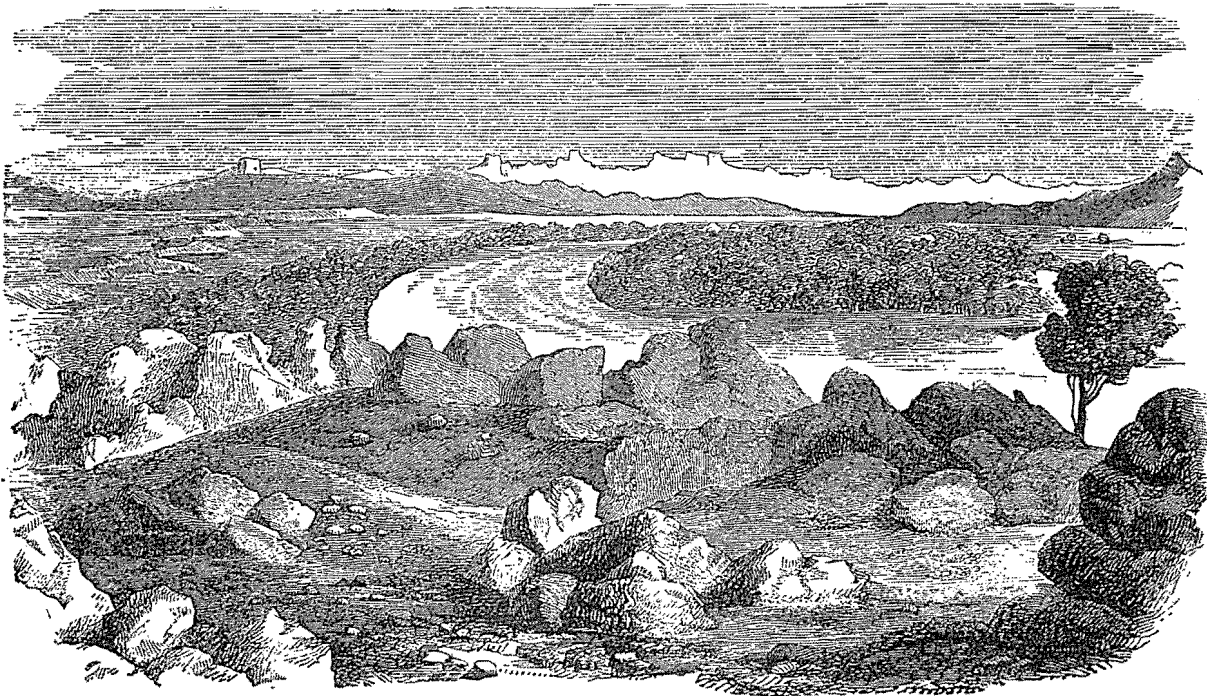
There we have the first official suggestion that the desert could be watered by gravity flow from the Colorado river.

No doubt it was this report that caused Dr. O. M. Wozencraft to continue his efforts, started in 1849, to interest capital and the government in the reclamation of the desert. Reference to Dr. Wozencraft's lifelong, futile efforts will be found farther along in this history.

NATURAL VEGETATION

The principal plants of the desert found near water or in the beds of arroyos and on overflowed lands were the mesquite, the screw bean, the palo verde, the creosote bush, the California palm, and the salt weeds. After rainfall at certain seasons of the year, beautiful flowers spring up and where the ground is frequently overflowed, pigweed, arrowweed, willows and cottonwood abound.

The remarkable palms found in the Borego Valley and in Palm Canyon are evidently the remains of a



The Colorado from Pilot Knob. From Blake's Report, 1853

vast growth of these stately trees that fringed the shores of the ancient lake.

MUD VOLCANOES

In the neighborhood of Cerro Prieto (Black Butte) there is a considerable acreage of boiling water and mud with jets of steam issuing from miniature volcanoes. Similar mud volcanoes are to be found on the east shore of Salton Sea, known at present as Capt. Davis' resort. These volcanoes are doubtless due to the infiltration of water down to the heated beds of rock not far beneath. Converted into steam these waters burst violently upward through the mud and around their orifices throw up encircling walls of mud. Volcano Lake gets its name from these volcanoes.

Almost the only legend ever wormed from the silent Cocopah Indian is built around these volcanoes. They punished their sorcerers and other serious criminals by the simple process of dropping them into a pool of boiling mud.

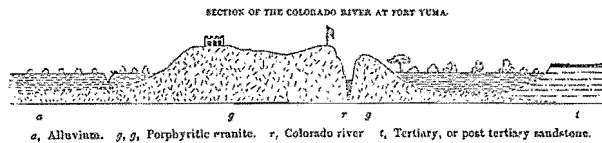
ARTESIAN WELLS

On the eastern and northern edges of Imperial Valley wells from 300 to 1000 feet deep produce quite a good quality of water at an average temperature of 100 degrees. The first well sunk at Holtville furnishes fine clear water which is used in a plunge for bathing. Many ranches on the east side are provided with a good domestic water supply by artesian wells. Attempts to reach artesian water west of the Alamo river have thus far failed.

OIL

Many attempts have been made in the desert region to find oil, none of which were successful. In

1907 great excitement was caused by the report that one of these wells was a producer. Within a few weeks more than 450,000 acres of land were filed on as oil claims in the Recorder's office at San Diego. This same thing has happened on a lesser scale several times since then. There is a new well going down this year in the Borego Valley district.



OVERLAND STAGE ROUTE

In 1858 David Butterfield secured a contract with the Government to carry the United States mail over a route between St. Louis and San Francisco twice a month. The distance was divided into "horse runs." One of the adobe buildings erected at Indian Wells near the present site of Seeley was standing until 1906 when it was washed away during the flood. The route crossed the Valley by way of Indian and Coyote Wells going northward through Carriso Canyon, Warner's Spring and Los Angeles to San Francisco. Passenger fare was \$100 and the trip consumed from twenty-two to twenty-five days. This stage route was maintained until March, 1861, when the Government discontinued its subsidy on account of the Civil war.

ADMIRAL DEWEY A VISITOR

From 1873 to 1875 Commander George Dewey (later Admiral) surveyed the Gulf of California in the U. S. S. Narragansett and visited the mouth of the Colorado River several times. His work, however, did not extend beyond deep water navigation.

FIRST "ALL-AMERICAN" CANAL SURVEY

In 1876 Lieutenant Eric Bergland was detailed to investigate flood conditions on the lower Colorado and to determine the feasibility of diverting the Colorado River for irrigation purposes in the vicinity of Needles. He also sought a route for a canal from the river to the Colorado desert on American soil. This is perhaps the first official mention made anywhere of an "All-American" canal. In 1879 following the completion of the Southern Pacific Railroad the Government ceased all attempts to further navigation on the river.

THE SOUTHERN PACIFIC BUILDS

In 1877 the Southern Pacific completed its line as far as Yuma and two years later the desert was crossed connecting the east and west by a Southern route. The completion of the railroad meant the cessation of all stage and team travel across the desert. The country was abandoned except for the cattlemen who watched for overflow periods when grass enough would grow to warrant driving their herds here to graze.

The railroad company established stations along the way and built cement cisterns which were filled with water hauled from the Coachella Valley so that section crews could exist. These stations were: Knob, Ogilby, Cactus, Drylin, Ruthven, Glamis, Mesquite, Acolita, Mammoth, Tortuga, Iris, Flowing Well, Old Beach, Lano, Frink, Pope, Bertram and Salton. Flowing Well, which was a misnomer, was the station used by first visitors. Geo. McCaulley, a liveryman of Yuma, put up a shack there in 1900 and started the stage line that served until the railroad branch was completed to Imperial in 1903. The railroad company, however, made the junction point at Old Beach, a few miles west of Flowing Well. The name was changed to Imperial Junction and then to Niland.

FLOURISHING MINES

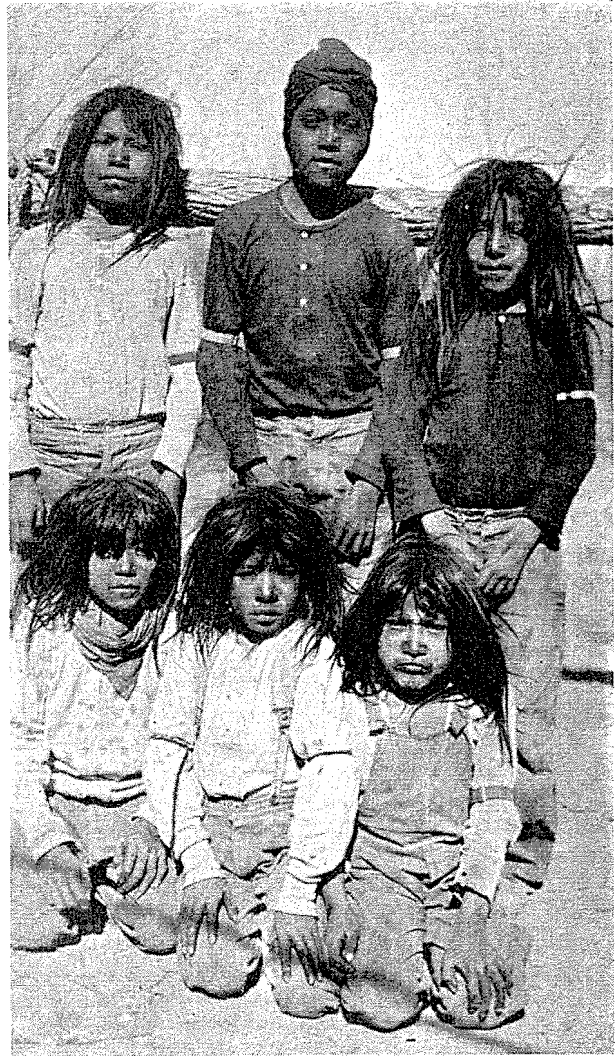
Prospectors in the early days found gold in the waste mountains in the eastern end of what is now Imperial County and with the completion of the railroad several good mines were opened and worked. At one time there were some 3000 men working in these mines. When the county was formed in 1907 there were some fifty votes in the mining district. The most noted mines were the Walters Gold Mine, the Little Mary, the Black Butte, the American Girl, the Senator and the Picacho. The last two were nearer the river. Most of the remainder were grouped in the Tumco section which was reached by team from Ogilby and Cactus.

Preparations are being made to reopen some of these mines which, with modern machinery, will produce gold in paying quantities from low grade ores that exist in abundance.

The average Imperial resident will be surprised to know that Tumco peak has an elevation of 2225 feet and Picacho peak is 1945 feet high.

EARLY LAKES AND CATTLE GRAZING

In the eighties and nineties Imperial Valley was used by cattlemen as a grazing ground. They would drive herds in from San Diego County and some



Cocopah Indian Children—True Natives of the Desert

would swim them across the Colorado from Arizona. The overflow from the Colorado was regular enough to keep the low spots filled with water and around the shores of these "lakes" would grow pepper and other grasses that made good feed.

These lakes were seven in number. Pelican Lake, so called because of the thousands of pelicans that nested there, was directly west of where Imperial is now. Mesquite Lake, named from the dense growth of mesquite trees around it, was northeast of Imperial. Blue Lake, named from the clear water it held, was west of where Seeley is now. Cameron and Diamond lakes were south of Blue Lake, towards the border. Cameron Lake was named after Geo. Cameron, cattle man, and Diamond Lake was so called after George Diamond, more often called "Diamond George," another cattle man. Laguna Lake, near where Calexico is now, is Spanish for lake itself. These lakes were all cut out by the 1906 floods excepting Mesquite Lake which was drained to make more farming land.

The Alamo was called Carter River for some time, after Joseph Carter, step-son of Hall Hanlon, and was so called several years after the Valley was irri-

gated. The ancient name was resumed about 1904.

Near Sharps Heading was Buzzard's Roost before the canals were built. Thousands of buzzards perched on the mesquites there between their excursions over the desert area.

Indian Wells was a stage station where clear water could always be had. It was located near Blue Lake and was washed away, together with the historic adobe buildings, in 1906.

THESE WERE THE BEGINNINGS

It will be seen from these records that the region under discussion while feared by everyone who had to come in contact with it as a dreary somewhat desolate and dangerous waste it was not at all unknown many years before water reached its soil in 1901. Literally thousands of people crossed in wagon trains, by stage, on horse and foot during the half century previous to irrigation.

CHAPTER II

DR. OLIVER M. WOZENCRAFT



Dr. Oliver M. Wozencraft

WHO was the real "father" of Imperial Valley, the first man to actually plan the reclamation of the desert sink for agricultural purposes by bringing the waters of the Colorado to the arid area to the west?

The answer to that question must be Dr. Oliver Meredith Wozencraft.

This cultured man conceived the idea in 1849 and spent every hour possible for thirty-eight years seeking co-operation, governmental or private, to bring

about the realization of the very plans that C. R. Rockwood sought to develop during his eight years of search for capital between 1892 and 1900.

Dr. Wozencraft came out to California in the gold rush year of 1849 at the age of thirty-five years. He was a graduate in medicine and located in San Francisco, taking a position as Indian Agent for the Government. His evident interest in the mysterious and strange was shown when he immediately set out to visit the then almost unknown Colorado desert.

In May, 1849, he set out with several men, mules and a pack train, and planned a careful investigation. From his personal diary we read this: "We at last reached this, the most formidable of all deserts on this continent. We found its basin filled with turbid water; crossing in an improvised boat made of ox hide, we encountered the desert. We started in the evening, taking a trail that soon led us into sand drifts and as their walls are nearly perpendicular and as unsubstantial as a sand bank, we were compelled to halt. I set about prospecting to find a way out; there was a sand hill not far off; I climbed to the top and found that the sand drifts could be avoided by going to the bottom land near the river. On my return to the men, they having fallen asleep, I found that the drifting sand had almost covered them up. We were some three days or more properly speaking, nights, crossing the desert. The extreme heat in the daytime compelled us to seek shelter under our blankets. The heat was so intense that on the third day two of my men failed. It occurred to me, as there was nothing I could do there, to mount my patient and gentle mule and at a distance of some eight miles I reached the border of the desert and water with which I filled a bag and brought it back to them. It was then and there that I first conceived the idea of the reclamation of the desert."

Ten years later, in 1859, Dr. Wozencraft secured from the State Legislature of California all the state rights to the 1600 square miles of the Salton Sink. The Legislature passed this bill April 15, 1859. The original pen and ink draft of this bill is in the archives of the Imperial County Pioneer Ass'n. The next thing to be done was to gain the consent of the Federal Government. He lost no time but saw to it that a bill was presented in Congress in the fall of

the same year. The bill was referred to the proper committee and the records of this committee contain the following description of the Wozencraft project:

"This bill proposes, in consideration of the introduction of a wholesome supply of fresh water into the Colorado desert tract as prescribed in the bill. This tract embraces (according to Lieutenant Bridgland) about 1600 square miles in the basin of what now is and must remain, until an energetic and extensive system of reclamation is inaugurated and brought to successful completion, a valueless and horrible desert. The labor of reclamation must be commenced within two years and be completed within ten years. As fast as water shall be introduced, upon a report to that effect being made by a duly appointed commission, patents shall issue for the parts reclaimed and when all the conditions are fulfilled then and not until then shall the title rest in said grantee."

Portending the experience of Rockwood some thirty-nine years later, when the Spanish-American War stopped his progress, the rumble of the great Civil War caused the Wozencraft project to be sidetracked by Congress, even after it had been favorably reported by the committee. Like Rockwood of later years, Dr. Wozencraft never lost hope. After the war he went back to Congress after Congress only to find it impossible to make an impression on the men so busily occupied with reconstruction problems. The hopeful doctor went to Washington the last time in 1887 and there secured the promise of a friendly Representative to bring the matter up for another hearing. He was suddenly stricken ill and died before relatives could reach him from San Bernardino, California. He had spent his entire personal fortune; he had paid the expenses of many trips of capitalists, lawmakers and others to the desert. His last sacrifice was the beautiful family home in San Francisco. Even when he died at the advanced age of 73, he was in the harness working as hard as he knew how to bring about the watering of the wastes.

Just how much inspiration C. R. Rockwood gained from the efforts of Dr. Wozencraft is mere conjec-

ture. At least he was cognizant of these plans for he mentions them in his story, "Born of the Desert," published in 1909, and found reproduced in later pages of this history.

George Chaffey was a personal acquaintance of Dr. Wozencraft and was importuned by him in the early eighties to take up the work. Chaffey refused on account of his belief that no white settlers could be induced to colonize the land. This belief was dissipated when he went to Australia and saw hundreds of white men settle and live for years in a climate as hot as that of this desert. Upon his return from Australia he did take hold of the Imperial Valley project and did what Dr. Wozencraft begged him to do years before.

An interesting scrap book, filled with clippings concerning the doctor's life, his articles on the desert, poems and orations delivered on various occasions, was rescued from the attic of his daughter's home in San Bernardino after her death and was presented to Hugh Osborne, of El Centro. These clippings reflect the varied activities of Dr. Wozencraft's life and form documentary evidence of his life-long effort toward the reclamation of the desert. His plans were often thwarted by suspicions on the part of many that he was after a gigantic graft for personal gain as he sought the grant of all the Colorado desert lands from the government. The fact that this was necessary before he could interest capital was not appreciated.

In drawing his plans and maps he enlisted the aid of County Surveyor Hadley, of San Diego county, whose knowledge of the desert was a big help to Wozencraft.

The scrap book, which was evidently kept by Dr. Wozencraft himself, is a prized relic of real historical value.

So, while we are carving the names of the real pioneers on the monument of memory, let us place at the top of the list the name of the kindly cultured physician, Dr. Oliver M. Wozencraft, whose only mistake seems to have been that he was half a century ahead of the times.



CHAPTER III

ROCKWOOD'S REDISCOVERY



Charles Robinson Rockwood

THE early history of the Imperial Valley is interwoven with that of Charles Robinson Rockwood in a fashion that gives his name pre-eminence amongst those who had the idea of uniting the waters of the Colorado River and the fertile desert soil of Salton Sink. While the lifetime work and endeavors of Dr. Oliver M. Wozencraft and the eight years of toil, struggle and disappointment that Rockwood experienced from 1892 until 1900 were strangely similar, Rockwood finally found the man, George Chaffey, who was able to take hold of the project when it was practically defunct and bring the water to the desert.

The story "Born of the Desert" was written in 1909, by Mr. Rockwood, for publication in the annual magazine edition of the Calexico Chronicle, at the request of the publisher of this history, then proprietor of the Chronicle.*

When Rockwood rediscovered Imperial Valley in 1892, the idea of its reclamation became an obsession with him. Realizing his own lack of experience in financing and promoting he associated himself with first one and then another, always seeking money with which to bring into realization his plans for reclamation. He followed every clue that looked like it led to money; he crossed the continent time and again, visited Europe, saw the bag of gold at the foot of the rainbow several times only to have it dissipated into the mists by the breaking out of a war, the death of a principal or the underhanded perfidy of a friend. He was deserted by friends and backers, laughed at as the father of a chimera by unyielding bankers east and west. In spite of all he hung on with a tenacious hope.

In 1899 Rockwood had seemingly reached the end of his rope; he was broke; his corporation was practically defunct; its charter was about to be canceled; the options on lands necessary for the heading and canals had expired; the whole matter was in the slough of despond.

With matters in this state is it any wonder, when George Chaffey indicated interest, that Rockwood, Heber and the other officers of the troubled California Development Company, should gloss over this serious condition and hold the magnifying glass on the more favorable aspects before the eyes of the possible backer? They were within reach of realization. They felt that Chaffey would be amply repaid should he go into it. Why inform him of ALL the facts and spoil it all? They simply could not do it. They evidently comforted their consciences with the knowledge that George Chaffey took five months to look into the details and did not deem it necessary to employ an attorney. He even decided once to turn it down and then slipped away into the desert for three weeks alone. He came out with the decision to go ahead.

Under these circumstances the criticism that has been leveled at Rockwood and Heber because of their failure in frankness is somewhat dulled although it is a just criticism. How is one to weigh such guilt? If the white lie is at any time permissible in the education of a child how much of a white lie is permissible to create a hundred million dollar region for sixty thousand humans?

* Securing the story, by the way, was no small task. The services of a stenographer, Mrs. Leta Bryan, were placed at his disposal and for more than two weeks he dictated a voluminous mass of matter. This was edited and finally put in shape for publication. The passing of twenty-two years and the increasing interest on the part of the public in Mr. Rockwood's revealing narrative caused its reproduction in 1930 by Randall Henderson, present publisher of the Calexico Chronicle, in a beautiful brochure. This also includes interesting reminiscences by Dr. W. T. Heffernan.

When the deal was made with George Chaffey it was made on Chaffey's terms. Chaffey was to have the power of sole dictator over the affairs of the California Development Company for a period of five years. Rockwood, Heber and the others stepped down and out. They were apparently sacrificing but really possessed nothing tangible to sacrifice. Chaffey stepped into a situation which had a par value less than zero and built it, in twenty-two months, into a concern with more than two millions in assets. For that alone George Chaffey deserves more credit than Rockwood willingly gives in the narrative that follows.

Perhaps it was more than should be expected of mere human beings to stand on the sidelines and watch the creation of this wealth without a desire to have a hand in the work. Then, too, it was natural that George Chaffey should find his fine Scotch nature violently resentful when he discovered that he had to hustle money to buy Hall Hanlon's lands, to pay the corporation fees past due in New Jersey, to gouge a new option from the unwilling Don Guillermo Andrade who owned the right of way for the main canal in Mexico and to redeem \$350,000 land scrip at face value. The situation created strained relations between the two groups. It could do nothing else. Chaffey went ahead, disdainful of Rockwood. The latter saw his empire slipping into the hands of the man who was making it. Five years was a long time to endure this situation. Again the ever present fact that human nature is the overpowering factor in the struggles between men was demonstrated. Rockwood hired attorneys to find flaws in the Chaffey contract. He was abetted by the belief on the part of some people that the Chaffeyes were intent on milking the cow and drinking the milk themselves. But there seemed to be no loophole for action.

However, George Chaffey's own oversight when acting as his own attorney, compelled him to relinquish the management of the project. His contract called for the proxies of a majority of the stock outstanding, in order for him to maintain control of voting power at the annual meetings. He failed to have the stock certificates put in escrow when the proxies were handed over to him; then when the influx of people and the boom of success turned this once worthless stock into valuable paper there was nothing to prevent the sale of the certificates by the owners. When such a sale was made the proxy was cancelled. When Chaffey foresaw that he would lose control of the board of directors by this process he impetuously decided to get out as quickly as possible and on the best terms possible. The Rockwood contingent agreed to buy him out on his own terms and the Chaffey control ended in April, 1902.

These matters are to be found in more detail in

subsequent chapters. They are referred to here in order to give the reader a clear perspective of the situation.

ROCKWOOD'S BACKGROUND

Charles Robinson Rockwood was born in Michigan, in 1860. He made up his mind early in youth to be on his own resources when he reached the age of twenty-one. He attended the University of Michigan but had to quit school on account of trouble with his eyes, intending to return. He went to Colorado and spent three years in practical survey work with engineering crews. He became too engrossed with this fascinating occupation to return to school. At the age of twenty he entered the engineering department of the Denver & Rio Grande Railway Company and remained in that position two years. He then came to California, entering the engineering service of the Southern Pacific, where he remained until 1889. For a year or so after that he was with the Geological Survey of the United States government. In 1890 Mr. Rockwood accepted a position as Chief Engineer of the Northern Pacific, Yakima & Kittitas Irrigation Company, organized by the Northern Pacific for the purpose of irrigating lands in the Yakima valley in the state of Washington.

Here it seems that the spectre of financial trouble began to hover over the career of the engineer. The money panic at that time caused the railroad to withdraw its support from the Yakima project. It was then that Rockwood made contact with John C. Beatty, in Denver, and accepted the commission to investigate and report the feasibility of irrigating the delta lands below Yuma. He then rediscovered Imperial Valley and his story picks up the thread of his experiences after 1892.

After the floods of 1905-1906-1907 had wrecked the California Development Company, Rockwood lost everything except 160 acres of land in the Valley where his efforts had helped in the reclamation of more than 600,000 acres.

After the people, through the Imperial Irrigation District, purchased the remnants of the controlling corporation, the Board of Directors of the District, in 1915, made him Chief Engineer and for two years he enjoyed the doubtful pleasure of following the maps and data, many of which he had created years before. In 1918 he returned to his home in Los Angeles and resumed the practice of his engineering profession. March 3, 1922 he died at his home in Los Angeles at the age of 62.

No monument that might be erected to the memory of the men who made Imperial Valley would be complete without the name Charles Robinson Rockwood.

His own story "Born of the Desert" is presented with a few deletions of matter that are covered in other portions of the history.

It is a story of dogged determination that succeeded—but in the success there was a swirling tide that engulfed the chief actors of the drama and others carried on the action.

BORN OF THE DESERT

BY CHARLES ROBINSON ROCKWOOD

Written for the Calexico Chronicle in 1909

THE BEGINNING

Early in 1892, while located at North Yakima, Wash., I received a letter from one John C. Beatty, writing from Denver, sending to me a prospectus and plans of what was called the Arizona & Sonora Land & Irrigation Company. They proposed to take water from the Colorado River and carry it on to a tract of a million and a half acres in Sonora, which they claimed to own. The board of directors of the company consisted of several of the leading financial men of Colorado. Mr. Beatty's desire was that I should make them a proposition whereby I would become the chief engineer of that project and undertake the construction of its proposed canals.

After a correspondence extending over a period of four or five months, I finally met Mr. Beatty at Denver in August, 1892, and entered there into an agreement with this company and in September of that year came to Yuma in order to outline and take charge of the project of their company.

In Denver I met Mr. Samuel Ferguson, who afterward became connected with me in the promotion of the California Development Company, and who was at that time the general manager of the Kern County Land Company. Mr. Ferguson had written to me previously asking me to become the chief engineer of the Kern County Land Company, situated at Bakersfield, California, and he met me in Denver in order to outline their project to me before I might close with Mr. Beatty. As the Kern county canal system was partially completed, I decided to undertake the new project rather than the rebuilding of an old house, with the result that I came to Yuma in September of the year 1892 and undertook surveys to determine the feasibility of the Arizona & Sonora Land & Irrigation Company's proposition. After projecting these surveys I decided that the irrigation of the Sonora lands at the time was entirely unfeasible and reported to my people that, in my opinion, they would lose any money they might spend on the project.

REDISCOVERY OF IMPERIAL VALLEY

In the meantime, however, while these surveys were in progress, I had taken a team and made a trip into that portion of the Colorado Desert which is now known as the Imperial Valley. We knew that during the flood of the Colorado river in the year 1891 the overflow had found its way into this territory. Mr. Hawgood, at the time the resident engineer of the Southern Pacific company at Los Angeles, had for his company made a study of this overflow and from the data at his command had compiled a map of the territory. This map as well as the government surveys of 1854 and 1856 showed that not only was there in all probability a large area of fertile land in the Valley, but that these lands lay below the Colorado River and could be irrigated from it. Many years before this, Dr. Wozencraft, of San Bernardino, had attempted to get the government to bring water into the Colorado Desert, and I believe that General Fremont also attempted to get the government to turn the water into what is now known as Salton Sea, not for the purpose of irrigation, but for the purpose of creating a large inland lake in the hope that it would ameliorate the severe climatic conditions that obtained in this territory.

The result of my investigations at this time was such as to lead me to believe that, without doubt, one of the most meritorious irrigation projects in the country would be bringing together the land of the Colorado Desert and the water of the Colorado River.

In the preliminary report made to the Denver corporation early in the year 1893, I urged them to undertake the surveys which might be necessary in order to prove or disprove my belief and I was authorized to run preliminary lines in order to determine levels, the possible acreage of available lands and, approximately, the cost of construction.

They were so well assured from the nature of my preliminary report that the Colorado Desert project was a meritorious one, that they immediately took steps to change the name of their company from the Arizona & Sonora Land & Irrigation Company to that of the Colorado River Irrigation Company and assured me that if my report, after making the necessary surveys, was sufficiently favorable, that they had back of them a fund of two million dollars to carry out the project.

SURVEYS IN 1892

I undertook then during the winter of 1892-1893, very careful surveys, starting from a proposed heading about twelve miles above Yuma, at a point called the Pot Holes, situated about one mile below the Laguna Dam of the reclamation service; the surveys extended from this point into the Colorado Desert and around to the Southern Pacific railroad in the neighborhood of Flowing Well.

It was necessary for the canal to enter Mexico. All of the lands in Mexico were owned by Gen. Guillermo Andrade, although the Blythe estate claimed to own one-half of the Andrade lands. Beatty, unfortunately for him, consulted his personal friend, Gen. W. H. H. Hart, who was at that time attorney general for the State of California, as well as the attorney for the Blythes. Hart showed so little faith in Andrade's ability to deliver title that Beatty, instead of attempting to placate Andrade and obtain his co-operation, succeeded in antagonizing him and was afterward unable to enter into any agreement that would permit his company to build in Mexico.

FINANCIAL TROUBLES BEGIN

In the panic of 1893 most of the directors of the Colorado River Irrigation Company were so crippled financially that they were unable to carry out this project, notwithstanding the fact that my surveys and reports developed a much more favorable proposition than my preliminary report even had anticipated. Unfortunately Mr. Beatty, who was the promoter and manager of this enterprise, was of the Col. Sellars type of man and his ideas were not always practical.

Beatty, however, not discouraged, went to New York in that year and attempted to secure the funds required for construction. He eliminated from his board of directors the Denver people, substituting very strong New York men. Among his original New York board was John Straitton, the multi-millionaire president of the Straitton & Storm Cigar Co., manufacturers of the Owl cigar; F. K. Hains, superintendent of the Manhattan Elevated Railway Companies; Thos. L. James, postmaster general under Cleveland's administration, and several other men of equal prominence, but whose names I have forgotten.

Those men were mostly dummy directors, receiving in addition to the stock bonus for use of their names, so much for every time they attended a directors' meeting, and Beatty succeeded in obtaining very little aid financially from them. He had interested, though, a cousin, James H. Beatty, of Canada, from whom he obtained a great deal of financial assistance. James H. Beatty, I believe, put in over fifty thousand dollars at this time, but in the year 1894, he not only withdrew his support but entered suit against John C. Beatty in order to prevent him from selling any more stock in the Colorado River Irrigation Company.

CHARACTER OF JOHN C. BEATTY

As an illustration of the character of John C. Beatty, in March, 1894, he came from New York to Los Angeles. At that time I had not been paid for my services to the company; on the contrary, while a sufficient amount of money had usually been forthcoming to pay the monthly bills, when I disbanded the engineering forces in June, 1893, I was obliged to pay part of the men from my own funds, and at the time of Mr. Beatty's visit to Los Angeles in 1894, I had not succeeded in getting a refund of this money. Consequently I told Beatty that as other creditors had not been paid that I proposed to bring suit quietly in order to gain legal possession of all the surveys and engineering equipment in order that it might not be scattered among various creditors and its values rendered largely nil. I told Beatty it would be useless for him to defend it and that I would give them six months if I obtained possession of the property in which to redeem it. He agreed to this and left Los Angeles for the City of Mexico to obtain, as he said, the right from the Mexican government to carry his proposed canal through Lower California in spite of the opposition of Gen. Andrade. * * *

THE SCOTCH OPTION

Beatty returned from Mexico to Providence in July, 1894. I went East from California in the same month and having interested myself with Gen. Andrade and believing that it would be impossible for Beatty to carry out any scheme of irrigation, I went to Scotland in September of that year in order to see a syndicate of Glasgow and Edinburg men who held an option from Andrade on all of his lands in Lower California. My desire was to see if I could not induce these men to raise the necessary capital to carry out the project and to join the Lower California lands with those north of the line and finance the whole thing as a complete project, but very much to my disgust I found that these Scotch people were all interested in the coal trade; that coal had taken a tremendous slump a few months previous, and that these men were so financially stricken that they could do nothing; they would not, however, agree to give up their option except at a very high figure. Consequently, I was obliged to wait until the expiration of this option, which was to take place on the 15th day of May, 1895. * * *

FAKE PROMOTION

When I landed in Providence in October, 1894, at Beatty's request, he first took me out to his house where I remained over night and the next morning he took me to his offices down town. His offices were, at that time, in the finest building in the town; he took me to the top floor of the building, where I found he had a suite of six magnificent rooms most beautifully furnished; he had four stenographers employed and, wonderful to say, he had his showcases and tables filled with oranges, lemons, bananas, figs, apricots, all products of the Colorado Desert, which, at that time, was producing nothing but a few horned toads and once in a while a coyote.

He also had in Providence six agents at work who were rapidly bringing in the coin because it was afterward discovered in a suit brought against Beatty and his company that he had obtained from the people of Providence between his coming there in the latter end of July, and this time, which was about the middle of October, something over \$35,000 in cash; notwithstanding the fact that his cousin, James H. Beatty, had succeeded in getting an injunction preventing him from selling any of the stock of the Colorado River Irrigation Company. Beatty had obeyed this injunction, but, under a technicality, had immediately turned around and sold his own private stock in the company; consequently, the money, instead of being property of the company, was his own property and was evidently devoted to his personal uses. * * *

He refused absolutely to consider reorganization and a decrease in the capitalization of the company. I declined then to have anything whatever to do with him and came on to California.

After I had notified Mr. Beatty in March, 1894, that I should bring suit to secure myself against other creditors,

as well as to secure the company, I brought suit both in Los Angeles and in Yuma, Arizona, as the property was at that time partially in Arizona and partially in Los Angeles, and succeeded by means of the suit, in obtaining the legal possession of all the personal properties.

Later, I believe it was in the winter of 1895, Mr. Beatty, who had not yet given up his attempts and his hopes to carry out the Colorado River enterprise, attempted to buy back from me the properties which I had acquired under the judgment and offered me water rights in the Colorado Desert on the basis of \$10 an acre for the entire amount of my judgment. When I pointed out to him that I already owned water rights covering at least 500,000 acres, that all that was necessary for me to do to make these rights good was to construct canals and take water to the land, Mr. Beatty became generous and offered to reduce his price of \$10 for water rights to \$5, but this offer I declined.

MR. FERGUSON INTERESTED

Coming to California in October, I went to Bakersfield to call upon Mr. Ferguson who, as I have stated, was the manager of the Kern County Land Company, and who had carried through large projects. He had been connected with the Southern Pacific Railway Company in various land enterprises, and had spent much time in Europe in connection with the enterprise of the Kern County Land Company, and I believed him to be best constituted by his experience and ability to assist me in the work of raising funds for the development of the Colorado Desert enterprise should the time arrive when I could take that work up. I believed that that time would come as soon as the option held by the Glasgow people had expired on the Andrade lands.

I had, at this time, very little faith in my own ability as a financier or promoter. All of the years of my life up to this time had been spent in the interest of the two or three corporations by whom I had been employed in technical engineering work. I had not come in contact with the business world nor with business men and I felt that it was necessary for me to join with myself some man who had, in experience, that which I lacked.

SECURES OPTION FROM ANDRADE

I succeeded in interesting Mr. Ferguson so that when the Glasgow option expired on the Andrade lands on the 15th of May, 1895, I immediately secured from Gen. Andrade on the payment of \$5000 another option for myself and associates covering the lands or a portion of the lands in Lower California. Mr. Ferguson then severed his connection with the Kern County Land Company and joined me in the promotion of the new enterprise.

DR. HEFFERNAN'S FIRST INTEREST

The five thousand dollars mentioned which I paid to Andrade at this time was furnished by my friend, Dr. W. T. Heffernan, who had told me some time previous during the Beatty regime that he believed in the enterprise and would like to invest money in it. I told the doctor, without explaining fully my ideas of John C. Beatty, to keep his money in his pocket until I told him to bring it forth, which he did.

PLANS ALL CHANGED

At this time I had decided that as the Denver corporation with its promised millions was not back of me, that the proposition would require very much less money and consequently would be easier to finance if the water, instead of being taken out at the Pot Holes, should be taken from the Colorado River on the property of Hall Hanlon immediately above the International Line between Mexico and the United States. After acquiring the Andrade option, negotiations were opened with Hanlon for the purchase of his 318 acres of sand hills and rocks; but very much to our chagrin we found that Mr. Hanlon realized fully that he held the key to the situation and that instead of being able to purchase his property for possibly two thousand dollars, which was far in excess of its value for agricultural purposes, that he had fixed the price at \$20,000, and to this price we finally had to accede and paid him \$2,000 on account. This \$2,000 was also furnished by Dr. W. T. Heffernan, without whose financial assistance, at this time, and

for several years afterward, it would have been utterly impossible for me to have carried on the work of promotion. To Dr. Heffernan, his steadfast friendship for me personally, and to his faith in the ultimate outcome of the enterprise, I believe is largely due the success which afterwards accompanied our efforts, and to him is very largely due the credit of bringing the water into the Imperial Valley.

I presumed, of course, that Mr. Ferguson would be able to secure all the funds that would be required, in very short time. In fact, he told me so, and I presume, like many others, I am inclined to take a man at the estimate which he puts upon himself until something proves different. I had made of him an equal partner, he putting in nothing, although I had put in some two years' labor and considerable money, together with all the engineering surveys and equipment, etc., representing the expenditure of over \$35,000.

FERGUSON NOT SUCCESSFUL

Unfortunately, he failed in his efforts to secure funds, and I soon found that while personally to me he was a very delightful friend and companion, that his connections with me was a source of weakness instead of strength. * * *

In June, 1895, Mr. Ferguson went to New York to see some financial men there regarding the project but succeeded in accomplishing nothing and returned to California in July or August.

A. H. HEBER INTRODUCED

It was about this time that Mr. A. H. Heber, who was the Chicago agent of the Kern County Land Company under Mr. Ferguson, came to California and Mr. Ferguson introduced him to me as a man who might be able to materially assist us in securing funds to carry on this work as well as in handling the land and obtaining colonists in the future, but no connection was made with him then. Afterward, in November, 1905, both Mr. Ferguson and I went to Chicago and after remaining there for a few days, Mr. Ferguson went to New York, while I remained in Chicago to get out the first prospectus maps which were being printed for us by Rand-MacNally.

While in Chicago on this trip, I made Mr. Heber's office my headquarters and becoming better acquainted with him and his business methods, he impressed me more favorably than in my first interview with him in the spring, and after I went on to New York in December and found that Mr. Ferguson was not succeeding as I had hoped in securing funds, we decided to have Mr. Heber join us. Heber's connection then with the enterprise dates from the time that he came to New York to join Ferguson and myself in the month of December, 1895.

We made our office in New York with Herbert Van Valkenburg, who was one of the old stockholders and directors of John C. Beatty's Colorado River Irrigation Company and a scion of a very wealthy and prominent New York family of bankers and merchants. We employed as our attorney in New York, Mr. E. S. Rapallo, a brother-in-law of Mr. Van Valkenburg. * * *

THE C. D. COMPANY ORGANIZED

Neither Mr. Ferguson nor Mr. Heber succeeded in securing funds or assurances as rapidly as we had hoped. We decided, nevertheless, to proceed with the organization of the company and that its name should be the California Development Company. We perfected the organization of the company on the 26th day of April, 1896.

At the time of the organization of the company, I was not in New York. I had been obliged to return to California and from California I had gone to the City of Mexico to obtain from the Mexican Government certain concessions which were necessary, and the company was organized during my absence, Mr. Heber being made president. Neither Mr. Ferguson nor Mr. James H. Beatty, who at that time was an equal partner with Ferguson and myself, were made directors of the company, nor was I, for the reason that all the properties which we had acquired, were in the possession of the three of us, and these properties were afterward sold to the company, we taking out in payment therefor a portion of its capital stock, which stock was afterward

sold or divided among our associates. After this transaction had taken place, both Mr. Ferguson and myself went upon the Board of Directors, I becoming its vice-president, which position in the company I held until the year 1899, when I became the president of the company until the contract with George Chaffey was entered into in the year 1900 whereby he became president of the company, and I its vice-president again, but that I will speak of again in the future.

HOPES RISE AND FALL

While I was in the City of Mexico in April, 1896, I received word from Mr. Heber that he had succeeded in interesting the Menonite Church of Kansas in the project, and that he would arrange to meet me with a committee of the Menonites to go over the lands on my return from Mexico. I came from Mexico on my return trip in May, 1896, and at Yuma met Mr. Heber and three members of the church headed by the Rev. David Goerz of Newton, Kansas. These gentlemen I took for a trip from Yuma through Lower California, then returning to Yuma shipped a team from there to Flowing Well, from which point we drove out across the Alamo to very near the present site of the town of Imperial. These men were very greatly impressed with the country and we hoped for material aid from them, but succeeded in obtaining, I think, not to exceed \$2,000 and the colonists we expected to get from that source were not forthcoming, very much to our disappointment. Mr. Heber and I returned east to Chicago in the month of July.

BLAISDELL COMES IN, FERGUSON GOES OUT

Previous to my going east, this time, I had some talk with Mr. H. W. Blaisdell of Yuma, Arizona, who had been a successful mining man and at that time was largely interested in development work in and around Yuma and who had, as well, an influential connection in Boston. The result of my talk with Mr. Blaisdell was an agreement whereby he was to undertake to secure funds for us in Boston during the summer. He met me in New York and my agreement with him was confirmed by my associates there and Mr. Blaisdell went on to Boston.

Neither Mr. Ferguson, Mr. Heber nor I succeeded in raising any considerable amount of money during the summer. Mr. Blaisdell had gotten in touch in Boston with capital and I knew from my talks with him that he could put in if necessary a few thousand of ready cash to keep the machinery moving, but at this time, Mr. Ferguson not only had not raised any money whatever, but had succeeded by his expense account in largely depleting our treasury, and neither Mr. Heber nor I were willing to see at that time any more money go into the treasury until a different arrangement could be made with him. He, however, had his interest in the stock of the company and it was necessary to find some purchaser for his interest before he could be successfully eliminated. I found this purchaser in Mr. Blaisdell, who succeeded in raising the funds necessary to buy out Mr. Ferguson's interest under a proposal which I made to Ferguson. This was done in September, 1896, after which we put Mr. Heber in as the general manager as well as president of the company, and Mr. Blaisdell came upon the Board of Directors.

FORBES' MILLIONS INTERESTED

Mr. Blaisdell was at this time negotiating with Mr. W. H. Forbes, who had been for several years the president of the Bell Telephone Company, and was reputed to be worth fifteen millions. Mr. Forbes was very much enthused over the project as outlined, but he was a man well along in years and desired the enterprise not so much for himself as for his two sons who had just left college and desired to come west.

The result of the negotiations with Mr. Forbes was that he agreed to put up the required capital for the development of the enterprise, providing that the report of the engineer he should send to make an examination was entirely satisfactory. The specific agreement at that time was that if the report of his engineer disputed any of the material statements made in our prospectus, which had been written by myself, that we would pay the cost of the report, otherwise Mr. Forbes was to pay for the report.

When these negotiations were concluded, I was in California, where I had been obliged to come in order to make a new contract, if possible, with Gen. Andrade, for the reason that we were unable to make the payments to the General in accordance with the old contract, and I desired to make a new contract before the old one should become void by the expiration of the time limit. This I finally, after some trouble, succeeded in doing. The General was loth to enter into another agreement as a year and a half had now elapsed since the time that he had given me the first option and he was beginning to doubt the success of my efforts. I, however, did succeed finally in making a contract which reduced our option from 350,000 acres of land to the 100,000 acres afterward purchased by the company.

While in California, I received a telegram from Mr. Blaisdell that Mr. George W. Anderson of Denver, the engineer selected by Mr. Forbes to examine the project, would meet me at Yuma on a certain date. I met Mr. Anderson at Yuma, in October, 1896, and went with him over the territory and over all our plans and profiles. He then returned to Denver while I proceeded to the City of Mexico to put up a few fences there that were somewhat broken down, and returned from the City of Mexico direct to New York in November, 1896, expecting of course, as I knew the enthusiasm of Mr. Anderson over the project, that all that I would have to do would be to go to Boston, perfect the arrangements with Mr. Forbes, and then return to active construction work on the desert.

THE IRONY OF FATE

When I reached Boston, Mr. Anderson's report was there and was all that could have been hoped for; in fact, his report was more glowing than the statements made in our prospectus; but while Mr. Forbes paid for the report in accordance with the contract and afterward turned it over to us to be used as we might see fit, he didn't take up the enterprise, the reason that he gave was the state of his health, while I knew that the real reason of his desiring to go into the enterprise in the first place was for the benefit of his sons, I doubted somewhat this statement but never received proof that the statement given by him was not entirely correct until his death four months afterward, when I was told by one of his most intimate friends that the real reason why Forbes did not take up the enterprise was that at the time he sent Mr. Anderson to make his examination he also wrote a letter to a close personal friend of his in San Diego regarding the possibilities of development in the Colorado Desert, and received word in reply that the project was wild and utterly unfeasible, that the country was so hot that no white man could possibly live in it; that the lands were absolutely barren, consisting of nothing but sand and alkali; and that any man who was foolish enough to put a dollar into that enterprise would surely lose it. I attempted to find out the name of Mr. Forbes' San Diego correspondent. I have been trying all these years to find out the name of that man but so far have failed. I still have hopes to meet him. (1909)

CONTINUED FIGHT FOR CASH

We were all, of course, very greatly disappointed by this failure. Mr. Blaisdell remained there during the winter, but had to leave in order to take up his Yuma work in the spring. I remained most of that time in Boston, Mr. Heber being in New York; in fact, I remained in Boston until August of the year 1897. During the summer of that year I spent the months of June and July in one of the Boston hospitals with the typhoid fever, but on my recovery I decided to make a trip to Europe in order to see if I could interest capital there.

IN EUROPE AGAIN

On this trip, I had letters of introduction to various financial men in London, Scotland and Switzerland. I particularly desired to interest a firm of brokers in Glasgow who had been instrumental in furnishing funds for two irrigation enterprises in the Northwest, but inasmuch as these enterprises had failed from the point of view of the foreign investor, I found that to interview them on the subject was like shaking a red flag before a bull and that nothing could be accomplished. I then visited the home of

a banker in the interior of Scotland to whom I had personal letters from D. L. Russell, but on leaving the train at his town and inquiring for his residence, was shocked to learn that he had been found dead that morning drowned in a little stream that flowed behind his house. I then returned to London expecting to leave at once for Basle, Switzerland, to take up negotiations with a gentleman there who had succeeded in financing two American enterprises of a similar nature and from whom I had received letters previously that led me to hope that the money necessary for the development of our enterprises could be found there. In reply to a telegram to ascertain if he could meet me on a certain date, I received word that he had died two weeks previously.

I had, in London, met a firm of brokers who had years previously been somewhat connected with Mr. Heber in some of his operations in Kansas and to whom Mr. Heber had given me letters of introduction. These gentlemen became so much interested in the proposition that although I decided for several reasons to return to America, I left them working on it. Afterward we received communications from them that led both Mr. Heber and myself to believe that the money could be secured through this source, but in the meantime I had opened negotiations for the funds required with Silas B. Dutcher, president of the Hamilton Trust Company, of Brooklyn, N. Y. Mr. Dutcher made a very careful examination of the enterprise extending over several weeks. It was passed upon by his attorneys and engineers and finally on the 14th of February, 1898, Mr. Dutcher said to me: "Everything is all right, Mr. Rockwood. I have talked the matter over since obtaining the reports of our attorneys and engineers with the controlling directors of the trust company who agree with me that it will be advisable for us to advance you the money, and under the agreement outlined between us, we will put up the funds. It will be necessary, however, that our board shall formally agree to this and this final formality will be gone through at our board meeting on Friday."

DARKNESS ONCE MORE

At this time our treasury was empty, both Mr. Heber and myself had exhausted our private funds and we were exceedingly economical in our table, but I was so rejoiced at the decision of Dutcher and believing without doubt that our financial troubles were over for the present, that I went back to New York and invited Heber out to a square meal on which I think I spent at least one dollar. The next morning, however, we were confronted by glaring headlines that the Maine had been sunk the night previous in Havana harbor. I went over immediately to see Mr. Dutcher in order to ascertain what effect this might have upon our negotiations and found, as supposed, that the deal was off.

On account of the period of depression which then followed it was absolutely impossible to interest any large financial men in the enterprise and it was with exceeding difficulty that we got together sufficient funds to keep up our payment to Gen. Andrade and to keep our office doors open. We did, however, succeed in doing this. * * *

THE MEXICAN COMPANY

It was on this trip to the City of Mexico that I found it necessary to organize the Sociedad y Terrenos y Irrigacion de la Baja California, now generally known to the people of the Imperial Valley as the Mexican company.

MENTAL CONFLICT WITH ANDRADE

After perfecting this organization, I went from the City of Mexico to Los Angeles in order to take up with Gen. Andrade the question of a new contract, but found that I was up against a stone wall; the General positively refused not only to grant my extension on the old contract, but refused as well to enter into a new one unless I should advance to him a sum of money which was absolutely beyond my power to produce. I attempted to argue with the General that he was working against his own interests, but it seemed he had lost entire confidence in the ability of myself and associates to carry through the enterprise and seemed to be absolutely fixed in his determination to grant no further concessions. As I knew, however, that our ability

to carry through the enterprise depended upon my ability to obtain possession of the Mexican lands and through them the right of way, I insisted that Gen. Andrade should make a new deal with me, and it became largely a question of will power as the General remained fixed in his determination to grant no further concessions. I believe it took me about ninety days to obtain the new contract that meant the continuation of the life of the enterprise, during which time I went to Gen. Andrade's office or to his hotel every day until I verily believe he was forced to give me what I asked in order to get rid of me; at any rate, he has so stated since, but was gracious enough long before his death to tell me that it was exceedingly fortunate for him that I was so persistent.

TRIES DETROIT

Having made the new arrangement with Andrade, I returned to New York and the correspondence from Tyndall & Monk, of London, the brokers to whom I previously referred, being of a nature which led Mr. Heber and myself to believe that these gentlemen were going to be able to furnish us with the funds, I immediately took steamer for London. * * *

We supposed that everything was assured, but for some reason that I have never as yet been able to ascertain, that deal fell through and in such a manner that we knew it was utterly useless to attempt to obtain any further assistance from the firm of Tyndall & Monk; consequently, our efforts were again devoted toward the obtaining of funds in America.

We were now in the spring of 1899, our funds were exhausted and we hardly knew which way to turn. I was born in Michigan and had several wealthy and influential acquaintances in Detroit and its neighborhood and Heber and I thought it best that I should visit Detroit and see what might be done there toward obtaining funds, but at this time we had no money with which to pay my traveling expenses until Mr. Heber solved the problem by raising \$125 on his personal jewelry and gave me \$100 of it with which to make the trip.

In the troubles that arose between Mr. Heber and myself afterward this act has never been forgotten, and one of the greatest regrets of my life is that the ties of friendship with one capable of such self-sacrificing generosity should be strained and broken.

In Detroit, I succeeded in obtaining funds to the amount of a few hundred only, sufficient only to keep up our living expenses and to keep our office rent in New York paid.

EVERY CENT GONE

Mr. Heber, at this time, met in New York a friend from Chicago who had advanced him some money and had succeeded in inducing Heber to return with him to Chicago on the belief that money might be obtained there to carry out the enterprise; so Heber left New York for Chicago in the month of June, 1899, calling upon me in Detroit on his way through. His Chicago efforts, however, were not immediately successful and just at this time I received a telegram from Ford & Company, bankers of Boston, asking me if I would go to Porto Rico to report upon a sugar proposition which they owned there. * * *

I proceeded immediately to Boston and made my financial arrangements with Ford & Co., who advanced me, in addition to my steamer transportation, a check for \$250.

HURRICANE IN PORTO RICO

I left this same day for Porto Rico by steamer, and after spending a couple of weeks on the plantation of Ford & Company, who, by the way, were the financial agents for the United States Government in the island, I left the plantations which were on the southern side of the island for the city of San Juan on the northern side in order to take the steamer again for New York. On my way across the island, I decided to remain a couple of days in the town of Cayay to examine into a water proposition in that neighborhood that might be of interest to my Boston clients. It was there on the night of the 7th of August, 1899, that I experienced my first and only West Indian hurricane, which probably many people of this country still remember. In the small hotel where I was stopping my sleeping room was

immediately off of the main living room. I was awakened about three o'clock in the morning by the rocking of the house and by the sound of weeping women and children in the outer room. Hurriedly dressing, I went to the outer room and upon making inquiries as to the cause of the trouble, I found that I was in the beginning of what afterward proved to be the most disastrous hurricane that had visited the islands for a period of over two hundred years. * * *

FERGUSON RE-ENTERS

On my arrival in New York, I found that Mr. Heber was still in Chicago and that our New York office was being used by Mr. S. W. Ferguson, who had come to New York again on interests not connected with the California Development Company, but it seems that he had been discussing the possibilities of our enterprise with a New York man to whom he introduced me. This scheme looked so favorable that I made another arrangement with Mr. Ferguson whereby he again became associated with the enterprise, although merely as an agent and not in a manner that allowed him in any way to control its future.

Nothing came of the Ferguson negotiations in New York, but having received a communication from Mr. Heber that he was in close touch with capital in Chicago and advising me to come on to Chicago to help him with his negotiations there, I suggested that Mr. Ferguson instead of myself should go on to Chicago as I believed that Ferguson could possibly render Heber equally as good assistance as I, and Ferguson desired to return West to California anyway, while at the time I had opened negotiations with another financial concern in New York and the outlook was such that I deemed it inadvisable to leave.

HEBER RESIGNS

Mr. Ferguson then went to Chicago, but nothing came of these negotiations, and he proceeded to California. It was soon after this that Mr. Heber gave up his work with us, resigning as president of the California Development Company, to which position I was then elected.

HOPE FROM THE CHAFFEYS

In the meantime I received a letter from Mr. Ferguson, who was then in San Francisco, telling me that he had had a long conversation with Mr. L. M. Holt and that Holt believed that George Chaffey might be interested in the California Development Company. Mr. Ferguson desired to go to Los Angeles and see Mr. Chaffey and also requested me to draft a proposition that he might make to Chaffey.

About a year previous, in conversation with Mr. N. W. Stowell, of Los Angeles, he informed me that the Chaffeys (whom many people of the state had known in connection with irrigation development around Ontario and who had been for several years in similar work in Australia), were about to return to California and that if I could interest the Chaffeys in the Colorado Desert enterprise they would be able to swing the financial end of the affair even though they might not have sufficient ready coin themselves.

On a succeeding trip to California after this conversation with Mr. Stowell, I believe it was in the month of May, 1899, I met Mr. George Chaffey and discussed very carefully with him the plans of the enterprise, but didn't approach him for financial assistance as at that time we believed that we were going to obtain all the funds necessary through the agency of Tyndall & Monk, of London. Having then already discussed the project with Mr. Chaffey, I believed that it would be advisable for Mr. Ferguson to see him and so wrote. He went to Los Angeles and as a result of his interview wrote me at New York, stating that negotiations were progressing very favorably and that on certain conditions Chaffey had agreed to come in, but refused to go any farther until he had talked over matters with me. On receipt of this letter, I decided to come to California, and did so in December, 1899, and accompanied Mr. Chaffey on a trip to the Hanlon Heading below Yuma and over a portion of the Lower California end of the enterprise, but during the trip could see very plainly that Mr. Chaffey was not at all satisfied with the possibilities of the enterprise, due to the apparent belief in his mind that it would be exceedingly difficult, if not impossible, to get

settlers with sufficient rapidity to make the concern a financial success.

CHAFFEY'S PROPOSITION

The only promise that I could obtain from Chaffey was that if we could devise a scheme whereby he could receive the assurance that 50,000 acres of the desert lands would be taken by bona fide settlers, that he would furnish the money necessary to carry the water from the Colorado River to these lands. I returned to San Francisco and discussed with Mr. Ferguson and San Francisco attorneys the plan which was afterward carried out, namely, the formation of a colonization company which should undertake to find settlers to take up the desired acreage under the Desert Land Act.

At my solicitation Mr. Ferguson returned to Los Angeles to work out the details of this plan with Mr. L. M. Holt and Chaffey, while I returned to New York to resume again my negotiations there with the financial concern with which I had been dealing for some time. I left with a promise to Ferguson and other associates that I would return to California whenever the plans which were outlined gave reasonable assurance of success.

In March, 1900, I received a wire signed jointly by Ferguson, Blaisdell and Heffernan requesting me to return at once to California and stating that George Chaffey was now sufficiently assured so that he was willing to take up the work. Upon receiving this wire as I had again about lost hope in my New York negotiations, I arranged at once to close our New York office and return to California. Upon reaching Los Angeles, I found that Chaffey had drawn a contract that he was willing to enter into, exceedingly short, promising but little and one that would tie me and the company to him. I was loathe to enter into this contract but I was at the end of my rope; all negotiations had failed elsewhere; all of my own funds, as well as that of several of my personal friends, were tied up in the enterprise; I had not sufficient money in sight to keep up the fight elsewhere; and as a forlorn hope and in the belief that it would at least start something moving whether I ever got anything out of it for myself or not,—I agreed to the Chaffey contract and signed it as president of the California Development Company in April, 1900.

THE IMPERIAL LAND COMPANY

In March of this year, the Imperial Land Company had been formed for the purpose of undertaking the colonization of the lands. It was necessary to handle the colonization end of the enterprise either as a department of the California Development Company or through a new organization to be formed for that purpose. Four-fifths of the stock of the California Development Company had been used for various purposes; the other one-fifth of the stock, together with a portion of the stock that had already passed to the then present stockholders, was necessarily to be tied up in the contract with the Chaffey; consequently, there was no stock in the California Development Company with which to satisfy Mr. Ferguson and the new blood that would be required to handle the land and colonization end of the enterprise.

Mr. Chaffey at that time desired to have nothing to do with the land and colonization end; consequently, it seemed best in order to provide means and capital for the handling of the land, to organize an entirely separate company. The Imperial Land Company was then organized and afterward entered into a contract with the California Development Company whereby it was to make all the necessary land surveys; do all of the advertising; incur all of the expenses of colonization, and was to receive in remuneration a certain percentage of the gross sales to be derived from the sale of all water stock in the United States or lands in Mexico.

It was agreed between the two companies that the Imperial Land Company should also be allowed to acquire, and own the townsites in the Valley; and that the work of the California Development Company should then be confined to furnishing water.

MUTUAL WATER COMPANIES PLANNED

We decided, at that time, after mature deliberation and consultation with our attorneys, upon the plan which we afterward followed, namely, that of the organization of mutual water companies to which the California Development Company would wholesale water at a given price. We believed that for any one company to undertake to distribute water to the individual users over such an area would be unfeasible. In the first inception of the scheme it was proposed to divide the entire country into water districts, although the final plan of the mutual water companies was not worked out until the spring of 1900.

FIELD OPERATIONS COMMENCED

After the signing of the Chaffey contract in April, 1900, we were then ready to begin the field operations, but it was necessary for me to return to New York in May of that year to hold the annual meeting of the California Development Company. Previous to this trip, however, I engaged the services of Mr. C. N. Perry, who had been with me on my work in the Yakima country in 1890, and who had accompanied me to Yuma when I came there in September, 1892, and who had been with me and had been largely instrumental in developing the surveys and plans during the years 1892 and 1893, after which time, Mr. Perry had remained in Los Angeles in the office of the County Surveyor and City Engineer, but at my solicitation left that employ in order to take up again the work in the Colorado Desert, which name we had decided to change to Imperial Valley.

Mr. Perry began his work at Flowing Well in the middle of April, 1900, running a line from that point south with the hope of finding sufficient Government corners of the Survey of 1854-1856 to allow him to retrace the old Government lines. He was unable at this time to find any authentic corners north of the fourth parallel, but found nearly all of the corners of what is called the Brunt Survey south of the fourth parallel, which survey was made in the year 1880. Brunt, in his notes, showed certain connections made with the surveys of 1856 on the fourth parallel and upon the reasonable assumption that the sworn statement of Brunt was true, Mr. Perry projected the lines to the north of the fourth parallel, using as a basis the field notes for the townships north, together with the Brunt stakes found on the South. He soon discovered, however, that something was wrong, just what, he was unable to tell. I, in the meantime, was in New York, but Mr. Ferguson being on the ground authorized and ordered him to proceed with the survey as then outlined, with the assurance that if anything was wrong that a Congressional Act would afterward be obtained to make it right.

FIRST CANAL WORK, DECEMBER, 1900

On my return from New York in June, I had no time to devote to attempting to straighten out the surveys of the Valley as it was necessary for someone to proceed at once to the City of Mexico to obtain concessions that would allow us to commence construction in Mexico. As I was the only one connected with the company that had any acquaintance in Mexico, and so far had handled the Mexican business, I was the one naturally deputed to undertake that work and proceeded at once to the City of Mexico, returning to California, in October of that year, and in the following month, November, came to the Valley, camping at Cameron Lake, and commenced the engineering surveys upon which the present system of distribution is based; and also began in December, 1900, with Mr. Thomas Beach as superintendent, the great work of construction of the Imperial Canal System.

The only water in the Valley at that time was at Blue Lake, Cameron Lake and at the Calf Holes in New River, northwest of the townsite of Imperial. The few teams we had were camped at Cameron Lake and, for a while, they went from Cameron Lake a distance of three miles, to their work; afterward we had to haul water to the outfits in the field until finally the waters at Cameron Lake became so low and so thick with fish and mud that it was impossible for stock or man to use it. Fortunately, however, some de-

pressions and holes, farther south, in Mexico, had been filled up by rains, and we were able to obtain sufficient water for stock uses from these holes.

Under the agreement entered into with Mr. George Chaffey, he personally was under no obligation to build the canals in the State of California. Under his contract, he was only to bring water from the Colorado River through to the International Line at a point east of Calexico.

SETTLERS ARRIVING

Imperial Water Company Number 1 had been formed, settlers were coming in in large numbers, and the Imperial Land Company, under Mr. Ferguson's management, in connection with the Mutual Water Company, was to find all of the lands necessary for the construction of the distributary system. Outside funds, however, were not forthcoming. The process of lifting ourselves by our bootstraps was not entirely successful. We were selling water stock on the basis of \$8.75 a share payable \$1.00 down, the remainder \$1.00 per year, and this \$1.00 had to go to the Imperial Land Company to pay for its actual expenses in advertising and the expenses it was necessarily put to in bringing the people into the Valley; consequently there was nothing left for construction. Mr. Chaffey had, however, advanced some money for this purpose and, at my earnest solicitation, a new agreement was entered into, whereby the responsibilities for the construction of the distributary system was taken from the Imperial Land Company and placed upon the California Development Company.

COLONIZATION WORK IMMENSE

The work that we were doing at that time in colonization was very large. I doubt if it has ever been equalled—under an irrigation project; but with insufficient funds for construction in sight, every share of water stock sold increased our financial difficulties, as it necessitated the placing of water upon lands within a given period of time and with no money in sight to do the work. This condition of affairs obtained through the first four years of struggle of the California Development Company.

Every means possible was tried, from time to time, to bring in funds; water stocks were sold at a ridiculously low figure in wholesale lots to those who made large profits therefrom. The majority of people believe that these profits went to the California Development Company, but to my own knowledge no stockholder in the California Development Company has ever received one dollar in dividends, and every dollar received by the California Development Company from the sale of water stocks has gone directly into the construction of the canal system and yet, due to the fact that we were improperly financed and were obliged continuously to make tremendous sacrifices in order to obtain funds, the funds obtained were never sufficient to carry on the work and to keep up with the contracts entered into for the delivery of water.

HEBER RETURNS

I had, in the month of May, 1900, just previous to my trip to New York, gained information, the truth of which I could not doubt, that led me to believe that friction was sure to arise between Mr. Ferguson and myself, and also led me to doubt as to whether the management of the affairs of the Imperial Land Company under him could be successful, and if unsuccessful, I knew that the California Development Company could not succeed. At my solicitation, then, Mr. Heber met me in Chicago on my way East and I attempted to induce him to give up his work in Wyoming with Mr. Emerson and again join us in the work of development of what we had now named the Imperial Valley. This, however, Mr. Heber declined to do at the time, stating that he was making money with Emerson, and that he would lose financially by making a change. Later in the year, however, in November, 1900, Mr. Heber made a visit to the coast, and as his affairs in Wyoming were then in a condition so that he could leave them, he decided to again become actively interested in the development of the Valley, but didn't, at that time, become connected with the management. He, however, succeeded in bringing some Eastern money in, which materially assisted us and, in the spring of 1901, he joined us actively and permanently in

the work, becoming a little later the second vice-president of the California Development Company, and the general manager of the Imperial Land Company, in place of Mr. Ferguson.

In June, 1901, the Chaffey's obtained possession of 2500 shares of the stock of the California Development Company, and as soon as they obtained possession of this stock they refused to go ahead with the work under the old contract and demanded that a new contract should be made that would give to them the control of the company's stock. We refused to accede to this and they then outlined a scheme of a holding company, into which the control of the stock should be placed. This we also refused but demanded that they go ahead under their original contract. These negotiations extended over several months of time, in fact, during the entire summer of 1901.

THE DELTA INVESTMENT CO.

In September of that year, my personal relations with the Chaffey's having become somewhat strained, I broke off negotiations with them and left for the State of Washington to look after certain property interests I had there, returning to Los Angeles in the latter end of October. When I left I had given my power of attorney to Mr. E. A. Meserve of Los Angeles, granting to him the power to sign my name to any document or contract that might be entered into with the Chaffey's, providing only that Messrs. Heber, Blaisdell and Heffernan should be a unit in their desire that such a contract should be made. On my return, to my consternation and chagrin I found that the Delta Investment Company had been formed; that under the contract entered into between the Delta Investment Company, and the California Development Company, the Delta Investment Company had been appointed the financial agent of the California Development Company with power to buy its bonds at 50 cents on the dollar; with power to buy in all of its mortgages at 50 cents on the dollar; that the assets of the Delta Investment Company consisted solely and only of stock in the California Development Company contributed by the Chaffey's and Heber and the stock of the Imperial Land Company; that through these holdings the Delta Investment Company controlled the California Development Company and that the Chaffey's, controlling the Delta Investment Company, absolutely controlled the California Development Company; that the Delta Investment Company had also succeeded in my absence, by simply exchanging stocks, in buying up practically all of the stock of the Imperial Land Company. As soon as I looked over the contract, I called together Messrs. Heber, Blaisdell and Heffernan to find out why such a contract had been entered into and ascertained that neither Blaisdell nor Heffernan had paid any particular attention to a study of the contract; they hadn't seen where it would land them; they had not been very actively interested in the business end of the California Development Company, but had left their interests largely in the hands of Mr. Heber and myself and that in my absence they had acceded to Mr. Heber's request that they should sign this agreement; they had believed it was for the best interest of the company. Mr. Heber so believed, and stated to me at the time that he had drawn the plan of the Delta Investment Company, and he believed that it would work out all right.

I wasn't satisfied, however, and as the after history, which was very rapidly enacted, showed, my predictions in regard to the Delta Investment Company were correct.

My feeling toward the Chaffey's was at this time of a nature that would hardly permit me to return to the Valley in active charge of the construction even had Mr. Chaffey so desired, which evidently he did not, as he himself took the title of Chief Engineer and made his headquarters at Calexico during the winter of 1901 and 1902, and assumed direct charge of construction. Money was immediately forthcoming for construction purposes but, money coming through the Delta Investment Company cost the California Development Company \$2.00 for every dollar that it obtained, and I soon saw the end unless something was done.

I did not enter into negotiations with the Chaffey's at that time, but using Mr. Heber as an intermediary, I notified the Chaffey's that unless things were put in a different

shape immediately that the whole matter would be thrown into the courts, although I foresaw that this would necessarily stop the work of development in the Valley. But I had not only the interest of the settlers of the Valley to look out for, but I considered even as a prior and superior lien upon my efforts, the interest of the stockholders who had invested their money in the California Development Company through me. The final result of this action was that negotiations were opened with the Chaffey's for the purchase of their interests in the company, resulting in the elimination of the Chaffey's from the management of the company in February, 1902.

Before this purchase was consummated, however, and the management of affairs turned back to its original owners, the Chaffey's, who were in control of the California Development Company and in control of the Board of the Delta Investment Company, passed certain resolutions and made certain transfers that took from the California Development Company all of its bonds and a very large portion of its notes and mortgages, and in order to carry through the purchase, we not only paid over to the Chaffey's, in addition to all of the securities of the company which they had taken, the sum of \$25,000 in cash, raised not by the company but by individual stockholders in the company, and in addition we gave them our note for \$100,000, secured by a majority of stock in the California Development Company.

BAD FINANCIAL CONDITIONS

We started out then, about the first of March, 1902, with our bonds all gone, our mortgages largely depleted, not a dollar in the treasury and individually so deeply in debt to the Chaffey's that it was exceedingly doubtful whether we would ever be able to pull out.

We, however, took over the management of the enterprise and in order to provide funds for construction, we succeeded in borrowing \$25,000 from the First National Bank of Los Angeles, and I again took charge of construction.

In the deal made with the Chaffey's and the Delta Investment Company, at this time, their personal interest in the stock of the California Development Company and of the Imperial Land Company was purchased by Heber, Blaisdell, Heffernan and Rockwood, of the old guard, and by Messrs. F. C. Paulin, J. W. Oakley and H. C. Oakley, who had been very active as outside agents under the Imperial Land Company, and who at this time became directly interested with us, as owners of one-half of the stock of the Imperial Land Company, and of a smaller percentage of the stock of the California Development Company. Mr. Paulin became the manager of the Imperial Land Company, Mr. Heber being its president as well as president of the California Development Company. * * *

CONDITIONS IN 1905

It was early in the year 1905 that negotiations for the purchase of the property by the Reclamation Service were ended and we were then confronted with an empty treasury, the hostility of the people in the Valley, and much work that it was necessary to do for the safety and permanency of the system, and to fulfill our agreement with the various companies in the Valley.

The banks absolutely refused to extend us any further credit and were clamoring for the repayment of moneys already loaned, and it seemed to us at this time that there was but one logical source from which we could hope to obtain sufficient funds to carry on the work, and this source must necessarily be one which was equally interested with ourselves in the development of the territory, namely, the Southern Pacific Railroad.

E. H. HARRIMAN INTERESTED

Mr. Heber, returning at this time from Washington, the question was taken up and discussed with him and he approached the subject of a loan to Mr. J. K. Kruttschnitt, Director and Manager of Operation of the Harriman lines, but was turned down by him. He afterward, however, succeeded in obtaining an interview with Mr. Harriman, and at Mr. Harriman's request, Kruttschnitt authorized the officials of the road in San Francisco to take the matter up for investigation and report to him. After investigating

they offered to loan us the \$200,000 for which we had asked, on condition that two-thirds of the stock of the company should be placed in trust to secure to them the voting control and management of the company until the loan had been repaid. Mr. Heber refused to agree to this proposition except it be agreed that he would be retained in the management, but the Southern Pacific positively refused to advance the money unless Mr. Heber should retire from the management. Notwithstanding the friction that had arisen on business and personal matters between Mr. Heber and myself, I had great faith in his ability as an executive, and in his ability to handle the land and colonization of the Valley, but I also believed as did my other associates, with the exception of Mr. Heber, that unless money could be obtained quickly from some source the company would be soon thrown into bankruptcy. Consequently, Mr. Blaisdell, Dr. Heffernan and myself went to San Francisco in April, 1905, and in an interview with Messrs. Calvin, Hood and Herrin of the Southern Pacific, succeeded in getting them to agree to lend to the California Development Company \$200,000 on condition that we should succeed, at the annual meeting of the company to be held in Jersey City early in June, in placing on the Board three men to be named by them, one of whom should be selected as the president and general manager of the company; also precedent to the loan, that we were to place in the hands of a trustee to be named by the Southern Pacific 6300 shares of the capital stock out of a total of 12,500.

SOUTHERN PACIFIC TAKES CHARGE

Mr. Heber was not at the time informed of these negotiations. He left for Jersey City in May in order to hold the annual meeting in June, and I went East during the same month. The result of the annual meeting was that we succeeded in doing that which we had undertaken to do, and as a final result the management of the company was turned over to the Southern Pacific Railroad on the 20th day of June.

The Southern Pacific officials named as their representatives on the California Development's Board, Mr. Epes Randolph, Mr. Geo. A. Parkyns, and Mr. R. H. Ingram, and the members of the Board named by the California Development Company were under the contract made satisfactory to the Southern Pacific.

It was the desire of Messrs. Blaisdell, Heffernan and myself that Mr. Epes Randolph, in whose integrity and ability we had the utmost confidence, should become the president of the company, and as this seemed to be satisfactory to the San Francisco officials, he was so selected.

It was not at the time stipulated that I should be retained as an officer of the company. In fact, on account of the serious difficulties that had arisen between Mr. Heber and myself, I doubted very much whether it was good policy for the company to retain me actively in the management of its affairs. This whole question was broached to Mr. Randolph and he was left with entire freedom to decide as he might see fit. He decided, however, that as neither he nor any of the Southern Pacific officials knew anything in regard to the affairs of the California Development Company, that it would be necessary to retain me in the position I afterward filled, that of assistant general manager.

RIVER CONDITIONS ALARMING

In June, 1905, the break in the Colorado River was a source of great alarm, not only to the people in the Valley, but was becoming so to ourselves. As I have already stated, there was a serious shortage of water in the Valley in the winter season of 1903-4. * * *

With the machinery at our command and which we could purchase with the money controlled by us, we had been unable up to this time to straighten and deepen this section of the canal as I had intended, and I evolved the theory that by putting in a waste gate about eight miles below the head gate, from which point we could waste water into the Paredones River and from this into Volcano Lake, that we could carry through the upper portion of the canal during the flood season of 1904 a sufficient volume of water to deepen and scour out by its own action this upper portion of the canal. This waste way was constructed and the flood waters were allowed to run freely

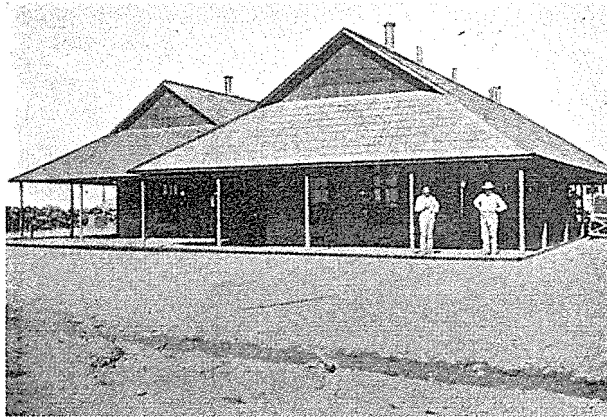
through the upper portion of the canal during the summer season of 1904. The first action of the heavy volume of water coming through the canal was as I had expected. From investigations and measurements frequently made, some two feet of the bottom was taken out, and I believed, then, that we were absolutely safe, for our Valley supply during the following season; but I had counted without my host, and my theory was disproven a little later in the flood season as when the river reached its flood height, instead of scouring the bottom of the canal as I had expected, the heavy sand waves which are carried along the bottom of the river in extreme flood periods were carried into the canal and deposited within the first four miles below the gate. As soon as the summer flood dropped and I discovered this condition of affairs and that instead of the bottom being lowered it was approximately one foot above that of the year previous, we adopted the only means at our command to attempt to deepen the channel.

Knowing the character of the material to be removed, we knew that with the dredging tools that we had, it would be impossible to dredge out this four miles of canal in sufficient time for the uses of the Valley, providing the water in the river should drop as low as it had the previous year. The dredgers were brought back, however, and put at work, but the result proved as I had anticipated, that it would take practically all winter to dredge the canals; that is, it would take all winter to provide new machinery, even if we had the money; and in hopes, then, that it might possibly prove effective, I employed the steamer Cochran and placing a heavy drag behind it, ran it up and down the canal in hopes that by stirring up the bottom there would be sufficient velocity in the canal itself to move the silt deposits on below the four miles stretch to a point where I knew the water had sufficient velocity to keep the silt moving. A month's work, however, with the steamer proved that the work being done by it was inadequate.

THE GREAT PROBLEM

We were confronted then with the proposition of doing one of two things, either cutting a new heading from the canal to the river below the silted four mile section of the canal, or else allowing the Valley to pass through another winter with an insufficient water supply. The latter proposition we could not face for the reason that the people of the Imperial Valley had an absolute right to demand that water should be furnished them, and it was questionable in our minds as to whether we would be able to keep out of bankruptcy if we were to be confronted by another period of shortage in this coming season of 1904-1905.

The cutting of the lower intake, after mature deliberation and upon the insistence of several of the leading men of the Valley, was decided upon. We hesitated about mak-



Headquarters of the C. D. Company at Calexico. The Figures are C. R. Rockwood and C. N. Perry.

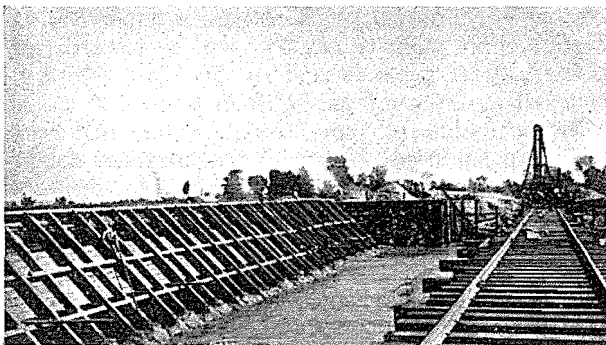
ing this cut, not so much because we believed we were incurring danger of the river's breaking through, as from the fact that we had been unable to obtain the consent of the Government of Mexico to make it, and we believed that we were jeopardizing our Mexican rights should the cut be made without the consent of the Government. On a telegraphic communication, however, from our attorney in the City of Mexico to go ahead and make the cut, we did so under the presumption that he had obtained the necessary permit from the Mexican authorities. It was some time after this, in fact after the cut was made to the river, before we discovered that he had been unable to obtain the formal permit, but had simply obtained the promise of certain officials that we would not be interfered with providing that plans were at once submitted for the necessary controlling structures to be placed in this heading.

REASONS WHY

This lower intake was constructed not as is generally supposed because there was a greater grade from the river through to the main canal at this point. The grade through the cut and the grade of the main canal above the cut were approximately the same, but the cut was made at this point for the reason that the main canal below the point where the lower intake joined it was approximately four feet deeper than the main canal through the four miles above this junction to the Chaffey gate, consequently giving us greater water capacity. In cutting from the main canal to the river at this point, we had to dredge a distance of 3300 feet only, through easy material to remove, while an attempt to dredge out the main canal above would have returned the dredging of four miles of very difficult material. We began the cut the latter end of September and completed it in about three weeks.

As soon as the cut was decided upon, elaborate plans for a controlling gate were immediately started and when completed early in November were immediately forwarded to the City of Mexico for the approval of the engineers of the Mexican Government, without whose approval we had no authority or right to construct the gate. Notwithstanding the insistence of our attorney in the City of Mexico and various telegraphic communications insisting upon this approval being hurried, we were unable to obtain it until twelve months afterward, namely, the month of December, 1905. * * *

Mr. Rockwood's story, "Born of the Desert," from this point covers the account of the closure of the river and the subsequent management by the Southern Pacific Company of the affairs of the California Development Company. This ground is covered in subsequent chapters of this history.



The 1200 Foot Rockwood Gate Across the Mexican Intake

CHAPTER IV

PERRY - HEFFERNAN - RUSSELL
ANDRADE

Charles N. Perry

HOW THE FIRST SURVEYS BEGAN IN 1892

By CHARES N. PERRY

I FIRST became associated with the late C. R. Rockwood in the Spring of 1891. Mr. Rockwood, at that time, was Chief Engineer of the Northern Pacific, Yakima and Kittitas Irrigation Company, a subsidiary of the Northern Pacific Railroad. This company had been incorporated to irrigate the lands of the Yakima Valley in which alternate odd sections were the property of the railroad company. This project was later taken over by the U. S. Reclamation Service and is now known as the Sunnyside Project.

In the Fall of 1892, Mr. Rockwood was offered and accepted the position of Chief Engineer of the Arizona & Sonora Land & Irrigation Company, a company which had been incorporated by New York and Denver capitalists. The plan given to him to work out was the irrigation of a tract of about one million acres of land lying in the northwest corner of the State of Sonora, Mexico. We arrived in Yuma September 16, 1892, and spent about three weeks in

trips of reconnoissance and in assembling the necessary equipment and supplies. On one of these trips, Mr. Rockwood became acquainted with Mr. Hall Hanlon, the owner of the ranch since acquired by the Irrigation District and which includes the Town of Andrade. As the result of many discussions with Mr. Hanlon, Mr. Rockwood decided that the energies of the company should be directed to carrying water to the Imperial Valley. He succeeded in impressing the directors of the company with the correctness of his views and, although we did some work on the Sonora side of the river, our real efforts were concentrated on securing information as to the route for a canal to the Valley.

Our party having been organized and our equipment and supplies assembled, we left Yuma October 11th and made our first camp at the point now occupied by the headgate of the United States Reclamation Service canal at Laguna Dam.

From this point, we ran our line to the International Boundary, in the vicinity of Monument No. 207.

Mr. Rockwood had planned that, after I had the party organized and running smoothly, I should return to Yuma and open the office at that place. So, when we reached Andrade, I turned over the party to my first assistant, Mr. C. W. Curry, and returned to Yuma. The personnel of the party, from then on, consisted of C. W. Curry in charge of the transit party, Jas. A. French in charge of the plane-table party and George C. Sexsmith in charge of a well boring outfit, putting down wells in advance of the two other parties to furnish water to them and to their horses.

In addition to those named, the personnel of the party included D. L. Russell, C. R. Sumner, Billy Marvin, S. N. Witt, Thos. Airheart, George Golden and six husky Yuma braves who constituted the clearing gang. Of these names, that of D. L. Russell is well known to all residents of the Valley, while George Sexsmith will be remembered by the earlier settlers. Billy Marvin was afterward a Supervisor of Yuma County while S. N. Witt will be remembered as the engineer who located the San Diego & Arizona Railroad from Jacumba to El Centro.

By the middle of June, 1893, the line had been carried to an intersection with the Southern Pacific Railroad, which it crossed at a point about one-half mile east of Flowing Well Station, or about four and one-half miles east of Niland.

Field work was then suspended for the summer and Mr. Rockwood and I moved the office to Los Angeles to work up estimates and prepare the final plans for the construction we expected to see started in the Fall. The panic of 1893 however upset all

plans and it was not until April of 1900 that Mr. Rockwood finally succeeded in securing sufficient capital to make a start on the project.

At that time he secured the co-operation of Mr. George Chaffey who was the founder of Ontario and who had just returned from Australia where he had built extensive irrigation works for the Colonial government.

A careful perusal of Mr. Rockwood's own story, as published in the Anniversary edition of 1909 of *Calexico Chronicle*, gives one a fair idea of the faith this man had in his enterprise and the bulldog tenacity with which he held to it. He has also told us of the assistance he received from two men without whose help it is doubtful if he could have succeeded. I refer to Dr. W. T. Heffernan and the late Anthony H. Heber.

Mr. Chaffey now became president of the company and plans were pushed for colonizing the Valley. A party of surveyors reached the Valley on April 11, 1900, for the purpose of re-running the section lines and helping prospective settlers to identify their claims. In this party, I had with me Fred F. Hall, D. L. Russell, George C. Sexsmith, Jack Larrabee, Martin Queally and two others whose names I have forgotten. Our teamster was Sam Carter, a grandson of old Hall Hanlon.

We made our first camp at Flowing Well Station, where the Southern Pacific had a section house and a cistern which was replenished by passing trains. We worked out of this camp for about three weeks. We had a four-horse team and a line wagon large enough to carry us all. In addition to our instruments, we carried with us a plow and slip scraper. One day we would run line, while alternate days would be spent in grading crossings for the wagon over the many dry but deep washes we encountered. Finally, having passed through the worst of the "washed" country, we moved camp to what we named The Fifteen Mile Tree. This was a large mesquite tree, on the east bank of the Alamo channel and just about fifteen miles due south of Flowing Well station.

While at this camp, we were visited by the first party of land seekers. This party consisted of George C. Hunt and Mrs. Hunt, Rev. and Mrs. Shenk, and Byron Rice. The party was in charge of S. W. Ferguson, manager of Imperial Land Co. An arrangement had been previously made with Geo. McCaulley, of Yuma, and he had moved his livery stable to Flowing Well and it was his stages which brought this party to the camp.

Immediately after this visit, we were favored with a call from the only other "residents" of the Valley. They were W. S. Wilkins and ——— Spencer. They were moving in to make camp on the Silsbee section, which included Blue Lake and which was then considered to be a school section and was claimed by the late Thomas Silsbee of San Diego.

Our next move was to Cameron Lake where we drilled a well and, at a depth of thirty-six feet, struck a vein of good, sweet water. Meanwhile our fellow citizens, Wilkins and Spencer had again visited us to urge that we move over to Blue Lake and camp near

them. They pointed out that the water in the lake, then at its lowest level, was fully twelve feet deep, consequently we could figure on an abundant supply for our horses. They believed also that drinking water for our camp could be developed at the old adobe stage station, then standing, at Indian Well. Their camp was really more central for our work so we decided to take up their offer and moved over there, establishing our camp on the east side of the lake, just where the town of Seeley is today. By driving a well point in the bed of New River, near the old adobe, we developed a supply of good water and, that question disposed of, we then turned our attention to building a half-way comfortable camp. We realized that it would be up to us to take care of all visitors, so arranged the camp accordingly. There were, at that time, but four willow trees in the Valley. These Mr. Hunt felled and, being large trees, they furnished us sufficient material with which to build a ramada, one hundred and twenty feet square. Around the shore of the lake we found plenty of arrow-weed for our roof and this ramada, furnished with a few easy chairs and hammocks, made a fairly acceptable stopping place for the man or woman who had ridden from Flowing Well in one of McCaulley's stages.

At this camp, we had our first Fourth of July celebration. Mr. Hunt, who just previous to that time had made a trip to Los Angeles, had brought out a flag and some fireworks. We had rigged up a flag-pole and promptly at noon we ran up the Stars and Stripes.

Field work in the Valley was suspended about the beginning of August and, when resumed in the Fall, I was transferred to the Heading where a dredger was ready to begin digging the canal from the Colorado to connect with the dry channel of the Alamo. The location of this canal and the designing of the headgate occupied my time until March 1901 when I returned to the Valley and took over a party for the Sunset Commercial Co. who had contracted to colonize that part of the Valley lying east of the Alamo River.

Meanwhile Mr. Rockwood had laid out the town of Calexico and moved his headquarters to it. He had also located and built a canal from Sharpe's Heading and had installed a small headgate at that point. This canal followed the line of the present Central Main Canal to a point where the Seven Foot Drop now stands. Here it forked, one branch going to Imperial while the other, following the International Boundary, ended at Calexico.

These canals were ready so that when Mr. Chaffey turned his water through the headgate at Andrade, they were able to receive it. The first water reached the Valley June 20, 1901.

With water flowing continuously in these canals, the most serious trouble of the freighters was ended. Quite a number of the settlers who had been working on the construction of these canals, now devoted their time and energy to putting in a summer crop and, by Fall, a goodly acreage of sorghum and millet

had been harvested which replaced the high-priced barley hay which, up to that time, had been the only feed available. Thomas Beach, who had come to the Valley from Arizona, and who had acted as superintendent of construction for Mr. Rockwood, put in an experimental garden and proved, among other things, that cotton would produce well.

With the coming of Fall, Mr. Rockwood retired from active charge of operations in the Valley and Mr. Chaffey took over his duties and, as a result, I found myself once more established in Calexico. In March, 1902, the Chaffey interests withdrew from the company and Mr. Heber was elected President, while Mr. Rockwood was again called to take charge of the engineering work. From that time until 1906 the settlement of the lands of the Valley proceeded at a phenomenal pace and we had hard work keeping up with the demands for laterals and delivery gates. In addition to our construction crews, we had at one time, twenty-one contractors digging canals.

In 1903, the Southern Pacific constructed the branch from Niland to Imperial and, the following year, they extended it to Calexico. In August, 1906, Mr. H. T. Cory took over the management of the company as the representative of the Southern Pacific Company, and, having received what seemed like an advantageous offer from Los Angeles, I resigned my position with the company and left the Valley.

While it is true that my absence was not very protracted and while many interesting events transpired later, particularly the closing of the Colorado River crevasse, still, the history of the Valley, since 1906, has been already pretty well covered and I know of nothing of interest which I could add to that which has already been written.

HALL HANLON AND JOSEPH CARTER

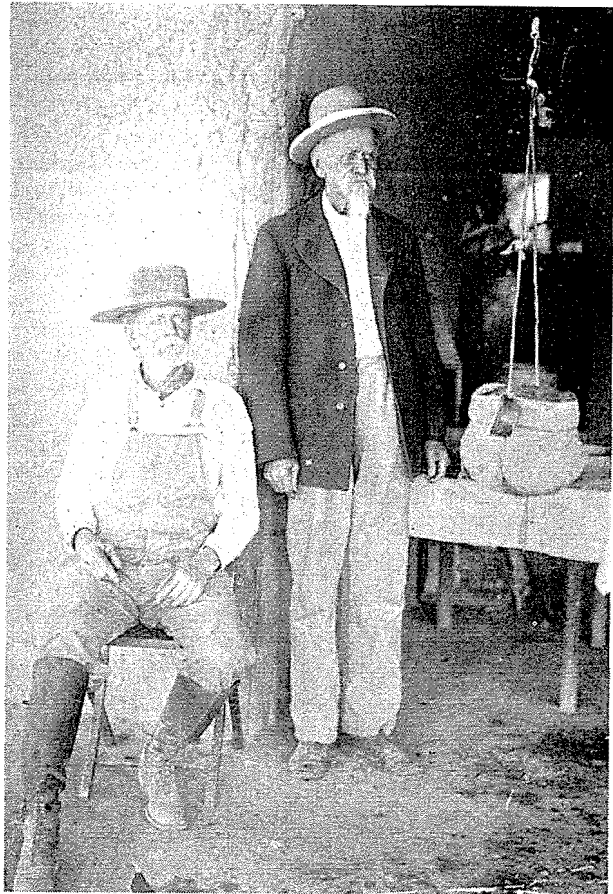
Hall Hanlon, referred to in the sketches of C. R. Rockwood, D. L. Russell, Dr. W. T. Heffernan and others in this history, was a unique character—an Irish cattleman who owned a ranch on the Colorado River below Yuma, which turned out to be the only site for diversion works when Imperial Valley's reclamation was first planned. As a farm the property was worth about \$2,000, but Hanlon saw his advantage and held out until he got his price, \$20,000, from Geo. Chaffey. During all the years that Rockwood tried to finance his project he gave option after option for small sums. Hanlon Heading is named for him.

Hanlon was sent to the desert to die in 1854 by eastern physicians, but he lived another half century or more and died a respected and honored citizen of Yuma.

Joseph Carter was Hanlon's stepson and lived with him. The Alamo River was called Carter River for several years after Carter guided George Wharton James on a boat trip during one of the floods.

This history is indebted to Mrs. Percy Carter Linss, daughter of Joseph Carter, for the hitherto unpublished picture shown—Hanlon, Carter and the interior of the Hanlon home on the river. Note the

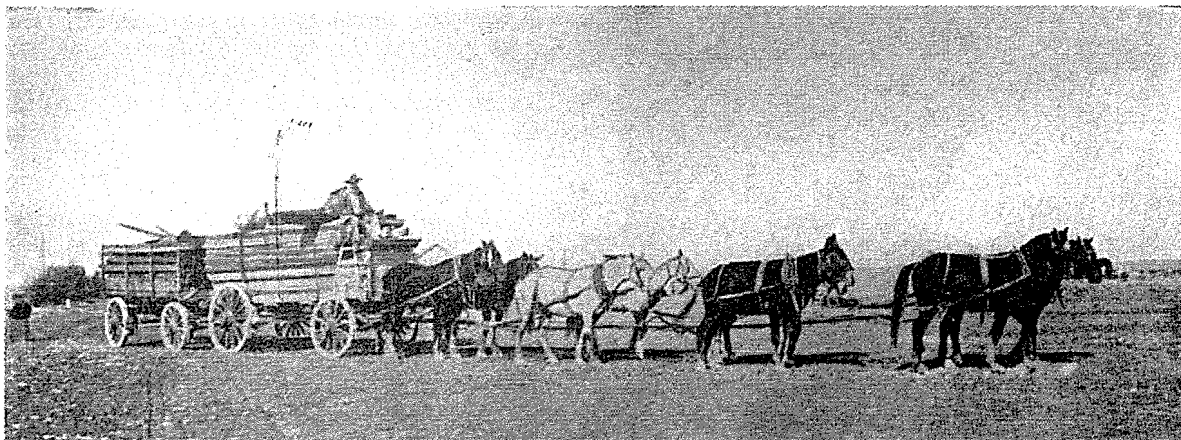
"old oaken bucket" that hung on the wall. Mrs. Linss is now a resident of Tecate, on the American side. She also was a pioneer, joining her father in 1903 and remaining a "denizen" of the desert for seventeen years thereafter.



Hall Hanlon (standing) and Joseph Carter

DR. W. T. HEFFERNAN

ONE of the best friends Imperial Valley had in the beginning of things was Dr. William T. Heffernan. In 1892-1893, Dr. Heffernan was the government surgeon located at Yuma. He became acquainted with C. R. Rockwood at that time and listened with intense interest to the engineer's plans for the reclamation of the arid plains in the sink west of Yuma. He saw the possibility of great returns and offered to invest money to enable Rockwood to secure options on Hall Hanlon's property at Pilot Knob and on the Andrade lands in Mexico. His intimate acquaintance with General Andrade came in handy several times when the General's patience was exhausted with Rockwood. Only by personal appeal time after time did Andrade renew the option on his land. He was also a personal friend and acquaintance of Hall Hanlon, the picturesque frontiersman who had since 1872 held the key lands at Pilot Knob for any irrigation enterprise that might be launched on the lower river. Dr. Heffernan helped Rockwood get the Hanlon option; he enlisted the services of a third party and called on the old pioneer.



For Three Years all Freight Arrived From Flowing Well in this Manner

"The man camped on Hall Hanlon's ranch for two weeks," Heffernan writes, "And finally persuaded him to agree to sell the ranch for \$20,000 with a payment of \$2,000 in gold and the balance within one or two years. I entered into the business as the banker, agreeing to advance the \$2000 necessary. I recall considerable amusement at the remark of Hall Hanlon when I arrived and laid on the table a sack containing one hundred twenty dollar gold pieces. Hanlon remarked, 'Why, hell, Dr. Heffernan, have you something to do with this? Why didn't you tell me? I would have given you an option without any money.' After signing the option he handed over the sack containing \$2000 to me and said: 'Take this up to Yuma and put it in your safe and when I want any money I'll come and ask you for it.' I offered him a receipt but he spurned that and added, 'If you get away with the money you won't live very long to enjoy it.'"

In order to keep a legal claim on the waters of the Colorado it was necessary to post notices along the stream every ninety days. Dr. Heffernan renewed these notices, tacking them on the willows and cottonwoods every three months for a number of years.

At one period in the struggle for finances the doctor's appearance at the New York offices of the California Development Company was in the nature of a relief expedition. He found S. W. Ferguson, A. H. Heber and Mr. Rockwood actually hungry and when he staked them to a square meal they broke out with three cheers.

In 1898, Dr. Heffernan decided that \$40,000 was enough to drop in Rockwood's project and so notified the officers of the company, advising them to abandon the project and get into other lines of business. The doctor still relates with a sincere note of admiration the fact that C. R. Rockwood firmly, if sorrowfully, refused to quit.

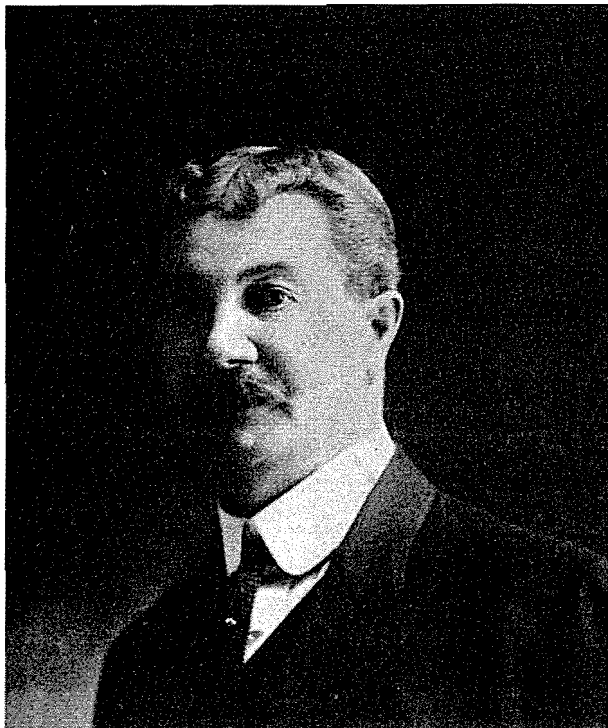
When the Chaffey's took hold of the project, Dr. Heffernan again took a hand in the vast enterprise and became supply agent for the teams and men engaged in the work. He superintended the movement

of freight by wagon from Flowing Well through the Valley to Cameron Lake. He established the first general merchandise store in Imperial and Joseph Estudillo was the first man to sell any goods over the counter in the Valley. He had charge of Dr. Heffernan's store in Imperial. This store was sold in 1901 to Leroy and W. F. Holt, who also established the first bank in the Valley in that building. Dr. Heffernan also opened a store at Cameron Lake where the only drinking water in the Valley was to be had. Water had to be hauled from this place to teams and camps and it did not take long to diminish the supply. Pelicans became so obnoxious that Estudillo, an expert marksman, was engaged to rid the lake of the pests. He did it quickly with his little rifle.

When water was brought through the present site of Calexico in a small ditch, camp at Cameron Lake was abandoned and moved to the end of the ditch. That was the way Calexico was started. Dr. Heffernan put up the adobe store building at the corner of Second and Imperial Avenue, later occupied by Varney Bros. The doctor was host at the first big party held in the Valley, when this adobe was finished. Dr. Heffernan also brought the first stock of drugs to the Valley, establishing a drug store at Imperial, later moving it to Calexico, where he sold it to young Estudillo.

Dr. Heffernan was treasurer of the California Development Company from 1902 to 1905 and was secretary from 1905 to 1907. He lost his entire investment along with the other old stockholders, when the floods of 1906 and 1907 caused the failure of the C. D. Company. He is still practicing in Calexico.

In placing the credit for the existence of Imperial Valley, a very large share must go to Dr. Heffernan. He kept alive the project for several years by furnishing money for the Hanlon options, supplies for the surveyors and even looked after the posting of water right notices on the river. Without this timely help there is little doubt that the project would have been abandoned.



D. L. (Scotty) Russell

DAVID LAURIE (SCOTTY) RUSSELL

THE earliest of the early days in survey gangs, railroad crews, cattle runners, miners, prospectors, and cowboys could be found certain strong characters with peculiarities that endeared them to their comrades and made them stand out amongst their fellows in a manner to lay the foundation for much legendary lore.

D. L. Russell's manner of speech was his peculiarity; born and brought to manhood in Scotland, with never a break in his ancestral dialect, "Scotty," as he is known everywhere in the west, came to America, bringing with him a magnificent physique, plenty of energy and ambition, a keen sense of humor, plenty of wit—and his broad Scotch dialect. Russell was a civil engineer.

In 1892, Russell was working with C. R. Rockwood on the North Yakima project in Washington. When Rockwood left there and undertook the Colorado desert scheme for John Beatty, Russell, C. N. Perry, Geo. C. Sexsmith and Jos. French all followed him from North Yakima to Yuma, and worked together on the initial survey in 1893. They drove from Yuma carrying a complete camp outfit and started surveying at Pot Holes. They ran their line at the highest elevation on the east side of the Valley for a canal to take water by gravity from the river. Needless to say Mr. Russell can relate many amusing experiences, some of them near tragic. They had to find their water where they could and sometimes it was a long time between drinks.

After this survey work was done, Mr. Russell stayed in the neighborhood of Yuma and became acquainted with practically every man who came to

this region. Even today he is constantly shaking hands with acquaintances made in those early days.

In April, 1900, during the Chaffey regime, with Rockwood as chief engineer, the first surveying crew to take the field to establish corners for prospective settlers started at Flowing Well and worked southward. This party was composed of C. N. Perry, D. L. Russell, Geo. C. Sexsmith, Fred Hall, Dick Harris, Jack Summers, Jack Larrabee, Frank Quaily, Robert Sexsmith, Billy Hinckle, Joe Carter, Harry Ingalls, the Chinaman cook and Mexican teamster. The first camp was fourteen miles south of Flowing Well; the outfit carried well boring equipment but found nothing but salt water; they found some water holes, however, from which they secured drinking water. The next move the camp made was to Cameron Lake; on arrival they found Geo. Chaffey, who had just taken hold of the project; a wind and sand storm blew the tent down.

The next move the camp made was to Blue Lake, where the best water was obtainable. There a great ramada, 65x80, was erected on the shores of the lake. During the summer of 1900 this big ramada served as hotel for the crew and visitors; camp cots in the open were the "rooms." The surveying crew was kept on the job until the 4th of August, when Engineer Fred Hall was left in charge. The rest of the crew took vacations on account of the heat, so Mr. Hall was the first white man to stay through a summer in Imperial Valley.

In October the ramada was removed to Imperial, water was then secured from "pot holes" on New River. Mr. Russell describes the difficulty of securing drinkable water. He says that vast flocks of pelicans fouled the lakes; men would wade out from the shore as far as possible, dip up the water, strain it through cotton sacks to remove as much filth as possible and then pour it into the end of a six-foot pipe which had been filled with sand and charcoal. The clear water was then drained into a forty gallon barrel. Needless to say it required almost continuous work to keep any sort of a supply on hand. The men would wash their hands at times but seldom washed their faces. Baths were few and far between. The six-inch pipe mentioned was a part of two hundred feet of casing sunk near Blue Lake in the early nineties by an expedition from the coast in an evident attempt to find artesian water.

When the fourth of July came the patriotism of the little band of engineers rose to true American heights; they laid aside their chains and transits, used the old water well derrick as a flag pole and ran Old Glory up with three cheers for the red, white and blue.

In October, E. H. (Pete) Gaines joined the surveying crew as a teamster. He quickly picked up the mysteries of the transits, however, and made civil engineering his profession. Al Woods also joined the crew as rod man. A man named Owens devoted his entire time to hauling water. Mr. Russell will slyly refer to a strange desert phenomena which they encountered. For instance, once in a while strange looking containers, which some of the boys called

bottles, would be found filled with liquid of a sort that could be recognized by any true blue Scotchman. The dry desert was therefore sometimes made quite bearable.

Around Thanksgiving time in 1900, Chief Engineer Rockwood and Mr. Chaffey planned to assemble teams and equipment for construction work on the canal. The first men employed on this work were W. A. and L. M. Van Horn and W. F. Gillett and their families, who crossed the river below Yuma on a raft. When canal and ditch construction work started it was Mr. Russell's duty to lay out the course with stakes, instruct the graders as to the size of the ditch, examine their work when completed and accept it officially if done according to specifications. The grading contractors came to know "Scotty" Russell as a man who insisted on exactness. Many a time wind would blow the loose silt from the ditch banks and Russell would discover it with his transit and make the contractor do the work over.

Owing to their intimate acquaintance with desert conditions, the surveyors were called on many times to act as guides for visiting parties. In July, 1900, Russell personally conducted Harry Chandler, who was accompanied by Geo. Hunt, on their first tour into Mexico to look at the Andrade lands which Chandler, his father-in-law, Harrison Gray Otis and their associates later purchased to the extent of more than 800,000 acres. This became the famous C. M. Ranch. In March, 1901, Russell took a vacation. He received a telegram from Yuma that caused him to drop his surveying instruments almost where they were, rush to Dr. Heffernan's store at Cameron Lake, buy the best box of cigars he could find, leave them on the counter for general distribution, saddle the best horse in camp, strap a package of food and the canteen on his saddle and ride straight east over the sand hills to Yuma, to visit a brand new baby daughter. Russell says he does not recall anything that stopped him on his way. Mr. and Mrs. Russell, however, were saddened two years later by the death of the little girl.

During the early fight with the flood waters of the river Russell was detailed to cut a side channel on the Alamo to drain Mesquite Lake. The high water made it very difficult to keep the water from breaking back into Mesquite Lake, but by dint of unceasing labor this was accomplished. Together with C. N. Perry and the other engineers, Russell handled the direction of much of the labor that worked at the heading in the fight to close the break. He continued as engineer for the California Development Company until 1908.

Mr. Russell had the foresight to file on a half section of land during the early days and still owns 270 acres, which for many years have been in a high state of cultivation. He leases his land, while he and Mrs. Russell divide their time between the Valley and Los Angeles.

Although well past seventy, Mr. Russell is as hale as any man thirty years his junior. His voice is as clear and ringing as it was when he was giving orders to the gangs thirty years ago.

A BIT OF LOWER CALIFORNIA HISTORY

In the Life of Don Guillermo Andrade

In all the engineering plans for bringing water from the Colorado River to Imperial Valley the necessity of entering Mexico and skirting the sand hills was fully recognized. When the time came to negotiate for a right of way for the canal the promoters of the irrigation scheme found the land owned by Don Guillermo Andrade. He was willing to sell but the promoters were not able to buy the 100,000 acres necessary. However, Senor Andrade gave an option for a consideration so that the promoters could interest financiers in the project. This option had to be renewed from time to time as related by C. R. Rockwood in his account of the beginnings of things. Just at the critical moment, when Geo. Chaffey agreed to take hold of the construction work, the option expired again and Mr. Chaffey had to negotiate for the lands on his own account to protect his own and the Valley's interests.

Inasmuch as Don Guillermo Andrade's other activities had much to do with the Colorado River delta country, a brief sketch of his life is not out of place.

A PIONEER IN MEXICO

Don Guillermo Andrade was born in Hermosillo, Sonora, Mexico, in the year 1829, of Spanish parentage. At an early age he was sent to Europe to be educated, where he attended some of the foremost colleges in France and Spain until the age of twenty-four, when he was recalled to Mexico by the death of both his parents. They left a large estate comprised of sugar plantations and refineries, the business of which Don Guillermo undertook and carried on until the year 1863.

In this year, attracted by the gold excitement in California, he went to San Francisco, engaging in the banking and commission business, and in the year 1879 established the first steamship line plying on the west coast of Mexico, between Manzanillo and Guaymas. About this time Mr. Andrade secured a concession from the Mexican government for 35,000 acres of land, embracing the present port of San Felipe, situated on the Gulf coast of Lower California immediately south of the mouth of the Colorado River, and a fishery concession for all fishing on the Gulf of California. Shortly afterward he secured a concession for a considerable portion of the pearl fisheries on the Gulf, and later on came into possession of three large islands, namely Tiburon, San Estevan and Angel de Guardia, the first being valuable for cattle raising and the latter two for their guano deposits.

While exploring the regions in this district his attention was called to the lower delta of the Colorado River lying south of Yuma. Although few white men had ever traversed this part of the country, Mr. Andrade decided on a trip of investigation and in spite of the arduous task he made a thorough examination of the country, immediately seeing its great possibilities, realizing at the same time that the amount of capital and energy required to place this land in habitation would be stupendous. Upon his

return to San Francisco he resolved to capitalize the enterprise and secure a concession from the Mexican Government for colonizing. His description of the wonderful stretch of fertile soil so interested his friend Mr. Thomas H. Blythe, that Mr. Blythe decided to accompany Mr. Andrade on a trip to these lands.

Upon seeing the territory, Mr. Blythe was so favorably impressed that a partnership was formed between himself and Mr. Andrade, with the object of securing a concession from the Mexican Government for colonizing all of the lands of the Lower California Delta, which comprised one million two hundred and fifty thousand acres. Mr. Andrade succeeded in obtaining this concession, and with absolute faith in the future of the lands, disposed of his steamships and all other lines of business so as to devote his entire time to the enterprise.

Soon after, while on his way to Mexico City, from San Francisco, he was apprised of the sudden death of his partner, Thomas H. Blythe. This unfortunate episode caused the whole project to be thrown into the probate court of San Francisco, Mr. Blythe having died intestate. Mr. Andrade proved before the courts the partnership existing between himself and Mr. Blythe, thereby securing two small appropriations from the Blythe estate with which to carry on the undertaking, but the amounts thus allowed were ridiculously inadequate to meet the requirements of the colonization concession, and upon Mr. Andrade again making application before the courts for a further appropriation, in an effort to carry out the partnership agreement, the courts decided, upon the plea of the Blythe heirs, that the idea of reclaiming these lands was a chimerical one, and refused to comply with the terms of the partnership, throwing the claim out as worthless. Failing to receive this due assistance Mr. Andrade was obliged to go to Mexico City and place the facts before the Mexican Government, stating his inability to comply with the terms of the concession, thereby forfeiting same, and allowing the lands to revert back to the government.

This turn of affairs was a keen disappointment to Mr. Andrade, but he did not lose faith in the project. He at once negotiated a loan—as he had already spent the greater part of his private fortune in the enterprise—which enabled him to go to Mexico City and purchase these lands outright from the Mexican Government, thereby becoming sole owner.

A remarkable port included in his purchase was that of Santa Isabel, on the gulf coast of Sonora, immediately south of the mouth of the Colorado River. Prior to the construction of the Southern Pacific Railway through Arizona, this port was a transfer point from deep water vessels to river steamers plying on the Colorado River carrying passengers, U. S. troops, supplies, etc., destined to forts and various points located in Arizona and New Mexico. There also was a shipyard located at this port, the wreckage of which is still in evidence.

The first sale of the lands acquired by Mr. Andrade, amounting to half a million acres, was made to a Petaluma syndicate, represented by Attorney A. W. Thompson, who made a trip to Mexico City, examined the title executed by the Mexican government to Mr. Andrade, and immediately upon his return recommended the purchase to his associates. After this sale Mr. Andrade found himself still in possession of a vast tract of land and to prove the adaptability of the soil, he at once commenced experimenting at Ledro Colony with a variety of crops, consisting of wheat, barley, cotton, alfalfa, tobacco, etc., which were successfully grown, and upon the fine grazing lands he introduced an excellent grade of cattle, also a lot of Berkshire hogs. The hogs were allowed to roam at will, many of them swimming across the river into Lower California. This is the origin of the wild hog now found in Lower California and Sonora.

A matter of great interest to Mr. Andrade were the thousands of acres of wild hemp growing on these lands. He determined to find a market for this luxurious plant that grew to the height of from twelve to twenty feet. He had some of the fibre hand stripped and sent to Europe, where it was manufactured into handkerchiefs as soft and brilliant as silk. Upon this showing he immediately had 5000 tons of this hemp cut and placed in the water to soak. While undergoing this process, which is known as the "rotting process," which frees the fibre from the stalk, an unexpected freshet carried away the entire mass.

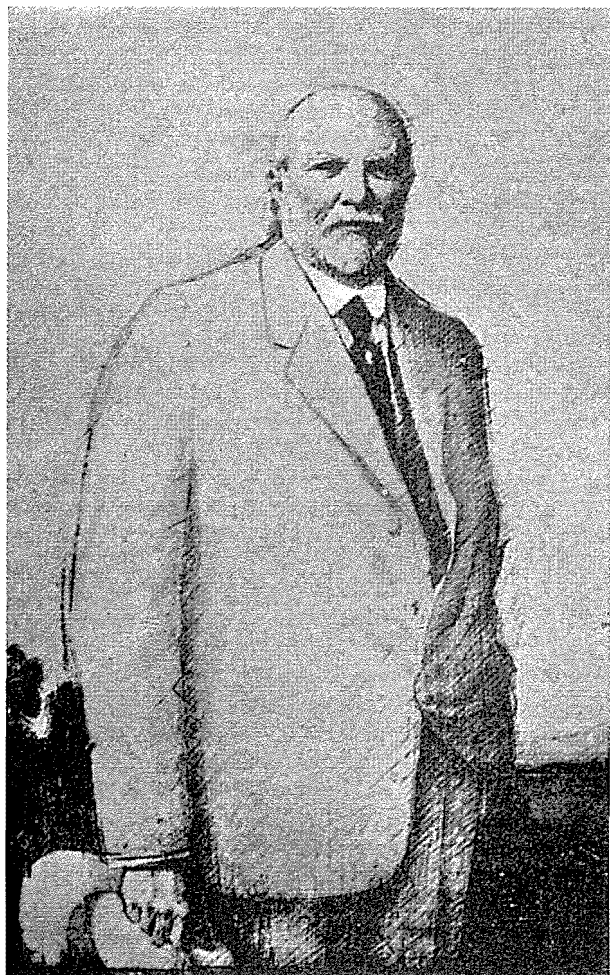
In the year 1902, 100,000 acres of these lands situated immediately south of the international boundary line were sold to the Sociedad de Irrigacion y Terrenos de la Baja California, S. A., and it was only by the construction of canals through this tract that the reclamation of the Imperial Valley was made possible.

In 1905, on September 17, Mr. Guillermo Andrade died in the City of Mexico. At the time of his death, and for a number of years previous he held the position of Consul for Mexico in the City of Los Angeles. Shortly before his death he remarked that he was thankful for having been spared long enough to see the realization of the two great ambitions of his life, referring to the present success of the steamship line that he established on the west coast of Mexico and to see the commencement of the great development then taking place in the Lower Colorado Delta.

A. F. Andrade, a son of Don Guillermo, became personally interested in Valley affairs on both sides of the line. He was named secretary of the Sociedad, the Mexican corporation that handled the business of the California Development Company in Mexico; was made Assistant General Manager of the Inter-California Railway Company and was prominently identified with the regime of W. H. Holabird as receiver for the Development company in Mexico for several years before the property was sold to the Imperial Irrigation District. Mr. Andrade still has land interests near Mexicali although his residence is in Los Angeles.

CHAPTER V

GEORGE CHAFFEY TAKES CHARGE



George Chaffey

SINCE the beginning of this century the part played by George Chaffey in the watering of the Colorado desert has been misunderstood and underestimated. The credit due him has never been accorded. Writers have referred to him more often as the capitalist who followed paths already laid out. They have left the impression that he had no vision of his own; no other purpose than the accumulation of wealth; and one who deserted the ship before it had fairly gotten under way. The truth is this great hearted man chose to remain silent while others were fitted with halos on their brows. With a nonchalance he has gone on about his business not deigning to dispute for honors or for the right to words of praise.

However, in recent years, those who knew the facts were not content to let the name of this great builder go longer unhonored in the Valley that owes its very existence to him. The publisher of this history, through years of publicity effort in the Valley, confesses to a share in this sin of omission concerning George Chaffey. It is now a pleasure, after a careful study of the facts, to correct, in a small measure, the attitude of the public mind regarding the relative standing of the man than whom there is none more important in Imperial Valley's history.

Early in this record let us make these assertions:

(1) That George Chaffey shared with Dr. O. M. Wozencraft in the early eighties the vision of the irrigation of the Salton Sink.

(2) That before deciding to take hold of the project he visited the area alone, spent three weeks drawing his own plans, making his own estimates, and reaching his own conclusions.

(3) That he formulated the plans for the organization of mutual water companies, first in Etiwanda in the early eighties.

(4) That when he agreed to take over the operation of the California Development Company it did not own the Hanlon Heading site as was represented nor did it own the right of way in Mexico as was represented.

(5) That the California Development Company was practically defunct, threatened with the loss of its charter.

(6) That he had to build from the ground up, use his own credit, and that of his friends to make a foundation on which to work.

(7) That the cost of bringing water to the Valley was estimated at a million dollars and he brought it in for \$150,000.

(8) That the contract he held giving him control for five years was nullified by the transfer of stock thus killing his vote proxies.

(9) That the discovery of this last fact so disheartened him that he sold out, taking securities at \$300,000 face value but which were cashed for \$100,000. (*)

(10) That George Chaffey established and named Imperial Valley, gave it credit, turned its wastes into assets, and was one of the chief factors in its actual reclamation.

To substantiate these assertions one may read the original documents and follow the facts from page to page. It is an ever present truth in history—the leaders of men are often maligned, neglected, perse-

* Alexander's "Life of George Chaffey," 1928.

cuted and reviled. Only the perspective of time corrects this. With the passage of thirty years we now declare that the name George Chaffey should ever be honored in the annals that record the pangs of birth of the greatest agricultural area in America.

THE MAN

George Chaffey had a background of fifty-one years of life before his attention was turned to the reclamation of the Colorado desert in 1899. He built and operated grain carrying ships in Canada, educated himself as a practical engineer, married a most estimable lady, and engaged in ship building in America. In 1878 his father felt the desire for a milder climate and came to California, settling at Riverside. George, junior, became enthused over the prospects of life in the district rapidly becoming famous because of irrigation, and followed his father in 1880. His imagination was fired as he saw his life's work ahead of him at a glance.

With his brother, William, George Chaffey purchased 2500 acres and at once laid out a colony which became Etiwanda. Here was born the mutual water company idea. The details were worked out by L. M. Holt, then editor of the Riverside Press and Horticulturist, and Mr. Chaffey together. Illustrating the versatility of the man, Chaffey installed a dynamo at Etiwanda and developed the first hydroelectric current on the Pacific slope. Following this, Chaffey organized a company in Los Angeles and that city became the first electrically lighted city in the United States and possibly in the world. He also established the first long distance telephone line in California.

It was in 1882 that Chaffey, having frequent business in San Bernardino, became acquainted with Dr. Oliver M. Wozencraft, who, for thirty-five years before, had been trying to interest Congress and men of wealth in the watering of the Colorado desert. He was laughed at everywhere as a crank. Chaffey refused to listen solely because he believed that the desert was not habitable by white men. In later years, after establishing irrigation projects in Australia where the temperature was as high as that in the Salton Sink area, he changed his mind on this point and that led him to a decision to do the very thing that Dr. Wozencraft had begged him to do.

George Chaffey was a restless man. No sooner was he embarked in an enterprise than he figured out the finish. No sooner was the finish in sight than he was seeking something new to occupy his great physical and mental forces. Etiwanda was fairly under way when the project at Ontario was undertaken. To make a long story short, Mr. Chaffey and his brother, William, designed, platted, opened and marketed the colony which became the model selected by federal engineers for exhibit purposes at the St. Louis World's Fair. The colony of Ontario stands today a leader in the citrus belt.*

* A complete history of the Ontario and Etiwanda projects is found in "The Life of George Chaffey," by J. A. Alexander, the MacMillan Co., 1928.

The visit of an Australian commission to America to study American irrigation practices brought the Chaffeys into contact with men who later were high in Australian affairs, among them being Alfred Deakin, later Prime Minister. Deakin's report after returning to Australia was most complete. It gave Americans the only opportunity they had up to then to know their own projects. When the time came the Australians induced the Chaffeys to go there and initiate the organization of two colonies, the Mildura and Renmark irrigation projects. For eleven years the Chaffeys worked in Australia. In many ways their experiences were identical with those of Imperial Valley. The settlers found fault with the builders, refused to meet their obligations, made impossible demands and were led by agitators to extreme ends. This sort of thing decided George Chaffey to leave Australia. Years later, however, a review of his work in Australia led to full recognition of the great value of his work there. His efforts there were magnificent, although his personal fortune was reduced to almost nil.

Arriving in San Francisco in 1887, Mr. Chaffey went immediately to Florida and then to Kansas City, Colorado and Texas. His son, Andrew, then a lad of twenty, urged him to return to Los Angeles, where he was known and honored. Smarting under the loss of his fortune he was chary about meeting old friends. However, he became consulting engineer for the colony at Ontario and in two years cleaned up some \$75,000 by developing water from the sands.

These things are told here to acquaint the reader with the fact that Chaffey was no novice in irrigation matters, no novice in colonization and no novice in the art of welding communities for self-betterment when he came to the desert in 1899 to see what he could do with it.

1899

Thus we have the background behind the man who was destined to make a garden of a desert. It is the record of a doer, not a mere dreamer, although he was never blind to visions himself. There was a fault in his makeup that bothered him frequently. He had supreme confidence in his own judgment. He did not need a lawyer. He made his own contracts and drew his own papers. When a project was started he was impatient with delays and often swept aside, as unimportant, some very important red tape. In spite of all his experience, Mr. Chaffey accepted the statement of the officers of the California Development company as to the assets of the concern when he took it over when he should have had an attorney verify these statements. It was a fortunate happening for all concerned, however. If Mr. Chaffey had known the exact truth before embarking on the project he never would have gone into it and there is no telling when, if ever, another man would have been found to take his place.

In 1899, The California Development Company was at its wits end to know where to turn for even another dollar with which to keep alive its charter. The state of New Jersey had given notice that the charter would be cancelled because of non-payment of fees. Rockwood, Heffernan and Heber were in despair. S. W. Fergusson, an associate of these gentlemen, and L. M. Holt, long time friend of Chaffey, got in touch with George Chaffey and found him at least interested. Chaffey knew how the officers of the company had hawked the proposition all over America and even in Europe. He knew that the venture was ridiculed in every bank in the west and that the opinion was almost unanimous that even if water could be brought to the plains west of the Colorado nobody could be induced to go there to live and that the project would die before birth. At the same time he knew from experience in Australia that white people COULD live and prosper in such a climate and he backed his opinion against that of the world, including his own son, Andrew, who begged him not to go into it. The fact that today Imperial Valley supports a population of 60,000 is evidence enough that Chaffey was right and all the rest were wrong.

NOT IN A HURRY

However, the decision to go into this venture was not made in a great hurry. Rockwood came out from New York and, with Chaffey, Dr. Heffernan, Fergusson and L. M. Holt, made up the party that drove over the Butterfield stage route to Cameron Lake. After an examination of Rockwood's plans and comparing them with the contour of the country, Chaffey decided that the scheme was not attractive and declined to have anything to do with it. The clouds of depression descended for the hundredth time. Rockwood returned to New York.

In December, 1899, Chaffey visited Yuma and again the idea of reclamation took hold of him. For three weeks he disappeared from civilization. With an Indian guide he explored the water courses of the vagrant river, endured extreme discomforts that resulted in almost total deafness—but returned to Los Angeles and announced that he was ready to go ahead with the construction of a canal which, disregarding the Rockwood survey, would follow a course he himself marked out.

Andrew Chaffey foresaw immense difficulties and implored his father not to have anything to do with it. But he was disarmed by his father's appeal: "Let me do one more big thing before I die," and yielded.*

CONTRACT SIGNED

On April 3, 1900, Mr. Chaffey signed the contract. For the California Development Company, C. R. Rockwood, president, and Chas. E. Hoffman, sec-

retary, signed. Two days later the contract was ratified with the added signatures of A. H. Heber, W. H. Prescott and Edmund C. Blaisdell. The provisions of the contract were briefly: Chaffey was to construct canals capable of diverting a minimum of 400,000 acre feet of water a year from the river to the desert, at a cost of not to exceed \$150,000. This money was to be found by Chaffey, who was to have full control of the company's finances during the construction period and to be its president, manager and chief engineer. In consideration of the constructions of the canals and of his financial backing Chaffey was to receive one-fourth of the entire capital stock of the C. D. Company, fully paid up, and non-assessable, and in addition \$60,000 in money, water rights or other securities, this sum not to become due or payable until it could be paid from revenues without creating a debt, or levying an assessment. The contract provided for the formation of a land company to carry on colonization. It contained representations (1) that the California Development Company owned the capital stock of the Sociedad de Yrrigation y Terrenos de la Baja California, and (2) that it owned land long held and occupied by Hall Hanlon at Pilot Knob.

The Mexican company had been organized by the California Development Company to hold 100,000 acres of land adjoining the south side of the boundary. This land and the Pilot Knob land were essential to the success of the Chaffey scheme, because on account of the sand dunes protruding southward the water had to be brought to the Valley through Mexican territory. The Mexican land was owned by General Andrade and the California Development Company had secured an option on it. George Chaffey signed the contract assuming the truth of the statements. He asked to see the company's books, but was told that they were in Jersey City. In June after work had been started he made the startling discovery that his company did not own the Mexican land; that its option on Hanlon Heading site had expired; and that because the company had been unable to pay its annual tax to the state of New Jersey the attorney general had begun an action to forfeit its charter.

The company was actually in the throes of dissolution. It was George Chaffey's money which paid the New Jersey state tax, purchased the heading site from Hall Hanlon for \$20,000 and secured the Andrade land, all of which was outside the contract.

Had he known these facts in advance it would have been a simple course for Chaffey to have formed a new company; he could then have built the Imperial canal without the liabilities of the California Development company hanging like a millstone around his neck. He felt himself committed because his name was on the contract and plunged into the construction work. He immediately found that the company had no credit. The wonderful resourcefulness of the man came to the fore; he used his personal credit with his friends in business in Los Angeles.

* Alexander's "Life of George Chaffey."



In 1900 this Ramada at Blue Lake was the only "Hotel" in the Valley. The flag went up on the Fourth of July

KINDLY CREDITORS

Andrew M. Chaffey, his son, speaks feelingly of the fact that James Cuzner, of the Kerckhoff-Cuzner Lumber Co., let his father have carload after carload of lumber necessary in the construction of head-gates throughout the system and at Sharpe's Heading without so much as a scratch of a pen. It was also necessary to feed great gangs of hungry workmen, some of them with their wives and children along, who were manning the plows and scrapers and running the surveys on the job. He expresses great gratitude to R. L. Craig & Co., wholesale grocers, who furnished vast amounts of food on his father's order, without the cash. Chaffey made many deals with the owners of stock and paid them with water stock and groceries. When construction of the main canal reached a point just north of the boundary line his part of the contract had been fulfilled, but he advanced money to pay for the distribution system of Imperial Water Company No. 1. He also made advances to pay for the initial surveys necessary before settlers could select land. He also found to his consternation that the old company had issued land scrip to the extent of \$350,000, which had been sold for \$35,000 and was an obligation that had to be redeemed at face value; thus at a time when he expected to be receiving cash for the sale of water stock he found the owners of this land scrip standing in line to buy stock with the scrip.*

Construction of the canal system, distribution of water by mutual companies, the tri-party system for the ownership of water, plans for colonization and all such details were worked out solely under the direction of George Chaffey. Even the surveys of the old company were discarded and new lines run.

* "People have often wondered why there was not greater profit for the promoters of the California Development Company, and the answer is mainly to be found in the necessity of taking care of obligations incurred in the days when the quest for a builder was on."—"Story of the First Decade."—Edgar F. Howe, 1910.

The first plan was to take water from the river at Potholes. Chaffey selected Pilot Knob, some twelve miles below Potholes. The main canal was carried parallel with the river to the boundary line, thence four miles south to the dry channel of the Alamo. The Alamo channel was cleared and enlarged. Control works put in at Sharpe's Heading, the canal carried northward over the international boundary into the heart of the desert.

A MEMORABLE TELEGRAM

Here is a memorable telegram, sent to his son, Andrew, at Los Angeles:

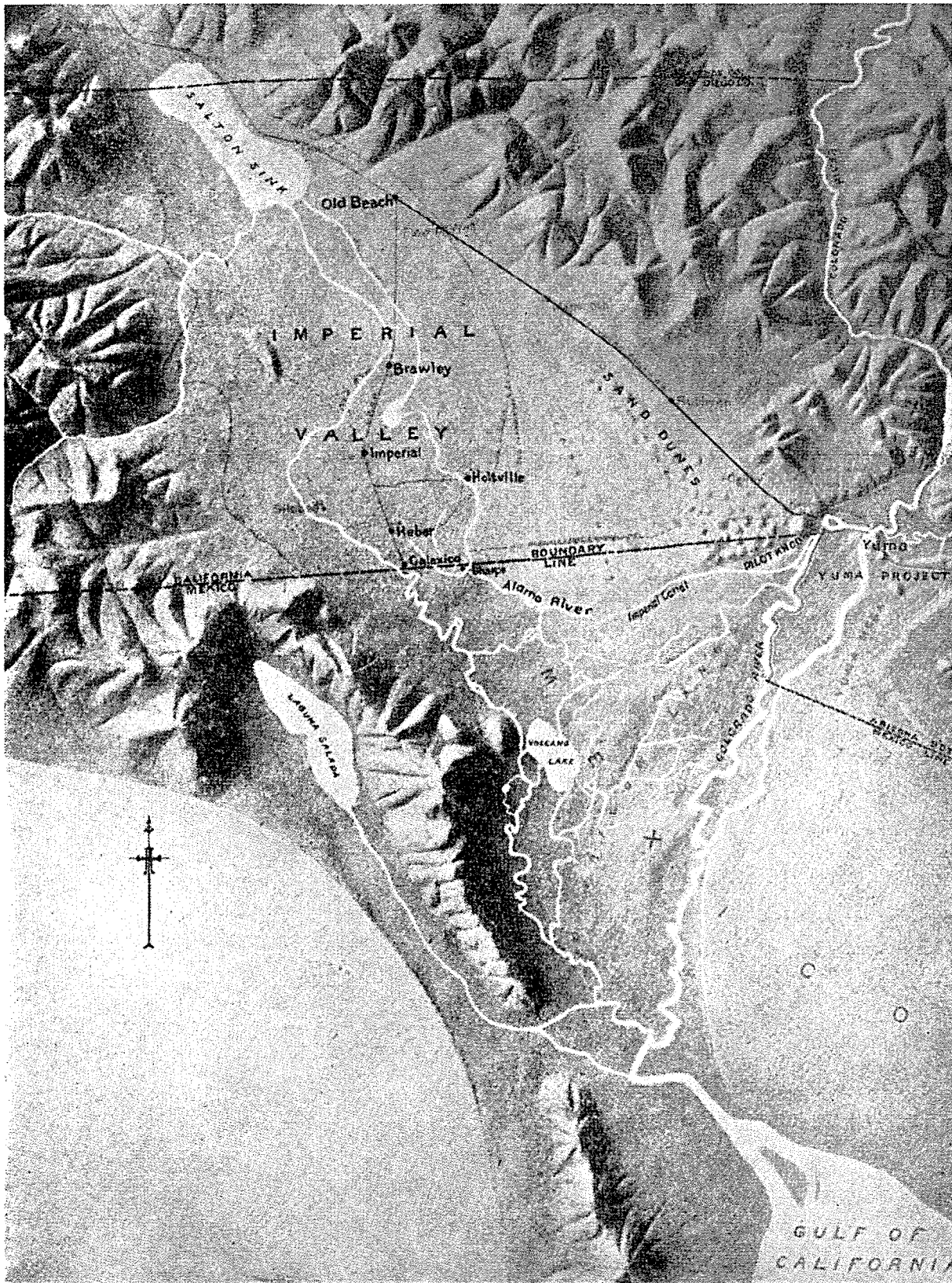
"OGILBY, CALIF., May 14, 1901
 "A. M. Chaffey, 244 Stowell Block, Los Angeles
 —Water turned through gate at 11 a. m. Everything all right.

GEORGE CHAFFEY."

LATERALS ALSO BUILT

Working with feverish haste the several ditch gangs carried the main canal further into the heart of the Valley. Laterals were surveyed and rushed to completion—for water was on the way. Its arrival in Imperial was not the occasion of any special celebration, for it came June 21, 1901, a midsummer day and only half a dozen or so were on hand to toss their hats into the air. Canal construction went on without interruption until February, 1902.

These 22 months can be set down as the most marvelous period of achievement in American irrigation engineering history. In that time more than 400 miles of canals and laterals were built, more than 100,000 acres of land made ready for water, some 2000 eager home seekers had been attracted, the towns of Imperial and Calexico started and the bankrupt California Development Company turned into a concern worth millions.



This Relief Map was prepared by the Reclamation Service in 1904. Note the absence of El Centro, Calipatria and Niland. The Colorado River at that time had no levees to hold it back. The Floods soon made Salton Sea of the Salton Sink, shown on the Map.

At the beginning of 1902 the California Development Company was in fine shape. It owned a huge proportion of the priceless waters of the Colorado, making it able to supply the cheapest water in arid America, an income of a million dollars a year was in sight. But George Chaffey had looked out for everybody's interest but his own. His contract called for sole control for five years. To confirm this agreement he obtained proxies from the largest individual shareholders, but he neglected the precaution of having the actual shares deposited in trust, so they could not be transferred. This failure to safeguard his personal interests lost him millions. After water was flowing in the canals the once worthless stock began to rise in value and many holders with proxies outstanding sold to third parties. Of course the proxies were cancelled as rapidly as transfers were made. Seeing that he would soon lose control, Chaffey was determined to make the best deal possible and he sold all his interests for \$300,000, taking payment in various securities which he said finally realized approximately \$100,000. Thus George Chaffey created every cent of value which enabled A. H. Heber, C. R. Rockwood, H. C. Oakley, F. C. Paulin and their friends to practically buy him out in February, 1902.

FRICTION

From the very beginning of the Chaffey regime there was friction between the officers of the old company and George Chaffey, arising from Chaffey's knowledge that he had not been told all of the facts before he had signed his contract. Thus the California Development Company became a craft loaded with liabilities and manned by a mutinous crew,

which seemed willing to see the captain in trouble. Within a month after water arrived in 1901, Chaffey was threatened with law suits. The situation finally became intolerable and Chaffey withdrew.

It appears now that Imperial Valley might have seen altogether different experiences had this master irrigationist remained at the helm.

Wozencraft and Rockwood together looked for a man like George Chaffey for forty-six years. So to Chaffey must go the credit of turning the vision into a tangible reality.

SINCE THEN

At the close of his work in Imperial Valley, George Chaffey was in his 55th year. He became immersed in business arising out of the marvellous expansion of the city of Los Angeles. He plunged into the job of developing the beautiful East Whittier-La Habra Valley. His work there transformed values from \$50 to \$9000 an acre. He then turned his attention to banking with his gifted son, Andrew M. Chaffey, as his guide. Today George Chaffey at 84, lives a retired life in a cottage by the sea, at Pacific Beach, near San Diego.

A. M. CHAFFEY

Andrew M. Chaffey is president of the great California Bank system in Los Angeles with fifty branches and resources exceeding \$120,000,000. He is president of the Los Angeles Clearing House Association and an officer or director in more than a dozen corporations and financial institutions. It is due to his loyalty and love for his venerable father that he wishes the family record to be kept straight and clear, where his father is concerned.



W. W. Masten's Grading Camp in 1901. Dozens of Scraper Outfits like these built the Canals



CHAPTER VI

OTHER EARLY LEADERS AND PIONEERS

The Association

The "Imperial Valley Pioneers" is the name of an organization formed in 1928, with a membership limited to those who came to the Valley prior to January 1, 1910. The first President was T. D. McCall, of Imperial; the Secretary was Mrs. Leroy Holt, with Miss Estella Falla, Assistant, and Nont J. Ried, Registrar. E. E. Forrester was next President. W. A. Edgar was elected President in May, 1931. The purposes of the organization are purely social. Its members get together annually in May at a picnic which is usually held on the Ira Aten ranch or the E. E. Forrester ranch. The membership has grown to nearly 350 which, it is estimated, is about one-half of those who actually have resided in the Valley since 1910.

The picture at the top of this page is symbolic of the desert as it was before receiving the magic touch of water. In it may be found the desert coyote, the chuckwalla, the sidewinder, the scorpion, the desert owl and a couple of prospectors; the only known living things that inhabited the desert of early days. The picture was designed by T. D. McCall, who says that such surroundings qualified all early pioneers "to grade and irrigate hell," if in his future he should find that sort of an opportunity.

ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

The "Imperial Valley Pioneers" as an association have a roster kept by Registrar Nont J. Ried in the office of the County Tax Collector. The names on this roll are as follows, arranged in the order of the year of arrival in the Valley, and present addresses:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1891
A. J. Elliott, El Centro
1893
D. L. Russell, Los Angeles
A. B. Derrick, El Centro.</p> | <p>1900
Geo. W. Damron, Imperial
Rena E. Rath, El Centro
Byron E. Rice, El Centro
J. B. Hoffman, Alhambra</p> |
|--|---|

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>Peter Barnes, Yuba County
W. F. Gillett, Holtville
H. McKusick, El Centro
W. J. Best, Calexico
J. S. Bridenstine, Holtville
W. T. Heffernan, Calexico
Leroy Holt, El Centro
R. D. McPherrin, El Centro
T. E. Cressey, El Centro
C. L. Gillett, El Centro
W. R. Vanderpoel,
El Centro
1901
Mrs. R. L. Derrick, El Centro
T. J. Faulkner, Imperial
Geo. W. House, Imperial
M. B. Davis, Calexico
Ray Edgar, El Centro
Mabel C. Edgar, Imperial
W. A. Edgar, Imperial
Mrs. Ray Edgar, El Centro
W. A. Reames, El Centro
M. V. Dutcher, San Diego
Peter J. Storms, Seeley
Nicholas Schaniel, San Diego
Emil Steiner, Brawley
A. C. Ferguson, Holtville
Mrs. J. S. Bridenstine,
Holtville
Geo. Varney, Imperial
Ethel L. Varney, Imperial
T. G. House, El Centro
John Norton, El Centro
Frank L. Weed, Calexico
Mrs. Leroy Holt, El Centro
J. D. Huston, Imperial
Arthur Edgar, El Centro
E. E. Forrester, El Centro
W. M. Orrick, El Centro
Lewis E. Cooley, El Centro
Jerome Forrester, Calexico
Albert Hart, Holtville
1902
Arthur W. Cook, Imperial
C. T. Collier, El Centro
Alice L. Pyle, El Centro
Mrs. Lota O. Cook, Imperial
W. D. Garey, El Centro</p> | <p>Leroy Little, Calexico
Ben Vlier, Calexico
H. C. Webster, Calexico
Dan Southwell, Imperial
John M. Cox, Brawley
J. H. Edgar, El Centro
Grove C. Tucker, El Centro
Geo. Whitlock, Holtville
Horace Cross, Holtville
Mrs. A. C. Ferguson,
Holtville
Mrs. W. D. Garey, El
Centro
Mrs. Arthur Edgar,
El Centro
T. D. McCall, Imperial
R. E. Gonder, Brawley
T. D. McCall, Jr.,
Imperial
Rollie O. Clark, El Centro
John V. Taggart, Sr.,
Holtville
Cora McCall, Imperial
J. E. Peck, Jacumba
Geo. W. Forrester,
El Centro
H. R. Henderson, Calipatria
1903
Mrs. Leroy Little, Calexico
Mrs. A. S. Carr, Calexico
A. S. Carr, Calexico
Mrs. John Bryden, Brawley
John Bryden, Brawley
Geo. M. Biles,
Westmorland
D. S. Elder, Brawley
John D. Leja, El Centro
O. L. Peterson, Calexico
Sam Donaldson, Calexico
J. J. Miller, Brawley
Mrs. Grove Tucker,
El Centro
J. M. Youtsler, Riverside
Mrs. Andy Lindeman,
Imperial
Ella Clay Campbell, Seeley
Jennie C. Whitlock
Holtville</p> |
|--|--|

- Lena M. Bridenstine, Holtville
 J. A. Forrester, El Centro
 Wm. H. Forrester, El Centro
 Della B. Kincaid, Calexico
 D. R. Kincaid, Calexico
 Charlotte M. Preston, Imperial
 Mrs. D. L. Grumbles, El Centro
 D. L. Grumbles, El Centro
 Mrs. M. L. Vanderpoel, El Centro
 Mrs. Elizabeth Ingram, El Centro
 Mrs. John V. Taggart, Sr., Holtville
 Ione Rhodes, El Centro
 Emalinda Forrester, El Centro
 Geo. L. Campbell, El Centro
 Ed E. Forrester, Jr., El Centro
 Everett Forrester, El Centro
 Addie L. Turbett, El Centro 1904
 Emma B. Donohue, Calexico
 Thos. J. Mitchell, Calexico
 John F. Steintorf, Calexico
 A. R. Underwood, El Centro
 Mrs. W. R. Waldrop, El Centro
 Tom Elliott, Brawley
 I. D. Hale, Brawley
 Wiley M. Weaver, Los Angeles
 Mary J. Weaver, Los Angeles
 Anna C. Best, Brawley
 W. H. Best, Brawley
 Blanche E. Edgar, El Centro
 Jasper Pippin, El Centro
 J. H. Huff, Imperial
 Ira J. Harris, El Centro
 Rhoda M. Bennett, Brawley
 Geo. F. Thiesen, Holtville
 Mrs. Ira Aten, Burlingame
 D. W. Wiest, Wiest
 Roy L. Rumsey, El Centro
 Holdam Stuart, El Centro
 M. D. Witter, Brawley*
 Ira D. Aten, El Centro 1905
 M. H. Aten, El Centro
 Mrs. Estella Mitchell, Calexico
 Robt. L. Glasby, Calexico
 Fred Gunterman, Calexico
 Fay Mitchell Gunterman, Calexico
 Isaac Mayfield, El Centro
 Cleo C. McCarey, El Centro
 M. W. Conkling, San Diego
 Tom C. Potts, Holtville
 Peter Neckel, Imperial
 Mrs. Peter Neckel, Imperial
 Mrs. Jas. E. Peck, Jacumba
 Seth Grime, El Centro
 Fannie K. Moore, El Centro
 Mrs. Lela Eli Elmore, Brawley
 J. A. Mixer, El Centro
 L. C. Hausmann, Brawley
 W. S. Holcomb, Imperial
- Chris. Westgard, Brawley
 Hazel B. Thiesen, Holtville
 Mrs. M. D. Witter, Brawley
 Mrs. Otis B. Tout, San Diego
 Nellie Gillett, El Centro
 Estelle Falla, Imperial
 Scott B. Foulds, Calexico
 Joe E. Hart, Holtville 1906
 Annie K. Swann, El Centro
 Vaughn N. Thompson, El Centro
 Albert E. Jeffray, Seeley
 J. D. McCary, El Centro
 M. J. Alexander, Holtville
 T. E. Young, Calexico
 J. E. Wallace, Brawley
 Mrs. Lydia Cowling, Holtville
 Ralph Swann, El Centro
 C. C. Toney, El Centro
 Mrs. Catherine Hall, Imperial
 F. W. Peterson, El Centro
 Mrs. F. W. Peterson, El Centro
 W. P. Hamilton, El Centro
 Evelyn B. Westerfield, El Centro
 Otis B. Tout, San Diego
 Laurie F. Derrick, El Centro
 Ada Robinson Schultz, Seeley
 Fred W. Paine, El Centro
 S. E. Robinson, Imperial
 Geo. A. Swann, El Centro
 J. M. Grafton, El Centro
 R. P. L. Moore, El Centro 1907
 Fred Lynch, El Centro
 Reg. F. Storie, Holtville
 C. W. Brockman, Calexico
 Jos. G. Scott, El Centro
 R. L. Greer, Calexico*
 Mrs. R. L. Greer, Calexico
 C. G. Echols, Calexico
 J. M. Edmunds, Calexico
 Tyler W. Seal, El Centro
 Geo. V. Rude, Imperial
 Frederic Rapson, El Centro
 Aubrey M. Draper, El Centro
 Mrs. Winnifred Wiest, Brawley
 T. J. Williamson, Imperial
 Mrs. T. J. Williamson, Imperial
 Phil D. Swing, Washington
 Benj. A. Stafford, Seeley
 Harvey D. Corfman, El Centro
 C. M. Cobleigh, Imperial
 Mrs. Geo. M. Austin, El Centro
 Geo. M. Austin, El Centro
 H. A. Hastain, Brawley
 Mrs. H. A. Hastain, Brawley
 Roy E. Breedlove, Heber
 D. H. Williams, Holtville
 A. M. Mealey, Imperial
 Daisy E. Mixer, El Centro
 Alice Reames, El Centro
 Oliver G. Carelton, Imperial
 B. D. Irvine, Banning
- Leta M. Bryan, El Centro
 Elizabeth Wiest, Wiest
 Mrs. H. T. Coley, Brawley
 *H. T. Coley, Brawley
 Agnes T. Northrop, Imperial
 L. D. Renz, Imperial
 John J. Carr, San Bernardino
 S. M. Smyser, Holtville
 Albert W. Wogatzke, El Centro
 Mrs. Emily Robinson, Imperial
 Mrs. James Mackie, Jr., Holtville
 Howard P. Myer, El Centro
 W. L. Storie, Holtville
 Henry P. Frost, El Centro
 T. D. Ehmke, El Centro
 D. F. Harbison, El Centro
 R. C. Smith, El Centro
 Mrs. R. C. Smith, El Centro
 Mrs. C. W. Crippen, Holtville
 C. W. Crippen, Holtville
 J. S. Jones, El Centro 1908
 Flora B. Pitt, El Centro
 Nont J. Ried, El Centro
 Judson H. Payne, Seeley
 Mrs. R. W. Campbell, El Centro
 R. W. Campbell, El Centro*
 Jule Wright, El Centro
 Mrs. Jos. M. Adair, El Centro
 W. W. Dickson, El Centro
 Franklin Reading, El Centro
 Arthur M. Williams, Calipatria
 Robt. G. Goree, San Diego
 Mrs. R. G. Goree, San Diego
 J. W. Edwards, Westmorland
 Mrs. J. W. Edwards, Westmorland
 Mildred Ehmke, El Centro
 W. A. McCall, Los Angeles
 Helen J. Courtney, Los Angeles
 Robt. G. Elmore, Brawley
 Sarah E. Epler, El Centro
 Mrs. J. M. Tredenick, El Centro
 C. E. Courtney, Heber
 Joe Groebli, Holtville
 F. E. Mastick, Seeley
 Pauline A. Westmorland, Imperial
 Roy Westmorland, Imperial
- H. L. Boone, El Centro
 J. R. Fowble, Jacumba
 Lee C. Siebert, Brawley
 Andrew Pelger, El Centro
 Jessie H. Hatch, Imperial
 Robt. C. Amstead, Holtville
 Geo. C. Richards, El Centro
 Stella Lincoln, Imperial
 Randall Henderson, Calexico
 Mrs. T. J. McCain, El Centro
 T. J. McCain, El Centro
 Edgar A. Nance, El Centro
 Mrs. Edgar A. Nance, El Centro
 Luther W. Wilson, Holtville
 Mrs. Luther W. Wilson, Holtville
 Mrs. Allen Nuffer, El Centro
 Mrs. Angelina Courtney, Heber
 Mrs. L. E. Cooley, El Centro
 M. H. Cavin, Heber
 Mrs. M. H. Cavin, Heber
 Mrs. J. M. Grafton, El Centro
 J. E. C. Benton, El Centro
 L. E. Sinclair, Calipatria 1909
 W. O. Blair, Calipatria
 B. A. Harrigan, El Centro
 John C. Jenkins, El Centro
 W. E. Edwards, Westmorland
 Annabelle Davis, Chula Vista
 Nora Epler, El Centro
 J. N. Morgan, El Centro
 J. E. Elmore, Los Angeles
 Mina E. Bromley, El Centro
 Daniel B. Bromley, El Centro
 Elizabeth Embury, El Centro
 Mrs. J. C. Jenkins, El Centro
 Edith J. Meyer, El Centro
 S. L. Hartzell, El Centro
 Eugene Williams, El Centro
 Warren Currier, El Centro
 Oran T. Cosand, El Centro
 Tyson C. Duncan, El Centro
- PIONEERS BY BIRTH
 Hugh G. Hart, Holtville
 Florence Hart, Holtville
 Arthur Forrester, El Centro
 Elmer Forrester, El Centro
 Betty McCall, Imperial
 Helen Tucker, El Centro
 Dorothy Tucker, El Centro
 Edna E. Tucker, El Centro
 Carl Brawley Miller, Brawley
 Marjorie Moore, El Centro
 Hilda Neckel, Imperial
 Olga Neckel, Imperial

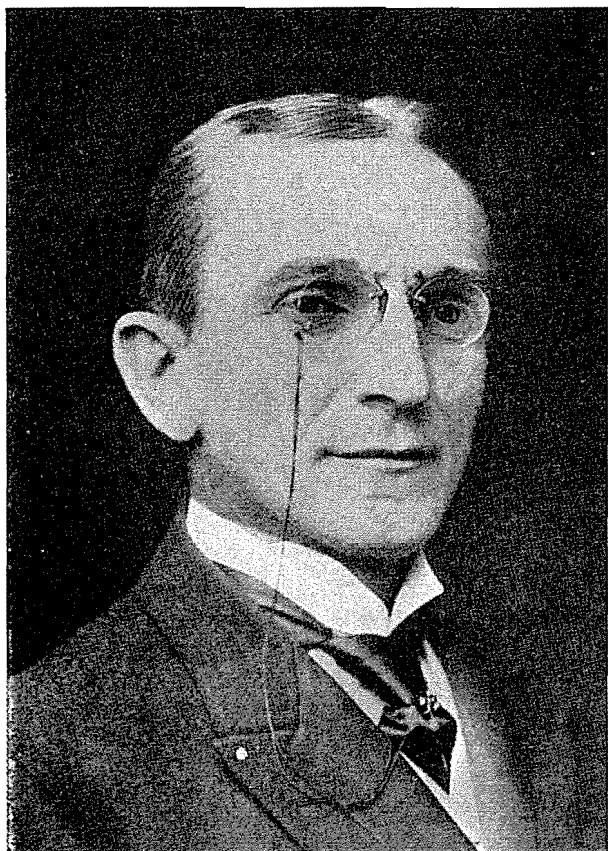
* Deceased

There is little that can be written that can raise the level of esteem that these pioneers already enjoy in the minds of the rest of the 60,000 people who lived in Imperial Valley. Their courage is unquestioned. The hardships and inconveniences they experienced while doing the first things the first time to convert this region into a garden of productivity entitles them to seats of honor in any gathering of western adventurers.

The publisher of this history feels that the records made by these pioneers are best set down in the brief sketches that appear on the following pages. He desires to thank sincerely those who kindly responded to his request for this personal information.

There are other stories of pioneers to be found in other parts of this volume, such as Rockwood, Chaffey, Perry, Heffernan, Andrade, etc., whose sketches belong with relevant accounts.

For a complete and accurate cross section view of early life in Imperial Valley the reader is commended to a careful perusal of the stories of the pioneers that follow here:



Anthony H. Heber

Anthony H. Heber became interested with C. R. Rockwood when the California Development Company was organized in 1896. He and Rockwood worked together strenuously for four years attempting to finance the irrigation scheme. When George Chaffey took over the affairs of the California Development Company in 1900, Mr. Heber stepped aside and when Chaffey relinquished control in 1902 he took the presidency and the general management and made a brave effort to keep the corporation afloat in the sea of trouble.

When the S. P. railroad took over the affairs of the California Development Co., Mr. Heber was deposed as president. He still retained his personal interests in Imperial Valley and looked forward to the time when the Southern Pacific would finish its work and he would again be at the helm. In the meantime he organized the Colony Investment Co., which did a great deal of promotion work. He also organized the Imperial Goldfield Mining Co., in Nevada, and conducted a brokerage business under the name of A. H. Heber & Co. Mr. Heber met a tragic

death, November 16, 1906, in a hotel fire at Goldfield.

As time goes on Mr. Heber will be given more and more credit for the magnificent work he did from the very first organization of the California Development Co. in 1896 to the time when he relinquished control to the Southern Pacific in June, 1905. These nine years were full of trouble and the frail bark that he kept afloat was often on the rocks. Mr. Heber was only 55 years old at the time of his death.

In September, 1904, there was a mass meeting of settlers, one of the numerous gatherings that were held in the early days for the purpose of discussing water affairs. Willis George Emerson delivered a eulogy to Anthony H. Heber which after the passage of twenty-seven years can be said to reflect the sentiment that should prevail when the memory of this troubled man is called up.

This eulogy follows:

" . . . I refer to one whose rugged, inherent honesty of purpose stands four square to every breeze that blows, a man who was firm when others faltered, a man who is the personification of manliness, a man whose long years of devotion to the Imperial canal system, and whose untold struggles in its behalf has kindled an undying love in his great heart and soul for this mighty effort of his life's work—this enduring monument to posterity—the reclamation of a desert, arid waste, that, through his unflinching efforts, and the efforts of his associates, is now beginning to bud and flower with a fulfillment of hope's fruition.

"I refer to the Honorable Anthony H. Heber, president of the California Development Company.

"Justice demands and compels me to say that, in my judgment, this Valley, in its dimensions north, south, east and west, is not large enough to find a single spot where an historic tablet could be erected that should not have engraved upon it the name of Anthony H. Heber.

"He is a man who has proven by his labors that he is pre-eminent among those who have become eminent as master builders of this great Imperial canal system—a man whose financial genius has measured the depths of every exigency, and has risen to the height of every occasion—a man possessed of untainted purity, Napoleonic ability and unsurpassed courage."

This tribute was received with resounding cheers from the gathered settlers who were bent, at the same time, on wresting the control of their water delivery from his hands and placing it in the hands of the Reclamation Service.

W. F. HOLT

THE history of Imperial Valley is inseparably linked with that of W. F. Holt. He was the earliest "capitalist" outside the California Development Company group to see the future of the broad Valley called Imperial. While Rockwood, Chaffey and Heber envisioned the green fields that were to come from plenty of water, Mr. Holt saw the future throngs of people and knew that they would soon be demanding houses and towns to live in, electricity to use for power and lights, telephones for convenience; banks, stores and newspapers for business purposes; ice to alleviate the heat, railroads to carry their commerce, churches in which to worship and opera houses for relaxation. He saw, too, that before any of these things could come the people must be able to acquire land on which to build the agricultural background for the other things. So clear in his own mind was the evolution of this empire that he hesitated not an hour after riding in the McCaulley stage from Flowing Well to Imperial early in 1901 but at once wrote a sheaf of telegrams to associates telling them to get in on the ground floor with him.

But he could not send the telegrams. No wire connection with the railroad wires at Flowing Well. They went by stage in a day or two. So he decided to and did build a single strand telephone line from the railroad to Imperial and extended it soon to Blue Lake and the camp where Calexico was later founded. He saw the necessity of a newspaper and installed a plant in the open air and the first issue of the Imperial Press was run off while workmen, assisted by Mr. Holt and his brother, Leroy, built the frame



W. F. Holt

work house around the plant. He knew that his family and other families would wish to worship so the second frame building was a little church, with a real steeple! He paid the preacher's salary and the Rev. J. C. Hay did valiant service.

He tried to get San Diego people to build a railroad but could not. He organized a company himself and got Geo. A. Carter to take the contract for grading. Work started, the Southern Pacific suddenly came to, brought him out and completed the job. Seeing the necessity of poor people actually getting on the land he bought a block of 14,000 shares of water stock, located it on land south of what is now Holtville and sold it to all comers who would promise to pay. In these and similar deals he was encouraged by the California Development Company by bonuses of water stock which later became worth double and more than its original price. As fast as he made money on one deal he would plunge into another.

With plenty of water on the east side, Mr. Holt conceived the idea of dropping an extra canal of water through a pipe to the bottom of the Alamo River, some forty feet, to produce electric power. The ultimate result of this thought was the Holton Power Company, which furnished light and power to the entire Valley. This company also became the vehicle for the investment of half a million dollars. The power plant idea called for a town on the east side. Mr. Holt platted Holton, which was changed to Holtville. He financed the biggest hotel in the Valley, built several buildings and Holtville became a town. Of course, the town needed a railroad, so the Holton Inter-Urban was built. The most direct connection with the Valley branch was three miles or so south of Imperial. That made a dandy place for another town—so Cabarker was mapped in the minds of some of Mr. Holt's friends, including W. T. Bill, of Red-

lands, and changed to El Centro when the maps were drawn. That was in 1905. By the summer of 1906, there was quite a sprinkling of brick buildings starting and J. L. Travers and L. H. Cooper had gangs of carpenters and bricklayers working overtime.

Even at the time the west side of the Valley was covered with water and the entire river was flowing into Salton Sea, Mr. Holt kept pouring money into the Valley. His faith was that of a cool gambler—he shot the works, win or lose. He won.

Mr. Holt established the Imperial Press, the Holtville Tribune, the Calexico Chronicle, bought the Brawley News soon after it was established, moved the Press to El Centro and renamed it the Imperial Valley Press and later bought the Imperial Standard and discontinued it. He had an influencing hand in the establishment of the First National Bank of Imperial, the First State Bank at Calexico, the Holtville State Bank, the Valley State Bank at El Centro and the Imperial Valley Bank at Brawley. He was interested as silent financial partner in dozens of business enterprises and always gave the active partner the opportunity to buy him out. At one time when few farmers had money, he paid every delinquent assessment on stock of No. 7 in time to keep it from being delinquent. He advertised the Valley far and wide, bringing trainloads of people at a time on excursions. Needless to say, he contributed to all public enterprises, such as chambers of commerce, never hesitated to give interviews on public matters, advised the people on matters of policy but never took an interest in politics.

When county division came up, Mr. Holt was not ready for the contest. No doubt he had in mind all the time to try to make El Centro the county seat and the boys at Imperial guessed it. So they forced the issue and the hot campaign between Imperial and El Centro went on in the hottest part of the year, from May to August 6. El Centro won by 101 votes and immediately pulsed with life and activity. Houses by the score and brick buildings went up faster than ever. Mr. Holt's success in any venture takes his interest from it, somewhat. When one thing is done he looks for something else. So it was the natural thing for him to sell his buildings and lots in El Centro and other interests to those who would carry on. He did this on easy terms, mostly to those who were renting from him. He started the first gas company, which did not function economically. This venture went by the board and may be called the only failure on the debit side of Mr. Holt's Valley record. He sold the Holton Power Company to the Southern Sierras Power Company in 1916.

It is hardly necessary to say that no man as active as W. F. Holt escaped the hand of calumny. Jealous rivals spread rumors to ruin him and his enterprises. Most vituperative attacks appeared in print. Every known means were employed to cause his financial structures to crash. The greatness of the man can be guessed when it is recorded that as soon as the worst period of vituperation was over he loaned his worst detractor money to enter business in the town he had most maligned! With a great sigh, his thousands of friends simply threw up their hands and said, "That man Holt!"

Mr. Holt is a native of Missouri. He lived on his father's farm until of age. Then he married Miss Fannie Jones and after several years in the mercantile and banking business decided to come west. He went to Colorado in 1892 as a merchant and in 1897 he went to Southwestern Arizona, where he found his forte to be banking. Successful but not content he inspected the Imperial Valley proposition and spent the next seventeen years here. He was the Jefferson Worth of Harold Bell Wright's novel, "The Winning of Barbara Worth," and was Jeff Holton in O. B. Tout's novel, "Silt." He planned to retire to his home in Redlands but soon got the pioneer fever again and operated in the Palo Verde Valley, in Utah and other frontier places in the west.

In all his ventures, Mr. Holt had the faithful devotion of a good wife to lean upon. Two daughters, Chloe and Catherine, made the home fireside happy. Mr. Holt died a few years ago. Mr. Holt married again recently and is residing in Los Angeles.

It is the aim of the publisher of this history neither to give too much nor too little praise to the men and women who made Imperial Valley what it is today. With the passage of time, however, the bold, clear outlines of those who were really great stand out above the fog like Mt. Signal on a day in May. One of these is W. F. Holt. There is no use to inscribe his name on any monument, for Imperial Valley is a monument in itself to him as one of the men who had most to do with its development.

LEROY HOLT

TAKING part in the organization and establishment of the first bank in Imperial Valley in 1901 and remaining in the banking business in an executive capacity continuously for 30 years thereafter—in the same community—Leroy Holt occupies a place in the affairs of the Valley that has no parallel. Today he holds the record for the longest continuous residence and the longest continuous business service and is the one banker who has seen them all come and most of them go. Now the vice-president and directional head in the Valley for the Bank of America, Mr. Holt has behind him a record that places him not only at the top of his profession in a business way but also at the top of the column of esteem and respect in the hearts of his sixty-thousand neighbors and friends now living in the garden that was a waste.

No other man has been in closer touch with the people than Leroy Holt. No other man has had more to do with the growth and development of the farms. No other banker has said "yes" to more men who needed capital on which to grow crops, buy cattle or to establish or expand their businesses. He has come to the rescue of water companies that needed money, used his personal credit and influence with Los Angeles banks and capitalists at crises that demanded heroic measures in the Valley's darkest hours and has stood financial guard in numberless instances when disaster threatened.

Mr. Holt has always been democratic and modest in demeanor. His desk has always been in the open where every citizen could reach him, never hidden away in a private office. His habit is to listen through. His counsel has been sought by thousands and never has he hurried his caller off. His ability to see through to the bottom of every situation from every angle, to discern the crooked intentions as well as the good points, made his advice invaluable. He remains today the best example of the friendly banker and, personally, he resents the modern nicker-in-the-slot methods that are edging in on banking customs.

Mr. Holt arrived in the Valley, November 6, 1900. That was six months before Geo. Chaffey turned water into the main canal at the heading. Early in 1901 the Imperial Land Company staked out the townsite of Imperial and erected a tent house hotel and a small building used for a real estate office. The next building was erected for a general merchandise store by Dr. W. T. Heffernan.

Mr. Holt came west for his health from Missouri where his father was a farmer and banker. From the age of twenty-one he conducted the banking business for his father for nine years and was thirty years of age when he sought the desert, frail in physique but ambitious and hopeful. Noting the colonization efforts being made by the Chaffey's, who were in control of the California Development Company at the time, he came to see and has been here ever since.

After taking up land, Mr. Holt's first business venture was in general merchandise. In the spring of 1901 he saw the stage loads of people who came and went, filing on government land and buying water rights, and decided that the Valley was bound to become a great agricultural community. In midsummer, Mrs. Holt and two children, James and Jessie, visited Mr. Holt, returned in September to set up housekeeping in a tent-house. They helped erect a frame building for the housing of the first newspaper and then a frame church building for the Christian church. They were members of the first congregation of six who attended church services and the two Holt children together



Leroy Holt

with one other child made up those who attended the first Sunday school. Pioneer conditions at the time were severe. Water was hauled daily from a depression in New River west of the settlement. No ice, of course. Butter from bottles. The fierce winds had nothing to stop them and carried away such items as stovepipes and other loose articles.

In November, 1901, Mr. Holt abandoned the role of storekeeper and with Geo. Chaffey, A. H. Heber, and his brother, W. F. Holt, organized the First National Bank of Imperial. Mr. Chaffey was president, A. H. Heber vice-president, and Mr. Holt was cashier. When the Chaffey's severed their connection with affairs in February, 1902, the Holts took over their interests in the bank. W. F. Holt became president, Mr. Heber vice-president and Leroy Holt cashier. The deposits grew quite rapidly and the bank flourished from the start. The directorate and officers remained the same until 1903, when Leroy Holt became president.

In addition to the banking business, Mr. Holt's favorite activity was to buy young beef cattle in Texas, Arizona or New Mexico, ship them in, sell them to growers of sorghum, grain and alfalfa on easy terms and then help them market the fattened stock. He did this in trainload lots, thus helping the early farmers to market their crops through fattened cattle at a satisfactory profit.

In mutual water company affairs Mr. Holt was always the treasurer. When No. 1 was in need of funds the board would pass a resolution authorizing the president to borrow from Holt. His business sagacity guided early organizations of all sorts.

In addition to his connection with the First National Bank of Imperial, Mr. Holt and his associates organized The First State Bank of Calexico in 1902, the first bank opened in the city of Calexico. Later he bought a controlling interest in the bank at Holtville and soon after converted it into the First National Bank. He was president of this bank until 1928. In 1909 he opened the

First National Bank of El Centro and remained its president until 1923, when he sold out to the Bank of Italy. He is still manager.

When the people decided to take water affairs into their own hands and organized the Imperial Irrigation District in 1912 the officers of the new district, without funds with which to begin operations, turned to Mr. Holt and found help. When the demands became so large that his personal resources were strained he used his excellent standing with Los Angeles banks and his credit really became the credit of Imperial Valley.

In the years of struggle, turmoil and friction, while the Irrigation District was "finding itself" he was a pillar of friendship and stability. He even consented to go on the district board and served as director and chairman of the board from 1916 to 1920. On October 23, 1918, he signed the contract with Secretary Lane for building an all American canal.

When the Bank of Italy entered the Valley field the heads of that great institution would do so only because Mr. Holt agreed to stay with them. Today he can be found at his desk in the El Centro branch, Bank of America, the same democratic, courteous friend of the people, eager to find a way to say "yes" whenever that word means "progress" for the Valley.

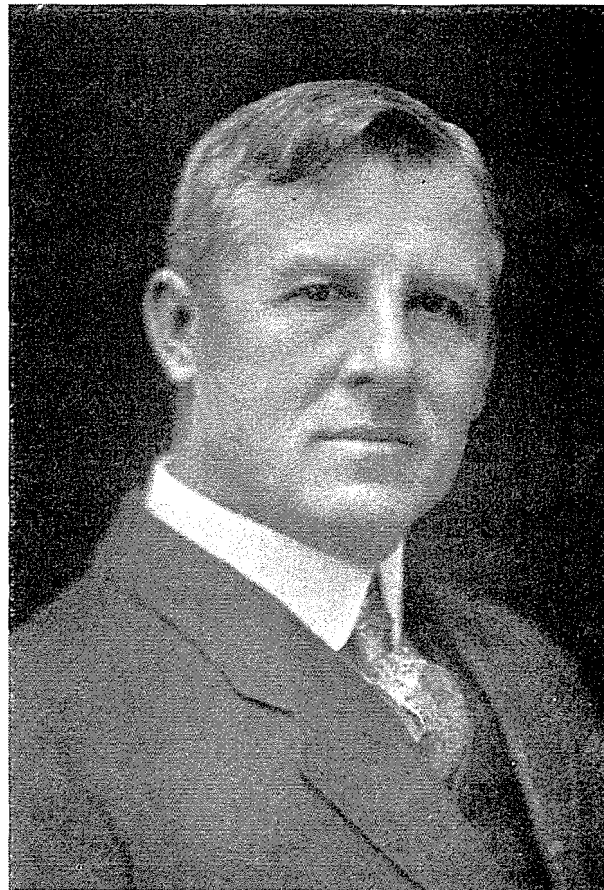
Mr. and Mrs. Holt were almost struck down with the death in 1920, of their daughter, Jessie, who had become the bride of Thos. Cook. Their son, James M., is in business in Los Angeles. He lost his wife in 1930. The two children that grace this motherless home are a constant source of delight to both grandparents as well as the father.

Mr. and Mrs. Holt today are Imperial Valley's most esteemed citizens. They have earned the title and nobody disputes it.

GEO. A. CARTER

THERE are talkative people who do little and silent men who do much. Geo. A. Carter was one of the doers of things in Imperial Valley. In July, 1901, after talking things over with Geo. Chaffey, Mr. Carter, who was an extensive developer in the Pomona district, took the train to Flowing Well, boarded Geo. McCaulley's stage and drove through to Calexico, via Blue Lake. Water had been in the canal near Calexico but a month but sorghum was already sprouting on T. P. Banta's place. Mr. Carter brought in 100 head of mules and horses and equipment to move dirt, freight or anything else. He had a year's contract at the rate of \$6.40 per day per team consisting of four mules and a driver. Half cash and half water stock. For hauling freight from Flowing Well he received 50 per cent of the freight rate from point of shipment to the Valley. The first hauling was lumber for the structures on the canals. He hauled the lumber for the C. D. headquarters building at Calexico which still stands. He built the Date, Dahlia and part of the main canals. Carter bought Dr. Heffernan's lumber business at Imperial and established the Imperial Lumber & Commercial Co. In 1902 he bought control of the First National Bank of Imperial and was its cashier for a long time, later selling his interest to Leroy Holt. He had the contract for grading the railroad right of way from Old Beach to Imperial. He engaged in buying and selling cattle all along. In 1907, Mr. Carter became president of the Valley State Bank in El Centro and when that bank was discontinued he secured the charter for the First National Bank of El Centro. This he turned over to Leroy Holt. He also helped to organize the First State Bank at Calexico.

J. H. Braly, banker of Los Angeles, owned 4600 acres of land where Brawley now stands. In the dark years he tried to sell. Carter, having faith, bought the entire tract, at \$12 an acre, laid out a town and wanted to name it Braly. Mr. Braly was so frightened with affairs the way



George A. Carter

they were that he refused to let his name be used. Later the Delta Investment Company, seeing a rival town in the offing, offered Carter \$17 an acre for his tract and he sold.

Mr. Carter was the first registered guest in the Imperial hotel and also the first in the Oregon hotel when it was built in El Centro.

During the years that came and went Carter was a booster for everything. He was named by Governor Gillett to be the first chairman of the agricultural association when it put on the first county fair. He was a member of the county highway commission that laid out all the paved roads excepting the state highway. He was president of the El Centro chamber of commerce and served on numerous public committees that initiated all sorts of improvements. He was an intimate friend of Stoddard Jess, banker of Los Angeles, and was instrumental in interesting him in Valley affairs.

Mr. Carter recounts the fact that the first store of any sort in Mexicali was a plank propped up under a mesquite tree where fiery mescal and tequila was sold to the Indians. He tells of helping to explode the unfavorable government soil reports by taking congressmen and other prominent visitors to soil survey stakes that were hidden in the barley and alfalfa growing so luxuriantly that they could hardly be found. His great ranch in Arizona was headquarters for Harold Bell Wright when the novelist produced "When a Man's a Man." All the characters were found on the ranch and in the neighborhood. Carter was Ried in the book.

Mr. Carter's family now lives at Banning because of Mrs. Carter's health. The children are George, Jr., Mary Louise, Robert Frederick and Flora Millicent. Mr. Carter is back and forth, still a booster and a worker for the Valley as he has been for thirty years.



R. D. McPherrin

ROY D. McPHERRIN. IMPERIAL. EL CENTRO. 1900. The name of Roy D. McPherrin, attorney, starts in the annals of Imperial Valley in July, 1900, and appears right along until today. The record shows the career of a man who has done the work of the moment in his best possible manner, giving attention to the details, carrying on with steady determination through all the ups and downs the Valley has known since before the first water ever reached the land. The record also shows a man who formed his conclusions and convictions and stuck to them, sometimes at great personal loss and sometimes in the face of a popular misconception of his aims and purposes that deprived him not only of public office but loss of business. Imperial Valley has always been Mr. McPherrin's life. He has given it thirty years and during those thirty years every act of his has been prompted from the standpoint of the Valley's welfare and not from the standpoint of his own or any other individual's welfare.

Fired with a desire to see the west after being graduated from the law school of the University of Nebraska in 1899, Mr. McPherrin found the first opportunity was a job with the surveying crew of the California Development Company in the field at Blue Lake in July, 1900. He arrived at Flowing Well and took the McCaulley stage to the camp where he found C. N. Perry, F. F. Hall and D. L. Russell. He was soon convinced that his derby hat and stiff collar were impedimenta unnecessary, as a lawyer might say. About the first thing he did was to file on 160 acres near Blue Lake. Since that time he has been a continuous land owner always deeply interested in the land owner's problems.

In August the field crew was laid off for summer vacation and McPherrin took a position in the offices of the company in Los Angeles. His education and clerical ability was soon recognized and he was made secretary of several of the mutual water companies that were organized with headquarters in Los Angeles. In 1901 he was admitted to the California bar. In June, 1902, headquarters for No. 1 were moved to Imperial and Mr. McPherrin, as secretary, took care of the business of that big concern for several years thereafter. When the S. P. took over the C. D. Company and H. T. Cory was placed in charge, he named Mr. McPherrin as assistant general manager with offices at Calexico. It was his duty to act as buffer between the water users and the company, to contact the public for the company. His poise and diplomatic manner helped smooth over many harsh situations during the long fight to close the intake at the river.

During the county division campaign Mr. McPherrin

remained loyally with Imperial and refused the nomination for county judge because Imperial was not putting up any candidates.

After the closure of the river he returned to Imperial to take up law practice again. In 1910, the last year of the county convention system, he received the Republican nomination for superior judge. Judge Cole ran as an independent and the candidacy of McPherrin's old friend, Judge Farr, on the Democratic ticket, was just strong enough to split the vote and allow Cole's election with a majority of fifty.

The people organized the Irrigation District in 1912 and for three years the directors fought the overwhelming confusion that enveloped them, finally resigning in a body. The board of supervisors appointed an entirely new board, naming Mr. McPherrin as representative of the Imperial district. With McPherrin were Leroy Holt, J. S. Nickerson, C. D. Manning and J. M. Edmunds. This board had many seriously difficult situations to handle. The records show that Mr. McPherrin introduced the first resolution that sought regulation and storage of Colorado River waters on the upper Colorado for the purpose of protecting the Valley from floods. He came into conflict with the adherents of the all-American canal idea because he could never see the logic of established settlers paying for an improvement that would add vast areas of land that would compete with their own. McPherrin always felt that such new lands should bear their own burden. He steadfastly battled for the interests of the farmer during six years on the board and helped bring forth a workable organization that had good credit and was functioning at minimum cost.

When he resumed private practice of law, Mr. McPherrin found a practice that was worth \$10,000 a year had dwindled to zero. However, he set about rebuilding and, with a short interval in other parts—enough to show him his heart and soul still belonged to Imperial Valley—he did rebuild. Today he enjoys a fine practice in El Centro and is esteemed by the people to such a degree that we predict that some day they will reward Roy D. McPherrin for his thirty years of unselfish service in a way that will crown his career with honor and appreciation.

Mr. McPherrin has, all this time, been a farmer as well as an attorney. He bought the Corwin place near Imperial and became the first carload shipper of asparagus. He shipped asparagus commercially for twenty years from the same forty acres. At one time he owned three strings of pedigreed Jersey dairy cattle. Eighty acres of grapefruit are a part of his farming hobby. He knows the Valley farmer's troubles as well as any man.

In 1908 Mr. McPherrin married Ethel Warden, of the San Luis Valley, Colorado, and a son, William Warden, now fifteen, is at home. The McPherrins are residents of El Centro now.

I. L. WILSON. IMPERIAL. 1900. Mr. Wilson first engaged in the lumber business in Imperial, but soon sold out and commenced to use his slogan, "See Wilson About It," in the real estate business; later moving to El Centro. Mr. Wilson was one of those indefatigable workers who never seemed to know when to quit. He built the Alamo Hotel in Holtville for W. F. Holt. He built and occupied the fourth tent house in Imperial, and operated the first automobile in Imperial Valley.

W. W. MASTEN. IMPERIAL. EL CENTRO. 1900. Came from Riverside in December, 1900, to work for the California Development Company, with headquarters at Cameron Lake. In six weeks he was made superintendent of the company's team work and in three months was superintending the entire contract, working as many as 250 head of horses and mules on the canal system. He developed a section of land of his own, went into the hotel business in Imperial, and when El Centro was started moved the Thelma Hotel Building to the new town. Mr. Masten has the distinction of being the proprietor of the first hotel, first meat market, first bakery, first transfer business, first livery business in El Centro. In all his enterprises he was ably assisted by his good wife and sons, Charles and Wesley.

THE FIRST THREE FAMILIES

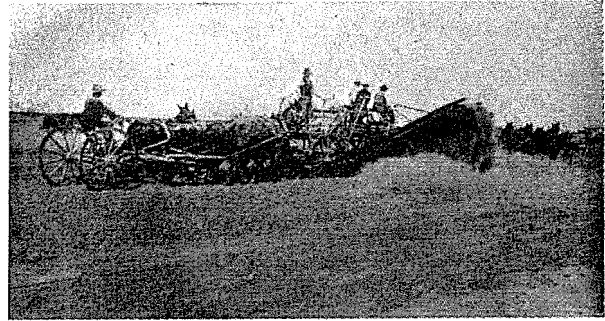
IN GOING back to the beginning of things, to find the very first families who had any part in building Imperial Valley, we come to the names of W. A. Van Horn, W. F. Gillett and L. M. Van Horn. W. A. Van Horn, wife and six children, W. F. Gillett, wife and seven children and L. M. Van Horn with four motherless children had been pioneering in the Salt River Valley in Arizona; hearing of the new development about to start on the Colorado desert, these families loaded their household goods, what implements they could carry, including two Fresno scrapers, and several crates of chickens, into three wagons and driving five cows and a bull, set out for the promised land. This was in the fall of 1900. The little caravan moved its tedious way down the banks of the Gila River, arriving in Yuma in December. They drove to the banks of the muddy Colorado and wondered how they were to get across; there they met Thomas Beach and Mobley Meadows; the five of them decided to build a raft, and within a week they managed to fashion a rude craft that would hold a small load and could be poled across the stream. Securing a crew of experienced Yuma Indians they placed a small load of goods upon this frail raft and to their delight the Indians made the first trip successfully. It took more than a week of laborious trips back and forth across the river to carry their families, teams and wagons and household goods across the stream, on a raft, but Mrs. Gillett rowed a boat and took all the small children and Mrs. W. A. Van Horn across that way. On one of these trips Ray Van Horn, a lad of ten, riding his pony, plunged his pony from the raft into the water, tied the end of his lariat to timbers on the raft and with the other end around his saddlehorn, pulled the raft free from a sand bar in the middle of the stream, where it had become stuck in the mud.

Safely over the river, the three venturesome families found themselves in Mexico, facing three terribly important Mexican customs officials; lists and manifests had been carefully prepared and the important officials scanned every line. Everything was all right—but wait! "Where are the chickens?" asked the officers; no chickens were on the list, they were compelled to send the chickens back to Yuma, ship them by rail to Flowing Well, and one of the men made the sixty mile trip with a team, got the chickens and returned to the camp, but they kept the chickens just north of the boundary line.

The three families went to work for the California Development Company immediately. Mr. Gillett hitched his team to a plow and broke the first furrow. This was the first construction work on the main canal. Immediately following him W. A. and L. M. Van Horn, Mobley Meadows, Thomas Beach and Dennis Deane handled the scrapers. Mr. Van Horn's two scrapers were the first of thousands of Fresnos more or less that were soon turning dirt, building canals and leveling land in the Valley.

Mrs. W. A. Van Horn and Mrs. Gillett took care of the seventeen children, managed the commissary and cooked for upwards of thirty-two men for almost a year. Housewives in these modern days and youngsters who cringe at washing dinner dishes should have been on the job with these two pioneer women. They would then better appreciate the easy lives they have today.

The company paid one-half cash and one-half water stock and allowed the workers to charge their grocery bills at the commissary. At the end of a year's work our early friends found they had never drawn any cash, but owed the commissary \$365, a loss of \$1 a day for a year. They left this work to do construction work further down the Alamo channel, where Mr. Gillett turned the first dirt in the construction of Sharpe's Heading. They sent to Arizona, purchased more horses and mules and Mr. Gillett launched on his career as a contractor. Mr. Van Horn put his teams to hauling freight from Flowing Well to the various camps. The boy, Ray, often made these lonesome trips, driving and



They Begin Canal Digging

caring for ten horses and mules. He was so short that he had to lead each mule alongside the wagon tongue, on which he would stand in order to get the harness on their backs. On one trip with a load of freight, he found that some miscreant had stolen his entire water supply, which had been stored in barrels under a mesquite tree against the return trip. Arriving at nightfall, expecting to find water, the lad did not become panic stricken, but mounted his high seat and forced his famishing ten horse team to push through to Imperial, driving the entire night. Needless to say, a watch was set for the thief and he was caught; throwing a rope around his neck he was led to the tallest mesquite tree, the rope thrown over a tough branch, and he was yanked toward the sky with sufficient earnestness to make him beg for mercy and promise never to commit that crime again. Mr. Gillett sold E. E. Forrester his first horse feed.

The Gilletts settled in No. 7, where they brought a large ranch to a fine state of cultivation. Later Mr. Gillett engaged in the grocery business in Holtville, took his turn at various municipal tasks that helped Holtville to grow, and added two more children to the original seven. The family then consisted of Augusta, John, Harry, Charles, Alice, Bertha, Elsie, Gilbert and Jessie. Chas. L. Gillett, nephew of W. F., was a member of the first party. Gilbert was the first male white child born in the Valley. He was born three and one-half miles southwest of Imperial December 10, 1902, in a grading camp. He is a resident of Holtville today. Mr. Gillett, now 69 years of age, has retired to a comfortable home at Hermosa Beach.

The children of W. A. Van Horn, who accompanied their parents into the Valley, were Herbert, Ray, Everett and Rena; to these were added Marion (deceased) and Bert. The children of L. M. Van Horn were Ernie, Fred, Susie and Ora.

W. A. Van Horn first filed on 320 acres of land and later took up another tract of the same size five miles south of where El Centro now stands. He made rapid progress in the development of the home ranch, building a commodious residence and some substantial barns and outbuildings. He brought in some of the first herds of dairy cows and made a specialty of this branch of agriculture. He was identified from the beginning with every development that took place. He served as a director of Water Co. No. 1, was instrumental in starting the second school in the Valley, which was called the Van Horn School, took a quiet interest in public affairs, but always refused to run for any office.

When the opportunity came, Mr. Van Horn thought he wished to retire, so he sold his ranch properties. However, his friends find him now strong and sturdy at 68, conducting a superb dairy ranch in the neighborhood of Bakersfield in Kern County. The same as ever, he is surrounded by relatives who revere him as the patriarch of the Van Horn clan. To the son, Ray, has fallen the lot of business manager for the Van Horn properties in the Valley and on the coast.

THE EDGAR FAMILY. IMPERIAL. EL CENTRO. 1901. When Archibald Edgar and his good wife hitched four horses to a great lumber wagon and filled it with the lares and penates of their household, including their four robust, Scotch-English children, and set out in 1892 to drive to Southern California, he little knew that about the same time Charles Robinson Rockwood was laying his first plans to irrigate the land that was to be their home some nine years later. The youngsters on the wagon were: Will, Ray, Bert and a daughter, Ethel. Arthur was already in Riverside. They were three months on the road, but of course it was great fun for the boys. They arrived in Riverside, locating in Perris Valley, bought eighty acres of land, held it until 1901, when they sold at a good price, moved to Imperial Valley, where they have remained continuously since, becoming an integral part of the greatest irrigation project known. The father was the first to take up land. Mr. and Mrs. William A. Edgar and Arthur drove into the Valley, arriving at Blue Lake October 1, 1901. An account of this trip, written by Mrs. Edgar, appears in another part of this history. Will Edgar engaged in hauling freight from Flowing Well; Will was contesting possession of a tract of land with the sidewinders while the Edgar families lived in a ramada shack in Imperial. They were joined some time later by Ray, Bert and a cousin, Tom. The ramada shack in Imperial was the scene of any number of family councils. The net results of these was a vision of what Imperial Valley was to be. A co-partnership was formed for the purpose of dealing in farm implements, vehicles and heavy hardware. The firm incorporated in 1908.

In 1909 the editor of this history issued a magazine edition of his Calexico Chronicle, in which Edgar Bros. Co. ran an advertisement written by J. H., (Bert) Edgar, under the heading of "What Four Jacks Won." The sub-title read, "They founded a business and it grew as mighty oaths from leetle aching corns do grow." The body of the reading matter read like this:

"A good many years ago, a large, open faced young man, wearing a linen duster and a butterfly necktie, descended from the dusty, rumbling stage which every other day carried a load of eager eyed fortune hunters from a siding on the Southern Pacific railroad humorously called Flowing Well, to Imperial, the little half town in the heart of the land of promise and promiscuous population. Our hero carried in one hand a canvas telescope, a camera, a small handbag and a straw hat, which latter he wore on Sundays. In the other hand he had a large umbrella. As he walked down the short, irregular street the above mentioned promiscuous population failed to recognize in him the founder of one of the largest retail implement and vehicle concerns in the state—Edgar Bros. Co.

"He had been preceded by two brothers, who had come overland with a buckskin mule, one of whom had filed on a small tract of land and was contesting possession of it with the sidewinders. The other was occupying his time hauling freight on a Fish Bros. wagon from Flowing Well to Imperial and incidentally giving careful and detailed information concerning the possibilities of the Valley to all new comers whom he chanced to meet on the road.

"Some time later the three brothers agreed to go into the implement and hardware business. One was to furnish a lack of experience, the second a depleted treasury and the third 'perspucussity.' They bought a carload of Moline plows and harrows and McCormick harvesting machines and dumped them on a vacant lot. In a few weeks they erected a mud building 'about so big square.'

"In the fall, the fourth brother arrived. He had been following newspaper work for a living and never got it. His figure had been reduced to one dimension—length. His capital, being about equal to that of each of the other three, he took a one-fourth interest in the business.

"From this promising beginning the business grew. Several fundamental principles were rigidly adhered to: First, nothing but first class goods would be offered for

sale; second, they would stand behind all goods sold; third, they would make no confidential prices; fourth, they would carry a complete line of extras for all machines sold.

"Being first in the field, the firm had its choice of the many lines manufactured and that its selections were happy has been established beyond the peradventure of a doubt by the immense popularity in this valley of the lines they represent.

"At first one man attended to the retail business and by using an alarm clock to arouse him at intervals of an hour and a half or so he was able to take care of all customers handily. Later two men were required. Then three, and then four.

"About two years from the time the enterprise was launched a branch house was opened at Calexico. A year later a second branch was opened at Brawley and some eighteen months from that time the third branch was started at Holtville.

"The firm is now purchasing in straight carload lots."

At that time J. H. Edgar had charge of the Imperial store; Ray Edgar was manager in Calexico; T. B. had the Brawley branch and W. L. Huebner ran the Holtville store. For years this keen organization maintained a steady growth of business.

With prophetic foresight the brothers saw the future of the Ford automobile and secured the Valley agency. This stroke of good business somewhat changed their stock in trade. Where they formerly sold buggies and wagons, they now sell cars and trucks. Harness changed to pistons and parts; horseshoes changed to tires. Headquarters were moved to El Centro, where two great buildings are occupied with their enterprises.

Thus Edgar Bros. Co. started, grew and stayed with the Valley. It is now the only firm that has stuck through from the beginning until the present. What is more unusual, the same four brothers and the cousin are still the executives handling the corporation's business.

Will A. Edgar has always been foremost in public affairs. He was an early director in No. 1; was the first mayor of Imperial; helped establish all the schools, libraries, lodges and churches that came; fought consistently for his idea of right, which did not include the all-American canal, by the way; ably assisted all along by Mrs. Edgar, he staunchly built and built and built and so continues to this day.

Arthur, Bert and Ray and their wives live in El Centro. Ray is head of the Edgar Bros. Realty Co., long a factor in business circles. Tom is still in Brawley. Ethel is now Mrs. Marshall.

The patriarch father, long past the three score and ten mark in life, passed on March 8, 1915. The mother, December 8, 1928.

FRED AND ARTHUR FULLER. IMPERIAL. 1900. These brothers from El Monte drove into the Valley and for five years enjoyed the ups and downs of the average farmer. When the county was organized Fred was the only independent candidate to win a place in the court house, being elected assessor. He was the first automobile salesman, establishing the pioneer agency. Fred took his own life several years ago.

THOMAS PHILLIPS. IMPERIAL. 1900. One of the very first of the pioneer settlers, a farmer with vision, energy and resourcefulness, he brought a wagon load of bees and was the first man to engage in raising honey on the desert. He helped organize the bee men and was president of the association.

A. C. AND ETHEL FERGUSON. IMPERIAL. 1901. Filed on 320 acres on the Eastside. Mr. Ferguson then went back to Oklahoma and returned with the family March 15, 1902. They sold their claim in 1912 and say they wandered all over California and Utah, finally returning to California, where they say it is good enough even after their ups and downs. They have moved sixteen times and now live within five miles of the original claim. They have never lost faith in Imperial Valley and think the future is brighter than ever. They have raised five children, all big "huskies," and four are now living in the Valley.

REMINISCENCES OF IMPERIAL'S EARLY DAYS

By MRS. W. A. EDGAR

In September, 1901, after a seven days' drive from near Riverside with a caravan of four four-horse wagons and two single buggies (I, with my kitten "Puss" and puppy "Bessie" for company occupied one of the buggies), came into the Imperial Valley from the Carriso Creek road in the northeast corner of the Valley just at sunrise. In the party were Mr. and Mrs. Will A. Edgar, Arthur Edgar, David and George Wooliscroft and Herbert Jenks.

We stopped for breakfast at a little oasis known as Diamond Lake. The morning was bright and clear, lacking the haze that often obstructs our view, and having always lived where we were closely shut in by either forests or mountains, it was to me surely an impressive sight to look across the miles and miles of desert, with only here and there a tiny brown shrub striving half-heartedly for an existence on the barren wastes of sand, to where old Sol was coming up in all his glory over the mountains in Arizona more than a hundred miles away with old Pilot Knob, where Hanlon's heading now is located, standing out in the foreground.

After refreshing ourselves and our horses, we moved on to Blue Lake to our first camp in the Valley.

This was a pretty little lake covering perhaps a mile square and bordered by mesquite shrubs. On the bank was a tiny shack in which was carried a small stock of groceries of the canned variety, and as other shacks sprung up on the new farms nearby this little place became known as Silsbee.

Farther to the south, near Calexico, was still another small lake called Cameron Lake.

Diamond Lake, together with another small lake northeast of Imperial called Mesquite Lake, was soon dried up and Blue Lake and Cameron Lake were cut out by the flood of 1905 thus depriving Imperial Valley of two pretty picnic places and leaving in their stead the deep gorge cutting through the entire length of the valley, through which runs the stream known as New River on its way from the untamable Colorado to empty itself in the Salton Sea.

FIRST VALLEY PICNIC

It was at Cameron Lake that we Imperialites held our first picnic. It was the summer of 1902 when one Saturday at noon all the business places of Imperial closed up and the whole town packed up its lunch boxes and bedding and drove to Cameron Lake for an all night picnic camp.

On Sunday morning the little lake was stirred to its depths by a dozen or more men, women and children attired in costumes of various hues brought for the occasion, disporting themselves like fish in its placid waters.

I think there are but few left here now who attended that first Imperial picnic.

We were indeed a primitive people at that time, our principal household utensil being a good, sturdy can opener.

There being no railroad, our freight and express was hauled by wagon from Old Beach located on the main line near what we now know as Imperial Junction or Niland. Because of this fact nothing perishable could be brought in so we were without milk, butter, eggs, fresh fruit, fresh vegetables and fresh meat.

FIRST FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION

Our first "Fourth of July" on the desert was celebrated in a unique manner.

We were having our first experience of real desert summer when the "smiling sunshine" just laughed out loud at us and made us seek the little shelter we could find on the shady side of our tents.

About ten or twelve of us clubbed together and decided to have a "regular" celebration with ice cream "in everything" so we sent to Los Angeles for a big freezer of ice cream. Special arrangements were made to have it brought from Old Beach by "fast" pony express.

On the morning of the "Fourth" old Sol arose to meet a wind from the west so fierce it seemed to be moving the whole surface of the desert and determined to, for once, vanquish the sun's heat. By the time our treat had arrived at Mrs. White's little store that stood just about where Dr.

Gray's home is now, we were all gathered around a big fire in the heater that stood in the center of the store and there with our feet on the fender we ate our ice cream and the cakes Mrs. White had ordered with it. We cleaned up the freezer after which our men folks wethered the gale to get the wagons to take the women folks to their homes.

While as a rule, we do not have much rain in the Valley and we want less, yet occasionally we do have a real one at which time, in the days before pavements and sidewalks, the traveling on foot was a slow and tedious process.

The town of Imperial, when we came here, consisted of two large tents used for a hotel, one was the kitchen and dining room, the other was divided into sleeping rooms; a light frame building that housed the first newspaper and the publisher's family; the first little Christian Church which was a frame building and was later destroyed by fire; a small frame building used for a general merchandise store and stood about where Stevenson's store is now. This had a lean-to at the side in which was our first bank presided over by Mr. Leroy Holt; a shed used for a blacksmith shop and perhaps a dozen tent houses.

The water was brought in a small ditch leading from the main canal which had been built from Calexico to Imperial. There is still a slight depression running through the lot on which we live, which is all that remains of the original water system.

THE FIRST IMPERIAL FIRE

This little ditch used by a bucket brigade proved a very inadequate fire department at the time of Imperial's first fire which took our home and the home of my husband's brother, together with the first crop we had harvested. This was in December of 1903 after the railroad had come and we had just completed our real lumber houses.

We had in those days visitors such as we do not see here now. The Cocopah Indians from below the Mexican line frequently came up to see what the white men were doing. Among them was old Indian Jim who made regular trips with a sack on his back which he generally carried home filled with eatables, clothes, etc., which he had begged from the farmers. Old Jim was an expert with his bow and arrows and delighted in displaying his skill to our boys by showing how deftly he could send an arrow through the heads of my young chickens. This practice caused me a great feeling of relief when the Indians were forbidden to come across the international line.

While speaking of chickens, for the benefit of poultrymen, cite two more profitable experiences we had with chickens. I had set my first hen on thirteen eggs in a nest on the ground beside our tent with only a box to cover her. In irrigating a field close by the water had broken away and surrounded the tent. I was dismayed to find my hopes for a start in poultry lying in about an inch of water and mud. However, the plucky little would-be mother stayed with the game and hatched the full thirteen eggs and raised every chick.

The other case was that of a hen who stole her nest in a stack of baled hay. When she had hatched three or four chicks she left the nest and brought her brood to the yard but each day for several days thereafter I would hear a chirp in the hay and reaching in would bring out another chick. There were seven in all that hatched in the hay after the hen had left the nest.

Another of the awe inspiring sights of the desert was at this time when we stood on the banks at Calexico and watched the cutting out of the New River channel. Tons of earth giving way and falling into the river with a boom that could be heard for miles. While we stood watching, three houses were undermined and tumbled into the swirling waters and were rushed away as broken wreckage to Salton Sea.

I must not fail to tell you of another of the grandeurs of the desert which was a frequent sight in the early years but because of the amount of land under present cultivation is now seldom seen. This was the desert mirage.

The most fantastic of these mirages was one frequently seen in the south when a mountain, Cerro Prieto or Black Butte, that is not ordinarily seen, would be thrown up by

the mirage in the form of a battleship showing plainly the masts and turrets. For several years this would come and go.

The more common mirages were the apparent ponds of water which would seem so real that we would often think a ditch had broken and flooded the road until we would perhaps see a little whirlwind carrying a column of dust through the apparent pond.

At this time we were a part of San Diego County and our only school was a small ramada on the main canal between Heber and Calexico.

Imperial's first school was held in the little Christian Church. The second year a tent was erected beside the church and we had two teachers.

Then we built the brick school which still stands on Ninth Street.

Miss Preston who still lives among us was one of our early teachers while we still held our school in the church. After the Ninth street school was built, my mother, Mrs. Mary Ellen Tuttle, who has since passed away was principal of the schools here for two years, leaving here to take charge of the first school opened in El Centro, where she was still teaching at the time of her death.

Our first high school was held in a vacant room in Water Company's building. Later the building constructed for a grammar school on Seventh Street was used for the high school. While Mr. Mott H. Arnold was principal of our high school we built the present high school building and that, together with our fine new Lincoln school and our Dunbar School, gives us educational facilities of which we are proud.

The nucleus for our library was a little reading room which was arranged for by giving a book social to which the price of admission was a book or the price of a book. The expense of renting a room and paying a lady to care for it afternoons and evenings was met by popular subscription which was collected each month by one or another of the women interested in the affair.

We worked for some years trying to get someone with money to help us build a library and finally got Andrew Carnegie to put us on his list with the result that we have a very complete little building, well equipped which ever since its construction has been under the capable management of Mrs. Jessie Hoyt Hatch who we hope will remain with us for many more years.

R. H. BENTON. Imperial. 1891-1902. Mr. Benton was one of the San Diego county cattlemen who made use of the overflow land in the delta region for grazing purposes. He made his first trip in 1891; that year the overflow from the Colorado was enormous. Every depression in the plains from the river to Salton Sea was filled to the brim and much excess water went on to the Salton Sea. Mr. Benton leased grazing privileges in Mexico from Gen. Guillermo Andrade. It was in 1892 while camped at Cameron Lake looking after his herds that Mr. Benton met C. R. Rockwood and Dr. W. T. Heffernan. They drove into camp from Yuma with four mules and a light spring wagon and were on the trip making the very first inspection of the Valley with a view towards reclamation by irrigation. In 1896 Mrs. Benton accompanied her husband to the desert and lived in the cattle camp established that year on the Hardy river, near Black Butte. She weighed but 97 pounds at that time and the visit was of great benefit to her health. They bought pumpkins, melons and fish from the Cocopah Indians. Some years, Mr. Benton says, all the lakes would be dry. Travelers often suffered because they would find water at certain places one year and depend on it two or three years later when none could be found. Mr. Benton once rode a horse from Coyote Well to the Colorado river, finding all the water holes perfectly dry. When the first feed was grown in 1902, Mr. Benton made the Valley his headquarters, buying pasturage for his herds from the early ranchers. There being no fences he financed the fencing of many ranches. He established the first cold storage plant in the Valley at Imperial. This plant was purchased by George Long, who developed it into one of the biggest packing concerns in Southern California. Mr. Benton's family joined him

in the Valley in 1904, making their home in Imperial for many years. The Benton's now live in San Diego.

L. E. COOLEY. Imperial. 1901. Driving a pair of mules and followed by a spotted dog, he entered the Valley as a pioneer, taking up a quarter section south of Imperial, which he soon put into cultivation, specializing in grapes, asparagus, grapefruit and kindred products. Mr. Cooley was the teacher of the second school in Imperial Valley, known as the Van Horn school. He was elected superintendent of the schools in 1910. After several years' residence in San Diego he is again ranching on the home place. On April 24, he was 80 years old. He is a charter member of the Blue Lodge Chapter and Commandery in El Centro, of the Shrine in San Diego and recently received from the grand lodge a Masonic button for being a Mason fifty years.

JOSEPH TRESHIL. IMPERIAL. 1901. One of the early comers who lived through all hardships until 1930, when he died in Imperial. Mrs. Treshil lives in Imperial, a neighbor to Supervisor Andy Preble.

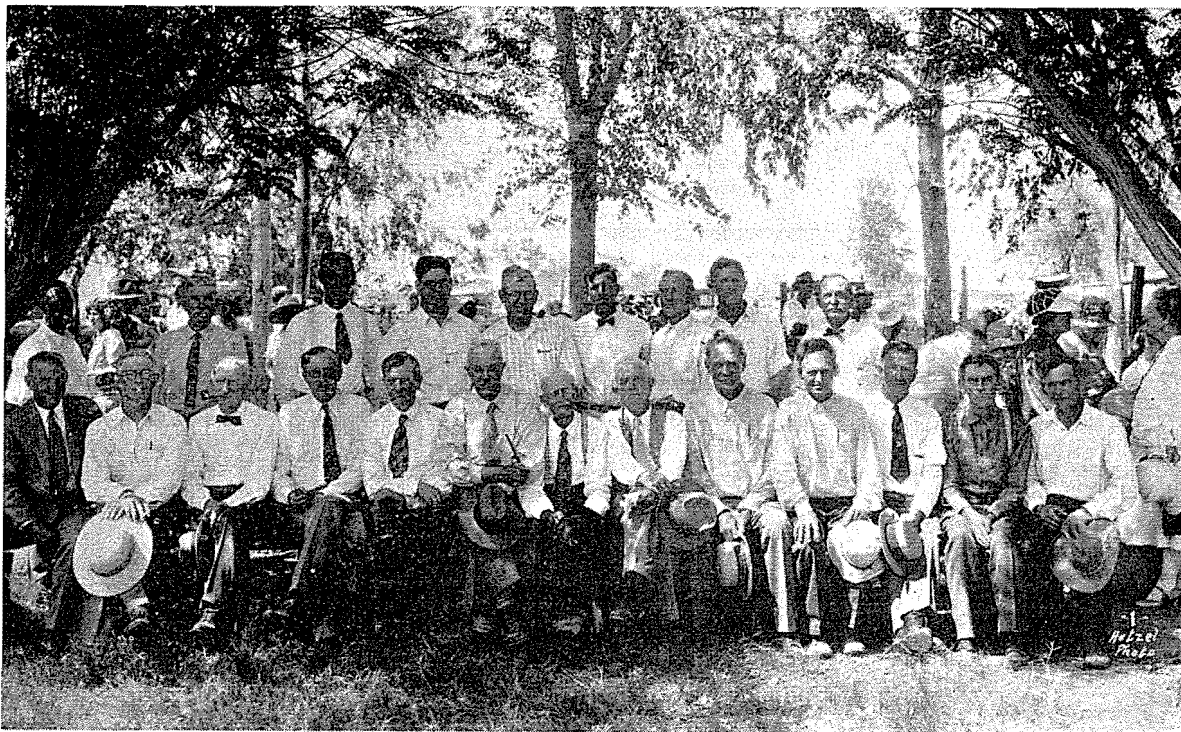
WILBER CLARK. IMPERIAL. 1901. Drove into the Valley accompanied by his father, John, and sister, Margaret, from Los Angeles, filed on land and while waiting for water, started the first hardware business in Imperial. Miss Margaret took over the postoffice from W. F. Holt, who had just been appointed postmaster. She also had charge of Mr. Holt's telephone system and established a stationery and news business, selling to H. E. Allatt. Mr. Clark moved to Calexico where he established the first hardware business at that place. He then improved his ranch, which became well known as the Wilfreds ranch.

W. H. HARTSHORN. IMPERIAL. 1901. One of the earliest arrivals when only three buildings were in Imperial, was manager of the first ice plant, superintendent of construction of Imperial's water system, in 1902; established the first transfer and delivery company, added real estate to his activities and farmed a good sized ranch. Scores of his friends were influenced to settle in the Valley from the coast. He built one of the first residences, was the first notary public, and took the leading part in all the communities' activities.

W. J. MITCHELL. IMPERIAL. 1901. Took nine days to drive a wagon loaded with household goods from Los Angeles to Imperial. He tried farming a while but established the first jewelry business in the Valley at Imperial. He also was one of the first to organize a Sunday school at Calexico.

GEORGE W. DONLEY. Imperial. 1901. Came to Imperial when the town consisted only of three tent houses; took up 800 acres of land and was active in its development. He also engaged in the real estate business and induced many people to locate here. He was quite active in selling water stock. He helped incorporate Imperial and served as city trustee.

LEJA FAMILY. IMPERIAL. 1901. F. F. Leja came all the way from Poland and found Imperial Valley in 1901, going to work on the canals near Calexico. In his family history he often mentions the Weeds, Comstocks, Mastens, especially little Dorothy Masten, and others that were old timers. Filed on forty acres and with borrowed implements sowed his first crop of barley. In 1903 he sent for his family, still in Poland. John was one of the children and recalls the awesome experiences of the little band of immigrants that traveled for eleven days on the train from Baltimore, reaching Imperial in October, 1903. The father failed to meet them, and the mother, with her children huddled around her, unable to speak English, spread a blanket on the ground and passed the first desolate night under the stars in Imperial. The next day was spent in search and they even doubted that they had arrived at the right place. "Daddy" J. H. McKim helped them out. He packed the whole brood into a buggy and took them over the dustiest road they ever beheld. The father did not see their arrival, but turned when Mr. McKim yelled, and was so excited that he even forgot the native language and poured out a stream of strange English that neither the mother nor children could understand. The first few years were spent in comparative



A GROUP OF PIONEERS

Standing: Randall Henderson, W. A. Edgar, D. L. Grumbles, C. L. Gillett, Wm. Orrick, Rollie Clark, Fred Gunterman, J. M. Grafton, Ira Aten; Seated: J. E. Peck, J. D. Huston, Dr. W. T. Heffernan, Leroy Holt, R. D. McPherrin, D. L. (Scotty) Russell, L. E. Cooley, T. D. McCall, E. E. Forrester, Jerome Forrester, Geo. Campbell and two Forrester boys.

poverty in a tent and a lean-to and then an adobe was built. This little family pooled their efforts to conquer their share of the desert. The mother hired out for \$1.25 per day and the children worked out as soon as they were old enough. The father bought some hogs and by 1911 the family had \$2000 in the bank. The children attended school where the Rose school is now located and the father completed his citizenship tests. The boy John wishes especially it be placed in this history that he is grateful to Marion Aten, his schoolmate. Not understanding the rules or the language very well, he often got into trouble, and Marion Aten was his champion. The success made by this Polish family stands today as a challenge to the youth of American lineage, who, many of them, are standing still looking to the right and left and wondering what to do.

DANIEL SOUTHWELL. IMPERIAL. 1901. Came to Imperial Valley with his brother, George, took up land and embarked in the livery business. Daniel served as city marshal of Imperial during the most trying times of the city's history, and during all the pioneer era Southwell Bros. acquitted themselves in true western fashion.

1902

A. W. COOK. IMPERIAL. 1902. The Cooks drove from Redlands and were swamped while crossing New River. But they went on their land and made a fine place out of it. Both were prominent in religious work.

M. V. DUTCHER. IMPERIAL. 1902. Mr. Dutcher brought in a bunch of work stock and handled numerous contracts for grading, and leveling and building ditches. He also worked on the railroad grading from Imperial to Calexico in 1903. He filed on a half section on the west side, built a dam in the Alamo, at a cost of \$2000, and filed on the water flow in the river. He fenced his ranch, using railroad ties for posts. When the river floods came, such an enormous amount of silt was deposited on his place that not a post was to be seen. At one time he was asked to figure the cost of closing the Mexican intake and offered to do the job for \$10,000. This job later cost the Southern

Pacific more than a million dollars. Mr. Dutcher established a first-class livery stable in Imperial, building a big brick building. He remembers carrying the first group of men to visit the vast gypsum deposits now owned and operated by the Portland Cement Products Co. The group offered to let him in for a one-fifth interest for \$25, but he didn't accept. The men who made this trip with Dutcher were Sam Mack, L. E. Cooley, F. E. Houck, and Billy Allen. Mr. Dutcher had a hand as a contractor in building of the State highway between Dixieland and Coyote Wells. During his long residence in the Valley he took a citizen's share in all matters that promoted the growth of this region. At present he is in business in San Diego, where he and Mrs. Dutcher reside.

D. C. HUDDLESTON. Imperial and Brawley. 1901. Was the first barber in Imperial Valley, later engaging in the grocery business; he also supplied the early population with the first ice cold soda, which he dispensed from the first fountain. Selling out in Imperial, he later established himself in Brawley, where he built a large amusement palace and hotel.

GEO. VARNEY. IMPERIAL. 1902. Hauling a big stock of general merchandise by wagon from Flowing Well, George Varney and his brother, L. J., established the business known as Varney Brothers in the fall of 1902. Theirs was the second general merchandise firm in the Valley; the first carload of goods to arrive over the new railroad was consigned to Varney Brothers. The railroad at the time was not completed to Imperial, and the goods were brought by team the last four miles. With this start Varney Brothers spread to all the other settlements in the Valley, including Holtville, Heber, Calexico and later to El Centro. The annual business of this concern reached magnificent figures, but became topheavy and too much for one, two or three men to look after. As in many other instances where the "boss" loosens his hold on the reins, the vast organization built into a big money making concern by the merchandising genius of George Varney, had to contract its scope of

activity in recent years, and all of the stores were eventually sold. Because of his kindness and desire to help people, Mr. Varney still has on his old ledgers many thousands of dollars due him. In 1930 George Varney's neighbors and friends nominated him almost against his will and he was elected county treasurer by a handsome majority.

Harry Staub says of George Varney:

"Having worked for Geo. Varney for twenty years, I can say his business experience has been extensive and varied, having been president of six California corporations, with a combined paid up capital of one million two hundred thousand dollars, representing nine retail department stores in the Imperial Valley and Yuma, two wholesale grocery houses, one trading stamp company, and one company engaged in developing a rubber plantation on the Isthmus of Tehautepec.

"Mr. Varney has handled and passed through his hands not less than thirty millions of dollars.

"He possesses executive ability; has served as vice-president of one national bank, director of another, city trustee, chairman of the Imperial County Armenian relief drive, president of the Imperial County Taxpayers Association, as well as organizing and incorporating five of the six corporations he headed.

"Mr. Varney began his business training before coming to Imperial Valley by earning his living as a bookkeeper. Then he was assistant postmaster, and later postmaster.

"Honesty with Geo. Varney is as necessary as breath; he has never considered it; it is something he cannot put on or take off, to suit time, place, advantage or convenience.

"Since coming to the Valley, Mr. Varney has paid out not a dime less than one hundred and fifty thousand dollars in taxes alone.

"Mr. Varney is a Mason, Scot, Eastern Star, Elk, Fraternal Brotherhood, Woodman of the World, Rotary Club and Y. M. C. A. member.

"Varney and his various companions have given, in donations, more money to charitable and religious organizations than any person or corporation in the county.

"In the early days when the Colorado River broke the levee, and came tearing its way through the Valley, leaving ruin in its wake, that day was zero hour, financially, for hundreds of pioneer ranchers. Business men and bankers became panic stricken; loans were refused; further credit was denied, but Geo. Varney and his company, with unbeaten courage and confidence, came to the rescue, and extended life saving credit, to the amount of \$175,000.00 during this critical time.

"He met crisis with courage and an open pocketbook; he was generous; he had faith; he had courage when others became panic stricken and fled."

F. C. PAULIN, IMPERIAL. 1901. Mr. Paulin came to the Valley to handle the affairs of the Imperial Land Company under a contract with George Chaffey. He had charge of townsites and the sale of water stock and was closely associated in every way with the early development of the entire Valley. He built one of the first residences in Imperial, where he and his family resided for a number of years. His sons carried on the business after Mr. Paulin retired.

JOHN LEWIS RHODES AND SONS, D. H. AND CHARLEY. IMPERIAL. 1902. Mr. Rhodes opened the first short order restaurant in Imperial in a tent house which later was named the Green Front Cafe. It was sold to W. W. Masten and moved to El Centro and is still a part of the old Franklin Hotel Building at Fifth and Broadway. Mrs. Rhodes and two sons, J. H. and W. T., and a daughter, now Mrs. Nannie Anker, came to the Valley in 1903, riding from Old Beach to Imperial in the stage driven by the two sons who came with their father and were among the early stage drivers in the Valley. They later had restaurants in Calexico and Holtville. The father died in 1910, but the mother lived here until 1930. She now lives in San Diego with her daughter. The two sons, D. H. and Charley, live in Indio, while the son, J. H., is manager of a meat market in El Centro since his return from service in the World War. He left El Centro March 9, 1918, and entered the balloon service; was discharged in January, 1919 and has been in El

Centro ever since. He is married and is a member of the American Legion and Elks. W. T. is a civil engineer in the Yosemite.

HARRY N. DYKE. IMPERIAL. 1902. In every community there is usually one wheel horse who is secretary of everything, clerks of most of the lodges and the man who does much of the real work connected with progressive civic organizations. When H. N. Dyke hung up his shingle as an attorney in 1902 in Imperial he fell heir to a great many of these "wheel horse duties." He performed them with a willingness that endeared him to all the people. He and Mrs. Dyke and daughter, Dorothy, were leading factors in the social life of Imperial for years. Mr. Dyke was elected first city clerk of Imperial, ran for judge of the superior court, held numerous offices in fraternal orders and was otherwise honored by his neighbors and friends. The Dykes now live on the coast.

H. E. ALLATT, IMPERIAL. 1902. Mr. Allatt was the third postmaster of Imperial, serving in that capacity for nine years, during which he was a first-class example of the progressive and enterprising pioneer stock that made Imperial Valley go ahead. In 1913 he went into business at Calipatria, bought a ranch of 160 acres, making a success of it. He served as an official in the north end water company for a number of years.

T. D. MCCALL. IMPERIAL. 1902. Mr. McCall was the organizer and first president of the Imperial Valley Pioneers, an association composed of residents who came here prior to 1910. He designed the picture found at the beginning of this chapter, which is used on the association's stationery. His own words best tell the story of his twenty-nine years in the Valley. He writes:

"Came to the Valley in 1902—McCauley Stage—Archie Priest driver, from Flowing Well, S. P. Junction, where there was neither well nor water.

"Was a traveler in Mexico when I read a 'Spread' in a Los Angeles Sunday paper, wired Mrs. McCall from Guaymas, Mexico, to sell furniture in her San Diego home and meet me at the junction. Mrs. McCall got the wire after dark but sold out and caught the midnight train and made connections as per schedule.

"Drove down into a dead world, not a green leaf anywhere, so deadly it was fascinating. Imperial was the big town, there being no other. A tent hotel, a few campers and a church, a little box with a spire, the best piece of advertising I ever saw, took some of the desert out of the picture.

"Bought a bottle from Bob Davis and went out with T. P. (Texas Pacific) Banta in a rattle trap rig and a pair of kegtail ponies, located our farms, and when we filed on them we had \$14 left and owed some \$5000 for water stock. Made a house of adobe, our only building material, graded every inch of our land, fought contesters that sent us into the red some \$20,000. Planted trees and converted a square mile of desert into a grapefruit grove and don't owe a thin dime. Thirty years of unflinching, laborious grind, but we did it. How, I don't know. Quitters helped a lot, they sell cheap and on credit—about ninety-nine per cent of mankind are quitters.

"Organized the Cotton Growers Exchange, the Tax Payers Association and the greatest of all Valley orders, the IMPERIAL VALLEY PIONEERS, the builders of our empire, competent to grade and irrigate Hell and make another winter garden of it if it be the will of The Great Builder that we pass that way. They have lived the greatest doctrine ever taught—'LEAVE THE WORLD BETTER FOR HAVING LIVED IN IT,' motto of the I. V. P.'s.

"Thaddeus Dale McCall—Texan."

ALLISON PECK. IMPERIAL. 1902. Came in when Imperial was accommodating visitors in a tent house and C. R. Rockwood furnished cots on the only lawn for sleeping purposes at Calexico. The next year Mr. Allison drove from Pomona bringing household goods and equipment for his farm in the Mesquite Lake section. Among the early experiences he recounts was his children getting lost coming home from school in Imperial because of the sand and silt during a terrific windstorm. He remembers when John

McKinney's roof was blown away in the night and Mr. McKinney grabbing a baby and running to the neighbors. The funny part was the fact that McKinney did not realize that he was without clothing. And Jake Lorang's hogs ate every bit of a big lot of groceries just purchased. They invaded the ramada. Mr. Allison took hold of the unsatisfactory creamery situation in Imperial and, with A. L. Loffer, completed negotiations with a firm in Los Angeles to take Valley butter at a premium instead of a discount. The Delta Creamery was organized and was soon making 1000 pounds of butter daily. This concern sold to the I. V. Milk Producers' Association at a big profit. The Pecks are now living at San Martin but say they always look back with pleasure to the good old pioneer days in Imperial Valley.

H. H. PETERSON. IMPERIAL. 1902. Brick making and brick construction in the Valley originated in Imperial, when Harbour and Carter built a small kiln of brick in 1902 and erected a building for the Imperial Land Company, which thus stands out as the first brick building of the Valley.

H. H. Peterson, a brick mason and contractor from Los Angeles, arrived in Imperial on December 7, 1902. He became interested with B. A. Harbour in the brick making and brick laying business, buying out George A. Carter. The new firm made their headquarters in Imperial.

Bricks at this time were made by hand under great difficulties, owing to the scarcity of fuel and labor. Mesquite wood was all the fuel available for the burning of bricks and this was hauled by mule team from New River to the yards at Imperial and Calexico. Cocopah Indians were the laborers. Later on a yard was started at Holtville where no wood was available, so oil from oil tank cars was hauled cross country from Imperial to Holtville.

Brick buildings in the various towns of the Valley now were erected, hotels in Holtville, Calexico and El Centro being among the earliest brick structures built in these towns.

After three years of hard labor under pioneer difficulties, Harbour withdrew and moved to the Coast. Peterson closed up the Imperial and Calexico yards but continued making brick at Holtville. He installed machinery, maintained a crew of brick layers and filled contracts for all the brick used in the Valley. When the hot summers arrived, the brick layers would leave, forcing Peterson to complete the work by himself, frequently during the entire summer.

When Simons Brick Company started a rival brick plant at El Centro, Peterson closed his yards and went into general contracting. During the twenty years of his activities in the Valley, he constructed most of the brick buildings in Imperial, including the high school buildings, city hall, library and his own business blocks, as well as many buildings in the various other towns of the Valley, having a total of several million dollars in construction work to his credit.

Peterson's last contracts in the Valley was in highway construction, when he laid 25 miles of concrete paving before moving to San Diego, where he became active in various branches of construction, principally paving and sewer work.

1903

S. S. STARR. IMPERIAL. 1903. Starr was a cowboy on the C. M. ranch in the early days, swam New River during the flood, went "on his own" and has been a resident of Imperial for more than twenty years.

A. S. FELL. IMPERIAL-EL CENTRO. 1903. Came into the Valley on the first train that ran on the Valley branch. Mr. and Mrs. Fell and family of six children settled on a ranch southeast of Imperial. The entry was contested by M. B. Davis and the case is still unsettled. Mr. Fell died a few years ago. One of the children, Gertrude, married Rudy Elder. She is still a resident of El Centro, now being Mrs. Thos. Sophos. She remembers attending the first school in Imperial in the tent house next to the Christian Church. She has seen El Centro grow from zero to its present size, experienced the hardships of windstorms in a tent in the

early days and helped her parents with work on the ranch. Her mother lives with her now.

W. D. CONSER. IMPERIAL. 1903. Mr. Conser came from Arizona for his health and established one of the first and most pretentious dry goods and clothing stores in Imperial. He also developed a good ranch. The Conser family added greatly to the social life of the pioneer days.

F. S. WEBSTER. IMPERIAL. 1903. Another man with a pioneer complex. Came with his wife and son Roger in 1903 and took hold of the job of turning a portion of the desert farm into a garden with a will. His place was five miles west of where El Centro is. He was member of the San Diego County Board of Supervisors when Imperial county was formed, and was the first chairman of the Imperial county board. Webster was the first to suggest that an irrigation district be organized under the old Bridgeford act. This suggestion came from him as early as 1908, and because of the fact that later the district was organized exactly as he had planned it. Mr. Webster's part becomes historically important. He was president of No. 1 at the time.

JUDGE F. C. FARR. IMPERIAL. 1903. Coming from Missouri, where he was a judge in the superior court, in 1903, Judge Farr tried the desert for his health and found results so satisfactory that he decided to make Imperial Valley his home. One of the first attorneys to hang out his shingle, Judge Farr became a leader immediately. He was a close advisor of A. H. Heber, president of the California Development Company, and it was he who discovered that the company's supposed rights to water from the Colorado were not as staple as they should be. He suggested the idea that congress should be asked to declare that the waters of the Colorado were more valuable for irrigation than for navigation. This opened the question and the government refused to pass the Daniels Bill asked by the C. D. Company. The result was that Heber had to go to Mexico City and secure permission to take water from the river on Mexican soil. The cut in the river bank followed. Judge Farr was active in all public affairs, espousing Imperial's claim to the county seat and directing the legal preliminaries that brought about county division. He became an extensive land owner. In 1918 Judge Farr sponsored the publication of a history of Imperial County but died before the book was ready for the press. Publication was completed, however. From its pages many facts are used in this history, especially biographical. The judge was a candidate for the superior court on the Democratic ticket in 1910, but the county being strongly Republican, he was defeated.

1904

J. H. HUFF. IMPERIAL. 1904. After working for H. O. Sissons, Mr. Huff took up land in 1905 and by 1909 had the place well developed. He was superintendent for No. 12 for five years and a member of the Lantana and Fern school boards. Mrs. Huff died in 1917 and their two children, Cecil and Louise, are now students in La Verne College on the coast.

ESTELLA FALLA. IMPERIAL. 1904. Miss Falla came to the Valley to accept a position in the offices of Edgar Bros. Company and remained in that capacity for several years. When she looked on the map to find where she was to go she could not visualize the desert as she found it on arrival. Everything was still in the early stages of development and evidences of the desert were to be seen in all directions. Miss Falla's part in the development of the Valley has been in any helpful line that came up. She took an active part in the Eastern Star and this year is District Deputy for the order. She was assistant secretary of the new Imperial County Fair Association the first three years of its existence and handled most of the detail for the board of directors. She is secretary of the Imperial Valley Pioneers and has collected much data of interest for the files of that society. Miss Falla has written an interesting sketch for this history concerning the little known fact that early missions were established here in the earliest days.

E. J. NORRISH. IMPERIAL. 1904. Coming to Imperial, Mr. Norrish served four years as principal of the city

schools; later moving to Holtville where he purchased a ranch and brought it to a high state of cultivation. Mr. Norrish has served as a member of the county board of education, member of the school board in Holtville, and in other public capacities.

DR. A. G. TOPRAHANIAN. IMPERIAL. 1905. The first dentist in the Valley. Located at Imperial he served in time of need with a will. His first patient was a rancher who walked twenty miles to have him pull a tooth.

G. L. DUTCHER. IMPERIAL. 1905. Got a start bucking a Fresno, but soon accumulated an outfit of his own. He did contract leveling; was a good horse trader and was soon able to buy out his brothers, M. V. and Claude, who owned a livery stable at Imperial. Mr. Dutcher, better known as Lee, was one of the first owners of an automobile, and was perhaps the very first to rent a car out for taxi purposes. He was elected city trustee of Imperial in 1910.

GEO. A. LONG. Imperial. 1906. Being a cattle man, ever on the lookout for quick growing pasturage for large herds, Geo. A. Long decided that the valley was a good place to operate. He bought 320 acres near Imperial, leased 1000 more and plunged into the business and made a success of it. In the first four years he handled 40,000 hogs and fattened 15,000 head of steers. He built and operated a packing house at Imperial, as well as a complete refrigerating plant, supplying the local market with fresh meat and poultry. Mr. Long was several times director in water company No. 1, and enjoyed the esteem and respect of all the people.

IRVIN MAUPIN. Imperial and El Centro. 1906. Came from Missouri, held positions in the bank of Imperial, also later in El Centro; now owns an up-to-date service station at Fourth and State. He has two sons and two daughters, all born in the Valley. The sons, Frank and Roy E. are in business with their father. The daughters are Ellen Margaret and Prudence Ethel. The Maupin family have many friends in the Valley.

GEO. V. RUDE. Imperial. 1907. Burned out in the San Francisco fire in 1906 Mr. Rude came to the Valley and took a job on the W. S. Corwin ranch later purchased by R. D. McPherrin. He kept right on as superintendent for McPherrin and is ranch manager for him now. Mr. Rude has taken care of the forty acre asparagus plot on the McPherrin place for twenty-four years during which time it has produced close to \$400,000 worth of asparagus with freight and commissions paid. He has a fine ranch of his own near Brawley where he specializes in vegetables, dairying and grapefruit. He says "If a man cannot make money farming in the Valley it isn't the fault of the land or the cost of doing business." He points to the higher cost of water in other places which are prosperous.

D. S. ERSKINE AND SON, H. O. IMPERIAL. 1907. The Erskines, father and son, painted more signs in Imperial Valley in the early days than all other painters put together. Their handiwork could be seen on all windows, store fronts, signboards and the like. This experience enabled H. O. Erskine to go in partnership with Andy Preble in the roadside sign business in 1913. This business they expanded until the Erskine & Preble signboards were to be found almost the full length of the state. They sold out in 1927 to the Al. G. Smith Co. Seeing a great future in the electric refrigerating business the two men secured the agency for the General Electric and that is what Mr. Erskine is doing now. In 1914, he married Clara Treshil and they have one daughter, Frances. He is a member of the Masons and Sciots, and enjoys farming the largest Calmyrna fig orchard south of the Tehachapi—15 acres in the townsite of Imperial. He ships about 1600 flats a year.

EDGAR A. NANCE. IMPERIAL. 1908. The jovial arrival of E. A. Nance as a salesman was a welcome event in any place of business in Imperial Valley for a long number of years. Mr. Nance represented many firms as agent and broker. Before the days of luncheon clubs, Mr. Nance had the idea and gathered some eighty business men to form the Kermak Club for the discussion of subjects of mutual

interests. He served as city trustee, school board member and was mayor of Imperial.

MRS. JESSIE HOYT HATCH. IMPERIAL. 1908. From the point of faithful public service great credit must be given Mrs. Hatch. Since 1909, for twenty-two years, she has been the sole librarian in charge of the Imperial city library. She tells of the zealous work of a few women as early as 1904 and 1905, mostly members of the Imperial W. C. T. U., who gathered a few books together and offered them for public use. The names of Mrs. Leroy Holt, Mrs. W. A. Edgar, Mrs. J. F. Tout and others are mentioned. This was the beginning of the first library and the few denizens of the desert, starved for reading matter, enjoyed these books hugely. In 1908 correspondence with Andrew Carnegie resulted in the building of the city library and it was dedicated in 1910 with Mrs. Hatch in charge. She came from Wisconsin and had fifteen years' experience in library work then. Mrs. Hatch has won the admiration and love of a great concourse of people with her faithful, courteous work. The editor of this history is deeply indebted to her for much help in material for this volume.

Mrs. Hatch is a graduate of the first class in library science organized at the State University, Madison, Wis., 1895. In June of this year she resigned and went east.

JOHN BONFORT. IMPERIAL. 1908. Came from Ohio and was with Geo. Rude for twenty-two years. Now manager for R. D. McPherrin on his ranch near Imperial.

J. T. POWELL. IMPERIAL. 1910. Oldest employee of city of Imperial. Been fire chief there for thirteen years.

J. P. WILLIAMS. IMPERIAL. 1911. Rached near Imperial eighteen years and then went to Seeley, where he now conducts a service station.

EL CENTRO

1900

WM. DYCHE. EL CENTRO. 1888. Was a cattle man and prospector across the Colorado desert as early as 1888. He made his headquarters in the Warner ranch country in San Diego county and on the trails as far east as Yuma. Recounts acquaintance of Morales, reputed bandit, who took up residence in the deserts of Lower California after killing a man at San Gabriel. Morales stopped Dyche on the trail and in gratitude for giving him food spread the word that he would take revenge on any man that bothered Dyche, his cattle or possessions. From that day, Dyche says, while others lost saddles, horses, cattle and other property, none of his stuff was ever touched. Dyche took up residence near El Centro in late years and nieces of his are school teachers in the Valley. He has held conversation with men who talked personally of the famous Peg Leg Smith whose mine has been sought by hundreds. He also claims to have possession of information that will disclose the hiding place of mission buried treasure on the coast. In his forty-three years in this part of the country he has found many evidences of ore, knows every foot of the country and was personally acquainted with all the early cattle men who ran stock on the growth made by the overflow of the Colorado here and in Mexico. He recounts the early habit of careless rustlers who swam whole herds of cattle across the lower Colorado from Mexico, fed them through the New River country, loaded them on the S. P. cars at Flowing Well and marketed them in Colton or Los Angeles.

ANDERSON B. DERRICK. EL CENTRO. 1892-1906. Many a modern boy would like to experience the thrilling adventures that Mr. Derrick saw as far back as 1892 when, with his father, he herded cattle winter after winter on the overflow lands around the seven lakes in the desert later called Imperial Valley. Young, lean stock would be driven down from the San Diego County mountains, fattened on the pepper grass through the winter and driven back to market in the spring. Camps on the shores of the water holes. Endless vigils without communication with the outside world except the occasional horseman or emigrant outfit. Cooking

over open fires—it was rather romantic at that, says Mr. Derrick. And when the young cowboy married a San Diego girl and brought her across this desert in 1901 it was a honeymoon trip for both of them. Mrs. Derrick liked the Valley, too. Mr. Derrick worked for Hall Hanlon in 1893 and came to the Valley to work for Edgar Bros. in 1906. He swam his horses across New River to get here and bought land at Storms Crossing. He has bought other land since then and made a success of farming. One of his best crops was ten fine children, all of whom are living now in the Valley. He established the first cream route in the Valley, gathering cream for the Davis Creamery at Imperial. Mr. Derrick furnished this history with many facts found in other parts of the book.

WILLIAM E. VAN HORN. EL CENTRO. 1900. Came with his father, L. M. Van Horn, who worked on the heading, in December, 1900, and was a member of the group of seventeen children members of the families of W. A., L. M. Van Horn and W. F. Gillett, the very first children of white parentage to "settle" in Imperial Valley. He learned the electrical trade and was in the garage business in El Centro.

C. T. COLLIER. El Centro. 1900. Mr. Collier's ancestors came from sturdy Massachusetts. They followed the sea. His father and five uncles were sea captains. He came to California and established himself in business in Riverside as a photographer. He became interested in the art of engraving plates for publication work and made the first plates ever made in Southern California in Riverside during the eighties. His work attracted the attention of Harrison Gray Otis of the Los Angeles Times and he made engravings for the Times for a year and a half. Hearing of the development planned for Imperial Valley Mr. Collier visited the desert in September, 1900, driving from Flowing Well, with a party of fifty men and one woman, and arriving at Blue Lake camp where the company's surveyors were stationed. Each one of the party filed on land. Two years later Mr. and Mrs. Collier again visited the Valley, driving to Calexico. They were marooned three days by a sand storm. They bought 320 acres then near where El Centro stands and were delighted to find the town started in 1905. They watched the city grow to its present size, taking their part as citizens all through. They built a fine home which was the center of many neighborhood gatherings. The daughter, Inez with her talented mother, helped make the home popular. Inez was married to Homer Havermale in 1918. Mr. Havermale is now one of the Chief executives of the McCann Advertising Agency with headquarters in Cleveland.

WESTON R. VANDERPOEL. EL CENTRO. 1900. In August, 1900, Weston Vanderpoel, his brother, Frank, and Ora D. Wilhite packed a three-seated spring wagon full of food, water and camp equipment at Riverside and set out for the Imperial Valley by way of Indio, following the emigrant trail on the north side of the railroad tracks to Flowing Well. From there they struck south, arriving at Blue Lake to find Engineer F. F. Hall in charge for the land company. Hall showed them the stakes on any number of government land claims and Weston chose 160 acres four miles east of Blue Lake; Frank deferred his selection until 1905 and Wilhite took 160 acres west of Imperial, which he soon sold to I. W. Gleason. Weston was a citrus man and shipped in 1000 small orange and lemon trees. He hauled water from Blue Lake for them. They started out in fine shape but suddenly died. Examination showed that cut worms had devoured all the roots. Thus ended the first citrus experimental station. Necessity drove Weston to dairying, hog raising, alfalfa growing and other crops. The fact that he farmed the same land twenty-nine years, paid his bills and sold out with a competence in 1929 speaks well of the part of a citizen he has been. He married in 1905 and four children were born on the home place, Everett, Martha, Margaret and Andrew. Mr. Vanderpoel was one of the first school trustees of the Adair district. He never had a wish to run for any office. The family now lives near El Cajon, San Diego County.

B. E. RICE. NEAR ACACIA SCHOOL. 1900. First heard of Imperial Valley while in Phoenix. Drove by team to Yuma and was advised to get a rope and hang himself instead of going to the new settlement. Met Dr. Heffernan and was advised to go on the train to Flowing Well and go from there by stage. He did so in March, 1900, and met with the Geo. Chaffey party just coming in after the Chaffeys had undertaken the task of building the main canals. Geo. McCaulley's stage outfit for the party consisted of two four-horse spring wagons. Guides with compasses and provisions against privations on the desert were in the party. The group made a three day circle tour of the valley, returning to Flowing Well. He went back to Yuma, returning in May, filed on 320 acres east of Blue Lake. He was joined by his mother and brothers later that year and they divided the 320. Rice still owns his eighty and it is this year rented to vegetable growers. Mr. Rice in 1901 went to Phoenix and interested many people in the Valley, among them being Judge Franklin J. Cole and J. S. Bridenstine, of Holtville. He was the purchaser of the first water stock in Imperial Water Co. No. 1, holding certificate No. 6. The five incorporators held the first five organization shares. He claims to have made some of these trips on a bicycle, riding along the railroad. He started here with \$100.

HUNTINGTON MCKUSICK. El Centro. 1900. Attracted to the Valley through a roadside sign erected by Will S. Fawcett, near Whittier, in the fall of 1900, Mr. McKusick came in December, filed on 320 acres close to where the Date now joins the main canal and returned in the fall of 1901, to begin work as one of the very earliest farmers in the Valley. Mr. McKusick found Emma Johnson in Whittier, whom he induced to become his life partner; together they raised alfalfa, hogs, cattle and a fine family of six children. Mr. McKusick's mother, Mrs. Flora McKusick, came to join him in the Valley in 1902; she became a prominent worker in W. C. T. U. Mr. McKusick sold his holdings in the Valley in 1916 and established a family home in Monrovia.

1901

A. H. REHKOPF. EL CENTRO. 1901. Living in Phoenix, Mr. Rehkopf heard of the opportunities offered in Imperial Valley and came here in January, 1901, six months before the first water. He filed on 320 acres of land and Mrs. Rehkopf took up 160 acres. When El Centro was started he invested in town property, which increased rapidly in value. In 1912 he erected the Rehkopf building, at the corner of Sixth and Main, at a cost of \$18,000. The Rehkopf's maintain a home in San Diego, but keep in close touch by frequent visits with their investments in the Valley. Bayard, the only son, is proprietor of a service station at Imperial Avenue and Main Street.

THE FORRESTER FAMILY. EL CENTRO. 1901. Edward E. Forrester, patriarch of the Forrester clan, and father of eleven children, took a midsummer trip from his home in Santa Barbara County to the hot desert where the first water trickled through the ditches but a month before he arrived. He took up 160 acres of land and assisted by his sturdy sons, brought it under cultivation. In May, 1903, he sent for the rest of the family, and since that time all the Forresters have been notable figures in the agriculture progress that has been made here. Mr. Forrester is a real farmer. The early files of Valley newspapers carry dozens of items that show the results of his experiments. His lemons, oranges, grapes, sweet potatoes, corn, alfalfa and other products, including calves, colts and turkeys, were always the best and biggest on exhibit. Mr. Forrester worked on the canals to begin with and operated the first belt excavator in ditch digging, using 26 horses as motive power. During the flood period he was a member of several parties which explored the overflowed areas in Mexico, and culled many interesting experiences. Once he and his party were almost swept over the falls and barely escaped death. He has been active in water company and irrigation district affairs, was elected Imperial County's first administrator, served as director of the First National Bank of El Centro, director of the cantaloupe and other growers' associations. He is a member of Masonic and Woodman lodges. The

Forrester ranch has been the scene of many enjoyable family reunions and the gathering place of hundreds of friends. Being a native of the south, southern hospitality has made the Forresters famous throughout the section. Since 1882, Mrs. Forrester, a most wonderful type of western American motherhood, has been the homemaker. The eleven children most of whom are still residents of the Valley, are: Jerome, George, Everett, Emma, Anna, Elmer, James, William, Edward, Arthur and Lena, eight stalwart sons and three daughters. By purchase of additional land, the original 160 acres, possessed by the family, is now closer to 1000 acres.

JOHN NORTON. EL CENTRO. 1901. Arriving in Imperial Valley about the same time that water appeared in the main canal, Mr. Norton purchased 120 acres, and later added forty acres, immediately south and adjoining what is now the townsite of El Centro. When the townsite surveyors appeared on the scene, Mr. Norton walked across the fields, found that the new town of El Centro was being platted. Taking note of the success that Mr. Norton attained on his ranch, the voters drafted him to the office of city trustee soon after the city was incorporated, and then made him mayor of the city. In 1910, he was elected to the office of county recorder, which he filled for four years. Throughout his public service, in a quiet, unassuming manner, he installed practices founded on careful and systematic economy. He took care of the taxpayers' interests, stood firmly against incurring useless obligations, and at the same time supported any movement that meant real progress. He has been prominent in Masonry and Odd Fellowship.

The first Mrs. Norton died in 1904, and in 1910 he was married to Miss Genevieve Case, in Riverside, who has been a devoted companion and a popular leader in social life in El Centro. As an illustration of Mr. Norton's business acumen, his ranch property is one that has never had a mortgage on it.

F. G. HAVENS. IMPERIAL. EL CENTRO. 1901. Came from Riverside, where he was horticultural commissioner several years, to file on government land near Silsbee before water arrived in 1901. Was the first to harvest barley and the first to ship in hogs for breeding purposes. He was appointed U. S. land commissioner and attended to all early filings and annual proofs for settlers until the office was abolished in 1904 and unentered land withdrawn from entry. There were 385 land entries and 160 final proofs in his office. Mr. Havens was an eager fighter for what he deemed the right thing and, together with three friends, bought control of the Valley's only newspaper, the Imperial Press, to carry his beliefs before the people. He sold the Press to W. F. Holt but continued as editor when it was moved to El Centro in 1906. His discussions of water matters, value of water stock, government ownership of the canal system and all moot questions were able and thorough. They helped to form policies that later became the rule. He was an able advocate and a bitter opponent, although he never descended to the habit of personal abuse. Mr. Havens espoused the cause of farmers who lost by reason of the flood waters on the west side and even today is trying to recover from the Mexican government damages for which Mexico is alleged to be responsible—the permit to cut the banks of the Colorado River without headgates in 1904. He has been active in the affairs of the Imperial-Laguna Water Company, was elected city clerk when El Centro was organized. He was the first justice of the peace elected in the Valley and served with a fine record as secretary of the El Centro Chamber of Commerce for several years. He was also court commissioner under Judge Cole for eleven years. Mr. and Mrs. Havens now live in the northern part of the state but continue frequent visits to Imperial Valley, where all pioneers and many others welcome them.

W. E. WILSIE. EL CENTRO. 1901. Coming from the Ojai Valley with a training in horticulture, Mr. Wilsie rode a bicycle into Imperial and proceeded to make a home for his family. His first work was to clear the townsite of Silsbee of brush. He joined the townsite company, helped build the first ice plant and dug the first settling basin in Imperial. In November, 1902, he cleared, bordered and ditched the

streets of the townsite where Brawley now stands. He used the first combined reaper and harvester in the Valley and shipped the first grain that went out by rail. He helped start the first creamery, the first stock breeders' association, the first cantaloupe association, the first cotton company, the first fair association, and most of the time was a trustee in school districts. He was horticulture commissioner of the county every year. Mr. Wilsie brought to a high state of cultivation a section of land west of El Centro, now known as the Timken ranch. He is now interested in promotion of South American enterprises and resides on the coast.

TAYLOR G. HOUSE. EL CENTRO. 1901. Walked from Flowing Well to Imperial to save the \$6 stage fare. Worked for the C. D. Company and on the railroad grading for Geo. A. Carter. He was on his way from Kentucky to Los Angeles when he heard passengers talking about Imperial Valley so he got off the train to see what he could see. He went to ranching in 1905 and since that time has developed 120 acres into a fine farm southwest of El Centro. His family of eight children are proud possessions. Mr. House believes in modern appliances. He has an electric refrigerator big enough to take care of a butchered calf and says he will never again pay fifty cents a pound for steaks that he sells the butcher for five cents a pound. Mrs. House enjoys an electric stove, electric power in her kitchen, does her laundry and ironing by electricity. Mr. House and the sons raise dairy stock, hogs, turkeys and chickens.

SARA VAN ARMAN. EL CENTRO. 1901. Mrs. Van Arman ran a lunch place on the shores of Blue Lake where Seeley now stands, in 1901. It was the gathering place for settlers seeking land before Imperial was laid out. She filed on forty acres and later relinquished. She moved to El Centro and opened a lunch place for the workers who were building the town. Maud Van Arman, a daughter, was the first school teacher in Silsbee. She is now teaching in the Sunset district. Mrs. Van Arman is now living in the mountains and retains many happy recollections during the thirty years Imperial Valley has been going ahead.

ETTA M. POLLARD. EL CENTRO. 1901. Prior to 1901 Mrs. Pollard crossed the desert four times by team with her parents and recalls with a vivid memory the frightful experiences. They followed the railroad tracks where water was obtainable from cement cisterns maintained by the Southern Pacific. The roads were mere excuses, never being repaired after storms. She recalls camping overnight at the salt works in the bottom of Salton sink. There was a fine artesian well there and everyone remarked that it was strange that clear drinking water could be had through the deep salt deposits. Being experienced on the desert, they often helped travelers in distress. Once they were glad to find a canteen of water themselves, even if it was found on the body of a dead man. They lived for several years in the Coachella Valley, later moving to El Centro where Mr. Pollard is a painting and construction contractor. Their two daughters are now married. They are Mrs. Fred Winkler and Mrs. Everett Enlow.

S. K. WEED. EL CENTRO. 1901. One of the four Weed brothers who took up land west of Calexico. He made thirteen trips by team from San Diego to the Valley in 1901 bringing ranch supplies. He brought in the first hogs and the first thoroughbred chickens. He now owns a ranch southwest of Holtville and Mrs. Weed is teaching school near Holtville.

1902

WALTER D. GAREY. EL CENTRO. 1902. Mr. Garey came to the Valley in June, 1902, to act as agent for the Oakley-Paulin Company and their successors in the sale of townsite property in Imperial and other Valley towns. He was in this line for six years. He filed on 320 acres in No. 8 and sold it. When he married Daisy Gertrude Grove in 1904, Mrs. Garey took up land near Holtville and they made the ranch their home. In 1911, Mr. Garey was appointed county auditor and so well did he administer the affairs of this office that he has been re-elected to the place every election for the last twenty years. His cheerful nature and careful attention to detail makes a combination that is

ideal in a public officer. The Gareys have four children, all natives of the Valley. Donaldine is now Mrs. W. E. Trusdell and lives in San Diego. Dunbar G., Willis H., and Leonard H. all live in El Centro.

R. H. CLARK. EL CENTRO. 1902. Drove from Pasadena in a covered wagon, accompanied by his brother, Neil, and two sons, Rollie and J. Hunter. Joel Clark, another brother, was already here. Charles, another brother, worked on the surveys in the Valley in 1898. Joel and R. H. took up 160 acres on the Date canal, three miles south of El Centro. The place is still called Clark's corner. Mr. Clark plunged at once in reclamation work and rigged up a handsome tent and a beautiful ramada to celebrate the arrival of Mrs. Clark in the nice cool month of August. He planted the first cottonwood trees, the first spineless cactus; was one of the first cantaloupe growers, planted one of the first fields of alfalfa, milked the first herd of twelve Texas Longhorn cows, which had to be tied head and foot every time they were milked. He was elected to the first county board of supervisors and served from 1908 to 1914. He introduced the system of irrigating county roads, helped to map the famous sand hill plank road and was a leader in the organization of the first colt show, the original county fair, the El Centro Methodist church and was for twelve years a member of the Central Union high school board. Mr. and Mrs. Clark now live in Los Angeles, but maintain a keen interest in Valley affairs. Rollie Clark, son of R. H., is prominent in the affairs of the Imperial County Farm Bureau. He is a product of the Valley's schools; is the only resident charter member of the El Centro Methodist church, and was a cub reporter on the Free Lance in the early days. Mrs. Rollie Clark, formerly Gladys Slemmons, telephone operator at the time, received hundreds of compliments and much praise for staying at her switchboard straight through the earthquake January 22, 1915. She is an active worker in the home department of the farm bureau and Ladies' Aid Society of the M. E. Church. Rollie is proud of the fact that his two sons, Rollie Mack and Raymond Hunter, won first and fifth prizes in the April contest of the 4-H club. J. Hunter Clark holds a responsible position in a Los Angeles city engineering department.

JAMES C. THOMPSON. EL CENTRO. 1902. Mr. Thompson rode in on a McCaulley stage driven by Archie Priest, and paid fifty cents for the privilege of pitching his cot on the desert at Imperial. He filed on 160 acres near Silsbee, where the first school was later built. Subsequently he sold that land and purchased an interest in the New River Ranch Co., west of Brawley, and took active charge of the reclamation of that tract now known as the Tamarack ranch, which includes 1800 acres. Mr. Thompson built the stone house on the ranch and planted the ornamental and citrus trees and ninety acres of vineyard. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson are the parents of Judge V. N. Thompson, of El Centro. They moved from the Valley in 1916 and now reside in Los Angeles. Mrs. Thompson came in 1905. At the time of the San Francisco earthquake in April, 1906, she was standing on the banks of New River and witnessed millions of carloads of earth fall from the banks, creating a cloud of dust miles long and hundreds of feet into the air. The earth cracked within eight feet of her.

1903

MR. AND MRS. D. L. GRUMBLES. EL CENTRO. 1903. Formerly residents of the Campo district and Arizona. They drove into the Valley from Arizona, rented land and raised hogs, grain and alfalfa. Mr. Grumbles drove from San Diego to Arizona across the desert in 1880. They lived on the Crawford place four years and then leased the A. H. Heber ranch near Heber, where they were in the hog business six years. They have four children, Kenneth, Vesta, Caroline and Edith. Kenneth was world's champion 220-yard hurdler for two years. He is now coach at Alhambra. Mr. Grumbles has been a member of school boards at Heber and Silsbee. He is now in the dairy business.

HARRY VAN DEN HEUVEL. EL CENTRO. 1903. Filed on a quarter section, five miles west of El Centro, sowing bar-

ley; engaged in the threshing business; fought the floods of 1905-6 with his neighbors and came through unscathed.

WALTER S. MOORE. EL CENTRO. 1903. Arrived in the Valley with a roll of blankets and \$45 in cash, went to work baling hay on the present site of El Centro; purchased land, teams, hogs, cattle, built a comfortable home and became an example of what energy and hard work did for men in the early days. Mr. Moore's passing from the scene of action a few years ago was mourned by a very large circle of friends. Mrs. Moore still resides on the home place.

J. R. DUKE. EL CENTRO. 1903. Mr. Duke was one of those pioneers who came before the flood, was not frightened out and is still here today. He first filed on 320 acres three miles southwest of Holtville, which he leveled and sold a part. He ran a grading outfit and in 1905 bought considerable El Centro town property, some of which he still owns. He was interested with J. Stanley Brown in the first hardware business in El Centro. He shoveled dirt with the rest of them to keep the banks of the main canal from breaking and flooding El Centro and Imperial in 1906. For fifteen years he has been cantaloupe inspector for melon growers and is an expert in this line. Mr. and Mrs. Duke and two sons reside in El Centro.

R. E. JAUMAN. EL CENTRO. 1903. Mr. Jauman came first to Imperial and once walked the entire distance from Flowing Well to Imperial. When El Centro was started Mr. Jauman was one of the first real estate men; when the town was incorporated he was the first city treasurer, and served on the school board for five years. Mr. Jauman was always one of the foremost citizens in civic affairs.

WILLIAM KELLY. IMPERIAL. EL CENTRO. 1903. Imperial Valley's first nurseryman, caused the planting of more trees during the first ten years than any other man.

CHAS. MORGAN. EL CENTRO. 1903. Came to the Valley from the cattle country around Hereford, Texas. Took up a claim of 320 acres and lost it in 1907 on account of the resurvey. Purchased another half section. Mr. Morgan interested some forty Texas neighbors in the stock business in the Valley. His father, I. A. Morgan, came out in 1906. They raised alfalfa, fed and turned off a huge herd of beef every year. Chas. was assistant foreman on the C. M. ranch for some time. He took over the management of the Oregon hotel in El Centro for the owners in 1909. Before that he was interested with W. F. Holt in various enterprises. He also served seven years as deputy county and deputy city assessor. When the war came on he enlisted in a special railroad construction detachment and was assigned to A Company, 44th Engineers and was sent to the front immediately. After the armistice the railroad detachments were kept on the job until October, 1919. During this period it was their duty to take care of the transportation of troops toward embarking points in France. Morgan was a non-commissioned officer and went into Northern Russia and spent several months there on transportation detail. He was discharged in December, 1919. Returning to the Valley he resumed ranching and has been at it ever since. His father, I. A. Morgan, died in 1916. His mother still lives in the family home at 740 Seventh street, El Centro, built in the country twenty-two years ago. She has seen the city grow up around her in that time.

1904

CLARENCE E. CONANT. EL CENTRO. 1904. Trained in law at Yale University, Mr. Conant could not resist the lure of pioneering in a new land. He purchased the Jacob Stoner place south of Heber and added other holdings until his acreage reached near 1000. He went at farming with a scientific mind and succeeded in every attempt. He was one of the first to raise hogs commercially. He went in for cantaloupes, grapes, vegetables, cotton, cows and other crops. He is an Elk and a Mason. The Conants have a comfortable home in El Centro and spend much of their time abroad.

F. B. FERRIS. EL CENTRO. 1904. Mr. Ferris raised sheep, hogs, cattle and horses with success near the townsite of

El Centro. The commodious Ferris home was a popular place in El Centro's early history. Seven sons and daughters composed the Ferris family: Willis, E. M., Robert, Ann, Kate, Agnes, and Georgia. The sons all moved to the Valley and developed ranches west of El Centro. Miss Agnes has been city librarian in El Centro for years. Their contribution toward the advancement of the Valley has been notable. Mr. and Mrs. Ferris are now residents of San Diego.

HOLDAM STUART. EL CENTRO. 1904. Mr. Stuart is now proprietor of two grocery stores in El Centro; he came from Kentucky with his wife and seven-months-old son, George William, in October, 1904. He first filed on land near Silsbee, and when El Centro started he leased 320 acres within the city limits. He was employed by the El Centro Hardware Co., which later became the Imperial Valley Hardware Co. In 1916 he established a grocery at Sixth and State Streets, sold out in 1921, devoted his time to ranch work for three years, engaging again in the grocery business on Fifth Street in 1926. In 1929 he expanded with a store on Main Street. In addition to these two stores and meat market he conducts two ranches, owns home property at Sixth and Wensley and income property on Brighton Street. George William, his son, has charge of the Fifth Street store.

WILEY M. WEAVER

Wiley M. Weaver, Imperial County's assessor for exactly twenty years, from 1910 to the end of 1930, was accustomed to pioneering before he came to the Valley in 1904.

He was the first to build a house in Gallup, New Mexico, and opened the coal mines there. He hauled the stock of general merchandise for the first store in Leadville, Colorado. He built most of the houses that started the city of Minnequa, a sub-division of Pueblo, Colorado. Then he was the first man to bring sheep into Imperial Valley. That was in 1905.

Weaver was one of the executive officers of the Colorado Fuel & Iron Company. He was superintendent of construction and assigned the job of erecting sixty houses for the workmen at Gallup and made such a record that they handed him the plans and specifications for 278 more houses at Minnequa. These he finished \$70,000 under the estimated cost and was offered a permanent position at a good salary as a reward. However, Weaver had heard about the new Imperial Valley and came here in February, 1904. He took up 320 acres of land in Mesquite Lake district. He went into the sheep business with V. P. Edy. At times they would have as many as 10,000 head feeding. He brought in sheep from Oregon, Arizona and New Mexico.

But the hot summer weather was not agreeable to Wiley and he found that outside work was not possible here. At the solicitation of many friends he entered the race for county assessor in 1910 and was elected by a handsome majority. He was re-elected in 1914, again in 1918, again in 1922, and again in 1926, voluntarily retiring from the office January 5, this year, 1931.

Weaver's associates in the court house presented him with a fine gold headed cane, properly engraved, January 5, 1931, when he turned over the office to his successor.

Weaver was born in the state of Virginia, came west when still a young man and engaged in many enterprises. Teaming with heavy loads over the mountain roads of the Rockies; mining now and then; superintending the great mines of the Colorado Fuel & Iron Company at Gallup, New Mexico, with thousands of men under him; fighting through a drastic strike; building, constructing—always in the forefront when there was a hard job to be done.

Mr. Weaver was the first chaplain of the El Centro Lodge, B. P. O. Elks and held that office fifteen years, retiring last year after the lodge made him permanent honorary chaplain. As a token of their regard the lodge members presented Mr. Weaver with a life membership.

During his entire twenty-seven years' residence in Imperial Valley Mr. Weaver has been found in the forefront of every movement that spelled progress for the Valley. His backing was always given every forward looking project. He has a niche in the memories of thousands and their

esteem is the sort given a man who has been a good citizen.

Mr. Weaver requests the historian to say that he is thoroughly appreciative of the way the people of Imperial Valley have treated him, not only as a county officer but as a citizen of the rank and file.

MRS. A. L. PYLE. EL CENTRO. 1904. Lived on a ranch south of Imperial and moved into El Centro when the town was first laid out in 1905. Has been a resident continuously since that time. Mrs. Pyle has been keenly interested in all Valley affairs for the past twenty-seven years.

ROY L. RUMSEY. EL CENTRO. 1904. Mr. Rumsey established a general merchandise store at Blue Lake, near what is now Seeley, and when the floods took out the lake and scattered the customers in 1906 he loaded his stock on a wagon and came to El Centro, just then starting in good shape. He sold his first goods from the wagon and was later in a store on the north side of Main street. In 1907 he was located on the corner of Sixth and Main and also had a big store in Holtville. In 1916 fire burned him out in El Centro. He moved to the corner of Fifth and Main and discontinued his store in Holtville. This store was conducted as a furnishing and dry goods establishment until late last year, when Mr. Rumsey held a quitting sale and discontinued his mercantile business after twenty-six years in the Valley and thirty-eight years all told. He now enjoys a game of golf, having earned by long and arduous attention to business the reward of leisure that most men gain too late. He owns ranching and city property and maintains his usual interest in public affairs.

DARCY U. (RED) YOUNG. EL CENTRO. 1904. First came to Imperial where he handled the first ice that was shipped in. He came to El Centro when this city was launched and worked for the ice company. He has been a deputy sheriff, member of the fire department, member of the Elks, and now conducts a successful transfer business of his own. Mrs. Young was Miss Turner before she married Mr. Young in 1912. She will be remembered by the patrons of Bill Egerer's bakery for her happy way of meeting the public.

1905

DR. F. W. PETERSON. EL CENTRO. 1905. Immediately after graduating from medical college in Wisconsin in 1905, Dr. Peterson came to the Valley and was soon established with a good practice in Calexico. In 1907 he changed his location to El Centro where he has practiced since. Dr. Peterson was elected county coroner in 1910 and again in 1914, serving eight years. Mrs. Peterson has been a Valley enthusiast all these years. She holds a silver cup as Valley champion woman tennis player. The cup was put up by O. B. Tout, then running the Calexico Chronicle. It was to be won three times for permanent possession. Mrs. Peterson won it twice and fifteen years later won it the third time. The Petersons are still residents of El Centro, and with their family reside on Orange Street.

ED. M. ROYCE. EL CENTRO. 1905. Worked the first three months on the H. McKusick ranch; then went away and in 1906 came back with his mother, and worked at carpentering in El Centro on the Holt buildings until 1908. He was married in 1908 and moved to a ranch near El Centro, where he ranched until 1912 when he moved to El Centro and has owned and operated a transfer and truck business in El Centro ever since. He did some of the work on the levees with teams when the break came. He owns 120 acres near here, has a home and income property. He is a member of the Odd Fellows Lodge, chamber of commerce. Has a wife and four children, all born in the Valley—Howard and Oliver help their father in his business, Georgia will graduate from the high school this spring, and Amy is a pupil in the grammar schools here. His brother, C. E. Royce, came to the Valley in 1904, worked for the C. D. Company, then going to carpentering and is still a resident of El Centro and follows carpentering. Jane Royce, the sister, came in 1909 and taught the first school on the East-side. She died here in 1929. The mother died in 1925; the father in 1921 and all are buried here.

BERNEKER FAMILY. El Centro. 1905. Mrs. O. B. Tout, nee Berneker, came to Imperial in 1905 as Mrs. W. E. Downing. W. A. Berneker came to the Valley in 1906; worked at cement work until 1908, when he worked for Varney Bros., at Calexico and in 1910 became associated with Mr. and Mrs. Tout as a printer in the Calexico Chronicle office. He later was foreman in the El Centro Progress plant. In 1922 he moved to Porterville where he died in 1924. He was married to Olivia Hire in 1912. She also became associated in the newspaper work and has many friends in the Valley. Carl and O. W. Berneker came to the Valley with Clara Berneker in 1909, the two boys holding positions with Varney Bros for years at Calexico and Holtville. O. W. and Miss Clara later became associated with the El Centro Progress while Carl was with the Pacific Coast Biscuit Co., later moving to the coast. In January of this year, he died in Palmdale, leaving a wife and son, Carlyle. He was married in 1912 to Elizabeth Venable, of Holtville. O. W. married Mae Hodge, of Calexico, in 1912. Clara was married in 1913 to Roy Scruggs in Calexico. She has two daughters, Wilma Estella and Dorothy Ann, both born in the Valley. They now make their home in San Diego. Mr. and Mrs. Charles Berneker and two sons, Edward and Andrew, arrived in the Valley in 1911 where the two boys held positions with the Progress until 1922. O. W. and Edward now own a print shop in San Diego. Andrew also makes his home in that city. Edward married Lucy Jacobs of El Centro, in 1922, and they have a daughter, Betty Mae. Charles, the father of the family, is buried in the El Centro cemetery, while his wife died in San Diego two years ago and is buried there.

MR. AND MRS. OTIS B. TOUT. 1905-1906. Mrs. Tout came to Imperial, as the bride of W. E. Downing, in June, 1905. He died shortly afterward. She took a position as typesetter on the Imperial Standard and later on the Imperial Valley Press. Mr. Tout came to the Valley for his health, late in 1906. In January, 1907, he took a job as a printer in the Press office at El Centro. In April, he went to Calexico to take charge of the Chronicle for W. F. Holt. He worked vigorously for the success of El Centro in the contest for the county seat and when that fight was won Mr. Holt gave him the Chronicle and equipment. In 1909, Mr. Tout and Mrs. Downing were married. Both being printers, they have worked together in their various enterprises since. They sold the Chronicle and established the El Centro Progress in 1912. The Progress was made a morning daily in October and continued until 1922, when it was sold to the Hammond interests and consolidated with the Imperial Valley Press. Mr. and Mrs. Tout conducted a paper in Porterville and later in San Diego, being the proprietors of the Hillcrest News. They sold this business in 1930 and returned to El Centro to compile and publish this history. Mr. Tout was first city clerk, recorder and fire chief in Calexico; was a director and president of the chamber of commerce in El Centro; and was exalted ruler in the Elks Lodge. The papers he conducted espoused progressive principles; frequent illustrated special editions were issued, boosting Imperial Valley enthusiastically. When the Touts left El Centro the citizens gave them a farewell banquet in the Barbara Worth Hotel, and presented them with the key to the city. They appreciate the fact that the kindly welcome given this history idea upon the initial announcement was evidently the expression of friendship on the part of their old-time friends. A novel, "Silt," with an Imperial Valley background, was written and published by Mr. Tout in 1928. They hope to welcome many friends to their home, 4612 Terrace Drive, Kensington Park, San Diego. They say, "Come over and see the lath house."

JAMES C. STUART. EL CENTRO. 1905. Mr. Stuart first farmed on land now within the city limits of El Centro, and later on eighty-five acres in No. 6. He was in the grocery business for six years, after working for R. L. Rumsey for five years. He conducted the store and postoffice at Mt. Signal, and is now a resident of El Centro, held in high esteem by all who know him.

I. MAYFIELD. El Centro. 1905. Coming from the good old state of Kentucky, he engaged at first in the real estate

business and then went in for farming barley and cotton. He leased and farmed as much as 240 acres at a time. In November, 1911, he was appointed justice of the peace of El Centro township and has been re-elected to that position for the past twenty years. He also served as police judge for the city. With an unerring sense of justice and a rigid application of the unwritten law of fair play, Mr. Mayfield has handled an ever-increasing stream of litigation in his court year after year in a manner that has left a feeling of satisfaction with both plaintiffs and defendants. He has established a reputation as a stern upholder of the enforcement of the law, at the same time displaying mercy where mercy was needed. He is popular with the young people, having performed a total of 1910 marriage ceremonies during his long tenure of office. Mr. Mayfield assisted by his estimable wife, although not an attorney, administers the laws of the country with an excellent knowledge of the statutes as they are written. If he were admitted to the bar there is little doubt that the people of Imperial County would promptly elevate him to the superior court.

JASPER L. TRAVERS. EL CENTRO. 1905. Here is one of the real city and community builders of the Valley. He came down when El Centro was first platted to build the El Centro hotel building at the corner of Fifth and Main for W. T. Bill. The only buildings in town then were the D. H. Chaplin townsite office, which still stands in a niche just east of the bank building at Fifth and Main; the J. Stanley Brown hardware store which stood on the lots now occupied by the Scheineman building, and a shack or two which had been moved down from Imperial, including a portion of the old Thelma rooming house at Imperial which changed its name to the Franklin Hotel upon arrival here. It still stands at Fifth and Broadway. Travers jumped into his job and finished in a hurry, giving the new community a place to eat and sleep in comfort. W. W. Masten was the hotel man who opened it. Travers went back to Redlands and returned early in the fall of 1906 and continued construction work for W. T. Bill, mostly on the north side of Main street. The first residences constructed were for F. B. Fuller on the lots where the Barbara Worth now stands; for F. G. Havens on Olive street and for Ed. Downing on Brighton. Mr. Downing died, Mrs. Downing became Mrs. O. B. Tout and they occupied the Brighton street home for years. Mr. Travers, during all the years of his residence in El Centro, has been an indefatigable worker for the city and county. He was drafted on the Valley's famous pavement building highway commission which put down the pavement between El Centro and Calexico; between Brawley and Calipatria, north from Holtville, east from Calexico and from Calexico to Seeley. He has always been a director or member of the El Centro Chamber of Commerce and was its president one term. He has been delegate from the El Centro chamber to the Associated Chambers of Commerce since the latter's organization, was its treasurer for years and its president as well. He was a city trustee two terms and is a member of the zoning commission now. He is a member of the Masons, the Elks, the Sciots, the Odd Fellows and the W. O. W. He is past president of the Lions Club and an honorary member of the El Centro fire department. He is now president of the Imperial Valley Building and Loan Association which is doing much toward building in the Valley. Mrs. Travers has been a faithful helper all these years. Their daughter Ruth is now Mrs. Clyde Kier, of Beverly Hills. A list of the buildings put up by Mr. Travers in El Centro would read almost like a city directory. At the same time he calls attention to the fact that L. H. Cooper was a builder for W. F. Holt at the same time he started for W. T. Bill. Cooper had much to do with the building of the south side of Main street. Travers is probably the oldest resident of El Centro to have maintained consecutive residence here. He established his home here in 1905 and has been here ever since.

1906

ARTHUR SHEPARD. EL CENTRO. 1906. Purchased a tract of land within the limits of El Centro when only four frame

shacks and no brick building comprised the town. Waiting for the town to grow he planted cantaloupes, raising 200 crates to the acre. He soon subdivided his town holdings and was at all times an able, resourceful exponent of the opportunities that existed in the Valley. Mr. Shepard was elected supervisor of the county in 1912 and served four years in that capacity. His service as a public officer and citizen has left him with many friends in the Valley, where he frequently visits from his home in San Diego.

JAMES E. HODGE AND SONS. EL CENTRO. 1906. Purchased 360 acres of land six miles east of Imperial, which they farmed for some time and later leased. Mr. Hodge and his sons, William and Walter, engaged in the real estate and stock trading business in El Centro. They are now residents of San Diego. Mr. Hodge's ancestors, of Scotch origin, can be traced through American history for more than 200 years. Three of his brothers fought in the Civil War. The Hodges have been and are now consistent boosters for the Valley.

W. T. BILL organized the El Centro Land Company in 1905 and was the chief stockholder, president and manager. He purchased the El Centro Townsite, which was only dry ground with barley stubble upon it, and named the place El Centro, being Spanish for the center. He surveyed and platted the town, and started building the El Centro Hotel in the fall of 1906. The little wooden building east of Fifth Street, still standing, was the first office of the Company, and is the only building of wood on Main Street.

He made an agreement and formed an alliance with Mr. Holt whereby the Holton Power Company, and Mr. Holt's interests were all centered here. He also commenced building dwelling houses, as it was difficult to interest any outside capital to invest either in business blocks or dwellings at that time. The Colorado River was filling up the Salton Sea, and everyone interested in the Valley was anxious about the outcome, and those who were not interested were not inclined to take a chance under those conditions and especially in a new town; when he placed the 25-foot lots on Main Street at \$1,000.00 each, instead of finding purchasers he found only those who would laugh at that price for a lot in an abandoned barley field. His only reply was: "They are not worth it now, but we will make them worth it."

He put in the first water system, and electric lighting system, and oiled Main Street, and policed the town, and bore all the expense until after it was incorporated. But when Imperial County was organized, and the county seat located, investors were very plentiful, and the lots sold readily.

When the railroad to San Diego was being delayed, and doubt expressed as to whether it would ever be built, he, together with W. F. Holt, purchased the right of way from El Centro to Dixieland, and gave it to the railroad with an agreement that they should build the road westward, and that the Holton Power Company should operate it until such a time as the railroad company wished to take it over themselves. This road having been built and operated has had no little influence in hastening the completion of this very important railroad into this Valley. His theory has always been that the whole Valley was one in interest, and the prosperity of any portion of the Valley was a benefit to the whole Valley, and a disaster to any farmer or community in the Valley was a loss to the whole Valley. Mr. Bill was one of the real builders of the Valley.

MARVIN W. CONKLING

In every new country the lawyers who guide the steps of the inexperienced in legal matters are clothed with a natural leadership. When W. F. Holt, W. T. Bill and their associates undertook to win for El Centro the county seat of the new county in 1907, they found in Marvin W. Conkling, then a resident of Los Angeles, a man who could guide them in the tedious and tortuous labyrinths that beset them in this spirited midsummer campaign. Mr. Conkling arrived in El Centro in December, 1906, sized up the situation and went immediately to Sacramento where he put through the legislature the county division bill that fitted

the requirements of Imperial Valley residents. It cost Riverside \$100,000 to put through their county division bill and it only cost \$300 for Mr. Conkling to put his bill through the legislature—his expenses for three weeks. On returning from Sacramento early in 1907 the strife between Imperial and El Centro contesting for county seat started vigorously in May and was carried on, many times to the point of bitterness, through the hot summer months until August 6, when the county was formed and El Centro was made the county seat.

Mr. Conkling is particularly proud of two things: the part he took in winning for El Centro the county seat and the fact that he has lived to see all the old time Imperial leaders in that strenuous fight numbered amongst his best friends. Mr. Conkling decided to make the Valley his permanent home, built a comfortable residence in El Centro, reclaimed some 400 acres of farm land, took up the practice of law in partnership with C. L. Brown and entered with enthusiasm into the life of the community.

When El Centro was incorporated in the spring of 1908, Mr. Conkling was its legal guide and was selected as city attorney. He drew up all the first ordinances and papers for the bond issues that enabled the city to install its first water and sewer systems. Mr. Conkling served for some sixteen years on the El Centro grammar and high school boards.

When the people undertook the organization of the Imperial Irrigation District under the old time Bridgford Act, Mr. Conkling with John M. Eshleman and Phil D. Swing, drew up important amendments to this act and guided their passage through the state legislature. This revamped law provided the foundation on which the Imperial Irrigation District was founded. To these three men must go the credit for the legal work that put the district on its feet. When the time came for bonds to be voted for the purchase of the assets of the distributing system from the Southern Pacific Railway Company, Conkling was drafted as attorney for the District, conducted many of the negotiations that preceded the agreement on price, which was \$3,000,000, drew up the papers for the bond election, was campaign manager and looked after the details that attended the transfer of the property after the bonds were voted, printed and made ready for delivery. Mr. Conkling's unerring legal work was complimented all over the state. The careful bond and railroad attorneys never found a flaw upon which to base an objection.

Mr. Conkling served the District for three years, 1914-1915-1916, as attorney, resigning when the work became less interesting.

Notwithstanding the fact that he had been employed as attorney in most of the important contested litigations that was before the courts of the Valley for thirteen years, and had been an active participant in every political row during that same period, he was elected judge of the superior court in 1920. Mr. Conkling says that this came about "by some freak of politics" and that he was as much surprised as anybody. It couldn't happen twice, however, and he was defeated in 1926 notwithstanding a two to one vote in his favor in the three big towns in the Valley. Mr. Conkling served a year as Exalted Ruler of the El Centro Elks. In the early days he helped establish the Eagles Lodge and was its first president. The Conkling home, presided over by Mrs. Conkling, was noted for its hospitality. Their children, Joe and Julia, are residents of the Valley; Joe is farming in Mexico and Julia is Mrs. Harry W. Horton, of El Centro.

Mr. and Mrs. Conkling moved to San Diego in 1927 and in November, 1928, Mr. Conkling was appointed city attorney of San Diego and was reappointed in 1929 and 1930. They have a beautiful home on Ft. Stockton Drive in San Diego.

TYLER W. SEAL. EL CENTRO. 1906. In the year of the big water, Mr. Seal came in when a great many people were leaving. For five years he helped Alex Ingram run the Ingram ranch, east of El Centro, for R. H. Ingram, the superintendent for the Southern Pacific Company. He helped El Centro win the county seat and was closely associated with Dave Williams, Phil Brooks and others of the jolly bunch that really enjoyed their pioneer days. Mr. and Mrs.

Seal now run the service station and general store on the Holtville-El Centro highway.

FRANCIS B. FULLER. EL CENTRO. 1906. Coming from Texas where he was cashier in a bank, Mr. Fuller engaged in the real estate business with Ira Aten. After spending a year in Texas, closing up his affairs there, he returned to El Centro and organized the El Centro National Bank, which was the first national bank organized here. This institution prospered and was later absorbed by the Southern Trust & Commerce. Mr. Fuller was retained as manager until his death in 1928. Mrs. Fuller now resides in San Diego. Mr. Fuller erected the very first residence in El Centro, located on the present site of the Barbara Worth Hotel.

ALBERT DURHAM. EL CENTRO. 1906. Came to El Centro from Chicago, a true tenderfoot. He first ran a lunch room on the spot now occupied by history headquarters, 536 Main street. Being of a scholarly turn of mind and a master printer, he established a stationery store and print shop across the street and later moved to the rear of the building now occupied by the Clements drug store. Here for years he conducted the Valley School Supply. Mr. Durham was keenly alive to every progressive movement. He was credited with originating the idea of a plank road across the sand hills toward Yuma. He wrote many constructive articles for publication and got out a magazine in the early days called the "Imperial Valley Magazine." Harold Bell Wright contributed under an assumed name. Mr. Durham and his twin brother, who lived in Chicago, were more than eighty-five years old at the time of his death, which occurred in the east in January of this year. He was a Civil War veteran. His hundreds of friends, however, will recall him as being as lively as the youngest people on the desert.

VAUGHN N. THOMPSON
Judge of the Superior Court

Here is the story of a young man whose steadiness, persistence, industry and attention to business made for him an enviable niche in Imperial Valley's hall of fame. Vaughn N. Thompson started "at scratch" as the saying is and is now on the bench of the superior court, esteemed and respected by his neighbors and friends. Mr. Thompson arrived in the Valley May 18, 1906, in an undertaker's basket. The basket was swung to the cable that crossed New River during the flood period and was the only means, for a time, by which people could reach the No. 8 district where Thompson's parents were farming the New River ranch. Being a lad of seventeen he took a job as expert crate maker for a cantaloupe concern. The office manager for the concern soon recognized that the business college training young Thompson had made him worth more as an office man than as a crate maker and for four years Vaughn was stenographer, clerk and accountant. Between times he was employed by the Brawley Townsite Company, was deputy city and county assessor, bought an interest in his brother's real estate business in Imperial and commenced the study of law. In 1910 he was deputy in the office of the county clerk and became chief deputy in nine months. He was active court clerk for six years, leaving in 1916 to attend law school. He earned his own way in various ways until he was admitted to practice in July, 1917. Then the war called the law student to the colors. He enlisted as a private in the regular army, aviation section, served as supply sergeant, first sergeant and as second lieutenant in the air service, was stationed at various flying fields and received his honorable discharge March 27, 1919. Returning to the Valley Mr. Thompson worked a few months for the Globe Mills and in October, 1919, opened a law office with Swing & Childers, and was later associated with Burritt S. Allen. He served four years as police judge for the city of El Centro, and was appointed deputy district attorney in 1927. Following the tragic death of Judge J. S. Larew, he was appointed to the superior court bench in March, 1928. At the fall election that year he was elected for a six year term to succeed himself. In 1919 he assisted in organizing the Boyce Aten Post No. 25 of the American Legion, and also the Inter Post Council. He was post commander during

1920 and commander of the Inter Post Council in 1926-1927. He was married to Miss Alice Lattin, of Pomona, in 1921, and two children, Wm. Vaughn and Janet Ruth, grace the judge's home.

EVALYN B. WESTERFIELD. EL CENTRO. 1906.

Mrs. Westerfield, who is County Recorder, has written such an interesting sketch that it is published in full:

"Coming to the Imperial Valley in the fall of 1906, September to be exact, wasn't like coming in 1900 or even 1902 or three, but neither was it like coming in 1931. You either came via horse power or by train, and it was the latter which brought a small group of three into the realms of wonder and mystery, known as the Imperial Valley, to join father and brother. My father, Paul Boman, and my oldest brother, Harold, 14, had picked out a homestead, and also a place for the rest of the family, including my mother, my brother Robert, and myself.

"We stopped over in Imperial. We stayed at Mrs. Waters' hotel. Again we took the train, coming to a box car designated by a sign on the outside as El Centro. Here we took a funny little trolley car to Holtville, only we had to get off when we got to the Alamo River, as there was only a little shaky wagon bridge across it. My father and Harold were there to meet us with a spring wagon, so we piled in bag and baggage for our new home in the West. We had to go out nine miles east of Holtville. I kept looking for the big, imposing white homes with their pretty, green lawns and the big, beautiful maple and pine trees we had just left in Illinois.

"We boasted of the biggest 'ramada' in the country, and it was here where we practically lived, for this was September and still hot. Under this ramada, we had two tents, besides a cook house. We slept out in the open and many times when we awoke in the morning, we could see the rattlesnake tracks under our beds. Then something happened which made it all horribly real. Typhoid fever hit our family, as it did many others in those early days of dirty ditch water, and my brother, Harold, was stricken. He lay for days in a delirious fever. Robert got 'walking typhoid,' I was still sick from the train, my mother took a dreadful cold from the sudden change of hot days and cold nights. The climax was reached when my father came in one morning with a swollen jaw from an ulcerated tooth, and surveying the utterly miserable group said, 'God bless our happy home.'

"There was only one high school in the Valley and as Harold was then a junior, it was decided that my mother was to take the children and go to Imperial where the high school was, and we would all enter school there. Because of the homestead, my father had to stay on the ranch. He taught the Alamo School that winter. We didn't get to Imperial in time for the opening of school, so we attended the Alamo School until we moved to Imperial. As I look back, I wonder how any of us endured those long hot days without ice. When the mail man would bring us a piece of ice it was looked upon as a real treat. Fresh meat was scarce. We had plenty of quail and young rabbit. Once in a while one of the ladies of the community would have a tea party, make ice cream and invite the children. She was nothing less than a fairy godmother. One of the interesting events would be when a bunch of the men would go to Arizona and bring in a herd of wild horses to break. This was like a private rodeo, and there were some of the "bucking-ess broncos" you ever saw. After tiring the horse out with sacks of sand or gravel, some enterprising young swain would want to ride the beast. If he stuck on, all well and good, but if he were thrown, it was his own lookout. If he got a kick in the stomach then for sympathy all he received from his audience was a huge 'ha ha.'

"That Christmas we attended the community gathering at the Van Horn ranch. Everyone in the whole Valley, I do believe, was there. It was sort of a 'pot-luck' affair, everybody took something, and I can remember yet the rows and rows of cakes, pies, roast turkeys and all sorts of good things to eat. I'm sure there will be many who will remember that Christmas.

"That next summer, El Centro was made the county seat.

This was 1907. My father had been elected County Treasurer and the family was moving to El Centro. One week-end before we moved from the ranch, Harold came home for the week-end, and on Sunday morning he went in the cart with my father to load hogs. He had his gun along in the hope of bringing back a few quail. It was the last time we ever saw him alive. A horrible accident occurred. The double barrel shotgun went off under Harold's left arm. In those days there weren't any doctors here able to perform the necessary operation. A train was chartered from Los Angeles in a desperate effort to save his life, if not his arm. The operation and shock was all too much and his lifeless body was brought back for burial. The whole school was present to pay their last respects to the president of the student body and their chum and classmate. Hardships were easy compared to this sad tragedy of life.

"We lived in tent houses for awhile, but soon built a house. This house was on the corner of Seventh and State Streets, where it still stands. Early school days and the development of El Centro during those days are all interesting. Bob and I both graduated from the grammar schools here and then the high school. My father's death in 1914 made it necessary for us to give up our plans for college. After working in what was then the First National Bank for a number of years, Robert moved away and soon afterwards was married to Miss Nelle Miln.

"After my high school days I took a library training course and was appointed assistant librarian under Mrs. Thos. B. Beeman, who was then the county librarian. I served as such for three years when, upon her resignation, I was appointed by the Board of Supervisors to fill her place. For six years I worked in this capacity, resigning in April, 1929, to be married, and move away.

"In January, 1930, I moved back to El Centro, to again take my place in the business world. Elected County Recorder at the primaries, 1930.

"My mother has always made her home here, and is the only original member of the Christian Church left. She has always taken an active part in the church life ever since coming to the Valley, first in Imperial and later in El Centro."

THE HAMILTONS. EL CENTRO. 1906. Walter O. and W. P. (Pitts) and Joseph Hamilton joined the colony of new citizens in El Centro in 1906. They were followed by their father, J. G., in 1909, and the younger brother, James. They bought, improved and sold land and then engaged in the mercantile business, establishing the firm of Payne & Hamilton in El Centro, later selling to B. Salomon. Walter and Pitts launched the Hamilton Supply Company, which was merged into the Imperial Valley Mercantile Co. Joseph and James established the Enterprise grocery. Walter was one of the first board of directors of the irrigation district, member of the city council and two school boards. He is now in business in Jerome, Arizona; Joe resides in San Diego, Jim passed away a few years ago and Pitts still resides in El Centro. The parents are both dead.

C. C. TONEY. EL CENTRO. 1906. Came from Mendocino county and bought a ranch west of Heber. Mrs. Toney filed on land west of El Centro. Together they accumulated some town property. Mr. Toney bought and sold cattle as a side line. He was city marshal of El Centro for three years, constable of the township for twelve years and deputy sheriff on duty in the court house for seven years. He is proud of the fact that in all his contacts with the public as an officer of the law he never made a lasting enemy of any man. He helped every unfortunate as much as he could. Mr. and Mrs. Toney are living in El Centro and their son, Elmer, is in business there.

C. E. PARIS. EL CENTRO. 1906. Mr. Paris came to the Valley as general manager for the Holton Power Company and the various enterprises in which W. F. Holt was interested. He remained in this capacity until the sale of the power company to the Nevada-California Electric corporation. His excellent business judgment being well known he was chosen as business manager of the Imperial Irrigation District where he instituted business accounting systems and various economies. He was later general man-

ager for the Imperial Milk Producers Association, later removing to Los Angeles with Mrs. Paris and daughter to reside.

ROBERT P. L. MOORE. EL CENTRO. 1906. Not more than two dozen residents of the Valley can claim actual, continuous residence for as long as twenty-five years. One of these is R. P. L. Moore, general superintendent of the Imperial Ice & Development Company. Mr. Moore came to El Centro to be chief clerk for the Holton Power Company and W. F. Holt's various other interests. C. E. Paris was general manager. With an unusually keen ability to take care of details Mr. Moore soon found himself assistant general manager of the Holton Inter-Urban Railroad; the El Centro opera house; the ice plant; the light and power company; the Imperial Valley Press and other Holt enterprises. When the Nevada-California Electric Corporation purchased the Holton Power Company, the Imperial Ice & Development Company was segregated from the power corporation and Mr. Moore was made general manager. He takes care of all Imperial and Coachella Valley's ice business, as well as that in Mexico. In point of service there are now only two men in the Nevada-California Electric Corporation's list of officers or employees with longer records of service than Mr. Moore's twenty-five years. He was the first president of the company's veterans' organization. During his steady residence in the Valley Mr. Moore has served in numerous civic organizations. He was president of the El Centro Chamber of Commerce; a member of the Rotary Club; on the high school board for ten years; director of the chamber seven years; a Mason, a fair golfer, a member of the Presbyterian Church, chairman of the plant pest control, committee of the Associated chambers of commerce and president of the district council for the Boy Scouts as well as national councilor in this organization. Mr. Moore was married in 1911 to Miss Fannie Kinne, a pioneer of 1903 herself. To them were born Marjorie and Parkman, high school graduates. Mr. Moore makes Imperial Valley's welfare his business and no citizen has done more than he has to push things along in the right direction.

REV. AND MRS. J. F. TOUT. EL CENTRO. 1906. Came from Ventura in 1906 to take charge of the Christian Church at Imperial in the pioneer building that was the second frame structure built in the Valley. Took an active part in public affairs, especially in the strenuous combat with the "blind pigs" of early days. Mrs. Tout was active in the W. C. T. U. Miss Abbie, a daughter, conducted a millinery shop. While a resident of Imperial, Mr. Tout held services twice a month in the Franklin Hotel in El Centro for fifteen months, finally moving to El Centro where he built the building that still stands at 510 Broadway. He was pastor of the "Union Christian Church" until the opera house became available for a meeting place when Dr. Shepherd succeeded him. He helped draw the plans for the present Christian church. Later he entered the real estate business and when the county was formed was appointed the first justice of the peace of El Centro township. Several hot fights, mostly about liquor violations, took place before him. Mrs. Tout died suddenly in 1910. Her patient, exemplary life in the community was paid a tribute when all business houses, including pool rooms, closed when the funeral was held. The north window of the Christian Church is a memorial to her, installed by church friends and townspeople. She was a charter member of the Woman's Ten Thousand Club. After her death, Mr. Tout served as pastor in Beaumont and later in Los Angeles where he died in 1912. Mr. Tout was a pioneer at heart. He went from Indiana to Missouri where he pioneered; then to Florida where he did the same for a new church; then back to the plains of Kansas and when the Oklahoma strip was opened he was in the rush line. Coming to California in 1892 for his first wife's health, he held pastorates at Glendora, Chico, Hollister, in Oregon, Washington and then back to California. When he heard of the new country of Imperial, away he went to pioneer again. Children in the Tout family were Otis B., editor of this history; Errett G. Abbie, Walter, Pearl, Ruskin and Carlyle, all living now on the coast.

1907

C. W. COLLINS. EL CENTRO. 1907. Mr. Collins' first activity in El Centro was a stationery store, which was the nucleus of the business now known as the Office Supply Co. At the same time he edited a monthly publication, the *Desert Farmer*, for J. B. Baker. He also succumbed to the lure of the land and took up 160 acres near Brawley, developing and selling this and leasing another ranch near El Centro. He engaged in hog and chicken raising and took several prizes for best exhibits at the state fair. Being an inveterate booster he naturally was drafted into leadership in chamber of commerce work. He had entire charge of the Imperial County exhibit at the state fair several years. He was elected Irrigation tax collector when the district was formed in 1911; he served as secretary of the chamber of commerce and took keen delight in advancing every cause that looked like progress for both the city and county. Although a Democrat in a Republican county Mr. Collins enjoyed a political influence far out of proportion to the votes cast by Democrats alone. He was named postmaster of El Centro in 1913 and served in that capacity with complete satisfaction to the people until Nov. 24, 1926, when he died. He was active in Masonry, helping to organize the Imperial Valley Pyramid of Sciois, being chosen first Toparch in 1923. Mr. Collins was a man who enjoyed extending the hospitality of his home to his friends, who gathered around him on his birthdays and at holiday time and greatly enjoyed his sincere friendship. His good wife died several years before he did. Their children, Lula C. and Walter B., are still residents of the Valley. Lula is now Mrs. Fred Nuttall, and Walter is engaged in a ranching venture near Westmorland. Mr. Collins was always doing something to make someone else happy. As an illustration: When the editor of this history sold the *El Centro Progress* and prepared to leave the Valley, Mr. Collins made it his business to gather a hundred friends of Mr. and Mrs. Editor at a farewell banquet in the Barbara Worth hotel. He was doing things like that all the time.

SAMUEL W. DUNAWAY. EL CENTRO. 1907. Coming from Riverside, Mr. Dunaway purchased the existing drug store established by Roy Rumsey, and gave El Centro the first modern pharmacy. He later purchased the building the store occupies. Mr. Dunaway's various interests included cotton growing, the opening of the gypsum deposits on the west side desert, one of the largest single industries Imperial Valley has, and various other ventures. He was prominent in Masonry, served as Exalted Ruler of the Elks and with his estimable wife enjoyed the esteem of a large circle of friends. After selling out, Mr. Dunaway engaged in business on the coast and is now the owner of a handsome brick block in Pacific Beach, where he conducts a successful drug business. Mrs. Dunaway passed away in 1929. She was at one time Worthy Matron of the Eastern Star.

G. C. ECKOLS. EL CENTRO. 1907. Worked for the Holton Power Co., then took up a desert claim south of Meloland. He then went back to Oklahoma and says in three years lost all his Valley savings. He came back to the Valley in 1922, locating in Calexico, where he has been since. He has been an officer in Calexico for seven years and chief of police of the town for the past year. He has a wife and son. The son is now in the customs service in Calexico.

HENRY T. FROST. EL CENTRO. 1907. First purchased eighty acres and then 160 west and north of El Centro, where he has lived continuously for the past twenty-three years. He was trustee in the Elm school district for twelve years, and has taken an active interest in all public affairs. He made a specialty of dairying and kindred farm activities, and now has his ranch leased for vegetables. Mr. Frost has been a believer in Imperial Valley all these years and likes it so well that he takes very few vacations. With his wife and two daughters, Hazel and Ora, he enjoys the esteem and respect of hundreds of friends and neighbors.

J. G. SCOTT. EL CENTRO. 1907. His first position in the Valley was with Roy Rumsey as bookkeeper in his El Centro store. Later he was manager for Hamilton Bros. grocery and then went into the grocery business for himself in El Centro. He sold this business to Ross & Stuart, and a few

months later purchased the grocery store of Thing & Thing at Calexico. He sold this business in 1925, going into the hay, grain and feed business in May, 1927, and was appointed purchasing agent of Imperial County, which position he still holds. He helped organize the Calexico Kiwanis Club, and was its first president, was a member of the high school board three years. Mr. Scott is proud of the prominent part he played as chairman of the "Swing for Congress Club" and is secretary of the American Conservation Club. He still recalls with a thrill the "flivver" parade that stormed San Diego and the meeting where Phil talked to more than 1500 people. Mr. Scott owns valuable business property in El Centro.

LETA M. BRYAN. EL CENTRO. 1907. Mrs. Bryan holds the record for the longest continuous service of any county employee, appointed or elected. She was appointed court reporter upon organization of the county in August, 1907, by Judge Franklin J. Cole, and has served continuously to the present time, covering a period of twenty-four years. Mrs. Bryan first came to El Centro May 30, 1907, and all during the summer she reported the meetings of the county division campaign for the Imperial Valley Press. She rode all over the dusty, hot Valley in buggies, spring wagons and the only automobile, which carried the El Centro campaign committee, including J. Stanley Brown, M. W. Conkling, John M. Eshleman, A. D. Medhurst, W. F. Holt and others, when they traveled from place to place in the interests of El Centro's fight for the county seat. She particularly recalls the gasoline motor car carrying a dozen or more perspiring passengers when it was built for a limit of seven. The "dinky" often had to be pushed along the track by the passengers, when the wind was too strong. In 1908, she helped organize and became a charter member of the Eastern Star Chapter, and the Ten Thousand Club, also of the Eastern Star. She is now the only resident charter member of this club in El Centro. She also helped organize the White Shrine of Jerusalem. On the side she says she has washed and ironed, scrubbed floors, built four or five houses, made Irish stews, mulligans, mothered homeless dogs and cats and four homeless children. Mrs. Bryan has a happy faculty of extending a cheerful greeting to everyone of her thousands of acquaintances and friends and has maintained the same smiling, cheerful disposition throughout her long experience in public affairs.

J. M. ESHLEMAN. EL CENTRO. 1907. Coming to the desert for his health after a strenuous session with the legislature, where he represented Alameda county as an assemblyman, Mr. Eshleman found himself in the midst of the county division campaign. He was drafted immediately as El Centro's favorite for district attorney, and was elected. He guided the new county through the maze of inexperience and organization. He was instrumental in organizing the Imperial Irrigation District and was special counsel for the District when the settlement was made with the Southern Pacific. For this, his estate was paid \$5000 after his death. He served four years as District Attorney and was then elected state Railroad Commissioner; later he was elected Lieutenant Governor of the state and was certainly in line for higher honors when he died after a long battle with the disease that first took him to the Valley. John M. Eshleman's brilliant brain worked along progressive lines at all times. He was a staunch friend and supporter of Hiram Johnson, and took an active part in the famous campaign that freed California from sinister political domination. There was no end to the energy within the man, but his frail physique prevented him from enjoying the full honors that awaited him. Mrs. Eshleman was a member of the first county board of education and with her husband took an active part in community work that helped build the social structure of Imperial Valley. She now holds a responsible state office.

LESLIE (SETH) HARTZELL. EL CENTRO. 1907. Came with his father on account of the latter's asthma, which was cured in one week. Took up a homestead along New River and proved up 160 acres. Worked on the canals and as a contractor in Calexico, moving to El Centro in 1909, where he has made a specialty of contracting, now specializing in

roofing. Mr. Hartzell always takes a keen interest in public affairs.

MR. and MRS. T. D. EHMKE. EL CENTRO. 1907. From Sacramento. Bought eighty acres of grapefruit, oranges, alfalfa and dates on the San Diego Highway where a family of six, four girls and two boys, have been raised. Mrs. Ehmke died in 1926. More than the usual run of tough luck has attended the experience of the Ehmkes since coming to the Valley and the fight made against obstacles to raise the family has given Mr. Ehmke a fine reputation as a father among his neighbors.

JOEL CORFMAN. EL CENTRO. 1907. Joining a group of Kansas people headed for California, Mr. and Mrs. Joel Corfman arrived in the fall of 1907 and found eighty acres of untaken land near Calexico. It was too high for the nearest ditch but all right for water from a more distant ditch. This ranch was home for the Corfmans until 1923, when they moved five miles east of El Centro on land previously purchased and made ready for crops. In addition to the three children who came in with their parents, three more were born. Mr. Corfman is a member of the Church of Christ at Holtville, was a Modern Woodman and a member of the school board in his district.

1908

MR. and MRS. C. B. ADAIR. EL CENTRO. 1908. They settled in the McCabe district where they were for one and a half years, moving to El Centro in the fall of 1909. They came to the Valley for Mr. Adair's health. For several years he held a position with the Ralston Furniture Store, but for the past eighteen years he has been an invalid. They were the first signers for a high school in El Centro. In 1918 Mrs. Adair accepted a position as clerk of the exemption board, she completed the work, closed the office and sent all records to Washington, D. C., March 31, 1919. That same year she became deputy county treasurer under C. W. Barton. In 1923 she was elected county treasurer and was re-elected in 1927. She held the office until January 1 of this year. Their only child, Pauline, is the wife of Roy Westmoreland, near Seeley. The Adairs own their home and income property in El Centro and are respected citizens of the community.

J. H. PAYNE. SEELEY. 1908. The fame of Imperial Valley reached across the continent and interested Mr. Payne while he was teaching school in Porto Rico, after the Spanish-American war. He came to California, attended a lecture in the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce on Imperial Valley, and at once responded. He says he found here the most desirable climate he was ever in. He bought a relinquishment west of New River for \$1000, which he developed from virgin soil in real pioneer style, killing rattlers, coyotes, badgers, swifts and bobcats. He rode on the success of cotton from 1914 to 1920, selling his last lot for 51½ cents per pound. He quit cotton just in time, went into the dairy business and built up a fine Guernsey herd. Since 1929 the ranch has been in vegetables and alfalfa.

NONT J. REID. EL CENTRO. 1908.

Nont J. Reid, county tax collector, is a Democrat that Republicans have kept in office for the past twenty years and will likely keep on voting for him as long as he wants the post. That is a good recommendation for a man. While the office is a non-partisan one, Reid has been returned to it every four years at five different elections because he knows and follows the rules of conduct that make a first-class public official and the people recognize the fact.

Mr. Reid came to Imperial in 1908 and worked first for Stevenson Bros. He was a New Mexico friend of Wiley Weaver, and when that gentleman was elected county assessor in 1910, he appointed Reid a deputy. Two years later, upon the resignation of Val Wachtel as tax collector, he was appointed to the place he now holds. He was elected in 1914, and re-elected in 1918, 1922, 1926 and 1930.

In fraternal affairs, Mr. Reid has confined his activities to the Masons and the Elks. In Masonry, he has held the

office of Master in both El Centro Lodge, 384, and Oasis Lodge, 664, holding two terms in the latter. He has been a member of the building committee many years, looking after the reconstruction of the Masonic building twice, after the earthquake of 1915 and the fire that later destroyed it. In civic affairs, Reid does his part, being an active member of the chamber of commerce and a worker with a will on any matter that looks like progress.

Mr. Reid was married in New Mexico to Ida Bryan, who died in 1920. He was married to Estelle Smith in 1923. Mr. and Mrs. Reid adopted twins, Betty and Bobby, who are now past ten years old and the delight of the household.

In the conduct of his office and amongst his friends and neighbors, Mr. Reid maintains the same jolly, pleasant mien which has won for him a just fame from Dan to Beersheba—even if he is a Democrat.

J. W. COLSON. EL CENTRO. 1908. Will be remembered by old-timers as an energetic real estate dealer in the early history of El Centro. He also owned land on which he grew cotton.

LIFE ON A RANCH IN EARLY DAYS

(The following was written for the records of the Imperial Valley Pioneer Association. It pictures so accurately the experiences of the hundreds of women who lived on farms before modern conveniences came that it is reproduced here in full.—Ed.)

By MRS. FLORA B. PITT, EL CENTRO

My Husband, L. F. Pitt, and I were living near Santa Cruz but husband had rheumatism so we decided to seek a drier climate. Several locations suggested themselves but nearly all had visible drawbacks.

Several years previous to our contemplated move, the editor of the local paper made a trip to Imperial Valley and, after the custom of editors, "wrote up" his impressions of the trip. This editorial decided us on going and seeing for ourselves.

We arrived by train in December, 1908, and set out immediately to buy a ranch, for through circulars sent out by the El Centro Chamber of Commerce we figured ourselves rich in hog raising.

After disappointing several real estate dealers we located on the edge of New River in No. 6, the south three-fourths of Section 28, 16-23, through the agency of Fuller & Aten. It was a relinquishment at \$11 per acre. It was practically the desert primeval except where the Colorado had overflowed not long before we arrived. The country looked interesting though at that time it was rough and uninviting. But we came with the determination to make this our home if it were possible.

We moved onto the ranch and lived in a tent until a house could be built. We were fortunate in having near neighbors who had a settling pond where we got water for domestic purposes until the canal was built to our claim. We selected for our tent location the easterly side of a great bush so that we might be sheltered from the west winds. The fact that we were in a slight hollow was not noticed. One night we had as hard a thunder storm as we have ever experienced. Lightning flashes were so frequent that we could find our way anywhere. There was little rain but hail fell as large as large peas and soon filled our hollow. We had a rough board floor, the ends projecting in front from which I swept the hail until so much melted that the water came in over the floor. I put household things up on the table and on the bed. Husband's rheumatism made it obligatory for him to keep out of the ice water so when daylight came I waded to a neighbors for help. He dug a ditch and the water drained off. We saved clean hail water for household use by storing the hail in buckets.

We got in forty acres of corn that fall, bought hogs to fatten on the corn, saved the best sows, thus getting our start in hog raising. Before winter passed we had alfalfa growing and fenced for hogs. By spring more land was leveled and barely was growing. By strenuous work and

careful planning we finally had 105 acres fenced, doing part at a time as the sale of hogs brought in the money.

We found hog raising profitable though it was hard work. We let the hogs run in the fields and harvest their own feed, but they soon learned to root up the alfalfa and had to have rings in their noses. They had hog lice and had to be dipped. They broke fences and had to be rounded up. Mothers sometimes ate their pigs. A lot of annoyances go with hog raising. After the first year we did not have to resow the barley field. When the barley was ripe the hogs were turned in and when the barley was gone the hogs were ready to ship. In the fall the barley field was disced and watered and the seed the hogs had scattered grew for the next crop.

Roads were rough, to say the least. There were no autos then. Many ditches were not bridged and we had to cross them any old way. New River had to be forded. Many times I was afraid to try crossing.

One of the annoyances was the wild life. Coons carefully scooped out the insides of water melons just before they ripened. Rabbits took their toll but the coyote was the greatest pest. The second year we raised hogs, the coyotes found that little pigs made good meals, so every evening the pigs and their mothers would have to be driven into an enclosure with a fence too high for the coyotes to jump. They were death on chickens, too, so they had to be shut up in the henhouse every night. The lack of stones and sticks to throw at the Leghorns which preferred the tree tops and house top made the use of tin cans necessary.

Ranchers who can get into their cars, "step on it" and fly over the smooth pavements to the ice plant, or hang out the ice card and have the ice man put ice in the refrigerator can little realize how the pioneer rancher had to cool water with wet sacks wrapped around jars, which, by the way, was better than nothing.

One great treat during those early years was the sunsets. Most of them were gorgeous. It takes the wide, open spaces to reveal their full beauty, for the sunset isn't only in the west—it is also east, north and south; in the glimmer of the drifted sand, the peculiar glint on the tuft of grass at your feet and in the lengthened shadow of taller shrubbery in the middle distance.

We hadn't the means to hire help all the time, so when there was irrigating to do, husband did the harder part in the day time and I watered the alfalfa near the house at night. I would set the alarm and get what sleep I could. In about three hours the alarm sounded and the dog, the cat and her kittens and I would form a procession out along a border to see if the water had gone far enough. Often it hadn't, so I would sit down and wait.

Curiously enough, my thoughts took a poetical turn and I made a parody on that sweet old poem by Whittier, "The Death of the Flowers."

It ran thus:

The melted butter days have come,
The hottest of the year,
With clabbered milk and sour beans
And bread crusts dry and sere.

Along the green alfalfa fields
The mad March breeze lies dead.
You cannot hear a windmill creak.
The clouds, long since, have fled.

The grasshoppers and bugs have come.
And crickets night and day
Incessantly their chirping keep
A cheerful roundelay.

Where are the nights, the frost nights,
When we might sleep at ease
And no mosquitoes mar our rest;
No gnats our slumbers tease!

Alas! they all are lost to sight,
Tho still to mem'ry, dear,
As we toss upon a tired couch
And wish November near.

And then I think of my old home
That I have left behind;
Of babbling brook and shady nook
Where mercury never climbed.

I dream of natty bathing suit
Upon a wave kissed shore;
Of roses—roses everywhere—
Of luscious fruit galore.

Yet, quite unmeet it is, that one
Should cast a backward look,
When pennies, dimes and dollars roll
Into the pocketbook!

I sent these lines to a nephew in school and he applauded by saying my description was so realistic that he could taste the sour beans and feel the hot wind burn his cheek. I replied with another collection of verse that told him about the wonderful casabas, muskmelons, cantaloupes and watermelons that were saying, "Come, eat us."

After five years, husband's health failed and we moved to El Centro, where I still live. Mr. Pitt died in 1916.

(Mrs. Pitt is now in charge of the El Centro Ladies' Rest Room on Sixth Street.—Ed.)

MR. AND MRS. JOHN M. TREDENICK. EL CENTRO. 1908. Coming from Arizona Mr. Tredenick bought a relinquishment near Holtville but soon disposed of this and became identified with the Globe Grain & Milling company as manager at Holtville. He held this position until his death in 1919. Mrs. Tredenick came to El Centro in 1924 and has been a member of the efficient and courteous post office force in that city since that time. They had two children, Thomas and Frances. When war was declared "Tommy" was the first boy in Holtville to enlist. He volunteered for navy service and has nineteen months of excellent war record.

HAROLD BELL WRIGHT. EL CENTRO. 1908. Perhaps the widest publicity in the history of the Valley was given to this desert region by Harold Bell Wright, when he wrote "The Winning of Barbara Worth," which was published in 1911. The book was written on Tecolote Rancho, in a thatched cottage built for seclusion, but which later became the objective of many pilgrimages by Mr. Wright's readers. Mr. Wright was an acquaintance of W. F. Holt, and was pastor of the Christian Church in Redlands. When he decided to devote his entire time to writing he purchased the ranch east of El Centro and found relaxation in raising high grade horses. This soon palled upon him and he sold the place, establishing homes in Arizona and on the coast. The characters in the novel were taken from life and some of them are still residents of the Valley. C. R. Rockwood, W. F. Holt, C. N. Perry, Pete Gaines, Andy Elliott, Mobley Meadows, and other Valley people served as types for characters in the book. The Valley's finest hotel and the El Centro Holtville Golf Club are named Barbara Worth.

I. W. EPPLER. EL CENTRO. 1908. From Colorado. Bought 160 acre E. A. Perkiss ranch a mile north on Fourth street. In 1909 Mrs. Eppler, Nora, Mina and Albert joined their father here. Mr. Eppler became interested in Guernsey cattle, importing thoroughbreds. He built the first pit silo in the Valley. In 1920 Mr. and Mrs. Eppler and daughter Nora took a trip through the Panama Canal. They went on a coffee steamer. Albert formerly worked with the Delta Implement Co. and now is a resident of Colorado. Mr. Eppler pioneered in Kansas, Colorado and Imperial Valley. He died here in 1925. Miss Mina married Dan Bromley and they have five children. Bromley cares for the home ranch. Miss Nora went through high school here, was graduated from the University of Southern California at Los Angeles and is now supervisor of all elementary schools in El Centro. Mrs. Eppler lives with her children on the home place. Two elder daughters, Mrs. Millie Decatur, lives at Petaluma, Calif., and Mrs. Laura Page, lives at Ontario, Calif.

LUTHER WILSON. EL CENTRO. 1908. Coming from the Middle West with his wife, Mr. Wilson drove a team from Los Angeles, bringing household goods by way of Devil's

Canyon. Leveled land south of Holtville and for pay received twenty acres. Erected a tent house and later a frame residence. For the entire twenty-two years, Mr. Wilson has not slept once off his home place. He has never had his name as a debtor on any merchant's books and has worked his twenty acres in a manner to make a good living for his family. Mrs. Wilson has been with him all along. His son, Luther, Jr., died in training camp. His daughter, Lulu, is now Mrs. Jack Tackett.

C. J. RITZ. EL CENTRO. 1908. Mr. and Mrs. Ritz came from San Francisco and went into the meat market business in El Centro, opening the first market with Bob Davies, cattle man from the Campo neighborhood. He was later in the same business with Bert Irwin, as a partner. He died in 1917 and his was one of the first funerals conducted by the Elks Lodge. Mrs. Ritz established a flower store and still conducts it on Sixth Street in El Centro. Mr. Ritz was always a forward-looking citizen, took great interest in progressive matters and Mrs. Ritz continues to enjoy a large circle of friends as she carries on her business in the county seat.

1909

WINTHROP PIER. EL CENTRO. 1909. Mr. Pier was owner of 400 acres of land which supported a fine herd of 100 dairy cows. He was a graduate of Harvard, active in politics and was successful as a real estate dealer in El Centro.

J. G. DELOZIER. EL CENTRO. 1909. Established the DeLozier Furniture Co., which became the leading store of its kind within a year.

MR. AND MRS. GEORGE DIXON. EL CENTRO. 1909. Bought the Pioneer Barber Shop with Ed. Oldham, where Mr. Dixon was in business for eight years, the last two years being associated with James Crerar; they then moved to Brawley, where he bought a barber shop and conducted it until 1928, when he died. Mr. Dixon was Exalted Ruler of the Brawley Elks Lodge in 1922, and had a host of friends from one end of the Valley to the other.

JOHN S. LAREW. EL CENTRO. 1909. An able and representative lawyer, Mr. Larew came from Mariposa County to El Centro in 1909, soon attaining a good practice and taking part in the rapidly growing community's affairs. Mr. Larew was city attorney of El Centro and was later elected judge of the superior court. He was killed in an unfortunate automobile accident in El Centro. Mrs. Larew resides in the home in El Centro.

WALTER E. PACKARD. EL CENTRO. 1909. This name will be recalled by thousands who read this history. Mr. Packard was educated especially for horticultural and agricultural work and came to the Valley as the enthusiastic representative of the state university in charge of the experimental farm east of El Centro in 1909. The work that farm did for five years guided farmers in their crop problems in a masterly way. Mr. Packard's ability resulted in his being drafted to greater fields. He has served the United States and foreign governments since his experiments in Imperial Valley.

THE NUFFER FAMILY. EL CENTRO. 1909. Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Nuffer and two sons, Allen and Lee, decided to cast their lots with the growing county seat town a year or so after it was incorporated. Mr. Nuffer, senior, and Allen, organized the Nuffer Land Company, which has been one of the leading real estate firms of El Centro ever since. Lee attended school and university and is now practicing law in El Centro. This family has been a consistent factor of growth for the Valley, locating many buyers on farm and city properties. If any complaints have ever been made by clients of this firm on account of "skinny" practices, the writer of this history has never heard of them—and that covers a period of more than twenty years.

VERNILE WHITE. EL CENTRO. 1909. Rode a burro to school at Calexico in the early days but was one of the prize winners in a contest conducted by the Chronicle, under O. B. Tout, and thereafter rode a handsome pony. Mr. White is now a man of a family, and owns a dairy in No. 6.

J. C. JENKINS. EL CENTRO. 1909. From Texas. Mrs. Jenkins came a month later. Jenkins carpentered several months and was with the telephone company five years. He was appointed deputy city marshal where he served two years until appointed chief which office he filled two years. Visiting Idaho he was appointed building and plumbing inspector upon his return and at the end of his term he was again drafted as chief of police. He had charge then of No. 8 telephone system out of Brawley. He served three years as constable in Brawley. Returning to El Centro to make his home he has been a builder here for several years, always interested in public affairs and working for the betterment of his home city. This spring he is helping the county assessor with field work. He is a member of the Odd Fellows, reaching the office of deputy grand master. The Jenkins lost a daughter, Mrs. Fetters, two years ago.

ATKINSON FAMILY, Mary E. and sons Tom, Harold, Will and J. Robert. El Centro. Tom came from Montana late in 1906. Drove the first Maxwell auto in El Centro. Died in Los Angeles in 1909. Mary E. Atkinson and Sons, Harold and Will, came in 1910 and Robert in 1911. Mrs. Atkinson died in Los Angeles in 1924. Harold clerked for B. Salomon, Will for the Hamilton Grocery, and Robert for J. G. Scott. Robert lost his eyesight in an accident in 1912 and has since established the biggest Braille printing plant in the west in Los Angeles where books and periodicals for the blind are produced. Harold, better known all over the Valley, 'Smiley,' and Will enlisted in the World War. Two sisters, Mrs. Lena A. Bunnell and Agnes H. Atkinson, came to El Centro to live with their mother. The Atkinsons were raised in Missouri in the same neighborhood with True Vencill and W. F. Holt. The mother was a lover of the Valley, not even leaving in the heat of summers for some eight years. She proved up on a desert land claim and later sold the land.

1910 and After

BIRD E. HOBODY. EL CENTRO. 1910. Mrs. Hobody came to the Valley to accept a position as expert copyist in the office of the County Recorder in 1910. She served as deputy for thirteen years and was then elected, in 1923, to the office herself. She was returned by election in 1927 and continued to fill the office until January 1, 1931. Mrs. Hobody, being a good Democrat, was prominent in politics and took an active part in affairs all the time.

REV. W. G. CONLEY. EL CENTRO. 1910. Owning ranch property several years before coming to reside in the Valley, Mr. Conley was no stranger to the desert. He became pastor of the Christian Church and was instrumental in building the present edifice, which was dedicated in January, 1911. Mr. and Mrs. Conley and their estimable family enjoyed a wide circle of friends wherever they were living. Mr. Conley died a few years ago.

DR. W. W. APPLE. EL CENTRO. 1910. Combining the practice of medicine with the alluring cultivate of fruit trees has been Dr. Apple's hobby. He raises as fine a sample of grapefruit as the Valley produces. The doctor, together with Mrs. Apple and two children, Cheerful and Wm., Jr., has been a pleasant, competent physician-friend of the community. The Apples enjoyed a trip around the world in 1930.

FRED J. GIANOLA. EL CENTRO. 1911. Being a patriotic American, Fred Gianola arrived on the Fourth of July and immediately secured a position with the First National Bank, which was later purchased by the Bank of America. He is now assistant manager of the Bank of America and completed his twentieth year of service the Fourth of July. He married a daughter of Yancy McFadden and has a happy family of three daughters and a son. They are Gwenevere, Regina, Ellen Marie and Frederick James. Mr. Gianola was treasurer of the city for many years and is now a member of the city council. He has always given much time to civic matters. He is a member of the Elks, Woodmen of the World and the Masons. It is said that Mr. Gianola is called by his first name by more people in Imperial Valley than any other business man.

H. H. OGAN. EL CENTRO. 1911. Likes the Valley so well that he has spent only one night outside since settling on his place two miles north and one mile west of El Centro. Claims to have the healthiest family in the Valley.

ROY SHEPHERD. EL CENTRO. 1911. Mr. Shepherd owns 200 acres southeast of El Centro and makes a specialty of a large acreage of asparagus.

CHARLES W. BARRY. El Centro. 1914. Came to El Centro the fall of 1914 from Washington, D. C., where he had been in the employ of the U. S. Government, in the Bureau of Insular Affairs, a division of the War Department, for eight years. Prior to that time he had served three years in the Bureau of Education of the Philippine Government, being stationed at Manila. He was in the employ of the Imperial Irrigation District in the Assessor-Collector's office at the time of the entrance of the United States in the World War. He entered the Second Officer's Training Camp at Presidio, San Francisco, in August, 1917. Was commissioned First Lieutenant November 8, 1917, and assigned to the Air Service, A. P. Spruce Production division, and stationed at Portland, Oregon; and at Vancouver Barracks. Was in command of Squadron "I" for practically eighteen months, the whole time of his war service. Was honorably discharged February 11, 1919. Returned to El Centro where he held responsible clerical positions until he was appointed Collector-Assessor of the Imperial Irrigation District in 1920, to fill the unexpired term of J. S. Loofbrouow. Was later elected to this office of Assessor-Collector and held it continuously until his death, November 20, 1929.

CALEXICO

1900

CHARLES N. PERRY. CALEXICO-EL CENTRO. 1892. Mr. Perry's name starts on page one as far as the reclamation of the Colorado desert is concerned and runs through the next twenty or more years with a regularity that indicates the steady character of the man. He became associated with C. R. Rockwood in engineering work in the state of Washington before taking up the Imperial Valley project and came to work with Rockwood in September, 1892. He was in charge of the first survey work, an accurate account of which appears written by Mr. Perry himself in Chapter IV of this history. Mr. Perry was associated with the California Development Company continuously until 1907. He was elected County Surveyor in 1911 and was re-elected in 1915, resigning the following year. While he was County Surveyor he was also a member of the El Centro City Council, serving in 1914 and 1915. In 1919 he was called to act as Chief Engineer and General Manager of the Imperial Irrigation District, which office he capably filled for two years.

Mr. Perry handled the direction of the defensive work at Calexico during the flood period and saved that city from inundation by marshaling all citizens and teams to throw up a dirt levee west of town after the railroad had failed in an attempt to keep the water back.

Mr. Perry's self-effacing, kindly diplomacy, backed with real ability, helped a lot in the early days. He was the idol of the transit crews in the field and beloved and respected by all who came in contact with him in later years.

The Perrys are now residents of Los Angeles, where Mr. Perry is following his profession as an engineer.

THOS. BEACH. CALEXICO-NILAND. 1900. Mr. Beach came from the Salt River Valley and joined the first caravan of immigrants looking for work on the new canal system at Yuma in 1900. He helped build the raft that carried the first household goods of the Van Horn and Gillett party across the river and took the job of Superintendent of Construction for the California Development Company. A daughter, Cameron Beach, was the first girl born in the Valley. For years, Mr. Beach was an executive for the Development Company and the Mutual Water Companies. He was one of the first to plant barley and sorghum along the preliminary canal near the border and sold the first wagon load of feed marketed. He farmed and engaged in

the real estate business in Calexico with Edward Dool and later became interested in the development of the north end, where he helped launch the towns of Niland and Calipatria. He now owns a ranch near Niland and also has his home in Los Angeles.

MOBLEY MEADOWS. CALEXICO. 1900. One of the picturesque plainsmen of the west and Imperial County's first sheriff. He was employed by the California Development Company on the first canal work. Being an expert horseman and a crack shot, he was frequently the entertainer. He was in the livery business in Calexico when elected sheriff in 1907. He was re-elected and in 1915 died from a sudden attack of stomach trouble. Harold Bell Wright selected Meadows as the model for the "Plainsman" and his statue stands in the court house grounds, depicting the horseman who finds his canteen empty. Mr. Meadows was one of the most popular officers in the west. His ability to trail an outlaw was canny. Once he shot a rifle from the hand of a youthful horse thief rather than kill him. His life was full of incidents like that.

JOSEPH ESTUDILLO. CALEXICO. 1900. When C. R. Rockwood and Dr. W. T. Heffernan looked around for thirty-eight head of horses to be used by the first surveying crews, they found them on Sr. Estudillo's ranch near Hemet. Joseph was delegated to bring them down. He then became identified with the earliest life in the Valley, was appointed postmaster, serving four years, ran the general merchandise store for Dr. Heffernan and established the first drug store in Calexico. Joe was a crack shot and often entertained a crowd by shooting dimes tossed in the air. When 125 editors arrived to inspect the Valley, Joe was delegated to furnish a quail breakfast. He and two friends went out in the brush and returned with 325 fat quail in half a day. That breakfast is still talked about amongst the editors.

P. E. CARR. CALEXICO. 1900. Mr. Carr was teaching the Indian school at Yuma when construction work started on the Valley system. He took up 160 acres of land at that time and in 1903 moved on his land near Calexico, where he lived for eleven years; selling out, the Carrs moved to Calexico, where he erected a large brick building and engaged in the garage business. Mr. Carr was instrumental in influencing a great many Kansas people to come to the Valley. He was appointed county supervisor to fill a vacancy and was elected to the same position at the next election. He was a member of the board of trustees of the City of Calexico and served in numerous public offices. Mrs. Carr was very active in church and W. C. T. U. affairs. At present they are living on the coast.

THING BROS. CALEXICO. 1900. As early as 1895 these brothers ran cattle in the Valley on overflowed land. They established the first butcher shop in the Valley, which was at the company camp, and followed this with another shop at Imperial; later they returned to Calexico, erecting a fine two-story brick and ran a general merchandise business. Frank, George and Sam Thing did their share in the early development era.

J. A. HAMMERS AND SONS, AYLMEY J. AND W. B. CALEXICO. 1900. J. A. Hammers was a member of the Cameron Lake Cattle Co., which filed on 10,000 acres of desert land, west of Calexico, in 1900. In 1903 the company was dissolved and the Hammers family took two sections of land. This land was managed by Aylmer J. and W. B. Hammers, who fought the flood, raised their crops and did more than their share to make the No. 6 section the garden spot it became.

J. B. HOFFMAN. CALEXICO. 1900. Came to the Valley at the urging of A. H. Heber, arriving November 26, 1900, at Cameron Lake, which was headquarters for the surveyors working for the California Development Company. He rode on top of a freight wagon from Flowing Well and joined the field crew as rear chainman. In February, 1901, Hoffman was put in charge of the commissary and clerical work. February 12, Hoffman took a gang of Cocopah Indians and went ahead of the outfit and put up the tents for the new camp at Calexico. This was the very first "construction" work of any sort on the "townsite" which was not yet a townsite. San Diego County school authorities appointed

Hoffman a member of the Cuyamaca high school district board. He was also appointed the first justice of the peace and deputy coroner. He invented the open air jail, consisting of a chain between two mesquite trees. The prisoners were locked to the links of the chain. It was the habit of all criminals to gather at the border. "Shooting up the town" was a sport. Mr. Hoffman continued five years as superintendent of headquarters camp when he started improvement of his 320-acre ranch. In 1904 he married Florence A. Gould and three children were born, Mary, Gertrude and James, Jr. He held the office of justice for sixteen years, continuing when Imperial County was formed. Served as city clerk and recorder for Calexico, was a member of the elementary and high school boards for sixteen years and had much to do with every period of growth of the schools. In the business world Mr. Hoffman was one of the group that organized the Calexico Compress & Warehouse Company; helped organize the Calexico Cotton Oil Company; helped build four cotton gins in Mexico and one in Calexico; and was in direct charge of the company's business for five years, handling more than 25,000 bales of staple annually. His firm also had a compress at Bakersfield, one at Phoenix, one at Tucson and one in Mexicali. He is still on the board of directors. In 1925 the Hoffmans established a home in Alhambra but they still claim the Valley as home. The incidents and events that took place during Mr. Hoffman's first thirty years in Imperial Valley are the history of the Valley itself.

1901

FRANK L. WEED, CALEXICO. 1901. Arrived at Calexico a month after the first water ran in the main canal; together with his brothers, Dana L. and Leonard S., he helped farm 480 acres in No. 6. After ten years of pioneering, Dana L. went to Kirksville and studied osteopathy. Dana Weed was the first Sunday School superintendent in Calexico. Weed Bros. also owned business property and were interested in plumbing, hardware and sheet metal business in Calexico. Their names run through the early history of the south end of the Valley with many complimentary references to their personal worth and stability.

A. M. SHENK, CALEXICO. 1901. In April 1900 Rev. and Mrs. John Shenk drove to Calexico from Flowing Well and took up 1609 acres of land, a half section for himself and wife and their three sons, becoming thereby the first locaters on government land in Imperial Valley. Adolphus M. Shenk, one of the sons, came to the Valley January 12, 1901, and immediately began to improve his 320. Being trained in stenography and office work, however, he soon found that directing others to do the work on the ranch was just as productive of results. He was appointed postmaster to succeed Joseph Estudillo, who was first, and served in that capacity for five years. Mr. Shenk maintained a brokerage office for many years in Calexico, and now lives in Los Angeles.

WALTER K. BOWKER, CALEXICO. 1901. When a group of Los Angeles business men, headed by Harrison Gray Otis, founder of the Los Angeles Times, decided to farm on a big scale in the Valley they secured 876,000 acres in Mexico and 1000 acres on the American side of the line and placed Walter K. Bowker in charge. The venture was on a scale that exceeded in size anything of its kind in the United States. Cattle raising was the prime object. The initial development of the ranch on the American side made it the show place of the Valley and 15,000 acres planted on the Mexican side produced magnificent crops year after year. The California-Mexico Land and Cattle Company, known everywhere as the C. M. Company, was a mighty factor in adding to the reputation of the Valley as a producing area second to none. Mr. Bowker's able management placed him in the role of leader quickly and he and his estimable family were esteemed and respected by everyone. Mr. Bowker now lives on the coast. A son, Walter K. Jr., raised from boyhood on the ranch, is a resident of Calexico.

NATHAN LANDSBERG, CALEXICO. 1901. Started the first mercantile store in Heber and the first one in Mexicali. Also started store in Calexico in the first frame building on Sec-

ond street. He claims to have been the only Jew in the Valley for about five years. When he started there was no customs office on either side of the line. In later years he moved to Los Angeles, where he now is in the real estate business. He experienced all the excitement and hardships of the flood period and helped build the levees around Calexico to keep the river out of town.

MR. AND MRS. JAMES E. PECK, CALEXICO-JACUMBA. 1901-1905. Mr. Peck was one of the early engineers for the California Development Company. His mechanical drawings were guides for the builders who put in most of the structures and canal systems. He was a volunteer weather observer for the government and his records were among the first to prove that the temperature seldom exceeded 120. Mr. Peck engaged in the lumber business in El Centro and then in Jacumba, where they reside today. Mrs. Peck came to Calexico in 1905 as Miss Mame P. McWilliams to accept a position as teacher in the first school building erected there. Miss Lyda Lottridge was the other teacher. All early residents of Calexico recall with pleasure the splendid leadership of Miss McWilliams as a teacher of their children and in the social affairs of the little community. In June, 1907, when Mr. and Mrs. Peck were married, they went to live in the first frame house built in Calexico in 1901. Mrs. Peck served as a member of the county board of education for several years. She helped to organize the Woman's Improvement Club, helped to establish the library and reading room and took a keen interest in every enterprise that involved civic advancement. They now reside in Jacumba, where Mrs. Peck is principal of the schools.

J. A. ALLISON, CALEXICO. 1901. As early as 1891, Mr. Allison used the desert as grazing land, running great herds of cattle around the lakes in this district. When the Valley was opened, he went to work for the C. M. Ranch Company and then entered government service as inspector of customs in 1907. He was the father of Edith, who married Sidney McHarg, first supervisor from Calexico; J. Chester, who was chief engineer for the California Development Company; and Robert, who was with the Holton Power Company for several years.

1902

HARRY STALEY, CALEXICO. 1902. Came to the Valley at the age of thirteen with his father, H. G. Staley, and his brother, William. Determined to make his own way, the day after he arrived he got a job on the Scott ranch near Imperial, later he joined the surveying crews with the California Development Company and made his headquarters at Calexico; there he met and married Mollie Graff, to which union were born three children. Mrs. Staley was a jolly member of a group of youthful young people, who made life joyous in the border town. Among these were: Margaret Bradbury, Lorena Bragg, the McCullum girls and Lucille Dool.

A. G. GOFF, CALEXICO. 1902. Took up land in No. 6, later purchased another ranch in No. 1; was employed by the water companies and was well known in the south end of the Valley.

MR. AND MRS. LEROY LITTLE, CALEXICO. 1902-3. Mr. Little drove overland from Arizona, arriving in Imperial on Christmas Eve, 1902, in the midst of about the only snow-storm Imperial Valley ever saw. He went on the "Scotty" Russell ranch, where Mrs. Little and two small children joined him a year later. Mrs. Little came by way of Flowing Well and stage to Imperial, being eight hours on the desert road. The stage was crowded and she had to hold the 2½-year-old youngster on her lap all the way. A kindly passenger, who sat beside her, took care of the 15-month-old baby. The next day, Mr. Little found the family, took them to the ranch, where they lived three years, under a ramada and in tents without floors. The ground became so packed that it could be swept like a cement floor. They then bought a ranch in Mexico and moved there just in time to be marooned by the flood; all but forty acres of crop was washed away and only by the hardest kind of work was the water kept away from the house. Mrs. Little and the children were on the ranch at this time for three months

and never saw a white woman. The place was entirely surrounded by water. Mr. Little walked to town for provisions, using a boat part of the way. For ten years following the flood, he farmed on a large scale, raising barley and wheat, leasing five thousand acres of land; the last two or three years the land was sub-let for cotton. During the Mexican insurrection of 1910-11, the Littles suffered from an unfortunate happening. Mexicali was occupied by rebels and the whole country was agog awaiting the arrival of Federal troops. Mr. Little was on his way to town when a neighbor shouted that the Federals were approaching his ranch; he turned, saw the column of dust and thinking only of the safety of his aged uncle who had been left alone on the ranch, he turned and drove back with all speed. The rebels watched the proceeding from their trenches and at once came to the conclusion that Mr. Little had gone back to give the Federals information concerning the Mexicali defenses. The Federals came on, were met with a deadly fire and retired in defeat and disorder. As soon as the coast was clear, the insurgents went to the Little ranch and plundered the place of everything of value. They killed every chicken but one hen, which was hidden away on a nest full of eggs; she hatched fifteen chicks and led them forth triumphantly, the only living things on the ranch. They even took Mrs. Little's side saddle, for which they had no use. Mr. Little was ordered off the place and had to stay away three months; he lost his entire crop of wheat. The Littles later established a home in San Diego, but are now living in Calexico and Mr. Little is again farming the old home place in Mexico. Mrs. Little has been prominent in the Eastern Star, Rebekahs, White Shrine, W. B. A., Woman's Improvement Club and in the social life of the border city.

1903

THOMAS J. MITCHELL. CALEXICO. 1903. Mr. Mitchell was a pioneer builder and contractor in Calexico. The greater portion of the principal buildings and residences in Calexico are samples of his work. He won the regard of all as a good business man and a clean citizen. He was Imperial Valley's first coroner. Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell and family endeared themselves to all with whom they came in contact.

H. F. COLLINS. CALEXICO. 1903. Mr. and Mrs. Collins settled on Bond's Corner east of Calexico in 1903 and still reside on the home place. They also own eighty acres near Holtville. Mr. Collins is one of the staunch Democrats of the Valley and can outline more shortcomings of any Republican administration in a minute than the average man can in an hour. In spite of this, after twenty-five years' acquaintance, the editor of this history will say that Mr. Collins is a gentleman, a scholar and a good farmer.

SAM DONALDSON. CALEXICO. 1903. Got off the new Valley S. P. railroad branch at Brawley. There was not even a depot. Varney Bros. and the C. M. Company had stores there. Filed on 160 acres of land in the number eight district, leveled and made it ready for water and sowed a barley crop; next year raised corn. He piled the corn crop on the ground and a long session of winter rains set in and spoiled it all. He watched the flume and bridge across the river float down the crest of the high water to Salton Sea. The cable that was strung across the river carried the undertaker's basket in which people rode back and forth across the water. Donaldson operated this cable from August, 1905, to March, 1906. Hogs, horses, grain, provisions of all kinds were carried across in this manner. In March, 1906. Mr. Donaldson went to Calexico to help out the Varney Bros. for three or four days; he stayed on that job for eight years. He witnessed the cut of New River, and helped keep the flood waters out of town. Since then, Mr. Donaldson was in business in various lines in Calexico and is now a resident of Abilene, Kansas.

T. B. OWEN. CALEXICO. 1903. A stockman with experience gained in Wyoming, Texas and other parts of the west, Mr. Owen was attracted to the Valley and became at once interested in local possibilities along this line. He worked for the C. M. Company at Calexico for six months

and then went into business for himself, buying, breeding and selling high class horses, mules and hogs. He brought in the first thoroughbred brood mares, the first thoroughbred stallion, "Slickaway," and the blue ribbon herd of champion Hampshire hogs from the world's fair at San Francisco. He rented out stock for land leveling and ditch building work. His stock worked on the levee that kept the water out of Calexico. Mr. Owen has had a direct influence on the development of fine horses in the Valley. He never could resist the appeal of a fine stepper. In Oakland he selected a team, fixed up an entry in the horse show and won first prize. He sold this team and club rig to Harold Bell Wright for \$2500. He also picked Wright's favorite saddle horses and was the novelist's guide in his selection of first class horses. Mr. and Mrs. Owen have taken an active part in all Valley affairs and are esteemed residents of Calexico today.

D. R. KINCAID. CALEXICO. 1903. Was for eleven years with the California Development Company. In 1915 he established the Calexico Lumber Company and built up a successful business. Mr. Kincaid has been quietly active in all progressive matters affecting his community.

J. W. BRAGG. CALEXICO. 1903. Coming from Kansas with a large party of neighbors, friends and relatives, Mr. and Mrs. Bragg purchased forty acres near Calexico, and since then the Bragg family has been closely identified with every incident in the history of the south end of the Valley. They were charter members of the First Methodist Church of Calexico, organized in August, 1903. The five children: Lorena, Floyd, Hazel, Alice and John, were all leaders in the Valley's early social life. The Braggs now reside in Pasadena.

A. S. CARR. CALEXICO. 1903. Accompanied by his family and a carload of registered Hereford cattle from Oklahoma, Mr. Carr arrived in November, 1903. The railroad was completed only to Imperial. After arrival they thought one year would be enough but they are still residents of Calexico which they have helped to grow from two stores to its present importance. They experienced all the discomforts that the earliest pioneers experienced, helped fight the flood waters back from Calexico, helped establish the first church, first school and took an active part in civic affairs.

B. F. McDONALD. CALEXICO. 1903. Was one of the first farmers in the No. 6 district; together with six other home builders, aggregating 1800 acres of land, he refused to be flooded out, in 1906, so he and his neighbors with scraper teams and wheelbarrows threw up a levee around their six ranches and succeeded in keeping the water out. He was the Louisiana cotton grower and went heavily into the raising of that crop, and lost heavily as well.

1904

J. F. STEINTORF. CALEXICO. 1904. Established the International Lumber Company in Calexico before the railroad was finished, hauling the first lumber down from Imperial. Mr. Steintorf's first work was with the Boyd Lumber Company at Holtville where he handled the redwood lumber that went into the power flume for the Holton Power Company's first plant. The first bill of lumber sold in Calexico went into the first restaurant which was operated by Mr. O'Hearn. He sold the lumber that went into the Calexico hotel and bank building and handled all material supplies except the brick. The bank's signs were painted on the glass in Los Angeles before being shipped down. Mr. and Mrs. Steintorf and their two sons, Paul and Arthur, entered into the life of Calexico in every way and were pillars in business and social affairs. Mr. Steintorf was one of the founders of the International Bank, later selling to his associate, F. D. Hevener. Having had experience as mayor of a Kansas town three terms, he always refused to run for any office. He still owns the 320 he developed at Bond's Corner, east of Calexico. The Steintorfs did their share in the fight against the flood waters that threatened Calexico. Mrs. Steintorf has been prominent in the affairs of the Woman's Improvement Club since its organization. Paul was city clerk and city manager of Calexico several years. Arthur is ranching in the San Joaquin Valley.

MR. AND MRS. N. E. GRAFF. CALEXICO. 1904. Were the only white people on the train on which they arrived. Mr. Graff was a carpenter and had much to do with building in Calexico, from the time the first big auction was held until the present. He bought four lots on Sixth Street, where the family home has been for twenty-seven years. The family consisted of Elsie, Mollie, Lester and Blanche.

E. E. BENNETT. CALEXICO. 1904. Pioneering first in Oklahoma, Mr. Bennett came to the valley as a real estate man and at once took up eighty acres of land five miles west of Calexico. With his good wife and family of four children, Leslie, Grace, Ray and Lulu, the desert ranch soon took on a prosperous appearance. Then came the flood waters. Instead of leaving the home place they stayed on, built up levees and kept the water out. They were marooned for weeks and the only supplies were obtained by Miss Grace riding her horse in water to the crude ferry run by an old Indian who would carry her across the river and back again. With the supplies packed in a saddle bag and held above the waters she would make her way back to the island ranch. Miss Grace became the bride of Andy Preble of Imperial, now county supervisor. Miss Lulu married J. F. Bezdecheck, Imperial manager of the telephone company. They moved to San Diego, where they now live. Miss Ray became Mrs. John Meek and now lives in San Bernardino. Leslie is married and is ranching on his own near El Centro. Mr. Bennett died a few years ago and Mrs. Bennett lives with her daughter, Mrs. Preble, in Imperial. Mr. Bennett was one of the first to encourage cotton growing on a commercial basis in the valley. He was sent east with Geo. Carter to bring in the first cotton gin to El Centro. Also was instrumental in establishing the first cottonseed oil mill there. He was an early advocate of the all-American canal, was interested in the Imperial Laguna Water Company, which planned the development of the east side mesa. He was appointed county supervisor from the Calexico district by Governor Johnson and served in that capacity in 1911 and 1912. Mr. Bennett's shoulder was always to the wheel of progress and his connection with public matters was keenly appreciated by his fellow citizens. A pioneer in spirit he always took his part in development work of any kind that came up.

1905

ROBERT L. GLASBY. CALEXICO. 1905. Was attracted to the Imperial Valley, with its lure for health. He arrived in Calexico September 29, 1905.

After some days spent in the stimulating atmosphere of the New Empire in the making, Mr. Glasby returned to Ventura and brought back with him Mrs. Glasby and their seven-year-old son, Kenneth, establishing their home in Calexico, where they resided eighteen years.

The Congregational Church building in Calexico was the second church edifice in Imperial Valley. It was built for the most part by labor donated. Mr. Glasby's first official duty as pastor was to dedicate the new church.

In the year 1906, the Colorado River became more and more menacing. The religious activities of the church were practically suspended for a time.

An emergency call having been sent out for men, mules and scrapers, for the purpose of throwing up a levee through the town, found the pastor this Sunday morning with his shovel on his shoulder hurrying to the scene.

Many were the jests among the men workers, to the effect that the preacher wouldn't last long. At six o'clock p. m., the workers thought the town was safe. All but three men had gone home. Mr. Glasby was one of the three men who discovered a break in the levee.

Shouting and running, these men gave a general alarm. At about ten o'clock that night, the break in the levee was mended, and the tired preacher went home.

During the years that followed, Mr. Glasby organized twelve Sunday Schools throughout Imperial Valley, out of which developed five churches.

Through the efforts of the following pioneer ministers, Tout of El Centro, Wentworth of Imperial, Wright of Holtville, Croco of Brawley, and Glasby of Calexico, the Im-

perial Valley Ministerial Association was organized. Mr. Glasby was the second president, which office he held for four years.

This organization introduced into Imperial Valley the first Behymer entertainment course. Mr. Glasby was chosen business manager.

A notorious blind pig prospered in Calexico, which drew patrons from all over the Valley. After a wild Sunday of drunkenness and debauchery, when drunken men lay about the streets in unsightly heaps, and decent women were afraid to step across their own threshold, the minister decided to appeal to the Chamber of Commerce.

The Chamber responded by calling a mass meeting. A Law and Order League was organized, including sixty-four of the leading citizens of Calexico and vicinity.

The effectiveness of this organization resulted in the complete extermination of the notorious blind pig. The power of this Law and Order League was further felt when Imperial County was organized, and Sidney McHarg was elected Supervisor from Calexico district.

Mr. Gandier, Superintendent of the Anti-Saloon League, coming to Calexico, inquired at the store where he could find the Congregational Minister. "There he goes," said the manager, Lawrence Potter. "That's the preacher on that dray-load of whiskey. He was appointed by Judge J. B. Hoffman to superintend the removal of the confiscated liquor."

After six years of strenuous labor as an active pastor, Mr. Glasby resigned his charges and entered the business life of Calexico.

In 1912, he was elected City Clerk, appointed City Recorder, and was secretary of the Farmer's and Merchant's Club.

He was a charter member of the University Club of Imperial Valley, with Engineer H. T. Cory as its first president. This club at that time was said to be the largest University Club in California. Its membership included both men and women.

Mr. and Mrs. Glasby were both members of the first club organized in Calexico, which was called "The Social Club," and which met in the old "C. D." headquarters.

In 1923, he moved to Los Angeles. He still has property in Calexico, and finds it necessary to spend much time in Imperial Valley.

WILL STANTON. CALEXICO. 1905. Everybody in Imperial Valley knew Will Stanton, the genial auctioneer and stock broker. His genial personality enabled him to please both buyer and seller and he attained unquestioned eminence in his line. He came to Imperial Valley and went into ranch work and took up auctioneering as a side line. Later he moved to El Centro, where for some time he was in partnership with D. L. Zinn, and then again was in the brokerage business for himself. Two children, Margaret Jean and Charles H., came to the Stanton home. Mr. Stanton died a few years ago, and Mrs. Stanton lives in Los Angeles. Margaret is the wife of Wilmer Swerdfefer, a successful rancher in the Valley.

1907

J. M. EDMUNDS. CALEXICO. 1907. Urged by C. R. Rockwood, Mr. and Mrs. Edmunds first located on a half section of land near Heber and then on a quarter section just north of Calexico, which they still own. Mr. Edmunds became associated with Thomas Beach and Edward Dool in Calexico. In January of 1910 he became associated with John F. Giles, Senator Geo. P. Blair and Edward Dool in the management of the Imperial Valley Improvement Co. Their application for a charter to organize the First National Bank of Calexico was granted and Mr. Edmunds remained with that institution as an officer for seventeen years. He is now a partner with Herbert Going, in the real estate business in Calexico. Both Mr. and Mrs. Edmunds have taken a very active part in civic affairs in Calexico for the past twenty-four years. Mr. Edmunds was director of the irrigation district for five years from 1916 to 1921.

GEORGE L. PULLIAM. CALEXICO. 1907. Personally leveling and improving 160 acres of desert land, west of Calexico, Mr. Pulliam built up a home place which was a

model in No. 6, and remains so today. Mr. Pulliam has always taken an interest in public affairs. In 1918 he was elected supervisor from the Calexico district and for twelve years served Imperial Valley in that capacity. Mr. and Mrs. Pulliam enjoy the esteem of thousands of friends throughout the Valley.

C. W. BROCKMAN. CALEXICO. 1907. Mr. and Mrs. Brockman took up a section of government land in the No. 6 district west of Calexico in 1907, developed the 640 acres, established their home there and have been living on it ever since. As water was the most important factor in the Valley, Mr. Brockman made it his business to inform himself of all details connected with its distribution through the California Development Company and the mutual water companies. In 1913, two years after the Imperial Irrigation District was formed, his friends and neighbors of the Calexico division elected him director and he served as such until 1916, when the so-called bankers' re-organization committee took over the management of the Irrigation District. In 1921 he was returned to the board of directors and since that time has been regularly re-elected. He has been a member of the board fourteen years, a longer term than any other member.

During his first term as director the district set in motion the legal machinery for the purchase of the distributing system from the receiver, W. H. Holabird, who was administering its affairs on behalf of the creditors, chief among whom was the Southern Pacific Railway Company. Mr. Brockman was at the time president of three water companies, the Mt. Signal, the South Alamo and Water Co. No. 6. He was instrumental in saving the people of the Valley some \$3,000,000, the amount deducted from the original price demanded by the railroad company which had become sole creditor after settling with the other claimants. The territory of No. 6 was adjacent to the U. S.-Mexico boundary line. Mr. Brockman, as president of No. 6, proposed to buy water directly from the Mexican receiver, who had court control of all water affairs in Mexico. \$51,000 in cash was offered the Mexican receiver, A. F. Andrade, as advance payment for water. Mr. Andrade accepted the cash and undertook delivery.

This was done to test out the theory that the American receiver did not have a strangle hold on the Valley's water revenues. Mr. Brockman and the other officials of No. 6 were promptly cited for contempt of court. Every other mutual company and the district were vitally interested in this matter, as well as the creditors who were trying to sell the California Development Company to the people. Contempt proceedings were held before Judge Wellborn, in Los Angeles, who decided, after listening to arguments by the most brilliant attorneys in the state, that there was nothing to prevent any mutual water company from buying its water supply from anyone who could deliver it. This decision knocked the props from under the Southern Pacific Company's seemingly solid structure. For two years previous the attorneys and officers of the district had cooled their heels in the outer offices of the railroad company in San Francisco, awaiting attention. Conference after conference had resulted in nothing but the exhibition of the list of claims which the railroad had settled, its own schedule of claims for money advanced, etc. The only figures as a basis for transfer of the property that the railroad would consider were in the neighborhood of \$6,000,000. This staggering sum was entirely out of the question and the whole matter of purchase by the district was halted until Mr. Brockman came forward with his suggestion.

The railroad's attorneys saw at once that Water Co. No. 6 could quickly absorb all the other water companies of the Valley and thereby divert the entire water revenue to the Mexican receiver. They became quite solicitous and invited the district board to come to San Francisco. This time the board did not have to wait in the ante-room more than a minute. The result was the reduction of \$3,000,000 and the deal was closed.

When the matter of the Boulder Dam and all-American Canal came up, Mr. Brockman became a minority member of the board because of his belief that the Valley needed, first of all, adequate flood control and because of his fur-

ther belief that the settled lands would not be benefited sufficiently to warrant the expenditure necessary to construct a new canal through the sand hills on American soil. He has steadfastly supported the Boulder Dam program because he saw in it the complete control of the river. As far as power is concerned he believes that a canal from Laguna Weir to Hanlon Heading would provide a water drop at that point sufficient to generate more than enough power not only to supply the needs of Imperial Valley but also to lift water to any canal that the new lands on the mesa and lands in the Coachella Valley might build for their own benefit.

Mr. Brockman has been a sincere advocate of this plan of procedure and believes that the Valley will eventually adopt it.

As a farmer, Mr. Brockman confines himself to raising alfalfa hay and grain. He rotates his crops every five years; he finds that this benefits the land continuously, as he steadily harvests more grain and more hay after each rotation.

Mr. and Mrs. Brockman have a family of five children: three sons, Stewart, Harold and Warren, and two adopted daughters, Ruth and Ruby, who are twins. Two of his sons are air pilots. Harold has a private and commercial pilot's license and Warren is a graduate of the Newport Hangar Garage. They have a ship, the "Eaglerock," on the ranch. The Brockman ranch can be said to be the only ranch in the Valley with an airship as a part of the ranch equipment. Mr. Brockman finds it very convenient in his work as Irrigation District director as well. In case of trouble anywhere on the system, breaks in the canals, etc., he can make a survey in a very few minutes; but two hours are required for a trip to Los Angeles and an hour and a quarter will land him in San Diego.

Mr. and Mrs. Brockman and their estimable family are popular in social and club circles of the Valley.

1908 and After

MR. AND MRS. C. R. COURTNEY. CALEXICO. 1908. They leveled land and set out 40,000 nursery orange trees brought from the coast, in March, 1908. Mrs. Courtney and three children arrived in October of the same year. The new home was on 160 acres east of Calexico in what became the Jasper school district. The dwelling was a small one-room cabin with nothing in sight but sand and sky. Water was hauled on sleds from the irrigating ditch. Mrs. Courtney writes: "The first experience of my frontier life was getting lost a quarter of a mile from home; it was near sundown when I went on horseback to order water and lost my bearing and got into the jungle of the desert which adjoined our acreage. I called to my husband, who was in the milk corral and by calling back and forth I finally found my way out and got home. The first year only on four occasions did I see other women. In 1909 we built our first substantial home and set out blue gum trees around the entire 160 acres; the orange trees froze down twice and we changed to cotton and alfalfa raising. In 1912 we took up a 40-acre homestead located on the highway between Calexico and El Centro and built one of the first pretentious houses of the locality at a cost of \$6000. During this time the townsite of Heber was opened, and a newspaper was published for a short time. I wrote locals for the El Centro Progress, later for the Imperial Valley Farmer and Calexico Chronicle until we moved to Santa Ana in 1929. Our four oldest children all graduated from the El Centro Union High School, and all four received their grade schooling in Heber."

ROBERT G. GOREE. Calexico. 1908. Bob Goree and his wife came to Imperial Valley from San Diego on the last ten dollars of his savings and went to work for Edgar Bros., hauling freight. He was soon promoted to "outside man" and solicitor for the company. In 1912 he was made manager of the Calexico store. In 1914 he was almost elected county tax collector, but instead he became associated with the Imperial Valley Oil & Cotton Co. He became loan superintendent for the company and retained this position until 1918, when the concern was purchased by the Globe Mills. In the meantime, he had become a successful cotton

farmer on his own account. In company with W. J. Hartman, he went into the ginning business, building gins in Mexicali, Yuma, Gila Bend, Ariz., and took over the Harris ginning interests in the north end of the Valley. His operations in cotton gave him prominence in the business world, his natural leadership caused him to be drafted as a city councilman of Calexico. He is a member of the Elks, Masons and K. of P., and a member of the Rotary Club. He owns a home in San Diego; he recently had the misfortune of losing part of both feet in a contest with a street car. His family consists of wife, two sons and one daughter.

L. E. SINCLAIR. Calexico-Brawley. 1908. When Mr. Sinclair stepped off the train at Calexico in May, 1908, the first man he saw was Sidney McHarg, ranch man and county supervisor. "Do you want a good ranch hand?" Sinclair asked McHarg. "Let me see your hands," said McHarg. Sinclair extended the palms of his hands and McHarg said: "Show up tomorrow morning." Practically every day since then Mr. Sinclair has been "ranching it." He went into a partnership deal and farmed 732 acres in Mexico for six years. It was on his ranch that the deciding battle of the 1911 Mexican revolution was fought and the leader of the revolutionists, Stanley, was killed. Moving to Calipatria in 1915, Mr. Sinclair went into general farming on 320 acres. He also conducts a dairy on a ten-acre tract within the city limits. He owns a herd of twenty-six registered Guernsey cows, six registered Holsteins and two registered sires. This herd stood fourth in Imperial county for March 1931 production. He was the first rancher in the Valley to put in tile drains. In 1912 he married and three children, Lawrence, Jr., William Olin and Hazeldell are with their father. Mrs. Sinclair died in 1928.

F. W. FISHER. Calexico. 1911. First lived in an arrow weed camp on the banks of the West Side main. Mrs. Fisher kept cotton picker boarders to help out; she cooked for thirteen on a three burner oil stove and was often dismayed at the demand for more and more biscuits. The Fishers have lived on the same ranch for the last twenty years and now enjoy a nice home.

B. E. FISHER. Calexico. 1912. The fact that the Fishers have only had to call a doctor once in the last nineteen years, makes them believe the Valley the healthiest place in the world to live. They have conducted a dairy ranch most of the time and also have raised stock and chickens. Mr. Fisher was pleased with the fact that his three children grew up, left the Valley and returned here to live.

BRAWLEY

1900

CHARLES E. GUEST. BRAWLEY. 1900. Here was a trader, rancher, contractor, speculator, breeder of fine horses, broker, builder and a man who maintained a keen interest in public affairs. His chief early occupation was grading ranch lands and running two combined harvesters in the grain fields. In 1910 his machines covered 3300 acres and sacked more than 50,000 sacks of barley. The Guests are still residents of the Valley and taking the same interest in affairs that they always did.

1901

EDWIN MEAD. Brawley. 1901. August of 1901 was not a very comfortable month in which to view probable home sites in Imperial Valley but the dust, the heat and the dreary prospect did not deter Mr. Mead from selecting 320 acres southeast of Brawley. The following fall he brought his family, household goods, stock and chickens, including three cows. One four horse team went off the mountain grade coming over and a wagon load of goods went to the bottom of a canyon. Mrs. Mead and three children ran the tent hotel in Imperial in 1902. There were only three other women in the Valley then. Mr. Mead and the boys worked on canals and on the home ranch, cooking for themselves and several boarders. The youngest daughter, Daisy, came by way of Old Beach, stopping at the shack-hotel, the only woman there, and coming on by stage the next day. Mr. Mead held the same land until his death in 1928. Daisy

Mead, now Mrs. Thomas O. Allgire, recalls crossing the Alamo river on a plank and holding to an overhead rope. Mrs. Mead also died a short time ago, leaving the two youngest children still residents of the Valley.

1901

EARL C. POUND. BRAWLEY. 1901. From Kansas. Arrived in Imperial by stage from Flowing Well when a Chinaman had a hotel in a tent. The only additional business was a blacksmith shop in the open and a barbed wire corral for stock. Filed on land and examined the heading where water was to be brought in. He left and returned the next year to see what development had been made and came to the Valley to stay. He helped build the first school house in Imperial, mixing the mortar and carrying the hod. Worked as ranch manager for W. H. Poole near El Centro. He went to Brawley in 1906, where he engaged in farming, insurance and real estate. Mr. Pound's activities have always been toward developing desert lands. He was elected director of the Imperial Irrigation district when it was organized in 1911 and served four years. After an eight year "vacation" he was returned to that office in 1923 and for eight years more held that office. He was also an officer in Water Co. No. 8 for many years and was one of the incorporators and directors of Water Co. No. 3. He also served two terms on the city council of Brawley and is a member of all the Masonic orders. He was one of the organizers and charter member of the Brawley Odd Fellows lodge and the second Noble Grand of the lodge. He also belongs to the Elks. Mr. Pound's activities have always been along progressive lines. When defeated he never loses his smile but keeps right on doing what he believes to be the right thing for the Valley as a whole.

1902

T. D. MCKEEHAN. BRAWLEY. 1902. From Illinois. Was in the billiard room business for nineteen years and later conducted a livery business which he turned into an auto and garage business. During this time he accumulated much ranch property, which brings him handsome returns. He was here before any railroad existed and went to Brawley from Imperial when only seven people lived there. He helped lay out and level the streets of Brawley in 1903 and has had a prominent part in the growth of that city. Mrs. McKeehan and three children are the rest of the family. He belongs to the Eagles and Elks.

W. A. THOMPSON. BRAWLEY. 1902. Arrived at "Old Beach," now Niland, Christmas night, 1902, and took stage for Calexico. After a month Thompson went back to what is now called Brawley where his young bride, Sue, joined him. They received tents and furniture for housekeeping. Mrs. Thompson at the time was the only woman in Brawley. There were ten men, mostly land salesmen. There was a 10x10 frame office with a tent adjoining. Mr. Thompson laid out the ditches for Water Co. No. 4, building a flume across New River which was then 300 feet wide and 40 feet deep. This flume was washed out during later floods. He also laid out the plat of the Brawley townsite. Distilled drinking water was obtained from Imperial. Carp in the ditches were so plentiful that they were caught with the hands. Mrs. Thompson visited Mrs. C. N. Perry at Calexico in February, 1903. She says that a sandstorm came up on her arrival at Old Beach and she was badly frightened. The Thompsons helped organize the first Sunday school in Brawley with eight or ten attending services held in the small frame building. No postoffice then, mail came from Imperial. The first postmaster was Thos. Kellogg, with Mr. Thompson as assistant. The Thompsons now live in St. Louis.

JOHN BRYDEN. Brawley. 1902. Drove in from Upland, via Warner's Ranch, accompanied by his brother Robert and J. W. Bradley. By the time they came in sight of Blue Lake it looked mighty good to the weary travelers. Mr. Bryden took up 100 acres of land, later moving to the Alamorio district. A heavy summer storm entirely washed away the first corn crop as well as a tent house. Mud six inches deep took the place of the dry

desert. During the flood season when they wanted to go to Brawley they had to pull themselves across the river on the cable. Tom O'Brien, Brooks Hart, Geo. Wade, Mr. Bradley and Mr. Bryden helped install that cable. They transferred over 1000 sacks of barley. Mr. Bryden says in the next thirty years there will be many more twenty and forty-acre farms, twice as many people, many more cement roads, more electric transmission lines run to farms, and bigger and better towns. Mrs. Bryden has been at the side of her husband all of these years and they both declare it is a wonderful Valley.

DENVER D. PELLETT. BRAWLEY. 1902. Came first to Imperial. He was a printer and newspaper man and when the Imperial Valley Press was moved from Imperial to El Centro, W. F. Holt made him editor and manager. He was a member of the first city council of El Centro. He married Ella Mead and two children came to their home, Margaret and Elizabeth. The family moved to Brawley, where Mr. Pellett became assistant postmaster and he was holding that position at the time of his death in March, 1919, Mr. Pellett was in the Valley all through the troublous times of the flood and had much to do with eradicating the bad reputation the Valley suffered because of these various troubles. The Valley Press was a staunch fighter for optimism during his editorship.

WILLIAM T. DUNN. BRAWLEY. 1902. Mr. Dunn came west for his health, was one of the first boosters for the north end; was president of the Imperial Valley Bank, treasurer of the City of Brawley, treasurer of the Brawley Chamber of Commerce, treasurer of the Brawley Co-operative Building Co., treasurer of The Imperial Valley Milk Producers' Assn. and of the Imperial Valley Date Palm and Farming Company. He was admitted to the bar, established the first bank of Brawley, was a Mason, K. of P., Elk and member of the Imperial Valley University Club. Mr. Dunn passed away a few years ago.

REV. G. T. WELLCOME. BRAWLEY. 1902. After twenty years as a minister, ill health caused Mr. Wellcome to seek the desert. He located on 160 acres near Brawley but lost practically everything in the flood. Not to be discouraged, he purchased twenty acres in the townsite of Westmorland, where he conducted a general store, served as postmaster and operated a mail stage. In 1908 he served on the Brawley board of trustees and was Brawley's first mayor. He was the father of Mrs. Myron D. Witter, and Mrs. Stanley DeBlois. As minister of the gospel in the Advent Christian Church, hundreds of the pioneers are indebted to Mr. Wellcome for the many kindly services he gave them out of the goodness of his heart.

R. E. GONDER. BRAWLEY. 1902. Roy Gonder saw something besides the vast expanse of desert when he filed on 320 acres near Brawley in the year after water appeared. He turned his land into a good ranch and took his share of the early burdens with enthusiasm and a determination to win out. He came as foreman for the old C. D. Company and did many different things at the same time, proving a versatility that helped a lot.

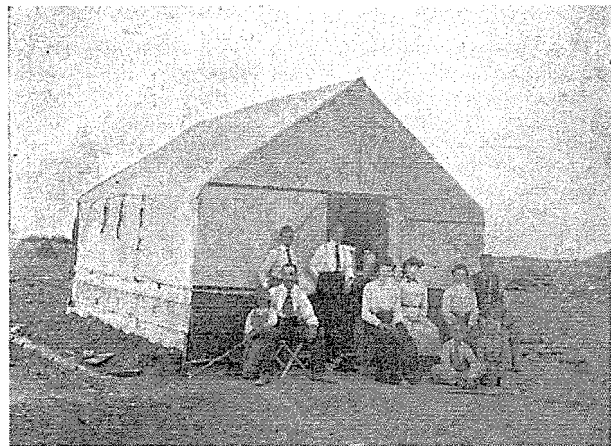
FRANK H. STANLEY. BRAWLEY. 1902. Mr. Stanley might be called the original resident of Brawley, as he was in charge of construction work in the north end of the Valley at the very beginning. He was identified with the first real estate firm in Brawley and handled the interests of the town company for some time. He was the first to see the value of organizing farmers to grow cantaloupes. He was also the first postmaster of Brawley, and has the honor of marrying the first single lady who came to Brawley, Miss Flo Stowe. He purchased and published the Brawley News in order to keep it alive just after it started, and later disposed of the paper to W. F. Holt. For health reasons Mr. and Mrs. Stanley have established themselves at Boulder Park, just above Mountain Springs, where they have one of the most interesting spots on the highway to San Diego.

I. W. FERRIS. BRAWLEY. 1902. One of the earnest, energetic ranch builders of the north end. He cut the first wheat hay grown on the spot where Brawley stands. He was a director in Water Company No. 8.

DR. J. W. OAKLEY. BRAWLEY. 1902. Dr. Oakley became interested with the California Development Company at the time that corporation started the colonization of the Imperial Valley in 1902 through the medium of the Imperial Land Company. He was previous to this sales agent for the C. D. Company and in 1903 purchased two-thirds of the Chaffey interests of that concern, selling out to A. H. Heber and other stockholders two years later. He and his brothers then devoted their entire energies to the upbuilding of the northern end of the Imperial Valley, embracing water companies 4, 5 and 8. In district No. 8 The Imperial Construction Company was organized and built the entire canal system, consisting of more than one hundred miles. The Imperial Investment Company was then organized, Dr. Oakley and his brothers being two-thirds owners with F. C. Paulin. The Brawley Townsite Company was also one of the companies in which Dr. Oakley was a moving spirit and the work of this concern in building up Brawley is attested by the great growth of Brawley.

1903

JOHN CADY. BRAWLEY. 1903. Came from Yakima, Washington, in April, 1903. Took up half section three miles north of Brawley, which had hardly started at that time. Later he added to his holdings another section and leased some 800 acres more, farming on a large scale. He did the first hauling in Brawley, established the first furniture store, the first jewelry store and the first gent's furnishing store. Handled the express for four years and was instrumental in establishing the first creamery and the first ice plant. He



John Cady and Family and their first Valley Home

was foremost in the organization of Brawley as a city and was a member of the first city council. He has been a deputy sheriff, a member of leading lodges and organizations and always busy with some work that helped promote the interests of his home town and the Valley. Mr. Cady helped string the cable across the river when it was tearing through the north end and was the last man to take his mules out of the inundated area. He did this by slinging the mules, one by one, in ropes and pulling them across the stream suspended from the cable. With Mrs. Cady, their early life was four years in a tent. Three children were born in the Valley. The Cadys own ranches in Brawley, but live part of the year in Monrovia, where they own property.

FRANCIS HEINY. BRAWLEY. 1903. For the past twenty-eight years Imperial Valley has held Mr. Heiny an authority on the growing of trees, fruits, vines and kindred products of the soil. As a scientific observer of the results of endless experiments he has learned exactly what the Valley can and cannot raise successfully and his knowledge has been a boon to thousands. For instance, he cultured more than forty varieties of grapes; seventeen varieties of figs; all known varieties of berries, melons, oranges, date palms and shade

trees. His home place today is the mecca of growers. He certainly has earned the title of "The Burbank of Imperial Valley." Before coming to the Valley, Mr. Heiny studied horticulture in Europe, Central America and even in Alaska. His nursery stock therefore commands a wide sale.

NELLIE PELLETT. BRAWLEY. 1903. For four years Miss Pellett was in business for herself in the new town of Brawley. In 1907 was appointed postmistress and for twenty-three years straight, plus eleven months and eight days, handled all the mail for that thriving city, seeing the volume grow year by year from practically nothing as a fourth class office to second class. She holds the record in Imperial Valley for consecutive, uninterrupted service of any kind of public office. In 1930 she retired from the service and now lives in her home in Brawley. Miss Pellett's service to the public is recognized all over Imperial Valley as a wonderful example of faithfulness. In all the near twenty-four years in the Brawley post office the records were perfect and the government officials were well pleased with her business-like, accommodating methods. Her acquaintance, of course is quite extended and her friends number the entire population of the north end.

J. L. MANAHAN. BRAWLEY. 1903. From New Mexico. Ran a meat market, being the second butcher in Brawley. Manufactured the first ice in Brawley in 1906, much to the delight of the entire population. In 1912 he bought the Gilbo theatre in Brawley and later owned theatres in Calxico, Holtville and Mexicali. He is a member of the Odd Fellows and Elks. He retained his interest in the market and recently opened a big public market, one of the finest in the Valley, in Brawley.

RAY GRISWOLD. BRAWLEY. 1903. From Los Angeles. Engaged in the livery and real estate business. Same line for 28 years. Has a home on the coast but spends most of his time looking after interests in Brawley, which he says is the finest place in the world to live.

REUBEN MALAN. BRAWLEY. 1903. Known all over the Valley as "Dad" in the early days. In 1904 he was joined by his family, Mrs. Malan and children, W. E., Ella, Martha, and J. C. The family owned eighty acres south of Brawley, known as the Pete Hovley place and it is still run by the family, growing fruits, vegetables and general farming. "Dad" Malan was a great booster for the north end and in politics, lodge work, chamber of commerce activities and the like he was always surrounded by a big group of friends. He died in 1928, aged eighty years and full of life's honors. Mrs. Malan still lives at Brawley, making her home with Mrs. Lyall, her daughter Martha. Ella is Mrs. Harry J. McMath, of Los Angeles. J. C. Malan lives in Long Beach and W. E. Malan is the pastor of the First M. E. church of El Centro, where he and his family are highly esteemed.

HENRY A. STAHL. Brawley. 1903. Associated with his brothers, Chas., William, Edward, Fred and John. Henry Stahl helped level 1000 acres of land near the townsite of Brawley. The brothers had an interest in the first corn crop planted where the city of Brawley now stands. In 1906 Stahl Bros. opened a small dry goods store which Henry managed. This firm grew to be the largest mercantile firm in Brawley, and today while under a different ownership, the big store still bears the name of the original owners. Mr. Stahl's contribution to the industrial and civic progress of the north end will always stand as a monument to his good citizenship.

CHARLES H. RUTH. BRAWLEY. 1903. A farmer and a blacksmith with an inventive turn of mind, Mr. Ruth perfected a dredging machine that successfully met all competition in Imperial Valley as a ditch builder and cleaner. Eighteen of these dredgers were in operation in Imperial Valley in 1918, and are still being used.

J. J. MILLER. BRAWLEY. 1903. Filed on a half section of land west of Brawley, sold out in 1906 at a sacrifice when the land was flooded; undaunted by this experience, he took up another half section. He was one of the first to profit by cantaloupe cultivation, served as director in No. 8, and

as a member and clerk of the school board. He is the father of thirteen children, six of whom are living. He helped organize the First Presbyterian Church of Brawley and has been a factor in many ways in the growth of the north end.

J. A. WEIST. BRAWLEY. 1903. Mr. Weist was the first permanent settler in the neighborhood a few miles west of Brawley, where he and his wife accumulated, by filing and purchase, a total of 800 acres of valuable land. The town of Weist was named after the Weist family, by Congressman Smith. Mr. Weist has been active in good roads movement, politics, contracting, farming and home building throughout the years of his residence in the Valley.

WILLIS F. BEAL. BRAWLEY. 1903. Mr. Beal was one of the first arrivals on the townsite of Brawley in 1903, when there were only four tents and one frame shack in that town. He took up 160 acres of land in No. 8. His first employment was helping to lay the rails on the S. P. Valley branch. He added to his holdings until in 1918 he owned 1000 acres. With his brother, Robert, he engaged in the grain and warehouse business, and became interested in the Brawley Creamery and Cold Storage Co. Mr. Beal was city trustee of Brawley for six years and was elected a member of the county board of supervisors, where he served for eight years. During his term of office, the county's paved road system was planned and built. Mr. Beal has maintained a steady, personal interest in public affairs, irrigation matters and political matters. He served Imperial County as assemblyman and the record he made in Sacramento added to his reputation as a public servant. Mr. Beal established a summer residence in San Diego, but has kept in touch constantly with Valley affairs. As an evidence of the esteem he enjoys at the hands of his neighbors, in February of this year, 1931, he was elected director of the Imperial Irrigation District, where he is now helping to manage the greatest irrigation project in the world.

W. P. MANSFIELD. BRAWLEY. 1903. It was rather a new experience for Mr. Mansfield when he put on a new pair of overalls, got behind a span of mules and broke down the virgin hummocks of the desert; added to his own efforts he spent \$22,000 and as a consequence found himself possessed of a model tract of land. Mr. Mansfield took a leading part in the affairs of No. 4, a leading part in the affairs of Brawley and the entire north end. He organized the creamery association, was a director in the First National Bank, was nominated for the assembly. Mr. Mansfield still retains large interests in Imperial Valley.

J. L. TAECKER. Brawley. 1903. Mr. Taecker settled in the raw country six miles from where Brawley was later located and developed a fine farm with his own efforts. Selling this place, he married the daughter of Tom O'Brien, pioneer of the north end and left the Valley for four years. However, the lure was there and they returned to again take up farming here. Mr. Taecker has been an influence for the rapid advancement of the north end. His leadership has been reflected in the public schools and in water affairs. His disposition is to stick steadily with the Valley throughout its ups and downs and says that the average results here will beat any other section of the west.

MYRON D. WITTER

Any man who lives in a community for a quarter of a century and has a public school named after him when he passes on has done his work well, has been a good citizen, accomplished things for the good of his neighborhood and very likely deserves the compliment paid his memory by his fellow citizens.

Such a man was Myron D. Witter, who died February 19, 1931, after twenty-six years in Imperial Valley, twenty-five of which were passed in Brawley as editor and publisher of the Brawley News. He was also Imperial County's assemblyman at the time of his death, serving his third successive term.

Mr. Witter was a printer with the proprietor complex when he arrived in the depressing days of the flood in 1905. He spent a year with the Imperial Press at Imperial and then found an opening with Frank H. Stanley, Brawley

pioneer, publisher of the Brawley News. He soon bought Stanley out. His faith in the ultimate closure of the river break was justified and when that important event happened Brawley started a growth that has never let up. The News was a weekly, then a semi-weekly and then a daily, just as rapidly as conditions warranted. Its equipment followed in betterments year by year. Mr. Witter filed on land and farmed it successfully. He purchased a lot for the News building and erected on it a substantial structure. He was a rarity in the newspaper world, a small town publisher who succeeded financially. He held the esteem of his fellow newspapermen and was an officer in their organizations for years. His counsel was always sought and when he gave advice he said something worth listening to. The publisher of this history worked in the Valley with Mr. Witter for seventeen years and knows whereof he speaks.

Witter was made assemblyman in August, 1924, and was twice thereafter re-elected without opposition after the primaries. At Sacramento he was chairman of the important committee on irrigation and was a member of several other important committees. He was a strong advocate of the Swing-Johnson bill that provides for Boulder Dam and the all-American canal and just a few weeks before he died he had the courage to sound a note of warning to the people to be careful of the provisions of the contract under which the canal was to be constructed. He was considered an authority on irrigation matters all over the state.

When the legislature reconvened after his death, it paid him the compliment of suspending a session. At home the flags were placed at half mast and business houses closed during the funeral. And soon after he was laid away, the new public school building in his home town was named the Myron D. Witter school as a community memorial. Governor Rolph and a dozen organizations, as well as hundreds of friends, sent condolences.

In 1907, Mr. Witter was wed to Miss M. Ethel Wellcome, daughter of a Brawley pioneer, and to them were born four children, Allen T., Mrs. Max Edgar, Florence E. and Dorothy R. Mrs. Witter is conducting the News with Allen T. Witter in active charge.

Mr. Witter won his place in the esteem of the people here by the simplest sort of method. He studied a problem, decided what was right, mapped his way and stayed with it. He was so "straight" that he almost leaned backward. He even refused to be the guest of a public utility corporation on a trip because of possible criticism as a public servant. When he decided to fight, he threw his whole soul into it and the opposition generally had to admit defeat. He hated slick political tricks and schemers with selfish purposes. He was militant many times when he preferred peace. Men with shady schemes never approached Witter but once. His sole idea was to so live and do that when he passed on there could be no just criticism.

Mr. Witter was a Mason, an Elk and an Odd Fellow and held high places in each order. He belonged to the Presbyterian faith of his New England forebears.

By such men as Myron D. Witter, pioneer editor and legislator, was Imperial Valley built.

1904

E. A. DEBLOIS. BRAWLEY. 1904. Purchased 320 acres and sold it before improving. Invested in Imperial town-site property and bought an interest in the Imperial Light, Water & Power Co., the concern that furnished the first electric lights for Imperial. Sold out in 1905 and cast his future with the new town of Brawley, where he has been interested in a multitude of ways ever since, mostly as a real estate operator. Mr. DeBlois has always been known as a public spirited citizen, and his wife and four daughters have a place in the hearts of Valley people second to none.

I. DODGE HALE. BRAWLEY. 1904. Discovered and propagated the widely planted cantaloupe known as Hale's Best, declared to be one of the best growing melons of the early strain for the Valley. Mr. Hale was growing cantaloupes in the Coachella Valley and came to Imperial Valley because of larger opportunities. He contracted with growers at Brawley, El Centro and Holtville and has operated in the Valley ever since, watching the melon in-

dustry grow from zero to 52,000 acres. He also handles Valley grapes and other products. He has owned a ranch here since 1908.

JAMES H. ANDERSON. BRAWLEY. 1904. From Arizona. General laborer on most of the buildings on Main street in Brawley. Worked throughout the Valley, including Mexicali, where he worked on the governor's palace. At one time he owned half a block of town lots on B street in Brawley and is now content to enjoy the sunshine of declining years in the Valley where he spent more than a quarter of a century. He was married but his wife would not come to the Valley.

LYONS BROTHERS. BRAWLEY AND CALEXICO. 1904. Five of the six Lyons brothers, Steve, Frank, Edward, Leo and Jack, together with their father, S. P. Lyons, and their mother, came to the Valley in 1904 and for many years gave an illustration of what youthful energy could do here in the early days. They took up land and farmed it as one firm, the fourth year handling some 1300 acres of barley and feeding thousands of head of stock. They farmed on a gigantic scale and proved time and again what co-operation and daring accomplished. All the Lyons boys were interested in every phase of the Valley's development and deserved a great share of credit for the rapid strides made agriculturally from 1904 for the next twelve years or more. While they have all established homes on the coast they retain a vivid interest in the affairs of the Valley.

W. H. BEST. BRAWLEY. 1904. Filed on half section east of Brawley. Lived nine years on the ranch and moved to Brawley, where the family lived 12 years. Back for two years on the ranch and now lives in Brawley. In 1906 he closed a deal to sell for \$100 an acre, the first land in the Valley to sell at that price. But the buyers did not close, so he still owns the 640. At one time his holdings amounted to 1200 acres. Mrs. Best and two children, a son and daughter, have been good helpers. The daughter is now Mrs. R. O. Thompson of Calexico and Arthur runs a packing business in Brawley. Mr. Best has had fine returns from his place, on which he has grown most of the crops that have made the north end famous, including cantaloupes, grapefruit, alfalfa, etc. He has been in the real estate and insurance business since 1909. During the flood the mutual water companies banded together and he was president of the association. Since then he has held numerous important positions in water companies. He has been a strong factor in shaping policies that have been beneficial to the Valley and his advice is always listened to with respect by his fellow citizens.

CHRIS WESTGARD. BRAWLEY. 1904. Came from Denmark. Helped build the first flume across New River in Mexico. Took up land in 1906, six miles northwest of Brawley. Sold at a good price. He bought forty acres adjacent to Brawley where he planted the pioneer orchard of the Valley. Apricots, grapes, grapefruit and oranges were planted. He has on his place the oldest grapefruit tree in the Valley, now 25 years old and bearing eight to ten boxes of fruit each year. Married in 1911 and two sons bless the union. During the flood period some days he worked in water up to his shoulders to keep the water running in the canals. His new modern home, built this year, fully equipped with all conveniences, is somewhat different from the shacks and ramadas of earlier days. Needless to say, Mrs. Westgard appreciates the change. He is a member of the Elks and a charter member of the Kiwanis club.

1905

S. A. ARMSTRONG. BRAWLEY. 1905. From Nebraska and the Black Hills section of the Dakotas. Drove the piling and helped build the first bridges across New River and the Alamo after the flood. He ran a hog ranch for two years and then became proprietor of a billiard room in Brawley. He later conducted a horse and mule business and rented much stock that helped level the north end. Some of the early hardships encountered included carrying water by mule for drinking purposes. He married in 1910 and Evelyn Jane, now a senior in high school, is his daughter. He filed on a homestead in the Calipatria district in 1916 but moved back to Brawley in 1919 where he lives now.

DR. JOSEPH A. MILLER. BRAWLEY. 1905. Coming from Monterey in 1905, Dr. Miller and his talented wife entered into the early pioneer life and helped distinctly with the solid growth attained by Brawley. As a physician Dr. Miller was a man of great talent. Mrs. Miller, lovingly known as Angie Miller, all over Imperial Valley, has been prominent in W. C. T. U. work for twenty-five years. She helped organize every local chapter in the Valley. She served as president of the county organization for eight years, and is still active in that work.

MRS. A. KOMENDA. BRAWLEY. 1905. She writes: "I have seen the Valley transformed from the desert to the beautiful garden it is today." And that is her history.

1906

MRS. KATE DALBY. BRAWLEY. 1906. From Michigan, with her son, G. R. Dalby, who conducts a poultry market in Brawley. Their first camp was where the Plamters Hotel is now located and Brawley had but three adobe buildings at the time.

H. C. SANFORD. BRAWLEY. 1906. First worked for others and in 1914 went to farming for himself. He has had unusual success in his chosen line. Brawley at that time was just starting to take shape.

G. E. WEIST. BRAWLEY. 1906. One of the members of the well known Weist family, after which the townsite of Weist was named. A capable farmer and orchard grower, helped organize the Valley Telephone Co., and the first R. F. D. route out of Brawley. Here is evidence that Mr. Weist is a self-made man—he walked from Brawley to Weist because he didn't have enough money to hire a rig.

H. D. WILSON. BRAWLEY. 1906. From New Mexico. Farms 80 acres of alfalfa near Brawley, raising a family of nine children. Only one frame building existed in Brawley when he arrived and the depot was a box car. He has owned the same postoffice box for fourteen years. Mr. Wilson has attended strictly to his farming business for a quarter of a century and says he is content with the results.

T. L. TAYLOR. BRAWLEY. 1906. Was railroading on the coast and came with his wife and four sons to Brawley and started the first barber shop in that town. In 1911 he turned the shop over to his son, D. Taylor, and went to Hanford, where he owns a vineyard and another barber shop. The shop in Brawley was sold in 1924 and D. Taylor now runs a shop in Westmorland which, he says, is the coming metropolis of the north end. The younger Taylor recalls with sadness that Stahl Bros. refused to cash his Los Angeles "scrip" money. He coined the phrase, "Dollars in the Valley and pennies on the coast."

1907

HARRY A. STAUB. BRAWLEY. 1907. From Illinois. Worked as manager for Varney Bros. for 17 years and continued for three years as credit manager in El Centro. Now conducts the Triangle Service Station on the highway near Brawley. He was the second city treasurer of Brawley, served on the city council two terms, director of the chamber of commerce four terms, and has always taken a keen interest in civic affairs of every sort. Mrs. Staub's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis B. Lee, took up land in 1903. The Staubs have two children.

PHILO JONES. BRAWLEY. 1907. Mr. Jones came to Brawley from Los Angeles, to take charge of the affairs of the Brawley Town company, in June, 1907. Since the day of his arrival Philo Jones has been an active participant in every forward movement affecting Imperial Valley. He has engaged in general brokerage business, farm loans, and Insurance. He was appointed justice of the peace in 1915, and served the city as recorder for several years. Both Mr. and Mrs. Jones have been prominent in social life of the Valley.

JOHN T. SPEER. BRAWLEY. 1907. Stock dealer. Crossed the desert with three wagons from Riverside, bringing his family. It took seven days to make the trip. Came for his health and is completely satisfied with results.

GEO. E. KRUEGER. BRAWLEY. 1907. Drove a pair of mules from Los Angeles, taking eight days for the trip. Mrs. Krueger and daughter, Emma, came on the train. Filed on 320 acres of land, leveled it, got it in good shape and sold it for \$8000 and moved to Brawley, opening the B. & K. billiard parlors, which he still owns. He was city marshal for two years and filled an unexpired term as city councilman by appointment. He belongs to the Moose, Elks, Eagles, holding high office in each. He is collector and secretary of the San Diego-Imperial, Julian-Kane Springs Highway district. George, Nell Louise and Dorothy Krueger are children in the family born in Brawley. Mr. Krueger is well known over the entire Valley as a citizen keen for advancement of all progressive movements and takes an active part in public affairs at all times.

W. F. O'BRIEN. BRAWLEY. 1907. Came to the Valley at the behest of his brother, Thos. O'Brien, well known north end developer. Worked at carpentering and building and helped construct many buildings in Brawley. Mrs. O'Brien became ill here and died in Pomona in 1913. Mr. O'Brien returned to the valley later and has been active in construction work for many years.

L. O. CRUMMER. BRAWLEY. 1907. From Los Angeles. Filed on a section of land on the high line and took up residence there in 1908. He planted eucalyptus trees on the place, some of which are 21 years old and still stand. He was crippled with rheumatism and came to the Valley to try the climate. In three months he was much better and soon was completely recovered. He has leveled thousands of acres of land in the north end by team and scraper. Mrs. Crummer came with him to the Valley. Three children in the family, one of whom was born in Brawley. He has owned and sold twenty-two farms, a total of 1200 acres, and is now content with three acres and an abundance of good health.

C. J. PARK. BRAWLEY. 1907. Came to the Valley as a member of the government surveying crew, which resurveyed the entire county, correcting the grievous errors of former days. Completing this work, Mr. Park remained in the Valley, following his profession. He was superintendent of water company No. 5 of Holtville and is now city engineer for Brawley. He developed a homestead eleven miles east of Brawley, which he brought to a fine state of cultivation. He is a thirty-second degree Mason and was the first master of the Brawley lodge.

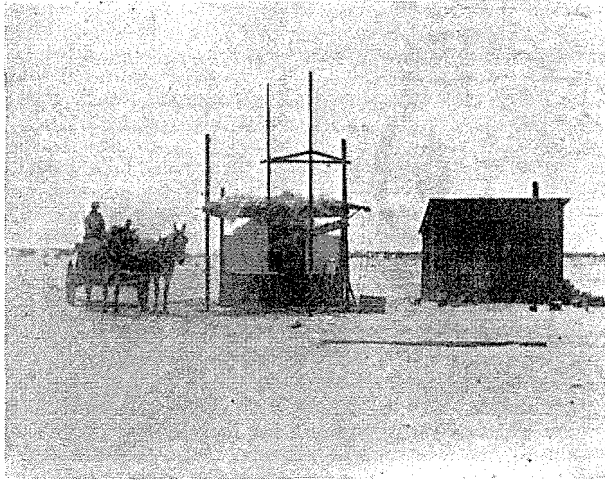
F. B. WARE. BRAWLEY. 1907. Prominent factor in the farm development in the north end of the Valley, owner of 227 acres.

SIDNEY HERD. BRAWLEY. 1907. Mrs. Herd writes: "We have been ranching in Imperial Valley for twenty-five years and certainly do think lots of the Valley."

B. D. IRVINE. BRAWLEY. 1907. Mr. Irvine's name belongs in the early records as a successful, hardworking developer and farmer. He farmed 353 acres in No. 5. He also organized the M. E. Church at Alamorio and also helped build the schools of Brawley and Magnolia.

1908

MR. AND MRS. HENRY T. COLEY. BRAWLEY. 1908. Mrs. Coley says: "We are natives of North Carolina, but lived in Los Angeles until 1908, when we became interested in the Imperial Valley and decided to take up land. When we arrived in Brawley, by train, there were no residences except tent houses and the Bungalow Hotel, which was built of adobe, and one or two stores. This, of course, made a very dismal picture and I must say could have made one very discouraged had they not had a clear conception of the possibilities for the future of this fertile land. After making a few purchases, including a sombrero, in a little store, the back of which was the postoffice (which was so small that when Miss Pellet and Mr. Harding were in there, there was scarcely room for the one mail sack), we started with a buckboard and two mules through one of the worst sand storms I have ever seen, to establish our future home, shown herewith.



H. T. Coley's First Home

"The wind continued for three days and of course the sand moved with it. I remarked that I wished the wind would stop blowing so I could see the country, and my husband said if I would stand in the door I could see it all go by. We located on the west side and there was no water or prospect of water for some time, so we leased a ranch on the Turnip canal for two years; then my husband and two others decided to build their own canal, which is the Thistle. We were promised water from the No. 8 company, but when the pro-rating took place there was none for us. We then decided to abandon the canal and homestead the property. This we did and hauled water for domestic use for ten years. In the meantime we had all the brush pulled from the land, enabling most of it to blow level. In 1918 we decided to build a modern house, as the No. 8 company had started to build a canal and our water troubles seemed to be over. We built the house and surrounded it with ornamental shrubs and an orchard. This has been our home for the past thirteen years. The picture shows what can be done with such fertile soil and good water in so short a time.

"Notwithstanding all of the hardships we endured, I was inspired to write the following poem:"

ODE TO THE IMPERIAL VALLEY

I am glad I am in this Valley
And I'll boost it for our band
And sing its praises forever
This fair and fertile land.

Fight on ye Valley ranchers.
The victory you shall win.
If any are contested
It will be an awful sin.

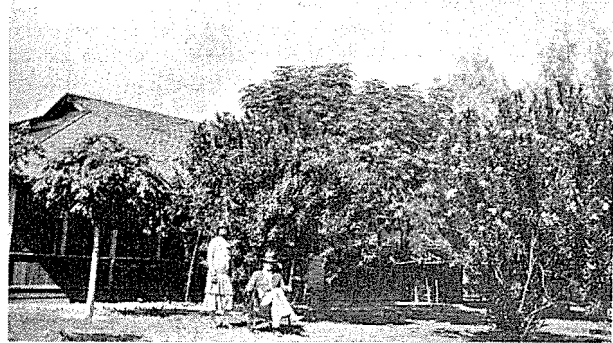
Do not be discouraged
The "district" has it in hand
They will give us water
To irrigate our land.

And when it's all developed
We will stand upon our own
And have our garners filled
With fruits and grain we've grown.

We will have alfalfa and barley
And dairies of richest milk
Our wives and daughters
Will wear the finest silk.

The railroads are now here.
We can ship our hogs right through
To San Diego's market
And get good prices, too.

Yes, we will ship rich products
Right to the "Golden Gate"
And no thanks to the officers
Of company number eight.



H. T. Coley's Home Two Years After the Beginning

Three cheers for Swing and Johnson
They have stuck to us like a clam
And unless I miss my guess
We will get the Boulder Dam.

Then we will have clear water
And no more mud and silt
For sure as the sun sets in the west
The dam is going to be built.

Hang on to what you have
And some day you will be
Rich as is predicted
By Mrs. H. T. C.

Since writing the above history and joining the pioneers of Imperial Valley, Mr. Coley has passed away and Mrs. Coley makes her home in Alhambra.

C. F. BOARTS. BRAWLEY. 1908. Purchased a relinquishment which was very rough and uneven. Mr. Boarts leveled and perfected his land and went into the hog and dairy business; always interested in public affairs, Mr. Boarts was a water company director, a director in the Brawley Chamber of Commerce, helped organize and was a director in the Imperial County Farm Bureau, was a director in Brawley Creamery & Cold Storage Co., and has been interested in numerous other enterprises. Mr. Boarts planned fine school buildings at Westmorland, where he now resides.

HENRY L. JACKSON. BRAWLEY. 1909. From Tennessee. Came in on a freight with no money. He is a farmer and land leveling contractor and attends to the duties of county supervisor for the Brawley district. He also is a member of the joint San Diego-Imperial, Julian-Kane Springs Highway committee. A grapefruit orchard is among his prized possessions. Mrs. Jackson and two daughters make the happy Jackson home. Mr. Jackson's interest in public matters is notable and his election as county supervisor attests the esteem of his neighbors.

W. H. BREON. BRAWLEY. 1909. From Pennsylvania. Ratched 40 acres near Westmorland and now runs a service station in Brawley. Superintendent of roads for the county seven years. He is esteemed by all acquaintances and friends as a staunch citizen.

BERT BLAISDELL. BRAWLEY. 1911. Started hitch hiking from Michigan in 1911, landing in Brawley where he entered the service of the water company as zanjero and is now with the Irrigation District in the same capacity. Worked for Geo. Hollaway and Otis and Lois Clement, ranchers. He served in the World War and is a member of the American Legion.

ARCH LITTLE. BRAWLEY. 1912. From Canada. Employed by Edgar Bros. at Imperial first and went to Brawley later, where he established a harness and leather goods store which he still conducts.

HOLTVILLE

1900

MR. AND MRS. J. S. BRIDENSTINE. Holtville. 1900. July of 1900 Mr. Bridenstine and B. E. Rice drove from Peoria, Arizona, to Yuma, where they were joined by Mobley Meadows; the three crossed the river and for three weeks drove about the Valley. Mr. Bridenstine returned home, told his wife about the new country and in May of the following year they returned by train, hired a rig at Flowing Well and arrived at Imperial in the afternoon. There were three tents in Imperial at the time. They drove on to Calexico that night, where Mr. Rockwood told them they had no accommodations for women, but Mrs. Mobley Meadows came to the rescue and took care of Mrs. Bridenstine. After driving around the south end and the Blue Lake district and stopping in Imperial the next night, they visited the east side on the next day, where they filed on 160 acres of land. In October, 1902, Mr. Bridenstine brought in two carloads of horses and engaged in construction work. In January, 1903, their fifteen-year-old son brought in a carload of household goods, as Mr. Bridenstine had to be at the construction camps and the family was delayed in Arizona; the boy stayed alone for ten days on the desert, watching the pile of household goods. A 14x24 box-like frame house stood in the middle of the treeless desert, the first house on the east side; water was two miles away. May 16, 1905, they harvested the first crop of hay. The Bridenstine home was a handy place for visitors to stop, and Mrs. Bridenstine's diary contains the names of many people who later became prominent in the Valley's affairs. Many times when supplies became low they caught carp and salmon by the sack from the river. With three children of school age the Bridenstines gave the use of their house as a school and later a tent house was erected where W. J. Megaw was the first teacher. The children carried their own water in canteens. The first Sunday School was also organized in the Bridenstine home on March 22, 1903. The first church services were also held there. In July of 1903 Mr. Bridenstine was appointed postmaster and held that position for ten years. It was first called Eastside, but when Holtville was launched in 1904 the office was moved to town. The Bridenstines visited the St. Louis world's fair in 1904, and upon their return in October found themselves amongst the passengers on the first train entering Holtville. In 1905 the family moved to Holtville, where they are living today. The Bridenstines say if they had the last twenty-eight years to live over again they would be willing to live it the same as they did. They enjoy the splendid friendships made during this more than a quarter of a century spent in Imperial Valley.

CHAS. L. GILLETT. HOLTVILLE. 1900. Joined the Gillett-Van Horn party from Arizona, who were the first to turn dirt on the main canal in 1900. A lad of twenty then. After the first few months he became of age and wanted to file on land. With the whole Valley to choose from he selected the nice, smooth, hard land west of Imperial. He walked fifteen miles from camp to Cameron Lake to catch the stage to Flowing Well and got there too late, so he walked all night the full length of the Valley to reach the railroad. He had only a can of tomatoes to eat on that 55-mile hike. After a while he went to Los Angeles, attended night school; went to McPherson, Kansas, to attend college; found himself back in the Valley in 1906, improved a new farm and lost everything during the flood period. Then he left to live near Chico and from there he went to Arizona to mine. He sold the mine and came back to the Valley just when Holtville was looking for a city marshal with ability to run the lawbreakers out. He took the job at \$90 a month and received \$10 increase every

month for ten months. Two of the lawless gang jumped on him one night when he was unarmed. He took a terrific beating but also took both men to jail. He stayed on as city marshal for six years and in 1923 was elected sheriff of the county. Next election he was re-elected, serving altogether eight years. He was accused of unlawful practices and, after two years, he was indicted, tried and acquitted. He is now with the Irrigation District and seems none the worse for wear because of his trying experiences in court.

1901

MARK ROSE. HOLTVILLE. 1901. Mark Rose's name appears in the list of settlers who responded to the advertising done in 1901 by the Imperial Land Company. He came, with Mrs. Rose, from Chino. He first filed on land east of Heber and later took up 320 acres in No. 7 which was made the home place. He later purchased 166 acres west of Calexico. He also owns land north of Holtville. He worked first for the Development Company on the Rose levee and the Rositas dam, both being named after him. Mr. Rose helped organize the Imperial Laguna Water Company, which started the agitation for an All-American Canal. His work in this connection is more thoroughly reviewed in Chapter XV, under the head, "The Men Responsible." He has been a member of the Board of Directors of the Imperial Irrigation District for the last twelve years. He is credited with being the man most responsible for the Government undertaking the Boulder Canyon Project, but he says that no one man could be given that credit as it was the result of a convergent public opinion massed in such a way that the improvement was bound to come. Mr. Rose conducts his farms himself, drives his own Ford and smokes his own cigars. The reader is referred to the chapter above and the two chapters preceding that, which include the histories of the Irrigation District and the Boulder Dam, for further details of Mr. Rose's activities in Imperial.

ALBERT HART. Holtville. 1901. Drove into the Valley from Poway, San Diego County, with H. C. Griswold in midsummer. The mountain roads were hardly negotiable. On the desert they met Mr. and Mrs. Huss and three children driving out. To cross New River they tied their lines and trace chains together and Griswold swam over with the lines in his teeth. Reach Blue Lake and then Imperial, which consisted of a canvas hotel, a half-built church, a printing office, and a store where Leroy Holt was on duty. Mr. Hart always thanked Mr. Holt for telling him not to settle on land like that on which Imperial was being built. J. B. Hoffman drove up from Calexico and took Griswold back to the wagon camp and Mr. Holt drove Hart over the country and returned him to the camp. In August Mr. Hart filed on 160 acres later known as the Edgewild ranch, south of where El Centro is now. In October, accompanied by G. W. Denny, L. E. Cooley and Charles Kleinhenn, driving three teams of mules and bringing camp and farm equipment, Mr. Hart left Escondido and drove in by way of Carriso creek. Worked for a while on the main canal in W. W. Masten's camp and then went to work to clear and level his land. Mr. Hart later disposed of this ranch and settled near Holtville where he has been living since, doing a real pioneer's work in battling with the sidewinders, coyotes and bugs.

CHAS. E. SCOTT. HOLTVILLE. 1901. Visiting the Valley for the first time in the year when water was first turned on the arid plain, Mr. Scott took up land in No. 5, one of the very first to file east of the Alamo. He followed farming with success, overcoming the obstacles that arose, built a substantial home and did his part for development of the Valley.

TEDDY T. HALL. HOLTVILLE. 1901. Took up eighty acres near where Holtville is now and developed seven acres of fine dates. His place on the Yuma road is called "Date City" on this account and the family conducts a nice store and supply station at that place. In 1912 he was married and a family of three children are with their parents. Mr. Hall came from Arkansas to the Valley.

1902

JOHN V. TAGGART. HOLTVILLE. 1902. Mr. Taggart came from Yuma and was associated with F. G. Havens in the land commissioner's office in Imperial for a year. He was constable also and recalls many merry incidents connected with that office. He brought in two cars of hogs for Havens from Yuma, driving them through the waterless Valley to Blue Lake from Flowing Well. Leaving Flowing Well at four o'clock in the morning he got the herd through without losing one. He brought in another herd later and fed them on a barley ranch east of Calexico. These hogs were sold to the Rev. John Shenk at Calexico. At this time he located settlers on land in No. 7 for W. F. Holt. In December, Mrs. Taggart joined him in Los Angeles where they filed on 160 acres of desert land. They moved on a claim five miles southwest of Holtville and built a one-room house out of galvanized iron that had been in use for forty years on the roof of the round house in Yuma. This iron house still stands. He handled the contract for building the power canal for Mr. Holt. After improving the place they sold it and moved to Holtville, where Mr. Taggart and his son built a billiard hall. This cleaned up some \$35,000 in five years. They invested the money in Holtville property and are still residents at that place. Next year Mr. and Mrs. Taggart expect to celebrate their golden wedding and this event will be a memorable one for the east side.

C. D. HARTSHORN. HOLTVILLE. 1902. Filed on land in 1902 and returned in 1903 to develop his cattle and grain ranch. He helped organize the first Masonic lodges in the Valley and was the first Worshipful Master of the Imperial-Holtville Lodge. He was mayor of Holtville eight years, president of the Union high school board five years and deputy U. S. marshal six years. He took an active interest in all Valley affairs. He passed away in Holtville in May of this year. A son, W. H. Hartshorn, is now a member of the faculty of the junior college in Brawley.

BUCK DOBBS. EAST SIDE. 1901. Came with wife and three children and was the first family to settle in No. 7 thirty years ago. He died in 1928 but Mrs. Dobbs still lives on the home place. The three children are Jess Dobbs, Mrs. Kumberg and Mrs. Leng. Jess Dobbs' daughter, Fay, is a book-keeper for the Gas Company in Calexico. Mr. Dobbs was deputy sheriff under Sheriff Gillett. The family experienced all the hardships of the earliest pioneer period and saw the rich No. 7 district develop into what it is today.

WILLIAM LINDSEY. HOLTVILLE. 1902. Broke the first ground for a ranch on the eastside, seven miles southwest of the present site of Holtville. He leveled his ranch with sixteen head of stock, driving miles every day for water.

J. F. BOYD AND SON, ED. HOLTVILLE. 1902. The elder Boyd established the first lumber yard on the townsite of Holtville, and Ed came in 1904 to help with the business, and to file on government land. He sold his ranch and bought heavily in townsite property. When the city was incorporated, Ed was elected to the board of trustees, and was Holtville's first mayor. In 1910, he was elected county supervisor, where he served four years. His record as a public officer shows that he was a hard worker for good roads, a believer in constant advertising and a good friend of the Valley at all times. He was in the real estate business for many years on the Eastside, and has been instrumental in locating hundreds of newcomers here. At present, Mr. Boyd is working out plans for bringing clear mountain water in bottles for use in the Valley.

R. A. HOLT. HOLTVILLE. 1902. Mr. Holt went to the Eastside and invested in land when there was not a house in sight; although not a relative of Leroy or W. F. Holt, his pioneer efforts added to the lustre of the name. His first work was to take a contract for grading a right-of-way for the Holton Inter-Urban. Among the difficulties he encountered, was hauling water four miles for his hundred head of horses. He developed a ranch and was the first purchaser of lots in the new townsite of Holtville. He engaged in the real estate business and has been a first class citizen. He served the county one term as supervisor from Holtville. He is still a resident of Holtville.

M. P. HARRIS. HOLTVILLE. 1902. Mr. Harris was the first American boy born in Ventura County and in 1902 when he arrived in Imperial Valley he was amongst the first to view the vast tract of desert on the eastern side of the Valley. He filed on 160 acres and became prominent as ranch man and stock raiser. The lumber for his home in Holtville was hauled by team from Imperial. It was the first frame house in the new town. His son, Henry, was the first pupil to enroll in the Holtville school. He served as a deputy sheriff, school trustee, constable, and was prominent in Masonry and Odd Fellowship. He suffered an unfortunate accident in later years which finally took his life. Mrs. Harris still lives in Holtville.

1903

SAM WEBB. HOLTVILLE. 1903. Mr. Webb was first employed as brick maker and helped make most of the brick in the building of Holtville. He built many of the bridges in the Valley and established the first blacksmith shop on the Eastside. He was appointed justice of the peace in 1904 and served until 1910. He now conducts a machine shop in Holtville. Mary Ellen Webb, born July 12, 1905, is said to be the first girl born in Holtville.

PAUL MAULL. HOLTVILLE. 1903. In addition to developing a farm, Mr. Maull ran the National Lumber Yard in Holtville, served as clerk of the school board, member of the board of city trustees of Holtville, was mayor of the city and one of the young men who helped make the Eastside grow so rapidly in the early days.

PHIL W. BROOKS. MELOLAND. 1903. Graduate of a New England agriculture school, Phil Brooks was an example of the exuberant youth that dominated Imperial Valley in the early days. Hardships rested lightly, hospitality was wide open, and the work of conquering the desert was mingled pleasantly with numberless social activities. Brooks was the first to demonstrate that grapes could be grown here commercially. He served as an official in the El Centro land office, and was one of the most popular young men in the Valley. He died several years ago.

H. J. MESSENGER. HOLTVILLE. 1903. Messenger is a pioneer by profession; sometimes an Indian trader, reservation superintendent, member of a territorial legislature and in 1903 breaking ground on the desert; operating on leased land on a big scale he made money raising grain. In 1904 he settled in the new town of Holtville, opening a livery and feed business. He was a leader in the organization of Water Co. No. 11, known as the Eastside High Line. He attempted to connect this tract of 28,000 acres with Laguna dam and secured purchasers for bonds to build a canal across the sand hills, but failed to get the government's consent to bond unpatented lands. Mr. Messenger is still a jovial, hard working resident of the East side, and has served time as a city trustee and in other public offices.

1904

A. R. (BERT) UNDERWOOD. HOLTVILLE. 1904. At present County Coroner. Came to Holtville in April, 1904. Took up 160 acres south of town and farmed. Married Stella Harlan next year. They were the first couple to get a license from Ed. Boyd, deputy county clerk of San Diego County and the first couple married in Holtville. Justice Sam Webb performed the ceremony. Underwood was the first constable on the east side after the county was formed. He served also as deputy sheriff for Mobley Meadows and was city marshal. From 1923 he served as undersheriff under C. L. Gillett until 1929, and in 1930 was elected county coroner. The Underwoods named their only daughter after the Buick car that won the road races in 1912. During most of his residence in Holtville, Mr. Underwood conducted a livery business and then installed a service station. They now reside in the residence built in Holtville by Judge Cole before the county was formed.

JERNIGAN BROS. HOLTVILLE. Lee and Henry, 1904; G. W., 1905; M. C. and R. W., 1910; J. L. (before the flood). Lee is a surveyor. Been here continuously since 1904. Surveyed practically all the land around Holtville,

including the territory of No. 12. G. W. shipped teams from Texas in 1905 and helped build the Ash canal. R. W. came from Texas, did grading east of Holtville. Went with the Imperial Ice & Development Company in 1923 and is now with that concern in Imperial. M. C. was zanjero for No. 12, farmed cotton and volunteered for the war in 1917. Since 1923 he has been with the Imperial Irrigation District in Holtville. He is a member of the American Legion, the Elks and K. P. J. L. is a rancher near Calipatria. The Jernigan brothers have all done their share of the hard work of bringing Imperial Valley to the fore.

REV. H. B. HOLLINGSWORTH. HOLTVILLE. 1904. He organized and was the first Christian pastor in Holtville. Mrs. Hollingsworth took up government land and together they bought additional acreage. Mr. Hollingsworth proved to be a good farmer as well as a good preacher, and the citizens of the Eastside thought so well of him that they drafted him for public service on the board of trustees, and in other positions.

KING L. KENDLE. HOLTVILLE. 1904. One of the first real estate operators and merchants of Holtville. He first conducted a store in a tent, replaced later by an adobe and remodeled into a modern store, which he sold to Varney Bros. He was also a farmer, owning 320 acres.

JOEL ANDERSON. HOLTVILLE. 1904. Visiting the Valley in 1902, Mr. Anderson was so impressed that he returned in January, 1904, and became the owner of 320 acres in the section north of Holtville. He served as superintendent and president of Mutual Water Company No. 5 and because of the soundness of his opinions on water matters he became a man of much influence amongst the mutual companies. On the home place, Mr. Anderson built a handsome residence, which was admired by many because of the unusual conveniences it contained.

1905

JUDGE FRANKLIN J. COLE. HOLTVILLE. 1905. The continuous service of Franklin J. Cole, as judge of the superior court from the date the county was organized, August 6, 1907, until December 31, 1927, over twenty years, is in itself a mark of honor and esteem for the man second to none in Imperial Valley. Judge Cole came to Imperial Valley for his wife's health and hung out his shingle in 1905, two years after graduating from law school. He went on the bench with little experience in the practice of law, but so ably did he administer the details of his office that he attracted state wide attention. Judge Cole was prominent in Masonic order, was a director of the First National Bank, and shouldered his share of the strenuous work the pioneers did that made Imperial Valley go ahead, and after his long service as judge he established a law practice in Los Angeles, where he resides today.

E. W. LOTT. HOLTVILLE. 1905. Came from Missouri with parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Lott, for his mother's health. Came in an emigrant freight car with stock and household goods. The same day they arrived in October they rented forty acres near Holtville and went on the place the same day. Later rented 160 additional acres. Mr. Lott, Sr., was the first veterinary doctor in the Valley. In 1908 the doctor took up 160 acres between Holtville and Brawley and in 1921 sold the ranch and the doctor retired. E. W. Lott went to work for the Imperial Valley Creamery Company in 1911. This was followed by the Star Creamery and in 1919 he was employed by the Imperial Valley Milk Producers Association and is now manager for that concern. In 1908 he married Miss Sherman and now have a son, fifteen. Mr. Lott is a director of the Challenge Cream and Butter Marketing Association. He also was president in 1930 of the California Dairy Council. His management of the co-operative creamery in Holtville has been highly successful.

1906

MR. AND MRS. M. J. ALEXANDER. HOLTVILLE. 1906. Came to the desert for his health, weighing then but 117 pounds. He now tips the scales at 215, so he credits the Valley with saving his life. He was the first rural mail

route carrier in the Valley, driving thirty-six miles a day out of Holtville with a horse and buggy. He first bought land in No. 5, where he farmed for fifteen years, and now resides in the No. 7 district, farming a portion of the W. F. Gillett filing. He also conducts a service station and garage on the highway, seven miles southeast of Holtville. He helped organize the Woodmen lodges at El Centro, Holtville and Calexico, and was district deputy for this order.

1907

JOHN LUND. HOLTVILLE. 1907. Came from Los Angeles to work and acquired 160 acres on the east side which he still farms. Has been interested for 24 years in the development of the valley.

MR. AND MRS. C. W. CRIPPEN. HOLTVILLE. 1907. Came from Texas on the recommendation of a friend and started with \$50 capital, going to work first on D. G. Whiting ranch. Mr. Crippen was general ranch hand and Mrs. Crippen cooked for fourteen men. They then purchased the relinquishment on the land now occupied by the Evergreen cemetery, which they developed in true pioneer fashion. They gave homes to five homeless children, adopted and raised them. One of the boys is now married and two of the girls are ready to enter high school. Mrs. Crippen likes the Valley so well that she says she would live here if she were worth a million. They enjoy their home in Holtville.

DAVE H. WILLIAMS. HOLTVILLE. 1907. Williams was another farmer who believed that dull labor should be mixed with some fun. He attracted thousands of people to Holtville with his wild west shows; took a leading part in the Valley Baseball League, launched an annual New Year barbecue, free-for-all-picnic, and took care of 560 acres of alfalfa at the same time. Dave is still rancher on the east side, now pioneering on a new piece of land.

1908 and After

J. V. YEARGIN. HOLTVILLE. 1908. Started to Oregon from New Mexico and was attracted to the Valley by its reputation as an agricultural empire. Proved up on 150 acres seven miles southeast of Holtville, where he farmed successfully for several years, at the same time holding positions as zanjero and superintendent for No. 7. He sold in 1920 and purchased the Dick Jordan place, which he leased, and moved to Holtville. He has been director in Water Company No. 2 and road foreman. Mrs. Yeargin runs a ready-to-wear store in Holtville. He also is a school director in the Verde district and enjoys the companionship of two sons and a daughter in his family. Mr. Yeargin is a keen citizen, a hard worker and one of the sort that has made the Valley what it is today.

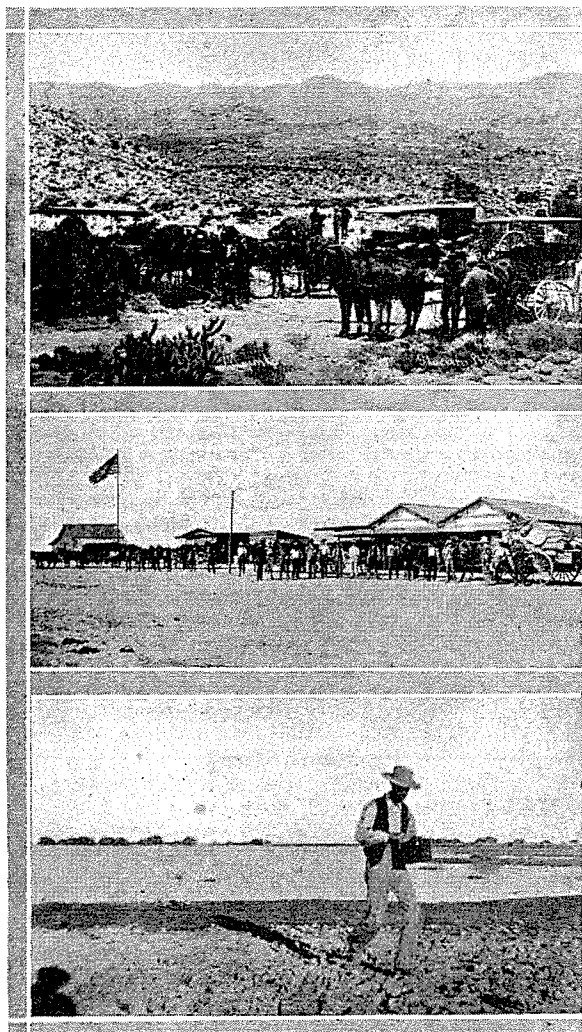
JOHN KAVANAUGH. HOLTVILLE. 1910. With wife and two daughters came to the Valley to live. Established a feed and grain business at Holtville where he is still in the same business. Mr. Kavanaugh is one of the sturdy sort that has made Imperial Valley go ahead.

J. R. HALEY. HOLTVILLE. 1912. Always drawn back to the Valley after several departures, Mr. Haley has run dairy ranches at Holtville, Dixieland and Seeley. Now lives with his wife and three grown children in Seeley. He is also interested in the Campbell Service Station there.

E. L. KENNY. HOLTVILLE. 1913. Helped survey the lands for Water Co. No. 3 near Niland and Calipatria, directed the job of cleaning out the east side high line canal and ran the first lines for the Lawrence high line canal. Has been employed with F. L. Shaw in Holtville.

The publisher will appreciate it if readers will call his attention to errors so that corrections may be made in the second edition—EDITOR.

SILSBEE - SEELEY



San Diego Chamber of Commerce Visit in May, 1901. Top—At Mountain Springs; Center—At Imperial; Bottom—At Cameron Lake. Pictures by D. F. Harbison.

D. F. HARBISON. SEELEY. 1901-1907. In May 1901, the San Diego Chamber of Commerce, at the suggestion of S. W. Ferguson, organized a party of twenty-four men to visit Imperial Valley, then awaiting the arrival of the first water for irrigation. They started out in four conveyances, three tallyhos and a commissary wagon, each drawn by four horses. Mr. Harbison furnished two of these rigs and drove one of them himself. He was in the livery business at the time. The party organized with military precision. John Rose was captain, A. Moran was chief cook, Harbison was in charge of the teams. It was a ten-day camping trip and every man did his share of rustling wood, washing dishes and attending to other camp work. They drove in by way of Julian, Vallecitos and Carriso Creek and returned by way of Devil's Canyon and Jacumba. Mr. Harbison remembers some of the members of the party; Supervisor Jasper was one, Walter Waterman, S. L. Ward, John Boles, Geo. McMullen, F. W. Waite, C. H. Glazier, Dwight Williams, were in the party. The trip was for the purpose of seeking out the best route for a stage line and a railroad. Many of the party located land while in the Valley. They visited the town of Imperial, which had two buildings and a corral at the time, drove by way of Blue Lake to Cameron Lake,

where Calexico was later established and were duly impressed with the possibilities that they witnessed, in spite of the wind storms they had to fight. Upon their return to San Diego a great mass meeting was held and \$43,000 raised for the railroad survey. It was eighteen years, however, before the railroad became a reality.

Mr. Harbison came back to the Valley and took up 640 acres of land in 1907. Errors in surveys reduced his holdings to 337 acres. He has farmed this land continuously for the past twenty-four years, specializing in alfalfa and renting portions for dairy purposes and vegetables. He has been school trustee in the Seeley district and was a director in the No. 6 water company for six years. He has been a strong backer of the Boulder Dam and All-American canal, being vice-chairman of the American Conservation Club since its organization. He has been an influential member of various farmers' committees which have been called in consultation by government officials. Mr. Harbison has always been active in farm bureau work and Mrs. Harbison has been an influence in the women's organizations. Their son, Ira, is a justice of the peace in National City; Charles is attending Berkeley University; their daughter, Mary, is Mrs. Joe Ende and lives in Chula Vista.

J. R. HAVENS. SILSBEE. 1901. Drove to the Valley from Riverside, located on eighty acres in October, 1901. His place was termed a show place of the Valley as early as 1903, when the palms and trees developed rapidly. These palms were sold to W. F. Holt, who replanted them on the townsite of Holtville. Mr. Havens raised a family of nine children, and did his share in the early work that made Imperial Valley famous.

THOMAS PHILLIPS. SEELEY. 1902. Came to Imperial Valley and drove teams for grading work on the canals and work at Blue Lake. His wife and three children came to the Valley in 1903, living in Imperial until 1905, when they bought eighty acres of land near Silsbee; although Mr. Phillips now lives in Los Angeles, he still owns the land and keeps it leased. His two daughters, Mrs. Loris Bridgers, of El Centro, and Mrs. Amos Brooks, of Imperial, have lived in the Valley continuously. The other five children, Frank, Lee and Perry Phillips, Mrs. R. O. Combs and Mrs. Lonnie Garling, all live in Los Angeles.

GEORGE L. CAMPBELL. SILSBEE. 1903. Mr. Campbell is one of those versatile men who can engage in mercantile business, be a sheriff or a deputy sheriff, improve a farm, grow crops, be a postmaster, run a real estate office, be a deputy county clerk and perform the numerous other duties that fall to the lot of the pioneer citizen. After twenty-eight years of this sort of pioneering his neighbors and friends voted to put him in the county jail, where he heads the modern force of deputies as high sheriff of the county. Mr. Campbell made his first trip to the Valley from San Diego in a wagon drawn by mules. He located land, improved it and established a general merchandise store in Silsbee in 1904; after the flood period he centered his mercantile efforts in a department store in Seeley. Since that time Campbell's store has been the center of all sorts of activities, business and social on the west side. In Mr. Campbell, the county has a real sheriff of the efficient western type, at the same time perfectly at home in the civil department. His pioneer friends presented him with a beautiful solid gold badge, lettered I. P. A. 1903, which means Imperial Pioneer Association 1903. His wife and two children, Laurence and Joseph, make up the Campbell family.

W. O. HUSON. SEELEY. Rural mail carrier. First drove across the Valley in 1889, hunting for the lost Peg Leg mine.

P. J. STORMS. SEELEY. 1900. Mr. Storms enjoyed his first Thanksgiving dinner in Imperial Valley 30 years ago, in 1900. On the banks of Blue Lake, later the townsite of Silsbee, now named Seeley, he prepared the following dish: breasts of twenty-seven black birds, one quail and four cotton tail rabbits. This Mulligan pot pie was seasoned with bacon and provided enough food for a great many people. Storms, however, was alone and while the meal was cooking, watched hopefully for someone to arrive who would share the pot pie with him. Just as dinner was ready, Jim

Owens and John Yount, freighters for the C. D. and Imperial Valley Land Company, drove in. Each man was driving ten horses to his wagon. They were moving the county Blue Lake camp to Imperial townsite. They accepted an invitation to partake of Thanksgiving dinner, and just as the three men cut into the meat pie, Dan Morris and Archie Priest rode up on saddle horses. They were stage drivers for the George McCauley Stage Line from Flowing Well on the main line of the Southern Pacific to Imperial. Andy Elliott, a stock man, rode in just in time to help consume the last of the dinner and help drain the coffee pot. Storms was one of the early settlers here and is one of the few who have remained in the Valley since pioneer days. Storms crossing near Seeley was named after him. Storms was crippled in a snowslide in Alaska and heard of the boiling springs near Jacumba and Black Butte and came from San Diego to try them. He came in with J. C. Hussey and his son, George, and daughter, Grace. The four filed on 160 acres each. He spent the winter at the hot springs in Mexico, bought a horse in May and rode to San Diego, returning in the fall of 1901. He brought feed into Blue Lake from Phoenix and ran a feed yard. In the flood he lost ninety acres. He lived on the same ranch that he filed on for twenty-six years and sold it in 1927. He acquired another 160, which he still owns. Storms married in 1917 and his wife died several years later. Remarrying in 1927, Mr. and Mrs. Storms live in Seeley in the winter and enjoy a summer home in San Diego in the summer.

H. J. HAVENS. SEELEY. 1902. Mr. Havens says: "In December, 1902, J. D. and Frank Shanto, my brother, Charles and myself left Santa Ana with a six-mule team for Imperial Valley. It took us fifteen days to make the trip by way of San Diego, Mountain Springs being so rough and steep that I had to tie myself to the seat and used a single jerk line to drive with. We made several dry camps at night as it was not always possible to reach water. We contracted team work, but the other boys soon became tired of pioneering and returned. I had the first shoe shop and saddlery, also the first bicycle and gun shop in the Valley. Everyone knew 'Hank' Havens, as I was called. I was married in 1905 to Elsie Penniman, have raised eight children, five girls and three boys. In 1907 I went into the dairy business, renting good land for \$6 an acre; was the first to engage in the milk goat business; at the present we have a herd of several hundred; we separate the cream and find a big demand. We find that when handled right they pay better than cows, being immune from tuberculosis and other diseases."

W. M. H. CHOWNING. SILSBEE. 1904. Became one of the successful ranchers in the Valley, farming 118 acres.

JOHN W. KRAMER. SEELEY. 1905. A sturdy, hardworking, successful farmer, the pioneer sort who stayed with it and worked out the problems as they came along. Mr. and Mrs. Kramer settled near Silsbee before the flood and made a good ranch out of 160 acres. One of the best crops raised were eight children, all of whom were a credit to their parents.

CLARK ADAIR. Seeley. 1905. Mr. Adair took up his desert claim near Seeley just in time to see it covered with flood waters in 1905. The action of this flood in removing alkali started him on a study of soil fertility and for years he has been an acknowledged expert on how to treat salt soils. It is his idea that almost any alkali land may be reclaimed easily and at small cost by thoroughly flooding, connected with proper drainage. For several years he was chairman of the soil fertility committee of the Associated Chambers of Commerce. In 1912, Mr. Adair put over the first fruit fair; he interested growers of all sorts of fruit, melons and vegetables in making an exhibit in El Centro for three years straight. These exhibits were the means of convincing many farmers that they could raise something besides alfalfa and live stock. A most notable result was a jump in the price of good land to more than double its former value all over the Valley. Mr. Adair was personally responsible for securing a seven cent duty on long staple cotton. He has always been interested in politics and pub-

lic affairs, farm bureau work and any forward looking project that affected the Valley in any way.

T. HOWARD. SEELEY. 1905. From San Diego. Brought cattle to pasture several years. For seventeen years Mr. Howard has conducted a meat market in Seeley. Mrs. Howard came from Kentucky in 1912. She was the first agent for the S. D. & A. in Seeley. She also was bookkeeper for Geo. Campbell. The Howards own 14 acres of farm land and several pieces of income property. Two daughters, Katherine and Eleanor, are now in school.

A. M. MEALEY. Seeley. 1906. M. V. Dutcher helped Mr. Mealey reach the Valley where he struck out on foot to find a job. His first work was grubbing brush to clear land. Got a job as a plumber, established himself with a shop in Holtville, bought the land now occupied by the golf club for \$1000 and sold it in a month for \$2000. He bought his present place and has been a successful farmer.

DR. G. A. SWANN. SEELEY. 1906. From Canada. Ranched at first on 160 acres near Imperial. In 1914 they bought the Waldrop ranch on the Seeley highway. Nine acres are now in dates and thirty-one acres in alfalfa, now leased. Mrs. Swann and three children came also from Canada. The daughter, Margery, married James Anderson, who now conducts an auto wrecking business in El Centro. The son returned to Canada, joined the Canadian army and was killed in action in the World War. The dates from the Swann place are marketed annually, a great many visitors stopping at the ranch every year when the dates are ripe.

R. N. BEST. SEELEY. 1906. Nephew of W. H. Best. Mrs. Best came in 1904 with her father, Thos. Bethurum, to Holtville. They were married in 1915 and now conduct the Best Service Station at Seeley on the highway. They have two children, Mildred and Eleanor. They have one of the prettiest homes on the west side.

BENJAMIN A. STAFFORD. SEELEY. 1907. From Wisconsin. Worked for W. H. Best as cook in camp. Opened the Franklin Hotel dining room in El Centro in 1908. He filed on eighty-five acres of land in the river bottom near Seeley. Before coming to the Valley, Stafford sailed several times around the world and railroaded on the S. P. desert sections when Yuma was still a fort. He sailed around the Horn. After all this, he declares the Colorado desert the cleanest and healthiest place in the world. Stafford lives alone on his eighty-five acres and enjoys sunbaths without clothing and is hale and hearty at sixty-nine. He also played the character part of "Flapjack Mehan" in Rex Beach's "The Spoilers." Being an ex-chef of the Coronado Hotel, Stafford knows how to prepare his own food. He planted four French date palms from Algiers in 1916 and these trees are in perfect condition, bearing hundreds of pounds of fruit each year.

A. R. FERGUSON. SEELEY. 1907. At this time many people were coming from San Diego to the Valley and Mr. and Mrs. Ferguson were among them. They drove down Devil's Canyon and had to swim their stock across New River. Mr. Ferguson attributes his success in a great part to the determination of Mrs. Ferguson. They built the hotel in 1912 and, while leased to different parties at different times, they conduct it now. They owned the townsite of Seeley and when Silsbee had to be moved on account of the flood they opened the townsite and sold much property.

ROY WESTMORELAND. SEELEY. 1908. From Oklahoma. Bought the Conant ranch of 120 acres and still owns it. His father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Westmoreland, followed in 1912 and together they bought 900 acres of land northwest of Seeley. They rent parts of this tract for vegetable growing and other crops. Roy married Pauline Adair, who came with her parents to the Valley in 1908. She is a graduate of the El Centro high school. They have four children, two boys and two girls.

R. HEATLEY. SEELEY. 1908. A carpenter by trade Mr. Heatley helped build the Long slaughter house at Imperial, the college at Heber and dozens of other structures in the Valley. He still follows his trade at Seeley.

FRANK AMES. SEELEY. 1910. Helped in the construction of the railroad from San Diego to Seeley.

MR. AND MRS. WM. SCHULTZ. SEELEY. Mr. Schultz 1912. Mrs. Schultz 1906. Mrs. Schultz came to the Valley as Ada Robinson and was the first telephone operator in Imperial. She went east to school and came back to Seeley in 1914, marrying Mr. Schultz in 1916. They bought forty acres near Seeley, where they have been conducting a successful dairy business ever since. Mrs. Schultz came in with Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Stockton and they had to ferry all their goods, wagons and teams across New River in a sixteen-foot barge. Mr. Schultz was formerly a railroader with the S. P. He saw so many produce freight bills of such huge proportions in the railroad office from 1889 to 1912 that he finally came to see what it was all about.

E. A. HULL. SEELEY. 1914. Worked for the I. V. Hardware for thirteen years and then bought the store now known as the Seeley Mercantile Company, the largest store in Seeley. They also own fifty-seven acres of land near Seeley.

S. TRAMMELL. SEELEY. 1915. Leased Geo. Campbell's store and service station when Mr. Campbell was elected sheriff. Mrs. Trammell came from Escondido and was appointed postmistress at Seeley.

A. H. SHELDON. SEELEY. 1911. Zanjero at the Fern heading for twelve years. Came to the Valley with Mrs. Sheldon and nine children.

J. C. LEWIS. IOWA. 1911. Worked in El Centro creamery for twenty years and is now with the Valley Cream Co. in Seeley and owns property in El Centro.

W. O. BLAIR. CALIPATRIA. 1908. Mr. Blair was first attracted by the opportunities below the boundary line in Mexico, where he operated tractors leveling land, plowing, discing and dragging; later he moved his headquarters to Brawley where he followed the same line of activity. He worked for the county grading roads in the north end. Many miles of county roads were built by Mr. Blair around Brawley and Calipatria. He also did much tractor work for Water Companies No. 8 and No. 4. When the Calipatria section was opened for settlement Mr. Blair acquired 160 acres which he brought to a high state of cultivation. He still owns this quarter section and has from time to time had partnership interests in other lands. On his home place he raises vegetables of all sorts—peas, tomatoes, watermelons, cantaloupes, squash, bell peppers, etc. Being an outstanding figure among his neighbors and friends he was elected a director of the Irrigation District in 1925 and was re-elected in 1929. The records show that Mr. Blair has maintained a keen and continuous interest in the welfare of the water user. His division, being in the north end of the Valley, is the one most subject to cloudbursts and storms on the northern edge of the desert. He has to maintain crews of men ready to repair breaks in the canal banks. Mr. Blair claims that conditions in his district, as far as water deliveries are concerned, are in better shape than any other division in the Valley.

HEBER

M. H. CAVIN. HEBER. 1908 Mr. and Mrs. Cavin and two sons, Neal and Lynn, came to Imperial first. Mr. Cavin found a job with Varney Bros., the morning after arrival and was with them there for sixteen months. After a quick trip to New Mexico Mr. Cavin was made manager of the Varney store in Heber in September, 1909. At that time there was a postoffice, hotel, the Varney store and school building. The family lived in the rear of the store for three years, building the first frame residence in the summer of 1912. In 1911 a stock of lumber was added to the store stock and Varneys moved into a new modern building in 1912. In May, 1916. Mr. Cavin resigned from the manage-

ment of Varney Bros. and took over the stock of lumber and since that time he and his sons have been conducting a general lumber, feed and grain business in Heber. Mr. Cavin gives due credit to his wife and sons who have been a great help to him. Neal now is manager of the business. He recalls the fact that Dan Leonard was the first depot agent. A box car on the siding was all the depot there was. Heber now has a population of about 400.

D. G. WHITING. HEBER. 1902. The Whiting ranch was a show place within a few months after Mr. Whiting took hold of the 480 acres shortly after water was available in the main canal which ran along the edge of his ranch. Mr. Whiting brought in the first pure bred Jersey dairy cows, and his experience as a dairyman for years made him the leader in that line. Mr. Whiting belonged to the class of American farmers typical of the best citizenship.

L. E. SRACK. 1901. Soon after arrival from Riverside he became an enthusiast for cotton; was instrumental in establishing a cotton seed oil mill and several gins.

DIXIELAND

GEO. W. NICHOLS. DIXIELAND. 1900. Came from San Diego, taking several days by way of Devil's canyon. Arrived at Blue Lake and filed on 160 acres. After filing he came back in 1901 and worked with a surveying crew looking for oil for eight months. In 1902 his wife and three children came and a ramada was their home. Mr. Nichols went into the real estate business in Imperial with Sam Hastings, of San Diego. Hastings also had a ranch at Blue Lake so they went back to their ranches. Nichols helped form the second school with L. E. Cooley, teacher, near the Van Horn ranch. In August, 1906, Edgar F. Hastings, now supervisor in San Diego county, came over to help level the Sam Hastings and Nichols places. As soon as El Centro was launched Nichols came to town and joined with Ira Aten in the Aten & Nichols Land Co. He laid out the townsite of Dixieland and was one of the leading spirits in the Westside Land Co. In 1911 he helped form the Mt. Signal Water Co., and was president several years. He helped organize the El Centro Creamery, the oil mills, and helped organize the Imperial Valley Beekeepers Association, being its president several years. Paul Nichols, son, was the first boy born in Imperial Valley. On account of Mrs. Nichols' health the family moved in 1919 to Ashland, selling out here. He returned last year and purchased a five acre date ranch at Dixieland where he is now located. Mr. Nichols shipped the second load of hogs sent to market from the Valley in 1905.

MISCELLANEOUS

GEORGE SEXSMITH. HANLON HEADING. 1900. George Sexsmith was a member of that little group of early surveyors who did the first work on the system in 1900. He was placed in charge of the intake work at the heading and remained in that capacity until 1907. He was a brother-in-law and a fast friend of "Scotty" Russell. He died in 1910, as a result of an accidental discharge of a revolver while taking it from a drawer of a desk.

O. L. PETERSON. IMPERIAL. 1903. With a bicycle on his back, Mr. Peterson walked the first two miles out of Old Beach, and then rode the wheel to Imperial in three hours; there he visited his brother, H. H. Peterson. Having some interests at Nome, Alaska, it was 1907 before he got back to the Valley, where he worked as a bricklayer for his brother and for the last twelve years conducting a general contracting business at Calexico. He rebuilt the city water reservoirs at Calexico. In the meantime he filed on land at Meloland, which he sold to Wilmer Swerdfeger. Mr. Peterson has been a member of the city council at Calexico, is a duck hunter with a real reputation, and is enjoying life in the Valley. He married Daisy Rymand in 1914.

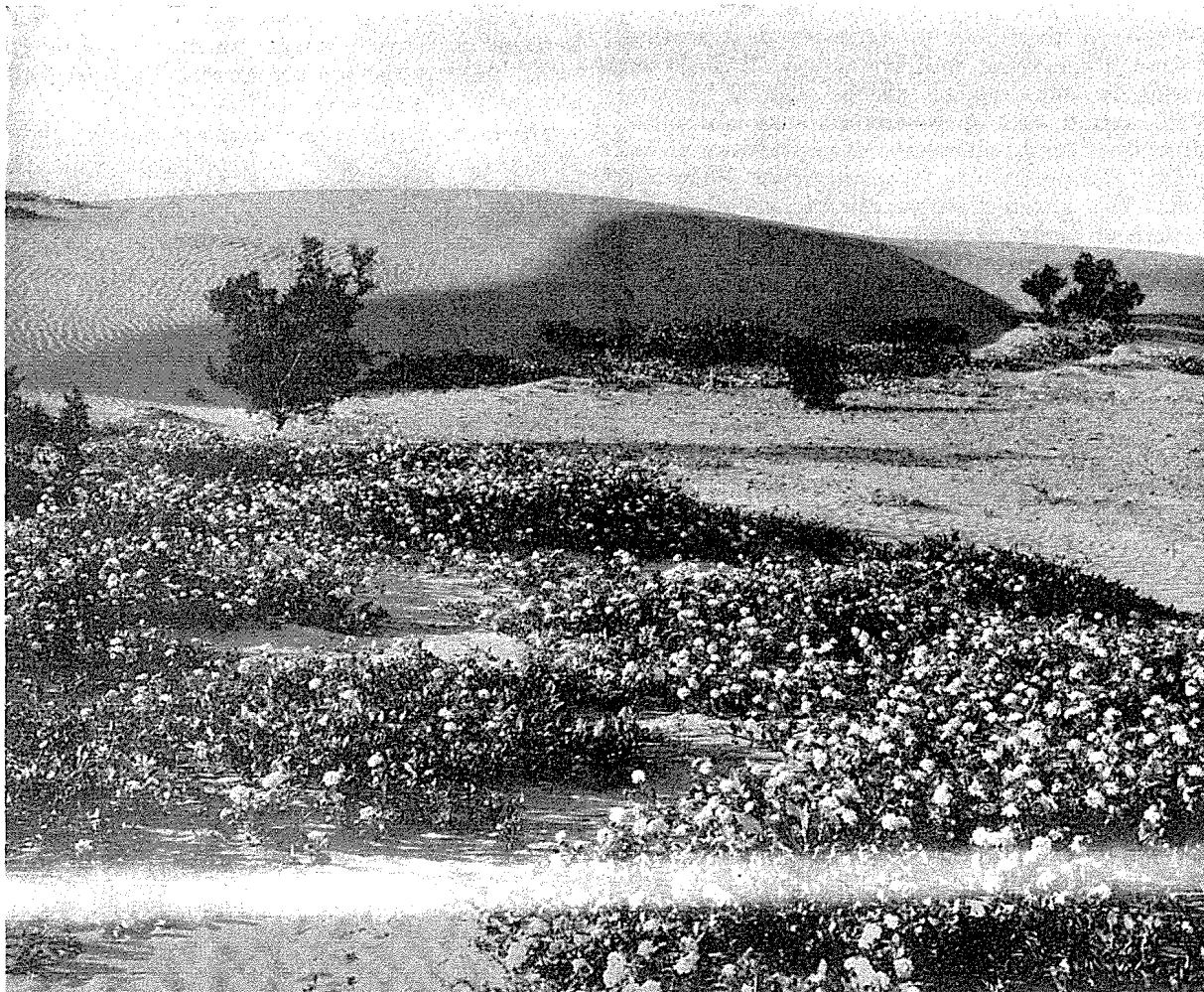
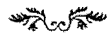
F. F. HALL. SAN FRANCISCO. 1900. Surveyor with C. N. Perry. Claims to be the first white man to spend a whole summer in the Valley. Was in charge of C. D. Company camp at Blue Lake and showed visitors their claim stakes. Took up a half section and sold it to Jas. B. Hoffman later for \$25. Now a resident of San Francisco.

JOHN P. FISK. REDLANDS. 1903. Rode through Valley before any railroad existed. Bought 320 acres in No. 5 and later sold it. Associated with W. F. Holt in development of No. 5.

PROMINENT PIONEER FARMERS. Pioneers will recall the names of such men as Nels Jacobson, who came in 1902, and made a specialty of horses and hogs; W. L. Manahan, of Brawley, 1903, who raised great herds of cattle; J. C.

Chalupnik, 1907, whose training in an agricultural college helped in his dairy and hog business; E. H. Erickson, Brawley, 1903, thorough fruit raiser and horticulturist; H. H. Pollock, 1907, a miner who turned farmer with success; C. H. Walton, El Centro, 1901, who was first a loser then a winner in his conquest for title to his home; J. D. Conrad, 1903, whose turkeys and chickens, dairy herd and hogs were of the best; Edwin Mead, Holtville, 1901, who established the custom of fencing in small fields; Henry Syroven, Holtville, who sunk the first artesian well on any ranch; Joseph Hanson, 1902, barley grower; John Larson, 1902, who came with Hanson from Canada; John McKinney, of the Mesquite Lake district, 1902; and hundreds of others whose early activities helped make Imperial Valley the most famous agricultural area in the world, before it was six years old.

Additional Pioneer Sketches Will Be Found on Later Pages



Imperial Valley, the Desert Once Covered With Flowers

CHAPTER VII

HEBER - ROCKWOOD CONTROL

WHEN in February, 1902, George Chaffey relinquished control of the affairs of the California Development Company, A. H. Heber, who had not been active in the affairs of the concern for three years, was named President of both the Development Company and the Imperial Land Company. His associates were Blaisdell, Heffernan, Rockwood, Paulin, J. W. and H. C. Oakley. Rockwood, as engineer, again took charge of construction.

CHAFFEY RELINQUISHES

In the settlement with Chaffey these men not only turned over to him settlers' notes and mortgages and such other security as had accumulated during the Chaffey regime, but also borrowed \$25,000 personally in order to gain quick possession of the C. D. Company.

Therefore, Heber and his associates on March 1, 1902, found themselves in possession of a growing concern, colonization well under way, land seekers driving in and dropping off the train at Flowing Well eager to take up government land and apparently all set for a continuation of big business as was enjoyed during the Chaffey management. However, behind this glowing picture, the old gaunt spectre, the lack of capital, began again his furtive harassing of the company's executives. There was no money in the treasury. There was need for quick continuation of construction work, ditch digging, an extension of the mains. Owners of outlying lands clamored for water.

Under these circumstances the officers of the controlling company deserve great credit for the dogged determination with which they went ahead. The acreage of cultivated land jumped from 6,000 to 25,000 and in 1903 this acreage reached 50,000; in 1904 it reached 150,000, the company amid great difficulties delivered water as rapidly as it could. In 1903 it built about 600 miles of canals.

OLD TROUBLES AND NEW

It certainly seems strange that on every page of the records during the time of Heber and Rockwood's control, both before and after the Chaffey regime, must be set down some description of some trouble. These troubles began to hover over Rockwood the very first day that he associated himself with the original promoters in 1891; they continued through and reached mountainous proportions until George Chaffey entered the picture. As soon as Chaffey quit, these birds of evil omen began again to hover about Heber and Rockwood. The climax of trouble was reached when the floods of 1906-1907 wrecked the structure on which they had so laboriously worked for fifteen years.

CIRCULAR No. 9

The first new trouble that assailed the Valley was "Circular No. 9," a soil report made by two youthful experts, J. Garnett Holmes and Thomas H. Meanis, in 1902. This report was published by the Agricultural Department of the government under the direction of the Chief of Bureau of Soils, Milton Whitney. Only forty days were occupied in field work and the report was supposed to cover 169 square miles. The rate of examination, therefore was 2700 acres, or more than four sections each day. Only four borings of any depth were made. Thus were "tested" 108,160 acres of land. Just what influence the rumors that preceded publication of this report had on George Chaffey's decision to quit is mere conjecture. For months the air was full of vague rumors about the forthcoming report. The strange coincidence of the spread of these rumors with the plans of the Reclamation Service, which watched with ill concealed jealousy the prosperous start Imperial Valley had enjoyed, is remarkable.

The report itself in brief declared most of the soil of Imperial Valley to be so impregnated with alkali that all possibility of agriculture was precluded. One paragraph read: "One hundred and twenty-five thousand acres of this land have already been taken up by prospective settlers, many of whom talk of planting crops, which it will be absolutely impossible to grow. They must early find that it is useless to attempt their growth."

The report caused a first-class sensation; the Government published it in pamphlet form and broadcast it over the country. An undenied purpose on the part of the Government was to warn people away from Imperial Valley. Government officials gave out interviews all over the country attacking the desert project in every way conceivable; great prominence was given through these interviews to the report. The credit of the California Development Company and of the individual settlers was utterly destroyed. The influx of settlers came to a dead stop; those already located in the Valley were simply panic stricken. In the opinion of many it seemed certain that had the territory not already been settled in a very large measure Imperial Valley would today still be unreclaimed.

Not being able to do anything else, settlers on the ground continued to plant crops and harvest them. This went on with such unflinching success that the experts' soil report became the laughing stock of the whole country. It was with considerable glee that Government officials, when they visited the Valley, were hauled out to view the white stakes planted by the youthful experts to show where the samples of

soil were taken. These stakes always had to be hunted out in the midst of abundant crops that grew so high that they were hidden.

RECLAMATION SERVICE OPPOSITION

No sooner was public confidence half way restored when another new trouble appeared on the horizon. In August, 1903, the Reclamation Service filed on 4,000,000 inches of "unappropriated" waters of the Colorado under the California State law. The department engineers contemplating the establishment of irrigation projects along the Colorado, had made a wild guess of the volume flow of that stream. Being already jealous of the quick growth made by the Valley project, they conceived the idea that the filing made by the California Development Company on 10,000 second feet of water must be quashed. They therefore circulated throughout the country the statement that the Colorado River was a navigable stream, under jurisdiction of the War Department, the consent of which for the diversions being made had not been obtained and consequently those filings were illegal.

This declaration, needless to say, again paralyzed the credit of the company, created consternation amongst the settlers and gave Heber, Rockwood and their associates additional reason for serious concern. However, these men were so accustomed to tragedy and disaster, disappointment and despair, that they took the blow like the game fighters they were and got back to their feet before the count of ten.

The utter insincerity of this propaganda was demonstrated by the Reclamation Service's proposal to build four dams across the river; the navigability of the river was mere fiction used to injure the California Development Company, to frighten the settlers of Imperial Valley into believing they had no water right and that the only way for them to relieve the situation was to join the Yuma project and incidentally to help pay for the expensive diversion works there.

Not knowing what to do or which way to turn, Mr. Heber rushed to Washington and appealed to congress. He caused the Daniels bill to be introduced legalizing the appropriation and diversion of water for irrigation purposes. Again the spectacle of a strong arm of the Government fighting, instead of helping, the harassed homeseekers and settlers of the Valley was built into the picture. The Reclamation Service opposed the bill and the relief asked for was denied.

MASS MEETINGS START

When Heber's bill was first introduced, certain individuals in the Valley thought they saw in government ownership the solution of the tangle. F. G. Havens, S. J. Ulrey and a few others sent a telegram to Wm. E. Smythe, of San Diego, well known supporter of the Government's reclamation policy. Smythe came over and outlined a program of agitation for government ownership. Public meetings were called, the beginning of a practice that has lasted throughout all these years. Fiery orators waved their arms, used language that was unjustified, be-

meant those who were not in accord with their views and left their audiences bewildered, uncertain and entirely at sea. The favorite object for villification became the poor old California Development Company. Heber, Rockwood, et al, were held up as villains of the worst type. Instead of combining to support the company's efforts to make secure the Valley's water rights, they tore at its vitals with intemperate ferocity. All this was playing into the hands of the Reclamation Service. The heads of the Service, including F. H. Newell, Arthur P. Davis, J. B. Lippincott, B. M. Hall and Morris Bien, accompanied by William E. Smythe, publicity agent, visited the Valley in midsummer, 1904, and another mass meeting was held. It closed with three rousing cheers for the Reclamation Service.

In July after the formation of a Water Users' Association, as suggested by government representatives, and after many conferences Mr. Heber, in behalf of the California Development Company, offered to sell to the Government for \$5,000,000. The water users' committee thought \$1,250,000 was enough.

On July 25, another great mass meeting of settlers was called to hear what Pres. Heber had to say about government ownership. After a masterly address, Mr. Heber astonished the crowd by offering to leave the selling price in the hands of a board of arbitration, one member to be appointed by the company, one by the water users' association, the two to select the third.

DEAL IS OFF

In August, negotiations between the company and the water users' association were abruptly terminated in a communication from President Heber after the Water Users' Association had submitted an ultimatum as to what the proposed board of arbitration could do. Heber charged "disregard of elementary business principles, truth, honor and fairness." He also charged the Water Users' Association as being "partly composed of a class of men with anarchistic proclivities, led by one more dangerous than they," referring directly to Shirley C. Ward, Los Angeles attorney. In this communication, Mr. Heber declared the incident closed.

Following this announcement under date of August 20, the Water Users' Association, through W. F. Holt, made a proposition that it would recommend to the government that it pay \$3,000,000 for the property of the California Development Company. Mr. Heber promptly accepted the offer and a rousing ratification meeting was held in the Imperial Methodist Church.

An additional ratification meeting was held a week later, a barbecue, speeches and songs predominating. A letter to President Roosevelt, to be signed by all the people of the Valley, was authorized.

COMMITTEE TO WASHINGTON

W. F. Holt and C. S. Lombard were sent to Washington to hurry matters along. In October they wired the folks at home that they had called on the President and department officials and assured them that acquisition by the government was "reasonably cer-

tain." While in Washington, Holt and Lombard engaged the services of a law firm for \$2500 retainer fee and upon returning to the Valley their action was ratified by eight of the twelve directors for the Water Users' Association, S. J. Ulrey, F. G. Havens, F. N. Chaplin and Geo. Bothwell dissenting.

THE GOVERNMENT SPEAKS

The Secretary of the Interior in January, 1905, transmitted to Congress his report on the Colorado River. The report itself was written by F. H. Newell, chief of the Reclamation Service. It was somewhat of a bomb shell for Imperial Valley, inasmuch as it advised that the lower Colorado River was a navigable stream; that filings under state laws for irrigation purposes were therefore null and void and that its waters were therefore not subject to appropriation. The report advised, however, that settlers upon arid lands had already put to beneficial use part of the waters of the Colorado and that these appropriations should be recognized. The report advised that those who had already constructed canal systems should be also protected and allowed to carry water for actual beneficial use to lands already irrigated as of October 1, 1904, but that any extension should be made only with the consent of the Secretary of the Interior.

The report failed to make any mention of the proposed \$3,000,000 deal and thereby left the Valley "up in the air" and more than ever in an unsettled state.

HEBER AGREES

President A. H. Heber returned from Washington and visited the Valley, giving interviews to the newspapers that indicated his complete satisfaction with the ruling of the secretary of the Department of the Interior about water rights, their extent and value.

GOVERNMENT CANNOT ACT

Because of legal difficulties and the impossibility of the U. S. Government owning a concession in Mexico the whole matter of Government ownership was halted until such time when a treaty could be arranged with Mexico to permit such ownership. Mr. Heber announced in February, 1905, that the deal was off as far as the California Development Company was concerned.

All this furore, then, amounted to nothing. All the agitation, arm swinging, hot words and vilification were as sawdust tossed into an Imperial Valley wind storm. After the Government concluded it could not tie the Valley to its Yuma apron strings it ceased more or less its harmful opposition and policy of destruction.

But it left the people of the Valley restless and worried. The already sadly undermined credit of the C. D. Company was in worse shape than ever. Believing the oratorical Smythe, the farmers themselves refused to pay their water bills because he had told them the Government would furnish them free water.

CHAPTER VIII

INTAKES IN MEXICO -- FLOODS START

THERE are two, seemingly sufficient reasons advanced for the cutting of the two Mexican intakes, one near the boundary line and the other four miles below. The second intake was the one through which five successive floods raced with devastating effect to the Salton Sea.

WHY THE RIVER BANK CUT?

Rockwood's explanation as told in his story, "Born of the Desert," was to the effect that because the first four miles of the main canal below the Chaffey gate had silted up to such an extent that a shortage of water was inevitable during the winter low stages of the river and for the further reason that the company did not possess, and could not secure in time, dredging machinery adequate to remedy the situation, it was necessary to link the main canal below the silted up portion with the river.

Chaffey's contention as explained in "The Life of George Chaffey"* was to the effect that there was no engineering need for the cut as there was no shortage in the water supply and that Heber ordered Chief Engineer Rockwood to make the cut as a political

move in order to become independent of U. S. Government interference. By dealing directly with Mexico City, the California Development Company's water rights would be made secure.

From a careful study from every angle the conclusion is warranted that it was a combination of both these reasons that caused the Mexican intakes to be cut. In support of Rockwood's side of the question, the records show that during the winter of 1903 and 1904 vast quantities of water were required for the grain crops planted and the company was unable to meet the demands because the floor of the intake gate was too high and because the main canal had silted up. A by-pass had been cut to relieve the situation but the relief did not come in time to save the crops and damage suits amounting to more than a quarter of a million dollars were filed against the C. D. Company. According to Rockwood a repetition of this experience was not to be thought of. Committees of ranch men, water company officials, newspaper men and other citizens visited the heading late in summer and early in fall to see for themselves whether or not the company was making preparations to bring in enough water for 1904 winter crops.

* "The life of George Chaffey," by Alexander, 1928.

They asked pointed questions of Rockwood and that worried engineer did his best to reassure them.

HEBER'S FAMOUS THREAT

As to the political angle of the critical situation the Arid Lands Committee held hearings on the Daniels bill starting March 21, 1904.

Mr. Heber fought a single handed battle in behalf of the Valley. He had opposing him the entire staff of the Reclamation Service; the War Department, which did not wish to antagonize President Roosevelt's Reclamation pets; and worst of all a clamorous home guard mistakenly seeking to give aid and comfort to the enemy. With his back to the wall he grimly informed the committee and his Government-backed enemies that he was all but ready to come to terms with President Diaz of Mexico to take water from the river in Mexico. His chief engineer, he said, was ready to make a cut on Mexican soil to link the river with the Imperial canal. In a solemn passion he declared, "*It is my earnest desire to worship at our own altar, and to receive the blessing from the shrine of our own Government, but if such permission is not given we shall be compelled to worship elsewhere.*"*

The report of the committee was adverse and the bill was not presented to congress.

In June, Mr. Heber went to Mexico City and entered into the contract with the Mexican Government for the diversion in Mexico of water from the Colorado. The contract stipulated that, if required, one-half of the water so diverted could be used on Mexican soil. In September, on instructions from Heber, Rockwood started the excavation and completed the 3300-foot cut from the river to the main canal within three weeks.

THE REAL RESPONSIBILITY

In an exhaustive study of the records of the California Development Company, Mr. Rockwood's carefully worded account, newspaper stories covering the period and personal recollections of men on the scene, there is one bald fact that stands out above all others that comes nearer placing the responsibility for the disastrous floods of 1905-1906-1907 than any other one thing.

It is this: Heber's contract with the Mexican Government, ratified by the Mexican Congress, was for the diversion of water from the Colorado. It also included construction of all necessary works, control gates and the like. Plans and specifications for such control works, however, were to be submitted to Mexican Government engineers for approval. When Rockwood made the cut in September, 1904, on Heber's order, he at the same time submitted plans for the gate necessary for control of the inflow of the water. Mexican red tape caused a *delay of more than thirteen months* in the approval of these gate plans. In spite of urgent appeals by telegraph, it was in December, 1905, before the necessary permit was

secured. Without a doubt this delay caused all the trouble that followed.

INTERESTING REPORTS

What the people of the Valley thought about these intake cuts is shown by the two following reports published at the time:

WITTER'S COMMENT

An interesting comment in the Brawley News by the publisher, M. D. Witter, in September, 1904, on the prospects for water for the winter:

"We have made as close an investigation as possible as to the water situation, so as to advise the farmers in seeding this fall, and find that there is fully three times the opening that there was last year; also that the chances are the river will be higher than last winter. It seems the California Development Company have doubled the opening they had last year, besides also paralleling it with another canal. A few miles down the river they have dug another opening which will empty into the main canal below where it is so badly filled up. Thus, we feel confident that there will be all the water that will be needed to irrigate every acre that can possibly be put into crop this fall. . . ."

REPORT OF I. W. GLEASON

By a vote of the directors of No. 1, President I. W. Gleason was instructed to visit the heading and make a report of conditions. October 10, he went to Yuma and carefully surveyed the situation at the heading. In his report he says: "I estimated that about 75,000 inches of water were running in the canal, one-third through the old channel, one-third through the new cut just below the line and one-third through the short cut to the river four miles below the line. This latter cut is not yet fully opened up for fear of too much water being admitted to the canal. . . . The old channel is badly silted up and if this were the only point from which water could be secured I should consider the chance for this winter very gloomy and would advise limited planting, but the situation is different at the lower cut. Here I found a channel already dug, sixty feet wide and six feet deep throughout. . . . About 3300 feet from the river this cut enters the main canal . . . and has a fall sufficient to carry the water five feet per second . . . the water has cut the canal three to six feet deeper than it was originally dug. Therefore I give it as my opinion that with reasonable diligence . . . sufficient water can be put through it at lowest water to meet all requirements . . . and that the Imperial farmer can plant his crop with the ASSURANCE (caps are Gleason's) that, barring accidents, . . . he will be able to get water when needed the coming winter."

FLOOD WATERS FLOW TO SALTON SEA

The seriousness of this delay was not appreciated at the time by Mr. Rockwood or any of the other river engineers on the job. They had before them river records of the past twenty-seven years. These records showed that during that time there had been but three winter floods of any size. Also during that time, no year had seen two floods on the Colorado.

* Official report of hearings by the Committee on Irrigation of Arid Lands on the Daniels Bill to legalize the diversion and appropriation of water from the Colorado for Irrigation, p. 87.

FIRST CLOSURE ATTEMPT FAILS

They had every reason to believe that the intake could be closed with a dirt dam long before the approach of the summer flood season. For three years before similar bypasses had been easily closed. None of the engineers, therefore, had reason to think it possible or probable that five different floods would come sweeping upon them after the lower intake was cut.

The first flood came in February. It did no damage; two weeks later the second flood arrived. In March the third flood, heavier than either of the other two, caused Rockwood and his assistants to realize the fact that an unusual season was upon them. As the regular summer flood season was rapidly approaching, he decided to close the intake. The usually successful method was used. Piles were driven across the intake, brush mats were laid from both ends, held down by 10,000 sacks filled with sand, until the water was confined to a thirty-foot channel in the center. The opening was then spanned with long timbers and a similar brush and sand bag construction was built upon them. The supporting timbers were then shattered with dynamite, allowing the mass to drop into the opening. Just before this work was completed the fourth flood came down the river, undermined the structure and carried it completely away.

Then indeed did Rockwood, Perry, Russell, Beach, Sexsmith and the others on the job understand that the old Colorado was acting in an unprecedented manner.

The following comment of the Yuma Sun discloses the fact that the Reclamation officials were still hopeful of tying Imperial Valley to Yuma.

"A WARNING!"

Yuma Sun, April, 1905: "The action of the management of the Imperial canal in cutting a new intake below the international boundary is likely to cause international complications and bring results to the company very different from those expected. . . . The opening of the intake in Mexican territory was merely a trick to scare the people of Imperial Valley by making them believe that the canal company was independent of the United States and could levy war against Americans with impunity. . . . The opening of the intake on Mexican territory has allowed the unprecedented and long continued floods of this spring to run into the canal and, being turned into the Padrones at the check gate, the water has been running down New River so long and in such volume that it has cut the passages to great depth and it will cost many thousands of dollars to dam them. The water in the sink is now as high as it was in 1891 and is still rising . . . it is nearing the main track of the Southern Pacific and unless something is done quickly this will be covered.

". . . the fact that it (the C. D. Company) is knowingly permitted to injure American citizens justifies the United States government in taking prompt action, even to the extent of siezing the territory and building the necessary dams and levees.

. . . The canal can then be condemned . . . let the Sociedad (C. D. Company) beware!"

CANAL BREAKS

March 3, 1905, a serious break in the main canal west of Sharpe's heading made it necessary to shut the water off at Sharpe's and turn the flood down New River to prevent the flooding of Mexicali and Calexico.

DAMAGE SUIT

The New Liverpool Salt Company filed suit in Riverside County against the California Development Company for \$87,000 damages because its salt fields and plant have been inundated by waste water coming through the three intakes, two of which were without gates.

SECOND AND THIRD ATTEMPTS FAIL

After the first attempt at closure failed the dredge was moved up stream where a second dam was begun. The current was too swift, however, and this plan was shortly abandoned.

Illustrating the never-say-die spirit of that little band of engineers combatting the unprecedented savagry of the river they plunged into the main channel of the river itself and prepared to throw a dam across this channel from the upper end of Disaster Island, that lay in mid-stream, to the west bank of the river. An army of workmen filled 30,000 sacks with sand, a pile driver rigged on the edge of a dredge hammered the piling into the muddy river bottom. Everyone of the 30,000 sacks of sand were used. It was June flood time, however, and these heroic efforts were fruitless. The fact that C. N. Perry and Tom Beach had even succeeded in throwing a barrier across a channel carrying 2500 second feet of water was deemed "a most remarkable achievement" by H. T. Cory, who comments on the fact in his book.* The only equipment at hand was the make-shift pile driver and Fresno scraper teams.

June 17, 1905, Rockwood gave orders to abandon the work, as he realized that nothing could be done until after the summer flood. At this time the river was carrying a flow of 80,700 second feet, and nearly 9,000 second feet were flowing into Salton Sea. The water was then within 100 feet of the S. P. tracks along Salton Sea. By the end of June the flow to Salton Sea had increased to 14,000 second feet and the mouth of the intake had been increased from 60 to 184 feet. The stream entering this intake was fifteen feet deep and moved at the rate of four miles an hour.

CONDITIONS IN THE VALLEY

During the spring and summer of 1905, the 10,000 settlers in the Valley watched the filling of the old chain of lakes on the west side with interest and apprehension. The lakes not only filled to the brim but the water backed up and spread out east and west. The flow of the Alamo on the east side carried away the bridges and the Rositas dam. Bridges at Calexico, Silsbee and Brawley went out. E. E. Bennett,

* Imperial Valley and Salton Sink by H. T. Cory, 1915.

B. F. McDonald and four other ranchers west of Calexico undertook, by building levees, to keep the creeping waters off their lands and succeeded. Lee Little down in Mexico did likewise. Many ranchers moved out and left the Valley. A cable was strung across New River with an undertaker's basket attached. It was operated with a mule, carrying people, barley and animals across the flood waters. The cable broke once and John Tishbarek was drowned. A flat bottomed boat was built; it was torn loose and swept down stream on its trial trip carrying two men who rescued themselves with difficulty. Wm. Orrick, then justice of the peace, drove with a wagon load of household goods to Brawley, tried to cross

the river and failed, drove back to Silsbee and made camp, next day his whole outfit was burned by a mysterious fire.

Nathaniel Lane, aged 80, had a homestead three miles west of Calexico. When the waters came up Calexico people remembered him and sent a rescue boat. He spurned help and said he would take care of himself. They forgot him for eight days and went out again. The water was higher than ever. The old man had lashed his bed to the roof of his shack and had to fight all sorts of rattlesnakes, insects, etc., to keep them off. One had bitten him and his leg was swollen badly. He had had nothing to eat for three days.

CHAPTER IX

SOUTHERN PACIFIC STEPS IN--LACK OF MONEY

WHEN the river began its ferocious assaults on the Valley through the Mexican intake it soon became evident to Mr. Rockwood and his associates that they could not cope with the situation with the meager finances they could command. The same old trouble—lack of money. It occurred to them that the enormous freight traffic at the Southern Pacific Railway Company enjoyed from Imperial Valley warranted them asking the railroad for financial assistance. The fact that the water in Salton Sea was lapping at the ties on the main line made the approach to Mr. Harriman less difficult. He agreed that the railroad would lend the C. D. Company \$200,000, provided that 6300 shares of the capital stock were placed in the hands of a trustee to be named by the Southern Pacific and that the railroad be given full management of the property. This was agreed to and at the annual meeting in May the Southern Pacific installed its own board of directors, which included D. L. Russell, Frank Blaisdell, F. C. Prescott, J. N. Smith, J. R. King, H. W. Blaisdell and E. A. Meserve. Russell, Prescott and H. W. Blaisdell promptly resigned and their places were filled by the rest of the board by the appointment of Epes Randolph, R. H. Ingram and G. A. Parkyns, all Southern Pacific officials. Randolph was elected president. The main offices of the company were removed to Calexico and C. R. Rockwood was appointed Assistant General Manager in full charge.

After the summer flood season of 1905 the current of the dropping river continued to flow through the lower intake. When the volume had dropped to 5300 second feet in October all but forty second feet were flowing to Salton Sea.

With the railroad behind the C. D. Company a feeling of security swept over the Valley. It was a common expression that while the railroad was looking after its own interests it was also looking after the interests of every settler in the Valley.



Epes Randolph

Many plans were suggested for closing the break. Many of these plans came from cranks and people who had not the faintest conception of conditions. H. T. Cory, who nine months later took charge of the closure operations as personal representative of Epes Randolph, was at the time assistant to Randolph with offices in Tucson. In his book* he says that

* Imperial Valley and Salton Sink by H. T. Cory, 1915. The publisher of the "First Thirty Years" is glad to acknowledge Mr. Cory as his authority for most of the material in this chapter.

most of these plans, addressed to Mr. Harriman, every other official of the Southern Pacific, and to officers of the C. D. Company, ultimately found their way to him. He said that but four of these plans were worthy of mention: The Laguna Weir plan, the concrete headgate plan, the Rockwood headgate plan and the Barrier dam plan.

The Laguna Weir Plan. Suggested by Director Walcott, of the U. S. Geological Survey, a personal friend of Harriman. He suggested abandoning operations at the break, connecting the main canal with Laguna Weir, then unfinished, diverting the entire flow of the river through this canal and then building a dam across the lower intake. Mr. Harriman almost insisted that this plan be adopted. If it had been adopted the Valley would have been ruined; the Colorado would have emptied into Salton Sea for three years longer than it did. The water in the sea would have been raised to the 180 foot contour and would have drowned out a large area of the Coachella Valley and would have put under water sixty miles of railroad. In addition Imperial Valley's irrigation system would have been strained to the breaking point. New River would have cut back through Sharpe's Heading, the Valley's canals would have had no water in them and the entire region would have been depopulated. It's a good thing the Reclamation Service was not able to put this plan over on the C. D. engineers.

Concrete Headgate Plan. Put forward by Engineer James D. Schuyler, engaged as consulting engineer by the C. D. Company. His plan was to build a concrete headgate at Pilot Knob large enough to carry the low water flow of the river, to divert all of the water through the headgate and then close the break before high water. The canal below the gate was to be dredged to river size. As this sort of a headgate was sorely needed, break or no break, it was decided to begin construction as early as possible. A huge clam shell dredge was ordered from San Francisco. Work began on the concrete headgate December 15, 1905. One serious difficulty with this plan was that the huge dredge could not be built and delivered and do the work outlined below the gate before another season's high water.

Mr. Rockwood's Plan. In August, Mr. Rockwood proposed to install immediately in new ground beside the break a wooden A-frame flash board headgate large enough to take the flow of the river at low stage; then to dredge channels from the break to the gate above and below, divert the river through this gate by means of a barrier dam, complete the dam across the break and build levees up and down stream. This plan was approved and work started September 20. It was abandoned three weeks later, was again approved on December 15, and was carried out until the structure failed under pressure in October of the next year. It is but fair to call the reader's attention to Mr. Rockwood's assertion that the original plans for this gate's construction were not exactly carried out by those who superseded him

at the heading.

The Barrier Dam Plan. This consisted of throwing a barrier dam of some sort across the west channel above the crevasse and making it high enough to throw the river down the east channel to the gulf. This seemed to be the quickest method. F. S. Edinger was directed to build such a dam and he worked on it from early in October until November 29, 1905, when it was carried out completely by the great flood of that date.

FOURTH CLOSURE ATTEMPT FAILS

While plans for the concrete headgate went ahead quick diversion and control by means of Rockwood's wooden gate were attempted immediately. Rush orders for materials left Los Angeles August 7. It was planned to have the structure completed by November 15. Because of ground conditions the plan was slightly changed. A new 700 foot by-pass was dredged and the flood waters directed through this pass. Then behind coffer-dams in the channel of the old intake already excavated by the stream construction of the gate was started.

With the pressure of business affairs of the C. D. Company on his shoulders and direction of the work at the heading bearing down heavily upon him, Mr. Rockwood asked to be relieved of one or the other of these responsibilities. It seemed easier to find some one to finish the gate than to find anyone qualified to attend to the corporation's affairs. F. S. Edinger was chosen for the job. Without consulting Rockwood, Edinger induced Randolph to allow him to build the dam which bears his name in the records from the upper end of Disaster Island to the Mexican bank in an attempt to shunt the river to the eastern side of the island. When partially completed 110,000 second feet came tearing down the river and within a few hours there was not a trace of the dam left. This was really a good thing. If the dam had been built when the flood came it would have resulted in a redirection of the stream into a new channel and more trouble than ever would have come of it. The cost of this mistake was about \$100,000.

THE FIFTH ATTEMPT FAILS

Then it was decided to work simultaneously on the concrete headgate and the Rockwood plan. Plans for this magnificent structure which is still in service at the heading were drawn by Engineer Schuyler and approved by Rockwood and Randolph. The Llewellyn Iron Works furnished the iron work. Carl Leonardt contracted the construction; actual work started December 15 and was finished June 28, 1906. This concrete structure only cost \$55,221.08. The gate was built twice as large as really necessary to carry water for irrigation purposes in order to be used to divert the flow of the entire river, a part of the plan to close the break. Actually it played no part whatever in diverting the stream. Another hurried mistake advised chiefly by Mr. Edinger was the investment of \$80,000 in the great dredge Delta.



H. T. CORY

Harry Thomas Cory, B. S., M. M. E., M. C. E., Dr. Eng., was the engineer to whom gravitated the task, by force of circumstance, of finally stopping the flow of the Colorado River into Salton Sea in 1906-1907. In May, 1905, Mr. Cory became assistant to the President of the Associated Harriman Railroads, allied with the Southern Pacific Railway Company. He had earned his advanced degrees in civil engineering in 1893, and in mechanical engineering in 1896. He had been a professor of civil and sanitary engineering in the University of Missouri for seven years and was dean and professor of civil engineering at the University of Cincinnati for three years. For a year following his arrival at Tucson, he was assistant to Epes Randolph, head of the Associated Harriman Lines, and who was also president of the California Development Company, by reason of the railroad taking over the majority of the capital stock of the company, in order to secure the original loan of \$200,000.

During this year, Mr. Cory made frequent trips from Tucson to Imperial Valley and Hanlon Heading, as per-

sonal representative of the president. Into his hands fell most of the correspondence relating to the management of the C. D. Company. He had every opportunity to inform himself of conditions and was a keen student of the fascinating details of the desert, the river, the Imperial Valley climate, soil and all other aspects appurtenant to the region.

Early in 1906, C. R. Rockwood, Chief Engineer in charge of the work at the heading, jaded and tired, because of the unprecedented onslaught of the river, and somewhat irritated because things were not being done as he wanted them done, suggested that he be allowed to resign and that Mr. Cory take his place. After a free and perfectly friendly discussion of the matter, Mr. Randolph agreed to the arrangement and Mr. Cory was appointed to succeed Mr. Rockwood April 19, 1906.

Mr. Cory's management of affairs is recorded in detail in another chapter. His work on the river was successful, the closure being completed in February, 1907, after a tremendous campaign, involving the use of all the railroad's equipment in moving the rock, gravel and clay from points as far distant as 200 miles and dumping at the rate of a carload every five minutes for a period of two weeks into the rushing current at the break. After the closure, Mr. Cory continued as general manager of the C. D. Company until the receiver was appointed in 1909. During the last two of these years he made a complete survey of the irrigation system and carried on numerous improvements.

Since leaving the Valley, Mr. Cory has held several important commissions in the engineering world. In January, 1913, he presented a paper, "Irrigation and River Control in the Colorado River Delta," before the American Society of Civil Engineers. The paper provoked much discussion and was reprinted in the society's transaction. In 1915 this exhaustive paper, together with monograph written by the distinguished geologist, Prof. Wm. T. Blake, was published in book form with the title, "Imperial Valley and Salton Sink." But three hundred copies of this book were printed and the very excellent material contained therein is therefore not available to the general public.

The publisher of the "First Thirty Years" desires to publicly thank Mr. Cory for his permission to use portions of this excellent work. He further feels perfectly satisfied in the knowledge of the fact that the reader of this history as a result has before him facts that can hardly be controverted.

In 1917-1918, Mr. Cory was director of Foreign Relief, American Red Cross, in Washington; he was later consulting engineer for the Reclamation Service on the Soldiers' Land Settlement Plan. He also represented the United States government on the Nile Projects Commission for the guidance of the Egyptian and Sudanese governments. In 1926 he was in charge of important irrigation works in Spain, French Morocco and Spanish Morocco. He is now on an important assignment in Brooklyn, New York, although retaining his residence at Hermosa Beach, Calif.

Imperial Valley should be and is appreciative of the work Mr. Cory did during the four years he spent here.

The machinery was ordered from San Francisco, was caught in the earthquake and fire of April 18, 1906, was rescued and rushed to Yuma where it was assembled on the hull that had been built to receive it and by the end of October, 1906, was on its way down the river; like the concrete headgate it played no part whatsoever in the redirection of the river. The Delta, however, was a valuable piece of machinery to the C. D. Company in following years.

December 15, 1905, Rockwood was recalled and authorized to proceed with his wooden headgate construction. The extreme flood of November 29 had widened the intake from 300 to 600 feet. The size of the wooden gate was increased to 200 feet. Pile driving began January 7 and the gate was completed

April 18, at a cost of \$122,500. The annual rise of the Colorado began at this time and all efforts to divert the river were abandoned until the summer flood had passed.

H. T. CORY ENTERS

April 19, 1906, H. T. Cory, engineer and assistant to Epes Randolph, took C. R. Rockwood's place as General Manager and Chief Engineer. Mr. Cory had been with Mr. Randolph for the year previous. He had made frequent visits to the scene of the break during that year, representing Randolph, before the completion of the Rockwood gate. Mr. Rockwood became dissatisfied, suggesting that he had found it impossible to handle things in accordance with his own ideas. He decided to resign and urged

Mr. Cory to take up the work. After considerable discussion Mr. Randolph agreed to the arrangement and the change was made. Mr. Rockwood continued as consulting engineer until October 1, 1906, when he severed his official connection with the company.

THE WAY THINGS STOOD

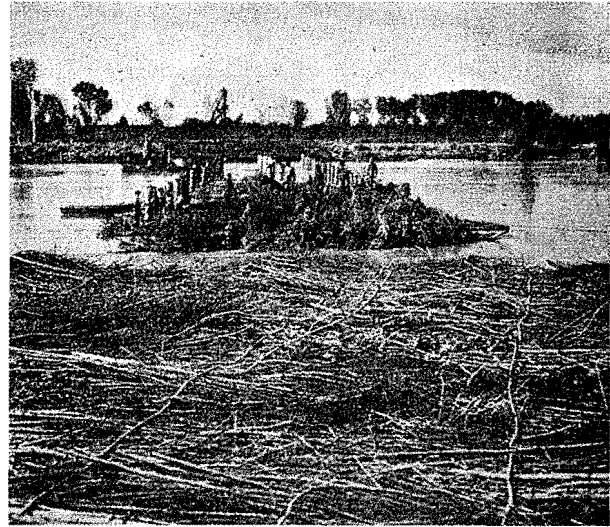
A brief review of the situation as of April 18, 1906: The Rockwood gate was completed; the concrete headgate was well under way; the material for the hull of the Delta was in Yuma and the machinery seriously damaged in San Francisco; the water in Salton Sea was lapping at the railroad tracks; the annual summer flood had begun, and weather bureau reports indicated that the water was again to be very high; the irrigation system of Imperial Valley threatened to break at several vital points; water in ever increasing quantities was rising against the homemade levees protecting Calexico. Mr. Harriman and Mr. Randolph were rushing to San Francisco to throw the resources of the Southern Pacific into the job of rescuing and reconstructing the city shocked by earthquake and destroyed by fire. In all the records that have gone before wherein trouble seems to have mounted higher and higher the situation as far as Imperial Valley is concerned seemed more foreboding than ever.

But here is something that can be set down as a cheerful, heartening item. San Francisco, the key city of the Southern Pacific lines, was in ruins. E. H. Harriman and Epes Randolph hurried to the stricken city. They found the ruins still smoking and the railroad system taxed to the limit carrying people away. Mr. Harriman's life work was crippled to an unknown extent; he was faced with financial demands, impossible to determine; in such surroundings Mr. Randolph told Mr. Harriman that an additional advance of \$250,000 was necessary for the protection of Imperial Valley. He got it. We agree with Mr. Cory that this was really the most remarkable thing in the whole chain of extraordinary happenings.

EARLY FALL PREPARATIONS

The summer flood season passed with all the engineers and all the population under a terrific tension of apprehension. It was another unusual year. Where the river carried an average of from 5,000 to 7,000 feet in March two floods of 70,000 second feet a few days apart prevented any attempt to divert the river. From then on the river never carried less than 27,000 second feet and went up in June to 100,000 second feet. In July it declined rapidly and preparations went ahead to take advantage of the lowest possible level of the river to close the break.

In a recent letter to the publisher of this history Mr. Cory declares that perhaps the most important and far reaching event that happened during his term as general manager and chief engineer was the conversation he had with Epes Randolph where they reached a decision to build the railroad from the main line to the scene of the break. Heretofore transportation of all rock had been cumbrously



Brush Mats Used as Foundations for Rock Dams

handled by barges. Construction of this line began July 1, 1906, and the first train load of materials passed over it August 15. Few will deny the fact that without this railroad Imperial Valley by this time would be the same desert it was before 1900.

Another important decision was reached. A rock quarry was immediately developed on the granite point near the concrete headgate. A clay pit was also developed close by. The nearest gravel was forty-one miles west of Hanlon's junction. Four or five other quarries within a radius of 200 miles were available for rock.

Mr. Cory surveyed all the resources that might be used in the attempt to close the break. These included two dredges, two river steamers, barges, railroad grading outfits, three steam shovels, rock cars, work trains, round house and repair materials, battle-ship dump cars, food supplies, labor gangs, scrapers, plows, horses, mules, housing equipment, etc. To illustrate the necessity of foresight and preparation against breakdowns the records show that three carloads of repair parts for engine, car and air brake repairs were assembled at the heading. The railroad purchased and handled all these supplies and equipment on a basis of cost plus ten per cent and a freight charge of five cents per ton mile. Railroad operations were under the direction of Eulogio (Jack) Carrillo, of the S. P. construction department. Every train that came on the branch reported to Carrillo, and Carrillo reported to Cory.

Because of the big demand for labor at San Francisco and for the further reason that the temperature up to the middle of September reduced efficiency of labor, large construction work was not attempted until October 1. After searching for labor supply in many places the only source seemed to be the Indian tribes of Arizona and Mexico; through Government agencies practically all the men, women and children of six Indian tribes were assembled at the heading—the Pimas, Papagoes, Maricopas and Yumas from Arizona, and the Cocopahs and Dieguenos from Mexico. These six tribes camped to-

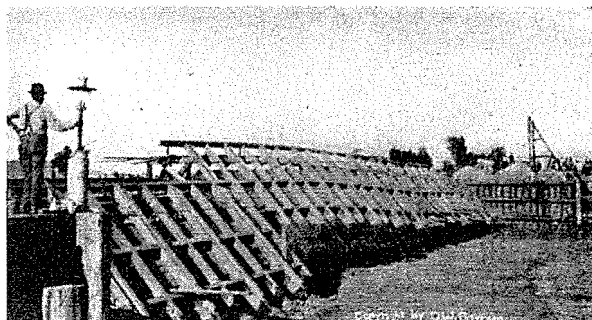
gether and got along without any difficulty. Counting men, women and children there were 2000 of them. Out of this little city came four hundred able bodied men; they were paid twenty cents an hour and every nine men received in addition one man's pay to go to a squaw for cooking their food. The Indians bought their own supplies and to avoid paying duty built their camp on the Arizona side, crossing the dry channel below the break to and from work. Without this Indian labor supply it is difficult to see what the engineers would have done situated as they were. All other labor was of an extremely transient nature. Hundreds of men came in on the supply trains and left again in a few days. No liquor was allowed on the job, but Yuma was a wide open town. The white laborers were housed and fed on the job by contractors. Sanitary precautions against mosquitoes and possible epidemics were carefully taken. In order to assure absolute control from a police standpoint the region in Mexico was put under martial law and a force of rurales policed the camps. There was no serious disorder of any kind.

The two stations on either side of the line became known as Andrade and Algodones. The usual troublesome details were experienced in the matter of customs on goods passing into Mexico. The fact that Mexican inspectors are paid a percentage of the fines they assess and collect made them zealous in their search for petty and technical violations.

A. F. Andrade, son of the doughty General Guillermo Andrade, deserves great credit for acting as agent for the C. D. Company. To his tact can be attributed the relatively small amount of delay and irritation encountered with the customs agents and the Mexican government.

INTAKE HALF MILE WIDE

The receding summer floods left the intake more than 2700 feet wide. The whole flow of the river was to Salton Sea. With the wooden Rockwood gate in place alongside the intake the plan was to make ready to divert the flow of the water through the gate by means of a diversion dam and then close the old channel. Brush jetties were used to narrow the channel. The mud bottom of the river seemed to absorb heavy objects like rock indefinitely; a stranded dredge completely disappeared from view in a short time; in order to build a barrier dam of any sort it was first necessary to lay a brush mattress woven with wire cables on the bottom of the stream. The manufacture of these brush mats was an interesting operation. On a barge attached to a dredge workmen placed armloads of brush on the strands of wire cable which were worked back and forth like a loom. As fast as the mattress was completed the dredge pulled the barge from beneath it. It would catch the silt and settle to the bottom without other weight. In twenty days, working two shifts, two brush mattresses, one on top of the other, were in place across the channel of the stream. At the same time a railroad trestle was built above the mattresses, a track was laid. Trainloads of rock were run out on this trestle and dumped on the mattresses. The water



Rockwood Gate Buckling Up Just Before It Went Out

was raised six feet without any difficulty.

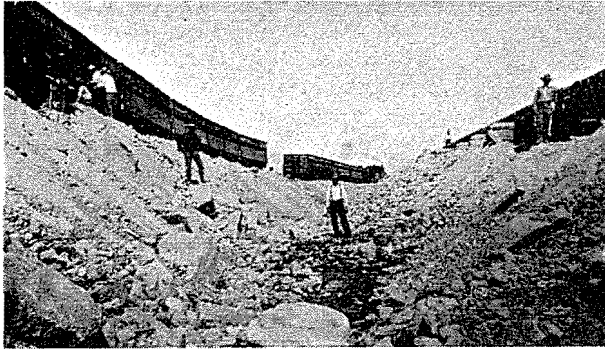
GATE FAILS TO HOLD

As the water was raised it began to flow through the Rockwood gate. By October 10, nine-tenths of the river's discharge of 14,300 second feet was flowing through the gate. Every variation of the current and action of the river was watched day and night; alarming scouring of the bottom of the bypass in front of the gate began. Barge loads of rock were floated from above, held in place and unloaded. Eddies in the current at the ends of the gate caused side cutting. On October 3 the earth filling at the north end of the gate suddenly settled; two days later the lower wing-wall in this same abutment spread out on the bottom on the west side. The engineers watched with sinking hearts one-third of the entire length of the gate slowly buckle up about four inches. Water got under the up-stream apron, tearing it up in small sections; drift accumulated against the frame work. Frantic attempts without much success were made to snake out this accumulated drift with grappling hooks. In an attempt to bolster up the gate a new trestle was built just above it, crews working feverishly night and day until October 11. It was intended to dump rock in front of the gate to take the place of flash-boards.

A trainload of rock was pushed on the new trestle. Three bents of the trestle settled and the rock train was wrecked. This was 11 o'clock in the morning. At 2:30 p. m. without any warning the gate suddenly buckled at a point about one-third of the way from the south end, broke loose with a roar, floated down stream about 200 feet and lodged. The head of water released carried drift and debris against the railroad trestle three hundred feet below. In five minutes the piling began to go out and the trestle was ruined. A quick witted locomotive engineer with his engine and train south of the trestle saw what was coming and with a margin of less than one minute got his train across the trestle in time to save it.

THE SIXTH ATTEMPT SUCCEEDS

Discouraged but undaunted the little band of engineers looked at the gaunt skeleton of the Rockwood gate and then at one another. Each countenance reflected the question: "What Next?" With the entire river flowing unimpeded to the Salton Sea the rock filled diversion dam was left high and dry.



The Clarke Dam Was Built of Two Rock Fills

Careful scrutiny of this structure gave the engineers confidence that a similar dam across the channel just below the concrete headgate would divert the river there and the closure could be completed below. With this in mind construction of the Hind dam was begun and completed under the direction of Thomas Hind, railroad builder, and superintendent of works. At the same time the damaged trestles across the by-pass where the Rockwood gate had gone out were repaired and made ready for new rock dumping. Three dams, in series, were thus built, this time without brush mattresses. By October 29 these dams raised the water and started the flow down the old channel. By November 4th the entire flow of the river, some 9270 second feet, was thrown into the old channel and stopped from flowing into the Salton Sea.

THE BREAK WAS AT LAST CLOSED!

The river was stopped but the fact stared everybody in the face that little water was flowing through the headgate into the Valley's irrigating system. By the use of dynamite to loosen the silted up bottom of the four mile stretch of the main canal, dredging and other strenuous efforts, a flow of 300 second feet was secured so the Valley did not really suffer from want of water.

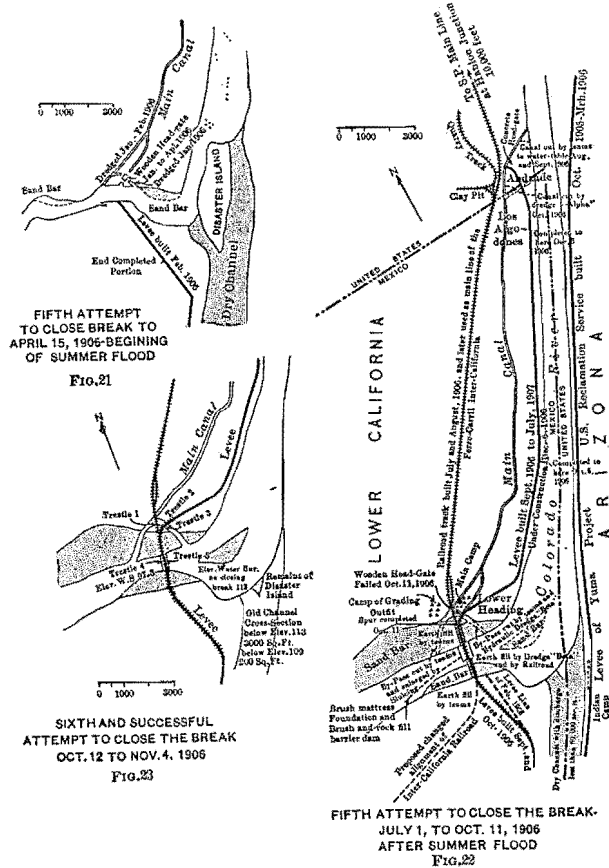
NEW BREAK

With a feeling of satisfaction and security, Mr. Cory left a force of seventy-five men to watch the green levees that had been hastily constructed and went to the Calexico headquarters of the company to give his attention to summarizing the railroad's expense account and to delve into the financial affairs of the company of which he was General Manager. On December 5 a severe flood came down from the Gila; upon telegraphic summons, Mr. Cory and Superintendent Hind made a hurried night trip to the heading where they found three serious and distinct breaks in the levee and water finding its way under the levee in ninety different places. The most serious breach was rapidly widened and deepened and within twenty-four hours the entire flow of the river was again flowing into Salton Sea and the old channel was dry. This new catastrophe was so suddenly enacted that levee crews below the break were marooned and had to be rescued with the river steamer, Searchlight. Before the craft could come back up the

old channel the water had turned entirely towards Salton Sea and left the steamer grounded in the dry bed of the stream.

THE RAILROAD QUITS

Mr. Cory's investigation of the financial conditions of the C. D. Company disclosed the fact that the railroad had approximately \$1,532,000 coming to it for money advanced; that another half million was owed for bonds; that another two million in probable damage claims were in the offing, making a total of more



Showing Fifth and Sixth Attempts to Close the Break. The River Broke Through Again in December, 1906, and was Finally Closed in February, 1907.

than four million in liabilities. To offset this there were less than two million dollars of actual assets.

With these figures before him when the break of December 5 occurred, Mr. Cory advised against further advances without security by the Southern Pacific. Mr. Randolph concurred and so reported to Mr. Harriman.

Surveying the future the railroad officials decided that the Imperial Valley project, based on an acreage of 600,000, not only would be unable to pay its debts out of current income but would find it difficult to meet the problematic expense of controlling the river. They therefore decided to quit and notified the settlers of Imperial Valley that no more money would be advanced.

But the railroad was not yet out of it despite this decision.

CHAPTER X

"CLOSE THAT BREAK AT ALL COST!"

THE result of the railroad's announcement that it would have nothing further to do with financing river work without being secured for further advances brought the people of the Valley to their feet with a jerk. They called mass meetings and asked for money to put into the hands of the railroad so that the river could be finally stopped. The Holton Power Company subscribed \$100,000; the Imperial Valley Improvement Company, \$100,000; the California-Mexico Land & Cattle Co., \$250,000; the directors of the Mutual Water Companies pledged to bond their lands for \$500,000; a total of \$950,000 was subscribed in quick order. The money was never collected.

A campaign was instituted wherein the help of all chambers of commerce, civic and political bodies, state and city officials was sought to influence the government to stop the river. As a result telegrams began pouring in upon President Theodore Roosevelt asking the aid of the United States Government in the emergency.

With characteristic promptness the President took the matter up by wire with President E. H. Harriman, of the S. P. Company. Let it be explained at this point that it was not long before this that Roosevelt had denounced Harriman throughout the country as "an undesirable citizen," a corruptionist," and "an enemy of the Republic." Shortly before this river crisis Roosevelt and Harriman had quarreled after years of friendship and the railroad magnate had become a member of the President's famous Ananias Club. Replying by wire, Harriman suggested that this was a job for the Reclamation Service. Roosevelt wired back that the Service could not act without authority from Congress, which had that day adjourned and that the Federal Government could not move without an arrangement with Mexico, which would cause a fatal delay.

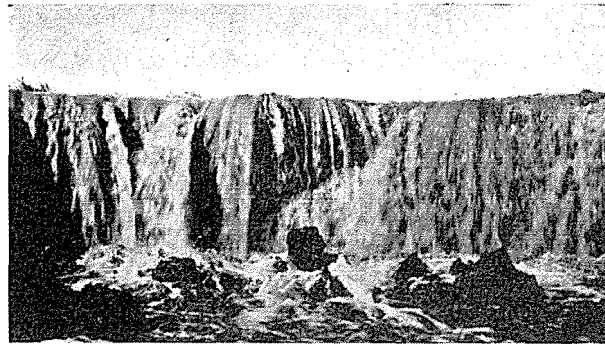
HARRIMAN ISSUES THE ORDER

Harriman capitulated. With the assurance that the Government would reimburse the railroad he issued the order: "Close That Break at All Cost!" Epes Randolph relayed the order to Mr. Cory and came in person to the scene of action. Harriman's order was issued December 20, and the seventh attempt at final closure began the same day.

C. K. Clarke, railroad division engineer, was made superintendent. T. J. Hind was transferred to levee work. The accounting system was revamped. The equipment used in previous closure attempts had not been removed, so, with the assembling of the new army of workmen, the most spectacular engineering feat ever seen on the North American continent was started.

CLOSURE COMPLETED FEBRUARY 10, 1907

The danger attending this work can hardly be appreciated by the casual reader; however, there are still living in the Valley several men who watched the strenuous action as it took place. Five pile drivers started driving piling for two parallel trestles at



Flood Waters Cutting Back at the Rate of a Mile a Day

the same time, two at each end and a floating driver in the middle. The current was very strong. There was constant danger, when handling 90-foot piling, that the floating driver would topple over. Two extra pile drivers were kept on the ground in reserve for such contingencies, and two boats were kept in midstream to pick up the crew should they be dumped into the water. One line of trestle was almost completed when a freshet brought a large amount of drift and debris against the bents and one-third of it was lost. Three times this was repeated. The fourth attempt was a success, January 27, 1907.

When the tracks were completed on the trestle it was 5 p. m. By daylight the next morning 145 carloads of rock had been dumped. For the next fourteen days 600 men handled 2057 carloads of rock, 221 carloads of gravel and 203 carloads of clay into the swirling waters.

Rock trains took precedence over crack passenger trains from Los Angeles to Tucson. Orders were given to subordinate every other railroad activity in the southwest to the job of getting rock, clay and sand to the break in the Colorado river. Searchlights played on the weird scene at night. Crew replaced crew at the end of shifts without as much as a moment's hesitation. With roaring regularity trainload after trainload of rock was spilled into the crevasse. Finally the rock began to appear above the surface of the water.

On February 10 at 11 p. m. the break was closed and all the water was again going down the old channel.

STATISTICS

The records show the following statistics: 4000 feet of railroad trestle constructed. Of this 1800 feet were carried away by floods. The final structure was two trestles fifty feet apart, each 1100 feet long; 16,000 feet of 8x17 in. Oregon stringers used; 1200 piles driven; 45,000 cubic yards of earth placed by teams; 55,000 cubic yards of rock were dumped between the trestles; 7735 cubic yards of gravel and 8840 cubic yards of clay were used to fill the crevices between the rock. The closure began on December 20 with the river running 12,500 second feet. The work was carried on with the volume flow in the river varying from this figure to 48,900 second feet. When rock dumping began January 27, it was 13,800 second feet. One week later the records show 31,300 second feet. At the time of closing it was 20,800 second feet.

Following the successful closing of the break additional work was done on the levee system and the construction crews gradually reduced. The new works successfully withstood the summer floods of 1907, although unusually heavy. Every foot of the levee was constantly patrolled, from twenty to fifty thousand sacks kept ready for use in stopping possible breaks. 50,000 cubic yards of rock were kept ready for handling by steam shovels. In short, the river was not trusted a minute.

ANOTHER MARK AGAINST GOVERNMENT

Although Harriman undertook the last closure only upon the insistence of President Roosevelt and upon his assurance that the railroad would be reimbursed by the Government, this was never done; the railroad spent \$1,663,136.40. A bill was introduced in Congress and was referred to the Committee on Claims, which held hearings. President Roosevelt urged the justice of the claim. A commission appointed to investigate suggested that the principal beneficiaries were: The settlers in Imperial Valley; the Southern Pacific Company, the California Development Company, the Mexican Corporation, Republic of Mexico and the United States. Under this apportionment the government might reimburse the Southern Pacific for twenty per cent of the money expended. No action was taken by Congress. Two years later the bill was introduced in the senate, with the amount cut to \$773,647.25. The house committee made a favorable report, but the minority reported: "We oppose this proposed gift to the Southern Pacific Railroad Company, as well as all other gratuities to private enterprise."

The house refused to pass the bill.

In the minds of the people of the Valley today this unpaid account is still a moral obligation unsatisfied by the Government of the United States.

MORE RECLAMATION SERVICE PROPAGANDA

On January 12, 1907, President Roosevelt in a special message to Congress outlining the circum-

stances leading up to the break in the river severely castigated the California Development Company, asserting that improper use had been made of the money received from settlers. The message asserted that:

"The Reclamation Service should be authorized to take steps at once for the construction of an irrigation project under the terms of the Reclamation Act for the lands in the Imperial Valley and in the Lower Colorado River Valley. The Service should be in a position to proceed actively with the organization of the project and the construction of works as soon as the condition in regard to the protection of the Valley against overflow will justify expenditures for this purpose.

"To accomplish this, the United States should acquire the rights of the California Development Company and its subsidiary corporations in the United States and Mexico, upon such reasonable terms as shall protect the interests of the Government and of water users. The United States should obtain by convention with Mexico the right to carry water through that country upon reasonable conditions. Most of the land in the Imperial Valley has been entered under the terms of the desert land act or the homestead laws, and title has not passed out of the United States. The Imperial Valley will never have a safe and adequate supply of water until the main canal extends from the Laguna dam. As each end of this dam is connected with rock bluffs it provides a permanent heading founded on rock for the diversions of the waters. Any works built below this point would not be safe from destruction by floods and cannot be depended upon for a permanent and reliable supply of water to the Valley."

George Chaffey, an important figure in the early affairs of the California Development Company, noting the numerous false statements and insinuations against the California Development Company, in the President's message, immediately wrote the President, calling his attention to the aspersions, false statements and inaccuracies. President Roosevelt responded promptly. He transmitted to George Chaffey the original document on which the President's message was based. It was written by Reclamation Chief Chas. D. Walcott.

This explained the whole matter. In the controversy that ensued, Chaffey more than upheld his side of the question, mincing no words and showing up the continuous jealousy and opposition of the officers of the Reclamation Service.

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

It must be said to the further credit of the Southern Pacific that it continued to improve and strengthen the defensive system, after the river break was stopped. One of the most important of these improvements was the Volcano Lake levee. Volcano Lake, located in the delta near Black Butte, received most of the flood waters in the summer of 1907. Its outlet being northward, indicated the possibility of the river again flowing into Salton Sea. To prevent this an eight mile levee was constructed before the summer flood season of 1908.

During the early part of the Cory management the C. D. Company's affairs at Calexico were in the hands of R. D. McPherrin, as Assistant General Manager. To him the Valley people came with their troubles. With diplomacy and tact he handled the many vexatious matters that came before him and smoothed out innumerable difficulties.

A careful survey to ascertain the exact condition of every foot to the irrigation system was necessary. F. C. Hermann was added to the engineering staff and was placed in charge of this important work. Water Companies No. 6 and 8, deprived of water since the flumes washed out, had to have relief. New flumes were built. The westside main was reconstructed and enlarged. The Rose levee in the Alamo was reconstructed. New waste gates were built at Sharpe's heading. A permanent structure was built at the Seven-foot Drop. Topography surveys were taken on 230 square miles. The Alamo channel was carefully mapped. Cross sections and meter observations were taken in various canals.

When these data were compiled estimates were made for the reconstruction and enlargement of the existing system and for extensions to cover a great deal of new territory. The cost was estimated at \$900,000 with temporary structures and \$2,200,000 with permanent structures. On account of the financial stringency of 1907 most of the projected improvements and extensions were held in abeyance.

SUITS FOR DAMAGES

Just as soon as the river break was stopped all injured parties sought to recover by litigation for damages inflicted by the flood. The California Development Company being the agency that made the cut through which the river flowed to Salton Sea, was naturally the defendant in each suit.

Responsibility on the part of the C. D. Company might have been entirely avoided by its refusal to make the cut but it is by no means certain that the river would not have flowed to Salton Sea just the same. In fact, in view of past performances of the river it is almost certain that with the six great floods of 1905-1906 and with the volume of water coming down the river the greatest in history, the overflow would have found its way to Salton Sea, cut or no cut. Mr. Cory expresses his opinion as to whether making this cut was a blunder or not amounting to "criminal negligence." He says in his book: "After four years of more or less bitter experience with the region he (Mr. Cory) is perfectly

convinced that matters having gotten in such a condition, making the cut was absolutely imperative and by all means should have been done."

However, the river came through this cut, so the California Development Company had to face the consequences.

The New Liverpool Salt Company asked for damages of \$180,000 in 1905, raised the figures to \$450,000, offered to compromise for \$50,000 cash in 1906 and was awarded judgment for \$456,746.23 damages and \$1500 costs.

Judgments in Mexican courts against the C. D. Co. amounted to \$900,000 gold. Holders of the bonds issued by the old C. D. Company applied in December, 1909, to the superior court of Imperial county to declare the C. D. Company insolvent and appoint a receiver. The application was granted. W. H. Holabird was appointed receiver. Attachments were issued against all property of the company on both sides of the line. Liabilities listed amounting to more than \$2,000,000. In order to comply with the Mexican law a Mexican receiver was also appointed, A. F. Andrade taking the position.

When the Southern Pacific took over the affairs of the California Development Company, expert audit of the books caused President Randolph to bring suit against all the former officials for restitution of assets alleged to have been fraudulently diverted, the total value being about \$900,000. The voluntary return of \$443,600 of securities strengthened the position of railroad management. In the compromise, out-of-court settlement, A. H. Heber gave up 1019 shares of C. D. stock, W. T. Heffernan 423 shares, H. W. Blaidsdell 467 shares, C. R. Rockwood 271 shares, Catherine D. Rockwood 256 shares, the Imperial Land Company 2000 shares. The same people turned over water stock shares in small amounts. The suit against Geo. Chaffey, Andrew Chaffey and N. W. Stowell was dismissed.

IN THE HANDS OF CREDITORS

This was the wreck of the California Development Company.

We must pause to shed a tear at the bier of A. H. Heber, who did not live to see this added catastrophe. C. R. Rockwood had severed his connection with the C. D. Company entirely in October, 1906. The concern was in the hands of its creditors who evolved ways and means to get what money they could through the courts and call it square.



CHAPTER XI

OWNERSHIP BY THE PEOPLE BECOMES
VITAL

AS long as the Southern Pacific Railway Company managed the water affairs for the settlers of the Imperial Valley, which it did from 1905 until 1909, there was little or no disposition on the part of the water users to desire a change. There was the great corporation with all the equipment necessary, manned by capable engineers experienced in river and levee work, with a large freight revenue of its own to protect—so why wish for a change? But President Lovett, of the railroad company, on a visit to the Valley, declared emphatically that the railroad was not in the irrigation business and wanted to get out of it as quickly as possible.

The investors who held the bonds of the old C. D. Company, to the extent of \$350,000, saw their investment endangered. They were represented by Boaz Duncan and decided to force the issue by foreclosure, hoping, evidently, that the S. P. Company, being a much larger creditor, would settle with them. They applied to Judge Franklin J. Cole, of the Superior Court in Imperial County, December 16, 1909, to declare the C. D. Company insolvent and asked the appointment of a receiver.

THE GOVERNMENT TRIES TO HELP

Early in 1910 a strong appeal was made to Congress by all Southern California combined, asking the government to "straighten jacket" the Colorado River to compel it to flow straight through to the gulf, as it was supposed to do. The appeal was such a success that Congress appropriated \$1,000,000 and the authorities selected Col. J. A. Ockerson to do the work. The Colonel visited the scene in September and with a wave of his hand declared that it was an easy job. In military fashion he assembled an army of men, made leisurely preparations and reached the point by March of the following year where he was to close the Bee River, or Abejas break. About that time a couple of freshets came lunging down the river, ate up his trestles, overturned his pile drivers, destroyed a human life and carried away the results of eight months' work and the expenditures of over \$900,000 in no time at all. The work was abandoned. Fortunately the river changed its own course and not much damage resulted.

TWO RECEIVERS

W. H. Holabird, of Los Angeles, was appointed American Receiver and in the Mexican courts where suits had been filed by the railroad company, A. F. Andrade was appointed to a similar position. The fact that most of the assets and property of the Company were in Mexico and that nearly all the water revenue was payable in the United States at once created an unfortunate situation. The two Receivers

began to disagree almost immediately and the settlers therefore began to suffer.

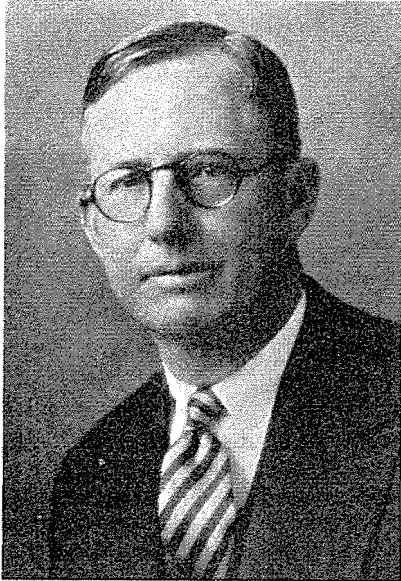
Naturally the creditors desired the largest amount of revenue possible from the sale of water to reach the hands of the American Receiver in order to increase the assets of the property. They also desired the Receiver to spend the least possible money in betterments and extensions. Under such a program they evidently knew the system would deteriorate and the people would soon be clamoring for an opportunity to own it themselves.

It must be said to the credit of Col. Holabird that he fought the creditors and refused to voluntarily allow the water distributing system to go to seed. It was fortunate for the Valley that the Receiver employed J. Chester Allison as Chief Engineer and Assistant Manager. Mr. Allison was one of the pioneer engineers, and had worked as rodman and chainman under "Scotty" Russell and "Pete" Gaines and took part in the closure of the river. He directed much of the work on the levee protective system that was built following the flood. His heart, therefore, was in the work of giving the best possible service to the water users on both sides of the line during the Receivership. During a part of this period the Mexican revolution was going on and the difficulties encountered south of the line were hazardous and dangerous.

ALLISON'S ACCOUNT

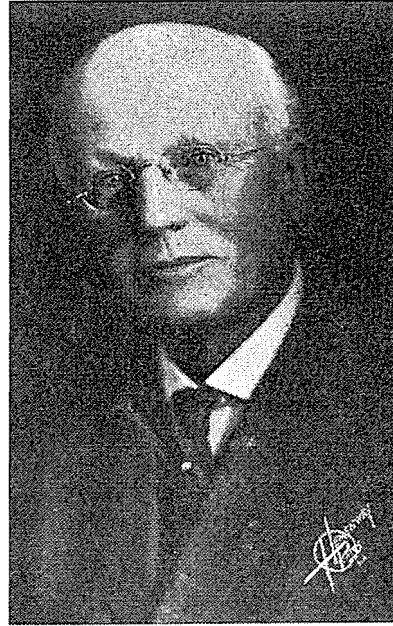
The publisher of this history, through a long personal acquaintance with Mr. Allison, felt that no better authority to relate the facts about this particular period in the water history of Imperial Valley could be found. Col. Holabird was a man who possessed an irascible temper. Personal contact with him was a great deal like visiting a buzz saw. Mr. Allison, as his Chief Engineer, fell heir to much unpopularity on Holabird's account and was subjected to much criticism which he did not deserve. The editor believes that Mr. Allison's account is quite correct. It follows:

"The period from 1912 and into 1916 covered the most active time of the Receivership of W. H. Holabird and through this time the development work in Imperial Valley in the way of canal extensions and territorial improvements probably advanced faster than at any other time in its history, in spite of the continued controversy amongst the creditors of the original California Development Company. Mr. Holabird, who was one of the most able and energetic leaders the Valley has ever had, rigorously carried out his duties as Receiver as he saw them. Although he was quite intolerant with the various cred-



J. C. Allison

itors who at times failed to support the Receiver in the advancement of the interests of the Valley and of the property, and while Mr. Holabird at times was intolerant in his handling of the services rendered by the Receiver to the various Water Companies where he deemed the action of the water users to be contrary to the best interest of the company and of the property, he, nevertheless, succeeded in bringing order out of chaos in that he gave his support to every move that would tend to advance the development of the country. He fought the Southern Pacific and other creditors whenever their action appeared to him to be unjust to either the other creditors of the water users and under these policies he vigorously contested the rights of a Mexican Receiver, whose appointment was secured by the Southern Pacific Company.



W. H. Holabird

He held the entire property intact to the end that, at the time of the sale of the property to the Imperial Irrigation District, in 1916, he was able to deliver the entire property on both sides of the boundary line to them, having maintained the integrity of the same throughout the entire Receivership, accumulating a surplus revenue for the creditors and at the same time having delivered water to the water users on both sides of the line at the rate of 50c per acre foot throughout the entire period. The period of the Receivership represents the period of greatest advancement of the Valley and the cheapest water rate the Valley has ever known.

"Throughout the Receivership I was fortunate in a continued advancement of position until the year 1912, when I became Chief Engineer and Assistant General Manager of all of the water affairs under the Receivership. In this capacity it fell to my lot to operate and maintain the entire water and flood protective system on both sides of the line and to defend the Mexican properties for the Receiver to the best of my ability. During a part of this period the Mexican Revolution was in effect and the difficulties encountered were both hazardous on account of the division of authority and became at times dangerous on account of the revolutionary activities in the territory.

"My heart was in the work of giving the best service to the water users on both sides of the line that the revenues from the water would permit, and, inasmuch as I had no other revenues to work with than those acquired from the sale of water, it became my duty to vigorously demand the payment for the services rendered by the canal system to the water users and at times my popularity with some of the water users was not very great.

"The most of the advancement of the water system through this period originated because of my

own effort to advance the area and prosperity of the country. In every instance the Receiver backed up the enlargements of the canal systems, even to the extent of fighting all of the creditors at times when they imagined the expenditure of the Receiver's revenues for such improvement and advancement was contrary to their own interests.

"After the construction of the westside main canal, the next important extension was the construction of the present east highline canal. To accomplish this, I gained the Receiver's support in combining with the land claimants of the east side of the Valley as far north as Niland, and together we developed the extension of Imperial Water Company No. 5 and the incorporation of Imperial Water Company No. 3. In order to represent all interests, I became Consulting Engineer for these companies and in this capacity and in my capacity of Chief Engineer for the Receiver I located, designed, financed and built the entire system of canals in this territory. The difficulties encountered in this construction and in the carrying out of the water service were encountered principally because of the division of authority between the two Receivers, the one in Mexico and Receiver Holabird in the United States, and it was necessary to construct the headworks known as Allison Heading entirely on the American side of the line to accomplish the solution of these difficulties in order that the work could proceed. Afterward, when the period of difficulty was over, the headworks of the east side canal were moved to the more satisfactory position on the Alamo Canal in Mexico where they now exist.

"I remained with the Receivers until the sale of the property in the Spring of 1916, and the taking over of the same by the Imperial Irrigation District when Mr. C. R. Rockwood became Chief Engineer."

MAP OF THE IMPERIAL IRRIGATION DISTRICT AND LANDS IRRIGABLE BY GRAVITY FROM THE IMPERIAL CANAL SYSTEM

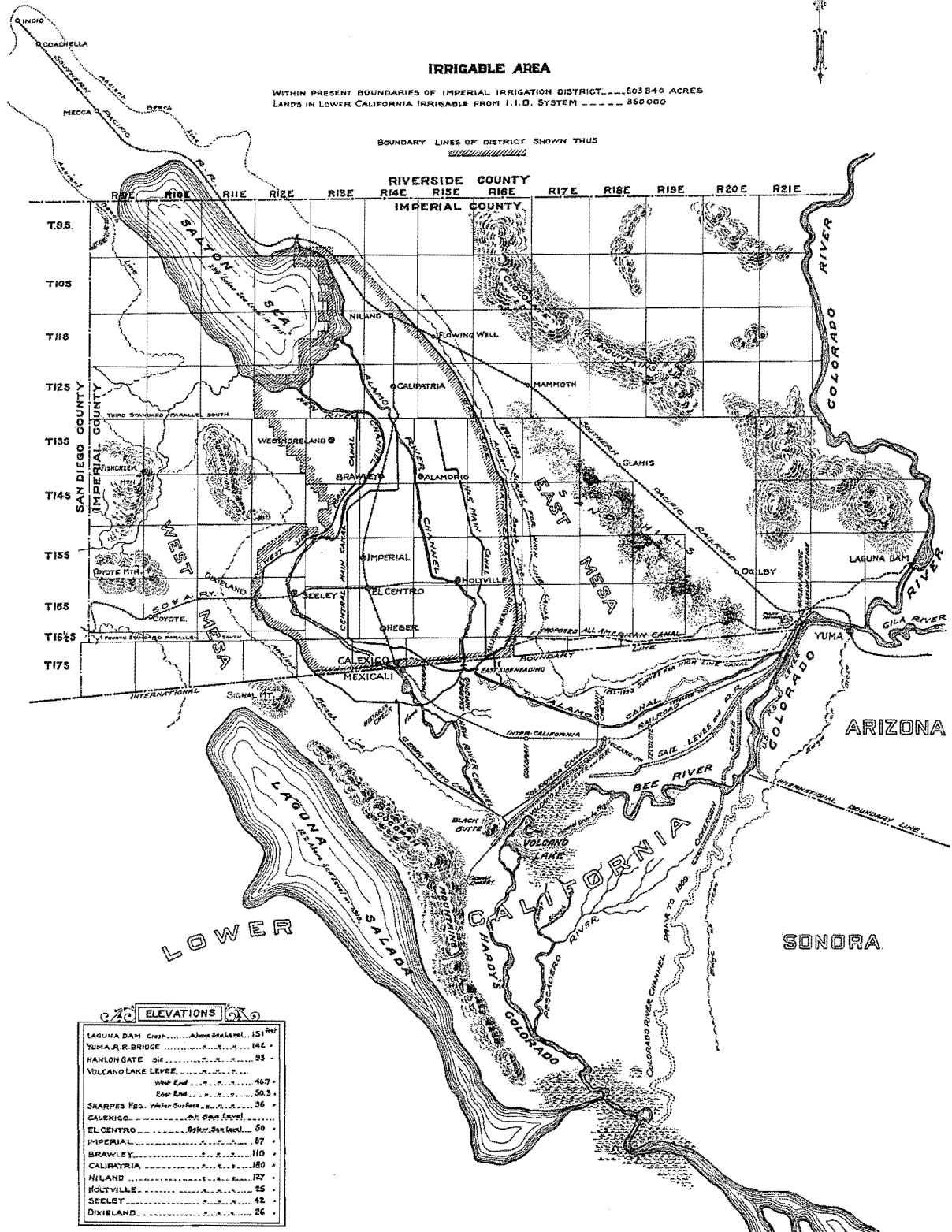
SCALE
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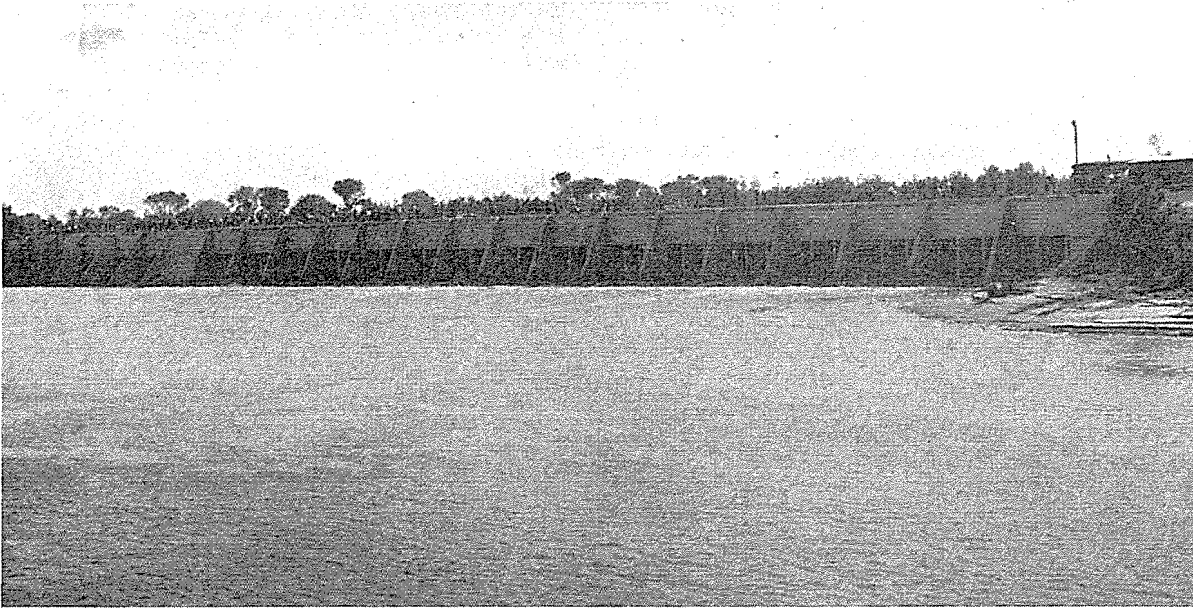
IRRIGABLE AREA

WITHIN PRESENT BOUNDARIES OF IMPERIAL IRRIGATION DISTRICT.....603 840 ACRES
LANDS IN LOWER CALIFORNIA IRRIGABLE FROM I. I. D. SYSTEM ----- 360 000

BOUNDARY LINES OF DISTRICT SHOWN THUS



ELEVATIONS	
LAGUNA DAM Crest	151 ft
YUMA R.R. BRIDGE	142
HAWLON GATE	93
VOLCANO LAKE LEVEE	
West End	46.7
East End	50.3
SHARPS RIDGE Water Surface	36
CALEXICO	At Sea Level
EL CENTRO	At Sea Level
IMPERIAL	87
BRAWLEY	110
CALIPATRIA	180
NILAND	127
HOLTVILLE	25
SEELEY	42
DIXIELAND	26



Rockwood Gate --- Imperial Irrigation District's Diversion Works

CHAPTER XII

THE IMPERIAL IRRIGATION DISTRICT

NOT only the very lives of the people of Imperial Valley depend upon the safe and secure flow of water through the canals of the Irrigation system but also their social welfare, their culture, their ability to pursue and attain happiness and success.

In the middle ages, feudal lords and barons cultivated quarrels with their neighbors for amusement and spoil. The habit of war and conflict has been handed down from the beginning of time. Men have always been athirst to conquer. With the advent of the Norsemen and Columbus, however, it became a bit more the fashion to conquer new wildernesses rather than neighboring states. Competition became keen between the lusty European nations in the race toward the new world. It was a different sort of conflict, but the same old will to subdue was there just the same. The tide of pioneering crept westward from the Atlantic seaboard, subduing vast stretches of the Mississippi plain and lurching with sudden swiftness across the Rocky Mountains when gold was discovered in California in 1849.

When the appetite for gold was either satisfied or quenched, these hardy men turned their attention to the pursuits of agriculture. Wherever they found water and applied it to the land they reaped bountiful harvests. The old spirit of conquest remained active however. This indomitable spirit was especially evident when the first invitation, "Come to the Colo-

rado Desert," was heard. The timorous quailed; the lovers of comfort refused; the weak declared they could not and only the strong and courageous answered the invitation.

Is it any wonder then with the world's history of strife, combat, conquest and adventure behind it all that we find an unbroken thread of the same strife, combat, conquest and adventure running all the way through the history of Imperial Valley? While a great deal of this history has to do with strife between individuals and between political groups, it can be said that the great underlying cause of it all was the human desire to conquer the desert.

Realizing the stern necessity for water in order that they might enjoy peace, comfort and plenty, build homes, rear and educate their children and build their cities with a sense of security these hardy pioneers came to mortal combat with the Colorado River and almost lost. They walled the giant out with concrete gates and rock riveted levees, but to this very day there exists the justified fear that the giant merely sleeps. The conquest is still on and not until the walls of Boulder Canyon are sealed and the giant put in prison behind them will that feeling entirely disappear.

How best to handle the waters of the Colorado for their own benefit has been the thought uppermost in the minds of Valley men. Should the control be put in the hands of a private corporation?

That was tried and did not work satisfactorily. Even the impersonal administration of the great railroad company was not satisfactory. The thoroughgoing but inordinately expensive supervision of the Federal Government was impossible because of international complications. The next best method, therefore, was through ownership by the people with leaders elected and held responsible by the people. This took form in Imperial Valley in the organization of the Imperial Irrigation District in 1911. Through this municipality the people have had their say for twenty years.

It must be said that while the records show some mistakes, the administration of water affairs by the people themselves has been a marked success. There has been plenty of water and in spite of the millions spent the cost per acre has been but a fraction of that borne by many other projects.

DISTRICT FORMED IN 1911

After a year or so of experience under the dual Receivership with its attendant turmoil it was but natural that the people began to cast about for ways and means to acquire the system themselves. Various plans were proposed. One with considerable merit was advanced by R. D. McPherrin and associates, who suggested the formation of a holding corporation by the mutual water companies, the bonding of all lands watered for the purpose of acquiring the system and the continuous management of the property through this private corporation.

John M. Eshleman, Imperial County's brilliant legal leader, together with M. W. Conkling and Phil D. Swing, made a study of the Bridgford Act, already on the statute books of the state. They found that under this law a large number of irrigation projects had been launched, and many had failed. They uncovered the weak points of the law and believed they could be remedied by amendments and the law made into a vehicle that would carry success instead of failure.

In exhaustive addresses to the people through the papers and in public meetings throughout the Valley, Mr. Eshleman, W. F. Holt, Phil Swing, M. W. Conkling, George Melton and others advised that steps be taken for the formation of the Imperial Irrigation District under the Bridgford Act. The advice was heeded. At the election held July 14, 1911, the formation of the District was authorized by a vote of 1304 to 360.

The amendments found necessary were passed by the State Legislature and the people found themselves in possession of the power, through the District, to levy assessments, issue bonds, purchase and operate the system, condemn property (even of a public service corporation) and to do many other things the same as any county or city government.

On the first board of directors were Porter N. Ferguson, farmer of Holtville; Fritz Kloke, farmer and banker of Calexico; W. O. Hamilton, merchant and farmer of El Centro; H. L. Peck, merchant and farmer of Imperial, and Earl C. Pound, real estate dealer and farmer of Brawley. H. L. Barker was as-

essor; J. Stanley Brown, treasurer; George L. Melton, secretary. As the district had no work just then for an engineer there was none appointed. Fritz Kloke was the first chairman; the first board meeting was held July 25, 1911. Phil D. Swing, County District Attorney, guided the groping organization in its infant days.

Leaders in mutual water company affairs had been in opposition to the Irrigation District idea. They continued to fight, attacking the validity of the whole proceedings in the courts. M. W. Conkling and John Eshleman were named to help District Attorney Swing defend the District. Porter N. Ferguson was made president July 28.

One of the first acts of the new District was to ascertain from the Department of the Interior on what terms water could be secured from Laguna Dam.

RESUME AS OF DECEMBER 31, 1930

THE Imperial Irrigation District is a municipal organization with powers similar to those of a city, one of 107 similar districts in California operating under the California Irrigation District Act. Its activities are confined to the business of taking water from the Colorado River, conveying it through fifty-two miles of Mexican territory to lands north of the international boundary line in the southeastern corner of the state known as the Imperial Valley. It also owns the assets of and operates the Mexican corporation, *Compania de Terrenos y Aguas de la Baja California*, required by Mexican laws. This corporation owns a concession issued by the Mexican Government, permitting it to receive water at the river and convey it to the American line.

The Irrigation District is conducted by a Board of five Directors, elected from five divisions, Calexico, Imperial, Brawley, Calipatria and Holtville. The other elective officers are Treasurer and Assessor-Collector. The appointive chief officers are Secretary, Attorney, Chief Engineer and General Superintendent, Business Manager and the Superintendents of the five divisions.

The District was organized in 1911 for the purpose of acquiring the existing water distributing system. It purchased the system in 1915 with a bond issue for \$3,000,000. It expended the additional \$500,000 of the bond issue for levee protection and in 1917 voted an additional issue of \$2,500,000 for additional protective work and in 1919 voted another issue of \$2,500,000 for the same purpose. In 1922 the people voted \$5,000,000 for the purpose of absorbing the properties of the Mutual Water Companies and \$2,500,000 for a drainage system. The total bond issues amount to \$16,000,000, of which \$1,150,000 have become due and have been paid off, leaving a net bonded debt of \$14,850,000.

Since 1911 the Irrigation District has raised by assessment (tax levy) a total of \$21,808,049.04. Since 1922, when the District absorbed the Mutual companies, the average has been approximately \$2,200,000 per annum. Other income, from \$400,000 to \$600,000, for water sold in Mexico.

The total acreage in 1931 within the boundaries of the District is 612,200. There are 1,800 miles of canals; 235 miles of deep drainage canals and 700 miles of surface drains.

A glance at the table of assets shows that the District owns property valued at \$23,894,155.00. This includes the entire distributing system, real estate, buildings, equipment, cash, materials, supplies, accounts receivable, land held under tax deeds, levees, drainage canals, easements, patent rights, interest in Laguna Dam, surveys, deposits and prepaid expenses as of December 31, 1930.

The payroll account shows that in 1923 \$1,810,232.65 was paid to personnel and in 1930 this amount was \$1,356,248.26, a decrease of nearly \$500,000 in the annual personnel expense.

The Assessor-Collector finds a valuation on the basis of \$150 per acre for the best land, scaling from that amount downward according to actual values. The assessment rate has been \$5.00 on the \$100 valuation since 1923. In incorporated cities, property owners pay assessments on the theory that they benefit from the water brought in although they use no irrigation water.

The average cost per acre per annum for water administration is \$5.73. This includes all charges except a gate charge of 25 cents per day to cover cost of opening and closing gates. It includes bond interest and principal and payments on capital investment.

EFFICIENT OPERATION

The general direction of the vast operations of the District is in the hands of M. J. Dowd, Chief Engineer and General Superintendent. The quietly efficient way this man accomplishes things is notable. He is said to have the rare qualities of an engineer plus those of a keen business man. The District is the biggest thing of its kind in the western hemisphere—does more canal cleaning and delivers more water than any other. To see that nearly five thousand separate farms have all the water they want at the time they want it is Mr. Dowd's job and through his five Division Superintendents he sees that they have it. His contact with the ranchmen is business-like and friendly. He gets his orders from the Board of Directors and sees that they are carried out. After six years in his present position no one seems to have a complaint to make.

One of Mr. Dowd's chief assistants is Business Manager R. H. Maddux. His duty is to see that accounts are kept straight and that the business transactions of the District are carried out in a business-like manner. He has been with the District since 1915, the first seven years as Treasurer and since 1922 as Business Manager.

Secretary-Treasurer F. H. McIver is the Chief at the El Centro headquarters. His duties are manifold, as he is the personal representative of the Board of Directors and sees that all departments get their instructions promptly and efficiently. Further reference to Mr. McIver will be found in Chapter XIII, under the head, "The Men Responsible."

The Assessor-Collector's office is in the hands of

Miss Vinnie Barry. She came to the Valley in 1912 and was for five years in the employ of Title Companies and then served as Chief Deputy in the County Recorder's Office for five years. Then, until 1931, she was Chief Deputy in the District Assessor-Collector's office and was elected to the office in February of 1931. She has the immense responsibility of seeing that assessments are made equitably and that they are collected promptly.

ECONOMIES EFFECTED

In 1925 a drastic effort to reduce operating expenses of the District was made. Director Blair undertook the reorganization of the machine shops. He induced A. L. Graves to become Mechanical Superintendent and together they worked out a program that resulted in much saving. With \$8,275 allowed by the board they went east and purchased good machinery that would cost new \$23,500. When they got through, the District had a department so equipped that more than the usual work was turned out with approximately half the payroll. The force was reduced from 86 to 49 men. Mr. Graves designed a drain digging machine along novel lines—the Imperial Wheel Drainage machine—that reduced the cost of moving dirt from nine to three cents a yard. This machine does five times the work of the old machine. He also built two gas-electric dredgers that have reduced the cost of ditch work from \$64 to \$27.00 per mile and they will do three times the mileage in a day that the old machines did. Another novel machine is the Giant Disc. The District had been spending \$150,000 yearly to remove growth along canal banks. The Giant Disc, pulled by a Caterpillar, cuts away the vegetation, tears out the root system, solidifies the banks and closes gopher holes. It also works under water and eliminates much dredging. Four of these machines do the work of hundreds of men.

The shops at Imperial are equipped to do all the repairing on the dredges, autos, tractors and all other equipment owned by the District. There are seven units, including the blacksmith shop, heat treating plant, wood working shop, auto and electric service shops, general store room, shower baths, gravel bunkers, etc. The District even builds its own electric batteries, tests its own steel and can replace any part of any machine instantly.

The Mechanical Department is under the charge of A. L. Graves, Master Mechanic, with L. V. Hess as Shop Foreman; M. W. Brian, Garage Foreman, and J. B. Southworth in charge of dredge equipment.

The officers of the District as of May, 1931, were: Directors: C. W. Brockman, President; Mark Rose, Ira Aten, W. O. Blair and W. F. Beal.

Secretary-Treasurer: Frank H. McIver.

Assessor-Collector: Vinnie Barry.

Attorney: Chas. L. Childers. Assistant: D. B. Roberts.

Chief Engineer and General Superintendent: M. J. Dowd.

Superintendent of River Division: F. E. Higley.

Business Manager and Accountant, R. H. Maddux.

Division Superintendents: Imperial, H. G. Miller; Holtville, O. J. Wilson; Calexico, A. Brown; Brawley, Sam P. Duren; Calipatria, Arthur Williams.

DISTRICT PROBLEMS

The following are some of the many problems facing the District, and which merit the consideration of individuals and organizations interested in the welfare of the District and the Valley:

- Colorado River Control.
- Boulder Canyon Dam.
- Diversion with Temporary Weir.
- Laguna Dam Connection.
- Drainage.
- Reclamation of Drained and Alkali Lands.
- Transporting Water through Mexico.
- Replacement of Major Wooden Structures.

- Replacement of Thousands of Minor Structures.
- Extension of Lateral Systems.
- Extension of Waste Systems.
- Additional Right-of-Way along Canals for Silt.
- Disposition of Silt.
- Eradication of Weeds and Vegetation.
- Gophers, Squirrels and Muskrats.
- Protection of East High Line Canal from Cloud-bursts.
- Protection of West Side Main Canal from Cloud-bursts.
- Construction of Additional Wasteways.
- Lining of Canals to Prevent Seepage.
- Disposition of Waste and Sluice Waters.
- More Electrical Power Service for the Farm.
- Increased Acreage in Cultivation.

IMPERIAL IRRIGATION DISTRICT

DIRECTORS SINCE ORGANIZATION

(*) President of the Board

Year	Holtville	Calexico	El Centro	Imperial	Brawley
1911	P. N. Ferguson*	Fritz Kloke	W. O. Hamilton	H. L. Peck	E. C. Pound
1912	P. N. Ferguson*	Fritz Kloke	W. O. Hamilton	H. L. Peck	E. C. Pound
1913	P. N. Ferguson	C. W. Brockman	W. O. Hamilton*	Allison Peck	E. C. Pound
1914	P. N. Ferguson	C. W. Brockman	W. O. Hamilton*	J. A. McBride	E. C. Pound
1915	P. N. Ferguson	C. W. Brockman	W. O. Hamilton*	J. A. McBride	J. D. Bennett
1916	C. D. Manning	J. M. Edmunds	Leroy Holt*	R. D. McPherrin	J. S. Nickerson
1917	C. D. Manning	J. M. Edmunds	Leroy Holt*	R. D. McPherrin	J. S. Nickerson
1918	C. D. Manning	J. M. Edmunds	Leroy Holt*	R. D. McPherrin	J. S. Nickerson
1919	C. D. Manning	J. M. Edmunds	J. S. Brown	R. D. McPherrin	J. S. Nickerson*
1920	Mark Rose	J. M. Edmunds	J. S. Brown	R. D. McPherrin	J. S. Nickerson*
1921	Mark Rose	C. W. Brockman	R. E. Breedlove	R. D. McPherrin	J. S. Nickerson*
1922	Mark Rose	C. W. Brockman	R. E. Breedlove	R. D. McPherrin	J. S. Nickerson*
1923	Mark Rose	C. W. Brockman	Ira Aten*	R. D. McPherrin	E. C. Pound
1924	Mark Rose	C. W. Brockman	Ira Aten	Mack Trentham	E. C. Pound*
1925	Mark Rose	C. W. Brockman	Ira Aten	W. O. Blair	E. C. Pound*
1926	Mark Rose	C. W. Brockman	Ira Aten	W. O. Blair	E. C. Pound*
1927	Mark Rose	C. W. Brockman	Ira Aten	W. O. Blair	E. C. Pound*
1928	Mark Rose	C. W. Brockman	Ira Aten	W. O. Blair	E. C. Pound*
1929	Mark Rose	C. W. Brockman	Ira Aten	W. O. Blair	E. C. Pound*
1930	Mark Rose	C. W. Brockman	Ira Aten	W. O. Blair	E. C. Pound*
1931	Mark Rose	C. W. Brockman*	Ira Aten	W. O. Blair	W. F. Beal

ELECTIVE OFFICERS SINCE ORGANIZATION

Year	Assessor-Collector	Year	Assessor-Collector
1911-1915.....	} H. L. Barker, Assessor C. W. Collins, Collector	1920-1929.....	C. W. Barry
1915-1917.....		1929-1931.....	D. W. Wiest
1917-1920.....	Clark Booher	1931-.....	Vinnie Barry
	J. S. Loufbourow		

TREASURER

1911-1915.....	J. Stanley Brown
1915-1922.....	R. H. Maddux
1922-to date.....	F. H. McIver

APPOINTIVE OFFICERS SINCE ORGANIZATION

<i>Year</i>	<i>Secretary</i>	<i>Attorney</i>	<i>Chief Engineer*</i>
1911	George L. Melton	A. Haines	
1912	George L. Melton	A. Haines	
1913	{ George L. Melton H. L. Barker	A. Haines	
	C. M. Berry		A. A. Anderson
1914	C. M. Berry	M. W. Conkling	A. A. Anderson
1915	C. M. Berry	M. W. Conkling	C. R. Rockwood
1916	{ C. M. Berry John C. Graham	{ M. W. Conkling Phil D. Swing	C. R. Rockwood
	F. H. McIver		
1917	F. H. McIver	Phil D. Swing	C. K. Clarke
1918	F. H. McIver	Phil D. Swing	C. K. Clarke
1919	F. H. McIver	Phil D. Swing	C. N. Perry
1920	F. H. McIver	J. Stewart Ross	{ C. N. Perry F. N. Cronholm
			F. N. Cronholm
1921	F. H. McIver	J. Stewart Ross	F. N. Cronholm
1922	F. H. McIver	J. Stewart Ross	Ray S. Carberry
1923	F. H. McIver	{ J. Stewart Ross Chas. L. Childers	Ray S. Carberry
		Chas. L. Childers	Ray S. Carberry
1924	F. H. McIver	Chas. L. Childers	Ray S. Carberry
1925	F. H. McIver	Chas. L. Childers	{ Ray S. Carberry M. J. Dowd
			M. J. Dowd
1926	F. H. McIver	Chas. L. Childers	M. J. Dowd
1927	F. H. McIver	Chas. L. Childers	M. J. Dowd
1928	F. H. McIver	Chas. L. Childers	M. J. Dowd
1929	F. H. McIver	Chas. L. Childers	M. J. Dowd
1930	F. H. McIver	Chas. L. Childers	M. J. Dowd
1931	F. H. McIver	Chas. L. Childers	M. J. Dowd

* Tyler and Piatt on for short periods as acting engineers.

DIVISION SUPERINTENDENTS SINCE ORGANIZATION

<i>Year</i>	<i>Imperial</i>	<i>Holtville</i>	<i>Calexico</i>	<i>Brawley</i>	<i>Calipatria</i>
1922	Paul S. Jones	{ H. B. Holly W. E. Hartzog*	H. M. Rouse	Sam P. Duren	C. E. Guest
1923	Paul S. Jones	W. E. Hartzog	H. M. Rouse	{ Sam P. Duren, West† H. B. Holly, East Paul Rothi, East	C. E. Guest
1924	Paul S. Jones	W. E. Hartzog	H. M. Rouse	{ Sam P. Duren, West Paul Rothi, East	C. E. Guest
1925	H. G. Miller	W. E. Hartzog	H. M. Rouse	{ Sam P. Duren, West‡ Paul Rothi, East Sam P. Duren, Brawley	C. E. Guest Arthur Williams
1926	H. G. Miller	W. E. Hartzog	None	Sam P. Duren	Arthur Williams
1927	H. G. Miller	W. E. Hartzog	O. J. Wilson	Sam P. Duren	Arthur Williams
1928	H. G. Miller	W. E. Hartzog	O. J. Wilson	Sam P. Duren	Arthur Williams
1929	H. G. Miller	W. E. Hartzog	O. J. Wilson	Sam P. Duren	Arthur Williams
1930	H. G. Miller	W. E. Hartzog	O. J. Wilson	Sam P. Duren	Arthur Williams
1931	H. G. Miller	O. J. Wilson	A. Brown	Sam P. Duren	Arthur Williams

* From November, 1922, until May, 1923, there was a Holtville Northern Division with H. B. Holly as Superintendent.

† During 1924, Holtville North was transferred to the Brawley East Division, first H. B. Holly, then Paul Rothi in charge.

‡ During 1925, Brawley East and West Divisions were consolidated.

BOND ISSUES

Date	Amount	Outstanding in 1931
1914.....	\$ 3,500,000.00	\$ 3,500,000.00
1917.....	2,500,000.00	2,500,000.00
1919.....	2,500,000.00	1,350,000.00
1922.....	7,500,000.00	7,500,000.00
Total.....	\$16,000,000.00	\$14,850,000.00
<i>First Issue:</i> Purchase of Irrigation District system from Southern Pacific Company.....\$3,000,000.00		
Protective levees in Mexico..... 500,000.00		
\$3,500,000.00		
<i>Second Issue:</i> Construction of protective levees in Mexico, construction of Rockwood Gate and miscellaneous structures and equipment..\$2,500,000.00		
<i>Third Issue:</i> Construction of protective levee system in Mexico and miscellaneous structures and equipment.....\$2,500,000.00		
<i>Fourth Issue:</i> Purchase of Mutual Water Companies' canal system and equipment.....\$5,000,000.00		
Drainage 2,500,000.00		
\$7,500,000.00		

MONEY RAISED BY ASSESSMENT

Year	Assessed Valuation	Rate	Income From Assessments
1912.....	\$ 8,025,083	.70	\$ 56,018.16
1913.....	17,020,403	.20	33,899.21
1914.....	27,251,087	.20	54,264.33
1915.....	25,768,837	.70	179,430.14
1916.....	26,247,596	1.75	455,593.94
1917.....	25,467,949	1.75	439,498.87
1918.....	25,695,061	3.25	822,076.40
1919.....	25,488,470	1.90	475,315.86
1920.....	53,594,746	2.50	1,308,480.04
1921.....	48,202,377	1.10	516,630.50
1922.....	46,369,156	2.50	1,128,883.49
1923.....	43,027,272	5.00	2,095,922.82
1924.....	42,382,943	5.00	2,053,821.75
1925.....	47,521,849	5.00	2,296,447.47
1926.....	48,898,062	5.00	2,329,766.40
1927.....	48,402,214	5.00	2,253,593.86
1928.....	48,263,664	5.00	2,209,651.78
1929.....	49,454,608	5.00	2,160,818.42
1930.....	50,587,177	5.00	*1,038,935.62

* Second installment not delinquent until last Monday in June, 1931.

GENERAL INFORMATION

DATE ORGANIZED, JULY 25, 1911
 Acreage when organized: 511,000. Acreage added: 101,200. 1931 acreage: 612,200. Date Mutuals were absorbed: November 1, 1922.
 Date Division system adopted: November 1, 1922.

IRRIGABLE ACREAGE IN DIVISIONS

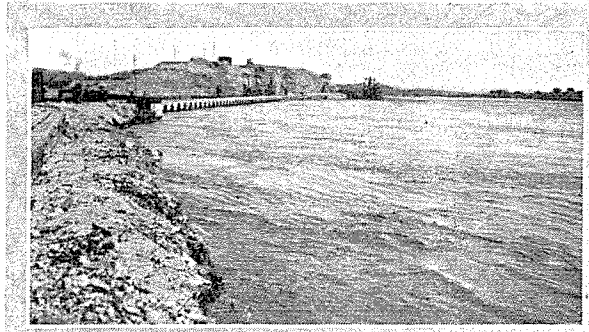
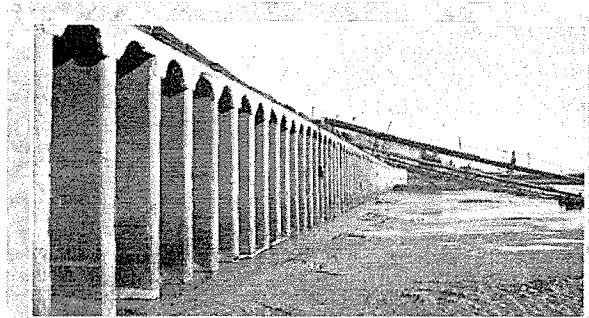
Imperial.....	127,000	Holtville.....	100,000
Brawley.....	100,000	Calipatria.....	103,000
Calxico.....	43,000		

NET WATER DELIVERIES FOR YEAR 1929

BY DIVISIONS			
Imperial.....	367,761	Holtville.....	283,191
Brawley.....	527,254	Calipatria.....	310,146
Calxico.....	145,735		

TOTAL WATER DIVERTED SINCE ORGANIZATION

1911.....	1,352,508	1921.....	2,535,020
1912.....	1,433,753	1922.....	2,890,282
1913.....	1,667,343	1923.....	3,275,425
1914.....	1,863,518	1924.....	3,078,307
1915.....	1,912,931	1925.....	3,158,665
1916.....	2,236,207	1926.....	3,090,769
1917.....	2,412,455	1927.....	3,089,191



Rockwood Gate at Low Water (top), and High Water

1918.....	2,876,834	1928.....	3,271,529
1919.....	2,854,209	1929.....	3,423,511
1920.....	3,095,596	1930.....	3,280,708

Miles of Canals: 1,800; Deep Drains: 235; Surface Drains: 700.

ASSETS OF THE DISTRICT

Distributing system valued at.....	\$10,052,207.56
Real Estate valued at.....	127,237.76
Buildings valued at.....	294,491.48
Equipment valued at.....	892,110.12
<i>Other Assets:</i>	
Cash	931,436.69
Materials and Supplies.....	241,407.32
Accounts Receivable	2,936,399.76
Land held under tax deeds.....	33,331.39
Protective levees and works.....	3,873,910.43
Drain canals and structures.....	2,762,569.76
Salton Sea flooding easements.....	13,790.00
Patent rights	424.50
Laguna Dam Diversion Right.....	1,600,000.00
All American Canal Survey.....	40,000.00
Deposits and interest.....	62,748.66
Funds advanced for litigation.....	7,465.56
Prepaid Insurance	11,071.83
Prepaid Canal Expense.....	8,176.24
Other Prepaid Expenses.....	5,375.94
Total.....	\$23,894,155.00

As of December 31, 1930.

PAYROLL EXPENSE

1921.....	\$ 596,758.33	1926.....	\$1,449,018.43
1922.....	851,048.80	1927.....	1,478,427.55
1923.....	1,810,232.65	1928.....	1,340,586.71
1924.....	1,745,943.07	1929.....	1,353,478.29
1925.....	1,705,998.19	1930.....	1,356,248.26

Mutual water companies were absorbed in 1922 and payrolls were increased very materially, but were reduced gradually thereafter.

NOTE: The Chronological data found on the following pages was compiled direct from the minute books of the Board of Directors from 1911 to June, 1931.

—EDITOR, HISTORY.

CHRONOLOGICAL DATA

Let us follow here in chronological order the highlights of the twenty years that have elapsed under the new order of things.

1911

Receiver Holabird and his chief engineer, J. C. Allison, were in agreeable conference with the board.

The District was embarrassed because there were no funds.

A close study of all other Districts was ordered.

1912

A bill validating formation of District was passed by the legislature.

Attorney A. Haines was employed at \$150 per month.

Receiver Holabird warned of a possible water shortage.

The Assessor was "docked" \$15 for "time taken out for work not connected with his office."

Directors of mutual water companies were invited to conference.

The attorney said it was legal to issue warrants.

The First National Bank, of Los Angeles, agreed to cash District warrants.

Applications for the job of engineer were received from J. C. Allison, C. K. Clarke, C. J. Park and H. T. Cory. No appointment was made then.

Engineer Allison warned against the menace of the river, which stood against the levees.

The first mention of the All-American Canal was March 23, 1912, in a discussion of ways and means to get away from the Mexican Receiver. The secretary was instructed to write C. R. Rockwood and ask if he had any data regarding the All-American Canal route on hand. He answered that he did not have such data.

Secretary Melton was made business manager and was sent on a trip to Washington to further the interests of the District.

Each of the five directors advanced \$150 cash to provide funds for current expenses.

The District placed a watchman on the Volcano Lake levee.

Assessor Barker's first rolls were accepted.

An assessment rate of .007 on the one dollar was adopted in August.

On October 8, 1912, the Southern Pacific proposed to settle its own claims for \$2,567,000, the District to settle with its other creditors. The Board declined to consider this.

Secretary Melton in a long communication urged immediate action by dealing direct with each of the creditors. The Board decided to get a combined offer from the creditors.

The All-American Canal continued to be discussed at every meeting.

On December 10, 1912, R. D. McPherrin appeared before the Board and urged support of the Newlands bill, backed by the Arizona and California River Regulation Commis-

sion. The bill contemplated a series of storage basins on the upper stream. The Board voted to put the proposition on the ballot at the February election.

1913

The election call was issued for February 5.

A. A. Anderson was employed as engineer.

The Board asked President Sproule of the S. P. for a conference.

In the February election, 1399 votes were cast. C. W. Brockman was elected in Kloke's place, and Allison Peck was elected to H. L. Peck's place on the Board.

President Hamilton made a horseback trip over the All-American Canal route.

Attorney Haines suggested condemnation proceedings to bring the railroad down to reasonable terms.

The new Board organized March 11, with W. O. Hamilton president.

The attendance by numerous citizens at Board meetings indicated an initial impatience with the Board's inability to get along faster with the acquisition of the water system.

The first appearance of Mark Rose was as a visitor at the March 11 meeting. He favored condemnation proceedings and urged the Board to call public mass meeting every ninety days so that the people could keep in touch with them.

Attorney R. D. McPherrin was added to the legal staff.

Several prominent engineers were invited to act on a board to decide the feasibility of an All-American Canal.

The office of Business Manager was discontinued. Mr. Melton quit with a fiery denunciation of Attorney Haines, calling him a "vacillating advisor."

The Board ordered its attorneys to start condemnation proceedings against the C. D. Company at once.

Headquarters of the District were moved to the Masonic Temple in El Centro in April.

Assessor Barker was also named Secretary.

Note was taken of the fact in May that President Sproule of the S. P. Company had not answered the Board's request for conference.

Haines wired from Los Angeles asking if \$2,750,000 was too much to pay for the Southern Pacific's claims. The Board parried the question.

In August a resolution directed the attorneys to take up with the Reclamation Service the matter of diversion from Laguna Dam.

The tax rate was set at .002, which would raise \$28,000.

A conference with Receiver Andrade of Mexico was sought. Because of disputes between the two Receivers, much necessary work below the line was held up.

A few citizens filed a protest against the 1913 assessment. The protests were overruled.

Engineer Anderson was instructed to put a surveying crew on the All-American line immediately.

November 21, Epes Randolph and Eugene Ives made the District a written proposition to the effect that the S. P.

would accept the amount of all advances made plus interest for its claim and accept in part payment lands in Mexico valued at \$750,000. A conference was set for November 29.

C. M. Berry was appointed Secretary December 9.

Director Allison Peck, of Imperial, resigned. Judge Haines and R. D. McPherrin both resigned as Attorneys.

M. W. Conkling was appointed the District's Attorney.

(These changes evidently came as a result of former Secretary Melton's strong public criticism of the slow progress being made by the head of the legal staff.)

Attorney Conkling was strong for immediate condemnation and started legal steps to that end without delay. Within a few days President Sproule wired an offer to sell for \$2,000,000. The District wired that it would give \$1,750,000. Sproule accepted the offer.

1914

Final figures showing a total of claims and judgments that would have to be settled in order to clear the title to the C. D. property on both sides of the line ran up to \$3,000,000. In order to rehabilitate the run down system in Mexico another half million was necessary so preparations were made for a bond issue of \$3,500,000. The law required a petition of land owners and voters before the Board could call a bond election. A citizens' committee set out to secure the necessary signatures.

J. Arthur McBride, of Imperial, was appointed Director by the Board of Supervisors.

Stating that it would interfere with the ultimate uniform expansion of the District the Board denied the request of potential entrymen on the East Side mesa who asked that the District request the Government to restore the mesa lands to entry.

Attorneys Conkling and Swing were delegated to attend the convention of Arid Western States in Denver. They impressed the convention with Imperial Valley's importance.

Alarming reports that the river was cutting at the levees caused the Board to borrow \$10,000 on the endorsement of a large group of citizens and contribute it to the fund used to stop the gap.

State Engineer McClure gave his approval to the proposed bond issue.

At the insistent request of Mark Rose the Board decided to request Secretary Lane to restore the Eastside mesa lands to entry. Ferguson made the motion and Brockman seconded it.

The Board borrowed \$5000 from Los Angeles banks to pay salaries.

In August, after a public meeting, Attorney Conkling was sent to Washington to endeavor to secure Government control of the Colorado River for the protection of the Valley from overflow through Mexico. At this meeting, W. A. Edgar, V. R. Sterling and M. W. Conkling were appointed a committee to conduct a campaign urging all civic bodies in Arizona and California to write and wire Congress to support this program.

A. A. Anderson resigned as engineer August 4.

On a valuation of \$27,251,087 a tax rate of .002 was adopted to raise \$46,326.84 for the coming year.

On October 6 petitions signed by 3827 citizens were received by the Board asking the District to call the \$3,500,000 bond election. The election was called for October 29.

A necessary constitutional amendment permitting the District to own property in Mexico was placed on the November ballot at the state election. A resolution denouncing the Los Angeles Times for its bitter opposition to this amendment was spread upon the minutes.

The bond election carried 3278 to 330.

President Hamilton, Attorney Conkling and W. F. Holt were authorized to visit President Sproule and outline a contract that would bind the bargain for the sale and purchase of the distributing system.

W. O. Hamilton, Conkling and Leroy Holt went to Washington to confer with Secretary Lane.

On December 8, 1914, a wave of general satisfaction swept over the Valley when the announcement was made that C. R. Rockwood had been employed as General Manager and Chief Engineer. Mr. Rockwood assumed his duties December 18.

1915

The February election returned Director W. O. Hamilton without opposition, Director J. Arthur McBride, with some opposition, and replaced Director Earl Pound, who was not a candidate, with J. D. Bennett. R. H. Maddux was elected treasurer and Clark Booher assessor.

The Board spent several sessions examining the long typewritten contract submitted by the railroad's attorneys to control the escrow operations of the \$3,000,000 agreement between the district and the Southern Pacific.

The District's financial credit was rapidly improving. Eight Los Angeles banks advanced \$200,000 for the purpose of enabling the District to do very necessary work on the protective system along the river in Mexico, accepting the District's notes endorsed by citizens.

Director Hamilton was again made president.

The U. S. Government promised \$100,000 if the District would raise a like amount for protective work. A party of congressmen, including Congressman Kettner, was shown about the Valley and the levee system. The newspaper men of the Valley were taken on a trip over the levee work.

Mark Rose was asked to have his proposal regarding Eastside mesa lands reduced to writing.

Attorney Conkling's salary was raised to \$400 per month.

Engineer Rockwood made weekly reports regarding river-front operation.

The Laguna Water Company presented a resolution asking co-operation of the District and seeking water for the mesa.

The Board voted to allow private parties to construct a canal parallel with the Volcano Lake levee, the District to stand the cost in water deliveries. Engineer Rockwood asserted that such a canal would bring in silt needed to raise the levee. Directors McBride and Ferguson voted against the proposal believing it was a move to use District money for the benefit of American owners of Mexican land.

Director McBride moved to declare the office of Engineer vacant, but got no second.

The delay in closing with the Southern Pacific brought much criticism.

The Bankers' Association passed a critical resolution and the District Board invited them to name a committee to negotiate with creditor litigants in order to hurry things along.



The District Maintains Thirty-one Miles of Rock Faced Levees in Mexico

The Board took a stand against the new heading in Mexico and in favor of more protective works.

The three and a half million dollars' worth of bonds were all signed and taken to Los Angeles for safekeeping.

No serious trouble came with summer floods in 1915.

All employees were allowed two weeks' vacation with full pay.

Attorney J. M. Eshleman was employed as Assistant Counsel.

Attorney M. W. Conkling offered his resignation as Chief Counsel. The Board refused to accept it.

Director McBride again failed to have Engineer Rockwood discharged.

The Board was divided on nearly all questions of policy 3 to 2. Brockman, Bennett and Hamilton against McBride and Ferguson.

A new communication submitted by Mark Rose regarding the Eastside mesa lands was ordered tabled.

The entire bond issue was ordered advertised for sale October 12.

The new assessment rate was .007 to raise \$153,000.

At the request of the Board, Attorney Conkling withdrew his resignation.

Those dissatisfied with the policy of the Board majority filed recall petitions against Directors Hamilton and Brockman. The secretary declared the signatures insufficient and new petitions were made ready.

October 12 the Southern Pacific submitted a bid for \$2,152,500 worth of bonds at par.

A petition filed by Mark Rose and thirty other owners of mesa lands asked the district to include their lands within its boundaries. After a hearing the lands were ordered admitted.

New recall petitions against Directors Hamilton and Brockman were found sufficient. The election was called for December 7. The election failed by a vote of 611 to

306 and the policies of the members attacked were considered approved by the people.

All hands were called to San Francisco for a conference with the Southern Pacific and other creditors. The lawyers had found a conflict with court orders in the existing contract between the railroad and the District, and a new contract had to be drawn and signed.

Director Brockman introduced a resolution to request Congress to allow the District to include 200,000 acres of withdrawn mesa land within its boundaries.

1916

The Board agreed to sell all main canals north of the boundary line to the mutual water companies.

The Southern Pacific purchased the property of the C. D. Company at Receiver's sale February 8. This made it necessary to cancel the contract just entered into and the third contract was drawn and signed by the S. P. and the District.

Because of a temporary water shortage, water was prorated on the basis of outstanding water stock.

The Southern Pacific offered February 10 to buy all the District's bonds up to \$3,000,000. The bonds were ordered sold. This was really the beginning of actual ownership of the distributing system, although the Receivership continued for some time.

The entire Valley was saddened by the death of Attorney J. M. Eshleman.

On account of an error in numbering the bonds, the entire issue had to be reprinted at a cost of \$4000.

The remaining \$500,000 worth of bonds were advertised for sale.

Mark Rose submitted a new communication asking the District Board a list of twenty questions. It was ordered filed.

Engineer Rockwood was authorized to make extensive preparations to fight the 1916 summer floods. Equipment was leased from the Southern Pacific and \$75,000 was borrowed from Valley banks.

F. H. McIver was named Assistant Secretary.

A bid of .883/4 was received from H. W. McDonald for the half million dollars' worth of bonds advertised. After considerable hesitation the offer was accepted.

RESIGNATIONS DEMANDED

The Board ordered the building of a canal from Volcano Lake to the Wisteria at a cost of \$120,000. This order precipitated a new avalanche of criticism that fell on the shoulders of Engineer Rockwood and Directors Brockman and Hamilton. The matter came to a climax August 8 when the mutual water companies joined with the Bankers' Association in demanding the resignation of the entire Board with the suggestion that their places be filled by three men to be named by the mutuals and two to be named by the bankers. The board answered that the demand was "fomented by the Imperial-Laguna Water Company crowd who hoped to ride into power on the crest of discontent caused by the existing water shortage." The matter was left at boiling point for two months.

After much delay the consent of the War Department was secured for the weir across the river necessary at each annual low water period. A bond of \$25,000 was exacted by the War Department and a bond of \$100,000 was required by the Yuma Water Users.

The office of Secretary was declared vacant. John Graham was appointed to succeed C. M. Berry.

The Board called on the Los Angeles Clearing House Association to name two engineers who had never been associated with the Reclamation Service to act with Rockwood to form an engineering board. C. E. Grunsky and Geo. C. Anderson were employed at a salary of \$300 a month each plus \$50 a day when in the field.

A new recall petition was filed against Director Hamilton.

The office of Secretary was again declared vacant. F. H. McIver was appointed to succeed John Graham September 26.

The new tax rate was set at .0175 to raise \$390,000.

Attorney Conkling resigned September 29.

A recall petition against Director McBride was filed October 3.

ENTIRE BOARD RESIGNS

On October 5 the entire Board, with a desire to bring about harmony if it could be done, resigned in a body. The Board of Supervisors immediately appointed Leroy Holt, R. D. McPherrin, J. S. Nickerson, C. D. Manning and J. M. Edmunds to take their places. The new Board named Leroy Holt president.

Phil D. Swing was named Chief Counsel. C. E. Paris was named Business Manager. The Board of Engineers was directed to outline an extensive program of protective improvement.

On motion of Director McPherrin the Board requested the Department of the Interior and the University of California to make a co-operative investigation to determine upon what terms and conditions the Federal Government might become interested in the irrigation and protection of Imperial Valley.

In November, representatives of the Laguna Water Company requested the new Board to take an interest in their plans for the improvement of the Eastside mesa. The matter was referred to the legal department and Board of Engineers.

Business Manager Paris proceeded to sell all useless property and materials, install business-like methods and demand efficiency from all employees.

J. E. Peck was employed to study the silt problem.

The big improvement program suggested by the engineers compelled the Board to borrow \$200,000.

POLICY STATED

A request of Imperial Laguna Water Company for a canal right of way through Hanlon ranch was filed. The new Board's attitude toward the Eastside project was at last outlined in a resolution which declared that they were in favor of the earliest possible development of the mesa and were friendly and willing to co-operate within the limitation that would insure the priority of water rights to the existing developed lands and that they were against added burdens or liabilities for the existing irrigation system.

Chief Engineer Rockwood was relieved of his duties December 31. Engineer C. K. Clarke was employed to take his place.

1917

The program outlined by the Board of Engineers required that plans be laid for a bond issue of \$2,500,000. The Board secured the co-operation of all mutual water companies, the Board of Supervisors, numerous civic bodies, the Bankers' Association, etc., to carry on a campaign favoring the bonds.

The February election resulted in the re-election of all members of the Board. John Loofbourow was elected assessor and R. H. Maddux treasurer. Leroy Holt was again named president.

The district went on record in favor of paying the S. P. claims for closing the river which were again before Congress.

In April petitions for the first bond election signed by F. B. Fuller and 4640 others, which constituted a majority of title holders, was filed and the election was called for May 26. The results of the election were 2372 to 181 in favor of the \$2,500,000 bond issue. The sale of the bonds was set for August 28.

Directors Holt and McPherrin were sent to Washington to confer with Secretary Lane about the opening of the mesa lands for entry.

This was the war period and the Board contributed \$50 to the Red Cross.

C. E. Paris, Business Manager, resigned his office.

The Yuma Water Users Association demanded \$25,000 in cash instead of the usual bond to guarantee against loss from the District weir.

The estate of John M. Eshleman filed a demand for \$20,000 for legal services. After conferring with the old board the District Directors allowed \$5000.

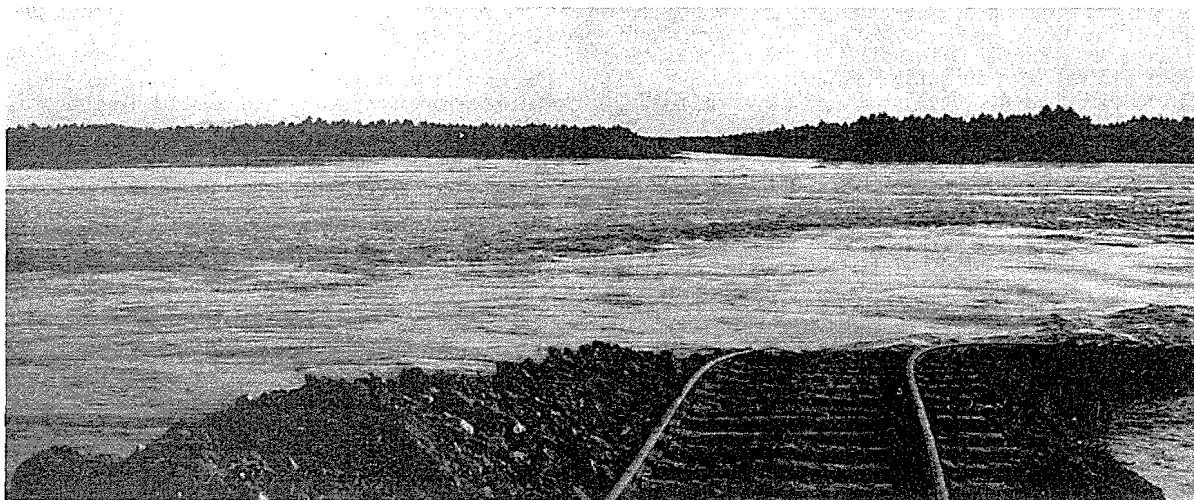
The Board filed exemption claims for all employees drafted for war service.

The offer the Pacific Mutual Life Insurance Company for \$1,600,000 of the District's bonds at 83 cents on the dollar was accepted.

Chief Engineer, C. K. Clarke, was also made General Manager.

The 1917 assessment rate was .0175 to raise \$378,835.

The County Council of Defense was given \$500 for the purpose of recruiting labor to take the place of men gone to training camp.



The Force of the Colorado is Majestic. This Levee Breach in 1926 was serious. The Secondary Levee held the Flood out of the Valley.

A proposition to pump water from the river at low stage period was carefully studied.

HISTORIC MOTION

In November the Secretary of the Interior was requested to make an immediate survey to determine the cost and feasibility of connecting Imperial Valley with Laguna Dam by the construction of the All-American Canal. Director Nickerson made the motion and Director McPherrin seconded it.

Engineer George Anderson resigned.

The Board ordered all levees in the lower river raised.

The Blankinhorn-Hunter Company bid 83 cents on the dollar for \$1,500,000 of the District's bonds. The 17 per cent discount represented a loss of \$253,000. The offer was accepted.

1918

FIRST ACTION

A communication from Secretary Lane accepted the District's proposition for a survey of an All-American Canal route, the district to pay \$30,000 and the government \$15,000. Director McPherrin moved to accept the Secretary's offer by wire, and the Board sent Attorney Swing, Engineer Grunsky and Director Holt to Washington to work out the details of the contract. A mass meeting was held in El Centro and the people indicated support for the proposition.

The prospective connection with Laguna Dam caused a conference to be called in Yuma where the leaders of the two communities adopted "a Declaration of Fundamental Principles," which was in substance an agreement to deal with each other openly, frankly and in a friendly manner. The preliminary contract with the Government was signed February 5, 1918. During the period of consideration another mass meeting was held. The District wired its delegation in Washington that the power feature should be reserved to the District, and if the Government wished to reserve it credit should be given to the District for all revenues. The final contract as submitted by Secretary Lane was not satisfactory to the District, which insisted that the proposal to join Laguna Dam and the proposal to build an All-American Canal be written into the contract as a unit and submitted to a vote of the people. Another mass meeting was held May 22 and another committee consisting of Leroy Holt, Phil D. Swing and T. P. Banta was appointed to go to Washington and work out the changes.

On June 4 a new contract was ready and was forwarded to Secretary Lane for his consideration. One of the features of the contract was the Government's flat charge of \$1,600,000 for the privilege of connecting with Laguna Dam. This was to be paid over a period of twenty years. Since the contract was signed, the Imperial Irrigation District has paid to the Government a total of \$709,000 under this agreement.

Under the terms of this contract the Government reserved the control of the power and the District agreed to pay quarterly in advance its share of the cost of maintenance and operation as determined by the Government. The contract was put before the people January 21, 1919, and was approved by a vote of 2535 to 922.

In September the assessment rate adopted was .0325 to raise \$709,000. \$300,000 of which was interest.

A committee of water company officials, consisting of W. J. Best, W. P. Mansfield, R. A. Walker, W. A. Edgar and Duncan McKenzie, urged the Directors to raise the water rate from 50 to 75 cents an acre foot. The district gave notice that the change would become effective February 1, 1919, but when the time came it was postponed indefinitely.

Attorney Swing resigned in order to enter training camp. J. Stewart Ross was appointed temporary Counsel.

Water company officials demanded that the District ask the Mexican interests to help pay for the protective work. They also urged the district to outline a two-year program for the lower river and called for a new bond issue.

Chief Engineer Clarke was relieved of his duties December 31. C. N. Perry was named Chief Engineer and General Manager.

1919

AN IMPORTANT RESOLUTION

Reference has already been made to the results of the election on the Laguna Dam connection, which was approved by a big majority. On the same ballot under a resolution offered by Director McPherrin and seconded by Director Nickerson, the following proposition was placed before the people: "Do you favor instructing the Board of Directors to request the Secretary of the Interior and Congress to include the Imperial Valley, both improved and unimproved lands, in a unified Colorado River project in which appropriate federal legislation shall provide (a) for storage of waters on the upper Colorado

river for the irrigation of arid lands and the development of power (b) for connection with Laguna Dam under such conditions as shall be approved by the Secretary of the Interior and (c) adequate provision for the permanent and sufficient control of the flood menace on the lower river?"

This resolution was approved by a vote of 2355 to 495. While this was not exactly the first mention made of the proposal to treat this project as a unit, including storage, it was the first expression of the people on the subject and Directors McPherrin and Nickerson must go down in history as the authors of the resolution which outlined almost exactly the program which has been carried forward for the last twelve years.

The election in February of 1919 presented a unique problem. It will be remembered that the entire board resigned in 1916 and a new board was appointed; then the entire new board was re-elected in 1917. The new board failed to draw lots for the long and short terms and when 1919 rolled around the question of who was to go out of office had to be decided. Attorney Swing, just back from officers' training camp, decided that elections must be held in the Brawley and El Centro districts only. Leroy Holt declined to run and J. Stanley Brown was elected to his place. J. S. Nickerson was re-elected. John S. Loofbourow was elected Assessor and Collector, and R. H. Maddux was returned to the office of Treasurer.

Communications from Water Company No. 7 and the Holtville Commercial club requested that Mark Rose be put on the committee to work in Washington for legislation necessary to the start of actual work on the All-American Canal project.

FIRST CO-OPERATION

The following important resolution was offered by Director Manning and adopted March 11, 1919:

"Whereas, Representatives of the Westside Irrigation Company, the Coachella Valley Water district, Imperial Laguna Water Company, The All-American Canal Association of Los Angeles and other owners of arid lands in Imperial and Riverside counties have this day appeared before this Board and have declared their desire to co-operate in all proper ways in an immediate effort to carry into effect the terms and conditions of the District's contract for the construction of an All-American Canal to the end that such a canal when constructed shall be of capacity sufficient to supply the needs of such arid lands in Imperial and Riverside counties not now included within the boundaries of the Imperial Irrigation District. Now, therefore, be it

"Resolved, That this Board express its approval of the proffered assistance and invite all accredited representatives of the above mentioned associations and other owners of such arid lands to co-operate with the officers and Directors of the Imperial Irrigation District in making such representation to Secretary Lane, the Director of the United States Reclamation Service, and the Congress as may be required to secure the departmental and congressional action to finance and construct such canal and storage works as may be required for the irrigation of the whole of such arid lands."

Attorney Swing was sent to Washington in May in order to secure the approval and support of the District's program by department heads before the next session of congress. In wording the letter of instructions to Swing the original proponents of the All-American Canal idea seemed fearful that the injection of the storage proposal might nullify or make more difficult Government aid in the construction of the All-American Canal. Directors Brown and Manning voted against the letter of instruction that included a paragraph about storage but the letter was sent ahead by the votes of Directors McPherrin, Nickerson and Edmunds.

Mark Rose was added to the District's lobby committee. He was already in Washington and his credentials were sent by wire.

The report of the All-American Canal engineering board

that the project would cost not less than \$30,000,000 was somewhat of a bombshell.

The enormous amount of protective work on the lower river having consumed the money raised by the \$2,500,000 bond issue, another bond election for the same amount was called for September 15, 1919. The bonds carried 845 to 388. They were sold to a syndicate at slightly better than 91 cents on the dollar. This was an improvement over the 83 cents received for the first issue but it meant a loss of \$230,000 to the people.

The Imperial Valley delegation in Washington conferred with Representative William Kettner and together they outlined the Kettner Bill, H. R. 6044, the first bill introduced in Congress looking toward the Valley's protection and expansion.

A BIG SACRIFICE

Another bombshell was fired. This time appropriately enough by the cohorts of young soldiers just returned from France. That vigorous young organization, the American Legion, suggested that it would be a mighty fine thing to give ex-service men the prior right to file on the new lands that would be watered by the proposed All-American Canal. The initial suggestion was made through the Imperial County Farm Bureau to the directors of the Irrigation District. The "bombshell," if such it was, was fired in the air and came down in the ranks of the Imperial Laguna Water Company's stockholders. This little band, under the leadership of Mark Rose, had fought and struggled from the beginning for the All-American Canal which was to water the high lands on which they claimed by reason of investment and effort the first right to file. They saw, however, the popularity that would be thrown behind the Kettner bill if it contained a provision to favor the soldiers and sailors and rather than endanger the bill by opposing this feature they asked only to be allowed prior rights to file on 20,000 acres, leaving some 245,000 acres for the soldiers and sailors. Even this small request was denied them. They did not sulk in their tents, however, when the battle went against them. Believing that the great project just being launched called for the effacement of personal ambitions for the good of the Valley as a whole they threw their support behind the proposed legislation and have ever since been staunch leaders in the fight.

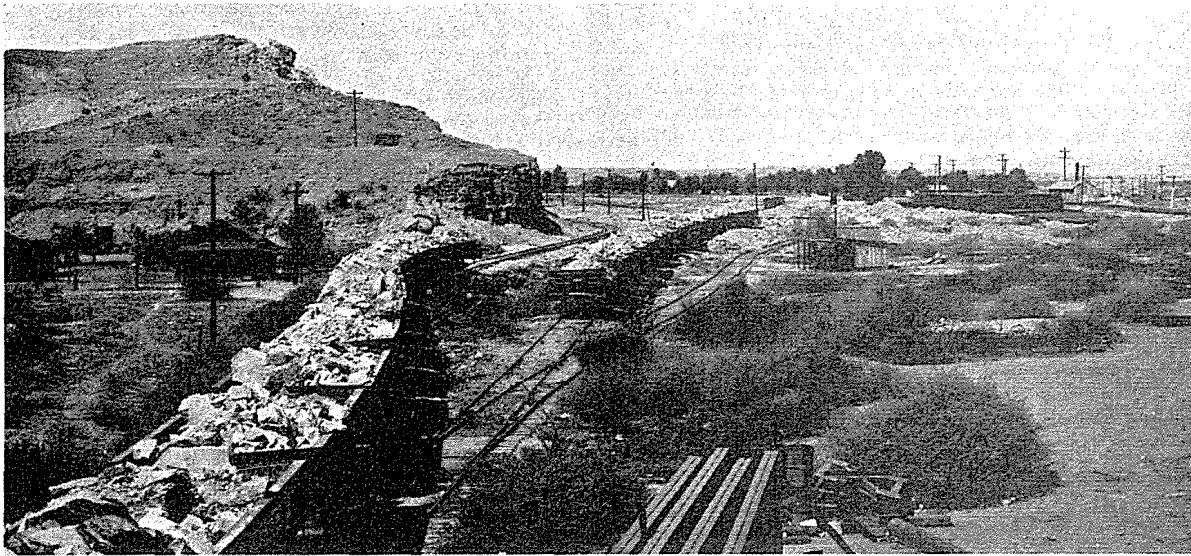
In September, Attorney Swing resigned as counsel for the District to become Superior Court Judge for Imperial County.

With the approach of the opening of Congress the district appointed Director Nickerson, Director McPherrin, O. N. Shaw, Walter Kibbey and A. M. Nelson to lobby for the new Kettner bill. The committee was specifically instructed to support the bill only in case it included a storage plan "to insure an adequate supply of water for all lands outside the present boundaries of the Imperial Irrigation District."

1920

THE KINKAID BILL

The second Kettner bill provided that the Government take hold of the Valley's project but when the Arid Lands Committee took up the bill, Congressman Kinkaid, Chairman of the Committee, declared that it was necessary that the Government should know first whether or not there was a site for a dam, how much it would cost and other details. He introduced a bill known as the Kinkaid bill that authorized the Government to make surveys, borings and otherwise investigate the upper reaches of the stream. The cost was to be borne by the lands to be benefited. The introduction of this bill nullified for the time any efforts in behalf of the Kettner bill and the District's lobbyists in Washington were recalled.



Rock Trains are Loaded and Held Ready for Emergencies at Hanlon Heading.

A Colorado River Conservation Conference was called to meet March 17 in Los Angeles. Director McPherrin was delegated to attend. The whole Board decided to attend a session of the League of the Southwest.

Director Manning, of Holtville, resigned May 1 and a few weeks later Mark Rose was appointed to the place by the Board of Supervisors.

The salary of the Chief Engineer was raised to \$750 per month.

Chief Engineer and General Manager C. N. Perry resigned May 1. S. T. Tyler was appointed acting General Manager.

April 27, Mutual Water Companies suggested that the river be put back in the old channel and a reservoir made of Volcano Lake. The proposition was rejected on the ground that it was inconsistent with the Lane contract.

The District made its first payment of \$32,000 on the Laguna Dam contract.

The Assessor was ordered to raise valuations 100 per cent.

All bids on the \$500,000 worth of bonds were rejected and a new sale date set. The Valley banks and the Southern Trust and Commerce Bank of San Diego offered \$450,000 for the half million dollar issue. This was 90 cents on the dollar.

One of Mark Rose's first motions as a Director was to allow ten per cent discount on water bills for seepage and evaporation.

The dredge, El Centro, was reported sunk in the main canal.

In order to finance the investigations and surveys under the provisions of the Kinkaid bill, A. P. Davis, Director of the U. S. Reclamation Service, called a conference of all parties interested. The District had five delegates, the American Legion five, Coachella Valley three and the State of California, Yuma, Westside Water Company, Palo Verde, Los Angeles, San Diego and the League of the Southwest one each. The District Board voted \$40,000, Coachella \$5,000 and the U. S. Government put in \$20,000 to provide an expense fund for the surveys.

The Valley's Washington committee members were allowed \$10 per day for their services. Attorney Phil Swing was allowed \$2500 and Mark Rose \$1000; other members of the committee were Mike Leibert, W. H. Brooks, O. N. Shaw and R. D. McPherrin.

In 1920 the Collector's books showed that \$38,973 too much had been raised to pay the interest on the bonds. The money was put in the general fund. This practice has been repeated annually.

The salaries of the Assessor and the Treasurer were increased to \$250.

F. N. Cronholm, Superintendent of the River Division, was advanced to Chief Engineer and General Manager. He said that more than a million dollars was required for necessary protective work.

J. S. Loofbourow resigned as Assessor-Collector. The Board praised him for his faithful and efficient services. C. W. Barry was appointed to the position.

The remaining \$500,000 of the 1919 bond issue was ordered sold but when the time came to open bids there were no bids. The sale was re-advertised and the Southern Trust and Commerce Bank took the issue at 85 cents on the dollar.

Walter Kibbey was employed to protect and advance the interests of the District in Washington.

On November 23, Director Davis of the Reclamation Service reported that borings, surveys, examinations and studies of the Colorado were going on. He enunciated the principles under which the project was being advanced. He said that irrigation had the first interest and power was secondary. The distribution of power must be first for irrigation, second for municipalities, third for other organizations and fourth for private consumption. The cost was to be borne proportionately. The District sent \$30,000 more to the expense fund.

The supplemental contract with the Secretary of the Interior to comply with the provisions of the Kinkaid bill was secured.

The District adopted a plan of allowing one and a half days' vacation credit for each month of employment.

1921

POWER COMPANIES INTERESTED

The power companies became interested in the power possibilities of the proposed improvement on the river and made application to the Federal Power Commission for the right to develop \$2,500,000 horsepower at Marble Canyon. The application was strongly opposed by the District.

A Senate bill permitting Yuma to sell waste water for use in Mexico was opposed by the District.

The February election returned Directors Brockman, McPherrin and Rose to the Board of Directors. Director Nickerson was made President.

The river bed was reported four feet higher than in 1918 and there was grave danger that the levees would be breached.

Assemblyman W. F. Beal introduced a bill to limit the voting power at bond elections to property owners. Director McPherrin moved that the proposition be opposed and that the District also oppose "all other irrigation bills introduced by Assemblyman Beal."

Engineer Grunsky was relieved as Consulting Engineer in April.

The Chief Engineer asked for \$60,000 to put rock on the face of the Ockerson levee. Director Rose opposed this because he believed it was meant for the protection of Mexican lands and not the District.

Director Brockman introduced a resolution to the effect that during the summer months excess water be run through the canals for the purpose of sluicing, thereby reducing dredging costs. The plan was adopted.

Resolutions were passed asking that Director Davis, of the Reclamation Service, be retained in the employ of the Government.

A recall petition against Director Brown was filed with the Board. Mr. Brown resigned as Director from the El Centro division. The Board entered a resolution of regret and commendation for the faithful and efficient services rendered during his terms of office.

Roy E. Breedlove was appointed by the Board of Supervisors to fill the vacancy. Breedlove was seated, Director Rose protesting because of the existence of a recall petition against the former director.

Director McPherrin was appointed special representative of the District in Washington to look after the Valley's interests under the Kinkaid bill.

The recall petition against Director Brown was declared insufficient and new papers were filed. These were declared sufficient but the Board refused to call an election on the ground that the petition was filed after a vacancy existed.

The matter of drainage to protect lands adjacent to canals from seepage was becoming an important issue. G. W. Murphy, Drainage Engineer, was employed to report.

September 20 a joint meeting was held with representatives of the County Farm Bureau, Tax Payers' Association, Water Improvement Association, Bankers' Association, Associated Chambers of Commerce, American Legion, Coachella Water District and Palo Verde Mutual Water Company, to take up matters affected by the Kinkaid Bill. It was decided to ask Director A. P. Davis to call a conference in Denver. President Nickerson was delegated to attend. He reported that the Government wanted more money to go ahead with river surveys. The District appropriated \$30,000 more for the expense fund, making a total of \$100,000 for this purpose.

The entire Board attended a conference called in Washington by Secretary A. B. Fall. T. J. Worthington, for the American Legion, was added to the delegation.

The Washington conference resulted in the knowledge that \$150,000 more was needed to finish river investigations and this sum was raised by various municipalities and interests involved so that the work could go ahead. The District's last \$30,000 contribution was counted on this new demand.

A proposal from the Colorado River Land Company in Mexico to co-operate with the District in the levee protection work was welcomed.

SEVEN STATES AROUSED

The magnitude of the Colorado River Project continued to grow. The work contemplated by the Government under the Kinkaid Bill aroused the leaders in the entire seven states affected with the result that Representative Mondell introduced a bill providing for the appointment of a Colorado River Commission to inquire into and recommend action along lines that would protect the interests of each state represented. Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, Arizona, Nevada, New Mexico and California were to be represented.

Phil D. Swing, now Congressman from the Eleventh California District, wired the facts to the District in November, 1921.

Chief Engineer and General Manager F. N. Cronholm resigned his position and Ray S. Carberry was appointed to the place.

1922

The new year started off with a conference between the District and representatives of the Mutual Water Companies looking toward the purchase by the District of all the Mutuels.

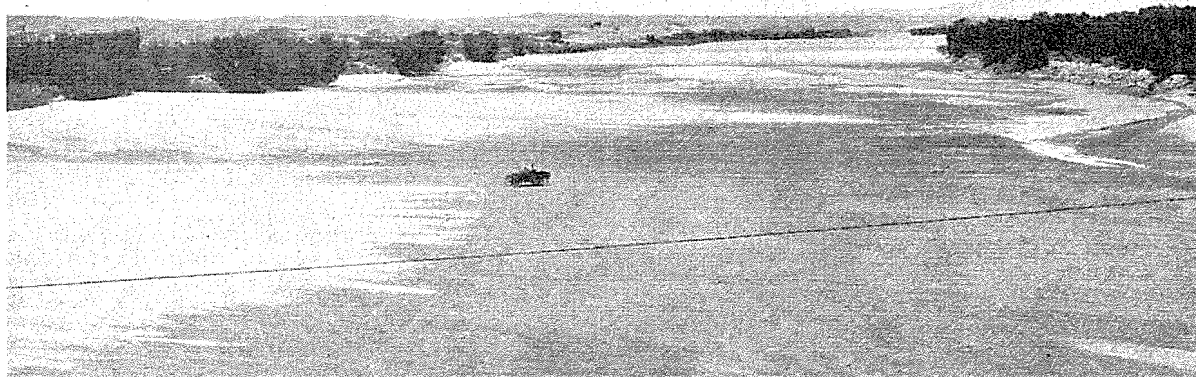
The State of California having appointed a Water Consulting Board to make a general survey of the state's water resources, the District accepted the invitation of Otis B. Tout, member of the State Board, to lay before it the problems confronting the Valley. Directors McPherrin and Nickerson were appointed to attend the meeting of the State Board for this purpose.

CONSOLIDATION

The matter of purchase by the District of all properties of the Mutual Water Companies came to a head in January when a contract was made with Water Company No. 6 to this end. The price agreed was \$10 an acre for each water stocked acre of land, plus appraised value of equipment, the District to issue bonds to raise money to make the purchase. Water Company No. 12 was the next to sign a contract. Other Mutual Water Companies, after careful consultation and study, agreed to the proposal and signed contracts.

Chief Engineer Carberry submitted a report showing that the sum of \$7,500,000 would be necessary to buy out the Mutuels. The Board started bond proceedings March 28 by adopting a resolution offered by Director Brockman.

The long awaited report by A. P. Davis, of the Reclamation Service, on the works necessary to build a high dam at Black or Boulder Canyon and construct an All-American Canal was at last signed by Secretary Fall and was submitted to Congress February 8, 1922. The District thereupon appointed President Nickerson to go to Washington and asked the Farm Bureau and American Legion to appoint men to assist Nickerson. The sum of \$500 was appropriated to pay the expenses of the Legion delegates and a like sum for the Farm Bureau delegates. The sum of \$1000 was advanced President Nickerson. The work the delegation had to do was to outline and support legislative bills designed to carry out the recommendations made in the Davis report covering the Boulder Dam and All-American Canal project.



Low Water Follows every Flood Season. The White in the Picture is Dry Ground. In 1924 the Valley Used every Drop of River Flow for Two Months. Hoover Dam will Remedy This.

A petition signed by 1108 property owners asking that the District call a bond election for \$7,500,000 to take over the mutual companies was filed with the Board April 27, 1922. The election was called for June 1. The bonds were favored by a vote of 2118 to 425. These bonds were to start maturity in 1935 and bear interest at the rate of 6%.

HOUSE BILL No. 11449

Representative Phil D. Swing introduced House Bill No. 11449 in the lower house of Congress, April 25, 1922, authorizing the Department of the Interior to order construction of the Boulder Canyon Dam. This bill became known as the Swing Bill and a similar measure, introduced in the Senate by Senator Hiram Johnson, caused the two measures to be combined and they became known as the Swing-Johnson Bill. This bill was the result of numerous conferences between all interests concerned. The Imperial Irrigation District made plans to support the measure through the hearings before the Arid Lands Committee. One of the educational means employed was a moving picture showing the Valley, the protective works, plans, maps, etc., together with scenes at Boulder Dam site and along the Colorado. Strong delegations were to be sent to Washington. Newspaper articles began to appear all over the country. Interest in the proposed damming of the Colorado was nation-wide.

President Nickerson being absent in Washington, Director McPherrin was made president of the Board in order that the new bonds might be properly signed.

BONDS BRING .94

The First Securities Company of Los Angeles and the Anglo-London-Paris Company of San Francisco offered .94 on the \$1.00 for \$1,000,000 of the fourth bond issue and asked an option on \$4,500,000 more at the same price. This was the highest price secured by the District for bonds up to this date. The offer was accepted. The companies took additional bonds at .94½. The District issued notice to all Mutual companies that payment of cash for their properties would begin November 1, provided deeds were prepared.

CHANGE FOR MADDUX

R. H. Maddux resigned as Treasurer of the District in order to enter the District's service under General Manager Ray Carberry. F. H. McIver was appointed Treasurer and continued as Secretary.

Landowners in the No. 3 district petitioned to have their lands excluded from the Irrigation District but when a vote

of stockholders was taken the sentiment was against exclusion and the matter was dropped.

Upon recommendation of the Chief Engineer the District purchased two blocks of ground in the city of Imperial on which buildings and shops were to be constructed to house the headquarters operating force and mechanical departments.

RIVER COMMISSION AT WORK

Throughout the fall of 1922 the Colorado River Commission, appointed under provisions of the Mondell Bill, worked toward the point where an agreement could be signed by each state as to the allocation of water and power from the Boulder Dam. The first "compact" was ready in December and was ratified by resolution by the District Board.

The Board also went on record officially endorsing the new "Johnson-Swing" Bill, which was now H. R. No. 2903. President Nickerson was sent to Washington again to work for the success of the bill. Mark Rose and Attorney J. S. Ross were added to the delegation.

1923

The Board asked the Secretary of the Interior to relieve the District of the requirements of the Lane contract which compel an annual payment for connection with the Laguna Dam. The request was denied.

In January it became apparent that no action would be taken by Congress on the Swing-Johnson Bill during that session. The delegation in Washington asked permission to invite the Appropriations and Arid Lands Committees to visit the Valley and the Boulder Dam site at the expense of the District.

DISTRICT TAKES OVER MUTUALS

The final report of J. E. Peck and C. N. Perry, the Board of Appraisers for the properties of the Mutual companies, was filed. The amount was \$169,000 over and above the maximum of \$4,725,000 set, so the Mutuals deducted 3½% and absorbed the loss. The entire irrigation system was then in the hands of the Imperial Irrigation District.

The February election resulted in the retirement of Roy E. Breedlove and the election of Ira Aten in the Second Division and the election of Earl C. Pound as Director from the Fourth Division. Mr. Nickerson was not a candidate for re-election. C. W. Barry was returned Assessor-Collector and F. H. McIver was re-elected Treasurer. Director Ira Aten was named President of the Board.

The office of Chief Counsel was declared vacant in April and Attorney Chas. L. Childers was appointed to the place. A resolution of commendation for the faithful service of J. Stewart Ross was spread upon the minutes. He was Chief Counsel four years.

The District opposed the passage of any bills by the state legislature affecting irrigation districts without first securing the approval of the State Irrigation District Association. A bill providing for the election of directors at large was successfully opposed.

The District embarked upon a comprehensive drainage program following the report of Engineer Murphy and met some difficulty in securing rights of way through private lands.

A further purchase of the fourth issue of District Bonds was made by the First Securities Company at $.97\frac{1}{2}$, the highest price yet received for any District bond issue.

The District joined the Boulder Dam Association.

The District Board, evidently accustomed to paying for everything and for all entertainment of visiting delegations, etc., was so surprised when Geo. Hickcox, war veteran, refused to accept pay for a load of watermelons used in the entertainment of Secretary of War Weeks and his party, that a resolution of thanks was spread upon the minutes June 19.

The San Diego Chamber of Commerce went on record favoring early passage of the Swing-Johnson Bill.

F. W. Greer was employed to carry on the publicity campaign for the furtherance of the Boulder Dam All-American Canal project at a salary of \$300 per month.

The District decided to carry its own fire insurance and carry a fund into which was paid premiums as if carried in private companies.

The Inter-Post Council, American Legion, conducted a campaign throughout the state enlisting support of all Legion posts for the Boulder Dam legislation pending before Congress. The committee, consisting of John M. Kepley, Harry L. Foster, C. G. Mousseau, J. Ansell and Elmer Heald, was thanked by resolution.

This year the War Department failed to act, from May until August 30, on the District's application for a permit to build the light weir across the river at the heading. The delay caused much apprehension.

Director McPherrin, on account of the demands of private business, placed his resignation with the Board. It was accepted a month later, October 12, 1923.

The item of interest on bonds this year amounted to \$812,500. Since taking over the Mutual companies, operative costs were just over a million. The two items made the tax rate \$5.00 on the \$100 valuation.

The United Spanish War Veterans in national encampment endorsed the Swing-Johnson Bill at the request of J. M. Grafton, Commander of Imperial Valley Camp No. 62, for which the District thanked Mr. Grafton.

Mack Trentham was appointed by the Board of Supervisors to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Director McPherrin.

In November, 1923, the budget for the following year as prepared by Chief Engineer Carberry was not accepted or approved by the Board. After five distinct attempts on motion of Director Brockman, seconded by Director Rose, the 1924 budget was approved November 30.

The admission of several new tracts of land into the boundaries of the District caused a realignment of the boundaries of the five divisions.

Director Mark Rose was directed to proceed to Washington to protect the interests of the District on the Colorado River situation and work for the new Swing-Johnson Bill.

Director Brockman offered a resolution allowing the claim of Mark Rose for \$1260 for four months' work in Washington in 1919. The resolution failed to pass as Directors Aten, Trentham and Rose did not vote on the motion. The resolution was presented again and the claim was allowed.

F. W. Greer was directed to proceed to Washington and work for the Swing-Johnson Bill under the direction of Mark Rose, at a salary of \$700 a month, plus railroad and Pullman transportation for himself and Mrs. Greer. The next day Greer appeared before the Board and tendered his verbal resignation as Publicity Agent, to take effect at once.

Rev. George A. Hartman was employed as a delegate of the District to work in Washington for the Swing-Johnson Bill. S. O. Buck was added to the delegation.

The record for the year just closed shows that because of the absorption of the Mutual Water Companies a vast amount of detail was added to the labors of the Board. All complaints for all sorts of reasons such as water deliveries, flooded crops, etc., formerly handled by the Mutuals, came before the Board. Every minute activity where there was a dispute was passed up to the Board. Even the quarrels of neighbors came up and in one case at least the Board recommended that its policy was "hands off."

1924

The Board asked the Secretary of the Interior to postpone demand for payment of the fifth installment on the Laguna Dam contract.

Assessor C. W. Barry declared that the method of assessment heretofore used making a blanket valuation of \$100 an acre for cultivated or crop producing land and scaling downward the valuation on lands less productive was not according to the law and asked the Board to authorize him to make a real assessment and give actual valuation to all the lands within the boundaries of the District. The request was denied by the Board, Director Pound favoring the new method.

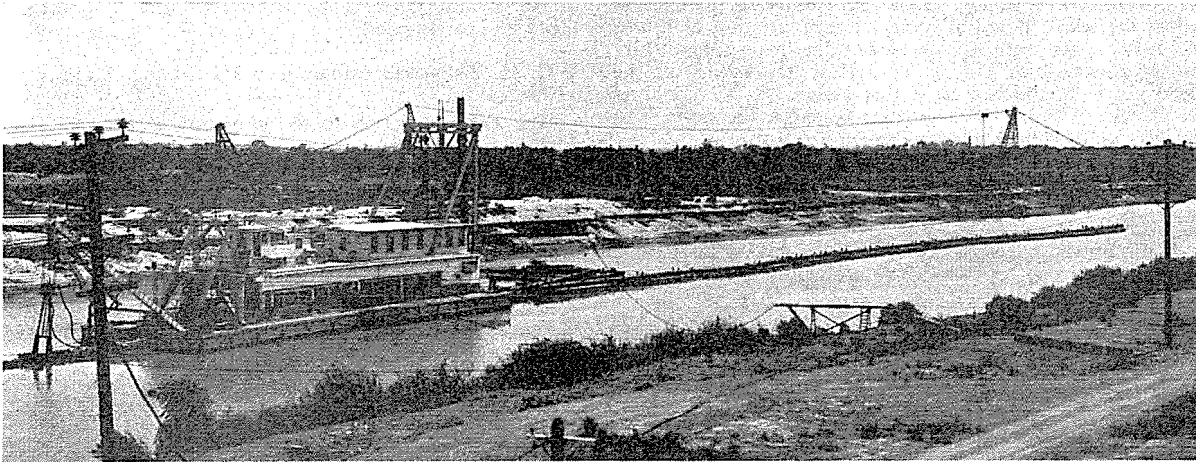
In March, the Board sent a telegram to President Calvin Coolidge urging him to instruct Secretary Fall to report upon the physical features of the Swing-Johnson Bill. Delegates Hartman and Buck were requested to return from Washington. Elmer Heald was added to the Washington delegation.

Earl C. Pound was named President of the Board.

Strong opposition to the Boulder Dam project became apparent when three Cabinet members in Washington issued a report recommending the building of a low dam, ignored the installation of power generating works and otherwise was in opposition to the Swing-Johnson Bill. This report was evidently designed to keep the generation and sale of power in the hands of private corporations. It called forth a 1000-word telegram to Addison T. Smith, Chairman of the House Committee on Irrigation and Reclamation, strenuously protesting against the report.

A vote of thanks was extended the Christian Science Monitor for excellent publicity supporting the Boulder Dam project.

The Board declined to accept an offer made by Leroy Holt for the purchase of \$50,000 of a fourth bond issue at 95 cents.



Two of these Electrically Operated Suction Dredges take Silt from the Main Canal and force it across a narrow Strip of Land into the River.

The J. R. Mason Company offered .97½ for \$50,000 worth of bonds. The offer was accepted. The sale of these bonds was for the purpose of continuing and completing the drainage system.

On motion of Director Brockman, Director Rose was again authorized to go to Washington to work in the interest of the Swing-Johnson Bill. Director Rose selected Elmer Heald and F. W. Greer to go to Washington with him.

DIVERSIFIED DEMANDS

Illustrating the diversified demands made on the District note is made of the communication from the Chief of the Land Classification branch, U. S. Geological Survey, under date of June 5. He asked that the District provide board and lodging for an airplane crew taking pictures for the Government near Salton Sea. Of course the District agreed but was not called upon to comply.

F. W. Greer was employed to carry on an educational campaign for the Boulder Dam-All-American project, at a salary of \$100 per month.

In 1924 the Southern Pacific Railway Company and the Title Insurance & Trust Company brought suit against the Irrigation District attacking the validity of the 1924 assessment. In August they withdrew the action.

In order to meet the demands of the public for detailed information about the Boulder Dam-All-American Canal project the Board requested Attorney C. L. Childers to write a history of the legislation and a description of the project for publication. The history compiled was complete and has been the foundation for nearly all accurate statements written about the project since that date.

BONDS REACH PAR

In October, 1924, the First Securities Company of Los Angeles, the Anglo-London-Paris Company of San Francisco and Rutter & Company of New York, made an offer for \$500,000 of the Fourth bond issue at par and the offer was accepted. This was the first time since the first issue that District bonds were sold at par.

AMENDMENTS URGED

There developed in the Valley, in the minds of a considerable number of people, the belief that the All-American Canal might be an unbearable burden to the already cultivated lands. While all were anxious that the Colorado River be dammed in order to control the flood flow of stream they were willing to allow the development of the

Eastside Mesa section and other high lands to wait until they could bear their own financial burden. This belief resulted in the formation of the Colorado River Control Club.

A committee from this club, consisting of Messrs. R. D. McPherrin, W. S. Fawcett, C. E. Paris, O. G. Horne, T. J. Worthington and A. Dolson appeared before the Board of Directors of the District October 24 and requested that the District recommend amendments to the Swing-Johnson Bill that would relieve the Government from making any commitment on the All-American Canal feature until the Valley was assured of an adequate supply of stored water and that the Government should forbid the Secretary of the Interior to accept any guarantee of repayment for the construction of the canal except upon a bond issue based upon a petition signed by fifty per cent of the property owners.

The District Board issued a statement to the people combatting the principles of the Control Club.

REDIVISION OF DISTRICTS

The growth of population and assessed valuation in the north end of the Valley caused the communities of Calipatria and Niland, supported by Westmorland and Brawley, to seek a realignment of the District's five divisions. District No. 4 at this time had a population in excess of any two districts and an assessed valuation that amounted to 44 per cent of the total.

The District Board, heeding the demands made through the Chambers of Commerce, ordered No. 4 divided, giving the Calipatria-Niland section a division. The remaining four divisions were realigned, giving the Calexico, Imperial, Brawley and Holtville sections equitable representation.

In the reorganization program the offices of the Chief Engineer and headquarters of the construction and operative departments were ordered removed to Imperial from Calexico. This was accomplished as soon as new buildings and shops were built.

BEFORE CONGRESS AGAIN

In December the Swing-Johnson Bill was again before Congressional committees where hearings were continued. Mark Rose was again authorized to go to Washington and the District provided means for delegates from the Farm Bureau and the American Legion to help.

Proponents of the legislation organized the American Conservation Club for the purpose of assisting with the passage of the Swing-Johnson Bill by Congress.

1925

INDICTED

In 1925 the difference of opinion on the All-American Canal proposition caused those opposing to attack the officers

and directors. The County Grand Jury returned indictments against the entire Board alleging misappropriation of funds. The indictments were dismissed and the same Grand Jury indicted them again. Led by Mark Rose, the friends of the Board got busy and saw to it that Judge M. W. Conkling and District Attorney Utley were defeated at the polls. The next Grand Jury then quashed the indictments.

The suggestion that a treaty arrangement with Mexico regarding the rights to water from the Colorado might be necessary brought out a strong protest from the District Board. Emphatic wires to Senators Johnson and Shortridge that such a procedure would be damaging and result in costly delay, were sent.

The Board went on record as favoring no change in the nine o'clock closing time at the international border.

The suggestion that the Congressional Committee on Arid Lands visit the Valley and personally inspect the region affected by the Swing-Johnson Boulder Dam Bill was greeted with enthusiasm by the District.

The February election resulted in the return of Mark Rose from the Holtville division; the return of C. W. Brockman from the Calexico division and the election of W. O. Blair from the Calipatria division.

BONDS REACH 101

The First Securities Company, the Anglo-London-Paris Company and Rutter & Company offered 101 for the last \$450,000 of the District's fourth bond issue and the offer was accepted. This is the first time District bonds were sold above par.

Arizona's opposition to the work contemplated under the Swing-Johnson Bill was a hindrance that troubled the proponents of the project. The preliminary agreement, called the "compact," required the signature of all seven of the states affected. Arizona refused to sign. The advocates of the bill therefore agreed that when six out of the seven states had signed, the compact would become effective. The Irrigation District thereupon sent a resolution to the California legislature requesting action along this line.

A united attack on gophers and muskrats was ordered by the District in conjunction with the county.

Director Pound was re-elected President of the Board.

REORGANIZATION

In September the Board announced a reorganization of all departments to curtail expenses. This included the removal of shops and offices from Calexico to Imperial; the elimination of the Brawley and Calexico East divisions; removal of the Chief Engineer, Consulting Engineer, two Irrigation Engineers and Construction Foreman; installation of a General Superintendent, and a Purchasing Agent; the reduction of material stocks. The changes effected made an estimated saving of more than \$100,000 annually.

Wm. Brandenburg brought suit in the Superior Court to restrain the District from removing the offices from Calexico. He alleged that the move was to punish Director C. W. Brockman by the majority members of the Board for political reasons. Judge Jamison, of Modoc County, heard the case and ruled against Brandenburg. He took occasion to say that there was no evidence to show that the changes were made for any other than economical reasons.

W. O. Blair, new member of the Board of Directors, undertook the reduction of operating expenses in the mechanical department. Mr. Blair secured the services of A. L. Graves, a practical mechanic, who surveyed every dredger, excavator, ditcher and other pieces of machinery owned by the District. He remodeled the machines and made changes until the District is now able to handle excavation work for 2½ cents a yard where the average was formerly around 9 cents. He perfected the machines used in the drainage system along these same lines.

The Board protested the removal of the El Centro land office to Los Angeles.

C. M. Berry was employed as Purchasing Agent.

The District agreed to the proposal of coastal cities to form a Metropolitan Water District for the purpose of securing domestic water from the Colorado River after the construction of the Boulder Dam.

It was evident that California, Nevada and Arizona were most interested of all the states in the allocation of water in the lower river basin, so a "Tri-State Conference" was called to see if an agreement could be reached. Assemblyman A. C. Finney of Imperial County; Assemblyman Murray of Riverside County; and State Senators Ralph Swing and L. L. Dennett were endorsed for appointment to represent California in the proposed conference.

Suit was filed by Roy E. Breedlove, former director, against the District, alleging illegal use of money in support of legislation. The District lost, its Directors were indicted but the decision was reversed on appeal and the indictments quashed.

In June the District issued an order that all employees make themselves acquainted with the details of the proposed Boulder Dam and All-American Canal proposition in order to be able to accurately answer questions put to them by anyone.

Engineer D. W. Murphy, in charge of drainage work for the District, was relieved of his duties because of the completion of the work. He was thanked for his good work.

The office of Chief Engineer was abolished July 31 and Engineer Carberry dismissed with a resolution thanking him for faithful and efficient service.

To take the place of the office of Chief Engineer and General Manager the office of General Superintendent was created. This office had charge of all water operations, all operations in Mexico and the United States, all maintenance work, drainage operations, all Superintendents of all divisions and the Engineering Department.

M. J. Dowd, who had been General Water Master, was promoted to the office of General Superintendent with a salary of \$500 monthly.

LOCAL POWER POSSIBILITIES

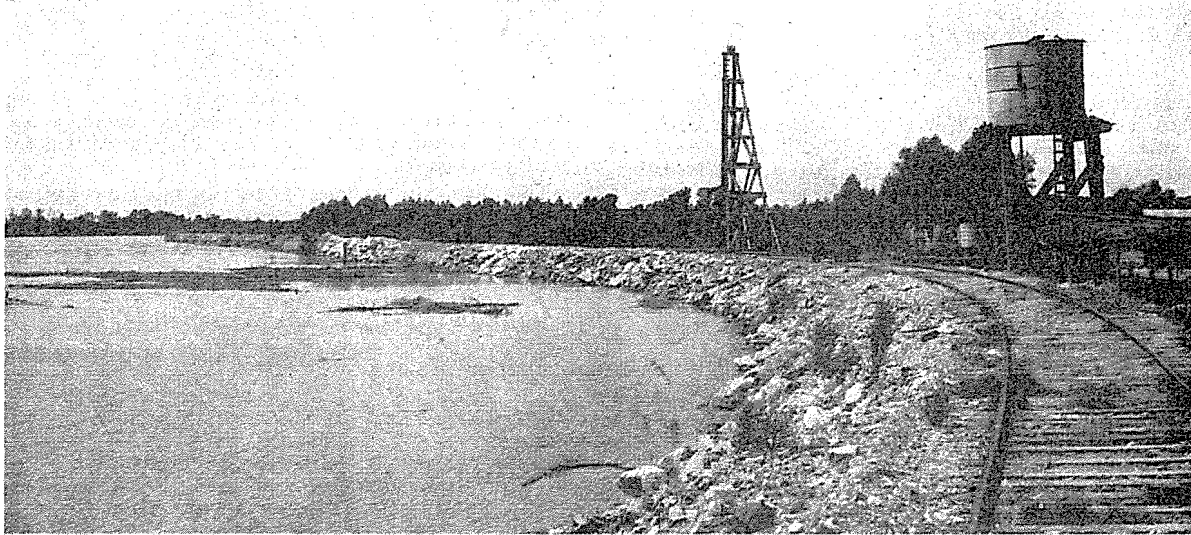
The District in September, 1925, ordered the secretary to communicate with R. W. Shoemaker, Electrical Engineer, and request a conference on the power possibilities of the District. Mr. Shoemaker was employed to make the survey.

The District filed a protest against the application of James Girard before the Federal Power Commission for power rights on the Upper Colorado.

Attorney A. C. Finney was employed as Assistant to General Counsel C. L. Childers.

Hearings before the Senate Committee in Washington on the Swing-Johnson Bill began December 8. The District sent Attorney Childers, Directors Pound and Rose and F. W. Greer to represent the Valley.

In an action in the superior court brought by D. R. Crawford at the suggestion of the District to settle a mooted question, the District was enjoined against the expenditure of District funds for the purposes of advocating or opposing legislation at Washington. The services of B. F. Fly and F. W. Greer were thereupon dispensed with. This decision was later reversed by the Supreme Court.



Pescadero Dam. The Colorado in 1919 flowed to the right. But a new Channel was cut, and the old channel Dammed.

1926

In February, Dr. Hubert Work, Secretary of the Interior, reported favorably on the Swing-Johnson Bill with the exception that he suggested a modification that made the construction of an All-American Canal an alternative improvement dependent upon the failure to secure a favorable concession from Mexico. The District at once opposed this recommendation and urged the approval of the bill as outlined.

The District went on record by a strong resolution in favor of six o'clock closing of the international boundary line, citing "unspeakable wickedness and moral subversion" alleged to exist in Mexicali which cost the citizens of Imperial County more than \$200,000 monthly.

Director Brockman introduced a resolution calling for the discharge of several District employees. The resolution failed.

IMPERIAL HEADQUARTERS

In the reorganization of the mechanical department the District established and put into operation shops in Imperial equipped with modern machinery able to take care of most complicated repairs. The District was therefore able to build its own dredges and make its own repairs and replacements on all its own rolling stock, including automobiles, trucks, tractors, excavators, dredges, steam shovels and the like. E. L. Graves was mechanical superintendent.

ARBITRATION POLICY

The District desired to obtain a permanent right to flood at will and use as a part of the drainage basin of the Salton Sea all privately owned lands bordering thereon and lying below the minus 240-foot elevation. As much of this land had been entered, the problem of settlement with owners faced the Board. A policy of arbitration was adopted and worked satisfactorily in most cases. Settlement of some twenty-three cases by this method of arbitration kept that many cases out of court.

A resolution was passed thanking G. G. Young, publisher of the Los Angeles Examiner, for giving "widespread and effective publicity" to the Boulder Dam All-American Dam project.

R. W. Shoemaker, consulting electrical engineer, submitted his report on the matter of power development on existing canals in June.

In August, the Board of Directors felt it necessary to issue a public statement to combat "certain false statements being made purely for political reasons by the enemies of the District administration." This statement denied the Board's intention to increase the five dollar assessment rate and explained that the fixed charges which included the interest and principal on bonds outstanding plus the \$96,000 annual payment on the Laguna Dam contract amounted to a total of \$1,128,597. These fixed charges amounted to 55.88 per cent of the total assessments, leaving the operation and maintenance of the water system 44.12 per cent of the total.

The state primaries approaching, the District Board took occasion to pass a strong resolution endorsing the candidacy of C. C. Young for Governor and outlined the reasons why Governor Richardson should not be renominated. The resolution stated that the State Government had been in effect opposed to the Swing-Johnson Bill and had refused to take any interest in the proposed development of the Colorado River. The Governor had failed to appoint representatives at critical times and threw the whole burden of the fight on the shoulders of the District when the major portion of the expected benefits were to come to California. The resolution further stated that the assistance of the State was badly needed and that it would be to the best interests of the Valley to give support to Mr. Young.

Owners of various issues of the District's bonds appeared before the Board in October to inquire into the condition of the levee system below the line and discuss the need of emergency Federal appropriations to assist in building new levees. The Board requested the Reclamation Service to make a survey of the situation below the line.

THE FINNEY RESOLUTION

A matter of importance took place in the state legislature when a resolution submitted by Assemblyman A. C. Finney was adopted at the request of the District making the effective date of the Inter-State Compact depend upon whether or not the Swing-Johnson Bill, as finally adopted, would provide for ample and sufficient storage with a high dam. In October, 1926, Governor Richardson called a special session of the legislature for the purpose of ordering the Compact signed immediately and unconditionally. The District successfully opposed the move and the Finney Resolution was reaffirmed. The entire Board, together with its Attorney and General Superintendent, attended the special session.

The District approved the proposed amendment to the State Constitution that would permit Irrigation Districts to own stock in private water companies.

SENATE COMMITTEE APPROVES

The Senate Committee on Arid Lands reported the Swing-Johnson Bill with its approval and it was put on the Senate calendar. The House committee was still considering the measure when Congress convened in December. The Irrigation District sent an urgent wire to President Coolidge asking that he recommend speed on the matter in his message to Congress. Director Mark Rose and Attorney C. L. Childers were delegated to go to Washington to protect the interests of the Valley at hearings on the Swing-Johnson Bill without expense to the District.

1927

In the February election, Directors Ira Aten and Earl Pound were returned as directors of the second and Fourth Divisions; C. W. Barry was re-elected Assessor-Collector and F. H. McIver was re-elected Treasurer.

LOCAL POWER POSSIBILITIES

The District, having in hand the report of Consulting Electrical Engineer R. W. Shoemaker and a further report submitted by Chief Engineer M. J. Dowd on the advisability and feasibility of making use of power sites on the existing canal system, instructed Engineer Dowd to prepare detail plans and specifications on which the District could proceed. The preliminary reports showed that a total of 3,150 horsepower could be developed at Rositas Dam, the Alamo Dam and Number Eight Heading. The estimated cost was \$1,600,000. The results outlined indicated that the Valley could be served with electrical energy at lower rates than it now had to pay and that in addition the earnings would be sufficient to retire the bonds within a period of twenty years. The final report indicated a cost of \$1,700,000. Application was filed with the State Bond Commission to issue bonds.

The Board passed resolutions thanking individually some fifty-one Government Officials, newspaper writers and others who had assisted in the hard work that had been done to advance the Swing-Johnson Bill through Congress. (This list appears in the chapter devoted to the Boulder Dam-All-American Canal Project to which the reader is referred.)

In April, Director Rose introduced and the Board passed a resolution authorizing Attorney Childers to take steps to have the state law changed to allow the election of seven directors instead of five.

The Board voted to co-operate with the City of El Centro to eliminate the Date canal through the city.

The salaries of the five Division Superintendents were increased to \$300 monthly July 1.

Attention was called by the Southern Pacific Railroad company to the contract of 1916 which stipulated that certain lands adjacent to Salton Sea when uncovered by evaporation should not be re-submerged by excess flow of waste waters from the District's water system. The waters of Salton Sea had steadily increased until the surface stood at minus 246.6.

The District partially financed exhibits for the State Fair and the Tulare County fair, and employed D. F. Harbison to take care of them.

With the reconvention of Congress in December, 1927, Director Mark Rose was again authorized to go to Washington and look after the interests of the District. The Swing-Johnson Bill was still in the hands of the committee. President Pound was also authorized to represent the District at the same time he was discharging his duties as mem-

ber of the Colorado River Commission. Engineer M. J. Dowd was added to the delegation.

1928

Chief Engineer M. J. Dowd compiled a list of eighty-seven rules and regulations governing the operation of the District's business and the delivery and use of water. The code was adopted.

The District took note of the fact that numerous water users were taking water from the Colorado river above the District's intake and instructed its legal staff to take steps to see that the rights of the District were legally safeguarded.

Rights of way for the canal from Laguna Dam southward through the Yuma Indian Reservation were secured by proper contracts.

The interest item on outstanding bonds for 1929 will amount to \$844,875; principal to be retired, \$250,000; payment on Laguna Dam contract, \$96,000; to operate and maintain the District, \$859,865.

Since November, 1922, fifty-four court actions in which the Irrigation District was either plaintiff or defendant were handled by Attorney C. L. Childers and staff. In forty cases the District won, ten actions were pending and four were decided against the District. In two cases local decisions against the District were appealed and the decisions reversed.

The State Bond Commission reviewed the application for permission to issue bonds in the amount of \$1,700,000 for the purpose of building hydro-electric generating plants and a distributing system and approved the application, raising the amount, however, to \$2,100,000.

With the approach of a new session of Congress when the Swing-Johnson Bill was to again come up for consideration, Directors Rose and Pound and Attorney Childers were authorized to proceed to Washington and work for the passage of the bill.

CONGRESS PASSES THE BILL

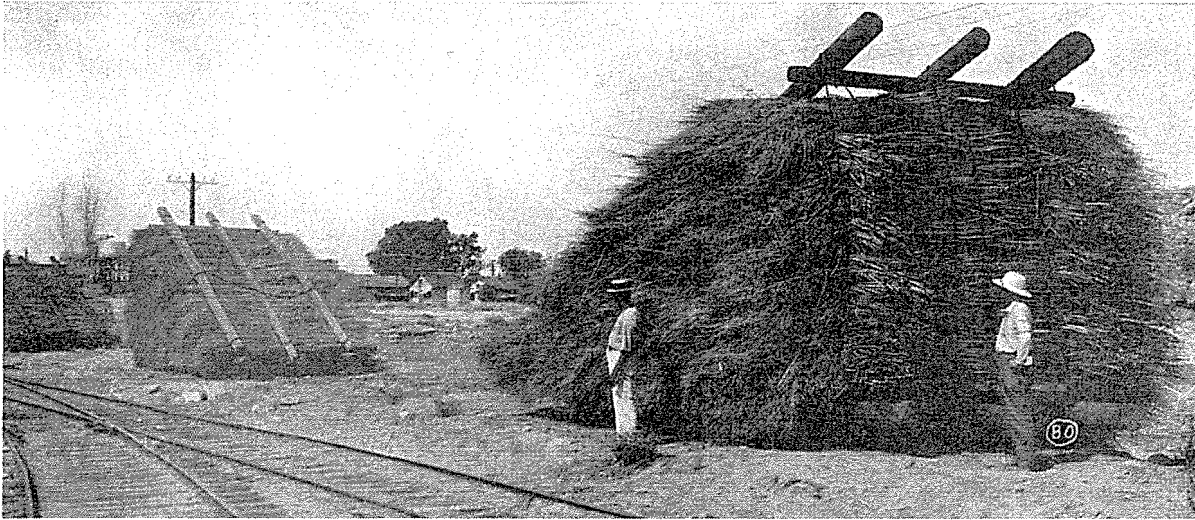
The culmination of long years of hard work came December 21, 1928, when, by a vote of 166 to 122 the House of Representatives passed the Boulder Canyon Project Act which was the final name given the Swing-Johnson Bill. The Senate passed the bill by a vote of 64 to 11.

The news was received in Imperial Valley and all over the southwest with enthusiasm but the minutes of the Imperial Irrigation District fail to make any mention of the event. However, there was evidently keen satisfaction felt among those who had worked so long and so hard to see this legislation through the national Congress.

1929

Land owners in the Niland District contracted in 1927 with the Irrigation District to build a water system for their lands and the District contracted to take over the system when completed and serve water. The Niland land owners failed to complete the system and called upon the District to finish it. The District agreed.

Looking toward the time when applicants for entry on now withdrawn lands and private lands to be watered when the new canal is ready, will be numerous. The Board of Directors approved a public announcement to the effect that land buyers should be cautious and thoroughly investigate before paying money on any land deal; that it would be three years after passage of the bill before any results could be noticed from Boulder Dam storage and longer than that before the All-American canal could be built and finished. A reminder was included calling attention to the fact that the bill limits entries on Government lands, when restored, to ex-service men only.



When the River is low, Arrow Weed Mats are dropped by the Electric Hoist into the Bed of the Stream to make a Weir to raise the Water Level. These Weirs are Built and Destroyed Annually at a cost of \$20,000.

The results of the February election showed that Director C. W. Brockman was returned from the Calexico Division; Director W. O. Blair was returned from the Calipatria Division, and Director Mark Rose was returned from the Holtville Division. Director Pound was again made president.

The Board ordered that equal oil purchases be made from the Union, Standard and Texas Oil Companies.

A resolution was adopted ordering the suspension of sale of sales-certificates and tax deeds for a period of six months, giving the land owner an opportunity to recover from the agricultural depression extant.

The death of Rev. Geo. Hartman was noted with sorrow by resolutions of respect passed by the Board.

The District joined in the effort to have the Federal Farm Bank again make loans on Imperial Valley lands.

Petitions were authorized circulated among land owners for the purpose of requesting the District to go ahead with the power bond issue which matter was being held in abeyance.

PRELIMINARY CANAL SURVEY

March 29, 1929, the District entered into a tri-party agreement with the Reclamation Service and the Coachella Valley County Water District to pay four-fifths of the expense of a survey to be made by the Reclamation Service for the All-American Canal. A total expense of \$100,000 was to be the limit. This advance work on the proposed canal was meant to save time and in order to have in hand information as to the final cost of the construction of the All-American canal.

May 14, a resolution authorizing the District to proceed with the calling of a bond election for \$2,100,000 for the purpose of installing power generating plants on the canal system failed to pass.

Director Mark Rose, Secretary McIver, Attorney Childers and Chief Engineer Dowd were directed to go to Washington to look after the interests of the District.

In an effort to help landowners meet their assessment obligations with the District the Board adopted a practice, when it was necessary to take tax title to farm lands, to

lease the farm back to the owner and apply the rental money toward redemption of the property.

In a communication from the Southern Sierras Power Company co-operation was offered the District in the matter of marketing the power to be produced from generating plants planned for installation on local canals and on the All-American canal.

The death of J. Stanley Brown, former Director, was noted with sorrow and regret by resolution spread upon the minutes.

After eleven years of active publicity work in behalf of the Colorado river legislation in which the District was primarily interested, F. W. Greer tendered his resignation as an employee of the District August 15, 1929. The same was accepted by the Board to take effect August 31.

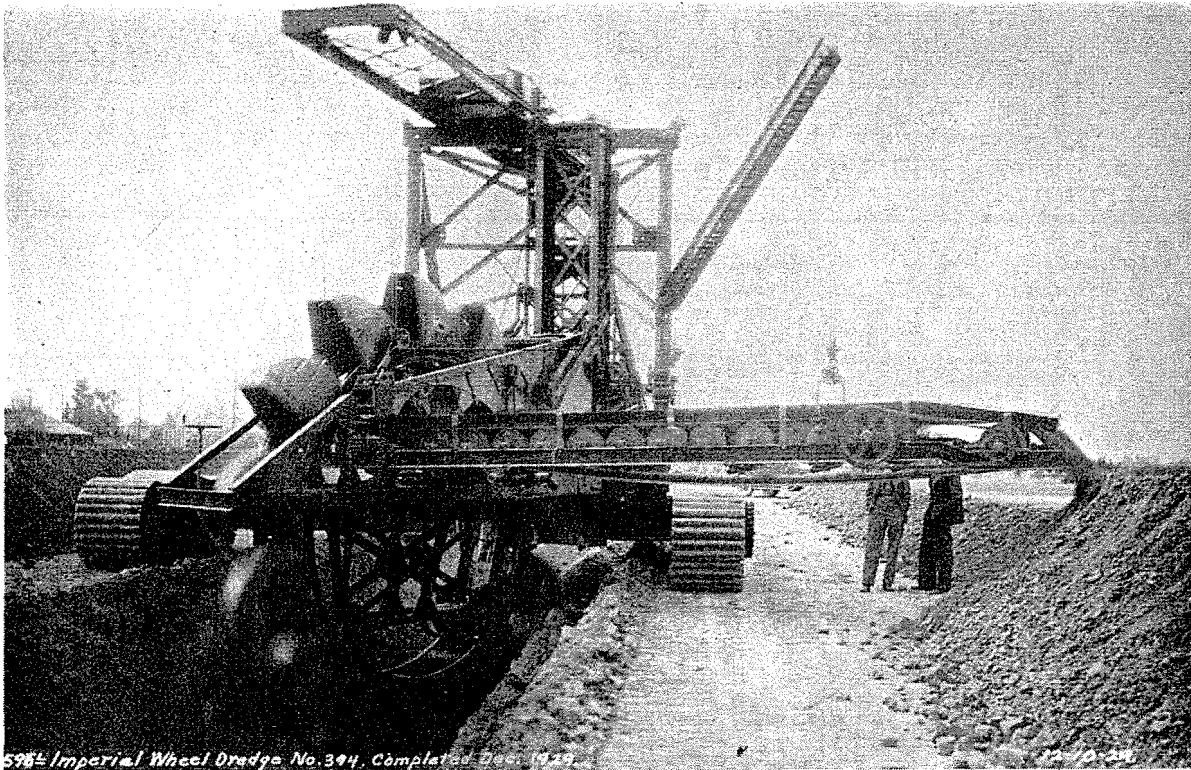
Edward Hyatt, State Engineer, suggested that the District, instead of building hydro-electric power plants as planned, install a diesel engine plant first and hold in abeyance the water power development until the completion of the All-American canal. The diesel engine plant then would be good stand-by equipment. In the meantime the power produced could be used to advantage in construction work on the new canal. The Board disagreed with the State Engineer, urging that the water power plants would, in fact, serve the same as a diesel stand-by plant and would not cost much more. Chief Engineer Dowd recommended that the water power then going to waste, be developed and the recommendation was adopted as an answer to the State Engineer.

November 29, 1929, the Board noted with sorrow the death of C. W. Barry, Assessor-Collector. Resolutions praised Mr. Barry as "not only a good citizen and a loyal and faithful friend, but one of the most conscientious, painstaking and efficient public officers who has at any time served the public of this community."

D. W. Wiest was named Assessor-Collector to succeed C. W. Barry.

Attorney Childers and Chief Engineer Dowd were directed to attend a conference in Washington with Secretary Wilbur relative to the allocation of power and water provisions of the Swing-Johnson Bill.

Some indication that conditions on the lower river might soon give trouble caused Director Pound to sug-



This Wheel Dredge was Especially Designed for the District by J. A. Graves, Mechanical Superintendent. It will Dig Canals or Drain Ditches with Marvelous Speed.

gest that the District should ask Congress for an appropriation to prevent possible damage from floods. Director Rose was opposed and Director Aten said it would be less expensive to handle the matter without the aid of the Government. No action was taken.

Petitioners asked the Board to call a mass meeting to determine the necessity of extending the drainage system. No action was taken.

1930

Attorney Childers, Chief Engineer Dowd and Secretary McIver were directed to represent the District at the meeting of the Colorado River Commission to be held in Reno.

ALLOCATION OF WATER

After many conferences on the matter of an equitable division of the waters of the Colorado river an agreement was finally reached through the Colorado River Commission, February 21, 1930, whereby the Imperial Irrigation District, the Coachella Valley County Water District, the Palo Verde Irrigation District and the Yuma Project in California should be entitled to 3,850,000 acre feet per annum; the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California 550,000 acre feet per annum and the first right to 550,000 acre feet per annum of the remainder of the river water which may be acquired by the State of California; and the Imperial, Coachella, Palo Verde and the California portion of the Yuma Valleys and other interests to have right to whatever water remains in the total to be acquired by the State of California.

The District Board unanimously adopted a resolution agreeing with this allocation and voted to co-operate with all agencies to see that other districts and parties interested sign the same agreement.

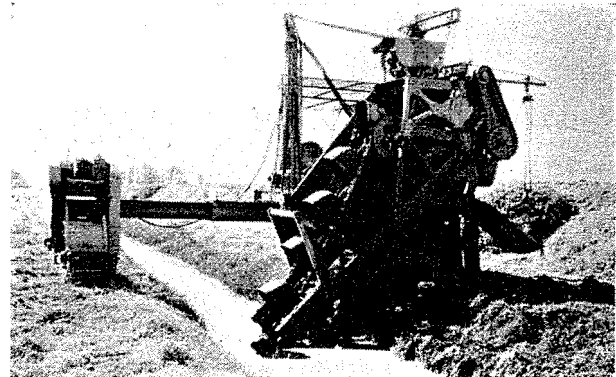
The Board requested the Department of the Interior to forthwith survey or re-survey all unsurveyed public lands

within the Imperial and Coachella Valleys under the contour 250 feet above sea level.

The Board requested the Secretary of the Interior and the Commissioner of the General Land Office to restore to entry all lands withdrawn from entry under the Reclamation Law or otherwise within the boundaries of the Imperial Irrigation District except those lands withdrawn by executive orders.

The Board urged by resolution that the Secretary of the Interior be urged to speed up the signing of contracts on the part of all interested Districts and organizations for the purchase of power from the Boulder Dam project so that the construction of the same may proceed without delay. The resolution was adopted March 28, rescinded April 1, and re-adopted April 8.

In the matter of increased use of water below the International boundary line since the passage of the Swing-



Ditch Cleaning Dredge, a Marvel of Efficiency

Johnson Bill the District took a stand against the possible claim for additional water rights on this account.

The District agreed to co-operate with other agencies in employing the Boulder Dam Association to present facts to those in official position having to do with carrying out the provisions of the Boulder Dam and All-American canal bill and to obtain facts and present them to the District. The District's share of the cost to be \$100 monthly for one year.

May 6, F. W. Greer was reappointed representative of the District to appear before committees in Washington or elsewhere and render such assistance to Senators, Representatives and other Government officials to further the development of the Boulder Dam and All-American canal, his salary to be \$750 monthly, and necessary expenses.

The Chief Engineer was instructed to continue investigations along the All-American canal route north of Gray's Well.

President Pound, Engineer Dowd, and Attorney Childers were named to go to Washington to attend the hearings in support of appropriation measures for the Boulder Canyon act.

The District agreed to a modification of the water allocation agreement wherein the City of Los Angeles and the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California would be entitled to an undisputed right to store 5,000,000 acre feet of water annually in the Boulder Dam reservoir and withdraw it as desired.

The Board passed a resolution opposing the opening of the international boundary line at Jacumba.

A resolution endorsing the candidacy of Governor C. C. Young for re-election was adopted. The Governor always had shown a keen interest in Valley affairs, the resolution stated.

The application of the Southern Pacific Land Company for the inclusion of certain parcels of railroad lands within the boundaries of the District was allowed and the boundaries of the District changed to include the lands.

ACTUAL WORK AT BOULDER DAM

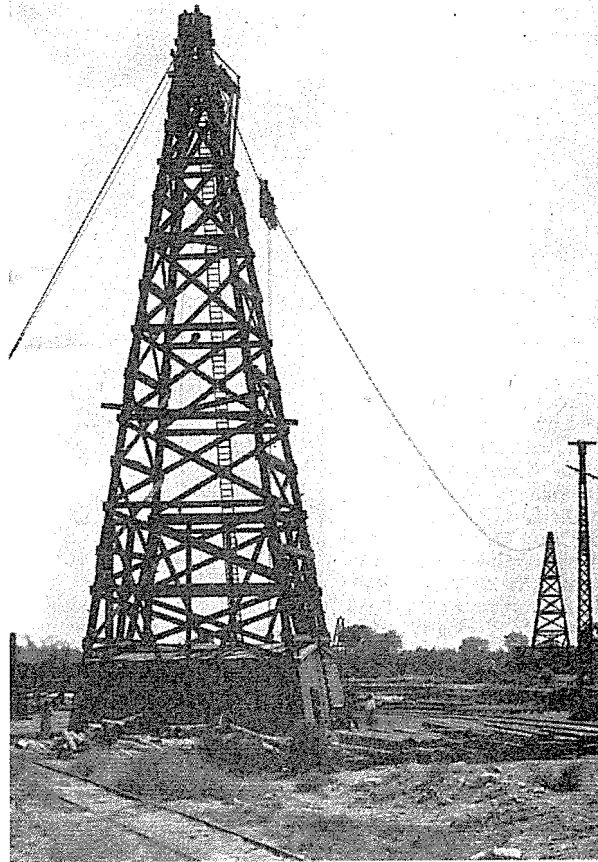
The start of the first work of any sort at the Boulder Dam was set for September 17, 1930. The District Board voted to attend the ceremonies. The event was attended by Secretary Wilbur, who turned the first earth. He issued a Department Order naming the structure "Hoover Dam." The order was not popular in Imperial Valley.

TO WORK OUT CANAL CONTRACT

October 23 the Board directed Attorney Childers to confer with officials of the Coachella Valley County Water District and start working up a contract with the United States for the construction of the All-American canal as provided in the Boulder Canyon Project Act. The assumption was that all the lands irrigable were to be treated as one district.

The Board took notice of the report that some employees were taking part in the county political campaign and passed a resolution stating that any employee who did this on District time would be discharged.

On November 18, members of the City Council of the City of San Diego and their Engineer appeared before the Board to request co-operation in the matter of obtaining 155 second feet of water from the Colorado river for domestic purposes. A resolution was passed extending the co-operation desired. If San Diego sees it a better advantage to take water from the district's canals rather than through the Metropolitan District it may do so on a rental basis or otherwise.



This Electric Hoist and Cable from the California to the Arizona Shore handles the Weir Building without the Necessity of Trestles.

F. W. Greer, publicist for the district, placed his resignation with the Board December 3, to take effect December 25, 1930. It was accepted.

The Board voted to continue to support the Boulder Dam Association for another year, provided other interested districts did likewise.

The State of Arizona filed a suit in the United States Supreme Court against Secretary Wilbur and the States of California, Wyoming, Utah, Nevada, and Colorado attacking the validity of the Boulder Canyon Project Act and the Colorado River Compact. The district requested Attorney General Webb to appoint Attorney Chas. L. Childers State Counsel for California.

1931

In issuing the call for the 1931 election the Board decided to submit to the electors an opportunity to cast a straw vote on the proposal for a bond issue to carry on and extend the drainage system.

Note was taken of the death of the son of Secretary F. H. McIver and resolutions of sympathy were passed.

The Board took notice of the applications made by the Metropolitan Water District and others for applications to divert water from the Colorado river that seemed to be in conflict with the interests of the district and ordered

protests filed with the State Division of Water Resources. In addition the district caused to be introduced a resolution in the State Legislature to protect the Valley's interests. The resolution was passed.

The February election resulted in the return of Ira Aten to the Board and the election of W. F. Beal as Director from the Brawley Division. Vinnie Barry was elected Assessor-Collector and F. H. McIver Treasurer. Director Brockman was named President of the Board for the ensuing year.

Director Beal suggested that a committee of twenty-five citizens be named by the County Board of Supervisors, the District and the Chambers of Commerce for the purpose of surveying valuations placed on property by the District for assessment purposes. The Board decided later to ask fifteen citizens to serve, five to be appointed by the District, five by the Farm Bureau and five by Chambers of Commerce. The Citizens Committee consisted of: James Brock, W. H. Brooks, D. W. Wiest, Wm. Lowther, Dave Vencil, Scott B. Foulds, Earl Northrup, C. O. Hooper, Wm. Wilkinson, W. A. McFadden, Joe Enz, Eugene Anderson, W. S. Fawcett, J. L. Taecker and W. J. Gregg.

The Board passed a resolution against the State continuing the Colorado River Commission or appointing a new one.

The Board dispensed with the services of Attorney Harry Slattery, Washington legal representative.

The Board adopted a resolution favoring the enactment of an amendment to the State law limiting the voting privilege in Irrigation District bond elections to owners of real property. Directors Aten, Brockman and Beal favored the resolution. Blair reserved his vote. Director Rose was not present by reason of undergoing an operation in a hospital. Director Blair later changed his vote to favor the proposed amendment. The final decision was to oppose the amendment because it was unconstitutional, and the Legislative Committee killed the bill.

The Valley now has before it the proposed contract between the District and the Department of the Interior for the construction of the All-American canal by the govern-



Airplane View of Hanlon Heading. 1—Rockwood Gate. 2—Main Canal. 3—Colorado River. 4—On Arizona Side. 5—District Offices and Homes of Employees at Andrade, Algodones, on the Mexican side is just out of the Picture.

ment. The contract will be passed upon by the people at the polls at an early date. The contract is forming a new line of division of the people.

The Board voted to reserve oil, gas and mineral rights in all deeds for sale of property owned by the district.

The Citizens' Committee on valuations recommended that a board of six appraisers be appointed to use the District's assessment rolls as a basis and make an equalized appraisal of property to correct some apparent inequalities; that no land be assessed for more than \$150 an acre and none for less than \$40 an acre. The Board referred the matter to its attorney for opinion.

SUPREME COURT UPHOLDS BOULDER PROJECT

May 16, 1931, the United States Supreme Court decided against Arizona in the suit seeking a Federal injunction against building the Boulder dam. The decision cleared the field of all opposition and work on the project can proceed without delay.



CHAPTER XIII

HOOVER DAM AND ALL-AMERICAN CANAL

THE half century from 1892 to 1942 will likely go down in history as a period in which the world's greatest engineering project had its birth and was brought through a long stretch of evolution to final completion. That project is the Boulder Dam-All-American Canal project, now being constructed on the Colorado River by the United States Government. The period of evolution from a mere idea to the greatest thing of its kind on earth has been much like the growth of a great oak tree. The acorn was first kicked about, finally lodging in fertile soil where it sprouted and grew, nourished and protected by jealously zealous friends, finally reaching such stupendous proportions as to astonish and bewilder all who came to view it.

While there is no record or mention of the fact there is little doubt that when Charles Robinson Rockwood started his first crew of surveyors to work at Potholes in 1892, where the Laguna Weir now stands, his first idea was to find a way across the sand hills for the first canal; otherwise he would not have considered Potholes as a starting point. When the difficulties of the sand hills were more closely encountered the plan was changed to make use of the old channel of the Alamo River to bring water to the floor of the Valley.

DUAL RECEIVERSHIPS

After the costly floods of 1905-1906-1907 had thrown the California Development Company into the hands of the two Receivers, one American and one Mexican, the need for a waterway entirely on American soil was brought forcibly to the front. The peculiarities of Mexican law gave the Mexican Receiver unlimited opportunities for disagreement with the American Receiver. Necessary protective work on the lower river almost came to a dead stop and only the absence of severe floods prevented a repetition of the harrowing experiences of a few years previous. This dangerous situation was not at all relished by the water users of Imperial Valley.

The dual Receivership was established in 1909 and almost immediately the people of Imperial Valley began to search for ways and means to take the control of their water supply out of Mexico. Within two years they evolved the plan of municipal ownership and organized the Imperial Irrigation District. Almost at the same time talk about an All-American Canal began.

Careful search of the records fails to reveal the name of any one man who might be given the credit

for originating the idea. The first mention of a canal across the sand hills appears in the minutes of the Irrigation District of March 23, 1912. The secretary was then instructed to write C. R. Rockwood and ask him if he had any data regarding an All-American Canal route. Mr. Rockwood answered that he did not have such data but knew of such a route and would be glad to guide any interested parties over it.

The proposition continued to be discussed at every meeting. Early in 1913 President W. O. Hamilton made a horseback trip over the route. Several prominent engineers were then invited to act on a board and decide whether or not an All-American Canal was feasible. Early that fall the District's Engineer, A. A. Anderson, was instructed to put a surveying crew on the All-American line. In addition to the real desire for an American canal it must be suspected that the District Board at the time was also using it as a threat in order to bring the Southern Pacific to an early agreement as to the price which the District was to pay for the transfer of the property of the C. D. Company to the people.

MESA LANDS

During this agitation for an All-American Canal numerous settlers filed on land on the Eastside mesa hoping that the proposed new canal would bring them water at an early date. However, these lands were withdrawn from entry. At the insistent request of Mark Rose in 1914, the District Board requested Secretary Lane to restore the Eastside mesa lands to entry. However this was not done. The potential entrymen then organized the Imperial-Laguna Water Company and claimed a prior right to enter these lands when they were restored. Under the leadership of Mark Rose these entrymen carried on an insistent campaign seeking to get water for their lands. Rose went so far as to secure a contract with the Department of Interior that would permit him and his associates to construct the canal, taking water from the Laguna Dam. The difficulties of financing and the objection by the Irrigation District and water company officials to a secondary position on the river prevented the fruition of this plan.

After the purchase of the system by the people the attention of District officials was so centered on the job of keeping the river out of the Valley that they had little opportunity to give serious attention to the matter of an All-American Canal. Two bond

issues of \$2,500,000 each were thrown into river protective work and there was little likelihood that twelve million dollars (first estimated cost) could be raised for the construction of an All-American Canal. However, Mark Rose and his associates never lost an opportunity to bring the matter before the attention of the District Board and the people.

FIRST OFFICIAL ACT

In November, 1917, the Irrigation District requested the Secretary of the Interior to make an immediate survey to determine the cost and feasibility of connecting Imperial Valley with Laguna Dam by the construction of the All-American Canal. Director Nickerson made the motion and Director McPherrin seconded it. This action might be declared to be the first official act that started the Boulder Dam-All-American Canal project on its way.

In January, 1918, Secretary Lane, heeding the District's request, offered to make the survey if the District would pay \$30,000 and the Government \$15,000. Director McPherrin made the motion to accept the Secretary's offer by wire. President Leroy Holt and Engineer Grunsky rushed to Washington to work out the details of the contract. Mass meetings were held and the people gave support to the proposition.

FIRST OFFICIAL SURVEY

The upshot of this first effort in 1918 was that a contract was made with the Government and this was approved by a vote of the people.

A board of three engineers conducted the survey. They were W. W. Schlecht, of the Yuma project; Dr. Elwood Mead, representing the State of California, and C. E. Grunsky, representing the District.

Thinking leaders in Imperial Valley and other parts of the country began to study where this program was leading. They knew that at low stages of the river there was frequently not enough water to meet existing demands. Therefore the idea of building a canal that might be absolutely dry for a considerable portion of each year was hardly the sensible thing to do. R. D. McPherrin, then a Director, must be given the credit for giving expression to this self-evident need of storing water somewhere on the upper Colorado in order to overcome the shortage during low stages of the river. Mr. McPherrin caused a proposition to be placed on the ballot when the 1918 contract was being considered, asking the people if they did not wish the Government to provide for storage in connection with the building of the All-American Canal. The answer was emphatically affirmative. (This resolution may be found quoted in full in the chapter devoted to the History of the Irrigation District).

On June 17, 1919, Congressman William Kettner introduced the first All-American Canal bill.

KINKAID ACT

On January 7, 1920, Kettner introduced his second bill which also provided that the Government provide means to store water. The details of this bill were not sufficient to satisfy Chairman Kinkaid, of the Arid Lands Committee, and he caused a bill of

his own to be introduced authorizing a thorough survey of the whole project. The expense to be borne by interested districts. The Imperial Irrigation District eventually contributed \$100,000 and other agencies contributed additional sums. This work took more than two years. The report of the engineers, known as the Davis-Fall report, reached Congress February 28, 1922, and was printed as Senate Document 142, entitled "Problems of Imperial Valley and Vicinity." The Secretary of the Interior in his report to Congress made the following recommendations:

"1. It is recommended that through suitable legislation the United States undertake the construction with Government funds of a highline canal from Laguna Dam to the Imperial Valley, to be reimbursed by the lands benefited.

"2. It is recommended that the public lands that can be reclaimed by such works be reserved for settlement by ex-service men under conditions securing actual settlement and cultivation.

"3. It is recommended that through suitable legislation the United States undertake the construction with Government funds of a reservoir at or near Boulder Canyon on the lower Colorado River to be reimbursed by the revenues from leasing the power privileges incident thereto.

"4. It is recommended that any State interested in this development shall have the right at its election to contribute an equitable part of the cost of the construction of the reservoir and receive for its contribution a proportionate share of power at cost to be determined by the Secretary of the Interior.

"5. It is recommended that the Secretary of the Interior be empowered after full hearing of all concerned to allot the various applicants their due proportion of the power privileges and to allocate the cost and benefits of a highline canal.

"6. It is recommended that every development hereafter authorized to be undertaken on the Colorado River by Federal Government or otherwise be required in both construction and operation to give priority of right and use:

"First. To river regulation and flood control.

"Second. To use of storage water for irrigation.

"Third. To development of power."

SWING'S FIRST BILL

With the filing of this report the entire nation began to realize that something really big was being attempted in the West. The seven states in the Colorado water shed including Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, Arizona, Nevada, New Mexico and California, took a long look at the voluminous report and at once began to figure out how each state would be affected. Representative Mondell introduced a bill providing for a Colorado River Commission which would study the gigantic proposal.

Phil D. Swing, Representative from the 11th California District, introduced H. R. 11449 April 25, 1922. The title said it was "for the purpose of



The Seven States affected by the Development of the Colorado River

regulating the lower Colorado River and controlling the floods therein, providing storage of water for irrigation, securing the development of electrical power and providing homes for honorably discharged men and women of the United States Army, Navy, and Marine Corps . . .” The Secretary of the Interior was “authorized and empowered to construct a dam and incidental works for the purpose of providing a reservoir at or near Boulder Canyon on said river, adequate for the purposes aforesaid . . . ; also to construct a main canal and appurtenant structures located entirely within the United States connecting Laguna Dam on said river with the Imperial and Coachella Valleys in California, together with such other canals and structures as may be required for the distribution and delivery of water from said reservoir and said river to lands in the United States, which said Secretary may find practicable of irrigation and reclamation therefrom . . .”

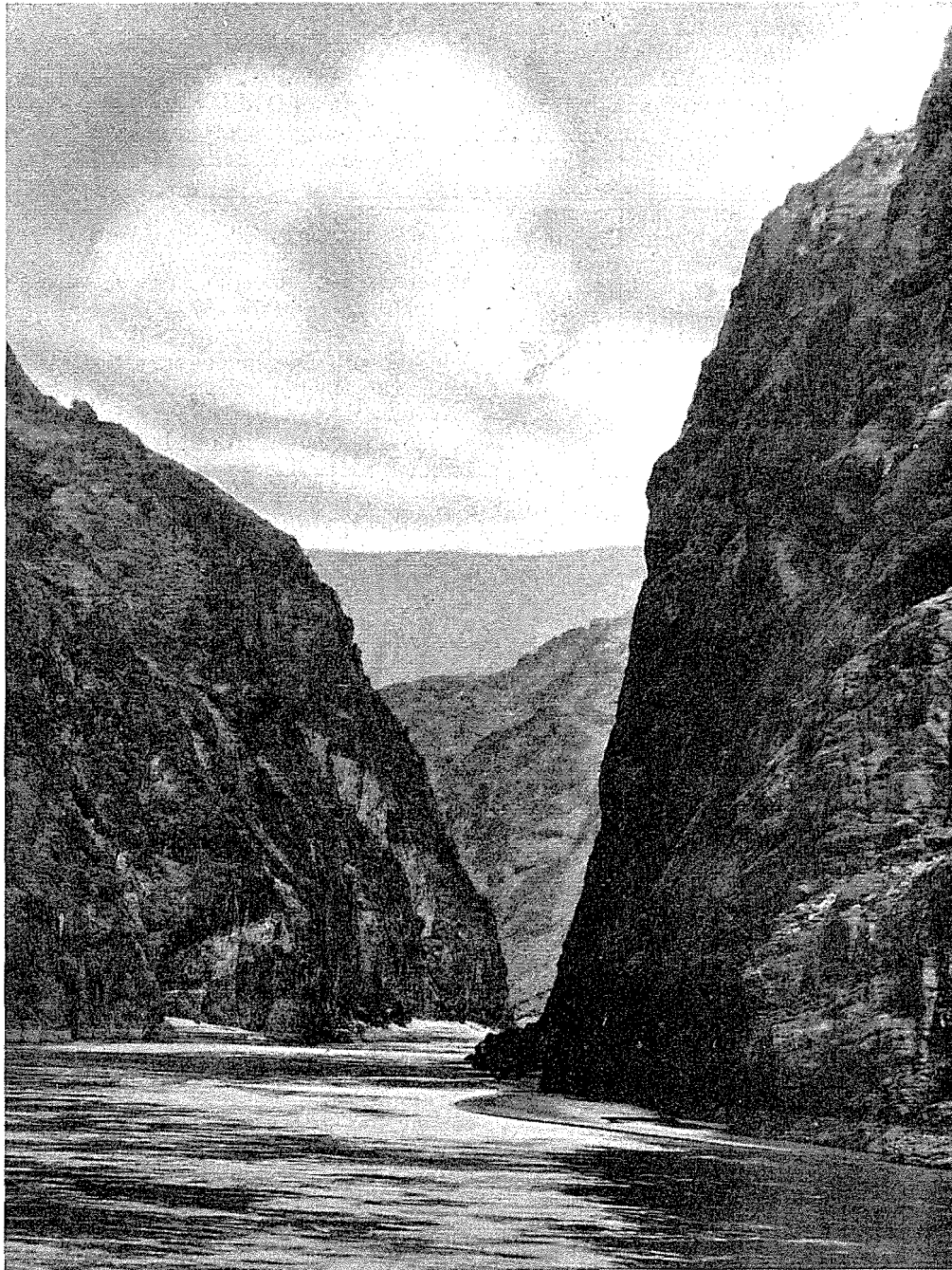
THE COLORADO RIVER COMPACT

The Colorado River Compact was an agreement

dividing the use of the waters of the Colorado River among the seven states of the river basin. Herbert Hoover, then Secretary of the Department of Commerce, was named Chairman. After some twenty meetings in 1922 the Compact was drawn and representatives of the seven states—California, Wyoming, Utah, Arizona, New Mexico, Nevada and Colorado—and Secretary Hoover signed it November 24, 1922. The Compact was to become effective when the legislatures of all seven states had ratified it.

Arizona refused to sign and this action really was the prime cause for the six year delay in the passage of the Boulder Canyon Project Act by Congress. The Act itself, when passed, provided that the Compact would become effective when six states had ratified it. It also provided a period of six months in which Arizona had a right to sign. The period passed without Arizona changing and President Hoover by proclamation in June, 1929, declared the Project Act in full force.

The water was divided by this agreement between the upper basin and lower basin states. California,



The Site of Hoover Dam in Black Canyon

Nevada and Arizona will have the right to use 8,500,000 acre feet of water annually and the other states 7,500,000. In case, after 1963, it is found that there is additional water to be allocated a division of the same will take place along the same lines.

California, realizing the danger of signing the compact without provision of ample storage facilities, made its signature contingent upon the storage of at least 20,000,000 acre feet of water. This was accomplished by the Finney Resolution of 1925 which was attacked and reaffirmed.

THE SWING JOHNSON BILLS

The first bill introduced by Congressman Swing failed to reach the floor of the House but it stirred the interest of the country. When Congress reconvened in the fall of 1923 the delegation from Imperial Valley together with Senator Johnson and Congressman Swing had new bills ready. The House measure was H. R. 2903 and became known as the Swing-Johnson Bill. This measure was considered in committee for more than two years.

February 26, 1926, the measure was re-introduced, after being worked over, as H. R. 9826. This



Reservoir Site where 26,000,000 Acre Feet of Water will be Stored Behind Hoover Dam

measure was considered for another two years or a little less.

December 5, 1927, the measure was again introduced. The official title of this bill was "Boulder Canyon Project Act." This bill went through another year of close consideration and was finally passed by both the Senate and the House and signed by President Calvin Coolidge, December 21, 1928. The vote in the Senate was 64 in favor and 11 against. The House voted 166 in favor and 122 against.

OPPOSITION

The committee hearings held on these bills would fill a dozen volumes the size of this history. The bill withstood attacks instigated by the power companies who feared that the program calling for the development of half a million horse power of electrical energy would be injurious to their interests; from the American owners of lands in Mexico who did not like the idea of taking the Imperial Irrigation District's main canal out of their hands; from newspapers, politicians and others whose interests lay

along similar lines and from certain sincere Imperial Valley citizens who favored the storage plan but failed to see any benefits from an All-American canal.

IN FAVOR

In its favor were aligned the Imperial Irrigation District through a majority of its Board of Directors, the National and State forces of the American Legion, all the communities of Southern California; the Hearst and Scripps-Howard newspapers; the National organizations of Spanish-American War Veterans, and a majority of the members of the House of Representatives and the Senate, most of whom had been converted to the support of the bill by its inherent merit after hearing so much about it.

If the reader will follow the chronological history of the Imperial Irrigation District to be found in another portion of this history he will note that it was the Imperial Irrigation District that launched campaign after campaign of publicity, bore the expense of delegation after delegation of visiting Congressmen and Senators and other public officials, sent delegation after delegation to Congress and backed every scheme that would gain favorable attention to the Swing-Johnson Bill.

To further illustrate the difficulties the last bill had: After all details were agreed upon by the Committee on Reclamation and the bill reported out with recommendation that it pass there were one hundred and twenty-seven amendments offered. Forty of these were adopted and eighty-seven rejected. Amendment after amendment was offered for the sole purpose of delay by Arizona members of the House and Senate.

TEXT OF BILL

The full text of the Boulder Canyon Project Act follows:

Boulder Canyon Project Act
(Public No. 642—70th Congress)
(H. R. 5773)

An act to provide for the construction of works for the protection and development of the Colorado River Basin, for the approval of the Colorado River compact, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That for the purpose of controlling the floods, improving navigation and regulating the flow of the Colorado River, providing for storage and for the delivery of the stored waters thereof for reclamation of public lands and other beneficial uses exclusively within the United States, and for the generation of electrical energy as a means of making the project herein authorized a self-supporting and financially solvent undertaking, the Secretary of the Interior, subject to the terms of the Colorado River compact hereinafter mentioned, is hereby authorized to construct, operate, and maintain a dam and incidental works in the main stream of the Colorado River at Black Canyon or Boulder Canyon adequate to create a storage reservoir of a capacity of not less than twenty million acre-feet of water and a main canal and appurtenant structures located entirely within the United States connecting the Laguna Dam, or other suitable diversion dam, which the Secretary of the Interior is hereby authorized to construct if deemed necessary or advisable by him upon engineering or economic considerations, with the Imperial and Coachella Valleys in California, the expenditures for said main canal and appurtenant structures to be reimbursable, as provided in the reclamation law, and shall not be paid out of revenues derived from the sale or



Cartoon in a Washington Newspaper when the Swing-Johnson Bill was Passed by Congress, Dec., 1928

disposal of water power or electric energy at the dam authorized to be constructed at said Black Canyon or Boulder Canyon, or for water for potable purposes outside of the Imperial and Coachella Valleys: *Provided, however,* that no charge shall be made for water or for the use, storage, or delivery of water for irrigation or water for potable purposes in the Imperial or Coachella Valleys; also to construct and equip, operate, and maintain at or near said dam, or cause to be constructed, a complete plant and incidental structures suitable for the fullest economic development of electrical energy from the water discharged from said reservoir; and to acquire by proceedings in eminent domain, or otherwise, all lands, rights of way, and other property necessary for said purposes.

Sec. 2. (a) There is hereby established a special fund, to be known as the "Colorado River Dam fund" (hereinafter referred to as the "fund"), and to be available, as hereafter provided, only for carrying out the provisions of this Act. All revenues received in carrying out the provisions of this Act shall be paid into and expenditures shall be made out of the fund, under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior.

(b) The Secretary of the Treasury is authorized to advance to the fund, from time to time and within the appropriations therefor, such amounts as the Secretary of the Interior deems necessary for carrying out the provisions of this Act, except that the aggregate amount of such advances shall not exceed the sum of \$165,000,000. Of this amount the sum of \$25,000,000 shall be allocated to flood control and shall be repaid to the United States out of 62½ per centum of revenues if any, in excess of the amount necessary to meet periodical payments during the period of amortization, as provided in Sec. 4 of this Act. If said sum of \$25,000,000 is not repaid in full during the period of amortization, then 6½ per centum of all net revenues shall be applied to payment of the remainder. Interest at the rate of 4 per centum per annum accruing during the year upon the amounts so advanced and remaining unpaid shall be paid annually out of the fund, except as herein otherwise provided.

(c) Moneys in the fund advanced under subdivision (b) shall be available only for expenditures for construction and the payment of interest, during construction, upon the amounts so advanced. No expenditures out of the fund shall be made for operation and maintenance except from appropriations therefor.

(d) The Secretary of the Treasury shall charge the fund as of June 30 in each year with such amount as may be necessary for the payment of interest on advances made under subdivision (b) at the rate of 4 per centum per annum accrued during the year upon the amounts so ad-

vanced and remaining unpaid, except that if the fund is insufficient to meet the payment of interest the Secretary of the Treasury may, in his discretion, defer any part of such payment, and the amount so deferred shall bear interest at the rate of 4 per centum per annum until paid.

(e) The Secretary of the Interior shall certify to the Secretary of the Treasury, at the close of each fiscal year, the amount of money in the fund in excess of the amount necessary for construction, operation, and maintenance, and payment of interest. Upon receipt of each such certificate the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized and directed to charge the fund with the amount so certified as repayment of the advances made under subdivision (b), which amount shall be covered into the Treasury to the credit of miscellaneous receipts.

Sec. 3. There is hereby authorized to be appropriated from time to time, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, such sums of money as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this Act, not exceeding in the aggregate \$165,000,000.

Sec. 4. (a) This act shall not take effect and no authority shall be exercised hereunder and no work shall be begun and no moneys expended on or in connection with the works or structures provided for in this Act, and no water rights shall be claimed or initiated hereunder, and no steps shall be taken by the United States or by others to initiate or perfect any claims to the use of water pertinent to such works or structures unless and until (1) the States of Arizona, California, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming shall have ratified the Colorado River compact, mentioned in section 13 hereof, and the President by public proclamation shall have so declared, or (2) if said States fail to ratify the said compact within six months from the date of the passage of this Act, then until six of said States, including the State of California, shall ratify said compact and shall consent to waive the provisions of the first paragraph of Article XI of said compact, which makes the same binding and obligatory only when approved by each of the seven States signatory thereto, and shall have approved said compact without conditions, save that of such six-State approval, and the President by public proclamation shall have so declared, and, further, until the State of California, by act of its legislature, shall agree irrevocably and unconditionally with the United States and for the benefit of the States of Arizona, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming, as an express covenant and in consideration of the passage of this Act, that the aggregate annual consumptive use (diversions less returns to the river) of water of and from the Colorado River for use in the State of California, including all uses under contracts made under the provisions of this Act and all water necessary for the supply of any rights which may now exist, shall not exceed four million four hundred thousand acre-feet of the waters apportioned to the lower basin States by paragraph (a) of Article III of the Colorado River compact, plus not more than one-half of any excess or surplus waters unapportioned by said compact, such uses always to be subject to the terms of said compact.

The States of Arizona, California, and Nevada are authorized to enter into an agreement which shall provide (1) that of the 7,500,000 acre-feet annually apportioned to the lower basin by paragraph (a) of Article III of the Colorado River compact, there shall be apportioned to the State of Nevada 300,000 acre-feet and to the State of Arizona 2,800,000 acre-feet for exclusive beneficial consumptive use in perpetuity, and (2) that the State of Arizona may annually use one-half of the excess or surplus waters unapportioned by the Colorado River compact, and (3) that the State of Arizona shall have the exclusive beneficial consumptive use of the Gila River and its tributaries within the boundaries of said State, and (4) that the waters of the Gila River and its tributaries, except return flow after the same enters the Colorado River, shall never be subject to any diminution whatever by any allowance of water which may be made by treaty or otherwise to the United States of Mexico but if, as provided in paragraph (c) of Article III of the Colorado River compact, it shall become neces-

sary to supply water to the United States of Mexico from waters over and above the quantities which are surplus as defined by said compact, then the State of California shall and will mutually agree with the State of Arizona to supply, out of the main stream of the Colorado River, one-half of any deficiency which must be supplied to Mexico by the lower basin, and (5) that the State of California shall and will further mutually agree with the States of Arizona and Nevada that none of said three States shall withhold water and none shall require the delivery of water, which can not reasonably be applied to domestic and agricultural uses, and (6) that all of the provisions of said tri-State agreement shall be subject in all particulars to the provisions of the Colorado River compact, and (7) said agreement to take effect upon the ratification of the Colorado River compact by Arizona, California, and Nevada.

(b) Before any money is appropriated for the construction of said dam or power plant, or any construction work done or contracted for, the Secretary of the Interior shall make provision for revenues by contract, in accordance with the provisions of this Act, adequate in his judgment to insure payment of all expenses of operation and maintenance of said works incurred by the United States and the repayment, within fifty years from the date of the completion of said works, of all amounts advanced to the fund under subdivision (b) of Section 2 for such works, together with interest thereon made reimbursable under this Act.

Before any money is appropriated for the construction of said main canal and appurtenant structures to connect the Laguna Dam with the Imperial and Coachella Valleys in California, or any construction work is done upon said canal or contracted for, the Secretary of the Interior shall make provision for revenue, by contract or otherwise, adequate in his judgment to insure payment of all expenses of construction, operation, and maintenance of said main canal and appurtenant structures in the manner provided in the reclamation law.

If during the period of amortization the Secretary of the Interior shall receive revenues in excess of the amount necessary to meet the periodical payments to the United States as provided in the contract, or contracts, executed under this Act, then immediately after the settlement of such periodical payments, he shall pay to the State of Arizona $18\frac{3}{4}$ per centum of such excess revenues and to the State of Nevada $18\frac{3}{4}$ per centum of such excess revenues.

Sec. 5. That the Secretary of the Interior is hereby authorized, under such general regulations as he may prescribe, to contract for the storage of water in said reservoir and for the delivery thereof at such points on the river and on said canal as may be agreed upon, for irrigation and domestic uses, and generation of electrical energy and delivery at the switchboard to States, municipal corporations, political subdivisions, and private corporations of electrical energy generated at said dam, upon charges that will provide revenue which, in addition to other revenue accruing under the reclamation law and under this Act, will in his judgment cover all expenses of operation and maintenance incurred by the United States on account of works constructed under this Act and the payments to the United States under subdivision (b) of section 4. Contracts respecting water for irrigation and domestic uses shall be for permanent service and shall conform to paragraph (a) of section 4 of this Act. No person shall have or be entitled to have the use for any purpose of the water stored as aforesaid except by contract made as herein stated.

After the repayments to the United States of all money advanced with interest, charges shall be on such basis and the revenues derived therefrom shall be kept in a separate fund to be expended within the Colorado River Basin as may hereafter be prescribed by the Congress.

General and uniform regulations shall be prescribed by the said Secretary for the awarding of contracts for the sale and delivery of electrical energy, and for renewals under subdivisions (b) of this section, and in making such contracts the following shall govern:

(a) No contract for electrical energy or for generation of electrical energy shall be of longer duration than fifty

years from the date at which such energy is ready for delivery.

Contracts made pursuant to subdivision (a) of this section shall be made with a view to obtaining reasonable returns and shall contain provisions whereby at the end of fifteen years from the date of their execution and every ten years thereafter, there shall be readjustment of the contract, upon the demand of either party thereto, either upward or downward as to price, as the Secretary of the Interior may find to be justified by competitive conditions at distributing points or competitive centers, and with provision under which disputes or disagreements as to interpretation or performance of such contract shall be determined either by arbitration or court proceedings, the Secretary of the Interior being authorized to act for the United States in such readjustments or proceedings.

(b) The holder of any contract for electrical energy not in default thereunder shall be entitled to a renewal thereof upon such terms and conditions as may be authorized or required under the then existing laws and regulations, unless the property of such holder dependent for its usefulness on a continuation of the contract be purchased or acquired and such holder be compensated for damages to its property, used and useful in the transmission and distribution of such electrical energy and not taken, resulting from the termination of the supply.

(c) Contracts for the use of water and necessary privileges for the generation and distribution of hydroelectric energy or for the sale and delivery of electrical energy shall be made with responsible applicants therefor who will pay the price fixed by the said Secretary with a view to meeting the revenue requirements herein provided for. In case of conflicting applications, if any, such conflicts shall be resolved by the said Secretary, after hearing, with due regard to the public interest, and in conformity with the policy expressed in the Federal Water Power Act as to conflicting applications for permits and licenses, except that preference to applicants for the use of water and appurtenant works and privileges necessary for the generation and distribution of hydroelectric energy, or for delivery at the switchboard of a hydroelectric plant, shall be given, first, to a State for the generation or purchase of electric energy for use in the State, and the States of Arizona, California, and Nevada shall be given equal opportunity as such applicants.

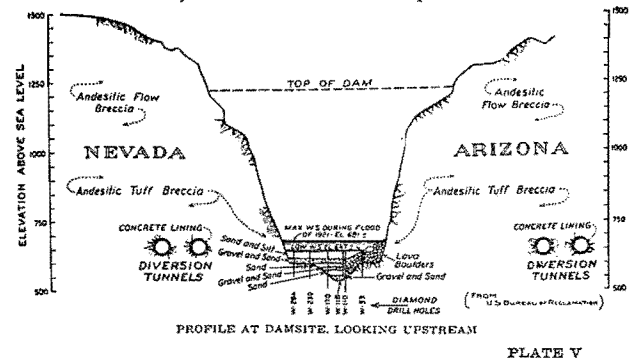
The rights covered by such preference shall be contracted for by such State within six months after notice by the Secretary of the Interior and to be paid for on the same terms and conditions as may be provided in other similar contracts made by said Secretary: *Provided, however,* That no application of a State or a political subdivision for an allocation of water for power purposes or of electrical energy shall be denied or another application in conflict therewith be granted on the ground that the bond issue of such State or political subdivision, necessary to enable the applicant to utilize such water and appurtenant works and privileges necessary for the generation and distribution of hydroelectric energy or the electrical energy applied for, has not been authorized or marketed, until after a reasonable time, to be determined by the said Secretary, has been given to such applicant to have such bond issue authorized and marketed.

(d) Any agency receiving a contract for electrical energy equivalent to one hundred thousand firm horsepower, or more, may, when deemed feasible by the said Secretary, from engineering and economic considerations and under general regulations prescribed by him, be required to permit any other agency having contracts hereunder for less than the equivalent of twenty-five thousand firm horsepower, upon application to the Secretary of the Interior made within sixty days from the execution of the contract of the agency the use of whose transmission line is applied for, to participate in the benefits and use of any main transmission line constructed or to be constructed by the former for carrying such energy (not exceeding, however, one-fourth the capacity of such line), upon payment by such other agencies of a reasonable share of the cost of construction, operation and maintenance thereof.

The use is hereby authorized of such public and reserved lands of the United States as may be necessary or convenient for the construction, operation, and maintenance of main transmission lines to transmit said electrical energy.

Sec. 6. That the dam and reservoir provided for by section 1 hereof shall be used: First, for river regulation, improvement of navigation, and flood control; second, for irrigation and domestic uses and satisfaction of present perfected rights in pursuance of Article VIII of said Colorado River compact; and third, for power. The title to said dam, reservoir, plant, and incidental works shall forever remain in the United States, and the United States shall, until otherwise provided by Congress, control, manage, and operate the same, except as herein otherwise provided: *Provided, however,* That the Secretary of the Interior may, in his discretion, enter into contracts of lease of a unit or units of any Government-built plant, with right to generate electrical energy, or, alternately, to enter into contracts of lease for the use of water for the generation of electrical energy as herein provided, in either of which events the provisions of section 5 of this Act relating to revenue, term, renewals, determination of conflicting applications, and joint use of transmission lines under contracts for the sale of electrical energy, shall apply.

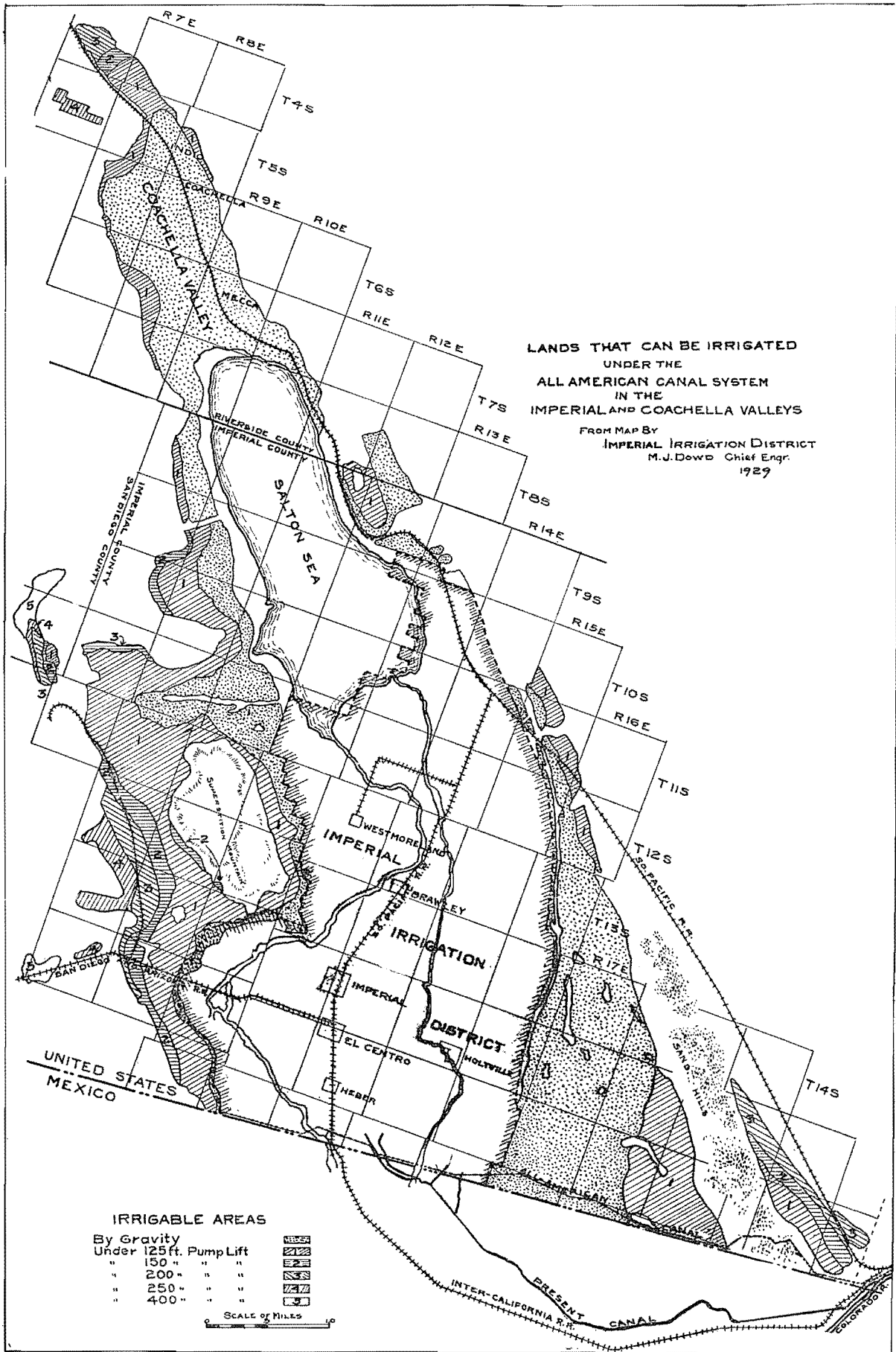
The Secretary of the Interior shall prescribe and enforce



rules and regulations conforming with the requirements of the Federal Water Power Act, so far as applicable, respecting maintenance of works in condition of repair adequate for their efficient operation, maintenance of a system of accounting, control of rates and service in the absence of State regulation or interstate agreement, valuation for rate-making purposes, transfers of contracts, contracts extending beyond the lease period, expropriation of excessive profits, recapture and/or emergency use by the United States of property of lessees, and penalties for enforcing regulations made under this Act or penalizing failure to comply with such regulations or with the provisions of this Act. He shall also conform with other provisions of the Federal Water Power Act and of the rules and regulations of the Federal Power Commission, which have been devised or which may be hereafter devised, for the protection of the investor and consumer.

The Federal Power Commission is hereby directed not to issue or approve any permits or licenses under said Federal Water Power Act upon or affecting the Colorado River or any of its tributaries, except the Gila River, in the States of Colorado, Wyoming, Utah, New Mexico, Arizona, and California until this Act shall become effective as provided in section 4 herein.

Sec. 7. That the Secretary of the Interior may, in his discretion, when repayments to the United States of all money advanced, with interest, reimbursable hereunder, shall have been made, transfer the title to said canal and appurtenant structures, except the Laguna Dam and the main canal and appurtenant structures down to and including Syphon Drop, to the districts or other agencies of the United States having a beneficial interest therein in proportion to their respective capital investments under such form of organization as may be acceptable to him. The said districts or other agencies shall have the privilege at any time of utilizing by contract or otherwise such power possibilities as may exist upon said canal, in proportion to their respective contributions or obli-



gations toward the capital cost of said canal and appurtenant structures from and including the diversion works to the point where each respective power plant may be located. The net proceeds from any power development on said canal shall be paid into the fund and credited to said districts or other agencies on their said contracts, in proportion to their rights to develop power, until the districts or other agencies using said canal shall have paid thereby and under any contract or otherwise an amount of money equivalent to the operation and maintenance expense and cost of construction thereof.

Sec. 8. (a) The United States, its permittees, licensees, and contractees, and all users and appropriators of water stored, diverted, carried, and/or distributed by the reservoir, canals, and other works herein authorized, shall observe and be subject to and controlled by said Colorado River compact in the construction, management, and operation of said reservoir, canals, and other works and the storage, diversion, delivery, and use of water for the generation of power, irrigation, and other purposes, anything in this Act to the contrary notwithstanding, and all permits, licenses, and contracts shall so provide.

(b) Also the United States, in constructing, managing, and operating the dam, reservoir, canals, and other works herein authorized, including the appropriation, delivery, and use of water for the generation of power, irrigation, or other uses, and all users of water thus delivered and all users and appropriators of waters stored by said reservoir and/or carried by said canal, including all permittees and licensees of the United States or any of its agencies, shall observe and be subject to and controlled, anything to the contrary herein notwithstanding, by the terms of such compact, if any, between the States of Arizona, California, and Nevada, or any two thereof, for the equitable division of the benefits, including power, arising from the use of water accruing to said States, subsidiary to and consistent with said Colorado River compact, which may be negotiated and approved by said States and to which Congress shall give its consent and approval on or before January 1, 1929; and the terms of any such compact concluded between said States and approved and consented to by Congress after said date: *Provided*, That in the latter case such compact shall be subject to all contracts, if any, made by the Secretary of the Interior under section 5 hereof prior to the date of such approval and consent by Congress.

Sec. 9. That all lands of the United States found by the Secretary of the Interior to be practicable of irrigation and reclamation by the irrigation works authorized herein shall be withdrawn from public entry. Thereafter, at the direction of the Secretary of the Interior, such lands shall be opened for entry, in tracts varying in size but not exceeding one hundred and sixty acres, as may be determined by the Secretary of the Interior, in accordance with the provisions of the reclamation law, and any such entryman shall pay an equitable share in accordance with the benefits received, as determined by the said Secretary, of the construction cost of said canal and appurtenant structures; said payments to be made in such installments and at such times as may be specified by the Secretary of the Interior, in accordance with the provisions of the said reclamation law, and shall constitute revenue from said project and be covered into the fund herein provided for: *Provided*, That all persons who have served in the United States Army, Navy, or Marine Corps during the war with Germany, the war with Spain, or in the suppression of the insurrection in the Philippines, and who have been honorably separated or discharged therefrom or placed in the Regular Army or Navy Reserve, shall have the exclusive preference right for a period of three months to enter said lands, subject, however, to the provisions of subsection (c) of section 4, Act of December 5, 1924 (Forty-third Statutes at Large, page 702); and also, so far as practicable, preference shall be given to said persons in all construction work authorized by this Act: *Provided further*, That in the event such an entry shall be relinquished at any time prior to actual residence upon the land by the entryman for not less than one year, lands so relinquished shall not be subject to entry for a period of sixty days after the filing and notation of the relinquish-

ment in the local land office, and after the expiration of said sixty-day period such lands shall be open to entry, subject to the preference in this section provided.

Sec. 10. That nothing in this Act shall be construed as modifying in any manner the existing contract, dated October 23, 1918, between the United States and the Imperial Irrigation District, providing for a connection with Laguna Dam; but the Secretary of the Interior is authorized to enter into contract or contracts with the said district or other districts, persons, or agencies for the construction, in accordance with this Act, of said canal and appurtenant structures, and also for the operation and maintenance thereof, with the consent of the other users.

Sec. 11. That the Secretary of the Interior is hereby authorized to make such studies, surveys, investigations, and do such engineering as may be necessary to determine the lands in the State of Arizona that should be embraced within the boundaries of a reclamation project, heretofore commonly known and hereafter to be known as the Parker-Gila Valley reclamation project, and to recommend the most practicable and feasible method of irrigating lands within said project, or units thereof, and the cost of the same; and the appropriation of such sums of money as may be necessary for the aforesaid purposes from time to time is hereby authorized. The Secretary shall report to Congress as soon as practicable, and not later than December 10, 1931, his findings, conclusions, and recommendations regarding such project.

Sec. 12. "Political subdivision" or "political subdivisions" as used in this Act shall be understood to include any State, irrigation or other district, municipality, or other governmental organization.

"Reclamation law" as used in this Act shall be understood to mean that certain Act of the Congress of the United States approved June 17, 1902, entitled "An Act appropriating the receipts from the sale and disposal of public land in certain States and Territories to the construction of irrigation works for the reclamation of arid lands," and the Acts amendatory thereof and supplemental thereto.

"Maintenance" as used herein shall be deemed to include in such instance provision for keeping the works in good operating condition.

"The Federal Water Power Act," as used in this Act, shall be understood to mean that certain Act of Congress of the United States approved June 10, 1920, entitled "An Act to create a Federal Power Commission; to provide for the improvement of navigation; the development of water power; the use of the public lands in relation thereto; and to repeal section 18 of the River and Harbor Appropriation Act, approved August 8, 1917, and for other purposes," and the Acts amendatory thereof and supplemental thereto.

"Domestic" whenever employed in this Act shall include water uses defined as "domestic" in said Colorado River compact.

Sec. 13. (a) The Colorado River compact signed at Santa Fe, New Mexico, November 24, 1922, pursuant to Act of Congress approved August 19, 1921, entitled "An Act to permit a compact or agreement between the States of Arizona, California, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming respecting the disposition and apportionment of the waters of the Colorado River, and for other purposes," is hereby approved by the Congress of the United States, and the provisions of the first paragraph of Article XI, of the said Colorado River compact, making said compact binding and obligatory when it shall have been approved by the legislature of each of the signatory States, are hereby waived, and this approval shall become effective when the State of California and at least five of the other States mentioned shall have approved or may hereafter approve said compact as aforesaid and shall consent to such waiver, as herein provided.

(b) The rights of the United States in or to waters of the Colorado River and its tributaries howsoever claimed or acquired, as well as the rights of those claiming under the United States, shall be subject to and controlled by said Colorado River compact.

(c) Also all patents, grants, contracts, concessions, leases, permits, licenses, rights of way, or other privileges from

the United States or under its authority, necessary or convenient for the use of waters of the Colorado River or its tributaries, or for the generation or transmission of electrical energy generated by means of the waters of said river or its tributaries, whether under this Act, the Federal Water Power Act, or otherwise, shall be upon the express condition and with the express covenant that the rights of the recipients or holders thereof to waters of the river or its tributaries, for the use of which the same are necessary, convenient, or incidental, and the use of the same shall likewise be subject to and controlled by said Colorado River compact.

(d) The conditions and covenants referred to herein shall be deemed to run with the land and the right, interest, or privilege therein and water right, and shall attach as a matter of law, whether set out or referred to in the instrument evidencing any such patent, grant, contract, concession, lease, permit, license, right of way, or other privilege from the United States or under its authority, or not, and shall be deemed to be for the benefit of and be available to the States of Arizona, California, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming, and the users of water therein or thereunder, by way of suit, defense, or otherwise, in any litigation respecting the waters of the Colorado River or its tributaries.

Sec. 14. This act shall be deemed a supplement to the reclamation law, which said reclamation law shall govern the construction, operation, and management of the works herein authorized, except as otherwise herein provided.

Sec. 15. The Secretary of the Interior is authorized and directed to make investigation and public reports of the feasibility of projects for irrigation, generation of electric power, and other purposes in the States of Arizona, Nevada, Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming for the purpose of making such information available to said States and to the Congress, and of formulating a comprehensive scheme of control and the improvement and utilization of the water of the Colorado River and its tributaries. The sum of \$250,000 is hereby authorized to be appropriated from said Colorado River Dam fund, created by section 2 of this Act, for such purposes.

Sec. 16. In furtherance of any comprehensive plan formulated hereafter for the control, improvement, and utilization of the resources of the Colorado River system and to the end that the project authorized by this Act may constitute and be administered as a unit in such control, improvement, and utilization, any commission or commissioner duly authorized under the laws of any ratifying State in that behalf shall have the right to act in an advisory capacity to and in co-operation with the Secretary of the Interior in the exercise of any authority under the provisions of Sections 4, 5, and 14 of this Act, and shall have at all times access to records of all Federal agencies empowered to act under said sections, and shall be entitled to have copies of said records on request.

Sec. 17. Claims of the United States arising out of any contract authorized by this Act shall have priority over all others, secured or unsecured.

Sec. 18. Nothing herein shall be construed as interfering with such rights as the States now have either to the waters within their borders or to adopt such policies and enact such laws as they may deem necessary with respect to the appropriation, control, and use of waters within their borders, except as modified by the Colorado River compact or other interstate agreement.

Sec. 19. That the consent of Congress is hereby given to the States of Arizona, California, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming to negotiate and enter into compacts or agreements, supplemental to and in conformity with the Colorado River compact and consistent with this Act for a comprehensive plan for the development of the Colorado River and providing for the storage, diversion, and use of the waters of said river. Any such compact or agreement may provide for the construction of dams, headworks, and other diversion works or structures for flood control, reclamation, improvement of navigation, division of water, or other purposes and/or the construction of power houses or other structures for the purpose of the develop-

ment of water power and the financing of the same; and for such purposes may authorize the creation of interstate commissions and/or the creation of corporations, authorities, or other instrumentalities.

(a) Such consent is given upon condition that a representative of the United States, to be appointed by the President, shall participate in the negotiations and shall make report to Congress of the proceedings and of any compact or agreement entered into.

(b) No such compact or agreement shall be binding or obligatory upon any of such States unless and until it has been approved by the legislature of each of such States and by the Congress of the United States.

Sec. 20. Nothing in this Act shall be construed as a denial or recognition of any rights, if any, in Mexico to the use of the waters of the Colorado River system.

Sec. 21. That the short title of this Act shall be "Boulder Canyon Project Act."

Approved, December 21, 1928.

BECOMES EFFECTIVE

The bill provided that a period of six months elapse before it became effective to allow the State of Arizona time enough to decide whether or not to join the other six States in the development program. Arizona refused to sign the Inter-State Compact so the bill went into effect on a six-state basis, June 21, 1929.

CONTRACTS FOR POWER AND WATER

Prior to the expiration of the six-months' period all interested Districts and the Southern California Edison Company had entered into contracts to purchase the power that was to be produced and water to be stored so the great project that entails an estimated cost of \$165,000,000 was properly financed.

APPROPRIATIONS START

As soon as these matters were properly scrutinized by the Committee on Appropriations, the initial sum of \$10,660,000 was allowed by Congress July 3, 1930, to start actual construction work on the project. Work was started July 10.

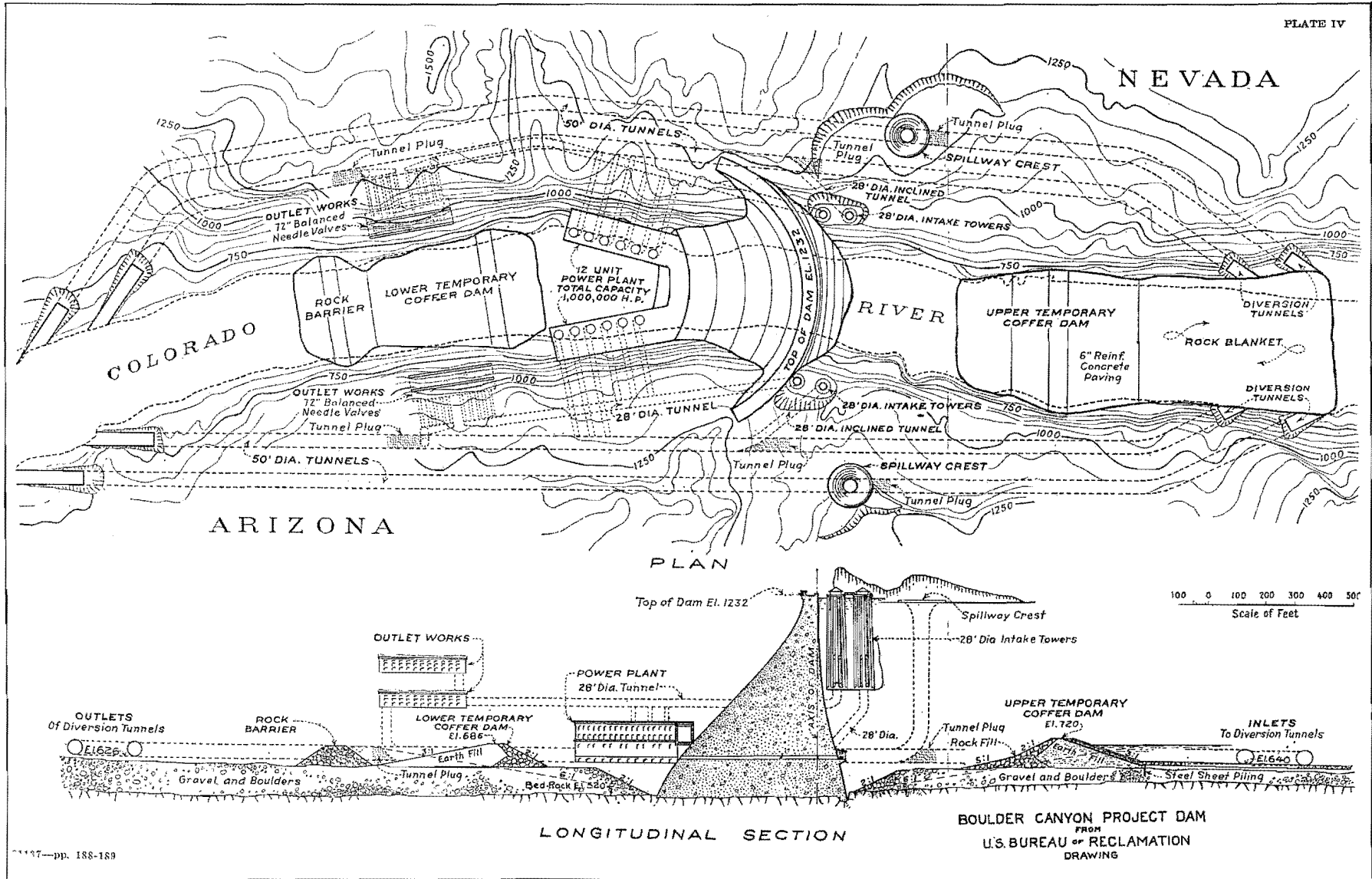
CONSTRUCTION DETAILS

The site where the dam is to be constructed is a deep narrow gorge where the river flows between solid mountains of rock. The first problem presented is that of turning the river from its channel to permit the cleaning out of the loose rock and gravel in the river bed in preparation of the rock foundation to receive the concrete for the dam, as the structure must be firmly anchored to this bed rock.

The construction plans provide for carrying the river around the dam site through four huge tunnels, each fifty feet in diameter, with an aggregate length of 16,000 feet. Two of these tunnels will be constructed in Arizona and two in Nevada. They will be constructed in the solid rock of the canyon sides, entering the rock several hundred feet above the dam site, running back through the rock around the dam site and re-entering the river several hundred feet below the dam site.

After Boulder Dam is completed the upper portion of all four of the tunnels will be sealed off by plugs of concrete. Shafts will be carried down to two of the tunnels from the upper water surface of the reservoir and these shafts and tunnels will be used for spillways to carry off excess water when the dam is full. The other two tunnels (after the dam is built)

PLATE IV



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Map and Longitudinal Cross Section Showing Details of Boulder (Hoover) Dam

will be sealed off on the down stream side and will be connected through inlet valves to the reservoir above the dam, and by connecting with smaller tunnels below the dam, water will be carried to the turbines in the power house.

After the tunnels are completed a temporary dam (cofferdam) of earth and rock will be built in the canyon just below the inlets to the tunnels. This cofferdam will hold back the flow of the river and raise the water to a high enough elevation to turn the entire flow of the river through the tunnels.

Another cofferdam will be built downstream from the dam site just above the point where the tunnels emerge from the canyon sides. This lower dam will prevent the water from flowing back or backing up to the dam site. By the construction of these cofferdams the dam site will be left dry and excavation and construction can be carried on without interruption.

The upper dam will be faced with a reinforced concrete sheath or apron and sheet steel piling will be driven down to bed rock to prevent seepage of water under the cofferdam.

When construction of the main dam is completed the lower cofferdam will be removed leaving the river bed free of obstruction downstream.

Excavation for the foundation of the dam will be carried down to bed rock for the entire width of the canyon. The dam will be built of solid concrete and of such design and massive construction that the actual weight of the concrete will hold the dam in position against the pressure of the water even though there were no anchorage against the canyon sides.

It is contemplated that two power houses will be constructed, one on either side of the river, each power house to have six generating units with a total capacity for both plants of 1,000,000 horsepower. It is also planned to provide a roadway across the top of the dam between Arizona and Nevada.

Plate III shows the procedure to be followed in carrying through the construction work, and gives general dimensions of the completed dam, tunnels, etc.

DATA ON BOULDER DAM

Raise in water surface, river surface to surface of stored water in reservoir, 582 feet for 30,500,000 acre-feet storage.

Elevation bed rock, 520 feet.

Elevation top of dam, 1232 feet, for 30,500,000 acre-feet storage.

Elevation maximum water surface in reservoir, 1229 feet for 30,500,000 acre-feet storage.

Elevation low water surface in river, 647 feet approximately.

Elevation maximum water surface during 1921 flood, 681 feet approximately.

Total height of dam, bed rock to top of dam, 712 feet for 30,500,000 acre-feet storage.

Height of dam, river bed to top of dam about 587 feet.

Length of lake formed by stored water, 100 to 125 miles.

Amount of concrete in dam, power plant and appurtenant works, 4,500,000 cubic yards.

Barrels of cement in dam, 5,500,000.

Pounds of reinforcing steel in dam, 19,000,000.

Length of time required to build, 6 to 8 years.

Nearest town, Las Vegas, Nevada, about 30 miles by road, 25 miles direct line.

Railroad to dam, to be built and owned by Government. About 30 miles long from Los Angeles and Salt Lake Railroad (U. P. System) to dam site.

Area flooded by stored water (27,000,000 acre-feet), about 135,000 acres.

Area flooded by stored water (30,500,000 acre-feet), about 150,000 acres.

Cost—as estimated by Sibert Board:

Dam and Reservoir	
(26,000,000 acre-feet)	\$70,600,000 00
1,000,000 h.p. power development	38,200,000 00
All-American Canal	38,500,000 00
Interest during construction.....	17,700,000 00
<hr/>	
Total	\$165,000,000 00
Additional for Coachella Canal	11,000,000 00
<hr/>	
	\$176,000,000 00

FINANCES

The Boulder Canyon Project Act provides that the Government must receive enough revenue from the sale of power and stored water each year to provide for the repayment within 50 years of all money expended. There are two exceptions to this, however.

First, the All-American Canal, estimated to cost \$38,500,000, is to be paid for under the Reclamation Law which provides that the land benefited pays the cost without interest—none of the power revenue from the dam can be used for this purpose.

Second, \$25,000,000 is allocated to flood control and payment of this amount, or part of it, may be deferred if the revenues from the project are not sufficient to repay within the 50-year period.

Briefly the financial set-up is as follows:

Before work could be started the Secretary of the Interior was required to have sound contracts for the sale of power and stored water on a basis that will net the Government enough money each year to pay all operating and maintenance expenses of the dam and appurtenant works, interest at 4 per cent on money expended, and also repay in 50 years all money invested excepting the \$25,000,000 which has been allocated to flood control, payments of which may be deferred.

After these payments have been met each year, any excess revenue left over from the annual income is divided in this way—18¾ per cent of this excess is paid to the State of Arizona, and 18¾ per cent to the State of Nevada; of the 62½ per cent remaining in the excess, enough is taken each year so that at the end of 50 years the Government is repaid the \$25,000,000 allocated to flood control. If any money is left over out of this 62½ per cent after making this annual payment, then the remaining amount is used for general development of the Colorado River

System. If the 62½ per cent does not provide enough to take care, during this 50-year period, of the repayment of the flood control amount, then the balance is taken care of out of 62½ per cent of excess revenues after the end of the 50-year period.

Two hundred fifty thousand dollars is also authorized to be appropriated for investigation and formulation of a comprehensive scheme to control, improve and utilize the waters of the Colorado River and its tributaries.

The Act provides that the Secretary of the Interior is authorized to make surveys, studies, investigation and do such engineering work as is necessary to determine the lands that should be embraced in the Parker-Gila Project in Arizona, and to recommend the most practical and feasible method of irrigating these lands, and authorizes the appropriation of the necessary funds to carry on this work.

As the Act provides that all expenditures must be made out of the funds set aside for the Boulder Canyon Project, the cost of this work will have to be repaid from the revenues in the same manner as the money actually spent in constructing the Dam.

In passing the Act Congress separated the Act into two parts in so far as the financing is concerned, placing the All-American Canal and its appurtenant structures by itself in so far as payments for construction and repayments to the Government were effected. Any revenue received from development on the All-American Canal must be used for the All-American Canal part of the work entirely and any revenue received from power at Boulder Dam or from other revenues at that point can only be used for financing that part of the work, such revenues not being available for use in connection with the All-American Canal work.

The Sibert Board estimated that the total amount to be repaid to the Government, including both actual outlay and interest during construction for both

of these divisions, would be \$165,000,000 divided as follows:

"Dam and reservoir (26,000,000 acre-foot capacity)	\$70,600,000
1,000,000 horsepower development....	38,200,000
The All-American Canal.....	38,500,000
Interest during construction on above	17,700,000
	<hr/>
Total	\$165,000,000"

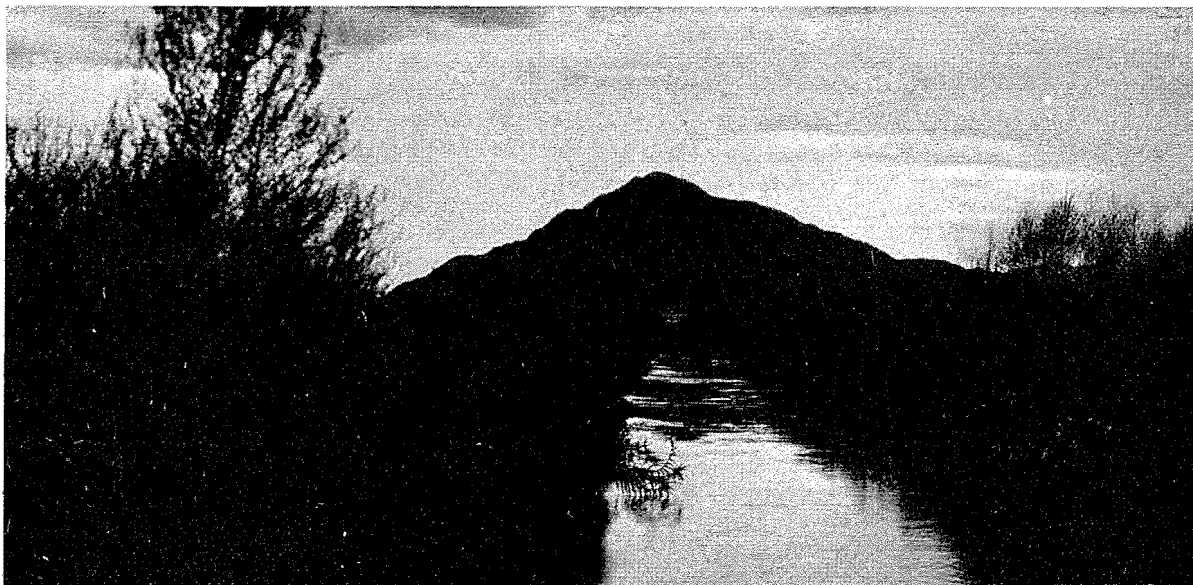
By the sale of power alone the engineers declare the total cost can be returned to the Government within a period of 43 years. Adding the sale of water at 25 cents per acre foot the project cost, they assert, can be returned in 34 years. The Act provides that the cost be returned within fifty years.

THE ALL-AMERICAN CANAL

Imperial Valley is most interested in the construction of the new canal that will add some 253,000 acres of cultivated lands to the region and provide independence in water control of all foreign management.

The provisions of the Act make it the duty of the people to vote on the proposed contract with the Reclamation Service. If the contract between the Government and the Imperial Irrigation District is approved the Government will advance the cost of building the canal up to \$38,500,000 and take repayment, without interest over a period of forty years. As in the Boulder Dam financial set up the power product of the All-American Canal is expected to fully care for the annual payments. Conservative estimates place the probable electrical energy at 70,000 horse power. It has been stated that private concerns have offered to build the canal and guarantee to recover the entire cost from the sale of power within twenty-six years.

The proposed contract between the District and the Secretary of the Interior has been drawn up and its submission to the people is said to be scheduled soon. (This was written May 25, 1931.)



West of Calexico Mt. Signal forms the Background for many Scenes like this. Irrigation Ditch in the Foreground.

CHAPTER XIV

THE MEN RESPONSIBLE

IT is not within the province of a history to praise or criticise individuals but to set down the record of events as they happened and to name the men responsible for their happening. In the gradual evolution and growth of the Boulder Canyon Project and the All-American Canal it is not difficult to list the men who were primarily responsible for it. Generations to come will have to judge whether or not these men acted wisely. If Imperial Valley returns to desert, this record will help place the responsibility. If, on the other hand, vast areas are added to the present watered section and the whole is supplied with an everlasting, unmenaced supply of water from the Colorado River watershed then the men who were responsible for the Boulder Canyon Project and the All-American Canal will have their names emblazoned on the pages of history in unmistakable glory.

MARK ROSE

The history of the beginnings of this idea have been set down. The first concrete demand for an All-American Canal came from the settlers who wished to get away from the irksome necessity of dealing with a Mexican Receiver. Foremost amongst these farmers was Mark Rose, who had his 400-acre ranch and home in the No. 7 District on the "East Side." Mr. Rose's name appears on every page from then on as the outstanding figure who persistently followed one idea until it took form with the action of the Congress December 21, 1928, when the Boulder Canyon Project and the All-American Canal were ordered built by the Government of the United States.

Right or wrong, Mark Rose will go down in history as being the one man most responsible for this legislative construction program. He first engineered a contract with Secretary Lane to build a canal across the sand hills for the development of the east side mesa lands. This was done because he could not get action through the Irrigation District Board at that time. Then when the District did awaken to the importance of the matter, Rose had to see his contract cancelled because the District would not grant a right of way across the Hanlon property at the heading for his canal. The next best thing, he thought, was to see that men were placed on the District Board who would be sympathetic with the idea of getting the canal out of Mexico and watering the mesa lands. He thereupon joined a group of restless citizens who demanded the recall of two members of the Board. The recall failed but the restlessness still existed and the entire Board finally resigned in a body in 1916.

After a seasonable wait, Mr. Rose appeared again with his All-American Canal program and was surprised to find the new Board yet unready to get busy.

But he pounded away and finally got the District to ask the Reclamation Service to at least go over the ground and see what an All-American Canal would cost if one could be built at all. This resulted in the contract of 1918 and the survey of the route.

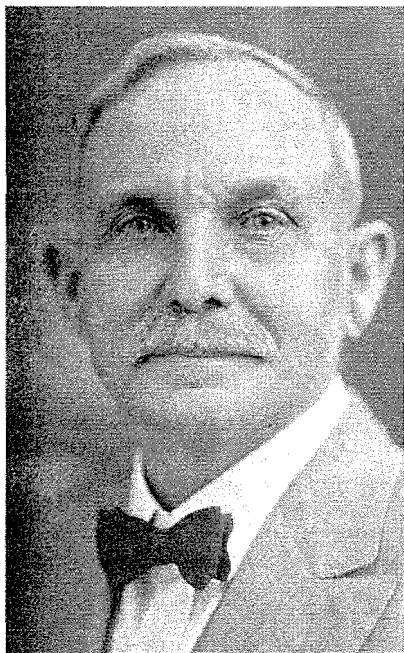
Then on June 17, 1919, Congressman Wm. Kettner introduced the first bill in Congress which provided that the Government build the canal. The new lands would pay the \$31,000,000 cost some time or other. That was getting along, slowly but surely. When the bill came before the house committee, Mark Rose's friends, well knowing his qualities of leadership, insisted that he be made a member of the delegation that was sent to Washington to tell the uninterested easterners what the bill was about. He did this in such a fashion that Chairman Kinkaid became somewhat interested. Of course, the first bill did not get very far. Congressman Kettner introduced another which included some mention of "storage." Rose himself hardly realized what he had started. He was at first resentful of the storage idea because he believed it would delay the badly needed canal.

In 1919, upon returning home from Washington, his friends in the Holtville District promptly put him on the Board of Directors of the Irrigation District and he has remained in that position ever since. At first he found that J. Stanley Brown was the only other member of the board who would listen to him. He saw to it that the next election placed another "All-American Canal man" on the Board. By the time Congressman Swing and Senator Johnson had their bill whipped into shape, the Board was composed of three men in favor of the Boulder Dam and All-American Canal as a unit piece of national legislation.

With strong backing, Mr. Rose led the fight for the Boulder Canyon project without let-up. He went every year to Washington and steered the course of the bill through the rough waters of investigation. The only effective weapon against him—delay—was employed by the opposition until in 1928 he saw the bill passed by the United States Congress.

In a fight, Mr. Rose never knows when to quit. He believes in carrying aggressive action into any field, political or otherwise, to make friends for his program. He is credited with unseating Judge M. W. Conkling from the Imperial County Superior Court and with the defeat of several other candidates for public office who were not outspoken for the All-American Canal. He gives no quarter nor does he ask any.

Mr. Rose came to the Valley in 1901 and went to work with the ditch gangs for the California Development Company, a young man of 27 at the time.



Ira Aten, Director
(See Pioneer Sketch)



Mark Rose, Director
(See Pioneer Sketch)



W. O. Blair, Director
(See Pioneer Sketch)

More than half his life, therefore, has been given to the desert. He worked in Mexico a part of the time and became familiar with Mexican practices. Being a "home made" student he made it his business to find out just how much of a hold Mexico had on the waters that supplied the lands north of the line. He studied the Treaty of 1848 which divided the waters of the Rio Grande with Texas. When the District was about to purchase the property from the railroad he saved the Valley half a million dollars by informing the District Board about the fees that Mexico would charge to make the transfer. The railroad paid the fees. Although not a college educated man, Mr. Rose's ability to see into and through a proposition with a perception not possessed by 99 per cent of his fellows has made him the leader that he is.

Personally, he is unassuming. He likes to talk with anybody who wants to talk provided the subject is one that touches on the good of Imperial Valley. He cares little for anything else. When he returned from a recent siege in an El Centro hospital where the doctors had removed his appendix he switched his cigar to the other corner of his mouth and said, "Well, I'm glad they didn't kill me off. I want to live long enough to see the wheels turn at Boulder Dam and water flow on the east side mesa."

He is only 56 and has a good chance to realize his hopes.

AT WASHINGTON

The whole nation knows the "Swing-Johnson" bills that finally resulted in the "Boulder Canyon Project Act." These were preceded by two bills introduced by William Kettner, Representative from the Eleventh California District. Mr. Kettner's initial

efforts on behalf of Imperial Valley's desires laid the foundation in the national Congress for the successful legislation that followed.

On the shoulders of Phil D. Swing, Representative of the Eleventh California District for the past ten years, fell the heavy work in Congress. His intimate knowledge of the entire Colorado River Basin, gained while Chief Counsel for the Irrigation District in earlier days, stood him in good stead. In Committee hearings he was a tower of strength. Many times he confounded the opposition with brilliant cross-examination. He uncovered the plans of the power companies to cover the country with propaganda and nullified its effect with speeches and interviews. He furnished numerous articles for publication and so directed the activities of the Valley's delegations, in Washington, year after year, that the tide of public opinion was swayed eventually to support. His speeches in the House were listened to attentively.

In all this program, Mr. Swing was ably assisted by Senator Hiram Johnson, California's senior Senator, who made many strenuous fights in the upper house in behalf of the bills. His work in Committee hearings was equally effective. His presentation of the Valley's needs on the floor of the Senate reached the heights of dramatic oratory.

Senator Samuel Shortridge, of California, was a member of the Senate committee and helped the legislation all he could.

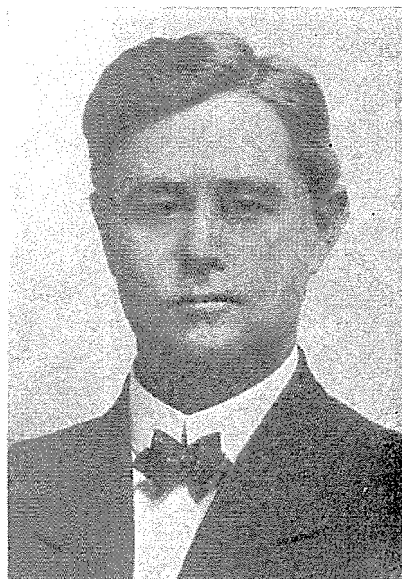
Imperial Valley gave Congressman Swing a wildly demonstrative welcome on a visit to the Valley after the bill was passed. A crowd of thousands literally took possession of him and left no doubt in anybody's mind that they appreciated his work in Washington.



C. W. Brockman, Director
(See Pioneer Sketch)



W. F. Beal, Director
(See Pioneer Sketch)



Earl C. Pound, Former Director
(See Pioneer Sketch)

ALL WORKED TOGETHER

The "strong backing" referred to consisted of other members of the Board of Directors who felt as Mr. Rose did on the river program. On the early Boards, Porter N. Ferguson and J. Arthur McBride were minority members when the All-American Canal was widely considered merely a scheme to enrich stockholders of the Imperial, Laguna Water Company. When C. D. Manning, Leroy Holt and J. S. Nickerson came on as members in 1916, the Board was more sympathetic than before. When Brown resigned in 1921 and Roy E. Breedlove was named in his place the All-American Canal program again became a minority.

Then when Breedlove was succeeded by Ira Aten and Earl Pound was returned to the Board from Brawley the issue seemed to be settled in the minds of the people. Mark Rose, W. O. Blair, Ira Aten and Earl C. Pound worked together as a unit for six years and carried the Boulder Canyon Project and All-American Canal program forward to success.

Mr. Pound, as president of the Board for seven years straight, was a real leader. He was named on the Colorado River Commission and worked out the division of waters with Nevada and Arizona. He made numerous trips to Washington as a member of the California delegation and signed all contracts, agreements and documents as President of the District. His record shows an aggressive, steady application to the business in hand. Where hard work was to be done, Mr. Pound was found in the front line, doing his share. Mr. Pound was a member of the first Board for four years and was returned to serve eight years more after 1922.

Directors Aten and Blair were the wheel horses who took care of the work at home most of the time. Their loyalty to the All-American program was un-

broken in spite of the many assaults they experienced. They were repeatedly re-elected. Mr. Aten has been Director nine years and Mr. Blair seven.

Mr. Brockman, of Calexico, a consistent opponent of the Rose program, has the longest record of service. He is in his fourteenth year as Director. Despite his minority opposition his keen knowledge of detail makes him a valuable man on the Board. He is respected by his fellow members who give him credit for being a pretty good balance wheel in the "works" around District headquarters.

In the defeat of Mr. Pound by W. F. Beal of Brawley in February of this year, the Board has a new member with wide experience in Valley affairs. Mr. Beal has been county supervisor, a member of the State Assembly and a long-time member of the Brawley City Council. He ran on an "All-American" Canal platform.

SECRETARY McIVER

When a twenty-four million dollar municipal corporation is handling the brunt of a fight to get the United States Government to expend \$165,000,000 or more for a program that is chiefly beneficial to its own 60,000 stockholders there is, of course, a mass of detail work to be done. When the Directors direct they must have a lieutenant who can follow directions and do it right. In the District organization this man was Frank H. McIver.

For sixteen years straight, Mr. McIver has been Secretary to the Board and for nine years Treasurer for the District as well. He has handled the Board's orders without error. With the Board in session but once every two weeks, Mr. McIver sees that things run smoothly. He has had charge of all the bond issues but the first one. His name is on \$11,500,000 worth of District bonds. His name is also signed to all executive orders, all contracts and agreements, com-



*W. O. Hamilton
Pioneer Director and First
President*



*P. N. Ferguson
Pioneer Director*



*A. P. Davis
Director of Reclamation
Service*



*Chas. E. Childers
Chief Counsel*

munications and the like. He was also Secretary of the Colorado River Commission. When the publicity campaign was at its peak, Mr. McIver was called upon to furnish pictures and stories for the papers. He took care of all the arrangements for banquets, trips and excursions, entertaining whole delegations from Washington with as much nonchalance as if they were high school classes on a picnic. He receives and sends all wires and letters. He knows every one of the hundreds of maps in the District's possession. He personally takes down the minutes at Board meetings. Seven great books hold these minutes which are carefully transcribed by Mr. McIver's office force. In reading all seven books the writer of this history can say he never noted a dozen errors, even in spelling or punctuation. Mr. McIver's marvelous capacity for detail makes it possible for him to recall the gist of any resolution on the books.

McIver's management of the District's affairs is that of a General under orders of a Board of Strategy. He is an executive of the sort that big corporations pay \$50,000 a year. His heart is in Imperial Valley and it is doubtful if he could be tempted to leave at all.

THE LEGAL DEPARTMENT

Even a casual observer would understand that in the conduct of a long, drawn out struggle like the legislative fight for the Boulder Canyon improvement, the legal department would have on its shoulders a tremendous responsibility. In the beginning of this activity, Phil D. Swing was Chief Counsel for the Irrigation District. The fundamental experience he gained at that time was a valuable asset when he became Representative in Congress of the Eleventh California District.

Swing was succeeded by John Stewart Ross, whose guidance through four years was faultless. Then came the active period in which the Swing-Johnson Bill was actually before the Committees of the Senate and the House. Here Chas. L. Childers became Chief Counsel. His work was so thoroughgoing and satisfactory that the District has kept him in the same

capacity all these years. He made frequent trips to Washington and attended the numerous conferences that took place all over the west. Always his clear conception of each problem as it presented itself and his ability to see through to the other side of the opposition made it possible for the District to successfully combat all attacks. In fifty-four court actions of various sorts handled by Mr. Childers and his assistants but three or four losses show on the records. Even in cases which went against the District in the local courts he secured reversals on appeal. The most notable of these cases was that of D. R. Crawford, who sued the District for illegal expenditure of funds lobbying for the Swing-Johnson Bill. Judge Guerin, of Los Angeles, sitting in the Imperial County court, decided against the District and issued an injunction to stop such expenditures. Mr. Childers carried the case to the State Supreme Court. His arguments were along the line that the District organization, seeking to obtain a safe and permanent distributing system, had the right to appear before the controlling body and ask that improvements be made. The cost of such petition, therefore, should be properly borne by the organization seeking the benefit, the same as any other petitioner, individual or corporate. The Supreme Court upheld Mr. Childers. Mr. Childers handled the defense of the Board when they were indicted by the 1925 Grand Jury.

The work in the legal department became so heavy that Attorney A. C. Finney was added as an assistant and when he was elected Superior Court Judge in Imperial County, D. B. Roberts took his place as Assistant Counsel.

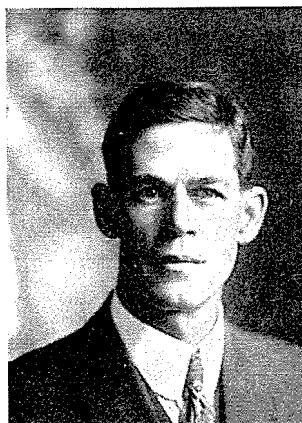
To Mr. Childers has been entrusted the difficult work of examining all contracts between the District and other parties, including the Reclamation Service of the Department of the Interior. He advised the action on all amendments offered during the seven years the Swing-Johnson Bill was before Congress. He has represented the District in the conferences between States on the allocation of water and power and has been charged with safeguarding the Valley's



Frank McIver
Secretary-Treasurer



M. J. Dowd
Chief Engineer and General
Superintendent



Harry Maddux
Business Manager



Vinnie Barry
Assessor-Collector

interests all along the line. As a law partner of Congressman Phil D. Swing, he also was able to help frame the Act that was finally enacted by the Congress.

PUBLICITY WORK

Some idea of the vast amount of intensive work done under the direction of the District and by the American Conservation Club in behalf of the Boulder Canyon Project Act throughout the ten years it was before Congress may be gained from the report of the work done by one man, F. W. Greer, newspaper correspondent and special representative employed at critical periods when favorable publicity was most valuable. In the files of the Irrigation District these reports, which were made daily most of the time, tell of the contacts made with prominent officials, publishers and heads of news-distributing agencies like the Associated Press, United Press, Universal Service and the International News Service. Being an "old timer" in the publicity field, he was already acquainted with many public officials and had entry into the private offices of such men as the then Secretary Hoover, Secretary Works, Secretary Wilbur, many United States Senators and Congressmen and even in the White House itself. It was Greer who gained the assent of President Coolidge to have certain visitors come to him and ask him his views on the Colorado River plan so that he could issue a statement in favor of it. He was a personal acquaintance of William Randolph Hearst and was instrumental in lining up the vast Hearst chain which let loose a mighty flood of editorial and news matter in favor of the Boulder Dam and the All-American Canal. The same with the Scripps-Howard chain. He made a trip through the Mississippi Valley one summer and in his wake appeared full pages, illustrated, telling of Imperial Valley's wealth and the flood menace that hung over it in all the big papers from Canada to Baton Rouge. He attended the Democratic National and the Republican National conventions

and secured plank mention of the legislation in each platform. During his work he traveled over 203,000 miles, worked in thirty-three states and Washington; visited every large city in the United States and had personal interviews with practically every editor and publisher of the metropolitan newspapers, magazines and other periodicals; personally conveyed more than a dozen high Government officials, fifteen United States Senators, more than fifty Congressmen and five state Governors on trips which were used to advantage in an educational way. He also made personal calls on ninety per cent of the members of Congress, both in the House and in the Senate. Mr. Greer is credited with turning a hostile press throughout the nation into a friendly one. He was the correspondent who secured the famous interview with Josiah T. Newcomb who stated that he represented seven billions of dollars and would not permit the Boulder Dam bill to pass! That interview alone caused the nation's attention to be centered on the intent of the big power concerns and turned the tide finally in favor of the Valley's program. Mr. Greer was a hard worker. His ability was appreciated by District leaders but at times his employment caused much criticism. After completing his work as an employe of the District in September, 1929, Greer was re-employed in May, 1930, to work in Washington on the first appropriation bill that set the wheels to turning on the building of Boulder Dam. He is now giving his attention to the cultivation of his farm in the Niland section.

CARLETON T. JOY

Carleton T. Joy, Assistant Secretary to Mr. McIver, having wide newspaper experience as a writer, took an interest in the affairs of the District and informed himself of every angle, reading all documents, committee reports and records of every nature. He was thus invaluable when it came to compiling information for the use of Congressional committees, publicity writers and newspaper syndicates. Much of the

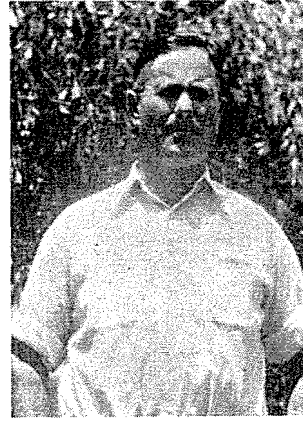
material which found its way into the thousands of papers was prepared by Mr. Joy. He is today a regular encyclopedia of information concerning District affairs.

AMERICAN CONSERVATION CLUB

As a result of the injunction issued by Judge Guerin against the use of public funds to help enact the Swing-Johnson Bill into a law, the friends of the project came forward and organized the American Conservation Club whose members contributed funds to carry on the work in Washington and in the publicity field. These funds continued to be contributed until the Supreme Court reversed the decision and the District was again empowered to carry on the campaign. The American Conservation Club has in its possession some fifty-four scrap books that are filled with newspaper clippings collected from all over the United States concerning the Imperial Valley and the Boulder Canyon Project. The scope of this publicity work probably never was equalled by any similar campaign. The club claimed a membership of seven thousand individuals.

OTHERS WHO HELPED

The Board of Directors of the District passed a series of resolutions thanking certain individuals, officials and newspapers for their assistance in furthering the Boulder Dam and All-American Canal legislation before Congress. The list included: Calvin Coolidge, President of the United States; Charles G. Dawes, Vice-President of the United States; Phil D. Swing, Congressman Eleventh California District; Charles F. Curry, Dean of the California Congressional Delegation; and Representatives Florence P. Kahn, Henry E. Barbour, Henry E. Englebright, Richard Welch, W. E. Evans, Joe Crail, John M. Robison, L. J. Dickinson, John W. Summers, Miles C. Allgood, Sam B. Hill, William C. Lankford, F. M.



*F. E. Higley
Sup't. River Division*

Davenport, Sam Arentz, John E. Garner, Charles E. Winter, Clarence Lea, Edward T. Taylor, Addison T. Smith, John Morrow; Senators Hiram W. Johnson, Robert M. La Follette, Charles L. McNary, M. M. Neeley, Peter Norbeck, George W. Norris, Gerald P. Nye, Tasker L. Oddie, Key Pittman, Morris Sheppard, John B. Kendrick, Royal S. Copeland; The Christian Science Monitor; The Scripps-Howard Newspapers; The Wareham Courier, Wareham, Mass.; The Literary Digest; Hubert Work, Secretary of the Interior; Edwin J. Clapp, Editorial Writer for the Hearst papers; William Randolph Hearst, Publisher; Elwood Mead, Commissioner U. S. Reclamation Service; Herbert Hoover, Secretary Department of Commerce; Edward C. Finney, First Assistant Secretary Department of the Interior; John T. Lambert, Correspondent Universal Service; The California American, and Ruth Finney, Washington Correspondent for the Scripps-Howard papers.

CHAPTER XV

THE TWO ARGUMENTS

WHEN the idea of an All-American Canal was first brought to the attention of the Imperial Irrigation District there was an almost instant division of opinion amongst the people as to its advisability and its feasibility. When the matter reached the stage where Congress was giving attention to the Swing-Johnson Bills, all of which provided for the dual features, storage and increased reclamation by the construction of the All-American Canal, this division of opinion in the Valley became acute.

Those who decried the canal feature formed the organization known as the Colorado River Control Club. A membership of 1335 land owners was signed. These owners possessed more than 270,000

acres of improved Valley lands and city property and represented a valuation in excess of \$17,800,000. It was a formidable array against the idea of an All-American Canal.

In order that the reader may understand this sincere and serious division of thought in the Valley both sides of the question are herewith presented. History in the future will have the final say as to which side was wisest.

At the request of the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Irrigation District the Control Club filed a communication that outlined the principles upon which it existed.

The communication was as follows:

COLORADO RIVER CONTROL CLUB
El Centro, California,
November 17, 1924.

TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF IMPERIAL IRRIGATION DISTRICT:-

Pursuant to the request of your chairman, made during the conference had by your board with a committee from this organization October 24, 1924, the directors of the Colorado River Control Club submit herewith in writing the suggestions made to your body by its committee in the matter of your legislative program to secure the construction of storage and flood control works on the Colorado River and an All-American Canal.

As you were advised, the membership of this organization believes that the construction of adequate storage and flood control works on the Colorado River is absolutely necessary to insure the future safety and prosperity of the people owning land and making their homes in the Imperial Valley, and is unanimously of the opinion that such works should be authorized and construction thereon commenced without further delay.

We do not believe that this Congress or any other Congress will ever pass the Swing-Johnson bill as now written, and to refuse or fail to amend it by eliminating its objectionable features is merely to delay action and prevent legislation on the one important thing on which all are united, viz: Storage and flood control.

The membership of this club is opposed to the All-American Canal feature of the Swing-Johnson Bill now pending before Congress, for the following reasons:-

First: That its inclusion in the pending Bill has, up to the present time, prevented the enactment of legislation providing for the construction of storage and flood control works, and will further tend to delay and prevent such legislation being enacted.

Second: That the provisions of the Swing-Johnson Bill, as now written, would make possible the building of an All-American Canal in advance of the time when the available water supply has been increased by storage and without the consent or approval of owners of taxable property within the Imperial Irrigation District being required to be evidenced in any equitable or sufficient manner.

Third: That the cost of construction and operation of such canal will create an additional, crushing burden upon lands within Imperial Irrigation District which cannot be justified upon any sound economic basis, or conceivable political, inter-state or international necessity.

It will be unnecessary at this time to argue at length the merits of the Bill now pending. It should be sufficient to call attention to certain economic and political conditions which will make it impossible at the present time to secure any legislation, if the Bill offered for that purpose is coupled with a proposition for the construction of an All-American Canal.

The lowest estimate made as to the cost of an All-American Canal as provided for in the pending Bill is Thirty-two million dollars, which sum, it is assumed, will be appropriated by Congress and expended under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior upon proper guarantee of repayment made by the owners of lands to be served with water by such construction.

We are convinced that such a large demand made upon the public treasury at this time for the purpose of conveying water to lands already served and for bringing under cultivation additional lands, will fail for the following reasons:

(a) The present administration has announced its fixed purpose to reduce taxation and to cut down to the minimum all appropriation measures.

(b) The farmers of the country are opposed at the present time to any increase in tillable land at public expense. There has been an over-production of farm products in the United States ever since the close of the war. The great farming areas of the eastern and middle states will not look favorably upon an attempt to impose upon them a direct tax in the sum of Thirty-two million dollars or more for the purpose of irrigating new lands in California, the products from which will enter into competition with them.

Their representatives in Congress will not support this feature of the pending Bill.

(c) There are twenty-two or more United States Reclamation projects at the present time in the northwestern states in various stages of completion. The people of the states where these projects are located will not consent that any part of the available funds for these projects be diverted to California for the construction of the All-American Canal, nor will they favor an appropriation, to be raised by a direct tax on the entire country for this purpose. Their representatives in Congress will not support this feature of the Bill.

(d) Arizona has not yet ratified the Colorado River compact. The upstream states, members of the compact, will continue to oppose any legislation which seeks to authorize work on the Colorado River which will provide for the irrigation of new lands, until such time as the compact shall have been ratified by Arizona.

(e) The power provisions as written into the Bill are socialistic to a marked degree, and the Bill, for that reason will meet with strong opposition from the conservative element in Congress.

The further objections offered by us to the pending Bill as set out in paragraphs numbered "two" and "three" hereof are directly responsive to "statement of policies" made by your Board at conference held as above noted.

Heretofore, it has been announced that, if the Swing-Johnson Bill should be passed, the property owners of the Imperial Valley would be given ample opportunity, after storage is provided for, to determine whether or not it would be advisable to construct an All-American Canal.

Congressman Swing, in his campaign utterances made in the Valley this summer, repeatedly asserted that it was not the purpose of the pending bill to authorize the construction of the All-American canal, but merely to preserve to the people of the Imperial Valley the right hereafter to determine whether or not such a canal should be built.

Your Board now declares its purpose, if the bill should pass, to enter into a contract with the Secretary of the Interior which shall provide for the construction of the All-American canal without any submission of the proposal to property owners other than a popular vote to ratify the action of the Board of Directors in entering into such a contract with the Government.

This declared policy of your Board is so unsound in its business aspects and so unfair to the owners of property in the District who alone would be called upon to pay the charges assessed that we request, should you refuse to eliminate the All-American canal feature from the bill, that you give us a guarantee that this program will not be carried out, by amending your bill as follows:

First: The Secretary of the Interior should be directed by the terms of the bill, NOT to enter into any contract or contracts for the construction of the All-American Canal or any canals authorized to be built by the terms of that bill until after the completion of such storage and flood control works on the Colorado River or until such storage and flood control dam had progressed under construction to a point where stored waters may be released under control in amounts sufficient to furnish a stable and sufficient water supply for the irrigation of new lands to be irrigated by such All-American canal or other canals so to be constructed.

Second: That the Secretary of the Interior, for the purpose of securing repayment to the Government of the cost price of the All-American or other canal constructed under the provisions of the bill, should be required to reject as insufficient any and every guarantee of repayment of charges allocated to the lands within Imperial Irrigation District as at present constituted, except such as are based upon the consent in writing of the owners of fifty per cent in value of the lands so to be charged with such costs as shown by the last equalized assessment roll of the said District, evidencing their consent and agreement that their said lands shall be taxed for and subjected to the terms of the payment of construction charges allocated thereto under the terms of said Bill.

Reverting again to the Swing-Johnson Bill, even if amended as above suggested, we are still of the opinion,

for the reasons above stated, that it can in no possible event be passed during the session of Congress which will convene early in December and adjourn March 4th, next, but we have every reason to believe that Congress will cheerfully and at once pass a bill authorizing the construction at public expense of a flood control dam on the Colorado River at Boulder Canyon, if the people of this Valley will limit their present demands to that one objective.

The Colorado River Control Club, speaking for a very large majority of the property owners of Imperial Valley, feels justified at the present time in requesting your Board to amend the bill now pending before Congress by eliminating any and every reference to an All-American canal, and any and all other objectionable features of the bill, and attempting in every possible and proper way to secure, during the present session of Congress, enactment of legislation authorizing the construction of a flood control dam on the Colorado River at Boulder Canyon site.

Respectfully submitted,
COLORADO RIVER CONTROL CLUB,
(By order of Executive Committee)
 By R. E. WILLS, President.

Attest: John F. Greer, Secretary.

The Board thereupon made the following reply:

IMPERIAL IRRIGATION DISTRICT
 EL CENTRO, CALIFORNIA

November 25, 1924.

To the Colorado River Control Club.
 Gentlemen:

On the 17th. instant you addressed a letter to the Board of Directors of Imperial Irrigation District. Since you expressed your views in this form and the letter was given wide publicity, we deem it only fair that your letter should receive a reply in the same form.

At the invitation of the District a meeting was held with a committee from your organization on the 14th. of October last, with a view to ascertaining your objections to the present proposed legislation, and if possible to find common ground upon which we might all agree, and the District is still hopeful that such common ground may be found, and believes that a free expression of opinion as contained in your letter, and as we hope to set out herein, will have a tendency to lead to that result.

The irrigation district as an organization is certainly as keenly interested in flood control and storage as your club, and the Board of Directors of the District is attempting to bring about that result. It believes that the bill now pending before the Congress, if enacted into law, will have that effect and that the bill in its present form is more likely to be passed at an early date than if it were radically modified or a new bill were introduced for that purpose.

You state in your letter that you do not believe this Congress or any other Congress will ever pass the Swing-Johnson Bill as now written and to refuse or fail to amend it by eliminating its objectionable features is merely to delay action and prevent legislation. You point out one or two features that are objectionable to you, which we will deal with separately in this letter, but it must be conceded that no bill could be prepared which would not have features in it objectionable to someone. When one objectionable feature is eliminated it will ordinarily have the effect to create an objectionable feature to someone else.

You object among other things to the All-American Canal. Suppose the All-American Canal feature is eliminated from the bill. That will eliminate one or perhaps two sources of objection. Mr. Chandler, who is a principal owner in a tract of 832,000 acres of land in Mexico is perhaps the outstanding objector to the All-American Canal. In addition to that, it seems that the Southern Sierras Power Company is objecting to the All-American Canal. Just how many votes in Congress do Mr. Chandler and the Southern Sierras Power Company control? By eliminating this objectionable feature we may gain the support of Mr. Chandler and possibly this power company, and such votes in Congress as they may be able to influence.

On the other hand, the American Legion and the Spanish War Veterans have taken a very vital interest and decided stand on this measure. They have endorsed it by formal resolutions of their national conventions and instructed the various posts and delegates throughout the country to support it. It will be borne in mind that nearly 100 members of Congress are service men, either as Spanish War or World War Veterans. The interest the service men have depends upon the All-American Canal. Eliminate that feature and you have doubtless eliminated nearly 100 votes in Congress. Aside from that, at the primary election in August, the All-American Canal was made a direct issue and it appears that by a vote of approximately three to one in the 11th Congressional District, the people favored the All-American Canal. Eliminate that feature and you have eliminated a very large part of the support of the 11th district. Imperial Valley seemed to favor it by more than four to one and it is well known that the most ardent supporters of the whole program, including flood control and storage, are those who place the All-American Canal in the forefront of Imperial Valley's necessities. Those service men and many others would not consider for a moment the spending of large amounts of public funds for the development of the Colorado River without the All-American Canal. Coachella Valley from the very beginning, has been one of the most ardent supporters of this whole development. They have spent several times the amount of money in proportion to acreage that Imperial Valley has spent and eliminate the All-American Canal and the whole program is entirely worthless to Coachella Valley.

And so when this feature that is deemed objectionable by you is eliminated, we have not only eliminated a very large support of the measure, but doubtless have created a new group of enemies of perhaps much greater strength than the strength of those opposed to the All-American Canal.

You state that these "objectionable features" are delaying action and will prevent legislation, but you do not give us a single reason for this assumption. The bill at the present time provides for a flood control and storage dam of large capacity at Boulder Canyon. We now seem to all be agreed that this should be done. No American Congressman is likely to favor this great development without at the same time making provision for the use of the water in the United States. Without a provision for the All-American Canal it simply means that Mr. Chandler's corporation may proceed to develop its 832,000 acres of land in Mexico with the use of desilted water from a dam constructed at the cost of the United States and a river forever under control. In other words, this Mexican land can ask or hope for nothing better for its own interest than to have the United States build without cost to it or to Mexico this great dam to control the river and desilt the water. Mr. Chandler himself could ask for nothing better. With the river controlled and an abundance of clear water of necessity running into Mexico all of this vast acreage is bound to develop rapidly into highly productive farms. Surely you do not argue that an American Congress would prefer to strike from this bill provision for using the water in the United States, so that it might be used for the development of this vast acreage in a foreign country. No indication of such a desire on the part of Congress has ever been called to the attention of this District. The contrary, however, has repeatedly been pointed out.

Mr. Swing is doubtless in as good position to know the facts concerning the sentiment in Congress as anyone and in a letter to Mr. S. C. Evans, Executive Director of the Boulder Dam Association under date of November 12, 1924, he said:

"The theory that Southern California's project has been delayed because of the All-American feature is untrue, false and unwarranted by anything that has happened in Washington. If the All-American Canal feature hereafter becomes an obstruction to the passage of the legislation it will be solely and wholly because of certain selfish interests in

California fighting the whole bill in order to force the elimination of the All-American canal. It is well known by every delegate sent here in behalf of the legislation that the All-American feature has had nothing to do with delaying the passage of the bill up to date, but that it has been the controversy with the upper stream states over water rights, and the failure of Arizona to placate them by ratifying the contract. This fact appeared repeatedly during the testimony before the Committee. I have searched only parts one and two, but will quote from them:

"MR. BAKER. And is that the reason you and your people are afraid of the Government constructing a dam in the Colorado River?

"MR. BANNISTER. (of Colorado). No, it is not the fear that would come from the Government doing it. It is the fear that would come from anyone doing it until *the ratification of the compact*. (Hearings, Page 187).

"MR. BANNISTER. The upper states would have the same objection to the mere flood control dam that they would to the larger dam, except that the objection would be on a lesser scale; because any dam that you put in there will, as a matter of fact, although put in by the Government for only one purpose—flood control—nevertheless be actually used by appropriators below for appropriation purposes. Therefore, unless the dam were a very small one, and not causing any substantial inroad upon the river, the upper States would have the same objection, only on a smaller scale, that they would have to the larger dam. (Hearings Page 209).

"Mr. Bannister's position was that the building of the dam and using of it to develop power was a beneficial use, which would give the users a priority right against subsequent appropriations of the water in the upper stream States.

"Mr. Leatherwood, the spokesman on the Committee for the upper stream States made clear their position on this point as follows:

"MR. LEATHERWOOD. I have been wondering, Mr. Chairman, what the issue is as far as I am concerned. So far as I know, the only issue there will be before this Committee, aside from the mere formal provisions of the bill, will be the advisability of enacting such legislation and attempting to build this dam *ahead of the ratification of the compact*. . . . I represent a section of the Country that is bitterly opposed to the building of the Boulder Canyon Dam *prior to the ratification of the compact, or until something is devised which will amply protect them*.

"In the face of these unequivocal declarations of the representatives of the upper stream states, it is difficult for me to understand how honest men can continue to tell the public that the All-American Canal is delaying the passage of the Colorado River legislation.

Mr. Leatherwood also testified (hearing page 594.):

"But what have you to say to the committee as to whether or not the upper-basin States should be required to stand by and see a condition initiated that might take much of the allocation contemplated in the compact from them and vest a superior right to that water in the lower basin group?

"MR. BOYLE. Well, would not the legal remedy there be to start and protect themselves when there was an actual infringement of their rights? Now, it would be years and years, even under the most rapid form of development before—

"MR. LEATHERWOOD (interposing). Well, we think the actual infringement of our rights would be putting of the first pound of concrete in a dam on the river that would take the water from us; and that is what we want to avoid; and we would go into court, if necessary, to protect ourselves. Do you not think that the ratification of the compact would be the most speedy way to settle the differences between these groups?"

It is very apparent, therefore, that the principal objection to the All-American Canal feature of the bill is made by those whose personal interests will be effected by the construction of the canal wholly aside from the feature of paying for it. If the people want the canal, therefore, and by its elimination we would be no nearer flood control and storage, then certainly the District is in no position to recommend its elimination from the bill.

You object to the probability under the bill of the canal being constructed in advance of available storage water.

There appears to have been no official estimate of the time required for building the dam, but it has been unofficially estimated that approximately seven years will be required from the approval of the necessary bills authorizing its construction.

The Act provides that the cost of the All-American Canal shall be allocated to the lands to be benefited thereby. This of necessity would require the collection of exhaustive data and hearings had by the Secretary of the Interior. After that is done, the bill provides that no money shall be expended for the canal until the lands to be benefited shall have first been obligated to repay the cost. The time required for these hearings and the voting of bonds or other obligations is purely a matter of opinion but would doubtless take two years or more before work on the canal could possibly begin. The All-American Canal Board estimated that it would take four years to build the canal. Thus it is apparent that if construction work were carried on concurrently there would be an abundance of stored water long prior to the completion of the canal. If the canal is desirable there is no reason why the construction thereof should be delayed longer than is necessary, and it is very apparent that this particular objection can have no support outside of Imperial Valley and the canal cannot be built in any event without the approval of Imperial Valley.

We take it that there is no occasion in this letter to go into any argument for or against the All-American Canal. The thing that you desire paramount to all others, is flood control and storage, and the only question here is whether or not the All-American Canal feature is hindering that development. The cost of the All-American Canal and the advantages and disadvantages thereof have been dealt with and will be dealt with elsewhere. The cost estimate as made by the United States is \$29,793,000.00 and you are convinced that this large demand upon the public treasury for conveying water to lands already served and for the bringing under cultivation additional lands will fail. Among other reasons, that the farmers of the country are opposed to any increase in tillable land. Do you believe that the farmers will not equally oppose the increase of tillable land by at least 600,000 acres in Mexico? Do you believe that the farmers of America would prefer to have American lands lie idle and deprive American farmers of homes and at the same time develop like acreage immediately across an imaginary line in a foreign country? This land in Mexico will compete with the American farmers the same as if it were in the United States and the Mexican land has the additional advantage of cheaper labor and cheaper water. Furthermore, you don't give your authority for this objection on the part of the farmers of the country. It is to be noted that the best support that this bill has had in Congress has come from the agricultural communities. Representative Little of Kansas, a member of the committee up until his death a few months ago, was a very ardent supporter of the measure. Also Sinnott of Oregon, Hudspeth of Texas, Bankhead of Alabama, Raker of California. These men are from agricultural sections, and have been among the greatest friends the bill has had.

It is a fact that is well known to most of the members of Congress that the development of Imperial Valley is not in a direct sense developing competition with other farming sections, and they further seem to recognize that a large area of land will be developed in any event by the water of the Colorado River, and it is more desirable to the average American Congressman to have that development creating wealth in the United States and furnishing

homes to service men and others in the United States, than to have a like area develop in Mexico. It does not, therefore, seem that the farmers of the country are necessarily against this measure simply because additional lands will be irrigated.

The attitude of the farmers of the country on this legislation has been very definitely expressed. The State Farm Bureau of California by resolution, endorsed the bill in its present form. The National Farm Bureau of the United States has endorsed the bill in its present form by resolution at two of its annual conventions and the National President of the Farm Bureau has appeared before the Committee and testified in favor of the bill and has offered every possible support to it. It seems strange in the face of this action that it is still argued that the farmers of the country are opposing the measure.

As to imposing a tax on these farmers in the east and middle west to build the canal, we find no such provision in the bill and if Imperial had obligated itself to repay this cost, we believe the farmers of the middle west would consider this obligation good and would not expect to be called upon to pay it themselves.

There has been no indication that the representatives from states where reclamation projects exist are opposed or will oppose this feature of the bill. On the other hand, California has had less reclamation by the United States than most of the western states. The United States has spent many millions of dollars in other states, and the sense of fair play would dictate that some reclamation should be carried on in California. A great deal of reclamation money has been spent in the State of Oregon, yet Mr. Sinnott is very outspoken in favor of our legislation, and Mr. Hill, of Washington, where a great deal of reclamation has gone has indicated that he is favorable to the bill. Mr. Smith, of Idaho, is chairman of the committee and has been outspoken in his support of the bill.

You state that the administration will not favor appropriation for such purpose and yet only last month the President expressed himself as being in favor of "immense water storage necessary to hold the seasonal and annual flow so as to provide for the large reclamation possibilities in both California and Arizona." And the President ends his communication by saying, "I should indeed look with great pride on the consummation of this one of our greatest national improvements within my administration."

While no doubt the administration will tend toward economy and tax reduction, it is apparent that the President hopes to have this development carried on.

Along this line, Mr. Will S. Fawcett, who as we understand, is an active member of your club, in an interview as published in the Calexico Chronicle of November 18, said:

"The President has definitely stated that any socialistic tendencies in the administration of national affairs will be frowned upon. In view of this attitude, it is hardly to be expected that a measure which seeks to expand the municipal ownership of power at the expense of private power corporations or that contemplates the expenditure of public money in bringing in vast new acreage of lands in competition with farmers already suffering from a state of over-production—it is not at all probable that the President will favor such procedure.

"Even if enough votes could be mustered to pass the present Swing-Johnson Bill through Congress, it will never be possible to repass the measure over the President's veto—and that surely would be necessary."

So far as protecting the private power companies is concerned the tendency in this country is toward public ownership of public utilities and it is not to be supposed that the President or any other public authority will ignore this demand and turn over one of the greatest natural resources in the country purely to private interests without so arranging it that the public organizations will at least have an even chance and furthermore so far as the terms of the act are concerned the private corporations are as fully protected under the present bill as they are under the Water Power Act.

As to the President vetoing the measure, we cannot believe that the President of the United States in his telegram to Mr. Teague under date of February 26, 1925, was deliberately throwing out a bait for votes with the intention of double crossing the people of the southwest immediately after the election was over. When the President stated that he favored "immense water storage necessary to hold the seasonal and annual flow so as to provide for the large reclamation possibilities in both California and Arizona" we believe that he meant it and to now argue that the President would veto the measure is to say that the President was simply playing politics in his telegram to Mr. Teague to catch votes, and we do not consider that the President of the United States would do any such thing. It is further to be noted that the President does not say that this immense water storage was to provide for reclamation in Mexico but in Arizona and California. To simply build a great dam in the river without providing for using it in the United States, simply means that the United States is providing immense water storage for the "large reclamation possibilities" in Mexico and nothing else. The President did not say he was "in complete harmony with the needs of this valley so far as a flood control and storage dam are concerned" but that he favored "immense storage necessary . . . so as to provide for the large reclamation possibilities . . ."

Mr. Fawcett states that we can get this project quickly if we eliminate from our legislative program the reclamation feature involved in the All-American Canal, but like all such communications he gives us no reason for such an assumption. No reason has ever been called to the attention of the Irrigation District that would tend to support such a theory. The indications are from the evidence that has been presented that to eliminate this feature is to completely kill the whole measure, which we believe is the desire of some of the objectors to the bill.

It is no doubt true that the failure of Arizona to ratify the compact prevented the bill being reported out of committee last session, but it does not follow that the bill cannot be enacted prior to ratification. As stated in Mr. Swing's letter quoted above, Mr. Leatherwood has been and is the chief spokesman for the states opposed to the bill without ratification of the compact and yet he says, "I represent a section of the country that is bitterly opposed to the building of the Boulder Canyon Dam prior to the ratification of the compact or until something is devised which will amply protect them." The bill, therefore, can be amended so as to protect the upper states and eliminate that objection and that is perfectly agreeable to the Irrigation District. That objection, however, will go to any bill that provides for any dam on the Colorado River, and the only way to eliminate the compact objection is to eliminate the entire bill and eliminate the entire development.

You state that the power provisions written into the bill are socialistic to a marked degree. We simply call your attention to the wording of the Federal Water Power Act of 1918. This bill follows almost the identical wording of the Water Power act. The Water Power act gives preference rights to states and municipalities. This bill does the same thing and that is all that can be said of it. There is just one distinction, under the Water Power act, the grantee of a permit would be required to build his own storage dam and all other facilities. This has the effect to eliminate states and municipalities. Now that the Government proposes to build the dam it simply gives states and municipalities an equal footing with private power companies in the first instance, and the same preference right that is granted under the Federal Water Power act. Of course the power companies object to any municipality interfering with their complete monopoly of this greatest of all public utilities—electric power. The only objection we have heard to this feature of the bill is from the private power companies from which source such objection is naturally to be expected. The people of Imperial Valley may not be directly interested, but what we are attempting to do is to get the United States government to undertake this great development and here is one of the greatest natural resources in the west which they have to deal with

and we do not believe that the Congress is going to deliberately turn that over to one or more private corporations to obtain a monopoly on the one great remaining source of power for the development of the industries of the southwest. The great majority of the people is not going to expend its money for the benefit of a limited private interest. If the bill were amended so as to eliminate the states and municipalities undoubtedly it would immediately meet with a storm of real opposition which would have the effect to promptly kill the bill.

The Board of Directors of the District has not and does not believe that it is within their power to formulate a policy to bind this District to the building of the All-American Canal without a proper vote of the people authorizing same.

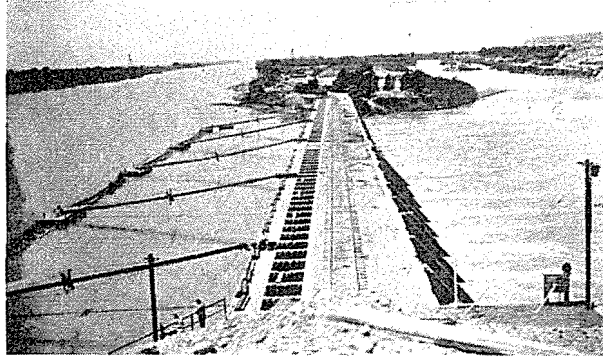
The District has offered to recommend that a provision be written into the bill that will require a majority of the property owners to consent in writing to the building of an All-American Canal before the same can be authorized, and we believe this to be eminently fair and ample protection to the assessment payers. To place it on a matter of valuation is to place the franchise upon a basis of wealth which is entirely undemocratic and un-American in the first place, and furthermore, it is unfair to the property owners when it is recalled that some of the largest property owners in the District are at the same time much more largely interested in Mexico. They could afford to vote against their best interests and against the interests of their neighbors in Imperial Valley because by so doing their interests in Mexico would be very greatly enhanced.

As stated at the beginning, the Irrigation District is very vitally interested in bringing about this development and is willing to make reasonable concessions if the main objects can be accomplished, but is not willing to make concessions that will defeat its main object simply for the benefit of a few individuals, and the Board of Directors does not believe that the suggestions which you made in your letter of November 17, if carried out, would assist, but on the other hand would obstruct to a very marked degree the much needed development.

Respectfully yours,
F. H. McIVER,
Secretary.

By order of Board of Directors of Imperial
Irrigation District.

These two communications are sufficient to inform the reader of the diametric beliefs of the two groups of citizens, both of whom were sincere. One group feared the additional burden that threatened their lands and wanted only flood control and storage. The other said the burden would be lifted by the sale of power and that there was little use to build extensive storage and flood control works without making use of the increased water supply on American lands then idle.



Rockwood Gate. The River on the left, Main Canal on right. Note the boom to keep drift from the Intake Gates

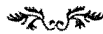
Victory rested with the proponents of the canal idea as far as Congress was concerned for the dual features were enacted into the Boulder Canyon Project Act. Now the Secretary of the Interior is empowered to build the All-American canal as soon as the people of the Imperial and Coachella Valleys by vote authorize their respective District Governments to sign the contracts.

From the records one is impelled to reach the conclusion that those who opposed the canal idea were sincere in this opposition. Whether they were right or wrong remains for history to record.

When organized the stationery of the Control Club showed the following officers and members of the executive committee:

R. E. Wills, President; W. H. Best, Vice-President; John F. Greer, Secretary; O. G. Horne, Treasurer; Geo. W. Anderson, Chairman Finance Committee; J. H. Edgar, Chairman, Publicity Committee; James E. Peck, R. A. Walker, A. J. Kalin, A. O. Dolson, J. D. Moughmer, D. L. Ault, Fred Gunterman, J. H. McKim, Ray Edgar, L. J. Thomas, W. S. Fawcett, W. P. Casy, Roy E. Breedlove, T. J. Worthington, R. D. McPherrin, M. E. Greeson, Chas. E. Scott, Clark W. Adair, E. A. Nance and C. B. Ralphs, Executive Committeemen.

The Club carried its opposition to Washington. The idea it represents has kept alive a husky faction in Imperial Valley that makes the canal faction step lively to hold its own. It is a critical watchdog, balance wheel and a sharpened prod—if such a combination can be imagined.



CHAPTER XVI

BEFORE COUNTY ORGANIZATION

THE reader has followed the "water history" of the Imperial Valley and has gained an insight into the lives of the early pioneers by reading the fifteen chapters that precede this one. Now we shall go back to the early days and follow the activities of the people in order to see what they were doing up to the time, during the summer of 1907, when they voted to separate the Valley from San Diego County and form a Government of their own—Imperial County.

The six years from 1900 to 1907 were chaotically formative. Everything was new to everybody. Pre-conceived farming methods had to be discarded and new ones formed by hard experience. Even the climate was new to all. Few people, outside the "desert rats" who had slouched their way across the wastes looking for gold, knew what it was to live and work in a temperature that sometimes topped 120 degrees. Settlers arrived by wagon or by stage, took up their land, got water as soon as they could and solved, as they met them, all the novel problems that confronted them.

If the reader will remember former chapters he will recall that in the spring of 1900 George Chaffey decided to take hold of the desert project, build the main canal, the laterals for a Water Company No. 1, and open the region for settlement. He had a five year contract with the California Development company giving him, as he thought, sole control.

The first activity was to put a surveying crew in the field under Chas. N. Perry. The work of this crew is recounted in the paper written by Mr. Perry and in the sketch of "Scotty" Russell. This crew ran lines from Flowing Well south. Their camp, established on the shores of Blue Lake, that summer, was the only place in the entire Valley for people to stop. During the month of August the surveyors laid off. Engineer Fred Hall was left in charge of the Blue Lake camp and therefore was the first white man to spend an entire summer in Imperial Valley. He is now a resident of San Francisco.

THE VALLEY NAMED "IMPERIAL"

Mr. Chaffey did not like the word "desert." Neither did he fancy the words "Salton" or "sink." They all smacked of something forbidding and disagreeable. L. M. Holt, editor of a Riverside paper and a publicist of note, was a long time friend of Chaffey's. He helped map the publicity that acquainted the west with the new development. Together they renamed this region "Imperial Valley." It was a happy thought. It was to be a regal region and that right soon.

If the reader will refer to the sketch of Byron Rice in the Pioneer section he will note that Mr.

Rice was a member of the party that drove over the Valley in company with George Chaffey in the spring of 1900. He happened to reach Yuma and hear that a party was to drive from Flowing Well to the international boundary and back again. He reached Flowing Well in time to join the party which was composed of capitalists whom Chaffey was interesting in the venture. Rice became a convert and was the first man outside the board of directors, to buy water stock in No. 1 later when it was organized. He acted as agent for the California Development Company and was instrumental in inter-



In 1900, 1901 and 1902 Folks arrived by McCaulley Stage from Flowing Well

esting a large number of people, including the Bridenstines of Holtville. Mr. Rice is still a resident of the Valley. He might be said to be the very first resident, as he was the first unofficial purchaser of water stock.

COLONIZATION RAPID

The colonization part of the program was carried on with marvelous success by the Imperial Land Company under the management of F. C. Paulin. With stories running in all western newspapers telling of the hot house growing region interest reached the point where, in the fall of 1900, skirmishing parties began to arrive and filings began to be made on the land, which belonged to the Government.

Work started on the main canal in December, 1900. From then on things began to hum. Imperial was laid out by the Land Company and a shack became the company's office. Dr. Heffernan had a store started. In March, 1901, the big freight wagon unloaded a printing outfit and some lumber. A floor was laid and the machinery put in position. The editor, H. C. Reed, assisted by W. F. Holt, Leroy Holt, A. W. Patton, F. C. Paulin, H. C. Oakley, I. W. Gleason, Frank Chaplin and J. B. Parazette, built the walls and put on the roof. Leroy Holt,

it is recorded, nailed the shakes on the roof. Being ready, then, to herald the "news" to the world the next thought was to have a place to worship. W. F. Holt and the townsite company built the box-like structure. The steeple on one end made it resemble a church building. A tent house hotel, conducted by Charley Nun, was the means that kept the home folks and all visitors alive. These details are to be found in the biographical sketches of W. F. Holt, Leroy Holt, and other pioneers as well as in the paragraphs that follow, giving the chronological activities of the little settlement.

WATER ARRIVES AT IMPERIAL

Water arrived in the little extension ditch built to Imperial June 21, 1901. The event was heralded with joy by the little band of a dozen who were on hand to celebrate.

EARLY NEWSPAPER FILES

The publisher of this history is deeply indebted to

Mrs. Jessie Hoyt Hatch, librarian at Imperial, for a bundle of early copies of the Imperial Press, the first newspaper published in the Valley. The bundle was found in the basement of the Claremont library near Pomona. While the file is not complete, it covers a period from 1901 to 1908.

The Imperial Press was established by the Imperial Land Company in May, 1901. The first thirty numbers, during the editorship of H. C. Reed, could not be found. Edgar F. Howe took charge in November of 1901, for the land company. During this pro-motion period we find the columns of the Press replete with news items and editorials that doubtless helped mightily to advertise the wonders of the new agricultural region to the outside world.

From these early files of the Imperial Press we have selected numerous items that will, we believe, serve better to reflect this period of pioneer existence than any amount of descriptive matter that might be written at this late day.

EARLY HISTORY OF THE TOWN OF IMPERIAL

1900

Facts from Files of IMPERIAL PRESS. Starting with Vol. 1, No. 30, dated November 8, 1901.

Delta Investment Co., organized. \$500,000 capital stock. N. W. Stowell, president; Geo. Chaffey, vice-president; Rusk Harris, second vice-president; A. M. Chaffey, secretary-treasurer; A. H. Heber, general manager. Its purposes covered every possible activity in the Valley, including public utilities, acting as holding corporation, etc. This corporation owned the stock of the California Development Co. The reader will note the absence of the name of C. R. Rockwood from the list of officers.

Local advertisements in this issue:

Hotel Imperial, tent house accommodations.

Imperial Telephone Co., W. F. Holt, manager. Had four phones: Imperial, Cameron, Calexico and Iris. The last station, was on the S. P., leaving but two phones for the entire Valley.

Oakley-Paulin Co., Imperial and Los Angeles.

Imperial Mercantile Co., Imperial and Calexico.

F. P. Blake, M. D., Imperial.

Imperial Land Co., A. H. Heber, manager.

Leroy Holt, Imperial, dealer in general merchandise.

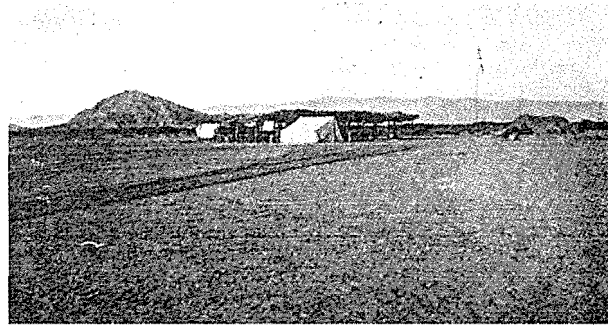
G. W. McCaulley, hotel and stage line, Flowing Well. Stages left Flowing Well on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, for Imperial, returning the following days.

A. W. Patton, Imperial, blacksmith and wagon work, freight hauling, crop planting.

J. A. Jasper, supervisor, was over making arrangements for a good crossing of New River, then a shoal stream along its present course.

The editor hoped to see construction of a railroad from the S. P. main line south to Calexico. He said "the project seems to be a certainty and within a year trains will actually be running."

The paper boasted of the fine November climate, discussed the necessity of protecting the town's single ditch carrying domestic water to the settlement since June, from con-



Before Imperial was laid out Blue Lake was Headquarters for Surveyors and Visitors

tamination; told about Geo. Marston trying to get his San Diego railroad across the desert; mentions D. L. (Scotty) Russell being in with his gang of levelers; tells about the first ditch digging machine drawn by sixteen mules; says four construction camps were working on the main canal, W. W. Masten having charge of one and E. E. Forrester another. The other two were in Mexico.

T. P. Banta conducted a model farm and was testing Rockyford melons. He said they could be grown here.

"Paringa" was the name of the settlement now called Heber.

Two hay presses were brought in by Jacob Stoner and W. A. Van Horn.

Calexico was enthused over the construction of an adobe business block for the Imperial Valley Mercantile Co.

Editor Howe was appointed Justice of the Peace, vice-W. F. Hudson, resigned. Howe could not qualify so W. F. Holt was appointed as he was the only man who had been a year in the township and willing to serve.

Sorghum, five to seven tons to the acre, was being harvested.

Arrivals noted: J. H. McKim, from Pomona, with fifteen head of horses and mules. D. R. John and Wm. Crawford, with a carload of farming equipment for the 7000 acre tract. J. A. Aikens from Tempe, Arizona. C. E. White from Pomona.

The issue of the PRESS, November 23, was an "alfalfa number."

The population of Imperial was increasing at the rate of five a day.

J. Norton and J. Patterson arrived from Riverside county with an overland outfit loaded with equipment for their land south of Imperial.

E. L. Eggleston left Riverside with 1300 cypress and gum trees which he will plant around his Bluelake ranch.

W. F. Holt was the only resident school trustee in the Valley. The one school was on the banks of the canal near Calexico.

First Death.—Mrs. William J. Dryden, arrived with her husband from Missouri, fell dead in Calexico after a paralytic stroke, November 15, 1901. This was the first death in the Valley since the settlements were opened. The funeral was conducted by Rev. John C. Hay. As no cemetery existed the remains were interred in a spot selected as a temporary sepulchre.

Business is held back because of the lack of a brickmaker who is expected. Brick stores will be built in all three of the Valley towns as soon as bricks are burned. A hardware store, a drug store and a harness store are in the offing.

Postmaster W. F. Holt has moved the post office from the Imperial Mercantile Company's building to the Land Company's offices.

Sam Webb arrived from Salt River Valley.

Leroy Holt has gone to Los Angeles with his children, Jessie and Jimmie, to visit Mrs. Holt who is ill in a hospital there.

Geo. A. Carter arrived with a large outfit of mules, wagons and farm equipment from Pomona.

The issue of the PRESS, December 7, 1901, was a "sorghum number."

A discussion of poultry raising occupies a column.

The Alamo was known only as the "Carter river."

The Development Company has set aside a block of land near Calexico for an experimental farm with Daniel Nicoll in charge.

Mobley Meadows, zanjero, is the only person authorized to manipulate headgates in canals. All applications for water must be filed with Mr. Meadows.

The First Dance.—The new adobe store building for the Imperial Valley Mercantile Company at Calexico was "warmed up" Saturday evening, Nov. 30, 1901, with the first dance conducted by white people in Imperial Valley. People attended from all parts of the Valley. Dr. W. T. Heffernan acted as host. He responded to a call for a speech gracefully. Music was furnished by an orchestra composed of James B. Hoffman, Jo Razy and G. Ortega. The grand march was led by Dr. Heffernan and Mrs. Ortega.



The Christian Church was the third Structure. Rev. John C. Hay was the first Pastor

Supper at midnight and then more dancing. The fact that the men far outnumbered the ladies present made it difficult for any of the eight members of the fair sex to refuse a dance. Among those mentioned attending were: Mr. and Mrs. Thing, Mr. and Mrs. Andy Elliott and Miss Elliott, Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Beach, Mr. and Mrs. Mobley Meadows, Mr. and Mrs. G. Ortega, the Misses Forrester and Messrs. C. N. Perry, Geo. A. Carter, Garnett Holmes, Geo. Thompson, Heber, Joe Estudillo, Peter Reinhardt, Heistand, Hall, Russell, Turner, Hoffman, Rose and Chaffey.

More ducks and other water fowl on the lakes than an army could slaughter. Standing room only for new birds.

Two men, declared to be the first hoboes to visit the Valley, wandered into Imperial in December, 1901. They missed fame by failing to leave their names with the editor of the PRESS.

J. Garnett Holmes is finishing his soil report for the government. This report was later credited with almost ruining the Valley as it said nothing could be grown here.

The 5000 acre Hunt tract near Calexico is being subdivided and purchased by newcomers through the Oakley-Paulin Co.

Five Perry families are erecting five homes on Sec. 20, 16-14. They make a little village all their own.

J. W. Quinn, with his family, five horses and twenty-five cattle, arrived from Phoenix. The cattle were herded down from Flowing Well.

The Rev. John C. Hay, pastor of the Christian church, and Rev. J. S. Kline, of the Methodist faith, were the first ministers to serve the people of Imperial. In December, Rev. R. T. Davis, of Los Angeles, replaced Mr. Kline.

Fruit men are to try out grapes with acreage of 430.

Rapid Growth.—Lands are now being taken from the government at the rate of about 10,000 acres per month. The population in December, 1901, was about 1500. How about a new county about January, 1903? asks the PRESS. In the last three months 30,000 acres have been purchased by newcomers and the PRESS publishes the list in full. Here they are:

From Los Angeles and Imperial: Wm. McClain, Wm. H. Horne, Paul McPherrin, Arthur Kemper, Carrie B. Owens, Samuel O. Lang, Sara Woodcock, Adelia Lathrop, Chas. Lathrop, Lucretia Perry, Geo. C. Hunt, Grove L. Flower,



Edgar F. Howe, Pioneer Editor

Pearl B. Aplyne, Howard Bundreem, Martha Braly, John Smith, Ellen Warren, W. C. Fisher, Harry Schmitz, Andrew Hill, Mrs. L. Filson, Herbert C. King, Edward Williford, Wm. A. Clark, Thos. E. Hyans, Ada A. Sillman, R. M. Bledso, Ruth Danforth, John Compton, Chas. and Isadora Brimshell, Oliver and Geo. Reid, W. E. and Emma Miller, W. W. Masten, L. G. Coalby, Frank Gandry, W. T. McClinden, Eugene Snow, Frank Weed, James Owen, Houston Dent, W. A. Young, John Yount, E. A. Stone, H. O. Evans, Anna Holt, L. C. Vickrey, Frank A. Thing, M. H. Southwick, Victor Brooks, T. W. Hart, Edw. Mullahard, Hans Nelson, C. E. Miller, Chas. Percell, S. D. Yokem, J. G. McBride, Burt L. Young, John R. Harris.

From Riverside:—John Wherry, Harry Cross, Daniel Nicoll, Wm. G. Record, Wm. D. Ennor, J. D. Lindsay, Wm. H. Eaton, Norman Hitchcock, Geo. R. Blodgett, I. W. Gleason, Archibald Edgar, James F. Jackson, Albert Gifford, Chas. R. John, John Canere, H. B. Strickler, Geo. W. Russell, Emma Eaton.

From Redlands:—J. H. Richards, Harry Parker, Wm. Huckaby, Chas. Rice, Michael Radke, Clara Richards, Jesse Wooliscroft, Luella Palmer, Martin and Charles Boettger.

From Pasadena:—R. B. and Lydia Chaplin, L. Tyner, Merritt and Floyd Thayer, Frank Biceheimer, S. E. Gibson, Jona C. Williams, Edwin Beeman.

From Ontario:—Sam T. Mason, Benj. Shepherd, T. P. Rice, Andrew Rose, L. R. Kennedy, T. J. Williams, Ralph Noble.

From San Bernardino:—J. N. Hansen, G. W. McCoy, May Lawrence, J. E. Brown, Nels Jacobson, J. D. Langford, E. E. Langford.

From Highland:—Pierce Coy, L. C. Corwin, Mary Coy, C. H. Walton, Margaret Worley, J. L. Watson, Geo. Barnes.
From Santa Ana:—H. O. Sisson, Abner Crane, O. N. Frambes, Caroline Crane, R. W. McFadden, August Visel, Heston White.

From Escondido:—C. H. Kleinheim, G. W. Denny, J. R. Stinson, Alvin Wohlford, Edward Churchill.

From Pomona:—Geo. A. Carter, Addie B. McKim.
East Highlands:—H. H. Smith, J. H. Watson, M. H. Worley.

Gardena:—H. D. Garden, E. S. Abbott.
San Diego:—C. H. Glassen, R. H. Ramsdell.
Norwalk:—O. N. Miller, P. H. Vedder.
Palms:—Xavier Florentine, A. J. Kreuger.
Monrovia:—S. B. Thayer, Abram L. Smith.
Whittier:—Wm. Holloway, A. H. Cheeney.
Puente:—W. E. Harte.
Nestor:—Walter M. Cole.
Etiwanda:—J. C. Jones.
Chino:—Mark M. Rose.
Yuma:—Wm. A. Journagin.
Winchester:—John Norton.

La Mesa:—Isabelle Williams.
Stent:—A. W. Bailey.
Artesia:—F. N. Schnabel.
Bagdad:—Thos. H. Kellog.
Los Alamitos:—C. A. Carr.
Simi:—M. S. McCord.
Santa Maria:—W. W. Dashiell.
Oakland:—W. J. Wilcox.
Lordsburg:—E. M. Guier.
Berkeley:—A. A. Naylor.
Lamanda:—John W. Lohn.
La Crescenta:—Catherine Robertson.
Loma Linda:—James Coon.
Duarte:—John Rodgers.

The fact that many of the men and women on the list are familiar to the people of the Valley today would indicate that they took this government land for the purpose of making homes. Some were speculating, of course.

Investigation of sugar beet possibilities next in order.

"Miss Clark" is mentioned as postmistress Dec. 17, 1901, at Imperial.

The first private phones were installed by the PRESS, I. V. Mercantile Co., and Van Horn Bros., on their ranch. That made nine Dec. 17, 1901.

CHARLEY NUN

Charley Nun was the Chinaman who ran the Imperial Hotel when it was a tent house. His place in history is secure. When he sold out to Chas. Lathrop, in Dec., 1901, the town editor spoke thus:

"... the passing of Charley Nun, the effervescent and effusive caterer according to Confucian ethics and conventionalities, will be mourned by all who recognize in him the bright spirit of the days that are gone forever, when he established an oasis of roast chicken and mince pie in the far reaching desert of hard-tack and bacon.

"Charley has not been maintained as a bird of pretty plumage nor as a sweet songster, and yet, no more alluring voice than his has been heard at the dinner hour in the great Imperial Valley . . . days which are fleeing forever and which will never be recalled without a vision of Charley in the foreground, armed with frying pan and rolling pin, with a halo of wild ducks sailing around his noble brow, while the sweet incense of cabbage and onions envelops his manly person."

THE FIRST WEDDING

The first wedding of residents of the Valley occurred Dec. 9, 1901, when Clarence A. Lebo and Mrs. Edith Winters were wed at Yuma by Judge Frank.

THE FIRST FIRE

The first destructive fire in the settlements occurred Friday, Dec. 15, 1901, when the ramada house of P. Barnes, a mile east of Calexico, burned to the ground. Mr. Barnes barely had time to escape after discovering his thatched roof on fire from a spark. Silver and gold money was melted in the fire.

Bishop Johnson is looking over the Valley for the first time for the Episcopal diocese.

The first discussion of the Wright Irrigation District law as a legal vehicle for water administration in the Valley was carried on in the PRESS of December 21, 1901. The weaknesses of the mutual company system, then in vogue, were weighed against the weaknesses of the Wright Act and the latter declared to be far better and could be made better still by amendments.

The fact that at Indio in the Coachella Valley, seventy-five cantaloupe growers were planting 500 acres and expect

fabulous returns is exciting some people in the Imperial Valley.

A recurrent tragedy of the desert is mentioned by a writer who sees all the native wild animal life of the region about to become extinct because of the flood system of irrigation. The first time an acreage is watered a litter of trading rats, kangaroo mice, dwarfed ground squirrel, dwarfed snakes, lizards and scorpions are drowned out. Even the coyote is driven back because of his dislike for water.

The C. D. Company has received four phone sets and a ton of wire with which the offices at Calexico will be connected with the heading.

Four Cocopah Indians were imported from Mexico to help make adobe brick in Imperial.

THE FIRST BANK

After some delay the permission of the comptroller of currency in Washington was gained for the organization of the First National Bank of Imperial. This institution, the first bank in the Valley, opened its doors for business December 16, 1901. The following were officers: President, Geo. Chaffey; vice-president, A. H. Heber; cashier, Leroy Holt; assistant cashier, W. F. Holt. These officers, with N. W. Stowell, formed the directorate.

The bank opened in temporary quarters in the Imperial Mercantile Company building and moved to the new brick built later at the corner of Eighth and Imperial.

The first "annual meeting" of the stockholders, January 14, 1902, resulted in the election of the following directors: W. F. Holt, Leroy Holt, A. H. Heber, H. C. Oakley and Geo. A. Carter. The directors chose the following officers: President, W. F. Holt; vice-president, A. H. Heber, cashier, Leroy Holt.

Deposits ran up from zero to \$6000 in two weeks and reached \$12,000 the third week. The next report, made a month or so later, showed deposits past the \$16,000 mark.

C. M. Lathrop and party, driving four prairie schooners from Centralia, Washington, arrived in Dec., 1901, to farm 1000 acres.

FIRST THANKSGIVING SERVICE

The last Thursday in November, 1901, saw the first Thanksgiving service held in the Valley. Rev. John Hay delivered the address at the Christian church in Imperial. Quite a number of leading citizens, however, went to the coast to be with families and the first services were rather half-hearted.

THE FIRST CHRISTMAS

Right up to the last minute everybody forgot about Santa Claus, they were so busy in 1901. But everybody dropped their shovels and scrapers when the day arrived and celebrated with feasts and ceremonies, publicly and privately. Mr. and Mrs. Lathrop decorated the dining room of the hotel with wild creosote taking the place of holly. At the company headquarters at Calexico a feast was served and the mail brought many reminders from the outside world. About 100 attended the school exercises at the only school twelve miles south of Imperial on Christmas eve. The pupils gave recitations and Jim Hoffman was on hand from Calexico with his faithful fiddle.

In Imperial, Rev. J. C. Hay, assisted by Mrs. Hector White and Mrs. H. C. Oakley, conducted services Christmas night. This was the largest gathering of people up to that time in the Valley. Miss Edna Winters sang and Carl Huddleston recited. Mrs. Will Edgar recited "Three Kings" and was followed by another recitation by Huntington McKusick. Mrs. W. F. Gillett sent three little girls up front to sing and one of W. A. Van Horn's boys recited a humorous bit. And he had to respond with an encore!

Messrs. Hay and Slane and Miss Clark and Mrs. Edgar sang as a quartet and speeches were made by Messrs. Hay, Harbour and Hammers.

THE FIRST BRICK

Harbour & Carter, who have been experimenting with clays for making brick and began the first day of the new year, 1902, moulding brick which will be burned and used for the construction of business buildings.

1902

FIRST NEW YEAR CELEBRATION

A few who refused to get sleepy stayed up at the Valley Mercantile Company store as guests of F. F. Hall, in charge of the engineering corps, New Year's eve and enjoyed candy, fruit and cigars while stories were swapped until midnight. Then they all shot their six shooters, whooped a bit and went to bed.

INDIAN CACHES

Frequent discoveries by crews working new land of old caches filled with Indian pottery and water vessels were reported in 1901. One such, a low room 8x12 was found two and a half miles northeast of Imperial. The roof was thatched closely over a ridgepole supported by two forked posts. Sand had blown over until the room was not noticeable even at close range. The Cocopah and Yuma Indians used to come annually to gather mesquite beans and instead of carrying their utensils back and forth would leave them from time to time in such places.

I. W. Gleason, C. R. John and A. J. Wallin announce the purchase of the telephone line and equipment from W. F. Holt.

F. G. Havens is expected from Riverside to take up the farming of 880 acres of land with J. F. Jackson.

Early in January, W. F. Holt found some one to qualify as justice of the peace and resigned in favor of W. B. Mugford who was thereupon duly appointed.

FIRST COMPETITIVE BUSINESS

The second lumber yard in Imperial was established in early January by George A. Carter. This is the first instance of competition in the same line of business.

Barley heading out in January on the Tom Beach ranch was a curiosity.

THE FIRST DRUMMER

Baker & Hamilton, wholesale firm of Los Angeles, was the first firm to send a "drummer" to Imperial Valley. He was a giant, weighing 320 pounds and visited the Valley's stores in October, 1901.

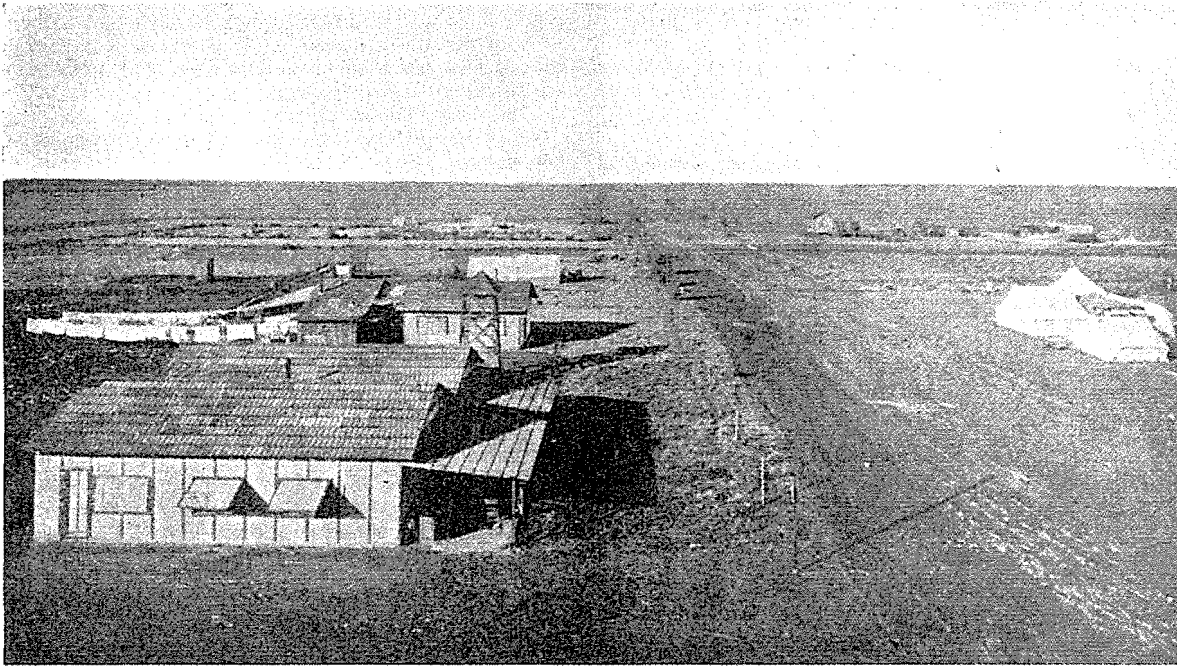
W. A. Edgar ran a steady advertisement for land leveling, bordering and seeding.

THE FIRST SYSTEM OF ADMINSTRATING WATER AFFAIRS

Under the guidance of Geo. Chaffey, who had experience with mutual water companies around Ontario and Etiwanda, the California Development Company endorsed the mutual water company plan for use in the Valley. The whole idea was simple. The C. D. company wholesaled water to the mutuals at 50c per acre foot and the mutuals served their own stockholders on a cost basis, maintaining their own laterals, deliveries, offices, etc. A share of stock in one of these mutual companies was necessary with each acre of land before the owner could get water. Therefore the land, at the beginning, was worth what the companies could get for their shares of stock. Much of it was sold at \$11.75 per share and much for less, some for far less.

In the financial stress occasioned by quick growth for quick cash some buyers made wholesale deals that netted big money.

January 1, 1902, there were five mutual water companies in existence with the following officers in charge and the number of shares sold at that time:



The Imperial Hotel in 1901, 1902 and 1903 was the means of sustaining life for visitors. The scene looks North on Imperial Avenue. Note the Barren Plain toward where Brawley is now. The tent was used for land and lot auctions by the Townsite Company.

Imperial Water Co., No. 1. N. W. Stowell, president; F. C. Paulin, vice-president; I. W. Gleason, secretary; A. M. Chaffey, treasurer. These with J. W. Swanwick, were also directors. Capital stock, \$1,000,000. Number of shares, 100,000. Shares sold Jan. 1, 1902, 88,115. Served the central portion of the Valley between New and Carter rivers.

Imperial Water Co. No. 2. Rusk Harris, president; W. T. Heffernan, vice-president; R. D. McPherrin, secretary; A. M. Chaffey, treasurer. Capital stock \$1,000,000; 100,000 shares. Shares sold Jan. 1, 1902, 2,370. Land to be served located in townships 13 and 14 south, Range 14 east.

Imperial Water Co. No. 4. J. H. Braly, president; C. Frankish, vice-president; A. M. Chaffey, secretary-treasurer. These, with H. Jevne and H. R. Callender, were also directors. Capital stock \$120,000. Shares 12,500. All sold Jan. 1, 1902. Land later in the "Brawley district."

Imperial Water Co. No. 5. Rusk Harris, president; F. N. Chaplin, vice-president; R. D. McPherrin, secretary; A. M. Chaffey, treasurer. These men, with G. I. Barnes, were also the directors. Capital stock \$1,000,000; shares 100,000. Sold Jan. 1, 1902, 14,184 shares. The land served was to be east of Carter river, now the Alamo, and covered an area of 100,000 acres, as large as No. 1.

Imperial Water Co. No. 6. Rusk Harris, president; C. R. Rockwood, vice-president; R. D. McPherrin, secretary; A. M. Chaffey, treasurer. These with A. H. Heber and E. A. Boorse, formed the directorate. Capital stock, \$250,000. Shares 25,000. Sold Jan. 1, 1902, 9,165. The land to be served was west of New river from the boundary line north to include 25,000 acres.

By casting up the totals it will be seen that settlers had, at this time, taken up 126,333 acres of public domain and had purchased the same number of shares in the five existing mutual companies. This was approximately 24 per cent of the area covered fifteen years later.

The officers of the California Development Company at this time were: Geo. Chaffey, president; N. W. Stowell, first vice-president; A. H. Heber, second vice-president; A. M. Chaffey, secretary-treasurer. These men, with C. R. Rockwood, Wm. L. MacAlister and J. W. Swanwick, were the directors.

(Files missing from Jan. 25th to March 15th, 1902)

March 15, 1902

The land company announces a new town shortly to be launched on the shores of Blue Lake. It will be called Blue Lake. As many San Diego people already have land in that section a special effort is to be made to sell lots to San Diego people.

The company and all of the people of the Valley were busy with indignant denunciation of the efforts of Garnett Holmes to discredit the Valley's soil by the issuance of an adverse report through the department of agriculture.

The first brick buildings that will go up will be for the Imperial Land Co., for D. C. Huddleston for a restaurant; for Wilbur Clark for a hardware store; Geo. Varney, of San Bernardino county, has asked for a brick store room 50x60 feet or so. He expects to enter the general merchandising business.

Chances for a brass band seem pretty good to James Huston who is canvassing the situation.

RAILROAD FROM S. P. TO GULF LAUNCHED

BY W. F. HOLT

The news of filing incorporation papers for the Imperial & Gulf railroad by W. F. Holt, president, in company with J. H. Braly, A. H. Heber, F. C. Paulin and E. A. Meserve, was for some reason, buried on the inside of the March 15, 1902, issue of the PRESS. The Valley has been hoping for a railroad south from the main line for a long time. Mr. Holt, while the S. P., was still cogitating over the idea, stepped in with a \$700,000 company, raised \$30,000 immediately, put a force of surveyors into the field and had lines run south to Imperial within a few weeks. Branches were planned from Paringa (Heber) to Blue Lake and from Imperial to Eastside (north of Holtville).

Before Mr. Holt's work was very far advanced the officials of the S. P. came to with a sudden start and took over the Imperial & Gulf as a part of its own system.

The branch was completed to Imperial February 13, 1903.

Dr. Hay, a practicing physician, wife of Rev. John C. Hay, faithful pastor of the Christian church, has arrived from Colorado with her daughter to make their home in Imperial.

EDGAR BROS. START

In this issue of the PRESS the announcement that Edgar Bros. would open an implement store to handle McCormick Mowers, Cane Harvesters, Moline plows, Fish Bros. wagons appears. A whole carload of stock is announced on the way. They plan a branch for Calexico immediately.

The first big scales were installed by Geo. Carter. They will weigh twenty tons at a time.

Mrs. Arthur Edgar, with her five months old baby, arrived Sunday to join her husband here.

Fred and Arthur Fuller, after thirteen days on the road with a heavy load, arrived from Whittier last week and have gone on land south of Imperial.

FIRST JERSEY COWS

D. G. Whiting of near Colton, arrived Friday with a large equipment of farming machinery, horses, trees, plants, etc. Two beautiful fawn colored Jersey heifers were in the lot and Mr. Whiting says these are the forerunners of a big herd of thoroughbred Jerseys which will be brought in as soon as feed is available. Whiting has a section ten miles south of Imperial.

County Superintendent of Schools Baldwin, of San Diego, recommends the establishment of four more schools for the Imperial settlements.

Official maps of the townsites of Imperial, Paringa and Calexico are filed with the county recorder at San Diego.

E. A. Dodson has built a substantial house of adobe at Blue Lake.

W. F. Holt has again purchased the valley telephone line. Nobody else seems to be able to make it a go.

FIRST BOOTLEGGER

A wagon loaded with liquor stopped at Flowingwell last week and the driver brought his outfit on to Imperial. He was met by a committee composed of F. C. Paulin, H. C. Oakley and Dr. J. W. Oakley and was told not to try to sell liquor here. The bootlegger tried to argue but the next morning he was out of town and on his way—without a sale.

Street signs have appeared at all corners.

Plans for a domestic water system, piped and under pressure, are mentioned by the townsite people.

FIRST FINAL PROOF

The first final proof to be advertised in the Imperial PRESS was that of Dr. W. T. Heffernan. In the same issue is the final proof notice of Geo. M. Chaffey. They both name the same witnesses: C. R. Rockwood, F. C. Paulin, A. H. Heber and Thomas Beach.

The Southern Pacific has shipped in material sufficient to construct five miles of the Valley branch from Imperial south. Construction of the extension is expected to begin about October 1st.

Keen competition for business is shown in the advertisements of Varney Bros. and Stevenson Bros. Each firm carried two columns to tell the merits of their goods—general merchandise.

The professional card of H. N. Dyke, attorney, is a regular feature of the PRESS.

RESALE LAND PRICES

From the advertisement of T. P. Banta and J. B. Parazette prices asked for land ran from \$14 to \$27.50 per acre. Here are a few listings:

1280 acres, 320 in cultivation, \$19.50 per acre.

480 acres, all cultivated, one mile from Imperial, \$27.50 per acre.

80 acres on Main canal, fine soft land, \$21.50 per acre.

120 acres, 80 shares of water stock, one mile from Paringa (Heber) \$14 per acre.

Prices quoted include right of water sufficient to flood land four feet deep each year.

The Imperial Hotel Co. is a new corporation formed by Leroy Holt, R. D. McPherrin, W. D. Garey, W. H. Hartshorn and E. F. Howe, for the purpose of building a first class hotel. Capital stock \$25,000. An urgent appeal is made for all residents to take up at least \$16,000 of this stock so that the town can have a good hotel. The remains of the canvas and frame hotel of 1901 still stands at Ninth and Imperial. The traveling public is better accommodated at the Thelma rooming house. This appeal evidently failed for a few weeks later the townsite company announced its intention to put up the hotel on its own account.

Steps are being taken to incorporate Imperial as a city of the sixth class.

1903

Indulging in a bit of prophecy, Editor Howe sees five towns each with a population of 10,000 in a few years. He sees Brawley as one of these and picked Paringa (Heber) as the natural location for another. He also foretold the necessity of a town in No. 8 and for other towns in the north end, and on the west side.

W. J. Mitchell is established as a practical watchmaker.

Wilbur Clark has established a general hardware store.

Chaplin Bros. (Dave and F. N.) announce a general real estate business.

Geo. McCaulley moved his livery stable headquarters from Flowing Well to Imperial when the railroad took his business. Patrons could get a buggy and two horses for \$5 a day; a two seated surrey for \$6; a three seated surrey for \$7; drivers cost \$2.50 a day extra. Saddle horses \$2.50 a day.

The Imperial Lumber & Commercial Company was in business on Eighth.

The expected fall building spurt has begun. Structures are now under way for a grain warehouse for Geo. W. McNear & Co.; brick office building for Water Co. No. 1; residence for Earl Heber; addition to the PRESS office; office building for Gillett & Van Horn; building for the Wales Shoe Shop; blacksmith shop for Jos. Treshil; residence for L. C. Vickrey; negotiations for a dozen more structures are being completed between owners and builders.

It has just been definitely decided to change the name of the proposed new town from Paringa to Heber.

QUICK AUTO RUN

Establishing a fast feat for those days, Supervisor Jasper with Byron Naylor drove an auto from San Diego to Jambamba in about nine hours. Possible connection with Imperial with another two or three hour run is a matter of time only.

D. C. Huddleston boasts the only soda fountain.

H. H. Peterson is expected from Los Angeles. He is an expert brick maker and contractor.

The Oakley-Paulin Company has dissolved and is succeeded by the Imperial Investment Co. The Oakleys will give their time to this company and Mr. Paulin will be able to give more time to the affairs of the Imperial Land Co.

L. M. Holt, publicity manager for the Imperial Land Co., (not related to Leroy or W. F.) announces that he has invited a big party of newspaper editors to visit the Valley in October.

The Valley is beginning to attract the attention of wealthy men. A party of Los Angeles and San Francisco bankers, including J. M. Elliott, Warren Gillelan, Willard Doran, Moses Avery and E. B. Pond, accompanied by high railroad officials and guided by A. H. Heber, F. C. Paulin and W. F. Holt, spent a whole day in the Valley, arriving at 3 a. m. in private cars, and driving to Calexico and return. This party was extremely well impressed.

The death of Dr. D. D. Briggs, pioneer druggist, came Aug. 20, 1903.

F. G. Havens, appointed U. S. Land Commissioner, is qualified to take final proofs of settlers. Peter P. Martin was the first land claimant to make final proof before the local commissioner. He escaped the expense of taking five witnesses to Los Angeles and other claimants will no doubt follow his lead.

Rev. H. C. Mullen is announced to preach at the hall Sunday. He is the new Methodist minister and hopes to have a church building for his flock at an early date.

Dr. Paul S. Anderson has arrived from Redlands to go into the drug store business.

H. L. Peck, of San Bernardino, will put up a grain warehouse and barley mill.

W. D. Garey's name appears as Imperial representative of the Imperial Land Co.

Talk of a belt railroad line around the Valley has started.

Population at this time was claimed to be about 4000.

The oldest land claimant is Mrs. Margaret Allen, 93, who is ready to make final proof.

W. F. Gillett bought the interest of his partner, W. A. Van Horn, and will conduct a real estate business. The new office is next to the Thelma Hotel.

Miss Addie Turbett has arrived from Redlands to take a position as bookkeeper for Varney Bros. Her sister Miss Etta Mae Turbett returned from her vacation trip and resumes her work with the telephone company.

R. W. McIntyre advertises as a general contractor and builder.

Last year half an acre of Egyptian cotton was planted at Calexico and samples were sent to the government experts by C. R. Rockwood. The experts were astonished at the long fibre and excellent quality of the cotton. Their report created much interest because of the failure of numerous efforts to cultivate the long staple product in America before this.

There will be about 100,000 acres of land actually in crop in the Valley this winter.

Farmers in the new No. 4 district are planning to put in cantaloupes next spring.

A. G. Hubbard and C. S. Lombard, wealthy visitors from Redlands, were shown about the new townsite of Holton by W. F. Holt.

Some of the names mentioned in the local columns of the PRESS: Adolph M. Shenk, J. W. Shenk, Jr., H. E. Allatt, W. H. Hawes, N. F. Parks, Major Bodenheimer, Mrs. D. D. Pellet, Geo. E. Irwin, W. H. Hartshorn, Dr. T. R. Griffith, A. H. Rehkopf, J. W. Rhodes, E. W. Phales, C. N. Perry, J. J. Reher, Ray Ramond, J. R. and D. R. Stevenson, W. E. Wilsie, J. A. Hammers, Rosie Baumgardner, G. W. Donley, John A. Henderson, Chas. Fernald, Henry C. Webster, Ralph Hughes, Fred Abrams, H. R. Kyle, S. E. Swarts, E. H. Ringo, D. M. Donald, R. T. Perry, Justice T. P. Banta, E. E. Forrester, O. R. Phillip, L. E. Srack, S. D. Ulrey, Phil Strickler, Jos. Holland, Mrs. F. B. Preston, Earl Rowley, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Edgar, A. T. Plath, Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Peck, H. A. Jenkins, P. O. Parsons, W. I. Hollingsworth, M. P. Grove, Mr. and Mrs. T. D. McCall, Mrs. C. R. Brown, J. H. McKim, M. H. Southwick, Mr. and Mrs. Hector White, R. W. McIntyre, Ed Hauck, John Yount, Wesley Gant, Benjamin Jones, H. G. Stratton, D. M. Collingwood, O. K. Thomas, P. Boland, C. C. Schneider, W. H. O'Bryan, Alex Stewart, Frank Vanderpoel, D. P. Osborne, Silas Williams, W. H. Glass, M. V. Dutcher, J. R. Treat, J. C. Coy, R. E. Toomey, Jacob Stoner, V. K. Brooks, W. A. Clark, W. K. Bowker, P. Hovley, J. A. Morrison, M. E. Schenck, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Heber, B. A. Harbour, James McClance, H. A. F. Miller, F. S. McCollum, J. C. Peck.

SEPTEMBER, 1903

Superintendent Tom Beach is after the careless ranchers who allow stock to pollute ditches that carry water for domestic use.

FIRST SCHOOL BONDS

Leroy Holt, W. A. Edgar and M. S. Clark, trustees of the new Imperial school district, issue a call for a bond election to provide \$6000 for a school building in Imperial.

The election was conducted Sept. 28, 1903, by C. A. Lebo, H. N. Dyke and R. D. McPherrin. The vote was unanimously in favor of the bonds. The Southern Pacific has agreed to advance money on the bonds and a building will be put up at once. For the present a framed tent will be put up next to the Christian church for school purposes.

HEBER HAD A GOOD START

The definite decision to change the name of Paringa to Heber and replat the townsite in a new and original way came when the Imperial Valley Realty Company, handling townsites for the Valley, announced its plans September 12, 1903. The new town is to have avenues none less than 100 feet wide with two main ways of 125 feet. These wide streets will be parked with a different sort of trees lining each street. A row of trees down the center will be planted. A large agricultural park is also planned for Heber. The new railroad from San Diego to Yuma will positively pass through Heber and the new road from Holton to the Imperial branch will more than likely be garnered for the new town.

These announcements caused a widespread rumor in and around Imperial that the townsite company was planning to forsake Imperial as the big, central town of the Valley and put all its energies on the development of Heber. F. C. Paulin, however, caused publication of an emphatic statement denying the truth of this.

The newly formed California-Mexico Land and Cattle Company, owning large acreage in Mexico, is asking the possibility of connection with the canals of the C. D. company.

The PRESS reports that E. E. Forrester drove to Campo and "picked up" about 500 chickens and turkeys. Evidently the trip was perfectly legitimate for Mr. Forrester got back safely.

F. G. Havens, land commissioner, estimates that returns from growing hogs can be figured at 12 per cent per month.

The Calexico Cattle Co. is one of the big concerns of the south end that is spreading out. Thirty-five miles of hog tight fencing, for example.

The Imperial Valley Realty Company is the name of a new firm in which W. H. O'Bryan, Edward Dool, E. H. Rockwood and W. H. Townsend are interested. The new company will have the exclusive handling of the new town-site of Heber.

Of interest to present residents will be the fact that a thorough discussion of pecan growing took place in the Valley in 1902.

Imperial is going to have a creamery if the plans of W. B. Hage, of San Diego, materialize.

Townpeople are becoming impatient with the townsite company for not providing ways and means to irrigate lawns and grow trees and gardens. Except for the buildings the town of Imperial is exactly the same desert that it was four years before.

The engagement of Earl Heber and Miss Charlotte Thayer is announced.

The first regular assignment made by the Methodist conference for Imperial Valley was to return the Rev. H. C. Mullen to Imperial.

H. C. Oakley and F. C. Paulin are ready to make final proof on their desert land entries.

The most dastardly crime yet committed in the Valley was the murder of Frank Roberts on his farm near Brawley. He was shot in the back. The body was discovered by Frank Stanley. The murderer was never apprehended.

V. Gant, of Calexico, felt sorry for his live stock because of the heat of summer and built a ramada for their use in the field. He was astonished to find the hogs and cattle would not use it.

A new school district between Imperial and Silsbee has been organized by E. E. Forrester, H. E. Wilsie, L. M. Van Horn, M. P. Grove, A. H. Carrier, H. M. White and W. F. Gillett. This group has raised \$80 to start the work.

The Valley is expected to produce a million sacks of grain next year.

For the first time in nineteen months there will be an interruption in the Valley's water supply when the main canal will be closed to make repairs at Sharpe's Heading. Farmers are advised to build reservoirs in which a temporary supply of stock and domestic water can be held during such emergencies.

All records were broken October 14th by the arrival of sixty-eight newcomers by train. Thirty of these were in a special car from Nebraska, the result of the efforts of the Imperial Land Company. Most of the newcomers became settlers.

Jim Jeffries, world champ prize fighter, made a trip down the Colorado to hunt and returned with enthusiastic tales of deer, ducks, geese, wild boar, coyotes, and fish.

Varney Bros. are preparing to open a branch in Brawley.

THIRTY EDITORS VISIT VALLEY

Early in October, 1903, a group of thirty newspaper men, at the invitation of L. M. Holt, publicity director for

the Imperial Land Co., arrived by train at Imperial and enjoyed a drive by team to all parts of the Valley. The editors returned home to their various papers and gave the Valley the first big newspaper publicity that it enjoyed. All the newspaper men were astonished at the development. All they saw had been done in three years. Five thousand head of cattle, six thousand hogs, a hundred thousand acres under water, fields of barley, corn and sorghum, towns springing up on all sides, water flowing in abundance and the future full of promise to every one of the 4000 inhabitants who were struggling to reclaim their share of the desert. The editorial excursion was a big hit for the Valley.

Mrs. Leroy Holt and children plan to remain in Los Angeles for the winter.

RAILROAD BUSINESS

The new railroad started business with a makeshift depot at Imperial in April, 1903. The first month cash receipts amounted to \$10,000 and the average now has run up to \$15,000. This places Imperial in eighth place on the S. P. lines in Southern California. A new depot at Imperial has been ordered built by the company. It will be a duplicate of the recently finished depot at Old Beach.

H. A. F. Miller has arrived from Milpitas and will open a new drug store in the building on the southeast corner of Eighth and Imperial.

McKim Bros. are putting in the finest hog ranch in the Valley east of Imperial. They expect to carry an average of 3000 head on the farm and ship the increase.

The Calexico Sunday school has resumed after-vacation sessions. Dana Weed is superintendent.

Andy Elliott has moved his family down from Campo and will live at Silsbee. Andy sees his old cattle range of the nineties being turned to irrigated land so he's joining in the procession.

Jim Hussey of Silsbee rode his bicycle from San Diego in a day and a half. But for the bad roads west of Jacumba he says he could have made it in a day.

Farmers are in a quandary how to harvest the vast milo maize crop. Hand cutting is too slow, altogether.

Now the Calexico school district, represented by Frank Weed, W. A. Van Horn and C. N. Perry, announces a bond election for \$3000 for school purposes.

The election carried, the S. P. company took up the bonds and the building was erected in short order.

AUGUST, 1903

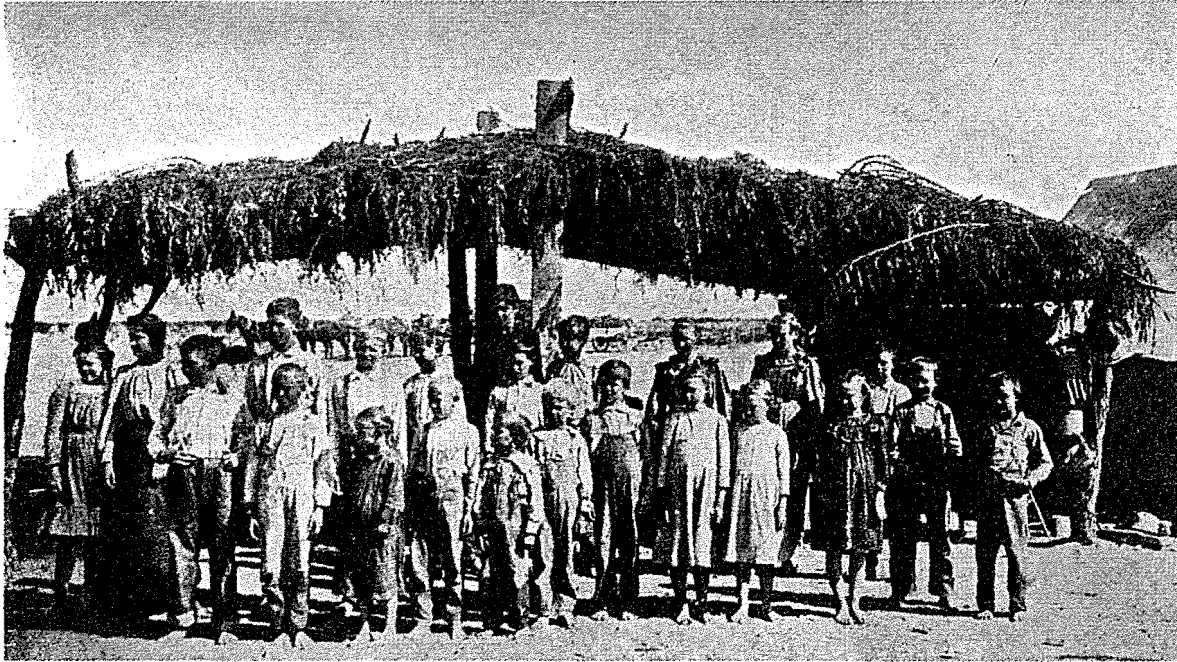
Directors of Water Co. No. 1 and their consulting engineer, H. C. Kellogg, of Santa Ana, have been inspecting new ditch construction before formal acceptance.

The growth shown by land purchases averaged 5000 acres per month through the summer of 1903.

D. S. Elder has arrived from Idaho to take possession of 800 acres in No. 8. He plans to get most of this land in crop this fall.

E. J. Swayne, who represented the San Diego Sun on the recent editorial excursion to the Valley, pours the first hot shot into the complacency of San Diego for allowing everything in the new country to be turned toward Los Angeles. He criticized severely the railroad committee of San Diego because of the time between the curtain raising and the beginning of the act (of building the San Diego and Eastern).

The following ladies will act as a committee on enter-



The First School in 1902, was under a Ramada, thatched with Arrow Weed. It was located five miles Northwest of Calexico and was taught by Prof. J. E. Carr, who became the first County Superintendent of Schools in 1907

tainment to raise funds for band instruments: Mesdames J. A. Morrison, W. A. Edgar, Ray Edgar, M. P. Grove, E. F. Howe, G. E. Heber, H. N. Dyke and M. E. Schenck.

Arrivals during the week at the two Imperial hotels fill a solid column of the PRESS.

C. A. Barker and wife came down with W. F. Holt for a visit to the Valley.

Arrangements are being made for irrigating the town streets, half at a time, in order to allay the dust.

Dr. T. R. Griffith has been appointed health officer for Imperial by the county board of supervisors and he announces that certain careless practices must be abated at once. The lack of a sewer system in a warm climate is extremely noticeable.

THE FIRST CREAMERY

The first creamery in the Valley was opened in Imperial November 1, 1903, by W. B. Hage, of San Diego, in a new building next to the ice depot. The new plant was equipped with modern butter making machinery and a storage refrigerator of 2500 pounds of finished product. Farmers all over the Valley figure to separate milk on the home place and take the cream to Imperial, using the skim milk for pigs, etc. O. S. Cooper, experienced butter maker, was in charge. The first announcement by the creamery contained these prophetic words: "We are laying the foundation for what is destined to be the greatest industry in the Valley."

Edgar Bros. have sold their shelf hardware department to Wilber Clark.

J. B. Parazette lost a valuable tract of land by failing to perfect his filing.

The Cocopah Club, although jovially mentioned in the Press once in a while, entertained a large gathering at cards. Thursday night has been set aside for the ladies every week.

Capt. J. N. Patton has taken land on the east side. He is a retired army officer.

Claimants under homestead laws are finding obstacles to final possession in the necessity to swear that homes have been maintained on the land. Several claims are held up in the land office.

Tennis and croquet grounds are being made ready for use in the new town of Brawley.

Charlotte M. Preston, teacher of the new Imperial School, reported that the enrollment for the first month was thirty-eight in the grammar grades and fifty-two in the primary grades, total ninety.

NOVEMBER, 1903

Abominable mail service is scored. Twenty-eight full sacks of mail for Imperial lay on the platform at Old Beach from Saturday until Tuesday because of a three-times-a-week schedule.

The Western Union Company has wire at Old Beach for a line into the Valley.

Rev. S. W. Harrison has been assigned to Imperial by the M. E. Church South conference. Mr. Harrison preached his first sermon in the public hall November 8.

A buyer from the east offered \$35 an acre for the Jacob Stoner ranch and was refused.

The S. P. doubled the train service on the Valley branch without notice, to the delight of travelers.

FIRST CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

During the summer of 1903 a group of business men organized the first Imperial Chamber of Commerce with H. N. Dyke temporary chairman and H. E. Allatt temporary secretary. In November meetings were resumed. A committee on permanent organization was appointed. Its members were H. E. Allatt, Geo. Varney, C. J. Schenck,

R. D. McPherrin and E. B. Moore. M. P. Holman secured eighty-four signatures for membership. W. D. Garey, E. F. Howe and M. P. Holman were appointed as a committee to take a census of Imperial.

Permanent organization was effected with E. F. Howe, president; W. A. Edgar, first vice-president; W. L. Stevenson, second vice-president; Leroy Holt, treasurer. David de Witt Lawrence, a newspaperman in Yuma, was offered and accepted the post of secretary at a salary of \$30 per month.

Eleven standing committees covering all the activities of an active Chamber were appointed. The first meetings were filled with interesting discussion of various crops found fit for profitable cultivation, including cotton, the Tennessee potato, and the Spanish peanut.

Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Kinne and daughter, Fannie, have arrived from Nebraska to live on their farm three miles south of Imperial.

P. E. Carr, rancher near Calexico, is working up a fine herd of thoroughbred Hereford cattle.

The Press has induced H. C. Reed, who was the first editor of the Press in 1901, to return as mechanical superintendent. Mr. and Mrs. Reed and two children will again make their home in Imperial. The elder daughter, Ruth, was the first baby born in Imperial.

FIRST BASEBALL TEAMS

In November, 1903, the first baseball teams were organized at Imperial and Silsbee. They clashed on the diamond and Silsbee won with a score of 9 to 3. Imperial had a gaudy set of uniforms which rattled them. The players were: Imperial—Grove, Ritchie, Weir, Maupin, Dyke, J. E. Heber, McPherrin and G. E. Heber. Silsbee—Jasper, W. Salisbury, F. Salisbury, Brooks, Grey, Elliott, Donn and Webb.

DECEMBER, 1903

Work is to begin at once on a 50x100 brick building for Stevenson Bros., at the corner of Eighth and Imperial.

W. F. Holt announces the addition of ninety miles of telephone wire to be added to the system.

The last bit of right-of-way has been signed up for the S. P. extension to Calexico and construction will proceed at once.

After considerable hesitation and delay the railroad route from Holton to the Valley branch is announced by W. F. Holt. It will run due west from Holton and join the Valley branch three miles south of Imperial. The road is owned by the Holton Power Co.

Pauff & Conser announce the opening of the New York Store, with a complete stock of dry goods and men's wear.

The Golden Cross Gold Mine at Hedges has been reopened. In the hands of the receiver it was operated until all debts were paid.

Twenty-six more people came in from Nebraska by special train, making a total of ninety-two arrivals for the day, the heaviest in the history of the Valley. Real estate people are on the jump.

Rev. Father Lapoint, Roman Catholic Missionary Priest for San Diego County, spent ten days in Imperial in December, holding mass in a private home.

C. A. Lebo has sold the Thelma Hotel to W. W. Masten, who will build an addition immediately.

The Imperial Land Co. is running an excursion out of Los Angeles every Tuesday. Sixty-six persons started for the

Valley last Tuesday, but the eastbound overland was in four sections. The conductor on the Valley branch refused to wait for the last two sections, and left twenty-one excursionists stranded in Old Beach all night.

J. Heatley & Co. opened the new cash meat market.

Col. Ed. Fletcher, of San Diego, says the people of his city do not realize the development work going on here or they would build that new railroad at once.

The entire absence of natural gravel in the Valley makes poultry fanciers wonder whether or not chickens can be raised here.

The Press comes out boldly and says the laws of the county and state are being brazenly defied here and roundly scores Sheriff Broadnax for his failure to appoint a deputy sheriff.

A \$2 grand ball is announced for New Year's Eve for the benefit of the Imperial band.

A one-mile track for horse racing is being graded northeast of town.

Miss Margaret Clark has resigned as postmistress and a petition for the appointment of H. E. Allatt is being rushed to Washington. Miss Clark reports the issuance of 122 postal orders in one week, for a total amount of \$1120.70.

A Congregational church of ten members has been organized at Calexico by Rev. J. L. Maile, church missionary.

Fire completely destroyed the residences of W. A. and Arthur Edgar, Wednesday evening, December 23, and spread to the stack of 100 bales of hay, entailing a loss of about \$1500. A spark from the kitchen stove set fire to the arrow-weed ramada roof of the two homes. Little Hazel Edgar, daughter of Arthur, was almost burned in the fire. The bright flames attracted a large flock of wild ducks, which hovered over the scene for hours.

J. V. Taggart, acting constable, arrested seven men on charges of liquor selling and one for gambling. They were taken before Justice T. P. Banta, where they pleaded guilty and were fined \$30 each.

Owing to the abundance of water, farmers up to now have not had their water measured to them, but from now on they must pay for water used at the rate of fifty cents per acre foot.

Walter Dunbar Garey and Daisy Gertrude Grove will be married in the Christian church, Jan. 6, 1904.

After three years of service the old canvas building that did duty as Hotel Imperial, the oldest structure in the district, is being torn down to make way for the new brick hotel.

The first experiments in road flooding to settle the dust are going on east and west of town on Eighth Street.

The third Christmas in the Valley was celebrated by the churches and Sunday schools at all centers in the Valley. Santa Claus at the Christian church in Imperial greatly resembled W. D. Garey. Songs, recitations and addresses before the distribution of presents from handsome trees were the order of the day.

1904

FILE OF IMPERIAL PRESS

Estimated population of Valley 7,000. Imperial, 700; Brawley, 200; Calexico, 200. This is an approximate gain of 5,000 during the year of 1903.



By 1904 Imperial Began to Boast of Population and Building Permits

A review shows approximately 100,000 acres under actual cultivation; there are in the neighborhood of 10,000 head of cattle; several thousand head of horses and mules and many thousand head of hogs. Land that sold a year ago from \$15 to \$18 per acre now sells from \$25 to \$35. Values are now estimated at \$10,000,000.

In the steady march of improvements, people point with pride to the building of the railroad, establishment of schools, churches, substantial business buildings and homes.

Life in Imperial Valley is becoming more of a pleasure; more of the common comforts of life and many of its luxuries are now available. The Valley faces the new year of 1904 with high hopes.

Seven new homes are under construction for the owners: W. B. Warren, F. G. Havens, C. D. Hartshorn, Rev. S. W. Harrison, W. D. Garey, W. A. Edgar, Arthur Edgar. The Methodists begin the erection of \$2500 church building to seat 350.

California Development Co. offers to furnish water free for irrigating street trees and flooding and sprinkling streets.

Rev. J. P. Conder is now pastor of the Christian church.

A. P. Bacon, dental surgeon, has established offices in the Commercial Hotel.

The first of a series of temperance meetings was held at the public hall Sunday, January 3. These meetings are designed to unite the people in a crusade against illicit liquor selling.

Business before the land commissioner, F. G. Havens, shows numerous new filings on desert land and homesteads, with the number of final proofs continually increasing.

Archie Priest resigned as constable, and J. V. Taggart was appointed by the supervisors.

Cottonwood cuttings by the carload are being shipped in from Yuma. These cuttings are set in fence lines, where they quickly grow into trees and are used as fence posts at the same time. Cuttings were sold for five cents each.

Judge F. C. Farr, formerly of Kansas City, where he was a judge in the circuit court, has decided to settle in Imperial.

More than 100 friends attended the Walter Dunbar Garey and Daisy Gertrude Grove wedding.

At the annual meeting of stockholders of Imperial Water Co., No. 1, Pres. I. W. Gleason reviewed progress and development of the No. 1 territory with keen satisfaction. There were present in person 14,089 shares of stock and by proxy 56,695 shares. The president's salary was set at

\$1000 per annum, and directors \$5 per day for time actually spent on the company business. W. A. Edgar, I. W. Gleason, J. H. McKim, V. Gant, Sr., and S. J. Ulrey were elected as a board of directors. On organization, I. W. Gleason was re-elected president; W. A. Edgar, vice-president; R. D. McPherrin, secretary; Thos. Beach, superintendent; Leroy Holt, treasurer.

The Silsbee school district held a bond election for \$3,000 February 6. W. E. Wilsie, A. H. Rehkopf and J. R. Havens were trustees.

R. F. Garner will erect a 40x100 brick building on Imperial and Ninth Street.

The highest price paid for land in the Valley was paid in February by Clarence E. Conant, recently from Camden, N. Y., who purchased the Jacob Stoner place, 320 acres, for \$13,600, a valuation of \$42.50 per acre. Conant paid \$7000 additional for the stock, machinery and improvements on the place.

The dry season on the coast has run the price of hay up to \$20 per ton.

Alfred Patterson, prospector, backed by a wealthy syndicate, has arrived on the western edge of the desert to make an exhaustive search for the famous lost Peg Leg gold mine.

After two months of operation, the new Imperial creamery is making 100 pounds of high quality butter daily.

Thing Bros. have moved their meat market into new quarters.

H. A. F. Miller has opened his new drug store on West Eighth Street.

SEPTEMBER, 1904

The California Development Co. began work on a new canal from the Colorado river to the main canal to increase the flow of water. It took sixty days to complete this work.

W. R. Sisson was Imperial's bandmaster.

W. W. Masten was working on a cut-off channel which resulted in the drying up of Mesquite Lake, east of Imperial.

The statement of the First National Bank shows deposits of \$143,317.43, a gain of twenty-six per cent in two months.

Rev. T. A. Stamp arrived from Washington to help Rev. H. C. Mullen conduct Methodist services at Imperial, Brawley, Holton, Silsbee and Calexico.

FEBRUARY, 1904

Item: C. L. Brown, a prominent attorney of Yuma, visited the Valley Thursday to take note of the progress of this district.—*Press*.

The Western Union Telegraph Co. opened an office for business February 11.

A. B. Salisbury and sons, Frank M. and W. B., opened a real estate office in the Thelma Hotel.

Shepherd & Burke were new real estate agents.

The chamber of commerce sponsored the distribution of a large number of cottonwood trees for street planting. The chamber also raised funds and purchased a train load of gravel which was spread on the streets.

FIRST TEACHERS' INSTITUTE

Feb. 13, 1904. County Supt. Hugh J. Baldwin was chief speaker; W. E. Wilsie presided. Teachers reporting: Miss Charlotte M. Preston, Miss Blanche Parker, of Imperial, L. E. Cooley, Miss Gertrude McRae, Calexico; Miss Maude Van Arman, Silsbee; Miss Grace L. Bean, Silsbee; Miss Lydia Whited, Brawley; Wm. J. Magaw, Eastside. H. N. Dyke read a paper. David DeWitt Lawrence, Geo. F. Staat, E. F. Howe, W. R. Sisson, Miss Ibel Anderson, Mrs. M. P. Grove were contributors to the day's program.

Charley Meadows, widely known as Arizona Charley, and his brother, Jacob Meadows, moved their cattle from Arizona to make Imperial Valley their future home.

H. E. Allatt has been appointed postmaster.

MARCH, 1904

Wm. Wessell, of Redlands, has opened a furniture and undertaking business.

Henry C. Webster has opened a pool hall.

Dr. E. P. Blake was appointed health officer for Imperial.

The First National Bank has increased its capital stock from \$25,000 to \$50,000.

Attorney C. L. Brown came all the way from Yuma to defend two horse thieves, but found that someone had lifted the corner of the jail with a crowbar and the prisoners absent.

Willis Geo. Emerson has formed the Emerson Realty Co. for the purpose of handling the townsites of the Valley, and plans to run excursion trains from Los Angeles and carry on town development in a rapid, modern manner.

INCORPORATION FAILS, THEN IS SUCCESSFUL

A petition signed by fifty residents of Imperial was published as the first intention to incorporate the city as a city of the sixth class. Following are the names signed to this petition: E. F. Howe, E. R. Baker, S. W. Mitchell, John Black, Harry N. Dyke, R. W. McIntyre, Geo. Varney, E. H. Houck, Ray Edgar, Geo. M. Ritchie, I. Louthian, Archie Priest, T. P. Banta, J. R. Stevenson, W. J. Mitchell, C. D. Hartshorn, Ed. B. Moore, A. C. Gaines, D. C. Huddleston, S. C. Mack, Wilber Clark, H. E. Allatt, W. D. Garey, W. H. Townsend, F. P. Blake, J. L. Rhodes, D. H. Rhodes, G. W. Thing, W. H. Hawes, E. L. Wales, James Heatley, S. E. Swartz, William Friedleim, Leroy Holt, J. A. Morrison, Jas. T. Moore, J. H. Edgar, F. N. Chaplin, E. W. Harrington, Ed. Titsworth, Joseph Treshil, Jas. Stratton, Geo. E. Heber, J. E. Heber, J. E. Cannon, A. Burris, D. D. Copenhaver, Jay O. Cooper, J. G. Newton, E. R. Geash, W. H. Hartshorn, H. L. Peck, R. E. Toomey, J. J. Sweeney, R. A. Graham, J. J. Allison, Thos. Beach, R. D. McPherrin, F. G. Havens.

After preliminaries extending over a period of more than two months, an election was held March 3, 1904, to incorporate the town of Imperial. Thirty-seven votes were cast, although the town had 800 inhabitants. The results of the election made Geo. Varney, W. A. Edgar, F. G. Havens, W. D. Garey and R. D. McPherrin the city trustees; clerk, J. H. Edgar; marshal, J. J. Allison; treasurer, Leroy Holt.

When the returns were canvassed by the San Diego supervisors it was found that a number of the original signers to the petition were not qualified voters, and the election was annulled.

A new committee, consisting of E. F. Howe and R. D. McPherrin, was appointed by the chamber of commerce to circulate a new petition for incorporation. Two tickets were put in the field by rival factions—wet and dry, which resulted in a victory for the dries. Incorporation carried by a vote of 82 to 7 on June 30, 1904.

The first city officials: Geo. Varney, Wm. A. Edgar, J. A. Morrison, Chas. F. Preble, and W. H. Hawes, trustees; H. N. Dyke, clerk; Leroy Holt, treasurer; Thos. Beach, marshal.

The first meeting of the new board of trustees was held July 19, 1904. Wm. A. Edgar was unanimously selected president of the board, and thereby became Imperial's first mayor. The board adopted the official seal with a design of a date palm in the center.

APRIL, 1904

The first building in Heber was the bank building which was scheduled to open in June.

Track laying was started on the S. P. extension toward Calexico.

Stevenson Bros. opened their new store, 50x100, with a great stock of general merchandise. The new brick store was quite an addition to the town.

E. E. Forrester is planning a new residence for his farm.

The first cement curb and sidewalk in the Valley was laid in front of the new brick Hotel Imperial.

Ten Pullman cars and a diner, carrying 200 people, arrived in Imperial to attend the sale of town lots conducted by the Emerson Realty Co. A total of over \$50,000 worth of property was purchased.

A party of Texans outfitted from Imperial to hunt for the lost Peg Leg mine. They filed on 160 acres including "Sugar Loaf Butte" near the foot of Devil's canyon. No success.

Editor E. F. Howe announced the sale of the Imperial Press to Chas. A. Gardner, of Pasadena. Mr. Howe's proprietorship of the Press was marked with able publicity for the Valley. Two years later returned to the Valley and was editor of the Imperial Standard.

The death of Cameron Beach, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Beach, was mourned by all. She was the first girl born in the south end of the Valley and was named after Cameron Lake.

The first attempt to find oil was at Indian Wells. After drilling 3000 feet, then the deepest oil hole in the West, the Yuba Oil Company abandoned the effort.

Through the efforts of Miss Charlotte Preston, a library of 101 books was established in connection with the Imperial school. Entertainments and donations enabled her to buy the books.

The sale of the Leroy and W. F. Holt interests in the First National Bank of Imperial took place. Geo. A. Carter, of Pomona, was the purchaser. Both the Holts announce their intention of remaining in the Valley. A few months later Leroy Holt re-purchased his interest and was made president of the bank and Mr. Carter was made cashier.

Mexican officials decided it was time to establish a customs' post on the Mexican side of the boundary line.

MAY, 1904

Track laying on the Calexico extension was finished in May, but regular service was not started for several weeks.

The resignation of Editor E. F. Howe as president of the Imperial Valley Chamber of Commerce was the cause of a complimentary resolution of regret and thanks to be spread upon the minutes.

R. D. McPherrin was elected president of the chamber of commerce and Chas. A. Gardner, T. P. Banta and F. G. Havens placed on the board of directors.

The dairy industry is estimated to be bringing the farmers \$100,000 a year; barley, \$150,000 a year; hay, \$125,000 a year; cattle feeding, \$75,000 a year; other crops bringing the total to \$700,000 a year.

The population of the Valley at this time is about 7,000.

The first train over the new railroad to Calexico was run Friday, May 13, 1904. It was a special and carried officials of the Southern Pacific road.

D. C. Huddleston is building a 14-room dwelling that will cost \$5000.

Imperial Valley paid about \$12,000 taxes to San Diego County this year.

JUNE, 1904

Mining at Picacho is quite active.

The "red light" district was raided by Constable Taggart. Five women and three men were fined.

The Imperial school district is building its first permanent school, which will cost \$6000.

The new Imperial hotel was opened by Mrs. Laura Waters, who was assisted by her daughter, Miss Flora, Sunday, June 19. The list of guests at the opening included most of the notables in the Valley.

The regular train service through to Calexico was started Wednesday, June 29, 1904.

JULY, 1904

The fourth of July was celebrated chiefly at Calexico, everybody in the northern portion of the Valley desiring to ride on the new railroad to Calexico. Special trains were crowded to the limit. Ray Edgar was the leading mover in the enterprise. An excellent program of music and speaking took place on the veranda of the hotel. Judge MacDougal, of Imperial, was orator of the day. Celebrations also took place at the main canal bridge, at Brawley, at Holtville and on the Eastside canal.

The first mention of Cabarker appears in the Press of July 16, 1904, as the Junction point of the Holton Interurban, and the Southern Pacific branch.

Actions of the lawless element have aroused the law-abiding citizens to call a mass meeting to consider the suppression of vice. This action was brought to a head by the murder of Wm. P. Hayes by Lee Dees in a drunken quarrel which took place in a brothel.

J. G. Overshiner brought his printing plant from Julian to Imperial, published a paper four weeks and moved his plant to Calexico, where he will establish the Calexico Chronicle.

E. F. Howe, former editor of the Press, has bought an interest in the San Pedro News.

Rev. H. B. Hollingsworth has moved from Holtville to Imperial to become pastor of the Christian church.

Huntington McKusick and Miss Emma Johnson were married in Whittier July 26, 1904. Mr. McKusick has been in the Valley since 1901.

The Imperial ice plant, producing five tons per day, will have to be enlarged.

W. E. Wilsie was the choice of a political meeting for county supervisor.

F. G. Havens, M. V. Dutcher, W. M. Cole, G. E. Irwin, Mr. Farnsworth, Ed. Rockwood, F. H. Stanley and W. E. Wilsie are in San Diego to attend the Republican county convention, which is to nominate county officers.

Leroy Holt is due home from Texas, with a train load of 800 cattle.

AUGUST, 1904

The first four ordinances passed by the city trustees had to do with organization, place of meeting and order of business. The fifth ordinance was a strong anti-liquor law and was passed unanimously.

The town was wired for electricity during this summer and the first electric light shone August 20 at the power house. An oil burning engine was used to drive a dynamo. The rate was \$1.00 per lamp per month, or twenty-five cents a kilowatt, the customer to install meter.

School accommodations were doubled over last year. E. J. Norrish is the new principal; Mrs. Mary E. Tuttle, Miss Mary English and Miss Flora Waters were additional teachers.

The Valley was marooned for three days by a cloudburst that took out five miles of S. P. track near Beaumont and numerous culverts on the desert, including the Valley branch.

SEPTEMBER, 1904

Organization of the Imperial Title Guarantee & Trust Co. is announced by F. G. Havens, U. S. land commissioner.

A new adobe store building at Silsbee has just been completed by Roy L. Rumsey and a stock of goods installed.

The first monument in the Imperial cemetery was erected to the memory of a Mrs. Adams who died in 1903. It is a granite shaft, five feet tall.

The town ball club, with Geo. Ritchie as manager, has won every game it has played and is itching for more action.

Lots of rabbits, quail, plovers and water fowl around Blue Lake.

A. L. Hill has purchased the Wilber Clark hardware store.

The S. P. started work on the extension from Calexico to Yuma under Jack Carrillo.

The Democratic delegation from the Valley to the county convention in San Diego consisted of Geo. Holloway, David De Witt Lawrence, D. C. MacDougal and E. L. Maydole. Mr. Lawrence was nominated for the assembly from the 80th district.

W. S. Corwin is showing grapes from vines eighteen months old.

FIRST FARMERS' INSTITUTE

The first farmers' institute was held under the famous big tent in Imperial. W. E. Wilsie's various contributions on crops, how to grow them and how to market them, were features of the program. The institute adopted resolutions urging the construction of the railroad from San Diego; taking measures against the introduction of pests; favoring more institutes and thanking Prof. Cook, of the state agricultural department, for his efforts.

Because no tax money will be available for a year, the city trustees adopted a business license ordinance to provide funds for running expenses. They almost agreed to license the blind pigs to relieve the situation but did not.

Numerous instances of unexpected hatching of eggs in peculiar places are recorded. Mrs. Joe Watson's is about the best. A pile of mesquite logs lay on the ranch and her hens selected the recesses under the crooked sticks for nests. Newly hatched chicks began to emerge, day by day, until Mrs. Watson had a flock of over 400, all hatched by natural heat in the woodpile.

The marriage of J. H. Edgar and Miss Blanche Maul took place in Fresno September 30. Mr. Edgar is a popular member of the pioneer Edgar Bros. firm.

Imperial schools opened with 105 attending.

Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Preston arrived from Oklahoma to make their home in Imperial.

OCTOBER, 1904

Clarence Conant is advertising registered, thoroughbred, Berkshire boars for sale.

A. Panek brought to town several cotton plants well filled with bolls. He said the seeds were planted in May.

Allison Peck is bringing in a carload of farm equipment from San Dimas.

W. A. Van Horn has returned from Oregon where he spent two months. He was accompanied by his wife's brother-in-law, B. E. Nosler.

POLITICS

Leroy A. Wright, noted attorney of San Diego, visited the Valley and caused the organization of a Republican club, which selected the following officers: President, M. V. Dutcher; vice-president, Lou Farnsworth; secretary, H. N. Dyke; treasurer, H. E. Allatt; executive committee, Frank Salisbury, H. R. Andre, Wm. Burke, Geo. Thing, Roy McPherrin.

W. E. Wilsie, nominee for county supervisor, was given a big boost.

For the Democrats, Supervisor Jasper ran again for supervisor and was re-elected.

David DeWitt Lawrence, nominated for the assembly by the Democrats, withdrew and G. H. P. Shaw was named to take his place.

Clarence Conant has shipped in 1500 Angora goats.

The registration for the next election is 901 for the entire Valley.

At the suggestion of Mrs. S. O. Long several citizens met at her home to form a Village Improvement Society.

Miss Flora Waters has made the Hotel Imperial the town's musical center, being an accomplished musician herself.

The farm of F. S. Webster is pointed to as a model. On his 320 acres, Mr. Webster this year raised wheat, kaffir corn, alfalfa, Irish potatoes, sweet potatoes, peas, beans, musk melons, casaba melons, watermelons, peanuts and grapes.

Fancy Valley butter is quoted in Los Angeles at 60 cents.

S. C. Smith, of Bakersfield, candidate for congress, paid the Valley a visit and made a good impression at several public appearances.

Efforts extending over a year back to get San Diego aroused to the necessity of building a railroad to the Valley

are now culminating in a plan for Valley settlers to build the road and own it. A series of meetings in the Valley is being conducted to see how much of the proposed \$5,000,000 initial bond issue would be taken.

The first cut in the river bank below the gate was made.

NOVEMBER, 1904

Ray Edgar has let the contract for a new home on Eighth Street.

Judge Havens raised \$300 in a short time to pay Martin & Thomas, well borers from Coachella, to drill a test hole on the Imperial townsite. The well was dry.

J. C. Fortiner writes to suggest that the Valley improve the road to San Diego and put on some of these new fangled auto busses to carry passengers and freight.

COMMITTEEMEN BUY PRESS

Announcement is made in the November 26 issue of the Imperial Press that the owner, Chas. A. Gardner, has sold the Press to Frank N. Chaplin, F. G. Havens and S. J. Ulrey, of Imperial; Geo. W. Bothwell, of Los Angeles, and J. G. Ellis, of Brawley. It will be noted that the first four names were minority members of the water users' association committee working for government control of the system.

A sleeping car has been added to the S. P. Valley branch.

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. P. Blair plan a new home on their ranch north of town.

DECEMBER, 1904

F. G. Havens has resigned as United States commissioner and the office has been discontinued. Havens urges that land office be established in Imperial.

Imperial postoffice has been promoted from fourth to third class.

The first show to ever visit Imperial Valley was a third class edition of the Georgia minstrels. The Press said "about 450 tickets and as many people were badly sold."

The wedding of J. B. Parazette to Mrs. Mollie Pratt was noted in the columns of the San Bernardino Sun. Mr. Parazette is in the real estate business in Imperial.

Water is once more flowing into Salton Sea and is within 300 yards of the salt mill. A levee has been thrown up to protect the buildings. The water comes from waste irrigation. A lawsuit is expected.

W. F. Holt has purchased the ice and light plants of the Imperial Light, Water and Power Co. for \$35,000.

Myron D. Witter, who has been connected with the Press for the last six months, has accepted a position as manager of the Imperial Valley News of Brawley, and will take charge January 1, 1905.

A total of sixty acres of cantaloupes caused the seven growers to meet and organize. Allison Peck was appointed chairman. A. S. Fell was secretary.

Ira Aten, of Douglas, Arizona, visited the Valley on his way to San Diego.

Members of the house and senate irrigation committees are to make a summer tour of the West, including Yuma and the Imperial Valley.

1905

M. A. Mayendro, special government agent, visited the Valley to stop the wholesale cutting of mesquite timber from unoccupied government lands. The Valley is being rapidly denuded of this timber.

W. A. Van Horn shipped a carload of hogs to the Los Angeles market.

J. C. Blackinton owns the only cat in Imperial Valley.

MARCH, 1905

The board of supervisors divided the county into two horticultural districts, putting the Valley into a district by itself. Eugene L. Wales was appointed inspector.

Daniel Browning, postmaster at Silsbee and one of the pioneers, died March 3.

The Emerson Realty Company has sold back to the Imperial Land Company its exclusive right to sell town lots. During the year it marketed more than \$98,000 worth of property in Imperial, Calexico and Brawley.

A. H. Heber retires from the Imperial Land Co., and F. C. Paulin assumes sole control of that concern.

Mr. and Mrs. Ira Aten and four children arrived from San Diego to make their home in the Valley.

Mrs. H. Sangster has opened the first exclusive millinery store.

Varney Bros. now have stores at Imperial, Brawley, and Calexico.

Dr. Holtzman has bought Dr. Anderson's drug store.

I. L. Wilson is advising people to "see Wilson about it."

J. G. Ellis announces his retirement from the management of the Press and F. G. Havens takes his place.

A second story is being added to the water company building to be used as a hall.

APRIL, 1905

The Imperial Chamber of Commerce reorganized, adopting a new set of by-laws.

A group of San Diego men re-located a deposit of sulphur north and east of Coyote Wells.

April 23 several sharp earthquake shocks were felt in the Valley.

A carload of Los Angeles business men, guided by Secretary Wiggins, of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce, visited the Valley and returned to the coast, gave out interviews extremely favorable and complimentary to the Valley's greatness.

SURVEYS GIVE TROUBLE

In 1856, the government authorized a survey of the Salton district. Although the contractors turned in field notes and maps there were few, if any, markers set and when the California Development Company tried to lay out the Valley in townships and sections it found a variance of some 220 feet to the mile. This caused a series of excess strips of land which could not be shown on the new maps but which were filed on and occupied by settlers just the same.

The government ordered a resurvey in 1902, let a contract for the work in July, 1903. Work was started by Henderson and Friel in December, 1903, and "completed" it in February, 1904. In November, 1904, an inspector examined their work and the land department rejected their work. In the meantime, all lands were withdrawn from final entry and proof and no settler could get title to his land. Nothing further was done until the Valley began to petition and protest in 1905. It was four more years before the neglect and inefficiency of the government was remedied, and in 1909 a new survey was officially accepted.

MAY, 1905

J. B. Baker, who has been working as a printer in Imperial, has gone to Holtville to establish the Holtville Tribune. The papers now existing in the Valley are: Imperial Press and Imperial Standard, at Imperial; Imperial Valley News at Brawley; Chronicle, at Calexico, and the Tribune at Holtville.

A railroad from Imperial to Silsbee was suggested and a company formed with \$250,000 capital stock was pushed by the chamber of commerce.

The flume across New River, used to carry water into No. 8, was weakened and about sixty feet went out of commission on account of the unusually high water.

David A. Thomas, city attorney, died May 11, 1905.

A large gathering of friends gave Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Morrison a farewell party on the eve of their departure to live in Calexico where Mr. Morrison will be employed in the new First State Bank.

W. F. Holt has tendered his resignation as president of No. 7.

Enrollment in Imperial schools was up to 202.

Eight veterans of the Civil War attended memorial services presided over by Rev. J. H. Wales.

JUNE, 1905

Freight receipts at Imperial, \$70,000 for the month of May, placed that station third in size on the S. P.'s western lines. Los Angeles is first and San Pedro second.

A special train bearing the house and senate public lands committees and other government officials was a great event for the Valley early in June. The senators and congressmen were surprised and delighted with the appearance of things. They were fed at Holtville at noon and visited all other parts of the district. Dr. Elwood Mead, who afterward had a great deal to do with reclamation work and western development as a government official, was a member of the party. He and the others were greatly surprised to be shown the spots designated on maps prepared and published by the government and declared entirely infertile because of alkali. These spots were all covered with excellent crops and the stakes could hardly be found in the rich barley and alfalfa fields.

Ira Aten filed on a section in the north end and has gone to his home in Texas to sell out and move to the Valley.

Leroy Holt came in from Arizona with another trainload of 620 cattle. He sold them all in a short time.

Mr. and Mrs. Ben Vlier are down from Pasadena looking after their ranch property near Heber.

JULY, 1905

The more or less famous case of John Robinson, held in a box car jail at Mexicali for the past six months, charged with stealing a second-hand pair of shoes, was taken up with the state department by F. G. Havens. Robinson was released.

Imperial's first frame building, formerly the town company office, was burned, together with two adjacent houses belonging to S. W. Mitchell, M. P. Holman and Mr. Booher. When the alarm was given no one knew where the hose cart was and when it was found the hose was missing. When the hose was found there was no pressure. The bucket brigade did what they could.

San Diego banks have begun to withdraw the exchange charge on Valley checks.

Mrs. Laura Waters attended the Portland exposition.

Varney Bros. have incorporated for \$75,000.

A party consisting of C. R. Rockwood, H. T. Cory, E. H. Gaines and F. G. Havens, editor of the Press, went to Yuma, boarded a launch and visited the Mexican intake. They found all but fourteen per cent of the river flowing into the canals on its way to Salton Sea. Rockwood explained his plan for putting in a 1500 foot gate, built in a dry pit and the water coaxed through it under control. The trip was an education for the editor of the Press.

Leroy Holt had an experience with a burglar at his home. He yelled and frightened the man away, but he later returned and was again frightened away. Mr. Holt says the next time he will throw the tomcat at him.

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Fernald and Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Witman tried to drive to the mountains by way of Calexico, got lost on the desert and almost died. They made their way back to the Valley just in time.

D. L. (Scotty) Russell's job during the early flood period has been to confine the Alamo river to the artificial channel built to keep it out of Mesquite Lake. At one place he had to build six different levees one behind the other. The channel has scoured so low that Mesquite Lake can now be drained and 15,000 added to cultivation. A champagne supper is suggested for Scotty, with a special injunction that the band of Indians who did the work be included.

Bert R. Chaplin and Miss Louise Creal were married.

August 14 a daughter was born to Mrs. Mary Deed. She named the child Imperial Hazel Deed.

W. A. Van Horn, Arthur and Fred Fuller were arrested for driving 400 hogs in a ditch that carried drinking water. On trial they showed that they tried in every possible way to keep the hogs out of the water but found it utterly impossible. The case was dismissed.

The local electric light plant went out of commission together with the ice plant with the thermometer at 115.

SEPTEMBER, 1905

Rev. J. F. Tout of Ventura has been called by the Christian church in Imperial and has accepted its pastorate for the coming year. The Press says Mr. Tout is one of the most forceful and eloquent men of his denomination.

Virgil Patterson will buy your fat hogs.

J. C. Thompson has rigged a double cable across New River. By this means 3000 sacks of grain have been carried across the river and hauled to Imperial. When one wishes to cross he gets in the box and pulls himself across by the other wire.

The Imperial Standard, published by David DeWitt Lawrence, has been incorporated. The incorporators were A. H. and G. E. Heber, Edward Dool, D. D. Lawrence, and R. T. Perry.

Hundreds of people are returning from vacations spent in the mountains and on the coast. Schools are scheduled to re-open September 25.

Mrs. Leroy Holt and two children will spend this winter in Imperial.

D. D. Pellett, printer, is foreman of the Press office.

W. A. Edgar and family are back from the mountains.

OCTOBER, 1905

Perry Whiting, head of the Whiting Lumber & Supply Co., after four years of doubt, is looking around for 1000 acres of land. He has established a lumber yard in Imperial with I. L. Wilson in charge, and is shipping eight carloads of wagons, farm machinery, threshers, fencing wire and similar goods. Mr. Whiting also purchased the J. F. Boyd Lumber Co. at Holtville.

The fall of 1905 Imperial Valley had 12 school districts, with 733 pupils enrolled. Money allotted to these schools amounted to \$11,365.00. Organization of a high school was delayed because each district figured it would be but a short time before it would have students enough for a high school.

OCTOBER-NOVEMBER, 1905

H. E. Park is the new manager of the Imperial Lumber & Commercial Co.

Nels Jacobson is arranging to have his place east of Imperial planted to alfalfa.

L. F. Farnsworth has returned from a visit to the Portland exposition.

Hon. Clifford Coggins, of Igera, Marin county, and a member of the state senate, was a visitor. He is well posted on Valley affairs.

L. W. Hollis has arrived from Riverside and is putting up electric fixtures and transmission lines for the Holton Power Co.

The birth of a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Rehkopf added interest to the peculiar fact that births in the Valley for several months were at the rate of 16 girl babies to one boy. Scientists are beginning to take notice of the fact.

A new fire ordinance has been adopted with stringent regulations.

Isaac Mayfield and J. C. Stuart arrived the last of October from Kentucky. They are relatives of Holdam Stuart, who has been in the Valley some time. Holdam says this is the advance guard of a big bunch of Kentucky people who are headed this way.

J. M. Cardiff has installed his family on his ranch at Mesquite Lake.

Paul Rittner is the latest young man to bring a bride to the Valley.

As a result of the experience in cantaloupes this year the necessity of organizing for the purpose of packing, shipping and marketing was apparent. The Imperial Valley Fruit and Produce Co., headed by George H. P. Shaw, president; R. E. Toomey, vice-president; Leroy Holt, treasurer and H. N. Dyke, secretary. Several hundred acres grown this year went to waste, while the few who handled their crop systematically at Brawley, made a net profit of \$100 per acre.

A fruit and vegetable cannery is declared a necessity.

Wiley M. Weaver and V. P. Edie rated as sheep kings in New Mexico, arrived with 6000 head of sheep. They were shipped in over the Santa Fe to Temecula and driven into the valley by way of Warner's ranch and Carriso Creek to Calexico where they crossed New River on the bridge.

Produce prices: Barley 90 cents, hay \$14.50 per ton, eggs 30 cents, creamery butter 57 cents, hogs 5¼ cents, steers 4½ cents, sheep \$4 per head, broilers 17 cents, turkeys 20 cents.

Varney Bros. are expanding with a new brick building.

Paul Maull has accepted a position with the National Lumber Co.

Ira Aten and family have returned from Texas. Mr. Aten bought the F. J. Austin place 2 miles southeast of Imperial. He will build a handsome home on his new place at once.

I. L. Wilson is now in the real estate business for himself. A. Sochor takes his place as manager of the lumber yard.

Mrs. Wiley M. Weaver and her young son, Wiley, arrived from Pasadena.

R. H. Benton and family arrived for the winter. Mr. Benton purchased the Geo. A. Carter residence.

Anton Sochor and Miss Elizabeth Lockerman were married at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Maull. Rev. J. F. Tout performed the ceremony.

The files of the Imperial Press from Nov., 1905 to Feb. 1906 are missing.

1906

The coming of the first moving pictures is announced at the Water Co. hall. Here are some of the titles: "The Train Wreckers," "The Fire Bug," "The Tragedy at Sea," and "Steeple Chases." Prices 25c, 50c and 75c.

MARCH, 1906

All water company workers and officials are bending every effort to reinforce and strengthen all canal banks, fearing that the water from the midsummer rise will be higher than ever in the Valley.

APRIL, 1906

The Imperial second city election resulted in the election of the following officers: Trustees R. D. McPherrin, W. B. Salisbury, C. F. Preble, C. W. Fernald and F. E. Barbour. Clerk H. N. Dyke; marshal Matt Moore; treasurer Leroy Holt.

MAY, 1906

E. F. Howe, former editor and publisher of the Press, announces the purchase of the Imperial Standard, and says he means to make it a daily.

The W. C. T. U. conducted a silver medal contest in which Mesdames L. C. Vickery, W. A. Edgar, J. F. Tout, Anton Sochor, Paul Maull and Shepherd took part. The

judges rendered a decision in favor of Mrs. Sochor.

The proposition for an Imperial union high school carried by a large majority

OCTOBER, 1906

George W. McCaulley, pioneer livery and hotel man of Flowing Well, Old Beach and Imperial, died Oct. 24. He was one of the earliest of the early pioneers, running a stage line from Flowing Well into the desert, carrying the very first visitors into the uninhabited regions.

1907

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Edgar entertained the Edgar families at a reunion Christmas day. The guests were Mr. and Mrs. Archie Edgar, Mr. and Mrs. Will Edgar, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Edgar, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Edgar, Mr. and Mrs. Marshall, Mrs. Turbett, Miss Addie Turbett and Miss Estelia Falla.

John Keith is city marshal.

MARCH, 1907

The doors of the Imperial City Bank are ready to open. Pres. Geo. A. Parkyns; cashier, Byron H. Cook; directors R. H. Benton, Geo. J. Dennis, J. R. Stevenson, F. C. Paulin and A. J. Waters. In January, 1908, Parkyns and Dennis resigned. Geo. P. Blair and J. F. Giles were elected, Blair being made president.

COUNTY DIVISION PERIOD

From March to August, 1907, Imperial's activities were centered on the losing effort to attain the county seat. The reader is referred to this period in another portion of the history.

The annual election of directors of No. 1 resulted in the retention on the board of W. A. Edgar and D. G. Aplin and the election of W. E. Wilsie, Geo. Long and E. S. McCollum. Aplin was elected president. I. W. Gleason was off the board for the first time in a number of years.

1908

The city of Imperial has organized a board of trade, successor to the chamber of commerce. Dr. E. E. Patten, O. K. Thomas, H. B. Thompson, H. E. Park and Bert Chaplin are the moving spirits.

Edgar Bros. Co. has been incorporated with \$50,000 capital stock, \$41,000 paid in. Directors: W. A. Edgar, Arthur Edgar, Ray Edgar, J. H. Edgar, T. B. Edgar.

The history of Imperial is continued in Chapter XXIV. To gain a more complete idea of the earlier period the reader should merge his reading of this chapter with the perusal of similar periods in the histories of the other towns, the history of water affairs and the experiences of individual pioneers related on previous pages. The other town histories are taken up in chapters following the county and war records.—EDITOR.

CHAPTER XVII

IMPERIAL COUNTY GOVERNMENT
FORMED

AS early as 1905 the matter of separating Imperial Valley from the rest of San Diego county and establishing a new county government was in the minds of the people. It was a great inconvenience to travel more than 300 miles by train to the county seat. In case of the arrest of criminals their transportation was a problem. If the County Coroner had to come over he was often too late to hold a real inquest. The Sheriff refused to appoint a deputy. The Valley was just the tag end of official life and the people grew tired of it.

However, because of the serious floods that started in 1905 and kept up until 1907, there was nothing definite done towards county division. As soon as the river break was closed in February, 1907, the people turned to the new task with an energy that foreboded a real struggle. It was conceded by all the Valley that the contest for county seat would be between Imperial, the oldest town, and El Centro, the youngest. The first move was made by Imperial, when invitations were mailed to one hundred citizens asking them to attend a meeting to be held May 2, 1907, in Imperial. The crowd gathered and organized with R. D. McPherrin as chairman; Bert Chaplin was secretary. Prof. McCully, of Calexico, intimated that the meeting was not quite representative, but Attorney F. C. Farr introduced a resolution favoring county division and authorizing the chairman to appoint a committee of three from each precinct to conduct the campaign. The resolution carried and the campaign was on.

The El Centro contingent hoped that the campaign for county division would not break until fall and was taken by surprise by Imperial's strategic move. An El Centro mass meeting of all who were in favor of postponing the election until after hot weather was over so that the new county would not be formed before there was money to run it, was called for May 8.

On May 8, two hundred seventy-three citizens crowded Masonic hall at El Centro and listened to the speeches for and against delay. The Rev. Chas. Wentworth of Imperial, was chosen chairman and Bert Chaplin was chosen secretary. Then the El Centro contingent realized that the Imperial men had outwitted them again. Imperial had a majority in El Centro's meeting! The vote was 156 to 117 in favor of going right ahead.

Imperial and El Centro plunged into one of the most intense, not to say bitter, struggles that ever took place between any two communities in California.

The campaign committee named by Chairman McPherrin was composed of W. P. Mansfield, D. S. Elder, F. H. Stanley, F. N. Chaplin, P. N. Ferguson, C. H. Trego, Ira Aten, J. Stanley Brown, Fred Fuller, E. H. Rockwood, G. M. McCully, Thos. Beach, Geo. L. Campbell, F. S. Webster, J. Arthur McBride, J. R. Stevenson, S. J. Ulrey, and T. P. Banta.

The campaign committee circulated a petition and presented it to the county Board of Supervisors at San Diego asking that a county division election be called. The petition bore about 800 names. The board set July 5th as the date to hear objections to the petition. At that time the petition was granted and the election called for August 6.

Monday, July 15, the non-partisan convention of delegates, named by the voters in the various precincts, gathered in convention in Imperial to nominate candidates. El Centro had a ticket and so did Imperial. The convention was called to order by R. D. McPherrin. The two factions tried their strength immediately in a contest for chairman and secretary. El Centro won this skirmish. C. H. Day, of Brawley, was made chairman and O. B. Tout, of Calexico, secretary, both these men being El Centro adherents.

The convention was composed of delegates duly elected at primaries by the various precincts. These composed the county convention at Imperial:

Palo Verde—W. S. Hodges.

Hanlon—Wm. Buck, H. E. Gravelle, Joe Myers, Jack Auer.

Picacho—W. C. Horan, J. C. Carr.

Imperial—R. H. Benton, L. F. Farnsworth, B. R. Chaplin, Charles Wentworth, T. P. Banta, E. R. Baker, C. W. Fernald, W. D. Conser, H. J. Fuller, Arthur Edgar, H. L. Peck, Dan Southwell, D. R. Stevenson, G. M. Bumgarner.

Calexico—J. A. Morrison, Edward Dool, P. E. Carr, O. B. Tout, J. W. Bragg, C. A. Collins, R. A. Holt, Thos. Beach, A. M. Shenk, V. Gant, F. Kloke, W. G. Record, J. F. Steintorf, W. P. Witman.

Holtville—H. B. Hollingsworth, K. L. Kendle, H. J. Messenger, M. S. Cook, Ed. E. Boyd, Paul Boman, Edwin Mead, Maj. J. N. Patton, A. R. Underwood, F. J. Cole, J. B. Baker, W. B. Richards.

Brawley—R. Malan, D. S. Elder, C. H. Day, F. A. Stahl, Thos. Kellog, W. H. Best, Geo. Hallaway, M. D. Witter, W. P. Mansfield, J. C. Bradley, J. D. Bennett.

Silsbee—Geo. Nichols, Johnson, Vanderpoel, Wilson, Handley.

El Centro—John Norton, W. E. Wilsie, R. H. Portis, W. H. Vanderpoel, M. W. Conkling.

The convention nominated the following non-partisan ticket:

For Judge, Franklin J. Cole, of Holtville.
 For County Clerk, D. S. Elder, of Brawley.
 For Sheriff, Mobley Meadows, of Calexico.
 For Auditor, Thos. J. Kellogg, of Brawley.
 For Treasurer, Paul Boman, of Holtville.
 For Recorder, John B. Baker, of Holtville.
 For Tax Collector, Thos. Harding, of Silsbee.
 For Assessor, James B. Hoffman, of Calexico.
 For Supt. of Schools, J. E. Carr, of Heber.
 For Public Administrator, E. E. Forrester, of Silsbee.

For Coroner, T. J. Mitchell, of Calexico.

For Surveyor, E. H. Gaines, of Calexico.

For Supervisors—First District, S. McHarg, Calexico; Second District, R. H. Clark, El Centro; Fourth District, Geo. R. Wade, Brawley; Fifth District, Porter N. Ferguson, Holtville.

F. S. Webster, the hold over Supervisor, was from the Imperial district.

This was another victory for the El Centro forces.

Independent nominees for a few of the offices announced themselves. They were: For Coroner, Wm. Wessell and D. D. Nairn.

For Sheriff, M. P. Harris and C. C. Bowles.

For Superior Judge, H. N. Dyke, J. I. Shepherd, F. C. Farr and H. W. Brewer.

For County Clerk, John Witman.

For Supt. of Schools, E. J. Norrish and L. E. Cooley.

For County Recorder, Geo. L. Campbell.

For County Assessor, Fred Fuller.

From the date of the non-partisan convention of July 15 to the date of the election, August 6, the campaign went through three of the hottest weeks, in several ways, the Valley ever saw. W. F. Holt commandeered the only automobile in the Valley, belonging to C. H. Day, and he and his committee workers attended meeting after meeting in all parts of the Valley, morning, afternoon and night. The Imperial committee, ably assisted by Judge F. C. Farr, F. C. Paulin, R. D. McPherrin, Leroy Holt, Arthur Edgar, Rev. Chas. Wentworth and others, made just as strenuous a campaign for Imperial.

A peculiar condition was noted when brother was arrayed against brother. Leroy Holt espoused the cause of Imperial and W. F. Holt led the fight for El Centro.

Language used by Imperial and El Centro newspapers caused the arrest for criminal libel of E. F. Howe and S. J. Ulrey of the Imperial Standard, by C. H. Day. To offset that, Clark Bradshaw buckled a gun on his saddle horn, came down to El Centro and asked where he could find Denver D. Pellet, editor of the Press; Pellet was warned in time.

The fight between Imperial and El Centro grew so intense that 18 leading citizens of Brawley announced a few days before the election that they nominated and would support exclusively the town of Brawley for the County Seat!

The fact that W. F. Holt, months before had the foresight to establish or purchase newspapers in Calexico, Holtville, Brawley and El Centro, helped El Centro in the campaign mightily.

The registration of voters for the election was as follows: El Centro, 289; Silsbee, 127; Calexico, 268; Holtville, 285; Brawley, 430; Imperial, 429; Old Beach, 24, and River precincts, 162. Total 2014. It was midsummer and half the population was on the coast.

EL CENTRO THE WINNER

The total vote cast August 6, was 1326, 1120 for county division and 88 against. For county seat—El Centro 563, Imperial 455, Brawley 222. El Centro's majority over Imperial, 108. The entire El Centro ticket was elected with the exception of J. B. Hoffman, who was defeated by Fred Fuller, independent candidate for County Assessor.

The installation of the various County officers awaited Judge Cole's commission from the State; when it arrived he was qualified to install the other officers. Under the direction of District Attorney J. M. Eshleman all preliminaries, such as official bonds, were attended to ahead of time. Practically all the county officers were without experience. Mr. Eshleman had to advise them on every move.

The Board of Supervisors met unofficially August 22. The second story of the opera house block was the first court house. The Superior Court occupied the Masonic lodge room. The Sheriff's office was in the brick restaurant building west of the bank and the County Treasurer was found in a rear room of the bank.

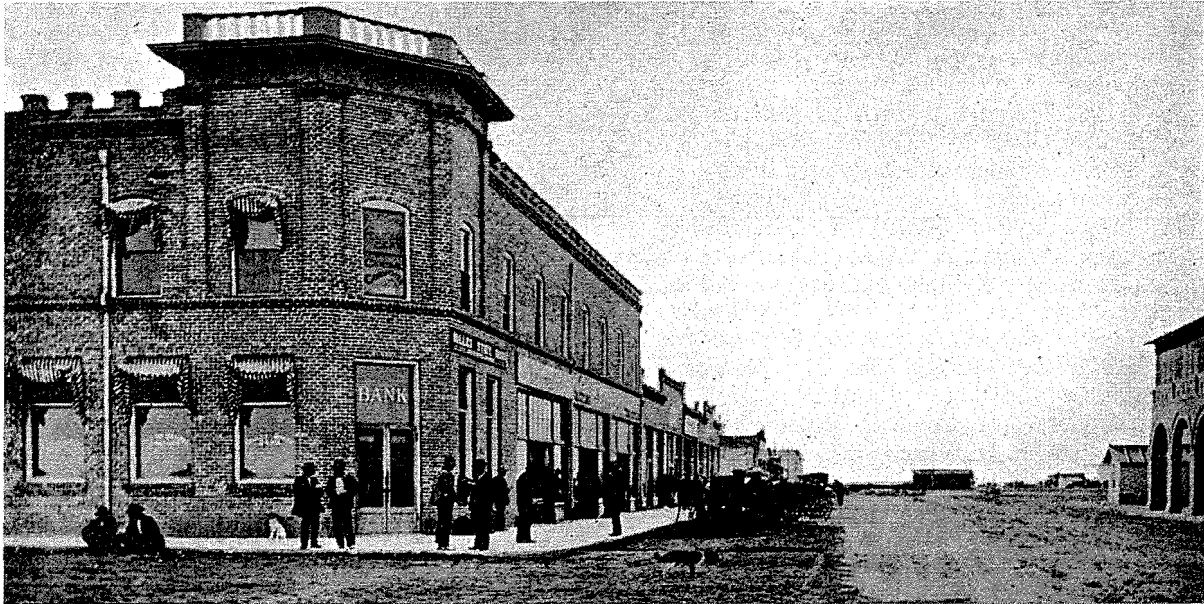
With the formation of the new county the commissions of all justices of the peace and notaries expired; all county ordinances were null and void. County officers had no law to enforce, except state laws.

W. H. Buck, of Yuma, was named chief deputy by Sheriff Meadows. A sign said "County Jail—Keep Out." This was a notice to loafers and was not meant for the attention of prisoners.

W. L. Payne was appointed first justice of the peace for El Centro township.

A county jail with four cells for prisoners and quarters for the sheriff was ordered built by the supervisors.

The first ordinance passed by the Supervisors outlined the time and place of meeting; the second



The first Court House in 1907 was the second story of the Holt Opera House Block at Fifth and Main Streets.

was a stringent anti-liquor ordinance. The third was an equally strong anti-gambling ordinance.

A county seal was a design with a canal running in the foreground, a range of mountains in the back, over which was a crown. It was adopted by the Supervisors.

Eleven roll top desks, six flat top desks, two typewriters, big safe and a lot of blanks arrived for the offices of the new county.

The first tax rate fixed was \$4.25 on the hundred. Because so much land in the Valley was not patented most of the tax fell on personal property, and the rate was high.

The first County Board of Education was composed of Superintendent J. E. Carr, Mrs. J. M. Eshleman and G. M. McCully. They tackled the difficult problems connected with school work.

OCTOBER, 1907

The resignation of J. B. Hoffman as Justice of the Peace of Calexico, was accepted and W. F. McCollum was appointed to his place.

Ordinance No. 5 organized a County Horticultural Commission, with W. E. Wilsie, Francis Heiny and D. G. Aplin named as the first commission.

Imperial people contested the county division election without success.

NOVEMBER, 1907

A temporary courthouse constructed of hollow tile, was planned for Main street, so located that when the time came to build a permanent courthouse the temporary building could be sold as a business building.

T. J. Stover was appointed County Live Stock Inspector.

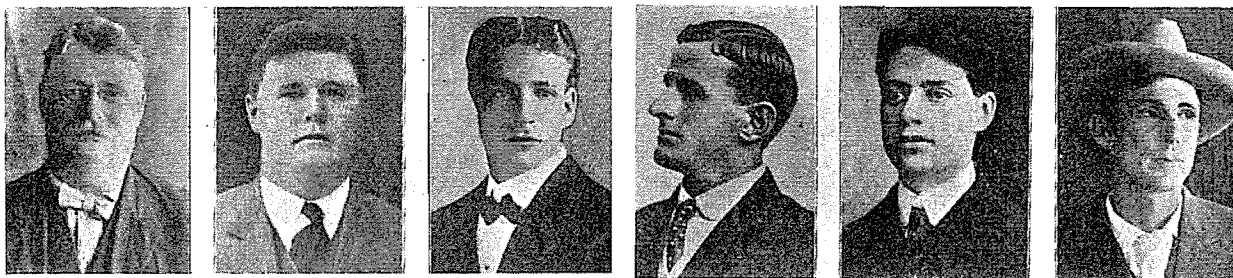
The Imperial Valley Press was designated official paper for the county.

DECEMBER, 1907

The last effort made by Imperial to move the county seat was an order served on the Board of Supervisors and County officers to remove their effects to Imperial. The order was not obeyed.

Thos. Harding having failed to qualify as Tax Collector, the Supervisors appointed Ed. Wright of Calexico to the place.

The next chapter will name all the officers who have served Imperial County since 1907 and will reveal other statistical information that will give the reader an idea of the growth and development of the county as California's newest political subdivision.

*F. S. Webster**P. N. Ferguson**Geo. Wade**Sidney McHarg**Ed Wright**Mobley Meadows*

FIRST SUPERVISORS

FIRST SUPERVISOR, TAX COLLECTOR AND SHERIFF

CHAPTER XVIII

IMPERIAL COUNTY SINCE ORGANIZATION

Officers Since Organization, August 6, 1907
Members of Boards of Supervisors

Year	Calexico, 1st	El Centro, 2nd	Imperial, 3rd	Brawley, 4th	Holtville, 5th
1907	S. McHarg	R. H. Clark	F. S. Webster*	G. R. Wade	P. N. Ferguson
1908	S. McHarg	R. H. Clark	F. S. Webster*	G. R. Wade	P. N. Ferguson
1909	S. McHarg	R. H. Clark*	F. S. Webster	G. R. Wade	P. N. Ferguson
1910	S. McHarg*	R. H. Clark	F. S. Webster	G. R. Wade	P. N. Ferguson
1911	E. E. Bennett†	R. H. Clark*	J. J. Carr	R. E. Wills	Ed. E. Boyd
1912	E. E. Bennett	R. H. Clark	J. J. Carr*	W. F. Beal	Ed. E. Boyd
1913	John Boyce	A. Shepherd	J. J. Carr*	W. F. Beal	Ed. E. Boyd
1914	John Boyce	A. Shepherd*	J. J. Carr	W. F. Beal	Ed. E. Boyd
1915	John Boyce	A. Shepherd*	J. J. Carr	W. F. Beal	L. F. Shaw
1916	P. E. Carr†	A. Shepherd	J. J. Carr	W. F. Beal*	L. F. Shaw
1917	P. E. Carr	W. H. Brooks	John Rice	W. F. Beal	L. F. Shaw*
1918	P. E. Carr*	W. H. Brooks	J. Roy Adams	W. F. Beal	L. F. Shaw
1919	Geo. Pulliam	W. H. Brooks*	J. Roy Adams	W. F. Beal	R. A. Holt
1920	Geo. Pulliam	W. H. Brooks	J. Roy Adams*	W. F. Beal	R. A. Holt
1921	Geo. Pulliam*	W. H. Brooks	J. Roy Adams	J. R. Anderson	R. A. Holt
1922	Geo. Pulliam	W. H. Brooks	J. Roy Adams	J. R. Anderson*	R. A. Holt
1923	Geo. Pulliam	W. H. Brooks*	J. Roy Adams	J. R. Anderson	C. E. Stewart
1924	Geo. Pulliam	W. H. Brooks	J. Roy Adams*	H. L. Jackson	C. E. Stewart‡
1925	Geo. Pulliam*	R. C. Smith	Ben Hulse†	H. L. Jackson	Carl Brown
1926	Geo. Pulliam	R. C. Smith	Ben Hulse	H. L. Jackson	Carl Brown*
1927	Geo. Pulliam	R. C. Smith*	Ben Hulse	H. L. Jackson	Dave Vencill
1928	Geo. Pulliam	R. C. Smith	Ben Hulse*	H. L. Jackson	Dave Vencill
1929	Geo. Pulliam	R. C. Smith	Ben Hulse*	H. L. Jackson	Dave Vencill
1930	Geo. Pulliam*	R. C. Smith	Andy Preble†	H. L. Jackson	Dave Vencill
1931	W. C. Best	R. C. Smith	Andy Preble*	H. L. Jackson	Dave Vencill

* Chairman of the Board.

† Appointed by the Governor.

‡ Died July, 1924. John B. Baker was appointed to the vacancy by the Governor and served until December 18. An election in the Fifth District was held November 4 and Carl Brown was seated December 18.

Ben Hulse resigned in 1929, Supervisor Pulliam serving the remainder of the year as Chairman.



F. J. Cole *J. M. Eshleman* *Fred Fuller* *D. S. Elder* *J. B. Baker* *Paul Boman*
 FIRST JUDGE, DISTRICT ATT'Y. AND ASSESSOR FIRST CLERK, RECORDER AND TREASURER

ELECTIVE OFFICERS

Year	Dist. Att'y.	Sheriff	Assessor	Clerk	Treasurer
1907	J. M. Eshleman	M. Meadows	Fred Fuller	D. S. Elder	Paul Boman
1908	J. M. Eshleman	M. Meadows	Fred Fuller	D. S. Elder	Paul Boman
1909	J. M. Eshleman	M. Meadows	Fred Fuller	D. S. Elder	Paul Boman
1910	J. M. Eshleman	M. Meadows	Fred Fuller	D. S. Elder	Paul Boman
1911	Phil D. Swing	M. Meadows	Wiley Weaver	M. S. Cook	J. S. Brown
1912	Phil D. Swing	M. Meadows	Wiley Weaver	M. S. Cook	J. S. Brown
1913	Phil D. Swing	M. Meadows	Wiley Weaver	M. S. Cook	J. S. Brown
1914	Phil D. Swing	M. Meadows	Wiley Weaver	M. S. Cook	J. S. Brown
1915	Galen Nichols	M. Meadows*	Wiley Weaver	M. S. Cook	J. S. Brown
1916	Galen Nichols	C. M. Applestill	Wiley Weaver	M. S. Cook	J. S. Brown
1917	Galen Nichols	C. M. Applestill	Wiley Weaver	M. S. Cook	J. S. Brown
1918	Galen Nichols†	C. M. Applestill	Wiley Weaver	M. S. Cook	J. S. Brown
1919	Bert D. Noel‡	C. M. Applestill	Wiley Weaver	M. S. Cook	C. W. Barton
1920	E. R. Simon	C. M. Applestill	Wiley Weaver	M. S. Cook	C. W. Barton
1921	E. R. Simon	C. M. Applestill	Wiley Weaver	M. S. Cook	C. W. Barton
1922	E. R. Simon	C. M. Applestill	Wiley Weaver	M. S. Cook	C. W. Barton
1923	E. R. Utley	C. L. Gillett	Wiley Weaver	C. G. Mooseau	Josephine Adair
1924	E. R. Utley	C. L. Gillett	Wiley Weaver	C. G. Mooseau	Josephine Adair
1925	E. R. Utley	C. L. Gillett	Wiley Weaver	C. G. Mooseau	Josephine Adair
1926	E. R. Utley	C. L. Gillett	Wiley Weaver	C. G. Mooseau	Josephine Adair
1927	Elmer Heald	C. L. Gillett	Wiley Weaver	C. G. Mooseau	Josephine Adair
1928	Elmer Heald	C. L. Gillett	Wiley Weaver	C. G. Mooseau	Josephine Adair
1929	Elmer Heald	C. L. Gillett	Wiley Weaver	C. G. Mooseau	Josephine Adair
1930	Elmer Heald	C. L. Gillett	Wiley Weaver	C. G. Mooseau	Josephine Adair
1931	Elmer Heald	Geo. Campbell	Frank Wier	E. H. Law	Geo. Varney

* Died July 13, 1915. C. M. Applestill appointed.

† Died Sept. 14, 1918. E. R. Simon appointed.

‡ Died Nov. 12, 1919, one week after election. E. R. Simon appointed.

ELECTIVE OFFICERS (Continued)

Year	Tax. Coll.	Auditor	Recorder	Coroner	Supt. Schools
1907	Thos. Harding*	T. H. Kellog	J. B. Baker	T. J. Mitchell	J. E. Carr
1908	Ed. Wright†	T. H. Kellog	J. B. Baker	T. J. Mitchell	J. E. Carr
1909	M. S. Cook‡	T. H. Kellog	J. B. Baker	T. J. Mitchell	J. E. Carr
1910	Nont Reid	T. H. Kellog	J. B. Baker	T. J. Mitchell	J. E. Carr
1911	Nont Reid	W. I. McCoy	John Norton	F. W. Peterson	L. E. Cooley
1912	Nont Reid	W. I. McCoy	John Norton	F. W. Peterson	L. E. Cooley
1913	Nont Reid	W. I. McCoy	John Norton	F. W. Peterson	L. E. Cooley
1914	Nont Reid	W. I. McCoy	John Norton	F. W. Peterson	L. E. Cooley



J. S. Carr Mrs. D. S. Elder Miss Carr Lewis Davidson F. F. Palmerlee Pete Gaines
 FIRST SUPERINTENDENT, ASSISTANT CLERK AND FIRST AUDITOR, ACCOUNTANT AND SURVEYOR
 ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT

ELECTIVE OFFICERS—Continued

1915	Nont Reid	W. D. Garey	F. Erzinger	F. W. Peterson	A. P. Shibley
1916	Nont Reid	W. D. Garey	F. Erzinger	F. W. Peterson	A. P. Shibley
1917	Nont Reid	W. D. Garey	F. Erzinger	F. W. Peterson	A. P. Shibley
1918	Nont Reid	W. D. Garey	F. Erzinger	F. W. Peterson	A. P. Shibley
1919	Nont Reid	W. D. Garey	F. Erzinger	W. E. Lyon	A. P. Shibley
1920	Nont Reid	W. D. Garey	F. Erzinger	W. E. Lyon	A. P. Shibley§
1921	Nont Reid	W. D. Garey	F. Erzinger	W. E. Lyon	B. F. Enyeart¶
1922	Nont Reid	W. D. Garey	F. Erzinger||	W. E. Lyon	H. C. Coe
1923	Nont Reid	W. D. Garey	Bird Hobdy	B. E. Lemons	H. C. Coe
1924	Nont Reid	W. D. Garey	Bird Hobdy	B. E. Lemons	H. C. Coe
1925	Nont Reid	W. D. Garey	Bird Hobdy	B. E. Lemons	H. C. Coe
1926	Nont Reid	W. D. Garey	Bird Hobdy	B. E. Lemons	H. C. Coe
1927	Nont Reid	W. D. Garey	Bird Hobdy	W. T. Talbott	H. C. Coe
1928	Nont Reid	W. D. Garey	Bird Hobdy	W. T. Talbott	H. C. Coe
1929	Nont Reid	W. D. Garey	Bird Hobdy	W. T. Talbott	H. C. Coe
1930	Nont Reid	W. D. Garey	Bird Hobdy	W. T. Talbott	H. C. Coe
1931	Nont Reid	W. D. Garey	Evelyn Boman Westerfield	A. R. Underwood	C. B. Collins

* Failed to Qualify. Ed Wright appointed.

† Resigned. M. S. Cook appointed.

‡ Resigned. Nont Reid appointed.

§ Resigned Sept. 15, 1920. B. F. Enyeart appointed.

¶ Resigned Aug. 31, 1921. H. C. Coe appointed.

|| Resigned April 17, 1922. Frank Wilkin appointed.

ELECTIVE OFFICERS (Continued)

Year	Public Administrator	Surveyor	Superior Court Dept. No. 1
1907	E. E. Forrester	E. H. Gaines	Franklin J. Cole
1908	E. E. Forrester	E. H. Gaines	Franklin J. Cole
1909	E. E. Forrester	E. H. Gaines	Franklin J. Cole
1910	E. E. Forrester	E. H. Gaines	Franklin J. Cole
1911	E. E. Forrester	C. N. Perry	Franklin J. Cole
1912	E. E. Forrester	C. N. Perry	Franklin J. Cole
1913	E. E. Forrester	C. N. Perry	Franklin J. Cole
1914	E. E. Forrester	C. N. Perry	Franklin J. Cole

ELECTIVE OFFICERS—Continued

				Superior Court Dept No. 2
1915	H. C. Thomas	C. N. Perry	Franklin J. Cole	Established 1919
1916	H. C. Thomas	C. N. Perry*	Franklin J. Cole	
1917	H. C. Thomas	Geo. Wade	Franklin J. Cole	
1918	H. C. Thomas	Geo. Wade	Franklin J. Cole	
1919	L. P. Sargent	H. J. Burk	Franklin J. Cole	Phil D. Swing
1920	L. P. Sargent	H. J. Burk	Franklin J. Cole	Phil D. Swing
1921	L. P. Sargent	H. J. Burk	Franklin J. Cole	M. W. Conkling
1922	L. P. Sargent	H. J. Burk	Franklin J. Cole	M. W. Conkling
1923	G. W. Allen	H. J. Burk	Franklin J. Cole	M. W. Conkling
1924	G. W. Allen	H. J. Burk	Franklin J. Cole	M. W. Conkling
1925	G. W. Allen	H. J. Burk	Franklin J. Cole	M. W. Conkling
1926	G. W. Allen	H. J. Burk	Franklin J. Cole	M. W. Conkling
1927	S. P. Williams	H. J. Burk	A. C. Finney	J. S. Larew
1928	S. P. Williams	H. J. Burk	A. C. Finney	J. S. Larew†
1929	S. P. Williams	H. J. Burk	A. C. Finney	V. N. Thompson
1930	S. P. Williams	H. J. Burk	A. C. Finney	V. N. Thompson
1931	S. P. Williams	H. J. Burk	A. C. Finney	V. N. Thompson

* Resigned Nov. 6, 1916. Geo. Wade appointed.

† Died in accident. Vaughn N. Thompson appointed.

APPOINTIVE EXECUTIVES

Horticultural Commissioners and**Sealers of Weights and Measures:**

W. E. Wilsie, F. W. Waite, B. A. Harrigan.

Farm Superintendents:

Roger F. Sumner, Carl F. Arfwedson, Y. N. Adams, Frank Weir, Levi Welch.

Health Officer:

E. E. Patton.

Physicians:

Drs. V. McCombs, F. H. Carter, L. R. Moore, R. K. McGuffin, T. O. Luckett, L. C. House, Warren Fox.

Humane Officers:

C. J. Lewis, Frank Reading, John Dye, J. D. Sumner, W. O. Pound, Sam T. Griffin.

Probation Officers:

A. W. Swanson from 1911 to 1927; since then, E. D. Griffin.

Purchasing Agents:

C. L. Carr, M. S. Cook, C. G. Mooseau, John G. Carlson and J. G. Scott.

County Librarians:

1912 to 1924, Mrs. Thos. Beeman; 1924 to 1927, Evelyn Boman; from 1927, Agnes Ferris.

County Veterinarians:

R. W. Ritter, C. A. Dawdy and at the present time S. O. Loffer.

Law Library Trustees:

J. M. Eshleman, G. H. P. Shaw, R. D. McPherrin, Frank Birkhauser, J. S. Ross, F. C. Farr, F. P. Willard, J. S. Larew, G. Nichols, Arthur Shepard, W. B. Thompson, J. N. Griffin, F. J. Cole, W. H. Brooks, E. R. Simon, J. F. Seymour, V. N. Thompson.

First suit in Superior Court: M. B. Davis vs. E. S. McCollum—a land case. The cause was dismissed.

First couple to apply for marriage license: Clarence R. Underwood and Elsie Fern Ritter, Sept. 30, 1907.

TOWNSHIP JUSTICE COURTS

1907-1931

El Centro Township

Justices of the Peace: W. L. Payne, J. F. Tout, A. W. Franklin, I. Mayfield. Judge Mayfield has served since November, 1911.

Constables: W. O. Hamilton, Clyde Bradford, C. C. Toney, E. E. Cummings, D. C. Whaley, Yancy McFadden, Fred Place, M. T. Emanuel, Tom Jones, E. R. Elder, H. Douglas, A. C. Farrar, J. R. Applegate, Ray Poole, A. R. Underwood, Vance Moore, P. A. Thaanum, Clayburn Poole, W. R. Clark.

Imperial Township

Justices of the Peace: J. H. Webber, Clark Bradshaw, C. Houston Smith, S. C. Mack, Chas. H. Hawkins.

Constables: W. A. Moore, Ira Aten, H. A. Havens, J. J. Robertson, M. V. Mayor, R. H. Portis, C. Houston Smith, Chas. Johnson, Geo. T. Hill, Chas. Hunter, J. R. Anderson, M. L. Jones, F. W. Chivis, J. G. Gordon, J. C. Carver, Willis Ordway, Lloyd A. Parrish, H. T. Dizney, J. T. Powell.

Brawley Township

Justices of the Peace: P. F. Nice, W. H. Whelan, D. A. McMillan, Philo Jones, Wm. A. Keener, W. B. McKinnon, B. F. Morris, H. B. Griffin.

Constables: John Martin, J. C. McCarty, Geo. E. Krueger, W. H. Whelan, D. A. McMillan, Philo Jones, G. A. Barton, L. F. Perlich, Albert Greenwold, E. W. Cuff, O. C. Brackney, Thos. Hutton,

L. E. Bennett, C. R. Conover, J. C. Jenkins, Wm. O'Brien, Edw. Dickerson, H. B. O'Brien.

Calexico Township

Justices of the Peace: J. B. Hoffman, W. F. McCollum, C. B. Williams, Frank W. Roach, C. E. Markey, W. H. Lorenz.

Constables: Albert E. Eslow, Maurey McAlmond, Lester H. Smith, Frank Crane, J. B. Hoffman, A. C. Huson, Jeff S. Lucky, Perry F. Emerson, Mike Swan, Frank J. Parker, John Dye, G. G. Gonzalez, M. H. Edwards, Z. Bartlett, Harry J. Edwards, W. E. Hixon, Wm. Pulliam, John F. Walters, Fred M. Logan, Charles Kaslow, Wm. Brooks, F. Perry, Fred M. Elliott, C. Guy Echols, O. A. Pratt, Chas. Free, A. C. Russell, C. M. Higgins, H. G. McConnell, T. A. Eggleston.

Holtville Township

Justices of the Peace: J. W. Haviland, E. J. Norrish, Arch R. McDonald, S. M. Smyser.

Constables: M. P. Harris, W. L. Snowden, A. R. Underwood, T. J. Thompson, W. H. Corneilson, W. B. Goodall, C. L. Gillett, A. B. Cravath, J. Jardin, A. C. Keene, Walter J. Bennett, J. A. Peck.

Calipatria Township

Justices of the Peace: C. W. Brown, W. R. Harper, P. N. Myers, B. F. Grubel.

Constables: A. Starrett, Chas. W. Verge, I. S. Holmes, Chas. G. Smith, Jas. Donner, E. H. Theyford.

Palo Verde Township

Justices of the Peace: S. A. Ragsdale, S. A. More, E. F. Grove, Frank W. Board, J. Louis Bardet, Luther T. Winget, Sam O. Bingham, Geo. E. Corington, John Diehl.

Constables: Lee Wiley, J. M. Shiner, Joseph F. Graham, Andrew J. Fritz, T. E. Bridges, T. Lingo, W. H. Whittle, D. D. Gamwell.

Laguna Township

Justices of the Peace: Ralph Duncan, A. J. Monroy, Lagnier & Bard, Wm. E. Huson, W. C. Ross, T. E. White.

Constables: Frank Dostle, Walter J. Smith, Roy Sexsmith, Dopplers, Ogburn, J. M. Akins.

Picacho Township

Justices of the Peace: Wm. Pendall, Willis Lawrence, E. H. Conger.

Constables: W. J. Horan, Jas. L. Coryell, F. W. McDunna, David M. DeLong, E. H. Conger.

Hanlon Township

Justices of the Peace: Jos. Carter, M. Upstill, Wm. Black, E. A. Earhart, Mark Walker, A. G. Gordon, A. W. Wilson, J. A. Crouch, Deane Haughtelin, W. L. Wallace.

Constables: Gabriel Martinez, I. I. Inman, W. W. Black, J. H. Fritz, Alvin Breech.

Westmorland Township

Justice of the Peace: F. T. Cook.

Constables: Lester Lee Cochrane, Wm. E. Bailey.

Niland Township

Justices of the Peace: A. E. Clark, Richard H. Hobgood, Edward Henderson, Everett King, Geo. E. Hopkins, H. P. Wilkinson, Chas. A. Noffsinger, J. L. Stewart, Jas. Burk, M. C. Anthony, David L.

Quick, H. L. Bence, Shafter H. Crouse, Mrs. Sidney E. Burris.

Constables: Andy Pruitt, Raymond L. Pruitt, M. C. Harris, M. L. Fritz, Fred C. Thompson.

Seeley Township

Justices of the Peace: Willard E. Wilkins, Clarence Denny, W. F. Oglesby, Mr. Wilson, Francis M. Moore, S. T. Robinson, B. B. Mastick, Frank N. Kirkpatrick.

Constables: J. W. Kramer, Fred E. Mastick, Fred Eaton, Edwin J. Parke, Harry Lyons.

Heber Township

Justices of the Peace: F. P. Willard, E. H. Sanborn, W. A. Hanlan, Frank W. Evans, Newton H. Judson, Joseph T. Ellis, R. D. Jones.

Constables: Elmer Estes, I. S. Hester, G. C. Kemp, Geo. F. Witcher, Chas. C. Wilson, Arthur H. Vogel, Fred Gilbert.

MEMBERS OF COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

1907—J. E. Carr, E. McCully, Mrs. J. M. Eshleman, Mrs. F. N. Chaplin, Mrs. C. A. Frederick.

1908—J. E. Carr, Mrs. J. M. Eshleman, Mrs. James E. Peck, Mrs. F. N. Chaplin, Mrs. C. A. Frederick.

1909—J. E. Carr, Mrs. J. M. Eshleman, Mrs. C. A. Frederick, Mrs. F. N. Chaplin, Mott H. Arnold.

1910—J. E. Carr, Mrs. J. M. Eshleman, Mrs. C. A. Frederick, Mott H. Arnold, Mrs. C. S. Thompson.

1911—L. E. Cooley, Mrs. Ida S. Frederick, Mott H. Arnold, Mrs. C. S. Thompson, Mrs. J. M. Eshleman.

1912—L. E. Cooley, A. P. Shibley, Mrs. B. B. Vaile, Mrs. Ida S. Frederick, Mrs. Mabel Weed.

1913—L. E. Cooley, Mrs. R. B. Vaile, Mrs. Mabel Weed, A. P. Shibley, Wm. T. Randall.

1914—A. P. Shibley, Mrs. R. B. Vaile, Miss Anna M. Laird, Mrs. Grace Ferrell, W. T. Randall.

1915—A. P. Shibley, Mrs. R. B. Vaile, Mrs. Grace Ferrell, Miss Florence Dunham, W. T. Randall.

1916—A. P. Shibley, Miss Florence Dunham, Mrs. Adah Jones, Wm. T. Randall, E. J. Norrish.

1917—A. P. Shibley, Miss Florence Dunham, Mrs. Adah Jones, E. J. Norrish, Wm. T. Randall.

1918—A. P. Shibley, Miss Florence Dunham, Mrs. Adah Jones, E. J. Norrish, Wm. T. Randall.

1919—A. P. Shibley, Miss Florence Dunham, Mrs. Adah Jones, E. J. Norrish, Wm. T. Randall.

1920—B. F. Enyeart, Miss Florence Dunham, Mrs. Adah Jones, E. J. Norrish, Wm. T. Randall.

1921—H. C. Coe, Miss Florence Dunham, Mrs. Grace Ferrell, Mrs. Esther Kavanaugh, C. B. Collins.

1922—H. C. Coe, Mrs. Florence Dunham Robbins, Mrs. Grace Ferrell, Mrs. Esther Kavanaugh, Miss Hattie Spencer.

1923—H. C. Coe, Geo. R. Momyer, Mrs. Grace Ferrell, Mrs. Esther Kavanaugh, Miss Hattie Spencer.

1924—H. C. Coe, B. M. Gruwell, D. S. Richmond,

- Miss Hattie Spencer, Mrs. Grace Ferrell.
- 1925—H. C. Coe, C. N. Vance, B. M. Gruwell, Mrs. Grace Ferrell, Miss Hattie Spencer.
- 1926—H. C. Coe, C. N. Vance, B. M. Gruwell, Mrs. Grace Ferrell, Mrs. Hattie Spencer.
- 1927—H. C. Coe, C. N. Vance, B. M. Gruwell, Mrs. Grace Ferrell, Mrs. Hattie Spencer.
- 1928—H. C. Coe, C. N. Vance, B. M. Gruwell, Mrs. Grace Ferrell, M. B. Hockenberry.
- 1929—H. C. Coe, Mrs. Grace Ferrell, Mrs. Esther Kavanaugh, Percy E. Palmer, M. B. Hockenberry.
- 1930—H. C. Coe, Mrs. Grace Ferrell, Mrs. Esther Kavanaugh, Percy E. Palmer, M. B. Hockenberry.
- 1931—C. B. Collins, Mrs. Grace Ferrell, Percy E. Palmer, M. B. Hockenberry, Mrs. Esther Kavanaugh.

TAX RATES AND VALUATIONS
 State and County Rates and Valuations
 from 1907 to 1930 inclusive

Year	Co. Rate	Total Inside	Total Outside	Valuation
1907	3.205	3.65	\$4.25	\$ 3,584,310.00
1908	1.50	1.90	2.50	7,409,539.00
1909	1.386	1.75	2.15	9,521,584.00
1910	.947	1.30	1.90	12,148,180.00
1911	1.05	1.10	1.70	11,883,085.00
1912	1.156	1.20	1.80	13,923,318.00
1913	1.508	1.55	2.15	17,904,959.00
1914	1.261	1.30	1.90	21,550,157.00
1915	1.40	1.40	2.00	24,703,359.00
1916	1.48	1.48	2.05	26,127,207.00
1917	1.55	1.55	2.15	27,934,400.00
1918	1.55	1.55	2.15	30,190,885.00
1919	.84	.84	1.19	69,676,927.00
1920	1.28	1.28	1.63	73,197,093.00
1921	1.40	1.40	1.80	40,580,941.00
1922	1.67	1.67	2.07	41,621,912.00
1923	1.69	1.69	2.06	41,476,102.00
1924	1.69	1.69	2.00	42,006,083.00
1925	1.86	1.86	2.26	42,567,499.00
1926	1.90	1.90	2.30	43,999,820.00
1927	1.90	1.90	2.30	45,070,867.00
1928	2.25	2.25	2.65	44,193,601.00
1929	2.20	2.23	2.63	45,620,510.00
1930	2.27	2.30	2.70	46,257,231.00

It will be noted that valuations in Imperial County have been gradually increasing since the county was organized. On a forty per cent basis the actual values within the confines of the county are close around \$100,000,000.

ANNUAL RECEIPTS

The Tax Collector receives annually about \$2,000,000 from property taxes and approximately \$740,000 from other sources such as fines, penalties, interest, State and Federal appropriations, fees, etc. The total now runs about \$2,740,000 annually.

EXPENDITURES

The County of Imperial maintains twelve elective officers besides the Board of Supervisors and Township officers and nine appointive officers aside from the teachers of the public schools.

The 1930 Financial and Statistical Report of the County Auditor shows the expenditures were divided as follows:

Board of Supervisors.....	\$ 28,730.71
Sheriff	71,827.80
Clerk	16,492.41
Auditor	13,920.38
Treasurer	8,230.46
Assessor	22,195.46
Tax Collector	15,501.78
District Attorney	39,569.24
Coroner	3,934.65
Surveyor	1,631.25
Purchasing Agent	5,878.10
Elections	2,674.27
Superior Courts	23,359.86
Justices	18,598.06
Grand Jury	8,770.62
Law Library	1,362.50
Care of Court House.....	19,584.66
Traffic Department	48.03
Recorder	17,411.41
Public Administrator	54.25
Livestock Inspector	2,720.97
Agricultural Commissioner.....	37,877.69
Pest and Weed Control.....	6,446.84
Weights and Measures.....	1,234.38
Farm Advisor	4,412.35
Constables	7,890.17
Health Officer	11,125.84
Physician	6,405.92
Cemetery	1,403.26
County Farm and Hospital.....	63,262.13
Indigent Aid	13,797.15
Orphans	6,527.66
Probation Officer	5,827.69
Care of Inmates.....	5,175.90
Supt. of Schools.....	10,964.52
County Library	20,782.82
Veterans Home Bldg.....	3,906.32
Board of Trade.....	13,724.68
County Fair	36,412.51
Airport	8,943.01
Niland Water District.....	16,285.86
Interest on Bonds.....	266,798.27
Redemption of Bonds.....	174,042.00
Highways and Bridges.....	282,727.75
High Schools	462,808.04
Elementary Schools	761,081.92
Total.....	\$2,942,976.09

MANY DIVERSE ACTIVITIES

The reader will readily see that the 60,000 people of Imperial County maintain many diverse activities through their County Government. The last three items on the foregoing list—highways, high and elementary schools, account for more than one-half the annual expenditures. When it comes to comfortable travel and education the people demand the best there is going.

The County's various departments, such as the protection of person and property, the public welfare, care of the sick and indigent, etc., indicate that the citizenship that authorizes adequate expenditure of public funds is alive to its responsibilities.

THE COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM

The first school in Imperial Valley, as recorded in other parts of this history, was a ramada shade built on the banks of the Main canal north of Calexico in 1901. Prof. J. E. Carr was the first teacher. He was also the first County Superintendent of Schools. In 1902 there were two such schools with slightly better housing. The second was instructed by Prof. L. E. Cooley, who was the second County Superintendent elected.

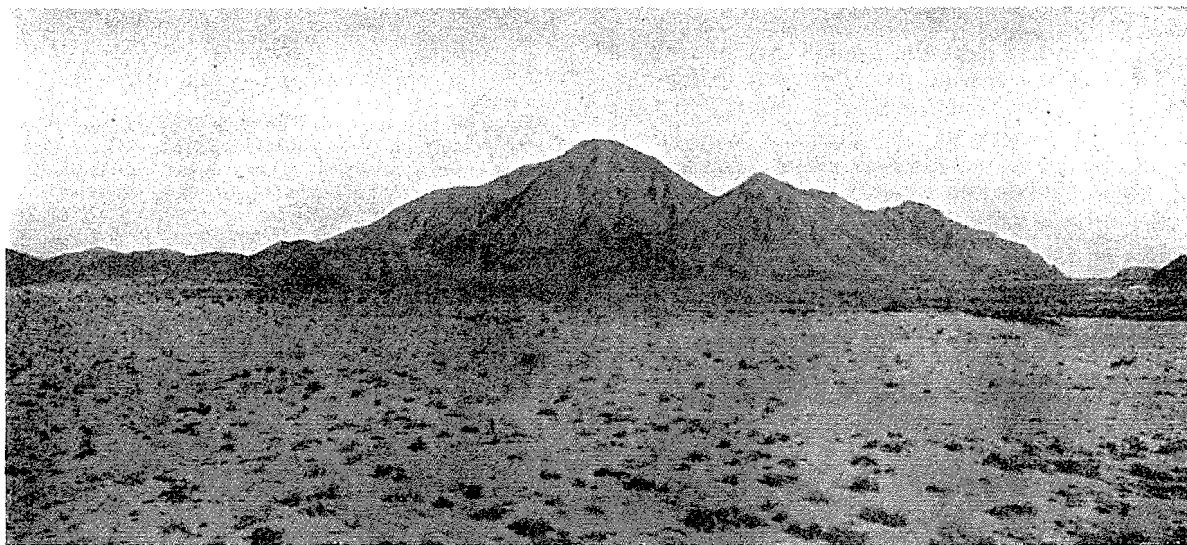
Then with the arrival of so many new people the necessity of more schools was almost immediate. Makeshift tents and structures were hastily erected

on land generally donated by public spirited citizens. Then the Southern Pacific Railroad Company, at the request of W. F. Holt and others, agreed to buy the bonds of such districts as could be legally formed so there were buildings erected in Calexico, Imperial, Silsbee and Brawley by this means before Imperial County was organized.

When the people voted the new county just about the very first thing they began to do was to build school houses for their children all over the Valley. The growth of population was very rapid but the construction of school buildings kept pace. As a consequence, today Imperial County has school facilities second to none.

There are six excellent high schools and forty-nine first class elementary schools in the County. The teaching force is drawn from the best sources in the State and are accorded the reputation of being first class in every particular.

A detailed history of the administration of these officers who served the people during the quarter of a century the County has been in existence would make several volumes and is therefore impossible. In the following chapter, however, the high light events of the ten year period between the organization of the County in 1907 and the war period of 1917 are set down in chronological order. This period the County's advance in wealth and population was more rapid than ever.—EDITOR.



Mt. Signal and the Desert as it Was

CHAPTER XIX

A DECADE OF RAPID GROWTH

THE DECADE following the closure of the river in 1907 was a period of rapid growth for Imperial Valley. It seemed that the first seven years had been so occupied with "getting the hang of things" and with ironing out the multitude of troubles that hovered over the region that it was 1907 before the people felt like going ahead with a permanent routine. During this period the question of what crops to grow was more or less settled. The harassing problem of river control was in the hands of capable railroad management and that question was, for the time being, out of the way as far as a sure supply of water was concerned. The Government's adverse soil reports had been replaced with real surveys that were so good that the Department of Agriculture refused to put them out until they were investigated again. Plans for leveling more land, building more canals and cultivating more acreage began to materialize.

The population, which had actually receded during the two years of flood menace, commenced to increase with the restoration of confidence. At the beginning of 1907 there were approximately 7500 people in the Valley. Within two years there were 15,000. The first year the County Assessor found but \$3,584,310 worth of property. A year later he found \$7,409,539, and the next it was \$9,521,584, indicating a growth of 300 per cent in property values. By 1918 the assessed valuation reached more than \$30,000,000 which was about nine times or 900 per cent more than in 1907.

Early in 1908 the towns of Brawley, El Centro, Calexico and Holtville laid plans to incorporate as Cities of the Sixth Class. Imperial had been incorporated for some time. In April these plans were carried out and four new sets of City officers set about to make their towns more habitable. They all installed pressure water systems, began to lay sidewalks, plant trees, lay out parks and install sewer systems.

The people began to improve the social structure at the same time. Lodges of all varieties were organized. Church organizations were perfected. A vast improvement program for schools was undertaken. Bonds were voted by all the new towns and nearly all the school districts for improvement purposes. In every section the Valley presented a busy appearance.

There was a rush of new merchants to the Valley. This created a demand for more business buildings in all the towns. The sound of the hammer and the saw and the lusty call of the bricklayer were heard everywhere.

With these generalities in mind we turn again to "names and dates" in a chronological account of what happened during these next ten years and who caused it to happen. These facts were gleaned from newspaper files, from personal interviews and from record books of various organizations. Of necessity the account must include only the high lights for the details involve more than 40,000 people. These items will be of a nature that affect only the county as a whole. The history of the towns will come later.

1908

The Imperial Valley Baseball League with Calexico, Holtville, El Centro, and Imperial backing their teams. Each team imported a battery of big league players, with the result that the brand of baseball was very good.

An excursion train bearing 150 Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce business men made the rounds of the Valley February 29. All the members were impressed with the activities encountered.

The Board of Supervisors contracted with Dr. E. E. Patten of Imperial for the establishment of the first county hospital.

FIRST COUNTY CHAMBER

The organization of the first Imperial County Chamber of Commerce took place in March, 1908. Three delegates from each town were named as follows: Imperial, Senator Blair, W. A. Edgar, Herman Charles; Brawley, Philo Jones, E. M. Turner, R. Malan; Calexico, J. F. Giles, W. F. McCollum, F. T. Thing; El Centro, J. Stanley Brown, F. G. Havens; Holtville, Ed. E. Boyd, F. N. Chaplin, Dr. Greenleaf. The first president was J. F. Giles. Herman Charles was secretary-treasurer. The Chamber ordered a full page advertisement to run every month for a year in the Sunset Magazine.

Construction work was resumed on a railroad extension from Calexico to Yuma.

The completion of the Westside canal took place in March.

County Surveyor E. H. Gaines was instructed by the Board of Supervisors to find the best route for a road to the mountains westward.

A new law firm was announced in April. John M. Eshleman and Phil D. Swing, being the partners.

The problem of labor supply to harvest the cantaloupe crop was faced by the ten different associations; 6000 men were needed.

Rumors of wholesale land frauds in Imperial Valley caused the land office to issue a decision that all purchasers, innocent or not, of unpatented government land which was originally acquired fraudulently would lose their title.

Carloads of grapes were shipped from the McPherrin ranch near Imperial.

The Republican County Convention was held in September for the purpose of nominating a candidate for Superior Judge. One hundred and fourteen delegates met at Brawley and nominated R. D. McPherrin. The only other candidate before the convention was J. M. Eshleman. Judge Cole ran as an independent as did Judge F. C. Farr. The result was Judge Cole was elected.

W. F. Holt announced formation of a company for the manufacture of fuel and lighting gas for distribution in each town in the Valley.

Several citizens advocate the establishment of a toll road over the twenty-five miles of desert between the irrigated area and the mountains. It would give women and children a chance to escape the heat at a small expense. With such a road it was argued a man could harness his team and take his family to the cool mountains in a little over one day if he made an early start. No man would reasonably object to paying 50 cents a head if there was a road so he could go and return in four days and leave his family in some cool place.

Congressman S. C. Smith visited the Valley in October, campaigning for re-election.

Editorial from the Calexico Chronicle October 22, 1908: "Why wouldn't the organization of an historical society for the county be a good thing Here we have a young community, no project or enterprise being more than eight years old and even now the early history of this peculiar country is somewhat hazy in conception. An Imperial County Historical Society could start now and gather for preservation valuable documents that will be impossible to find in a few years. It could file a progressive series of photographs that would tell the story of advancement more decisively than words. All the newspapers of the county would be glad to furnish copies of their publications which could be bound for records in years to come. An important adjunct would be a safe depository where fire, insects or the summer heat of a hundred years would neither harm or destroy the materials gathered. Such an organization working now could do work that in twenty-five years would be invaluable.

The Supervisors were urged to appoint a Highway Commission and set going some plan that would result in better road conditions. The first commission was composed of Geo. Carter, Walter Bowker and R. H. Benton.

Members of the Southern California Editorial Association visited the Valley in November. At Calexico they were served a quail breakfast. Each member of the party, numbering 100, had two quail. They have not forgotten that breakfast to this day. All parts of the Valley were covered by the visitors.

December 10 the Heber Collegiate Institute was opened in a new building. It was a college established by the Congregational Church and was endowed by lands donated by the Heber Townsite Company. The college never made a great success.

The Supervisors let the contract to Sam Webb, of Holtville, for the construction of five bridges across the New River gorge.

The turkey crop in 1908 was 10,000 birds, which sold at an average of \$2.25 each.

A. D. Medhurst started a publication called "The Daily Real Estate." This was developed into "The Daily Free Lance."

1909

County Surveyor E. H. Gaines resigned and C. N. Perry was named to succeed him.

A chapter of the Farmers' Union was formed August 8, 1909, with the following officers: President, W. H. Moorehouse; Vice-President, H. F. Barton; Secretary-Treasurer, I. Mayfield; Conductor, D. D. Lawrence; Doorkeeper, Ira Aten; Chaplain, D. Nairn.

A hard rain swamped everything August 16.

More and more attention was paid to long staple cotton possibilities.

From the El Centro Daily Free Lance August 27, 1909: "Torn by conflicting demands on his aesthetic nature by two separate artistic callings Harold Bell Wright, novelist and painter, chose between the two last week in his home at Tecolote Rancho east of El Centro. Hoping to put forever behind him the painter part of his artistic nature, Mr. Wright went to his studio and ruthlessly tore down and carried out every picture he had painted, every canvas he had sketched, his easels, frames, studies, all his oils and colors, his palate and knife, his turpentine, mahl stick, sketch books and water colors and threw them all in one big heap; then he touched a match to the heap and \$500 worth of materials went up in smoke."

The historic Christian Church at Imperial was burned October 2. The minister overturned a bottle of gasoline in the dark and lighted a match to see what he had done.

1909 STATISTICS

From the County Assessor's Books

Numbers of farms.....	3,947
Acres assessed	731,520
Value of farms.....	\$4,208,556
Improvements	\$235,201
City and town lots.....	\$1,115,120
Improvements	\$425,155
Personal property	\$1,149,900
Total valuation	\$7,161,382
Railroads	\$3,457,579
Expended on roads.....	\$15,775
Expended for bridges.....	\$25,305
Miles of public roads.....	875
Road levy per \$100, 1909.....	40 cents
Value county buildings.....	\$25,000
Cost of canals.....	\$3,500,000
Value power plant.....	\$28,475
Tel. lines, 75 miles.....	\$42,511
Acres irrigated	181,545

CEREALS AND HAY

Wheat, 1275 acres, 1915 tons.....	\$7660
Barley, 68,795 acres, 103,195 tons.....	\$1,031,950
Oats, 890 acres, 260 tons.....	\$7,800
Corn, 1765 acres, 7060 tons.....	\$21,180
Alfalfa, 46,875 acres, 93,750 tons.....	\$937,500
Total, 119,600 acres, 206,170 tons.....	\$2,006,090

There are 108,080 bearing and 11,347 non-bearing grapevines, 532 acres of berries, 752 acres of asparagus, 140 acres of beets and about 1500 acres of cotton. There are 112,487 cottonwood shade trees and 297,452 eucalyptus trees, not including those in seed beds.

During the year the Valley produced 1,120,000 pounds of cabbage, valued at \$14,000; 1,050,000 pounds of grapes, valued at \$21,000; 150,000 pounds of onions, value \$750; 1,350,000 pounds of potatoes, valued at \$13,500, and 50,000 pounds of tomatoes, valued at \$3750. Total value of fruit and vegetables, not including cantaloupes, \$53,000.

STOCK AND DAIRY PRODUCTS

Four creameries produced 1,584,250 pounds of butter, valued at \$316,850. There are 4790 graded dairy cows, valued at \$95,800, and 125 thoroughbred Angus, valued at \$6250. Beef cattle 273, stock cattle 4192, calves 2289, swine 44,279; horses, thoroughbred 75, standard 1525 and common 1728; colts 801, jacks 15, mules 1064, sheep 9700, lambs 2079 are assessed at a total, including dairy cattle, of \$491,351. The wool clip is given at 175,780 pounds.

Citizens from the State of Texas organized the Imperial Valley Texas Association. Some of the members were: R. H. Portis, J. L. McGuire, J. F. Buttram, W. P. Hamilton, M. H. Mayor, A. P. Nuffer, C. E. Stephens, Joseph Weaver, W. R. Waldrop, Ira Harris, Robert G. Goree, W. O. Hamilton, H. A. Havens, Wallace Bradford, Ira Aten and F. B. Fuller.

The first bale of cotton from the new gin in El Centro was turned out Saturday, October 16, 1909. The bale was sent to Los Angeles for exhibition in the Chamber of Commerce. It was grown on the Loftus ranch. A jubilee mass meeting was held in the opera house.

Officers of the Imperial Valley Fair Association met in September to plan for the second county fair. President Geo. Carter appointed Ed. Forrester, H. Ried and E. H. Sherman to obtain a site.

The first load of cotton was brought from the Wilsie ranch September 18. This was the first cotton ever marketed from Imperial Valley.

The county tax rate for 1909-1910 was set at \$2.15.

The Imperial Valley Chamber of Commerce with President J. F. Giles presiding held the first meeting of the fall season late in September. Representatives from Calexico, Brawley, Holtville and El Centro pledged their towns for \$50 a month each for an advertising fund. The County Chambers spent \$3000 the year before.

1910

S. A. Walters advised the Board of Supervisors that the best road to San Diego was by way of San Felipe and Grape Vine Canyon.

The county was rapidly building bridges across canals all over the county.

W. F. Holt announced the improvement of 32,000 acres of land in Mexico purchased by the Inter-California Land Company.

The Imperial County Business Men's Protective Association was the name of a new merchants' organization with George W. Anderson president.

FIRST COUNTY FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS

Representatives of all women's clubs in Imperial Valley met in Imperial Saturday, February 26, and organized the Imperial Federation of Women's Clubs with the following officers: President, Mrs. Violette S. Campbell; Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. A. W. Swanson; Vice-Presidents, Mrs. J. C. Blackinton, Mrs. Barber, Mrs. Mayhew, and Mrs. Best. The local clubs were represented by the following delegates:

From El Centro—Ten Thousand Club, President Swanson, Mrs. Garren, Mrs. V. S. Campbell. Culture Club, President Rapp, Mrs. Blackinton, Mrs. Porterfield.

From Calexico—President Mayhew, Mrs. Reynolds, Mrs. Griswold.

From Brawley—President Cameron, Mrs. Bennett, Mrs. Best.

From Imperial—President Arnold, Mrs. Barl, Mrs. Barber.

The Holtville organization being not yet perfected, was not represented.

This was the year of Halley's comet shown in the sky in May.

The first mention of a possibility of organizing an Irrigation District appeared in the Calexico Chronicle of May 26, 1910.

FALL ELECTION

At the first county election since the county was organized the following were candidates:

For District Attorney: Phil D. Swing, J. S. Larew, M. W. Conkling, C. L. Brown, H. W. Brewer. Swing was elected.

Assessor: Wiley Weaver, F. S. Webster, Fred Fuller. Fuller was elected.

Recorder: Wm. Buck, John Norton, C. W. Collins. Norton was elected.

Coroner: Wm. Wessel, Dr. F. W. Peterson. Peterson was elected.

Superintendent of Schools: G. A. Ragan, L. E. Cooley, E. J. Norrish, J. E. Carr. Cooley was elected.

Public Administrator: E. E. Forrester.

Auditor: I. W. McCoy.

Tax Collector: Paul Boman, Irvin Maupin. Boman was elected but resigned. Nont Reid was appointed.

Treasurer: J. Stanley Brown, Francis Ferris. Brown was elected.

Sheriff: Mobley Meadows, W. F. McCullum. Meadows was elected.

Clerk: Major Cook, F. G. Havens. Cook was elected.

Surveyor: C. N. Perry.

District Attorney J. M. Eshleman was elected Railroad Commissioner.

J. F. Bezdecheck, manager of the Imperial Telephone System, announced a program of improvement that was welcome news to the entire Valley.

A banquet called by Imperial Valley people on vacation was attended by over one hundred at the Hollenbeck Hotel in Los Angeles.

Compared to other counties of the state Imperial County in 1910 was ahead of twenty-one other counties in value of real estate; ahead of ten counties in the value of improvements on real estate; ahead of seventeen counties in value of personal property and ahead of twenty-one counties in the total assessed valuation. There were twenty-three other counties that had a higher county tax rate than Imperial.

The 1910 annual county fair at El Centro was a well arranged affair with many exhibits and a daily program of horse races.

The new Board of Supervisors had as members: R. H. Clark, El Centro; Willis F. Beal, Brawley; Ed. E. Boyd, Holtville; John J. Carr, Imperial, and Sidney McHarg, Calexico. Beal's election was contested by R. E. Wills, who was declared elected. Later Beal was seated.

1911

REVOLUTION STARTS IN MEXICO

January 23, 1911, the county was aroused by the report that a band of Mexican insurgents had arrived in Mexicali and had taken possession of the town, customs offices, etc. The Government sent a troop of cavalry from San Diego to protect the border. The Revolutionists did not know what the troops were so they hurried out of town to await developments. They returned January 29 and again took possession, killing a jailer who refused to give up the keys.

Sheriff Meadows swore in fifty deputies, all experienced cowboys and horsemen. The original sixty insurrectos were joined by some two hundred recruits, thirty of whom were Americans.

The Insurrectos left Mexicali again when it was reported that Mexican Federal troops were on their way from the coast. These troops finally arrived and were repulsed by the entrenched insurrectos who fired across New River at the approaching column, which was under command of Col. Vega. In the fight the Insurrectos lost 5 killed and 3 wounded. The Federals lost 3 killed and 17 wounded. The battlefield was visited by Sheriff Meadows, H. N. Dyke, Rev. John Gortner, A. S. Carr and O. B. Tout under a Red Cross flag. They found one wounded Federal left behind. The Federals returned to the coast.

April 8, the Federals came back 400 strong under Col. Mayol. The insurrecto band had dwindled to 70 men under Stanley Williams. With daredevil audacity, Williams went into the fields south of Mexicali and attacked the Federals. The Insurrectos were thrown into disorder when Williams was shot through the head and retired to Mexicali. In this conflict the Insurrectos lost 11 killed and five wounded. The Federals lost 12 killed and 14 wounded. The Federals were so frightened that they fled to the swamp lands and disintegrated.

In June, Col. Esteban Cantu, in command of two companies of soldiers from Sonora, entered Lower California and occupied Mexicali, establishing a local Government that was welcomed by Americans and Mexicans alike.

1911 was the year when the people reached the decision to establish the Imperial Irrigation District. The reader is referred to chapters XII, XIII and XIV for a history of this movement.

The new town of Seeley was established at the terminus of the Holton Inter-Urban, seven miles west of El Centro.

Allen Kelly and Lewis Havermale retired as proprietors of the Imperial Valley Press and the paper was published by Edgar F. Howe and Sons, Armiger and Clinton, publishers of the Imperial Daily Standard.

The first telephone call from El Centro to El Paso took place June 20, 1911, and was an event of such importance that it was heralded on the front pages of all Valley papers.

The experimental farm at Meloland, under guidance of the State University, was established with Walter E. Packard in charge.

The contract for the construction of the first 5½ miles of the San Diego & Arizona Railroad east from Seeley was let September 1.

C. W. Collins again had charge of the county display at the State Fair. The exhibit took eleven awards.

Butterfat was 26½ cents.

Cantaloupe crop for the season was 2581 cars. The returns were not very satisfactory.

The action of Congress in inaugurating trans-continental highway construction, one of which would pass through Yuma and Imperial Valley to San Diego, was greeted with great satisfaction.

The county purchased the Paul Boman tract of twenty acres on the Date canal for the purpose of establishing a county farm and hospital.

The first Phoenix-Los Angeles automobile race took place in November. The route was through Imperial Valley.

1912

Another excursion of 175 business men from Los Angeles toured the Valley in February.

The El Centro Progress was established by Mr. and Mrs. O. B. Tout in February.

A progressive Republican Club was organized March 9, 1912. The call was issued by H. W. Moorehouse, Heber; Phil D. Swing, El Centro; Dan V. Noland, El Centro; Franklin J. Cole, El Centro; J. B. Hoffman, Calexico; J. Stanley Brown, El Centro; Jos. J. Chappell, El Centro; E. E. Bennett, Calexico; U. S. Handley, Seeley; Frank Birkhauser, Brawley; H. L. Fulton, Brawley; R. Malan, Brawley; Chas. C. Jenkins, Brawley; C. A. Frederick, Brawley; M. D. Witter, Brawley; E. F. Howe, El Centro; L. J. Thomas, Imperial; Otis B. Tout, Calexico; Arthur Edgar, Imperial; Porter Ferguson, Holtville; R. H. Clark, El Centro.

Supervisors passed an ordinance prohibiting dogs to run at large without muzzles.

Fred Fuller crossed the desert between Holtville and Yuma to blaze the trail for a real Ocean to Ocean Highway in April. The San Diego Union sent a car from San Diego through Devils Canyon to El Centro running time of seven hours and fifty minutes.

With the vast increase in the use of automobiles, interest in the improvement of the road into the mountains was widespread. E. E. Bennett, Leroy Holt, F. Kloke, F. B. Fuller, G. D. Armstead, Winthrop Pier, John Norton, R. E. Wills, R. H. Clark, were all quoted in one issue of the El Centro Progress in favor of raising \$50,000 by any means possible to match the \$50,000 raised in San Diego for the purpose of improving the Mountain Springs-Coyote Wells section of the road.

Saturday, May 25, was opening day at the Meloland State Experimental Farm.

Clark Adair got behind the first fruit fair, which he called the "apricot fair." A long list of prizes went to fruit growers.

The first crate of cantaloupes in 1912 was shipped by Will S. Fawcett the first of June to Portland, Oregon. He received \$50 for the crate.

The new organization was the Imperial Valley Automobile Club.

A Valley-wide automobile race took place on the Fourth of July with eleven cars entered. They were driven by Ed de Lovelace, Calexico; R. F. Ruth, Brawley; Ed. Lyons, Silsbee; H. C. Bliss, El Centro; C. E. Conant, El Centro; P. W. Brooks, Holtville; F. A. Waters, Imperial; J. P. Daly, El Centro; W. I. McCoy, Calexico; T. A. Cox, El Centro; Fred Fuller, El Centro.

The course was a circle of the Valley sixty-seven miles in length, touching all towns. Business men put up \$3000 in cash for prizes. The race was won by the Lyons boys with an average of 39 miles an hour. Clarence Conant was second and Guy Bear third.

The fifth annual Los Angeles to Phoenix road race went through the Valley October 28. Ralph Hamlin won the race. The Lyons Boys and Fred Fuller, Imperial Valley's entrants, came in second and third.

FIFTH COUNTY FAIR

The fifth annual county fair opened November 5, in El Centro. The event was carried on for five days with an excellent variety of attractions. Five thousand people visited the fair on the last day. The officers and directors of the association were: E. G. Irwin, president; W. K. Bowker,

vice-president; G. D. Armstead, secretary; J. V. Wachtel, Jr., treasurer; Directors W. K. Bowker, Lewis Farnsworth, S. McHarg; E. G. Irwin and E. E. Forrester.

One hundred sixty-six automobiles loaded with San Diego people visited Imperial Valley November 9.

Supervisor Ed. E. Boyd was instrumental in showing the world that the sand hills east of Holtville could be crossed by automobiles. He raised and spent \$3000 for this purpose in 1912, and the good work has been going on ever since.

1913

Ten thousand Valley people accepted Holtville's invitation to attend the fourth annual New Year picnic, free to everybody. The menu included barbecued turkey, beef, lamb and pig. Dave Williams and the other Holtville boosters put Holtville on the map.

The first labor union in Imperial Valley was organized by the printers, who formed the Imperial Valley Typographical Union No. 707 January 4, 1913.

The coast experienced the coldest January in 30 years. The Valley suffered some from a 25 degree temperature.

The county placed \$20,000 in a special road fund for the purpose of building the desert road west of Dixieland. Supervisor W. F. Beal of Brawley demanded that half the amount be spent on the Salton Sea road in the north end. He threatened to tie up the whole construction program unless his program prevailed.

REVIVE COUNTY CHAMBER

Another movement toward establishing a central chamber of commerce with representatives from each town was supported in January at the meeting of Valley business men and ranchers. The following directors were chosen: Calexico, E. E. Bennett; Holtville, J. R. Strang; Meloland, Harold Bell Wright; Seeley, W. G. Conley; El Centro, Sam W. Dunaway; Dixieland, J. T. Wight; Heber, H. W. Moorehouse; at large, A. C. Burrell and W. E. Wilsie.

The secretary was instructed to invite each other town and center in Imperial Valley to choose a director to represent them on the board.

E. E. Bennett, of Calexico, was elected President.

The Board of Supervisors decided not to buy Sheriff Meadows an automobile. The Sheriff used his own car.

The Government completed the resurvey of the Valley after four years of continuous field work.

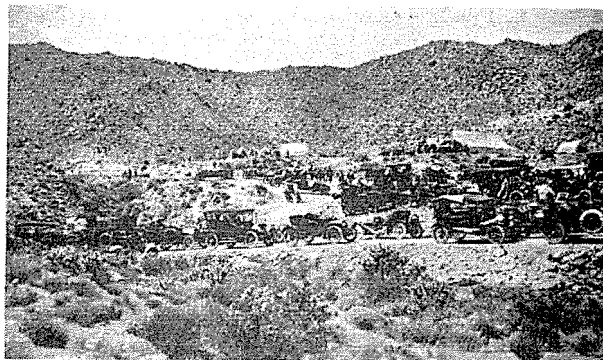
The Sunday Schools of the County held the third annual convention in Holtville in February.

Washington's Birthday saw 30,000 Valley people watch Barney Oldfield win the Valley Auto Classic on the 67 mile course circling the Valley. Clarence Conant and The Lyons Brothers were entrants but car trouble put them out of the running.

SAN DIEGO'S PRACTICAL HELP

The citizens of San Diego in 1913 raised by subscription the sum of \$70,000 and used it in constructing the new Mountain Springs grade in Meyer Canyon within the boundaries of Imperial County. This generous contribution was made possible by the efforts of Col. Ed. Fletcher of San Diego, who convinced the business men of his city that great commercial good would come from this road improvement.

The new grade was completed in April, 1913, and a celebration was held at the Imperial-San Diego County line. Two hundred Valley cars drove to the scene and were met by a similar delegation from San Diego. Col. Fletcher,



Hundreds Gathered at Mountain Springs to Celebrate the Opening of the Grade Built by Citizens of San Diego.

F. W. Jackson and F. J. Lea represented San Diego on the program. Supervisor J. J. Carr, Leroy Holt and County Surveyor C. N. Perry represented Imperial County.

The caravan of cars wended its way down the new canyon grade, the occupants of the cars marvelling at the difficult work that had been done. Since then, of course, the State Highway Department has widened and paved the canyon road on the same grade. It is still a scenic wonder to all who view it.

Completion of this grade eliminated the tortuous Devil's Canyon route and at once caused an enormous increase of travel to and from San Diego.

The next step in the program of road building was the appropriation by the Federal Government, California and Arizona of \$25,000 each for the construction of the bridge across the Colorado River at Yuma. The same group of San Diego business men, headed by Col. Fletcher, brought about this improvement. For sixty-five years the only means of crossing the river was to ford it or use the ferry.

LEGISLATIVE

Imperial County remained in an assembly district with Orange County up to 1912 and then was made a district by itself. The county had been represented until that time by Percy Johnson and Assemblyman Judson.

H. W. Moorehouse was elected Assemblyman from Imperial County and attended the sessions of 1913. He introduced eight bills which were passed. The most important were: Appropriation of \$25,000 for the Yuma bridge; placing Irrigation Districts under jurisdiction of the State Railroad Commission; regulation of milk testing and cheese factories; and five bills relating to county government. Mr. Moorehouse, at the end of his term, declined to run again.

Quite a smallpox scare in May, 1913, spread over the Valley but the incipient epidemic was headed off.

Water was turned into the new East Side High Line canal June 3.

SECOND FRUIT FAIR

Clark Adair's efforts in 1913 to promote the second fruit fair held in the County were quite successful. The event attracted a large attendance. Horticultural Commissioner W. E. Wilsie and his assistant, F. W. Waite, helped manage the event.

There were two hundred and fifty exhibitors.

The array of fruits included apricots, peaches, oranges, grapefruit, lemons, prunes, plums, pears, blackberries, olives, quinces, pomegranates, watermelons, muskmelons, cantaloupes, squash, onions, beets, almonds, figs, rhubarb, Swiss chard, beans, kale, Indian and Egyptian corn, barley, wheat, parsnips, cucumbers, flowers, canned fruits and grapes.

The big prize, \$40 cash and the big silver loving cup offered by Richards, Holmes & Lamb Co., for the best one dozen apricots on exhibit, was won by R. S. Smith, of Silsbee, with an elegant display of Hemskirk apricots.

The second prize of \$25 was won by E. H. Erickson, of Brawley, with Blenheim apricots. H. S. Reed, of El Centro, won third prize in this exhibit.

The special silver cup offered by the Geo. Middendorf Co., of Chicago, for the best general exhibit of commercial packed apricots, was won by H. S. Reed, of El Centro.

The secretary of the Imperial Valley Chamber of Commerce absconded with Chamber funds and W. H. Langsdale was employed in his place.

The County had three times the mileage of irrigated country roads in 1913 that existed in 1911.

The Valley celebrated the Fourth of July in 1913 at Holtville.

Assessed valuation gained 27 per cent over 1912 and reached a total of \$17,000,000.

In the middle of August, Col. W. O. Westgard, national organizer of highway associations, and his party tried to negotiate the Mammoth Wash by auto. They had to abandon their auto and walk to a railroad station.

P. D. Gochenouer, in a racing car, made the trip from San Diego to El Centro in three hours and forty-five minutes August 19.

The County purchased \$200,000 of the State's highway bonds with the understanding that the money would be spent entirely in Imperial Valley.

With the first Associated Press news service in the Valley the El Centro Progress gave the public a bulletin report of the world's series in October.

A "Get-Ready" (for the Panama canal opening) Banquet with 300 attending under auspices of the County Chamber of Commerce took place in the Oregon Hotel in October.

A visit in October by Congressman Wm. Kettner was the occasion of an enthusiastic reception by Valley people. The Congressman was met by a delegation at Seeley and by a large crowd headed by a band when El Centro was reached.

SIXTH ANNUAL FAIR

The Sixth Annual Imperial County Fair was held in November with a list of exhibits greater in every department than ever before. The city was crowded with visitors from outside. An auto road race with six entrants was a feature. A lot of new power machinery was seen for the first time.

THE ROAD TO YUMA

A determined effort to find the best feasible route for a paved road from El Centro to Yuma was made by the Automobile Club of Southern California, which called a convention of all districts represented to meet in El Centro in November. The Tulane theatre was packed. Brawley tried to get the Mammoth Wash route named. Holtville wished a direct route across the sand hills. The final action was to name a route that skirted the sand hills to the south. This was never built, for San Diego jumped in and furnished lumber enough to build a plank road across the sand hill barrier. This settled the route question.

Date City was the name of a new town announced by a syndicate which undertook to develop some of the lands in the north end of the Valley. The location was just about where Calipatria now stands. Date City never materialized.

1914

Bernice was the name of another town in the north end that was launched in the winter of 1913-14.

Holtville's annual New Year Fiesta was attended this time by 12,000 people. They were all fed with barbecued meats, beans and coffee. Holtville people did the serving. The afternoon was devoted to a wild west rodeo and Sheriff Mobley Meadows exhibited some fancy horsemanship.

The craze for speed caused many accidents on the dirt roads of the county. Imperial was "wet" and the results were noticeable in the number of accidents. Mexicali also kept up the average and accounted for much of the increase. District Attorney Swing said that the 30-mile limit was far too fast.

W. E. Wilsie's new home two miles west of El Centro was the finest in the Valley. It is now occupied as the headquarters of the Timken Ranch Company.

A terrific rainstorm on the coast and inland completely stopped rail traffic January 23. For four days the Valley was entirely cut off from rail communication with the outside world. Auto traffic was stopped by slides on the grades, also.

The annual meeting of stockholders of Water Company No. 1 held in February was especially "hot" as a group of discontented farmers undertook to oust the existing management headed by F. P. Willard. They were successful. The new board was composed of R. W. Campbell, W. S. Fawcett, G. E. Heber, W. W. Cochrane and Al Heydloff.

The State Railway Commission granted permission of the San Diego & Arizona Railroad Company to issue \$15,000,000 bonds. That was good news to both San Diego and Imperial Valley.

One hundred and sixty-seven members of the Southern California and State Press Associations visited the Valley in February. The members were regaled by every community with real Imperial Valley fried chicken and all the rest. They returned home to write hundreds of columns. Many on this trip were on the other two trips made by their associations in earlier days. The party stayed in the Valley three days.

NILAND STARTED

Saturday and Sunday, March 14 and 15, 1914, the new town of Niland was launched by the Imperial Valley Farm Lands Association. Niland was first Old Beach, then Imperial Junction. It is at the junction of the Southern Pacific main line and the Valley branch. The opening was attended by trainloads from Los Angeles and more from Imperial Valley. Many lots were sold.

MOUNTED HOME GUARDS

Mexico, being in a state of revolution, was not able to control banditry. A mountain store was sacked and the people of Calexico became fearful of a raid by bandits. Many people thought that a mass meeting should be held and the Government asked to send troops. But nobody wished to shoulder the leadership and call a mass meeting. Finally District Attorney Swing requested Government or State troops. There being no response, a call was issued by Attorney J. F. Seymour for volunteers to form a company of mounted home guards for the purpose of resisting possible banditry. At the mass meeting fifty determined men signed the roll. The decision of the Government to send troops later made service by this volunteer company of "rangers" unnecessary.

Indicating the activity of realty transactions the instruments filed in the County Recorder's office show an increase of 138 per cent in two years.

CALIPATRIA LAUNCHED

Without a formal opening day or a celebration the town of Calipatria was announced ready for occupancy April 16, 1914. The Imperial Valley Farm Lands Association, through Carl Schader, started the new town nine miles north of Brawley.

TICKLISH SUBJECT

When President Wilson ordered Huerta of Mexico to salute the flag and later ordered Vera Cruz taken by the U. S. Marines, the Valley became alarmed again because just across the line there were 600 Mexican Federal soldiers with machine guns. In case of hostilities between the two countries the canal system below the line would be in the hands of the enemy. District Attorney Phil Swing wired Governor Johnson asking him to take steps to have the Valley, north and south of the line, declared neutral territory. Otherwise if hostilities broke out Americans would have to invade Mexico to protect their water supply. A troop of cavalry from Monterey soon arrived and made camp on the border. The Board of Supervisors asked for a regiment. Joseph Seymour again called for volunteers to form a cavalry company and the following men volunteered: J. F. Seymour, Jr., E. Barsot, Joel Hawkins, P. Cover, L. A. Smith, Joe Billings, Frank Dalwing, B. Sheppard, F. H. Streeter, Henry Dryden, F. A. Ross, H. B. Gordon, K. M. Said, Mobley Meadows and 20 Deputies, J. M. Malone, Jas. Bonland, Vern Bishop, Earl Richmond, J. H. Suter, H. R. Buckles, C. B. Young, T. D. McCall, F. B. Comstock, Owen Chick, C. L. Harrelson, Hough Davis, W. E. Rice, Harry Vaughn, Wm. Hart, T. H. McDaniels, H. S. McCannal, A. C. Hansen, J. H. Smith, W. L. Ketchum, E. T. Jenkins, Joe Ingraham, O. J. Granger, W. T. Brooks, C. O. Carl, B. A. Fortney, Roy Hoard, E. A. Perkins, Jr., D. Wilson, Herbert Iasigi, Henry Ryan, C. W. Smith, W. J. Ragan, H. H. McDonald, J. C. Cuishman, Fred Palmer, C. F. Ferguson, Roy Moorman, T. A. Iasigi, W. C. Martin, H. E. Delaney, Geo. Noland, Wm. Stancel, Fred Palmer, Frank Smith, Roland Reading, Jim Mayberry, Charley Faure, Dick Southern, Rud. Smith, Clarence Earl, Walter Evers, Harold Atkinson.

Governor Johnson ordered two companies of state militia, Coast Artillery, from San Diego and four companies of the Seventh Regiment from Los Angeles to the Valley.

Mediation finally closed the Huerta war scare and after a brief stay in the Valley the troops at Calexico were sent home.

GOVERNOR JOHNSON VISITS

May 25, Governor Hiram Johnson, accompanied by J. M. Eshleman, President of the California Railroad Commission, visited the Valley, making a sixty-five mile trip by automobile around the circle and addressing crowds in every town. The visit was in the nature of a campaign for Johnson's re-election as Governor and Eshleman's election as Lieutenant Governor.

The third annual Fruit and Vegetable Fair was held in El Centro in June.

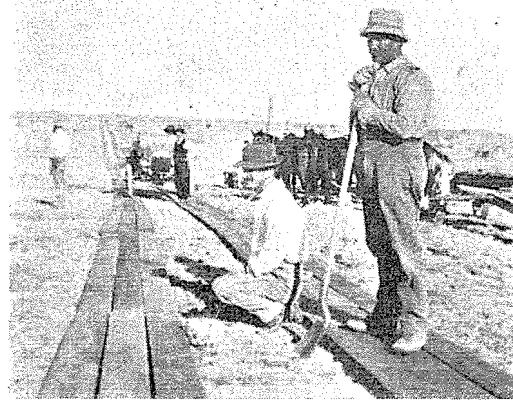
The Colorado River lapped at the top of the levee system in many places for a week in June, causing much uneasiness and an army of workmen to labor night and day to keep the floods back. The levee finally gave away but the river went down rapidly. Much water flowed to Salton Sea. Bridges were all endangered, some of them floating during high water.

The El Centro Fire Department invited the Valley to attend the Fourth of July celebration in the county seat. A good program was offered. Calipatria and Niland both had celebrations.

WORLD WAR STARTS

The last three days of July, 1914, the world was shocked with war news. Imperial Valley watched with keen interest the newspapers that told of mobilization and the outbreak of hostilities. The immediate effect on the Valley was a drop in the price of cotton and other commodities.

The Holton Power Company effected connection with the Southern Sierras Power Company for transmission of electric current over the longest power line in the world, 600 miles. Interruptions in power service were declared a thing of the past.



The First Plank Road Across the Sand Hills Toward Yuma

VALLEY CHAMBER ACTIVE

In the fall of 1914, John Foster Manning was the new executive secretary of the Imperial Valley Chamber of Commerce. He set about securing 300 members who would pay \$1 per month toward support of the Chamber. L. J. Thomas, of Imperial, was president.

CLOSE CONTESTS

The August primaries were sizzling in interest. The contest between Judge Cole and H. W. Brewer was so close that only 24 votes lay between them. Brewer contested the election. The recount lost him 3 votes. Phil Swing was defeated for District Attorney by Galen Nichols. Bob Goree gave Nont Reid a stiff race for Tax Collector. Hiram Johnson and Jack Eshleman were nominated for Governor and Lieutenant Governor and went on to victory in the fall. The Democrats nominated R. E. Wills, of Brawley, for the Assembly and the Republicans nominated Philo Jones. Wills won out in November. Congressman Kettner was renominated and elected.

Owing to the lack of a cotton market a movement was started to "buy a bale of cotton" and hundreds of Valley business men and ranchers responded.

MORE SAN DIEGO ROAD HELP

San Diego business men once more came to the help of Imperial County by furnishing lumber enough to build three miles of plank road across the worst part of the sand hills east of Holtville. The lumber was shipped in September and construction started.

John Bowers and his 14-year-old son undertook to cross the sand hills and ran out of water. The father died in the sand and the son made his way to Ogilby on the railroad. Twenty men searched for four days before they found the body of Bowers, senior.

VALLEY BANKERS ASSOCIATION

L. J. Thomas was elected president of the Imperial Valley Bankers Association, organized at a get-together dinner at the Tulane Cafe. F. B. Fuller was chosen vice-president of the association, R. G. Webster, was elected secretary, and Dan A. Leonard, treasurer. Forty-seven men representing the 14 banks of Imperial county, were seated around the table with the Rev. W. G. Conley, president of the First National Bank of Seeley, acting as toastmaster.

1914 STATISTICS

The El Centro Progress turned over its plant to the Imperial Valley Chamber of Commerce for one issue and a "Chamber of Commerce" edition was issued carrying facts about the Valley to promote interest among homeseekers.

Following are a few of the 1914 statistics published in

October: Acreage under cultivation, 320,000; crop values exceeded \$20,000,000; 60,000 bales of cotton; 500 cars watermelons; 6,650,000 pounds of butter; 750 tons of honey; 120,000 cattle; 1,200,000 sacks of barley; 70,000 tons of hay; 530 cars of hogs; 376 cars of sheep; 167,000 sacks milo.

Hon. James D. Phelan, candidate for the United States Senate and three times mayor of San Francisco, was a Valley visitor in October.

Dr. W. T. Heffernan, the first man to put real money behind the California Development Company in 1896, and who left the Valley in 1907, spending several years in Europe and the Orient, returned in October, 1914, opening an office in El Centro.

Fire consumed the new \$15,000 hotel at Niland, October 30.

The voters of the Imperial Irrigation District approved the first bond issue for the purpose of purchasing the property of the California Development Company by a vote of ten to one, October 29. Bonds for \$3,500,000 were authorized. (See District history, Chapter XII.)

A four-team baseball league with Brawley, Imperial, Holtville and El Centro contending, furnished a good brand of baseball during the fall and winter of 1914.

On the state ballot was an amendment which gave an opportunity to voters to express themselves on the wet and dry question. The amendment provided that any city or county giving a majority to the dry side could not issue licenses to saloons. Imperial, already having licensed saloons, voted 47 majority dry on this amendment. It was a moot question, then, whether the saloons would have to go out of business.

SEVENTH COUNTY FAIR

Under the management of Secretary J. Foster Manning, the 1914 county fair was a brilliant success. Twenty-one cups were offered for best exhibits and for best services. Miss Helen Shaw was elected Queen and held court on the fair grounds, awarding prize winners their trophies. Two hundred exhibitors made use of the display space. Following are the names of committeemen who handled details:

Ed Forrester, Ed Boyd, Ben Salomon, Will A. Edgar, Sam Dunaway, E. G. Irwin, W. E. Wilsie, W. K. Bowker, Harry Baum, Geo. Campbell, J. V. Wachtel, W. S. Fawcett, J. T. Wight, G. D. Armstead, Mr. Whiting, Steve Lyons, H. B. Sly, Ed Gorman, W. P. Harris, Wiley Weaver, Mr. Longstreth, J. R. Henley, F. L. Richard, W. E. Packard, Frank Reading, True Vencill, C. M. Applestill, F. B. Fuller, A. B. Brundage, J. A. Morrison, T. T. Cook, L. J. Thomas, O. K. Thomas, Major Dunn, Roger Webster.

Queen Helen named as her maids of honor the following young ladies: Hazel Fawcett, Heber; Zono Waldrip, Calexico; Margery Brewer, Imperial; Helen Grizzle, Holtville; Winifred Walker, Dixieland; Ruth Connett, Seeley; Imogene Aten, Niland; Florence Paine, Calipatria; Kathleen Perkiss, El Centro; and Ellen Miller, Brawley.

PROGRESS AWARD PUBLICITY TROPHY

The cup put up by Secretary John Foster Manning for the newspaper giving the county fair the best three weeks' publicity was awarded to the Progress. The beautiful cup is on exhibition in the window.

Mr. Manning's letter accompanying the cup follows:

El Centro, Cal., Nov. 28, 1914.
To the Publishers El Centro Progress, Mr. and Mrs. O. B. Tout:

I have the pleasure of sending you herewith the Secretary's Cup, awarded for the best publicity given the County Fair from November 1 to November 21.

It is only due to you to say that you had not one but two men especially detailed night and day to cover the county fair; that you not only published more news of the fair but by far the greatest amount of specially written articles and gave exclusively the racing features, entries and purse winners.

While giving the press of this county the thanks that are justly due them the Progress so far exceeded all other papers in its advance items and daily news of the fair that any fair-minded person knows the Progress is justly entitled to the cup and the prestige that goes with it.

Yours faithfully,
J. F. MANNING, Secretary.

BABY SHOW WINNERS

The following babies won prizes in a contest where 250 were examined: Howard Templeton, Erma Packard, Josephine Wood, Daniel McLean, Irene Lucille Ropp, Ashton Barnum, Mary Helen Iasigi, Charles Kyne, Dorothy Hamilton, Roberta Ault, Carl Westgard, Ellen Van Dorn, Albert Cravath, Simkin Stark, Morgan Rice, Isabel Atkins, Eleanor Wilson, Marjorie June Davis, Shirley M. Young, Maxine Arnold and Eleanor Clark. These children, in 1931, would be from 17 to 20 years old.

HISTORIC RESOLUTION

The Imperial County Board of Supervisors passed a resolution November 16, asking the State Highway Commission to include the road from El Centro to Yuma in the State's system. The resolution reviewed the facts that Arizona had voted bonds for good roads east of Yuma and that California, the national Government and Arizona were building a great bridge across the river and that the State's system would not be complete unless the plans included a highway to the State line at Yuma.

Supervisors John Boyce, J. J. Carr and Ed E. Boyd voted for the resolution. Supervisors Arthur Shepard and W. F. Beal voted against it. The same resolution was re-introduced and Beal and Shepard voted for it.

The final result was the inclusion of the desert road in the State system. The county officially called it the "Boyd Road."

Preparations for complete county exhibits at the San Diego and San Francisco expositions were made in December.

UNITED SECRETARIES ASSOCIATION

In December the secretaries of all chambers of commerce and other civic organizations formed an organization known as the United Secretaries Association of Imperial Valley. Dan B. Potts, of Calexico, was named president; Eugene D. White, of El Centro, Vice-President, and W. R. Harper, of Calipatria, Secretary. The following secretaries were members:

D. B. Potts, secretary of the Farmers & Merchants club, Calexico; J. B. Bell, secretary Imperial Valley Hog Raisers association; Mayor A. W. Swanson, of El Centro; F. L. Stevens, secretary Niland Chamber of Commerce; E. D. White, secretary Merchants & Manufacturers association, El Centro; E. W. Hullinger, secretary Heber Chamber of Commerce; E. P. Riggle, secretary Imperial Valley Long Staple Cotton Growers association; R. G. Webster, secretary Imperial Valley Bankers association, Holtville; W. R. Harper, secretary Calipatria Chamber of Commerce; M. H. Lee, secretary Imperial Chamber of Commerce; W. H. Compton, secretary Seeley Chamber of Commerce and director of the Imperial Valley Chamber of Commerce, and F. E. Place, secretary of the Imperial Valley Chamber of Commerce.

The annual school directors show the names of 200 school teachers in the Valley.

Fred. E. Place was named secretary of the Imperial Valley Chamber of Commerce to succeed J. Foster Manning, resigned. W. H. Compton was managing director.

1915

EXPOSITION OPENS

San Diego had sent a cordial invitation to Imperial Valley to join with the coast city in the exposition opening festivities set for the beginning of the new year. The invitation was accepted by some 250 auto loads of Valley people who drove over in a cavalcade and took part in the program of opening night. The cavalcade was organized as a unit in the street parade in San Diego and made a good impression on the public with banners, pennants and other advertising media. San Diego had planned the exposition and worked on it for five years previous.

The important fact that Imperial Valley was a healthy place to live was emphasized by the discovery that with a total of 180 deaths from all causes in 1914 and a population estimated at 50,000, the rate per 1000 was only 3.5. Other localities boast when their average runs under 13 per 1000. The fact that the Valley was still a "young man's territory" probably had something to do with the low rate. However this death rate was the lowest in the United States and that was a record to be broadcast to the world.

The heaviest rain in years came January 14, shutting off the Valley from outside communication both by rail and auto.

Articles of incorporation for the Conant Townsite Company were filed in January. The town of Conant was to be located near Mt. Signal. Clarence Conant was president of the company. The town was to be named after him.

County Treasurer J. Stanley Brown, in an interview, suggested a manager form of government for the County, citing the lack of an executive head and the consequent lack of system.

The Fifth Annual Convention of the Imperial County Federation of Women's Clubs met at Calexico in February. Mrs. Mary Stevenson was president.

The Irrigation District signed the contract with the Southern Pacific to take over the water system. (See Irrigation District History).

PLANK ROAD BUILDING STARTS

The first spike was driven in the construction of the plank road over the sand hills February 13. Ed Boyd, father of the project, asked all the towns of the Valley to provide workers to lay the plank. A camp was established at Gray's Well, named after Newt Gray of Holtville. The camp was called Camp Boyd. Half a hundred men worked on the job for three weeks. Chas. Gillett hauled the lumber from Ogilby. Vaughn Azhderian was commissary chief. Dave Williams and Newt Gray were lieutenants. The county furnished the food and paid the freight bills. San Diego furnished the lumber. Lieutenant-Governor J. M. Eshleman, Chas. Berkman, Fred Place, J. V. Wachtel, Jr., Sam Dunaway, B. Salomon, Albert Durham, Roy Rumsey and others took turns at driving spikes. Frank Reading was chairman of the Yuma Road Committee for the County Chamber.

The first road was made of 2x12 planks nailed to cross ties making a track 25 inches wide for each wheel. Later this was changed to heavy cross ties which made a rough corduroy roadway, the remains of which may be seen along the Yuma road now.

The new bridge at Yuma was dedicated May 24 with proper celebrating ceremonies.

ROAD BONDS

The road committee of the Imperial Valley Chamber of Commerce called a public meeting February 24, and reached the decision to advise the county to issue \$2,000,000

bonds for paved roads. The movement met with popular approval. "Go the limit for good roads" was the slogan. Members of the Chamber committee were: N. A. Mackey, Imperial, chairman; Frank Reading, El Centro; H. H. Clark, Calipatria; W. S. Fawcett, Heber; W. H. Best, Brawley; Dave Williams, Holtville; F. L. Richards, El Centro; Robert Goree, Calexico; Frank Moore, Silsbee.

The North end of the Valley was also interested in the good roads movement. Strong efforts to get the state interested in including the Salton Sea route in the State highway program were made by Assemblyman R. E. Wills, Supervisor W. F. Beal and others of Brawley.

The Imperial County Bar Association named four attorneys to act as judges of the Superior Court in case Judge Cole, whose wife was quite ill, could not serve. They were Phil Swing, Dan V. Noland, John Stewart Ross and J. S. Larew.

A party of twelve members of congress, under the guidance of Congressman Wm. Kettner, made a tour of the Valley in March and were properly entertained by the Imperial Valley Chamber of Commerce and the Irrigation District.

In order to clear the records the two County Highway Commissions appointed by the Supervisors in 1908 and 1910 were given their release in order that a new Commission might be appointed.

Secretary of the Interior Franklin D. Lane and party visited the Valley and saw the protective system and water heading.

Ten prisoners in the County jail escaped by digging a hole in the wall.

In April a veritable army of "Sphinx moth worms" appeared in the desert around Dixieland and headed for the growing fields of the Valley. Millions were drowned in the west side main canal and the few that crossed on the bridges were killed by agents of the Horticultural Commissioner's department.

Chas. Kayes and Mrs. Wiley Weaver were representing Imperial County at the San Diego exposition. Wayne Compton was representative at the San Francisco exposition.

May 1 there was a hard wind that tore down several shacks. The wind was accompanied by a temperature as low as 53. Overcoats worn over Palm Beach trousers next day made things look unusual.

The Valley was uneasy on account of depredations and fires caused, it was said, by I. W. W. gangsters.

Assemblyman R. E. Wills in May reported that the legislature had passed bills allowing \$100,000 for the improvement of the sand hill road and a like amount for the Salton Sea road.

BARBARA WORTH HOTEL OPENED

The opening of the new Barbara Worth Hotel May 8 was an event of Valley wide interest. The open house was attended by more than 2000 people. The formal evening affair was attended by 500. The owners were the Bell Development Company and the chief stockholders were W. F. and Leroy Holt, E. E. Forrester and a number of other Valley people. Miller & Porter (Sam Porter, of San Diego) were the first lessees. The hotel was the most elaborate and complete enterprise the Valley had known up to that time.

HISTORY ON WALLS

Scenes depicting the early history of the Valley as written in "The Winning of Barbara Worth" by Harold Bell Wright, were done in oil paintings by Edward Vysikel and

Miss Luvena Buchannan, artists of Chicago, commissioned by the Bell Development Company, and placed on the four walls of the lobby of the new Barbara Worth Hotel.

The artists came to the Valley in 1914, visited actual scenes on the desert, and built a studio on the roof of the new hotel. They selected pioneers as models for the persons in the paintings. The following description of these paintings which are still on the walls of the lobby, was written by the publisher of this history for the El Centro Progress in 1914:

"The Conquest of the Desert"

Across the north wall of the lobby on a space six feet by thirty-six, is the canvas entitled, "The Conquest of the Desert." The west edge of the picture depicts the desert, real, tawny and severe. Signal Mountain and the purple skyline of the San Jacintos form the background. In the center stands a life size figure lifting an irrigation gate and turning the water upon the barren land. This figure while being symbolic was posed by Charles N. Perry, who was on the spot when this historical event actually took place even if he did not actually lift the gate. To the left, stand Willard Holmes and Barbara Worth as they stood at the close of the story. Into the scene from the extreme right comes an interesting group. A pioneer, his wife and child; a figure representing Agriculture holding by the hand a figure representing the Trades followed closely by a figure representing the Industries. Trade is leading Culture, a beautiful young woman. In the corner stands the Golden Page, representing on a golden tray the Rewards of Industry.

The pioneer was posed by Ed E. Forrester. The pioneer woman is Mrs. J. Stanley Brown, one of the Valley's first women. The pioneer child is the four year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. N. Perry. The golden page is one of Mr. Wright's sons, selected by the artists because of his beautiful auburn hair.

W. E. Wilsie posed for the figure "Agriculture;" Jasper L. Travers, pioneer contractor, with his apron and implements, posed for the "Trades"; C. E. Paris, represents the "Industries." Miss Sawyer, a school teacher of Meloland, represents "Culture."

This picture is complete in itself. It shows from the west to the east the allegorical transformation of the desert, from brown to green, from barrenness to plenty, from waste to prodigious productivity.

"Desolation"

Commencing at the left of the large painting, "The Conquest of the Desert" and continuing around the room on the spaces between the arches is a series of pictures showing the development of the desert.

The first of these pendants is entitled "Desolation." It depicts the barren desert in all grim reality. The coming sand storm can be seen glowering in the distance.

"Primitive Life"

In the next "pendant" picture primitive life of the first inhabitants is depicted. The faithful Mexican Pablo and Jose, the Indian, are the chief characters in this sketch. To get the correct expression on their faces the artists made a trip of several days' duration into Mexico to see exactly how these same Mexicans and Indians live today.

"The Vision"

In the next picture "The Vision" is illustrated. There is shown the "seer" Charles Robinson Rockwood, the engineer who "discovered" Imperial Valley as an irrigable area. He is sitting in meditation and seeing in the distance the unfolding of the empire that is now taking place.

"Adventure"

In the fourth panel "Texas" the grizzled wise man of the desert, who always knew best what to do when the whims of the waste played havoc with the plans of human beings, stands with an upturned canteen, the last drop of water gone. This painting will stand for ages, no doubt, as a classic illustration of that dreaded condition, thirst on a heated desert—a condition that has caused many a tragic death in times gone by and not a few in current history.

The sand dunes and weary expanses stretch away in the distance and "Texas," not alarmed, is studying out the best

thing to do. The Valley was searched for the proper face for this picture and none other than Andy Elliott, well known desert habitant of many years' standing, was selected. Elliott punched cattle across Imperial Valley thirty years ago.

"Financial Genius"

The first picture on the south wall of the lobby will be that of "Financial Genius," without which the Valley would have remained the land of nothing. Here W. F. Holt is shown as the Jefferson Worth of the story. He is seated on the spot where he lost his horse in the story book and in the background can be seen the picture of the very first surveying camp that ever pitched a tent on the sands of this once desert. The picture is made from a priceless photograph, the property of C. N. Perry who was a member of the original party.

"Capital Enlisted"

Closely following "Financial Genius" comes "Capital Enlisted" and Greenfield, the man with capital in the story book, is represented by S. L. Roland, general manager of the company building the hotel. Burke is posed by J. V. Wachtel, Jr. In this picture the Seer is shown pointing out the ultimate possibilities of the Valley's development. The beginning had already been made and the unfinished towns, buildings and half cultivated farms can be discerned in the background.

"Technical Skill"

The ninth pendant shows a surveyor, E. H. (Pete) Gaines, as Abe Lee, looking through a transit and designating the lines that give ditches a place to live. Telephone lines, railroads, industrial plants, etc., all have their beginning in the fine work of the man of technical skill. The man with the transit precedes the development of every country and this picture conveys the idea.

"Labor"

Picture a man in desert garb, his throat open to the sun and wind, his arms bare to the elbows—yes, just such a man as you see, a hundred times every day in Imperial Valley—the laborer. Well knit muscles, strong in body, sturdy in character, the laborer bears the load of work faithfully. "Pat" was the man of all work in the Wright story. And Joe Stamps, former foreman for a ditch crew for the C. D. Company, represents "Pat" in the picture. There he is, digging a ditch and making a way for the life giving waters to be carried to the thirsty land.

"The Crisis"

Here will be the noted break of the Colorado river pictured in detail. Its turbid waters are pouring unhampered in roaring wildness to Salton Sea. And yet, standing on the brink of the lapping waters, a calm eyed engineer views the task before him. One almost expects him to wave an arm at the crowd of laborers and order them to proceed to stop the break. Willard Holmes was the man in the book who did the job and C. K. Clarke is the man who is typed as one of the engineers who did valiant service for the Valley in that gloomy crisis.

"Realization"

And now the series of pictures has reached the other end of the "Conquest of the Desert" across the north end of the lobby. Merged into the green luxury of developed plenty there stands the maiden of the story, Barbara Worth, the young woman, "grown up with the country" as the saying goes, the Barbara Worth of the story. Miss Marjorie Paris, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Paris, of El Centro, posed for this scene. She is garbed in simple white. She rests against a bale of cotton. Within her view one can see the throbbing life of paved streets; the flowers in front yards, the prospering farms, the trees grown to maturity, the automobiles of modern life, throngs of people on the highways and many other indications of the realization of the Seer's dream—the wise old Seer who had often talked with Barbara in her growing up days.

Construction of the San Diego & Arizona Railroad in May, 1915, had reached the mountain area where 18 tunnels were to be bored.

Records of the year previous all over California showed that Imperial County led the State in dairy products. The total value for 1914, was \$2,495,977. Humboldt County was second.

MIDSUMMER EARTHQUAKE

June 22, 1915, two serious earth shocks, followed by many less severe, damaged buildings throughout the Valley, centering however, in El Centro. Brick walls were thrown down, plate glass windows shattered and stocks in stores strewn about. Many buildings were condemned and temporary quarters were erected on lawns. Fire broke out when a shipment of matches in the Delta Mercantile Company's wholesale house fell over. This was the only fire. Three deaths resulted, all in Mexicali. The shocks came at 8:05 and 8:55 in the evening. Both the Press and Progress offices were rendered useless. The Progress did not miss an issue, although the day after the quake it appeared as a handset handbill. The El Centro Fire Department went ahead and held a big Fourth of July celebration which was attended by thousands in the midst of braces and timbers from one end of town to the other. The water system was not damaged. The Barbara Worth Hotel, just opened, was twisted and had to be closed. Building losses were repaired at a cost of about \$650,000.

SHERIFF DIES

The death of Sheriff Mobley Meadows, picturesque westerner and Imperial County's sheriff since the County was organized, was a shock July 13, 1915. He died from an attack of acute indigestion.

After several days balloting the Board of Supervisors named C. M. Applestill sheriff to succeed Mobley Meadows.

Another heavy rain and wind storm visited the Valley August 26.

The highway west of Coyote Wells was paved by the State in the fall of 1915.

The Imperial Valley Bankers Association met at banquet and elected the following officers for the next year: President, B. R. Brundage, president of the Security Commercial & Savings bank of El Centro; Vice-President, F. S. Lack, president of the American State Bank of Brawley; Secretary, F. F. Palmerlee, cashier of the First National Bank of Brawley; Treasurer, William Gunterman, cashier of Calexico National Bank.

Several Valley cabin owners found their mountain cabins at Live Oak Springs burned to the ground during a forest fire.

The Southern District Federation of Women's Clubs held its 1915 convention in El Centro.

A movement to consolidate all the business men's organizations in the Valley was started at a banquet called by Eugene D. White in November. The following men attended: Chas. Shpisman, Imperial; N. A. Mackey, Imperial; H. J. Eifler, Imperial; O. B. Dotson, Heber; M. H. Cavin, Heber; J. J. Woodward, El Centro; J. M. Duncan, Los Angeles; R. E. Couch, El Centro; J. H. Edgar, Imperial; M. D. Witter, Brawley; F. M. Blood, Brawley; F. S. Lack, Brawley; H. E. Allatt, Calipatria; E. O. Nice, Calipatria; A. B. Manahan, Calipatria; Vern Bishop, El Centro; T. L. Doherty, El Centro; C. A. Shafer, El Centro; Eugene D. White, El Centro; Fred E. Place, El Centro; J. H. Cox, Riverside; T. J. Worthington, El Centro; G. C. Davis, Calipatria; G. K. Parker, Imperial; P. H. Black, Imperial; J. C. Hunley, Brawley; Gus Shore, Brawley; T. B. Edgar, Brawley; R. W. Stilgebour, Brawley; J. L. Manahan, Brawley; E. B. Stilgebour, Brawley; C. A. Nagle, Brawley; Geo. W. Anderson, El Centro; M. B. Steyer, Brawley; Harry A. Staub, Brawley; J. G. Cadman, El Centro; W. O. Hamilton, El Centro.

IMPERIAL COUNTY AT THE FAIRS

During 1915 the two expositions, at San Diego and San Francisco, brought many thousands of people to the coast. Imperial County maintained exhibits at both fairs. The San Francisco exhibit was in charge of Wayne H. Compton who gave also a daily illustrated lecture on the Valley. This lecture was the means of bringing many new people. At San Diego Charles Kays, Mrs. Wiley Weaver and Mrs. Ella Swickard had charge of the Valley's exhibits. One hundred thousand booklets were distributed. The San Diego exposition was kept open during 1916.

Another earthquake of minor importance but keeping up for a period of two minutes got on people's nerves in November.

The first carload of citrus fruit ever shipped out of Imperial Valley was grapefruit from the L. F. Farnsworth ranch near Imperial. The shipment went out in December.

AGRICULTURAL ASSEMBLY

A notable convention of Valley agricultural interests took place in Brawley in December. It was called an Agricultural Assembly and was similar to an old time Farmers' Institute, the first of which was held in 1903 in Imperial. The assembly was attended by 1200 ranchers. All topics relating to farm experience and crop troubles were covered in an elaborate program. Arthur M. Nelson, promotion and publicity agent for the County, planned the assembly. He was assisted by a committee composed of the following: R. E. Wills, director general; Walter E. Packard, director of program; E. B. Stilgebour, chairman reception committee; J. H. Edgar, chairman transportation committee; Major W. T. Dunn, chairman of finance, and the following: M. H. H. Lee, W. T. Aitken, George Campbell, L. J. Ivey, W. P. Mansfield, C. F. Boarts, H. H. Clark, Steve Lyons, F. M. Moore and F. E. Place.

1916

W. F. Beal was made chairman of the Board of Supervisors for 1916.

A movement to secure the annexation of enough territory in Mexico to serve the purposes of the Irrigation District was launched by W. F. Beal. It aroused international interest but the object was never realized.

W. F. Holt announced the sale of the Holton Power Company and the Imperial Ice and Development Company to the Nevada-California Electric Corporation January 8.

The memorable rainstorm of January, 1916, isolated the Valley for several days. Five trains were held at Indio and no outgoing trains were possible for several days. The storm washed out bridges in San Diego county and stage traffic was stopped. Telephone lines went down and the Valley's electric power current was shut off. The Valley was cut off from the outside world for five days. Water was nine feet deep in the streets of Yuma. The assault of the river on the Volcano Lake levee system failed to cause serious damage. Ten days after the first storm another hit the south and again isolated the Valley. The Otay dam at San Diego went out.

The public sale of the properties of the California Development Company was conducted by Receiver W. H. Holabird from the courthouse steps February 8. The Southern Pacific was the purchaser. The transfer by the railroad to the District followed within a short time. The event was celebrated by the publication of a special edition of the El Centro Progress.

The Imperial Valley Chamber of Commerce annual meeting resulted in the election of W. T. Dunn, of Brawley as President. Fred E. Place was continued as Secretary.

Encouraged by the Bankers Association with substantial prizes the organization of pig raising clubs was started. A banquet attended by forty took place February 19. Michael Lynch of Imperial won grand prize at the show, a check for \$300.

The death of John M. Eshleman, Imperial County's first District Attorney, February 28, 1916, brought universal sorrow. He was Lieutenant-Governor of the State at the time of his death.

The Villa raid again excited residents along the border and the Government sent four companies of infantry to the Valley from Vancouver to protect the region from similar depredations. The soldiers were camped at El Centro.

County Supervisor John Boyce of Calexico died suddenly while visiting in Los Angeles. P. E. Carr, of Calexico, was appointed to Mr. Boyce's place.

Excursions to Hanlon Heading were features of May. Trainloads of people took the trips.

VALLEY DAY AT FAIR

June 10, 1916, was Imperial Valley day at the San Diego exposition. Preparing for the event the election of a Valley Queen was conducted. Miss Blanche May, of Imperial, was elected. Miss Inez Collier was Princess for El Centro; Miss Mildred Cox, was Princess for Holtville; Miss Emma Northsworthy, for Heber; Mrs. George Willoughby for Calexico; Miss Ida Brothers for Imperial; Miss Elsie Adams for Seeley and Miss Edna Guffey for Calipatria.

A cavalcade of cars carried a thousand Valley people to the fair. A parade in San Diego gave the Valley much prominence.

The first Flag Day exercises were held by the new Elks Lodge June 14. Michael Shannon, of Los Angeles, was orator.

The County's 1916 assessed valuation passed \$31,000,000.

W. O. Hamilton, Irrigation District Director, stepped into a mud volcano near Black Butte and was badly scalded. He was unable to attend to business for some time.

The August primaries resulted in the election of W. H. Brooks, John Rice and W. F. Beal as supervisors. R. E. Wills defeated Clifford Coggins for the Republican nomination for the Assembly which meant his re-election.

A Government Land Office was secured for Imperial Valley by Congressman Kettner. Judge F. C. Farr was named Register and Phil Brooks Receiver. The new office was opened September 1.

The Board of Directors of the Irrigation District resigned in a body October 3. (See District History).

The Valley had some trouble securing labor for the cotton fields.

Republicans opened headquarters in El Centro and made preparations to greet Gov. W. D. Stevens. The Committee which took care of the Governor was composed of: Galen Nichols, O. B. Tout, Phil D. Swing, Wiley M. Weaver, John Norton, Jos. Seymour, Jr., John H. O'Donnell, A. W. Swanson, E. J. Parks, R. H. Clark, Walter Kibbey, F. H. Harris, W. D. Garey, C. M. Applestill, W. H. Brooks, I. J. Coll, Mrs. A. H. Griswold, Mrs. A. W. Swanson, Mrs. Jessie Helms, and Mrs. Ira Aten.

A novel method of informing the people of the results of the election was used by the Holton Power Company at the suggestion of the El Centro Progress. If Hughes were elected the lights would blink five times and if Wilson

were successful they would blink three times. They blinked three times in 1916. Imperial County went Democratic by a vote of 3265 for Wilson and 2689 for Hughes. On the dry amendment Imperial County was the driest in the state. The vote was two to one in favor of prohibition.

Arthur M. Nelson, County Development Agent, resigned his position because of the lack of support given his efforts by the County.

1916 FAIR

In 1915 there was no effort made to hold a county fair. In the fall of 1916 the County Farm Bureau, co-operating with the El Centro Chamber of Commerce, instituted a Livestock Show that took the place of a fair. The Chamber raised \$2500 amongst business men. The fair was held and proved to be a success. The committee that handled details was composed of: General Manager, A. M. Nelson; Director of Livestock, P. I. Dougherty; Director of Agricultural Exhibits, W. E. Packard; Director of Concessions and Admission, Chas. Applestill; Director of Works, Don W. Wells; Comptroller, C. T. Willis.

The management of the Livestock Show took note of the "pioneers" by calling the first day of the show "Pioneer Day." People who were in the Valley in 1902 were eligible to the name.

The annual convention of County Assessors was held in El Centro November 15. Two hundred visitors were entertained.

A "Get-together" barbecue planned by San Diegans was attended by one hundred Valley residents at Campo in November.

One of the most noted trials in the Superior Court was that of B. C. Lytle, accused of throwing acid on Tom Potts, Holtville druggist. The jury disagreed. Lytle was tried again and convicted.

SHEPARD BRIDGE

The new bridge at the foot of the Mountain Springs grade was christened "Shepard Bridge" in honor of Arthur Shepard, former County Supervisor who worked hard for the improvement of Myers canyon through which the highway runs. The christening was conducted by the El Centro Chamber of Commerce and Purl Willis broke a bottle of Colorado river water on the concrete abutment as he named the bridge Christmas day. Jos. F. Seymour cut the wire that opened the bridge.

1917

Holtville again entertained the Valley at a New Year fiesta. Vaughn Azhderian was master of ceremonies.

Owing to the price of cotton being around 20 cents a pound the acreage in the Valley was doubled in 1917.

The last concrete on the new State highway connecting the Valley with the mountains was poured January 10. This portion of the highway was done at a cost of \$450,000.

In March a group of Congressmen guided by Congressman Kettner visited the Valley.

In February trouble with Germany loomed and in April Congress declared a state of war existed.

Imperial County's War Record will be found in another chapter of this history.

The County History is resumed in Chapter XXII, after the War History

CHAPTER XX

IMPERIAL COUNTY'S WAR RECORD

THE Patience of the National Government with Germany's treatment of neutrals came to an end in April, 1917, when Congress declared that a state of war existed. It was a solemn pronouncement. The whole country was stirred to its very depths.

In Imperial Valley the first public notice of the forthcoming conflict was taken at the raising of an American flag in Holtville, February 22. The flag was presented by Congressman Kettner and was the one that was raised over the Capitol in Washington during the funeral of Admiral George Dewey. R. W. Hoover, Rev. Amos Robinson, C. D. Hartshorn and Phil Brooks took part in the patriotic program which was serious because of impending international conflict.

In March every store front in the Valley displayed the flag. A resolution was adopted by the Chamber of Commerce urging all citizens to display the national emblem. Even before war was declared, in response to the President's urge that recruits be received by the navy, Kenneth Warren Gale, of Imperial, was the first to enlist at the recruiting offices opened in El Centro.

April 6th, the day war was declared, a meeting of citizens was called for the purpose of considering protective measures for the Imperial Valley border and to prevent possible activity of German sympathizers south of the line. The call was signed by Sheriff Applestill, Jas. W. Glassford, M. S. Cook, E. E. Cummings, Joseph Ford, O. G. Horne, E. F. Howe and O. B. Tout. J. Stanley Brown was chairman of the meeting. It was decided to form a rifle club and a committee consisting of J. Stanley Brown, James Glassford, Purl Willis, Dan V. Noland, W. E. Wilsie and Phil D. Swing was appointed to see to the details.

HOME GUARDS

Rifle clubs were formed in each of the towns of the Valley. These clubs were later called "home guards." In El Centro there were two home guard companies organized. T. J. Worthington and Roy Moorman headed one company as Captain and First Lieutenant. Purl Willis and H. E. Horn and J. R. Ford were Captain, First and Second Lieutenants. Captain Willis acted as Major.

In Imperial two companies were also formed with George Gentieu and James Jarrott Captains; C. W. Waite and A. C. Keene First Lieutenants, and W. A. Frix and J. T. Rice Second Lieutenants. G. W. Heber was Major and E. D. Stuart was Adjutant.

From these companies were recruited most of the Imperial Valley members of Battery D, which was mustered into the service as a unit first of the First

Field Artillery, California National Guard and then into Federal service as a part of the 143rd Field Artillery.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF DEFENSE

The Board of Supervisors, District Attorney Nichols and Sheriff Applestill were promptly notified by State officials how initial war activities were to be handled. The National Government worked through the State Governor who appointed a State Council of Defense. The State, in turn, worked through the County Governments, appointing the District Attorney in each county as chairman of the County Council of Defense. Imperial County's first Council of Defense was composed of:

District Attorney Galen Nichols.

Sheriff C. M. Applestill.

Clerk Major Cook.

Farm Advisor Paul Dougherty.

Leroy Holt, President of the Irrigation District.

Len. F. Shaw, Chairman, Board of Supervisors.

H. L. Sherman, First Supervisorial District.

Purl Willis, Second Supervisorial District.

Charles W. Waite, Third Supervisorial District.

H. H. Clark, Fourth Supervisorial District.

M. C. Blanchard, Fifth Supervisorial District.

F. W. Waite was secretary of the Council. Purl Willis was first chairman, but was replaced on reorganization by Galen Nichols.

The first conference between the County Council and the State Council concerned Imperial Valley as a food resource of great value. All through the war period this Valley's agricultural ability to produce played an important part. Farmers responded by raising castor beans for Liberty Engine motor oil; hemp for airplane cloth; food for cantonments in great quantities.

RED CROSS ORGANIZED

The Imperial Valley Chapter of the American Red Cross was organized in El Centro May 12, with the following officers and Executive Board: Chairman, James Glassford; Vice-Chairman, A. H. Griswold; Secretary, Mrs. G. S. Helms; Treasurer, T. T. Cook; Board of Managers, A. L. Richmond, O. G. Horne, Mrs. Violet Campbell, B. Salomon and C. W. Barton. Board members: Mrs. T. O. Lockett, Mrs. Leroy Holt, Mrs. A. L. Richmond, Mrs. O. G. Horne, Mrs. Wm. P. Hall, Mrs. Jos. F. Seymour, Mrs. W. S. Fawcett, Mrs. A. H. Griswold, A. W. Swanson, Clifford Coggins, Geo. W. Anderson and Mrs. Robert W. Campbell.

CALEXICO CHAPTER

Calexico secured special permission to organize a Red Cross chapter. E. H. Rockwood was president.

On the executive board were: Mr. and Mrs. Phillips, Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Aitken, Mr. and Mrs. Sidney McHarg, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Edmunds, Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Steintorf, Mr. and Mrs. Chester Allison, Mr. and Mrs. Ben Vlier, D. A. Leonard, F. D. Hevener, Dr. W. F. Smith, Bert Perrin, Edward Dool, Sam Gerber, F. Meyer, Dr. Rice, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Going, C. W. Brockman, L. M. Jones, Mrs. F. Donohue, Mrs. C. F. Turner, Mrs. E. E. Anderson, Mrs. P. P. Anderson, Mrs. H. H. Griswold.

EXEMPTION BOARD

C. W. Barton, C. T. Wardlaw and C. E. Arfwedson were named as the Imperial County Exemption Board. This board served throughout the war, calling, examining and forwarding to the various camps more than 1200 men. It ruled on initial exemption claims and classified all registrants for the second draft. Needless to say the duties were arduous and exacting. The Board's record for efficiency stands second to none in the State.

REGISTRATION DAY

The selective draft system was worked out by Congress and June 5th, set for registration of all men between the ages of 21 and 30.

When the day arrived there were so many young men in the county in proportion to the total population that every precinct ran out of registration blanks early in the afternoon.

In the county 5,940 young men registered.

FIRST LIBERTY LOAN

The first Liberty Loan was announced late in May. The banks acted as distributing agents and quotas were assigned each locality. The word "slacker" first appeared in connection with the sale of bonds. Imperial County was a bit slow. However, at the close of the period a total of \$288,300 worth of bonds had been purchased, Calexico leading all the towns as follows:

Calexico	\$102,150
El Centro	98,350
Brawley	37,700
Imperial	20,100
Holtville	17,550
Calipatria	3,900
Seeley	5,100
Heber	2,540
Total.....	\$288,300

RED CROSS WEEK

The President asked for \$100,000,000 for the Red Cross. Imperial Valley's quota was \$15,000. A week, June 20-25, was set aside to raise this sum. The week was an exciting one. Dances, shows, parades, organizations working, committees canvassing—everybody in the Valley helping.

Calexico again carried off the honors, reaching her quota of \$5000 before any other city and then added \$500 to the total. El Centro raised \$6600; Holt-

ville, \$1000; Imperial \$1100, and Brawley \$3,700, a total of \$11,700 for the Imperial Valley Chapter.

For the Calexico Chapter Edward Dool was campaign manager. He was assisted by Wm. Gunterman, Paul Steintorf, D. A. Leonard, F. Madakoro, F. B. Berger and Fernando Villasenor.

VOLUNTEERS

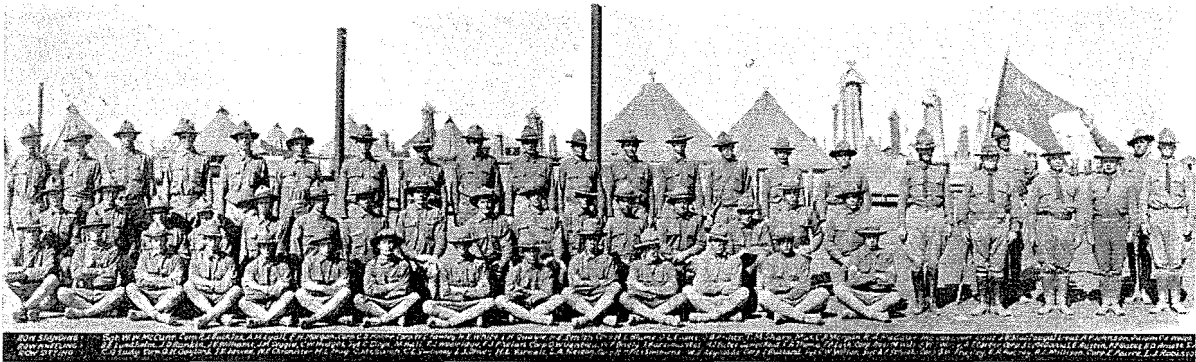
So many of Imperial Valley's young men volunteered for some branch of war service without giving notice to the Exemption Board that a complete record of volunteers is not to be found anywhere. From various sources, however, the following list of volunteers was compiled:

FOR THE NAVY

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Kenneth W. Gale | Silvio N. Galli |
| Elmer W. Anderson | Mark S. Conway |
| Spencer Beard | William O. Reed |
| Floyd W. Spier | Ralph Portis |
| James F. Cox | John De Laney |
| Jesse Weaver | Ferris N. Pfaffenberger |
| Frank Martin | Ellis J. Bates |
| E. H. Longendorfer | Paul H. Douglas |
| Robert K. Wales | Robert W. Jones |
| Joe Gems | J. Spurlin Taylor |
| T. E. Tredenick | Leonard D. Stakley |
| Earl E. Williamson | James A. Meaderis |
| V. E. Thompson | Egbert Swanson |
| Hallis E. Sanders | Kenneth Davis |
| Clarence W. Linderman | Albert M. Catherwood |
| Frank M. Bryan | James M. McCoy |
| Raymond J. Townsend | J. J. Arnold |
| Lewis D. Mathis | Eveu W. Forder |
| Ernest Musselwhite | W. D. Bezdecheck |
| Minor M. Sweeney | R. F. Hall |
| John H. Lee | Leslie Parrish |
| Wm. Bryan | W. D. Clark |
| N. L. Allender | J. W. Watson |
| E. V. Taylor | Earl Taggart |
| B. N. Goodykoontz | Curtis Williams |
| Douglas H. Cunningham | C.E. Sullivan |
| Lee Nuffer | |

FOR THE ARMY

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| W. S. Reed | Winthrop Pier |
| S. Jenkins | Len Wachtel |
| Leonard Brooks | Kelly Yount |
| John Watson | Ray S. White |
| Silva Golli | Buelford Enyeart |
| Fred Short | Marvin C. Jernigan |
| Morris Lacey | Lloyd E. Tilton |
| Arthur Lomax | Ross R. Smith |
| Herschel Williams | Wiley M. Weaver, Jr. |
| Raymond C. Mansfield | Chas. Masten |
| Albert W. Salmonson | Frederick Shafer |
| Daniel W. Johnson | Donald Shafer |
| Wm. E. Roberts | Albert H. Schlanze |
| Joe O. Mandel | Hillary D. Glenn |
| Paul Allen | Rollie D. Glenn |
| H. H. Ozmun | Joseph P. Hertel |
| Orrin Arnold | Geo. Wiley |



Battery D, First Artillery, National Guard, became a unit of the 143rd Field Artillery of the Fortieth Division

Tillman G. Mabrey
 Frank Handel
 Wm. F. Roberts
 Geo. B. Williams
 Howard Shaff
 Geo. Jeffers
 Wm. A. Gardenhire
 Alvin G. Hickox
 Robert Bisnet
 James J. Sprouse
 Thos. M. Eubank
 Orrin Bates
 James B. Rivers
 Harold Thompson
 Leslie Tilton
 Gus Mandella
 Douglas D. McConnell
 Otto Yeager
 Dr. Michael V. Murphy
 Carl Maier
 J. V. Everett
 Vaughn Thompson
 Carl Pratt
 Albert I. Wallace
 James Buttram
 Dan Buttram
 John Prendergast

NOTE TO READER: To this list should be added the names of Valley members of Battery D, 143rd Artillery, which follows:

BATTERY D

Thos. J. Worthington and Purl Willis, ex-army officers and El Centro business men, at the suggestion of J. B. MacDougal, successfully undertook to form a volunteer artillery unit as soon as war was declared. They first drilled the men in the home guard companies and a total of 73 were taken to San Diego and mustered into the California National Guard as members of Battery D, First Field Artillery. There were later 32 additions from the Valley, or a total of 105.

Carl Schindler was Captain at that time.

T. J. Worthington and J. B. MacDougal were First and Second Lieutenants. Robert H. DeVore was appointed First Sergeant. Capt. Schindler was

Thos. R. Mix
 E. H. Graham
 Emery McAfee
 H. E. Cox
 John W. Allard
 Chas. W. Ray
 Joel T. Beach
 Bert Huff
 Wm. C. Wise
 Emery C. Ervin
 Campbell A. MacNeil
 Chas. M. Shaney
 Paul C. Odom
 Geo. R. Benson
 Thos. E. Baugh
 Francis L. Wade
 Guy K. Brink
 Samuel K. Robison
 Jos. T. Rogers
 Dr. Vance Clymer
 Chas. E. Nice
 Chester Breon
 John D. Goree
 Rogers C. Goree
 Earl Mitchell
 Carl Strawn

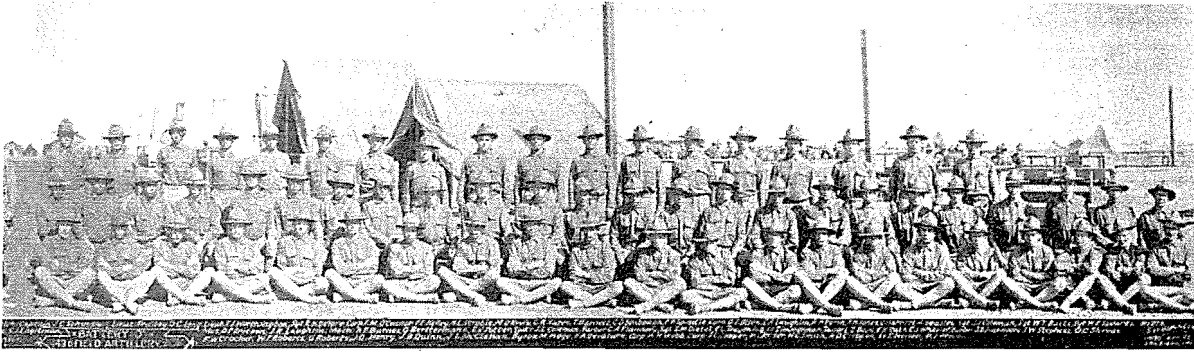
succeeded by Capt. Andrewson but throughout the service Lieutenant Worthington was in actual command. Worthington had the distinction of being the only commissioned officer in his brigade who enlisted and was with his original unit throughout the duration of service. He was recommended for a Captaincy and received his commission after being mustered out.

Battery D trained first at Arcadia and then at Camp Kearny. The unit went to France and was finally completely motorized. It was ready to go to the front for service when the armistice was signed.

The roster included the following Valley men:

First Lieutenant T. J. Worthington
 Second Lieutenant H. A. F. Thenberg
 Second Lieutenant J. B. MacDougal

Sergt. W. W. McCune	C. J. Wheeler
Corp. R. J. Buckels	D. B. Dinsmore
A. M. Lyle	I. W. Stephens
E. H. Morgan	O. C. Schrode
C. G. Holmes	C. G. Ludy
Corp. W. C. Fawley	G. H. Gaylord
H. E. White	I. E. Jessee
L. H. Quayle	W. E. Chronister
H. E. Smith	H. L. Hug
Corp. H. L. Blume	C. M. Church
O. L. Evans	C. L. Swinney
G. B. Printz	L. J. Oliver
T. M. Sharp	H. L. Yarnell
Bugler C. A. Morgan	L. A. Nelson
R. A. Maddux	R. H. Fitzsimmons
John Goodwin	W. J. Reynolds
C. J. Welch	J. Rutland
G. C. Long	C. W. Wilson
Sergt. R. H. DeVore	A. F. Schloh
Corp. F. M. O'Conner	G. W. Brayley
F. E. Kelly	E. A. Aubrey
H. L. Stroebel	A. J. Millison
M. O'Keefe	E. Pearree
C. R. Yates	L. J. Robinson
T. Barnett	F. W. Crocker
E. P. Spindle	W. F. Roberts
Corp. O. E. Olsen	G. Roberts
C. R. Laughlin	J. Q. Henry
R. H. Perrin	J. B. Quinn



Imperial Valley Contributed 105 Volunteers to Battery D

R. H. Jones	J. L. McClellan
C. Barnett	Walter C. Golden
A. Beasley	Will Grady
Sergt. W. E. Speers	Claude M. Howenstein
B. E. Lundholm	Carl Huddleston
J. D. Rankin	E. K. Johnson
J. V. Williams	Robert Keesee
C. W. Hedges	Tom La May
Sergt. Carl Cloyd	Willie A. Lawson
M. Hall	Joseph H. Moores
T. J. Woolridge	Hallard L. Odell
F. J. Phelan	George B. Printz
Corp. G. W. Gentieu	Harry S. Shrode
W. P. Dively	Joseph W. Shafer
H. J. Bates	Carl W. Wilson
E. A. Thoma	Harvey D. White
F. P. Lash	Willis R. Wilsie
Corp. Ross Wilsie	Harrison L. Yarnell.
W. S. Wilsie	Byron Hoge
E. A. Carter	F. A. Devasure
Corp. J. L. McDaniels	A. H. Webb
E. Austin	J. C. Cooper
F. F. Gates	H. I. Reiser
E. D. Arnett	N. C. Smith
S. J. Engelman	H. E. Nelson
D. F. Erickson	P. J. Price
J. R. Laughrin	Albert S. Baker
R. E. Barnes	Albert H. Blaisdell
G. Berttermann	Albert E. S. Boaden
E. V. Potter	Emil H. F. Bohn
J. L. Coleman	Henry L. Burris
C. A. Flannery	Noel P. M. Conner
S. M. Distel	James L. Daniels
F. L. Trigining	Warren E. Ferguson
I. I. Zimmerman	George H. Forrester
L. Z. Peck	Ira C. Geddes
F. R. Rath	

Harry R. Gimball, a captain in the infantry, was a reporter on the Sacramento Bee. After discharge he wrote the facts as he knew them and they were comments that will long be remembered by the men who were ready for service and failed to get into it. He wrote:

"The Fortieth left for France in July, 1918; arrived overseas in August; became the Sixth Depot Division and became the First Army Replacement Division. It bobbed around on the map of France

like a cork and finally sunk to peaceful slumbers in the archives of our military history without a citation, without a commendation, without even the smallest mention of its existence in Europe or anywhere else . . . It was so well hidden that the Germans lost track of it. As replacement troops some 5000 of the men of the Fortieth made the supreme sacrifice but they were then members of other units . . . The reason? Some attributed it to friction between Pershing and Strong. It was surmised that General Strong did not stand well at General Headquarters so the Fortieth, trained and equipped as it was, was dumped into France, torn limb from limb and virtually wasted . . . Another reason afloat was that Strong's staff was weak in essentials and that the staff as a whole did not enjoy the confidence of the division . . . Then it was a National Guard outfit and they were not esteemed by the regulars." The contribution reflects the opinion of many men of the Fortieth Division.

On the Fourth of July the Home Guard companies of the Valley staged a sham battle and a series of field maneuvers at Live Oak Springs. The exhibition was quite realistic.

Jas. W. Glassford, Geo. Anderson, E. E. Clements, Dan Leonard and T. B. Edgar were appointed a board to receive applications from men desiring to enter the reserve officers' training camp at San Francisco.

The Hoover plan for the conservation of food was announced and the women of the Valley undertook to make popular its observance. Hoover pledge cards were generously signed.

A beautiful silk flag was presented to El Centro Company, Home Guards, by the El Centro Eagles Lodge.

THE FIRST DRAFT

On the night of July 20 the draft numbers, drawn in Washington, came over the Associated Press wire to the El Centro Progress. One thousand names corresponding with numbers were published and these men were the first to take physical examina-

tions for service. The scene at the Progress office in El Centro was exciting as hundreds stood about knowing their own numbers, if called. The first number was 258 and was held by Robert N. Noleman, Brawley. The Valley's quota was 653 men. Inasmuch as there were a large number of aliens working in the Valley at the time of registration the list of 5940 contained but 3600 American citizens. Imperial Valley, therefore had to furnish one out of every six, while the rest of the state had to furnish only one out of ten. Although appeals were made to have this condition corrected, nothing ever came of them. Only eight counties in the state supplied more men than Imperial. These were Los Angeles, San Francisco, Fresno, Alameda, San Bernardino, Sacramento and San Joaquin.

Upon arrival of the official lists from Washington the Exemption Board mailed 1306 notices to men to appear for physical examination August 7, 8 and 9, 435 each day.

PHYSICAL EXAMINATION

Dr. T. O. Luckett was appointed examining physician, but could not serve. Dr. F. A. Burger was appointed in his place. His assistants were: Dr. Frank Dunlap, Dr. C. S. Brooks, Dr. A. E. Elliott, Dr. W. F. Mosher, Dr. O. B. Dunham, Dr. Le Baron, Dr. R. K. McGuffin, Dr. L. P. Moore, Dr. R. O. Thompson, Dr. W. W. Apple, Dr. F. H. Carter, Dr. Vance Clymer, Dr. P. N. Simms, and Dr. E. G. Tillmans.

O. G. Hopkins and Winthrop Pier were added as assistants to the Exemption Board. Rehearsals were held in advance of physical examinations. Fifteen volunteer clerks also assisted with the blanks.

The men lined up at the State street entrance of the Masonic Hall in El Centro and the physical examination took place in the lodge room and banquet hall up stairs.

Out of the first group of 435 summoned 293 appeared. Of these 93 were aliens, and out of 200 examined 57 were rejected for physical defects, leaving 143 certified men, of whom 65 immediately asked exemption.

In the second group of 435 summoned 292 appeared. There were 100 aliens and 63 rejections, leaving a certified list of 129.

The third day 125 men were accepted. The "good list" for the three days was 397. Of this number 147 asked exemption and 72 were refused. Therefore 322 men were certified out of 1306 summoned.

This process was kept up until 653 men, less credits for volunteer enlistments, were sent from Imperial County in the first draft.

TRAINING FOR OFFICERS

In the officers' training camps were the following Valley residents: C. W. Barry, R. Ingvaldstad, W. B. Kibbey, Roy Moorman, F. P. Nuttall, H. I. Welsh, W. L. Burch, J. E. Peck, A. C. Keene, J. T. Ellis, G. L. Dutcher, John H. O'Donnell, Boyce Aten, Geo. L. Righter, T. T. Cook, Harold Thompson, Don Wells, Phil D. Swing, Dr. Virgil McCombs, Perry Hedrick.

Geo. W. Anderson was named to oversee the transportation of men from El Centro to the training camps which were about ready for use near the end of August.

SECOND GROUP EXAMINED

August 20 the physicians started examining the second group of 1306 men. The first day 139 were accepted out of 188 examined. The second day 156 out of 190 were accepted. The loss on account of physical defects this day was only 17 per cent. This record was shattered the following day when 171 were examined and only 12 per cent found unfit, 150 being accepted. The average rejections for physical reasons was 17 per cent, much less than other portions of the state, showing that Imperial Valley was a healthy place.

In this examination 445 men were certified. More than 200 claimed exemption. With the completion of the second examination 572 men were declared ready to go to camp.

SERVED YEAR IN BELGIAN ARMY

Loren De Witt Stanton, of Brawley, was excused after stating that he had just returned from a year's service in the Belgian army. He went over in 1916 with a mule transport, was stranded and joined the Belgian army. He was hit with a piece of shell and several ribs crushed. After partial recovery he returned to Imperial Valley just in time to register for the draft.

GARDEN COMMITTEE

Mrs. O. G. Horne, Mrs. W. W. Apple, Mrs. R. B. Vaile, Mrs. Galen Nichols, Mrs. Thomas Beeman and Mrs. Paul Black acted as a committee to encourage planting of gardens on vacant town lots to help with the food supply.

FIRST CONTINGENT TO CAMP LEWIS

The Exemption Board named Arthur M. Nelson to have charge of the first contingent of men to go to camp. Nelson was County Development Agent, Secretary of the Farm Bureau and newspaper man. Although physically frail he never claimed exemption. He served in the trenches and was in the thick of the battle of the Argonne.

The Board called for volunteers to make up the first contingent of 33 men, asking for men experienced in cooking, carpentering, etc. The contingent mobilized was composed of the following men:

El Centro

Charles F. Allen
Melvin J. Hallam
Louis N. Johnson
Arthur M. Nelson
George Appier
Isaac L. Sparks
F. G. Sparks
Oliver H. McShane
Calexico
John R. Beck
Paul E. Williams
Walter W. Pool
Loren B. Kirby
San Diego
Scott E. Brill

Calipatria

Albert R. Mack
H. E. Patterson
Ralph Endicott
Cecil H. Cox
James N. Combs
Frank Manning
Los Angeles
Frederick M. Berry
Holtville
Joseph W. Morrow
Brawley
J. Beyer
Geo. E. Marston
Robert E. Hobbs
Robert L. Bell

Imperial

Joseph Hallowell
Miles B. Lancaster
Charles C. Ballard
Alexander R. Bunge
Conan Gray

Heber

Charles L. Tuck
Mt. Signal
Joseph H. McCoy
Covina
Albion C. Libby, Jr.

An interesting paragraph in the official notice:

"You will not be permitted to take with you on the train anything but hand baggage. You do not need bedding or changes of clothing except as specified below. You may take with you only the following articles: Soap, shaving accessories, comb and brush, toothbrush and tooth powder, towels, underclothing and socks; and if you desire, changes of collars and shirts, but you will have no use for these after arrival at the mobilization camp."

The men were mobilized Tuesday evening, September 4, and answered roll call. Citizens of the Valley, assisted by the Red Cross chapters, the Elks, the El Centro Fire Department, members of the Home Guard companies and other organizations provided an evening's entertainment for the boys. A parade, dinner at the Barbara Worth Hotel and a dance in Bowles Garage were features.

Wednesday morning, accompanied by the El Centro Home Guards and a great crowd of citizens, they entrained for Camp Lewis under command of "Capt." Arthur Nelson.

The Exemption Board published a list of 384 names of those who failed to appear for physical examination. Most of them were foreigners.

The Red Cross chapters were notified early in September to begin making 500 sets of knitted articles. Each set included a sleeveless sweater, pair of wristlets, pair of socks and a muffler. From then on knitting was the fashion on all occasions.

THIRD EXAMINATION ORDERED

Because of the long list of exemptions allowed by the District Board at Bakersfield on account of agricultural, industrial and dependent reasons, the number of men secured by the examination of the first two groups was reduced to such an extent that the Imperial County Board, on September 7, sent notices to the next 1500 men on the list to appear for examination immediately.

SECOND CONTINGENT

September 20 saw the entrainment of 261 selectives or "Liberty Men," as they were called, for Camp Lewis, Washington. This was the largest single movement of men from any subdivision of the state toward military camp. The event was preceded the evening before with a program arranged by a committee of members of the El Centro Elks Lodge consisting of Vern Bishop, Phil D. Swing, J. Stanley Brown, Otis B. Tout, W. H. Pruitt, J. F. Bezdecke and Otto Ohmstede. A platform was erected in the middle of Main street. The crowd was estimated at 5000. When the boys marched in sight, cheers broke out. Each town was represented on the program, as follows:

Calxico: Harry Schneider, W. T. Aiken.

Imperial: Mayor Waite, N. A. Mackey.

Holtville: C. D. Hartshorn, Rev. Hughes Hill.

Brawley: Mayor Higgins, James Allen.

El Centro: J. Stanley Brown, Mayor Wm. Egerer.

Vern Bishop, for the Elks, presented each of the 261 departing men with a souvenir silk flag. Many of the boys carried these flags throughout their service. This ceremony was impressive. As soon as it was over the crowd began to sing "My Country 'Tis of Thee," and not many eyes were dry.

F. Jarrot, one of the selectives, made a feeling response for the men. A great street dance followed and the girl who failed to get a dance with one of the Liberty boys was a disappointed lass.

The next morning a vast crowd from all over the Valley appeared at the depot, where the entire contingent boarded a special train and left for Camp Lewis.

The 261 men were put in charge of "Major" Howard P. Fites and six "captains"—Eugene E. Harden, Elmer Standlee, Rey J. Rivera, Harry Greenleaf, Weddington Couch, Harold K. Atkinson and Paul Penberthy.

The roster included:

EL CENTRO

Joseph B. Henderson
James E. Eads
Gerald J. Murphy
Fred J. Myers
Glenn P. Thompson
George R. Buckel
Edward F. Harclerod
William D. Atkinson
Reynaldo J. Rivera
Waldo H. Griffin
William E. Lewis
Geo. Holloway
William H. Kelley
Jesse R. Atkins
Glenn Swan
Ernest Stuart
John H. Reid, Jr.
Harry Bradshaw
H. Sanders
Jose Wood
Chester E. Loomis
Francis I. Lyons
Bobbie I. Cochran
Emil E. Giese
Alexander Carrizoa
Earl A. Sheldon
Harold K. Atkinson
Walter J. Brooks
Gussie W. Box
Bradley Brown
Dan Guess
William E. Wyeth
Edward N. Frame
John R. McAulay
Paul A. Thannum
Wm. P. McGuire
Floyd Fults
Samuel A. May
Robert O. Cheatham
William H. Simpson
Paul Penberthy
Weddington Couch
Frank L. Milligan
Claude L. Ritter
Ernest Moro
Robert Goodell
Clarence W. Evans

Dempsey Allender
John H. Howell
Charley Davis

CALIPATRIA

Archie M. Silva
Russel N. Neal
Merwyn Robinson
James P. Kelley
Arthur L. Cable
Dave W. Jackson
Oscar Cain
August O. Edwards
Rossi E. Blea
Prudencio C. Garcia
Frank F. Dallman
Samuel R. Gafford
William F. Bremer
Nick Gennie
Oscar Beard
Wallace L. Cornwall
John W. Barner
John Tavlör

HIGHLINE

Fay H. Garner

BEAUMONT

Robert E. Methrin

CALEXICO

Joseph C. Bogue
James H. Otter
Roscoe Hulse
Ober J. Fries
James J. Dugay
Roy C. Foote
Lute Hutton
Fay W. Anderson
James A. Cook
William A. Bell
Frank H. Finck
Wayne L. Hixson
Walter F. Bolden
Paul J. Alexander
Samuel W. O'Gwinn
Clarence S. Anderson
Zar I. Williams
Leslie M. Bridenstine
Joseph E. McRae
Alex Molnar
James Garney

CALEXICO—Cont'd.

Lee W. Dugat
 Judge Dunn
 Walter C. Aitken
 Daniel L. Cirlos
 John A. Hastings
 Ricardo G. Lopez
 Lucien Burguerey
 Clarence L. Dunn
 George L. Ritchie
 Karel A. Smith
 Omega White
 Michael Cronin
 Charles E. Phelps
 Clay McCormick
 Fritz H. Johnson
 John W. Wood
 Eddie McKuett
 Frank G. Curtis
 Earl Walls

SAN DIEGO

Lewis McPherson
 Guy G. Haines
 Thomas F. Roach
 Clyde P. Martin
 Chas. L. Mowbray

MT. SIGNAL

Wheeler A. Boteler
 John D. Good

WINTERHAVEN

William Leys
BRENNHAM, TEXAS
 Fred Gall, Jr.

BARD

Samuel T. Day

IMPERIAL

Robert J. Dolley
 Grover C. Long
 Glenn A. Shuffelbarger
 Clinton Wilson
 Reed W. Wilkerson
 Henry DeBose
 George L. Stahl
 Jack Fishel
 Claude F. Hartzell
 Jesse Thacker
 Edward B. Bowyer
 Frank C. Nuttnay
 Arvis Swenson
 James S. Jarrott
 Oscar Koch
 Tony C. Contente
 Carl Mathews
 Earl Crawford
 George W. Jarrigues
 Earl B. Johnson
 Walter F. Conley
 George H. Wilson
 Ernest Brown
 Herbert J. Fowler
 Edwin E. Morrison
 Ray Lower
 Clyde Earls
 William H. Early
 Robert E. Butcher
 James W. Knight
 Robert Kellogg
 Leonard B. Crane
 Walter W. Howell

SILSBEE

Adam R. Kramer
 William B. Koudsen

NORWALK

Wynn R. Pemberton

BRAWLEY

Lewis H. Hansen
 Bert A. Hilliard
 Steve Randall

Manuel Pedro
 Elmer F. Standlee
 John H. Doty
 Harry D. Adams
 James R. Walters
 Albert H. Lackman
 Benjamin G. Tucker
 George B. Springer
 Robert J. Cherry
 Erik R. Benson
 Henry Milton
 Sydney S. Herbert
 Joe J. Wicker
 Albert C. Coleman
 Gay A. Young
 Maurice Fontaine
 Ernest E. Loveland
 Henry Lewis
 Earl B. Burgeson
 John H. Smith

Thomas L. Lundholm
 Hugh O. Rennick
 Walter S. Ginjrey
 Joseph J. Winters
 Frank James
 William S. Silver
 Louis McClain
 Frank Osborn
 Frederick C. Brown
 Thomas Albert
 Ansel C. Gash
 Lewis Wallace
 Howard P. Fites
 James Twing
 Frank Ouos
 Francis M. Hays
 Harvey L. Greenleaf
 Andrew H. Morris
 Benoyd S. Bayles
 Rasmus Rasmussen
 Howard G. Best

HEBER

John F. Gracey
 Earl McCollum
 John C. Hammonds

SEELEY

Virgil Edge
 Glenn R. McCune
 C. E. Robertson
 Harry B. Rivers
 Thomas C. Riddle
 James E. May
 Arthur D. Simpson
 Frank Alvarado

HOLTVILLE

James E. Montgomery
 Joseph Butler
 George F. Smith
 Lester J. McMurray
 James E. Kelley
 Ivery Boss
 Luther Southerland
 James A. Williams
 Beverley H. Gruewell
 Lawrence Thompson
 Lowell B. Sanders
 Roy Glenn
 Wallace E. Miller
 James C. Looney
 William H. Farmer
 Thomas C. Monahan
 Charles F. Foreman
 Archibald Campbell
 Eugene E. Harden
 Ernest S. Norrish
 Silva Bisi
 Marshall D. Smith
 Adolph Schmidt

Jacob D. Nafzgar
 Faymond F. Williams
 Ralph Ambrossini
 Lester S. Horton
 Earl Householder
 Francis M. Hunt
 Bruce Coppengan
 Francis M. Fargurbes
 Earl L. Baggett
 Jonas Malin
 Charles W. Stone

YUMA

Carl D. Haughtelin

LOS ANGELES

Leo F. Pallais
 Raymond J. Herbert
 Victor Halverson

NILAND

George Sherry
 Grover Garvey
 John E. Gill
 James F. Forestone

DIXIELAND

Willie C. Christian

Twenty men failed to appear at train time. The train was held an hour. Three of these had answered roll call the night before. They were classed as deserters. The following 14 alternates were sent with the contingent:

Crawford H. Herman
 Edgar Combs
 Luther E. Crawford
 Morgan Fitzpatrick
 Edward Maul
 Claude Johnson
 Teolof Martinez

Arthur D. Simpson
 Dean Edwards
 Robert B. Yard
 Jim P. Rasqui
 Ralph G. Campbell
 Robert L. Walls
 Moten M. Dizney
 Michael Cronin

Five of the twenty appeared later and said their mail notices were delayed.

HOME GUARD ELECTION

The El Centro Home Guards in August re-elected Purl Willis, Captain; H. E. Horn, First Lieutenant, and J. R. Ford, Second Lieutenant. The following were named non-commissioned officers: John M. Kepley, first sergeant; Floyd Brown, duty sergeant; Miller, corporal; Hugh Walsh, duty sergeant; F. C. Kennedy, corporal; Joe Emdy, duty sergeant; W. E. Wilsie, quartermaster; Rudy Elder, corporal.

September 25 the company held another election to fill the vacancies caused by the resignations of Capt. Willis and Lieut. Horn. Ernest R. Simon was elected Captain and J. R. Ford was elected First Lieutenant. John M. Kepley was elected Second Lieutenant. Capt. Simon re-appointed W. E. Wilsie quartermaster sergeant.

FOUR MINUTE MEN

The "Four Minute Men" plan of acquainting the public with the plans of the Government was launched in Imperial County early in September. Phil D. Swing was appointed county chairman.

The committeemen for the Valley were: Phil D. Swing, El Centro; W. T. Aitken, Calexico; James W. Griffin, Holtville; Harry N. Dyke, Imperial; James L. Allen, Brawley.

Speakers for moving picture shows were provided at frequent intervals all over the county.

THIRD CONTINGENT

The patriotic demonstration on the occasion of the entrainment of the third contingent of 184 men for military camp October 3 was even more intense than that displayed on the departure of the two previous contingents. On the evening previous to departure, all the towns, organizations and population joined in. Joseph Seymour was chairman. A great parade formed. Sheriff Applestill was marshal.

U. S. regulars from the border formed an escort for the five companies of Liberty men. Home Guard companies, Elks, school children, five city fire departments and a long line of autos were in line. The program in the open air was handled by Judge Franklin J. Cote. Vern Bishop presented the silken flags for the Elks, one to each member of the contingent. M. D. Witter, O. B. Tout, J. B. Baker, S. E. DeRackin, Robert Weekes, E. F. Howe, and Bert Perrin—all editors!—were asked to speak. F. B. Fuller and Jos. Seymour spoke for the civic bodies. Patriotic songs were sung. The event was attended by some 9000 people. "Major" George L. Righter responded for the men. The street dance that followed filled the block on Main street, El Centro, from Fifth to Sixth. The keynote of the whole affair was expressed in the song, "Send Me Away With a Smile."

The next morning the five companies marched to the waiting special train where final farewells, with many a tear, were said.

The special train was in charge of the following "officers":

"Major"—George L. Righter, El Centro.

"Captains": Allen S. Mebane, El Centro; Walter C. Aitken, Calexico; Martin B. O'Brien, Heber; Eugene E. Harden, Holtville; Madison Albright, Mt. Signal; Ralph Myers, Brawley; Sam Dick, Calexico.

THE ROSTER

EL CENTRO

Earl E. Parslow
Thomas H. Dills
John Donlan
Wm. K. Brooks
John T. George
Amos W. Chick
Geo. L. Righter
Emil Gildmark
Wm. E. Lewis
Irwin W. McGrew
John D. Hamm
John W. Maddox
Herbert O. Adkins
Edw. F. Harclerod
Martin Barfknecht
John Kuhn
Jas. A. Schofield
Allen S. Mebane, Jr.
Clarence A. Rice
Jesse P. Coddington
Savo A. Bulaith
Grove Caroll
James F. Pinkston
Chas. L. Adkins
Blaine Barrell
Boddy I. Cochrane
David V. Edwards
Ernest R. Huntiker
Leo B. Mudd
Wesley H. Weast
Robt. W. Capps
Robt. R. Raines

IMPERIAL

Grant L. Stephens
Jos. G. Schmidt
Fred J. Harder
K. Dervishan
John E. Barfort
Grover C. Long
Cecil C. Yater

Frank Tawney
Chas. L. Taylor
Chas. I. Metter
John L. Bowlin, Jr.
Cushman K. Davis
John King
Don B. Stevenson
Chas. F. Hill
Ernest A. Bemis
Jasper L. Roberts
Seaberry Parker
Frederick Davis

CALEXICO

Edw. H. Williams
James Fair
Wm. C. Ross
Sam P. Vastbinder
Cleve Roberts
Phillip L. Dolon
Jas. W. Bell
Adolph Kessling
Warren McMichael
Walter C. Aitken
Luther O. Hutchins
Daniel A. Siebentopf
Phillip R. Thiebeau
Elmer H. Rockmill
Terrell Carson
Wm. C. Stewart
Robt. M. McClaran
Oscar Hester
Geo. L. Bale
Alberto Salomon
Jos. A. Trotta
John N. Bencin
Jas. F. Evans
Diat Simon

BRAWLEY

Curtis W. May
Wyman J. Sterett
Ralph R. Myers

Vernon E. Speich
Wren E. Harmon
Archie Buchanan
Walter R. Schindler
Jas. E. Ward
John Isaacson
Granvill Hart
Marvin D. Rhodes
Jas. A. Smith
Gustav Freutel
Wm. A. Boettcher
Earl B. Burgeson
Wm. E. Edwards
Roy W. Wagnon
Pyhichi Okaymoto
Werner Kalin
Harry B. Clark
Leslie V. Dana
Jos. R. Orr
John Bodich
Harold Cron
Homer F. Brackney
Robie A. Shrober
Ruloph H. Shultz
Louis Kocourek
Roe Minshew
Melvin R. Anderson
Don L. Taylor
Thos. G. Nesbitt
Donald R. Graham
Saxe Sumerville
Zack T. Grigsby
Stanley Axler
Wiles B. Nicholas
Chester E. Kellog
Willie G. Adams
Leroy B. Higgins
Wm. Huntington
Granville A. Adams
Jesse T. Martin
Luther Doyle
Lewis W. Carpenter
Chas. Sundee
Walter S. Mitchell
Henry L. Sollinger
Ewald Dickow
Joe G. Connell
Wesley W. Dean
Geo. N. Welch
Vernon G. Monte
Ralph P. Grant

Clifford T. Finley
Wm. B. Lewis
Stephen D. Leffner
HOLTVILLE
Hugo C. Beattie
Eugene E. Harden
Carlos Fea
Sam Vartsma
Ernest W. Smith
Lester J. McMurray
Floyd W. Jenks
Chas. A. Peterson
John M. Lear
Alden A. Hart
Dennis H. Rogers
Isaac F. Miles
Pete Eckhart
Carl A. Dougall
Chester Horat
Oliver C. Chambers
Worthy B. Rehkopf
Robt. Mercereau

CALPATRIA

Harry H. Reeves
Orien B. Freeman
Jas. A. Starritt
Felix F. Castello
Ross B. Kemp
Jas. W. Fletcher
John B. Renfrew
Edw. E. Anderson
John G. Freeman
Geo. G. Seitz

MT. SIGNAL

Elliot M. Albright
Jos. H. McCoy
John D. Goode

HEBER

Orris A. Lewis
Woods Phillips
Edw. D. Seabold

SILSBEE—SEELEY

Randolph Robertson
David D. Johnson
Staton H. Edge
Alfred S. Millard

NILAND

Harry F. Loud

HIGHLINE

Maurice W. Tindall

MISCELLANEOUS

Chauncey C. Croucher, Los Angeles
Frank Aubert, Ripon
Jas. N. Hollaway, Hood River
Wm. A. Buster, Long Beach
Fred Ball, Jr., Texas
Archie E. Wagner, Taft
Jesse Webb, Oklahoma
Guy E. Pullen, San Bernardino
Gordon M. Wells
Lewis Viera, Fresno
Martin B. O'Brien, Los Angeles
Willard E. Smith, Peoria, Ill.
Roy Craig, Santa Clara
John B. Clark, El Portal
Jos. Slavaicek, San Diego
Jos. Zuckermann, Casa Verdugo
John J. Flores, San Diego
Earl A. Hobuck, Los Angeles
Leland G. Ownes, San Francisco
Henry H. Peters, San Diego
Arthur B. Adams, Phoenix
Felix Smith, Wilmington
Fred Walling, Alhambra
Jesse G. Gonzales, San Francisco
Harry F. Lehman, Burbank
Jos. Welsj, Los Angeles

Wm. W. Bullifant, New Jersey
 Jos. H. Morgan, San Diego
 Geo. Satis, San Diego
 Merle F. Skilling, Saticoy
 John L. Williams, Turlock
 Archie A. Jones, Los Angeles
 Robt. Galbreth, Long Beach
 Chas. E. Roland, Andrade
 Harold D. Rudrauff, San Diego
 Wm. Swezek, Boulevard
 Carl M. Mellin, Alameda
 Chas. Viehl, Idaho
 Henry Iletschko, Los Angeles
 David A. Sippel, Riverside
 Thos. McKee, Visalia
 Louie McCluen, Los Angeles
 Bertan Holt, Redlands
 Ray W. Jordan, Phoenix
 Earling Invaldson, Los Angeles
 Geo. C. Rub, Portland
 Laughlin Mackay, Superior
 Ivan V. Knarr, North Yakima
 Everett H. Danielson, Poway
 Gene R. Davis, Colorado
 Henry E. Brown, Santa Clara
 Wm. M. Chaplin, Los Angeles
 Joe Galindo, Los Angeles
 Hubert E. Jami, Visalia
 Sidney Manor, Buttonwillow
 Harley E. Sovern, Fresno
 Alfred O. Butler, Arkansas

Thirty-two men failed to answer roll call when the train started and were classed as deserters.

JAM FOR BATTERY D

A kind-hearted woman "on a cotton ranch" wrote a note to the El Centro Progress in October and suggested that the boys of Battery D, in camp at Arcadia, might appreciate something extra on their mess fare. The suggestion met with instant action. The Progress appealed to the housewives to donate a jar of fruit, pickles, etc., and the result was barrel after barrel of home canned products went to Battery D. Mrs. J. B. Dunlap was the original "Jam Lady."

The men didn't see where they got in on this program so, at the suggestion of Prof. Elmer W. Todd, a tobacco barrel was started. It was soon filled with cigarettes, cigars and tobacco and sent to camp.

The boys acknowledged the treat with enthusiasm.

WOMEN ORGANIZE

Mrs. Violette Campbell was appointed Valley chairman to organize the women for various activities. She named as members of the first committee: Mrs. Joseph F. Seymour, Mrs. Ira Aten, Mrs. F. B. Fuller, Mrs. George Anderson, Mrs. Vern Bishop, Mrs. J. W. Lindsay, Mrs. Frank Thompson, Mrs. E. E. Clements, Mrs. A. M. Douglass, Mrs. Bailis Walker, Mrs. George Watkins, Miss Yarnell, Mrs. C. K. Cooper, Mrs. Sophia Curtis, El Centro; Mrs. M. Kepley, Mrs. Charles Turner, Mrs. J. F. Steintorf, Miss Ada A. Jones, Calexico; Mrs. Hugh Lockett, Mrs. A. R. Ferguson, Seeley; Mrs. R. W. Hoover, Mrs. Benj. Crandall, Holtville; Mrs. Herbert Fulton, Mrs. Ferguson, Brawley; Mrs. C. W. Browne, Calipatria; Mrs. W. H. Guthrie, Bard; Mrs. T. W. Fishburn, Heber; Mrs. Dorothy Hoover, Mesquite Lake; Mrs. J. A. Bishop, Mrs. Marie Storm and Mrs. James Bezdecheck, Imperial; Mrs. Victor Sterling, Calipatria; Mrs. Thos. Beeman, County Librarian;

Mrs. Jessie Hatch, Imperial Librarian; Miss Agnes Ferris, El Centro Librarian.

FOURTH CONTINGENT

October 14 saw the Valley's fourth contingent leave for Camp Lewis. The celebration this time was in the hands of the County Farm Bureau and the Council of Defense. Paul Dougherty, County Farm Advisor, was on the list as drawn and the Farm Bureau hustled exemption papers forward and succeeded in getting him exemption—without his consent. Mr. Dougherty refused to accept exemption after it was granted. He was put in command of the contingent which contained the following men:

Curtis W. May	Wm. M. Spencer
Paul I. Dougherty	S. Guy A. Dunham
Charles H. Everett	Albert W. Davidson
Archie McGilvray	Donald S. Waller
Archie W. Wagoner	Wesley H. Weast
Rene Michand	George Smith
Wm. W. Bulifant	Bernard J. Mignez
Henry Layman	James C. Peasley
Martin Barfknecht	Cyrus H. Moorman
Oliver C. Chamber	Willie T. George
Leo B. Mudd	Frank L. Barrett
Hayne N. Jeffus	Alden A. Hart
Woods Phillips	Lewis L. Hooker
John G. McGuire	ALTERNATES
Munroe Carrell	Raymond A. Towers
Albert H. Schulte	Warren L. Sayles
Brownit M. Dittrich	Latney Y. Montague
Bernard C. King	Martin Akeyson
John L. Maclean	Harold V. U. Lien
Stanley Conser	Cornelius Ballard
Ross B. Kemp	Chas. R. Hall
Ivan R. Whittlesey	Paul W. Smith
Harry Schule	Stephen G. Leffner
Enos A. Potts	Everett M. Gullett
Levi A. Lindskoog	Arthur B. Manahan

FIFTH CONTINGENT

October 27, thirty-nine colored men were sent to Camp Lewis from the Valley. The names of this contingent were not to be found in the records.

SECOND LIBERTY LOAN

The campaign for the second Liberty Loan, which was for \$5,000,000,000, opened in October. This tremendous sum was staggering but the issue was oversubscribed. The Valley's quota was \$711,559. The total sold was \$749,500, an oversubscription of \$37,941. El Centro led the way with an oversubscription of \$100,000 on a quota of \$208,000. Phil D. Swing and W. I. Stone handled the El Centro campaign.

This is the way the towns of the Valley responded:

El Centro	\$304,950
Calexico	225,000
Imperial	85,000
Brawley	70,000
Holtville	54,000
Heber	15,250
Calipatria	2,500
Seeley	2,000
Scattering	4,500
Total	\$749,500
Quota	711,559
Oversubscribed	\$ 37,941

Charles E. Scott was made first chairman of the food campaign in October. The Government then began to bear down on the food-saving program. Tuesday was selected as "meatless day."

SIXTH CONTINGENT

The sixth contingent of men was mobilized and sent to Camp Lewis November 2. The boys were sent off under command of Weaver McFadden with the usual enthusiasm and good cheer, dinner, dance, program and the presentation of flags by the Elks. The roster was:

EL CENTRO

William Stancel
Joe Krejci
William R. Roberts
John D. Hamm
Sylvester Gamos
James Garcia
Gustav Bucher
Ralph W. Sperry
Arthur A. King
Leslie E. Bradbury
Charles E. Kennedy
Leslie D. House
T. T. Cook
Emile Bucher
John H. Burger
Charles W. Wolfington
Marion D. Steel
Weaver W. McFadden
Thomas T. Cook
Carlos Clements
Floyd H. Cooper
Thomas D. Gatewood
Ray A. Hagstron
Edward M. Jacobson
William E. Earhart
George E. Musgrove
James A. Laney

BRAWLEY

Frank M. Dowden
William S. Silver
David C. Dunlevie
Clarence Hooker
Wilbur J. Ridell
Frank Frey
Max D. Cone
Gus C. Shores
Meredith E. Wills
John W. Chitty
Joseph A. Vincent

Fred Williams
Clifton Parsons
George L. Spangler
Charles W. Wolfington
Gleck F. Nelson
John N. Kinney
Elmer L. Ranker
Harrison M. Austin
Henry S. Shroyer
M. T. Bagano

HOLTVILLE

James C. Setzer
Charles G. Frisbie
Graide W. Weeks
Fred W. Moore
John R. Thompson
Wallace E. Miller
Vern C. Hollingsworth
Lawrence O. Laughlin
Elias L. Kirtley
Wendell J. Carleton
Frank Mitchell

CALEXICO

John J. Bell
Andrew J. Funderburk
Antonio Carlos
Thomas D. Larrazabel
Fred Leisy
John Raptis
Alfred Plon
Herbert C. Langendafer
Rudi Greenberg
Frank Brooks
Walter F. Conley
Otto D. Bates
Henry Feldman
Willie Siebert
Holden McMains
Michael R. O'Meara

Harry B. Bowker, Calipatria
Oscar Peterson, Heber
Oris A. Lewis, Heber
Arthur Bradford, Seeley
Joseph J. Heflin, Mt. Signal
Marion A. Fowler, Seeley
Daniel Murphy, Niland
Thomas A. Brumbelow, Heber
Peter S. Lusier, San Diego

SEVENTH CONTINGENT

The seventh contingent of men went forward November 30 under command of Robert W. Weekes, new publisher of the Imperial Valley Press. The roster:

EL CENTRO

Robert W. Weekes
Raymond B. Waldo
Walter K. Baker
W. H. McGoldrich, Jr.

CALEXICO

Alfred Plon
John R. Clark
Richard S. Emerson

HOLTVILLE

Charles G. Frisbie
Wendell J. Carleton
Ruff V. Sewell
Craide W. Weeks
John R. Thompson

BRAWLEY

David C. Dunlevie
Frank M. Dowdin
IMPERIAL
R. M. Tullis
John Kraus

John R. Goss, Heber
Harold A. Roberts, Pomona
Earl R. Russell, Miami, Fla.
Henry J. Miller, Billings, Mont.
Walter J. Horsch, Pueblo, Colo.

(These records cannot appear here complete or without error as the process of exemption, elimination, rejection and accepting went on for weeks, those accepted being sent to camp singly until the quota of 653 men in service was actually a fact. However, in the records of the five contingents there are not more than twenty men unaccounted for here.—Editor History.)

The Y. M. C. A., as a war time agency, asked for \$35,000,000 in order to carry on work at all camps and across the sea. Imperial Valley's quota was \$9000. It was raised in a few days. El Centro raised its quota of \$2500 in half a day under the management of Phil Brooks and Geo. Ragan.

Citizens of the Valley raised over \$1000 and presented it to Battery D in training camp at San Diego to be used in the mess fund. Many turkeys were also sent over for Thanksgiving dinner.

STATISTICS

Of the 5940 men registered for the first draft in Imperial County 2240, or 37.5 per cent were foreign born. Twenty-eight nations were represented.

Exempted or discharged by local Board for other than physical disability, 1320. By District Board, 224.

Sent to Camp Lewis in first draft, 697.

Percentage discharged because of physical disability, 23½%.

NEW DRAFT REGULATIONS

The first of December the Government issued new draft regulations, dividing the remaining uncalled men into five classes and requiring them to fill out lengthy questionnaires. Judge Franklin J. Cole, Attorney Phil D. Swing and Attorney John Stewart Ross were appointed by Governor Stephens as an advisory board to assist registrants.

Prof. A. L. Lackey was the first to buy War Savings Stamps at the El Centro postoffice. The introduction of this method of war financing started the first of December. The new stamp tax went into effect December 1st also.

Wiley M. Weaver, Jr., Lieutenant in the Signal Corps, was one of the first to report he was in Europe. He cabled December 5th.

C. E. Arfwedson, member of the Exemption Board, resigned in November to become Superintendent at the County Farm.

The Y. W. C. A. campaign for funds was handled for the county by Mrs. Jos. F. Seymour. Mrs. Will Fawcett was El Centro chairman. On the committee were: Mrs. George Anderson, Mrs. R. H. Power, Mrs. H. A. Sugg, Mrs. Aitken, Mrs. A. H. Griswold, Mrs. C. E. Conant, Mrs. Clarke Booher, Mrs. W. W. Apple, Mrs. F. W. Waite, Mrs. Harry Owen, Mrs. Percie Thacker, Mrs. M. F. Kepley, Mrs. Robert Campbell, Mrs. V. S. Campbell.

Mrs. Bailies Walker was chairman of the Women's County Food Conservation Committee. Her sub-chairmen were: El Centro, Mrs. W. S. Fawcett; Imperial, Mrs. S. E. DeRackin; Brawley, Mrs. W. H. Best; Holtville, Mrs. R. W. Hoover; Heber, Mrs. T. H. Fishburn; Magnolia, Miss Florence Dunham; Calexico, Mrs. H. H. Griswold; Calipatria, Mrs. C. E. Browne; Seeley, Mrs. George Campbell; Niland, Miss Edna Loomis; Westmorland, Mrs. L. B. Bannister.

Mrs. Thomas Beeman was chairman of the county committee on Information and Libraries.

NINETY NOT FIT

After several weeks in camp the army doctors sent ninety Imperial Valley men home because they did not come up to rigorous army specifications.

Lawrence Baquet, rejected by the first board, underwent a major operation to become fit for service. He was re-examined and accepted.

ATTORNEYS HELP

Because the new regulations required the filling out of extensive blanks by registrants, additional attorneys were called upon to volunteer assistance.

Among the members of the bar who took the oath as members of the augmented advisory board were:

Judge Franklin J. Cole, Isaac Adams, W. I. Wilson, J. Stewart Ross, James W. Glassford, Charles L. Brown, Frank E. Birkhauser, J. C. Allen, J. J. Simmons, James W. Griffin, A. L. Sebille, John A. Berry, Leslie Reed, Ernest R. Simon, Galen Nichols, O. V. Willson, H. Stuart, Dorsey G. Whitelaw, Bert D. Noel, Charles L. Childers, C. E. Scott, J. R. Ford, Harry N. Dyke, Dan V. Noland, Vene Bloomer, J. S. Larew, M. W. Conkling, Phil D. Swing, R. W. McPherrin, A. C. Loveland, Atchison, D. C. Bitler and R. B. Whitelaw.

WAR SAVINGS STAMP COMMITTEE

A. L. Richmond was county chairman for the campaign to place war savings stamps throughout the county. His county committee:

Percy C. O'Brien, Andrade.
A. O. Broussard, Bard.
H. H. Clark, Calipatria.
Charles A. McCarthy, Dixieland.
L. B. McCord, Glamis.
T. W. Fishburn, Heber.
F. S. Lack, Brawley.
R. W. Maddox, Highline.
H. T. Jones, Holtville.
Frank Hevener, Calexico.

Harold D. Paulin, Imperial.
R. B. Whitelaw, El Centro.
J. C. Stuart, Mt. Signal.
A. D. Wilkinson, Niland.
V. S. Walter, Ogilby.
A. P. Wiley, Palo Verde.
T. F. Reilly, Picacho.
J. B. Toler, Seeley.
S. T. Robinson, Silsbee.
William Maddox, Weist.
Mr. Glass, Winterhaven.

RED CROSS MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

December saw the opening of the drive for 15,000,000 members of the Red Cross. Imperial County's quota for memberships was 2590. W. I. Stone was county chairman. His county executive committee was composed of: Manager W. I. Stone, chairman; Rev. E. B. McClelan, Brawley; Dr. B. C. Crandall, Holtville; Charles Shpisman, Imperial; W. A. Harlan, Heber; Mrs. J. W. Strickler, Meloland; C. H. Connett, Seeley; Charles Boarts, Westmorland; C. A. McArthur, Dixieland; F. H. Brauhn, Niland; H. H. Clark, Calipatria; Mrs. F. E. Williams, Acacia; A. W. Palmer, El Centro.

The following speakers did duty all over the county: James W. Glassford, Dan V. Noland, Phil D. Swing, J. Stanley Brown, Phil Brooks, F. B. Fuller, W. S. Reed, Charles Childers, M. W. Conkling, Floyd Brown, D. L. Zinn, J. F. Seymour, E. R. Simon, J. S. Larew, C. E. Scott, Mrs. W. S. Fawcett, Mrs. A. G. Butterfield, Mrs. J. F. Seymour, Mrs. A. H. Griswold, Mrs. W. G. Conley, Mrs. E. E. Clements, Mrs. J. E. Hodge, Mrs. V. S. Campbell.

In ten days the drive was completed with 3008 new members, 15 per cent over the quota.

Christmas, 1917, was observed by sending boxes to soldiers wherever their addresses were known. Vast shipments went from all the towns of the Valley.

Ross Wilsie, of Battery D at San Diego, and T. T. Cook, in training at Camp Lewis, were admitted to officers' training schools.

CLASS ONE CALLED

After mailing out some 4000 questionnaires and segregating the answers into the five classifications indicated by the war department, the Exemption Board January 27, 1918, started physical examination of all men in Class One.

Major General Strong, in command of the 40th Division at Camp Kearney, officially decided to call it the "Sunshine Division."

The Government, in order to arouse and inform the people of the seriousness of the war, sent speakers to address street crowds. Seward Simon was one of these.

The W. C. T. U. did its share in making a large number of comfort kits for soldiers and helped place an ambulance unit in service at the front.

EIGHTH CONTINGENT

Under the new regulations, forty-one men were sent to Kelly Aviation Field at San Antonio, Texas, March 9, 1918. The men were especially selected for their fitness as motor drivers and cooks. The roster:

Rollie O. Bridges	James R. Hamilton
John A. Ahl	Obe W. Russell
Joseph E. Stone	Wesley A. Gray
Robert L. Lambert	Leonard W. Moore
Henry McQuire	Ernest Willingham
George W. Taylor	John W. Fee
George M. Broyles	Ora L. Grant
L. A. Harris	Andrew J. Alexander
Mikola Stevanovich	Charles S. Rymer
John C. Adkins	Alphonse Prim
Charles W. Martin	D. Eddie Thompson
Charles E. Smith	Henry C. Theall
James O. Brand	Chester Willingham
Ralph Coulthurst	Fred H. Spurgeon
Jasper A. Morgan	Pericles P. Stavron
William M. Gibbs	Donald L. Phillips
Samuel N. Hughes	Elmo Fitzgerald
Dudley A. Loffin	Harold H. Scott
Allen Harris	Harry Heath
Emanuel Cannis	James H. Rhodes
Carroll B. Echols	

The contingent was composed of volunteers from Class 1. It was in charge of C. B. Echols, who was before refused admission to the aviation corps. An impromptu program was held in honor of the volunteers and silk souvenir flags were presented by the Elks.

NINTH CONTINGENT

Thirty-five men comprised the ninth contingent to go to camp. They left in charge of Olaf William Larson, of Imperial. The roster:

Robert P. Noleman	Bertram B. Yancey
Elum Mackey	James A. Avrit
Donald B. Shaw	Otto McDonald
Carl R. Kays	Percy D. Walker
Walter B. Cottle	Clarence V. Cloyd
Amos W. Hill	John J. Flores
Karl W. Marks	Louie J. Albert
Cuthbert W. Courtney	George Schmiett
Charles Casaroth	Frank Sanders
Earl K. Grubel	Leon Marcellin
Otey F. Simmons	Olaf W. Larson
Orville A. Porter	Wilbur E. Smith
Roy Stevenson	Donald B. Cummins
John Bloensma	Percy C. Finley
Nelson G. Hinkle	Richard B. Slaughter
George C. Mulvey	Henry Priest
Harry Southern	Roy Edwards
Wong W. Yan	

An ambulance unit was donated for use in France by the citizens of El Centro, headed by the El Centro Fire Department, with the donation of the results of the annual ball, \$728, and the Elks, with \$100. John E. Davis and Jasper L. Travers circulated a subscription paper and secured the balance to make a total of \$1600.

THIRD LIBERTY LOAN

M. O. King was appointed county chairman for the Third Liberty Loan drive which started April 6, 1918. Mr. King named as assistants in the towns: John E. Davis, El Centro; A. R. Ferguson, Seeley; J. W. Griffin, Holtville; S. E. Robinson, at large; L. J. Thomas, Imperial; D. A. Leonard, Calexico; B. F. Morris and O. B. Tout, publicity. The quota for the county was \$708,000.

Mrs. Wiley M. Weaver was appointed chairman of the women's division. Mrs. W. G. Cummings was chairman for rural committee.

Street parades started the campaign. Four minute speakers were: C. L. Childers, J. Stanley Brown, Phil Brooks, Wayne Compton, Jas. Glassford, Galen Nichols, Dan V. Noland, Wm. T. Randall, Geo. Rea, Phil D. Swing, E. R. Simon and Jos. F. Seymour.

Winterhaven was the first district to report its quota complete. It also doubled its \$5000 quota the first day.

To wind up the campaign Liberty Day, April 26, was celebrated. O. B. Tout was chairman of arrangements. A parade with U. S. troops, all war agencies and committees, school children, fraternal orders and the Fire Department and a program that was 100 per cent patriotic brought out ten thousand people and the quota was oversubscribed with ease. The workers went on with the campaign for several days. Mrs. J. T. Sparks and Mrs. S. D. Carrier won kitchen cabinets offered by the Imperial Valley Hardware Co. for the women securing the greatest amount of subscriptions.

This is the story of the final count in the drive for the Third Liberty Loan:

The County: Quota, \$708,000. Subscribed, \$1,127,750; 7928 subscriptions. Percentage of quota, 159.29 per cent. (This was a record for the State).

El Centro: Quota, \$182,250. Subscribed, \$317,900; 1991 subscriptions. Percentage of quota, 174.

Brawley: Quota, \$122,250. Subscribed, \$183,500; 1570 subscriptions. Percentage of quota, 150.

Calexico: Quota, \$207,250. Subscribed, \$275,450; 1425 subscriptions. Percentage of quota, 133.

Calipatria: Quota, \$23,000. Subscribed, \$49,500; 445 subscriptions. Percentage of quota, 215.

Holtville: Quota, \$71,000. Subscribed, \$92,750; 1017 subscriptions. Percentage of quota, 130.

Imperial: Quota, \$82,250. Subscribed, \$127,500; 780 subscriptions. Percentage of quota, 155.

Seeley: Quota, \$9,000. Subscribed, \$15,150; 182 subscriptions. Percentage of quota, 168.

Heber: Quota, \$11,000. Subscribed, \$31,600; 146 subscriptions. Percentage of quota, 287.

With a population of 45,000 the distribution was over 16 per cent for the county. El Centro district ran over 200 per cent, figuring the population at 9,000.

MORE CONTINGENTS

The acceptance of men for service went on during

the spring, a few men going to camp at a time. They went forward as follows:

April 26

Robert L. Gentry
James C. DePaul
Walter A. Kritz
Frank H. Borchard
Lamar F. Whittier
Ralph Adams
Harry L. James
Arthur Mollere
Jack C. Clancy
Gorden Wm. Marshall
H. Wilson Crawford
John H. Dowdy
Frank O. Babinger
Fulton A. Currie
Earlie E. Brooks
Garbed D. Girgosia
Fred A. Burnceister
Benedict A. Hill
Henry A. Arrange
Bert Murphey
Oliver P. Kinder
Lewis Wm. Wiley
Rudolph W. Soule
Russell Snyder
Howard B. Ames
Arthur Sanford
James Koskey
Fred R. Walters
James Psihogios
J. O. Burns
Willie Ginn
Forest E. Dowden
Henry Priest
Roy Edwards
Charles W. Goodman
Roy A. Judy
Sidney W. Noble
John F. Rauschilbach
Harry Hazeltine
Roland W. Snee
Frank O. Rowe
Joseph S. Lamons
Peter N. Obling
Charles O. Kemp
Edward I. Altman
Albert W. Greiner

John O. Philbrick
Michael M. Beau
Edward C. Matschke
Ho Look
Robert H. Sullivan
Fred B. Munger
Leslie A. Joliff
Ross H. Johnson
Sherman H. Edwards
Edward C. Grube
Harry W. Moldt
Robert T. Logan
George Knapp
Frank M. Gaffney
Ignazis Bruno
Wm. E. Glenn
Chas. R. Parker
Joseph E. Smith
Monte Haynes
Edward A. Sparks
John L. McGreal
Cecil A. Mohr
Edward Jordan
Raphael Cohn
Daniel Drift
Earl L. Jack
Harry Green
James H. Laurie
Ernest N. Wear
Leo Prodinski
Ervin C. Slaughter
ALTERNATES
Herbert S. Tuckforbes
Robt. E. Simmons
Tony Alvarado
James E. McClelland
Vere McKinnon
Henry A. Kalla
Sidney E. Shaw
Floyd V. Miller
Yancey H. Poe
Will T. Lyall
Shirley M. Elms
Chas. S. Mott
Clerman J. Nellans
Harry W. Moldt, Captain.

May 1

To Fort McDowell

Clark Taylor
Otto McDonald
Patricio Leon
Harry F. Love
Charlie E. Harris
Richard M. Wyncoop
Joseph W. McMillan
Frank Watson
King B. Ivey
William Bryan Tipps
William H. Herrein
Alfred R. Elliott
Roy Coalson
Roy C. Stephens

Archie W. Crawford
Frederick L. Ingle
Herbert A. Van Horn
John W. Fee
Homer E. Bouldin
Earl G. Keim
William W. Houston
Seberry Parker
William H. Pierce
Alex C. Barnes
Krank Jos. Rose
Jos. A. Peck
Walter S. Lively
William E. Leggett

May 4

Carl A. Johansen
Frank Krejci
Fred Riley
Roy Taylor
Earl Richmond
Nelson Weed
Barney P. George
Wendolin L. Farth
Frederick D. Kallenberger
John Jenson

Joe J. Doyle
Walter H. Elmund
Chas. Karesh
Geo. C. Foulk
H. Ernest Cox
Oreal L. Wright
Walter R. Course
Wm. J. Hoffman
Roy C. Gates
Sidney A. Mohr

May 10

Leo M. Jefferis
Frederick D. Davis
Robert R. Raines
Frank Enos
Mike C. Hill

May 20

Walter Pearce
Wendelin L. Faeth
James England
Frederick B. Kallenberger
Charles F. McMillan
Simpson P. Greenwood
Charles Meis
Wilson S. Weed

Everett G. Ridley
Roy H. Brackney
Edgar L. Palmer
George C. Foulk
Henry L. Moreau
Walter P. Cockley
William Lauson
Wesley Harin

June 11

Barney P. George
Garrett C. Dotson
Clyde R. Talmade

B. F. Grabel
Jas. R. Thetford

June 27

To Camp Kearny

Louis N. Johnson
Earl F. Clark
John F. Rauchelbach
Virgil L. Falato
Frank G. Will
Rupert F. Tatum
Benjamin F. Young
James D. Miller
Edward A. Berneker
Alison J. Matcalf
Miles E. Smith
Henry E. Maddox
Martin J. Skavdahl
James E. Stevenson,
Roger C. Griffin,
Junstin Hans
Marvin A. Wheeler
James Carson
George W. Calk
Walter V. Thompson
Matt H. Edwards
Willie D. Marsh
Marion Anderson
Jesse W. Mendenhall
John B. Williams
Frank Krefei
Thomas C. Hutinson
John R. Bennet
George A. Wilkerson
John Cucciarra
John R. Jeanes
Howard Green

John C. Bauman
Edward E. Campbell
Caska M. Bishop
Guy Nations
James C. Cox
Bert Munson
Floyd A. Burger
Kenneth H. Rehkopf
John C. Aubrey
Luther J. Parysch
George Bershter,
Q. Z. Anderson
John T. Boaden,
Paul Lauderdale
Olin W. Gillespie
Thomas S. Chance
Claude Lutterrell
Isbell N. Anderson
Harold V. Lane
Tom Benton
Roger C. Gates
Floyd Norton
Thomas U. Hill
William C. Tarvin
R. R. Turner
James S. Meek
Orville Cray
Jens K. Steffessen
Lou Jin
Thomas M. Crawford
John L. Miller
Wesley C. Johnson

July 1

To Military School in Los Angeles

Geo. Paraskevopoulos
Will B. Smith
Otto D. Conser
Herman A. Mendenhal
Earl A. Krafft
Lawrence C. Richards
James Hoyt

Frank B. Lee
Fred A. Cox
Claude Howenstein
Harold G. Hevaner
James A. Forrester
Harry H. Hamm

June 26

To Vancouver, Wash.

Manuel Pedro
Ralph H. Hall
John C. McCrossen
Joseph A. Skinner
Gerald F. Hill
Wilbur E. Stocking
Earl E. Richmond
Joseph Ersek
Pete Pedrotta
Eric F. Jones

Joe H. Conkling
Lee E. Cobb
James C. Looney
William Lane,
David A. Dugan
James King
William K. Walker
William J. Wood
Juan Figuera

July 15
To Fort McDowell

Lambert H. Brewer	George Lew Taylor
George Ferrara	Cornelius T. Mulcahy
Adam Redpath	E. R. Schalit
Harry O. Sinclair	Windsor T. Cunningham
Robert Trout	Texas A. McCall
Arthur Baer	Thulan Wilder
Jule F. Meyer	Royd Maddox
Arthur Dingress	William J. Fleming
Halbert W. Moore	Doyle Z. Kirkham
Bertrand C. Mulvey	Niels Jensen
William L. Wright	John B. Esler

July 15 and July 22
To Camp Lewis

Thomas D. Tedrow	Baice Thrasher
Clarence Stafford	Gus W. Wiemeyer
Percy D. Ferrand	Alfred J. Ausell
Albert L. Luce	Jacob J. Huffer
Joseph B. Burdick	Alcide E. Leduce
Zeno Burch	James E. Ryder
Walter Watkins	Arthur S. Collins
Fred Riley	Alfred B. Shively
Oscar A. Jackson	Frank Gray
Clarence E. Van Horn	James Streight
Walter Harmon	William C. White
Charles B. Ruff	Paul Hempel
Leonard S. Stokely	Rodney F. Clark
Robert T. Leech	Fred Carson
Virgil Richardson	Stanley W. Hall
Harry M. Brown	Thomas V. Smith
Leonardo Ruiz	Ansil E. Rice
Edgar C. Wattenbarger	Louis C. Williams
Chester W. Reynard	J. Logan Willis
Chin Bark Kuey	Johannes E. Hanscen
Alfred A. White	Edgar B. Brady
Joe Trow	Leonard Cox
Gordon B. Reynolds	William J. Hoffman
Arvill L. Wright	Chas. H. Washabaugh
Floyd A. Peters	Leland A. Dailey
Marrill Kauffman	Harrison H. Holden
Delpha H. Cay	Samuel E. Smith
Willis W. Griffin	Eber T. Randolph
Raymond Bohen	Victor W. Wessell
Winston N. Jernigan	Z. Irving Kirkpatrick
Ceal Moffett	Orland W. Rouse
Arthur E. Gray	George W. Myer
James W. Robertson	Paul Barnett
Hubert Ashby	John Clause Rimer
Hobie P. Parks	Haygash Pampeyan
Arthur C. Kohns	Roy Stevenson
James G. Towns	Grover Hayes
Charles N. Treammel	Jack Clancy
William Pond	Rollie P. Parker
Hugh O. Rennick	Clifford H. Carlisle
James C. Setzer	Walter Miller
John Bloesma	William Derry
Leon Marcellin	Ellis W. Seitz
John Goff	Robert D. May
Oral L. Wright	Eli Tucker
Pete C. Christensen	Chas. E. Burnett
Henry Juergenmeyer	

The reader of this history should not gain the idea that the frequent departure of boys for training camp got to be an old story. The contingent of July 22 was escorted to the train by the biggest crowd of all. At this time American troops were giving good account of themselves in France and public interest in America and the Valley was intense.

The Valley was asked to plant 2000 acres of castor beans in order to get castor oil for Liberty engines. H. H. Clark was chairman of this activity and the acreage was planted. There were 3000 acres planted.

The Timken ranches and others planted a huge acreage of hemp to grow fiber for airplane fabric.

Numerous cases of pro-German, slacker actions and remarks were reported but few proved to be serious. The Valley's volunteer secret service vigilance committees were everywhere and disloyal talk or acts met with instant correction.

SECOND RED CROSS DRIVE

Rev. Walter Reed was county chairman of the second drive to raise \$26,000 in Imperial County for the Red Cross. The nation's quota was \$100,000,000. The drive was for one week in May, 1918. Chairmen in each town: El Centro, Jos. F. Seymour; Brawley, E. B. McClelland; Holtville, Len Shaw; Imperial, C. W. Waite; Calipatria, Alex McKenzie; Acacia, Mr. Baleu; McCabe, F. M. Moore.

By this time war work was so well systematized in Imperial Valley that these drives were but a matter of announcing the plan and the people all helped put it over.

In El Centro the Firemen and the Elks put on a '49 Camp that netted \$3,219.16. Calexico held a big preliminary parade and '49 Camp. All the towns and centers had special stunts.

Imperial Valley raised \$45,000.

The county's quota of \$26,000, was therefore, almost doubled. Of the 130 Chapters in the State Imperial Valley Chapter stood 22nd in the list for total amount raised.

THEN IT WAS WAR SAVINGS STAMPS

No sooner was the Red Cross drive put over than the drive for the sale of War Savings Stamps was announced. W. G. Russell was county chairman. The drive opened Decoration Day. The county's 1918 quota was \$450,000 worth of stamps. May 30 the sales had reached \$60,000.

The same organization of 168 workers, composed of Firemen and Elks, in El Centro worked under the direction of City Chairman Guy Benyon. Chas. B. Folsom was marshal of a great parade in which all organizations participated.

The following chairmen handled the county drive:

Harry Staub, Brawley; Wm. Gunterman, Calexico; Mr. Wilkins, C. H. Smith, at Imperial; H. T. Jones, Holtville; A. A. Hall, Calipatria; Miss Durand, Arthur Sisson, Seeley, and Guy Benyon, El Centro. A. G. McKinnon, rural districts.

Governor Wm. D. Stephens visited the Valley and helped in the hottest weather to bring W. S. S. subscriptions up to a higher mark.

When the campaign lagged a bit during hot weather Jos. F. Seymour, A. L. Richmond, W. G. Russell and the rest of the 168 committeemen and workers made a renewed effort and on June 28 Imperial County went "over the top" with its quota.

The following telegram is on file:

Los Angeles, June 28, 1928.

W. G. Russell, Chairman, W.S.S. Drive.
El Centro, Calif.

Sincerest congratulations. Imperial county

first county in Southern California to go over the top and we believe first in entire state. Your people have a right to feel proud of your achievement and your government appreciates your efforts.

G. A. DAVIDSON, State Director.

JUNIOR RED CROSS

The children were just as keen to do something to help win the war as the grown folks. The Junior Red Cross was organized throughout the county under the following leaders: Mrs. Grace M. Gill and Mrs. Bailies Walker chairmen; Mrs. Warren Currier, Holtville; Mrs. Ford, Brawley.

REGISTRATION DAY

June 5, 1918, was registration day for all young men whose 21st birthday had come during the year previous. The number registered was 336. The number was disappointing to the Exemption Board, as 600 were expected.

HOME GUARDS FAITHFUL

The El Centro company of Home Guards faithfully drilled twice each week. In June the officers and men enrolled were:

Captain James Ford,	
First Lieutenant J. L. Williams	
Second Lieutenant Verne Bishop	
First Sergeant F. C. Kemp	
Eldidge F. Jenkins	Frank Erzinger
Walter O. Hamilton	Clinton J. Sawyer
C. O. Hildebrand	Geo. L. Thompson
J. L. Musser	Robt. L. Yously
Sidney Abrams	Andrew K. Bernshouse
Edward C. Foster	Eldon B. Wickham
J. W. Porterfield	Bert C. Leech
A. D. Woel	J. G. Delozier
P. Willis	E. A. Palmer
H. Hornster	S. H. Sterner
B. Y. Gurwell	Joe Rezendez
A. W. Anderson	M. B. Towman
Frank H. Skiwanck	H. C. Celley
J. F. Seymour, Jr.	Harry von den Heuvel
W. G. Russell	Duane Stafford
K. L. Williams	Clinton Cobine
F. B. Trull	Dan V. Noland
J. S. Tammy	W. J. Purcell
D. Scrap	Phil D. Swing
N. Veach	B. E. Colvin
Jack Booker	Rodney Hermon
Frank M. Bowles	Walter Colvin
Norman L. Dettoy	W. J. Meagher
Glenn E. Lynch	Phil Tull
Geo. W. Finley	T. A. Hunt
W. H. Cookson	H. F. O'Byrne
Harl B. Jauman	Jno. O. Gresham
Ernest R. Simon	M. G. Hill
Ellis Ward	Chester Cielin
W. C. Reed	Roy L. Rumsey
Thad. Clements	Percy Edgar
Ernest Porter	W. F. Hodge
J. L. McCune	

SAMPLE OF EXCITEMENT

The terrific tension under which everybody existed during the war days is illustrated by the following incident taken from the files of the El Centro Progress of June 22, 1918:

United States Deputy Marshal Dave Matlock was awakened shortly after midnight Friday

morning by an excited citizen who had driven some twelve or fourteen miles and informed that a dangerous alien enemy was loose in that neighborhood and that Mr. Matlock should come at once.

Routing out Sheriff Applestill, Mr. Matlock and the informer traveled the long distance and when they arrived found a Swede, Emil Erickson, by name.

After some questioning Erickson was asked what he thought of the United States. And according to the officers, replied as follows: "To h—— with the United State, what do I care, I work for wages, don't I?"

A little while later he was asked what he thought of Germany and, according to the officers, this was his reply: "To h—— with Germany, what do I care, I work for wages, don't I?"

Mr. Matlock described him as being strictly neutral.

Asked what he did, Mr. Matlock said, "Oh, I locked him up for being a D—— fool."

Ben Arkalian, melon grower, sent word to General Strong that his fields had a lot of watermelons going to waste and the Camp Kearny boys could have them if they would come and get them. Six army trucks were sent and the entire camp enjoyed Imperial Valley watermelons.

One of the disconcerting rules was that no member of the Council of Defense, four minute speaker or others connected with the war work could be a candidate for public office. It was election year and a number of war workers wished to run for office.

MORE CONTINGENTS

August 1—For Camp Lewis
(Colored Troops)

Jess Woods	Clarence E. Hodges
Don Guess	Henry Fleming
Lit Morris	James W. Pitts
Launey Allison	Anthony Bell
Jeff Reed	Nathaniel Kemp
Floyd Maples	Richard K. Gilmore
William S. Pitts	Ernest J. Botts
William Clark	William Salter,

August 5 and August 6—For Camp Lewis
and Camp Fremont

Carl F. Schoneman	Frank D. Johnson
Thomas H. Carrol	Samuel J. Gallagher
Erik R. Benson	Verne C. Smith
William J. Armour	Austin Rice
Mohamid Nawaz	Aze H. Stiles
Harry Berry	George H. Bailey
Benjamin Kellogg	Glenn Schuck
Roy W. Hikle	Texas A. McCall
John Kuhn	James A. Johnston
Philip L. Dolan	Alfred A. White
Robert G. Campbell	Wilson E. Huff
George D. Dameron	John H. Reid
Frank J. Dostal	Arthur Shockey
Winfield C. Kirkland	Walter E. Strohm
Ben H. Early	Herbert A. Van Horn
Truman A. Tunstall	Sebury Parker
Charles M. Buck	Sam Fitzgerald
Willard Terry	Thomas W. Carroll
John H. Duffy	Dee S. Anderson

August 27

To Camp Lewis, Camp Fremont,
and Camp McDowell

Edgar Nance, Jr.	Franklin Mitchell.
Geo. C. Marshall	Glenn H. Copeland
Geator Slayton	Jess W. Alderson
Daniel J. Stanton	Frank P. Horley
Joseph E. Rolls	George C. Staley
John Brown	Willie H. Brooks
Daniel C. Echolls	Robert B. Carey
Elmer G. Johnson	Mike Timber
Donald K. Brymer	William J. Bennett
Allen Chalupnick	Hughbert Barker
Herbert L. Read	John I. Rush
Oscar G. Killingsworth	John Masnaghetti
Paul H. Sloggett	George W. Craft
Ralph M. Sloggett	Guy T. Weatherbee
Andrew S. Logan	Pasquale A. Zarilla
Martin Moerman	Rupert A. Dishman
Lloyd B. Pickett	Benjamin A. Peterson
Ernest Looney	August Diaz

September 5

Albin Chalupnik	William J. Stickland
Larrald Rogers	Elmer T. Pippen
Ralph E. Ingold	Stanley Lempitcke
John Erb	Vance Strouse
Gordon S. Ogier	John A. Malone
Eldon A. Davis	Russell R. Routt
Harold Edgar Hall	Hubert Daily
George M. Harlan	Carl McSpadden
Walter C. Wheeler	Benjamin Aaron
Fred R. Whitley	Anton G. Komnda
Oscar J. Propp	William Smith
David W. Simpson	David Fulwiler
George W. Mercereau	Delanie Jernigan
Roy R. Cain	Theodore Schartz
Robert E. Vannoy	Earl Fisher
Peter Sandrio	Frank Johnson
William Ankai	Calvin J. Courtney
John W. Casey	

September 14

Albert R. Barton	Vernon S. Walter
Fred B. Bell	Luther Wilson
Albert C. Hodges	Clarence Kerrell
Solomon Trijillo	

Jos. F. Seymour was appointed Imperial County representative of the Soldiers and Sailors Welfare Commission, the body formed to look after the dependents of men at the front.

NEW DRAFT ORDERED

America was determined to throw every bit of manpower available into the job of subduing Germany and to that end Congress called for the registration of every male between the ages of 18 and 45 in order to make available 13,000,000 more men for the battle lines.

On September 12 in Imperial County 30 registration boards were organized.

The Exemption Board, on account of the great increase of work, was reorganized. Under Clarence W. Barton and C. T. Wardlaw, C. E. Paris was appointed Chief Clerk; Miss Nell Black was put in charge of the old registration; Mrs. C. B. Adair was put in charge of the new registration office force; Miss Lucy Johnson was put in charge of transfer department; Mrs. F. W. Waite was in charge of classification books.

A few more than 7092 men registered in the new draft.

Of this number 4,080 were native born citizens

and 157 naturalized citizens. There were 63 persons who were citizens by the father's naturalization before the registrant's majority. There were 198 declarant aliens and the large number of 2,594 non-declarant aliens.

Classified into races, there were 6,221 whites, 306 negroes, 541 orientals, 20 Indian citizens, and 4 Indians who were not citizens.

There were 27 different nationalities represented; the leading ones being represented by the following numbers: Mexico, 1,509; Japan, 523; Switzerland, 64; Spain, 46; Portugal, 68; England, 49; Italy, 75; and other British, 197.

Jas. W. Glassford, W. S. Fawcett and M. O. King were officially added to the Imperial County Council of Defense. Mr. Fawcett was food administrator, Mr. Glassford chairman of the Red Cross and M. O. King was in charge of liberty loan matters. Upon the death of District Attorney Galen Nichols, his successor, E. R. Simon, was named chairman of the council.

FOURTH LIBERTY LOAN

To back up the new draft the Government issued a call for the country to subscribe for \$6,000,000,000 Fourth Liberty Loan bonds. Imperial County's quota was \$1,367,400.

For Imperial County, M. O. King was chairman. O. G. Horne was campaign manager. The town chairmen were: El Centro, John Davis; Calexico, Dan Leonard; Seeley, C. H. Connett; Brawley, F. S. Lack; Holtville, Judge Griffin; Heber, Mr. Harlan; Imperial, L. J. Thomas; El Centro, Phil D. Swing. A. C. Johnston had charge of the publicity.

Mrs. Dan V. Noland was chairman for the women. Her town chairmen were: El Centro, Mrs. Allen Nuffer; Brawley, Mrs. Fletcher Anderson; Imperial, Mrs. Oscar Sweeney; Calipatria, Mrs. W. T. Cunningham; Niland, Mrs. Peter Bartmus; Calexico, Mrs. George Pulliam; Holtville, Mrs. Warren Currier; Rural districts, Mrs. W. S. Cummings.

Five hundred workers started September 27, 1918, to secure the quota.

The start of the bond drive was rather slow. A case of tar and feathers took place in Brawley when a citizen refused to buy bonds. Street parades and patriotic programs were engineered in all towns. In the midst of the drive the Spanish influenza started. In El Centro the committee appealed to the Fire Department boys to take hold of the lagging campaign. October 20, the county "went over" in spite of everything. The table shows how it ended:

Cities	Subscribers	Quota	Subscribed
El Centro	2,433	\$358,600	\$425,100
Calexico	1,945	365,000	545,000
Brawley	2,472	270,750	298,050
Imperial	1,131	138,650	163,300
Holtville	1,283	138,350	161,400
Calipatria	565	43,500	62,200
Niland	220	10,000	31,550
Heber	252	24,500	25,500
Seeley	235	18,500	22,400
Totals	10,536	\$1,367,400	\$1,734,500

A new organization that swung into line helping with war work was the Elks Ladies Club. Mrs. Otis B. Tout was President. Mrs. Vern Bishop, Secretary, and Mrs. R. L. Bowen, Treasurer.

INFLUENZA EPIDEMIC

The first cases of influenza in the army were reported the last of September. By October 2 there were 88,000 cases. October 9 there were 187,000 cases in camps.

The Red Cross chapters called for volunteers to take care of cases that developed suddenly in the Valley. By the first of November more than fifty deaths were recorded and hundreds were ill. People took care of those attacked as long as they were not victims themselves. Mouth masks were tried and discarded. The epidemic raged for some time after the war was over.

THE LAST DRAFT

November 5 the Imperial County Exemption Board published a draft of men to go to camps November 14, but these men were too busy celebrating the armistice when the time came to go.

FAKE ARMISTICE REPORT

On Thursday, November 7, the United Press sent out an unconfirmed report that Germany had signed an armistice and that fighting had stopped. A hysterical celebration swept the country from ocean to ocean only to soberly subside when the report was overtaken with the truth. The war was still on.

UNITED WAR WORK CAMPAIGN

November 9 the United War Work Campaign was announced. All war agencies, such as Y. M. C. A., Y. W. C. A., Knights of Columbus, Jewish Welfare, Salvation Army, War Camp Community Service, and the American Library Association, were to be grouped together and, for the nation, a fund of \$170,500,000 was asked.

Imperial County was to raise \$60,750.

N. A. Mackey was County Chairman. O. B. Tout was El Centro chairman.

The campaign was all ready to go when the

ARMISTICE WAS SIGNED!

The whole country was poised in an ecstasy of anticipation for two days before the news came that Germany had quit. In Imperial Valley the bulletin boards were eagerly scanned. The only Associated Press service received in the Valley was by the El Centro Progress, morning newspaper. The day before the armistice was signed was Sunday, November 10. The Western Union office was kept open all day awaiting the news. When night came the office was closed and the Progress made arrangements to have Los Angeles call by telephone if the big news came. Arrangements were made with the Holton Power Company and the El Centro Fire Department to have whistles and the fire bell awaken the town if the big news arrived.

At midnight the telephone call came to the home of Mr. and Mrs. O. B. Tout, proprietors of the Progress. They rushed to the office and took the exciting news as it was read over the wire by an

El Centro Went Over the Top Yesterday

THIS IS THE WAY MORRIS HAVENS SAW IT



One hundred and twenty Elks sailed in yesterday and sold over \$132,000 worth of Victory Bonds, putting El Centro district well over the top. Morris Havens, an El Centro boy, is the artist.

Cartoon Drawn by Morris Havens for the El Centro Progress During War Times

Associated Press reader in Los Angeles. The noise on the streets of Los Angeles could be plainly heard on the wire at the same time.

The first of the dispatch read:

Washington, D. C., Nov. 11.—The armistice has been signed. It was signed at 5 o'clock a. m. Paris time and hostilities will cease at 11 o'clock this morning Paris time.

Mr. and Mrs. Tout were on the point of sending word for the whistles and the firebell to arouse the city. It was very cold that November midnight and a large part of the Valley's population was down with the influenza. Consulting with Dr. F. W. Peterson it was decided that the resulting excitement would surely result in several unnecessary deaths, so the bell ringing and whistle blowing was held until five o'clock Monday morning. During those five hours the Progress mechanical force was assembled, a "Peace Extra" run off the press and sent to all parts of the Valley. Copies of this extra are still prized by many people.

In all the towns of the Valley the celebration was equally hysterical. Someone started dragging an iron tub filled with metal scraps behind an automobile at breakneck speed. Within thirty minutes, twenty, then fifty, then a hundred cars were doing likewise, the occupants singing and chanting hilariously. Chas. Ferguson, in El Centro, dragged a wooden box, labelled "kaiser," about. Then he dragged a stuffed dummy of the defeated German emperor until the dummy went to pieces. The Fire Department attempted a parade at 8 o'clock. No places of business were kept open. Noisemakers of every conceivable kind were manufactured. The El Centro band provided music. Every head was bared when the "Star-Spangled Banner" was played, of course. The band visited other towns as well.

The war was over. With the rest of the world, the Valley was glad.

CHAPTER XXI

WAR WORK AFTER THE WAR

WHILE the clang of celebrating bells was still in the air, people everywhere realized that the signing of the armistice was but a way-post in the war program. The mountain had been ascended—now the job was to get back down to the level plain without disaster. Our troops had to do occupation duty over there. They had to go far into Siberia and to Palestine to do their part. It would be a long time before the boys could all be home. The welfare work had to be kept up in camps and the bills had to be paid with more Liberty Loans. Then there were perplexing economic problems to be met at home.

Imperial Valley settled down with a grim determination to continue to shoulder its share of every burden.

WAR WORK CAMPAIGN FINISHED

When it was seen that it would take a year or more to return the troops to America the canvass for the United War Work agencies was resumed and within a week after the armistice was signed the county again went over the top with contributions of nearly \$50,000 on a quota of \$42,000.

WAR SAVINGS STAMPS AGAIN

To take up the slack in the sales of War Savings Stamps the county was reorganized to carry on this part of the Government's war financing program.

A. L. Richmond was county chairman. W. G. Russell was assistant. The district chairmen were: Percy O'Brien, Andrade; E. A. Biggs, Bard; D. D. Pellet, Brawley; A. A. Hall, Calipatria; W. Gunterman, Calexico; Charles A. McCarthy, Dixieland; R. B. Whitelaw, El Centro; L. B. McCord, Glamis; T. W. Fishburn, Heber; R. W. Maddox, Highline; H. T. Jones, Holtville; C. H. Smith, Imperial; J. C. Stewart, Mt. Signal; A. D. Wilkinson, Niland; V. S. Walter, Ogilby; A. P. Wiley, Palo Verde; T. F. Reilly, Picacho; J. B. Toler, Seeley; J. Lyon, Silsbee; William Maddox, Weist; Mr. Glass, Winterhaven; Mrs. O. C. Nance, county organizer War Savings Societies, El Centro.

This campaign was another post-war success for Imperial County.

The Imperial County Council of Defense requested the Government to release all farm workers from the army and navy as soon as possible.

CONCERT BUREAU

The Government, encouraging a continuance of the war savings habits, announced the establishment of the War Savings Concert Bureau. Prof. Elmer A. Todd was appointed director for Imperial County and he had as assistants in other towns: Brawley, Miss Gladdys I. MacDonald; Imperial, Mrs. H. W. Brewer, Jr.; Calexico, Miss Alice Wernland; Holtville, Miss Marvene C. Campbell.

W. S. Fawcett, Food Administrator for Imperial County, announced a full continuance of war regulations as far as food and waste were concerned. After-war complications were apparent before the first of December.

FIRST MEMORIAL SUGGESTED

The idea of a suitable memorial for the young men who lost their lives in the war was suggested by the El Centro Lodge of Elks. C. W. Collins started the circulation of a subscription for the purpose in November, 1918, but the matter grew to such big proportions that the first plans were superseded by others. The magnificent Veterans' Memorial Buildings in the various towns finally were decided the most useful and appropriate memorials.

"RECONSTRUCTION"

The first movement toward the reemployment of returning soldiers was in December when the State Council of Defense appointed Clifford Coggins, Edward Dool and W. T. Dunn as the Non-War Construction Board for Imperial County. W. E. Van Way, city clerk of El Centro, was made secretary of the board. Returning soldiers, unplaced, were to apply to this board for opportunities for reemployment.

BOARD MEMBER DIES

Carl E. Arfwedson, member of the Imperial County Exemption Board during the draft days and later superintendent at the County Farm, died December 18, during the influenza epidemic. The County Farm was taking care of some 150 cases of influenza at the time and Mr. Arfwedson's refusal to leave them and look after himself cost him his life. His work as a member of the draft board places his name in an honored position in the annals of the war.

IN MEMORIAM

These Young Men of Imperial County Gave Their Lives for Their Country

KILLED IN ACTION OR DIED OF WOUNDS RECEIVED IN ACTION

LIEUTENANT ALBERT BOYCE ATEN
 BERNARD BAKER
 A. O. BUTLER
 WHEELER BOTELER
 EMIL PETER BUCHER
 LUTHER W. CREED
 PETER GATTO
 THOS. P. HUMPHRIES
 SAMUEL HART
 ROY HECKSTRUM
 PAUL R. HOLDZKOM
 SERGEANT THOMAS LAKE
 ROGER LAWRENCE
 ERNEST LOVELAND
 JAMES R. LAUGHRIN
 CLARK N. MAXEY
 FLOYD VERNON MILLER
 HORACE H. MCCORMACK
 HENRY McSPADDEN
 FRANK M. O'CONNOR
 LEE RAINBOW
 ROBERT A. SHOYER
 IKE W. STEPHENS
 JOHN SHEPHERD
 GUS SHIRESON

———— STOVER
 HAROLD SWANN (British Service)
 ELMER A. TYE
 CORPORAL JAS. P. KELLY

Died in Accident

LIEUTENANT ROGERS C. GOREE
 LIEUTENANT VARNELL
 HAROLDE L. SEBILLE

Died of Disease

C. FRED ALLEN
 DAVID ALLEN
 CARL ARFWEDSON (Exemption Board)
 SAMUEL C. GARRIGUES
 ROY C. GATES
 ROBERT HALL
 THOMAS LUNDHOLM
 LIEUTENANT ROY MOORMAN
 DWIGHT PERSINGER
 JAMES REID
 LIEUTENANT ROLAND W. BRADLEY
 LAWRENCE LAUGHLIN
 W. A. STANLEY
 LUTHER WILSON

These Were Wounded, Gassed or Slightly Injured

Wounded

WM. A. BELL
 CHARLES D. GREENLEAF
 JAMES N. CRANE
 VERNE GARLAND (British Service)
 CHARLES O. KEMP
 FRANK LAUDERDALE
 DEAN EDWARDS
 CLARENCE W. LINDEMAN
 ARCHIE LITTLE
 CY. MOORMAN
 ——— MABREY
 HAROLD MOORE
 BENJAMIN McCLENDON
 LEWIS McPHERSON
 CHARLES JONES
 JESS LINGO
 CLAUDE RITTER
 PAUL THAANUM
 WM. E. WYETH
 MEREDITH E. WILLS
 CLAY COE
 EVERETT JOHNSON
 HOWARD W. MILLIGAN

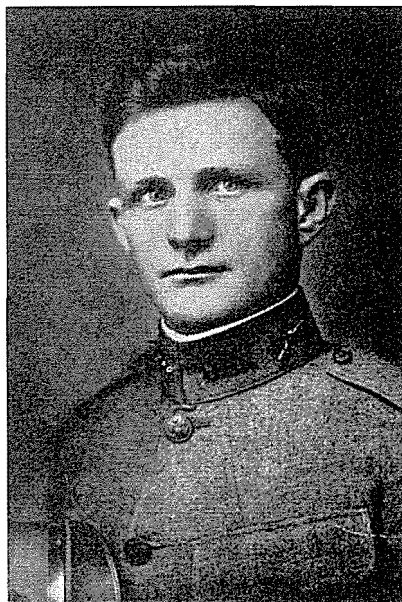
MICHAEL B. O'MARA
 ——— RIVERS
 CLARENCE RICE
 ARTHUR M. STEINTORF
 JOHN M. SUPLER
 GEO. STAHL
 ADAM R. KRAMER

Gassed

CARL CLOYD
 ROSCOE N. HULSE
 HARRY HAZELTINE
 HAROLD LIEN
 ARTHUR M. NELSON
 JAMES J. SPROUSE

Slightly Injured

PAUL ALLEN, aviator. Shot down four times in action.
 W. D. BEZDECHECK, aviator. Injured by exploding motor, North Island.
 ALBION C. LIBBY, JR. On board the San Diego, sunk by U-Boat.
 WM. JENNINGS YOUNG. On board the San Diego, sunk by U-Boat.



LIEUTENANT BOYCE ATEN

Boyce Aten came to Imperial Valley with his parents from Texas in 1905 and was reared and schooled in El Centro until 1912, when he entered Stanford University at Palo Alto. In his senior year he was commissioned a Second Lieutenant of infantry in the university's military organization, so it was but natural for him to enter the army in 1917. His first service was at the Presidio in San Francisco, going from there to Camp Lewis, Washington. Here he volunteered to help officer National Guard regiments and was assigned to Company D, 129th Machine Gun Battalion, 35th Division, Camp Doniphan.

He was given an opportunity to return to a California Division but he saw a better chance for immediate action by staying with the 35th Division, which went overseas early in 1918.

The details of the manner in which Lieutenant Aten met his death were written to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ira D. Aten, of El Centro, by Ray G. Thompson, Second Lieutenant of his company. Amongst other things he wrote:

"On the 26th of September, in the night, the division, as a part of the First army, formed for assault on Vauquois Hill, the strongest sector of the Hindenburg line. This company formed with the second line and when the barrage lifted went forward. To the astonishment of the French, Vauquois Hill fell to us by noon.

"Our particular part was to flank the hill on the left, which we did without much resistance for a little more than a mile. There a large body of Germans appeared. Boyce saw them first and got his four guns into action. What remained surrendered to the infantry. His fearless bravery and coolness was the deciding factor.

"From then on throughout the 27th and 28th he continued to show his sterling qualities of leadership. On the 29th the company was ordered forward

with the first wave of infantry on the right flank. This was in the famous forest of Argonne, north of Apremont.

"The enemy had rushed new Prussian divisions to stop us at all costs. The infantry was finally halted by the enemy machine guns and artillery. Boyce went forward through our lines and reconnoitered. He found barbed wire entanglements which had to be cut, so he started in on the job. The Germans raised Old Ned about it, but he seemed to have charmed life. Three of our sergeants, seeing this, came forward and helped him. When he had made the necessary opening, he led the company forward, the company commander having become a casualty.

"He took a position which eventually permitted the infantry to advance again, and he continued to exercise command, all the other officers falling. He would stand up and reorganize the company when it meant sure death and when every German this side of Berlin seemed to be shooting at him.

"He was a wonderful example for the men. The afternoon of the 29th our infantry was forced back a little ways. Boyce held the company and delivered fire at a critical time with terrible effect on the enemy. He finally retired to the infantry line after they had gotten organized into a new position. Here Boyce reorganized the company again, explained to them their new functions, put a sergeant in charge, and went forward to try and locate the infantry commander.

"It was a ticklish job and an important one. He never returned. We learned that he was wounded in the head, but died in the base hospital on October 2. Some portion of a big shell must have hit near him."

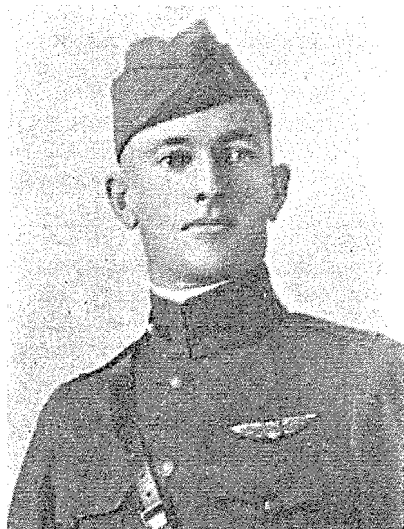
When the El Centro post of the American Legion was organized it was named the Boyce Aten Post in honor of this daring officer. When his remains were returned from France, October 24, 1921, the funeral services held were extremely impressive. The body lay in state at post headquarters guarded by a military detail. It was carried to the cemetery on an artillery caisson attended by the largest cortege ever seen in Imperial Valley. Rev. Geo. Hartman conducted the services. Previous to the military funeral, private services were held at the Aten home, conducted by Rev. A. E. Worthy, of the Christian church.

In the annals of the American Legion in Imperial County the name of Lieutenant Boyce Aten stands at the top as a true soldier of the American type that made the winning of the war possible.

LIEUT. ROGERS CAMPBELL GOREE

Lieutenant Rogers Campbell Goree, after whom the Goree-Lake Post of the American Legion is partially named, was killed when something went wrong with his Spad plane November 26, 1918, and he fell a great distance to the ground. This happened at Issoudun, France, where Lieutenant Goree was in camp after the armistice.

Rogers Goree was living with his uncle, Robert G. Goree, in Calexico. He was an employee of the California Development Company at Calexico when war was declared in April, 1917. He, with his brother,



Lieut. Rogers C. Goree

John D. Goree, Earl Mitchell and Carl Strawn, immediately enlisted. They wanted to fly. Rogers enlisted at North Island, San Diego; was sent to Ground School at Berkeley; was transferred to various training camps in Texas, Arkansas and Mississippi and was shipped overseas September 22, 1918, ready to do his bit. It was the sad irony of fate that sent him aloft and to his death after peace had been declared. But his life was given to his country just the same as if he had been shot down by an enemy in the air.

His untimely death was a sad blow to the young bride he left behind in Texas. While in training camp he met, wooed and won the daughter of the Colonel of his father's regiment, Miss Roselle Gould. They were wed September 9, thirteen days before he sailed. Lieutenant Goree's father was Captain R. Campbell Goree, who served in Colonel Gould's regiment in the Civil War. When the young people met, romance was ready and they were married. The saddened young bride took up teaching in the University of Texas after the death of her husband.

Here in Imperial Valley, a happy family gathering of the Gorees were enjoying a reunion expecting soon to get the news that Rogers was coming home. In the midst of the reunion the telegram came informing them of his untimely death.

The young officer's father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. R. Campbell Goree, are now residents of Arlington, Riverside County, California. The remains were brought back to Texas where they were buried with full military honors. He is remembered in Imperial Valley as a young man thoroughly dependable by hundreds of friends.

LIEUTENANT ROY MOORMAN

Roy Moorman came to El Centro in 1912. He was the first advertising manager of the El Centro Progress when it started as a weekly in 1912. Later he engaged in business for himself, establishing the Roy Moorman Company, dealing in tires, gasoline, oils



Lieut. Roy Moorman

and motor accessories on the corner of Fifth and State streets.

When the war came Mr. Moorman, although over the 30 year age limit, applied immediately for admission to the first officers' training camp established at the Presidio in San Francisco. He was admitted in August and received his commission as lieutenant in November in a class of 648 men. Out of that class two were ordered overseas immediately and he was one of the two. On his way east to embark he visited El Centro. Reaching France in February, 1918, he was assigned to the Saumer Training School where he won highest honors in the Emplacement Division. He won a recommendation for a captaincy which was pending when he died. He was attached to this school at the time of his death.

He was attacked by influenza which was followed by pneumonia and he died October 2, 1918.

In the little French town Lieutenant Moorman was beloved by every one, especially the children. The French authorities accorded him the highest honors, with a double firing squad and a complement of officers as pallbearers, at the time his remains were buried.

ROLAND W. BRADLEY

Roland W. Bradley, Eighth Aero Squadron, was a son of D. H. Bradley, of Holtville. He died in France from illness following an attack of influenza in the spring of 1919, and was buried at Toul with honors. His body was brought to California in 1921, and now rests in Los Angeles.

PAUL HOLDZKOM

Paul Holdzkom, of Imperial, who was killed in action and after whom the Imperial Post of the American Legion was named, rests at San Bernardino. A delegation of Imperial Legionnaires attended the funeral when his body was returned from France.

THOS. LAKE

Sergeant Thos. Lake of Calexico, 316 Engineers, was killed by a sniper in the Meuse-Argonne offensive. The Goree-Lake Post American Legion was named in his honor.

LIEUTENANT VARNELL

Lieutenant Varnell, of Holtville, was in the 115th Engineers and was killed in an automobile accident in France. He was formerly with Water Company No. 5.

ARTHUR M. NELSON

Arthur M. Nelson returned from the war as a sergeant after nineteen months' service. He could have claimed exemption at the time his number was called but refused. He saw service of the most strenuous sort in Argonne sector and finally had to go to the hospital where he spent a long time. Returning to the Valley in March, 1919, he resumed his work as County Development Agent. He became ill again and died in the Barlow Sanitarium May 30, 1920. Nelson was one of the most beloved characters of the war period in Imperial Valley's history. And before that he was a capable newspaper man. He inaugurated the Agricultural Assembly idea and did much promotion work. He was the first Commander of Boyce Aten Post of the American Legion.

When Paul Lauderdale returned to El Centro from France his wife was at the train to meet him but did not recognize him. He had kept from her the sad fact that he was blind. He was shot through the lungs and the shoulder and was gassed so that blindness ensued.

Dean Edwards, Co. D, 316 Engineers, was from Calexico. He was severely wounded in an airplane raid in the Argonne forest, September 18, 1918. He now lives in Los Angeles.

Roscoe N. Hulse, Co. D, 316 Engineers, was from Calexico. He was slightly gassed during the Argonne advance in September, 1918.

Lawrence Laughlin, of Holtville, died at home shortly after his return from France from ill health acquired in the service.

Thos. P. Humphries was killed in the Argonne Forest advance in the fall of 1918. His mother, Mrs. L. N. Humphries, resides in Calipatria.

James Reid, son of Mr. and Mrs. Rush Reid, of the Mesquite Lake district, died of illness contracted in service at the Arrowhead government hospital in June, 1922. He was severely gassed.

Ernest Loveland, of Brawley, Co. B, 364 Infantry, died October 4, 1918, of wounds received in action.

Harold Kennedy, of Brawley, won a lieutenancy in the army.

Harolde L. Sebille, of Brawley, volunteered for service in the Marine Corps, and served at Mare Island and Puget Sound. After discharge in 1920,

while attending law school in Los Angeles, he was killed in an automobile accident. He was a son of Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Sebille, of Brawley.

John M. Supler, of Brawley, Co. L, 364 Infantry, received the Croix de Guerre and a bronze star for gallantry in battle October 30, 1918, at Walreghem, Belgium. Although wounded he did not stop fighting until ordered from the field by his commanding officer.

James R. Laughrin, of Brawley, died the same day he was wounded during the Argonne Forest battle October 5, 1918.

Wheeler Boteler, of Calexico, was killed September 29, 1918, in the Argonne Forest, by a shell. He was in Co. A, 316 Engineers.

Lewis McPherson, of Imperial, 316 Engineers, got a bullet through the leg in the Argonne Forest fight September 29. He recovered from the wound but was unable to rejoin his regiment.

Corporal Jas. P. Kelly was killed in the Meuse-Argonne advance September 29, 1918. He was from Calipatria.

Ike W. Stephens was a mounted dispatch rider, carrying messages in dangerous territory when a shell killed him and his horse. His mother, Mrs. Elizabeth Stevens, and brothers now conduct the excellent service station at historic Coyote Wells. Young Stephens was awarded the Croix de Guerre, post humos.

Geo. Stahl is blind as a result of wounds received in action. He is now a resident of the coast.

Corporal William E. Wyeth, 316 Engineers. Wounded September 29.

Sergeant Daniel W. Johnson was awarded the Croix de Guerre.

Corporal Glenn W. McCune, of Seeley, was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross.

Corporal Jesse R. Atkins, of El Centro, received two citations for distinguished service.

Sergeant John Maddux, of Imperial, won the Distinguished Service Cross for gallant action.

If the reader discovers errors or omissions and will send the information to the publisher corrections and additions will be made in the second edition.—EDITOR HISTORY.

Clay Coe, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Coe, fought through nine days and nights in the Argonne forest without a scratch. Transferred to Belgium he was in a battle and was struck by shrapnel in the leg. He was carrying a message at the time and kept bravely on until he could hand the message to another. He was picked up by an ambulance but had to ride with his useless leg dangling from the driver's seat. He recovered after a long time in hospitals.

J. Verne Garland, rejected by Uncle Sam on account of a cast in his eye, went to Canada and became a member of the famous "Princess Pat" regiment. He was wounded by shrapnel in his arm in a drive on the Hindenburg line in March, 1918, but recovered. He returned to the Valley in March, 1919.

In May, 1919, the Woman's Ten Thousand Club held a tree-planting ceremony on their property at Sixth and Olive in El Centro. The trees are all memorials to the soldiers and sailors of the great war and were planted by the president, Mrs. F. B. Fuller, and the past presidents of the club during appropriate ceremonies.

D. S. C.

Fred S. Harder of El Centro came home a sergeant decorated with the Distinguished Service Cross because of his action in crossing open space under fire in the Argonne battle after all officers were casualties and giving information that kept his company from being wiped out. He was a sergeant.

Irwin McGrew, Clifford Finley, Wiley B. Nichols, James L. Little and Austin Patterson, all Valley boys who took part in the Meuse-Argonne offensive, were cited in general orders for exceptional conduct in action.

Edward A. Berneker, linotype operator on the El Centro Progress, signed his card "machinist-operator" and they put him in a machine gun suicide squad without delay. He reached the front lines before he even shot a machine gun and went over the top in Belgium twice, sustained for two weeks on raw turnips. He was one of 33 to get across a river when 125 started. Mr. Berneker is a brother of Mrs. O. B. Tout and is in the printing business in San Diego.

Everett M. Johnson lost a leg in the Argonne drive. He won a sergeant's rank. He was a brother of Mrs. W. G. Russell, of El Centro.

Rev. Geo. Hartman attained the rank of Lieutenant by service as a Chaplain in the war service.

Raymond Couch was another selective to attain the rank of Lieutenant by attention to duty and efficient study.

ALLIED WORLD WAR VETERANS

The first organization of any sort by ex-service men was that of the Allied World War Veterans.

An organizer appeared in El Centro in March, 1919, and a "Dugout" of the new organization was formed with Capt. P. L. Hedrick as temporary president and Harold Burt as temporary secretary. Paul Ragan was the first President. This organization was later merged with the American Legion.

D. S. C.

Al Niel, Valley printer, was made a corporal and received the Distinguished Service medal from his general because of the way he fought in September, 1918. He was in the tank corps. His tank was struck by a shell. After helping the wounded he dismounted the machine guns from the tank and kept up the fight. After the machine guns went out of commission he took his squad into the fight with rifles and hand grenades. Being without a command he joined an Australian unit and fought the rest of the battle with them. His citation was a treasure.

D. S. C.

George L. Stahl, sergeant in Company A, 316th U. S. engineers, received a Croix de Guerre from the French government for conspicuous bravery under fire. It was on October 13, 1918, that he was assisting in the construction of a bridge and assisting in the transportation of vital war equipment while under intense artillery fire. Several members of the corps were mentioned for their bravery.

Ellis Kirtley won a sergeant's rank in service with the Fourth Division.

Paul Dougherty, who tore up exemption papers secured by friends, saw service in the Fourth Division in the Marne, St. Mehiel and Argonne drives. He was in the army of occupation after the armistice.

BUTTON AWARDS

Arthur M. Steintorf, First Sergeant in a machine gun company, was wounded in the right ankle and received a silver Victory button at the hands of the Government.

Bronze buttons were given Daniel A. Maddox, El Centro; Tillman G. Babrey, El Centro; Otto J. Reuter, Brawley; Claude F. Hartzelle, Imperial; Ralph H. Hall, Holtville; Vincent M. Smale, Calexico; William A. Smale, Calexico; Royce B. Sofield, Calexico; John B. Wright, El Centro; Walter C. Golden, El Centro; Foster O. Bragg, Calexico; Vernon G. Monte, Brawley; Ewell Austin, James J. Sprouse, John S. DeVore, George E. Hargrove, all of El Centro; Aubrey A. Steeves, Calexico; William L. Carr, Calexico; Jay A. Griffith, Holtville; Henry A. Holmes, Imperial.

Sprouse, who was gassed in the Marne offensive, received a silver button.

Arthur Roberts and Lawrence C. Richards, El Centro; James M. Frost, George Bradshaw, both of Holtville; Michael B. O'Mara, Chester A. Donnelly and Julian Hatfield, all of Imperial. O'Mara, who was wounded by shrapnel in the throat and arm, received a silver button.

TAG DAY FOR ORPHANS

Saturday, May 31, was "tag day" at a dollar a tag for the benefit of French war orphans and the devastated areas of France. O. B. Tout was county chairman. The county's quota was \$3400. A volunteer force of Elks put the drive over quickly.

John Kepley, who was detailed with headquarters in France, came home a sergeant.

MEMORIAL AGAIN DISCUSSED

The suggestion that the county build a new court house as a memorial to the boys who fought did not meet with much approval. Rev. Walter Reed, pastor of the Baptist Church in El Centro, outlined, in a letter to the El Centro Progress, the gift of a club house where the men could always feel at home, meet each other and enjoy themselves.

A mass meeting was called for February 23, 1918, by twenty citizens to consider the memorial suggestion. The meeting unanimously approved the idea and appointed a committee to perfect an organization to bring about the construction of a clubhouse. The committee called a second public meeting which adopted bylaws providing for an organization to be known as "Service Men's Memorial Association." The by-laws were submitted by Rev. Walter Reed, J. L. Travers, E. J. Clark, M. O. King and P. L. Echols. The chairman, O. B. Tout, appointed a nominating committee. The idea of a memorial was again side-tracked by other matters for the time being.

C. W. Barry won his commission as Lieutenant in the Spruce Division in the northwest and returned. He was later elected Assessor-Collector of the Irrigation District. He died in office in 1930.

The Elks took hold of the Salvation Army drive in March and raised the county quota of \$1050 in one day, with a neat oversubscription of more than \$1500. The committee: County Chairman, O. B. Tout; El Centro, W. G. Russell; Imperial, Lester Eichold; Brawley, A. J. Kalin; Holtville, J. J. Bresnahan; Calexico, D. L. Ault.

Dr. Virgil McCombs was made Captain and given medical charge of 300 men in a Kansas training camp.

Geo. L. Righter, Lieutenant in charge of 300 men at Camp Funston. Returned to the High School faculty at El Centro.

H. H. Ozmun came home a sergeant. He served in the motor transport.

Corporal Glenn McCune was cited "for courageous and efficient performance of duty under fire."

BRITISH DECORATIONS

Marion Aten, brother of Lieutenant Boyce Aten, was turned down by the aviation corps but was admitted to the Royal Air Corps in Canada. He made such rapid progress that he was commissioned Lieutenant and was then "borrowed" by the United States to teach young aviators their stuff on the very fields where he was turned down. He also served in Russia and received three Distinguished Service Crosses from the British Government.

W. I. Stone was chairman for the drive for \$7200 for the relief of the Armenians. The campaign raised \$10,775 in one week in January, 1919.

Sergeants John Maddux and Leslie Bridenstein were cited for conspicuous bravery while conducting investigations under shell fire.

Phil D. Swing, now Congressman, arrived at Camp Taylor, November 2, 1918, to learn to be an officer. The first thing they did to him was to vaccinate. This made him ill and he was in the hospital until after the armistice.

Clarence B. Ferris, quartermaster in the navy, was presented with a navy victory medal by the Navy Department.

Arthur H. Vogel prized a strange award. He, an American doughboy, received an Italian merit ribbon for brave service done in Siberia in January, 1919. He ran a locomotive three times past a hidden band of bandits in order to draw their fire so they could be captured. The locomotive was riddled with rifle fire but Vogel escaped unhurt.

Thomas Lundholm fought in three battles and was gassed in the Meuse-Argonne advance so severely that he died January 27, 1919, after returning to his home in Imperial. He was awarded a Victory medal but it arrived after his death. His mother, Mrs. Ebba Pitts, prizes the medal very highly.

Sergeant Paul A. Thaanum, cited for efficient and courageous performance of duty under fire and in evacuating wounded from the field of battle in Meuse-Argonne advance September 29. Thaanum was shot in the arm but kept on duty until the next day when he was shot twice again and taken to the rear.

Claude F. Hartzell, cited for courageous performance of duty on night duty, liaison patrol, September 27, 1918, Meuse-Argonne.

James Crane was wounded September 27 in the Meuse-Argonne drive.

Corporal Wm. Wyeth received his wounds in the Meuse-Argonne advance September 29.

Sergeant Howard P. Fites was cited for efficient and courageous performance of duty under shell fire, September 27, 1918, Meuse-Argonne advance.

WESTERN DIVISION SAW ACTION

The Famous Ninety-First Division was the one in which most Valley selectives found themselves when they were ready to go to France from Camp Lewis. This division made a wonderful name for itself, taking strenuous part in the St. Mehiel offensive of September 12 and 13; the Meuse-Argonne offensive of September 26 to October 4; and the Ypres-Lys offensive of October 30 to November 11, 1918.

The total advances made by the division in the front lines were 34 kilometers; prisoners captured, 2412; pieces of artillery captured 33; machine guns captured, 471.

A large number of the 91st came home in April, 1919.

Just a year after the fierce battle of the Meuse-Argonne, Arthur M. Nelson wrote a resume of the experience that most Valley selectives went through in that drive. It follows:

"SEPTEMBER 26, 1918"

(By ARTHUR M. NELSON)

September 26, 1919.

Over the Napoleon highway that runs from Varennes to Verdun by way of Avocourt there is passing today, no doubt, the commonplace traffic of the French countryside—lumbering oxen, the peasant in his dogcart, the hayrack drawn by horses hitched in tandem.

But not a year ago this day—and several score Imperial Valley men add, with the confidence of eye-witnesses, a significant "I'll tell the world."

Nor was there any traffic over that road for three years or so before September 26th last year. It had fallen into weedy unpopularity. The chief reason for this was that the guns on either side of the valley it traversed pointed toward the center. The road stretched through the most stable and unfluctuating No Man's Land on the western front. It seemed an accepted view among the Allied chieftains that that particular strip, threading the hills from the Meuse to the Forest of Argonne, was going to stay in the geography as No Man's Land for the duration of the war. The defenses of the Boche, added to the difficulty of the terrain, the French military sharps said, made a general assault very inadvisable. In that sector the Boche was considered to hold an impregnable position.

But a year ago today some thousands of figures in o. d. from la Amerique swarmed across the old highway in successive waves and pushed N. M. I. many kilometers to the eastward, and restored the old road to traffic. A year ago tonight a regiment of mules from Missouri were using the road in an attempt to catch up with the infantrymen in the assault waves to furnish him his corned willie, also some "iron rations" for Jerry. A year ago this date the Meuse-Argonne offensive, the most gigantic mili-

tary operation in American history, was on. Also a lot of Imperial Valley men went over the top for the first time, and the experiences of the day are furnishing the material for many a reminiscence.

The 77th, 28th, 35th, 91st, 37th, 79th and 4th divisions were in the line at the jump off. In each of these divisions the Valley was represented, but the majority were in the 91st, or "Wild West" division, which trained at Camp Lewis, Washington. And likewise, while Valley men were to be found in every unit of the 91st, the greatest number were to be found in the 364th infantry. That regiment, though filled up with men from all states of the Union, drew its original personnel from Southern California. With the rest of the 91st division, the 364th infantry was in reserve at St. Mihiel and engaged in the Ypres-Lys offensive in Flanders as an element of King Albert's group of armies, but it was in the Argonne drive of a year ago of which they think the most. There its severest hardships were undergone, its bloodiest sacrifice made and its fighting efficiency established.

Before the start of the drive, the 91st men lay for several days and nights in the Bois de Hesse on the edge of No Man's Land. Their pup tents and rolling kitchens camouflaged with branches, the utmost secrecy observed, (except by drivers and sundry braying mules, which disregarded orders to maintain silence) guards posted to warn against prying Hun avions, the men were massed for a surprise attack. It has been said since that the enemy got wind of the preparations but the fact remains that his artillery trained their pieces on the villages in the rear of the line whereas he could have annihilated the dough-boys bunched-up in the woods almost on his front doorstep. The poor (but fortunate) intelligence work on the part of Jerry at that stage was in startling contrast with the remarkable and even uncanny observation experienced, at least by the 364th men, later on in the drive, when it seemed that no change in dispositions or movement of anybody sufficient to be considered a target could be made without drawing a very precise fire from his artillery.

Most of the night before the jump off was spent in hiking to the appointed place in line. This was difficult because of the congestion of the roads. Camions, artillery caissons, ammunition trucks, courier cars, supply wagons, all the vehicular equipment of a great army machine clogged up the roads, competing for space with the infantry. At one place four distinct columns occupied a road at once. Where an artillery piece was bogged, the mule skinnners sought to drown the voice of the guns which later in the night seemed to belch from every bush. The engineers were setting up their camouflage curtains along exposed stretches of the road, the guns just brought up were being placed and infantry getting set. Americans relieved the French who had held the first line.

The desultory exchange of artillery fire of the evening livened up near midnight but at 2:30 hell broke loose. From the light 75s set in close among the infantry near the front to the heavies far in the

rear along a front from Verdun to the Champagne, lead began to fly, the flare lighting the whole horizon, the blast thundering all else to silence. Overhead the singing swish and express train rush of the projectiles made a ceiling of lead.

"Oh, boy, I'm glad I'm not on the receiving end," said many a doughboy waiting for 5:30 a. m.—"H" hour of "D"—to come around.

When the hour for the jump off came it was just getting light and what there may have been of nervousness it was a very methodical movement, the "over the top." A screening fog helped the 364th men but when it lifted it disclosed to the German observers some elements held up by the French wire, which for all of the bombardment had not been destroyed. The casualties at point is one of the most grievous in the record of the regiment. Virtually sniped on by artillery and receiving enfilade fire from machine guns hidden in No Man's Land, as well as frontal fire, the waves made their way across the weed grown, shell pocked strip, across the stream on small bridges laid under fire and began working through the trench system on that side. The first prisoners taken by the 364th showed that they were bucking one of the crack Prussian Guard regiments. The lines made their way through the support and reserve trench systems, up ravines against the spray of strategically placed machine gun nests, through the Chepp and Very woods and when night had fallen,

the front line had been pushed beyond the town of Very, over seven kilometers with all the first day objectives gained and a lot of green soldiers no longer green but veterans. One battalion of the 364th remained on Cigalerie Butte as brigade reserve the first day, hiking forward through the night and leap-frogging into the front line position next day. For all of what they missed on the first day they caught up on the third, or the 28th, probably the most terrific day experienced by the 364th in its turn in the line. It was the day that two El Centro boys, Everett Johnson, formerly employed at the Harclerod garage, and Clarence Rice, formerly with Guy Urquhart, received wounds. They are still in the hospital. Johnson lost a leg and Rice has disabling wounds in each arm. Among the Valley boys of the 364th killed in the Argonne fighting were Ernest Loveland, Elmer A. Tye and Robie A. Shryer of Brawley. The regimental casualties for the action was 35 officers and 835 men. For conspicuous action, particularly in the reorganization of his company on the 28th of September, when no officers of his company were left, Fred J. Harder of El Centro, was awarded the D. S. C. Many Valley men were cited for bravery and exemplary conduct, in one company alone five being so recognized. Irwin McGrew of El Centro, Clifford Finley and Wiles B. Nichols of Brawley, James L. Little of Imperial and Austin Patterson of Calexico.

WHAT DID AMERICAN SOLDIERS DO OVER THERE?

No real description of the life of the American soldier in France could be written by other than one of the soldiers himself. Edward A. Perkiss, with an artillery outfit, wrote his father in El Centro, an account of his movements from the time he left camp until the war was over. This gives an excellent picture of the life of the average soldier so it is reproduced herewith:

U. S. A. Base Hospital, No. 13
Limoges, France, Nov. 22, 1918

Dear Dad:

Am going to join the crowd and write a letter home to "Dad." As you probably have read, the 24th of this month is "Dad's Christmas Letter" day, but as I have a good opportunity to write tonight will start mine a couple of days early. If I write of all my experiences and give a complete account of myself as we are advised to do in the "Stars and Stripes," I'll need a little "head start."

I am still in the hospital but am doing duty now, working in the registrar's office. Don't know how long I'll be here, but hope not for long for I want to get back to my battery. While being at the hospital is somewhat like a vacation, it does not amount to much when a man is broke.

This town is quite large, has a population of about 125,000 and the boys who have been around visiting it say it is a very pretty place.

I wonder if the folks at home had as much of a celebration over the signing of the armistice as we

did over here? The French surely had a time of it. Their celebration lasted three or four days. The streets of the town were simply packed, there were all kinds of parades and flags and speeches and everybody was very happy. There was great crowds of them marching through the hospital grounds all day long. There is one thing that I always notice when I see a French crowd and that is the almost total absence of men within the military age out of uniform. There are apparently very few slackers in this country.

I will begin from the time we left New York and give you a brief history up to the present time.

We left Camp Merritt on the 28th of June and marched eight miles to the Hudson river, where we took a ferry to the docks at Hoboken. There we embarked on the "Justicia," an English troop-ship. She was a very large ship, three funnels, the largest one of the British troop-ships. She was the leader of the convoy of thirteen boats. She carried about 7,000 men, all artillerymen and all replacement troops. There was a number of Canadian officers aboard, among them Marion Aten. I knew he was on board all the time, one of the boys saw him and talked to him, but I never was able to locate him during the whole trip. We were the first convoy out of New York after the U-boat raid on the Atlantic coast of last summer, so was the first that had an escort on the other side. We were escorted for about thirty-six hours by a number of destroyers and

two hydroplanes. After we got well away from the coast they turned back and then we were only accompanied by one cruiser until we were a couple of days off the Irish coast. We had a very uneventful trip, were not bothered much by U-boats, although they sighted a couple, but we were not fired upon. We were rather crowded, but spent most of our time on deck and that didn't matter much. We wore life preservers all of the time and had life-boat drill twice each day. We celebrated the Fourth in the middle of the Atlantic, and as it was a military celebration, the Declaration of Independence was read by the commanding officer. As the officer, rather apologetically stated, I thought, for the benefit of the Canadians and English aboard, it was necessary in compliance with the military regulations to read it. When we approached the Irish coast, two days off of it, we were met by a great escort of British destroyers, cruisers, battleships and hydroplanes. There must have been about twenty vessels in the escort. On account of the southern coast of Ireland being so dangerous because of U-boat and mines, we sailed clear around the north coast of Ireland and down the Irish sea to Liverpool, where we landed one morning about daylight on the eleventh day of our trip, I believe it was.

That evening we disembarked and marched through the streets of Liverpool about eight miles to a suburb of the same city, Knotty Ash, and encamped there. This was an American camp, but we were issued English rations which we decided there weren't enough to keep us alive which decision we subsequently learned from our experience with rationing with the British, was about right. At Knotty Ash the next morning we took the train for a ten-hour ride to an American camp at Romsey, where we stayed for about three days. I got leave from camp and spent several hours tramping about the country. I won't attempt to describe it, but it is indeed, a beautiful country. From Romsey we marched eight miles to Southampton, embarked there that evening and crossed the channel that night. This also was an uneventful trip. About two o'clock in the morning we tied up to the wharf at Havre France. The next morning we marched another eight miles to another English camp where we stayed two or three days. There we boarded a French train. If there is any method of riding more uncomfortable than in a French troop train, deliver me from it. The cars were nothing but box cars, just about the size of a hay wagon, into which was crowded thirty soldiers. There were no seats in them and there was actually not room in them for all of the men to lay down. We rode for two or three days—it seemed like a month—and finally landed at La Courtine. There was located one of the American artillery replacement camps. All the artillerymen sent over as replacement troops were sent to such a camp. Of course other branches of the service have similar replacement camps. Here they kept us three or four days, during which time we turned in most of the oversea's equipment we drew at Camp Merritt. The idea being that we should carry no superfluous equip-

ment to the front with us. One blanket, one uniform, no overcoat. We were issued a few new things, in the way of equipment, an oversea's cap and wrapper leggins. The last day we were in this camp we learned we were assigned to the First Division, that is, the company I was in. We were tickled to death that we were going in with the First for we knew it was the oldest division in point of service over here, besides being regulars, too. Believe me, I haven't regretted since being assigned to them. Quite the contrary.

From La Courtine we took another train ride of about the same duration to a town not far from the Soissons front, which we reached about the time the big drive at Soissons and Chateau Thierry ended. That was the latter part of July. It was the drive that started the Boche back from his advance on Paris. The First division was in this drive and the fellows at the time said it was by far the worst they had been in. The infantry suffered a great many casualties. C battery got off with about ten or twelve casualties, two of them being deaths. Here we joined our batteries as they were pulling off of the Soissons front on the 27th day of July.

The next day we spent on the march to another town, where we entrained the following morning. This was a comfortable ride compared with the others we had taken. Our battery had a whole train and there was plenty of room for the men in the cars. Of course, all of our horses, guns, caissons and other equipment was loaded on the train with us. We traveled all day and all night and the next morning unloaded at Toul. We camped along the side of a river near the city where we stayed about a week or ten days. This was supposed to be a rest camp, but as long as I've been in France there has been no such a thing as rest. There is work to do every day, including every Sunday and holiday. An outfit that has horses has no rest. We groom not less than two hours every day. Have groomed four horses in one day. Each man has only two horses, too. Then if we have any spare time we graze. Each driver leads his team to some unusually nearby place, where there is grass and hangs on to them while they eat. If we are encamped within observation of the enemy, we graze at night.

At Toul I got a twenty-four hour pass and the night I spent there in town Heinie chose for an air raid. Just after I had gone to bed, the alarm sounded and within a few minutes we could hear the planes. He dropped a few small bombs nearby, one landed about a block away but they all landed in the street and did very little damage. It is a peculiar sensation being in an air raid. You feel very uneasy, but usually all you can do is stick around and hope he misses you. I got used to dodging shells; in fact, got so I didn't pay any attention to them, unless, of course, they got to landing within a few yards, then I would hike double-time for the nearest shelter—dugout, trench, or shell hole, but whenever I heard the dreaded hum of the Boche bombing planes, I'll frankly say that I was scared.

We pulled out of Toul one evening about seven o'clock and hiked until two the next morning and encamped out of observation just behind a little village by the name of Martincourt on the Toul front. The next night after dark we pulled our battery up about two miles and relieved a French battery. This was an excellent position, concealed just within the edge of a woods. It was the only quiet sector our outfit ever was on. We had it pretty easy there for about fifteen days—in fact, never fired a shot. The French battery that held the position before us had been there three months and they never fired a shot from that position, either. While in that position, we were what they call a "reserve battery," to be used in case of an advance by the Germans. Here the weather was perfect. We had plenty of rest, good sleeping quarters in dugouts and lots of chow. We all donated ten Francs to a mess fund and while we were there had lots of extras, such as hotcakes, fruit, milk, pie, etc. It was rather peculiar, the only place where we had good protection from the enemy shellfire was on a sector where he didn't shell us. On all of the other fronts that I have been on, we had no protection at all, further than a shell hole or an abandoned trench. Of course, this is accounted for by the fact that this was a sector that was being held, neither side trying to pull off a drive, while the other fronts were where the advances were made.

After we were relieved from this sector, we traveled for two or three days and finally landed in a big woods about six miles from Beaumont on the St. Mihiel front. Here was concentrated several American divisions. I don't know just how many. They were there in preparation for the drive on that front, which, as you know started the morning of the 12th of September. We were in this wood all of September preceding the 12th and a few days of the latter part of August, about fifteen days. We slept in holes covered by our pup tents, the holes being for protection in case of bombing. It rained almost every day while we were there and the mud was something fierce. Imperial Valley mud had nothing on this. We had to wade through it twice every day with our horses for a mile and a half each way, to water. This was through a narrow path through the woods all of the way, too, to keep out of observation. You can imagine what kind of a path it was with thousands of horses going over it every day. It got to be a regular ditch, so slippery you could hardly stand. We weren't allowed to ride on account of the horses slipping and falling so often. There were so many outfits leading their animals to water over this road that there was a line of horses either coming or going, for the whole length of the road all day long. I believe this was the hardest, most disagreeable time have had since I've been over here.

During our encampment at this place, details were sent out each night to the front to work on the battery position. We would leave after dark and all of the work would be done at night and we would leave about four o'clock in the morning. Heinie would send several shells over at us each night but never hit any of us. I don't believe he had our po-

sition located, for it was pretty well camouflaged during the day and, of course, he couldn't see anything at night. We finally got our position finished and lots of ammunition hauled the day before the drive was scheduled to be pulled off. The firing battery, that is, the men who operate the guns, went to the position the night of the 11th of September, and the combat train followed about two in the morning. The combat train is made up of ten caissons to each battery. I'll never forget the night we pulled out, or rather morning. We had to strike tents, harness and hitch our teams in the pitch dark in a pouring rain. The mud was something fierce. I don't see how we ever did it, but we finally got out in time. We could hear the barrage. It had started at 1 the same morning and while we were going up to the position we passed a great many big naval guns, that were in position along the road firing on Montsac. Montsac is a hill the French tried to take a number of times and failed with great losses. I don't know where these big guns came from. They weren't in position early the previous evening, for we passed along the same road and I don't see how they got them in position so soon for they were immense affairs—ten and twelve-inch guns, that had to be moved on railroad cars, but there they were blazing away at Montsac, and we were able to observe the effect of their fire too. We could see the shot fired and also see it burst. Believe me they were putting them all right into the hill, too. About sun-up we arrived at the battery position, which was in an open field with no place for us to conceal ourselves from the enemy observation or from his fire, either. We were expecting him to start shelling us any minute, but he didn't drop one around us. He was too busy getting out of the way of our barrage, I guess. About eight o'clock that morning we got orders to advance, so we pulled forward about five miles and took up a new position. It was while going to this position that I saw for the first time wounded and dead soldiers. Here we met wounded walking and in ambulances and being carried on litters by German prisoners. All along the road columns of prisoners passed us on their way to the rear. The battery did not stay in the second position. The Germans were soon out of range again, so we moved up to a new position the same evening. This time we advanced about ten miles. By the time the battery got to this position, our third one in one day, Heinie was still out of range. However, we stayed in position that night and the next day without firing and then pulled back a ways and camped in a woods. This woods was filled with dugouts and buildings that had been used by the Germans before we drove them out. By the looks of these buildings and dugouts, he evidently intended to hold them for a long time. Everything was built to stay. Some of the officers' quarters had electric lights, carpets and fine furniture. In a woods nearby there was a sort of amusement center, theatre, a pool hall and a number of bowling alleys. They had lots of gardens and chickens and cows. They evidently believed in making the best of it.

We stayed in this woods, in reserve, for about a week during which time every night promptly at 9:30 a Boche bombing squadron would sail over the woods and let us have a bunch of bombs. He dropped some so close we could feel the earth jar when they hit, but no one in our outfit was hit. There were a number of anti-aircraft batteries near and they would get their lights on them and fire away, sometimes causing them to change their course and go to a higher altitude, but I never saw them bring one down.

It was about the last week of September that we left these woods and the balance of the time we spent on the hike to the Verdun front, Argonne sector. Of course, you know about the Argonne Forest, where we had such tough fighting during this last big drive—the one that ended the war. Well, we were right in the thick of it. We went into position the first day of October and when I left the battery, the last day of October, they were still in the lines and they had not been relieved, either. As a matter of fact, all the artillery of the First division was in the lines in position from the first of October until the armistice was signed without relief. It was pretty hard on us but it shows what we can do when we have to. The infantry got about a week's relief about the middle of October, but the artillery stuck it out.

While the battery was in their first position we suffered no casualties, but we had horses shot and a lot of narrow squeaks—this while hauling ammunition. The second or third day of the drive, we advanced to our second position. Here the battery was in a little valley partially concealed by a woods between them and the enemy. The combat train was stationed about a half-mile to the right of the battery at the edge of another little woods. The combat train got stationed at this place late that night and we spread our rolls out on the ground. Didn't attempt to dig any shelter, as it was so late. We were sorry we hadn't dug in before morning for before long Fritz began to drop them close, close enough so they threw dirt on us. However, we stuck it out until morning and luckily no one was hit. The next morning about eleven o'clock we took our teams to water along a road that passed right by the battery position. Just about the time the middle of the column got opposite the battery, Heinie started shelling the battery and he had the right data, too, for he killed one of our lieutenants and one private, seriously wounded our captain, besides wounding several men and killing several of our horses as we were passing by. Miracles do happen. There were two of our men who were riding their horses and both had their mounts shot out from under them, simply blown into a dozen pieces. I saw pieces of horses and harness flying for forty yards, and neither of these men were scratched. Both of them covered with blood from head to foot from horses, but beyond being scared, they were not hurt at all.

A couple of days later we moved forward again, just a short way this time, as Heinie was putting up

a stiff fight. He had good positions and a great number of machine guns. Here it was a case of the infantry advancing by foot and fighting every foot. There was a number of hills that they had to take, too. A few days later we moved to our third position, three miles forward. While the combat train was going to this position, we had a great adventure. The messenger, from the battery, got balled up on the roads or misunderstood his instructions, for he took us about four miles too far ahead. We were supposed to go to a place near Exermont but we got off the road and went around Exermont and stopped at Fleville, a town that was then between the third and second line trenches, almost on top of the Germans. We stopped on the edge of this town on the road under a hill and so had pretty fair protection from shells Heinie was dropping in the town. We stayed there until daylight until some Doughboys came along and told us we were in the front lines so we turned around and beat it out of there. It was then that Heinie observed us for he started to shell us in earnest, was dropping them all around the road. On top of all this, my caisson got stuck in a shell hole and in trying to pull out we broke the pole. Well, we had to unhook, cut a pole from a tree, fit it in the limber. We were in so deep we had to unload before we could pull out. Believe me, that was some experience. However, by some miracle we got away without getting hurt. The rest of the day we spent hauling shells from the old position through Exermont to the new position. We had to pull through Exermont each time on a gallop because they were shelling this town all of the time. This was, I think, the hardest and most dangerous day I spent. We were on the go all the night before, all that day, and half of the following night without any rest or any eats.

While we were in this position we were one of about fifty batteries that were alongside of a hill, strung along side by side nearly two miles. It was a great position, the hill gave good protection from the enemy fire and there was only a very few casualties in any of the batteries in this location. We stayed in this position for about ten days until we moved forward again about five miles. I don't know much about what happened in that position for I was sick and unable to do duty so didn't go to the position when they hauled ammunition.

Finally I got to feeling so rotten that I reported to the first aid station near where we were camped and they sent me in an ambulance to a field hospital about four or five miles behind us. Here I stayed three days, during which time I dodged my last shell, I think. While we were lined up for mess near the kitchen of this hospital, Heinie sent over three or four big ones, one of them landing not ten feet from where I was standing. It landed in the mud and went so deep into the ground before it burst that there were no fragments flying around, consequently no one was hurt. From there I was sent back again to another field hospital and stayed there about a week. Here I met two Imperial Valley boys—Trust George and Owen Chick. They were both in the

field hospital company. They took us here in trucks about forty miles back of the Evacuation hospital and from there we came by rail in an American Red Cross hospital train to this base hospital.

I am feeling pretty good now and won't be here much longer, I think. I have no idea as to when I will be home. Give my love to mother, and both of you write often.

Lovingly

EDWARD PERKISS.

VICTORY LOAN

The Victory Loan of \$5,000,000,000 was called in May, 1919. "The last battle of the great war," by those who engaged in it. The county's quota was \$1,127,000. John E. Davis was county chairman. A. C. Johnston handled the publicity. C. L. Childers was head of the speakers' bureau. The workers had to overcome the idea that the war being over there was no further need to buy bonds. In all the towns various methods were used to arouse buying interest. In El Centro the Elks appointed a committee of 120, took hold of the campaign and sold enough bonds to put the county seat over the top with a percentage of 120. The Ten Thousand Club and Fire Department went right on in order to get the county's quota.

The Victory loan went over May 11 with a bang. All the county celebrated at El Centro with the El Centro Fire Department as hosts. Jos. F. Seymour was chairman of a program that was a pean of exultation for the one remaining task of the war was done.

Chairman John Davis issued a reviewing statement that should have a place in this history. It follows:

"In reviewing the campaign it is a pleasure to note the men and women of the community represented in the several drives through the untiring endeavor of the same people who are from time to time noted as taking active part in other affairs of the community and the nation. I think it well at this time that special mention be given to M. O. King, who has by his untiring effort and continual devotion to successive campaigns made them the success they have been. O. G. Horne, acting campaign manager, has given unselfishly of his time and energy in making the record of Imperial county what it is today.

"Once again I call your attention to the untiring devotion and steadfast manner in which Joe Seymour has at all times showed himself to be a good leader and a fine organizer. A great deal of the success of this and past campaigns has been due to Joe Seymour.

"You all realize that the handling of vast sums of money and thousands of subscriptions, all of which must be recorded both in this office and at the different banks, which must have a complete and accurate record, requires considerable detail and much hard work. All of the office work of the El Centro district for the several successful campaigns has been handled by Mrs. Harry S. Owen. This community owes a great deal to Mrs. Owen for the unselfish

manner and untiring devotion she has given to this work.

"In reviewing the work in the various communities in the past, it is with a great deal of appreciation that I refer you to the magnificent manner in which the women of the community have responded in all of these campaigns. The Women's Ten Thousand Club and the women as a whole have taken a very active part in soliciting for the various funds.

"In the third campaign Mrs. Wiley M. Weaver very ably marshalled the women as chairman of the women's county committee. In the fourth Mrs. Dan V. Noland made a magnificent record in handling the women's part. In this campaign the honors have fallen to Mrs. Harry Krotz of Calexico, with Mrs. Paul Black as chairman of the women's committee of El Centro. The magnificent results we are herewith presenting speak plainer than any description I can give you as to the success of the women's part in this campaign.

"If there is one fact that stands out very prominently that the people of this community and the country as a whole should never forget it is that since that memorable day of April 6, 1917, when the United States declared war on our foreign enemy that we have depended on the press of the country for all of our encouragement. You all remember how eagerly we devoured the daily bulletins posted in our own community during many of the dark hours of not quite a year ago.

"It was the press that brought the good tidings of the signing of the armistice, it has been the press which has enabled us to keep in touch with the great questions now being settled by the peace congress. And as it was with those matters so it has been in all the campaigns in which we have been called to take part to help our government. The educational part of the work has been left to the newspapers.

"At this point I want to particularly commend the unselfish manner in which the newspapers of our community have fathered these various movements. They have contributed thousands of dollars worth of space in the papers which we could not have the use of otherwise. The boys working on these papers and the editors have given of their time both in an editorial manner and as solicitors on the committee, and they have been a big factor in making the loans successful.

"Otis B. Tout, editor of the Progress, has surely been some war worker since the time we first declared war. He has served on many committees and they have always been a success, and we never had an article too big for him to donate space in his newspaper. M. D. Davis of the Press has also been very energetic in his support of all these campaigns.

"We could mention many others who have taken part in these campaigns, but space is too limited to mention all. The four minute men have done a world of good in educating the public as to the needs of our government and all of our good citizens have had some part in this great work. The Metropolitan Life Insurance Company has donated their full force in the soliciting of funds. The banks of our com-



ARTHUR M. NELSON
First Commander of Boyce Aten Post



DR. NORMAN E. DUPONT
Present Commander Boyce Aten Post, American Legion

munity have been more than patriotic as they have had a great burden to carry, both as to financing and in taking care of the tremendous amount of work that these loans entailed.

"In the three past drives, when we were somewhat discouraged, the fire boys of El Centro came along and put us over the top, and would have done it this time had they not combined their forces with the Elks and thereby made it unnecessary for any more soliciting. The Boy Scouts deserve mention, too, for they gave an earnestness and enthusiasm which were not surpassed by any.

"In the campaign just closing I have had the honor and the privilege to represent you both as chairman of the El Centro district and as chairman of your county organization. At this time I particularly want to call your attention to the fine cooperation and harmonious manner in which Dan Leonard of Calexico, Judge Griffin of Holtville, L. J. Thomas of Imperial, Major Dunn of Brawley, Victor Sterling of Calipatria and C. H. Connett of Seeley have worked with your campaign committee.

"During the campaign about to close and those of the past with which I have had the privilege to be connected, there have been at times many vexing problems to solve and handle. With a large number of committeemen to discuss various matters, the differences of opinion that are bound to arise in matters of this character, there have at times been statements made and reports circulated that did not exactly represent facts.

"Undoubtedly these conditions were not due to the desire of anyone to misrepresent conditions, but the result of over-enthusiasm in our zeal to obtain the result we were after, through the manner in which the government had asked us to get it, namely:

"It was the duty of your committee to convince you as citizens of this community that it was your

duty as American citizens to buy these bonds, and it was up to your committee to see that you did buy them. In carrying out our campaigns we have attempted to keep within the law, to violate none of the sacred rights to which every American citizen is entitled, and to extend courtesy to every one in our community.

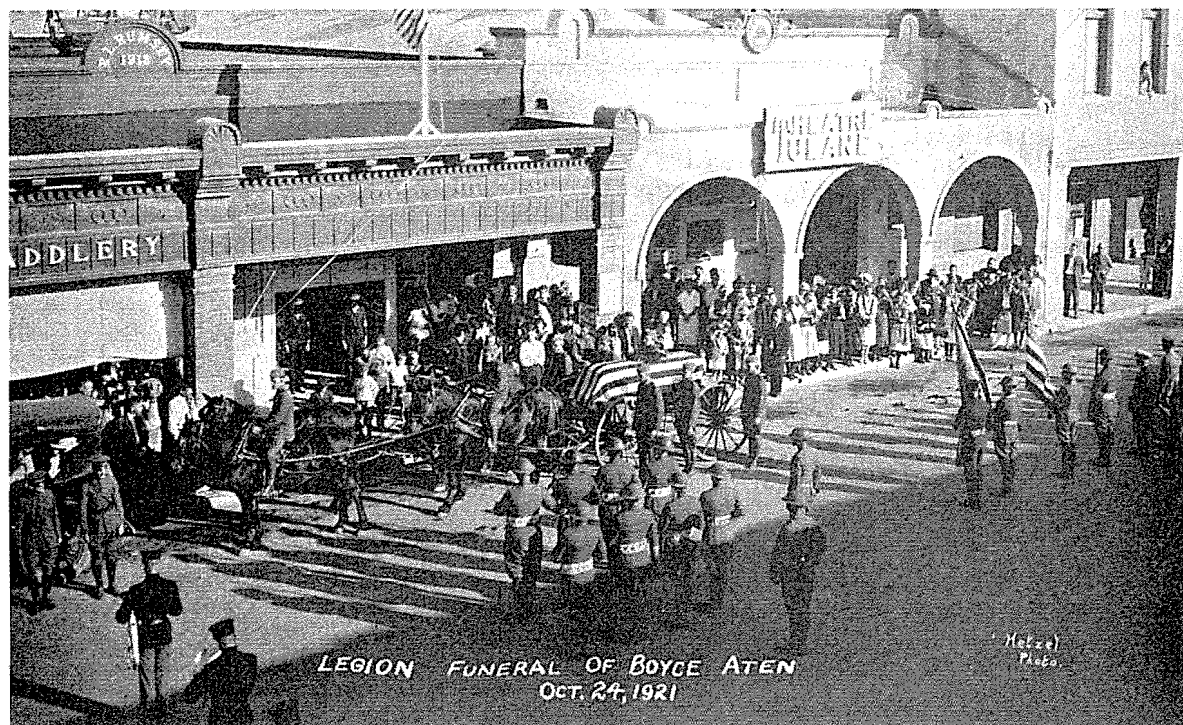
"If, in consummation of our purpose, we have seemed to unduly criticize or in any other manner may have hurt anybody's feelings, I take this opportunity to assure you that we have not intentionally criticised anyone where we did not think criticism was due, but I assure you that if there has at any time been any mistakes, made by your committeemen, these mistakes were those of the head and not of the heart.

"And now, in conclusion, I want to say, as chairman of your campaign committee, that we review the results of the five bond drives in this district and in Imperial county with a great deal of pride. I hereby extend to you our sincere thanks and appreciation for the magnificent manner in which you have always responded."

THE AMERICAN LEGION

After more than fifty different organizations had started among returned soldiers and sailors the matter of a central organization similar to the Grand Army of the Republic was worked out by Col. Theodore Roosevelt Jr., and 1000 other national military leaders in Paris in March, 1919. The result of this action was the organization of the American Legion in America in May, and an invitation for all other organizations to abandon their efforts and join the one big order.

The American Legion was announced as a non-partisan, non-political organization; a civilian body making no distinctions of rank and no distinction



The Funeral of Lieut. Boyce Aten, conducted by the American Legion, was one of the Most Impressive Events in El Centro's History

between men who served overseas and those who served at home. The movement spread like wildfire all over America.

BOYCE ATEN POST NO. 25 AMERICAN LEGION

A call was issued July 8 by forty Imperial Valley veterans for an organization at El Centro July 10. This call was signed by Paul Ragan, J. B. Wright, Harry James, H. A. F. Thenberg, J. A. Kirk, Wiley M. Weaver, Jr., M. J. Gearing, Paul V. Allen, E. A. Berneker, Miles B. Lancaster, Jos P. Hertel, J. F. Hallawell, Kenneth Hallawell, W. S. Cowling, Gordon W. Braley, Edwin A. Wells, Henry L. Burris, C. B. Echols, W. B. Smith, Arthur M. Nelson, John Machado, Frank Frey, Clifford P. Finley, Frank T. de Aman, Zack T. Grigsby, George L. Campbell, Robert W. Jones, John S. Taylor, Archie H. Slider, Wm. Armour, J. E. Smith, R. G. Smith, W. B. Nichols, R. G. Chamberlain, Vernon G. Monte, H. P. Fites, G. A. Calvi, John Supler and Gilbert Haney.

At the July 10 meeting Arthur M. Nelson was made temporary chairman and Jos. P. Hertel temporary secretary. A committee was appointed to draw a set of governing articles. The organization took place July 31, with the following officers who served until the regular election date in the fall:

Arthur M. Nelson, chairman; Paul Ragan, vice chairman; Joseph P. Hertel, secretary, and John D. Perry, treasurer. These, with John M. Kepley, C. W. Barry, Wiley Weaver, Jr., C. C. Brewer and

George Banta, constituted the executive committee.

El Centro Post No. 25 received its charter from the National organization August 27, 1919.

The first official action of the new post was to endorse the Kettner bill providing for the reclamation of mesa lands for entry exclusively by ex-service men. Plans for the first Armistice Day celebration were carefully laid.

The name of the El Centro Post was changed to "Boyce Aten Post" soon after organization in honor of lieutenant Boyce Aten, who was killed in action.

The activities of the American Legion since organization have been manifold. Its membership has stood for the finest in American citizenship, and the association between members is growing closer every day.

Here are the Commanders of Boyce Aten Post since organization:

Arthur M. Nelson, Vaughn N. Thompson, John M. Kepley, C. Edw. Anderson, Pike Dyer, Geo. Hartman (two terms), Rube Ellis, Hugh Osborne, Patrick Thaanum, Ed. Law, Col. Phillips, Sterling Oswalt, Dr. Norman E. Dupont.

Boyce Aten Post is preparing to enjoy the fine War Veterans Memorial building built this year, 1931, adjacent to the court house in El Centro.

AUXILIARY

The Women's Auxiliary was organized December 18, 1925, in El Centro with Mrs. Marian Osborne as first president. Succeeding Mrs. Osborne: Mrs. Belle Hovey, Mrs. Edith Cameron, Mrs. Florence Conger, Mrs. Charlotte Ellis, Mrs. Marcia Ferrell,

and Mrs. Genevieve Kenyon. The Auxiliary has 83 members.

GOREE-LAKE POST, AMERICAN LEGION

On October 4, 1919, the Goree-Lake Society of World War Veterans decided to change the chapter to a post of the American Legion and so voted. The Goree-Lake Post had a membership then of forty-five. At the present time the membership is 75. Lieut. Roger C. Goree was killed during airplane inspection work November 21, 1918. Tom Lake was killed in action in Meuse-Argonne, Sept. 29, 1918. The Calexico post was named after these soldiers.

The Calexico Recreation Center and swimming pool was built in 1922 at a cost of \$2500 and was sponsored and operated by Goree-Lake Post.

The Commanders: T. J. Worthington, Dr. Ellis, Frank Czarrowski, G. W. Stevens, Karl Edmunds, Wm. Parcells, C. S. Anderson, K. Harrington, W. P. Cockey, Wm. Hems, G. W. Stevens, M. H. Huey, Edward Perkiss, A. L. Herzog.

PAUL HOLDZKOM POST NO. 107

August 12 the initial organization of the Imperial Post, American Legion, took place with the following temporary officers:

Chairman, Joseph F. Hallawell; secretary, Otto Bates; executive committeemen, Dr. G. L. Harris, W. M. Smith and T. L. Lundholm.

The Post was named Paul R. Holdzkom Post in honor of Paul R. Holdzkom who died in the service. He was a member of the 91st Division, 363rd machine gun battalion and fell in the Argonne Forest October 2, 1918.

The Post received its charter in October, 1919. The Commanders who have guided the destinies of this post were: F. J. Hallawell, Otto Bates, Paul Jones, W. B. Smith, Henry M. Austin, Jack Ansell, E. J. McChristy, D. V. Stewart, Thaddeus McCall, Geo. K. Ross, Charles Ferrell and J. W. Allen.

Ex-Commander Austin died April 28, 1921, from trouble acquired in the service. Imperial is nicely equipped with a memorial hall where its activities are centered.

AUXILIARY

The Auxiliary was organized October 13, 1922, and at the present time has 38 members. The past presidents are: Mrs. Cora Smith, Mrs. Cleva Hallawell, Mrs. St. Laurent, two terms, Mrs. Mattie Stewart, Mrs. Anna Ross, Mrs. Carrie Townsend, Mrs. Hallie Mae McChristy and, at the present, Mrs. Laura Webb.

ROLAND W. BRADLEY POST NO. 138

At the call of D. B. Roberts Holtville ex-service men got together October 11, 1919, and formed the Holtville Post, American Legion. The temporary officers were: Chairman, D. B. Roberts; vice chairman, H. M. Austin; secretary, J. G. Hall; treasurer, S. E. Shaw; executive committee, H. C. Chaney, John Rankin, Charles Gillett, E. E. Harden, and B. N. Armstrong.

The Post was named in honor of Roland W. Bradley, who died from wounds received in action.

The Commanders since organization: D. B. Roberts, three terms; J. G. Hall, Earl Pierre, T. J. McDonald, Pete Ryerson, Martin Munson, S. E. Shaw, Fererabend, Marvin Jernigan, Dr. John D. Keye.

The Post enjoys a membership of 72.

AUXILIARY

The Auxiliary was organized soon after the Post came into existence. The presidents since organization: Mrs. D. B. Roberts, Mrs. Pete Ryerson, Mrs. Bill Lott, Mrs. Walter Reynolds, Mrs. H. J. Miller, Mrs. Martin Munson, Mrs. Lawrence Richards, and Mrs. W. E. Potts. The organization has 26 members.

BRAWLEY POST NO 60

August 7, 1919, a number of ex-service men in the Brawley district formed a temporary organization for the Brawley Post, American Legion. The temporary officers and executive committee were:

Howard P. Fites, chairman; Y. H. Poe, vice chairman; William S. Cowling, secretary, and Carl Jacobson, treasurer. With Clifford Finley, Ernest Edwards, Zack Grigsby, George Campbell and George Gaylord, these formed the executive committee.

The charter list was signed by thirty men. It now has a membership of 175. The official name is Brawley Post No. 60, American Legion. Following are the names of the commanders who have served since 1919: Perry Hedrick, Chas. Nice, Dewey Cary, S. D. Carey, I. J. Wells, H. Durrar, V. G. Monte, L. I. Dungan, C. A. Jacobson, W. J. Anderson, L. E. Adams, W. B. Nichols.

AUXILIARY

The Brawley Auxiliary of the American Legion was organized in 1923 with Mrs. H. P. Wilke as president. Mrs. Wilke served a second term and was succeeded by Mrs. R. D. Wells, Mrs. Maurice Griffin, Mrs. Harry Gates, Miss Mae Juvenal, Mrs. J. G. Wier and Mrs. L. R. Dungan.

WESTMORLAND POST NO. 173

The ex-service men in the neighborhood of Westmorland organized Post No. 173 in 1926 and have been carrying on good work for the past six years. The Commanders: Ernest Edwards, Frank Davis, Glenn Killingsworth, Theodore W. Cox and Ray Gilmore. There are 28 members.

WESTMORLAND AUXILIARY

The Westmorland Auxiliary received its charter this year, 1931.

Mrs. Ted Cox is the president. The Auxiliary has 17 members.

CALIPATRIA POST NO. 135

The Calipatria Post was organized in January, 1920. The Post has enjoyed a complete club home with accommodations for the Auxiliary since 1926. The Commanders since organization:

Dr. L. L. Lindsey, Ira B. Erichsen, Elmer W. Heald, L. P. Moorehead, Harry Tschettepe, Al C. Waibel, Jr., Dr. F. F. Malone, Ed. H. Erichsen, W. W. Smith, H. H. Myers, L. W. Eddins, Elbert L. Mead.

AUXILIARY

The women organized the Calipatria Auxiliary to the American Legion in March, 1921. The presidents since then: Mesdames L. L. Lindsey, Tusnela Erichsen, Julia W. Donahue, Helene Heald, Mary R. Smith, Gladys Eddens, Rose Wert, Julia J. Riley, Berne Wilkinson, Grace Ware.

INTER-POST COUNCIL

In December, 1920, representatives of several of the Valley Posts started the movement that resulted in the organization of the Imperial Valley Inter-Post Council. Those who attended the first meeting were T. J. Worthington, C. C. Cockley, D. B. Roberts, John L. Stevenson, Vaughn Thompson, C. E. Anderson and P. L. Hedrick.

The following have been Commanders of the Council: P. L. Hedrick, T. J. Worthington, C. E. Nice, E. W. Heald (two terms), V. N. Thompson (two terms), Geo. H. Ross, P. A. Thaanum, D. H. Wolford and G. W. Stevens.

In the latter part of 1920, Mr. T. W. McDevitt, a promoter of real estate selling projects, entered the Imperial Valley and obtained conditional options for the purchase of the Tamarack Ranch and other smaller acreages, for the purpose of subdividing and selling land units to disabled veterans of the World War, upon long term contracts, as part of the plan of rehabilitation of veterans with which the United States government was then confronted. In 1921 and early 1922 upwards of one hundred disabled veterans, some with families, were placed upon the units, in conformity with the plan of Mr. McDevitt, and with the tentative approval of the government authorities.

During 1922 a committee was selected and appointed by the Interpost Council of the American Legion, and the American Legion, Department of California, to act as a joint committee with others representing the Spanish-American War Veterans and other veterans' organizations, for the purpose of thoroughly investigating the feasibility of the plan, and whether or not it was one which would prove to be practical and of real benefit to the disabled veterans.

After several months of investigation by this joint committee it came to the conclusion that the plan was not practical, and would not work to the advantage of the veterans. A report to this effect was made to the United States government and the state officials of the veterans' organizations; whereupon the project was abandoned, and the disabled veterans gradually withdrawn from the lands.

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS
BORDER POST NO. 1637

Organized March 2, 1929.

Commander, H. F. Shepherd; Senior Vice-Commander, Wm. Hems; Junior Vice-Commander, H. L. Walker; Quartermaster, Wm. Howard; Adjutant, Jack Keep.

Eighteen charter members admitted at first meeting.

Present membership, 129.

H. F. Shepherd served as Commander during 1929 and 1930.

Present post officers: Commander, H. L. Walker; Senior Vice-Commander, E. M. Johnson; Junior Vice-Commander, Roy Bragdon; Quartermaster, Frank Raab; Adjutant, John McEwan; Officer of the Day, Herbert Hadley.

During this year the Post has leased the old Rockwood Irrigation Headquarters Building for a period of ten years, to be used as a meeting place for the veterans.

Auxiliary organized in the spring of 1930.

Mrs. Helen Simpkinson was the first President and is the present holder of that chair.

DISABLED VETERANS WORLD WAR NO. 31

The order was organized March, 1929. P. A. Thaanum, of El Centro, was the first Commander. Harry Koehler, of Brawley, is the present Commander. H. A. Conger, of Imperial, has been First Adjutant and Treasurer since organization. There are twenty-six members at the present time.

Capt. T. J. Worthington was First Vice-Commander, under Buron Fitts when the latter was Division Commander of the American Legion. He was delegate to the 11th District Executive Board for two years also and a member of the conference with Secretary Fall in San Diego.

Walter Kibbey was named by Governor Stephens as a member of the State Welfare Board in 1921 to handle such relief measures as were passed by the State legislature.

POLITICAL CLUB

In 1921 an organization was formed to enable ex-service men to participate in political matters outside the American Legion. It was the Veterans of All American Wars. The Imperial Valley branch of this organization was officered at the start by:

Chairman, D. B. Roberts, Holtville.

First Vice-Chairman, E. P. Clampitt, Imperial.

Second Vice-Chairman, W. N. Parcels, Calexico.

Secretary and Treasurer, Cal Moosau, El Centro.

Sergeant-at-Arms, More Reed, Calexico.

County central committee: Franklin J. Cole, H. L. Welch, Vaughn Thompson, C. E. Pielt, T. J. Worthington, Leslie Reed, George Earl, J. Tyler, A. J. Ansell, Carl Bridenstein, S. C. Kendrick and Charles Morgan.

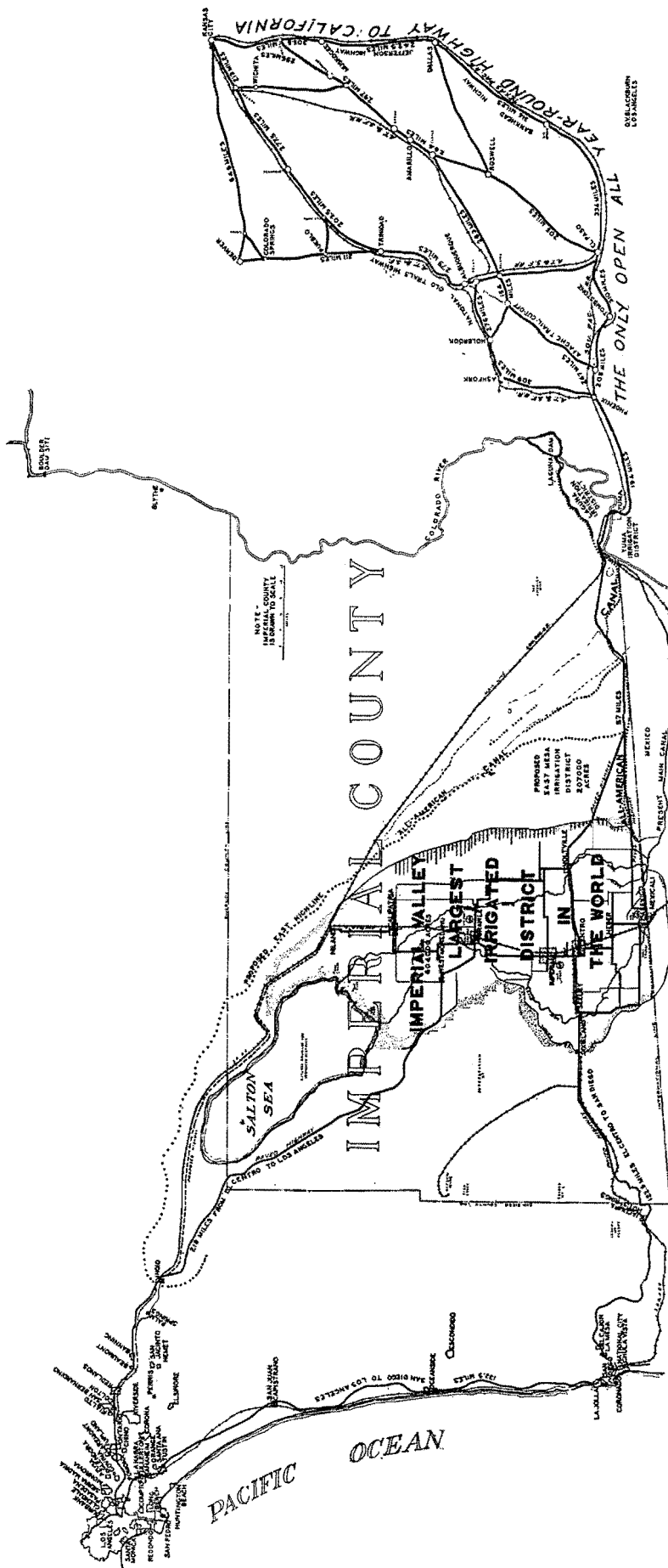
THE FORTY-AND-EIGHT

The Imperial County chapter of the Forty-and-Eight was organized in 1923 and has the reputation of being about the liveliest organization of its kind in the entire west. It is the playground of the American Legion, and Imperial Valley members put on great programs.

Following are the "Chef de Gares" who have headed the 40 and 8:

Chas. Nice (two years), Chas. W. Barry, P. A. Thaanum (two years), Kieth Harrington, L. T. Morehead, A. E. Kellogg, Walter Reynolds, Dr. O. H. Van Eman.

AN ERA OF CONCRETE



Imperial County since the war has been the beneficiary of the great "era of concrete" which is but a word symbol of the vast mileage added to the paved highways of the west since 1917. Here was an agricultural district producing vast tonnage that required quick access to market; it was the home of a people that required frequent, easy access to the coastal regions. The thousands of motorists in the east eagerly awaited the time when they could travel by auto to California at any time of the year.

The map on this page shows that during the years since the war paved highways have drawn Imperial Valley close to the vast markets of Los Angeles and San Diego. Over these highways a continuous stream of trucks add to the trainloads of produce carried from the producer to the consumer. It is now but an hour to the mountain resort of Jacumba on the San Diego highway and but three easy hours to San Diego. Hundreds make the trip of 218 miles to Los Angeles by auto in half a day.

With the construction of the highway to Yuma by the state the southern route became immediately popular with west bound motorists. By actual count this traffic through Imperial Valley during the first seven months of 1931 amounted to 48,829 cars, far more than one-half the total of the 82,538 cars that entered California through the four southern gateways.

The map shows Imperial Valley's relation, geographically, with the Los Angeles and San Diego areas and the roads that connect directly with the east.

Truly the past thirteen years have been "a concrete era."

CHAPTER XXII

IMPERIAL COUNTY SINCE THE WAR

RESUMING an even tenor of existence after such a hectic period as the war furnished was not any easier for Imperial Valley's 45,000 population than it was for the lads who came back from France with the excitement that the world's great conflict put into their veins. But stern necessity is a great commander. The cows had to be milked, the crops had to be planted and harvested, the water had to be kept coming from the Colorado and the babies all had to have shoes, so it was not long before the pastoral routine of this great agricultural region was again the order of the day.

The people looked back with satisfaction on the County's war record. Every loan drive had gone over the top; every Red Cross drive had been more than successful; every garment demanded for the soldiers had been made; great quantities of foodstuffs had been raised not only for the American troops but for the Allies as well. The boys were home again and their Legion Posts were organized. Reconstruction was slowly making headway.

Let us see now how Imperial County got along from the war period until today—midsummer of 1931.

1918

W. E. Packard announced that he was to leave the Valley after seven years' service as head of the Experimental Farm and leader in Farm Bureau work. He was given a banquet by his friends, who expressed keen regret.

ASSOCIATED CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE

After two years of inactivity the Imperial Valley Chamber of Commerce came to life in 1918 by reorganizing under the name of Associated Chambers of Commerce. Three representatives from each organized civic body were named and the plan adopted to meet monthly in the different towns. Attorney J. F. Seymour was chairman.

Phil W. Brooks resigned as Receiver of the land office and B. H. Lien was named his successor.

Governor Stephens appointed J. Roy Adams, of Imperial, supervisor to succeed John Rice, who resigned to go into the war service.

The new concrete bridge at Seeley was dedicated March 10. J. Stanley Brown was speaker and Supervisor Brooks presided over an interesting program.

Imperial went dry by court decree March 1, 1918.

Don C. Bitler took up the work as County Development Agent in 1918.

GOVERNOR STEPHENS A VISITOR

Governor Wm. D. Stephens, war time governor of California, made a midsummer visit to Imperial Valley in 1918. He arrived June 10, accompanied by Adjutant General Boree. The warm Imperial Valley sunshine caused General Boree to violate army regulations by loosening his tight collar and the Governor addressed four audiences in his shirt sleeves. Gov. Stephens spoke on war time topics and helped with the closing of the War Savings Stamp campaign. While in the Valley he met Governor Cantu at the border line and a unique ceremony took place with both Governors shaking hands across the international boundary.

The visitors were given an elaborate banquet in El Centro. The list of guests:

Roy Adams, P. E. Carr, W. H. Brooks, L. F. Shaw, W. J. Hartman, Calexico; Harry W. Krotz, Calexico; Robert G. Goree, Calexico; Frank D. Hevener, Calexico; Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Holt, Mr. and Mrs. Dan V. Noland, Mr. and Mrs. J. Elliott Druiff, Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur W. Randall, Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Larew, C. K. Cooper, Kirk E. Boone, F. E. Albright, A. E. Elliott, Clifford Coggins, Thomas Hester, Calexico; Vern Bishop, Charles L. Childers, F. E. Draper, San Diego; John H. Martin, W. R. Spohn, Isaac Adams, Mr. and Mrs. Don W. Wells, R. B. Whitelaw, Mr. and Mrs. B. Salomon, Mr. and Mrs. Ira Aten, R. E. Couch, William T. Randell, H. W. Brewer, J. L. Musser, C. W. Collins, James Thomas, Pomona; J. R. Fahs, James A. Cook, J. M. Ott, Charles E. Sones, M. O. King, A. C. Johnston, W. T. Bill, James W. Glassford, Walter S. Reed, E. F. Cummings, D. J. Matlock, E. F. Howe, S. W. Lef-fingwell, F. W. Gregg, Phil D. Swing, George W. Anderson, Mrs. Mort Rieser, Emma Coble, James R. Ford, W. G. Russell, J. Stanley Brown, J. J. Borree, J. F. Seymour, Jr., William D. Stephens, Mr. and Mrs. Franklin J. Cole, Will S. Fawcett, Mr. and Mrs. B. C. Leech, Clark Booher, Mark Rose, F. O. McCulloch, J. K. Hermon, Charles E. Scott, M. D. Davis, D. L. Zinn, G. Watkins, J. W. Perrin, I. I. Simmons, B. D. Noel, W. T. Heffernan, Carl E. Arfwedson, Dorsey G. Whitelaw, W. D. Garey, Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Richmond, Mrs. Ben H. Arkalian, I. Mayfield, W. E. Wilsie, W. H. Greenleaf, Clyde C. Hurley, N. Patterson, Mr. and Mrs. O. B. Tout.

J. Stanley Brown, elected to the State Assembly, resigned his office as County Treasurer two weeks before the end of his term in order to attend meetings outside the county. His elected successor, C. W. Barton, was appointed to fill the interim. Mr. Brown was treasurer eight years lacking these two weeks.

Bert D. Noel, elected District Attorney, died within a week after he was elected, during the influenza epidemic. The Board of Supervisors appointed E. R. Simon to the place. This was the second time in the same year that Mr. Simon was appointed to succeed a deceased occupant of the office, Galen Nichols having died in office in September of the same year, 1918.

CATTLEMEN REORGANIZE

The cattlemen of the County renewed their organization with the following officers:

Albert Moore, Imperial, president.

Harry Jones, Brawley, vice-president.

J. P. Hertel, acting secretary.

Board of Directors—O. L. James, El Centro; William W. Ward, Brawley; H. P. Jones, Brawley; Fred Gunterman, Calexico, and W. W. Cochran, El Centro.

The following cattlemen were present:

Leslie McConnell, El Centro.

C. C. Craig, El Centro.

O. L. James, El Centro.

J. L. Davis, El Centro.

W. W. Cochran, El Centro.

Roy Westmoreland, El Centro.

C. H. Westmoreland, El Centro.

G. L. Robinson, Imperial.

Geo. W. Damron, Imperial.

Albert Robinson, Imperial.

W. W. Ward, Brawley.

H. P. Jones, Brawley.

F. W. Bates, Brawley.

Fred Gunterman, Calexico.

I. W. McGrew, El Centro.

T. H. Gebbie, El Centro.

Jeff. Waters, Brawley.

Albert Kalen, Brawley.

Lathan and Nunn, Calipatria.

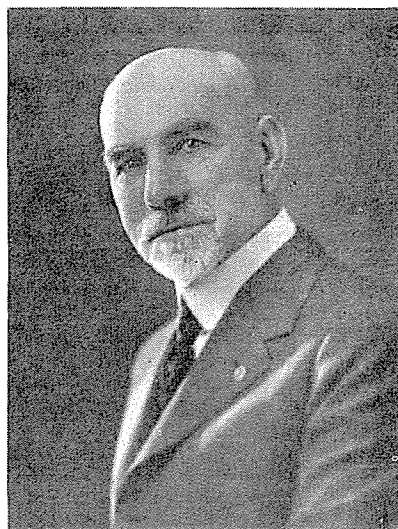
Russell Stewart, Holtville.

1919

The farmers of the Valley attended the 1919 session of the Farm Assembly in El Centro and listened to an excellent series of papers and addresses on farm topics. More than 800 attended.

ASSOCIATED CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE

During the war period the activities of all Chambers of Commerce were curtailed. In March, 1919, the idea of a co-operative association of representatives of all sections of the Valley was again revived. At a meeting in Calipatria a set plan was adopted for such reorganization. Each Chamber of Commerce was to have three elected representatives and a fine of \$10 was to be assessed against any Chamber not represented at the monthly meetings, which were to be rotated from place to place. This was the real beginning of the Associated Chambers of Commerce which has endured until today.



Assemblyman J. Stanley Brown
(See Pioneer Sketch)

Representatives from Calexico, El Centro, Holtville, Imperial, Seeley, Brawley, Niland, Westmoreland and Calipatria signed the agreement. Jos. F. Seymour was elected temporary president and H. H. Myer temporary secretary.

At the April meeting in El Centro the following officers were elected:

President—Fred Hevener, of Calexico.

First Vice-President—E. E. Shacklett, of Holtville.

Second Vice-President—C. H. Connett, of Seeley.

Treasurer—Victor Sterling of Calipatria.

Executive Secretary—J. F. Seymour, Jr., of El Centro.

This Association has continued to meet monthly since.

FIRST ROAD BONDS

After many years of discussion Imperial County was given an opportunity in July, 1919, to vote on the first bond issue to pave arterial highways within the County. The people emphatically favored the \$1,500,000 issue. The vote was 2030 for the bonds and only 145 against. They voted on the state bond issue at the same time, 2115 to 64 in favor. The County started paving a trunk road from Calexico to Calipatria and some cross feeder roads from Brawley, Imperial and in No. 6.

EXTRA COURT ESTABLISHED

In May, Governor Stephens signed the bill providing another superior court for Imperial County and in August appointed Phil D. Swing, then Chief Counsel for the Irrigation District, to the post.

Mr. Swing was said to be the youngest Superior Court judge in the state.

GRAPEFRUIT GROWERS ORGANIZE

The new citrus industry became of such importance that the growers formed their first organization.

D. G. Whiting, Dr. W. W. Apple, Clarence Conant, J. D. Henderson, and J. W. Reed were the prime movers.

SAN DIEGO & ARIZONA RAILROAD COMPLETED

After many years of difficult work, including the boring of some 18 tunnels through the mountains between San Diego and El Centro, John D. Spreckels completed the San Diego & Arizona Railroad between these points in December, 1919. This was an occasion of great rejoicing on both sides of the mountains.

A combination celebration was staged by Imperial Valley and San Diego from December 1 to December 4. In El Centro, Jos. F. Seymour, on behalf of the Associated Chambers of Commerce, was chairman of the committee on arrangements. A great barbecue was staged, attended by thousands. Leaders of both communities made speeches, bands played and Mr. Spreckels showered with congratulations.

The El Centro Progress issued a special magazine edition on fine book paper filled with pictures along the railroad and depicting Imperial Valley as it was in 1919.

The first train to run on schedule over the railroad was the excursion from the Valley to San Diego December 1. Harry Copeland bought the first ticket for Mrs. Nathaniel Paschall, of Seattle.

Among those who went to San Diego on the first train were L. M. Hutchinson of Calexico, Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Loud, Mr. and Mrs. Nowlin, Mr. and Mrs. Briggs, Mr. and Mrs. Blodgett, Dr. and George Coles, Dewey Carey of Brawley, Dr. and Mrs. Dupont and Mrs. Childers; Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Harper of Calipatria.

The first effort to secure a railroad between Imperial Valley and San Diego was made by San Diego business men in 1901.

John D. Spreckels took up the idea as far back as 1910 and, backed by the Southern Pacific Railroad Company after many financial pitfalls had been avoided, completed the road at this time.

The event was attended by a large party from Arizona headed by Governor Campbell.

The following Valley people were passengers over the new road when the golden spike was driven by Mr. Spreckels:

El Centro—Jasper Travers, C. E. Coggins, E. E. Clements, J. M. Ott, J. F. Seymour, Jr., Fred Gianola, John Davis, J. K. Hermon, Will S. Fawcett, George Anderson, Secretary O. B. Tout, Merrill Davis, C. M. Applestill, C. W. Collins, Bailies Walker, F. B. Fuller, J. Stanley Brown, R. P. Moore, Superintendent Brooks, A. L. Richmond, Leroy Holt, Judge Cole, Judge Swing.

Seeley—G. L. Campbell, J. L. Howard, John Hogan, Mike Liebert, R. W. Gray, J. D. Moughmer, D. F. Harbison, C. H. Connett.

Calipatria—H. H. Clark, T. A. Johnson, A. A. Hall, H. R. Beale, V. R. Sterling, J. E. O'Neill, A. D. Mackenzie, O. K. Thomas.

Holtville—R. A. Holt, O. C. Harris, C. E. Stewart, J. B. Baker, F. L. Powell, M. V. Oakley, G. W. McGahn, E. E. Shacklett, O. N. Shaw, R. S. Jones.

Imperial—Harry N. Dyke, Mark Wilkin, J. R. Bransby, W. A. Mackey, W. O. Hinderks, J. Roy Adams, A. W. Holdzkom, Jesse E. Bunch, G. F. Saie, Prof. C. B. Collins.

Westmorland—R. F. Cheesebro, I. H. Gentry, T. T. Langlais, Theodore Schroder, C. F. Boarts.

Calexico—H. S. Abbott, A. C. Baskin, Dr. M. L. Parcels, C. C. Cockley, E. G. Burdick, E. E. Anderson, H. W. Krotz, J. G. Scott, L. M. Hutchinson, Frank D. Hevener, G. L. Pulliam, C. W. Brockman, Sidney McHarg, C. T. Wardlaw, Edward Dool, William Gunterman, Fernando Villasener, A. M. Shenk, J. C. Allison, D. A. Leonard, C. E. Bragg.

1920

The Sheriff's office arrested 575 persons during 1919. Five per cent were Americans, the rest being Mexican, Hindus and other foreigners.

Babies born in 1919, 182; deaths, 191.

John E. Davis, prominent in war work, sold his drug business to Vaughn Francis and located in Long Beach. He lived 14 years in the Valley.

Deputy Sheriff Sam Griffin and Officer Freeman and Deputy Sheriff Slaughter captured six negroes who attempted to hold up and rob the Southern Pacific main line train at Glamis January 2.

There were 11,325 children in Imperial County's schools.

A landslide on the new S. D. & A. grade in Carriso canyon pushed fifty feet of track over into the canyon and piled dirt thirty feet deep on the grade. The road was out of commission a week in January.

From a bank advertisement January 17, 1920: "Demand for commodities the world over exceeds the present supply. We are producing too little. We are consuming too much. Never before and perhaps never again will the whole world be ready to buy at a good price all we can produce." The reader will remember this was the same condition that preceded the business smash of 1929.

District Attorney Simon, Sheriff Applestill and thirty-four deputies raided thirty gambling joints and alleged houses of ill fame in Calexico, Imperial and El Centro, arresting 150. The lid went down tight for a while.

PAVEMENT TANGLE

Fifteen months passed after the people had voted favorably for the \$1,500,000 road bonds before anything was done. The County Road Commission was

composed of Fred Lack, Casey Abbott and L. J. Thomas. Demands for the resignation of the commissioners and accusations of prejudice against El Centro were made. Disputes over the kind of pavement held upon construction. Routes favoring property owners were alleged. Two reports of the commission were sidetracked by the Supervisors. Finally in September construction work started. Some of this original paving still exists. Thirty miles of concrete pavement were let to Peterson, Dillon & Patterson.

The second annual poultry show conducted by the Farm Bureau took place in El Centro in March, 1920.

The first women to serve as jurors in Imperial County were Mrs. Leroy Holt, Mrs. Adah Jones and Mrs. J. S. Bridenstine. They served on the 1920 grand jury.

ASSOCIATED CHAMBERS

Frank Hevener of Calexico was re-elected president of the Associated Chambers of Commerce. Other officers elected: O. K. Thomas of Calipatria, first vice-president; C. F. Boarts of Westmorland, second vice-president, and J. L. Travers of El Centro, treasurer. J. F. Seymour of El Centro was re-elected as secretary.

SWING FOR CONGRESS

Congressman Wm. Kettner declined to run for re-election and Imperial County sought successfully to have Judge Phil D. Swing nominated and elected. The first meeting to bring this about was held in El Centro July 15. A club was organized with J. Stewart Ross, chairman, and Wiley M. Weaver, Jr., secretary. A committee raised \$2000 for the campaign.

The campaign was handled by the following officers of the club:

President and campaign manager, Irl E. Henrichsen.

Vice-Presidents: H. N. Dyke, Imperial; J. G. Scott, Calexico; C. L. Childers, El Centro; W. F. Beal, Brawley; Mr. Field, Westmorland; L. J. Thomas, Calipatria; C. H. Eckert, Holtville; Geo. Campbell, Seeley; Andy Pruitt, Niland; J. D. Moughmer, Dixieland; Carl Houghtalin, O. S. Norsworthy, Heber; W. E. Hensen, Bard.

Secretary, Vaughn N. Thompson.

Treasurer, F. B. Fuller.

Judge Swing was elected by a handsome majority in November.

The records showed an increase of 500 per cent in the number of automobiles in the County in 1920 since 1915.

A Johnson-for-President Club was formed in July, 1920.

County Treasurer C. W. Barton was appointed Development Agent to succeed Arthur M. Nelson, who died May 30.



John Norton, Recorder
(See Pioneer Sketch)

HUMANE SOCIETY

The Imperial Valley Humane Society was formed in May with the following officers: C. E. Pitzer, president; W. A. Marshall, vice-president; J. K. Bowker, Jr., secretary-treasurer, and Frank Reading, humane officer.

BETTER AMERICAN FEDERATION

At a meeting in November, an Imperial Valley unit of the Better American Federation of California was organized.

A board of directors of nine members was selected, consisting of K. D. Oliver, W. H. Best, Brawley; Paul Entemann, Argyle McLachlan, Calexico; Leroy Holt, J. D. Adams, El Centro; M. C. Blanchard, Holtville; O. K. Thomas, Calipatria; F. J. Davidson, Imperial.

BEAL ELECTED TO ASSEMBLY

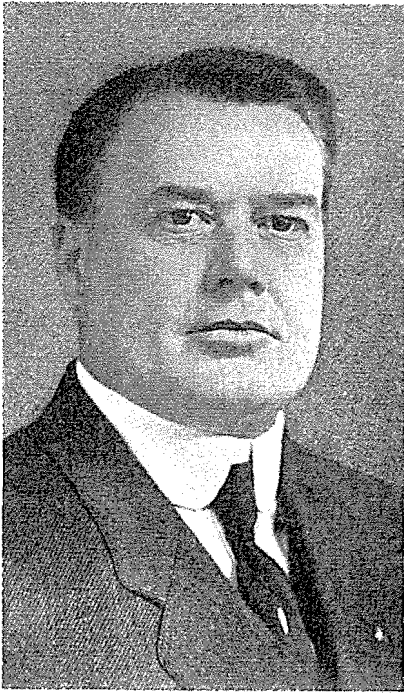
W. F. Beal, County Supervisor, was elected to the State Assembly from Imperial County in November, 1920.

Holtville suffered a \$150,000 fire when the Varney store and goods burned August 11.

CENSUS FIGURES

The Government census for 1920 showed Imperial County with a population of 43,000. Ten years previous it was 13,000. The percentage increase in ten years was 219.2, which was third fastest growing county in the United States. The town population was: El Centro, 5464; Brawley, 5392; Calexico, 6223; Holtville, 1347; Imperial, 1085; Calipatria, 785.

Governor Wm. D. Stephens again visited the Valley in November. He spoke to 2500 people in the



*Franklin J. Cole, Judge of Superior Court
(See Pioneer Sketch)*

city park at El Centro, addressed the Christian Endeavor convention and spoke in the Methodist church in Imperial.

Judges Cole and Conkling were elected to the superior court benches in November.

GYPSUM

The Imperial Gypsum & Oil Company was the name of the first organization that attempted to develop the 25,000,000 ton deposit of gypsum on the western edge of the Valley. Sam'l Dunaway was interested in the promotion of the concern and many Valley people took stock.

Financial troubles beset the company and it was eventually sold to the Portland Cement Company, which concern developed the present splendid plant at Plaster City.

The organization of the Imperial County Tax Payers Association was accompanied by a demonstration against the expenditure of county funds for publicity purposes.

1921

Much excitement was caused by the report in January that the oil well being driven in the north end had struck oil. The report was without foundation.

FOR VALLEY ORPHANS

In January the Elks of Imperial Valley, under the chairmanship of O. B. Tout, took charge of a one-week campaign to raise money for the Imperial Val-

ley Orphans' Home maintained in San Diego. Each town in the Valley once more went "over the top," a habit that was acquired during the war. More than \$8000 was raised.

GOOD ROADS ASSOCIATION

The Imperial County Good Roads Association was formed early in 1921 for the purpose of speeding up the betterment of roads, extending the paved sections and urging the state to be more attentive to the needs of the Valley. The furore over the way the first highway commission handled the initial bond issue caused them to decline to ask reappointment. J. L. Travers, W. H. Best and Lin Shaw were appointed commissioners.

Assemblyman Beal declared his opposition to the King tax bill and the Imperial County Tax Association sent for Senator King himself to explain it. They voted support for the measure. The County Farm Bureau asked Beal to favor the measure.

The County Farm Bureau opposed holding a county fair in 1921. The Associated Chambers of Commerce said "go ahead anyway."

ASSOCIATED CHAMBER ELECTION

The third year of the Associated Chambers of Commerce was under the guidance of L. M. Hutchinson, of Calexico, who was made president. O. J. Renfrew, of Niland, was vice-president; W. L. Garrett, of Brawley, second vice-president; S. E. Burrowes, of Imperial, secretary, and J. L. Travers, of El Centro, treasurer.

The meetings were held monthly without fail and all general matters affecting the County as a whole received attention.

Governor Stephens appointed O. B. Tout a member of the state commission authorized by the legislature to investigate the water resources of the state.

The Imperial Valley Water Improvement Association was an organization designed to further the Valley's interests before Congress. The original committee was: S. E. Robinson, J. Verne Garland, W. H. Brooks, T. J. Worthington and Mike Liebert, P. W. Knights, W. B. Haverkorst, Elmer Heald, S. O. Buck, Clifford Coggins, A. J. Houghton, Thos. O'Brien, and D. R. Crawford.

June 2, the highway between Calexico and El Centro was dedicated by a combined celebration of the citizens of both towns. A cavalcade of more than 200 automobiles went over the concrete pavement both ways with appropriate programs in each place. This was the first part of the county system to be completed.

The group of buildings on the county farm was destroyed by fire in June with a loss of \$15,000.

A million sacks of corn were harvested in 1921. Value, \$2,000,000.

Changes were made in the route originally set for the first paved roads, some 14 miles being added because of unexpended balance of the \$1,500,000 bond issue being available.

The ministers of the Valley organized an association in November, 1921. Rev. E. L. B. McClelland, of Brawley, was President; Rev. Arthur Schultz, of El Centro, Vice-President; Rev. C. Arthur Burton, of Brawley, Secretary-Treasurer.

The first strike by organized labor in the Valley was ordered by the Typographical Union, which demanded a 44-hour week and an advance of \$12 weekly wage. The owners were hit hard, all papers being published in abbreviated form with crippled forces.

El Centro Chamber of Commerce stepped into the breach in November and put on a fair that furnished the County a good substitute for a county fair for 1921. A great tent was filled with exhibits and an interesting program offered every day and evening, including a fashion show. This event proved that Imperial Valley people did like to attend a fair and encouraged further effort in that direction.

FAIR ASSOCIATION FORMED

All the years before the matter of an annual county fair had been handled by first one organization and then another. It was decided in November, 1921, to form an agricultural district under the laws of the state. The following men headed the movement: S. E. Burrowes, Imperial; R. A. Walker, Westmorland; J. E. Peck, Calexico; J. F. Hallawell, Imperial; L. P. Sargent, El Centro; Chas. Guest, Calipatria; H. H. Hastain, Brawley; M. V. Oakley, Holtville; Mr. Oakley was elected president and V. V. Scott treasurer.

HOLTVILLE-YUMA LINK STARTED

November 29, Governor Stephens came to the Valley to turn the first shovelful of dirt in the construction of the state highway between Holtville and Yuma. Assemblyman W. F. Beal had secured an appropriation of \$350,000 from the state. The event was managed by the Holtville Chamber of Commerce and a barbecue was served to fifteen hundred people. The shovel the Governor used was auctioned off to the Holtville group for \$140. Ed. E. Boyd, whose initial efforts in behalf of the planked highway in 1912 were responsible for the selection of the route; Col. Ed. Fletcher of San Diego, whose work for this highway never stopped; Newton Gray and many others were on the program.

In December, Congressman Swing returned to make ready for the visit of Secretary A. B. Fall of the Department of the Interior, who came west to get in personal touch with the people who were espousing the construction of Boulder Dam. The Davis report was in his hands and he was making up his recommendation to Congress. Later he did



*Marvin W. Conkling, Judge of Superior Court
(See Pioneer Sketch)*

recommend that the Government undertake this work. (See Irrigation District History.)

Judge T. P. Banta, whose farm was the first to grow a crop big enough to sell in 1901, died in Los Angeles, December 24, 1921.

The year ended with another severe rainstorm that stopped trains for two days and caused rocks to tumble on the Mountain Springs grade. The storm totalled 1.64, which made a total of 4.54 for 1921.

1922

At this time the J. W. Reed grapefruit orchard of 60 acres was the largest in the Valley. The second largest was R. D. McPherrin's orchard of 40 acres. Both groves were then six years old and bearing nicely. The first car of fruit for the season went out the last day of 1921.

Thos. Hinds, construction engineer who had charge of much of the work at the heading for the California Development Company in the early days, died in Texas the latter part of 1921.

This year was an important one in Irrigation District History. The people voted \$5,000,000 bonds for the District to buy out the mutual water companies. The transfer was completed in 1922. (See District History.)

Ross L. and Harry W. Hammond, of Riverside, January 14, 1922, purchased both the Imperial Valley Press and the El Centro Progress from M. D. Davis and Otis B. Tout, consolidating the two papers and discontinuing the Morning Progress.



Statue of Mobley Meadows, Pioneer Sheriff. The only Statue in the Valley. Donated by Harold Bell Wright.

O. J. Renfrew was named County Development Agent in March at the request of the Associated Chambers of Commerce.

As chairman of the Colorado River Commission, Secretary of Commerce Herbert Hoover, accompanied by Mrs. Hoover, visited the Valley in March. Mr. Hoover was properly entertained by the Imperial Irrigation District.

Imperial County became the leading lettuce producing center of the United States in 1922.

PUREBRED LIVESTOCK ASSOCIATION

The Imperial County Purebred Livestock Association was formed in April with these officers: President, J. E. Peck; Secretary, Walter B. Haverkorst; Directors: W. B. Haverkorst, A. A. Cook, Mrs. Knight, Walter Moore, J. E. Peck, E. J. Parker, E. A. DeBlois, C. B. Ralphs, Ed Sterner, Hugh Osborne and C. C. Loveland.

FIRST AIR LINE

The first organization to engage in travel by air on a commercial basis was the Airline Transportation Company, which announced its purpose to carry passengers between Los Angeles and the Valley. Los Angeles men were at the head of it. Valley men concerned were E. W. Cuff and W. A. Covington.

The first carload of gypsum went to market in September.

COURT HOUSE BONDS

After fifteen years, Imperial County decided to build a real court house. A bond election was called for the purpose in June, 1922, and \$300,000 provided. The present magnificent court house, built from this bond issue, is declared to be the most efficient and modern in the State. The picture is at the head of this chapter.

Every school district in the county had a balance to its credit in 1922.

FAIR BONDS DEFEATED

In order to put the annual Imperial County Fair on a firm footing, it was proposed to issue \$50,000 bonds for the purpose of acquiring a site at Imperial and erecting permanent buildings. The issue was favorably supported throughout the county except in the Brawley precincts, which caused the issue to fail the necessary two-thirds majority.

An attempt to enlist cash support by subscription in all the towns resulted in failure. The matter of a county fair was put over until 1923.

Brawley Commercial Club, Wm. H. Lowther, president, took up the matter of a fair and decided to hold the Brawley Midwinter Fair December 11 to 17. A full list of exhibits was displayed. The event was attended by a large number of outside visitors.

The citrus exhibit put on at the National Orange Show at San Bernardino won three first and two third prizes for grapefruit, and one first prize for lemons. This was the first time Imperial Valley ever won a first prize for lemons. The exhibit was arranged by the Associated Chambers of Commerce. Ross T. Hickcox was chairman of the committee.

A three-day program by the State Secretarial Association was held in El Centro in February.

The death of C. R. Rockwood, whose efforts resulted finally in the watering of Imperial Valley, March 3, 1922, was noted with keen regret by all the Valley.

1923

Forty thousand grapefruit trees were imported by nurseries in 1923.

The First National Bank of Calexico was the first bank in the Valley to pass the \$3,000,000 mark in resources.

Imperial County was the second in the state in hog population in 1923. There were 73,000 hogs here then.

The estimated value of agricultural products for the year was \$40,561,090.

The new county officers took their places in January. The reader will note the changes as they appear in the table at the beginning of this chapter.

In 1923 the towns of the Valley had telephones as follows: El Centro, 1023; Brawley, 617; Calexico, 555; Holtville, 320; Imperial, 181; Calipatria, 101.

E. W. Cuff, of Brawley, was President of the Associated Chambers of Commerce in 1923. The Association carried on a comprehensive, Valley-wide program of discussion and action during the year.

The Pacific Southwest Trust & Savings Bank entered Imperial Valley by absorbing the Security Commercial and Savings Bank of El Centro in February, 1923.

"Dairy Day" was January 19, when the State Dairy Council met with Imperial Valley dairymen in an all-day session. Men prominent in State dairy organizations were present. A parade was held, store windows decorated and a program of interest took place.

O. J. RENFREW'S PLAN

O. J. Renfrew, County Development Agent, worked out a real estate deal that had great possibilities. He secured the co-operation of practically all bank presidents, mayors, Presidents of all Chambers of Commerce and heads of big business enterprises in the Valley to form an Imperial County Development Board. The Board secured options on some 100,000 acres of land and the plan was to subdivide and sell ten, twenty and forty acre farms to buyers at the option price, thus bringing in some 1500 or 2000 new farmers and their families to the Valley.

The plan was evidently too big to be worked out.

ASSEMBLYMAN DAVIS AT SACRAMENTO

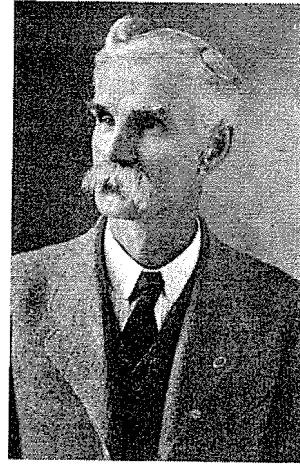
Imperial County's interests were looked after in the Legislature by Geo. H. Davis. He was instrumental in securing additional funds for state highway work on the trans-Valley highway to Yuma. He introduced a bill combining the tax assessing and collecting functions of the Irrigation District and the County but it was not passed. His support of the unqualified endorsement by the state of the Colorado River Pact was opposed by Imperial County Farm Bureau and the Irrigation District. The fight resulted in the Finney resolution, which qualified the endorsement.

Governor Friend W. Richardson visited the Valley in February with the State Highway Commission to make personal investigation of the road to Blythe. He was entertained in Brawley at breakfast.

Imperial County had 8,953 automobiles and 371 trucks in 1923.

The 1923 automobile show was wrecked when a wind and rainstorm demolished the big tent. The committee, headed by C. N. Merralls, put up a new tent and went ahead anyway.

B. A. Harrigan was appointed Horticultural Commissioner when F. W. Waite resigned in May.



E. E. Bennett, Early Supervisor
(See Pioneer Sketch)

C. C. Jenkins was named Executive Secretary of the Farm Bureau in February.

The County had a very creditable exhibit at the Riverside County Fair. It was prepared by Secretary J. T. Coyle, Farm Adviser Garthwaite and Horticultural Commissioner B. A. Harrigan.

Imperial County's growth had been so rapid that the work in the various county offices could not be done with the force authorized by law. The expedient of putting County Officers on the "publicity board" and allowing them extra pay was a practice attacked by the grand jury in 1923. The practice was abandoned.

For the first time in the history of the Valley the Imperial County Farm Bureau and the business interests represented by the Associated Chambers of Commerce "shook hands" and agreed to work together for the advancement of the Valley. At a farm center meeting held in Imperial, Q. C. Webster, President of the Bureau, and A. H. Kellar, for the Associated Chambers, climbed on the platform and shook hands while the audience arose and sang "America."

An emphatic method of fighting the railroad charge of \$90 a car for icing was adopted by those opposed. A public mass meeting was held in El Centro and the Valley was so worked up that all places of business closed for an hour and a half to attend the meeting.

The haphazard way Imperial County had been carrying on various and sundry efforts to advertise the Valley to the outside world was the main topic for discussion before the Associated Chambers in October.

Miss Josephine Brown was County Secretary for the Y. W. C. A. in 1923.



R. H. Clark, Pioneer Supervisor

S. L. McCrory was Boy Scout Executive for the county.

Slight earth tremors were noted November 5, and again on the 8th.

Cotton was up around 37 cents a pound in November.

The body of Therron Sawyer, buried in Evergreen Cemetery in April, was found in October to be almost completely petrified when the mother attempted to remove it to a vault. The young man was 21 when he died. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. W. I. Sawyer.

Petitions, resolutions, articles for the papers and other modes of protest swept the Valley against the evils of gambling, drinking and debauchery in Mexico.

MIDWINTER FAIR

The Brawley Midwinter Fair this year was bigger than last year's fair and required several tents to house. The exhibits were better and the livestock more representative. The event was attended by a large number of visitors.

Wm. G. McAdoo was a visitor in the Valley in December.

1924

The largest realty deal on record up to this time was the sale of some 16,500 acres of railroad land in the north end by the Southern Pacific to the Title Insurance Company, of Los Angeles, for \$700,000.

The sale of the Imperial Gypsum Company to the Portland Cement Company took place at \$300,000.

The cornerstone of the new court house was laid with appropriate ceremonies November 29, 1924.

E. W. Cuff was President of the Associated Chambers of Commerce.

The Imperial Valley Milk Producers Association elected Joel Anderson, President, and C. E. Paris was appointed business manager.

The death of Mrs. W. F. Holt in Los Angeles was noted with sorrow. Mrs. Holt, through her husband, was deeply interested in Imperial Valley from the first of 1901.

There were 27 civic bodies urging Congress to pass the Swing-Johnson Boulder Dam Bill in 1924.

Supervisor W. H. Brooks was appointed a member of the State Board of Agriculture by Governor Richardson.

Numerous motor parties began visiting Painted Canyon, seven miles north from Coyote Wells on the western edge of the desert. The rock walls of this canyon are highly colored and present a beautiful scene.

The 1924 grand jury report was a document that attacked every political organization within the county, including all school boards, for extravagance and waste.

Governor Richardson came again to the Valley in February, 1924, to take a trip over the Holtville-Yuma road and see the Valley again. He was entertained informally with a dinner at the Barbara Worth.

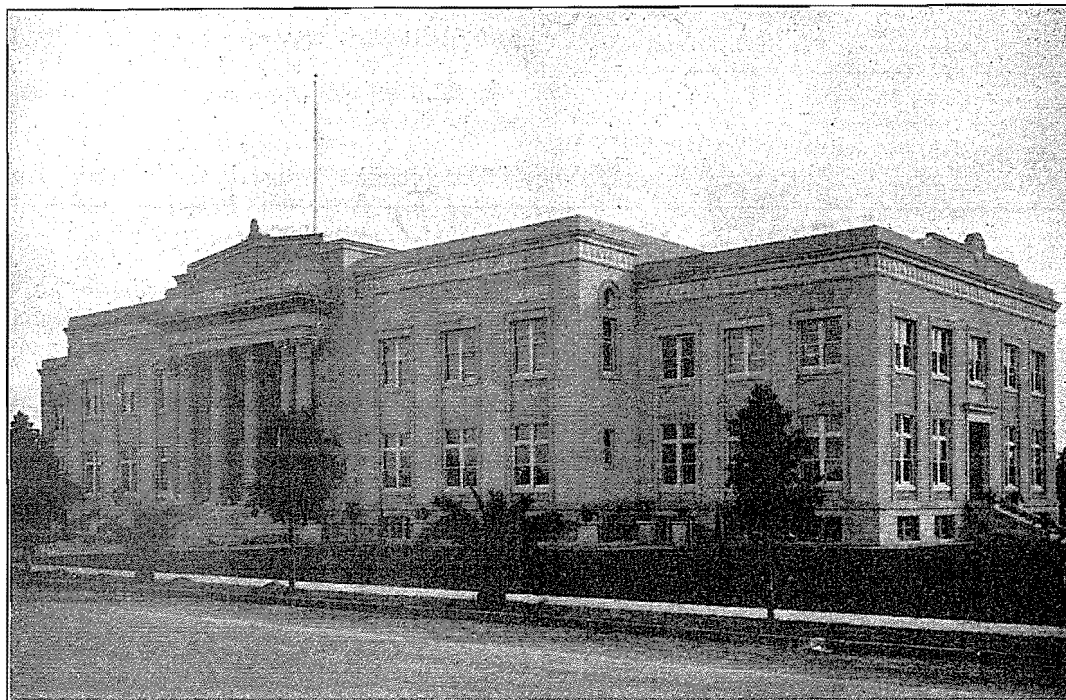
The California Farm Lands Conference, under the direction of the State Real Estate Association, held a session in El Centro in February. Real Estate men from the Eighth Regional District were present.

As usual, Imperial Valley grapefruit took three of the best prizes at the National Orange Show in San Bernardino.

A \$15,000 fire in Imperial destroyed the post office.

The committee hearings in Washington on the Boulder Dam Bill began to attract the attention of the country towards Imperial Valley. As a result, the Valley was frequently visited by special writers whose stories appeared in many newspapers and magazines throughout the country.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Kelly, former Valley residents, both died the same day of pneumonia in Los Angeles, in March, 1924. Mr. Kelly was pioneer nurseryman of the Valley. His name will be found in the early historical notes.



The County's New Court House Is a Model Public Building

Nine o'clock closing of the border caused Mexican officials to retaliate by holding up all visitors for close inspection and other excuses.

A state-wide meeting of California cotton growers was held in Riverside in March. H. H. Clark was named President; C. C. Jenkins, chairman of the legislative committee; A. L. Storie, chairman of the finance committee; Virgil Barber, member of the membership committee.

There was considerable friendly strife over the location of the proposed paved highway from El Centro to meet the state highway across the desert. Calexico wished to have the highway routed through that city. As a result the County now has a highway eastward both from Holtville and from Calexico.

One hundred and fifty visitors from Los Angeles, under the leadership of Frank Wiggins, veteran secretary of the Los Angeles Chamber, were banqueted and shown about the Valley in March.

The new officers of the Associated Chambers of Commerce, elected in March, were: Charles E. Scott, President; T. J. Worthington, Vice-President; James T. Coyle, Secretary; J. L. Travers, Treasurer. The Association showed a cash balance of \$1104.75 on hand.

FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE

In March, 1924, the appearance of the foot and mouth disease amongst cattle on the coast caused

Imperial County to adopt stringent regulations against possible infection here. The County appropriated \$5000 as the initial fund and established inspection stations on all highways. Arizona, determined to prevent infection, stopped all travel across the Yuma bridge. Hundreds of motorists spent a week or ten days camped in the open.

Imperial County escaped any serious trouble with the disease except the losses sustained from the prohibition of shipments of stock.

Showing appreciation for his work in Congress, citizens of the Valley in hundreds of cars journeyed to Seeley and waylaid Congressman Phil D. Swing, who was on his way to El Centro, and gave him a wildly enthusiastic reception. The cavalcade returned to El Centro and cars were added until the town was thronged. In the evening a banquet was tendered Mr. Swing. Four hundred plates, the capacity of the hotel, were laid. The Congressman reviewed the entire history of the Boulder Dam legislation up to date.

Imperial County joined with Riverside and Orange Counties in the establishment of a tubercular sanitarium near Banning.

The Imperial Valley Press issued a "Prosperity Edition" in October showing that Imperial Valley had fully recovered from the agricultural depression that was a post-war condition all over the country. During 1922, 1923 and 1924 the Valley showed as the one "white spot" on the business maps issued by the United States Chamber of Commerce.

The County voted 3452 Republican; 757 Democratic; Independent 2542; Prohibition 112.

All the American Legion posts joined in an Armistice Day celebration at Calipatria.

COURTHOUSE DEDICATED

The dedication of Imperial County's new \$350,000 court house in El Centro took place November 29, 1924. The ceremonies were conducted by high Masonic officials. Judge Franklin J. Cole delivered the main address and brought out many historical facts concerning this region.

The cornerstone bears the names of the Board of Supervisors: W. H. Brooks, George L. Pulliam, J. Ralph Anderson, J. Roy Adams and C. E. Stewart. Also the names of the architects, Don W. Wells and Ralph Swearingen. The Masonic ceremonies were under the direction of Grand Master D. J. Reese, of Ventura. San Diego sent a large delegation of visitors.

After the ceremonies the crowds visited the county offices and courtrooms and found the whole structure the most modern in the entire State of California.

The Board of Supervisors occupied their new quarters the first time December 1.

MIDWINTER FAIR

Brawley again handled the annual county fair. December 1 the exhibits were open to the public and were of the usual high class and big variety. The County donated \$1000 toward the event.

1925

The land office in El Centro was discontinued and consolidated with the Los Angeles land office.

The newly-elected County Supervisors, Romeo Smith and Carl Brown, took their seats the first meeting in January.

R. P. Moore was elected President of the Imperial County Council of Boy Scouts.

Weddington Couch was the first ex-service man in the Valley to receive his Veteran's Compensation certificate.

The Commercial Secretaries Association of Southern California held convention in El Centro in January. They were also entertained at Calexico.

The old courthouse, which had done duty since 1908, was sold to the El Centro Lodge of Elks for \$25,000.

Governor and Mrs. F. W. Richardson were again visitors in the Valley in February.

YUMA ROAD CELEBRATION

The final realization of the dream of a passable road from San Diego to Yuma became a fact Saturday, February 28, 1925, when Arizona, Imperial

Valley and San Diego joined in a gigantic celebration at the official opening of the highway. The program took place in Yuma. On the program were Charles E. Scott, J. H. Westover, Col. Ed Fletcher, Governor Hunt, Harvey M. Toy, S. M. Johnson, John L. Bacon, J. D. Day and singers from both states.

To Col. Ed Fletcher, of San Diego, went most of the honors. He was a leader in road construction and promotion for many years. Under his urge San Diego caused the construction of the bridge across the Colorado, blasted and built the Mountain Springs grade, furnished the trainloads of lumber for the plank road and finally sent Yuma a check for \$10,000 to purchase bonds to build the highway east toward Phoenix. The "Borderland Highway" was then and is now the only transcontinental highway open the year 'round. The plank road over the sand hills was still in service, although improved.

ASSOCIATED ELECTS

A rift in the hitherto harmonious activity of the Associated Chambers of Commerce came in March, 1925, when the Calexico Chamber of Commerce voted to withdraw its membership from the Associated body. The action was taken because of the feeling in Calexico that the rest of the Valley did not take note of Calexico's desires in matters political, in irrigation district policies, Boulder Dam legislation or highway construction. The last straw was the erection of a sign at Belden's Corner by the Holtville people almost hiding a sign previously erected by Calexico. A committee was appointed to wait upon Calexico and ask that the resignation be withdrawn. This was done without success and at the May meeting a motion was passed accepting the resignation. In January, 1926, Calexico voted to again affiliate with the Associated Chambers.

Gordon Schneider, of Holtville, was elected President for 1925. Ben Hulse, Vice-President; P. N. Myers, Secretary; J. L. Travers, Treasurer.

Recall petitions against Superior Judge M. W. Conkling and District Attorney E. R. Utley were circulated by friends of the Boulder Dam and All-American canal legislation. The petitions were filed but found insufficient by the County Clerk, Calvin Mooseau. Advocates of the recall decided to fight Conkling and Utley at the next election. Neither was re-elected.

The grand jury indicted Supervisor J. Roy Adams, charging him with forging payroll signatures. He was tried, found guilty and sentenced to a term in state's prison.

Congressman Swing was mentioned in a dispatch from San Francisco as a possible candidate for the United States Senate to succeed Senator Shortridge.

The County paid 10 cents each for gopher tails. The boys of the County got busy and by June captured 40,000 gophers. The prize winner was given

a check for \$236.60 for killing 2366 of the animals. At the end of the year 102,490 gophers had been killed. By March, 1926, over 200,000 tails had been turned in at a cost of \$20,000.

THIS YEAR'S FAIR

The County Fair again took the form of a Mid-winter Fair at Brawley. T. B. Edgar and Walter Haverkorst of Brawley headed the committee. The rest of the county was represented by members. More attention was paid to livestock and dairy cattle. The event was again well attended. The County appropriated \$3000 this year.

ACCUSED OF MALFEASANCE

The clashing forces represented in the ranks of those favorable to and against the Irrigation District's Boulder Dam and All-American canal program came together again in a suit brought against the directors of the district accusing Directors Mark Rose, C. W. Brockman, Earl C. Pound and Ira Aten of malfeasance in the expenditure of assessment funds in the furtherance of legislation. The four were indicted by the 1924 grand jury. Judge Ira F. Thompson of Los Angeles tried the case.

A. C. Finney and C. L. Childers defended the accused directors and District Attorney Utley, against whom a recall petition had just been filed, prosecuted. He was assisted by H. W. Horton.

The case remained in the courts until after the next election when new officials were elected and the indictments ordered quashed.

A sidelight on this case was the arrest of Norman Parks, editor of the Holtville Tribune for contempt of court because of an article he wrote censuring Judge Ira Thompson. Parks was convicted and fined \$500 which Holtville citizens paid. He spent a few days in jail.

The removal of County Farm Advisor E. L. Garthwaite was demanded by the Board of Supervisors and a public hearing was held by the head of the State University Agricultural Department. The hearing was attended by 150 farmers and was all in favor of Garthwaite. The charges never materialized. Garthwaite, however, removed to Madera County in 1926.

The year 1925 proved to be one of the most "hectic" in the Valley's history on account of the climax in the fight between the two factions being reached resulting in the numerous cases in court. The All-American canal advocates went into the next election period determined to oust from office every man who was against them.

1926

One hundred farm owners of the Mt. Signal district started the movement to build a \$600,000 macadam highway across the Valley via Calexico.

Delegates from seven southern Counties attended

the convention of Farm Advisors and Farm Bureau directors held in El Centro in January.

Imperial County again won first honors for grapefruit, this time at the California Fruit Exposition at Alhambra in January. It won sweepstake honors. A big silver cup went with the award.

In 1925 Imperial County's automobiles numbered 17,494.

Frank Oswalt was named Captain of the County's traffic squad in March.

The second annual Grapefruit Institute was held in March. J. M. Grafton was chairman. A systematic study and exchange of experiences concerning this citrus crop on the part of growers was undertaken.

A control system was established over the planked section of the Yuma highway.

A poll of readers of the Imperial Valley Press on the prohibition question showed the Valley in favor of "repeal or modification" of the Volstead Act by a ratio of two to one.

ASSOCIATED ELECTION

The annual election of the Associated Chambers of Commerce resulted in Lester Eichold, of Imperial, being made President; Sam Rowe, Vice-President; P. N. Myers, Second Vice-President; L. J. Thomas, Secretary; J. L. Travers, Treasurer.

Four hundred members of the National Editorial Association stopped for breakfast in El Centro on their way to Los Angeles in June.

Congressman Phil D. Swing was elected chairman of the State Republican Convention in Sacramento in September.

The United Stages and the Pickwick lines merged with Tom Morgan President, and Howard Morgan Vice-President.

Charles E. Scott was appointed United States Commissioner for the Federal District. R. B. White-law was deputy and United States Referee in Bankruptcy.

The State Legislature called for the purpose of ratifying the interstate compact at the request of Governor Richardson without the Finney reservations passed in 1924, refused to change the former action. (See District History).

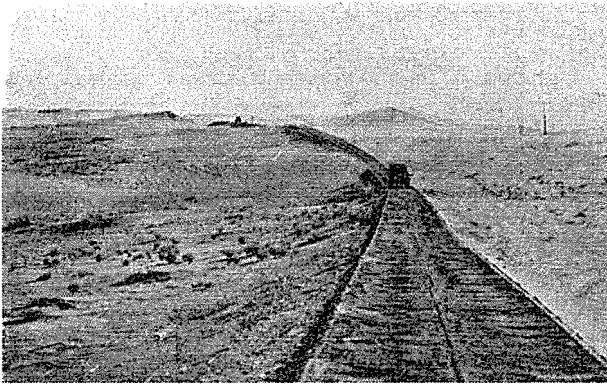
CLOSE CONTEST

The fall election included both superior court judgeships in Imperial County. M. W. Conkling and Franklin J. Cole were candidates to succeed themselves with J. S. Larew and A. C. Finney

opposing them. With the backing of the friends of the All-American canal program Larew and Finney were elected. District Attorney Utley was defeated at the primaries by Elmer Heald. Calvin Mooseau was elected County Clerk; Chas. Gillett, Sheriff; Josephine Adair, Treasurer; H. C. Coe, Superintendent of Schools; Geo. Allen, Public Administrator; W. D. Garey, Auditor; Nont Ried, Tax Collector; Wiley M. Weaver, Assessor and B. E. Lemons, Coroner. M. D. Witter, editor and proprietor of the Brawley News, was elected to the State Assembly.

The American Legion Posts of the Valley joined in celebrating Armistice Day in El Centro. Rev. Ed. H. Law was chairman. Governor C. C. Young and Governor Rodriguez were guests of honor. Governor Young delivered the oration of the day. A parade was a feature of the event.

Breaking all previous records for early shipping the first car of lettuce left the Valley November 26.



Cross Ties Were Also Used on the Yuma Road

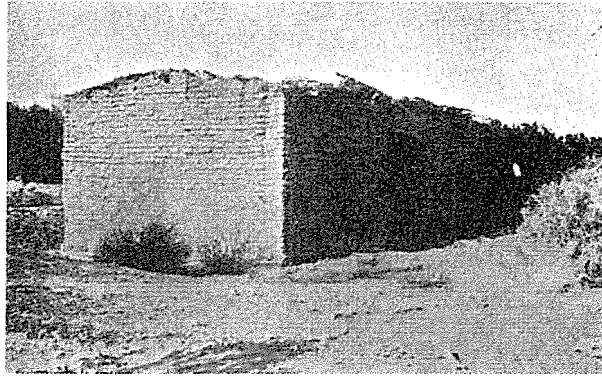
MIDWINTER FAIR

The 1926 Imperial Valley Midwinter Fair was held in December at Brawley again. The space demanded made it imperative to provide 100,000 square feet for exhibits. Los Angeles County sent down an exhibit boosting the Boulder Dam.

The "boulevard stop" system for main highways was adopted in 1927.

Imperial Valley was again isolated by a severe rainstorm in December. An earthquake shock accompanied the storm.

The house committee reported the Swing-Johnson Bill favorably by a vote of 13 to 2 December 21, 1926. This was the occasion in Imperial Valley for a demonstration of joy second only to that of Armistice Day in 1918.



Ruins of Adobe Butterfield Stage Station

1927

SHAKY NEW YEAR WELCOME

Almost on the stroke of midnight when the new year was being ushered in, the Valley was rocked by a series of temblors which seemed to center at Calexico where the damage was several hundreds of thousands of dollars. Mrs. Lucille C. Harer, telephone operator, was awarded a medal by the Telephone Company for staying on the job through all the shakes.

When the close of the gopher bounty was announced 37,648 more tails were brought to the horticultural commissioner's office.

The Bank of Italy purchased Valley branches of the Southern Trust and Commerce Bank in January.

The County welcomed the announcement of the State Highway Commission of the expenditure of \$12,200 on repair work in the Valley.

Twenty-one aliens were admitted to citizenship in May.

Fire destroyed the plant of the Portland Cement Company at Plaster City in August with a loss of \$200,000.

COUNTY BOARD OF TRADE

The Supervisors, planning to carry on county advertising in a systematic manner created the County Board of Trade with the following board members: El Centro, R. Y. Watson; Holtville, E. W. Lott; Brawley, Don Bell; Imperial, Lester Eichold; Calexico, H. E. Zurcher. Mr. Watson was named chairman. Horticultural Commissioner B. A. Harrigan, was made secretary.

Judge P. N. Myers, of Calipatria, was the newly elected President of the Associated Chambers of Commerce. The body undertook the practical encouragement of the dairy industry during the year.

The death of Judge Archie R. McDonald, justice at Holtville for eighteen years, was noted with regret, May 15, 1927. He came to the Valley in 1905.



A. C. Finney, Judge of Superior Court



*Vaughn C. Thompson, Judge of Superior Court
(See Pioneer Sketch)*

Lindbergh did his great trans-Atlantic flight May 21.

The double width paving of the Mountain Springs grade was announced ready for traffic, May 28th.

The Board of Supervisors reached an agreement with the City of Imperial to purchase 40 acres of land in the south part of Imperial to be used for an airport.

With the dismissal of the "lobbying" cases against the directors of the Irrigation District, Attorney Charles Childers made the statement that in all 33 actions against the District in court had been decided in favor of the Irrigation body either in local courts or on appeal.

The sum of \$325,000 was set aside by the State Highway Commission for work on roads in Imperial County.

ANOTHER MIDWINTER FAIR

The annual Midwinter Fair, held in Brawley for several years, was again a feature in December. Secretary Harry Niven had charge. A board of seven men handled the fair: W. O. Blair, Roy Andrews, R. Y. Watson, M. C. Blanchard, Ben Hulse, Walter Haverkorst, and Tom Anderson.

The State Highway Commission was tendered a banquet at the Barbara Worth Hotel in November.

The launching of Henry's new Ford car was quite an event in the history of the Valley.

A party of twenty-seven members of the San Diego Chamber of Commerce toured the Valley in December on a good-will expedition. They were followed by a party of Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce members.

Edward E. Spafford, National Commander of the American Legion, was welcomed to Imperial Valley after Christmas. A committee consisting of R. Y. Watson, Kendall Perkins, George Ross and A. E. Kellogg attended to the details of his reception. The Commander was much impressed with Imperial Valley.

1928

B. A. Harrigan was elected President of the Southern California Horticultural Commissioners Association for 1928.

The Western Fruit Jobbers, to the number of 300, visited the Valley in January. They were greeted in El Paso by Fred Nebel-Thau and V. F. Frizzell, representing the Valley. The jobbers saw the whole Valley.

There were 9028 registered voters in April.

Butterfat was 50 cents per pound.

The Maddux Air Lines established passenger service by air to and from Los Angeles. The first passengers were T. D. McCall, Henry Erskine, J. D. Huston, George Harris, Wm. Dunn, A. Y. Preble, Ben Hulse, Warren Currier, Roy Rumsey, and Wm. Clements. The ship was called "Pioneer Special."



*H. L. Jackson, Supervisor
(See Pioneer Sketch)*



*A. Y. Preble
Chairman, Board Supervisors*



D. A. Vencill, Supervisor

PIONEERS ORGANIZE

March 1, 1928, a number of pioneers of the Valley gathered at a banquet and organized a "pioneer club" with T. D. McCall chairman, and Mrs. Leroy Holt, secretary. A committee on organization was named and the second meeting was held.

Some of the pioneers at the first meeting were: Andy J. Elliott, C. N. Perry, Scotty Russell, Leroy Holt, C. L. Gillett, Byron E. Rice, Leona E. Rath, J. D. Huston, Jerome Forrester, E. E. Forrester, Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Orrick, Arthur Edgar, Mrs. Leroy Holt, W. S. Moore, and Addie Turbett.

The second meeting was a picnic on the E. E. Forrester ranch, May 5, when the name "Imperial Valley Pioneer Association" was adopted. T. D. McCall was chosen first President; Mrs. Leroy Holt, Secretary, Nont J. Reid was Registrar.

Membership in the Association was limited to those who came to the Valley prior to January 1, 1910. Over one hundred signed the roster.

The death of B. H. Lien, realtor and former land office official, came March 2, 1928.

JUDGE LAREW KILLED

Judge J. S. Larew, elected to the Superior Court bench in 1926, was killed March 10 when the car which he was driving on Main street, El Centro, was struck by a railroad engine and demolished.

Judge Larew was a resident of the Valley since 1909, and had been prominent in his profession for fifteen years.

His place was filled by the appointment of Vaughn N. Thompson by the Governor.

The Valley did some more celebrating when the lower house of Congress voted favorably on the Swing-Johnson Bill May 25. The bill was not finally passed, however, until December. President Coolidge signed it December 21, and then there was more celebrating.



Romeo Smith, Supervisor



*Wm. J. Best, Supervisor
(See Pioneer Sketch)*



*Elmer Heald
District Attorney*



Nont J. Reid, Tax Collector
(See Pioneer Sketch)



Ed. Law, County Clerk



W. D. Garey, Auditor
(See Pioneer Sketch)

Jasper L. Travers, whose record of attendance at every meeting of the Associated Chambers of Commerce for years was 100 per cent, was elected President in May.

AGRICULTURAL FAIR CHARTER REVIVED

Upon request of the Board of Supervisors the State revived the charter of the old Agricultural Fair Association and Governor Young appointed a new fair board. They were: S. E. Robinson, Tom Anderson, Leo Hetzel, A. Y. Preble, F. A. Willard, George Bailey and Dewey Carey. In October the County purchased, for \$4000, the tents and equipment acquired by the Brawley Mid-Winter Fair Association as a part of the plans to establish an annual fair on a permanent basis.

The Imperial County exhibit at the Long Beach Pacific Southwest Exposition attracted much attention. James Burke had charge of the exhibit.



Geo. Campbell, Sheriff
(See Pioneer Sketch)

FETE SWING AGAIN

Once again the people of the Valley indicated their esteem for Congressman Phil D. Swing when on June 20, 1928, they gathered in more than 1000 cars at Seeley to intercept him on his arrival in the Valley and escort him to El Centro. The reception was a genuine surprise to Mr. Swing, whose efforts of eight years duration finally had resulted in the passage by the lower house of Congress of the Boulder Dam Project Act. The demonstration was one that left him speechless and that, he asserted, was something unusual to happen to a Congressman. Swing was unopposed for re-election in November.

Note of the fact that more than 50,000 carloads of products were handled by the railroad company each year and that 35,000 of these cars went out under ice indicated the volume of business and the relation of transportation to the prosperity of the Valley was noted by speakers before the Chambers of Commerce. An average of over 4000 cars per month was greater than that of any other agricultural region in the west.

In the fall primaries Judge Vaughn N. Thompson was elected over S. P. Williams to succeed himself as superior court judge.

H. L. Loud was chairman of the Hoover-For-President Club. Vice-chairmen were: P. N. Myers, W. A. McGahan, H. A. Conger, A. L. Sebille, Sam P. Rowe, Elmer Heald. Ross T. Hickcox was chairman of the County Republican Central Committee. The people of the Valley took a keen interest in the election of President Hoover because, as Secretary of Commerce and Chairman of the Colorado River Commission, Hoover had been in close touch with the Colorado River development plans since the beginning.

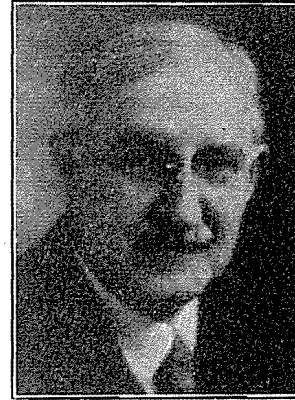
"Silt" was the name of a novel appearing in September, 1928, written by Otis B. Tout. Imperial



Evelyn Boman Westerfield
Recorder
(See Pioneer Sketch)



C. B. Collins
Superintendent of Schools



Geo. H. Varney, Treasurer
(See Pioneer Sketch)

Valley was the locale and many Valley people were used as characters in the semi-historical story. The difficulties through which the Valley labored to reach the happy insurance against the threatening Colorado River were depicted.

Voters registered in November numbered 11,211, the largest in the history of the County.

The Supervisors by resolution endorsed the short cut road to the Laguna Mountains and asked the Government to include the route for improvement through the Forest service.

Eighty Sheriffs and Deputy Sheriffs from all over the State gathered in convention in El Centro in October. Sheriff Gillett, of Imperial County, delivered the address of welcome at the opening banquet.

The Valley's radio station, KGEN was changed in name to KXO in November.

The Commercial Secretaries' Association of Southern California met at Brawley in November.

SENATE PASSES BILL

The final act in the long fight in Congress for the passage of the Boulder Dam Project Act took place December 14, when the United States Senate passed, by a vote of 64 to 11, the famous Swing-Johnson Bill. The news was the cause of another happy demonstration throughout the Valley.

1929

HIGHWAY TREE PLANTING

One of the first activities sponsored by the Junior Chamber of Commerce of El Centro was to direct the planting of trees along all the highways in the County. From El Centro east to the high line, pepper trees were to be planted; from Calexico north, Casuarina Stricta, a deep evergreen, was designated; from

El Centro west to Dixieland, the "bottle tree" was named; from Imperial to Brawley, the eucalyptus was named. This program was made practical by the establishment, in co-operation with the county of a shade tree nursery on the courthouse grounds where thousands of young trees were developed to the planting stage. The Irrigation District co-operated by furnishing water. Owners of property along the highways co-operated—a notable instance being the bottle trees planted along the mile frontage of the Timken Ranch west of El Centro, under the direction of C. O. Bullis, manager.

C. E. Pitzer was named head of Imperial County's Probation Commission which consisted of: C. E. Pitzer, Mrs. A. S. Carr, Mrs. Hugh T. Osborne, Mrs. A. C. Ferguson, Mrs. H. V. Gray, and Rev. Geo. A. Hartman.

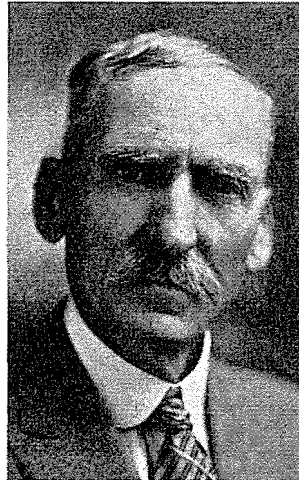
One of Imperial Valley's young men who became famous was Chester Conklin, son of Mr. and



A. R. Underwood, Coroner
(See Pioneer Sketch)



Frank G. Wier, Assessor



*I. Mayfield
Justice of the Peace
(See Pioneer Sketch)*



*B. A. Harrigan
Agricultural Commissioner*

Mrs. P. B. Conklin, of El Centro. Chester tried hog raising, but became the famous comedian in the movies instead. The senior Conklins became residents of Mojave but frequently visit the Valley.

Supervisor Ben Hulse was again named Chairman of the Board. This was the second time in the history of the County that a member served two terms in succession as Chairman. J. J. Carr was the former honoree.

STATE HIGHWAY PAVING

Imperial County greeted with joy the announcement that the State Highway Commission would expend \$2,296,500 within the County on a two-year program. The program included full width concrete paving: three miles west of Coyote Wells; Dixieland to Seeley; Brawley to Westmorland; four miles westerly from Westmorland to Kane Springs; El Centro to Holtville and five miles on the eastern

end of the Yuma highway. Most of this paving has now been completed.

The Richfield Oil Company set one of its neon airport lights at the Imperial County Airport.

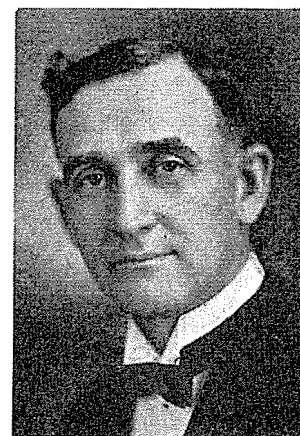
Canebrake Springs on the western edge of the desert were found to be fine picnic grounds for auto parties.

Walter Haverkorst, banker and farmer, bought Rockingham Sequence, a Guernsey bull, from a farm in New York, and had him shipped by express to Imperial Valley. The express bill was \$371.

For the seventh consecutive year Imperial Valley grapefruit won sweepstake prize at the National Orange Show in San Bernardino.



*Leta M. Bryan
Court Stenographer
(See Pioneer Sketch)*



J. G. Scott, Purchasing Agent

Under the auspices of the Associated Chambers of Commerce and the Farm Bureau business men made all day trips to various points of agricultural interest over the Valley in order to bring together more closely the business and agricultural interests of the county.

The Valley mourned the death of Rev. Geo. A. Hartman March 26, 1929. Dr. Hartman was pastor of the Presbyterian church, a member and past Commander of the American Legion and prominent in many public enterprises.

Increase in the number of jackrabbits in the northern part of the County called for heroic measures to rid the growing fields of the pest. Drives and poisoning programs were adopted.

J. Arthur McBride, former Irrigation District Director, died at Burbank in January.

The second Pioneer Association picnic was held on the Ira Aten ranch May 18, 1929. T. D. McCall was again President for the next year.

Sam Rowe, of Westmorland, was elected President of the Associated Chambers of Commerce for 1929.

A sub-branch of the Filipino Federation of America was organized in June. Cresogorio D. Bocacao was President.

The Guernsey Breeders Association was organized in November with Walter B. Haverkorst President; J. K. Smalley, Vice-President; H. G. Farnsworth, Secretary-Treasurer. Directors: F. O. Rosenbaum, J. B. Hamilton, J. V. Anderson and Earl Northup.

The 1927 grand jury, viewing the muddled books of the Sheriff's office, brought an indictment against Sheriff C. L. Gillett, alleging misuse of funds. At the first trial the jury disagreed. It was in October, 1929, before the case again reached a jury in Superior Court. The Sheriff was acquitted.

There was no county or midwinter fair in 1929. However, the County prepared to conduct a fair in February, 1930, and engaged Jas. T. Coyle, former secretary of the El Centro Chamber of Commerce, to manage the event.

October 3, Congressman Phil D. Swing was again honored by the citizens of the Valley at a banquet tendered in his honor, under auspices of the El Centro Chamber of Commerce and combined service clubs of the city. The next evening he was escorted to Brawley where the service clubs gave him another banquet. At each event Mr. Swing reviewed briefly the ten year record of the Boulder Dam Project.

The first Valley built airplane was completed by Herbert Simmons in Fritz Alderson's machine shop in El Centro. It was a monoplane.

Ben Hulse resigned as a member of the Board of Supervisors in November and Andy Y. Preble was appointed to the place by Governor Young.

License plates for Imperial Valley for 1930 had the V letter so that the series that started with 1-V looked a great deal like IV, which meant Imperial Valley. The series was requested by Trueman Thompson, Valley representative of the Auto Club.

The Southern Council of the California State Chamber of Commerce held conferences in Los Angeles to take steps to comply with President Hoover's demand for increased construction activity. Attending from the Valley: M. D. Witter, George Granger, P. N. Myers, F. A. Willard, A. J. Mercier, Leo Wetzel, Will S. Fawcett, S. E. Robinson, Sam Rowe, I. Mayfield, and F. T. Cook.

NEW FAIR BUILDINGS

The decision by the Board of Supervisors to provide Imperial County with a permanent fair site was indicated in December when contracts were let for the building of a grand stand and an administration building on the property acquired the year previous just south of Imperial. These two improvements were completed and a race track built during the next two months—in time for a fair to be held in February, 1930.

Despite the stock crashes in New York, Imperial Valley continued to be the white spot on the western map of prosperity, never missing a month for more than two years straight.

GOVERNMENT CENSUS FIGURES

TOWN	1920	1930
Brawley	5,389	10,437
Brawley Township	10,549	14,830
Calexico	6,223	6,297
Calexico Township	9,848	9,863
Calipatria	785	1,554
Calipatria Township	1,855	3,817
El Centro	5,464	8,427
El Centro Township	7,805	12,767
Heber Township		991
Holtville	1,347	1,758
Holtville Township	4,463	6,085
Hanlon Township	437	179
Imperial	1,885	1,943
Imperial Township	4,295	4,938
Niland Township	393	814
Palo Verde Township	167	108
Picacho Township	38	15
Silsbee Township	1,496	1,997
Westmorland		1,299
Westmorland Township		3,444
	43,453	59,959

1930

FAIR IN FEBRUARY

The first county fair under the new order of things was held in February, 1930. A. Y. Preble was chairman of the board or directors. Jas. T. Coyle was executive secretary. The members of the board were named in a previous paragraph. The new grandstand seated 2000 in the steel structure, and seats were provided for 3000 more. A racing program was provided. Exhibits were placed in a huge tent. Attendance was large but a wind interfered somewhat. The administration building at the entrance added architectural beauty and utility.

In October, 1930, the United States Marine Band from Washington, D. C., gave a concert on the new fair grounds.

In 1910 the county's population was 13,591. Census figures showed Imperial County eighteenth in population in the state with 59,959 in 1930, an increase of forty per cent in ten years.

State Controller Riley computed the per capita cost of municipal governments in Imperial County for 1929, including all costs, to be:

Brawley	\$21.87
Imperial	23.35
Calexico	26.79
Calipatria	34.30
El Centro	39.38
Holtville	61.87

The next improvement added was a steel exhibit building which was ready for the 1931 fair. The grounds are being beautified with lawns and cactus gardens. An historical relic exhibit is being gathered. The fair grounds will be the future meeting place for the Imperial Valley Pioneer Association.

An earthquake of some severity visited Brawley in March, 1930.

The growing of pecans as a commercial crop was receiving attention. T. J. Tubbs, of Holtville, marketed 3400 pounds and received \$1.00 a pound for the crop.

The Valley co-operated with a plan to lay out a

highway that connects Canada with Mexico City. The route runs south to San Diego, east through Imperial Valley to Arizona, and south through Mexico.

FEDERAL LAND BANK

The Federal Farm Loan system was established in 1917 and the Federal Land Bank was created to handle loans. After making several loans in Imperial Valley the bank withdrew from the territory on the ground that its 1 per cent margin for operations did not permit loans for long periods of time in territory where there was a possibility of inundation such as occurred in 1906-07. This ruling still held in 1930 when a renewed effort was made to get it changed. No doubt this attitude will be changed when Hoover Dam removes all possibility of floods and land values will reach a normal level.

The annual picnic of the Pioneer Association was held May 17, 1930, on the E. E. Forrester ranch. Mr. Forrester was named president for the ensuing year.

August Mercier, of Calexico, was elected President of the Associated Chambers of Commerce to succeed J. L. Travers.

Ben Hulse was elected head of the Forty-fifth Agricultural Fair Association in June. C. E. Pitzer was Vice-President; Estella Falla, Secretary; A. H. Keller, Treasurer; Sam P. Rowe, W. S. Dunn, T. E. Anderson, George Bailey, Dewey Carey and Ramah Ryeison were Directors.

"THE DESERT CALLS"

In November, 1930, a pageant was produced on the county fair grounds depicting the history of Imperial Valley. Three hundred were used in the cast. Lighting effects were realistic. The important happenings, from the crossing of De Anza and his followers until the reclamation of the region by irrigation were portrayed under the direction of Phil Whiting and J. S. Cameron. The event was sponsored by the Associated Chambers of Commerce with R. Y. Watson chairman of the committee. The pageant was produced November 6, 7, 8, and 9, before large crowds. It is hoped to make this or something similar an annual production.

"THE IMPERIAL VALLEY OF TODAY"

In the latter part of this history under the title, "The Imperial Valley of Today," will be found scenes, portraits and reviews that merge the past history of the Valley with the present.—EDITOR.



LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVES



PHIL D. SWING

Representative Eleventh Congressional District

WHO has not heard of the Swing-Johnson Bills that were before the national congress for eight years? These bills, introduced year after year, formed the groundwork for the Boulder Canyon Project Act finally passed. Under this bill the construction of Hoover dam, the greatest engineering attempt of modern times, is now going on.

The dynamic power behind the course of this legislation was Phil D. Swing, of El Centro, sent to Congress in 1921, and kept there by ever increasing majorities ever since. The story of this legislation is covered in the History of the Imperial Irrigation District. It is an epic of a people with an able leader, a man who never quit, never gave up and seemingly never even grew tired.

We set down here only the briefest facts in Mr. Swing's life. During the years that he has been in Congress he has enjoyed personal contact with each President of the United States, all cabinet officers and all members of the house and senate. A worthwhile note in passing: Not one of these nationally prominent men has ever uttered a sentence publicly that reflected in any way upon Mr. Swing's ability, his sincerity or his loyalty to his constituents who reside in all the counties of Southern California excepting Los Angeles. The futile opposition of the Los Angeles Times and allied interests only served to whet the desire of the people to do him honor. Witness: At the last election he was elected by a vote of 124,092 on

all tickets, with three scattering votes against him. He is now frequently mentioned as a candidate for the United States Senate and for Governor of California as well.

Phil D. Swing was born at San Bernardino, California, November 30, 1884, son of James W. Swing and Mary F. Swing. The father died in 1896, leaving his children his good name as their principal heritage.

Swing worked his way through his school and college, graduating from Stanford University in 1905 with honors, having been chosen class President, class orator, and elected a member of the honorary fraternity of Phi Beta Kappa and the legal fraternity of Phi Delta Phi. He was admitted to the practice of law in 1906 and moved to Imperial Valley in 1907, where he cast his lot with the pioneers, becoming law partner with the late Lieutenant Governor John M. Eshleman. He was successively chosen Assistant District Attorney in 1908-1911; District Attorney in 1911-1915; Chief Counsel, Imperial Irrigation District in 1916-1919; Judge Superior Court Imperial County in 1919-1921; Member of Congress from 1921 until the present time.

As District Attorney he handled the legal proceedings for the organization of the Imperial Irrigation District in 1913. When he became Chief Counsel of the Imperial Irrigation District he began an exhaustive study of the Colorado River problems which led him into the fight for the federal control and development of this river. He made two appearances before the federal departments and Congressional Committees in behalf of the All-American Canal and Boulder Dam project before being elected to Congress on this issue in 1920. The Imperial Valley, because of its tremendous interest in the Colorado River problems, initiated, supported, and put over Swing's initial campaign for Congress and repeated the procedure in 1924 in the only other fight Swing has had for re-election on the occasion of his being opposed by State Senator Sample of San Diego. During the latter campaign Imperial Valley staged the most remarkable political demonstration ever seen in the history of the state, when the five incorporated towns of the Imperial Valley closed all business by unanimous consent and proceeded by an automobile caravan over the mountains to San Diego to answer once and for all the question as to whether Imperial Valley was backing Swing's candidacy. The parade, of more than a thousand automobiles through the business streets of San Diego, the personal canvass by Valley farmers of the city merchants, ending with a great mass meeting in San Diego's largest hall, settled that campaign in Swing's favor.

San Diego has itself been more than gratified with Swing's efforts in their behalf in Congress, where he served for four years on the Naval Affairs Committee, looking out for his district so well that during the ten years he has been in Congress there has been expended or contracted for, at San Diego, more than \$10,000,000 in the way of new Navy projects and permanent enlargements and additions to existing projects.

Swing's spectacular and successful fight against tremendous forces for the Boulder Dam Project has made him a nationally known figure.

What Swing's constituents think of him is graphically shown by the increasing volume of votes cast for him at each successive election as shown by the following majorities by which he was elected:

- To the 67th Congress by a majority of 37,281;
- To the 68th Congress by a majority of 71,573;
- To the 69th Congress by a majority of 95,779;
- To the 70th Congress by 89,726 to 14 scattering;
- To the 71st Congress by 127,115 to 4 scattering;
- To the 72nd Congress by 124,092 to 9 scattering.

Fraternally Mr. Swing has been head of the Masonic and Elk's lodges in El Centro. He enlisted in the officer's training corps at Camp Taylor during the war and is a member of the American Legion.

IN THE STATE LEGISLATURE

During 1907, the year Imperial County was formed, and until 1911, Assemblyman Percy Johnson took care of the Valley's interests at Sacramento.

Then Imperial County was made an assembly district. H. W. Moorehouse, of Heber, a member of the faculty of the Heber Collegiate Institute, was the County's first Assemblyman. Moorehouse had charge of the Bridgford Act amendments, designed to enable Imperial Valley farmers to own their own water system.

In 1914, R. E. Wills, of Brawley, was elected. He made such a good record that he was re-elected in 1916.

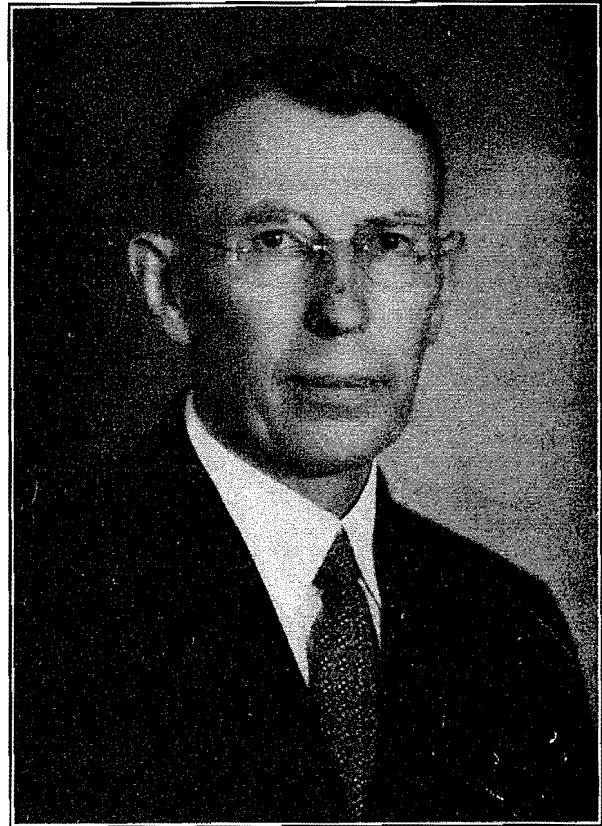
J. Stanley Brown, of El Centro served in 1918 and 1919 with credit to himself and the Valley.

Brown was succeeded by W. F. Beal, who is now an Irrigation District Director. Mr. Beal's notable achievement was to secure \$350,000 for the improvement of the Yuma and Los Angeles highways.

In 1922 and 1923, Geo. H. Davis was assemblyman.

A. C. Finney, present Superior Judge, was next in order. Mr. Finney's famous resolution denying California's signature to the Six State Compact without qualifications guaranteeing storage works attracted wide attention. When Governor Richardson attempted to over-ride him with a special session of the legislature the Finney resolution was sustained instead of defeated.

The election of Myron D. Witter, of Brawley, to the post of Assemblyman in 1926 was followed two years later by his re-election which, in 1930, was repeated. Mr. Witter's work at Sacramento is reviewed in his pioneer sketch. His death in February, 1931, resulted in the holding of a special election at which time Sam H. Robinson, President of the Farm Bureau and prominent rancher, was elected. Mr. Robinson is now Imperial County's Assemblyman.



MYRON D. WITTER, *Former Assemblyman*
(See Pioneer Sketch)

REPRESENTATIVES AT WASHINGTON

In the early days Congressman Sylvester C. Smith, of Bakersfield, represented the Eleventh California Congressional District in Washington. He made several trips to Imperial Valley. At one time he named Otis B. Tout as his secretary, but he could not serve.

After an able and successful career, Congressman Smith died and San Diego set about sending Wm. Kettner to Washington and succeeded, in spite of the fact Kettner was a Democrat and the District strongly Republican. Kettner took a great interest in the Valley's affairs. He introduced the first bill for an All-American canal and worked so hard for it that the Congress ordered the canal route surveyed and later ordered the whole Colorado River basin surveyed for dam sites. This was the start of the Boulder Dam program. Mr. Kettner served until 1920, when he declined to become a candidate.

For the past ten years Imperial Valley has named the Congressman from the Eleventh District in the person of Phil D. Swing. Under his intensive leadership, the Swing-Johnson bills were carried through five sessions of Congress to ultimate victory and now the greatest engineering works in the history of irrigation are being built in Black Canyon by the United States Government. He was ably assisted in the Senate by Senator Hiram Johnson. Mr. Swing's personal sketch gives more of his history.

In the re-appointment of Congressional Districts Imperial County will likely be thrown with San Diego County and Orange, Riverside, Inyo, San Bernardino and Kern Counties will be in other districts.

AN EARLY CASE IN COURT

C. T. Collier tells of an interesting case in the court of the El Centro justice of the peace, Rev. J. F. Tout. A drugist was charged with selling liquor. Ira Aten was one of

the chief witnesses. The defense attorney accused Aten of being armed and in a twinkling of an eye, Mr. Aten's six-gun was on the judge's table. One of the attorneys got rough and Sheriff Mobley Meadows, a big, strong man, picked him up under one arm and took him outside. That caused a recess. The trial lasted five days. Dan Noland was one of the defending lawyers. In an impassioned plea to the jury he dramatically seized the evidence and took a long drink of the liquor to demonstrate its harmlessness to the jurors. That was a fatal mistake. In five minutes the lawyer was unable to talk, the jury reached a verdict of guilty in another five minutes and the case was over.

ALMOST A TRAGEDY

J. V. Taggart, Holtville pioneer, who was a constable in Imperial before going to Holtville, tells of the time when he and two deputies were almost shot in a mix-up. Three bad men were arrested and were to be taken to San Diego for trial. Word got out that an attempt would be made that night to free the prisoners from the dinky little jail. Constable Taggart and his two assistants stationed themselves at the jail to guard against the plotters. All of a sudden they were looking down the muzzle of a Winchester rifle in the hands of a very determined man. Having the drop on them they had to retire with the best grace they could and they did. They rushed up town and told Judge Banta about it and yelled for help to stop the jail break. The judge laughed long and loud. He had appointed the new citizen a deputy and he had rushed down there himself to stop the proposed release of the prisoners. He mistook the three officers for friends of the prisoners and the three mistook him for the same. On the slightest chance there would have been an unfortunate killing of somebody because the judge had failed to notify the other officers of the new man.

CHAPTER XXIII

COUNTY WIDE ORGANIZATIONS

THE AMERICAN custom is to organize. While sometimes it seems that in every community there is an overabundance of organizations the fact remains that only by that means can any people attain their desires socially, politically or economically. It is a fact, proven over and over again, that in unity there is strength. The people began to organize groups for one purpose or another as soon as there were enough to gather around a table or fill a tent house. Water Users Associations, Farmers Unions, lodges, churches, clubs, political groups, improvement associations, chambers of commerce and the like came into being as rapidly as there were causes to justify and sometimes without such cause. The leaders in each of these organizations were generally men and women whose natural gifts for leadership were obvious. From their experiences as leaders in small affairs they became leaders in larger processes of growth and development that involved the transition of this desert to what it is today.

This chapter has to do with organizations only of a County wide nature—the Imperial Valley Farm Bureau, the Associated Chambers of Commerce, the County Federation of Women's Clubs, Federal agencies and the like.

The organizations whose fields were confined to the towns will be found in their places in the town chapters.

(In Imperial Valley there are some 165 different organizations. To gather material for sketches of each has been a herculean task. To those who responded to the publisher's requests for data we are grateful. We are sorry that a few are missing.)

—EDITOR, HISTORY.

IMPERIAL COUNTY FARM BUREAU

The value and necessity of co-operation amongst those who grew things in this one hundred per cent agricultural region was early recognized. The first evidence of this came in 1909 when I. Mayfield, now Justice of the Peace in El Centro, opened an office which he called the "Farmers' Exchange." He proposed to handle business matters for the farmers, buying, selling and trading their crops. A group of farmers saw the value of this effort and proposed to put the business on a co-operative basis. About that time the Farmers Co-Operative and Educational Union became active in the east. An organizer appeared in the Valley and the Farmers' Union, No. 111 was organized. This organization, while it lasted several years, lacked funds for extensive operations. Some of the members were: I. Mayfield, Ira Aten, W. S. Moore, J. L. and E. E. Forrester, W. E. Wilsie, U. S. Handlev, C. C. Toney, Arthur Shepard, W. P. Hamilton and F. W. Waite.

In 1915 the State of California and the United States Department of Agriculture became active in the promotion of agriculture through the State University, and sent Walter E. Packard to Imperial County to establish the Experimental Farm at Meloland. Mr. Packard and Arthur M. Nelson

were acquainted with the State plan for County Farm Bureaus and at once inaugurated a movement for the establishment of such a bureau in this Valley. To put over their idea they called for all farmers to meet in an assembly in Brawley in December, 1915. The meeting was attended by some 1200 and the result was that thirteen centers were named and the leaders in each went home and organized the first Farm Centers. These Centers and their officers were:

CENTER	PRESIDENT	SECRETARY-TREAS.
Mt. Signal	Grover Loftus	E. Albright
Heber	E. A. Dingman	F. M. Moore
Verde	James Cook	L. C. Hawk
Eastside	S. E. Robinson	C. F. Kamm
Meloland	Phil Brooks	John F. Waterman
Eucalyptus	J. T. Pitts	G. H. Wilson
Seeley	William Moore	E. G. Shellhorn
Magnolia	C. E. Phegley	Geo. R. Dofflemeyer
Westmorland	C. F. Boarts	Arthur O'Brien
Mesquite Lake	Jacob Lorang	G. W. Dameron
South Fern	W. R. Lienau	T. R. Tilley

Imperial was organized later.

Representatives of these Centers met March 4, and organized the first Imperial County Farm Bureau. The officers: R. E. Wills, President; Sam E. Robinson, Vice-President; A. M. Nelson, Secretary; C. F. Boarts, Treasurer.

The State appointed Paul Dougherty the first Farm Advisor and the County made Secretary Nelson the County Development Agent. This made possible the accomplishment of much good amongst farmers throughout the Valley. These men and their assistants attended each Farm Center meeting and gave the ranchers the latest educational facts, demonstrated practical methods, showed practices employed elsewhere, and set going the real work of the Bureau.

In all the years that have passed the Imperial County Farm Bureau has been the real guide of the actual farmer. Its Board of Directors has met monthly and formulated the policies which the membership wished adopted.

The farm bureau was the first organization in the Valley to publicly endorse the All-American canal, reservation of public lands for ex-service men, absorption of the mutual water companies, connection with Laguna dam, reservation by the United States government of the Colorado river power rights, drainage of Valley lands and many other matters of irrigation policy which have since become universally popular. It was in October of 1916 that the Farm Bureau adopted a resolution declaring that the matter of river control and water supply was one for the Federal Government to handle and in conference with Dr. Elwood Mead, suggested that the matter be taken up with Secretary Lane of the Department of the Interior.

The committee that started negotiations was composed of W. E. Packard, Phil Brooks, H. C. Swink and A. M. Nelson. As a result of this work Directors A. P. Davis, Attorney Will R. King, Chief of Construction F. E. Weymouth and Dr. Mead, of the Reclamation Service, visited the Valley late in October. At a conference which followed, Mr. Davis spoke for an hour and outlined the program which was, in the main, followed throughout the campaign for Boulder Dam and the All-American canal.

The Farm Bureau has conducted annual assemblies; taken an active interest in all county fairs and produce exhibits; published newspapers and bulletins carrying information to its members; installed a moving picture machine for use at Center meetings; taken an active part in Irrigation District affairs; organized and carried on cow testing

carried on an endless campaign along home economic lines associations; encouraged pig clubs among school children; for the relief and enjoyment of farm women, through the Home Demonstration Department; worked for re-establishment of farm loans; co-operated with Chambers of Commerce in promotion efforts; worked hard to encourage co-operation with the Government in food problems of the war period; in fact it has been the spokesman for the farmer in a region where the farmer raises more than \$60,000,000 in wealth from the ground every year.

During the fifteen years of its existence, the Imperial County Farm Bureau has had the following officers:

FARM BUREAU EXECUTIVES SINCE ORGANIZATION

Year	Farm Adviser	President	Executive Sec.
1916	Paul Dougherty	R. E. Wills	A. M. Nelson
1917	Paul Dougherty	W. E. Packard	A. M. Nelson
		Grover Loftus	
1918	C. E. Sullivan	Mike Liebert	A. E. Madison
1919	W. O. Johnson		
1920	E. L. Garthwaite	R. H. Clark	Alma M. Ehrler
1921	E. L. Garthwaite	R. H. Clark	
1922	E. L. Garthwaite	G. Ellis Wiest	
1923	E. L. Garthwaite	G. Ellis Wiest	C. C. Jenkins
1924	E. L. Garthwaite	Q. C. Webster	C. C. Jenkins
1925	E. L. Garthwaite	Q. C. Webster	C. C. Jenkins
1926	V. M. de Tar	Sam Robinson	B. D. Irvine
1927	V. M. de Tar	Sam Robinson	G. E. Burton
1928	V. M. de Tar	Sam Robinson	Scott B. Foulds
1929	Frank Beyschleg	Sam Robinson	Scott B. Foulds
1930	Frank Beyschleg	John Rouser	Scott B. Foulds
1931	Frank Beyschleg	John Rouser	Scott B. Foulds

NOTE: Grover Loftus served as President in 1917 following W. E. Packard's resignation.

Q. C. Webster was President in August, 1923, following G. E. Wiest's resignation.

In 1926, E. L. Garthwaite resigned in May and V. M. de Tar was appointed in July.

ASSOCIATED CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE

The first effort to unite the various communities of the Valley in an association where county-wide Chamber of Commerce work could be carried on was in 1908 when J. F. Giles, of Calexico, was president. The ever present suspicion of self-interest prevented wholesome co-operation for a number of years. Later, however, the attempt was renewed when paid secretaries were employed. John Foster Manning, Fred E. Place, Herman Charles, W. H. Langsdale were among these. The matter of a permanent headquarters from which to operate caused town jealousy and a waning of interest. The organization died down when war activities commenced in 1917.

A running history of these early efforts will be found in the chapters devoted to the History of Imperial County.

It was only when several El Centro men, headed by Jos. F. Seymour, Jr., drew up a set of by-laws that did away with any central headquarters, employed no paid secretary and provided for monthly meetings at the various towns in alphabetical order, did the militant civic leaders find common ground on which to stand. This was in 1919. Each bona fide Chamber of Commerce sends its President and two delegates to the monthly meetings. For eleven years not a meeting has been missed.

This organization serves as a clearing house for ideas, takes up and discusses problems of Valley wide import, interests itself in good roads, farm problems, legislation, etc., and does not hesitate to take action whenever a majority wishes to act. Dissension has sometimes entered. Calexico withdrew in 1928 and remained out nearly a year, but the differences were composed.

The first president, A. R. Hevener, of Calexico, served two years; the second president, L. M. Hutchinson of Calexico, served two years, while the following since that time have served one year each: E. W. Cuff, Brawley; C. E. Scott, El Centro, now of Los Angeles; H. A. Schneider, Holtville; Lester Eichhold, Imperial; J. L. Travers, El Centro; Sam Rowe, Brawley; Judge Meyers, Calipatria;

A. J. Mercier, Calexico, and S. C. Sorensen, of Calipatria, who was elected head of the organization in June of this year, 1931.

J. L. Travers, who served as Treasurer for eight years, has the record for attendance. He has missed but one meeting of the Associated in eleven years. That time he was out of the Valley.

COUNTY FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS

The Imperial County Federation of Women's Clubs is an organization in which the forward looking, progressive club women of each town and center unite for the consideration of topics of county-wide interest and import. In each town before 1910 there existed a woman's club and at the suggestion of Mrs. Violette Campbell, of El Centro, delegates were named to attend organization meeting which was held at El Centro, February 22, 1910. Mrs. Campbell was the first President and at the end of the first year was re-elected. In the historic annals of the Federation Mrs. Campbell is given the honor of being President Emeritus. At her death the hundreds of Valley club women paid special tribute to her ability as a leader.

Succeeding presidents in their order, were: Mrs. William H. Best, Brawley; Mrs. J. H. Peck, Calexico; Mrs. J. R. Stevenson, Imperial; Mrs. Charles T. Turner, Calexico; Mrs. W. S. Cummings, El Centro; Mrs. J. F. Seymour, El Centro; Mrs. H. L. Fulton, Brawley; Mrs. Warren Currier, Holtville; Mrs. Genevieve Williams, Calexico; Mrs. George J. Phelps, El Centro; Mrs. K. D. Oliver, Brawley; Mrs. C. B. Collins, Imperial; Mrs. L. A. Rawles, Calipatria; Mrs. F. D. Jacobs, El Centro; Mrs. Carl Morford, Holtville; Mrs. John Kavanaugh, Holtville; Mrs. Bert Anslyn, Brawley, and the present president, Mrs. A. B. Hanson, of El Centro.

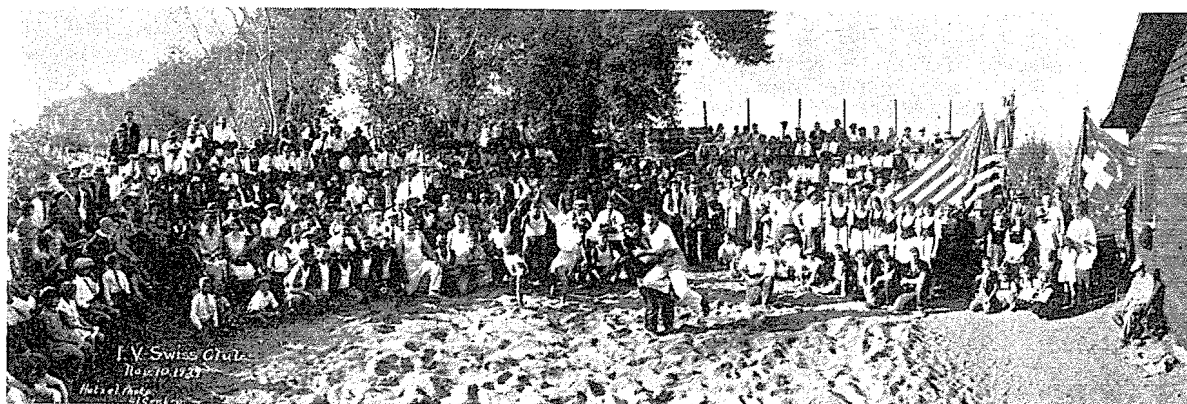
WOMAN'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE UNION

When George Chaffey laid out the Etiwanda and Ontario colonies in Southern California and his two irrigation colonies in Australia, he dictated into every deed a clause that prohibited the manufacture, barter or sale of liquor in any form. When he took hold of the Colorado desert project in 1900, and named it Imperial Valley, as sole dictator of the policies of the California Development Company and the Imperial Land Company it was but natural that he again insisted that liquor should be forever prohibited in the Valley.

Finding this foundation on which to build, the good women in early days lost no time in erecting fortress organizations to hold the territory with a "white army." the W. C. T. U. At the invitation of Mrs. Angie Miller, a national organizer, was invited and Brawley was organized January 20, 1906, with a membership of 35; Imperial was next with 42; Calexico was third with 43; Alamo, El Centro, Holtville, Jasper, Verde, Heber, Bard, North End, Magnolia, Silsbee, Seeley, Calipatria, McCabe, were all organized in quick order.

The first five locals were organized in April, 1907, as the Imperial Valley W. C. T. U. This was the first Valley-wide organization of any sort, coming five months before the county was organized. The officers were: C. Angie Miller, President; Mrs. S. T. Bixby, Vice-President; Mable Edgar, Recording Secretary; Florence Buttress, Corresponding Secretary; and Lizzie Kramer, Treasurer. In 1908, a series of medal contests were held. In 1911, a memorial window was constructed in the Christian church at El Centro in honor of Mrs. Ida Tout, a pioneer temperance worker, much loved by her associates. Drinking fountains were installed in all the incorporated cities. When the county was formed the dry tradition was expressed by the first ordinance passed by the new Board of Supervisors, a strong prohibition ordinance. In the early days a never ending fight was carried on against the blind pigs.

In the election of November 3, 1913, Imperial County was the banner county of the state in the vote for the prohibition amendment. After serving eight years as county president, Mrs. Miller withdrew as a candidate. The an-



The Swiss Association has Gala Times at Annual Picnics

nual county conventions are events of great interest. During the war every local was as busy making bags and filling them, making trench torches and fuel sticks, as well as hospital supplies. The Valley locals sent an ambulance to France, fully equipped and manned. The ambulance was dedicated to the boys of Imperial County. The Imperial local had a disheartening experience when the voters made the town wet, but the brave women ran their membership from 26 to 130 and carried on the fight until the county went dry. Following are the first presidents of county locals:

Brawley, 1906	Mrs. C. Angie Miller
Imperial, 1906	Mrs. Amanda Mackie
Calexico, 1906	
El Centro, 1907.....	Mrs. Tuttle
Alamo, 1907.....	Mrs. Linnie Strain
Silsbee, 1907	Mrs. Fannie Harding
Heber, 1913	Mrs. Angeline Courtney
Holtville, 1909	Mrs. Martha Hoyt
Seeley, 1914	Mrs. Minnie Hull
McCabe, ———	Mrs. Thayer
Calipatria, 1918	Mrs. Florence Yarnell

The county organization has ever been on the alert in the fight against vice below the border. In Congressman Phil D. Swing, they had a friend in Washington and as a result of many petitions, letters and telegrams the border remains closed from 9 p. m. to 6 a. m.

The county presidents since organization, 1906 to 1915: Mrs. C. Angie Miller; 1916 and 1917, Imogene Aten; 1918 to 1919, Mrs. Florence Yarnell; 1920 to 1921, Mrs. Jennie Hodge; 1921 to 1925, Mrs. Sylvia Feldman; 1926 to 1931,

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

The Boy Scouts were organized in January, 1923, and at the present time there are 32 troops in the council comprising Imperial and Yuma Valleys. A report is made once a year to the National Council at New York. H. E. Lounsberry is at present the Scout Executive. R. P. L. Moore is the National Council Representative. J. E. Brock, of the McCabe district, is the Council President. The executive board is composed of the following: Ernest Saunders and O. G. Horne, of El Centro; George Gullett, of Calipatria; Carl Jacobson, H. R. Anderson, Geo. McIntyre, Walter P. Casey, of Brawley; Frank Lucking, of Holtville; Geo. H. Ross, Imperial; Dick Emerson, Calexico; Wm. Westover, Yuma; J. C. Ramsaur, Westmorland; Frank Weed, of Calexico, who was for two years president, is now chairman of the camp committee; Dr. Fox, of El Centro, chairman of the health and safety committee; Harvey A. Hastain, of Brawley, is troop organizer committee; G. K. Randolph of Westmorland, and W. A. Tondro, of El Centro, committee on Sea Scout committee. Geo. McIntyre, of Brawley, is chairman of the Court of Honor. S. L. McCrory, of El Centro, is the Council Commander;

O. G. Horne, chairman of the Financial committee; Carl Jacobson, Treasurer.

Y. W. C. A. AND GIRL RESERVES

The Y. W. C. A. was organized in 1919. Twenty-seven clubs of Girl Reserves in the County from the Junior Y. W. C. A. and work in conjunction with the district Y. W. C. A. Miss Bertha Patterson has charge of the work as chairman-secretary, which position she has held the past two years. Her car goes on an average of from 1000 to 1200 miles per month over the county in this work. The girl communities in the smaller towns—girl reserves—meet once each week in connection with educational and spiritual activities. Four delegates from each town meet once a month in a different place each time as an executive board. The organization is sponsored by the Community Chest and community contributions. They own 40 acres at Hipass on which is a well equipped camp, where the Girl Reserves go in the early spring and winter for camping. In the summer time, under the care of the tuberculosis committee, undernourished children are taken care of. Miss Patterson is always in charge when the Girl Reserves are in camp. The county officers are: Mrs. H. G. Jones, El Centro, President; Mrs. Percy Palmer, Brawley, First Vice-President; Mrs. Genevieve Williams, Calexico, Second Vice-President; Mrs. H. V. Gray, Imperial, Treasurer; Mrs. John Bowman, Calipatria, Recording Secretary; Mrs. Lawrence Richards, Holtville, Corresponding Secretary. The local presidents are: El Centro, Mrs. M. J. Dowd; Holtville, Mrs. A. P. Shibley; Calipatria, Mrs. John Bowman; Brawley, Mrs. Percy Palmer; Westmorland, Mrs. John Strickland; Calexico, Mrs. D. P. Choisser; Imperial, Mrs. W. O. Hinderks. There is a colored board in East El Centro, of which Mrs. Payne is chairman. All the colored girls work in conjunction with this board. There are also four Mexican Girl Reserve clubs in the Valley, but has no president and not organized separately. The Y. W. C. A. is a very active organization in the Valley.

IMPERIAL VALLEY SWISS CLUB

The Imperial Valley Swiss Club is composed of Swiss people, a large number of whom are farming in Imperial Valley. They are mostly in the dairy business. The club has a clubhouse northwest of Holtville, where members and their families gather for the enjoyment of sports, music and dancing. The annual athletic picnic is quite an event.

The club was organized in 1925, with Joe Enz as President. He was chief officer for three years and after Joe Groebli served in 1928, Enz again was President for a year, 1929. In 1930 Fred Strahm was elected and he is still in office. A band of sixteen pieces is a feature. John Schultz is director. A rifle club with 75 members has headquarters in Imperial. Frank Stockalper is President. The Rifle club won the cup for the best entry in the Armistice Day parade in El Centro in 1928.

IMPERIAL VALLEY CHAPTER AHEPA LODGE

While this Greek lodge has only been organized two years it has a membership of 150. The officers are: George Poulos, Calexico, Past President; Bill Pharos, Brawley, President; Paul Prokalamos, Vice-President; Constantine Simakis, Pete Skinas, Bill Cominos, Tom Stratos, Chris Stergos, Trustees. The lodge is to further Americanization. The letters AHEPA signifying, American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association.

From the preamble of the constitution of the Order of Ahepa: Promote and encourage loyalty to the United States of America, allegiance to its Constitution and Traditions, obedience to the Laws of the land, including the Laws of the several states of the Union, and the ordinances of all legally constituted subdivisions thereof; instruct its members in the tenets and principles of Democracy, in the methods and operation of political life in the United States, and inspire the entire Membership with a genuine reverence for the Majesty of the Law; instill in every one of its members a sincere love for the United States, its History and Traditions, a due appreciation of the privilege of citizenship, and the sacred duties attendant therewith. Encourage its members to always be profoundly interested, and actively participating in the political, civil, social and commercial life of the United States, and to strive always for its betterment. To promote throughout the world, and especially in the United States of America, a better and more comprehensive understanding of the Hellenic peoples and nation; and to revive, cultivate, enrich and marshal into active service for humanity the noblest attributes and highest ideals of true Hellenism.

IMPERIAL COUNTY PEACE OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION

Several years ago an organization similar to this was in existence. In 1929 it was revived and reorganized. Sheriff George L. Campbell is President. Lon Cromer, City Marshal at Brawley, is Vice-President, and G. E. Kirkpatrick, Deputy Sheriff, is Secretary-Treasurer. The association has sixty members, all of whom are officers of the law within the county. A feature is the mutual insurance benefit which pays \$1000 in case of a member's death. As the dues are insufficient to cover the cost of this insurance appreciative citizens contribute to the fund. The association plans to conduct a series of night football games for the benefit of this insurance fund.

SCHOOLMASTERS CLUB OF IMPERIAL COUNTY

Organized December 22, 1926, with twenty-two charter members. Now ninety. Constitution and by-laws adopted January 29, 1927. Presidents since organization: Carl N. Vance, Brawley; Claude R. Prince, Calipatria; C. W. Martin, El Centro; M. M. Longshore, Calexico; A. P. Shibley, Holtville. First Secretary, Cloyd C. Hall, of Imperial; second year Secretary, Chas. E. Line, Imperial; for the past three years Frank I. Shepherd, of El Centro, has been Secretary.

Meetings are held by invitation in different parts of the Valley. The meetings usually consist of a banquet, musical or other entertainment, an address by an outsider on some timely topics and a business session.

IMPERIAL VALLEY CAMP NO. 62 UNITED SPANISH WAR VETERANS

Organized March 5, 1918, with 13 members. It was the first organization to endorse the passage of the Kettner bill and to advocate the retention of the East side mesa lands for returned soldiers.

The Commanders to date have been: Frank H. Stanley, Franklin J. Cole, Jacob Lorang, W. W. Dixon, Otto Berlinger, J. M. Grafton, S. P. Rowe, Mike Liebert, James J. Schultz, A. C. Farrar, C. M. Jensen, W. O. Huson and E. J. Smith. Harry Headrick is the present Commander.

It early espoused the cause of Colorado river legisla-

tion. Delegates Mike Liebert and J. M. Grafton were sent to Department encampment at Riverside May, 1923, where they were successful in having resolutions passed endorsing the Swing-Johnson Bill.

The camp Commander, J. M. Grafton, was sent to National Encampment at Chattanooga, Tenn., September, 1923, where similar resolutions were adopted. The camp has 48 members at present.

IMPERIAL VALLEY PYRAMID NO. 37, SCIOTS

Organized April 16, 1923 with a membership of 100. Present membership 201. Toparchs from organization: C. W. Collins, Ed. J. Allen, Chas. E. Scott, Wm. J. Reid, Earl V. C. Northrup, Raynor C. Clemons, H. W. Fawcett, and at the present time J. Howard Morgan. The scribe at the present time is E. N. D. Hatch.

The Sciots maintain beds in quite a number of sanitariums throughout the State, for the care of undernourished and anemic children, and through this medium are spending money from their Foundation Fund, which is a State-wide fund to which each Scot contributes. This fund takes care of children who need such care, even though they are not from families of Masons or Sciots.

IMPERIAL VALLEY COMMANDERY NO. 54 KNIGHTS TEMPLAR

This organization meets every Tuesday evening at Masonic Temple. It was organized in 1915. The past commanders from that time to the present are: Eugene D. White, Vene Bloomer, Ray S. Carberry, J. Stewart Ross, F. D. Hevener, Chas. E. Scott, T. J. Worthington, Earl V. C. Northrup, George W. Anderson, J. Howard Morgan, W. A. Tondro, L. L. Duff, A. Z. Cazanave, F. D. Jacobs. The present Commander is W. H. Tyler, Jr., J. H. Morgan, recorder.

IMPERIAL VALLEY COUNCIL NO. 2130 KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Organized May 9, 1920. Headquarters are located at Calexico.

Grand Knights who have served the order: Thos. P. Daly, Patrick J. Bowen, George Saunders, F. M. Donovan, George H. Guirsch, William J. Meagher, Peter P. Schwartz, and Louis B. McManus.

SALVATION ARMY

The Salvation Army was organized in 1924, with headquarters in El Centro. The new building on Broadway was dedicated August, 1930. The local Army now has a membership of 30 senior and 50 junior soldiers. A general line of relief work is carried on, assisting unfortunates to make good citizens of themselves. Capt. and Mrs. John W. Myall arrived Sept. 5, 1930, and are now in charge of headquarters. During the months of October, November, December and January of the past winter, meals were given to 8876; 5936 transients helped; 2624 beds supplied; 2747 applicants asked for employment. The Army help families at Christmas and Thanksgiving time, visiting the sick, giving clothing, shoes or groceries. Services are held twice every Sunday in the city and county jails. The Salvation Army is one of the worthy welfare organizations in the Valley.

IMPERIAL VALLEY SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST

Organized May 25, 1907, with 13 charter members. Now there are three churches in the Valley—Brawley, New River and El Centro, with a total membership of 86.

Men who have been in charge as elders in recent years: John Knox, Walter H. Bradley, B. R. Spear, S. T. Borg, Frank A. Moran and H. P. Gray.

FEDERAL AGENCIES

U. S. IMMIGRATION SERVICE

The Calexico office of the Immigration Service was established about 1900, when the inspection was done by custom officers. The office force now consists of the Inspector in Charge, fourteen Immigrant Inspectors and two stenographers. Immigration officers were first stationed at Calexico September 6, 1909. The only requirement until 1917 was registering all aliens who entered. In 1917, when the law became more strict the work of the office was greatly increased. At the present time there are 6448 aliens residing in Mexico who have been issued border crossing cards, which entitle them to entry into Calexico and vicinity for business or pleasure. This privilege does not entitle them to do any work whatsoever in the United States.

The Inspectors in charge since the records were first kept in 1908, are as follows: — — Murphy, George W. Webb, A. A. Musgrave, W. A. Brazie, A. R. Nielson, Fred D. Jack, P. A. Robbins, and Herbert Hadley.

U. S. IMMIGRATION SERVICE BORDER PATROL
Subdistrict No. 2—District No. 31

Subdistrict headquarters for the Border Patrol were established in El Centro July 1, 1924. Thirty-nine Patrol Inspectors work out of this office, which is in charge of Chief Patrol Inspector Millard L. Chaffin, who took office February 28, 1925. His predecessor was Frank G. Ellis, who served eight months.

The work of the Border Patrol is varied and extensive. The subdistrict, with headquarters in El Centro, includes all the territory from the Mexican border to the Kern County line, east and north and then northwest to Beatty, Nevada, thence east and south into Arizona to a point north of Kingman, thence south to the Mexican border, near Tacne, Arizona, 46 miles east of Yuma. This territory is about 410 miles square. It is the duty of the thirty-nine inspectors to keep this vast area clear of illegal entries of aliens, seize contraband of any kind, such as dutiable goods and merchandise, intoxicating liquors, animals, narcotics and infested products of the soil. They also apprehend violators of the Dyer act—persons driving stolen cars—violators of the white slave traffic act, the transportation of women and girls for immoral purposes, deserters from the United States army and naval forces, murderers, thieves, highwaymen and other fugitives from justice. Substations are maintained at Niland, Yuma, Westmorland and Jacumba. Patrol Inspectors are largely thrown upon their own resources and must be able to take the initiative and assume responsibility. Many of the men have been commissioned military officers. Most of them are married and live in the Valley. They shoot only in self-defense. Inspector Norman G. Ross was killed by an apprehended alien. Inspector Chaffin carries two gunshot wounds received in battle with Mexican liquor smugglers. Inspector Frank G. Goddell was shot and wounded by an autoist. Inspectors Eddie Adcock, Claude Townsend and Wm. VanHorn received injuries when run down by autoists.

The list of results accomplished since the subdistrict was established would fill a page of this history. For instance: Miles patrolled by motor, train, foot and airplane, 987,596; automobiles and busses inspected, 716,506. The El Centro substation distributes approximately \$90,000 annually in the Valley. At headquarters on Imperial avenue, near the San Diego highway, the public will find a welcome at the hands of any of the inspectors on duty.

UNITED STATES CUSTOMS SERVICE
Port of Calexico

Prior to 1913, Calexico was in the San Diego district. Records from 1900 to 1913, as to exports and imports were not obtainable in either San Diego or Los Angeles. The first inspector detailed for duty along the border was Hubert George, who went to work in 1901 and was recalled on account of "no business," in April, 1902.

Charles A. Sanborn was detailed at Calexico September 4, 1902, and served until 1905. The first customs house was leased July 1, 1904. In 1906 to 1909, Ralph Conklin was in charge. In 1910 Charles DeCamp; in 1911, D. S. Packard; 1912 to 1914, J. E. Shreve. Then came C. C. MacCumber, G. S. Quate, E. R. Brown and for the last seven years H. F. Shepherd has been the Inspector in Charge.

The following table shows the total annual collections at the Port of Calexico since 1914:

1914	\$22,558.50	1923	\$210,522.14
1915	17,625.03	1924	315,663.47
1916	6,665.91	1925	262,854.56
1917	1,470.43	1926	327,275.03
1918	2,069.76	1927	158,650.73
1919	7,029.62	1928	81,581.61
1920	2,426.13	1929	80,434.40
(March 1, 1920 to Feb. 1, 1923,		1930	71,511.48
District of San Diego).			

Calexico separated from Los Angeles District June 22, 1930.

The following table shows the total annual volume of imports and exports since 1914:

VOLUME OF BUSINESS
Fiscal Year Ending June 30th:

Year	Imports	Exports
1914	\$ 1,084,367	\$ 469,849
1915	1,569,109	654,968
1916	1,427,021	1,250,070
1917	3,571,171	1,637,974
1918	5,899,769	1,781,285
1919	8,312,687	2,448,072
1920	12,878,028	3,515,413
1921	8,377,045	2,960,865
1922	5,642,962	2,328,909
1923	6,161,911	2,675,373
1924	6,165,601	4,068,621
1925	7,061,235	4,271,381
1926	4,712,962	4,914,483
1927	8,424,808	4,294,962
1928	3,739,589	4,100,341
1929	7,341,455	5,071,055
1930	6,667,880	3,996,508

(To June 22, 1930)

Principal imports: Previous to 1913—Cattle and Grain, after 1913—Cotton, Cottonseed, Cattle, Grain, Fresh Fish, Cotton by-products.

Principal Exports: Staple groceries, Hardware, Lumber, Dry Goods, Farming Implements, Gasoline, Fuel Oil.

U. S. CUSTOMS PATROL
Headquarters at Heber

The U. S. Customs Patrol Service, with Heber as headquarters, was established in 1926, with L. F. Flannery Inspector in Charge. He served until May, 1930, and was succeeded by Chas. Johnson, who was in charge until September, 1930. Frank Goodell has been mounted Inspector in Charge since then. L. E. Echols, Mounted Inspector, has had charge of the office work for the past four years. Twelve Inspectors work out of his headquarters. They are all mounted on first class motorcycles. They work in co-operation with the Immigration Service Border Patrol. The Immigration men turn over seizures of liquor to the Customs force and the Customs force turn over seizure of aliens to the Immigration force. The Mounted Customs, Patrol has made forty-six notable liquor seizures since the first of December, 1930.

U. S. PLANT QUARANTINE & CONTROL
ADMINISTRATION

This government agency was established in 1917, with headquarters at Calexico, with Orlo A. Pratt Inspector in Charge. Inspector Pratt stands guard at the border against the importation of infested plants, trees, fruits, etc.

POST OFFICES

IMPERIAL—Established 1901. Second Class. At present 7 employees and two rural routes. Postmasters from organization to present time as follows: W. F. Holt, Miss Marguerite Clark, H. E. Allatt, Mary F. Butler, N. A. Mackey.

MT. SIGNAL—Fourth Class. Postmasters since organization: Newman & Zarnosky, R. D. Lane, R. Robertson, B. M. Collins and at the present, R. D. Lane is again postmaster.

EL CENTRO—Established 1905 in Chaplin's real estate office. Moved to J. Stanley Brown's hardware store, then across street on Main street. In 1920 moved to the present location on Fifth street. The office has carrier delivery, two rural routes, and 21 employees. It is in the first class. Postmasters since established: D. H. Chaplin, Mrs. J. Stanley Brown, Orin Miller, C. W. Collins, who died in November, 1927. McPherson Spence acted until the present postmaster, Chas. C. Jenkins, was appointed. Postal receipts for the past few years: 1927, \$54,795.33; 1928, \$55,557.42; 1929, \$59,862.27; 1930, \$67,620.62. The government is to build a new post office building in the near future.

BRAWLEY—Established 1906. Second class, but will be first class July 1, 1931. The office has carrier delivery, with three carriers, 18 employees, two rural routes, which have the distinction of being the longest routes in the United States. Route 1 is 89.28 miles in length, and route 2 is 88.12 miles long. Miss Nellie Pellet served as postmistress for 24 years, and the present postmaster, Alton W. Jeffus, was appointed January 2, 1931.

AMOS—Established October 1, 1920, fourth class. Postmasters since established: R. H. Freeman, N. L. Geer, and the present postmaster, Jacob S. Fleming.

CALEXICO—Established 1902. Has 12 employees. Second class. The office has carrier delivery and one rural route. Postmasters since establishment: Joseph A. Estudillo, Adolph M. Shenk, Thomas H. Hughes, Harry H. Griswold, Charles C. Cockley, Donald Dool, Frank W. Roach, Walter P. Cockley, and the present postmaster, Claude A. Ritter.

HOLTVILLE—Established July 21, 1903. Second class. Has three rural routes and three office clerks. Postmasters since establishment: J. S. Bridenstine, P. B. Brown, S. N. Frost and the present postmaster, R. Ryerson.

PALO VERDE—Established March, 1903. Fourth class. Postmasters since establishment: Wm. Hodges, A. P. Wiley, W. W. Markle, Marjorie Brazell, Mildred Harris and the present postmistress, Sara P. Gamwell.

DIXIELAND—Established March 1, 1912. Fourth class, with two employees. Postmasters since establishment: George Nichols, Mrs. Philip Schereman, Mrs. O. M. Spalding, C. A. McCarthy and the present postmaster, John Hite.

CALIPATRIA—Established 1914. Third class, with two employees. Has passed requirements for becoming second class in 1930, and now awaiting change. Postmasters since establishment: C. H. Brown, E. S. Slade and present postmistress, Inez M. Benson.

ANDRADE—Established 1914. Fourth class, with one employee. Postmasters since establishment: Percy C. O'Brien, Helen C. Carter, John S. McFarland, Harry C. Sherwood, Ralph Bengier and the present postmaster, Charles M. Highley.

Additional post offices in Imperial County; Niland, Heber, Plaster City, Wiest, Bard, Seeley, Westmorland.

FORT YUMA INDIAN AGENCY

SUPERINTENDENTS—Mary O'Neil, July 1, 1895; John S. Spear, July 1, 1900; Ira C. Deaver, July 1, 1906; Anna C. Egan, January 1, 1908; Loson L. Odle, May 1, 1913; Byron A. Sharp, November, 1924, H. B. Jolley, May 5, 1926.

Reserve established by agreement between the Yuma Indians and Commissioners appointed by the United States, dated 1893. Reserve was set aside by Executive authority by President Chester A. Arthur, January 9, 1884.

1857—Yumas saved Southern California from war by refusing to join other tribes that would have endangered the settlement of Los Angeles and San Diego, and the country south of Cajon Pass. These were some of the river tribes and the Cohuillas and Dieganos. Yumas and allies were decisively defeated by the Pimas and Maricopas near Maricopa Wells. Yumas lost not less than 200 of their best fighting men. About 1500 were engaged on each side.

Yumas build no houses, unless a hole in the sand, with a rude protection on one side made of logs and brush, can be called a house.

1863—Territory of Yumas had been considered within the territory of California and its superintendent but for practical purposes the Indians were under the actual charge of the Arizona superintendent, Col. Chas. D. Poston.

1864—Yumas lacked food because there was no overflow of the Colorado to flood the lowlands and make them fit to raise a crop. They numbered about 5000 at the time of American occupation but had dwindled down to 2000. First agent for the Yumas, Mr. Francis Hinton was appointed by Poston in December, 1863. Special agent reported the Yumas in destitute condition—1000 to 1500. Decided to issue them tools to assist them to support themselves.

1869—Yumas greatly reduced in numbers, diseased by contact with whites about Ft. Yuma. Thought that there was not a physically sound Indian in tribe. Yumas work for steamboat company as deck hands and wood choppers.

1872—It was reported as follows: "The Yumas are idle, careless, ignorant and often debased by whisky and licentiousness and each generation gravitates to a lower level than the preceding." Conquered by troops 25 years ago.

1884—Yumas population, 1200. The reservation on the Arizona side of the river was found to be unsuitable and one was created on the California side and the other one restored to the public domain. Executive Order of Jan. 9, 1884. Drunkenness among Yumas punished by their chief, Pasqual. School established at Jaeger Farm, 1 mile from Ft. Yuma—30 pupils. On the reservation, floods ruin the crops. The Indians plant again with hopes of getting a crop.

1890—The Yumas subsist on wild seed pods of the mesquite and such irregular employment as can get from the Southern Pacific and river boats. R. R. officials call them good laborers and if regularly employed would soon show improvement. Six years ago went about streets of Yuma in a shirt and a breech cloth, now wear citizen's dress, and are as clean as any class of laborers. No water on Yuma reservation. The land good and would easily support Indians if had water. Catholic School at Yuma, evidently government contract. Yumas of school age—225. Attendance from 100 to 130. Indians not interested in school for children, need compulsory law. Want rations for sending children to school as they feel they are conferring a favor.

1893—The right of way granted by the act of February 15, 1893, to the Colorado River Irrigation Company for the canal through the Yuma Reservation rendered available for agricultural purposes lands which would otherwise be of little value and removed the principal obstacle which had theretofore stood in the way of agricultural pursuits among the Yuma Indians.

1893—Yuma Indian population, 1084.

Land allotted in severalty in 1912—trust patent issued February 5, 1914.

Present population 836.

U. S. REFEREE IN BANKRUPTCY

This office has been organized about fifteen years. The first referee was Wilbur W. Randall, who was succeeded by Hubert Collins, and for the past seven years R. B. White-law has been in charge of this office.

IMPERIAL VALLEY MILK INSPECTION SERVICE

Imperial Valley is a great milk producing region and the State of California maintains an inspection service to see that regulations and laws are observed for the protection of the milk-consuming public. The service was established in 1924 and Inspectors Crane, Gittings and Beheney carried on the work until last year when Walter C. McDonald was appointed. He is the present inspector. The work has advanced until the entire County, comprising the districts of Brawley, Calexico, Calipatria, El Centro, Holtville, Imperial and all outside districts have received the approval of the Bureau of Dairy Control of the State Department of Agriculture.

All of the market milk consumed is graded milk. That is to say, all the fluid milk sold for human consumption is produced and distributed under the supervision of the Imperial Valley Milk Inspection Service operating under, and by authority of the California State Dairy Laws, thus securing to the consuming public the same high quality, grade for grade, that is available to 95 per cent of the population of the State, which is noted for the superior quality of its market milk.

A feeling of cordial good will and friendliness exists between the milk producers and the inspection service which induces a condition of safety, stability and co-operation resulting in each producer continually striving for still higher quality. It is planned that a number of our local milk distributors will, this year, enter into competition with the finest dairies in the West at several of the dairy shows held throughout the state.

As for the future of dairying in Imperial Valley, Mr. MacDonald predicts that this Valley will be in a few years the greatest dairy section of the United States. Young men, taking up agriculture as a pursuit, will see the advantages offered here, and putting business principles into their work, will secure a success unapproached elsewhere in the country.

COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM

The county library was established in 1912. Mrs. Thomas Beeman was the first librarian in charge, being succeeded by Mrs. Evelyn Boman Westerfield, and last September Miss Romaine Richmond was appointed to the position. This is a four year appointive office. The purpose of the county library is serving rural communities and schools. At the present time there are twenty communities and fifty schools being served.

COUNTY BOARD OF TRADE

One of the most important advisory boards in the county organization is the Board of Trade which was created by the Board of Supervisors for the purpose of examining into and planning publicity projects, supervising promotion efforts, such as fair exhibits and the like. All such matters come first before the Board of Trade which makes its recommendations to the supervisors.

The members of the board are: R. Y. Watson, chairman; Henry Zucher, E. W. Lott, Don J. Bell and Leroy Mouser. B. A. Harrigan is secretary and handles the details of the board's business in addition to his multiplied duties as Agricultural Commissioner.

The Board of Trade has supervised the publication of numerous leaflets, folders, and statistical sheets containing attractive pictures and facts about Imperial County. Numerous magazine articles have been supplied as well.

ANNUAL COUNTY FAIR

With the purchase of property within the city limits of Imperial and the erection of substantial grandstands, exhibit buildings, an administration building and a fast race track the Imperial County Fair association became a real organization in 1929 and every year since has supervised a fair that has attracted wide attention. The county fair is a part of the state's plan and is organized as the Forty-fifth Agricultural Association.

Following are the officers: Ben Hulse, president; C. E. Pitzer, vice-president; A. H. Kellar, treasurer; directors: Sam P. Rowe, W. S. Dunn, T. E. Anderson, George Bailey, Dewey Carey and Ramah Ryerson.

The annual fair is held in February.

COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

A reorganization of the health department of the county took place in 1930 when Dr. Warren F. Fox was appointed County Health Officer. Dr. Fox is also field agent in the U. S. public health service. A report submitted to the Board of Supervisors August 1, 1931, contains health facts and comparative statements of value. Imperial county is a healthy place to live according to the figures. This table shows the death rate per 1000 population over a period of five years in all the United States, California and Imperial county.

	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929
United States.....	11.8	12.2	11.4	12.0	11.9
California	11.2	12.1	12.1	12.5	11.9
Imperial County....	11.5	10.2	9.5	10.7	11.6

The health department makes constant effort to control communicable diseases, examines school children outside incorporated towns and attempts to keep the public informed of the dangers of typhoid and such diseases. The use of untreated ditch water for drinking purposes is the greatest cause for typhoid fever in the Valley. The foreign population of the Valley is difficult to deal with in health matters. Of 252 deaths from tuberculosis over a period of three years, 59 per cent were Mexican, 22 per cent were white and 19 per cent other races. The accident death rate, most on highways, is comparatively high. The state rate in 1930 was 96.4 per 100,000 population. Imperial county's rate was 164.6. "The alcoholic driver leads the caravan on the Highway of Death" the report reads.

One of the difficult and unusual problems confronting the health department is the disposal of cull lettuce during the winter. Last year there were approximately 4000 car loads of culls. This lettuce cannot be piled and left to rot.

The annual influx of vegetable laborers who live in the open, on canal banks, presents another problem. Some 3000 such have to be regulated as to water supply, garbage disposal, sewage, etc.

Dr. Fox advocates the co-ordination of all health activities of the cities, county, state and federal government in order to best serve the people. He also urges a "clean-up" campaign for the complete elimination of tubercular cows in dairy herds. Objection on the part of San Diego and other populous centers to the importation of milk from Imperial county would thereby be cancelled. The state report in April, 1931, showed that only 10.8 per cent of the dairy cows in the Valley were "reactors." These could be quickly eliminated. "Imperial County is the logical milkshed of all southern California" the report adds.

The personnel of the County Health Office:

- Warren F. Fox, M. D., County Health Officer.
- Frances P. Ostberg, P.H.N., County Public Health Nurse.
- Marion M. Buchholz, County Sanitary Inspector.
- Helen L. Troutman, Clerk*.
- Edith L. Ericke, P.H.N., State Public Health Nurse*.
- Walter C. MacDonald, Market Milk Inspector*.

* Part-time employees.

CHAPTER XXIV

IMPERIAL

WHEN George Chaffey, in 1900, contracted with the California Development Company to bring water to the desert from the Colorado River, he foresaw the rush of colonists that would follow. He did not wish to be bothered with the details of colonization, so he and L. M. Holt planned and organized the Imperial Land Company. The functions of this company included the development of town-sites. Casting about for a nice, smooth area of land on which to establish the first town, the plot where Imperial now stands was selected. Nobody had ever had any experience with hard ground, so how did they know they were selecting the poorest piece of soil in the Valley for a townsite? The "accident" lost the original builders of Imperial not only a lot of money but was the real reason why El Centro, four miles south, was able to win the county seat in 1907.

Anyway, early in 1901 the mother town was platted, staked and put on the market. Buyers were immediate and plentiful. Imperial was in the beginning the center of all activity. Surveying crews worked out of Imperial. Farmers came miles with their slow wagons for a week's supply of groceries, to buy farm tools, etc. It was the location of the first of everything—the first church, the first brick building, the first print shop, the first drug store, grocery, hardware, blacksmith shop and lumber yard. Its tent hotel housed all the visitors who came by stage and later by train. The beginnings were all at Imperial and rightfully does that city proudly cherish the historical traditions that go with the beginnings here in Imperial Valley.

(The reader will realize that the early history of Imperial was also all the early history there was, so it is also the early history of Imperial Valley. It would be needless duplication to again set down here the early incidents that appear in previous chapters. So turn back to the chronological paragraphs that tell of this early period for this detailed history of the town of Imperial.—EDITOR HISTORY.)

FOLLOWING 1907

In spite of the loss of the county seat fight Imperial's business men, being of the pioneer group who had made Imperial Valley what it was up to that time, settled down to the serious matter of developing their business and farm properties without hesitation. And Imperial, along with the other towns, maintained a steady increase in growth for many years.

In 1909, the citizens voted bonds and built a new water system, including a 100,000 gallon pressure tank and thirty fire hydrants located at strategic points.

In April, 1912, the Maier Brewing Company was granted a wholesale liquor permit by the city trustees and conducted the first legalized liquor house ever seen in Imperial Valley.

Fire destroyed three buildings in the heart of the city in 1912.

A big paving program was adopted. Half a million square feet of street paving was laid.

Item, 1912:

"Nels Jacobson, well-known rancher near Imperial, has sold his fine 800-acre ranch and stock for the neat sum of \$137,250 to Mrs. Irene Mitchell and son, of Tulare County. Mr. Jacobson came here seven years ago with \$4000 and counts his seven years' work pretty well done when he turned the \$4000 into \$137,250. Everybody agrees with him, too. He and his family will take a long vacation, but we predict he will return to the Valley for another seven years' trial."

In 1913, C. Houston Smith, W. R. Stevenson, Fred H. Wales, James M. Sibbett, and W. H. Hartshorn formed the Palm Cemetery Association.

1921

John C. Phillips purchased the Imperial hotel. Citizens joined in a housewarming event in his honor.

Frank Salisbury caused some excitement by exhibiting a bottle of oil taken from the Brawley well.

Rev. John McGaughey was minister of the Community Church.

The Associated Chambers of Commerce endorsed Imperial as the proper site for the annual county fair.

The Auxiliary of the Paul Holdzkom Post, American Legion, was organized in January.

Rev. Geo. E. Graff was pastor of the Methodist Church.

Mayor Peck resigned in February and J. F. Nelson was selected as Trustee. W. O. Hinderks was made Mayor.

R. D. McPherrin, pioneer Imperial attorney, was elected to the Board of Directors of the Irrigation District.

The Imperial Enterprise was named county official paper.

A bond issue of \$6000 was voted to repair paving.

Harry M. Austin, Commander of Holdzkom Post, American Legion, died in a Colorado sanitarium in April.

A thousand people attended an open air rally held in Imperial's city park in June.

Imperial's most destructive fire occurred September 20, 1921. Almost the entire east side of Imperial avenue north of Main street, causing a property loss of more than \$100,000. The El Centro fire department answered the call for help, making the run of four miles in four and one-half minutes. The local department under the direction of Chief Powell, did valiant service.

The Chamber of Commerce which was reorganized in 1920, with Lester Eichold as President, was in good shape. At the annual meeting in September, 1921, S. E. Bur-

rowes was President. Additional directors were: J. F. Hallawell, J. A. Harris, H. C. Clappitt, A. E. Crothers, V. V. Scott and Geo. Sale. Mr. Burrowes was succeeded by J. F. Hallawell. The Chamber employed C. C. Jenkins as Secretary and did much constructive work.

The American Legion post marketed 104 bonds at \$25 each for the purpose of acquiring clubhouse property. Local citizens purchased the bonds.

The Imperial fire department won first place in a tournament contesting with Brawley and El Centro.

Rev. Wm. Clyde Rhea was pastor of the Community Church in November.

1922

The Farmers & Merchants bank was closed by order of the state officials in January. Local capital came to the rescue and the bank reopened, paying all depositors in full within thirty days.

After a year's retirement, D. F. Coon, pioneer rancher, returned to the Valley and resumed farming on his ranch near Imperial.

Imperial High School's basketball team won the Valley championship in January.

The Imperial Business Women's Club was organized in 1921, with Miss Lillian Addis as President. Mrs. J. D. Daley was President in 1922.

H. N. Dyke was appointed City Attorney.

The death of Mrs. R. G. Banta was mourned by the whole town in May.

D. C. Gale was Mayor of Imperial.

Imperial was disappointed at the failure of the \$50,000 bond issue that was to have financed the county fair within Imperial's city limits. Citizens had some amusement guessing the names of the thirteen Imperial voters who voted "no" on the proposition.

The county purchased the old Concord stage coach, that was one of the vehicles used in transporting passengers across the desert, from Dave H. Williams and it was one of the relics on display at the county fair.

F. C. Farr, pioneer attorney and historian, who died in 1918, was followed by Mrs. Farr in June, 1922. They rest in Evergreen cemetery, in El Centro.

V. V. Scott was head of the new band organized in December.

A community Christmas tree was a feature. The American Legion sponsored the holiday event.

J. R. Bransby was President of the Chamber of Commerce.

Wm. J. Burtcher and L. M. Thompson, publishers of the Enterprise, dissolved partnership in June, 1922, Mr. Burtcher remaining as publisher of the paper until fall, when a group of business men took over the publication, placing Harry N. Dyke, ex-newspaper man and attorney, in charge as editor and manager.

1923

Miss Grace Ansell was President of the Business Women's Club.

Mrs. C. B. Collins was President and Mrs. J. R. Bransby was Secretary of the County Federation of Women's Clubs in 1923.

N. A. Mackey was President of the Chamber of Commerce. Directors were: Virgil Patterson, A. E. Kellogg, J. R. Bransby, Walter Pool, S. P. Williams and A. G. Ingram.

In a three cornered contest Mack Trentham defeated T. D. McCall and N. A. Mackey for District Director to succeed R. D. McPherrin who resigned after eight years on the board. The straw vote was authorized by the Board of Supervisors.

Rev. H. G. Banks was pastor of the M. E. Church.

1924

Mr. and Mrs. A. K. Carrier, aged members of the Masons and Eastern Star, celebrated their golden wedding in Masonic hall January 21. Many were present and numerous gifts were presented.

A fire destroyed the post office, Gentieu & Gear's plumbing shop, Mrs. John Sweeney's Dressmaking shop, the Imperial Transfer Company office and the Imperial theatre in February.

H. N. Dyke resigned as City Attorney and S. P. Williams was appointed. S. E. Mack was appointed City Recorder.

1925

Imperial became the headquarters for the operating department of the Imperial Irrigation District. The machine shops, engineering department and general offices were centered in Imperial. They were formerly located in El Centro.

The Booster's Club was a new feature of town life. D. C. Gale was President. When the organization was made permanent it was renamed the Prosperity Club. It met weekly at luncheon.

Sam Mack, pioneer barber and City Recorder, died after more than twenty-two years residence in Imperial. C. W. Hawkins was appointed Recorder. Mr. Hawkins died in 1931.

Rev. Q. P. Royer was pastor of the M. E. Church, succeeding Rev. C. A. Steepleton.

Imperial Lodge, I. O. O. F., No. 477, was organized in April with C. V. Worthington Noble Grand.

Mrs. Earl S. Grinnell was President of the Business Woman's Club.

L. M. Thompson, proprietor of the Enterprise, was re-elected President of the Chamber of Commerce.

Geo. R. Harris celebrated the 24th anniversary of his arrival in Imperial, November 24, 1925. The entire 24 years he was a resident of Imperial. He attended the first school in 1901, and in later years married another pioneer, Miss Zerlena Patterson. In 1925 he was conducting a men's furnishing store. Mr. Harris is now with M. O. King in El Centro.

Homer Harris was City Marshal in 1925. He was succeeded by Wm. Keating in January, 1926.

1926

Mrs. N. E. Durham was President of the Business Woman's Club.

N. A. Mackey was appointed postmaster.

J. F. Hallawell was President of the Chamber of Commerce.

H. S. Cason was appointed City Treasurer in November when W. D. Smith resigned.

1927

Imperial was host to the Associated Chambers of Commerce in February.

The Imperial Hotel was sold to Santa Ana men, Young and Elliott, who redecorated and renovated it, giving Imperial a first class hotel.

Fred Arnett was President of the Chamber of Commerce, starting in October.

The Farmers & Merchants Bank was closed in October by order of the State Superintendent of Banks. Loans that could not be collected caused the action. With the First National consolidated with El Centro's First National, the closing of the F. & M. left Imperial without a bank.

The town mourned the death of Chas. F. Preble, pioneer resident, who passed away in San Diego in October, 1927. Mr. Preble was a member of Imperial's first board of trustees and was active in business life for many years. He was father of Andy Preble, president Supervisor.

A step forward for the community was noted when the County purchased 75 acres within the city limits on the south for a County Airport. The tract lies just across the highway west of the County Fair grounds, later purchased by the county.

1928

Imperial Masons were hosts at the seventeenth annual get-together meeting of Valley Masons held on Washington's birthday.

The Lions Club was organized in March. The officers: President, L. M. Thompson; First Vice-President, J. F. Hallawell; Second Vice-President, H. K. Oakley; Third Vice-President, R. L. Burnam; Lion Tamer, F. L. Young; Tail Twister, M. Dizney; Directors: A. R. Gary, Walter Pool, Geo. S. Ross, H. S. Capron.

H. S. Conger was elected City Clerk in April.

The first crate of cantaloupes was sent to Congressman Swing and Senator Johnson by air express. They came from Miss A. Giraud's farm in the Keystone district.

H. K. Oakley was President of the Chamber of Commerce.

Rev. F. W. Howlett was pastor of the M. E. Church.

Imperial was host to the Associated Chambers of Commerce in October.

1929

Dr. H. V. Gray was the second president of the Lions Club.

Imperial suffered another bad fire in June, several business buildings being destroyed at a loss of \$50,000.

H. K. Oakley was re-elected President of the Chamber of Commerce.

Postal receipts showed a gain of 10½ per cent for the year.

A bond issue for \$75,000 for a gymnasium addition to the high school was defeated by a narrow margin of ten votes.

The \$12,000 Veteran's memorial clubhouse was opened to the public June 12, with appropriate ceremonies conducted by Holdzkom Post, American Legion. The building is 50x80 and contains accommodations for the conduct of public affairs as well as the usual club features. Commander Chas. Ferrell was chairman of the entertainment at the opening.

1930

L. M. Thompson, publisher of the Enterprise, died January 30, 1930, at Whipple, Arizona, where he had gone in search of better health. Mrs. Thompson, Earl Waugh and Guy Holms continued the business in an able manner and are today giving the community an excellent newspaper service.

The Associated Chambers of Commerce met in Imperial in May, using the new Veteran's Memorial hall. L. J. Thomas delivered an enthusiastic welcoming address.

A. R. Garey was named Mayor for the second time.

The Chamber of Commerce and the Lions Club met in joint session May 29. H. A. Conger was chairman.

Walter W. Pool was President of the Library board.

Postmaster N. A. Mackey was honored by the state organization of Postmasters by being elected third vice-president.

Imperial adopted a 10 mill tax for promotion purposes.

The city's outstanding bonded debt in 1930 was \$110,000. The rate of retirement is \$12,500 per annum. In eight years more Imperial expects to be entirely out of debt. Valuation of property increased \$25,000 and building permits exceeded those of any year since the city was incorporated. A number of new homes were erected to meet the shortage of houses.

The death of Wm. Duvall, 86, Valley pioneer, was recorded August 5 at Sawtelle. Mr. Duvall lived for twenty-one years on his ranch on the Elm canal west of Imperial and numbered many Valley people as personal friends.

Andy Y. Preble was elected supervisor to succeed himself at the August primaries. He was appointed to the place upon the resignation of Ben Hulse from the board in November, 1929.

Rev. Earl F. Lindsay was elected Justice of the Peace at the primaries in August. Mr. Lindsay was pastor of the Community church.

N. A. Mackey was President of the Chamber of Commerce the second time. His former term was in 1923-24. The work the Chamber has under way included a junior college, an annual pageant, county fair, improvement of roads and the beautification of the town.

"The Desert Calls" was the name of the pageant produced at the fair grounds in November. The high lights of Valley history were depicted across a 1000 foot stage by a cast of four hundred under the direction of J. S. Cameron and Phil Whiting, co-authors and directors. The event was attended by large crowds each night. The pageant was sponsored by the Associated Chambers of Commerce as the first of an annual event that will attract visitors from far and near.

IMPERIAL
Incorporated 1904
MEMBERS OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES SINCE INCORPORATION

(*) Indicates Mayor

1904	W. A. Edgar*	J. A. Morrison	Geo. Varney	W. H. Hawes	C. F. Preble
1905	W. A. Edgar*	W. D. Garey	Geo. Varney	W. H. Hawes	C. F. Preble
1906	R. D. McPherrin*	W. B. Salisbury	C. W. Fernald	F. E. Barbour	C. F. Preble
1907	G. H. Webber*	W. B. Salisbury	C. W. Fernald	F. E. Barbour	C. F. Preble
1908	W. H. Hawes*	W. B. Salisbury	C. W. Fernald	F. E. Barbour*	C. F. Preble
1909	Bert Chaplin*	J. B. Brackett	C. W. Fernald	O. K. Thomas	E. E. Patten
1910	Leroy Holt	M. V. Dutcher	C. W. Fernald	C. W. Waite	E. E. Patten*
1911	Leroy Holt	M. V. Dutcher	C. W. Fernald	E. A. Nance	G. E. Heber*
1912	Leroy Holt	M. V. Dutcher	C. W. Fernald	E. A. Nance*	W. A. Edgar
1913	Fred Waters	M. V. Dutcher	C. W. Fernald	D. H. Clarke*	Geo. Donley
1914	Fred Waters	M. V. Dutcher*	C. W. Fernald	W. J. Bathrick	Geo. Donley
1915	Fred Waters	C. W. Waite*	W. B. Salisbury	W. J. Bathrick	W. E. Gray
1916	Roy Adams	C. W. Waite*	W. B. Salisbury	J. F. Bezdecheck	F. R. Jacobs
1917	Roy Adams	C. W. Waite*	W. B. Salisbury	J. F. Bezdecheck	F. R. Jacobs
1918	Roy Adams	C. W. Waite*	W. B. Salisbury	J. F. Bezdecheck	F. R. Jacobs
1919	Roy Adams	C. W. Waite*	G. E. Heber	W. O. Hinderks	A. Peck
1920	J. C. Phillips	C. W. Waite	D. C. Gale	W. O. Hinderks	A. Peck*
1921	J. C. Phillips	J. F. Nelson	D. C. Gale	W. O. Hinderks*	Marc B. Wilkins
1922	J. C. Phillips	J. F. Nelson	D. C. Gale	W. O. Hinderks*	Marc B. Wilkins
1923	Geo. Gentieu	J. E. Mitchell	D. C. Gale	H. G. Miller*	Geo. R. Harris
1924	W. W. Poole	A. G. Ingram	D. C. Gale*	H. G. Miller	Geo. Harris
1925	W. W. Poole	A. G. Ingram	D. C. Gale*	H. G. Miller	Geo. Harris
1926	W. W. Poole	A. G. Ingram	D. C. Gale*	H. G. Miller	Geo. Harris
1927	W. W. Poole	A. G. Ingram	D. C. Gale*	H. G. Miller	Geo. Harris
1928	W. W. Poole	W. S. Dunn	A. R. Garey*	H. G. Miller	Geo. Harris
1929	W. W. Poole	W. S. Dunn	A. R. Garey*	H. G. Miller	Geo. Harris
1930	H. K. Oakley	W. S. Dunn	A. R. Garey*	H. G. Miller	Geo. Harris
1931	H. K. Oakley	W. S. Dunn	A. R. Garey*	H. G. Miller	Geo. Harris

OTHER CITY OFFICERS

Year	Clerk	Treasurer	Attorney	Fire Chief	Marshal
1904	H. N. Dyke	Leroy Holt	D. A. Thomas	F. M. Salisbury	Thos. Beach
1905	H. N. Dyke	Geo. Carter	G. H. P. Shaw	C. Bradshaw	Matt Moore
1906	H. N. Dyke	H. A. F. Miller	F. C. Farr	Wm. Wessell	Matt Moore
1907	H. N. Dyke	Leroy Holt	G. H. P. Shaw	Wm. Wessell	J. M. Kieth
1908	H. N. Dyke	I. Maupin	G. H. P. Shaw	Wm. Wessell	
1909	H. N. Dyke	I. Maupin	G. H. P. Shaw	Wm. Wessell	
1910	H. N. Dyke	I. Maupin	G. H. P. Shaw	Wm. Wessell	
1911	I. Maupin	O. K. Thomas	H. N. Dyke	Wm. Wessell	
1912	Lelia Foster	O. K. Thomas	H. N. Dyke	Wm. Wessell	Dan Southwell
1913	Lelia Foster	O. K. Thomas	H. N. Dyke	Wm. Wessell	Dan Southwell
1914	Lelia Foster	O. K. Thomas	H. N. Dyke	Wm. Wessell	Dan Southwell
1915	Lelia Foster		H. N. Dyke	J. T. Powell	*
1916	Lelia Foster		H. N. Dyke	J. T. Powell	*
1917	Lelia Foster		H. N. Dyke	J. T. Powell	*
1918	Lelia Foster		H. N. Dyke	J. T. Powell	*
1919	Lelia Foster		H. N. Dyke	J. T. Powell	*
1920	Lelia Foster		H. N. Dyke	J. T. Powell	H. T. Dizney
1921	Lelia Foster	W. D. Smith	H. N. Dyke	J. T. Powell	H. T. Dizney
1922	Lelia Foster	W. D. Smith	S. P. Williams	J. T. Powell	H. T. Dizney
1923	Lelia Foster	W. D. Smith	S. P. Williams	J. T. Powell	H. T. Dizney
1924	Lelia Foster	W. P. Smith	S. P. Williams	J. T. Powell	J. H. Harris
1925	Lelia Foster	W. P. Smith	S. P. Williams	J. T. Powell	W. S. Keating
1926	Lelia Foster	H. S. Capron	S. P. Williams	J. T. Powell	W. S. Keating
1927	Lelia Foster	H. S. Capron	S. P. Williams	J. T. Powell	J. H. Harris
1928	H. A. Conger	H. S. Capron	S. P. Williams	J. T. Powell	W. S. Keating
1929	H. A. Conger	H. S. Capron	S. P. Williams	J. T. Powell	W. S. Keating
1930	H. A. Conger	H. S. Capron	S. P. Williams	J. T. Powell	W. S. Keating
1931	H. A. Conger	H. S. Capron	S. P. Williams	J. T. Powell	W. S. Keating

NOTE: H. S. Case succeeded H. A. Conger as City Clerk in July, 1931.

* During the five years between 1914 and 1919, Imperial had a number of City Marshals who served but short terms. They were: Harry J. Clark, Glen S. Smith, Chas. F. Preble, E. B. Rice, L. A. Parrish, S. S. Wentworth, J. C. Lane.

City Recorder: H. L. Peck was City Recorder for two years at the start. He was followed by F. G. Havens, T. P. Banta, H. N. Dyke, and Chas. Wentworth, the latter a minister. The records fail to show the name of the Recorder from 1909 to 1924, but C. Huston Smith served a part of

this time. In 1925, C. H. Hawkins was named to the place and he has been Recorder ever since. He died in July of this year.

City Engineer: L. C. Vickrey was the pioneer engineer who set the grade stakes for the first sidewalks. Joel Anderson was another early engineer for Imperial. Then the records are blank until 1923 when J. H. Harris was Engineer. He served until 1930, when A. L. House was named and House is still on the job.

City Librarian: The Carnegie Library was organized in 1909 with Jessie Hoyt Hatch as Librarian. She remained in the same position until May of 1931, when she was succeeded by Mrs. Noma Hicks. Mrs. Hatch's service for the city was the longest of any employee of any city in the Valley—22 years.

Health Officer: Dr. F. J. Bold is noted as the first City Health Officer. He was followed by Dr. F. P. Blake in 1905 and from then on there are no records.

POPULATION	
1904.....	900
1910.....	1800
1920.....	1800
1930.....	2000
ASSESSED VALUATIONS	
1904.....	\$ 350,000
1910.....	800,000
1920.....	1,200,000
1930.....	1,900,000
BONDED INDEBTEDNESS	
1910.....	\$ 50,000
1920.....	180,000
1930.....	100,000

The City (Carnegie) Library was built in 1910 at a cost of \$12,000. It was the first Carnegie Library in the Valley. \$10,000 of the amount was donated by Andrew Carnegie.

The Volunteer Fire Department has a paid Chief, J. T. Powell, who has been on this job for the past sixteen years. The equipment cost \$10,000.

The City of Imperial and the City of El Centro built a joint sewer system, Imperial paying \$65,000 of the cost.

The water system cost \$90,000.

The City now has three men on the police force.

A study of the chart showing the various city officials for the past twenty-seven years will show that John A. Morrison, banker, was a member of the first board in 1904 and was also a member of Calexico's first board in 1908. W. A. Edgar, George Varney, W. H. Hawes and C. F. Preble helped him get Imperial off to a good start. Several other familiar names, all men who had much to do with the development of the Valley, appear in the lists. H. N. Dyke has the longest service. He was Clerk for six years and Attorney for eleven years. C. W. Waite was Mayor for five years in succession. D. C. Gale was Mayor for four years and the present Mayor, A. R. Garey, has been in that position for the past four years.

In 1912, Imperial voters voted to license saloons and until national prohibition went into effect the town was wet.

The modern Imperial is the home of the County Fair conducted by the Forty-fifth Agricultural Association on grounds owned by the County just south of the city. It is also the home of the County Airport, which is across the highway from the fair grounds. Imperial is headquarters for the shops and administrative offices of the Imperial Irrigation District, which distributes \$100,000 monthly payroll.

Imperial today invites the world to come by air, by train or by auto, possessing first class facilities in each line. As the Valley's first and oldest settlement Imperial continues to forge ahead without the aid of booms or other artificial impulse. Municipal finances are in good shape and within a few years all bonded indebtedness will be paid in full.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

In 1918, the business men got together and revived interest in the Chamber of Commerce, which had waned to the disappearing point. A mass meeting was held at the city hall.

In the election following the speeches, George Sale was chosen president; Victor Langford, vice-president, and George Harris, secretary and treasurer.

The following men were selected to constitute, with the officers, the executive committee: Jack Flynn, Lester Eichhold, J. R. Mercer, Martin E. Brown and J. E. Ingle.

Practically every business interest in the city was represented by the men who wrote their names on the membership roll. They were:

H. N. Dyke, W. D. Smith, J. H. Edgar, G. E. Heber, R. V. Langford, Joe Smith, C. F. Simpson, James Williams, E. B. Ingle, N. A. Mackey, T. J. Sheets, W. J. Bathrick, C. Farrell, W. J. Burtscher, Parsons & Reber, C. Kelson, Jack Flynn, J. Zurcher, J. S. Settle, R. Gould, S. E. Emerich, Lester Eichhold, George Harris, Geo. F. Sale, John C. Lane and Carl Birgl.

The results accomplished by this group of men began to show very soon. They made an effort and almost landed the regular county fair at that time and later did secure the placement of this annual event within the city's limits by the Board of Supervisors. The race track, grandstand, exhibit and administration buildings are already beginning to show to good advantage.

The county located the official county airport at Imperial, also within the city's southern limits. These advantages are well worth while.

In 1925, the Imperial Irrigation District removed its entire administrative headquarters and machine shops from Calexico to Imperial, where the payroll of \$100,000 monthly is pointed to with satisfaction.

The Chamber of Commerce continues to function with success on numerous ventures. It issues a handsome booklet now and then telling people they may come to Imperial direct by air, by rail or by highway transportation, which is of the best. The state highway runs through Imperial north and south.

The Chamber's presidents since reorganization have been:

- 1919—Lester Eichhold.
 - 1920—S. A. Burrowes.
 - 1921—J. F. Hallowell.
 - 1922—J. F. Hallowell.
 - 1923—J. R. Barnsby.
 - 1924—L. N. Thompson.
 - 1925—L. N. Thompson.
 - 1926—L. N. Thompson.
 - 1927—Fred Arnett.
 - 1928—Fred Arnett.
 - 1929—H. K. Oakley.
 - 1930—H. K. Oakley.
 - 1931—N. A. Mackey.
- H. A. Conger is the present Secretary.

GOLDEN RULE CHAPTER, O. E. S., No. 267 IMPERIAL

December 27, 1907, at the invitation of Mrs. Jennie Way, members of the Eastern Star residing in Imperial met and discussed organization. On February 19, 1908, the new chapter was organized, the first in Imperial Valley, with the following charter members: Annie Bumgarner, Anna Holt, Elizabeth Reid, Millie Brewer, Louise Hartshorn, Sadie Stevenson, Mildred Foerster, Edith Peterson and their husbands. Through the following years the chapter grew to 116 members. Mrs. Rose Brewer served as secretary the first seventeen years. The chapter has been a leader in social and charitable work.

The early history of the Eastern Star in the Imperial Valley, like the history of that most fascinating one-time desert country, is a story quite its own.

Life was far from rose-strewn for the pioneer women of two decades ago, when the first chapters of the Valley were organized. New and varied problems must be met and worked out, and the women of those early days had their full share, with the men, in helping to make the Valley blossom, but each new obstacle met was a challenge to greater effort.

It was fitting that Imperial, the first town established in the Valley, should be the home of the first Masonic lodge and the first Eastern Star chapter. Golden Rule Chapter was formally instituted on February 19, 1908, with a charter membership of fifteen. Among these loyal fifteen are some of the outstanding citizens of the Valley today. The lovely spirit of this, the mother chapter of Imperial Valley, is reflected in the chapters which were organized later.

Past Matron Mabel Edgar relates that during the early months of Golden Rule organization, some unusual situations arose. Their first applications for membership were ready to be balloted upon before the regulation balls and cubes had been received. Some resourceful member suggested black and white candy beans. The beans were used and the whole chapter assisted in destroying the ballot after the "candy dates" had been elected.

The following served as Worthy Matrons in the order named: Annie Bumgarner, Anna Holt, Edith Peterson, Mollie Edgar, Sadie Stevenson, Isobel Standlee, Winnie Heber, Anna Mae Laird, Blanche Edgar (m), Mabel Edgar (m), Birdie Carberry, Ethel Varney (m), Estelle Smith Reid, Mary Farr Stevenson (m), Pearl Frix, Edith Collins (m), Adelle Dyke (m) Irene Capron (m), Minnie Loffer (m), Grace Preble (m), Helen Niles (m), Estella Falla (m), Cleva Hallowell (m), Zerlena Harris (m), Bertha Hudson (m).

Members of Golden Rule Chapter who served as Deputy Grand Matron were: Millie Brewer, Mollie Edgar, Edith Peterson, Ethel Varney, Birdie Carberry and Estella Falla. The Past Patrons are: *William Hartshorn, Dr. Eugene Patten, William Stevenson, Herman Peterson, Eugene Carrier, *Byron Cook, John Rice, Roy McPherrin, Wm. Stevenson, William Larson (two terms), Louis Emblen, George Varney, William Edgar (two terms), Herbert Brewer, Jr., Ray Carberry, Ira Harris, Harry Dyke, Joseph Hallawell (two terms), Emil Krepela, (two terms), and William Edgar. * Deceased.

IMPERIAL LODGE No. 390 (Masonic)

This lodge was chartered October 15, 1908. It meets every Wednesday in Masonic Temple. Past Masters from 1908 to present time: Chas. D. Hartshorn, Byron H. Cook, Roy D. McPherrin, D. D. Copenhaver, W. R. Stevenson, Ralph L. Oak, Geo. E. Heber, Chas. W. Wait, E. D. Stuart, John T. Rice, O. W. Larson, Harry N. Dyke, W. A. Frix, John C. Phillips, Louis H. Emblen, C. B. Collins, I. J. Harris, Thomas W. Crane, S. F. Loffer, Sterling C. Kendrick, John F. Carlson, Fred M. Hudson, Guy J. Canady.

The present Master is Leverette House; the Secretary is H. G. Miller.

WOMAN'S CLUB OF IMPERIAL

Organized March 3, 1909, with Mrs. Mott H. Arnold, President; Miss Evelyn Dyke, Secretary; outstanding event was bringing Ellen Beach Yaw to Imperial, thus giving the Valley people a real musical treat. The club disbanded and women of that town became members of Woman's Ten Thousand Club of El Centro.

Histories of American Legion Post and Auxiliary in War History Section.

Imperial's war record appears in the War History.

CHURCHES

ST. PAUL'S METHODIST

Organized October 12, 1919, with 6 members. Now 35. Ministers since organization: Reverends G. Lacey, G. W. Bussey, J. Roper, R. W. Williams, J. H. Green, A. Quinn.

FIRST BAPTIST

Organized October, 1913, with 8 members. Now 35. Ministers since organization: Reverends F. W. Williams, C. N. Moore, A. L. Powells, F. O. Brown, A. B. Fraizier, S. L. Bastick, M. Campbell, Rev. E. D. Hayward, present pastor, and membership is increasing.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL

Organized June, 1903, with 21 members. Now 60.

Ministers since organization: Reverends J. S. Klein, H. C. Mullen, G. S. Myrick, Chas. Wentworth, Mott Mitchell, Frank Lucas, R. I. McKee, O. M. Andrews, Robert E. Wright, Q. P. Royer, V. H. Brink, G. R. Graff, H. G. Banks, C. A. Steepleton, W. F. Taylor, F. W. Howlett. This was the first Methodist church in Imperial Valley.

Other churches at Imperial: Community at 300 W. Main Street, with Rev. E. F. Lindsley, pastor. Second Baptist (colored) Church with Rev. C. H. Hampton, pastor.

The first church in the Valley was the Christian Church, which was the third building erected. Its first pastor was Rev. J. C. Hay. The building burned in 1912.

The following firms were in business in Imperial in 1930-31:

Air Lines

Standard Air Lines
County Airport

Auto Repairers and Supplies

J. F. Hallowell
P. C. Bortner
A. G. Ingram
Emil Krepela

Bakeries

Angus Collins

Barbers

Rodolphe Chieoine
H. J. Drake
R. E. Priest

Billiards

E. P. Neelon

Blacksmith Shops

Geo. Merkel

Hardware Stores

Imperial Valley

Stage Systems

Pickwick Stages

Carpenters

A. J. Ansell

Cemeteries

Imperial Cemetery Assn.

Chiropractors

H. J. Havlik

Dressmakers

Edna Gassaway

Drugs

W. S. Dunn

Dry Goods Stores

J. W. Stevenson

Express Agencies

Railway Express

Fruit Shippers

W. A. Watson

Furniture

R. C. Griswold
D. H. Rhodes

Service Stations

Hudson & Canada
Chas. McConiga
J. S. Shrider
T. A. Winter

Grocers

Adair Bros.
Lincoln Grocery
I. O. Moore
Safeway Stores
W. J. Webb
Wong Kam

Hotels

Imperial Hotel

Ice Companies

Imperial Ice and Dev. Co.

Implement Dealers

C. T. Gibson

Insurance

L. J. Thomas
G. W. Donley

Laundries

Sang Lee Laundry

Power Companies

Southern Sierras Co.

Meat Markets

R. V. Barnum
L. G. Niles

Newspapers

Imperial Enterprise

Oil Companies

D. T. Carter Co.

Meat Packers

Pacific Land and
Cattle Co.

Painters

W. M. Belford

Physicians

Dr. H. V. Gray
Dr. J. S. Turner

Radio Dealers

E. E. Ryan

Refrigerators

Erskine & Preble

Restaurants

J. W. Jung
L. A. Loeber
Wong Look
P. W. Martin
G. H. Ross
J. A. Kenner

Telephone Companies

Pac. Tel. & Tel. Co.

Tourist Camps

Guy Canady
N. Cook

Veterinarians

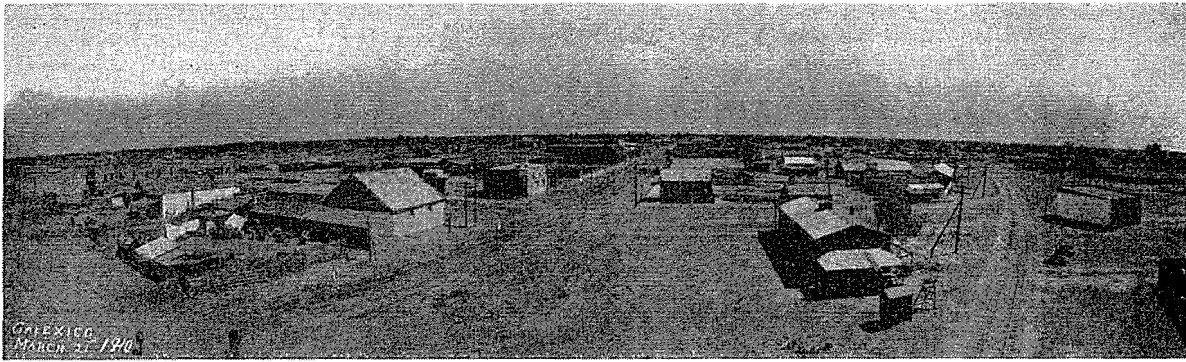
S. F. Loffer

Watch Repairers

John Belcove

Wholesale Companies

Imperial Wholesale Co



Calexico in 1910. Looking East on Second Street

CHAPTER XXV

CALEXICO

IN NEARLY every sketch ever written concerning the history of Calexico this statement appears: "Calexico simply happened." Various accounts as to how Calexico happened are extant. One is that the water in Cameron Lake where the surveyors were camped became so foul from pelicans that the camp was moved to a new site.

The fact is, according to C. N. Perry, the Imperial Land Company was seeking a site for a border city and decided that the low country around Cameron Lake would not do. This decision was wise for in 1906 the very lake bed and camp site were swallowed entirely in the flood. The camp was moved at the direction of Geo. Chaffey to his 160 acres on which he had filed. Before water from the canals was available wells were sunk by T. P. Banta but the water was not much good. Domestic water was hauled from holes in Mexico for a time.

Mr. Chaffey donated the land and ordered a townsite platted. It was staked out by Fred Hall, E. H. (Pete) Gaines and Paul McPherrin. We are inclined to give credit for the names Calexico and Mexicali to L. M. Holt, publicity director, for the Imperial Land Co., and a personal friend of George Chaffey. These names are a happy combination of the words California and Mexico. They are not duplicated anywhere else in the world.

The tents for the surveying party formed the first settlement. J. B. Hoffman, chief clerk and store keeper, put up the first tent. This was followed by tent houses for Engineer C. N. Perry, Supt. Thomas Beach and their families. Dr. W. T. Heffernan established a store where hay, feed and general merchandise were sold. Ed. Aiken, of Campo, built an adobe for a bank. The C. D. Company erected a commodious adobe building for headquarters. This building still stands. This was followed by an adobe building built by Dr. Heffernan. Water for making these adobe bricks was hauled four miles. Joe Rath-

bun and Mr. Heistand had charge of the construction work.

In March, a frame building was erected by Peter Barnes some distance east of Calexico. Mr. Barnes opened a store and secured the post office. He evidently hoped to see the new town built around him, but was doomed to disappointment when his place of business burned.

Water from the new main canal tapped at the boundary line and was led in a small ditch to the townsite in March. The main canal was opened in June. A Bermuda grass lawn, the first in the Valley, appeared around the company headquarters building. Here also were planted the first trees in the Valley. Along the banks of the canal, crops of millet and sorghum were grown by T. P. Banta, Thomas Beach and Mobley Meadows.

In January, 1902, occurred the only snowstorm ever witnessed in the Valley and the surface of the ground was white for a whole day.

The first crop of barley was planted by A. T. Plath where the East Side Addition is now. The first crop of kaffir corn harvested from 60 acres brought the owner \$1200. In July, 1902, the first ton of alfalfa was cut by J. E. Peck on the Calexico Cattle Company's ranch north of the townsite. The first piano in town was owned by Mrs. C. N. Perry.

The first dairy was owned by Mr. and Mrs. Jacob First; the first bakery was opened by Charlie Dow, a Chinaman; the first woman to file on land was Mrs. John Shenk, later prominent in the affairs of Calexico.

The post office was moved to the Heffernan store in 1904 with Jos. Estudillo, Postmaster. The first money order was cashed by Mr. Hardy, U. S. Hydrographer.

In these early days it must be remembered that no one, the year 'round, had a pound of ice; there was no electricity—all lights were from oil lamps; no

pipe lines to carry water—drinking water was ditch water settled in barrels, tubs or other receptacles; nearly every "home" was a tent stretched on framework with an arrow weed shade built over it; there were no sewers, no paved streets, no sidewalks except in front of the few stores—when it rained folks just puddled around; there were no trees except here and there a straggling mesquite and the saplings just set out; no electric fans to stir the breeze; without trees to break the velocity every wind seemed a hurricane; with vast acreages of raw land being broken and leveled every breeze was laden with dust; there were no regular roads—hub deep ruts filled with dust angled here and there; no bridges across the canals—it was up on one bank, take a dive and then up on the other bank if you were lucky; no automobiles, no tractors, no harvesting machinery; and sometimes there was little law and order—what carousals by the dissolute and the debauched! Cocopah Indians could get all the liquor they wanted in Mexicali. The men would bring their women to town Saturday nights, get them drunk, tie them to mesquite bushes in bunches and then "enjoy" their own drunken carousals. But woe to him, white, Mexican or Indian, who touched a drunken Cocopah woman!

Because of these early conditions the pioneers who went through them developed into a people of unusual qualities. Margaret Romer, whose "History of Calexico" appeared in 1923, in manuscript form, aptly comments:

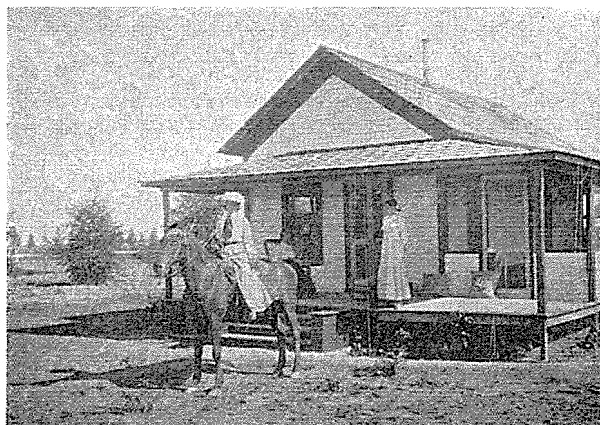
"The early days were days that tested men and women; they went through wind, fire and flood . . . only the strongest remained.

"Out of this class of people has grown the far famed 'spirit of the Valley.' This spirit is intangible, yet it is definitely felt by everyone who had lived there. It is composed of ability to do things, and the desire to do things well. It is the feeling of faith in one's self and in the Valley. It is optimism to the limit of good sense. It is a feeling of confidence in others as well as in one's self. It involves a spirit of co-operation and extends wide open arms to the stranger who is made of the right kind of stuff and will, himself, enter into the spirit of the Valley."

THE FIRST SCHOOL

It was the work of but two or three hours for the men folks of Imperial and Calexico to erect a tent and an arrow weed ramada, about five miles northwest of Calexico in 1902. This was the Valley's first school and was taught the first year by Prof. J. E. Carr, who later became the first County Superintendent of Schools. The next year the tent was moved three miles east and the Rev. John Shenk was teacher. In 1904 the one district was divided and the tent was moved to Calexico, where it was set up at the corner of Third and Imperial avenue and served the settlement as a church, as well as a school. Miss Gaskill, who became Mrs. W. P. Preston, was the first teacher in town. In 1905 a frame school building was constructed and Miss Mame McWilliams, who became Mrs. J. E. Peck, and Miss Lottridge were the teachers. That year 113 pupils were enrolled.

J. B. Hoffman was first justice of the peace. His chief duties in the early days consisted of handling drunken



Calexico's First Frame Dwelling, Owned by Thos. Beach and by Mr. and Mrs. James E. Peck.

Cocopah Indians. He found the Indian braves very much averse to being tied to anything. The judge therefore invented an outdoor jail, which consisted of a huge chain between two mesquite trees. He locked his prisoners to the chain with an "Oregon boot."

CUSTOMS OFFICE

The government established a customs office in October, 1902. Charles A. Sanborn was in charge. The first customs house was located at the line on Imperial avenue, but was moved later to Heber avenue and then to Rockwood avenue and First street.

With increasing traffic back and forth into Mexico, Mexicali gradually came into being. The very first place of business was a plank set up under a mesquite tree, where mescal and tequilla were dispensed at so much per drink. This came after George Chaffey, himself an inveterate hater of liquor, and his son, Andrew, gave orders prohibiting the handling of liquor north of the line.

THE FIRST CHURCHES

The Methodists and Congregationalists both started holding services in 1904 in the dining room of the company's building. The Congregationalists were the first to build a church.

THE RAILROAD COMES

In May, 1904, the Southern Pacific, Valley branch, was completed from Imperial and Calexico immediately became the popular play ground of the Valley. The rougher element gathered weekly and with boisterous disregard of the liquor laws. The citizens of the town formed a law and order league, ran the blind pigs across the line and saw that Calexico remained as peaceful on Sunday as on week days.

The coming of the railroad was a big boon to Calexico. It meant that all visitors who came to the Valley visited Calexico. It also meant that the resident of the place could ship in ice. The townsite company held a great public auction sale of lots, running excursions from Los Angeles.

THE CHRONICLE STARTS

In August, 1904, J. G. Overshiner, then publishing the weekly Herald, at Imperial, moved his Washington hand press and other equipment to a tent set up under a mesquite tree, where he turned out the Calexico Chronicle for several months. In 1905, he sold out to W. F. Holt, who moved the plant into a small frame building, near the depot, with C. A. Gardner in charge. (See Chronicle history later).

In 1904 the population rapidly increased; among them being Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Steintorf and their sons, Paul and Arthur. Mr. Steintorf established the lumber yard

now the Calexico Lumber Co. Both Mr. and Mrs. Steintorf were valuable additions to the social life of Calexico, and remain so today.

The first brick building in town was the Calexico Hotel. The bricks were made by Harber & Peterson, who also had a yard at Holtville.



James E. Peck and Two Friends at the Summit of Mt. Signal April 7, 1903. They Found a Tin Tube in the Monument That Told it was Erected by a Party of U. S. Engineers in 1879. Elevation 2300 Feet.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The floods of 1905 and 1906 brought out the necessity of all citizens working together for the good of the community. The Chamber of Commerce of Calexico was organized with Edward Dool as President. The Chamber of Commerce was very active.

WOMAN'S IMPROVEMENT CLUB

The women of Calexico did their part by organizing the Woman's Improvement Club in 1908. Mrs. J. F. Steintorf was the first President. This club was active from the start, its social sessions brilliant and its accomplishments numerous and varied. It raised money to plant trees, improve the city park, the school grounds and public streets. It established a free reading room and added a rest room for women. It is still active in advocating the best things for Calexico. Further detailed history of this club will be found elsewhere.

The following items were taken from the 1901 and later files of the Imperial Press:

1904

On account of high water, supplies for west of New River had to be carried over by ferry.

A 50,000 gallon steel water tower was put in place by the railroad.

Mrs. Donohue and daughter, Ruth, arrived from Albuquerque to join Mr. Donohue, of the Calexico Commercial Co.

The Southern Pacific planned to extend its lines some distance into Mexico.

A list of all the firms in business in Calexico in July, 1904: California Development Co., Imperial Mercantile Co., Wm. R. Thomas, Soda, Ice Cream and Tobacco; Mrs. N. H. Thomas, baker; Peter Barnes & Co., general merchandise; Thing Bros., meat market; Calexico Hotel, Dool & Rockwood, real estate; Hotel Livery Stable; Waters

& Vaughn, livery; International Lumber Co., M. B. Davis, pool room; Ellis Hilton, barber; Dr. Griffin, physician.

Donohue & Dow, known as the Calexico Mercantile Co., erected a new building for a stock of general merchandise.

The Town Company has presented the school trustees with a city block for school purposes.

A. M. Shenk was appointed Postmaster to succeed J. A. Estudillo in September.

New places of business in September: Restaurant for Jack Carpenter; clothing store for A. Y. Lindsay; livery stable for Lewis Hollingsworth; on the Mexican side more than a dozen adobe buildings and a Mexican garrita, or customs house.

Abner Carr's ramada was burned to the ground. Mrs. Carr was slightly injured.

C. B. Brown was S. P. agent to succeed A. D. Medhurst, who went to Indio. Medhurst was later the first agent at El Centro.

Dr. and Mrs. W. T. Heffernan decided to make Calexico their home.

Maury McAlmond was appointed constable for the Calexico district.

Water was first turned into the No. 6 main canal September 10.

The early business life of Calexico was greatly influenced by Edward Dool, who for many years ranched and conducted real estate businesses in Calexico. He was the first President of the Chamber of Commerce. He was first associated with E. H. Rockwood, nephew of C. R. Rockwood, and then with Thos. Beach in developing Calexico's popularity among land and town lot buyers. Mr. Dool erected the building that bears his name, built a fine home and, in fact, devoted some twenty-five years to the development of the city. His family, Mrs. Dool, Miss Lucile and Donald, were all factors in Calexico's early life. Mr. Dool died recently. It might be said that Calexico owes more to Edward Dool for its place in the sun than to any other one citizen.

W. F. Holt purchased four corners on Second & Paulin. Upon one of these he started to erect a brick building in which he was to open a bank. The enterprise was taken over by Leroy Holt and Geo. Carter.

A floor was laid in the Methodist church tent, which also was used as a temporary school house. School started with Miss Emma Gaskill as teacher.

Two carloads of horses and mules arrived for S. Lyons.

Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Peck and daughters, Rosa and Julia, arrived from West Virginia to spend the winter with their son, J. E. Peck, draughtsman for the C. D. Co.

The wedding of Justice James B. Hoffman to Miss Florence A. Gould took place September 17, at Santa Barbara.

In October a Republican club was formed with the following officers: J. F. Steintorf, president; V. Gant, vice-president, A. M. Shenk, secretary; S. A. Thing, treasurer; E. S. McCollum, H. A. Brownell, J. G. Overshiner, C. M. Johnson, executive committee.

Calexico's big auction of town lots Wednesday, Nov. 2, 1904, was conducted by the Emerson Realty Co. A special train carrying some 200 visitors arrived early in the morn-

ing from Los Angeles. The sale took place under the historic tent brought from Imperial for the purpose. Auctioneer Ben Rhodes conducted the sale.

Mike Rissinger and W. L. Patterson were the two conductors on the Valley branch.

Fred Renaud was one of the first to build in Mexicali.

The C. M. ranch received several carloads of work horses; twenty-four teams started work leveling land on the Mexican side.

Varney Bros. bought Dr. Heffernan's store and conducted this general merchandising business on a larger scale.

The untimely death of Miss Nancy Hollandsworth was regretted.

Calexico had a baseball team.

1905

Leroy Holt and Geo. Carter took over W. F. Holt's interest in the organization of the First State bank at Calexico and went ahead with the building of a two story brick building, the bank occupying the corner room and the hotel occupying the balance of the building. Another bank, the International Bank of Calexico, was almost started in November, but was purchased by W. F. Holt, who at that time also purchased the First State Bank from Geo. Carter and Leroy Holt. The two banks were consolidated.

Numerous new buildings were built mostly along Second street and Calexico gained quite rapidly in population.

Mrs. Mobley Meadows died February 5th, after a year's ill health. She was a resident of the Valley with her husband and children since the winter of 1900.

Misses Rosa Peck, Lucile Dool, Margaret Bradbury, Dora Low, Lottridge, Rev. Mrs. O. C. Laizure, and Rev. R. L. Glasby were delegates to the Sunday School convention at Imperial.

1906

Contractor T. J. Mitchell erected a home on Mary street.

The C. M. Ranch Co. burned 600,000 brick on the lower ranch, for a ranch building.

Waldo Miles was the efficient town blacksmith. Miles branded much of his iron work with his name and some of it is still to be found on the work at the heading.

A trip was made by Geo. Wharton James and party from Yuma to the Salton Sea by boat, via Imperial canal, Sharp's Heading, the Alamo river past Holtville.

After a couple of dozen street fights and drunken brawls the correspondent from Calexico wrote: "There are a set of tin horn gamblers and all 'round toughs in the Valley who need a year or two on the rock pile and the sooner these specimens of humanity are gotten rid of the better will be the moral conditions of things."

CALEXICO'S FIGHT WITH FLOOD

During the first week in April, 1906, the water near Calexico commenced to slowly rise again. The railroad company and citizens had thrown up a low embankment west of the tracks and a train of 30 cars of gravel was added to the levee. However, the citizens did not trust this slight protection, so they constructed a dirt levee 100 feet



A Ten Dollar Bill on the End of a Greased Pole That Hung Over a Canal Furnished Much Amusement.

east of the railroad track. The steady rise of one inch per hour had been maintained for 24 hours and efforts had to be re-doubled. The work was under the direction of Engineer C. N. Perry. By nightfall the railroad tracks, yards, roundhouse and depot were inundated and the waves under a high wind were pounding away at the levee. An underground opening appeared and the water began boiling up in increasing volume with amazing rapidity. All the workers flocked to this point and by dint of the hardest kind of effort the breach was finally stopped. Merchants moved their goods during the night. On the morning of the third day the waters stood two feet higher than it was ever known before, but it had stopped rising, giving the tired citizens a breathing spell. Viewing the flooded area from the top of the two story hotel building one could see water in every direction. Half a mile east of Calexico the waters were at least five feet higher than the streets of the town. All of No. 6 territory was under water. South toward Mexico was just one vast expanse of flooded lands. Calexico held its breath for days waiting to see what would happen next. The levees did not fail.

This flood condition remained until the river cut its bed back from Salton Sea. The meandering current of the stream indicated that the river might cut directly through the town of Calexico. The idea of loosening the soil with blasts of dynamite in order to keep the cut well west of Calexico was adopted by the engineers. Mobley Meadows was one of the crew which exploded many boxes of dynamite in this attempt. The idea was a success and Calexico remained unharmed. Mexicali was less fortunate as the banks were eaten from under building after building which fell into the roaring stream.

The fight to save the territory of No. 1, north of the main canal was also spectacular. The water lay against the south bank of the canal and the canal itself was full of water. The job the army of citizens from Imperial and El Centro had was to build foot bridges across the 70 foot width of canal and carry sacks of dirt across these narrow foot bridges and pile them on the south bank. The water outside the canal was two feet higher than the water in the canal. The valiant work done by this group no doubt, saved the spread of the floods through Heber, El Centro and Imperial.

When the S. P. Company took charge of the C. D. Company in 1906, several old timers severed their connection with the California Development Co. Among them were C. N. Perry, J. B. Hoffman and W. H. Best. This left E. H. Gaines and D. L. Russell the only men of the old force with whom the people of the Valley were familiar. Thos. Beach was still with the company at the heading. H. T. Cory's reorganization of the working force was officered by men drafted from railroad service.

1907

A Valley paper ran eleven solid columns of an article telling people how to grow onions.

O. B. Tout took charge of the Calexico Chronicle April 7 and also handled the Holtville Tribune, both papers being owned by W. F. Holt.

Calexico had a telephone exchange the first of June.

A fraternal brotherhood lodge was organized with R. L. Conklin, President.

New River having cut Imperial avenue off, the railroad had to be moved and a number of buildings were in the way. W. F. Holt acted as a right of way agent and got these lot owners to trade for property mostly on Second street. The railroad sent an expert house moving outfit and a general realignment of business places was made.

A record was established by the Calexico Methodist church. When dedication day came it was found that all the money to pay for the structure, even to the tinting of the walls, had already been subscribed and dedication took place without asking for a cent of money.

The wedding of Jack Carillo, construction engineer for the S. P., to Miss Laura Ausmus was celebrated.

Calexico had a good team in the Valley baseball league. O. B. Tout was elected president of the league, and Ed. Boyd secretary. Some of the players: Teal, Atkinson, Bradford, Hester, Bassett, Brewster, Groves, Spence and Bragg.

Henry Webster was one of the earliest Chiefs of the Calexico Fire Department. O. B. Tout was the first but he resigned after ruining three pairs of trousers fighting fires.

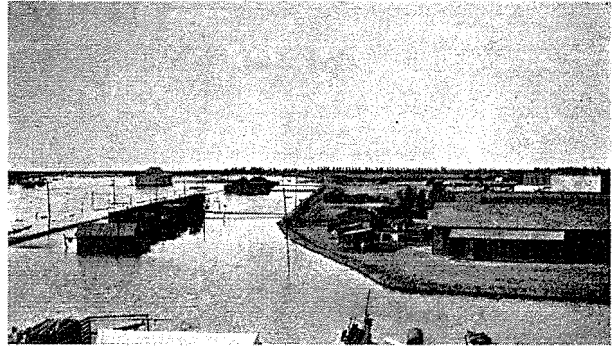
1908

INCORPORATION

In February, 1908, Calexico petitioned the Board of Supervisors for permission to incorporate. The petition was signed by the following:

W. T. Heffernan	G. W. McCollum
Edward Dool	D. S. Packard
Murray H. McAlmond	George C. Baudler
J. A. Morrison	James Godfrey
E. H. Gaines	Edw. G. Wright
Anton Hess	E. A. Eslow
S. E. Bragg	R. L. Conklin
Otis B. Tout	J. A. Allison
Geo. H. Shield	W. H. Chadney
M. H. Donohue	E. Carrillo
John G. Dow	A. L. Nelson
Ray Edgar	A. D. Bassett
F. Renaud	J. W. Hartley
A. M. Shenk	Mobley Meadows
Nathan Landsberg	J. E. Peck
Abner Carr	W. P. Camp
W. A. Jackson	C. B. Brown
Frank T. Thing	R. B. Houston
S. H. Bragg	Chas. Remson
Daniel Whitcomb	Thomas Christopher
Thomas Beach	John B. Kerr
Chas. G. Orr	Thos. H. Hughes
Sam Donaldson	S. A. Thing
Joe Estudillo	P. Barnes
H. E. Grove	Chester Vaughn
M. B. Davis	H. A. Jenkins
L. F. Patterson	Edw. H. Rockwood

After this petition was filed with the Board of Supervisors, an election to incorporate was held April 8, 1908. The first board of trustees: J. A. Morrison, A. M. Shenk, Dr. W. T. Heffernan, G. W. McCollum and F. T. Thing.



Citizens' Levee at Calexico

Otis B. Tout was elected clerk and recorder and J. M. Eshleman was appointed city attorney. The young city took a rapid stride and grew without hindrance. Among the first things done was the re-building of the water system, installing street lights, providing fire fighting apparatus, laying out and improving the city park and building a city hall and jail. Rockwood Plaza and Heber Park were named after the pioneers. A splendid school house was built, church buildings went up and in 1911 the high school graduated its first class. In 1915 a new high school was built and Calexico today enjoys a full complement of schools.

Fifty-nine firms paid business licenses the first month after incorporation.

A \$10,000 school bond election was carried in May.

The Woman's Improvement Club was organized in June, 1908, with Mrs. J. F. Steintorf president. There were twenty-four charter members. Mrs. J. E. Peck was the most active worker and Mrs. Fritz Kloke a close second.

W. K. Bowker and A. M. Shenk owned the only two automobiles in Calexico in 1908.

Social item from the Calexico Chronicle: Fifty friends and relatives spent Christmas at the home of Mr. and Mrs. S. Bragg.

Those present were Grandma and Grandpa Bragg, Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Stevenson, and Ed Lee, and Miss Emma; Mr. and Mrs. V. E. McQuown and Pierce, Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Bump and Bertha, Ira, Fern, Helen, Dan, Ruth and Mervin; W. L. Neal and wife, Mr. and Mrs. D. R. Bump and Albert, Lee, Katherine, and Margaret; Mr. and Mrs. L. S. Neagle and Thelma; Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Bragg and Hazel, Alice and John; M. George McClellan and sister, Ella; Mr. and Mrs. O. O. Bragg and Wallace and Francis; Grandpa Carr; Miss Fanny White; Mr. and Mrs. P. E. Carr and Lawrence, Everett, Mary, Lois and Donald.

JOSEPH MONNICOU, proprietor Calexico Dairy on 10th street; came from San Francisco, 1908, to buy cows. Started dairy 13 years ago; says best place in the land and entirely satisfied.

W. F. Holt sold the First State Bank to Fritz Kloke and other local citizens including J. A. Morrison, Peter Barnes, G. W. McCollum, Fred Gunterman, Sidney McHarg and L. A. Potter. H. H. Griswold was cashier.

Editor O. B. Tout issued the first pictorial magazine edition in the Valley in 1908. It pictured and described the Valley's development during the first seven years of its existence.

1909

Cotton was first grown in marketable quantities around Calexico in 1909. Four hundred bales were sold that

year. Calexico has since remained the center of the cotton industry north and south of the line.

Calexico celebrated the completion of the new Inter-California railroad from Yuma to Calexico.

Development of land in Mexico was carried on at a rapid pace in 1909.

W. F. Holt organized the Inter-California Land Company and started the development of 32,000 acres. This property became the Cudahy ranch.

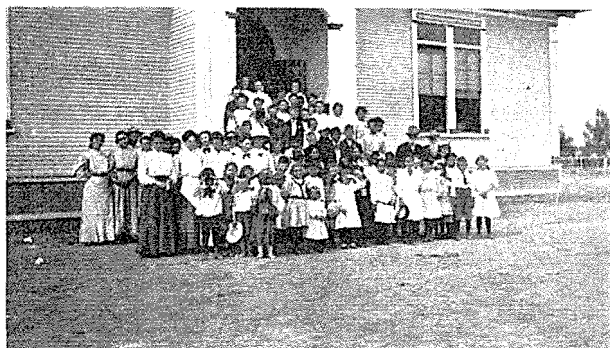
The Calexico Chronicle issued its second magazine edition, the feature of which was C. R. Rockwood's story, "Born of the Desert," most of which appears in the fore part of this history.

1910

In February the Calexico Chronicle was issued as a daily and boasted that Calexico was the smallest town in the United States to support a daily newspaper.

The First National Bank opened in March with Sidney McHarg as president; J. A. Morrison, cashier; and J. M. Edmunds assistant cashier.

The First State Bank was reorganized as the Calexico National Bank in April.



Calexico's School in 1905

FARMERS AND MERCHANTS CLUB

The Farmers & Merchants Club was organized in 1910 to succeed the Chamber of Commerce. The idea that the farm owners were as interested as any others in the development of the country was recognized by the towns people. The officers were: W. T. Aitken, President; O. B. Tout, Vice-President; E. R. Elliott, Secretary; H. H. Griswold, Treasurer; E. H. Rockwood, T. T. Miller and T. P. Daly, additional directors.

W. F. Holt sold the hotel block to the Calexico Savings Bank.

C. N. Perry, in November, presented a 100 foot lot to the Woman's Improvement Club to be used for the building of a club house.

A new creamery company was formed by Sidney McHarg, H. M. Bump, Ben Vlier, T. T. Miller and J. M. Edmunds.

THE EARLY MINISTER

Being a minister of the gospel in the early frontier days of Calexico was a man's sized job. Rev. and Mrs. Robert L. Glasby arrived on the scene in 1905 from Ventura where they had heard of the Valley through Rev. J. F. Tout. Both Mr. and Mrs. Glasby were gifted public servants and endeared themselves to the whole community by their never tiring efforts to help make life smoother. Mrs.

Glasby has written several comprehensive articles that tell of their experiences. For this History she condensed these stories into a brief account which is inserted here:

REMINISCENCES

By Mrs. Robert L. Glasby

We were in Ventura in 1904 for Mr. Glasby's health and were moved by the Southern California Congregational Conference to Calexico in October, 1905. The station agent at Ventura did not even know where Calexico was and did not have it on the map he consulted.

It was late at night and insufferably hot when we reached Imperial Junction. We boarded the "accommodation" freight and passenger train and found ourselves early next morning at Heber where we were to meet friends. The station agent at Heber had seen a boy about and finally he was located asleep on a flat car.

"So this is Heber!" I repeated to myself several times.

We were entertained at the S. E. Srack ranch near Heber a week while awaiting our household goods. We then moved into a vacant store building on Imperial avenue in Calexico. The building had a flat top and a faulty roof. They told us it never rained in Imperial Valley but we found that it did. That fall it just poured. We gave up trying to keep things dry in the house so just raised our umbrella and kept our heads dry.

Our first social event was a reception given in the new church for the new pastor and his family.

The Methodist people had lost their tent-house church in a wind storm, and were without a pastor, so they came also. L. E. Srack gave the words of welcome for the men of the Church and community, and Mrs. Srack spoke for the "Pastor's Aid Society," a very efficient woman's organization. Dana L. Weed spoke for the young people of the Church, and Mrs. J. F. Steintorf had charge of a very pleasing musical program.

At a meeting of the Pastor's Aid Society the need for funds for Church work was so imperative that the writer proposed the holding of a Church bazaar. There was no money in the treasury with which to buy materials to start the work. Had there been plenty of capital, the only fancy material to be bought in Calexico, was orange and green calico, which was supplied to the desert Indian girls in great quantities.

As the bazaar idea took root there was a general investigation of all trunks in the community, bachelors included. Hat linings, neckties, hat trimmings, were eagerly seized upon as legitimate materials out of which to create articles for the Bazaar.

Mrs. C. N. Perry was the real fairy god mother of the bazaar. In her trunk was found ample supply of water color paints and other materials. She was clever with her brush, and made up a large number of "best sellers".

When the cash was counted the treasurer found the total receipts to be fifty dollars. A quarter of a century ago fifty dollars was conceded to be a "large" sum.

The next outstanding thing the Pastor's Aid Society did was when they carried hot coffee and sandwiches to the men working on the levee. The men dared not leave their posts as steadily the Colorado river encroached upon the town.

So, guided by the light of a dim lantern, these women ministered to the hungry workers. Thus they kept up the morale of the men until the town was safe.

The need of social life was imperative. To meet this need we opened our home each Wednesday evening to the general public.

At the depot the agent, C. B. Brown, extended an invitation to every stranger coming to town to be sure and go to the preacher's home Wednesday nite.

We had among our regular guests a number of trained musicians. Among these were Mrs. Questa, wife of Senior Manuel Questa, Mexican Consul at Calexico. She had sung in light opera. Ralph Conklin, Chief Inspector of Customs, with his lovely baritone voice; Harry H. Griswold, who had sung in vaudeville, and others.

Earl Grainger, master of guitar and mandolin, organized an amateur mandolin and guitar club, which helped out

in musical programs. Mrs. J. F. Steintorf, a graduate in piano from an eastern conservatory of music, responded in arranging many musical programs.

Our home grew to be the social center of the community life. The Sunday evening service was composed of about seventy-five per cent men. It was my duty to plan the half hour song service at the opening. How those khaki clad men sang. Then once a month a sacred concert was given, using the best talent in the community. This concert always packed the church.

Mr. Gardner, editor of the Chronicle, exchanged courtesies—I wrote the church and social news for him. In return he printed one hundred programs for each sacred concert.

The first neighborhood party was held at the home of C. B. Brown. The guests invited were requested to bring their own tinware and a box to sit on. They played "tiddle-winks," because they thought it was not fitting to invite the preacher and his wife to a card party.

The Social Club gave a play, with Ray Edgar, Earl Grainger, Mable Edgar, Grace Wright, Ralph Conklin and others, as star performers.

After the last big fight with the Colorado, and everybody was suffering from nervous exhaustion, someone rapped on our door one morning. When we opened we were handed a sealed envelope. The envelope was found to contain a hundred dollars in cash, with a note ordering us to take a vacation and not return until the money was gone, and signed by the office men of the California Development Co.

This illustrates the appreciative character of the early pioneers of Imperial Valley.

Horseback riding was the favorite pastime of the women. Every woman coming to Calexico was invited to learn to ride a horse. Two horses patiently endured the foolishness of amateur women riders. One of these, "Dangerfield Dick," owned by Ray Edgar, the other, "Dolly," owned by James Bragg.

Our greatest delight was when seven or eight of us gathered in a group about 6 o'clock in the morning and rode off across the country, arriving at some bachelor's abode just in time for breakfast. We always demanded hot biscuits. Sometimes the host was just game enough to make biscuits for us, and they were good too.

During my years of service in the elementary schools it was my privilege to start the first class of all Mexican children, in the schools of Imperial Valley.

I enjoyed my work with the beginners very much, for many of the children I had known from babyhood. I did my best to implant in the lives of these children seeds that would develop character.

Believing in the solidarity of women and the effectiveness of their service, I became identified with the Woman's Improvement Club of Calexico, which I served during three different periods as president. At the time suffrage was granted women of California I was president of the club.

Just previous to a political campaign, I received a phone call. The speaker stated that the men of the county were desirous of recognizing the women in their new political relationship and asked me if I would permit my name to be placed on the Republican ballot as a candidate for election to the County Central Committee. I was elected on every ticket in my district. Republican, Progressive, Democratic, and Prohibition. It was not that the candidate was so popular, but it was because the women of that district had their first chance to vote for a woman candidate. That no candidate could qualify for a place on the County Central Committee of every political party in the district, did not occur to the women. They simply voted together.

Returning to Calexico after spending some years with our son, who was attending college in Los Angeles and Pasadena, I became the second president of the Young Woman's Christian Association of Imperial County.

The mountain camp project at Hipass had been started and was in process of development. The financial strain on the members of the organization had become very serious. As a young organization it had undertaken a tremendous task. The County Secretary resigned, and the

board voted to dispense with the services of a paid secretary and concentrate all efforts on paying for the camp site.

We gave up the office, stored the Ford car, thereby saving the salary of the secretary, the rent of the office, and the upkeep of the car. As president, I carried the work of the secretary, used my own car, paid for my own gasoline and stationery bills. By so doing we were able to make the final payment on the camp site, and thus made permanent the Girl Reserve movement of Imperial Valley.

At Calexico the local Y. W. C. A. board, composed of Mesdames Ridley, Steintorf, Miller, Kincaid, Simms, Russell and others, decided to meet their camp quota by holding a "White Elephant" sale. The sale ran two days and was so successful the women voted to continue the enterprise as a permanent thing.

The great service that could be rendered the community through such an institution gave the women the courage to continue.

This store was moved from place to place, wherever there was a vacant building. Through volunteer service of the community women the store was opened twice a week. It ran for several years, when it was merged into a community welfare proposition and still operates in connection with the Community Chest movement in Calexico.

Mrs. A. S. Carr and Mrs. J. P. Manuel worked untiringly under the Y. W. C. A. board and continued their services under the new management.

I consider my long and varied experience in working with the splendid pioneer women of Imperial Valley, as the richest experience of my life.

To help build a new civilization for future generations to enjoy was a great challenge. The pioneer women met the hardships and inconveniences of life with courage and fortitude. They have made an imperishable record which time cannot destroy.

1911

INSURRECTION

In 1911, shortly after the overthrow of President Diaz in Mexico, several radical Americans gathered a crew of so called revolutionists in Mexico, took possession of Mexicali and set up their own government. Gov. Vega, of Lower California, sent a force to oust the intruders, who had built themselves trenches under the direction of William H. Stanley, Ryan Price and Simon Berthold, their leaders. The federal force was repulsed by fire from the trenches across New River chasm, and lost 13 dead and a number of wounded. They retired to Ensenada to make better preparations for the next attack. The next morning a group of Calexicans, headed by Sheriff Mobley Meadows, Dr. Dana Weed and O. B. Tout, searched for the wounded on the battlefield. Most of the wounded, however, had been carried away by their comrades. Two months later the Mexican federals returned under command of Gen. Mayol. Several detachments of United State government troops and thousands of visitors from all over the Valley watched the conflict, which took place a mile south of the line.

There were over 800 troops in the Federal forces. Stanley made a bold attack with his few men and threw such a fright into the Federals that they never did attack Mexicali. Instead they went down to the levee where Col. Ockerson was working and camped. The force was frittered away, returning to the coast eventually.

Stanley himself, was killed in the sortie and his dream of a Socialist domain in Mexico went by the board. Col. Esteban Cantu then established himself as governor and so continued for several years.

Bonds were voted and a \$35,000 sewer system installed in 1911.

The trustees cancelled water bills for tree irrigation.

Calexico's first church bell arrived in February for the Methodist Episcopal church. Mrs. H. F. Warren was the donor.

D. C. AND MRS. E. M. STRAWN, proprietors Strawn Electric Co., came in 1911 from Beaumont; established the first electrical firm in Imperial Valley and also had the first radio or wireless equipment to be operated in Imperial Valley.

1912

H. H. Griswold resigned as Postmaster and C. C. Cockley was appointed.

Up to this time Calexico had little need for a cemetery. A new Cemetery Association was formed and a tract of 20 acres purchased from L. A. Potter.

The Calexico high school opened in October with 21 pupils and three teachers.

The home of Dana Weed in the country, was burned in November. This was one of the finest country homes in the Valley.

O. B. Tout sold the Chronicle to Bert Perrin.

THE NEXT EIGHT YEARS

During the years from 1913 to 1922 Calexico, along with the rest of the Valley, grew at a very rapid rate. Calexico built a new \$50,000 high school building; voted \$20,000 more to better the water system; built an oil mill; added 20 miles of sidewalks and curbing in 1914; built a Masonic temple; organized the Cotton Exchange National Bank; went through the 1915 earthquake cheerfully, repaired the damage, paid the bill and went on growing.

A CLEAR WAR RECORD

Calexico's war record is clear. In the chapters devoted to the County's War History, Calexico, it will be noted, had the largest Liberty Loan quotas because bank clearings exceeded those of any other city. Every drive was successfully completed. In Red Cross work, Calexico carried on as an independent Chapter and handled one-third of the entire Valley's quota. Calexico's sons volunteered and answered the selective draft on a par with the rest of the Valley. After the war, Calexico plunged into reconstruction work, organized for postwar relief and put over the Victory Loan with a fine record.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AGAIN

In January, 1917, the Farmers' and Merchants' Club was succeeded by the Chamber of Commerce, with Frank D. Hevener as president.

CARNEGIE LIBRARY

In 1919, the Carnegie library was built. Mrs. Bessie Wofford was and is still the librarian. She has earned the esteem of every one for the efficient way she handles the library work.

With new blocks of business buildings, new pavement on its street, new residences on every hand, and enjoying an enormous trade advantage by being the official port of entry in and out of Mexico, Calexico's history reflected continuous development.

The \$50,000 Majestic theatre was burned in 1920.

The largest inheritance tax recorded in the County was by Fred Gunterman, executor of the estate of Fritz Kloke. He wrote a check for \$15,297.57 for the tax payment to the state. Fritz Kloke, who owned most of the stock of the Calexico National Bank, several farms and other property, was one of Calexico's pioneers. He died in San Blas, Mexico, in 1919, while seeking to better his health.

The International Bank changed its name to the Central Bank of Imperial Valley in 1920.

Congressman Wm. Kettner secured four canons used by American soldiers in the World War, as mementoes. They were placed in the city park.

W. J. Peters, reputed to be a millionaire Chinese merchant in Mexicali, invested close to \$100,000 in Calexico business property and buildings in 1920.

The combined resources of Calexico's banks in 1920 reached \$5,000,000.

Calexico was made the only port of entry on the Mexican border where Chinese merchants and students might have their papers vised.

Donald Dool, postmaster in 1920, reported that during 1919, with 3-cent postage in effect, the sale of stamps amounted to \$25,746.33, and with 2-cent postage in effect in 1920 the sales amounted to \$28,040.12. The number of money orders increased from 16,722 to 22,159, showing the rate at which Calexico was growing.

During 1919 and 1920 new buildings in Calexico amounted to more than \$1,000,000. In Mexicali, \$250,000 was invested.

Calexico was so healthy that in July, 1921, ten physicians moved away. The following news item proves it:

CALEXICO, Aug. 4.—Within the last thirty days Calexico has lost ten practicing physicians. Dr. H. L. Coffman has turned rancher and is located at Beaumont, Dr. W. L. Ellis is engaged in teaching at San Diego, Dr. E. G. Tillmans is now practicing in Los Angeles, Dr. C. P. Engle is on his way to Mazatlan, Mex., Dr. W. L. Parcells resigned as a member of the board of city trustees and the high school board, removing to Del Mar; Dr. C. W. Anderson is taking a post graduate course at John Hopkins, Dr. McLain took up residence in El Centro, and Dr. H. G. Hummell leaves this week. Dr. Carl Tillmans and Dr. W. F. Smith are on vacations.

The Calexico National and the First National Banks were consolidated in March, 1921.

Fires in 1922 destroyed the storage warehouse of A. B. Valentine and the Calexico Cotton Compress at a total loss of \$160,000.

Calexico in 1922 adopted the city manager form of government and appointed Paul Steintorf as city manager. The population at this time was 7000.

Calexico had the only full-fledged woman police officer in 1922. She was Mrs. A. E. Kennedy, popular grammar school teacher.

The Calexico Rotary Club was formed March 7, 1922. Charter members: E. E. Anderson, D. L. Ault, J. C. Allison, W. A. Frix, H. H. Griswold, W. J. Hartman, L. M. Hutchinson, Randall Henderson, D. R. Kincaid, D. A. Leonard, W. H. Lorenz, Sidney McHarg, C. N. Perry, Dana L. Weed, T. J. Worthington. D. A. Leonard was the first President.

In reviewing the improvements made in Calexico from 1918 to 1923 it was noted that Calexico had erected a city hall at the cost of \$18,000; a new fire house and jail, \$20,000; added 17 acres to the city park systems; built six miles of sewers; added \$500,000 worth of street paving; added 28 miles of sidewalks; planted 5000 trees; tripled the water plant's capacity; added six miles of water mains and a Gamewell fire alarm system. The city's population in 1923 was 7500 and the assessed valuation \$6,341,000.

CHAMBER REORGANIZES

The Calexico Chamber of Commerce took on new life in 1922. At a meeting of some fifty citizens, President L. M. Hutchinson outlined a list of activities. The following citizens had a hand in the rejuvenating: C. B. Moore, J. M. Edmunds, Sidney McHarg, W. J. Hartman, P. P. Anderson, H. W. Going, W. A. Frix, D. R. Kincaid, Jos. W. Bannerman, E. E. Anderson, H. H. Griswold, A. J. Mercier,

Paul Steintorf, D. L. Ault, H. S. Abbott, W. H. Lorenz, C. N. Perry, R. H. Isom, M. W. Isom, B. A. Hill, A. W. Briggs, Frank P. Seiglitz, S. T. Tyler, Len S. Weed, W. J. Best, J. C. Allison, Randall Henderson, J. G. Scott, L. J. Goree, T. R. Yglesias, T. J. Worthington, N. J. Sleem, L. M. Hutchinson, D. R. Leonard, F. R. Jacobs, S. E. Burrowes, E. A. Rowe and John Stockberger. L. M. Hutchinson was President; T. J. Worthington, Vice-President; W. H. Lorenz, Second Vice-President; John Stockberger, Secretary; Will Gunterman, Treasurer. Headquarters were opened in the hotel building.

The reorganized Chamber of Commerce has functioned efficiently during the past eight years. A paid secretary has looked after the details of the Chamber's business; regular luncheons have been a weekly feature and a hard-working board of directors has been behind the officers year by year. In 1923, 1924 and 1925, H. H. Clark was President of the Chamber and T. J. Worthington was Vice-President. H. B. Purintan, A. L. Hubbell and George M. Gage were Secretaries. William Gunterman was Treasurer. Mr. Clark's administration was keenly business-like and successful.

In 1926, A. J. Mercier was President; Joe Siegel, Vice-President, and Wm. Harmuth, Secretary.

In 1927, E. E. Anderson was President. Following him, C. B. Moore, Randall H. Henderson and E. M. Beidleman guided the destinies of the Chamber, the last named being re-elected in 1931 and now serving his second term.

Since 1928, Leo Watts has been Secretary and Will C. Jones, Treasurer. M. W. Bates was Vice-President in 1928-29 and E. E. Anderson in 1930 and still serving.

1927

E. E. Anderson was President and Wm. Harmuth Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce.

J. O. Butts was elected President of the Central National Bank.

Herman Antholz was re-elected President of the International Golf Club. Other officers and directors: W. C. Jones, W. K. Bowker, C. L. West, Herbert W. Going and J. C. Anderson.

The city received \$1600 in fines through the Recorder's court in January.

Hugh McKinnon was appointed City Attorney in April, 1927.

The mattress making plant of the Calexico Cotton Products Company was destroyed by fire in April.

School bonds in the amount of \$50,000 were voted, 245 to 39.

The way the board of trustees conducted the city's business, especially in the police department, was not satisfactory to some of the citizenry. This was expressed in a recall in June, 1927, when the whole board was ousted and a new board seated. The board that went out was composed of Z. D. Agnew, E. G. Burdick, Edward Dool, John Graham and T. J. West. The new board: Paul P. Anderson, Oscar L. Peterson, M. W. Bates, W. C. Jones and A. J. Mercier. Mr. Mercier was named Mayor.

Leo Watts took his place as Secretary of the Chamber.

Calexico won the Valley Championship at football in 1927.

In 1927, fire destroyed six stores in the business section, entailing a loss of \$125,000. The Rialto Theatre was also partially destroyed by fire.

Telephones in 1918: 293; in 1927, 710.

School enrollment showed an increase of 81 per cent in six years. In 1927 there were 1613 in Calexico's schools.

January 1, 1927, will long be remembered in Calexico. Almost as the old year died, an earthquake shock, followed by several others of more or less intensity, shook the south end of the Valley quite violently. Mrs. Lucille C. Harar was awarded the Theodore N. Vail medal by the Telephone Company for refusing to leave her post during the quake.

A new high school auditorium was dedicated in 1928. Speakers included A. J. Mercier, Paul Anderson, M. W. Bates, H. W. Hughes, Kieth Harrington and P. D. Choiser. H. K. McConnell presided.

1928

Chester B. Moore was President of the Chamber. Dr. H. A. Jarvis was President of the Golf Club, Robert W. Dickey was President of the Kiwanis and Otto Bates was head of Rotary Club.

Airport bonds for \$20,000 carried in April. Calexico, as a result, has a very good airport.

J. C. Vaughn, pioneer, died at his ranch home in November.

1929

Randall Henderson, publisher of the Chronicle, was President of the Chamber of Commerce.

"Border Post" Veterans of Foreign Wars was organized in February. Harvey Shepherd was named first Commander.

Claude Ritter was appointed postmaster, succeeding Chas. Cockley.

Calexico Lodge, B. P. O. E. Elks won the Valley ritualistic contest.

Dr. W. T. Heffernan was awarded the post of honor as "president emeritus" of the Imperial Valley Pioneers at the May picnic.

Warren, Stewart and Harold Brockman purchased an American Eagle airplane in July. They make daily use of the plane on the Brockman ranch.

Miss Fay Dobbs was "Miss Calexico" at the Fox Theatre opening in San Diego.

1930

M. W. Bates was named Mayor. Guy Echols was Chief of Police.

The Chronicle's 26th birthday was celebrated August 4. The historian will say that, as far as he is able to discover, the Chronicle has the only Volume 1, Number 1, amongst Imperial Valley newspapers. None of the files are complete.

Calexico citizens own a mountain retreat near Boulevard called Calexico Lodge. The number of cabins increases every year.

THE CALEXICO CHRONICLE

In August, 1904, J. G. Overshiner, who was then publishing the Weekly Herald in Imperial, loaded his Washington hand press and two stands of type on a wagon and drove to Calexico, where the "plant" was deposited on a wooden platform under a mesquite tree just opposite the Steintorf lumber yard. A tent went up around the new printing office and there the Calexico Chronicle was born. Overshiner continued for six months or so, when he sold to W. F. Holt, who placed C. A. Gardner in charge and moved the plant to a small frame building near the depot. This building, by the way, is now on the opposite side of the street and is used for a second hand store.



Randall Henderson

Mr. Gardner was soon succeeded as publisher by John B. Baker, who later became the first County Recorder. Mr. Baker toiled at his task through the flood period with the waters of the river lapping at the crest of the town levee but twenty feet from his front door. In April, 1907, Mr. Baker was succeeded by Otis B. Tout, who conducted the Chronicle through the county seat fight. Mr. Holt gave Calexico the credit for winning the county seat for El Centro and presented Mr. Tout with the plant, which had been moved to a frame building on Imperial avenue, south of Second. In 1912, Bert Perrin purchased the Chronicle, later taking Ray Oliver as partner. They conducted the paper for the next ten years, selling in 1922 to Randall Henderson and Myron Watson. Mr. Watson later retired and Mr. Henderson is still publisher and proprietor.

The Chronicle, in 1931, moved into a new building erected by Mr. Henderson at Third and Heffernan.

In all the years and under the various managers and owners, the Calexico Chronicle has been a staunch advocate of conservative progress and civic betterment. It has been a leading factor in the growth of Calexico from the tent house stage to the present bustling city of 9000 inhabitants.

CALEXICO ORGANIZATIONS

INTERNATIONAL GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB: Organized 1926 with membership of 60. Now 103. Course is grassed, greens are cotton seed. Chief officers since organization: H. H. Clark, H. Antholz, Jno. Graham, W. C. Jones, Roy Kincaid, Paul Anderson, Carl West, Geo. Saunders, W. W. Wilkinson, Randall Henderson, Argyle McLachlan, M. H. Huey, Dr. H. A. Jarvis, S. H. Lockett.

ROTARY CLUB: Organized March, 1922. Presidents since organization: D. A. Leonard, D. L. Ault, Argyle McLachlan, E. E. Anderson, C. B. Moore, Herman Hughes, O. H. Bates, J. J. Lopez, Paul Locke. Present Treasurer, H. W. Going; Secretary, George R. Kirk.

WOMAN'S IMPROVEMENT CLUB: Organized 1908; federated with district and state 1910; general federation 1924; incorporated 1925. Charter members: Mesdames J. F. Steintorf, C. F. Herman, I. M. Kloke, J. A. Morrison, W. W. Culver, W. M. Cole, N. B. Weed, J. E. Peck, T. Mayhew, O. P. Hyde, J. G. Dow, Nina Berry, M. M. Cuesta, Ray Edgar, Mary Emerson, E. E. Parmelee, L. A. Potter, M. A. Ritter, A. W. Gilmore, D. F. Packard, T. J. Mitchell. Past Presidents—Mesdames John F. Steintorf, Thomas Mayhew, James E. Peck, Eldon Bragg, Charles F. Turner, Nina Berry Luman Ferrell, Robert Glasby, J. Friedman Mayer, Edith Lorenz, Herbert W. Going, Harry Krotz, Walter F. Boyle, Frank D. Hevener, Genevieve Williams, Orlo A. Pratt, Hudson Boatner, Ray S. Carberry,

Roy O. Thompson, George D. Willoughby, Paul P. Anderson, Elnar B. Hoff, Kenneth D. Jackson. Sections of the club are Twice Told Tales, Arts and Crafts, Drama and Music. Officers 1930-31, as follows: President, Mrs. Harold J. Gregg; Vice-President, Mrs. Edward E. Kiefer; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Langston J. Goree, Jr.; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Joseph Higuera; Treasurer, Mrs. Leslie H. Dowe; Directors, Mesdames Kenneth D. Jackson, Hugh S. McKinnon, William S. Hendry, Frank Bohr.

CALEXICO LODGE No. 412, F. & A. M.: Instituted March 23, 1910, with membership of 21. Now 185. Masters since organization to present time: Carlton B. Brown, Walter T. Aitken, James B. Hoffman, Charles F. Rice, Paul P. Anderson, Harry H. Griswold, Lewis H. Webber, Charles F. Turner, Daniel A. Leonard, Levi S. Jacobson, Frank Ziegler, William H. Lorenz, Harry W. Moldt, Leslie H. Dowe, Frank M. Czarnowski, Edward E. Kiefer, Orle A. Pratt, Charles P. Delp, Leo S. Watts, Joseph B. Burdick, Robert W. Hatton. Treasurer from 1910 to 1931—James M. Edmunds.

CALEXICO LODGE, I. O. O. F.: The Odd Fellows Lodge was organized November, 1909. The present officers are Paul Proklamus, Noble Grand; Sam Stabros, Vice-Grand; L. D. Cardiff, Treasurer; Sam Donaldson, Secretary.

A chronological history of the Chamber of Commerce runs in previous pages.

American Legion and Auxiliary histories are in war history chapters.

IMPERIAL CROWN CHAPTER, O. E. S.

Imperial Crown Chapter, Calexico, was instituted in 1916. The officers of Signal Chapter assisted on that occasion, and the friendship between the two chapters from the start has been most cordial.

The Calexico chapter has a noteworthy record of achievement in charitable and other work, and here is found the finest spirit of loyalty and co-operation.

The membership of this chapter has been drawn upon for almost every worthwhile thing that has been undertaken in Calexico. A glance over the roster of Imperial Crown Chapter shows the names of many who have had a large part in the work of empire building here.

Birthday anniversaries of this chapter, as well as of the other chapters, are observed regularly and are made events of great festivity. On one occasion a somewhat spectacular feature was a pioneer's grand march, in which all who took part had resided in the Valley sixteen years or more. The men were most picturesque in their garb of the early days, with high sombreros and with canteens slung over their shoulders.

A story of Imperial Crown Chapter of Calexico would be incomplete without appreciative mention of the work of Past Matron Rossie Anderson. Her faith in the ability of each officer through the years of her work in the chapter have made her an inspiration and help to all.

The Past Matrons from that time to the present: Frances W. Brown, Ethel M. Burdick, Adah A. Jones, Marv Baskin, Rossie Anderson, Dora B. Leonard, Ezelia P. Anderson, Elizabeth Goode, Anna L. Foster, Anna L. Hartman, Zella J. Manuel. The present Matron is Frances Duncan.

B. P. O. ELKS

The Calexico Lodge of Elks, 1382, was organized in April, 1920, with D. L. Ault, attorney, as first Exalted Ruler. For eleven years this lodge has been an organization of social leadership. Because of its excellence in lodge work the officers won the Dunaway Cup in 1929. Following are the Past Exalted Rulers: D. L. Ault, W. J. Hartman, Chas. Downing, R. J. Nicholson, S. J. Lockett, Joe Lopez, H. E. Zurcher, Earl Roberts, Homer Taylor, Arthur Herzog, Joe Thomas, W. H. Lorenz is the 1931 Exalted Ruler.

CALEXICO CHURCHES

FIRST METHODIST: Organized 1903 with 70 members. Now 156. Ministers since organization: Reverends Andrew McAllen, O. C. Laizure, W. M. Harkness, Oliver Saylor, G. E. Twomley, W. M. Hull, J. M. Gortner, C. A. Norcross, A. E. Schultz, Albert Ore, Q. P. Royer, W. T. Butcher, S. J. Rogers, A. T. Hobson, Myron Insko, M. K. Stone and, at the present time, Q. P. Royer.

APOSTOLIC CHURCH OF THE FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST: Organized 1920 with 60 members. Now 100. Ministers since organization: Antonio Cda, Frank F. Llorente, and Florencio Urenda. All the members of this church are Mexicans and since organization 450 members have been received in this church, but many members live in other places.

MEXICAN METHODIST MISSION: Organized March, 1930, with 15 members. Now 70. Ministers since organization: Luis P. Tierre, Alfonso Sanchez, Pedro Robles.

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL: Organized December, 1903; first church organization to build in south end of Valley. Ministers since organization: Reverends A. W. Thompson, Robert L. Glasby, M. A. Martin, E. E. Harring, T. M. Buley, A. C. Wright, C. N. Queen, Owen Umstead, Carl T. Patchell, John E. Berry, F. H. Essert, Robert W. Van Kirk, Frank P. Knopf. The latter closed his pastorate in 1928 and the pulpit is vacant at the present time.

CATHOLIC: Fr. Eummelin first held mass in Calexico in 1907; he was followed by Rev. E. Schmitt, Ramon Ferrer, James Morris, Joseph Higgins, Juan Coma, and N. F. Picarelli. The sisters, known as Servants of the Blessed Sacrament, have a fruitful field for their labors; the community now numbers seven sisters.

Other churches located at Calexico are: First Baptist, with R. L. Lewis, 436 Rockwood, pastor; First Church Scientist, 605 Heber; St. Luke's Episcopal Mission, 540 Rockwood; Japanese Independent, I. Kokubun, 1068 Rockwood, pastor; and the Micion Cristiana, located at 304 Eastside.

CALEXICO

Incorporated April 8, 1908

MEMBERS OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES SINCE INCORPORATION

(*) Indicates Mayor

1908	J. A. Morrison*	G. W. McCollum	W. T. Heffernan	A. M. Shenk	F. T. Thing
1909	J. A. Morrison*	G. W. McCollum	E. H. Rockwood	H. J. Rich	L. A. Potter
1910	A. S. Carr	G. W. McCollum	E. H. Rockwood*	H. J. Rich	L. A. Potter
1911	A. S. Carr	G. W. McCollum	E. H. Rockwood*	H. J. Rich	L. A. Potter
1912	C. H. Holmes*	G. W. McCollum	E. H. Rockwood	S. A. Thing	S. Emerson
1913	C. H. Holmes*	H. H. Griswold	E. H. Rockwood	R. G. Goree	S. Emerson
1914	A. C. Baskin*	J. C. Pace	P. E. Carr	G. F. Ramsey	S. Emerson
1915	A. C. Baskin	J. C. Pace*	P. E. Carr	J. A. Donaldson	E. G. Burdick
1916	A. C. Baskin	J. C. Pace*	P. E. Carr	H. Schneider	Edw. Dool
1917	A. C. Baskin	J. A. Donaldson	P. E. Carr	H. Schneider	Edw. Dool*
1918	A. C. Baskin	J. A. Donaldson	M. L. Parcels	H. S. Abbott*	Edw. Dool
1919	A. C. Baskin	E. G. Burdick	M. L. Parcels	H. S. Abbott*	C. C. Cockley
1920	A. C. Baskin	E. G. Burdick	M. L. Parcels	H. S. Abbott*	C. C. Cockley
1921	A. C. Baskin	E. G. Burdick	M. L. Parcels	H. S. Abbott*	C. C. Cockley
1922	Chas. Downing	E. G. Burdick	M. L. Parcels	T. J. West*	C. C. Cockley
1923	Chas. Downing	E. G. Burdick	M. L. Parcels	T. J. West*	C. C. Cockley
1924	Z. D. Agnew	E. G. Burdick	John C. Graham	T. J. West*	Edw. Dool
1925	Z. D. Agnew	E. G. Burdick	J. C. Graham	T. J. West*	Edw. Dool
1926	Z. D. Agnew	E. G. Burdick	J. C. Graham	T. J. West*	Edw. Dool
1927	A. J. Mercier*	P. P. Anderson	M. W. Bates	W. C. Jones	O. L. Peterson
1928	A. J. Mercier*	P. P. Anderson	M. W. Bates	W. C. Jones	O. L. Peterson
1929	A. J. Mercier*	P. P. Anderson	M. W. Bates	W. C. Jones	O. L. Peterson
1930	I. Schlatter	P. P. Anderson	M. W. Bates*	W. C. Jones	O. L. Peterson
1931	I. Schlatter	P. P. Anderson	M. W. Bates*	W. C. Jones	O. L. Peterson

OTHER CITY OFFICIALS

Year	Recorder	Clerk	Treasurer	Marshal	Attorney
1908	O. B. Tout	O. B. Tout	E. G. Wright	M. McAlmond	J. M. Eshleman
1909	J. B. Hoffman	J. B. Hoffman	E. G. Wright	Frank Crane	F. P. Willard
1910	J. B. Hoffman	J. B. Hoffman	W. T. Aitken	Frank Crane	F. P. Willard
1911	J. B. Hoffman	J. B. Hoffman	W. T. Aitken	W. J. Lee	F. P. Willard
1912	R. L. Glasby	R. L. Glasby	W. T. Aitken	Lee Ferrell	W. H. Sprague
1913	R. L. Glasby	R. L. Glasby	W. T. Aitken	J. E. Eakins	W. H. Sprague
1914	E. B. Browne	E. B. Browne	C. Potter	J. E. Eakins	H. Foreman
1915	E. B. Browne	E. B. Browne	C. Potter	J. E. Eakins	H. Foreman
1916	F. P. Green	F. P. Green	C. Potter	J. E. Eakins	W. T. Butcher
1917	F. P. Green	F. P. Green	C. Potter	G. C. Kemp	W. T. Butcher
1918	P. B. Steintorf	P. B. Steintorf	G. F. Ramsey	Rodney Clark	A. Blaisdell
1919	P. B. Steintorf	P. B. Steintorf	G. F. Ramsey	R. Clark	M. C. Atchison
1920	P. B. Steintorf	P. B. Steintorf	G. F. Ramsey	E. S. Boucher	W. E. Ginder
1921	P. B. Steintorf	P. B. Steintorf	G. F. Ramsey	E. S. Boucher	W. E. Ginder
1922	P. B. Steintorf	P. B. Steintorf	G. F. Ramsey	E. S. Boucher	W. E. Ginder
1923	P. B. Steintorf	P. B. Steintorf	G. F. Ramsey	J. B. Hardwick	W. E. Ginder
1924	C. E. Markey	A. L. Hubbell	L. J. Goree, Jr.	J. B. Hardwick	L. J. Powers
1925	C. E. Markey	R. S. Emerson	L. J. Goree, Jr.	J. B. Hardwick	L. J. Powers
1926	C. E. Markey	R. S. Emerson	L. J. Goree, Jr.	J. B. Hardwick	C. S. Anderson
1927	R. S. Emerson	R. S. Emerson	L. J. Goree, Jr.	L. B. Manss	C. S. Anderson
1928	T. E. Anderson	R. S. Emerson	L. J. Goree, Jr.	L. B. Manss	H. S. MacKinnon
1929	T. E. Anderson	R. S. Emerson	L. J. Goree, Jr.	L. B. Manss	H. S. MacKinnon
1930	E. E. Keifer	R. S. Emerson	L. J. Goree, Jr.	C. G. Echols	H. S. MacKinnon
1931	E. E. Keifer	R. S. Emerson	L. J. Goree, Jr.	C. G. Echols	H. S. MacKinnon

City Librarian: Mrs. Bessie H. Wofford was appointed when the library was established in 1909 and has been librarian ever since. She holds the record in Calexico for straight service.

City Engineers: J. E. Peck, I. B. Funk, H. E. Foster, H. L. Sherman, P. M. Entemann and T. R. Byl have served.

City Health Officers: Dr. Harvey Smith, Dr. H. C. Richter, Dr. W. F. Smith, Dr. W. L. Ellis, Dr. A. L. Heck and Dr. W. T. Talbott have served.

POPULATION	
1908.....	500
1910.....	762
1920.....	6223
1930.....	6290

Assessed valuation in 1930: \$5,149,890.

BONDED INDEBTEDNESS	
1910.....	\$ 37,500
1920.....	364,000
1930.....	374,000

The city hall was built in 1920 at a cost of \$16,000.

The Carnegie city library was built in 1919 at a cost of \$12,000. The books owned in 1910 were 300. In 1920, 4,350; in 1930, 11,000.

Calexico has a commission form of government; has a volunteer fire department with equipment valued at \$32,000.

The sewer system cost \$126,466.

The water system cost \$329,665.

The police department has twelve on the force.

Calexico has an airport that cost \$20,000.

A study of the official table will show at a glance the important figures in Calexico's official history. After the first board organized and got things going in 1908, Dr. Heffernan, A. M. Shenk and Frank Thing did not care for the tedium of office holding and resigned. Then we see E. H. Rockwood, H. J. Rich and Lawrence Potter serving for several years. G. W. McCollum was pioneer hardware merchant. A. C. Baskin and E. G. Burdick are tied for length of service as trustees, each serving eight years. H. S. (Casey) Abbott had the distinction of serving as Mayor four years in a row. He was almost tied by A. J. Mercier, who served three years. Then came T. J. West, who shattered Abbott's record with five years straight as Mayor. In 1927, the city split over the employment of Chief of Police Hardwick and a recall election displaced the entire board with new men. Edward Dool never cared for office holding but did his bit. The table shows the men who, for the past quarter of a century, have been responsible for Calexico's advancement, which has been a bit above the average for the rest of the Valley.

MINUTES OF THE FIRST BOARD MEETING

The first regular meeting of the Calexico Board of City Trustees was called to order in the Chronicle office by the City Clerk on the evening of April 28, 1908.

Trustees Present: J. A. Morrison, G. W. McCollom, F. T. Thing, A. M. Shenk, W. T. Heffernan.

Clerk, O. B. Tout.

Attorney, J. M. Eshleman, represented by Phil D. Swing. Nominations for President of the Board were as follows: McCollom and Morrison.

Selection was made by ballot, resulting as follows:

McCollom, 1; Morrison, 4.

J. A. Morrison was duly declared President of the Board.

Lots were drawn for long and short term with the following results:

Long term, four years, F. T. Thing and G. W. McCollom.

Short term, two years, A. M. Shenk, J. A. Morrison and W. T. Heffernan.

Upon motion by Trustee Shenk, J. M. Eshleman was selected as City Attorney. Vote unanimous.

A committee on place of meeting was appointed by the President as follows: Thing, Heffernan and McCollom, committee to report at the next meeting of the Board.

Ordinances as follows were allowed the first reading:

1. To Prohibit the Sale of Liquor in Calexico.
2. To Prohibit Persons or Corporations from placing Guy wires in a position dangerous to the public.
3. Fixing the time and place of meeting of the Board.
4. For police supervision relating to public disturbances, etc.
5. Fixing the official bonds of the officers of the town of Calexico.
6. To provide for the licensing of certain businesses.
7. Prohibiting gambling of various kinds within the City limits.

Board adjourned.

Dated Calexico, California
April 28, 1908

O. B. Tout
Clerk

**FIRMS AND INDIVIDUALS IN BUSINESS
IN CALEXICO IN 1930**

Amusements
Am. Legion Center

Apartments
Arcade
Blackman
Crown City
Mrs. Edia Dickson
Imperial
Lee
Thornton
Valley
Wintonia

Apiary
T. P. Shepard

Auto Supplies
Edgar Bros.
Western Auto Supply
Coffey & Russell
Sims Auto Body Wks.
Burr Motor Co.
R. P. Haas
R. C. Roberts
R. H. Womack

Awnings
Calexico Tent and
Awning

Auto Wreckers
H. A. Caplan
J. B. Hardwick

Bakers
Henry Augenstine
Capitol Bakery
B. Zanudio

Banks
First Central National
Bank of America

Barbers
L. J. Brown
J. L. Carnacho
M. Garcia
Edw. Jeppway
L. D. Cardiff
O. S. Megia
D. Navarette
C. E. Oliver

Battery Stations
J. J. Gardner
Hays Electric
Watts & Jensen

Beauty Shops
Mrs. G. M. Hayes
Annis Truscott
Moizelle Beauty Shop

Billiards
Y. Hasegawa
S. Kato
Henry Sanchez
Tom Tsukamoto

Blacksmiths
C. L. Davis
W. H. McCullough
John Gigrich

Cabinet Work
J. B. Manuel

Chiropractors
E. A. Johnson
Ernest Kneeling

Cleaners
A. A. Crane
R. H. Lutes
Aug. Marsh
L & R Cleaners

Clothing
P. Blanco
Boston Store
Dav. Chernov
Sam. Ellis
J. H. Otter
Faris Simon
S. Steen

Confectioners
Capitol Sweets
Rialto Conf.
White Owl

Contractors
H. J. Edwards
O. L. Peterson

Cotton Brokers
Claggitt & Hamilton
Thos. Coughlin
T. J. West & Co.
American Brokerage
A. Barrera
Delta Brokerage
N. Polkinhorn
C. K. Woo Co.

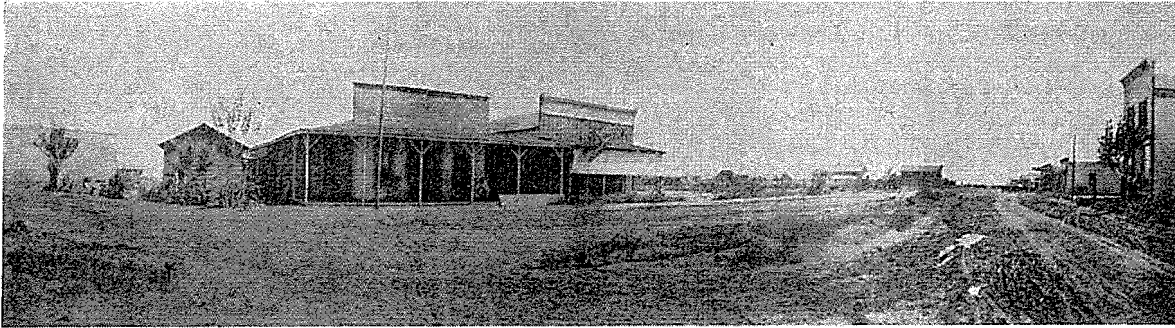
Cotton Buyers
H. Antholz
R. W. Dickey
I. H. Fuller
Graham & Williams
Calexico Compress

Cotton Products
Calexico Cotton
Products Co.

- Dairies**
Aux Ambort
Jos. Mounicou
- Dancing**
Robert Lee
- Dentists**
H. A. Jarvis
H. S. Thompson
- Department Stores**
The Emporium
Lion Dept. Store
J. C. Penny Co.
- Dressmakers**
Mrs. A. C. Cottrell
Mrs. E. M. Tobias
Mrs. Grace Young
- Drug Stores**
Anderson Pharmacy
Calexico Drug Co.
Popular Drug Store
White Cross Drug Store
- Dry Goods**
Chas. Ellis
Nasef Ellis
Antoon Fares
Abdula Murr
Henry Palcios
Mansur Simon
Saleem Thomas
United Dry Goods Stores
- Electrical Stores**
City Electric Co.
Mrs. F. M. Strawn
- Express Companies**
Railway Express Co.
- Fish Dealers**
Gus Kiriakidos
- Fruit Buyers**
J. W. Asher
J. P. Carter
Desert Grapefruit Co.
Earl Fruit Co.
E. B. Hunter
Mt. Signal Produce Co.
- Furniture**
Imperial Valley
Hardware Co.
Morris Rosson
Valley Furniture Co.
Jesse Fitzgerald
- Garages**
Ross Cannon
Haller Bros.
Tom Ritter
Roy Rose
Earl Young
Henry Christian
John Console
R. E. Edwards
T. H. Jones
Ysidro Service
- Grocers**
Cash Grocery Co.
E. E. Cavanah
Pedro de Garcia
Garcia Bros.
Hally Gunji
International Supply Co.
Suajo Kamashima
Y. Kawakita Co.
Michl Kiralla
F. J. Maloff
Ralph Mendoza
Miguel Ordonez
Piggly Wiggly
- Habib Rashid
Safeway Stores
William Samaha
Sanitary Food Market
W. L. San Miguel
Ben Ancio Soto
Sou. Cal. Grocery Co.
Frank Wong
Mock Fon Wong
Wah Wong
Leung Woo
Ty Woo
Sen Yat Co.
G. W. Yean
Zurcher Bros.
- Hardware**
I. V. Hardware Co.
H. P. Fites Co.
Edgar Bros.
- Hospitals**
Calexico Hospital
- Hotels**
Hotel Overland
Hotel Reeder
Hotel Calexico
Virginia Hotel
De Anza Hotel
- Ice**
Imperial Ice &
Development Co.
Pure Ice Co.
- Implements**
Bates & Duncan
R. J. Freestead
- Insurance**
Lorenz Agency
H. H. Griswold Co.
Going & Edmunds
- Lumber**
El Centro Lumber &
Trading Co.
Calexico Lumber Co.
Sones Lumber Co.
Valley Lumber Co.
- Jewelers**
H. W. Hughes
F. P. Siegletz
- Laundries**
Wo Kwon
Sing Quong
Calexico Laundry Co.
- Lawyers**
M. C. Atchison
Alfred Blaisdel
G. R. Kirk
H. S. Mackinnon
L. J. Powers
- Light & Power**
Southern Sierras
Power Co.
- Livestock**
Anderson Bros.
R. H. Isom
- Loans**
People's Finance &
Thrift Co.
- Machinists**
Roy Rose
G. H. Tinkham
- Meats**
City Meat Market
Arth Green
Valley Wholesale
Meat Co.
Swift & Co.
- Newspapers**
Calexico Chronicle
La Cronica
La Frontera
- Notions**
S. H. Kress Co.
F. W. Woolworth Co.
- Oil Companies**
Union Oil Co.
Standard Oil Co.
Shell Oil Co.
- Optometrists**
Kyle MacBratney
- Painters**
Simms Auto Body
Works
C. M. Higgins
- Photographers**
Rafael Castillo
- Physicians**
T. E. Bartholomew
F. C. Gregg
H. J. Gregg
W. E. Hart
W. T. Heffernan
J. B. Minna
A. L. Rice
W. T. Talbott
O. L. Webster
- Plumbers**
G. E. Bean
S. C. Blackman
Lucien Copes
- Printers**
McCoy Kiefer Co.
Calexico Chronicle
- Radios**
G. W. Anderson
- Railroads**
International Calif.
Railroad
S. D. Arizona
Southern Pacific
- Real Estate**
L. J. Goree
Going & Edmunds
H. H. Griswold, Inc.
- Restaurants**
W. A. Coleman
Geo. Ginn
Geo. Kanazawa
A. J. Pelonis
Savoy Cafe
G. B. Sing
S. D. Stavros
Sotero Uriaz
J. W. Vivian
- Seeds**
P. E. Cook Seed Store
- Service Stations**
Florencio Acevez
Frank Bowker
Bump Bros.
J. S. Fleming
M. H. Huey
Albert Morlet
Southern Gasoline Sta.
J. J. Wilkerson
C. F. Williams
- Sewing Machines**
Singer Sewing
Machine Co.
- Sheet Metal**
Valley Sheet Metal
Works
- Shoes**
Karl's Shoe Stores
P. H. Garcia
Nikitis Kokinas Co.
Jesus Velasquez
- Sign Painters**
F. H. Bluhm
- Soft Drinks**
Jos. Ward
F. O. Woods
- Stage Systems**
Pickwick Stages
- Tailors**
Sabino Barron
A. W. Knudsen
Manual Morante
- Telephone & Telegraph**
Postal Telegraph
Western Union
Pacific Telephone
& Telegraph
- Theatres**
Fox Rialto
- Tires**
J. E. Talbott
Valley Tire Service
U. S. Grant Co.
- Tourist Camps**
A. J. Hems
Toney Janek
Municipal Auto Camp
- Trucking**
International Transfer
& Warehouse Co.
Pioneer Transfer Co.
Pacific Fruit Express
- Undertakers**
Arnold Funeral Home
- Veterinarians**
J. C. Pace
- Water Distributors**
C. F. Maynard
- Welders**
Bill's Welding Shop

 THE NEW HOTEL DE ANZA

Just before the warm summer of 1931 Will R. Conway, former owner of the Barbara Worth Hotel, El Centro, completed construction of the De Anza Hotel in Calexico. With the efficient air cooling system and its superb furnishings this hotel immediately became popular with the traveling public and Valley residents. A temperature of from 75 to 80 is maintained in all the rooms, lobby and dining rooms.



The Business Section of Brawley in 1903

CHAPTER XXVI

BRAWLEY

ONE LOS ANGELES capitalist and one Imperial Valley capitalist each made a sad mistake 'way back in 1902. The Los Angeles man was J. H. Braly. He had underwritten 4000 shares of water stock and was assigned 4000 acres of land, on the center of which the thriving city of Brawley now exists. Circular No. 9, the Government's famous libel on Imperial Valley soils, fell into his hands in 1902, and he trembled. The officers of the Imperial Land Company argued with him.

"Why, Mr. Braly, we're going to build a town on your land and it will be the metropolis of the north end of the Valley—and we're going to call it Braly," they said.

"No—no, NO!" exclaimed the capitalist. "I don't want my name connected with any big failure like Imperial Valley is going to be! "I want to get out!"

George A. Carter, who was building the grade for the new railroad, heard of Braly's wish. He went to Los Angeles and took over his contract for the 4000 acres, on the basis of \$16.50 an acre. He came back, put teams to work leveling a place big enough to start a town. The news got about quickly.

The Imperial Land Company got wind of the deal and, claiming townsite rights exclusively, looked with fearsomeness on the activity on the 4000 acre tract. They sent emissaries to Carter and he sold out for something like \$21 an acre, clearing a neat sum for his few months ownership. A. H. Heber, F. C. Paulin and H. C. Oakley were principals in the townsite company.

People had already begun to call the locality "Braly," and as the Los Angeles capitalist had prohibited the use of his name, after a conference, A. H. Heber suggested that the town be named Brawley.

"I have a friend in Chicago named Brawley—we'll name it after him," said Mr. Heber.

The mistakes? The first by Mr. Braly for becoming fearful and letting go, and the other by Mr. Carter for allowing himself to be talked out of a good bargain. The land today is easily worth a million dollars plus the \$6,000,000 or more assessed valuation of the City of Brawley.

The Townsite Company ordered the new town platted in October, 1902. Frank H. Stanley became associated with the promoters at that time. He erected a little wooden office where dubious visitors might be convinced of the wisdom of investing in a town lot or two. Platting was completed early in 1903. The Government circular No. 9 had a real effect on investors, and the town's growth did not amount to much until fall. Then evidence that the soil WOULD actually grow things was plentiful. The little wooden office was surrounded by plants, trees, vines and foliage that grew marvelously—winter and summer. That was real evidence. People stopped, listened and became believers instead of doubters. The dozen or so tent houses became twice that many in September, 1903, and by Christmas time the new town's gait was swift and sure. The Imperial Valley News was established in September, 1903. The railroad reached as far as Brawley that fall, and when immigrants hopped off in the dust at the end of the rails they took a good look around and that wasn't bad for Brawley.

Jumping over the interim of nearly thirty years, today we find that Brawley is a city of 10,437 inhabitants who are proud of their schools, their commercial organizations, their city's paved streets, fire protection, water and sewer systems; their rich, soft soil; their productive acres, their crops, their cattle, hogs and sheep; their golf club and their record as an integral part of the greatest agricultural empire on earth. They have a right to be proud.

Just how a community of people can reach Brawley's present state of culture and development in less

than one generation is a study worth while. It is the province of this history to trace the processes, the human activities and the ideas of the men and women who have done this thing.

So we start with the first printed records which come from the early files of the Imperial Press. The News files, until 1907 were not to be found.

1903

BRAWLEY GETS A START

Brawley, September, 1903

Much activity is shown in the north end where Brawley townsite was launched in October, 1902, by the Imperial Investment Co., successors of the Oakley Paulin Co. The company has finished a neat office building there. G. N. Stahl has arrived from Washington where a large number of wealthy ranchers came from to buy in the Brawley district. Wm. Farr bought 1000 acres and is having half a section put into alfalfa and barley. Ditch work is being crowded so that water may be made available for fall planting. A flume has been built across New river into No. 8 and some water is already being led across to the new lands.

W. W. Masten has rented 4000 acres of the Crawford ranch and will put in the largest acreage of grain under one management in the Valley.

W. H. Ham began work in November on a frame building having a frontage of seventy-five feet on Main street, where three stores will do business.

Recent purchasers of land in the Brawley district: Frank Benkert, of Los Angeles; C. R. Moores, of Los Angeles; C. H. Ruth, of Kansas; J. T. Wright, of Los Angeles; J. D. Lowell, of New York; S. K. Fuller, of Iowa.

Willard Beebee, of Colton, launched the Imperial Valley News in September.

Cady & Lee put up a two story building and installed a stock of hardware with a hall upstairs.

Pleasant Social Event.—Frank H. Stanley to Miss Flo Stowe, Thursday, Dec. 3, 1903. The couple was presented with a house and lot by the Brawley Townsite Co., because they were the first residents of Brawley to be married there.

Public school opened in September with six pupils and now has twenty-eight.

Frank H. Stanley was commissioned postmaster.

The Bungalow Hotel was opened January 1st, 1904, with Mrs. Belle Mead, former proprietor of the Hotel Imperial, in charge. A big dinner and dance celebrated the event.

Since the town was established in October, 1902, it has grown to fifteen business houses and fifty families.

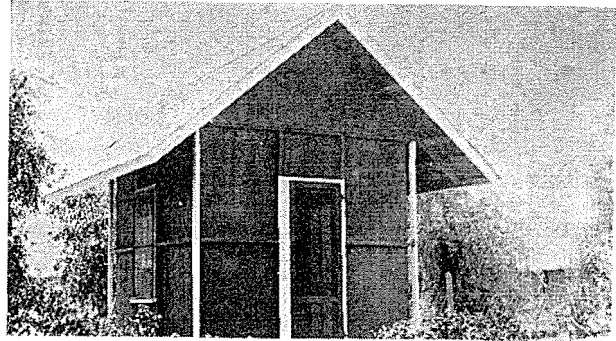
Tom McKeehan has lumber on the ground for a business building.

Brawley Cornet Band has been organized and gave its first concert and dance at the opening of the new Bungalow Hotel.

Cochrane & Laiblin have opened an implement store in the new Ham building.

O. K. Thomas has been transferred from the Imperial store to the Brawley store of Varney Bros.

Brawley Whist Club was recently organized and holds weekly meetings.



The First Structure in Brawley. Townsite Company Office

1904

JANUARY 1904

Frank H. Stanley and T. H. Kellog have formed a partnership in the real estate business and have taken over the interest of Dr. J. W. Oakley who retires.

Hovley & Brown is another new real estate firm.

Chris Bowles has opened a brick yard and has orders for 100,000 bricks.

Dan Elder has completed his new home in No. 8.

Recently moved on the new farms in No. 8: A. B. Fossul, I. R. Elder, G. Clark, T. N. Stewart, W. L. Hailes, M. E. Gardner, W. L. Sampson.

BRAWLEY'S FIRST FIRE

The explosion of a coal oil stove set fire to the west end of Hotel Brawley Thursday, January 28, 1904, and destroyed the hotel and contents, owned by J. R. Marlow; hardware store and contents belonging to C. H. Heard and C. Hauck, and the First Bank of Brawley, operated by W. T. Dunn and Miller. Peter Hovley, who was handling the oil stove when it exploded, was badly burned but recovered in three weeks. The loss was estimated at \$8500.

Brawley merchants, anxious for goods ordered, go down to the depot and help the crew unload the freight at every arrival.

The new furniture store for Lee & Cady is about ready for opening.

FEBRUARY-MARCH 1904

S. H. Bryant is building a home.

The Kerckhoff-Cuzner Lumber company, of Los Angeles, has established a yard in Brawley.

R. E. Wills has nearly all his 640 acres in crop.

The Brawley Chamber of Commerce has raised \$107 for tree planting purposes.

A. F. Stowe has sold his 320 to W. H. Best of Beaumont at \$35 per acre.

FIRST BRAWLEY BANK

The Imperial Valley Bank was organized March 1 with a capital of \$25,000 and \$10,000 paid in. Officers: President, F. C. Paulin; Cashier, W. T. Dunn; additional directors, W. G. Emerson, J. W. Oakley and George Frazer.

Although the Valley had a reputation as the home of the "side-winder," a small rattlesnake, the first case of anyone being bitten by one was when the 12 year old son of J. W. Finley was bitten on the foot. The case was not fatal.



F. H. Stanley

The new 120-foot bridge across New River toward No. 8 is complete.

APRIL 1904

A Methodist Episcopal church was organized, Rev. H. C. Mullin, of Imperial, conducting services.

The box car depot will soon be replaced with a regulation S. P. depot.

MAY 1904

Harry G. Hill is Brawley's new constable.

Another excursion from Los Angeles and way points landed at Brawley with about 200 visitors who were shown the valley and entertained by the town company under the guidance of Mr. Emerson. Ben Rhodes, famous auctioneer, conducted the auction sale of town lots and did a big business. A total of \$35,000 worth of property was sold.

The wedding of Lew J. Varney and Miss Josie Baumgardner was celebrated.

Brawley now has a brass band.

The town company is working on water works.

Mrs. Edith Meador is Brawley's postmistress, succeeding Frank Stanley.

The first cantaloupes of the season appeared Sunday, May 25, from the garden of the Land Co.

JUNE-JULY 1904

ANOTHER FIRE FOR BRAWLEY

Most of the business section of Brawley including Nice's pool room, two stores belonging to W. H. Ham, Hart's Hardware store and the store building adjoining, McGee's barber shop and the beautiful new Bungalow hotel, was destroyed by fire June 7.

The community will picnic on the banks of New River north of Brawley on the Fourth of July.

AUGUST-SEPTEMBER, 1904

Atty. P. H. Chandler has offices in the Van Ness building.

A. C. Brown is the new health officer appointed for Brawley.

W. P. Mansfield has leased his ranch to R. Malan.

N. J. Scribner surprised his friends by returning from Iowa with a bride.

Frank Stanley has purchased the Brawley News, taking charge of the paper Aug. 1.

Two inches of rain fell accompanied by a hard wind. The roof was torn off the Bungalow cafe, W. R. Post's dwelling was torn to pieces, ramadas torn down and much loose hay carried away in the whirlwind.

Contract has been let for rebuilding the new Hotel Bungalow.

The railroad is to build a depot at Brawley at once.

OCTOBER, NOVEMBER, DECEMBER, 1904

Brawley athletic association has been formed. F. M. Upstill, president; C. Jones, vice-pres., H. B. Stewart, secretary and W. T. Dunn, treasurer.

The chamber of commerce is active in taking care of the street and park trees.

School opened with Mrs. C. A. Frederick as teacher. This is the second term of school for Brawley.

B. L. Hutchings, T. E. McGee and F. H. Stanley were chosen by a public meeting to organize the Brawley Improvement club.

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER, 1904

Will Malan has arrived from Illinois to join his father.

Thos. O'Brien has the contract to build the Alamita canal. Mr. O'Brien has just finished building the bridge across the river east of town.

Wm. Kelly has a nursery stock for sale.

C. F. Wade is visiting with his son, Geo. R. Wade, of No. 5.

Mrs. Thos. O'Brien and daughter have arrived to join Tom.

M. D. Witter, of Imperial, acquired an interest in the News with F. H. Stanley. He was editor. The name was changed to "The Brawley News."

Geo. T. Wellcome is a recent arrival.

T. H. Kellog and J. E. Ramsdall have leaved 1000 acres of the Poole ranch.

The chamber of commerce is fostering the organization of a melon association. Three hundred acres are signed. An icing plant next to the railroad will be built in time to handle the crop.

1905

JANUARY 1905

Thos. E. Magee, pioneer barber, has sold his shop to C. Parnell.

The town people liked railroad agent Butcher so well that they circulated a petition asking the S. P. not to transfer him.

AUGUST 1905

W. F. Holt has bought the Imperial Valley bank. W. T. Dunn will be continued in the position of cashier. The capital stock has been increased to \$25,000.

Leroy O. Keener, assistant cashier of the Brawley bank, on a vacation at Catalina, was drowned when a heavy surf upset his skiff.

1906

MAY 1906

M. D. Witter has been appointed assistant secretary of water company No. 4.

W. C. Eaton is Southern Pacific agent now.

Geo. J. Holloway claims to be the first cantaloupe shipper. He sent two acres of melons down to the Salton Sea on the flood waters of New river.

Geo. Wade and Miss Margie Ernst were married.

DECEMBER 1906

Miss Nellie Pellett has received her appointment as postmistress, succeeding Mrs. Edith Meador, resigned.

W. T. Dunn went to Calexico to relieve John Morrison in the bank there for a few days.

1907

APRIL-MAY 1907

The Brawley Improvement Co. on account of the threatening aspect of the water situation, has been unable to continue its option on the townsite, and to keep the property from going back to the Imperial Land Co., the Imperial Investment Co. has agreed to take over the contract. People in Brawley felt that the old owners were partial in their town boosting to Imperial.

JULY 1907

Tom Edgar and family have moved into their new home, the Johnson place.

Earl C. Pound has opened a real estate office in the bank building.

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 1907

The sound of saw and hammer has been resumed. Varney Bros building is being rebuilt. W. F. Holt is building an addition to the bank. Stanley & DeBlois are building a brick store room. J. F. Roth is building a residence. The Methodist church has been started.

M. D. Witter, editor of the News and Miss Ethel Wellcome, daughter of Rev. G. T. Wellcome, were married in Los Angeles, October 3.

(From the files of the Brawley News)

Supervisor F. S. Webster published notice that all owners of traction engines and heavy machinery must repair bridges and culverts when they broke them down.

List of advertisers in Brawley News, April 26, 1907: Stahl Bros., Marston & Marston, commission merchants; Frank Stanley, real estate and notary public; Southern Pacific; Daniel Wolf, commission merchant; Imperial Valley Bank; Hovley & Cady, real estate; Ed. Harrington, livery; Griswold Bros., livery; Bodine & Walker, ice; James McWilliams, insurance; W. J. Mitchell, Imperial watch maker; Haven's Shoe Repair Shop; J. A. Miller, M. D.; C. E. Thurston Co., marketing agents; C. M. Store; Mrs. Edith Meador, ladies dress goods; First National Bank of Imperial; Brown Seed Store; Imperial Lumber & Commercial Co.; Edgar Bros.; Holton Power Co.; Hedden & Hull, owners of Black Tom; C. H. Ruth, blacksmith; and two classified advertisements—Wanted, hogs, by Fuller Bros., and For Sale, Black Wyandotte setting eggs, \$2.00 for 15, by Stanley House.

District Attorney Utley (San Diego County) failed to prosecute booze cases and the News laments that the town will be wide open during cantaloupe season.



W. P. Mansfield

In May Brawley organized to protect the north end in the matter of dividing the county properly into road districts before the county seat election and to see if there is opportunity to get Imperial to unite with Brawley to make the latter the county seat. The committee was: Fred Stahl, chairman; W. T. Dunn, C. H. Day, F. H. Stanley, C. N. Stahl, J. J. Miller, M. D. Witter, Tom Edgar and C. A. Fredericks. Four hundred and fifty citizens united in an attempt to make Brawley the county seat.

C. H. Day had about the only automobile. Editor Witter boasted of riding from El Centro to Imperial in eight minutes with Day.

WOMAN'S CLUB

The officers of the Brawley Woman's Club were: Mrs. E. A. Wood, President; Mrs. Boyd, Vice-President; Mrs. T. B. Edgar, Recording Secretary; Mrs. Swartz, Corresponding Secretary; Mrs. Allen, Treasurer. The club was active in the town's library.

The first crate of 25 cantaloupes sent to Los Angeles early in May was sold for \$32.50.

Brawley had electric lights in May, 1907, and was looking forward to the construction of cement sidewalks on Main street from the depot to the Plaza—both sides of the street.

Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Bennett have charge of the Bungalow Hotel.

The Brawley Submarine Band was making a hit all over the Valley.

A syndicate purchased 320 acres of the W. H. Best ranch for \$32,000. This \$100 an acre price for land was quite high at the time.

Brawley had a petition ready and was all ready to incorporate in June, 1907, but deferred the matter until the new county was formed.

Bodine & Walker made the first street sprinkler for Brawley.

Will Malan returned from the University of Southern California and brought with him several student friends who worked in the cantaloupes.

In July the twenty-nine telephone subscribers in Brawley were separated from the Imperial exchange and an exchange was established in Mrs. Meador's store in Brawley.

Philo Jones, in July, organized the first Building Loan Association in Brawley. It was patterned after the Los Angeles Investment Company.

The Brawley Town & Improvement Company backed the installation of a creamery in Brawley in August.

Crutchfield & Woolfolk were leading cantaloupe shippers in 1907.

Brawley vote for county seat at the August 6 election was: Brawley 195; Imperial 11; El Centro 18. The movement to name Brawley failed. El Centro won out. (See County history chapters.)

M. D. Witter became sole owner of the News, Frank Stanley retiring.

The News had a story about the passengers on the main line enjoying fishing from Pullman cars as they cross an arm of Salton Sea. It was the truth, too.

J. P. McClemon grew bananas successfully near Brawley.

FIRST AUTO TO VALLEY

In September, 1907, Roy N. Carr, Mr. Jasper, Ed Dunlap and J. M. Wilkins, drove from Long Beach to Brawley, their feat being the first of its kind. It took them three days to cross the desert from Banning to Imperial Junction. They had to build many crossings over washes. From Brawley the intrepid adventurers made the trip to San Diego by way of Devil's Canyon.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Chamber had sixty members and a working fund of \$650 in September. It handled the grading and sprinkling of streets, program for the Farmers' Institute and petitions for the withdrawal of Brawley from the Imperial High School district. R. Malan was President.

The News complimented Dr. J. A. Miller on account of the shade trees, fruit trees and shrubs that beautify his home place.

The Imperial Valley Bank was sold by W. F. Holt to a group of Brawley business men in October. In the reorganization W. T. Dunn was President; C. N. Stahl, Vice-President; R. E. Gardner, Cashier. Directors: P. P. Hovley, Geo. J. Holloway, and A. B. Fossum.

No. 8 was delighted in October at the letting of a \$90,000 contract for the building of a canal to serve that district. A bridge across New River also became a reality. The new flume to replace the one washed out by the flood was carrying water in October.

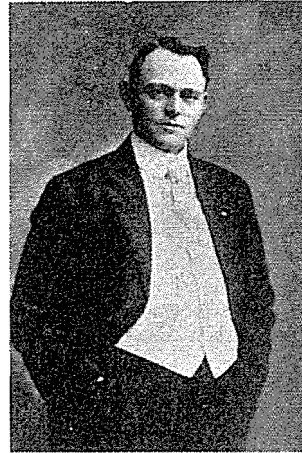
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The Brawley Cantaloupe Growers Association elected P. P. Hovley President; W. H. Best, Vice-President; W. V. Stahl, Secretary. The selling season of 1908 was awarded to L. M. Lyon.

CHAMBER ELECTS

In November the Chamber of Commerce elected W. P. Mansfield President; R. Malan, Vice-President; Henry Stahl, Secretary; W. T. Dunn, Treasurer; Directors: Philo Jones, M. D. Witter, Fred Stahl. The Chamber conducted a successful clean-up day when all weeds and rubbish were removed from vacant lots.

Frank Beal installed a barley crusher run by a steam engine.



Philo Jones

Many houses were being built, but the demand by home-seekers was ahead of the supply. More than 150 tents were occupied in the fall of 1907 on the townsite.

Varney Bros entered Brawley with a store in charge of W. W. Hussong.

1908

Joint exercises were held at the corner stone laying of the Methodist and Presbyterian churches in January.

Brawley school district voted \$25,000 for schools.

Brawley's delegates to the County School Institute at El Centro were: Mrs. Cameron, Mrs. Emma Field, and Miss Evalyn Wing.

Retail merchants organized a Business Men's Association in June with H. L. Fulton, President. A. P. Center was secretary.

An attempt to give the Valley an independent telephone system was started by Brawley men. The Home Telephone Company was organized by Fred Stahl, W. A. Edgar, F. Kloke, Geo. Kline, Ira Aten, F. S. Webster, and R. P. Shepard. Capital, \$50,000.

The Imperial County Land Company was formed with T. H. Kellog, Frank Stanley and John B. Baker as the principals.

A Star delivery route was established to Wiest.

PETITION TO INCORPORATE

In February, 1908, fifty citizens filed a petition with the Board of Supervisors to allow Brawley to incorporate. The names signed to the petition were: Fred A. Haynes, Myron D. Witter, John D. Bennett, J. A. Potter, Geo. W. Davis, Frank A. Johnson, Wm. V. Stahl, Herbert O. Stahl, J. W. Kenton, A. R. Moore, Milton G. Lloyd, Malberte E. Fellows, Louis Lee, F. M. Akin, E. A. DeBlois, Edwin L. Olden, Jerry P. Sweeney, E. D. Harding, W. E. Fowlkes, Frank Allen, Geo. N. Turner, D. T. Jones, T. B. Edgar, R. G. Williams, Elmer E. Pearsall, Peter P. Hovley, W. C. Eaton, L. P. Abbott, W. T. Dunn, Sam L. Packwood, Thos. L. Taylor, Geo. H. Pfeiffer, Addison P. Center, P. P. Welsh, Louis Bennett, J. Burlingham, A. F. Eckert, A. G. Mitchell, J. A. Miller, John Cady, A. W. Croco, H. J. Trelkeld, Geo. A. Trelkeld, C. C. Bowles, Jas. R. Estill, C. H. Ruth, Jas. Stuart, Clinton J. Sawyer, Jam E. McClure, Carl F. Eckert, I. Garbut, P. J. Nice, Philo Jones, J. W. Martin, John

Allen, A. C. Brown and G. T. Wellcome. The petition was allowed.

April 2 the election was held. The vote was 34 to 22 in favor of incorporation. The first set of officials elected were: Trustees G. T. Wellcome, John Cady, C. C. Bowles, W. V. Stahl and Andy Bodine. P. F. Nice, who was Justice of the Peace, was elected Clerk and Recorder. Wm. T. Dunn was Treasurer and J. W. Martin was Marshal.

1909

The Brawley News made a habit of describing successful ranches. Among those noted in 1909 were: N. T. Shaw, Roy Mitchell, J. S. Bradley, Geo. R. Wade, J. J. Strieby, J. W. Hart, L. F. Young, L. F. Shaw, A. J. and F. E. Moore.

The Bungalow hotel was erected in January.

The Brawley Catholic church was dedicated in January by Bishop Conaty, assisted by Father Eummelon.

Mrs. C. Cameron was president of the Woman's Club.

Earnest W. Cuff arrived in 1909 from Idaho. In 1917 he was joined by John C. Archias in the seed business, establishing the Cuff-Archias Seed Company which, they say, is the largest seed house in the world below sea level. The family of Mr. Archias has been in the seed business for three hundred years, so the firm enjoys a knowledge in this special line second to none.

R. Malan was again head of the Chamber of Commerce.

The Riverview Cemetery Association was formed. Fifteen acres of land was purchased on the river bank west of town. The directors: W. T. Dunn, Frank Birkhauser, A. R. Moore, R. Malan, G. N. Turner, W. P. Mansfield.

After a year as a city of the sixth class Brawley citizens grew dissatisfied with the board of trustees. A mass meeting was called and 150 attended. The resignations of the entire board and the city clerk were demanded. At a following meeting Earl C. Pound and W. T. Dunn were nominated to take the places of L. P. Abbott and J. F. Rath. They were seated. W. H. Whelan was selected to replace P. F. Nice as Clerk and Recorder.

The Imperial Valley Transportation Company was the name of an auto stage venture meant to serve Imperial Valley. F. C. Paulin was the head of the concern.

A. Hart, J. W. Oakley and H. C. Oakley were head of the Imperial Cotton Company with a capital stock of \$500,000. The company was organized to handle cotton grown in the Brawley section.

Brawley went after municipal improvements with a bond issue to install a sewer system, fire protection, street improvements and a water system. The issue was successful, excepting for the sewer. This was voted the following year. The issue was for \$62,500.

Dr. Alvah N. Morgan, dentist, opened an office. He came from Nevada City. Dr. Morgan is still in business in Brawley.

1910

(The reader will understand that the city elections are recorded in the table at the end of this chapter. Also that items concerning the Irrigation District and the California Development Company are in separate chapters, as well as items of general County import. —EDITOR HISTORY.)

Miss Prewitt was elected President of the Woman's Club.

Philo Jones was deputy County Clerk, under D. S. Elder.

The cornerstone for the new Baptist church was laid in June.

Frank Stanley made interesting experiments with different varieties of grapes on his town farm.

Brawley took the lead in total carload shipments of all sorts. In June, 1127 carloads of freight were shipped and 507 carloads received. There were 1634 pieces of baggage handled at the depot.

A four-stand cotton gin was built for Brawley. A Japanese grower exhibited one stalk of cotton with 34 bolls which weighed six and one-half ounces.

A. L. Seville was admitted to the bar and opened law offices in September. He practiced several years before in Cedar Falls, Iowa. Mr. Seville is still a practicing attorney in Brawley, being city attorney in 1931.

Tim Blanchard was manager of the National Lumber Company's yards.

Brawley's efforts to secure the Sisters' Hospital were successful. Father Burelbach, Philo Jones, Frank Birkhauser and P. P. Hovley were instrumental.

The News went to a semi-weekly issue in October.

The Empson Packing Company, of Colorado, leased 700 acres of land for the purpose of raising peas for seed.

Tennis was a popular sport. The Brawley Tennis Club was re-organized by W. W. Mann, A. L. Seville and E. A. DeBlois.

With the county seat election the famous Brawley Submarine Band died down. This year, 1910, the town band was revived.

Baseball came in for popular support. Brawley had a good team in the Valley League.

In the county election W. F. Beal and R. E. Wills both claimed victory as supervisor. The case had to be settled in the courts. Beal won out before the Board of Supervisors, but Wills contested the case before Judge Cole and was declared elected.

1911

The Brawley Social Club was organized with W. T. Dunn, P. P. Hovley, R. A. Walker, Geo. J. Reiner, H. B. Stewart and R. C. Jeckell as principals.

A Farmers' Institute was held in February under the direction of J. B. Neff.

The city tried for artesian water with a well 2000 feet deep without success.

Alamorio was noticed as a coming center with the establishment of a creamery and other activities in 1911.

The El Rodeo Club was a popular social organization for people in the No. 8 district. The officers were R. A. Hancock, President; Jessie Howell, Vice-President; Clifford Finley, Secretary; J. W. Finley, Sergeant-at-Arms.

Brawley began to work on a mountain road direct to Julian by way of Carriso Creek.

The barbers of the city protested the payment of an occupation license on the ground that they were workers and not in business. They did not win their point and threatened to let the town go without shaves.

Item: "Complaint was made of Shaw's go-devil automobile running loose and unprotected about the streets. The marshal was given instructions to notify the owner to chain it up."

The organization of all holding companies operating townsites in the Valley was almost consummated by Philo Jones when he learned that he and Brawley were to be left out in the cold so he withdrew. F. C. Paulin was to sell all the Imperial Valley Improvement Company properties to the new concern and handle the rest on a commission basis.

Brawley listened to the arguments for and against the Irrigation District plan of reorganization and leaned toward the support of this plan and against that of the "holding corporation" outlined by those in opposition.

Brawley was excited over the report that free gold had been found on the old beach line, 15 miles east of the city. A young stampede took place but the results did not keep them coming very long.

In April, 1911, the city's Fire Department had the following members: C. H. Stahl, President; Frank Birkhauser, Vice-President; Harry Baum, Treasurer; Jerome Aiken, A. C. Bofer, Jack Bennett, John Creedon, Frank Conner, Lou Diveley, Gus Dietrich, Andy Gillispie, Walter Henderson, L. J. Kintz, Dick Ruth, Dan Rice, Clayton Taylor, Lou Bennett. Vincent Schmitz was Chief and N. T. Shaw, Assistant Chief.

CHAMBER REVIVED

After some time the Chamber of Commerce took on new life. In April a meeting of business men elected H. B. Stewart as President; J. A. Potter, Vice-President; Chas. W. Kays, Secretary; W. T. Dunn, Treasurer. Peter P. Hovley, Philo Jones and H. L. Fulton were additional directors.

Miss Mary Prewitt was elected President of the Woman's Club for the ensuing year.

W. I. Wilson opened law offices in April in Bungalow Hotel block.

The first automatic ice conveyor was installed by the Pacific Fruit Express in May. It greatly facilitated the icing of cars.

Members of the high school graduating class: Ralph Clinton, Peter Miller, Monica Flannery, Helen Newby and Ellender Wills.

The Lyons Brothers lost a combined harvester and a field of grain by fire.

The Tumco mine in the Chocolate range, was being worked. It had to shut down on account of an extensive cave in. On account of the expense of removing the dirt the owners shut down permanently. Mrs. Ben. Heyl and children came out with Ben Levy, store keeper, who carried his stock of goods with him. That was the last activity at Tumco—June, 1911.

GREAT CELEBRATION

July 3 and 4, 1911, Brawley conducted one of the biggest celebrations ever seen in Imperial Valley. The Chamber of Commerce named it "Cantaloupe Fiesta." Glen Martin was advertised to fly—the first plane to fly below sea level. The streets were closed so that races of all

sorts could be run. A program filled from 10 a. m., the start of the parade, to late at night when the fire works were shown. Miss Monica Flannery was, by popular election, the Queen of the Fiesta. The fact that Glen Martin had an accident before the fiesta date, did not much mar the program. He hit a pesky telephone wire and bumped heavily to the ground without injury. There was no fight. Martin declared the air was full of "pockets" and he was unable to rise.

The News called for a Moses to lead the melon growers into a marketing agreement that would prevent useless losses from crowding one market and starving another.

S. Garber & Sons were proprietors of a new steam laundry plant.

Supervisor R. E. Wills was the first to experiment with a mixture of gravel, oil and asphaltum in order to find a road material for use on the desert. He placed a quarter of a mile of this material on the approach to the river and it did fairly well.

R. W. Park, deputy city marshal, had a peculiar experience. He was arrested and taken back to Texas, charged with bank robbery. It was all a mistake. The robbery took place January 1, when Park was serving New Year turkey to friends in Imperial Valley.

W. F. Holt was stalled in the Chocolate mountains in a stage during a two-day cloudburst and rainstorm in October. He made his way to his private car at Glamis without mishap.

"Inferior service at high cost" was the objection to the telephone service in 1911. Brawley had 77 city phones at the time.

Brawley favored the railroad route for a highway to Yuma and worked hard to have it adopted.

The Bailey store at Rockwood was completely destroyed by fire in November.

Brawley had the usual experience with illicit liquor peddlers. Raid after raid moved them about and put few permanently out of business—even as today.

Charles Kays, Frank Stanley, Earl Pound, Jerome Aiken, H. L. Fulton, Harry Baum, Harry Stewart, R. C. Jeckell and Cecil Ernst went to Yuma to guide the Raymond & Whitcomb five-car tourists to Brawley.

Dr. J. L. Cooke, Mayor of Brawley in 1910, died at Banning in December.

D. S. Elder, pioneer County Clerk, fired a shotgun in the air to enforce an order on his ranch and was bound over to stand trial for assault with a deadly weapon. The case was dismissed.

Brawley adjourned in a body to attend Holtville's barbecue and fiesta on New Year's day, 1912.

1912

Arthur Mitchell matured 65 acres of beardless barley which attracted considerable attention.

J. Ralph Anderson, Brawley and Thos. E. Anderson, Calexico, proprietors Anderson Bros., Mule Markets, Brawley and Calexico, came from Los Angeles in 1912. Have the following comment: "We had mules on the construction of the new High Line Canal in 1912 and 1913. Had a camp with 108 mules on the first work the Irrigation District did on the Volcano Lake levee close to Black Butte mountain, under Scotty Russell, superintendent."

Charles W. Kays represented Imperial County with a good exhibit at the Los Angeles Land Show.

The All-Saints Episcopal church erected a chapel on Imperial Avenue in March.

The Brawley gins handled 1737 bales of cotton in the season just passed.

Mrs. W. H. Best was President of the Imperial County Federation of Women's Clubs.

The first branch of the County Library was established in Brawley April 15.

Palmer & Towne, of Pomona, prepared 80 acres of their newly purchased 120 acres in the New River district, for oranges.

V. J. Wellcome set out six acres on the east side of town to dates, oranges and peas.

An infantile paralysis scare caused the establishment of a fumigating plant by the health authorities in Brawley.

Francis Heiny, whose place near Brawley was attracting national attention, because of Heiny's horticultural experiments, was the first to show ripened dates.

C. J. Park and Miss Berice Floyd Hart were married October 17.

Mrs. Tom Edgar was President of the Woman's Club.

Brawley voted to build a city hall, library and fire house in the plaza at a cost of \$15,000.

Bonds for \$50,000 for a new high school building were voted 388 to 22.

1913

Brawley saw many more developments in 1913. New street lights, new household gas delivery, a new rural route established and business enough to cause the postoffice to change from third to second class.

Brawley shipped 200 cars of Bermuda onions in 1913.

The Masons erected a temple in the heart of town.

As a new adventure in civic organization the Farmers & Merchants Commercial Club was organized with 100 members. A. P. Higgins was President and Earl McReynolds was Secretary pro tem. H. S. Hanford was named Secretary with a salary that permitted him to look after the affairs of the organization.

A new ice plant was built by the Holton Power Company.

A. P. Higgins was the first grape shipper and E. Steiner shipped the first carload of watermelons in June.

The new Catholic church, Sacred Heart, was dedicated April 20, 1913.

The Brawley Creamery increased facilities to handle 3500 pounds of butter daily.

"Rotten conditions east of the track" is the self explanatory heading of a news article that tells of the quick growth of unsavory resorts in that part of the city.

In August a spectacular thunder storm accompanied by a high wind blew down several packing sheds. One at Key-

stone fell across the railroad tracks and stopped traffic for a while.

One of the chief drawbacks to the growth of Brawley was the lack of homes for newcomers who would like to stay.

W. C. Eaton, S. P. Station agent, secured electric lights for the depot. Brawley was the only station on the system east of Colton where this luxury was provided.

Arthur Fuller sold 92 fat hogs for \$2,059.43.

Water Company No. 3 was ready for activity with R. E. Wills managing director.

The News changed to three times a week as a step toward growing into the daily field.

A Credit Association was formed by business men with E. B. Stilgebour President and Fred M. Blood, Secretary.

In October the city trustees called a public meeting of property owners to determine their wishes regarding paving business streets and laying cement sidewalks in other parts of town. The meeting resulted in a cautious endorsement of paving Main street and the extension of many sidewalks in the residence districts.

Upon the resignation of R. E. Wills as Supervisor W. F. Beal was named in his place. Beal was also Mayor of Brawley in 1914.

The boys of the fire department made it an annual habit to go duck hunting and provide a banquet for the membership and their friends. The event this year was again thoroughly successful. The banquet was enjoyed by many guests, including all city officials.

Another "clean up day" resulted in general co-operation of citizens with shovels, brooms and pitchforks. As a result Brawley presented a spic and span front to visitors in October.

Brawley suppressed the appearance of "The Traffic," an underworld play.

John D. Reavis was an addition to the business community in November. He was manager of the California Land & Water Co. In a Los Angeles interview he predicted that Brawley would have 20,000 population by the time Los Angeles had a million.

The Stanley-DeBlois Company, agents for the Studebaker, was the first firm to run a full page advertisement in the News which was an event in the newspaper man's life. Mr. Witter appreciated the firm's action and wrote, "may its shadow never grow less." The issue of October 31, 1913, was also noted because of the first appearance of a colored automobile section.

BOOSTER BANQUET

In November forty business men attended a banquet with the idea of reviewing growth and planning for the future. The program will indicate the trend of discussion:

Introductory remarks by Chairman, W. T. Dunn.

"Good Roads," by Luther Brown.

"What Constitutes a Good Farming Community?" by Arthur Hull.

"Engineering Problems," by F. C. Hinkle.

"Maintaining the Standard of Real Estate Transactions," by Robert Burdet.

"Brawley—20,000 in 1920," by John D. Reavis.

"What's the Matter with Brawley?" by Robert Shearer.

"Brawley Schools," by W. T. Randall.

"The Brawley District," by H. C. Oakley.

"The Booster Spirit," by M. D. Witter.

Remarks—By W. H. Best, Philo Jones, C. J. Park, R. E. Wills, W. S. Palmer, John R. Woodbridge.

The meeting appointed a committee to see if the Chamber of Commerce and the Farmers & Merchants Club, both civic organizations, could be merged into a new organization, the "Brawley 20,000 Club." John D. Reavis was the moving spirit.

Following the banquet Mr. Reavis called all the real estate dealers together and organized the Brawley Board with P. P. Hovley as temporary President and Philo Jones Secretary.

At a following conference H. L. Fulton, President of the Chamber of Commerce; A. P. Higgins, President of the Farmers & Merchants Club and the committee from the new Brawley 20,000 Club agreed that one organization of a civic nature was enough. A resolution was passed to keep the name of Brawley Chamber of Commerce. That body owned a Main street lot which was an asset.

Brawley delegates walked out of a road convention in El Centro when a route through Mexico was adopted for a road to Yuma.

Hurley & Lack, of Phoenix, purchased Main street property in Brawley.

Edward H. Alcott announced the townsite of Imperial Junction open for investment December 1, 1923. He declared the Valley's gateway city was due for a rapid growth. The name was changed to Niland some time later.

Then on December 13 the opening of the townsite of Date City was announced by the Imperial Valley Syndicate. Duke & O'Neill were representatives in Brawley. Date City was planned in the center of the 47,000 acres owned by the Los Angeles Times and Examiner syndicate, known as the Imperial Valley Farm Lands Association. The name was changed to Calipatria before many lots were sold.

Philo Jones resigned as city Recorder and Justice of the Peace in December and A. W. Keener was appointed to his place. Mr. Keener served several months and resigned, his place being filled by J. H. Stevenson.

The News outlined the need of a farm advisor for the County in its issue of December 24, 1913, thus pioneering the movement that finally brought about such an office.

1914

The Brawley News changed from thrice-weekly to a daily issue January 1, 1914.

The California Press Association was entertained throughout the Valley in January. Brawley's part on the program was an evening banquet meeting with a program that was enlightening to the visitors.

An event in social-business life was the organization of the Business Men's Club. Club rooms and furniture were installed. E. B. Stilgebour was President, and M. B. Steyer was Secretary.

Brawley's population was estimated at 3000.

MERGER EFFORT CONTINUES

Another serious attempt to merge the organizations that were designed to carry on civic work and look out for the interests of Brawley was made in February, 1914, when a public meeting was called by citizens to consider ways and means to do this. Brawley's people were so busy with taking care of growing business that active participation in civic matters was more or less difficult.

The following list is indicative of the personnel that was interested in the movement:

T. E. Anderson, Jerome Akin, Father Burlebach, W. H. Best, W. F. Beal, E. R. Bartlett, J. D. Bennett, R. G.

Brydon, C. F. Boarts, Dr. C. F. Bossert, L. E. Bennett, W. R. Bennett, Frank Birkhauser, Carl Cornelius, G. R. Colvert, Chas. Caldwell, Otis Clement, Dr. C. A. Dawdy, E. A. DeBlois, Wm. T. Dunn, M. G. Doug, Martin Donald, Sam Donaldson, J. L. deHaven, W. C. Eaton, T. B. Edgar, Wm. Marr, H. L. Fulton, J. A. Fiedler, C. F. Fisher, O. A. Fitzgerald, John Fielding, C. A. Frederick, I. H. Gentry, I. H. Gouder, Geo. C. Gay, W. F. Gibson, Thos. Golden, J. J. Gilbo, Ray C. Griswold, John C. Gresser, John N. Druhl, J. Gardner, A. P. Higgins, P. P. Hovley, J. W. Hart, S. C. Hurd, W. P. Henry, Hammond Lumber Co., California L. & W. Co., Philo Jones, R. C. Jeckell, C. C. Jenkins, Al. Kaiser, C. W. Kays, J. H. Kuns, J. W. Klaggye, A. J. Kalin, J. P. Lyons, Dr. L. L. Lindsey, H. W. Meserve, L. Malan, A. P. Merritt, J. L. Manahan, C. McLarry, A. McReynolds, John Martin, C. E. Moore, J. N. Neville, J. J. Murphy, W. D. Healey, Tom O'Brien, The Oakley Company, E. C. Pound, J. O. Potter, F. F. Parmerlee, G. W. Pliter, C. J. Park, A. W. Palmer, Dick Poe, J. N. Price, A. B. Read, G. J. Reiner, W. T. Randall, H. D. Soars, E. W. Stilgenbauer, J. A. Sheffield, C. N. Stahl, T. B. Shank, Harry Staub, Smith Mercantile Co., Fred C. Shawley, Albert Stephens, J. L. Tacker, H. B. Tarbox, R. C. Taylor, S. D. Ulrey, Wm. E. Vanhorn, M. D. Witter, Rev. T. B. Wilkinson, F. Withrow, J. A. Wiest, W. H. Walls, Edmund Welch, W. I. Wilson, J. W. Yocum, F. C. Weare.

The Chamber of Commerce sold their lot in April for \$3500.

W. C. Eaton was elected high school trustee and J. A. Sheffield grammar school trustee in April.

Rev. L. A. Hussong was pastor of the Christian church.

Booze was on the spring ballot and lost out by a vote of 567 to 154.

Ornamental lighting of Main street was ordered in March.

Brawley's new high school was ready July 1.

Mrs. W. H. Best was president of the Woman's Club in 1914.

Mayor P. P. Hovley gave the fire department and the member's wives a banquet.

The St. Regis hotel was opened in May.

Cantaloupes were early. June 1st the record was 815 cars ahead of June of 1913.

The Brawley Athletic Club was organized in June with W. T. Dunn President.

Mrs. Andy Bodine was killed by a street car in Santa Ana. She was the mother of twelve children.

Paving reached the stage of a resolution of intention passed by the trustees in August. A \$40,000 bond issue was voted.

CHAMBER INCORPORATED

In September it was decided to go ahead with the Chamber of Commerce. W. T. Dunn was named President and M. D. Witter was Secretary. A new \$100,000 hotel was in the offing, it was reported. A membership campaign was launched. This movement resulted in incorporation and the placing of the Brawley Chamber of Commerce on a permanent footing.

In the fall campaign Philo Jones and R. E. Wills were candidates for the Assembly. Although Wills was a Democrat he won out at the polls.

1915

A new \$5750 fire truck was purchased.

Prof. W. T. Randall resigned as principal of the high school to accept a similar position in El Centro.

The Brawley Dairy Company was organized and incorporated by J. J. and Mary A. Murphy and R. E. Watson.

Rev. W. L. Miller was pastor of the M. E. Church.

Brawley shipped more than fifty tons of turkeys to the coast markets.

Dr. C. A. Dawd was appointed County Live Stock Inspector and resigned as member of the City Board of Trustees. Geo. Kreuger was appointed to the latter position.

A carload of honey went to market in November.

Jerome Aiken purchased the Plaza Hotel. He sold a half interest to Jack Neville.

Richard Woeffel was secretary of the Chamber of Commerce in 1915.

Assemblyman R. E. Wills sold his corn crop from 160 acres for \$6000.

AGRICULTURAL ASSEMBLY

Brawley was host to the first Agricultural Assembly held in December. At this assembly the Farm Bureau and Farm Advisor plan was adopted as best suited for Imperial County. R. E. Wills was chairman of the Assembly, and first President of the Farm Bureau. W. E. Packard and Arthur M. Nelson were the moving spirits of the new farm movement.

Fred Lack purchased 160 acres in No. 8, paying \$100 per acre cash for the quarter section.

Brawley's grapefruit won the highest award at the San Francisco exposition.

Brawley's experience in the 1915 earthquake, while severe, was less damaging than El Centro and Calexico.

1916

City affairs reached a crisis when "wholesale extravagance" was charged by Mayor P. P. Hovley, who resigned his place. A city manager plan was discussed. Dan Rice also resigned as fire chief.

There were 2,241 autos registered in the Valley in 1916, and only seven serious accidents during the year.

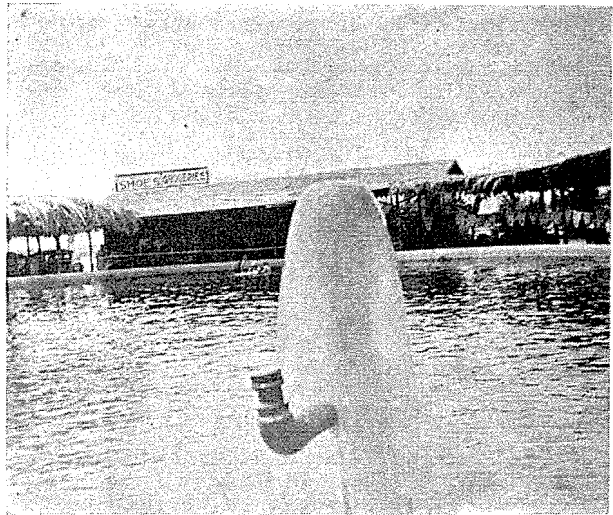
Roy Moorman, of El Centro, purchased a corner at Plaza street and Keystone road, and established his third of a chain of service stations.

An advertisement by Best, DeBlois & Covington in the News discloses real estate conditions accurately for 1916: "Real estate is again becoming active in Brawley. The long period of inactivity is ended. The city has been steadily growing, new people have been locating here and many more will come in the near future. Rumors of war with Mexico, the breaking out of the great European war, the withdrawal of capital from real estate investments brought about a cessation of buying, here as elsewhere. Values held well, however. A vacant Main street lot has just sold for \$200 a front foot. This is the highest price ever paid for Brawley property. The new ice plant, the proposed new hotel, the completion of the Los Angeles-Yuma highway, the planting of thousands of acres to fruits and vegetables, the enormous increase in cantaloupe acre-

age combined with the growth already will soon make Brawley a larger and more important city."

November 29, another meeting was called to get the Chamber of Commerce on a firm footing. At this meeting a committee was appointed to perfect plans on which the Chamber could operate efficiently. M. D. Witter, Harry Staub, Philo Jones, Peter Hovley and W. H. Best were on the committee. The committee reported a week later and the following were elected as a board of directors: Dr. C. A. Dawdy, T. B. Edgar, Sam Herd, H. C. Baughman, E. B. Stilgebour, W. P. Mansfield, W. S. Sweet, J. L. Taecker, H. A. Staub, Jimmie Hall, J. S. Nickerson, Fred Blood and H. R. Andre.

The voters passed a water bond issue of \$17,000. A new series of concrete settling basins and a flushing sewer to the river were installed.



Artesian Wells Abound East of the Alamo. Open Air Plunge at Alamo

1917-1918

During the years, 1917 and 1918, Brawley was busy with war work of every description, the same as all neighboring towns and cities. The city did its share of Red Cross, Liberty Loan and War Savings Stamp campaigning and committees put over every drive that came up without hesitation. The War History Chapters in this volume fully recount the activities on a county-wide basis and to them the reader is referred for the details of these two years.

The Chamber of Commerce was financed with \$2000. Walter Casey was President. There were 119 members.

Mrs. H. L. Fulton was President of the Woman's Club.

Harold S. and R. F. Nichols, proprietors of the Nichols Truck Co., 119 East Eighth street, came from Los Angeles in 1917, and relate the following: "Trucking as late as 1917 or on for a few years, was a hard proposition, as road conditions were not as they are now; 100 per cent of all products raised at present are hauled by trucks, but when we came hundreds of teams hauled to and from ranches which was a terrible hardship on horses and mules, especially in summer time, so the history of the trucking industry in the Valley is a great thing if only from the humanitarian side."

A. P. Higgins was Mayor both years.

Brawley installed 113 clusters of lights in 1917.

The city's investors organized a company and erected the Dunlack Hotel to take the place of the Bungalow which was burned. The cost was \$150,000.

The Taylor Hardware Company was succeeded by the Brawley Hardware Company in June, 1918. A. J. Kalin was head of the new concern.

Ida Belle Mead, one of the pioneer residents of the Valley, wife of Edwin Mead, died in 1918.

The Brawley Bottling Works burned in May, 1918.

Brawley invited a professional man to leave town because he had a deposit of over \$1000 in the bank and refused to buy a Liberty Bond.

"Dutch John," a local character, won \$10 by eating 60 eggs in less than five minutes. Lew Bennett bet he could not do it in ten minutes.

Tom Edgar was President and Harry Staub was Secretary of the Home Guard unit organized in Brawley.

Dr. LeBaron was President of the County Medical Society.

The high school graduated nineteen in 1918.

The Shores store and the Brawley Hardware store were robbed of \$1900 worth of goods in May, 1918. The News suggested that some protection be given the night police force in case some burglar wished to carry it away, too.

ARMISTICE DAY!

It was as wild in Brawley when peace was declared as in any other town of the west. The first news came and it wasn't true but when the November 11 news came and it was verified there was no holding the population. Auto horns, fire bells, whistles, tin cans and all the invented noise makers possible to concoct were put to use all day long and far into the night. Business was practically suspended while Brawley celebrated the long looked for event.

1919

THE NEXT ELEVEN YEARS

Brawley went on after the war period for the next eleven years along with the other communities of Imperial Valley following the course of development that added some 15,000 population to the total in the Valley, more than doubling in population herself. Elections came and went—as may be seen in the table at the head of this chapter. The Chamber of Commerce rose and fell with the enthusiasm of the community as stirred by some special event. Building—always building—Brawley added to its business district and to its residence districts with a gradual, healthy growth, always with an eye to the beautiful. The soil, being most productive, responded to the planting of street trees until Brawley gained the reputation of being the most beautiful town in the Valley.

Brawley remained, more than ever, the center of big shipping. The melons and lettuce crops annually filled the coffers of the banks, sometimes more so than at other times. The country, 'round about was the scene of agricultural prosperity and development. Especially in the more northern portions of the Valley was there evidence of new life and new growth.

Virgil Juvenal was the first Brawley man to return from service with Battery D, 143rd Field Artillery.

"Own your own home" was a slogan adopted by the newly organized Community Commercial Club which took up the reins of civic activities in place of the Chamber of Commerce after the war period was over. The habit of

clerks and bookkeepers figuring a short stay only and not becoming owners of property was to be fought. W. F. Beal was President of the new club.

Brawley held a Poultry show in February, 1919, that exhibited nearly 1000 different fowl. This was the beginning of Brawley's mid-winter fairs.

The vote on \$25,000 bonds for finishing the high and grammar school buildings was carried, only one vote being cast against the issue.

Some one suggested that surplus parks be sold for \$20,000 and the money used for permanent improvements. The suggestion met with opposition and was dropped.

D. D. Pellett, former city trustee and brother of Postmistress Nellie Pellett, died in March, 1919.

The first automobile show was held in April, 1919.

A long distance telephone conversation between Brawley and New York was when J. E. Elmore talked to his son, J. J. Elmore, just back from France after two years' service.

Brawley, as usual, went over the top by more than \$5000 in the Victory Loan drive in May, 1919.

Brawley trustees had to consider traffic problems more and more. Rules were issued against stopping in the middle of any street for social conversations; against truck parking, etc.

The peak one-day shipments of cantaloupes was reached June 17, 1919, when 350 carloads went out from Brawley.

A Business Girls' Club was organized in June.

Melon shipments totalled 6768 cars for the season of 1919.

H. B. Griffin took B. F. Morris' place as City Recorder in August, 1919. He was also appointed Justice of the Peace.

In order to give Brawley a water system second to none in the Valley a bond issue for \$125,000 was voted in October, 1919, with small opposition. A complete renovation of the city's settling basins and the installation of an effective filter system followed.

All houses were given street numbers in 1919.

Brawley business houses were canvassed to see who was able and willing to build a home. The drive was conducted along war-time lines and about fifty new houses were constructed as a result.

The organization and history of the American Legion will be found in the County War History chapters.

Brawley liked the first experiment with pavement so well that an additional 200,000 square feet were laid in 1919.

One of the foremost figures in the cantaloupe business is Lee Siebert, District Manager of the American Fruit Growers, Incorporated. Mr. Siebert came to the Valley in May, 1908, and became immediately identified with shipping. The American Fruit Growers Inc., was organized in 1919, by the firm of Crutchfield & Woolfolk, which entered Imperial Valley in 1907 as a marketing agency for cantaloupe and vegetable growers, continuing in that line without interruption until the organization of American Fruit Growers, Inc., which organization has since developed into one of the largest producers and distributing agencies of fresh fruits and vegetables in the world. Its General Offices are in Pittsburgh, Pa. However, maintains branches

throughout the United States. In Imperial Valley its annual production program involves the growing of 1500 acres of lettuce and 2500 acres of cantaloupes as well as about 1000 acres of Alfalfa for cover purpose, maintaining a District Office at Brawley, with a permanent personnel of sixty and during the harvest season employes as many as 900 extra men.

1920

Voters placed their disapproval in January, 1920, on \$140,000 bonds asked for an increase in school buildings to accommodate increased population.

In January, 1920, T. B. Edgar was chosen President of the Brawley Commercial Club to succeed Frank Beal, whose year was marked with much good work. S. H. Thompson was named Vice-President and Acting Secretary. The other directors were: E. W. Cuff, F. E. Carter, E. C. Schelling, R. R. Stilgebaur, and Wilson Clark.

The Woman's Club inaugurated a plan for the building of a community hall where various organizations could be at home and containing an auditorium for use of public meetings. The plan grew to \$150,000 proportions and took the form of a memorial building for veterans. The proposal was not carried out.

Brawley was pleased in January, 1920, when the sheriff raided all the other towns in the Valley and arrested 150 men and women charged with gambling, prostitution, etc., and never arrested anybody in Brawley. The investigators declared they found Brawley clean. The raids caused mass meetings to be held to support the officers and the newspapers were filled with indignation at the disclosure of shocking vice conditions.

The News, in order to see that everybody was counted in the 1920 census, published the names of residents block by block and asked each day if anybody had been missed.

Fourteen more miles of the Los Angeles highway were paved by the State in 1920.

Fifteen hundred crates of tomatoes every day in May went to market.

K. D. Oliver, C. R. Wores, F. B. Ware, H. V. Davidson and H. A. Hastain were Brawley representatives in the Imperial Valley Cotton Growers Association.

Fire destroyed the Airdome, Waffle Kitchen and Miller's Radiator Works in June.

The Imperial Valley Bank increased its capital stock to \$200,000 in May.

C. P. Cooke was appointed Secretary of the Commercial Club in April.

Congressman Kettner secured two field guns for installation in the public parks of Brawley.

Parking in the middle of the street proved impractical and curb parking was again ordered.

E. W. Cuff represented the city at the meeting of the League of the Southwest.

J. G. Cash was manager of the Security Trust & Savings Bank.

Cantaloupe shipments for 1920 reached 8907 cars.

Brawley was elated to find the government's census in 1920 gave the city's population at 5,392. This was only a few less than El Centro's 5,426. Calexico led the Valley with 6,223.

The Commercial Club offered twelve acres of land on a paved street to any one who would build a tourist hotel with 150 rooms.

Philo Jones shipped 100 bales of cotton direct to Liverpool. This was part of a \$25000 order.

Labor Day was observed at Huddleston Park.

Herbert Stahl, pioneer, died in September, 1920.

Judge H. B. Griffin turned in \$1,130 fines collected during the month of September.

Fire destroyed the ice storage plant in October. Loss, \$100,000.

Dr. R. E. Wool was President of the Brawley Gun Club.

Sports, a parade and barbecue marked the celebration of Armistice Day.

The Imperial Oil & Development Company, sinking the "Brawley Well," reported encouragingly from time to time. In December it was down 2800 feet.

Brawley joined in the general effort to secure a reduction of freight rates on commodities shipped out of the Valley.

1921

The new officers of the Commercial Club for 1921: President W. L. Garrett; Vice-President, Warren Currier; Secretary, Wm. Lowther; Treasurer, E. C. Schelling; Directors: W. H. Best, J. C. Allen, F. S. Lack, H. A. Hastain.

The Automobile Club of Southern California established offices in Brawley with Neal H. Cavin in charge.

W. F. Beal took his seat in the state legislature representing Imperial County in the Assembly.

The new postoffice was dedicated. Miss Pellett, postmistress, gave a reception to the general public January 22.

H. W. Brewer, of El Centro, succeeded J. G. Cash in the Security Bank as local manager.

The Brawley Athletic Club was revived in February. E. L. Gottsburen was President.

F. S. Lack, who was a member of the County Highway Commission together with L. J. Thomas and Casey Abbott, resigned in November, 1920, but the resignation was withheld by the Supervisor pending a satisfactory successor. In February it developed that all three had resigned at the same time but only the resignation of Abbott received attention. The commission had the difficult job of apportioning the expenditure of the \$1,500,000 bond issue to the satisfaction of all parts of the county—which was well nigh impossible.

J. C. Allen, councilman and manager for the Hammond Lumber Company, moved to Riverside.

Varney Bros., as a firm, was one of the first to issue group insurance to their employees. Policies were issued in Brawley to Harry Staub, H. C. Gardner, Mrs. Ella Gardner, Fred Floyd, Amelia Hovley, Mrs. Kate Huddleston, Earle Lee, Luther Sharp and Mrs. Amhurst.

E. W. Cuff was elected new President of the Imperial Oil and Gas Development Company. The directors assessed themselves \$50 a month for three months to keep up the work at the Brawley well which was expected to come in soon.

Work started on the Brawley-Calipatria section of the county highway in April. The two-mile strip of "Willite" was also laid this year.

Miss Norma Berry was "Queen of May" at a festival conducted by the Mothers Club on the Plaza.

Assemblyman Beal was in conflict with some constituents over his opposition to the King Tax bill and his attempt to limit voting on bond issues to owners of land only.

City water rates were raised by a vote of the people.

Brawley Lodge, B. P. O. Elks was instituted June 25. Forty-two joined by dimit and thirty-two by initiation. Geo. Dixon was the first Exalted Ruler. Chas. Kays was Secretary. C. E. Pitzer was installing officer. Delegations were present from Calexico, El Centro and San Diego.

The Highline R. F. D. started service in July. It was 59 miles long.

J. D. Dudley planted 1250 date palms on the Vail ranch.

F. J. Trude and Miss Estelle McKim were wed September 30. Mr. Trude was a member of the law firm of Hickcox, Crenshaw & Trude.

Two days of festivities were arranged by the Brawley Athletic Club in October. Rodeo sports, airplane stunts, a fashion show, street dance, trap shoot, motorcycle races, track meets and other athletic events were arranged. A sixteen page tabloid program boosting the program was a feature.

The Commercial Club staged another successful clean-up day for Brawley November 9.

HARRY N. KOEHLER. Proprietor nurseries of that name, box 1513. Came in 1921, from Agricultural college at Davis. Gassed in World war and came to the Valley for his health. Today is well and prosperous. He was in the original group of disabled ex-service men that came ten years ago for their health. He has one of the largest citrus nurseries in the Valley, over 50,000 trees being grown in Brawley and Niland.

Brawley took an active part in the El Centro fair held in October.

The Brawley oil well was down 3337 feet in October.

A printers' strike in November crippled the News temporarily. However not an issue was missed.

A porcupine that killed 100 chickens on the J. E. Elmore ranch was finally killed.

FIRST MID-WINTER FAIR

Brawley held a successful poultry and grapefruit show in December. It was the first mid-winter event of its kind and attracted much attention.

A community Christmas tree graced the plaza.

1922

Beecher Stowe was chosen President of the Commercial Club for 1922. Frederick Trude, M. D. Witter, J. F. Warner, Warren Currier, W. L. Garrett, and Geo. R. Monyer were directors on the board with Stowe. A drive for memberships resulted in the addition of a large list of names.

A freeze in January killed all peas and tomatoes.

Assemblyman W. F. Beal opposed the absorption of the mutual water companies by the Irrigation District.

The News issued a grape and grapefruit edition in January.

R. A. Todd put in 80 acres of pomegranates.

Harry E. Gates was the new Exalted Ruler of the Elks lodge.

Bonds for \$155,000 for an increase in high school accommodations were voted in February.

E. W. Cuff was Mayor of the city after April.

The coming of the radio in early 1922 was quite a new event. The Brawley News had the only receiving set in town.

When the County grand jury suggested that a new court house was a necessity Brawley business men immediately offered \$250,000 if the courthouse were built at Brawley.

Miss Roberta Richardson was Queen of May at the annual festival held May 1.

E. W. Cuff was elected President of the Associated Chambers of Commerce in April.

The annual Farm Bureau picnic was held in Brawley June 24, which was the 21st anniversary of the arrival of water in the heart of the Valley. The News issued the largest paper in its history as a souvenir.

Brawley voted 455 to 30 against the county courthouse bonds. The bonds carried, however, 3677 to 1342.

A special test of shipping cantaloupes was conducted in June by Government officials with a twelve-car train of cantaloupes sent to New York under observation. The melons were picked under various conditions, packed with time variations and electric thermometers installed. The experiment disclosed the best way to handle the melon crop with the least cost and highest efficiency.

With the shipment of 649 cars of cantaloupes in one day, June 27, alarm was felt that markets were being flooded. A mass meeting was called by the Commercial Club to see if volunteer action could not be had to curtail shipments. Shippers agreed to limit themselves to five crates per acre.

The city's new chlorine plant installed to clarify domestic water, was declared a big success.

The Chase grain warehouse burned in August. Loss \$30,000.

The Brawley high school put on a short course in intensive agriculture that was quite popular.

The Brawley oil well was down 3800 feet in October.

Wm. H. Lowther was President of the Commercial Club in October. He inaugurated meetings with speakers who discussed Valley-wide problems before the membership.

More bonds were voted for the high school in November, \$39,000 being supplied for the purchase of a tract on which to build the new school.

The Commercial Club made preparations and held the second Mid-Winter Fair in the series of six like events which grew in size and importance as the years went by. The second fair was a successful attempt to attract attention to the productivity of the north end of the Valley. It was attended by thousands of outside visitors.

1923

Brawley went into the metropolitan class when banking hours were changed to open at 10 o'clock.

C. C. Jenkins, the new secretary-manager of the County Farm Bureau, was formerly a Brawley pioneer, establishing one of the first exclusive men's wear stores here in 1908.

In March a terrific gas explosion shattered a portion of the new high school building and killed Hallie Smith, one of the students. Several were injured.

Geo. H. Davis was Assemblyman in 1923. He reported from Sacramento that the State Highway Department meant to widen the paved desert highway, build from Brawley to Westmorland, build the Holtville-Yuma link and continue widening the Mountain Springs grade, which, he said, was all that had been asked.

Tom Elliott, of the American Railway Express, was one of the first to try avocado trees in the Valley. He planted one in the Country Club grounds.

The Imperial Valley Country Club was a golf club near Alamorio in 1923.

An interesting flower show was staged in April.

The Mothers Community Club held the third annual May Festival over which Miss Hope Brydon reigned as Queen. There were 100 floats in the parade.

Robert Shields won the tennis championship for Brawley the second time.

Edith Bewly won the county championship for typing with 73 words a minute.

The cantaloupe industry was interested in the precooling of car lots by immersion in water just above freezing. Six cars were thus cooled and shipped to Chicago, arriving in perfect condition. Vine-ripened melons could thus be packed and shipped.

E. A. DeBlois and family moved to Long Beach. Mr. DeBlois was a pioneer, coming to Brawley in 1905.

Brawley responded whole-heartedly to the call for funds for the relief of Japanese sufferers from the great earthquake of September, 1923. More than \$1000 was sent the Red Cross for this purpose.

The name of the Commercial Club was changed back to Chamber of Commerce in October. T. B. Edgar was President and F. J. Trude Secretary.

Mrs. J. H. Curtis was President of the Woman's Club.

The Informal Study Club was a new organization of which Mrs. McPike was President.

The City of Brawley, reviewing its financial status, was in better financial shape than any other town in the Valley. It had a surplus of \$277,893 over liabilities in October.

More than 350 persons dined at a turkey dinner served by the ladies of the Methodist church November 15.

Here is the way lettuce acreage was distributed in 1923:

Brawley	4910
Heber	3245
El Centro	2995
Meloland	1755
Calexico	1441
Imperial	1404
Shamrock	800
Independent	700
Calipatria	650
Holtville	502
Westmorland	315
Aspara	60

Total.....18,700

THIRD MID-WINTER FAIR

The Third annual Mid-Winter Fair was held five days in December. It was bigger and better than ever, occupying more space than either of the first two fairs. The event was recognized by outside papers as a source of news and the result was much favorable publicity to Brawley. The Chamber of Commerce handled the details as usual. After the fair an exhibit was sent to Los Angeles.

Brawley Elks won the Sam Dunaway trophy for being the best ritualistic team of the three Valley lodges.

W. E. WALTERS, from Mesa, Ariz., in 1923, manager and C. A. JACOBSON, from San Diego in 1915, assistant manager Security-First National Bank of Los Angeles, at 565 Main street, have the following to say:

"This bank is the outgrowth of two of the pioneer banks of Brawley. The Imperial Valley Bank of Brawley and the First National Bank of Brawley merged in March, 1923, under the name of the Imperial Valley Bank. In December of the same year this independent bank was taken over by the Pacific Southwest Trust & Savings Bank of Los Angeles, the name was later changed to the Los Angeles First National Trust & Savings Bank and in April, 1929, the name was changed to the Security-First National Bank of Los Angeles."

1924

W. T. Dunn, pioneer banker, moved to Los Angeles in January. In all the years since 1903, Mr. Dunn had fostered every movement for the advancement of Brawley, had been at the head of many organizations, civic, business and fraternal and had won the place in the community accorded the real "leading citizen." The Masonic lodge presented him with a gift and held a special session in his honor. Other organizations likewise bade him and his family God speed and good luck.

A two-day truck and tractor show in January was an attraction.

Judge P. F. Nice, for many years a leading citizen and Brawley's first City Clerk and Recorder, died at his home January 16, just two weeks after the death of his wife.

A movement for all incorporated cities to withdraw from the Imperial Irrigation District on account of taxation without use of irrigation water was not supported by Brawley.

From school registrations it was judged that Brawley's population had gained over 1000 since the 1920 census. Close to 6500 now.

The S. Lyons home was consumed by fire. Mrs. Lyons was badly burned.

Brawley High had the largest graduating class in the Valley, 39.

Leonard Rumsey was Exalted Ruler of the Elks.

Brawley asparagus was bringing \$2.00 a pound in February.

The foot and mouth disease was guarded against by close co-operation of all owners of animals and a strict quarantine against the rest of the state.

A. S. Wolfe was President of the Rotary Club.

The second annual flower show was held in April.

R. Wachter won county tennis championship for Brawley. This was the third year of Brawley's supremacy, Robert Shields winning two years previous.

Miss Laura Smith was Queen of the May at the annual festival that took place under direction of the Mothers Club. The event was becoming an attraction attended by people from all over the Valley.

Another school bond issue of \$38,000 added to grammar school facilities.

TWO DISASTROUS FIRES

The Dunlack Hotel, the Asahi Hotel, five confectionery stores, a pool hall, two restaurants and a jewelry store, all the buildings on Eighth street between Main and E streets were destroyed by fire June 18. The loss was upwards of \$300,000. Arthur Boggermann, 28, a volunteer fireman, lost his life when a wall fell upon him. Two hundred guests in the two hotels were warned in time. Charles Ruth and Geo. Kreuger, Fred Lack, J. W. Oakley and Wm. Lowther were among the principal losers.

On July 11 another serious fire destroyed \$75,000 worth of down town buildings. The Potter block, Central Hotel and the W. C. Eaton property were destroyed. Among the business places put out of business were the Western Union, Wade Restaurant, Kremal Pool Hall, Karl Bright, Studebaker agency, Wallis Tractor, Central Hotel.

TRIBUTE TO FIREMAN

All the city turned out to pay tribute to Arthur Boggermann, fireman who was killed in the June 18 fire. His wife and four children were prostrated with grief. Flowers piled high at the funeral and words of praise showed the regard that the young business man enjoyed at the hands of his neighbors and friends.

EL CENTRO HELPED

El Centro answered a telephone summons for the Dunlack fire and was throwing water within twenty-five minutes, making the run from El Centro at fifty and sixty miles an hour over a dirt road full of chuckholes. Brawley paid special honor to Fire Chief C. F. Ferguson, Driver Jim Mullholland, Steve Ferguson, Orville Ferguson, Wm. Mullholland, Tom Reams, Fred Young, Ed Saunders, R. P. Burchfield and Tom Stewart, for the daring run and service. This helped to keep the fire from spreading across the street and perhaps burning the entire east side.

The Japanese-Methodist church was completed in the fall at a cost of \$20,000.

Wm. Lowther was president of the Chamber of Commerce.

R. A. Walker, one of the prime movers in the cantaloupe industry since 1904, died at his Westmorland home in November.

A "Reign of terror" on the highways by truck drivers was described by the News and abatement demanded.

MID-WINTER FAIR BIGGER

The scope of the annual fair that had been conducted by Brawley was this year county-wide and the name changed to Imperial Valley Mid-Winter Fair. The County supervisors appropriated \$1000. The fair was put on by the Chamber of Commerce with Secretary W. W. Van Pelt in charge. The first day's attendance was 7000 and each succeeding day saw thousands of visitors. The event was practically double the size of the year previous.

The problem of giving Brawley new and enlarged hotel accommodations faced the business men of the city as the New Year arrived.

1925

The January get-together banquet of the Chamber of Commerce was attended by more than one hundred. President Walter B. Haverkorst and Secretary W. W. Van Pelt presented a program full of civic interest. The rebuilding

of the Dunlack hotel was announced; 400 memberships were reported; a new form of fair organization was discussed and the Blythe-Brawley-Julian road talked over.

The Kreuger-Ruth building north of the Dunlack replaced those destroyed by fire. A 43-room hotel was some relief for visitors.

Ralph Stilgebour was Exalted Ruler for the Elks.

Merging of all charities under one head, the Associated Charities, was accomplished in April and in March memberships were canvassed to provide relief funds for needy cases and thus stop promiscuous "drives" by questionable seekers of public aid. Mrs. Roy Stilgebour was head of the Associated Charities.

The annual flower show in April was double in size and beauty.

Merle Mann, high school student, won the county contest in the Times Oratorical contest.

A Players Club was organized in April with A. V. Burns at the head.

A motor tour to the heading was sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce and some 200 cars took the trip.

Miss Constance Corey was Queen of the 1925 May Festival which was of the usual big proportions. Many beautiful floats were entered by business firms again.

The Pure Ice Company started in business in July with a 55-ton plant.

During June the city court collected \$1,834 in fines.

Paul Palmer was President of the Kiwanis Club and H. E. Patterson was President of the Rotary Club.

Walter Haverkorst was again President of the Chamber of Commerce.

The "Producers" Hotel was planned by local capital at a cost of \$171,500. Al Kalin was President of the corporation. The deal had to be abandoned.

The Goree-Hartman Fair was housed in a tent with 65,000 square feet of space and enjoyed patronage of a larger number of exhibitors than ever. It was held December 2 to 6.

The city purchased a new fire truck with an engine that would throw chemicals more than 100 feet. A 100-gallon tank was mounted on the truck.

1926

The new Junior College addition to the high school was built during 1926.

NEW HOTEL

Various attempts to finance a new hotel for Brawley met with final success. In February a group of shippers put \$100,000 in the bank and asked citizens to loan them \$85,000, making a total of \$185,000 to build a hotel on Main at Plaza.

The six shippers were: Roy Stilgebour, G. H. Jones, Roscoe Jones, E. M. Sears, H. B. Sears, Fred Hilvert, and M. F. George.

The citizens' money was raised in February. In a contest conducted for a name the "Planters" Hotel was selected. Construction started June 3. The hotel was officially opened February 11, 1927.

The fourth annual flower show took place April 10.

In the annual May Festival Miss Jimmie Low Turnip-

seed was Queen. The parade was spectacular and the pageant put on in the evening was first class in every particular.

More school bonds, this time for \$40,000 for elementary schools, were voted April 30.

Here is a suggestion made by J. C. Archias that is still good: Number or name all county roads the same as city streets. What a help that would be in Imperial Valley!

M. D. Witter announced his platform as a candidate for the Republican nomination for the office of Assemblyman in July.

In combat with Governor Richardson who called a special session of the legislature to get California to sign the Colorado River Compact without reservations Assemblyman A. C. Finney again had his resolution supported by the members of the Assembly by a vote of 67 to 8.

Once more the Imperial Valley Mid-Winter Fair was voted a great success. Mrs. Wm. Anderson was director of the flower division.

1927

The new Elks home was dedicated in January. It cost \$55,000.

Reconstruction of the Dunlack Hotel, which had been going on for some time, was completed and dedication took place with a dinner dance February 25. This gave Brawley two first class hotels.

The Brawley airport was put in commission Feb. 27. H. C. McCarley was in charge.

The cornerstone of the new Masonic temple was laid in April.

The new Brawley Hospital was completed in June.

Three rooms were added to the east side grammar school.

Chas. Kays, well known citizen, died suddenly in February, 1927.

Earl C. Pound was named a member of the Colorado River Commission by the State. Mr. Pound, as a director of the Irrigation District for years, had become known as a tireless defender of the Boulder Dam and All-American canal program as well as an efficient water official.

J. F. Warner was head of the Chamber of Commerce,

The Elks put on a big rodeo in April.

Mrs. J. C. Archias was President of the Women's Club.

The flower show was held in the beautiful lobby of the Planters Hotel and was more than ever a success.

Miss Grace Jack was Queen of May in the 1927 festival. The parade was composed this year of children in floats, a foot and on decorated bicycles, etc. A maypole dance and a box dinner on the Plaza wound up the festivities.

Henry E. Niven was named Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce.

Cantaloupe acreage: 38,000 acres; cars: 17,342; results: not so good.

Five tons of ice were lumped into the high school swimming pool by the Imperial Ice & Development Company to lower the temperature of the pool.

Harry Niven, C. J. Park, J. F. Warner, Frank Beal, E. W. Cuff, J. M. Harlan, Charles Eckert, H. C. Baughman and M. D. Witter attended a conference in Borego Valley that concerned the Julian-Kane Springs road.

Visitors at the Brawley well, shut down for more than three years, were surprised to find that gas was still escaping from the water in the casing and could be lighted with a match.

The death of J. D. Bennett, pioneer, was recorded July 18, 1927. Mr. Bennett was with C. R. Rockwood in the earliest periods of the Valley's history and was a resident of Brawley, city trustee and director of the Irrigation District.

Talk of the city producing electricity for municipal use was started when the council, in October, by resolution instructed City Engineer G. R. Wade to find the cost of installation of a plant.

Congressman Phil D. Swing was special guest of honor at a Chamber of Commerce banquet held in October. There were 229 at the table.

Early peas were rolling to market in November.

Dewey Carey was elected President of the Chamber of Commerce.

The Del Rio Golf Club and course was formally opened for playing on Thanksgiving Day. The club's course was a beautifully grassed layout on the banks of the Alamo River north of town.

The Brawley News sponsored a cooking school for two days in November.

LAST MID-WINTER FAIR

The 1927 Imperial Valley Mid-Winter Fair was the climax of the series that the Brawley Chamber of Commerce had put on during the past few years. The livestock and poultry exhibits were doubled and the mercantile exhibits much more numerous than ever. Marie Brian, film star, was one of the attractions.

Although better than ever the fair was financially a loss because of stormy weather. The directors decided to accept an offer of the Board of Supervisors to buy the equipment acquired. The money thus received cancelled the deficit the directors faced.

1928

Fire destroyed the Miller-Cummings packing shed at a loss of \$150,000.

Geo. Dixon, first Exalted Ruler of the Elks in Brawley, died January 3.

The Brawley Automobile Show opened in January. In addition to the display of latest cars a program of entertainment was offered.

Samuel Isett, pioneer of 1902, resident of No. 8 all through the flood period when his land was surrounded by water, died in February.

The giant monoplane, Albatross, tried for the world's endurance flight over Salton Sea in February. One tank of gasoline had to be emptied into the sea when a leak was noticed. The second attempt also failed.

J. Loyd Moore was named Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce after the resignation of H. Nevin. Mr. Moore wished a membership of 7500 and the members set about seeing if that goal could be reached.

A new booklet describing Brawley and its advantages was published by the Chamber of Commerce.

Mrs. T. B. Edgar was in charge of the 1928 flower show which was held again in the lobby of the Planters Hotel.

Miss Maribara Bostwick was "Queen of the May" at the 1928 festival.

The voters approved a city airport by voting \$20,000 bonds for the purchase of 160 acres and the building of a hangar.

Fire Chief Hicks reported that his department responded to 59 calls during the fiscal year—far too many for the size of the town.

Brawley uses about 70,000 quarts of milk and cream a month, according to a milk inspection report.

Edwin Mead, pioneer, died at Long Beach in October.

W. F. Beal announced that the old Brawley oil well would be cleaned out to the 1600 foot level where a fair showing of oil was encountered three years ago.

A new program of paving was inaugurated by the council without protest from property owners.

President Dewey Carey was instrumental in exposing the scheme of selling worthless lands to unsuspecting buyers under excitement of the All-American canal extension promised in the Boulder Dam project. A committee visited the area being sold and found not an acre worth a dime.

The most modern lettuce packing shed in the world was opened in January by the S. A. Gerrard Company, Inc. It had Electrically operated crate conveyors, cull conveyors, ice conveyors, etc., with every other known convenience for handling lettuce. The crew in the shed totalled 125 men.

1929

Dewey Carey resigned in March and A. S. Wolfe was elected President of the Chamber of Commerce.

The Redwing dance pavilion burned in March with a loss of \$20,000. Fire also damaged the Boston Store to the extent of \$16,000.

School bonds for \$90,000 additions to east and west side elementary schools were defeated at the polls in May.

The Brawley News established La Gaceta del Valle, Spanish newspaper, with Jose G. Herrera managing editor, in charge. The new paper made a hit with the Spanish speaking population.

The seventh annual flower show by the Woman's Club surpassed all previous efforts. Roses were a specialty for this event.

Miss Dorothy Kreuger won the honor of being Queen of the May in the annual public festival. The event was, as usual, filled with interest on account of the part played by public school children, the box dinner in the Plaza and the street dance in the evening.

A Mexican Chamber of Commerce was formed by the business men of the ever growing Mexican portion of Brawley.

The Miller apartments on D street were burned in June.

The Planters Hotel was leased by C. E. Butterfield for fifteen years.

CITY HALL BURNS

The municipal buildings on the Plaza, including the city hall, library, chamber of commerce headquarters and

headquarters of the fire department, together with most of their contents were burned July 13, 1929. The city's business headquarters were transferred to the Masonic building and today Brawley is awaiting the opportunity to erect a creditable center which will be a credit to the city.

G. T. Wellcome, Brawley's first Mayor and a pioneer of long standing, died September 26. He was a charter member of the Brawley Masonic lodge and the father of Mrs. Myron D. Witter and Mrs. E. A. DeBlois.

Brawley's assessed valuation exceeded \$5,000,000 in 1929.

The Chamber of Commerce put on a yard and garden contest with the result that many home places were improved.

J. H. Carlisle was appointed Fire Chief in October. Chief Hicks had resigned before the city hall fire.

Seventeen of Brawley's clubs, churches, lodges and other organizations joined in forming the Community Chest at the request of the Chamber of Commerce. Officers: Roy Stilgenbour, President; D. L. Wolford, Secretary; Pete Schatz, Treasurer.

The Brawley Woman's Club inaugurated a campaign for better milk in October. Mrs. F. E. Culver was President.

Nearly 100 Christmas trees lined the streets in front of business places as an indication of the holiday spirit.

1930

Brawley's 1929 building permit record was \$271,522. This was an indication that Brawley felt the so-called depression very little.

Arrests for the year numbered 2935.

The fire loss for 1929 was \$64,575.60.

Fred J. Trude was President of the Chamber of Commerce and W. W. Van Pelt continued as Secretary.

In January there were 1181 telephones in service. The telephone company expended \$56,000 in Brawley improvements during the year.

A series of mild earth shocks in the neighborhood of Calipatria and Salton Sea in February created unusual interest because of the appearance of several land fissures in roads and fields with cold water and mud gushing out of the fissures. A more severe temblor visited Brawley in March with some damage.

Francis Heiny, the "Burbank of Imperial Valley," had an exhibit at the county fair that contained twenty-four different varieties of fruits and vegetables. Amongst other things was a grape fruit orange that weighed two pounds smelled like an orange and looked like a grapefruit. Mr. Heiny's exhibit was the center of attraction.

Reversing last year's action the voters approved \$60,000 for additions to the elementary schools within the city.

The eighth annual flower show held April 5, with Mrs. J. F. Warner chairman, was another success.

A fire drill resulted in clearing the Westside school in 36 seconds; the Eastside school in 40 seconds; the kindergarten in 45 seconds and the high school in 1 minute and 35 seconds.

Brawley put the Chamber of Commerce upon a municipal basis by voting a 10-mill tax for its support at the city

election in April. By this method about \$6500 annually was spread over the entire city instead of being provided by a few business men. The directors of the Chamber expend the funds under supervision of the City Trustees.

Brawley was especially interested in the compact signed by Imperial and San Diego County Supervisors for the construction of the Kane Springs-Julian road. Imperial County is to pay \$20,000 a year for five years, the balance to be borne by the state and San Diego county. H. L. Jackson, Brawley Supervisor, and Geo. L. Kreuger are members of the road district commission. This road, instead of being far north as many believed, would be directly west from Calipatria's Main street and only a distance of twenty-five miles to the foot of the mountains. From there to Julian is over the well built Banner grade.

Miss Muriel Wilke was chosen Queen for the 1930 May festival conducted by the Woman's Club. The parade had six divisions and the pageant following, under the direction of Mrs. Lois Yocum, was a vivid portrayal of "Spring-time" with all the coloring that the season boasted.

The young business men of Brawley formed a Junior Chamber of Commerce in May with 15 charter members. Harney Archias was temporary chairman.

Stamp sales in April were \$548 more than in April, 1929.

LANDMARK RESTORED

A tiny adobe house, 10 feet square, on the date ranch owned by Mr. and Mrs. Wm. R. Boxwell near Brawley, said to be the first structure erected in the "north end" before Brawley was even platted, was restored by the owners and is now preserved as a historic landmark. It was built by A. L. Smyth, still a resident of the Valley in the south. It has walls two feet thick and a roof one and one-half feet thick.

The first building on the townsite was the real estate office of the townsite company occupied by Frank Stanley.

In June 3519 cars of freight went out of Brawley.

CENSUS SHOWED BRAWLEY LARGEST

The federal census figures, showing population of towns and townships and totals for the county, disclosed the fact that Brawley was the largest city and the Brawley township the most populated township in the Valley. The figures for the three leaders:

Brawley	10,437
Brawley Township	14,830
El Centro	8,427
El Centro Township	12,767
Calexico	6,297
Calexico Township	9,863

Brawley's growth was just about 100 per cent over the 5,389 population figures of 1920.

Brawley voted against the installation of \$180,000 worth of additional storage tanks, filtration plant, city hall and sewer. The election was in September.

The Ellis buildings on the south side of Main street, occupied by various stores, were destroyed by fire in September. Loss, \$210,000.

LONG SERVICE AS POSTMISTRESS

Miss Nellie Pellett, who was postmistress in Brawley for twenty years, retired from the position in December when Alton W. Jeffus was appointed. Miss Pellett's record gave her the distinction of the longest public service of any resident of the Valley. In all the years the accounts were kept in good shape. She used a cigar box for Brawley's first mail in 1904, shortly after taking the office over from Mrs. Meador, who ran a store and handled the mail.

In the fall elections M. D. Witter was re-elected to the State Assembly without opposition.

Realizing that the passage of time was destroying early photographs and other historical data, Mrs. J. L. Kennedy and Mrs. Quay Smith, members of the Library Board, started a collection of pictures and relics to be preserved in the files of the library. A collection of old time pictures made by Philo Jones was the nucleus of this museum.

1931

The upward trend of population was indicated by the fact that in January there were 464 more pupils enrolled in the city's schools than at the same time in 1930.

A city wood pile where needy men could earn the price of a meal was established in January.

Elmer Sears was club champion at the Del Rio Golf Club in January.

I. A. Pearson was inducted as a member of the city council to take the place of Paul Palmer who resigned.

In the legislature Myron D. Witter was given the important post of chairman of the irrigation committee. He was also member of the agriculture, federal relations, reapportionment, ways and means, county government, medical, dental, motor vehicles and highway committees in the Assembly.

Officers of the Brawley Chamber of Commerce elected in January and now in office (June, 1931); Earl McReynolds, President; J. Ralph Anderson, Vice-President; Walter B. Haverkorst, Treasurer; E. W. Cuff, Secretary; additional directors: Donald J. Bell, S. D. Carey, W. C. Eaton, Tom B. Edgar, Carl A. Jacobson, Paul W. Palmer, Elmer M. Sears, Ralph W. Stilgenbaur, Roy A. Stilgenbaur, Fred J. Trude, A. S. Wolfe, R. R. Flores. Headquarters of the Chamber are in the Planters Hotel.

In a four cornered contest for director of the Imperial Irrigation District W. F. Beal, pioneer, won over Earl C. Pound (incumbent), F. W. Greer and H. A. Hastain. Mr. Pound completed his sixteenth year as a director in March.

F. S. Lack, after long experience, introduced a model concrete house especially designed for Valley weather conditions. He built several of these houses in Brawley.

The Boston Store on the East side was destroyed by fire in January.

The death of Assemblyman M. D. Witter, February 19, was a shock to the community. His life is reviewed in the pioneer section of this history. Alan P. Witter, young son of the deceased, assumed management of the Brawley News.

At a special election held March 19, Sam H. Robinson was elected to fill the office of Assemblyman, made vacant by the death of M. D. Witter.

Mrs. R. T. Pinner was general chairman of the 1931 May Festival. Miss Virginia Lovelady was Queen of the event. The decorated floats were the handiwork of Mrs. S. Quay Smith, Mrs. Ray Bristol and Mrs. A. M. Whipple.

After many months of planning the city council submitted five improvement propositions to the voters at a special election held February 18, including a new water tower. The amount was for \$135,000 and was defeated by failing to receive a two-thirds favorable vote. In May the same proposals were submitted to the people and in addition was a proposal to establish a city electric plant at a cost of \$150,000. All six of the projects failed to receive the necessary support at the polls.

Brawley now has its 1300th telephone. The installation marked a growth of 154 telephones during the last 12 months, or a 14 per cent gain.

During the past five years the Brawley exchange has almost doubled. January 1, 1921, it had 551 telephones, and January 1, 1926, 703 telephones.

The exchange was established in September, 1906.

SEVEN MILLION DOLLAR BUSINESS

Retail business in Brawley in excess of \$7,000,000 is shown by the bureau of census in the report of the returns from the 1930 distribution census. The 1930 population of Brawley was 10,439.

The bureau reports 179 retail stores with a total annual business of \$7,240,537, a payroll of \$703,494, and full time employment of 452 men and women. The total number of employes does not include those working part time although the payroll of part time employes is included in salaries and wages. Merchandise in stock for sale at the end of 1929 shows a cost of \$1,097,565.

The total of 179 stores includes 144 single-store independents, 10 units of 2-store multiples, and 12 units of local chains. There are 4 units of sectional chains and 6 units of national chains. Sales of the three types of chains aggregate \$1,693,092, or 23 per cent of the total business while single store independents report sales amounting to \$4,137,707, or 57 per cent. The figures are based upon reports received in 1930 covering the year 1929.

The automotive group takes the lead in this report, with the food group second, and the general merchandise group third in order of sales.

The automotive group, with 33 establishments, reports sales of \$2,077,014, or 29 per cent of the total retail business. Sales in 9 motor vehicle establishments amount to \$1,253,532, and sales through 4 accessory, tire, and battery stores are \$201,708. A total of 18 filling stations is reported with aggregate sales of \$574,787 in gas, oil, tires, and other accessories.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The reader has noticed, all through the years of Brawley's history, that some sort of a civic organization has been the guiding spirit of business activity and growth from the very beginning of Brawley's history, in 1903. As soon as there were enough citizens to make a meeting a Chamber of Commerce was formed and the first work accomplished was the planting of many trees along the streets and the formation of a melon growers' association, thus starting Brawley in the path of leadership in the cantaloupe industry.

Through these early years the names of W. T. Dunn, Frank H. Stanley, the Stahls, Thos. Kellog, P. P. Hovley, C. C. Bowles, T. B. Edgar, Dan Elder, W. P. Mansfield, F. C. Paulin, J. W. Oakley, Philo Jones, W. C. Eaton, John Cady, R. E. Wills, Myron D. Witter, G. T. Wellcome, C. Hauck, H. B. Stewart, Geo. Wade, Geo. Holloway, Earl C. Pound, Griswold Bros., Andy Bodine, Dr. Miller, C. H. Ruth, C. A. Fredericks, Jack D. Bennett, W. H. Best, R. Malan, Lee Siebert, W. F. Beal, W. W. Hussong, H. L. Fulton, A. P. Center, E. A. DeBlois, Sam Packwood, Louis Bennett, C. F. Eckert, P. F. Nice, E. W. Cuff and others figured as officers, directors and active members of the Chamber of Commerce prior to incorporation in 1908.

It is understood that omissions from this list of names that might belong there is unavoidable because of the lack of records and the lapse of memory on the part of pioneers asked.

Following incorporation there seemed to be a lapse of organization until 1911 when H. B. Stewart was President and Charlie Kays Secretary.

H. L. Fulton was President in 1912 and 1913.

Then in 1913 came a new organization, the Farmers & Merchants Commercial Club with A. P. Higgins at the head and Earl McReynolds as Secretary.

Then John D. Reavis came along and the Brawley 20,000 Club was organized. A business Men's Club also came into being.

Efforts to merge these organizations finally resulted in 1914 in the incorporation of the Brawley Chamber of Commerce with W. T. Dunn at the head and Myron D. Witter Secretary. Then followed E. B. Stilgenbaur and T. B. Edgar in 1915 and 1916. Walter Casey carried on in 1917 and E. C. Schelling in 1918.

The next year, 1919, the name was Brawley Commercial Club and so it remained for four years. W. F. Beal, T. B. Edgar, W. L. Garrett, Beecher Stowe and Wm. H. Lowther taking turns at the helm.

In 1923 the name was changed back to the Chamber of Commerce and so it has remained ever since. The presidents during the past eight years were: T. B. Edgar, Wm. H. Lowther, W. B. Haverkorst (two years), H. E. Patterson, J. P. Warner, Dewey Carey, A. S. Wolfe, Fred J. Trude and Earl McReynolds. W. W. Van Pelt was Secretary from 1924 to 1930. E. W. Cuff took his place and is now secretary.

In 1930 the Chamber was accorded a 10-mill tax on city property and now operates as an arm of the municipal government.

During the years this civic organization has built hotels, organized growers associations, planted trees, secured airport, caused paving and good roads, conducted city and county fairs, endorsed and opposed good and evil measures and has seen to it all the time that Brawley's interests were protected. The fact that so many different organizations have existed is not an indication of group jealousy but an evidence of the thoroughly independent spirit that seems to be native in the north end of the Valley.

THE BRAWLEY NEWS

Willard Beebee, a Colton newspaper man, sensing the opportunities that the new country offered, established the Imperial Valley News in September, 1903, eleven months after the townsite had been platted by the Imperial Land Company. Beebee built an adobe building and installed a Cranston cylinder press with a gasoline engine for power. The press, fortunately, had a wheel with a handle on it and when the gasoline engine failed Cocopah Indian power was used. Beebee toiled faithfully through the winter but, lacking the modern comforts of electric fans, ice and other conveniences, turned the business over to a manager during the summer.

During the summer Beebee went to Los Angeles and tried to sell the News to the Imperial Land Company but failed. Frank S. Stanley overheard the conversation and agreed to buy. He took charge August 1, 1904. Not being a practical printer Stanley sought Myron D. Witter, then a part owner of the Imperial Press, to come in with him. This, Witter agreed to, taking a small number of shares in the company Stanley formed. Witter sold his shares to W. F. Holt but purchased again. Stanley, Witter and Holt then owned the paper. Witter was editor during the county seat campaign and Stanley handled El Centro's campaign for Holt. After the county seat matter was settled Mr. Holt purchased Stanley's entire interest in the News and presented Mr. Witter with the plant and business.

For twenty-seven years Mr. Witter guided the destiny of the News and did his share, and more, toward making of Brawley the city that it is today. He was elected to the state legislature as Assemblyman in 1928 and re-elected in 1930. He died in February, 1931. His son, Alan, born and raised in Brawley and trained in the newspaper business by his father, has conducted the business since his father's death. Although but twenty-one years of age he has already shown the ability of a veteran and has kept up the high standard set by his father in the conduct of the Brawley News.

The News plant today includes three linotype machines, a modern Duplex press and a full equipment of automatic printing machinery, second to none in Southern California. The building in which the News is published is owned by Mrs. Witter who lives a portion of the time in San Diego.



Geo. Dixon

H. E. Gates

Warren Currier

S. D. Carey

Dewey Carey

J. J. Foster

EXALTED RULERS WHO HAVE SERVED BRAWLEY LODGE B. P. O. ELKS

ALAMO CHAPTER, O. E. S.

Alamo Chapter, Brawley, was instituted with the assistance of Golden Rule Chapter of Imperial, and received its charter in October, 1910. Somewhat unusual is the fact that the first six officers elected at that time filled the same stations thirteen years later, at a past officers' anniversary meeting at which the initiatory work was exemplified. As the years have passed, the line of Past Matrons and Patrons of Alamo Chapter has remained almost unbroken, and their continued service to the chapter is most devoted. Myron D. Witter was a past patron.

As an example of the faithfulness of the pioneer Eastern Star leaders of the Imperial Valley, Myrtle Hillen Jones, the first Worthy Matron of Alamo Chapter, stands out prominently.

For the first fifteen years of its organization she could count upon the fingers of one hand the number of times she has been absent from her chapter. Nor in that time had she ever sat on the side lines.

In the first six years of the life of this chapter, the stork generously remembered each Worthy Matron in turn, leaving as the supreme gift of her year a tiny baby daughter. These little ones, affectionately called "our little meteors," have grown to young girlhood together in Brawley, and may some day become stars of great magnitude.

Woven into the romance of the Imperial Valley is the name of "Abe Lee," a typical desert man, the Surveyor of Harold Bell Wright's "Winning of Barbara Worth." In real life Abe Lee is Elton Harvey Gaines, a member of the Brawley chapter.

The spirit of co-operation between the Masonic lodge and the Eastern Star at Brawley gives life to both organizations, and it has been a custom to make the outgoing Worshipful Master of the lodge their choice for Patron. Alamo Chapter was very helpful to the Masons when they furnished the new temple.

Past Matrons from that time to the present are: Myrtle Jones, Myrtle DeBlois, Allie M. Eaton, Ethel Witter, Belle Eckart, Anna C. Best, Rhoda M. Bennett, Bertha P. Stilgenbaur, Blanche Withrow, Helen M. Fulton, Sarah Breon, Harriett Lee, Gladys Noble, Alice Divver, Grace Stilgenbaur, Ruth Patterson, Hazel Stilgenbaur, Hattie West, Ollie Gates, Virginia Huston, Thelma Bailey. The present matron is Mrs. Olive Jackson; the secretary, Mrs. Lena Smith.

BRAWLEY LODGE NO. 402, F. & A. M.

This lodge was chartered October 14, 1909. The past masters from that time to the present are: C. J. Park, A. F. Eckert, H. J. Fulton, E. B. Stilgenbaur, C. E. Nice, Wm. T. Dunn, Philo Jones, E. B. Stilgenbaur, Fred M. Blood, Wm. J. Wilson, R. W. Stilgenbaur, R. W. Divver, R. R.

Stilgenbaur, H. E. Patterson, Harry E. Gates, L. C. Hausman, Earl McReynolds, W. G. Darnell, John Ireland, Sam P. Duren, R. L. McLean. The present Master is Richard H. Wellington. The secretary is Adolph Lauraine.

BRAWLEY LODGE NO. 1420, B. P. O. ELKS

Instituted June 25, 1921, with membership of 70. Now 390. Past exalted rulers: George E. Dixon, Harry E. Gates, Warren Currier, Leonard Rumsey, R. W. Stilgenbaur, S. D. Carey, Dr. I. J. Wells, Walter B. Haverkorst, Dewey Carey, A. M. Kendall, and present exalted ruler, J. J. Foster. Secretary, Sam P. Rowe. Mr. Foster's picture is on Valley Steam Laundry page.

BRAWLEY LODGE NO. 408, I. O. O. F.

Instituted April 24, 1909, with 75 members. Now 163. Noble grands since organization: M. D. Witter, Gifford T. Randolph, Earl C. Pound, Henry L. Jackson, George McKillon, W. E. Edwards, L. O. Crummer, T. A. Robbins, Vernon L. Smith, Earl G. Woodhouse, Elmer D. Pidge, R. E. Layne, Myron D. Howard, Roy M. Bellwood, Burleigh Adams, Carl G. Benson, Gustav Benson, Elmer Guymes, Grover Hayes, Chas. M. Jensen, T. A. Williams, Neil Jensen.

BRAWLEY ENCAMPMENT NO. 41, DISTRICT NO. 53
I. O. O. F.

Installed June 4, 1914 in Brawley and meeting places and time was every two weeks, meeting first in Brawley, second in El Centro, next in Calexico, then to Holtville, and then back to Brawley and the last three years in Brawley only. Past chief patriarchs as follows: George McKillen, W. E. Edwards, Less D. Carliff, Ed Royce, Earl G. Woodhouse, George Polos, Carl G. Benson, Chas. Scott, Vernon L. Smith and Springer Emerson, who is deceased.

OASIS REBEKAH LODGE NO. 318

Organized 1910 at Brawley, with the following charter members: William Henry Whelan, John Pirtle, Edward Henry Sherman, Sarah E. Whelan, Florence A. Dunham, Ida M. Leach, Ida M. Pirtle, Caroline B. Cameron, Eula Pirtle, Edith Meador Kenton, and Mary Holcomb.

The past noble grands from organization to now are: Caroline B. Cameron, Florence A. Dunham, Mary Holcomb, Eula Pirtle, Sarah Whelan, Anna Best, Elizabeth Robins, May Roberts, Clara Randolph, Kate Groves, Mary Edwards, Edna May Pidge, Ella Storm, Mary Crummer, Laura L. Cooper, Rhoda Bennett, Alberta Potter, Mildred Carlisle, Bernice M. Smith, Mary Packwood, Florence Bellwood, Leota Prescott Koon, Daisy Benson, May Adams, Amelia Jensen, Lorraine Speer, Eleta McCandless, Agnes Hays, Esther Rockwood, Ethel Crummer, and the present noble grand, Helen Hoffman.

BRAWLEY MOOSE, NO. 1347

Instituted April 19, 1930, with 119 members. Now 320. Officers as follows: Past Dictator, K. C. Weeks; dictator, Geo. E. Kreuger, vice dictator, W. E. Woods; prelate, Joel Allen; secretary, J. C. Gresser; treasurer, L. G. Adams; sergeant at arms, L. H. Bredfield; inside guard, O. C. Martin; outside guard, Roy Dean; trustees, Wm. O'Brien, J. Robertson and Claude Barker.

B-LO-C CLUB JUNIOR DEPARTMENT BRAWLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Located at Brawley. Organized May 14, 1930, with a membership of 15. Now 30. President, Harney Archias; first vice-president, Alan Witter; second vice-president, Max Edgar; treasurer, George A. Palmer; secretary, Paul G. Post. The club was sponsored by the Brawley Chamber of Commerce, who selected a group of 15 young men who they believed would be interested and who became charter members. A set of by-laws was adopted, and membership in the club is now elective; the purpose of the club is to give young men in business and not active in chamber of commerce a chance to be active in projects of a community nature.

The club has been active in the following projects: Sponsored the first Annual Community Watermelon Feed; the Brawley entrant in the Valley Indoor Ball League; the municipal Christmas decorations at Christmas time, including the decorations of the down-town district. Had charge of the Red Cross drive in the business district and solicited the membership in that area. Staged a city-wide miniature golf tournament. Have given various social functions, such as dances and parties.

Are now working on a project of the naming and signing of the country roads in the Brawley district. Also working to secure illuminated signs at the main entrances of town. Are working on the proposed Imperial Valley Yacht Club at the Salton Sea. Have been actively interested in the local Boy Scout work, officiating at the monthly court of honor and are planning to support a troop.

ROTARY CLUB

Organized March 8, 1922. Luncheon every Wednesday at Planters hotel, 12:15. Following have held office of presidency since organization: W. L. Garrett, R. W. Stilgenbaur, A. S. Wolfe, H. E. Patterson, Irwin J. Wells, E. W. Cuff, C. E. Boydston, Earl McReynolds, Fred J. Trude. R. L. Secord present secretary.

KIWANIS CLUB

Organized March 25, 1925; located at Planters Hotel. Presidents from organization to present time: Paul W. Palmer, Alex. L. Seville, J. Clyde Fluke, Herman P. Wilke, Virgil J. Sims, Ray C. Bristol, L. L. Dungan. A. W. Jeffus is the present secretary.

AUXILIARY SPANISH WAR VETERANS

Instituted at Brawley May 21, 1927, with membership of 19. Now 25. Charter members: Margaret Cummings, Margaret Huson, Grace Dixon, Pearl Farrar, Estelle Rowe, Donaldine Truesdale, Hannah N. Grafton, Daisy D. Gary, Amelia Jensen, Francis M. Schultz, Agnes Jensen, Ruth A. Knight, Emma Goss, Ella Laird, Elizabeth Jensen, Elizabeth Berlinger, Allie Goodrich Eaton, Carolyn McMahan and Elizabeth Cummings. Margaret Cummings was the first president; then followed Mav Williams, Margaret Huson, and Amelia Jensen. The officers for the present year, 1931, are president, Daisy Gary; senior vice-president, Alice Liebert; junior vice president, Ruby Smakis; secretary, Myrtle McDaniels; treasurer, Margaret Huson; chaplain, Hannah Grafton; historian, Sadie Cordell; conductor, Amelia Jensen; assistant conductor, Ruth Vaught. Meetings held the fourth Thursdays of each month at Memorial hall, Imperial. Margaret Huson department aide.

DEL RIO COUNTRY CLUB

Private eighteen hole golf course, located at Brawley, organized 1926, with membership of 125. Now 137. Grassed course with sand greens. Presidents since organization, W. B. Coherly, Donald J. Bell, Elmer Sears; vice

presidents, Donald J. Bell, Elmer Sears, F. T. DeArman; secretary-treasurer, F. J. Trude, R. W. Stilgenbaur. They claim to be the lowest down golf course in the world—119 feet below sea level, and are the location of vegetable Shippers' and Growers' annual golf tournament.

BRAWLEY CHURCHES

Apostolic Church of the Faith of Christ Jesus—Organized in 1922. Now has membership of 300. Ministers since organization: Filomeno Carranza, Rudolfo C. Gonzales.

First M. E. Church—Organized 1904, with membership of five. Now 180. Ministers since organization: Reverends H. McAllan, O. C. Laizure, Strawbridge, G. B. Skafte, F. A. Leak, A. Ray Moore, H. K. Vann, T. A. Wilkinson, I. A. Engle, W. L. Miller, J. J. Post, F. P. Cole, O. W. Reinius, Smith, B. F. Davis, H. K. Holtzinger, J. F. Humphrey, A. T. Kent.

Emmanuel Mexican Presbyterian—Organized 1921, with membership of 20. Now 42. Ministers since organization: Alberto Romo, E. H. Smith, S. S. VanWagner

New Bethel Baptist, Colored—Organized June 2, 1921, new church erected 1924, M. Campbell, pastor.

First Church of Christ Scientist—February 5, 1915, as Christian Science Society incorporated under the laws of the State of California and charter issued March 17, 1916; a decree of court was issued changing the name to First Church of Christ Scientist, August 29, 1923.

Japanese M. E.—Organized September, 1913, with membership of seven. Now 109. Ministers since organization: Reverends K. Baba, S. Nishimura, S. Takata, H. Arima. S. Arima, S. Miyazaki, C. Harnyama.

Church of Christ—Organized May, 1910, with charter membership of 14. Ministers since organization: Reverends R. Tibbs Maxey, Willis S. Myers, D. D. Boyle, Gaylord C. Roberts, Jno. Havener, C. Arthur Burton, W. M. Pysher, Noah Garwick, Brown, Eli Walker.

First Presbyterian—Organized December 13, 1903, with membership of 19. Now 128. Ministers since organization: Reverends W. G. Palmer, A. H. Croco, J. W. Millar, Dwight C. Chapin. E. L. B. McClellan, J. M. Leonard, C. L. Wright, R. C. Isbell.

First Baptist—Organized 1900. Now has membership of 202. Ministers since organization: Reverends T. L. Taylor. Carl Bassett, Boyd, Wallace, Beverly, T. F. Courtney, Skeels.

Sacred Heart Catholic—Organized December 13, 1908, with membership of 150. Now 450. Ministers since organization: Reverends Fr. Eummelin, Fr. Burelbach, James A. Martin, B. J. Schiaparelli, J. B. Cotter, John Dignam, Lucian Leganiere Edward Doran, Thomas Kennedy and the present pastor Joseph V. Fitzgerald. The first holy name convention ever held in the Valley was at Brawley Sunday, March 8, 1931, under the direction of Rev. Fitzgerald and Frank Birkhauser, of El Centro, with the co-operation of the other priests. About 50 men and 15 boys attended.

Christian—With the present pastor, Rev. Eli Walker. The church is well established and enjoys a large membership. Rev. Noah Garwick was the previous pastor.

All Saints Episcopal—Located at 300 H street, Brawley. Is a flourishing church in this community with a good membership. The first services of this church were held in October, 1910.

Free Methodist—The Free Methodist of Brawley was organized in 1912, with eleven charter members as follows: C. H. and Grace Ruth, Levina Bailey, Electa, E. M. and Carrie Robb, W. N. and Clara Jones, Rachel Lyall, Wm. Nixon and J. P. Heil. A well furnished church building, free from debt, is located at Imperial and D. streets, and a good membership attends each Sunday.

Some of the other churches of Brawley are the Mexican Pentacostal 1228 J., the Hongwanie Buddhist at 338 South Eighth and the Inglisia Evangelical Mexican, 931 J streets, all having good memberships.

BRAWLEY

Incorporated April 6, 1908

MEMBERS OF BOARDS OF TRUSTEES SINCE INCORPORATION

1908	G. T. Wellcome*	John Cady	C. C. Bowles	W. V. Stahl	A. Bodine
1909	J. F. Rath*	John Cady	C. C. Bowles	L. P. Abbott	J. D. Bennett
	W. T. Dunn*	J. L. Cooke*	J. A. Murray	E. C. Pound	W. F. Beal
1910	W. T. Dunn	T. L. Taylor	J. A. Murray	E. C. Pound	W. F. Beal*
1911	W. T. Dunn*	C. A. Fitzgerald	T. B. Edgar	E. C. Pound	W. F. Beal*
1912	S. A. Armstrong	C. A. Fitzgerald	T. B. Edgar	A. W. Applegate	W. F. Beal
1913	S. A. Armstrong	E. McReynolds	J. A. Sheffield	A. W. Applegate	W. F. Beal
1914	S. A. Armstrong	E. McReynolds	Geo. Kreuger	P. Hovley*	A. P. Higgins
1915	S. A. Armstrong	E. McReynolds	W. A. Covington*	P. Hovley*	A. P. Higgins
1916	J. R. Anderson	E. McReynolds	W. A. Covington	F. F. Parmerlee	A. P. Higgins
1917	J. R. Anderson	E. McReynolds	W. A. Covington	F. F. Parmerlee	A. P. Higgins*
1918	R. R. Stilgenbaur	E. McReynolds	W. A. Covington	H. A. Staub	A. P. Higgins*
1919	R. R. Stilgenbaur	E. McReynolds	W. A. Covington	H. A. Staub	J. C. Allen
1920	R. R. Stilgenbaur*	E. McReynolds	W. A. Covington	E. W. Cuff	H. E. Gates
1921	R. R. Stilgenbaur*	E. McReynolds	J. H. Curtis	E. W. Cuff	H. E. Gates
1922	R. R. Stilgenbaur*	E. McReynolds	J. H. Curtis	E. W. Cuff*	H. E. Gates
1923	R. R. Stilgenbaur	R. W. Divver	J. H. Curtis	E. W. Cuff*	S. P. Baker
1924	R. W. Stilgenbaur	R. W. Divver	J. H. Curtis	S. D. Carey*	S. P. Baker
1925	R. W. Stilgenbaur*	R. W. Divver	F. H. Huston	S. D. Carey	S. P. Baker
1926	R. W. Stilgenbaur*	R. W. Divver	F. H. Huston	S. D. Carey	S. P. Baker
1927	R. W. Stilgenbaur*	J. C. Fluke	F. H. Huston*	S. D. Carey	F. H. Fargo
1928	P. W. Palmer	J. C. Fluke*	F. H. Huston*	S. D. Carey	F. H. Fargo
1929	P. W. Palmer	J. C. Fluke*	H. E. Hubbard	S. D. Carey	F. H. Fargo
1930	P. W. Palmer	J. C. Fluke	H. E. Hubbard	G. H. Rolland	F. H. Fargo
1931	I. A. Pearson	J. C. Fluke*	H. E. Hubbard	R. L. Baker	F. H. Fargo

(*) Indicates mayor.

NOTE: D. D. Pellett was a member of the board five months in 1918.

R. Malan and R. W. Blake were members of the board in 1911 following the resignation of T. L. Taylor.

OTHER CITY OFFICERS

Year	Clerk	Treasurer	Recorder	Attorney	Marshal
1908	P. F. Nice	Wm. T. Dunn	P. F. Nice	Phil D. Swing	J. W. Martin
1909	W. H. Whelan	Wm. T. Dunn	W. H. Whelan	Paul Stewart	J. C. McCartney
1910	W. H. Whelan	H. A. Staub	W. H. Whelan	Frank Birkhauser	J. C. McCartney
1911	W. H. Whelan	H. A. Staub	W. H. Whelan	J. S. Larew	J. C. McCartney
1912	F. N. Blais	H. A. Staub	D. A. McMillan	W. I. Wilson	P. F. Emerson
1913	H. E. Bennett	F. F. Parmerlee	F. N. Blais	W. I. Wilson	Geo. Krueger
1914	J. H. Stevenson	F. F. Parmerlee	A. W. Keener	M. W. Conkling	Geo. Krueger
1915	J. H. Stevenson	F. F. Parmerlee	Philo Jones	W. I. Wilson	C. H. Beal
1916	J. H. Stevenson	R. C. Lee	Philo Jones	Guy Rockwell	C. C. Marshal
1917	J. A. Harris	R. C. Lee	B. F. Morris	J. L. Allen	C. C. Marshal
1918	J. A. Harris	R. C. Lee	B. F. Morris	W. I. Wilson	C. C. Marshal
1919	J. A. Harris	R. C. Lee	H. B. Griffin	W. I. Wilson	C. C. Marshal
1920	J. A. Harris*	R. C. Lee	H. B. Griffin	W. I. Wilson	F. C. Kemp
1921	May Juvenal	R. C. Lee	H. B. Griffin	W. I. Wilson	F. C. Kemp
1922	May Juvenal	R. C. Lee	H. B. Griffin	W. I. Wilson	F. C. Kemp
1923	May Juvenal	R. C. Lee	H. B. Griffin	W. I. Wilson	C. W. Verge
1924	May Juvenal	R. C. Lee	H. B. Griffin	W. I. Wilson	C. W. Verge
1925	May Juvenal	R. C. Lee	H. B. Griffin	W. I. Wilson	J. D. Fox
1926	May Juvenal	R. C. Lee	H. B. Griffin	W. I. Wilson	J. D. Fox
1927	May Juvenal	R. C. Lee	H. B. Griffin	W. I. Wilson	J. D. Fox
1928	May Juvenal	R. C. Lee	H. B. Griffin	W. I. Wilson	J. L. Cromer
1929	May Juvenal	R. C. Lee	H. B. Griffin	W. I. Wilson	J. L. Cromer
1930	May Juvenal	C. B. Markling	H. B. Griffin	A. L. Sebille	J. L. Cromer
1931	May Juvenal	C. B. Markling	H. B. Griffin	A. L. Sebille	J. L. Cromer

NOTE: Reese Parks was Clerk pro tem in 1911.

Philo Jones was Clerk for six months in 1915.

Frank Birkhauser was with Phil D. Swing as attorney in 1908.

(*) J. A. Harris died in 1920. May Juvenal was appointed.

Year	Engineer	Fire Chief	Year	Engineer	Fire Chief
1908			1920	Geo. Wade	W. Koons
1909	C. J. Park	N. T. Shaw	1921	Geo. Wade	W. Koons
1910	C. J. Park	B. Schmitz	1922	Geo. Wade	W. Koons
1911	C. J. Park	B. Schmitz	1923	Geo. Wade	W. Koons
1912	C. J. Park	B. Schmitz	1924	Geo. Wade	W. E. Bayles
1913	C. J. Park	Dan Rice	1925	Geo. Wade	J. H. Hutchinson
1914	C. J. Park	Dan Rice	1926	Geo. Wade	W. L. Hicks
1915	Geo. Wade	Dan Rice	1927	Geo. Wade	W. L. Hicks
1916	Geo. Wade	Dan Rice	1928	C. J. Park	W. L. Hicks
1917	Geo. Wade	R. W. Mvers	1929	C. J. Park	J. B. Conley
1918	Geo. Wade	W. C. Burns	1930	C. J. Park	J. H. Carlisle
1919	Geo. Wade	E. McReynolds	1931	C. J. Park	J. H. Carlisle

The following firms were in business in Brawley in 1930-31

- ACCOUNTANTS**
L. A. Andrews
C. B. Markling
- APARTMENTS**
Bowman Apts.
Fair Haven Apts.
Fulton Apts
Headington's White Houses
Merrlin Court
E. A. Nelson Apts.
- ARTISTS**
A. C. Aamott
- AUTO CAMPS**
East Main St. Auto Camp
Paul Randolph
E. G. Richardson
Tourist Inn
- AUTO GARAGES**
Ervin & Roralsky
H. B. Holmes
H. E. Nevins
White Garage
Scrio Almuite
Ballard Auto Repair Shop
Bob Bryden
H. M. Bush
David Diaz
R. N. Emmons
Frank Encinas
Godines Bros
Imp. Valley Auto Electricians
J. D. McDougal
Jos Torres
Joe Villegas
Edgar Bros. Co.
Plaza Service St.
L. E. Maloney
- AUTO SUPPLIES**
Valley Auto Supply
Western Auto Supply
H. P. Wilke
C. A. Gray
Imperial Motors
V. L. Juvenal
Walter M. Murphy Motors Co.
L. H. Peacock
J. R. Robertson
Roy Womack
- AUTO WRECKERS**
Mrs. R. M. Chase
Prospero Sagredo
Benj. Smith
- BAKERS**
Lorenzo Hernandez
Market Bakery
Wendel Schell
Louis Torricellas
- BANKS**
Bank of America
Sec. First Nat. Bank
- BARBERS**
Jas. Butler
Eufemio Camacho
Benito Chavez
W. E. Clay
G. C. Ezquerro
Jack Flynn
Albert Jesmer
Antonio Juarez
Anastacio Maldonado
J. J. McIntyre
R. L. McLean
M. Nozaki
H. R. Ridgway
Salvador Vallarta
Emelio Villagrana
Edw. Yeo
- BATHS, BEAUTY SHOPS**
J. M. Funakoshi
Duarte Beauty Shop
Lucille McVev
- BILLIARD PARLORS**
Barker & Conlev
Geo. Kreuger
Dugger & Freeman
J. Jaokuchi
Tom Ito
Morris Klein
A. Kobata
K. Sakabe
L. C. Saladana
Y. Takade
K. Takahashi
- Senho Tario
S. G. Tovama
S. Uyecho
C. Uveno
T. Yamazuchi
- BLCKSMITHS**
Roscoe Clark
Rafeal Grigoven
C. E. Harr
Stevenson & Phillips
- BOTTLING WORKS**
Coca Cola Bottling Wks.
Geo. Tarike
J. G. Robinson
- BOX MAKERS**
Amer. Box Corp.
Cal. Pine Box Dis.
- BROKERS**
Walter B. Casey
- BU'LDING MATERIAL**
Ole Kaiser
Whiting Mead
- CHIROPRACTORS**
H. A. Blume
H. Eduardo Duralde
F. H. Fargo
- CIGARS**
J. P. Benson
R. E. Hanks
K. Morimoto
J. E. Stiteler
- CLEANERS**
Adams Bros.
Clisto Alexander
T. G. Bakan
- CLOTHING BUSINESS**
Harry Humphries
Charles Eaton
Major Mohr
Sol Sofia
Stahl Bros. Co.
C. C. Crane
Mrs. Edna Smith
- CONCRETE CO.**
Brawley Concrete Co.
- CONFECTIONERS**
Nick Lervas
Santos Ramirez
John Dahn
A. J. Villinger
V. J. Sims
- CREDIT ASSOC'ATION**
Imperial Valley Credit Ass'n.
- DAIRIES**
Chas. Malan
Mormingstar
- DENTISTS**
W. V. Ammons
A. L. Finley
A. N. Morgan
J. J. Wells
- DEPARTMENT STORES**
J. C. Penny Co.
United Dry Goods Stores
- DRESSMAKER**
Mrs. Nellie Jester
- DRUGGISTS**
Adams Drug Co.
Botica Popular
F. E. Carter
T. H. Momita
Alex Rolland
T. Takahash
- DRY GOODS STORES**
Abraham & George
Boston Store
La Famosa Store
C. S. Malouf
R. C. Martin
C. W. Palmer
Rojas Samaha
- ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS**
W. T. Applegate
E. A. Humphrey
Don McKenzie
Kendall Bros.
- FEED STORES**
Brawley Transfer and Storage
Globe Grain & Milling Company
- FRUIT BUYERS AND DEALERS**
Jesus Gonzales
American Fruit Growers
Y. Aoyama Co.
- A. Arena & Co.
Brawley Commercial Packing Co.
Gerlando Bruno
Farmers Produce Co.
S. J. Gallagher
Albert Garruilo
S. A. Gerrard Co.
J. W. Handy & Co.
K. C. Iwata Co.
Jack Bros. & McBurney
Jack S. Katerkaru
Miller Cummings Co.
H. R. Okomoto Co.
Pepper's Fruit Co.
Richmond & Smuels
Sears Bros. & Co.
Standlee & Brvan
Sunbright Produce Co.
R. Toma
T. Uchizono
Valley Beauty Fruit Co.
F. J. Yakel
- FURNITURE**
Colman Furn. Co.
- FURNITURE DEALERS**
I. V. Hardware Co.
J. M. Jiminez
Curiosity Shop
East Side Furn. Co.
Ernest Kaltenbach
- GENERAL MERCHANDISE**
R. C. Fernandez
Imperial Grain Growers
- GROCERY STORES**
Anderson's Grocery
Army & Navy
Brawley Cash Groc.
Canton Mkt.
Raymond Chavarria
Antonio de LaVera
Guadalupe del Real
Helio Dominguez
Pasqual Encinas
Garcia Bros.
Gasca & Escalara
M. D. Hachar
A. B. Hicks
Jalisco Store
Kim Wah Hing Co.
La Colonia Store
La Mexicana Groc.
Martinez Bros.
J. J. Mathews
E. W. McIntyre
Cornelio Mendoza
J. E. Miller
R. J. Mivazi
R. L. Molino
Murray Musente
Fernando Pasqueria
Piggly Wiggly
E. N. Ruiz
S. & C. Grocers
Safeway Stores
K. Sasaki
Mrs. Rosa Talamantes
Franco Tamaki
S. Tamuru
G. E. Thompson
Salvador Toledo
- HAY BUYERS**
M. P. Holladay
- HOSPITALS**
Brawley Hospital
Burger Maternity Home
- HOTELS**
Dunlack Hotel
Planters Hotel
Woodrow Wilson
- ICE COMPANIES**
Pure Ice Co.
Imp. Valley Ice & Dev. Company.
- IMPLEMENTS**
Crook Co.
Edgar Bros.
- INSURANCE EXCHANGES**
Carev Bros. Insurance
Home Rental Exchange
- JEWELERS**
J. C. Cunningham
F. T. de Arman
E. J. McEvoy
C. F. Wear
- LAUNDRIES**
Lewis Peterson
Wo Lee
Brawley Steam Ldy.
- LAWYERS**
W. E. Abraham
A. L. Seville
H. B. Stewart
F. H. Thompson
F. J. Trude
D. H. Wolford
W. I. Wilson
- LEATHER DEALERS**
A. G. Little
- LIVE STOCK DEALERS**
Anderson Bros.
L. G. Singletary
- LUMBER YARDS**
Hammond Lumber Co.
Kerckhoff-Cuzner Mill & Lbr.
McCune Lbr. Co.
Morrow Lbr. Co.
- MACHINISTS**
O. M. Walters
- MFG. AGENTS**
Don Donald
- MEAT MARKETS**
Guy Bird
Brawley Mkt.
Henry Hays
Pioneer Mkt.
- MUSIC DEALERS AND TEACHERS**
M. J. Nerbovig
Lois Yochem
- NEWS DEALERS**
J. G. Avalos
- NEWSPAPERS**
Brawley News
- NOTIONS**
J. J. Newberry
F. W. Woolworth
- NURSERIES**
C. J. Claussen
- NURSES**
Roxie Mauk
Helen Strode
Grace Wilkins
- OIL COMPANIES**
Gen'l. Petroleum Corp.
Richfield Oil Co.
Shell Oil Co.
Union Oil Co.
- OPTOMETRISTS**
R. L. Secord
- OSTEOPATHS**
Bertha Lewis
- PAINT DEALERS**
Whiting Mead Co.
Richard Cobbin
- PHOTOGRAPHERS**
R. C. Nelson
Filipe Ocampo
E. S. Ramos
- PHYSICIANS**
B. R. Davidson
A. H. Foster
J. C. Hill
J. P. Johnson
Eugene LeBaron
Raymond Lopez
J. L. Parker
- PLUMBERS**
Floyd Emerson
Harry Gates
J. L. Kennedy
Homer Nelson
- POWER COMPANIES**
Mgr. Southern Sierras Power
- PRODUCE DEALERS**
C. H. Weaver Co.
- RADIATOR REPAIR**
T. D. Geier
- REAL ESTATE**
B. E. Adams
H. C. Field
F. H. Ford
C. D. Fowler
W. W. Goodson
Lack & Hurley
Earl C. Pound
Edward Welch
- RESTAURANTS**
Al & Jack
P. C. Arwood
Babe Bennett
Domingo Cacon
Luis Casada
Kiau Gee Chang
Rafael Cordova
- Dunlack Coffee Shop
H. Fukushi
Greer Bros.
Chas. Green
Geo. Haramis
Harry's Coffee Shop
F. L. Johnson
Chris Jones
Joseph Karos
Harry Kabota
E. Kuramoto
Jesus Mardueno
P. M. Marsh
Marciano Merano
G. Mivasato
Mary Moreno
New Sun Cafe
Amy M. Olivio
Filipe Perez
Planters Hotel Coffee Shop
W. D. Psaros
Reed Bros.
Marie Resano
Wm. Riley
Jesus Romero
Guadalupe Sanchez
S. Shigemura
S. Tachiyama
Frank Taira
S. Tokunaga
James Voutsas
A. B. Wade
G. Yamasaki
- SEED STORES**
Cuff-Archias Seed Co.
Aggler Musser Seed Co.
Warner Seed Co.
- SERVICE STATIONS**
Nicholas Arundez
J. C. Applegate
Bates Service Sta.
W. H. Breon
R. T. Clay
R. B. Crvell
S. E. Jenkins
V. L. Juvenal
Laurence Serv. Sta.
Maldonado & Gallardo
McFadden & Walker
F. M. Montgomery
Nevills & Akin
Fernado Ortiz
A. W. Pahnke
Pioneer Truck & Trans.
Plaza Serv. Sta.
Paul Randolph
Roque & Pesqueria
Southern Gas Sta.
Van Fleet & Durkee
Luther Wilson
- SEWING MACHINE COS.**
Singer Sewing Machine Company
- SHEET METAL WORKS**
R. W. Divver
- SHOE STORES**
Karl Shoe Stores
Alvino de la Mora
G. V. Humphrey
A. N. Mone
- SOFT DRINKS**
Leete & Hastongs
H. Umosa
- STAGE SYSTEMS**
Pickwick Stage System
- STATIONERS**
Mrs. L. D. Barber
- TAILORS**
J. M. Venegas
- THEATRES**
Aztec Theatre
Brawley Theatre
Teatro Mexico
- TRUCKING**
James Briscow
C. C. Campbell
Im. Valley L. A. Express
Kretz Bros.
Minchu Truck & Trans.
H. S. Nichols
W. T. Rushton
P. R. Talbert
K. F. White
- UNDERTAKERS**
W. I. Hoopes
- VETER'NARIANS**
R. M. Mast
- WE'IDERS**
H. G. Maxwell

CHAPTER XXVII

HOLTVILLE

INCORPORATED JUNE 20, 1908

MEMBERS OF BOARDS OF TRUSTEES SINCE INCORPORATION

(*) Indicates Mayor

1908	Ed. E. Boyd*	Wm. Buckmaster	H. J. Messenger	Phil Rust	H. B. Hollingsworth
1909	Ed. E. Boyd*	Wm. Buckmaster	H. J. Messenger	Phil Rust	H. B. Hollingsworth
1910	Ed. E. Boyd	Walter Chaney*	H. J. Messenger	Phil Rust	H. B. Hollingsworth
1911	S. Blackman	Paul Maull*	H. J. Messenger	J. C. Nale	J. S. Bridenstine
1912	F. K. Weeks*	Tom Potts	A. R. McDonald	Phil Rust	J. A. Harvey
1913	F. K. Weeks*	Tom Potts	J. E. Benton	Phil Rust	J. A. Harvey
1914	F. K. Weeks*	J. Kavanaugh	J. E. Benton	C. Morford	E. A. Diehl
1915	F. K. Weeks*	J. Kavanaugh	J. E. Benton	C. Morford	E. A. Diehl
1916	C. D. Hartshorn*	B. L. Baker	J. M. Tredenick	C. Morford	R. R. Russell
1917	C. D. Hartshorn*	B. L. Baker	J. M. Tredenick	C. Morford	R. R. Russell
1918	C. D. Hartshorn*	B. L. Baker	J. M. Tredenick	P. L. Vreeland	Jas. Griffin
1919	C. D. Hartshorn*	B. L. Baker	M. V. Oakley	P. L. Vreeland	Jas. Griffin
1920	C. D. Hartshorn*	B. L. Baker	M. V. Oakley	P. L. Vreeland	Jas. Griffin
1921	C. D. Hartshorn*	B. L. Baker	M. V. Oakley	P. L. Vreeland	Jas. Griffin*
1922	C. D. Hartshorn*	B. L. Baker	M. V. Oakley	C. L. Shaw	W. L. Huebner
1923	C. D. Hartshorn*	H. H. Terwilliger*	C. Morford	C. L. Shaw	W. L. Huebner
1924	J. Jardin	H. H. Terwilliger	R. Thompson	C. L. Shaw	W. L. Huebner
1925	J. Jardin	H. H. Terwilliger	R. Thompson	C. L. Shaw*	W. L. Huebner
1926	J. Jardin	W. A. McGahn	R. Thompson	C. L. Shaw*	W. L. Huebner
1927	J. Jardin	W. A. McGahn*	R. Thompson	C. L. Shaw*	J. E. Armstrong
1928	P. B. Brown	W. A. McGahn	Sam Webb	C. L. Shaw	J. E. Armstrong
1929	P. B. Brown	W. E. Hartzog	Sam Webb	C. L. Shaw	J. E. Armstrong
1930	P. B. Brown	W. E. Hartzog	Sam Webb*	C. L. Shaw	M. McClelland
1931	P. B. Brown	H. J. Messenger	Sam Webb's	C. L. Shaw	M. McClelland

NOTE—P. B. Brown and W. D. Curry served short terms as trustees in 1913.

Frank McCown was elected trustee in April, resigned in May, 1914, E. A. Diehl was appointed.

King L. Kendle, elected trustee in April, 1914, resigned in July. J. E. Benton was appointed.

John Kavanaugh resigned in October, 1915 and R. W. Hoover was appointed.

J. E. Benton resigned in October, 1915, and B. L. Baker was appointed.

OTHER CITY OFFICERS

Year	Clerk	Treasurer	Marshal	Attorney	Recorder
1908	J. S. White, Jr.	R. Webster	W. Snowden	M. W. Conkling	Sam Webb
1909	L. P. Sargent	R. Webster	G. F. Pinney	J. W. Griffin	B. E. Wilhite
1910	W. J. Seat	R. Webster	G. F. Pinney	J. W. Griffin	B. E. Wilhite
1911	Leroy Main	R. Webster	Bert Underwood	J. W. Griffin	B. E. Wilhite
1912	Leroy Main	R. Webster	Theo. Thompson	W. H. Sprague	C. W. Barton
1913	Leroy Main	R. Webster	Theo. Thompson	W. H. Sprague	A. R. McDonald
1914	Elizabeth Mercer	R. Webster	Theo. Thompson	E. L. Hutchins	G. W. Haviland
1915	Elizabeth Mercer	R. Webster	D. A. Starbuck	E. L. Hutchins	E. J. Norrish
1916	C. W. Hayes	R. Webster	W. H. Cornelison	J. E. Simpson	E. J. Norrish
1917	C. G. Frisbie	R. Webster	C. L. Gillett	J. E. Simpson	E. J. Norrish
1918	Ida B. Robinson	M. C. Blanchard	C. L. Gillett	J. E. Simpson	E. J. Norrish
1919	Ida B. Robinson	M. C. Blanchard	C. L. Gillett	J. E. Simpson	A. R. McDonald
1920	Ida B. Robinson	M. C. Blanchard	C. L. Gillett	J. E. Simpson	A. R. McDonald
1921	Ida B. Robinson	M. C. Blanchard	C. L. Gillett	J. E. Simpson	A. R. McDonald
1922	Ida B. Robinson	M. C. Blanchard	C. L. Gillett	J. E. Simpson	A. R. McDonald
1923	Dale G. Cooper	M. C. Blanchard	M. P. Harris	D. B. Roberts	A. R. McDonald
1924	Dale G. Cooper	M. C. Blanchard	James Humphrey	D. B. Roberts	A. R. McDonald
1925	Dale G. Cooper	M. C. Blanchard	Allen Keene	D. B. Roberts	A. R. McDonald
1926	Dale G. Cooper	M. C. Blanchard	— Feland	Ed. Law	A. L. Harris
1927	Dale G. Cooper	M. C. Blanchard	W. H. Cornelison	Ed. Law	A. L. Harris
1928	E. M. Carpenter	M. C. Blanchard	W. H. Cornelison	Ed. Law	A. L. Harris
1929	E. M. Carpenter	S. E. Shaw	W. H. Cornelison	Ed. Law	A. L. Harris
1930	E. M. Carpenter	S. E. Shaw	W. H. Cornelison	Ed. Law	A. L. Harris
1931	E. M. Carpenter	S. E. Shaw	W. H. Cornelison	D. B. Roberts	A. L. Harris

The assessed valuation in 1931 was \$1,407,047.

NOTE—In 1915 the city manager form of government was established. D. A. Starbuck was appointed manager. He was also City Marshal.

Roger C. Webster, City Treasurer since incorporation in 1908, resigned in 1917. Miss Lena Bridenstine was appointed.

S. M. Smyser served as City Recorder a few months in 1925.

HOLTVILLE

IT WAS natural that the builders of Imperial Valley should visualize a town east of the Alamo River. From the first it was recognized as a great district with rich, soft soil. Experienced farmers were eager to bring its broad acres under cultivation. Water Companies No. 5 and No. 7 were laid out and their stock put on the market. Being in need of ready cash the California Development Company approved the sale of large blocks of this stock at wholesale prices to W. F. Holt. In the contract he was given the townsite rights to the territory. What was also an important item the right to produce electric power was a part of the bargain.

Mr. Holt lost no time. In August, 1903, he announced that a company had been formed with a capital of \$500,000.00 and that the town of Holton would be built on the line between No. 5 and No. 7, which was adjacent to a forty foot drop in the Alamo River where power could be generated. Before developments had gone very far the name was changed to Holtville at the suggestion of the post office department.

Within two months the company began the building of a power plant, the townsite was platted and a townsite office established in a tent. The town was designed with a plaza park in the center of the business district and this has always been a feature of Holtville. Business lots all faced the plaza. Prices were high to prevent speculation but concessions were made to those who would actually build and start in business.

Mr. Holt carried on the promotion of the town, the building of the power plant and the settlement of the surrounding farm lands all at the same time. Owning the water stock he sold it to farmers on very easy terms, helped many of them buy improvements and animals with which to reclaim their holdings and thus helped many a family to become settlers in the Holtville district. He did the same way with many who wished to engage in business in the new town. He built the Alamo hotel, established a bank, started a newspaper, and gave practical encouragement to all who looked with favor on the east side as a place to live.

The people who settled on the east side, farmers and business men alike, were fired with a vision of success from the start. They were pioneers with the spirit that never allowed them to give up so they worked with a will and came to see the country settled and producing great crops.

The record of these achievements is the record of a people who started at zero, for few of them were wealthy to start with. What they have done has been accomplished with their own hands.

From 1903 until 1907 these records are mostly gained from the files of the Imperial Press. After 1907 they come from the files of the Holtville Tribune and from the pioneers themselves, many of whom still live in and around Holtville.



Holtville in 1903

1903

In November, Mr. Holt arrived with F. C. Bayless, of Redlands, who is to be superintendent of construction for the townsite company. They brought five tents, each 18x30 which were used as hotel, office and living rooms until more substantial buildings were put up.

Owing to the policy of the townsite company, to permit nothing but brick construction in the business section, numerous buildings planned await the burning of brick which Harbour & Peterson will have under way late in December. The first structure planned is the Alamo hotel, at a cost of \$15,000. This will be the largest building in the Valley 50x100, two stories, surrounded by ten foot veranda with every sleeping room opening upon it. The ground floor will be used for offices, stores, dining room, etc. Work will also begin on the new power plant which is expected to be ready and furnishing electricity late next summer. A bridge is being built across the Alamo. Telephone connection with Imperial will soon take place.

J. F. Boyd, of Redlands, is receiving fifteen carloads of lumber to stock a lumber yard.

J. S. Bridenstine, postmaster at Eastside, (north of the townsite), has petitioned the government to move the office to Holton.

W. F. Holt purchased 640 acres adjoining the townsite to H. L. Brown, at \$21 per acre.

W. F. Gillett bought eighty acres in No. 7 for \$22 per acre.

Contract for the building of a railroad from Imperial to Holton has been given to R. A. Holt and Henry Mitchell. The route will run direct west from Holtville, to a point three miles west of Imperial on the Valley branch.

Rev. H. B. Hollingsworth, of Craig, Neb., began holding regular church services for the Christian church in the tent, Dec. 6th.

The first frame building was the office of the Holton Town & Power Co. Three weeks after the townsite was placed on the market, \$27,000 worth of town property has been sold.

M. P. Harris was hauling freight from Imperial. Mrs. Harris was the first woman resident. Their daughter, Callie, now Mrs. E. C. Kaiser, was the first child to register for the new Holtville school.

Main canal east of Sharpe's heading broke through its banks for the second time and cut off the water supply

for Nos. 7 and 5 for three weeks, causing much annoyance and great loss.

The first Christmas celebration took place in the Christian church, with an appropriate program.

The annual meeting of water company No. 5 resulted in the election of F. N. Chaplin, S. E. Gibson, I. W. Silliman, W. F. Holt, and P. H. McPherrin.

The name of the new railroad is officially set forth in the incorporation papers filed with the county clerk as the Holton Inter-Urban Railroad Co., with capital stock of \$200,000. W. F. Holt is president and C. A. Baker, secretary.

1904

Harbour & Peterson are burning brick with an oil burner.

Young & Van Horn, Taggart & Gillett are the firms moving dirt on the Holton Power canal.

The townsite of Holton has been prepared for tree planting. Twelve hundred palms and as many pepper trees will be set out.

C. J. Schenck opened his store in temporary quarters.

Miss Mittie U. Meyers, of Reno, came to look over her land and found she had to cross the Alamo river at flood time. The water was 400 feet wide and three feet deep. A rope was tied about her waist and Bert Chaplin held the end while F. N. Chaplin led the young woman into the water. They waded the river, examined the land and returned safely. The next summer Miss Meyers became the bride of F. N. Chaplin.

The name of the town of Holton was changed to Holtville.

The grading camps for workmen on the Holton Interurban branch have been moved to Holtville. Grading will be completed in March.

Brick laying on the new hotel is progressing rapidly.

W. F. Holt is giving almost his entire time to his various east side projects such as the townsite, power plant, railroad and building projects.

Dr. C. S. Lombard has finished leveling his ranch home north of Holtville.

Two locomotives have been purchased for the new railroad. They will be delivered some time during the summer.

New officers of Water Co. No. 7: President and treasurer, W. F. Holt; Vice-President, H. L. Peck; Secretary and Superintendent, Capt. J. N. Patton; Assistant Secretary, F. N. Chaplin. The headquarters of the company were moved from Los Angeles to Holtville.

Porter N. Ferguson came from Oklahoma with his family to visit his brother, A. C. Ferguson, but has decided to sell everything in Oklahoma and move to the valley.

Albert Underwood and brother H. P. Underwood arrived from Montana. They filed on 320 acres south of Holtville.

Postmaster J. S. Bridenstine has received orders to move the Eastside postoffice from his ranch to town and call it Holtville. M. Sargent was assistant postmaster and handled the first mail in the new office. Shoe boxes were used as the first equipment.

Two hundred acres of town lots have been leveled and seeded to alfalfa.



Ed. Boyd

C. J. Schenck

Roger Webster

(See Pioneer Sketch)

J. S. Bridenstine has been appointed justice of the peace and constable.

K. L. Kendle, Chas. Jones, Webb Belden, M. P. Harris, J. F. Boyd, all from Redlands, are in business in Holtville.

The Holton Town Co. has sold to the Emerson Realty Co. the unsold portion of the lots and blocks in Holtville; also 300 acres at the junction of the Holton-Inter-Urban with the S. P. branch, three miles south of Imperial.

Twenty-five teams with scrapers are repairing the damage done to the No. 5 heading.

Construction work on the Holtville railroad is held up on account of lack of laborers.

C. J. Schenck is putting up a big adobe business building.

Holtville has church services every Sunday. One Sunday each month being given to the Presbyterian, Methodists, Christians and M. E. South.

The trustees of the school district in No. 7 are C. H. Trego, G. W. Pendleton and Wm. Lindsey. They have employed Miss Ella Pendleton as teacher.

RAILROAD COMPLETED

A great event was the regular train service established over the Holton Inter-Urban between Holtville and Imperial September 15, 1904. The road has two engines, passenger coach and some freight cars. Six carloads of freight arrived the first five days the road was in commission.

M. P. Harris made his last regular trip to Imperial as mail carrier September 14.

Dr. Moseley, of Redlands, will soon build a brick block.

School opened with Mrs. Mary Keep as teacher. There are 17 pupils. The school house has a large bell.

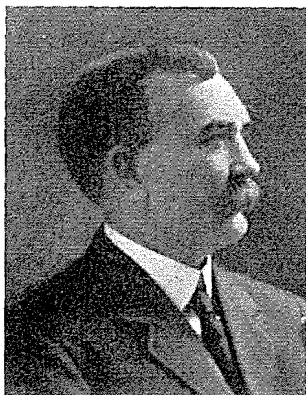
H. J. Messenger plans to open a feed yard.

The first carload of out bound freight was hay from C. S. Lombard's ranch, consigned to Redlands.

Three carloads of electrical machinery arrived October 15 for the new power plant.

Schenck's new story building was the scene of a big dance. A special train was run from Imperial, the Imperial band gave a concert.

Between 300 and 400 people attended Thanksgiving day picnic in the new Alamo hotel under the auspices of the newly organized Iowa society, of which J. S. Bridenstine is president and W. B. Richards is secretary. The decorations were kaffir and Egyptian corn, greasewood and chrysanthemums.



R. A. Holt
(See Pioneer Sketches)

H. P. Thiesen and family arrived from Iowa with a carload of household goods, two dairy cows and a number of chickens.

Ex-Governor Powers of Mississippi, will soon move on his ranch property.

Mr. and Mrs. Dick Jordan were married in Whittier. Mr. Jordan is zanjero in No. 7.

Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Murphy are driving in a herd of 30 dairy cows from Jamacha.

Lumber by the carload is arriving for the numerous buildings to be erected by W. F. Holt.

Water Co. No. 7 had three assessments and no man's stock has been sold for assessments. This happy condition is the result of the fatherly, watchful care of W. F. Holt, who has found a way for those who could not find it themselves to get the assessment money.

1905

Phil W. Brooks is building a house on his school section west of Holtville.

Enough cantaloupe seeds to put in 400 acres have arrived in Holtville.

A town band is being organized.

Eastside melon growers organized a producers association with 300 acres in sight. W. F. Holt, F. N. Chaplin, H. L. Peck, J. N. Patton and J. W. Hollister are the directors.

A purse of \$125 was presented to Rev. H. B. Hollingsworth in appreciation of his devoted work in establishing the Christian church.

J. B. Baker, of Imperial, installed a printing plant and started publication of the Holtville Tribune for W. F. Holt.

The new Alamo hotel has been furnished and put into commission. Mrs. Chase is in charge. It was formally opened Friday, March 24. The event was a gala day for the residents.

The postoffice will be in the new K. L. Kendle building.

Guests at a party given by Elmer L. Bayless: Oliver Thayer, Nannie Rhodes, Willie and Oliver Butcher, Carl Bayless, Ollie Patton, Sena and Edith Tuft, Virgil and Harold Best, Callie Harris, Elmer and Vernie Bayless.

F. N. Chaplin has moved from Imperial to Holtville.

The entertainment given by Mrs. Grace Powers Srack was quite a treat.

The wagon bridge across the Alamo has been entirely loosened by the flood, and serious damage to the railroad bridge will result if the bridge breaks away from where it is anchored.

Editor J. B. Baker of the Holtville Tribune has built an addition to his office.

The G. W. Belden ranch home surrounded with trees and flowers, is a popular gathering place for East side people.

An 11-pound son born to Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Messenger was the first male child born in Holtville.

Mary Ella Webb, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Sam Webb, was the first girl born in Holtville. She arrived July 12, 1905.

The first grain crop on the east side will total 50,000 sacks, valued at \$40,000.

Rev. H. H. Croco held church services at the Pioneer lodging house.

Ed E. Boyd, son of the lumberman, is in the real estate business.

Geo. Maxfield is teaching the Holtville school.

Friends of Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Beasley gave them a surprise party.

The new Holtville chamber of commerce has organized with J. S. Bridenstine, president; M. Vermilya, secretary and King L. Kendle, treasurer.

M. Huebner of Kansas, has been put in charge of the F. N. Chaplin ranch.

John B. Baker, editor of the Tribune, has taken over the management of the Calexico Chronicle. He will conduct both papers for W. F. Holt.

Attorney F. J. Cole, recently arrived from Iowa, has received his notary's commission from Washington.

The new power plant was put into commission and the electric lights burned brilliantly in Holtville.

1906

The office of the Holtville Tribune and its contents were entirely destroyed by fire. The loss falls heavily on J. B. Baker, the editor. He will continue publication of the Tribune from the Chronicle plant at Calexico.

A large crowd attended the opening of the new library and reading room.

1907

The dairymen on the Eastside have organized a company for the purpose of building a creamery at Holtville. The directors: W. F. Gillett, W. G. Belden, Geo. Whitlock, F. S. Best and C. L. Jessup. Whitlock was president.

I. P. Silliman has resigned as president of Water Co. No. 5. Elected to fill the vacancy was Porter N. Ferguson.

Shortage of water in the power canal causes vexatious interruptions in electric service all over the valley.

The new creamery in Holtville is now in the course of construction.

Holtville boasts the only library building in the valley, located in a handsome building in the center of the park. It is in charge of Mrs. Stevenson.

J. B. Baker has purchased a new printing outfit to replace the one destroyed by fire and will resume publication of the Tribune as soon as the plant is ready.

Franklin J. Cole attorney, denies the rumor that he is ineligible to run for superior judge.

Holtville went through the county division campaign well satisfied that three of her citizens were elected to county offices. Judge Cole, to the superior court; Paul Boman, county treasurer; J. B. Baker, county recorder.

Editor Baker has turned over the Holtville Tribune to Geo. L. Cook as editor and manager, while he runs the office of county recorder.

Dr. Wm. Elmendorf, who came to the valley in 1902, died in Santa Ana.

Water Co. No. 11 has been formed with the following officers: President, J. W. Prim; vice-president, C. W. Hayes; secretary, C. H. Kamm; treasurer, G. L. Dutcher.

1908

Holtville citizens were much wrought up over the action of one Luther Phelps, whose business seemed to be to find insignificant technical defects in land filings and sell his information to some to contest the claim. A committee of citizens with masks on took Phelps into the country, man-handled him somewhat and showed him a barrel of hot tar. He was thoroughly frightened and turned loose. Recognizing two of the band of citizens Phelps made complaint and had L. Asbury and Ed Boyd arrested. Deputy District Attorney Phil D. Swing conducted the prosecution before Justice Sam Webb. Before the trial was fairly under way Phelps asked that the charges be dismissed, which was done. A collection was taken to pay his traveling expenses and a guard escorted him to Imperial Junction.

Articles of incorporation are filed by the Alamo Live Stock company of Holtville. Directors, J. Roy Wimp, Roy E. Breedlove, and Archie Thompson.

Advertisers in number of the Tribune, June 7, 1907, issued from the new plant installed after the fire of June 15, 1906: National Lumber Co., Paul Maull, Manager; Citizens' Bank, W. F. Holt, President; R. G. Webster, Cashier; Pioneer Truck Co., M. P. Harris; L. Swindle, real estate; Hotel Alamo, Mrs. H. J. Kohlstedt; Holton Power Co., Thos Bethurum, blacksmith; Sam Webb, blacksmith; Southern Pacific; Holtville Market, E. A. Holland; Pioneer Store, J. S. Bridenstine; Ed. E. Boyd Realty Co.; C. J. Schenck, beekeepers supplies; Franklin J. Cole, attorney; New York Store, of Imperial.

During April and May, 1907, O. B. Tout conducted the Holtville Tribune from the plant of the Calexico Chronicle.

During the county seat campaign in the summer of 1907 Holtville sided strongly with El Centro and helped put that town over for the county seat. Holtville was well represented amongst officers. Franklin J. Cole was elected Superior Judge; J. B. Baker was elected Recorder and Paul Boman was elected Treasurer. A complete history of the county seat matter will be found in the chapters devoted to county history.

The first sewer in Holtville was from the hotel to the Alamo River. Two carloads of pipe were used.

Holtville officially elected delegates to the non-partisan convention for the nomination of county officers were: H. B. Hollingsworth, King L. Kendle, H. J. Messenger, M. B. Cook, Ed E. Boyd, Paul Boman, Edwin Mead, J. N. Patton, A. R. (Bert) Underwood, F. J. Cole, J. B. Baker and Wm. B. Richards.



Sam Webb
(See Pioneer Sketch)

Porter N. Ferguson was elected supervisor for the Holtville district.

Geo. L. Campbell, of Silsbee, was an independent candidate for Recorder. J. B. Baker, editor of the Holtville Tribune, was also a candidate. In Baker's paper he said: "Mr. Campbell is qualified to fill the position. If you cannot vote for us, vote for him."

Water Co. No. 11 was organized with J. H. Prim president.

R. L. Rumsey, of El Centro, purchased the C. J. Schenck store.

The Holton Inter-Urban put into service a new thirty-passenger gasoline motor car.

Sam Webb and M. P. Harris qualified as the first Justice and Constable for the east side in the new county organization.

Holtville's new school building was completed and used in September. Miss Ethel Free was principal and Miss Harriet Thompson her assistant. Dr. Greenleaf presented the school with a handsome flag.

Geo. L. Cook had charge of the Tribune when J. B. Baker assumed his duties as County Recorder. In October Cook departed without announcement.

P. L. Hedrick, civil engineer, arrived from Chicago to make the Valley his permanent home.

L. P. Sargent, after a second visit, decided to settle in Holtville.

H. T. Neidiffer, general merchandise, came to valley in 1907.

H. J. Messenger built a new livery barn, bought a number of driving horses, new harness and new buggies. His livery business thrived.

Bert Underwood carried off first prize in a broncho bust.

Holtville's population doubled in four months in the fall of 1907.

A new library was installed in the Plaza by the co-operative efforts of the citizens. Concerts and programs were given to provide money for new books.

The Citizens Bank was sold by W. F. Holt to Clarence Harden and Leroy Holt in January.

Geo. Crocker opened a drug store in the Holt block.

B. E. Wilhite and family arrived from Arlington. Mr. Wilhite is a bee and Nursery man.

The Desert Farmer was the name of a new magazine monthly publication published by J. B. Baker with C. W. Collins manager. It dealt with farm topics in an able manner.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Until February, 1908, the Holtville Chamber of Commerce was an organization with a name and that was about all. Dr. Greenleaf, as president, and Ed E. Boyd as secretary, had done most of the work that devolved upon such an organization. In February numerous citizens answered a call for a meeting at which time a committee, consisting of C. H. Eckert, Wm. Richards, Rev. Aldrich, G. M. Vermilya, and H. B. Shaw, was appointed to plan for a new organization.

Walter P. Chaney, lumberman, was the President.

S. E. Shaw, manager Holtville Bank, came to Valley in 1908 from Kansas.

A new jail was erected by the county in Holtville. The first occupant was a Mexican named Romero who beat his wife.

Dr. G. T. Greenleaf, who planted the first tree in the city's park and was President of the first Chamber of Commerce, died in April. All places of business were closed for the funeral.

J. A. Cole and J. D. McCary were agent and telegraph operator at the Holton Inter-Urban depot.

Fraser & Jones purchased a section of land adjacent to the townsite for \$35,000.

L. W. Jackson and C. W. Hunt, of Needles, wished to move to Holtville so they loaded their belongings into a boat and made the trip by river and the Alamo, arriving safely.

INCORPORATION

Citizens of Holtville, not to be outdone by the other towns of the Valley, decided to incorporate Holtville as a city of the sixth class. The following signed the original petition: Louis Knappley, W. A. Hoyt, Ed E. Boyd, James R. Speer, R. A. Holt, L. F. Gray, E. H. Mitchell, P. A. Rust, H. J. Messenger, Thos. Bethurum, Harry Hemus, C. A. Noyes, H. C. Beasley, M. P. Harris, M. S. Cook, J. R. Proctor, F. R. Barber, H. J. Williams, Wm. Buckmaster, Jas. R. White, Geo. Crocker, G. R. Colvert, E. A. Holland, J. V. Taggart, H. R. Frensdorf, Lloyd A. Bath, H. V. Conrow, I. S. Briggs, F. M. Morris, A. M. Mealey, Geo. R. Jones, K. F. Sharpe, Geo. W. Cummins, Carl Morford, S. M. Hughes, F. E. Walker, Wm. Bethurum, Geo. D. Doan, H. O. Wentworth, Paul Maull, A. W. Dowling, L. P. Sargent, R. G. Webster, D. W. Tillinghast, Ed. Millholland, John W. Holland, John W. Henderson, H. E. Clay, Geo. W. Irey, W. L. Snowden, Sam Webb, C. M. Tyner, King L. Kendall, W. E. Johnson, R. W. Maddux, and J. H. Free.

Ed. Boyd, M. S. Cook and R. G. Webster was the committee which presented the petition to the Board of Supervisors.

The petition was granted and election date set for June 20, 1908.

The ticket nominated by a meeting of citizens without opposition was unanimously elected. Ed E. Boyd, H. B. Hollingsworth, H. J. Messenger, P. A. Rust and Wm. Buckmaster were the first trustees. J. S. White, Jr., was

City Clerk but resigned soon. L. P. Sargent was named in his place. Wm. Snowden was City Marshal and R. G. Webster was Treasurer.

Incorporation carried by a vote of 56 to 8. The new board organized with Ed E. Boyd as President and therefore the first Mayor of Holtville. The first ordinance was prohibiting liquor.

Sidewalk laying started in May.

Anderson & Meyer, recently of San Diego, purchased the grocery and hardware stocks of the King L. Kendle store in June. This was the start of the Imperial Valley Hardware Co.

A Credit Association was formed by merchants with Paul Maull as President.

Item: "Anderson & Meyer have a phonograph in their store, the music from which is enjoyed very much by our citizens."

The Woodmen of the World were quite active in social events, holding dances, card parties, etc.

Varney Bros., pioneer Valley firm, opened their Holtville store in November, 1908, with L. A. Biggs as manager.

In November the Chamber of Commerce arranged a fine welcome for the Southern California Editorial Association which visited the Valley. A real turkey dinner was a feature.

The new Methodist church was completed and dedicated in November.

The first Catholic service was held November 9, 1908.

The Christian church was completed and dedicated December 13. Rev. C. J. Upton was pastor during the building period.

Alamo Camp, Royal Neighbors, was organized in December with Miss Lizzie Smith as Oracle.

Mesdames Stevenson, Blair and Ott; Messrs. Boyd, Maull, Webster, Myers, Vermilya and Beldon formed a library board which had charge of the City Library.

J. S. Bridenstine, postmaster since the beginning, was notified in December that Holtville would be a third class office in January.

The Trustees asked Marshal Snowden to resign and he refused, being an elected officer. His bondsmen withdrew and the board declared the office vacant, naming M. E. Pinney to the place.

Anderson & Meyers purchased a hardware business in Calexico and Geo. Anderson moved to that city to develop it.

1909

B. E. Wilhite had a cheese cloth seed house in which he was growing 25,000 orange trees, 1000 palms and 500 umbrella trees.

A Cemetery Association was formed with J. S. Bridenstine as President.

An \$18,000 school bond issue carried in May. The Holtville High School district was formed in May. An issue of \$65,000 was voted to erect a building.

For the first time Holtville had direct telegraphic communication with Los Angeles.

Rev. C. F. Seymour was the new pastor of the M. E. church.

The Holtville Farmer's Union was organized in September. Philo Brooks was President.

In October \$37,000 was voted for the purchase and improvement of the city's water works.

The Fraternal Brotherhood was organized with L. A. Biggs President.

The Valley responded eagerly to Holtville's hospitable invitation to "come and get it" at Christmas time. Five thousand people enjoyed the free turkey and barbecue repast. This was the first of Holtville's famous New Year fiestas which were carried on for a number of years.

Among the citizens mentioned in the Tribune in March, 1909, as "those who can be trusted to say a good word for the town and country were: Ed E. Boyd, J. W. Griffin, J. S. White, B. E. Wilhite, R. G. Webster, L. P. Sargent, J. H. Whitlock, Geo. Crocker, H. B. Gillispie, Mc. D. Rookledge, J. Schoenthal, O. R. Ervin, L. E. Barnett, J. N. Patton, Geo. A. Trumbo, A. R. Underwood, C. R. Campbell, S. U. Bunnell, A. M. Mealey, C. V. Lott, F. B. Weeks, Walter Chaney, A. F. Robertson, L. A. Biggs, W. C. Crane, D. K. Goode, P. L. Hedrick, E. H. Eckert, L. D. Smith, R. A. Blair, G. W. Anderson, Wm. B. Buckmaster, L. W. Ott, P. M. Power, M. A. Kennon, L. Knaply, John Kunz, C. E. Dutcher, G. F. Pinnev, A. F. Moos eau, G. W. Haviland, E. A. Holland, W. D. Maddox, L. F. Gray, Paul Maull, J. M. Prim, R. L. Allum, J. L. Dutcher, B. F. Herndon, J. F. Gamble, A. D. Ploeg, H. O. Wood, D. H. Williams, Geo. Kothe, H. T. Jones, S. C. Blackman, E. R. Brooks, H. J. Messenger, Phil Rust, H. B. Hollingsworth, W. J. Seat, King L. Kendle, Thos. Bethurum, M. P. Harris, P. Reynolds, W. F. Robinson, J. S. Bridenstine, Sam Webb, R. A. Holt, J. S. White, G. W. Belden, W. P. Chaney. This list, of course did not contain all the names of Holtville's progressive citizens.

1910

ARTESIAN WATER

Holtville was delighted in January at the discovery of artesian water at a depth of 825 feet. A second well came in strong at 1075 feet. The water was 102 degrees temperature and slightly sulphur. It was deemed just right for swimming and a natatorium company was formed by Sam Webb, H. P. Meyer, F. L. Rochefort, J. V. Taggart, Warren Currier, L. A. Biggs, M. P. Harris, E. R. Brooks, H. G. Sheppard, J. B. Whitlock, M. N. Weesner, J. N. Patton, F. I. Hardison, G. N. Apkins, J. W. Griffin, Paul Maull, S. C. Blackman, W. P. Chaney. H. G. Sheppard was made manager. A huge natatorium was built and was a Valley-wide attraction as a fine swimming pool.

Building demands taxed the capacity of the Holtville brick plant. Manager Sid Blackman burned 300,000 at a time and they were gone as soon as made.

The Davis creamery was burned in June.

The Butterfield cotton gin was built in September.

Rev. F. P. Morgan was pastor of the M. E. church in the fall.

Ed E. Boyd was elected supervisor in November.

The 50,000 gallon steel water tank was put into commission in December.

1911

The second annual fiesta was even more popular than the first. Holtville raised hundreds of dollars to defray

the expense and furnished turkey dinner free to everybody.

A Citizen's League was formed in February with F. K. Weeks as President. The purpose was the closer enforcement of the law.

Holtville favored the organization of the Irrigation District under the provisions of the Bridgford Act and so voted in July, helping to form the new district.

1912

The third fiesta showed that some 10,000 people of the Valley liked Holtville's free barbecue and the way Holtville treated visitors. Dave Williams, Phil Brooks and the rest of the hardworking committees found themselves somewhat swamped.

Sixty tons of cheese were manufactured on the Hale ranch in 60 days.

The Knights of Pythias were organized in April with G. W. Johnson as Chancellor Commander.

The Holtville branch of the county library was established in May. Mrs. W. F. Robinson was librarian. The board was composed of Mrs. B. Gillispie, Mrs. John Kavanaugh, Mrs. Warren Currier, J. A. Harvey, and T. C. Potts.

At the annual election of the volunteer fire department in June Bert Trowbridge was again chosen chief.

In December Rev. John A. Berry was pastor of the M. E. church.

Mr. and Mrs. Bert Underwood named their new baby daughter "Buick" after the winning car in the Valley auto race.

The Chamber of Commerce, experiencing the lack of public interest that usually attend such civic organizations, was changed to the Holtville Commercial Club and Warren Currier, as Secretary, worked up some enthusiasm. J. R. Strang was President.

At the dedication of the new high school building Rev. F. Morgan, C. D. Hartshorn, W. J. Seat, W. F. Gillett, P. C. Curtis, Warren Currier, O. N. Shaw, Principal V. Smith took part in the program.

The Holtville Baptist church was dedicated in April, 1912.

Miss Zettie Stephens was the only graduate from the High School in 1912—and the first.

The men of the east side enjoyed coyote hunts—whether they found any coyotes or not. A coon, a wildcat and a jack rabbit was the sum total of wild animals captured by one group of fifty. The jack rabbit was run over by Harvey Beasley who was running in the same direction as the rabbit. Beasley was in a hurry to see the coon killed.

More than a dozen artesian wells were flowing around Holtville before the end of 1912. J. D. McNeil handled the drilling of most of them.

The "Booster's Club" was an organization with 200 members. Its meeting place was raided by city officers who broke into lockers. The officers were accused of malicious destruction of property and were themselves arrested. The Tribune neglected to record what went with the barrels of beer captured. This strife between factions, wet and dry, was similar in each of the Valley towns.

The Anderson & Meyer Hardware Company was growing so that in December, 1912, the name was changed to

Imperial Valley Hardware Co. The firm then had branches in Calexico, Holtville, Brawley and El Centro and a capitalization of \$200,000.

1913

The New Year fiesta was in the hands of the following: D. H. Williams, general chairman; tug of war, T. E. Cox; relay race, Wm. Tufts; transportation, J. B. Baker, O. R. Ervin and G. A. Kuhry; advertising, J. B. Baker and C. W. Barton; finance, Dave Williams, Ernest Edwards, J. C. Kendrick, Howard Jones, Robert Blair, H. J. V. Blake, Jos. Pendleton, C. B. Patton; chef, Vaughn Azdherian (and what a chef he was!) food committee, Mesdames J. S. Bridenstine, C. N. Tufts, Warren Currier, H. C. Beasley, Phil Brooks, J. K. Fahring, Carl Morford, Harry Hemus, Dees, and every other lady in Holtville who baked pies; barbecue helpers, F. M. Shumate, Robert Blair, Carl Morford, Warren Currier, A. R. McDonald, S. E. Robinson and J. A. Harvey; reception, J. W. Griffin and all the real estate men, lawyers, doctors, ministers and school teachers in town. This illustrates the size and scope of this annual undertaking of hospitality engaged in by the citizens of Holtville. The 1913 event was attended by 13,000 people.

In 1913 residents began to take more pride in their home surroundings—and to build better homes. During the year a number of very good homes were erected.

J. H. Watson claimed to have built the very first house on the east side of the Alamo. He said that J. S. Bridenstine's home was built shortly after his. He took up his land in 1901 and ordered the lumber cut in the yards in East Highlands. It was shipped down to within three miles of Brawley, loaded on a wagon and taken to his land where the house was built. He sold the place to Ed Gorman in 1910 for \$60,000.

The work done to secure the sand hill road toward Yuma by Supervisor Ed F. Boyd and other Holtville citizens is recounted in the chapters devoted to County History. It was a long, hard pull but was finally put over. No other citizen did as much as Ed Boyd in this matter.

The Holtville Co-Operative Creamery was one of the assets of the east side. In 1913 the directors were P. N. Ferguson, C. F. Bartlett, I. W. McGrew, Geo. A. Kennall and Wm. Allen.

W. F. Gillett, one of the earliest of pioneers, in the grocery business in Holtville in 1913, sold his stores at Verde and Barbara and centered his attention on his Holtville store. His firm was the Gillett Mercantile Co.

C. W. Barton and Porter N. Ferguson were candidates for director of the Irrigation District in February. Ferguson was elected to succeed himself.

J. W. Stapp, pump man for the city, built the fire tower for the new fire bell.

P. B. Brown was named postmaster by Congressman Kettner in 1913, succeeding J. S. Bridenstine who had held the place since the post office was established in 1903. The post office was moved to the newly erected Rookledge building.

The Masonic temple was erected in 1913 at a cost of \$17,000.

Land prices at the time were indicated by three sales made: J. C. Schenck sold 160 acres south of town to Henry Stroven at \$100 per acre; Stroven sold his ranch on the north side of town at \$175 per acre; the W. C. Shepard place five miles from town sold for \$135 an acre.

Rev. R. W. Chamberlain was pastor of the new Baptist church.

C. W. Record, who was Holtville's first buttermaker, returned to the Valley and was working on the new high line canal.

Athletic stunts, a parade, a ball game, public speaking and fireworks at night marked Holtville's first real Fourth of July celebration in 1913.

Mrs. B. G. Garrett was chosen on a jury in the Holtville city court and thereby became the first woman in Imperial County to serve on any jury.

The Holtville Leader, published by Richard McGregor, appeared in Holtville in September. The Leader was not a permanent venture.

Edwin L. Hutchins, attorney, opened law offices in Holtville in September.

An election provided \$33,000 for a sewer farm and lines in the city.

The Arcade theatre was formally opened October 22.

Holtville led the Valley in butter production. During the year ending September 30, 1,534,467 pounds were shipped.

In November the ladies of the Episcopal church organized an Altar Guild with Miss Helen Trost President.

Mrs. Vaughn Francis was President of the Woman's Study Club.

E. J. Norrish was President of the Cow Testing Association which was making a good record

Warren Currier was again Secretary of the Commercial Club.

1914

Fifteen thousand guests visited Holtville for the 1914 New Year Fiesta to enjoy the free barbecue and watch the sports program arranged by the citizens. This was the fifth annual event of its kind.

Recorder A. R. McDonald resigned his position and G. W. Haviland was appointed. Haviland was also Justice of the Peace for Holtville township.

Mark Rose, Phil Brooks and C. L. Gillett were Holtville representatives in the Homeseeker's Association which was formed to induce the Government to restore certain lands to entry for the purpose of reclamation.

The Holtville Tribune celebrated its ninth birthday February 27 by installing an Intertype typesetting machine.

The voters established the commission form of city government at the April election. Elizabeth Mercer was elected City Clerk.

Not one vote was cast against the \$50,000 grade school bond issue in April.

Owing to the revolution in Mexico and the danger of cross-boundary bandit raids a home guard company was formed. The following men volunteered: Frank Berigan, B. C. Lytle, Sam Baker, Ed Boyd, Lloyd Bath, L. H. Warden, Homer Robinson, Mr. Varney, W. W. Bethurum, Rav Bowers, Warren Currier, Tracy Davis, Frank Shumate, Sid Graves, Bill Lorenz, J. A. Simkins, C. C. Haines, Mr. Hawley, Leo Manning, Sid Blackman, John Holybee, P. B. Brown, David Bethurum, J. F. Kaufman, C. P. Jessie,

J. A. Simpson, Phil Rust, J. F. Collins, W. Brown. Others joined at later dates.

Mrs. J. K. Fahring was President of the Woman's Study Club.

The high school had ten graduates in June.

The postoffice was raised to second class in July. Stamp sales for the year amounted to \$9,810.54.

A city ordinance established a health board. The members appointed: Dr. J. W. Bordwell, T. J. Thompson, D. A. Starbuck, Carl Morford and J. C. Nale.

City assessed valuation was \$709,400.

The Holtville Volunteer Fire Department was reorganized in August with the following officers: Chief, J. V. Taggart, Sr.; Assistant Chief, A. R. Underwood; Foreman, A. B. Cravath; Hoseman, Geo. Huebner; Nozzleman, C. L. Gillett; Secretary-Treasurer, R. R. Russell.

A notable criminal case was when Edgar Byrd shot and wounded Nightwatchman W. D. Acrey. The shooting took place on the street at 5:30 in the afternoon. Acrey was admonishing Byrd to behave. He was unarmed when Byrd opened fire and shot him, inflicting six wounds. He mounted a horse and fled toward the river where a posse of 100 men could not find him. Byrd was captured a year later in Missouri and returned for trial. The first trial resulted in a hung jury. The second resulted in conviction. Byrd was sentenced to two years in state's prison and \$500 fine. Acrey recovered and the charge reduced to assault with a deadly weapon. Byrd served his time and returned. In 1927 he took his own life with a pistol.

The Tribune changed to a daily August 3, 1914.

A gun club was formed by trapshooters with D. H. Willson, President.

E. J. Norrish was elected Justice of the Peace in November.

The people of the Eastside school district formed a Parent-Teachers Association and met once a month for social enjoyment. Mrs. E. J. Norrish was first President. Among those taking an interest were: Miss Jessie Kerr, Mrs. Mildred Law, Mrs. Oakley, Mrs. Alexander, Mrs. Bishop, Mrs. Wm. Abrams, Mrs. Geo. Kendall, Mrs. Porter Ferguson, Mrs. John Hall, Mrs. Dunlap and Mrs. Whitlock.

The election required forty-five hours to complete the count of ballots in the general election in November. The members finally had to take turns at napping.

Not finding any legal way to secure money for fire equipment the volunteer fire department appealed to the public for funds and raised \$1537.82 for the purchase of badly needed equipment.

The pastor of the M. E. church was Rev. F. M. Clark.

Virgil Best was President of the first Y. M. C. A. organized in November.

Rev. J. A. Shoptaugh was pastor of the Christian church.

Mr. and Mrs. D. T. Jenkins won a silver cup for the best garden exhibit made at the county fair.

Mrs. E. J. Norrish exhibited a mammoth egg laid by a Leghorn hen. It measured 6x8 inches. The world's record was 6x8½ inches.

October 5 voters favored \$35,000 in a bond issue for sewers and a bridge across the Alamo river. The improvements were installed in quick time.

A group of Holtville pioneers had the idea of a history, giving the personal experience of each old timer, as early as December, 1914, when B. E. Wilhite called a meeting of pioneers at the Christian church. A committee consisting of B. E. Wilhite, Mrs. J. S. Bridenstine, Prof. V. Smith, M. Sargent, H. B. Hollingsworth was appointed. Those taking an interest, in addition to the above, were: King L. Kendle, Sam Webb, H. F. Collins, R. A. Holt, W. F. Holt, F. S. Best, W. B. Richards, Dick Jordan, M. P. Harris, Henry Rhems, Clark Oxford, James Prim, R. E. L. Hunter, R. G. Webster, John B. Baker, Mark Rose, Ed E. Boyd, C. D. Hartshorn, A. H. Dowling, Paul Maull and J. R. Pendleton. The sketches of a number of these pioneers, with others, appear in the Pioneer chapters of this history.

1915

W. M. Bruner shipped 500 pounds of household goods from San Diego by parcel post. He found it cheaper than freight with delivery insured.

After furnishing milk for the family eleven years, a cow which H. B. Hollingsworth had purchased in pioneer days for \$50, was sold for \$49.

A new venture in city government was tried when D. A. Starbuck was appointed City Manager. He also assumed the duties of City Marshal and appointed W. H. Corneilson his deputy. Starbuck also was engineer, superintendent of streets and deputy city clerk.

Paul Maull, for eleven years lumberman of Holtville, moved to San Diego in March.

Al Cravath was appointed Fire Chief.

As an evidence of appreciation, in part, for the hard work done to have the Yuma sand hill road built Ed. Boyd's friends presented him with a new Ford car in April. The planks were all laid and the road in use by that time.

A new bridge across the Alamo, built jointly by Holtville and Imperial county, was built in May.

Mrs. W. L. Huebner was president of the Women's Study Club.

After a great deal of trouble with liquor sellers under the city ordinance that permitted 72 quarts of beer every two weeks in a person's home the ordinance was changed and its enforcement undertaken by the City Manager. After a few minor arrests Newton Gray was arrested and charged with possession. Gray demanded a jury trial. He was convicted, sentenced to sixty days and to pay a fine of \$250.

Prof. V. Smith, the first and only principal of the Holtville Union High School, resigned his position in May. Prof. B. H. Crandall was appointed.

Among those who attended the Yuma celebration when the new Colorado river bridge was dedicated were: Carl Morford, J. C. Allen, John Taggart, Warren Currier, E. E. Harden, J. H. Harden, A. B. Cravath, R. A. Blair, Joe Pendleton and J. P. Collins.

After six years of effort the city secured a reduction of 25 cents an acre foot from the \$1.00 rate imposed by the California Development Company. Manager Starbuck was instrumental in securing the saving.

E. W. Toney purchased the interest of B. Salomon in the men's store conducted as B. Salomon & Co.

Reorganization of the Holtville Cemetery Association took place in June with J. S. Bridenstine as President.

Holtville's float won second prize in the Fourth of July parade in El Centro. It was prepared by Miss Charlotte Pinney, H. H. Cooley, Jess Campbell and R. D. Stitt.

The new fire truck and other equipment purchased from Whittier was tried out in August. Chief Cravath had on the force of volunteer fire fighters: A. R. Underwood, Robert Barnes, Sam Webb, Ralph Russell, Geo. Pinney, W. L. Huebner, Walter Bell, Fred Weeks, W. P. Miles, Leo Wulff, L. A. Bath, Ray Bowers, Frank Oswald, J. K. Fahrng, and D. T. Davis.

O. C. Harris was President of the Gun Club.

Another noted case was when Tom Potts, druggist, was attacked with acid while asleep December 7. A second attack of the same nature took place the next year in June. B. C. Lytle, clerk in the Potts store, was finally charged with the crime and convicted.

1916

Sports of all kinds, a ball game and rodeo furnished the amusement program for the annual Fiesta provided again by the townspeople of Holtville.

John B. Baker announced the republication of the Desert Farmer, discontinued in 1910, after two years of effort. The Farmer aimed to discuss and espouse matters of benefit to the grower and to help make farming profitable. Wiley A. Magruder was the new editor of the Farmer.

Charles M. Tyner, engineer for the Holton Inter-Urban for eight years, resigned his position in March.

Holtville mothers revelled in several programs designed for better babies. Forty-six babies under two years old attended one event. They are probably all in high school now.

Holtville, in 1916, achieved the distinction of being the "cleanest town in the Valley" as far as liquor was concerned.

Mrs. O. C. Harris was President of the Woman's Study Club.

D. A. Starbuck resigned as City Manager after one year of excellent work as general director of the city's activities. The Board of Trustees passed a highly complimentary resolution when the resignation was accepted. The new kind of city control was, however, too far advanced for the town.

W. H. Cornelison was appointed City Marshal.

In the April City election a warm contest resulted in the election of B. L. Baker, John M. Tredenick, R. R. Russell and C. D. Hartshorn over R. W. Hoover, Warren Currier and W. F. Gillett for the city council. C. W. Hayes was elected City Clerk and Roger Webster to his ninth year as City Treasurer. C. D. Hartshorn was named Mayor, a position he was destined to hold seven years out of the next eight.

Waldo P. Miles, blacksmith, took a vacation for the first time in fourteen years. He was a resident of Callexico in 1902.

L. L. Hebert was appointed Fire Chief.

City Clerk Hayes resigned in July and Charles Frisbie was appointed.

Marshal Cornelison resigned in September and Charles L. Gillett was appointed. Gillett was Marshal for the next eight years.

Mrs. John B. Baker, long an invalid, died December 13.

RENEWED COMMERCIAL CLUB

After several years without a commercial organization to handle civic affairs Holtville citizens decided to reorganize. The result was reached October 30, when M. C. Blanchard was elected temporary chairman and W. H. Rogers temporary secretary. Those who signed the new roll:

E. J. Norrish, C. L. Gillett, Charles G. Frisbie, Charles Foreman, Ralph R. Russell, A. R. Underwood, L. T. Hoblit, Wm. H. Rogers, B. H. Faubian, Dale Cooper, F. E. White, J. G. Hall, S. E. Shaw, W. S. Hawley, H. T. Jones, L. A. Bath, R. G. Webster, E. E. Harden, A. M. Becker, A. W. Marshall, R. F. Washburn, O. C. Harris, Cleo Thomas, J. H. Webster, M. C. Blanchard, Henry B. Klarer, Carl Berneker, J. K. Fahrng, J. R. Turley, J. C. Kink, Eugene C. Hunter, C. H. Eckert, Jas. W. Griffin, J. W. Wulff, J. P. Haynes, R. S. Jones, Geo. W. Fuess, H. Hemus, S. L. Beaty, Chaney & Simeral Lumber Co., J. Jarboe, F. K. Weeks, Jas. T. Coyle, Edgar S. Blake, Walter Reynolds, R. E. Hoskins, Sam Webb, Ed. E. Boyd, Frank Fender, J. M. Prim, J. H. Cox, J. R. Wimp, P. A. Rust, C. Oxford, R. A. Holt, J. E. Simpson, L. F. Shaw, J. C. Cole, E. G. Wilkins, Earl Peatre, Bert Davenport, Wm. Kenyon, F. S. Hancock, C. B. Campbell, W. G. Derrick, Ira Feldman, H. E. Russell, H. E. Neglez, Jack Mitchell, T. A. Hunt, W. F. Mosher, S. H. Rankin, A. L. Burke, C. V. Cromwell, J. D. Brown, Ed Gorman, Dr. D. A. Stevens, W. Meyer, A. J. Schaezel, Warren Currier, Leon Hebert, A. C. Gillett, J. Garland, J. E. Armstrong, E. J. Carskadon, M. D. Rookledge, G. M. Dotson, John B. Baker, John C. Stockberger, E. C. Brooks, P. B. Brown, C. D. Watson, Wm. Lewellyn, J. M. Tredenick, C. A. Johnston, T. C. Potts, Abe Swindle, C. M. Tyner, Arthur M. Williams, R. A. Blair, J. Fred Eves, E. W. Toney, J. F. Phelan, D. O. Bowman, H. A. Vannoy, W. L. Huebner and G. E. Huebner.

The new officers: M. C. Blanchard, President; First Vice-President, L. F. Shaw; Second Vice-President, Warren Currier; Treasurer, R. W. Hoover. Directors: James A. Covle, Roger G. Webster, B. R. Crandall, C. H. Eckert, Fred Garbo; Secretary, W. H. Rogers.

1917

The annual Fiesta held again on New Year's day, was featured by a sports program. The free food feature had become such a great burden by reasons of the thousands who claimed the town's hospitality that it was discontinued.

In February the tense feeling of the country over the impending trouble with Germany was reflected in the exercises held on Washington's birthday when Masonic services were held at the raising of a flag in the city park. The flag was the one used at the funeral of Admiral Dewey in Washington and was secured for Holtville by Congressman Wm. Kettner. The speeches bore grave references to the coming conflict which, even then, seemed certain.

Carl Berneker, for eleven years with Varner Bros., went on the road as a salesman for the Pacific Coast Biscuit Company. Mr. and Mrs. Berneker were given a notable farewell social notice by their long-time friends before they left.

THE WAR PERIOD

From the day a state of war was declared April 6, 1917, Holtville's entire attention was directed toward doing the things the Government wanted done. As in every other section of Imperial Valley a home guard unit was quickly formed from which many volunteers enlisted in various units of the army and navy; quick response for Red Cross work was noticeable in Holtville; all Liberty Loan drives went over the top in rapid sequence and every other war activity was carried out with patriotic precision.

This war period is covered in this history in Chapters XX and XXI to which the reader is referred.

1918

A lamb with one eye in the middle of its forehead and no nose was a freak born on the Maier & Davidson ranch.

Holtville's Red Cross Chapter started with these members: Mr. and Mrs. Mott Mitchell, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Meyer, Mrs. Estelle Shaw, Mrs. T. H. Hill, Florence J. Hill, Mary E. Hill, Mrs. Alice Hocker, Luella Curry, Ethel Kamm, C. F. Kamm, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Griffin, Alice Griffin, Emily J. Caverly, Mr. and Mrs. M. C. Blanchard, Mrs. Helen Jarboe, Gladys Blanchard, Mr. and Mrs. B. R. Crandall, Dorothy M. Frederick, Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Hoover, Mr. and Mrs. H. T. Jones, Helen G. Frost, Grace Loveland, Mrs. E. L. and Eleanor Stevenson, T. H. Hill, Lucille Oda and J. K. Fahrng. Dr. B. R. Crandall was President and Miss Frost was Secretary. The list finally grew to more than 250.

Miss Helen Moore, a senior in the high school, won first prize in a nation-wide essay contest on the subject "Thrift." Her English teacher, Miss Oerter, was especially proud while all Holtville rejoiced with the winner.

Rev. and Mrs. Amos Robinson celebrated their golden wedding anniversary in November.

J. T. Webber and Sons, proprietors of the Shady Brook Auto Court, groceries and gas, came to the Valley in 1918, from Texas. They landed after a Texas drought, destitute. They now have 10 acres on Holt avenue, a grocery store, garage, two gasoline filling stations and court of 16 camp cottages and eight modern houses.

The only car of its kind in the world was running on the Holton Inter-Urban. It was fitted with wheels that ran on the railroad rails and with a mechanism that permitted it to run as a truck on the streets. Door to door deliveries by the railroad were therefore made every day. W. F. Holt admitted that he invented the mechanism that made the car run on rails or street.

Mrs. Carl Morford was President of the Study Club.

At the annual meeting of the Commercial Club Howard T. Jones was made President and J. Fred Eves was Secretary. During the past year under the urge of the club public subscriptions sufficient to build a city hall in the plaza were raised and the building erected.

M. C. Blanchard was elected City Treasurer in April. Ida Robinson was elected City Clerk. P. L. Vreeland and Jas. Griffin were elected Trustees, Carl Morford and R. R. Russell retiring.

The Holtville Athletic Club was organized with J. W. Shuler at the head. The City issued permits to hold four round boxing matches.

Mrs. M. Sargent, one of the earliest of the pioneers, died in Long Beach, May 20.

Frank E. Copley was Chief of the fire department.

The influenza epidemic in November touched Holtville as it did every other section. Holtville adopted the mask as a possible preventative and faithfully observed the health regulations.

AND THE WAR WAS OVER

Holtville celebrated the announcement that the Armistice was signed November 11 with all the enthusiasm that was characteristic of the regular, red-blooded American community. The Holtville band was a center of attraction. Doing its duty at home the boys went to El Centro and took part in the celebration there as well. The people were so elated that they disregarded all influenza regulations and celebrated anyway.

With a renewed postwar campaign outlined to make Holtville go ahead with improvements the Commercial Club started in November to urge paving, clean-up of all vacant lots and a number of civic improvements. Jas. T. Coyle was named Secretary.

A volunteer army of citizens turned out with picks, shovels, tractors, drags and trucks and smoothed all the streets in the business part of town, cleaned up the park and went home happy in the knowledge that Holtville presented a clean front for Christmas.

J. A. Walton, Holtville pioneer, was one of the victims of the influenza in December.

A "Community Council" was formed in December with R. W. Hoover as President. Mrs. Warren Currier was Vice-President and Arthur M. Williams Secretary.

F. Roy and John W. Thompson, who came from Los Angeles in 1918 and 1921, conduct the Thompson Bros. men's furnishing store at Fifth and Holt.

1919

Mrs. Warren Currier was chosen President of the County Federation of Women's Clubs for 1919.

The Commercial Club purchased uniforms for the Holtville band. A vote of thanks was tendered Fred Jarboe for the various services he had rendered.

John M. Tredenick, City Trustee and Water Superintendent, died in March.

O. C. Harris was President of the Commercial Club. Jas. T. Coyle was Secretary. The Club undertook to improve and care for the plaza in the center of town.

April 16 J. V. Taggart's pool room, Ira Felden's barber shop, Ora's cafe and C. B. Campbell's restaurant were destroyed in a \$10,000 fire.

Mrs. O. N. Shaw was President of the Study Club.

Assessed valuation for the city in 1919 was \$795,594. The tax rate was \$2.60.

Lawrence Laughlin, returned soldier, died from illness acquired in the service.

Another serious fire destroyed George Johnson's machine shops. Loss \$5000.

The first car of watermelons brought \$1200.

H. J. Messenger exhibited a stalk of corn twenty feet tall.

The inroads of the automobile stage business caused the Holton Inter-Urban to discontinue passenger service between El Centro and Holtville. Service was discontinued October 11, 1919.

Robert Hayes, who had handled the express business for the Holton Inter-Urban for two years, resigned to take care of his own business.

Thomas Lynch, lovingly known as "Dad," Civil War veteran and aged character, died alone in October, aged 80.

The Commercial Club started in October to hold noon-day luncheons every two weeks.

After three years of effort paving around the Plaza block began in December.

A baseball team with Cliff Woodland as manager was putting Holtville on the map during the winter.

Sam Cole, barber, came in 1919 from Texas, on advice of his physician. He says it is the best move he ever made as he has fully regained his health and at the same time found a wonderful place to live.

1920

C. D. Manning, who was Holtville's representative on the Irrigation District Board of Directors, resigned in April. Mark Rose was appointed after an expression of the east side had been made by straw vote.

The April city election resulted in the return of C. D. Hartshorn, H. L. Baker and M. V. Oakley to the Board.

The Business Girls' Club was a live organization in 1920. Misses Eleanor Stevenson, Mary Durham, Katherine Dotson, Georgia Haynes and Mrs. Audrey Baker were leaders in the club. The Club raised money and built a lodge at Jacumba for the use of members in summer.

Prof. H. H. Wardrip, for three years principal of the high school, earned the esteem of the people by his able administration.

B. M. Gruwell was the new principal of the city's elementary schools.

Bonds were voted for \$32,500 improvement for the water system; \$11,500 for sewers and \$6000 for fire apparatus in September.

In August Varney Bros. suffered a loss of more than \$100,000 when fire burned the Holtville store and building.

E. E. Shacklett was President of the Commercial Club. The Club was active all summer promoting improvement projects.

An election to close pool halls failed by 108 votes in December.

1921

Directors of the Commercial Club during 1921: A. B. Lester, W. B. Beale, E. E. Harden, E. J. Carskadon, H. C. Chaney, S. E. Shaw, J. Fred Eves, C. E. Stewart and C. L. Shaw. A. B. Lester was President. Arthur Williams was reappointed Secretary.

The Tribune celebrated its sixteenth birthday by installing a late model typesetting machine. At this time the Tribune claimed to be the only paper in the Valley that had remained under one owner since its establishment. J. B. Baker, pioneer publisher, was congratulated.

Varney Bros. moved into their new store in March.

Mark Rose was returned to the directorate of the Irrigation District by a heavy vote over Leroy Main.

M. Marcot, of San Diego, established a store where army goods were handled.

L. F. Shaw was selected as a member of the new county Highway Commission in February.

Oswald Bros., paving contractors, finished the second contract of street paving in February.

George Spencer Dowglass, for nine years janitor of the high school, was notified that he had inherited his father's estate in Ireland and was entitled to assume the title of "Lord." He had been in America for thirty-four years.

C. L. Shaw was President of the Commercial Club in March.

Robert Hayes was Secretary of the Southside Water Company.

The Holtville band was reorganized in June. Dale Cooper was President and E. E. Shacklett was manager.

A. M. Waldrop started a broom factory. There were 240 acres of broom corn grown in the vicinity of Holtville.

San Francisco capitalists and Holtville citizens tried for oil fifteen miles east of town without success.

W. Carleton Crane, for eighteen years a resident, died in Suisun in August. He was a well known surveyor.

Holtville's assessed valuation for 1921 was \$1,375,056.

D. B. Roberts, attorney in Holtville for several years, purchased the Clifford Woodland home.

Holtville always made a hit with the Associated Chambers of Commerce with the excellent dinners provided when the Association met in the east side town. These dinners were prepared by the ladies of the United Brethren church.

R. W. Maddux purchased the Bonds Corner store from H. F. Collins in October. This made the fourth store Maddux owned on the east side.

An account of the organization of Holtville Post, American Legion will be found in the War History chapters.

Holtville played a prominent and a joyous part in the road dedication exercises on the Yuma highway attended by Governor Wm. D. Stephens and party November 29.

C. H. Eckert donated the use of five acres of ground and the town's baseball club was revived.

1922

After a lapse of several years the New Year Fiesta was revived with a good program of sports. Those in charge were O. C. Harris, S. B. Smith, Joe Jardin, A. B. Lester, Ernest Edwards and John Zenos. The same committee conducted a second fiesta on Lincoln's birthday which was attended by 2000 people.

H. W. Roach was president of the Commercial Club in the early part of 1922. Gordon Schneider, druggist, was elected President in May.

Judge J. W. Griffin, attorney pioneer, member of the city council and prominent citizen, died in January.

Mrs. Fred Jarboe was President of the Study Club.

S. N. Frost was appointed postmaster by Congressman Swing in March.

Judge A. R. McDonald planted 450 rose bushes in the Plaza park.

The city election placed W. L. Heubner and C. L. Shaw on the council. This was the beginning of ten years of service for Mr. Shaw. He is still on the job.

E. J. Norrish, pioneer teacher, farmer and for four years City Recorder and Justice of the Peace in Holtville, died in October. Mr. Norrish was one of the first teachers in Imperial and before coming to the Valley was a member of Throop faculty on the coast.

A celebration of the completion of the pavement around the park took place in July under the direction of J. E. Elmore.

Coy Swindle was Fire Chief.

For the second time Miss Mary Oakley won the loving cup for the best declamation in the county grammar schools.

City Marshal C. L. Gillett, after seven years on the job announced his candidacy for County Sheriff and was elected. His place as Marshal was filled by the appointment of M. P. Harris.

1923

The Commercial Club saw that the streets had signs. John W. Streeter donated forty posts, Coy Carey donated five gallons of paint and W. L. Huebner donated time to have the posts set and painted.

F. Roy Thompson was President of a new tennis club.

D. B. Roberts was appointed City Attorney in June.

Gordon Schneider was President of the Chamber of Commerce in 1923 and had as directors: Jean Hall, Roy Thompson, L. J. Edwards, W. L. Heubner, Joe Jardin, Joe Hall, E. W. Hoover, M. C. Blanchard, Carl Morford, H. A. Terwilliger, and B. M. Gruwell.

Norman Parks, former publisher of the Calipatria Herald, purchased the Tribune from J. B. Baker in February, 1923.

J. Jardin, H. H. Terwilliger and R. Thompson were new members of the council.

Jas. T. Coyle left Holtville and became the Secretary of the El Centro Chamber of Commerce.

As an appreciation of the services of W. W. Karr, for seven years Secretary of Water Co. No. 7, the directors presented him with a gold watch in July.

B. L. Baker and M. V. Oakley resigned as Trustees and H. Terwilliger and Carl Morford were appointed.

The city's chlorinating plant was put into commission in June.

Earl Pearre was Fire Chief.

Holtville shipped 5600 Thanksgiving turkeys to market.

M. C. Blanchard was again President of the Commercial Club which was called the Chamber of Commerce. Dale Cooper was Secretary.

Mrs. A. B. Lester was President of the Study Club.

James Humphrey was appointed City Marshal in June.

The proposal to sell the north half of the Plaza park won at the polls by 172 to 117. The minimum price was to be \$100,000. Evidently no buyers appeared, for the park still remains intact.

R. Thompson was elected trustee in April, Carl Morford retiring. J. Jardin was elected, C. D. Hartshorn, for eight years a member, retiring.

Ben C. Herring was the new Fire Chief.

M. P. Harris, who was injured in an accident several years ago, died in Banning in September. Mr. Harris was one of the earliest pioneers, coming to Holtville before there was a structure and doing much of the hauling between Imperial and Holtville before there was railroad connection. Mrs. Harris is still a resident of Holtville.

The Rotary Club was organized with the following charter members: Elmer Baxter, W. E. Beale, John Basom,

E. L. Blake, Kenneth Burke, Dale Cooper, E. V. Edwards, C. H. Eckert, Ned Holmes, R. W. Hoover, Joseph Jardin, Dr. W. F. Mosher, Geo. Momyer, Gordon Schneider and Sam Webb.

1924

The American Legion had charge of the Fiesta New Years day. The old time crowds were present to enjoy the barbecue, sports program and athletic contests.

L. F. Shaw was elected President of the Chamber of Commerce.

The new fire siren was installed in February.

A. C. Keene was appointed City Marshal in April.

A May day festival was a feature of the year.

A new Chamber of Commerce information bureau was built in the corner of the Plaza. Its dedication in May was an event of importance.

Sewer bonds for \$16,000 enabled further improvements.

Gordon Schneider succeeded to the Presidency of the Chamber of Commerce and was also elected President of the Associated Chambers.

1925

E. S. Blake, now superintendent and agent for the Holton Inter-Urban Railway Co., came to the Valley in 1926 from San Diego county. He has the following comment. "First lettuce in Valley was raised on Holton Inter-Urban Ry., three miles west of Holtville. I suggested raising this commodity to my late friend Dr. Schiffman of Pasadena, who got a Japanese by name of D. Kimura interested in this industry. It has grown to about 5000 cars annually. D. Kimura is now interpreter for Los Angeles county in the Hall of Records. Dr. Schiffman is now dead."

1927

Carl Morford was president of the Chamber of Commerce.

Ed J. Byrd, convicted of Shooting Deputy Marshal Arcrey.

Gordon Schneider was head of the Rotary Club.

Mrs. Harrie Wood was President of the Woman's Club.

After many years of citizenship in Holtville A. R. McDonald, City Recorder, Justice of the Peace and member of the council in 1912, passed to the future life amid the sorrow and esteem of his fellow citizens.

S. M. Smyser was appointed Justice and Recorder in A. R. McDonald's place.

The Imperial Valley Milk Producers Association, whose big plant was an asset to Holtville, installed a machine that wrapped butter in quarter pound bars.

The Woman's Study Club was changed to the Woman's Club of Holtville. Mrs. C. L. Shaw was President.

The Holtville band was reorganized with James Hushman, of El Centro as leader.

W. H. Cornelison was appointed Chief of Police and has served in that office since.

The high school district had the lowest tax rate, 43c on the \$100.

The Holtville Golf Club was organized October 27 with A. B. Cravath as President; Elmer Baxter, Secretary-

treasurer; the first membership list included: M. C. Blanchard, Dr. T. B. Turner, Mrs. Joe Kay, Barney Burke, Helena Guidotti, O. C. Harris, Ned Holmes, P. E. Ryerson, W. E. Beale, Frank Taylor, H. A. Pike, George Bennitt, Dr. John D. Keye, Dr. H. B. Graeser, L. A. Harris, Martin Munson, C. L. Shaw, E. J. Smith, A. B. Cravath, L. F. Shaw, W. W. Williams, J. K. Fehring, Elmer Baxter, John Zenos, O. C. Bixler, W. H. Meyer, S. E. Shaw, C. W. Hinderks, Sam Webb, Fred Holmes, W. W. Roblee, Jr.

1928

The annual meeting of the Chamber of Commerce was held January 23. The membership was 286. Tom C. Potts was elected President and George Bennitt Executive Secretary.

April 9 bonds for \$37,000 were voted, 258 to 68 for improvement of the city water system. M. C. Blanchard was City Treasurer, Ella Carpenter clerk. P. B. Brown, C. L. Shaw and Sam Webb were elected trustees.

George Bennitt was President of the Rotary Club.

The second annual May carnival was conducted with success by the Chamber of Commerce. It celebrated the passage of the Swing-Johnson bill by Congress.

Mrs. H. J. Messenger, mother of the first boy born in Holtville, died in Los Angeles in August. The son is now an illustrator on the Los Angeles Times.

Mrs. K. C. Burke was President of the Woman's Club.

The Juiner Chamber of Commerce was organized in November with C. W. Hinerks, President; Carl Bechtel, Secretary and Kieth Savage Treasurer.

1929

More than 1000 people attended the Fifth annual Swiss festival at the Swiss Club northwest of Holtville in November.

E. W. Lott was elected President of the State Dairy Council at Oakland in November, an honor which recognized Holtville's importance as a dairy center.

Holtville's community Christmas tree was brought from Julian by a special crew and made a fine appearance. It was the center of community Christmas activities.

1930

Fire destroyed the Cudahy pre-cooling plant six miles north of Holtville in March. The loss was \$85,000.

A flower show organized by Mrs. Russell Bennitt was a pleasing feature in April.

The growing of carrots increased from fifty carloads in 1927 to 700 cars in 1930.

Elmer Baxter was head of the Rotary Club.

Sam Webb, pioneer of pioneers, was made Mayor of Holtville in April.

During the first four months of the year 2700 cars of perishable products were shipped from Holtville.

St. Paul's Lutheran church was dedicated October 5, with Rev. A. W. Kaiser pastor.

The city adopted a zoning ordinance designed to protect high class residence districts from further construction of shacks.

Henry and Joseph Nash, proprietors United Dry Goods Stores, Inc., came to the Valley in 1929 from El Paso, Tex.

John M. Thompson, now president of the Rotary Club is the youngest Rotary President in the Southern Jurisdiction. He is 24.

HOLTVILLE TRIBUNE

The Holtville Tribune was founded February 27, 1905, by John B. Baker, then employed on the Imperial Press at Imperial. In the venture he was assisted by W. F. Holt. A Washington hand press and a few cases of type and a job press was almost the entire equipment to start with. The editor jumped in to help make Holtville grow rapidly as it did from the time it was laid out. June 15, 1906, a fire destroyed the plant. Mr. Baker was then put in charge of the Calexico Chronicle and continued publication of the Tribune from that plant. For a period of two months, April and May, 1907, O. B. Tout conducted the Chronicle and the Tribune for Mr. Holt but in May a new plant was installed in Holtville and Mr. Baker resumed management. After the county seat election Baker became sole owner of the business and so continued until he sold it in 1923 to Norman Parks, of Calipatria.

Mr. Baker, elected County Recorder at the first election in 1907, had a series of five different managers. Geo. Cook, F. J. Boughton, Geo. W. Doan, Gay L. Tufts and Geo. W. Ryan took turns at the helm for four years.

In 1914 the Tribune was made a daily and so continued for nine years. When Mr. Baker sold the Tribune in 1923 to Norman Parks, it had achieved the distinction of existing under one owner longer than any other paper in the Valley. Holtville also was distinguished throughout the country as the smallest town in the United States to have a daily paper. This distinction first belonged to the Calexico Chronicle in 1911.

Mr. Baker's conduct of the newspaper was able and careful. He never sought a quarrel but knew how to fight. He was always for the thing that meant progress and advancement for the town. He constantly urged civic improvements and to his credit must be laid many improvements during the long years that no Chamber of Commerce was functioning. He cheerfully assumed the duties of that civic body and the work was many times thankless.

Norman Parks, who owned and edited the Tribune from 1923 to 1926, was a militant writer of the old school. He denounced where denouncing was needed and praised where praise was due. This characteristic won for him five days in the County jail and a \$500 fine when he criticised the action of a judge of the superior court during the hot times of 1925. It was evident, however, that the people thought well of him for they took up a collection, paid his fine and hired attorneys for him.

Geo. Bennitt, business manager of the Imperial Valley Press in March, 1926, purchased the Tribune and was soon joined by his brother, Russell. Together they have given Holtville and the whole east side a newspaper well printed and well written, an advocate for the interests of the rural districts as well as the town and editorially strong in the support of the best interests of Imperial Valley.

Early in 1931 the Bennitt Brothers purchased the Imperial Valley Farmer and George Bennitt moved to El Centro to conduct that newspaper.

This history is indebted to both the Bennitts for the use of their files for research work. The items that appear in Holtville's history from 1907 on were found in the Tribune. The files prior to that date were not preserved.

THE HOLTVILLE LEADER

In September, 1913, Richard McGregor established and conducted the Holtville Leader for a few months. The town, however, frowned on two papers and it was shortly discontinued.

HOLTVILLE ROTARY CLUB

Organized January 9, 1925. Presidents since organization to present time: C. H. Eckert, Dale G. Cooper, Gordon Schneider, K. C. Burke, George Bennitt, Elmer M. Baxter, John M. Thompson. Present secretary, J. C. Emerson.

WOMAN'S CLUB OF HOLTVILLE

Organized October 3, 1908, with 12 charter members under the name of Ladies' Improvement Club. The name was changed in 1909 to the Woman's Study Club; federated in 1910. In 1927 the name was again changed to the Woman's Club of Holtville. The presidents from organization to the present time were: Mesdames Sargent, Vermilyea, M. Kendall, G. Lewis, Richards, Francis, Fähring, Huebner, O. C. Harris, Hoover, Morford, O. N. Shaw, Oakley, Jarboe, Hartshorn, Mosher, Lester, Clara Taylor, Meyer, C. L. Shaw, K. Burke, Mackie, L. A. Harris. The present secretary is Mrs. Morford.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The history of the Holtville Chamber of Commerce is really the history of Holtville. The reader has noted, in the paragraphs, year by year, those who used their time and talents to forward Holtville's interests. The organization was always an advocate of civic betterments of every nature. Under the leadership of Ed E. Boyd it finally secured the Holtville-Yuma highway. It got behind the annual New Year fiesta that gave Holtville the enviable name of being the most hospitable town in the Valley. It brought about incorporation, the paving of the streets, sewers, etc. It gave the town its civic center in the Plaza and built the community building that served all organizations so long. It helped establish industries, co-operated with farmers, stood sturdily behind the Boulder dam and All-American canal program and maintained, for Holtville, its share of the county wide civic work through the Associated Chambers of Commerce. The list of presidents through the years include: Ed E. Boyd, Dr. Greenleaf, D. H. Williams, M. C. Blanchard, Howard T. Jones, O. C. Harris, A. B. Lester, C. L. Shaw, H. W. Roach, Gordon Schneider, L. F. Shaw, Carl Morford, Tom Potts, J. R. Snyder.

ALAMITOS CHAPTER NO. 316, O. E. S.

Alamitos chapter, Holtville, the youngest of the five chapters in Imperial Valley, received its charter in October, 1913. Its beginning was very auspicious, as both Grand Matron Martha Gould Dinsmore and Grand Patron William Kirtley Chambers were present and officiated.

To Holtville belongs the distinction of being considered the most hospitable town in the Imperial Valley. For years, at its New Year's fiesta, it provided a bountiful turkey dinner which was served free in its city park to all who wished to come as guests. At these events eight to ten thousand persons from various points in California were served.

This same spirit of lavish hospitality is characteristic of the Holtville homes and of the Holtville chapter. One of the leaders of Alamitos chapter and one who has had a large part in its success is Past Matron Florence Blanchard, in whom this characteristic is very pronounced. During her year as Deputy Grand Matron she accomplished much for the chapters of the Valley and was loved by all.

Among the chapters of Imperial Valley the most beautiful spirit of harmony exists. Each is doing its full share to help carry out the ideals of the organization, and the growth of the order here has been steady and strong.

Worthy Matrons since organization to present time: Josephine Garret, Verdie M. Clair, Florence Blanchard, Lottie Wheeler, Laura B. Oakley, Sadie Rookledge, Turner Dotson, Lottie Cravath, Jannette Terwilliger, Kate Beale, Mary E. Morford, Ercia E. Harden, Susie Edwards, Elsie Mosher, Clara Taylor, Hazel D. Meyer, Anna Hartzog, May G. Webb, Esther Kavanaugh.

Deputy Grand Matrons were Lottie B. Wheeler and Florence Blanchard.

HOLTVILLE LODGE NO. 425, F. & A. M.

This lodge was chartered October 12, 1912. The past masters from that time to the present are: Charles D. Hartshorn, Phillip W. Brooks, Howard T. Jones, James W. Griffith, C. H. Eckert, Leo. R. Manning, Max D. Rookledge, G. M. Dodson, Carl Morford, Albert B. Craveth, Wm. E. Beal, John K. Fähring, Ernest V. Edwards, Bruce S. Stewart.

The present master is Dale Cooper, the secretary is C. H. Eckert.

HOLTVILLE CHURCHES

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran—Organized October 5, 1930, with membership of 14. Lutheran services were held by the Rev. Th. Schoessow, missionary at large, several years before 1925 and 1926, and by Rev. A. W. Kaiser since 1927.

First Baptist—Organized December 1, 1909, with membership of 14. Now 67. Ministers since organization: Reverends Amos Robinson, A. L. Kinter, F. M. Pittman, J. E. Maley, B. H. Blanchard, D. T. Lewis, E. G. Mauley.

Methodist Episcopal—Organized May 10, 1903, with membership of 12. Now 125. Ministers since organization: Reverends F. A. Leak, C. F. Seymour, F. P. Morgan, J. E. Beery, S. J. Lindsay, F. M. Clark, Mott Mitchell, W. L. Summers, Chas. LaFontaine, Chas. S. Reynolds, W. L. Dexter, N. H. Hudson, John H. Engle.

Catholic—Rev. Burelbach held mass twenty years ago to small congregation, followed by Rev. E. Schmitt, then in 1912 Rev. Leo. G. Garsse was appointed. He was followed by J. M. Phelan, W. F. Verhalen, B. J. McGivney. In March, 1923, Father Leganiers was appointed first pastor at Holtville, followed by Rev. Doran, Rev. John Lehane and the present pastor, Rev. P. J. Carey.

Christian—Organized December, 1906, with the following charter members: Verne May Morris, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Edwards, Frank Morris, Mrs. Orry W. Edwards, A. C. Edwards, Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Hollingsworth, Miss Stella Harlan, Ed M. Guier, Mrs. Ada Wise, Mr. and Mrs. M. Sargent, Eugene W. Lott, Iva Lee Lott and Mrs. Annie Taggart. Ministers since organization: Reverends H. B. Hollingsworth, C. J. Upton, Lafayette Swindle, J. A. Shop-
taugh, J. N. Smith, Amos K. Clarke, Sam P. Smyser, and the present pastor H. O. Langston.

Several of the members recall the service conducted by J. N. Smith, pastor, to celebrate the burning of the mortgage. Much credit is due Mr. A. C. Loveland and Mrs. W. D. Curry for their faithful and efficient work on the finance committee in disposing of these bonds.

Also mention must be made of Mrs. M. Sargent and Mrs. W. D. Curry for their interest and devotion to missionary work and missionary giving, and of Mrs. A. C. Loveland, who did good work in the primary department, and her assistant, Luella Curry. Also in later years credit is due Mrs. J. P. Chambers for her untiring work in connection with the primary and cradle roll department.

Largely due to the enthusiasm and efforts of Dave Vencil and P. E. Ryerson, plans for a new parsonage were begun in the fall of 1925, and the building was built in 1926.

At present the church is free from debt, with a membership of approximately one hundred and thirty-five (March 10, 1931) and working together in a harmonious spirit.

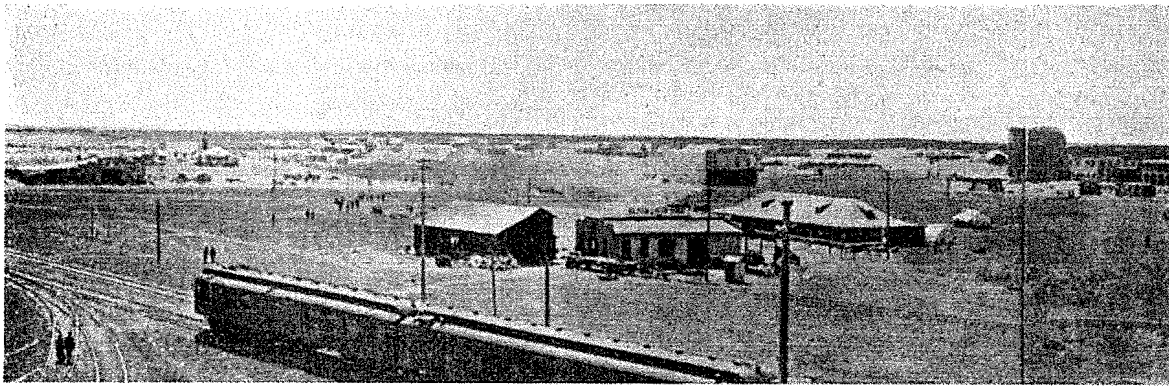
Other churches of Holtville are Church of Christ, 530 Walnut, Church of the Nazarene, 765, with O. L. Wright pastor; Bethel Pentecostal, 765 Main street.

The following firms were in business in Holtville in 1930-31:

- ATTORNEYS**
E. H. Law
S. M. Smvser
- AUTO DEALERS & SUPPLIES**
R. H. Womack
H. M. Brown
W. M. Wade
- AUTO REPA'R**
Laurence Console
A. L. Fleming
A. A. Gould
R. B. Harman
R. A. Maddux
S. E. Strickland
L. L. Stroupe
- BAKERS**
Paul Figaro
- BANKS**
First Nat'l. Bank
Holtville Bank
- BARBERS**
Joseph Baer
S. E. Cole
Ira Feldman
H. G. Grogan
Helio Doro Menjarrez
- AMUSEMENTS**
The Natatorium
- BEAUTY SHOPS**
Betty Shontz
- BILLIARDS**
O. L. Ellis
Bob Gasser
O. C. Harris
- BLACKSMITH SHOP**
D. E. Lavman
- CHIROPRACTORS**
R. L. Shurtliff
- CLEANERS**
J. E. Brown
The Cleanitorium
Mrs. M. M. Yeargin
- CONCRETE COMPANY**
Imperial Valley
Concrete Co.
- CONFECTIONERY**
J. N. Chiswell
W. F. Havins
R. B. Rogers
W. W. Scott
- CONTRACTOR**
M. A. McClelland
P. A. Murray
- DENTISTS**
S. H. Rankin
T. B. Turner
- DRESSMAKER**
Dorris Denny
- DRUGGISTS**
E. R. Cunningham
Schneiders Drug Store
- DRY GOODS STORE**
J. C. Emerson
United Dry Goods
- EXPRESS COMPANY**
Ry. Express Agency
- FEED DEALERS**
Pacific Cattle &
Poultry Feed Co.
- FEED M'LLS**
Imperial Valley
Milling Co.
- GENERAL MERCHANDISE**
W. L. Dressor
- GROCERIES**
Consumers Supply
House
J. O. Gresham
Mora & Cato
H. T. Neidiffer
Piggly Wiggly
Safeway Stores
L. F. Young
Zurcher Bros.
- HARDWARE**
W. L. Heubner
C. L. Shaw
Imperial Valley
Hardware
- HOSPITALS**
Holtville Hospital
Valley Hospital
- HOTEL**
Holtville Hotel
- ICE COMPANIES**
Imp. Ice & Dev. Co.
Holtville Ice & Cold
Storage Co.
- INSURANCE**
Dale Cooper
- IMPLEMENTS**
Sam Webb
Edzar Bros Co.
- LAUNDRIES**
Wo Lung Laundry
- LIVERY STABLE**
W. E. Miller
- LUMBER COMPANY**
Hammond Lumber Co.
- MEAT MARKETS**
L. P. Conner
Holmes Meat Market
- MEN'S FURNISHINGS**
J. K. Fahring
F. M. Taylor
Thompson Bros.
- MILK DEALERS**
Imperial Valley Milk
Producers
- MUSIC TEACHER**
N. B. Bennett, Mrs.
- NEWSPAPERS**
Holtville Tribune
- NURSE**
Mrs. H. M. Storev
- O'L COMPANIES**
Shell Oil Co.
Standard Oil Co.
Union Oil Co.
- PACKERS**
Sawday-Calif. Co
Sawday & Hunt
John Zenos
- PHYSICIANS**
H. B. Graeser
Dr. O. J. Grundset
Dr. J. D. Keye
- PLUMBERS**
Joseph Jardin
- POWER COMPANIES**
Southern Sierras
Power Co.
- RAILWAY AGENCY**
Southern Pacific
- REAL ESTATE**
L. A. Harris
C. F. Kamm
Phil Prim
L. M. Shaw
- RESTAURANTS**
C. E. Boren
Broadway Cafe
Bethel Brown
Brown Bros.
W. M. Granger
Texas Cafe No. 1
W. A. Williams
Pedro Yanez
- SERVICE STATION**
W. E. Beale
Brown Bros.
A. B. Cravath
J. O. Gresham
Little & Stevens
Arnold Page
Slocum's Service Sta
Vanfleet & Durkee
J. T. Webber
- STOVE REPA'ER**
Jacob Schirmer
- TELEPHONE & TELEGRAPH**
Western Union Tel. Co.
Pacific Tel. & Tel.
Valley Tel. Co.
- THEATRE**
Arcade Theatre
- TOURIST CAMPS**
L. F. Gray
J. W. Jennings
F. E. Leviston
H. T. Neidiffer
- TRUCKING**
Huhu Follendore
D. E. Layman
- UNDERTAKER**
Mrs. Corda Fields
- WATCH REPAIRER**
H. R. Burger

If errors or omissions are noted by the reader and are brought to the attention of the publisher they will be corrected in the second edition.—EDITOR.





El Centro in 1907. Taken from the Ice Plant, Looking Southwest

CHAPTER XXVIII

EL CENTRO

THE opportunity to study the making of a city from the first minute its founders conceived the idea to the present moment seldom comes to the compiler of historical data within his own lifetime. Perhaps in no other region in the world could one find six incorporated cities, within a radius of twenty miles of a center, which were all founded and built within less than the space of time allotted to one generation. The idea presents itself as a sort of a race. The native born desire for and enjoyment of competition between Americans makes every contest interesting, whether it be a horse race, a human foot race, a business contest, a golf game or a riotous contest of tiddle-de-winks. And how we do thrill when a dark horse comes around the curve pounding at the tail of the leaders and passes them all on the home stretch!

Town building is the same thing. Where there is competition between towns for business, for the attention of newcomers, for the best figures in assessed valuation, in population and pretty girls, all the towns in the race are likely to be good.

El Centro (the Center) entered the Imperial Valley handicap late. She was foaled in the spring, curried in the fall and saddled for the big event before she was ready. She trembled at the starter's gun, but under careful riding, crossed under the wire ahead of them all on August 6, 1907. That was the finish of the county seat race.

That event, of course, gave El Centro some advantage in the following years. Success brings success. The story of the joyous group that celebrated the county seat victory is followed by another story of another joyous group that later celebrated the rounding of the first five thousand population post. And the stories continue to date. Of course, El Centro

has been the object of attack many times because of this success. Every leader has his dart throwers. It took twenty long years, for instance, to get a county fair started on a real basis just because the five County Supervisors were from five different parts of the county and four of them were afraid of criticism at home if they placed the fair grounds at any other point. Even in the old days, when good roads were voted and they split up the paved mileage, the first split showed El Centro with but two miles of paving! But then, El Centro has smiled and gone ahead.

The first citizens of El Centro did not have to undergo quite the hardships that those of Imperial, Calexico, Holtville and Brawley had to endure. There was water in the ditches and there was ice for the summers of 1905, 1906 and 1907. There was electricity, too—of a sort—and there were bricks to be had for building.

But let us start at the beginning and trace through the years the work of this group of humans who, with their hearts attuned to home making and the pursuit of happiness, undertook the building of a city and saw the job through to a handsome finish.

Some early pioneers are inclined to credit W. F. Holt with the idea of a new county and a brand new town for the county seat thereof as early as 1903. They point to the delay in the selection of a route for the Holton Inter-Urban railroad that was announced as soon as Mr. Holt started Holtville in 1903. Everybody believed the road was to come directly to Imperial. They also point to the quiet purchase of the Calexico Chronicle, the Brawley News and the establishment of the Holtville Tribune, not to mention the purchase or establishment of banks in each of these centers. These things could be of much help when it came to a county seat election.

The land on which El Centro stands was purchased by Mr. Holt and C. A. Barker in 1904.

And Cabarker, in honor of C. A. Barker, secretary of the Holton Power Company, was announced early in 1905.

From here we take items from the Imperial Press, published in Imperial until it was moved to El Centro in March, 1906.

In 1904, D. H. Chaplin sold the 320 acres now occupied by the El Centro Townsite to a man named Smith for \$16 per acre. Smith sold it to A. R. Robinson for \$23 per acre. Robinson sold it to W. F. Holt and C. A. Barker of the Holton Power Co., at \$40 per acre. They in turn sold it to the El Centro Townsite Co. for \$125 per acre. In 1908, at the rate lots sold the same land was worth \$15,000 per acre.

JUNE 1905

CABARKER MENTIONED

Under the heading "Cabarker Revivus" the junction point of the Holton Interurban railroad with the valley branch three miles south of Imperial was mentioned in an early June, 1905, issue of the Imperial Press.

Cabarker was the name W. F. Holt originally selected for the town in honor of a Redlands friend, C. A. Barker. But the name did not take well or sound good so "El Centro" was chosen.

In June articles of incorporation of the El Centro Land company were filed by W. T. Bill, C. C. Ames, C. E. Taylor, W. I. Olmstead and J. W. Veach. The capital stock was \$10,000.

Two weeks later the El Centro Hotel company filed articles with \$50,000 capital stock and the same directors as the land company.

W. W. Masten moved the Thelma rooming house down from Imperial.

JULY, 1905

E. E. Forrester is surprised at the quick growth of alfalfa. He planted in January and began pasturing in April. He took the stock off June 1 and in three weeks it was ready to cut for hay, turning off a ton and a half to the acre. He says it will be ready to cut again in three weeks more.

The summer of 1905 was one of preparation.

OCTOBER, 1905

The railroad crew is laying side track for a box car depot.

J. Stanley Brown's hardware store building is about completed. Mrs. Brown will soon open the post office there, and also be in charge of central telephone office.

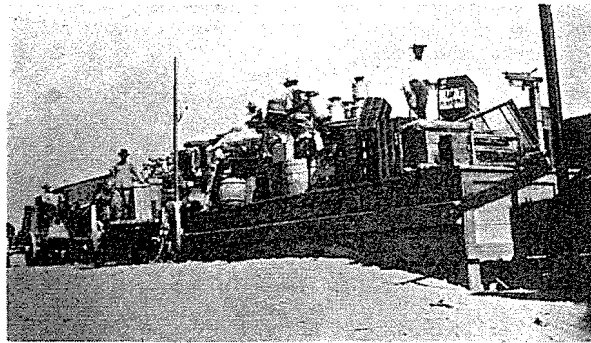
Contractor J. L. Travers arrived from Redlands.

J. C. Blackinton is grading Main street, which is laid out two miles east and west.

El Centro is proud of its first families—The Lyons, Martins, Mastens, Browns, Kinnes, Balcolms, and Adams are the type of people who make a good town.

W. W. Masten has moved the Thelma hotel building down from Imperial, and will soon have it ready for use.

T. B. Blanchard has arrived and will have charge of the L. W. Blinn lumber yard.



El Centro's First Freight Depot Was an Open Platform

NOVEMBER, 1905

From the Redlands Daily Review the new hotel which is to be built at El Centro by a Redlands syndicate will be built by day labor. J. L. Travers, a Redlands contractor, has been chosen as superintendent to oversee the work. Mr. Travers expects to go to Imperial Valley next week, and will be absent for six or seven months, during the progress of this particular piece of work. The hotel will cost about \$30,000.

J. Stanley Brown's household goods arrived.

A carload of oil will be used on the streets to lay the dust.

A quarter of a million feet of lumber for W. F. Holt's new opera house and several store buildings on the south side of Main street, are expected daily.

The Holton Power Co. expects to complete its power house at Holtville in December, and will put up power lines to Calexico, Imperial and Brawley. The power company will also engage in the ice business with a plant at El Centro.

Upon announcing his intention to retire from his position as cashier of the Western National Bank of Hereford, Texas, the presidents and directors of that institution gave F. B. Fuller a watch accompanied by a complimentary set of resolutions. The watch was engraved "To our retiring cashier, Francis B. Fuller, in remembrance of his faithful and efficient services and of the love we bear him." Mr. Fuller recently arrived in the valley.

FEBRUARY, 1906

Editorial comment, Imperial Press, Feb. 10, 1906: In the promotion of the town of El Centro an entirely new departure in town making has been followed . . . about all other schemes have been promoted by getting the public to buy on the promises of what would be done. In El Centro it is different; the capitalists who are building it up are investing more than \$100,000 in substantial brick buildings and in the establishment of industries. Before advertising it or making any efforts to sell lots . . . in this connection we may add that to Mr. W. F. Holt, more than any else, is due this great development. As the organizer of the Holton Power Co. he is causing the expenditure of about \$300,000 . . . Imperial Valley is a better proposition today than it ever has been and is getting better day by day. (The investment and expenditure of these huge sums by W. F. Holt, W. T. Bill and their friends was at a time when the stability of the Valley was questioned on every hand. The river had been flowing into Salton Sea for months. People generally were very much discouraged and the action of the El Centro Townsite group did a world towards preventing the start of a general exodus.—Ed. History).

The commodious home and luxurious furnishings on the C. T. Collier ranch west of town make the place a popular one for visitors.

Geo. H. Ried, station agent at the box car for the S. P. has been transferred to Imperial.

Contractor Travers is finishing the brick work on the new El Centro hotel.

L. H. Cooper, Redlands contractor, has been handling construction work for W. T. Bill on the south side of Main street.

THE PRESS MOVES TO EL CENTRO

March 1, 1906. The Imperial Press now owned by W. F. Holt, and the Pioneer paper of the Valley, was moved from Imperial to El Centro and its name changed to the Imperial Valley Press. The Press' equipment made six four-horse wagon loads. The first issue in El Centro came out March 3, the location of the offices being 509 Main street. F. G. Havens was editor, D. D. Pellet, foreman, Mrs. W. E. Downing, who later became Mrs. O. B. Tout, was the compositor. (She still boasts how she set type by hand, and put it in the forms without proof reading.)

At this time construction work in El Centro was at its height. The hotel was just being finished, the opera house corner was being built, ice plant and cold storage depot was going up east of the track, a new creamery was going up next to the ice plant.

Broadway was first called Franklin avenue. One of the first wooden buildings in town was the Hotel Franklin, in the dining room of which were conducted the first church services and first school.

Just west of the Franklin is the real estate office of Fuller & Aten. F. B. Fuller and Ira Aten being partners.

The Anderson drug store in Imperial, was moved to El Centro and set up next to Fuller & Aten's office. This is temporary quarters of the Valley State Bank, of which W. F. Holt was president, A. G. Hubbard, vice-pres. and True Vencill, cashier.

The residents are all living in temporary quarters, mostly tent houses.

The temporary drug store is next door to the bank.

Dave Chaplin and W. L. Payne were agents for the El Centro Land Co. and their office was a little frame building on Main street just east of 5th. It still stands.

Marvin Moore, of Mangum, O. T. has returned to make El Centro his home.

Here are a few additional names of first residents in El Centro: A. D. Medhurst, station agent; Mrs. Van Arman, R. H. Balcolm, Jas. Hiser, F. K. Deuel, I. A. Morgan, J. L. McGuire, W. B. Hamilton, and Mr. Mathews.

Church services were conducted in the Franklin house, by Rev. J. F. Tout, March 11.

F. C. Bayless has resigned as superintendent for the Holt interests and his place is taken by H. N. Snyder, of Oxnard.

Residences in El Centro are being built for F. B. Fuller and D. D. Pellet.

MARCH, 1906

W. A. Van Horn made the first shipment of cream ever made from El Centro.



J. L. Travers and Granddaughter, Diane Travers Kier
(See Pioneer Sketch)

Roy L. Rumsey moved his stock of general merchandise in from Silsbee and opened in one of the new brick store rooms on Main Street.

Hawes & Casner opened a pool room in the new hotel building.

W. E. Downing is installing the first barber shop in El Centro. It is in the El Centro hotel building.

The El Centro Hotel Co. was so pleased with the work done by J. L. Travers on the new brick block just completed that they presented him with a fine Elgin gold watch, properly engraved.

W. W. Masten has installed a meat market in the Franklin Hotel.

All the workmen on all the buildings going on in El Centro, brick men, carpenters, day laborers, were laid off one day while they joined the ranks of saving the main canal by shoveling and carrying sacks of dirt.

J. Stanley Brown has made arrangements to carry a complete line of farm machinery, implements, wagons, buggies and tools.

Thos. Gray, a prominent cattle man, while supervising the crossing of a herd of cattle, west of Silsbee, rode his horse too close to the soft bank and it fell from under him, throwing him into the water which was very swift and deep. He took a rope that was thrown to him but for some unaccountable reason turned loose the rope and was drowned. The body was found two months later.

APRIL, 1906

J. M. Witman has accepted the position as superintendent of El Centro's domestic water system.

El Centro was a bare barley field five months ago and now 1,700,000 brick have been laid and 1,050,000 feet of lumber have gone into buildings.

Slight earthquake shocks for four days have shaken the Valley.

Aten & Fuller are distributing handsome promotion booklets.

E. S. Metzger, the dentist, makes regular calls from Calexico.

The new ice plant is almost complete. The machinery is in place but an eighty horsepower motor is lost somewhere in transit.

MAY, 1906

M. W. Conkling has been in the Valley several days visiting his friend, J. C. Blackinton.

The sidewalk laying crew has started work on Main Street.

Ira Aten is planting several hundred eucalyptus trees on his ranch two miles north of town.

El Centro's first domestic water tank was east of the railroad track.

L. H. Cooper's carpenter crew is centering efforts on the packing house and car sheds of the cantaloupe association.

Jolly dances are being held in the El Centro Hotel.

El Centro Literary Society will open a free reading room on Main Street. Public library is a future possibility.

J. A. Mixer has bought Roy D. Brown's ice cream parlor.

I. A. Morgan's family has arrived from Texas. Mr. Morgan has purchased the John F. Evey place two miles south-east of town, paying \$52.50 per acre.

E. E. Forrester brought ripe apricots and ripe figs to the Press office May 15th.

El Centro's first subdivision is planned on 160 acres immediately south of town.

S. T. Richardson is manager of the Valley Mercantile Co.

J. L. Travers presented the El Centro Hotel Co. with a fine 8x16 flag and it will float from the high flag pole on top of the hotel.

H. H. Peterson is working for the Holton Power Co. in Brawley.

JUNE, 1906

El Centro has exceeded Imperial in freight shipments. An up-to-date depot has been built. A box car has been doing duty.

Considerable rivalry for the establishment of the first high school in the Valley exists between two proposed districts, one including El Centro, Calexico, Heber, Alamo, Elder and Silsbee school districts, the other including Imperial, Brawley, Holtville, Westside and adjacent school districts.

C. E. Heath has established a full fledged blacksmith shop.

Roy Rumsey has moved his stock across the street into a larger store.

Mrs. W. W. Masten is supplying the town with bakery goods.

C. E. Tait is establishing stations for the purpose of conducting irrigation investigations for the department of agriculture. The ranches of S. M. Bixby and W. S. Corwin are two of the stations.



W. E. Wilsie

W. H. Webber and family moved into their new cottage at Sixth and Brighton.

Chas. Hickson and Wm. Allen were riding on the Valley branch in a small gasoline car and were run down by a freight train. Hickson lost a leg and was taken to Los Angeles for treatment.

The growing cantaloupes is called "a desert klondike" and the Valley farmers are reaping splendid profits. Hart & Griswold have shipped 1000 crates from eight acres, and are averaging net profit of \$4 per crate. An average profit of \$200 per acre is expected by many growers.

Notice must be taken of the fact that the establishment of the town of El Centro caused the people of Imperial much worry. The rivalry between the towns is reflected in the columns of the two papers—the Standard and the Press, whose editors, E. F. Howe and F. G. Havens, left nothing much to be said about each other or their respective communities. Mr. Howe attacked W. F. Holt's solvency and Mr. Holt offered him \$5000 to prove his allegations. The quarrel was a merry one.

JULY-AUGUST, 1906

The new ice plant started running on full time, storing a huge quantity of ice, but the demand of cantaloupe shippers used all the ice on hand and many carloads had to be shipped in from Los Angeles.

About seventy-five people enjoyed an old-fashioned picnic the Fourth of July on the W. A. Van Horn ranch.

Charley Masten is El Centro's ice man. He is a popular daily caller.

July 14 the Imperial Valley Press issued a 16-page special edition describing the enterprises and activities of W. F. Holt and the Holton Power Co. The edition was elaborate and complete and was sent everywhere by an admiring population.

Bricklayers and carpenters were temporarily laid off because of lack of bricks.

The offices of the Holton Power Co. will be moved from Imperial to El Centro August 1st.

A public meeting has been called for July 30 by J. Stanley Brown, Tim Blanchard, A. D. Medhurst and D. H. Chaplin, for the purpose of organizing a chamber of commerce.

The total shipment of cantaloupes reached 350 cars, and ten cars of watermelons.

AUGUST, 1906

FIRST CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

A well attended meeting of citizens organized the El Centro Chamber of Commerce July 30 with W. F. Holt, honorary president; J. Stanley Brown, president; Ira Aten, vice-president; D. H. Chaplin, secretary and treasurer. The additional directors were: F. G. Havens, Roy L. Rumsey, T. B. Blanchard, E. E. Forrester, W. E. Wilsie, W. A. Van Horn, F. S. Webster and A. D. Medhurst. In addition to the directorate the charter membership roll contained the following names: J. C. Blackinton, Durward Johnson, Murray A. Stover, S. T. Richardson, L. E. Cooley, H. R. Kyle, U. S. Handley, H. E. Hawes, W. E. Downing, Arthur Shepherd, T. W. Davies, I. Mayfield, J. M. Fowlkes, W. P. Hamilton, J. A. Mixer, I. E. Casner, Daniel Webster, True Vencill, G. W. Nichols, W. W. Masten, C. T. Collier, J. P. Haskell and Ray Balcolm.

The first week in August E. E. Forrester, W. A. Van Horn and Ira Aten made an inspection trip from Calexico eastward along the Alamo channel. They followed the north bank of the Alamo to a point beyond Beltram Slough. From there they came back down the river in a boat. They took soundings and found the stream in many places to be more than seventeen feet deep. When they came within hearing of the falls they found themselves caught in the rapids leading to the overpour and they had the hardest kind of work to keep from being swept over the falls. They finally succeeded in reaching slack water, there they abandoned the boat and waded for more than a mile through mud waist deep. They then had to walk twelve miles to Packard, where they could get a team to bring them home. Mr. Forrester found the Chinese cook at Packard and ordered him to prepare meals for six. The Chinaman said "wassa malla you? I see tree men only." The three men, however, got the six meals all at once and felt better.

ICE PLANT BURNS

Wednesday night, August 15, the ice and cold storage plant was burned to the ground. The plant was idle at the time and only two young men were sleeping in the empty ice storage room. There was quite a heavy thunder storm and the sky was lit with frequent bolts of lightning. Mrs. W. H. Webber discovered the fire at 11 o'clock. Mr. Webber rushed to the plant and aroused the two young men, who were very much surprised to learn that the building was more than half consumed. All that could be done was to watch the building and contents burn. The brick walls fell in and all machinery ruined. The building cost \$75,000 and was insured for \$25,000. Many El Centro people suspected that hot-headed friends of Imperial set the building on fire. Such a belief was encouraged by the publication of an editorial in the Imperial Standard written by E. F. Howe, under the head "May Be Beneficial." This editorial contained the following: "It is now conceded . . . that a serious mistake has been made in attempting to kill Imperial by the building of a rival town close at hand. The men admit that they underestimated the fighting qualities of the people of Imperial. . . . The ice and cold storage plant burned last evening was designed as the chief instrumentality in the killing of Imperial . . . the antagonism which has developed has led to a needless waste of energy and it is believe the destruction of the plant will simplify matters greatly . . . there is reason to believe that it will be rebuilt at Imperial . . . built here it must be conducive to good will and harmonious activity. . . ."

The Imperial Valley Press among other things made this comment: "The above reads more like a defense of the people of Imperial for burning the ice plant than anything else."

W. F. Holt announces that the new ice plant will be rebuilt on the old foundations immediately.

J. G. Hamilton is here from Texas to visit his son, W. O. Hamilton, rancher south of town.

SEPTEMBER, 1906

The statement of the financial condition of the Valley State Bank at El Centro, Imperial Valley Bank at Brawley and the First State Bank at Calexico, show total resources of \$330,966.08, and total deposits of \$185,154.54.

The Valley was treated to a hail storm, the only one on record in September.

W. W. Masten leased the new El Centro hotel, and opened for business Sunday, September 8. The hostelry was nicely furnished, the dining room was the most popular place in town. More than fifty town people dined at the opening.

THE FIRST SCHOOL OF EL CENTRO

Established in 1906

By ALMA TUTTLE GARMIRE

About the first of October in 1906, El Centro began her first school. Ira Aten was clerk of Trustees, F. B. Fuller and W. W. Masten were the other members of the board.

Mrs. M. E. Tuttle, who had been teaching in Imperial, began the school with about 30 pupils in the dining room of the Franklin Hotel on Fifth and Broadway. The number of pupils increased so rapidly that another room had to be arranged for. On Nov. 26th, Mr. Fuller gave the loan of his old bank building, near Fifth and Broadway, to the use of the first four grades, with Miss Alma Tuttle, daughter of the principal, in charge. At the close of the year the enrollment was about 55 pupils.

In 1907 the first school building was erected. Mrs. Tuttle again presiding as principal, with Mrs. Richards as her assistant. Before Christmas a third teacher, Mrs. Knapp was put in.

Two weeks before school was out, Mrs. Tuttle was stricken with heart failure, dying very suddenly after having taught school for a period of 31 years. At the close of this year over 100 pupils had been enrolled.

Miss Fannie Kinne resumed her position with the Valley Mercantile Co.

Homer B. Balcolm and Miss Alice Vanden Heuvel were married at Hanford, and arrived September 24 to make their home on the Balcolm place. A reception was arranged by their friends in the new hotel, and the event was one of the most brilliant recorded in the Valley's social life.

The El Centro Gun Club has been organized, with L. H. Cooper, president; Tim Blanchard, secretary; True Vencill, treasurer.

F. S. Webster defeated J. B. Hoffman in the race for county supervisor.

Alma Tuttle has taken the place of her mother as teacher in the school, which now has forty-four pupils.

NOVEMBER, 1906

W. E. Downing has let the contract for a residence on Brighton Ave. This is the first of eleven houses that will be built this fall by Contractor J. L. Travers.

I. W. Lindsay and family have arrived from Riverside and will build a home on Olive Street.

Broadway has been graded by Dr. Blackinton.

DECEMBER, 1906

Homes are going up for J. L. Travers, C. E. Paris, I. E. Casner.

C. E. Paris is the new general superintendent of the Holton Power Co.

R. P. L. Moore has arrived to take a position as bookkeeper and office manager for the Holton Power Company.

New cattle pens at the railroad yards are being completed.

An orchestra under the direction of Prof. Antonio Scarpa with Murray Stover, A. G. Griswold, and Miss Swindle, provided the best music ever heard in the Valley at a Christmas entertainment held in the new bank building. School children put on a very good program.

W. W. Masten has started a livery stable.

A new band is being organized. Ninety dollars was raised for it by a ball given in the new bank building.

F. G. Havens has resigned as editor of the Press and D. D. Pellett, who has been shop foreman, has taken his place.

Thirty-five relatives, friends and neighbors helped E. E. Forrester enjoy turkey and duck on Christmas day.

Pete Gaines, well known pioneer engineer, was married Christmas day to the nurse who brought him out of a very serious illness in a Los Angeles hospital.

A restaurant and short order counter has been opened by Porterfield & Parker.

Miss Mable Swindle will take piano pupils.

J. G. Newton is the latest to order a house built.

O. R. Miller, who has been with the Holton Power Co. for two years, has accepted a position with the First State Bank at Calexico.

JANUARY AND FEBRUARY, 1907

The El Centro W. C. T. U. was organized: Mrs. M. E. Tuttle, president; Mrs. C. E. Paris, vice-president; Mrs. F. G. Havens, secretary, and Mrs. J. G. Newton, treasurer.

Chas. F. Buttress, of Los Angeles, has arrived to take a position with the Holton Power Co. as expert machinist.

Paul Boman, of Holtville, received a fine Duroc Jersey sow by express. The express charges alone were \$50.

Otis B. Tout has arrived from Imperial to take position as foreman of the Press.

B. E. Nosler has let the contract for a new home on Brighton Avenue.

The Eagles have organized a lodge, with Al Casner, president.

Louis Knapply, of Holtville, has opened a new meat market in the Holt block.

E. E. Forrester came to town with a 12-foot stalk of sugar cane.

W. E. Downing had the first laundry agency in El Centro He sent the laundry to Pomona.

Roger Webster is assisting in the Valley State Bank.

The El Centro band gave an open air concert February 17.

Bonds for the new El Centro school have been sold and the school house will be built soon.

Mrs. True Vencill had to be taken out of the Valley by special train on account of serious illness.

An auxiliary plant run by steam will be installed for emergency service.



Frank B. Fuller
(See Pioneer Sketch)

Dr. F. W. Peterson, of Calexico, has opened an office in El Centro.

M. W. Conkling of Los Angeles will open a law office over the bank building.

A creamery will be built soon at a cost of \$6000. The Central Creamery, a dairyman's association, is back of it. The building committee consists of W. A. Van Horn, Ira Aten and G. W. Nichols.

MARCH, 1907

Odd Fellows Club, preliminary to the organization of the lodge, was organized at the call of J. L. Travers.

In the new brass band Robt. P. L. Moore played the big bass drum and John Norton baritone horn and Roy L. Rumsey the cornet.

To keep up tradition E. E. Forrester came to town with a 26-pound sweet potato.

A number of young men in town formed a co-operative company and rented a tract and will raise cantaloupes. All the back yards in town are planted in cantaloupes.

Grading of Fifth Street will begin shortly.

Rev. J. F. Tout wrote a three column argument in favor of a union church in El Centro.

A professional card of Attorney Franklin J. Cole, of Holtville, appears in the Press.

A series of cartoons on government ownership, drawn by Otis B. Tout, appear in the Press.

Chas. F. Buttress has started a new residence.

Rev. Samuel B. Letson held services in the school house.

The Holton Interurban has purchased a 30-passenger gasoline car which cost \$5000.

W. O. Hamilton enters the business life of El Centro and has purchased an interest in the Valley Mercantile Co. with W. L. Payne.

I. L. Wilson has opened a real estate office which will be in charge of R. E. Jauman.

Dr. Blackinton's \$3000 home is going up.

Wallace and Clyde Bradford have arrived from Texas to take charge of their father's farm.

The Valley Drug Co., A. L. Cook, proprietor, has opened in the new bank building. A large soda fountain is a pleasant feature of the new concern.

H. J. Havens and Elsie Penniman were married.

APRIL, 1907

O. B. Tout has been placed in charge of the Calexico Chronicle and Holtville Tribune by W. F. Holt.

W. B. Patterson has arrived with a carload of furniture and household goods from the state of Washington.

F. A. Yeakle was manager of the telephone company. He explains at some length why the service is so poor. One line has twenty-three phones on it, another has seventeen and another has sixteen.

Dr. Blackinton is erecting a big brick building on Main Street.

APRIL AND MAY, 1907

Dr. F. W. Peterson is building a new home on State Street.

The first automobile mentioned was in the May 11th issue of the Press. The machine belonged to C. H. Day, of Brawley. Mr. Day, accompanied by W. T. Dunn, M. D. Witter and Adolph Eckert, made the run from Brawley in the marvelous time of fifty minutes.

A terrific wind blew down the broad brick walls of the unfinished Blackinton building and the packing shed at Heber.

COUNTY DIVISION STARTED

The reader is referred to the county division campaign in another part of this history.

The railroad is making extensive preparations to handle the big melon crop coming on.

Wm. Wessel, of Imperial, will open a furniture store in Hotel El Centro Building.

Sheriff Jennings, of San Diego, announces the following appointments of deputies: Samuel Packwood, of Brawley; Geo. W. McCain, and John M. Keith, of Imperial; W. O. Hamilton, El Centro; Andrew J. Elliott, Silsbee; W. L. Snowden, and M. P. Harris, Holtville; Maury H. McAlmond and Frank T. Thing, of Calexico.

A special train bearing 100 members of the San Diego Chamber of Commerce visited the Valley and each one said, "I never dreamed of such a thing."

The Methodists are about to build a new church.

Dr. H. F. Fuller has taken charge of the Valley Drug Company's store.

The first crate of cantaloupes of the season was picked from the field of E. A. Gulick.

A Fraternal Brotherhood Lodge was organized with H. R. Kyle, president.

JUNE, 1907

Memorial Day was observed by the Ministerial Union, gathering in El Centro for an all-day meeting. The meeting was called the Christian Workers' Institute. The meetings took place in the unfinished opera house, the first time that structure was used for a public meeting.

A. W. Swanson and son, Paul, have arrived from Wisconsin and expect to make this valley their home. Paul is employed as a printer on the Brawley News.

W. E. Cox, attorney from Calexico, is an addition to the legal profession.

W. A. Berneker, who has been in the Valley a year and a half, employed in construction work in El Centro, is hurrying his vacation trip to Missouri, so he can return and vote for El Centro for the county seat.

Rev. J. F. Tout and family have moved to El Centro from Imperial.

Frank P. Willard and family are here from Escondido. Mr. Willard is an attorney. He will farm one and a half miles east of Heber.

Some recent purchases of town lots in El Centro: F. M. Burger, E. Mead, Chas. E. Mead, Sarah H. King, Ike Casner, H. C. Griswold, O. A. Crocker, B. Chaplin, James and Bernard Wash, T. J. Boyd, Geo. L. Cook.

F. M. Burger has bought the H. J. Nance place, 320 acres, at \$55 per acre.

I. D. Hale has purchased the T. J. Sowles 160 acres east of town.

Six new cottages are to be erected by Mrs. Sarah King in El Centro.

Seventeen hundred head of cattle have just been brought to the Valley for fattening.

Construction of the new Presbyterian Church on Fourth Street has begun.

R. E. Nosler has opened the second barber shop in town.

El Centro Lodge No. 397, I. O. O. F., was instituted June 22 with the following charter members: E. H. Sherman, B. F. Klippel, T. H. Hughes, Sam. Donaldson, M. D. Witter, John I. Davis and Walter Moore. Fifteen new members were initiated.

T. J. Boyd announces the first number of the Imperial Valley Magazine of sixty-four pages is about ready to be published.

The new building for the steam laundry is almost completed.

The executive board of the W. C. T. U. met in the El Centro Hotel. County president, Mrs. Angie Miller; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Florence Buttress; treasurer, Mrs. Lizzie Kramer; superintendent of literature, Mrs. C. E. Paris; Legion work, Mrs. Newton; flower missions, Mrs. Harding; evangelistic work, Mrs. J. F. Tout; medal contest, Mrs. Ada Parsons.

JULY, 1907

A 10-ton scale has been put up near the stockyards.

The Woodman of the World organized a camp with H. R. Kyle counsel commander.

Hubert C. Griswold and Miss Anne G. Symmes were married.

AUGUST, 1907

Mr. and Mrs. J. Stanley Brown took their son, Floyd, to Los Angeles, where he underwent an operation for appendicitis.

The day after election hundreds of Valley residents deserted the Valley for a breathing spell at the coast.

Rumors of land frauds are beginning to operate the attention of the papers.

Judge and Mrs. F. J. Cole are looking over the county seat to select a location for their home.

The Imperial Valley Title Abstract & Trust Co. has opened offices with Dan E. Shaffer in charge.

Mrs. J. F. Tout has opened a millinery and ladies' togery and Miss Abbie Tout will help her run it.

Al Heydloff was in the county seat from his Mesquite Lake ranch for the first time since election.

The Valley Drug Co. has been purchased by Samuel W. Dunaway, an up-to-date druggist from Riverside.

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER, 1907

Mr. and Mrs. V. Rapp and family and Mr. and Mrs. R. Greer and family have arrived in El Centro with their household goods. Mrs. Rapp will be principal of the El Centro schools. Mr. Rapp is an attorney. Mr. Greer is an architect.

Rev. Harold Bell Wright, pastor of the First Christian Church of Redlands, has resigned his pastorate and will move to Imperial Valley, where he owns land. Mr. Wright is a writer as well as preacher. His new book, "The Shepherd of the Hills," is just off the press.

El Centro's new schoolhouse, built at a cost of \$4000 by J. L. Travers, was dedicated with proper ceremonies. Eighty-two pupils enrolled at the opening.

The marriage of Roger Webster and Miss Blanche Strate was celebrated.

Phil D. Swing, just admitted to the bar, has been appointed deputy in the office of District Attorney Eshleman.

The Southern Pacific records 300 per cent increase in one year for the El Centro station.

The honey raisers of the Valley shipped a carload of 42,000 pounds of honey to market. The beemen organized with Geo. W. Nichols president.

Harold Boman, son of county treasurer, a student in the high school at Imperial, died from the result of an accidental discharge of a shotgun.

Ten new brick business buildings and twenty new dwellings indicate the fall growth the county seat is enjoying.

The Colby real estate firm is a new concern.

Dr. E. L. A. Hamilton, from Tulare County, is a new arrival.

Rev. O. L. Snow is pastor of the Methodist Church.

El Centro has a good baseball team. W. H. Buck is manager, Chas. Burness, captain; C. A. Bradford, assistant captain; True Vencill, treasurer; R. P. L. Moore, official scorer. All of the towns of the Valley have good baseball teams.

E. J. Townsend has established the El Centro Transfer Co.



Chas. W. Collins
(See Pioneer Sketch)

A committee to handle a colt show in connection with the coming farmers' institute consists of W. E. Wilsie, R. H. Clark and W. A. Van Horn.

A group of twenty-five Wisconsin people, influenced by A. W. Swanson, who has been in the Valley several weeks, and Henry Burk, have decided to locate. Among them were: Henry J. Burk, surveyor; Ralph Brown, E. P. Baker, E. Loomis, M. F. Burk, and Mrs. Ella Ross. Mr. Swanson was for twenty years editor of the Royalton Banner in Minnesota.

L. Van Burkelo has pitched a tent near El Centro Hotel and becomes El Centro's first photographer.

Membership in the El Centro Chamber of Commerce was doubled; a new board of directors: J. Stanley Brown, C. E. Paris, True Vencill, F. G. Havens, W. E. Wilsie, V. Rapp, Ira Aten, R. H. Clark, J. M. Eshleman, W. O. Hamilton, J. C. Blackinton. J. Stanley Brown was continued president. F. G. Havens, secretary; R. H. Clark, vice-president; and True Vencill, treasurer.

NOVEMBER, 1907

Saturday night, November 2, Masonic Lodge No. 384 was instituted. The first officers were: D. H. Chaplin, C. B. Brown, W. O. Hamilton, Edward Dool, J. B. Baker, A. M. Shenk, H. H. Peterson, John Norton, J. L. McGuire, A. F. Eckert and W. P. Hamilton. A banquet for 200 followed the installation.

The Imperial Valley Baseball League was organized with El Centro, Calexico, Holtville, Imperial as members. O. B. Tout was president of the league and Ed. Boyd, secretary. A schedule of twenty-four games was adopted for the winter.

The W. C. T. U. conducted a silver medal oratorical contest. Those taking part: Lena Mayfield, Alberta Perkiss, Wanda Greer, Pearl Tout, Harry Newton, Vivian Rapp, Boyce Aten and Thurston Harding. Alberta Perkiss won.

The death of John M. Gray, pioneer cattleman, and the father of Mrs. Bert Irwin. Mrs. Stanley Starr, Miss Ellen Gray and James, Henry and Harvey Gray, was noted. Mr. Gray ran cattle on the desert for years before the Valley was cultivated.

The First Presbyterian Church was dedicated November 10. Rev. Geo. Butterfield, of Los Angeles, preached.

The postoffice, entirely inadequate but well handled by the Browns, is handling four times as much mail as last year.

A pumpkin weighing seventy-five pounds is exhibited by Ira Aten, from the Wales ranch near Silsbee.

Ira Aten planted six 100-yard rows of Myers cotton and this cotton shows wonderful production. Mr. Aten estimates average at three bales to the acre.

DECEMBER, 1907

Albert Durham has installed a lunch counter in the El Centro Hotel Building.

Articles of incorporation of the Imperial County Abstract Co. were filed. Ira Aten, V. Rapp, G. W. Nichols, F. B. Fuller and F. G. Havens are interested.

FIRST FLOWER SHOW

El Centro's first flower show comprised seventeen varieties of roses, twelve varieties of chrysanthemums, lantana, canna, orange yucca, oleander, asters, and hibiscus. The women who had charge of the show were: Mesdames C. E. Paris, True Vencil, Arthur Shepherd, Earl Hartzel, J. G. Newton, C. F. Hayden, S. W. Dunaway, R. H. Clark, W. T. Bill and Misses Mable Swindle and Chloe Holt.

COLT SHOW

The predecessor of all county fairs was the colt show held December 6 at El Centro, under the auspices of the Imperial Valley Stock Breeders' Association. The stock was shown and judged on a vacant lot on Main Street before a large crowd. The C. M. ranch sent up a carload of horses and mules. After the ribbon awards were made, a grand parade of ribbon winners was made through the streets. Geo. A. Carter, Frank Stutesman and James Coon were the judges. Some of the ribbon winners: C. M. Co., F. S. Webster, E. A. Perkiss, R. H. Clark, J. D. Abrams, J. McCune, Frank Johnson, W. C. Raymond, L. M. Van Horn, Clyde Reynolds, Jacob Stoner, Fritz Kloke, E. E. Forrester, D. D. Lawrence, H. R. Balcom, W. E. Cox, Jacob Dunman, Bert Irvin, Floyd Bragg, Jacob Gardner, L. S. Neagle, W. H. Poole, P. F. Nice, V. E. Rice, Harry Van Den Heuvel, J. E. Casner, T. A. Atkinson, E. A. McKusick, G. W. Denny, A. D. Hull, W. W. Masten, L. W. Smith, W. E. Wilsie, R. A. Luke.

Kyle MacBratney has established a new jewelry store.

T. J. Iles has purchased the lease on the El Centro Hotel from W. W. Masten.

Hotel registers show over 400 arrivals for the week.

F. B. Fuller, who left El Centro a year ago to attend to business in Texas, has finally closed his affairs there and is back in El Centro for permanent residence.

All the Sunday Schools in El Centro united in giving a fine Christmas entertainment in the opera house.

JANUARY 1908

Nels Jacobson got up before daylight, took a lantern and shovel to turn water in the field and found the field covered with ducks. The ducks got up with a rush and stampeded towards Jacobson, who swung his shovel and lantern, killing six ducks. Jake Meadows and some others were on the edge of the field with guns; they had to get a wagon to bring in the ducks they killed.

W. W. Masten has sold the Franklin hotel and stables to Geo. VanKirk and Wm. Lyman, of Corona.

Imperial Valley melon growers are getting ready for a crop of 1200 carloads.

Temporary excitement was caused by the rumor that oil had been struck in a 1000 foot well in Carriso creek canyon. One hundred and sixty-two filings on oil claims were filed with the county recorder.

The Baptists of Imperial Valley met in Masonic hall January 12. Preaching by the Rev. T. N. Lord.

V. E. Stockwell & Co. is the new real estate firm.

A. P. Nuffer is Valley manager for the Southwestern Loan & Trust Co., of Los Angeles.

Johnson, Duman & Cox is a new real estate firm.

Talk about city incorporation started in January, 1908.

The county Republican central committee has chosen John M. Eshleman, chairman; A. M. Shenk, secretary; C. A. Fredericks, treasurer. The executive committee is R. H. Benton, L. F. Farnsworth, John M. Eshleman, O. B. Tout, Mr. Beasley, M. D. Witter and Wm. Stockton.

FEBRUARY 1908

FIRST AUTOMOBILE THROUGH

The first automobile to make the complete trip to San Diego and El Centro came over in 15 hours, including stops to make roads and get the machine over boulders and through the sand. The occupants were C. H. Bigelow, E. T. Aiken and A. G. Padgot. The party appeared before the board of supervisors to present a proposition for an auto stage line. Bigelow said that with little work the trip could be made in 10 hours. The board took the matter under consideration.

A petition has been filed with the board of supervisors by more than 50 citizens asking permission to incorporate El Centro as a city of the sixth class.

Rev. S. I. Ward is the new pastor of the Presbyterian Church.

One hundred and sixty pupils were enrolled in the schools in February.

El Centro won the winter league championship at baseball.

The initial number of the Desert Farmer, a monthly publication devoted to farming in Imperial Valley, published by John B. Baker, has made its appearance.

OPERA HOUSE DEDICATED

The Holt opera house was dedicated Thursday, February 6, 1908. Every seat in the house was sold long before the night of the show. Delegations came from every town in the Valley after the El Centro orchestra had played the overture, W. F. Holt stepped before the curtain and said a few words of greeting to his neighbors and friends. He in turn was greeted with great enthusiasm. J. Stanley Brown spoke for the El Centro chamber of commerce, and introduced Harold Bell Wright. Mr. Wright spoke on the expression of the spirit of the people, in its amusements. Frank Damsel's company of players presented the musical farce comedy "Are You Crazy." The event was attended also by a train load of Mr. Holt's friends and stockholders of the Holton Power Co., railroad officials and bankers from Los Angeles, Redlands and Riverside. These visitors stayed over a day and were tendered a banquet in the dining room of the El Centro hotel, which was turned into a series of tributes to the man W. F. Holt.

The board of supervisors granted the petitions of El Centro and Calexico to incorporate. Elections will be held in April.

Shade trees are being planted all over town.

POWER TROUBLE

When the New Liverpool Salt Co. won its suit against the California Development Co. the court also granted an injunction against permitting any more water to flow into Salton Sea. As the Holton Power plant at Holtville is run by water wasted into the Alamo, Manager H. T. Cory had to issue the order to shut off the water from the company's power canal.

There was a wild scramble for all the gasoline engines in the Valley from every source that used any power of any sort. The power company's auxiliary steam plant was under construction but would not be ready for three months. Protests and appeals for relief were wired to Judge Wellborn by all chambers of commerce.

A week later Judge Wellborn decided that no injunction was in effect and water was again turned into the power canal.

More excitement was caused when Judge Wellborn cited J. Stanley Brown and other officers of the chamber of commerce for contempt of court for sending the court the chamber's resolution. Strenuous arguments by local attorneys affected a compromise and withdrawals of the charges of contempt.

Imperial County's first grand jury consisted of Edward Dool, foreman, D. D. Pellet, L. A. Potter, Ray Edgar, V. Gant, A. L. Loffer, A. L. Hill, F. G. Havens, W. B. Hollingsworth, W. H. Best, Peter P. Hovley, Lewis Lee, E. S. McCollum, Wm. Hodges, H. C. Harlan, J. E. Carter, Geo. T. Irvin, H. C. Griswold, G. T. Wellcome. The first indictment was against three men for perjury in an Imperial liquor case.

Attorney C. L. Brown, of Yuma, has formed a partnership with Attorney M. W. Conkling.

The Press has installed a linotype machine.

S. B. Zimmer resigned as superintendent of work on the court house and J. L. Travers appointed in his place.

County treasurer Boman has returned from Sacramento with \$36,700 in cash, being the first installment of railroad taxes. Registered warrants can now be cashed.

Deposits in the Valley State bank have run up to \$183,551.69.

The first death in the town of El Centro was that of F. J. Florian, a recent arrival who died suddenly while out driving with his wife.

Dr. R. P. Shepherd, prominent public speaker, plans to start a new town half way between El Centro and Holtville.

MARCH, 1908

W. H. Goodrich Furniture Co. opened with a big stock in one of the stores on Main street.

Ground was broken at Fifth & Broadway for a three story brick hotel. Two Oregon men, Helms and Pellet, are building the hotel. J. L. Travers has the contract. The new hotel will be called the Oregon.

A bold hold up in Casner's pool hall included the capture of the manager John Larkin and the negro porter, who were marched in front of the two bandits on foot to Heber, where the bandits told them they were going to leave them on the desert. They thought they were going to be killed, but the bandits only meant to desert them in a safe place. The fierce bandits were caught and proved to be mere boys.

FIRST COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Representatives of all the commercial bodies of all the Valley towns met in Brawley for the purpose of organizing the Imperial Valley Chamber of Commerce. J. F. Giles was made temporary chairman; Herman Charles, temporary secretary; the temporary officers were made permanent.

The residence of Geo. Long, northwest of El Centro, was burned March, 1908.

District Attorney John M. Eshleman and his deputy, Phil D. Swing, formed a law partnership. Swing will maintain the firm's offices in the opera house block, when the district attorney moves to the new court house.

Dr. Virgil McCombs and associates are building a model hospital to contain 16 rooms, on Sixth street, at a cost of \$6000.

INCORPORATION

The petition of El Centro citizens to incorporate was allowed Friday, February 5, 1908. One hundred and fourteen votes were cast, only eleven being against. The first officer of the new town were Trustees H. B. Pearson, J. Stanley Brown, D. D. Pellett, W. O. Hamilton, Charles Buttress; Clerk, F. G. Havens, Treasurer, R. E. Jauman, Marshal, Clyde Bradford.

At a meeting in El Centro in June, the Home Telephone Company of Imperial Valley was organized and a directorate consisting of the following was chosen: Fred Stahl of Brawley, W. A. Edgar of Imperial, Fritz Kloke of Calexico, George Kline of Heber, Ira Aten, F. S. Webster and R. P. Shepherd of El Centro, J. M. Baldwin of Monrovia and H. C. Goldrick of San Francisco.

A unique organization in October, 1908, along civic lines was the Ten Thousand Club, organized for the purpose of bringing a population of 10,000 to the town of El Centro as quickly as possible. Allen Kelly was leader. The club soon found that it was doing practically the same work as the El Centro Chamber of Commerce and the two were merged in December. The Ten Thousand Club name was adopted by the Women's Club of El Centro and continues so at the present time.

1909

The Simons Brick Company purchased 15 acres from I. A. Morgan and built a modern brick manufacturing plant.

Marvin Moore exhibited a cotton stalk with fifty perfect bolls. The American Nile Cotton Company erected the first gin.

El Centro was served with gas from the new plant. The service was extended to other towns later.

The El Centro National Bank was started by F. B. Fuller and soon a new building was erected at Fifth and Main.

The Daily Free Lance was published by A. D. Medhurst, former Southern Pacific station agent. The paper developed from a small flier issued by Medhurst as a real estate bulletin in 1908. It was printed first in the plant of A. W. Swanson & Son. A plant was later purchased and placed in the El Centro Hotel block at 510 Main street, where the Free Lance continued until 1912, when financial troubles overtook it. Mr. Medhurst believed in speaking frankly and sometimes with pointed sarcasm which, while his intentions were good, aroused much opposition and enmity.

1910 and 1911

Under the leadership of Mayor John Norton, El Centro enjoyed rapid growth during 1910 and 1911. The city's water system, which was first a settling basin, a gasoline



A 1910 School Class in El Centro

engine for pumping and a small tank near the ice plant, was moved to Eighth street where a larger tank was erected.

1912

The Security Savings Bank was organized by Leroy Holt, B. F. McDonald, W. H. Brooks, Phil D. Swing, Dr. Virgil McCombs, J. V. Wachtel and E. J. M. Hale.

The two story brick on the southeast corner of Fifth and Main was built by John E. Davis.

Walter W. Austin, now mayor of San Diego, was a regular business caller for the H. D. Field Safe Co.

The El Centro Progress was started as a weekly in January, 1912, by Mr. and Mrs. Otis B. Tout, who were also publishers of the Calexico Chronicle at the time. They purchased the plant of the defunct Free Lance. The weekly was changed to a morning daily in October, and continued so for ten years.

Roy Moorman started an auto supply and tire business.

J. L. Travers erected the garage building on the corner of State and Sixth streets.

The following building contractors were all busy in El Centro in 1912: J. L. Travers, Cain & Conklin, S. N. Harris, W. I. Stone, Elmer Leonard, W. N. Anderson, Geo. Gregg, J. P. Mooseau, J. D. Manseau, Olsen & Graff, H. H. Peterson, J. D. Huston, R. M. Strange, Wilson, Green, Thomas, Johnson.

Thos. Beach, Valley pioneer, built the brick block on the northwest corner of Sixth and Main streets.

El Centro's new \$75,000 high school building was built. Dedication took place March 29, 1913.

The real estate firms organized the first realty board with C. E. Sprouse as President and Winthrop Pier Secretary. The members: J. W. Colson Land Co., Nuffer Land Co., Salisbury Realty Co., Sprouse Realty Co., Pier & Pendergast, El Centro Land Co., Lien's Agency, Hartson Land Co.

George E. Kennedy, El Centro's express agent, built nine cottages. He retired from the express office in 1914.

Masonic building at Sixth and State was erected. It was dedicated May 1, 1913.

Varney Bros. opened an El Centro branch. This company had stores in all Valley towns and was in business since 1902.

1913

Mrs. Oria B. Kenah established her piano studio in 1912.

The Villa Farms Investment Co. built a number of homes.

C. J. Sawyer was the first driver for the new fire truck. Van McCarrell was the second.

Charles Applestill opened the Tulane Theatre. The Moose Lodge has a club room in the place now.

D. D. Mulligan and son, Edward, established an undertaking business.

El Centro Lodge 315, K. of P., was started with 200 members.

B. Shireson erected the Parkview Apartments at Sixth and Adams.

W. F. Holt sold most of his business blocks on the south side of Main street to his tenants. Sam Dunaway, F. B. Fuller and Dr. Virgil McCombs purchased the opera house corner. Ross and Stuart purchased their grocery store property. The price averaged \$500 a front foot, or \$12,500 for a 25-foot lot with one story brick building.

Plans for building the Barbara Worth were started in 1913.

W. R. Garey exhibited figs that weighed three figs to a pound.

Smith & Bishop opened their new jewelry store.

The Valley's first carload of honey was shipped by Wagner & Fleming in June.

The Imperial Valley Mortgage Company was organized by G. D. Armstead, A. C. Scales, J. H. Scales, E. K. Brown, and R. E. Woolsey. It was capitalized at \$300,000.

1914

The Catholic church on the corner of Fifth and Orange was built by J. L. Travers.

The British & American Mercantile Company opened offices with J. Elliott Druiff and J. T. Ellis in charge.

B. R. Brundage, J. K. Herman, O. G. Horne and Geo. D. Page were officers of the Security Savings Bank.

A sixteen piece band was organized with C. O. Daniels manager.

The reader will note that items concerning the annual county fair will be found in the County History.

Rath & Marshall bought W. J. Drigger's feed business.

Buildings were too numerous to mention. The first three months of 1914 saw \$791,000 worth of construction.

1915

The opening of the new Barbara Worth Hotel was a Valley-wide event. It is chronicled in the County History.

El Centro and Imperial joined in planning and building a sewer system which would relieve the sorry conditions that the overtaxed old system caused. El Centro's share was \$250,000, which was voted almost without opposition.

W. I. Stone subdivided forty acres in the northwest part of the city which he named the Wilshire tract. He put in 25 ornamental lights, planted the streets with trees and secured electricity for the new homes.

The El Centro band reorganized with E. M. Ray director. Following were members: Director, E. M. Ray, cornet; cornets, L. A. Wilson, Donald Shafer, Dewey Applestill; altos, C. O. Daniels, W. L. Canning, Norman Stiles; clarinets, W. L. McGinty, C. F. Henderson, B. A. Scofield, Gene Davis; trombones, E. E. Holmes, A. S. Rose; baritone, John Norton, Sam Schofield; basses, F. D. Boyer, E. H. Jobs, H. R. Bissell; drums, Fred Doege, R. P. Hale. Mr. Wilson, who has been elected manager by the band, can be found at the Poppy Cafe, telephone 206.

The El Centro Chamber of Commerce was reorganized with A. L. Richmond, President.

EARTHQUAKE

June 22, 1915, two severe earth tremors damaged practically every brick building in El Centro and broke all plate glass windows. The shakes came in the evening. The only fire was in a wholesale house where a carload of matches overturned and set the fire. The damage was finally estimated at \$650,000 which was repaired during the summer. Banks and other businesses moved to open structures on lawns while the buildings were being repaired. By November all signs of the visitation were removed and El Centro was doing business as usual.

1916

The El Centro Lodge of Elks conducted a census taking of inhabitants and found 5480 actual residents. This was sufficient to meet the requirements of the Grand Lodge and El Centro's Lodge of Elks was organized in January, with J. Stanley Brown as the first Exalted Ruler. He was succeeded in March by Phil D. Swing.

BUSY WAR YEARS

Until 1919, El Centro was busy with war activities of all sorts, a record of which will be found in the War History of Imperial County. In all drives for Liberty Loans, Red Cross work, War Savings Stamps and the like El Centro, along with the other towns of the Valley, never wavered or fell down. All other activities were submerged during these years to the end that the war might be won and the after effects quickly obliterated.

1919-1920

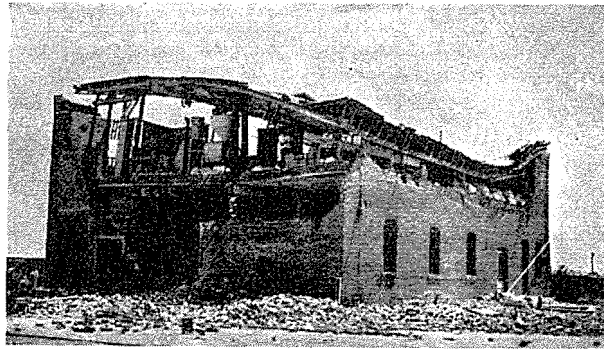
John Brunner, owner of the Princess Hotel, purchased the Oregon Hotel building and furnishings from the C. M. Ranch Company for \$46,000. He recently renamed the hotel the California.

Charles E. Scott, O. J. Crenshaw, C. L. Childers, Phil D. Swing, John S. Ross and Ross T. Hickcox, attorneys of El Centro, were named in the "American Bar" blue book, as leading attorneys of the state.

In 1920, Dave Matlock was Chief of Police. The city voted \$195,000 for enlargement of water facilities and \$15,000 for a fire alarm system. That was when "Big Bertha" was born—the cyclonic horn that surmounts the fire house. Otto Ohmstede, C. E. Pitzer and J. L. Travers took their seats as councilmen.

The Southern Trust & Commerce Bank, of San Diego, absorbed the El Centro National Bank. F. B. Fuller remained in charge as Vice-President and Manager. The business was centered in the Southern Trust's bank at Sixth and Main.

In May, 1920, the post office was moved from near Sixth and Main to the present site on Fifth street. C. W. Collins was postmaster. The lot on which the post office was located was first occupied by a brick building used as a restaurant and later as the first county jail. The dedicatory ceremonies included placing a corner stone in which various newspapers, photos and business cards were encased.



A Sample of the 1915 Earthquake's Work. I. V. Baking Co.

Prof. W. T. Randall, head of Central Union High school, resigned and Prof. J. L. House was appointed to the position. Mr. House has been principal since that time. A. P. Shibley, just retiring as County Superintendent of Schools, accepted the post of Superintendent of El Centro's city school system.

Item from June 6, 1920, Progress:

"In the list of races published by General I. A. Thomas for the Elks picnic, there was a race named for past Exalted Rulers only. The entries to that race therefore, will be Assemblyman J. Stanley Brown, Superior Judge Phil D. Swing, Jeweler Vern M. Bishop, Editor Otis B. Tout, and Mayor-Baker O. E. Ohmstede. Odds are being offered by Mr. Brown that he wins. He bases his bets on the fact that he ran so well last election. Judge Swing may refuse to run, as he did in the Judgeship. Bishop believes he has a chance because he is a jeweler and it's his business to make things run. Tout says he never ran from anybody in his life and hates to run away from that bunch in a race. Ohmstede ran so well in the city election he thinks he has a cinch.

"Frank Richmond will handle the bets on this event without commission. He would like to see the whole gang run themselves out of breath."

It must be said: Congressman Swing won the race.

Twelve Imperial Valley girls spent a month of the summer in San Diego as a reward for winning places in a subscription contest conducted by the Progress. They were guests at the U. S. Grant Hotel and enjoyed a different outing each day they were there.

W. A. Marshall built a handsome store at Eighth and Main.

The Imperial Valley Gas company appealed to the citizens for financial aid to keep going.

The city, under the urge of C. E. Pitzer, street commissioner, engaged in paving many streets in 1920.

I. T. Sparks, who represented the freight building department of the Southern Pacific in the Valley for eight years, was transferred to Eugene, Oregon, and C. W. Runge was appointed to take his place. Mr. Runge was an efficient official for a number of years.

A. L. Richmond sold the Barbara Worth Hotel to Will Conlway in 1920, and purchased the half million dollar Arlington Hotel in Santa Barbara.

The Imperial County Republican Club was formed to work in the campaign of 1920. Ross T. Hickcox was chairman and Chas. E. Scott was secretary. M. W. Conkling, E. R. Simon, Roy Breedlove, Earl Banta and H. W. Brewer were by-laws committee. Dan Leonard, of Calexico, chairman of the county ways and means committee and appointed Clifford Coggins as chairman for El Centro.

Mr. Coggins selected George Banta, M. W. Conkling, R. T. Hickcox, H. W. Brewer, Roy Breedlove, Fred J. Trude, C. T. Ross, D. J. Matlock, O. B. Tout and C. E. Pitzer as assistants on this committee in El Centro.

1921

EL CENTRO FAIR

Because there seemed to be no likelihood of an Imperial County Fair being held in 1921, the El Centro Chamber of Commerce stepped into the breach and conducted a fine show, full of exhibits and accompanied by an interesting program. Jas. T. Coyle, secretary, was the moving spirit and he had the co-operation of all the directors.

Otis B. Tout was President of the Chamber of Commerce. Ninety-two different suggestions for the betterment of the city were sent in by postcard.

A great watermelon fiesta was staged in the city park by the Chamber of Commerce in June.

NELS P. SORLEI. General contracting, 733 Broadway, El Centro. Came from Los Angeles in 1911; erected El Centro's first post office building, later built and operated Panama Hotel; built Stewart Hotel, completed first building in Calipatria and during the last twenty years has constructed many buildings in the Imperial Valley. At present, with Mrs. Sorlei, he owns and operates the Sorlei apartments, where they make their home.

A new school on the eastside of the city was built to accommodate the colored population.

El Centro's first Rotary Club was organized in June, 1921. Otto Jeancon, Ray Edgar, J. S. Ross, Dr. Norman Dupont and Dr. Forrest Kutz were the prime movers.

In April, 1921, a municipal rest room was established next door to the city hall on Sixth street. The citizens of the town contributed more than \$2000 to furnish the room with comfortable furniture. The El Centro Progress conducted the campaign for funds. The room was first in charge of Mrs. Winslow. It has continued to be a useful convenience for women visitors in the city all these years.

MR. AND MRS. HORACE WILLIAMS. Proprietors Williams Music store, 1002 Olive avenue. Came in 1921 from England. Organized and directed Brawley Public Band and Municipal El Centro Band; members drawn from all parts of the Valley. Both are teachers of violin, piano and band instruments.

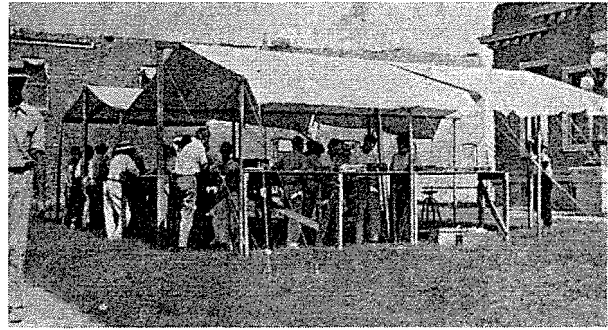
1922

The Hammond Bros., publishers with E. P. Clark, of the Riverside Press, purchased both the El Centro Progress and the Imperial Valley Press in February, 1922, from Otis B. Tout and M. D. Davis, and discontinued the Progress. Ross Hammond continued as managing editor for a short time when he turned it over to C. W. Barton, former County Treasurer, newspaper man and member of the Exemption Board during the war. Later W. C. Costello was appointed Managing Editor and he still conducts the paper which now has an investment of some \$100,000 in property and plant.

Mr. and Mrs. Tout moved to Porterville and Mr. Davis to Los Angeles.

Upon announcing their removal after fifteen years in the newspaper business in the Valley some 75 pioneers and business men gave the Touts a farewell dinner at the Barbara Worth Hotel, where an embryo Pioneer Association was formed with Mr. Tout as honorary President. They still possess the "key" to the city, presented at the time.

Speakers at this banquet included: C. W. Collins, Judge Franklin J. Cole, Albert Durham, Ira Aten, Joseph Seymour, C. E. Scott, J. L. Travers, H. C. Welch, W. D. Garey, Mrs. Violette Campbell, Robert P. Moore, Wiley



The Banks Opened for Business on the Library Lawn After the 1915 Earthquake

M. Weaver, Judge M. W. Conkling, Frank Bowles and C. O. Black.

A first class county-wide fair was conducted in the fall. It was handled by the El Centro Chamber of Commerce through the following committee: Ross T. Hickcox, Otto Jeancon, Ray Edgar, C. C. Corwin, Irl E. Hinrichsen, J. L. Travers, W. H. Lavayea, J. W. Goza, J. C. Tate, A. H. Kellar, R. H. Carey, C. K. Cooper, O. G. Horne, E. W. Judy, S. E. Bragg, L. A. Jackson.

The El Centro Ministerial Association had the following officers: President, Rev. George Hartman, of the Presbyterian church; Vice-President, Rev. Arthur Schultz, of the Methodist church; Secretary-Treasurer, Rev. Arthur Worthy, of the Christian church.

A new grammar school was built at Seventh and Wensley avenue.

The voters registered disapproval of a \$200,000 water bond issue.

The Sones Lumber Company bought the yard and stock of the Hayward Lumber Company.

The El Centro Golf Club formed as a temporary organization in October, 1923, with Charles E. Scott as chairman and C. E. Sones as secretary. The directors were: Franklin J. Cole, H. C. Jones, Charles Scott, A. C. Johnston, and H. W. Brewer. The officers elected were: H. C. Jones, President; F. J. Cole, Vice-President; Charles Scott, Secretary and H. W. Brewer, Jr., Treasurer. The course was between El Centro and Imperial. The initial fee was \$35.

The Chamber of Commerce conducted a clean up campaign with good results. Thirty truck loads of debris were removed from vacant lots about town in one day's work.

A new drive for memberships in the El Centro Chamber resulted in the addition of 147 names to the roll. The total was then 455.

B. Salomon, after fifteen years in the dry goods business, sold to a syndicate headed by A. C. Johnston.

Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Jenkins built the Jenkins Apartments.

W. J. Clements added \$12,000 worth of improvements to his drug store.

W. A. Scheineman purchased the Shireson Paper Co.

The city added a chlorination plant to clarify the water.

A \$60,000 gymnasium was added to the high school equipment.

THE LAST EIGHT YEARS

Repetition of "growth items" and business changes might be kept up indefinitely. During the last eight years El Centro increased practically 50 per cent in population, in assessed valuation in number of business houses and in volume of business.

Since the war period the American Legion has taken its place as an important organization. The Boyce Aten Post is sketched in the war chapters.

In 1924 the \$200,000 water bond issue, which was turned down in 1922, was carried and badly needed improvements made.

Robert P. L. Moore, as President of the Chamber of Commerce, carried on aggressive promotion work.

The year 1924 was a bad one for fires. The Barbara Worth suffered a loss of \$30,000; Varney Bros. lost \$100,000; the Crescent Creamery \$15,000 and the Kendall building at 670 Broadway burned with a loss of \$50,000 to the occupants, the Borderland Express, the Moreland Truck Co. and the Willard Battery people. The fire department answered 102 calls in 1924.

Howard P. Meyer was head of the Chamber of Commerce in 1925.

A new filter plant was installed.

JIMMIE HUSHMAN. Proprietor Hushman's Garages, 761 and 732 Main street. Came from Montana in 1926; he says he came to the Valley because he thought it was a wonderful place and intends to live here the rest of his life. Has ten employees and has an excellent business.

The city voted a five mill tax for the support of the Chamber of Commerce. This was not sufficient and in 1928 the tax was raised to 10 mills which provides about \$10,000 annually for promotion work.

The population in January, 1926, was 8133.

A. H. Kellar made history when he sank his tee shot on a 193 yard hole at the golf club. This was the first hole in one ever made below sea level. He was in the movies on account of it but got back into the banking business before long.

In 1926 Sam Dunaway sold his opera house corner to M. E. Myers of San Diego for \$90,000.

El Centro conducted a "dairy day" February 27, 1926.

W. W. McEuen was president of the Chamber in 1926.

The American Legion conducted one of the biggest Armistice Day celebrations ever seen in the Valley in 1926. It was staged at El Centro and all towns took part.

C. W. Collins, postmaster and pioneer, died November 14, 1926.

El Centro's ornamental lighting system went in in 1926. The contract was secured by the Globe Electrical Works, of San Diego.

Geo. H. Wilsie, for sixteen years station agent for the Southern Pacific at El Centro, left to make his home in Wisconsin.

The city purchased a new fire truck in 1926.

R. Y. Watson headed the Chamber of Commerce in 1927. John S. Carmichael was still secretary.

The people voted \$50,000 to remove the Date canal from Eighth street. The property owners paid for the grading and paving of the street after the canal was removed. This improvement gave the city an avenue more than 100 feet wide.

Earl R. Irey and Frank M. Bowles established KGEN as a broadcasting station in January, 1927. Later the station was named KXO. It has functioned without interruption since its establishment and has been a source of continuous entertainment, instruction and convenience to the Valley.

The officers of the Imperial Valley Building & Loan Association held open house in October, 1927.

Ben Herring purchased the T. M. Gill tire business in 1927.

C. E. Pitzer handled the excavation work for the six new settling basins for the city water works.

El Centro was host to the Farm Bureau Regional Conference in 1927. S. E. Robinson had charge of the program.

The Southern Pacific built the present commodious depot in 1927.

The Telephone Company expended \$34,800 on improvements in 1927.

The Imperial Valley Press moved into its own home on State street in 1927.

The new West Coast Theatre was built in 1927 and 1928. Opening October, 1928. It is now in the Fox chain.

The El Centro branch of the Pacific Southwest Trust & Savings Bank consolidated with the First National Trust & Savings Bank of Los Angeles in August, 1927.

More paving was done in 1927.

In 1928 Leo Hetzel was president of the Chamber of Commerce. The ten mill tax permitted the Chamber to engage in much wider fields of activity. Robert Hayes was named secretary in August.

JUNIOR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

In order to secure the co-operation of junior members and employees of firms belonging to the Chamber of Commerce a movement was launched by the Chamber in August, 1928, that resulted in the organization of the El Centro Junior Chamber of Commerce. The original committee: T. J. Arnett, W. J. Strickland, B. H. Majors, I. G. Wilson, Leo A. McGee, H. A. Hansen, C. G. Stevenson, and Robert Hays, the latter secretary of the senior chamber. After a canvass of the city for memberships, resulting in the enrollment of seventy-five, organization was effected September 18, with the following officers:

President, T. J. Arnett; First Vice-President, N. E. Christian; Second Vice-President, F. W. Schanz; Secretary, C. G. Stevenson; Treasurer, L. B. McManus; Contractor, W. J. Strickland.

President Leo Hetzel, of the Chamber of Commerce, was elected a member of the committee to handle the promotion of Southern Air Routes in Southern California at a conference held in San Diego in September. El Centro was represented at this conference and at a conference which followed in Los Angeles by Leo Hetzel, W. C. Costello, J. C. Neale, C. C. Jenkins, T. J. Arnett, W. J. Clements, H. L. Loud and Robert Hays.

Louis Runge, an attorney of Los Angeles, visited El Centro in 1928. He boasted that he started life as a carrier boy on the El Centro Progress. He was a son of C. W. Runge.

The Moose Lodge was instituted in El Centro, April 27, 1928. M. L. Cash was Supervisor; Ed Milner, Secretary.

Massey Horton purchased the Valley Drug Company in April, 1928.

Montgomery Ward Company entered business life in El Centro in 1928.

The Maddux Air Lines established service to and from El Centro in December, 1928.

In 1929, Leo Hetzel was again elected President of the Chamber of Commerce. An unusual happening, according to the records.

The Junior Chamber of Commerce, a branch of the senior organization, was voted the most active body of its kind in the state. T. J. Arnett was first president, Elton Christian the second and Al Smith the third.

The Telephone company moved to its new building on State in June, 1928.

The opening of the "English Village," a unique canyon ground hotel, was May, 1929.

PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL

At the invitation of Leo Hetzel, President of the Chamber of Commerce, the heads of all civic and official organizations in the city were called into conference for the purpose of co-ordinating the efforts of all along civic lines. Responding: Mrs. O. J. Bradshaw, Women's Ten Thousand Club; Mrs. H. A. Conger, Women's Auxiliary, American Legion; W. J. Clements, Mayor of El Centro; Sam Robinson, Farm Bureau; Clyde V. Hill, Elks Lodge; Earl Jones, Kiwanis Club; Dr. R. C. Clemons, Sciots; J. S.

Neale, Lions Club; N. E. Christian, Junior Chamber of Commerce; A. C. Farrar, American Legion; Dr. E. O. Carter, Shrine Club; W. W. McEuen, Rotary Club; Robert Hays, Secretary Chamber of Commerce; C. K. Harris, Secretary Elks Lodge.

The body formed a Presidents' Council with Leo Hetzel Chairman, and C. K. Harris, Secretary.

The new organization took action favoring the building of a civic auditorium for the accommodation of public gatherings and appointed a committee to confer with the Boyce Aten Post, American Legion, to see if this idea be incorporated in the memorial building contemplated by the Legion.

Combining with the golfers of Holtville, a new grass course was laid out, grassed and completed by the Barbara Worth Golf Club. The new course has a sprinkler system for irrigation, grass greens and fairways and is one of the best courses in the southland.

One of the many notable events managed by the Junior Chamber was an open air breakfast served at 6:30 a. m. in the park near the court house, September 25. President Al G. Smith presided and notables from numerous civic organizations were on the program. This was the first anniversary for the Junior Chamber. That evening a banquet took place in the Barbara Worth hotel, where reports of activities were heard.

The City Planning Commission was appointed after the adoption of an ordinance designating certain portions of the city as zones where low grade buildings could not be erected. The Commission consists of D. B. Roberts, W. W. Wheatley, J. S. Cameron, C. C. Jenkins, J. L. Travers and Mark Munson. Mr. Munson was President.

The Zurcher Drive-In-Market was established in 1929.

In 1930 the proposal to vote \$60,000 bonds in order to erect a civic auditorium for the use of big gatherings, conventions, etc., was defeated at the polls.

The Barbara Worth Hotel was sold by Will Conway to H. E. and L. A. Boadway, of Pasadena. H. E. Boadway, active manager, died later in the year. The property again changed hands in 1931, some of the former stockholders retaining their interests.

R. B. Whitelaw was President of the Chamber of Commerce in 1930.

The new home of the Salvation Army at Sixth and Broadway was dedicated in August, 1930.

P. V. Harrigan was President of the Junior Chamber in 1929 and was succeeded by Louis McManus who, in turn was succeeded by Russell Kleigel. The Juniors change presidents every six months.

In 1930 the State Railroad Commission approved the plan to open State street across the railroad tracks in order to provide an additional through artery for heavy traffic through town.

In 1930 W. E. Hancock was president of the El Centro Realty Board.

On December 29, El Centro's building record was broken. The largest year previous to 1930, was 1926, when \$646,544 in permits were issued. The issuance of a permit to Arthur Roberts for a dwelling house made a total of \$647,805.

NEWSPAPER NOTES

IMPERIAL VALLEY PRESS

The Imperial Press was started April 20, 1901. Henry C. Reed, editor and publisher, and continued under his charge until November 2, 1901, when Edgar F. Howe became editor and manager. Howe continued in charge until August 23, 1902, the paper then became the property of the Imperial Land Co., and was edited by L. M. Holt until March, 1903, at which time Mr. Howe again took charge of the paper as editor and owner. He continued for 14 months, selling to Chas. A. Gardner March 7, 1904. Mr. Gardner continued until December 1, 1904, at that time a group of men, F. G. Havens, F. N. Chaplin, Geo. Bothwell and S. J. Ulrey purchased the paper and Jas. G. Ellis



W. C. COSTELLO
Managing Editor, Imperial Valley Press

was put in charge as editor. Ellis left in three months and F. G. Havens took charge. Early in 1906, W. F. Holt acquired ownership of the Press and on March 1, the plant was moved to El Centro. Mr. Havens continuing as editor. In December, 1906, Mr. Havens resigned and D. D. Pellet was editor and manager. Mr. Pellet conducted the paper through the winter and the following summer. In November, 1908, Allen Kelly, noted editor and writer, and C. F. Hayden and Lewis Havermale, from the force of the Los Angeles Times, took over the management for Mr. Holt, Mr. Pellet staying on as foreman of the shop. The Press tried out the morning field with "The Morning Star" for thirty days but discontinued it on account of expenses attached.

In 1911, Kelly, Havden and Havermale retired from the management of the Press and were succeeded by E. F. Howe & Sons, former publishers of the Imperial Daily Standard, which they discontinued. The Howe regime carried on until 1915, when financial difficulties threw the paper into the hands of a receiver. At Receiver's sale Edgar A. Johnson, of Fullerton purchased the plant and announced that he would make El Centro his home. He sold the paper in 1917 to Robert Weekes, who was drafted into the army. Weekes sold to M. D. Davis and then found that the camp doctors wouldn't let him serve because of poor eyes. Mr. Davis was an energetic young man and conducted the paper with ability and success until February, 1922, when he sold to the Ross Hammond interests at the same time the Hammonds purchased the Progress.

Ross Hammond, who was prominent for many years in the newspaper business in Nebraska, was his own managing editor for several months. The Press occupied the ground floor of the Freeman building, formerly occupied by the Progress at Sixth and State, its first move in sixteen years. C. W. Barton was then installed as managing editor. He was succeeded by Will C. Costello, son-in-law of Ross Hammond. Mr. Costello is still the directing genius of the Press. Under his management the Press moved into its new home on State street in 1927, improved its plant and now the business represents an investment of \$100,000.

The Press has maintained a capable leadership in public affairs throughout the years by practicing a policy of fairness, impartiality and good newspaper sense.

For more than ten years James Greene has been city editor and his capable newspaperman's sense of the value of news has kept the Imperial Valley public informed on all local, national and international affairs. His familiarity with telegraph service gives the Valley condensed, worthwhile news.

DAILY FREE LANCE

The Daily Free Lance was the outgrowth of the Daily Real Estate, a one page flier issued by A. D. Medhurst in 1908 for the promotion of real estate business in which Mr.

Medhurst engaged after he was S. P. station agent. The Free Lance was first published in the printing plant owned by A. W. Swanson and later from a plant purchased and installed at 510 Main street. Mr. Medhurst's journalistic career was hectic and short. In 1911 he lost his plant and it was sold to Mr. and Mrs. O. B. Tout, who started the El Centro Progress in January, 1912.

EL CENTRO PROGRESS

El Centro, being an active field for future growth, Mr. and Mrs. O. B. Tout purchased the Free Lance plant and established the Weekly El Centro Progress in January, 1912. It was changed to a morning daily in October of the same year and continued as such until sold to the Hammond interests in 1922. During the ten years in El Centro the paper gave Imperial Valley the only morning newspaper service it ever had, save for one month of the "Morning Star," published by the Press management two years before. It was a member of the Associated Press. Its service to the community during the war period was recognized and its active and practical backing of the Chamber of Commerce was effective. In 1921 Mr. Tout was elected president of the Chamber of Commerce and when the Progress ceased publication in 1922, friends gave Mr. and Mrs. Tout a farewell banquet.

IMPERIAL VALLEY FARMER

The Imperial Valley Farmer was established in 1920 by the combination of the Seeley Sentinel, the Zanjero and the Farm Bureau Monthly. W. A. Magruder was first publisher. Arthur and Claire Burke purchased the Farmer and built it up to become a weekly representative of the farmers of the Valley successfully. Carleton T. Joy, as editor, had an important part in this growth. The Bennitt Brothers, owners of the Holtville Tribune, purchased the paper in 1931 and it continues under the direction of Geo. Bennitt to ably represent rural interests. The Farmer office is on Sixth street, El Centro. It is well equipped for job printing as well as publishing.

EL CENTRO REALTY BOARD

The board was organized in 1922, and now has fourteen members. Ray Edgar was the first president, followed by H. L. Loud, Allen Nuffer and at the present time, W. E. Hancock is president and John Tyler is secretary. The meetings are held to discuss real estate conditions in the Valley.

THE PRESENT DAY CLUB OF EL CENTRO

Organized in 1919 by Mesdames F. B. Fuller and W. W. Apple. The charter and other early members were Messrs. and Mesdames Burrit S. Allen, W. W. Apple, M. D. Boucher, R. W. Campbell, W. S. Fawcett, F. B. Fuller, Ben Garland, W. O. Johnson, George Phelps, J. R. Ritzinger, Phil D. Swing, A. H. Griswold, Mrs. R. B. Kepley and Judge F. J. Cole. The presidents have been in order named: Judge Phil D. Swing, F. B. Fuller, Judge Franklin J. Cole, Ross T. Hickcox, W. C. Costello, Nont J. Reid, Dr. W. W. Apple, the present president being R. A. Chesnut.

In the meetings of the Present Day Club the first part of the evening is taken up with an address on some present day problem or perhaps some travel talk, after the discussion of which there follows a social hour of cards and music. The club is recognized as one of the outstanding organizations in the county.

WOMAN'S TEN THOUSAND CLUB

The Woman's Ten Thousand Club was organized October 30, 1908. It was federated with the state in 1908, with the county in 1912; general 1924, and incorporated in 1915. The club meets the third Thursdays, beginning with the third Thursday in October and ending with the last meeting in May. The club colors are green and white. The club motto is, "The aim if reached or not, makes great the life."—Browning. A beautiful club home at the corner of Seventh and Olive, is free of debt and is the home of the club. In addition it is used for many social

activities of the city. The charter members: Mesdames A. W. Swanson, C. E. Paris, Genevieve Williams, Dan V. Noland, Louis Havermale, Fred Hayden, Leta Bryan, P. T. Cunningham, J. M. Eshleman, J. W. Lindsay, C. F. Buttress, F. G. Havens, J. C. Blackinton, John Crawford, Kyle McBratney, T. B. Blanchard, Garnet Davis, C. E. Sprouse, J. R. Garren, Emily Mills, H. B. Pearson, Marie Sylvaria, Caroline Glass, Flora M. Thayer, Marion Waite, Harriet Iles, Denver D. Pellett, May Hill, Ray Balcolm, Misses Clara Johnson and June Van Den Heuval, and the late Mesdames Sam W. Dunaway, J. Stanley Brown and Ione Elder. Mrs. W. R. Garey, 683 Broadway, is the only life member. The past presidents are: Mesdames A. W. Swanson, Robert B. Vaile, William S. Fawcett, Alfred H. Griswold, Francis B. Fuller, Oliver G. Hopkins, Charles E. Scott, James W. Glassford, Frank D. Jacobs, J. D. Huston, Albert W. Hale, Hugh T. Osborne, O. J. Bradshaw.

The present President is Mrs. B. M. Gruwell. Mrs. Ray Edgar is now Vice-President; Mrs. Norman Deaton, Recording Secretary; Mrs. W. W. McEuen, Corresponding Secretary, and Mrs. H. C. Diller, Treasurer. The Federation Presidents are: General, Mrs. John F. Sippel; State, Mrs. William Slayden; Southern District, Mrs. Marcus Robbins, and County Mrs. B. A. Anslyn.

EL CENTRO LODGE NO 384, F. & A. M.

This organization was chartered October 10, 1907. At present time the membership is 283. The lodge meets every Monday night in Masonic Temple. The Worshipful Masters from 1907 to the present time are as follows: D. H. Chaplin, C. B. Brown, W. O. Hamilton, Jno. M. Eshleman, H. H. Peterson, O. R. Miller, J. Stewart Ross, M. S. Cook, Phil D. Swing, Nont J. Reid, Harry L. Barker, Chas. N. Perry, Lodah P. Alexander, Clarence W. Barton, Edwin J. Allen, Jas. R. Ford, Chas. L. Childers, Jno. L. House, Charles Elias Sones, Walter D. Garey, Charles H. Knights, Dorsey G. Whitelaw, William J. Reid, John W. Cook. The present master is Robert Lee Graham. The secretary is Chas. H. Knights. The twenty-fifth anniversary of this order will be December 14, 1931. John Stewart Ross is grand master in grand lodge, while Chas. E. Sones is Inspector for the 108th district.

EL CENTRO CHAPTER NO. 109

(Royal Arch Masons)

This order was organized in 1913 with the first High Priest, Virgil McCombs. The following high priests in order named: Walter O. Hamilton, J. Stewart Ross, Phil D. Swing, C. A. Shafer, J. P. Daly, Eugene D. White, Chas. M. Berry, Thos. J. Foree, J. G. Miller, J. S. Loofbourow, R. H. Maddux, Frank I. Shepherd, R. E. Couch, W. J. Clements, A. B. Arnold, Herbert E. Holt, A. G. Dyer, James W. Glasgow. H. R. Anderson is the present High Priest. Frank I. Shepherd is Secretary. This order meets in Masonic Temple every Thursday evening.

SCOTTISH RITE

The Scottish Rite was organized in 1912. The present President is Norman C. Deaton; the secretary and treasurer is Chas. H. Small.

OASIS LODGE NO. 664, F. & A. M.

By J. W. GLASGOW

Oasis Lodge was first conceived in the minds of a number of so-journing Masons in and around El Centro jurisdiction, for the reason that there were a great many Masons from outside jurisdictions who were permanent residents of Imperial Valley, but who for sentimental reasons were reluctant to demit from their Mother Lodge.

After receiving the consent and approval of the Officers and members of El Centro Lodge No. 384 set about to find a man who was not only capable but willing to pilot the destiny of a new organization through the hazardous stage of dispensation. This man was found in the person of Nont Jonathan Reid, Past Master and Trustee of El Centro Lodge No. 384.

The preliminary meeting was held October 5, 1927, at which time Nont J. Reid was elected Chairman, and Jas W. Glasgow Secretary. At this meeting it was decided to ask the Grand Master of Masons of California for a dispensation, and also elected proposed officers for the new lodge at the same time adopted the name of Oasis Lodge, F. & A. M. The proposed elected officers were:

Nont J. Reid, Master; William Loyd Garrett, Senior Warden; Otto Joseph Bradshaw, Junior Warden; J. Robert Fahs, Treasurer; James Wilbor Glasgow, Secretary.

The dispensation was asked and the request granted, and Oasis Lodge became an active Masonic body working under dispensation.

The following is the list of names of the twenty-one original signers of the petition, also the charter members of Oasis Lodge No. 664: Nont Jonathan Reid, Warren Currier, Robert Burns, William Loyd Garrett, Edwin Otis Carter, William Harold Tyler, Burling M. Gruwell, James Wilbor Glasgow, Forrest Eugene Kutz, Hiram Diller, John H. Edgar, Charles Stanford Brooks, John Ward Tyler, Simon Peter Williams, James Robert Fahs, Fred Peter Nuttall, Otto Joseph Bradshaw, Thomas Lanier, Harmon Hart Tyler, Bert Linn Major, and Ray Elmer Breedlove.

Of interest was the fact that among these twenty-one members their Mother Lodges were in almost as many different states.

The dispensation for Oasis Lodge was issued during the year of 1928.

The first regular meeting under dispensation was held Monday evening, February 13, 1928, and John Stewart Ross, then Grand Junior Warden of the Grand Lodge of the State of California, was in charge of the meeting, assisted by Charles E. Sones, Inspector of the then 106th Masonic District. The following officers were regularly installed and given their jewels by the above grand officers:

Nont J. Reid, Master; Otto Joseph Bradshaw, Junior Warden; James R. Fahs, Treasurer; Jas. W. Glasgow, Secretary; Forrest E. Kutz, Senior Deacon; Warren Currier, Junior Deacon; Hiram C. Diller, Marshal; Roy E. Breedlove, Senior Steward; Bert Linn Major, Junior Steward; Frank Reading, Tiler.

We were intensely disappointed by the fact that William Loyd Garrett had been called out of town by a change of business and therefore could not be installed as Senior Warden, to which office he had been elected. The Master appointed Warren Currier Junior Deacon elect, to fill that station.

From this date on Oasis Lodge met with unusual success and prospered steadily, until on September 5, 1928, the Grand Master of Masons of the State of California was petitioned by its members for a Charter. This was granted and the lodge had grown to thirty-one members and its finances were in excellent condition. At this same meeting the new officers were elected and they were the same officers as were elected and who had served under the dispensation with the exception that Warren Currier was elected Senior Warden to fill the vacancy caused by Brother Garrett leaving town.

On Saturday evening October 20, 1929, Gustaf A. Hutaff, now Grand Master of Masons, accompanied by several of his grand officers made the trip to El Centro and presented the charter, and at the same time installed the officers.

Here mention must be made that the first two years of the life of Oasis Lodge were under the guidance and direction of Nont J. Reid, who carried through the year of dispensation and then saw his work crowned with success by being Master the first year under charter.

Oasis Lodge, after being chartered, received the regular number 664, and is now known as Oasis Lodge No. 664, F. & A. M. The lodge has developed to a membership at the present time of 71.

We are no less proud than is El Centro Lodge No. 384, that their own member, Most Worshipful John Stewart Ross, is now Grand Master of Masons of the State of California, for he was a very active Mason in helping Oasis through its toddling stage.

The present officers are two Past Masters, Nont J. Reid, Senior Past Master, Warren Currier Junior Past Master,

and Otto J. Bradshaw, Master; Roy E. Breedlove, Senior Warden, Bert L. Major, Junior Warden; Jas. R. Fahs, Treasurer; Pat Glasgow, Secretary; John W. Tyler, Senior Deacon; Clarence Carroll, Junior Deacon; James Brock, Chaplain; Melvin King, Jr., Marshal; Hoyt P. Strickler, Senior Steward; Harry H. Hovey, Junior Steward; Elmer Todd, Organist; Frank Reading, Tiler.

SIGNAL CHAPTER, NO. 276, O. E. S., EL CENTRO

Signal Chapter of El Centro was named for that most interesting of landmarks, Signal Mountain, that stands guard over Imperial Valley at its southern border. This friendly mountain was the guide by which the desert prospector of early days found his way to water and to safety. Signal Chapter, too, stands out prominently for its friendliness and its always ready welcome.

This chapter was instituted in 1908, shortly after Golden Rule Chapter at Imperial, both chapters receiving charters at the meeting of Grand Chapter in October of that year.

In those early days, when El Centro was in its infancy, Signal Chapter was like the Irishman's man-of-war, all officers and no crew. Frequently brothers were in the majority, and in an emergency, "Sister Warden" or "Sister Ruth" might be a bronzed son of the desert.

The founder of the chapter and its mother-matron, Mrs. Mary Emma Pearson, affectionately called "Mom" by all who knew her, was full of the pioneer spirit that surmounts all difficulties. In those early days she was known often to fill, herself, all five star-point chairs successively during initiation, and was skilled in every branch of the ritualistic work. Each year she writes in the same inspiring manner to the chapter for its birthday celebration, when reminiscences of earliest days are recalled.

High standards have been held at all times before this chapter. Yearly, following weeks of expectant anticipation, came Grand Matrons truly grand, each giving in turn her especial message, each leaving the urge to higher ideals. The grand officers, as they have in turn visited the Valley, have been an inspiration beyond their power to estimate.

After visiting the Imperial Valley chapters, Past Grand Matron Ivy Crane Shelhamer once wrote: "Hospitality is called the royal robe of nobility and nowhere in all the land can be found more cordial hospitality than that of the Imperial Valley folk. A journey to this southeasterly corner of California, where the colonists are unpretentious, direct, sincere and friendly, brings an imperishable memory of home, and all that the word implies.

The benevolent work of the organization is very dear to the hearts of its members. The chapter at El Centro has a special fund for this work, and much good has been accomplished.

Signal Chapter, now 23 years old, has a membership of about 300 members, being the largest chapter in Imperial Valley. This chapter has always maintained a high standard in the ritualistic work, as well as in the practical application in the daily life of its members of the principles upon which the order is founded.

It has been honored by the Grand Chapter of the State of California a number of times by having grand officers chosen from its members. In 1917, Mrs. Genevieve Case Norton received the appointment to the office of Grand Ruth. Again in 1922 she became a grand officer by her election by the grand chapter body to the office of grand treasurer of the order in this state. She holds the distinction to date of being the only elective officer ever to have been chosen by the grand chapter from Imperial Valley. Her active service and personal example in Signal Chapter was the greatest factor in the achievement of the high standard which that chapter has attained.

The office of Deputy grand matron is one which is filled each year very carefully by the Worthy Grand Matron, as the deputies are the Grand Matron's personal representatives in the various districts into which the state is divided. The deputies have been called "the workers" of the Grand Chapter, and are chosen not only for their abilities as teachers of the ritualistic work but for their wisdom and judgment in disseminating its principles. They are inten-

sively trained by the Grand Matron before receiving their commissions, and form strong connective links between the Grand Chapter and the subordinate chapters. To them comes the reward of service through the many close friendships made among the chapters of their districts and among the present and past grand officers.

Those who have been so honored in Signal Chapter are: Mrs. Genevieve Case Norton, in 1916; Mrs. Carrie Davis Sones, in 1926, and Mrs. Gertrude Irey Maitland, in 1929.

The Past Matrons and Past Patrons of Signal Chapter are:

MATRONS	PATRONS
Mary Emma Pearson	Daniel Elder
Irona Elder	John Eshleman
Ella Ross	Thomas Foree
Elizabeth Gibson	Kyle MacBratney
Edna P. Dunaway	Virgil McCombs
Elvira MacBratney	Parker E. Baird
Eva P. McCombs	Charles A. Shafer
Genevieve Case Norton	John Norton
Effie Swanson	Thomas Luckett
Iona B. Campbell	Ernest Poston
Mina Luckett	Ernest R. Simon
Nina Douglass	John S. Loofbourow
Lavinia C. Northcott	Robert Henri Power
Zildah J. North	John F. Mathews
Lenna M. Ott	Harry Milton Ott
Clara B. Jones	Charles E. Sones
Carrie Davis Sones	John S. Carmichael
Lula M. Arnold	Nont J. Reid
Ella Belle Tondro	Jasper D. McCary
Gertrude Irey Maitland	Walter D. Garev
Maud B. Schofield	Charles H. Knights
Hazel A. Reynolds	Laurence L. Duff
Alice J. Du Sold	Edwin Neal Hatch

AERIE No. 1559, FRATERNAL ORDER OF EAGLES

Instituted at El Centro, January 7, 1907, with membership of 50. Now 220. First officers of the lodge: Albert Casner, M. W. Conkling, Pop Pearson, J. A. Benson, Paul B. Swanson, E. W. Feeney, J. H. Conkling, Leo Hetzel, Chas. Morgan, E. J. Mulligan, John L. Moore, John J. Reilly and L. Hirigoyen; Chas. Morgan has been secretary about three-fourths of the time since institution. Four charter members still on rolls—Albert Casner, H. J. Kohlstedt, Dr. F. W. Peterson, Chas. Morgan; eight members have been on rolls more than 20 years and have the honor of wearing veteran buttons besides the above—Paul B. Swanson, J. H. Buck, James Heatley and John Larkin. At the beginning of the World War 25 per cent of the membership reported on the first call and 25 per cent went overseas, of which two-thirds returned; 50 per cent of the ones who went were either killed or wounded in action. El Centro Aerie has given and used thousands of dollars for charity and progressive program for the betterment of their community.

LOYAL ORDER OF MOOSE, EL CENTRO

This lodge was organized April 27, 1929, and has 250 members. It co-operates with all other Moose lodges in the education of the deceased members at the great Mooseheart school. The local lodge has leased, remodeled and refurnished the old Tulane theatre on Sixth street, where they hold Wednesday evening meetings.

Officers: J. M. Forshay, Past Dictator; Ralph Therrien, Dictator; Paul Gillett, Vice-Dictator; E. C. Mursley, Prelate; G. E. Kirkpatrick, Secretary; R. P. Forshay, Treasurer; B. E. Pinkstaff, P. P. Schmitt and Clarence E. Lewis, Trustees.

MOOSEHEART LEGION, EL CENTRO

This lodge was instituted September 28, 1929, with fifty members. This lodge co-operates with the Moose Haven at Jacksonville, in taking care of the aged. Mrs. Pearl Forshay organized the lodge.

Officers: Mrs. Emily Schmitt, Past Regent; Mrs. Bessie Forshay, Senior Regent; Mrs. Chas. Gillett, Junior Regent; Mrs. Forrest Zinn, Recorder; Mrs. Hazel Lewis, Treasurer; Mrs. Stella Johnson, Chaplain.

Additional Mooseheart Legion lodges were instituted, one at Brawley in May and Calexico at a later date by Mrs. Pearl Forshay, organizer.

EL CENTRO LODGE No. 397, I. O. O. F.

This lodge was instituted June 22, 1907, with the following charter members: Sam Donaldson, John R. Davis, L. H. Hughes, B. L. Klippel, W. S. Moore, E. C. Pound, Oscar L. Peterson, Ed. W. Sherman, Myron D. Witter. The following Noble Grands have held office since organization to the present time: Ed. Sherman, H. R. Kyle, Frank Uber, John R. Norton, Ben Klippel, R. W. Shaner, H. A. Havens, O. L. Peterson, J. L. Travers, N. G. Jenkins, Wiley Mull, Otto Parr, Fred A. Ross, F. G. Dobel, Irwin Maupin, Ed. M. Royce, W. S. Moore, W. W. Skinner, B. E. Lemon, E. A. Berneker, A. E. Dillman, O. R. Fowler, C. W. Lord, M. E. Billings, Geo. Austin, W. W. Grider, Joe Moon, Joe Humes, O. F. Riley, A. L. Deen, H. D. Grandy, W. B. McDaniel.

BARBARA WORTH REBEKAH LODGE

I. O. O. F. No. 353

Located at El Centro; instituted March 3, 1915, with following charter members: Icyphena Best, Missouri A. Ferris, Adelaide L. Evans, Jasper L. Travers, Rebecca J. Meadows, C. Wilbur Lord, Irma Converse, Emma J. Travers, Clara D. Ogden, Mary E. Lindsay, Jennie H. Riley, Nan C. Bishop, Josephine Fleishman, Jessie Leonard, Maude Henley, Lucy E. Hess, Elizabeth Hockensmith. Noble Grands since organization: Missouri A. Ferris, Mary E. Lindsay, Josephine Fleishman, Nan C. Bishop, Jessie Leonard, Maud Henley, Lucy E. Hess, Rosina Lord, Elizabeth Hockensmith, Nita Folsom, Elizabeth Winslow, Cora May, Myrtle Mastick, Elizabeth Ritchie, Margaret Bratley, Elnora Strange, Josephine Grider, Dorothy Tredenick, Mamie Evans, Gertrude Sophoe, Jean Cale, Janie Taylor, Margreth Mattson, Clara Denham, Ann Mahaffey. The following Deputy Presidents from organization: Lucy E. Hess, Jessie Leonard, Elizabeth Hockensmith, Elizabeth Winslow, Josephine Grider, Jean Cale. The present Noble Grand is Ann Mahaffey; Secretary, Jean Cale. The membership is 50.

ROTARY CLUB

The El Centro Rotary Club was organized in June, 1921. The prime movers in the organization at the time were Otto Jeancon, Ray Edgar, John Stewart Ross, Dr. Norman Dupont and Dr. Forrest Kutz. For the past ten years the Rotary Club has played an important part in the civic life of the community. It has set up numerous excellent records for attendance and has, weekly, discussed subjects of local and national importance. It is affiliated with the international Rotary organization. In 1931 John Keply was president.

THE SECOND EDITION

A few organizations failed to supply information repeatedly requested for this history. The publishers will gladly include such information in the second edition in the event that such an edition becomes a necessity. Communications should be addressed to Otis B. Tout, 4612 Terrace Drive, San Diego, California.

Past Exalted Rulers of El Centro Lodge, B. P. O. Elks



Verne Bishop



Chas. E. Pitzer



Sam W. Dunaway



Chas. T. Murphy



Lou R. Philley



Harry W. Horton



B. M. Gruwell



Elton T. Christian

Pictures of J. Stanley Brown, Phil D. Swing, O. B. Tout and M. W. Conkling, also Past Exalted Rulers, appear in other parts of the history.

EL CENTRO LODGE 1325, B. P. O. ELKS

Members of the Elks order residing in the Valley in 1915 were called upon to get together for the purpose of organizing a lodge in El Centro. After the preliminaries were over a charter was granted and the lodge organized January 16, 1916, in the banquet room of the Barbara Worth Hotel. The charter roll contains the following names, showing the lodges from which the new members were demitting: Charles M. Applestill, Harry Baum, Frank Birkhauser, Fred Blood, Phil W. Brooks, John E. Davis, H. Going, E. G. Irwin, F. A. Preston, H. Prevost, B. Salomon, Phil D. Swing, J. V. Wachtel, Jr., W. I. McCoy, Peter P. Hovley, Walter Bowker and Arthur Edgar, all of Yuma Lodge, No. 476; C. W. Baldrige and J. D. Houston, San Diego Lodge, No. 168; C. W. Barton, Sam W. Dunaway, Riverside Lodge, No. 643; Verne M. Bishop, Santa Ana Lodge, No. 794; E. B. Browne and Earl Richmond, Santa Monica Lodge, No. 906; J. Stanley Brown, O. B. Tout, C. N. Perry, True Vencill and Fred Clark, Redlands Lodge, No. 583; James W. Glassford, Fargo Lodge, No. 260; W. L. Milam, Bisbee Lodge, No. 671; H. L. Person, Ardmore (Okla.)



Henry Swanson



Don C. Bitler, Secretary

Lodge, No. 648; A. W. Rogers, Stockton Lodge, No. 218; O. N. Sebastian, North Platte Lodge, No. 985; Frank R. Spencer, Glendale Lodge, No. 1289; Lee C. Seibert, Allegheny Lodge, No. 339; Wiley M. Weaver, Albuquerque Lodge, No. 461; John McCormick, Greeley (Col.) Lodge, No. 809.

The first officers: J. Stanley Brown, Exalted Ruler; Phil D. Swing, Leading Knight; E. B. Browne, Loyal Knight; Frank Birkhauser, Lecturing Knight; O. N. Sebastian, Secretary; W. I. McCoy, Treasurer; Earl Richmond, Tiler; J. E. Davis, Harry Baum and J. V. Wachtel, Jr., Trustees.

In March of the same year, Phil D. Swing was elected Exalted Ruler. His term saw the doubling of the membership. He was succeeded by Verne M. Bishop in 1917, whose term covered most of the war period. Bishop suggested the practice of presenting each of the selective draft men with a small silk American flag and every man received one from the Elks lodge. Bishop was succeeded by Otis B. Tout, who finished the war period in 1918. The record of the Elks lodge during the war is bright with service of every sort. They worked with the El Centro Fire Department and the two organizations put over nearly every drive that came up. During Tout's term the lodge rented the upper floor of the Freeman Building and installed club and lodge rooms where many enjoyable events subsequently took place. Later the lodge purchased the old court house property from the County and the club is now on the second floor. All through the years the Elks have looked after innumerable charity cases, treated the children at Christmas time, put on events of pleasure, public and private, and have taken a keen delight in furthering every progressive movement.

The Elks established the first weekly luncheon club in 1918, meeting every Friday at noon and arranging a program.

Following are the Past Exalted Rulers of 1325: J. Stanley Brown, Phil D. Swing, Verne M. Bishop, Otis B. Tout, Otto E. Ohmstede, Charles E. Pitzer, Irl Henrichsen, Samuel W. Dunaway, Lou R. Phillely, Charles L. Murphy, Marvin W. Conkling, Mark W. Washburn, B. M. Gruwell, Clyde V. Hill, Elton Christian, Harry W. Horton, Henry Swanson.

Don C. Bitler, who was Secretary in the early days for several years is now again in that position. The Secretary is really a directing manager of lodge and club affairs.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

Organized January 21, 1906, with a membership of 11. Now 200. Charter members: Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Blackinton, Alice Blackinton, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. E. Ried, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. T. Irwin, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Wilsie, Margaret M. Vanderpoel and Fannie Waldrop.

Ministers since organization: Reverends A. H. Croco, S. I. Ward, F. B. Fraser, John M. Shive, A. W. Williams, W. A. Cook, Thos. E. Stevenson, Geo. A. Hartman and John S. A. Gunn. Mr. Hartman served ten years and died in 1929. J. S. Larew served as clerk for eighteen years, until the time of his death in 1928.

FIRST BAPTIST

Organized June 14, 1909, with a membership of 17. Now 251. Ministers since organization: Reverends Amos Robinson, W. A. House, Hermiston, A. L. Kinter, Walter Reed, H. E. Marshall, C. E. Flanagan.

HONGWANJI BUDDHIST

Organized 1924 with a membership of 100. Now 150. Ministers since organization: Teiryō Sawada and Tenrin Kawamoto. One hundred and sixty children now occupy a 40x40 school building in a private school Saturdays and Sundays under the name of El Centro Japanese Language School of Buddhist Church, to fit them to be better citizens.

ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Organized April 13, 1930, with 42 members. In the year 1928, N. T. Wilson held a tent meeting where the church now stands, Rev. A. H. Witter acting as pastor until the first part of 1929, when Rev. A. E. Shields, the present

pastor, came and organized the church and built the church house in 1930.

FOUR SQUARE GOSPEL

October 11, 1928, a tent 40x80 was erected by Reverends Mabelle Kipp Dent and Ethel Rose Loomis; January 29, 1929, a building was erected and services started Easter Sunday of that year. The same ministers are in charge at present, holding four services each week, and have a membership of 32. Work is carried on by free will offerings.

FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST SCIENTIST

This church was organized October 23, 1910, as the El Centro Christian Science Society, and incorporated February 13, 1912, under the laws of the State of California, and in 1917 a decree of court was issued changing the name to First Church of Christ, Scientist, of El Centro; the building was completed in February, 1925, and was dedicated free of debt May, 1926.

CATHOLIC CHURCH

Rev. H. Eummelin was first resident pastor, arriving in El Centro August 1, 1907. Rev. Edward Schmitt was appointed pastor February 10, 1910; then M. H. Benso, George Ashe, James J. Truxaw, Michael Lalor, J. W. Meeham, Joseph O'Farrell, P. J. Beary, A. J. Hurley and Felix Sheridan.

CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Services in the Christian faith were first held in 1906 in the old Franklin hotel building, with Rev. J. F. Tout, as minister; when the State Christian Church was built in 1911, Rev. W. G. Conley was the pastor for several years. Rev. V. E. Butterworth is the present pastor. A large membership attends this house of worship every Sunday.

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL

Located on Fifth Street, with Rev. Chas. W. Baker, present Vicar; has a nice membership who worship every Sunday and Wednesday evenings.

OTHER CHURCHES

Some of the other churches of the city are: Second Baptist (colored), 185 Brighton, with C. H. Hampton, pastor; African M. E., 195 State, R. Hayter, pastor; Colored M. E., 100 State, Edw. Butler, pastor.

CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

Located at Eighth and Orange. Rev. M. W. Gunn, pastor.

FIRST METHODIST EPISCOPAL

Located at Sixth and Commercial; organized 1907 by Dr. J. L. Pitner, now has membership of 260. Ministers who have served since organization to present time: Reverends I. L. Snow, DeStalb Burnham, Oliver N. Saylor, A. J. Baker, Howard B. Clark, E. A. Palmer, A. W. Shamel, Arthur Schultz, Harold E. Baker and the present minister, William E. Malan. The first board of trustees were R. H. Clark, Judge F. J. Cole and J. G. Delozier.

VETERANS' MEMORIAL HALL

Since the Board of Supervisors voted a mill tax for the erection of club houses for veterans in various towns of the Valley, Boyce Aten Post at El Centro had not drawn any of the money, preferring to wait until it had accumulated an amount sufficient to build as they desired. The County voted to permit a building on the southwest corner of the court house grounds and voted \$32,000 for the project in November, 1930. Ralph Swearingen was appointed architect, plans were drawn, and the contract awarded early in 1931. The War Veteran's Memorial building will be dedicated this fall (1931).

Incorporated April 6, 1908

EL CENTRO

(*) Indicates Mayor

MEMBERS OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES SINCE INCORPORATION

1908	H. B. Pearson*	J. S. Brown	D. D. Pellett	J. C. Blackinton	W. O. Hamilton
1909	H. B. Pearson*	J. S. Brown	D. D. Pellett	C. F. Buttress	W. O. Hamilton
1910	Tom Foree	W. C. Whitescarver	John Norton*	F. M. Burger	W. O. Hamilton
1911	Tom Foree	W. C. Whitescarver	John Norton	F. M. Burger	W. O. Hamilton
1912	A. W. Swanson	Wm. Egerer	John Norton*	F. M. Burger	C. E. Sprouse
1913	A. W. Swanson	Wm. Egerer	John Norton*	F. M. Burger	J. L. Travers
1914	A. W. Swanson*	Wm. Egerer	R. B. Moore	C. N. Perry	E. W. Burger
1915	A. W. Swanson*	Wm. Egerer	R. B. Moore	C. N. Perry	E. W. Burger
1916	G. W. Watkins	Wm. Egerer*	R. B. Moore	F. M. Burger	A. N. Bucklin
1917	G. W. Watkins	Wm. Egerer*	R. B. Moore	F. M. Burger	A. N. Bucklin
1918	G. W. Watkins*	Wm. Egerer	Wm. Reams	Chas. Sones	A. N. Bucklin
1919	G. W. Watkins*	Wm. Egerer	Wm. Reams	Chas. Sones	A. N. Bucklin
1920	J. L. Travers	O. E. Ohmstede*	Wm. Reams	Chas. Sones	C. E. Pitzer
1921	J. L. Travers	G. W. Anderson	Wm. Reams	Chas. Sones*	C. E. Pitzer
1922	J. L. Travers	G. W. Anderson	W. S. Fawcett*	W. H. Lavayea	C. E. Pitzer
1923	J. L. Travers	G. W. Anderson	W. S. Fawcett*	W. H. Lavayea	C. E. Pitzer
1924	J. T. Rice	G. W. Anderson*	W. S. Fawcett	W. H. Lavayea	R. H. Carey
1925	J. T. Rice	G. W. Anderson*	W. S. Fawcett	W. H. Lavayea	R. H. Carey
1926	J. T. Rice	W. J. Clements	H. W. Fawcett	A. N. Bucklin*	R. H. Carey
1927	J. T. Rice	W. J. Clements	H. W. Fawcett	A. N. Bucklin*	R. H. Carey
1928	R. E. Couch	W. J. Clements*	H. W. Fawcett	A. N. Bucklin	F. J. Gianola
1929	R. E. Couch	W. J. Clements*	H. W. Fawcett	A. N. Bucklin	F. J. Gianola
1930	R. E. Couch	W. J. Clements	H. W. Fawcett*	J. T. Rice	F. J. Gianola
1931	R. E. Couch	W. J. Clements	H. W. Fawcett*	J. T. Rice	F. J. Gianola

Note: J. L. Travers served in 1912 after the resignation of C. E. Sprouse.

OTHER CITY OFFICERS

Year	Clerk	Recorder	Treasurer	Attorney	Marshal
1908	F. G. Havens	J. F. Tout	R. E. Jauman	M. W. Conkling	C. A. Bradford
1909	F. G. Havens	A. W. Franklin	R. E. Jauman	M. W. Conkling	C. A. Bradford
1910	W. H. Sprague	W. H. Sprague	F. B. Fuller	D. V. Noland	C. C. Toney
1911	W. H. Sprague	W. H. Sprague	F. B. Fuller	D. V. Noland	C. C. Toney
1912	Mrs. L. Northcott	W. H. Sprague	D. A. Leonard	J. S. Larew	E. E. Cummings
1913	Mrs. L. Northcott	W. H. Sprague	D. A. Leonard	J. S. Larew	E. E. Cummings
1914	Mrs. L. Northcott	M. Sorenson	F. J. Gianola	J. S. Larew	Y. C. Walsh
1915	Mrs. L. Northcott	M. Sorenson	F. J. Gianola	J. S. Larew	Y. C. Walsh
1916	W. E. Van Way	I. Mayfield	F. J. Gianola	J. S. Larew	Y. McFadden
1917	W. E. Van Way	R. B. Whitelaw	F. J. Gianola	J. S. Larew	Y. McFadden
1918	W. E. Van Way	R. B. Whitelaw	F. J. Gianola	J. S. Larew	C. E. Hill
1919	W. E. Van Way	R. B. Whitelaw	F. J. Gianola	J. S. Larew	C. E. Hill
1920	W. E. Van Way	R. B. Whitelaw	F. J. Gianola	J. S. Larew	Dave Matlock
1921	W. E. Van Way	R. B. Whitelaw	F. J. Gianola	J. S. Larew	Dave Matlock
1922	J. S. Loufbourow	Vaughn Thompson	F. J. Gianola	J. S. Larew	— Slaughter
1923	J. S. Loufbourow	Vaughn Thompson	F. J. Gianola	J. S. Larew	— Slaughter
1924	J. S. Loufbourow	R. B. Whitelaw	F. J. Gianola	J. S. Larew	H. Barker
1925	J. A. Schofield	R. B. Whitelaw	F. J. Gianola	J. S. Larew	H. Barker
1926	J. C. Neale	E. B. Hervey	F. J. Gianola	J. S. Larew	Sterling Oswalt
1927	J. C. Neale	E. B. Hervey	F. J. Gianola	J. S. Larew	Sterling Oswalt
1928	J. C. Neale	K. B. Perkins	C. H. Small	D. Whitelaw	Sterling Oswalt
1929	J. C. Neale	K. B. Perkins	C. H. Small	D. Whitelaw	Sterling Oswalt
1930	J. C. Neale	K. B. Perkins	C. H. Small	D. Whitelaw	Frank McCaslin
1931	J. C. Neale	K. B. Perkins	C. H. Small	D. Whitelaw	Frank McCaslin

Year	Health Officer	Fire Chief
1908	W. B. Gibson	Ed. Tumbler
1909	W. B. Gibson	Ed. Tumbler
1910	W. B. Gibson	Ed. Tumbler
1911	W. B. Gibson	Ed. Tumbler
1912	A. J. Snee	Ed. Tumbler
1913	A. J. Snee	Ed. Tumbler
1914	A. J. Snee	C. B. Folsom
1915	A. J. Snee	C. B. Folsom
1916	A. J. Snee	C. B. Folsom
1917	A. J. Snee	C. B. Folsom
1918	Dr. F. A. Burger	C. F. Ferguson
1919	Dr. F. A. Burger	C. F. Ferguson
1920	Dr. F. A. Burger	C. F. Ferguson
1921	Dr. F. A. Burger	C. F. Ferguson
1922	Dr. F. A. Burger	C. F. Ferguson
1923	Dr. F. A. Burger	C. F. Ferguson
1924	Dr. F. A. Burger	C. F. Ferguson
1925	Dr. F. A. Burger	C. F. Ferguson
1926	Dr. F. A. Burger	L. T. Reams
1927	Dr. F. A. Burger	L. T. Reams
1928	Dr. F. A. Burger	L. T. Reams

Year	Health Officer	Fire Chief
1929	Dr. F. A. Burger	L. T. Reams
1930	Dr. T. O. Lockett	L. T. Reams
1931	Dr. T. O. Lockett	L. T. Reams

BOND ISSUES

Year	Purpose	Amount	Outstanding
1908	Septic Sewer	\$ 40,000	
1910	Water	69,000	\$ 36,000
1913	Water	50,000	32,500
1915	Sewer	250,000	162,500
1917	Water Filter	15,000	9,000
1918	Fire	15,000	9,000
1920	Fire	15,000	11,625
1924	Water	170,000	160,000
1924	Water	30,000	30,000
1925	Paving	16,000	8,000
1925	Paving	18,000	9,000
1925	Paving	4,500	2,250
1925	Paving	3,500	1,750
1927	Canal Removal	50,000	45,000
Totals—		\$746,000	\$516,625

ASSESSED VALUATIONS

Year	Assessed Valuation	Tax Rate
1908		.75
1910	\$ 1,304,666	1.98
1912	1,780,164	1.92
1914	3,404,815	1.36
1916	3,490,238	1.76
1918	3,931,893	1.32
1920	7,400,673	1.50
1922	6,880,340	1.55
1924	8,051,844	1.65
1926	9,364,396	1.55
1928	10,216,074	1.85
1930	11,061,108	1.75

El Centro has fifteen miles of paved streets, all of which are lighted. Cost: \$539,298.

The city's water system has cost \$600,000.

The equipment for the Fire Department has cost \$41,600.

POPULATION

1920.....	5,464	1930.....	8,427
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It will be noted that in the twenty-three years that El Centro has been an incorporated city thirty-two different men have been on the board of trustees. Four members have been favored with re-election: W. J. Clements, A. N. Bucklin, Wm. Egerer and John T. Rice. J. L. Travers served by appointment before he was elected and F. M. Burger served by appointment after his term of four years had expired and his successor, C. N. Perry, had resigned. Among the trades and occupations: Produce, hardware, printer, liveryman, grocer, farmer, real estate, baker, contractor, plasterer, lumberman, surveyor, jewelry, druggist, banker, creamery, grower, bottling works.

In the list, Fred. J. Gianola has the record for longest service. He was City Treasurer for thirteen years and has been Trustee four years, making a total of seventeen years—every year since 1917. J. S. Larew as City Attorney ran him a close race with fifteen years. Dr. F. A. Burger is next with eleven years as City Health Officer.

The valuation table is an interesting study. El Centro has grown 900 per cent in twenty years. The population has grown almost at the same pace.

El Centro is Valley headquarters for the Imperial Irrigation District, the Southern Sierras Power Company, the Pickwick Motor Stages, the Inland Gas Company, the Imperial Ice and Development Company and a number of the big vegetable handling corporations. It has the Central Union High School, five elementary schools, good parks, the usual quota of churches, clubs, fraternal orders and service clubs. It is also the junction point between the S. D. & A. and the S. P. railroads and is served by the great transcontinental highways that pour thousands of cars westward every month. The city is the natural point from which goods are wholesaled throughout the Valley.

Located twelve miles north of the border and midway, east and west, of the cultivated area, El Centro is able to live up to its name, the center.

The following firms were in business in El Centro in 1930-31:

- Abstract Companies**
 - Pioneer Title Ins. & Trust Co.
 - Security Title & Trust & Guarantee Co.
- Accountants**
 - Arthur E. Skeats
 - Hutchison & Co.
 - J. Wagner
- Amusements**
 - Kenyon's Desert Plunge
- Apartments**
 - Broadway Apartments
 - Coates Apartments
- Embury Apartments
- Gardena Apartments
- Glacier Apartments
- Lennox Apartments
- Mission Apartments
- Park View Apartments
- Sorlei Apartments
- Architects**
 - Ralph Swearingen
 - Don W. Wells
- Artists**
 - Valley Art & Picture Shop



H. W. FAWCETT
Mayor of El Centro

Attorneys

- Frank Birkhauser
- Don Bitler
- C. L. Brown
- C. L. Childers
- J. W. Glassford
- Ross Hickcox
- H. W. Horton
- R. D. Johnson
- S. L. McCrory
- R. D. McPherrin
- Lee Nuffer
- K. B. Perkins
- D. B. Roberts
- J. E. Simpson
- E. R. Utley
- D. G. Whitelaw
- R. B. Whitelaw

Auctioneers

- D. L. Zinn

Auto Supplies, Dealers & Repairers

- Auto Gear & Supply Co.
- Electrical Service Co.
- Ben Herring Rubber Co.
- Valley Auto Supply Co.
- Western Auto Supply
- Depot Blacksmith Shop
- International Harvester Co.
- Moreland Truck Co.
- Cass & Morgan
- Friedley & Holtz
- C. A. Gray
- Imperial Motors
- W. C. Reed Co.
- John R. Robertson
- Rogers & Tison
- Roy Womack
- Inland Motor Co.
- Pacific Finance Corp.
- Chas. McCormick
- R. W. Hatton
- Hushman's Garage
- Dalton & Russell
- El Centro Auto Wash

- Jack Barker
- F. A. Becker
- Louis Foster
- G. H. Goshorne
- A. W. Hale
- C. E. Harris
- F. G. Havens
- Lee & Raycraft
- C. W. Maitland
- Kiyote Morianga
- Wm. Pfeiffer
- J. C. Summers
- Buck Tackett
- M. A. Wilson
- Daniel Zubia

Auto Tops

- Valley Tent & Awning Co.
- Frey Auto Tops

Auto Wreckers

- California Auto Wrecking Co.
- C. H. Dalzell

Bakeries

- U. L. Martin
- Cramer Baking Co.

Banks

- Bank of America
- Security First National

Barbers

- A. B. Arnold
- F. L. Carter
- Central Barber Shop
- E. H. Cross
- J. W. Hamilton
- T. A. Hunt
- Katero Kaneta
- J. W. Kemp
- J. H. Mahaffey
- Shiner Miyhata
- Wm. Morris
- T. Nakamura
- A. W. Newkirk
- Mrs. Eddie Palmer
- Nick Pappas
- A. A. Ruiz

Barbers—(Cont'd)

Eulalio Ruiz
 Ida F. Slaughter
 Stag Barber Shop
 M. L. Thomas
 Towne & Chastain
 Vidal Valle
 Enoc Young
 R. D. Young

Baths

Mrs. Bessie Kanemuru

Battery Stations

J. H. Bush
 C. R. Chambers
 Carl S. Vogt
 Glenn Wire Tire Co.

Beauty Shops

Florence Baker
 Grace Carson
 Mitsu Horimoto
 Emerald McKinney
 Mrs. Mary Ann Raycraft
 Flo Seigel

Billiards

Y. Abe
 James Adams
 Central Parlors
 Geo. Furuto
 Griggs & Longacre
 Franks Hernandez
 Kearns & Groebli
 K. Condo
 Peter Macedo
 Ed Mayes
 T. Nakamura
 H. K. Ota
 Owl Billiard Parlors
 J. T. Sato
 A. G. Smith Co.
 Wm. Sterchi
 Keitera Takahashi
 W. A. Vize

Blacksmith Shops

D. H. Jackson
 H. T. McDaniel
 Alex Sutherland

Bottling Works

Coca Cola Bottling Wks.

Box Makers

American Box Corp.
 Calif. Pine Box Dist.
 Imperial Valley Hdw. Co.

Building Associations

El Centro Lumber &
 Trading Co.
 Imperial Valley Bldg.
 & Loan Assn.
 Pacific Coast Bldg. &
 Loan Assn.

Business Colleges

Imperial Valley Business
 College

Cabinet Makers

G. C. Chadbourne

Cash Register Companies

National Cash Register
 Co.

Chiropractors

Dr. Lewis R. Hildebrand
 Dr. Robert L. Palmer

Christian Science

Readers
 Mrs. K. Cass

Cigar Stores

C. L. Myers
 J. L. Peixoto
 B. P. Hemeon

Cleaners

Valley Steam Laundry
 R. J. Burleigh
 Morris Chertoff
 Cowan & Clayton
 DeLuxe Cleaners
 R. N. Linekin
 P. L. Marsh

Clothing

Foreman & Clark
 F. A. Gonzalez
 M. O. King Co.
 Mack & Mack
 Sam Peters
 Mrs. L. H. Crossland
 G. E. Jardin
 Mariposa Shop
 Katherine H. Sullivan

Coal & Wood Yards

J. B. Whitaker

Coffee Shops

Steve's Coffee Shop

Creameries

Western Dairy Products
 Knudsen's Creamery
 Arrowhead Creamery Co.

Credit Associations

Imperial Valley Credit
 Ass'n.

Concrete Companies

Imperial Valley
 Concrete Co.

Confectioneries

A. H. Cram
 Valley Drug Co.

Contractors

A. M. Beake
 Elmer Leonard
 M. G. Hill
 H. R. Johnston
 W. T. Livingston
 Arth Roberts
 G. H. Shaw
 Chas. Townsend
 J. L. Travers
 R. O. Creley
 C. V. Munson
 P. B. Schoonmaker

Dairies

Ambort Dairy

Dancing Academies

Wooda Blesy

Dentists

W. S. Sylvester
 Dr. E. O. Carter
 Dr. R. C. Clemons
 Dr. Findley
 A. B. Hanson
 Harry Hooper
 Dr. Gold
 Forrest Kutz
 E. E. Nichols

Department Stores

Army & Navy Dept.
 Store
 Montgomery Ward

Dressmakers

Mrs. R. M. Bloemsa
 Mrs. M. M. Grath
 Eliz. Hockensmith
 Mrs. M. E. Stone
 Mrs. L. S. Tiernan

Druggists

Clements Drug Store
 El Centro Drug Co.
 A. E. Shirer
 Valley Drug Co.
 Teigen Pharmacy

Dry Goods Stores

Dunlap Dry Goods Co.
 Johnson-Groene
 Mrs. Bessie Kanemuru
 J. H. Mathes
 Salin Samaha

Electric Shops

Schmitt Electric &
 Radio Shop
 Walter W. Heine
 C. F. Ferguson

Employment Agencies

Imperial Valley Employ-
 ment Agency

Express Agencies

Railway Express Agency

Feed & Grain Companies

Globe Grain &
 Milling Co.
 Pacific Cattle & Poultry
 Feed Co.
 Pacific Guano &
 Fertilizer Co.

Finance Companies

El Centro Finance Co.

Fish Dealers

Geo. Paskle

Flower Shops

Ritz Flower Shop

Fruit Dealers

R. W. Knapp
 M. O. Best Fruit Co.
 Bloom-Rosenblum-Klein
 Co.
 Fred R. Bright Co.
 Desert Citrus Exchange
 El Centro Packing Co.
 Engbretson-Grupe Co.
 W. S. Fawcett Co.
 Chas. Freedman
 Fruit Dis. Co. of Cal.
 Garcia & Maggini Co.
 Gentile Bros. Co.
 Hall Packing Co.
 Imperial Valley Grape-
 fruit Growers
 A. Levy & J. Zentner Co.
 Maggio Bros.
 Mutual Packing Co.
 Palmer Bros.
 B. Pata
 S. & M. Packing Co.
 Sawdy & Hunt
 L. K. Small Co.
 M. C. Wahl
 Zaferis Bros. & Co.

Furniture Repairers

H. E. Woods

Gas Companies

Inland Empire Gas Co.

Groceries, Retail & Wholesale

Gabriel Abdelnour
 James Angel
 I. W. Carney
 David Castro
 Joe Correia
 C. J. Cox
 Joseph Eng
 Clyde Hill
 Hong Chong Co.
 B. W. Hurst
 Masutaro Kamiya
 H. Kawabata
 W. M. Knights
 Rose Lorango
 C. P. Magruder
 C. H. Mason
 Anthony Mineo

Model Grocery

James Moir
 Akinda Nishioka
 Naoya Okamura
 Orr & Gullett
 Piggly-Wiggly
 James Quon
 Red Front Grocery
 F. L. Riddle
 Safeway Stores
 San Lung Co.
 Holdam Stuart
 Wakichi Tereyamo
 Will Hixon
 Mrs. Josephine Williams
 Zurcher Bros.
 Delta Mercantile Co.
 Haas Baruch Co.
 Western States Grocery
 Co.

Hardware

H. C. Diller
 I. V. Hardware Co.
 Edgar Bros. Co.

Hat Cleaners

Gus Poulos

Hospitals

El Centro Hospital
 LaBlanc Maternity
 Cottage

Hotels

Barbara Worth Hotel
 Hollywood Hotel
 Hotel California
 Princess Hotel
 Glenn Hagle

Hotels & Apartments

Balboa Hotel
 Blue Moon Hotel
 Mrs. Jennie Campbell
 Casa Rey Hotel
 Commercial Hotel
 Country Club Inn
 Mrs. M. S. Dryson
 El Centro Hotel
 Fourth St. Hotel
 Garren House
 Helena Hotel
 Hotel Abe
 Hotel Annex
 Hotel El Dorado
 Hotel Ramona
 Hotel Roberta
 Hotel Roland
 LaMar Rooms
 W. A. Marshall
 Panama Hotel
 Piemonte Hotel
 Mrs. Fanny Porter
 Mrs. G. E. Sophos
 Stewart Hotel
 Mrs. Belle Watson
 Washington Hotel

Ice Companies

Imperial Ice & Dev. Co.
 Pure Ice Co.

Ice Machine Companies

Parker Ice Machine Co.

Implement Dealers

John Deere Plow Co.
 Edgar Bros.
 Edgar Implement Store
 The Fair
 Hulse-Anderson Tractor
 & Equipment Co.

Insurance Agencies

Tyler Ins. Agency

Insurance Agents

Henry Loud
Metropolitan Life Ins.
Co.
J. D. Adams
Douglas E. Deeble
Knights Ins. Agency
Rule & Sons
M. G. Smith

Jewelers

H. R. Berger
J. R. Jenkins
S. Mizuno
Crescent Jewelry Co.

Junk Dealers

Louis Baker
Al Caplan
Sam Danenberg

Laboratories

Thomas Laboratories

Laundries

El Centro Home Laundry
Home Hand Laundry
S. A. McGee
G. B. Puleza
Valley Steam Laundry

Lighting Plants

F. B. Richards

Loan Associations

Seaboard Dairy Credit,
Inc.
Sterling Securities Co.

Lumber Companies

Sones Lumber Co.
Valley Lumber Co.

Machinists

Fritz Alderson
Benjamin Schebel

Meat Markets

Forshay Bros.
Garland McLain
Model Meat Market
Pacific Land & Cattle Co.
C. J. Ritter
T. W. Stewart
E. M. Watson

Mule Markets

C. E. Pitzer

Music Academies

Imperial Valley Academy
of Music

Music Companies**& Teachers**

Imperial Music Co.
J. C. Ganton
Mrs. Marie Jenkins
Oria Kenah
Mrs. J. W. Kupelian
A. F. Miles
Mrs. R. T. Reed
Mrs. D. B. Williams
Horace Williams

News Dealers &**Newspapers**

T. C. Lanier
Imperial Valley Press
Imperial Valley Farmer

Notions

J. J. Newberry Co.
F. W. Woolworth

Novelties

L. W. Jackson

Nurseries

Imperial Valley Nursery
& Seed House

Nurses

Ellen Johnson
Rose Lindy

Mrs. B. M. Mitchell
Louise Richardson

Oil Companies

Shell Oil Co.
Standard Oil Co.
Texas Oil Co.
Union Oil Co.

Optometrists

Senn Bacon
Norman E. Dupont

Osteopaths

Dr. Edith Hook
Dr. J. F. Foncanon

Painters

W. L. Jacobs
Marvin Moore
P. Von Nostrand

Paper Companies

W. A. Scheineman

Photographers

Leo Hetzel
Vreeland Studio

Physicians

Dr. W. W. Apple
Dr. C. S. Brooks
Dr. F. W. Burger
Dr. Philip Hodgkins
Dr. L. C. House
Dr. H. G. Ingram
Dr. T. O. Lockett
Dr. W. E. Lyons
Dr. F. W. Peterson
Dr. O. H. Van Eman

Plumbers

E. W. Fite
Richmond Bros.

Poultry Business

M. E. Todd

Power Companies

So. Sierra Power Co.

Printing Offices

Elite Printing Co.
El Centro Printing

Radios

Kendall Bros.

Railroads

S. D. Arizona Ry.
S. P. Co.

Real Estate

O. W. Afflerbaugh
Nuffer Land Co.
J. T. DeVore
Edgar Bros. Realty
Fenn Frisbie Co.
Fugate & Green
W. E. Hancock
W. S. Harris
R. E. Jeanes
J. B. Lewis
C. W. Knapp
Marie Land
Sylvia M. LaFever
Clifford McArthur
Curtis Munsey
R. P. Pope
S. H. Rodgers
C. A. Shafer
W. I. Stone

Restaurants

F. A. Anderson
Harry Andros
Arnold Crawford
Thelma Ashley
G. L. Bennett
L. P. Canros
City Limits Cafe
Club Lunch
Katherine Crumrine

Don Damron
Damron & Crede
W. M. Duvall
H. T. Honyashiki
Hotel Cal. Coffee Shop
Chas. Ike
Mrs. Hozue Ishimaru
Geo. Ishitami
Dolores Johnson
P. B. Kalemkar
Uchi Kobata
Frank Lerna
Lincoln Restaurant
Dairy Lunch
A. G. Mack
Main Cafe
J. B. Mayo
E. A. Martin
New China
Saddlerock Cafe
Mrs. R. O. Sanchos
Chas. Schlanze
Edw. Serga
Steve's Coffee
Valley Lunch
Andrew Valhos
Will Wallace
H. D. Walsh
C. Yoda

Roofer

S. L. Hartzell

Sand & Gravel Dealers

E. S. Cook
Imperial Cons. Supply
Co.

Seed & Feed Stores

Marshall Seed & Feed
Store

Service Stations

J. E. Brown
G. A. Clark
El Centro Oil Co.
Fifth St. Service Sta.
Lee Forrest
M. H. Hurst
Barney S. LaBlanc
Maupin & Sons
McNeece & McNeece
M. D. Hiller
Woodie Mills
T. O. Morrison
J. W. Nelson
E. W. Owens
Bayard Rehkopf
Safety Corner Service
Southern Counties
Gasoline Sta.
Standard Oil Co.
Van Fleet & Durkee
Walter Wakefield
T. A. Winter

Sewing Machine Agencies

Singer Sewing Machine
Co.
White Sewing Machine
Co.

Sheet Metal Works

B. V. Ezell
General Sheet Metal
Wks.

**Shoe Repairers
& Dealers**

Wayne Knotts
J. Maeda
F. S. Vasquez
Mrs. Lela Woodie
Brownbilt Shoe Co.

Sign Painters

J. R. Sampson

A. G. Smith
C. Whitney

Soft Drinks

Christofson & Murphy
Gust Colias
Sylvester Fontes
S. Mizuno
M. T. Paul

Stage Systems

Pickwick Stages System

Stationers

Office Supply Co.

Tailors

M. E. Lazo

Telegraph Companies

Postal Telegraph
Western Union Tele-
graph Co.
Pac. Tele. & Tele. Co.

Theatres

El Centro Theatre
Fox Imperial
Valley Theatre

Tire Service

Valley Tire Service

Tourist Camps

K. H. Blackman
Henry Hopp
J. B. Shannon
Peter Shenas
English Village

Truck & Transfer

Pioneer Truck &
Transfer Co.
Edw. Royce
Desert Express
D. U. Young

Trucking

O. B. Aikman
D. R. Coleman
McHenson
W. B. Hill
T. W. Holmes
Albert Huddleston
L. L. Hurd
G. A. Lomholdt
D. H. Lyon
Bliss McCorkell
Chester McNutt
Masuchi Nagi
J. D. Phillips
Norvell Roberts
E. F. Schreiner
Geo. Tsuda
Hom Yin

**Typewriter Dealers
& Repairers**

R. S. Hindman
H. W. Hutchison

Undertakers

Folke Cardell
B. E. Lemons

Veterinarians

H. S. Maxwell
G. P. McNay

**Washing Machine
Companies**

Maytag Co.

Water Companies

Triple A Artesian Water

Welders

Depot Blacksmith Shop
M. R. Benton

Woman's Shops

Mrs. Tenie Lingo
Peacock Shoe

CHAPTER XXIX

CALIPATRIA

MEMBERS OF BOARDS OF TRUSTEES SINCE INCORPORATION

(*) Indicates Mayor

1919	J. A. Godwin*	J. J. Farmer	C. C. Foulk	Oscar Needham	Victor Sterling
1920	O. K. Thomas*	J. J. Farmer	W. R. Harper	F. E. Stout	W. V. Wilson
1921	O. K. Thomas*	J. J. Farmer	W. R. Harper	F. E. Stout	W. V. Wilson
1922	C. E. Guest	J. J. Farmer*	J. K. Griffith	F. E. Raab	B. K. Travers
1923	C. E. Guest	J. J. Farmer*	J. K. Griffith	F. E. Raab	B. K. Travers
1924	C. E. Guest	J. J. Farmer*	J. K. Griffith	E. S. Slade	B. K. Travers
1925	C. E. Guest	J. J. Farmer*	J. K. Griffith	E. S. Slade	B. K. Travers
1926	J. C. Tate*	J. J. Farmer	J. K. Griffith	C. W. Saltonstall	B. K. Travers
1927	J. C. Tate*	J. J. Farmer	J. K. Griffith	C. W. Saltonstall	B. K. Travers
1928	J. C. Tate*	J. J. Farmer	G. S. Gullett	T. M. Montgomery	B. K. Travers
1929	J. C. Tate*	J. J. Farmer	G. S. Gullett	T. M. Montgomery	B. K. Travers
1930	J. H. Bailey	R. M. Chapman	G. S. Gullett	W. C. Wilkinson*	B. K. Travers
1931	J. H. Bailey	R. M. Chapman	G. S. Gullett	W. C. Wilkinson*	B. K. Travers

NOTE—Oscar Needham resigned in 1919. T. A. Johnson was appointed.
 Victor Sterling resigned in 1919. Henry Ferguson was appointed.
 W. R. Harper resigned in 1920. B. K. Travers was appointed. Mr. Travers has been re-elected continuously.
 T. M. Montgomery resigned in 1929. M. C. Gullett was appointed.

OTHER CITY OFFICERS

Year	Clerk	Recorder	Treasurer	Marshal	Attorney
1919	P. N. Myers	W. R. Harper	O. K. Thomas	A. Starritt	L. J. Phillips
1920	P. N. Myers	P. N. Myers	Gwen. Sherwood	A. Starritt	Elmer Heald
1921	P. N. Myers	P. N. Myers	J. A. Godwin	A. Starritt	Elmer Heald
1922	P. N. Myers	P. N. Myers	C. W. Hinderks	C. W. Verge	Elmer Heald
1923	P. N. Myers	P. N. Myers	C. W. Hinderks	I. S. Holmes	Elmer Heald
1924	P. N. Myers	P. N. Myers	H. G. Dixon	I. S. Holmes	Elmer Heald
1925	P. N. Myers	P. N. Myers	H. G. Dixon	I. S. Holmes	Elmer Heald
1926	P. N. Myers	P. N. Myers	W. W. Smith	I. S. Holmes	Elmer Heald
1927	P. N. Myers	P. N. Myers	W. W. Smith	I. S. Holmes	H. C. Hopkins
1928	P. N. Myers	R. W. Ware	W. W. Smith	I. S. Holmes	P. N. Myers
1929	Helen M. Kuns	B. F. Grubel	W. W. Smith	C. G. Smith	F. J. Trude
1930	Helen M. Kuns	R. W. Ware	W. W. Smith	I. S. Holmes	W. I. Wilson
1931	Helen M. Kuns	R. W. Ware	W. W. Smith	F. E. Dunson	W. I. Wilson

NOTE—Attorney L. J. Phillips died in 1919. Elmer Heald was appointed.
 ENGINEERS—Arthur Taylor, 1920-21; Harry Tscheppe, 1922-1925; D. H. Rich, 1926-1927; C. J. Park, 1928-1931.

THE HISTORY of Calipatria is closely linked and interwoven with that of the entire "north end" of Imperial Valley. The town was planned as a natural result of the development of the country between Brawley and the Southern Pacific main line by the syndicate which purchased 47,000 acres of railroad lands from the Southern Pacific Land Company. This syndicate was composed of Luther Brown, attorney of Los Angeles; Arthur Hull, a millionaire from Chicago; Harry Chandler, of the Los Angeles Times; Max Ihmsen, of the Los Angeles Examiner; Stoddard Jess, Los Angeles banker; Walter K. Bowker, manager of the California-Mexico Land & Cattle Company's ranch at Calexico; M. H. Sherman, Los Angeles capitalist; John Woodbridge, Herbert Cornish and John D. Reavis. In 1922

these men formed the Imperial Valley Farm Lands Association. Early in 1914, the sale of a large proportion of the farm holdings emphasized the need of a trading center. It was then that Calipatria, platted and mapped, was placed on the market without the furore of a celebration. Carl F. Schader was selected to handle townsite sales.

Calipatria was first launched as Date City, but the founders soon saw that the name would hardly do for such a vast acreage which was being purchased in ten thousand acre tracts for cattle feeding, cotton, grain and alfalfa raising so the name was changed.

This history is indebted to John D. Reavis, now of San Diego, who had much to do with the development activities at the time, for the following account of the beginning of things in the north end.

HISTORY OF DEVELOPMENT IN THE NORTH END

By JOHN D. REAVIS

The historic purchase in 1912 of the 47,000 acres lying in the north end of Imperial Valley and its subsequent development into a productive empire constitutes one of the most extensive community projects in the history of the southwest.

In the year above mentioned these lands, plus others owned by desert entrymen, school land holders and homesteaders, were raw desert. The water ditches had not been extended into the section and sage brush and jack-rabbits constituted the sum total of living things.

Luther Brown, Los Angeles attorney, since deceased, was the real starter of developments. He had obtained an option from the Southern Pacific Land Company for \$35.51 an acre on 47,000 acres lying between the railroad and a line nine miles south. Such a gigantic deal frightened the average speculator and not until Brown met the writer in 1912 did any results follow his ardent efforts to find a buyer for the great tract.

I had become associated with Max F. Ihmsen, manager of the Los Angeles Examiner, who introduced Arthur E. Hull, a millionaire from Chicago. In company with Brown these gentlemen and I made a scouting trip over the property late in 1912. As a result of this investigation Mr. Ihmsen arranged an interview with Harry Chandler, publisher of the Los Angeles Times. This interview resulted favorably and Chandler agreed to enter the deal. While still in his office Chandler dictated a letter to Epes Randolph (then in charge of the California Development Company for the Southern Pacific) regarding extension of the water system into the territory. Later Luther Brown was ordered to prepare a syndicate agreement for the acquirement of all these Southern Pacific lands.

The purchase price aggregated \$1,668,970. Terms of ten years with five per cent interest on deferred payments were agreed upon.

The Imperial Valley Farm Lands Association was formed consisting of a limited trust with eleven directors. They were Stoddard Jess, then president of the First National Bank; Harry Chandler, Gen. M. H. Sherman, Max F. Ihmsen, Walter Bowker, manager of Chandler's Lower California holdings; Arthur E. Hull, John B. Woodbridge, Luther Brown, who was secretary; Herbert Cornish and the writer.

Beach & Dool were appointed land sales agents. Carl F. Schader was selected to handle the Calipatria town-site and Niland was purchased from Edwin Alcott and contracted to Hull, Reavis and Woodbridge being town-site agents.

Fast, furious and effective were words that only poorly described the rapid transition of the bleak north end from desert conditions to an astonishing area of modern farming. Ten thousand acres were purchased by Balfour-Guthrie, the great British cattle feeding firm to grow cotton and produce cottonseed meal and its by-products for shipment to Idaho stock ranges. Coats & Williamson, a wealthy firm of cotton planters, undertook the mighty job of converting 10,000 acres of raw desert silt into fields of snowy white. Thousands of men and more thousands of dollars in modern equipment did the work and the north end took to producing cotton in vast amounts.

Carl Schader, entered Calipatria as he always had entered other land deals, with vim and vigor. Calipatria sprung up as a magic city and where baked adobe flats had shortly before been the only visible scenery, brick blocks, banks, a newspaper, modern stores, garages, hotels, and homes soon transformed it into a modern young city.

Calipatria, within six months, had a Chamber of Commerce with fifty members and a business section alive with activity. It reached a size within four years where incorporation was a necessity and today it enjoys all the modern conveniences of living, all the educational advan-

tages and many of the fraternal and cultural advantages of cities many times its size.

In order to attain an intimate knowledge of the progress made by the town of Calipatria from its beginning, which was officially declared to be April 1, 1914, the reader is presented with a paragraphic account. These facts were culled from neighboring newspapers up to 1920 and mostly from the files of the Calipatria Herald after that year. No files are available of Calipatria newspapers from 1914, when the Date City Sun first appeared, until 1920.

1914

The machinery for Calipatria's new cotton gin was on the ground in May, 1914. Five thousand acres of cotton were handled.

A hollow tile plant was in operation in May.

The W. A. Hillthorne Cement Pipe Company was making concrete irrigation supplies in May from their new plant.

The Imperial Lumber & Commercial Company was managed by E. F. Eckert.

Telephone connection united the baby town with the rest of the Valley in June.

The first newspaper was the Date City Sun, a weekly, launched in January, 1914, by J. Win Wilson. This was followed by The Calipatran, published by C. J. Pfaffenberger. In September, 1914, the Calipatria Herald, under the direction of S. E. De Rackin, publisher of Imperial Enterprise, succeeded to journalistic duties for the community. The files of none of these papers up to 1920 are to be found.

The first girl baby born in Calipatria was to Mr. and Mrs. H. Beale, who named the girl Calipatria. She was born October 24, 1914. Mr. Beale built the first hotel in Calipatria. The birth of Calipatria Beale was the occasion of a celebration, parade and exhibition and a large number of gifts from Carl Schader, T. A. Johnson and citizens generally.

RAPID DEVELOPMENT

In November, 1914, eight months after Calipatria was started, there were fourteen brick business blocks in the business section occupied by some fifty firms: Willis & Track, grocers and gents furnishing; H. Linkletter, grocer and furnishings; C. C. Pope, mens store; J. A. Godwin, druggist; Holton Power Co.; Imperial Telephone Co.; Imperial Cotton Gin Co.; Imperial Lumber & Commercial Co.; Calipatria-Mecca Water Co.; Calipatria Cement & Tile Co.; Corey Transfer Co.; Farmers Stage & Transportation Co.; Buck Transfer Co.; Johnson & Clark, real estate and loans; Salisbury Realty Co.; Calipatria Herald; First National Bank; American State Bank; Stuart Restaurant; Calipatria Cafe; Linkletter Roof Garden & Cafe; Imperial Valley Farm Lands Association; Normile Restaurant; two pool halls; tobacco and soft drink; two barber shops; Allatt & Basson, brokers; Calipatria Furniture Co.; A. J. Erichsen, grocer; Calipatria Meat & Baking Co.; Calipatria Creamery, Ice & Water Co.; A. J. Bendler, plumbing; W. J. Henschelwood, artist; M. Widman, machine shop; Calipatria Feed Store; Calipatria Electric Co.; Robert Routh, attorney; four contracting and building companies; two cement contractors; Kelly Nurseries; two painters, Calipatria Hardware & Lumber Co.; Independent Lumber Co.

School opened in September with 36 pupils.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Fifty men organized a Chamber of Commerce with J. W. Geary as the first president. Bert Godwin was vice-

president and Walt Whitman secretary. Dr. Parks, Henry Stone, H. Linkletter and H. Beale were additional directors.

The Calipatria Union Church was organized with sixty-one members. E. S. Slade was chairman of the church board. A \$2,000 church was built on lots donated by the town company. E. Elsworth Smith was pastor.

1915-1920

The five years following 1915 were filled with rapid growth on the part of Calipatria and the entire north end. More land was sold to big companies by the Farm Lands Association and many individual farmers saw the advantage of farming on the good quality soil that prevails in that section. H. H. Clark was a prime factor, along with T. A. Johnson, O. K. Thomas, Bert Godwin, H. Linkletter, Dr. Parks and others in keeping Calipatria well to the front.

In 1917 the Chamber of Commerce was supplanted by the Calipatria Business Men's Association with A. D. MacKenzie, president; A. J. Erichsen, vice-president; Frank B. Fee, secretary, and Dewey Carey, treasurer. P. N. Myers succeeded Fee as secretary and remained in that position for a long time. The organization changed its name to the Calipatria Chamber of Commerce in November, 1920. J. A. Godwin was president. He was succeeded by A. J. Erichsen. In 1922 Elmer W. Heald was at the head of the chamber.

During these formative years of growth the Chamber of Commerce was a leading factor in the development of the entire north end of the Valley.

In war time Calipatria covered herself with glory by meeting every demand promptly with an excess quota. The war records will be found in foregoing chapters of this history.

INCORPORATION

In the spring of 1919 Calipatria had reached a size where incorporation was a necessity. Improvements in water service, sewer facilities, streets, lights and other matters of a community nature, had to be provided. The petition for incorporation was allowed by the Board of Supervisors. The election resulted in the choice of J. A. Godwin, J. J. Farmer, C. C. Foulk, Oscar Needham and Victor Sterling as trustees. P. N. Myers was elected City Clerk and appointed City Recorder a year later. He held both these offices until 1927 and 1928. O. K. Thomas was the first Treasurer. A. Starritt was the first marshal appointed and L. J. Phillips was the first attorney. Phillips died in office and Elmer W. Heald, later district attorney, held the office for seven years.

In the table at the head of this chapter the name of J. J. Farmer appears as trustee for eleven successive years, a record almost reached by B. K. Travers, who is still on the board. He has served ten and one-half years. C. E. Guest and J. C. Tate also had long terms.

1920

H. H. Clark reported sales aggregating \$72,000 for the Farm Lands Association in February.

The first business building erected in Calipatria was the hotel. It burned in July. Sam Ward, attempting to rescue his clothing, was burned to death.

R. Spears was in charge of the Mackenzie cotton gin. It started up August 16 for the season.

S. E. DeRackin, publisher of the Calipatria Herald, sold to Norman E. Parks in April, 1920.

One hundred thousand pounds of honey were sent to market in August.

M. L. and Hortense M. McKendry, of Wyoming, established the MeKendry and National hotels in Calipatria and are still giving the public first class hotel service.

B. F. Grubel, who came to the Valley in 1911, from Illinois, established the B. F. Grubel & Co. Insurance business in Calipatria.

Active in Chamber of Commerce: A. J. Erichsen, J. A. Godwin, John B. Henry, J. W. Jessee, A. V. Linkletter, P. N. Myers, P. W. Palmer, C. R. Prince, E. S. Slade, Ira M. Woods, Norman Parks, C. T. McKeehan, J. E. West, F. E. Raab, J. R. Collord, O. K. Thomas. Thomas was president in the latter part of 1920.

H. H. Peterson secured the contract to install Calipatria's sewer system which was provided for with a bond issue of \$40,000.

Carl Schader, originally in charge of townsite promotion, joined with T. A. Johnson in the real estate business.

1921

The MacKenzie & O'Niell cotton gin burned in January. Loss \$20,000.

The City Marshal worked prisoners on the streets, hobbled by balls and chains.

Capt. Richard Pearson Hobson, of Merrimac fame, lectured in January.

J. A. Goodwin was president of the Chamber of Commerce. P. N. Myers was secretary.

Calipatria raised \$410 for the Valley Orphans Home in San Diego.

A credit association was formed with J. P. Duncan as president.

It took ten columns to publish the city ordinance regulating plumbing.

The entire north end was interested in the Imperial Valley-Blythe road across the Chuckwalla mountains. Several get-together meetings were held.

A notable water well was the Chuckwalla well forty-one miles north of Calipatria on the Blythe road. It was used in ancient stage times.

A home talent play in 1921 had the following in the cast: T. T. Roots, Dr. L. L. Lindsay, C. W. Hinderks, E. H. Erichsen, J. E. Hynes, Mrs. Doolittle, Mrs. Gordon Ingle, Miss Tallman and Mrs. Roy Kuns.

C. C. Foulk sold his pioneer store to E. C. Foster and E. A. Lee, both pioneers of Brawley.

Mrs. Geo. B. Doolittle was president of the Mothers' club.

Calipatria's seventh birthday was celebrated under the direction of the Volunteer Fire Department with a varied program in April.

The Farmers & Merchants Bank and the First National Bank were merged. O. K. Thomas continued as president.

Blanche Bea Wirt, infant daughter of Mrs. C. H. Wirt, was adjudged physically perfect in a baby contest conducted by the Mothers' Club.

Assessed valuation in May: \$1,409,040.

Judge Myers, who was City Clerk and Recorder, was also appointed Justice of the Peace in October.

Editor Norman Parks demanded a definition of the words "north end." He would have El Centro and the "south end" understand that Brawley did not constitute

the entire "north end."

The elementary school building was erected in April at a cost of \$15,000.

Two pumice mines were operated west of Calipatria and Niland during the winter season. At one mine a watchman was left for three months through the hot season and was discovered insane in August.

Rev. Geo. Kenngott was pastor of the Union Congregational church which was a feature of the community.

Calipatria had a membership in the Imperial Valley Baseball League and made a good showing.

M. A. Clouse, after ranching a year or so, engaged in the grocery and hardware business in Calipatria. He is still in the same line of business.

W. O. Blair was promoting a first class hay baler at the county fair.

The Chamber of Commerce re-elected the same officers as 1920.

O. J. Renfrew, of Niland, was the speaker of the day at the Armistice day celebration which was a feature of 1921.

The district voted \$150,000 high school bonds in April. They were sold in November and the high school building, which has been the pride of Calipatria since, was immediately erected.

Late in the year Calipatria and the rest of the Valley was an ocean of mud on account of the heavy rains.

1922

An I. O. O. F. lodge was organized in January.

B. K. Travers started ten years of service as City Trustee by appointment in January.

Mrs. C. R. Prince was president of the Mothers' Club.

The community established a public rest room and library in May. Mrs. Hortense Cray was in charge.

Mr. and Mrs. S. C. Sorensen, formerly of El Centro and later employed on the Brawley News, purchased the Calipatria Herald from Norman Parks in April, 1922. Mr. Sorensen was for a time, foreman in the Press office at El Centro. Mrs. Sorensen learned the newspaper business while with Mr. and Mrs. O. B. Tout in the El Centro Progress office. They have given Calipatria a real newspaper for nine years past.

R. M. Chapman boasted of the first radio receiving set.

A. M. Lee picked 10,000 pounds of grapes from one acre. He also shipped 60,000 pounds of honey in July.

"Bill Henry" Sorensen joined the Herald staff in July.

H. B. Edwards managed the J. A. Harris cotton gin.

For a variety 250 acres of strawberries were raised around Calipatria in 1922.

Mrs. S. R. Van Dyke was President of the Mothers' Club in October.

W. F. Beal was awarded the contract for paving Main street at a cost of \$76,262.59.

Dick Nutbrown was Chief of the Fire Department, succeeding J. G. Wirt.

Virgil Barber had ripe peaches at Christmas time. No leaves were on the tree.

A community Christmas tree was a joyous feature of the holiday season.

1923

A great tree planting program was sponsored by the Woman's Club, successor of the Calipatria Mothers' Club. Enlisted in the cause were: S. C. Sorensen, T. M. Montgomery, Mrs. Ira Aten, Harry Beale, F. A. Raab, Mrs. J. K. Griffith, B. K. Travers, P. N. Myers, Al Waibel, R. M. Chapman, Ira Erichsen, C. R. Prince, P. J. Lopez, C. C. McCullough, J. J. Farmer and E. O. Hasty. A barbecue was a feature. Mrs. J. K. Griffith and S. C. Sorensen were chairmen for the event.

Mrs. Victor Sterling was President of the Woman's Club.

The city's ninth birthday was the occasion of another successful "jamboree" under the direction of the Fire Department.

The vaccination of 2500 pigs on the Balfour-Guthrie ranch was an event in April. Cholera was quite prevalent.

The cotton crop in the Calipatria district was valued at over a million dollars in 1923.

Elmer W. Heald was president of the Chamber of Commerce in 1923. M. L. McKendry was secretary.

1924

Mrs. L. A. Rawles and Mrs. E. O. Hasty were elected President and Secretary of the County Federation of Women's Clubs.

A carload of peas was shipped in March. Five hundred acres were planted about Calipatria.

The city's tenth birthday was celebrated appropriately by the Fire Department with the public responding handsomely.

Mrs. Roy Kuns was president of the local Woman's Club.

A 3000 acre vineyard, capitalized at \$225,000 was launched with Robert McBride as general manager.

The Lion's Club was formed in October with J. C. Tate as president. E. L. Cox was secretary. The club was off to a good start.

Clyde Street was elected president and S. C. Sorensen secretary of the Chamber of Commerce in October.

The Lindsay building was destroyed by fire in December. Loss \$11,000.

1925

The annual tree-planting event was sponsored this year by the Lions club with success.

Mrs. L. A. Rawles was president of the Woman's Club.

The Ryan fruit packing shed was burned in April. Loss \$15,000.

C. R. Prince was president of the Lions.

A warehouse fire destroyed \$4000 worth of new machinery belonging to Holmquist & Holmquist.

The fiscal year showed that \$5,824.50 in fines had been collected by the City Recorder.

A. C. Street was re-elected president of the Chamber of Commerce. It so happens that a Chamber president is seldom re-elected.

An old time desert wind took down a large number of shacks on the east side of town. A man was killed during the storm. The damage was estimated at \$80,000. Reconstruction commenced at once.

The purchase of the latest type La France fire truck at a cost of \$7,213 greatly improved the fire fighting equipment of the city.

Mrs. M. L. Jones was chairman of the committee that took care of the Christmas program. A community tree was again a happy feature.

Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Tate celebrated their silver wedding anniversary in December.

Calipatria was host for the Associated Chambers of Commerce in December.

1926

The Calipatria Fire Department purchased and presented to the city a modern fire siren. The fireboys worked Sundays and evenings to remodel their headquarters and a night force slept on the premises in order to get quick action in case of fire. Al P. Waibel was chief.

In 1925 Calipatria district had 74 births and 31 deaths.

William A. Measures purchased the Ford agency from George E. Gullett.

The proposal to form a road district for the improvement of about thirty miles of roads around Calipatria was endorsed by Supervisor Jackson and leading ranchers. The plans were to connect Calipatria with the Los Angeles highway, with Niland and with the territory to the east with pavement.

A. C. Street was again president of the Chamber of Commerce.

The community paid tribute to the memory of Mrs. A. J. Erichsen who died in April. A score of Calipatrians went to Colton to attend the funeral.

The Knights of Pythias organized a lodge in March. The following were officers: E. M. Frye, Chancellor Commander; S. C. Sorensen, Vice-Commander; Phillip Benson, Prelate; J. L. Kern, Master at Arms; D. F. Michener, Inner Guard; C. F. David, Outer Guard; W. A. Linkletter, Keeper of Records; Roy Boyer, Master of Finance; F. F. Malone, Master of Exchequer; J. H. Warnack, Master of Work. Past Chancellors: J. C. Tate, J. H. Warnack, W. A. Linkletter, Dr. F. F. Malone. Trustees: I. S. Holmes, D. L. Quick, and J. H. Warnack.

Dr. George Soper was Pastor of the Union community church.

Mrs. P. N. Myers was president of the Woman's Club.

At the last minute ten citizens filed nomination papers for three City Trustee offices. J. J. Farmer, J. C. Tate and C. W. Saltonstall were successful at the election. Mr. Tate was named mayor. The voters also voted \$15,000 for the acquisition and improvement of a public park.

Ground was broken for the new club house for the American Legion and other war veterans in April. The club house was in Mission style architecture, contained an assembly hall, stage, kitchen and lounging rooms. The county tax provided funds. The improvement cost about \$12,000.

Fire destroyed the Poppy theatre building in April.

The annual melon harvest attracted large numbers of colored folks, some of whom planned to get the money from the real workers by various night life plans. A raid on the east side netted fifty of these vagrants who were fined and sent out of town by Judge Myers.

Mrs. Inez Benson was appointed postmaster to succeed E. S. Slade who had served eight years. The Slades removed to Fortuna.

The Imperial Valley Farm Lands Association, original owners and promoters of the 47,000 acres of railroad lands in the north end, wound up its affairs by distributing some 19,000 acres of land by lottery amongst its stockholders.

The high school had 13 graduates in May.

The record for the first bale of cotton each year was carried off by some Calipatria rancher. In 1926 the 1925 record was beaten by three weeks when two bales were picked from the volunteer crop on the Henking ranch and run through the gin July 6.

Elmer Heald, Calipatria attorney, was elected at the primaries to the office of District Attorney.

C. D. Watkins was Fire Chief in the fall.

A. C. Street had the honor of being elected for the third time president of the Calipatria Chamber of Commerce. S. C. Sorensen was continued as secretary.

The trustees created a city planning commission and named Mrs. T. M. Montgomery, Dr. F. F. Malone, B. K. Travers, W. V. Wilson and S. C. Sorensen. The first job the commission had was to plan the new city park for which \$15,000 was voted. The townsite company donated the land for the park.

T. M. Montgomery was appointed trustee to take the place of J. K. Griffith, resigned.

1927

Mrs. Herbert Reedy was president of the Woman's Club.

Calipatria was host to all the K. P. lodges in the Valley in February.

The new club house for the American Legion was dedicated in February. Ed. Erichsen was Commander of the Calipatria post. The new structure was commodious and has been used since being built for many joyous, entertaining and profitable functions.

The city's thirteenth birthday was celebrated in April.

Elmer Heald retired as city attorney when elected district attorney. H. C. Hopkins was appointed to the position.

Clyde Street was at the head of the Lions Club.

W. A. Wallace was head of the Calipatria Rifle Club.

The business district suffered a \$110,000 fire in December. Nutbrown Bros., Erichsen's Grocery, Mission Drug Co., Geo. S. Gullett, Dr. Malone, and the Royal Neighbors lodge were among the losers.

Again a community Christmas tree was enjoyed by young and old alike.

1928

Geo. Bailey was at the head of the Lions.

J. C. Tate was again named mayor.

A unique club affair was the annual community picnic sponsored by the Woman's Club in May on the desert east of the city. Mrs. Glenn Cardiff was chairman. The business houses closed for the event.

H. C. Hopkins resigned as city attorney. Judge P. N. Myers was named to the position.

The Colored Baptist church celebrated the payment of the \$400 debt on the church property.

On July 14, 1914—so the story was published in the Herald of 1928—the first dance in the new town was held in a store building erected for the Calipatria Hardware & Lumber company. The same building, in 1928, was leased by the Fire Department and American Legion for a joint celebration of the city's fourteenth birthday. It was a big time. (The historian, knowing July weather, questions the accuracy of the date of the first dance).

O. B. Crary presented the city with 185 young shade trees shipped from Winfield, Kansas. The new trees were planted in the city park by Carl Horn.

The sixth annual Christmas celebration was up to the usual high mark.

1929

Fire Chief C. D. Watkins died after a short illness in March. J. R. Nutbrown was appointed to the position.

Building permits in January and February exceeded \$9000.

An eyeopener as to the development of farms in the north end was a visit arranged by the Farm Bureau to acquaint business men with what was going on in the country districts. The tour was a revelation to even the business men of Calipatria.

Now Calipatria was fifteen years old and the Fire Department and American Legion did not let the people forget it. The jamboree netted a nice sum for the fire boys' fund. L. T. Morehead was general chairman.

E. Lester Cox, for five years secretary of the Lion's Club was made president in 1929.

Calipatria, as early as 1928, protested the inequality of the five supervisorial districts of the county and asked for a redistricting. The matter, in 1931, was still being agitated without success.

Calipatria enjoyed twenty-four hour phone service the first time in September.

Former Calipatrians gathered at Brookside Park, Pasadena in July for a picnic, the third of its kind. The event was attended by two hundred former residents of the north end.

Assessed valuation for 1929: \$1,699,646.

J. H. Bailey purchased the H. H. Peterson building in July.

Charles G. Smith, police chief, was arrested and charged with transporting liquor when federal officers failed to recognize him when he was accompanying the driver of a truck load of beer from Mexicali. The incident caused a flurry.

Twenty-four teachers were employed in Calipatria schools.

The school library and the county branch library gave Calipatria good book service.

Mrs. Floyd Johnson was president of the Woman's club.

Federal officers broke up a ring engaged in smuggling liquor, narcotics and aliens across the line in October by arresting James Ward and James and John Maxwell with an auto load of Chinese.

P. N. Myers, City Clerk since incorporation; Recorder for ten years; Justice of the Peace for seven years; President of the Chamber of Commerce; member of High and Elementary school boards; former president of the Associated Chambers of Commerce; lecturer, attorney and respected pioneer citizen, resigned all his offices in October. The county grand jury later censured him for carelessness in caring for liquor in his custody as Justice of the Peace but refused to bring any charges against him.

S. C. Sorensen was elected President of the Chamber of Commerce in November.

Mrs. Helen Kuns was named City Clerk. B. F. Grubel was named Justice of the Peace and R. W. Ware was named City Recorder to fill the vacancies caused by the resignation of P. N. Myers. Ware resigned in December and Grubel was appointed Recorder.

Mrs. Everett Gullett was named President of the Woman's Club in December.

1930

Will Rogers, famous humorist, visited the Valley in company with Harry Chandler of the Los Angeles Times in December. He wrote a humorous syndicate story about the visit. Among other things he declared that Calipatria was named after Calvin Coolidge and Cleopatra and he was sorry to see Calvin mixed up with that woman. He said that real estate dealers chased out the ocean in order to get more land to sell and that Imperial Valley grapefruit was squirting on more wealthy and immoral families than all other grapefruit combined. He said it got hot all right—for those who could afford to get out. To the others it was not so bad—no humidity you know. He said Imperial Valley had everything—luncheon clubs, mortgages—all below sea level. Rogers predicted the next town would be named Hershe, after Herbert Hoover and the Queen of Sheba.

Charles Holmquist was elected chairman of the Volunteer Fire Department at the annual meeting. J. R. Nutbrown was re-elected Chief.

F. I. Trude was named City Attorney. He was succeeded in May by W. I. Wilson.

Mrs. Earl Holmquist was champion golf player amongst the ladies. Calipatria had a good start toward a first class golf course.

A movement was set under way by the Chamber of Commerce, the Lions, American Legion, Union church and Boy Scouts to provide Calipatria with a first class swimming pool. The committee was composed of S. C. Sorensen, Mrs. H. J. Ingram, H. H. Myers and F. H. Muggle. The improvement was postponed temporarily.

Voters selected three new city trustees at the April election. W. C. Wilkinson, R. M. Chapman and J. H. Bailey defeated J. J. Farmer, J. C. Tate and Geo. S. Gullett. Mr. Wilkinson was named mayor. Mrs. Helen Kuns was re-elected clerk and W. W. Smith treasurer.

S. C. Sorensen was appointed a member of the high-way committee of the State Chamber of Commerce. Sorensen was also elected president of the Lion's Club in May.

The sixteenth birthday party for the city took the form of a banquet in the high school cafeteria.

The official population figures gave Calipatria 1554, a gain of 97.9 per cent in ten years. The township population was 3817.

The mill and warehouse of the Imperial Valley Alfalfa Products company were destroyed by fire in October. Loss: \$50,000. The company rebuilt within three weeks.

S. C. Sorensen, whose year as president of the Chamber of Commerce was marked with many beneficial activities, was unanimously re-elected to the position.

T. M. Montgomery resigned as City trustee and M. C. Gullett was appointed.

More than 9000 acres of winter peas were raised in the district in 1930.

The Herald issued a "white spot edition" of forty-eight pages in November. The resources of the entire north end were ably depicted.

Frank Dunson was appointed Chief of Police in place of Chief Holmes, who resigned.

C. R. Prince, for eleven years principal of the high school, was relieved of his duties by the school board in May. He enjoyed a fine record as a school executive and citizen during his residence in Calipatria.

An audit of the city's finances disclosed the fact that the general fund was overdrawn to the extent of \$15,000 due to loose business methods in the conduct of the city's affairs. The city faced the necessity of operating without funds.

The death of H. H. Clark, one of Calipatria's founders, took place in September. Mr. Clark was not only a noted figure in Imperial Valley's development after 1914, but was prominent in mining circles. He was the first man to pitch a tent in Tonopah and named the town of Bullfrog.

1931

J. G. Wirt was the new president of the Chamber of Commerce.

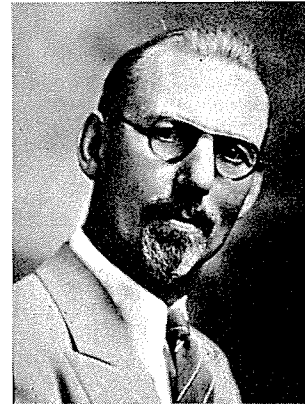
After a year or more of publicity and effort the north end was beginning to get attention for the projected improved highway along the northern shore of Salton Sea. This improvement will no doubt eventually come about together with the improvement of the shores of the sea with unmatched winter resorts that will attract thousands.

In the spring and summer of 1931 Calipatria continued to enjoy its measure of prosperity as shown by the fact that Imperial Valley continued as one of the few "white spots" on the country's map.

Grace B. Wirt won for Calipatria the permanent possession of a bronze cup offered by the Federation of Women's Clubs to the school winning the annual oratorical contest for the third time.

Calipatria is now pressing the matter of redistricting the county for supervisorial districts. The districts exist now as they did in 1907 when the county was formed while the north end contains 22,000 population, or 38 per cent. The territory pays 42 per cent of the county's taxes. The Chamber of Commerce claims that the north end is entitled to two supervisors.

History was made when an Indian named Bodkins held up the Security bank and attempted to get away in Febru-



S. C. SORENSEN
*Herald Editor and President of Associated Chambers
of Commerce*

ary. He was promptly arrested and is now serving time. This was the only bank hold-up ever attempted in the Valley.

A fire destroyed J. C. Tate's department store and several adjacent business buildings in July. The loss was over \$100,000.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

A resume of the activities of Calipatria's Chamber of Commerce shows that organization as alive to the needs of the north end city as other bodies were for their home towns. Of course, the usual periodic apathy followed the usual periodic revival. Many times the work devolved upon the shoulders of the few willing, civic minded men.

We find that fifty or so business men who had established operations by November, 1914, organized under the leadership of J. W. Geary. Walt Whitman, now of Vista, San Diego county, was the first Secretary. In this first group we also find the names of H. Beale, H. Linkletter, Dr. Parks, Bert Godwin and Henry Stone.

This organization carried on until 1917 when it was succeeded by a new organization under the name of the Business Men's Association. A. D. MacKenzie was president and Frank Fee secretary. P. N. Myers succeeded Fee as secretary and remained in that position for a long time. A. J. Erichsen and Dewey Carey were leaders. The association brought about incorporation in 1919.

The name was changed back to Chamber of Commerce in 1920. Thereafter the Chamber took on a more permanent form and systematically undertook and accomplished most of the improvements that Calipatria enjoyed. In the list of presidents since 1920 we find: J. A. Godwin, A. J. Erichsen, Elmer Heald, O. K. Thomas, Clyde Street (three terms), P. N. Myers, S. C. Sorensen (two terms), and J. G. Wirt, now on the job. W. W. Smith is secretary.

In the last eleven years the administration of affairs under the direction of Clyde Street and S. C. Sorensen stand out with the most constructive accomplishment. P.

N. Myers and Mr. Sorensen were both presidents of the Associated Chambers of Commerce of the Valley, the latter serving in that capacity at the present time, July, 1931.

THE CALIPATRIA HERALD

While Calipatria was still called Date City, in January, 1914, J. Win Wilson, now publisher of the Indio Date Palm, started the Date City Sun, weekly.

The Calipatrian, edited by C. F. Pfaffenberger, was the second journalistic effort and helped to get the townsite under way when the town name was changed in April, 1914, to Calipatria. This was followed in September by the launching of the Calipatria Herald by S. E. DeRackin who was also publisher of the Imperial Enterprise. A plant

was installed then and since then the Herald has never missed an issue. In April, 1920, Norman H. Parks purchased the Herald and continued as proprietor until April, 1922, when S. C. Sorensen, present publisher and proprietor, placed his name at the masthead. Both Mr. and Mrs. Sorensen were practical printers and experienced newspaper people. Together they have given Calipatria one of the best weeklies published in Southern California. In Mr. Sorensen the community has that rare combination, a civic leader full of practical ideas and the ability to see things through to a finish and an editor able to present the news and espouse the cause that is best for the community. Sorensen's writings never show malice or vindictiveness.

Mr. Sorensen's leadership has been acknowledged by his election and re-election to the presidency of the Chamber of Commerce. He was also head of the Lion's Club and this year has been drafted as president of the Associated Chambers of Commerce. He is a member of the highway committee of the State Chamber of Commerce and has served the north end on innumerable committees.

WOMAN'S CLUB

In February, 1915, the women of Calipatria, under the leadership of Mrs. C. B. Brown, who was first president, in a desire to help with the improvement of their home town, organized the Woman's Club and since that time the organization has been a constant doer of things. Its first big job was to see that a \$35,000 bond issue for a school was carried and it was. The club federated with state and county organizations the first year.

In 1916 Mrs. W. J. West was president. A series of events provided money which was used to establish a rest and reading room. Mrs. Brown was president again in 1917. The club bought a Liberty bond, presented the city with trash cans, donated to the Y. W. C. A. and spent one day a week for the Red Cross.

In the years that follow we find in the names of the leaders in club affairs those who have given much of their time to advance the interests of Calipatria. In the list of presidents since 1920 we find: Mrs. Geo. B. Doolittle,

Mrs. C. R. Prince, Mrs. Victor Sterling, Mrs. Roy Kuns, Mrs. L. A. Rawles, Mrs. P. N. Myers, Mrs. Herbert Reedy, Mrs. E. L. Mead, Mrs. Floyd Johnson, Mrs. Everett Gullett and Mrs. Harry Russell, now in office.

ROYAL NEIGHBORS

One of the newer organizations is the Royal Neighbors lodge which now has under way the construction of the lodge building in Calipatria.

The reader will understand that Calipatria's war history and the records of the American Legion and Auxiliary appear in the chapters devoted to the County War History.

ST. PATRICK'S CATHOLIC

In 1915 a Catholic church was started at Calipatria. It was at first attended by priests from Brawley, but now Rev. Joseph Deras looks after the spiritual welfare of the Catholics of Calipatria.

COMMUNITY CHURCH

Calipatria has enjoyed a rather unique experience in church matters. When the town was started in 1914 a Union church was also started under the direction of the Congregationalists. Since then all Protestant church efforts have been centralized in this one church and they have been quite successful. Rev. E. Elsworth Smith was the first pastor in 1914. A \$2000 building was erected then on lots donated by the town company. In the list of pastors, which is not complete, we find Rev. E. E. Smith, Rev. Geo. Kennigott, Dr. Geo. Soper and Rev. F. E. Dell.

LIONS CLUB

The Calipatria Lions Club, established in 1924, has been an active agent in the town's affairs. Its presidents have been: J. C. Tate, C. R. Prince, W. V. Wilson, A. C. Street, Geo. H. Bailey, E. Lester Cox and S. C. Sorensen. Secretaries who have served: E. Lester Cox, for the first five years; H. J. Ingram and M. L. McKendry.

Firms in Business in Calipatria in 1930-31.

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|
| IMPLEMENTS
Holmquist & Holmquist | COTTON GINNING
Imp Mill & Ginning Co. | Francisco Quiroz
Safeway Stores | NEWSPAPERS
Calipatria Herald |
| APARTMENTS
Ware Apts.
Travers Apts. | DRUGGIST
Poppy Drug Store
Calipatria Drug Store
A. Fares, Peoples Store | HOTELS
Hotel McKendry
National Hotel | THEATRE
Poppy Theatre |
| AUTO DEALERS | GEN. MERCHAND'ISE
Tatae Mercantile Co. | ICE COMPANIES
Imperial Ice and Dev. Co. | OIL COMPANIES
Shell Oil Co.
Standard Oil Co.
Union Oil Co. |
| REPAIRERS AND WRECKERS
Clouse & Thompson
J. E. Russell
Henry Henderson
Emmet Miller
W. C. White | EXPRESS CO.
Ry Express Agcy. | INSURANCE
Chapman Co.
H. H. Brandt
T. M. Montgomery
S. G. Auer
Bollman & Fulton | PHYSICIANS
O. Charles Long
John H. Hutton |
| BAKERS
Basil Dorman | GRAIN & M'LLING
Cal-Hawaiian Milling Co. | LAWYERS
H. H. Myers | PLUMBERS
C. B. McCullough
W. B. Peterson |
| BANKS
Security First Nat'l. | PACKERS
Wilkinson Bros.
Corn and Ware
Standlu & Bryant
O'Neill & Warner
S. A. Ginard Co.
A. O. Kocher | POWER COMPANIES
Southern Sierras Co. | DENTIST
Dr. J. H. Simpson |
| BARBERS
A. R. Gutierrez
Harry Paige | FURNITURE
C. E. Getz
F. A. Nutbrown | LIVE STOCK DEALERS
Balfour Guthrie Co.
Ira D. Atin
Vail Co.
E. B. Hatfield | REAL ESTATE
S. G. Auer
R. M. Chapman
Bollman & Fulton
Imperial Valley
Farm Lands Assn. |
| BILLIARDS
T. L. Jones
Artura Murreta
Ross & Henderson | SERVICE STATION
Clouse & Thompson
Central
Standard Oil Co.
Ray Leonard
Roy Kuns
Miller Bros. | LUMBER YARDS
Kerekhoff-Cuzner
Mill and Lumber
Geo. S. Gullett | RESTAURANTS
J. H. Escalante
E. J. Parker
G. C. Prather
A. B. Stames |
| BLACKSMITH SHOPS
J. F. Hopkins
Michel Didmann | GROCERS
M. A. Clouse
Gullett Bros.
W. H. Hawkins
Piggly Wiggly | MILLS
I. V. Alfalfa Products Co. | SHOE REPAIRER
Charles E Parker |
| HARDWARE STORES
Imperial Vaalley
Haardware Co. | | MEAT MARKET
Henry Dieffenbacher
J. C. Hatfield | TELEPHONE & TELEGRAPH
Western Union
Pac. Tel. & Tel. Co. |
| CONFECTIONERY
Ross & Henderson | | MEN'S APPAREL
O. W. Holmes | TRUCKING
V. J. Caarrick
C. F. David
J. J. Faramer |

CHAPTER XXX

UNINCORPORATED TOWNS
AND TRADE CENTERS

IN ADDITION to the six incorporated cities of the Valley—Imperial, Brawley, Calexico, Holtville, El Centro and Calipatria—there are many additional centers which provide convenient trading facilities for surrounding populations. Four of these are townsites—Heber, Seeley, Westmorland and Niland. The others are potential towns, some of which will increase in size as the surrounding population increases. They are Andrade, Plaster City, Wiest, Bard, Dixieland, Palo Verde, Amos, Mt. Signal, Sunset Siding, Tamarack, Sandio, Jasper, McCabe, Alamorio, Bonds Corner, Coyote Wells, Mountain Springs, Boulder Park, Highline, Gray's Well, Winterhaven, Kane Springs, Rockwood, Bernice, Poppy, and Frink.

In this record these towns and trade centers are taken up in the order of their age, as nearly as possible.

HEBER

When the Imperial Land Company, working under the direction of the California Development Company, planned the first towns of the Valley in 1900 and 1901, it was decided that a settlement half way between Imperial and Calexico would be natural. Accordingly the townsite of Paringa was laid out some distance east of the present town of Heber. The name was selected at the suggestion of George Chaffey after his home place in Australia where he had been engaged in developing a reclamation project. When the railroad survey was made, however, in 1903, efforts to develop Paringa were abandoned and a new site selected on the Valley branch of the Southern Pacific, the present site of Heber. The postoffice department gave the new place the name of Bradtmoore but the townsite company in September, 1903, determined to honor A. H. Heber, then president and chief moving spirit of the California Development Company, and in 1904 the name was officially changed to Heber.

The new town was handled by the Imperial Valley Realty Company with F. C. Paulin at its head. Elaborate plans for a city with wide streets lined and parked with a variety of tropical trees were announced. All streets were to be at least 100 feet wide and the main street was to be 125 feet wide. A row of trees down the center of each street was to be a feature. An agricultural park was a part of the plans. It was expected that the San Diego-Yuma railroad, being planned in 1903, would pass through Heber and it was also expected that the new town of Holtville would be connected by rail at this junction point.

These announcements caused much concern in Imperial because of the suspicion that the Land Company planned to abandon the hardpan site of the Valley's oldest town and make Heber the metropolis.

The arrival of the railroad as far as Heber early in 1904 gave the town some impetus. The first frame building was for the new bank and it was finished in June, 1904.

Following are a few items about Heber that appeared in the early files of the Imperial Press:

JUNE, 1904

The S. P. construction train is making headquarters at Heber.

Fuller Bros. are harvesting a big crop of wheat and barley.

E. H. Ringo is spending a few days with John Norton. He expects to move here in the fall.

Henry Seeley has completed the Heber bank building, and has turned it over to the town company.

Seven hundred and fifty date palms came by mail from Algiers for the big date palm orchard in charge of F. E. Chumard.

D. G. Whiting is visiting his family in San Bernardino.

The Heber Mercantile Co. Nathan Landsberg, proprietor, is arranging to build a general merchandising store.

Two car loads of lumber have arrived for R. H. Austin's yard. Mr. Austin owns the only barn in Heber.

Winthrop Pier is adding several head of Jersey cattle to his extensive dairy herd.

Work has commenced on the Heath building.

Jacob Stoner is building a house on his ranch southeast of Heber.

Huntington McKusick and his bride have taken up their residence on the McKusick ranch, west of Heber.

AUGUST, 1904

A terrific wind moved an empty freight car from the siding to the main line and the early morning train ran into it, recording the Valley's first railroad accident.

J. J. Post grew a quantity of sugar beets which did not test out so well when sent to the sugar factory.

Mrs. Whiting is postmistress at Heber.

W. G. Record has finished his 70th day run with his combined harvester.

About sixty attended the social given by the Christian Endeavor society at the Rev. Thompson home on the main canal.

G. E. Harman and E. S. Jamison are installing a meat market.

Heber's first water supply was from a ditch to the center of town with ditches along the street to furnish the residences.

J. H. Whiting has built a bridge over the Dogwood, west of town.

OCTOBER, 1904

The Van Horn school was opened with Prof. McDonald, of San Diego, as teacher.

A good roads association was formed with W. A. Van Horn president, and Huntington McKusick, secretary. Its purpose is to build a good road west from Heber crossing the Date, Dahlia and Evergreen canals to the main canal, thence north to Silsbee.

OCTOBER-NOVEMBER, 1904

The lack of bridges over canals causes farmers much inconvenience.

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Cline gave their son Gordon a party. Those present were Rosana Moreau, Minnie Carr, Ethel Carr, Alice Bragg, Hazel Bragg, Helen Sheppard, Mollie Graff, Josie Fuller, Floyd Bragg, Paul Steintorf, Robert Whiting, Dudley Jenkins, Ralph Reeves, Fred Carr and Mural Nixon.

Nathan Landsberg is manager of the Heber baseball team.

Fritz Kloke, owner of a fine ranch and two story house south of the main canal, has just returned from an extended trip to Alaska. He will make further extensive improvements on his ranch.

Sam Moore has the distinction of being the first passenger other than local, to get off the train at Heber. He is here from Kentucky to live.

Fred Emerson is Heber's first real estate agent. He has charge of the town site.

Will S. Fawcett, of Whittier, heavily interested in land and water stock in No. 1, is down looking over his Heber property. Mr. Fawcett figures that he had a few tricks played on him which placed him at a serious disadvantage for a time. Now he is glad he could not sell out when he wished for his property is growing in value rapidly.

A. H. Heber, former president of the California Development Co., has organized the Colony Investment Co., and is circulating 50,000 pamphlets, advertising the Valley.

FEBRUARY 1907

Heber Fancy Melon Growers' Assn. is the name of the new organization at Heber. H. B. Pearson will handle the crop for the Crutchfield-Woolfolk Commission firm. Officers: Geo. Cline, Pres.; W. A. Van Horn, Vice-pres.; L. E. Srack, Sect'y.

FEBRUARY 1908

Heber is enthusiastic over the report that the Congregationalists will back the College of Agriculture. When Heber was first laid out ambitious plans were laid for such an institution. A tract of land was set aside and other lands were to be sold to raise an endowment fund. The educational committee of the church has the plan under consideration.

The townsite company set aside an endowment in land for the support of the Collegiate Institute. A building was erected and the Institute was opened in December, 1908. H. W. Moorehouse was head of the faculty. The Institute failed to flourish. The building still stands and is used as a school house.

The advent of El Centro between Heber and Imperial, the failure of the S. D. & A. railroad to make Heber a junction point and the decision of W. F. Holt to run the Holton Inter-Urban direct to El Centro caused Heber to halt perceptibly in growth. However, it has always remained a busy trading center. Packing houses showed seasonal activity and various lines of business have always been represented.

In 1913 Edward Hullinger, now a noted international representative of the United Press, started and maintained the Heber Times for a few months. The Heber Herald was issued also from an El Centro newspaper office.

During recent years the following firms and individuals have been foremost in Heber's business life:

M. H. Cavin, lumber, feed and general merchandise.
Now managed by Neal Cavin.
Will S. Fawcett Ranch Company.
Heber Meat Market.
Imperial Garden Growers.
Maljan Fruit Company.
Geo. E. Mann & Company.
Pacific Telephone & Telegraph Company.
Southern Pacific Company.
R. Robertson Company.
Sunstate Produce Exchange.
U. S. Customs Patrol.
H. O. Wood.
State Highway Section.
Heber Hotel, G. A. Boren.

SEELEY

As in the case of Heber plans were laid in 1902 for a town on the shores of Blue Lake, really the very first "settlement" of any sort in the Valley. In 1900 the surveyors erected an immense ramada covered with arrow weed on the shores of the lake and this was the only stopping place until Imperial was mapped and the tent hotel built. The town was called Silsbee after Thos. Silsbee, cattleman of San Diego, who pastured stock in the neighborhood before the era of reclamation. A number of San Diego people settled around Silsbee. The lake was a depression which filled with water when there was an overflow from the Colorado river. With the advent in 1902 of the families of Andy Elliott, Thos. Campbell, Pete Storms and others and later by the families of A. R. Ferguson, W. E. Wilsie, M. P. Grove, E. E. Forrester and others a school district was formed and in April, 1904, a bond issue, purchased by the S. P. Company, made it possible to erect a school house in the neighborhood. Then Roy Rumsey built an adobe for his first store in Silsbee. Postmaster Browning was housed also in an adobe.

During the summers of 1905 and 1906 Silsbee people were surrounded by water from river overflow. The townsite was finally abandoned. In 1907 when the waters subsided Blue Lake, the townsite of Silsbee and many ranches were replaced with the deep chasm of New River as it is seen today west of Seeley.

Following are a few items carrying names of early residents of the Silsbee district:

APRIL, 1904

Silsbee school bonds for \$3000 sold in San Diego at a premium of \$120.50.

SEPTEMBER, 1904

Roy Rumsey has completed an adobe business building to be used as a general merchandise store.

The new postoffice building is complete and postmaster Browning has moved in.

Campbell's store is also headquarters for Allen Jones' barber shop.

Dan Browning's big boat on Blue Lake is in great demand for swimming parties.

Bert Irwin pleased several residents with generous sections of a fine porker.

J. R. Havens is beginning work on his new house.

Relatives of Peter J. Storms, in search of health, are here from New York to spend the winter.

G. T. Hammond has purchased the Castle homestead, and will sink a well.

Miss Nellie McAllister won the first prize at the masquerade ball held at Rumsey's.

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER, 1904

M. A. Mastick and family are occupying their new home.

A successful leap year ball was held in Rumsey's new hall. Ladies acted as musicians, floor managers, callers and even footed the bills.

A barbecue picnic Thanksgiving dinner was attended by 250 people on the shores of Blue Lake.

Santa Claus arrived Christmas eve on the shores of Blue Lake, remaining long enough to distribute presents from a well filled tree. The Silsbee mandolin club furnished music.

MARCH, 1905

Lumber is being delivered for the new Silsbee school house.

The stage of the water in New river and Blue Lake is a matter of great interest. All the low lands along New river are overflowed. Judge Orrick had to move off his place, his farm being all under water. The outlet from the lake is a stream 150 feet wide and five feet deep.

The Seeley neighborhood is glad to greet Misses Maud and Mary Van Arman who have been away some time.

Ed Manning killed a sidewinder with eleven rattles and a button.

The river is high and no crossing to San Diego.

Andy Elliott and family have been compelled to move from their place on account of high water.

Miss Maud Van Arman is visiting in Holtville.

Mr. Wilkins, who originally owned the Silsbee townsite, was over from San Diego.

Geo. House built levees all around his ranch but finally had to wade out.

A. N. Jones came over from San Diego, found his place under water and returned to San Diego.

Harvey Gray had to swim his horse a mile to cross the river on his way to San Diego.

JULY, 1905

With water all around them Silsbee celebrated the 4th of July with a dance and fireworks.

AUGUST, 1905

The water is going down right along and crossing New river by ferry is possible at Calexico.

Speculation as to what the New river channel will look like when the water goes down is occupying the public mind.

SEPTEMBER, 1905

John Havens sold a wagon load of hogs in Imperial.

OCTOBER, 1905

School opened October 2. Miss Ellen Gray is teacher. Thirty-two pupils were present.

Robert Benton, Arthur Stockton, T. J. Gray, Dondo McAlmond and Robert Davies brought in 1600 head of cattle from the San Diego mountains to graze on the growth caused by the overflow of New river. They lost 12 head at Storm's crossing.

MAY, 1906

Herl Thompson is visiting J. R. Havens and family. Thompson crossed New river on the overhead cable carrying his bicycle and rode the rest of the way on his wheel.

Water Co. No. 1 has been blasting for more than a week removing obstacles, mesquite trees, etc., to help the cutting of the deep channel.

The destruction of Blue Lake and Silsbee is feared.

MARCH, 1907

U. S. Handley and Miss Helen B. Henderson were married at the home of the bride's parents.

In 1911 A. R. Ferguson, Rev. W. G. Conley and others with vision, saw the possibilities of a town on the west side, seven miles west of El Centro, especially when the Holton Inter-Urban railroad had extended its line westward from El Centro to the banks of the New River cut at that time. They platted the town of Seeley and at once took steps to make it a real town. Substantial brick buildings were erected, a hotel and a school house built and a bank organized and put into operation.

In February, 1912, a chamber of commerce was organized with Geo. Campbell, present sheriff of the county, as first president. Campbell had already established himself in the general merchandise business. Wayne H. Compton was secretary. Mrs. A. R. Ferguson was treasurer. Other directors were: H. A. F. Miller, A. R. Ferguson, W. E. Rice, E. A. Holland and Thos. Bethrum.

In 1913 the First National Bank of Seeley received its charter.

The Imperial Valley Hardware Company put in first class store.

Oscar Sweeney established the Seeley Sentinel in 1913, using the first cylinder press that was used in the Valley. Edwin J. Parke was Sweeney's assistant. Mr. Parke bought out Sweeney next year and conducted the Sentinel for three years.

The telephone exchange was installed in 1914.

With the completion of the San Diego & Arizona Railroad in 1918 Seeley felt the touch of prosperity again. It was the center of much cotton activity when that commodity was dallying with high prices. A. J. Houghton, D. F. Harbison, Mike Liebert, and Clark Adair were leaders in the Seeley branch of the Cotton Growers Association.

In 1920 road paving began on the west side and when it was finished Seeley found the main part of town just off the highway. This was no detriment, however, as the speeders now skirt the business section instead of racing through it.

During recent years Seeley has maintained a steady existence without much boom. It continues to be a trading center of importance to the entire west side. Its position on the railroad and on the main highway to San Diego is an advantage.

In 1929 the chamber of commerce was reorganized with Geo. Campbell, president; N. P. Pearce, vice-president; R. N. Best as secretary and F. E. Mastick as treasurer. The same officers served in 1930. In 1931 T. B. White was president; Roy Westmorland vice-president and R. N. Best was secretary-treasurer. The chamber maintains a membership in the Associated Chambers of Commerce.

Among those in business in Seeley today we find:

E. A. Hull, Seeley Mercantile Co. Mr. Hull came to the Valley in 1914.

H. L. Bausell, of the White Bell Cafe, a recent arrival from Colorado.

J. P. Williams, who conducts the Williams Service Station. He came from Ohio in 1911.

Mrs. Mary Scola, of the Seeley Cafe. Mrs. Scola came in 1918 and was proprietor of the Seeley Hotel for a time. Her daughter is employed in a Hollywood studio.

T. A. Howard is proprietor of a meat market and grocery. He is one of the pioneers who came during high water in 1905.

A new industry is the Valley Cream Company which handles over 12,000 pounds of milk daily, converting it into ice cream, buttermilk and cheese. These products are distributed in the Valley and is in San Diego.

R. N. Best conducts a service station.

A. R. Ferguson conducts the hotel and also a garage and service station.

Charles Freedman is proprietor of a fruit business.

Other lines of business are represented.

WESTMORLAND

Westmorland, situated nine miles northwest of Brawley, was laid out in 1910 by the Oakley Company. It is the center of a 30,000-acre development. When the branch railroad from Calipatria was completed in 1917 Westmorland received quite an impetus in growth. Being the center of a large acreage of cantaloupes and other garden crops the shipments in 1919 began to take on much importance in the Valley's statistics. In 1920 the town boasted of a bank, newspaper, three general stores, hardware and implement stores, drug store, meat market, barber shop, pool hall, two restaurants, machine shop, blacksmith shop, two lumber yards, five packing houses.

The town is on the Los Angeles-Mecca-Imperial Valley state highway and is the western terminus of the S. P. branch railroad from Calipatria.

While incorporation has not yet been considered seriously Westmorland's size, as a business center, compares favorably with Calipatria. The 1930 census showed a population of 1299 within the town's limits and 3500 in the township adjacent.

For the purpose of sanitation Westmorland operates under the direction of the county board of supervisors as a sanitary district.

In 1919 the Westmorland Chamber of Commerce was organized and became a member of the Associated Chambers of Commerce. The following men have served as president: J. C. Poe, C. F. Boarts (four years), I. H. Gentry, S. P. Rowe, (four years), and R. M. Bellwood, who is president this year, 1931. The Chamber is a consistent exponent of every movement that is kin to improvement for the north end of the Valley. It is now engaged with Calipatria, Brawley and Niland, in securing a redistricting of the supervisory districts so that an additional supervisor may be given to the populous, tax paying north end of the Valley.

Westmorland is the western terminus of the Calipatria branch railroad and great quantities of vegetables are moved to market over this branch.

Several large growers are engaged in farming in the Westmorland region. One is the Gerrard Company that operates 10,500 acres. Selection of this district by experienced growers of national reputation is an endorsement of soil, water and climatic conditions.

Westmorland's history has been made by a group of citizens, men and women, second to none of the earlier pioneers. They too went into the untilled, virgin desert and built themselves homes after the fashion of those of earlier days. They suffered hardships but now enjoy the fruits of their labors.

In this list we would include the following:

Geo. M. Biles, C. F. Boarts, E. M. Sawyer, L. O. Bannister, H. R. Andre, I. H. Gentry, R. A. Walker, G. T. Welcome, C. A. Lawson, W. A. McFadden, August Meyer, W. E. Edwards, N. N. Vendel, B. H. Martin, C. R. Walker, F. T. Cook, T. J. Schroeder, Fred Middaugh, Geo. Hickox, T. M. Hancock, R. M. Bellwood, J. B. Miller, Bill Evans, G. D. Walker, G. T. Randolph, Dr. F. F. Malone, Scott Cummings, John Cox, S. P. Rowe, Frank Cech, O. B. Killingsworth, C. W. Seymour, H. J. Ingram, A. J. Kalin, A. J. Hillhouse and the women.

Near the time when Westmorland first began to exist R. F. Cheesbro established the Tribune and valiantly labored to bring the section to the notice of the world. The Tribune did not live long. It was 1926 before another serious effort was made to establish and sustain a newspaper. T. M. Hancock installed a first class plant and has given Westmorland thorough service in the newspaper and printing line since that date. Mr. Hancock is an able newspaper man. His newspaper is the Mail.

In order to handle sewage and otherwise be able to attend to the health matters Westmorland voters organized a Sanitary District in August, 1925, with the following officers: W. G. Bailey, Assessor; Directors: H. S. Brackney, W. E. Edwards, G. D. Killingsworth, S. P. Rowe and Glenn Walker. The improvements installed cost \$25,000.

Roy M. Bellwood, general merchandise, Main and Center streets, came in 1915 from Long Beach. The store was established in the spring of 1919 by Ralph W. Stilgenbaur and Harry Patterson. Sold in July, 1919, to Clarence Foulk and W. E. Edwards. The next year W. E. Edwards acquired full ownership. Purchased by present owner in February, 1925.

C. W. Seymour, proprietor of the Seymour Dairy, Westmorland, came in 1913 from Vermont. He leveled and developed 80 acres about two miles south of Westmorland; sold it in 1920 and bought 20 acres in Westmorland townsite. He now owns 40 cows to supply milk trade.

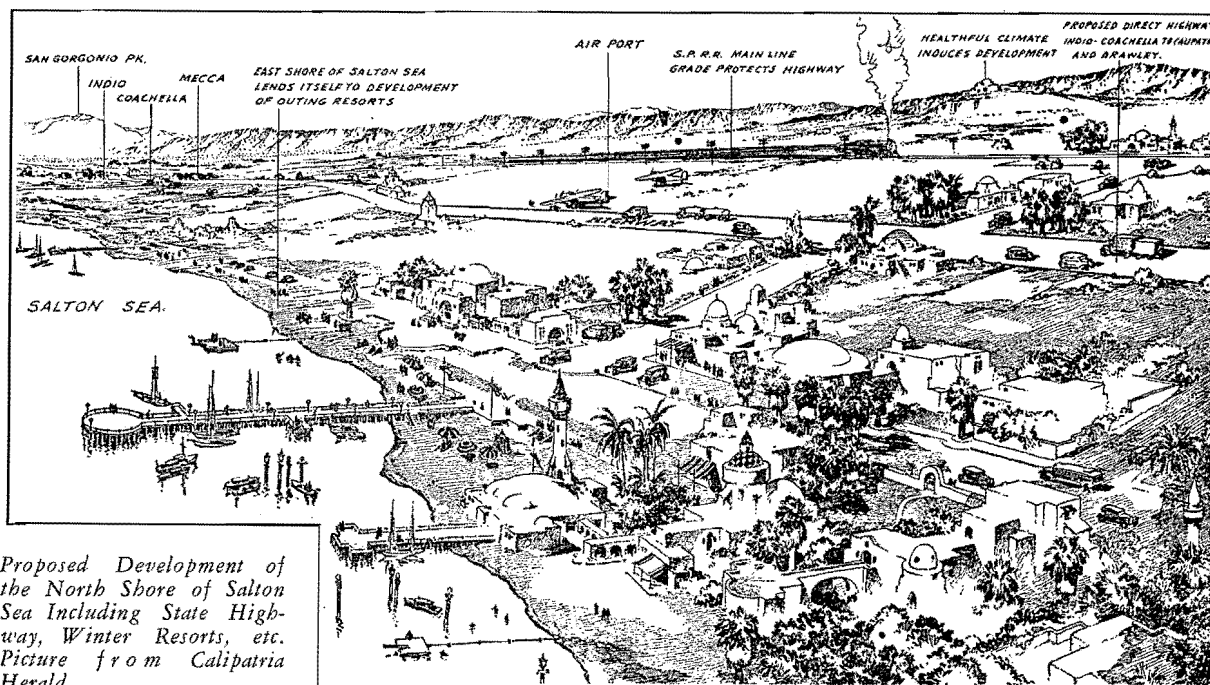
James R. Adams, proprietor of the Gateway Cafe, came in 1903 from Springfield, Missouri.

F. B. Johnson, real estate and insurance, came in 1918 from Los Angeles.

G. B. Raine, manager for the Hammond Lumber company, came from Los Angeles in 1928. The lumber yard has been doing business in Westmorland since 1917.

Clarence Johnson, manager of the Cummings Service Station, came to the Valley from Tennessee. He says when he arrived in Westmorland in 1916 there was only a grocery store and blacksmith shop and about two thirds of the land was in desert.

North end people give Geo. C. Biles, well known rancher, the credit of growing the first crate of cantaloupes in the Valley in 1903. He came from the Rockyford district of Colorado. Mrs. Biles taught the women how to pack the melons in the beginning of the cantaloupe growing industry.



Proposed Development of the North Shore of Salton Sea Including State Highway, Winter Resorts, etc. Picture from Calipatria Herald.

The following firms were in business in Westmorland in 1930-31:

Auto Repairers

C. Dufrene
Gullett & Bettis
White Garage

Barbers

D. M. Gisubert
Gregory Miramonte

Billiards

Stanley Albright
John Giphart
Eulalio Meta
Ralph Roderiguez
W. T. Smith

Blacksmith Shops

Emmons & Harris

General Merchandise

R. M. Mellwood
G. & M. Store

Groceries

W. G. Bailey
Dick Lee Co.
Ming Yee
Salomon Hasen
Harry Killingsworth
Quon Tomas Co.

Hardware

T. J. Schroeder

Hotels

Gateway
Ford

Ice Companies

Imperial Ice & Dev. Co.

Insurance

F. B. Johnson

Meat Markets

Moore's Market

Oil Companies

Standard Oil Co.

Newspaper

Westmorland Mail
T. M. Hancock, Pub.

Railroads

S. P. Co.

Real Estate

T. P. Langlois
F. B. Johnson
Westmorland Inv. Co.

Restaurants

J. R. Adams
Rosa Barajas
A. J. Culberson
Rosa Flores
Floyd Haner
S. A. Johnson
Carmen Rayna
Joe Salgun
Shamrock Cafe
Mrs. Shirley West

Service Stations

W. S. Cummings
Evans Service and Auto
Camp
Evans & Combs
Butler's Service Station
W. N. Kenyon
Southern Gas Station

Soft Drinks

R. V. DePonce
Antonia Medina
Mary Morena Duval

Stage Systems

Pickwick Stages

Tailors

Wm. Patterson

Telegraph Companies

Western Union

Tourist Camps

B. H. Evans
Homerville
Carl Pearce
Westmorland Water Co.

NILAND

Niland, located at the junction of the Southern Pacific main line and the Imperial Valley branch, was a part of the development plans undertaken in 1914 by the Imperial Valley Farm Lands Association, purchasers of 47,000 acres of north end railroad lands. This association also created the town of Calipatria and on account of the personnel of the group that carried on the north end development will be found at the beginning of the chapter giving the history of Calipatria.

March 14 and 15, 1914, Niland was ushered into being with a blare of trumpets and showmanship under the direction of John D. Reavis who renamed the junction point after it had been known for years as Old Beach and Imperial Junction. The opening was handicapped by the fact that water ditches had not been extended that far north and no road was yet in existence to join Niland with the rest of the Valley to the south. No water, no roads and no bridges. The job of launching a new town under such circumstances was a hard one.

In spite of the handicaps, however, the opening day's sales reached a total of \$248,000. A nine-car Pullman train brought several hundred land buyers from Los Angeles and vicinity. Al Levy, famous chef, furnished complete dining service. Walter Bowker did the honors as barbecue chef. Fred Mace, pioneer moving picture star, was among the novelties and a complete Orpheum crew of entertainers furnished amusement beneath calcium lights on an impromptu stage. The town lots were sold from a huge map and every purchaser was given a coupon which entitled him to a chance on \$100 in gold. Mrs. O. B. Tout won the gold. It was a gala event. After the excitement of the opening the few who elected to live in Niland patiently awaited the arrival of irrigation water through the extended ditches. In the meantime they used the water furnished by the railroad from the huge tank.

Edwin Alcott was the owner from whom the syndicate purchased the townsite. It was contracted to Arthur E. Hull, member of the syndicate and John D. Reavis and John B. Woodridge were townsite agents. The company announced immediate improvements which included a com-

modious hotel, street grading and a water system. A school was at once instituted.

In the early days hopeful optimism awaited the occupation of neighboring farm lands which took place slowly because the water first reached the Calipatria district and the opening of that township took the attention of the first people interested in north end development.

Andy Pruitt, railroad officer, took care of the enforcement of the laws of the land in an efficient manner.

H. W. Merkley was one of the early business men. He established a furniture store and, being an undertaker as well, acted in that capacity. He has a vivid recollection of driving many miles into the desert to recover the body of an unfortunate. He took care of it, furnished the casket and completed the burial, receiving a check for one cent from the county. He naturally harbored a grudge and when asked to serve as a deputy sheriff to hold a bootlegger he took possession of the bootlegger's stock, turned his back for a few minutes while the accused culprit stirred the dust toward Yuma in the moonlight. Mr. Merkley is a successful mortician in San Diego today.

In 1920 Niland took on new life. A commercial club was formed with Major James Burke as prime mover. O. J. Renfrew was a valued addition to the population.

A charter was granted for the First National Bank of Niland. The stockholders were M. H. Sherman, Harry Chandler, F. X. Pfaffenberger, D. A. Leonard, O. E. Crist, J. B. Van Nuys, W. B. Scott, Wm. Gunteramn, F. L. Weed, H. H. Clark, J. W. and J. H. Wehn. General Sherman was president and J. H. Wehn cashier. The bank was changed to a state bank in 1922.

The Farmers Bank of Imperial Valley was organized in 1922.

The Niland Review was launched by Everett and Vernon King.

In 1921 Mrs. Margaret Humphrey was running the hotel. Niland entertained the Associated Chambers of Commerce at a banquet which gave many new people an idea of the rapid development going on at the time. O. J. Renfrew was president of the local chamber.

A. Finley was president and James Burke secretary of the Chamber of Commerce in 1922.

The Niland Business Men's Club was organized in 1923 with the following men active: Geo. Miller, H. G. Dixon, S. D. Underwood, J. L. Van Wormer, Harry Pruitt, E. T. Poppett, Robert Musser, Alley Wilkins, C. B. Quick, M. L. Fritz, James Smith, M. C. Anthony, J. H. Haunburg, Harry A. Skinner, A. H. Reynolds, Oscar Pratt and B. F. White.

Frank Coddington was president of the chamber in 1923. The hotel building, containing the post office, was burned in 1923.

Mrs. Earl Henking resigned as postmistress and Mrs. Sidney P. Burritt was appointed in 1923. Mrs. Burritt has been postmistress ever since.

In 1924 Chas. Noffsinger was president and R. C. McDonald secretary of the chamber of commerce.

A Parent-Teachers Association was organized in 1925 with Mrs. J. A. Guiley president. A party attended by 125 launched the new organization.

W. W. Jones headed the chamber of commerce in 1926. He was re-elected in 1927.

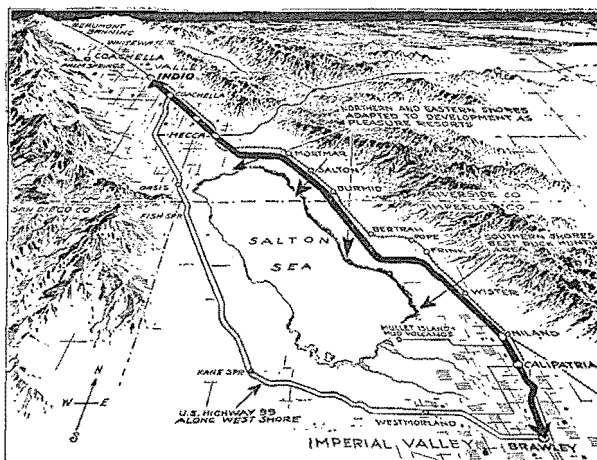
A Boy Scout troop was organized in 1927. Alfred Noffsinger was the leader.

Mrs. Sidney Burritt, postmistress, was appointed justice of the peace for Niland township in 1928. She was the only woman justice in the county.

Niland celebrated Easter sunrise service in 1928 on Lion's Head, a high spot on the road six miles north of the town. The program was prepared by Prof. James Ramsauer, school principal.

In January, 1929, R. Turner, former Yuma newspaper man, started the New Era, a weekly paper. It was discontinued within a few months.

The official population of Niland in 1930 was 814.



Route of the Proposed North Shore Highway Along Salton Sea

C. A. Williford was president of the chamber of commerce in 1930. From Mr. Williford's grapefruit ranch two miles southeast of Niland, came the fruit that took the sweepstake prizes in the national orange shows for several years.

One of the show places of the district is owned and operated by a woman, Mrs. Adell Lingo. Mrs. Lingo was attracted to the Valley because of the wonderful winter climate after spending a cold winter in Italy. In 1929 she purchased the Almer Hunt ranch known as "The Pride of Niland." She has planted more than 4000 grapefruit trees on her two places which total 246 acres just south of Niland. She has built a comfortable home, has her own electric plant and modern plumbing. While specializing in grapefruit other citrus fruits are also raised. Limes do well in this frostless belt.

Sam Roman has a record of twenty years straight service for the Southern Pacific company at Niland. He is in charge of the depot and grounds. He has a nice home and family, two children now attending high school.

T. L. Jones is present Justice of the Peace and Fred C. Thompson is constable.

W. V. Scott, an elder brother of "Death Valley" Scott, is in business in Niland. He has prospected for many years.

A. L. Wilkins conducts the hotel and garage.

Wm. J. Hannberg was the first postmaster. The post office was made third class in July, 1931.

Dan W. Simpson conducts a furniture and hardware business.

The government maintains a border patrol station at Niland.

While Niland is at present the commercial center of some 55,000 acres of land the building of the All-American canal will vastly increase the productive area. Because of its reputed frostless climate the entire district bids fair to become the favored citrus section of the Valley.

NORTH SHORE ROAD

One of the improvements planned for the north end is the paving of the "north shore road" from Calipatria through Niland and along the railroad west to Los Angeles. Salton Sea provides an attractive spot for desert winter resorts and such a highway is expected to cause great development along this line.

SALTON SEA AND MULLETT ISLAND

Within a short distance from Niland on the edge of Salton Sea is located Mullett Island, a rocky miniature mountain that rears its definite promontory above the level of the waters. Because of the numerous minerals found in the neighborhood and the continual volcanic eruption of mud

geysers and "paint springs" the island is a vivid attraction for tourists and visitors from many states. Capt. Charles Davis owns the island and has developed a desert museum of interest. He has assisted numerous government and state scientists who have studied the sea, its biological life and chemical content. He came some years ago to develop the mullett fishing but the mullett industry was ruined when seiners invaded the sea. Davis experimented with a feeding ground, enclosed, where the mullett were fed chopped alfalfa and brought to a fine state of perfection.

In 1929 George A. Coleman made a study of the sea for the state fish and game commission. He found that common carp, Boney-tail, humpback sucker, Colorado river trout, common mullett and desert cyprinodont were inhabitants of the sea. He also found that all species were scarce in number. He recommended planting striped bass.

The waters of Salton Sea are almost as salt as the ocean. Borings through the rock formations of Mullett Island to depths of more than 900 feet failed to reach the source of the hot mineral water that constantly pushes up from below. This water is so charged with mineral matter that when left to stand colored deposits of various hues are obtained.

The sea is 240 feet below sea level. The building of the All-American canal will have no effect on that body of water, except, perhaps, to increase its volume by added drainage.

INDIAN HEAD

The "Indian Head" is located near the State Highway approximately 25 miles southeast of Indio, and is a natural formation. Its more specific location is Section 5, T. 9 S. R. 9 E., in Imperial County, just south of the Riverside county line.

The rock formation, of which this natural replica of an Indian head constitutes a part, has in the past ages and at repeated intervals, been submerged by overflowed waters from the Colorado river. The rocks, as a result, are heavily encrusted with a travertine, or lime deposit. This deposit is, in some places, very close to the Indian Head rock, covered with pictographs and carvings made by some ancient peoples. Some of these carvings have over them a light deposit of the travertine, showing that they were made prior at least to the last time that the Salton Sea covered the rocks.

ANDRADE

Andrade is the settlement at the heading on the Colorado River. It is occupied mostly by employees of the Imperial Irrigation District and the population therefore varies considerably. The district has improved a tract of land with a circle drive on which face the cottages of the employees. General offices and headquarters for the river division are maintained here. A grade school, complete store with all sorts of supplies and a commissary outfit for feeding hundreds at a time are kept up. From Andrade the work of river control, operation of the great Rockwood gate and construction of wiers when necessary is directed. Just across the boundary line, Algodones, a Mexican village, is the nearest "refreshment" point for Yuma.

PLASTER CITY

Plaster City is the location of the reduction plant of the Portland Cement Company which owns the immense gypsum deposits on the west side of the Valley. The village is on the highway seventeen miles west of El Centro. It is also on the S. D. & A. railroad. Cottages for employees, and a service station, aside from the plant, make up the village.

DIXIELAND

Dixieland was planned when an effort was made in 1909 to bring a high line canal west of the present canal on the western boundary of the irrigated area. Geo. Nichols and Ira Aten were among those who promoted the townsite. A brick building or two bear mute witness to the

fact that Dixieland still awaits the coming of water on a higher level. With the construction of the All-American canal the old plans for a town at this point will no doubt be revived.

MT. SIGNAL

The Mt. Signal store, under the direction of R. D. Lane is at present holding the fort as a possible bigger business center. The location was once platted as the townsite of "Conant." It is on the paved highway between Calexico and Seeley.

VERDE

C. H. Ferguson conducts a grocery and general merchandise store at a strategic point on the highway east of Calexico at Verde. The center also has a school house.

ALAMORIO

On the highway east of Brawley is a trading center of convenience and importance. Artesian wells provide water for a huge outdoor plunge.

MELOLAND

Half way between El Centro and Holtville Meloland is an important shipping center. Plans were made there in an early day for a town of considerable size.



Coyote Wells Has Long Been a Welcome Stopping Place

COYOTE WELLS

This historic point, twenty-four miles west of El Centro on the state highway, was a watering place for many years before the days of the automobile for travelers across the burning sands. It was the homestead of Charlie Hampton, denizen of the desert, for many years. Now it is owned by the Stephens family who have built a modern, comfortable service and refreshment station which causes thousands of cars to stop. Water of comparative good quality is to be had from wells in the neighborhood. The picture accompanying shows the store as it looked in 1911.

MOUNTAIN SPRINGS

Mountain Springs has a historic past. Here the famished forces of General Kearney refreshed themselves in 1846. It is located half way up the Mountain Springs grade on the state highway to San Diego. W. W. McDonald has been there for more than 100 years. He came from Chicago for his health and found this spot was good for him. He developed the springs until now a continuous flow of water

greet the astonished motorist as his engine boils on the grade. A complete oil and gas station as well as a restaurant and refreshment stand is kept up by the McDonald family.

BOULDER PARK

Boulder Park is the highest point on any highway within Imperial County. It is the top of the grade above Mountain Springs and has an elevation 1000 feet. A peak nearby is the highest point in the county, having an elevation of 5000 feet. This peak is topped only by Laguna Mountain to the northwest. A wonderful view of the desert may be obtained from this point on clear days. Salton Sea can also be seen. Frank H. Stanley, pioneer of Brawley, and Mrs. Stanley, have developed a home amongst the boulders along the highway here. They find this point best for their health. A good supply of pure spring water has turned a spot of rocky desert into green. This water is being bottled for use in the Valley.

BOND'S CORNER

Bond's Corner is a trading center south of Holtville. For many years its general merchandise store has been a popular spot with the ranchers of the east side. Near this point W. F. Gillett, one of the first three men with families to arrive in the Valley, took up his first ranch and made his home.

HIGHLINE

East of Holtville on the Yuma highway near the east side high line canal this trading center is a convenience to numerous local people and travelers.

GRAY'S WELL

In the midst of the east side desert, in the edge of the sand hills Gray's Well, named after Newt Gray, Holtville pioneer who worked hard for the Yuma road, stands as a welcome break in the desolate desert on the state highway. Water from this well has saved many a life on the desert.

BARD

An irrigation district of some 13,000 acres supporting a population of 500 has been developed in the northeast corner of Imperial county along the Colorado River. Bard and Winterhaven are settlements. Water is supplied from the Laguna Dam. These communities are adjacent to Yuma although a part of Imperial County.

KANE SPRINGS

Kane Springs is on the desert highway northward from Westmorland.

SMALL STATIONS

Sidings and small stations along the railroads are numerous. Rockwood, Bernice and Poppy are north of Brawley. Frink is a gravel pit on the main line. Ogilby is a station on the main line that was the junction point for the mines in the Chocolate mountains. Wiest is a country center near Brawley. Sidewinder on the S. D. & A. Sunset Siding is near El Centro. Tamarack is near Imperial. Sandia is near Holtville. Jasper is the district east of Heber. McCabe is south of El Centro.

CHAPTER XXXI

BAJA (LOWER) CALIFORNIA

THAT portion of the Delta of the Colorado river south of the international boundary line is as much a part of Imperial Valley as the part that lies within the boundaries of the United States. Baja California, the entire peninsula known on our maps as Lower California, is a territory in the Mexican nation. Politically it is divided into two districts, the North and the South. Each district is governed by a governor appointed from Mexico City. The land is ancient, as far as history goes. At its southernmost point the Spanish priests established settlements amongst the aboriginal inhabitants not long after Columbus visited the east gulf coast. The native inhabitants have changed but little since that time and most of the peninsula remains in its virgin state.

When the reclamation of Imperial Valley was started in 1900 the capital of the northern district was at Ensenada and mining was the chief industry. In the eighties the Mexican government granted large land concessions to numerous individuals and companies apparently in the belief that colonization would follow. Practically all the land in the Colorado delta in Mexico was thus parceled out. The territory contains a million and a half acres, two thirds of which is capable of being irrigated. (The story of the Andrade grant appears in Chapter IV. page 43).

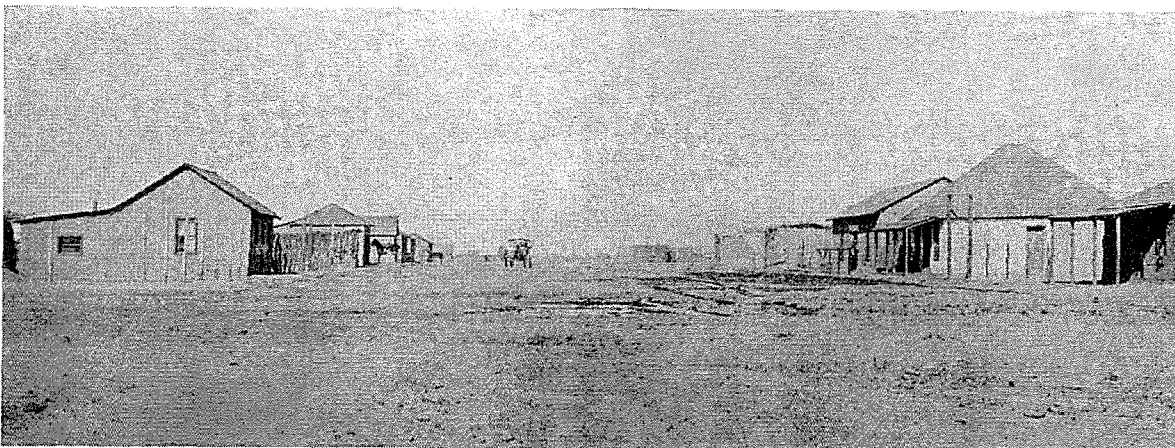
Mexican laws require the organization of Mexican corporations for the transaction of business south of the line. As a consequence American land operators and holders of concessions all operate through Mexican corporations. It was necessary, therefore, for the organizers of the Cali-

fornia Development Company to form a Mexican corporation in order to carry water from the Colorado river through Mexico for a distance of fifty-two miles, back into the United States. Provisions in the contract between this Mexican-American water corporation and the Mexican government provided that one-half the water carried should be available for use on Mexican lands. With this sort of a guarantee of their water supply American capitalists soon sought land rights in the delta and it was not long before practically all the land was in the hands of these American owned companies.

The following information in connection with Mexican lands is taken from a report compiled by Mr. Frank Adams and contained in the Report of the American Section of the International Water Commission, United States and Mexico, submitted April 21, 1930, and published as House Document 359, 71st Congress, 2nd session, pages 161, 162, 163, 164 and 165.

"It was found impossible to obtain a clear idea of the irrigable and the irrigated lands south of the international boundary without first securing information regarding at least the larger and more important land ownerships.

"The larger part of the irrigable land in the delta south of the international boundary is owned by the Colorado River Land Company, S. A., their total present holdings approximating 800,000 acres. The original holding of which this 800,000 acres was a part contained 832,337 acres and, according to Mr. H. H. Clark, general manager of the Colorado River Land Company, was purchased outright from the



As Mexicali's Main Street Looked in 1905

Mexican government in 1898 by the California-Mexican Land and Cattle Company, predecessor of the present company. Three parcels of this land have been sold up to 1927, containing in all 32,000 acres. Of this, 8000 acres is owned by the Shintani Company, 7000 acres by W. C. Allen (Globe Mills Company), 16,000 acres by the Imperial Development Company (Cudahy Ranch), and approximately 1000 acres by the Mexican government. A beginning was made in 1927-28 in subdivision and sale of some of the 800,000 acres remaining to the Colorado River Land Company, but the amount disposed of at this writing has been only about 100 acres. Of this 800,000 acres, approximately 668,000 acres in the delta proper.

"Next to Colorado River Land Company, the largest holding of lands south of the international boundary is that of the Compania de Terrenos y Aguas de la Baja California, S. A., a subsidiary of the Southern Pacific Company. This property is part of an approximately 100,000-acre tract purchased in the early days from G. Andrade by the California Development Company, through its subsidiary, the "old" Mexican company, but largely retained by the Southern Pacific Company, through repurchase at auction, at the time of the financial reorganization of the system. This tract lies between the international boundary and the Hunt survey or C. D. line and approximately from Colorado River on the east to north and south line about 4 miles west of Calexico and Mexicali, not including the Andrade estate lands, which are largely mesa. A considerable portion of this area has been sold, the portion still remaining in the hands of the Southern Pacific Company (Compania de Terrenos y Aguas de la Baja California, S. A.), approximately 28,500 acres. About 12,600 acres of the original Andrade tract (99,848 acres) has been sold by the Southern Pacific Company to the Mexican government for colonization purposes, the area thus disposed of comprising the western portion of the original tract, beginning approximately opposite monument No. 216 on the international boundary.

"The statements in the preceding paragraph account for most of the area between the international boundary and the Hunt or C. D. line with the exception of the following. The Packard tract, near Mexicali, owned by the Mount Signal Land and Cattle Company; the mesa and other undeveloped areas north of the Southern Pacific Company holdings east of monument 217, and belonging to the Andrade estate; the 'Andrade lands' between an old and the present channel of the Alamo southerly from monuments 210 to 212, as to which ownership is contested but which are at present in control of the Daugherty estate, of San Francisco; and the lands sold by the Southern Pacific Company, other than that sold to the Mexican government. A general tabulation of all of the above lands follows in Table No. 1.

"Table No. 1—Summary of land ownership in the Colorado River Delta in Lower California.

IN ROUND NUMBERS

	<i>Gross areas (Acres)</i>
Colorado River Land Co., S. A. (including approximately 132,000 acres of mountain and desert areas)	800,000
Southern Pacific Co. (Compania de Terrenos y Aguas de la Baja California, S. A.).....	28,500
Mexican Government (including El Progreso colonies, lands released to the Mexican Government by Colorado River Land Co., S. A., and lands purchased from Southern Pacific Co. and W. C. Allen)	35,500
Globe Mills Co. (W. C. Allen and Allen, Goh and O'Hashi)	12,000
Imperial Development Co. (Cudahy Ranch).....	16,000
Shintani Ranch	8,000
Cia Agricola Civil del Valle Imperial (Daugherty estate)	10,000
Lands sold by Southern Pacific Co. (other than to Mexican Government and Allen, Goh and O'Hashi):	
Algodones Plantation Co. (W. H. Harris & Son)	2,995
Alamorada Ranch Co. (Weed and Laing)	4,262
Cuervos Development Co. (H. de Nancy & Co.).....	1,657
Cia Agricola Cuervos (P. E. Williams)	2,666
Miscellaneous (including roads and canals and some doubtful areas)	17,634
	29,000
Andrade estate (including mesa lands).....	50,000
Mount Signal Land & Cattle Co.....	10,000
Total.....	999,000

Of this vast potential productive area of farm lands available records over a period of three years show that the acreage actually irrigated was about as follows:

1927	156,000
1928	191,000
1929	165,000

In 1930 the acreage irrigated was considerably less.

It will be seen that the holdings of the Colorado River Land Company are, by far, the greatest. This is the well known Chandler (Los Angeles Times) syndicate known in the earlier days as the California-Mexico Land and Cattle Company or the C. M. ranch. This acreage, upwards of 800,000, is greater than that of the Imperial Irrigation

District by almost 200,000 acres. The reader will understand, therefore, the enormous importance of an adequate and permanent water supply for the irrigation of this tract and the consequent natural interest that Harry Chandler and his associates have in the management and operation of the distribution of water. It may be said that the Chandler interests are the largest cash customer the Imperial Irrigation District has. It was but natural that these great interests south of the lines should come in conflict with the American Imperial Valley when the program of water control by means of the Hoover Dam was set up. This conflict, carried on for years, has often reached the bitter stage. The final result, however, will be that the Hoover dam will so control the flow of the river that the lands in Mexico will be assured of a much more safe water supply without the expensive continuation of levee construction and that there will be plenty of water for all the lands on both sides of the line.

According to the findings of the American section of the International Water Commission submitted only last year, 1930, there are no treaty obligations between Mexico and the United States for the use of water for irrigation; that American lands should not be starved for water in order to allow an excessive amount to flow across the border; that Mexican lands should be provided for by independent means and that control of American waters should be entirely within the borders of the United States.

In recent years it has developed that vast underground storage of delta waters underlies much land in Mexico. Irrigation by pumping has been proven profitable. J. C. Allison, engineer, has had much to do with this improvement.

POLITICAL

The government of the Imperial Valley portion of Baja California, was administered from Ensenada until 1914 when Col. Esteban Cantu succeeded to the governorship by force of circumstances following the Mexican rebellion. Col. Cantu's ability as a military man and a civil executive merged various factions in an admirable manner and for more than ten years the district enjoyed rapid growth. The importance of agriculture overshadowed that of mining so the capital of the district was moved from Ensenada to Mexicali. Cantu instituted many improvement programs, built public buildings, paved roads, cut grades through the mountains and gave his people an administration which, it may be said, remains the most lustrous of Baja California history. The capital was changed to Tijuana in September, 1931.

In recent years successors to Governor Cantu have carried on his policies with varying degrees of success. Governor Roderiguiz was energetic and ambitious, instituting an irrigation program that required a huge dam on the Tijuana river. This improvement remains unfinished. Governor Arturo Bernal, Governor Jose Maria Tapia and the present chief executive, Governor Carlos Trejo Lerdo de Tejada, have, during the past three years given the Northern District unselfish service.

Mexicali has grown to a city of about 10,000 inhabitants. Tijuana, just across the border from San Diego, is now a city of 8000. The development of Agua Caliente by an American syndicate under the direction of Mr. Wirt G. Bowman, has created a sport resort that has attracted the attention of the world. The old town of Ensenada has also felt the impulse of growth and prosperity by the erection of a resort hotel and casino.

INTER-CALIFORNIA RAILROAD

The affairs of the Inter-California Railroad company, the Mexican subsidiary of the Southern Pacific, have for years been in the hands of Mr. E. G. Burdick. The railroad was extended from Calexico into Mexico some distance before the floods of 1906 and completed to Yuma immediately following. The line serves to move immense tonnage from the cultivated areas to market. It is also used for the traffic of the San Diego & Arizona and for some of the



H. H. Clark

main line trains from Los Angeles eastward. Mr. Burdick's intimate knowledge of every Mexican problem makes him an invaluable citizen for both the American and Mexican population. Residing in Calexico he has been active there in civic affairs, being a member of the city council several years.

A MECCA FOR VISITORS

Baja California has always been the objective of visitors to the Valley. Thousands of automobiles cross the line every day and places of business in Mexicali enjoy an enormous patronage. The cafes, cantinas and palaces of chance offer a glamour of excitement. Naturally these features also attract individuals of the underworld who find habitation in the states more or less uncomfortable. The strict control of undesirables by the Mexican authorities, however, is efficient.

The settlement of Algodones, on the river front, is a miniature Mexicali. It is the point of entry into Mexico for those who choose to travel from Yuma westward through Mexico.

Imperial Valley's water supply traverses Mexican territory for fifty-two miles through the Alamo channel or main canal. This water supply, through all the troubles of the revolutions and changes of Mexican government heads, has never been interrupted by violence of any sort. The construction of the All-American canal will remove from Mexico to the United States this main water course but will not deprive irrigated lands south of the line of their just water supply.

A GREAT RANCH

The Colorado River Land Company is owned by a group of Southern California men, headed by Harry Chandler of the Los Angeles Times; W. H. Allen, Jr., and Gen. M. H. Sherman. They own 832,000 acres of land in one tract, including practically the entire delta of the Colorado river. In addition to the 250,000 acres they are farming, a lease has just been signed for the reclamation and development of another 100,000 acres.

The Colorado River Land Company and associated interests, are engaged in a vast program of development that includes activities ranging all the way from farming to the manufacture of cottonseed oil products, and from the dredging of canals and the building of levees to the construction of a 135-mile railroad from Mexicali to the gulf.

In earlier days, when this ranch was known as the C. M. Ranch, Walter K. Bowker was manager for the syndicate. Under his leadership the vast tract was whipped into shape. Later H. H. Clark was manager and during his regime the property produced wonderfully. Mr. Clark, who died in 1930, was one of those natural born leaders who dared and achieved. He was active on the American

side of the line, having much to do with the development of the railroad lands around Calipatria before going into Mexico. To give the reader some idea of the size of Clark's job as the manager of more acres than constitutes the entire Imperial Irrigation District, we quote from an article written in 1929 by Mr. Clark:

"During the past year," he said, "we have employed from 4,000 to 8,000 laborers constantly. In addition to man power, we use 8,000 head of mules, 20 big tractors and 11 dredges for the cleaning of irrigation canals. There are 3,000 miles of ditches on the ranch.

"One of our biggest problems is in keeping the soil at a high state of productivity. We do this by crop rotation, alternating cotton with alfalfa, wheat and milo maize, and through summer fallowing. We insist that our farmers plow deep and cultivate often.

"We employ a score of the best agricultural experts available in the United States to teach our farmers how to grow crops, and to assist in marketing them. We not only help them during the planting and growing season, but we gin their cotton when it is harvested. Our ginning plant is said to be the biggest in the world.

"We finance the growing of crops, and then we provide a cooperative selling agency through which their cotton is classified by experts, pooled and sold to the highest bidder. Our cotton always brings a premium, because it is good staple to begin with, and it is ginned by methods which detract nothing from its quality."

Although operating in a foreign country the Colorado River Land Company has much in common with farmers on the American side of the boundary line. Both parts of the Valley are served from the same irrigation system.

The ranch company annually pays to the Imperial Irrigation district from \$550,000 to \$625,000 for water. The Mexican users maintain their own distributing system.

ANOTHER BIG CONCERN

In cooperation with Juan F. Brittingham and his five sons, the Colorado River Land Company owns and operates a \$2,000,000 cottonseed oil mill, which converts the seed from the ranch into refined oil, and a score of products which are marketed in Mexico.

In 1930, the Brittinghams sold their interests to Anderson, Clayton and Company, the largest cotton firm in the United States and one of the largest in the world. This company is carrying to fulfillment the work started by the former owners, having kept Mr. Juan G. Brittingham, General Manager with the original owners, in that same capacity. The development work of the company is under the supervision of A. H. Lamberth, president of the company and manager of the western division for Anderson, Clayton and Company. During the past year, (1930), a cotton storage warehouse, capable of storing 30,000 round bales of cotton has been constructed. A hydrogenerating plant has been built in connection with the oil refinery and compound lard factory, where a vegetable lard is being manufactured. Salad oil is also manufactured. The soap plant has been enlarged and its capacity increased.

BORDER REQUIREMENTS

Those who intend entering Mexico, either for a prolonged stay or to make a temporary visit, should thoroughly investigate the necessary entry formalities in order to prevent delay, and perhaps embarrassing detention.

The tourist who intends remaining in any of the border cities for a few hours, or at the most a day, should endeavor to "check" his baggage at some point in the States. This eliminates inspection by border officials.

Tourists are permitted to cross the border and visit any of the border cities without charge and also Ensenada, sixty-eight miles from the line. Relating to the latter city, a permit must be obtained at the gate which allows its holder a ten-day stay. For those who remain longer the regulations are a trifle more complicated, necessitating a passport procured from the Mexican Consular Office located in any American city adjacent to the border. The

cost for a six months' or longer passport is a head tax of \$11.00 in U. S. currency, plus a nominal fee for consular and medical services, and cards and photographs.

For traveling into the interior special regulations are in force. The prospective visitor into Mexico must give a statement regarding his nationality; he must explain the nature of the trip; whether for business or pleasure; how long it is his intention to stay; and whether he will exit from Mexico by the same port he is entering, or by another.

All personal effects and camping equipment, providing they are not new, pass free of duty, but staple provisions call for a duty payment which will be collected according to the customs regulations.

HUNTING

All hunting permits are issued by the Mexican Hunting and Fishing Agents located in any border town on the Mexican side of the boundary. Regulations vary according to the aims of the applicants.

For the student, scientist, or collector of specimens no fee is charged, providing the game is collected for museum or scientific purposes. The same type permits are issued to diplomats.

HUNTING LICENSE FEES

(Permits Limited to Municipality or County)

10 days.....	\$1.50 U. S. Gold
30 days.....	4.00 U. S. Gold

(Permits Limited to State)

30 days	\$5.00 U. S. Gold
60 days	7.50 U. S. Gold
6 months	10.00 U. S. Gold
1 year	20.00 U. S. Gold

The Department of Agriculture, desiring to stimulate hunting, will gladly enter into an agreement with Clubs and Societies who are interested, wherein special fee rulings will be made. The basis for this concession will take into account the extent of the Club membership, and the class of hunting the members wish to enjoy.

OPEN SEASON FOR HUNTING

Deer—October 16 to January 31—2 full grown bucks.

Rabbits—Open season.

Quail—Oct. 1 to Feb. 28—25 per day, 75 per week.

Mt. Quail—Oct. 16 to Jan. 31—7 per day, 35 per week.

Ducks—Oct. 16 to Nov. 30—25 per day, 75 per week.

Curlew—Sept. 16 to Dec. 15—25 per day, 75 per week.

Pigeons—Oct. 1 to Dec. 30—7 per day.

Mountain sheep, antelope and egrets—closed season.

Live animals and birds are exempt from duty. The hunter is also permitted a shot gun and 100 rounds of ammunition free of duty.

There is no revenue tax on above permits.

SPORT FISHING

The regulations pertaining to fishing are quite simple. The sportsman can obtain a permit from any Fish and Game Agent, who invariably has an office in every port, and in every border city. Permits are granted for rod, hook and line, trolling, or nets. Nets and traps must be of such a size that the fisherman can personally carry them, otherwise they will come under the "commercial fishing" regulations.

COST OF PERMITS

(Good for Thirty Days)

Foreign, non-resident.....	\$1.50 U. S. Gold
Personal permits, one year.....	5.00 U. S. Gold

Sport fishing in the Gulf of California has proven one of the most fascinating recreations. The average catch in these waters for one day will exceed 1,000 pounds.

In the Gulf fishermen can land the corbina, black sea bass, mackerel, and the totuba (big fish). The average weight of these fish run from 20 to 200 pounds.

In order to reach this fisherman's paradise one must go to Calexico, Imperial Valley. By applying at the Calexico Chamber of Commerce arrangements are made with the Mexican Government for the continuation of the journey south.

CHAPTER XXXII

ADDITIONAL PIONEER SKETCHES

(Continued From Chapter VI, Page 95)

J. CHESTER ALLISON. CALEXICO. 1902. Just out of Stanford University in 1902, Chester Allison joined his father and Thos. H. Silsbee at their cattle camp in the delta below Volcano lake. The townsite of Silsbee was named after Thos. H. Silsbee. In December of the same year young Allison struck C. N. Perry for a job and found it—on a surveying crew. From then until 1905, he worked as rodman and chainman under Perry, Gaines and "Scotty" Russell. During this period the first network of canals were built. From 1905 to 1907 Allison worked "at the front" where all possible effort was being made to stop the runaway river. He helped design, locate and construct the effective levees that were a part of the defensive system. Allison continued until 1912, in the engineering department under railroad supervision. He had a great deal to do with the protective system in Mexico and the extension of the canal system on the American side. He advanced to the post of Assistant Engineer and then to Chief Engineer under Receiver W. H. Holabird. Allison's estimate of the Holabird regime will be found in another chapter. After the sale of the California Development Company to the Irrigation District Mr. Allison opened a private engineering practice at Calexico and became consulting engineer for several mutual water companies, for the Chandler interests, the Palo Verde Mutual Water Company, and the Palo Verde Joint Levee District in Riverside County. He secured an option on 100,000 acres in Mexico. In 1920 he was in charge of the cotton business on both sides of the line for the banks in the south end of the Valley, operating some 50,000 acres. It was 1924 before he was able to give his own affairs minute attention. Allison then incorporated the Delta Canal Company and constructed a water system for his lands. During this period great advancement was made in water affairs through Allison's discovery of underground water. He constructed some of the largest wells in existence. He also designed a system of syphons for delivery of water direct from the river.

In a letter to the editor of this history, Mr. Allison adds:

"Throughout the latter years, I have been actively engaged in the interest of developing the full resources of the Colorado River for the benefit of Imperial Valley as a whole. I was on the first committee sent to Washington in 1917 asking governmental assistance in the construction of a storage dam in the Colorado River. Almost every year since 1917, I have been attentively at work both in Washington and in Mexico City in furtherance of the project which is now under way at Black Canyon and in the support of treaty relationships between Mexico and the United States which will finally settle and support the continuous and vigorous development of the Colorado River Valley on both sides of the International boundary line. Through these periods of governmental work, some of the most important of the governmental investigations have been carried out, one of the principal being the studies of the silt problem of the Valley, which was initiated in Washington through my insistence and which forms one of the most important problems to be settled along with the storage and control of the flood waters of the river.

"At the present time I am actively engaged with offices in Los Angeles and San Diego as a consulting engineer, governing at the same time my own projects located throughout the southwest, at the harbor of San Diego, in San Bernardino County and through the Mexican and American districts served by the

waters of the Colorado River. I regard the conclusion of a treaty with Mexico as the most important uncompleted enterprise for the entire southwest in that it will settle for all time the water and flood control questions of the Colorado River, which are holding back the development of the territory because of their international characteristics and for this purpose I am devoting a great amount of my energies in assisting both the Mexican and the American departments in coming to some conclusion."

GEORGE WALTER YOUNT. BRAWLEY. 1903. The Younts including Mrs. Yount and three children, came from Riverside in 1903. Mr. Yount worked on the levees to keep the water out. Sid Yount is in a machine shop in Imperial. John Yount drove one of the early freight wagons to and from Flowing Well.

IDA B. LANDERS. EL CENTRO. 1909. Mrs. Landers lived for years with her husband, T. R. Landers who died in 1917, on the home place west of El Centro. She has never been away from the Valley except to visit friends.

A. B. DERRICK. EL CENTRO. 1893. Mr. Derrick was a cattle man and ran cattle in what is now Imperial Valley, as far back as 1893. He later worked for Hall Hanlon at Yuma. He received a \$20 gold piece each month for his work, which included many nights in the saddle.

MRS. HARRY WOOD. HOLTVILLE. 1908. Claims historical interest in the fact that she and Harry Wood staged the first elopement in Imperial County. It was in June, 1908.

GEO. TALLEY. EL CENTRO. 1900. Mr. Talley was among the first to take note of Imperial Valley as a farmer's country. He came in 1900. For the past fourteen years he has been deputy in the County Assessor's office.

ROBERT A. CROSSETT. CALEXICO. 1905. Mr. Crossett started in the Valley railroading for the S. P. from Mexicali to Algodones. He was later in engineering, was several years with the Holton Power Company, the Imperial Ice & Development Company and the Southern Sierras Power Company. He went to war and served in the Coast Artillery. He was partially paralyzed in France. For the past two years he has been foreman of the Rockwood Asparagus ranch of 90 acres.

L. P. SARGENT. EL CENTRO. 1904. Mr. Sargent was first a resident of Holtville where he visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. Sargent, and in 1907 decided to make Holtville his home. His mother, Mrs. M. Sargent, handled the first mail as deputy under Postmaster Bridenstine in Holtville's postoffice in 1904. Lee Sargent was City Clerk of Holtville in 1909, and thereafter engaged in the real estate business. Removing to El Centro in later years Mr. Sargent has conducted a realty business with success.

JAMES B. OTTER. CALEXICO. 1907. Mr. Otter is one of the pioneers of Calexico's business life. He was engaged as a salesman for some time after his arrival in 1907 and then started a tailoring business of his own. He and Sam Donaldson started the haberdashery business which Mr. Otter now conducts on Second street, Calexico. Sidney Otter, brother of James, is also a pioneer with several intervals of absence from the Valley.



C. C. Jenkins, Postmaster

C. C. JENKINS, BRAWLEY-EL CENTRO. 1908. Before coming to Imperial Valley in 1908, C. C. Jenkins, present postmaster at El Centro, was a merchant in Minnesota, where he served on school boards for eight years. Locating with his family at Brawley he established the first men's store in that young city. This he built up to good proportions in the next seven years. Being civic minded he was drafted to serve the community on the high school board and was instrumental in the building of Brawley's new high school plant. He owned land in the Acacia district and when he and his family returned to the Valley after living in Los Angeles a short time they moved to the ranch and built up a fine herd of dairy cows. In 1922 Mr. Jenkins was secretary of the Imperial Chamber of Commerce and in February, 1923, he was drafted to become secretary-manager of the Imperial County Farm Bureau. This office was to his liking and he made a wonderful record in it. When Postmaster C. W. Collins died in 1927, Mr. Jenkins was appointed to the position which he has held since to the entire satisfaction of the people. He has maintained a high class service for patrons of the office every minute. In 1930 the Government decided to enlarge it facilities in El Centro and acquired the southeast quarter of the block at Fifth and Olive, where a new federal building will be erected at an early date.

In addition to his duties as postmaster Mr. Jenkins continues to take vital interest in local and Valley-wide affairs.

IRA ATEN, EL CENTRO. 1904. Before choosing Imperial Valley as a home place for himself and family, Mr. Aten had a long record of public service in Texas. At the age of twenty, he joined the Texas Rangers and served seven years in Western Texas and along the Rio Grande. He helped stop a feud in Fort Bend County in which the Sheriff, one deputy and several citizens were killed and another deputy, the County Judge and several other citizens were wounded. At the request of Governor Ross, Mr. Aten was appointed Sheriff and the feud came to an end. In 1893, Castro County was overrun with horse and cattle thieves and the people demanded the Sheriff's resignation. Aten was appointed to the place and was elected later, cleaning up the law violators. He resigned to accept a position as manager of a division of the great XIT ranch, owned by the Capitol Syndicate. This concern owned more than 3,000,000 acres, on which 200,000 head of cattle fed. The syndicate built the State Capitol building at Austin in exchange for the big acreage. Mr. Aten found this quite a job. He was, at the same time, a County Commissioner of Deaf Smith County

for seven years, resigning to come to California in the fall of 1904.

Since coming to the Valley, Mr. Aten acquired 160 acres of land, the home ranch, north of El Centro; and 1700 acres two miles west of Calipatria, where he and his sons have developed a model stock ranch which is described in another chapter. His first purchase was several hundred shade trees, which he planted for the purpose of shading picnic grounds where his friends and neighbors could enjoy themselves. The latest event there was the 1931 pioneer picnic in May.

When El Centro was started, he formed a partnership with F. B. Fuller, the firm name being Fuller & Aten, which later became the Aten Land Co. He was a director of the El Centro National Bank, Imperial Valley Oil & Cotton Co., and foremost in the organization of the number of farm associations. In recognition of the sound counsel offered by Mr. Aten in water affairs, the people of the El Centro district in 1923 made him director of Imperial Irrigation District, and he has been kept in that position every year since. He has been a staunch supporter of the Boulder Dam and All-American Canal program all the way through. When his present term expires, Mr. Aten will have finished thirty-one years of public service.

Mr. and Mrs. Aten are members of the Christian Church. Mrs. Aten is accomplished in the entertaining of guests and is constantly sought by the younger people, as a guide and counselor. There were five children: Marion, Boyce, Ira D., Imogene, and Eloise. Boyce reached the rank of Lieutenant in the world war and lost his life in action. As a mark of esteem the American Legion Post at El Centro was named after him. Marion, unable to enter the flying corps in America after several attempts, became a Lieutenant in the Royal Air Corps of Canada and had the pleasure of returning to America as an instructor on the fields where he was refused enlistment. He served overseas, earned a Captain's commission and has a record of eleven years' service in the British Air Corps.

JOHN JUVENAL, BRAWLEY. 1903. Mr. and Mrs. John Juvenal and children, Thos. E., Virgil L. and Miss May, came to the Valley from Oregon in early fall in 1903, just when Brawley consisted of a total of one frame house and a few tent houses. Brawley was just then the end of the railroad being built from the main line and was literally the "jumping off place" for those who arrived by train. No depot, not even a platform. Being carpenters and builders, Mr. Juvenal and his older son, Tom, went right to work and had much to do with the early construction of business buildings and homes in Brawley. The household goods that the Juvenals brought with them included a big range and Mrs. Juvenal knew how to make good home-baked bread, so she found herself busy keeping up with the demand for this necessity. She was the first to bake a "decent" loaf of bread in Brawley. Another item in the household was an organ. Mr. Juvenal was a singing master and the home became the center of many pleasant gatherings. The first Sunday School was held in a restaurant and the organ did duty there, much to the amazement of the Cocopah Indian corn cutters, who came from miles around to hear the organ and listen to the singing. The men would ride into town on ponies and the women would walk beside them. Indian Joe, the Chief, frightened the Juvenal children by dressing up in all his feathers and paint and peering around posts and house corners satisfying his curiosity. The first Christmas there were no trees so the Juvenal boys took a railroad tie, bored holes in it on all sides and stuck mesquite and greasewood branches in the holes. It made a handsome tree, too, and looked most beautiful to the little handful of settlers who came to celebrate Christmas with them.

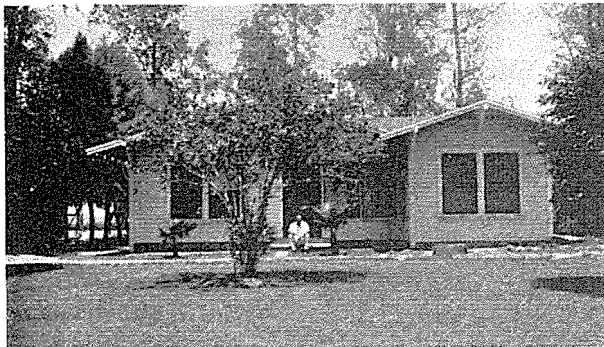
The Juvenals have now lived in Brawley twenty-eight years. Miss May is the present efficient City Clerk.

John Juvenal died September, 1931.

WM. J. BEST, CALEXICO. 1900. Mr. Best was construction foreman for the California Development Company when work started, and remained in responsible positions with that concern all through the early years. Perhaps no man in the Valley today has had personal contact with the irriga-

tion system to a more intimate degree than "Bill" Best. When the citizens of the Calexico district cast about, in 1930, for a candidate for County Supervisor, they selected Mr. Best. He started his term January 1, 1931.

LOU F. FARNSWORTH. IMPERIAL. 1901. Did much of the freighting by ten-horse team from Flowing Well to points in the Valley before the railroad was completed. He took up land and was prominent in the Valley's water councils for many years, especially in Water Co. No. 1.



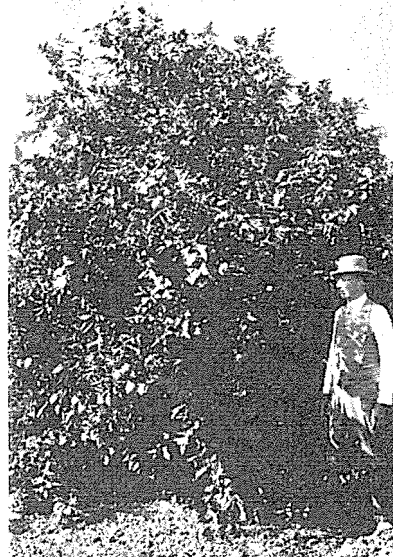
The Young Ranch Home Near Calipatria

W. A. Young came to the Valley twenty-one years ago in 1910. He was engaged in land leveling enterprises with the Walker Construction Company for some time, in the meantime filing on a section of land five miles east of Calipatria. During the war period Mr. Young took care of fifteen hundred acres of cotton. Since the decline in cotton the Young ranch has produced bounteous crops of peas, alfalfa, barley, and cantaloupes. It is the home of a happy family. Mrs. Young and their two children make the home a delightful rural spot where hospitality is the keynote. The son and daughter were born on the home place and attend school in Calipatria.

ANDREW J. ELLIOTT. El Centro. 1867-1900-1902. Mr. Elliott crossed the Colorado desert as a teamster as early as 1867. In later years he drove cattle down from the western mountain slopes and fattened them on the growth in the overflow lands around the lakes of the Valley. Mr. Elliott has been closely associated with the events that have made every page of the history of the Valley. He was chosen as a typical pioneer character by Harold Bell Wright in his novel, "The Winning of Barbara Worth," and later posed for one of the paintings that are found on the walls of the lobby of the Barbara Worth hotel. Because of the fact that he has been on the desert for more than sixty years he is called the dean of all Imperial Valley pioneers. He resides with relatives in El Centro and enjoys the association of hundreds of old timers at reunions and pioneer gatherings.

ANDY PREBLE. Imperial. 1903. Son of A. Y. Preble, one of Imperial's first councilmen. He is now supervisor of the county from the Imperial district. He is a partner with D. E. Erskine as Valley representatives of the General Electric refrigerator line.

GEORGE AND LOUIS LEGAKES. El Centro. Pioneers in the restaurant and market business. They established and conducted the Old Mission Cafe. They now own valuable Main street property as well as farm and residence property. Louis is now conducting a cafe at San Clemente.



DOCTOR AND GROWER

*Dr. Apple's Grapefruit Grove
Was One of the First*

Dr. W. W. Apple is a Valley pioneer of 1910. In addition to carrying on a continuous practice in El Centro during the past twenty-one years he has developed and cared for an eighty acre ranch that produces annually a crop of fancy grapefruit. Dr. Apple's grove was one of the first to be planted. He was president of the first Grapefruit Growers Association for four years. He has also raised hogs and alfalfa.

Dr. Apple has been a trustee of the Central Union high school district for a number of years. Mrs. Apple is prominent in club and social circles. Cheerful, their daughter, is now Mrs. H. Gereke, of San Francisco. Wm. L., a son, is in the produce business.

The Apples took an interesting trip to Europe in 1930.

M. SCHLATTER. 1904. Calexico. Mr. and Mrs. M. Schlatter, who ranched and raised their family near Calexico, are to be numbered amongst the solid pioneers of the Valley. They went through the vicissitudes of the early days without a flinch and now live in comfort in Los Anglers. Of the children, Ike Schlatter, in addition to ranching on his own account, engaged in contract tractor work successfully. Carrie was wed to Gilbert Willoughby a member of the firm of Willoughby Brothers, who annually handle thousands of acres of plowing and land preparation in the south end of the Valley. Clara died some years ago, after marrying Otto Conser, leaving handsome boy twins now twelve years old. Margaret, Hazel and Luellaa were additional children, all happily wed.

If other pioneer residents of the Valley will see that the publisher receives data he will be glad to include paragraphs about them in the second edition, if the demand warrants the publication of another edition.
EDITOR HISTORY.



Alfalfa is the "Base Crop" for Many Agricultural Activities in Imperial Valley

PUBLISHER'S STATEMENT

*I*N the following pages the reader will find a review which will depict "The Imperial Valley of Today." Agriculture, of course, takes precedence because Imperial Valley is almost exclusively an agriculture empire. The publisher is especially indebted to B. A. Harrigan, Agriculture Commissioner, and his staff and the others whose names appear as writers of special articles, for facts, figures and material used in the agricultural review.

The publisher also acknowledges the fine spirit of loyalty to Imperial Valley exhibited by the firms and individuals whose purchase of space and extra copies of the History made it possible to add these two chapters to this volume and to distribute complimentary copies to certain newspapers, officials and individuals which will be of vast value to Imperial Valley for many years to come.

Should a second edition become necessary these last two chapters may obviously be expanded.

OTIS B. TOUT.

CHAPTER XXXIII

THE IMPERIAL VALLEY OF TODAY

THROUGH the pages that precede this chapter we have set down the activities of the men and women who settled on and improved the farms, built the towns, formed their organizations for the pursuit of business and pleasure and carried on the multitude of activities for the first thirty years of Imperial Valley's existence.

Now we may glance at their handiwork.

What have they wrought?

What is here to show for the years of labor that these pioneers and their successors put on the land?

For one thing Imperial Valley has produced a breed of men and women who have learned the need for combat, for unending vigil against the forces of nature which would wipe them from the face of the earth should they relax for even a short time. In some parts of the earth life is easy to maintain. The South Sea Islanders, for instance, merely pluck the fruit that grows without planting and catch enough fish in an hour to supply the demands of the stomach for a week. It takes little exercise of the imagination to guess what would happen to the people of Imperial Valley if, for instance, they should neglect their water supply, fail to irrigate their fields or allow the Colorado river to flood them out of house and home. The land would return to desert within half a year.

This training in mortal combat with the forces of nature has made the people an aggressive people. The salubrious climate is not the South Sea Island sort that encourages banjo picking but the kind that will wither the succulent alfalfa in the stalk unless it gets water at the right time—and that might mean 3 a. m. It is the sort of a climate that brings up money by the millions through the melon fields—provided some one has been diligent with the tractor, the planter and the cultivator.

The general result of this sort of combat, over a period of less than a third of a century, has been the production of a region which has reached a point of development, commercially as well as socially, never before reached by any agricultural district in the world in the same length of time.

Today there are approximately 5000 farms in Imperial Valley on which half the population or 30,000 people, live. The other 30,000 live in the six incorporated towns and trade centers. Of the 5000 farm families 2000 are owners of the places where they live. The remainder, or 3000 families, are renters. The average size of a farm is 88 acres.

It is wholly unnecessary to state that agriculture is the basis of all property wealth and income in Imperial Valley. The world's record for advancement was made with the crops that came out of the soil. Almost with the alchemy of magicians have the people mixed the sands of the desert with the waters of the Colorado, exposed the mixture to the warm rays of the sun and have produced schools, churches, homes, places of business, paved roads, automobiles, airplanes, the necessities of life and many of the luxuries. They present to the world today an array of high and elementary schools second to none in the progressive west. They point with pride to the statistics that show the steady increase in values from the day when zero marked the worth of the Valley until now when \$150,000,000 will not cover the value of property and one year's crops. Out of the soil they send to market annually more than 60,000 carloads of products—better than a car for every inhabitant—valued at upwards of \$60,000,000. They

will show you how the Valley has climbed to the upper tier of dairy producing counties of the state; how it stands at the very top in melon and lettuce shipments—a national supremacy; how they have demonstrated to the world that nearly every useful crop can be grown and in so doing have chosen those best suited for the markets for cultivation on a vast scale. They will also tell you, without the slightest trace of anxiety in their faces, that with the Hoover Dam holding in leash the waters of the Colorado as it will within a very short time, danger and damage from shortage of water or from floods will be forever past. They will not dwell much on the fact that this danger has been hanging over their heads since George Chaffey first ran water in the main canal thirty years ago and that through all these years they have built and built and built under this ever present threat. They just show a grim satisfaction in the outcome as it presents itself in 1931 and look forward eight or ten years to the time when the dam will be in operation.

And then the fact that agriculture is the basic foundation for all this present day high state of development becomes more apparent when it is stated that the people themselves have spent more than \$23,000,000 in the acquisition and improvement of their water distributing system through the Imperial Irrigation District. They also have instituted their own county and city governments and, as the saying is, are "all set" for a bigger and better Valley than ever; for a doubling of the population and a trebling of land values as the call of the land reaches the city-bound citizen on the rebound from depression.

Speaking of "depression" the Imperial Valley citizen is rightfully proud of the fact that for more than two years the maps issued monthly by the United States Chamber of Commerce and other agencies have, without a break, shown Imperial Valley to be a "white spot" which indicates good business conditions. The white spot map for June, 1931, shows the Valley one of only five such spots in the United States. It appears that the Valley's food stuffs reach hungry mouths whether there is a depression or not. And in spite of the low prices for commodities that have prevailed the cash received has been enough to keep the "white spot" going on the maps. Every community has its ups and downs but with its eggs in so many different baskets the Valley never suffers from its "downs" any longer than it takes to plant and harvest again.

THE ACREAGE TABLE

This history presents a table herewith showing the acreage planted to some sixty-two different crops during the past seven years, from 1924 to 1930. This shows the reader the trend of popularity that various crops enjoy with the farmer. Trace cotton, for instance—it has dropped from 79,801 acres in 1924 to 10,317 in 1930. This year practically no cotton will be raised north of the line. Alfalfa, the base of all livestock activity, has almost doubled in that same time. Cantaloupes have increased while lettuce has doubled in seven years. Peas show almost 400 per cent increase. Carrots have jumped suddenly into popularity while the smaller truck crops show that the big vegetable growers are carrying on acreage experiments in every direction. The old standbys—milo maize, barley, oats and wheat—maintain their standing year after year. The plantings of grape-

(Continued on Page 373)

CROP ACREAGE FOR SEVEN YEARS

Showing the trend of agriculture from 1924 Until 1930.

The large totals indicate much land is double cropped each year.

CROP	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930
Cantaloupes	27,168	25,109	33,186	36,121	27,284	36,352	39,029
Lettuce	25,125	34,593	42,674	40,674	31,270	46,384	53,911
Peas	4,182	219	219	6,432	16,152	13,433	18,502
Watermelons	3,695	6,132	2,397	6,122	6,207	7,087	8,311
Beans	282	361	234	234	482	413	109
Beets	50	.....	.....	.....	84	166	24
Cabbage	286	.....	228	228	331	516	890
Carrots	79	.....	140	156	1,485	1,766	5,143
Cucumbers	139	219	219	229	547	757	428
Endives	22	.....	.....	.....	.....	105	76
Onions	133	90	26	118	148	79	34
Peppers	33	.....	120	120	198	133	72
Spinach	50	.....	365	365	768	505	253
Squash	51	.....	163	163	219	555	653
Sweet Potatoes	130	.....	150	99	218	124	169
Tomatoes	858	1,164	397	2,368	1,702	1,202	2,321
Misc. Vegetables	81	1,007	182	182	111	215	82
Honeydews	1,725	2,435	3,150	4,741	3,338	2,809	4,674
Honeyballs	670	840	1,100	1,427	2,347	1,846	2,873
Turnips .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	66	60	115
Potatoes .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	18	.....	.....
Anise .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	306	316	50
Chicory .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	218	138	145
Casabas .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	107	77	45
Dandelion .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	20	.....	.....
Cauliflower .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	15	.....	.....
Broccoli .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	189	198	64
Peanuts .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	80	.....	.....
Jap Melons .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	20	20
Greens .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	20	220
Alfalfa	130,196	155,080	168,672	178,210	228,675	245,775	238,571
Barley	45,710	45,573	47,022	47,022	56,840	60,853	50,282
Milo Maize	25,300	27,012	25,855	34,105	40,126	29,251	25,482
Cotton	79,801	47,253	23,693	23,102	29,241	20,431	10,317
Oats	1,247	1,206	604	604	1,731	2,209	977
Wheat	2,834	6,297	4,082	4,082	10,317	10,949	11,205
Cover Crop	751	.....	.....	127	.....	.....	.....
Bermuda	7,325	6,471	9,506	13,519	20,994	19,255	15,321
Rice .....	.....	.....	187	4,455	883	.....	169
Cane .....	.....	.....	194	770	1,167	2,010	1,410
Sudan	235	.....	.....	249	1,256	2,691	5,534
Rye .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	120	.....	.....
Hemp .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	328	1,014	21,501
Miscellaneous .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	59	344	150
Asparagus	1,548	1,830	2,408	2,638	2,580	3,150	3,402
Apricots	34	80	37	.....	50	69	55
Dates	329	178	175	198	174	209	216
Figs	35	50	40	.....	58	63	31
Grapes	6,942	6,323	5,150	5,598	4,797	3,496	2,963
Grapefruit	4,019	5,158	6,131	7,342	8,763	9,622	10,175
Olives	79	81	91	.....	58	71	58
Oranges	72	18	99	.....	196	236	702
Pears	70	33	58	.....	24	17	17
Pomegranate	86	71	65	.....	86	55	112
Pecans	5	33	30	.....	137	207	346
Strawberries	388	233	129	204	132	153	100
Miscellaneous	100	57	79	499	82	114	28
Tangerines .....	.....	.....	.....	2	121	163	221
Plums .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	22	24	17
Nursery .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	30	41	63
Lemons .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	12	87
Avocados .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10	10
TOTAL.....	364,597	380,611	387,347	419,300	624,473	674,843	725,548

(Continued From Page 371)

fruit have doubled. Pecans show a great increase. Deciduous fruits have not been found profitable. Experiments with avocados are being watched with interest.

A REAL COUNTY SERVICE

In the office of the Imperial County Agricultural Commissioner the growers of Imperial Valley enjoy a service that is real. Under the direction of B. A. Harrigan, commissioner for several years, scientific studies for the benefit of the grower and marketer, have been constantly carried on until now hardly a question can be asked that cannot be answered by Mr. Harrigan or one of his assistants. Mr. Harrigan is also secretary of the Imperial County Board of Trade, a commission that handles publicity and promotion matters. Mr. Harrigan has written many articles along agricultural lines for booklets and folders published by the county. This history is indebted especially to Mr. Harrigan for facts and figures that are used. A review of the more important crops grown in the Valley follows.

ALFALFA

By GEORGE L. WINRIGHT, *Assistant County Agent*

The importance of alfalfa in the Imperial Valley is shown clearly by statistics giving the acreage at 194,915 acres out of a total of 453,209 acres in all field crops combined and 153,954 acres in all garden crops in 1929.

There are many reasons why alfalfa should occupy this most important place in Imperial Valley agriculture as indeed there are reasons why it occupies an important place in the agriculture of any community where it can be grown "successfully" and a few comparisons between production records and market possibilities in districts where it is considered a very successful crop may be of interest both to those who are fortunate enough to be getting the returns common to growers in the Imperial Valley and to others who may have only a general interest in this district.

Farm practices over a long period of years have established the fact beyond a doubt that communities in many sections of the middle west are justified in considering alfalfa as the corner stone of agriculture in their districts and this on an average yield of between two and one-half and three tons per acre as compared to five or five and one-half tons in the Imperial Valley.

The comparison does not end with yield alone and contrary to the usual result of low prices where production of any farm commodity is high and high prices where the production is low the situation is reversed in Imperial Valley to a very large extent. Of course there are years when the price is low enough to be discouraging in any district but there are also many factors which help to make these periods further apart and less pronounced when they do appear in the Imperial Valley. The principal reason is the large amount of dairying carried on in the Valley which takes not only a large amount of hay but a great portion of the alfalfa acreage is used for pasture where the practice is common the year around. Alfalfa hay shows 51.6 per cent of digestible nutriment and a digestible crude protein content of 10.6 per cent, making it one of the highest analyzing roughages and without question the most palatable which it is possible to secure.

The effect of this great supply of cheap roughage is reflected in the dairy industry of the valley which supports a greater dairy cow population, figured on the basis of actual crop acreage than any district in the United States not importing roughage. There are several dairies in the Valley which support a herd of one cow per acre without purchasing feed and do this almost entirely by the use of alfalfa both for hay and pasture. The use of concentrates with high producing cows has been established for many years as a paying farm practice but this does not detract from the value of alfalfa and the Valley contains many dairymen who have made a success in the business with the use of alfalfa alone. The cost of producing butterfat is naturally reflected in favor of Imperial Valley as compared to other

districts where feed conditions are less favorable. Cost of production studies in the county show that butterfat can be produced for less than 40 cents per pound as contrasted with conditions in the metropolitan areas near large cities where dairymen insist they can not make a profit selling whole milk on the basis of 90c per pound for the butterfat content.

While the local consumption of alfalfa is extremely large in the Valley there is also a large surplus and as production under irrigation in this section is not only heavy but is also much more uniform from year to year than can be expected in districts which depend upon rainfall this surplus would naturally depress the value for market hay in most years if it were not for the fact that this district is so favorably located with the regard to metropolitan areas from 150 to 200 miles distant which must import hay in great quantities.

This is an advantage which alfalfa producers do not have in sections which are far removed from market centers and is reflected in price as a comparison of sales of from \$20.00 to \$25.00 per ton on the ranch in Imperial Valley during the present winter, 1929, with prices of \$10.00 to \$12.00 per ton on farms in other sections of the country five to seven hundred miles removed from the market.

The return per acre from alfalfa land can be figured quite readily and a comparison of values formed between Imperial Valley with a five ton yield at \$20.00 or \$100.00 per acre and three tons at \$12.00 or \$36.00 per acre in a general farming section several hundred miles further removed from market.

The abundance of alfalfa grown in the Valley affects the beef cattle and sheep industry just as favorably as the dairy industry and the statistics for 1929 compiled by Mr. B. A. Harrigan, Imperial County Agricultural Commissioner, shows 40,316 head of beef cattle with a value of \$4,223,180 which were fed out during the year.

A saving of 138 pounds of concentrate per 100 pounds gain due to the use of a good legume hay is sufficient to account for the difference between success and failure when beef prices are unfavorably compared to grain and accounts to a large extent for the magnitude of the beef feeding business in Imperial Valley.

In addition to the beef cattle industry the statistics for 1929 show 74,084 sheep of which all were fed out but approximately 8000 and as a good roughage is even more important in sheep feeding than in beef feeding the advantage of the sheep feeder in Imperial Valley is evident.

DAIRYING

By WALTER B. HAVEKORST

Here we are in a favored spot in Southern California with our dairy cows feeding on green pasture and in the midst of approximately 195,000 acres of alfalfa, growing the year around, which furnishes an abundance of hay and pasture for our livestock, there being a surplus which goes to outside markets.

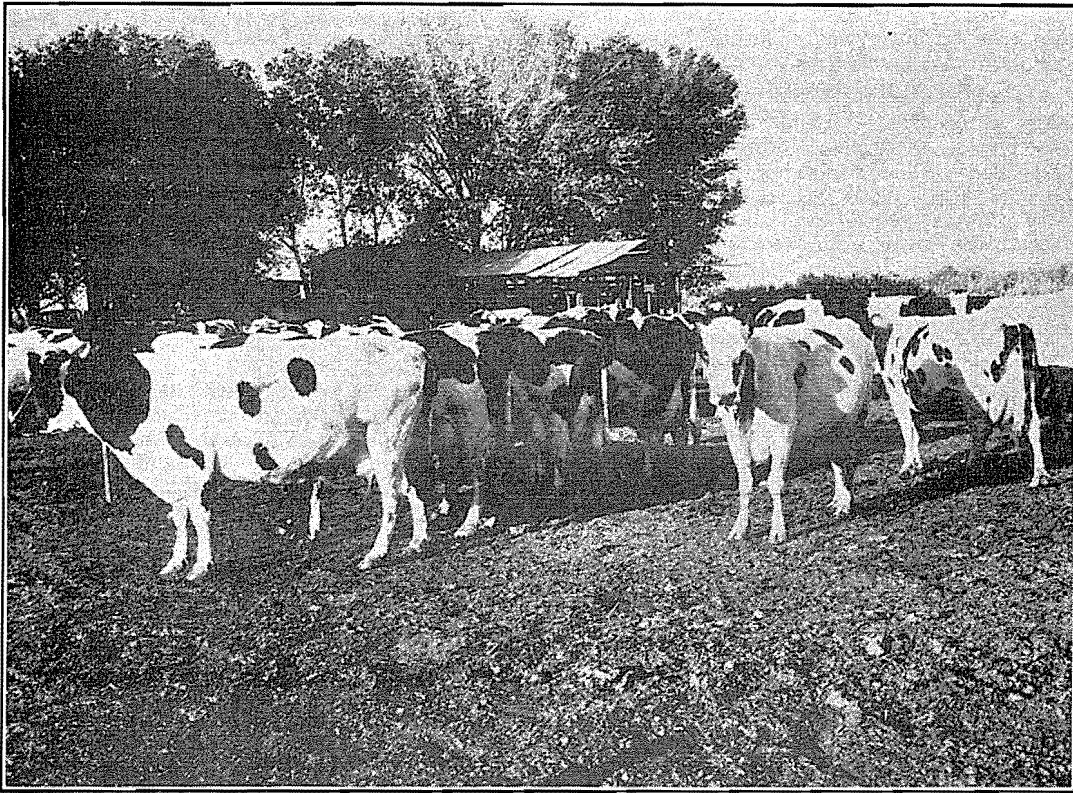
CLIMATE IS RIGHT

The climate in Imperial County is exactly suited to dairying because of its continual sunshine and the absence of cold or rainy weather, which provides a certain immunity to diseases. Dairy herds here have an uninterrupted pasturing season that extends throughout the year. Stability of water supply and moderate weather means green feed all the time.

OPERATING COSTS ARE LOW

Every dairyman knows what plenty of green pasture and alfalfa hay means to production and health of his herds. No other plant has the milk-producing qualities of alfalfa, and since the supply is available at all times of the year, the feeding costs that are elsewhere increased during the winter months are here reduced to a minimum, while production continues strong all year.

Sudan grass is another forage crop popularly used in Imperial County. It grows rapidly in summer and when



Imperial Valley Dairy Herds such as this Produce 6,000,000 Pounds of Butter Each Year

fed with alfalfa makes an excellent dairy ration. Barley, wheat and oats are grown and fed as supplementary feeds. Lodina clover is also developing into a favorable prospect.

A further consideration that makes possible lower operating costs is the fact that heavy building investment is not necessary both from the standpoint of comfort to cattle and for storing hay.

TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES GOOD

Imperial county is a flat country with good rural roads and miles of paved highways that connect each 160 acre tract of ranch land with the numerous cities and towns. Railroad connections with Los Angeles, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego and other markets are direct and competent to handle our products efficiently. Trucking between cities of the county and coastal cities is an important transportation facility that is made possible by the paved highways that extend out of the county to these points.

MARKETS ARE ASSURED

There are now in Imperial County approximately 24000 dairy cows, producing nearly 6,000,000 pounds of butter fat annually. The cost of producing this butterfat is 34.5 cents per pound, cost accounts kept by prominent dairymen show. The price received for the butterfat last year, 1929, averaged 48.82 cents per pound. The skimmed milk was left on the ranch for young pigs. The profit was obvious. These prices were f.o.b. ranch as the marketing agencies gather the dairy products from the door of the dairyman by truck.

The market for Imperial County dairy products has been developed to a point where there is a steadily increasing demand that will warrant more dairy herds and more dairymen without reducing the profit to be expected. There exists a prosperous and successful dairymen's marketing association affiliated with a large marketing association on the Pacific Coast. We have also represented large creameries.

The Los Angeles metropolitan area is 200 miles distant from the Valley and has a population of 2,000,000 people

and an expected growth in the next decade that will double and treble that figure. San Diego is a little more than 100 miles distant and is a rapidly growing city that is taking more and more Imperial County dairy products.

DAIRYMEN PROTECTED HERE

Imperial County is keenly alive to the value of its dairying industry and is unusually active in encouraging dairymen to keep their herds free from disease and to aid them in improving their stock.

The Farm Bureau and the Agricultural Extension Service of the State College of Agriculture devote large attention to the problems of dairying. Cost account are kept wherever possible. Measures looking toward elimination of and protection from diseases in dairy herds are enforced. It is significant that when the foot and mouth disease was raging among herds in other sections of the country a few years ago, this section remained free from the disease.

Another source of profit for dairymen is the raising and developing of their young stock for coast market, sales of cows in truckloads or carload lots at \$175.00 per head not being uncommon. Many are looking to Imperial Valley as the future developing place for dairy cows in wholesale lots for the Pacific Coast markets. This industry in itself can be made very profitable.

COW TESTING ASSOCIATION

Imperial County has an active dairy department of the Farm Bureau which cooperates with the Agricultural Extension Department in operating a cow-testing association which tests 3,000 cows each month. This association furnishes its members with a record of production of each cow which they are milking. These records enable members of the association to find out which of their cows are profitable and which are unprofitable. Through the use of these records many dairymen have been able to greatly increase the average production of their cows in the herds and thus increase the income of the dairy.

The county records show that there are now 733 dairy-



Cantaloupe Picking. The Annual Cantaloupe Crop Fills From 16,000 to 21,000 Railroad Cars

men operating in the county. About 34 per cent of them own their own ranches, the others operating by leases, which usually run from three to five years.

Land prices in this county are very reasonable. Alfalfa land suitable for dairying can be purchased at prices ranging from \$150 to \$300 per acre, depending upon the soil, location, and improvements, or the same land can be rented from \$25 to \$30 per acre for dairying purposes. Any dairyman who plans to change his location or to start in the dairying business would do well to consider the advantages which Imperial County offer him.

HOGS

Hogs just naturally grow and fatten in Imperial Valley. Cholera and other hog diseases are noticeably absent as the result of careful sanitation and quarantine. Milo maize and barley are used for finishing. Some dairymen who separate find it possible to make their skim milk alone from a string or in other words 30 cows pay them a net above all costs of approximately \$100 per month.

The irrigation costs are relatively low in the county, there being an irrigation assessment of \$5 per \$100 valuation. The maximum assessed valuation per acre for ranch land is \$150. The only other charge for water is a gate service charge of 25 cents per day during the period of irrigation.

The following reputable and successful dairymen in the county will be glad to give information to interested prospective dairy operators here:

- H. G. Farnsworth, Route 1, El Centro.
- Walter B. Havekorst, Bank of America, Brawley.
- Loveland Rancho, Brawley.
- JoeENZ, Holtville.
- F. L. Rosenbaum, Imperial.

CANTALOUPE

By B. A. HARRIGAN, *Agricultural Commissioner*

Imperial Valley, for several years has been the leading cantaloupe producing region of the United States. Beginning as an early cantaloupe section over twenty-five years ago, the Valley now ships cantaloupes and related melons from April well through August. After this the fall crop begins in late September and runs well up into December. The fall crop is planted in July and the early spring crop goes in as early as late November, so that we have growing melon vines the year round. The steady growth of the

cantaloupe industry in the Valley in spite of troubles and worries of all kinds is really remarkable and can only be attributed to quality production dependent on soil and climate aided by high class methods of growing, harvesting and shipping under careful supervision to maintain a high standard of uniformity.

The cantaloupe industry in the Valley got its start from successful trials of a few acres in the Coachella Valley in 1903. The extension of the industry in the upper end of the Salton basin in 1904 was followed by severe aphid damage. However, several farmers near Brawley had become interested and tried small patches of melons. These Imperial Valley trials were a success. The growers found their melons to be of high quality—superior even to the Coachella Valley product.

In 1905, the Brawley district planted about 600 acres which, with the addition of the few acres in Coachella Valley, produced 297 carloads. The year 1906 saw a doubled acreage and a production of 577 carloads including a few shipments from the upper basin section. The following year, 1907, showed the effects of the lack of a Boulder Dam by not having the usual increase in acreage. In this season the crop amounted to 644 cars including the diminishing shipments from Coachella Valley.

The high quality of the melons shipped to eastern markets in 1907 showed that experience gained in the few years before was counting in the growing, packing and shipping operations. The fabulous prices and eager demand for these good melons while giving undreamed of returns to the few lucky growers that season set up a get-rich-quick cantaloupe rush on the part of everyone. The Valley was at that time advertising for an increased flow of new settlers, and the marvelous wealth to be had from cantaloupes was used as one of the attractions. Any one could grow cantaloupes successfully on any kind of land—no one ever heard of overproduction and prorating cars. Money was available to any prospective grower of melons. Boom times affected bankers, merchants, and commission men alike.

Ten thousand acres approximately were planted to cantaloupes and nearly every acre yielded a bumper crop. The Valley was full of melons. Market connections had been established with only a few of the large cities in the east, high prices were only paid by the limited well-to-do classes for quality products. Inexperienced growers with their more inexperienced helpers shipped green soft, ripe and



Milo Maize Has Been a Staple Product Since 1902

worthless melons with the good ones. The 1908 deal was so unsuccessful that many growers quit in disgust before the season was half over, leaving most of the melons in the fields; having shipped only 1804 carloads.

We learn by our disasters. The "get-rich-quick" and "fly-by-nights" moved on to other and brighter fields and left the cantaloupe industry in the hands of the pioneer growers who with other responsible and experienced farmers with a broad vision of the future of the industry proceeded cautiously for the next two years. A total of 1317 carloads were shipped in 1909 by these conservative growers who specialized on quality and better pack although the prices were low. The next year we shipped 1525 carloads at very high prices to match the increasing quality and developing demand. We learn by our disasters, but prosperity brings forgetfulness. The very successful season of 1910 caused another "gold rush" to the cantaloupe fields in 1911 and with a doubled acreage prices fell until the glutted markets failed to return even the transportation charges. The 2564 carloads shipped in 1911 failed to pay back the expense of growing and shipping.

These repeated calamities called for co-operative action, so in the spring of 1912 the growers and shippers organized an exchange to better control the distribution and extend shipments to new markets. Under this system the season of 1912, with 2818 cars, and that of 1913, with 3434 carloads, gave profitable returns. Beginning with 1914, the Federal Bureau of Markets has aided the shippers in marketing the cantaloupe crop by furnishing details of market conditions, prices, etc. On 1914, financial depression affected the market adversely and, in spite of the Bureau of Market's aid, the 4407 carloads moved scarcely paid expenses.

Since 1915 we have records of the accurate surveys as to acreage and production which are summarized in the following table:

Year	Total Acres Planted	Total Shipments in Carloads
1915	8156	4666
1916	8490	4594
1917	12701	4988
1918	11136	4428
1919	14088	7838
1920	21697	8938
1921	22652	10696
1922	31050	12159
1923	25690	12567

1924	27168	15950
1925	25109	14509
1926	33142	14151
1927	36121	17919
1928	27823	18393
1929	36352	20024
1930	39029	.....

During the years of steady growth from 1914 on, the average price per crate has been enough in nearly every season to yield the growers some profit. The cantaloupe industry has been growing steadily as a whole in spite of mildew and overproduction. If we could only control the acreage planted each season we could guarantee more uniformly profitable seasons.

The striking change in methods of growing, packing and shipping, and the complete change in varieties in the last 25 years makes our modern cantaloupe industry an entirely different business from the old unorganized venture. Our packing sheds look like factories, and our field organizations are systematized like a military unit. The fields are planted early in the winter and protected with glassine paper covers and often with long wind breaks of tough wrapping paper held in place by rows of stakes and arrowweed brush. Stimulating applications of special fertilizers are used and elaborate provisions made to fight pests and diseases. Extensive tests of varieties and careful selection of seed stocks is part of the routine now. Few business enterprises have more carefully planned campaigns against possible trouble. Just one thing we cannot plan against apparently—and that is overproduction. With all the above improvements in methods, and with the great increase in rental values of land and in labor, material and transportation prices it must be realized that high prices must be obtained to net a fair profit. The industry has grown steadily, so it is natural to assume that it has been a paying business.

The first ten years of the cantaloupe industry were largely in the hands of the American farmers who had built the industry in other sections. However, the uncertain profit coupled with the increasing cost of material, labor, etc. just about drove these pioneers out of the game—by 1914—after which time the Japanese farmers dominated the field and improved methods by introducing the covering and brushing systems. In recent years, American manufacturing methods applied to the cantaloupe fields and sheds, together with the action of alien leasehold legislation, have again made the cantaloupe industry largely American. Re-



Picking Winter Strawberries in Imperial Valley

regardless of who grows our cantaloupes, what varieties we grow, or how we grow them, we know that each year finds us better equipped to put better cantaloupes on the table of the American consumer. Better methods of growing, better cultivation, better varieties, better harvesting and packing, better grading and inspection, better icing, and quicker and better shipping, all combine to put a better melon on the market.

Cantaloupes, honey dew and honey ball melons from Imperial Valley are now the standard of value for other regions. When we hear someone say that his melons are as good as Imperial Valley melons we feel proud of our reputation but we still plan an aggressive campaign to keep our product the best.

LETTUCE

Lettuce raising took on the importance of a major industry in 1916 when sixteen cars were shipped to market. Since then the acreage has annually increased until at the present time around 50,000 acres are annually devoted to this winter crop and carload shipments have passed the 20,000 mark.

The rapid increase in the use of Imperial Valley lettuce throughout the nation is attributed to the close co-operation of the growers in the matter of grading for excellence. The crisp heads that reach the packing sheds from the fields are sorted so carefully that many times the cull pile exceeds the packed product.

In the early history of lettuce raising there was no law governing or standardizing the packing of lettuce. At one time, twenty-five different sizes of lettuce containers were used in packing, offering eight or nine dozen heads of lettuce in a container and marked three dozen. The situation finally became so aggravated that the buyers in the East were afraid to buy a car of lettuce from California until they had seen it, so it became necessary to have lettuce included in the present Standardization Law in order to give the consuming public some protection. It was, also, necessary to establish a reputation for Valley lettuce if we hoped to continue to raise it profitably.

During the last six years the Standardization Law in regard to lettuce has been very rigidly enforced. At the present time when a car is quoted out by wire the trade in the East has a great deal of confidence in what the wire states that car to be. Thirty per cent of the lettuce of the Valley, during the last shipping season, was sold by wire sales. If one were to look over the market news reports for the last shipping season one would find that six dozen size lettuce from Imperial Valley brought one dollar more on the market than four dozen size packed in Arizona where there are no standardization laws.

Imperial Valley head lettuce is the best head lettuce grown in the United States. This is proven by the premium it commands in every market where it is sold. It matures at a time when practically all other vegetable growing localities are dormant, beginning about December 1 and continuing until April 1.

Lettuce planting, harvesting and shipping comes during the fall and winter months. Handling the vast crop has become almost an exact science. The product is so delicate that it must be picked at exactly the right time and must be on its way to market properly iced within a few hours. The great packing sheds present feverish scenes of activity, day and night. Railroad and icing facilities are taxed to keep pace with the output that streams out of the Valley in trainload lots daily.

As an advertisement for Imperial Valley the lettuce crop has done as much as any other crop produced.

GRAPE GROWING

By B. A. HARRIGAN, Agriculture Commissioner

While the great grape growing industry of California is suffering from overproduction, and is being assisted by various forms of federal aid, Imperial Valley during the last few years has set an example in crop reduction worthy of attention. Just a few years ago there were over six thousand acres of table grapes listed in this region. The latest survey shows about 2,400 acres. If the remainder of the state had followed this program of elimination of the poor-



An Asparagus Field on the McPberrin Ranch has Produced Continuously for More than 20 Years

est vineyards federal aid would not be necessary. There are several reasons for this reduction in acreage in Imperial Valley but the largest reduction has been in taking out the less profitable varieties.

Thompson Seedless and Red Malaga, when properly handled, have produced profits. White Malaga, Black Monuka and Persians have failed to make as high returns on the market, and many large areas have been taken out or worked over with Thompson Seedless or Red Malaga.

Grapes, like most other crops, yield best on certain soil types. Heavy and light soils in Imperial Valley are not segregated into large districts but are mixed in a checkerboard-like pattern all over the Valley. Vineyards have been planted here and there all over the irrigated district. Some were on very heavy land and some ranged through the lighter types down to desert sand. Unless the growers have the ability to adjust their farm practices of culture and irrigation to suit their own conditions they will never succeed as grape growers.

We are finding that it does not pay to grow much over four tons per acre. If an effort is made to secure quantity much above four tons the lateness and poor quality cut down the price so that the net profit disappears.

Imperial Valley Thompson Seedless grapes, properly grown and correctly harvested, have enough sugar and acid to make them both sweet and piquant, enough flavor to give them a charming bouquet, and enough solidity to carry to the most distant market.

Grape growing is not recommended for strangers unfamiliar with the soils of the Valley, and with the successful production of grapes in other regions. The little group of vineyardists who remain and who in a few cases are increasing their acreage have fought the battle now for a quarter century. In this time, they have learned grape growing and vineyard practices that enable them to do well enough to stand by their guns hoping for better times. Men like these are both pioneers and horticulturists; they are experimenters and research experts combined.

ASPARAGUS

By J. B. NORTON, Plant Breeder

Long before the dawn of modern civilization, asparagus was known as a wonderful health food. In the fertile plains of the Tigris and Euphrates Valleys of southwestern Asia we still find the wild form of this delicious spring vegetable. Nebuchadnezzar undoubtedly used asparagus in his dietary when he lived in the fields and "ate grass like an ox." He

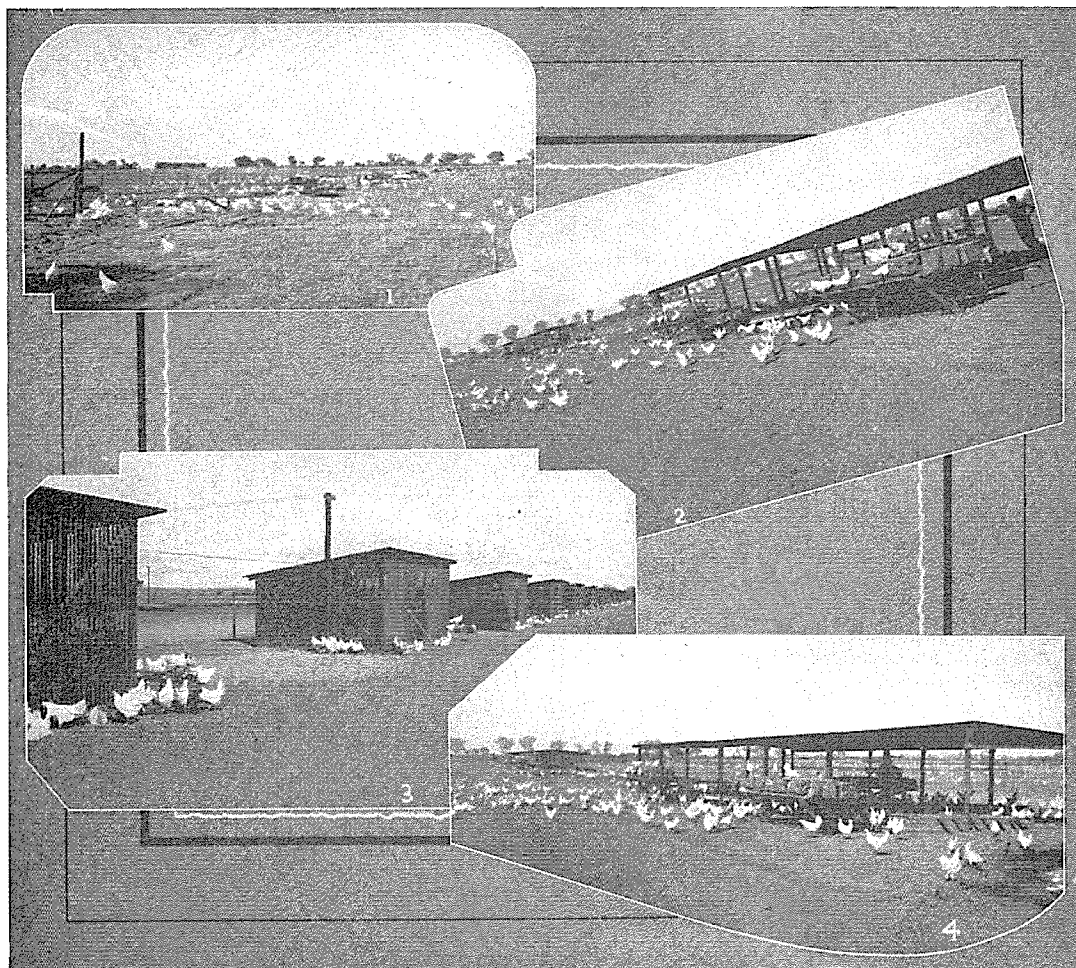
certainly recovered his health and came back on the job of running the world. This is a testimonial the like of which few medicines can boast.

Imperial Valley comes nearest duplicating the wonderful soil and climate of the Asiatic home of asparagus and it is here that the writer expects to see wonderful developments in asparagus culture. The region is as yet completely free from any asparagus pests such as rust, beetles, centipedes, etc. Asparagus was planted 25 years ago among the first permanent crops in the Valley and the acreage has constantly increased until at present we have about 2,500 acres. The original fields, although far past my estimate of profitable production in other regions, still give good returns on the land.

The interesting thing to an asparagus expert is that the new planting of hundreds of acres now going in, is largely being put out by the old growers and their associates. The Valley is finding that it can grow good select seed and in my opinion just as good one year old crowns for new fields as are grown anywhere. In this way we can develop a pest free asparagus region of the first rank. The first large planting of Mary Washington in America was on Tamarack Ranch in the center of Imperial Valley. This variety seems eminently suited to this region because it makes the large sizes demanded by the select trade and on this account is being used exclusively by our best growers. I have found in Imperial Valley packing sheds, shoots that are better in every way than the ones we used to illustrate the articles describing the new variety when it was distributed by the United States Department of Agriculture.

In the good old days, spring vegetables could be had only in the spring. We went through the winter in a run down condition and had to have vitamins to bring us back to health. Now we keep in health and vigor twelve months in the year with food from the winter garden of America. Asparagus is shipped regularly as a fall crop reaching the East just as their gardens fail with approaching winter weather. Our early spring crop begins to move again in February, the mid-winter month back East. With lettuce, spinach and carrots to tide over the short interval, a constant stream of Imperial Valley sunlight goes to the cloudy and smoke laden cities of the East just when they need it most.

Asparagus likes a deep rich sandy loam and prefers a soil rich in chlorine. Naturally a grass feeder it responds readily to heavy applications of nitrogen, both organic and inorganic. Large amounts of manure heretofore shipped



Poultry Raising in Imperial Valley is a Large and Profitable Business

out of the Valley are being diverted to asparagus fields. Excess of ammonia produces the tender growth in the shoots that makes our asparagus good to eat. Ammonia also keeps it good on the road to the consumer because all of our asparagus is chilled by precoolers before being shipped in refrigerators. It should be kept cold until it goes into the double boiler in the kitchen. Ideal asparagus never wilts before it is cooked and what we try to do is get it to the market in ideal condition. To the consumer, Imperial Valley asparagus brings the world's best tonic food at the time most needed—sunshine food in the cloudy winter days.

ASPARAGUS RECORDS

Geo. V. Rude, ranch manager for the R. D. McPherrin ranch near Imperial, kept records of the shipments and receipts from the 40 acres of asparagus on the place for twenty-one years, from 1907 to 1928. In that period the plot produced 99,303 crates of 24 lbs. each. The receipts amounted to \$347,506.50, gross, with freight and commissions paid. Carload shipments started in 1909. The field was worked with the original plantings until recently when encroaching bermuda made it advisable to plow.

POULTRY

By R. E. CREIGHTON, *Assistant County Agent*

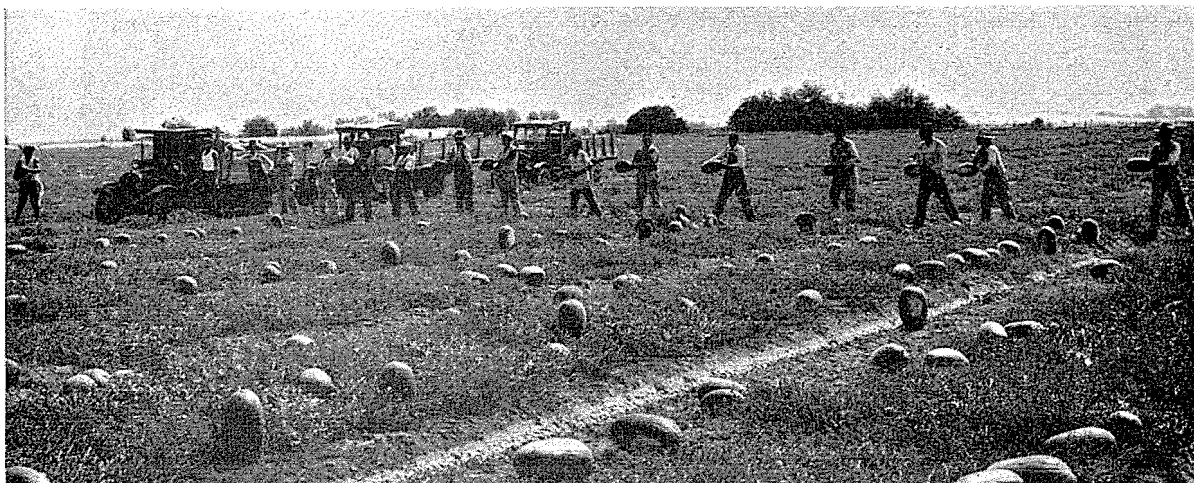
Quite a change has taken place in Imperial County poultry raising methods. Instead of the little back yard flock it is now a large commercial flock of white leghorns running up to 30,000 under one fence and being managed as a single unit. Perhaps the greater proportion of the county's flocks are now largely found in commercial flocks running

into thousands. This condition has made a big improvement in the industry and should do much to establish this Valley as an important factor in brooding and egg production. The record of about six per cent mortality in brooding 73,000 chicks which were started in May and handled in fireless brooders is a record which is seldom approached. This performance may be safely used as a goal at which to aim. If a few skilled operators would attempt the business on this extensive basis there is every reason to believe that excellent results would be secured.

Most of the southwestern valleys are importers of eggs. This condition should not prevail and merely shows the lack of interest taken in this specialized industry. Our natural brooding season commencing in May fits in especially well with market conditions giving to the Valley buyer a splendid chick at the lowest price during the year. The housing requirements are little more than a sun shade and a perch upon which to roost.

One large poultry producer has installed a large refrigeration plant which will enable him to store a large supply of eggs as well as dressed poultry. At the present rate of expansion of the poultry business Imperial Valley should soon be self sufficient in eggs and be looking to several of the nearby valleys as a market for surplus.

The food situation is most ideal in Imperial Valley for the three grains, barley, milo and wheat, are all produced in excess of local needs, hence they may be purchased at wholesale prices. Grains make up 80% of the poultry ration so the need for outside supplements is only a small item in compounding an excellent food. Alfalfa is found



Watermelon Picking. The Pickers Toss the Melons from One to the Other Toward the Trucks

to be one of the best ingredients in poultry feeds.

With land values at about \$200 per acre generous use may be made of it in ranging poultry which will avoid contamination of soils thus keeping the health of the flock at a high line.

Imperial Valley's fame is spread up and down the coast by hotels and restaurants which annually, around Thanksgiving time and during the winter, feature "Imperial Valley turkey" on their menus. Shipments reach some 25,000 birds each year.

PECANS

Although Imperial Valley ranchers have, heretofore, been inclined to plant and harvest "quick crops" the number who are looking ahead to permanent crops is gradually increasing. The growing of pecans is becoming a matter of interest. Early in 1931 T. J. Tubbs, of Holtville, sold his 30-acre grove for \$1200 an acre and that news made a great number of people stop, look and listen to the "pecan talk" that was prevalent at the county fair in February. Pecan growing was discussed in 1902. There is a fine tree 24 years old on the Ferris ranch west of El Centro. It is said they live and produce for a hundred years or more.

The Valley has proved adaptable for pecans.

Six miles east of Calexico, in the Jasper district, are several acreages from three to ten acres each, one year and two years old, owned by H. Hara, A. Kohn, J. F. Fiala.

Howard P. Meyer of El Centro has a grove of 40 acres one mile west and one mile north of Bond's Corner.

There are several small acreages near Meloland.

Around Yuma, in a climate and soil similar to Imperial Valley's there are so many groves that there is a Pecan Growers association.

Loose, sandy soil is best. Medium adobe, with sand underneath, is excellent. The water table should be at least five feet.

The tree has one long tap root. Branch roots are negligible, but in transplanting this tap root must be preserved in its entirety. What it needs is room to grow and the soil in Imperial Valley is practically bottomless.

The other essentials—heat in which the nut matures and water aplenty—are here. No frost ever injures, it is claimed.

The trees are planted 40 to 60 feet apart, 20 to the acre. The cost per acre is stated to run \$40 to \$100, depending upon variety of tree, which in prices range from \$2 to \$6.50 each. Some of the varieties are Burkett, Success, Kinkaid, Millican and Mahan.

In 1931, the wholesale price was fifty-six and one-third cents a pound. The best egg-shell pecans retail at 75c to \$1.50 a pound, it was added.

Trees that yield six pounds in some Eastern states, yield

100 pounds here it is said.

F. W. Criswell of Somerton, Ariz., received \$800 an acre this year for his crop from a 21-acre grove.

The trees come into bearing from five to seven years and often at four, to a small extent.

WATERMELONS

Imperial Valley isn't in Georgia, but it surely does raise watermelons.

Brawley watermelon shipments in 1930 filled 148 railway cars, besides very considerable quantities which went out by truck.

Calipatria sent out 123 cars of watermelons, and 36 cars went out from Fonda.

But Westmorland led the north end in watermelon shipments, with 555 cars out by rail, in addition to the truck shipments.

From which it will be seen that the north end contributes very materially to the total Imperial Valley watermelon totals.

The nearly frostless area about Westmorland is largely responsible for the showing made by that region in production of watermelons, which not only greatly enhance Valley prosperity from the farming standpoint, but are a potent factor in the employment field. Growing of these melons has developed a trade which is among the skilled occupations of the land. Good watermelon "pitchers" are scarce, and those who are adepts at the trade are in strong demand when the season crop is to be moved.

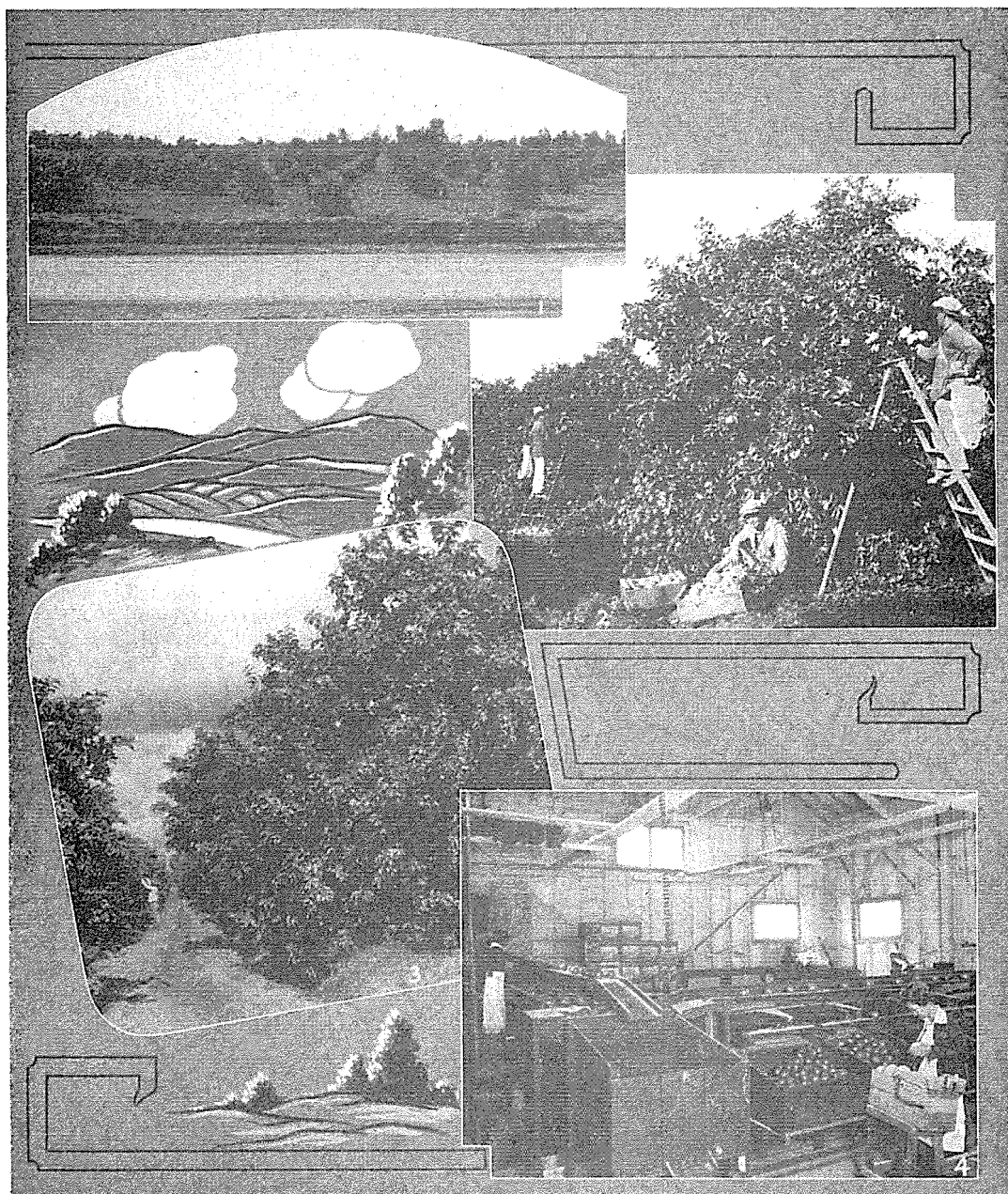
The time honored method of "tunking" to ascertain a melon's degree of ripeness is practicable when one goes out to the patch for a treat, but it is not applicable to commercial harvesting on a large scale.

Therefore, the man who can glance at a melon and, so to speak, see into its very heart and tell if it is green or red and juicy, is a much desired expert.

No story of north end watermelon growing would be complete without reference to Henry Jackson, Brawley resident, whose various interests include development of extensive watermelon acreages, especially in the Westmorland area. He has been responsible for bringing considerable desert acreage into production, in connection with the melon industry.

Naturally, watermelons are not planated at first on new land, which must be "tamed" with alfalfa or other crop before being put into melons, and by the time a tract is ready for this luscious product, another piece of land in prime condition has been added to the areas wrested from the desert by irrigation and labor.

The Valley ships annually between 4000 and 5000 cars of watermelons.



Grapefruit Growing is a Decided Success

CITRUS FRUITS

By B. A. HARRIGAN

To the orcharist who is interested in citriculture on a profitable commercial basis where the problems of developing his produce are reduced to a minimum, the Imperial Valley in Southern California offers exceptional opportunity.

Citrus crops grown here are named in the order of their importance; Grapefruit, tangerines, mandarins, Valencia and Navel oranges, lemons and limes.

The present acreage devoted to grapefruit is a little over 8,500 acres, with approximately 1,200 acres bearing commercially. The markets of the nation are fast becoming acquainted with Imperial Valley grapefruit as distinguished from the so-called California fruit, and as a consequence there is a genuine demand for the superior quality of the Imperial Valley product that is reflected in price premiums.

The period of maturity is but half as long as that in coastal sections of the State. The larger size, the freedom

from insect scars, the excessive quantity of sugar and less acid give Imperial Valley grapefruit a remarkable flavor which makes it the favorite of the consumer and assures the citrus grower of this area a profitable future. A steady, conservative increase in the acreages devoted to grapefruit in the Valley is desirable and will be attended with substantial profits to the careful and scientific grower.

Imperial Valley soil is for the most part remarkably well adapted to citrus fruits. There are, to be sure, lands in the Valley that are not suited to profitable citrus culture. In general, land that is deep, soft, and free from a water table or alkali, is required for producing the most profitable and hence the finest orchards.

The cost of the water supply to the individual is in the form of an assessment against his land amounting to \$5 per \$100 valuation. The highest valuation placed against any land in the Valley by the District is \$150 per acre. The District is obliged to furnish water as needed to land thus

assessed, without additional charge except for a gate service fee of 25 cents a day during the period of irrigation. Irrigation costs could not exceed \$7.50 per acre, which is very nominal compared to other citrus districts which have an irrigation cost of from \$30 to \$60 per acre.

Climatic conditions in Imperial Valley constitute its greatest asset so far as the citrus grower is concerned. Grapefruit trees blossom in February and March, about the same time as in other grapefruit growing districts. The fruits is ready for marketing the following November, December and January. In the other sections of Southern California the fruit is not matured until April or May, more than a year after the blossoming time.

One grapefruit grower exhibited at the Mid-Winter fair 92 beautiful grapefruit picked from a single two-year-old tree. The case is rather exceptional, but indicates that Imperial Valley climate is a tremendous factor in production of fine quality fruit in shorter periods of time than are required elsewhere.

Imperial Valley grapefruit, ripened in desert sun, has an actual and very apparent superiority of flavor when it is tested and compared with fruit produced in other sections of the West. This is no idle boast, nor is it an imagined quality. Sugar content is greater and acid content less, and the texture of the flesh of the fruit is materially finer than that of other fruit.

Because of this fact there is a market for Imperial Valley grapefruit which distinguishes it from other grapefruit and is a guarantee of sale prices that bring handsome net profits to growers here. That, combined with the advantage of shorter growing season and hence earlier marketing period each year, makes citriculture genuinely attractive to horticulturists who may be looking for a location.

There is an entire absence of black, red, and purple scale, mealy bugs, white flies, red spiders and other similarly dangerous pests. In other citrus-growing districts the expense per acre of fighting insect pests and diseases in citrus orchards averages from \$20 to \$30 annually.

Another great saving to the grower is that made possible by the absence of smudge pots. Frost occasionally touches the Imperial Valley, but almost never severely enough to warrant installation of smudge pots. The saving in annual orchard expense of this fact averages from \$20 to \$50 per acre, besides the initial cost of smudge pots. Young trees are protected from possible frost injury by wrapping mile maize stalks around them.

Imperial Valley offers the prospective orchardist in citriculture a saving over other citrus districts in irrigation, plant disease and pest control and maintenance of smudge pots, \$140 per acre a year.

Costs per acre of preparing land and setting out grapefruit trees in Imperial County. (These are actual figures obtained from a 22½-acre planting made in 1928. Nearly all this work was contracted.)

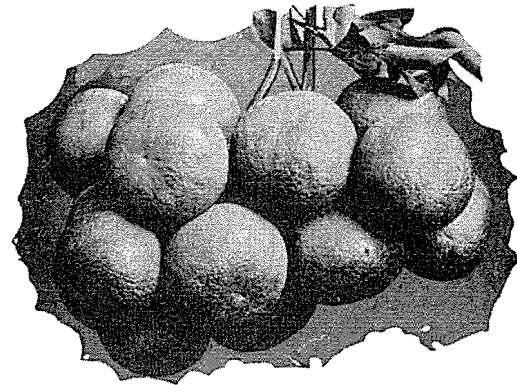
Fresno (leveling)	\$ 3.60
Plowed, twice	7.20
Disced, twice	3.00
Floated, twice	2.00
73 trees at \$1.00	73.00
Setting trees at 15 cents each	10.95
Preparing to irrigate .....	.90
Irrigating, first time	1.03
	<hr/>
	\$101.68

The cost per year for the maintenance of a grapefruit grove should not exceed \$96 per acre until the time it is five years old.

VALENCIA ORANGES

By A. F. HINKLE

We have a new product here which promises to become an important one. It is Valencia oranges. Imperial Valley can produce Valencia oranges of high quality and enjoy an extra six-week marketing season at a time when no other area has any Valencias. We have been increasing our grape-



Grapefruit on one Stem

fruit plantings each year, and likewise our production. Now our people have become interested in other citrus fruits—tangerines and Valencia oranges. So far the citrus groves of Imperial Valley have been immune from insect enemies, so we have no fumigating or spraying to worry about. Then, to further help us along, we have found that sesbania, or wild hemp, planted among the trees in the summer and plowed under in the fall, makes a wonderful fertilizer. Sesbania is a leguminous plant, like peas or beans or alfalfa, and these legumes have the property of extracting the nitrogen from the air and putting it into the soil. This method of fertilizing is a great labor saver and it is cheap. It can only be done in Imperial Valley, where water is abundant. In other citrus areas they dare not divert their precious water from the storage reservoirs for a manure crop, because it must be conserved for the trees themselves. This is just another lucky break for Imperial Valley.

GREEN PEAS

Green peas are popular with the housewife the world over. Producing this delectable vegetable in carload quantities at the time when best prices can be obtained is becoming the habit of a number of farmers in the north end of the Valley. From 700 to 1000 cars are shipped out annually and the value of the product exceeds \$1,500,000 every year—no small item on the list.

The planting of the seed starts around September 15, after the soil has been carefully prepared, fertilized and irrigated, and in the short space of six weeks the crop is ready for shipment and consumption. A ready market is easily found from the farthest eastern points to the extreme west.

When the packing and shipping time arrives, the fields are alive with men and women, busy packing and crating. It takes upward of four hundred cars to haul this valuable crop to its market.

Another curious sight to be seen in raising of this crop in Imperial Valley is the dusting by airplane. This method being the modern way of keeping the ravages of the pea weevil from the crop. While dusting, the aviator is only about two feet above the plants, and often his gears will be encumbered by the vines. The Coleopterous insect can instinctively lay an egg from the outside of the pea pod, the larva then cuts into the pea, hollowing it out, then it cuts a circular trap door to escape by in due season, but unfortunately there is another insect which can pierce the trap door and lay its egg in the larva's body, however this is not done very often, and by the method of dusting by the airplane the destruction to the pea crop is greatly lessened, and the grade of peas shipped from Imperial Valley is in every way one of the finest in the land.

COTTON

The ease with which Imperial Valley can grow cotton has been thoroughly demonstrated. Prior to 1913 a few thousand acres, more or less of an experimental nature,

showed the Valley to be a first class cotton raising area. From 1913 to 1920 the acreage kept increasing until that year 126,081 acres were raised. Since that year, which found cotton at a low price, the acreage has gradually diminished until this year (1931) there is practically no cotton being raised north of the line. The acreage south of the line has also dropped because of market conditions. Should the cotton market get back to a paying basis Imperial Valley will no doubt again take an interest in that crop.

BEEF CATTLE FEEDING

By H. A. CONGER

Very few inhabitants of Imperial Valley today are able to visualize any living existence or production of economic wealth here previous to the advent of irrigation.

It is a fact however that the feeding of beef cattle was carried on here for many years before the first trickle of water was sent down from the Colorado, under control of canals. It is the Valley's oldest industry and contains more interest, more historical narrative from its early sponsors than any pursuit followed here subsequently.

According to an old cattle man who fed cattle in the New River region in 1895, the Valley was not so formidable then as has often been pictured. The overflow from the Colorado down New River channel, which river was merely a large wash crossed anywhere, watered many thousands of acres of undergrowth and grass upon which cattle thrived. This grazing area extended into Mexico to the Colorado itself. The cattle were driven into the Valley from the Campo and Cuyamaca country via Warner Springs, Carriso Creek Canyon, Coyote Wells and thence to the shores of Blue Lake or Cameron Lake where the cow hands camped out under the stars, worried not at all about horse or herd, knowing they would not range far from feed and water. Little did they dream that in a few short years all that formidable region would be green fields, trees and hustling towns. What cared they as long as water was in the "Pot Holes," and there was feed for cow and man.

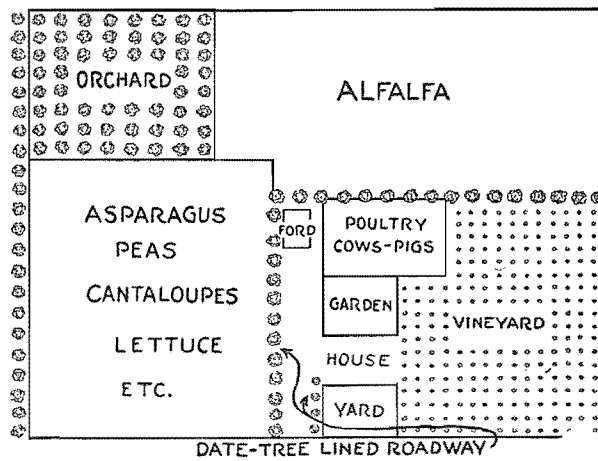
This carefree existence came to an end in 1902 when R. H. Benton and Leroy Holt began feeding cattle driven in from Campo and shipped via Flowing Wells or Imperial Junction. These were fattened from irrigated lands and shipped out again to coast markets. These men were followed later by Messrs. Harry Jones, Kalin, Damron, McCain, Campbell, Ira Aten and many others who now feed over 60,000 head per year, becoming one of our greatest industries. While ever increasing demands of coast markets take many carloads of beef from here, yet the local market also absorbs many thousands of dollars' worth of products, all killed and packed in the Valley.

Probably the first wholesale killing and packing was done by George Long at the C.-M. ranch on the border. Mr. Long later came to Imperial where he built a plant and formed the Pacific Land and Cattle Co., which company today sells over one million dollars' worth of its products per year in its many markets in this territory, all of which is killed and packed at the Imperial plant.

The future of cattle feeding here seems to be assured owing to the certain supply of feed of all kinds and the equable climate and steady and safe water. The industry is mostly in the hands of old Valley pioneers who originally came from the big cattle ranches of the back country and know their business thoroughly. Cattle feeding here affords a diversification from vegetables and is a boon to the rancher and the whole economic structure of the Valley.

OTHER PRODUCTS

We have reviewed some of the more important crops and products but the fact remains that a complete discussion of all the crops that are or could be grown in Imperial Valley would be a catalog of the entire list. Attention is called to the following table which shows the amount of product and the cash value of one year's crops—1929. Note that the total value is over \$62,000,000—more than \$1000 for every inhabitant of the Valley—and a carload, also, for each man, woman and child.



A Popular Small Farm Plan

CROP AND LIVE STOCK VALUES

Alfalfa	9,618	cars	\$2,852,018
Barley	604	"	525,480
Milo Maize	253	"	227,700
Wheat	260	"	265,200
Cotton	205	"	958,375
Cotton By-products	135	"	144,373
Lettuce	12,608	"	12,116,288
Greens	804	"	672,144
Squash and Cucumbers	221	"	375,700
Tomatoes	216	"	333,072
Carrots	676	"	565,136
Cabbage	57	"	38,532
Peas	776	"	1,545,792
Asparagus	148	"	454,212
Mixed Vegetables	327	"	177,888
Cantaloupes	14,378	"	16,376,542
Honey Dews	2,572	"	2,471,692
Honey Balls	1,734	"	2,091,204
Casabas	34	"	17,680
Miscellaneous Melons..	1,306	"	1,509,736
Watermelons	4,650	"	2,022,750
Grapes	374	"	816,068
Grapefruit	329	"	475,968
Dates	5	"	35,000
Olives	2	"	6,480
Strawberries	9	"	26,172
Pecans	3,400	pounds	3,400
Ice	456,034	tons	2,583,042
Tallow	12	cars	26,400
Hides	12	"	21,600
Wool	3	"	40,500
Manure	1,994	"	149,550
Cattle	40,316	head	4,233,180
Mules	2,776	"	222,080
Horses	5,250	"	393,750
Sheep	74,084	"	666,765
Hogs	32,783	"	196,698
Dairy Cattle	23,902	"	2,748,730
Butter Fat	5,639,942	pounds	2,791,771
Sweet Cream	232,668	"	119,824
Powdered and			
Dry Milk	3,304,151	"	300,259
Cheese	638,023	"	117,962
Condensed Milk	588,735	"	23,549
Poultry	15,266	dozen	137,394
Turkeys	25,500	head	91,800
Bees	15,000	stands	90,000
Honey	840,000	pounds	63,000

\$62,104,447



Green Peas by the Acre are a Specialty Around Calipatria

JEROME L. FORRESTER'S EXPERIMENTS

Jerome L. Forrester, eldest son of Edward E. Forrester, came into the Valley with his father and uncle, Lucien L. Forrester, from the Santa Maria Valley, arriving October 11, 1901, with thirty head of horses and several big wagons, filled with farm equipment. They crossed New river at Storm's Crossing and proceeded to Calexico, where they went to work for the California Development company. The first job they had was to drive to Flowing Wells, get the first large ditch excavator. They pulled it back with horses. It took twenty-six horses to operate the machine; twenty-two horses were hitched ahead and four behind the machine. With this outfit they started at the Ten-Foot drop and built three miles of the main canal. While A. M. Chaffey was on the machine inspecting the work one day, the twenty-six horses ran away with the machine; many of the horses got down and there was an awful tangle before they were unraveled. They continued work on the canals for several months, and then Jerome went to the home place, the present Forrester ranch, west of El Centro, and early in 1902 put in barley. They hauled sorghum from Calexico to feed their stock and bought the first wagon load of barley ever cut in Imperial Valley from Tom Beach. They also put in sorghum, millet, Egyptian corn and milo maize. When the Egyptian corn got ripe they hired Cocopah Indians to cut it. The milo grew so tall that it was impractical to harvest.

Jerome Forrester for thirty years has kept records of his experiments with various crops and daily records of the weather. He would put down in books the kind of seed, the date of planting, date of irrigation, date of its first appearance above the ground, the dates of cultivation, the date of harvest, quality and product, the amount, etc. He has several books filled with these notes and consequently is in a position to know exactly what the soil of Imperial Valley will grow and how best to grow it. The failures were recorded along with the successes. Here are a few examples of his experiments:

Dwarf Milo. Number 18684, from United States Department of Agriculture, planted June 19, 1909, irrigated June 21, irrigated July 20, irrigated September 6, bloomed September 10, matured October 15, average five feet tall, good producer and good quality. Common milo planted and treated in the same way, grew seven and a half feet tall, with lighter crop.

Alfalfa. Experiments made for the Department of Agriculture. Twelve varieties planted. Six strains of Peruvian tried out. Best results came from Hairy Peruvian for hay and stock and Arabian for rabbits and chickens. The alfalfa

plantings of today are based on these experiments.

Egyptian Cotton. Ground well wetted previous to seeding, first planting in March a failure because of rain, which baked the ground; planted May 20, irrigated twice after up before July 15, cultivated sparingly, irrigated August 20 and 26 and September 10; good crop.

Alfalfa. The Forresters planted alfalfa early in 1903 and several hundred acres produced as much as 1½ tons to the acre per cutting and cutting eight times a year. They irrigate before cutting and cut close to the ground, raking clean and renovating while the ground is still moist. The renovation keeps down weeds and produces more alfalfa. They pastured two cows to the acre, using Hardy's Upland, Hairy Peruvian and common with success. Arabian alfalfa is soft texture and best for chickens and rabbits and makes good greens like spinach for the table.

Sugar Cane. Planted April 20, Louisiana cane grew eight feet high making a dense thicket. It continued to reproduce for several years.

Summer Squash. Planted April 4, up April 13, bloomed May 20, squashes three inches in diameter from May 26 until August 10. Summer squash are proof against squash bugs, and as long as melons are kept picked off they keep on producing until midsummer; among the many varieties tested out summer squash ranks first; it is a heavier bearer.

Japanese Pie Pumpkin. Planted June 18, up June 24, bloomed July 24, matured September 25, a shy bearer and quality only fair.

Mammoth Golden Pumpkin. Planted June 19, up June 26, bloomed July 24, full size September 1, heavy bearer, quality fair for cooking purposes, as it is a stock pumpkin.

Cucumbers. Planted April 13, up April 20, bloomed May 28, four inches in length and ready for table use June 17.

Tomatoes. Forrester has record of ten different varieties of tomatoes—the Livingston dwarf champion, seeded in cold frame December 12, up January 15, transplanted March 20, commenced ripening June 20, ceased July 25, good producer, although not quite as good as Dwarf stone.

Livingston Nero Dwarf Stone, same record as above, very promising.

Mammoth Purple Fruited Ground Cherry planted February 27, matured June 15, some two inches in diameter.

Golden Nugget, planted April 3, matured July 4, continued until late in December, one of the best for this climate for table use. Bear all summer.

Yellow pear tomato, bears extra well winter and summer. Best at present known to Forrester. Bears all summer.

Bush Butter Lima Beans. Planted April 13, up April 28,

bloomed June 1, matured July 3, produced sparingly, produced again first part of September and bore well until December 20.

Burpee's Twentieth Century Bush Limas. Planted February 19, up March 20, matured June 8, prolific bearer, although easily blasted by hot weather.

Sewee Pole Limas. Planted April 7, up April 20, ready to harvest July 15. Prolific bearer, some vines having 150 pods; bore until December 20.

Forrester prefers this variety of beans to any other for the Valley. His experiments included large white beans, Davis pink and white beans, pink beans, Kentucky wonder, small pink, large white, new Wisconsin tree beans and bush beans, all of which are declared good yielders, with some better than others. Tepiary beans best of dry beans.

Soja or Soy Beans. T. Hale's Early. Planted June 17, up June 25, harvested November 15. Grew nearly four feet high. Prolific bearer. Good cover crop or for food.

Corn, Early Minnesota Sugar. Planted August 26, up September 1, harvested November 1, yield fair, quality excellent. Pima Sugar Corn best when planted at intervals will bear all summer.

Mongrel White Rice Popcorn. Planted February 19, up March 15, matured June 24, only fair yield. Mapledale Prolific Popcorn better yielder.

Cowpeas. Hybred Cream Cowpeas. Planted July 20, up July 26, matured November 15, fine quality and a good yielder. The best for table use of the dozen or more experiments.

Watermelons. Chilian variety. Planted April 5, matured July 5, quality and yield good. Various experiments with various dates of planting show that planting can be done in early March.

Cantaloupes. Planted in open field early February will mature late in May or early June. Special protection from frost will bring on earlier maturity.

Carrots. Long variety plant in September or March, will mature in February and July. Quality good and yield fair.

Beets. Table turnip variety. Planted September 6, matured November 13, continue to bear until August; can be planted any time except in the hottest weather.

Egg Plant. Black Beauty. Planted March 1, harvested from August 10 to December 30; same bushes commence blooming again January 27 with harvest March 27. Are not generally harmed by frost.

Dwarf Okra. Planted March 23, harvested June 12, cultivate frequently, good yield.

Irish Potatoes. Early Rare Variety. Planted April 3, mature June 1. Best quality, small size.

Radishes. Icicle and turnip shape. Plant any time. Japanese Variety, plant in fall or winter.

Turnips. Plant seed any time except hottest weather; all varieties thrive well. Extra early varieties best planted late in fall.

Boulder Tomatoes. Seed planted in bed July 31, up August 8, transplanted August 30, began ripening January 27, matured May 15, after being nipped by frost; yield good and quality excellent.

Dewberries. Vines planted February 15, fruit April of next year. Main crop gone May 20.

Blackberries. Vines planted February 15, crop gathered April 29 to June 12 two years later.

Fruit Trees. While the above experiments in ground crop were made by Jerome Forrester himself, the experiments in growing fruits were made by his father and other members of the family, while Jerome kept the records. Their experiments showed that Apricots would bear fruit in two years, maturing in May, in good quality and very productive. The trees frequently die because of root trouble.

Washington Navel Orange Trees bore fruit in two years, of quite superior quality, subject to frost.

Black Mission Figs bore fruit in two years and continued in good shape. White Celeste Figs bear continuously from July to December. Kadota Figs bear well throughout the summer.

Experiments with Lemons were quite successful.

Quinces develop well and easily raised here.

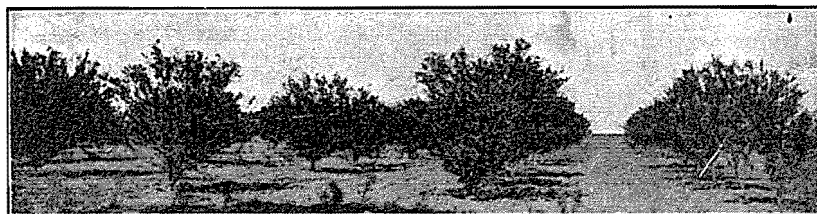
Garvanzos do as well here as in the Yaqui River, Sonora country when planted in November. When planted in spring they do not bloom.

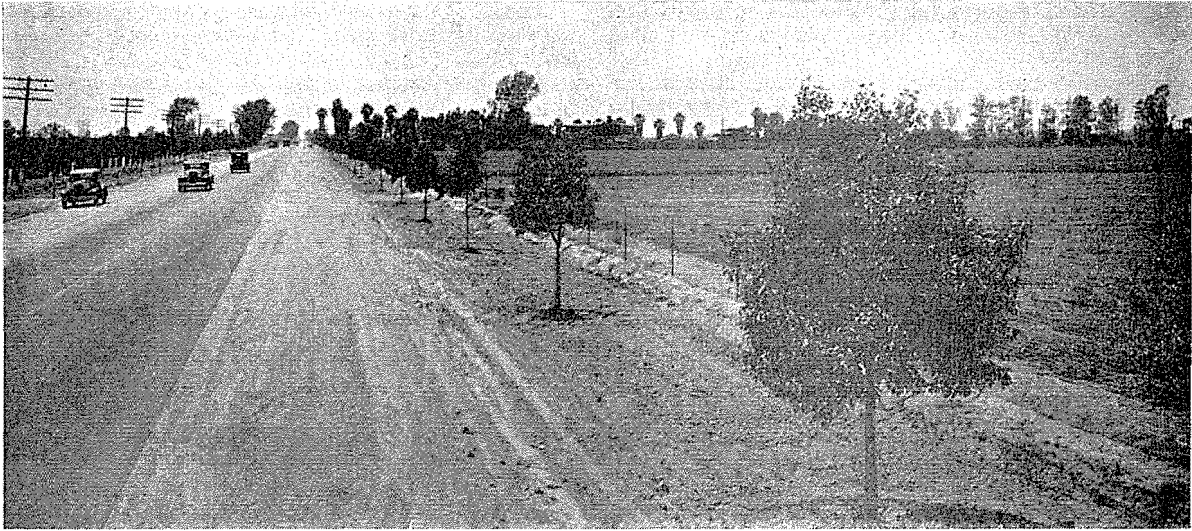
Grapes. Thirteen varieties of Grapes were planted in experimental plots. Among the Persians the Kahalle and Persian No. 21 ripen early, first part of June. Thompson Seedless ripen early and are good quality. Muscats very good. Malagas are best table grape to grow. The Morrocco good as a late grape.

The Forresters were among the earliest to find out how different varieties of trees grow. They planted cottonwoods, willows, mulberries, Arizona ash, pomegranate, almonds, peaches, plums, apricots, oranges, lemons, grapefruit, prunes, Tamarack shade trees, eucalyptus and even mesquite. They have been freely consulted and have freely given their best advice to other growers during the last thirty years, and deserve great credit for their enthusiastic and unselfish cooperation in every agricultural endeavor.

In addition to the crops of the ground the Forresters have raised horses, cattle, hogs, sheep, goats, turkeys, chickens, and almost everything that walks on either two or four legs.

The reader is referred to the pioneer section of this history for further reference to the Forrester family.





The Timken Ranches are Models. The Company Plants Shade Trees Along the Highways. This is La Granja, Headquarters Ranch two Miles West of El Centro. It was First the Wilsie Ranch.

TIMKEN RANCH ACTIVITIES

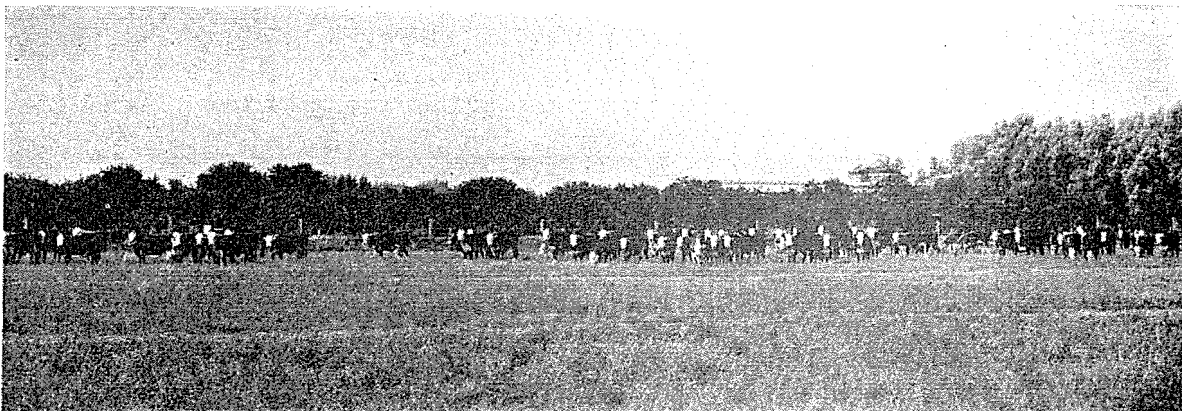
H. H. TIMKEN, the roller bearing manufacturer of Canton, Ohio, bought his first Imperial Valley ranches in 1913, close to a thousand acres. Within a few years his holdings totaled around 3000 acres and although he has owned as much as 4000 acres of Imperial Valley land his present holdings come to about 3000 acres.

During the first years of Timken ownership of the ranch properties the land was uniformly leveled, with future subdivision in mind, and most of the acreage put into alfalfa, with perhaps a thousand acres each year devoted to cotton and milo maize. The alfalfa was mostly fed to Timken cattle and sheep. During this time Timken brought in 125 people, by special train, from the drought area of Texas, to pick cotton.

Just before the World War, Timken ranches built the best housing accommodations for ranch employees in the State of California, according to the State Housing Commission. The main plant sleeping quarters, divided off into single apartments, with shower and tub baths, laundry room, kitchen and dining room to accommodate 100 men and reading and lounging room. A ranch store with a big stock of goods was also operated for benefit of employees. Others were having trouble to secure and keep enough help on Imperial Valley ranches but more help sought these accommodations than could be used, and the labor turn-over was very low.

At the time of the war Timken Ranches, in conjunction with the government, made extensive experiments with a decorticating machine to extract fibre from both hemp and ramie, both of which crops were most successfully grown on the ranch south of Brawley. Fibre was also extracted from cotton stalks. Many old timers will recall the 100-acre field of hemp growing about 14 feet high and a perfect stand along the Imperial-Brawley highway. Hearst, Pathe and Mutual film, the feature movies of that day, took pictures and local Timken people heard of those pictures from all over the United States and even from Canada. At this time flax was grown as a nurse crop for alfalfa, on a small acreage. Government experts pronounced the flaxseed of splendid quality. The yield was very satisfactory. The greatest difficulty at that time was to get a threshing outfit to handle the flax. Alfalfa has at all times been the main stay of Timken agricultural development here, some 2000 acres generally being in alfalfa with the balance, since the war, rented to vegetable growing concerns. Miller-Cummings Co. 820 acres, Will S. Fawcett Co. 400 acres, Albert Gargulio 200 acres and Zaferis Bros. Co. 220 acres, the first three companies now growing vegetables on Timken Ranches acres.

After the war, lease arrangements were made with Fred Gunterman, whereby first the Vailima ranch of 520 acres and subsequently the Aravaipa ranch of 147 acres, the Cocopah ranch of 320 acres and 240 acres of the Ufford



Prospective Baby Beef on the Timken Vailima Ranch. Note the Grapefruit Grove in the Background

ranch, adjoining Heber on the west, on both sides of the paved county highway, were developed as stock ranches. The Vailima stock ranch is one of the show places of the Valley.

The largest Timken ranch is comprised of 1280 acres, two adjoining sections, a mile south of Brawley. This ranch has the advantage of more than a mile and one-half of state highway through or alongside it. It also has a spur track from the Southern Pacific railway, where as many as 30 cars of vegetables have been loaded in one day. Six hundred forty acres of this ranch were once put into cantaloupes, after a period of alfalfa. The yield was 275 crates of cantaloupes per acre.

The Timken La Granja ranch, of 316 acres, one and one-half miles west of El Centro city limits, has the advantage of the Imperial Valley-San Diego highway alongside, for a distance of one mile, and also has a loading sidetrack of the S. D. & A. railway near the middle of the ranch.

Mr. C. O. Bullis, who represented Mr. Timken in acquiring these various properties, and who also acted as Mr. Timken's loan agent in placing loans to the extent of several hundred thousand dollars on Imperial Valley ranches and who has had charge of these Timken ranches since they were acquired by Mr. Timken, lives at La Granja and makes it the headquarters ranch.

Imperial Valley people will watch with a great deal of interest the two rows of bottle trees furnished and planted by Timken Ranches in May, 1929, and cared for, a period of one year, by Timken Ranches and then turned over to California State Highway commission. The trees are making splendid growth and in time should furnish most welcome shade along the highway. These trees are unusual in that on a full grown tree are found many different kinds of leaves, as the botanical name *sterculia diversifolia* indicates. At the time these trees were planted the California State Highway commission limited Timken Ranches selec-

tion to two varieties, bottle or pepper trees. Timken Ranches had had most unsatisfactory results with pepper trees on account of winds, and on the other hand satisfactory results with bottle trees. Along the center line of this ranch, parallel with the S. D. & A. railway, a mile of Chinese elms are now flourishing. These trees are rough, wiry and quick growing.

Grapefruit were planted on Timken properties fifteen or more years ago, when Marsh Seedling Nursery stock trees were purchased for thirty-five cents per tree or less. The best returns for one year have been around \$600 per acre.

One interesting thing connected with Timken Ranches activities has had to do with pipe lines, of which there are now some 14 miles on Timken Ranches, most of the 18 inch with one mile of 20-inch pipe.

A few years after the first ranches were acquired a 16-inch pipe line was laid on the Timken Buena Vista ranch, adjoining Holtville on the south. But because of the excessive fall of this ranch, greater than ordinary land of this valley, and because of the fact that old No. 2 furnished clear water most all of the time it was not felt that the success of this line indicated much for Imperial Valley lands generally. Most farmers of those days were afraid that the pipe lines would soon become clogged with silt. Finally a small line was installed on a vineyard near the Meloland store. The owner of that land had pipe lines near Etiwanda and he thought they would succeed here. When Timken Ranches decided to install one mile of 16-inch pipe, this sort of encouragement was met.

From the Chief Engineer of the Imperial Irrigation District at that time, "The Lord help you. I reserve the right to say 'I told you so.'" From a pioneer neighbor who had extensive holdings near the ranch south of Brawley where the first mile was laid! "It can't be done. The line will be plugged with silt in no time." The objectors eventually miscalculated the force of pressure of a head of water.

ATEN'S MODEL CATTLE RANCH

FEEDING cattle for the market from the broad acres of alfalfa and barley fields in Imperial Valley has been one of the stand-by industries since the earliest days of reclamation. Even before irrigation of the desert became a fact, vast herds were run over the floor of the Valley by the cattlemen of San Diego County and Arizona, who made use of the grasses that grew luxuriantly on land that was overflowed by the Colorado River. As soon as water was available for the fields, milo maize, sorghum and barley immediately provided food for live-stock; then alfalfa made its appearance. This forage crop at once became the foundation for animal husbandry on a large scale.

The practice of bringing in cattle feeders from Arizona, New Mexico and Texas, turning them into the luxuriant alfalfa fields and finishing them off, fat and tender, for the market, became an industry in itself. Today this same practice is the foundation for a good many fortunes made in the Valley.

Mr. and Mrs. Ira Aten and their family came here from Texas, in 1904, from the heart of a great cattle district, where Mr. Aten had charge of a great ranch. It was the great Capitol Syndicate Ranch in the Panhandle of Texas. In 1882 the State of Texas gave to Senator C. B. Farwell, of Chicago, and J. V. Farwell, Sr., head of the large dry goods house in Chicago by that name, 3,000,000 acres of land to build a State Capitol at Austin, Texas. This land was developed into a great cattle ranch of some 200,000 head of cattle. The Aten children were born and raised on this ranch.

Mr. Aten foresaw the stock feeding possibilities of the Valley. He knew good land when he saw it and acquired 320 acres between El Centro and Imperial by purchase; not finding any suitable government land nearby, he traveled

across country northward and selected 640 acres for filing, for himself and wife, two miles west of where Calipatria is now located adding to this by purchase at various times. It is now owned by Mr. Aten and members of his family.

Mr. Aten at once set about intensive improvement of his ranch properties, for the purpose of feeding feeder cattle and selling them on the market during March, April and May, in first class condition. The difference between caring for vast herds of cattle on the ranges and caring for the same number of feeder cattle on an irrigated ranch is quite considerable. Where half a dozen men could care for 5000 head of cattle on the range, it takes from twelve to fifteen hands on an enclosed ranch in pastures from 40 to 160 acres. It must be understood that these cattle must be moved every week or ten days to new fields so the alfalfa can again be watered and growing. It takes four men with horses to properly move a bunch of cattle—one in the lead, two on the sides, one behind.

Mr. Aten directed the development of the property, the leveling of the fields, the building of fences, feeding pens and ranch buildings; the planting of trees, the laying out of the domestic water system and did the hiring and firing of the cowboys until he was elected Director of the Imperial Irrigation District in 1923.

Mr. Aten gave each of his children 80 acres of land, as they became of age. There was Marion, Boyce, Ira D., Imogene and later Eloise being born in Imperial Valley. When Mr. Aten went into the Irrigation District as a Director in 1923, he delegated the management of the big ranch to his son, Ira D., who has since had full control of all operations. The other sons and daughters leased their land to Ira D., and the whole ranch is therefore conducted as a unit. A substantial ranch home was built in the midst of luxuriant trees and shrubbery, and equipped and furnished in modern fashion.

Young Aten apparently believes in the most modern methods, and he has brought the science of handling cattle on an enclosed ranch down to a fine point. The routine of watering, growing, mowing, drying, chopping, stacking and feeding alfalfa is set for each field, almost to the minute.

On the Aten ranch there are thirteen feeding pens strung along the edge of the Alamo River, that runs through the middle of the ranch. Only part of these cattle are fed in pens. In the center of each of these pens there is a long feeding rack where the chopped hay is stacked. In each pen are circular concrete water tubs, twelve feet in diameter, where the water level is controlled by a float, where the cattle drink clear settled water piped from reservoirs. This same kind of a tub is found in each of the grazing fields.

The handling of the hay on the Aten ranch would discourage the ambition of the old-fashioned Kansas hay tosser, who forked his load in the broiling sun and picked the stickers from his neck. Ira D. has fashioned a magnificent substitute that picks up the hay from the ground, carries it up an elevator, places it in the maw of a slashing, whirling, chopping machine where blades of steel cut it into half-inch lengths, blows it by air pressure through a pipe that hangs over a huge wagon box that travels alongside the monster machine. The machine is pulled about the fields by a tractor. It has a capacity of thirty tons per day. That is not all, the wagon load of fine chopped hay is hauled to the racks in the feeding pens, where another machine on a wagon operates a suction pipe something like a cotton blower, which takes the three or four thousand pounds of hay from the wagon bed in just a few minutes, and locates it along the center of the pen racks, where the stock get to it through adjustable openings. These modern conveniences make it possible to carry on all ranch operations with the highest degree of efficiency, which also means lowest cost.

One would think that operating a stock ranch such as this would not require the use of cow ponies to the extent required on the ranges, but you cannot take the cattleman's horse away from him. On the Aten ranch there are fifteen or twenty of the finest, sleekest, handsomest saddle horses in the Valley. A horse wrangler, with a southern drawl, looks out for feet and ankles and possible injuries. He is a sort of hospital steward for the animals. Over the way a blacksmith shop fully equipped with power machines, stands ready to repair anything from a broken sewing machine needle to a main drive shaft. A bit further on one finds a typical bunk house. This bunk house is called the Boar's Nest. Close by is the home of the foremen, a roomy, comfortable place that was the Aten Ranch house before the new home was built. In the cook's house a giant negro named George will greet you with a cool drink on a hot day—water of course—drawn from the electric refrigerator, or he will tempt you with an ice cold melon, a home-grown turkey sandwich or a slice of Ham What-Am, if the necessity arises.

In referring to the other members of the Aten family, Mrs. Aten lives with the girls, Imogene and Eloise at Burlingame, California. Imogene is Secretary-Treasurer for the management of the athletics at Stanford University. Eloise was graduated from Wisconsin University this June, 1931.

Marion H. Aten went overseas with the Canadian forces as a Lieutenant in the Aviation and after the war was transferred in the British Royal Air Corps as Captain. He remained in the British forces for ten years after the war. He spends his time between his mother's home and Imperial Valley.

Miss Lucile Boyce, who is a sister of the late John E. Boyce, supervisor a number of years from Calexico, lives with Mrs. Aten, her sister, at Burlingame.

The reader is referred to other portions of the history for reference to Lieutenant Boyce Aten, who died in the service.

THE S. A. GERRARD COMPANY

THE S. A. GERRARD Company, with headquarters in Cincinnati, Ohio, markets annually the fruits and vegetables grown on more than 35,000 acres of land scattered throughout many states of the Union. It is this great company's business to know where garden products grow best. The fact that after twenty years of experience in Imperial Valley the company has purchased 4500 acres and leases 6000 acres more, a total of 10,500 acres, places an undeniable stamp of approval on the farming possibilities of Imperial Valley.

The Gerrard people entered the Valley in 1911, a few years after the cantaloupe began to be an important factor in the markets of the world. The first year the company shipped 117 cars and hugged itself for its enterprise. Last season the company shipped a few more than 3500 cars of lettuce, peas, cauliflower, cantaloupes and carrots and in addition marketed hay from more than 2700 acres.

For many years it was the habit to close the Brawley office as soon as the cantaloupe season ended but now the company rotates crops so that there is something being shipped every day in the year.

In the opinion of Mr. S. A. Gerrard himself, who visited Imperial Valley in May, 1931, the Valley's Iceberg lettuce has done as much to advertise the region as any other one crop. Imperial Valley is known in every city and town in the United States for its Iceberg lettuce. He thinks carrots are the next to find more and more popular favor.

In the early days Mr. Gerrard drove about the Valley with a horse and buggy and could visit every vegetable growing acre in a few days. All the packing was done in thatched sheds alongside the railroad tracks. Now fast trucks carry the product to modern packing sheds equipped with every known device for fast handling, grading and packing. Precooled produce is placed in precooled refriger-

ator cars which are whisked at express speed all over the country. Of the annual total of some 60,000 cars for the county the Gerrard Company handles about six per cent.

During the years of 1927, 1928, 1929 and 1930 the company increased its investments in the Valley 400 per cent which also speaks as an unqualified endorsement.

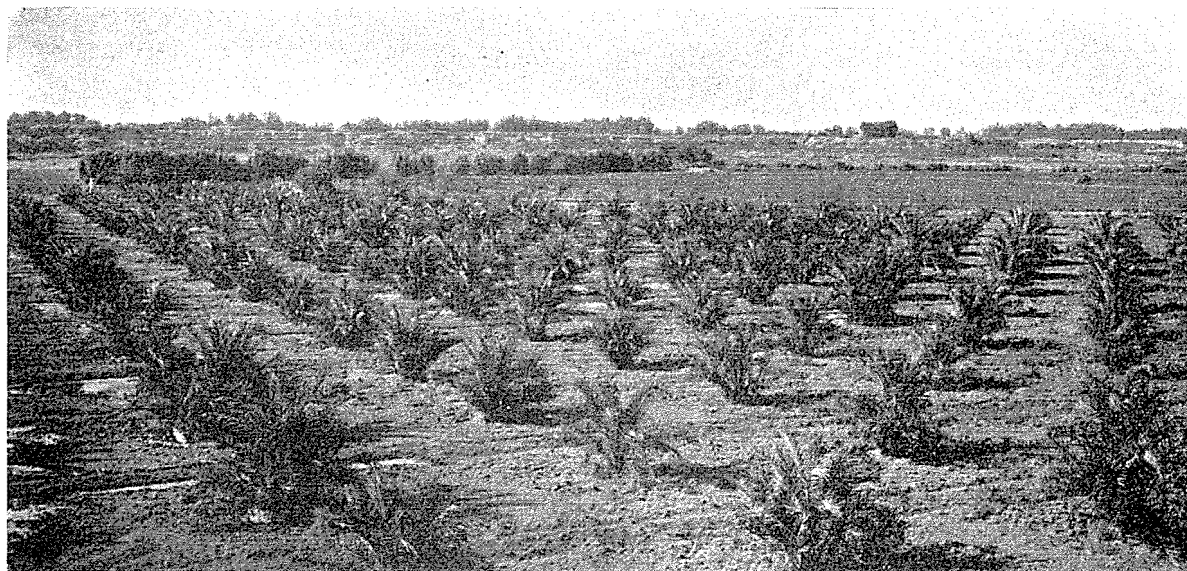
The Gerrard Company has centered its activities around Brawley and Westmorland. In Brawley adequate headquarters offices are maintained. Business details are handled by experienced young men who have practically grown up in the business with the Gerrard company. It is a praiseworthy practice of the concern to encourage its resident managers to take an interest in civic affairs.

The part the Gerrard people have played in stabilizing the vegetable shipping industry of the Valley is important. When a great, national concern which pays its labor promptly, strives to co-operate in the raising and distributing of quality under strict inspection, meets its obligations and takes an interest in local affairs the effect is bound to be good for the Valley.

Mr. Gerrard started some forty years ago as a fruit peddler on the streets of Cincinnati and his rise to the position of dean of the fresh food merchants of the nation is the result of keen business foresight.

THE NOVEL "SILT"

A few copies of the novel "Silt," published in 1928 by Otis B. Tout, are available. The fiction story deals with the struggle of Imperial Valley's builders from the time of the river break until the passage of the Boulder Dam bill by Congress. These copies, slightly damaged, may be had, postpaid, at \$1. O. B. Tout, 4612 Terrace Drive, San Diego, Calif.



Bullis' Date Bowl is full of Saily Dates. The bowl is a Depressed area on the Banks of New River at the West End of the American Legion Road, one mile Southwest of Brawley. It is one of the Show Places of the Valley.

SAIDY DATES

UNDOUBTEDLY one of the most important events in the history of the agriculture of the Imperial Valley occurred in 1924 when C. O. Bullis, manager of the Timken Ranch Company's interests here, signed a contract with the Bureau of Plant Industry of the U. S. Department of Agriculture to secure for Imperial Valley two-fifths of the 5000 Saily date offshoots imported in 1922 by the Department of Agriculture in co-operation with C. E. Cook, of Indio.

This importation was financed by Mr. Cook and under the terms of the contract Mr. Bullis recompenses Mr. Cook for two-fifths of the expense.

Since arriving in this country these offshoots have been in Mr. Cook's quarantine date nursery at Indio where they have been under the constant inspection of the U. S. Department of Agriculture to guard against paralaratoria scale. Mr. Bullis moved these offshoots to Imperial Valley and set them out on his ranch near Brawley. The picture shows their present development. The low ground has been named "Bullis Date Bowl."

Under the terms of the contract these palms must be maintained in quarantine for twenty years and cannot be moved without permission of the Federal quarantine authorities under whose control they remain for all pest control purposes.

Three-fifths of the offshoots from these palms are available to bona fide date growers who must plant, not resell them. Of the remaining two-fifths of the offshoots, one fifth goes to the U. S. Department of Agriculture for experimental purposes. Of the other fifth Bullis is allowed to keep or dispose of as he sees fit.

Saily palms produce twenty to thirty offshoots each and the Valley will be entitled to some 15,000 of these.

According to Dr. Walter P. Swingle, in charge of the date work of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, the Saily is the great export date of the Oasis of the Libyan desert in the west of Egypt. It is also grown on a large scale in the Nile Valley near Cairo where trees yield enormous crops. In this part of the Nile there are heavy dews during more than half the nights of September and October. Nevertheless this variety matures perfectly in



C. O. Bullis

spite of conditions which resemble very much those prevailing in Imperial Valley and which have heretofore prevented the Deglet Noor variety being profitably grown in Imperial Valley.

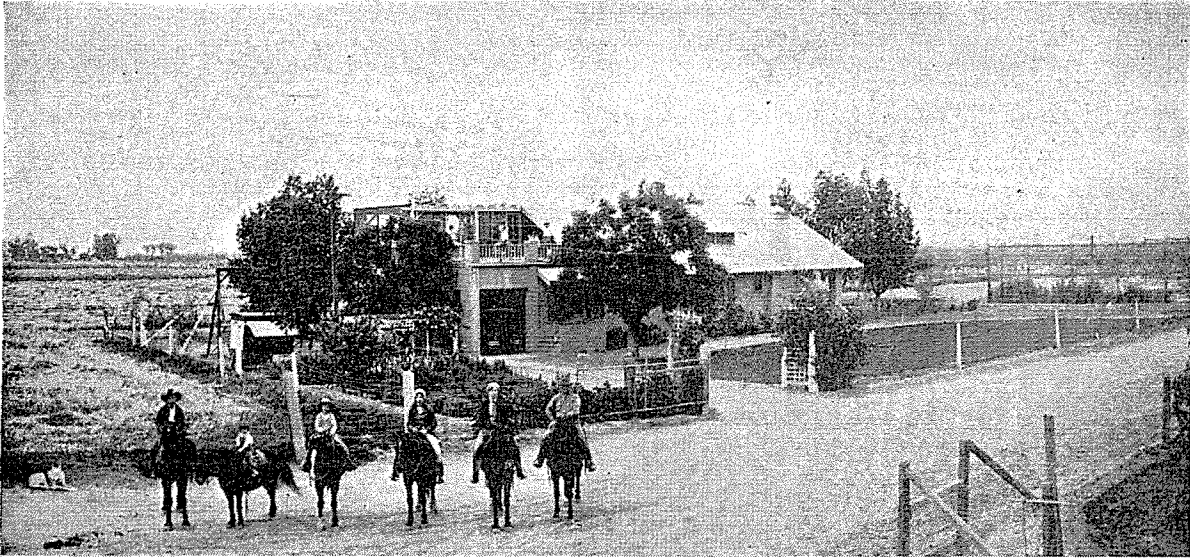
Saily is a very large date, short and thick with strong date flavor which has a great advantage over most of the varieties. It improves with storage instead of deteriorating. When first harvested in October and November these dates are rather syrupy but in the course of the next two or three months the syrup slowly crystalizes into a mass somewhat resembling maple sugar. Saily dates in this condition are of delicious flavor and will keep indefinitely.

The romantic story of the first shipment of Saily dates under the misleading name of "Wahi-1901" and many expeditions sent to Egypt and the Libyan desert and its final identification by Prof. Mason in 1913

as the Saily date and the Servi date of the Nile Valley is all told in Bulletin 1125 of the U. S. Department of Agriculture entitled "The Saily Date of Egypt." This variety has succeeded admirably in Yuma, where it has been fruiting for nine years.

The great significance of Mr. Bullis' action is that large numbers of offshoots of this variety of dates which is considered by experts to be the finest, are soon to be made available to Imperial Valley farmers at a cost far less than other varieties. These offshoots, of course, are grown in local soil and under local conditions, greatly minimizing the dangers of loss in planting here. For years many farmers here have been anxious to get into this profitable industry but have been unable to do so because of the very limited number of offshoots and the prohibitive price at which they have been sold. This large importation of Saily dates will doubtless prove the foundation of date culture that will be one of the leading industries of the Valley.

Mr. Bullis, in addition to looking after his personal interests, is general manager for the Timken Ranch Company in Imperial Valley and supervises the activities on more than 3000 acres for H. H. Timken. He has been in the Valley since 1913 when he came as agent for Mr. Timken.



The Headquarters of the Gunterman Farm Enterprises, Calexico, Mr. and Mrs. Gunterman and Their Family

FRED GUNTERMAN, STOCKMAN

FRED GUNTERMAN at the age of 18 came to the Valley direct from the Rhine Province of Germany in January, 1905. He expected to stay about two years in order to broaden his education. He went to Calexico to visit his uncle, Fritz Kloke, banker and successful farmer. He took a commercial course in the high school at Compton, returning to Calexico in July, 1906. For the next two years Fred's education was in practical farming and he absorbed with eagerness all he could learn on his uncle's ranch. Before entering the stock business on his own account, Mr. Gunterman obtained valuable business experience while connected with the First State Bank at Calexico, where his brother was cashier and his uncle, Flitz Kloke, was president. This was from 1908 to 1910. Not having had any previous farming or cattle experience he learned by direct experience under Valley conditions. When he reached his majority he promptly became a citizen of the United States. He visited his old home in Germany in 1910 and when he returned in Sep-



Fred Gunterman

tember he went into the stock raising business on his own account.

Mr. Gunterman is now one of the foremost cattle raisers and stock feeders of the Valley. His ranch near Calexico is one of the show places of Imperial County. He has every ranch operation systematized in a routine that provides a fine example of how good business methods can be mixed with ranch work successfully.

In addition to his home ranch Mr. Gunterman operates cattle ranges near Wilcox, Arizona, and at Magdalena, New Mexico. The young stock raised on the ranges is brought to the Imperial Valley ranches for finishing. He is also leasing ranch property at Heber, Imperial and Holtville. He has leased some of the Timken ranches since 1922.

In 1912 he was married to Miss Fay M. Mitchell, of Calexico, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Mitchell, Valley pioneers. A son and three daughters enliven the modern ranch home of the Guntermans and share in the pleasures of the ranch life as may be seen in the picture at the top of this page.



Feeder Cattle Arriving at the Gunterman Ranch for Fattening



This Main Street Scene in Brawley is Typical of the Six Largest Towns of the Valley

CHAPTER XXXIV

CITIES, BUSINESS HOUSES AND INDUSTRIES OF TODAY

THE ANCIENT habit of man is to barter and trade with his fellow man. The first meeting place where this bartering and trading began probably became the first village and the first village, when it outgrew its swaddling clothes, very likely was the first city. It is the American habit as well. In Imperial Valley the towns and trade centers, histories of which appear in former pages in detail, present themselves to the visitor of today without apology, proud of the advance they have made in the brief span of time since they were started. They give promise of future growth and greatness because they are an accurate reflection of the Valley's growth and greatness. They are the gathering places of the population, the distributing points for the vast produce that is raised—the barter and trade nerve centers for the 60,000 people who reside in Imperial Valley.

In a brief review here are grouped the important facts about each of the six incorporated cities and the County and Irrigation Districts boards as they are today:

EL CENTRO

Population, 8,427; county seat, located on Southern Pacific transcontinental lines, junction point for San Diego. On Lee and Bankhead highways and Broadway of America. Has daily passenger and express air service to Los Angeles, San Francisco and San Diego on the coast, and Phoenix and El Paso to the east. Hotels include nationally famous Barbara Worth and California, and numerous other smaller hotels. School system includes high school and junior college and numerous grammar schools. Home of three large creameries, ice plant, gas plant, electric power offices, irrigation

district offices. Nearly every church is represented here. Large vegetable packing plants located here. Commercial center fully represented.

Mayor: H. W. Fawcett. Trustees: R. E. Couch, W. J. Clements, Fred Gianola and J. T. Rice.

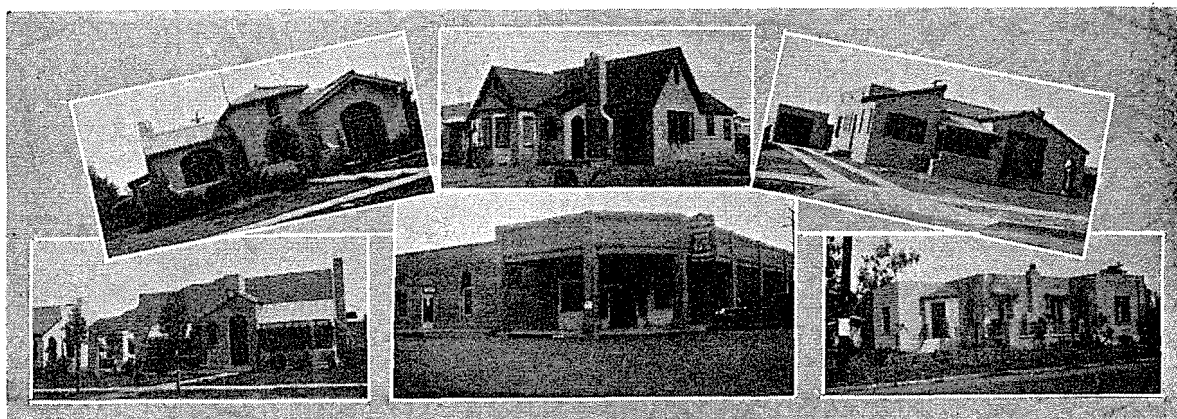
Secretary Chamber of Commerce: Robert Hayes.

Newspapers: Imperial Valley Press; Imperial Valley Farmer.



ROBT. HAYES

Secretary El Centro Chamber of Commerce



Main Office (center) and Five of the Many Modern Homes in El Centro Which the Imperial Valley Building and Loan Association Helped to Build.

IMPERIAL VALLEY BUILDING AND LOAN ASSOCIATION, EL CENTRO

ONE of the difficulties which the City of El Centro has always faced has been a shortage of housing accommodation. Ever since the city was selected as a county seat in 1907 the annual cry has been "more homes!"

J. S. Jones, one of the heads of the Valley Lumber Company, determined in 1920 to see what he could do towards alleviating this situation. He interested a number of friends in the organization of the El Centro Home Builders. The company's first investment was in twenty town lots on which was erected well built and comfortable residences which were sold on low installment payments almost as rapidly as they were completed.

George Anderson was the first president of the company. Howard P. Meyer succeeded him in 1927. The company was then re-organized as the IMPERIAL VALLEY BUILDING AND LOAN ASSOCIATION.

More than 100 home builders have been aided by this Company in financing their building operations with more than \$300,000 in loans. The basis on which the company operates is under the strict supervision of the Building and Loan law. First trust deeds only are accepted as security; the earnings therefore over a period of the last ten years have been quite satisfactory and the company's investment certificates bearing six per cent, compounded semi-annually, a popular investment for El Centro's thrifty savers.

This concern prides itself on the fact that it is "a home institution for home people." It is owned and operated by El Centro business men. With a capitalization of \$50,000 the company's statement shows a surplus of \$15,000.

The affairs of the Company are in direct charge of Manager Hugh T. Osborne, who has proved himself to be one of the most courteous and capable business executives to be found in the Valley.

The present officers and directors are: Jasper L. Travers, president; Howard P. Meyer, vice-president; O. G. Horne, treasurer; J. S. Jones, secretary; A. P. Nuffer, W. H. Brooks, J. Stewart Ross, and Charles E. Sones.

Among other stockholders are Elmer Leonard, Ross T. Hickcox, Valley Lumber Company, R. P. Moore, Pioneer Title & Trust Company, Fred Miller, W. H. Tyler, Dr. F. A. Burger, Sones Lumber Co., E. A. Glass, Security Title Insurance & Guaranty Co., Mesdames F. B. Fuller, Charles E. Sones, George Varney and J. S. Jones.

The company has handsome headquarters at the corner of Sixth and State Streets, El Centro, where its big 6 per cent illuminating sign is seen by thousands daily.

VALLEY LUMBER COMPANY EL CENTRO-CALEXICO

THE VALLEY LUMBER COMPANY was established in El Centro in 1908, and is therefore the oldest firm in continuous business in the county seat. The branch at Calexico was established in 1909.

The Jones Brothers, who established and are still proprietors of the Valley Lumber Company, are Will C., J. S., Harry G. and C. H. Their father, J. T. Jones, was with them when they came west from Iowa in 1908.

"Jim" Jones has charge of the yard and business in El Centro, with Ernest Saunders as manager. Will Jones has charge of the yard at Calexico and Harry Jones is in charge at Mexicali. C. H. is now a resident of Long Beach.

The company which is incorporated, owns its own yards and buildings in El Centro, Calexico and Mexicali. The headquarters building in El Centro, at Fourth and State streets, is a well arranged structure built especially to accommodate all lines of the building business. On the force are men competent to give expert advice in all building problems, especially those peculiar to Imperial Valley, where special consideration must be given to summer weather conditions. In fact, the Jones Brothers have made so many experiments with various materials and the arrangement of rooms and ventilating appliances that they know exactly how best to combat the summer temperatures and at the same time provide for the greatest comfort in winter.

During the twenty-three years of its existence the Company has shown its faith in Imperial Valley by investing its surplus earnings in good real estate. The corporation owns the half block of six stores at Sixth and State streets occupied by the Imperial Valley Building & Loan Association, City Hall, Municipal Rest room, the Imperial Valley Farmer Publishing Company and the Marshall Seed and Feed Company. It also owns a 300-acre ranch northeast of Calipatria, packing sheds and other income property in the eastern part of El Centro.

The greatest pride of the company are the 100 homes built and sold in all parts of the City of El Centro, since its organization. At present time the company owns only one vacant lot, having improved all its city property with substantial residence and business buildings. The homes being built between Sixth and Seventh streets, both sides of Vine and between Sixth and Seventh on Wensley.

The Valley Lumber Company is therefore an example of what industry, careful attention to business and a keen regard for the best interests of its customers has done in Imperial Valley.

The plumbing display that has been added is very attractive. A complete stock of electric lighting fixtures, complete line of paints, roofing materials, fireplace tiling and designs, kitchen fixtures, paneling and hardware.

IMPERIAL VALLEY HARDWARE CO.

IN MAY, 1908, Howard P. Meyer and George W. Anderson, formerly with the Samuel G. Ingle Hardware Co. of San Diego, purchased several departments of the King L. Kendle department store at Holtville. It was their intention to establish themselves in the hardware business, but to make the deal it was necessary to take over the grocery department. This was sold a few months later to Varney Bros. Co., then the leading firm of the Valley, when they opened their Holtville store.

From May, 1908, until March, 1909, the business was operated as a partnership, under the name of Anderson and Meyer. At this time there was an opportunity to purchase the hardware store of Geo. W. McCollum at Calexico, a larger business than the one already operating at Holtville. In order to finance the purchase, it was necessary for the two partners to borrow all they could, and to take in two additional partners in a small way. Paul P. Anderson, a brother of George who had been working for Edgar Bros. Co. in Calexico, and Warren Currier of San Diego, just out of college and looking for an opportunity, joined the firm which was then incorporated as the Anderson & Meyer Co. George W. Anderson was made president, and with his brother took charge of the new store at Calexico, Meyer and Currier operating the Holtville store.

Through hard work and thorough knowledge of the business, the firm prospered, and in 1910 were given the opportunity to purchase the old Houck store in Brawley. And as the room it occupied was entirely inadequate for expansion, a few months later the Murray Furniture Co. was also purchased. The two stores consolidated. Paul Anderson was installed as manager of the new store.

From 1910 until 1912 the company grew and the three stores had all moved into larger quarters. Each had been equipped in line with the best practice of the times.

About the same time the partners had started the business in Holtville, the Redlands Hardware Co. had established a branch in the new town of El Centro, opening it under the name of the El Centro Hardware and Implement Co. This business also grew fast until it was more important to the principal owner, Mr. Chas. H. Hersee, than the Redlands store, and he moved to El Centro and took personal charge. During 1912 Mr. Hersee and the Anderson Meyer Co. established in El Centro what is now the wholesale department of the Imperial Valley Hardware Co. It was operated at that time as the Anderson & Meyer Warehouse Co., and was used to purchase, store and distribute merchandise in carload quantities to the four stores which owned it. This operation brought the two companies closer together, and after Mr. Hersee sold out his implement department, leased his surplus room, and acquired all the outside stock in his company, the two companies were finally merged and re-incorporated under the name of the Imperial Valley Hardware Co. The new company took over the whole operation on January 1, 1913.

During the first year the new company established an entirely new store at Seeley, the only new store ever started by the company, and bought out the Fuller store in Imperial. A new building was erected in Imperial to allow expansion of the new store to correspond with the others. At the end of 1913, eighteen years ago, the company was successfully operating six large stores and the distributing warehouse in El Centro, and had a capital of \$250,000.

In 1909 the company had started the policy of taking into the firm members, those loyal employees who had proven their worth to the firm. This policy has been continued to the present.

During 1915, the company suffered two serious fire losses, one at Imperial and one at Brawley. Both stores were completely destroyed. However, the credit of the company was so strong that both stores were immediately started in temporary locations and as soon as the buildings could be rebuilt, the stores were re-established better than before. In January, 1915, the company purchased the Wolflein

Hamilton Furniture Co. of El Centro, as prior thereto they had no furniture stock in El Centro. Howard Meyer was transferred to the furniture store which was operated under the name of the Meyer Furniture Company, and Warren Currier was made manager of the Holtville store. At the time of the merger George Anderson was moved to El Centro as General Manager, and in charge of the warehouse and purchasing. E. E. Anderson became the new manager at Calexico.

The operation of the El Centro store branch had not been financially a success, and in January of 1916, Howard Meyer and George Anderson purchased the interests of Chas. H. Hersee. Meyer was placed in charge of both furniture and hardware stores. These two stores operated separately until 1921 when the present imposing building on Main street was built by the company, and the businesses united.

In 1917, the company purchased the Hutchinson-Goodwin Hardware Store in Calipatria, and Vance Wilson, who had been manager of the Imperial store, was placed in charge of the new unit. Thus the company had complete coverage of the entire trade territory of Imperial Valley.

The business had grown to such a volume by this time, that it was felt necessary to centralize more thoroughly, and in 1921 Howard Meyer was relieved by a new manager of the El Centro store, and took charge of all buying, warehousing and merchandising. George Anderson continued as general manager, and specialized on the selling end of the business.

Through the development of good roads, the company foresaw the ultimate tying in of the Yuma Valley section with Imperial Valley, and in 1923 purchased from the creditors, the Yuma Hardware Co. in Yuma, Arizona. A. L. Riley of the El Centro store was placed in charge until replaced by Norman Hindle in 1925. Two years later the company purchased the Caruthers Hardware Co. at Somerton, Arizona, and in 1928 purchased the Sturges Bros. Hardware Co., located in the Yuma Heights section of Yuma. Norman Hindle was made district manager in charge of the three stores in Arizona. In 1929 a furniture department was added, and during 1930 the implement departments in the Arizona stores which had been acquired in the purchases, were disposed of.

In the fall of 1925, George W. Anderson moved to Los Angeles, and Howard Meyer took over the general management of the company in addition to the merchandise work. Warren Currier who had been manager of the Brawley store for five years, was made manager of the El Centro store, and general sales manager of the company. The following year, Mr. Anderson resigned as President and Howard Meyer was made President, and Warren Currier took his place as Secretary.

The Imperial Valley Hardware Co. owns eight of the buildings now occupied by their stores, and several additional buildings which are rented to others. The buildings at Yuma, Somerton, and Calexico are the only ones which are not owned by the company, and these are under long term leases. The building at Calexico is owned by the Anderson Bros., who are all actively connected with the company. Over one hundred men and women are employed by this pioneer firm, of which more than twenty-five are stockholders. A majority of all these employees own their own homes and take an active interest in civic affairs, and are substantial citizens who may be relied upon to carry forward the growth and development of their company, and the community in which they live.

Present officers of Imperial Valley Hardware Co. are:

President, Howard Meyer.
 Vice-President, E. E. Anderson.
 Vice-President, Paul P. Anderson.
 Vice-President, Norman Hindle.
 Vice-President, Elmer Baxter.
 Secretary, Warren Currier.
 Director, George W. Anderson.



The Clements Drug Store Presents a Busy Scene Every Day of the Year

THE CLEMENTS DRUG STORE

THE above photo was taken of the interior of the Clements Drug Store at Sixth and Main streets, El Centro, in August of this year, 1931, proving the fact that not all the people of Imperial Valley leave for vacations at the same time. This store is one of the busiest places of business in the Valley. Wm. J. Clements, proprietor, long ago adopted the theory that the public likes good service. In the cafe department, which is extensive, a crew of a dozen or more is kept hustling. It takes seventeen people to handle the store's business. At the same fountain counter the population provides an endless demand for Clements' fountain goods. And here is one druggist who has not forgotten how to serve with first class drugs and sundry lines of goods.

Mr. Clements first worked as a pharmacist in 1912, then bought a half interest and now owns the entire business. He has added two rooms to his floor space, the store extending now from Main street to the alley, half a block away. He has, from long experience, learned what Valley people want and how they want it.

Mr. Clements was drafted for the city council several years ago and returned to that office by re-election. He was mayor of the city two years. He is a councilman now and the people seem to like his administering of their affairs.



Wm. J. Clements

VALLEY CREAM COMPANY

The Valley Cream Company has headquarters in Seeley where a complete ice cream manufacturing plant is operated. Thomas Hester, Jr., is proprietor. From more than 12,000 pounds of milk purchased daily from Valley farmers the company produces from 300 to 400 pounds of ice cream; a fancy brand of sweet cream cheese, a quantity of buttermilk and cottage cheese. Seven employees and four trucks distribute the product. Some of it is marketed in San Diego and other outside points. Mr. Hester has lived in the Valley since 1911 where his father was a rancher. To buy Valley products and supply Valley stores with an exceptional quality of goods is the purpose and policy of the Valley Cream Co. The concern owns ten lots in Seeley and is housed in a substantial brick building.

POPULATION CHANGING LESS

Each year that passes finds more and more residents of Imperial Valley dismissing the formerly prevalent idea that they should plan to live elsewhere as soon as a stake was made. They build more beautiful and more permanent homes and so conduct their business and farms that there is less need for much more than brief vacations. Modern conveniences, electric refrigeration and scientifically constructed buildings and homes are responsible for this change of mind. The airplane and the auto, too, have brought distant places to within a few hours of the Valley. So the population is gradually becoming more permanent.



The Valley Drug Company Occupies the Remodeled Corner at Fifth and Main Streets, El Centro. Photo Taken June, 1931



Massey J. Horton, Druggist

THE VALLEY DRUG COMPANY is the pioneer in its line in El Centro. Roy Rumsey was interested in its start in temporary quarters on Broadway in 1906. As soon as the opera house building was completed the stock was moved and since 1907 the store was in the same location until midsummer of this year, 1931, when the entire building was remodeled and the drug store moved into the corner room. In the intervening years Sam Dunaway and Mr. Burns and Mr. Savage were proprietors.

Massey J. Horton in 1921 was working for Mr. Burns and in February, 1929, bought the business from Mr. Savage. Improvement has been the Horton watchword from the start. In the new quarters a new Silver Frigid Knight soda fountain and fixtures were installed. Throughout the store old show cases were replaced with those of the latest design. In the kitchen department a new, commodious and spotlessly clean kitchen prepares food for a critically careful patronage. Nineteen employees are required to meet the demands of the public.

Mr. Horton is a registered pharmacist and gives careful attention to the drug side of the business. The store carries exclusive lines of Rexall goods, and Dorothy Gray cosmetics and an unending stock of sundries.

During the past summer Mr. Horton purchased the El Centro Drug Store across the street, and now conducts both businesses.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Horton are popular young people in El Centro. Mrs. Horton helps cheerfully in the store during rush hours.

OFFICE SUPPLY COMPANY El Centro

THE business of the Office Supply Company was started by C. W. Collins, pioneer, when El Centro first started in 1907. Lou R. Philley, owner and proprietor for the past ten years, moved to the present commodious quarters in 1926. Mr. Philley, although unacquainted with the stationery business when he purchased it from J. W. Goza, is now an authority in his line. He has expanded the business until now he serves the Valley in a wholesale way as well as retail. The handsome store, which was recently remodeled, is located at 513 Main street, El Centro. It is headquarters for stationery novelties, greeting cards, personal and business stationery, office books, filing cabinets, bridge prizes, gifts, books, framed mottoes and a world of other items. Mr. Philley is a school trustee, director in the Chamber of Commerce, Past Exalted Ruler of the Elks and his picture may be seen on page 342.

LEO HETZEL, PHOTOGRAPHER

FOR fourteen years Leo Hetzel has been taking pictures in Imperial Valley. As a consequence he has "shot" every interesting spot and most of the interesting inhabitants without being convicted of any thing but turning out first class, artistic work. Many of the pictures in this history were photographed by Hetzel. At graduation time every year his studio at 126 South Fifth street, El Centro,



Leo Hetzel, Photographer

is filled with high school students having their pictures taken for school annuals. He furnishes photos for news services, booklets and promotion literature. In many homes and business places may be seen superb desert scenes colored and framed. Mrs. Hetzel is an invaluable help in the studio. Her retouching gives an artistic finish to every portrait.

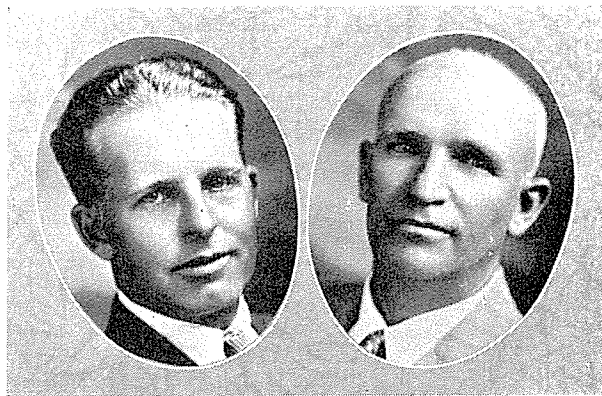
Mr. Hetzel is a leader in civic enterprises. He was president of the El Centro chamber of commerce in 1929 and is now a member of state aeronautical and highway committees, working with the State chamber of commerce. He has served on innumerable committees and is always to be found more than ready to shoulder his share of any work that looks like an advancement for the Valley.

Valley Steam Laundry---Brawley Steam Laundry

A VALLEY WIDE laundry service which has grown to dominating proportions is maintained by the Valley Steam Laundry at El Centro, and the Brawley Steam Laundry at Brawley. The El Centro business is owned by J. J. Foster and Laurence Duff, president and vice-president of the corporation. C. B. Kilgore is secretary-treasurer. Mr. Foster owns the Brawley business.

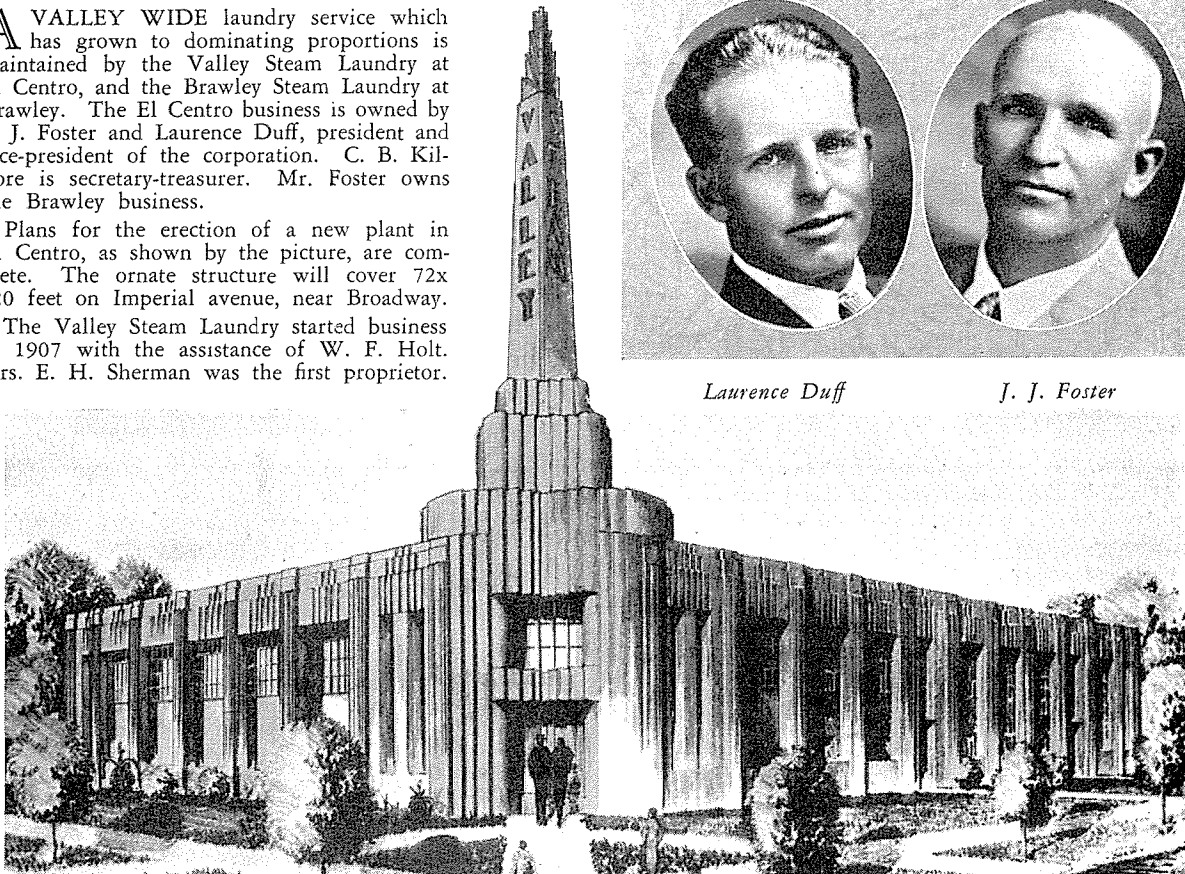
Plans for the erection of a new plant in El Centro, as shown by the picture, are complete. The ornate structure will cover 72x120 feet on Imperial avenue, near Broadway.

The Valley Steam Laundry started business in 1907 with the assistance of W. F. Holt. Mrs. E. H. Sherman was the first proprietor.



Laurence Duff

J. J. Foster



New Plant of the Valley Steam Laundry as it will Appear at Imperial Avenue and Broadway, El Centro

She was followed by various owners. In 1917 Mr. Foster and Melvin VanNatta bought the laundry and the next year Mr. Foster bought out his partner. Mr. Duff and his father, J. S. Duff, purchased a half interest in 1920. The Elder Duff retired in 1927. In 1920 Mr. Foster purchased the Brawley laundry.

These young men have kept their plants up to date. The investment in equipment in El Centro has reached the figure of \$85,000. Here fifty are employed. Six service autos are constantly on the go. In Brawley twenty-two employees and three service cars handle the work. In the Brawley plant John Engman has been on the job twenty years. Mrs. Bates has been there more than ten years and Mrs. Westgate ten years. Violet and Myrtle Huddleston have worked in

the plant eight years and six of the other employees have been employed more than three years each. In El Centro Lee Pyle has worked thirteen years, Mrs. Self ten years and ten others more than three years each. This proves that the Valley is not a hard place in which to work.

Messrs. Foster, Duff and Kilgore take an active interest in all civic affairs. Mr. Foster is the present Exalted Ruler of the Brawley lodge of Elks and is an active member of the Kiwanis and the Moose. Mr. Duff is active in the Masons and in Rotary Club work. Mr. Kilgore is a charter member of the Brawley Elks. Together they make a modern, hustling group of business men who are intent on giving Imperial Valley the very best service possible.



Plant of the Brawley Steam Laundry



Plant of Valley Steam Laundry



W. I. Stone's Office (center) and Four of the Eighty Homes He has Built in the County Seat

WALTER I. STONE, BUILDER

ONE of the best examples of the results that have come to many in Imperial Valley by reason of hard work, steady application and stick-to-it-iveness is seen in the experience of Mr. and Mrs. Walter I. Stone of El Centro. Mr. Stone came to El Centro in 1910, got a job from J. L. Travers, building contractor, and immediately set about the task of helping to build the city. He was looking for something more than a job. He made an investment in six acres on Hamilton street in El Centro. This was then on the outskirts of the city, there being no water mains and Stone advanced money to the city for laying pipes to the land in order to water trees and shrubs planted by him, in the meantime carrying water in pails to keep them alive, after having worked all day as a carpenter at \$4.50 per day. On this tract he built some twenty houses, having borrowed money from a building & loan company, selling them and the remaining lots, making during a period of two years a neat profit on the transaction.

Mr. Stone also bought Main street frontage, at that time in a cornfield west of Eighth Street and gradually added other lots until he had nine lots. These he improved with small cottages to produce an income pending the arrival of business which he had the vision to see. The present offices of the Automobile Club of Southern California, built by Mr. Stone partially fulfills his dream.

Mr. Stone thought that while he was at it he preferred helping to build a big town than a small one so he walked out one moonlight night over the land that is now Stone's Pacific Addition, then an alfalfa farm, decided to purchase it and extend the residence area in that direction. He did so, but encountered many adverse forces. Again Stone had to advance money for water pipes, this primarily because the city council's faith in the project was not at par with the promoter's faith. The installation of street lights, the grading of streets, building sidewalks all at the owner's expense, left little for houses, the most important part of all. But by every known means for boring through difficulties that seemed insurmountable, cottages were built first on the rear of the lots, some as garages.

One by one these were sold to young couples, all on the easy payment plan. During the war no one was buying real estate; rentals were low, high interest rates on loans. His total debt reached \$86,000. Stone, being a bachelor up to this time, secretly cherished the hope of one day having a competence and then going out to seek a wife,



Mr. and Mrs. W. I. Stone

believing that money was the first necessary thing but events show how little he knew about women, especially the one that about this time challenged his attention. Miss Genevieve Tree, a graduate nurse of Washington, D. C. School of Nursing, and of New York City schools, listened to Stone's tale of woe, brushed it aside as if it were a fly on a patient's nose, said yes, and on the 24th of December, 1917, while Madam Schumann-Heink was singing "Silent Night" in the city park in San Diego, the Stone's

signed the best contract of all, one where the payments have been kept up and notices of foreclosure have been unnecessary. Mr. Stone frankly admits the key to his success is found in this romance that bloomed out when least expected.

It seems that any young couple looking for a start in El Centro could go to Mr. Stone and start buying a home for as little as \$15 down and \$15 per month, depending on the purchase price. This has gone on until the Stones have to their credit eighty houses built in El Centro.

At one time the financial difficulties became so top-heavy that the creditors met in the back room of the old El Centro National bank to see what would be left to them, if anything. That fine old human banker, F. B. Fuller, tipped his cigar toward the ceiling and said, "We have always had faith in Stone, have stood by him and proposed to continue to do so." That remark with one from J. S. Jones that no one else could be found so well qualified to work out the difficulties carried the day, made a little history and they left Stone in the picture.

Stone developed side lines for earning money to supplement the income on real estate working long hours and sometimes waiting all night in his old car in front of a man's house to see him the next morning. One of these lines developed is the insurance business, both fire and automobile. Stone implicitly believes that the best service a business man can give his community at the lowest possible figure whether it be real property or insurance is the correct service. The Stone's still own much property, but no longer worry about the next payment on the mortgage.

During the war Mr. Stone was honored four times, being County Chairman in the war activities, two liberty loan and two Red Cross drives, all being successful.

The Stones have one daughter of compelling personality, growing into a talented musician, named Pollyanna Margaret and correctly named because of her wonderful disposition. Their hopes naturally center in this child.

SOUTHERN SIERRAS POWER CO.

IMPERIAL ICE AND DEVELOPMENT CO.

ATTEMPTS to supply Imperial Valley with electrical service began with the first settlement, W. F. Holt's far-reaching plans for development including such utilities as electricity, gas, domestic water supply and inter-urban transportation.

It was not realized at the outset, nor, indeed, until costly and exasperating experiences brought home the truth, that the climatic, topographic and hydrographic peculiarities of the Valley, while making it the winter garden of America, with gravity irrigation and waste water disposal naturally provided, entailed problems of electrical generation, domestic water supply, and ice manufacture that would require the investment of millions to solve.

The first electrical installation was a small, single phase steam-generating plant at Imperial, which proved at once expensive, inadequate and unreliable.

In 1903 the Holton Power Company was incorporated to develop hydro-electric power on the Alamo River, where an 18-foot drop, three miles above Holtville on the East side levee was available. Later in the same year, a change of plan was adopted, and the 100-year lease granted W. F. Holt by The California Development Company amended to conform thereto. The first plant was completed in 1906. This was a low head turbine installation, a 450 h.p. turbine and 335 h.p. generator, housed in a brick building.

The historic break in the Colorado River cut out the Alamo channel about 20 feet deeper in 1906-7, which was utilized by a second low-head plant, of 1150 h.p. capacity below the original plant.

Shortly after the installation of the first hydro-plant, a steam auxiliary plant was put up at El Centro, as insurance against the frequent break-downs and interruptions to which the hydro plants were subject. This was supplemented a few years later by a gas engine generative plant, of 1000 h. p. rated capacity, which went on the line in 1912.

But with rapid increase in demand and almost equally rapid falling off in plant efficiency, electrical service in the Valley went from bad to worse. The intakes and drops of the low head hydro-plants silted up, and the same silt cut the runners of the turbines as though ground on an emery wheel.

A pioneer community might get along with poor and unreliable lighting service, but industrial demands were growing imperative—so imperative that unless they were met, the prosperity of the whole territory would be checked, and development halted in mid-stride. Cantaloupe production was becoming a major activity, and the shipment of these and other perishables called for ice in rapidly increasing tonnage, in addition to the domestic requirements that must be met in a climate where refrigeration was almost a household necessity. The Holton Power Company had gone into the ice business almost as early as the first power plant was put into operation. By 1912 the El Centro ice manufacturing plant had a daily capacity of 90 tons, or 33,000 tons per annum, and included a water distillation layout by which clear water was produced daily to make 15 tons of plate ice for domestic use. Electricity was backed up by Corliss engines in operating the plant, and ice was shipped to storage and refrigerating plants in Brawley, Calexico, Holtville and Imperial. Car icing took 10,000 tons per annum, supplying less than half the Valley's requirements, 15,000 tons being brought in by the Southern Pacific to meet the deficiency.

About the time that the Colorado River was running wild into the Salton Sink and threatening the destruction of Imperial Valley, there was incorporated a company of Denver capitalists to develop hydro plants on the east slope of the Sierras in Mono and Inyo counties for the purpose of supplying electrical service to the then flourish-

ing mining camps of Tonopah and Goldfield in Nevada, and the surrounding territory. Within ten years this organization, then known as The Nevada-California Power Company, was seeking new markets for its service. For geographical and commercial reasons these had to be sought in the south, and to reach them, a desert gap of 225 miles had to be bridged by transmission lines from Bishop Creek to San Bernardino—an audacious undertaking fully justified by success. The line was built and a new organization, The Southern Sierras Power Company, incorporated for operations in the California field.

Meanwhile, the Coachella Valley Ice and Electric Company, at Coachella was supplying the oasis between the pass and Imperial Valley with electric service and refrigeration. Through this connecting link, Mr. Holt succeeded in hooking up with Sierras service, and in 1916 The Nevada-California Electric Corporation, the parent company of both the Nevada-California Power Company and The Southern Sierras Power Company and Associate Companies, acquired stock control of the Coachella Valley Ice and Electric Company, and shortly thereafter of the Holton Power Company, including ice plants, the inter-urban railroad and other properties. For a number of years The Holton Power Company retained its identity as an operating unit of the Associated Companies, but was finally absorbed in 1929, in The Southern Sierras.

To cut down interruptions due to the meteorological conditions prevailing in the Colorado desert and further improve service, The Southern Sierras in 1924, expended over \$500,000, building a second transmission line into the Valley, 88 miles from Rincon in San Diego county to El Centro, inter-connecting with the tidewater steam plants of the San Diego Consolidated Gas and Electric Corporation. In 1927 another line was built south from the San Bernardino steam generating plant and control station to Rincon, completing a southern loop direct from San Bernardino to El Centro terminal station. Thus there are now two lines into El Centro, one by San Geronio Pass, Indio, Coachella, Niland, Calipatria, Brawley and Imperial and one by Temecula, Rincon, Henshaw Dam and the San Felipe Wash. A line completed in 1931 to supply power for the first stages of construction at Hoover Dam, will be available when the first generating units are installed there, to bring power from Boulder Canyon to the Southern Sierras territory. A line was built in 1930 from Niland north to Blythe, on the Colorado River.

From El Centro terminal station Sierras service extends to the Colorado River, supplying at that point The Yuma Utilities Company, another subsidiary of the parent organization, with power for distribution in Southern Arizona. Power is also wholesaled at Calexico, and at Algodones.

At present (1931) the Associated Companies own and operate eleven hydro-electric generating plants in the High Sierras, having a combined capacity of 93,420 h. p. Steam plants at San Bernardino, Blythe and Parker bring the total generating capacity owned up to 104,420 h.p. Leased plants add 3,360 h.p. and with the interconnections already noted, place 174,380 h. p. at the service of the territory. Back of the hydro plants is a total reservoir capacity, in eleven divisions, of 73,160 acre feet.

The Southern Sierras Power Company has identified itself proudly and whole-heartedly with Imperial Valley from the first. It has steadily improved service and reduced rates until both are now on a metropolitan level, the one in dependability, the other in economy, and the process is still going on in both directions, upward in efficiency and downward in cost.

From the beginning it has been the policy of the organization in its Imperial Valley personnel, to keep local management in the hands of those who have been identi-

fied with the Valley and its utility and other problems from the earliest days. Among those thus qualifying are R. P. Moore, Fred Williams, Bert Mitchell, D. M. Miller, W. F. Smith, and others. And while some of these have elected to transfer their services to the Imperial Ice and Development Company, associate of The Southern Sierras, their counsel and experience have at all times been available to the Southern Sierras and the communities served.

The Imperial Ice and Development Company, the largest and perhaps most essential single industry in Imperial Valley, was incorporated in 1916 to continue and expand the ice business of the Holton Power Company, control of which had been acquired by The Nevada-California Electric Corporation. In that year 4,594 cars of cantaloupes and 28 cars of lettuce were shipped from the Valley and car-icing called for a much greater tonnage than the plants, acquired from the Holt companies, could supply. A five year's contract with the Pacific Fruit Express was taken over, and a plant built at Brawley to manufacture 360 tons daily and store 5,000 tons of car ice.

From this beginning the company, keeping well abreast of the Valley's needs, has in operation in 1931, six ice manufacturing plants at El Centro, Coachella, Brawley, Calexico, Holtville and Calipatria, with a combined daily capacity of 970 tons of ice, and a combined storage capacity up to 91,900 tons. A plant operated at Mexicali, across the border, brings the total daily capacity up to 1000 tons.

At the main plants car-icing platforms and conveyors deliver the ice directly to the bunkers of the refrigerator cars and at the height of the shipping season hundreds of cars are iced daily.

Beside bunker ice, there is a very large demand for ice by shippers of lettuce and early vegetables for packing in and between the crated consignments. This is delivered to the packing sheds by truck and handled there by the shippers.

TELEPHONE SERVICE

W. F. HOLT built the first single strand telephone line from Flowing Well to Imperial in 1902. It was extended to Blue Lake and then to Calexico. For many months four stations carried the traffic.

Brawley and Holtville were the next to have service, in September, 1906; and in August, 1908, service was established at El Centro, and in September, 1913, at Calipatria. The six Bell System exchanges now serve more than 5,210 telephones.

Approximately 8,480 local and 450 inter-city calls originate in El Centro exchange daily, 4,300 calls in the Brawley exchange, 3,125 in Calexico, 2,260 in Holtville, and 500 in Calipatria. A total of 156 people are employed by the Southern California Telephone Company in Imperial Valley, of whom eight take care of business contacts between the telephone company and the public, 54 handle telephone traffic, and 94 devote their time to the upkeep and extension of outside plant equipment.

Two of the exchanges, Calexico and Imperial, have dial equipment, while Brawley, Calipatria, Holtville, and El Centro central offices serve manual telephones.

Since January 1, 1918, the Brawley exchange has grown from 349 to 1,381 telephones; Calexico, from 293 to 819 telephones; Calipatria from 35 to 202; Holtville from 340 to 453; Imperial from 199 to 211; and El Centro from 649 to 2,143.

During 1931 it is planned to expend a total of \$135,000 in three Imperial Valley exchanges for new cable and lines, equipment to be placed at subscribers' premises, central office equipment, and other miscellaneous additions.

RAILROADS

When the Southern Pacific hesitated to construct a branch from the main line southward after the influx of settlers in 1901 and 1902 W. F. Holt caused the incorporation of an independent road and let the contracts for grading. The S. P. promptly took over the line and it was completed to Imperial in 1903 and to Calexico in 1904.

This line was extended through Mexico to Yuma in 1909 as the Inter-California.

Mr. Holt built the Holton Inter-Urban connecting Holtville with the Valley branch three miles south of Imperial, which was a prime factor in the establishment of the town of El Centro, in 1905. He extended this road westward to Seeley in 1911 and it became a part of the San Diego & Arizona in 1919.

Mr. Holt also planned a better line to run from Holtville northward and west to Calipatria, through to Westmorland and southward to Seeley. These plans have been followed by the Southern Pacific by the construction of the line from Calipatria to Westmorland and northward from Holtville.

In 1919, after many years of struggle, John D. Spreckels, of San Diego, completed the San Diego & Arizona which enters the Valley by way of Carriso Gorge and across the Coyote desert. From El Centro to Yuma the line uses the S. P. and Inter-California tracks. The road is now controlled by the Southern Pacific although the Spreckels estate owns a big interest.

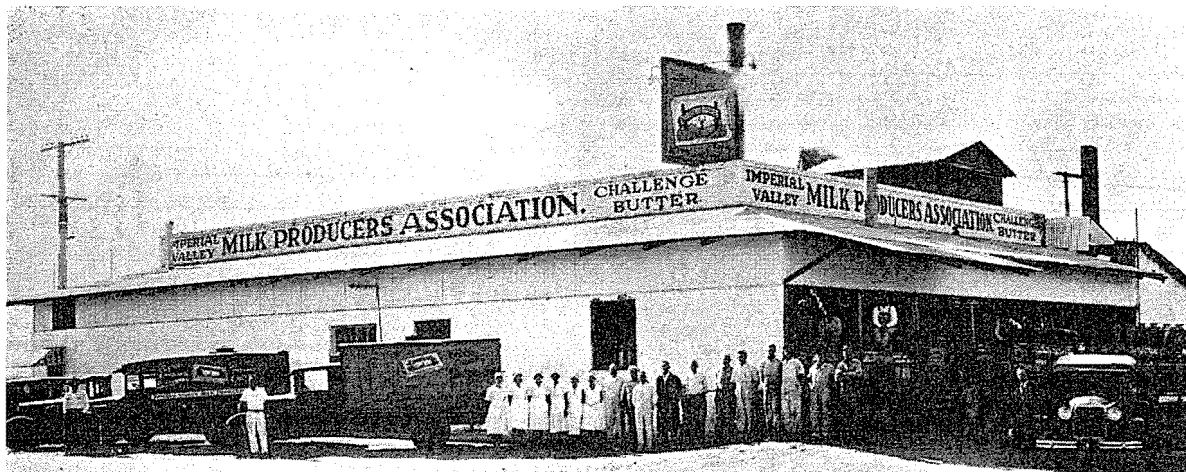
The relations between the Valley and the Southern Pacific have been intimate and it may be set down that they have been agreeable. In order to enable the California Development Company to finance control of the river in 1906 the railroad advanced \$200,000, with the proviso that the railroad should take charge of the work. Epes Randolph, division superintendent, was made president of the California Development company. H. T. Cory, C. K. Clarke, M. V. Doran, F. C. Hermann and a crew of railroad engineers were prominent figures in the battle with the river which caused an expenditure of millions, the history of which is told in previous chapters. The railroad company retained control of the Development company until its sale under foreclosure in 1909, when it was placed in the hands of Receivers Holabird and Andrade. The Southern Pacific bought the assets at receiver's sale and sold to the people, through the Irrigation District in 1915. All through the years the Valley has produced an enormous tonnage of freight annually. The railroad has continued to co-operate in promotion work, contributing annually to publicity funds.

STAGE LINES

In 1912 Tom Morgan, later president and general manager of the great Pickwick Lines, purchased a Flanders car from O. B. Tout for the purpose of delivering tea, coffee and spices to Imperial Valley customers. On his trips toward Imperial, which was then "wet," his car was boarded by so many friends that he started charging for the ride. He soon quit the tea and coffee business and carried passengers exclusively. Others saw the profit and started doing likewise. Morgan got them together and organized the United Stages and the business expanded enormously and quickly. A similar development took place in San Diego where tickets were sold for passage over the mountains. The ticket office was at the Pickwick cigar stand and the line became known as the Pickwick Stages. The Pickwick and United Stages became one and within recent years extended their operations from border to border and from west into far eastern territory. The Southern Pacific, feeling the inroads of this development, secured control of the stage business which is now conducted as the Pacific Greyhound Lines. Imperial Valley is served in all directions by these auto stages which have reached the elegance and luxury of Pullman cars.

GAS SERVICE

W. F. Holt built the first gas plant at El Centro but the expense of operation under adverse conditions caused the rates to be too high for popular use. The company quit business. Recently the Inland Empire Gas Company was formed and a new plant established in El Centro. Service has been extended to Imperial, Brawley and Calexico.



Plant of the Imperial Valley Milk Producers' Association at Holtville

IMPERIAL VALLEY MILK PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION

By E. W. LOTT, Manager

PRIOR TO 1918 there was operating in Imperial Valley a number of small independent creameries, one large one and two co-operatives. The co-operatives were operating in the manufacturing of their product only, doing a small volume of business and competing with one another.

In April, 1918, the leading co-operative dairymen of the Valley held a meeting and organized the Imperial Valley Milk Producers Association. When the organization was complete the majority of the members of both the small co-operative creameries were members of the new organization, and the plants were taken over by them. Started operating under the new organization, July 1, of the same year.

There was one plant at Imperial, California and the other at Holtville. After operating the two plants about two years it was decided it would be more economical to do all the manufacturing at the Holtville plant, as the two plants were only 20 miles apart, and Holtville was more centrally located. From that time on we have operated the one plant, handling mostly churning cream only.

In 1921 our organization took a membership in the Challenge Cream and Butter Marketing Association of Los Angeles, California, and since that time have marketed all our butter with the exception of our local sales through this organization, and have realized approximately 2 cents per pound more for each pound of butter we have sold them than what we were getting when marketing through the independent brokers. We have recently enlarged our plant and installed a drying machine for drying both our buttermilk and skim-milk, have also installed two new Victor Heavy Duty Churns, and a hydraulic butter cutting machine, which works very satisfactory with our automatic butter wrapper.

We are selling besides butter, sweet cream, our dried by-product, and fresh churned buttermilk, also creamed cottage cheese, and whole milk cheese.

Our total sales for the year 1930 was \$1,009,263.88, our average price paid to our members for butterfat in churning cream was .0228c over Los Angeles quotation.

We are very proud of the splendid co-operation shown by our members and the sincere interest in the organization taken by our eleven directors, and the responsibility of turning out a good product at a low cost with more profit returned to members, taken by the employees.

All our butter is cut in quarters and pounds, according to the demands of the trade, cartoned and put into 30 pound cases at our plant. We have only one grade of butter and an aim for minimum score of 92%, and am

glad to say that we are not disappointed very often.

Mr. Joel Anderson, president, has served in this capacity almost from the time the Association was organized. Mr. Joe Enz, vice-president, and one of our leading Swiss dairymen, has served as director of the association almost from the beginning. There are nine other directors. Mr. F. S. Wilby, secretary and treasurer, has served in this capacity for the past four years, E. J. Smith, plant superintendent, has been connected with the plant, working continuously for more than 12 years. E. W. Lott, manager, served in this capacity for four years and as field superintendent for six years and was succeeded in the field by H. C. Swink in 1925.

Our milk and cream is gathered from the dairy by trucks and delivered to the plant each day, giving us very good quality of fresh milk and cream for manufacturing purposes.

We mostly appreciate the benefits of co-operation when we hear or learn of prices that are being paid in near-by localities that are receiving as much as 4½c per pound butterfat less than what the members of our association are receiving.

The Challenge organization recently took a membership in the Land O' Lakes making a coast to coast co-operative marketing organization.

FARM LANDS

W. T. Fugate, real estate broker at 626 Main street, El Centro, says that in all the world there is no assurance of crops like that in Imperial Valley. With sunshine, fertile land and plenty of water there is never any need for a crop failure. He contends that good land in Imperial Valley is the safest and most productive investment one can make.

ROCKWOOD'S OWN STORY

C. R. Rockwood's own story, "Born of the Desert," relating in detail the reclamation of Imperial Valley, appearing first in a magazine edition of the Calexico Chronicle in 1909, has been put into book form by Randall Henderson, publisher of the Chronicle. The volume also contains the personal reminiscences of Dr. W. T. Heffernan which makes a book that should be in every home library in Imperial Valley. The price is \$1.00, postpaid and may be secured by addressing the Chronicle at Calexico.

Judging from the comments of those who saw the advance proofs of this history and realized the scope of the publication there will be necessity for a second edition. Business concerns desiring representation in the second edition should communicate at once with the publisher, Otis B. Tout, 4612 Terrace Drive, San Diego.



CHARLES E. PITZER

Charles E. Pitzer has for many years conducted a Mule Market and Livestock contracting business with headquarters at Third and Broadway, east of the railroad in El Centro, where he owns 120x150 feet. His Barbara Worth Riding Academy, with thirty prize winning saddle horses, was a recent feature.

Not forgetting the more prosaic but entirely dependable mule, Mr. Pitzer's corral is filled with these sturdy animals which he rents out for any purpose where mule power can compete with the tractor. He has handled many contracts in Imperial Valley, grading and leveling land, doing ditch and canal work and the like.

Mr. Pitzer's citizenship is of the staunch, sturdy kind. He has served as City Trustee and has always taken an active interest in politics ever since he came here in 1916. He served a term as Exalted Ruler of El Centro Lodge of Elks and was honored with the post of District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler for the Southern California District. He is a member of the Masonic Lodge, the Shrine, and Knights Templar.

Mr. Pitzer is the kind of a citizen who believes in boosting his home town in a practical way. He has invested a considerable sum in real estate and income property. Mr. Pitzer is vice-president of the Imperial County Fair Board and has had charge of the Live Stock exhibits several years.

MAGGIO BROS. INC.

This firm of Wholesale Fruit and Produce Distributors, in El Centro, consists of seven brothers, and a brother-in-law, all equally interested. They are Sam, Salvator, Paul, Carlo, Pasquale, Frank, Anthony and Joseph, brothers, and Anthony Fiore. Sam is president and Salvator is vice-president and treasurer. They started in business in El Centro in January, 1927. In 1930 they constructed a fine building with cold storage capacity for five carloads of produce and two carloads of bananas. In the basement



Maggio Bros., El Centro Headquarters

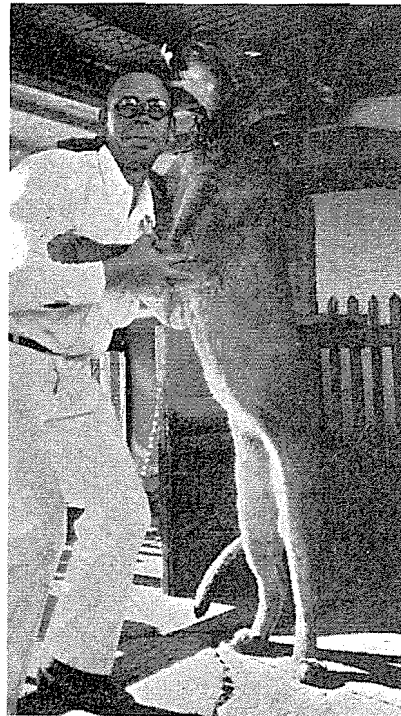
there is room for five additional carloads of storage. The firm has a big market at Eleventh and San Julian street in Los Angeles; fifteen large trucks carry Imperial Valley produce to the Los Angeles markets. The firm employs thirty men. All Maggio Bros. are young men; Sam, the president, being only 37. He is a World War veteran.

He volunteered for service in the Air Squadron 154. Paul served in the Italian army for six years. The volume of business handled by this concern is enormous. They receive in El Centro from Los Angeles fifteen tons of produce daily, not grown in the Valley. They truck to Los Angeles about twenty-five tons daily, including potatoes, onions, oranges, grape fruit, melons and other Imperial Valley produce. They distribute as wholesalers to Imperial and Yuma Valley firms about twenty-five tons daily.

The firm is a member of the El Centro, Holtville and Brawley chambers of commerce and Sam is a member of the El Centro Lions club. A fine record for a firm only four years old.

MOUNTAIN LION SERVICE STATION

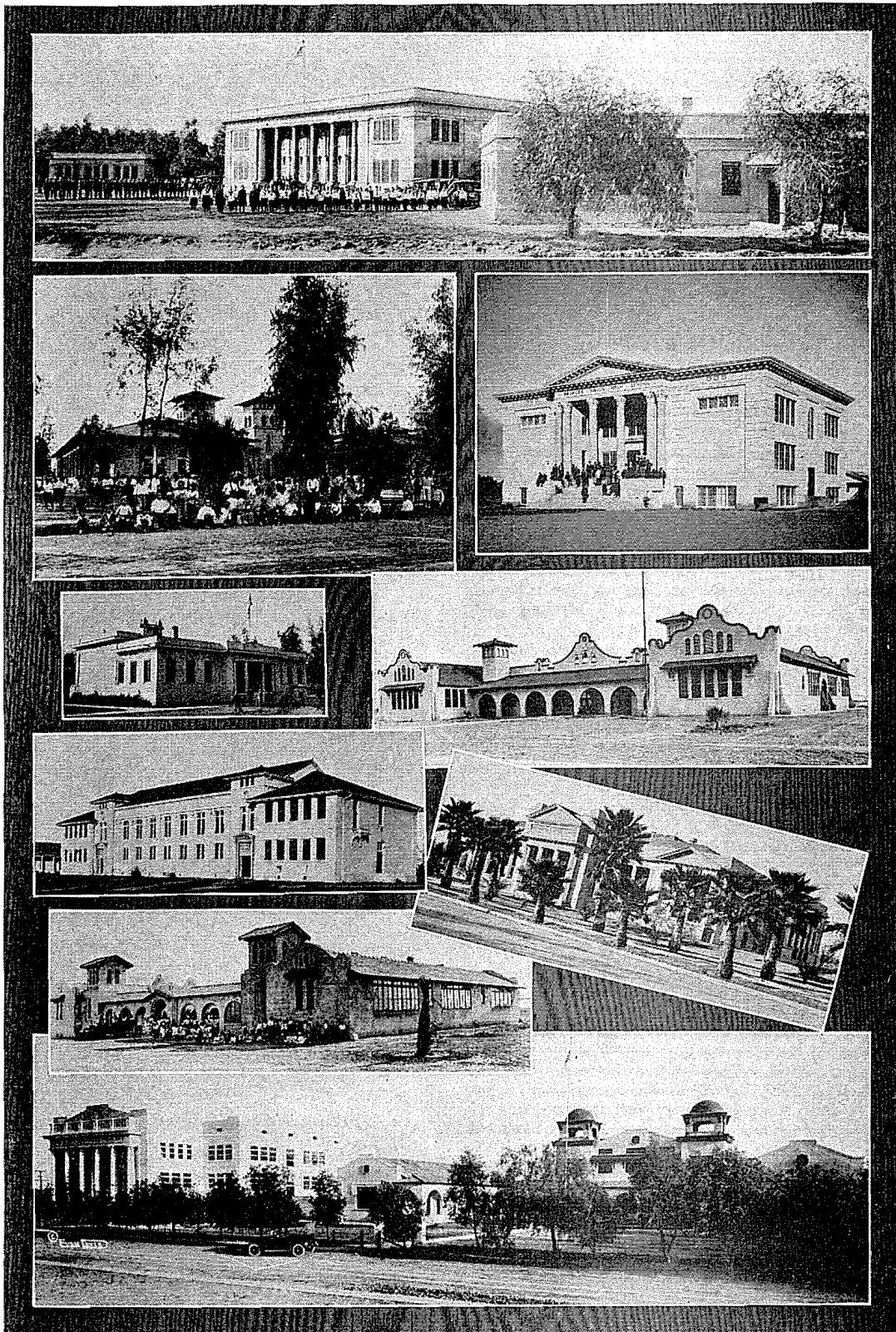
TOM O. MORRISON has named his gas and oil service station in honor of "Ruby," a giant mountain lioness, which he keeps in a cage on the corner at State and Fourth streets, El Centro. Ruby was captured as a cub on the

Tom Morrison and His Pet Mountain Lion
(His act is exclusive)

slopes of Mt. Baldy and at first refused to eat or drink. However, she adopted Morrison as a friend and he is the only person in the world who can get close to her safely. She is showing her affection for Tom by combing his hair with her mouth in the picture.

Whether or not it is because of the great cat in captivity Morrison's business has grown until he is branching out into Arizona as a distributor of gas and oils. He does not expect to carry Ruby as a watch-cat for his car on his trips.

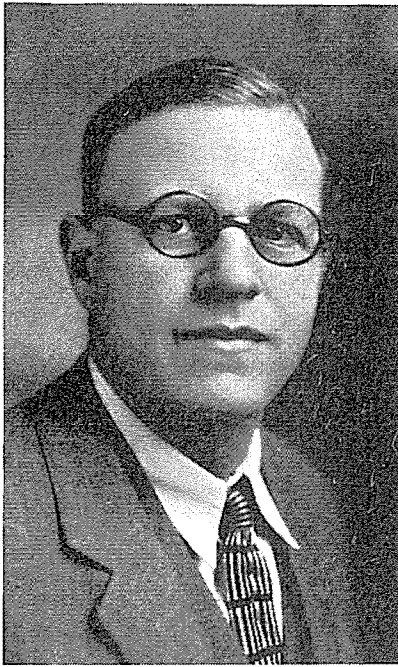
"The First Thirty Years" will be found on sale at the leading book and stationery stores in Imperial Valley or direct from the publisher, Otis B. Tout, 4612 Terrace Drive, San Diego, Calif.



These School Buildings which are located in various towns are typical of the structures built by the public to take care of the education of the youth of Imperial Valley. They are declared to be second to none in the State.

ELECTRICAL SERVICE COMPANY, INC.

HERBERT E. HOLT, although a young man, is a Valley pioneer just the same. He came in 1909 from Texas and is a graduate of the Imperial high school, class of 1913. He took an interest in the electrical side of the automotive business and established a battery business at Sixth and State streets, El Centro. This business gradually expanded



Herbert E. Holt

until he moved into the corner room of the Travers building where the Electrical Service Company offers every line of service to the automobile public, including batteries, ignition systems, carburetor installation and repair. Careful attention to the job in hand has built for this concern, which is incorporated, a reputation for efficiency that causes hundreds to turn all their electrical troubles over to Mr. Holt. Four employees are necessary to look after the business.

Mr. Holt is an excellent example of the younger generation which is making Imperial Valley a permanent place in which to live and transact business. Unlike so many others who come to the Valley, engage in some enterprise for a brief time, make a success or failure and leave, Mr. Holt figures that Imperial Valley is just as good a place to live as any other. This habit of building permanently is becoming more and more prevalent as the years go by and it is the young men who have lived in the Valley since their school years who are making up the bulk of this permanent population both on the farms and in the business world. With electrical refrigeration, paved roads, first class school, social and business facilities there is no reason, so Mr. Holt figures, for figuring on leaving.

Mr. Holt takes an active interest in civic matters although modestly refusing to hold office. He is a member of service clubs and the Chamber of Commerce and can always be counted on when there is public work to be done.

Day by day he gives special attention to the distribution and installation of Stromberg, Zenith and Marvel carburetors and Auto-O-Lite, Delco and Northeast starters and ignition systems. He also handles Kohler Electric farm lighting plants.

MARSHALL SEED & FEED CO.

S. T. Marshall, of the Marshall Seed and Feed Company, 126 South Sixth street, El Centro, came to the Valley in 1908. His first work was at carpentering. He became interested in the feed and seed business which was first established by Geo. T. Irvin in the old airdome on Main street. With A. C. Rath, Mr. Marshall bought the business which was conducted as Rath & Marshall for a number of years. In 1929 Mr. Marshall purchased the interest of his partner and is now sole proprietor. J. H. Marshall, his son, is in the business with his father. The importance of pure seed in the planting of vast acreages in the Valley is well known and this firm has become noted for the quality of its product in this line. Throughout the twenty-three years the Marshalls have lived in the Valley they have accumulated numberless friends and built up a fine business.

ARMY & NAVY DEPARTMENT STORE

M. Marcot's Army & Navy Department Stores, in the Davis building, Fifth and Main streets, El Centro, and across the street in the same block, have become noted for the volume of business done. Mr. Marcot, who is a thorough merchandiser, understands the principle of giving quality in order to get the volume. Prices are based on a very narrow margin. These stores handle general merchandise, groceries, meats, hardware, clothing and shoes for men, women and children. Mr. Marcot has become noted for his philanthropies. He was a moving spirit in the relief of hunger amongst the unemployed in the winter of 1930-31. Besides contributing heavily to the "bean depots" he arranged concerts with members of his musical family as artists, giving the proceeds to the relief fund. His son is a violinist and a daughter is a pianist. Both are studying under noted professionals in Los Angeles. Mr. Marcot is an active member of the Elks. He has been in business in El Centro for eleven years. His stores employ fifteen people.

WILSON MACHINE SHOP

M. A. Wilson, proprietor of the Wilson Machine Shop at 1322 Main street, El Centro, established himself in business after the war in 1918 and now has a shop equipped to handle any sort of machine work, repairing, garage work, electric and acetylene welding and has the only "bicycle garage" in the Valley. Mr. Wilson was in the air service at Rockwell field during the war and knows the how and wherefore of plane repairing. In civic work Mr. Wilson is a member of the El Centro Chamber of Commerce and takes an active interest in El Centro's advancement. He owns the building occupied by his shop as well as his home where Mrs. Wilson and one child make up one more happy home for the county seat.

TRIPLE A WATER COMPANY

Mrs. M. E. Alderman is the spirit behind one of the most successful businesses in the Valley the AAA, or Triple A Water Company which brings sparkling artesian water from the Coachella Valley in car load lots, bottles it and distributes it to a long and growing list of customers. The business started in Brawley in a small way when the first car of water was bottled by hand and delivered in a rented truck. Gradually the demands for this pure drinking water grew until property was purchased in El Centro and Brawley and two bottling plants established. With the co-operation and counsel of business men behind her, Mrs. Alderman has built the custom to very gratifying proportions. Starting in 1912, however, the business experienced tough going just like every other enterprise in a pioneer country.

The business is incorporated. H. W. Fawcett, mayor of El Centro, is president. The company has expanded into Arizona and Mexico and has a daily delivery service all over Imperial Valley.



HOTEL BARBARA WORTH

THE REALIZATION OF A DESERT VISION

FOR more than seventeen years Hotel Barbara Worth has been the center of Imperial Valley's community life, where hundreds of social events have taken place, and the home of the visitor from afar. Its central location in El Centro makes it the natural point from which the public goes to all parts of the Valley.

The great hotel was built in 1915 by the Bell Development Company, R. M. Taylor, architect and construction engineer, having charge of the work. It was completed and dedicated in May, 1915. The enterprises was conceived and carried out as a concrete expression of the people of Imperial Valley who were proud of their work in transforming the desert from an arid waste to a garden of productivity. As a structure, luxurious in the comfort it offers the traveler, it is as typical as the growth from the arrow weed ramada that sheltered the first callers on the shores of Blue Lake in 1900 to the modern hostelry of 1931.

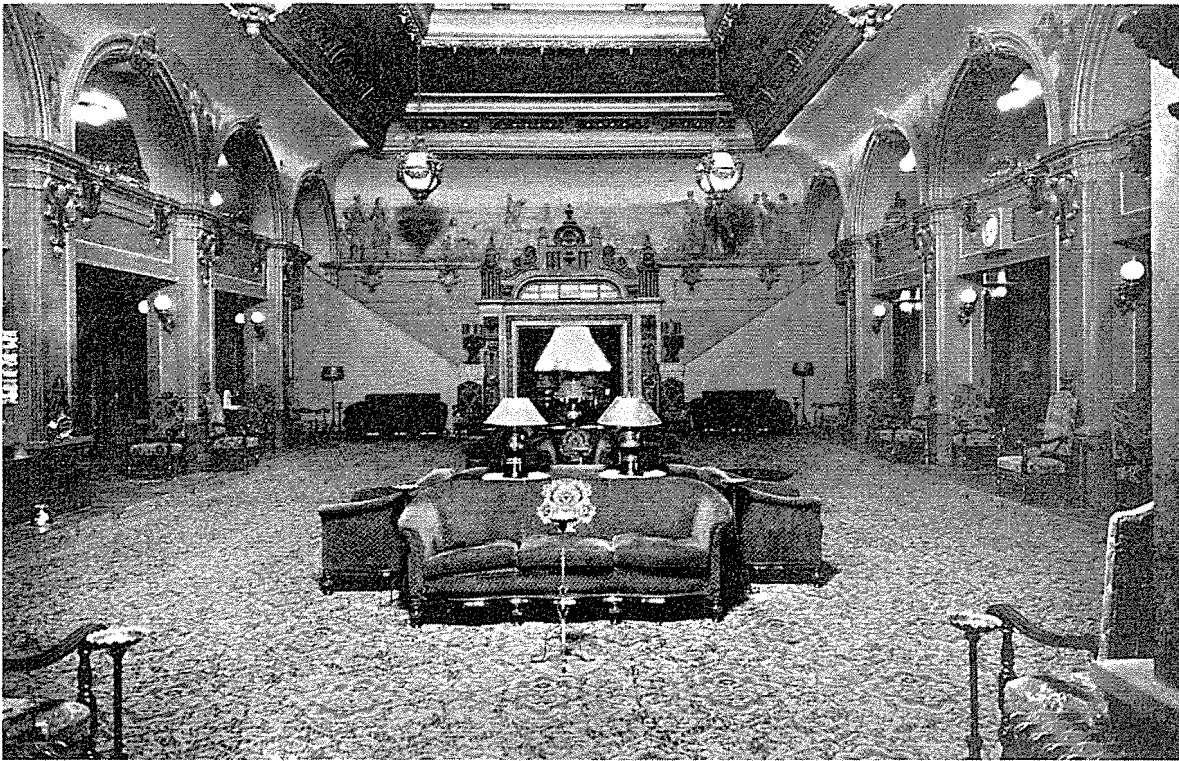
The building is of the Spanish Renaissance style of architecture, aptly set in an oasis of semi-tropical verdure, the whole savoring of the atmosphere of "Old Spain" and the days of Spanish occupation of California. With the six-story addition made in later years its accommodations are most modern in comfort and luxury. The deep shaded arcades and spacious balcony terraces, from which may be had an excellent view of the Valley and the surrounding desert, rimmed by the great bare mountains, with the glory of their ever changing colors, promise pleasurable comfort and enjoyment. The entire interior is artificially air cooled so that on the hottest summer days the visitor finds a comfortable temperature and an abundance of fresh, pure air. Circulating ice water is piped to each room. In the dining rooms the visitor finds that rare quiet and perfectly prepared food that commands admiration. Every attention making for the convenience and ease of life of its guests is found within its portals.

Even at the young age of seventeen years Hotel Barbara Worth has its atmosphere of history and romance. It was named after the gracious heroine of Harold Bell Wright's famous novel, "The Winning of Barbara Worth," which carried the story of the early desert to the four corners of the earth. Upon the walls of the spacious lobby is a cycloramic story of the reclamation of the Colorado Desert as told in the novel. The story is done in oils and is the work of two well known artists of Chicago, Luvena Buchanan and Edward Vysekal. In order to make the pictures real they lived on the desert for weeks before starting their sketches. Then they summoned, with the help of Mr. Wright himself, many of the original characters of the novel to pose for the murals. The pictures depict in powerful vivid detail the conquest of the desert. A description of each picture and its meaning may be found on pages 198 and 199 of this history. The north mural is reproduced on page 17 at the beginning of Chapter 1.

Harold Bell Wright dedicated his novel to "his good friend, Mr. W. F. Holt," who is generally recognized as "Jefferson Worth," the banker hero of the tale. Mr. Holt returned the author's compliment by heading the business organization that built the hotel and gave it the name of the heroine, "Barbara Worth."

For years the Barbara Worth has maintained a high place in the hotel world and has long been accorded that indefinable reputation that the traveling public so quickly senses—a real hostelry.

Here, beneath the brilliant sun and turquoise skies of the reclaimed desert, guarded on three sides by sentinel domes and granite walls and on the east by the sometimes turbulent waters of the Colorado river—the very waters that give life to the sands—stands this monument to man's reclamation genius, an everlasting trophy in memory of his victory over nature's useless and most fantastic creation, the



Lobby of the Hotel Barbara Worth, El Centro

desert. The desert! Where, barely more than thirty years ago, the sidewinder, the coyote and the chuckwalla ruled undisturbed by man. The desert! Known to the aborigine and the Spanish padres as "La palma de la mano de Dios" (the hollow of God's hand) and crossed by a death inviting trail they called "The Devil's Way," it lay for centuries that last unconquered region of the west. It is now the home of sixty thousand people. Blistering sands have given way to fertile fields where countless herds graze in peace and plenty. Giant trees, fruiting orchards and vineyards and vast expanses of winter-grown garden vegetables, known only to midsummer and the hothouses of other climes, complete the almost fanciful mirage of this miracle wrought by man—the greatest irrigated area in the world.

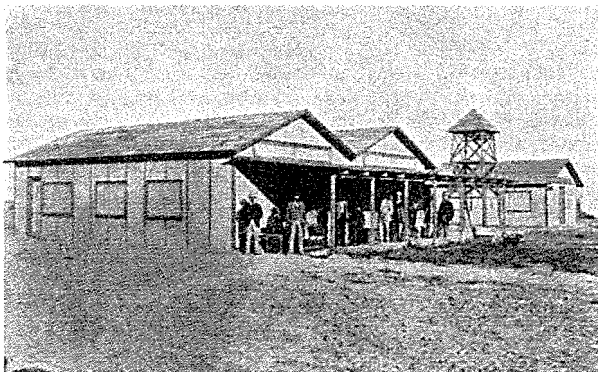
NEW MANAGEMENT OCTOBER 1, 1931

Following the successful and popular management of W. F. Holt, A. L. Richmond, Will R. Conway and Jack Board-

way (who died suddenly in 1930,) Major W. R. Irwin, experienced hotel man from Texas, purchased the hotel October 1, 1931. Major Irwin is vice-president of the Hilton Hotels, a noted chain of first class Texas hostelryes. Enamoured with Imperial Valley he has come here with his family, Mrs. Irwin, three sons and a daughter, to make his home. They have leased the famous Timken ranch headquarters house on the San Diego highway, two miles west of El Centro, for the family home and are already located. Major Irwin is a young man full of energy and he means to take an interest in the advancement of El Centro and Imperial Valley in every way he finds possible.

As the guide of the destinies of the famous Hotel Barbara Worth Major Irwin pledges himself to carry on the ideals expressed by that first group of pioneers who erected this memorial which has come to be known as the realization of a desert vision.

Contrast the pictures of the Modern Barbara Worth Hotel with this picture.



The First Hotel in Imperial Valley, located in Imperial in 1901, was the stopping place of hundreds of pioneers.

BRAWLEY

Population, 10,437; vegetable shipping center for northern half of Valley; Southern Pacific transcontinental lines; paved highway connecting direct to Los Angeles and East across continent; municipal airport; two large first-class hotels, The Planters and The Dunlack, and numerous smaller hotels; school system includes high school and junior college and several grammar schools; civic and club buildings outstanding; ice plant, creamery, many large vegetable packing plants are located here. Nearly every church denomination is represented.

Mayor: J. C. Fluke. Trustees: I. A. Pearson, H. E. Hubbard, R. L. Baker, F. H. Fargo.

Secretary Chamber of Commerce: E. W. Cuff.
Newspaper: Brawley News.

CALEXICO

Gateway to Old Mexico; population, 6,297; Southern Pacific transcontinental railway, municipal airport, daily passenger and express air service east and west; federal buildings, port of entry for entire rich Mexican lands to south; terminus Imperial Valley section Southern Pacific, and northern terminus of Inter-California Railway operating in Mexico. City boundary joins that of Mexicali, capital of the Northern District, Baja California. Served by improved highway direct from San Diego eastward to Broadway of America. Schools include high school, junior college and grammar schools. Nearly every church denomination is represented here, and the new De Anza Hotel is a unique addition to the city's assets.

Mayor: M. W. Bates. Trustees: I. Schlatter, P. P. Anderson, W. C. Jones, O. L. Peterson.

Secretary Chamber of Commerce: Leo Watts.
Newspaper: Calexico Chronicle.

HOLTVILLE

Population, 1,758; trade center for eastern part of Valley; Broadway of America, Lee and Bankhead highways; shipping point for large vegetable and fruit area; high school and grammar schools; larger church denominations represented and two hotels; home of one of the large creameries of the Valley; served by Holton Interurban Railway connecting with Southern Pacific main lines at El Centro.

Mayor: Sam Webb. Trustees: P. B. Brown, H. J. Messenger, C. L. Shaw, M. McClelland.

Secretary Chamber of Commerce: W. H. Kirby.
Newspaper: Holtville Tribune.

CALIPATRIA

Population, 1,554; trade center for north end of Valley; important livestock and vegetable shipping point on Southern Pacific transcontinental lines; high school and grammar school; several large church denominations; junction point for spur lines tapping rich farm area to east and south, and tapping fertile producing areas to west. Near scenic Salton Sea, mud geysers.

Mayor: W. C. Wilkinson. Trustees: J. H. Bailey, R. M. Chapman, B. K. Travers, C. S. Gullett.

Secretary Chamber of Commerce: W. W. Smith.
Newspaper: Calipatria Herald.

IMPERIAL

Population, 1,943; headquarters for Imperial Irrigation Districts shops and general business offices; located on Southern Pacific transcontinental railway, state highway connecting Los Angeles and East. County airport located here with daily passenger and express service east and west. High school and grammar schools. Several Churches.

Mayor: A. R. Garey. Trustees: H. K. Oakley, W. S. Dunn, H. G. Miller, Geo. Harris.

Secretary Chamber of Commerce: H. A. Conger.
Newspaper: Imperial Enterprise.

IMPERIAL COUNTY

Chairman Board of Supervisors: Andy Y. Preble; Supervisors: H. L. Jackson, Wm. West, Romeo Smith, Dave Vencil.

President County Board of Trade: A. Y. Watson.
Secretary County Board of Trade: B. A. Harrigan.
President Imperial Valley Associated Chambers of Commerce: S. C. Sorenson; Secretary: Leo Watts.

IMPERIAL IRRIGATION DISTRICT

President Board of Directors: C. W. Brockman. Directors: Mark Rose, Ira Aten, Wm. G. Blair, W. F. Beal.
Secretary: Frank McIver.

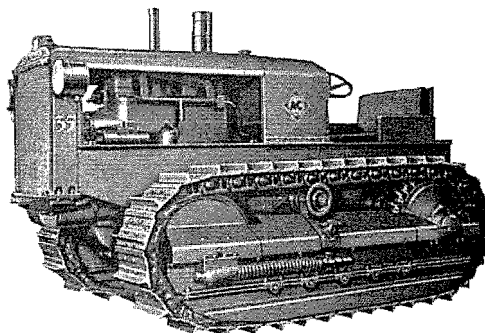
WESTMORLAND

Population, 1347. Secretary Chamber of Commerce: H. E. Hancock. Newspaper: Westmorland Mail.

SEELEY—Secretary Chamber of Commerce: T. B. White.

NILAND—Secretary Chamber of Commerce: Donald Edwards.

HEBER—Secretary Chamber of Commerce: V. R. Majors.



The Allis-Chalmers Monarch Tractor

CROOK COMPANY, IMPLEMENTS
Brawley, Calif.

MODERN farming methods are used by the ranchers of Imperial Valley, especially the great companies that own, lease and operate thousands of acres at a time. These men know that the cost of operating a great tract is materially reduced when powerful, efficient tractor machinery is used to prepare the land and handle the produce.

E. I. Crook and W. D. Crook have been in the tractor business in the Valley for years, first with the Best and the Caterpillar people. Now they handle the Allis-Chalmers Monarch Track Layer Tractors and have added the Brenneis line of farm implements such as discs, power lift spring-tooth cultivators and hay presses.

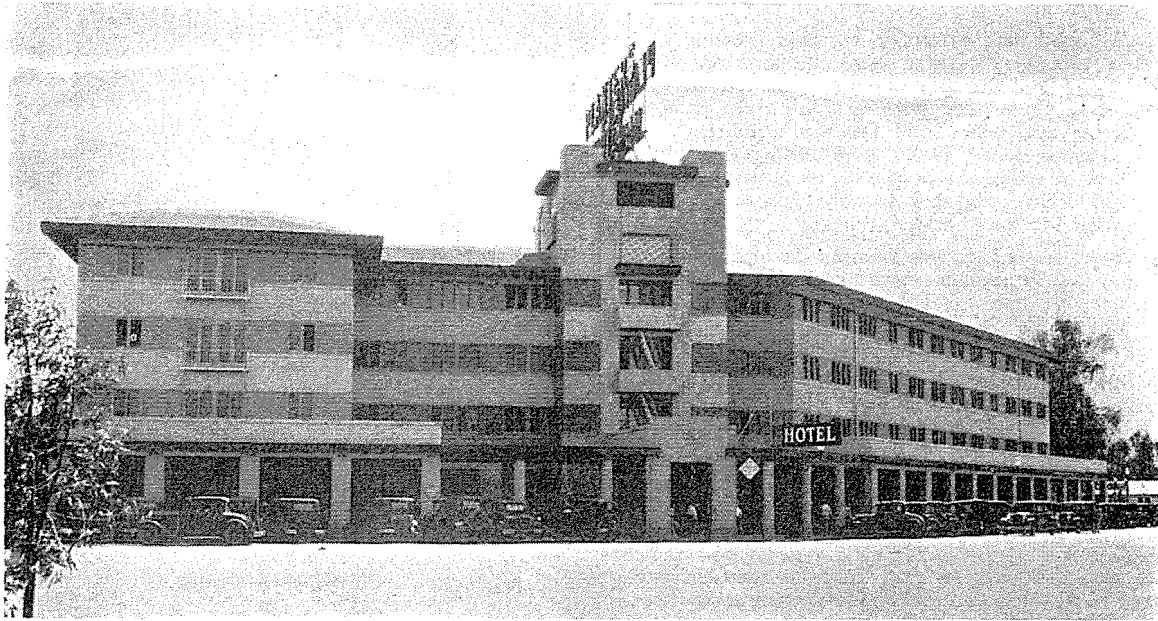
The Allis-Chalmers Monarch Tractor is built to supply the demand for a medium sized, compact track-type tractor of modern design. "Power, economy and performance" is the slogan of the manufacturing company making this machine and the Crook Company has experienced great success in demonstrating to hundreds of users that the famous "35" tractor has all three of these attributes—in fact in a greater degree than the buyer expects to find. Their use is growing rapidly.

Special machines are made to handle the exact requirements of the vegetable industry. The Brenneis disc bedding machine, for instance, for cantaloupe and lettuce bedding, is one of these. It does its work with ease and at a reduced cost of operation.

The new Admiral hay press is an improvement over old designs, also.

The Brenneis heavy regular discs knock down cantaloupe beds without dragging the vines and because of the offset in the discs leave no ridges.

The Crook Company's business is handled in Imperial Valley through headquarters at Brawley, 812 Main street, where W. C. Wing is general manager. Mr. Wing has the genial ability to make and keep friends and this, backed by a product that has first class quality and performance to its credit, is building a business of fine proportions in Imperial Valley.



THE PLANTERS HOTEL, BRAWLEY

WHEN seven or eight earnest young men became so concerned over the absence of hotel accommodations after a serious fire in Brawley that they deposited \$100,000 in cash in a Brawley bank and asked local citizens to lend—not donate—them \$85,000 in order that the town might have a first class stopping place, it was the start for the present Planters Hotel. Before the building was completed the same group went down into their pockets for more cash. Their investment finally amounted to \$300,000.

The group was composed of R. R. Stilgenbaur, G. H. Jones, Roscoe Jones, E. M. Sears, H. B. Sears, Fred Hilvert and M. F. George. These were joined later by M. G. Patterson.

The hotel was finished and opened to the public in February, 1927. Since that time Brawley has enjoyed the privilege of entertaining visitors at the Planters in a manner that sent them away with praises for the class of service. The hotel has become known amongst growers and planters as one of the best in Imperial Valley. It is really the only steel reinforced hotel structure in the Valley. It is a four story, business-like structure, facing the city's park and is within one block of the heart of Brawley. In the rear there is a private park where guests may enjoy the open air in cool comfort. Hundreds of Valley residents as well as hundreds of the visiting public will be glad to learn that on September 1, 1931, A. L. Richmond leased the hotel and is already busily engaged in making alterations and improvements. Mr. Richmond conducted the

Barbara Worth hotel in El Centro for several years and was a leader there, being president of the El Centro Chamber of Commerce one year and on numerous civic affairs he was a prime mover. Mr. Richmond owned and conducted the Arlington at Santa Barbara until it was demolished by earthquake. He then purchased the famous Hot Springs Hotel at Paso Robles which he sold in order to return to Imperial Valley—like all the rest who leave—they yearned to return.

A new dining room is being constructed for the Planters. Accommodations for service clubs, banquets and luncheon clubs are being provided. A ball room is among the improvements planned by Mr. Richmond who, before long, will find the improved Planters Hotel more than ever the center of social and business life of Brawley.

The name—Planters—was selected after a contest was conducted and is exceptionally appropriate. As Brawley is the chief shipping point for produce from the Valley it is the mecca annually for the growers, shippers and planters who gather to handle the cantaloupe, lettuce and other crops. These visitors find at the Planters the comfort and service which they like. It may be of some romantic interest to know that the first crate of cantaloupes raised in the Brawley district was grown on the ground now occupied by the Planters Hotel. The name, therefore, is more than ever appropriate.

This hotel is headquarters for the annual lettuce golf tournament which has become an event of interest and importance. The guests of the hotel enjoy golfing privileges on the Del Rio Country Club grass course.

Paved roads radiate from Brawley in all directions.



This highway is part of the Los Angeles highway entering Brawley.

STAHL'S DEPARTMENT STORE, BRAWLEY

BRAWLEY'S business section has been growing for the past twenty-eight years, since the time the first lot salesman went into the little wooden office and waited for a customer in 1903. The town was only three years from the beginning date when Stahl Brothers established a general merchandise store. That was in 1907. The enterprising brothers so served the people of the growing north end of Imperial Valley that they found a greater demand for their merchandise every year.

One of the reasons for this growing demand was the fact that Ralph W. Stilgenbour was a member of the staff. He helped open the store in 1907 and in 1909 he was joined by his brother Roy R. Stilgenbour. Together they helped the Stahls build up their business on a main corner.

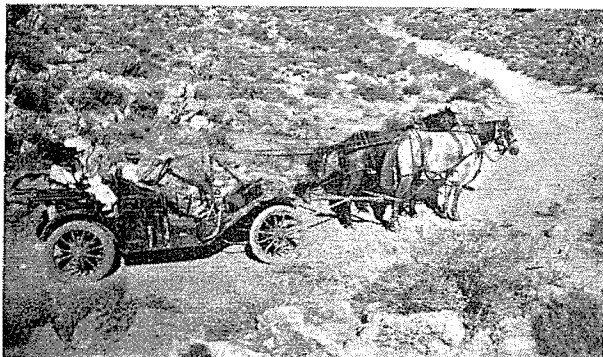
The Stilgenbour brothers were with Stahls for ten years or so together when Ralph bought a partnership and Roy went into banking and later into business for himself as a representative of a large growing concern.

In April of this year, 1931, Ralph bought out his partner and is now sole owner and manager of the business. In the long service of nearly a quarter of a century Ralph has learned exactly the merchandising needs and demands of the Imperial Valley public. When it comes to Mens', Women's and Children's Wear there is no better posted merchant in Imperial Valley. His store is the shopping center of the entire north end. He believes in the principle of giving quality in every article and refuses to deal in shoddy goods that might bring dissatisfaction to the customer. This principle is a hard one to stick to in days of depression when price is the big thing in the merchandising mind. At the same time Mr. Stilgenbour's prices will compare favorably with any other concern.

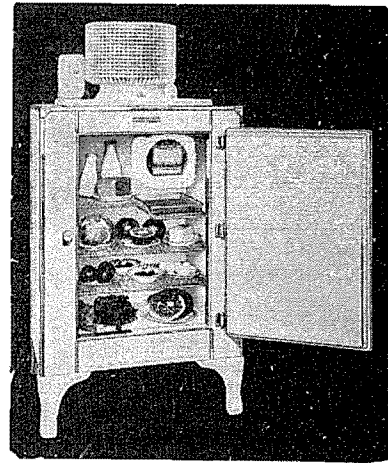
Of course it is impossible for a man with a public spirit to live a quarter of a century in any town without being drafted for public service. Ralph and his brother, Roy, were both members of the city council for four years each and each as mayor for two years. Ralph has served as master of the Masonic lodge, Exalted Ruler of the Elks, President of the Rotary Club and on innumerable committees where real work was to be done. He is happily married and has a daughter. Their home is on 327 J St.

Personality is a great asset in business. In fact no successful business ever develops without the personality of some individual being thrown into the planning, the buying, the managing and, most important of all, the contact with the public. Although the name of the great store is still "Stahls" it might well be changed to "Stilgenbour's" for the Stilgenbour experience, energy and ability makes the combination that keeps the business in the forefront.

The store is just now—September—being overhauled and carpenters are everywhere making alterations. Mr. Stilgenbour sees a big winter's business in sight.



Early Autos were not as Dependable as they are now



The New General Electric Refrigerator

ERSKINE & PREBLE

Imperial
General Electric Refrigeration

ONLY during the last few years has electrical refrigeration been developed to the point where its general use in a warm country like Imperial Valley was economically practical. With the foresight that has accompanied them since their boyhood days in Imperial Andy Preble and Harry O. Erskine sold their roadside sign business a few years ago and secured the county agency for the General Electric line of refrigerators, the kind they believed to be the most dependable and free from trouble. Their judgement was vindicated when call after call for installation of these units in homes and places of business started coming in. They have been busy every month of the year placing these handsome refrigerators in homes of the Valley.

Mr. Preble, who is chairman of the county board of supervisors, handles the outside contacts for the firm while Mr. Erskine attends to installation and service.

Housewives have learned that General Electric has many features that commend themselves. Sliding wire shelves, for instance. Control for temperature by the twist of a switch button—freezing desserts or ice cubes quickly; a quiet motor and a complete absence of vibration; a three year guarantee which means something; rounded corners, all steel, no wood, and a financing service that enables any one to install a unit and pay for it out of the savings made in food preserved and ice not purchased.

Erskine and Preble maintain exhibit and sales rooms in El Centro and Imperial.



Imperial Looked like this when the Prebles and the Erskines Arrived



THE NEW HOTEL DE ANZA, CALEXICO

EVIDENTLY the spirit of the pioneer is far from dead. The same vision of the future that inspired George Chaffey to risk \$150,000 in the building of the first main canal back in 1900 evidently inspired Will R. Conway and the citizens of Calexico to put \$480,000 into a hotel venture in Calexico thirty years later. Hotel De Anza stands today a magnificent monument to this dauntless spirit that has been manifest in so many Imperial Valley enterprises from the beginning.

Hotel De Anza covers a half block of ground on Fourth street, between Heffernan and Rockwood avenues, three blocks north of the main entry into Mexico. It is an excellent example of the Spanish style of architecture with wide, thick walls, red tile roof, arched colonnades, patios and balconies. Its one hundred guest rooms, the spacious lobbies, dining rooms and coffee shop are all furnished with rich Castilian rugs, tapestries and furniture made to the order of Mr. Conway whose ideas, after many years of hotel experience, show an intimate knowledge of the demands of the comfort-loving and art-critical public. Hot, cold and ice water is piped to each room. Tub and shower in each room. A radio is built into the wall of each room. The radio system is used also for paging guests or for messages to the public and for programs that can be broadcast. Three dance floors, banquet rooms for clubs and parties, card tables in the lounge and numerous other luxuries are provided for patrons. From the standpoint of service there is little left to be desired. The staff is composed of experienced men and women from the executive offices to the last boy in the kitchen.

The chief feature, especially during the summer months, is the refrigerated air cooling system that keeps the temperature of every guest room and every other room in the hotel around 75 degrees Fahrenheit. This is accomplished by a complete plant that acts on the whole building through a system of supply pipes and takes away the dead air by another system of exhausts. The air is cooled by an ice cold spray and then conducted as the temperature demands to all parts of the huge structure. Summer residence in the hotel is so attractive that several closed their homes in Calexico and moved to the De Anza instead of going to the beach. Week end parties of eight, ten or twelve were frequent all summer at the De Anza.

Mr. Conway credits the naming of the hotel to Harry Carr, of the Los Angeles Times. Juan Bautista de Anza was the first white man to cross the Colorado desert, which he did in 1774. He first led a small expedition from



Will R. Conway

Tubac, located near the present city of Tucson, Arizona, in search of a land route to the coast. His first expedition was across the sand hills and the second through the lower delta and across the desert near the present location of the new hotel. De Anza's daring exploits opened the route followed for the next century by caravans wending their way westward. Today the modern traveler finds endless miles of concrete stretching from De Anza's starting point through Imperial Valley and on to the coast over which he skims at fifty miles an hour. At the Hotel De Anza he finds a haven from the warmth of the sun and enjoys a bit of old Spain within easy reach of the romantic scenes of Old Mexico where the cares of life seem less rigorous. In Mexicali, just across the way, the tinkling life of the Latins is pictured in the old cantinas and curio shops. Mexicali is the capital of the Northern District of Baja California and contains the governor's palace, improved public parks and many notable public buildings.

Citizens of Calexico joined with Mr. Conway in financing the Hotel De Anza. Some twenty-five thousand dollars were subscribed through a committee appointed by the Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Karl Edmunds was chairman of the citizens' committee.

The opening, which took place on the 28th of May, 1931, was attended by hundreds. Entertainment features followed one another all day and far into the night.

From the date of the opening the new hotel has been

the center of community life in Calexico and the objective of practically every visitor to the Valley from the outside. It is destined to be the center of interest during the winters as well as summers that follow. The grounds around are being beautified and the streets adjacent are being paved. Calexico is proud of the De Anza and this pride is entirely excusable.

WILL R. CONWAY

A personal word about the owner whose daring has given the Valley the Hotel De Anza. He has been "on his own" since he was a lad of fifteen when he washed dishes in a Trinidad, Colorado hotel. For the following thirty-four years he has lived and had his being in the hotel business. He worked through every step—being dishwasher, waiter, bell-hop, clerk and manager at various times. He managed and owned hotels in Illinois, Wisconsin, Oregon, Wyoming and California up to the time he purchased the Barbara Worth Hotel in El Centro in 1920. Under his management for ten years this hostelry became a noted stopping place. Mr. Conway then conceived the idea of a Spanish style hotel close to the border and the present structure is the result of his vision. A remarkable record in construction was accomplished when the plans were ready for the contractors. Only four months were required for completion.

Mr. Conway, in the course of his experience, has accumulated thousands of personal friends, most of whom call him "Bill." He has the magnetic personal quality that attracts and keeps friends. He is also heavily interested in the Hotel De Anza at San Jose and spends a portion of his time in the northern city.

THE NEXT THIRTY YEARS

By ROBERT HAYS

THE First Thirty Years of Imperial Valley's existence far exceeded in accomplishment anything which the most hopeful of its valient pioneers even dreamed of. Reviewing this performance, are we not amply justified in predicting for the second thirty-year cycle a history of even greater achievement?

By the end of the Second Thirty Years California will probably have a population of twelve or fifteen millions; the United States 160,000,000 persons. Vastly more food-stuffs will be required for these multitudes.

My vision beholds the greater Imperial Valley of thirty years hence, a magnificent Empire of a million acres, then as now conceded the most productive agricultural area in the world. The Boulder Dam and the All-American Canal will have been in useful service for a score of years. We shall not easily remember the time when we battled for them and had them not. Lands now idle in Coachella Valley, the great Eastside Mesa and the gentle slopes to the West will then be intensively cultivated and generously producing.

As the increasing population of the seacoast cities in California encroaches annually upon the adjacent lands, Imperial Valley, with its assured supply of Colorado River water, its perpetual sunshine, its twelve months' growing season, its perennially green fields, will be called on more insistently to feed hungry mouths. She will respond. In so doing, wealth will come to her.

El Centro, the capital city, will have 25,000 to 50,000 prosperous persons, a community seeking the larger and more abundant civic life, a group committed to town beautification and a wider cultural and recreational life. The commerce which results through development of and production from our million fertile acres will make possible this growth and development of the city and her people.

Other neighboring cities will develop and grow proportionately. Thriving young towns will be born between Holtville and Yuma. That newer region will be dotted with happy farm homes, traversed by gleaming canals, crossed with busy highways.

And, greatest of all, that same inspired vision, that same undaunted spirit of the fathers, that spirit of the pioneers

which created a great New World from burning desert sands, will not be lacking, but will dominate the coming decades, Imperial Valley's golden, happy Second Thirty Years.



DON C. BITLER, ATTORNEY

Don C. Bitler was first associated with the El Centro Progress in "befor" war" times as city editor and was later secretary of the El Centro Chamber of Commerce and the Elks Lodge. He established himself as a lawyer and he now has offices in the Blenkiron building in El Centro. Mrs. Bitler is active in club work. Their home is the frequent gathering place of numerous groups of friends.

IMPERIAL VALLEY STATION K-X-O

WHEN Radio shot to the heights of popularity a few years ago, Frank Bowles, with keen foresight, secured government permission to install and operate a station in El Centro. It was first called K-G-E-N and was later assigned the letters K-X-O which are the station letters used today. Some time later E. R. Irey became a partner in the business and together Mr. Bowles and Mr. Irey gave Imperial Valley an excellent publicity and entertainment service. The station offers daily features, market news, weather forecast service, pioneer hours, co-operates with the Chamber of Commerce, churches and business houses with pleasing cheerfulness, day in and day out.

K-X-O is a Valley institution. Because of peculiar static conditions on the desert it enjoys almost a monopoly of the day-time radio listeners and many receiving sets stay tuned in all day long on the Valley station. The managers keep their musical library up to the minute. You hear the latest and the best in both recordings and local talent.

Mr. Bowles, by the way, is almost a pioneer. He has lived in the Valley seventeen years. He was formerly in the garage business with his father, Geo. Bowles, who is now a resident of Encinitas, San Diego county.

NILAND'S FUTURE

By JOHN D. REAVIS

Some day Niland's dream of commercial and horticultural greatness will be realized. That time depends upon its land owners, who have in Niland the most strategic location for the building of a commercial city of any place in the Valley. Near Niland is the famous Salton Sea. Here nature has provided a natural resort for Imperial Valley. The sea is as well known the world over as the Dead Sea. Bathing, swimming, boating and fishing are excellently provided for by nature but man has not grasped the opportunity of development. A natatorium for wild fowl the Salton Sea attracts thousands of hunters. As a scientific phenomenon it attracts scientists.

Give Salton Sea a new name. Call it Lake Imperial. The new psychology of a name can often work wonders.

MAXIMUM, MINIMUM AND MEAN TEMPERATURES BY MONTHS FOR YEARS 1914 TO 1930, INCLUSIVE

(RECORDS KEPT BY IMPERIAL IRRIGATION DISTRICT)

Year	JANUARY			FEBRUARY			MARCH			APRIL			MAY			JUNE		
	Max	Min.	Mean	Max.	Min.	Mean	Max.	Min.	Mean	Max	Min.	Mean	Max.	Min.	Mean	Max.	Min.	Mean
1914	<i>No record for these months</i>									100	51	75.4	112	58	84.4			
1915	73	30	53.5	79	40	59.2	92	41	63.4	96	48	69.0	103	41	73.3	109	57	85.1
1916	75	25	52.3	88	29	61.8	100	42	67.8	100	44	71.8	105	50	75.9	116	55	85.4
1917	76	30	50.4	82	32	57.4	93	32	58.8	98	41	66.7	99	48	71.0	117	56	85.5
1918	85	26	53.7	88	28	57.1	95	40	64.7	96	44	69.5	98	50	73.0	113	59	88.7
1919	82	24	51.6	82	32	56.1	89	35	60.4	100	48	71.8	101	55	77.0	114	57	85.4
1920	81	33	55.6	82	41	60.5	85	38	61.1	96	44	68.0	106	41	76.2	108	58	82.8
1921	79	28	52.2	93	32	54.2	93	41	66.3	102	40	66.9	104	46	72.5	110	57	84.2
1922	75	23	49.5	90	28	55.7	89	32	58.8	96	40	65.1	106	46	77.1	114	62	86.5
1923	85	28	56.1	87	30	56.7	89	34	60.4	95	42	67.8	107	52	78.1	114	54	79.5
1924	81	27	53.6	91	37	64.2	92	38	66.0	95	39	70.4	107	53	79.8	113	60	88.9
1925	82	27	52.6	85	35	61.2	94	39	59.4	100	44	70.7	103	54	78.6	114	55	84.3
1926	85	29	53.9	88	33	61.5	91	42	66.9	105	50	73.0	104	55	78.6	113	62	86.9
1927	76	32	55.3	87	34	59.6	92	38	62.2	102	41	70.8	110	53	78.7	111	54	84.0
1928	86	29	56.2	84	33	57.6	91	42	66.0	96	39	69.6	105	53	77.9	112	57	85.2
1929	79	25	50.7	88	24	55.0	95	36	61.9	98	36	86.0	102	49	77.7	117	54	83.9
1930	77	28	52.9	89	34	61.0	92	34	62.4	99	45	71.9	104	43	71.7	112	57	83.4
1931	85	29	54.8	76	38	58.5	95	37	64.5	97	51	72.5	108	55	80.0	111	58	84.7
Average	80.1	27.8	53.2	85.8	32.9	58.7	92.2	37.7	63.0	98.3	43.3	69.5	104.0	49.7	76.3	112.8	57.2	84.9

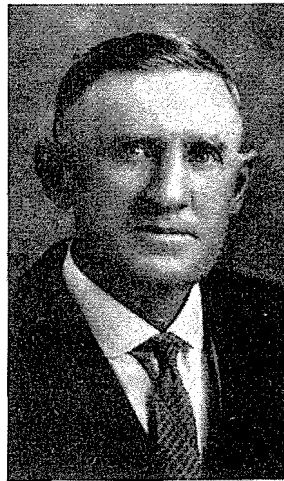
Year	JULY			AUGUST			SEPTEMBER			OCTOBER			NOVEMBER			DECEMBER		
	Max	Min.	Mean	Max.	Min.	Mean	Max.	Min.	Mean	Max	Min.	Mean	Max.	Min.	Mean	Max.	Min.	Mean
1914	110	70	89.8	113	64	88.7	108	60	84.1	100	52	73.4	91	41	65.6	<i>No Record</i>		
1915	110	62	88.9	117	64	90.6	109	52	81.2	104	50	75.6	91	30	60.8	82	28	54.1
1916	111	62	89.9	111	56	87.7	110	57	83.1	95	43	68.2	90	30	58.5	79	25	51.2
1917	113	70	91.3	109	62	88.9	108	53	85.3	106	44	76.2	90	38	63.7	89	31	58.3
1918	110	59	89.6	114	55	86.7	105	56	83.1	100	44	74.7	86	32	59.4	82	28	50.5
1919	111	73	90.7	113	67	90.3	107	60	83.7	94	36	68.3	88	31	59.7	82	31	55.6
1920	115	63	91.1	111	58	87.8	108	53	81.8	102	41	65.7	86	34	58.2	78	29	52.9
1921	111	63	91.0	110	68	88.5	107	57	82.6	103	43	75.1	93	32	62.2	81	33	53.4
1922	111	69	90.3	110	67	88.8	113	59	87.2	100	42	73.3	85	34	58.2	79	34	56.6
1923	113	67	88.6	107	67	87.6	109	51	80.7	97	44	69.7	83	35	62.1	78	32	52.8
1924	111	65	89.8	113	61	89.0	108	48	84.2	100	44	69.4	93	34	61.6	83	23	53.1
1925	115	64	90.6	109	67	88.0	104	52	80.7	101	46	70.4	90	33	60.4	80	31	56.0
1926	112	62	90.3	110	63	89.4	106	53	82.6	100	44	73.1	92	39	63.4	78	27	52.1
1927	114	68	91.7	115	72	90.9	106	56	82.8	101	43	73.8	98	37	63.9	85	31	53.4
1928	114	62	90.3	113	60	88.5	113	67	85.5	102	45	72.2	88	31	61.2	79	29	53.0
1929	111	69	90.7	111	73	90.5	112	54	80.8	104	40	73.8	88	30	59.2	84	31	58.0
1930	112	68	90.2	110	63	87.6	110	51	79.7	100	46	70.2	92	31	61.0	77	26	51.5
1931	116	75	95.2	112	70	89.9	.....	....	.....	.....	....	.....	....	....	.....	....	....	.....
Av'ge	112.2	66.2	90.6	111.5	64.2	88.8	108.4	55.2	82.9	100.5	43.9	71.9	89.6	33.6	61.1	81.0	29.3	53.9

Date	FOR YEAR		Date	Mean for Year
	Max.	Min.		
1920.....	Aug 3		—Incomplete—	
1914.....113	Aug. 18	28	Dec. 17	71.2
1915.....117	June 15	25	Jan. 12	71.1
1916.....116	June 16	30	Jan. 5	71.0
1917.....117	Aug. 2	26	Jan. 11	70.9
1918.....114	June 26	24	Jan. 1	70.9
1919.....114	July 8	29	Dec. 14	70.1
1920.....115	July 22	28	Jan. 12	70.8
1921.....111	June 19	23	Jan. 23	70.6
1922.....114	June 29	28	Jan. 3	70.2
1923.....114	June 28	23	Dec. 26	72.5
1924.....113	July 16	27	Jan. 11	71.1
1925.....115	June 26	27	Dec. 28	72.6
1926.....113	Aug. 10	31	Dec. 8	72.3
1927.....115	July 24	29	Jan. 18	
1928.....114			Dec. 17-21	71.9
1929.....117	June 24	24	Feb. 8-9	70.8
1930.....112	June 7	26	Dec. 22	70.3
1931.....117	July 2-11-15			

assistant cashier; Theo. W. Bolin, assistant cashier.
 Directors: Joel Anderson, Elmer M. Baxter, C. H. Eckert,
 H. B. Graeser, Howard P. Meyer, J. R. Snyder, Dave Vencill.

ABOUT THE CLIMATE

The records of seventeen years showing the highest and lowest temperatures for each month during that period were recorded by the Imperial Irrigation district for the United States weather bureau under government regulation. The fact that 60,000 people, including the children, live in Imperial Valley and the further fact that the Valley's death rate per 1000 population is lower than the death rate for the State and Nation is proof that Imperial Valley is a healthy place in which to live. The reader is referred to the County Health Officer's report in the county history.



DAVE VENCILL
 President First National Bank of Holtville

FIRST NATIONAL BANK
 Holtville, California

THE history of the First National Bank of Holtville is closely interwoven with that of Holtville. Established in the early days by W. F. Holt as the Citizen's Bank it flourished with the east side. Roger Webster was cashier for many years. Soon after establishment Leroy Holt became interested and in 1910 he converted the institution into the First National Bank which is still the title. It is now the only independent bank in the Imperial Valley.

The bank's statement made June 30, 1931, shows \$538,020.80 in commercial and savings deposits with loans and discounts amounting to \$407,026.06. The total resources amounted to \$696,232.12.

Following are the officers of the First National Bank of Holtville: Dava Vencill, president; Joel Anderson, vice-president; F. Roy Thompson, cashier; Kieth W. Savage,

RECORD OF RAINFALL IN INCHES BY MONTHS FOR YEARS 1914 TO 1931, INCLUSIVE

Year	(RECORDS KEPT BY IMPERIAL IRRIGATION DISTRICT)												Total
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	
1914.....	0.06	0.62	0.00	0.00	0.07	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.25	0.90	0.93	2.83
1915.....	2.30	0.02	0.10	0.28	0.00	0.00	0.60	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.32
1916.....	1.09	0.00	1.41	0.25	0.00	0.00	1.25	0.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.40
1917.....	1.32	0.00	0.00	0.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.02	Tra	0.00	0.00	1.64
1918.....	0.63	0.06	0.72	0.00	0.00	Tra	0.00	0.00	0.00	Tra	0.09	0.35	1.85
1919.....	0.88	0.40	0.26	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.08	0.89	0.28	0.10	0.00	Tra	2.85
1920.....	0.88	1.52	0.06	0.00	Tra	0.00	1.05	1.30	0.85	0.00	0.00	1.66	4.91
1921.....	0.47	0.00	0.03	0.00	0.12	0.00	0.06	2.84	0.85	0.00	0.00	1.66	6.03
1922.....	0.68	0.75	Tra	0.00	Tra	0.78	Tra	0.11	0.00	0.00	0.22	0.03	2.57
1923.....	0.09	0.10	0.40	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.59	0.02	0.00	1.29	0.78	3.51
1924.....	0.00	0.00	0.17	Tra	0.14	Tra	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.33	0.66
1925.....	Tra	0.03	0.24	0.09	0.00	0.00	0.16	Tra	1.62	0.30	0.00	0.50	2.94
1926.....	0.17	0.00	0.02	1.11	0.00	0.00	0.05	1.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.87	6.52
1927.....	0.12	0.64	0.11	0.02	0.00	0.00	Tra	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.92	4.70
1928.....	0.00	0.27	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Tra	Tra	0.28
1929.....	0.15	Tra	0.00	Tra	Tra	Tra	0.26	1.23	0.00	0.00	Tra	Tra	1.64
1930.....	0.35	Tra	0.38	0.03	0.41	Tra	Tra	0.73	0.00	0.00	Tra	0.00	1.90
1931.....	0.06	1.90	0.00	0.93	0.00	0.00	0.51	0.00	0.00	0.00	Tra	0.00	3.09
Seventeen year average not including 1931.....	0.49	0.75	0.98	1.10	1.14	1.14	1.21	1.58	2.02	2.21	2.42	3.09	3.09

RAINFALL

This seventeen-year record of rainfall shows a variation from .28 of an inch in 1928 to 6.52 inches in 1926 with an average over the period of 3.09 inches annually, just enough to wash the dust from the trees and give Imperial Valley the clear, alluring skies for which it is famous.

SEARS BROS. & CO.
 Brawley, Calif.

Roy R. Stilgenbaur, well known Brawley citizen, has, since retiring from the banking business in 1922, been representative of the Sears Bros. Company, distributors and growers of fruit and vegetables. Mr. Stilgenbaur has taken his turn at service on the city council, was mayor two years, is Past Master of the Masons, Chancellor Commander of the Knights of Pythias, a member of the Shrine and Scottish Rite. He started in Brawley in 1909 with his brother, R. W., as clerk in the Stahl Bros. store and has been a resident of Brawley for twenty-two years.

SCENIC IMPERIAL VALLEY

LAND OF DESERT ODDITIES

So multitudinous are the publications setting forth the beauties of coastal California and high mountain resorts, that the average visitor to the Pacific has rarely realized that the so-called "back country" of California has a wealth of interesting and magnificent phenomena that are just beginning to become known beyond the borders of the desert settlements.

Newly paved highways that traverse such richly scenic localities as Imperial Valley are bringing thousands of easterners and westerners, too, to this winter paradise, and sending them on their way home again filled with the memories of undreamed sights.

Such natural phenomena as petrified forests, mountains rich in marine fossils; gigantic sand dune ranges, an inland sea in the midst of a desert that seldom knows rainfall; volcanic craters, centuries old and extinct; mud geysers that spout continuously; painted canyons, rich in colored strata; these, and a score of other natural wonders have a lure that is attracting increasingly large numbers of tourists.

At the eastern edge of Imperial Valley the transcontinental highway, broad and well paved, unrolls itself along the desert floor to the sand hills, and there lifts itself up and over the top of apparently shifty dunes on which not a single spear of vegetation shows itself.

While you are riding through eastern Imperial Valley you will want to swing off the main thoroughfare for a few minutes to see Imperial Valley's huge diversion works on the Colorado River through which the entire water supply of this vast and once arid region flows. The history of the building of the western hemisphere's greatest irrigation project is one that is colorful and astounding. At the edge of the boundaries of the United States this Valley takes its supply from the Colorado River, then, because of the natural contours in the country, it carries that supply of water across the border into Mexico in a canal that is larger than most eastern streams. Sixty miles beyond the diversion point the canal swings back across the border into the United States.

From the elevation of an electrically operated tram over the Colorado River itself you can see for miles into Old Mexico, into Arizona and into California. Richly fertile tilled fields, heavy undergrowth and jungle along the river's edge, and arid desert are visible in that single panorama.

Driving back into Imperial Valley again you will enjoy the spectacular contrasts of unclaimed desert with reclaimed fields that spread out checkerboard fashion in uninterrupted vistas.

If you are so fortunate as to be driving through this region in late winter or early spring, and after one of the infrequent showers has moistened the desert floor, you will be amazed at the brilliant and luxuriant array of desert flowers that have taken advantage of the natural fertility of the sand and the miracle of rainfall. Desert primroses, exquisite and delicately beautiful; verbenas, blazing in lavender shades, form a veritable garden over the sands that for the rest of the year are devoid of greenery.

Always in your travels through this Valley you will be able to see Mount Signal, jutting out of the flat floor of the desert to the south and west, just across the boundary line in Old Mexico. When America was young to the rest of the world and the Declaration of Independence was announcing there would be a new republic established, Indians made their signal fires at the crest of this crumbling moun-

tain. It still serves as a guide for aviators as they cross the Valley.

Mount Signal may be reached through Mexicali, the capital of the Northern District in Baja California. Mexicali, twin city to Calexico and separated from the latter city only by an international boundary fence, is always a picturesque and interesting point for visitors. There huge cotton gins turn out 75,000 bales annually. There a great American syndicate has its headquarters from which the operations of a ranch extending over several hundred thousand acres are directed. There foreigners from many countries have unique shops and live in the customs they have known in their own countries.

If you have the time, you will delight in a motor trip south from Mexicali, over indifferent roads and wildest undergrowth, out across a 40 mile stretch of tide flats to the Gulf of California. There, at a little fishing village you can embark on the waters of the Gulf and enjoy some fishing that will make all former experiences seem tame. Bass weighing 150 to 175 pounds are to be caught in numbers. Clam beds provide keen pleasure for those who would cook up a fancy chowder. And ever in the background are the amazing, purple-tinged mountains that seem to change constantly as you gaze at them.

Or you may drive over good roads to Salton Sea, lying ever 250 feet below sea level in the northern edge of the county. That lake covers 200,000 acres of what was once dry desert. At its southern end are interesting mud geysers, which hubble and spurt unceasingly. Peculiar rock formations, "paint pots," and hot springs add to the joy of your visit.

It is to this sea that many hundreds of enthusiastic hunters journey each year for ducks and wild geese. Hunting clubs near Salton Sea provide excellent accommodations as do the score of other splendid hotels scattered throughout the Valley.

Nor have you completed your sight seeing when you have seen the Salton sea. Along the western mesa lands of Imperial Valley there are strange fossil formations, areas where nature has manifested her eccentricities in unsuspected ways. At one point you may find strewn over the desert thousands of loose rocks that appear to have been molded into animal shapes. Some of them are like huge dumb-bells. Others look like overgrown animal crackers. And, if you care to search, there are innumerable relics of Indian life in the desert.

Near this same region along the western edge of the country may be found a petrified forest. Because of its isolation there are not many who have seen it, but specimens brought back by the few who have ventured through the sand of desert trails are proof of its existence.

Still nearer the county's edge the mountains lift their shoulders, and in the canyons are many attractions. The Painted Canyon, easy to reach, and uniquely colorful, is one of the wonders which visitors enjoy. When you visit the innumerable scenic spots of Imperial Valley, you will find a new California in that visit, a state that you had not known existed heretofore. You will carry away with you some lasting and pleasant impressions that will give you much to talk about. All year round you will know that here, at least, there will be few rainy days to interfere with your excursions. Bluest skies and bright sunshine are Imperial Valley's year 'round heritage.

FINIS

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