

# FURTHER IMPRESSIONS OF THE SALT RIVER VALLEY

LLOYD C. THOMAS

In my former letter I spoke mostly of the trip from Alliance to Phoenix. After having been here a month and having spent practically all of that time in the valley surrounding this city I can speak more fully regarding the land and products.

For the man with a fair amount of energy and common sense, but with little money, and a large or growing family, the small farm in the Salt River Valley offers the BEST opportunity for subsistence, for healthful development and for acquiring an enjoyable home and a competence for old age.

In my trips through the valley in our little Ford automobile day after day I have seen mounds, the ruins of

and that this same land is worth from \$500 to \$3,000 per acre when put into fruit, and that it pays from \$200 to \$1,000 per acre with practically very little work when in fruit, the price is indeed low. Land around this addition is selling for as high as \$1,000 per acre for raw land. By raw land I mean land in grain or alfalfa. As soon as the Roosevelt reservoir is completed, which will probably be during this year, no one will be allowed to hold more than 160 acres and the valley will eventually be divided into five, ten, twenty and forty acre farms. The fact that crops are grown here all the year and that six, seven and eight crops of alfalfa are cut must be considered. The fact that the amount of

change would certainly be delightful. Nearly all the different fruit trees are in blossom and the weather can be compared to June weather in Nebraska. We have had no windy weather at all since coming here and only a small breeze one morning which the people here seemed to think was a big wind but would hardly have been noticed in Box Butte county. If there was wind this would of course be a dusty country. The main boulevards are kept sprinkled so that the dust will not be raised by the autos and other conveyances.

A marked peculiarity of this climate is the amount of saccharine developed in products of all kinds. By the help of the Agricultural Department of the

last season several carloads brought at auction in New York City the highest price ever paid for "Washington Navels," over \$2,700 per car. No better lemons are produced anywhere; and grape fruit orchards have not been able to supply the widespread and increasing demand for their product. Olives bear heavily and are a profitable crop. The Valley olive oil is pure and delicious. Almonds, peaches, pears, apricots, figs and grapes of various kinds thrive here.

One of the most interesting sights which we have had is the big ostrich farm west of Phoenix. There are fourteen of these farms in the Valley and here are to be found more ostriches than in all the United States be-

can pasture his stock on green feed twelve months in the year; the new farmer immigrating here with his herd of cows may in less than thirty days time receive cash at the creamery for his milk and cream. This last week we looked over one farm of twenty-three acres five miles from Phoenix on which the owner is living. He has eight cows and one hundred and sixty chickens. His income averages over \$125 per month.

Wheat can be sown in October, and the one thing that surprised me was that wheat, barley and oats are pastured down to keep it from growing too luxuriantly until time to let it head. It is fed down in January and harvested in May, the stubble immediately plow-

CHARLES R. HEIKE.

Accredited Official of the American Sugar Refining Company.



HEIKE WRIT IS DENIED

Order Refusing Immunity Bath to Sugar Trust Official Decried to Stand. Washington, March 15.—The supreme court of the United States declined to vacate the writ of error issued by Justice Lurton in the case of Charles R. Heike of New York, who was denied immunity by the lower federal court from prosecution on an indictment of conspiracy to defraud the government.

ICE GORGE AT BISMARCK

Steamer Expansion Is Wrecked and Other Damage Done. Bismarck, N. D., March 15.—An ice gorge, which formed in the Missouri river here, wrecked the steamer Expansion and did thousands of dollars' worth of damage along the levee.

The west approach to the Northern Pacific railroad bridge is under five feet of water for a distance of two miles and two coast trains are held up at Mandan.

The business section in Mandan is under water.

CUTS WOMAN'S THROAT

Negro Attacks Proprietress of Grocery Store in Outskirts of Kansas City. Kansas City, March 15.—An unidentified negro entered a grocery store kept by Mrs. Mary Albert, a white woman, in the outskirts of Kansas City, Kan., and after slashing the woman's throat with a razor, robbed her of several hundred dollars and escaped. The woman, who was alone, fought with her assailant. Her windpipe was severed and she probably will die.

SERIES OF COSTLY FIRES

New York Town Suffers Losses of Eight Hundred Thousand Dollars. Jamestown, N. Y., March 15.—Jamestown was visited by a series of most costly fires it has ever had, resulting in a loss of \$800,000, the death of one man and the serious injury of three others. The buildings destroyed include the Gokey factory building, the Gokey business block, the new Sherman house, the Erie hall block and the J. F. Briggs block.

MORE CROP DAMAGE REPORTS

Wheat Rules Strong and Corn Advances on Good Buying. Chicago, March 14.—Wheat ruled strong today under the stimulus of renewed crop damage reports and a good demand. Corn also advanced, light offerings being met by good buying, and oats profited from the strength in other grains. Provisions touched new top points. Close: Wheat—May, \$1.14 1/4; July, \$1.08. Corn—May, 65 1/4; July, 66 1/4 @ 67c. Oats—May, 45 1/4; July, 43 1/4 @ 43 1/2c. Pork—May, \$26.15; July, \$26.95. Lard—May, \$14.22 1/2; July, \$14.07 1/2. Ribs—May, \$13.62 1/2; July, \$13.50. Chicago Cash Prices—No. 2 hard \$1.13 1/2 @ 1.14 1/2; No. 3 corn, 61 1/2; No. 2 white oats, 47 1/2 @ 48 1/2c.

South Omaha Live Stock.

South Omaha, March 14.—Cattle—Receipts, 4,500; 1c higher; good to choice cornfed steers, \$6.75 @ 7.75; common to half cornfed steers, \$5.25 @ 6.00; cows and heifers, \$3.00 @ 6.15; stockers and feeders, \$4.00 @ 6.60; calves, \$4.00 @ 8.25; bulls, stags, etc., \$4.00 @ 5.75. Hogs—Receipts, 5,100; 5c lower; a spread of \$10.30 @ 10.46 purchased most of the hogs, as compared with Saturday's bulk of \$10.30 @ 10.35; tops reached, \$10.50. Sheep—Receipts, 9,600; 10c higher; western wethers sold up as high as \$8.00, Mexican yearlings topped at \$7.80 and Mexican ewes went at \$7.90; all of these sales are the highest in the history of the local trade.

Chicago Live Stock.

Chicago, March 14.—Cattle—Receipts, 22,000; 5 @ 10c higher; heaves, \$5.25 @ 8.40; Texas steers, \$4.75 @ 5.90; western steers, \$4.80 @ 6.90; stockers and feeders, \$3.00 @ 6.25; cows and heifers, \$2.65 @ 6.60; calves, \$7.50 @ 10.00. Hogs—Receipts, 25,000; a shade lower; light, \$10.45 @ 10.85; mixed, \$10.50 @ 10.95; heavy, \$10.55 @ 10.95; rough, \$10.55 @ 10.70; good to choice, \$10.70 @ 10.95; pigs, \$9.00 @ 10.45; bulk of sales, \$10.75 @ 10.90. Sheep—Receipts, 14,000; steady; native, \$5.00 @ 8.10; westerns, \$5.50 @ 8.10; yearlings, \$7.35 @ 8.75; lambs, \$8.00 @ 9.65.



IRRIGATION SCENE IN SALT RIVER VALLEY



PICKING ORANGES IN SALT RIVER VALLEY

Pueblos—communal buildings, where these ancient people lived. The ancient irrigation ditches can be traced for miles and the land is so very level that it gives one the impression that the whole valley was leveled by them. We have driven for miles and miles and miles along beautiful boulevards lined with palms and shade trees of various kinds. The roads are all kept in good condition and as there is practically no rain it is easy to keep them in fine order. Automobiling is very popular, there being over three hundred autos in Phoenix.

Our little Ford auto is kept very busy every day taking prospective purchasers of "ranches" out over the valley for the Dick Erdmans Real Estate & Investment Co., with which I am now connected as Secretary. This firm has the reputation of being one of the best in the valley and a large business is transacted by them. We are at present opening up an addition to Phoenix on the north near the Government Indian School. This addition is located near one of the car lines which radiate throughout the valley from Phoenix and the land is selling very fast in five acre tracts at \$300 per acre. This price, of course, seems high to people in Nebraska where land can be purchased for \$10 per acre, but when you consider and remember that five to ten acres will support a family

land is limited, there only being about 250,000 acres under the reservoir, must be taken into consideration. The country surrounding the valley is one of the richest mining countries in the

Government, the luscious date has been imported from North Africa, and evidently has found the equal of its habitat: while one season's experiment with Egyptian cotton seems to have

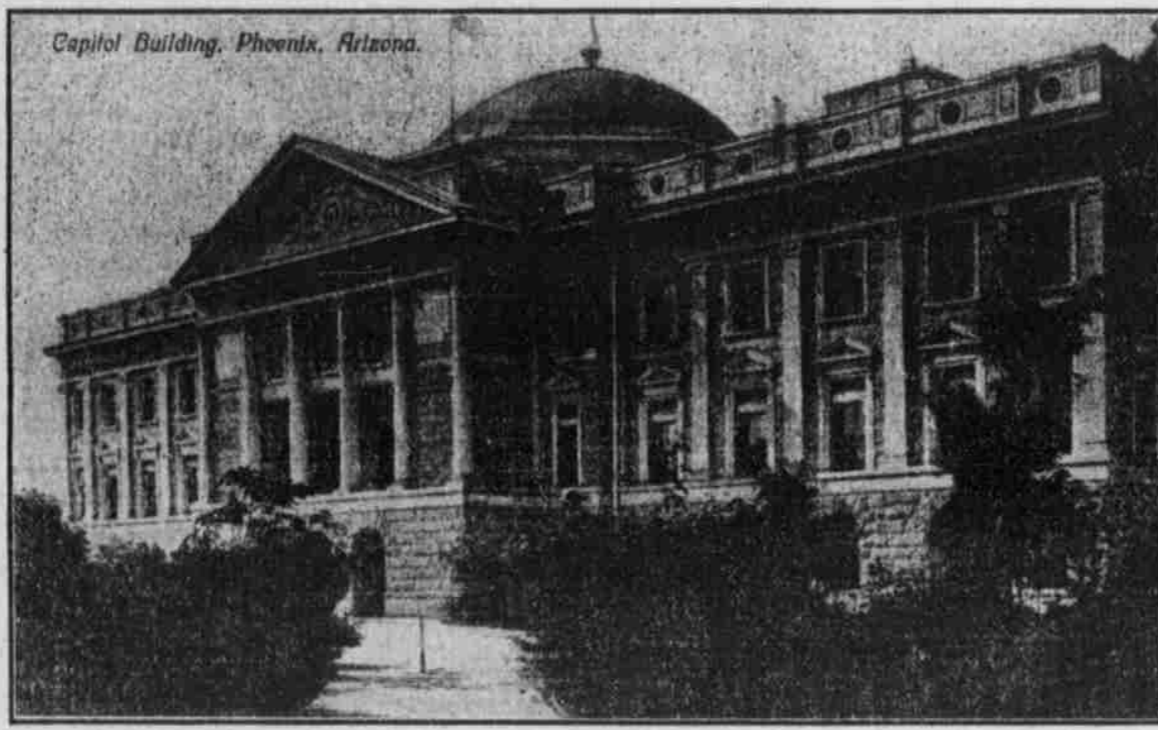
sides. This one large farm has 4,000 birds, averaging in value from \$300 to several thousand dollars per bird. The average income is about \$35 per year per bird and as they feed almost en-

ed in, and corn planted on the same ground, which can be harvested the following October. The same is true of barley and sorghum, one crop of each on the same ground within twelve months.

One large beet-sugar factory is already completed at Glendale, nine miles northwest of Phoenix, with a capacity of 1,000 tons of beets per day. In a trip out near this factory yesterday I saw thousands of acres of beets just showing above the ground.

A great deal of land can still be purchased for \$100 to \$150 per acre under the government canals. But settlers are coming in by the hundreds from all over the United States and they are staying. One fact that impresses the prospective buyer is that many people come from California to the Salt River Valley to permanently locate. There is a reason. Many people have the idea that in a city like Phoenix, famed as it is as a health resort, that you will meet sick people everywhere. This is a mistaken idea, for the sick have their sanitariums and they are no more in evidence than in any city of this size. As a gentleman from New York City said to me the other day, "If this climate is good for sick people why isn't it good for well people?" It will suffice to say that "the Missus" has gained seven pounds and is getting as brown as a berry.

Phoenix, Maricopa County, Ariz., March 11, 1910.



Capitol Building, Phoenix, Arizona.

world and a ready market is afforded for the garden produce, the dairy products, etc., at very good prices.

If the readers of this could take a trip down into this valley now the

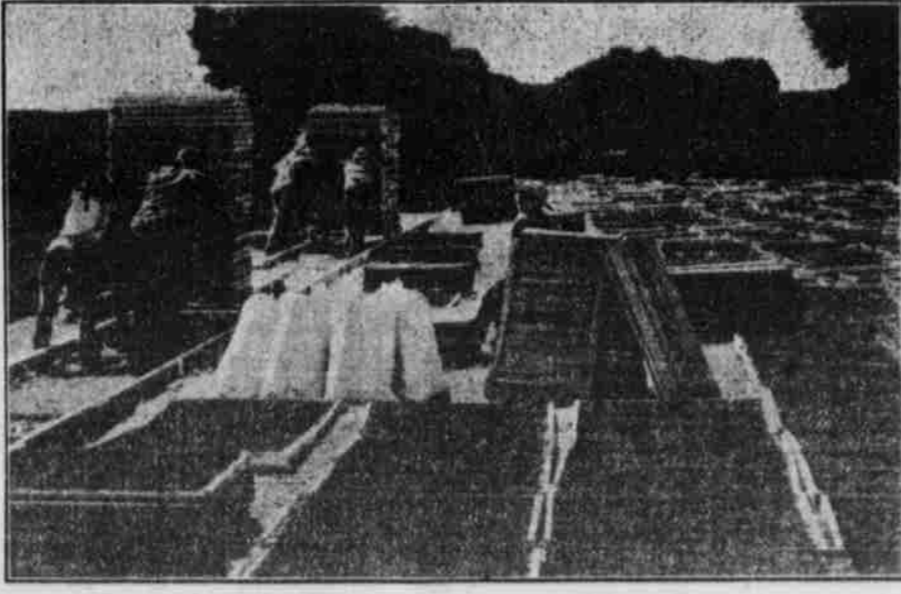
demonstrated that this, too, will become a staple and profitable product. The most delicious oranges are grown, which ripen for the earliest market and command the highest prices. This

tirely on alfalfa at an expense of not more than five or six dollars per year per bird it can be seen that this is very profitable.

Here in this Valley, the dairymen



CANTALOUPE PACKING NEAR PHOENIX



DRYING AND PACKING APRICOTS NEAR PHOENIX

Ready For More Orders

"It never rains—it pours." That is about the way it goes in a printing office. During the last few weeks we have been "up against it" harder in trying to fill our orders for job work than at any other time in a year past. Our foreman was laid off with sickness for about three weeks, which with an extra lot of rush orders for printing completely swamped us. While customers do not like to have their orders delayed, they do not feel any worse about it than does the printer, who is trying to maintain a reputation for filling orders promptly.

We are happy to say now, however, that we have secured additional help for our office. Mr. Knies has resumed his position in the office as foreman and assistant editor, we are getting our work cleaned up and are now ready for additional orders for job printing.

We can assure our patrons that they may again expect their work to be executed promptly.

Information For Horse Breeders.

There are probably many stallion owners in Nebraska who do not understand the provisions of the new law designed to stop the practice of advertising grade stallions as pure-breds. If the owner of a stallion does not possess the certificate of registration as issued by the association in which his horse is recorded, he should correspond with the secretary of that association to procure a duplicate, if the original has been lost.

The associations recognized by the U. S. Department of Agriculture are as follows:

American Association of Importers and Breeders of Belgian Draft Horses, J. D.

- Conner Jr., sec. Wabash, Ind.
- Cleveland Bay Society of America, R. P. Stericker, sec. 80 Chestnut ave. West Orange, N. J.
- American Clydesdale Association, R. F. Ogilvie, sec. Union Stock Yards, Chicago.
- French Coach Horse Society of America, D. E. Willett, sec. 2142 Michigan ave. Chicago.
- French Coach Horse Registry Co., C. E. Glenn, sec. 1319 Wesley ave. Columbus, O.
- National French Draft Horse Association of America, C. E. Stubbs, sec. Fairfield, Iowa.
- German, Hanoverian and Oldenburg Coach Horse Association of America, J. Crouch, sec. Lafayette, Ind.
- American Hackney Horse Society, A. H. Godfrey, sec. p. o. box 111 Madison Square, New York.
- Oldenburg Coach Horse Association of America, C. E. Stubbs, sec. Fairfield, Ia.
- Percheron Society of America, G. W. Stubblefield, sec. Union Stock Yards, Chicago, Ill.
- The Percheron Registry Co., C. C. Glenn, sec. 1419 Wesley ave. Columbus, O.

- The American Breeders and Importers Percheron Registry Co., J. A. Fornes, sec. Plainfield, O.
- American Shetland Pony Club, M. Levering, sec. Lafayette, Ind.
- American Sire Horse Association, C. Burgess, Jr. sec. Wenona, Ill.
- American Suffolk Horse Association, A. Galbraith, sec. Janesville, Wis.
- The Jockey Club, I. E. Wheeler, reg. 571 Fifth ave. New York.
- American Trotting Register Association, W. H. Knight, sec. 355 Dearborn ave. Chicago.
- American Morgan Register Association, H. T. Curtis, sec. Louisville, Ky.
- American Saddle Horse Breeders Association, I. B. Nall, sec. Louisville, Ky.
- Certificates of Registration accompanied by the fee of \$1 each should be forwarded to Professor H. R. Smith, Station C, Lincoln, Neb.
- The W. F. M. S. will give a tea at the M. E. parsonage on Good Friday. A charge of 15 cents will be made.

New Cement Block Machine.

We understand that the new cement block machine which has been ordered by Jno. Pederson has been shipped and will arrive within a few days. The first blocks turned out with it will be for the foundation of the new house which W. B. Parker will erect this spring at 310 Wyoming ave. This house will be a six room residence and, as Mr. Parker is building it as an investment, it will be for rent unless sold when completed.

Laymen to Meet in Omaha

Men of all churches interested in missions will meet in Omaha, March 17 to 20 inclusive. Laymen of all churches in northern Nebraska and western Iowa will attend as well as hundreds of ministers. This meeting in Omaha is part of the great National movement started three years ago in New York City.

The opening meeting will be a big dinner in the Omaha Auditorium where plates will be provided for 1,500 men. The dinner will be served by the women of all churches in the city.

After dinner, speeches will be made by some of the most brilliant and earnest men in the work and deal with "Men and Missions," and "America's Responsibility." On the following days sessions will be held morning, afternoon and evening.

Eggs for Hatching

R. I. R. and B. P. R. hen EGGS. Phone 418 or call at 519 Big Horn avenue, Alliance. M. J. BAUMGARDNER.