

EVENING STAR

C. L. Bittinger and R. R. Carroll,
Editors and Publishers.

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THRO' SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Grand Junction, Calif., Aug. 12.—We took the Shore railroad from San Francisco to Los Angeles and made the run of 475 miles in 11 hours and saw one of the finest and most productive valleys in that wonderful state of great and glorious things when looked at in a materialistic light. For the first 40 miles it seemed as if we were never out of sight of the suburbs of San Francisco. After the great earthquake and fire in that city three years ago, people were compelled to look elsewhere for homes and far-sighted real estate men saw their opportunity and took up lands along the Southern Pacific railroad for these purposes and are still at the business, because during the past year business continued brisk, on account of the very high rents in the city.

In the stretch of country referred to we passed Pala Alto, the home of the famous Stanford University, with its millions of endowments, 51 miles south of San Francisco we enter San Jose, one of the most famous fruit districts of the state, where about every variety of fruit grown in California is grown and the trees still bending under their rich, ripe fruitage.

The culture of prunes is a great industry here and for miles south were to be seen fruit packing campers who move along the fruit producing sections as the fruit ripens for market and they pick and prepare it for shipment. Great canning establishments are also seen at intervals.

When you look at the forests of fruit trees your wonder grows as to what disposition can be made of it during the season, but it finds a market the world over, especially in canned form and none better to be had anywhere.

Morgan hill is a great fruit section and in this beautiful valley is the immense stock range of Messrs Lux & Miller, with their tens of thousands of head of stock, roaming over the million of acres of foot hills and mountain lands lying on either side of the valley. These men are among the pioneer ranchers of the state and their home or headquarters farm is in the valley and the houses and stables used by them create quite a village. They grow on the home farm, which comprises thousands of acres, barley and alfalfa, for their stock, conducting an immense dairy in connection with their stock business.

Here in a measure fruit farming ceases and everything in the valley for more than a hundred miles is barley and alfalfa and at the depots you see immense grain warehouses, several hundred feet long and half as wide, where the threshed and baled barley is stored for shipment. The fields were full of bolters and teams of six to 18 horses and mules were drawing the product to market. The remark was general that the crop was a little short this season, but to have seen the immense and numerous stacks of barley in the fields, a casual observer and a novice to the state thought there was a great plenty.

Japs and Mexicans are the laborers in these fields.

At Kings City, 164 miles south of San Francisco, is the home of the King Bros' ranch, which in extent and vastness is similar to that of Messrs. Lux & Miller. 216 miles south is located the renowned Paso Robles Hot Springs, a cure for every bodily ill, and thousands flock to this place for relief.

At San Luis Obispo we struck the seashore and from thence on we skirt the waters of the Pacific to Los Angeles, with little to relieve the monotony of the miles of mountain range, but here and there cattle ranges, tho' just over this range of hills and mountains, fertile valleys bask in the genial sunshine and produce under the magic touch of irrigation, immense crops of fruit, barley and alfalfa. As we near Los Angeles, we pass Santa Barbara, a city of 12,000 people, Ventura and Oxnard, where is located the biggest sugar mill on the Pacific coast, for which tens of thousands of acres of lands are devoted to the growing of the Soccarine beet.

In most of this territory we had as a traveling companion Mr. M. G. Carr, a commercial salesman from San Francisco, who was taking his vacation and as he had traveled over several hundred miles of this trip for 15 years he made a most interesting and instructive companion.

We spent several days at Los Angeles, the guest of our nephew, Mr. G. E. Bittinger and his family. As Mr. Bittinger was taking his vacation, he placed at our disposal his splendid automobile and his services and we saw the city and country for 20 miles around to perfection. One day we spent at Long Beach, the summer resort of the coast, with its 25,000 people, the growth of ten years, made tributary to Los Angeles with double-

tracks of electric roads that on a Sunday bring 50,000 to 75,000 people to the beach to enjoy its attractions. The place is a second edition of Coney Island. It has a million dollar hotel, whose menu is the equal of the best in the world, as we tested it.

Long Beach's history and growth is a blank refutation of the saying that no resort can grow without the saloon. There are none here; none are permitted. Every man that buys a lot and builds, waives all right to sell liquor on that ground and in that building, forfeiting the same if he or his lessees are caught at it. The place has graded streets and its bathing facilities are about perfect.

We took a run across the bay to San Pedro, the commercial port of Los Angeles, and all that section of country lying back of it. Here in its large harbor rode the American navy that swung the world's circle last year and to witness this array of armored cruisers, several hundred thousand people came to see it. It is the terminus of the Southern Pacific railroad and the general government is spending millions of dollars to create a breakwater, while through the efforts of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce, the towns along the inlet leading to the greater city, are asking for annexation, so that the government will dredge and create a harbor at the very doors of Los Angeles, thereby increasing its already commercial greatness.

Wilmington, half way to the sea, has already voted in favor of this project, which Los Angeles will enforce with a ten million dollar expenditure for a home harbor.

At Long Beach we had the pleasure of making the acquaintance of another nephew, Edward Bittinger, whom we had not seen since a lad of five years. He is engaged in running a very complete soft water laundry—to distinguish it from the water Ocala enjoys.

The next day we took in the San Gabriel Mission, ten miles east of Los Angeles, which was founded Sept. 8th, 1771, by the Franciscan order and is with one exception the oldest mission in the state. It is a place of great resort and is visited daily by hundreds of persons who pay 25 cents to see its ancient walls, strung with venerable paintings of the apostles and the saints and have its main historical facts told by young Spaniards. Thence on to Pasadena, the handsomest town in the world and the winter home of more American millionaires, or any other, for that matter, than reside in any one spot or space on earth. It is a city of 20,000 people, its hotels are in the forefront of such hostilities, notably the Maryland, the Raymond, the Huntington and homes that in variety and quaintness of architecture and in beauty of lawns are idealistic dreams and cost anywhere from \$50,000 to a million dollars. No words of mine can describe its attractions and entrancing beauties.

Talk about bank buildings. The home of the First National in Pasadena is a beauty. Its interior arrangements are perfect. Its vaults are large and roomy. In one of them I saw a cedar chest, splendidly ornamented, and frescoed, of the size of a modest saratoga, containing, it was said, 4,000 of Bob Burdette's extra humorous sermons, for he it was the great hawk-eye, Bob Burdette, humorist, has of late years turned biblical prophet and is now feeding biblical lore to the Baptists of Pasadena in a church that cost a quarter of a million dollars. He is now off on his vacation and the object of keeping his sermons in cold storage was to have them retain their freshness. Every bank in California, no matter if the town is just ordinary, contains a woman's department and to see the number in the First National the morning of our call demonstrated they knew how to draw checks.

We then took in suburban Hollywood, ten miles out toward the sea, that a few years ago was a poor prospect, but now has 10,000 people with all the conveniences of a great city, with hundreds of lovely homes. As we go to the sea this valley.

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which is the home of fruits, flowers, barley and alfalfa, plats beautiful for future suburban homes and samples of \$100,000 and \$150,000 houses, also the old soldiers' home with its thousand mates, makes one sit up and wonder how it has all come about in a quarter of a decade. We saw cultivated in this valley an immense field of tobacco, the property of the American Tobacco Company, and when it comes to fields of beans, the army and navy variety, the Golden State has the rest of the world beat to a stand still. To think of it, you just find everything in California. They say around Stockton they grow sweet potatoes that fade the memory of those of Florida, which we thought could not be the world over.

Well, we say San Monica, Ocean Park and Venice on the seashore, all bathing and summer resort places, which on the average have five to ten thousand people and all the conveniences of ocean piers, vast pavilions and dance halls and bathing pools, with a concrete sidewalk 20 feet wide that extends for over two miles along the ocean beach, the home of the bathers, of which the sands and water were alive.

In this circle we passed over the automobile race track, an eight-mile circle, where they had a 4th of July race meet. 15 machines were entered and made the circle 25 times. The record was 64 miles an hour and over 100,000 people witnessed it. We did a little speed stunt ourselves over the course and we flew for a mile or two. It is a most exhilarating experience, with the stiff sea breeze in your face.

We were shown the swell clubs of Los Angeles. The California with its 1,000 members who pay \$100 a year dues and a cafe that is a dandy. Also the club for the younger set, located in the two upper stories of the Huntington Electric depot building, which cost \$150,000 to furnish and the rental of which rooms is \$5,000 a month, and deemed cheap at that, as Mr. Huntington went way up town, out of the business district six years ago, where only modest homes existed, now it is surrounded by skyscrapers.

The growth of Los Angeles is so great that it almost takes one's breath. It has lovely homes and beautiful residence streets. In 1902 Los Angeles had a half million dollar courthouse on the hill. It was then deemed the marvel of the Pacific slope for a town of its size, 90,000. It is now being replaced by a million dollar building. Its new water system will cost 23 million. The water supply is brought from a river 200 miles away. It has a Christian Science church under construction to cost \$300,000. These are just indications of its growth and expansion. A late election voted four million dollars for good roads. They have the good road fever bad in this country.

We had the pleasure Saturday afternoon to grasp Dr. Rena Snowden and Will Sparr by the hand and say howdy. They were tickled to death to see us. Both are looking well. Dr. Snowden was getting ready to leave that night for the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific exposition. Will Sparr is doing splendidly in the fruit business, but more about him in our next. We took in the G. A. R. reunion at Salt Lake Monday and now here for a day, where they grow Alberta peaches. 12 of them in a row measure a yard. Nor must we overlook Riverside, where we spent a week, but they can rest for our next. C. L. Bittinger.

WASHINGTON ONCE GAVE UP to three doctors; was kept in bed for five weeks. Blood poisoned from a spider's bite caused large, deep sores to cover his leg. The doctors failed, then "Bucklen's Arnica Salve" completely cured me," writes John Washington, of Bosquesville, Tex. For eczema, boils, burns and piles it's supreme. 25c at all druggists.

LOCAL LEGISLATION

Bids for Work on the Market Rejected. Zoo Ordered Sold

The city council of Ocala held a regular meeting at the council chambers on this, August 17th, 1909, with the following members present: E. T. Helvenston, president pro tem, presiding, A. G. Gates, G. A. Carmichael, H. C. Jones, D. E. McIver and H. D. Stokes.

Building permit was granted the Masons to erect a Masonic lodge room on block 75 Old Survey, Ocala.

It was requested and granted till further notice by the council that the sewerage connection of the said building be connected with the city sewerage well without cost.

A permit was granted to E. T. Helvenston and W. T. Gary to erect an awning in front of the Gary block of iron posts with roof of galvanized iron on wooden supports.

Permission was granted to R. L. Anderson to remodel and repair his building on block 45, Old Survey, Ocala.

Councilman Gates introduced an ordinance entitled "an ordinance to amend an ordinance entitled an ordinance to prescribe the fire limits of the city of Ocala." Said ordinance was referred to the judiciary committee.

The semi-monthly pay roll of officers amounting to \$336.50 and semi-monthly pay roll of the electric light plant for \$192.50 were ordered paid.

There being only two bids in for the remodeling of the city market, the said bids were rejected and the clerk instructed to re-advertise for further bids to be considered at the regular meeting of the council to be held on Sept. 7th, 1909.

The vacancy on the board of health caused by the death of Dr. Powers was considered and Dr. D. M. Smith was elected to fill the position.

It appearing to the council that the city inspector, Dr. E. P. Guerrant, was and had been out of the city for some time, the salary of the said Guerrant as milk and meat inspector was discontinued.

Mr. W. H. Hocker presented to the council certain outstanding scrip and asked to have same paid by the treasurer. After having the city attorney's opinion on the liability of the city to pay same, it was ordered that the clerk draw a warrant to Mr. Hocker in the sum of \$42.40 for the payment of this scrip in full.

Sidewalk Ordinance Can be Enforced
The city attorney gave it as his opinion that the sidewalk ordinance is in accord with the state law and can be enforced.

Councilman Gates moved that the street committee proceed to put down the sidewalks on North Oklawaha avenue in accordance with the council's resolution. Carried.

The special committee heretofore appointed to determine what would be the best thing to do with the city zoo, made the following report:

"Your special committee recommend that the city zoo be disposed of at once with the exception of the deer, which we recommend be retained in the zoo."

The report was amended by adding that the entire zoo, including the paraphernalia, be sold and that a special committee, consisting of Messrs. Stokes, Carmichael and ones, dispose of said zoo.

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