

COLUMBUS COURIER

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Republican State Convention.

After an all day and night session, the Republican state convention held at Las Vegas, N. M., Sept. 28, nominated the following ticket:

Governor, H. O. Barsum, of Socorro county; Lieut. Governor, Malaquias Martinez, of Taos county; Secretary of State, Secundino Romero, of San Miguel county; State Auditor, W. G. Sargent, of Rio Arriba county; State Treasurer, Sylvestre Miramoni, of Valencia county; State Supt. of Schools, A. B. Stroup, of Bernardo county; Attorney General, Frank W. Clancy, of Bernardo county; Justices of the Supreme Court, Frank W. Parker, Clarence J. Roberts and Edward R. Wright; Congress, George Curry, Tularosa, and Eliego Baca, Albuquerque.

Republican County Convention.

A Republican county convention, for the purpose of nominating candidates for county offices was held in Deming, Saturday, Sept., 30. Following are the nominations:

D. B. Stephens, sheriff; Chris Rathel, treasurer; H. K. Case, clerk; no nomination county superintendent; Harry F. Baldwin, surveyor; Harry Whitehead, commissioner, 1st district; A. O. Bailey, commissioner, 2nd district; Dr. J. M. Williams, commissioner, 3d district; John Steinemann, tax assessor; R. C. Ely, representative; (with power to substitute). Dr. J. G. Moir was nominated for county chairman and Jas. Durham as precinct chairman of the 5th precinct.

It is almost an absolute rule that towns showing the fastest growth and greatest development contain merchants and business men who are right up to the minute and who prove their faith in advertising by their generous use of their local newspaper. Advertising is one of the greatest factors of modern business. This is no idle dream, but a demonstrated fact. The merchants in our biggest cities, whose names are known all over the country, one and all have testified that their success is largely due to their faith in newspaper space. It is equally true in the smaller towns. The man who uses newspaper space, and uses it intelligently is the man who gets the business of the community.

Fund of Valuable Information.

By R. H. CASE

(The following article published in the Deming Graphic last week comes from the pen of R. H. Case, a civil engineer and expert geologist. It was written at the instigation of Jno. Corbett, president of the bank of Deming who received a request from L. M. Allen, passenger traffic manager of the Rock Island lines, for accurate information regarding the possibilities of irrigation in the Mimbres valley.—Ed.)

The Mimbres Valley is a Bolsion Plain, or Pocket Plain, a geologic type which is found frequently in the Southwest. It has no drainage outlet. All the water that falls upon its watershed is retained in the subterranean strata of the valley. The Mimbres River proper has a watershed of about 1500 square miles. It is a perennial stream to where it leaves its narrow mountain valley, and enters the open level stretch of country known as the Lower Mimbres Valley, the area of which is some 250,000 acres.

On leaving its mountain valley some 26 miles northwest of Deming the water sinks, finding its way into the underground water system of the alluvial and colluvial deposit which fills the valley proper.

During the rainy season, from June to August, the dry channel carries the flood waters escaping the "sink," and also the flood waters draining into it below the sink, a distance of about 35 miles southeast from its point of exit, distributing these flood waters also into the underground strata.

No lakes exist at the "end" of this dry water bed and what water is not lost by evaporation and absorption along its banks finds its way also into the underground system.

The river at its sink has been gaged thru a period of years and some 250,000 acre feet of water pour into the "sink" at this point annually. In addition to this it is estimated that 250,000 acre feet are added from that part of the catchment area known as the Burro Mountains watershed.

The valley fill consists of, first, soil from 5 to 50 feet deep, then alternate layers of clay and gravel. The logs of 100 wells from

150 to 200 feet in depth showing gravel strates varying in thickness from 5 to 50 feet and from 2 to 10 strates occurring within that depth.

The water plane, or depth from the surface, varies from 10 to 150 feet, there being an area of, probably 125,000 acres on which the pumping lift for wells of from 500 to 1500 gallons capacity per minute will range from 30 to 85 feet.

Of this 125,000 acres, probably not more than 4,000 acres are under cultivation now. That area will probably be doubled next year, and it is not unlikely that 15,000 acres will have been reclaimed by the close of 1912.

The agricultural history of this valley began in 1908 when the first irrigating well and pumping plant was installed. Prior to that year it was strictly a cattle country, and its thousands of acres of grass and mesquite land afforded range for numerous cattle.

The advent of the farmer was hardly appreciated. Considerable doubt existed as to the success of agriculture, but land was being rapidly taken up. In 1909 a Californian who for several years had been manager of the Cudahy ranch in South Los Angeles, visited this valley, saw the one pumping plant, then in operation, delivering 1,000 gallons per minute, and immediately realized the possibilities.

This gentleman, who had had some 13 years' experience in pumping water for irrigation in California, installed a plant of 1250 gallons and the commercial possibility of agriculture was definitely determined.

Following his example, others tried the so-called experiment and made good, the result being that to day probably 250,000 acres of the available land here has been filed on, and there are in operation some 150 pumping plants irrigating approximately 4,000 acres of what was considered three years ago land fit for grazing only.

The agricultural value of this valley land having been determined, land values have risen rapidly in the past three years. In the Rio Grande Valley, 80 miles

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Sweet Clover for Hard Land.

Several farmers of this valley have been experimenting this year with sweet clover and speak very highly of it. In some portions of the valley where the heavy adobe soil is found it has been planted and found to loosen and lighten the soil to a great extent, at the same time furnishing a cutting of fine hay every four or six weeks.

Furthermore it is well spoken of as a fine producer of the bacteria so helpful to alfalfa and without which, indeed, alfalfa cannot be grown. Some have even sown it along with alfalfa and claim it materially assists the latter in obtaining a quick sturdy stand.

In many places throughout the east and middle west the railroads sow sweet clover along their right of ways to keep down the weeds. Not infrequently it is used for fertilizer, and many old worn out farms of the New England states have been renewed by this plant. However, in this section sweet clover is of value chiefly because of its power, to break up and prepare the heavier soils for easier cultivation.

New Blacksmith Shop.

Lloyd Allen of El Paso who located government land here about a month ago is preparing to put up a blacksmith shop in Columbus. The building will be 40x40 and will be begun this week. Mr. Allen is an experienced blacksmith and wood worker, has a fine lot of tools already here ready for business as soon as the building is completed, and will be prepared to do all kinds of repairing as well as constructing in his line.

Fine Rain.

Columbus and the Lower Mimbres Valley was visited with another one of those fine fall rains Wednesday night which makes everybody, young and old, farmer and townsman, sit up and smile. As a result of these rains many of the farmers in this part of the valley are cutting a big tonnage of prairie hay, while the crops planted by the dry farmers, are in many instances striving for competition with those of the full fledged irrigator.

Dr. and Mrs. Albro returned from a month's visit back east last Tuesday. They report a most enjoyable trip.