Salt River Valley
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Buildings the Tonto Dam

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Offers

Productive Lands, A Healthful Climate
and Rare Opportunities to the Investor
and Homeseeker

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The Salt River Valley, which is situated in Maricopa county, Arizona offers special inducements to the farmer, the investor and the home seeker; and the object of this publication is to call the attention of those who are seeking investments and homes to the rare opportunities offered here.

This valley comprises about a half million acres of very fertile land. The climate is mild, dry, and free from snow, ice, cold winds and violent storms. No cyclones, sunstrokes or frostbites. Of this half million acres, there are about 125,000 acres in cultivation.

Owing to the scarcity of rain, all of the lands of the Salt River Valley must be irrigated in order to produce crops, dams are built across the river, and the water is conducted to the land through canals, ditches and laterals. When the water is applied to the lands vegetation immediately springs forth. It is difficult to make an outsider believe that for only a month or two vegetation is at a standstill, and that from four to six hay crops can be harvested during the season. Yet this is true.

Much difficulty has been experienced by the flood waters of our rivers going to waste at a time when they were not much needed, and when needed there was not enough to supply the demand.
This difficulty will soon be overcome by impounding the flood waters by means of great dams and reservoirs. The United States Congress, in passing the National Irrigation law, put in force one of the wisest acts of recent years. This law will cause many a desert waste to be reclaimed. Happy homes will spring forth and millions of people will live and prosper where once there was nothing of value to mankind.

The people of the Salt River Valley were in position to take immediate advantage of the Reclamation Act. Preliminary investigations showed the possibility of water storage on Salt River in Tonto basin. This project, which is known as the "Salt River Project," was one of the first undertaken by the United States Reclamation Service, and is now being vigorously prosecuted to completion for the purpose of supplying the lands now under cultivation with a steady flow of water, and reclaiming from the desert other lands which heretofore were without water.
The Tonto Dam and Reservoir

THE Tonto dam and reservoir, as they are known locally, from their location just below the junction of Tonto creek with Salt River, though under the Reclamation Service are called the Roosevelt Dam and Reservoir, will give a continuous supply of water for about 200,000 acres of land. This dam is seventy miles from Phoenix, but the land to be irrigated from it lies within a radius of 20 miles around the city—the Salt River Valley. The dam is reached by a fine wagon road, just like a boulevard, from Mesa City, built through magnificent mountain scenery, at a cost of about $100,000, $75,000 of which was contributed by Phoenix, Tempe and Mesa.

This dam is being built of huge blocks of stone laid in cement in the most permanent of masonry construction. Tonto dam will tower 280 feet above the foundation on bedrock thirty feet below low water mark. This means 250 feet of structure above the surface. At each end of the dam, overflows or spillways will be

City Hall and County Court House, Phoenix
cut in the solid rock of the canyon sides. These spillways will be 200 feet wide, 20 feet deep, and over each will be built a concrete bridge connecting with the top of the dam, and forming a continuous wagon road over the dam. Water will be let out of the reservoir through a 500 foot tunnel, cut through the solid rock around one end of the dam. Stretching behind the dam will be the largest artificial body of water in the world, a lake 25 miles long, with an average width of 1½ miles, and a capacity of 1,300,000 acre feet. This means water sufficient to cover 1,300,000 acres one foot deep. The cost of construction will be $3,850,000. The number of acres to be served from the reservoir will be 200,000.

It is not expected that the whole supply of the reservoir shall be used in any one year. While at present it takes about 4 acre feet of water to thoroughly irrigate crops through the year, over half of this supply is received from the natural flow of the river.
At this rate, the reservoir, when once filled, would suffice for about 3 years' supply if no more water should be added to it in that time from natural sources.

During the early months of 1905, careful figuring shows that enough water ran down the river and went to waste to fill the reservoir three times. The same has been the case during the winters and springs of 1906 and 1907.

**Granite Reef—Diversion Dam**

For thirty miles or more below the Roosevelt dam, Salt River flows through a precipitous box canyon, and this natural water-way will be the outlet for the reservoir. At the mouth of this canyon, and below the junction of the Salt and Verde Rivers, the U. S. Government is constructing a permanent diversion dam at Granite Reef, 28 miles up the river from Phoenix. This dam, which will rest on rock foundation, will be built of stone and cement, and when completed, will withstand the floods, which heretofore have carried away the temporary dams; sometimes once or twice a year. This dam is not intended to impound water, but simply to divert the water from the river into canals. The dam, when completed, will divert the water of the river into two large distributing canals, one on the north side, and the other on the south side, of the river. These canals will carry water down the valley to the smaller canals, ditches and laterals, to the lands to be irrigated.

**Development of Power**

The U. S. engineers of the Reclamation Service, in carrying out the plans of the Salt River project, have taken into consideration the practicability of developing power for pumping and manufacturing purposes as an additional asset to this great work.
SALT RIVER VALLEY

Phoenix Churches

A diversion dam and canal were built about 18 miles above the Tonto dam for the purpose of developing power in the construction of the dam. This has proved to be very satisfactory, and the power obtained, which amounts to about 5,000 horsepower, is being utilized in running the cement mill, ice plant, electric light plant, dredging, lifting stone into place, and all other things necessary in carrying the work to completion. Other power plants will be inaugurated along the river and canals, so that when the project is completed, 20,000 to 25,000 horsepower can be developed for the use and benefit of the people owning lands under this system. As power is greatly in demand in a country where fuel is so dear, this power when leased or sold will bring in a revenue of $500,000 or more annually. This may be the means of returning to the Government the original cost of the works now under construction, and afterwards, a revenue for maintenance, repair, and other expenses incident to the irrigation of so large an extent of country.
Principal Crops Raised in the
Salt River Valley

The crops raised in the valley consist chiefly of wheat, barley, oats, sorghum and alfalfa. Although the water supply has never been constant the year round, owing to the washing out of dams and dry seasons of several months at a time, yet the yield per acre as compared with lands in other sections where irrigation is not in vogue, is vastly superior.

The yield of wheat is from 1800 to 2500 lbs. per acre, or 30 to 35 bushels. Of barley, the yield is 1500 to 2000 lbs. per acre, or 30 to 35 bushels. Alfalfa for hay is cut from four to six times per year, thus yielding from six to ten tons of dry hay and leaving at least four months of the year for pasturage. Barley and oats are also grown for hay, and when cut in the milk make fine feed.

Arizona School of Music and Dorris Theater
for horses and cattle. Wheat sells for $1.20 to $1.60 per 100 lbs. Barley brings from 80¢ to $1.25 per 100 lbs. Alfalfa hay, baled, from $8.00 to $12.00 per ton. Alfalfa hay in stack from $5.00 to $8.00 per ton. Alfalfa for pasturage from $5.00 to $6.00 per acre per year.

**Other Crops Raised**

ORANGES are grown in this valley, there being now from 1200 to 1500 acres devoted to orange culture. The yield is large, and the fruit commands a high price in eastern markets. The Washington navel orange sells in New York for $5.00 to $8.50 per box, or about $3.00 to $5.00 after paying the freight and other expenses. This orange, for flavor and sweetness, has no superior, and is placed on the market a month earlier than California oranges. About one hundred car loads will be shipped out this season.
THE grape fruit also does well here, and is more profitable than the orange to the grower. The strawberry, the raspberry and all kinds of garden truck, thrive in this climate, and the yield is very large and profitable to the growers.

Melons and Cantaloupes

THIS valley seems to be particularly suited for watermelons and cantaloupes, and the yield per acre is very large and the profits good. The cantaloupe ripens earlier here than in most sections, and owing to the excellent flavor, brings a good price in the Chicago and other eastern markets. The average yield is from 150 to 200 crates per acre, and the price received is from 80¢ to $1.70 per crate net. The country about Mesa, 16 miles east of Phoenix, is celebrated for its famous cantaloupes. The writer knows of one man in this vicinity who in 1905, from twelve acres, cleared, after paying all expenses of cultivation, picking, crating, shipping and selling, the sum of $1800, or $150 per acre. Some have realized as high as $200 per acre net. One hundred and fifty to 200 car loads per year are shipped from Mesa to Chicago.

Dates and Olives

THIS valley is also adapted to the culture of the date and olive. A twenty acre date orchard has been set out by the U. S. Agricultural Department near Tempe, where more than twenty varieties, imported from Morocco, have been brought into bearing. The fruit grows in clusters of 30 to 40 lbs. and 3 to 6 clusters to the tree. The fresh fruit brings 25¢ a pound readily in the local market.
O
LIVES thrive here, the trees being especially adapted to
drought and heat. Most of the fruit is pressed for oil,
although the pickle industry is increasing. Arizona olive oil has a
fine flavor, and its keeping qualities are especially good. Olives
yield from 200 to 250 lbs. of fruit to the tree, and the oil manu-
facturers pay from $20 to $30 a ton for the fruit on the trees. It
takes about 90 lbs. of fruit to make a gallon of oil.

Other Fruits

T
HE peach, apricot, pear, fig, almond, grape and strawberry,
all do very well here, and under proper culture, the yield is
very large. The strawberry is found on the market here nearly
the whole year, and the profit to the growers is very large. In
some localities near Phoenix one single acre of strawberries has
yielded from $500 to $1000.
Dairy Farming

This is one of the most profitable industries in the Salt River Valley, and is one that is not overdone. The dairy cows need no housing as in cold climates. Dairy men think nothing of clearing from $6 to $10 a head per month on milk cows. There is always a good market for the dairy products, as only about one-fifth of the dairy products consumed in Arizona are produced here and Salt River Valley furnishes 95 per cent of all the butter and cheese manufactured in the Territory.

Horses, Cattle and Sheep

The Salt River Valley is noted for its fine horses and fat cattle. Horses are raised here at less expense than anywhere, and reach maturity a year or two earlier than in colder climates. Here the horses need no protection, more than a shelter, or the
shade of a tree from cold or heat. They run at large on the pastures the year round, and at two and three years old cost the owner just about one-fourth as much as they do in colder climates. Horses bring good prices here. Since the location of the Territorial Fair at Phoenix in 1905, an additional impetus has been given to breeding fine horses. As the fair is held in November, the owners of speed horses from the northern and eastern states are every year bringing their "strings" to the valley for winter-training in a mild climate, and also for the purpose of contesting for the valuable purses offered.

Many of the finest breeds of cattle are raised in this valley, for beef and dairy products. Cattle are shipped into the valley from the mountain ranges for fattening. After a few months'
run on the alfalfa, they are shipped to California and the eastern markets for beef. Beef cattle are sold here from 2 3/4 to 4 1/2 cents per pound on foot. Thousands of sheep are driven into the valley every winter for shearing and the annual clip amounts to over 1,500,000 pounds. Sheep are also bred in the valley for early lambs.

**Poultry and Eggs**

**Fowls** of every kind seem to thrive here and there is always a good price both for fowls and eggs. Chickens and turkeys pay well for the time and money expended. Only a small place is required for a chicken ranch—five to ten acres are ample. The supply does not begin to meet the demand. During November, December and January eggs retail for 40¢ to 60¢ per dozen. Turkeys retail at 15¢ to 18¢ per lb., and chickens from $4.00 to $6.00 per dozen.

**Ostrich Farming**

**This** is a new industry in this valley but is proving to be one of great success financially. There are eight or nine ostrich farms here, on which are now herded 2,000 birds. Fully three-fourths of the ostriches of the United States are found in the vicinity of Phoenix. The birds live on the alfalfa, grazing like cattle. The feathers from a full grown bird bring about $30 per year. Ostriches are valued as follows: Six months old, $100; one year, $150; two years, $250; three years, $350; four years, $800 per pair, as at this age they pair for life.

**Access by Railroads**

**The** Salt River Valley is reached by branch lines from two transcontinental railroads. From Ash Fork, on the main line of the Santa Fe system, 197 miles north of Phoenix, runs the S. F. P. & P. railway, which terminates at Phoenix.
Building the Tonto Dam

At Maricopa on the main line of the Southern Pacific and Rock Island system, is one of the terminals of the M. & P. & S. P.V. railway, the other being at Phoenix. The distance from Maricopa to Phoenix is 35 miles. A branch from this road runs from Tempe to Mesa City.

The Phoenix and Eastern railroad has been built from Phoenix beyond Florence. This line will no doubt tap both the Southern Pacific and the Santa Fe systems, and will be extended from Phoenix by Wickenburg westward to California.

Tourists' rates from eastern points to California apply to Phoenix. Any one visiting the Pacific coast may obtain stop-over privileges at Maricopa or Ash Fork for Phoenix by paying $3.50 extra for round trip ticket. A first-class ticket from Chicago to Phoenix is $53.85. From New Orleans about the same.
Phoenix

PHOENIX is the capital of Arizona and county seat of Maricopa county, and is a beautiful city of 14,000 to 15,000 population. The city is well laid out with wide streets and sidewalks. Beautiful parks surround the public buildings, while the residence streets are nicely shaded. Phoenix has a high school, grammar school, and five ward schools in the public system, in which are enrolled about 2,000 children. There are also private schools in which are enrolled about 300 pupils. Twelve church denominations are represented, and all have commodious houses of worship. One hundred thousand dollars was subscribed in eleven days for a Y. M. C. A. building, which is now in process of building. The city has a municipal water works system, electric street railways, electricity and gas for lighting and heating, four strong banks, including National, Territorial, Savings and Trust companies, three daily newspapers...
and several weeklies, a Carnegie public library, and all of the conveniences of the most modern city. The altitude of Phoenix is 1076 feet above sea level, the mean annual temperature is 69.3 degrees, and the average wind velocity is five miles an hour. Frosts are light during the winter months. No cold winds or cyclones. Phoenix has hotels and boarding houses, a number of restaurants, and is well prepared to take care of strangers seeking health or investments at reasonable rates.

**Tempe**

This town, which is about 9 miles east of Phoenix, has 1500 inhabitants, and is located on the south side of Salt River in the midst of a rich farming country. The Territorial Normal school is located at Tempe, with fine buildings, and beautiful grounds,
affording accommodation for 200 or more pupils. Several new build-
ings are being constructed from recent generous legislative appro-
piations in order to keep pace with the growth of the Territory, 
which is very proud of its system of public schools and educational 
institutions. Tempe enjoys the distinction of owning its own water 
plant, which supplies the town with abundant water for domestic 
and fire purposes at a reasonable cost. The churches, public schools 
and fraternal organizations are representative and adequate. Tempe 
has electric lights, good hotel, two good banks, a flouring mill, and 
a condensed milk plant. The lands about Tempe are very fertile, 
and have always enjoyed a good supply of water for irrigation.

Mesa City

A BOUT 6 miles east of Phoenix is situated this beautiful town. 
It is well laid out with broad streets, and has a population of 
about 1500. Mesa has a high school and graded schools in which 
are enrolled about 800 children. Mesa has a good hotel, a strong bank, 
churches, and is lighted by electricity. The lands about Mesa are 
very fertile, and are especially adapted for growing grapes, melons, 
cantaloupes and fruits of every description. From Mesa are shipped 
annually hundreds of car loads of cantaloupes of the choicest and 
sweetest flavor, that readily command the highest price on the east-
ern markets. Several large pumping plants for irrigation are being 
operated near Mesa, furnishing a continuous supply of water for 
thousands of acres of land, one ranch alone irrigating 3,200 acres 
from pumped underground water.

Alhambra, Glendale, Peoria and Scottsdale, are all thriving vil-
lages, from four to fourteen miles from Phoenix. They are all situated 
in the Salt River Valley in the midst of the rich farming lands.
Residence Streets, Phoenix

Buckeye

This village is situated about 30 miles west of Phoenix, in a district noted for its grain, alfalfa and fat cattle. The Buckeye canal, which irrigates this district, receives an abundant supply of water by means of a diversion dam across the Gila river below its confluence with the Salt, and just west of the Agua Fria river. Ranch cattle are driven in for feeding in thousands each year, and the exports are fat cattle, besides hay, grain and hogs. Cotton is also grown successfully in this vicinity.

Arlington

West of Buckeye is located Arlington, which gets its supply of water for irrigation from the Gila river. The lands are very productive, and the people prosperous and hospitable.
Wickenburg

This is a mining town, and is situated on the Santa Fe, Prescott & Phoenix railroad about 50 miles northwest of Phoenix. Wickenburg has a population of about 500 inhabitants, good schools and hotels, large mercantile houses, and is the center of a large mining district. Near Wickenburg are situated some good mines, and a great many promising prospects. The Vulture mine, one of the famous gold producers, is about 14 miles westerly from Wickenburg. This mine, though not in operation at present, has produced many millions of dollars and no doubt will be operated successfully again. Wickenburg is destined to be one of the great mining towns in the future, and is an ideal place for a smelter, as there is much copper and gold in the vicinity.

Agua Caliente

Here are situated the famous Hot Springs. These springs possess rare medicinal qualities, and the water is used for drinking as well as bathing. The temperature of the water is 98 to 104 degrees, and the resort is patronized by those seeking rest and recuperation, as well as by those who desire restoration of health. Agua Caliente is located in the southwestern part of Maricopa county, 12 miles north of Sentinel station on the Southern Pacific railroad, with which the place is connected by stage.

Cave Creek

This is also a mining district, situated about 30 miles north of Phoenix. There are many gold and copper prospects in the district, some of which are very promising. This is also a cattle and sheep country.
Price of Lands—Salt River Valley

IMPROVED lands sell from $75 to $150 per acre. Unimproved lands sell from $50 to $75 per acre. The price of lands has advanced from 50% to 100% in value within the past year. The limit has not been reached yet, as similar lands under Government irrigation projects in other localities are worth from $250 to $500 per acre.

Expense of Living

HOTELS charge $2 per day and upwards. Board can be had from $5 to $10 per week. Rooms, furnished, from $8 to $30 per month. Furnished houses from $25 to $150 per month. Unfurnished houses from $15 to $50 per month.
A R I Z O N A

Wages

Carpenters are paid from $4.50 to $5.00 per day. Brick masons from $6.00 to $8.00 per day. Laborers from $1.25 to $1.50 per day and board.

A Word to Health Seekers

The Salt River Valley has become celebrated as a health resort, and every winter Phoenix, Tempe and Mesa, are filled with health seekers and tourists. Every comfort can be had here. Nourishing food, such as milk, cream, butter, eggs, fresh meats and fruits of every kind are within the reach of all.

While the benefits derived from a short stay are great, and in many instances lasting, yet to receive the best results, one should remain here some time. This section is sought by those suffering from tuberculosis or consumption, yet there are other complaints, such as catarrh and asthma, that are relieved by this mild and dry climate.

No one should come here seeking health unless he has money enough to last him from six months to a year, as it is very difficult for sick persons to find employment. By economizing an invalid might get along on $50 per month, but he should have $75 to $100 per month, for six months or a year if he expects lasting benefits. Phoenix has hospitals and sanitariums, but they are not free institutions. We have good and reliable physicians, but they cannot attend patients free of cost.
THE county of Maricopa, and especially the Salt River Valley, has good public schools. The school buildings are comfortable, and so located throughout the valley, that they are in easy reach of the children. The standard of our schools is high, education compulsory, and the teachers are all of good moral character and fully competent. The county has 105 schools; 29 grammar schools and 76 primary schools. The large towns also have high schools. The number of children in the county between the ages of 6 and 21 years, are 5,741; the number enrolled in the public schools is 4,553; the number enrolled in private schools is 300; number of teachers employed 117; money received for school purposes for 1907 $98,765.33; amount paid to teachers, $65,516; average salaries paid male teachers, $90; average salaries paid female teachers, $70.
Questions Answered

that may be of interest to the homeseeker, the investor or the tourist.

1. Where is the Salt River Valley? In Maricopa county, in south central Arizona, comprising the land lying on both sides of the Salt River, above the confluence of the Salt and Gila.

2. How large is the Salt River Valley? The Valley, proper, is about 50 miles in length by 15 miles in width, containing about 750 square miles, aggregating about a half million acres of land.

3. How much of this land is now in cultivation? About 125,000 acres.

4. How much will be irrigated when the Tonto dam or Salt River project is completed? About 200,000 to 250,000 acres.

5. When will the Tonto dam be finished? It ought to be finished during 1909 or 1910.

6. How is the climate of the Salt River Valley? The climate is mild. From September to June the climate is delightful. From June to September the weather is warm.

7. What is the lowest temperature in winter? The lowest recorded is 22° above zero.

8. What is the highest summer temperature? On one occasion within twenty years, by U. S. Weather Bureau record, the thermometer has gone as high as 117°.

9. What is the average summer heat? About 87.7°.
10. What is the average rainfall per year? Six to seven inches.

11. How about storms, snow and ice? We have little frost, no snow, very little ice. No violent storms or cyclones.

12. How does the heat affect one? A temperature of 90° to 95° in the eastern states is far more prostrating and dangerous than the highest temperature experienced in the Salt River Valley.

13. What is the cause of the difference? The absence of humidity in the atmosphere.

14. What is the cost per acre per year for water? From $1.00 to $1.50 per acre.
15. How is water obtained for domestic purposes? From wells from 18 to 100 feet deep.

16. How about the market? This valley supplies the Arizona towns and mining camps, also California and eastern cities.

17. Is it profitable to keep bees? Yes, this is a very profitable business, and carloads of honey are shipped out of the valley every year.

18. How are the roads? Most excellent the year round, only now and then a little muddy.

19. How many acres of land are necessary to support a family? From ten to twenty.

20. Is there any Government land in the Salt River Valley open for entry where water can be obtained? At present, no, as the Government has withdrawn the lands from entry until the Salt River project is completed.

21. How would a new settler procure a home? By purchasing from some one who owns more than he needs.

22. Can small farms be obtained? They can. Many of the large farms will be cut up, and sold in ten and twenty and forty acre lots.

23. Can farms be rented? Yes, they can be rented for cash or on shares.

24. What fuel is used? Wood, coal and oil.
Haying in December

25. Is wood expensive? Wood in the towns costs from $5 to $6.50 a cord. The farmers usually raise their own wood from the cottonwood trees around their farms. A farmer by planting cottonwood sprouts or cottonwood posts for wire fence, can in a few years have living trees for posts and all the wood he needs for years to come.

26. What advantage does this valley offer to the farmer over other sections? With 82 per cent of sunny days, it is possible for laborers to work out of doors nearly every day in the year; the great yield for the labor bestowed, and good prices for crops. In addition to this, we have good roads to market, good schools for the children, free rural delivery, and telephone connection all over the valley.
27. What is the price of lumber? From $35 to $50 per thousand.

28. What is the rate of taxation? Territorial, county and school tax combined is about $2.50 to $2.60 per $100, assessed valuation.

29. Is property assessed at full market value? No, about one-third.

30. What inducements are offered health seekers? The mild and equable climate permits a constant out-of-door life; bright sunny days and immunity from changeable weather gives nature a chance to recuperate without medicines.

31. What inducements are offered to winter visitors? Hotels and boarding houses at reasonable rates, hunting, magnificent scenery, beautiful drives, good theaters, hospitable and cultured society, freedom from cold winds, snow and changeable weather.

32. What will be the cost of the Salt River project, including the Tonto dam and reservoir, diversion dam, etc.? About $25 to $30 an acre for the 200,000 to 250,000 acres to receive the benefit. Payments will be made in ten equal annual installments without interest, but will not commence until the reservoir is completed.

33. What has become of the Indians? The Indians are all peaceable, and are busily engaged in tilling the soil, while their children are being educated for a life of usefulness by the U. S. Government.

34. Do they have good schools? Yes, the U. S. Government has a number of schools for the Indians. One near Phoenix has 700 pupils from thirty tribes. The boys are taught useful trades, while the girls are taught housework of every kind.

35. What becomes of the Indians when they leave school? Many of them are hired out for servants among the white people. Others go back to their farms. Some become teachers and mechanics.
WANTs of the Salt River Valley

WHILE the Salt River Valley possesses a great many advantages over other sections and offers rare inducements to the homeseeker, the laborer, the tourist and the capitalist, yet there are some things we are in need of. Among our greatest needs are the following:

A woolen mill to work up the wool clip of the vicinity, amounting to 1,500,000 lbs. to 2,000,000 lbs., annually.

Families to settle on small tracts of irrigated lands from 20 to 40 acres per family. Strong able-bodied men, who are not afraid to work. All laborers, whether skilled or unskilled, can find steady employment at good wages. Truck farmers, fruit growers, dairymen, and poultry raisers can make money here on small investments.

A cannery is greatly needed.