

10-1-1887

Report of the Governor of Arizona, 1887

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Recommended Citation

H.R. Exec. Doc. No. 1, 50th Cong., 1st Sess. (1887)

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REPORT
OF
THE GOVERNOR OF ARIZONA.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
ARIZONA TERRITORY,
Prescott, October 1, 1887.

SIR: I have the honor to submit this, my annual report of the affairs and of the progress and development of the Territory of Arizona, for the year ending June 30, 1887.

Since my last report the result has been gratifying in a high degree.

POPULATION.

The population of the Territory is rapidly increasing. The census of 1880 showed a population of 40,440. Since, there has been a steady addition, and now it may fairly be estimated at about 90,000, and constantly increasing, so that we may safely predict that the next two years will probably double it. The rich agricultural and horticultural lands are becoming so widely and so favorably known that the tide of immigration is setting in, and these lands are being settled upon by those who desire to make permanent homes for themselves and families. The abundance and cheapness of land; the fertility and prolificness of the soil; the great variety of products it will grow; the largeness of yield and remuneration of prices, together with the perfection of climate, constitute substantial reasons for inducement of immigration to Arizona.

TAXABLE PROPERTY.

The taxable property of the Territory is gradually increasing in value. The aggregate assessed valuation for the year 1887 is \$26,313,500.21, which shows a gratifying increase in one year of nearly \$6,000,000, notwithstanding the fact that by the present system of assessment and taxation much of the real and personal property is undervalued, and a very large proportion of the personal property is not listed for taxation. The last legislative assembly created a territorial board of equalization with power to revise the assessments of the different counties, and see that all property is assessed as the law requires at its true cash value. It was given absolute jurisdiction in the assessment of railroad property, and directed to fix the values and transmit them to the respective county boards for levy and collection. This will doubtlessly, to a certain extent, correct many of the irregularities of the past, increase future revenues, and make the burden of taxation bear on all alike. The same

legislature also passed a funding bill by which the entire outstanding floating indebtedness of the Territory will be funded at a much lower rate of interest. The board of loan commissioners, created and authorized to act by the provisions of this bill, have advertised for bids for the purchase of \$200,000 six per cent. interest-bearing bonds to run for a period of twenty-five years, which, without doubt, will readily be placed at a premium, and thereafter warrants, or evidences of indebtedness on the part of the Territory, bearing a heavy rate of interest will absolutely be prohibited. While the territorial indebtedness is much larger than it should have been, had wisdom and economy been more closely followed, yet the revenues of the Territory, amounting under a fair valuation to more than \$30,000,000, are ample to insure prompt payment of all obligations. The expenditures for the maintenance of the territorial government through the wise action of the last legislature have decreased, and the rate of territorial taxation this year, consequently, has been lessened 1 mill. By reduced expenditures, increased taxable values, and the gradual lessening of the tax rate, the Territory is now absolutely on a safe and healthful financial basis. Hereafter the taxable values will steadily increase, and the tax rates equally as steadily decrease.

RAILROADS.

There are 1,050.04 miles of railroad in Arizona. Two great trunk lines, the Southern Pacific and the Atlantic and Pacific, traverse the Territory from east to west, the former representing 383 miles and the latter 392 miles. During the past year 137.8 miles of the new road have been built—the Maricopa and Phoenix, connecting the city of Phoenix, the county seat of Maricopa county, via Tempe, with the Southern Pacific road, at or near Maricopa station, 34.5; the Prescott and Arizona Central, connecting Prescott, the capital of the Territory, with Prescott Junction, on the Atlantic and Pacific road, 73.3 miles, and 30 miles of the Mineral Belt road. The Prescott road is opening up the mineral and agricultural regions of northern Yavapai, and the Phoenix road is giving to the farmers and horticulturists of the Salt River valley an open market, and rapid transportation for all their products. There will in all probability be a connecting link between the Prescott and Phoenix roads built in the near future, also a northerly extension to the Utah Southern, which will open up a large and valuable belt of mineral land and anthracite and bituminous coal fields, besides throwing open to settlement many rich mountain valleys which will grow cereals, fruits, and vegetables.

AGRICULTURE.

The agricultural possibilities of Arizona can scarcely be overestimated. Nowhere on the continent can be found richer soil than in the valleys of the Colorado, Salt, Gila, San Pedro, Santa Cruz, and Verde rivers. These rich bottom lands have a producing capacity not surpassed by any lands in the United States. The United States Land Office certifies there are 2,000,000 acres of arable land in the valleys of the Colorado, Salt, and Gila rivers. All that is required to make them yield abundantly is the artificial application of water. Water is in abundance in the rivers, and with the construction of canals and irrigating ditches every acre of this land will eventually be reclaimed. There are, it is estimated, at least 400 miles of irrigating canals in Arizona, the total cost of construction being over \$1,000,000. This will

reclaim about 215,000 acres of land. Most of these canals have been constructed, and the stock is owned by the holders of the lands under them. The farmer pays for the number of inches he uses to produce his crop. From three-eighths to one-half of an inch per acre is all that is generally required. This system of cultivating the soil is most reliable. Crops are more certain, and the yield far greater. Two crops are expected a year, and alfalfa (French lucerne) is cut five and six times a season.

The Territory has two distinct climatic zones. North of the thirty-fourth parallel the elevation is from 4,000 to 7,000 feet above sea level, with an average summer temperature of 70°. During the winter snow falls on the mountains and feeds the rivers with waters that fertilize the valleys. South of the thirty-fourth parallel the elevation above sea level is from 3,000 to 5,000 feet, with a minimum temperature of 40° and a maximum of 80° for eight months of the year. The farmer plants in November, and reaps early in May. Treating of the subject of agriculture in Arizona, Hon. Patrick Hamilton, as commissioner of immigration, wrote :

Every variety of grasses, grains, fruits, and vegetables grown in the temperate and semi-tropic zones can be produced in the valleys of Arizona. Wheat, corn, barley, oats, and all the small grains give a yield of from 25 to 50 bushels to the acre. Alfalfa, clover, timothy, Bermuda, and all the cultivated grasses grow luxuriantly, the former giving from 8 to 10 tons to the acre each year. Every variety of vegetable raised in the United States can be raised in Arizona, and nowhere are they found of better quality.

Besides the products mentioned, these semi-tropical valleys produce cotton, sugar-cane, tobacco, hemp, and rice. With the exception of the sugar-cane, but little attention is paid to the other staples, but it has been demonstrated that the soil and climate are specially adapted to their successful growth. Cotton growing is no experiment in Arizona, for it is on record that when the Europeans first penetrated this region they found the Pima Indians wearing fabrics made of cotton grown in the Gila valley.

But it is their adaptability for fruit culture that assures to these valley lands a dense population and a prosperous future. Almost every variety known can be raised in their fruitful soils. The apple, pear, plum, peach, apricot, quince, nectarine, are of delicious flavor and give a generous yield. The grape of all varieties is at home in these sunny vales. No place in the grape-growing belt of the Pacific coast can show so prolific a yield. The quality is all that can be desired, and the wine, although its manufacture is yet experimental, is of a fine flavor, delicious bouquet, and unsurpassed by any native product as a table beverage. Experiments with the raisin grapes have shown that this climate and soil possess every advantage for the production and curing of this staple article of commerce.

Besides the fruits already mentioned, the orange, lemon, lime, olive, fig, pomegranate, and others of the citrus family can be grown successfully in the valleys of southern Arizona. Orange trees are now in bearing in the Salt River valley and at Yuma, while the banana is also being cultivated at the latter place. The Arizona orange in quality and flavor will compare favorably with the best California.

The cultivation of the semi-tropic fruits has not been gone into on an extensive scale, but during the present year thousands of young trees have been set out in the Salt River valley. The orange tree produces in Arizona after five years, while in nearly all other countries it does not bear before seven years.

Thus it will be seen that the arable lands of Arizona are capable of yielding a great variety of products, ranging from the grains and grasses of the most northern latitudes to the choicest fruits of the tropics.

Besides the raising of grain, the fattening of cattle and hogs, the growing of fruits and grasses, there are several other industries which have been gone into in a small way and with the most flattering results. Dairying, bee-keeping, vegetable gardening, the cultivation of small fruits, and the raising of poultry will be found profitable ventures in the valleys of Arizona. In fact, for the industrious settler there is no region of the West where all the conditions of soil and climate are so favorable. With half the labor required in the frigid and snow-bound North the farmer in Arizona can secure a larger return from the soil. The prospective settler should also remember that there is only a limited area of the United States where semi-tropic fruits can be grown, and that the lands which produce them will always command a high price.

The development of Arizona's agricultural resources has not yet fairly begun, but enough has been accomplished to show it is not the "desert" popular fancy painted it. Its rich alluvial bottom lands will produce everything required for the sustenance of man, and a few years will see solitary wastes transformed into blooming gardens.

SETTLEMENT OF LANDS.

The great advantages which Arizona offers in agriculture, horticulture, and stockraising are practically demonstrated by the rapidity with which the public lands are now being settled upon. During the last quarter the reports of the United States land office for the southern district of Arizona show 82,000 acres filed upon, 50,000 acres under the desert land act; while, in the northern district, during the past year the records show there have been taken up by settlers 20,920 acres; and 507,349 acres of the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad grant lands sold for grazing purposes.

STOCK RAISING.

Nowhere in the United States can the advantages of Arizona as a pasture range be surpassed. Her live-stock interests are in a flourishing condition. Free from the heavy falls of snow and severe cold of the more northern Territories, with greater security against droughts, this industry has thrived in Arizona while thousands of cattle in other and less favored localities have perished from cold, hunger, and thirst.

The climatic changes here are so mild through the entire year that the loss of stock from such causes is only nominal. Millions of dollars have been successfully invested in cattle-raising. This business pays a heavy share of our taxes. It has grown to such proportions that it is now one of the leading, most important, and flourishing industries of the Territory. A large number of horses and mules are also raised. In sheep raising and wool growing central Arizona has long taken prominence.

MINING.

The product of Arizona in precious metals for the year 1886, as given by Wells, Fargo & Co., was \$6,103,378. This includes only such portions of the product as they were able to verify as having been transported. It would be safe to add at least 20 per cent. for chlorides and ores shipped out of the Territory for treatment in Colorado and San Francisco, and which are constantly being transported and not reported. Taken in the aggregate the mining industries of the Territory are on a safe and promising basis. The speculative characteristics which too long marked this especial industry are fast disappearing, and that stable, economical, sound, business prudence, which alone brings success, is taking its place. Mining for precious metals is just as legitimate a business as that of any other branch of industry, but it requires the same amount of care, judgment, and intelligence, and when these essential requirements are ignored, failure and disappointment inevitably follow, to the general detriment of this, one of the most important and growing industries of the country. Owing to lack of railroad facilities to cheapen the cost of transportation very many of the most valuable mining properties of the Territory, of necessity, have not been worked. This is especially true of many of the mines of northern Arizona, which produce a heavy percentage of base ore, and can not be treated by milling process, and, therefore, need cheap transportation to be profitably shipped to remote points for treatment. Sampling works have been

erected at Kingman, on the line of the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad, and at Prescott, at the terminus of the Prescott and Arizona Railroad, and at Tucson, on the line of the Southern Pacific road. Miners are now having their ores crushed, assayed, and purchased at these points. This facility has given renewed impetus to mining in these localities, and is a healthful sign. Most of the mining claims are owned by hard-working, honest prospectors, whose only capital is strong arms and indomitable will. Now they can procure a "grub stake," work their claims, take out ore and pack it to sampling works, receive payment, and return to their work, ready to extract more. Not waiting for capitalists to come to their aid, they manfully labor, develop their own properties, and enjoy the profits.

This system must prove a new epoch in the mining history of Arizona. It insures the certain development of that great metalliferous wealth which lies hidden in every mountain range in Arizona, from its northern line at Utah to the southern boundary of Sonora. Arizona as yet is practically a virgin soil to the miner, her surface has only been scratched. Over \$15,000,000 of silver were produced by three mines in the Tombstone district, at a depth of 600 feet and above water level. The famous Silver King mine, of Pinal county, yielded, as estimated, over \$7,500,000 in the past eleven years, and still promises better returns. The great Vulture gold mine, of Maricopa county, which is estimated to have produced some \$5,000,000 within a depth of 500 feet, for years past has fed and is now feeding an eighty-stamp mill, and is worked day and night. These especially enumerated cases prove that while the "pay streak" of her mines may start at the "grass roots," yet her grand ore bodies go down deep in the bowels of the earth. Nature has indeed been lavish with Arizona in the distribution of her mineral wealth, and the day is not far distant when she will lead in her "output" of precious metals. Arizona is also rich in copper, and in 1884 ranked third as a producer of this valuable metal. Three thousand miles removed from the eastern seaboard she has successfully competed with lake copper. Her ore bodies are larger, and rich, averaging from 4 to 25 per cent., often carrying also a high percentage of silver. With increased facilities of railway communication, cheapening of coke and transportation, and a fair price for copper, this especial industry must assume large proportions, giving employment to thousands of miners and adding greatly to the wealth of the Territory.

FORESTS.

The mountain ranges of the Territory carry a growth of timber, principally pine, oak, and juniper. The chief timber tract of Arizona is located near its center. The Mogollon forest has been described as equal in extent to the combined area of New Jersey and Delaware, larger than Massachusetts, and double the size of Connecticut. Its length is nearly 200 miles, and its average width about 50 miles, making 10,000 square miles, or 6,400,000 acres. Outside of the pineries of Michigan, Wisconsin, and Washington Territory, there are few portions of the Republic that contain such an extensive body of timber. The Arizona Lumber Company, at Flagstaff, sawed in the past year 5,976,493 feet, and shipped 8,305,093 feet of lumber. In size and quality the lumber produced is claimed to be above the average.

EDUCATION.

In the matter of public education Arizona has always been advancing. There has been an increase in the enrollment and average attend-

ance in the public schools during the past year. Twelve new school districts have been created, 13 additional school-houses have been built, and 25 new schools established. The public-school system of Arizona is a subject of pride to all of her citizens. School advantages are freely offered to every child in every part of the Territory. Paying higher salaries than any State or other Territory, it also requires a higher standard of ability in the teacher. The public schools are supervised by a territorial superintendent of public instruction, who is elected biennially. There is also a territorial board of education, consisting of the superintendent of public instruction, territorial treasurer, and the governor, whose duty is to adopt rules and regulations for the government of the public schools and libraries, devise plans for the increase and management of the territorial school fund, prescribe and enforce the use of uniform series of text-books and course of studies, grant educational diplomas, and revoke for immoral conduct or evident unfitness for teaching, territorial diplomas. The probate judge of each county in the Territory is made *ex officio* county superintendent of the public schools for his county. His duty is to apportion the school moneys to each district of his county, to draw the necessary warrants on the county treasurer for expenses against the school fund, enforce the course of study, the use of text-books, and the rules and regulations for the examinations of teachers, as prescribed by the proper authority. The Territory is divided into school districts, which are presided over by three school trustees, who are elected at a special election, and whose duties are to generally superintend all school matters within their district. The public schools of the Territory are maintained by the levy of a tax of 3 cents upon each \$100 value taxable property, collected and paid into the territorial treasury as a special fund for school purposes, and then apportioned to the respective counties. The school year begins on the first day of July and ends on the last day of June. The Territory has also in successful operation a normal school, located at Tempe, Maricopa county, and has endowed a university at Tucson, Pima county, which is not yet constructed.

All moneys accruing to the Territory by the sale of personal or real property of an escheated estate, or from the rents or profits of lands or tenements held as escheated, are payable into the school fund, as also all moneys arising from fines, forfeitures, and gambling licenses.

By her liberal and progressive system of public schools Arizona is diffusing knowledge among her rising generation and preparing her youths to intelligently assume the duties of American citizenship when clothed with its cares and responsibilities.

SCHOOL LANDS.

By act of Congress there have been seventy-two sections of public lands within the Territory granted for the purposes of a university, also the sixteenth and thirty-sixth sections of every township for a school fund. The Territory is deprived of the use of these lands until it becomes a State. If the sixteenth and thirty-sixth sections in every township could be sold and the money arising from the same appropriated to defraying the school expenses of the Territory, it would prove a great benefit to the cause of education and greatly relieve our overburdened tax-payers. Arizona needs the benefits to accrue from these lands now more than when she becomes a State, and should enjoy the privilege of their disposal the same as is granted the States. Not having any control over these lands they are fast being denuded of timber,

so that when we do enter Statehood and control them they may practically prove valueless. Again, many of these sections are being occupied by settlers who innocently and from want of information are wasting time, labor, and money in clearing the land, erecting buildings, and making improvements which will in the future prove a total loss to them.

I respectfully recommend that Congress be asked to give the Territories the same privileges as the States now enjoy in this matter and authorize the absolute transfer of these lands to the respective Territories for the immediate benefit of the cause of public education.

THE INDIANS.

The principal tribes of Indians in Arizona are the Apaches, the Pimas and Maricopas, the Papagos, the Yumas, the Mohaves, the Moquis, the Navajos, and the Hualapais. The Navajos are most prosperous, intelligent, and enterprising, and doubtless the wealthiest tribe in the United States. They number some 15,000, and are increasing. It is estimated the tribe owns at least 20,000 horses and 1,000,000 sheep. They occupy the Navajo reservation, situated in the extreme northeast corner of the Territory, which also takes in a portion of New Mexico and covers about 5,000 square miles. They farm quite extensively, raising good crops of cereals, vegetables, and fruits. They are famous manufacturers of blankets, bridles, saddle cloths, lariats, etc. It is claimed that the annual yield for these manufactured articles is at least \$40,000.

The Pimas and Maricopas occupy a reservation on the Gila river. They number about 5,000 and are exclusively agriculturists. They are peaceful, contented, and industrious, and live in happy accord with the white settlers.

The Papagos live on a reservation near the city of Tucson, on the Santa Cruz river, are the owners of many cattle, and are successful tillers of the soil. As a body they are thrifty, temperate, and virtuous. They have espoused the cause of Christianity, and are ardent Catholics.

The Mohaves, numbering about 800, occupy a reservation on the Colorado river, about 600 square miles. They are not self-supporting, and while peaceful are of low moral status.

The Yumas live on a reservation near Fort Yuma, and number about 1,000. They do a little farming.

The Hualapais number some 700, and while the Government has set apart a reservation near the Grand Cañon of the Colorado, they do not seem able to live upon it, but roam at large through the counties of Yavapai and Mohave, seeking employment as scouts, trailers, miners, and farm hands. They are peaceful and often render good service to officials as trailers to run down escaped criminals.

The Moquis are a peaceful tribe, living in the northeastern part of the Territory, and like the Navajos have proved themselves successful farmers, manufacturers, and sheep raisers.

The Apaches are located on the San Carlos reservation, which contains 3,950 square miles, or 2,528,000 acres, of well watered, well timbered, and the best agricultural and mining land in the Territory of Arizona. They are subdivided into different tribes. As a race they are lazy, thievish, and murderous, seemingly incapable of civilization. Fed and clothed by a generous Government, they are ever ready to show their base ingratitude by going on the war path and murdering peaceful and inoffensive citizens. On every hill and mountain top and in every valley of southeastern Arizona, the bleached bones of the assassinated victims of these incarnate fiends are to be found—silent but elo-

quent witnesses of the unwise policy of the Government in herding this festering mass of superstitious, criminal ignorance on a reservation 60 miles long and 20 miles wide, and allowing them possession of the most improved fire-arms and ammunition, so that when tired of the bounties of their benefactors they are able to swoop down in the vengeance of their savage brutality upon innocent and unsuspecting men, women, and children, murdering them at will. The sturdy pioneer of advancing civilization, striking earnest blows in the development of its outpost, is entitled to greater protection than this. Security of life, limb, and property is one of the guarantees of government. Loyal to their Government, faithful to all the obligations of citizenship, the people of Arizona ask that this menace to their prosperity and happiness shall be removed. They only ask that which is just. As long as these Apache Indians are suffered to remain within her borders, just so long will the peace of Arizona be insecure and her progress be retarded. Their presence constitutes the only obstruction to the development of this, one of the richest portions of the United States. Remove them, and Arizona, free and untrammelled, will work out her great destiny.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

The public buildings of the Territory are the Territorial prison at Yuma, the Territorial insane asylum at Phoenix, and the Territorial normal school at Tempe. An appropriation was made for the erection of a Territorial university, to be located at Tucson, which has not yet been constructed. The Federal Government has not yet made an appropriation for the erection of any public building in Arizona. It would be economy to do so, as the amount of rents paid for rooms occupied by United States officers in the Territory would in a few years repay the cost of construction of a suitable public building.

LEGISLATION.

The legislative assembly of the Territory meets biennially. The last session, the fourteenth, commenced on the 10th day of January, and ended by legal requirement on the 10th day of March, having been in session sixty days.

The laws of the Territory were made to conform to the act of the Forty-ninth Congress, prohibiting special legislation, and limiting Territorial indebtedness. General laws were passed regulating all subjects upon which special legislation is prohibited. They strictly observed the Federal law in keeping within the Congressional appropriation for the expenses of the session, also regarding the number of employes. As the law now stands an unequal physical burden is imposed upon Territorial legislative assemblies, it being an impossibility to successfully dispatch the regular business of the session with the clerical force now limited by law. There should be allowed at least two more clerks for each body. The present compensation of \$4 per day is entirely inadequate, not being sufficient to pay ordinary daily expenses. It should certainly not be less than \$6 per day.

UNDEVELOPED RESOURCES.

It is difficult to estimate the undeveloped resources of a Territory containing 73,000,000 acres of land. About 18,000,000 acres are now in use for stock raising. The remaining 56,000,000 are mineral and

agricultural lands. It is estimated in the stretch of desert land from Yuma to the mountain ranges of Pima county, a distance of 200 miles in length by 125 miles in width, there is contained about 15,000,000 acres. This is pre-eminently a citrus fruit belt, where can be grown to perfection the orange, lemon, lime, banana, fig, olive, date, and raisin-grape. Every requirement of soil and climate exist in southern Arizona to render it one of the richest citrus and semi-tropical fruit districts in the world. To reclaim this now desert waste and make it yield an abundance of valuable crops, there is only needed an artificial application of water. It is to irrigation, then, that this Territory must look, to a large extent, for the development of her undeveloped resources. I respectfully renew my recommendation that Congress make a liberal appropriation for a hydrographic survey, with a view to obtaining water by storage reservoirs in the mountain sheds, and testing the utility of artesian wells for that purpose in the valleys. Millions of acres of the most desirable agricultural and horticultural lands now lie idle, awaiting reclamation by these agencies.

GENERAL PROGRESS.

The progress of the Territory for the past year has been gratifying. A new interest has been given to all our industrial enterprises. Canals and water-ways are being constructed, thousands of acres of land are being reclaimed, new railroads are being built, herds of cattle are increasing, agriculture and horticulture are prospering, mining interests are improving, labor is profitably employed, capital is receiving a liberal return, and law and order are maintained. Outside of the presence of the Apache Indians within her borders, there is nothing now to retard Arizona's rapid development. Peopled by a sturdy, liberal, and progressive body of citizens, she is making social as well as industrial progress, and laying the foundation deep and strong for the establishment of a free and sovereign State.

Very respectfully, yours,

C. MEYER ZULICK,
Governor.

Hon. L. Q. C. LAMAR,
Secretary of the Interior, Washington, D. C.