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Rumors almost without number have been circulated as to the extent of the smallpox in Los Angeles. But from a reliable source we have it that reports are very much exaggerated. Dr. Pirtle of Duarte was in the city Wednesday and the health officer informed him that there were only 10 cases in the city and one in South Pasadena that all patients were in hospital and receiving the best of care only two deaths have occurred and the disease is not spreading as every precaution is taken by the board of health it is not known as to how the disease was brought to Los Angeles but presumably by passengers coming from Mexico.

ELEVATED RAILROAD FROM PASADENA TO THE SEASHORE

Los Angeles Times: - The development of rapid transit facilities in Los Angeles and the surrounding country has been one of the most remarkable features on the marvelous growth of the last 3 years. Steam railroads, horse railroads, dummy railroads, cable railroads and electric railroads. – All have increased and multiplied with rapidity, which is really amazing. Now however, a new invention is to be put into operation, which promises completely to eclipse anything yet done. Within a very short time a company will begin the construction of an elevated electric railway upon which a speed of 100 miles an hour will be obtainable. The line will be about 30 miles in length and will run from Pasadena to some point on the coast – probably Santa Monica or Long Beach. When one can fly to Pasadena to the seashore in 10 to 15 minutes or even half an hour and for two bits it will be a caution to the nerves.

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FOR SALE A BARGAIN

At Berry's ranch, Falling Leaf Avenue, Duarte, one good family horse, buggy and harness. Lumber wagon, spring wagon and one Jersey cow, fresh. Apply at ranch or at A.B. Tomlinson's real estate office, Monrovia.

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The office of Dr. Stewart has commenced on Lemon.

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Dr. Stewart has some new virus and is prepared to vaccinate persons who deserve it.

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Ed A. Hall of Duarte is making several improvements to his residence in Duarte.

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Hon. E. F. Spence spent a pleasant day in Monrovia with excursionists Tuesday.

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William A. Spalding of the *Los Angeles Times* gave the *Planet* a pleasant call this week.

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Dr. Pile of Duarte announces that he has some excellent vaccine for those who desire to be vaccinated.

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J.F. Sheward the merchant _____ of Los Angeles was looking after Monrovia real estate one day this week.

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The *Planet* acknowledges a pleasant call from Br'er Vail of the *Pasadena Star News* – that shining light in the crown of the valley.

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George O. Webster solicitor of Prince Masonic Life Insurance Company spent 1 or 3 days in Monrovia last week.

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Kenneth Carter has just had completed for him a neat real estate office at the Duarte Depot. W. G. Donaldson was the contractor.

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W.G. Donaldson, contractor, is building a store near the Duarte Depot for Messrs. Elliot and Co. which they expect to occupy shortly.

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John Goodard, late of Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, arrived in town a few days ago and is going to open up in the house, sign and carriage painting business.

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At last there is hope of relief in our mail facilities. Word has been received that commencing with Monday March 7th Monrovia, Duarte, Santa Anita, Lamanda and other places along the L.A. and S.G.V.R.R. will be served with mail like Pasadena which is twice a day. Mail will probably leave here at 7:59 and 12:44 and arrive at 11:31 and 5:11.

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V.T. Little of Sierra Madre started for Elsinore this week to preempt a tract of land.

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E. Brown announces by advertisement that he ahs opened a jewelry store in Badeau Block

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A branch office of the *Los Angeles Daily Times* has been opened up at the *Planet* office where parties may subscribe and have the paper left at their home daily.

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There is prospect of a two-story building being erected on Lemon Avenue, nearly opposite the Planet office. It will be 22x 60 feet and suitable for a day goods store with 5 large rooms above.

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P.S. Griffin, of Port Arthur, Canada arrived in Monrovia Thursday with his wife and family with the intention of making their home here. Mr. Griffin has been for a number of years in the undertaking line and intends opening up business here next week. The *Planet* can recommend him as competent, reliable gentlemen in every respect and bespeaks success.

A SUCCESSFUL CONTRACTOR

A.L. Fell _____ of Long Beach has been a busy contractor sine his arrival here four months ago. He has erected quite a number of buildings he has also purchased 2 acres of fine property at the corner of White Oak and Primrose Avenues and has erected thereon a neat barn costing \$ 1,000, and will soon commence building a residence for himself to cost \$4,000. Many of his friends in the East are writing to him to secure lots and desire him to build cottages for them as they are coming to stay and wish the house ready for them. Many are tired of the cold winters and wish a sunny climate. Mr. Fell is erecting 2 stories for Johnson and Parker and is building a neat cottage for Rev. Greenfield. He is also just now completing the Belmont Hotel for S. Bowerman, which is neat in its appearance and well finished. It is now nicely furnished and ready for the traveler who comes to see the town and enjoy the climate. The Bowerman family take great pains to make it pleasant for all who tarry with them, for I have stopped with them and know Monrovia has also many dear good people who take great interest in its advancement and the best of all no saloons ain't that grand?

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E.F. Perham's addition to his drug store is going on lively.

A GLIMPSE INTO THE FUTURE

Any person with half an eye can see that the prospects are excellent for Monrovia becoming a town of large proportions and extensive business in the near future. From a wild and uncultivated tract of land nine months ago, she has risen to a town of upwards of five hundred inhabitants –sprung up, as it were, almost like a mushroom. The growth has been very substantial. Very few of the buildings are small and those that are, are but temporary. Houses range in price from one to ten thousand dollars, to say nothing of churches, hotels, etc. On every hand the buzz of the saw and the ring of the hammer is heard. Do you ask why people place such confidence in the future prospects of the town? That is easily seen. We are here in the midst of one of the most productive fruit regions in Southern California. No part of the state has beet soil, and no better fruit can be raised anywhere. The water systems of Monrovia, with Duarte on the east and Santa Anita on the west, are unsurpassed. Nowhere else can better water be found, and there is an abundance of it. Our position at the very base of the grand Sierra Madre Mountains, and elevation above sea level is peculiarly favorable for the invalid, many of who are seeking homes among us. We have no damaging frosts, and fog is a rarity. The drainage of the town is perfect. The temperature is warm in the winter, and daily throughout the summer we have a lovely ocean breeze. The right sort of men took hold of the town in the first place, developing its water system, laid out broad avenues, and laid water pipes all over the townsite. Men of capital and enterprise have come among us, seen the prospects before this favored section, and invested wisely, in most cases improving their property. And many more are coming. Almost every citizen will tell you that they expect friends here shortly, who will make Monrovia or neighborhood their homes. When people see the town they are fascinated, and want their friends to come also. At present we have one railway, which will be the main line of the Chicago, Santa Fe and California. The Southern Pacific intends building a branch line from Ramona, on the main line, through Monrovia. The street Railway Company will soon commence a line from the mountains through the town to the depot. Improvements are going on everywhere. So great is the demand for residence and business lots that new subdivisions are eagerly snapped up. We expect in a year's time to have a population of at least two thousand. Why shouldn't people invest in a go-ahead town like Monrovia?

ANOTHER RAILROAD

The *Planet* announced a few weeks ago that the Southern Pacific Railway Company was talking of building a branch line from Ramona on the main line of their road, up to the foothills of the Sierra Madre Mountains, along below the town of Sierra Madre, the upper end of Santa Anita, and through Monrovia and Duarte, to connect with the main line somewhere east. Whether this is really their intention or not, remains for the future to record but the *Planet* can state the fact that a party of engineers, under chief Griffiths, is camped a short distance west of Monrovia, and are busily engaged on a new line of railway along the foothills. A line had been run from Ramona this far, and on Thursday was continued on through to Duarte and the San Gabriel River. The line through the town is on Chestnut Avenue, and follows the road along past the post office at Duarte.

The idea of the Southern Pacific Company seems to be sandwiching the San Gabriel road between their two lines. Everything so far has been kept "mum" only a few if any, have been made aware of the plans of the company.

Such a line as this would be of vast importance to Monrovia, as it would run near the center of the town and give us far better facilities than we now have. The San Gabriel road is about one mile away from the traveling public. Such a line as the Southern Pacific propose would draw the larger part on the passenger traffic to and from the city, as it would run nearer the towns and be a shorter line. We shall see what we shall see.

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At last there is hope of relief in our mail facilities. Word has been received that, commencing with Monday, March 7th, Monrovia, Duarte, Santa Anita, Lamanda Park and other places along the L.A. & S.G.V. RR will be served with mail like Pasadena, which is twice a day. Mail will probably leave here at 7:59 and 12:44, and arrive at 11:31 and 5:11.

EXCURSION AND PICNIC

When the *Planet* stated that a large crowd of people was expected at the picnic to be given at Monrovia on Washington's Birthday, it never anticipated that more than a thousand persons would be present but we were mistaken. The management deserves the greatest praise for such a successful termination of the affair. When the citizens of Monrovia undertake anything, they know no such word as fail. Although but three days were allowed for preparation, everything necessary was forthcoming, and of the two thousand visitors who lunched under the beautiful oak trees, not one went away hungry -- and there were several basketfuls left.

The matter of lunch and fruit was placed in the hands of a committee of ladies, consisting of Mrs. W.N. Monroe, Mrs. E.F. Little, and Mrs. F.L. Fell for Monrovia, Mrs. Charters, Mrs. Wilson and Miss Shrode for Duarte. To this managing committee was added every lady living at aforesaid places. As is always the case, the ladies went to work with a will, and by the time of the arrival of the excursionists, the lunch was laid on four immense tables, in readiness for the visitors. The tables were very enticing.

The ladies of the Monrovia and Duarte churches had also a booth erected, in whom they sold a fine lunch and ice cream, the receipts of which, went toward the churches.

The excursionist's train should have arrived at 10:30 o'clock, but owing to a derailment near the Raymond, did not arrive until 12:30. There were eleven cars on the special train and three on a regular, which came immediately behind. All the carriages, buggies and wagons that could be procured in the neighborhood were in readiness, and when the trains arrived a grand rush was made for them; but they would not hold a quarter the number, and as the visitors were eager to reach the picnic grounds, a procession was formed and the line march taken up Myrtle Avenue. After unloading, the teams returned and assisted others.

After arrival on the grounds, General Pile, who was master of ceremonies, welcomed visitors, and introduced General B.N. Smith, who made a few appropriate remarks. Attention was then paid to the lunch, which consisted of sandwiches, cake, lemonade and fruit -- enough to supply the multitude and to spare. The ladies were untiring in their efforts to make it pleasant for all present, and they can rest assured that their spread was an excellent one in every respect.

After partaking of the lunch, the teams were again in readiness, and the visitors were driven over the town and surrounding country, through the orange groves and over our

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beautiful avenues. Loud and numerous were the expressions of delight at the beautiful town of Monrovia, and many visitors purchased property and will remove here.

The returning trains left at 4 and 6 o'clock, the teams again conveying the visitors to the depot.