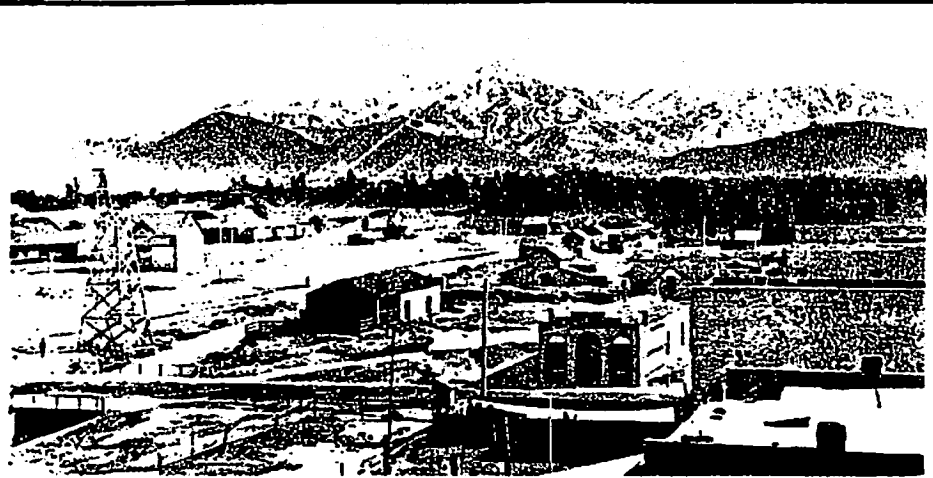




SCIPIO CRAIG



The Citrograph (building with arched door and windows) was located on Fifth Street, a few feet from the bridge crossing the Zanja.

Citrograph.

not only recognised as a brilliant young newspaperman when he came to Redlands in 1887, but one blessed with a vast background of practical experience. For years he had dreamed of creating something unique in journalism and the Citrograph became his masterpiece.

Printed on expensive book stock paper, instead of cheap newsprint as used by most other newspapers, the Citrograph resembled a fine magazine rather than a newspaper and even today -- almost a hundred years later -- original file copies retain a fresh "just off the press" look.

Although the Citrograph was lauded for its modern makeup, Craig wrote in a flamboyant, almost archaic, literary style; favored by so many other pioneer editors, as shown in the following examples culled from various issues of the paper:

"McEntee has been doctoring the motor whistle with grip medicine. It now sounds like a cross between a coyote's howl and a saw filing concert. It is a soul-harrowing shriek of tremendous magnitude."

"The wind blew so hard at Colton and San Bernardino that both the Baptist and Methodist preachers who had exchanged pulpits with our local men failed to appear. There was no wind at the time in Redlands."

As Robert Hornbeck, longtime superintendent of the Citrograph, recalled:

"He had an original way of talking and writing; therefore his newspaper bristled with originality. There was no mistaking his meaning when he put his thoughts on paper; he was no trimmer and made enemies as a matter of course; every positive man makes enemies and he was a positive man. His feet were often uncouthly shod, but they never strayed from the path of duty..."

"A hater of sham and pretense, it is no wonder that fakers, pretenders, hypocrites and economisers of truth disliked him. On such and such only he poured the hottest vials of his wrath. The man who was 'down on his luck' found him a friend, and nobody knows how many thousand dollars in cash Scipio Craig gave away to help those in need."

Some modern historians have labeled him an alcoholic, but Larry Burgess, Archivist for Redlands Smiley Library, disagrees. According to Burgess, Craig was diabetic and

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