

# The EVERGLADE MAGAZINE

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FEBRUARY, 1911.

Price \$1.00 Per Year



EXHIBIT OF PRODUCTS FROM WALTER WALDON'S FARM, DADE COUNTY FAIR.

## DADE COUNTY MID-WINTER FAIR—DON'T MISS IT!

THE Annual Dade County Fair will be held March 7 to 12, 1911, in the Fair Building, Miami, Dade County, Florida.

It will be the greatest aggregation of Tropical Fruits and Vegetables ever brought together, gathered from the groves and fields in the month of March. The late Hon. George W. Wilson, editor-in-chief of the Florida Times-Union, after visiting one of these fairs, wrote: "It's worth going a thousand miles to see."

You are cordially invited to attend and bring your friends and see the products of the most wonderful country in the world. Broad statement. Don't believe it? Come and see. Products from the far-famed Everglade country will be on exhibition. No admission—everything free.

J. C. DAILE, President

J. I. WILSON, Treasurer

E. V. BLACKMAN, Secretary and General Manager

WASHINGTON OFFICE OF,  
EVERGLADE LAND SALES CO.,  
OURAY BLDG., 809 - G ST. N. W.



## The Everglade Magazine

Published monthly to report the progress of America's Latest Empire—the Florida Everglades.

V. W. HELM, Editor.

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The Editor of this Magazine wants original contributions from its readers. He requests that such matter be written upon one side of paper only and that all articles be signed. All questions to Editor will be answered through the columns of this paper.

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FEBRUARY, 1911

### Co-operation the Watchword

By C. D. Vallette.

From insurgents and stand-pats and democrats to land buyers and fruit and truck growers seems a far cry. At first blush it looks as though politics and production would not mix or coincide. But when we seek the tap-roots of the matter and get the true insight in it we find that they begin with the same radical or fundamental proposition. They coincide from beginning to end in the necessity of continued co-operation.

The "titulary leader" of one great party makes the broad claim that this republic is a government of party. He mistakes a method of control of the government for a principle of government. Parties are only a voluntary association of the enfranchised, individual rulers of the land acting together to incorporate rules of governmental action into the law of the land.

For by actual experience men have found that any desirable course of activity or resistance can best be made or met by co-operation. One man may resist a tyrant—but unless his example proves to be the bolt of fire from heaven to kindle the mass, it is futile.

One man may advocate a course of action that must result in betterments to many or to all—yet if the hearts of his hearers have not been lifted above their own immediate selfish and petty gains their ears are dull. The sordid conservatism of personal gain is apt to look to the moment's chance. The man who looks abroad to his neighbor's need sees that his own is bound up with his neighbor's prosperity.

Dissension and difference never work for good results. It is the exhibition of personal opinion. And personal opinion never changed a fact. To agree and harmonize together in one thing brings men in accord about many. Too often methods of enforcing principles of action are mistaken for those principles. Laying aside personal opinion and the pride of place, the true course of activity immediately becomes manifest.

But not to one is given the work of doing things. Each one who co-operates has an individual part without which the whole is not complete. An army of generals looks pretty in uniform, but it cannot fight. There is no "rank in life"—the phrase is

a stale crumb of vicious, ancient mouthings. Every man has his place—his honor results from the way he fills it. "Act well your part—there all the honor lies."

In the reclamation, settlement and exploitation of an empire such as the Everglades, these questions come squarely to us all. There are cities to be built. Who shall build and rule them—the contractors, labor unions and politicians, or the plain people? There are lines of transportation to be operated. Who shall make the rates—the railroads, or the plain people? There are vast quantities of high-priced products to sell and huge freights of necessities and luxuries to buy. Who shall set the prices and who shall make the profits—the middlemen, or the plain people? Shall the consumer and producer co-operate or shall the middlemen stand between and take from each and begrudgingly let them have what he cannot hold in his greedy hands?

And so, too, are presented the seemingly trivial things of everyday life and living. The inconsidered trifles of the moment loom into view in the mass. The years tell the tale of the seconds. It was a great man who saw that "trifles make perfection and perfection is no trifle." Perfect infinitesimals are necessary to make a perfect infinite.

A realm of beauty stretches before the eyes of the mind when we contemplate fertile lands to be conquered and inhabited. We see what may be done. We see that if all the inhabitants worked together in harmony to adorn the land with tree and shrub and flower and lawn that it would be a land of loveliness, charming to the eyes. We see that if we co-operate in friendly action of shipping, transporting, selling, buying, the activities of marketing, that our farms and gardens would be more profitable and our homes more comfortable. Schools, clubs, civic centers, libraries, churches, would be built for better education and action. But it all begins with the right action of the individual. For the sum of us all is the total of the units.

One of the things that should be done by

every man and woman who is buying Everglade lands is to think upon the various phases of settling and developing this mighty empire of golden promise. To study the whole lesson rightly is to begin at the beginning, and study the opening phases to see what first must be done. That brings at once to mind the duty owing to ourselves and to our neighbors—for the two are one. The insistent question is, not what shall I say, but what shall I do?

The man who has bought or is buying an Everglade farm and is not already considering the question of co-operation with his neighbors and with the seller of the land to construct lateral ditches with sluiceways to control the water table of his tract, to construct the ditches within his own tract, is not preparing for the first step. The man who is not considering the cultivation and planting of his land, its adornment in the lovely garments of sacred beauty and more sacred use is not loving his neighbor nor himself.

A religion of words is a creed of wanton breath. Tenets of neighborly deeds is a structure enduring of eternal beauty. The use of such tenets is the practical showing of the inward grace. This is the true co-operation whereby the profit comes—not in terms of money but in that profit that gladdens the heart as well as swells the bank account.

For utility is the practical application of all the best teaching of the day. The man who lives in the old selfish, greedy way of getting all he can and keeping all he gets is the poorest neighbor, the most impoverished farmer and the most improvident citizen. The beloved Lincoln and the admired Washington set high marks of self-effacement to a great following. The men and women of today and tomorrow have found the world better because they lived. And we are all Lincolns and Washingtons of modest fame as we seek and achieve the true co-operation of today—a life of instant grasping of the moment's opportunity to do the work of the moment's needs.

### Developing Southern Florida

At last capitalists plan to build transpeninsular railroads in lower Florida, and the fertile lands bordering on Lake Okeechobee may soon yield more abundant harvests of fruits and vegetables. Within two weeks, it is announced, financiers of the Peninsular state and Louisiana will have agreed upon measures for the construction of a steam railroad line from Tampa, on the gulf of Mexico, to Miami, on the Atlantic coast, passing just south of Lake Okeechobee and through the Big Sawgrass region and the famous Everglades. Meanwhile there is intense interest manifested in the building of a new electric railroad from Ft. Myers to Punta Rossa, on San Carlos bay, at the mouth of the Caloosahatchee river, and across from Ft. Myers to Lake Okeechobee. This electric line eventually will swing around south of the lake and across the Everglades to Palm Beach, that delightful winter resort.

Although the district comprised in the Everglades was thought until recently to be impassable during the rainy season, from July until October, it might have been expected that indomitable railway builders would in time surmount the difficulties presented by sixty miles of "swamp lands." Liberal profits are seemingly assured to both of these new transportation enterprises. The steam railroad will make it possible to transport fruits and vegetables from the Lake Okeechobee plantations to any great northern market within fifty hours. The electric railroad, no doubt, will be liberally patronized, especially when the district extending west of Punta Gorda and south as far as the Big Cypress swamp becomes more thickly populated.

Extensive swamps have obstructed the development of southern Florida, while the state as a whole has grown wonderfully in population and wealth. From 1870 to 1880 Florida gained 81,745 inhabitants, 121,929 in the following ten years, 137,120 between 1890 and 1900, and 222,597 in the last decade. Until recently this increase was mostly in northern Florida, but now people from the western states and immigrants are trooping into the open places of southern and central Florida. There is ample room in those regions for cities like Jacksonville, with its 57,699 people, representing an increase of more than 100 per cent in ten years. Why should not thriving municipalities spring up along the west coast between Punta Rossa and Chokoloskee or along the shores of Biscayne bay? In southern Florida, perhaps, we may expect to see another illuminating illustration of how railroads are the forerunners of population.—Christian Science Monitor.

\*Contrary to popular belief, the Everglades are not a swamp, but *overland* lands. The water in the 'Glades is pure, sweet and wholesome.



## News From The "Front"

Letters and News Articles Showing Developments in the Everglades Country

### Davie Experimental Farm

Chicago, Feb. 2, 1911.

To All Our Readers:

I have just recently returned from a trip to the Everglades after having sized up conditions in general and inspected the improvement work now being done by our company on the Davie Experimental Farm, Township 50, Range 41.

Our Buckeye Ditching Machine is making splendid progress. It is cutting a double ditch between each tier of ten-acre tracts, throwing up a spoil bank in the center which will be valuable for road building purposes.

The Davie Road which runs south from the main State canal along the eastern boundary of sections 27 and 34, will be rocked and planked in the near future. This will probably be completed within ninety days. In this manner a hard-surface road will be furnished all the way to Dania, Hallandale and other coast cities.

At the outlets of these lateral ditches into the main canal, sluice boxes and gates are being installed so that the water table can be controlled for both drainage and sub-irrigation. These ditches are of sufficient size to accommodate a small boat which carries the ditching crew and supplies back and forth.

Some thirty croppers (including their families), are working on the land in sections 26 and 27 and approximately thirty-five acres in truck stuff are under cultivation as follows: tomatoes, eighteen acres; beans, eight acres; potatoes, three acres; cucumbers, three acres; mixed truck, three acres. The collection of tents and shacks along the south bank of the canal and particularly near the outlet of the Davie ditch and road, makes one think of a city in embryo.

Mr. Davie has ordered the planting of 15,000 grapefruit trees, sufficient nursery stock for about 200 acres. This land will probably be subject to overflow during the next rainy season, but Mr. Davie's decision to plant the nursery stock now is based upon his observation of the fact that Gage's place right across the canal and a short distance east was under several feet of water for several weeks during the last rainy season and suffered very little damage. The sour-orange stock is to be used, this variety being practically immune to a surplus of running water.

In this connection, I might reiterate the fact that many of the best groves in Southern Florida now growing on muck soil along the edges of the 'Glades, have been subject to annual overflow.

Mr. Davie will also have planted immediately ten acres in sugar cane. This in turn will be ratooned a year later so that a sufficient additional acreage can be planted to make a great demonstration for all who are interested in the culture of this very profitable staple.

What is happening now on the Davie Experimental Farm is but a forerunner of what will take place on the other properties controlled by this Company as soon as the main State canals make sufficient progress and our own supplementary improvements are completed.

It should be thoroughly understood, however, that occupancy of the land will not be permitted by this Company until the reclamation work is finished, approximately two years.

Yours sincerely,

V. W. HELM.

### Rock Roads for Townsite

The work of clearing the streets in our Lauderdale Townsite Additions is now practically finished. A contract has been let for rock-surfacing three miles of cross streets in our First Addition, which contract specifies that the work shall be finished by April 1, 1911. These new rock roads, supplementing the Miami-Palm Beach Boulevard which runs directly through this Addition, together with the natural advantages of location near Lake Mabel, New River and the Atlantic Ocean, will make our townsite one of the most charming and desirable suburbs of Fort Lauderdale.

It is our purpose also to plant the beautiful hibiscus at frequent intervals on either side of the Miami Boulevard throughout the entire length of our townsite. These plants may be alternated with other ornamental shrubs or trees at some later date, if so desired by our lot owners. The Australian Pine and Royal Palm are especially recommended for this purpose. We invite all our purchasers to join us in making this one of the "show places" of Southern Florida. We believe that a few dollars invested in this direction now will come back many-fold in a few short years. Not less than \$5,000 will be expended by the Everglade Land Sales Company for the general improvement of these townsite additions.

None of our remaining lots are for sale, but while they last may be secured by our Everglade farm owners who wish to cash up their contracts in accordance with the terms of the Company's special offer. If you are a fair judge of realty values you will appreciate this extraordinary opportunity and will take advantage of it immediately.

### Complete Surveys Ordered

Major Wright has just sent the following interesting letter for the benefit of our readers:

"The trustees have approved a plan of making surveys in the Everglades which plan is now being printed and as soon as I receive some copies will mail you one. They have also adopted a resolution authorizing and directing me to proceed with the work of running the township and range lines as rapidly as the work can be done economically. I am selecting men and will commence this work just as soon as the water is sufficiently drained off the surface to do so without unnecessary expense."

### Oil Now the Fuel

The "Okeechobee," which has been laid up undergoing repairs for the past month, is now in commission again, and will resume throwing muck early in February. The "Everglades" is making a fine showing and if no unforeseen happenings delay, she will reach the lake inside of eighteen months. Both dredges have been equipped for burning crude oil and the result is so satisfactory that no other fuel will be used in the future of Everglade development. Chief Almquist has been struggling long and hard for the consummation of the great ditch and with the present prospects he is growing happier from day to day—Ft. Lauderdale Herald.

### Major Wright's Report

The editor is in receipt of the Chief Drainage Engineer's quarterly report, which is very gratifying. Following is an extract from letter which accompanied same:

"The contractor has been increasing the yardage removed per month continually since the contract was entered into, having removed over 400,000 cubic yards of earth and rock during December in spite of the fact that the "Okeechobee" was out of commission. The Furst-Clark Company is now building a combination hydraulic and dipper dredge to be used in cleaning up the canals already constructed and making them conform to the specifications, while another dredge will be put in operation at an early date. This latter dredge will be started at the lower end of the Hillsboro Canal. This will make a total of eight dredges, which should be capable of removing sufficient yardage per month to insure the contract being completed within the time limit."

### Locks and Dams

The contractors are now taking the borings to determine sites for the different locks. They have also built in the second dam in South Lauderdale Canal and will probably keep it there indefinitely—this to hold back sufficient water to float the heavy dredge "Okeechobee," now cutting along the northern boundary of our lands.

### Data On Dredges

During January the following progress was made by the dredges: "Miami," 1,720 feet; "Everglades," 2,495 feet; "Caloosahatchee," 3,415 feet; "Loran," 1,000 feet; "Number Eight," 2,300 feet.

All the dredges, with the exception of the "Okeechobee," are at work, and the machine shops are busy getting out new spuds and a dipper handle for the "Okeechobee." She should be in commission soon.

The dredges "Miami" and "Everglades" were laid up for repairs during the greater part of January, but are again eating muck vigorously.

Great gangs of men are at work around the machine shops, some building a new combination and suction dipper dredge, some enlarging the machine shops, where a steam hammer will be installed, and some working on the materials to be sent to the "Okeechobee."

Very truly yours,

(Signed) H. G. RALSTON.





Party of Investigators Viewing Mr. Hill's Bean Field on Unplowed Everglade Land, Davie Experimental Farm, January, 1911.

## Summary of Canal Work

Tallahassee, Jan. 27, 1911.

Mr. J. C. Lunning, Secretary,  
Trustees I. I. Fund, Capitol.

Dear Sir—On the canals now under construction by the Furst-Clark Construction Company, there was excavated prior to July 1, 1910, by the State's Dredges the following:

North New River Canal.....	10.11 Miles
South New River Canal.....	13.44 Miles
Miami Canal.....	4.24 Miles

Total.....27.79 Miles

Since July 1, 1910, the Furst-Clark Construction Company have excavated at the lower end of these canals, being a continuation of the State's work, the following:

North New River Canal.....	3.68 Miles
South New River Canal.....	1.67 Miles
Miami Canal.....	3.80 Miles

Total.....9.15

In addition to the above, the Furst-Clark Construction Company have, since July 1st, 1910, excavated at the upper end of the above canals as follows:

South New River Canal.....	5.00 Miles (complete)
North New River Canal.....	4.2 Miles
Hillsboro Canal.....	1.7 Miles

60% of required cross section.....5.9 Miles 3.50 Miles (complete)

### Summary:

Total Miles excavated by State prior to July 1st, 1910.....	27.79
Total No. Miles New Canal by Furst-Clark since July 1st, 1910.....	12.65
Total No. Miles Old Canal to full section by Furst-Clark Co. since July 1st, 1910.....	5.00

Total Miles of canals excavated to Jan. 1st, 1911.....46.44

Yours truly,

(Signed) J. O. WRIGHT,  
Chief Drainage Engineer.

## Maine to Florida Waterways Route

Wilmington, N. C., Jan. 4.—Twenty-five hundred people, including many men prominent in State and Nation, attended today a public celebration of the completion of the first link of the proposed inland waterways canal from Maine to Florida, on the banks of the waterway near Deafout, N. C.

Senator F. M. Simmons of North Carolina, master of ceremonies, welcomed the visitors. Among the speakers were Representatives J. Hampton Moore of Pennsylvania, president of the Atlantic Deepwater Waterways Association; S. H. Sparkman of Florida; F. R. Stevens, of Minnesota; Joseph E. Mansdell, of Louisiana; John H. Small, of North Carolina, and H. K. Walcott, representing the Mayor of Norfolk.

The canal has been under construction since 1907, and was completed last December. It connects 2,195 square miles of navigable rivers, as well as giving an inside route to coastwise vessels, enabling them to avoid treacherous Hatteras and Cape Lookout.—Times-Union.

## Two Steamers to Be Put in Service Soon

John F. Ward of Jacksonville, commercial agent for the Merchants' and Miners' Transportation Company, is in Miami today in the interest of his company. Mr. Ward is not only one of the most compassionate but he is one of the most successful solicitors of traffic in the business, and his friends multiply as he grows older in the business. His line has been entering Jacksonville but a short time comparatively, but it is getting more than its share of the business, and it is largely due to Ward. The M. & M. T. will soon have two additional vessels in the service. They will be put on some time in the spring; one of them is to be christened the *Suwanee*, after the Florida County, and the other the *Somerset*, after the Maryland County. The M. & M. T. business from this territory is on the increase. Mr. Ward is stopping at the Royal Palm.—Miami Metropolis.

## Railroad Across the Everglades

### Actual Construction Soon to Begin on New Line Which Will Connect Tampa and Miami

R. L. Riley, first vice-president of the Atlantic, Okeechobee & Gulf Railway Co., which, as recently reported, has published notice of its intention to apply on February 18 for a charter in Florida, writes from 818 Audubon Building, New Orleans, La., that it is now in position to announce its organization with Henry C. Ferriol of New Orleans, president; R. L. Riley of the same city, first vice-president, the other directors being A. H. West, E. E. West, W. S. Jordan, J. Q. McPherson and W. H. Milton of Jacksonville, Fla., and Walter Graham of Arcadia, Fla. The company proposes to immediately build its main line from Tampa to Miami, Fla., about 275 miles. Later executive offices will be opened in Tampa, but at present the office in New Orleans is headquarters.

It appears that the gentlemen interested in this enterprise have been engaged for nearly a year on arrangements for its organization. The main line will begin at a point near Tampa and run through Hillsboro, Polk, De Soto, Lee, Palm Beach and Dade Counties to a point near Miami, with a branch from Melbourne, in Brevard County, southwest; also through St. Lucie, Oseola, De Soto and Lee Counties to a point near Fort Myers; also a branch from that point northerly through Lee, De Soto, Manatee and Hillsboro counties to Tampa, and lastly a branch from Hainesburg, in

Oseola County, northward to St. Cloud. The capital stock will be \$1,000,000, which may be increased at the rate of \$10,000 per for each mile built. Other officers are mentioned thus: Walter Graham, second vice-president; A. H. West, third vice-president; Daniel A. Simmons of Jacksonville, secretary; W. H. Milton, treasurer, and Francis Belding McGarry of Jacksonville, general counsel.

The stockholders will meet to organize at the office of the Florida Trust Co. in Jacksonville on March 14, and President Ferriol is quoted as saying that everything is ready for the preliminary survey and the line will be constructed as soon as possible after the charter is granted. Bids will be opened March 15. Hiram McKinroy will be chief engineer. The line will develop a new section of Florida, including the lake district of Polk and De Soto counties, which will thus be opened to tourists, and it will also make available valuable farming territory besides much timber land.

Mr. Ferriol, who heads the company, was formerly editor and proprietor of the Daily Chronicle at Algiers, La., opposite New Orleans; Mr. Riley was connected with the Southern Pacific Railway; Mr. Milton was formerly a United States Senator, and Mr. Jordan is Mayor of Jacksonville. The application for charter is signed by the officers herein named, besides the directors, including Hunter W. Buford and the Broward Land Co., E. L. Higbee, president.—Manufacturers' Record.

## Cheap Rates Assured for Everglade Farm Owners

It is rather in the way of corroboration of events expected than in the nature of surprise that the announcement of a railroad to be constructed from Tampa to Miami is received.

One dispatch says that such a line has been projected for the past twenty years. We cannot say as to the length of time, but we know that the prospective drainage of the Everglades only has made the project possible, and this is to be added to the laurels of the man who paved the way for making the scheme practicable.

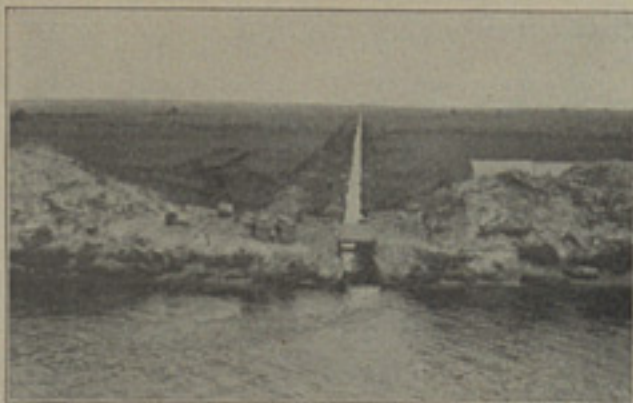
The proposed line is one of the things most needed to bring rapid development to this section. We hail the prospect with delight and the reality will be welcomed with great rejoicing. Miami and the other East Coast towns have been bottled up and at the mercy of one railroad line for a long period—the entire period of their existence, in fact. While we might look with great hope of realization upon the efforts that are being made to bring the advantages of this section to the attention of the world, yet we know that the greatest development were hopeless indeed without competitive transportation rates, such as could be afforded only by another railroad.

The advent of the steamer line between Miami and Jacksonville was greeted as a potent factor in the solution of the problem. So it was and so it will continue to be, but at the best its capacity is limited and there are inevitable delays in the

transportation of freight by water that cannot be avoided. The products of this section are of the perishable class, and it is desirable that the quickest possible transportation be given them to realize the highest possible market prices.

Another consideration that enters into the question is that of better distribution. The line from Tampa will do much to furnish this. The outlet will be more direct to the great West, we hope, than can now be obtained. It is realized that the construction of a railroad is not a matter of a day. It requires time. The assurance is given that the survey will begin at once, and that construction work is soon to follow. It will yet be several years, maybe, before the trans-State line becomes a fact. In the meantime, we will have to worry along in the best possible manner and take the luck as the gods send it, but we now have a ray of real hope—we are to have a competitive rail line to Tampa.

Miami has much to hope for from the new railroad. It will give an outlet across the Everglades, which in a few years will be dotted with productive farms, we hope, and the traffic will have grown so great by that time there will be enough to afford satisfactory dividends to all the transportation lines traversing this section. The development of the transportation facilities in this part of Florida is an expectancy to be realized in good time, but it is the best of news that alert capital has seized so promptly upon the opportunity of putting a line across the Everglades to connect the principal city of the West Coast with the metropolis of the East Coast.—Miami Metropolis.



First Lateral Ditch Cut by Our New Buckeye Ditcher, Davie Experimental Farm, T. 50, R. 41. Sluice Box and Gate (in Foreground) to Control Water Table.



## Florida, New Land of Promise to Farmer and Investor

By HON. W. S. JENNINGS, Ex-Governor of Florida

The growth and development of Florida during the past three years has exceeded that of any other like period of time in its history. The opportunities for the homeseeker in Florida are greater than at any time during the past. Capital seeking safe investment can find no safer security, in my opinion, than in many of the opportunities available in Florida. The past few years have been the era of Florida's greatest activity. Many substantial industries have been established on a firm and sound basis that have yielded a large return to investors.

The vast forests of yellow pine timber have yielded fortunes to the lumbermen and turpentine operators. The value of the lumber and turpentine products is approximately \$15,000,000 annually. Florida's mines, principally phosphate, are yielding upward of \$40,000,000 per annum.

The total annual value of farm products in Florida is upward of \$10,000,000, which may be classified as field crops, \$10,000,000; vegetable and garden products, \$5,000,000; fruits, \$10,000,000; live stock, \$10,000,000; poultry, \$1,000,000, and dairy products, \$1,000,000.

Capital seeking safe investment can find lands in Florida that represent safe values at prices low in comparison with lands in the West and North, containing much higher productive properties and values, situated in a climate that adds greatly to the market value of its products as compared with other sections, and that are yielding a handsome return upon the investment. Capital can also find innumerable opportunities for investment in Florida, either in substantial real estate or in manufacturing, industrial or mercantile lines.

There is an splendid field for the poultry raiser here; he is totally independent of the market to meet the local consumption. The eggs sold and used in Florida in 1907 approximated \$1,000,000 in value. Poultry is easily raised in this mild climate, good locations can be purchased for a few hundred dollars, and the investment in buildings and plant is much less than that required in a cold climate.

Upward of 8,000,000 gallons of milk, valued at \$1,000,000, were produced in Florida in 1907. No State in the Union holds out a safer and greater inducement to investors in the dairy business than Florida. Foodstuffs can be grown as cheaply here as elsewhere, in which can be added at nominal cost of production and growth, millet, corn, oats and a variety of excellent grasses, ten out of the twelve months of the year.

Census statistics show that we have from 15,000 to 25,000 thoroughbred cattle, Herefords, Shorthorns, Devons, Aberdeens, Angus, Polled and Jersey, which are equal to those of any other State in climate, and are of a much higher local market value.

Freight rates from Florida to the markets of the East are much lower than from the West. Moreover, the markets are nearer. We have three steamer lines from Jacksonville operating practically a daily service to New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore and Boston. Freight shipments go through in three days to New York by water, and this is an exceedingly great advantage in marketing perishable fruits and vegetables. The East, being the center of population, and producing much less than is consumed, is the great market for garden truck, early vegetables and fruits, and the cheap and quick water transportation from Florida to the East is one of the State's great advantages.

There is great activity in the development of Florida throughout the State and of all her bountiful resources. This has naturally stimulated the growth of towns and communities. In Florida, has made citizens prosperous and has attracted the attention of those who seek a more salubrious climate and more advantageous conditions than surrounded them in their present often landless homes.

Great efforts are being made by the people of Florida to construct a comprehensive system of hard-surfaced roads. We have already many hundreds of miles of excellent roads, constructed of the most durable material and most at hand. Dade County, in which is located the marble City of Miami, has splendid roads, built of the white limestone or coral rock, which is soft and easily quarried, but forms a smooth, hard, almost dustless road. The central and northern counties have hard, red clay roads, and automobiles are very numerous. Recently continuous boulevards have been proposed and will soon be constructed between Jacksonville and Atlanta, Jacksonville and Tampa and down the East Coast. Many of the counties have bonded themselves for road building purposes. The county in which Jacksonville is situated has floated a million-dollar bond issue for new county roads.

Water transportation goes on all the year round. After twenty years of work, the new inside route or canal has been opened for small vessels and motor boats and yachts down the East Coast from Jacksonville to Miami, a distance of 150 miles.

That wonderful engineering project, the over-sea railroad, from Miami to Key West, over the Florida Keys, is nearing completion, and trains will soon be running into Key West. Tampa and Jacksonville have recently completed ship channels twenty-four feet in depth to the ocean.

Florida would be a great State without the Everglades. The Everglades, when permanently reclaimed, would be a great State without Florida. Our citizens are fortunate in possessing both. Florida has the great muck land area, called the Everglade, an asset that will dwarf all the gold mines of California. The Everglades are deep, black muck lands, overflowed by water from Lake Okechobee, which is thirty miles in diameter, with the Kissimmee River and valley as its principal inlet, carrying into the lake the rainfall of a watershed approximately seven times greater in its area than the lake itself. The lake has no natural outlet save a common uniform overflow over its entire southern shore, which causes the Everglades to be inundated.

For many years the problem of draining the Everglades has been considered by officials and statesmen, and was finally taken up in earnest about 1902, and has been progressing steadily and effectively since that date; and in June, 1910, a contract was let by Florida State officials for the excavation of 184 miles of drainage canals, to be cut sixty feet wide, an average depth of eight feet, the work to be completed according to contract within three years from that date. Government engineers and others have for years believed that the Everglades can be easily and permanently reclaimed, as there are no engineering obstacles to be encountered; the canals are designed to have five outlets from the southern shore of Lake Okechobee, which are to be cut to the eastward. These outlets are designed to be of greater capacity than the total of the inlets or tributaries of the lake, and are planned to permanently reduce the level of the water of Lake Okechobee four feet in depth, and in the territory below likewise, thus creating a reservoir in the lake of sufficient capacity to hold without overflow the entire rainfall within the area of the lake for twelve months, as a safeguard of the permanency of the reclamation of the Everglades. These outlet canals are now being cut with great rapidity, this being the largest drainage contract ever let in the United States by any State, involving the expenditure of \$1,000,000 by the State of Florida. This is the greatest reclamation improvement now in progress in the world.

Prior to the letting of the drainage contract in June, Florida had caused to be cut approximately twenty-seven miles of canals within the contemplated plan of reclamation.

### Fertility of the Muck Lands.

As for the soil of the Everglades, it is of boundless fertility, consisting almost wholly of black muck, varying from two to sixteen feet in depth, formed by the decay of the saw-grass and other vegetation through centuries. This soil has been analyzed as containing 2 1/2 per cent nitrogen of a commercial value of about \$4 per ton as fertilizer at current quotations.

Among other advantages it is believed that the lands can be easily irrigated by controlling the flow of the water in the drainage canals by a system of locks. Lake Okechobee will constitute an inexhaustible reservoir which will supply water for irrigating. The United States government, by its corps of engineers, under Act of Congress recently passed, is now at work making a hydraulic survey of the inlets and outlets of Lake Okechobee to establish a system of locks to control the flow of water in the navigable waterways flowing into and out of Lake Okechobee, which can doubtless be utilized in the future for the purpose of controlling the flow of water in the drainage canals for irrigation purposes. The surface of the water of Lake Okechobee is twenty-two feet above sea level. The Everglades are as level as a prairie and have no trees or other growth requiring expensive clearing. The muck lands will grow all varieties of fruits and vegetables, and at a season of the year that makes their market value the greatest per acre of any products of the soil grown on the American continent. Here is the home of all varieties of tropical and semi-tropical fruits, and there is a great opportunity open in raising the fine imported East Indian mangoes and many other tropical fruits which few

American people have ever had the privilege of seeing or using, and which are admittedly the most delicious of all fruits. The avocado pear, bananas, pineapples and guava, many varieties of oranges and grapefruit, grow abundantly and are safe from injury by frost.

### The Future of Florida.

In my opinion, Florida must soon become one of the foremost of the Southern States. It offers a great opportunity, perhaps the greatest opportunity, to the actual settler, of any of the States, as well as to the prospective investor. Of the thousands who have visited Florida during the past year, few indeed but have been delighted with the opportunities for making good homes and livings, and most of them have invested; so I could not offer better advice to all interested in Florida than to suggest that you make a trip here this winter and investigate for yourself the land, the climate and conditions.—Chicago Examiner.

## Fletcher Will Urge \$258,000 Appropriation for Biscayne Bay

Senator Duncan U. Fletcher has given notice that he will propose an amendment to the bill making appropriations for rivers and harbors as follows:

"Biscayne Bay, Florida: Completing improvements of channel between the jetties to a width of three hundred feet in accordance with report submitted in House Document Numbered ten hundred and ten, Sixty-first Congress, third session, on page fifteen hundred and five of Appendix P, two hundred and fifty-eight thousand dollars."—Miami Metropolis.

## Over-Sea Railroad Nearing Completion

The Key West Journal says: Work on the Key West Extension of the Florida East Coast Railway is assuming immense proportions. At every point additional laborers and mechanics are being put to work, large gangs, sometimes as many as fifty, being sent to one camp. These men are shipped from New York via Jacksonville. Other big gangs arrive almost weekly on Mallory Line steamships at Key West, and are then sent to the various camps east of here.

The main work centers at Pigeon Key, where a force of over 500 men is now employed.

Engineer Smiley is pushing East from the Boca Chica viaduct across Boca Chica Key to Big Coppit and Sugar Leaf Keys; if nothing serious occurs in the way of a storm, the "last link" of the road should be connected by December first next.

## New Transportation Line

Prospects are bright for more water transportation service for Miami.

The Gulf Coast Transportation Company, which has steamers on the Savannah and Suwannee rivers, has started boats from Daytona to West Palm Beach and it is expected that as soon as the canal is put in good condition from Palm Beach to Miami, the service will be extended to this place.

The Gulf Transportation Company, it is said, intends to run boats from Jacksonville to Miami when the canals are ready and when the railroad has put a drawbridge over Pablo creek and removed other obstructions.—Miami Metropolis.

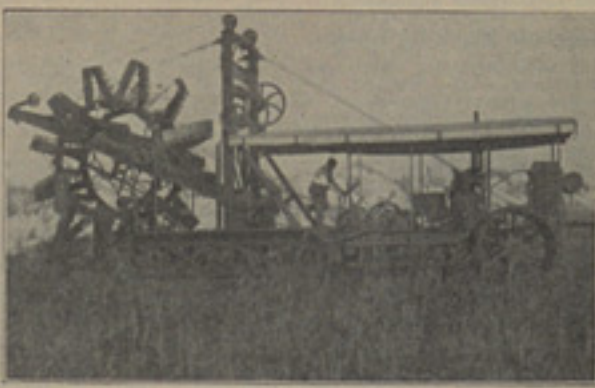
## A Regular Daily Service

Capt. L. L. Dodge, the well-known river man, has begun a regular daily express service up and down the south fork of New River, with the boat "Comfort." This will be a great convenience to the farmers and residents up the south fork, as it will save many the necessity of the expense of owning small boats of their own and will be an excellent business proposition to the captain. Very soon we may expect to see many such ventures, and Capt. Dodge is to be commended for his enterprise and foresight into the future of the business the river must carry.—Fl. Lauderdale Herald.

Mr. Shackelford also runs a large line up the canal from Ft. Lauderdale for the benefit of croppers, charging an average of three cents per crate for hauling produce from the "Glades to the East Coast Railway docks.

## Freeman's Everglade Farm

H. J. Freeman, who is operating a farm in the Everglades, is always doing what some declare impossible. He was told that lettuce would not grow on the muck and so he bought 40 cents worth of seed and used his spare time planting them. His success is short of marvelous. He has been supplying the home markets and also sent an occasional crate to Miami but recently shipped a nice consignment to New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore and Chicago and has plenty more left. It is of the Boston variety and everyone pronounces it the finest they ever saw or ate. He has remembered his friends with a liberal mess. He used no fertilizer whatever and also has the finest beans, radishes, turnips, etc., and finds that they grow to perfection without a particle of fertilizer. He has received as high as \$12 net per crate for beans.—Miami Metropolis.



Our Buckeye Ditcher Now Cutting Laterals to Serve Each Ten-Acre Tract in the Davis Experimental Farm. This Machine Does the Work of Many Men.



## News Notes From Lauderdale

The following items clipped from the local papers will inform our farm and lot owners as to the progress being made in the busy burg of Ft. Lauderdale and environs.

### One Day of Homeseekers

Fifteen hundred homeseekers are said to have come into or passed through Jacksonville in one day last week, and the other days not estimated. Of all the publicity given Florida at the present time, no one locality gets such attention as does the Everglades. A Northern traveler who stopped in Tennessee writes:

"All I heard on the train last night and today was Florida, and principally the Everglades. Everybody seemed bound for there."

Next—what is the city most central to the Everglade development? Where are the land companies bringing their visitors and investors? Where do they embark them to go up and view the 'Glades? What other answer does anyone think of than Fort Lauderdale? What, then, must be the conclusion as to our future? Men, women, everybody, are you alive to the outlook? We are coming to something bigger than the most zealous booster has dreamed of. Our town is alive with visitors. No one pretends to keep tabs on them. It is impossible. The strange face is the rare; the familiar one the exception. We are coming to think of it as a matter of course and actually sleeping as to our destiny.

The Herald is a booster by faith first—then from policy. The worst knocker we have is he who laughs in his sleeve because he thinks he is skinning the Yankee—and he is here.—Fort Lauderdale Herald.

### Live Stock for 'Glades

J. M. Brown of San Angelo, Texas, arrived last week with a carload of horses and cattle and another car of household goods and farming implements, and fully equipped for his Everglade farm. This is the second shipment of live stock—that of Mr. Easton being first and promising entire success.—Fort Lauderdale Herald.

### Big Demand for Lots

Over fifty thousand dollars' worth of lots have been sold in Fort Lauderdale in the last week and the clamor for more is heard on all sides.

With the establishment of the electric light and ice plant, the erection of hotels, a theater building, stores and shops, Fort Lauderdale is naturally offering excellent business opportunity, and it will not be long that lots may be secured there at the prices for which the land mentioned will be sold.—Miami Metropolis.

### Everglade Muck for Lawns

C. H. Slifer has hauled several tons of Everglade muck which he has spread on his garden and lawn. He will soon have one of the most beautiful places in town. He has coconut trees and hibiscus blooming.—Fort Lauderdale Herald.

### State Bank Opens

The Fort Lauderdale State Bank opened this morning for business and standing at the doors were eager depositors with bags full of coin for the big safe.

The order for the opening of the bank came from the Comptroller by wire yesterday, by the request of J. L. Billingsley, who got up the incorporation papers, and somehow it gave a propitious beginning to the bank's business, which will, apparently from the start, be in keeping with all the

other rapid strides that the affairs of Fort Lauderdale are making.

With a paid up capital stock of \$15,000, the bank is able to handle considerable business.

F. R. Oliver is president, H. G. Wheeler, vice-president; F. A. Barrett, cashier; Frank Stranahan, Tom Bryan and J. L. Billingsley, directors.

At a meeting of the directors, Monday night, it was found that after the directors had secured what they wished to carry of the stock, that there was one thousand dollars left, with fifteen thousand dollars at hand to take it up, and a number of disappointed persons who wished to be stockholders.

Everybody wanted to "get in on the ground floor," and there is a general feeling of propriety in the institution that will help materially in its success.

The bank building—one of the neatest in the State—is constructed of concrete with cement floors. The furnishings are new and elegant and the interior arrangement is convenient and attractive.

Jas. H. Gilman, cashier of the Bank of Bay Biscayne, is a heavy stockholder in the Fort Lauderdale Bank, and a number of other prominent citizens of Dade County are among its supporters.

Altogether, the institution has started off under most favorable conditions and will follow a careful plan of management that promises to insure the protection of its patrons.—Miami Metropolis.

### Ice and Light Co. Organized

More glad tidings come today from Fort Lauderdale. Articles of incorporation have been drawn up and letters patent applied for to give the thriving town an elaborate light and ice plant company, which will immediately arrange for the erection of the plant.

The new company is to be known as the Fort Lauderdale Ice and Light Company and in addition to the furnishing of light and ice for the north end of Dade County, will have through its charter the right to manufacture gas and to erect water-works plant, to handle fuel of all kinds and to build and operate street railways.

The five hundred shares of stock will be held at one hundred dollars each, making a capital stock of fifty thousand dollars.

Mr. Brown, who is president of the company, is a manager of the company erecting the new hotel at Fort Lauderdale. He comes from Greenville, Tenn., and is a wealthy and capable business man.

Every enterprise for the town receives his best assistance and he expects to see the Fort Lauderdale Light and Ice Company do much to help in the building up of the town's prosperity.

Each of the other men connected with the company will give considerable time to its concerns and will administer them on broad and progressive lines.—Miami Metropolis.

### Ft. Lauderdale the Magnet

Where rail and water meet a city must grow. We have the open canal for transportation from Miami to Jacksonville. Drainage and transportation canal to Okechober, and soon from there to Fort Myers, then to the Gulf. No other town in Florida can exhibit such advantages.—M. D. Price, at Mass Meeting, Fort Lauderdale.



Messrs. McKinnie and Ackley Putting in Their First Crop on Virgin Everglade Land, Davie Experimental Farm.

### Buckeye Pulverizer

The notion has been too generally promulgated that Everglade farming is a small system carried on by a hoe, with a man behind it. The big Buckeye caterpillar-wheeled pulverizer which the New River boat took up the canal last Wednesday sounds the death knell to the little farming business. The monster machine is the property of A. B. Sanders, and after preparing 240 acres of Mr. Sanders' private ranch for rice, will be given over to contract work to whomsoever may desire to engage such a machine to prepare land for planting. The work of the machine takes the place of the plow in preparing the soil for planting. It will stir the ground to any depth from two to eighteen inches and "cut a swath" eighteen feet in width. Though the machine is of the same type and size as the ditching machines that have been at work on the 'Glades for some time, it is built to prepare ground for the planter that has come to the Everglades, and is looked upon as an epoch-maker in Everglade farming. These big machines which Mr. Sanders is putting to work on the big muck bed very emphatically testify to the faith that a professional engineer and man of affairs has in the future of the Everglades as a farming proposition. He may be looked upon as a blazer of the way, and timid ones can well follow the lead of such a guide. We can with safety say, the new era has begun and all the inexperienced has to do is to catch step and keep his eyes on the color-bearer.—Fort Lauderdale Herald.

### More Everglade Ditchers

Another, the third, of the big Buckeye caterpillar-wheeled traction ditchers was taken up on the 'Glades last week by the "New River." This one was the property of a Mr. Van Antwerp, who will use it for private as well as contract draining. Verily, the future of Everglade farming on a large scale is looking up. Two ditchers and a pulverizer have gone up in the last thirty days. Watch our smoke.—Fort Lauderdale Herald.

### An Engineer on Drainage

Mr. Reid Whitford, a drainage engineer, who has had extensive experience in the reclamation of wet lands for agricultural purposes, and who has recently been engaged in large drainage projects in Southern Florida on the East Coast, is at present residing in Charleston. Mr. Whitford formerly held a position in the United States Engineers office here, and did much work on the waterways of North and South Carolina, besides performing other duties connected with federal work on rivers and harbors. Mr. Whitford is much impressed with the work that is being done in Florida in draining the Everglades and other low-lying sections of the state.

"Florida, as a matter of fact," said Mr. Whitford, "is becoming one of the most important agriculturally of the whole South Atlantic group. It is not too much to say that this is due mainly to the drainage of immense areas that heretofore have been useless to the farmer."

"The problem of drainage has been attacked with vigor in Florida, and the work is being done on a very large scale. The State is responsible for the good work accomplished. The result will be the reclamation of four million acres of as rich farming land as there is anywhere in the world, land which before was absolutely useless. To accomplish this great result the water level of Lake Okechober will have to be lowered four feet. When it is remembered that the lake is a body of water sixty miles long and forty miles wide, the vastness of the undertaking becomes the more impressive. It is indeed a tremendous undertaking, but it is perfectly feasible and the thing is going to be done."

"The State is doing the work. Just after the Seminole War the United States ceded the Everglade lands to the State of Florida, with the understanding that the State would drain the lands. Gov. Broward was the first to see the importance of these wet areas and their possibilities if they could only be drained, and the result of his efforts was the reacquiring by the State of about two million acres. The State then began to sell these acres with the guarantee that 75 per cent of the proceeds should be devoted to the drainage of the lands, while the other 25 per cent should be used for school purposes. The result of this was the formation of a sinking fund to begin one of the biggest drainage undertakings ever thought of anywhere. The contracts are now on for the removal of twenty-four million cubic yards of material to complete this great drainage scheme."—Charleston News-Courier.



## North Dakota Agricultural Educator and Soil Expert Strongly Endorses the Everglades

The letter which we are reproducing below is especially significant on account of Prof. Worst's prominence and wide renown. He is a national character and is recognized as one of the great men of the Northwest.

Prof. Worst is President of the North Dakota College of Agriculture, Founder and President of the Grain Growers' Association, Director of the State Experiment Stations of N. D., and President of the Dry Farming Association.

Fargo, N. D., January, 1911.

For the first time I saw the vast region known as the Everglades last December (1910). Having purchased a small tract of Everglade land from the Everglade Land Sales Company through Robert F. Collins, of Fargo, I was anxious to see what it looked like, so accepted an invitation to go by motor boat about ten miles up one of the large canals that are being cut through from Miami and Ft. Lauderdale to Lake Okechobee, where the lands of the Company are located. The canals are sixty feet wide and ten feet deep, making a perfect waterway to the interior. It will be twenty months or thereabouts before the canals are completed.

The Everglades cover millions of acres in the southern part of Florida and consist of what might be termed vast grass and water-covered prairie. The saw grass stands four or five feet high and the water is from a few inches to a foot or more in depth along the runways.

The Everglades consist of from two to fifteen feet of muck, the result of countless ages of growth and decay of saw grass—a veritable mass of vegetable matter underlain with porous coral rock.

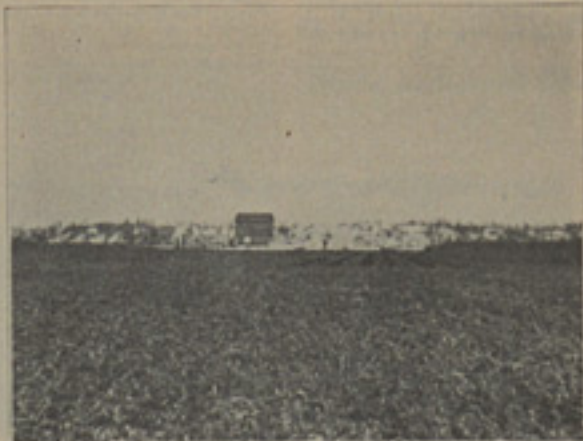
The purpose is to drain this vast region and convert it into truck gardens or whatever it may produce in the way of economic crops.

Of course, authorities and guessers differ as to its productive value. Some idea, however, may be gathered from experiments made near the lower stretches where the drainage is somewhat advanced. There tomatoes, beans, cabbages, peppers, etc., are growing luxuriantly, and orange and grapefruit groves are to be seen heavily laden with fine, large, clean fruit. In fact, I never saw finer fruit than on the muck lands adjacent to Miami and Ft. Lauderdale. Presumably, the same will prove true anywhere on the 'Glades, once the water is drained off and the land has had a taste of the air and sunlight.

I can imagine the great Red River Valley in the far-back ages, presenting a similar appearance—a vast watery plain, overgrown with some species of water grass. When nature opened a drainage way, the water grass died and gave way to grasses of finer texture, the decay of which, mingled with the wash of higher lands on either side, produced a heavier soil than that of the Everglades, where the soil is made almost entirely of decomposed water grass. On the Everglades the surrounding regions of sand contribute nothing to produce gumbo or heavy soil conditions. Nevertheless, with fermentive and putrefactive changes and oxidation of the organic matter, a very rich and productive soil must result. Doubtless some special elements must be added, such as phosphates, etc., to produce certain crops. Certainly Nature was not wholly in a humorous mood when constructing this vast vegetable deposit, and it may be presumed that with the demand for food and man's ingenuity combined, these 'Glades will at no distant day prove highly productive. I cannot see that Mr. Collins has overstated the situation; rather, I think the last encouraging word has not been said. While there I could have sold my limited holdings at nearly one hundred per cent advance over the purchase price.

Personally, though, I believe much remains to be learned about handling these lands, yet as to their ultimate fruitfulness, I have no doubt. They will be drained without question. A Dutchman would laugh at the idea of not being able to drain them. Once thoroughly drained, settled and cultivated, I cannot see why that should not prove one of the richest regions of the world.

(Signed) J. H. WORST.



Another View of Mr. Hill's Everglade Farm, Sec. 26, T. 50, R. 41. Sawgrass Removed and Land Ready for Planting.



Three-Week-Old Beans, Davis Experimental Farm. All this Land was Under Water a Few Months Ago, but is Being Cropped this Winter for the First Time.

## Bryan Nominated for Senator from Florida

Final returns show that N. P. Bryan defeated Blount by a majority of over 600, as the result of a second primary to select a successor to the late Napoleon B. Broward, as United States Senator from Florida. It remains for the legislature to formally elect.

This bit of good news will be received with rejoicing by all Everglade farm owners, because of Mr. Bryan's pronounced views in favor of the Everglade project and all that goes with it. To have a "friend at court" is much to be desired, and we are glad of this opportunity to congratulate the successful candidate for Senator, who has made, and will continue to make, such a gallant fight for the people at large and their interests.

## Florida Vegetables and Fruits Free to Canada

The following letter shows the work done by Senator Duncan U. Fletcher in having Florida fruits and vegetables placed on the Canadian free list, and is self-explanatory:

"Department of State,  
Washington, Jan. 30, 1911.

"The Hon. Duncan U. Fletcher,  
United States Senate:

"My Dear Senator—Referring to previous correspondence in which you transmitted a letter from the Florida Vegetable Growers' Association, stating the importance to the growers of Florida of securing the revision or elimination on the part of Canada of the duties imposed on their products, I am glad to inform you that in the recent negotiations the department obtained the free listing by Canada of fruits and vegetables of all kinds. The importance of the growing Canadian market to the products of Florida and the probability of the increased movement of those products should the duties be removed was duly appreciated and the information furnished was utilized in the negotiations.

"Sincerely yours,  
"HUNTINGTON WILSON,  
"Acting Secretary of State."

## Future of Winter Vegetables

To him who hath forebodings of the Florida winter vegetable market the holiday market in New York will do good. Beans sold for from \$15 to \$18 per crate; peas at the same prices, with fine stock ranging as high as \$25. Peppers at \$20 for fine and ordinary at \$15 to \$16. Eggplants reached \$20 per crate, with everything except lettuce in great demand at the above prices. And yet there are those who are doubtful as to the vegetable future of the State. Fear overproduction? As well fear the overflow of the Atlantic. Twenty years ago people had the same notions of the fruit production of the Northwest, but while the annual product has increased ten, a hundred thousand fold, the price has advanced almost in the same ratio. It is not a result of an increase of population, but a change in the manner of living. Twenty years ago an apple was scarcely seen in Florida; now they are an every-day food of even the Seminole in his fastnesses of the Everglades. Ten years ago a winter tomato, a green bean and eggplant were unknown to the Northern epicure, even. Now all may be had at any village store. This consumption of green vegetables in winter has just begun; ten years more and every foot of Florida land will be valuable for the production of food-stuffs—vegetables and fruits. It is a scientific fact that all that is needed in Florida to grow vegetables is plenty of water, and plenty of fertilizer and some place to put them. Since that plesantry was enunciated it has become common knowledge with scientific agriculturists that vegetables may be grown in clear water when the water has been properly treated with fertilizer. A Connecticut scientific man advertises, for the benefit of school gardens, a tablet to be put in water and that will cause to grow in the water a luxuriant growth of beans, peas or oats. Potatoes are now grown under straw, the tuber never touching the soil. Any kind of ground in Florida will grow fruit and vegetables. However, it is not any kind that we have—it is the best kind, and the individual who is awake will get possession of some of it very soon, now.—Ft. Lauderdale Herald.





First Herd of Cattle in the Everglades. Property of J. H. B. Easton, Now Located on Davie Experimental Farm.

## Florida Center of Reclamation

New York, Feb. 4.—[Special.]—Whatever may be the commercial merits or the economic significance of the unparalleled work of development now in progress in Southern Florida, from the point of view of engineering and of science, it is unquestionably to take rank with any reclamation work ever done in the United States, at least east of the Mississippi River.

The greatest work of reclamation east of the Mississippi now in progress, part of it under the authority of the State government and a part of it sponsored by private capital, will, when accomplished, completely tame the hitherto inaccessible Everglades of Southern Florida.

Yesterday there came to this city a report that two new and powerful dredges had been set up in the Caloosahatchee River. These cooperate favorably with the great dredge which has been in operation there for several months, and which is the largest dredge in the world, with two exceptions.

These two great dredges, operated under the supervision of the Federal Government, and directed by government engineers, ultimately will convert the Caloosahatchee River into a navigable stream from the Gulf of Mexico even up as far as Lake Okechobee, where it has its source. The engineers of the Federal Government speak with enthusiasm of this work.

The engineers say that when the Panama Canal is completed this Florida route will become one of the country's great waterways, for it will be utilized by vessels, at least coasters, both to and from the Panama Canal. It will save some 200 miles of navigation around the dangerous "keys" of Southern Florida.

### Dr. Wiley is Interested.

Dr. H. W. Wiley, the chief chemist of the Department of Agriculture, who was asked to visit Southern Florida, was almost as greatly interested in the scientific work now in progress as he was in the particular features of the work of interest to the Agricultural Department.

He reported to Secretary Wilson that so far as he knew nowhere else in the world is there such a body of land containing such remarkable possibilities of development as that which constitutes the Everglades bordering on the southern shore of Lake Okechobee.

To use his own words, Dr. Wiley reported:

"This land affords promise of development which reaches beyond the limits of prophesy."

But the people of the North generally, except the few who have been brought into personal touch with the work of engineering and of reclamation now in progress in this section, have no conception of the magnitude of the work, or of the peculiar engineering features which the development of it makes necessary.

For instance, there now are projected four canals, all to run from the Atlantic Ocean to Lake Okechobee.

### Other Canal Projects.

Of the other canals planned, and upon which much engineering computation and survey have been made, the lower one will have its ocean terminal near Miami. These canals are not designed exclusively for transportation purposes, nor, on the other hand, exclusively for drainage. They are to serve both for transportation and for drainage.

One drainage canal extending directly south from the lake for a distance of some fifteen miles is completed. It gives a

demonstration of the accuracy of the computations of the engineers, so far as the capacity of these canals to drain the Everglades is concerned.

With four canals stretching from the lake to the Atlantic Ocean, more than half the Everglades should be reclaimed. Furthermore, these canals, in connection with the canalizing of the Caloosahatchee River, are to furnish adequate transportation for ordinary coasters, thus fulfilling the prediction of Calhoun that some day Florida would construct a waterway connecting the Atlantic Ocean with the Gulf of Mexico.—Holland in the Chicago Tribune.

## Dade Sends First Potatoes from State

Filer & Fornel started from Lemon City last night, a solid carload of Irish potatoes, grown by Robert Welbors. They were consigned to Peyke Bros., Kansas City, Mo., and the commission men here saw them off with decided satisfaction.

From all accounts this is the first carload of potatoes to leave Florida this year, and their fine quality and uniformly large size make them something for Dade County to feel proud of sending out.

Word was received yesterday, also, that the first car of refrigerated beans shipped from Miami to John Nix & Co. had arrived in New York in fine condition and that although the market was heavily supplied with shipments of beans by express, the demand for them was large and sales were quickly made.

Almost in the height of the cropping season, the farmers of the county are busy people these days. Vegetables are reported in excellent condition and crops are large. Weather conditions could hardly be better, and prices are keeping up to the average.

## Tomato Crop Will be Heavy Peppers and Egg Plant Light

"The tomato crop seems to be moving slowly," remarked John W. Graham, in discussing the market conditions. Mr. Graham is with Chase & Co., who have headquarters also in Jacksonville, and ship over four thousand cars of Florida products annually.

"The tomatoes we are handling are of good quality, but tomatoes are scarce, and will bring good prices. The market is fluctuating, but at present they are bringing from \$2.50 per crate to \$2.75 f. o. b. Miami.

"Beans are coming in from all over Dade County, and are of good quality. They are the early refugee beans and some valentine variety. We expect to ship two cars of refrigerator beans the last of the week. Dealers are paying from \$1.25 to \$1.50 per hamper for them.

"Peppers are scarce, and eggplant also is scarce. The latter is the highest priced vegetable in the market at present. It is now bringing from \$3.50 to \$4 per crate f. o. b. Miami. The acreage is very light.

"There is quite a crop of new Irish potatoes in the county nearly ready to ship, and there is a good demand for them. In past years they have brought from \$1.75 per bushel to \$2.25, and I think the prices will be equally as good this year. We expect to deal heavily in tomatoes this season, however, more than in any other vegetable. If crop conditions remain good we shall ship about half a million packages.

"We will also soon be handling grapefruit; will ship a car the first of the week. Most of our produce goes to Western markets, and is carried on strictly an f. o. b. Florida basis."

Strawberries are beginning to be common on the tables of the general housewives of the city, owing to their fine quality and medium price. Excellent berries are selling at retail for forty cents a quart, and the quarts are honest ones, packed full and without false bottoms. This same delightful fruit is selling for seventy-five cents and a dollar a quart in New York.

Lettuce, greens, Swiss Chard, a delightful combination of celery and greens grown here, the stalks of which can be eaten in the place of celery and the tops cooked as greens; cucumbers, beet tops, radishes, okra, green onions, wax and green beans, green peas—all these are now in. There is some very good celery in the market. It is brittle and of good flavor, well bleached.—Miami Metropolis.

## Dade County Strawberries

Dade's strawberry crop is being marketed, and, like other Dade County products, the fruit is of fine quality and appearance. Strawberries have not been grown in Dade to any extent, but the great success of those who have made the experiment opens up another avenue to prosperity through the soil of Dade.

The following interesting letter from a well-known grower, D. L. Hartman, at Little River, tells still

more of the strawberry industry in this section.

"Any reader of the Miami Metropolis," the letter goes, "who does not care to wait until 'next year' to see a strawberry patch that is something can come to Little River any day and see a fairly good sized patch in full operation now.

"There are four and a quarter acres, containing 197,000 plants, and, judging from the yield of a smaller tract last year, there is every promise of upward of 25,000 quarts of fine berries. Forty-four quarts, averaging thirty-two berries to a quart, were delivered to the Miami Grocery Company last week. There will probably be several hundred quarts this week and 'after that the deluge.' Nor is it necessary to bring plants from the West or anywhere else; every one of these 197,000 plants were grown right here at Little River."—Miami Metropolis.

Editorial Note: Mr. Hartman began planting his strawberries this season October 20, 1910. Began picking January 5, 1911. He has eighteen varieties, many running thirty to the quart, averaging fifty. All varieties are doing well, but especially recommends the small bush and large berry. "Klondikes" and "Red Wines" are splendid varieties. He claims that this county far exceeds any that he knows of for the culture of strawberries, for the reason that they bear five months out of the year and the plants are much more easily cared for the remaining seven months.

Last year he began shipping in January and continued through June. He expects a yield of at least twenty thousand quarts this year, or about five thousand quarts to the acre. He is now picking an average of five hundred quarts per day.

Strawberries from this section are by far the finest raised in the State, as climatic conditions especially favor this locality, in that fog is unknown and dews light.

Last year's crop was an experiment, being Mr. Hartman's first attempt at berries in this State, but from three-quarters of an acre he sold \$775.00 worth of fruit. This year Mr. Hartman is planting the rows closer together, increasing the number of plants per acre about 75 per cent, making about fifty thousand plants to the acre. He is quite confident of at least \$2000.00 per acre from his berries this year.

Plants can be had at from \$1.00 to \$1.50 per thousand. Two hundred dollars per acre will bear all expenses, including the planting, fertilizer and labor to bring the berries into bearing. Picking and packing costs a little extra.



Barge of Cordwood Being Towed to Dredge on Miami Canal. Barges Loaded with Everglade Products are Handled in the Same Manner.

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At this Point in the South Landerdale Canal the Current was so Swift that Towing and Poling was Necessary to Supplement the Boat's Engine. Ocular Proof for the "Doubting Thomases" who Still Wonder Whether the 'Glades Can be "Dressed."

**Florida's Gain in Population**

The increase of 42 per cent in the population of Florida in the last ten years in contrast with the actual decrease reported in several States, and a very small gain in a number of other Northern and Western States is but indicative of the change that has been going on in the country for the last ten years. The Manufacturers' Record has repeatedly called attention to the fact that about 1900 emigration from the South steadily decreased as compared with former years, and immigration to the South increased. The census figures are beginning to tell the story in such a way as to command universal attention. The very heavy gain of 42 per cent in Florida, which is about double the rate of increase shown by the entire country, has been due largely to the incoming of people from the North and West. While Florida has drawn some of its increase from other States, the movement into the State from other sections has been exceptionally active. No one could have visited Florida during the last four or five years and studied the situation there without being impressed with the remarkable progress seen in every direction. Not only have the towns been growing rapidly in population and in general business, but agricultural development has kept pace with city progress. Thousands of people have been drawn to Florida by the attractions of fruit growing and trucking, and other thousands by the industrial and commercial opportunities of the State.

It is not to be expected that the Central South will make any such show of population increase as has Florida, because the conditions have been different, but the increase in Florida's population is typical of the material advancement of the whole South. Increasing agricultural and manufacturing interests have largely absorbed the surplus population, and it is no longer necessary for men to look elsewhere for work. With this increasing demand for labor the rate of wages has been gradually advancing until it is more on a parity with the wages of other sections. The wide diversification of agricultural interests in which this section is getting back to the condition existing prior to the war in grain and cattle raising are proving a drawing card in attracting the attention of people from other parts of the country.—Manufacturers' Record.

**Coast Canal Nearly Finished**

According to the present plans of the Florida Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company, the canal from St. Augustine will be completed to the required depth of six feet within the next three months. It is now and has been for many months passable for boats of considerable draught, but the required six feet is lacking in many places in Pablo Creek, at the extreme northern end of the canal. The first dredge is twenty-two miles north of the city.

When this work is completed the entire dredging fleet will be focused on the canal south of St. Augustine. At present the Daytona, owned by the Eastern Dredging Company, and dredge No. 4, are working between this city and Daytona, deepening and widening the canal. The required depth there is five feet. A six-foot channel has been opened up into Lake Worth from Jupiter Inlet, and it is now expected that the dredge, which is owned by the Trumbo Dredging Company, will be placed at work clearing out the channel at the southern end of Lake Worth.

Besides the Daytona and No. 4 between St. Augustine and Daytona, excavator No. 2 is also being used there cutting away the banks for the dredges.

Scores of pleasure craft are using the great waterway almost weekly, and when it is finally completed it will result in even greater fleets of yachts and launches coming south every winter.—Miami Metropolis.

**Florida Agricultural College**

In a previous issue we recommended that our farm owners subscribe for some of the correspondence courses issued by the Florida State College of Agriculture. Through oversight, we omitted to state that this college is located at Gainesville, Fla.

**King of Citrus Fruits**

Dade County grapefruit has again vindicated its right to the title, King of Citrus Fruit. Riverside Brand, Gen. Lawrence grove, Mills pack, was sold in New York, by the E. R. Brackett Company, on January 4, at \$4.50 for fancies, while brights strong along at \$2.50 to \$3.00. Comparison shows that this beat anything on the market handled by any other house, the highest on that day being \$1.75. Dade County fruit measures up to anything in competition, in beauty, size, carrying qualities and flavor.

**Dade County Lands Show Big Increase in Value**

There has been a marked advance in the price of all kinds of properties in Dade County during the last year, and as the demand increases prices will still go higher. Never in the history of this southern section has the demand been so great for really first-class properties as at the present time. City properties have shown a marked advance, and at the advanced prices there is an increasing demand.

Home building is going on at a lively rate, carpenters, masons and painters are busy, and it is hard work to secure enough men to "rush" a building. The prospect is that this summer a large number of residences will be built for tourists who have become interested in Miami and are tired of hotel life, and will build winter homes and have them ready for occupancy by next season.—Miami Correspondence Times-Union.

**The Grapefruit**

About once a season the Tampa Tribune prints a monograph on the grapefruit, and all the other papers in Florida copy it, for the grapefruit is the king (or the queen or the premier) of all Florida fruits, and the industry is just now in its toddling infancy. The Tribune having established priority in its tribute to the grapefruit, it is fitting that it be yielded the credit for the following:

No product of Florida excels in popularity the luscious grapefruit, which has become, in comparatively few years, the favorite breakfast appetizer of the nation. And it is because Florida is recognized as the real home of the grapefruit, because it is grown in its fullest perfection only in this State, that it constitutes one of our greatest assets and one of our best advertisements.

There is no danger of over-production, because the demand cannot now be one-tenth supplied, and the fruit is clamored for throughout the season, and the discerning consumer never gets enough of it.

A dozen years ago the grapefruit was scarcely known outside of Florida and it was grown here more as a freak than a source of profit. The demand for it followed immediately upon its introduction to the markets, and now it has outclassed the orange in popularity and in returns to the grower. This popularity is bound to continue increasing, for, once tried, the grapefruit is demanded daily, and the growers of Florida will be expected to supply the demand.

A good grapefruit tree yields \$50 per year, and it would be difficult to imagine a more profitable tree.

Great is the grapefruit and Florida is its native soil.

**Climatic Conditions at Miami December, 1910**

Date	Maximum	Minimum	Date	Maximum	Minimum
1	83	63	17	76	61
2	78	61	18	79	63
3	82	57	19	75	62
4	71	45	20	74	53
5	77	51	21	67	46
6	80	56	22	68	45
7	69	50	23	74	62
8	72	47	24	74	63
9	73	53	25	78	49
10	73	52	26	74	52
11	74	51	27	73	53
12	74	52	28	75	64
13	75	54	29	71	62
14	71	60	30	80	55
15	73	56	31	79	62
16	72	55			
			Mean	73.3	54.1

Monthly mean temperature, 69.3. Total monthly precipitation, 4.55 inches.

**January Weather**

During January, 1911, the precipitation for the month was 3.58 less than normal.

In temperature, the normal was passed by 4.6 degrees, the month being nearly as warm as any January for the last twenty-four years, with a maximum of 80 degrees on the 24th of the month.

There is nothing recorded in the way of phenomena, and nary a bit of frost or cold—all the days were warm and the weather was for the entire month just what is expected of Dade County in January.—Miami Metropolis.

**Limes a Profitable Crop**

Dr. John Gifford of Coconut Grove has sent the editor a bill of sale covering 3 1/2 barrels of limes, shipped to Hughes & Co. during the fall of 1910. A net profit of \$180 is shown on this consignment. The doctor assures us that this is all "velvet," inasmuch as absolutely no attention was given to the trees aside from the mere picking of the fruit. In our opinion, it is only a question of time when the lime will almost entirely displace the lemon, and extensive orchards of lime trees will be developed commercially in the Everglade region.



Collection of Shacks and Tents of Winter Croppers on the Davie Experimental Farm, January, 1911.



## Rubber in South Florida

By DR. JOHN GIFFORD



Dr. John Gifford

OWING to the great demand for rubber and the high cost of it to users of rubber goods, there arise from time to time rubber booms and the formation of companies which exploit new fields, new rubber-yielding plants and the pocketbooks of a large proportion of the confiding public, which to a certain extent, at least, to use a slang term, get "rubbered."

Newcomers are always interested to know if rubber trees will grow in South Florida; if rubber can be profitably extracted here, and if so, why has someone not been at it long ago. In fact, questions of this nature have been asked, and rubber trees of various kinds have been planted here and there in Florida for many years.

One fact must be borne in mind at the start in the discussion of a question of this kind: Which is that rubber is rather widely distributed throughout the plant world, and that many plants contain it, but in insufficient quantity to warrant its exploitation. It must also be borne in mind that a tree or plant which may be a good commercial rubber producer in one region may not yield sufficient in another, and the difference in the cost of labor may be in itself sufficient to mark the difference between profit and loss.

We have in South Florida two native rubber trees, one is *Ficus Anura*, called usually wild rubber; and the other is *Ficus Populnea*, or wild fig. The former is a common tree in the hammocks. It starts on the limbs of other trees from seeds dropped by birds, and as it grows gradually chokes to death its host by sending air-roots to the ground which in time become trunks. This is usually called the "lanyan habit," although I know of only one true banyan tree in Florida. This came from India, and is similar to and closely related to our native rubber.

In addition to the above, we have several introduced species of *Ficus*. These trees contain rubber, but not in sufficient quantity or of such quality as to prove a profitable commercial venture in a land where labor is as scarce and expensive as in Southern Florida. This applies to fiber manufacture and many other industries which might be successfully operated had we an abundance of very cheap labor. Americans usually get over this difficulty by using labor-saving machinery, and I have not the slightest doubt but that some day, in case rubber is not synthetically manufactured from cheaper and more abundant materials, even small quantities will be extracted by machinery from

many of the small plants which contain it.

The famous Para Rubber (*Hevea Brasiliensis*), the Panama rubber (*Castilloa Elastica*), and the Ceara rubber (*Manihot Glaziovii*), have all been planted here, and will grow here, but they do not flourish, and I doubt if they can ever be successfully propagated here. Of these three, the Ceara rubber grows best, and it is barely possible that this species may be successfully grown in large plantations in regions free from frost, since it does not require a rich soil and grows well in dry, sandy or rocky limestone regions. In all the rubber-yielding plants mentioned above, the process of rubber extraction is by means of tapping—that is, various incisions in the trunk from which the sap flows, and is collected in some kind of a receptacle placed ready to receive it.

Of late years, however, there has developed a better way. Out in Northern Mexico there grows a low bush on the desert, called "Gayule." Land on which Gayule grew could once be had for the asking, now it is held high because this bush is collected in bundles or bales and shipped to the factory, where the rubber is extracted from it. I have no doubt but that this plant would grow on the rocky lands of Dade County, since it grows in regions of little rainfall and in a climate which is at times much colder than ours.

Of late, however, I have been interested in two rubber-yielding vines. These are highly ornamental and worthy of cultivation simply as an adornment to any home, but if planted along fences I believe they could be cut to the ground each year and from the enormous amount of leaves and twigs and stems which they develop rubber could be extensively extracted in a way similar to the Gayule industry of the deserts of Mexico.

One of these vines is native to South Florida. It grows in great masses on the shores of Biscayne Bay and on the Keys. It grows to the very tops of the mangrove trees and runs from ground to limbs in twisted rope-like masses. The twigs and even the leaves are full of sticky milk. This vine is called *Rhabdadenia Biflora*. It grows on muddy shores of South Florida and the West Indies, and according to Grisebach's Flora (p. 406), this species is a source of rubber in Jamaica. In this work it is called *Echites Paludosa*, the old name for *Rhabdadenia Biflora*. It belongs to the dogbane family, and its juice is probably poisonous. It is closely related to the Oleander and Allamanda and Cape Jessamine and other beautiful ornamentals. The flowers of *Rhabdadenia* are white, the foliage is a dark, lustrous green, and the vine may be easily propagated by layering or cuttings in moist, mucky soil.

The second vine to which I refer

is *Cryptostegia Grandiflora*, called the Rubber Vine. This grows well in South Florida, although it comes from the Far East. This vine is being planted in the Bahama Islands, and the Board of Agriculture of the Bahamas reports that samples of rubber from this vine were shipped to New York and that the rubber it produced was pronounced of very fine quality. One report of the Curator of the Botanic Station at Nassau, says:

"I hope to make experimental trials of the yield by cutting down the young shoots almost to the ground, then crushing the stems between rollers. Recent microscopical examination of the bark shows that the milky juice, or 'latex,' is contained in the pith of the young shoots, and in the middle layer of the bark, in a network of minute tubes known as lactiferous vessels. These vessels run for the most part longitudinally in the plant tissues, forming a closed and connected system.

"I am positive it is well worth the while of all large proprietors to interest themselves in the rubber vine industry. It proves itself to be hardy and easily cultivated; it can be handled with ease and grows rapidly; produces a first-class rubber, second only when well prepared to the best Para rubber."

This is a beautiful ornamental vine of the milkweed family, and produces many seeds, from which young plants may be raised without any particular difficulty.

These two vines grow well in South Florida. With the new system of rubber extraction, I cannot see why they cannot be cut down each year, or perhaps oftener.

I believe a vine will yield more stems, twigs and leaves on the same piece of land, in the same length of time, than will an herb, shrub or tree. The main source of African rubber for years has been from vines—various species of the Genus *Landolphia*. Then, there is not the wait of many years for a yield, as is the case with rubber trees.

In the farm of the future I believe horse power is going to be gradually displaced by motor power, and in my

last article I emphasized the importance of the home production of alcohol from waste fruits, etc., for fuel. Of almost similar importance is rubber for tires, unless rubber can be replaced by some other material or the amount used reduced by improvements in construction of wheels and springs, or the price of rubber lowered. I believe the high cost of rubber is due mainly, not to a scarcity of the product as much as to a colossal graft. It is still mainly a wild and not a cultivated industry. While the automobile served mainly the pleasures of the rich it little mattered, but now that these vehicles are becoming a necessity to the general public, the cost of tires is a matter of general concern, and the production of rubber a national question.

If some ingenious chemist does not succeed in making rubber out of some cheap product let us hope that the Southern farmer may some day haul tons of rubber-yielding materials to the mill from his fields and thus share in small part, at least, on the many millions which go to the millionaire magnates and the smoky colored natives of the tropical rubber jungles to the south of us.

Only a few days ago I pointed out to a Japanese gentleman from Formosa some *Rhabdadenia* vines, and was surprised to see how quickly he photographed the plant and collected roots for shipment to Japan by the first mail. Who knows but these enterprising Orientals may not be some day shipping us rubber collected from a plant, native to Florida, and growing rampant under our very noses.

In crossing a railroad track it always pays to stop and listen. In our modern rush and tumble we often fail to see the good things we actually stumble over. Maybe this vine in our woods which impedes our way, which is recklessly cut with the machete and which besmirches our clothes with a sticky gum, contains in abundance the very stuff we need on the tires of our wagons and the soles of our shoes.

How valuable these vines are as rubber producers is, of course, a question awaiting solution. It is just like a thousand other similar propositions in South Florida and the Tropics in general. A man remarked the other day: "It is hardly likely that that vine is a good rubber producer or some one would have developed it long ago." One man is always waiting expecting the other man to do these things, and in consequence, only a small proportion of these questions are ever solved. As Broward once said: "There ought to be an active up-to-date experimental farm in every county in Florida."



A Good Catch. Fishing, as a Sport, is Unexcelled in Southern Florida.

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**\$36,000,000 a Year is Made in Peanuts**

The person who buys a nickel's worth of peanuts to munch at the ball game, to feed to the squirrels in the park, or to gladden the hearts of children at home, scarcely realizes that he has contributed to an industry that last year formed a million dollar crop, and which, placed on the market in various forms, reached the enormous sum of \$36,000,000, says the Washington Star. But it is a fact.

This little seductive nut—a resolution to "eat just one" is soon forgotten—whose birthplace is America, was until comparatively recently, unappreciated either as the "money in them" or as a really nutritious product. Today the peanut plays an important part in pleasure, from the swell dinner party to the ever-present democracy of a circus, ball game or picnic. After all, what is a ball game, a picnic or a circus without the peanut accompaniment?

If by far the largest part of the crop is consumed from the peanut stand, the little whistle sign of the roaster being the signal for the average youngster to suggest to Dad or Ma that some of them would be very acceptable, and the paternal or maternal parent's willingness—nine times out of ten—to invest. Yet there are millions of bushels that go to the fattening of hogs all through the South, the feeding of poultry, while the vines, often cured as hay, feed thousands of head of cattle, and even old Mother Earth is nourished by the roots of the plant, which furnishes nitrogen to it from the air.

The result of all this is that scientists claim that the peanut, which in the past was not very highly regarded, is the only food staple that will at once nourish man, beast, bird and the fields. It is the most nutritious of the entire nut family, rich in tissue building properties—containing glucose and carbohydrates—and is the cheapest.

**Remunerative Peanuts**

The prospective value of peanut cultivation in the diversified farming of those States of the South that have not previously given attention to the peanut as a profitable product is illustrated by the results in those localities where this season's crop has just been marketed. References have been made recently in the Manufacturers' Record to the advantages of cottonseed-oil mills in devoting their dull season to the production of peanut oil, and the general merits of this oil. The Modern Sugar Planter, referring to the present season, says that the banks of Ruston, La., have paid out more than \$60,000 to planters for peanuts this season, and large shipments have been made from other towns in Lincoln Parish, selling for about \$1 per bushel.

"The immense demand for Prof. Blakeslee's pamphlet on peanut culture, to be distributed to the farmer by the cottonseed oil men in order to stimulate peanut raising, is almost conclusive proof that the mill men have resolved on crushing peanuts as a settled policy. The price of \$1 per bushel seems small, but at from 80 to 100 bushels and more per acre that seems a very enticing crop."

Announcement that an experiment of crushing peanuts with standard oil mill machinery at Magnolia, Miss., has resulted satisfactorily is likely to increase the interest in peanut-growing

in parts of the South. The grade of oil obtained from the peanuts is described as being good, with the cake left in shape for stock-feeding purposes. From time to time since then the subject has been brought to the front, and it begins to appear that the success of experiments in crushing peanuts for oil in cottonseed oil mills may add another great industry to the South and increase the value of the cottonseed oil plants.—Manufacturers' Record.

**The Florida Hen**

"The hen that gives 365 eggs a year is confidently predicted and she has already performed the seeming miracle of giving eight eggs in five days," says the Florida Times-Union. "Why not? Like wonders are familiar as may be realized by comparing the Alderney or Holstein cow with their ancestors, or the production of an acre of grain under intensive cultivation with former records or the fruitage of many plants now as compared with the crops of the past—let us conclude that even the hen who gives 500 eggs a year will not be an impossibility ten years from today.

"But let us understand that the hen of the future will not prove a natural, but an artificial product; as such she would not be as wonderful as the man who habitually does things today that would have condemned him to the stake as a magician a few centuries ago.

"So the hen of 500 eggs capacity must be scientifically treated—in a cold climate an artificial spring must prevail for her throughout the year. Now this hothouse hen is possible in other States, but her cost would make her a thing of luxury—as an element in the provision of food for the average man she must belong to Florida. Here we need not build her a palace artificially warmed and provide her with hothouse grass—the simplest shelter will give all that is necessary and the cost of the fuel can be eliminated from the price of the eggs when marketed—also from the broilers when offered for sale.

"In other words: The hen of the future must live in Florida. If this be true, that hen will do as much for our people and our State as the orange has done and we wait her day hastened. Apply the laws of intensive cultivation to her and make her throne ready—let us make ready ourselves to hail the new queen in manner appropriate and befitting."

**Poultry Ranches Needed**

It has for many years been a mystery to the uninitiated why the poultry industry is not more widely developed in Florida. With high prices for chickens and eggs showing no inclination to decline it would seem a proper time to give some encouragement to the propagation of the hen. Think of the thousands of dollars sent out of Florida every year for eggs and poultry, and imagine if you can, what an immense revenue ought to be added to the pockets of Floridians. The cry should not only be "back to the farm," but "back to the chicken yard."

Down here in Florida most of the chickens and eggs are shipped in from Tennessee, which State derives an annual revenue in excess of \$18,000,000 from the sale of eggs and poultry. The natural advantages in Florida are probably quite as great as in Tennessee, although in certain sections there may be different and somewhat difficult problems for the amateur to solve. It is true that the poultry industry in Florida shows a remarkable and healthy growth, but there is plenty of room for more development.—St. Augustine Record.



Mid-winter Scene. Royal Palm Hotel Grounds, Miami, Florida

**Bamboo for Paper-Making**

There appears to be no room for doubt that bamboo is one of the most promising, if not in fact actually the most attractive of the new sources of paper stock available at this time. It has no bark, it is much easier to treat than wood on account of the capillary sap tubes. The yield on the commercial scale is about forty-five per cent of bleached fiber, while the average yield per year per acre is five tons of bamboo.—Technical World.

**Hexagonal Planting System**

When trees in the orchard are planted on the square system—each four trees forming a square—one-fourth of the space is wasted. When planted on the quincunx system, with a tree at the center of the square, nearly double the number of trees may be set out to the acre, yet the trees interfere with each other's growth. But H. M. Martin, in an article in the October Garden Magazine (Getting the Most in an Orchard), demonstrates by diagrams that with the hexagonal system, wherein the trees are equidistant and form a series of equilateral triangles with each other, about fifteen per cent more trees can be planted to the acre than by the square system, yet with the same distance between the trees, which is impossible with the quincunx system. On the small farms of the Florida colonies this is quite a consideration.

**Profits for Various Crops**

So many conditions enter into the making and marketing of a crop of fruit or vegetables that it is impossible to say just what any particular crop will produce.

Following is a table showing what one might reasonably expect an acre of thoroughly prepared land to yield with normal market conditions. These figures are estimated as net to the grower, after freight and selling charges have been deducted:

	Per Acre
Celery	\$150.00
Strawberries	100.00
Sweet peas	150.00
String beans	700.00
Irish potatoes	250.00
Sweet potatoes	200.00
Lettuce	200.00
Bush beans	200.00
Cabbage	250.00
Beets	200.00
Bermuda onions	250.00
Tomatoes	200.00
Peppers	200.00
Earliest	200.00
Orange—in full bearing	400.00
Grapefruit—in full bearing	400.00
Tangerines—in full bearing	500.00

—DeLand News.

**Alfalfa in South Florida**

Capt. James Morrison, who has a small patch of alfalfa in the back yard of his home on Fern street, is showing some of this plant, that has grown, since the last cutting, twelve days ago, sixteen inches in height. The alfalfa has been planted five years now, and is cut five or six times a year, and given to chickens.

Capt. Morrison states that January, the coldest of the year, is the best time to plant alfalfa. It should be sowed in drills one inch apart, and about four inches deep. The seed for the variety of alfalfa that is best adapted to this soil and climate is obtained from Salt Lake City. There are in all over sixty varieties of alfalfa.—Tropical Sun.

**Eulogy to the Kumquat**

"Here I am with a pedigree that beats any D. A. R. a mile a minute, and although small as far as size goes, I am large on flavor. I am a kumquat, or, as commonly called, Chinese orange or cherry orange, just as suits the individual who sells me. But my real name is kumquat.

"What am I good for? Well, as a marmalade there is nothing in the fruit line can beat me on the preserving list; I am an ornament to any of the gelatine desserts that prove so satisfactory to the housekeeper when correctly made. As a salad I provide something new for the epicurean taste. With a spray of my dark green foliage serving to bring out my brilliant yellow, nothing can be as attractive for a garnish.

"I can be served raw as a breakfast appetizer or frozen into a sherbet. A few of the ways which I will be found good for the stomach's sake are as follows:

"Marmalade: Wash the kumquats, cut crosswise and cook quickly in a thick sugar syrup, using to every pint of sugar a quart of water; simmering will toughen the rind. Pour into jars and seal after cooling.

Salad: With a sharp knife cut the fruit into very thin slices without peeling; have half as much tender celery cut into thin slices and mixed with a mayonnaise when ready to serve on a bed of lettuce.

"Sherbet: Put the meat through a meat grinder, or chop very fine; then add as much water as there is pulp and simmer five minutes; then strain, add sugar enough to sweeten; simmer 10 minutes, cool and freeze."—National Tribune.





View of Dr. Gifford's "Unit" House, Described in a Previous Issue of This Magazine. Photo by Kaufmann.

### Commercial Timber

In answer to an inquirer, Dr. John Gifford has written the following letter, which we reproduce for the benefit of all our readers:

"I know of only two or three specimens of Cuban cedar growing in this region. These have been planted a short time, but show such remarkable growth (two feet in height in a month), that I cannot help but predict a great future for it on Everglade soil. I speak also from experience with this tree on similar soils in the West Indies. It is not a cedar except that it produces a wood which looks and smells like cedar. It is closely related to mahogany, and sells always for as much money, being in great demand for the manufacture of cigar boxes. It is used also in place of mahogany for many kinds of work.

"In trees, as in everything else, I never count my chickens before they are hatched, and never predict how big a tree will get or how much money it will sell for twenty-five years in the future. I think, however, that both of these trees (Cuban cedar and Australian pine) will make one inch in diameter a year. The Cuban cedar looks like a walnut tree and produces a wood like cedar.

"The Australian pine looks like a pine and produces wood like oak. There are many Australian pines here all growing very rapidly, and some are growing naturally on muck soil close to the sea, where the seed has washed in. In Australia, the wood of the Australian pine is highly valued for furniture making. It is very similar to oak and quite equal to the majority of oak and ash. As soon as the drainage progresses far enough, it would be a very easy and cheap matter to plant ten acres to Australian pine. The seed of this tree may be collected in abundance from trees here. I am starting Cuban cedar, and it will take time to get enough young trees of this species to supply the demand. By the time your land is dry enough for these two trees, I think you will have no trouble in getting the plants and men to plant them for you by contract, by the acre."

### Take Your Kodaks Along

When you make your inspection trip to the Everglades be sure and take your Kodak with you. Also take care lest you make under-exposures. Better consult a local photographer on arrival, so as to get your "stops" correctly adjusted for the tropical light.

Also, remember to send copies of all your good views (together with bill for same) to the editor of this

magazine for reproduction in future issues. This courtesy will be much appreciated.

### The Ideal Home for Bees

The Kissimmee Valley Gazette is our authority for the statement that orange blossom honey, made in Florida, brings the highest price of any on the market, as it is devoid of any of that biting taste usually found in honey made in the North and West, and is perfectly safe to eat in any quantity. There are many other flowers on which bees feed, producing what is classed as the best grade of honey, and which finds a ready sale in the Northern markets, but those who have once eaten Florida orange blossom honey prefer it to all others. Owing to the large number of groves in the orange belt there is room for a hundred times as many hives as are here now and those engaged in the business say that it is very profitable, as the care of bees requires very little time or attention.

One gentleman engaged in the business near Kissimmee stated that he had taken fifty-nine pounds of honey from one hive in twenty-seven days. That was an exceptional case, but one could safely count on five dollars' worth of honey from each hive every season, and that amount could be easily doubled if a little extra care and attention was given them.

The bee industry is somewhat of a new thing, but every indication points to its being a most profitable one if engaged in on a large scale. Every variety of flower is here for the bees to feed on, and many is the bee tree that has been cut down in the woods that has yielded from one to four barrels of honey. If this is true, without any care, it appears to us that big money could be made with proper attention.

### Cane a Dependable Crop

Sugar cane is the one crop that never fails, stands more rain, more drought, more neglect than any other and will surely make something. To the farmer who uses good judgment with proper cultivation there is no staple crop that gives as great net returns. It grows best on a rich alluvial soil, combined with a heavy rainfall. Cane should average twenty-five to forty tons per acre. A ton of fair cane makes about 160 pounds sugar or twenty-five gallons of commercial syrup. Cane raisins should especially appeal to the small farmer who does his own work, as well as to the larger one, who has capital to employ gang labor—Times-Union.

### Ohio Trucker Gives Opinion As To Dade Soil

R. W. Griswold of Ashland, Ohio, a prominent vegetable grower of that section, is in the city, stopping at Hotel Halycon. He likes Miami and has been coming here for the past three years—says that the climate here is better than at any other place in Florida.

At home Mr. Griswold has seven acres of land under glass, six acres of which are under cultivation, burns seventy-five tons of coal each winter to keep the plant warm, employs five firemen and thirty skilled men looking after his crops. Under the glass he raises diversified vegetables, mostly cucumbers, spinach, tomatoes, lettuce, parsley and cabbage. His cucumbers he has in with about fifteen swarms of bees which help mature the blossoms on the cucumber vines. Upon this land he uses about forty tons of stable manure and from fifteen to twenty tons of commercial fertilizer.

"What do you think of this land around here?" he was asked.

"It is all right," he replied, "providing enough care and fertilizer is used. Where the ground freezes up for a few months the nutrition in the soil is preserved, but where the ground does not freeze there is a constant drain and drainage upon it, the result being that the rich productive qualities melt away. This is where the fertilizer comes in and builds up. I use two tons per acre even upon my ground where the nutrition is always good.

"I think the farmers and growers here have got a good location, and should do well. They must, however, watch their crops carefully and use plenty of the new grade fertilizers. The muck land will not require the same nourishment as the sandy soil. The chemist of any reliable company will send an analysis best suited for the grower."—Miami Metropolis.

Editorial Note: The above item refers principally to Mr. Griswold's opinion of the sandy soils, which predominate in Florida. On the Everglade soil the fertilizer requirements will not be so great, as pointed out heretofore by Walker Wallace and other authorities.

Under any conditions, however, and with the richest of soils, considerable fertilizer is required for the intensive system of trucking, in order to force the crops and make a given piece of land produce maximum results.

But we wish to call particular attention to the very large quantity of manure and commercial fertilizer used in Ohio by an expert trucker—fifty-five to sixty tons annually for seven acres. This will be especially interesting to those who have been laboring under the misapprehension that high fertilizing methods are confined to the Florida truckers.

For general staple farming, of course, only moderate applications of fertilizer are required and for certain kinds of crops, especially on Glade lands, even these lighter applications may be dispensed with. But for intensive trucking, heavy applications of fertilizer are the rule, regardless of location or class of soil, the special points of difference being that this item of expense is very considerably reduced where the basic soil contains a high content of nitrogen (the most expensive element in commercial fertilizers), as in the Everglades, and, furthermore, that the crop yield is much greater on this latter class of soil.

### Southern Hogs Profit Makers

The people of the South should keep at home the thousands of dollars which they are annually sending into the West for meat, and the farmers of the South can bring about this much desired condition and can at the same time realize handsome profits for themselves if they will engage in the raising of hogs more extensively, declares Prof. Dan T. Gray, of the Alabama Polytechnic Institute, who has charge of the department of animal industry at Auburn and is also an expert in animal husbandry in the bureau of animal industry of the United States Department of Agriculture, in "Farmers' Bulletin 411, entitled 'Feeding Hogs in the South,' just issued by the department.

"Pork can be made as cheaply, and perhaps more cheaply, in the South than in any other section of the country.

"Furthermore, the hog is especially adapted to the farmer with small capital, as but a small amount of money is required with which to begin the business, and returns begin to come in a few months after it is started. The sow is a rapid producer. Money is turned over rapidly. With \$125 invested in one boar and five to eight sows it is easily possible to have for sale from 3,000 to 3,500 pounds of pork, live weight, in a year. In other words, the yearly sales should be from two to four times the amount of the investment."

### Leguminous Cover Crop

The advantages presented by the use of cover crops are as follows:

1. Affecting the physical condition of the soil.

A. Humus is added and the water holding capacity of the soil is increased.

B. The soil is opened up, hard layers are prevented from forming and clay soil from becoming compact.

C. Moisture is removed from the soil during the rainy season.

D. Prevents washing of soil during rainy season.

E. Affecting the fertility of the soil.

A. Prevents leaching of nitrates during the period of excessive rainfall.

B. Promotes nitrification.

C. Adds plant food (leguminous crops).

D. Breaks up the plant food in the soil and renders it available.

Cover crops usually are divided into two classes, nitrogen collectors and nitrogen consumers.

To the first group belong the leguminous plants, such as clover, cowpeas, beans, peas, beggarweed, velvet beans, vetch, lupines and alfalfa.

On the roots of leguminous plants nodules of various sizes and shapes are found. These bacteria are commonly known as nitrogen fixers because of their ability to collect and store the free nitrogen of the air in the tubercles formed by their action. This nitrogen eventually becomes available to the plants growing on the soil.



Dredge "Miami," Eating Its Way Through the Muck, Headed for Lake Okechobee.



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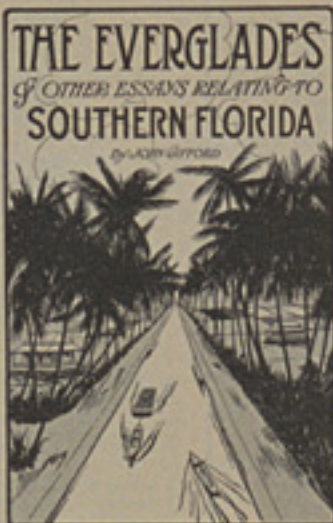
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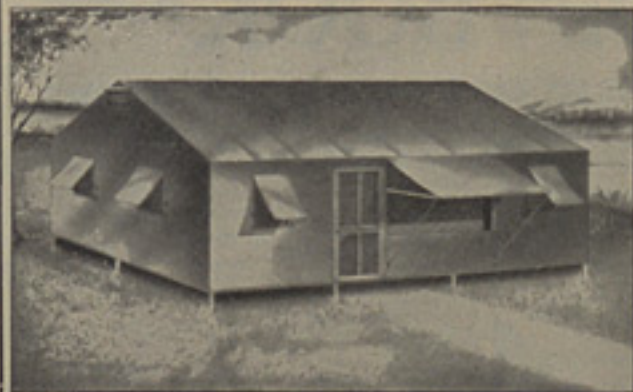
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## New Raspberry-Strawberry

In Logan county we are growing a new berry that bids fair to revolutionize the berry industry of this state. It is called the Yankee Prince Raspberry-Strawberry, and is an accidental cross between the red raspberry and the strawberry. The origin of this berry is obscure, but it is said to have originated in a small town in this state. It appears that the red raspberry and a large variety of strawberries grew close together, and in some manner the bees carried the pollen from one to the other, and a new berry resulted from the seed that fell on the ground.

The berry is very large, some growing to the size of a hulled walnut. The berry resembles the red raspberry, but has the shape and size of a large strawberry, while the center is hollow, like the raspberry. It is, without question, the handsomest berry grown.

It grows on a bush about three feet high, the stalk being covered with thorns like the raspberry. In color it is a beautiful red. This is a dry berry, requiring sugar and cream to bring out the flavor, which is peculiar to itself, slightly resembling the mulberry; and there is a lingering delicate after-flavor.

The Yankee Prince is a prolific yielder, beginning to bear about the time strawberries come in, and continuing to bloom and bear until fall. The blossoms are pure white and resemble the May apple blossom. A small patch eight feet wide and 100 feet long produced 1200 worth of fruit, which is equal to \$4,000 per acre, at fifteen cents per quart.

Another thing about the berry is that it requires no cultivation. The vines are mowed close to the ground either late in the fall or early in the spring, and the new shoots that come up bear the same season. Weeds do not seem to bother them, the new stalks coming up so thickly as to kill them out.

Plants may be set out any time from October 15th, to November 15th.—W. B. James, Atlanta, Logan County, Illinois.

## The Avocado

Mr. Charles Montgomery, of Duessa Vista, Fla., who makes a specialty of the Avocado pear, has prepared a small leaflet descriptive of the fruit and its uses. Mr. Montgomery will be pleased to mail you one of these leaflets, if you have never eaten the Avocado try it under these directions and it will "taste like more."

### The Avocado.

The Avocado—*Persea gratissima*—of the order of Lauraceae, known also as alligator pear, middleman's butter and aguacate, is one of the best tropical fruits. It is the most easily digested, the most wholesome and the most nourishing of all natural foods. The best varieties contain over 20 per cent of fat, according to government statistics. The most delicate persons can eat the avocado with a relish when they cannot partake of fat from animal sources.

### When Ready for Use.

The fruit will yield to slight pressure of the thumb. The flesh of the ripe avocado is about the consistency of well made butter.

### Hicaynye Salad.

To two parts of the sliced fruit use one part of chopped Bermuda onion, salt, pepper and vinegar to taste. Sweet peppers, red or green, may be added if desired. Prepare two hours before serving, stirring the salad occasionally.

### Ideal Salad.

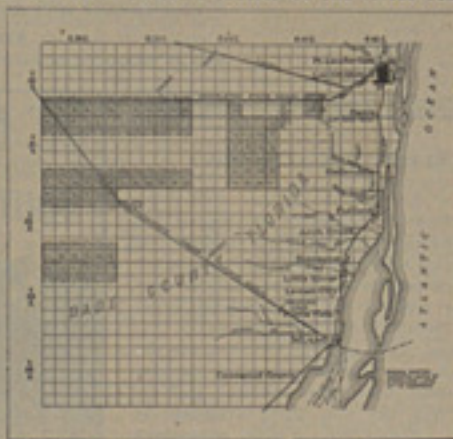
Cut a small fruit in half, remove seed and inner lining. In the cavity place three stuffed olives and the desired quantity of the dressing, which is a teaspoonful of sugar dissolved in the juice of a lime or half a lemon. Serve one half to each person on a lettuce leaf with a spoon.

### Minimal Sandwich.

Spread on lettuce leaf between slightly buttered bread, well mashed Hicaynye Salad.—Florida F. & J. Record.

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