

APOPKA. FLORIDA .

Sat. July 26th 1924 .

Dear Capt Jaudon:-

I presume we shall leave here Wed or Thurs day next . The intensely hot weather seems to have moderated and to day is pleasant , we have been going to Orlando every other day and fixing up Fritz/s camp .

At times he goes crazy over socialism, Swedenborg , or something or other and I go to sleep nightly with his ravings in my ears that get fainter and fainter and finally he drops off to sleep .

I was thinking to day about Germans , I have known thousands of them and in all my life I think I could count on three fingers of one hand the gentlemen I have known of that nationality .

The people of this section have been pretty hard hit by low prices in Citrus fruit and many are diversifying, going into fern growing and grapes and doing very well at it

The banker here is an old friend of my mine from St Augustine and he says it is incredible the shipments in the Spring and Fall of ferns to northern towns .

They sell them wholesale to brokers here at five cents and he repacks and sells them for ten , principally to the Ten cent stores in the North . The Grapes I dont think much of they dont compare with the Niagara grapes Orlando shippe and grew in such quantities 30 years ago of which you may have some remembrance .

Our last interview with ^{W.H.} Thompson indicated that he took but little interest in our affair and if you should happen to think of some one for a substitute I will do the same and we can compare notes on this . I am wondering how Senator Fletcher may have received your last letter .

I could show you letter after letter from the Geological Survey of which the Bureau of Mines is a part, that their on

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only interest in peat was its existence etc etc now comes the Asst Secy of the Interior and he is only interested in its mechanical preparation , of course the two go hand in hand .

I have requested the proprietor of the Hotel Wellington to send me my mail that arrives up to Sat night, on here, so that will probably arrive Tuesday and post me to date in reference to several feelers I have out, including possibly an answer from Mr. Wm. H. Smith the FORD man . Anything worth while I will communicate to you .

The sulphur water here is good for both bathing and drinkig and such a Spring as Fritz has, if it were in Miami or the neighborhood would be a great asset .

Please accept my respects and regards for yourself and your excellent wife :-

Very sincerely Your's

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ernest Paulsen". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed text "Very sincerely Your's".