

J.F.Jaudon.
Developer.
Ochopee Florida.

Ochopee Florida
January 8th 1934.

Mr. W.H.Cralle
Washington D.C.

My Dear Mr.Cralle:-

Yours 6th inst just received,note with great pleasure that you are making good progress;Mr.Cralle I want you to assure Senator Fletcher and also Senator Dial and your other friends that I and we are not in the least impatient and we dont want them nor the R.F.C. to grant us anything more than good sound business judgement coupled with the ultimate State and National benefit will warrant,my only regret is that we are not in position for the moment to ask more for I feel quite confident that if the merits of this enterprise were minutely examined that Government would open the door wide to encourage not only us but others to plant immense sugar plantations on these lands in this area.

Feel sure that Senator Fletcher and others including R.F.C and your friends will not consider it egotism on my part to give a brief synopsis of Sugar and Sugar Cane in Florida;I say this for the reason that so few know the real facts and I ask that the following be read carefully by all those interested.

SUGAR AND SUGAR CANE IN FLORIDA.

In 1767 Sir William Duncan and Dr.Andrew Turnbull influenced by General James Grant then Govenor under the British who had just acquired East Florida from the Spanish organized a colony drawn from Minorca the Greek Islands and planted sugar cane at New Smyrna;the growing of this staple was a success but the lands planted was hammock,hard to clear and keep under cultivation,the lattitude being so far north,and dissensions arose between master and servant and the colony was abandoned.

The United States Census of 1860 gives credit to Major Robert Gamble of Tallahassee who moved to Manatee County together with a man by the name of Crofield of producing 1869 hogsheads of sugar or 2,002,800 pounds or over one thousand tons of sugar,this cane was planted on a rather thin sandy soil;this project was abandoned upon the war between the States.

In 1885 Hamilton Diston established at St Cloud near Kissimmee ON MUCK OR PEAT LANDS a large sugar plantation,it was my privelege as a boy to visit same,this operation proved CONCLUSIVELY that SUGAR CANE CANNOT BE GROWN PROFITABLY ON MUCK LANDS---or rather PEAT lands.

While it is a FACT that there is not a single county in Florida which will not on SOME of its lands produce sugar cane it is equally true that there is a very small area of land really adapted to Sugar Cane on a COMMERCIAL SCALE,knowing this to be a fact in 1919 I took it upon myself to determine ACCURATELY if ANY AREA OR ANY LAND IN FLORIDA WARRANTED A LARGE SUGAR OPERATION-----I wrote Mr. Muller who was then editor of "SUGAR" an English-Spanish technical journal published in New York City to find for me one or more of the worlds greatest sugar cane growing experts to make a report to me FULLY and ACCURATELY the Sugar possibilities of Southern Florida.