

Sp. 567

Davidson
Dottenhoff
Dice

July 8, 1918.

Mr. J. E. Ingraham, President,
St. Augustine, Fla.

Dear Sir,

Your favor of the 6th instant, asking for a reply to your favor of June 24th in re application of David B. Dice for another tract of land shortly after asking for cancellation of Model Land contract #01561, received today.

Mr. Dice asked for this cancellation on the basis of our letter of June 7th, claiming that it was too dry to make a crop, which condition he blamed to the general lowering of the water level, through the drainage canals. The land is sand prairie on which he has been unable to make a successful crop since he bought it, because of the late dry seasons to say nothing of the drainage operations. Probably this land will come into the market on the return of the wet seasons and through the efforts of the managers of the Drainage districts. He is a family man, having a home in the neighborhood and said he would have to leave here if he could not find land on which he could crop successfully. We told him that it was contrary to the Company policy to sell land on time to those who had cancelled their former contracts. But under the circumstances, and especially as we believed he did not have the money to pay for the land in cash, we accepted his first payment. We should have written concerning the circumstances, when sending in his application. We delayed in answering your letter, because we wanted to show the land to one of our reliable buyers in hopes he might buy the land for future use, having land in the vicinity, but

he would not buy because he said it was altogether too dry for cropping purposes. The seasons have a great effect on different classes of the Company land, and with men who have very little capital, they cannot pay for their mistakes in land and have and borrow money to pay for one piece and buy another.

Yours very truly,

Thus being so a land and left in a condition, we cannot see that he has injured the tract in any way.