

1181

January 19, 1923.

Subject: Proposed Drainage District, South of Florida
City, Florida.

Mr. J. E. Ingraham, President,
Model Land Company,
Saint Augustine, Florida.

Dear Sir :-

At a general meeting called at Florida City some little time ago for the discussion of the above outlined subject a Committee was appointed with instructions to circulate petition among the property owners to apply to the Dade County Commissioners for the formation of a Drainage District.

A member of that Committee called upon us this morning leaving the enclosed blue print and copy of petition with request that they be submitted to you for your consideration and an expression as to the attitude of the Model Land Company with reference to the project. The Blueprint which is enclosed shows in red the area proposed to be embraced in such a district and the petitions refers to the sections of law under which the district would be formed and operated.

As you are already aware, bonds have already been voted for the construction of a road at such time in the future as the Commissioners see fit, leading from Florida City in a Southeasterly direction to Little Card Point to connect up with a road to be constructed by Monroe County on Key Largo. The construction of such a road will be a Dredging Proposition and therefore, will carry with it a canal, which can be utilized more or less for Drainage along the same lines as the present Ingraham Highway leading from Royal Palm Park to the Cape, and it seems to be the idea of those who are favoring the movement that with a little more expense and by making this canal wider and deeper that a larger purpose could be served and more economically for the reclaiming of this low land.

Personally, we know very little about the physical condition of this territory outside of a couple of miles South of the edge of the pine land in that part of the proposed district lying West of the Railroad .

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Mr. J. E. Ingraham, Page # 2:

The quality of these lands is such that we believe it could be readily disposed of at from \$75.00 to \$100.00 per acre if it was properly drained. It is our opinion, however, that the greater part of this area being proposed for drainage is so low and level that it would require a very careful and thorough survey and certain observations on the ground to determine the effect and value of the drainage scheme.

The Committee stated that Tatum Brothers requested a considerable part of their property to be included and that these gentlemen were in favor of getting the matter in shape and before the County Commissioners as soon as possible, and that if the Model Land Company would join in with the movement it was felt that there would be little left to delay further progress.

We might state also that Tatum Brothers were very active in having the Key Largo Highway project included in the last bond issue and it is understood that they have interests in Key Largo which this road will serve to a very great advantage.

Please advise us the answer you desire transmitted to the Committee.

Yours very truly,

PEPPER & POTTER,

By

FJP/D.

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