

Kissimmee, Florida  
December 13, 1928

Mr. Hamilton M. Wright  
Newspaper Syndicate  
Park Row, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Wright:

I am wondering this morning if you still would like to have me write you that Everglade Article. I have sent for write a remarkable picture that would help sell the article, and our Governor, John W. Martin, in a public statement, Yesterday's paper, said that the Everglade drainage was in the dim future; and I myself, think it never can be accomplished. Even if it could be accomplished, there is no money to bond with.

My idea is that the State of Florida, owning one million acres of this marsh and jungle, should turn this over so it would become the property of the Federal Government, where it could be made a wild-life preserve for the Seminoles, birds, forest creatures, and to preserve the natural scenery of this section. I will say this to you, confidentially, that there is a movement on foot in Washington and Tallahassee to have the United States Government buy two million acres in the Everglades. One million of it belongs to our grafter, Ex-governors, and others who got the land for nothing. This would make those few people quite independent, but I would want to ignore every thought of this kind and just play on the strings that Florida still owns one million acres which, according to Governor Martin, will never be drained and can be given to the Federal Government by the vote of the Florida people without cost of a single dollar. It simply requires the propaganda and to get the people to think that this would be a splendid idea, and we would call it as we did three years ago when you gave me so much publicity, "Florida's Gift to America".

I will be very glad to hear from you on this subject, and also would want you to edit the article. Wishing you all good Christmas wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Minnie Moore Willson.