HOW RICE IS GROWN IN THE FAR SOUTH

It Requires Much Water By a System of Canals or Water.

SOUTHERN TEXAS FOR RICE

Planting and Harvesting Much After the Manner of Wheat and Oats.

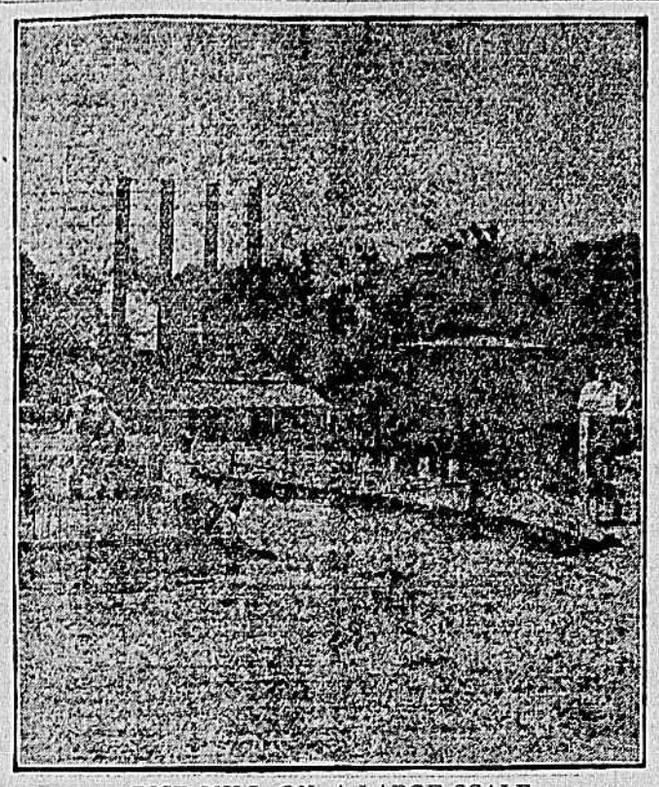
Southern Texas, particularly that portion through which the Sante Fe Railway runs direct from Kansas City to Galveston, is becoming a great rice country. Fortunes large and small are being made from land that has heretofore considered unavailable for any kind of farming. But the best land for rice is that which will grow wheat, cotton or corn. Rice land must be level, because standing water is required during about seventy days' growth of the crop. It must have a clay soil near the surface, because it must hold the water with which it is flooded. An abundance of fresh water is required, and it must be kept on the land for more than two months.

Water is put upon the land by means of canals or wells. Canals are literally built upon the top of the ground, two parallel embankments are made, and between them the water runs. Everything is above the average surface of the ground where the rice is planted. The water is pumped and led direct to the land to be irrigated without a reservoir to draw from in case of need, because it is always a case of need during a period of at least ten weeks.

In some parts of the country wells of inexhaustible water are found, and these are used instead of canals, the water being pumped direct to the ground. Some of them are capable of watering from 150 to 250 acres. The pumping is done by small gasoline engines. It costs about $2.35 per acre to supply water.

Rice is planted on ground that is prepared as it would be for corn or wheat, and the seed is sown broadcast or put in with a wheat drill, about 60 pounds to the acre being required. The water is turned on when the rice has reached a growth of 4 or 5 inches high, and remains on the land until the heads begin to turn yellow and droop. The depth of water is from three to six inches.

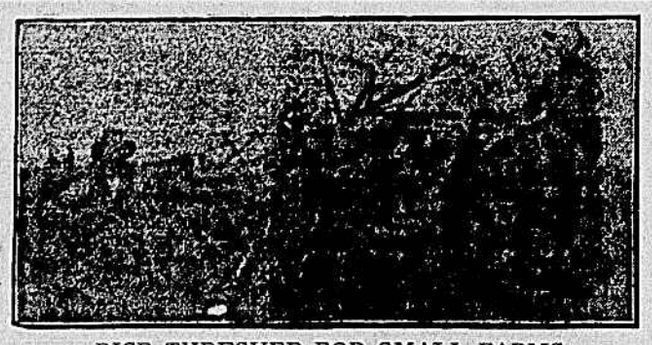
Rice is harvested with wheat harvesters, same as wheat, oats or rye, but a peculiar mill is required to prepare it for market. This mill does not make flour, its function being to clean the rice grains of their clinging, brown hulls, take the fuzz off the grains and polish them for market.



RICE MILL ON A LARGE SCALE.

The yield of rice in Southern Texas varies greatly. A good yield is twenty sacks of 162 pounds in the rough, which will make about 100 pounds of clean, white rice. An average yield is twelve sacks per acre. It costs about $10 per acre to raise the crop, and the average is about $20 per acre net.

There are several by-products of rice which are valuable. The straw makes good rough feed and sells from $4 to $7 per ton. It is also being used to some extent in the manufacture of paper.



RICE THRESHER FOR SMALL FARMS.

A standard bushel of rice is 42 pounds. The measures current, however, are the sack and the barrel. A barrel is 162 pounds, and a sack contains from 162 to 180 pounds of rough rice. This is the grain as it comes from the machine, and before it has been cleaned, and is always sold by the farmer in that state.

The crop is rarely a failure, because wet seasons always help, and irrigation does the work during dry seasons. Where there is an abundance of water, no failure of the rice crop is possible. Large irrigation plants are being established all through Southern Texas, and the industry is being rapidly developed.

MYSTERY HOVERS OVER MANUFACTURE OF ACID

Plant at Pulaski a Veritable Sphinx Among Enterprises.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

PULASKI CITY, VA., October 21.—In the sulphuric acid plant, owned by the Pulaski Mining Company, Pulaski City has a veritable sphynx among manufacturing concerns, albeit one that promises to become the leading industry of this prosperous and fast-growing young city.

There is nothing in its new point and conventional outlines that suggests the mystery that hovers over and round it, and sets the seal of aloofness from the world upon its threshold.

Nevertheless, it is hedged about as effectively as if guarded by a hundred-headed dragon, like the golden fleece of ancient mythology, or by an angel with a two-edged sword.

Visitors are not admitted, and no member of the newspaper fraternity has ever, by hook or crook, succeeded in passing the sacred portals or extracting from its officials more than an atom of information concerning its workings and the amount of business it is doing.

Thus a plant which is valued at five hundred thousand dollars, and which is preparing to double its capacity, has kept out of the public eye, and only a few paragraphs concerning it have appeared in the public prints.

The plant is of more than passing interest, however. It is not merely the only sulphuric acid plant in this section of the State, but the only one employing exactly the same methods of manufacture. Indeed, the manner in which the sulphuric acid is separated from the iron ore was an experiment. But it has passed the experimental stage, having been in operation three months, and the fact that the company is doubling the capacity of its plant proves conclusively the success of the experiment.

The sulphuric acid plant is situated in East Pulaski, and comprises about twenty acres, carefully enclosed. The office and laboratory building guards the entrance.

The following facts were gleaned from reliable sources by your correspondent:

The Pulaski Mining Company, which is composed of Northern capitalists, own extensive mines in Carroll county, called the Gossan Lead. The supply of iron ore or mundic rock, as it is termed, is practically inexhaustible, but contains so much sulphur that it is not adaptable for smelting. With the sulphur removed, however, it is more valuable than ordinary iron ore, and it was for this purpose that the new plant was built.

Accordingly, the company has two valuable assets, the sulphuric acid and the iron ore, which is crushed and refined by the process of removing the sulphur, and is thus more valuable than other crude iron ore, as it comes from the mines.

As a result of this superiority, it will not only be sought after, but wil bring a better price. The company has the further advantage of a market at their very doors. Pulaski has two iron furnaces, The Dora and the Pulaski Iron Company Furnace.

In an interview with Mr. Howard, superintendent of the latter furnace, I asked: Have you used any of the ore from the sulphuric acid plant?"

"Not as yet," he replied, but we intend to do so, just as soon as they will furnish it to us."

I have asked a number of prominent business men of Pulaski, but have never so much as heard of one who has had a peep inside this industrial shrine.

But to return to our sphynx. I have spoken of the iron ore, after the sulphur has been removed. Of the acid itself I could learn little, except that it is shipped in great tank cars to the Eastern and Central States. How much they make a day is a matter they keep to themselves.

That is all right, however. This is a free country, thank God, and if a manufacturing company chooses to veil its face like an Oriental beauty and lead the life of a recluse, it has as good a right to do so as—a woman.

The public has no kick so long as its workings are honest and honorable, and it is playing a vital part in bringing wealth to our rich but as yet undeveloped Southwest, as the Pulaski Mining Company is doing.

Gospel of the Links.

The Bishop of Manchester declares that if the people will not come to the church the church must go to the people and follow them to their week-end resorts. It is, we hear, proposed to make a start by supplying golf links with missionaries, who will sing a short hymn after each drive. In the event of a foozle the hymn will be sung with extraordinary vigor in order to drown any lay remarks that may be made.—London Punch.

UNITED DAUGHTERS OF THE CONFEDERACY

The Roanoke Chapter Elects Delegates to Richmond.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

ROANOKE, VA., October 21.—"William Watts" Chapter, United Daughters of the Confederacy, has elected the following delegates to the State convention of the Virginia division, to be held in Richmond, November 8th-11th;

Mr. J. Allen Watts, Mrs. Charles D. Fox and Miss Elvira A. Jones. Alternates—Mrs. N. H. Hairston, Mrs. Goodi Vaughan, Miss Mary S. Darnall. Probably all will attend the convention.

Mrs. J. Allen Watts is president of the chapter. She is a daughter of the late Captain Hugh Holmes Lee, and widow of Senator J. Allen Watts, of Roanoke. For many years she has been active in work for the veteran's association.

Mrs Fox, who has relatives in Richmond and Petersburg, served as acting president of the "William Watts" Chapter last year for six months, and was very successful in interesting the members in building up the society. She takes an active part in several other organizations.

Mrs. Jones is a daughter of the late Edmund W. Jones, of Lynchburg. Her mother was a Miss Williams, of Lynchburg, who was a woman of marked literary talent and ability. Miss Jones has held every office in the gift of the chapters to which she has belonged. For two years she was president of the "Old Dominion" Chapter, of Lynchburg—one of the youngest presidents of the State then—and is now an officer in the Roanoke Chapter.

Mrs. Hairston, who is the wife of Judge N. H. Hairston, was for several years president of the Martinsville Chapter, and is now historian of the Roanoke organization.

Mrs. Vaughan and Miss Darnall are both officers of the "William Watts" Chapter, and are energetic workers.

RED FOX HOUNDS SWIFT AS WIND

Hon. Lovelace's Dogs Left the Speckled Hounds in the Rear.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

SOUTH BOSTON, VA., Oct. 21.—It was one bright morning the latter part of October, when Mr. Ed. Hodages was returning with his white and spotted and black and tan hounds from an unsuccessful chase after a gray fox, when by the roadside he was hailed by an aged negro, perched upon a rail fence, who had evidently been drawn there by the yelping of the hounds. 'Hello, Marse Ned, whares the fox?" asked the old man, "Hello, Uncle Jake, I failed to catch him, he got down among some cattle and got the dogs confused, and I missed him."

"Well, well, well," exclaimed the old darkey, "You ought to have had Marse John Lovelaces' dogs."

"Why, do you think they would have gotten him?"

"Yessiree as sure as you are born" If you had have had them red devils you would have had that Fox behind your saddle right now. Boss dem dogs could catch anything that stayed on the earth, ain't I done cotch wild turkeys with dem? Yessiree, and as fer de gray fox, dat was nothing but play fer dem dogs; I remember way back yonder in the 60s' Marse Capt. Billy Walker, whare lived up near Riceville, had a pack of hounds just like dem dogs you got dar, spotted and speckle all of dem, and there was an old red fox, he had run and run until the neighbors had named him Billy Red. Now, it was just a few days before Xmas that Marse John comes out to whare I was feeding the hogs, and says to me, "Jake, I have just gotten a letter from Billy Walker asking me to come up there Xmas Morn wid my pack and see if I could catch that red fox that has been playing wid his dogs so long. What do you think of it?"

Says I "Marse John, dar ain't but one thing about it, that fox will either have to quit the earth or go under it if he lives on the day them dogs get after him. Marse John den say to me, "Well, Jake, get the dogs in good trim, be sure and not feed them too heavy, and if the weather is fit, we will try their mettle Xmas morn." 'Well, about two o'clock Xmas morn, Marse John knocked at our door and said,' "Jake, feed our horses and tell Lindy to cook us some breakfast, I am going to have Billy Red's brush before night!" So I got up and waked Lindy and went out and fed the horses, come back and give the dogs a few pieces of cold corn bread, and got ready to start. 'Boss, I tell you that was a cold morning; The frost looked like a young snow. Marse John say's "Jake, we will reach Elkhorn about Sunup," so we started out followed by the finest pack of dogs that ever horn blowed over. Sure nuff, on the bridge that crosses Elkhorn, I could see red streaks in the East. Marse John says to me: "Don't blow your horn, and make as little noise as possible, I want to claim Xmas gift on Billy Red this morning." By that time I heard Remus and Rush, two puppies, which had not been broke, running over on the river, the rest of the pack was in the road with us. Marse said he wished he had left them pups at home, they were running rabbits. By-en-by I see old Sal throw up her head and the biggest red fox I ever saw jumped in the road before us. Man! I never saw anything like it before, dogs and fox right up the road; finally they pushed him so that he had to get out. They took right up Elkton Creek, finally he reached the swamp and the dogs was so close on him he doubled in there for awhile and then he turned back towards the river. By that time I had broken the puppies off and put them in with the rest of the pack, so he ran right down the river. Marse John comes up to me and says, "Jake, don't you holler, don't say a word; he'll come back by here, he wants to go up the river to the White Oak Mountains. Sure enough we sot there and presently we heard them coming back. Man it looked like every tree in the woods was coming up by the rots. Presently I saw old Billy Red come into sight. He was about 150 yards ahead of the pack. Marse John says "Jake keep your mouth shut, don't say a word, old Billy has caught his last rabbit on the Elkhorn." Well the hounds come up, little Buck in the lead, Black Rock next, close onto Rock followed Sal, the mother of the pups. Now Marse John says we have got to do some riding; its a long way from here to the mountains.

I was riding a little sorrel horse called Isham. He was as tough as whalebone and had done nothing but foller hounds, so I put off up by Riceville, the dogs were going up the river, and by my going by Riceville, would cut off a mile or so, so when I got up into the village, I saw men, women and children, standing out in their yards. I asked him if they had heard anything of the dogs. They said they had passed there about a half an hour ago, and at the rate they were going, they were then at Chatham. I rode up the road about three miles farther and turned out into an old field and stopped to listen. Not a sound could I hear. While standing there listening, I saw Marse John with his little chestnut horse, looking like he had just swum the river, come in sight. He rode to wher I was standing, and said. "Jake, what has become of the dogs?" Says I, "I don't know, maybe they have caught it somewhere down the hill." Marse John got down from his horse and was fixing the blanket, which had nearly worked out from under the saddle, when I heard him say, "Hush! hush! hush! Ain that old Sam." I listened, and sure enough, I just could hear him up the river. By that time another man came galloping across the field to where we were standing. It prover to be Mr. Ferguson, who was then selling goods at Riceville, he told us that Capt. Billy Walker had put his hounds with ours and he was following them. By that time, we could hear them coming back down the river. Mrase John says, "don't say a word, he can't stand it much longer, the red devils are close on to old Billy now." So sure nough, they come right back through the very field we were standing in, and we caught him in a little path that run down through the pines. When we got there, there was not a single spot or speckled pup there, nothing, but Marse John Lovelaces red dogs. About a half an hour after we rode out on the hill, I heard Marse Capt. Billy Walker's dogs coming down the rivr. Good-bye Marse Ned; you ought to get you some of dem red hounds.

PUBLIC SALE OF SHOES AT RETAIL!

Starting October 23, 1905,

We will hold daily in our large basement, for Six Days Only, A PUBLIC SALE OF SHOES.

We have realized for some time the necessity for an outlet of a class of goods that we have no room for now. We have, therefore, decided

To Open a Basement Shoe Store

for the sale of all our own immense amount of short lots and broken sizes, as well as Manufacturers' Samples. The object is to cut the expenses down to minimum.

Economy Will Be the Keynote, and Every Cent Saved Goes to YOU!!

Our main object is to keep our regular stock free from all accumulations of broken lots, and at the same time to undersell every other shoe store in Richmond. In opening this new branch of our business we will not depart from our custom of selling only shoes that we guarantee. **Dependable Shoes** have been, and will continue to be, our motto.

Richmond shoppers have never had such a chance. It is impossible to give any prices for the opening, but our past special sales are too well known to need any word from us, except that this is a permanent enterprise, which will surpass all our other sales.

DABNEY & JOHNSTON, 301 E. Broad St.

Remember the Date—Oct. 23. Remember, Your Money Refunded if Purchase is Not Satisfactory.

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Is This Your Boy

The one that wears out his clothes within four weeks of the day of purchase? Does the problem of what make to buy annoy you?

We buy the kind that

Wears and Wears.

FIRST POINT.—They're all wool.

SECOND POINT.—Buttons don't come off.

THIRD POINT.—Seams are double-sewed.

FOURTH POINT.—Double seat and knees.

FIFTH POINT.—Our Fall and Winter styles are ready, and prices are low enough to please you.

SIXTH POINT.—$1.50, $2.00, $2.50, $3.00 and $3.50 will buy one of these Suits.

FREE.—A Pearl-Handle Pocket-Knife given away with the purchase of a Boy's Suit.

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to compare the price and quality of our goods with those of other jewelers? Everything that a strictly first-class jewelry house should carry is to be found here.

Watches, Diamonds, Clocks, Silverware, Cut Glass, Novelties, &c., &c.

If you don't buy from us, we both lose money.

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We have in stock a number of high-grade, fully guaranteed **Runabouts**, rubber or steel tire, which we are selling at a sacrifice. These vehicles are strictly first class, and can be bought for the price of the ordinary kind.

We are making a specialty of a Medium-Grade Buggy, and offer as a leader a

Top Buggy for $50.

Let us show you this Buggy.

The Largest Stock of Roofing in the State

In Painted and Galvanized, V-Crimp and Corrugated, Tin Plate, Tar Paper, Tin Shingles,

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OPPOSITE OLD MARKET, RICHMOND, VA.

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THE OLDEST AND LARGEST PURELY SOUTHERN INSTITUTION

Insurance in force September 30, 1905, nearly

$50,000,000

Assets, over $2,250,000.

This is one of the most CONSERVATIVE, PROGRESSIVE and SAFE companies in the country.

In 1904 $4,271,596.13 was paid by policy-holders in Virginia to foreign life insurance companies, industrial insurance not included. This money can be kept at home and absolute protection obtained by insuring in the LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY OF VIRGINIA.

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