



## THE TRIBUNE PRIZE WINNER

St. Lucie County; Its History, Resources and Possibilities"

## FOURTEEN IN CONTEST

Judges Award Second Prize to the Following Essay, Written by Malcolm Moore, a Public School Pupil in 10th Grade

Saint Lucie county, the youngest county in the State of Florida, was created by the Legislature of 1905. St. Lucie county was formerly the southern part of Brevard county. The reasons for St. Lucie's separating from Brevard county were: First, that the county was too large; second, that the county seat was at the extreme northern end of the county, and third, that the money raised by taxes was used for improvements made in the northern part of the county.

St. Lucie county is bounded on the north by Brevard county. The southern boundaries are Dade county and Okechobee bay, which is the northern part of Lake Okechobee. The eastern boundary is the great Atlantic ocean, and Osceola county forms the Western boundary.

The resources of St. Lucie county chiefly lie in the extensive growing of apples and citrus fruits. St. Lucie county is the banner pineapple section of the world and its delicious fruit is known the world over. St. Lucie county is also a large producer of oranges, grapefruit, tangerines, kumquats, lemons and limes. Among the tropical fruits grown, bananas, mangoes, guavas and avocado pears are the most important.

The raising of early vegetables for the northern markets has an important place in the county's resources. Beans, peas, tomatoes, celery, cabbages, strawberries, watermelons and potatoes are among the many vegetables grown. At times beans have sold as high as \$16 a basket. From the sugarcane grown in St. Lucie county is made the finest syrup in the world.

Lumbering is an important industry of St. Lucie county. Among the most important timbers milled are: The yellow pine, the great timber of the south; cypress, because of its being so light and because of its lasting qualities, is used in the building of ships and boats, bridges, cranes and telephone poles; the mangrove, some kinds make finest furniture. From mangrove bark is made the finest tannin. Land is reclaimed by the mangrove tree; the wood also makes excellent fuel, and the ashes make good fertilizer as they contain a high percent of potash. Palmetto logs, on account of their lasting qualities, make excellent posts for wharves and boat houses. Scrubbing rushes are made from the fibery trunk of the palmetto tree.

Medicine is made from the juice of the saw palmetto berries, and from the roots are taken annually tons of tannin. Leather tanned with this tannin is superior to oak tanned leather.

The fisheries of St. Lucie county are among the richest in the State. In the Indian river are found in abundance, mullet, trout, bass, bluefish, pompano, sheephead, and many other fish. Fishing for green turtles is of importance. Spanish mackerel fishing in the Atlantic ocean forms a very important part of the fishing business. In the lakes, creeks, rivers and streams can be found trout, bass and turtle.

Oysters of a superior quality and flavor are taken from the Indian river. In the Indian river are found clams, crabs and shrimps. In the Indian river and Atlantic ocean are caught sawfish, the saws of which make beautiful ornaments. Tourists pay handsome prices for them, shells are also highly valued.

St. Lucie county has the ideal climate of the world, neither too hot nor too cold. During the winter months, hundreds of people come from the northern states, to escape the dreary cold winter days there, and to enjoy our mild climate, our evergreen trees and flowers. During the summer months, the breezes are from the sea, cool and refreshing; therefore this model climate attracts both the tourist and home-seeker.

Hunting during the fall and winter is an attractive sport, both for settler and tourist. Deer, turkeys, ducks, alligators, and small game are found in abundance in the unsettled western ranges of the county. Ducks are also found in great numbers on the Indian River.

The soil of the East Coast of Florida is sandy, and just suited to pineapple culture. The soil of all the flatwoods and hammock lands is rich as any in the world. The lands have either a marl or clay subsoil and in some places pure muck is to be found.

The most important minerals found in St. Lucie county are: Shell, used for roadmaking; marl, used as a fertilizer and also used for roadmaking, and sand, used in the manufacture of concrete building and paving blocks.

Trapping is an important occupation. The hides of alligators, raccoons, foxes and otters are among

the important shipped to northern markets.

The chief means of transportation is by railroad. The Florida East Coast Railway crosses the county from north to south about one-eighth mile from the Indian river.

The county seat of St. Lucie is Fort Pierce, situated on the beautiful Indian river. Fort Pierce has grown in the past few years from a mere country town to a thriving little city of several thousand or more inhabitants. Fort Pierce has a library, a bakery, six good hotels, ice factory, two dentists, six lawyers, a strong bank of \$250,000 deposits, a good band, paved streets, barrel factory, a lumber yard, six fish houses, a skating rink, an opera house, two orchestras, three churches, concrete works, four physicians, a cabinet maker, Masonic lodge, a wagon factory, cement sidewalks, a blacksmith shop, two machine shops, two livery stables, a junior high school, Eastern Star Chapter, two good newspapers, an Odd Fellows Lodge, a Royal Arch Chapter, six building contractors, two telephone systems, a moving picture theatre, three real estate agencies, undertaking establishment, a wholesale cattle company, an excellent photographic studio, a picture framing establishment, seventeen stores, one of which ranks among the largest on the East Coast.

Fort Pierce is 242 miles south of Jacksonville, Florida. Fort Pierce is backed up by good farming lands, it is in the heart of the pineapple belt, the county seat of the young and thriving St. Lucie county. Fort Pierce is but one mile and a half from the Atlantic ocean, the commercial center of the middle East Coast, division headquarters of the Florida East Coast Railway. Fort Pierce is three miles from the Indian River Inlet, the great fishing point, and only eighteen miles from Santa Lucie Inlet, where the government will probably spend \$1,400,000 for a harbor in the near future. The citizens of Fort Pierce are ambitious and industrious, and the time is not far off when Fort Pierce will be the most important city south of Jacksonville.

St. Lucie county has numerous prosperous towns of which Roseland is the farthest north, and the most southerly Waverland.

Numerous herds of cattle roam at liberty on the uncleared lands of central and western St. Lucie county.

The draining of the Everglades would be a very great advantage to St. Lucie county as it would make thousands of acres of land valuable for cultivation.

Campfire raising will probably be an important industry in the near future. (continued on page 8)

## W. R. HARDEE ON THE LEGISLATURE

Tallahassee, Fla., May 17, 1909.

Editor TRIBUNE: Some time ago I wrote that I was of the opinion that the present Legislature was going to do some good work during the present session. I now wish to say, that if we do so, it will have to be done during the few remaining days we have before us, for up to the present time, we have done practically nothing except pass a few local bills, the remainder of the time having been taken up by numerous resolutions, appointment of investigating committees, and then more committees to investigate the original committees. Also the playing to the grand stand by those who like to be seen and heard on all occasions. A few obstructionists can block all kinds of legislation, and so far, this has been about all we have done.

We have today, the 17th, a calendar of eighty-six pages with several hundred bills on same. We adopted today a rule to hold three sessions per day and hope in this manner to overcome some of the hot air procedure we have been indulging in. So far I have only been able to get two bills down to the Governor for his signature, which bills are the establishing of County Court and the Seine bill. Several of my other bills I have gotten through the house and are now in the Senate for action. It is a self evident fact that there is going to be a great crop of corpses left hanging on both the House and Senate calendars, and some of mine will be among the collection.

I have sat by the hour while personal differences between Congressman Frank Clark and W. J. Bryan have been aired through resolutions offered by parties to whose whole ambition seems to be to play to the grand stand and get themselves talked about. If we could have eliminated a very small minority of our membership at the opening of the session, we could have been through with every bill we have before us, but with every bill we have before us, and our hot air has reigned supreme and are now with but a few days remaining and practically all our real work ahead of us. Unless we change immediately the present legislature will go down in history as the most frothy bunch that the people of Florida ever had the misfortune to send to Tallahassee.

Tallahassee, Fla., May 19, 1909—Governor has signed bill establishing County Court, bill prohibiting seining in the waters of Brevard, St. Lucie, Palm Beach and Dade counties, north of the north boundary of Brevard bay covering a radius of 20 miles in width west of the Atlantic ocean beach; also appointment of Otis R. Parker as Prosecuting Attorney for County Court. W. R. HARDEE.

## THE CONTRACT NOW AWARDED

Proceedings of Special Sessions of County Commissioners

## THE NEW COURT HOUSE

Mutual Construction Co. Awarded the Building Contract—Diebold Safe and Lock Co. Place Vaults, Doors, Etc.

The County Commissioners met in special session May 17, 1909. Those present were: P. Kroegel, Chairman; C. H. Edwards, A. N. Hoofnagle, D. E. Austin and R. E. McLaughlin, with J. E. Fultz, clerk, and Perry Carlton, deputy sheriff.

On motion the board adjourned to 1:30 p. m., and reconvened at said hour, all present.

The minutes of the regular meeting held April 5, 1909, were read, so far as they related to building the proposed court house. The motion of D. E. Austin that the board reconsider the plans for building a court house, with a view of lessening the expense of said proposed building, and seconded by C. H. Edwards, was voted on with the following result: Nays, P. Kroegel, C. H. Edwards, A. N. Hoofnagle and R. E. McLaughlin; aye, D. A. Austin. Motion was decided lost.

Bids for the construction of the court house were opened as follows: Mutual Construction Company, \$32,730; Fred H. Cobb, \$35,050; Cleckly Bros., \$34,250; Falls City Construction Company, \$36,430. Bids were also received for steel vaults, etc., as follows: Diebold Safe and Lock Company, \$3,563; Cleckly Bros., \$3,925.

On motion of A. N. Hoofnagle the bid of the Mutual Construction Co., of Louisville, Ky., was accepted.

On motion the clerk was instructed to purchase the necessary books and supplies for the County Court.

The bond of S. C. Stewart for Constable in district No. 4, signed by R. R. Ricou and H. C. Phillips, was approved.

The board then adjourned to meet at 10 o'clock a. m. Tuesday, May 18, 1909.

The Commissioners met on May 18, pursuant to adjournment, and all were present. They then proceeded to examine the specifications and contract, for the court house building, after which they adjourned to meet at 1 o'clock p. m., and reconvened at said hour with full board present.

On motion the bid of Diebold Safe and Lock Company to place vaults, doors, windows, etc., in the court house for \$3,563 was accepted. H. I. Klopp was employed to superintend the construction of the building at \$4.50 per day for actual time employed.

The board then adjourned to meet in regular session on June 7, 1909.

The court house is to be completed in 225 working days or the company will pay a forfeit of \$25 per day. Mr. W. C. Leuman, of Louisville, representative of the company, said: "The people of Fort Pierce and St. Lucie county can eat their Christmas dinner in the new court house, for it will be completed by that day."

There will be several small alterations from the original specifications reducing the cost a few hundred dollars, the minor details will be arranged at the next regular meeting of the Commissioners. Work will begin as soon as the material can be shipped here.

### Senator Beard's Harsh Language

Tallahassee does nothing but talk about the fierce attack made by Senator Beard Monday on Governor Gilchrist. In a long speech discussing the Wailes claim and Governor Gilchrist's message of Saturday urging the legislature to make provision for the settlement of the claim on a basis of \$25,000, all of which is to go to Wailes and none to the heirs of the late Colonel Beard. Senator Beard made a rather savage attack on the governor.

Among other things Senator Beard said: "The governor is emphatically an honest and sincere man, but his mental capacity is very limited. His very honesty of purpose renders him an easy victim and equally easy tool of designing men of greater mental capacity but of less honesty. Of the subject on which this message treats (the Wailes claim,) Governor Gilchrist has no greater knowledge than one of the pages of this senate, and apparently not as much capacity to understand and acquire a knowledge of it."

"In conclusion, permit me to say that it is with extreme reluctance that I have discussed this matter and have done so only because the governor wantonly and without foundation or reason, reflected upon the memory of Colonel Beard, my father, a man whose shoes the governor is unworthy to unloose the latchet."

## EXTENSION WORK PROGRESSING FINE

Reports from the railroad extension operations in the lower keys show that the work is progressing more rapidly

than ever before. At Knights Key, about thirty of the one hundred and eighty concrete piers which will form the foundation for the trestle at that place, have been built. These thirty piers are in the channel, where the water is deepest and swiftest, but now that more shallow water has been reached, the building will be more rapid. Great quantities of material of every conceivable nature have been assembled at Bahia Honda, where another gigantic trestle or viaduct is to be built. This trestle will offer more serious obstacles than any of those so far undertaken, mainly through the great depth of water, swiftness of tide and roughness of water. This will necessarily make the work rather slow, but that the trestle will be built is a foregone conclusion. Work was commenced this week. All along the line every branch or part of the work necessary to complete and build the road into Key West is being rushed with greater dispatch than ever before, and unless indications miscarry the prediction of the engineers that trains will be running into Key West within the next year will prove a reality.

Third Vice-President J. E. Ingraham of the Florida East Coast Railway, made a leisurely trip down the keys in his yacht Kathleen, to Key West last week. He was more than pleased with the progress of the work and saw no reason why the trains should not be rolling into Key West by next January. The concrete work is progressing splendidly and the deepest of the water having already been passed it will be less difficult from now on. Mr. Ingraham said "the contracts for the steel superstructure were placed in ample time and it would undoubtedly be on the ground as soon as it is needed." At the present time delay in the delivery of the steel superstructure seems to be the only thing that would prevent the completion of the road by January, and before the end of the year the only gap open will be the one between Pigeon Key and the little keys east of Bahia Honda.

Zojoji, the famous Buddhist temple, situated in Shiba Park, Tokio, was completely destroyed by fire a few days ago, the damage amounting to about \$200,000. Only those who know the pride of the Japanese in their temples can conceive the effect of this irreparable loss to the people. The fire was set by a beggar, who was living in a hole underneath the floor of the temple. The man was cold and started a little blaze with a newspaper and a few sticks for warmth.

## F. E. C. RY. BORROWS 40,000,000 DOLLARS

On May 8th there was recorded in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Volusia county at DeLand, one of the longest and perhaps the most stupendous mortgages ever recorded in Florida. It was given by the Florida East Coast Railway, party of the first part, to Joseph C. Slater, trustee, of the city, county and State of New York, party of the second part. The mortgage recites the charter granted to the railway company and the authority to borrow money. It then mentions 7259 bonds of the value of \$1,000 each, aggregating \$7,259,000, dated September 1, 1897, and held by the Colonial Trust Company; also 8741 bonds of the value of \$1,000 each, aggregating \$8,741,000, dated October 1, 1902, and also held by the Colonial Trust Company. The new mortgage and bond issue is declared to be of inferior dignity until the old bonds are cancelled and satisfied.

The paper recites the authority of the board of directors and that they deem it expedient that the company borrow forty million dollars (\$40,000,000), for the purpose of its extension to Key West, building branch lines, consolidating, leasing or purchasing other railways or railway property, as allowed by law, and for the purpose of improving, equipping providing betterments, operating and maintaining the same, for the paying of moneys not owed by the party of the first part, and for other lawful purposes.

The bond issue of forty million dollars is in two series—Series A, for \$12,000,000, bearing 4 1/2 per cent. interest, payable semi-annually, and Series B, for \$28,000,000, bearing 5 per cent. interest, payable semi-annually.

As security for this immense amount of money there is given a trust deed or mortgage upon the entire roadbed and branches, bridges, equipment, franchises and other property used for railway purposes, including the Key West extension.

Series A, is declared to be a first lien upon the property, and Series B, a second lien. Sixteen million dollars are to be reserved to pay off the present bonded indebtedness.

The bonds are payable in gold, and run for fifty years from date.

Mortgage is given upon the roadway, running through Duval, St. Johns, Putnam, Volusia, Brevard, St. Lucie, Dade and Monroe counties.

The mortgage is signed by J. R. Parrott, as president of the Florida East Coast Railway Company, and attested by H. S. Jenison as secretary. It is also signed by Joseph C. Slater, as trustee, and is witnessed by A. V. S. Smith and J. P. Beckwith.

The mortgage is dated May 1, 1909.

## CHURCH LOT PURCHASED

Episcopals Have Secured Beautiful Location on River Front

## \$1,200 THE PRICE PAID

Interesting Services Held Sunday—Twenty-Six Communicants Received the Sacrament—17 Confirmations

The second official visit of the Rt. Rev. Wm. Crane Gray, D. D., to St. Andrews Episcopal church occurred last week. The Bishop arrived Thursday evening and remained until midnight Sunday, and while in town was the guest of Mrs. and Miss Thayer, at the Stetson House. Bishop Gray's official relationship to the parish began formally on Friday afternoon, when he administered the "Minor Sacrament" of confirmation to Mrs. Florence Myrtle Cleveland, in the church, in the presence of her husband and Archdeacon Johnston who presented her to the Bishop. On that same afternoon the name of W. E. Tylander was added to the board of local officials, with the appointment as secretary of the Mission, and a meeting of the officials was called for Friday evening at the residence of W. J. Nesbitt, at which the Bishop presided. He announced that an appropriation had been made from the "Mens' Thank-offering Fund" of \$1,000 for the purpose of securing a lot and building a rectory. It was decided in the interests of unanimity to refer this matter for final action to a parish meeting, composed of all communicants in good standing. This method is generally adopted in Missions, as distinct from parishes, because in the former the officials hold office by appointment of the Bishop and on the nomination of the local clergyman, while in the latter, the people themselves elect their representatives, who are known as Vestrymen.

On Sunday, at 7:30 a. m., Bishop Gray celebrated Holy Communion, assisted by Archdeacon Johnston. Twenty six communicants received the Blessed Sacrament of their Lord's Death and whatever the theological opinions of those present concerning many other matters, it was felt and believed by all that it was a solemn occasion, "really and truly," the presence of Him who bade his followers "do this in remembrance of Him."

At 11 a. m. the church was crowded by a very reverent and devout congregation which engaged heartily in the office of morning prayer, listened to an intensely earnest and lucid sermon by the Bishop, and witnessed the confirmation of fifteen persons, all of whom were adults but three. The Bishop's sermon dealt with the question of Unity. He pointed out that this was no mere ecclesiastical conception, de-factated from other organic force so as to make it appear to be unique. It was not only the thought of God for His church, but it was, and is the thought of God for the universe. He clearly proved that our Lord founded only one church which was to be the "Pillar and Ground of the Truth," and that of this organism, having been developed into an organization, indwelt of God the Holy Ghost, who guides it into Truth, can be discovered to have an existence to day, surely to it, peoples love and allegiance must go out. After stating the Chicago Lambeth platform of unity, drawn up on the church as a basis of possible unity and not necessitating uniformity, the preacher urged his hearers to be mindful of the responsibility resting on them to aid in the fulfillment of their Lord's prayer—"That they all will be one." The sermon created a profound impression.

The following were confirmed: Theodore and Francis Tyndall and Mrs. Elizabeth Phillips Seery, for the Mission at Waveland; Miss Edna Baily for Walton, and Mrs. Freda Bergel Smith for Stuart; for Fort Pierce, Reginald Goodwin, Mrs. Goodwin, Miss Ida M. Jacobs, Mrs. Annie Louise Raulson, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Harmon, Frank Stetson, Miss Katherine Paxton, Nellie and Louise Wharry.

At 7:30 p. m. the Bishop again preached, and as at morning service, service was read by the Rev. George Moore, D. D., and Archdeacon Johnston. At this service S. S. Buel and his wife, Mrs. Lula Buell were also confirmed, making a total this year of twenty-two persons for Fort Pierce and of forty-three for the entire southeast archdeaconry.

The parish meeting announced on Sunday was held Monday evening. Thirty persons were present, twenty-six of whom were communicants—the largest, and most enthusiastic meeting in the history of the St. Andrew's church. Archdeacon Johnston presided and stated the object of the meeting. It was moved and seconded and carried unanimously that the lot offered for sale by Frank Tyler south of the Fort Pierce hotel on the river front, be purchased for a site on which to build a rectory. The price paid for the house and lot was \$1200. It was also moved by W. E. Tylander and seconded by W. T. Harbin and carried by a rising (continued on page 8)