

# The Punta Gorda Herald

VOL. XVI

PUNTA GORDA, FLA., NOON, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1903.

NO. 49

## N. N. WAKEFIELD KILLED

### With Four Other Men in a Railroad Wreck Near Ocala.

One of the most disastrous wrecks on the Seaboard Air Line in many years occurred at Silver Springs Junction near Ocala just before one o'clock last Saturday morning and caused the deaths of five men, among whom was Mr. N. N. Wakefield, who was formerly a resident of this city and has many friends here, who regret to learn of his death.

The wreck was the result of a head-on collision between two freight trains traveling at a rapid speed, and Mr. Wakefield was the engineer on the south-bound train. The north-bound train should have gone into a siding before reaching the junction, but through a misunderstanding of orders failed to do so.

It is supposed that Mr. Wakefield was in the act of jumping when the two trains collided, for his engine turned over and he was buried beneath the debris of the wrecked mogul in a way that indicated such. His body was not recovered until a late hour Saturday night. It was taken to Jacksonville Sunday where it was interred with Masonic honors Monday afternoon, the deceased having been a member of Solomon Lodge No. 20 of that city.

Mr. Wakefield was one of the most reliable employees of the Seaboard, having been in the service many years. He leaves a wife and six children to mourn his loss. It was only a few years ago that this estimable family removed from here to Jacksonville and many friends in this city amongst whom is the editor of THE HERALD, deeply sympathize with the bereaved ones.

The veteran engineer was liked by everyone and his loss is especially lamented by his fellow workmen among whom he was familiarly known as "Dad" Wakefield.

P. D. Smith of Leonard, W. Va., E. R. Philbrick of Jacksonville and two negroes, all members of the train crews, were the other four men killed in the wreck. Engineer C. W. Johnson and conductor T. A. Jones of the north-bound freight escaped with a few severe bruises, the former having jumped from his engine before the two trains went together. The negro fireman on both locomotives escaped by jumping and sustained only a few minor bruises.

Tampa Times:—In that juggling iniquity known as the tariff system of the country—where skill and lack of conscience are the prime factors of success—Florida gets the worst of it. Her people pay protective tariff prices on everything they buy from other sections, but get no corresponding benefit. On citrus fruits her freight rates alone are larger than the customs duties and freight rates of her competitors. That is not an exemplary model of equitable adjustment, and when the people of Florida call attention to it, they are jeered at as turncoats on the tariff question. Not at all. Having put our money into the game under compulsion, we want a square deal.

## Jarrott-Cooper.

A wedding of especial interest to Punta Gorda people and friends of the contracting parties in other cities was that of Mr. W. W. Jarrott and Miss Ellen Cooper, which was solemnized in the Episcopal church here last Thursday at 3:15 p. m.

Only about twenty-five persons were present, among them being the near relatives and a few of the most intimate acquaintances of the bride, no formal invitations having been issued and the time set for the marriage not having been generally known.

Attired in a traveling dress of brown cloth with gloves and hat to match, the bride had never looked lovelier than when she came in from a side entry and leaning on the arm of her father, Hon. F. M. Cooper, who gave her away, approached the center and front of the church, where she was met by the groom, who wore the conventional black. Taking a position in front of the officiating clergyman, Dr. Irenaeus Trout, they were joined together in the bonds of Holy Matrimony in that impressive manner prescribed in the beautiful ceremony of the Episcopal church.

The subdued light in the church at the time, the burning of the candles and the absence of attendants all tended to add solemnity to the occasion, and the answers given by groom and bride were distinctly heard by all present.

After receiving congratulations, the happy couple went direct to the depot and departed on the 4 o'clock train for a brief visit to relatives of the bride in Manatee county, after which they proceeded to their future home in Marianna. A large crowd assembled at the train to shower them with rice and good wishes.

Mr. Jarrott is a popular young business man of Marianna, having an interest in a saw mill there and being a lumber merchant, and his personal appearance and many bearing indicate that he realizes the value of the prize that has fallen to his lot and will endeavor to prove himself worthy of her, for in his bride he has won one of Punta Gorda's prettiest and most estimable young ladies. For a number of years she has been a resident of this community, having grown to womanhood here, and she is beloved by many. That she will make the man upon whom she has bestowed her love, a model wife, goes without saying. In her removal from here Marianna gains where Punta Gorda loses; but the best wishes of a host of friends accompany her.

Lake City Index:—The Gainesville Sun wants Gov. Gilchrist to fire out every one of Gov. Broward's appointees, and the Pensacola News thinks they should be allowed to fill out their terms of office. Well, some of them were what might be termed "pernicious partisans," and ought to go; but where an office-holder attended strictly to his duties, he should be retained and continued, if he will keep up his good work.

With \$26,000 in racing purses and \$15,000 in cash prizes for exhibits, the next State Fair promises to eclipse any of its predecessors in attracting the interest of the people.

## A PUZZLING DISEASE

### Is the Yellow Spotting of Leaves of Citrus Trees.

The following bulletin was prepared by Prof. B. F. Floyd, of the Florida Agricultural Experiment station:—During this summer and fall, specimens of citrus leaves affected by a greasy yellow spotting have been received at the Experiment Station from several localities in the citrus region. This disorder has been noticed in a few places in previous years, but it has evidently been more prevalent during the present season. Some of the places from which it has been reported are Tropic, Deland, Winterhaven, Eustis, and Clearwater. Several affected groves have been carefully studied. In one orange grove nearly every tree was affected, and in some trees a healthy leaf was hard to find. In another grove which was shaded and contained both oranges and grapefruit, from fifty to seventy-five per cent. of all the trees were more or less attacked. It was equally bad on hammock and high pine land. No relation to any particular brand of fertilizer was noticed.

Grapefruit appears to be more frequently and severely affected than oranges, although the disorder seems not to be confined to any particular variety of citrus. Among oranges, the King and Enterprise Seedless were found to be very susceptible.

The symptoms of this malady seem to be confined to the leaves; although a spotting was noticed on some fruits from a grove near Eustis, that very much resembled the spots on the leaves. The appearances on the leaves are yellowish to golden-colored spots, a fraction of an inch or more in diameter. They usually occur between the main veins, and extend through the substance of the leaf. The spots differ in appearance on the upper and under surfaces of the leaf. On the upper surface, the yellowish or golden color is more noticeable, and the central portion of the colored area is often darker in color than the margin. The spot is usually not raised above the upper surface of the leaf. Occasionally, dark-colored elevations, from the size of a pin-head upwards, may appear within the yellow spot. On the under surface, the spot nearly always projects beyond the surrounding surface of the leaf and usually has a dull, greasy look, and a yellowish-brown or olive-green color. The surface of old spots may become rough and dark-colored. Cross-sections of the leaf, seen under the microscope, show a swelling of the cells in the spongy part of the leaf next the lower surface, with scattered brownish deposits. In some cases, the cells adjoining the upper surface may also be affected.

A definite cause of this disease is not known. It is perhaps a physiological trouble. At times, it is associated with die-back of which it may perhaps be a form. The microscopical structure of the diseased tissue is similar to that of die-back. We cannot as yet recommend any treatment for this trouble. One grower reports having obtained favorable results by applying lime and mulching.

## Progress on the Dock.

We had a misfortune. Our men got back after being gone a week. Within 8 miles of Punta Gorda, with 400 of our piles, the tide changed and they left the raft anchored and came home. Chester Blount kindly let us have the Mirage to get them and Capt. Ivey generously agreed to go, although then night. Norman Hewitt also volunteered to go and help. They found the raft and got home at midnight supposing they had it in tow. We found the boom next morning, but no logs in it. The boom had broken open and logs all gone. A searching boat went miles down the bay with Norman Hewitt and Mr. Bryant, but could find no logs.

We immediately equipped it for another week and sent 4 men back to find logs and reraft them or get more to replace them. They got off Wednesday.

Thursday we organized another crew and completely equipped them, and sent them after 3 more rafts that we have been unable to get out of the Myakka. Mr. Fries agreed to take charge of them. They are also equipped for a week if necessary.

High grade citizenship showed itself again as soon as misfortune struck. No murmurs and very few "I told you so," but several people who had not helped came to the front with money. Norman Hewitt \$10.00, O. A. Bell \$10.00 and Geo. Brown (col.) Cleveland \$5.00.

A letter received from Dr. Welsh is of interest and timely. "I assure you that my offer of \$20.00 to the fund (soon) was in good faith, and I will give \$30.00 (in addition) if twenty-five men will do likewise. I am sure there are that many citizens of Punta Gorda, who have more money than I have, and moreover, have 10 times the interest in the upbuilding of the town than I have, since their immediate business interest is there. I believe in every one having any property or business interest in the town pushing all such improvements along. It is a small man that hides in the bush waiting for others to do and then sneakily reap the rewards from their expenditures of effort and capital—E. E. Welsh."

In regard to the crew, which Mr. Fries generously undertook to assist to get some rafts here, we got Dan Smith who got two good men and then went up Friday morning in Dan's boat to the Myakka piles. They could only bring one raft of about 200. They are now here. So with all our misfortunes and losses and with winds and tide against us we now have about 400 logs here. We sent Dan and his crew back Monday for two more rafts still there. By the time this goes to press we expect to have about 35,000 ft. of lumber on the ground all sawed to fit. Thanks are due Mr. Fries who is now laid up with a lot of his epidermis peeling off on that portion of his anatomy exposed to the sun. Dan says Mr. Fries is the biggest little man in DeSoto county.—REPORT OF TRUSTEES.

Eighteen counties have already begun active preparations for county exhibits at the next State Fair, Tampa, February 3-27.

## SUBSTITUTE FOR WOOD.

### Probable Effect of Use of Cement on Lumber Prices in Future.

The relation between the increasing use of cement and the diminishing timber supply in the United States has been the subject of some interesting correspondence between the Geological Survey and the Forest Service at Washington. In a letter to the Forester, the Director of the Survey took occasion to quote from a statement of a large Philadelphia firm to the effect that it would be difficult to estimate what the additional drain on the lumber supply would have been during the last few years had not cement come into such general use. The Forester replied in part as follows:

"The Forest Service is watching with a great deal of interest the increasing use of cement and other substitutes for wood. They are undoubtedly having some influence on the price of lumber, though I do not think that up to the present time they have greatly retarded the advance in lumber prices. The fact is that our industrial progress has been so great that our requirements for every kind of structural material have increased tremendously. We are using at the present time more lumber per capita than ever before and probably twice as much per capita as we did fifty years ago. The conclusion can not be escaped, therefore, that in the future we must depend more than in the past on other materials than wood for certain purposes at least. As to the increase that will take place in the production of cement, my impression is that this will be very great.

If this increase in the use of cement in the United States in past years is to be regarded as any index to its future use, the conclusions of the Forester are well founded. The statistics of the production of minerals show that our output of cement has more than doubled in the last five years, and it is well known that its use is very widely extended. This is due to two conditions: In the first place, excellent cement materials are common in almost all sections of the country; in the second place, re-inforced concrete for heavy building material is receiving favor among engineers, while in the country regions large amounts of cement are being used for building blocks for smaller structures. Reports received by the Survey during the six years from 1902 to 1907 show that the production of cement in the United States has increased from 25,000,000 barrels, valued at approximately \$25,000,000, to 51,000,000 barrels valued at \$55,000,000, the annual statistics showing a steady increase in production with some slight fluctuations in price.—Ex.

Lake City Index:—The Starke Telegraph says that it is one of the newspapers of the State that is going to insist that we have lower taxes or know the reason why. And the Index is another. It cannot be done, though, by increasing salaries nor by increasing new berths—additional commissions of various kinds.