

EULOGIZES FLORIDA.

Has a Treasure in Her Soil and Climate.

A representative of the New York Packer traveling in this state contributed an article to that paper not many weeks ago, and we reproduce the following extracts from it:

To the student of American history, as well as to the traveler or pleasure-seeker, Florida offers an inviting field. * * * The tourist finds here freedom from the fierce winter of the north and the possibility of an out-of-door life from Christmas-tide to Easter Day.

Florida, both on account of its geographical position and its semi-tropical flora and fauna, is a realm overflowing with inducements to the traveler of limited income, and to the many who have the opportunity to enjoy only a short vacation from their customary vocation.

The great peninsula, stretching southward over four hundred miles between the Atlantic ocean and the Gulf of Mexico, is sometimes called an American Italy. It lacks the charm of history and classic lore of Italy, but it is not without its own romance and historical lights and shadows, which lend a fascination to its rivers, its immense extent of sea coast, its hundreds of attractive lakes, its mineral and medicinal springs, its mighty forests of long leaf yellow pine and its out-lead groves of oranges and grapefruit.

The health statistics of Florida demonstrate that this state is one of the healthiest in the Union. * * * Sunstroke is almost unknown, and the average temperature of summer is not much higher than in New York or Boston. Summer in Florida is more enjoyable than the sudden leaps and drops of the northern weather. The ocean and the gulf send their wholesome and welcome breezes over the whole peninsula every day in the year, carrying mildness and health everywhere. As to insects, like mosquitoes and flies, they are no worse in Florida than in many parts of the north, and there is an abundance of refreshing and pure water.

Whether one looks at Florida as a land in which to build a home, as a resort to regain health or as a country of romantic interest, it is a part of the republic worthy of serious attention. * * *

The concluding remarks with some minor changes or revisions are wholly applicable to this region of Florida, for to feast on the fruits, to sail upon the quiet lakes, to listen to birds, to enjoy the fragrance of flowers, to hear the wind softly murmur in the lofty tops of its giant pines, to feel the freedom and the joy of Southern life, and to see one of the gorgeous and never to be forgotten Punta Gorda sunsets, and, finally, to witness the splendor of the night skies when the stars keep watch over man's peaceful slumbers—these are experiences that lift one out of the dull monotony of drudgery and the hard-severe attitude of anxiety into an atmosphere of pure and spontaneous satisfaction.

The State Fair management has just closed a contract with J. S. Connolly, of Des Moines, Iowa, for what will prove to be the most thrilling spectacle ever seen in the South—an attraction of World's Fair proportions and which will cost the State Fair management over \$5,000 for one production. Mr. Connolly contracts to furnish two big railroad locomotives and to lay a track across the center-field of the Fair grounds. The two engines will be brought into actual collision in the center of the grounds, each going at a rate of between 40 and 50 miles an hour. The crew of each engine will get it started and then jump to the ground. The spectacle of a head-on collision of this kind is one worth going many miles to see, and is regarded as "the limit" in spectacular productions. All precautions will be taken against danger to the spectators who, from the safe distance of the grand-stand, will watch the unprecedented performance in perfect safety. On the day that this collision occurs, the crowd at the Fair grounds may be expected to exceed all past records. Mr. Connolly has "pulled off" this amazing feat at San Antonio, Tex., Des Moines, Iowa, and St. Joseph, Mo., and the Tampa performance will be the fourth in the country.

Jacksonville Metropolis:—Don't allow your children to stop school. Some parents are guilty of this. We are informed the boys stop to take jobs, there being a demand for them. The few dollars that they are able to earn by leaving school and going to work make a small sum in comparison with what they lose by becoming untrained, unskilled workers. In the majority of cases, they are handicapped for life by their lack of education. There are a few who educate themselves later in life, realizing their need, but they are a small minority. Keep them going and help them to be the equal of others when they enter the battle of life.

Tampa Times:—And now it is the castor bean which is being worked in the newspapers as a money crop for Florida. It is easy to find out all about the castor bean, its transformation into the oil of commerce, and the cost of the planting and harvest. This information can probably be had from the agricultural department at Washington by the expenditure of a postage stamp, and it ought to be had before anybody goes into the culture of the bean. Like the camphor tree, lately pushed to the front, it grows in Florida as if on its native heath, and if it can be converted into oil at a profit the people of this section ought to know it.

Herr-Seller, director of the statistical bureau of Stuttgart, Germany, recently compiled a religious census of the world according to which there are 1,544,510,000 human beings living more than one-third of whom, or 543,540,000, are Christians, 175,290,000 Mohammedans and 10,860,000 Jews. The remainder, comprising about one-half of the total population of the earth, comprise 300,000,000 Confucians, 314,000,000 Brahmins and 121,000,000 Buddhists. Thus there is a large part of humanity that is yet far from being Christianized.

FUTURE OF THE AVOCADO

The Demand For it Will Grow as it Becomes Better Known.

A fruit little known now, but destined to become one of our most valuable articles of food, is the avocado pear, commonly known as the alligator pear, and which flourishes in this region of Florida. That it is coming more to the front as an article of daily diet, was evidenced by the local demand for it during the recent season for it, and its cultivation will likely receive greater attention in the future.

Although strictly speaking a fruit, the avocado has none of the characteristics common to most fruits. The absence of sugar and acid, which constitute the food value of the great majority of fruits, places it in a class with the olive, the value of which lies in its oil.

The avocado is very rich in oil, containing from eight to nearly twenty per cent according to the variety; and like the olive, one has to acquire a taste for it. Upon eating it two or three times, the most fastidious fall into the increasing line of "alligator" pear enthusiasts. The oil is easily digested with most people, and is very nourishing.

The Miami Metropolis published an article on this subject in which it was said that theoretically the avocado ought to be, (and this is borne out by the reports of many who know) a fat-producing food, especially in the cases of people who have physically run down by the ravages of disease. But this cannot be taken as a rule to fit all cases. Most all fruits, in fact there are none known, that do not have ill effect on some people.

It is not a juicy fruit, and in its natural state, the edible portion resembles cheese. Being classed with the salad fruits, there are various ways of preparing it but in Punta Gorda and neighboring towns it is generally eaten with simply pepper and salt, the pear being cut in halves and these sprinkled on it.

Doubtless the popularity of the Avocado will in the near future attain some what to the proportions of that of olive oil. So, persons who are wise, will put out avocado trees in corners and other unoccupied parts of their lots about town, and reap the benefits that time will bring to them.

PROGRESS ON THE WHOLE

Money Contributed and Expended. More Funds Needed.

Receipts—Freeman \$25.00, Gilchrist 10.00, Perkins 10.00, Goldstein 10.00, Davis 10.00, Williams 5.00, Fortson & Rhode 2.75, McCann 5.00, Mizell 1.00, Soward 2.50, Wotitzky 2.00, Koon 15.00, Newman 3.00, P. W. Miller (col) 5.00, McGee 5.00, Dreggers 5.00, Mrs. Allen 10.00, Phippen Adams 15.00, Mrs. Brown 10.00, Mr. Solberry 1.50, Norman Hewitt 10.00, Geo. Brown 5.00, J. M. Weeks 10.50, Hub Chadwick 15.00, and Dr. McQueen 5.00. Total \$204.75.

Expenses—Fortson & Rhode 2.05, Holcomb 2.62, Singleton 1.75, Sanders 2.62, Barnes 2.62, Slay 1.75, Minard 2.62, Anderson 2.62, Zanders 2.62, Ward 2.62, Jackson 2.62, Lewis 2.62, McNeil 2.62, Smith 1.62, Zanders 5.25, Dorsey

1.50, Warren 6.37, Gallagher 3.50, McNeil 5.25, Zanders 3.25, Ward 5.25, Minard 2.50, Warren 6.00, Jackson 5.25, Johnson 5.00, Minard 2.75, Brantley 1.00, Kelly 2.00, Kelly 3.00, Kelley 3.50, Blount 45c, Fortson & Rhode 3.45, Fortson & Rhode 2.15, Postage books 5.00, Smith 18.75, Hill 1.50, Dave Smith 7.00, Davis 13.50, Bryant 13.50, Davis 4.50, Herce 1.25, Blount 2.40, Guthrie 13.50. Total \$187.54.

This does not include volunteer labor or supplies furnished us, nor does it include Mr. Corbett, who has kept a man on the work to the extent of \$27.00 besides some supplies. Corrie Roe also has paid a man \$10.50 on the work, and Mr. Earnest \$10.50, and Dr. Wade has paid a man \$6.00.

We must have some money to get more piling here. We have all arrangements made except the money. We have sent out postal cards asking for cash in any amount to be sent in to bank or to F. A. Whitney, with name, and to a fund in bank known as "Improvement Fund." We must have the money by Jan. 1st or else the work will stop and be delayed. We want to keep the men we have as it will be hard to get up as many as we have to stop and then get started.

The work is pronounced the most successful on the bay. Fine lumber workmanship and fine Florida work please

Volunteer work please send in your report to Mr. Fri I have bought you, and now is Rhode and help struggling by the Alps, acts, and shove to fill all orders. A little more satisfaction of both is the make for or chance Will be carried success of and will appreciate a call.

The account in the Florida Money in bank (for sum of Board of Trade book) 50.00. Expenditures—Dray 50.00, Books 144.50, Freight 7.10, Express 8.00, Stamps 3.00, Freight 1.41. Total 114.01.

Business is looking much better. Prospects are bright. Punta Gorda is getting ready to take her place in the march of progress. The town is being talked of all over the country, our mails are filled with enquiries. Nearly 1000 booklets are in circulation.

It is beginning to be realized that this is another report in which Florida ready to take care of, complete.

Help your town even to the price of one man's wages of a day. It will come back to you with interest. Don't read this and lay it aside and wait for us to accomplish miracles without your help. This means you who own property here that you wish to be valuable and you who make a living here and want property in future.

The roll of citizenship is being called and checked up. The record being printed weekly will stand as an everlasting monument to citizenship. We must have about \$100.00 and some volunteer work by Jan. 1st, '09, and our work will be accomplished. Unless we get it, the work will stop for awhile.

Resides a bank account, consider can paid out and both funds are now on hand. Help.—REPORT OF TRUSTEES TO BOARD OF TRADE

THE SOUTH IN LINE

In the Campaign Against the Great White Plague.

At Tu-kegee, Alabama, last week the initial steps were taken in a winter's campaign against tuberculosis, a large exhibition and congress with such an undertaking in view, having been held there. At Jacksonville, Tampa and Pensacola, preliminary work in a state-wide war against the disease, to continue several months, was to have begun.

The campaign will reach every state in the South and both white and colored citizens, recognizing it common foe in the Great White Plague, will aid in the efforts to accomplish its extermination.

It has been demonstrated that consumption is curable, communicable and preventable, and the fact that it is "catching" is causing the entire white population of the South to realize that there is a common danger in the plague which is devastating the country. The campaign against it should have every possible encouragement.

M. E. G. Romzahn, the special representative of the National Association for the Study and Prevention of Tuberculosis, has general charge of the campaign in Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee and Mississippi and the work in other states is in competent hands, and the approval and moral support of governors, legislators and private citizens is being given to nearly every instance. In short, every state is actively peeing the fight against consumption.

Gameville Sun:—A member of the House of Commons, a few weeks ago, said that there had been ninety-two murders in the city of London since January, 1904. This would be on an average of not more than nineteen murders a year in a population of about five millions. It is common for our American cities to boast of the rapidity of their growth and the splendor of their civilization, but it might be well for them to compare their murder statistics with those of London. Our cities, with less than half the population of London, will have to contend with a larger number of murders. The quiet and inevitable death penalty following murder in England and the facility of escape of the death penalty in America is an explanation of the difference.

The Tennessee True Democrat pays Senator-elect Duncan H. Fletcher the following very complimentary: "Duncan U. Fletcher ought to have been in politics long ago. Since his election to the senate he is right after the good things for Florida, and every section will be benefited by his efforts in Congress. He has a right to work with the kind of energy The True Democrat admires."

Any prize or diploma winner of the last Florida State Fair who has failed to receive his or her certificate or diploma from the state fair commissioner, is urged to send once to the State Fair in Tampa, in order that his or her name may be immediately

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