

**THE FORT PIERCE NEWS.**

The first and oldest paper in St. Lucie County, the banner pineapple county of the State.

Published every Friday at Fort Pierce, Florida, the best town on the beautiful Indian River.

IN THE PINEAPPLE BELT.

ARTHUR B. BROWN, Editor and Proprietor,

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"For the good of Fort Pierce, St. Lucie county and the Indian River section generally and the people particularly."

**THE PINEAPPLE CROP**

FEW people realize the enormity of the pineapple industry in this section. Even those whose daily routine of business brings them in constant contact with the matter have only a faint conception of the details and various items which figure up so ponderously. Naturally everyone knows that trainload after trainload of fruit goes out of St. Lucie county to the various markets of the world, but probably very few have ever thought just how much labor and material it takes to harvest and market this enormous crop.

Various estimates are placed on the crop for this year and it is difficult to arrive at any definite conclusion as to the amount that will be shipped. However two years ago about six hundred thousand crates were shipped and last year it fell short of this, and it is safe to say that this years crop will also be short, and five hundred thousand crates would not be any outrageous estimate. Taking five hundred thousand crates as a basis, the figures when properly juggled present an array that is startling. On that basis we present some statistics that will no doubt open the eyes of those who have not thought of the matter along these lines.

In shipping 500,000 crates at 300 crates to a car it takes 1667 cars, and if arranged in one train would reach 12 miles and 252 feet exclusive of engine and caboose, or from Fort Pierce to Eden.

Those 500,000 crates laid end to end would reach 284 miles or almost from Jacksonville to West Palm Beach; from Jacksonville to Atlanta or from New York to Buffalo.

The crate material coming in requires 80 cars or a train 3,200 feet long—two-thirds of a mile. This same material consists of 27 lineal feet of lumber to each crate, which if laid, each piece, end to end, would reach, 2,364 miles, or almost a distance from New York to San Francisco. It would reach from Fort Pierce to New York, then via Chicago and nearly to Denver. There are eleven pieces in each crate, making a total of 55,000,000 pieces of lumber of various sizes.

To make these crates 1,000 kegs of nails are used, containing 70 pounds to the keg, and requiring two cars to transport them, making a total of 70,000 pounds of nails. At 368 nails to a pound this gives us a grand total of 25,760,000 nails. These measure one and a half inch in length and would reach 38,640,000 inches or 610 miles, the distance from Miami to Charleston, or Miami to Tallahassee via Jacksonville. One could lay a line of nails from Fort Pierce to Look-out Mountain, Tenn.

The paper used in wrapping these pines is 15x20 inches. It takes not less than 12,000,000 and about eight carloads fill the bill. This paper made into one sheet would be a mile square and would cover many small towns. Made into a strip its present width, 15 inches, it would be nearly 3,800 miles long. It would almost make a borderline around the Southern States—Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, West Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama and Mississippi.

Thus we might go on indefinitely juggling these figures in a way that might be startling to those who are ignorant of the real size of the industry. We might even estimate how many blows of the hammer are necessary to drive those nails into the crate, or the aggregate force of the entire number, or we might also estimate the amount of profanity used for each mashed finger dy crate makers, and various other items. But the above will show that this is a time of the year when considerable material is used. However, if there are any other statistics any one would like to know we would be glad to give them for we employ an idiot all the time.

THE ASSERTION is made by the Tallahassee Sun that the result of the recent primary shows that Florida is not a prohibition state and that the amendment to that effect would not carry. We cannot see it that way. The question of whiskey or no whiskey is all together different from the recent issue when connected with men and other measures. When the amendment relative to abolishing the sale of liquor is put to the people we predict that it will carry by a good majority. There are thousand of good staunch prohibitionists voted for General Gilchrest in the last primary.

FLORIDA loses a special friend by the death of ex-President Grover Cleveland. He spent many weeks fishing on Indian River and the East Coast had a warm spot in his ueart.

NOW that politics are over for a while, why not settle down and do something for Fort Pierce? Summer is just as good to work as the winter season.

WATCH Fort Pierce Grow.

**GENERAL DIRECTORY.**

**CHURCHES.**

**METHODIST EPISCOPAL**  
second and 4th Sundays of each month. Preaching at 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Sunday-school at 10 a. m., every Sunday. Union prayer service every Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. E. E. Jewell, pastor.

**BAPTIST CHURCH**

Preaching service 1st and 3rd Sundays at 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Prayer meeting Mondays following 1st and 3rd Sundays at 7:00 p. m. Sabbath school, Sundays 3 p. m. Everybody invited to attend. J. W. MacNamara, pastor.

**ST. ANDREWS EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
Fort Pierce, Fla., Service every Sunday at 11 a. m., and 7:30 p. m. Sunday school 10 a. m. Mr W. T. Harbin, superintendent. Wednesday evening service, 7:30 p. m. Everybody welcome. Rev. George Moore, D. D. pastor.

**SOCIETIES.**

**ROYAL ARCH MASONS**

Joppa Chapter, No. 28 Regular Conventions first and third Friday in each month, at 7:30 p. m. in Masonic Hall. F. H. Fee, H. P.; W. J. Nesbitt, Sec.

**F. & A. M.**

Fort Pierce Lodge No. 87.. Regular communications second and fourth Friday in each month, at 7:30 p. m. in Masonic hall. A. M. Sample W. M., A. K. Wilson, sec.

**I. O. O. F.**

Antic Lodge No. 30. Meeting every Monday at 8 p. m. in Masonic Hall. A. Snellgrove, Noble Grand; W. E. Tedder, Sec.

**W. O. W.**

Indian River Camp No. 53. Meetings on 1st and 3d Tuesdays of each month, at 7:30 p. m. in Masonic Hall. H. C. Conkling, C. C., A. C. Dittmar, clerk.

**ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR.**

Ruth Chapter No. 12. Meeting on 1st Thursday of each month at 7:30 p. m., and 3rd Thursday at 2:30 p. m., at Masonic Hall. Mrs. Bearrice Middlebrooks, W. M., Mr. A. C. Dittmar, sec.

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