

The Truth About Florida

The Bunnell Home Builder

Edited by S. HOWARD

1115-108 So. La Salle Street, Chicago, Ill.

JULY

1917

THIS IS ONE OF THE MANY MEN WHO HAS MADE
GOOD IN THE BUNNELL COLONY



an potatoes so for this my net sales
\$10,541.48 and I have all most two car
loads to hear from yet, which will bring
my sales up to over \$120,000

Here is what he says in his own
handwriting

Read his entire letter on page six, column three

What One Man in the Bunnell Colony is Doing with His Little Farm

By THOS. A. VERDENIUS



Mr. T. A. Verdenius
The Pioneer Small Farm Man of Florida.

(The following article was written by Mr. Verdenius upon his return from the Bunnell colony, and was to have appeared in the June issue of the HOME BUILDER. As there was not space for it in that issue we have had to hold it over until the present issue.)

Have you ever had any doubts as to whether a man can make a living on a ten acre farm in our Bunnell colony? If you belong to the class of individuals who believe that it is necessary for a man to have 160 acres of land on which to make a good living and keep him busy, then I wish with all my heart that you could have been with me when I paid a visit to the farm of Mr. Worgis during my recent visit to the Bunnell colony.

Mr. Worgis is one of the settlers in our Volusia tract, and I must confess that I myself could scarcely have believed a report of the wonderful things he has accomplished in so short a time, had I not seen them with my own eyes. Candidly, I never before saw such crops grown in my life. After an hour or so spent with this congenial family, and after a careful inspection of their farm, I left more convinced that I had ever been before, that the right man, using good judgment and knowing how to farm, and one who is willing to work cannot help but make a good living in our colony. In fact, such a man as this, if he has good health, cannot know failure.

I wish that every reader of the HOME BUILDER could have been with me and seen for himself just what Mr. Worgis has accomplished since moving onto his Bunnell colony farm. I realize, however, that only a very small per cent of our readers will visit the colony during the next few months, and I shall therefore attempt to give you as nearly as I can an idea of what I saw on the Worgis farm.

In the various literature we have issued, as well as in the HOME BUILDER, we have written a great deal about the profits being made and to be made

in the growing of Irish potatoes in our colony, but because we have dwelt on this particular crop, it was no indication that various other crops could not be grown.

Mr. Turner had told me of Mr. Worgis' splendid showing before we went out to his farm, still I was not prepared for what I saw; and when the Company's automobile stopped in front of the comfortable home, I could scarce believe my eyes.

Mr. Worgis came to Bunnell from Michigan, and was in very poor health when he left his northern home; in fact, he told me, he had not done a day's work for ten years before he came to Bunnell. He has fully recovered his strength and is a healthy man. No one would ever take him to be sixty-seven years of age. The Worgis family consists of father, mother, daughter and two grandchildren, and each of them seemed to be happy and contented in their Florida home.

As Mr. Worgis conducted me over his farm he told me that he did not believe in "putting all the eggs in one basket," and for this reason has planted something of almost everything that will grow in the colony. "If one crop should be a failure" he continued, "I will make it up on something else; or if one article is cheap another may bring a big price."

I first visited Mr. Worgis' cucumber patch. He has about one acre in cucumbers, and I do not believe anyone could grow better ones than he. He told me he figured that he would get at least 500 hampers of cucumbers from this one acre, and he further told me that cucumbers were selling in New York that week for \$6.00 a hamper. This would figure \$3000 worth of cucumbers from one acre for Mr. Worgis. But, even though he should have only half the yield he figures, and

even though he obtain but half the price he mentioned, he would still sell \$750.00 worth of cucumbers from his one acre of land, and will grow two more crops on the same land this year. With these greatly reduced figures in mind I am inclined to believe that, after all, he will not be doing so very badly if he sells \$750.00 worth of produce from one acre of land, for which he paid us \$35.00 an acre, (and bear in mind this will be but one of his three annual crops on the same acre). However, I sincerely trust that Mr. Worgis will receive \$3000.00 for his acre of cucumbers, and more too.

A little north of his cucumber patch he has planted one acre to watermelons. His vines are looking very healthy indeed, and give promise of a big crop. If his expectations are realized, he will sell from \$500.00 to \$600.00 worth of melons from his acre of land.

Mr. Worgis has by no means neglected to grow some of our spuds, and had one of the finest fields of potatoes I saw while in the colony. His potatoes were not quite ready to dig when I was there. He also had growing as great a variety of various products as I have ever seen grown in Florida. They comprised tomatoes, corn, cabbage, squash, lettuce, strawberries, carrots, peas, mustard, radishes, andive, dill, snap-beans, pole-beans, onions, kohlrabi, and perhaps several other vegetables which I do not recall just at this writing. Mr. Worgis expects to plant five acres to sweet potatoes as a second crop.

He has about sixty hens and about seventy-five little chicks. He obtained on an average from 35 to 40 eggs a day, for which there was a ready market at 50 cents a dozen, while at the present time eggs are selling for 30 cents a dozen.



Mr. Worgis' Cucumber Field [Volusia Tract]



Mr. Worgis' Potato Field (Volusia tract)

The Worgis family have erected a very comfortable seven room house that is a credit to our colony. In their yard they have about six stands of bees, which supply them with honey.

After my visit with these good people, and as I rode through the Volusia tract on my return to Bunnell, I thought again and again of the great contrast in the manner in which men and women in different sections of our country live. I had just left a family, happy and content, living close to Nature, with an abundance of fresh air, the blue sky above them, surrounded by the most wholesome influences in which to rear their children. These people were growing most of their own food and knew nothing of the worries incident to life in our great cities. Then my mind sped back to Chicago, where thousands of families are existing in thickly settled districts, bringing up their children in the most unnatural surroundings, in apartment houses or tenement buildings, with no place to play but in the busy streets. I thought of the wage-earners toiling long hours in shops and factories in a futile endeavor to make ends meet. I thought of the exorbitant prices of food, and what a terrific struggle life is to all such, and I wondered again as I have wondered many times before, why men and women will not get away from it all, and go "back to the land."

There is room for others in the Volusia tract who may become neighbors of Mr. Worgis, and share in the bountiful harvest that awaits them there.

HOME BUILDER A WELCOME VISITOR.

Just received in this evening's mail, the HOME BUILDER, and I assure you it is a welcome little visitor. The only thing wrong about it is that it makes all have the "blues" thinking of the great contrast in the two climates and wishing we were down there now. After reading the HOME BUILDER one feels like you say you felt on your way back from your visit to the colony.

(A Buyer)

Another Bunnell Colony Man Who Has "Made Good," Tells What He Thinks of the Bunnell Colony

In regard to Bunnell as a farming country, I think it is second to none, as everything I plant seems to grow and yield abundantly—in fact, it is hard to realize that there is such a country as this, where everything grows.

I am a Missourian by birth and, as you know, all people from Missouri have "to be shown." I have been here now almost four years, and I am convinced that this is the country for everyone who wants to farm—in fact, I have been "shown," and now I am here, settled for life. I own fifty acres of land and I value my farm at \$8,000.00, and I am not willing to sell at that. I believe you are doing a great deed when you let the people of the United States know about this wonderful farming country, so that they may move here and make farm life worth the living.

Yours very truly,
O. C. MOSBY, Bunnell, Florida.



Mr. Mosby with Potatoes Ready to Ship

FLORIDA, THE LAND OF PROMISE

Some of the Reasons Why There Is Such a Rush to This State and Why It Will Continue.

"Florida is the only tropical portion of the United States. It lies almost surrounded by water; it is approached on both sides by the gulf stream which has a tendency to purify the air which filters over and through the lands of Florida, and its ports are open to vessels from all parts of the world, thereby giving it the very best of transportation facilities. It is tapped by the great railroad systems of the continent, which open up to it more than fifty millions of people.

"And, as to climate, Florida has a climate that is unsurpassed, which every man of medical science admits is ideal for almost every form of health building. It has long been the playground of the rich, and within its borders are located the palaces and country estates of America's most wealthy and aristocratic set.

"Florida positively feeds the North and East during the winter months, and so far as the delicacies consumed in the North and East are concerned, Florida is, because of its geographical location and its nearness to those markets, the only available section of this country for such supply.

"If one will but take a map of the United States and glance at it, he will be at once convinced of these facts from a geographical viewpoint alone. The great transportation lines of Florida have done much to enhance the value of Florida products, and to furnish swift transportation for such products to the great markets of the country, as well as to see that they are kept in the highest state of perfection during such a journey.

"The question is frequently asked why Florida products bring a higher price to the producers than other farm products in this country. The answer is simply this: Florida products are harvested at a time when the remainder of this country is generally in idleness, and consequently the Florida products reach the market when there is absolutely no competition and prices are the very highest. The only competitor of Florida, if it may be called such, is California, and that State lies so far away from the Northern and Eastern markets that, with the increased cost of delivering its products to these markets, it is placed absolutely beyond the limits of competing with Florida. It is also a fact, that, as a rule, Florida products mature from thirty to sixty days earlier than those of California.

"These are some of the reasons why Florida is having such a rush of settlers to her idle lands. So great is the demand for Florida lands that some of the great capitalists of the country are purchasing large tracts of land in various parts of the State. They know that the rush to Florida will continue now that it has started so strongly, and that it will be here in Florida like it was in the West, where great fortunes were made by the land grabbers.

"But, at the present time there are thousands and hundreds of thousands of acres of good land in Florida that can be bought in small tracts. This is certainly the day of opportunity in Florida. The time to buy a farm tract in Florida is now."—(Jacksonville Metropolis.)

Every Day Happenings in and Around Bunnell as Contributed

One of the most successful potato seasons in the history of the Bunnell colony has come to a close. Messrs. Deen and Johnson shipped the last car. Weather conditions during the entire season have been excellent, in fact, they could not have been better. The yields were far in excess of what our farmers expected, and high prices prevailed throughout the shipping season. The prices opened up at \$9.00 per barrel, going as high as \$10.00 a barrel, and were never less than \$7.00 a barrel, f. o. b. shipping point. The sums of money cleared by some of our farmers, after all expenses were paid, were quite astonishing and almost unbelievable, when one takes into consideration the fact that they did not begin the work of breaking their land until January, and finished shipping in May, and that they now have a fine corn crop on the same land.

We are proud to state that one of our local boys, Charles Brown, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Brown, has won the University Scholarship. Mr. Brown has indeed distinguished himself by the winning of this scholarship, and he has the privilege of choosing from seven different schools throughout the country, as to where he may continue his education.

Mr. O. C. Mosby, of Black Point, has completed the harvesting and marketing of his thirty acres of potatoes and is very much pleased with the results of same, he having sold his spuds for \$6,600.00. His corn on this same thirty is looking exceptionally fine.

Mr. F. S. Crowson is now harvesting his crop of fine sweet corn, which is being loaded into cars and shipped to northern markets.

A large crew of men have begun the work of cleaning out Black Branch. On account of the accumulation of fallen trees, it has been practically impossible for the water to navigate the natural course, and during heavy storms the water has naturally backed over some of the adjacent territory. It is the intention of those in charge of this work to have all the timber removed from the course, and after this is done the Branch will be straightened out and widened, giving that part a perfect drainage.

Several of the young people of Bunnell went surf-bathing last Sunday.

That our farmers in Flagler county are making good money is proved by the fact that during the past sixty days the following parties have purchased automobiles: Crowson, Tomchuch, Frier, Hogan, Kendrick, Malphurs, Pellicer, Hendrickson, Jones, Knox, Deen, Cody, Hamilton, Johnston, Burnsed and Mack.

Mr. Fernside contemplates opening a haberdashery here.

We need twenty-five new dwelling houses in Bunnell to accommodate the newcomers.

Approximately five hundred autos passed through Bunnell last Sunday, some enroute for Ocean City, some to Daytona, while others were headed for St. Augustine and Jacksonville.

At the election which was held in compliance with the requirements of the bill creating Flagler county, which passed the State Legislature in April, the voters of the section of St. Johns and Volusia counties, which now comprise Flagler county, voted solid in favor of it, with the exception of but one single vote. Thus Flagler county has been created, and it will become a new county, officially, on July 2nd.

Col. and Mrs. C. G. Varn, of Deland, arrived Monday and have moved into the Moody residence, corner Moody boulevard and Main street. Col. Varn has opened a law office in the Tribune building. He comes to us very highly recommended, being a graduate of Stetson University. For the past few years he has been associated with the law firm of Landris & Fish, of Deland, where he gained a reputation as an attorney of ability. We welcome Col. Varn and family to our city.

Thursday afternoon a fire was discovered in the lumber mill of Ford & Lambert, at DuPont. Pumps were immediately put to work, but the magnificent dwelling house known as "The Mansion" in DuPont, was destroyed, also the dwelling house just west of it, which was occupied by Mr. Miller. Through the heroic work of the fire fighters, several buildings were saved. The beautiful Tippicanoe Inn was saved, although for awhile it looked as though it would go also in spite of the work of the fighters. A telephone call to Bunnell for help was rapidly responded to, every auto and man available going immediately to DuPont to help extinguish the flames.

The most successful term of school ever taught in Bunnell ended Monday evening. The commencement exercise of the High School was excellent indeed; the reception Saturday night being a grand success. The baccalaureate sermon was preached by Rev. Ramsey on Sunday evening. At the close of the commencement exercises Prof. Hayes, in his impressive manner, reminded his pupils to ever keep in mind the principles of character that he has taught them during the school year just past, and commended them for the splendid work which they had done.

Since Flagler County has become a reality, the editor of the St. Johns Tribune has changed the name of his paper to the FLAGLER TRIBUNE, and you will find this paper always full of up-to-date news concerning the colony.

One of the largest net returns per acre received for potatoes this season was from a two acre field belonging to Mr. Eatman, he having sold from his two acres \$684.00 worth of potatoes, f. o. b. depot.

Elder Branson of Atlanta, Georgia, preached in the Seventh Day Adventist Church last Sunday.

Bunnell feels the need of more adequate fire protection, and the City Council and Mayor are advocating the issuance of thirty year 6% town bonds, so that they may be able to put in a pumping station and lay pipe from Gore Lake, a distance of two and one-half miles, for furnishing water supply. This would not only mean a protection to the property, but it would be a good investment from the point of view of a reduced rate of insurance. It is also their desire to open up more streets in the town and lay more sidewalks, all of which goes to prove conclusively that we are merging from a village into a real town and to an increased population in the near future.

The young men of Bunnell and vicinity responded gladly to their country's demands on Registration Day. The day here was set apart for a holiday and was so observed. The returns compiled by the County Registration Board showed that 114 young men in Bunnell had registered.

As quite a number of new merchants are considering engaging in business in Bunnell, there is going to be a great demand for more store buildings. Plans have been made for the erection of two new store buildings just north of the new bank building.

Mr. E. B. Hanson, residing near Codyville, cleared \$4,000.00 on twenty acres of potatoes this season. He has thirty acres under cultivation, and will immediately begin the clearing of thirty acres additional. He expects to plant 60 acres to potatoes next season. He now has 25 acres of fine corn, besides chufas, peanuts, velvet beans and a splendid garden. He also has a fine field of watermelons and will plant seven acres to sweet potatoes.

Mr. W. B. Lanier, of Tallahassee, who has served as reading clerk of the House of Representatives for the past several terms, realizing the great future of Bunnell and Flagler county, has moved to Bunnell. He will be associated with the Bunnell State Bank.

Mr. W. H. Poff, formerly of the State of Pennsylvania, but now living near DuPont in the southwestern portion of Flagler county, informs us that he has already sold a fraction over twenty-two thousand dollars' worth of cabbage and potatoes from his farm this year. This farm comprises one hundred acres. Out of the hundred acres he had approximately eighty acres planted to cabbage and potatoes, which he has already harvested, the balance of his farm being planted to oats. From the land from which he harvested his cabbage and potatoes, he now has fifty-eight acres in fine corn, fifteen acres of fine crab grass and pea-vine hay, and will plant the balance to sweet potatoes and a fall Irish potato crop.

by our Bunnell Correspondent During the Month

Dr. L. M. Dixon, an experienced dentist of Jacksonville, is a recent arrival in Bunnell. He has rented offices in the Tribune building where he will open an up-to-date dental parlor.

The Bunnell State Bank has just let a contract for the erecting of a new bank building, on the corner of Moody Road and Railroad Street. The building will have a forty-six foot front with a depth of eighty feet. It will be two stories high, the ground floor to be occupied by the Bunnell State Bank and the Bunnell Development Company, while the second floor will contain twelve up-to-date offices. The building will be modern in every particular, being constructed of the very best brick, with a press brick finish, tiling floor and will cost approximately thirty-six thousand dollars.—Flagler Tribune.

A great celebration has been planned for the 2nd of July on account of the creation of Flagler County. A number of prominent speakers will be present, and our especial guest-of-honor on that day will be the Governor of the State of Florida, Sidney J. Catts. The services of the Deland Brass Band have been secured for the entire day and evening. Bunnell will have one of her famous barbecues on that day, and in the evening everyone will be invited to go over to Ocean City, where there will be a big dance in the Ocean City casino.

Mr. H. C. King will open a plumbing and heating establishment in Bunnell.

ONE CARLOAD OF 200 BARRELS OF POTATOES BRINGS OWNERS \$2,000.00 THIS SEASON

From time to time the readers of the HOME BUILDER have been told something about a little woman, by the name of Mrs. Dinkens, who has a potato farm a few miles north of our colony. You will be interested, we know, in learning about her 1917 crop, although the simple facts regarding same really read like a fairy story.

This year Mr. F. R. Allen and Mrs. Dinkens went into the potato business together, and they were fortunate enough to ship some of their potatoes when the top price of the market was reached. One carload of 200 barrels brought them \$2,000.00 f. o. b. Possibly this was the only car which brought them such high returns, anyway, Mr. Allen and Mrs. Dinkens requested their payment for same in gold. The purchaser sent to the First National Bank of St. Augustine for \$2,000.00 of the yellow metal, and paid them this sum in gold pieces.

We have it from most reliable information, that Mrs. Dinkens' potato field netted as high as \$800.00 per acre for the 1917 crop. These are the highest returns we have ever known of any farmer receiving on potatoes in our potato belt, and since potatoes have been exceptionally high this year, the record may never be reached again.

WHAT DOES IT ALL SIGNIFY?

The editor has just re-read the news items that have come to this office since the last HOME BUILDER was published, and before sending them over to the printing office for the next issue of the paper. It has afforded most genuine pleasure, this quiet perusal of the little items which indicate so much in their simple wording.

And what does it all signify to you, readers of the HOME BUILDER? Have you hurriedly scanned these news items and thought perhaps half-indifferently that they sounded pretty good? If you have read them in this manner, won't you go back and read them all over again—thoughtfully, carefully? And if you will do this, I believe you will, with me, catch a new vision of that wonderful land of opportunity, that Mecca for the heart-sick struggling men and women throughout this land of ours who are eking out existences on pitifully small salaries and working under the most trying circumstances.

The Bunnell colony—the Land of Opportunity—from month to month you have been told of what could be accomplished there. You have read the words of prophecy from the men who have been back of this great proposition, and who were able to catch a vision of what might be accomplished long before anything really was done.

But, the dreams, the hopes, the desires of these community builders have become actual realities, and the little group of News Items in this issue of the HOME BUILDER, dealing with the homes, the schools, the churches, the fine farms, the growing towns, the successes that have come in such a few years to earnest men and women, who have also had the vision and have helped make their "dreams come true" are the most conclusive proofs that could be given of the real worth and the possibilities of this Land of Opportunity.

Again I ask, what does it all signify to you? I believe I can answer that question for some of our readers at least. If you have already purchased farm-homes in the Bunnell colony, I believe these little items will make you more grateful than you have ever been before that you found this door of Opportunity and entered therein. If you have not completed all of the payments on your farms, I believe you will resolve that nothing shall stand in your way toward accomplishing this end as soon as possible, and then making your plans for going to the colony and having your share in its rapid development.

But, what does it all signify to you, readers of the HOME BUILDER, who have read from month to month of what is taking place in the colony, but have never reached the point where you made up your minds to own your own farm-homes there? Can't you too catch the vision of the marvelous opportunities that may also be yours in the Bunnell colony? All of these wonderful things have been accomplished in such a few short years and they are only a foretaste of what will take place in the bright future that is opening up for our people in the Bunnell colony.

Can you not realize that what others are doing, you may do also, but that the longer you delay the less your chances are for obtaining just what you would like to have there? Read these news items once again, if you will, and then resolve that not another day will pass over your heads until you have sent in your orders for farms of your own in this—Land of Opportunity.

A FEW WORDS CONCERNING FLORIDA'S SUMMER TEMPERATURE

Not a summer passes but what many letters are received at this office asking for complete information regarding Florida's summer temperature, so a few words upon this subject, in this issue of the HOME BUILDER, will not come amiss, we are sure.

I do not expect any contradiction when I state that the winters in Florida are almost perfect, but I wonder if my next statement will be accepted so readily, when I say that Florida has also an ideal summer climate. Nevertheless, this latter statement is also true, and our buyers who have visited Bunnell during the summer months will bear me out on this.

True, it gets hot in Florida during the summer months, but we all know there must be hot weather at some seasons of the year in every state where land is worth anything. It takes heat to grow crops, and any country would be a failure without the warm growing months; but, bear this in mind, it does not get any warmer in Florida in summer than it does in a great many of our northern states, and it is cooler in Florida than in some of them.

If you wish further proof regarding this, write to your nearest Government Weather Bureau and enclose a stamped envelope. Ask Uncle Sam for some old weather reports. Also write to the Weather Bureau at Jacksonville or St. Augustine, Florida. However, for your convenience, I will give you below a table showing the average temperature, based on a ten-year average, furnished by the United States Weather Bureau, of St. Augustine, Florida, about 30 miles north of our colony, and of Ormond, about 25 miles to the south of us. Study these figures carefully, and they will give you a comprehensive idea of what to expect in the way of temperature in the Bunnell colony.

St. Augustine Ormond
Degrees Degrees

January	.....56	58
February	.....61	58
March	.....62	64
April	.....68	69
May	.....73	77
June	.....78	70
July	.....80	80
August	.....80	80
September	.....77	79
October	.....65	72
November	.....63	64
December	.....58	57
Av'ge annual temp'ture..	68	69

A GROUP OF INTERESTING LETTERS FROM



MR. HARRY E. MARKER

CHICAGO MAN EXPECTS TO BUY MORE LAND AT BUNNELL AND ENGAGE IN THE POTATO BUSINESS, AFTER A TRIP OF INSPECTION TO THE COLONY.

June 14, 1917.

Dear Mr. Verdenius:

After having spent a week in your Bunnell colony, I feel it my duty to make to the readers of the HOME BUILDER a brief report of my visit.

I was reared on a farm until I was eighteen years of age, and since that time I have visited different sections of our large country, besides having worked for a large conservative banking institution for the past ten years. I have met quite a few successful men in that time, but I can conscientiously say that I never saw a community of farmers so prosperous and independent as those I saw in the potato section of Florida around Bunnell and Hastings.

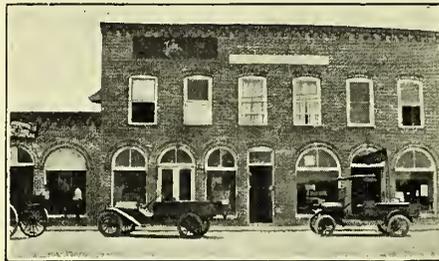
For a small investment and on a payment plan so reasonable, I don't believe a man can find another place in the United States where he can buy a ten or twenty acre tract of land and net as

much money yearly as he can in the potato section of Florida.

My heart aches when I see the employees of our large department stores and factories here in Chicago, and note intelligent men toiling away day in and day out on a salary of from twelve to twenty dollars a week, knowing as I do that it costs them every cent they earn to live, much less save anything for a rainy day.

While in the colony I talked with a number of farmers who started with less than five hundred dollars a few years ago, and who today own their own farms and have enough money to tide themselves over for a few years if necessary.

Bunnell, the county seat of the new county of Flagler, just created, is a town about six years old, with a population of about one thousand people. It has cement walks, brick streets, a cement block and brick business buildings, bank, school, churches, hotels, garages, electric light and water works plant; in fact, it is a model little town, located on the main line of the Florida East Coast Railroad. It is very evident that all of this permanent development is made possible only by the prosperity of the farmers in the vicinity of Bunnell.



The Tribune Building at Bunnell
(Photo taken by Mr. Marker)

I took several snap-shots of buildings and farm scenes, which I enclose herewith. They may be of interest to those who are unable to see this land with their own eyes.

In closing I will add that I expect to purchase more land and get into the potato game myself in the near future.

With best wishes, I am

Yours very truly,
HARRY E. MARKER.

KORONA FARMER RECEIVES RETURNS OF \$2,100.00 FROM EIGHT ACRES OF IRISH POTATOES.

Dear Mr. Verdenius:

I am now through digging my potatoes, and am very satisfied with the returns from same. From the eight acre plot of potatoes, which you saw, I realized a net profit of \$2,100.00. The corn is growing nicely, likewise the vegetables, many of which have already been marketed.

I have let a contract with some colored people for the clearing of twenty-eight acres more of land, so that next season I expect to plant 45 acres to Irish potatoes. These men expect to finish the clearing in August.

I hope more people will come to Korona and be as successful as we have been.

JOHN MAZURAWISZ.

MR. W. A. MACK REALIZES \$12,000.00 ON HIS POTATO CROP THIS SEASON

Dear Mr. Verdenius:

I received the last issue of the HOME BUILDER, which you so kindly sent me, and I am sure that you realize that it made me happy to look over the pictures in this issue, which speak so highly of our colony. If you will send me a dozen more copies I shall be glad to send them to my friends in the West and it may set them to thinking and bring you some new buyers.

I say to you again that I have never been in any place where a man can make a good living as easily as he can right here in Bunnell. We have had an exceptionally good year so far, and it can practically be said of all of our farmers that they have made good money, and today the prospects for a bumper summer and fall crop are very good indeed.

I feel sure that you would like to know how I came out with my potato crop this year. I wish that I could give you the final report on same, but will say that MY NET SALES ON POTATOES SO FAR THIS SEASON IS \$10,541.48, AND I HAVE AMOST TWO CARLOADS TO HEAR FROM YET, WHICH WILL BRING MY SALES UP TO OVER \$12,000.00. You will no doubt recall that I purchased a small yoke of oxen five years ago, which I used to haul my potato crop to the station that season. This yoke of oxen cost me \$70.00, but they fade into insignificance when compared with my big International Motor Truck which I now use to harvest my crop.

Bunnell looks better to me today than ever before. The colony is booming, and how could it be otherwise? With the very best part of St. Johns county and the best of Volusia county combined, we are going to make FLAGLER COUNTY one of the very best, if not the best county in the state. Since I live but three miles from Bunnell, which will be the county seat of our new county, this appeals to me much better than to be located fifty-two miles from our present county seat.

Now, Mr. Verdenius, I want to tell you in a few words about my present crop. I now have seventeen acres of corn on the old land that looks fine, and eighteen acres on the new land which I cleared last year, and this crop looks fair. Furthermore, I am going to plant about fifteen acres to rice, a few acres to sweet potatoes, and the rest of the land I will sow to cow peas.

I expect this will be quite a busy summer for me, for I am going to build a new home, and expect to begin work on this home within the next few weeks. After our new home is completed I am going to take a little trip to visit some of my relatives on the Pacific coast, and take a little outing, which I feel I deserve, as I have been working hard for the last five years. While I am visiting with my relatives and friends, I shall tell them about our Bunnell colony, for I feel that I do a man a favor by telling him of the great opportunity which may be his in our colony.

Yours very truly,
W A. MACK,
Bunnell, Florida.



Mr. Marker in a Field of Corn in the Bunnell Colony

OWNERS OF FARMS IN THE BUNNELL COLONY



MR. WILLIAM K. HOPP

"I SHALL NOT BE SATISFIED UNTIL I GET DOWN THERE TO LIVE"

Writes a Chicago Man After a Trip of Inspection to the Bunnell Colony

Chicago, Ill., May 30, 1917.

Mr. T. A. Verdenius,

Dear Sir:—I take this opportunity to tell you something of my trip to Bunnell. I arrived there on March 10th and was certainly surprised with my first sight of the town. In my estimation, Bunnell has the best start of any town I have ever seen, and although small as yet, I think if you keep on as you have started, you will have one of the best towns on the East coast.

Mr. Turner was busy with a party of people from Detroit when I arrived, so I spent several days walking about the country and talking to the farmers. I wish to say right here that you have as sociable a set of men in your colony as one could meet anywhere. I guess I asked as many questions of them as I possibly could, and all seemed pleased to answer them, and they all praised the land and the climate.

I saw acres and acres of potatoes and inquired what would be the average yield, and they all said it should run from 50 to 80 barrels to the acre. The corn was up about two or three inches between the rows of potatoes.

All of the farmers seemed very much pleased at the prospect of having the new county created, and all thought that it would be the very best thing that could happen, as it would mean more and better roads and schools for the same amount of taxes they now pay.

I guess the people are making money there. I rode over part of the colony with one of the garage men, who was circulating one of the petitions for the new county. We were out all day and

out of about one hundred people seen, all but one signed for the new county, and incidentally the gentleman I was with got orders for three new machines.

I was certainly well pleased with the country myself and selected twenty acres of land. I expect to go down this summer or next fall and build a house and make my home there.

I thought so much of the country, and talked about it so much that I have interested two or three other people, so that they have decided to buy and go down as soon as they have enough money. For myself, I shall not be satisfied until I get down there to live, which I hope will be soon.

Yours respectfully, WILLIAM K. HOPP.

"BUNNELL HAS COME INTO HER OWN THE LAST YEAR"

Writes a Michigan Man.

Dear Mr. Verdenius:

I am not dead, but very much alive. It is a long time since I have seen you to hold converse with you, but I have followed the progress of the Bunnell colony with much interest, through the medium of the St. Johns Tribune.

Bunnell has come into her own the last year. There is no question about it, and you can safely throw out your chest and declare, "I told you so."

Yours very truly,

L. F. HUBBARD, (Michigan.)

"WE WILL HAVE ABOUT 3 TONS OF ONIONS"

Says Mrs. Jones, One of Bunnell Colony's Successful Farmers.

Bunnell, Florida, R. F. D. No. 1,

May 16, 1917.

Mr. Thomas A. Verdenius,

Dear Sir:—We are to begin digging potatoes tomorrow. You should see our onions. We will have about three tons of onions, and I venture to say that they will average three inches across. There are so few of them that are less than two inches, and so many that are so much larger, and any amount of these onions will weigh one and a half pounds each.

I am going to have my picture taken with some of these onions, for I am proud of them.

Yours truly,

(Mrs.) STELLA JONES.

ONE OF OUR CANADIAN BUYERS WRITES TO SAY HOW HAPPY HE IS THAT HE HAS HIS BUNNELL FARM FULLY PAID FOR.

Mr. T. A. Verdenius,

Dear Sir:—I was looking over my contract book today and find that I have made the last payment on my ten acre farm in the Bunnell colony, and you may be sure that I am pleased to know that this is so, and that I can now say that I am the owner of a home at Bunnell.

And now for preparations for getting there, but the war conditions are so uncertain at present that a man don't know just what to do. However, I hope there will be a change before the time I am ready to go South.

It may please you to know, Mr. Ver-

denius, that it was entirely by taking your advice that I am today the owner of a home in the Sunny Southland, and I thank you many times for your good, kind and fatherly advice regarding the transaction.

Yours truly,
GEORGE MARLATT,
Toronto, Canada.

COME TO FLORIDA

(The following lines were written by Emmett Roberts, fourteen years of age, of Wyaconda, Missouri, whose mother, Mrs. Mary E. Roberts, is the owner of a farm in the Bunnell colony.)

"If you long for the soft-blowing breezes,
If you long for the cool, blue sea,
If you long for the rippling brook, the river-to-be,
Then come, oh come, to Florida with me.

If you love the birds' happy song,
If you love the flowers, so delicate and free,
If you love the days, so sweet and long,
Then come, oh come, to Florida with me.

If you wish to dwell in quiet and repose too,
If you wish to dream under a sky so blue,
If you wish to hunt, fish and other sports do
Then come, oh come, to Florida, won't you?"

NO MORE FREE LOTS IN DUPONT

We are still receiving inquiries concerning free lots in Dupont, and I wish to say that there are no more of these lots to be given away. When a man has but \$10.00 and desires to give \$1.00 to ten different people, it is not possible for him to make eleven or twelve people happy, since \$10.00 was all that he had to give away. And so it is with our free lots in Dupont. They have all been given away; hence it is impossible for us to give any more free lots to purchasers of farms.

All I can say to those inquiring about free lots is that if you had acted promptly and purchased your farms some time ago, you would have been among the fortunate ones to receive these lots. May this not be a little lesson regarding the value of PROMPTNESS?

The time is coming, and that before so very long, when there will be many people bitterly disappointed because they are not able to purchase a Bunnell colony farm at our present low price. The land will be sold and the prices will be greatly advanced. I fully believe that I shall see the day when this very same land will be selling for \$350.00 an acre, and then will come the sad lament of many that they might have bought ten acres of this fine land for but \$350.00, at practically their own terms on the monthly payment plan.

If you want some of this fine potato land in the Bunnell colony, I URGE you to buy it now. Do not forget, that
**"OF ALL SAD WORDS OF TONGUE OR PEN,
THE SADDEST ARE THESE — 'IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN.'"**

Write today to

THOS. A. VERDENIUS

108 So. La Salle St.,

Chicago, Ill.

THREE MORE INTERESTING LETTERS FROM BUYERS



Good looking—(both)—Magnolias and Anna

This Kentucky girl came to Bunnell to see for herself; she was delighted with existing conditions and bought a farm herself. The following letter to her father was obtained by a bit of strategy; the writer finally giving her permission to have it published if her name was withheld. Surely it is recommendation enough when a girl from the "Blue Grass" State finds the Bunnell colony so satisfactory.

A KENTUCKY GIRL'S LETTER FROM BUNNELL TO HER "DAD" IN "OLD KAIN-TUCK"

Bunnell, Florida, April 9, 1917.

Dear Dad:

Here I have been in Bunnell, for two whole weeks, and this is the first opportunity I've had to write you a long letter—so here goes, all about this part of the East Coast and affairs in general.

You know we had an idea before I came down here that Florida was mostly a desert of white sand, with rattlesnakes, mosquitoes and flies abounding. But indeed, that is a gross misrepresentation; and contrary to general report, all sorts of live stock can be raised here quite as well as in Kentucky, provided they are properly fed and taken care of.

I am delighted with the Halcyon hotel—Mrs. Byrd sets a fine table, and the building faces directly on the Dixie Highway, a solid brick road which stretches before you for hundreds of miles, and invites all sorts of auto trips.

Bunnell is located conveniently—eighty-five miles from Jacksonville, Florida's metropolis, and south of us Miami and Palm Beach a day's drive.

I went to Daytona with some friends in a big car last Sunday night. I shall not attempt to describe the trip to you, but leave to your imagination the white beach at Ormond, washed to the smoothness of glass by the tides, a big round moon, and a good-looking Southern gentleman by one's side. Could a better combination be imagined?

There is plenty of hunting and fishing here—possums, quail, rabbits and squirrels. Mr. Turner, the able representative of the Bunnell Development Company, called for me yesterday and we drove to Ocean City, and stopped at the canal, where with the assistance of a fisherman and net, in half an hour had a bucket full of nice big fish. Mr. and Mrs. Turner always have the latch string open, and their home is a favorite meeting place for the young folks.

As you have perhaps noted from the Bunnell paper, which I have been mailing you, there is a movement on foot to create a new county, with Bunnell as county seat. If this goes through, and the prospects at present look very hopeful, our little city will grow still more in the future than it has in the past.

What we need here is people with energy, to develop the wealth of natural resources which seem to have been bestowed upon this part of Florida.

And now I must close, dad, and do write soon and keep me posted on matters at home.

Always your devoted daughter,
ANNA.

P. S.: Enclosed find kodak view of some of the magnolias grown around here, with myself in the background. I know you will say—"good looking of the magnolias."

A NEW HAMPSHIRE MAN WRITES THAT "BUNNELL IS GOOD ENOUGH FOR US"

Mr. Thomas A. Verdenius,

Dear Sir:

The old saying that the first impression is most lasting is not true in my case regarding Florida. When I first saw Florida, I did not like it so very much, but by and by the climate began to tell on me, and the longer I stayed the better I liked it.

We used to have a Dr. Stearns who thought a great deal of Florida. His father at one time had owned several thousand acres in the state of Florida, but he was not able to appreciate its worth and sold it out cheap. When his son grew older he realized what a terrible mistake they had made, for if they had kept the land, it would have made them all rich. You see, it's the same old story "IF."

In a few more years people will see land selling for \$100.00, \$200.00 and \$300.00 an acre in Bunnell, according to location and soil, and will say "Oh, if we only had bought some of it for \$35.00 an acre, when we could have done so." To all those who may be in this class I would say, go down to Bunnell this year and pick out your land, or have someone do it for you, for I am certain this land is going to double in value before long.

People up here told us that we would have malaria, that the snakes would bite us, that the colored people would steal everything, but we found this all talk. Some people say to go down the west coast, or down in the central part of the state, but we tell them that BUNNELL IS GOOD ENOUGH FOR US.

We have twenty acres of land at Black Point, which we think is about right. When we get a good road out there, it will be one of the best farming districts in Florida.

Yours very truly,
FRANK J. WINN,
(New Hampshire)

A FORMER RESIDENT OF TACOMA, WASHINGTON, TELLS OF SOME OF THE REASONS WHY THEY ARE GLAD THEY CAME TO THE BUNNELL COLONY.

Bunnell, Florida, April 29, 1917.

Mr. Thomas A. Verdenius,

Dear Sir:

We feel that we owe you some expression of the satisfactory manner in which you selected our twenty acre farm. We have been here since early in January, and in traveling about the colony have satisfied ourselves that you could not have made a selection that would have answered our requirements any better.

To say that we are pleased is putting it mildly. We have good water at thirty feet, a shady grove for our house and plenty of open land for farming purposes that is easy to clear. Our garden, a spot picked at random, proves that we have productive soil.

As we arrived here too late to do any clearing for a crop of potatoes, we rented some cleared land and planted four acres, reserving one acre for sweet potatoes later. We will begin digging in about ten days or two weeks, and expect an excellent crop. We have corn up six inches in the rows, that will make a fine showing as soon as the spuds are out of the way.

At the present prices of potatoes and the yields per acre that our neighbors are getting assures us of a fine start for the short time we have been here.

I know of no place in the Pacific Northwest, our former home, that has the opportunities to offer that this colony affords. With the drainage project well under way, a main line railway, the brick paved Dixie Highway traversing the colony, the formation of a new county with Bunnell as county seat, convinces us that we SELECTED THE LIVEST COMMUNITY IN THE STATE FOR OUR HOME.

The Company officials are very courteous and I have found them ever ready to assist the newcomer in whatever way they can.

In summing up the conditions and advantages we find here the most I can say is that I am glad we came to Bunnell.

Respectfully,
(MRS.) C. A. WHITAKER,
R. F. D. No. 1.

BOOST BUNNELL!

The Best Little Town
In the Best Little County
In the Grand Old State of Florida
And We Don't Care Who Knows It!