

TAMPA & GULF COAST RAILWAY THROUGH KEYSTONE PARK COLONY.

The Baltimore Manufacturers' Record, in its issue of July 15, publishes the following concerning a railroad extension in Florida and the opening of a new colony near Tampa by the Tampa Bay Land Company of that city:

To shorten the distance by rail between Tampa and Tarpon Springs from 90 miles to 35 miles an extension 10 miles long is to be completed within the next 90 days of the Tampa & Gulf Coast Railroad, now in operation from Stember, on the Tampa Northern Railway, to Odessa, on the St. Petersburg division of the Atlantic Coast Line. The extension will leave the present line of the Gulf Pine Co at a point one mile south of Odessa, where the large mill of the company is in operation, and will run to Tarpon Springs. The road is now being operated as a common carrier for the transportation of lumber manufactured by the Gulf Pine Co. and for all supplies used along the line. The officers of the company are Charles H. Brown, president; Thomas Dowling, vice-president; C. H. Lutz, secretary-treasurer and general manager. The directors are C. H. Brown, Thomas Dowling, C. H. Lutz, John K. Cheney and C. H. Tedder. It is the intention of the company to put into effect a double daily passenger and freight service between Tampa and Tarpon Springs. This will be accomplished through a trackage agreement with the Tampa Northern, and the trains of the Tampa & Gulf Coast Railway, as the new road will be known, will be operated over the tracks of the Tampa Northern between Tampa and Stemper, a distance of 15 miles. The Gulf Pine Co. owns and controls 50,000 acres of magnificent timber land in the territory through which the road passes, and they will bring this timber over the new road through Tampa for export and shipment to coastwise ports. The Tampa Northern's export terminals in Tampa, having adequate facilities for handling cargoes direct from trains to vessels, will secure for Tampa the handling of the immense lumber business all along the line of that road.

The junction of the extension with the line now in operation between Stemper and Odessa is in the Keystone Park Colony, a tract of 10,000 acres of land just being opened up to settlers and through which there are 25 or more bearing orange groves, truck farms, young groves and field crops in cultivation. Mr. Brown, president of the company, states that his company expects to handle not less than 200,000 boxes of oranges from this year's crop over the new railroad, and at least 15,000 boxes of this amount will come from the groves already established in the Keystone Park Colony. The lands in this colony have been proven to be very fertile and adapted to all kinds of vegetables and field crops, and especially suitable for trucking and orange growing. With the through connection afforded by the extension of the railroad this will rapidly become a great truck farming

and citrus fruit center, and this will add materially to the business of the railroad.

In addition to the railroad, the county of Hillsborough, in which both Tampa and Tarpon Springs are located, is constructing a splendid hard-surfaced road between the two cities directly through Keystone Park Colony.

LUMBERMEN IN CONVENTION.

Meeting of the Alabama-West Florida Lumber Manufacturers' Association Last Week.

The regular monthly meeting of the Alabama-West Florida Lumber Manufacturers' Association was held in the Chamber of Commerce at Birmingham, Ala., on Tuesday, July 13. John T. Burlingame, president of the association, presided.

The meeting was called at 11:30 a. m., and was in session about three hours. About fifteen yellow pine lumber manufacturing plants were represented, in which there was represented a cut of around 250,000,000 feet.

After the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting and the secretary's report, a report from the committee on ethics, tariff, legislative, and inspection, the meeting assumed a thoughtful business air, first taking up discussions of inspections, ethics, wholesalers' methods, market and trade conditions, and indestructible land line markers.

The discussion of the trade conditions developed a decided improvement in the market, both in inquiry and price, within the past two weeks, and there was a curtailment of normal production of about 25 per cent.

A feature of the meeting was the recommendation of F. M. Lathrop, of the legislative committee, providing for an indestructible land marker for corner sections, which resulted in a resolution being passed instructing the secretary of the association to confer with one or more of the Alabama legislative members, with the view of having the matter brought to the attention of that body at its special session.

The meeting adjourned at two o'clock in the afternoon, and after lunch the visitors whiled the time at the base-ball game and places of interests about Birmingham the remainder of the evening.

The next meeting will be held at Montgomery, Ala., August 10th.

POOR OLD CHARLESTON.

"Baltimore is making a strong bid for Southern trade just at this time, and will expend a large sum of money to get into closer relations with Southern ports and business centers. But it may be observed that Baltimore does not seem at all inclined to flirt with Miss Charleston, a very fair lady, and despite her great age, a maid growing more charming and worth cultivating every year," says the Charleston Evening Post. But the Baltimore business men are not flirting for trade. They are going out after it in a business-like manner—and they came direct to where there is plenty of business—Jacksonville.—Times-Union.

LUMBER TRADE CONDITIONS.

Further Improvements Shown During Past Week. Prospects are Bright.

The lumber trade of the South, both in hardwoods and pine, shows still further improvement this week, says The Tradesman, under date of July 15. Many managers and large operators have hiked away to their favorite resorts for rest and recuperation, but this has in no sense interfered with operations at the mills. Instead of curtailment the cut appears to be increasing in volume, encouraged by the increasing orders, and the actual movement has materially improved. The Eastern markets have been more liberal this month than they have for several seasons, New York, Boston, Buffalo and other centers making quite a heavy demand for immediate delivery. Consuming manufacturers have been in the market regularly this month, placing larger orders than they have placed for more than a year.

The general yard trade is also showing constant improvement, the north and west being particularly steady buyers. In the pine belt almost normal movement was reached last week, but the heavy rains may tend to decrease the movement for a short time. Crops in the middle west were somewhat damaged by the floods, but effects, if any are to come, have not reached the producers. In the hardwood belt a most favorable situation is reported. Sales are larger and more numerous and the shipments regular. Prices of choice grade hardwoods continue to advance, and as manufacturing centers increase their demands this condition is expected to continue.

Planing mills, door and blind factories, box factories, etc., are enjoying the banner season of the year. Everywhere these mills report a liberal supply of rush orders; and all mills are working on full time. Woodworking plants expect a rush business until the late fall.

LUMBER ASSOCIATION BEING SUED.

Action Brought in Mississippi Under State Anti-Trust Statute for \$14,000,000.

Jackson, Miss., July 18.—The Retail Lumber Dealers' Association of Mississippi and Louisiana is being sued in the chancery court of Holmes county, at Lexington, Miss., under the anti-trust statute, for the recovery of penalties aggregating \$14,184,000. The suit, which was filed by Attorney General J. B. Stirling on behalf of the State, is the largest single item of litigation ever brought in Mississippi, although the amount sought to be collected is the minimum under the statute, the rate being \$200 per day and the maximum \$5,000. It is alleged the offending agreement was entered into by the seventy-two concerns which are admitted members of the association on March 14, 1906. The State seeks through the suit to recover \$197,000 from each of the seventy-two alleging they entered into an agreement, in restraint of trade and in violation of the anti-trust law, not to purchase lumber from several manufacturers which sell also to the consumer.

MARION COUNTY FAIR.

Premium List Completed and Will Prove Attractive For Competitors.

Ocala, July 18.—Mr. D. S. Williams, secretary of the Marion County Fair Association, has practically completed the premium list for the forthcoming fair and will have it ready for distribution in a

short time. The list will be considerably larger this year and the premiums for exhibitors have been increased to an extent that will make them very attractive.

Secretary Williams has spent considerable time in perfecting this list, which will prove very attractive to the citizens of this county.

The fair this year will be held November 24, 25 and 26 and gives promise of eclipsing any similar event ever held in this State. With only a few weeks in which to make all preparations for the last fair its success was phenomenal and was commented on by the press throughout the State. Marion county has the products and with ample time to make a suitable display will attract wide attention.

CRIMINAL CARELESSNESS.

One rarely sees a fine tree close to the roadside that has not been scorched by some thoughtless or careless person who has built a camp fire by it, or fired it wantonly.

In many places in Texas clearings are being made, sometimes for suburban additions to towns or cities, and the leafy brush is heaped up too close to the trees, to be burned later at the sad cost of the owners.

Even in ordinary yard-cleaning the half-witted hands frequently burn the trash close enough to destroy or seriously set back the trees, hedges and shrubbery.

What a pity that there are so many fools in this world!—Dallas News.

CELERY ON WEST COAST.

St. Petersburg, Fla., July 19.—C. E. Chambers, C. C. Ratliff and C. L. Salter have ordered enough celery seed to plant fifteen acres.

The seed will be sown about the first of August and a yield will be obtained about Christmas. There have been thirty acres of celery promised.

It is raised on the muck lands north of the city, and as the land is good, there will probably be a good crop. As there is an average of 950 crates an acre, and a crate sells for \$1.50, about \$1,425 an acre is realized. Thirty acres of celery would bring about \$42,750 to the city.

TIMBERLAND DEAL IN VIRGINIA.

Announcement is made of a big timber land deal at Tazewell, Va., between the Yellow Poplar Lumber Company and C. L. Ritter, of West Virginia, by which Ritter purchased 20,000 acres of timber land lying principally in Buchanan county, Virginia, including all of the machinery, timber rights, etc., of the company. The total consideration is \$500,000. New territory will be opened up by standard gauge railroad, one to run from Doran to Whitewood, a distance of fourteen miles.

CONCRETE RAILWAY TIES.

Deputy Consul John Q. Wood, of Milan, has forwarded a blue-print showing the engineer's drawings of the accepted type of new concrete railway tie adopted by the Italian railways. The first lot of 300,000 proved so satisfactory that another similar lot has been ordered. They are offered for sale at \$1.48 each. A description of these cement ties has already been published from Consul Coleman, at Rome.