The Weekly True Democrat.

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Good Government; Honesty in Public Office; Equal Justice to All--Special Privileges to None.

Florida Will Be Made Most Famous

The Gi-Cow, a New Animal, Will Make Florida a Great Dairy State.

There is a man living down in Eustis, Florida, who says he has a plan where Florida can be weaned away from the tin cow, and made a milk, cream and butter center of prime importance, says Sidney C. Haly, in the Times-Union. The name of this man is Mikolanski. He is a Pole, who, after much wandering over the face of the earth, settled in Eustis, because of the healthfulness of the climate there in the high interior, and the beauty of the scenery on the Eustis lake system. Mr. Mikolanski is an educated man, and speaks English like a native. Some people regard him as a crank; others declare he is a genius. At any rate, he is original enough; and his latest scheme to originate a new beast that will solve the problem of cheap milk production in Florida is, to say the least of it, startling.

"I am a great lover of milk and cream," says Mr. Mikolanski. "I have been threatened with certain wasting diseases, and for years have made my diet to consist largely of these. My only objection to this Eustis lake region is that, like all Florida, it does not produce milk cheaply; nor is that produced very good. And so, after thought, I have hit upon a solution. It requires some explanation.

"Fifteen years ago I spent a couple of years in Buluwayo, in South Africa, and in that vicinity, in those days I was a hunter of big game. I have killed my share of elephants, rhinocerases, hippopotami, and I have the skin of an okapi I bagged before that rare animal was made known to the world by Sir Harry Johnstone. Well, during my sojourn in Africa, I had the good fortune to meet that greatest of all modern empire builders, Cecil Rhodes. Among other things he told me of a man in Rhodesa (as it is now called) who had a queer hybrid beast that was a cross between a cow and a giraffe. He had seen it himself, he said, and gave me a minute description of it.

"I could scarcely believe so remarkable a story, even from Cecil Rhodes. So, to satisfy my curiosity, I made a three weeks' journey to find the owner of this anomalous lapsus naturae. After one of the most difficult journeys I ever undertook, I reached the place, away on the frontier. Sure enough the man, an Englishman named Ferry, had the animal penned up in his cattle kraal. It was certainly an odd looking freak, with a body like that of a cow, except the stripes, and a neck resembling a giraffe's and fully ten feet long. Ferry said it gave a very fine quality of milk. It usually grazed on the tops of trees, and did not care much for grass. I offered the man 250 guineas for it, but he refused. He was going to ship it to England and put it into a circus. Unfortunately, as I learned subsequently, the animal was killed by a marauding lion, while in transit."

"But what has that to do with Florida?" asked your correspondent.

"A good deal," replied Mr. Mikolanski. "I have settled here near Eustis because I find this the most attractive part of Florida. It is hilly and rolling, with a great system of interconnecting lakes, constituting the finest water-area for pleasure-boating and fishing to be found inland south of Michigan. I like the locality. Eustis is the highest resort of importance in the State, they tell me, being over 200 feet from sea level, and fifty above the surrounding lakes. It is the most healthful spot of earth I ever saw; and one of the most beautiful. I am going to do my part toward developing it by sending to Africa for a few male giraffes; and I shall originate this new breed of animals. It is to be called the 'gi-cow.' It will revolutionize things hereabouts. You see the trouble is this: the grass in Florida is of poor quality, but there is plenty of grazing in the trees. I have investigated the question and I find that the gray moss so abundant in this State, makes a fine quality of milk, and that the cows like it much better than anything they can be fed. If successful with the cross-breeding I propose I shall give the gi-cow, which, with its immensely long neck can reach the moss in the boughs of the water and live oaks, and thus obtain a plentiful supply of nutrition at all times of the year. Do you see?"

Your correspondent saw the point, but was still doubtful. The thing seemed preposterous. He said so.

"Not at all," retorted the learned Pole. "Did you ever see the Australian platypus, or ornithornycus, as it is called in the books? Well, it is a small animal, the size of a large cat. It has fur, like most of four-footed animals, and yet it has also a duck's bill, webbed feet, lays eggs and suckles its young. Now, is my gi-cow more remarkable than that? The zebra is crossed with the horse, as is the donkey, resulting in the most useful of hybrids, the mule. Luther Burbank crossed an apple with a strawberry. Cross fertilization of plants is now familiar; the crossing of animals is a science in its infancy."

"Do the people here think you can accomplish your object, Mr. Mikolanski?"

Mr. Mikolanski showed a trace of irritation at this question. "Of course not," he said, tartly. "The people never believe a great thing possible until it is done. One fellow, supposing he was being funny, asked me whether it would not be better to teach the cows to walk on stilts. Another proposed developing claws on cows (as the Australian rabbit has done), and teaching them to climb trees. Such rot! But I will show you, if I live. My ancestors were men who did things. The founder of the house was from Ireland. His name, tradition says, was Michael Holihan, which was corrupted into Mikolanski. Holihan fought in the wars of our great hero, Sobieski, against the Turks. Since that day the Mikolanskis have been conspicuous, and I intend to follow the example of those that have gone before me. It may seem funny, this scheme for creating a strange hybrid to graze on the funeral pendants of Florida moss, but what nature has done before she can do again. I expect my first shipment of giraffes before spring. The jokesmiths will see."

"You speak English well," was the reporter's next comment.

"Yes, my mother was an American. English is one of my mother-tongues."

"Do you intend to remain in Eustis?"

"I do. I have been all over Florida, and this is the best place for the health-seeker in the State—or in the United States; while the facilities for boating on this magnificent system of lakes are the best in the South. I like the duck and quail shooting; and I expect to bag a few Florida bears and deer this winter. I shall devote my time to sport and gi-cow culture. I am going to have a launch built to add to the fleet here, which consists of about fifty power boats. In fine, after a life of wandering, I am going to settle down and take it easy. Good day, sir—"

CONSTANTINE HOTEL.

Has Been Entirely Renovated and Refurnished and Now Under New Management.

The Constantine Hotel, on South Monroe street, has been leased to Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Harrell, of Bradfordville, who have abundant experience in the hotel and boarding house business, and who propose to conduct a comfortable and most agreeable hostelry.

The place has been entirely renovated and refurnished, and presents quite an attractive appearance.

Mrs. Harrell has gained quite a reputation for the efficient conduct of such establishments, and the traveling public will always be accorded a warm welcome by her.

Chaires Personal and Locals.

Chaires, Dec. 4.—Mr. R. C. Snipes writes his mother from Georgetown, S. C., that he is making quite a success of his law practice. As he still holds his railroad position as General Freight and Passenger Agent he is kept extremely busy, and if he finds his success with the former is assured he will have to give up the other.

Misses Allene and Helen Johnson, Willie Duncan and Claud Patterson, and Messrs. Elton and Louis Patterson and Homer Brinsin attended the Measuring Party at Mrs. Wm. Roberts' Centreville home last Friday evening. They all report on enjoyable evening spent.

Dr. F. C. Moor was called out last Wednesday to see Mr. J. H. Patterson, who was sick.

Sunday night some one made a raid upon the preacher's chickens, he being away. Several of the boys ran over to the parsonage, but the thief made good his escape. One of the boys thought the other was the thief, not knowing he was there. This is the second time recently the chickens have been attacked.

Mrs. E. J Howell spent a short while last week with her sister, Mrs. Ira S. Patterson, of Tallahassee.

Mr. D. F. Gramling, one of Centreville's substantial citizens, and one of Mrs. Snipe's near neighbors for years, spent Sunday at her home.

The weather still portends rain, but it comes not. It is fearfully dry and everything is suffering.

Mr. Cotten, of Tallahassee, spent Sunday with his sister, Mrs. Upchurch, at Mayo.

Mrs. Snipe's granddaughter, little Sadie, stepped upon a ten-penny nail last week, which a carpenter had left upright in a board. It required the Doctor's advice and the closest attention to prevent lockjaw as the nail entered the foot so deeply and so intensely did she suffer. This being the 9th day the wound is healing. The little girl had just recovered recently from an attack of congestion.

If you should not receive your paper regularly please complain at this office.

REPORT OF THE CONDITION OF The First National Bank, OF TALLAHASSEE, FLA.

In the State of Florida, at the close of business Nov. 27, 1908.

RESOURCES.

Loans and discounts		$186,706 92
Overdrafts, secured and unsecured		6,836 56
U. S. Bonds to secure circulation		50,000 00
Bonds, Securities, etc		50,604 75
Banking house, furniture and fixtures		5,710 00
Due from National Banks, not reserve agents		18,653 73
Due from State Banks and Bankers		34,013 95
Due from approved reserve agents		22,502 82
Checks and other cash items		2,836 65
Notes of other National Banks		2,180 00
Fractional paper currency, nickels and cents		172 88
Lawful Money Reserve in Bank, viz:		
Specie	$10,355 55	
Legal-tender notes	11,000 00	21,355 55
Redemption fund with U. S. Treasurer 5 per cent of circulation		2,500 00
Total		$404,073 21

LIABILITIES.

Capital stock paid in	$ 50,000 00
Surplus fund	10,000 00
Undivided profits, less expenses and taxes paid	12,981 27
National Bank notes outstanding	50,000 00
Due to other National Banks	3,042 69
Due to State Banks and Bankers	1,252 43
Individual deposits subject to check	248,359 93
Time Certificates of Deposit	27,520 07
Certified Checks	666 20
Cashier's checks outstanding	250 62
Total	$404,073 21

STATE OF FLORIDA, County of Leon. }

I, W. C. Lewis, Cashier of the above-named bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

W. C. LEWIS, Cashier.

CORRECT—Attest:
GEO. LEWIS,
G. E. LEWIS,
M. E. LEWIS,
Directors.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 7th day of Dec., 1908.

W. S. QUARTERMAN, Notary Public.

[SEAL.]

L'ENGLE FOUND GUILTY.

Convicted of Criminal Libel Against John A. Graham, Prominent Citizen of Bradentown.

Bartow, Fla.—Claude L'Engle, publisher of the Sun, a weekly Tallahassee paper, recently suspended, was found guilty of criminal libel in the county court, the accuser being John A. Graham, a prominent citizen of Bradentown.

E'Engle, during Graham's race for the legislature two years ago, vigorously assailed this candidate, making most damaging charges. Graham was defeated and instituted suit against his accuser. The case was first called in Bradentown, but a change of venue brought it to Bartow. L'Engle has declared all along that he would be able to substantiate his charges, but from the verdict it is evident that he failed to do so. The defendant, through his attorneys, gave notice of appeal, and gave the necessary bond.

Governor Broward Leaves for Washington.

Governor Broward left Sunday for Washington, D. C., where he will deliver an address before the Rivers and Harbors Congress.

A Great Invention.

Mr. F. C. Elliott, of this city, has just secured patent for a metalic plant shade which will prove a boon to tobacco and vegetable growers Attention is called to a description of it elsewhere.

Roberts—Apthorp.

The marriage of Miss Alice Foster Apthorp, of Tallahassee, and Mr. Albert Hubbard Roberts, of St. Petersburg, will take place at St. Johns Episcopal church Tuesday afternoon, Dec. 15th, at half-past one o'clock, Rev. Mr. Moran, the rector, officiating. Owing to the recent death of the bride's father. Mr. John P. Apthorp, the wedding will be a quiet one. No formal invitations will be issued, but all friends and acquaintances are cordially invited to be present.

Maryland Amusement Company.

A big gala week in Tallahassee, beginning Monday, December 14 to 19.

The Carnival is playing the city of Pelham, Ga., this week, and doing a big business. They carry a good line of shows and free acts. There are one hundred people in all, and a Royal Italian band is furnishing the music. The company will arrive here Sunday and open every thing Monday night for a week's stay.

Silver Tea at Walker Library.

The Silver Tea given Monday afternoon at the Walker Library for the benefit of that institution was a great success. All the afternoon crowds were coming and going, enjoying a few moments chat with friends over a cup of tea. Delicious sandwiches were also served, and home-made candy sold.

The librarian, Miss Maggie Williams, was the gracious hostess, and the wants of the guests were looked after by a bevy of charming young girls. Mrs. A. L. Randolph presided at the table.

BUSY WEEK FOR PARDONING BOARD

Out of Fifty-Two Cases Considered Only Two Were Denied.

Florida's Pardoning Board seemed determined to wipe off their slate all applications for pardons, both old and new, so as not to bequeath to Governor Gilchrist any of the burdens belonging to his predecessor's administration. Fifty-two cases were considered, two only of which were denied. Most of them were pardoned conditionally, some were commuted, and one or two restored to citizenship.

The case of J. N. Strobar, a railroad agent of Alachua county, was one of the most prominent of the conditionally pardoned. Convicted of embezzlement of the company's funds, Strobar was sentenced to three years in the penitentiary. About one year of his time has passed.

Another case was that of D. A. Minor, convicted in the Duval county court of criminal record of larceny and receiving stolen goods. His petition was signed, not only by a large number of prominent citizens of Duval, but also by the governor and governor-elect of Georgia, and a number of prominent officials in that State. Minor's pardon will go into effect December 20.

Miss Tarbet's Organ Recital

Miss Tarbet's organ recital at the chapel of the Woman's College Friday evening, was greatly enjoyed by a large number of Tallahasseeans. The Capital City is indebted to the Musical Faculty for much delightful entertainment.

Hold Session In Jacksonville.

The State Railroad Commission has been in session in Jacksonville this week for the purpose of considering the charges of lumber milled in transit. The Jacksonville business men engaged in building operations, have long considered themselves victims of discrimination in this regards.

K. of P. Elects Officers.

At its regular meeting in Castle Hall on last Thursday evening, Cicero Lodge No. 1, K. of P., elected the officers to fill the chairs during the ensuing term, as follows:

S. May Walker, C. C.
W. H. Lipscomb, V. C.
Fred. T. Myers, P.
W. H Atkinson, M. at A.
J. B. Pruitt, M. of W.
R. J. Evans, K. of R. & S.
R. H. Alligood, I. G.
J. V. Cully, O. G.

The Mysterious Cooper Cape.

The editor of this paper happens to be familiar with the Isaith Cooper case of DeSoto county, the man convicted of the assassination of Marshal Bowman, of Punta Gorda, and naturally we take a keener interest in this famous case than other newspapers and citizens who are not acquainted with the people of DeSoto county and Cooper's trials and his many escapes from the gallows. This man has been in jail at Arcadia for nearly eight years charged with murder. He has been convicted and sentenced to be hung several times. His first sentence came during the term of ex Governor Jennings, but Jennings saved Cooper from the gallows twice by delaying his execution. Finally Governor Broward became Governor, and strange to relate, he has pursued the same tactics that Jennings adopted.

Neither of these Governors have seen fit to pardon Cooper, yet they have repeatedly stayed his execution, and stranger still, these two Governors have failed to give any reason for their peculiar action.

Cooper expresses himself as being perfectly confident that he will never hang. On one occasion it was only a few minutes until the time of his execution, and he then stated that he wouldn't be hung, and sure enough he wasn't, for, just before the time for the trap to fall that would sent him into eternity, a reprieve was received from the Governor by wire. It seems to be one of the most mysterious cases in the criminal history of Florida. The circumstantial evidence, upon which Cooper has been convicted, time and again, seems to leave no doubt as to his guilt.

Governor-elect Gilchrist and Cooper are both citizens of Punta Gorda and are acquainted. Gilchrist is familar with the details of the trial, and is a resident of the place where the assassination occurred. He is familiar with the principals in the trial. Under these circumstances, the people of Florida will watch with keen interest the disposition that Gilchrist will make of this case when he becomes Governor.—White Springs Herald.

Get your pictures framed for Christmas at Corbett's. All kinds of artistic moulding from which to make selections. 40-tf

Real Estate Bargain.

Write quick for this bargain—only $2,600 will buy you a beautiful home. Location best in town. First come, first served. HAYWARD RANDOLPH, 502 Riverside, Jacksonville, Fla.

Will Be Rushed To Completion Now

Hundreds of Men Going to Work on Florida's Great Railroad to Key West.

New York.—Hundreds of men will soon be rushed southward to work on the completion of the great Florida East Coast Railway, following the decision of Judge Hough, of the United States Circuit Court, in dismissing, as without cause of action, the so-called peonage cases that had been brought by the United States Government against the labor agents of the railroad.

While the action was pending in the courts the men in charge of the construction work on the sea-going railroad, which is to be Henry M. Flagler's greatest achievment, were loth to push forward with the same amount of energy that had been displayed prior to the action of the attorney general in taking cognizance of the reckless charges of labor slavory that had been made. Every effort to make up for lost time now will be put forward by Vice President Joseph R. Parrott, who has been in charge personally since the work began in June, 1905. Fully 2,000 men are now employed south of Knight's Key and more workmen will be sent to the field of operations within a few days.

Vice President Parrott, who was recently in New York on business connected with the great extension which is jumping over a stretch of thirty miles of open ocean and over thirty miles more of submerged keys and lagoons to connect Key West by direct line with Miami, now estimates that this, one of the most novel engineering enterprises of modern times, will be completed and trains running for its full length within a year from resuming work.

Already the line is completed and trains are running for eighty-four miles south of Miami, right down to Knights Key. Work also is being pushed forward from Key West up and over forty miles of roadbed has been constructed by the gangs that are working northward to meet the other workmen who rapidly are moving south. This means that a total of 125 miles has been completed out of the 156 miles of road surveyed from Miami to Key West. The greatest of all the engineering feats on this wonderful line, however, is yet to be completed. This is the 11-mile gap from Knights Key to Bahia Honda, where the line is being carried over the open ocean on concrete arches.

TRAINS TO CUBA.

The effect of the great extension on traffic of Havana, however, already has been felt because now the steamers for Havana meet the trains at Knights Key and take passengers and freight from that point to the Cuban capital, instead of eighty-four miles north to Miami.

When the line is completed to Key West huge railroad car floats will take entire trains across the Florida Straits to Havana, a distance of ninety miles, without compelling passengers to leave their car seats or sleeping car berths, and without the necessity of breaking bulk on a single consignment of freight. This will mean that the Cuban sugar planter will be enabled to load his product on a freight car sidetracked at his plantation, have the car hauled by rail to Havana, floated to Key West and then rail-hauled right to New York or any other point without any of the expense, trouble or damage dangers of a second handling.

This great project, which is being financed, from beginning to end, by Mr. Flagler personally, generally is regarded by engineers as the most expensive stretch of railroad ever built, the average cost of construction, from end to end, exceeding $100,000 a mile, while the additional capital requirements for docks, channeling, car floats and equipment will bring the total cost approximately to $30,000,000. Already Mr. Flagler has expended upward of $15,000,000 on the work.

It was more than a year and a half ago when this great work was interrupted by the United States Attorney General and charges were made that laborers on the railroad work were held in bondage, compelled to work practically without pay and were subjected to various sorts of oppression.

The case was presented to the Federal grand jury in New York and indictments, charging conspiracy, were found against Edward J. Triay of Jacksonville, Fla., resident labor agent for the road; against Francisco Sabbia, who has a private bank at 225 Bowery in this city; and against Frank A. Hough and David E. Harley, who were employed by the company to take south the gangs of workmen that were engaged in New York. At an expense that has been estimated to be as high as $500,000, the government's attorneys, after three years of preparation, had their cases literally thrown out of court,

(Continued on 14th page).