

FLORIDA TOPICS

Short Items from all Sections of the State

Marion county is suffering from the effects of dengue fever.

Miami's police force is to receive new uniforms and the force increased.

David L. Palmer of Madison has had patented a combined stalk puller and cutter.

A society of the Sons and Daughters of America will be organized at St. Petersburg.

The farmers around High Spring and other places are holding their cotton for better prices.

Several of the "blind tiger" men on trial in the Bradford county court at Starke have pleaded guilty.

The Froude Oil and Gas company is still boring for oil. They have got their machinery at work in Citrus county.

The assessed valuations of Volusia county foot up this year to \$4,395,842, an increase over last year of nearly \$500,000.

Sim Lammus, one of the Ocala Star's linotype operators, had his face badly burned by the explosion of gas in the cylinder of a gasoline engine.

The State Pardoning board has granted a pardon to Dallas McKinne, who was convicted of murder in the first degree in the circuit court Jackson county.

It took a jury just 15 minutes to return a verdict of "not guilty" in the case of F. E. C. Electric Light Co., vs. Oscar T. Conkin at Miami last week.

Dr. John N. MacGonigle has been appointed superintendent of the electric light and waterworks plant at Miami and the waterworks plant at Palm Beach.

Last week the people of Washington county voted to retain the court house at Vernon, although it is not on the railroad and is a little inconvenient to get to.

D. C. Keigan, who was found guilty of murder in the first degree at Dade City for the killing of Hansell Norman, has a bad reputation. He was driven out of Georgia.

Owing to the opening of the tourist travel and the increase in freight, the Clyde St. Johns river line will place the "Frederick DeBary" on a regular run about November 15th.

A pardon has been granted to Claudia Johnson, convicted in the circuit court of Suwannee county of murder in the first degree. One hundred additional cases for pardon are on file.

Gainesville sold her thirty-year bonds for 102. Lake City, with privilege of redemption in ten years, disposed of hers for 102.37. Looks as if financiers have a better opinion of Florida.

"Chunkin' rocks" got one colored fellow into trouble in Miami and landed him in the police court, where the mayor chunked a fine of \$5 and costs at him. The alternative was to work on the streets for 15 long days.

Much dissatisfaction is expressed among the professional and business men of Perry on account of the action of the town council in enacting what is termed an unfair occupational license. Its validity will be tested in the courts.

E. L. Evans, of Fort Myers, claims to have found a new enemy to the orange tree. It is a borer that digs a small hole about as large as a pin head into the trunk of the tree, continuing the process until the tree is riddled.

John Brown, the desperado who killed Hattie Graham at Cotton Plant several weeks ago, and for whose capture the Governor has offered a reward of \$100, has been arrested by Jeff and Harris Blackburn, and was by them turned over to the sheriff of the county Wednesday.

Bill Brown drove his ox wagons into Fort Myers last week with three weeks' collection of 'gator hides. There were 1,270 and they sold for \$1,000. Three weeks previously he had brought in 800. Bill declares he is going to get all there are in the Everglades before Governor Broward runs them dry.

As President Roosevelt was delivering his speech from the balcony of the Seminole Club, in Jacksonville, "Big Jim," the whistle that denotes 12 noon, the dinner hour of the working people, let go an extra blast. The speaker, quick as a flash, stopped, saying: I never could talk against the hum of industry.

"Alligator Joe" has gone to West Palm Beach for the purpose of capturing two manatees, or seacows, for exhibition purposes, the privilege having been granted him by the county commissioners. He will bring them back here and pen them in his aquarium, about a mile up the river, where he will run a sort of zoological garden this winter.—Miami Metropolis.

Twenty-five white school teachers are wanted in Santa Rosa county.

Sarasota business men have organized a board of trade and commercial club.

After January 2, 1906, the carpenters of West Palm Beach will demand an 8-hour day.

It is now thought probable that the Government will build a big naval dock at Pensacola.

A 28-inch trout was caught at St. Augustine last Wednesday. They are now in order—stories.

The supreme court in the Edward Alvarez case has demanded that he be held pending investigation of conduct.

The hyacinths are obstructing the Coast Line Canal so that launches have difficulty in passing through the water.

The Elks of Jacksonville will give a genuine society circus next month, when some of the old timers will appear in the arena.

A slight blaze in the kitchen roof of the University building at Lake City, Sunday, caused lot of excitement but not much damage.

M. A. Brown still holds the office of sheriff of Duval county, and quo warranto proceedings are said to be the only method of contesting the law.

The result of the second election held in Key West for police justice gives the office to George Brooks as against Charles Knowles by a majority of 294.

Congressman Frank Clark will set out a pecan grove on his Baker county property. Our busy Congressman is of the right sort and will surely succeed.

Governor N. B. Broward will officially open the state fair at Tampa on November 15. A distinguished visitor on that occasion will be Secretary Shaw of Washington.

When down with wells at West Palm Beach 75 feet, perfect conch shells were discovered, which shows that part of Florida to have been covered by water years ago.

According to reports from Tampa it will be a hard matter to tell who fired the first shot in the recent union fight, when Charley Potter was killed and Bob Hardaker was wounded.

Howell Curry, the 5-year old son of Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Curry of Elliot's Key, was drowned last week by falling into the bay a short distance from his parents' home. The body was brought to Miami for interment.

As soon as conditions will warrant Mr. Flagler will establish a car ferry having a capacity of thirty cars which will have accommodations for passengers, and which will make the trip between Key West and Havana of ninety nautical miles in from four to five hours.

Homeseekers to the number of several hundred arrived in Jacksonville on the Southern Railway one day last week. All of them went southward to their future homes, some on the east coast and others on the west. On November 16th another large party will arrive in the State.

The Japanese colony at Boca Ratone is progressing nicely and is in a prosperous condition. Several weeks ago some of the members of the colony became dissatisfied and left, but those who remained expressed themselves as being perfectly satisfied with conditions. The colony cleared over \$3,000 on tomatoes last season and is making progress in many other ways.

Owen E. Loadholtz is once more a free man, he having paid the fine of \$300 and \$20.33 costs Thursday of last week, which was imposed upon him by Judge Samuel T. Shaylor, of Jacksonville, during the September term of court, he having been convicted of an aggravated assault, though charged with the killing of Miss May Brown, February 13th of this year.

From New York comes the information that the price of grapefruit is better than it has been. The demand is good. Shipments are coming from almost every point except the Indian river. The bulk of the stock ranges \$4 and \$5, with fancy exceeding the top price. The quality is very good and will grow better from this on. There are very few Florida oranges on the market.

Game Warden Graham is pushing violators of the game laws. A few days ago he arrested Charles Seymour and John Walker, colored, for shooting mocking birds. They were bound over to the county court and are in jail awaiting trial. On Sunday he made a haul of two white men at Cutler for shooting quail out of season and also for violating the law as to shooting on Sunday. The two men were placed under bond

to appear at the next term of the county court for trial.—Miami Record.

The city of Jacksonville rejoices in having 37 miles of paved streets and insist on having more.

Gadsden county tobacco growers are putting as fine a grade on the market as can be produced anywhere.

The city council of St. Augustine will have the map of that city touched up a little. It was made in 1788.

The city council of Jacksonville has passed a new "Jim Crow" law with the objectionable features omitted.

Mayor Bliss of Pensacola says that \$3,000 more will be required to relieve the distress of that city caused by the yellow fever.

The fall crop of weddings throughout the State promises to be very large. Monticello and Ormond have had two swell affairs the past week.

C. H. Mathis of Blackville, N. C., one of the largest cantaloupe growers in the country, will plant cantaloupes in Marion county again next season.

A negro woman at Hampton gave birth to triplets a few days ago—when the old man looked on them he exclaimed: "Lawd a massey! Did any git away?"

For the first time in the recollection of any one, the governor of Florida visited the county jail in Jacksonville and personally interviewed three men condemned to death.

Captain Mathews has been arrested at Key West, charged with robbing the tug Osceola of some of the books, instruments, spyglasses, etc. He will be tried in the United States court.

B. B. Tatum, the well-known newspaper and real estate man of Miami, in company with his brother, J. H. Tatum and associates, will establish a branch of the Keeley institute in Jacksonville.

Lake City is entitled to free mail delivery and the city council and board of trade have passed resolutions praying the postoffice department at Washington to grant it. The department will send an inspector to investigate.

Miami has a most up-to-date and enterprising Chinaman. Wo Kee, the laundryman, has not only a horse and wagon with which to deliver his laundry work, but in an emergency mounts a bicycle and helps to wait on his customers. Wo Kee is an all right, hustling citizen.

Governor Broward instituted an innovation in Florida politics by appointing Mrs. Anna Dearborn clerk of the Circuit court of Dade county, to fill the office made vacant by the death of her husband, E. C. Dearborn. It is believed that the appointment will be satisfactory to the people of Dade county.

Key West will be the greatest beneficiary of Mr. Flagler's marine railway. Extensive docks and terminals will be built. These will include a dry dock, 10 wharves each 800 feet long and 100 feet wide, with basins 200 feet wide between. The ten piers will furnish berths for 40 boats, 400 feet long, with a depth of water from 20 to 30 feet.

Oscar T. Conkin, acquitted in the Circuit court at Miami on a charge of embezzlement brought through the representatives of the F. E. C. Electric Light Co., states that he will institute a suit for damages against the said company, the amount of relief to be asked being in the hands of his counsel, George A. Worley, who will prepare papers as soon as he is disengaged from the present term of court.

Edward Lamb, found guilty of the murder of C. D. Kennedy, was hanged Friday morning in the jail at Bradentown. This is the first official hanging that has occurred in the county since its organization. The execution occurred a short time after 12 o'clock, and was witnessed by about two hundred people. It was found necessary to drop the man twice before he was formally pronounced dead.

Capt. W. H. McIntyre, of Miami, was in the city a few days since in an attempt to secure several large barges for use in construction work on the Flagler Railway now building from Miami to Key West. Capt. McIntyre stated that altogether 112 barges were needed for this work. He could not secure the barges here, but it is probable that several will be built for the railroad company by Apalachicola contractors.—Apalachicola Times.

W. J. Godden an Episcopal missionary in the Everglades, says there are between 500 and 600 Indians now in the Everglades, who are barely touched with civilization, and in order to gain their confidence he had to go among them as "medicine man," rather than a religious teacher, and that by successful medical treatment he had finally gained their confidence to such an extent that real progress in civilization is now being made among this remnant of the once powerful Seminole tribe.

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