

## An Exhibit at San Francisco

Florida will be fortunate if she can have a good display at the Panama-Pacific exposition at San Francisco next year, supported by the men who will directly profit by it. Those who have the movement in charge are assured of the active cooperation of the fruitgrowers of the state, and if the interest of the fruitgrowers does not flag they can make a showing in California that will prove the superiority of the Florida citrus fruit.

Grapefruit production is growing in Florida, and the consumption of grapefruit is increasing. Of this Florida has practically a monopoly of production so far as this country is concerned. The production of grapefruit is so profitable that the area devoted to it is expanding rapidly, and in a few years the supply will be many times as great as now. When the civilized world learns to appreciate this fruit, the demand for it will be as great as that for oranges. A display of this fruit abundant enough to admit of its distribution among the throngs that will visit San Francisco from all parts of the world

will do more to broaden its use than can be done in any other way.

No state appropriation has been made for a display at San Francisco, and Florida's great friend who gave so liberally in the past to everything that promised good to the state is with us no more. If these facts remind our people that what is worth doing they must do for themselves, they will be stimulated to exertion to see that our state profits fully by the opportunity offered at San Francisco.

We believe that by natural endowment Florida is the best state in the Union. No state shows a greater variety of products, and no soil yields them more plentifully. Our variety is greater than that of California, and where the two states compete Florida's products are superior. If we can demonstrate this at San Francisco, and we think we can, we can do the state more good than in any other way. For the states of the Union and the nations of the earth will be gathered at San Francisco, and the jury to which we will appeal will be cosmopolitan in its character.—Times-Union.

## Lee Latrobe Bateman Visits Indian River Farms at Vero

Lee Latrobe Bateman, Florida's leading agricultural authority, gave his hearty endorsement to the Indian River Farms during a recent visit to Vero.

Mr. Bateman is widely known as an expert in soils, drainage and roads. He is a member of the staff of The Florida Grower and author of "Florida Trucking for Beginners," and other works. He came to Vero on a professional visit to examine a tract of land owned by G. Hausman, a wealthy automobile dealer of St. Louis. As a result of Mr. Bateman's report Mr. Hausman decided to put his entire forty acres into grove as rapidly as possible. He is going into the fruit business purely as a commercial venture, believing that it offers an excellent field for investment. In order to make no mistake he wrote to the Florida Agricultural College for advice and the recommendation was made that he employ Mr. Bateman to examine his land.

After spending two days in a thorough inspection of the Indian River Farms, Mr. Bateman expressed himself as amazed at what he had seen. He admitted that he had not been particularly impressed with the East Coast development work until he saw what is being done at Vero. The quality of much of the land on the Indian River Farms was also a surprise to him, he said.

"For some time I have known of the high standing of the Indian River Farms company," said Mr. Bateman. "I knew it to be a thoroughly reliable concern from a business standpoint but I have never before had an opportunity to see what it is doing in the way of development work. After looking over the drainage system here I can give it my unqualified approval. It is one drainage system that will do the work. Nobody who settles on land here need have any fear of water. All the development work here is being done thoroughly. It shows a desire on the part of the company to do things in the best possible way."

"One thing that surprised me was to learn that some of the land here is not sour. I made a number of tests on Mr. Hausman's tract and was unable to discover any acidity. This means a great deal to owners of that character of land."

Mr. Bateman expressed the opinion that the heavier lands on the company's tract are exceptionally well suited to truck growing and general farming. He strongly advised the growing of hay crops. All of the tract is suited to citrus fruit growing he said but trees should not be set on the heavy soil until the water table is lowered to a depth of five feet.

Mr. Bateman was forcibly impressed with the rapid development of the East Coast and predicted a wonderful future for this section of Florida.

## Dr. W. H. Humiston, One of Cleveland's (Ohio) Noted Surgeons, Starts Developing His 160 Acre Tract in Indian River Farms

W. T. Humiston, of Cleveland, O., has started development work on the 160-acre tract in Sec. 1, owned by his father, Dr. W. H. Humiston, one of Cleveland's leading surgeons and owner of a fine stock farm near that city, where he breeds prize-winning Jersey cattle and Berkshire hogs. Mr. Humiston brought six blooded Berkshires to Vero with him. He has plans for a handsome bungalow to be erected on the place. He will devote his time to stock raising, fruit growing and general farming. The Humiston farm promises to be one of the best developed places at Vero within a few months.

## New Chicken Food Found; May Be a Cereal Too

St. Lucie county, already famous the world over for the superior quality of her citrus fruits and pineapples, is apparently about to produce a new chicken food unequalled by anything now being grown in this country, and possibly a new cereal to feed the world's hungry millions.

About a year ago M. M. Crozier, a prominent real estate dealer of this city, happened to be walking through Judge Theobold's young orange grove in the Garden City Farms, just west of town, when he noticed, growing six feet from a young orange tree, a bunch of peculiar looking grass. Attracted by the unusually heavy seed-top, he stopped to examine it more closely, and being sure that it was new to these parts and would perhaps make a good chicken food, he pulled off a few of the seed with which to experiment. These seed were sown, while others dropped on the ground around the original plant. From this one bunch and others growing up from it three gallons of clean seed have been gathered.

In appearance the body of the new grass somewhat resembles oats, except that it bunches and spreads to a much greater extent. From twenty to forty stalks are sent up to a height of eight or twelve inches and these are very heavily loaded with seed about the size of number 8 shot, round like millet, in color resembling flax seed, slick and oily, and appear to be rich in proteins and starch. An entirely new crop, each unusually heavy, may be produced by the same plant every six weeks.

Some of the seed were recently sent to the United States Department of Agriculture for an expert opinion. This

department replied to the effect that the new plant promised not only an ideal chicken food, but a new cereal. Enough of the seed were asked for from which to manufacture flour for experimenting, and an entire plant was desired for the purpose of classification. Mr. Crozier has forwarded specimens of the plant and will submit a larger quantity of seed as soon as he has grown sufficient.

For the purpose of further experimentation with the new grass, Mr. Crozier is now planting a field of five acres, wiring the field off into one-acre plots and planting each plot ten days apart. When the seed from the first acre are matured a large flock of chickens will be turned thereon, and by the time the seed is picked therefrom the next acre will be maturing. This process will be continued until the chickens have gone over the entire five acres, when by that time the first plot will again have a heavy fruitage, thus furnishing an ideal food for an indefinite period of time. Mr. Crozier states that everything to which he has fed the seed eat them with gusto, and that the birds are so fond of the young stalks until they threaten to devour his entire field. The leaves and stalk are unusually tender, and the whole plant is evidently a marvel unknown in this country.

Within six weeks Mr. Crozier hopes to grow a large quantity of seed, and by that time the merits of the new chicken-cereal food may be more thoroughly and definitely ascertained. In the meantime nearly ten acres are being planted to it, and the results of the experiments will be anxiously awaited by the public.—St. Lucie Co. Tribune.



Second Growth Rhodes Grass, Taken in April at Vero.

## Farmers of South Make Much Money

The average farmer, outside of Florida, has an average gross income of \$980.55 from an average acreage of 138, and after he has paid the interest on his mortgage—and mortgages are somewhat frequent in other portions of the land—and his expense account in tilling his land, he has left \$537.50 on which he must live, educate his family and enjoy life.

This is the status of the aforesaid farmer, not living in Florida, according to government figures, the aforesaid average farmer having an investment of \$6,443.

But how different it is in this section of the land. Here the farmer does not have to till a farm of 138 acres, plaster it with mortgages, and buy expensive machinery—\$3,000 threshing machines and other utensils—in order to make a net earning of less than \$1.50 a day—a negro's wage.

He gets a farm of 10, 20 or 40 acres, does most of the work himself during a short season, and has a net income far in excess of the gross income of his northern cousin—and the Florida farmer has no mortgages, coal bills, and other kindred ills to deplete the fund for personal and family use and enjoyment.

According to these government official figures of the average farmer, there is an average mortgage on the average farm of \$1,715, bearing an average interest of 6 per cent. Is it any wonder that so many are heeding the call of the south?—Lake Worth Herald.

Evolution is the law of life—not revolution. When we give up one thing we have to have something else given to us just as good, or if possible, a little better.