

THE GROWERS' PROBLEM; MARKETING FRUIT AT A PROFIT

Citrus Exchange Presents Interesting Figures.

Tampa, Florida, August 2, 1913.

The season of the year is fast approaching when growers of citrus fruits are considering how they can best market their fruit at a profit; therefore the Florida Citrus Exchange, which is your organization, operated solely by the growers and for the growers, wishes to present some figures for consideration, to show you the average increase in price from year to year that has taken place since the growers organized the Exchange.

The first season, 1909-10, when the citrus industry was at its lowest ebb, the Exchange average per box f. o. b. Florida was \$1.15; the following season, 1910-11, the price increased to \$1.51 per box, f. o. b. Florida. For the season 1911-12, the price increased to \$1.93 per box, f. o. b. Florida, and for the season 1912-13, just closed, the Exchange average per box, f. o. b. Florida, had increased to \$1.96.

The Growers of Florida shipped through the Exchange the past season 1,780,301 boxes of citrus fruits, which amounted to only 21 91-100 per cent. of the entire crop shipped out of the State. This is certainly a marvelous showing, considering that practically 78 per cent. of the fruit in the state was outside the Exchange, yet this wonderful showing was made notwithstanding.

With the amount of fruit handled last season, it cost the grower actually less than twelve cents per box to sell his fruit, as fifty-five thousand dollars have already been returned to the growers, and another refund of thirty-five thousand dollars will be made about January 1st, provided that no disaster occurs to the citrus industry between now and that time. These rebates made to the growers represent the amount in excess of actual operating expenses that was assessed last year, as it is clearly understood that the Florida Citrus Exchange does not operate for profit, but handles all fruit strictly on a basis of the actual selling charges.

With all of these facts before the growers of Florida, we do not see a single reason why by far the largest percentage of the fruit grown in the State should not be handled by the Florida Citrus Exchange, considering the fact that it was only organized in the interest of the grower and by the growers themselves, and it is a recognized fact that it has done more than any one single concern to advance the interest of Florida, both in the increase of price for fruit and the rise in real estate values.

As has been shown, there were over eight million boxes of citrus fruits shipped out of the State last year and there is not less this year, and it is an admitted fact that the crop is a light one, compared with the acreage and bearing trees capable of producing fruit. In another year to come, it is not only possible, but very probable, that the crop of Florida will reach twelve million boxes, and if by that time the growers are not more strongly organized, the question is: What will become of it?

These are questions that deserve serious consideration, and we think that after deliberating over them, you will reach the conclusion that the only thing to do is to put your fruit through this growers' organization. The Exchange is in position at the present time to successfully market four or five million boxes of fruit with the same facilities that it now has, and when this point is reached, the growers will be marketing their fruit for less than seven cents per box.

(Advertisement.)

Presbyterian Church—Public worship every Sunday at 11 a. m. and 7 p. m., Sunday school at 9:45 a. m. Christian Endeavor society meets every Sunday evening at 6 o'clock. Prayer meeting Wednesday at 7 p. m. Strangers cordially welcomed to all services. J. H. ALBERT, Pastor.

Matrimonial bonds are taxable, but not negotiable.

Methodist Church—Preaching first, second and third Sundays each month 11 a. m. and 7:00 p. m. Sunday school 10 a. m. every Sabbath. Epworth League 7:00 p. m. every Sunday. Mid-week prayer service 7:00 p. m. every Thursday. Woman's missionary society 3 p. m. Monday after each first Sunday. Ladies' Bible study class 4 p. m. every Monday. Public invited and strangers welcomed.—W. A. WIER.

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COMMISSIONERS' MEETING

Concluded from first page
Kuhlman was declared a public road.

It was moved and carried that the chairman appoint a committee of three members of the Board to look over the county's land near Punta Gorda, with a view of establishing a poor farm, and lay out plans and specifications and approximate cost of same, and report the results of their investigations at the next regular meeting of this Board. The chairman appointed W. G. Welles, John Hagan and H. J. Downing on said committee.

Notice having been duly posted and advertised according to law on road from line dividing Ranges 25 and 26 to near New Hope church same was declared a public road.

Notice having been duly posted and advertised according to law on road formally granted by this Board to run from Gardner to Moffit same is hereby declared a public road.

There being no further business, the Board adjourned.

Charlotte Harbor Railroad

The Tampa, Charlotte Harbor & East Coast R. R. Co. will begin work on the road from Venice to Charlotte Harbor this month or when all right of way and bonus is secured.

J. E. Bowdoin is securing right of way and bonus for DeSoto County which is almost completed and Dr. C. F. McKham of Greenville, Ohio, is securing right of way and bonus for Manatee county. Mr. Bowdoin first and ever since entertained and interested these people to build this road and he is to be congratulated upon his great success by the many people of the country who will be much benefitted.

Mr. Bowdoin is not a large land owner of this country and will not receive anything for his honorable work except the honor. He lives in Charlotte Harbor and has given his entire time for the last eight months to the work that will benefit the citizens of this country much in the future, as this R. R. and many other projects. Dr. McKham is in the north at present looking after bonus and right of way and is pushing matters as fast as possible.

D. O. McFarland of Meredith, Fla., is contractor and builder of the road. With the addition of the boulevard being built by the Southern Investment Co., from Venice to Charlotte Harbor by the way of the Salt springs, where a large sanitarium and 300-room hotel will be erected. A large portion of this road is already grubbed out. This boulevard is parallel to the R. R. survey. This part of the country is sure of development. A large number of people from different places have already visited the springs for inspection and many are deeply interested, especially in the wonderful water from the springs.—Con.

OHIO'S GAME LAW

No Open Season for Birds in That State Until 1915

A law passed by the last Ohio legislature requiring hunters to have licenses will come into effect tomorrow. The license fee is \$1.00 and land owners, their children or tenants are exempt when hunting on their own lands. Neither quail nor pheasant can be shot this fall without violation of the law. There will be no open season for these birds in Ohio until 1915.

The Herald for Job Printing.

Cruelty to Animals

We notice an increasing disposition on the part of officers in various towns and cities in the State to make arrests in cases of cruelty to dumb animals and on the part of courts to punish such offenders. The press and public sentiment should by all means encourage this disposition, for doubtless not a day passes in Florida that does not witness many acts of cruelty by human brutes to the dumb creatures under their control. There is a very clear statute on the subject and for the benefit of all concerned we publish it below:

"Section 3395 of the general statutes, the law relating to dumb brutes is as follows: 'Whoever overdrives, overloads, tortures, torments, deprives of necessary sustenance, or unnecessarily or cruelly beats or mutilates, or kills or causes or procures to be overdriven, overloaded, tortured, tormented, deprived of necessary sustenance, or to be unnecessarily or cruelly beaten or mutilated or killed, any domestic or domesticated animal, shall be punished by imprisonment not exceeding three months, or by fine not exceeding one hundred dollars.'—Lakeland Telegram.

Florida Grower:—The finest weather ever was! The north is in the midst of a heat wave. Here in Florida we are enjoying perfect weather. Note the shape and situation of Florida. It extends out into the ocean like a finger pointing the way to destiny. The cooling breezes from one body of water or the other are constantly blowing gently, ever cooling.

Do not shoot the mocking birds and catbirds because they eat a few grapes. If they have helped all the year in fighting the various classes of injurious insects, why not divide grapes with them for a few days during the summer.—H. P. Stucky, in The Progressive Farmer.

Why, G.F.F.F. means Goff's Fancy Family Flour.—Try it.—advertisement tf.

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