

Colony News

Fair Oaks, Cal.

We are getting many letters asking for colony news. Our spare space has been so much occupied in the discussion of the great financial question, so vital to the welfare of the common people, that this attractive feature of our paper has been neglected.

The Fair Oaks settlement has suffered a great loss in the death of

MR. ARTHUR W. COLBY.

Not only all those who have been residing at Fair Oaks, but many others who have interests there, and who have visited the colony during the past year, will sympathize with the purpose of the following resolutions. Mr. Colby died, we are informed, as the immediate result of an accident in the gymnasium. Everyone who knew him speaks of his exceptionally fine character and winning qualities of heart. He was the first mayor of Fair Oaks, a choice indicating the confidence and respect, as well as the good will, of his fellow-citizens. We are requested to publish the following resolutions, which were adopted by the Fair Oaks Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor, in the Farm, Field and Fireside:

"Whereas, An all-wise Providence has seen fit to remove from among us our friend and fellow Endeavorer, Arthur W. Colby; and

"Whereas, We, as a society, desire to fitly express our appreciation of his virtues,

"Resolved, That while we bow in submission to the will of Him who doeth all things well, we mourn for him whose early death has blighted all the bright anticipations of youth;

"Resolved, That each of us has lost a kind, generous friend, who, by his unselfish character and cheerful disposition, contributed much to the happiness of those around him;

"Resolved, That we extend to the relatives and friends of him, who is now at rest, our profound sympathy;

"Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be presented them, and published in the Farm, Field and Fireside.

"Mrs. Siddall,

"R. B. Derby,

"Stephen E. Kieffer,
"Committee."

School and Other Matters

The following interesting letter from Mr. Downer will best explain how matters are progressing in this most delightful of all places in the delightful land of the setting sun:

Fair Oaks, Cal.

Editors Farm, Field and Fireside.

Gentlemen:—Inclosed please find copy of the Sacramento Evening Bee, with a report of the opening of public school in Fair Oaks.

The school is now progressing finely and is the pride of every parent in the colony. The teacher, Mrs. Jennie Huber, was selected from a dozen applicants on account of her successful experience as teacher, and as for the children attending school, it has never been our pleasure to see a nicer or better raised lot anywhere. If any of our Eastern friends have hesitated to come here on account of school facilities, they need wait no longer, for they will find no better school anywhere. It is almost impossible to find in any old community a school of pupils without one or more children of bad morals or vicious habits, but in our school every child shows evidence of careful training at home, and the result is a class far above the average. We are glad to welcome families with

such children, and the school officers will take pains to see that the best school facilities are afforded them.

Ten months ago Fair Oaks was an unbroken piece of timber—not a man or a habitation here. Today it is difficult to make the new arrivals believe such a statement. They think it impossible that so much could be done in less than a year, but history proves the dates and the results are here to show for themselves. It has been a great undertaking, and at times seemed almost discouraging, but a careful canvass of the colony now fails to find anyone dissatisfied.

The health of the colony is perfect, the school and social advantages good, our fruit trees—almost 1,000 acres—have made a fine growth, with a small percentage of loss; our water system is complete, and, best of all, we are still progressing as rapidly as ever.

If you will give the silver question a rest just long enough to tell some more good Eastern people what we are doing and persuade them to come here, we will agree to do our part by giving them a hearty welcome. Yours truly, O. M. Downer.

P. S.—Send the same kind of people.

Railroad Matters

We have been directing all our energies to getting in the water system. The next thing in order is the Fair Oaks electric railroad and a first-class hotel. The Sacramento people have subscribed \$50,000 towards the railway which will connect Fair Oaks with Sacramento. To this will be added the bonus of \$10 per acre on all land sold and to be sold in the settlement. This we donate. General J. F. Thompson, a banker of Forest City, Ia., who has purchased fifty acres in the colony and intends to make it his future home, has undertaken to secure the balance.

He writes that he has been successful, and as soon as the election is over will get to work in earnest.

The following from Edwin K. Alsip and from the Sacramento Bee will indicate the character of the Sacramento people and how they view the enterprise:

"To show the feeling of Sacramento toward the Fair Oaks railroad, a subscription has been raised of some \$35,000 towards bonds. At a meeting last night of the Industrial Improvement Association, an organization that was incorporated some two years ago for the purpose of inducing factories to come into our midst, and is composed of all classes and sex, citizens voluntarily gave notes to the amount of \$100,000, the assessment to be based upon the assessed valuation of their property. An assessment of 10 per cent has been levied, of which \$4,300 has been lying in bank, awaiting an opportunity to offer it to any good factory, but none offered that our directory (of which I am a member) considered feasible. A proposition was made that we call a meeting of all the stockholders and ask that a sufficient amount be levied to raise \$10,000 to subscribe for bonds for the railroad. At that meeting, held last evening, a majority of the note signers was present, and the room was full, as they represented amounts from \$10 to \$2,000 in notes, and there was only one dissenting voice against the levying of the assessment. This will increase the amount to \$45,000. I inclose you a clipping from the Bee, giving an account of the meeting. Yours truly,
Edwin K. Alsip."

"Again to the Front"

Following is the clipping from the Bee referred to by Mr. Alsip:

"Sacramento has reason to be proud of the action taken by the Industrial Improvement Association at its meeting last night in subscribing to the bonds of

the projected Sacramento, Fair Oaks and Orange Vale railroad. The Industrial Improvement Association is the most representative organization of a public character in this community. It is composed of taxpayers, ranging from the very wealthiest property owners down to the clerk who may be assessed only for personal property. Each member has signed a note pledging himself to pay in, in installments, as it may be needed, 2 per cent on the assessed value of his property as it appears on the assessment roll of the county, such moneys to be used for the encouragement of factory enterprises in our midst. Eastern capitalists having offered to build the Sacramento, Fair Oaks and Orange Vale railroad at an estimated cost of \$350,000, if the citizens of this city would indicate their faith in the future of the county by subscribing \$50,000 towards the bonds of the road, and individual subscriptions being some \$10,000 short of the required amount, the Industrial Improvement Association was asked to make up the balance. As the notes technically would not permit the use of Association funds, save for factories, the indorsement of the members themselves had to be obtained. It was only necessary to have the matter properly explained to the large meeting, and discussed, to secure finally a unanimous vote in favor of such appropriation.

"There are three points worthy of note in this incident:

"First—The fact that the organization represents every class and condition of taxpayer in the county, and a greater proportion of the assessment roll.

"Next—The firm faith which the taxpayers have in the future of the community indicated by their prompt action in taxing themselves in the manner indicated.

"Finally—The enterprising spirit that actuates the community in public matters when properly appealed to, as evidenced by the unanimous action of such a representative body.

"Such action by such an association of citizens will do more to impress the Eastern capitalists who come here next week to look into the matter, with the brilliant prospects of Sacramento, than could have been accomplished by the most elaborate descriptions, or even by talking photographs and actual inspection. When added to all these, however, the action of last night's meeting will prove a valuable object lesson to all capital seeking investment, and a striking, permanent advertisement of Sacramento's resources."

Planning an Excursion

We are arranging for a special train excursion for November 10. We shall be pleased to have all who are planning to go to California go with us and see Bonnie Fair Oaks.

Send 10 cents for the "Heart of California," which tells all about the state and colony. It is an 80-page, handsomely illustrated booklet.

North Carolina

The news from the Sunny South colony at Chadbourne, N. C., is all good. All who have settled there are satisfied that they have made a good move. A number of new settlers went down on October 6 on the excursion, while every few days brings others. The colony paper, the Truckers and Planters Journal, reports a rapid increase in circulation; in fact, to keep pace with its growth it finds it necessary to put in a steam power outfit.

A new box and crate factory is on tap for the colony. This will be a very useful and profitable addition.

J. A. Brown, the popular local manager of the colony, has again received the nom-

ination for senator. He is a bimetalist from away back, and was one of the pioneer Bryan men in the Chicago convention. Through his influence the North Carolina delegation was among the first to cast its solid vote for Bryan. In the language of the political shouter, "He's all right!"

This section of North Carolina provides many advantages to a Southern homeseeker. The climate is unsurpassed for comfort and healthfulness, and the opportunities for profitable agriculture far exceed the average afforded at the North. Two or more crops can be produced each year, either one of which is as valuable as any of the usual single crops at the North. At the same time it costs much less to live. A man can live as nice on 50 cents a day in North Carolina as he can on double that sum in many of our North-western and Western states.

These advantages are fully set forth, with a vast amount of information about the state, its products and advantages to homeseekers, in a profusely illustrated booklet entitled, "The Old North State." Price 10 cents. Address this office. Choice land can still be had in the colony at original prices. For information about land, etc., address Senator J. A. Brown, Chadbourne, N. C.

From Green Cove Springs

Our excursion party of the 6th of October to the Green Cove Springs settlement numbered an even fifty. We shall give a full report, with illustrations, next week.

The following from the Clay County Hustler will tell of the reception tendered the party at the Springs:

"On Thursday morning the Farm, Field and Fireside colony excursion from Detroit and Chicago arrived, and found a large delegation of our citizens and ninety pupils from the High School waiting at the depot to receive them. The pupils were attended by Supervisor Bardin and the teachers of the various departments, and as they marched down the street in a long line, two abreast, headed by Professor Percy Geiger and Supervisor Bardin, they presented a very pretty picture. The larger pupils marched in front, gradually diminishing in size toward the rear, where they were reinforced by Mrs. J. L. Bradley, while Miss Mabel Fairman marshaled the center of the long line. At the depot they were properly grouped and photographed.

"When the excursionists alighted from the train the reception committee took charge of them, and soon they were on the way to the hotels and Colony hall. In the hall was a very tastily arranged display of the different products grown here, both by the colonists who settled here last October and the older residents. Among these we noticed some fine samples of rice, oats, corn, many vegetables, and a great variety of canned and preserved fruits, all of which were grown and prepared here. After getting settled in their hotels and staying awhile at the hall, the excursionists spent the remainder of the day in seeing the different objects of interest about the town, chief among which was our beautiful spring.

"In the evening a reception was given the excursionists in Wilson's Opera house, at which more than 200 people were present."

We're planning for another excursion in November, after election matters have been settled. The rates will be made known later.

The party all, with one or two exceptions, bought land, and will make the Springs their home. The settlement already numbers nearly 2,000. The town is beautifully situated on the broad St. John's river, and possesses more advantages than any other locality in Florida. For full particulars send 10 cents to this

office for "Fair Florida," an illustrated booklet telling all about the advantages of the state. For information about land, address F. H. Hafer, the local manager, at Green Cove Springs, Fla.

Retailing Apples

There are orchardists who prefer to make their own sales direct to consumers rather than sell to wholesalers or to consign their crop to commission men. To such the following experience given by G. W. Shaw to the Iowa State Horticultural Society may be suggestive. He said:

I pile apples in 100 to 200 bushel piles and cover them with hay and sort when loading a car; the poorer fruit is emptied on boards, where they can be kept clean and handled with a scoop shovel when shipped for cider.

A new, sweet-smelling car will add \$25 to the selling price of the load of apples. A 40,000-pounds capacity car is 34 feet long in the clear by 8½ feet wide. I allow an alley way at one side two feet wide to within 4¾ feet of each end. Make five partitions 4¾ feet apart and one 5½ feet in the center. This gives seven spaces to fill with apples. Place six inches of clean prairie hay in the bottom of the car. With careful handling from 800 to 1,000 bushels of apples can be packed in a car. Keep varieties separate, bright-colored sorts next to the door; fill the alleyway with apples; place a clean carpet or sacking over the entire lot. This keeps coal dust off, and the motion of the car brightens and polishes the apples up. On the other hand, apples not covered get grimy with sweat and dust and look filthy.

Grimes, Golden and Yellow Bellflower contrast well with Jonathan and Fameuse, and at each end of the car have a bin of willow twigs and Rawle's genet to tone down with their gray colors.

Select a town having a boom, if possible; never ship to where crops have failed. Telegraph and get prices of apples; start so as to get to your destination one day ahead of the cars. This gives you the chance to get your bills printed and a notice in the next day's daily. Remember, printer's ink is a gooey thing. Pass quietly through the town, buy a few apples of the grocers; get prices and say nothing about your business. Have your bills posted all over town that night. Hire an intelligent, honest man to assist you in measuring. If sales are slow, canvass among the farmers.

The attempt to deceive about the quality of an apple in this day and age is so thin that it deserves and is sure to receive contempt. Common prudence would dictate to one who is a stranger that he should deposit his receipts every night with a good, reliable bank and avoid loose company. It generally requires about a week to sell by retail a carload of apples. When through selling, check carpets, etc., home and save expense of freight bills. At small expense, I place the product of my orchards before the consumer, whether of Wisconsin, Minnesota, Nebraska or the Dakotas.

—Many consider lime the best plant food that can be applied to the orchard, for the reason that the apple tree contains more lime than any other matter taken from the soil. This is the reason why limestone soil grows more thrifty trees and a better quality of fruit. Lime may be applied broadcast at the rate of ten bushels per acre at intervals of five years.

—Alice—What is the silver question, any way?"

Ethel—Oh! it's something about whether we'll get fifty cents for a dollar, or a dollar for fifty cents.—Puck.