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A TRIP THROUGH THE SOUTH

Mr. Elwood Morris Tells Of His Recent Visit To The Land Of Sunshine

Mr. and Mrs. Elwood Morris, who made a tour of several Florida counties with a party of delegates to the Farmers' National Congress, following the Congress, which was held in Jacksonville, Dec. 3-6, are showing their friends a souvenir diary of their trip, which we will publish next week.

Commenting upon the opportunities Florida offers for farming and live stock production, Mr. Morris says:

"The trip, which was arranged by the Association of Florida Fairs, took us through counties where extensive farming operations are being carried on, and we were surprised to learn that the corn crop of Florida the past year exceeded in value the citrus crop, which was fully up to normal.

"We were shown herds of pure bred Shorthorns, Angus and Herefords, which have not had any grain or housing, that were in excellent condition. One of the entries at the Florida State Fair, which was open during our Congress, was an 18 months old grade steer, weighing 1,320 pounds, that sold at public auction for fifty cents per pound on the hoof. It was raised in Marion county, the dam having three Shorthorn crosses on a piney woods cow, and the cire was a pure bred Angus.

"The greatest opportunities seem to be in breeding the cheap, native cows to pure bred beef type sires. The climate is very mild, and calves dropped in January and February on the pastures make an excellent growth for finishing as yearlings on velvet beans, corn and peanut hay, which are grown in abundance on cutlivated land.

"Dairy farming also offers exceptional possibilities, as the price of fresh milk is higher than in more developed states, while the cost of production is very much lower than where expensive housing for stock and excessive cost for labor to distribute the feed are necessary. The dairy cattle can gather their own roughage in Florida twelve months in every year.

"We visited a number of dairy farms, especially in Dade and Palm Beach counties, where the Para grass pastures were growing luxuriantly and the cattle were in fine condition. We saw 200 Holsteins at the Curtiss-Bright farm near Miami, a lot of registered Jerseys at the M. A. Milam farm adjoining, some Dutch Belted cattle at Dr. J. G. DuPuis' farm at Lemon City, 50 Guernseys at the Loxahachee Dairy west of of West Palm Beach, and 54 Holsteins at the W. J. Conners farm at Connersville.

"All of the above farms are in the Everglades, formerly shown on geography maps as a big swamp.

"Considerable sport has been made about the Florida piney woods rooters, but we visited hog farms, both in the high pine section of the state and in the Everglades, where large numbers of prize winning pure bred Polan Chinas, Duroc-Jerseys, Berkshires and Hampshires are being raised at less cost than is possible in our state.

"We saw a number of tractors at work in the fields, and inspected some barns full of excellent oats, cow pea hay, corn and velvet beans. The latter is one of the favorite leguminuos crops and gives a heavy yield of high protein grain, as well as luxuriant growth of vines.

"Of course we visited orange and grape-fruit groves and helped ourselves to the golden fruit, by permission of the owners.

"The roads we traveled over in automobiles furnished by our hosts, in St. Johns, Alachua, Marion, Lake, Orange, Hillsborough, Manatee, Dade, Broward and Palm Beach counties, totaling 550 miles, were excellent and are a part of the attractions to that state. Our tour of Florida also included 708 miles on railroads and 550 miles on boats.

"The exhibits at the State Fair proved that Florida is producing a great many varieties of farm products and a study of them was most interesting. Every one of the 37 counties having exhibits at the Fair included some variety of sugar cane or sorghum for making syrup.

"All of the farmers we talked with said that they grow two crops per year from cultivated land and often got three crops. Land values are comparatively cheap, and the mild climate eliminates the necessity for expensive barns to house the live stock, so Florida should become the mecca for a large number of progressive farmers when they learn of the opportunities existing there.

"Through the courtesy of the West Palm Beach Chamber of Commerce, we were taken in speed boats 38 miles up the Palm Beach Canal, to within four miles of Lake Okeechobee, to see the agricultural development that is going on in the Everglades, since they have been drained. The soil is like a compost heap in texture and richness, being from eight to fifteen feet deep, yet there is moisture enough just under the surface to supply the needs of plant life. Big tractors with gang plows were turning over the virgin soil, and crews were planting various crops, including ribbon cane and Irish potatoes. We saw boat loads of green peppers and other vegetables just picked, going to market. Pure bred cattle, hogs and turkeys were thriving on the Para grass pastures.

"On December 10 our party enjoyed a fish fry dinner spread on tables under green leaved trees in the city park at McIntosh. The following day we had a picnic dinner and oyster roast at Silver Springs. No one should miss an opportunity to visit Silver Springs, portunity of visiting Silver Springs, six miles from Ocala, and taking a ride in a glass bottomed boat. The English language does not contain words to adequately describe the wonderful coloring and formations, both vegetable and mineral, seen under the water at that place, and there are numerous varieties of fish in the water.

"At Bradentown we visited the farming section and saw crops being gathered, then we were given a dinner at the Golf Club, where we ate fresh strawberries, tomatoes, lettuce, potatoes, celery, etc., brought in from neighboring gardens. There were an abundance of the same vegetables at Miami and West Palm Beach. However, the tropical plants are more in evidence on the East Coast, where blooming vines ran riot over fences and trellises. Our party was admitted to the three million dollar Deering estate at Miami and rode over the miles of private roadway through gardens and forests, and also visited a number of other private estates along millionaires boulevard, and later had the same pleasure at Palm Beach.

"Florida is a wonderful state and I hope to go back there to see and enjoy the beauties of nature so bountifully given."

Subscription to the Transcript $1.00 per annum.

SIZE DIDN'T COUNT

Thought That Heartened Young British Soldier.

Helped to Overcome Natural Nervousness of His First Physical Impact With the Huns—Realized It Was "Fight or Die."

Tommy Kehoe, a sixteen-year-old English boy, tells how he "got his first Hun." Not a hundred feet away they were when our lads were jumping to the parapet to meet them with their bayonets. I made a leap for the top of the ladder, grabbed at it, missed and slipped back. Somebody reached out a hand and pulled me up.

Almost on us they were. Oh, never in my worst dreams—and I've had many a bad one since then—have I seen a more dreadful sight than that. They came at us out of the dark like fiends from another world, like the pictures I've seen of men from Mars, for their heads were covered with the most evil looking masks that anybody could imagine, masks with huge round eyes and long, piggish snouts. Shells were bursting above them, machine guns were tearing through their ranks and their masks were white and ghastly in the light of the rockets. Many a time I had thought of what war would be like, but never had I thought I should look on such a sight as that.

"Fight or die, Tommy Kehoe! Fight or die!"

That's what I told myself as I crouched in front of the sand bags, with my bayonet ready for them.

Whopping big men they were, head and shoulders above me. But as I waited there a thought flashed through me of the Bantam regiment, little fellows scarcely bigger than I, who had made good against even those giant Prussians. Size didn't count behind a bayonet. It was quickness that counted. I was sure of it. If it didn't, then it was all over with me.

Even then, when they were almost up to us, how the guns were mowing them down! It looked as if none could be left in a moment or two. But those that didn't fall came on like madmen and poured through the lanes where the big guns had leveled our wires.

One—he was a six-footer if he was an inch—ran straight for me with his bayonet. I crouched and thrust at him—thrust upward. His bayonet went over my shoulder. He staggered and fell over my gun. I had got him! I had got him! In the stomach!

'Twas lucky for me there was no time to think over it or to stand there gaping at him—the dead Hun hanging over my gun with his masked head almost touching me—for it was horrible. For a second or two I turned dizzy and sick. But it was fight again or die. I jerked my rifle back and stumbled over the dead man as he flopped to the ground.

"Make for their stomachs, Tommy Kehoe! Make for their stomachs!" I told myself. "Size don't count."

Find Historic Relics.

Excavators for the Brooklyn Rapid Transit subway tunnel to Brooklyn, under Whitehall street, came upon a large number of piles which had been imbedded in the mud at that point since Revolutionary days. The site of the historic find was, at one time, that of the old Whitehall ferry, whence Gen. George Washington embarked one December day in 1783, immediately after he had bidden farewell to his officers at Fraunce's tavern, at Broad and Pearl streets, four blocks away. While the diggers were hoisting up the old piles they also found some old wooden mains used during the administration of Aaron Burr as water commissioner of the city. Many old relics have been dug up in this section of the city with the excavating for the new tunnel. Two blocks away the hull of an old wooden ship was found 15 feet beneath the surface of the street, a year or two ago, while further "inshore," near Broad and Front streets, huge clam shell beds were dug up, showing that at one time the shore line had been further inland.

Garlic to Be Imported.

Because of the scarcity of food in Europe and the difficulty of transportation, the war board discouraged the importation of food products from Europe, hoping to save them for home consumption and to save tonnage. Garlic from Italy was included under this general prohibition until the Italian government represented that great financial loss would result, due to the vast acreage planted with garlic in Italy. The supply of this year's yield would be far too great for home consumption. Due to this, the war trade board issued a permit for the present year, with the understanding that after January, 1918, fewer acres would be planted to garlic, but would be devoted to the cultivation of other food products, which would be used for home consumption.—Italian-American News Bureau.

Bismarck's Head Sold Cheap.

An iron head of Bismarck was recently sold to the New York war savings committee for transformation into munitions. The iron chancellor's metal duplicate was appraised at $8, paid in War Savings stamps, and within two hours was on its way to a munition factory. The owner, who refused to give his name, declaring that since the war he had been so embarrassed about its possession that he hesitated to dispose of it as refuse, fearing the cynical comments of the junk collectors of his neighborhood.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

The Hogans & Cooper Co. having bought Buck Neck Wharf and Warehouses, with all conveniences, we have put in a line of boats for general freighting of all kinds. We want an unlimited acreage of tomatoes for J. Langrall & Bro., and pears also. We buy grain.

Thanking the public for its business of the past, I am very truly,

W. H. COOPER, Manager

Phone 31-22

NATION DEPENDS UPON HOME

Great Truth Revealed by the War Is Not Likely to Be Forgotten When It Ends.

"If the health of the people had been looked after properly, Britain would have a million more fighting men at the front. You cannot have an A-1 nation with a C-3 population," declared Premier Lloyd George in a recent speech at Manchester. Here in America the same thought was forced upon us by the disclosures of physical unfitness in the selective draft, and the comment was made that the military loss thus represented was just as much a loss to the nation industrially and economically.

The British statesman proposes to do more than talk about it. He says the abolition of the evil social conditions of pre-war days will be the greatest problem after the coming of peace. He uses a simile that will appeal to Pittsburgh: "With our machinery we take the greatest care. The way we look after it if the steel is defective through badly-ventilated or ill-constructed furnaces or insufficient fuel! The quality of the steel in the national fabric depends upon the home. If it is unhealthy, ill-equipped, ill-managed, the quality becomes defective and it cannot bear the strain."

To enable the nation to bear the gigantic burden of debt the war will impose on it and the still greater burden of recuperation and reconstruction, Lloyd George warns the national resources must be developed to the full. First among these is the human factor. Just as today everyone of us was expected to do his or her part toward the winning of the war, when the sense of common peril brought to each and all the sense of interdependence, Lloyd George insists that in the years to come we must carry the same spirit into the everyday life of the nation. We must concern ourselves with the care of our fellow citizens, the steel in the national machine upon which we all depend. We cannot after the war withdraw ourselves into our pre-war selfish isolation. We must constantly keep before us and act upon the same enlightened spirit of comradeship we exact today from every fellow citizen. If we want to remain an A-1 nation, we must see that we have the fewest possible C-3 men, women and children.

The Useful Penny.

Introduction of the penny transfer in the operation of the Indianapolis street car system, which caused the Indianapolis Traction and Terminal company to supply itself with 8,000 pennies the first day, brought to the mind of J. J. Mahoney, superintendent, a story of the eighties when Tom Johnson, afterward mayor of Cleveland, was treasurer, and a supply of pennies in the hands of the company helped to stop a run on a bank. Mr. Mahoney has been connected with the Indianapolis street car system for a long, long time.

In those days passengers dropped a nickel fare in a box and sometimes they put in five pennies. The company was usually overstocked with pennies, and had to send them to the United States mint to get rid of them. The pennies were put in bags. It happened that the company had a lot of bags full of pennies when a run started on a bank. There was a great throng of people at the bank demanding and getting back their deposits. Through an understanding, the bank and the street car company resorted to camouflage. Several street car employees were called in and directed to carry the bags of pennies into the bank. It was an impressive sight, as bag after bag was passed through the cashier's window, and Mr. Mahoney says it had the desired effect.

"Hard" and "Soft" News.

Japanese newspapers, according to Prof. F. L. Martin of the University of Missouri's school of journalism, divide their news into "hard" and "soft." The hard news consists of serious, important events. The soft news includes all sorts of "human interest" incidents. What is called the "third page" of the soft news department consists of trivial stories which would be called gossip in this country. Here is a sample of "third page" soft news:

"Since Etsunaka, a resident of Osakusa, has separated from her master, a coal dealer, she has lost a good opponent for her noted powers of quarreling. The neighbors are breathing freely again at the prospect that they need no longer hear embarrassing quarrels which have made the neighborhood famous. The reaction has been so great that Etsunaka has been downhearted. She says: 'I feel sick now that I have no one to quarrel with.'"—Outlook.

Midget Had Soldier Son.

Admiral Dot, P. T. Barnum's midget celebrity, who died a short time ago, lived to give a stalwart son to the American army in France. Both his parents were of normal size. As midgets go, Admiral Dot was of lesser eminence than Gen. Tom Thumb, but after the latter's death in 1883 he remained first among his kind until his retirement to become a hotelkeeper a quarter of a century ago.

Admiral Dot was American born and purely a native celebrity. He lived to be fifty-nine years old, while Gen. Tom Thumb died at forty-six, and the Polish dwarf Borulwaski missed becoming a centenarian by two years.

Its Sort.

"Looking at that letter you have just posted, makes me think you have one thing in common with the kaiser."

"What is it?"

"A mailed fist."

AUCTIONEER

THIS IS TO NOTIFY THE PUBLIC THAT I HAVE REMOVED TO CHESTERTOWN AND AM PREPARED TO CRY SALES IN KENT AND QUEEN ANNES COUNTIES ON REASONABE TERMS.

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The Transcript

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