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From

Joint Texas Immigration Bureau,

St. Louis, Iron Mountain & Southern Ry.,
Texas & Pacific Ry.,
International & Great Northern R. R.

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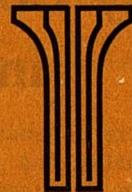
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Sunny Southwest Texas



"A Choice Corner"
in the
I. & G. N. Country

"IRON MOUNTAIN ROUTE"





Potato Harvest on the Collins Irrigated Farm,
near San Antonio.



Harvesting Onions in Rio Grande Valley,
near Laredo.

Sunny Southwest Texas, a Choice Corner in the I. & G. N. Country.

THE great region to be treated in these pages, geographically speaking, and with relation to the remainder of Texas, is rather more south than southwest, though by the latter characterization it is generally known. "The San Antonio Country" is another name for it, as the "Alamo City" reigns undisputed queen over this vast and rapidly developing region.

Get your map of Texas, draw a line from Port Lavaca to Austin, and thence to El Paso, and south of it you will have most of the great "San Antonio Country," more than twice as large as the combined area of Denmark, Belgium and the Netherlands.

To the west and northwest of San Antonio the surface is somewhat broken by the mountains of the Guadalupe, the Nueces, the Pecos, the Rio Grande, and tributary streams, with extensive and fertile intervening valleys and tablelands. To the north are the counties of Comal and Hays, in which are found some of the finest black-land farms in the State.

Stretching away southeast to the Gulf of Mexico and southwest to the "Rio Bravo," is as fertile and as fair a land as e'er from the Creator's hand fell finished on the earth.

With respect to natural conditions, making for extreme healthfulness and a pleasant abiding place for man, this delightful region stands alone in the glory of its salubrious climate, its fruitful soil, and its ozone-laden air.

And while the rare climatic conditions of Southwest Texas, hardly duplicated on earth, render it specially desirable for either summer or winter sojourn, in its utilitarian

phases, it is attracting world-wide attention. With, perhaps, less than ten per cent of its great area in cultivation Southwest Texas has made the city of San Antonio one of the greatest live stock centers and cotton markets in the world.

It has sent to market this season some three thousand cars of onions, returning to the growers a million dollars in cash. It ships cabbage and watermelons to the market by the trainload, starting the latter in May. The first car of cantaloupes grown on earth this season went from Southwest Texas in the middle of May, and sold for \$2,400.

In several localities there is the beginning of a great citrus fruit industry, this having passed the experimental stage. Fine table grapes have been successfully grown in Southwest Texas, the Seedless Sultana ripening early in June, with the Muscat of Alexandria and Flame Tokay ready for market the last of June. Why not, all the conditions being favorable? It is hoped that Southern California people will make note of these dates.

While the great ranches are being rapidly converted into farms and irrigated gardens, this does not signify that there is to be an end to profitable stock raising. It means that there will be more and better live stock, better care for them, and that the business will be on a vastly safer basis. It means better breeds and more abundant feed. It means an end to shipping half-fat cattle and sheep to be finished elsewhere for the market. It means the improvement of pastures, and the feeding of cotton meal where it is made, and where expensive shelter is not required. In short, it means a new and better era for the live stock industry of Southwest Texas.

Dry Farming.

"Dry Farming" means crop-growing without irrigation. Considering the remarkable results shown by the Campbell System, in some portions of the West and Northwest, with only 8 to 15-inch rainfall, it is not surprising that West and Southwest Texas, with 20 to 30 inches of precipitation, should have come to be regarded as a safe farming country, without irrigation. And the rainfall seems to be increasing.

The annual average precipitation at San Antonio for twenty years prior to the beginning of the present wet cycle of seasons, was about 28 inches. During the last five or six years the average rainfall at San Antonio has been nearly 40 inches. Really, with little or no attention to conservation of soil-moisture, Southwest Texas has become a safe farming country, and is rapidly becoming, indeed, and in fact, the leading cotton country in the world, the South's great cash staple being certain of yield and cheap to produce in Southwest Texas.

This is abundantly proven by the prosperous condition of the farmers of that section, by the large number that have become wealthy, and by the cotton farms of 400 to 4,000 acres, each being put into cultivation every season, to say nothing of the countless small farms being established by the homebuilders, coming by the thousand. Numerous are the instances in every section, where men, upon large and small scale, have paid for their land out of the net profits of their cotton in a single season and had money left, besides growing corn and other things for home use.

While on the subject of cotton, though having passed the matter of stock farming, it may be well to suggest that had Southwest Texas nothing in the feed line except the famous "Curly Mesquite" grass and "Spineless" cactus, the forage it can grow so abundantly, and the cotton meal turned out by

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its cotton-oil mills, where is the country that could beat Southwest Texas in the cheap production of beef and pork and mutton?

A Comparison.

If the land should be valued as high in Southwest Texas as it is in the middle west, for instance, dry farming in Southwest Texas would be more profitable than it is in the middle west, because cotton in Southwest Texas is a more profitable cash crop than is small grain in the middle west. Granted that the middle western States can grow more corn than can Southwest Texas, without irrigation, corn in the latter section is worth more money than in the North, and owing to the exceedingly short, mild winters, not so much corn is needed.

And with an acre, to a few acres, irrigated with water raised by wind or gasoline power from the well which supplies the household and the stock, how the dry-land farmer can live in Southwest Texas! Beside all the fruits, citrus and deciduous, possible in a temperate or semi-tropic clime, he can have fresh vegetables and cut flowers upon his table *every month in the year*. Certainly, we can promise him that the doctor and the druggist will levy but slight tribute upon him in this sunny land:

This paradise for devotees of either rod or gun,
Where the nights are fine for sleeping, and the days are fine
for fun,

Irrigation Farming.

The Southwest Texas irrigator makes his own seasons. He begins to ship onions in April and cantaloupes and watermelons in May. He ships tomatoes in December, Irish potatoes in April, and cabbage and other things all winter. He received a million dollars for onions in the season of 1909, and it is predicted that in five years cantaloupes



Homeseekers at the Opening of the Bermuda Colony, Dimmit County.



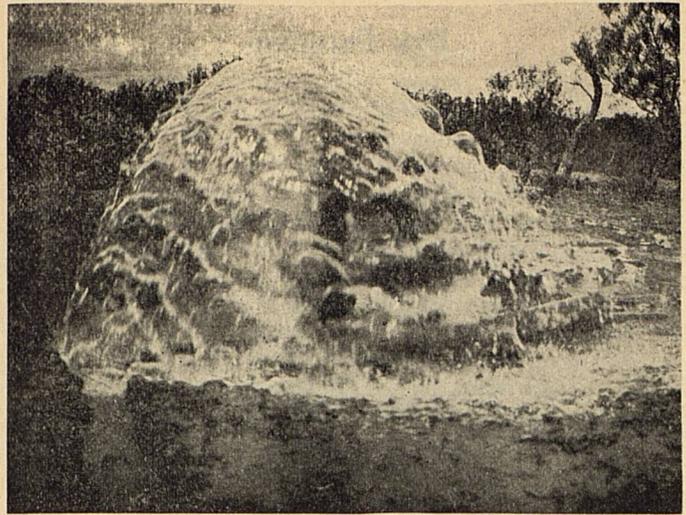
Onions Irrigated from Well, Moore, Frio County.

will bring him more money than onions, and that in ten years fine table grapes and oranges will bring him more money than cantaloupes. In the application of water to so fertile a soil, under the fructifying influence of a Southern sun, he is barely touching his possibilities in supplying the world with good things to eat at a season when the world can not get them elsewhere.

And it is not in fruit and vegetable farming alone that the Southwest Texas irrigator shines. Cool as are the nights where he does business, he grows as much as 100 bushels of corn, one or two bales of cotton, and 40 to 60 tons of sugar cane per acre, with feed crops and other things in proportion. Should anyone doubt these statements let them look up the facts upon the ground.

A discussion was overheard between some Illinois farmers and a Colorado irrigator. It was upon the bank of a Southwest Texas canal, carrying Rio Grande River water to a soil ten feet deep. The promoter was asking the Illinois people \$60 to \$125 per acre for uncleared land fronting the main canal or its laterals. One of them exclaimed: "I can buy lots of land in Illinois for \$125 per acre." The Colorado man replied: "And you can get enough out of an acre of this land in a season to buy two or three acres of Illinois farm at \$125 per acre." He went on to say: "In my State such land as this, fronting the ditch, often sells for \$1,000 an acre and even higher. Our growing season is short, while here they can grow and ship stuff all winter."

This is a tip to Southwest Texas irrigation promoters, to go after people in sections where, coming to Southwest Texas, they do not have to stay a year before they understand the deal.



Well in Bermuda Colony Tract.

The Greatest Artesian Water Strata in the World.

It has been known that strong-flowing artesian wells might be secured at a depth of a few hundred feet in the vicinity of Carrizo Springs, Dimmit County. A few such wells in that section, the water applied to the rich soil abounding there, produced such results in fruits, vegetables and field crops as to cause the Carrizo Springs Country to be called the "Wonderland of Southwest Texas."

Scanting in the reports of wide extension certain and safe reason for a great land movement to that section next year, a representative of the Joint Texas Immigration Bureau decided to go down and investigate the actualities and possibilities of the situation.

In company with Col. Asher Richardson, who is building the Asherton & Gulf Railroad from a point on the I. & G. N., near Artesia, to his new colony town of Asherton, some thirty-two miles distant, the ride was made over the new line to the end of the track-laying, and then by team to the new town of Asherton, to which the grade is completed. It proved to be a fine country all the way, the surface was gently undulating, the soil rich, and very little waste for the plow. At the new town of Farmington they had started clearing for the installation of a 7,500-acre sub-irrigated farm, garden, orchard and vineyard, under the Wiggins' system of sub-irrigation.

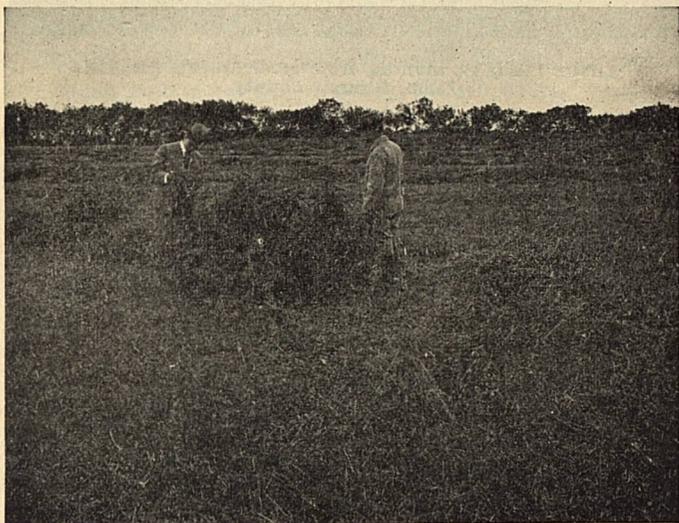
The new town of Asherton crowns one of the beautiful gently-sloping elevations which are so attractive a feature of that country. It is near the center of the 50,000-acre colony lands of which are being sold to home-seekers, and by way of showing that they are not waiting for the new railroad to reach the new town, they have already purchased some 20,000 acres of the tract, upon which are 21 powerful artesian gushers, five of the number being located on the town-site upon which building is rapidly going on, though the town-site

had been surveyed but a few weeks. Clearing land and putting down wells seemed to be the order of the day, and by this time next year some 3,000 acres will be in cultivation and under irrigation.

The night was spent at Col. Richardson's famous "Eagles Nest" ranch, where last year was that "mile of onions." Next day a visit was made to the "Oak Grove" ranch of 24,000 acres, recently sold to colonizers, where there was found ocular and gustatory demonstration of the belief that this section is to become a great producer of fine table grapes and citrus fruits. There was seen five oranges upon a two-year-old tree, but a year in the ground, where it was found supporting its small load of fruit. A small vineyard in appearance, handling its great load of fruit, was a reminder of California. Among the varieties were the Muscat of Alexandria, Flame Tokay and seedless Sultana, the latter ripe the 6th of June—note the date. Col. Richardson has been growing fine grapes successfully for many years, and agrees with the immigration man that they are to become a great wealth-producer in that section. He also thinks it is to become a heavy producer of the cantaloupe of commerce, and will start the growing upon his experimental farm near the town of Asherton.

A day or two at Carrizo Springs, among the old-fashioned kindly people of that 40-mile-away-from-the-railroad town, was pleasant and interesting. Here are located the famous Carrizo Springs Mineral Wells, the medicinal fame of which will no doubt spread when the railroad comes. The people seem to think that their town is in the right place to catch the railroad building up to Asherton from Artesia, and from Uvalde to Crystal City, another great colony deal, which there was not time to visit. Considering that they are so far from shipping, the Carrizo Springs people, in the growing of onions, alfalfa and other things, have made a good start.

The advent of the iron horse into the old frontier town will give great impetus to development along many lines.



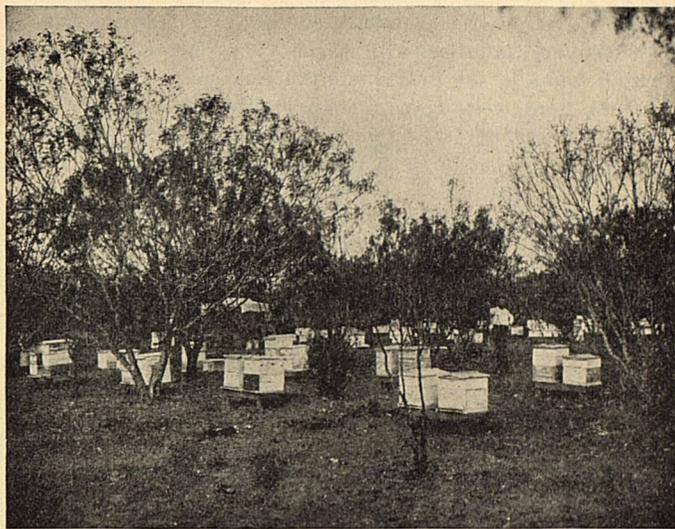
Alfalfa Field near San Antonio, Texas.

Returning to the I. G. & G. N. at Gardendale, by automobile, the same rich, gently-rolling country was passed over for a distance of over 40 miles.

A short stop was made at Bermuda, Col. J. S. Taylor's irrigated farm on the Nueces river. He is the pioneer irrigator of that section, and has been most successful. He has 150 acres in corn this season that would delight the eye of a middle west corn grower. He cuts alfalfa five to eight times, averaging a ton of hay to the cutting. He grows a great variety of fruit and berries, and says that, with so long a growing season, the possibilities of crop succession, same season on same land, are almost beyond belief. Col. Taylor has a ten-acre reservoir, fed by artesian well and stocked with black bass. On the whole, he seems to be pretty "well fixed."

For lack of time the famous Brach farm further down the river was not visited, though there is shown a view or two from it, as Mr. Brach has done more than almost any man to demonstrate the magic effect of artesian water upon Nueces Valley land.

A visit was made to the Bermuda Colony lands of Hust & Brundage, including the new town-site; also to two of the greatest artesian gushers in the world. These 12,000 acres—a magnificent body of nearly level black land—have been sold to actual settlers. These gentlemen are at present engaged in putting down artesian wells on their "Big Four" Colony deal of 50,000 acres, between the Bermuda Colony and the I. & G. N. Railroad at Gardendale. They certainly made a good start, as they call the first gusher the "Big Well." It may be seen for miles, flowing from the top of a 30-foot, 6-in. pipe. As soon as it came in, they started a five-acre garden, which is a wonder for its age. It was 51 days old the day the writer was there. There was corn in silk at tassel, watermelons, cantaloupes full size, but not ripe; peas over a foot high and with a spread of two feet.



Abernathy's Apiary, Gardendale



Peach Orchard near San Antonio.

We had for dinner, from this "sooner" garden, string beans, cucumbers, squash and beets. Hust & Brundage are contemplating big developments ahead, including a great ten acre storage reservoir, 1,000 acres under irrigation next season, and a railroad out from their old colony of Gardendale, on the I. & G. N. Same as at Asherton, a good many of their colonists are thrifty Germans, who get busy on arrival.

The Soils of Southwest Texas.

While there is some black waxy land in the I. & G. N. country of Southwest Texas, there is little or none of the light sandy soil found, to some extent, lower down the state. The prevailing types of soil, however, are a dark sandy loam, and a red or chocolate soil. The black sandy loam means the same wherever found, being rich, deep and easy to work, and always a favorite with the farmer.

A word about the chocolate, or red lands, for the benefit of people not familiar with them. They are always good, whether found in the Brazos and Colorado river valleys. East Texas or Southwest Texas. Even on the uplands, they are, generally speaking, as productive as black lands, for field crops; beside being far and away superior for vegetables and fruits.

They are the quickest for early spring garden of any soil in America, no doubt, have the right kind of clay under them, and stand dry weather better than black land.

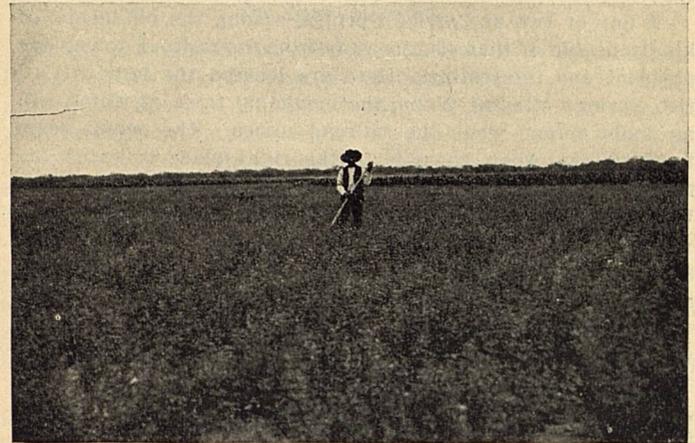
In short, the newcomer who classes these red lands with the sandy lands with which he may be familiar, is liable to overlook a bet that will cause him future regret. If, on a visit to Southwest Texas, he will keep his eyes open, they will vindicate the claim as to the relative value of these chocolate lands. That splendid little vineyard on the "Oak Grove" ranch, Dimmit County, is on chocolate land.

With the I. & G. N. Railroad running through the middle of that country, three other lines, feeders of the I. & G. N., building into it, and more talked of; with lands going into

dry farming by the hundreds of thousand of acres, 100 to 4,000 acres to the farm; with the artesian wells getting thicker all the time; with the pumps beginning to work in the surface wells, to irrigate small farms, gardens and orchards, all in a climate, unrivalled on the earth for pleasantness and healthfulness, are they too sanguine in predicting for next fall and winter, a greater rush than ever, of new people, to this sunny smiling land?

Indeed, it begins to look as if the people will not wait till next fall to come. Certainly this seems true as to investors. Recently there has been the heaviest trading on record in large deals for colonization in Southwest Texas.

There are great wells west of Carrizo, and it is believed that they will drop into it on the Denton Colony lands, a splendid body of 32,000 acres, prairie and open mesquite timber, to the southwest of Carrizo. Great gushers have been found on the Asherton Colony lands, 12 to 15 miles to the south. Upon the big "Cross S" Colony deal of 100,000 acres to the north of Carrizo, and of which the growing new town of Crystal City is the center, great wells are spouting wealth and greatness for that section. Twenty miles east are the big



Alfalfa Field, 4½ months, from seed, Brack's Rio Vista Farm, Dimmit County.

gushers upon the Bermuda and Big Four deals of Hust & Brundage.

Artesian flow, it is true, is found all over Southwest Texas, but these big wells in the Carrizo Springs district seem to be in a class by themselves, and in that district it seems to be a question of going down for them. The operation is not costly either, as the artesian strata is usually reached at 500 to 700 feet, the wells generally cost \$600 to \$1,000, rarely as much as the latter figure.

East of the I. & G. N. Railroad, in the counties of Atascosa, Frio, La Salle, Live Oak, McMullen and Webb, there is great activity among land dealers, and several big colony deals are shaping up for the new people coming to this land of promise in ever-increasing numbers.

Col. Asher Richardson, the Dimmit County ranchman, has for years been demonstrating what artesian water on the

fertile lands of Southwest Texas will do in crop production. He has demonstrated, too, that the soil is not only enormously productive, but lasting as well. And his section is fairly typical of millions of acres, east and west of the International & Great Northern Railroad, between San Antonio and Laredo. Col. Richardson has over 1,000 acres in cultivation at his various ranch headquarters, some of which he has been farming continuously since 1887, growing upon it two and three crops in a season, without any apparent diminution of the fertility. He has grown a bale and a half of cotton and 75 bushels of corn per acre; has cut alfalfa nine times in a season, a ton at a cutting. He has grown 55 bushels per acre of winter barley, and cut as much as four tons of sorghum hay to the acre, cured, which often affords three crops in a season. Ribbon cane yields 300 to 400 gallons of syrup per acre. He has grown at the rate of 140 tons of sugar beets to the acre, and sent two beets to San Antonio that weighed 72 pounds. There has been grown on this land 350 to 400 bushels of Irish potatoes to the acre, without fertilizer, and 600 bushels of sweet potatoes to the acre. Cabbage yields from 15,000 to 25,000 pounds per acre.



Cotton Field in the Denton Colony, Dimmit County, Texas.

Success in Dry Farming.

It must be borne in mind that dry farming has made much of the I. & G. N. Country below San Antonio mainly what it is; because, in most of the country irrigation development is meager. Most of the great artesian wells we have been telling about are but a few months old. Irrigation, indeed, may be regarded as a powerful supplement to the mighty resources in dry farming that have built those towns, those churches, school houses, cotton gins and made those Southwest Texas people prosperous and happy.

Devine, the "Cotton Town," for instance, has trebled its population and business in a few years without irrigation, except a small onion field or two watered from surface wells, the water being raised by pump.

Moore is growing rapidly in population and business. Its cotton and corn farms, large and small, and its stock ranches, have mainly made the town of Moore. The development of irrigation will merely give momentum to its growth and prosperity.

Pearsall, one of the nicest little cities enjoying steady growth and all the advantages of twentieth century civilization, is what it is as a result of the farms and ranches, great and small, by which it is surrounded.

At Dilley, the story of success in farming and truck farming, without irrigation, is repeated. Dry farming built the town and is making the country rich. At Dilley, too, an object lesson may be learned as to how great the honey industry of Southwest Texas is to become. Nowhere on earth can such limpid, high-flavored honey be grown as in Southwest Texas. In a class by itself it will have the world for a market.

Near Cotulla, D. J. Woodward, on his big colony deal, put 1,000 acres of new land in cultivation, 800 acres of it in cotton, and got a half bale per acre, without irrigation, from the new ground, worth on the market, with the seeds, about \$35 per acre. Compare such results with small grain or corn on middle west lands valued at more than \$100 per acre. What are these Southwest Texas lands worth, with the certainty of water enough from surface wells, to irrigate a few acres on each farm?

As these people come, the better, to adapt methods to conditions, dry farming will become still more certain and profitable. The rains came unusually late this spring, for instance, and most of the farmers waited for rain to plant, with the result that their crops of corn and cotton are late. However, Col. C. H. Beever, President of the Pearsall National Bank, as well as an extensive farmer and stockman, broke 500 acres for cotton deep last fall to hold the winter rains. Toward spring he stirred the surface to hold the moisture in,



Corn Field at Asherton, Texas



Fig and Date Palm Orchard owned by
J. S. Taylor, Bermuda, Texas.

planting at the proper time. When the rains came at last his cotton was "chopped out," cultivated and the crop is made.

There is no country where more can be done with improved machinery or for energy of man and team. Concluding this subject here is a point that is strong and true: A Texas man has kept tab on that section for nearly thirty years, living there most of the time, and has observed that the few spring seasons, when the rains came so late as to interfere with planting, were invariably followed by wet fall seasons, the rains coming in July and August. He has seen corn planted in July in the San Antonio country make 40 bushels per acre. Really there are two splendid chances for crops in Southwest Texas, the growing seasons being so long.

Climatic and Health Conditions of Southwest Texas.

When the newcomer, or would-be newcomer, to Southwest Texas is told that it is warmer in winter and cooler in summer than where he came from, if he believes it, he certainly does not realize the full significance of the delightful truthfulness of the statement until he has lived a year in Southwest Texas. It gets hot, certainly, in Southwest Texas, but it is not the moist, sultry, sticky heat of other countries. And the heat is always tempered by the delightful salt-laden breeze ever blowing off the Gulf of Mexico. About the only time the denizen of Southwest Texas ever gets a hint of the kind of heat suffered by northern and eastern people in summer is at times along in June, when a shower is threatened. It is always cool in the shade. It is a strange thing, but true, that to one out in the sun on a hot day it might

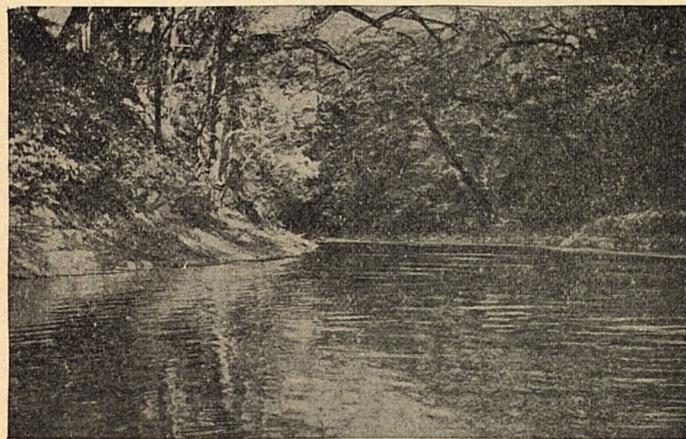
seem that not a breath of air is stirring. But if he will lift his hat, holding it between his head and the sun, he will feel the breeze cooling his head.

[A Southwest Texas man, visiting in Southern California, wrote: "This is a fine climate, but when night comes, the chill air off these snow-clad mountains chases one into the house. Those soft, balmy, summer nights, with the Gulf breeze gently blowing, when one don't feel like going to bed at all, in the San Antonio country, are not here."

And the Gulf breeze is not the kind that, blowing over one, even in a draught, gives him a cold. People suffering with catarrh are surprised at how they can "pile down" on the gallery or by an open window, "sleep like a log," and no bad results from a breeze strong enough to "blow the lamp out." That breeze, moreover, along with the dry, ozone-laden air, dries up catarrh and heals the shattered lung.

The range and average of temperature at San Antonio, the great commercial and social center of Southwest Texas, will serve as an index to all the region round about. Of course, there will be some variation as to temperature north or south of San Antonio, or of the rainfall east and west, as the case may be. It would be well to explain, however, that while the average rainfall for twenty years ending 1906 was 26.7 inches, that the precipitation for the past ten years has been much greater, while for the last five years it has been over 35 inches annual average. The following is taken from the records of the United States Weather Bureau at San Antonio for the years 1885 to 1906, inclusive:

Annual mean temperature 69 deg. Mean of maximum temperature, 58 deg. Mean temperature for the three winter months, 54 deg.; of the three summer months, 82 deg.; of the three spring months (March, April and May), 69 deg.; of the three fall months (September, October and November), 70 deg. Number of days with the temperature above 90 deg., about 94 annually. Number of days with the temperature below 32 deg., about 12 annually. The last killing frost occurs about March 4th; and the first killing frost in fall about



Espantosa Lake, Southern Texas.

November 9th. The mean relative humidity in the morning is about 80; and the afternoon, 54. Rainy days to fair days are in the ration of 1 to 5.

Mean annual rainfall 26.7 inches. Prevailing direction of wind SE. Average hourly velocity of the wind 7.4 miles.

The Southwest Texas Irrigators Show Great Results.

From a half acre of peaches, in 1908, S. B. Pinchum sold \$296 worth of fruit, net of expense. From a single pear tree, at the same town, \$30 worth of pears were sold one season.

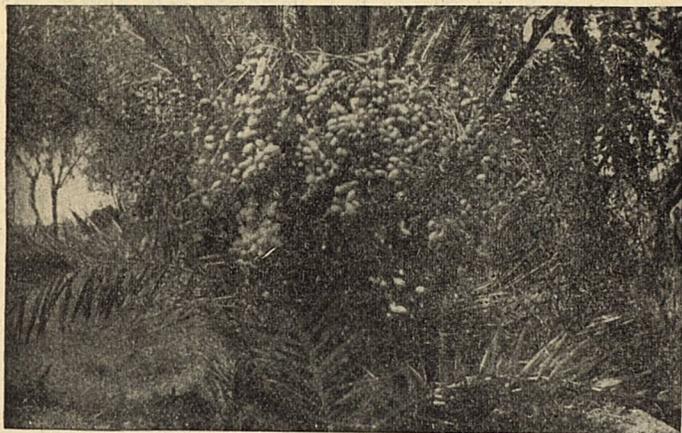
The date-palm is a success in Southwest Texas, as is also the olive, the latter flourishing without irrigation. In the Carrizo Springs country a few date palms give very heavy yields of fine dates.

A. D. Jackson, of Crystal City, says that on the J. D. Oden's farm, near the big 100,000-acre "Cross S" colony deal, between Uvalde and Carrizo Springs, he saw alfalfa growing which had been cut three times between Christmas and March 10th, and would be cut about every thirty days till fall, yielding about 10 tons of hay per acre. From this and other things herein, it will be gathered that there is no winter to speak of in that country. Including the "Cross S" 100,000-acre deal, and the Pryor ranch just east of it, same acreage, sold recently for colonization, there is still more room for the great land movement to the artesian belt.

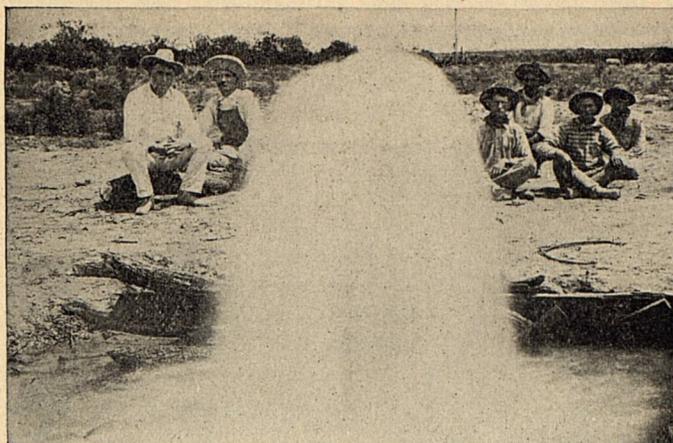
Some of the greatest flowing wells in the world's greatest artesian belt are on the "Cross S" ranch, through which the Nueces river also runs full length of the ranch. A railroad is building from Uvalde down to Crystal City, located in the center of the big ranch.

S. E. Watson, in the "Cross S" country above Carrizo Springs, matured 60 bushels of corn per acre on 50 acres, irrigated.

Hugh Knight, San Antonio, says: "I saw 60 tons of sugar cane cut from an acre of land off the Asher Richardson ranch, Dimmit County.



Date Tree at Asherton, Texas.



Artesian Well, the Source of Irrigation Asherton, Texas.

John Ashew, in the Carrizo Springs country, netted \$1,860 from four acres of onions, \$50 from cow peas following the onions, making \$1,910 net from four acres in a season. He hauled the onions forty-two miles to the I. & G. N. Railroad. Another season he will have a station on the Asherton and Gulf, close to him.

There are only a few orange trees in bearing in the great artesian belt west of the I. & G. N. Railroad, but in every case they give assurance of a great citrus-fruit industry. As high as 800 to 1,000 oranges have been gathered from single trees. Mr. Carter, near Carrizo Springs, got 722 fine oranges from a single small tree. There will be heavy planting of both citrus and deciduous fruits in that section next season.

The white Bermuda onion is grown by irrigation, and by the trainload in Southwest Texas. The man who does not get a car to the acre is disappointed. Captain T. C. Nye, the "Onion King" of the Rio Grande Valley, has a record of 41,000 pounds per acre, and net returns of \$5,000 from seven acres. This shows the possibilities where all conditions seem to favor.

M. L. Wonder, of the Cotulla country, got \$1,100 for his last car of onions, and it netted him \$900. He gathered nearly a car to the acre. Coming off so early he had the choice of several crops to succeed the onions.

J. H. Rock, of Cotulla, got a car of onions to the acre from 30 acres, and nearly a bale of cotton to the acre following the last crop, without irrigation.

Alexander Boynton, of the Carrizo Springs country, Dimmit County, grows a car of onions to the acre, netting him \$400 to \$600 per car. He has cut his alfalfa as often as eight times in a season, getting a ton per acre each cutting. He grows ribbon cane that makes 500 gallons of syrup per acre. He gets \$200 to \$300 per acre from sweet potatoes, growing them that weigh 12 to 18 pounds. He has strawberries and dewberries bearing at Christmas.



Oats Grown on Government Experimental Farm
near San Antonio.

J. H. Kirkpatrick, of San Antonio, said to a *Daily Express* reporter: "From Cotulla I went down through the Nueces Valley as the guest of John R. Black to see the new development that he has put in on the river some fourteen miles east of Cotulla. Big, wide, well-graded roads are one of the features of his development; a large two-story white house and out-buildings, modern throughout, and, best of all, a beautiful body of valley land, all under irrigation, with one of the best irrigating plants that there is in all Southwest Texas. This progressive man has built two dams on the Nueces river, and has ample water—so W. L. Rockwell, the Government expert, says—to irrigate 600 acres, and the valley of the Nueces from his place up to Cotulla is a succession of beautiful irrigated farms and gardens."

A middle west farmer was asked: "What are your lands worth, and what do you get out of them?" He replied: "One hundred dollars per acre up, in my section. If we rent them we usually get \$5 to \$8 per acre. If we farm them ourselves we think we do well to get \$10 to \$15 per acre out of them." Visitors to Texas from where lands are much higher, and where rate and valuation for taxes are so much higher than in Texas, would do well to compare net returns from field crops in Texas with those realized "back home," regardless of relative value of the land. Certainly Texas will not suffer by the comparison. Texas can waive any advantage it may possess in point of climatic conditions, lower prices of lands, or the growing of high-priced fruit and vegetable products at seasons when these things can not be grown North, and get right down to comparison of net cash returns from field crops, putting corn against corn, for instance, cotton against small grain, and live stock against live stock. Of course, in making this comparison of results it is only fair to pit our most thrifty and successful people against the same class in the middle western States, or anywhere else, for that matter.

Naturally, in a country developing so rapidly and safely as Southwest Texas, the opportunities are many in the cities and towns to engage in business or to establish productive enterprises of various kinds, promising rich returns and substantial growth as the country settles and develops. People proposing to establish enterprises that would employ labor and make business will uniformly receive encouragement at the hands of the people in these cities and towns, and especially if the promoters show good faith by putting their own money into these enterprises.

Letters of inquiry reaching almost any one in these towns—the Mayor, Secretary Business Men's Club, or Board of Trade, the banker or the postmaster—will be sure to reach interested hands, or writing to T. C. Kimber, General Immigration Agent, Missouri Pacific Building, St. Louis, Mo., he will take pleasure in putting inquiries for locations in touch with Texas people who may be interested in them.

An Object Lesson.

A visit was paid to the farm of Fred Schneebell, near the town of Gardendale, La Salle County, which same farm is a fine object lesson as to what may be done with water pumped from surface wells, upon the rich lands of Southwest Texas. It was then the middle of March, and there were many kinds of vegetables ready for use. In fact, he had been shipping lettuce and radishes all winter, it seems. He had beets as big round as a pint cup, and with tops over a foot high. Please note the date, and connect this up with what is said elsewhere in this booklet about a small irrigation plant, in connection with dry farming in Southwest Texas. Mr. Schneebell had only two acres under irrigation, and had never had previous experience in putting water on land. Here is an extract from a letter by this thrifty German settler of a type coming to Southwest Texas in large numbers, and making good:

"Gentlemen—Replying to your request that I tell you something of what I have done on my Gardendale tract of twenty acres, and how I am satisfied; will say that I came to Gardendale from St. Louis, Mo., the first of last July, and went to work immediately in a small and very limited way



Products of the Country about Brundage, Texas.



Onion Field Irrigated from Well, near Dilley,
Frio County, Texas.

to improve my tract. During the first six months I have made the following improvements, the total cost of which has been, in addition to my individual or personal work \$633.05. Small dwelling house, drilling well, wind mill pump, tank or reservoir for the water for irrigation; five acres cleared, fenced, ploughed and spaded and placed in fine state of cultivation. Fruit trees, three dozen plums, two dozen peaches, one dozen figs, fifty grapes, one hundred strawberries, one hundred dewberries.

"I have planted, cultivated and successfully matured the following vegetables: Turnips, radishes, carrots, beets, lettuce, mustard, cabbage, onions, spinach, celery, parsley, etc. Some of these I have matured in twenty-one days from the seed."

Truck Farming in Southwest Texas.

To say nothing of the millions of acres sold for colonization the last two or three years in Southwest Texas, the same going into farms and stock farms to be conducted without irrigation, the development of truck growing and shipping of late years, has been phenomenal. For instance, in 1898, there was little shipped, a few cars of melons being about all. In 1906, however, less than ten years later, there were shipped out from that section: 2,406 cars of watermelons; 318 cars of cabbage; 511 cars of Irish potatoes; 56 cars of cucumbers; 1,431 cars of onions, and about 100 cars of miscellaneous shipments. Nearly all this stuff was grown by irrigation. It is estimated that the truck shipments from Southwest Texas brought into that section last year exactly \$1,000,000 of outside money. As yet little attention has been given to fruit growing in Southwest Texas, for reasons, doubtless, that greater skill is required in the successful handling of trees. However, they know, the people down there, that they can grow many varieties of fruits successfully.

All through June there should be a trainload a day of cantaloupes leave each of several of those shipping stations

down that way. By fertilizing they may be forced ready to ship in carlots by June first or sooner, and the cantaloupe industry of Southwest Texas should at least equal the onion industry in extent, because the quality is unsurpassed, while going on the market not much later than they are planted in Colorado, they would always command high prices. Those people down there have had this hint about often enough, we should think. Anyhow, it is a straight tip, and there's millions in it.

After all, I don't know if those people are so much to blame for their apparent disinclination to tackle new crops, as long as they can grow a car of white Bermuda onions to the acre, and get \$500 to \$1,000 for the car.

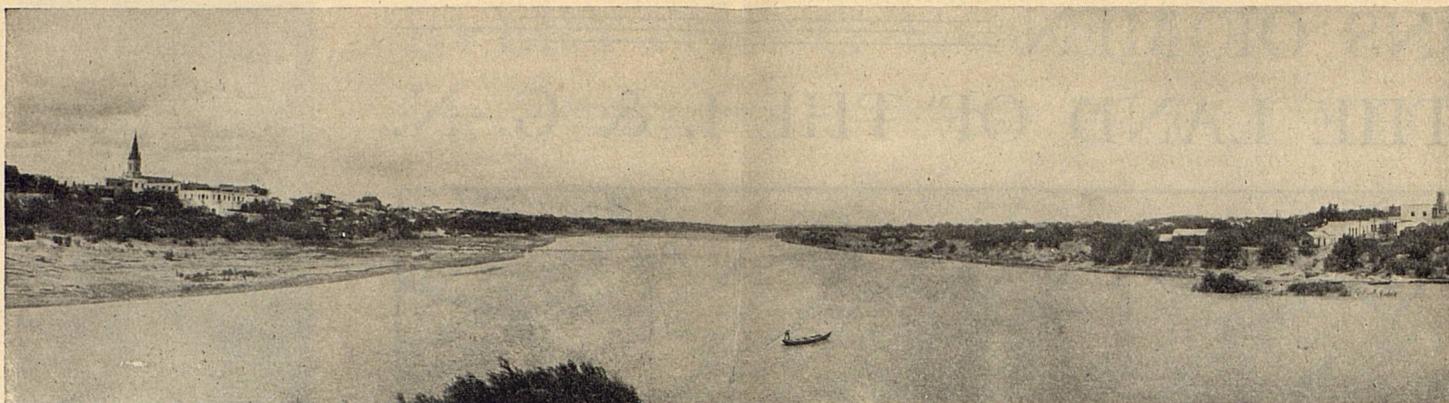
Reminds me that down at Cotulla in the "Wonderland of Southwest Texas," last spring, Mr. M. L. Wonder of that place, for his last car of onions, got over \$1,100, and it netted him over \$900. Of course, he has grown at least one more crop on that land since the onions came off, and has another crop planted upon it by this time. Where they make their seasons, down in the I. & G. N. country of Southwest Texas, farming is a sort of "continuous performance." How much is the land worth?—*I. & G. N. Red Book.*

Looks Like a Land Rush.

All the railroad lines reaching into, or having connection with the North and East, are hauling long trainloads of people into Southwest Texas, and these people are the cream of the citizenship of the middle west mainly, with not a few coming from the Eastern states, from the other Southern states, and from California. Since the Californians are coming to know that Southwest Texas can beat them growing the things which have made their state famous; that Southwest Texas can put them on the market a month ahead of even the lower Pacific coast country, and that Southwest Texas is 1,500 miles nearer to the market where California products have been sold, there is increased interest among them as to Southwest Texas, and they are coming in increasing numbers.



Watermelons on Boynton Farm near Carrizo Springs.



Rio Grande at Laredo, Texas, the Boundary Between the United States and Mexico.

Crop Diversification in the Rio Grande Valley.

A. C. Richter, President of the Laredo Truck Growers' Association, in a recent talk with a San Antonio *Daily Express* reporter, said:

"The mangel wurzel stock beet gives an astounding yield in the Laredo soil and climate. One man is keeping up two cows and six hogs on one acre of these beets. Alfalfa is another crop which seems to be naturally adapted to the Laredo section. It is good for an annual net revenue of \$100 or more per acre. Figs, grapes, Japanese persimmons, pomegranates, watermelons and cantaloupes do splendidly. In the yards of many of the homes are seen producing orange trees and grape fruit trees.

"It is not only the marvelous richness of the soil, the equableness of climate and other attributes which nature has so bounteously bestowed upon the Laredo section of the Rio Grande that should commend the region as a place of residence and investment, but there are many advantages which the town itself possesses that should be taken into consideration.

"The fact that growing onions is the principal agricultural industry of the Laredo section should not cause one to arrive at the conclusion that other truck and farm products can not be grown abundantly and with much profit. It has been amply demonstrated that practically all kinds of garden truck and many grain and other farm products do exceptionally well in the soil and climate of the Rio Grande Valley in the vicinity of Laredo. One grower during the past winter crop season netted \$500 from one and one-fourth acres of lettuce. His returns were reduced by the express charges, as he did not have sufficient quantity at any one time to ship as freight. On two acres of cabbage this same grower netted \$440. Many of these shipments were also made by express. This man obtained a net return of \$450 from four acres of table beets. He had unequalled success in raising cauliflower.

"Another Laredo truck grower tried the experiment of planting four acres in tomato plants last fall. The weeks passed and the plants flourished amazingly well, but they

showed no signs of fruitage. The grower became disgusted and was about to plow the plants under when he was advised to wait awhile and see if they would not commence to bear. Sure enough, they began to put on fruit, and during the month of December he marketed his crop from his four acres, receiving a net revenue of \$700 therefrom. He then planted the same land in onions and got a big crop of that product, all within a period of eight months. He obtained enough money from the sale of his tomatoes to pay for the transplanting of forty acres of onions."

The Onion Industry of Southwest Texas.

To begin with, the center and most of the circumference of it are on the International & Great Northern Railroad, Laredo and Cotulla being the principal shipping points for onions. The crop has been notably successful this season of 1909. The yield has been the greatest in the history of the industry, 30,000 to 35,000 pounds per acre not being unusual yields, while the market has been uniformly good. On the subject of great yield, the *Cotulla Record*, of May 8th, says:

"All along the valley the yield has opened the eyes of the growers, and in some places it is so great that it looks almost impossible that they could come off the ground. On the Shaw farm 23 big cars were shipped off of 22 acres. Miss Dosia Shaw had two acres that yielded 3 carloads. Mr. Martin, on Jno. R. Black's farm, gathered 1,860 crates off of a fraction over 2 acres. Jack Talbot says he never saw such a yield as he is getting, and these are but instances of what is happening all along the valley."

The *Record* of the same date states that a train-load of onions was leaving Cotulla every day, via the "I. & G. N. Onion Special." Under date of May 15th, the *Record* said:

"Within the past twenty-four hours 25,000 crates have been unloaded for growers who under-estimated their crops. Reports of enormous yields are still coming in and are being substantiated by heavy shipments. W. B. Stanfield gathered 2,250 crates off 2½ acres of ground. W. J. Coleman had some onions that run 1,025 crates to the acre."

At Laredo, the largest onion-shipping point in the world, producing nearly half the great output of Southwest Texas, the same unprecedented yield was realized. While encouraged by such results, the onion acreage is steadily increasing, and while values of onion lands undergo steady enhancement, the tendency in the Rio Grande Valley, near Laredo, as well as elsewhere in the onion country, is to grow other crops, by way of diversification.

Laredo's Onion Crop.

June 1 marked the end of Laredo's big Bermuda onion crop. Statistics show that 1,700 cars of these onions left Laredo during the present season for all points in the United States. The average car has carried 500 crates of Laredo Bermudas, which makes a total of 850,000 crates. The association representatives estimate that the onions netted the growers on an average of 80 cents a crate. On this estimate growers in the vicinity received \$680,000 on this season's onion crop. Laredo is to have in the near future a \$100,000 crate factory, which will annually manufacture enough crates to fill the demand in the onion district.

Toga Onions.

"Did you get your Toga onions?" is the headline of an advertisement recently appearing in various daily papers in the larger northern cities. It is the slogan of Southwest Texas just now, as the Bermuda onion growers of this state have started an advertising campaign, on which \$25,000 will be expended this year, to tell the people of the big cities why Texas Bermuda onions are the most healthful, the best and most nourishing onions grown anywhere on earth. Toga onions are to be advertised in newspapers, magazines, placards and in various other ways. Southwest Texas onion growers want everybody to have a taste of the Texas Bermudas.

Netted \$350 per Acre.

(Galveston Daily News Special.)

Pearsall, Tex., June 4.—Long & Shelton shipped four cars of onions from Pearsall today. This makes twenty-one cars to date from their farm, which has netted them \$350 per acre.



Irrigation for Onions in Texas.

The Biggest Onion.

(From the Cotulla, La Salle County, *Record*, June 5th, 1909.)

The large onion contest at Gaddis' Pharmacy has closed and W. J. Coleman was awarded the prize. The onion weighed 28½ ounces. There were about fifteen competitors, and the weights of those next to the prize taker were as follows: W. H. Robbins brought in one that weighed 26½ ounces; R. J. Talbott, 26½ ounces; R. H. Seefeld, 26 ounces; J. E. White, 24 ounces.

Receives Payment for Onions.

(Pearsall News.)

J. N. Long received a check for \$342.20 net Tuesday in payment of his fifth car of onions shipped from here recently. He told us he had already received payment for his second car, which was \$482.61 net. The fifth car contained 487 crates and was shipped out during a heavy rush of onions on the market, and Mr. Long was highly pleased with the returns.

The Price of Onion Lands.

Ranging from \$10 per acre, remote from shipping and with water for irrigation undeveloped upon them, to \$200 to \$500 per acre, in the Rio Grande Valley at Laredo, you will see how hard it is to give to one not on the ground an adequate idea as to what he should reasonably be expected to pay. In the artesian belt, as good onion lands as any in the country, are selling unimproved at \$25 to \$40 per acre. In other sections there are lands, small acreage of which on each farm may be irrigated from surface wells and may be had for considerably less. Many object lessons are to be seen upon such farms in the I. & G. N. country of Southwest Texas.

Laredo, the leading city of the Texas-Mexican border, is steadily climbing in population toward the 20,000 mark. Laredo is the greatest onion-shipping point in the world, manufactures, on a large scale, the best brick in the state, enjoys a large international trade, and is the point of connection between the I. & G. N. Railroad and the National Lines of Mexico, forming, with the Iron Mountain and Texas & Pacific, the popular highway between the United States and Mexico.



Crating Onions in the Field.

Cities and Towns of Southwest Texas.

The International & Great Northern Railroad has nearly 1,200 miles of operated line, all in Texas, and it reaches every large city in the state, except Dallas, only missing that city about thirty miles. Which means, of course, that I. & G. N. territory embraces the best there is of all portions of the great state. However, it is the purpose, under the above head, to treat mainly on that portion of the I. & G. N. Country, between San Antonio and Laredo.

The I. & G. N. Country of Southwest Texas embraces the following counties and part of counties. Bexar, Medina, Atascosa, Wilson, Webb, Dimmit, La Salle, McMullen, Live Oak, Duval, Encinal, Zapata, Zavalla, Maverick, Uvalde and Frio. Above San Antonio, up toward the city of Austin, the capital

Pearsall, the county capital of Frio County, is one of the most progressive little cities in Southwest Texas, and is gaining steadily in population. It has two banks, two newspapers, is a heavy handler of cotton, beside being important as a vegetable and honey-shipping point.

Melon is surrounded by great cotton and melon fields, being one of the most extensive watermelon-shipping points in Southwest Texas, grown without irrigation.

Derby is in the center of a splendid country rapidly going into cotton fields. It also entered the list of onion-shipping towns this season.

Dilley is growing and the country around about it is being steadily settled. It is an important melon and vegetable-



The New Townsite of Brundage, Texas.

of the state, are the great black-land Counties of Comal and Hays, with the cities of New Braunfels and San Marcos as their respective county capitals.

Down the I. & G. N., below San Antonio, are the towns of:

Lytle, surrounded by a fine farming country. Near Lytle are extensive lignite mines, which have been worked continuously and successfully for thirty years.

Devine, the "Cotton Town," is making rapid and substantial growth, prides itself on its splendid educational facilities, and the beginning of a successful onion-shipping industry, grown by irrigation from wells.

Moore is making steady growth, as its fine tributary country goes into cotton and other crops. There are, near the town of Moore, some of the largest cotton plantations in the state.

shipping point, and handles more honey than any town on the I. & G. N. Railroad.

Millett, under impetus of a developing contiguous country, is growing, and ambitious to grow. There are some fine onion fields near it, irrigated with water pumped from wells.

Gardendale is a new town, and making a good start, with hotel, church, school-house, several stores, etc., and everything as bright as white paint can make them.

Cotulla, county capital of La Salle County, next to Laredo, is the most important onion-growing and shipping center in the State. The large amount of money coming into Cotulla for onions and other things every season is reflected in its splendid growth. It is an important cattle-shipping center and trading point for several new colonies of people established in that section.

Artesia, taking its name from the numerous wells in the vicinity, has made a good start in commercial gardening. It is in the famous Raizes Valley, and should ship 100 cars of fine table grapes in a season. Many believe that, properly handled, they could be grown in the Raizes Valley without irrigation.

Encinal is a good town in the midst of a fine country undergoing rapid and safe development. A big German colony is located near Encinal, and making good, as a matter of course. Several large tracts have recently been sold for colonization in the Encinal country. There are some successful experiments in well irrigation near Encinal.

The stations of Cactus and Webb, below Encinal, while showing but small farm development, have around about them some splendid black lands.



Hotel at Gardendale, Texas.

Locate these towns upon your map, as there will be occasion to mention them again in connection with things which it is hoped may interest the seeker after information about this storm center of Texas development, which will witness a land rush next fall and winter, the like of which has never been seen.

An expert has been looking up the water resources in surface wells of that section, with relation to the irrigation possibilities of the future, and has stated that, were dry farming impossible in all that country, that were there no streams or artesian wells, leaving the farmer dependent alone upon water pumped from wells or upon storm-water caught and held in reservoirs, the I. & G. N. Country of Southwest Texas would become populous and rich.

Generally speaking, the supply of water in these wells is greater, the lift lighter, and the quality of the water better for irrigation purposes than in other sections where large areas are irrigated from wells, the water raised by powerful machinery.

A noteworthy fact is that the rush to purchase the great ranches of Southwest Texas is mainly by Texas people who know the value of these lands. Within sixty days prior to this writing the Rife Land Co., erstwhile large and successful operators in the Texas Panhandle, have purchased 10,000 acres of rich Nueces Valley land above Cotulla, with the Nueces river on one side and those big Hust & Brundage gushers on the other. They will develop and sell to actual settlers, having established headquarters at San Antonio and Cotulla.

A syndicate purchased 65,000 acres of fine black land, embracing the corners of La Salle and McMullen counties, which they will develop and sell in small farms.

A San Antonio syndicate has purchased the 125,000-acre Urbahn ranch, in Webb County, near Encinal, for development and sale.



Ranch Home of O. G. Hugo, near Dilley, Frio County.

A San Antonio firm is waiting for the new railroad to reach their new town of Jourdonia, to put on the market in small tracts, 40,000 acres of splendid farm land.

A syndicate, headed by J. R. Burton of Kansas, has purchased the 10,000-acre Pryor ranch, northeast of Carrizo Springs.

It is hard to keep up with the smaller deals of 5,000 to 10,000 acres, made from time to time.

And these lands are all for colonization. A later and most encouraging tendency, too, is to develop these lands by clearing, providing water for irrigation, establishing demonstration farms, and otherwise getting them ready for the homemakers. Some of the promoters are even proposing to build houses for their new people to move into, and all show a disposition to coach the new people to win out in their new environments.

Altogether, no safer movement to settle a new country was ever made or one that has promised more satisfactory outcome to both promoters and settlers.



Alamo Plaza, San Antonio.

Considering the great colony deals of Asherton, Crystal City, "Cross S. Ranch," the Gardendale, Bermuda, Big Four, Denton Colony, and other big irrigation propositions now being sold, together with the new ones above named, and still other new ones materializing right along, to say nothing of the great number of smaller colony deals, is it possible that we are over-sanguine in claiming that the land rush to Southwest Texas has only fairly started, and that the I. & G. N. country between San Antonio and Laredo will be the storm center next year?

Building at San Antonio.

(San Antonio Daily Express.)

San Antonio has a sky-line. The erection of the most up-to-date steel and concrete structures—"sky-scrapers," they may be called, since they loom up, towering into the sky, above their neighbors, handsome and costly buildings though they are, but not of the requisite altitudinous length to put them in the "scraper class"—is the first sign of the changing times, the first indication of the Greater San Antonio that every year is helping to build.

In every section of the city the echo of the carpenter's hammer or the mason's trowel is heard. Residences are growing up by the score, ranging from the bungalow to the millionaire's palace, but it is in the business section that the shriek of the pneumatic drill as it cuts into the steel girder is heard a hundred feet above the street and where the din of building these sky-scrapers drowns even the roar of traffic.

As the construction of these buildings is the latest, the best that the builder's science has to offer, so are the most artistic ideas of the designing architect faithfully worked out. San Antonio's big buildings are works of art. Graceful lines, beautiful cornices—exterior and interior up to the best in Twentieth Century designing—they do not fall under the almost universal criticism of ugliness in the sky-scraper of



The Historic Alamo.

the great cities. The tallest is but one-fifth the size of New York's latest monstrosity—a forty-three-story building—but where a city is beautiful there is no need for such buildings.

Here there is still a quaint contrast. The sky-scraper, white, severe, impressive, looks down on buildings built by the Spanish and the Indians, a gray, historic Alamo or a Governor's house; the modern smiles on the ancient and stands, a great shining signpost of progress, in the midst of the crooked, twisting streets of the past.

It is predicted by builders that this year's building permits will exceed even those of the twelve months ended May 31st. Two important projected structures on Alamo Plaza are a fourteen-story steel building Mrs. E. A. T. Wickes-Nease proposes to erect on the site of the Grand Opera House and a twelve-story structure modeled on the plans of the Rockefeller Building in Cleveland. This, it is announced, will be built on property fronting sixty-seven feet on the plaza and extending back to Losoya Street.

Work is progressing on the Clower building, opposite the new Frost Building on Main Avenue and West Houston Street. In the rear of the Menger Hotel on Nacogdoches Street the San Antonio Lodge of Odd Fellows have had the plans prepared and will build a six-story \$125,000 structure to be occupied as a home.

Extensive alterations and enlargements will be made on the Menger Hotel. Ground has been purchased and a large addition to the new St. Anthony Hotel will be built.

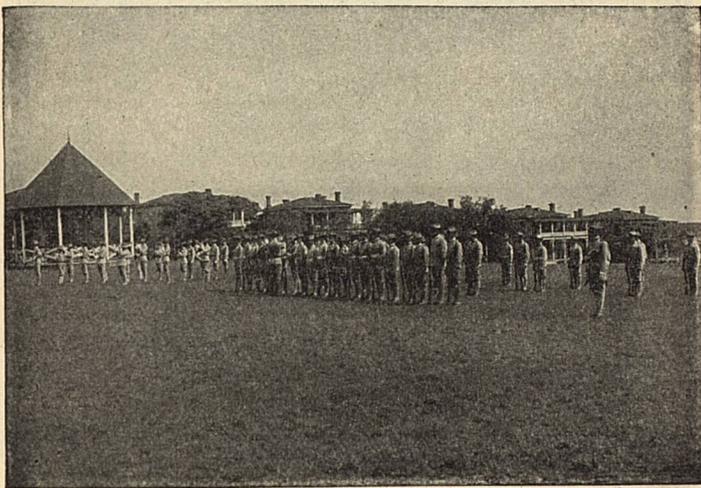
The government is building an addition to the Federal Building which will cost \$150,000. It is to be completed by January 1, 1910.

The \$550,000 Gunter Hotel, eight stories in height, is being completed at St. Mary and Houston Streets. This year saw completed and opened for business the splendid St. Anthony Hotel on Travis Street, erected by B. L. Naylor and Gus Jones at a cost of \$250,000. Recently completed big structures

are the five-story Frost Building, the Washer Building, the Conroy Building, the International & Great Northern Depot, which cost \$250,000; the addition to the Losoya Hotel, the addition to St. Louis College, the new building at the Lady of the Lake Academy, the annex to the High School and many others of less importance.

What President Roosevelt Says of Texas.

"It has, indeed, been a pleasure for me to come today within the limits of your mighty and beautiful state. It is great. It beats anything I ever saw. A territory so widely diversified that almost all of the good things that culminate in some particular state all come to the front in Texas; therefore, we have a right to expect more from Texas than any other state, that Texas will contribute to the aggregate of our national wealth. Although I came to Texas a pretty good American, I want you to understand that I feel that no President, while he is President, can afford not to come to Texas, for he will leave, no matter who he is, a better American than when he came. You have here a territory which is an empire in itself, and you have what counts for more than all else, the stuff out of which good citizens are made. I can not begin to present to you how I have been impressed, not only with the future of material growth, not only with the future of material prosperity, which assuredly looms before you, but with the sterling character of your men and women, and with the care you are taking to educate the next generation. This afternoon I passed through a veritable garden of the Lord. Your State of Texas has behind its history deeds of which not only you, but all the country must be proud. One of the things that pleased me most was to see the care that you give to the education of your children, to see the schools which you have built. * * * Now I have come down through this mighty state, this wonderful commonwealth which borders on the Gulf, I shall go away a stronger and better American for having been in this state of strong Americans, this mighty commonwealth of Texas."



Parade at Fort Sam Houston.

Resources of Public Schools.

In two years Texas has sold \$12,500,000 worth of school land. Prior to these sales she had millions of dollars of school money on hand or invested. It is no exaggeration to say that when the remainder of her school land is converted into cash, Texas people will send their children to high-class, nine-month schools, and not pay a cent of school tax. They pay very little now. Come to Texas and get an interest in these millions of school money.

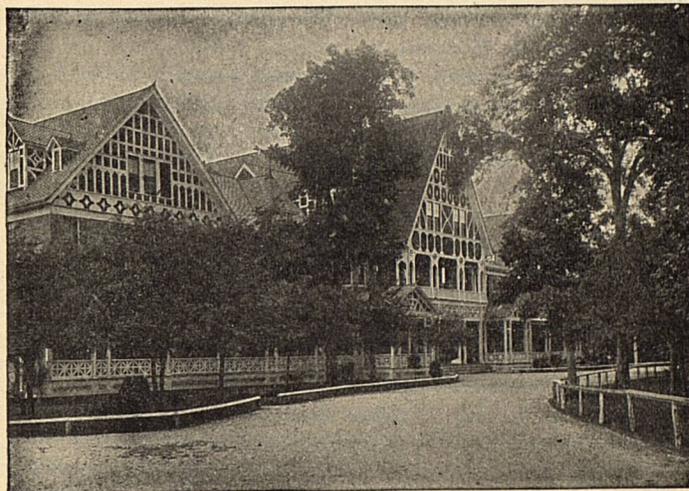
General Notes on Southwest Texas.

The Denton Colony Co. on their 32,000-acre colony deal, southwest of Carrizo Springs, are installing a sub-irrigation demonstration farm under the Wiggins System.

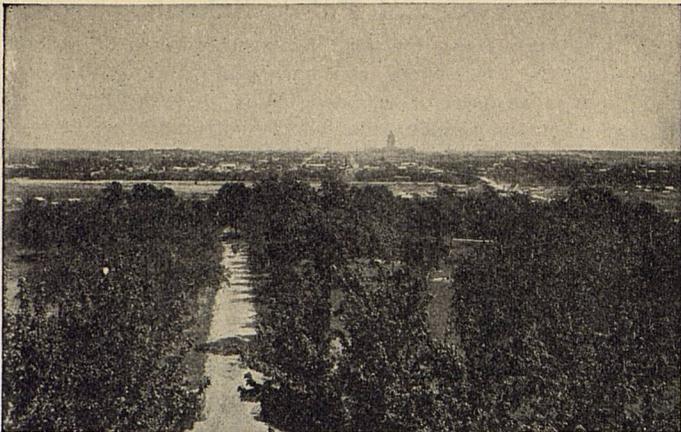
There was in a San Antonio real estate office last winter, gathered from a Southwest Texas garden the 25th of December, the following vegetables: Beets, Irish potatoes, corn, turnips, beans, peas, lettuce, radishes and ripe cantaloupes, a wonderful display, when you take into consideration the fact that more than one-half of the United States is in the throes of midwinter.

They are learning that small grain may be successfully grown in Southwest Texas. Even before the present long wet cycle of seasons came, Southwest Texas had an annual average precipitation quite double the rainfall which produces forty bushels of wheat per acre in the San Joaquin Valley of California.

When the Almighty hand placed such vast store of healing hot sulphur water under the earth at San Antonio, later to come forth in mighty gushers, He must have foreseen that San Antonio would in time become what He and the railroads have made her. The Spanish monks started a city there, because of the wealth of water in sight and the picturesque beauty of hill and vale and winding stream. But they did not know about hot sulphur water, so far below the surface.



Hot Sulphur Wells Hotel.



Looking Toward Austin from West Bank of the Colorado River
State Capitol in the Distance.

State Capital and Beautiful Colorado River Valley.

Before reaching San Antonio, however, the homeseeker from the older states has an opportunity of seeing Austin, the seat of the state government. The capitol of Texas is one of the largest buildings in the world. Austin is a beautiful city, has many elegant homes and institutions of learning, including the State University. The Colorado river flows through the city and along its course is some of the richest farming lands in the South.

Crop Diversification Near Austin.

Special to the *News*.

Austin, Tex., July 4.—Del Walker, of the T. B. Walker Manufacturing Company, of Austin, reports that the company's irrigated farm in the Colorado valley below Austin is having marvelous success this season. From 75 acres he reports 3,000 bushels of cucumbers already gathered, and states that he will harvest at least 3,000 bushels more, a total of 6,000 bushels from the 75 acres.

The further surprise is that not one bushel is shipped out of Austin except as pickles. The Walkers operate a pickle factory and raise their own cucumbers to pickle, and Mr. Walker says he will plant 300 acres to cucumbers next season. The Walkers also have under irrigation 100 acres of Mexican peppers, known as Chilli Colorados, and expect to gather from 150,000 to 200,000 pounds of the chilli peppers. This was an experimental crop, too. Like the cucumbers, the chilli peppers are put up in the Walker factory. Recently chilli peppers advanced 100 per cent in price in Mexico, where the Walkers previously secured their supply, on account of the drouth in that country in the chilli-growing regions; then, too, there is a duty. The Walkers are growing their own chilli peppers and thereby avoid the increased price and the duty to enter the peppers into this country. This is the first experiment in raising chilli peppers in this section. The peppers will soon be ripe, and picking will begin in two weeks and

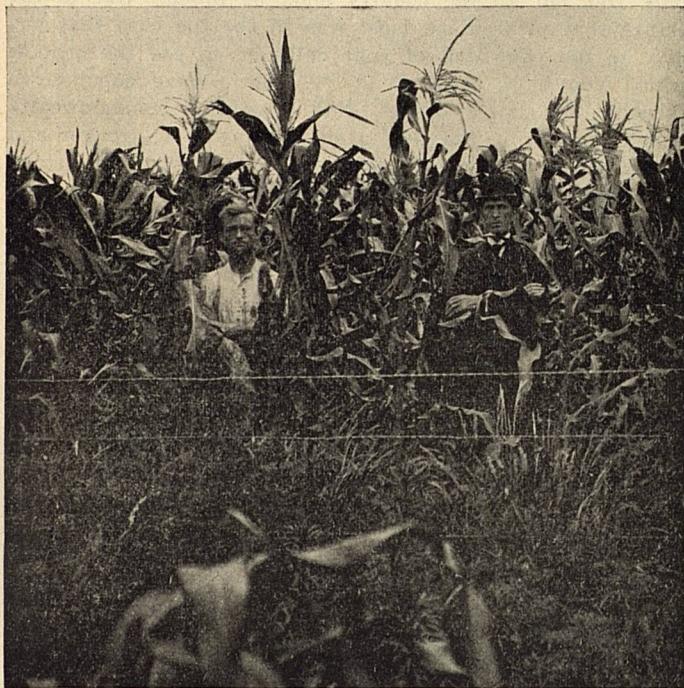
continue until frost. The acreage in peppers will also probably be increased next season.

Mr. Walker states that he is now putting in a vinegar plant, the vats just being placed, and will soon be turning out twenty-five barrels of vinegar daily. He will use some of it in his pickle factory and sell the remainder in connection with his wholesale grocery department.

All of which proves the diversity of Texas resources, the richness and variety of her soils and the industrial development in progress in this state.

The Pecan Industry of Southwest Texas.

While not much is said in immigration literature usually about the pecan industry of Texas, it presents one of the most interesting and promising phases of industrial development to be found in the state, Texas leading all states and countries in the output of this popular nut. It may be well to add, too, that only the wild-growing varieties are commercially important at present, and that most of these are gathered along the stream of West and Southwest Texas. Lately there is heavy planting of the fine "paper shell" varieties, but the new trees are not yet in bearing to any considerable extent. Col. E. W. Kirkpatrick, President of the Texas Farmers' Congress, and an authority on pecan culture, says that every acre set to paper-shell pecans in Texas is worth \$100 when planted, and \$100 per acre more every year till the trees are ten years old, which would make it worth then \$1,000 per acre. This means that at this age it would yield profitable income upon that value.



Corn on J. S. Taylor's Farm, Bermuda.
Photographed on May 10.

Sent Grapes to Taft.

Special to the *News*.

San Benito, Tex., July 3.—About two weeks ago Mr. H. G. Stillwell, the proprietor of quite a large farm here, having some very excellent grapes of the Black Hamburg variety, and which he believed were the first grapes at this season of the year in the United States ready for the market, expressed a large crate each to the President of the United States, William Taft, and Hon. William Jennings Bryan.

At the time of the shipment Mr. Caldwell here wrote a letter to the President, also telling him about the rapid growth these grapes had made, having only been planted a little over a year ago, and which he had every reason to believe were the first mature grapes of the season in the United States. Mr. Caldwell was this morning in receipt of the following:

"The White House, Washington, June 29.

"Dear Sir: Your letter of the 22d inst. and the grapes to which you refer have been received, and the President thanks you for your courtesy. Acknowledgment has been made to Mr. Stillwell. Very truly yours,

"FRED W. CARPENTER,

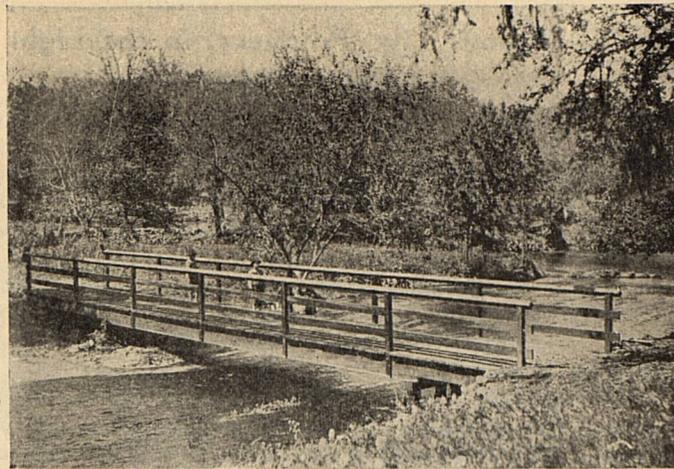
"Secretary to the President.

"Mr. Frank Caldwell, San Benito, Tex."

New Braunfels is a thrifty city in the midst of a long-established colony of industrious Germans. It is one of the wealthiest communities of its size in the world and is an ex-



The Big Well on the Big Four Colony Tract.



Orchard in Springtime at New Braunfels.

ample of what can be done in this rich and resourceful Southwest Texas country. The Comal river runs through the city and provides water and power for numerous mills and factories.

Something Doing East of the I. & G. N. Railroad in Southwest Texas.

Col. Jno. R. Black writes under date April 24th:

"As I told you when I last talked with you, we have put in a pumping plant and have finally started out right. We have 200 acres now in crops under water, 26 acres in onions that will make most a car to the acre, the balance in all kinds of crops and everything looks fine. We commence to market our onions next Monday. We have let them thoroughly mature. We have also cut our first crop of alfalfa, just sowed last November. We also have an oat crop about ready to harvest, which we are going to prepare the ground for alfalfa. In fact, we have everything planted and growing nicely. We will have 400 acres under irrigation this fall. The alfalfa is a great success. We have not failed on a single thing we have planted that we can water properly and we have a fine system of irrigation. Mr. Rockwell has been a great help to me and others. We also put out all kinds of fruits and nuts; sent to California for a bill that we could not purchase here, such as olives, almonds, English walnuts, prunes, etc., and have not lost a single tree."

Neuces Valley Big Things.

(*Cotulla Record*, June 5th, 1909.)

J. R. Black sent up some specimens of La Salle County products to the Business Men's Club of San Antonio this week. There were several crates of onions that it took just fifty-two onions to fill; also a bunch of oats and a bunch of alfalfa that was as good as can be grown in any country. Mr. Black also sent a fine crate of onions to the Business Men's Club of Council Bluffs, Iowa.

Sounds Like Prophecy, in the Light of Later Happenings.

Several years ago a writer said of Southwest Texas, the following things which are coming true:

"This country is going into the hands of the irrigator and stock farmer by the millions of acres. There is where it should go. They are making it safe and great. And while close to the towns, land with water developed is getting high compared with what it used to be; considering what they get out, it seems absurdly low, as compared with values of irrigated lands in California and the West. However, having been overlooked, land may still be had in Southwest Texas at a reasonable price, upon which the irrigation possibilities are equal to much that has been put under irrigation.

"What was said eight years ago about the Nueces Valley has been demonstrated there and at many other points, notably at Carrizo Springs, one of the most famous artesian sections in the world. Here is another prediction: Present development in Southwest Texas is only a hint of what there is to be in the next ten years. The alfalfa fields will be enlarged enormously; fruit trees will be planted by the tens of thousand acres; it will become the most profitable cantaloupe-growing section in the United States; things will sell for money there which no one dreams about today. Great sugar beet fields will be seen on every hand, while the chimneys of great sugar and other factories will belch the smoke of Rio Grande coal upon our ozone-laden air. It will become a great cattle-feeding center, the well-bred steers of the upland ranches taking on an oleaginous finish upon the alfalfa, beet pulp and other provender of the irrigated farms. And the water supply will be developed immeasurably. The water in the streams will be stored in great reservoirs. The dry arroyos will be dammed to save the storm water, and the artesian area will be largely extended. And so much earlier on the markets, with a climate permitting the growing of something all winter, land values will mount higher—ten times higher."

Some of the Good Things Southwest Texas Boasts.

(Carrizo Springs Javelin.)

Do you like to fish? We've got 'em in our big lakes and rivers.

Do you enjoy swimming and boating? Our lakes, rivers and reservoirs afford ample sport.

Do you like hunting? We have worlds of deer, quail, ducks and doves.

Are you a good farmer? We have got the soil and worlds of flowing water.

Experience can take this combination and make a fortune.

Are you in bad health, and looking for a dry, healthful climate? We have more of this article than anything else.

Do you admire fine stock, and desire to find an ideal place to start a stock farm where the death rate in stock is less than one per cent? Dimmit County is the place, proven by actual test.

Southwest Texas Notes.

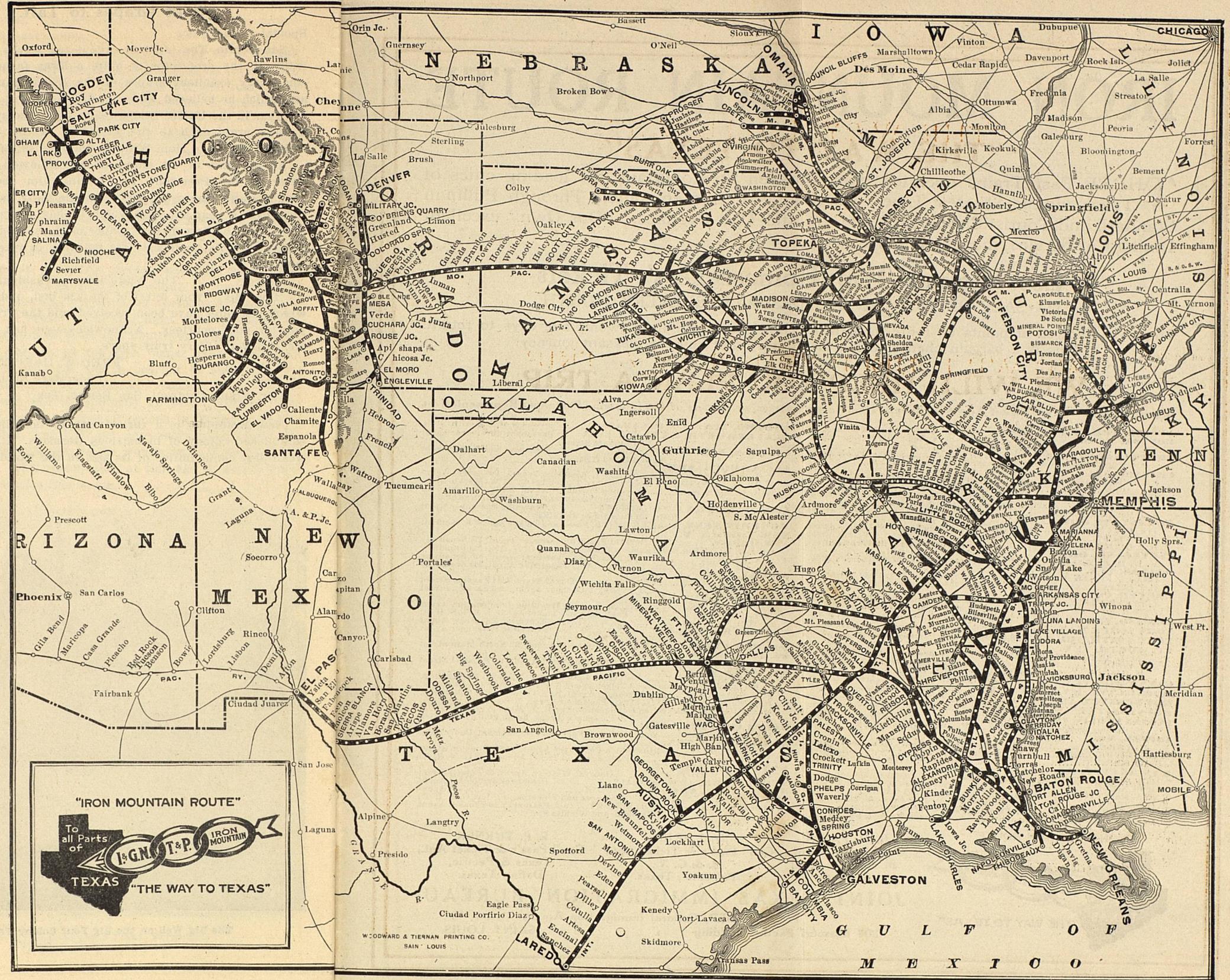
Both Taft and Bryan have winter homes in Southwest Texas.

Dairying pays in Southwest Texas. Spineless cactus makes a cheap, good constituent of a dairy cow ration.

Pecan growing on the irrigated farms! What an idea! And yet it is so obviously a winner that nobody is entitled to much credit for the idea.

People in developed sections where business is overdone would do well to get a line on the new Southwest Texas towns where it has just started.

Southwest Texas has coal enough to back up a great factory industry, and it will not be long till great factories will belch the smoke from Rio Grande Valley coal. The big sugar factories of the lower valley are already doing just that.



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