

GREATEST EXPLORER OF MODERN TIMES LECTURE FRIDAY NIGHT

The people of Avon Park and vicinity must not forget that the greatest explorer of modern times is to lecture in the Capital Theatre next Friday night, Jan. 21.

This will be an opportunity to hear a really distinguished scientist-explorer lecture, that seldom comes to those living outside the larger cities and the fact that the price of admission to this \$2.50 entertainment has been placed at \$1, in order to enable everyone to attend, should insure a large audience.

The lecture will be an intensely interesting one, rendered all the more so by stereoscopic views, throwing on the screen those thrilling scenes to be described by the lecturer.

We have all read many stories of adventure in the far north—stories of truth and fiction, that held us spellbound. But this lecture by Vilhjalmur Stefansson, noted scientist-explorer, will eclipse all the stories we have ever read or the ones we have ever heard.

Since 1905 Stefansson has made three exploration trips to the arctic regions. His last trip occupied five years—from 1913 to 1918—and shortly after his embarkation it was reported on good authority that one of his ships was lost and his entire party was killed. The fact that he was heard from them for a year following. During all the five years of his exploration Stefansson remained in good health, because they learned to live as the Eskimos live.

Stefansson has explored at least one-fourth of the million square miles of the hitherto unknown polar regions. He made discoveries of utmost importance to the scientific world and his adventures outlast anything of which we have ever read. Jules Verne, with his vivid imagination, has never produced a work of fiction that will far surpass the real life of Vilhjalmur Stefansson's explorations and travel on "the top of the world."

From Monday to Tuesday the lecture the audience will be held spellbound, and with the stereoscopic views before it, one can imagine himself transported from this land of sunshine and flowers to the land of midnight sun, snow, and ice-bound at all times of the year. The story of how a human being has been brought face to face with seemingly insurmountable obstacles and mastered the situation, of how he overcame the rigors of the north and compelled nature to yield to his will to supply him with the means of life, is one that will prove intensely interesting and fascinating.

The Avon Park Board of Trade secured the services of this noted explorer at a heavy expense, believing that the people of Avon Park and the entire Seenic Highlands, for that matter, would welcome the opportunity to hear his lecture on "My Five Years in the Arctic."

Besides the entertaining features, the educational value of this lecture should not be overlooked. We will hear from the lips of the explorer himself the tale of his travels, adventures and hardships. We will see flashed on the screen photographs and views taken in that unknown land of mystery.

Every man, woman and child in Avon Park should attend this lecture, and as the price of admission has been placed at \$1, there is no reason why every inch of room in the theatre should not be filled.

The box of trade wishes to thank the management of the Capital Theatre for its generosity in tendering the use of the theatre for this entertainment, the offering of lighting, etc., being all the charge the management would make.

Secure your tickets early and urge your friends to also purchase tickets, in order that no deficit will have to be made up by individuals who have guaranteed the financial part of the matter.

Avon Park is the only town in Florida in which Vilhjalmur Stefansson will lecture, and we understand that just two cities have been able to secure his services—Tampa and St. Petersburg.

Get your shoulder to the wheel and show that Avon Park people appreciate first-class entertainment. Capital Theatre, Jan. 21.

Avon Park Party Enjoy Launch Ride
A party of young people left Avon Park last Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock for Lake Jackson, where they had been invited to enjoy a launch ride given by Captain Fringe and son of Sebring. Those who enjoyed the outing were Mr. and Mrs. John Hood, Misses Martha and Jewell, Edna, Edna Myers and Sadie Myers and Misses L. E. Fischer, of Lakeland; Mrs. L. E. Fischer, of Lakeland; Mrs. Parker, Nichols and Rudolph Bland and A. E. Wilson of Lakeland.

"The Farm Lease Contract"
Land owners and renters will find "The Farm Lease Contract" of interesting value. It is sent free by the United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. It explains the importance of contracts. More than 8,000,000 American farmers are operated by contracts, many of them under loosely understood leases, the cause of much trouble.

A Large Orange
The largest orange we ever saw was brought to us by E. E. Masters. Its average circumference was 16 inches. The orange came from the Haden grove.

WOULD BRING EASTERN CAPITAL TO THE HIGHLANDS

Isaac Van Horn of Haines City was a business visitor in Avon Park Saturday. Mr. Van Horn is working on a proposition to secure eastern capital to assist in financing development propositions along the Seenic Highlands which, when worked out, will provide inestimable value to every community in this favored section of Florida. In this work Mr. Van Horn is asking the co-operation of the leading men of every town in the territory affected. It will mean the acquiring of a large sum of foreign capital to assist in financing propositions of merit that could not be financed locally and every town in the Highlands would have equal chances of securing capital for meritorious undertakings. Ten reputable business men in each town are asked to become small stockholders in a large corporation, composed of some of the leading financiers of the country. These ten men appoint a secretary and the secretaries are entitled to a seat and a voice in the meetings of the board of directors. Securing an interest in the corporation is a condition depends upon the recommendations of the ten stockholders. For individual in Avon Park desires financial assistance for any project, that project must be approved by the ten Avon Park stockholders.

Mr. Van Horn has secured the financial assistance of some of the Seenic Highlands except Avon Park and the matter is being considered by some of our local business men.

Mr. Van Horn is unselfishly devoting a great deal of time and energy to matters pertaining to the development and development of these Seenic Highlands, which he considers the Garden of Eden of the United States.

INCOME TAX IN A NUTSHELL

Who? Single persons who had net income of \$1,000 or more for the year 1920; married couples with net income of \$2,000.

When? From Jan. 15, 1921, is the date for filing returns and making first payments.

Where? For district of internal revenue for district in which the person resides.

Full directions on Form 1040A and Form 1040; also the law and regulations.

Four per cent normal tax on taxable income. Eight per cent normal tax on balance of taxable income. Surplus tax 1 per cent on tax on net incomes over \$5,000.

Water in an Expensive Form
Cucumbers contain more water, 95.6 per cent, than any other of the common products of our fields. Lettuce comes next with 94 per cent, and then cabbage at 90 per cent. Most of the common fruits will average about 80 per cent. All parts of plants consist of from 70 to 90 per cent of water or more of water. The green wood of trees ranges in water content from 50 to 70 per cent. It is realized from this how important water is to vegetation. Florida is one of the best watered states in the United States, both rainfall and in rivers and lakes.

Auto Accident

Norton Smith's auto was run into by a Ford "skeeter" at a curve between the hills and the lake on the night of last week. Norton was driving slowly and seeing the "skeeter" approaching at high speed turned entirely off the asphalt, but the driver of the "skeeter" (a lady) could not stop and crashed into Mr. Smith's Dodge, damaging one fender pretty badly. The "skeeter" was badly wrecked. Mr. Smith informs us there was ample room to have passed safely had the driver not become excited.

Worked in the Fellowship

At a stated communication of Poinciana Lodge No. 327, F. & A. M., held last Friday night, the Fellowship degree was conferred on C. A. Jones, O. C. Cobb and E. O. Douglas of Sebring, Col. D. V. Rone of Lakeland, and Mr. J. E. B. Bass and Mrs. A. D. Roberts and family and A. J. Whidden spent the week-end on the camping trip.

Killed Two Turkeys

A party, consisting of Mrs. L. E. Bass and family, Mr. J. E. B. Bass and Mrs. A. D. Roberts and family and A. J. Whidden spent the week-end on the camping trip.

Florida Has Many Farms

Florida is not far behind her sister states in agriculture and certainly is ahead of them in the matter of farms, for between the dates of Oct. 25, 1920, and Feb. 15, 1921, there were 10,000 farms within the borders of the state. All but three of these farms are small, and the three large ones are the South Florida to be held at Tampa, the Florida State College to be held at Vero and the Sul-Tropical Mid-Winter Park to be held at Orlando, Fla., Feb. 15, 1921.—Lake Wales Highlands.

FLORIDA'S FARMS HAVE MORE THAN DOUBLED IN VALUE IN PAST DECADE

The United States census bureau has made public the following statement concerning the increase in land values in Florida in recent years, farm property having in the last ten years increased more than 100 per cent.

The number of farms in Florida, according to the recent census, is 54,862. These farms contain 5,486,000 acres, of which 2,297,271 acres are improved land. Since 1910, the number of farms has increased 8 per cent; the total acreage, 11.8 per cent, and the improved acreage, 27.2 per cent. Sixteen and seven-tenths per cent of the land area of the state is farms, and 29.3 per cent of the farm land is improved.

The value of all farm property in 1920 was \$229,265,177, compared with \$143,183,183 in 1910, an increase of 59 per cent. The value of land and buildings, \$200,450,240, of improvements and machinery, \$13,551,773, and of livestock, \$25,264,540. As compared with 1910, the value of land and buildings for 1920 shows an increase of 137.4 per cent; of improvements, 204.5 per cent, and of livestock, 71.4 per cent. The average value of land and buildings per acre is \$37.92, compared with \$23.62 in 1910. The average value of land alone per acre is \$38.90, as compared with \$24.74 in 1910.

The value of the 7,308 farms for which complete mortgage reports were made in 1920 was \$99,200,850, and of the mortgage debt, \$12,911,813, or 25.4 per cent of the value. The number of farms with mortgage debt in 1920 was 2,215 foreign born. Of these native white farmers, 30,256 are owners, 1,955 managers, and 2,045 tenants. Of the foreign born white farmers, 1,011 are owners, 193 managers, and 11 tenants. Of the 12,454 colored farmers comprise 6,220 owners, 101 managers, and 6,133 tenants. The number of colored farmers is 3,200, of whom 2,493 are owners, 27 managers, and 688 tenants.

DEIVING MEANS FOR USING SURPLUS PRODUCTS

Converting perishable farm products into commodities sufficiently stable that they can be carried from the farm to the market, when they are needed is characterized as an essential service of the United States department of agriculture. The annual report of the secretary of agriculture to the president.

The bureau of chemistry has been actively engaged in this work. On the basis of its investigations, for example, the citrus industry for the utilization of cull and surplus oranges and lemons for the production of stilling cereals, which always have been a waste product, has also been the subject of investigation. The bureau has produced from it a large yield of adhesive suitable for pasting containers.

"After this is removed," says the secretary, "a considerable quantity of a lower grade material can be made and the residue is practically pure cellulose, which can be used in the manufacture of paper and other products, including a good quality of paper when mixed with a suitable quantity of wood pulp."

After the removal of these articles had been worked out, it was found that the residue was a variety of a very valuable chemical—furfural—was formed, and methods of recovering it have been developed. Furfural is a basic intermediary in dye manufacture and in addition has great possibilities as a solvent and as a substitute for formaldehyde in the manufacture of plastics. Many other similar lines of investigation are actively under way, but these two illustrations clearly indicate what can be done toward opening up new industrial outlets for agricultural products.

Who Gets the Difference

A San Francisco dispatch of Dec. 17 says that a quantity of citrus fruit were shipped to a Florida port by boat during the week at a freight rate of 85 cents against a rail rate of \$1.75 to the same point. Dealers are estimating that there is still around 2,000 cars left in the state. Dry storage are quoted at about 80 or 90 cents per cwt, while other grades much lower. Averaging the price at 75 cents per cwt, and adding the freight, brings the price of California oranges to \$1.40 per cwt, delivered in Florida. Consumers usually pay 10 cents a pound and it is interesting to know who gets the profit.

Raise More Live Stock

The south should rapidly become a great live stock producing section, and it is interesting to note that the establishment of a well balanced system of crop rotation, including the raising of live stock, is one of the most important factors in the one-crop system of cotton, and in some localities tobacco, has resulted in a more quickly exhausted soil, the fertility of our exhausted soils, thereby increasing our yields of cotton per acre, thus lowering production costs.

Uncle Sam's Children

Popular statistics of the United States, as finally determined, is 108,708,771, a gain of 25,668 over the 1920 figures given last year. The population of about 100 millions of the United States is 12,148,738.

A Humpback Whale

A humpback whale with two hind legs was recently captured off the coast of British Columbia.

UNCLE SAM WANTS TO KNOW HOW MUCH YOU EARNED IN YEAR 1920

Work has begun on the collection of the income tax for the year 1920. Uncle Sam, through the bureau of internal revenue, is addressing to every person in the United States the question: "What was your net income for 1920?" The answer permits of no guess work. Every single person whose net income for 1920 was \$1,000 or more and every married person whose net income was \$2,000 or more is required to file a return under oath with the collector of internal revenue for the district in which he lives on or before March 15, 1921.

The penalty for failure is a fine of not more than \$1,000 and an additional assessment of 25 per cent of the amount of tax due. For willful refusal to make a return the penalty is a fine of not more than \$10, or not exceeding one year's imprisonment, or both together with the costs of prosecution. A similar penalty is provided for making a false statement or for furnishing a return with an additional assessment of 50 per cent of the amount of tax evaded.

The income tax applies to women as well as men. Husband and wife must each file a separate return. If of minor dependent children, and if the total exceeds \$2,000, the husband and wife must file a joint return.

Four persons, said Mr. Patterson, "realize the possibilities and resources of the seas, filled as they are with all kinds of food and wealth. It is probably as great in variety as on the land. Florida is favored in respect to the sea, and the source of future wealth for the world. The salt waters around Florida will in days to come add immensely to the prosperity of the state."

FLORIDA'S SHARKS HAVE REAL VALUE

The sea offers Florida a free range to gather about the water's edge, and for other purposes, besides food in many forms. This range can never be encroached upon by fenced farms and buildings, and will yield indefinitely its riches to all who intelligently exploit it. No state is so fortunate in the matter of access to sea food from snow and ice.

Instructions on Form

Full instructions for making out returns for the year 1920 are being distributed to collectors of internal revenue. Persons whose net income above the exemption and 8 per cent on the remaining net income. This applies to all citizens and residents of the United States. In addition to the normal tax a surtax is imposed upon net incomes over \$5,000.

FLORIDA CROP CONDITIONS FOR WEEK ENDING JAN. 4

Crop bulletin for week ending Jan. 4, says:

"General farm work was more active, especially in the matter of preparing land for the nucleus of the crop. The temperature of the forepart of the week did no damage of moment to the citrus crop, but the cold weather was beneficial to the citrus crop. The planting of Irish potatoes continues in the potato district, and the planting of citrus fruit is well advanced in the southern district. The shipment of citrus fruits is well advanced in the southern district, but the work is being resumed with more energy."

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THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF AVON PARK BOARD OF TRADE HOLD MEETING

IMPORTANT BUSINESS CHARGE LAST WEEK

An important business charge occurred in Avon Park last week when Reuben Childers of Fort Meade purchased from T. J. McGinnis an interest in the Park Mercantile Company's prosperous business. Mr. McGinnis will continue as manager of the business, assisted by Mr. Childers.

The new firm will continue to do business along progressive lines and the best evidence of this is the fact that its patrons the best in merchandise at lowest possible prices, has started a sale in which every price reduction has been made. In fact, the price reductions amount to more than \$5,000, which will be fully appreciated by the people of Avon Park and vicinity. Read the ad.

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THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF AVON PARK BOARD OF TRADE HOLD MEETING

The board of governors of the Avon Park Board of Trade held a meeting Saturday morning and elected G. W. Adams to serve as secretary for the ensuing year.

The question of towns eligible to membership in the Seenic Highlands Board of Trade was discussed, resulting in an amendment to the constitution of that body being adopted, defining the boundaries of the Seenic Highlands. The amendment as adopted, to be presented to the Seenic Highlands Board of Trade for consideration, reads: "Resolved, that Article 2, Section 1, of the constitution of the Seenic Highlands Board of Trade be amended to read: 'All communities located in the Seenic Highlands, bounded by Davidson to the north and Ritors on the south, shall be entitled to become members of this association.'"

M. W. Lance was appointed a committee of one to secure the services of a professional surveyor in selling seamen tickets and to the winter amusements course and to the professional lecture.

G. W. Adams was appointed a committee of one to act as publicity manager for the coming season.

G. W. Adams informed the board that County Commissioner James C. Adams had called on him to meet with some of the taxpayers of the district to formulate plans for the year 1920 was \$272,516.67, of which \$100,000 was in the form of road money in this district. Mr. Carlton's attitude in the matter was commended by the board, and M. W. Lance was appointed a committee of one to procure a map of District No. 5 in order that the road money and distribution of road money might be determined and recommendations made to the commissioner.

LARGE SUM REALIZED FROM FERTILIZER SALE

From figures compiled in the office of the commissioner of agriculture it has been learned that the total number of tons of fertilizer sold in Florida during 1920 was 272,516.67. The amount of revenue derived from the sale of the fertilizer stamps amounted to \$68,000.00.

The tons of feed sold during the year amounted to 160,522.24, the revenue from the stamps amounting to \$40,130.55.

Thus, it will be seen, that the treasury of the state for the year 1920 was sold in the state 27,194 tons of fertilizer, the revenue stamps bringing in \$68,000.00. The feed stamps amounted to 10,444 tons and the stamps from the sales brought in a revenue of \$40,130.55.

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The total amount of fishing licenses collected during the year 1920 amounted to \$7,430.00. For the year 1919 the revenue from this source amounted to \$36,627.72. This shows an increase in the revenue of 400 per cent. It is a fact that the market for fish during the past six months has been badly depressed, and the fish dealers have lost heavily and the supply has been far greater than the demand.

COST FIVE BILLION TO RUN UNCLE SAM DURING OLD 1920

The cost of running the United States government last year amounted to approximately \$5,000,000,000, or \$5 billion. The total expenditures outside of payments for interest on the national debt were \$4,700,000,000, or \$4.7 billion. The total revenue for the year 1920 was \$4,300,000,000, or \$4.3 billion. The deficit for the year 1920 was \$700,000,000, or \$700 million.

Treasury officials said that while ordinary disbursements had not yet come down to the level of 1919, the set by Secretary Houston in his estimate of the revenue needed for future fiscal years expenditures would continue to fall. Gradual liquidation of war claims and expenses officials declared, explained the drop in the expenditures, which, they added, would have been greater but for the additional burdens, such as loans and advances to the railroads, imposed on the treasury.

Ordinary receipts for 1920 amounted to \$6,431,000,000 in round numbers as against \$6,772,000,000 for the previous year. The total revenue for the year 1920 was \$4,300,000,000, or \$4.3 billion. The total expenditures outside of payments for interest on the national debt were \$4,700,000,000, or \$4.7 billion. The total revenue for the year 1920 was \$4,300,000,000, or \$4.3 billion. The deficit for the year 1920 was \$700,000,000, or \$700 million.

Commissioner Carlton Here

Friday of last week we received a pleasant surprise when James Carlton of Sebring, the new commissioner for District No. 5. Mr. Carlton desires to impress upon the people that he is not a mere politician, but a public officer, and that he is not a mere politician, but a public officer, and that he is not a mere politician, but a public officer.

Getting Close to Top

The annual report of the United States commissioner of navigation for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1920, was published last week. The report shows that the United States has a total of 16,324,024 gross tons, three times the tonnage of 1914 of Germany whose former place as second maritime power the United States now firmly holds.

