FAIRHOPE COURIER.

That which Nature provides is the Common Property of all God's Children; that which the Individual creates belongs to the Individual; that which the Community creates belongs to the Community. GEN. J. B. WEAVER.

Vol. IV. No. 6. FAIRHOPE, ALA., JANUARY 1, 1897. 25 Cents a Year.

MISS CHAPMAN TO MR. HAMPTON.

Through the kindness of Miss Altona A. Chapman we are permitted to give the following copy of a letter written by her recently to Mr. Hampton of the National Single Taxer.

Fairhope, Ala., Nov. 26th, '97.

Dear Mr. Hampton:

I understand that you would like to hear from me regarding my opinions and impressions of this colony, though I have had no direct communication from you since your letter of last May 21st.

Before I reached Fairhope, I was assured by a single-taxer whom I met on the boat coming over, that this was neither a single-tax colony nor a colony of single-taxers; which would have been rather depressing, had it not sounded so much like Mr. ——'s statement, with which I was already familiar. So I resolved to suspend judgment until I had been long enough on the ground to form my opinions from peronal knowledge and experience.

Having resided and done business here for over six months, having experienced the heat and dust of an uncommonly dry and sultry summer and fall and the inconvenience and restrictions of a rigorous ten weeks' quarantine, battling with the hardships of a pioneer existence and the swarming insect life of this southern clime, I am still alive and resolved to make my permanent home here, and intend to secure a membership in the colony as soon as my means will permit. Not having wintered here yet, I cannot speak with full knowledge of the climate; but thus far it is certainly superb.

Three specific charges have been brought against this place by its detractors, which I will consider separately. The first is that the soil is so poor that nothing will grow here. How any one could be ignorant of the fact that has been advertised in nearly every issue of the Fairhope Courier ever since the colony located, I cannot understaud. No one has ever pretended that this is a rich soil. It is of the same general character as that which prevails all along the coast line from Maine to California, and any one who is familiar with our eastern seaboard knows what that is. . . . Of course ordinary crops will not succeed on this new soil without more or less fertilizing; but wild clover, cow peas, peanuts and horse beans grow luxuriantly, and themselves constitute sufficient fertilizer when ploughed under for sweet potatoes and some other crops. The country all about here is heavily wooded, and has to be cleared before it can be cultivated. A soil that will produce such a growth of pine, oak and other timber, such magnolia trees and cape jessamines, such crops of figs and wild persimmons, grapes and berries with no cultivation. can hardly be called barren. I have seen as fine potatoes, tomatoes, sweet potatoes, cabbages and radishes grown here this season as any that I ever saw in New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania or Virginia, in spite of the fact that crops generally were a partial failure this year on account of the drouth. Watermelons, though only half a crop this year, were abundant and of good quality, though smaller than usual.

I spent seven months some years ago in Virginia, on what is called the northern neck, where the soil consists mostly of worn out tobacco lands. Fish guano is the fertilizer most generally used; but the crops were scanty, and the fields had to lie fallow every other year to recuperate fertility. Yet this poor soil supported quite a population, and a few even made money by fruit growing. Here the ground lies fallow only during drouth, and instead of only one crop every two years, yields two or more crops every year. During the seven months I was in Virginia, I never saw a pound of hay or a bushel of oats, although live stock was abundant; and such a haycock as I can see from my wiudow while writing these lines, would have been a curiosity to be reported far and near; while such a lawn as Mr. Stimpson has in front of his house, would have excited the wonder and admiration of the whole country. And yet, poor as was the soil, I never heard of any one starving to death in Northumberland County or even being pinched for food who could get land to work.

Baldwin County has no poor house and no paupers (except a few superannuated negroes who receive a small allowance from the treasury), and nobody has ever been known to starve or freeze here. There has been no scarcity apparent in any of the households where I have dined either in the colony or out of it, and I have not been off this eastern shore nor twenty miles from Fairhope since I came here last spring. Every table to which I have sat down has been well supplied, and mainly with the products of this barren soil.

Yesterday the president of the association, the school teacher, my brother and I dined with Mr. Stimpson. The Thanksgiving dinner to which we six people sat down would have sufficed for eight or ten, and everything on the well filled board except the beef and the whea flour was produced right here, and the exceptions might have been raised here also if necessary. On the whole it seems about as hard work to make a living here from the soil as it is on the average New York, Pennsylvania or Virginia farm, but not more so. Any one who will remain long enough on the ground to see what can be done with this soil, will admit that success depends more on the farmer than it does on the land. I have done no farming myself as yet, preferring to stick to the business with which I am familiar, until I am in a position to avail myself of the experience of others; but I expect to take up land to cultivate next year, and shall then have a further report to make.

The second charge brought against Fairhope is that it is not run on single-tax principles. It is of course impossible under existing circumstances to realize the single tax in its fullness in any locality without the general co-operation of the whole country, but as I wrote Bolton Hall last summer, the managers and members of this association are endeavoring to apply single-tax principles and methods as far as practicable under existing conditions. More than this no reasonable person could ask: less than this no member of Fairhope Association would accept.

Those who come down here expecting to realize at once all the benefits that it is claimed would follow the national or state adoption of the single tax, will of course be disappointed. Neither Baldwin County nor the state of Alabama is run on single-tax principles, and they are in a position to frustrate or nullify the effects of much that Fairhope may be able to accomplish. But believing that half a loaf is better than no bread and that even a few crumbs count for something, this resolute band of heroic pioneers, facing all odds and shrinking from no hardships, are bent on securing as much of the single-tax loaf as possible and making Fairhope the entering wedge for better things. And in their persistent and self-denying efforts I think they merit the sympathy, support and co-operation of single-taxers all over the country.

Fairhope not only holds its own, but it appears to be growing in popularity among single-taxers generally, which is as it should be; for the benefit of the single tax only becomes evident as land values develop, land values are created only as population increases, and population can increase here only as single-taxers lend their presence and assistance.

The third charge brought against this colony occasionally, is that it is run by one or two men, who dictate to all the rest, As the weekly meetings of the council to which all questions are submitted are open not only to the members of the association but to all residents on the colony grounds, I fail to see how this could be done, even if there were any disposition to do so, of which I have so far failed to discern the slightest trace. Though not a member of the association, I have attended nearly every meeting of the council since I have been here. My presence and advice have been requested on every important question involving the general welfare, and my suggestions have been received and acted upon, so that I have wielded almost as much influence as if I had possessed a membership right to vote. The same is true of every new-comer who manifests a friendly interest in the community. Against determined foes either within or without, the association is compelled, as in duty bound, to take defensive measures. Fairhope Association is not a mutual admiration society. The members criticise each other frankly and fearlessly; and as each appears to have a very decided mind of his own, it seems impossible for any one to gain an undue ascendency. Perhaps, all things considered, Mr. Gaston is the most indefatigable worker in a company of hard workers. His zeal is unquestioned, and his judgment is generally respected; but personally he has no more influence in securing legislation than any other member, and propositions of his, which he has urged upon the council with much enthusiasm and eloquence, have been promptly voted down. So much for his alleged dictatorship. And the other "despot", Mr. Coleman, is even less successful in having things his own way. . .

It does not seem fair to me to exclude the Courier from the list of single tax papers, and I hope you will not fail to enter our single-tax club in your directory. I hope you have received the letter I mailed you a few days ago, containing $1.30 for copies of St. Louis special edition, subscribed for by this club. (Signed) Altona A. Chapman.

We have now space in the COURIER for brief communications on topics of interest from our friends, and will be glad to receive the same.

PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION.

(Contributed by a Single Taxer.)

So many Single Tax men are believers in Proportional Representation, and the subject is one so essential to good government, that I gladly avail myself of the editor's invitation to place the subject before the inhabitants of Fairhope and the yet wider circle of the COURIER'S readers.

In its adoption of the Initiative and Referendum, together with the Imperative Mandate, Fairhope has shown an intelligent appreciation of the insufficiency of present electoral methods. Yet I venture to suggest that Fairhope's governmental operations would be brought much nearer to a sound scientific basis by the adoption of what the Australians call Effective Voting.

Comparing the Imperative Mandate with Proportional Representation, it has been justly said that the former provides a remedy to be applied when things go wrong, whilst the latter prevents things from going wrong, because it starts right.

Before attempting any particular application of this great question to the circumstances of a colony such as Fairhope, I shall deal with the subject in its wider political aspect.

Every one who will look can see the gross evils of the prevailing system of machine and party government. Needless, therefore, for me to point them out. What I desire most earnestly to point out is the extreme clearness and simplicity of the remedy. Whether the remedy be easy or hard to obtain is another matter altogether. Let us first find it.

Gigantic social and political evils are built on wrong methods in some simple fundamental process, like voting or taxation. This is why a simple change in the method of doing some fundamental thing will effect such a great reform. It puts into operation a tendency which makes it easy and respectable to be just and honest, hard and disreputable to play the hog.

Is this too abstract for you? Fortunately you as Single Taxers are familiar with a subject which affords the best of concrete illustrations. I mean the great and fundamental question of land monopoly.

Look at the endless array of complex and far-reaching social evils, miseries and injustices that result from the monopoly of our mother earth. The labor question in all its intricacies, is bound up with the land question. If the remedy had to be as complex and difficult as the evils, we might well despair. Yet you know that the remedy for land monopoly is a simple change in the method of taxation: that and nothing more. You know well that the single tax would destroy land monopoly, and that with the destruction of that foundation of injustice, the vast superstructure of complex social evils would come tumbling down in headlong ruin.

Just so it is with political evils. A vast superstructure of corruption, inefficiency, ignorance, obstruction and plutocratic domination is built on the simple foundation of a wrong method of voting. This wrong method of voting elects the wrong men, and bad government results. Get the right method, and you would get the right men. That would mean good government. In other words, the people are unrepresented and misrepresented, because of a faulty method of election, which gives facilities for the small minority of machine politicians to monopolize representation, and to bedevil our politics in hundreds of complex ways. The faulty method of election is the foundation of the whole tronble. Destroy that foundation, and down tumbles the towering structure of political evil that is built upon it.

Coming now to specific details, the great blunder of the present method is this: the country is cut up into little electoral districts, each electing only one member of congress or the legislature or the municipal council, as the case may be. This gives the nominating power to the machine politician, permits gerrymandering, encourages bribery, disfranchises many electors, prevents the representation of labor and reform and small parties, causes intense party bitterness, promotes lying, and excludes the best men from politics. All these results are directly traceable to the stupid system of one-member electoral districts.

What, then, is the specific and simple remedy? It is known as "proportional representation" or "scientific suffrage," and in Australia as "effective voting." Its most important feature is that it abolishes the single-member district, and substitutes therefor large districts, in each of which are elected from five to twelve members, as may be most convenient. The exact number is not important, provided it be not too small. Less than five to a district is practically useless. In municipalities the ward division should be swept away.

But the large districts of themselves are not enough. You must also have a system of voting which will give a real representation to all the parties, large and small, in the district, in proportion to their voting strength. The best plans require that each elector should have only one vote that counts, and that there should be some way, directly or indirectly of transferring votes from candidates having too many votes to candidates that have too few, in accordance with the wishes of the voters themselves. This can be done in the simplest way, and I will tell you how in a subsequent issue of the COURIER.

R. T. S. T.

A LETTER FROM JNO. H. BLAKENEY.

Mr. Jno. H. Blakeney of Binghampton, N. Y., who a couple of years ago subscribed $10 toward our Single tax Land Fund, $5 of which he paid, as well as $5 toward our Wharf Fund, writes: "I have not been able to contribute anything lately, but will send as a contribution the Wharf certificates I hold—$6.25. Let them liquidate my original subscription to the Land Fund".

We gladly comply with friend Blakeney's request, and in this connection suggest to our friends holding Wharf certificates, that a contribution in Wharf certificates, would be appreciated almost as highly as if in cash. We are fully as anxious as our friends holding them to see the last certificate retired. The wharf would then bring in a very nice net revenue which could be applied toward securing other needed public services; or we might greatly stimulate the building up of Fairhope, by making the use of the wharf free to those residing upon colony lands, letting those who would otherwise reap an unearned advantage, reflected in the increased value of their land, keep up the wharf, by continuing to pay the customary charges.

Mr. Blakeney's letter also contained the following interesting item of news and evidence of his solicitude in our behalf: "In a letter to the National Single Taxer, Oct. 5th. I wrote as follows: 'I have felt much interest in the Fairhope experiment from the first. In the discussion which lately sprung up upon the subject, my sympathies have been with the Fairhopers, though of course at this distance one cannot judge fairly as to the real merits of the case. It seems to me however, that to find fault with the way the Fairhopers value their land when they themselves find no fault and when they own or hold in common, is ridiculous. I would also have been glad if the National Single Taxer could have given them an opportunity to lay before the people, through its columns, their side of the case'. No attention was paid to this".

The Jennings Nursery company of Thomasville, Ga., has renewed its advertising contract with the Courier for another year, and we bespeak for them a generous patronage from our friends. The Jennings company is thoroughly reliable, their prices very low and the quality of their stock the very best that has been received at Fairhope. Mr. Jennings has been very kind in answering all inquiries fully and frankly and his large fund of valuable information may be freely drawn upon by those new to this country, who would avoid the expensive mistakes which many others have fallen into, who relied too much upon the glowing statements of unscrupulous parties who cared for nothing but to sell their stock.

Wm. H, Leinkauf and Son, bankers, whose ad. appears elsewhere in the Courier, have been the favorite bankers of Fairhope people, ever since members of our first party opened accounts with them over three years ago. They have been especially appreciated because of their promptness in attending to business passing through the mails and which has been in quite striking contrast to some other bankers of Mobile, who might be named. Safe, accurate, prompt and accommodating, they combine in large degree the qualities of ideal bankers and we take pleasure in recommending them to our friends.

NQW FOR FAIRHOPE!

As a result of the late "unpleasantness", more commonly called "election", there is likely to be a considerable renewal of interest in Fairhope. There certainly ought to be. Fairhope affords the opportunity of securing immediately a very substantial share of the benefits for which so many earnest reformers have been working so zealously in various parts of the country— and some actually with hopes of success—only to find on a perusal of the returns that the people are still "mostly fools" and that the goal of reform through politics si still a long way off. It seems incredible that the peopl: in the light of all their sufferings will vote to continue the parties and policies responsible, but they will do it. They have done it right along, and there is every reason to anticipate that they will continue to do so for a good many years yet. The fight must be kept up; it must be won; and it will be won; but not next year, nor the year after, nor the next decade.

In the meantime we suggest the practical wisdom of reaching out and taking what is within easy reach.

The local evils, though perhaps not really the most burdensome, are the most easily recognized and the ones we feel the most. The local land speculator, the "prominent citizen" holding blocks of weed-grown lots out of use, or faring sumptuously every day by the appropriation of unearned increment, the local political boss, the municipal franchise grabber, controlling public necessities and charging "all the traffic will bear", are the fellows who worry us most; and Fairhope offers a short cut to freedom from all of them.

Here is land, the basis of all wealth and industry, in a climate unsurpassed for healthfulness and comfort, a local government applying principles wl ich in their completeness will not be secured through the ordinary channels in any county or state in the United States before the youngest Fairhoper is gray haired; a community with no bosses to be routed or "vested interests" to be overthrown, with plenty of room to grow, and only awaiting population and industry. These she is steadily securing and will continue to do in the natural way, by the accretions of relatives and friends of those already here, and in accelerating volume, as the advantages flowing from the application of her principles become more apparent with increasing development; but Fairhope deserves to grow more rapidly than she can be expected to grow in the ordinary way. Land speculation has boomed and built cities, and caused the restless tide of commerce to swell and flow, where but for the concerted efforts of interested parties the low of kine, the rustle of corn or the hum of the reaper would yet alone be heard. A concerted effort on the part of those who want to see right principles triumph, bringing happiness and plenty to thousands instead of unearned riches to a few, could make Fairhope the center of a thriving city in a very short time.

Land, men and money are the three great factors needed to bring this about. Land we have in excess of immediate needs it is true, but it will be sufficient—especially the farming land—for but a short time, even at present rate of growth. Men there are in plenty who would like to come, but they are largely those who are not familiar with the problem of wresting a living from mother Earth, face to face, and fear to cut loose at once and entirely from "wage slavery", and the certainty of even its poor recompense—while the job lasts. There are those able to, and who could safely and profitably, invest a part of their capital in developing industries here which would afford employment for those without capital, and enable them to get a foothold.

Others could do as Mess. Bostedo and Nusbaum have done; help to secure land for future growth, before our own laudable activity has given it a value which we must pay to others before we can secure it. Others can help us to secure further public services, as some did with the wharf; the first necessity in this line being a public water service. Not the least—in fact the most important consideration at present in securing these improvements is their influence in attracting population. There is land and there are villages all around us; but if we can show visible and tangible advantages over them, we can secure the location with us even of those who do not understand fully our principles (not as members at first, but with a view to becoming such when sufficiently regenerated).

In view of the liberal policy of Fairhope in throwing open its lands—which have been chiefly secured through funds paid in as membership fees—as literally "free land", its absolute freedom from financial obligations to any one, and the fact that it was organized and exists solely for the purpose of exemplifying the correct economic principles embodied in its constitution, would entitle us to expect aid and encouragement from those in sympathy with us, even as voluntary, unconditional gifts, as thousands of dollars have lately been freely given to the Delaware and New York city campaigns and in local efforts.

We have never however, asked aid in this way, though if tendered, in amounts however small, it will be fully appreciated, acknowledged through the Courier and applied to the best of our ability in furtherance of the desires of the donors. To others, who may be able, as we know some are in spite of the present depression, to render material assistance, but are not inclined to give it outright, we have some practical business propositions to present, which we will be glad to submit on request.

Headquarters for Cooking and Heating Stoves, also Builders' Hardware, Doors, Sash, Blinds, Window Glass, Cutlery, Grates, &c.



No. 7 Stove only $4.00. No. 8 Stove only $5.50.
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Residents of Baldwin County invited to use our store as a meeting point when shopping in Mobile.
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in Baldwin county. Still, there are those, like Mr. Springer, who after one season's experience, with no knowledge of farming here or elsewhere, will declare this soil to be "absolutely worthless, ccntaining not a particle of plant food", that "the fertilizer will cost more than the crops are worth", and even that "weeds will not grow on unfertilized land", though those who have driven through from Iowa and Ohio say that nowhere on their routes did they see such a luxuriant growth of upland native grasses as in Baldwin county.

That the "unexpected often happens" (and conversely, that the expected often fails to happen), has been frequently exemplified in Fairhope. A late pleasant example of the former is the location among us of Mess. H. S. and W. I. Hunt, brothers, who with their wives are occupying the Charles A. Hall property, which they have rented for a year with option of purchase. Mr. H. S. Hunt hails from far-off Washington (state), and Mr. W. I. Hunt from Chicago. They had not heard of Fairhope before their coming to this vicinity. Our friend, Mr. P. Bebolt of the Ohio settlement, met Mr. W. I. Hunt on the boat on his first trip across (he preceding his brother a day), and recommended him to come on to Fairhope instead of stopping at Daphne as had been his intention. He did so, was entertained at the Fairhope house, became acquainted with some of our people, looked over the vicinity, went up to Daphne to meet his brother the next day: they looked over the conntry about there a day or two, came back to Fairhope, heard of the favorable opportunity to secure Mr. Hall's place, rented it and were at home in it inside of a week after their arrival. We have found them very pleasant people, and will hope before their year expires they will have decided to remain permanently with us. Mr. H. S. Hunt has been a farmer in Washington for many years, and they will cultivate a part at least of Mr. Hall's ten acres the coming season.

The Stikes Hardware Company, in their handsome new ad. in this issue give some prices on stoves, which will delight the eye of those needing to buy. They are certainly down to bed-rock. It will not pay people coming to Fairhope from a distance to pay freight on their old stoves and run the risk of having them smashed, when they can buy new ones here for such prices. The Stikes company are already enjoying a larger share of the trade from this vicinity than any other Mobile hardware house and the Courier hopes to help them corral the balance. Let every resident of Fairhope and friend of the Courier who need s anything in their line give them your order. There is no use to chase around for better prices, for they cannot be found. The very large share of the trade now enjoyed by this firm is the very best evidence that in price and every thing else, they are "all right".

THE FRANKLIN TYPEWRITER.

The number of typewriters on the market and the extravagant claims of rival manufacturers must be bewildering to intending purchasers. The writer has used a number of machines and examined more, but has found none in his opinion combining more features of practical value than the modest Franklin. For simplicity, and consequently durability, ease of operation and speed we do not beleive it to be surpassed. And while it will do all the work that other and perhaps more extensively advertised machines will do; do it as well and as rapidly, or more so, its extraordinary simplicity permits it to be made weighing but about half as much as other good machines and sold correspondingly cheaper. We advise every one contemplating purchasing a typewriter to write to the Franklin Typewriter Co. 320 Broadway N. Y. for descriptive circular and price-list.

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Good wages to sell our Nursery Stock. Apply for terms. We will have for Spring and Fall. 1897, an immense stock of Apples, Pears, Peach, Plum, Apricot, Cherry, Grape, etc. Also small fruits, shade and ornamental trees, Roses etc. We make a specialty of wholesaling to large planters direct. Write us for wholesale prices. Address: Southeru Nursery Co. Winchester, Tenn.

The Fairhope House is completed and has been formally opened for business.

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Published weekly at Daphne, Ala.

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I do any kind of Watch Work that can be done in Mobile

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FAIRHOPE TRANSPORTATION LINE.

Remember that the staunch Schooner "Minnie L. of Fairhope," Capt. G. A. R. Lawrence, makes regular trips twice a week (oftener if neccessary) between Fairhope and Mobile, handling all kinds of freight either way with security and dispatch. Will touch at all points along the eastern shore where business demands.

The Minnie L. has extra facilities for protecting freight from the weather and makes a specialty of handling merchandise and household goods. Special rates to persons moving to Fairhope.

☞SPECIAL! Capt. Lawrence will attend personally and without charge, to purchasing and selling orders, in Mobile, for his patrons.

Fairhopers can get meals and lodging at reasonable rates at J. H. Rolls Front Street Mobile Ala.

Opposite the Union Depot. Rates $1.00 per day.

A PRACTICAL TALK ON FRUIT.

BY WM. JENNINGS (OF JENNINGS NURSERY CO.)

For the Courier.

There were no commercial orchards within the borders of the cotton states during the existence of slavery. There were in fact very few respectable family orchards. So that what our people know of fruit growing, had to be learned since 1865. The Japanese have been 2 000 years or more learning what they know of horticulture, and they do not know it all. Thirty-two years is a very short time in comparison, and hence fruit growing is in the experimental stage with us.

No man can dictate with precision what species or varieties would do best in any given locality. But some progress has been made. Having given many years of my life to the study of fruit growing, I may be able to make suggestions that will be of value to new beginners in the south half of the Gulf states.

Do not in the start plant largely of anything, unless some one in the neighborhood has made a success of it. Begin by planting a trial orchard: include everything likely to succeed on your land: add from year to year such new sorts as are promising, and increase such varieties as are likely to prove profitable.

FRUIT FOR THE GULF COAST COUNTRY.

APPLES. There are a few varieties, mostly of southern origin, that do fairly well for family orchards and local market, if properly managed. One method of managing apple trees is to mulch them heavily and keep them mulched. Another is to cultivate frequently near the trees three or four inches deep, so as to destroy the surface roots and force the trees to root deeply. Always make them branch low, so that the bodies will be shaded. Apples require a fertile soil. Wood ashes is an excellent fertilizer for apple trees. Phosphates and potash in some shape are necessary to the well doing of apple trees.

PEARS of the oriental type are at home in the coast country. Twig blight has been damaging for a few years, but is likely to abate soon, and probably disappear for many years. That is the history of this malady: it comes and goes. There are now being tested by myself and others some new varieties of oriental pears that are exceedingly promising. Of these the Magnolia takes the lead. Some are native seedlings, and others are importations from Japan. The European type of pears are of no practical value in the coast country.

PEACHES of the Spanish type are the most successful, but as yet nothing of value is established as to what races and varieties are best. The trees are cheap and bear at two and three years: let fruit-growers try all sorts that are promising. A large number of new varieties have been introduced during the last few years: try them.

PLUMS. Japanese plums are fine. There are many good varieties. At present Burbank, Botan and Red June take the lead. These plums have created a revolution in plum culture.

GRAPES have been quite successful in the coast country. Concord, Ives, Delaware, Niagara and Moore's Early have done particularly well.

FIGS have not been successful in orchard culture. A few trees near the dwelling, that are fertilized with house slops and ashes, are successful.

QUINCES cannot be made to thrive, and I have quit trying.

MULBERRIES, especially the Hicks Everbearing, are a great success. They yield fruit in great quantities, beloved by children, pigs and chickens.

GOOSEBERRIES and CURRANTS cannot be made to thrive.

RASPBERRIES ditto.

BLACKBERRIES and DEWBERRIES. No better country in the world for these.

NUT trees. We have been successful with Japanese walnuts and our native pecan. They are hardy and healthy. English walnuts, filberts, chestnuts (American, Spanish and Japanese), cannot be made to thrive here.

Mess. G. Van Antwerp and son, are THE druggists and seedsmen of Mobile. Being both wholesalers and retailers, they are able to fill promptly, accurately, and from fresh stock, almost any possible order for goods in their lines. The central location of their store, corner Dauphin and Royal streets, (one block south of the post-office) makes it a most convenient point of rendezvous for Eastern Shore people while in the city and they will always be welcome to make appointments for meeting there and to make themselves at home while waiting for each other. Special attention will be paid by Mess. Van Antwerp to filling mail orders from those who find it inconvenient to go to the city.

FREE LAND.

Fairhope Industrial Association has now over a half section of desirable land for farming and fruit growing, and two score or more beautiful bay-view building lots, which are open to application for leasing from acceptable persons, with no financial requirement further than the annual payment of the rental value, all of which will be expended for the common benefit of those residing upon the association's lands.

We desire and expect all persons coming upon our land who are in sympathy with our purposes and able to do so, to become members of the association; but if unable to do so at once, or desiring to ascertain from experience whether you will be suited here, before investing in a membership, the opportunity is open for you to establish yourselves here without the expense of joining the association.

We want our lands occupied. We want people here: hence this generous offer.

"SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT!"

For the next 30 days we will need large quantities of CURED Moss. We pay market prices and guarantee prompt returns.

MOBILE MATTRESS CO.
P. O. Box 197, Mobile.

FAIRHOPE CIGARS.

The COURIER has at its disposal a quantity of cigars manufactured at Andy Cullen's Fairhope Factory, "Number 127, District of Alabama", which will be sent postpaid to any address in the United States in boxes of 25, 50 and 100 at regular wholesale prices.

We have two brands:

The "Fairhope", Mr. Cullen's best, a clear Havana filler, hand-made cigar of fine quality. Per hundred, postpaid, $3.50
" fifty, " 1.85
" twenty-five, " 1.00

The "Henry Clay", a good hand-made cigar, [illegible] smoker in Baldwin County and Mobile. Per hundred, postpaid, $2.50
" fifty, " 1.35
" twenty-five, " .75

Single-tax smokers and dealers, this is a chance in harmony with the "law of self-interest" to serve yourselves, the Courier and a Fairhope industry at the same time. What more could you ask? Give us an order.

MOBILE & OHIO RAILROAD COMPANY.

This railroad has for sale the finest farming and timber lands in the south, at astonishingly low rates and upon easy terms, in the states of Tennessee, Mississippi and Alabama: also government lands subject to homestead entry. Improved and unimproved farms. Most delightful and even climate in America. For descriptive matter and full information apply to Alabama Land & Development Company, Mobile, Ala.

Excursions at low rates run from St. Louis, Mo., Cairo, Ill., and intermediate points, as well as other points in the north, on several days in each month. Tickets allow stop-over at any point south of and including Cairo, Illinois. Low one-way rates also for settlers and household goods and stock.

Double daily fast trains. Pullman palace sleeping cars with drawing room and buffet. Also clean, easy-riding day coaches on all trains between St. Louis, Mo., and Mobile, Ala. Tickets issued and baggage checked to all points in the United States.

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Charles Rudolph, D. P. A., No. 351 Marquette Building, Chicago, Ill.
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SEEDS! Are you interested in farming or gardening? If so, send us your name and address and we will put you on our mailing list for a copy of our new Illustrated Seed Catalogue and Truckers' Guide. ☞New edition out in December.

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WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DRUGGISTS AND SEEDSMEN.

FAIRHOPE COURIER.

Published at Fairhope, Alabama, on the first day of each month.

BY THE FAIRHOPE INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION.

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E. B. Gaston, Sec'y. — G. M. Bancroft, Treas.

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ERNEST B. GASTON, - - - EDITOR AND MANAGER.

Subscription Price, Twenty-five Cents Per Annum.

Entered at Fairhope Post Office as second class matter.

FAIRHOPE COURIER will advocate what it holds to be correct economic theories and will insist that the same be made to "work." It denies the possibility of a "good theory" which is "not practical." It holds the right of every man to do as he will, provided he infringes not the equal freedom of any other, to be self-evident and the fundamental law of human society; that the equal right of men in the use of the earth [a necessary corollary of the foregoing] can only be secured by applying the principle of the single tax; that all "natural monopolies" should be administered by society in the equal interest of all and that a common interest dictates co-operation instead of competition in many departments of human effort, but that involuntary co-operation, by whatever name it may be called is slavery.

SPECIAL.

Fairhope is now a money order office. Make all remittances on COURIER, or other Fairhope account by post-office order.

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Remembering the holidays, the closing of the old year and the beginning of a new and preparations for our Fairhope anniversary celebration, please excuse all shortcomings in this issue of the Courier. We will try to make up for all deficiencies in the next

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The February number of the Courier will contain a full account of our anniversary celebration. It will give in full, so far as possible, all the addresses made. We hope too, with the cooperation of friends at Fairhope and elsewhere, to make it a special illustrated edition, giving portraits of some of the officers and active workers of our association and views showing some of the improvements we have made and points of interest about Fairhope, which will give an idea of how things actually look here. It will be especially valuable for some time to come to place in the hands of inquirers and those whom it is hoped to interest in Fairhope. We invite the co-operation of our friends in making it an especially pleasing and valuable number. All regular subscriptions, or subscriptions for extra copies, (at three cents each) received during January, will be put into illustrating this issue. Send us in a club or an order for extra copies at once, that we may order as many cuts as possible.

Mr. Robt. Tyson, the well known single-taxer of Toronto, Can., contributes the valuable article on Proportional Representation, in this issue of the Courier, which is the first of a series on this most important subject which he will furnish us. Mr. Tyson edits a "Radical's Corner" in the Toronto Sunday World, in which he recently inserted a short article on Fairhope furnished by the writer at his request.

The Common Cause, of Cincinnati, is one of our valued exchanges. Its editorials are usually clear and to the point, and the Single Tax page edited by S. Danziger is always well worth reading.

ALL ACTIVITY AT FAIRHOPE.

If there is a busier place than Fairhope is and has been for the last few weeks, we should like to know where it is. Every one able to render a useful service has been putting in full time. Aside from the usual routine of work, the harvesting of the sweet potato crop has commanded its share of attention; and people have been getting ready for winter and spring at the same time; for although the coldest weather is often in February, our "Spring work" begins in December and January.

Then too, a perfect epidemic of the improving fever seems to have taken hold of the people, and hardly a place has escaped. Beginning at the bay: Mrs. Sykes has raised her house a couple of feet and added several rooms and a rear gallery; the hotel has been completed; a two-story addition is being added to Mr. Leech's house, and a new chicken house and yard has been built; Andy Cullen is ceiling his house and getting ready to build a barn; Nathaniel Mershon is doing some inside finishing at his house, and has built a new chicken house and yard; the writer has done some much needed work inside his house; Mrs. Woods is adding a room to her house; Captain Lawrence has put in a new fireplace; Mr. Creswell has put on a new room, and will add another or two; A. H. Mershon has enclosed his rear gallery for a kitchen; Mr. Larsen has put in what time he could spare from the demands of others, on his cottage; Mr. Webb has put up a barn on the Frederick place; Mr. Phinney has started a room on the west of his house, besides inside work.

Six new families have been received and have found places within the colony since the quarantine was raised— beside Mrs. Sykes, who has returned after a year's absence to occupy her cottage, Mess. Knowles and Armitage, who represent families to come later, and the Webb family occupying Mrs. Frederick's premises.

The sawmill has been rushed with work all the month, and has had difficulty in getting help enough.

Fairhope is really enjoying quite a "boom", and as there is no element of land speculation in it and the whole community shares in the benefit of any member's activity, it promises to be permanent.

ANOTHER CO-OPERATIVE COLONY GONE.

The "Grander Age" co-operative colony at Co-opolis, Miss., is no more. In a special number of the Grander Age, Mr. S. W. Rose, the editor and the founder of the colony, gives in "The True Story of a Co-operative Village", an interesting and instructive narrative. He presents vividly some of the practical difficulties in the way of socialistic co-operation, which are lightly passed over by enthusiastic theorists; but which must be met and which the colonists at Coopolis failed to overcome, as many others have before them. Closing his history, Mr. Rose says:

The past three years has taught us that the co-operative colony is a failure, and we believe it to be our duty to say so, and save those we can from going through the same trials that have fallen to the lot of all those here referred to.

Co-opolis no longer desires to be advertised as a co-operative village. It will take its place along with other villages of the Gulf Coast, and while it will welcome the coming of good, intelligent people who do not wish to subsist off the efforts of others, it earnestly hopes that those who are looking for the seventh heaven of delight, and will be mad if they don't find it, will not come to us, for we wish no more disappointed ones, who will claim that we have deceived them. We are not angels by any means. We are only common, every-day people who WORK for a living the same as they do at Biloxi, or Gulfport, or Handsboro, or any other Gulf Coast town.

But is there no bright side to this matter? Yes, we are glad to say there is. We have only almost universal kindness to report from those with whom we have done business here—store-keepers, lumber dealers, and those of whom we have bought the land have been kind to us when we have been bitter among ourselves. The co-operation has been on the outside of the colony, and the lack of it on the inside. True, there have been good people come to us as well as mischief makers, but the majority becoming disgusted at the lack of harmony, have gone away again.

So, again we say that under present conditions we believe the colony idea is a mistake; and we cease our efforts to help bring about better conditions along that line.

Co-opolis will still live and grow, but no longer as a place that invites the quarrelsome and turbulent of spirit to come in and destroy that which others have built. Those who come to us after this, will come as they would to any other town, knowing that chiefly upon their own efforts and industry will depend their success here. Co-operlitans will be as helpful, kind and neighborly to all as circumstances permit; but they will guarantee to no one pleasant jobs and lucrative wages, with the balance of the village to wait upon them as their obedient servants.

The "co-operation" which Mr. Rose refers to as coming from those outside the colony, was the natural, "voluntary co-operation" of the single-taxer—the kind of co-operation which is being fostered at Fairhope, and which with monopoly eliminated will become universal. It was prompted by self-interest on the part of all concerned, yet was helpful and satisfactory to all.

CHRISTMAS AT FAIRHOPE.

Christmas at Fairhope was quite a "merry" one, though the day was anything but pleasant. The weather was damp and chilly, the sky overcast, and rain fell much of the time.

A number of Fairhopers accepted the invitation of Mr. and Mrs. E. Smith, to join them in a combination dinner at "the Oaks", their home east of Battles. Others alone or in friendly parties discussed the usual (and some unusual) good things of Christmas dinners.

The Swift, Gaston and Atkinson families dined at the home of the latter. The menu comprised of Fairhope products: roast turkey, 'possum, Irish and sweet potatoes, beets, sliced tomatoes, radishes and lettuce; garnished with parsley, and table decorated with roses and violets (all grown in the open ground). Other good things of Baldwin County we heard of elsewhere, were roast goose, chicken, pork, oysters, veal and green peas, and a large variety of canned and preserved fruits. If any of our friends can report a greater variety grown within the limits of their own communities, we should be pleased to hear from them.

The Creswells' Christmas dinner was made especially pleasant by the presence of Mrs. Laura Jacobs, their daughter, and little son Sumner, and of Mr. Jacobs and Mr. Frank Creswell, son-in-law and son respectively, who perpetrated a most pleasant surprise by running down from Saint Louis unexpectedly, for the occasion.

On Christmas eve, despite the rain the greater part of the population turned out to the Christmas exercises of the Sunday school, at which a number of Fairhope youngsters acquitted themselves most creditably. And every child in the community was remembered with presents from the Christmas tree.

On Christmas evening little Sumner Jacobs had a Christmas tree, all his own, at "Sumner Dale"; but all the children of the village were invited, and some of the old folks went along too. Grandpa Creswell had found a handsome yupon tree which was beautifully decorated with its brilliant red berries alone, but Mr. Jacobs had brought from St. Louis candles, cards and candy festoons, which, contrasting with the green leaves and red berries, ravished the eyes of the admiring children. When Santa Claus, in the person of Grandpa Creswell disguised with a flowing wig and beard of Spanish moss, arrived, he found on the tree and brought in his pack something for every one; and while the children were admiring his tree and enjoying their presents, we believe little Sumner enjoyed their happy faces more than anything else.

FROM MR. BELLANGEE.

A threat to "excommunicate him" if he did not at once place himself again in communication with us, brought recently, a characteristic letter from friend Bellangee, who had been so engrossed with his duties, political and otherwise, that he had permitted an undue length of time to pass without letting his friends here hear from him.

His letter was not intended for publication, but he will hardly object to our using a part of it.

Referring to his experience with celery he said: "I do not think I shall make much money, but I have had no end of fun and furnished labor with a good deal of employment. You think I showed a good deal of pluck to go to digging, but if you had known the difficulties I had to contend with, you would have wondered at my pluck in sticking to it."

Of the election he said; "Well, the election did not pass off satisfactorily, but I can stand it if others can enjoy it. I think, however, that I will quit politics so far as party is concerned. I have done my share."

"I think the single tax is gaining ground in theory, but I find that there are a whole lot of people who are willing to carry around a load of theories which they will never lift a finger to put to use. Their convictions and opinions are a sort of tattoo with which they are conspicuously adorned, but it never goes more than skin deep. All the real progress of the world comes about by some one trying to do something. Intelligent thought precedes intelligent action, to be sure; but a good idea goes to waste as quickly as anything else if not used. I hope our colony at Fairhope will stimulate other such efforts."

The January number of Current Thought is a very interesting one to the student of economics. The special feature is a sort of symposium upon current colony efforts. There are articles upon Ruskin, Fairhope, the Christian Commonwealth, the Pinon Colony, Pinon, Colorado, the George Junior Republic and the Social Democracy. Beside these, there is an article on the Single Tax by Louis F. Post, a review of current thought in the leading periodicals, and much other interesting editorial matter. One purpose of he editor will be to keep the public posted upon the successes or the reverse of the numerous colony experiments now in existence or projected, with a view to the deriving of practical lessons therefrom. At present, Current Thought is issued quarterly. The price is $1 a year: single copies, 25 cents: address, 802 Ansel Avenue, Cleveland, O.

An arrangement satisfactory to all concerned has been made, by which Mr. C. K. Brown will become the owner of the half section of land purchased by Mess. Bostedo and Nusbaum of Chicago for us in '95. Mr. Brown purchases it assuming the option given us by the former gentlemen, which does not expire until January first, 1899. The sawmill plant of Mess. Brown & Leech is already located on this land, and they will go ahead at once opening up land for cultivation on it, and will build upon it at an early date; in which they will be fully secured, whether the association avails itself of its option or not. They would like to have neighbors, and would we presume let other desirable parties have slices of it upon the terms on which they hold it. It is a fine tract of land, lying generally level and easily cleared.

IF THIS ARTICLE IS MARKED

In your paper, read it with care. It is intended especially for you. Knowing of your interest in the reforms which are being practically applied at Fairhope, we send you this issue of the Courier and extend you a cordial invitation to become one of our regular readers.

The Courier is not a competitor of the larger journals devoted to general news or the advocacy of reforms from a theoretical standpoint. It will give due attention in each issue to the theoretical aspect of reforms; but its chief interest and value will lie in the fact of its being devoted to the "immediate practical application of correct theories". Its value as compared with other papers will be as that of a bulletin from an experimental farm reporting tests made and results actually acheived, to a philosophical treatise on agriculture.

In its peculiar field it has no competitor, for no experiments similar to those whose results it will record, have ever been or are elsewhere being made, and as a student of economics you cannot afford to be without it. If interested in our work, do not neglect this matter, but forward your subscription—if not for a year, for at least four months (ten cents)—at once, while the matter is on your mind.

The Fairhope single-tax club will conduct a single-tax meeting at the Point Clear hotel on Saturday evening, the eighth; the first of a series of meetings which it is purposed to hold at convenient points in Baldwin county.

PERSONAL AND LOCAL NOTES.

Miss Chapman has a prospect of securing a good music class at Bay Minette.

Mrs. T. G. White and three children, of Marion, Iowa, arrived on Christmas eve, to remain five months at least.

In spite of the hard work he is doing every day at the mill, S. Howard Leech finds time almost every week to furnish a single-tax article to some paper.

A single-tax club has been organized in Mobile, chiefly through the efforts of Charles A. Hall and J. W. Ettel. Fifteen members were enrolled at the first meeting.

Mrs. Creswell is "rushing the season" on young chickens, She had a hen come off with ten chickens on Christmas day. She it was also, who had green peas for Christmas dinner.

The "friend able and willing", mentioned in the last Courier, has been furnished a plat showing adjacent lands which ought to be secured for Fairhope, and is giving the matter his attention.

The schooner Minnie L., which was tied up for nearly three months on account of the quarantine. is again in commission, and Captain Lawrence is having about all the business he can attend to.

Quite a number of prominent people have lately bought land in Baldwin. Judge Tuttle, who presided at the famous Leutgert trial in Chicago, and Opie P. Reed, the well known humorist, were among those who purchased farms near Loxley last week. They will both build shortly.—Baldwin Times.

The importance of shipping household goods well in advance of your own starting for Fairhope, is well illustrated by the experience of Mrs. Patterson, whose goods were thirty days on the road. Hers were unusually delayed, but it frequently takes two weeks to get goods through by local freight from points so far distant.

Mr. James Dunbar of Cleveland, Ohio, who has been stopping at the Fairhope House for the last month or more, is improving in health rapidly now, and feels much encouraged. Mr. Dunbar is a member of the same fraternal order in Cleveland as Mr. Shupe, who directed him here when advised by his physician that he must try a milder climate.

Mr. Wood's school at Marlow took the last two weeks of December for a vacation, which he has spent with his friends in Fairhope. His assistance upon the Courier was very opportune just at a time when the editor had so much else on hand. Mr. Wood has made arrangements for an acre of cleared land for the season. He will plant it in Irish potatoes and follow with sweet potatoes, and see what he can do.

Mr. and Mrs. C. K. Brown and daughter, parents and sister of Mr. F. L. Brown and Mrs. Leech, arrived early in December. Mr. Brown is a substantial Iowa farmer who has earned the right and is prepared to take life a little easier than he has done. He is also an old-time reformer. Miss Anna is a talented young lady who has been lecturing in Iowa and adjoining states on the single tax and in behalf of the W. C. T. U. They are a much appreciated addition to our community, and so far are well pleased with Fairhope.

The herculean form of Theo. F. Gatchel, of Des Moines was visible on the streets of Fairhope in December. Mr. Gatchel made rather a flying trip, looking after his property interests in this vicinity. The Des Moines News reported that he would bring some families down with him, but none of them put in an appearance here and Fred Swimmer is still "alone in his glory" as the only resident of Epworth Place. Mr. Gatchel reports however, that his family will be down in January to spend the remainder of the winter.

Ernest Swift had an exciting runaway on Christmas day. He started for the beach after a barrel of water with their fine young sorrel mare, who becoming frightened, presumably by some part of the harness becoming disarranged, became unmanageable by the breaking of a line, and after a mad dash through the trees with which the park is thickly studded, relieved herself of everything but the harness and a piece of each shaft. Luckily she was not injured: neither was Ernest, who jumped out of the wagon when he found she was beyond control

It has been very hard to realize that December is a winter month, at Fairhope. Out first frost did not come until well along in the month, and we have had but few frosty mornings since. For the most part the days have been bright, warm and delightful. Radishes and lettuce have not yet been touched in out-door gardens, early varieties of strawberries are blooming and some have berries on as large as the end of a finger, roses are blooming freely, and in sheltered places even the sweet potato and tomato vines have not been killed.

Mr. and Mrs. O. A. Webb and daughters, of Dixon, Illinois, arrived during December and are at home in Mrs. Frederick's beautiful property, "Hillcrest", adjoining Fairhope. They have come prepared to stay a year, and if they are then satisfied with the conditions and opportunities here, to bid a final farewell to the cold winters of the north and make their home here. Mrs. Webb made many friends here last winter while visiting Mrs. Frederick, who are glad to welcome her back with her husbaud and daughters. Should they decide to remain, others of their friends will doubtless join them here.

Mr. Fred Smith and wife, of Gladbrook, Iowa, were among the December arrivals. They brought letters of introduction from our esteemed ex-president, Mr. S. S. Mann, and have come with the intention of remaining if they continue to like it, and also of becoming members of the association. They bave rented Mr. Mann's place for a year, but have also leased of the association two and one half acres just north of Mr. N. Mershon's and east of Mr. Phinney's on Magnolia Avenue, and will build upon it at once. If their report is favorable, Mrs. Smith's parents are expected to follow by another winter.

Captain Thomas Deering was in the city yesterday from the eastern shore, and stated to the reporter of the Register that in a conversation a few days ago, one of the old citizens of Baldwin recalled ninety-seven families averaging five members, in which there is no sickness. The gentleman with whom Captain Deering talked said that he had been a resident of Baldwin county for the past forty years, and never in his experience had known the county to be so healthy as at the present time. There is no denying the fact that the "state of Baldwin" has been a Mecca to many of the citizens of Mobile during the prevalence of the yellow fever in this city.—Mobile Register.

Mr. L. B. Baker formerly at Evansville Ind. an ardent single taxer, who has long been interested in Fairhope, wrote us recently from Birmingham, Ala. saying: "I presume you have forgotten me by this time, but I am slowly, but I hope surely, wending my way toward Fairhope. I have in mind a fraternal life insurance organization which it seems to me could be made to do something toward sustaining Fairhope, by locating its headquarters with you and having its principal officers there. I had this project in view when I started sonth. I have had quite an experience in that line of business. My plan is in many respects unlike other fraternal organizations and I am sure it would prove a great success,"

Mr. P. Bebolt of Section 28, near Point Clear, is one of the successful farmers of Baldwin county, who came here about four years ago from Cleveland, Ohio. Though he never farmed until he came south, Mr. Bebolt is getting there by pluck, energy and good judgment. He has faith in Baldwin county soil. He raised 115 barrels of Irish potatoes last spring from six barrels of seed potatoes. This fall he raised one acre of Irish potatoes, which made 73 bushels. Though not successful with his broom corn this year, owing to the dry season, he says there is money in raising broom corn. He also has an immense crop of sweet potatoes. He intends to erect a barn on his farm this winter, 20x50 feet in dimensions.—Baldwin Times.

The December meeting of the Baldwin county Fruit, Flower and Vegetable Growers' association which should have been held on the first Saturday, had to be postponed until the second on account of rain. Threateuing weather on the morning of the latter day, and rush of work attending caring for the sweet potato crop, made the attendance very small: in fact the Fairhope contingent comprised about all who were there. Those who did attend had a very pleasant social time, enjoying the hospitality of Mr. and Mrs. Norton and becoming better acquainted with each other. The program which was to have been presented at the meeting will be carried out at the next, which will be held at the Point Clear hotel, kindly offered for the occasion, on Saturday, January eighth.

D. G. Armitage, who has been a member of Fairhope Association for over three years and who was here for a while during the summer of '95 and fenced and cleared a few acres, is back to resume possession of his "homestead" and make a home to which his family will follow him in due time. Friend Armitage is a woolen-weaver by trade, but the tariff on wool and woolens has failed to bring "prosperity" to the industry—or at any rate to the workmen in it; and conditions constantly becoming worse have moved him—as well as his ardent belief in the single tax— to seek a new home at Fairhope, which we sincerely trust he will have no cause to regret. He finds his land, which has been cultivated by Mershon Brothers the past season, in prime order and is hard at work getting a habitation on it and getting ready for spring work.

Mershon Brothers have just dug a patch of sweet potatoes in the orchard of Mr. A. H. Mershon, which yielded at the rate of 225 bushels per acre, and of exceptionally fine quality and uniform size. They were grown as an after crop, after a crop of early Irish potatoes, which were profitable alone. No additional fertilizer was used, and no commercial fertilizer had ever been used upon the land— nothing but stable manure; and this has been one of the worst seasons known

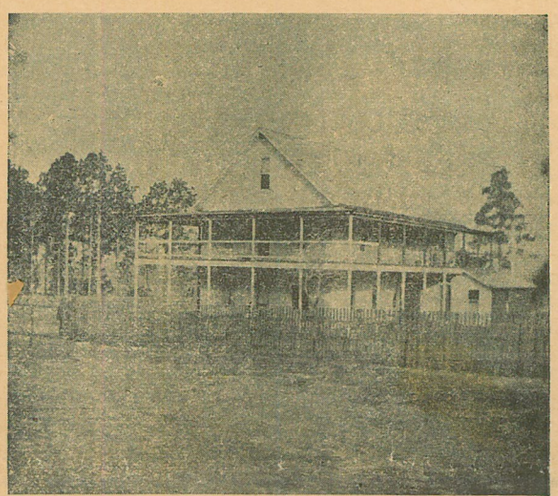
FAIRHOPE COURIER.

That which Nature provides is the Common Property of all God's Children; that which the Individual creates belongs to the Individual; that which the Community creates belongs to the Community.- GEN. J. B. WEAVER.

Vol. IV. No. 7. FAIRHOPE, ALA., FEBRUARY 1, 1898. 25 Cents a Year.

FAIRHOPE'S FOURTH ANNIVERSARY.

The fourth anniversary of the organization of Fairhope Industrial Association and the third of its establishment on Alabama soil, were appropriately celebrated on the evening of New Year's day. At the same time the "Fairhope House", our new hotel, was formally opened–another important event in Fairhope's developement.



THE "FAIRHOPE HOUSE."

The most severe "norther" of the winter prevailing at the time, kept away, quite to our disappointment, a number of friends, who had accepted invitations to meet with us; but made the more appreciated the good-will manifested in the presence of those who braved it; among whom were Col. and Mrs. Morrison, of River Park, Dr. and Mrs. Howe, from across Fish river; Mr. and Mrs. Norton. Mr. and Mrs. Bebolt and Mr. and Mrs. E. Smith; beside our near-by neighbors, Mr. and Mrs. Oswalt and Mr. and Mrs. Meeker.

The Fairhope House was beautifully decorated with our wealth of evergreen trees, shrubs and vines; and with its tasteful and comfortable furnishings and blazing fires of "fat" pine was the subject of many compliments and congratulations.

It had been arranged that the music for the occasion, should be under the direction of Mr. C. C. Mechem Jr. who was to be assisted by the male quartet of which he is a member; but our celebration being on Saturday evening it was impossible for him to leave Mobile; and the local musical talent had to be pressed into service. The musical numbers comprised a piano solo by Miss. Chapman; several appropriate songs by the Fairhope glee-club (Mess. Coleman Stimpson Chapman A. H. Mershon and Gaston, with Miss. Chapman as accompanist and director); a guitar solo by Miss. Mabel Webb; vocal solo by Mr. Gaston and duett by Mess. Coleman and Gaston. The audience kindly refrained from expressions of disappointment over the substitution of local for "imported" talent, and indeed, evinced hearty appreciation of all the numbers rendered.

President Coleman presided with his customary dignity and grace, and introducing the program of exercises spoke as follows:

Ladies aud Gentlemen: We have assembled together to-night to celebrate the fourth anniversary of the Fairhope Industrial Association, and of its settlement in Baldwin Co., Ala., the third. Although it was not on New Year's Day that the organization was effected, or that the first ground was broken in Fairhope, still, it was so near that time in both instances, that we have thought to commemorate both events by a social gathering on that day, at which reminiscences of our past history will be reviewed and plans for the future outlined; a statement of the principles of our association renewed and our firm adhesion to them avowed; good will and New Year's greetings exchanged and a general good time enjoyed.

The preamble of our Constitution reads as follows:

Believing that the economic conditions under which we now live and labor are unnatural and unjust, in violation of natural rights, at war with the nobler impulses of humanity, and opposed to its highest development; and believing it is possible by intelligent association, under existing laws, to free ourselves from the greater part of the evils of which we complain, we, whose names are hereunto subscribed, do associate ourselves together and mutually pledge ourselves to the principles set forth in the following constitution:

Its purpose shall be to establish and conduct a model community or colony, free from all forms of private monopoly, and to secure to its members therein equality of opportunity, the full reward of individual effort, and the benefits of co-operation in matters of general concern.

To further this purpose the association holds the title fee to all its lands, letting out the same at a fixed rental to its members and to other acceptable persons.

The supreme authority is vested equally in the membership, and is exercised through the Initiative and Referendum.

We believe unqualifiedly, in the law of equal freedom to all, and so also as a corollary, in special privileges to none. Our plan embodies under the law of equal freedom, personal vote, equal suffrage, initiative and referendum. single tax, operation at cost of public utilities, free local medium of exchange, voluntary coor ation.

As the single tax cannot be carried out under existing laws, we try to approach as nearly to the principle as possible by making the land rental of members the only tax that they are ob l to pay, the association paying all state and county taxes imposed upon them.



THE "TOWN PUMP" MERSHON BRO'S STORE P. O. AND DWELLINGS.

I will not use time that properly belongs to others, in defining our principles or recounting events in our past history; but with your kind indulgence I will outline in brief the purposes of our colony, and make a few negative statements, before giving way to others who will present positive ones.

I will first tell you what we are not. We are not a religious organization–nor an irreligious one. We have no political ends to attain. We are not an association devoted to socialism or communism, I will say however, that there are religious people among us; we all have political views— not all alike either—and some of us are socialistically inclined.

We do not all eat at the same table, nor contribute to nor draw from a common fund or store, for our subsistence. We live very much as other people live that have about the same average intelligence, the same wants, and the same purposes in life, other things being equal.

How we differ from our outside neighbors will be explained to yon by one who will shortly speak.

We are at peace with them, having no schemes to further derogatory to their interests. The Fairhope plan is a scheme however, but an honest one—an experiment that we are trying on ourselves, hoping that in its success others will be led to think and to act as we are doing; which course we believe will result in great good to humanity.

And now, my dear comrades, friends and neighbors, in behalf of the Fairhope Industrial Association—of which I am a member and the presiding officer—thanking you all for your courteous attention, I extend to you a friendly welcome, a pleasant occasion and a happy New Year.

A CHAPTER OF FAIRHOPE HISTORY.

Secretary E. B. Gaston read the following interesting chapter of Fairhope history:

Mr.Chairman, members of Fairhope association and friends: introducing a chapter of Fairhope history one year ago this evening, before a similar gathering, I said; "as historian of Fairhope association my task is not yet a difficult one, for Fairhope's history lies chiefly, let us trust, before her instead of behind her." Tonight we look back over another year, the fourth since our organization and the third since our settlement in Baldwin county, with a better foundation than ever for our hope that Fairhope's history is yet chiefly to be made.

It has been suggested that as we have with us this evening a number of friends who were not with us one year ago, and may not be familiar with the early history of our undertaking and the principles underlying it, it may be well to briefly summarize the events narrated a year ago before taking up the record of 1897.

The idea of practically applying correct economic theories in a local way through a "colony" was a subject of frequent discussion, early in the nineties, among a number of gentlemen, who frequented the office of the Farmers Tribune at Des Moines Iowa, of which the writer was then editor. Immediately after the close of the campaign of 1893 in which he had taken a somewhat active part, and one result of which had been to press upon him the disagreeable conviction, (strengthened by subsequent experience) that the road to the achievment of the reforms neccessary to establish justice in the country at large, was a long and tedious one, the end of which might not be reached in time to do him individually any good; the writer undertook to present in a paper, the plan of a practical colony organization which had formed itself in his mind as a result of the discussions referred to and his observation of other colony efforts.

The paper was presented on Jan. fourth 1894 to an even dozen gentlemen, more or less interested, and received with general approval. It was the sense of those present that an organization should be formed at once, on lines practically those presented in the paper, and a committee was appointed to prepare a draft of a constitution and suggest plans for immediate action toward putting the ideas into operation. The committee reported in due time, a constitution was adopted, preliminary organization effected and on Feb.6 1894 articles of incorporation were filed.

Most of the first year was spent in making the public acquainted with the objects of the association and securing members, (valuable assistance toward which was rendered by the LIBERTY BELL, of which Alfred Wooster, one of the charter members of the association and who suggested its name, undertook the publication in its behalf); and in the selection of a location for the site of the proposed model community. A committee, Mess. S. S. Mann and J. Bellangee, spent two months investigating various locations in Arkansas, Louisiana, Texas. Mississippi, Alabama and Tennessee, presented a report, which was laid before the whole membership. A vote was taken which resulted in the choice of Baldwin county Ala. by a large majority. (I remember quite well, that Mr. Bellangee expressed himself at one time about as follows; that he was not quite sure the opportunities for making a living were as good in Baldwin county as in some other places visited by the committee, but he was quite certain a living would be much more worth the making here.

In this connection it gives me much pleasure to speak of the valuable service freely rendered us in the matter of choosing a location by our friend Mr. E. Q. Norton. W. E. Brokaw was the first to suggest this as a possible location and also suggested that we write Mr. Norton for further information. A correspondence was opened with Mr. Norton, who practically placed himself at our command. To all of the many questions which presented themselves to us to whom the South was practically a land of mystery, he replied fully and promptly. When our committee in its travels reached this shore they received a cordial welcome from Mr. and Mrs. Norton, who extended them the hospitality of their charming home and assisted them in every way within their power to ascertain the facts in regard to the country.

On the evening of Nov. 12th 1894 the first party of colonists left Des Moines for the "promised land". It consisted from among all those who had talked and promised–and a few of whom had acted–of only your historian and his little family–the "little" referring to the size of the individual members and not their number–and Mr. and Mrs. John Hunnel, parents of our James Hunnel, who had preceded us a few days. Not a very strong contingent to establish a "model community" the light of whose example was expected to illuminate the world. By the time the party had reached Battles however, (designated by our avant courier Mr. Hunnel as our first landing point in Baldwin county), it was augmented by Rev. and Mrs. Dellgren and Mr. and Mrs. Tuveson and children of Minneapolis, Minn.; Mr. and Mrs. E. Smith and family, who had driven through from Findlay Ohio with their famous pony team; Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Pollay of Vancouver B. C.; C. B. Power and wife of Dunbar Pa.; Gilbert Anderson of Saint Louis Mo.; George Boeck of Nebraska; J. T. Kearns and N. L. Mershon of Bayard Iowa; and a week or so later by C. L. Coleman of Saint Paul Minn. Of these Mr. and Mrs. Hunnel and Mess. Kearns and Mershon were not members and most of the others had made but one payment of $5 on their memberships. All with the exception of a couple of pairs of families, who had been acquainted in the places whence they came, were entire strangers to each other.

It will be interesting to note, in the presence of this gathering and with the present developement of Fairhope, that of that pioneer party only Mr. Coleman and your historian and family are left to carry forward the work to which all were pledged; though Mess. Anderson and Hunnel are still deeply interested members of our association and others are esteemed as neighbors and friends.

Some one has said, in substance, that the history of a people is a narrative of its wars. Should your historian dwell upon the "wars" that have arisen in Fairhope since that day, he would not lack interesting material to "point a moral" if not "adorn a tale"; but though he served in all those wars (whether with distinction or not, it is not for him to say, but generally on the winning side) he has no disposition to dwell upon them–now happily past, the vanquished having retired leaving the victors in possession of the field and their places having been filled by others.

It was inseparable, in an undertaking so new and novel, treading such untried paths, and participated in by people drawn from widely separated sections of the country, of different nationalities, strangers to each other.and withal people of such positive convictions and independent dispositions, that there should have been differences of opinion–perhaps however, the underlying cause of most of our trouble has been the dissatisfaction of one or the other member of a family, sometimes both, with the country and their failure to accomplish the individual successes hoped for. This has been true in the early history of all communities and in every part of the country, and ought not to be charged against either the principles of Fairhope or the natural advantages of Baldwin county. The harmony which now prevails is sufficient evidence, also, it seems to me, that those who remained were not wholly, or even chiefly, at fault.

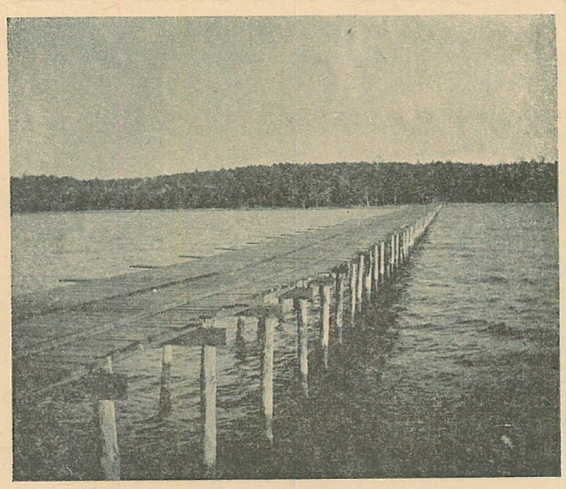
Further than that it should be in Baldwin county, the location of the colony had not been decided. That became the first task of the

pioneers. Baldwin is a big county, well deserving the familiar appellation of her people–"the State of Baldwin"–and had the quest for the exact site required an examination of all her unoccupied land it might not yet be decided; but it was pretty well settled in the minds of all that the location should be on the bay shore, so the task was not so difficult. It was not however, until after the middle of Dec. 1894 that possession was actually taken of the site and work begun upon it.

To old settlers of the vicinity our site had been variously known as the "New City Hill" and "Stapleton's pasture" because of the attempt to found a city here, which went the way of many boom towns of later years a half a century ago; and because of later years it had been used as a pasture for beef cattle by the Stapleton's. Few but hunters had occasion to set foot upon it, and save here and there a stake from the old city survey and along the beach a few decaying old piles protruding from the water, nature had practically effaced the traces of earlier activity.

With what has been accomplished in the short period of our occupancy most of you are familiar. To some it may not appear of much moment, but when all the facts are taken into consideration we feel that we have much cause for gratification and encouragement.

Fairhope was projected and has been carried foward by comparatively poor men; men who felt the pressure of unjust conditions and were moved thereby to seek to better their own condition and open the door of opportunity to others situated like themselves. It has presented no glowing propositions to "investors" nor encouraged any one to hope for returns except from his own labor–which is, unfortunately what few are looking for. It has been backed by no capitalists and further than the publication of the Fairhope Courier, no money has been spent in advertising it. It has had but one salaried officer whose salary never exceeded $40 per month and is now only $10 and that payable not in cash, but in certificates of the association, redeemable only in discharge of equivalent obligations to it.



FVIRHOPE WHARF.
(Looking shoreward, from the pier-head.)

Our wharf was built during our first year, on the plan as most of you are aware, of securing subscriptions for the pupose, in cash, materials, or labor, issuing in lieu thereof, "wharf certificates" good for tolls over the wharf and for the redemption in cash of those not thus redeemed, all its net earnings are pledged, They are also receivable for membership in the association and in discharge of every obligation to it. Of the in round numbers $1200 of certificates issued, considerably over half have been retired.

Fairhope was made a post-office during our first year and today becomes a money-order office. The significance of the latter fact will be better appreciated when it is known, that of the thirty-three post-offices in Baldwin county only five, beside Fairhope, are money-order offices, and of the 2220 offices in the state only 315 are.

The year just passed has marked a distinct advance in the securing both of the hotel, which we formally open this evening, and the saw-mill plant of the Fairhope Manufacturing company, both of which are proving of great advantage to the community, as well as, we trust, profitable to the enterprising owners.

It is one of the distinctive advantages of Fairhope that every improvement public and private, inures to the benefit of every one instead of being absorbed in large part by the owners of land as in other communities. As our sister villages along the shore will find, (some, I believe have already found), the lion's share of the benefits of private and public activity will be absorbed by those who happen to own adjacent land, without effort of their own, but simply and solely from the fact of their ownership. As population increases and facilities for the satisfaction of human desires are acquired, land values will rise and land-holders–not land-users–will absorb the advantages which ought to be shared by all the people. It will be well for them if this tendency does not manifest itself to a degree which will seriously retard their growth, if not stop it entirely. In Fairhope the same tendency of land values to rise with increasing population and developement, will be equally apparent, but the increasing values, going into the public treasury, to be again drawn forth and expended for the public benefit, will not retard but stimulate and encourage every legitimate industry. (This much of single tax, by the way; pardon me, I was to record history not anticipate it.)

Considering the few to do it, a large amount of public work has been done during 1897, most of it with volunteer labor; including the doubling in size of the "town hall" clearing Fairhope Ave. of stumps from the bay to the store, grading the hill from the beach and partially clearing Magnolia Ave. Work has been begun on a substantial bridge across Stack's gulley to cost in the neighborhood of $100. Beside the hotel and saw-mill, the residences of Mr. Phinney and Mr. Larson, the latter not yet completed, and the public improvements mentioned, Mrs. Sykes, Mr. Leech and Mr. Creswell, have built or are building additions to their residences and practically every resident has made substantial improvements upon his premises. Several new residences are assured of early erection.

We have had a net gain of five resident families during the year –not including three gentlemen on the ground representing families to follow later–and our prospects for reinforcements are far brighter than at the beginning of 1897.

A distinct advantage accruing with every passing year, is the increasing confidence in our stability which comes from continued existence. We are all prone to think that that which is new is uncertain and ephemeral; but that which has been and is will continue to be. As Mr. Bellangee says in a letter which it will be my pleasure to read this evening; "Fairhope is no longer an experiment, it is an institution."

I am much pleased to record that the year 1897 has been by far the most harmonious and satisfactory of our existence–in fact there have been no differences of opinion worth mentioning during the year, and I doubt if there is a community in which a better feeling prevails, or there is as much mutual confidence and unity of purpose. Our association has been economically and conservatively managed; it is in a sound financial condition, with its property unencumbered; we are at peace with our neighbors as well as among our[illegible]es, and have every reason to anticipate that the year upon whose threshold we stand tonight, will be for us one of peace and prosperity. In behalf of our association I express the hope that it may be the same for all who are our guests this evening.

Following the secretary's history our esteemed neighbor, Mr. H. C. Oswalt responded as follows, to the toast,

FAIRHOPERS AS NEIGHBORS-

My impressions of Fairhopers as neighbors? The question you ask is rather a tender one. I presume that in asking it you have reference only to those who are members of Fairhope association, as all of us living in and around Fairhope, though not members of your organization, are "Fairhopers. Taking for granted that I have presumed correctly I will proceed; but before I do I wish you to under-

(continued on sixth page.

FAIRHOPE COURIER.

Published at Fairhope, Alabama, on the first day of each month.

By the Fairhope Industrial Association.

C. L. Coleman, Pres. — A. H. Mershon, Vice Pres.
E. B. Gaston, Sec'y. — G. M. Bancroft, Treas.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

Chas. A. Hall. — Wm. Stimpson.
A. J. Cullen. — G. M. Bancroft.
N. Mershon.

TRUSTEES.

Clara E. Atkinson. — Mrs. C. P. Sykes.
S. S. Mann.

IOWA OFFICE.

Care I. Bellangee 1326-9th street Des Moines.

Ernest B. Gaston, - - - Editor and Manager.

Subscription Price, Twenty-five Cents Per Annum.

Entered at Fairhope Post Office as second class matter.

Fairhope is now a money order office. Make all remittances on Courier, or other Fairhope account by post-office order.

The extraordinary interruption in our mail and transportation facilities mentioned elsewhere was responsible for the lateness of the January Courier.

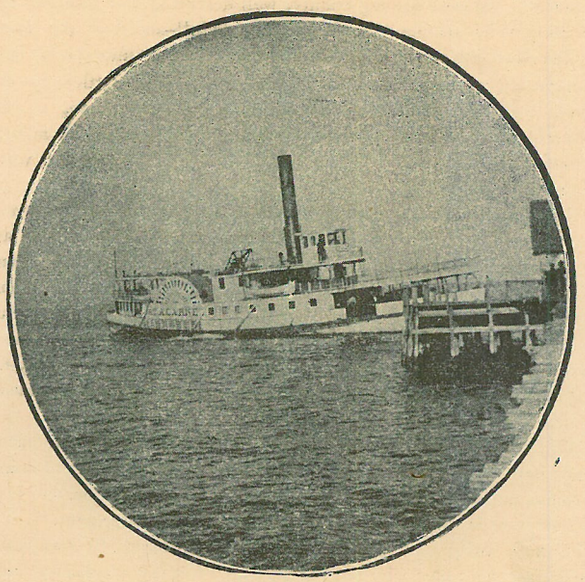
The regular annual meeting and election of officers of Fairhope Association occurs on Thursday, February 3. The next Courier will give the "full returns" as well as interesting items from the annual reports of the officers.

The large amount of space taken up by the report of our anniversary celebration compels us, much to our regret, to omit the second in Mr. Tyson's valuable series on Proportional Representation. It will appear in the March number.

Almost every late number of the National Single Taxer has had some news from Fairhope: thanks to the editor and Mr. S. Howard Leech, who furnished the matter, which included an excellent write-up of our anniversary and a report of our single-tax meeting at Point Clear.

The illustrations appearing in this issue will, we trust, be appreciated by our readers. We had hoped to have others, including some portraits, but could not secure photos to suit in time. The illustrations are the work of the Penn Engraving Co. of Pittsburgh, Pa., a firm of expert engravers and illustrators, who are all ardent single-taxers; which, with their superior work and low prices, should secure them the orders of single-taxers needing work in their line.

Mr. Gardner L. Tucker, of the staff of the Mobile Register, was to have attended our anniversary and reported it for that paper; but the failure of the boat to run made it impossible for him to do so, quite to our mutual disappointment. Mr. Tucker, however, visited us during January, and wrote up the results of his investigations in a three column article which appeared in the Register of Sunday, Jan. 16th, and was the most correct and discriminating review of Fairhope which has appeared from one not a member of the association. The issue of that date has been exhausted, but we are informed that a number of copies will likely be returned unsold by agents the first of this month, and if our friends wishing copies will write us, enclosing five cents in stamps, we will try and secure copies for them.



STRAMER LANDING AT FAIRHOPE WHARF.

FRIENDS, ATTENTION!

It is of the utmost importance that the half-section of land held for us by Mess. Bostedo and Nusbaum for the last two years and now by Mr. C. K. Brown, should become the property of Fairhope Association at once. Our option extends a year yet, but we need the land at once to throw open to settlement.

We have plenty of lots near the bay, available for small holdings, but the good agricultural lands in our first purchases are so nearly exhausted that but a couple of fair ten acre plats remain available, and there is a growing— and sensible—disposition to take larger tracts in order to let a portion each year go to crops to be turned under as fertilizers, or fed upon the place and returned in the form of manure.

We have 320 acres it is true, untouched, but it lies beyond the 320 of which we speak, the nearest point being two and a half miles from the wharf and two miles from the store; and while it will come into demand all right after the intermediate land is settled, it now seems too far out.

A trifle over $380 will buy this 320 acres now—thanks to Mess. Bostedo and Nusbaum— though it is easily worth twice that, and the title is perfect.

The Courier feels that with the success thus far achieved by Fairhope Association, its present secure position and its clear-cut application of the single-tax principle in throwing the lands it may secure open to settlement with no other condition than that of the payment of its annual rental value, all of which, after the payment of state and county taxes, is expended for the common benefit of the rent-payers, it has a right to ask and expect the aid of the single-taxers of the country in securing this land.

Without any action of the Fairhope Association, the Courier therefore invites subscriptions for this purpose, which may be sent direct to the Treasurer of Fairhope Association, Mr. George M. Bancroft, or to the Manager of the Courier., and in either case will be acknowledged in the Courier.

This appeal will be kept standing in the Courier, with the names of the subscribers following, until the requisite amount is secured, or until it is made clear that Fairhope may expect no material assistance from the single-taxers of the country.

Sweet potatoes are in keen demand on the Mobile market at sixty cents a bushel, with prospects of an advance. Take 15 cents—though too much—off of that, for freight, wharfage, cartage and commission, and multiply the forty-five cents net by Mershon Brothers' 225 bushels to the acre, and compare it with corn, oats, wheat or rish potatoes in Iowa.

A GOOD PLACE TO GO,

Mr. Robert Tyson frequently inserts something about Fairhope in his "Radical's Corner" of the Toronto Sunday World. In the issue of January 16th he said:

If I could spare the time and money, I would dearly love to pay a visit to the single.tax colony at Fairhope, on the lovely shores of Mobile Bay. There is a good hotel there, called the Fairhope House. This is what the Fairhope Courier says about it:

[Then follows our notice of the Fairhope House in recent issues.]

This is not an advertisement in disguise. I just clipped it from the Courier, because I am much interested in Fairhope–and, by the way–so is Dr. Emily Stowe of Spadina-avenue, Toronto, who, I think, has been there. I should think that Fairhope would be a good place for any one going south who is interested in social reform in general or colony experiments in particular.

Fairhope has an interesting visitor in Dr. Emily F. Stowe, Canada's pioneer woman physician, and for many years a resident of Toronto, Ontario, who is spending the winter with her friend, Mrs. Sykes. Dr. Stowe also pioneered the Woman Suffrage movement, organizing the firs club for that end in Canada, and leading the movement to the successful issue of securing the municipal vote for women in Ontario in 1883. Since the Doctor's retirement from medical practice, she has devoted her time to the study of metaphysical and economic subjects, single tax and monetary reform being the phases of the economic question most engaging her attention at the present time. She holds the view that any theory, before it can be universally, finally adopted, must be either mathematically or practically demonstrated, and expressed the wish that the adherents of single-tax theories would unite and establish their colonies on terra firma, until they rival in number the stars in the sky. The Doctor expresses herself as much pleased with Fairhope, thinks the place rightly named, and that its delightful winter climate, its attractive park, and water surroundings, combined with its remarkahle elevation, ensures to it more than a fair hope of future and ultimate success. She thinks the location admirably adapted for a sanitarium, and heartily approves the suggestion of the writer, that a sanitarium and an educational institution of a high order ought to be successful here, and become great factors in building up Fairhope.

The Baldwin County Single Tax Club held a single-tax entertainment at the Point Clear hotel on the evening of January eighth, following the meeting of the Fruit growers' Association. Mr. W. B. Kramer, who happened to be there at the time, furnished the music and amusement with his gramophone; Mr. S. Howard Leech, President of the Club, presided; E. B. Gaston made a brief statement of what the single tax is; Mr. Norton gave an excellent address upon "What the single tax would do for Baldwin county"; Mrs. Leech gave an appropriate recitation; and Mr. F. L. Brown closed the program with answers to questions. The attendance was not large but excellent in quality, and considerable interest was manifested. One result was to arouse a deep interest in the subject in A. du Mont, Esq., a prominent citizen of Point Clear, who has promised to give it a thorough investigation; which alone causes the members of the club to feel well repaid for the effort.

Mr. E. E. Posey, General Passenger Agent of the Mobile & Ohio Railroad, and party, consisting of Mrs. Posey, Mr. Posey's father, Mr. J. H. Posey, Mr. J. H. Haight, the leading merchant of Fruitdale, Alabama, and Mr. H. H. Rauth of Mobile, were guests of the Fairhope hotel over night recently, and were driven over the next morning by Mr. Bancroft and Mr. Stimpson to River Park, where Mr. Posey has a beautiful cottage, and where they are enjoying a brief outing: hunting, fishing and breathing Baldwin's exhilarating ozone. They were highly pleased with the accommodations of the Fairhope and the good hard roads between here and River Park, and will hereafter come this way, and advise their friends to do the same.

Mr. H. J. Stemerdink, of Muscatine, Ioa., arrived early in January, and has bought out the improvements of Mr. Armitage and gone energetically to work. Mr. Stemerdink is quite a young man who succeeded to the membership of his deceas ed brother, G. J. Stemerdink, who was one of our early members. He will put in a couple of acres of Irish potatoes and try and get some more land. cleared in time to plant to sweet potatoes or watermelons. Mr. Stemerdink is a fine guitarist and is a welcome addition to our list of entertainers.

Miss Anna Brown attended duriug January the annual convention of the Alabama W. C. T. U. at Decatur and received a warm welcome to the ranks of W. C. T. U. workers in this state. She delivered an address at the convention, and also on the Sunday following in one of the churches of Decatur. She will probably deliver several lectures in the state duiing February, and may attend a Mississippi convention at West Point.

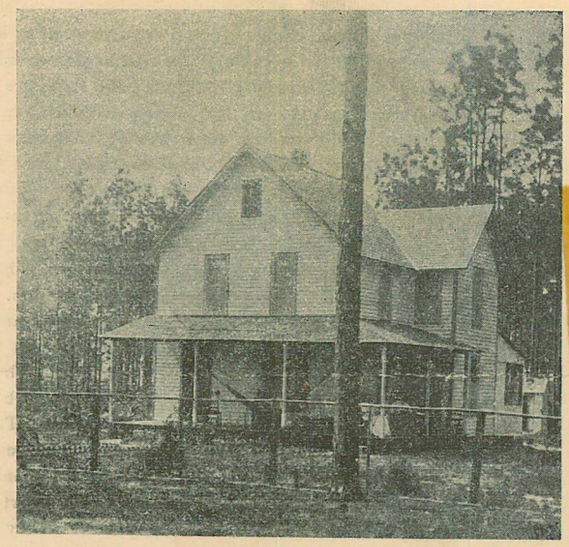
Subscribe now, twenty-five cents a year.

IF THIS ARTICLE IS MARKED

In your paper, read it with care. It is intended especially for you. Knowing of your interest in the reforms which are being practically applied at Fairhope, we send you this issue of the Courier and extend you a cordial invitation to become one of our regular readers.

The Courier is not a competitor of the larger journals devoted to general news or the advocacy of reforms from a theoretical standpoint. It will give due attention in each issue to the theoretical aspect of reforms; but its chief interest and value will lie in the fact of its being devoted to the "immediate practical application of correct theories". Its value as compared with other papers will be as that of a bulletin from an experimental farm reporting tests made and results actually acheived, to a philosophical treatise on agriculture.

In its peculiar field it has no competitor, for no experiments similar to those whose results it will record, have ever been or are elsewhere being made, and as a student of economics you cannot afford to be without it. If interested in our work, do not neglect this matter, but forward your subscription—if not for a year, for at least four months (ten cents)—at once, while the matter is on your mind.



RESIDENCE OF N. MERSHON AT FAIRHOPE.

Mrs. Anna Williams and child, of Des Moines, are visiting at the home of A. Swift.

Increasing business has compelled Mershon Brothers to build an additional wareroom at the rear of their store.

Irish potato planting is going on rapidly now. The indications are for a large increase in the acreage planted to potatoes and other shipping crops in this vicinity.

Of the Hunt brothers, whose occupancy of the Hall cottage was noted in our last issue, Mr. W. I. Hunt has rented the Frisbie farm, two miles from us, with option of purchase, and Mr. H. S. Hunt has gone to Texas to visit relatives there.

Mr. W. B. Kramer, who is touring this section with a gramophone spent several days in Fairhope recently. Mr. A. J. Cullen and he spent several days on a joint business trip to the gulf, overland. Mr. Kramer is highly pleased with Fairhope and talks of taking a couple of lots on the bay front.

Dr. Emory Lanphier, a prominent physician of Saint Louis, made us a very pleasant, though brief, call in January. The Dr. is interested in some colony enterprise in Florida—just what or where we did not learn—and visited Fairhope en route, for pointers. We found him a very pleasant and cultured gentleman and were sorry he could not stay with us longer.

SEEDS! Are you interested in farming or gardening? If so, send us your name and address and we will put you on our mailing list for a copy of our new **Illustrated Seed Catalogue and Truckers' Guide.** New edition out in December.

AMZI GODDEN CO. BIRMINGHAM, ALA.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DRUGGISTS AND SEEDSMEN.

[Continued from third page.]

stand that I will give you only my impression of you as man to man, setting aside your obligations and political opinions.

I must confess that I have been agreeably disappointed with the sociable disposition of most of you that have come from the north. Previous to my residence here I knew very little about the northern people. From hearsay I had formed the idea that you were a people whose disposition was inclined more to self, restless, egotistical, clannish and indifferent. Naturally, when it was made known to me that you were to locate so near me, I looked upon your coming with suspicion and the only consolation I could give myself was that the gulley was between us. Soon after becoming acquainted with you I found however, that you were not the kind of people I had pictured you to be. You could greet with the same hearty "good morning! how's the wife and babies? that I was accustomed to hear from the Southerners. Soon the gulley became an eye-sore and I did wish there was a bridge across it. Now I don't pretend to say that in every respect you are equal to us Southerners, in sociableness, especially over in Georgia; they beat any people in the world. I expect 1 would have been an old bachelor today, had I not gone to Georgia on a visit to one of my kin folks. If our genial hotel proprietor had landed in Georgia instead of Baldwin Co. he would have been married long ago, especially if he had struck the county Bill Arp lives in. He says, the girls never let a stranger pass without saluting him about thus: "Say, Mister, will you give me a chaw of your chawing tobacco if you chaw? Do you chaw?" I am free to say, that you are full of energy and perseverence. What you have accomplished the three years past in the way of neat cottages, attractive orchards and vegetable gardens, the wharf, saw-mill, store and hotel are proof of what energy and pluck will do, especially when the hard times, short crops and other things are taken into consideration. I indicates the kind of people you are. Such people I am not ashamed to own as neighbors. I do not want you to understand that this applies to everyone that has come to Fairhope. A few that have been here have not impressed me as men of integrity. They have been hurtful to your association and to the interest of the South. They have impressed me as presuming that all they had to do was to come here and join your association; that would insure them a good living for themselves and family without any further effort on their part. Naturally they could not and did not stay long. They reminded me of a story that my step-father used to tell. It seems about thus: There was a poor family living close to his home in Georgia, (This is a Georgia incident, too) consisting of mother and daughter of eighteen summers. They being quite poor had to work for a living and could not be very choice as to the kind of work they did. Being pea-picking season, they were picking peas on shares at a neighboring farm. A young man full of life and fond of a joke, addressed a letter to the daughter as follows: "My dear Mary, I have been thinking of you so often since I saw you last. I cannot live without you, as my dear wife. One week from the date of this letter, I will come for you to take you to my home as my own dear wife. I would come and tell you all about it, but am so busy getting ready for our marriage cannot, hence I write you this letter that you may be ready. I send it by my friend, your devoted lover, John," –signing the name of a young man who lived in a neighboring neighborhood. On Sunday afternoon he carried it over and delivered it to her. Neither mother nor daughter being able to read, the messenger was requested to read the letter, which he did. When he had finished the young lady turned to her mother and said; "mammy do you hear that? I am going to be the wife of John and he'll give me the best in the land." The days came and went, John did not come but the pea-picking had to go on as before.

Above everything, you have impressed me that you have come here to stay; to make this your home and to become one of our people– and in doing so you have not brought the solving of the Negro question with you. Whatever might be your short-comings, be your religious and political convictions what they may; the people of the south will extend the hand of welcome to you when you come as you have come. We will not welcome any man or woman to our land, who tries to place the Negro on a social equality with the Anglo-Saxon race.

Allow me to congratulate you upon your success, and to wish for you a happy and prosperous New Year.

Miss Anna Brown recited most beautifully James G. Clark's beautiful poem, "The Lost Atlantis" after which Mr. E. Q, Norton responded eloquently to the toast,

THE STATE OF BALDWIN.

Mr Norton spoke in part as follows;

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen: I have been undecided in my mind as to how I ought to treat the subject assigned to me. I might speak of the "State of Baldwin" as a political subdivision of the United States and enumerate its many advantages: refer to its great area, its vast reaches of sandy beaches, its pine forests, its grazing lands, its easily tilled soil and its magnificent climate. It has been said that there is more good weather here to the square yard than in aey other spot on earth, and to this all good judges of climate will agree. On the other hand it has been said, that the soil is so poor that one must have his grave well fertilized if he would stand in with the resurrection. This statement however, is it seems to me, based upon a lack of knowledge of the facts. If the soil appears poor, it is because its natural characteristics are not fully understood, and because we have not yet learned to rightly treat it. We must learn what crops will best grow and what kinds of plant food are called for; but all this must be done with any soil and in all parts of the world if one would gain the best results. Certain it is, this soil is pre-eminently fitted for certain growths, and it is for the residents here to find out these secrets of nature's store-house.

In treating of the State of Baldwin, I might enlarge upon its incomparably pure water in inexhaustible quantity; its rivers of ceaseless flow, which the heaviest rains never muddy; the wonderful fish stories told by fishermen, whose success at angling makes all exaggeration in the telling thereof unneccessary, since the truth is well-nigh incredible. I might speak of the many natural advantages here upon land, not to mention the inexhaustible food supply within the waters of the bays and gulf that bound the land upon three sides; of the fact that a poor living can be so easily obtained, that to many there seem but few inducements for them to strive for a better living. That cotton, (a bale to the acre) corn, rice, sugar cane, most kinds of fruits and vegetables, together with many of the grains can be raised most profitably–but all these are as nothing, compared to the best products, its men and women.

Baldwin State raises successive crops of men as brave as the bravest and women as true as the best. What I may say in honor of the natives of Baldwin will not be taken I am sure as fulsome flattery–I am not given to dealing in honied phrases–if anything I transgress in what might be thought by some people to be too plain speaking, and because of this, I may have been misunderstood, and have certainly been misrepresented. "Tatoes! T-a-t-o-e-s!" cried a street peddler in stentorian tones, when a woman called to him from an open window, saying "Stop that noise, you'll raise the dead." "Kin you hear me marm?" replied the peddler; "hear you" answered the woman "I heard you four blocks away." "Thank you marm, I'se hollering to be heard." I have been hollering to be heard; and hollering in the interest of all the people of this county.

Our present system of taxation is so bad it cannot be worse, and I have sought to arouse the public thought and conscience upon the matter, and having by some plain talking and writing drawn upon myself the censure of a few un-thinking people, I hope I may be spared the no less unfortunate fate of having any one think that what I now say in laudation of the residents of the State of Baldwin, is done for the purpose of mollifying the malcontents.

In speaking of this State of Baldwin, I might give a history of its settlement, and of the deeds of daring and devotion linked with the names of its pioneers and their descendants. Pickett's Alabama says not so much for Baldwin as did the short sketch of that brilliant writer and one time resident here, Prentiss Ingraham; but the historian of Baldwin is yet to be born.

Instead however, of treating the subject of the toast as a political subdivision and enlarging upon its advantages, I wish in the few minutes left to me, to speak of the State of Baldwin as a condition, not like that of Nirvana, to which some of our less energetic people seem drawn, but to that condition where an ideal state may be made possible; where the true functions of government are recognized, few in number, and conserving liberty rather than repressing freedom; where men enjoy that real democratic government which is the exact opposite from the representative form, wherein the people fail to be represented, and pay richly for a poor showing. To the characteristics of the natives let there be added the vim of the newer comer from the north, and the blending will result in still better crops of men and women here. The restless energy of the people from the north and west, budded into native stock, ought to insure the most vigorous growth and yield the finest fruit. History shows that the blood from races of people born and reared in colder climates infused into that of the southern or semi-topical peoples, results in lasting good to all, and with such an infusion there should grow up in this State of Baldwin, a citizenship that will be the pattern for all the world. Such a State, under such conditions is a possibility, yes, a certainty.

And now, extending to you all, the New Year's greetings, I beg of you to strive for the bringing about of such conditions and the establishment of such a State.

A LETTER FROM MR. BELLANGEE-

At the request of the chairman, secretary Gaston read the following letter from Mr. Bellangee.

Des Moines Iowa, Dec. 27 1897

E. B. Gaston, Dear Friend:

The kind invitation to be present at the fourth anniversary of Fairhope Industrial Association, came duly to hand. I cannot express the regret I feel at being unable to be present on that occasion, but through you wish to offer a few words of greeting. As one of its founders I have always felt a deep interest in Fairhope's progress and success. I am proud of what it has done in the past and hopeful that the future will witness a progress not only more rapid but equally as substantial.

To my mind Fairhope has passed through its most trying and critical period. It is no longer an experiment. It is now an institution. Its future is one of developement mainly. While it is no doubt true that every year will suggest advantageous changes in the details of your work, the main principles upon which the policy of Fairhope has been built, have been proven by your success so far to have been wisely chosen. It must not however, be forgotten that with institutions as with individuals, any departure from the prevailing custom is sure to bring more or less friction with the outside world. This friction is to be overcome not only by wise and considerate action on the part of the representative of the new idea, but also by scrupulous justice towards others and tender and loving kindness in the efforts put forth to win their cooperation.

In all reform movements there is a legitimate place for the iconoclast, who, by his denunciation of existing wrongs, and his ridicule of the follies and inconsistencies of our present social system, may arouse the latent sense of justice in the hearts of men and awaken the slumbering ideals which are buried in the rubbish of selfish interests and false ambitions: But when a reform has reached the experimental stage, an entirely different spirit is needed.

There the work is one of building up rather than tearing down; of developement rather than overthrow. The reformer in this branch of the work must be a philosopher and a constructionist. He must study nature (including human nature) and seek for principles of harmony, instead of weapons of warfare. Knowing that our woes have all resulted from a departure from God's plan, it is his part to study God's truth at its fountain-head and to apply that truth, not as a partizan of some human idea, but an interpreter of God's idea as he apprehends it. This thought has a wonderful effect in removing the bitterness from his intercourse with others.

To my mind the dangers that beset Fairhope are two-fold, viz. internal dissension and external opposition. The first is to be destroyed by the cultivation of the broadest personal charity and most punctilious courtesy in the intercourse of Fairhopers with one another. The second will best be met by a full appreciation of the fact that whatever controversy arises between Fairhope and its neighbors (if any there may be–and I trust there may be none) ought to represent a clear cut conflict between organized justice on the one hand and dis-organized selfishness on the other. If it does not represent such a conflict, it will be the fault of Fairhopers and of them alone; and if it does, our faith should sustain us in the belief that organized justice will in the end come off victorious. But it must not be forgotten that, in the very nature of the case such sacrifices as are neccessary

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If our system is a true one, if it be founded upon eternal principles of right, as we believe it to be, then in the justice of God,s providence it must furnish a wide margin from which sacrifices may be made without imperiling its stability. And as sacrifice conquers more than plunder gains, it is clearly the line of policy which we should pursue wherever necessary to preserve peace with our neighbors. I ask the resident members of Fairhope so to order their lives that the world can see that justice as represented in our principles promotes harmony and brotherly love among our people, and to be so just, so considerate and so self sacrificing in their intercourse with outsiders, that there may never arise any general antagonism against our progress.

I am not at all concerned about the territorial expansion of Fairhope. I firmly believe that if we pursue the right policy, not only will we have needed help from such men as Mr. Bostedo and others who have interested themselves in our welfare, but that all our neighbors will see their advantage to be in contributing all that is necessary to our expansion. . . Remember this one fundamental fact: selfishness is founded on the fear of being at some time placed at a disadvantage, and its cure is the establishment of conditions which are a positive guarantee of absolute fairness. No doubt the grace of God in the heart is an antidote for the disease or poison of selfishness, but the institution of conditions that establish absolute equality and fair dealing are constitutional remedies, or perhaps might better be described as conditions essential to the healthy growth of the soul.

I have already made this communication too long, but I must plead the excuse that Fairhope has been since its inception a child of my love and that my great interest in her gives me a right to make such suggestions as my heart prompts; which suggestions, since they are gratuitous, are in no sense mandatory.

One thought as to internal policy has suggested itself to me. While I desire that the conduct of the colony shall be kept in the hands of single-taxers, simply as a guarantee that it will be conducted on single-tax lines as far as may be, still I approve of the policy of opening its lands to the use of others who are willing to be governed by the conditions imposed. It has occurred to me however, that as a measure of justice and as a guarantee that no unfairness is intended and to guard against any real or fancied abuse being ignored, that all residents, including non-members, be given the right of initiative. Of course all matters in the end must be decided by the members; but it is no more than fair that we should avail ourselves of the good judgment and sense of fairness of our guests (so to speak), and I think that in the long run such a course would do much to win their sympathetic co-operation. . .

We may depend upon it that if we have found the right basis of action and have built our little experiment upon the eternal foundation laid in God's immutable law, the insignificence of our present achievements is no criterion by which to judge of the far-reaching influence of our future development. And we should not permit our present discouragements to dishearten us, but should use them only to warn us against future mistakes, and to inspire us with renewed zeal to accomplish our manifest destiny. At your next anniversary I hope to be with you. Till then I bid you God speed.

The concluding number of the program was an excellent brief address upon the Single Tax from Mr. F. L. Brown, which lack of a stenographer to report it or space to print it forbids the reproduction of here.

Following the program of addresses and music, an elegant repast was spread in the spacious dining room, in the preparation and serving of which Mrs. Andrews was assisted by all the ladies of Fairhope, and which with the social intercourse which accompanied it, was so enjoyable that it was not until after midnight that even our guests from a distance excused themselves.

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Vol. IV. No. 8. FAIRHOPE, ALA., MARCH 1, 1898. 25 Cents a Year.

THE ANNUAL MEETING.

The regular annual meeting of the members of Fairhope Industrial Association occurred on Thursday evening, the third of February.

The first thing in order was the report of the trustees upon auditing the books and reports of officers; which was to the effect that they had found the same correct and corresponding with each other, except a few unimportant differences between the accounts of the Treasurer and the Wharfinger, which they had referred to those officers for adjustment.

Following the report of the trustees, the members listened to the reports of the Secretary, Treasurer and Wharfinger.

From these reports we present the salient features of the year's business, as follows:

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

On hand Jan.1,'97	Cash	$45.62	$573.12
	Wharf Certificates	439.00	
	Association "	76.00	
	Merchandise	12.50	
Received during year:			
From operation of Wharf		$240.70	
" Land Rentals		157.02	
On Memberships		90.00	
Donations		17.00	
Subscribed to Bridge		10.00	
" Land Fund		5.00	
Discount on Wharf Certificates		1.25	
Sundries		5.05	
Assciation Certificates issued		20.00	
Loan		17.50	$563.52
			1136.64

Disbursements (Summary):

On Orders of previous years	$91.53	
For Wharf Maintenance	34.45	
Secretary's Salary	80.00	
Mrs. Woods' Teaching	32.50	
Taxes of 1896	42.00	
" 1897	64.10	
Road Improvement	33.05	
Hall "	13.70	
Pump Repairs	9.62	
Improvements on Coleman Lot (taken for public use)	10.00	
Wharf Certif. due John Lewis from 1895	3.00	
D.G. Armitage, Surveying in '95	2.40	
Sundry Ex. (Postage, Stationery, Lights etc.)	28.14	
Expense Courier (over receipts)	23.20	
Refund of Personal Tax paid.	1.10	$468.79
		667.85

Cash	$ 10 00
Wharf Certificates	646.65
Association "	11.20
	667·85

Due Association on rents of 1897	$27.15
" " stock (good)	40.00
" " rents of '98 (estimated on basis of present holdings and applications)	190.00
	257.15

Current Liabilities:

Association certificates outstanding	$121.35
Unpaid orders	26.05
Claims presented (subject to audit)	71.00
Due Graham & Delchamps, Balance Printing Courier	12.95
Loan	17.50
	248.85
Wharf certificates outstanding	$535.85

(A lien against wharf uses only.)

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The annual election of officers was then proceeded with, under the charge of trustees Mrs. Sykes and Dr. Atkinson, as provided by the constitution; the offices to be filled being those of President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Superintendent of Industries, Superintendent of Public Health, one Trustee vice S. S. Mann, term expiring.

No excitement attended the balloting, which resuted in the choice of the following (being the incumbents, with the exception of Superintendents of Industries and Public Health, and Trustee):

President	C. L. Coleman
Vice President	A. H. Mershon
Secretary	E. B. Gaston
Superintendent of Industries	F. L. Brown
" Public Health	Mrs. Nella Leech
Trustee	S. Howard Leech

NOTES.

The meeting was marked by the very evident concern of all to do that for the best interests of the association, and by the substantial unanimity of opinion and good feeling prevailing.

It will be noted in the financial statement that there was paid in 1897 on orders of previous years $91.53
The orders outstanding December 31, 97, were but 26.05

The net gain in wharf certif. redeemed during the year was $207.65 Had it not been for the yellow-fever scare and quarantine so seriously interfering with business for between two and three months, the net gain would have been nearly $250.

There are thirty-four fully paid members of the Association, holding forty full-paid certificates, face value of $4 000. In addition to which there are certificates held for partial payments on membership account and credits not consumed by penalties, to the amount of about $300.

No appraisement of the value of the Association's real property has been recently made; and for obvious reasons it might not be wise to make it public, if one had been made. Absent members may rest assured however, that at prices a good deal less than is asked for corresponding lands adjacent, there is more than one dollar's worth of value behind every dollar of stock outstanding.

Not one dollar of cash has been paid by Fairhope Assciation for the services of its members in the last two years, though services to the value of many hundreds of dollars have been rendered to it. A part have been paid for in association certificates; and a large part, perhaps the larger, have been donated, as have a good many dollars in cash (toward enlarging hall etc.), of which no record has been made. Several of our neighbors outside the colony have also rendered assistance, both with labor and money, toward improvements of a public nature.

The important function performed by the Association Certificates and Wharf Certificates will be partly appreciated from the facts that of the $563.52 of receipts $382.50 was received in Certificates, and

of the disbursements of $468.80, $239.65 was paid in Certificates. (Of the remainder apparently received and paid in cash, probably 50 per cent was done with orders received in settlement of balances.)

There is no means of estimating the amount of business among the members individually, facilitated by the certificates, but it was undoubtedly considerable.

The wisdom of making wharf certificates and regular Fairhope certificates alike receivable for all obligations to the Association, including wharfage, is clearly demonstrated by the fact that wharf certificates were received for rent to the amount of.....$27.15
And Association certificates received for wharfage to the am't of 21.80
The slight difference being to the advantage of wharf certificate holders, leaving them no cause of complaint; and members of Fairhope Association certainly have none, for the sooner the wharf certificates are redeemed and retired, the sooner the wharf becomes a revenue-bearing property to the Association; while making them equally acceptable for all purposes has greatly increased their acceptability.

From the wharfinger's report the following facts appear:

Gross receipts.....$442.00
Total passengers over wharf.....2,808
Exports during year:
Irish potatoes ..... 149bbl.
Sweet " ..... 1120bu.
Snap beans.....349bu.
Watermelons.....1245
Grapes.....4000lb
Brooms .....91doz.
Wool.....9575lb
Sheep, 46 head; cows, 2 head; calves, 4 head.

Following the presentation of reports, the apparent necessity of re trenchment in expenses, to keep safely within our means, was considered by members. The Secretary called attention to the fact that a principal item of expense was the salary of $10 a month allowed him, and said that while he felt that he could not in justice to himself and family perform the duties required of him for any less amount, he hoped that the members would consider the matter entirely without regard to him, and with regard to the interest of the Association alone. The matter was freely discussed by the members, who seemed to be unanimously of the opinion that the association could not afford to dispense with the work of the Secretary; and the Secretary then proposed to purchase of the association the printing material owned by it, at a reasonable valuation, to be mutually agreed upon; applying the larger part of the balance now due him upon the same, and $5 of his monthly compensation for the ensuing year.

Mrs. Woods also proposed if same compensation were allowed her for teaching during 1898 ($10 per school month), to return same in payment on her membership, and said that unless such an arrangement were made, she did not see how she could continue either to teach the school or pay on her membership.

After full discussion by members, both propositions were accepted with a single dissenting vote.

Mr. Alex Veitch arrived from De Soto, Missouri, February 21, to see if he can find anything here to turn his attention to which will afford him a livelihood. He has been interested in Fairhope since its organization; and his zeal as a single-taxer is thus testified to in the special edition of the De Soto Press issued last December:

ALEX VEITCH,

A native of Edinburgh, Scotland, came to America in 1872, and settled in St. Louis, where he resided until 1892, when he moved to De Soto. He is the only fearless and outspoken advocate of the single-tax movement in De Soto, and is tireless in his efforts to instill into the politics of De Soto the principles of the single-tax doctrine. He believes that the single-tax movement is the only remedy for the evils of poverty, and the only thing that will bring to the working classes permanent good. He is working with energy to induce the people here to study the doctrine of Henry George, and considers it the duty of every man to compare the testimony on both sides of the question and then make his decision. Mr. Veitch is a progressive shoemaker at 316 North Main street, and during his five years' residence in De Soto has built up a lucrative trade in that line.

A PROSPEROUS PEOPLE IN TENNESSEE.

[From the Southern Agriculturist, Nashville.]

In an article written for the November number of the Southern States, Col. J. B. Killebrew of this city gives an illustration of the possibilities of intelligent farming:

In the state of Tennessee, in Franklin county, many years ago a number of German Swiss people bought a large quantity of lands that had been run down by careless and improvident cultivation. These lands, originally fertile, had reached such an exhausted condition by the cultivation of cotton year after year, that they could not be depended npon to grow any crop with profit. They were sold to the colonists at prices varying from $8 to $15 per acre. Much of the surface was scarified with deep gullies. The red color of the soil made these gullies appear very unsightly. They blurred the landscape with their sterile appearance, and illustrated the effects of the cultivation of cotton under the plantation and share system without proper rotation and fertilization. The colonists entered at once upon a systematic method of improvement. Gullies were stopped, manurial applications were made, clover was sown, rotation of crops was practised, the depth of the ploughing was gradually increased, and within the space of six years the soil was so improved that twenty bushels of wheat and forty bushels of corn were grown on places where not one fourth of this yield could be obtained when the colonists bought the land. In the meantime, orchards were planted and meadows and pastures sown. Large stock barns were erected, and cozy, comfortable dwellings built. The old fields, whose only products had been broomsedge, are now growing luxuriantly the hay and pasture grasses which furnish food for large herds of cattle. A creamery has been erected which supplies the year round a market for the milk and butter, so that now the butter of Belvidere is shipped by the hundreds of pounds daily, and the skimmed milk is taken home by the farmers and fed to pigs and calves.

Nor did the improvements stop here. Churches and school houses were erected, the roads were worked, flowers and shrubbery and trailing vines were planted around the homesteads, and there is now a "harmonious flow of beauty" and an air of comfort at every home. The Cumberland mountains in all their unconcealed loveliness form the background to the lands belonging to the colony. Belvidere is an object lesson that should be studied thoroughly by every progressive farmer in the Southern states. It shows what may be accomplished by intelligent labor upon the farm. It demonstrates the value of an industrious immigrant in converting the valueless into a thing of value, the unfruitful into joyous fecundity, hideousness in the landscape into blooming attractiveness, and the small tax-paying property into one contributing largely to the revenue of the state. Wornout land feeds no people, helps no railroads, pays no taxes, educates no children, brings no blessings, cheers no lives, awakens no ambition. Its unsightliness repels, its sterility discourages, its flag of thriftlessness dishonors. What the South needs is 500 000 farmers such as have made Belvidere famous in the agricultural history of the country.

The farms of Belvidere are not for sale; and many of them could not be bought for $50 per acre. The settlers have made homes in which they are contented and happy. They enjoy health and the comforts, and many of the luxuries, of life. What more can additional wealth give them? Their ambition is satisfied: their daily labor gives to them the sense of being useful and independent. Each one has a balance in bank to provide for a rainy day. There is no social strife. They practise an Arcadian simplicity of life and mannrs. Above all, they are teaching the American farmers that thrift is better than great wealth with all its cares and temptations, and that contentment and industry, with good morals, are the most precious jewels of this life.

[We print the foregoing to show that a fertile soil is not an essential to prosperity, nor the first thing to be considered in choosing a location; but that nature affords the means, intelligently applied, for making good her own deficiences or repairing the ravages of man—at least so far as soil fertility is concerned. We have here almost every natural advantage but a rich soil, and the most important, health, pure water and genial clime scarce equalled elsewhere. The achievments of the thrifty German Swiss in Tennessee show that our deficiency can be made good. Ed.]

PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION.

THE HARE-SPENCE SYSTEM.

This was originally proposed by Mr. Thomas Hare, an English Chancery lawyer and very able man.

John Stuart Mill, the great writer on political economy, warmly endorsed Mr. Hare's plan. The English Proportional Representation Society advocate it. Miss Catherine H. Spence, a veteran Australian, has devoted her life to the advocacy of the Hare system, and has popularized it in South Australia. Mr. Hare's original suggestion was that the whole of Great Britain should be one huge constituency; but Miss Spence advocates the use of districts of moderate size, returning from six to ten members, and her name has been added to

Mrs. Dr. Stowe has been sending Couriers and writing letters to he friends in Canada, until with her efforts and the notices by Mr. Tyson in the Sunday World, much interest in Fairhope has been aroused there.

Mershon Bros. are accumulating quite a herd of live stock. Beside their team they have two cows, two two-year-old heifers, a last year's calf and a pet "Billy". The herd will in all probability be substantially increased this season.

Mr. Wood has closed his school at Marlow, and is back at Fairhope, assisting in the publication of the Courier. He will also plant an acre to sweet potatoes and sugar cane, in addition to the acre of Irish potatoes he now has in.

Dr. Emily Stowe addressed the Single Tax Club ou the evening of the 25th on the "Money Question", a subject to which she has given much attention. The lecture was greatly enjoyed, and the discussion which followed was very interesting

Mrs. Ada Wallace Uuruh, of Oregon, a national organizer for the W. C. T. U. now at work iu Mississippi gave a brilliant lecture in Fairhope hall on the evening of the 24th. She took Miss. Anna Brown with her on her return to Miss. to assist in the work there.

Mr. J. H. Hirsch of Jackson, Tennessee, was a recent over-Sunday visitor to Fairhope, a guest of the Fairhope house. Mr. Hirsch is considerably interested in colony efforts, having a brother who is a member of the Colorado Co-operative Co., and having in company with his brother visited Ruskin.

Curtis S. Wood of Canton, Ohio, when renewing his subscription recently, wrote that he had steady employment, but had to go two miles to his work, and froze his fingers quite severely one morning when going to work. He sends his best wishes, and hopes to visit us some day, if not to come to stay.

The first Saturday in February was a rainy day, and the meeting of the Fruit, Flower and Vegetable Growers' Association at Marlow was postponed to the second Saturday. The attendance was not large; but a full attendance is hoped for at the next meeting, which will be in the hall at Fairhope, March 5, at 10:30 A. M.

MOBILE & OHIO RAILROAD COMPANY.

This railroad has for sale the finest farming and timber lands in the south, at astonishingly low rates and upon easy terms, in the states of Tennessee, Mississippi and Alabama: also government lands subject to homestead entry. Improved and unimproved farms. Most delightful and even climate in America. For descriptive matter and full information apply to Alabama Land & Development Company, Mobile, Ala.

Excursions at low rates run from St. Louis, Mo., Cairo, Ill., and intermediate points, as well as other points in the north, on several days in each month. Tickets allow stop-over at any point south of and including Cairo, Illinois. Low one-way rates also for settlers and household goods and stock.

Double daily fast trains. Pullman palace sleeping cars with drawing room and buffet. Also clean, easy-riding day coaches on all trains between St. Louis, Mo., and Mobile, Ala. Tickets issued and baggage checked to all points in the United States.

For information as to tickets, rates etc., apply to
Charles Rudolph, D. P. A., No. 351 Marquette Building, Chicago, Ill.
M. H. Bohreer, D. P. A., No. 135 Griswold Street, Detroit, Mich.
F. L. Harris, General Agent, 215 North Fourth Street, St. Louis, Mo.
E. E. Posey, General Passenger Agent. E. L. Russell First Vice President.

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BANKERS,
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DRUGS SEEDS Wholesale and Retail.

G. Van Antwerp & Son,

Residents of Baldwin County invited to use our store as a meeting point when shopping in Mobile.

Cor. Royal and Dauphin Sts., MOBILE, ALA.

BEROUJON, SANDS & CO.,
FUNERAL DIRECTORS.
Coffins and Shrouds to Suburban Residents at Special Low Prices.
N. W. Cor. Conception and Conti Sts. Mobile, Ala.

There are numerous uses for the peanut and its vine. In the first place, as an article of food in its simple form it is most valuable, being palatable, healthful and fattening. The analysis of the peanut shows it to be rich in albumen, or flesh forming elements. One could live on them exclusively. Peanut oil is regarded as equal in all respects to sweet oil, and may be employed for every purpose to which that is applied. One bushel of nuts (in the hull) will yield one gallon of oil. The oil is used extensively in the manufacture of soap. It was so used in Baldwin County during the war, when commercial soap was unobtainable for several years. It was used as a lubricant for locomotives in the South from 1861 to 1865. The residuum or oil cake is a superb cattle feed. It may be also stated that the vines, when harvested before frost and dried, make an excellent, nutritious feed for stock.

Peanut candy is a popular palatable confection.

Peanut coffee. This is a useful beverage, and lacks the injurious elements of Rio and Java coffee.

Peanut chocolate. True chocolate is made by roasting and grinding to a paste a very oily bean, called the cocoa bean. But manufacturers have learned to adulterate it, as they do so many articles of food; and the principal article of adulteration, and the most harmless, is the peanut. Now it has been discovered that peanuts roasted and beaten in a mortar with sugar, and flavored with cinnamon or vanilla, makes an article almost as good as chocolate.

Bread. If peanuts are mashed into a pulp, and then worked into the dough in making bread, no lard will be required, and the bread will have an agreeable flavor. The skin of the kernel should first be removed, or it will impart a bitter taste.

And now, friends, you are all invited to offer any bits of information you may possess regarding the peanut, its uses, cultivation etc.; and then you are all invited to partake of the edible in several forms, prepared and brought here by the town people. Sample each article and pass judgment upon it.

PERSONAL AND LOCAL NOTES.

Andy Cullen is building a barn

Rev. Isaiah Reid preached at Fairhope on the 20th.

Mr Larson is making steady progress with the improvement of his place

Mr. Charles Merrill of Cedar Rapids Iowa, is visiting the Webb family

Mr. Stemerdink is at home on his ten acres, keeping house for himself.

Mr. George Swift is visiting his parents and brother, and helping to put in the spring crops.

Mr. Bellangee's son-in-law, Mr. W. F. Call, is corresponding with a view to locating with us.

Walter Scott is keeping bachelor's hall in the Mann house, and stocking the place with poultry.

Nathaniel Mershon has put up a neat green-house, with cotton cloth instead of glass, for raising plants &c

Misses Effie Mershon and Beulah Gaston were guests of the Misses Mechem in Mobile during Mardi Gras.

P. A. Parker of Chatham, N. Y., has written us that he will be with ns about March fifth for a week's visit.

Mershon Brothers are clearing a tract of eight acres, a part of which at least, they will plant this season.

Mr. A. P. Kingsbury, a prominent builder of Des Moines, made friends in Fairhope a brief call in February.

Mrs. Anna Williams and daughter Hazel, who have been visiting Mr. and Mrs. A. Swift, have returned to Des Moines.

Miss Nellie Lee of Des Moines is again in Fairhope, and is accompanied by her sister, Mrs. S. W. Flint, also of Des Moines.

Fairhope as usual turned out one of the best looking and best behaved delegations from this shore to the Mardi Gras at Mobile.

A H Mershon has got tired of the "Hauly Water Works", as Mr Phinney calls hauling water from the beach springs, and is putting in a fine large cistern

Mr Stapleton, our butcher, has furnished us with delicious venison on several occasions this winter Mr Maurice Stapleton recently killed two fine deer with one shot

Mr. A. M. Woodward, a prominent grain merchant of Minneapolis, Minn., with three children is visiting his relatives in Fairhope He is a brother-in-law of Dr Atkinson and Secretary Gaston

P. H. Donlan, of Emmettsburg Iowa, forwarding his subscription to the Courier for a year says, "I intend to be with you before long and wish to keep posted on the progress you are making."

The space required by the report of our anniversary celebration crowded out much of our local matter in last issue, including mention of the return of Mrs. A. J. Cullen and little Fairhope from their long visit at Erie, Pa., and the arrival of the Appleford-Thompson party of eight from Dixon, Illinois, who have since gone up to Daphne.

Mrs Theo F Gatchel and sons, Mr C H Ainley, Rev Isaiah Reid and Miss Stenberg with Fred Swimmer, comprise the winter colony at "Epworth" We understand that there will be a number of others down soon, some of whom will build cottages Rev Reid has purchased ten acres there, and is improving it

Our friend and fellow-member Mr. Gilbert Anderson of Saint Louis is forwarding the subscription of a friend says: "I am much pleased with the reports of the association holding its own and making new advances. Have been very busy with business and other matters last fall and this winter, which partly accounts for my being so seldom heard from."

Mr. and Mrs. Mott of Chicago arrived in Fairhope during February, after spending several days looking over the country at various points between Montgomery and here. They found no place they liked as well as Fairhope, and will, we hope, locate permanently with us. Mr. Mott attended the picnic at Chicago on July Fourth, and first heard about Fairhope, He is a sheet-iron worker, and has found work in his line for the present at Mobile. Mrs. Mott is assisting Mrs. Andrews at the hotel.

The sad news of the death of Walter Hoffman was conveyed to friends in Fairhope by a letter from Mrs. Hoffman to Andy Cullen and family. He died at San Antonio, Texas, on January twenty-third. Nothing had been heard from him here for some months, and we had hoped that the apparent improvement he had made here had been continued, and that he was well on the way to complete recovery. The tenderest sympathy of the Fairhope friends of the warm-hearted boy goes out to his noble parents in their bereavement.

Mrs. Pickering, in a recent letter to Mrs. C. E. Gaston, says: "The Courier came this A. M. and brought the news from the sunny South. You can't imagine how I long to be with you. I had almost said I envy you—but I don't, I don't want anybody to have to stay here, where there is so little sunshine. I have not been at all well this fall and winter. Of course I can but feel that if I was south I would feel better, as I was so well while there. . . If you have nothing else to be thankful for, you have climate and lovely location; I love Fairhope as well as I did the first time I ever saw it. That is saying a good deal."

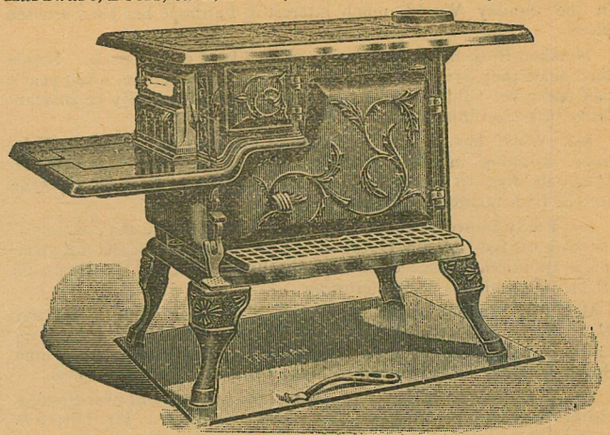
Mess. Armitage, Bancroft, Will and Frank Davis, Gaston, A. H. and N. Mershon, Phinney, Smith and Wood constituted a volunteer corps who turned out on a recent afternoon and did valiant service in clearing Magnolia Avenue. A hearty lunch was served to those who worked by some of the Fairhope ladies, under the immediate charge of Misses Effie Mershon and Beulah Gaston, to whom the chief credit for the good work accomplished is due. In the evening many other Fairhopers turned out to help burn the brush and trees from the afternoon's cutting, and had a jolly time as well as made themselves useful. Some of the school children worked nobly too. Another half-day and evening like it would give a clear view and passage the length of the avenue.

The alarming cry of "Fire!" rang out in Fairhope one quiet evening in February. Mr. Arthur Mershon, stepping out of the store door to go home, noticed flames issuing from the roof of Mr. Stimpson's cottage, and turned in the first alarm. Fortunately there were several men in the store and others within call, and a volunteer fire brigade was very soon on the spot. Mr. Stimpson had a cistern with plenty of water beside the house; and the night being very still and the fire having gained little headway, it was soon extinguished. Mrs. Stimpson, who was the only one in the house at the time, did not know it was afire, until the fire brigade rushed into the yard. The cause was that the stovepipe was too short, and coming out of the terra cotta chimney, fell over against the under side of the roof, setting fire to the shingles. The damage was trifling.

Mr. W. L. Prather and son and Mr. Louis J. Taylor were recent visitors at Fairhope, walking over from Loxley, fourteen miles east of Daphne. They came to Loxley very recently from Chicago, allured by the glowing representations of the Loxley Land Co., and invested in land there, Mr. Taylor having bought and paid $200 for 40 acres, and then found that he could have homesteaded 160 acres of equally good land within a mile and a half. Mr. Prather had made a partial payment on 60 acres, had cleared a couple of acres and put him up a small house, but was so much better pleased with our location and the inducements offered home-seekers here, that he declared he would throw up his land and improvements there and come to Fairhope. He expected his family in a couple of weeks, and his last words were that we might expect them to land at Fairhope and settle among us.

[Later.] Mr. Prather has arrived with his family and car-load of household goods and team, and is for the present occupying the C. A. Hall house.

Headquarters for Cooking and Heating Stoves, also Builders Hardware, Doors, Sash, Blinds, Window Glass, Cutlery, Grates, &c



No. 7 Stove only $4.00. No. 8 Stove only $5.50.
No. 7 Cook Stove, with 30 pieces furniture, - - - $7.00
No. 8 Cook Stove, with 30 pieces furniture, - - - 8.00

STIKES HARDWARE CO.,
No. 7 North Water Street, MOBILE, ALA.

G. M. BANCROFT, Prop. Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Andrews, Mgrs.
(Late of Chicago.)

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FAIRHOPE COURIER.

That which Nature provides is the Common Property of all God's Children; that which the Individual creates belongs to the Individual; that which the Community creates belongs to the Community.- GEN. J. B. WEAVER.

Vol. IV. No. 9. FAIRHOPE, ALA., APRIL 1, 1898. 25 Cents a Year.

FAIRHOPE INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION.

Organized and incorporated at Des Moines, Iowa, February, 1894.
Established Fairhope, Baldwin County, Alabama, January, 1895.

C. L. Coleman, Pres. A. H. Mershon, Vice Pres.
G. M. Bancroft, Treas. E. B. Gaston, Sec'y.

Fairhope Industrial Association was organized to MAKE GOOD THEORIES WORK. Its basic principle is the Law of Equal Freedom, "That every man has freedom to do all that he wills, provided he infringes not on the equal freedom of any other man." This law is applied by it:

IN GOVERNMENT, by personal vote, initiative, referendum and imperative mandate.

IN LAND HOLDING AND USE, by the principle of the Single Tax, the association holding the title to all lands and leasing to individuals in quantities to suit, at a rental "which shall equalize the varying advantages of location and natural qualities of all tracts." The association, out of the sum thus received, pays all taxes levied by the civil authorities on improvements and personal property held upon its lands, thus making the rent of land the only charge against individuals.

IN NATURAL MONOPOLIES- transportation, telephones, water, light, power. etc.- by association control and operation at cost, as fast as practicable.

IN A MEDIUM FOR EFFECTING LOCAL EXCHANGES, by the issuance of its non-interest-bearing notes for services rendered it, redeemable in equivalent services and land rent.

The above simple program has been in practical operation at Fairhope for more than three years, and its advantages are constantly becoming more apparent.

It should appeal to those who believe the path of progress does not necessarily lead to the substitution of a government trust for the multiple private trusts which in the enjoyment of special privileges have grown to be a national menace, but that freedom is a sovereign remedy for all our economic ills.

The association has a most beautiful, healthful and attractive location on the eastern shore of Mobile Bay, within sight of the important sea-coast city of Mobile, its lands having a frontage on the bay shore of about three fourths of a mile, and extending back—not wholly connected—three miles. They comprise 670 acres, owned free of incumbrance; and a very favorable option is held on nearly 2500 acres more.

The land is especially adapted to truck and fruit growing for northern markets, as well as general farming and stock raising. The association owns its own wharf, 1800 feet long, at which the side-wheel steamer Heroine, plying daily between Mobile and this shore, lands on all trips. Fairhope has a post office having a daily mail and doing a money-order business.

There are twenty-three dwellings on the ground, a store, hotel, saw-mill, cigar factory, blacksmith shop, and a public hall, used also for school and church purposes.

The cost of membership in the association is $100, which may be paid in instalments; but membership, though desired, is not requisite to the occupancy of land and the enjoyment of the economic advantages afforded by the association.

Beautiful bay-view building lots and desirable lands for farming are open for settlement by desirable parties, with no financial requirement further than the payment of the annual rent based on the value of the unimproved land, all of which will be expended in the interest of those paying it.

Fairhope Association pays no dividends, interest or bonuses to any one, and has but one salaried officer (receiving $10 a month). It was organized and exists solely to apply correct principles, for the benefit of those who participate and for a practical, visible example to the world. Its resources are all expended to that end; and to that end it invites the membership and moral and financial support of right-thinking men and women.

The following list of industries which would probably prove profitable at Fairhope is offered for the benefit of inquirers:

Truck farming, fruit growing, general farming, stock raising, poultry raising, nursery, cotton gin, rice huller, cane mill, cannery, ice factory, laundry, pottery, bakery, brick-yard, tannery (using probably canaigre roots), water toboggan and other devices of like character for amusement of excursionists from Mobile and elsewhere, light manufacturing of almost any kind, mail order business &c.

For further particulars, address with stamp, E. B. Gaston, Secretary,
Fairhope, Alabama.

TEMPERATURE DATA.

The following summer temperature data, kindly furnished by Mr. William M. Dudley, in charge of the weather station at Mobile, will be of interest to our friends; especially those who concede that our winters are fine but think our summers must be "unbearably hot."

	JUNE.			JULY.			AUGUST.		
Year.	Max.	Min.	Range.	Max.	Min.	Range.	Max.	Min.	Range.
1882	100	66	34	96	64	32	96	70	26
1883	99	70	29	101	71	30	99	68	31
1884	96	62	34	96	70	26	96	63	33
1885	93	63	30	94	66	28	94	69	25
1886	94	65	29	93	65	28	97	67	30
1887	93	63	30	98	68	30	93	65	28
1888	90	60	30	97	68	29	93	70	23
1889	92	50	42	95	70	25	90	66	24
1890	97	67	30	96	69	27	91	65	26
1891	96	64	32	93	67	26	94	57	37
1892	95	65	30	93	69	24	92	68	24
1893	95	65	30	96	68	28	94	67	27
1894	101	54	47	95	68	27	91	69	22
1895	96	67	29	95	68	27	94	71	23
1896	94	64	30	99	69	30	97	69	28
1897	98	65	33	96	65	31	101	69	32

The prevailiug winds during the summer months are southerly, giving most of the time pleasant Gulf breezes. WM. M. DUDLEY.

FRIENDS, ATTENTION!

It is of the utmost importance that the half-section of land held for us by Mess. Bostedo and Nusbaum for the last two years and now by Mr. C. K. Brown, should become the property of Fairhope Association at once. Our option extends a year yet, but we need the land at once to throw open to settlement.

We have plenty of lots near the bay, available for small holdings, but the good agricultural lands in our first purchases are so nearly exhausted that but a couple of fair ten-acre plats remain available, and there is a growing— and sensible—disposition to take larger tracts in order to let a portion each year go to crops to be turned under as fertilizers, or fed upon the place and returned in the form of manure.

We have 320 acres it is true, untouched, but it lies beyond the 320 of which we speak, the nearest point being two and a half miles from the wharf and two miles from the store; and while it will come into demand all right after the intermediate land is settled, it now seems too far out.

A trifle over $380 will buy this 320 acres now—thanks to Mess. Bostedo and Nusbaum— though it is easily worth twice that, and the title is perfect.

The Courier feels that with the success thus far achieved by Fairhope Association, its present secure position and its clear-cut application of the single-tax principle in throwing the lands it may secure open to settlement with no other condition than that of the payment of its annual rental value, all of which, after the payment of state and county taxes, is expended for the common benefit of the rent-payers, it has a right to ask and expect the aid of the single-taxers of the country in securing this land.

Without any action of the Fairhope Association, the Courier therefore invites subscriptions for this purpose, which may be sent direct to the Treasurer of Fairhope Association, Mr. George M. Bancroft, or to the Manager of the Courier., and in either case will be acknowledged in the Courier.

Up to the time of going to press, we have received the following subscriptions to this fund:

J. Bellangee, Des Moines, Iowa, $ 5.
Jose Gros, Morristown, N. J., 10.

Frank Vierth, who began the publication of the Progressive Economist at Independence, Iowa, and who has been with the National Single Taxer Company for the last two years, in charge of its Book and Tract department, is back in Iowa, and is publishing at Cedar Rapids a neat little single-tax monthly with the unique title of "Why?" In its editorial announcement, "The Why of Why", it says:

WHY? comes into existence at a time when there is an extraordinary demand for information on questions of political reform, and it will aim to perform a part in that field hitherto unattempted. There has long been need of a periodical devoted to economic enlightenment, attractive and convenient enough in form to preserve and transmit from hand to hand. That is one of the reasons why this publication assumes the miniature magazine style. Its size and neatness will prompt many a curious reader to look within and there, perhaps, find revealed to his reason and conscience the path to social justice and peace.

It is also announced that James Malcolm (lately also with the Single Taxer) will furnish editorial matter. Why? deserves a liberal support from single-taxers. The subscription price is but 25 cents a year.

Land speculation has been entirely eliminated within the limits of Fairhope. No one holds a foot more ground than he uses or expects to soon use; and in planning for the future, the aim is to make one's own labor most effective instead of to command the labor of others.

CALL

To all Trade Unions and Industrial Reform organizations.

The time has arrived in the development of the race, when the problem of just arrangements in the production and distribution of wealth is up for settlement; and it behooves all of us who have struggled for these reforms in the past in different organizations and on different lines, to devise some means of uniting our efforts in the future, so as to accomplish the greatest results.

To this end it will be necessary to come together in convention from time to time, and it may be to form a national organization, with which our local organizations, of whatever kind, may be affiliated, without severing or in any degree affecting their present affiliations.

To that end, and by virtue of authority conferred on us by the United Labor Convention held in Chicago, September 27—29, 1897, the undersigned committee hereby invites all Labor and Labor Reform organizations to elect delegates to the First Regular Annual United Labor and Labor Reform Convention, to be held in St. Louis, Mo., on Monday, May 2, 1898, for the purposes and under the conditions following:

First. To consider and adopt measures to secure closer union between all advocates of Labor Reform.

Second. To adopt an efficient system of resisting the encroachment of the judiciary upon the liberties of our people, and to abolish government by injunction.

Third. To unite all our efforts in support of every movement for the betterment of industrial conditions, not inconsistent with each other.

Fourth. To consider the political situation in relation to the interests of the producers, and to take any necessary action thereon.

Fifth. To establish closer and more sympathetic relations between the supporters of isolated attempts at self-help by co-operative colonies and industries.

Sixth. To impress upon the American people the pre-eminent importance of the system of direct legislation (including the Initiative, Referendum, Imperative Mandate and Proportional Representation), as the only means of restoring the liberties of the people and as the only issue whereby all reform elements can be cemented into hearty political union without compromise of principles.

Seventh. The basis of representation shall be one delegate from each bona fide local organization in actual existence, which has for one of its fundamental objects the promotion of industrial and social reform.

M. P. CARRICK,
United Labor League of Western Pennsylvania.
SHERIDAN WEBSTER,
Social Democracy No. 1 of St. Louis.
WM. BRANDT.
E. M. BANNISEER,
Trades and Labor Union of St. Louis and Vicinity.
MRS. MARY JONES,
Knights of Labor.
JOHN F. WATERS,
Single Tax Club, Chicago, Ill.
G. F. STEPHENS,
Single Tax Society, Philadelphia, Pa.
DAN. MCDONALD,
Trades and Labor Assembly, Butte, Montana.

☞ All reform papers are requested to publish this call.

☞ Organizations taking action will please notify Sheridan Webter, Secretary, 908 Choteau Avenue, St. Louis, Mo.

[Fairhope will probably be represented at the conference, with the purpose of which we are, of course, in hearty sympathy. Ed.]

We have tried an experiment this spring, which has proven so satisfactory we will give readers of the Courier the benefit of it, though in this section it may not be of use until another winter or spring. Being unable to secure horse manure for heating a hotbed in which to sprout sweet potatoes for early planting, we dug a trench about eight inches deep and ranging in width from twelve inches down to about six, through the center of the bed, covering it with some old pieces of sheet iron, an old gasoline stove oven knocked apart coming in handy, as well as some old stove pipe flattened. We let the trench extend out beyond the bed about eight inches at the smaller end, and put over it a wooden chimney made out of six-iuch boards nailed together and about four feet high. We dug away the dirt on the outside of the bed at the other end (the bed being set down into the earth a little way) so as to open the larger end of the trench to the outside, and built a fire in it. The chimney at the other end afforded a good draught as soon as the air became a little heated. It was only necessary to fire up a short time each day—sometimes not for a couple of days— to keep up a good heat in the bed, and in two weeks the potato sprouts were apparent. Very little time was required, and the fuel required amounted to practically nothing. We shall not hereafter have any concern about manure for heating hotbeds.

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Excursions at low rates run from St. Louis, Mo., Cairo, Ill., and intermediate points, as well as other points in the north, on several days in each month. Tickets allow stop-over at any point south of and including Cairo, Illinois. Low one-way rates also for settlers and household goods and stock.

Double daily fast trains. Pullman palace sleeping cars with drawing room and buffet. Also clean, easy-riding day coaches on all trains between St. Louis, Mo., and Mobile, Ala. Tickets issued and baggage checked to all points in the United States.

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E. E. Posey, General Passenger Agent. E. L. Russell First Vice President.

FAIRHOPE TRANSPORTATION LINE.

Remember that the staunch Schooner "Minnie L." of Fairhope, Capt. G. A. R. Lawrence, makes regular trips twice a week (oftener if neccessary) between Fairhope and Mobile, handling all kinds of freight either way with security and dispatch. Will touch at all points along the eastern shore where business demands.

The Minnie L. has extra facilities for protecting freight from the weather and makes a specialty of handling merchandise and household goods. Special rates to persons moving to Fairhope.

☞SPECIAL! Capt. Lawrence will attend personally and without charge, to purchasing and selling orders, in Mobile, for his patrons.

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All Grades of Hand and Machine Sewed Shoes,
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SALESMEN WANTED.

Good wages to sell our Nursery Stock. Apply for terms. We will have for Spring and Fall. 1898, an immense stock of Apples, Pears, Peach, Plum, Apricot, Cherry, Grape, etc. Also small fruits, shade and ornamental trees, Roses etc. We make a specialty of wholesaling to large planters direct. Write us for wholesale prices. Address: Southern Nursery Co. Winchester, Tenn.

PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION.

EFFECTIVE VOTING AND SCIENTIFIC SUFFRAGE.

Before giving the promised directions for the election of single officers, I think it better to present working directions for the full Hare system; as that comes more suitable, after giving directions for the partial or modified Hare plan.

PTOPORTIONAL ENTERTAINMENT.

If you want to combine a pleasant evening's entertainment with the giving of some sound political education, together with practice in public speaking, you cannot do better than to get up a short address on Scientific Suffrage, combined with a mock election on either the Simple Transfer or the full Hare plan as presented herewith. You will need the help of some friends. to act as tally clerks etc., and you should have three or four rehearsals with a few marked ballots. Choose well known men or women as your candidates, and call the election one for State Legislature or Congress or what you choose. The evening can hardly fail to be a success.

THE HARE SYSTEM.

In these "working directions" the specific case has been taken of the election of five delegates by forty-three voters; because that makes the description easier, by making it less abstract and general.

Any person who is not already familiar with the Hare system will be able to understand it thoroughly from a careful reading of these directions, which apply as well to an election with hundreds or thousands of voters as to forty-three. In municipal elections the sorting of the votes by first choices is done at the polling subdivisions; but the ballots have all to be brought to one central point before any transfers are made.

PRELIMINARIES.

The scrutineers should provide themselves with the following requisites:

1. Ballot papers with spare pencils for marking them.
2. Separate files or compartments, one for each candidate.
3. Tally sheets, preferably on foolscap or other lined paper or card, ruled into about fifteen vertical columns: the first column an inch and a half wide, for names of candidates; the second the same width, for the main tally of the votes; the third about a quarter-inch, to take the totals of the main tally; the fourth about five eighths of an inch, to take tally of the first transfers; and the fifth a quarter-inch, to take the totals after the first transfer. Then fill up the remainder of the paper with five-eighths and one-quarter inch columns alternately, to take tallies and totals as the other transfers are made.

It is a good idea to have several spare tally sheets, so that any voter who desires to do so may make up a tally for himself and check the proceedings of the scrutineers as they call out the votes. And it is better still to do the tallying and totaling with chalk on a large blackboard, so that all the voters can see the process. This of course refers to meeting-room elections only.

In small elections two scrutineers are usually sufficient, one to handle the ballots and one to keep tally. In larger elections, one to take up and cull off the ballots, one to put the ballots on the files, and two to keep tally. In fact, there is much less chance of error even in small elections, when two persons are keeping tally and checking one another.

THE PROCESS.

1. Distribute the ballot papers amongst the voters, with this instruction:

"Write on your ballot the names of five candidates (or less) in the order of your choice, putting the man you like best at the top of the list, and so on in rotation."

If the ballots are printed or written with the names of the candidates, then the instructions would be:

"Place against the names of five candidates or less the figures 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, in the order of your choice, the man you like best being No. 1, and so on." And in each case "Your vote will count for only one candidate, and the five candidates that you mark are in the nature of alternates." Then, when the ballots are marked, collect them.

2. Sort the ballots into the files or compartments according to the first choice or No. 1 vote, paying no heed to the other figures. The scrutineer should call out the name and number in a distinct voice as he takes up the ballots; thus, "Smith, 1," "Brown, 1," "Jones, 1," and so on. While this is being done, the other scrutineer is keeping tally on the votes as they are called out, using the tally sheets already referred to.

Most people understand how to make a proper tally. Make a down stroke, sloping backward, for each vote, until you have got four votes recorded; then, when the fifth comes, strike a stroke forward and downward, across the preceding four. Then begin again as before, when your sixth vote comes. This divides all the votes into groups of five, which are readily caught by the eye, and makes counting much easier. The third column of the tally sheet is to contain the total of each candidate, got by adding the tallies in the second column. Then these totals are added up, to get the grand total.

3. When all the ballots are distributed, the tally clerk announces the total number of valid votes cast, and both the scrutineers divide this total by the number of members to be elected, paying no attention to the "remainder." This gives the "quota" or number of votes necessary to elect any one candidate. Five members are to be elected, and forty-three votes have been cast. Dividing five into forty-three gives a quota of eight and a remainder of three. This remainder is disregarded, as it does not affect the result. So that any man who has eight votes or more is elected.

4. If any candidate has an exact quota of votes, the scrutineer at once declares him elected, and does nothing more with his ballots, except to put them aside—or seal them up and mark them with the candidate's name, if he is very particular and has plenty of time-

5. If any candidate has more than a quota, the scrutineer declares him elected, counts off his surplus ballots from the top of his pile, which has previously been thoroughly mixed, and lays the surplus to one side for a moment, while he puts away the quota as above. He then proceeds to distribute the surplus, according to the second choice on the ballots. If the second choice on any ballot is already elected, then that ballot goes to the third choice, and so on. For instance, if Smith has 11 votes, and the quota is 8, the scrutineer takes 3 of the ballots from the top of Smith's pile. Suppose the first ballot he takes up is marked "Smith 1, Brown 2, Jones 3." Now, that is put on Brown's file, and counts him one vote. But if Brown is already elected, then the ballot goes to Jones. The other ballots are distributed on the same principle.

6. The tally clerk keeps track of the distribution of the surplus, and announces as soon as any candidate gets a quota thereby. For instance, if Brown has already seven first-choice votes, and is second choice on two of Smith's surplus ballots, the scrutineer declares him elected as soon as he gets one of Smith's ballots on his pile; because that makes up Brown's quota of eight. Then the other ballot of Smith's that is marked "Smith 1, Brown 2," will not go to Brown, but to the man who was marked "3" upon it, or whose name is written third, as mentioned before.

As each candidate gets a qnota, the word "elected" is written opposite his name on the tally sheet. When the whole of the surplus ballots of all the candidates are distributed, the tally clerk makes a second set of totals, in the fifth column of the tally sheet, by adding together the tallies of the transfers and the totals in the third column. This set of totals in the fifth column shows at a glance who has the smallest number of votes.

7. If no one has a surplus, or as soon as the surplus vote is dealt with, the scrutineer then turns to the bottom of the poll and names the candidate having the smallest number of votes, declaring him "out of the count." Let us call this candidate Mr. Noshow. The scrutineer transfers the whole of Mr. Noshow's ballots to the files of such other candidates as are second choice on Mr. Noshow's ballots, passing over such as have been elected. Suppose one of these ballots is marked "Noshow 1, Smith 2, Brown 3, Jones 4." That ballot would count one for Smith; but Smith is already elected, and can not use it. So the ballot goes on to Jones' pile, and counts one vote for Jones. We may term Mr. Noshow the "lowest excluded candidate." That is the phrase used by the government statistician of Tasmania. When the scrutineer declares any candidate "out" as mentioned above, the tally clerk writes the word "out" opposite his name on the tally sheet.

8. When Noshow's votes have been distributed, the candidate who was next above him—say Mr. Poorshow—is now at the bottom of the poll. The scrutineer consequently declares Mr. Poorshow "out." Poorshow has now become the lowest excluded candidate, because he was the lowest when he was excluded.

9. If in the course of distributing the ballots of a lowest excluded candidate, any other candidate—call him Mr. Jones—gets a quota, the distribution is stopped until Mr. Jones is declared elected. Then the distribution continues, and Jones' name is passed over if it appears on any other ballot, the next choice being taken instead.

10. This process of excluding the lowest candidate is continued until only five candidates remain. These are the ones who have either got a quota or have come nearest to it. They are the five elected members.

11. Ties can be disposed of by several methods. Here are some of the best.

(a) If one has less first-choice votes than the other, exclude him first. If both have an equal number of first-choice votes, exclude the one having the least second choices, and so on.

(b) Cast lots.

(c) Decide by majority vote which candidate shall be elected.

Mr. Alfred Cridge of San Francisco makes the following suggestions, which may be useful in some cases: "In actual election of delegates etc., where no one present has had much previous experience, it would often be of advantage to hold two elections; the first to be considered as a trial ballot only, and the second one to determine the result. This would perhaps enable ties to be removed, and would enable inaccuracies in marking the ballots to be corrected on the second election."

R. T. S. T.

Subscribe now, twenty-five cents a year.

FAIRHOPE COURIER.

Devoted to the LAW of EQUAL FREEDOM—"Every man has freedom to do all that he wills, provided he infringes not the equal freedom of any other man"—and to the effort now being made to immediate ly apply that law to the fullest extent possible under existing conditions, by the Fairhope Industrial Association, at Fairhope, Alabama,

Its motto, and that of Fairhope Industrial Association, is, "We will make good theories work." And it denies the possibility of a "good theory" which is "not practical."

ERNEST B. GASTON, - - - EDITOR AND MANAGER.

Published at Fairhope, Alabama, on the first day of each month.

Subscription Price to any address in the United States, Canada or Mexico, 25 cents per annum. In other countries of the International Postal Union' 37c.

Entered at Fairhope Post Office as second class matter.

A NEW CRITICISM.

A friend from whom we had been led to expect material assistance writes:

"As I have recently learned that the Fairhope Association altogether refuses the entry of colored people on the same terms as others, I cannot see my way to becoming a member or to contribute under the circumstances. This is not on account of my being a northern man at all. I was born south of Mason and Dixon's line, but I believe in universal equality nevertheless."

There is nothing in the constitution of Fairhope Association forbidding the admission to membership of colored persons; though it may safely be taken for granted we presume, that under the conditions in which Fairhope exists, no colored person could secure the approval of a majority of the members, necessary to admission.

The criticism of our friend—the first of the kind ever made, while scores have protested against what he advocates—illustrates anew the difficulties and differences of opinion arising in the effort to determine how far we can practically go in the "application of correct theories" within a general condition of applied incorrect ones, over which we can have no control.

We believe just as sincerely and fully in "universal equality"—equality of rights— as our friend can, and doubt not that our actions as fully demonstrate it, notwithstanding the admitted fact that a negro would probably be refused admittance to our association as a member.

Our friend is a single-taxer, a working and contributing one. As such he must believe that he has no more moral or natural right to any particular portion of the earth, the common heritage of mankind, than any other of his fellow men, and that to acquire the right to exclude his fellow heirs from any portion he must pay them in common the full value which their presence and demand give it: yet we have not the slightest idea that he is making any effort to acquire such a right to land he holds, or that he is not like all other tax-payers trying to get off with the least possible amount of tax upon it, entirely regardless of the rights of his disposessed brethren, whose "universal equality" he asserts.

This is no evidence of insincerity on his part, but shows that under existing conditions he does not see his way to living the truth he so unqualifiedly asserts. Neither, we think, has he a right to insist that because we have undertaken to go farther than he has in the living of truths we hold in common, that we must follow the naked principle of equality unreservedly, regardless of conditions existing, to defy which might simply mean self-destruction.

That our friend recognizes and takes into account on his own behalf, conditions which he thinks we should defy, is further shown in his saying of his criticism: "I write this to you in a private capacity, and beg to say it is not for publication."

***

The gentleman in question is but one of a multitude who withhold all aid and encouragement, if indeed they do not throw such obstacles as they may in our way, because in some particular respect we do not go so as far as they wish—even though we do go far farther than they are individually willing to go—in applying the principle of equal freedom, which we are honestly and earnestly striving to apply just as far as outside circumstances will permit us, and then regret that we cannot go farther.

NEW ACQUAINTANCES STRANGELY MADE.

Noting in the Postal Guide that there were post offices by the name of Fairhope in both Pennsylvania and Ohio, the writer in an idle moment wrote to the postmasters at each, inquiring the date of the establishment of their offices and the population and principal business activities of their towns, mailing each a copy of the February COURIER to convey to them like information about Fairhope, Alabama. Both have kindly responded, and quite to our surprise both were so interested in our Fairhope that they subscribed for the Courier.

Rev. G. W. Brown, Postmaster at Fairhope, Ohio, says: "This office was established in the fall of 1892 [Three years prior to Fairhope, Ala. Ed.] I was then appointed Postmaster, and have held the office ever since. This is a thickly settled country place, there being about 100 families within half a mile of the post office, mostly retired farmers. The principal business is greenhouse and seed business, by Brown & Hershey. When I suggested the name of Fairhope, I supposed there was not another of that name in existence. Judge of my surprise when I discovered that there was a Fairhope in Pennsylvania. I have read nearly every word in the Fairhope Courier which you so kindly sent me. I will enclose twenty-five cents for a year's subscription. I want to learn more about the principles for which you are contending, and how you propose to successfully apply them. You may consider your effort no longer an experiment, but I do not see how you are going to exert any great influence in the world unless you grow and become a commercial city and thus become known to others. I hope every facility for success will be afforded you, and that you may be able to demonstrate the truth of all you claim for the principles you have espoused."

Etta Deremer, Postmaster at Fairhope, Pennsylvania, writes: "Your letter of recent date received. Replying would say, this place is but a small village surrounded by mountains. Present population is about two hundred. We have had a post office for the last twenty-five years. It always had the name of Fairhope: do not know how we got the name. I enclose subscription to your paper. Am very much interested."

MR. POST'S NEW PAPER.

We have reccived from Louis F. Post a circular letter announcing that he will begin the publication at Chicago on April 7th of a new paper, to be called "The Public." Of it he further says:

It will print in concise and plain terms, with lucid explanations and without editorial bias, all the really valuable news of the world. It will also be an editorial paper. While abstaining from mingling editorial opinions with its news accounts, it will have opinions of a pronounced character, and in the columns reserved for editorial comment it will express its opinions fully and freely, without favor or prejudice, without fear of consequences, and without hope of discreditable reward. Yet it will set up no pretensions to infallibility, either in opinions or in statements of fact, but will simply aspire to a deserved reputation for intelligence and honesty in both. Besides its editorial and news features, the Public will contain a department of original and selected miscellany, in which will appear articles and extracts upon various subjects, verse as well as prose, chosen alike for their literary merit and their wholesome human interest.

The subscription price will be $1 a year. Address: The Public, P. O. Box 687, Chicago.

Mr. Charles S. Hampton, Proprietor and Editor of the Petoskey (Michigan) Independent Democrat, made kindly mention of Fairhope in a late issue of his paper, and writes us: "I have read with interest all you have printed of the colony, and shall hope to see the enterprise become an unqualified success. I have no doubt that the mem bers of your association are ofttimes discouraged and probably even disgusted at the outlook, but I trust that they will be persistent and unflagging in their efforts. If it were not that I had lost so much money within the last two or three years that I am obliged to spend all of my time at home, I should have been with you this winter and built a winter cottage for myself and family. I hope that I may be able to do so in the not distant future." Mr. Hampton is a peronal friend of Rev. G. W. Wood.

The prospect is that houses along this eastern shore of Mobile bay will be in greater demand the coming summer than ever before. Fearing another outbreak of yellow fever and being shut up in the city by the quarantine, hundreds will arrange to send their families out of the city early in the season. Fairhope will probably have a few houses available for summer occupancy, but a bath-house will be a necessary adjunct which we must try and secure.

THE QUESTION.

However the battle is ended,
Though proudly the victor comes
With fluttering flags and prancing nags
And echoing roll of drums,
Still Truth proclaims this motto
In letters of living light:
No question is ever settled,
Until it is settled right!

Though the heel of the strong oppressor
May grind the weak in the dust,
And the voices of fame with one acclaim
May call him great and just,
Let those who applaud take warning,
And keep this motto in sight:
No question is ever settled,
Until it is settled right.

Let those who have failed take courage;
Though the enemy seems to have won:
Though his ranks are strong, if he be in the wrong
The battle is not yet done;
For, sure as the morning follows
The darkest hour of the night,
No question is ever settled,
Until it is settled right.

O man bowed down with labor!
O woman young, yet old!
O heart oppressed in the toiler's breast,
And crushed by the powers of gold!
Keep on with your weary battle
Against triumphant might:
No question is ever settled,
Until it is settled right! — Ella Wheeler Wilcox.

How often when protesting against present conditions are we met with the reply, "The chances for any young man to make a fortune are just as good (some claim better) now as they ever were. Any man who is industrious and economical and has the ambition to rise, can do so and become independent." Granted that all this were true—which it is not. It is no answer to our protest. Some men may be able to rise, may even have "two chances to rise now where they had one forty years ago", as Wanamaker asserts; but can all men rise? Is it possible for the mass of men who are doing the common, every-day work of the world—the work that must be done by some one—to keep themselves and families in comfort and respectability, enjoy a reasonable measure of security and independence, educate their children and lay by something for that "rainy day" which is sure to come, on the return which such labor will afford? Everybody knows that it is not; and it is of no use to prate longer abou the few who by reason of superior intelligence or less tender cont sciences have risen from poverty to affluence. Only one in ten thousand can so rise; and the other nine thousand, nine hundred and ninety-nine are awakening to the fact that for them and their children such a hope is a snare and a delusion.

Our good friend and member, Mr. P. A. Parker of Chatham, N. Y., paid us a very pleasant visit of nearly a week in March. We hope to have a short letter from him for publication in this issue, giving his impressions of Fairhope and Fairhopers; but lest it may not come, we are pleased to be able to say that Mr. Parker expressed himself as very highly pleased with everything he saw. There were more houses and better ones, and more people, than he expeted to find. The soil too was better than he anticipated. Coming from New York and Massachusetts, where no one thinks of planting anything without fertilizing, our soil did not seem poor to him, as it does to an Iowa farmer, who would not know commercial fertilizers "if he should meet them in the road," and only hauls out his stable manure on the high points of his field (if indeed he does that). He left us, expressing his determination to return—probably by next fall—to make his home in Fairhope; in which we sincerely trust neither he nor we will be disappointed. Friend Parker is a young man with a fund of practical knowledge, the result of a varied experience, and made a most favorable impression on all of us. We shall look forward with much pleasure to the time when we may welcome him and his family, of wife and two children, as permanent factors in the building up of Fairhope.

Rev. Mr. Bryant, pastor of the Floral-avenue Baptist church of Binghampton, New York, got himself into serious trouble with his congregation by declaring in a sermon on gambling that speculating in vacant land was just as much of a gambling transaction as buying futures on the Board of Trade. The pastor was notified that his sermons on social questions were hurting the revenues of the church and he would have to stop preaching along that line or resign. He resigned, and in his resignation sermon said:

"No honest man can change his convictions or stop talking about them, unless he is somehow convinced that he is wrong. The time has come when men must stand out without hope of wealth or fame, and, with simple faith in God, denounce evil wherever it exists. God gave me power to do that thing; and by His grace I will, whether I am able to do it through the church or not. To ask a man to stop preaching the gospel because some do not like it and refuse to support the church, is reducing the gospel of Christ to a matter of dollars and cents."

There are said to be four other pastors in the city holding similar views, and who have been warned as he was.

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE?

From Living Issues.

Jones. Neighbor Smith, I am out of a job: how am I to make a living?

Smith. I have a proposition to make to you. Provide yourself with tackle and go to fishing, and I will give you half you catch.

Jones. I'll do that. Thank you: you are very kind, indeed.

And the people laugh at Jones' foolishness, and ask: "If he provides his own tackle, what claim has Smith on the fish he takes? Ought not all the fish to belong to the man who catches them?"

We think so. But while about it, suppose you tell us the difference between this proposition and the one that Brown made to Wilson when he said, "Get your teams and plows and go to work raising potatoes, and I will give you half the potatoes you raise."

Now, don't answer this question until you have thought over it just a little.

We have referred some inquiries regarding supposedly profitable industries in this section to Mr. A. B. Kennedy, the Secretary of the Commercial Club of Mobile, who has kindly assured us of his lively interest in the development of Baldwin county as well as of Mobile and Mobile county, and of the pleasure with which he will serve us in any matter within his power. We would suggest to any of our friends who would like to come to Fairhope, but knowing little of farming or horticulture would like to turn their attention in some other direction, to place themselves in communication with Mr. Kennedy, who will doubtless be able to give them some valuable suggestions

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The Wharf receipts for the week ending February 26 were the heaviest since the wharf was opened for business, amounting to $25.35; of which $18.85 went into the association's treasury. The receipts for the month of February were $60.55 (the best month also, we believe), of which $37.55 was net to the treasury. If we could keep up this gait, it would not be long until all the outstanding certificates were retired.

We have received the initial number of The Co-operative Era, published at Des Moines, Iowa, by the National Co-operative Association, of which our friend, R. R. Clarke, is Secretary, and toward the success of which he has labored so steadfastly. The Era is a very neatly printed paper, full of interesting news about co-operation. I- is published monthly, and the subscription price is 25c. a year.

That the burden of taxes is not paid by the rich but by the comparatively poor, is shown by facts recently compiled from the Cleveland (O.) tax books. As instances—six bank presidents (names given) pay taxes on only $4 045 worth of personal property, while six "labor agitators" paid taxes on real estate valued at $17 500. 390 hucksters pay $9 750 taxes, and 781 street cars pay only $7 810.

There is no visible sign of any "problem of the unemployed" at Fairhope. There are no loafers at the store or on the street; and one gentleman who came here to spend the winter for his health, left and went up to Daphne, beause there were no men here with time to visit with him.

We have now space in the COURIER for brief communications on topics of interest from our friends, and will be glad to receive the same.

Reform journals noticing Fairhope and the Courier will confer a favor which will be appreciated and reciprocated in kind, if desired.

The Jackson, Michigan, Patriot of March 17 gave a kind editorial mention of Fairhope.

PERSONAL AND LOCAL NOTES.

Bicycles and Kodaks are plenty in Fairhope.

A party of Fairhope young people picnicked at the Oaks above Daphne recently.

B. Wade Hewitt, a nurseryman now at Hammond, Louisiana, is looking Fairhopeward.

J. A. Hagstrom writes from Chicago that he has very good hopes of being with us by October.

Mrs. Cullen and Miss Rose are both in Mobile, and Mrs. Cullen's house is for rent for the summer.

Mr. Bancroft is putting up a new building about 12x24 in the rear of the hotel, for a store-room etc.

Ernest J. Mayes is a late inquirer from Toronto, Ontario, and is contemplating coming to Fairhope.

C. L. Coleman is getting the material on the ground for a new fence around his Fairhope enclosure.

Mr. George Knowles is building a very neat cottage on his lot near the hotel, and has it nearly enclosed.

Sweet potatoes are excellent property this spring. They are now worth seventy-five cents on the Mobile market.

Those who have strawberry beds and have taken care of them are now having abundance of this most delicious fruit.

L. W. Larson is working at Daphne, for Dr. Fuller, the wealthy gentleman who bought Mr. Norton's Daphne property.

We have received an order for 50 "Fairhope" cigars from H. E. Broman of the Colorado Co-operative Company, Pinon, Colo.

H. Creswell is building a very neat new fence with sawn and dressed pickets on the front of his place, and will extend it clear around.

Mrs. W. K. Smith and daughter, of Chicago, arrived on March ninth, to remain several weeks. They are guests of the Fairhope House.

Mr. Walter Scott is building a handsome and substantial sawn picket fence around the south portion of his ten acres, which he has cleared.

Charles A. Hall spent several days in Fairhope during March, looking after some business matters and enjoying the fishing and bathing.

Dr. Atkinson has let the contract for a well, to be curbed with tile, and "water or no pay." She will also put in a wind-mill to do her pumping.

Mrs. S. W. Flint and Miss Nellie Lee returned to their home in Des Moines on March eleventh, after a several weeks' stay in Fairhope, guests of the Fairhope house.

Captain Lawrence beside his business with the Minnie L. is constantly improving his ten acres on Fairhope Avenue. He has put out nearly a hundred fruit trees this spring.

Miss Caroline Gilcrest and Mrs. William Musson of Des Moines and Miss Caroline Lichty of Sandoval, Illinois, are guests of Dr. Atkinson, and are enjoying our fine Alabama weather.

The bathing season has been fairly opened at Fairhope, though we have not heard of any bathing elsewhere along the shore. The water is delightful—just cool enough to be invigorating.

Mr. C. C. Mechem, Jr., of Mobile spent several days in March visiting in Fairhope and vicinity, much to the pleasure of his many friends. We hope to have the Mechem family with us again this summer.

Mr. F. A. Smith—or Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Smith, we should say—for Mrs. Smith is having a hand at it too—are putting a very nice sawed picket fence in front of their two and a half acres on Magnolia Avenue.

George J. Bryan, the well known Toronto single-taxer, writes: "Please accept my thanks for copies of the Courier, which I have read with pleasure— particularly the account of your recent proceedings. You have my best wishes for success in your splendid efforts. Kindly add my name to your list of Courier readers."

We are hoping for a visit from Hon. S. S. Mann in April. Mr. Mann hoped to get down in time to escape part of the Iowa winter, but his business probably would not permit. That he has lost none of his interest in Fairhope is amply evidenced by his subscribing recently $3.50 toward both the well repair and the new bridge.

Misses Graham and Wilhemly of Des Moines made Fairhope a brief visit in March, coming over on Saturday evening and leaving on Monday morning. They stopped at the Fairhope House, and were very much pleased with the hotel and with Fairhope. They went from here to Tampa, Florida.

A considerable part of the meat supply of Fairhope is now being grown at home. Mess. Cullen, Mershon and Stimpson have all killed beef of their own raising this winter; and the Mershons, Stimpson, Bancroft and Gaston have butchered hogs; several calves also, have been shipped to Mobile. These items, though they may seem of little importance, indicate our growing independence.

Mr. W. L. Prather has assumed Mr. Hunt's lease of the C. A. Hall place for the remainder of the year. He has also secured some of Captain Lawrence's land for the season, and is breaking out a part of Mr. Hall's ten acres. We shall hope that before Mr. Prather's lease has expired, he will have become convinced that his interests will be best subserved by taking up his residence permanently among us.

J. D. Cameron of Dixie, Tennessee, is considering the advisability of moving to Fairhope. He is engaged in a special line of job printing, securing his business chiefly through the mails, so that location would amount to but little in a business way; and being in sympathy with our aims, and having enjoyed much better health in a former residence in the south than now in Tennessee, he will most likely decide to join us.

OUR BOOK LIST.

The following books will be furnished post-paid to any address in the United States or Canada, at the prices given (Regular Publisher's retail prices).

HENRY GEORGE'S WORKS.

PROGRESS AND POVERTY. The great text book of the Single Tax, which first brought fame to Mr. George. Cloth, $1. Paper, 25c.

A PERPLEXED PHILOSOPHER. An examination of Mr. Herbert Spencer's various and varied utterances on the Land Question, with incidental references to his Synthetic philosophy. One of Mr. George's latest and best works. Cloth, $1. Paper, 25c.

PROTECTION OR FREE TRADE. The most thorough and readable examination of the tariff question ever made. Leaves nothing to be said. Cloth, $1. Paper, 25c.

SOCIAL PROBLEMS, Presents in popular form the same doctrines that Progress and Poverty presents in scientific form. Cloth, $1. Paper, 50c.

THE LAND QUESTION. Paper, 20c.

PROPERTY IN LAND, A "Passage at Arms" between Mr. George and the Duke ot Argyll. Devoted solely to the question whether land may be rightfully held as private property. The very best work for one beginning the study of social problems. Paper, 20c.

THE CONDITION OF LABOR. Pope Leo XIII's Encyclical on Labor and Mr. George's masterly reply. The best brief expositinn of and argument for the Single Tax ever made. The Pope presents all the stock objections to the single tax; and Mr. George replies to them, one by one. Cloth, 75c. Paper, 20c.

PROPERTY IN LAND, the Condition of Labor and the Land Question bound together in one volume. If you can afford but one of Mr. George's books, take this. Cloth only, $1.

WORKS ON FINANCE.

MONEY FOUND, by Thomas E. Hill, author of "Hill's Manual of Social and Business Forms." Much is heard now in a certain quarter about the "govcrnment going out of the banking business." Mr. Hill proposes for it to go farther into the business. Flexible Leather, $1. Cloth, 75c. Paper, 25c.

A BREED OF BARREN METAL, by J. W. Bennet. A work on currency and interest, attacking the latter. Claimed to "do for interest what Henry George's works have done for rent." Cloth, 75c. Paper, 25c.

TEN MEN OF MONEY ISLAND, "A primer of Finance," by S. F. Norton. Over half a million copies sold. Enameled paper cover, 25c.

LABOR EXCHANGE PUBLICATIONS.

TRIALS AND TRIUMPH OF LABOR. G. B. De Bernardi. The text book of the Labor Exchange; by the originator and founder of the system, which has now branches in nearly every state and several foreign countries. Mr. De Bernardi's book traces every industrial ill to the use of legal-tender money, and sets forth in full what is claimed to be "a simple, practical and already well tried and widely endorsed plan by which, without awaiting the action of a majority at the ballot box, those who will may be free." 300 pages. Paper, 50c.

HAND BOOK OF THE LABOR EXCHANGE: E. Z. Ernst, General Organizer. 25c.

SOLUTIONS OF THE LABOR EXCHANGE: F. W. Cotton. 10c.

FICTION WITH A PURPOSE.

MAIN TRAVELED ROADS. By Hamlin Garland. A volume of short stories of the plain people of the Middle West, by one who as a portrayer of western farm life and people has no rival. Cloth, $1.25. Paper, 50c.

A SPOIL OF OFFICE. Garland. Cloth, $1. Paper, 50c.

JASON EDWARDS, AN AVERAGE MAN. Garland. Cloth, $1.25. Paper, 50c.

A MEMBER OF THE THIRD HOUSE. Garland. A story of intense interest and great dramatic power, dealing with the lobby as it exists in our national and state capitals. Cloth, $1. Paper, 50c.

A TRAMP IN SOCIETY. Robert H. Cowdrey. "Thrilling and fascinating."—Opie Read. An Individualistic novel. Paper, 25c.

BENEATH THE DOME. Arnold Clark. A Single Tax novel. "No cne can read this book without being made a better man or woman."—Progressive Farmer. Cloth, Extra, $1.25. Paper, 50c.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE RAILROAD QUESTION. By William Larrabee, late governor of Iowa. "No work has ever before told so completely and clearly what the people want to know."—Western Rural. Cloth, Extra, 488 pages, $1.50. Paper, 50c.

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENTS.

The many friends of Dr. Mershon, both in Fairhope and outside, will be glad to hear that so far he has stood the dreaded northern winter very well. In a letter he says, however: "You cannot imagine how much I long to be with you. I hope next fall I may. I hope yellow fever will not break out there this summer. I have talked a great deal about Fairhope and the south, and several will likely come down this fall if the fever does not break out again."

E. P. McElwain of Des Moines, an old friend from whom we had not heard for a long time, forwards his subscription to the Courier, and says: "I intend to join you this fall. Am arranging all my affairs to that end. Others may come with me. I hope to be with you early in the fall. Times are close here, and wages being cut down." We shall be very glad to welcome friend McElwain to Fairhope, and will hope that nothing may interfere with his arrangements to that end.

C. A. B. Tice of Newton, Iowa, sends his subscription to the Courier, and says: "I feel deeply and almost personally interested in your colony, and expect to make my home there at some future time if a personal investigation does not disappoint me. My attention was first attracted to Fairhope by Mr. Bellangee's article in the Midland Monthly, and I could not help but feel that it was something that would fill my needs exactly. From my earliest recollection I have always wished to live in the sunny south. I should have been down to see you this month, but I have recently invented a paper folder for which I have received several orders already, and am led to believe there may be something in it for me: so gave up my intended trip to look after this. I formerly knew the C. K. Brown folks, and will note with interest whether they remain in Fairhope or not."

Mr. B. W. Cavender of Des Moines writes:

I was much interested to read your annual report, and sorry your cash item was so small. I was disappointed too to learn that no responses to your appeal for funds to buy that 320 had been received. Single Taxers, and reformers in general, appear to be extremely jealous and suspicious of each other: why is it? I trust means will yet be forthcoming to make the purchase. I myself would help, but I think I can do better by saving to join you next winter. Resident members are needed most I think.

Since my last I have met J. Bellangee and one McElwain, and both said they would move to Fairhope next winter. The former gave me a very graphic account of the colony, and warmed up in praise of the undertaking, the promoters and the locality.... A neighbor of mine, Charles Orr, was looking up a location in your county in February. He visited Fairhope, besides Daphne, Citronelle and other villages, and I believe chose Citronelle for a location. He conversed with many of your people, and spoke highly of your neighbor, Mr. Oswalt. He was very favorably impressed with Baldwin County.

My wife and I have been considering the advisability of securing a building lot and ten acres before those near to the store and school are all gone. Will you please tell us therefore, when next you write, how many bay-front lots are still vacant, how many ten-acr lots within half a mile of the store, and what is the anuual rental on each?...

Every one up here believes we are on the brink of war with Spain. If this should unfortunately happen, Fairhope would certainly have a ready market for all her produce, at greatly enhanced prices.

Mr. Cavender also writes with regard to having a house built for him in advance of his coming, and sends a new subscriber.

From a characteristic personal letter from friend Bellangee we extract the following:

"I am more and more convinced as time goes by, that Fairhope must not depend upon outside help to any great extent. Those that give want to boss. Do you suppose that I would have put in $100 and more, if I had not had a hand in the work of organizing?.... What you want is men who have got tired with the outside world and will cast in their lot with us there. I think you are pretty certain to get McElwaine, Cavender, Call and Bellangee before the year is out. Call's mother will follow as soon as we can make a place for her. After a few weeks I hope to have the leisure to work some for the Courier, and try and extend its influence....Tell the boys that the true policy is to raise as much as possible to ship out of the colony, and make and raise everything they want to use at home....Now that you have your sawmill, all of your building material should be manufactured by colony residents. Something doubtless in the way of cheap furniture you can make at home. Don't buy a thing from outside that you can make at home. Use your certificates among one another as much as possible, and your money to buy what you cannot get at home....As soon as it is demonstrated that you can make headway there, you will get members as fast as you can assimilate them, which will be in an ever-increasing ratio....I was sorry to see in your statement anything in regard to the value of shares. Don't, I beg of you, encourage the idea that the shares are anythtng in the nature of an investment. I hope to see the day when all outside memberships shall be bought in and canceled....

Times are very hard here in the north, and very few have any money, even quarters, to invest in anything not absolutely necessary. ...The worst that Fairhope has to contend with now is that her principal industry is truck raising. A great many people know nothing about that, and dare not venture in that kind of business. You will have to recruit largely from men who have the horticultural bias, until other things develop. It will be the better for Fairhope in the long run; for horticulturists are lovers of nature, and lovers of nature are honest and logical, and do not want to live by their wits and cunning devices. Don't worry a bit, but keep pegging away, and you will continue to build up your population, even without much help from the outside. It is a splendid proof of your system, if it takes non-single-taxers into its fold and makes single-taxers out of them.

To start your land fund again, I will subscribe $5."

P. H. Donlan of Emmettsburg, Iowa, in a recent letter says:

"I am indeed pleased to learn of the progress the colony has made. The February Courier was a great treat to me, as it gives such a full account of Fairhope as it is. I am quite sure I should feel at home among such a people, and have faith in the future of a settlement where the people have such determination and are willing to get along on what they earn. With such a climate and pure water, you have two of the greatest of all natural advantages, and your convenience to the great commercial centers makes it a good location from a business point of view. I was so glad to hear from your neighbor, Mr. Norton, through the Courier. I read his letters to Liberty Bell setting forth the advantages of Baldwin County when your committee was out looking up a location. Can not tell just when I may get away now, but want to go as soon as I can. Shall be glad to receive the Courier regularly and watch you grow and prosper, though watching you from the far north."

C. W. Collinge of Drayton, N. D., renewing his subscription to the Courier, says:

"I am much interested in your experiment, or rather "institution," as it is now to be called. It was prophesied that Christ would come to "set justice in the earth," and every movement that tends to secure this end certainly in its measure is a Christian movement."

E. R. Ferguson, a single-taxer of Holden, Missouri, writes for information, In behalf of himself and several other parties there thinking of changing their location.

CRITICISES MR. BANCROFT'S STATEMENT.

Editor Fairhope Courier:

In the "National Single Taxer" of February 9 was an account of a meeting at Fairhope in which Mr. George M. Bancroft is reported to have said: "Society creates all land value: therefore society should have what it creates. It takes a collection of individuals, termed society, to make the value attaching to land: therefore no individual in himself can create this land value. Consequently no individual has a right to appropriate this value."

I know that many Single Taxers hold this view; but, in the opinion of a large and increasing number, it is a mistake and needlessly lays us and our cause open to attack, especially from Socialists. They can easily show that all value (utility in exchange) is created in the same way that land value is; and if the community is rightfully entitled to land value because it creates it, it should also have all other values for the same reason. All Single Taxers agree that the value of land justly belongs to the community, while the value of wealth does not; but why? since society creates both values, and in the same way The value of any form of wealth belongs to the producer of that wealth or to the one to whom he has transferred it, because being the rightful owner of that wealth, he is therefore the rightful owner of all the forms of utility that attach to it, value included. But land was not produced by man: therefore no man can own it. But, since all men have equal right to life, and consequently to the use of land (that being essential to life), all men must have an equal claim to any value attaching to the right to use land. No matter how or by what any value is created, it belongs rightfully to the owner of the thing having value. The value of land comes from its power to yield rent, and must belong then to the whole community; since rent is "wealth received in return for the use of land", and all people have equal right to its use, consequently to rent, and therefore to the value—no matter how caused—which attaches to the right to use land.

To recapitulate: Value is "utility in exchange."
It belongs to the owner of the valuable thing.
Land value is the value of the privilege of using better land than all can get.
All are equally entitled to this privilege: that is, own it equally.
Therefore all own equally any value attaching to it.
This is the true reason why government should take land values, and nothing else, in taxation.

It seems to me highly desirable that all Single Taxers should take this position; for, being simple, it is easy for learners to understand, and being true, it is impregnable. It will therefore contribute greatly to the success of our cause. Yours for truth and freedom,

Edward D. Burleigh,

FAREWELL TO DR. STOWE.

The Baldwin County Woman's Suffrage Society held a special meeting at the house of Mrs. Sykes, Saturday afternoon at two o'clock, March 19, 1898, in honor of our co-worker, Dr. Stowe of Canada, before her return north the following Tuesday. Dr. Stowe is now Dominion president, and has been an active worker, as organizer, president etc. for years: was the first to work up a suffrage society in Canada, and at a time too when the word "suffrage" dare not be mentioned for some months, even in their meetings: it was a "Woman's Club."

The meeting was opened with Scripture reading and prayer by the president, Mrs. Woods. Regular routine business was postponed. An opportunity was offered for new members: seven new names were added to our list. Dr. Stowe then gave a very interesting talk on her experience in working for Woman's Enfranchisement in Canada, also giving us many practical points in advice for our aid and benefit. In conclusion she gave us an opportunity to ask questions; and her answers always gave us new light and enthusiasm.

Miss Mabel Webb played two very fine guitar solos. Meeting closed with a vote of thanks to Dr. Stowe and Miss Webb.

We shall feel the loss of Dr. Stowe greatly; but we know that our loss will be the gain to our co-workers and all of Canada.

Fairhope, Ala. M. H. Brown, Sec.

The March meeting of the Baldwin County Fruit, Flower & Vegetable Growers' Association was held at Fairhope on the fifth, with a fair attendance. Mr. J. W. Grove of Marlow was elected president, vice S. Timney, who resigned owing to his inability to attend the meetings; and A. Swift of Fairhope was elected vice president, to fill the vacancy caused by Mr. Grove's election to the presidency. Mrs. A. E. Shupe, Dr. C. L. Howe and A. Swift were elected directors in lieu of other parties who had been elected but had never attended any of the association's meetings. Colonel Edw. Morrison of River Park was on the program to give a paper on Irish-potato culture, but was not present. An hour was profitably spent in an exchange of information as to how to prevent and get rid of various destructive fruit and farm pests etc. The ladies also had an interesting session. The next meeting will be held at the residence of Mr. A. J. Gregson in the Ohio settlement, on the first Saturday in May, it being decided to pass the April meeting on account of press of work at this season.

ANNOUNCEMENT.

The Baldwin County Woman's Suffrage Society meets the third Saturday, at 2 P.M., of each month, in Assembly Hall at Fairhope, Ala. All who are interested are cordially invited to come and join us: especially the ladies are invited.

Mrs. J. A. Woods, President. Mrs. F. L. Brown, Secretary.
Mrs. O. A. Webb, Vice Pres. Mrs. S. H. Leech, Treasurer.

FAIRHOPE CIGARS.

The COURIER has at its disposal a quantity of cigars manufactured at Andy Cullen's Fairhope Factory, "Number 127, District of Alabama", which will be sent postpaid to any address in the United States in boxes of 25, 50 and 100 at regular wholesale prices.

We have two brands:

The "Fairhope", Mr. Cullen's best, a clear Havana filler, hand-made cigar of fine quality.

Per hundred, postpaid,		$3.50
" fifty,	"	1.85
" twenty-five,	"	1.00

The "Henry Clay", a good hand-made cigar, a favorite smoker in Baldwin County and Mobile.

Per hundred, postpaid,		$2.50
" fifty,	"	1.35
" twenty-five,	"	.75

Single-tax smokers and dealers, this is a chance in harmony with the "law of self-interest" to serve yourselves, the Courier and a Fairhope industry at the same time. What more could you ask? Give us an order.

SEEDS! Are you interested in farming or gardening? If so, send us your name and address and we will put you on our mailing list for a copy of our new Illustrated Seed Catalogue and Truckers' Guide. ☞New edition out in December.

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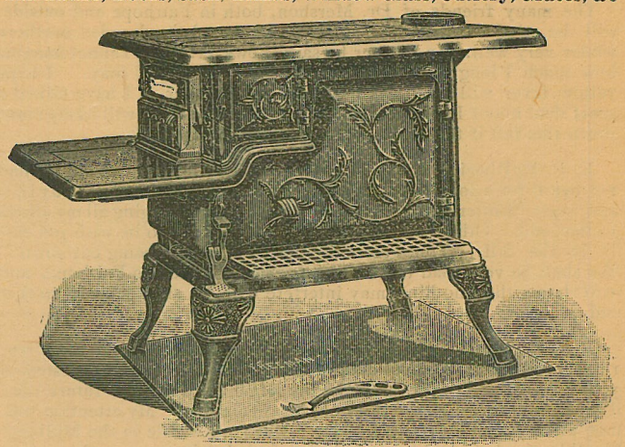

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No. 7 Cook Stove, with 30 pieces furniture, - - - $7.00
No. 8 Cook Stove, with 30 pieces furniture, - - - 8.00

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FAIRHOPE COURIER.

That which Nature provides is the Common Property of all God's Children; that which the Individual creates belongs to the Individual; that which the Community creates belongs to the Community.— GEN. J. B. WEAVER.

Vol. IV. No. 10. FAIRHOPE, ALA., MAY 1, 1898. 25 Cents a Year.

FAIRHOPE INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION.

Organized and incorporated at Des Moines, Iowa, February, 1894.
Established Fairhope, Baldwin County, Alabama, January, 1895.

C. L. Coleman, Pres. A. H. Mershon, Vice Pres.
G. M. Bancroft, Treas. E. B. Gaston, Sec'y.

Fairhope Industrial Association was organized to MAKE GOOD THEORIES WORK. Its basic principle is the Law of Equal Freedom, "That every man has freedom to do all that he wills, provided he infringes not on the equal freedom of any other man." This law is applied by it:

IN GOVERNMENT, by personal vote, initiative, referendum and imperative mandate.

IN LAND HOLDING AND USE, by the principle of the Single Tax, the association holding the title to all lands and leasing to individuals in quantities to suit, at a rental "which shall equalize the varying advantages of location and natural qualities of all tracts." The association, out of the sum thus received, pays all taxes levied by the civil authorities on improvements and personal property held upon its lands, thus making the rent of land the only charge against individuals.

IN NATURAL MONOPOLIES—transportation, telephones, water, light, power. etc.—by association control and operation at cost, as fast as practicable.

IN A MEDIUM FOR EFFECTING LOCAL EXCHANGES, by the issuance of its non-interest-bearing notes for services rendered it, redeemable in equivalent services and land rent.

The above simple program has been in practical operation at Fairhope for more than three years, and its advantages are constantly becoming more apparent.

It should appeal to those who believe the path of progress does not necessarily lead to the substitution of a government trust for the multiple private trusts which in the enjoyment of special privileges have grown to be a national menace, but that freedom is a sovereign remedy for all our economic ills.

The association has a most beautiful, healthful and attractive location on the eastern shore of Mobile Bay, within sight of the important sea-coast city of Mobile, its lands having a frontage on the bay shore of about three fourths of a mile, and extending back—not wholly connected—three miles. They comprise 670 acres, owned free of incumbrance; and a very favorable option is held on nearly 2500 acres more.

The land is especially adapted to truck and fruit growing for northern markets, as well as general farming and stock raising. The association owns its own wharf, 1800 feet long, at which the side-wheel steamer Heroine, plying daily between Mobile and this shore, lands on all trips. Fairhope has a post office having a daily mail and doing a money-order business.

There are twenty-three dwellings on the ground, a store, hotel, saw-mill, cigar factory, blacksmith shop, and a public hall, used also for school and church purposes.

The cost of membership in the association is $100, which may be paid in instalments; but membership, though desired, is not requisite to the occupancy of land and the enjoyment of the economic advantages afforded by the association.

Beautiful bay-view building lots and desirable lands for farming are open for settlement by desirable parties, with no financial requirement further than the payment of the annual rent based on the value of the unimproved land, all of which will be expended in the interest of those paying it.

Fairhope Association pays no dividends, interest or bonuses to any one, and has but one salaried officer (receiving $10 a month). It was organized and exists solely to apply correct principles, for the benefit of those who participate and for a practical, visible example to the world. Its resources are all expended to that end; and to that end it invites the membership and moral and financial support of right-thinking men and women.

The following list of industries which would probably prove profitable at Fairhope is offered for the benefit of inquirers:

Truck farming, fruit growing, general farming, stock raising, poultry raising, nursery, cotton gin, rice huller, cane mill, cannery, ice factory, laundry, pottery, bakery, brick-yard, tannery (using probably canaigre roots), water toboggan and other devices of like character for amusement of excursionists from Mobile and elsewhere, light manufacturing of almost any kind, mail order business &c.

For further particulars, address with stamp, E. B. Gaston, Secretary,
Fairhope, Alabama.

FRIENDS, ATTENTION!

It is of the utmost importance that the half-section of land held for us by Mess. Bostedo and Nusbaum for the last two years and now by Mr. C. K. Brown, should become the property of Fairhope Association at once. Our option extends a year yet, but we need the land at once to throw open to settlement.

We have plenty of lots near the bay, available for small holdings, but the good agricultural lands in our first purchases are so nearly exhausted that but a couple of fair ten-acre plats remain available, and there is a growing—and sensible—disposition to take larger tracts in order to let a portion each year go to crops to be turned under as fertilizers, or fed upon the place and returned in the form of manure.

We have 320 acres it is true, untouched, but it lies beyond the 320 of which we speak, the nearest point being two and a half miles from the wharf and two miles from the store; and while it will come into demand all right after the intermediate land is settled, it now seems too far out.

A trifle over $380 will buy this 320 acres now—thanks to Mess. Bostedo and Nusbaum—though it is easily worth twice that, and the title is perfect.

The Courier feels that with the success thus far achieved by Fairhope Association, its present secure position and its clear-cut application of the single-tax principle in throwing the lands it may secure open to settlement with no other condition than that of the payment of its annual rental value, all of which, after the payment of state and county taxes, is expended for the common benefit of the rents payers, it has a right to ask and expect the aid of the single-taxer of the country in securing this land.

Without any action of the Fairhope Association, the Courier therefore invites subscriptions for this purpose, which may be sent direct to the Treasurer of Fairhope Association, Mr. George M. Bancroft, or to the Manager of the Courier., and in either case will be acknowledged in the Courier.

Up to the time of going to press, we have received the following subscriptions to this fund:

J. Bellangee, Des Moines, Iowa,	$ 5.
Jose Gros, Morristown, N. J.,	10.
W. K. Smith, Chicago, Ills.	5.
Geo. C. Madison, " "	5.
Mrs. C. P. Sykes, Fairhope	5.

THE BANNER COUNTRY.

Hon. George Fowlds of Auckland, New Zealand, gave some exceedingly interesting information about the policies and progress of that country in an address before the Social Science Club of Minneapolis, as reported in the National Single Taxer. From it we quote:

In 1890 the tax on personal property was abolished throughout the colony, and a tax of a penny in the pound levied upon land values for colonial purposes. On large estates this amount was increased on a graduated scale, and 20 per cent extra was exacted from non-residents of the colony. The effect has been to break up large holdings and give cultivators a chance to get at the soil. Previous to this time the colony had been struggling with hard times, and was losing about 20 000 of its population annually. Since the adoption of the land-value tax the colony has been gaining population at the rate of 20 000 to 24 000 per year, and there are no tramps or millionaires in the whole country. The unemployed class has practically disappeared.

In 1896 a measure passed parliament permitting districts corresponding closely to our townships, to abolish the tax on improvements by popular vote. North Palmerston was the first community to take advantage of this local option law. It has now been in force about a year. Seven other towns immediately around North Palmerston have since abolished the tax on improvements for local purposes: among them Masterton, Carterton, Fielding, Hawera and Normandy. These towns are all located near the center of the north island.

New Zealand still has a protective tariff averaging 20 to 25 per cent. Auckland is the natural center of trade of the southern Pacific islands, and it was actually such until New South Wales abolished her tariff; since which time intercolonial trade activity has been rapidly transferred to Sydney. The New Zealand protectionists now have something to meditate upon. A growing agitation for the abolition of the tariff and the substitution of another penny in the pound tax on land values seems inevitable.

There is absolutely no proposal from any source to go back to the old system of taxation. Conservatism contents itself with lying back in the traces and begging the radicals to be satisfied with what they have already got. Woman suffrage was adopted four years ago, the two parties finally vying with each other for the honor of conferring the voting privilege upon the female sex. New Zealand has had government ownership of railways and telegraph since they were first introduced into the country. A system of civil service examinations prevents places in the transportation department from being used as party spoils. A system of postal savings banks is also in operation. The government charge for telephone service is $35 per year; but Mr. Fowlds says this is unnecessarily high, and the rate will probably be reduced to $25. The telegraph rate is 12 cents for ten words to any point in the colony—1 000 miles, if it is desired to send a message so far. Railroad passenger rates are 2 to 3 cents per mile.

He told of government ownership of railroads, and of the effect upon the body politic of women voting at the polls with men. The women, he said, voted and displayed political interest in about the

same proportion as the men. When suffrage was granted to them, there were surprises on both sides. The women did not all vote to abolish the liquor traffic, nor did they all vote for the purest and best measures. In fact, they acted very human, and much like their husbands, brothers and sweethearts.

"One argument that is brought against the single-tax system," said Mr. Fowlds, "is that it taxes the poor farmer; but will you believe it? the poor farmers are so foolish as to keep flocking across the border from Victoria into New South Wales for the privilege of paying the land tax. That is because they know when they pay this tax they get off much more cheaply than in Victoria, where everything they use for consumption or on their farms is heavily taxed by the tariff of that colony."

His comparison of the cities of Sydney and Melbourne was most interesting. Under the partial application of the single-tax system, Sydney was fast supplanting her rival. Melbourne is strongly protected: as much so in many respects as America in many articles. A committee from the Trades' hall in Melbourne, hearing that wages were higher in Sydney, went to learn the cause. They found wages as high, and in many cases actually higher than in Melbourne, while the cost of living was about one third less. After studying the situation six weeks, they returned home confirmed free-traders.

THE RAILROADS ARE IN POLITICS.

Walter Wellman, the famous correspondent, has shown in the Chicago Times-Herald the true source of the deficit in the postal department, which Congressman Loud has sought to make up off of increased charges on second-class matter. The trouble is in the enormous increase in the amount paid railways for mail transportation—not only absolutely, but relatively—in cost per mile. Mr. Wellman gives the following table showing the rapidity with which this burden is increasing:

	Miles traveled daily.	Cost.	Cost per mile.
1853.....	12 000....	$ 1 600 000....	$133
1893.....	110 000 ...	13 800 000....	125
1897.....	173 500....	28 000 000....	161

Mr. Wellman showed that since 1880 the item of transportation has increased from $8 200 000 to $27 955 000. He then goes ahead to show how the railroad companies steal a good share of this money. Once in four years the government attempts to obtain the average number of pounds carried daily, and uses this as a basis of settlement. At such times the railroads send thousands of tons of "dummy mail" over their lines. They send their annual supplies at this time, and in a hundred ways swell the "average." An original expense of $5 600 in this way netted one road $233 000. After explaining several such schemes, Mr. Wellman continues:

"Mr. Armour, or the Standard Oil Company, or others of the big shippers own their own cars. They pay the roads for hauling them, and get a drawback paid by the roads for the use of their cars. But Uncle Sam rents his cars from the railroads, and pays for the hauling of them besides. A first-class railroad post-office car, sixty feet long, the finest built, costs a maximum of $8 000 to construct. For this the United States pays $50 per mile per annum rental in addition to the rate per pound of the mails. Such a car running between Chicago and New York for a year earns in rentals alone nearly $25 000. And it costs only $8 000 to build."

Considering the effective snpport given by the railroads to the present administration in the campaign resulting in its selection, can any one hope that it will abolish this robbery? A few years ago, the manager of a railway running out of Des Moines was indicted for defrauding the government by sending an enormous amount of dummy mail over his line during the weighing period. The evidence of fraudulent intent seemed indisputable, but he escaped on a technicality—as the big thieves so often do. It was a good deal more than suspected too from the evidence presented at the time, that the U. S. congressman from the district helped on the swindle by "franking" an enormous amount of public documents to constituents along this and other lines, just at the time when it would do the railroads the most good. Combaring the crookedness everywhere developing where private corporations performing public services come into contact with public officials, with the honesty and efficiency manifested in the departments of the postal system directly conducted by the government, the argument against government ownership of railways because of fear of official corruption seems ridiculous.

The Courier now goes to Havana, Cuba, a subscription for a gentleman there having been forwarded us by the New Earth. [Later: this issue will hardly reach Havana on time but we expect the next to go through without delay.]

PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION.

ELECTING SINGLE OFFICERS.

The distinction between the election of several committeemen and the election of a single officer, such as president or secretary, should be clearly realized. In the former case, the object is to represent all the voters, as nearly as you can come at it. In the second case, the only requisite is that the man elected should have a clear majority of the votes cast, and should not be elected by a minority. The ordinary system of voting for single officers is all right when only two candidates run for each office; but where three or more canidates are running, the successful one may be, and often is, elected by a minority of the voters—which is not right. Many labor organizations see this clearly, and take several ballots in order ultimately to secure a majority. The friends of the weaker candidates give up the man of their first choice and cast their votes for the one they like next best; and the process is continued until some one gets a clear majority.

There is a better way than this, which we shall proceed to describe. It is an application of the preferential feature of the Hare system. Suppose that Smith, Brown, Jones and Robinson are running for the presidency of your organization. Then let each voter mark his ballot for all the candidates in the order in which he prefers them. For instance, take a voter who wants Smith to be elected and who thinks Robinson the most objectionable of the candidates and who prefers Brown to Jones. If the voting is done by writing the names on the ballots, this voter will write his ballot thus:

Smith
Brown
Jones
Robinson

If printed or written ballots have been distributed, with the names in alphabetical order, this voter will mark his ballot as follows:

Brown 2
Jones 3
Robinson 4
Smith 1

A ballot is spoiled unless the voter marks at least three out of the four names. The voters must be told this distinctly before they vote. At the close of the poll the votes are sorted out according to the "number one" votes for each candidate. Then the candidate who has the smallest number of these first-choice votes is declared "out," and his votes are distributed amongst the other three, according to the marking of the ballots. Then the lowest of these three remaining candidates is declared "out," and his ballots are similarly transferred. Then whichever of the remaining two is found to have the greatest number of votes, transferred or original, is declared elected.

A great deal of time is saved by this plan; "log-rolling" is hindered; and a fuller choice of candidates is given. Unless himself elected, no man can spoil the chance of a friend by splitting his vote. Therefore a man is willing to be a candidate by way of seeing what he can do; and his friends will vote for him in the same way, knowing that they will have a chance at a stronger candidate, if their favorite proves to be very weak in popular favor.

THE PROCESS IN DETAIL.

1. Distribute the ballot papers amongst the voters, with instructions that all the candidates are to be written or marked in the order of the voter's choice; or the ballot will be spoiled, except when one name only is omitted. In that case the omitted name will be understood as being the man most objected to by the voter. Collect the ballots when all are marked.

2. Sort out the ballots into four piles, according to the number-one or first-choice votes, paying no attention to the other figures: call out the name on each ballot as you do so. Whilst this is being done two tally clerks are keeping tally of the number of votes for each candidate. Reject spoiled ballots in accordance with paragraph 1.

3. The tally clerks name the candidate who has the smallest number of first-choice votes (the only votes that so far have been counted). The scrutineer then declares that candidate out, and distributes the whole of his ballots amongst the remaining candidates, according to the second choices on the ballots. For instance, if Mr. Smith is at the bottom of the poll, the illustrative ballot above given would be transferred to Brown's file, because Brown is second choice upon it; and it would count Brown one vote.

4. Three candidates are now left on the board. The lowest of these is declared out, and his votes are transferred to the remaining two candidates, in the way already described. If, for instance, Brown was declared out, then the ballot above given would be put on Jones' file, and would count one vote for Jones; because Jones is number three on the ballot, and both number one and number two are out and cannot be elected.

5. Only two candidates are now left, and the one found to have the greatest number of votes is declared to be elected. By means of the transfers he has a clear majority of the vote cast.

6. Ties can be disposed of by excluding the candidate having the least number of first-choice votes; or, first-choice votes being equal, by excluding the one having least second-choice votes, and so on. Or cast lots.

7. These directions relate specifically to an election with four candidates; but they will at once suggest the method to be pursued when three or five or more candidates are running. R. T. S. T.

SUMMER TEMPERATURE OF AN AVERAGE YEAR.

Mobile, Alabama.

Maximum, Minimum and Range.

Day	June			July			August			September		
	Max	Min	Ran	Max	Min	Ran	Max	Min	Ran	Max	Min	Ran
1	90	68	22	93	77	16	94	73	21	90	72	18
2	82	70	12	93	70	23	99	75	24	94	71	23
3	84	74	10	91	79	12	101	74	27	95	73	22
4	86	71	15	89	78	11	94	75	19	89	73	16
5	84	68	16	92	75	17	90	75	15	79	67	12
6	85	65	20	92	72	20	91	77	14	87	73	14
7	83	68	15	94	75	19	90	74	16	88	74	14
8	82	68	14	94	75	19	88	74	14	89	75	14
9	85	65	20	92	74	18	88	73	15	88	74	14
10	89	70	19	88	72	16	93	74	19	90	73	17
11	93	70	23	92	71	21	86	72	14	84	70	14
12	87	71	16	87	73	14	88	73	15	84	70	14
13	89	71	18	87	70	17	88	70	18	86	75	11
14	89	73	16	85	65	20	85	70	15	89	75	14
15	88	74	14	88	74	14	85	74	11	90	74	16
16	84	71	13	88	73	15	80	70	10	93	70	23
17	88	73	15	87	72	15	80	71	9	87	75	12
18	91	74	17	89	74	15	82	72	10	87	73	14
19	98	77	21	88	75	13	76	69	7	88	71	17
20	94	77	17	87	75	12	82	70	12	84	67	17
21	97	75	22	88	76	12	80	71	9	79	59	20
22	93	74	19	90	74	16	84	74	10	78	59	19
23	92	78	14	90	74	16	86	70	16	81	54	27
24	89	78	11	91	76	15	87	69	18	86	58	28
25	91	77	14	92	78	14	86	73	13	88	62	26
26	96	71	25	95	76	19	90	72	18	90	65	25
27	90	72	18	86	72	14	93	72	21	90	65	25
28	91	76	15	90	73	17	95	72	23	88	65	23
29	93	76	17	92	71	21	91	71	20	82	68	14
30	92	78	14	94	72	22	90	71	19	84	66	18
31				96	72	24	90	72	18			
M'n	89.2	72.4	16.7	90.3	73.6	16.7	88.1	72.3	15.8	86.9	68.9	18.0

THE FAIRHOPE HOUSE REGISTER.

The following persons registered at the Fairhope House in April:

Jas. Dunbar, Cleveland, O.
Mrs. W. K. Smith and daughter Jessie, Chicago, Ill.
Ed. C. Slosson and wife, Baldwin county, Ala.
D. S. Renne and wife, Verona, Ill.
S. Vander Meulen, Fairhope, Ala.
Edward Q. Norton and wife, Daphne, Ala.
Miss J. E. Seibert, " "
Edgar J. Wright, Brooklyn, N. Y.
William E. Blake, " "
George C. Madison, Chicago, Ill.
W. K. Smith, " "
Rufus H. Bartlett, M. D., " "
Hugh McConnel, " "
Mrs. M. A. Church, " "
Mrs. Smith, " "
W. F. Cutter, " "
C. L. Breed, Magnolia Springs, Ala.
Miss Ludwig, " "
Miss Traustima Ludwig, " "
April Fool party of ten.
F. E. Fulkerson, Jerseyville, Ill.
Mrs. C. T. Fulkerson, " "
R. Rabjohn, Toronto, Canada.
F. A. Webb, Chicago, Ill.
Alfred P. Williams, " "
Mrs. S. E. Cate, Oak Park, Ill
Miss Caroline Tucker, Mobile, Ala.
J. J. Gaston, Winterset, Iowa.
Dr. Atkinson, Fairhope, Ala.
Miss Beulah C. Gaston, " "
Mrs. T. G. White and family, " "
I. D. Appleford, Dixon, Ill.
Mrs. L. Appleford, " "
L. E. Appleford, " "
S. Slater, Jefferson, Oregon.
Ernest J. Mayes, Toronto, Canada.
Miss Hazel Driver, Mobile.

COFFEE Raise your own coffee for 1c. per lb Send 1c. stamp for circulars. J. D. Rice, Utica, Michigan.

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BANKERS,
MOBILE, ALABAMA.
Transact a General Banking Business. Deposits solicited. Buy and sell Foreign and Domestic Exchange.

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Wholesale and Retail.
G. Van Antwerp & Son,
Residents of Baldwin County invited to use our store as a meeting point when shopping in Mobile.
Cor. Royal and Dauphin Sts.,
MOBILE, ALA.

BEROUJON, SANDS & CO.,
FUNERAL DIRECTORS.
Coffins and Shrouds to Suburban Residents at Special Low Prices.
N. W. Cor. Conception and Conti Sts. Mobile, Ala.

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This railroad has for sale the finest farming and timber lands in the south, at astonishingly low rates and upon easy terms, in the states of Tennessee, Mississippi and Alabama: also government lands subject to homestead entry. Improved and unimproved farms. Most delightful and even climate in America. For descriptive matter and full information apply to Alabama Land & Development Company, Mobile, Ala.

Excursions at low rates run from St. Louis, Mo., Cairo, Ill., and intermediate points, as well as other points in the north, on several days in each month. Tickets allow stop-over at any point south of and including Cairo, Illinois. Low one-way rates also for settlers and household goods and stock.

Double daily fast trains. Pullman palace sleeping cars with drawing room and buffet. Also clean, easy-riding day coaches on all trains between St. Louis, Mo., and Mobile, Ala. Tickets issued and baggage checked to all points in the United States.

For information as to tickets, rates etc., apply to
Charles Rudolph, D. P. A., No. 351 Marquette Building, Chicago, Ill.
M. H. Bohreer, D. P. A., No. 135 Griswold Street, Detroit, Mich.
F. L. Harris, General Agent, 215 North Fourth Street, St. Louis, Mo.
E. E. Posey, General Passenger Agent.
E. L. Russell, First Vice President.

FAIRHOPE TRANSPORTATION LINE.

Remember that the staunch Schooner "Minnie L." of Fairhope, Capt. G. A. R. Lawrence, makes regular trips twice a week (oftener if neccessary) between Fairhope and Mobile, handling all kinds of freight either way with security and dispatch. Will touch at all points along the eastern shore where business demands.

The Minnie L. has extra facilities for protecting freight from the weather and makes a specialty of handling merchandise and household goods. Special rates to persons moving to Fairhope.

☞SPECIAL! Capt. Lawrence will attend personally and without charge, to purchasing and selling orders, in Mobile, for his patrons.

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RATES REASONABLE. SATISFACTION GUARANTEED
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KOPPERSMITH & BOGUE,
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All Grades of Hand and Machine Sewed Shoes,
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SALESMEN WANTED.

Good wages to sell our Nursery Stock. Apply for terms. We will have for Spring and Fall. 1898, an immense stock of Apples, Pears, Peach, Plum, Apricot, Cherry, Grape, etc. Also small fruits, shade and ornamental trees, Roses etc. We make a specialty of wholesaling to large planters direct. Write us for wholesale prices. Address: Southern Nursery Co. Winchester, Tenn.

FAIRHOPE COURIER.

Devoted to the LAW of EQUAL FREEDOM—"Every man has freedom to do all that he wills, provided he infringes not the equal freedom of any other man"—and to the effort now being made to immediately apply that law to the fullest extent possible under existing conditions, by the Fairhope Industrial Association, at Fairhope, Alabama,

Its motto, and that of Fairhope Industrial Association, is, "We will make good theories work." And it denies the possibility of a "good theory" which is "not practical."

ERNEST B. GASTON, - - - EDITOR AND MANAGER.

Published at Fairhope, Alabama, on the first day of each month.

Subscription Price to any address in the United States, Canada or Mexico 25 cents per annum. In other countries of the International Postal Union' 37c.

Entered at Fairhope Post Office as second class matter.

"Radix, the Radical," continues to print something about Fairhope every week or two in his Radical's Corner of the Toronto Sunday World.

Every man speaks well of the bridge that carries him over. Those who haye made fortunes by the present industrial system are apt to speak well of it.—Charles Kingsley.

Taxes upon land values fall upon those who receive valuable privileges from the community, and in proportion to the value of those privileges the taxes ought to be collected.—Ex.

The Helping Hand, official paper of the National Aid Association' a most thriving and reliable mutual insurance association, officered throughout by reformers, gave a kind notice of the Courier, in its special illustrated edition for April.

The Southern Co-operator is a new exchange, published at Ocala-Florida, by Willis M. Myers. One object of its publication is stated to be to "accumulate means to buy lands and machinery for a co-operative colony." It is a neat four-page paper. Subscription price, 50c. per year.

One of the oldest and best known business houses in Chicago made an assignment recently. In nearly a third of a century its doors had never been closed to customers, night or day, but once. The primary cause of the assignment was reported to be heavy rent. The lease of its store-room cost the firm $13 000 a year.

Not every one at Fairhope is satisfied: it would be too much to expect that every one would be satisfied anywhere or with any conditions, Some may be desirous of leaving; but we think it safe to say that for every one wishing to get away, there are two who have been here and left, who would be glad to get back, and who have been heard from to that effect.

The New Woman, published at Topeka, Kansas, is a new visitor to our exchange table. As its name implies, it is a "woman's publication in the interest of women, and seeks to put the woman question in its true light as the question of humanity, in which men have as much interest as the women." It is a neat, brightly edited weekly. Subscription price, $1 per year.

The numbers of the Public, Mr. Post's paper, so far received amply justify the statement made in its announcement, that "familiarity with the Public will commend it as a paper that is not only worth reading, but worth filing." "Of making newspapers there is no end;" but the Public occupies a field all its own, and we sincerely trust that Mr. Post's support will be as generous as the excellence of his paper deserves.

THE NEW TIME.

The popularity and circulation of this aggressive and brilliant magazine of the people are increasing at a phenomenal rate. We do not agree with the editor, Mr. F. U. Adams (Mr. Flower having retired) that the "competitive system" is the cause of all our ills, but the columns of his magazine are conducted as a forum in which all classe of reform thought may be presented, and his vigorous and incisive attacks on monopolies of all kinds we thoroughly appreciate.

At its price of only one dollar a year, the New Time ought to have one million readers; and it will be a pleasure to us to assist in securing them. To that end, we offer both the New Time and the Fairhope Courier one year, to any address in the United States, Canada or Mexico, for $1.

DOES THIS EXPLANATION EXPLAIN?

Despite the many explicit statements of the policy of Fairhope Association made in the Courier, a single-tax friend writes:

I must say frankly that I do not as yet see just how you are putting the single tax into practical operation. Is the land of the colony open to all the world for settlement on payment of the annual rental value of the land? and does the money thus received go into the public treasury (or the same thing, the corporation treasury) to be expended in the support of local government and public improvements, or does the money go into the pockets of the incorporators and thus become in fact a land speculation scheme? I think that it is worth your while to make this point clear. You may have done so, but I have not seen it. If the colony is as I think it should be, the money paid by members of the corporation was paid for the purpose of procuring land upon which the single tax could be tested and not for the purpose of making a profit, that it is open to the world for settlement upon the payment of the annual rental value of the land; and the purpose of keeping the land in the hands of a close corporation is to insure the single-tax form of government from being overthrown before it has had a thorough test and has been found wanting. I suppose in that case the single-taxers who have the matter in control would gladly try something else.

We shall make a further effort to make this matter clear.

The money with which the land owned by Fairhope Association was purchased, was paid for the purpose of securing land to be administered on single-tax lines. The amounts thus paid (except a few subscriptions to the "Single Tax Land Fund") are evidenced by non-assessible, non-dividend-paying certificates of membership and stock. The lands were selected by the members paying the money, after they had come together here on the ground. None of the original organizers has or ever has had any power or privilege over the member who may have joined yesterday, nor holds a dollar's worth of stock except what has been paid for on the same terms on which it is offered to-day. Not a dollar of the money received on membership account, from special subscriptions, land rents, or any other source has ever been paid out except for services or property of equal value rendered the association. Not only is the land open for use by all who have contributed to purchase it, on exactly equal terms, but it is open to all other desirable persons, with no financial requirement other than the agreement to pay the annual rental value. That value is determined by "impartial periodical [annual] assessments" (see single-tax platform), made by the Executive Council of the association, elected by its members; due opportunity being given for objections and suggestions.

ALL of the money paid as land rentals goes into the general treasury of the association, to be expended only under direction of its Executive Council in carrying forward its declared purposes. Every act of that council is subject at all times to revision or annulment by vote of the members, twenty-four hours' notice only being necessary; and every officer is subject to recall in like manner. The association pays the state and county taxes on all property in the colony and expends the remainder for local government and public improvements.

If this explanation leaves anything not clear or satisfactory to our inquiring friend or any one else, we will cheerfully answer any other queries along this line.

THE SAINT LOUIS CONVENTION.

It does not at this writing appear likely that Fairhope will be represented at the First Annual National United Labor and Reform Convention, meeting at Saint Louis on May second; but to the earnest reformers who will there assemble we extend fraternal greeting and express the hope that their deliberations may be harmonious and profitable.

With the purposes of the convention we are in hearty sympathy, especially the sixth in published order but first in practical importance:

"To impress upon the American people the pre-eminent importance of the system of direct legislation (including the Initiative, Referendum, Imperative Mandate and Proportional Representation) as the only means of restoring the liberties of the people, and as the only issue whereby all reform elements can be cemented into hearty political union without compromise of principles."

This is the only proposition upon which it is possible to unite the otherwise discordant reform elements of the country; and when we have once made it possible for the people to express their will upon

any given subject entirely apart from political parties, or personalities, or other subjects upon which they may or may not agree; and when the will of the majority is expressed, to make it at once effective, we have cleared the way for the adoption of all genuine reforms, and can with confidence turn our whole attention to the proper education of the majority.

If the convention will stick to this text, and not let the advocates of antagonistic theories string out its platform until no faction can support it with whole and genuine enthusiasm, it will accomplish a great work and deserve the thanks of all who believe in the rule of the people.

THE WAR.

No decisive results have yet been achieved in the Hispano-American contest: in fact, at this writing no actual clash of armed forces has yet been reported. The United States fleet has established a peaceful blockade of Havana and other Cuban ports, but has not fired a gun at their defences. Spain withdrew all her war vessels from the vicinity of Cuba prior to the opening of hostilities (with what plan of action in view, is yet a cause of much speculation).

The United States is proceeding with a caution and deliberation which, while hardly meeting the desires of the bellicose, is probably wise. It is well to be thoroughly prepared, so that when a blow is struck, it may be followed with as many more as may be necessary, each given with increasing power, and that there may be no likelihood of a possible temporary reverse, which might encourage the enemy and lead to the prolonging of resistance against what is nowhere doubted as the final triumph of American and Cuban arms and the freedom of Cuba.

A most interesting feature of the situation and of the events leading up to the demand upon Spain to quit Cuba and leave the Cubans to govern themselves, was the alignment of forces for and against war. Reformers in general are against war abstractly, and warned the people that the "money power" would very likely precipitate a war with some foreign nation in order to divert their attention from the domestic evils over which they were becoming restive, and on the strength of the enthusiasm thus aroused carry the Republican administration triumphantly through another campaign. Strange to say, however, when the alignment came, the President, Mark Hanna, the Gages, Ickleheimers and all the plutocrats, who according to reform papers and leaders were to be for war, were against it, and were most reluctantly forced into it by the people and their representatives in congress. It illustrates anew that of which we long ago became by observation convinced, that men are what they seem, that they act upon the beliefs they profess, and that a great deal of talent is devoted to the search for deep, ulterior, mysterious motives where none exist, which might be better employed.

Another interesting and encouraging feature is the deep and widespread sentiment of sympathy among the "common people" with the brave struggle of the Cubans for freedom. Long before the destruction of the Maine, long before the confirmation of the reported horrors of Spanish policies by Senators Proctor, Teller and Gallinger, the American people were in favor of the recognition of Cuba and anxious to lend them all the aid and encouragement they could. Quite naturally however, the administration and the "powers behind the throne" did not fully share nor even understand this feeling. The interests which achieved its election and which made the atmosphere in which it exists, are essentially aristocratic and plutocratic. The president's message, in which he turned the responsibility over to congress, expressed sympathy with the sufferings of the people of Cuba, and deplored the interference with business interests resulting from the war, but did not express the remotest sympathy with the demand of Cuba for absolute political independence. A "stable government" in which property rights will be preserved, which will protect "investments" guarantee the interest on bonds and the enforcement of money claims, is the essential thing in their eyes. Political independence is to thema sentiment, well enough perhaps, but of secondary importance to security of investments.

It is a sentiment however, which by this Cuban incident is shown to be still dear to the hearts of the common American people; and some day, when they find that they themselves have not its full measure, they may be relied upon to demand and secure it.

A BELL-E SOCIAL.

One of the most successful entertainments ever given in Fairhope was a "Bell Social" which was given on April first under the charge of Mr. S. Howard Leech. As the title implied, it was given for the purpose of raising funds for the purchase of a bell for the "town hall."

A short program was rendered, consisting of vocal solos by Miss Beulah Gaston and Mr. Chapman, guitar solos by Miss Mabel Webb and H. J. Stemerdink, whistling duo by Misses Gaston and Webb, and an interesting reading on the great bells of the world by Mr. Coleman. After the program a number of fine cakes and some beautiful bouquets were sold at auction for the benefit of the bell fund, Mr. Leech and A. H. Mershon acting very efficiently as auctioneers; and a collection was also taken, the receipts altogether amounting to nearly seven dollars. Sandwiches and cake were also served free o the audience.

Later: The bell has been purchased, but has not yet been hung.

IF THIS ARTICLE IS MARKED

In your paper, read it with care. It is intended especially for you. Knowing of your interest in the reforms which are being practically applied at Fairhope, we send you this issue of the Courier and extend you a cordial invitation to become one of our regular readers.

The Courier is not a competitor of the larger journals devoted to general news or the advocacy of reforms from a theoretical standpoint. It will give due attention in each issue to the theoretical aspect of reforms; but its chief interest and value will lie in the fact of its being devoted to the "immediate practical application of correct theories". Its value as compared with other papers will be as that of a bulletin from an experimental farm reporting tests made and results actually acheived, to a philosophical treatise on agriculture.

In its peculiar field it has no competitor, for no experiments similar to those whose results it will record, have ever been or are elsewhere being made, and as a student of economics you cannot afford to be without it. If interested in our work, do not neglect this matter, but forward your subscription—if not for a year, for at least four months (ten cents)—at once, while the matter is on your mind.

PERSONAL AND LOCAL NOTES.

An effort has been made to secure a better supply of water from the "town pump", but with only partial success.

Mrs. J. A. Woods had a very pleasant surprise in an entirely unexpected call from her brother, Mr. W. F. Cutter of Chicago.

Irish potatoes are now going to market. Parker Young, colored, made the first shipment of the season over Fairhope wharf.

The editor has replaced the picket fence in front of his place with a woven wire fence, greatly improving the appearance of his premises.

Neighbor Meeker has the finest crop of beans in this vicinity, and Mershon Brothers are a close second. Mr. Meeker is about ready to ship.

Mershon Brothers have their new tract fenced and between nine and ten acres cleared and broken up, which they are planting to sweet potatoes and rice.

The Fairhope Mfg. Co. is building a very substantial addition 24x 46 to the saw-mill and will put in a shingle machine and otherwise improve the plant at once.

A number of people from Fairhope and vicinity attended a very successful fish-fry on Fish river on April 16. There was a good crowd in attendance, and plenty of fish.

F. L. Brown has commenced the erection of a house on the beautiful forty acre tract, just south of the saw-mill, which he will occupy with his family, as soon as it is completed.

Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Smith are building a very neat cottage, twenty-four by twenty-eight, on their beautiful lots on Magnolia Avenue. Mr. George Knowles is doing the work, assisted by Mr. Smith.

The weather during April has hardly been so favorable for growing crops as it was in March. We had an unusually warm March, and have had an unusually cold April. We have however, escaped the frosts which during the month visited almost all of Georgia and Mississippi and northern Alabama, doing much damage to the truck farms.

from Portia at the trial of Shylock's snit, and a group of Fairhope's bright little girls sang a couple of songs which were most heartily received.

Mr. C. K. Brown has fenced in forty acres of the Bostedo-Nusbaum tract, and has got ten or twelve acres cleared and broken up. In enclosing his piece, father Brown took the liberty to straighten out a grape vine county road which ran across a corner of his land, making it run at right angles around the corner. He left twenty feet for the road (which is only of the third grade, 15 ft.), and cleared it of trees and stumps at his own expense. Complaint was made against him for obstructing the highway, and he was cited to appear before the Probate Judge at Daphne. Before the date set, however, the County Commissioners were in session, and Mr. Brown appeared before them and got the matter satisfactorily adjusted, the Commissioners accepting the road as changed.

Dr. and Mrs. E. C. Slosson visited Fairhope recently, it being the doctor's first trip here. They live exactly east of Fairhope, in the next township, about six miles in a straight line from the store; and the doctor and his father-in-law, Mr. Harford, are very anxious to have a road opened through, as it would greatly shorten the distance to the bay for them. It would be a very nice thing for all of us if the road could be put through, as it would be a great convenience to them and greatly increase the business of our wharf. It would seem however, with the present complexion of the Board of County Commissioners—who are hostile to any new roads—that if put through, it would have to be by volunteer labor, most of the burden falling upon us; and with all the other burdens upon us now, we cannot see our way through it.

Mess. Edgar J. Wright and William E. Blake of Brooklyn were among our April visitors, coming by steamer to New Orleans, and thence by rail. Both gentlemen have been interested in Fairhope for some time, and Mr. Wright we had heard from several times.. Though a young man, he has had a wide and varied experience, and should he decide to come to Fairhope, will undoubtedly be of great advantage to us in various ways. They had in mind the putting in of an ice plant to supply this shore with ice, or a rice huller and cotton gin. They expressed themselves as much pleased with conditions as they found them here; and while their coming to remain will be contingent on circumstances which could not be fully foreseen, we shall hope to see them here this fall to become important factors in the upbuilding of Fairhope. Both are members of the Brooklyn Single Tax Club.

Many varieties of strawberries have been and are being tested in Fairhope; but it is doubtful if any variety has shown the ability to stand cold, heat, drouth and other adverse conditions as well as the old-fashioned Wilson. There are sweeter berries, and more prolific, than the Wilson; but we question whether any will give better satisfaction in the long run. The Meek's Early, which we recommended highly for their drouth resisting qualities, are too sensitive to cold: frosts which showed no effect on the Wilson, killed all the outer leaves of the Meek's Early repeatedly; and being so early, they bloom so early that the blossoms are killed by the frost; and by the time the weather would permit the fruit to perfect, they are exhausted. We are now trying also the Haverland, a prime favorite in many localities, and the Lady Thompson and Indian River, which are claimed to do well in Florida.

A number of Fairhopers, with Mess. Webb, Swift and Oswalt, have joined in sending for a trammel net 100 yards in length, with which they expect to keep themselves plentifully supplied with fish. Trammel nets are an improved kind, consisting of a coarse net (seven-inch mesh) on either side of a fine-mesh net which, as the ladies would say, is much "fuller" than the outer nets. A fish striking the net from either side passes unobstructed through the coarse net, and striking the fine net, carries it through the coarse mesh on the farther side, making a pocket in which he is imprisoned. They may be used as set nets, but are usually used by stringing out in a circle with the ends together, and then beating and splashing inside to scare the fish into them. One especial advantage is that they do not require the fishermen to get into the water; and as they do not have to be drawn out on the beach, escape the snagging which is such an annoyance and renders an ordinary seine so short-lived.

We are now in the height of the dewberry season. In the fence corners, around the stumps and in the low waste places, wherever the plow has spared them, the slender vines have established themselves, and are now yielding in marvelous prodigality their great, luscious berries, which will compare favorably with, if they do not surpass, the most aristocratic fruit we have ever seen grown with careful cultivation and pruning in less favored climes. On the Creswell, Mann and Schakel (Patterson) places, which were cut from an old negro clearing, they are particularly plentiful, and easily surpass without any care or cultivation those which the writer has planted and carefully tended and fertilized. Even on an old field which Mrs. Tatum has "turned out" and which is daily tramped by stock of all kinds, they flourish. Along the banks of a ditch which Mr. Mann cut through a low place, in the midst of grass and weeds they flourish amazingly. Mr. and Mrs. Smith, who have the Mann place, have been picking them every day or two by the four or five gallons. There may be better berries than the native wild dewberries of Baldwin county—we are going to try to find out—but we doubt it.

From Jno. W. Pickering, Detroit, Mich.

I am anxious to know a few things concerning Fairhope and its ten-acre lots. I have been living in Detroit for over sixteen years, having left England in 1881. Ever since I was old enough to vote and express my views, I have been associated with the reform movements; and like you and your friends, I have got disgusted with the populace who vote blindly against their own interests. I have worked and toiled for my bread, and to save my neck it would be hard to raise me above living from hand to mouth under the present surrounding conditions. I have lost no time by reason of sickness, nor do I smoke or drink: therefore I ought to have quite a little saved, if I had had all of my just earnings. I am getting older, and with it comes the dread of old age and nothing provided for it. I am good for twenty or thirty years' more work; and being a single-taxer, direct legislator and a Populist and a subscriber to your valuable paper, allow me to ask a few questions concerning Fairhope. The climate I am satisfied is the best. I am sick of these northern extremes, that are worse than England's weather, which has a Gulf Stream to make her warm. .....It seems strange to read of your bathing in the bay in the month of March, while we have had snow storms and cold weather. Our drinking water is at forty two degrees right now in April. We could not bathe here in such cold water. . . I am in the milk peddling business here, and have had some pretty tough mornings to turn out this winter. It gets so cold that milk freezes in the measures, and it is almost impossible to measure till it is thawed out again. I feel I must change my climate. I suffer with the cold, and have a cough during the winter which I would not have in Fairhope; and the change in climate I feel sure will lengthen my days to my family.

FAIRHOPE CIGARS.

The COURIER has at its disposal a quantity of cigars manufactured at Andy Cullen's Fairhope Factory, "Number 127, District of Alabama", which will be sent postpaid to any address in the United States in boxes of 25, 50 and 100 at regular wholesale prices.

We have two brands:

The "Fairhope", Mr. Cullen's best, a clear Havana filler, hand-made cigar of fine quality.	Per hundred, postpaid,	$3.50
	" fifty, "	1.85
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The "Henry Clay", a good hand-made cigar, a favorite smoker in Baldwin County and Mobile.	Per hundred, postpaid,	$2.50
	" fifty, "	1.35
	" twenty-five, "	.75

Single-tax smokers and dealers, this is a chance in harmony with the "law of self-interest" to serve yourselves, the Courier and a Fairhope industry at the same time. What more could you ask? Give us an order.

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James H. Barry, Editor.

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WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DRUGGISTS AND SEEDSMEN.

LESLIE HALL,

ATTORNEY AT LAW,

Land Titles Examined. Daphne Ala.

Mr. J. A. Webster has been quite ill, but at this writing is, we are glad to say, considerably improved. Miss Grace Webster came down from Chicago on the eighteenth to assist in caring for him.

Water was struck in Dr. Atkinson's well at a depth of 70 feet, but it was carried on down to a depth of 100 feet, giving, it is believed, an abundant supply. It is curbed with tile, and cost $1 a foot.

Mrs. S. E. Cate of Des Moines, who has been spending the winter in Mobile, came over to Fairhope in April to visit Drs. Fosnes and Atkinson. Her friend, Miss Tucker of Mobile, accompanied her.

Dr. Rufus H. Bartlett of Chicago spent some days in Baldwin county with a view to locating a sanitarium, and was especially pleased with the advantages offered for such an enterprise at Fairhope.

Miss Jessie Smith spent a few days in Mobile recently, the guest of Miss Hazel Driver, a former schoolmate in Chicago who is now residing in Mobile; and Miss Driver returned with her to Fairhope for a short visit.

Mr. A. E. Shupe has returned to his work at Cleveland O. for the summer. The benefit he has received from his two winters spent here is little short of marvelous and has made him an ardent friend of Baldwin county.

A number of parties have passed through Fairhope recently, going to look at the lands of the River Park Fruit Company on Fish River, and several have, we understand, purchased. Most of them were from Chicago and vicinity.

Whatever else we may be at Fairhope, we are all farmers to some extent. The editor has "taken in" the acre adjoining him on the west, and has it planted to sweet potatoes. His "farm" is thus increased to two and one half acres.

Mr. G. W. Wood had a very pleasant visit at the U. S. army camp at Mobile, with Lieut. Col. Wheaton and Captain Dent, of the 20th regiment, U. S. Infantry, with whom he became well acquainted at Camp Poplar River, Mont. some years ago.

This is truly the land of roses, and they have been at their best for the last month. All the choice varieties—including many which are never seen outside of hot-houses in the north—flourish here, and grow with a rapidity which is absolutely amazing.

The many friends of Hon. S. S. Mann will be sorry to learn that he has been quite seriously ill with asthma—could not lie down and sleep for weeks. "I should not have undertaken to winter in this latitude, and must never try to do so again," he writes.

The first potatoes on the market brought $3.50 to $4.00 a barrel, and the first beans $2.00 a bushel. Potatoes are quoted at Mobile, this date, at $3.50, and beans $1.75. The late frosts reaching well down into the south, will likely tend to keep prices pretty well up for some time yet.

Mrs. Patterson has purchased the Henry Schakel place on Fairhope Avenue, which she has been occupying under lease, and now feels more like she was "at home." Miss Winnie, whose ill health was largely the cause of the family's removal to Fairhope, is very much improved of late.

Mr. Frank Creswell, who has for some seasons past suffered severely with hay fever, has come from St. Louis to Fairhope with the hope of escaping it. He will remain some weeks at least with his parents, and has taken hold of farm work in a way that would be expected from the "son of his father."

Mr. J, J. Gaston, of Winterset Iowa, father of Miss. Beulah Gaston and brother of the editor, is visiting his Fairhope relatives. This is Mr. Gaston's first visit so far south and he is very well pleased with our country—at any rate so far as its advantages of climate and healthfulness are concerned.

Mrs. J. A. Woods has completed—the exterior at any rate—of a neat addition to her cottage. Mrs. Woods intends to go north this summer, and make a determined effort to dispose of some property she has there before her return. Her health is so much better here that she would not think of returning north to live.

Mr. Ben Peacock of Dixon, Illinois, a friend of the Webbs, came down early in April to visit them and look over this country, and secured work at his trade, that of a carpenter, within a short time after his arrival. He is now working for Mr. Randall, late of Cleveland, Ohio, who is making extensive improvements on his lands, near Daphne.

Mr. P. A. Parker has our thanks for a fine collection of Fairhope views taken on his recent visit here, duplicates of which he would probably furnish reasonably to any one addressing him at his home, Chatham, N. Y., Box 300 (though this we are not authorized to say). Mr. Parker has also made and submitted us a blue print of the plat of our lands near the bay, copies of which he kindly offers to furnish us as needed.

Several of Fred Hanford's Fairhope friends have heard from him lately. He is at the Pickering's place in Florida, being compelled to go south for his health early in the winter. He expresses himself as homesick for Fairhope, and says the family will probably come south somewhere again this winter, and that it would certainly be Fairhope if he had his wish.

Indirect advices from J. H. Springer are to the effect that his health is very poor. He is in Indianapolis, publishing a paper—the Single Tax World, we believe— and meeting the usual fate of reform publishers. Mr. and Mrs. Brokaw and their baby are on the Pacific coast. What they are doing we do not know. Mr. and Mrs. Pollay are again at Vancouver, B. C., their former home.

D. G. Armitage returned to his home at Baraboo, Wisconsin, early in April, having received word that the woolen mill in which he has worked for years was running again, and that his position was open for him. Friend Armitage hated very much to leave Fairhope, but he has been a weaver all his working years and does not know much about farming. However, he is determined to return to Fairhope when circumstances are more favorable.

Dr. Edith Gould Fosnes of Des Moines is visiting at Fairhope, recuperating from the effect of over-work in the practice of her profession. Dr. Fosnes was at Fairhope dnring our first winter, and is highly pleased with the marked improvement made since then. She eeteems Fairhope highly as a health resort and the ideal place for rest and recuperation, and will prescribe a trip to Fairhope for her run-down patients. Dr. Fosnes and Dr. Atkinson were associated in practice in Des Moines, and she is the latter's guest.

Mr. R. Rabjohn of Toronto, Canada, paid us a very brief visit in April, coming in on Saturday evening and leaving Monday morning. Mr. Rabjohn is a friend of Dr. Stowe. He is a professional gardener and florist, has tired of the long winters of Canada and thinks of coming south. We were disappointed that he did not give more time to looking about Fairhope; but he expressed himself as highly pleased with everything he saw, and may yet decide to come to Fairhope. We are sure he cannot find any more desirable place in the south.

A. H. Mershon had charge of the regular bi-weekly program on April 15, and it was a highly entertaining one. There were recitations by Miss Jessie Smith and Masters Ralph Mershon and James Gaston, humorous readings by J. J. Gaston (of Winterset, Iowa) and C. L. Coleman, guitar solos by Miss Mabel Webb and Herman Stemerdink, and music by the "City Band" on combs for instruments, assisted by Miss Webb and Mr. Stemerdink on guitars and Will Davis on the mouth-harp. Clyde Mershon also gave a very artistic exhibition of club swinging.

Mr. Alex Veitch of De Soto, Missouri, who visited us in March, left quite unexpectedly to us, returning to De Soto on the last day of his return ticket. He wrote from there saying he would be back in a few days; but later advices report him in Saint Louis, whither he had moved with his family, and hung up his sign (that of a cobbler), but which, to use his expression, "might as well be in the backwoods, so far as business was concerned." We fear that friend Veitch made a great mistake in not stopping at Fairhope; but the responsibility is upon him, not us.

Upwards of fifty dollars, beside labor, has been subscribed by the public spirited citizens of Fairhope, for the purpose of building a bath-house. It will be built off from the wharf a little way out and will be about 12x38 feet in size. For this season it is intended to divide its accommodations between the ladies and gentlemen, but it is hoped to build another for gentlemen, farther out, next year and then turn this over entirely to the ladies. It will be built at once and friends who visit us during the summer, should not neglect to provide themselves with bathing suits.

Mr. W. K. Smith took advantage of a very low excursion rate in force between Chicago and New Orleans, to run down to Fairhope and visit his wife and daughter and our colony; and Mr. George C. Madison accompanied him. Mr. Smith was much pleased with the marked improvement in Miss Jessie after her few weeks' stay here, and both gentlemen expressed themselves as highly pleased with our location and with what we have accomplished in the past three years. They are both members of the Chicago Single Tax Club, and we were especially pleased to be assured that they would carry back favorable reports to our friends in the club. Before their departure they each subscribed $5 toward the purchase of the Bostedo-Nusbaum land.

The Fairhope Equal Suffrage Association held a very successful meeting on the 8th ultimo. Mrs. W. K. Smith read an excellent article on the position of woman from a Bible standpoint. Mrs. Woods, who presided, spoke entertainingly of equal suffrage in Wyoming, introducing a song on Wyoming by a ladies' quartette composed of Mesdames Webb, Brown and W. K. Smith and Miss Mabel Webb. Miss Mabel Webb gave a guitar solo, Mr. Gaston a vocal solo, Mr. William E. Blake of Brooklyn gave an excellent rendition of the quarrel scene from Julius Cæsar, Miss Jessie Smith of Chicago recited

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There are a number of beautiful yards in Fairhope, despite the newness of the place. Among the ones deserving of especial mention are those of William Stimpson, N. Mershon and the Leech-Browns. Mr. Stimpson's has the advantage over the others in having a beautiful Bermuda grass sod as a setting for the flower beds. Neatly trimmed around the walks and beds (for the Bermuda requires constant attention to keep it from taking complete possession), it is no less pleasing to the eye than the flowers. In Mr. Mershon's yard the unequaled display of pansies is the chief attraction, though there are also great masses of verbenas and plenty of roses and petunias. One great climbing rose, which any one from the north would think must be five or six years old at least, was full of its great cream-white blossoms, and on one small branch we counted forty-two buds in various stages of development. Mrs. C. K. Brown brought with her from Iowa roses, bulbs and shrubs in endless variety, which have taken most kindly to our southern climate, and many of them have already made what would have been a full season's growth in Iowa. She has undoubtedly the greatest variety of flowers found in "one aggregation" within the colony, and is constantly adding to it. Many flowers which are tender annuals in the north are perennial here, and bloom practically all the time. Mr. Stimpson has petunias which have been out for three years, which are now as large as a bushel basket, and are almost constantly in bloom.

Rev. Isaiah Reid, who spent several weeks of the winter in this vicinity, writes from Des Moines that he had been called over to the south side to meet a number of parties who were interested in going south, and had been asked many questions about Fairhope, some of which he referred to us. A "real old-time twister" (late in March) made him long for the good weather down here; and the grip took the occasion to get revenge on him. Mr. Reid is writing a series of "South-land Letters" for the Christian Witness of Chicago and Boston, a paper of very large circulation, of which he is an associate editor. In one he says the following, which we heartily endorse:

No northern man wants to leave this climate who once breathes its delicions air. If he wants to return, you never hear him give that as a reason. "But," says some one, "is not climate all there is to it?" No. No more than black land and corn and grass is all there is of Iowa and Illinois. Alabama has its opportunities as well as climate; and, all things considered, it has the balance of favor for people of moderate means who want homes and are willing to work. It is not a good country to make a living off your neighbor, and it is hoped it will never be. That class of people are not wanted down there.

The editor of the Radical's Corner in the Toronto Sunday World makes the point against the declaration for the Imperative Mandate (the right to recall officers at any time) with proportional representation in the program of the reform conference, that the two are incompatible in many cases. For instance, in elections to congress, state legislatures or municipal councils where a member is elected with several others from a district on the proportional plan and by secret ballot, it is impossible to find the voters who have the right to recall him. The point of the "Radical" seems to be well taken, though there may remain cases in which it may be effectively and advantageously applied; and under the rule of the people, secured through the initiative and referendum, they will be found. It is manifestly however, a reform of secondary value to those providing for the proper choice of officers, and as the Radical observes, akin to "shutting the stable door after the horse is stolen." If it arouses any serious opposition, t is not at this time of sufficient value to risk a division over it.

HOW LAND VALUES GROW.

John Batman's title deed for the land on which the city of Melbourne, Australia, now stands, has been bought by the British Museum for $125. It records his purchase, June 6, 1835, from three brothers, all called Jaga-jaga, of a tract called Dutigalla, 500 000 acres in extent, near Port Phillip. The boundaries are carefully de fined. The consideration given in return was 20 pair of blankets, 30 tomahawks, 100 knives, 50 pairs of scissors, 30 looking glasses, 200 handkerchiefs, 100 pounds of flour, 6 shirts; with an additional yearly tribute of 100 pairs of blankets, 100 knives, 100 tomahawks, 50 suits of clothes, 50 looking glasses, 50 pair of scissors, 5 tons of flour. Some of this land during the Melbourne boom was sold at $2 500 000 to $3 000 000 an acre, and some of it at the rate of $10 000 a square foot.—Ex.

ANNOUNCEMENT.

The Baldwin County Woman's Suffrage Society meets the third Saturday, at 2 P.M., of each month, in Assembly Hall at Fairhope, Ala. All who are interested are cordially invited to come and join us: especially the ladies are invited.

Mrs. J. A. Woods, President. Mrs. F. L. Brown, Secretary.
Mrs. O. A. Webb, Vice Pres. Mrs. S. H. Leech, Treasurer.

FAIRHOPE COURIER.

That which Nature provides is the Common Property of all God's Children; that which the Individual creates belongs to the Individual; that which the Community creates belongs to the Community.- GEN. J. B. WEAVER.

Vol. IV. No. 11. FAIRHOPE, ALA., JUNE 1, 1898. 25 Cents a Year.

THE HOUSE BY THE SIDE OF THE ROAD.

There are hermit souls that live withdrawn
In the place of their self-content,
There are souls, like stars, that dwell apart
In a fellowless firmament,
There are pioneer souls that blaze their paths
Where highways never ran;
But let me live by the side of the road,
And be a friend to man.

Let me live by the side of the road,
Where the race of men go by—
The men who are good and the men who are bad,
As good and bad as I.
I would not sit in the scorner's seat,
Nor hurl the cynic's ban:
Let me live by the side of the road,
And be a friend to man.

I know there are brook-gladdened meadows ahead
And mountains of wearisome height,
That the road passes on through the long afternoon
And stretches away to the night;
But still I rejoice when the travelers rejoice,
And weep with the strangers that moan,
Nor live in my house by the side of the road
Like a man who dwells alone.

Let me live in my house by the side of the road,
Where the race of men go by:
They are good, they are bad, they are weak, they are strong,
Wise, foolish; and so am I.
Then why should I sit in the scorner's seat,
Or hurl the cynic's ban?
Let me live in my house by the side of the road,
And be a friend to man. —Sam Walter Foss.

FAIRHOPE AND CO-OPERATION.

We have reason to believe that Fairhope has lost the active and enthusiastic support of some of its valued early friends, because it has not devoted as much attention to co-operative effort as they had expected or hoped, and think it very likely that we have been misunderstood in this respect. Those who organized Fairhope Association believed, and yet believe, that all of those who had previously attempted "working models" of correctly organized communities had failed to recognize both the fundamental principles of human rights and the dominant forces of human nature, and that to their failure to recognize these and build their models upon them was due their discouraging record of unbroken failure.

They were, and still are, believers in co-operation to a large degree; but they had discovered that there was no magic in the word, which would bring order out of chaos, harmony out of strife, or plenty out of poverty. They were thoroughly convinced that the matter of first importance was to secure to all equal access to natural opportunities and the enjoyment of all undisputed public functions, and that it would be perfectly safe to leave to free men under free conditions to decide, as occasion arose, whether they would further act individually or collectively.

They have all along insisted on a proper distinction between monopoly and capital, and contended that while the former is always wrong and injurious, the latter can never under free conditions be otherwise than beneficent; and they have defended competition, that bugaboo of so many earnest reformers. In the course we have pursued it is likely, as we have said, that we have alienated some of our friends, and those of most generous and unselfish impulses; while it is quite apparent that we have not secured the support we have deserved on the other side. Be the latter as it may, we would not and could not change our principles from any other cause than conviction of error. But this is written in the interest of a better understanding; and we do not hesitate to say that no more favorable opportunity for co-operative effort is offered to-day than at Fairhope.

As a result of the experience of the past three years there is no proposition from any one for the association itself to embark in collective activities which might be approved by some and disapproved by others, but thorough agreement that it should be confined to the primary functions now exercised. Any proposition however for a practical and equitable collective effort in lines beyond the ready reach of individual effort or likely to abuse in individual hands, would meet a hearty response from a majority of our members on the ground. With this in mind the writer has written elsewhere recommending a co-operative cannery, and has in mind other industries in which the principle of co-operation could be applied here with great advantage. Perfect freedom forms the only enduring basis for co-operation; and so far as we know, it exists nowhere else in as great degree as here.

We want our co-operative friends to understand that they will be welcome at Fairhope, that they will find co-operators here and conditions in which wisely directed co-operative efforts will thrive. We want you to know too that we offer you advantages without money or price, which some other colonies, writing Co-operation with a big C, will give you only on payment of $100 to $500: to wit, equal right to the use of our land and to the enjoyment of all the advantages which we have secured by our pioneer labors and the investment of our own capital.

NOT WITHOUT HONOR IN OUR OWN COUNTRY.

We are indebted to friend R. R. Clarke of the Co-operative Era, Des Moines, in which city Fairhope had its inception, for the following kind notice; which we print at some shock to our personal modesty:

One of the most interesting of the numerous co-operative colonies in the United States is the Fairhope Industrial Association, located at Fairhope, Alabama. The colony has made a right beginning in purchasing a large tract of land for agricultural purposes. A town has been started and a hotel built and houses enough to accommodate some seventy families who have cast their lot with the colonists. All who have visited Fairhope describe it as an ideal site for either a summer resort or a future metropolis. The land slopes gently upward from the beach until it reaches a level plateau one hundred and fifty feet above the waters of the beautiful bay of Mobile. Green sod covers the pleasant glades and hillsides, studded here and there with magnificent pines and sub-tropical trees. A principal figure in the colony is that of our friend, the genial secretary, Mr. E. B. Gaston, formerly of Des Moines, a man of tireless energy, an earnest student of social problems, and better than all, an honest man. Iowa people desiring a change to the sunny south, whether for pleasure or profit, should correspond with Mr. Gaston, or send for copies of the Fairhope Courier

Friends of Fairhope, you can in no way assist it so well and with so little effort or expense to yourselves as by helping to extend the circulation of the Courier. Can't you spare a dollar to subscribe for five of your friends for a year, or half a dollar to have it sent to as many for six months? Never mind if they are not especially interested along our lines: the chances are the Courier will make them so. We are kept surprised by the effect of reading the paper on those who were not suspected of dissatisfaction with existing conditions, or reform leanings. The concrete example of the application of correct theories appeals effectively to them, where you might argue abstract principles for a week without effect. If you cannot spare any money to subscribe for your friends, send us a list of names, of any length you wish, and we will be glad to send them sample copies at our own expense.

PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION.

(Contributed by a Single Taxer)

MEETING-ROOM ELECTIONS.

Here is a cheerful, well lighted and well ventilated room, in which thirty earnest single-taxers are gathered in assembly or council. Among other things, they have to elect five delegates to some higher body, or five members of a committee for some special duty. There are ten candidates. These five delegates or committeemen are intended to represent the thirty members. What is the right way to elect them? We all know the old-fashioned way. It is to give each voter as many votes as there are delegates to be elected: namely, five votes; so that thirty persons cast a total of a hundred and fifty votes. Then the five candidates having the highest number of votes are declared elected. This plan is called the multiple vote.

Is this a fair and proper system? No; because if sixteen of the voters unite on five candidates, these sixten men can elect all the delegates, and leave the other fourteen without any representation at all. Let us say eigl teen voters if you like, so as not to use too extreme an illustration; although sixteen could do it. Each of these eighteen men has five votes, and this enables them to place their five candidates in the five places at the top of the poll. The remaining twelve men can give each of their candidates only twelve votes; so that these are all placed below the candidates of the eighteen. The result is that these twelve men have no delegates to represent them; although, being two fifths of the meeting, they are entitled to have two out of the five delegates. Is that fair? No: it is not. How would the Hare system work in such a case? It simply renders any such result impossible. The eighteen men, having only one vote each, have to divide their votes amongst the candidates they want to elect, and could not elect more than three. This would allow the twelve men to elect the two delegates to which they are entitled.

A grave objection to the multiple vote is that it mixes and muddles things, and brings in a large element of chance. It is something like throwing dice. There is no telling which side will come to the top. Many curious combinations of the five-fold vote take place. Monopolization of all the representatives by a mere majority of the voters may result from the inherent cussedness of the method itself, and not from a deliberate or organized attempt on the part of the majority.

Then, instead of your being represented in a clear and definite way by one distinct delegate on the committee, you have, so to speak, only a one-fifth interest in five different delegates, men necessarily of diverse views and opinions on some subjects that you are intererested in. Which idea of representation is most in accord with common sense?

Some persons have the idea that a man's voting power is lessened by giving him only one vote instead of five. This is a fallacy When everybody else has five votes as well as you, your additional votes are swamped and neutralized by the additional votes of the other fellows; so that you get all the disadvantages of the multiple vote without any increase of your voting power.

It is sometimes said, "Oh, the majority must govern." But to apply that remark to an election is to suffer from confusion of thought. Representatation is one thing: government and legislation is another. First get a fair representation on your committee: then let a majority of the representatives decide when it comes to a decision, yes or no, on any measure. And there is much to be done in any governing or executive body besides the mere yes and no vote. An intelligent minority of reprentatives has great weight and influence; its voice can be heard; it can fully and fairly present the views of the voters whom it represents; and it can watch the majority and keep them straight, if need be. These things are the clear rights of the minority, and they are denied by the use of the multiple vote.

Take another illustration. Six or seven voters out of the thirty are particularly desirous to have a certain man—say Mr. Smith—on that committee. The other twenty-three or twenty-four voters are indifferent or hostile to Smith, or prefer somebody else. These six or seven men are one fifth of the meeting, and therefore they are entitled by right to one fifth of the representation: that is, one committeeman out of the five. Under the multiple vote they are deprived of that right: that is, they are disfranchised—deprived of their voting power. Under the Hare system, any candidate having six votes would be elected. If you disfranchise one fifth of the voters in a meeting of thirty men, how can you reasonably complain of the disfranchisement of the labor men who form one fifth of the voters in a large district of thirty thousand? There is no difference in principle between the two actions. If it is right to disfranchise the six men in the single-tax meeting, it is also right to disfranchise the six thousand in the larger election. In each case it is a tyrannous usurpation by the majority. Perhaps it never struck you in that way!

It may be asked, why have not one sixth of the voters a right to independent representation, as well as one fifth? Because only five members are being elected, and the right of such representation is limited by the number of members. If six members were being elected, then one sixth of the voters would have the right to independent elect one member. They would then be what is called "the unit of representation." The case we are taking is an election in which the unit of representation is one fifth of the electors. Although in this case a smaller number cannot elect their own particular man, yet the single vote gives them considerable latitude of choice otherwise, as any one familiar with the Hare system can very well see.

R. T. S. T.

LIME ON ACID SOILS.

Bulletin No. 92 of the Alabama Experiment Station details the results of "experiments with lime on acid soils" at the experiment station and by A. W. Orr at Deer Park. The results of Mr. Orr's experiments are of especial interest and value to us in this locality, as they were made on the ordinary upland piny-woods soil similar to ours.

A piece of ordinary upland soil measuring 6x7 rods was selected for the experiment. It was divided into four plots, each 6rd. long and 1¾rd. wide. Freshly slaked lime was applied to these plots as follows:

Plot 1, 3 barrels, or about 45bbl. per acre.
Plot 2, 2 barrels, or about 30bbl. per acre.
Plot 3, 1 barrel, or about 15bbl. per acre.
Plot 4, no lime.

Furrows were opened crossing these four plots, and fertilizer consisting of equal parts cottonseed meal, acid phosphate and kainit was dropped in the furrow at the rate of 8lb per row (about 800lb per acre) and bedded on.

Ten days later the tops of the beds were leveled down and planting was begun. Detailed results with peas, corn, millet, tomatoes, beans, radishes, lettuce, egg plant, sorghum, peanuts, tobacco, okra, Irish potatoes, Kaffir corn and cucumbers are given by Mr. Orr; from which we note the following as of especial interest: markedly favorable results were secured on the limed plots with corn, tomatoes, lettuce, peanuts and tobacco. The effect of the lime was positively injurious on peas and millet. No effect was noted on radishes, butter beans, sorghum, okra or cucumbers.

The most interesting result of the experiments was the effect of the liming on tomatoes. We quote from Mr. Orr's report as follows:

Mayflower tomato. The plants were transplanted from a seed bed. All grew well at first; but as the plants became older, plot 4 all blighted so badly that no fruit was obtained. Plot 3 was a little better, but two thirds blighted. Plot 2 was much better: no blight was seen, the crop was fair, but the foliage was a little off color. Plot 1, plants extra fine, good color, and no signs of blight or other disease. The boll-worm did not seem to trouble this plot as badly as the others. A noticeable point in connection with this plot was that the vines remained green till frost, and still carried flowers and fruit, while on the other plots all were dead and dried up.

Referring to these, Professor Earle of the experiment station says:

The freedom of the tomatoes on the heavily limed plot from blight, or bacteriosis, a disease that is very prevalent and destructive in our southern counties, is especially noteworthy; since it goes to corroborate the result of some experiments with this disease conducted by the writer at the Ocean Springs branch of the Mississippi Experiment Station. In all cases where it has been tried, heavy applications of lime seem to have had a decidedly beneficial effect in preventing this dreaded disease.

BAKED BANANAS.

Crichton Campbell writes to the Woman Signal, of London, England:

Bestow a boon on humanity, and help to popularize the baked banana as an article of food for rich and poor—especially the poor. One penny will buy a good-sized banana, which, when baked in its skin in an oven for fifteen or twenty minutes, until it is quite soft and bursts open, alone makes a full meal. I say from personal experience that three bananas, weighing one pound, are, when baked, equal to six pounds of bread. Bananas, raw, are indigestible. But baked bananas are the ideal food for nervous persons and anæmics: also for brain-workers. I learned their great power to sustain mental effort in India. I am as hard a brain-worker as any person, and I have subsisted for years entirely on baked bananas. When I see lean, poor-blooded persons, I advise them to eat baked bananas; and after adopting the diet they unfailingly build up and gain flesh.

This subject— which might not inappropriately be called the "banana cure", because many diseases can be cured by eating baked bananas—merits the closest investigation. The introduction of the potato was a boon to the people, but I predict that the spreading of the above facts over the country will prove of still greater benefit.

SOME CROP REPORTS.

We give herewith some crop reports, secured by personal interviews, showing what has been accomplished so far this season, by farmers in Fairhope and vicinity. We give the bad with the good, venturing some suggestions as to the whyness of the bad, which can be taken at your own estimate of their value.

Nels Nelson of Section 28, a new-comer, planted one acre to Irish potatoes, using about two barrels of seed (his own growing from fall planting): used $17 worth of commercial fertilizer—cotton-seed meal and phosphate—and some stable manure: sold 32 barrels—24 at an average of $3 a barrel, 8 at $2 to $2.50: had a barrel of good potatoes left for home use, beside small ones. Planted about the middle of January: shipped last week in April.

Planted 1gal. peas about same date, perhaps one twelfth of an acre, lb fertilizer: sold $5 worth and used as many more.

Planted ½pk. beans on about ⅛a., using 300lb cotton-seed meal and 150lb phosphate. Sold 13bu.: 4 @ 80c., 9 @ 50c. Would yield several bushels more at time statement was made and price down to 35c.

D. C. Stapleton, Jr., on about ½a. of ground—broken up in May, 1897, and raising a big crop of sweet potatoes last season, after being fertilized by penning cattle upon it—planted one barrel of Irish potatoes with 500lb ($5 worth) of commercial fertilizer—cotton-seed meal and phosphate. Shipped 24bbl., selling @ $3.25. Had a barrel or two left..

D. W. Rhodes, on about 3a. fertilized for watermelons last year with stable manure in hills, and with $40 worth of commercial fertilizer this year, made 16 to 1 (is a 16-to-1 man) and sold 64bbl. @ $3.25, beside plenty left for home use. Had his own seed, only cash outlay being for fertilizer and barrels.

Mike Houston (colored) planted 4½bbl. Irish potatoes on about two acres of land, fertilized with about 1300lb cotton-seed meal, 400lb phosphate, and stable manure, planted from first to fourteenth of January, dug first potatoes April twenty-fifth and balance within a week. Sold 61bbl. at an average of $3.21 a barrel, saved four barrels for own use and local sale.

Recapitulation:

61bbl. sold @ $3.21		$195.81
Cash Outlay.		
Fertilizer	$16.85	
4½bbl. Seed	16.62	
Barrels (picked up barrels cheap from time to time, saved flour barrels etc.), estimated	5.00	
Freight & Wharfage on 61bbl. @ 17½c.	10.67	49.14
Net cash return, 2a and four barrels held.		$146.67

Will follow with sweet potatoes, and ought to get 400 bushels.

Two important factors conducing to this fine return may be noted in the earliness of planting and stable manure. The commercial fertilizer used was comparatively light; but our observation is that increased amounts of commercial fertilizer will not bring proportionally increased results in the absence of humus in the soil, which must be supplied by manure or ploughing under vegetable growths. Early planting is of prime importance, both in escaping possible spring drouths and securing top prices.

H. J. Stemerdink, planted one bbl. potatoes, on apout one-half acre of ground, using $9. worth of fertilizer. Shipped 7 bbls., at $2.40; saved one bbl for home use. Just cleared cash outlay; about the same net result on one acre beans. Has his ground Well fertilized and six months yet to make some money off sweet potatoes on same ground, without further cash outlay. Had no previous experience farming here and little anywhere: sees where he made some mistakes. which he expects to rectify next year.

James Bishop, of Cavanac, (a few miles below Fairhope) planted one bushel of beans and gathered at first picking 58 bushels, which brought $1. a bushel. [Later pickings and amount of fertilizer used not reported.]

John Bishop, (same locality,) planted one bushel of beans, and at three pickings got 105 bushels, which brought $121. Also planted one barrel of Irish potatoes, from which he sold 24 barrels, netting over and above all cash outlay $58, [Above three items are taken from reports of correspondents of the Baldwin Times.]

Further reports will be given in succeeding issues.

Not all who come to Fairhope are satisfied, any more than anywhere else; but from advices received, a great many of those who have been here and gone away, are anxious to get back again.

MOBILE & OHIO RAILROAD COMPANY.

This railroad has for sale the finest farming and timber lands in the south, at astonishingly low rates and upon easy terms, in the states of Tennessee, Mississippi and Alabama: also government lands subject to homestead entry. Improved and unimproved farms. Most delightful and even climate in America. For descriptive matter and full information apply to Alabama Land & Development Company, Mobile, Ala.

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FAIRHOPE TRANSPORTATION LINE.

Remember that the staunch Schooner "Minnie L." of Fairhope, Capt. G. A. R. Lawrence, makes regular trips twice a week (oftener if neccessary) between Fairhope and Mobile, handling all kinds of freight either way with security and dispatch. Will touch at all points along the eastern shore where business demands.

The Minnie L. has extra facilities for protecting freight from the weather and makes a specialty of handling merchandise and household goods. Special rates to persons moving to Fairhope.

☞SPECIAL! Capt. Lawrence will attend personally and without charge, to purchasing and selling orders, in Mobile, for his patrons.

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RATES REASONABLE. SATISFACTION GUARANTEED

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Good wages to sell our Nursery Stock. Apply for terms. We will have for Spring and Fall. 1898, an immense stock of Apples, Pears, Peach, Plum, Apricot, Cherry, Grape, etc. Also small fruits, shade and ornamental trees, Roses etc. We make a specialty of wholesaling to large planters direct. Write us for wholesale prices. Address: Southern Nursery Co. Winchester, Tenn.

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Transact a General Banking Business. Deposits solicited. Buy and sell Foreign and Domestic Exchange.

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Residents of Baldwin County invited to use our store as a meeting point when shopping in Mobile.
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FAIRHOPE COURIER.

Devoted to the LAW of EQUAL FREEDOM—"Every man has freedom to do all that he wills, provided he infringes not the equal freedom of any other man"—and to the effort now being made to immediately apply that law to the fullest extent possible under existing conditions, by the Fairhope Industrial Association, at Fairhope, Alabama.

Its motto, and that of Fairhope Industrial Association, is, "We will make good theories work." And it denies the possibility of a "good theory" which is "not practical."

ERNEST B. GASTON, - - - EDITOR AND MANAGER.

Published at Fairhope, Alabama, on the first day of each month.

Subscription Price to any address in the United States, Canada or Mexico 5 cents per annum. In other countries of the International Postal Union' 37c.

Entered at Fairhope Post Office as second class matter.

A blue pencil cross opposite this item is notice that your subscription has expired and that you are earnestly invited to renew before the next issue. We have adopted the only satisfactory and business-like method, of carrying on our list only those who pay for the paper, and will therefore drop your name from the list unless your subscriptjon is received during this month.

[Despite this rule: If any one wishing the paper continued but finding it inconvenient to remit at once will notify us, we will be glad to continue the paper and wait his convenience.]

There are a great many people eager to reform the world, but very much opposed to the reform beginning on them.

The bathing now is superb. We are really sorry for our unfortunate friends in the interior, who cannot enjoy it.

The "heated term" is again at hand. If the weather gets too much for you in the north, come down to Fairhope and cool off.

We have now space in the COURIER for brief communications on topics of interest from our friends, and shall be glad to receive the same.

Fairhope is an experiment in "local option" in taxation at the option of the people of Fairhope. It is not necessary to wait for legislation.

One dispatch from Hong Kong to the Chicago Record is said to have cost $1800 for the cable tolls alone, being for 3000 words at 60 cents each.

If you are opposed to land speculation, quit it. In Fairhope no one else will seize the opportunity you forego: so even that poor excuse is worthless now.

Single-taxers do not seem any better agreed on the war question than other people. The most enthusiastic endorsement and most bitter denunciation of the war we have noted have come from single taxers.

The accomplishing of the greatest material results with the least expenditure of energy is not the matter of first importance in the reformation of society, but the fullest development of its individual components.

The pleasures of the sea-shore, which so many go a long distance from home and at great expense to enjoy, are ours without travel or expense. That is one of the advantages of our location, and an important one.

Rockefeller has advised the poor to save their drink money and economize; but if Adam had saved $75 a day until now, he would still have less money than Rockefeller has accumulated in twenty years.—H. Casson, Lynn, Mass.

When the working poor are paid in return for their labor only as much money as will buy them the necessaries of life, their condition is identical with that of the slave, who received those necessities at first hand: the former we call "freemen" and the latter "slave," but the difference is imaginary only.—John Adams.

Whether a man shall steal from another is a religious question: whether he shall steal from the public is the single-tax question. Some churches take up the former, but do not touch the latter. They avoid it by calling it "politics." The real church, however, tackles them both, especially the latter, as being of far more consequence.—Contoocook Independent.

TO OUR EXCHANGES.

J. L. Caldwell, editor of the Amarillo, Texas, News, has very kindly and without solicitation fixed up a neat advertisement of Fairhope Courier which he keeps standing in his paper, and offers to send the Courier one year as a premium to all remitting a dollar in advance for the News. In a private letter he says he is sorry he cannot also send something for the land purchase. He also suggests that we "fix up such an advertisement as would do you the most good, for your single-tax exchanges to publish for you. I think they would all help to shove."

Acting on friend Caldwell's suggestion, we submit here-with a short announcement, the publication of which by our exchanges would be highly appreciated by us, and no doubt be productive of good results.

One of the most interesting of our exchanges is the Fairhope Courier, of Fairhope, Alabama. The Courier is published in the only village in the world collecting the full annual rental value of its land for public purposes, and exempting all other values from taxation; where land speculation is unknown; where all public utilities are and will be administered for the public benefit; where the people can make and unmake laws and officers at will; where a medium for the payment of public dues is furnished directly to the people without interest or the intervention of banks; and where any reputable person can take his choice of lots or farm lands free of all charge or obligation, other than the payment of the annual rental value.

The Courier is a brightly edited, well printed paper of eight pages, issued monthly at twenty-five cents a year. Sample copy for two-cent stamp.

Exchanges inserting above or any other notice of Fairhope, please send us marked copy.

We will be pleased to make a reduced clubbing rate to all who will announce it, or who will use the Courier as a premium.

TO HAVE A PRESS.

T. E. Mann, writing under date of May 21, says:

"Father, S. E., L. C. and myself have formed a "syndicate" to purchase and fit up a press for your use in the interest of our association; and plans are maturing for shipment about June 6. About all that is necessary to be understood in the matter is that we own the press and make no charge for its use as long as Fairhope Courier is printed from it in the interest of the Fairhope Industrial Association, upholding the policy of the majority of the members and the Council."

The press is a substantial rotary press, suitable both for printing the Courier in first-class shape and doing a line of job-work which we have greatly needed. We hope to accomplish a great deal more for Fairhope with the press thus kindly placed at our command, and know that in doing so we will best reward our zealous and generous friends.

Our present idea is on receipt of the press to resume the semi-monthly issuance of the Courier. Until our subscription list is materially increased, we cannot promise much more matter in the two issues than is now given in the one; but we doubt not our friends will appreciate getting that in more frequent instalments.

The Atlanta Dictator is a new exchange from Atlanta, Georgia, Charles L. Delbridge, Editor. The four great evils that confront the country, according to the Dictator, are "the tariff system, the pension system, the agitation and threatened change in the currency system, and the legislation on the part of the various states hostile to invested capital" [especially invested in railroads]. Against all these evils (?) the Dictator wages vigorous war, incidentally advocating the abolition of all state legislatures and civil courts, anti-vaccination and various other radical ideas. Its editor also discusses authoritatively the question of an "open polar sea" and appears to be a lecturer of acknowledged ability on a wide range of topics, religious, philosophical, historical and scientific. There is nothing slow or dull about the Dictator. It is published monthly, the subscription price being $1 a year. Dictator and Courier both, one year, $1.

From circular letters received from Mr. C. F. Lindstrom and articles in the New Woman we learn that a renewed effort is to be made to realize something from the lands at Topolobampo and the big ditch held by the Kansas Sinaloa Investment Co. as trustee. Any of our readers who have been interested in Topolobampo should write Mr. Lindstrom at Enterprise, Kansas, for latest plans.

HOW WE APPLY THE SINGLE TAX.

A California friend of Miss Chapman writes, "Of course Fairhope can be an exponent of single-tax principles to a limited degree only, as it must be subject to all the tariff taxes that other places are in the United States; and are there not federal taxes that have to be paid in some other way? poll taxes etc?" This friend, in common with many others, fails, we think, to see the practical import of our experiment. Single-taxers generally are largely concentrating their efforts toward the securing of local option in taxation. Their proposition is that counties or towns be given authority to assess separately the value of land, improvements on land, and personal property, and then determine whether or not they will levy their taxes on all such classes or on land values only. With local option secured, it is expected that the county will have to pay its proportion of the state tax, or the town of the county tax, based on the total value of all its property. It would not affect the total sum to be raised by taxation, but only the method by which it would be raised.

Fairhope is merely an application of the local option idea on a small scale, without waiting for the aid or consent of those hostile to the single tax. The county and state of course continue to tax us on the taxable value of all our property, but we elect to collect the gross amount from the single subject of land values.

The rate of taxation in Baldwin county is only 11½ mills on the dollar (exclusive of poll taxes and road tax payable in labor, neither of which we have taken into account), so that even with the larger part, in area, of our land paying no rent to the association, the tax we have to pay amounts to only about one third of the rentals we collect. For we collect for the community not only what the county and state collect, as tax on land values, but the much greater values which in every other community are collected by landlords.

The objection is sometimes raised—and sometimes in most unexpected quarters—that by our method the poor man is compelled to pay the taxes on the rich man's fine improvement or valuable personal property; but this we deny. The poor man never pays anything more than the rental value of the land he holds; which he must pay to maintain his equality of rights with other members of the community; and is only indirectly affected by the payment by the colony of the taxes levied by county and state on the valuable improvements or personal property of other members, in that a portion of that which he has paid, which might under the universal application of the principle be kept at home to be expended for the benefit of the local public, is taken away to be expended for the benefit of the larger public comprising the county or state. For this possible indirect injustice he is more than compensated by the incentive given to the creation of wealth, in which he indirectly shares; and by the fact that the taxes upon the improvements which he will himself be making and the property which he will be accumulating will also be assumed by the community.

Even if we gained nothing else, the elimination of land speculation which we have fully accomplished within our colony, would be well worth all our effort. Were the revenues now raised by tariff and internal revenue taxes raised by direct taxation, it would not directly affect us.

THE SOCIAL DEMOCRACY'S COLONY.

The Social Democracy's colonization plans seem to be slow in maturing. The Colonization Commission has been giving for many weeks in its department of the Social Democrat vague hints of plans of great magnitude about to be made public, but so far little has been given out. The department has incorporated under the laws of Kansas, and under the title of the "Co-operative Commonwealth Company". The capital stock was fixed at $2 500 000. With the exception of one share for each director (of whom there are twelve), all the stock was transferred to three parties, who in turn re-transferred it by deed of trust to a board of trustees composed of the National Executive Board and Colonization Commission of the Social Democracy. Bonds are to be issued to an amount equal to the capital stock, if necessary, at such rate of interest and for such time as the officers may find necessary, for the purpose of buying land, equipping factories, building houses, acquiring agricultural and other machinery, and for all other purposes. The expenditures for land as contemplated will amount to $1 600 000; which would leave $900 000 of the $2-500 000 proposed to be received by the bonds issued for buildings, equipments, machinery and all other purposes. The presumption is that the owners of the land proposed to be purchased will take bonds in payment. The committee reports, "We have assurances that the entire amount of bonds will be taken, but we prefer that our members should take as large an amount as possible." It is interesting to note in this connection that less than $2500 of subscriptions to the colonization fund have so far been received.

We wish the Social Democracy the fullest and most favorable opportunities for putting its theories to the test, but we have little doubt that the bondholders will close out everything in a few years—if purchasers for the bonds can be secured.

A CANNING FACTORY.

In an agricultural journal we note an interesting item about the enormous business done by the Erie Preserving Company with canneries at Farnham, Fenton, Lockport and North Collins, N. J., and St. Catherine's, Ontario. According to the item, this one company has contracted for the product from nearly 4 400 acres. The following are some of the prices paid: sweet corn, $6, $7 and $8 per ton (according to variety) of ears in the husk; green peas, 35 to 37½c. per bushel; string beans, 40c. per bushel for wax, 30c. for Refugee (same quality as Valentine, which are chiefly grown here), and some varieties of pole 60c.; pumpkins, $2.50 a ton; Marrow squash $6, and Hubbard $7; tomatoes $6 to $7 a ton, equivalent to about 20c. a bushel.

These prices are low of course and would give no great returns in this locality; but if a canning factory here could guarantee these as minimum prices, leaving the growers to ship their earliest crops, for which they could get fancy prices, it would be of immense advantage and give security against loss in a business which, though sometimes very profitable, from the perishable nature of its products and the liability to a temporary overstocking of the market is accompanied with too great hazards to be wholly satisfactory.

The ideal plan, in our opinion, for operating such a factory would be by co-operation of the growers of the raw materials, the workers in the factory, and those who furnished the necessary capital (provided further capital were needed than what the farmers and factory workers could furnish, which we doubt). We mention this matter thus early—early for another season, for it is now too late for this—in the hope that those interested will get together and devise a plan for securing one before another crop season.

KIND WORDS FROM THE ANTIPODES.

The Greymouth, New Zealand, Weekly Argus of April first devoted nearly two columns to a review of Fairhope, quoting freely from the anniversary number of the Courier. Concluding the article, the editor said:

As the fundamental basis of the Association rests upon Single Tax principles, the settlement, to our mind, has a better chance of reaching a green and vigorous old age than any previous settlement that has attempted to carry out an ideal.... We shall watch with more than ordinary interest the progress of the Fairhope Association. It is an attempt—the first attempt, so far as we know—to afford a practical illustration of the theory of the late Henry George. If it succeeds, it will be an object lesson for the whole world to copy. We are decidedly hopeful of the outcome of the experiment. It rests upon the bed rock of the true philosophy of social economics.

The re-concentrados, sympathy for whose sufferings more than anything else led to the declaration of war against Spain, will probably all be starved to death before the promised relief is made effective. Dewey with a remnant of the American fleet can annihilate the Spanish in Pacific waters and a large force be dispatched to the far-away Phillippines, but the combined American fleet cannot come up with Cervera's half-dozen second-rate vessels in Cuban waters, and no troops have yet been landed on Cuban soil, only one hundred miles from our shore. The latest is that Porto Rico is to be taken before any movement is to be made on Cuba.

Mrs. Marie Howland, whose name is very familiar to those who were interested in the Topolobampo colony, with which she was so prominently connected, is a late inquirer for information about Fairhope. Mrs. Howland is a very talented woman and an ardent reformer, and would be a welcome addition to our community, should she decide to locate with us.

The Baldwin County Single Tax Club is considering the matter of a new constitution for Alabama, with a view to giving the constitutional committee likely to be appointed at the next session of the legislature, the benefit of its deliberations. At the last meeting of the club, Mr. Norton offered some valuable suggestions which will be further discussed at the next meeting.

Mr. J. B. Phinney has sold his blacksmithing tools to F. L. Brown, who has put up a good shop near the mill, where he will attend to the wants of the public in that line. Mr. Phinney and family expect to leave soon for Missouri, we understand. He is, however, completing the gallery around his house, which will add greatly to its comfort, and assist in securing a tenant or purchaser.

The writer's young orchard of choice varieties of peaches has disappointed him, in setting very little fruit. Some native trees however, of the same age or younger, are loaded with fruit which promises to be of good size. One tree, two years from the seed, is 9½ inches in circumference at the base, 11 feet high, after vigorous pruning two seasons, and is full of peaches as large as pigeon eggs already.

Mr. Webster on May 16rh took the last potatoes out of his sweet-potato bank. They were in perfect condition, not a potato being rotted and few having sprouted. The bank was made in the ordinar way, with perhaps a little extra care, and had been opened frequently during the winter to get potatoes out for use. It seems quite strange that sweet potatoes, which are so hard to keep in the north, keep so well here.

The Fourth of July will be appropriately celebrated at Fairhope, under the auspices of the Baldwin County Fruit, Flower and Vegetable Growers' Association. The association will hold its annual meeting, which is not expected to occupy more than an hour; and a regulation celebration with speeches, music, games and a basket dinner will follow. We are unable to announce the formal program; but it is in the hands of a competent committee, and will no doubt be an entertaining one.

The "Evergreen Beauty blackberries" spoken of in an earlier issue of the Courier, have proven quite a success. They are extremely prolific—in fact almost too much so for this dry season, as the fruit was rather small on the bushes which were fullest. Their chief feature is the quality of the berries, which are very distinct from any other blackberries we have seen. In fact they are not black berries at all, being red when they are ripe, and resembling the red raspberry very much in appearance and flavor.

Captain G. A. R. Lawrence, securing a contract for bringing 46" 000 feet of lumber from the big saw-mills at Moss Point, Mississippi, to Daphne, chartered a large schooner at Moss Point, and brought it around at one load. He picked up a Cuban refugee couple, husband and wife, who came around from Mississippi Sound with him. They staid over one day at Fairhope, and then went over to Mobile. They were to all appearance negroes. The woman spoke nothing but Spanish, and the man but little English.

The saw-mill was compelled to shut down for about a week from lack of water to make steam. A well has been put down, reaching what is hoped to be a permanent and sufficient supply of water at 64 feet, a force pump put in, connected with the engine, and the saw sings merrily again. The shingle mill is in place on the second floor of the new addition to the mill, the shingles as cut dropping through a chute to the packer on the ground below; and the mill is now furnishing an excellent quality of pine shingles, as well as all kinds of rough and dressed lumber.

Mr. George M. Bancroft had charge of the program given at Fairhope Hall on May 27th, and it was a highly enjoyable one. The new and star numbers were "music by the band" composed of Mess. Frank Creswell, Will Davis and Ernest Prather with French-harps, and Miss Mabel Webb and Mr. Herman Stemerdink with guitars; and a shadow pantomime, "Getting a Clean Shave", by Mess. A. H. Mershon and Frank Creswell. Under the clever management of Mr. Creswell the band rendered some excellent music, and it is hoped they will continue their practice and perhaps add some other instruments.

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The new trammel net proves to be just the thing for bay fishing. A common seine purchased three years ago did not give satisfaction at all, the fish nearly all running out around the ends or jumping over it, before they could be drawn out upon the beach. With the trammel net however, when a fish once strikes the net, he is a "goner;" as he puts himself in a pocket, where he stays until he is taken out. On a recent evening 230 fine mullet were caught in three draws of the net.

Dr. E. G. Fosnes, Mrs. Gatchel, Dave and Miss Stenberg and Mr. J. J. Gaston returned on May 10th to their homes in Iowa. Dr. Fosnes felt greatly improved, and will say a good word for Fairhope wherever she can. She said she knew of no place she could recommend so highly as a place for rest and recuperation, and thought it especially good for those suffering from nervous troubles. Mr. Gaston too felt that he had been greatly benefited, especially by the pure soft water from Dr. Atkinson's new well, and said he would give a thousand dollars for one like it at home. We shall hope and expect to see both of them here again.

The regular meeting of the Baldwin County Woman's Suffrage Association was held in Assembly Hall, Saturday, May 21, at 2 P. M. Meeting opened with song "Columbia's Daughter", followed by Scripture reading and prayer by the president, Mrs. Woods. A report of the progress of our cause as acted upon by the St. Louis labor convention was reported by Mrs. Woods and received with applause.

The regular program of the afternoon was "the Divorce Laws of Alabama", which was read from "the Legal Status of Women" by Mrs. A. H. Andrews: also the "Statistics of Divorce Laws", compiled by Carroll D. Wright, was read by Mrs. Webb, an enthusiastic discussion following. "The Property Rights of Women in Alabama" was read and discussed at a special evening meeting one week previous, where the gentlemen also joined in the discussion. Mr. Smith, editor of the Baldwin Times, who is also an attorney, will address our club Friday evening, June 3, on the Alabama laws regarding women; and he promises to give us some valuable information, as well as a fine address. Every one please be present, if possible.

Fairhope, Ala. Mrs. F. L. Brown, Secretary.

THE ALTRUIST

Is a monthly paper, partly in phonetic spelling, and devoted to equal rights, mutual assistance, united labor, and common property. It is issued by the Altruist Community, of St. Louis, whose members hold all their property in common, live and work together in a permanent home for their mutual enjoyment, assistance and support, and both men and women have equal rights and decide on all its business affairs by their majority vote. 25c. a year: specimen copy free. A. LONGLEY, Editor, 2819 Olive street, St. Louis, Mo. (Adv.)

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Fairhope ◎ ◎ ◎ ◎ ◎ Ala.

The Altrurian, the organ of the Colorado Co-operative Company' is now published weekly.

The Salvation Army has planted its first colony at Holly, Colorado: twenty families, each provided with a horse and wagon, a cow, a few pigs and chickens, and necessary farm implements. The colonists will start in on three acres of cantaloupes and an acre or two of onions.

Hon. C. B. Hoffman forwarding his renewal to the Courier says: "I have been so crowded with business and other affairs that I have been unable to keep in touch with your section of the reform movement. I trust you are getting along well. Give my kindest regards to all the friends in Fairhope."

Mr. W. K. Smith forwards the names of some friends who he thinks might be led to subscribe for the Courier by a sample copy (a most practical and easy way of helping Fairhope and the Courier), and says: "Kindly accept my hearty thanks for courtesies extended Mrs. Smith and Jessie. They have had a grand good time, and are coming away as I did with a most favorable report of your little burg."

If you are a co-operator and have in mind a business you understand which might be profitably conducted at Fairhope, and a proposition to make for establishing it here, we would be glad to submit it to Fairhopers, here or elsewhere, through the Courier or privately, as you desire. Don't blame Fairhopers for not being sufficiently "co-operative", unless you have some practical plan of co-operation, to which you are willing to devote your time and capital.

The United States Department of Agriculture is compiling a report on co-operative undertakings by farmers. A circular received here asking for co-operation in securing information of all such undertakings, says: "The agriculturists of this country are receiving many benefits from co-operative production, buying and selling, and from co-operative insurance; and information with regard to these matters should be disseminated widely." The forthcoming report will doubtless be very interesting, and we shall endeavor to secure and review a copy when issued.

We are in receipt of "Industrial Freedom," the official journal of the Brotherhood of the Co-operative Commonwealth, published at the colony headquarters on Puget Sound (post office, Edison, Washington). It is a neat four-page, six-column paper, edited by our friend, Rev. Kaufman, late of the Jeffersonian, Faribault, Minnesota, and earlier of Iowa. The B. C. C. evidently has some capable organizers in charge of its affairs; for its treasurer already reports receipts to its colonization fund of over $13 000. Socialists are contributing to the support of their numerous colony experiments with a liberality which we would like to see emulated by those who profess to believe in the principles we are applying at Fairhope.

Mr. E. Q. Norton attended the late labor and reform conference at St. Louis as a delegate from the Baldwin County Single Tax Club, and made a very interesting report to the club at its May meeting. Mr. Norton reported the convention as one of the most interesting and harmonious he had ever attended, despite the many different schools of reform thought represented. Mr. Norton seemed to have been particularly impressed with the zeal and ability of some of the Socialist delegates and with the force of some of their contentions, and reported too that prominent Socialist members of the convention had declared after the discussion and unanimous adoption of the single-tax resolution introduced by John S. Crosby, that they "would never again oppose the single tax." Mr. Norton's modesty prevented his dilating upon the services rendered by him in the convention, but from other sources we learn that he was one of its most active and useful members.

Mr. George Knowles left on Friday last for his home in Kansas, after a stay of nearly six months with us. Before leaving, he placed the beautiful little cottage just completed on his lot opposite "Knoll Park" in the hands of the Council to be administered for the benefit of the school at Fairhope until called for. It is his present intention, as it has been all along, to return to Fairhope about November next with his daughter and granddaughter, to occupy the cottage. We hope to rent it to advantage until that time, and secure a neat sum to help in equipping our school with much needed desks and other furnishings. Mr. Knowles has been so busy since he came to Fairhope, and is withal of so modest and unassuming demeanor, that few have learned to know and appreciate his worth. Those of us who have learned to know him best esteem him highly for his many admirable qualities—industrious, kindly, generous, unassuming and unselfish: we wish him a safe return and many years to enjoy his home among us.

PERSONAL AND LOCAL NOTES.

Clyde Mershon is on the sick list.

Japan plums are bearing finely this year.

Mr. Clyde Mershon has a new camera, and is taking some excellent pictures of Fairhope places and people.

Mr. J. A. Webster, who was quite ill at the time of our last issue, is, we are glad to say, practically recoveerd.

Mr. Coleman has the posts and top stringers in place for a scuppernong grape arbor one hundred and sixty feet long, on his Fairhope place.

We are getting plenty of fine fish now, and they reduce the cash expense of living matertally.

Mr. Ernest Woodward of Minneapolis, nephew of Dr. Atkinson and the editor, is spending the summer at the home of the former.

Charles A. Hall spent several days in Fairhope recently; and Mrs. Hall and the young ladies came over on the Sunday boat, returning in the afternoon.

Mrs. Rosa Cullen is back in her Fairhope house, where she will spend the summer at least. The girls are yet in Mobile, but will also return to Fairhope soon.

A Democratic Silver Club was organized in Fairhope Hall on May 24th, with Frank Troup as president, F. L. Brown vice president, and G. M. Bancroft secretary.

P. A. Parker wrote under date of May 9th: "I have been homesick ever since I returned. The trees are just leaving out, and very few gardens are planted here."

Mrs. L. W. Larson ventured from her home up to the store recently for the first time in nearly two years. We sincerely trust she may be permanently restored to health.

Mrs. O. A. Webb, the Misses Webb, Mr. and Mrs. Appleford, Lawrence Appleford, J. J. Gaston and Dave Gatchel made up a party which went overland to the Gulf in May.

Mr. Edgar J. Wright of Brooklyn, N. Y., who with William E. Blake visited us recently, writes that they have about concluded to return to Fairhope soon; which is good news.

The beautiful young pear orchard of neighbor A. C. Davis, which was just coming into such vigorous bearing, has been practically ruined by the blight, that dread enemy of pear culture.

Quite a number of Fairhopers dine at the Fairhope House on each Sunday. Ice cream has been an especial attraction lately, and the weather has been such as to make it fully appreciated.

People have missed J. J. Gaston from business circles a couple of weeks. From an article clipped from the Courier, Fairhope, Alabama, we surmise Joseph is trying to trade some mules for a fishing ground in Mobile bay.—Winterset, Iowa, Review.

The steamer James A. Carney, with new machinery and thoroughly repaired and refitted throughout, is back on this route. She is not as fast a boat as the Heroine, even with her new engines, but has better accommodations for both passengers and freight.

William Stimpson is farming a part of the Schakel-Patterson place, and has planted most of it to rice. He does not intend to have to pay out money for horse feed right along. Rice is both hay and grain, and is the grain crop best suited to this country.

G. W. Wood made a trip or two to Mobile with the Minnie L. during Captain Lawrence's absence bringing a cargo of lumber around from Moss Point, Mississippi, in the Flechas. He also helped the captain discharge his cargo of lumber, and in doing so blistered his feet and ankles so as to lay him up for several days.

We are suffering again from lack of rain in this country, which ordinarily has a surplus. Not one drop of rain has fallen since early in April. 1898 seems destined to be a year of extremes. While we are having no rain and some other places, notably California, are suffering far more from drouth than we, other places are being drowned out.

Captain C. E. Nichols is back again. and reports that Professor Kirkpatrick, who spent some weeks last summer at Fairhope (and regretted after leaving that he had not stayed longer), will probably be here again, accompanied this time by Mrs. Kirkpatrick. Others at Montgomery are likely to spend some time at Fairhope during the summer.

Clarence L. Mershon has returned to Fairhope with the well earned title of M. D. and will remain and practise his profession, provided the people do not keep too disgustingly healthy to afford him sufficient encouragement. We wish no one the bad luck of being sick, but sincerely trust the doctor may secure practice enough so that he will remain.

FRIENDS, ATTENTION!

It is of the utmost importance that the half-section of land held for us by Mess. Bostedo and Nusbaum for the last two years and now by Mr. C. K. Brown, should become the property of Fairhope Association at once. Our option extends a year yet, but we need the land at once to throw open to settlement.

We have plenty of lots near the bay, available for small holdings, but the good agricultural lands in our first purchases are so nearly exhausted that but a couple of fair ten acre plats remain available, and there is a growing— and sensible—disposition to take larger tracts in order to let a portion each year go to crops to be turned under as fertilizers, or fed upon the place and returned in the form of manure.

We have 320 acres it is true, untouched, but it lies beyond the 320 of which we speak, the nearest point being two and a half miles from the wharf and two miles from the store; and while it will come into demand all right after the intermediate land is settled, it now seems too far out.

A trifle over $380 will buy this 320 acres now—thanks to Mess. Bostedo and Nusbaum— though it is easily worth twice that, and the title is perfect.

The Courier feels that with the success thus far achieved by Fairhope Association, its present secure position and its clear-cut application of the single-tax principle in throwing the lands it may secure open to settlement with no other condition than that of the payment of its annual rental value, all of which, after the payment of state and county taxes, is expended for the common benefit of the rents payers, it has a right to ask and expect the aid of the single-taxer of the country in securing this land.

Without any action of the Fairhope Association, the Courier therefore invites subscriptions for this purpose, which may be sent direct to the Treasurer of Fairhope Association, Mr. George M. Bancroft, or to the Manager of the Courier., and in either case will be acknowledged in the Courier.

Up to the time of going to press, we have received the following subscriptions to this fund:

J. Bellangee, Des Moines, Iowa,	$ 5.
Jose Gros, Morristown, N. J.,	10.
W. K. Smith, Chicago, Ills.	5.
Geo. C. Madison, " "	5.
Mrs. C. P. Sykes, Fairhope	5.
Cash from a friend,	5.
Total to date,	35.

We are having new subscriptions to report in every issue of the Courier, but this fund is not growing as it ought. But seven months remain of the time over which our option to secure this land on such favorable terms extends. A very small percentage of the money which will be expended during these seven months in various methods of propaganda, with doubtful effect, would buy this land and many acres with it, which, administered as we propose to administer it, would exert a powerful, continuous and increasing propaganda influence, as well as afford immediate opportunities for securing homes to scores of homeless. May we not have your subscription to this fund at once? Yours will stimulate others and thus be doubly beneficent.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

The Baldwin County Woman's Suffrage Society meets the third Saturday, at 2 P.M., of each month, in Assembly Hall at Fairhope Ala. All who are interested are cordially invited to come and join us: especially the ladies are invited.

Mrs. J. A. Woods, President. Mrs. F. L. Brown, Secretary.
Mrs. O. A. Webb, Vice Pres. Mrs. S. H. Leech, Treasurer.

Religious services are held regularly at Fairhope every Sunday, as follows:

Sunday school	at	9:45 A. M.
Church service	"	11 A. M.
Christian Endeavor	"	7:30 P. M.

The new trammel net was received early in April, and fish have since been plentiful on the tables of the members of the fishing club. A monster sturgeon, seven feet long and weighing one hundred and forty pounds, was caught on the eleventh, and on the same day a red-fish weighing twenty-seven pounds. The sturgeon made a stiff fight, and it was all four men could do to get him into the boat after stunning him with repeated blows on the head with the handle of an oar. A fish-fry was announced for the same evening; and almost the entire population of Fairhope gathered in the park with frying pans, lard, meal and et-ceteras; and a valiant onslaught was made on the monster, who, cleaned and with head and tail off, still looked as big as a veal or a good-sized hog. The flesh proved to be excellent; but as all the heavy eaters had eaten their supper before they got notice of the fish-fry, over half of the fish was left, after every one had done his best.

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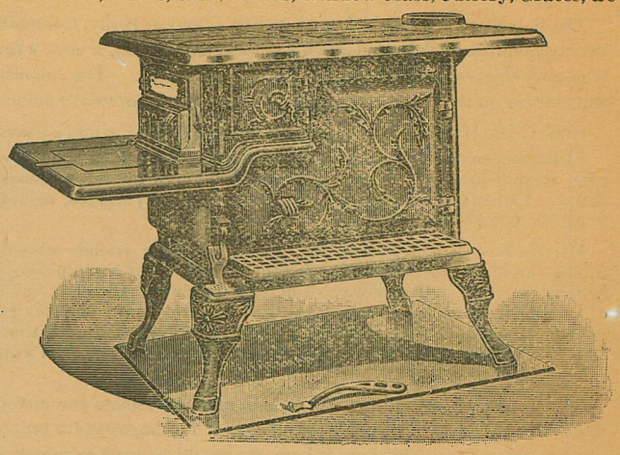

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No. 7 Cook Stove, with 30 pieces furniture, - - - $7.00
No. 8 Cook Stove, with 30 pieces furniture, - - - 8.00

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FAIRHOPE COURIER.

That which Nature provides is the Common Property of all God's Children; that which the Individual creates belongs to the Individual; that which the Community creates belongs to the Community.— GEN. J. B. WEAVER.

VOL. IV. No. 12. FAIRHOPE, ALA., JULY 15, 1898. 25 CENTS A YEAR.

MUST A MAN LIVE?

"A man must live." We justify
Low shift and trick to treason high,
A little vote for a little gold,
To a whole Senate bought and sold,
With this self-evident reply.

But is it so? Pray tell me why
Life at such cost you have to buy?
In what religion were you told
"A man must live"?

There are times when a man must die.
Imagine for a battle cry
From soldiers with a sword to hold—
From soldiers with the flag unrolled—
This coward's whine, this liar's lie,
"A man must live".

Outlook.

FAIRHOPE INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION.

Organized and incorporated at Des Moines, Iowa, February, 1894.
Established Fairhope, Baldwin County, Alabama, January, 1895.

C. L. Coleman, Pres. A. H. Mershon, Vice Pres.
G. M. Bancroft, Treas. E. B. Gaston, Sec'y.

Fairhope Industrial Association was organized to MAKE GOOD THEORIES WORK. Its basic principle is the Law of Equal Freedom, "That every man has freedom to do all that he wills, provided he infringes not on the equal freedom of any other man." This law is applied by it:

IN GOVERNMENT, by personal vote, initiative, referendum and imperative mandate.

IN LAND HOLDING AND USE, by the principle of the Single Tax, the association holding the title to all lands and leasing to individuals in quantities to suit, at a rental "which shall equalize the varying advantages of location and natural qualities of all tracts." The association, out of the sum thus received, pays all taxes levied by the civil authorities on improvements and personal property held upon its lands, thus making the rent of land the only charge against individuals.

IN NATURAL MONOPOLIES—transportation, telephones, water, light, power. etc.—by association control and operation at cost, as fast as practicable.

IN A MEDIUM FOR EFFECTING LOCAL EXCHANGES, by the issuance of its non-interest-bearing notes for services rendered it, redeemable in equivalent services and land rent.

The above simple program has been in practical operation at Fairhope for more than three years, and its advantages are constantly becoming more apparent.

It should appeal to those who believe the path of progress does not necessarily lead to the substitution of a government trust for the multiple private trusts which in the enjoyment of special privileges have grown to be a national menace, but that freedom is a sovereign remedy for all our economic ills.

The association has a most beautiful, healthful and attractive location on the eastern shore of Mobile Bay, within sight of the important sea-coast city of Mobile, its lands having a frontage on the bay shore of about three fourths of a mile, and extending back—not wholly connected—three miles. They comprise 670 acres, owned free of incumbrance; and a very favorable option is held on nearly 2500 acres more.

The land is especially adapted to truck and fruit growing for northern markets, as well as general farming and stock raising. The association owns its own wharf, 1800 feet long, at which the side-wheel steamer Heroine, plying daily between Mobile and this shore, lands on all trips. Fairhope has a post office having a daily mail and doing a money-order business.

...are twenty-three dwellings on the ground, a store, hotel, saw-mill, cigar ...blacksmith shop, and a public hall, used also for school and church pur-

...t of membership in the association is $100, which may be paid in instal-...t membership, though desired, is not requisite to the occupancy of land ...joyment of the economic advantages afforded by the association.

...bay-view building lots and desirable lands for farming are open for ...by desirable parties, with no financial requirement further than the ...the annual rent based on the value of the unimproved land, all of ...e expended in the interest of those paying it.

...ssociation pays no dividends, interest or bonuses to any one, and ...dlaried officer (receiving $10 a month). It was organized and exists ...y correct principles, for the benefit of those who participate and for ...ible example to the world. Its resources are all expended to that ...hat end it invites the membership and moral and financial support ...g men and women.

...list of industries which would probably prove profitable at Fair-...or the benefit of inquirers:

..., fruit growing, general farming, stock raising, poultry raising, ...gin, rice huller, cane mill, cannery, ice factory, laundry, pottery ...rd, tannery (using probably canaigre roots), water toboggan and ...like character for amusement of excursionists from Mobile and ...anufacturing of almost any kind, mail order business &c.

...culars, address with stamp, E. B. Gaston, Secretary,
Fairhope, Alabama.

PROF. HERRON ON HENRY GEORGE.

An address by Rev. Alexander Kent of Washington, D. C., reproduced from the May number of Why? published at Cedar Rapids, Iowa, by Frank Vierth.

I take for my theme this morning, Prof. George D. Herron, D. D., on Henry George and the single tax. The editorial which sets forth his views is taken from "The Kingdom", a weekly exponent of applied Christianity, published in Minneapelis, Minn. It is as follows:

The single tax, as advocated by Henry George, was a mere device or name for taking the people by divine guile: in fact it was a proposition to free the people from taxation altogether. It was a program to free the land, making it common property of all the people, as the sunshine and air are free and common, and to adapt this freedom and communism of the land to the great modern fact of organization, by making the land support the government, or all necessary organs of the common life or collective action. At bottom, the single tax would begin universal communism through the simplest possible methods of organization—organization relieved of many of its needless complexities. It would be a communism consistent with, and fundamental to, the highest individualism and voluntary action. I think that Mr. George saw that the principle of free land once established, free railways and necessities of every sort, procured by the free labor of a free people, would successively follow in the course of economic and spiritual development. While I do not believe that the single tax alone will accomplish anything more than a fraction of what its advocates think it will accomplish, I believe that we will have to begin with free land before we can have free labor of a free people.

So far as I am able to see, Mr. George has indicated the economic first step towards the realization of a society founded on the principles of the teachings of Jesus. "To justify the ways of God to man" and to interpret Christ as the interpreter of God's ways seems to be the inspiration and purpose clearly indicated in his last writings. He believed God's ways to be mysterious and dark only because man had refused to obey them, and had chosen to wander in the complexities of disobedience.

We are not yet in that region of social experience in which we can rightly see and estimate the work of Henry George; but when we have gotten farther along, I suspect that we may find him to be the mightiest apostle of Christ since Paul, and put him beside Lincoln as one of the two great human products that we may call distinctly and originally American. In the same sense in which Paul made way for Christ amidst Roman law and life, so Henry George made way for Jesus in the economic life of the modern world.

The opening sentence of this article—or rather the first part of the sentence—does not sound altogether pleasant in the ears of a single-taxer. The thought of Henry George having to do with any sort of device for taking the people by any kind of guile, even divine guile—if anybody knows what that means—seems rather opposed to the conviction of every single-taxer, respecting the scrupulous mental honesty and straightforwardness of Henry George in all his teachings. Yet when one reads the second part of the sentence—viz. that the single tax is really a proposition to free the people from taxation altogether—if he is an intelligent single-taxer, he will perceive at once the truth and appositeness of the whole statement. For the single tax is not really a system of taxation at all. That is, it does not propose to levy a cent of tax on any man's property. It denies totally the individual's right to hold land as property. The land is common property, like the air, the sunshine, the ocean. No single individual can give it value. He may add to its fertility, its productiveness, its utility; but he has no power alone to give it commercial or rental value. It is the growth of the community and communities that imparts this value. And so to the community and communities this value belongs. The single tax, so called, is therefore merely a device for taking this rental value of the land annually, as it accrues, and appropriating it to public uses. In the words of Professor Herron, "It adapts this freedom and communism of the land to the great modern fact of organization, by making the land support the government, of

all necessary organs of the common life or collective action."

As it is necessary to the ongoing of those activities which have for their object the support and the enlargement of life that individuals should have a more or less permanent base of operations, the single tax contemplates fixity of tenure in the occupancy of land, so long as the occupant is willing to pay the rental which his holding will bring. If he occupies a point of special advantage in the world of business, that fact will be as apparent to others as to him, and he will be obliged to pay a proportionate rental in order to hold it. And thus paying this larger rental into the common treasury, he returns to the community every year that increment or betterment of his holding which the community created.

This tends to preserve that equality of opportunity which the single-taxer avers is an essential of justice. *Tends* to preserve it, I say. It prevents at least that greater disparity which grows out of a system of allowing men to grow rich on an increase of values they have done little or nothing to create—of which certainly they have not created the thousandth part. Note too that under this system the natural increase of revenue keeps pace with the growth of population and the needs of government. When population is sparse, the expense of government is small, and the revenue light. As population grows, the administrative function of government grows: greater revenues are required to meet the need. But the very growth of population which requires larger revenues brings with it increase of business and augments the rentals; and so, as it seems to the single-taxer, we have here a most admirable provision of nature, by which that which creates an increase of demand creates also an increase in the supply. And so, as Professor Herron says again, "At the bottom the single tax would begin universal communism through the simplest methods of organization—organization relieved of many of its needless complexities. It would be a communism consistent with and fundamental to the highest individualism and voluntary action."

This is quite in accordance with the claims of Mr. George. Speaking of the changes which would be wrought in social organization and social life, he says (Book 9, Chapter 4):

Noticeable among these is the great simplicity which would become possible in government. To collect taxes, to prevent and punish evasions, to check and countercheck revenues drawn from so many distinct sources, now make up probably three fourths, perhaps seven eighths, of the business of government outside of the preservation of order, the maintenance of the military arm, and the administration of justice. An immense and complicated net-work of governmental machinery would thus be dispensed with.

So too he claims, there would be a like saving of strain in the administration of justice:

Much of the civil business of our courts arises from disputes as to ownership of land. These would cease when the state was virtually acknowledged as the sole owner of land, and all occupiers became merely rent-paying tenants. The growth of morality consequent upon the cessation of want would tend to a like diminution in other civil business of the courts, which could be hastened by the adoption of the common-sense proposition of Bentham to abolish all laws for the collection of debts and the enforcement of private contracts. The rise of wages, the opening of opportunities for all to make an easy and comfortable living, would at once lessen and would soon eliminate from society the thieves, swindlers and other classes of criminals who spring from the unequal distribution of wealth. Thus the administration of the criminal law, with all its paraphernalia of policemen, detectives, prisons and penitentiaries, would, like the administration of the civil law, cease to make such a drain upon the vital force and attention of society. We should get rid, not only of many judges, bailiffs, clerks and prison keepers, but of the great host of lawyers who are now maintained at the expense of producers; and talent now wasted in legal subtleties would be turned to higher pursuits.

The legislative, judicial and executive functions of government would in this way be vastly simplified. Nor can I think that the public debts and the standing armies, which are historically the outgrowth of the change from feudal to allodial tenures, would long remain after the reversion to the old idea that the land of a country is the common right of the people of the country. The former could readily be paid off by a tax which would not lessen the wages of labor nor check production; and the latter the growth of intelligence and independence among the masses (aided perhaps by the progress of invention, which is revolutionizing the military) must soon cause to disappear. Society would then approach the ideal of Jeffersonian democracy, the promised land of Herbert Spencer, the abolition of government—but of government only as a directing and repressive power. It would at the same time and in the same degree become possible for it to realize the dream of socialism.

All this simplification and abrogation of the present functions of government would make possible the assumption of other functions which are now pressing for recognition. Government could take upon itself the transmission of messages by telegraph as well as by mail, of building and operating railroads as well as of opening and maintaining common roads. With present functions so simplified and reduced, functions such as these could be assumed without danger or strain, and would be under the supervision of public attention which is now distracted. There would be a great and increasing surplus revenue from the taxation of land values; for natural progress, which would go on with greatly accelerated rapidity, would tend constantly to increase rent. This revenue from the common property could be applied to the common benefit, as were the revenues of Sparta. We might not establish public tables—they would be unnecessary; but we could establish public baths, museums, libraries, gardens, lecture rooms, music and dancing halls, theaters, universities, technical schools, play-grounds, gymnasiums, etc. Heat, light and motive power as well as water might be conducted through our public streets at public expense; our roads be lined with fruit trees; discoverers and inventors rewarded; scientific investigators supported; and in a thousand ways the public revenues be made to contribute to the public benefit. We should reach the ideal of the Socialist, but not through governmental repression. Government would change its character and become the administration of a great co-operative society. It would become merely the agency by which the common property was administered for the common benefit.

When I read such statements as these—and "Progress and Poverty" is full of them—I do not wonder that Flint in his work on Socialism classes Henry George as a Socialist. What I have quoted is ample justification of Professor Herron's further comment: "I think that Henry George saw that the principle of free land once established, free railways and free necessities of every sort, procured by the free labor of a free people, would successively follow in the course of economic development."

But the following passage affords still further warrant for the statement. Mr. George says, "The ideal of socialism is grand and noble, and, I am convinced, possible of realization; but such a state of society cannot be manufactured: it must grow. Society is an organism, not a machine. It can live only by the life of its parts, and in the free and natural development of all the parts will be secured the harmony of the whole. All that is necessary to social regeneration"—that is, I take it, to the realization of the ideal to which society must grow—"is included in the motto of the Russian patriots sometimes called Nihilists, 'Land and Liberty.'"

We must, of course, take this last statement in connection with all that he has already said in regard to the changes in the character of the social organization to be effected by the single tax. The single tax can accomplish but a small part of the needed reform unless the principle which is applied in the case of land is applied in other directions as well. Land and liberty will not mean much, except as liberty is used to promote the common welfare. If men use their liberty as an occasion to the flesh—for purposes of self-aggrandizement or self-gratification—if they do not by love serve one another, liberty will only end in their devouring one another. Mr. George does not, I am sure, contemplate any such abuse of liberty as this. He has great confidence in the essential goodness of human nature, when that nature is free to express itself in the higher forms of development. He feels that want of opportunity to live human[illegible] is the chief cause of degradation; and believing that access to the land will secure this opportunity, he has great hopes of social improvement as soon as this reform shall have been effected.

Professor Herron says, "While I do not believe that [illegible] alone will accomplish anything more than a fraction of what its advocates think it will accomplish, I believe that we will never be ready with free land before we can have free labor of a free people." But we have already seen that Mr. George does not depend upon the single tax alone. The single tax is only the first in a long series of reforms that he hoped would be effected through the leverage which it would afford. The opening of the land to the people would, he thought, give a great impetus to business of every sort. With the disappearance of poverty and the universality of employment, everyone would become a purchaser. Prosperity would bring increased wages and rentals. The increased revenues would enable

a world of things in common interest that they do not now touch. Government would become merely the agency by which the common property is administered for the common benefit— the administrative of a great co-operative society.

With this hope I am willing to work for free land, that we may go forward to free labor of a free people. It seems to me that from this point of view the socialist can well afford to work, heart and soul, with the single taxer. He is certainly opposed to private property in land. He demands its collective ownership. Here he is at one with the single-taxer. He demands also the collective ownership of the instruments of production. This the single-taxer is disposed to think unnecessary and unwise. We need not quarrel over this. If the principle which requires the first requires also the second, the single-taxer will come to see it all the sooner if we all join hands in freeing the land. If this, as Professor Herron says, is the economic first step toward the realization of a true social order, let us take this step. The miner's lamp never throws its light very far ahead. The first step only is in clear light; but when that is taken, the second becomes the first and is as clear as the other. So it is in life. We have to take the one step that lies in the light; and when we take that step, we are not likely to be left in the dark in regard to the next.

Mr. George was inclined to believe, as he says, that the result of confiscating rent in the manner proposed, that is, by the single tax, would be "to cause the organization of labor, wherever large capitals were used, to assume the co-operative form; since the more equal diffusion of wealth would unite capitalist and laborer in the same person." When Mr. George pictures the change which the adoption of the single tax would gradually effect in the character of government, making it merely the administration of a great co-operative society, the agency by which the common property is administered for the common benefit, he asks, "Does this seem impracticable?" and then proceeds to set forth considerations which to his mind make such a hope seem eminently rational.

Assuming here what he feels has been proven in preceding portions of his argument, that the adoption of the single tax would assure to labor its full reward, and so banish want and the fear of want and give to every individual freedom to develop in natural symmetry, he proceeds to show that those who are unbelieving and hopeless in regard to any great improvement in social conditions are so because they assume that greed is the strongest of human motives, and that systems of administration can be safely based only upon the idea that fear of punishment is necessary to keep men honest, and that selfish interests are always stronger than general interests; than which, he says, nothing could possibly be farther from the truth. He contends that this lust for gain, to gratify which men tread everything pure and noble under foot, to which they sacrifice all the higher possibilities of life, which converts civility into hollow pretense, patriotism into a sham and religion into hypocrisy, which makes so much of civilized existence an Ishmaelitish warfare of which the weapons are cunning and fraud—that all this springs from the existence of want; that, as Carlyle said, "poverty is the hell of which the modern Englishman"— and we may add, the modern American as well—"is most afraid", and to escape which he will do the meanest and most damnable things. Other motives combine with this, for the fear of poverty is not for self alone. Many a man could face all this and still keep the path of honor; but when that fear concerns those dearer to him than self, when wife and children are to starve and shiver as well as he, he overcomes all scruples in regard to means and thinks only of the end, how to bring comfort and happiness to them.

Now, he says, "give labor a free field and its full earnings, take for the benefit of the whole community that fund which the growth of the community creates, and want and the fear of want would be gone. . . . With this abolition of want and the fear of want, the admiration of riches would decay, and men would seek the respect and approbation of their fellows in other modes than by the acquisition and display of wealth. . . .

"Short-sighted is the philosophy which counts on selfishness as the master motive of human action. It is blind to facts of which the world is full. It sees not the present, and reads not the past aright. If you would move men to action, to what shall you appeal? Not to their pockets, but to their patriotism: not to selfishness, but to sympathy. Self-interest is, as it were, a mechanical force—potent, it is

[Continued on seventh page.]

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Its motto, and that of Fairhope Industrial Association, is, "We will make good theories work." And it denies the possibility of a "good theory" which is "not practical."

ERNEST B. GASTON, - - - EDITOR AND MANAGER.

Published at Fairhope, Alabama, on the first day of each month.

Subscription Price to any address in the United States, Canada or Mexico 25 cents per annum. In other countries of the International Postal Union' 37c.

Entered at Fairhope Post Office as second class matter.

A blue pencil cross opposite this item is notice that your subscription has expired and that you are earnestly invited to renew before the next issue. We have adopted the only satisfactory and business-like method, of carrying on our list only those who pay for the paper, and will therefore drop your name from the list unless your subscription is received during this month.

[Despite this rule: If any one wishing the paper continued but finding it inconvenient to remit at once will notify us, we will be glad to continue the paper and wait his convenience.]

This issue of the Courier is delayed, waiting for the arrival of the press kindly furnished us by the "Mann syndicate", and upon which this paper is printed. As our type was all set with the expectation of printing the first of the month, some of our matter is a little stale and many things which should have been mentioned are omitted. The paper will be out again on August first and hereafter be published semi-monthly, on the first and fifteenth. No change will be made in the price—at least for the present—though the labor and expense will be increased; and we trust our friends will appreciate our effort to give them more and fresher news from Fairhope, and manifest it in the most practical and satisfactory way, by renewing their subscriptions promptly and sending new ones.

Michael Flurscheim, the noted philanthropist and reformer, is in New Zealand, endeavoring to establish an Exchange Bank. His idea is for the bank to issue its notes which are to be loaned to members on approved security (approved by a committee), and which each member agrees to receive to an an amount fixed by himself. A small interest charge will be made, sufficient to cover the expenses of the bank and provide against contingencies. The idea is a simple and we should say practical one, and we shall await results with interest. It will be remembered that Mr. Flurscheim contributed in 1895 one hundred dollars to our Single Tax Land Fund. He was however disappointed because we would not make an association monopoly of distribution, and has apparently lost interest in Fairhope. He is an earnest, unselfish and broad-minded man of large means; and we are sorry we could not have continued his interest in Fairhope.

Elsewhere we publish a letter from friend P. A. Parker suggesting the withdrawal of the foregoing appeal, and proposing for himself to be one of any number greater than twenty to pay the cash and close the matter up. This is a most generous proposition from Mr. Parker, who we have abundant reason to believe is far less able to contribute such an amount than at least a score of others interested in Fairhope. We hope for a generous response to friend Parker's proposition, and of others who are not able to do so much, with subscriptions of amounts as large as they are able, before another issue of the Courier; and will seriously consider his proposition to drop the whole matter, if they are not received.

Frank Vierth of Why? who was the single-tax friend to whose inquiry we replied in May number under the head, "Does this Explanation Explain?" writes, "The answer you gave to my question was satisfactory in every respect." We are pleased that friend Vierth reports his excellent little magazine as gaining ground steadily.

PROFESSOR HERRON AND HENRY GEORGE.

We have given considerable of the space of this issue to the reproduction of the address on "Professor Herron on Henry George" by Rev. A. Kent, because it seemed especially valuable at this time, both to reformers in general, and to us at Fairhope in particular. There is a growing tendency among broad minded reformers of all schools to magnify the points of agreement rather than the points of difference, and above all to respect the common benevolent purpose actuating all. This spirit was markedly and encouragingly apparent in the late Saint Louis conference; and Mr. Kent has done good service in calling the attention of single-taxers and socialists to their points of agreement as recognized by both Mr. George, the acknowledged head of the single-tax movement, and Prof. Herron, one, at least, of the most conspicuous advocates of collectivism.

Most of us have no doubt read in the original context all the quoted utterances of Mr. George; but assembled together as Prof. Herron and Mr. Kent have assembled them, they present with added force the ideas of "the master". Thus assembled and with Mr. Kent's pertinent comments, they are of great value to us who are seeking the immediate application of correct principles of government, and especially at this time; when propositions for the amendment of our constitution are under consideration.

It will be noted that Mr. George goes beyond our Fairhope constitution in enumerating things that may be properly undertaken by government—specifically mentioning "public baths, museums, libraries, gardens, lecture rooms, music and dancing halls, theaters, universities, technical schools, play-grounds, gymnasiums, etc." He does not even say that "public tables" might not be properly spread, but that they "would be unnecessary." Yet single-taxers have recently objected to even our provisions for public halls and public schools, as "belonging to private enterprise" or in no "danger of becoming monopolies in private hands", and have contended for a constitutional provision forbidding the association to "engage in any other business than the owning and leasing of lands and the operation of public utilities."

We believe that these friends in recoiling from the extreme socialistic idea of having all business made public business, have gone to an extreme in the opposite direction. As a matter of rights, any community of individuals has the same rights that its individual members have; and this seems very clearly the position of Mr. George. The point is brought out too that in undertaking any of the functions specified or similar ones, the community may employ the fund drawn from the rental value of land within its jurisdiction. Nor, if our contention as single-taxers is sound—which it is—that the single tax is not in fact a tax at all, but compensation to the community for advantages derived from it, can an individual complain rightly that this fund is applied in a way which he does not approve, or even in a way which competes—perhaps disastrously—with him as an individual. If the fund arising from land values belongs to the community, the community may apply it as a majority of its members sees fit—subject only to the rule binding alike on communities and individuals, that it may not be used in such a way as to interfere with the equal rights of all individuals to exercise their powers and employ their capital as they see fit.

It does not follow because communities have the same rights as individuals to do so, that it is advisable for them to undertake a great complexity of functions, any more than it is advisable for individuals to embark at once in many and diverse occupations. But the question is not one of right, but of expediency; and is one for each community to settle for itself.

The subject is one of great interest, the discussion of which might profitably be continued by the readers of the Courier, and for which purpose the use of our columns is gladly offered. It is one desire of the editor to make of the Courier a forum wherein those especially who are in favor of immediate action, may present their views of practical forward steps which may now be taken.

The June number of Why? is an excellent one, containing Hamlin Garland's famous little story, "Under the Lion's Paw," The cover is in two colors. At three cents a copy, the issues of Why? make cheap and excellent propaganda documents.

THE SOCIAL DEMOCRACY SPLIT.

The Social Democracy organized at Chicago a year ago under the leadership of Debs, suffered a split at its first annual convention, held last month. The issue seemed to be over the colonization question, a strong party being in favor of making of the Social Democracy a political and educational organization solely. The convention began on Tuesday morning and lasted until nearly daybreak on the following Sunday morning. Those in favor of colonization succeeded in securing and maintaining control of the organization; and the opposition, with Debs at the head, seceded and organized the "Social Democratic Party of America."

The secretary of the Colonization Commission submitted a lengthy and interesting report of the ten months' labors of the commission; the most interesting item being that after its ten months' labors and the disbursement of $2388.19, the commission makes the following exhibit of "assets": "Due from National Council, $734.17. Due from Co-operative Commonwealth Co., $144.06. Cash on hand, $33.23." The commission has not secured a foot of land, nor a dollar's worth of tangible property; and the only proposition it had to submit for immediate action toward carrying out the grand scheme of "colonizing the unemployed in some state, with a view to the capture of the state government and the ushering in of the Co-operative Commonwealth", is one for the purchase of a mining property in Colorado. For this property the commission, with $33.23 in its treasury as the net result of ten months' collections, has agreed to pay $3000 in sixty days and $2000 more in ninety days, and $9500 of interest-bearing bonds. It may be safely assumed that as a factor in the present colonization movement, the Social Democracy is "not in it" any longer.

FROM P. A. PARKER.

Friend Parker when asked to write something for publication, has excused himself, and usually labeled his letters "private"; but not having done so with this, we shall take the liberty of publishing part of it:

Yours of the fourth was received yesterday. All news from Fairhope seems encouraging. The Manns seem to be friends worth having. I wish Fairhope had more of that kind.

My policy in the future would be to ask nothing of single-taxers as such. They seem to be too much occupied in abstract demonstrations of intricate economic problems to come down to earth. Not one person in fifty will ever know or care whether the single tax is or is not a tax, or where the boundary is between economic and speculative rent; but forty-nine out of fifty can be made to see that Fairhope gives to every farmer a farm, to every manufacturer a site, to every home-seeker a home, and that that is single tax. I think, as you say, no fixed line can be drawn defining co-operative functions of government. I should favor all those things enumerated by Mr. George and quoted by Mr. Kent. Under the single tax the people become the landlord and it is good business policy to do those things which will attract a desirable class of people and increase the rental value of our land, and as tenants we enjoy those things.

Our wharf is now nearly paid for, and its certificates have been gilt-edged securities. Why not now inaugurate other public improvements on the same plan, beginning with the most necessary? Public improvements of this kind become the property of the people when once paid for under the Fairhope plan; while in most places, as soon as paid for, the people begin and pay for them over again. Public water-works are probably needed more than anything else. To provide its water is a very considerable expense to a family moving to Fairhope; and many who are intending coming there would be glad to invest in such securities, who do not feel able to give. Small mains with a faucet at the end could be run in various directions to better distribute water to those who do not feel able to pipe their houses at once.

I think you had better close the single-tax land fund. It is very evident we shall not get enough to pay for the land in that way; and while we have the right to expect that those who profess to believe in the principles which the people of Fairhope practice would help to buy land for those who are to come later, it seems an injury to our credit to keep this standing longer. I am very anxious to come to Fairhope this fall, and need all the money I have to do it with; but I had rather dig along here another year than see this stand any longer. I will be one of any number greater than twenty to pay the cash and settle the matter up. Don't all speak at once now! Well, I must close. All advice in this letter is sent gratis.

From information received from various sources, it appears that the times are as hard now, if not harder than at any time since the "panic of '93" began. From Hartford, Conn., comes the report that the oldest and staunchest business houses find it almost impossible to get money enough to keep their business going. In Cleveland, O., it is claimed that one third of the residences are placarded "For Sale." One of our Des Moines correspondents says, "Business is as dull as lead. It is absolutely impossible to move a thing. The papers keep talking about a revival of business; but a few days ago they reported only $500 of real estate transfers, and they seldom reach higher than $20 000 a day." "Poor business and slow collections" is the cry at Mobile; though we believe the south is standing the strain better than other parts of the country, because of its comparatively less mortgage indebtedness. An advertisement in a Saint Louis paper for a night watchman, with the strictest requirements of education, appearance, honesty and sobriety, to be on duty from 6 to 6 every week-day night but Saturday, and from 1 P. M. Sunday to 6 A. M. Monday, with salary of $15 a week, brought out 725 applicants within twenty-four hours. The promise to return references to those not accepted alone cost the advertiser $8.

About the only evidences of prosperity the mercantile agencies have been able to report have been the arbitrary putting up of prices by the trusts, enforced by curtailed production. It will soon be two years since the Republican party, with the campaign cry of "Open the mills instead of the mints" and the most positive promise to restore prosperity, was given a new lease of power by the American people. Its promises are farther from fulfilment to-day than ever, and every careful student of economics knows that there can never again be prosperity worthy of the name under the policies to which the party is pledged.

Some day the people will get their eyes opened to see the iniquity of the devices by which they are denied the right to toil, or when granted it, are robbed of its fruits; but there is no reason to anticipate that it will be soon, and in the meantime it is an excellent idea for men to get near the earth, and as far as possible to produce what their families consume. With the landlord eliminated—as he is at Fairhope— monopolists, great or small, are powerless to rob the producer of any part of that which he produces at home, for home consumption.

The Arena, which under the able editorial management of Dr. Ridpath maintains its high standing as the great liberal magazine of the country, authorizes us to take subscriptions for the six months from July to December inclusive at $1, though the regular price of the Arena is twenty-five cents a number, $2.50 a year. Dr. Ridpath is unquestionably one of the ablest writers on reform topics in the world to-day. His articles alone in the six numbers will be worth many times the price of the magazine. Such a magazine should be subscribed for, not alone as a matter of individual profit or enjoyment, but as a duty and a privilege, to help support a magazine championing the cause of the people amid such a flood of mercenary and venal journalism. We would like to send in a good club to the Arena. Send in your subscriptions.

Baldwin county takes the lead in Alabama looking to a proper celebration of the "Glorious Fourth". On July 4 at Fairhope the celebration will take place in good old American style. Old Glory will wave, guns and firecrackers will boom, orators will speak, the "Star Spangled Banner" will be sung by a chorus of beautiful girls and there will be a feast and a frolic such as the "State of Baldwin" has never seen before. Bully for Baldwin ! Bully for the old flag! Bully for the glorious fourth! —Daily Item, Mobile.

A recent number of the Minneapolis Daily Tribune had a very interesting article on "The Siege of Mobile" in which it refers to the "Clyde-built blockade runners, the Virgin and the Heroine, cooped in the harbor, rusted uselessly at the wharf." The Heroine is still running on the bay, giving excellent and reliable service and lands at Fairhope twice a day.

With the Socialist movement split into three major rival organizations and any quantity of minor ones, the confidence of our Socialist friends seems unabated in their ability to run collectively with harmony and economy all the multifarious and complex activities of the country.

Remember that Fairhope is a summer as well as a winter resort.

PERSONAL AND LOCAL NOTES.

Miss Anna Brown is home again from a successful lecturing tour in Mississippi and Alabama, and will remain for the summer.

Captain Nichols, Andy Cullen, Ernest Prather, Frank Creswell and Will Davis took a two or three days' cruise down the bay recently, on Captain Nichols' handsome yacht, the Della.

Mr. C. K. Brown has purchased the property on Fairhope Avenue first built and occupied by George Poinay, and by him sold to J. W. Ettel, and for the past year occupied by F. L. Brown and family.

C. Gerhard of Detroit Mich. has proven a friend worth having. He has sent us a number of subscribers from Detroit, and lately a club of five, with names of others likely to subscribe on solicitation.

Word has been received at the Fairhope House from Dr. Bartlett of Chicago, who is thinking of establishing a sanitarium somewhere in this locality, that his wife and daughter, with probably some other parties, will be at the hotel about July tenth.

We had strawberries from the latter part of February to the first of June; and the Wilson vines are now quite white with bloom, promising another crop. The Riverlands, of which we had hoped much, almost all died during our two months' drouth.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Brown are at home on their new place just opposite the saw mill, where they have one of the neatest and most comfortable cottages in Fairhope. The only drawback is that it is a little far out at present, but before many years it is likely to be in the "heart of the city".

We are indeed glad to announce that Clyde Mershon, who has been critically ill for some weeks, is much improved, and apparently well on the road to recovery. The deepest solicitude has been felt for Clyde during his illness by the entire community, and all rejoice over his improvement.

Hon. C. B. Hoffman writes: "It is a long time since I have written you, but I have not yet entirely given up the idea of arranging for building a cottage in Fairhope. How much will it cost me to get a suitable lot—some place that is exposed to the sea breezes in the summer, and is as cool as possible?"

We had a pleasant call recently from Mr. Paulson of Emmettsburgh, Iowa, a friend of our friend, P. H. Doulan of the same place. Mr. Paulson is not a single-taxer, but Mr. Dohlan secured his promise to visit Fairhope while visiting other points in the south. He seemed greatly pleased with our village.

Our worthy president, C. L. Coleman, is visiting at his old home in Milwaukee, the first trip he has made away from Fairhope farther than to Mobile, since he came here in the fall of '94. He left on the twenty-third of June, expecting to be gone about two weeks; and we all wish him a pleasant visit and a safe return.

Mr. Eugene R. Clarkson of Birmingham, Ala., spent several days in Fairhope recently, the guest of Dr. Atkinson and Mrs. C. E. Gaston, and preached in the hall, morning and evening of Sunday, the 26th. Mr. Clarkson is a native Alabamian, a graduate of Lexington (Kentucky) University, and a young man of fine attainments and great promise. There is some prospect, we understand, of his being employed by the Christian Church of Fairhope to preach here a part of his time.

Mrs. John I. Gabel, an old settler living about a mile and a half from Fairhope, died suddenly of heart disease on June first, and was buried on the third at Montrose cemetery. Fairhope friends gladly rendered what assistance they could, and many attended the funeral, which was one of the largest ever seen in this section. Mrs. Gabel was a woman of unusual force and capability. She raised a large family of her own, beside several orphaned grandchildren; and the hospitality of the Gabel home was known far and wide.

S. S. Mann announcing the shipment of our press, writes: "We would all be glad to hear you blow a loud semi-monthly blow on that bugle, and let the invalid world know the antidotes there are in that climate for almost every pulmonary disease that curses humanity, as well as the subtle diseases, rheumatism, Bright's disease and gravel. Blow it twice a month. I would be delighted to be with you on the Fourth. I expect to be with you in October, and am making my calculations to be with you for a year or two, if all goes well."

Our old friend, O. N. Bancroft of Gaithersburg, Maryland, writes: "I am glad to be informed of the expiration of my subscription to Fairhope Courier; because I would not feel well to miss its pleasant face each month; for as soon as it reaches me, I make it a point to read it all through, before reading any other of the many that I take." Mr. Bancroft has a property in Villisca, Iowa, worth $500 and rented for $5 a month now, which he says if we can find a purchaser for at $250, we can have the money to apply on the proposed land purchase, to be returned at the Association's convenience, without interest.

The handsome schooner Alexander M. Lawrence of New York, with Captain Smith and family aboard, has been anchored just off Montrose for several weeks. One beautiful moonlight evening in June, a party of twenty or more Fairhopers, by the kindness of Captain Lawrence, sailed up in the Minnie L. to make a friendly call. Captain Smith had just given his decks a coat of fresh paint, so could not invite us aboard; but we anchored alongside and serenaded them with our Fairhope orchestra. The Lawrence is a schooner 100 feet long and 21 feet beam, running in the fruit trade between British Honduras and Mobile; but she does not care to venture out into the gulf, while the war is on.

The Woman Suffrage Club held its regular meeting Saturday afternoon, June 18th, at two o'clock. There were ten ladies present. Mrs. Emma Frederick of Des Moines gave an interesting account of the work of Suffragists there in the legislature last winter. She was one of the workers. A good deal of time was given to Woman and War. If women were equally represented in governments, barbarities like those of Armenia and Cuba and war itself would be unknown. A cordial invitation is extended to ladies visiting Fairhope to time their visits so as to be present at our meetings. They will be held during the summer with Mrs. O. A. Webb.

J. A. Woods, President.

THREE SCORE AND TEN.

On the first day of June Mr. Henry Creswell passed the seventieth milestone of his active and useful life; and his Fairhope friends and neighbors dropped in upon him without notice, to express their congratulations and hopes for many future birthdays. Mr. Creswell was invited up to the store to talk with Mr. Mershon, and when he was allowed to return home, the house and yard were full of people. The "orchestra" discoursed some excellent music, and light refreshments were served. The editor was delegated to express the sentiment of the community toward Mr. Creswell, which he did as follows:

Neighbor Creswell: I have been commissioned—for what reason I know not, unless it be because of my long acquaintance with you—to express the regard in which we, your neighbors, hold you, and our congratulations to you upon your reaching another milestone upon your life's journey. I know something of your modest and retiring disposition, and it may be that what I shall say in the presence of all those gathered here will embarrass you; yet having thus stolen a march upon you and surrounded you in your own house where retreat is impossible, I propose to discharge the duty assigned me to the best of my ability.

There are certain manly qualities which, esteemed in all enlightened communities, are especially esteemed in this, which of course esteems itself as something of a "model community". They are industry, integrity, generosity, regard for the public welfare, and a quality which I know not how to express by other than the word neighborliness. There are those who go around saying behind their neighbors' backs things that were better left unsaid either to one's face or to his back; but it gives us, your neighbors, pleasure to say to your face that all these esteemed qualities we have discerned in large degree in your daily walk among us. The name of Creswell has been so worthily borne by you that it might well stand as a synonym for all those qualities we esteem.

The Bible refers to three score years and ten as the allotted age of man. In these degenerate days, it is given to comparatively few men to reach that age, and to still fewer to reach it with the degree of health and vigor which you enjoy. The weight of seventy years, which has bowed the head and bent the back and enfeebled the limbs of most men, rests lightly on your shoulders. It has silvered your hair, but your eye is still bright, your cheeks ruddy with the glow of health, your step firm and your form erect; and few of us on the ascending slope of life would be anxious for a test of strength and endurance with you. We congratulate you on the excellent condition in which you have rounded out your three score and ten years; a part of the credit of which is no doubt due to her who has looked after your welfare for many years, though she threw open your gates to this invasion; and we sincerely hope you may be spared yet many years to her, to your children, and to us your neighbors.

Mr. Creswell responded fittingly and feelingly, and after some persuasion gave surprising and satisfactory evidence of his suppleness and agility by "tripping the light fantastic" to the music of Miss Webb's guitar. Altogether the occasion was a very enjoyable one.

BIRTHS.

Born to William and Alice Stimpson, June twenty-first, a son—a fine large boy. Mother and child are doing well.

LESLIE HALL
ATTORNEY AT LAW.
Land Titles Examined. Daphne Ala

(Continued from third page.)

true, capable of large and wide results. But there is in human nature what may be likened to a chemical force, which melts and fuses and overwhelms, to which nothing seems impossible. 'All that a man hath will he give for his life': that is self-interest. But in loyalty to higher impulses men will give even life. It is not selfishness that enriches the annals of every people with heroes and saints. It is not selfishness that on every page of the world's history bursts out in splendor of noble deeds, or sheds the soft radiance of benignant lives. It was not selfishness that turned Gautama's back to his royal home, or bade the maid of Orleans lift the sword from the altar, that held the three hundred in the pass of Thermopylæ, or gathered into Winkelreid's bosom the sheaf of spears....

"Call it patriotism, sympathy, the enthusiasm of humanity, or the love of God; give it what name you will—there is yet a force that overcomes and drives out selfishness, a force which is the electricity of the moral universe, a force beside which all others are weak. Everywhere that men have lived it has shown its power; and to-day as ever, the world is full of it. To be pitied is the man who has never seen, and never felt it. Look around! among common men and women, amid the care and the struggle of daily life, in the jar of the noisy street, and amid the squalor where want hides—every here and there is the darkness lighted by the tremulous play of its lambent flames. He who has not seen it has walked with shut eyes. 'He who looks may see', as Plutarch says, 'that the soul has a principle of kindness in itself, and is born to love, as well as to perceive, think or remember.'

"And this force of forces, that now goes to waste or assumes perverted forms, we may use for the strengthening and building up and ennobling of society if we but will; just as we now use physical forces which once seemed but powers of destruction. All we have to do is but to give it freedom and scope. The wrong that produces inequality, the wrong that in the midst of abundance tortures men with want or harries them with the fear of want, that stunts them physically, degrades them intellectually and distorts them morally, is what alone prevents harmonious social development. For 'all that is from the gods is full of providence. We are made for co-operation: like feet, like hands, like eye-brows, like the rows of the upper and lower teeth.'"

How completely do such statements as these justify Professor Herron's statement that Henry George believed God's ways to be mysterious and dark only because man had refused to walk in them, and had chosen to wander in the complexities of disobedience! and these further words, "When we have gotten farther along, I suspect tha we may find him to be the mightiest apostle of Christ since Paul, and put him beside Lincoln as one of the two great human products that we may call distinctly and originally American. In the same sense in which Paul made way for Christ amidst Roman law and life, so Henry George made way for Jesus in the economic life of the modern world."

I close with one more quotation [from Progress and Poverty]: "In our time, as in times before, creep on the insidious forces that, producing inequality, destroy liberty. On the horizon the clouds begin to lower. Liberty calls to us again. We must follow her further: we must trust her fully. Either we must wholly accept her, or she will not stay. It is not enough that men should vote: it is not enough that they should be theoretically equal before the law. They must have liberty to avail themselves of the opportunities and means of life: they must stand on equal terms with reference to the bounty of nature." I wonder if Mr. George comprehended the full significance of these words. To "stand on equal terms with reference to the bounty of nature" means a tremendous leveling up of society, or a wonderful leveling down. It means at least getting rid of that inequality, spoken of above, which destroys liberty. For, as he continues, "Either this, or Liberty withdraws her light! Either this, or darkness comes on, and the very forces that progress has evolved turn to powers that work destruction. This is the universal law. This is the lesson of the centuries. Unless its foundations be laid in justice, the social structure cannot stand."

"The expropriation of the mass of the people from the soil forms the basis of the capitalist mode of production." So quotes from Karl Marx, the Social Democrat in its heading. If this be true, let Socialists unite with single-taxers to restore the land to the people. Perhaps little else will be necessary to remove the evils of which they complain.

Mr. A. Swift and Frank Davis took a trip to New Orleans in the handsome, fast schooner Alice, with 3000 watermelons. They were gone just a week, and reported a fine trip. They struck New Orleans however, on top of a glut of melons shipped in by rail, from Georgia chiefly, and did not get as much for theirs as they would have brought in Mobile; though they were by far the finest they saw in the city.

Mr and Mrs. Phinney and family have left Fairhope, Mrs. Phinney with the children going to the home of her parents in Kansas, and Mr Phinney going, we understand, to seek a new location in Missouri, his destination on leaving here being West Plains. We were sorry that Mr. Phinney felt compelled to leave Fairhope from lack of sufficient business in his line, that of a blacksmith, and hope he may meet with success where he goes—though we have great doubts of his being able under existing circumstances to do better elsewhere than here.

The new bath-house is fully completed, and is highly appreciated. It is 12x38 feet in size, extending at right angles from the main wharf, with which it is connected by a short walk. There are seven rooms, four being devoted to ladies' use, and three for gentlemen, and a gallery six feet wide the whole length of the building. The doors open upon the gallery, and from it descend the stairs— one for ladies and one for gentlemen—to the water. The stairs are rigged with block and tackle, so that they can be raised out of the water when not in use, to prevent their being coated with barnacles. It is built throughout of dressed lumber, and has an excellent shingle roof. Both lumber and shingles were of course the product of the Fairhope Manufacturing Company's mill.

We are now in the height of the grape season, and Dr. Atkinson and Mr. Swift are shipping this luscious fruit daily to northern markets. As usual, Fairhope was first in the market at St. Louis; and this, with the first-class manner in which our pioneer vineyardists put their fruit upon the market, has given Fairhope grapes quite a reputation already. It occurs to us that some of our friends might like to try a sample of our Fairhope grapes; and if so, we suggest that they could doubtless do so at small cost, perhaps none, by ordering a crate or more, and disposing of what they do not want, to merchants or neighbors. The favorite package for shipment is one of eight three-pound baskets, in which they will carry in good shape to any point reached within thirty-six or forty-eight hours. An order addressed to either of these parties would doubtless receive prompt attention.

[Since the foregoing was written the grapes have all ripened and been shipped but the catawbas.]

THE ALTRUIST

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San Francisco. - - - California.

James H. Barry, Editor.

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Fairhope ◎ ◎ ◎ ◎ ◎ Ala.

FRIENDS, ATTENTION!

It is of the utmost importance that the half-section of land held for us by Mess. Bostedo and Nusbaum for the last two years and now by Mr. C. K. Brown, should become the property of Fairhope Association at once. Our option extends a year yet, but we need the land at once to throw open to settlement.

We have plenty of lots near the bay, available for small holdings, but the good agricultural lands in our first purchases are so nearly exhausted that but a couple of fair ten acre plats remain available, and there is a growing— and sensible—disposition to take larger tracts in order to let a portion each year go to crops to be turned under as fertilizers, or fed upon the place and returned in the form of manure.

We have 320 acres it is true, untouched, but it lies beyond the 320 of which we speak, the nearest point being two and a half miles from the wharf and two miles from the store; and while it will come into demand all right after the intermediate land is settled, it now seems too far out.

A trifle over $380 will buy this 320 acres now—thanks to Mess. Bostedo and Nusbaum—though it is easily worth twice that, and the title is perfect.

The Courier feels that with the success thus far achieved by Fairhope Association, its present secure position and its clear-cut application of the single-tax principle in throwing the lands it may secure open to settlement with no other condition than that of the payment of its annual rental value, all of which, after the payment of state and county taxes, is expended for the common benefit of the rent-payers, it has a right to ask and expect the aid of the single-taxers of the country in securing this land.

Without any action of the Fairhope Association, the Courier therefore invites subscriptions for this purpose, which may be sent direct to the Treasurer of Fairhope Association, Mr. George M. Bancroft, or to the Manager of the Courier, and in either case will be acknowledged in the Courier.

Up to the time of going to press, we have received the following subscriptions to this fund:

J. Bellangee, Des Moines, Iowa,	$ 5.
Jose Gros, Morristown, N. J.,	10.
W. K. Smith, Chicago, Ills.	5.
Geo. C. Madison, " "	5.
Mrs. C. P. Sykes, Fairhope	5.
Cash from a friend,	5.
Total to date,	35

Our two months' drouth was broken by a fine rain on June 12th, since which time we have had numerous showers, and everytl ing is growing finely. During the month of May we had absolutely no rain at all. Old settlers declared that they had never known such a time; but wishing to satisfy ourselves authoritatively as to whether or not such Mays might be occasionally expected, we wrote Mr. Dudley, the weather observer at Mobile, for comparative figures of this and preceding Mays. Mr. Dudley has kindly furnished us with a table showing the rainfall in May for every year since the office was established in Mobile: to wit, 1871. From this table we learn that the average rainfall for May has been 4.32 inches; and in only one other May of the twenty-eight years has the rainfall been less than one inch, while this May was credited with only a "trace." The departure from normal rainfall for the part of the year up to the time the report was made (May 27th), was 13.53 inches. These figures are instructive and encouraging, showing that the period we have just passed through was unusual—in fact, unprecedented.

There is in this world no necessity for poverty, and for the vice and crime that spring from it. That so much of human life is a bitter struggle for mere existence, is man's fault, not God's. The powers with which man has been gifted, the potentialities which exist in nature, are sufficient to give the very humblest all the real advantages that the richest can now enjoy, to make possible a social state in which men should no more vex themselves about the satisfaction of material needs than do the lilies of the field. But the Creator has annexed to his gifts the inexorable condition that we shall deal justly with our fellows. A system which denies their birthright to the children who come into the world involves a crime which must bring its punishment.—Henry George.

During a recent storm, lightning struck two tall pine trees just outside the editor's field, and glanced to a fence post, setting it on fire. The rain extinguished the fire before any damage was done to the fence.

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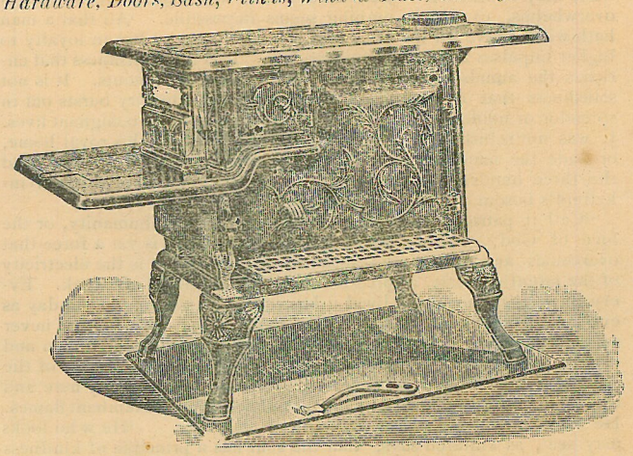

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That which Nature provides is the Common Property of all God's Children; that which the Individual creates belongs to the Individual; that which the Community creates belongs to the Community.—GEN. J. B. WEAVER.

VOL. V. NO. 1. FAIRHOPE, ALA., AUG 1, 1898. 25 CENTS A YEAR.

CELEBRATING THE GLORIOUS FOURTH.

The celebration at Fairhope under the direction of the Baldwin County Fruit, Flower and Vegetable Growers' Association was a great success. There was the usual shower about noon, interfering materially with one important part of the program, the grand picnic dinner; but it did not come soon enough to prevent the crowds from gathering—and they came, afoot, on horseback, in wagons and carriages, and by water, in schooners and on the Heroine, which made a special trip to accommodate those coming from the county-seat. Several fine schooners brought parties from the lower part of the county. One, however, which was reported en route having on board one of the speakers, Rev. Hanson of Shellbanks, failed to get in. Mr. Guy C. Sibley of the Mobile Daily Item, one of the announced speakers, was also prevented from coming by the great demand upon his paper for news of the important operations before Santiago. Otherwise the program was carried out as announced.

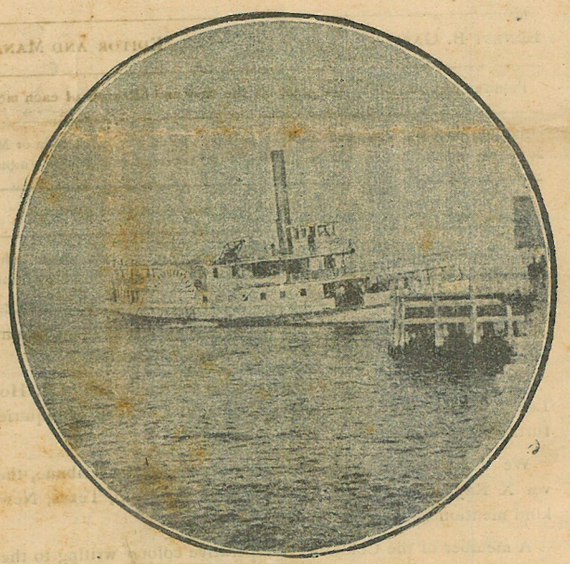
On the beautiful grounds in the park opposite the Fairhope House seats were fixed for several hundred, a platform 16 by 30 erected, from which the speakers and musicians were heard, and on which after dinner those so inclined danced. The platform was covered with canvas, and three other tents were pitched to accommodate the refreshment booths; so that the ground presented quite the gala appearance of a circus. Perhaps however, a report of the celebration as viewed by other eyes will be most interesting; and we quote herewith from the account which appeared in the Daily News of Mobile, whose editor, Mr. Damer, was one of the speakers:

The people of Fairhope must be credited with being the first of Alabama communities to start a revival of interest in the celebration of the Fourth of July. Their first celebration was last year. [Our first celebration was in 1895, and again in 1896 we had a good one. Ed.] The population is composed largely of northern people, and they preserve many of the distinctive customs of the section from which they migrated. At the same time they are adapting themselves to all that is best in their surroundings, and life in Fairhope is worth living.

Yesterday the colonists celebrated Independence day with appropriate ceremonies. Tents were pitched on the crest of a beautiful natural mound, which is reserved as a park. About them were a platform and benches. Flags and bunting were employed freely in the decoration. The entire colony and many of the neighbors were present; and excepting a brief interruption during a shower of rain, the programme of exercises was carried out without a hitch. While the rain was falling, some of the people sought the shelter of the tents and partook of dinner, while others danced; but a larger number repaired to the new and handsome Fairhope hotel, where a general introduction took place. It was a gathering of very intelligent and interesting people, and one must go far to meet a greater number of beautiful and charming women than were assembled there.

Hon. J. H. Webb appeared on the scene a bit late, but enthused the audience by communicating the first news of the victory at Santiago. The following was the programme of the exercises, and more than ordinary talent was exhibited in carrying it out. Miss Anna Brown's reading of the Declaration of Independence was admirable, and the handsome and talented young lady received hearty applause. Mr. Gaston, the secretary of the colony, was master of ceremonies, and performed his part most gracefully.

Song—America.
Music—Fairhope Orchestra.
Invocation—Rev. B. F. Rhodes.
Song—Columbia.
Reading Declaration of Independence—Miss Anna Brown.
Battle Hymn of the Republic.
Address—Agriculture the Source of Wealth—Mr. E. Q. Norton.
Music by Fairhope Orchestra.
Address—A Reunited Country—By Mr. Damer.
Music by the Orchestra.
Song—Dixie.
Address by Hon. J. H. Webb.
Song by Marlow Quartette—"Down in the Harbor of Havana."
Song—Star Spangled Banner.



STEAMER JAS. A. CARNEY, LANDING AT FAIRHOPE.

The celebration was arranged by the Baldwin County Fruit, Flower and Vegetable Growers' Association.

The credit for the success of the celebration was due to the efficient general committee appointed by the F., F. & V. G. A.—S. Howard Leech, Mesdames Timney and Leech, and the Editor—and to Mr. Henry Rhodes, manager of the refreshment stands, who devoted days to the work of preparation.

FAIRHOPE GRAPES.

The Mobile & Ohio has been bringing grapes into St. Louis for the past three weeks. They come from Alabama, and are the earliest to reach this market. The development of grape culture in that part of the state just across the bay from Mobile is still in its infancy; but from the astonishingly good results thus far shown, there is no doubt that it is one of the best natural locations for grape culture in the United States.

The vineyards from which the Mobile & Ohio is now bringing three varieties of grapes to St. Louis were planted in 1894, and bore fruit plentifully in the third year....The station in the center of this new grape country is Fairhope, Ala.; and growers thereabouts report that nearly any variety of grape takes kindly to the soil and conditions there. Thus far only three varieties have reached this market—Delaware, Niagara and Ives. Of these the Delawares are the best sellers and the most profitable; but other varieties are being introduced, and experts believe that the product of Alabama will surpass in quality if not in quantity, the early grape yield of California.

[St. Louis Republic.

Colonel Morrison of River Park, Dr. E. C. Slosson of "Slossonville", Oscar Johnson of Silver Hill, and George M. Bancroft and the writer appeared before the County Commissioners in July in behalf of the proposed new road from Fairhope to Dr. Slosson's. The Commissioners appointed "viewers" to survey the line and assess the value of land required; who will probably present their report at the next meeting, which is in August. This road would be a very important factor in building up the country along it; and though few hands would be available to work it perhaps for a year or two, it should be established at once. The owners of practically all the land required so far to give it without compensation and propose to see that the road is allowed or "know the reason why."

FAIRHOPE COURIER.

Devoted to the LAW of EQUAL FREEDOM—"Every man has freedom to do all that he wills, provided he infringes not the equal freedom of any other man"—and to the effort now being made to immediately apply that law to the fullest extent possible under existing conditions, by the Fairhope Industrial Association, at Fairhope, Alabama,

Its motto, and that of Fairhope Industrial Association, is, "We will make good theories work." And it denies the possibility of a "good theory" which is "not practical."

ERNEST B. GASTON, - - - EDITOR AND MANAGER.

Published at Fairhope, Alabama, on the first and fifteenth of each month.

Subscription Price to any address in the United States, Canada or Mexico 25 cents per annum. In other countries of the International Postal Union' 50c.

Entered at Fairhope Post Office as second class matter.

Due notice of expiration of subscriptions will be given, and unless otherwise requested, the Courier will be sent to subscribers until ordered discontinued.

Hon. J. H. Upton has our thanks for a very nice two-column article about Fairhope in his Southwest Oregon Reporter.

An excellent article on Fairhope from the facile pen of S. Howard Leech in the July New Time has brought a number of inquiries for further information.

We are indebted to the Freeland, Pennsylvania, Tribune, the Silver X Ray of Rosenberg, Texas, and the Amarillo, Texas, News for kind mention of Fairhope and the Courier.

A member of the Colorado Co-operative colony writing to the colony paper, advocates the ownership of the town site by the colony-letting the members hold the lots (under lease presumably) and own only the improvements, to prevent speculation.

We are in receipt of a neat volume of Single Tax Songs, compiled and issued by Thomas Bawden, the indefatigable single-tax campaigner, and editor of Justice, Detroit, Mich. Most of the songs are Mr. Bawden's own, and are written to be sung to catchy popular airs. The price is only five cents.

Baldwin county has a new paper, the Baldwin Advocate, published at the county seat. It supports the regular Democratic nominees in this county, endorses Governor Johnson and William J. Bryan, declares for free silver at the ratio of 16 to 1, and promises to be "ever found advocating just and righteous measures." The first number contained a good sketch of the life and work of Henry George. Mr. D. M. Gordon, formerly of Monroe county, is the editor. We extend greetings to the new paper, trusting it may be true to its professions and receive the support it deserves.

The state and county elections in Alabama occur the first Monday in this month, which as it happens is also the first day. Governor Johnston, the present incumbent, who has given the state an excellent, economical administration, will be re-elected with the other Democratic nominees. In Baldwin county there is quite a warm fight on, between what may be called the "regular Democracy"—though their regularity is denied—and an opposing Democratic faction, which has a full ticket in the field. The voters of Fairhope have not taken much interest in the campaign, not feeling sufficiently well posted on the local situation to take an aggressive part either way.

We are always much interested in everything that our old reform friends and co-workers in Des Moines do, and so take especial pleasure in reading the bright and newsy Co operative Era, published by the National Co-operative Association, under the management of friend R. R. Clarke. The association's co-operative store seems to be succeeding finely. The business done for the first five months amounted to nearly $8000. Dividends of five per cent are paid monthly on purchases, and six per cent per annum on stock. The membership is increasing rapidly, and the association is taking the initiative in efforts to secure a state organization of co-operative stores, of which there are a number of successful ones in the state.

Having received no subscriptions to our land fund nor responses to Mr. Parker's generous proposition since our last issue, we withdraw our appeal, at least for the present.

The Woman Suffrage society held an interesting session on Friday evening, the 29th, and announced that they would conduct a box social in four weeks for the purpose of raising funds to equip the school-house with comfortable seats for the children and other necessary school supplies. It is hoped the citizens generally will co-operate actively with them in this laudable effort—esspecially in coming well prepared to buy boxes or contribute in other ways.

Mr. and Mrs. Eyre Damer, who were over to attend our celebration—Mr. Damer being one of the orators—were so pleased with the place and with the excellent accommodations of the Fairhope House that they came over again the following Sunday with their son, returning Monday morning. They will probably be over to remain a week or more, soon. They expressed confidence in Fairhope becoming a popular resort for Mobile people as soon as they become acquainted with its advantages.

The peach crop is abundant this season in this vicinity—that is on the native trees. The general report is that the grafted nursery trees do very little good; but seedling trees are loaded to the ground everywhere, and some of them are fine, while none are bad. We trust to have a better report another year from the grafted trees; but one thing is abundantly demonstrated, that we can have plenty of good peaches from the native stock, whether the grafted trees do anything or not.

L. R. Clements, who was the first president of Fairhope Association, but who had not been heard from for some time, writes: "I have not forgotten you or the colony either. I had expected to make you a visit, but circumstances have been such that it was impossible to do so. I want to do so next winter, if I possibly can. Enclosed find fifty cents for the paper, and give my regards to all the friends." Friend Clements is one of the truest of friends and most sincere of reformers, and that he has not been able to be more actively identified with our work has doubtless been a cause of regret to him as much as to us. We shall hope to see him here this winter.

Mr. R. E. Hinchey of De Soto, Missouri, was in this vicinity several days recently, under the direction of Mr. E. E. Posey, the genial General Passenger Agent of the Mobile & Ohio railroad, securing views of orchards, vineyards, crops, places etc., presumably for illustrating some new matter descriptive of this section which Mr. Posey will soon publish. A view was taken of one peach tree on the premises of the editor, loaded with beautiful peaches, and measuring 10½ inches in circumference six inches from the ground and 12 feet in height, at *two years from the seed.* We shall try to sacure the cuts of scenes of local interest after Mr. Posey has used them, and reproduce them in the Courier.

Dr. Clarence L. Mershon has, we are glad to say, decided to remain at Fairhope and pursue the practice of his profession, for which there seems now a peculiarly favorable opening. He has already been called as far as the county seat several times. Dr. Mershon graduated wiith honors from an excellent medical school in Iowa, has had considerable practical experience in hospital work with the counsel of eminent specialists, and we are confident will soon make a fine reputation for himself. He is above all a young man of the highest moral character, the kind we need to help make this the model community it was designed to be.

"Equality", the B. C. C. colony in Washington, is going steadily forward with its collection of funds and acquisition of members. It is evident however, from the propositions tor the amendment of their constitution and the discussion thereon in the colony paper, that the resident directors and members are facing some practical problems which were not given due consideration in laying their foundations. They have entered upon an era of constitution mending in which they have our sympathy. We sincerely trust that wisdom may prevail, and that the enterprise in which so many hopes are centered may be directed to success. Mr. W. H. Kaufman, editor of Industrial Freedom, the colony paper, in a letter to the Social Democrat says:

I am really glad your plan is in abeyance for a time, for this colo-

Mr. Ben Peacock, who has been in this vicinity for several months, most of the time employed by the Mess. Randall of Daphne, has returned to his home in Illinois, but seemed quite confident of his return, perhaps with his people, at no distant day.

Mr. Swift's grapes ripened up so rapidly while he was "schoonering" over to New Orleans with watermelons, that he found it impossible to get them all to market before many became over-ripe. From the latter he is making a fine quality of vinegar, which ought to be profitable.

The Fairhope House is beginning to receive something of the patronage which our delightful location and the excellence of its management deserve. Nearly a hundred guests were entertained at dinner on July Fourth, and its rooms have all been occupied several times since.

There seems quite a good prospect now, of Mrs. Howland becoming a resident of Fairhope—which we hope will be realized. Mr. C. B. Hoffman, who knows her well from several years' experience at Topolobampo, assures us she is a most noble woman and would be of great assistance to us here.

The Japanese plums are mostly ripe and gone. They are a splendid fruit, and seem well adapted to this country. A number of varieties are being tried at Fairhope, and all are fine; but as far as we have seen, none to equal the Kelsey, which is not only the largest, but the best in quality. They are as large as a large peach, and fully as delicious.

A Des Moines friend writes: "I saw Mr. McElwain some time ago, and we had a long talk about Fairhope and its members, and wished we were able to join you at once. Mr. McElwain intends to visit you in September, and I may possibly take a run down myself on some excursion or other. Time flies very rapidly, and it will be but six short months before I box up my Lares and Penates and start for Fairhope—and maybe sooner."

Mr. W. V. Beroujon, the popular undertaker of Mobile, wife, baby and nurse Sundayed at the Fairhope on the 24th. Mr. Beroujon very kindly came over to assist at the burial of Clyde Mershon. His only previous visit here was on a like occasion, but he was so pleased with the hotel and with Fairhope that he talks of coming over again and leaving his wife and baby to stay for several weeks. Indeed we have hopes of getting him to build a cottage at Fairhope.

John F. Ford of the Aerostatic Power Co. of Baltimore, who thought he might be able to put us in one of his mills to pump water from our town well, is not yet prepared to do so, but says: "I enclose some genuine "fiat money" (stamps) for a year's subscription to the Courier. I read every issue of the paper from Alpha to Omega, as I have always taken much interest in the growth and development of your colony, and it is within the possibilities that I may some day be one of you."

The regular meeting of the Baldwin County Woman Suffrage Club was held Saturday, July 16th, with Mrs. O. A. Webb. The program was Current Events and reports of two notable meetings. The Canadian National Council of Women held late in May, furnished by Dr. Emily A. Stowe who spent last winter in Fairhope, was one. The other was the Biennial Meeting of the Federation of Women's Clubs of the United States, held in Denver in June. Our Club rejoice in the election of Mrs. Rebecca D. Lowe of Atlanta, Georgia, as their new leader. We stand ready to aid her from our "little corner" whenever an attempt to advance her line of work is extended into Alabama.

J. A. Woods, President.

Mrs. Dr. Rufus H. Bartlett and daughter Anna May, of Chicago, are guests of the Fairhope, and have been for some days. Dr. Bartlett, it will be remembered, was at Fairhope in the winter, investigating with a view to establishing a sanitarium in this county. He saw no place he liked as well as Fairhope, and has sent his wife and daughter down to sample our summer climate and see how they would like it here. We understand they also are well pleased, and we hope the sanitarium will materialize. We do not believe a better location can be found; and Fairhope stands ready with her offer of "free land"— free of any purchase price—and exemption from taxation—local, county or state—on all capital invested in buildings and equipments

FOR SALE,

Half interest in a complete saw-mill. Mill 80 horse-power. Finest boiler and engine made. Planer, shingle saw and everything complete. Best well of water in the county. Excellent opportunity to put in other paying machinery. A chance of a life-time for some good man.

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Fairhope, Ala.

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Excursions at low rates run from St. Louis, Mo., Cairo, Ill., and intermediate points, as well as other points in the north, on several days in each month. Tickets allow stop-over at any point south of and including Cairo, Illinois. Low one-way rates also for settlers and household goods and stock.

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E. L. Russell, First Vice President.

FAIRHOPE TRANSPORTATION LINE.

Remember that the staunch Schooner "Minnie L." of Fairhope, Capt. G. A. R. Lawrence, makes regular trips twice a week (oftener if necessary) between Fairhope and Mobile, handling all kinds of freight either way with security and dispatch. Will touch at all points along the eastern shore where business demands.

The Minnie L. has extra facilities for protecting freight from the weather and makes a specialty of handling merchandise and household goods. Special rates to persons moving to Fairhope.

☞SPECIAL! Capt. Lawrence will attend personally and without charge, to purchasing and selling orders, in Mobile, for his patrons.

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Coffins and Shrouds to Suburban Residents at Special Low Prices
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WHOLESALE MANUFACTURERS OF
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Sole Agency Celebrated Studebaker Wagons. MOBILE, ALA.

nization business is too new and still too much in an experimental stage to be tried on so vast a plan .... I am also of the opinion that a "single-tax" colony will be the best for the present: that is a colony like that at Fairhope, Alabama, where the association holds the lands, and then whatever co-operative enterprises are carried on will be put on a wage basis... The colonization movement is growing wonderfully fast, but the details are not all settled: we can find them only as the chemist finds materials for his science—by experiment. The more plans there are which are being tried at a given time, the sooner will the right one be found.

CLYDE MERSHON DEAD.

Died at Fairhope, Alabama, Friday, July 22, at 3:45 P. M., Clyde H. Mershon, aged nineteen years and ten months.

To all the readers of the Courier who have ever lived in Fairhope this sad announcement will bring a shock akin to that which went through our quiet little community when a messenger with tear-stained face came from the house where Clyde had lain so many weary weeks making his gallant but hopeless struggle for life, and announced with bated breath that "all was over." Scarcely could any one have been missed more than he; for his daily duties had brought him in such close and constant contact with the entire community; and during all the weeks of his illness the question "How is Clyde to-day?" was asked a hundred times a day by lips of young and old, black and white, who missed his cheerful attendance. His condition had been serious, even critical, during almost every stage of his illness; yet knowing his youth and apparently good constitution and that everything which skill and love could suggest was being done for him, none could believe—discouraging as reports were—but that he must be saved: yet it proved otherwise.

We shall attempt no eulogy of Clyde; for to those who knew him here in the community where he lived and where death snatched him in the flush of his useful young manhood, the best that we could say would seem far less than he deserved, and to all others more than the usual extravagance of praise accorded the dead. On Sunday, the 24th of July, the entire community, including many from as far as Fish River, gathered to pay the last tribute of respect to his memory, to mingle their tears with those of the almost heart-broken family, and to follow his poor, worn-out body to its last resting place in our little cemetery, under the whispering pines. The services, under the charge of E. R. Clarkson. the young pastor of the church in which Clyde had been so active a worker, were most tender and appropriate. The casket was almost hidden by beautiful floral tributes fashioned by deft and loving fingers; and the last resting place of the loved form was made beautiful with evergreens and flowers, robbing the end of much of its gloom.

In the evening a short memorial service was held, in which the neighbors and co-workers of the deceased testified out of full hearts and with faltering lips to their appreciation of his worth and to their sense of personal loss in his untimely taking away.

The following beautiful little poem was composed by Miss Winnetta Patterson and handed to the family within a few hours of Clyde's death:

CLYDE.

"It's all over", they say with broken voice
And blinding tears
And aching thought for blank successions
Of weary years.

"It's all over." Majestic lies the gay,
Fun-loving boy.
But hearts hold memories to light their grief
With almost joy.

A thousand gentle and thoughtful doings,
Promptings of a heart
Where all a boy's interests gave room to the
Sweet Christ-like part.

It isn't "all over." Together, to-day
We worked and played:
For him to-day's ended. He's fall'n asleep
With God, unafraid.
To finish to-day without him means sorrow,
But after to-day cometh to-morrow.

CARD OF THANKS.

We hereby extend our sincere and heartfelt thanks to the many friends in Fairhope, for the sympathy and assistance so freely rendered in our days of anxiety and sorrow. We shall never forget your kindness.

N. Mershon and Family.

PERSONAL AND LOCAL NOTES.

Mrs. Andy Cullen is quite sick.

President C. L. Coleman is expected home very soon.

Rev. Isaiah Reid of Des Moines is among us for a short stay.

Mrs. Emma J. Frederick and Sidney returned to their home in Iowa last week.

Mrs. C. A. Hall and daughters have been frequent visitors to Fairhope of late.

Mr. Albert F. Smith of Decatur, Illinois, spent some time in this vicinity recently.

Mrs. J. D. Lucier of "Section twenty-eight" is going to build a substantial addition to her cottage.

Herman Steinerdink had the first sweet potatoes on the market on the 20th, and they were fine ones.

Frank Creswell made a trip up to Bay Minette recently, and took a good lot of orders for Andy Cullen's cigars.

Captain Silas Lawrence, who has been working away from Fairhope for several months, is a familiar figure on our streets again.

A number of alligators have been reported caught in the dried up ponds back from the shore, but none have been seen at Fairhope.

Mr. Clarence C. Mechem was over from Mobile to attend the celebration, and played the organ accompaniment for the song numbers.

Mr. E. R. Clarkson has been secured by the Christian church of Fairhope to preach one half of his time, the third and fourth Sundays.

Mr. C. K. Brown has cleared his lot on Fairhope Avenue and enclosed it with a neat new sawn picket fence, and is otherwise improving the premises.

L. W. Larsen is again employed at Daphne, and is only at his home in Fairhope over Sunday. His work there is likely to continue for some time.

Mrs. L. W. Larsen, who had such a long and tedious illness, is much improved generally, but had the new misfortune of falling and fracturing her knee-cap.

Mr. Theodore F. Gatchel of Des Moines has been rusticating and recuperating in this vicinity for a couple of weeks, alternating between the Fairhope House and his cottage at Epworth.

Mr. Coleman in a recent letter reported fine strawberries as selling in Milwaukee for three cents a quart, two for a nickel. The more the growers sell at that price, the worse off they must be.

Mr. S. Timney of Marlow had over 500 bushels of pears on his orchard this year, in spite of the blight phich attacked it a year or two ago. There is a prospect that it will "whip the fight" yet, as Mr. Jennings of Jennings Nursery Co. leads us to hope our pear orchards may.

J. W. Rose of Helena, Montana, who has been a subscriber to the Courier from the first, inquires about the advantages here for the poultry business, and says if he comes he could help some on the land fund.

The Noble family of Montgomery, Alabama, were guests of the Fairhope House several days in July; but being wealthy society people of the capital city, they did not find gaiety enough for them here, and went to Battles.

In this number reappears the advertisement of Bloch Bros.' carriage, wagon and implement house. Bloch Bros. are the leading house in that line in Mobile, and we bespeak for them the patronage of our readers in their line.

Mr. J. W. Pickering of Detroit, Michigan, who has been a reader of the Courier for some time, was one of our July visitors. He was well pleased with our location and prospects, and hopes to join us in the course of a year or two.

We had strawberries from the latter part of February to the first of June, which would seem to be enough to ask of vines for one season; but many of them bore again in July enough so that those having berry beds had a number of messes.

The abundant showers of the past few weeks have brought all vegetation on apace, especially the weeds and crab-grass. With showers every day, it has been almost impossible to kill the crab-grass; and farmers have been fairly desperate.

Dr. J. D. Pleasant, dentist, of Mobile, has been at the Fairhope House for several days, attending to the needs of the people in his line. He is pleased with our location and community, and has expressed a desire to have a cottage here.

REPUDIATES THE SINGLE TAX.

The following characteristic letter from friend Green of Des Moines has been received in response to our invitation to use the Courier as a forum for the discussion of the question of the proper functions of government. We shall have something to say in reply to friend Green's letter in our next issue, and would be glad to hear from others who are not only disposed to criticise what others have to offer but have a definite program of their own to present, which friend Green seems not to have.

Editor Fairhope Courier.

Dear Sir: It is amusing to see single-taxers, who while advocating the first great step toward state-socialism—viz. state ownership, or what is virtually the same, state control of the soil—squabble among themselves as to how far they shall proceed in the same direction, and yet not become state-socialists. As you are bold enough to invite suggestions relating to this matter, I beg to suggest that sensible men neglect the first step (single tax itself) in toto. For myself, I condemn the single-tax proposition as unnatural, as wholly immoral, and altogether not at all flattering to intelligent "reformers". It is the natural product of that great wave of crude materialism which swept the colleges some thirty years ago. To-day it is completely out of date, a back number. Spencer demolished it completely with his doctrine of natural selection or harmonious association. Spencer, not George, teaches a natural religion. Christ nor nature tells us that society shall be regenerated by a tax, single, double or otherwise.

The single tax is immoral, simply because it advocates coercion, the militant spirit—brute force—as the first step to be taken. Notwithstanding that I and thousands of others object to the single tax, declaring that by investing the state—a political party really—with control of the soil a despotism will inevitably and naturally result in the course of time, both single-taxer and state-socialist tell us in effect that we know nothing about it, that our views of life being erroneous (and theirs right, as a matter of course), they are justified in compelling us to accept theirs, and will proceed to do so, as soon as they obtain a majority and the requisite physical force. This is simply the spirit of the Inquisition redivivus. An error multiplied by numbers becomes a truth, and vice versa. Truth is subject to the multiplication table.

Again I say, I condemn both single tax and state-socialism as immoral and the propositions of degenerates. I know perfectly well that reformers *mean* well. So does every didn't-know-it-was-loaded simpleton; but society is composed, for the most part, of knaves and fools. We haven't developed much wisdom yet; and those who have preached and are preaching the doctrine of natural forces, are still "crying in the wilderness". For the information of those who regard the single tax as a natural proposition, let me remind them that natural forces or laws are already enacted and in full play. They need no further enactment, being easily superior to human laws.

The simple truth is, the reformer is and ever has been a pagan, prone on his belly before false gods. The state nor our relations to the soil are "fundamental". Neither one nor the other is the *first* cause, but service (competition); and the grand mistake made by reformers is in supposing that service will *result* from some inferior influence, such as single tax, government ownership, or financial trickery of some sort. But service never results: never, never, never. Service is supreme, the first cause of all conditions, good and evil; unequal service producing evil conditions, while equal service is coexistent with all that is good. "For *all* the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this, Thou shalt love (serve) thy neighbor as thyself." The apostle Paul was only about two thousand years ahead of the modern reformer. Let the latter study nature and discover what service really is. He will never discover otherwise.

Rent is easily subject to service, and may be wiped out when reformers learn to make use of that omnipotent force. Yes, dear single-taxer, rent *can* be destroyed, as fixed an institution as you sometimes say it is; for the Almighty never created rent, or the "yearly value of land", as you choose. Rent is merely the product of selfish man and his artifices, his desire to live in the sweat of another's face. But though your intentions be ever so good, you will never succeed in founding a moral state on an immoral basis—coercion. The end never yet justified the means. Service (love) alone is competent to produce what you seek, and love invariably operates through natural selection—voluntary association—for the purposes of voluntary service. Any other sort of service is sure to become despotic.

If we cannot learn to give voluntary service, without tribute, *where tribute is now exacted*, we must disappear to that limbo to which other incompetents have preceded us. With equal service, state, church and property become universal. Emerson brings this out finely in his "New England Reformers."

Yours very sincerely,

Jas. T. R. Green.

LESLIE ◎◎ HALL

ATTORNEY AT LAW.

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Meals, 15 cents, Lodging, 25 cents.

GOOD CLEAN BEDS AND SQUARE MEALS

16 So. Royal St. Mobile, Ala.

A. H. Mershon Nathaniel Mershon

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DEALERS IN Flour, Feed, Fertilizers, Staple and Fancy Groceries, Cured Meats, Dry-goods, Hardware, Implements and everything kept in a first-class stock of

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Fairhope ◎◎◎◎◎ Ala.

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THE LABOR AND REFORM CONFERENCE.

The department of "Publicity and Promotion" of the late Labor and Reform conference does not seem to be well organized: however, through the kindness of friend E. Q. Norton we have a copy of the published proceedings. The single-tax resolution introduced by John S. Crosby was passed after long and thorough discussion, by a vote of 20 to 14. The most important action taken was the calling of another convention to meet at St. Louis on November 12th of this year, to "take such action as the convention deems most wise to give us a government of the people, by the people and for the people, by es tablishing Direct Legislation, to include the Initiative, Referendum, Imperative Mandate and Proportional Representation." Mass county conventions to select delegates to this convention are called to meet at their respective county-seats on Nov. 12th, each county being entitled to one delegate and one alternate, and counties having more than 25 000 population, to one additional delegate and alternate for each additional 25 000 of population.

One of the declared purposes of the convention was "to establish closer and more sympathetic relations between the supporters of isolated attempts at self-help by co operative colonies and industries"; but the only thing done in this direction was to endorse the plan to that end offered by the author of the American Trades Alliance, and the appointment of a delegate to confer with the organizers of the proposed American Trades Alliance and report the result at the next convention. The convention was working on the right line in pushing to the front direct legisiation, recognized as the only possible measure upon which the reform elements can be united and the gateway to all reforms. We hope the November convention will be well attended and be prolific of good results.

Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Smith have returned to Iowa. With the kindliest of feelings toward them, we shall take the liberty of drawing a lesson from their experience for the benefit of others. Before coming down, Mr. Smith rented for a year at a very reasonable rental, an improved place in Fairhope, with a comfortable house, several acres of land in cultivation, and excellent accommodations for chickens and stock of all kinds. With some hundreds of dollars in money, this gave them a most favorable opportunity to put in a year here, conserving their cash as much as possible and seeing what they could do and how they would like it here, before making any permanent investment; which was what they were most kindly advised to do, repeatedly by the writer and others. Not finding the house in just such condition as they desired however, they did not go into it, but selected 2½ acres in "town lots" heavily timbered, on which they put up a small shed affording very imperfect shelter from the weather, into which they moved, commencing at once the erection of a larger house.

Though they were but two, with little household possessions, they planned a house 24x28, with double fire-places, bay and dormer windows, glass doors and one or two large single-glass windows with stained glass transoms. The house was on hand just when friend Smith's farming operations should have had his undivided attention. The money, part of which ought to have gone into a horse and tools for farming, a cow, chickens &c.. without which no one anywhere else would think of trying to farm, all went into the house.

The first crops of potatoes and beans (of very small area) proved a partial failure because of our unprecedented drouth, the money was almost all tied up in the house, which was not by any means finished; and it is small wonder that friend Smith and wife concluded to go back north, where a fond father-in law offered the free use of land and necessary equipment. And they no doubt blame their failure to succeed at Fairhope altogether to the country. We submit that nowhere in the United States could success have been achieved with the exercise of so little judgment, and that justice would relieve Fairhope and Baldwin county from any responsibility for their failure.

There is another fact worthy of mention in this connection; and that is that Mrs. Smith's health was wonderfully improved here. She had, as she herself said, hardly known what it was to have a well day before coming to Fairhope, while here she seemed as well as any one. This should have compensated for many deficiencies—in fact, health should be absolutely the first consideration in choosing the place for a house, but in discouragement over temporary reverses, was lost sight of altogether. We wish friend Smith and wife well wherever they go. We are not at all sore because they have left Fairhope; for we would much rather they would leave than remain dissatisfied, and have only mentioned them thus personally to point more sharply a moral for others who may follow them.

William Stimpson is making trips along the beach two or three times a week, selling produce, chickens, honey etc. He finds his fine honey in great demand.

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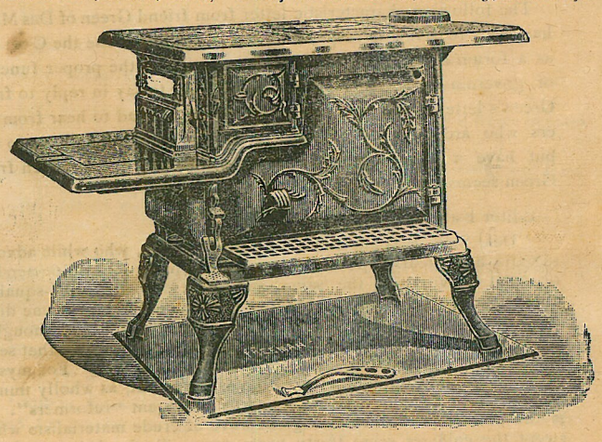

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FAIRHOPE COURIER.

That which Nature provides is the Common Property of all God's Children; that which the Individual creates belongs to the Individual; that which the Community creates belongs to the Community.— GEN. J. B. WEAVER.

VOL. V. NO. 2. FAIRHOPE, ALA., AUG 15, 1898. 25 CENTS A YEAR.

UNTO THE JUDGE.

BY FRANK STEPHENS, IN CONSERVATOR.

* * * Master of Death, whose might
Rules him who rules the mightiest, hear and give—
That only so much life be mine to live
As I may live to fight my brother's fight.

Let not the soft winged days with drowsy songs
Smother my protest at the world's misrule,
Nor chill oncoming years avail to cool
Love for the poor and fury at their wrongs.

Because thou madest manhood, answer yes—
Suffer me not to live to shame thy plan,
To traffic in the birthright of a man
As harlot to the pulpit or the press.

The day that I would turn from common men
To those accounted great and set in power,
Grantor of Death, though it should be this hour,
Let me be spared the shame to live till then.

FAIRHOPE INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION.

Organized and incorporated at Des Moines, Iowa, February, 1894.
Established Fairhope, Baldwin County, Alabama, January, 1895.

C. L. Coleman, Pres. A. H. Mershon, Vice Pres.
G. M. Bancroft, Treas. E. B. Gaston, Sec'y.

Fairhope Industrial Association was organized to MAKE GOOD THEORIES WORK. Its basic principle is the Law of Equal Freedom, "That every man has freedom to do all that he wills, provided he infringes not on the equal freedom of any other man." This law is applied by it:

IN GOVERNMENT, by personal vote, initiative, referendum and imperative mandate.

IN LAND HOLDING AND USE, by the principle of the Single Tax, the association holding the title to all lands and leasing to individuals in quantities to suit, at a rental "which shall equalize the varying advantages of location and natural qualities of all tracts." The association, out of the sum thus received, pays all taxes levied by the civil authorities on improvements and personal property held upon its lands, thus making the rent of land the only charge against individuals.

IN NATURAL MONOPOLIES—transportation, telephones, water, light, power. etc.—by association control and operation at cost, as fast as practicable.

IN A MEDIUM FOR EFFECTING LOCAL EXCHANGES, by the issuance of its non-interest-bearing notes for services rendered it, redeemable in equivalent services and land rent.

The above simple program has been in practical operation at Fairhope for more than three years, and its advantages are constantly becoming more apparent.

It should appeal to those who believe the path of progress does not necessarily lead to the substitution of a government trust for the multiple private trusts which in the enjoyment of special privileges have grown to be a national menace, but that freedom is a sovereign remedy for all our economic ills.

The association has a most beautiful, healthful and attractive location on the eastern shore of Mobile Bay, within sight of the important sea-coast city of Mobile, its lands having a frontage on the bay shore of about three fourths of a mile, and extending back—not wholly connected—three miles. They comprise 670 acres, owned free of incumbrancec; and a very favorable option is held on nearly 2500 acres more.

The land is especially adapted to truck and fruit growing for northern markets, as well as general farming and stock raising. The association owns its own wharf, 1800 feet long, at which the side-wheel steamer Heroine, plying daily between Mobile and this shore, lands on all trips. Fairhope has a post office having a daily mail and doing a money-order business.

There are twenty-three dwellings on the ground, a store, hotel, saw-mill, cigar factory, blacksmith shop, and a public hall, used also for school and church purposes.

The cost of membership in the association is $100, which may be paid in instalments; but membership, though desired, is not requisite to the occupancy of land and the enjoyment of the economic advantages afforded by the association.

Beautiful bay-view building lots and desirable lands for farming are open for settlement by desirable parties, with no financial requirement further than the payment of the annual rent based on the value of the unimproved land, all of which will be expended in the interest of those paying it.

Fairhope Association pays no dividends, interest or bonuses to any one, and bas but one salaried officer (receiving $10 a month). It was organized and exists solely to apply correct principles, for the benefit of those who participate and for a practical, visible example to the world. Its resources are all expended to that end; and to that end it invites the membership and moral and financial support of right-thinking men and women.

The following list of industries which would probably prove profitable at Fairhope is offered for the benefit of inquirers:

Truck farming, fruit growing, general farming, stock raising, poultry raising, nursery, cotton gin, rice huller, cane mill, cannery, ice factory, laundry, pottery bakery, brick-yard, tannery (using probably canaigre roots), water toboggan and other devices of like character for amusement of excursionists from Mobile and elsewhere, light manufacturing of almost any kind, mail order business &c.

For further particulars, address with stamp, E. B. Gaston, Secretary,
Fairhope, Alabama.

THE FAIRHOPE EXPERIMENT.

From J. H. Upton's Southwest Oregon Reporter.

About five years since, at Des Moines. Iowa, a number of advanced thinkers, including as active movers Ernest B. Gaston, S. S. Mann and J. Bellangee, put their heads together to evolve some plan whereby "good theories could be made to work." The gentlemen named and others, active co-adjutors, organized and incorporated "Fairhope Industrial Association" to move and be moved on single tax lines. The association sent forth a committee to select a site, which finally fixed upon a plateau east of and overlooking Mobile bay, in Baldwin county, Alabama. Here they secured a title to about one section of land on which to begin the experiment of making "good theories work." They founded a town, calling it "Fairhope"; have built a public hall, school house and a wharf, laid out and improved streets and avenues, and done all and singular the things necessary, and taken all the initial steps looking to the upbuilding of a model city and the founding of an industrial colony in that sunny south land, wherein individualism is fully recognized, wherein the fullest liberty of choice, of action and of pursuit is accorded to each member so long as he shall not infringe any right of any other member.

Fairhope Industrial Association is a veritable commonwealth in miniature: and the town of Fairhope is the only village in the world collecting the full annual rental value of its land for public purposes and exempting all other values from taxation, where land speculation is unknown, where public utilities are and will be administered for the public benefit, where the people can make and unmake laws and officers at will, where a medium for the payment of public dues is furnished directly to the people without interest or the intervention of banks, and where any reputable person can take his choice of lots or farm lands free of all charge or obligation, other than the payment of the annual rental value. There is nothing in all the aims, movements and purposes of this colony which in the slightest degree smacks of the Utopian. One confronts the cold, practical problems of existence there as elsewhere. No Aladdin's lamp, no Genii, no fairies.

All that will be required of each unit of the (to be) great community is that he be capable of divesting himself of the fallacy that it is necessary to his success in this world that he "own" the land he occupies. His "rental" title will be just as secure as all the parchment "deeds in fee simple" that would fill a furnace. Holding land out of use, for the purpose of individual speculation by reason of added value imparted to it by the labor and sacrifices of others, is a crime.

As conditions are, the world being "owned" by private proprietors, the only way by which the public can come to its own is by the application in a broad way of the Henry George single tax on rental values. Under such a scheme of raising revenues for public purposes, the farmers and mechanics and laborers of the country would practically escape the burdens of taxation, the chief sums being drawn from off high rentals in the large cities, all which now go into private pockets, leaving the farmers to pay eighty per cent of all taxes.

A neat, able, sprightly paper called the Fairhope Courier is published at Fairhope and sent to subscribers at twenty-five cents a year. Persons wishing to become more familiar with the progress, the plans and purposes of the colony corporation can take the Courier and also correspond with the secretary, E. B. Gaston, Fairhope, Alabama.

Fairhope is gaining an enviable reputation for the energy, intelligence and agreeableness of her people. This is going to be an important factor in her future growth. It is attracting and is going to attract a class of progressive, cultured and agreeable people; as like attracts like. Time was when people looked upon us largely as freaks; and there were enough freaks among us to partially justify the opinion. On further acquaintance with us however, they find us to be broad-minded, cultured, energetic people, tenacious of our opinions it is true, and eager to urge them wherever opportunity offers, but tolerant of the opinions of others, ready to concede the good intentions of all, willing to try our theories on ourselves and trust to the good results following to justify them; sociable, hospitable and public-spirited to a, to them, surprising degree. This is as it should be, and is due both to the kind of people most naturally attracted from the first by the principles and purposes of Fairhope, and to the wholesome atmosphere in which we live.

FAIRHOPE COURIER.

Devoted to the LAW of EQUAL FREEDOM—"Every man has freedom to do all that he wills, provided he infringes not the equal freedom of any other man"—and to the effort now being made to immediately apply that law to the fullest extent possible under existing conditions, by the Fairhope Industrial Association, at Fairhope, Alabama,

Its motto, and that of Fairhope Industrial Association, is, "We will make good theories work." And it denies the possibility of a "good theory" which is "not practical."

ERNEST B. GASTON, - - - EDITOR AND MANAGER.

Published at Fairhope, Alabama, on the first and fifteenth of each month.

Subscription Price to any address in the United States, Canada or Mexico 25 cents per annum. In other countries of the International Postal Union' 50c.

Entered at Fairhope Post Office as second class matter.

Due notice of expiration of subscriptions will be given, and unless otherwise requested, the Courier will be sent to subscribers until ordered discontinued.

SOME ERRORS REFUTED.

An esteemed friend in Fairhope remarked recently—as many have remarked before—"The theory is all right, but I don't see how you can apply it to any great advantage. The law is all against you." We admit the law is against us in one serious particular. It affords opportunity for private appropriation of "unearned increment", which too many of those who profess to believe it a great wrong are unable to resist. They don't believe in speculation in land theoretically; but while the opportunity offers, they propose to embrace it. This is the one point at which the existing law has most affected us. In all other respects, we insist, it does not materially affect the success of our experiment.

The law protects landlords in their ownership of land; and all over the world individual landlords are realizing vast sums for their private enrichment, after all the demands of the state have been satisfied. Our association is a landlord, collecting the rental values of its lands as all other landlords do, paying over the small percentage that state and county demand, as all other landlords, and retaining the difference. The law protects us thus far, as it does all landlords; and it presents no obstacle to our next step, the diffusion of the rental values among the people whose presence and industry give rise to them, instead of allowing their concentration in the pockets of a few forestallers.

Another erroneous idea which many of our visiting friends, and perhaps some residents, have, is that Fairhope would grow much faster if our lands could be purchased in the usual way. This we deny, and assert that all existing facts point exactly the other way. The one fact that Fairhope, though established and carried forward so far by poor men, has done far more in the way of development and permanent population than any of the cotemporaneous efforts at establishing settlements on the old plan of individual ownership and speculation—for the two go together—is ample vindication of the wisdom of our method from the standpoint of development.

But there is another violent assumption behind this statement, and that is that "development" in the sense of numbers and public improvements is a good thing. In that sense New York and Chicago have reached the most advanced stage of development; but under the great first cause by which "progress and poverty" inevitably go together; the concentration of human want and woe everywhere apparent in either, forbid a happy existence to the sensitive lover of his fellow men, no matter how fortunate his own condition may be.

Fairhope wants none of such development (?). Better, far better, a handful even of progressive people who want to deal justly and touch nothing but what they earn, than a million with unearned luxury for the tens and undeserved penury for the thousands.

Reform journals noticing Fairhope and the Courier will confer afavor which will be appreciated and reciprocated in kind if desirred.

REPLY TO J. T. R. GREEN

(Courier for Aug. 1).

Friend Green objects to our implication in the Courier of August first that he has no definite program of his own, and in a late letter says: "So you think I have no 'definite program of my own'. I don't see how any one reading my letter could fail to understand that I advocate service or competition as the one remedy for human ills, the only force in existence capable of maintaining justice or balance."

Still he presents no "definite program." We single-taxers believe in and advocate service—a service for a service—as the remedy for social ills; but we do not stop with the assertion of a naked principle, which is no more a "plan" than the statement of the lifting power of steam is a steam engine. We present the only natural and therefore simple and practical method by which the harmony of equivalent service can be secured. It is to secure each man in the possession of the fruits of his own exertions, that he may enforce of each who would share them an equivalent of his own product—service.

Friend Green gets the cart before the horse, when he says "service never results: *never*, NEVER, NEVER. Service is supreme—the first cause" etc. Service is the *result* of the great persistent *force* of human self-interest, under which "men seek to gratify their desires with the least exertion." A man hungers—physically or mentally, his stomach or his brain—and is immediately impelled to exert his powers to satisfy that hunger. It caused the first man to *serve* himself by picking the fruit of the trees and slaying the beast of the forest; and it has *caused* men wickedly or ignorantly to appropriate the earth, the source of the satisfaction of all material human wants, and thus compel others to serve them, without rendering an eqivalent in return: unequal service, resulting in want and woe. Some day, we hope and believe, the same law will be applied by those who are now compelled to render the unequal service—but with no disposition to exact unequal service in their turn—in opening this common heritage, this fount for the satisfaction of human wants, on equal terms to all. The single tax will do it, and is the only method ever proposed which will.

There are a few other of friend Green's dogmatic assertions which deserve a passing notice. One is, "The state nor our relations to the soil are fundamental." What is fundamental? at the foundation. What is the foundation of human existence? food. What is at the foundation of food? soil. Isn't our relation to the soil therefore "fundamental"—at the foundation of the problem of human life and happiness? Of course it is.

Another: "Rent is easily subject to service, and may be wiped out....Rent can be wiped out" &c. Rent is service; and what is more, it is equivalent service. It is—true rent is—the equivalent fixed by competition of the service enjoyed by the holder of land from his fellow men. The great trouble is that the rent-payer renders his rent-service to the wrong party. And that is what the single tax is designed to correct. Rent can be destroyed only by destroying civilization and the race, or by denying all individual right to the use of the earth.

Another is: "You will never succeed in founding a moral state on an immoral basis, coercion...Service (love) alone is competent to produce what you seek." This brings us back about to the point we started in with friend Green. Love's the thing? Of course it is; but people won't love. Love has been making a losing fight against selfishness for all the thousands of years since Adam; and mighty few people have yet got beyond the "me and my wife, my son John and his wife, us four and no more" stage of development. There is no use of prating about coercion. Coercion is and has always been the great, big, practical, dominant fact of human existence. It is as fundamental to human society as food is to the human body. Remove the coercion now exercised, and the strong, fierce and brutal will coerce the weak, unless they combine to in turn coerce the fewer strong. Coercion cannot be escaped. He who would do wrong must and ought to be coerced; but who is to determine who is wrong and who is right? No way has yet been pointed out—nor can be—safer than the rule of the majority. The majority may and will do wrong—and the wrong will not become right because a majority favor it; but it must either be the rule of the majority, or it will be the rule of the minority.

The war is over and the United States face to face with the problem of what to do with Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines. We have no great amount of confidence in the disposition of the administration to deal with these problems from the standpoint of the right and welfare of the peoples thrown within our power by the fortunes of war, for that is apparently the last consideration in the administration of our own affairs; but we have considerable faith that congress will enforce the purpose solemnly declared at the beginning of the war, to give the "people of Cuba a free and independent government of their own." And we have faith enough in the American people to believe that ultimately great good will accrue to all who come wholly or partially under our authority. It is likely that our people, with that strange farsightedness which makes the suffering of Armenians or Cubans so much more dreadful than that of our own reconcentrados locked out of mines and facrories and starving in our city slums, will give far more attention during the next few years to the question of Cuban, Porto Rican or Philippine administraton than to our own; but this may not be an unmixed evil. The problems there will be essentially the same as here: and we should not be surprised if the knowledge gained in discussing principles and policies to be applied at a distance will be applied at home, with the result that we ourselves shall really be farther along at the end of the next five or ten years than if our attention had been concentrated on our own affairs—that in striving to bless others we shall be blessed ourselves.

The ladies of Fairhope seem to have become fully aroused to the importance of better school facilities for the rising generation of Fairhopers. Elsewhere appears notice of a box social, which the Woman's Suffrage Club will conduct on the evening of the twenty-sixth for the benefit of the school fund. Bills are out also, announcing a "prize cake recital", which will be given, for the same purpose, at the Fairhope House, on the evening of Aug. 18., under the management of the ladies of the Fairhope W. C. T. U. A prize cake furnished by one of the ladies, will be voted by the audience to the best reciter; none but heads of families being allowed to participate.

Our honored president, has returned from his northern tour and received a hearty welcome back We have not had time to apply our reportorial pump and extract the impressions of matters and things in the world at large, as formed during his trip; but will do so and give readers of the Courier the benefit. On his return he spent several days with our socialist colony friends at Ruskin, Tenn. and has promised a full report at a meeting, which will be held tomorrow for the purpose.

We have secured a tenant for the George Knowles cottage so kindly placed at our disposal, in the person of Mr. J. W. Kelly, baseballist of Mobile, who will occupy it with his family until October first. We have not done as well with it as we had hoped, but have a snug litfle $14 as a starter toward fitting our school-room up with much needed appurtenances.

CROP REPORT FROM H. C. OSWALT.

Neighbor H. C. Oswalt makes us the following report on his watermelon crop this year.

12 acres to melons.

Fertilizers used.....	$85.00
Seed "	11.00
	$96.00
Sold melons, net.....	$476.30

Have one boat load gone to New Orleans: expect sales to amount to $40 or $50, net.

Patch full of melons yet, on which I have turned horses, cows, hog and chickens; for all of which they make excellent feed.

This is not a large return for the acreage, yet we submit that it demonstrates that a living can be made from the soil here; and we would like to inquire what crop could have been raised on twelve acres in Iowa or Illinois with the same amount of labor, and bring as good a net return.

CHEAPEST EXCURSION RATES ON RECORD TO ST. LOUIS, MO. CHCAGO, ILL. LOUISVILLE, KY. AND CINCINNATI, OHIO.

On August 20th, 1898, the Mobile & Ohio R. R. will sell tickets from Mobile to St. Louis and return at $10, to Chicago and return at $12, to Louisville and return at $10, and to Cincinnati and return at $11.30. Tickets good on trains leaving Mobile at 8:45 A. M. and 7:30 P. M. or special trains. Good returning on any regular train within 17 days after date of sale. For tickets and sleeping car reservations from Mobile, or any other particulars, apply to G. W. King, Ticket Agent, or J. N. Comatzar, Traveling Passenger Agent, Mobile, Ala.

PERSONAL AND LOCAL NOTES.

Fishing has been fine lately.

Mr. Walter Scott has entered the government employ as a mechanic at Fort Morgan.

Mrs. Andy Cullen, whose illness we reported in last Courier is, we are glad to say, almost recovered.

We have had a few peaches this year off of our Elberta trees, and pronounce them the finest peaches we ever ate.

Radix the Radical republished in his "corner" of the Toronto Sunday World of July 31 ourr ecent editorial on "How we apply the single tax."

Mrs. J. A. Woods contemplates a trip to Des Moines on the cheap excursion leaving the 20th, and may go to the Omaha Exposition before returning.

Rev. B. F. Rhodes, after a visit of several weeks with his parents and brothers near Fairhope, has returned to Kansas. Mr. Andrew Rhodes accompanied him.

Ernst Ebel remits a twenty-five-cent "Fairhope greenback" (wharf certificate) for renewal of his subscription. Thanks: Fairhope greenbacks are at par at the Courier office.

Every first Monday evening of each month is now given over to a general citizens' meeting in lieu of the regular council meeting. It is hoped that this will result in a more direct interest in the affairs of the community on the part of the citizens generally.

The Globe Tobacco Works of Detroit have decided to introduce a "Single Tax" brand of smoking and chewing tobacco. We are "agin" the use of tobacco personally; but if you must use it, use Single Tax tobacco and smoke Andy Cullen's Fairhope cigars.

We had a pleasant call on a recent Sunday from Mr. N. M. Allen who visited us about a year ago, and who has since been in the vicinity of Vinegar Bend and Yellow Pine. Mr. Allen is deeply interested in Fairhope, and may make this his home at no distant date.

The Courier print is not bad we think; but it will be a good deal better when we get a new set of rollers, cast with composition to suit this climate. Our present rollers are too soft; and if we have our ink a little stiff or the day is hot or we try to run a little too fast, they make us trouble.

Frances, the little nine year old daughter of the editor, while watching the press run, on which the Courier is printed, accidentally thrust her fore-finger of the right hand between the cog-wheels which took it off up to the second joint, before the machinery could be stopped.

Herman Stemerdink has gone to Fort Morgan ,o work on the government works there. A few months cash work will come in very acceptably to Herman, but we hate very much to spare him even for a short time He and his big guitar will be especially missed from our social and musical circles.

Miss Altona Chapman is now spending all her time on the western shore, where her music classes and pupils are occupying her time quite fully. Before leaving however, she got a small building put up on her lot on Magnolia Avenue, which Mr. Fred occupies, and to which she expects to return as her home.

Something of the standing of Fairhope in this section may be judged by the Mobile houses advertising in our columns. They are of the very best in their lines, and by their patronage make it possible for us to publish the paper. Remember this when trading in Mobile, and always give the preference to those there who help support your paper.

Those who have eaten at Mrs. Quattlebaum's restaurant, the Star (advertised in this paper), express great satisfaction with the excellent meals she gives for 15c. There are other 15c. restaurants in Mobile, some of which might be expected to advertise in the Courier, but have not done so; and we trust our friends will all patronize Mrs. Quattlebaum.

Professor DeByford McCanon, an old Des Moines friend of the editor's and the Mershon families, now living at Deer Park, was a visitor in Fairhope from Saturday evening till Sunday afternoon. The professor is a splendid singer, and also a composer of popular songs. While here he favored some of his friends with the rendition of several of his compositions, one of the most appreciated of which was his latest, "Off to remember the Maine", a sentimental song of great beauty. Copies can be secured by addressing the author at his home, Deer Park, Ala., for 25 cents.

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENTS.

R. Reichl of Philadelphia forwarding the subscription of a friend says: "He is a friend of mine, and I want to get him interested in Fairhope colony, therefore make him a present of the Courier. [An excellent example for others to follow.] I am no Single Taxer: nevertheless I am interested in Fairhope, where I intend to land when my affairs are all in shape; and if there I find that the theory put into practice works all right, I shall join the membership. I do not intend to come like many of those poor strugglers with very little or nothing to back up their plans, but want to have a few hundred dollars clear income a year, besides a nice little place. I think a working man, as I have always been, ought to get along with about $300 yearly. [Can do it finely here. Edr] I find the Courier very interesting. Trying to get as much information out of it as possible concerning the climate, products, social conditions, health, pleasure etc. in Fairhope."

From Andrew Carlson, New York city.

Your answer of the 19th last at hand, also received the copies of the Fairhope Courier, for which much thanks. I have read them over time and again and thought the matter over, and will say this: I am delighted with the idea set forth in the Fairhope Constitution, and together with the ideal location its future is bright, and is bound to be a success. It is just the thing I have been longing and looking for a long while, and it did not take me long to make up my mind. I have already decided to make Fairhope my future home.

My intention now is to go down to Fairhope this fall and get a ten-acre lot and build myself a house and get the ground in shape for spring planting. I am a carpenter, and feel confident if I get any time to spare I can get some work in my trade.

Inclosed please find a money order, for which please send the Fairhope Courier.

From Marcus D. Tenney, Chandler, Oklahoma.

I saw in the New Time a notice of your single-tax colony, and I have a strong desire to know more about it; hence I write. I have for some time been seeking a place on or near the Gulf coast for health reasons, and at first thought this seems to meet the case. If you have printed rules and conditions, you might favor me with the use of same. I am quite an old man, seventy-two; and my wife is near seventy. I am drawing pension from the government, and besides could command a few hundred dollars. I am an independent minister of decided liberal tendencies; but I seek only climate, health, a right to live and think for myself. I was a great admirer of Henry George.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

The Baldwin County Woman's Suffrage Society meets the third Saturday, at 2 P.M., of each month, in Assembly Hall at Fairhope Ala. All who are interested are cordially invited to come and join us: especially the ladies are invited.

Mrs. J. A. Woods, President. Mrs. F. L. Brown, Secretary.
Mrs. O. A. Webb, Vice Pres. Mrs. S. H. Leech, Treasurer.

Religious services are held regularly at Fairhope every Sunday, as follows:

Sunday school	at	9:45 A. M.
Church service	"	11 A. M.
Christian Endeavor	"	7:30 P. M.

The Fairhope W. C. T. U. meets the second and fourth Thursday of each month at 3:30 P. M. with Mrs. Leech.

Mrs. Nella Leech, President.
Mrs. H. N. Brown, Secretary.

Mr. E. Q. Norton will deliver a lecture at the Association Hall, next Sunday, the 21, at 2:30 P. M. Subject: What preparation is needed in this world to prepare one for happiness in a future state of existence?

YELLOW FEVER.

We call the attention of friends who have been alarmed lest the yellow fever having made its appearance last year after so long an absence should ravage the coast country for a period of years, to the fact that at this late date in the season the fever has only shown itself at one point in the whole south, where it was promptly met, confined and stamped out, without, we believe, a single fatality. The fact is that yellow fever, while a terrible and to be dreaded disease, is not nearly so much to be dreaded as diphtheria, scarlet fever and typhoid fever, which are epidemic in many parts of the north every year, and are very much less prevalent here. Don't let fear of yellow fever keep you away from the Gulf coast.

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Fairhope Ala.

THE ALTRUIST
Is a monthly paper, partly in phonetic spelling, and devoted to equal rights, mutual assistance, united labor, and common property. It is issued by the Altruist Community, of St. Louis, whose members hold all their property in common, live and work together in a permanent home for their mutual enjoyment, assistance and support, and both men and women have equal rights and decide on all its business affairs by their majority vote. 25c. a year: specimen copy free. A. LONGLEY, Editor, 2819 Olive street, St. Louis, Mo. (Adv.)

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PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION.

(Contributed by a Single Taxer)

REFORM IN NOMINATIONS—PARTY SPLITS—THE QUOTA IDEA—HOW CAN IT BE DONE?

A vital feature of any system of popular representation is the nominating or choosing of the persons who are to be candidates for election; because if the people cannot freely nominate or select suitable men for candidates, they certainly cannot elect suitable men. One of the worst features of our present system is that it restricts the electors in their choice of candidates. In most cases, no one has a chance of election, unless he is chosen by a Republican or Democratic convention. There is usually one Republican and one Democrat put up in each constituency. Neither of them may be acceptable to a large proportion of the electors, but it is Hobson's choice: these electors must either vote for the man they do not want, or stay at home; and too often they do stay at home.

Under proportional representation there would be such freedom of nomination that any group of voters strong enough in numbers to entitle them to representation would be able to get the very man they wanted. Under the Hare-Spence, or the Swiss, or the Gove system, if this group of voters were to disagree among themselves as to the best man for their representative, they could nominate two men without fear of splitting their vote and thereby losing their representative. Study of the systems will show how this works.

We submit then to you that the only fair and honest method of representation is that method which will represent all important phases of public opinion in proportion to the number of voters holding these opinions. Let us illustrate this principle. Here are a thousand men who have important business to be transacted. They propose to elect a committee of ten persons to do their business. On what principles should these ten persons be elected? Evidently each one of the thousand has a right to be represented by the person of his choice, providing he does not interfere with the equal right of any other man to be similarly represented; but as there are only ten on the committee, and as there are a thousand men to be represented, it is evident that before you can be represented by the person of your choice, you must get about ninety-nine of the other men to agree with you in the choice of a representative. Then if one hundred of you, that is, one tenth of the voters, agree together on a representative, you are entitled to that representative, and the other nine hundred have no right to mar your choice. The same thing applies to every other one hundred voters who can agree together on a representative.

In brief, this is the plan: divide the number of voters by the number of representatives to be elected, and you thereby get the number of voters who are entitled to one representative. For instance, in a district containing 28 000 voters and returning seven members, 4000 votes are necessary to elect one representative; and these 4000 votes are what is called a "quota". We may therefore call Proportional Representation the quota system.

Then the practical question is, how to carry out this principle so that the voters may combine and give a quota of votes to each elected candidate, and no more. How will they know when a candidate has got a quota, so they need not throw away any more votes on him after he has received enough to elect him? How will they know when a candidate has so few supporters that he cannot get a quota, and therefore cannot be elected? And what should be done when votes are scattered amongst a dozen candidates for the seven seats? The solution of these questions is found in the various plans of Proportional Representation, such as the Hare-Spence system, the Gove plan and the Swiss Free List.

R. T. S. T.

FRUIT GROWERS' MEETING.

The Baldwin County Fruit, Flower & Vegetable Growers' Association held its regular monthly meeting on Saturday the 6th, at the home of Mr and Mrsr A. J. Grove, on Fish River at Marlow. Despite the rain there were fully fifty people present, and an interesting meeting was held. Visitors were shown over Mr. Grove's grounds and fields, and were well pleased with all they saw, especially with the fine tobacco plants, from which some leaves had already been cut, and the rest of the plants are now ready for gathering.

Interesting talks were given by members upon crops and methods of cultivation; and it was voted that short talks upon grape and melon culture and marketing be requested from Dr. Atkinson and Mess. A. Swift, H. C. Oswalt and E. Q. Norton at the next meeting, which will be held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. E. Q. Norton. "Pine Acres", two miles east of Daphne, the first Saturday in September, at 10:30 A. M. Should the first Saturday in September be stormy, as the weather prophets now indicate, the meeting will be held on the second Saturday. All persons interested in agricultural and kindred pursuits are invited to be present and enjoy the meeting of the association, which has for its object the upbuilding of the best interests of all citizens of the county.

A full attendance of Directors and members is requested, as the annual election of officers will take place. Bring individual lunches. Lady members coming to Daphne on morning boat will be conveyed to place of meeting.

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E. L. Russell First Vice President.

FAIRHOPE TRANSPORTATION LINE.

Remember that the staunch Schooner "Minnie L." of Fairhope, Capt. G. A. R. Lawrence, makes regular trips twice a week (oftener if neccessary) between Fairhope and Mobile, handling all kinds of freight either way with security and dispatch. Will touch at all points along the eastern shore where business demands.

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DEFENDS THE SINGLE TAX.

Editor Fairhope Courier:

Dear Sir and Bro. I think I understand comrade James T. R. Green's theory, which regards the union of order with the absence of all direct government of man by man as the political ideal, though he does not in so many words state it. I am strongly in sympathy with his implied theory as the only *ultimate* truth that a thinker can *logically* and *philosophically* arrive at, barring his objections to the single tax, on the way to the goal or ultimate social condition. I like to see the high ideal of perfect individual freedom held up prominently before the people, along with means or steps or stations to its attainment. If I am a hundred miles from home with no conveyance but "Shank's horse", I would prefer the solid earth upon which to ply my pedals, and a station or two on the way, where I could eat and sleep; much as I would prefer my own table and couch at home.

I know it is usually more expedient and easier to teach a whole truth than a half truth, and that half truths are often the greatest lies; but some half truths are helps to the whole. A man in his evolution is an epitome of the race. He first learns to crawl, before he can walk or climb. He thinks the sun rises and that the earth is flat, before he learns of its rotundity and revolution. The child is purely egoistic, then loves its mother, its father, then its brothers; before its altruism extends to the race. Man is in his negative, undeveloped, ignorant stage in evolution. His sense of justice has been warped by his environment, and little appeal has been made to his altruistic sentiment. I think the so-called single-tax theory appeals to a broader sense of justice, and less to deception, than our present crooked system of collecting wealth for governmental purposes. It would be a good discipline in mutualism or communal co-operation, for the justness of it would be so superior to any previous conception of justice that the economic rent would be paid with willing alacrity.

I think friend Green overlooks the fact that single-taxers argue *not* from the necessity for *governmental* support, but that the *value* of land is communal and exists *only* in and by a community, and *therefore* belongs to community, whether needed for government or not. Government is left out of consideration by single-taxers, except perhaps the collection of it, which would soon become voluntary. There could certainly be no kick against it as there is against taxes. The absence of coercive government implies a heaven on earth, which we cannot have at once, though I believe in holding up the heavenly ideal. The single tax can be sooner attained; and it would greatly relieve the present poverty and distress of the race, which is imperatively needed. The single tax needs only to be preeented to the people to be accepted. No answer can be made to their demands from the almost universal standpoint of justice. To abolish government, however profound the philosophical argument for it, would for a long time be opposed from an expediency standpoint. It will take a long time to convince people that "whatever is right is expedient."

Let us work along "the line of the least resistance and greatest attraction", which at present is for the single tax; The single tax is not state socialism. It recognizes and insists on the individual ownership by the producer of what he produces, as against the world. It would therefore abolish taxes and take the value of land produced by *all* for *all*. Yours for single tax and ultimate freedom,

Hindsboro, Ill. J. C. Barnes.

Last week was one of heavy storms. It rained almost constantly and gale succeeded gale. At such times, unless he is at home, our thoughts often turn to Captain Lawrence and we are never quite at ease until he and the "Minnie L." are safe in port again. During last weeks storms the Captain was obliged to run into harbor, above Daphne and remain there some days. No damage was sustained by the schooner however.

FOR SALE,

Half interest in a complete saw-mill. Mill 80 horse-power. Finest boiler and engine made. Planer, shingle saw and everything complete. Best well of water in the county. Excellent opportunity to put in other paying machinery. A chance of a life-time for some good man.

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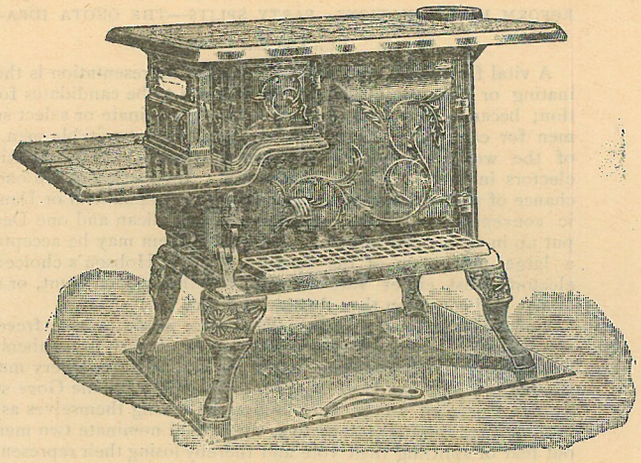

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FAIRHOPE COURIER.

That which Nature provides is the Common Property of all God's Children; that which the Individual creates belongs to the Individual; that which the Community creates belongs to the Community.- GEN. J. B. WEAVER.

VOL. V. NO. 3. FAIRHOPE, ALA., SEPT. 1, 1898. 25 CENTS A YEAR.

"SUMMER DAYS IN THE GULF LAND."

From an article under the above title by Rev. Isaiah Reid in the Christian Witness, of Chicago and Boston, we extract the following:

As far as good climate, and retreat from the cold of the north is concerned, and so far as opportunity coupled with desire for having a home of one's own is concerned, there is no reason for not saying there are few such chances in all the territory of Uncle Sam. I think this conviction lies heavy on every one who takes pains to make a personal investigation. The facts speak for themselves, and thousands are taking advantage of the situation.

If you ask, why do not more people go? then the reasons must be looked for in another direction. It is not always in the country or the climate. As a rule, northern people live in thickly settled neighborhoods, if they are not in villages and towns. Their society privileges are dear to them. Nice homes, churches, school-houses, living where they can see people, and being in touch with the thronging world, are attendant circumstantial matters which figure more with some than price or richness of land, or the size of farms. To come south, as the ordinary country is now situated, is practically for a while to go into the wilds. Though the health would be good, and the chance to "grow up with the country" all fair enough, and the abundant opportunity to grow all one wanted in the way of fruit and shade, and perfect a fine, beautiful country home, were all unequaled; yet the segregation and the loneliness of the family while all this was doing, with thousands more than offset all these things.

I think the best plan is for families to come in companies and buy a large block of land and settle up a neighborhood of their own. They will bring their society with them, and like our forefathers soon make the school and the church. They will think alike, and have common interests, and can be much more at home than if locating here and there alone. There is a natural charm about doing such a thing. A few years will bring wonderful improvements where things grow the larger part of the year, and where the winter garden is almost equal to if not more so than the summer garden. I am satisfied that thousands of people in the north who want homes of their own can have them here, and be pleased and happy in so doing, if they will but consent to meet the unpleasantness of the first few years. I see many who have done so. While many who suffered north with the rigor of the climate could not be persuaded to return and lose this land of pure climatic delight.

Many ask me if it is not so hot in the south in the summer that a northern man could not live there. The sun is hot, but in shade it is seldom anything but cool. The nights are generally quite cool as compared with summer nights in Iowa. Besides there is not the humidity pressure we have in the upper Mississippi valley. The heat effect seems to lie mainly in its long run, rather than in its intensity. North we have a few excessively warm days and then a cooler wave for a short time, so that our heated term is of shorter duration, but worse while it lasts. On the Gulf the thermometer will not ordinarily rise so high, but does not drop to lower measures so often. But the cool of the noonday shade and fresh, delightful temperature of the night make one feel like he is just where he wants to be.

It was ours while resting for a time at Bayview, near Fairhope, Alabama, to enjoy eating from the trees and vines, peaches, pears, plums, figs, pomegranates and grapes. Strawberries, dewberries, the earlier grapes and plums had all had their day for this season before I reached there. Watermelons were largely harvested. New sweet potatoes were just coming in. The crop of scuppernong grapes is very large this year. On Mr. Davis' farm Japan persimmon trees had a nice crop, already as large as ordinary apples. This fine new fruit promises to prove a great accession to the fruit product of this region. The fields showed fine crops of cotton, corn, cane, rice, sweet potatoes, ground peas, cow peas and velvet beans, together with the hay grass products of the country. There is no chance to starve in this country, if one is able to work and wants to. It is a land of plenty to all who want to have plenty.

All this Gulf region is a paradise for people who desire to flee from the cold of the north ...For a quiet, delightful resting place, go across the bay on the east side, to some of the hotels, or to some private home where the way is open, or rent a cottage and keep house for yourself; where it is a benediction to breathe the pure air, and drink the pure soft water, and live outdoors in January, or on some evening a "norther" is on, sit by the fireplace and watch the pine knots burn.

The Courier has had quite a run of job work lately, which with getting out the paper twice a month has kept our small force busy.

PERSONAL AND LOCAL NOTES.

Andy Cullen is exchanging cigars for baking powder with the Atlanta Baking Powder Co., a firm of "co-operators."

Miss Anna D. Brown, delivered two addresses at Daphne on Sunday last, filling the appointments of Rev. Stewart, the Presbyterian miuister, who was called away.

Mrs. M. E. Mead, who spent the winter two years ago in Fairhope, expects to be here again in September. She will be accompanied by her sister, and they will likely purchase a property here.

Mr. W. G. Creswell, who spent several months here and then returned to his former home in Illinois, is quite desirous of returning to Fairhope. The cold winters of Illinois are not at all to his liking, after sampling the so-called winters of Alabama.

Mess. C. K. Brown and S. Howard Leech have treated their cottages on Fairhope Avenue to new coats of paint, greatly improving their appearance. Mr. Leech has also recently added a verandah, or "gallery" as we call it here, to his cottage.

Rev. Eugene R. Clarkson excused himself from one of his appointments here and left on the excursion of the 20th for Lexington Ky., where we understand, he was, a few days later, united in marriage to one of Kentucky's fair daughters. We extend congratulations.

Mrs. E. B. Gaston will leave in a day or two for Iowa, to visit friends and relatives there and bring back her mother, Mrs. Leah Mershon, who has been in Iowa for more than a year past, but is in quite poor health and quite anxious to get back to Alabama before another winter sets in.

Noting P. A. Parker's well known handwriting on an envelope recently received, we hoped for some news as to when we might expect him at Fairhope, but were disappointed to find that it contained only a list of subscribers with a dollar to pay for same. We survived the disappointment, and could stand several more of the same kind.

The Prize Cake Recital at the Fairhope House on the evening of the 18th was a great success. The contestants all acquitted themselves very creditably. The first and second prizes were taken by Mrs. Nella Leech and Mrs. Minnie Brown respectively, but the audience was kindly allowed to participate in the enjoyment of them. The neat sum of $5.35 was received for the school fund.

Our genial friend, W. K. Smith of Chicago, thanks us for reminding him of the expiration of his subscription and further says, "Since the visit we made to Fairhope, the Courir is a very welcome visitor. Mrs. Smith and Jessie are spending the summer at St. Clair, Mich., and I leave to-night to spend a few days with them. In case Jessie should develop any tendency to a bad cold next winter, she will be promptly bundled off to Fairhope.

T. Kimball writes from New Cadiz, Florida, "I think you have struck the right thing for the people. I believe in co-operation on certain lines; but as your colony does everything to help individual effort, I think it more likely to prosper than where a colony divides everything equally. I like your location very much. Being a native of the south (New Orleans) and living here for the past twenty-four years, a cold climate would not suit me."

The last word from Mr. Bellangee was to the effect that "it now looks likely that Mr. Call and myself will get to Fairhope, bag and baggage, this fall; but we can hardly come until after election." We have long wished for Mr. Bellangee's help here as a resident colonist, but his coming has been hedged about with so many difficulties that we will not count upon him until we are advised that the positive date for his departure has been set.

(Continued on third page.)

FAIRHOPE COURIER.

Devoted to the LAW of EQUAL FREEDOM—"Every man has freedom to do all that he wills, provided he infringes not the equal freedom of any other man"—and to the effort now being made to immediately apply that law to the fullest extent possible under existing conditions, by the Fairhope Industrial Association, at Fairhope, Alabama.

Its motto, and that of Fairhope Industrial Association, is, "We will make good theories work." And it denies the possibility of a "good theory" which is "not practical."

ERNEST B. GASTON, - - - EDITOR AND MANAGER.

Published at Fairhope, Alabama, on the first and fifteenth of each month.

Subscription Price to any address in the United States, Canada or Mexico 25 cents per annum. In other countries of the International Postal Union' 50c.

Entered at Fairhope Post Office as second class matter.

Due notice of expiration of subscriptions will be given, and unless otherwise requested, the Courier will be sent to subscribers until ordered discontinued.

The Courier office is now well equipped for doing all kinds of ordinary commercial printing.

Equality colony is agitating for a steamboat to ply on Puget Sound. It is one of our day dreams to have one on Mobile bay, commanded by Captain Lawrence and with an entire crew of Fairhopers.

Citizen and Country is a new exchange and a new paper from Toronto, Canada, "a journal of social, moral and economic reform." It is exceptionally well edited, both in its original and selected matter; and we trust it may be sustained as well as its excellence deserves.

"Three months summer, six months winter and three months late in the fall" is the way some one characterized the climate in the latitude of Iowa, Minnesota and the Dakotas; and it was quite correct. In Alabama it might be put, six months summer and six months early in the fall; for we have no winter here.

Rev. Herbert N. Casson, late of the Labor church, Lynn, Massachusetts, and a very able and enthusiastic advocate of socialism, will remove to Ruskin, Tennessee, and take editorial charge of the Coming Nation, vice A. S. Edwards, who is now editor of the Social Democratic Herald of Chicago; the latter being the organ of the new Socialist party which split off from the Social Democracy at the late convention.

A GOOD THEORY THAT WORKS.

We assert without fear of successful contradiction that no community can be found in the United States in which a better feeling prevails between the members and their administrative officers, or among them as individuals, than in Fairhope; and we contend that this is a vindication of the correctness of the principles upon which we are organized. It has not always been so. Time was when we had friction and contention in abundance and to spare, but they were easily traceable to a lack of acquaintance of the members with each other and with the rules under which they were associated. Since that pioneer time, the tendency has been constantly toward greater harmony and mutual confidence. We do not see how it could be otherwise. Our plans are so simple, leaving the individuals so absolutely free in the conduct of their individual affairs, and so jointly supreme over all necessarily public affairs, that there is no excuse for anything but harmony. Occasionally of course, a stubborn individual may refuse to abide good-humoredly by the will of a majority—such people will occasionally turn up everywhere; but there are no factions in Fairhope, no "ins" determined to hold place and power, no "outs" determined to get in to exercise authority in their turn. The holding of office, instead of conferring authority and emolument, implies service and sacrifice; and every officer is at all times subject to direction or displacement by his fellow members. Knowing this, officers are not likely to do or attempt to do anything not fully approved by public sentiment, and members are much more disposed to tolerate and excuse delinquencies not vicious in their character. The "theory is all right", and it "works" well.

AN "UNSCIENTIFIC" REMEDY.

In a late issue of the Social Democratic Herald—whose editor, by the way, is A. S. Edwards, late of Ruskin colony—Victor Berger in a long article condemns the effort to demonstrate the virtues of socialism in and through colonies, as "unscientific" and foredoomed to failure. He declares that no country even—with the possible exception of the United States—could alone successfully inaugurate the socialistic regime, but that to be successful, it must be universal. This is not very encouraging to those who are looking for relief through socialism; and if true, we think Mr. Berger must be advocating a very "unscientific" remedy.

The reason assigned by Mr. Berger why socialism cannot succeed on anything less than a universal scale, is that its workers cannot compete with capitalistic-directed labor and with the trusts, many of which are world-wide in their scope.

This is a virtual admission that socialistic methods of production are not as effective as individualistic. Individuals do succeed now in relatively few but absolutely many cases, in competition with corporations and even with trusts; and where individuals can succeed, single-handed co-operating communities ought to succeed—if there are the advantages and economies in socialism claimed for it. The fact is that while limited co-operation on certain lines has many times been proven a great success, the advantages claimed for its application to all the interests and activities of a community have never yet materialized. And the trouble has not been due to competition with the outside world, but to the inability to secure the happiness and contentment of the participants inside.

It has been time and again demonstrated to be impossible to get people to work together in harmony under a system which makes public business of all the private interests of all the members of a community. The friction engendered, manifesting itself in misunderstandings, bickerings, jealousy and contention, will eventually discourage and drive out even the most unselfish and devoted.

The inevitable manifestation of such destructive friction should be ample demonstration of the unscientific character of the remedy. The true remedy lies, we believe, in the abolition of monopoly—of special privileges of every character—and then leaving individuals free to work out their own economic salvation.

MRS. HOWLAND TO COME.

Mrs. Marie Howland has determined to come to Fairhope, and as an earnest of her intention has forwarded a sum of money to be used in buying a piece of improved property or improving one, as she may decide later. She does not expect to come to remain permanently until about January first, but may make us a brief visit earlier. We believe that Mrs. Howland will prove a great addition to Fairhope, and are greatly pleased that she has decided to make her home among us. She is a woman of broad culture, an author of deserved reputation, a thinker and worker along reform lines for many years, an accomplished linguist and a musician—something all will be glad to hear She has a library of nearly two thousand volumes, comprising the Howland and Lovell collections as assembled at the Topolobampo colony; which she expects to bring with her and devote to the use and enjoyment of the community, and if all proves satisfactory, to make us a permanent bequest of it. As those familiar with the late Credit Foncier company of Topolobampo will remember, Mrs. Howland was one of the most ardent workers in that enterprise, which was organized by A. K. Owen, on his plans of "Integral Co-operation." She was for five years a resident colonist there, and for most if not all of the time edited the colony paper. She has since become a single-taxer, and thoroughly approves our Fairhope plan with its full measure of liberty to the individual.

Reform journals noticing Fairhope and the Courier will confer a favor which will be appreciated and reciprocated in kind if desired.

[continued from first page.]

Captain C. E, Nichols and family are back in Fairhope again for a time.

President Coleman thinks it likely that some of our Ruskin friends may return his friendly call, and visit Fairhope this winter.

J. C. Wallace of Guthrie, Kentucky, who was for two years a Ruskin colonist, writes that he hopes to be able to visit us this winter.

E. B. Swinney of New York renews his subscription to the Courier with "best wishes for the success of the colony and the Courier."

Gaptain Silas Lawrence is again at home on the beach at Fairhope, where he has put him up a comfortable board shelter within sight and sound of the salt sea waves.

A. H. Andrews has received word of the death, in Jamaica, West Indies, of his youngest sister, Sarah, who was connected with the Friends' mission to that Island.

Mrs. Woods and Mr. A. Swift left on the Mobile & Ohio excursion of the 20th, to look after business matters at Des Moines. Mrs. Prather and family also left on the same date to join Mr. Prather in St. Louis.

J. W. Rose of Helena, Montana, who thought he had effected a sale of his property there and would soon be seen at Fairhope, writes that "sale is laid off indefinitely", but enclosed 50 cents to renew his subscription to the Courier.

Scuppernong grapes are ripe again, and they are out of sight within a short time after they get within the editor's range. They are a product peculiar to this southern country, are unlike anything else we know of, delicious and wonderfully productive.

We are indebted to the Coming Nation, the well edited and widely circulated paper published by our friends of the socialist colony at Ruskin, Tennessee, for a good mention of Fairhope which has brought us many inquiries for sample copies and further information.

Herman Stemerdink was home from Fort Morgan over last Sunday, visiting his friends and making further arrangements about the care of his farm. Being a thoroughly steady and capable man, Herman has secured a position at $2 a day, with prospects of an early raise, and work for several months, which he feels like he must take advantage of.

No positive arrangements have been made for our school this winter; and the council would be glad to consider propositions from any of our friends who feel competent to take charge and would be glad to do so at a small salary, to help along the good cause and profit by our genial climate, of which no doubt many competent teachers in the north stand greatly in need.

On next Monday evening, being the first Monday evening in the month, will occur the regular monthly citizens' meeting, in lieu of the usual weekly council meeting; though the council will likely also hold a short session. The most important business before the meeting will probably be the election of a Superintendent of Public Services, to serve the remainder of the corporation year.

Mrs. Dr. Rufus H. Bartlett and daughter returned to their home in Chicago on the twenty-fourth, after a six weeks' stay here, during which they made many friends and were much improved in health. Mrs. Bartlett, like her husband, thought Fairhope an ideal location for a sanitarium; and if they decide to establish one in the south, it will most likely be here.

The Fairhope House was quite well filled during August Among the guests were Mrs J. B. Driver, daughter and son and Mr. Driver, who visited them occasionally; Mrs. Dr. J. F. Harrison and daughter Mrs. C. C. Thompson and grandaughter, Marion Wells; Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Moore; Mrs. E. G. Crane, daughters and son and Miss. Estelle Turner, all of Mobile; N. A. Kingsley of Rochester, N. Y. and Dr. Babendreier, of Cincinnati.

Our old friend and reform co-worker in Iowa, "uncle" John Youngerman, talks of coming to Fairhope for a visit this winter. We sincerely trust he will do so, and have suggested that he get up a party of his and our old friends there and come down and rent a house or build a "shack" and spend a few weeks if not the whole winter with us. They could have a royal good time at a minimum of expense. The suggestion is a good one, we think, for others similarly situated to act upon.

The "box social" on the evening of the twenty sixth was a great success. The boxes were sold at auction, F. L. Brown acting as auctioneer, and brought from twenty-five to sixty cents. It was very evident that some of the young men had certain boxes "spotted", and a little conspiracy to make them bid high might have netted a larger sum. However, the amount of $8.75 was realized, which was quite satisfactory. We have now the neat sum of nearly thirty dollars in hand with which to purchase desks and seats for our school.

The family of Rev. K. O. Brune of Mobile is occupying the Exchange cottage for a time, and another Mobile family will move into the J. B. Phinney cottage this week. The renting of the Knowles cottage to another Mobile family was previously reported. Thus are our hopes of making Fairhope a summer resort for southern people, as well as a winter resort for northern people, being realized. Mrs. Harrison also of Mobile, who spent some time at the Fairhope House, talks of securing a lot and building a cottage before another summer.

Hon. S. S. Mann in a recent kind letter sends a list of subscribers for the Courier with cash remittance for same, though we would have been glad to fill his order without compensation, in view of his connection with the Mann Syndicate which has placed the press on which the Courier is printed, at our disposal. He has also authorized us to collect some small items of rent due him, sell the hay crop on his place, and re-rent it until he comes, covering the proceeds into the association's treasury—from which source the sum of five dollars has already been realized.

The resignation of William Stimpson as wharfinger, which had been on file for some time, was accepted by the Council on the twenty-second, and the election of a new wharfinger turned over to the members, who met for the purpose on the evening of the twenty-fourth. The result was that Mr. Henry Creswell was elected to fill the position. It goes without saying—where he is known—that the duties of the position will be promptly and efficiently rendered by Mr. Creswell. He has all the help needed in special cases in his own family, and will make, we think, an ideal wharfinger.

The application of H. Creswell for membership in the assoeiation was presented at last council meeting and laid over for one week under the usual rule, at the end of which time it will be accepted with great pleasure. We need not say much of friend Creswell in view of our report of a few issues since of the birthday honors conferred upon him by his neighbors here. Suffice it to say that we all feel much gratified to welcome as a member one who by his daily walk among us for nearly two years past has won our esteem, and who testifies his appreciation of us by his desire for a closer association with us.

Meetings for free discussion of vital matters are now being held at the Hall on each Sunday afternoon at three o'clock. On the twenty-first Mr. Norton gave an interesting and able address on "How best to live in this life to prepare one for happiness in a future existence"; and on the twenty-eighth Rev. G. W. Wood contributed a highly appreciated address on the same subject from a different standpoint. Next Sunday will be a memorial service in honor of Henry George's birthday; and on the following Sunday the subject will be, "Are there natural rights? and if so, what are they?" the discussion to be led by F. W. Chapman.

A REPORT ON RUSKIN.

One of the best audiences which has gathered in Fairhope to listen to an address, greeted President Coleman on the evening of August 16th, when at the request of many he consented to talk of what he saw at Ruskin, Tennessee. His setting forth of the lights and shadows of the effort of our cotemporaries to make what they esteem as "good theories" work, was very interesting, and elicited many inquiries on special points from the audience.

While President Coleman saw and reported many things to admire in the working plans at Ruskin, we have not learned of any of his hearers who felt that they would like to leave Fairhope to make their homes in Ruskin. As we give space elsewhere to an article on Ruskin by Mr. Coleman, a detailed report of his address will be unnecessary.

IMPROVED PLACE FOR RENT.

Desiring to get nearer the bay, in order to be more convenient to his work, Captain Lawrence wishes us to announce that he will give a favorable lease for a year or longer, on his ten acre place on Fairhope Avenue. The place has about 8 acres in a fine state of cultiva- with 10 acres more adjoining enclosed for pasture. House of four rooms, chicken house and yards, some fruit to come in bearing next season, &c. &c.

For further particulars, terms, etc., address,

Geo. A. R. Lawrence, Fairhope, Ala.

SOMETHING ABOUT RUSKIN.

By C. L. Coleman.

In June last I made a northern trip, visiting Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul. I returned to Fairhope August 12th, having stopped on the way back to spend a week at Ruskin, Tennessee, where I was most kindly and hospitably entertained.

Ruskin, as most of my readers are aware, is the home of the Ruskin Co-operative Association, a colony established on the Bellamy principle in June, 1894, and of the Coming Nation, the association's weekly newspaper, so well known and so widely distributed. The village of Ruskin is admirably situated in the Yellow Creek valley, about fifty miles west of Nashville and six and a half miles distant from Tennessee City, its nearest railroad point. The town site with the colony's farming land adjoining embraces 789 acres, consisting of valley bottom, upland, hillsides and knolls.

An immense cave, with entrance in the heart of the village, is one of the principal and most interesting features of the place. On the Fourth of July last, two thousand people picnicked at Ruskin, in the cave, where refreshments were served and music and dancing were carried on all day long. A large spring of cold water issues from this cave, and from it is derived the water supply of Ruskin. The water is forced by a steam pump into a thousand-barrel reservoir on the bank above the spring, and led through pipes to the printery and other buildings, and to hydrants in different parts of the village. There is another and smaller cave half a mile distant, called the Stalactite Cave, which is very beautiful indeed.

In addition to this land the colony owns 1000 acres of hilly woodland four and a half miles nearer Tennessee City; and on this tract the settlement was first made in 1894, the removal to the present site being effected in 1896. "The object of the Association is to own and operate manufactories, to acquire land, to build homes for its members, to insure the members against want or the fear of want, to provide educational and recreative facilities of the highest order, and to promote and maintain harmonious social relations on the basis of co-operation." It is a non-dividend-paying association, the profits all being used to promote its growth and the welfare and comfort of its members.

Ruskin is a busy hive. Every able-bodied man and woman is required to render service; and "each member of the Association is guaranteed employment whenever possible, and in that branch of service which he prefers, subject however to certain conditions. All members of the Association receive the same compensation for each day's labor performed, or a proportional amount for each fractional part thereof. In the event of sickness, members and members of their families receive the same compensation as when on duty. The Association in no way interferes with the free exercise of individual tastes. The Association furnishes all teachers, books, apparatus and necessary appliances for the most thorough instruction of the children of members in such lines as they show the most aptitude. Each member is entitled to the use and occupancy of a residence and lot. All minors over eighteen years are classed as apprentices, and their compensation is determined by the Board of Directors." At twenty-one they are given membership.

Applicants for membership must pass a good examination in economics and the principles of socialism, before being admitted. They must also satisfy the examining board as to their purpose in wishing to join.

During the first two years of the colony's existence it was supported entirely by the publication of the Coming Nation. To-day "the following departments are being successfully carried on:

Printing and Publishing,	Stock and Butchering.
Distribution (store etc.),	Barber Shop,
Cereal Coffee,	Horticulture,
Building,	Bakery,
Poultry,	Suspender Shop and Shoe Shop,
Tin Shop,	Blacksmith and Wagon Shop,
Tool Room,	Chewing Gum Factory,
Planing Mill,	Steam Laundry,
Grist Mill,	Sanitation,
Shingle Mill,	Kindergarten,
Saw Mill,	Primary School,
Stage Line,	Grammar School,
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We buy and sell for cash and make our prices as low as possible; preferring quick and large sales, at small profits, to small, slow sales at large profits. DON'T SEND YOUR LARGE CASH ORDERS TO MOBILE-but let us figure on them. We can beat Mobile prices almost every time and the small margin-which is not Profit but small pay for our service-will remain in Baldwin County.
Fairhope Ala.

THE ALTRUIST
Is a monthly paper, partly in phonetic spelling, and devoted to equal rights, mutual assistance, united labor, and common property. It is issued by the Altruist Community, of St. Louis, whose members hold all their property in common, live and work together in a permanent home for their mutual enjoyment, assistance and support, and both men and women have equal rights and decide on all its business affairs by their majority vote. 25c. a year: specimen copy free. A. Longley, Editor, 2819 Olive street, St. Louis, Mo. (Adv.)

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"In the light of these acheivements, the members of Ruskin have good reason to look to the future with confidence."

"Each member is furnished a separate home; but a public kitchen and dining hall are maintained, where members and their families take their meals, thus reducing labor and expense to the minimum. School privileges, medicines and medical attendance, fuel and laundry work are furnished free by the Association. The Association does not pay wages at present, but it pays an equal maintenance fee to all members and members of their families. The amount of this maintenance was fixed by the directors, subject to revision by the stockholders. Men and women receive the same amount. The wife of a member has all the privileges of the Association, whether she holds a share of stock or not, except that she cannot vote unless she is a stockholder." Ruskin has a fine free public library and reading room, but the quarters are greatly inadequate. Boxes and boxes of books remain yet unpacked—there are no shelves to place them on. One may see one or two daily papers there, and a host of weekly and monthly papers and magazines from all parts of the country.

I was most favorably impressed with the kindergarten, and quite touched by the singing, the pastimes and the pretty behavior of the little children. The bright hope of Ruskin is in the rising generation. They are "to the manner born" and bred, and are the best material for future members of Ruskin Co-operative Association.

CORRESPONDENCE.

COMPETITION VS. LAW AND DOCTRINE.

Regarded from the standpoint of competition, the "land question" assumes an aspect diametrically opposite to that usually entertained by single-taxers and reformers generally. Before going any further, it should be noted that competition has to do, primarily, with the exchanges, the activities of life—is, in fact, a dynamic force; whereas possession—with which reformers almost exclusively concern themselves—is a static, negative and inferior factor in life: hence the uniform failure of "reformers", religious, industrial and political, to promote social progress. Their time and thoughts being occupied almost exclusively, not with competition, not with service (the love principle), but with questions relating to mere possession, their weapons are, of necessity, law and doctrine—factors not specially available in "the struggle for existence". There is no market for law and doctrine. Such are not eatable, drinkable, wearable, nor available for transportation, etc.: therefore the reformer is constantly in the position of the man who would supply a demand that does not exist—is impractical, in fact.

Once, however, we perceive the omnipotence of service, or competition (for one cannot compete without serving—or do anything, or refrain from doing, without competing), possession is quickly relegated to its proper and inferior position. In the case of the land question, we soon find there is merely competition, for and against rent, and for the most part, between individuals; whereas in transportation and various other enterprises, competition is between individuals on one hand and splendidly organised corporations on the other. This is an aspect of life which, so far as I know, the single taxer has never yet taken into account: yet is it not plainly apparent that the competition of individuals with corporations is a much more serious matter than that of individuals with individuals? Is it not apparent that such competition as the former must dominate the latter? For that reason I contend that the land question, or any mere question of possession, is not "fundamental", but that service or competition is the prime cause of conditions. What would property, or possession, be worth, were service at the cost of service? On the other hand, what can destroy the intrinsic value of service? Nothing under the sun.

To my mind, nothing is clearer than that competition dominates possession; and I regard the existence of this difference in competition, alone, as completely destructive of the single-tax theory and its right to be. Simply for this reason, viz: were the unequal competition of individuals with corporations eliminated, i. e. were the tribute now exacted by corporations destroyed by reformers (for the most part wealth producers themselves), rendering at cost the services now rendered by corporations for tribute; there would then remain nothing but competition between individuals—a matter with which no individual, or corporation, or state, has a moral right to interfere. The ability of the individual would be greatly increased, and as no one pays rent for the pleasure of doing so, rent would quickly disappear; for each would soon become his own landlord.

But as long as possession is greater than service in the minds of reformers, they will say that I have put the cart before the horse, that rightful possession must be established before there can be just service, and so will blunder along in the rut that has been worn smooth by "reformers" for centuries. They cannot serve: they cannot compete: they can only furnish society its law and doctrine; for which, unfortunately, there is no active demand. "And they worshiped the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him?"

Jas. T. R. Green.

Des Moines, Ia.

[We do not see that friend Green adduces anything new in the foregoing article; and we are quite content to rest the case with the

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Remember that the staunch Schooner "Minnie L." of Fairhope, Capt. G. A. R. Lawrence, makes regular trips twice a week (oftener if neccessary) between Fairhope and Mobile, handling all kinds of freight either way with security and dispatch. Will touch at all points along the eastern shore where business demands.

The Minnie L. has extra facilities for protecting freight from the weather and makes a specialty of handling merchandise and household goods. Special rates to persons moving to Fairhope.

☞SPECIAL! Capt. Lawrence will attend personally and without charge, to purchasing and selling orders, in Mobile, for his patrons.

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arguments already submitted, which is certainly fair to him, as he has had both the opening and closing. Whenever he desires to present a plan or method for securing equivalent service—which we agree with him is the end to be desired—we shall be pleased to hear from him further. Ed.]

Editor Fairhope Courier:

Friend Green of Des Moines does not make his view as plain as could be. It could be put thus: the fatherhood of God or GOOD and the brotherhood of man. But man under present influences requires easier lessons. So we reformers have taken the task of the A B C for political duties. A few say free silver: some strictly observe prohibition: others claim government control of land, transportation and finance. This last idea is one I have cherished, yet am fully of the knowledge it would require something else. And that is what friend Green is driving at. In short the Millennium is now on for those who will accept: then come peace on earth and good will to men. While I object to communistic industries, yet I would associate thus if necessary to stimulate labor and business to employ and harmonize common interests. Friend Green is or has been associated with churches. So was I, but in my judgment they became a sounding brass, a tinkling cymbal. Yet if they—the churches—can or will do any good, amen! Their existence of near two thousand years with people starving under the shadows of their high costly domes says to me, Come ye out from among them. So it is not to abandon righteous duties, but to come in communion with the Over thought in harmony with creative, constructive principles. A little more, and I am done. I was in the south from 1851 to 1865, handled chattel slavery. The church harmonized with that order of slavery, and is harmonizing with this commercial or industrial slavery. Do unto others as you would be done by. The Social Gospel (of Commonwealth, Ga.) of August first has some pointed lessons. Yours fraternally,

Helena, Montana. J. W. Rose.

FAIRHOPE INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION.

Organized and incorporated at Des Moines, Iowa, February, 1894.
Established Fairhope, Baldwin County, Alabama, January, 1895.

C. L. Coleman, Pres. A. H. Mershon, Vice Pres.
G. M. Bancroft, Treas. E. B. Gaston, Sec'y.

Fairhope Industrial Association was organized to MAKE GOOD THEORIES WORK. Its basic principle is the Law of Equal Freedom, "That every man has freedom to do all that he wills, provided he infringes not on the equal freedom of any other man." This law is applied by it:

IN GOVERNMENT, by personal vote, initiative, referendum and imperative mandate.

IN LAND HOLDING AND USE, by the principle of the Single Tax, the association holding the title to all lands and leasing to individuals in quantities to suit, at a rental "which shall equalize the varying advantages of location and natural qualities of all tracts." The association, out of the sum thus received, pays all taxes levied by the civil authorities on improvements and personal property held upon its lands, thus making the rent of land the only charge against individuals.

IN NATURAL MONOPOLIES—transportation, telephones, water, light, power. etc.—by association control and operation at cost, as fast as practicable.

IN A MEDIUM FOR EFFECTING LOCAL EXCHANGES, by the issuance of its non-interest-bearing notes for services rendered it, redeemable in equivalent services and land rent.

The above simple program has been in practical operation at Fairhope for more than three years, and its advantages are constantly becoming more apparent.

It should appeal to those who believe the path of progress does not necessarily lead to the substitution of a government trust for the multiple private trusts which in the enjoyment of special privileges have grown to be a national menace, but that freedom is a sovereign remedy for all our economic ills.

The association has a most beautiful, healthful and attractive location on the eastern shore of Mobile Bay, within sight of the important sea-coast city of Mobile, its lands having a frontage on the bay shore of about three fourths of a mile, and extending back—not wholly connected—three miles. They comprise 670 acres, owned free of incumbrance; and a very favorable option is held on nearly 2500 acres more.

The land is especially adapted to truck and fruit growing for northern markets, as well as general farming and stock raising. The association owns its own wharf, 1800 feet long, at which the side-wheel steamer Heroine, plying daily between Mobile and this shore, lands on all trips. Fairhope has a post office having a daily mail and doing a money-order business.

There are twenty-three dwellings on the ground, a store, hotel, saw-mill, cigar factory, blacksmith shop, and a public hall, used also for school and church purposes.

The cost of membership in the association is $100, which may be paid in instalments; but membership, though desired, is not requisite to the occupancy of land and the enjoyment of the economic advantages afforded by the association.

Beautiful bay-view building lots and desirable lands for farming are open for settlement by desirable parties, with no financial requirement further than the payment of the annual rent based on the value of the unimproved land, all of which will be expended in the interest of those paying it.

Fairhope Association pays no dividends, interest or bonuses to any one, and bas but one salaried officer (receiving $10 a month). It was organized and exists solely to apply correct principles, for the benefit of those who participate and for a practical, visible example to the world. Its resources are all expended to that end; and to that end it invites the membership and moral and financial support of right-thinking men and women.

The following list of industries which would probably prove profitable at Fairhope is offered for the benefit of inquirers:

Truck farming, fruit growing, general farming, stock raising, poultry raising, nursery, cotton gin, rice huller, cane mill, cannery, ice factory, laundry, pottery bakery, brick-yard, tannery (using probably canaigre roots), water toboggan and other devices of like character for amusement of excursionists from Mobile and elsewhere, light manufacturing of almost any kind, mail order business &c.

For further particulars, address with stamp, E. B. Gaston, Secretary,
Fairhope, Alabama.

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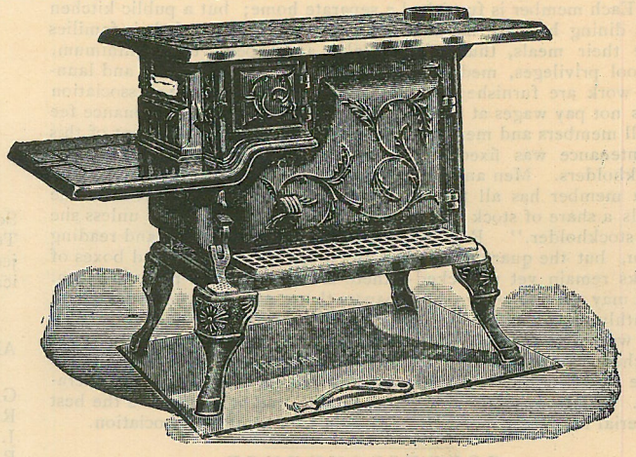

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No. 8 Cook Stove, with 30 pieces furniture.....$8.00

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WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DRUGGISTS AND SEEDSMEN.

FAIRHOPE COURIER.

That which Nature provides is the Common Property of all God's Children; that which the Individual creates belongs to the Individual; that which the Community creates belongs to the Community. GEN. J. B. WEAVER.

VOL. V. NO. 4. FAIRHOPE, ALA., SEPT. 15, 1898. 25 CENTS A YEAR.

WHAT ANIMAL WOULD?

By Will Scott in the New Time.

No hog was ever hog enough, through field and forest looting,
To try to stop another hog from ravenously rooting
And if some haughty hog should say, "These premises are mine:
Unless ye want to root for me, don't trespass here, ye swine",
And if some pig should disobey and ply his greedy snout,
Then would the other pigs turn in and help to drive him out?
Or is there but one vertebrate, from mastodon to bat,
That God has made so stupid that he's capable of that?

A NEW MEMBER.

The following letter was received from Wm. Brown of North Wilmington, Massachusetts:

"I have concluded to become a member of Fairhope Association: so you will find enclosed a post-office order for one hundred dollars. I suppose the money will be used to purchase more land, which the association needs. Single-taxers generally don't take much notice of Fairhope. They spend lots of money and energy in education, debating and campaigning, and have kept it up for more than ten years, without much result, except in Washington, which appears to be the banner state for single tax. I would like to see the association secure that 320 acres, for the purchase of which you have been trying to raise funds. It would take but a few memberships to do it. It may be a good while before I get to Fairhope, but I expect to be prepared to stay when I do."

This is the first application for membership accompanied by the cash which we have received for some time, and more would be greatly appreciated. It will be noted that friend Brown does not expect to come to Fairhope at once. He is able to make his way elsewhere, and does not desire to come here because he "has nowhere else to go"—as a last resort when his money is all gone and all else has failed. His principal motive in joining now is to give the association a lift with his $100 toward the purchase of that 320 acres of land which we so much desire.

The plan he has adopted is the most practical and satisfactory way both to us and to those who may wish to assist in our undertaking. It gives us funds with which to increase the area to be administered under our principles and secure much needed improvements, and gives those furuishing it a voice in the holding of the association to these principles, as well as a right to a home with us when they are ready for it. Under our rules memberships may be paid in monthly instalments of not less than $5; and in case it becomes inconvenient to continue the payments, a member may withdraw, taking a transferable certificate for the amount he has paid and be free from all penalties or liability for deferred payments. There are among the readers of the Courier many who have professed great interest in Fairhope, who are abundantly able to take out memberships; and this is a cordial invitation to them to follow Mr. Brown's example.

STRAWBERRIES.

An interesting bulletin is No 94 of the Alabama Agricultural Experiment Station on "Strawberries." From it we gather the following pointers, which will be of value to those wanting to grow this finest of all berries, in this section.

The land should be deeply ploughed, and immediately harrowed three or four times. Ten days before planting lay off the ground with a shovel plow (probably six-inch) making the rows three to three and a half feet apart Scatter the fertilizer in the furrow, mix by running once or twice through with a scooter, then throw a furrow or two from either side. Just before planting drag the ridges down with the back of a harrow or a plank drag, so that the top will not be more than two or three inches higher than the water furrow.

Stable manure is not recommended, on account of grass and weed seeds usually contained. Ploughing under a crop of cow-peas well in advance of planting is especially recommended. This should be supplemented by "liberal fertilizing" (amount not stated, say 1500 to 2000 pounds per acre or more) with acid phosphate and potash (the latter presumably in the form of kainit near seaports). Too much nitrogen not recommended, as likely to produce an excess of foliage. A light top dressing of nitrate of soda, applied just before blooming, increases the size of fruit.

The method of planting recommended is: after marking out rows perfectly straight by any convenient device, to have a man with a bright, clean spade go along the rows, setting the corner of the spade where the plant is to set, then throw his weight upon it, sending it in full depth and pushing it from him so as to make a wedge-shaped hole behind the spade; a boy follows with the plants in a bucket with a little water in the bottom to keep the roots moist, and sets the plant with a swaying motion easily acquired, which spreads out the roots, and with the crown held just at the top of the undisturbed surface of the ground; the man withdraws his spade, setting it forward for the next plant, and as the dirt falls back about the plant, he sets his foot on it, pressing it closely about the roots. Two things are of especial importance: that the plants should be set neither too deep nor too shallow, and that the dirt should be pressed firmly about them. Plants should be set twelve to thirty inches apart, according to variety, richness of soil and season of planting. Plant preferably in the fall, August and September. (Can be planted here any time in fall or winter, but September is best.)

The result of experience at the station and bulk of testimony elsewhere is that the "narrow matted row" method of culture gives best results. Mulching is not necessary in this country, and harbors insects which eat the fruit.

A most interesting portion of the bulletin to us is that devoted to varieties. It will not do to count on varieties which have done well with you in the north doing so here. We cannot give here detailed results of the experiments made at the station. Every one interested should send for a copy of the bulletin, which may be had for the asking. The results may be summarized as follows: earliest berry, Michel; best early kinds for general planting, Lady Thompson, Michel; best large late kinds, Brandywine, Glenn Mary. "Promising, worthy of farther trial—Eleanor, Enhance, Marshall, Tubbs, William Belt. Of doubtful value—Bouncer, Bubach, Hoffman, Jessie, Wilson. Worthless here—Annie Lawrie, Belmont, Brunette, Clyde, Crescent, Enormous, Gandy, Giant, Greenville, Havaland, Mary, Parker Earle, Rio, Sharpless, Sunnyside, Sunrise, Warfield, Wolverton."

We are not prepared to accept the rating of the bulletin on the Wilson berry, which has proven so far as our experience goes, the most reliable and satisfactory in this latitude. As we have said before, there may be better berries than the Wilson—we hope so, and are on the search for them—but we know they are good and will do well here.

"Leiter's loss, $10 000 000." That is a good deal of money for a man twenty-eight years old to lose. If he had begun work when he was eighteen years old—which he didn't—and had earned $10 000 a year, he would still have been $9 900 000 short of his losses, even supposing he had not spent a cent. And if his father had begun work fifty years ago—which he did—and had earned $20 000 a year from the start, the family would still have been $9 000 000 short of Joe's loss. Ten million dollars is a lot of money. It isn't a dollar too much for a man to pay who tries to corner the food of the people; but the interesting question is, how he got it. Thrift? Industry? Superior ability? Joe Leiter hardly stands for one of these. —New York Journal.

The Baldwin Times quotes freely items of local interest from the Courier.

FAIRHOPE COURIER.

Devoted to the LAW of EQUAL FREEDOM—"Every man has freedom to do all that he wills, provided he infringes not the equal freedom of any other man"—and to the effort now being made to immediately apply that law to the fullest extent possible under existing conditions, by the Fairhope Industrial Association, at Fairhope, Alabama,

Its motto, and that of Fairhope Industrial Association, is, "We will make good theories work." And it denies the possibility of a "good theory" which is "not practical."

ERNEST B. GASTON, - - - EDITOR AND MANAGER.

Published at Fairhope, Alabama, on the first and fifteenth of each month.

Subscription Price to any address in the United States, Canada or Mexico 25 cents per annum. In other countries of the International Postal Union' 50c.

Entered at Fairhope Post Office as second class matter.

Due notice of expiration of subscriptions will be given, and unless otherwise requested, the Courier will be sent to subscribers until ordered discontinued.

It is said that the Rochdale co-operative store system in England transacted business to the amount of three hundred million dollars during the past year.

The Courier will be found on file hereafter in the free reading rooms established by the United Trades Association at Eighth and Callowhill streets, Philadelphia.

It is reported from Chicago that the Social Democrat has suspended publication, and that the colonists, who controlled the paper, have allowed their organization to practically disappear. [Cleveland Citizen.

There is one class of people for whom Fairhope offers advantages disputed by no one—that is those having small incomes—sufficient alone or partially supplemented. The climate is unexcelled, expenses low and society good.

The Social Gospel, the journal of the Christian Commonwealth, Commonwealth, Ga., maintains a high standard of excellence in matter and typography. It is well worth a place on the table of every student of sociology.

There will be a convention of co-operators held at Des Moines this fall to consider a plan for a state association of co-operative associations. The principal subject for discussion will be ways and means for purchasing supplies at wholesale, and for doing business together.

The labor congress to consist of five members of the Senate, five members of the House and nine other persons to be appointed by the President, whose duty it will be to "collate information and consider and recommend legislation to meet the problems presented by labor, agriculture and capital", is to be called together soon.

By the kindness of our friend, E. A. Davidson of Atlanta, we are favored with a copy of the Labor Day Souvenir Program, issued by the Labor Day committee of the Atlanta Federation of Trades. Mr. Davidson is financial secretary of the Federation, aud the Program Souvenir contains his portrait and an article by him on "the Labor Fakir."

T. J. McBride, a wealthy Canadian reformer, has purchased a controlling interest in the New Time, paid off all of its obligations and put it on a sound financial footing. The circulation of the New Time is now reported to be nearly 50 000. Under Mr. Adams' able editorial management it is a most valuable publication, and we congratulate him on receiving the support he deserves.

The undemocratic and unrepresentative character of our system of government is emphasized in the character of the Peace Commission appointed by the President to arrange the terms of peace between the United States and Spain. Of the five commissioners, four are Republicans and the fifth a Gold-standard Democrat. The 7 000 000 voters who supported Bryan and whose representatives in the House and Senate really forced the war and dictated the declaration under which it was made, are entirely unrepresented on the Commission.

It is not length of days that can make evil reverend, nor persistence in inconsistency that can give it the power or the claim of orderly precedent. Wrong, though its title deeds go back to the days of Sodom, is by nature a thing of yesterday; while the right of which we became conscious but an hour ago, is more ancient than the stars, and of the essence of heaven.—James Russell Lowell.

The Ruskin Cereal Coffee, manufactured by the Ruskin Co-operative Association, is extensively used at Fairhope; and the demand for it is steadily increasing. Many families, the editor's included, have discarded coffee entirely, and use the Ruskin Cereal instead. It is to our taste fully equal to Postum Cereal, and much cheaper. Write to the Ruskin Co-operative Association, enclosing ten cents for a sample package.

Those visitors from the north who spend their winters on the Gulf coast and then rush northward on the advent of spring "to escape the heat of a summer in the south", will probably dislike to believe that while old New York city recorded fifty deaths in one day and factories at other points in the north were shutting down because it was too hot to work, the residents of this section were enjoying the cooling breezes from the Gulf and suffering no discomfort whatever. But such was the case last Saturday.—Baldwin Times.

Continued favorable reports come from the colony at Fairhope, Alabama. This enterprise is not founded on the communal plan, although the title to the land is vested in the association, and cannot be sold or mortgaged. A tremendous advance in the right direction. The Courier, the organ of the colony, is now issued semi-monthly instead of monthly. A hotel has just been built; and the Courier tells of boating, bathing, fishing and other aquatic delights that make us wish we had wings, so that we could fly down for a few weeks' rest.—Co-operative Era, Des Moines.

Our honored friend, Gen. J. B. Weaver, the author of the motto which appears on the heading of this paper, has been nominated for congress in the sixth congressional district of Iowa, by a coalition of Democrats, Populists and Silver Republicans. This is the district from which General Weaver was twice sent to congress two decades ago, and the chances are excellent for his being again returned from it. General Weaver has been a consistent champion of the people for a longer time than any man we think of who is still actively in the fight, and we hope the people of his district will honor themselves by electing him.

We have had an excess of precipitation for the past week—though the sun again shines out beautifully. People with short memories and not disposed to look on the bright side of things probably thought they had never seen such a rainy time before. Those with better memories can remember far longer periods of rainy weather. Mershon Brothers, for instance, can remember when goods spoiled on their shelves in Des Moines from dampness, and when the bottom fell out of the roads so that that they had to leave their teams in the barn for days and even weeks, and send out men with wheelbarrows on the sidewalks to deliver goods. A correspondent of the Palmetto, Florida, News, writing from Atlanta, declared it had rained there almost constantly for ninety days. It is well to have a disposition to think, not of how bad things are, but how much worse they might be, or are somewhere else. One good thing here is that we have no mud where the water is allowed to run off, and very little even where it stands. On any of our streets one can walk dry shod within fifteen minutes after the hardest rain has ceased.

A WRONG PERSPECTIVE.

The Associated Charities of New York, according to the New York Journal, declare that less than fifty per cent of their cases are due to drink. In a careful examination in East London, Mr. Charles Booth found only 12.6 per cent due to drink directly and 2.1 per cent indirectly: less than 15 per cent altogether. A study of 4000 cases by the School-board Visitors found only 13 or 14 per cent due to drink. These facts certainly prove those who look upon the drink question as the most important one to see things in a wrong perspective. It seems to us axiomatic that as land is the source of human existence—as truly as of all other animal and vegetable existence—that the most important question in an economic sense must be the relation of individuals to the soil. But the most fatal defect in their perspective is, it seems to us, in rating an evil against the immediate and worst effects of which every man may protect himself, of greater importance than one against which the individual is powerless. A man may close his mouth against the drink evil and train up his boys to do likewise, but no man can protect himself against land monopoly or wrest the laws which countenance it, to his own advantage, without oppressing others; while every boy coming into the world must sue for the right of access to that without which existence even is impossible.

PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION.

It makes progress in Australia.

The British colony of South Australia is the seat of an active propaganda on Proportional Representation, confined entirely to the Hare plan, which is there known under the name of Effective Voting.

PERSONAL AND LOCAL NOTES.

Labor Day was generally celebrated in Mobile.

Will Stimpson has also sought employment for a season at Fort Morgan.

Mr. W. W. Hall of Douglasville, Georgia, writes: "I am in hopes to get down there soon."

By recent resolution, rents unpaid by September first bear a penalty of one per cent a month.

Frank Creswell is out on a trip through the county, selling Andy Cullen's cigars. Mr. Creswell is an excellent salesman.

F. A. Smith was heard from recently. He was well and working steadily, but his wife was not as well as when at Fairhope.

Our trammel net had gotten full of holes with the summer's fishing, and is being repaired preparatory to catching a lot of mullet to be salted down for winter use.

Mr. and Mrs. Brune are so well pleased with Fairhope that they are already talking of the prospect for securing the Exchange cottage next summer.

C. L. Coleman had a few apples in his young orchard this year, of the Horse, Elwell, Jennings and Transparent varieties, which he says were all right in size and flavor; and Mr. Coleman is a judge of apples.

During the month of August the rainfall amounted to 14.52 inches. The highest temperature was reached on the second, when the mercury reached 98°; and the lowest, 68°, was recorded August seventeenth.

Steps are being taken toward the organization of a "Fairhope" colony on the Pacific coast. We are not at liberry now to give particulars, but the movers are those who have tried the more complex methods of socialism and found them wanting.

N. Mershon has set a good example, which has been largely—we wish we could say, generally—followed, by mowing the weeds on the street in front of his property on Fairhope Avenue. A great improvement in the appearance of our street is the result.

Dr. Clarence Mershon has been having a good practice, a large part of which has been in the vicinity of Daphne, the county seat and including the families of most of the county officers, as well as county business among the jail inmates. We are glad to say, however, that the general health of Fairhope is good. The "hour and the man" seem to have happily met in the doctor's case and we believe he is certain to build up a large practice.

From a letter recently received by Mrs. Sykes from Mrs. Bartlett we are permitted to quote the following, which will be of interest: "Chicago is a great and good city to visit, but really we must sooner or later make Baldwin county our home. The health as well as the happiness of the family demand it. I did not see during the six weeks we were in Fairhope such hot weather as since we returned home." [And they were here during the height of the summer season.]

We are informed that a counter petition is being circulated against that for a road leading due east from Fairhope into the Dr. Slosson neighborhood. Various reasons are alleged for the opposition, but we are very much inclined to think that behind the ones alleged is the fact that the road, if opened, would draw to Fairhope a large amount of travel and trade now going to Daphne and Battles. We propose to make a vigorous fight for this road and to secure it or to know and make known the reason why.

Mr. A. J. Gregson of the northern settlement in our rear is a new local subscriber to the Courier. Mr. Gregson is in sympathy with most of the aims and methods of Fairhope, and has always been much interested in our progress. He came here from Kansas about the time we located, and is thoroughly well pleased with the country. He has not the slightest desire for the "wind-swept plains of Kansas", and has little patience with those who stay here a few months, and shutting their eyes to our advantages and forgetting all the bad things in the countries whence they came, go back again shaking the dust of their feet off against us.

Will Stimpson was home from Fort Morgan over Sunday, returning Tuesday morning. He is working for the government, and gets $1.25 a day and board. He and Herman Stemerdink have been experiencing much discomfort from the variety of insects infesting the sleeping quarters; and Will carried back with him a tent, which they will pitch in a spot where they may hope to escape so much unwelcome company.

News has been received of the death of Ambrose Clark, at the home of his parents in Belleville, Illinois. The cause of death was typhoid fever, the same dread disease which a little earlier took his Fairhope friend, our Clyde Mershon. Ambrose was taken sick on the very day he reached his majority. The stricken family will have, we know, the sincerest sympathy of their friends in Fairhope.

Mr. Brune of Mobile, whose family are occupying the Exchange cottage, brought over from Mobile a novel boat, the novelty being in the propelling mechanism. It is propelled by a screw the shaft of which is turned by a bicycle gear. The tiller ropes are made fast to the handle bar by which the steering is done. The boat is about sixteen or eighteen feet long and will carry several people, and the mechanism works very nicely.

The editor thought he was pretty well posted on roads and paths in the country adjacent to Fairhope; but in trying to follow the line of the proposed new road through to Dr. Slosson's he got completely lost within two or three miles of the saw-mill, and finally had to give it up and rely on his horse to bring him out of the woods. It reminded us of friend Wotherspoon, who spent some weeks with us the first spring we were here, and who almost invariably got lost on every expedition he took.

A. White of Vallejo, California, writes: "Enclosed find 25c. for Courier for one year. I would like very much to pay you a visit, but cannot very well get away at present, as Fairhope is rather a long way from here. I believe if all goes well, I and my better half may pay you a visit in the spring, as I am interested in anything that will advance the Single Tax. And the climate appeals to me personally. I have a good business here; but the climate doesn't agree very well with me, and I might be tempted to move to Fairhope, should it meet my expectations."

S. Howard Leech, finding the saw-mill work too hard for him, has gone to southeastern Kansas, in the new natural-gas belt, to look for an opening in his former business, that of photography, crayon, pastel work etc. Mrs. Leech and the children remain here for the present. We shall regret greatly to lose Mr. and Mrs. Leech; and while we would not and do not wish him other than success in his new venture, we could not but be pleased if he should after a look around determine that he might as well remain at Fairhope. Father C. K. Brown has bought Mr. Leech's property— the former Mrs. Lamon place—and also his membership: so that if we must lose Mr. and Mrs. Leech, we have secured in Mr. and Mrs. Brown two good members in exchange.

Mr. Andrew Carlson of New York, who first heard of Fairhope through Mr. Leech's article in the July New Time, arrived with his wife on Sunday, September 4th. Mr. Carlson recognized Fairhope at once from the description given by Mr. Leech and the Courier we mailed him, as the "place he long had sought and mourned because he found it not"; and being more fortunate than most working men in being able to act upon his impulses, he came right on. We are glad to say that both Mr. and Mrs. Carlson are highly pleased with Fairhope. They are pleased to say that it exceeds in beauty of location and state of development even their anticipations. They have not yet become members of the association, but hope to do so a little later. Under our liberal policy, however, Mr. Carlson had but to make his selection of a location and ask for it, to get it. He has taken ten acres adjoining Mr. Stimpson on the east, and will build at once. For the present they are occupying Mr. Mann's cottage, the rent for which, under Mr. Mann's generous proposition, goes into the association's treasury. We are glad to say that our impression of Mr. and Mrs. Carlson is as favorable as theirs of Fairhope, and we feel confident they will make valuable members of our colony.

Mr. Henry Creswell was on the 5th unanimously elected Superintendent of Public Services vice William Stimpson resigned. Mr Creswell's ripe experience should be of value to us in the Council.

Mershon Brothers are making another addition to their store, the second within a few months, made necessary by their growing business, and are also having the front re-painted and appropriately lettered.

J. T. Kearns, our former resident Fairhoper, is at Gladbrook, Iowa, building a house and barn for our other Fairhoper, S. E. Mann. He sends his regards through friend S. S. Mann, and says he hopes yet to live in Fairhope again.

Renewing his subscription to the Courier, H. B. Farwell of St. Paul says: "It always has some items of interest to us. We are thinking of a southern trip next winter, and are quite likely to visit Fairhope some time after January first."

The fishing has been good lately. Some fine catches of mullet have been made, and crabs are abundant. Our six and eight years old boys contribute a mess of crabs to the larder occasionally, although they have not acquired much skill in catching fish.

The Editor's wife left on the fifth for a several weeks' visit with relatives and friends in Iowa. She took with her three of our children, including our Fairhope-born boy, who will be exhibited as a sample of Baldwin County products. The older boys remain to assist us in our household cares and help lighten our loneliness.

Mrs. Woods returned on the tenth from her northern trip, glad to be at home again. She did not see any of our Fairhope friends in Des Moines but Mrs. Frederick and Mr. Bellangee. Mr. Bellangee is engrossed with political duties at present, but is making all his calculations on coming to Fairhope after election.

Mr. Scarvell and son, of Kalkaska, Michigan, are here, investigating Fairhope. They first heard of it accidentally at Flomaton, Ala., where they were almost ready to turn back from Alabama and go over into Georgia. Mr. Scarvell has determined to come south, and has left his goods packed ready for shipment as soon as he decides upon a location. He and his son seem well pleased with Fairhope, and we shall be pleased if they decide to come here.

A greatly needed improvement has been made in the grading of Third Avenue, the street running south from the store. It is about the nicest piece of land to make a road over in the country, being almost perfectly level; but after heavy rains the water would stand in the center. The Superintendent of Lands & Highways has remedied this by ploughing the sides and throwing to the center. It is the best piece of road we know of in Baldwin county.

A Chicago party who first learned of Fairhope when on a visit to River Park early in the summer, and wrote for further information, now writes: "I would like to become a member of your Fairhope colony. Please let me know if you have any land close to the bay. And have you got anything improved with good house on it? as I would want a place for my family to move in. I have property here, but find it hard to sell: so would raise money on it for Fairhope. Send me particulars how to become a member, and latest reports of the colony."

Dr. J. C. Moorman, formerly of Fort Madison, Iowa, later of the Topolobampo colony and for the last four years a resident of this county, died at Montrose on the 12th and was buried at Daphne the following day. Some readers of the Courier will remember some published letters of the doctor's in 1894, prior to the coming of our first party hither. He really came to this section of the country because of our locating here, doubtless with the intention of joining. He was well advanced in years, and has been a great sufferer for the last year or two. The Courier extends sincere sympathy to his faithful wife and daughter, and expresses regret that delay in the delivery of notice of the demise prevented the editor and other Fairhope friends from attending the funeral.

IMPROVED PLACE FOR RENT.

Desiring to get nearer the bay, in order to be more convenient to his work, Captain Lawrence wishes us to announce that he will give a favorable lease for a year or longer, on his ten acre place on Fairhope Avenue. The place has about 8 acres in a fine state of cultiva- with 10 acres more adjoining enclosed for pasture. House of four rooms, chicken house and yards, some fruit to come in bearing next season, &c. &c,

For further particulars, terms, etc., address,
Geo. A. R. Lawrence, Fairhope, Ala.

IMPROVED PROPERTY FOR SALE.

New House, 5 rooms; Hall, Gallery, front and back; 40 acres good farming land, 10 fenced and under cultivation; abundant water, barn 30x20 feet, with large loft.

Also, 65 acres adjoining; 10 acres fenced and having 4000 grape vines in bearing, Delaware, Niagara, Brilliant, Salem and others,

Rock creek, a never failing stream runs across west end of land. Hardwood timber, also pine in abundance.

One mile due east of Daphne, county seat.

Address E. Q. Norton,
Daphne, Ala.

MOBILE & OHIO RAILROAD.

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R. W. SMITH, City Passenger Agent, Mobile, Ala.
J. N. COMATZAR, Traveling Passenger Agent, Mobile, Ala.
R. CARROLL, Vice–Pres't & Gen. Mgr.
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DRUGS SEEDS

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.

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Corner Royal and Dauphin Sts. Mobile, Ala.

RESIDENTS OF BALDWIN COUNTY INVITED TO USE OUR STORE AS A MEETING POINT, WHEN SHOPPING IN MOBILE.

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BLOCH BROTHERS,

WHOLESALE MANUFACTURERS OF

Harness and Saddlery, Carriages Wagons, Carts, Bicycles Baby carriages Log-cart Wheels, Drays.

Sole Agency Celebrated Studebaker Wagons. MOBILE, ALA.

Charcoal is extensively used in this country, taking the place largely of gasoline. It is ordinarily used in small charcoal furnaces, made of clay with sheet iron jacket, and is cleanly and economical. Mr. Charles Andrews of the Fairhope House is engineering the burning of a large kiln to supply the Fairhope demand.

Capt. G. A. R. Lawrence expects soon to be master of a tug for the McMillan Cypress Co. of Mobile and Stockton, and is now in Mobile in the employ of the company, pending the conclusion of negotiations for a vessel. We miss the captain's cheery voice and energetic step on our streets, where they were in evidence none too often before, but are glad of his prospect of getting a good cash job which will help him to meet the remaining payments on his place and accomplish other things he has in view. The Minnie L. will still be run by "first mate" Lawrence Tilson, and the captain's work will permit him to give considerable attention to business in Mobile for his pattrons.

Mershon Brothers' store was burglarized on Saturday night, the 10th, and a few dollars in cash and an unncertain amount of goods taken. Entrance was effected by breaking out the glass in the rear window. The rain during the night had not effaced the footprints under the window, which were clearly those of a boy. Suspicion soon rested on a colored boy named Ed Adams, who had been helping some on the schooner, and a search disclosd some of the stolen property in his possession. He later admitted having committed the burglary, as well as having entered the store a week previous, which fact had not been discovered. He was taken to Daphne and complaint entered against him. A considerable sum in the post offiee occupying one corner of the store was not touched.

Geo. W. Nickerson of Onset, Massachusetts, writes: "In the July number of New Time is an article relating to you by Howard S. Leech. It has interested me very much, as I have been a Single Tax man almost from the first reading of Progress and Poverty. I have taken a single-tax paper since I first subscribed for the Standard when under the management of Henry George. I have yet to see a sound argument against such a tax, which really is not a tax, but simply taking for the use of the people what the people collectively have caused to be. That is an increased value in land. Will you be kind enough to give me all the information you can as regards your association, its condition and prospects for the future? I have several friends here who are much interested in Vinemont lands in northern Alabama and think of going out there to see what the chances are for men of small means. I too have been drawn that way by the Land Company's circulars, but feel more inclined toward your association, as it seems to embody more for man's best good than anything else of the kind. I am anxious to make a change in my business, if possible. Should I be able to before long, I shall want to visit you.... Should those friends I spoke of go to Vinemont this winter, I shall want them to come and see you, provided I get a favorable reply from you."

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

The Baldwin County Woman's Suffrage Society meets the third Saturday, at 2 P.M., of each month, in Assembly Hall at Fairhope Ala. All who are interested are cordially invited to come and join us: especially the ladies are invited.

Mrs. J. A. Woods, President. Mrs. F. L. Brown, Secretary.
Mrs. O. A. Webb, Vice Pres. Mrs. S. H. Leech, Treasurer.

Religious services are held regularly at Fairhope every Sunday, as follows:

Sunday school	at	9:45 A. M.
Church service	"	11 A. M.
Christian Endeavor	"	7:30 P. M.

The Fairhope W. C. T. U. meets the second and fourth Thursday of each month at 3:30 P. M. with Mrs. Leech.

Mrs. Nella Leech, President.
Mrs. H. N. Brown, Secretary.

FOR SALE,

Half interest in a complete saw-mill. Mill 80 horse-power. Finest boiler and engine made. Planer, shingle saw and everything complete. Best well of water in the county. Excellent opportunity to put in other paying machinery. A chance of a life-time for some good man.

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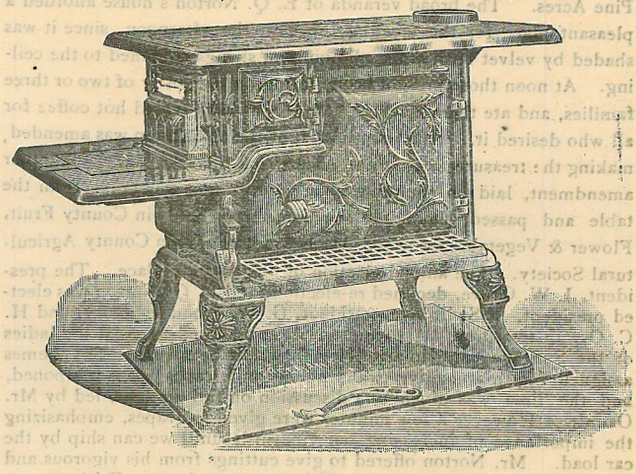

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No. 7 Cook Stove, with 30 pieces furniture.....$7.00
No. 8 Cook Stove, with 30 pieces furniture.....$8.00

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NO. 7 NORTH WATER ST. MOBILE ALA.

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FAIRHOPE, ALABAMA.

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SEEDS! Are you interested in farming or gardening? If so, send us your name and address and we will put you on our mailing list for a copy of our new Illustrated Seed Catalogue and Truckers' Guide. New edition out in December
AMZI GODDEN CO. BIRMINGHAM, ALA.
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DRUGGISTS AND SEEDSMEN.

The Fruit Growers' Association met on Saturday, September 3 at Pine Acres. The broad veranda of E. Q. Norton's house afforded a pleasant place for the meeting, even in the afternoon, since it was shaded by velvet bean vines climbing on strings stretched to the ceiling. At noon those present broke into groups, mostly of two or three families, and ate their lunches. Mrs. Norton provided hot coffee for all who desired it. The constitution of the association was amended, making the treasurer a separate officer from the secretary. Another amendment, laid on the table some months ago, was taken from the table and passed, changing the name from Baldwin County Fruit, Flower & Vegetable Growers' Asociation to Baldwin County Agricultural Society. The annual election of officers took place. The president, J. W. Grove, declined re-election; and E. Q. Norton was elected president, A. Swift vice president, G. W. Wood secretary, and H. C. Oswalt treasurer. A committee was appointed to assist the ladies of the Suffrage Club in arranging for a fair next year. The themes assigned for this meeting (watermelons and grapes) were postponed, and the time was given to a discussion on fall gardens, led by Mr. Oswalt. However a few minutes were given to grapes, emphasizing the importance of increasing our vineyards until we can ship by the car load. Mr. Norton offered to give cuttings from his vigorous and healthy vines to all who are or will become members. Fairhope was chosen for the next meeting, October 1.

FAIRHOPE INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION.

Organized and incorporated at Des Moines, Iowa, February, 1894.
Established Fairhope, Baldwin County, Alabama, January, 1895.

C. L. Coleman, Pres. — A. H. Mershon, Vice Pres.
G. M. Bancroft, Treas. — E. B. Gaston, Sec'y.

Fairhope Industrial Association was organized to MAKE GOOD THEORIES WORK. Its basic principle is the Law of Equal Freedom, "That every man has freedom to do all that he wills, provided he infringes not on the equal freedom of any other man." This law is applied by it:

IN GOVERNMENT, by personal vote, initiative, referendum and imperative mandate.

IN LAND HOLDING AND USE, by the principle of the Single Tax, the association holding the title to all lands and leasing to individuals in quantities to suit, at a rental "which shall equalize the varying advantages of location and natural qualities of all tracts." The association, out of the sum thus received, pays all taxes levied by the civil authorities on improvements and personal property held upon its lands, thus making the rent of land the only charge against individuals.

IN NATURAL MONOPOLIES– transportation, telephones, water, light, power. etc.– by association control and operation at cost, as fast as practicable.

IN A MEDIUM FOR EFFECTING LOCAL EXCHANGES, by the issuance of its non-interest-bearing notes for services rendered it, redeemable in equivalent services and land rent.

The above simple program has been in practical operation at Fairhope for more than three years, and its advantages are constantly becoming more apparent.

It should appeal to those who believe the path of progress does not necessarily lead to the substitution of a government trust for the multiple private trusts which in the enjoyment of special privileges have grown to be a national menace, but that freedom is a sovereign remedy for all our economic ills.

The association has a most beautiful, healthful and attractive location on the eastern shore of Mobile Bay, within sight of the important sea-coast city of Mobile, its lands having a frontage on the bay shore of about three fourths of a mile, and extending back—not wholly connected—three miles. They comprise 670 acres, owned free of incumbrance; and a very favorable option is held on nearly 2500 acres more.

The land is especially adapted to truck and fruit growing for northern markets, as well as general farming and stock raising. The association owns its own wharf, 1800 feet long, at which the side-wheel steamer Heroine, plying daily between Mobile and this shore, lands on all trips. Fairhope has a post office having a daily mail and doing a money-order business.

There are twenty-three dwellings on the ground, a store, hotel, saw-mill, cigar factory, blacksmith shop, and a public hall, used also for school and church purposes.

The cost of membership in the association is $100, which may be paid in instalments; but membership, though desired, is not requisite to the occupancy of land and the enjoyment of the economic advantages afforded by the association.

Beautiful bay-view building lots and desirable lands for farming are open for settlement by desirable parties, with no financial requirement further than the payment of the annual rent based on the value of the unimproved land, all of which will be expended in the interest of those paying it.

Fairhope Association pays no dividends, interest or bonuses to any one, and bas but one salaried officer (receiving $10 a month). It was organized and exists solely to apply correct principles, for the benefit of those who participate and for a practical, visible example to the world. Its resources are all expended to that end; and to that end it invites the membership and moral and financial support of right-thinking men and women.

The following list of industries which would probably prove profitable at Fairhope is offered for the benefit of inquirers:

Truck farming, fruit growing, general farming, stock raising, poultry raising, nursery, cotton gin, rice huller, cane mill, cannery, ice factory, laundry, pottery bakery, brick-yard, tannery (using probably canaigre roots), water toboggan and other devices of like character for amusement of excursionists from Mobile and elsewhere, light manufacturing of almost any kind, mail order business &c.

For further particulars, address with stamp, E. B. Gaston, Secretary, Fairhope, Alabama.

NOTARY PUBLIC.

I hold a commission as Notary Public, and am prepared to draw if necessary, and take acknowledgements of all legal documents.
E. B. Gaston, Fairhope, Ala.

Leslie Hall,
ATTORNEY AT LAW.
Land Titles Examined. Daphne Ala.

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Star Restaurant
MRS. E. R. QUATTLEBAUM, PROPRIETRESS.
Meals, 15 cents, Lodging, 25 cents.
GOOD CLEAN BEDS AND SQUARE MEALS
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DEALERS IN Flour, Feed, Fertilizers, Staple and Fancy Groceries, Cured Meats, Dry-goods, Hardware, Implements and everything kept in a first-class stock of
GENERAL MERCHANDISE
We buy and sell for cash and make our prices as low as possible; preferring quick and large sales, at small profits, to small, slow sales at large profits. DON'T SEND YOUR LARGE CASH ORDERS TO MOBILE–but let us figure on them. We can beat Mobile prices almost every time and the small margin–which is not Profit but small pay for our service–will remain in Baldwin County.
Fairhope Ala.

THE ALTRUIST
Is a monthly paper, partly in phonetic spelling, and devoted to equal rights, mutual assistance, united labor, and common property. It is issued by the Altruist Community, of St. Louis, whose members hold all their property in common, live and work together in a permanent home for their mutual enjoyment, assistance and support, and both men and women have equal rights and decide on all its business affairs by their majority vote. 25c. a year: specimen copy free. A. LONGLEY, Editor, 2819 Olive street, St. Louis, Mo. (Adv.)

James McDonnell Company,
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WAREHOUSES, 14–54 56 S. COMMERCE. ST. MOBILE, ALA

FAIRHOPE COURIER.

That which Nature provides is the Common Property of all God's Children; that which the Individual creates belongs to the Individual; that which the Community creates belongs to the Community.- GEN. J. B. WEAVER.

VOL. V. NO. 5. FAIRHOPE, ALA., OCT. 1, 1898. 25 CENTS A YEAR.

GET OFF OUR BACKS.

Give us not charity, chilly and slim:
Justice is better, though oft visaged grim.
Where charity flourishes, justice is lax:
Give us our earnings, and get off our backs!

Cast off your trammels from commerce and trade,
Give us the land the Creator has made,
Place on land values the burden and tax:
Land-grabbing vampires, get off our backs!

Then would the heart of each toiler rejoice,
Then would the tongue of true freedom find voice,
Then would rise homes on those desolate tracts
Held idle and useless by drones on our backs!

—Alfred Denton Cridge.

A BUSINESS TENDENCY.

From an editorial by Louis F. Post in the Public.

One of the most marked tendencies of modern business is towards production on a large scale—towards business concentration, as it is often called. This tendency, observable in nearly every department of industry, is notable in connection with manufactures and merchandising. The great factory has completely displaced the shop, and department stores are thought to be driving small stores out of business. Even in agriculture, the bonanza system is supposed to place independent farmers at a sore disadvantage.

Opinions as to whether the tendency thus indicated is beneficial, depend greatly, no doubt, upon the point of view. The head of a large and flourishing establishment would naturally look upon it very differently from the small producer whose field of industry has been invaded and his living possibly taken from him. But there must be some test by which to determine, regardless of narrow personal interests, whether or not concentration is socially injurious. To us it seems that the question depends upon the character of the impulse back of the concentration.

When the reason for changes from production on a small scale to production on a large scale—the reason for concentration in business, as the phrase goes— is that the new method requires less labor than the old, then the tendency is normal and therefore calculated to be beneficial. Concentration from that impulse is but a form of labor-saving invention. It produces more or better things with no more labor than before, or the same things with less. What the steam car was to the horse cart, normal production on a large scale is to production on a small scale.... But concentration may come in response to a very different impulse. When it is adopted not as a cheapener of production, but as a method of killing competition, then the tendency it expresses is abnormal and unwholesome. Of concentration from this impulse, the trust is the great example. Trusts have for their object and effect not the object and effect of labor saving inventions, not the lessening of the labor of production, but the forcing of wages down at one end and of prices up at the other, by diminishing production.... Though trusts wear the garb of normal concentration, and so mislead those who oppose and those who favor them into confusing them with normal concentration, as if the two were identical, trusts are no more the same as normal concentration than the wolf wearing Red Ridinghood's cloak was Red Ridinghood herself.

This distinction between normal concentration for increasing production and trusts for diminishing it should be borne in mind in considering industrial questions that relate to production on a large scale. If the change from a comparatively small to a comparatively large scale of production be arbitrary, if it be a mere combination of individual establishments to prevent competition between them—if, in a word, it be a trust—then the change is abnormal and oppressive. But if the change be a genuine labor saver, something which instead of lessening production increases it, instead of weakening competition intensifies it, then the change is normal and the result will be beneficial.

Put to this test, the department store would appear to be beneficial. It belongs in the category of labor-saving devices. The object and effect of the department store is not to increase prices but to lower them, not to lessen production but to augment it, not to prevent competition but to intensify it, not to obstruct the consumer but to accommodate him. Like the great factory, therefore, it is an example of the normal and beneficent tendency toward production on a large scale, an instance of legitimate concentration. And as the factory has displaced the small shops or changed their character, so the department store will in great measure, if not wholly, as related improvements come in, displace or change the character of small stores. Should this seem hard upon the small storekeeper, it is not more so than the railroad was upon the stage driver. Even if the change could be prevented, the prevention would be unjust. It might seem to benefit small storekeepers, but it would actually injure consumers. But being a normal concentration and therefore a natural development, the change cannot be prevented. It is a condition which, like rain and sunshine, must be taken as it comes. And but for social maladjustments which obstruct the diffusion of its benefits, no one, not even the displaced storekeepers themselves, would for one moment desire its prevention.

What makes the prospect of production on a large scale so ominous—and it is ominous indeed—is the thought, expressed or felt, that the change implies in its culmination a state of society in which the few will be bosses and the many serfs.

How shall that be prevented? Many devices are suggested, but they are mere devices, mere schemes to circumvent the operation of natural law. Only one proposition takes natural law into consideration and aims to overcome the effect of maladjustments by establishing normal adjustments. That is the proposition of Henry George.. Space is too limited to explain in detail the way in which this would operate to secure to every one, as it certainly would, what he earns by his work. Suffice it here to say that it would do so by promoting instead of obstructing, the free play of natural forces in the distribution as well as in the production of wealth. But there is one question regarding the efficacy of the single tax, which bears directly upon the subject of discussion, and to that we invite a moment's attention.

How would the single tax benefit the small storekeeper and the small farmer? That is the question. Since large farmers with the advantage of improved and valuable machinery can produce at lower cost than the small farmer, could they not drive him out of business? In like manner, could not the department store with its vast capital drive out of businesss the small storekeeper? How could the single tax offset the great difference between the capitalist farmers' machinery and the small farmer's crude methods, or the large store and the small one?

The question assumes that it is desirable in behalf of producers on a small scale to perpetuate small modes of production, like small farming and small store keeping. But that, as we have already seen, is not necessarily desirable. In every department of industry in which production can be carried on with greater economy of labor on a large scale than on a small scale, it is desirable that production on the small scale should cease. Whether or not the single tax would permit department stores and bonanza farming to put an end to small store keeping and small farming is therefore beside the question. The real question is whether the single tax would secure to those who now keep small stores and do small farming their equal share in the benefits of the change

Henry George had no expectation of interfering by the single tax with normal concentration in production. On the contrary, he expected the single tax to encourage it. But he expected also that the single tax would open the way to all who so desired, to be equal partners in production—equal, that is to say, in proportion to their contributions of labor. He expected, in other words, that the single tax would bring about in the field of production on a large scale, a system of voluntary co-operation; or, to use his own language in Progress and Poverty, that under the single tax "we should reach the ideal of the socialist, but not through government repression."

This ideal would be reached through the radical change in the distribution of wealth which the single tax would effect. The system, being of general application, would automatically distribute products in two funds. The first fund would be the distinguishable earnings of individuals. The second would be the rent or value of exceptional opportunities for production. Among individual workers, the first fund would be divided in proportion to their usefulness: the other fund would go to the community as a whole. The law or force by which this equitable distribution would be made, is the natural law of competition, which, like air pressure, so long as it exerts itself not in one direction but in all, produces equilibrium.

To those who understand the true nature of normal competition, and do not confound it with the monopolistic phenomena of the present day, which superficial writers mistakenly confuse with competi-

[cotinued on fifth page.]

FAIRHOPE COURIER.

Devoted to the LAW of EQUAL FREEDOM—"Every man has freedom to do all that he wills, provided he infringes not the equal freedom of any other man"—and to the effort now being made to immediately apply that law to the fullest extent possible under existing conditions, by the Fairhope Industrial Association, at Fairhope, Alabama,

Its motto, and that of Fairhope Industrial Association, is, "We will make good theories work." And it denies the possibility of a "good theory" which is "not practical."

ERNEST B. GASTON, - - - EDITOR AND MANAGER.

Published at Fairhope, Alabama, on the first and fifteenth of each month.

Subscription Price to any address in the United States, Canada or Mexico 25 cents per annum. In other countries of the International Postal Union' 50c.

Entered at Fairhope Post Office as second class matter.

Due notice of expiration of subscriptions will be given, and unless otherwise requested, the Courier will be sent to subscribers until ordered discontinued.

A unique publication is the Good Citizen, a "co-operative magazine" published by the Co-operative College of Citizenship, Chicago. In connection with the Good Citizen are combined in uniform paper, print and style, but each with its own heading and editor, the "Free Lance", the "Rising Cause" and the "National Triune."

The Coming Nation's issue of September 17th was a "municipal ownership" number, and a most valuable one. The fact is, the Coming Nation, while we do not agree wholly with its conclusions or methods, is one of the best edited, most thought stimulating papers issued in the world, and deserves a circulation of hundreds of thousands.

The Waterville, Washington, Index has our sincere thanks for the reproduction in its columns of friend Upton's write-up of Fairhope, with other matter selected from the Courier columns. The Index is one of the bright and aggressive papers which are doing so much to put Washington in the front of progressive states. J. Harvey Noonan is editor and publisher.

Notices of expiring subscriptions have been mailed with cards for conveniently remitting renewals, and we trust those receiving them will attend to their renewals promptly. We are trying hard to publish a paper which will be of interest to our friends outside and further the purposes of our colony, and the co operation of our friends in the prompt remittance of the merely nominal subscription price is quite essential. If possible, send in a new subscriber with your renewal, as many have done.

Democrats, Populists and Silver Republicans are supporting Hon. James G. Maguire for governor of California, and James H. Barry, the able and fearless editor of the Star for Maguire's seat in congress. The style of man Barry is, may be well judged from the following item in his Star: "Several friends have written us cautioning us 'not to be too outspoken for the single tax just at this time.' We can't be too outspoken for the the single tax, now or at any other time." Single-taxers all over the country will watch with eager hope for the returns from California, and rejoice if these champions of the people win.

Theodore Roosevelt has been nominated by the Republicans of New York in spite of the disclosure that in order to avoid the payment of personal taxes in New York he last year made affidavit that he was a resident of Washingtan (though he didn't pay his taxes there either), while the constitution of New York requires the governor to have lived continunusly in the state for the five years preceding his election. We rise to remark that the single tax in operation in New York would have secured to New York all the revenue to which she was entitled, and relieved Mr. Roosevelt of the temptation to shock the friends before whom he has posed as a "reformer" and perhaps defeat himself, by lying about his residence.

PRACTISE WHAT YOU PREACH.

It is true of the Single Tax, as of every other reform, that one of the greatest obstacles in the way is the failure of its advocates to practise what they preach. That has been the bane of the church. It cannot make much headway while its ministers and adherents preach unselfishness and practise selfishness, while they say "Love your neighbor as yourself" and six days in the week act under the rule of "doing your neighbor before he does you." Of a piece are those who decry private ownership of land and protest indignantly against private appropriation of public property in the shape of ground rents, while they continue to enlarge their possessions and exact the utmost farthing from their tenants.

The call to every man is to live the truth he professes. We admit it is hard for a man under conditions which prevent his enjoyment of the full fruit of his own exertions, to resist the temptation to recover perhaps far more than he has been deprived of from some one or many weaker than himself; but we deny his right to even up matters in that way, and insist that the ignorantly perpetuated wrongs of society do not justify him in the individual commission of acts which his own superior intelligence tells him are wrong. One of the chief purposes of Fairhope is to enable people to live the truth they know, by taking away the temptation or opportunity to violate it, and as far as it can do so, to protect them from those who would.

FAIRHOPE BETTER THAN ALL OTHERS.

Editor Fairhope Courier: I am in receipt of the Courier sample copies, and wish sample copies sent to the persons named below; for which I enclose fifty cents, the balance after paying for sample copies to be credited to me on subscription.....I have been interested in colony movements for a number of years, a subscriber to the Coming Nation ever since J. A. Wayland started it in Greensburg, Indiana, and am paying dues as a reserve member of the Brotherhood of the Co-operative Commonwealth ever since; but Fairhope colony seems to me to be laid more nearly on the right lines than either of the other colonies. You only need to learn to use the preferential or effective ballot in the election of your Board of Trustees—and I believe it could be applied to the election of executive officers—and you will have reached, so far as I know or can imagine, the perfection of human government.

I have spent the summer in the raisin-growing part of California, and must say it is too dry and hot for me here. No rain from April to October and 100 degrees of heat for common and sometimes 120 degrees are too much for my northern blood; and worse and more of it, the land and the water to irrigate it are monopolized, and it would take the earnings of a lifetime to obtain leave and ability to hold and operate ten acres of land here. I have been looking to Edison, Washington, for relief; and if they adopt local option in taxation, I may go there next spring. Otherwise I am liable to land at Fairhope.

Wishing you success, as I do all well meaning people, I am

Yours respectfully,

Fresno, Cal. M. M. Cope.

THE SUNDAY AFTERNOON MEETINGS.

The Sunday afternoon meetings for the discussion of vital topics are increasing in interest. One week ago last Sunday the subject was "Are there natural rights? and if so, what are they?" Mr. F. W. Chapman led the discussion, which was generally participated in by those present. On last Sunday Mr. Coleman was the leader, and the subject was Co-operation: one to which he has given much thought. The discussion was a very interesting and good tempered one, though there was no lack of diversity of opinion So much of Mr. Coleman's time was necessarily occupied in definitions and comparisons in order to get the subject from his standpoint fairly before his hearers that he was unable to go into details, and was requested and has consented to give a paper in two weeks on "What is it practicable to do now in the way of co-operation?"

On next Sunday Mr. Norton will lead the discussion on the topic of "Practical measures to work for the adoption of in the proposed

revision of the Alabama constitution." This is a very important question, and one to which Mr. Norton has given a great deal of thought; and it is hoped there will be a general attendance.

The meetings are held at three o'clock. The principal speaker is limited to twenty minutes, the others to ten, and the whole meeting to one hour. The subjects discussed are of immediate practical importance, and the discussions conducted in an orderly, good-natured way, for mutual benefit. All are welcome, and every one given an opportunity to present his views. They should be generally attended.

[conclusion of "Practise what you preach,–see page two.]

Those who believe that land, the common heritage of all men, should not be bought and sold as things that are the product of men's labor, and that those who assume the exclusive use of any portion of it must in equity satisfy the equal rights of their co-inheritors, have been for four years invited to come to Fairhope and practise what they preach. The number who are disposed to do so is disappointingly small. They can talk by the hour and write by the rod against "land monopoly as the foundation of all social ills"; but if the day of its abolition waited their voluntary relinquishment of its opportunities, it would never come.

OF AND FROM MRS. HOWLAND.

Mrs. Marie Howland has, so we understand, about concluded the purchase of the F. A. Smith improvements at the crest of the first slope on Magnolia Avenue, just north of Nathaniel Mershon's. This is unquestionably one of the most beautiful sites in Fairhope. The writer and his wife with all Fairhope to choose from, first selected it, and actually had our blocks on the ground ready to build, only changing to our present location because upon it there was a small patch of cleared ground ready for immediate cultivation. It commands a nice view of the bay, and is very conveniently located for the library which Mrs. Howland is to bring, and which is to be one of the features of Fairhope. We shall take the liberty of quoting from a recent letter of Mrs. Howland, showing the motives actuating her in coming to Fairhope, with the explanation that the expressions were called forth by an entire misinterpretation of a phrase in a recent letter of ours to her.

"I infer that you have the usual dissensions in all co-operative enterprises; but do not be discouraged, if even half or more of the members become disgruntled or even leave. Those that remain will try all the harder to 'make good theories work.' I for one am more and more anxious to prove the single-tax principle right–a right beginning at least. Your platform is broad—broader far than some would be able to take in comprehensively. . . . I will do all in my power to help increase the circulation of the Courier when I come. If it has to stop for a while, still do not be discouraged. [The Courier is on a better footing than ever before. Ed.] Can you not work for nothing, or for bread, oranges and turtle soup, as I did for years at a time? I will not waver so long as 'two or three are gathered together' in the purpose of testing the theory of the great reformer, Henry George. I will go, unless you write me that there is imminent danger of utter disunion. . . . Understand, no dissension, no misfortune to the colony would keep me from moving to Fairhope, except the abandonment of the single-tax experiment. Someway we can live, no matter how poor we are, and wait till reinforcements of the right kind come up. The climate and soil being what is claimed, we need not fear."

***

We were pleased to be able to assure Mrs. Howland as to the satisfactory condition of affairs at Fairhope. As we have before stated, a greater degree of harmony, unity of purpose and good fellowship than prevails in Fairhope, it would be unreasonable to expect anywhere.

Only two facts bring us disappointment and discouragement. One is the failure of those who profess to believe in the theories we are applying to lend us their moral and financial support; and the other is the inability of a considerable percentage of those who locate with us to adapt themselves to the new conditions they find here, and going away again.

As to the first, it is in no wise essential to our existence and continued growth. Fairhope is on a substantial self-supporting basis, and entirely independent of outside support. We ask and long for recognition and support from those outside who hold like views with us, only to be able to enlarge our territory and increase our usefulness.

As for the second, we may say at the outset that we do not know of any one who has left Fairhope in the last two years and more, who has done so because of dissatisfaction with the plans or management of the colony. They have gone away—most of them with regret—because they have not achieved individual financial successes. The reasons for such failures are numerous: some we have given, and others will be given. We have not time nor space to review them here. Suffice it to say that rightly and fairly weighed, they do not in our opinion reflect upon the wisdom of our choice of location. Those who have left dissatisfied with this country were dissatisfied with the places they left to come here, and so far as we are able to learn, are no nearer satisfied where they have gone.

Our staunch friend, T. E. Mann, sends the following encouraging message: "You are doing splendidly in issuing twice a month. The paper is newsy, clean and lively. Will not Mrs. Howland be helpful in the paper work? Was very much pleased to note her purpose to come. She knows so well the frailty of human nature in co-operative effort—so well how to adapt conditions to, and environ this frailty, and come up smiling against every discouragement. She is bright and tactful in local newspaper work, scholarly and forceful in authorship. Her trying experience in colonial reform work leads me to believe she will not come to you with revolutionary nor disturbing intent, but to quietly live and discreetly press her reform ideas along the line of the least resistance—which, after all, is the best way for any of us to do. With ardent wishes for the prosperity of Fairhope Association, I am Yours fraternally, T. E. Mann.

Friend S. W. Rose of the defunct colony at Co-opolis expects to go north temporarily this fall, and promises us a call en route. His disappointing experience at Co-opolis has not been without its effect upon him, and he cautions us to meet a Cynic "with a big C" when he comes up from our steamboat landing. Though our own experience has been far more pleasant than friend Rose's, we have experienced enough of the thorns which line the path of the "reformer" fully to sympathize with him. We are anxious to meet him, swap experiences with him, and try to get him to at least spell cynic with a small c.

More subscriptions to the Courier were received during August than in any month of its history, and September has been but little behind. This is very encouraging to us, and will be we know to our friends outside who appreciate the importance of the paper in awakening and maintaining interest in Fairhope. Our friends could help us greatly, if they would distribute copies among their friends and request their subscriptions. We will always be pleased to furnish on request extra copies for the purpose, or to mail them direct to addresses furnished. Help us to make October a better month than August.

PERSONAL AND LOCAL NOTES.

Miss Kate Mechem is visiting in Fairhope.

Rice is generally harvested. Owing to the drouth of the early summer, the crop has not been up to the general standard.

Mr. Scarvell, the gentleman from Michigan whose arrival was noted in last issue, has rented the Ettel property adjoining the colony, and expects his family during this month.

As to-day is stormy, the Baldwin County Agricultural Society, heretofore called the Fruit, Flower and Vegetable Growers' Association, will meet next Saturday, Oct. 8, in the town hall at Fairhope, at 10 A. M. or as soon after as convenient. Basket dinner at noon.

Boniface Bancroft is negotiating for a sailboat 30 feet long by 8 feet beam, and capable of accommodating twenty or more people, for the benefit of guests of the Fairhope and others wishing to enjoy the pleasures of sailing on the bay.

Rev. E. R. Clarkson preached at Fairhope on the third and fourth Sundays, also speaking in the afternoons at the Bay View church near Point Clear. He will be here again on the third and fourth Sundays, and on one of these dates will speak on "Christianity the Solution of the Problems of the Day."

The Kelly and Pulliam families, who occupied respectively the Knowles and Phinney cottages for a time, have gone back to Mobile. Mr. Kelly is negotiating for the purchase of a lot on the bay front not far from us, and Mr. Pulliam said he thought they would come back earlier next season.

Mr. Andrew Carlson has his new house on the ten acres selected just east of William Stimpson's well under way, and it will be ready for occupancy within a week or two. Mr. Carlson has exhibited commendable energy in his work. He and his wife continue highly pleased with Fairhope, and want to become members of the association just as soon as they can.

The wet weather has interfered seriously with the getting of logs to the saw-mill: so much so that the mill was unable to fill all of Mr. Carlson's bill of lumber for his new house; and he had to purchase a part of it in Mobile, much to the regret of all parties. The mill has a number of other orders ahead.

Mrs. Rosa Cullen has taken a house in Mobile and will keep boarders while remaining in the city during the winter, to let Maggie and Tessie attend the Catholic school. Mrs. Cullen is a lady whom every one esteems, and we regret the apparent necessity which takes the family away from us even temporarliy.

Magnolia Avenue is being cleared of trees for a width of forty feet and of stumps for twenty feet, the work being done by contract at ten cents per stump grubbed and fifty cents per cord of wood cut, brush-burning included. The opening of this fine avenue for its full length will be a material improvement, and one the need of which has long been felt. Little by little we accomplish our aims.

Several parties from Chicago under the leadership of Mr. E. A. Sommers have passed through recently en route to and from River Park, where they purchased lands of Col. Morrison and the River Park Fruit Company. Mr. Sommers expects to have parties every few days during the winter; and Fairhope being the most attractive gateway to the county and its roads to the interior being the best, the business will probably come this way.

A young society gentleman of Mobile who comes over to Fairhope frequently to visit a Mobile young lady summering near by, was the victim of a mean practical joke recently. When returning to the hotel at a late hour from a call upon the young lady, he was held up by a couple of the local boys, who fired a shot or two from the brush alongside the beach path as he came along. At the second shot the young man lit out down the beach only striking the ground in high spots, and a few seconds later arrived at the hotel breathless and perspiring, with a hair-raising tale of his adventure to narrate.

Miss Mabel Webb has been engaged to teach the school at Fairhope for the ensuing school year. By consent of all parties interested, all the public money available for white school in this township will be applied here. This will be sufficient for not more than four months, perhaps not more than three; but the school will be maintained for at least six months, and probably eight. With the funds secured by the W. C. T. U. and Woman's Suffrage Society and Mr. Knowles' rent money so generously donated, new seats and desks sufficient to accommodate twenty-two pupils have been ordered. School will begin on next Monday.

Mrs. Mead arrived from Eldora, Colorado, on the 20th, and is negotiating for an improved property in Fairhope. Her sister, who is not in good health, went through to Chicago, to remain until Mrs. Mead gets a place ready for her. Mrs. Mead is the same jolly woman as of yore, and we are glad to see her back. She thinks Mrs. Roberts, who spent some time here when she was here two years ago, will likely come again this winter.

Mrs. Mead takes the Vander Meulen place, we understand, and will repair and improve it at once. What that means to Fairhope, only those familiar with the local situation will fully appreciate. It is the first place as one comes up the hill from the wharf, right on the crest of the bluff and therefore one of the most conspicuous places in our village. We think all parties are to be congratulated on its change of ownership.

IMPROVED PROPERTY FOR SALE.

New House, 5 rooms; Hall, Gallery, front and back; 40 acres good farming land, 10 fenced and under cultivation; abundant water, barn 30x20 feet, with large loft.

Also, 65 acres adjoining; 10 acres fenced and having 4000 grape vines in bearing, Delaware, Niagara, Brilliant, Salem and others,

Rock creek, a never failing stream runs across west end of land. Hardwood timber, also pine in abundance.

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Will divide lots in size to suit. Address E. Q. Norton,
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Harness and Saddlery, Carriages Wagons, Carts, Bicycles Baby carriages Log-cart Wheels. Drays.
Sole Agency Celebrated Studebaker Wagons. MOBILE, ALA.

[contined from first page.]

tion, it is perfectly clear how the result outlined above would come to pass under the single tax.... How would the small farmer and the small storekeeper fare under the single tax, with the bonanza farm and the department store to compete with? Would it not be more pertinent at the outset to inquire how the department store and the bonanza farmer would fare, if they could get no one to work for them?

Think a moment of the effect the single tax would have upon the labor market. Every one who claimed to own land that other people wanted, would have to pay a tax upon it which would be so high that he could never hope to get it back, unless he used the land to its full capacity. But he could not use the land without employing men, no matter how much machinery he had. Machinery won't work itself. Consequently everybody who owned land would either have to give it up or hire enough men to work it to the full. If he gave it up, somebody else would take it. In either case the effect upon the labor market would be the same, namely a brisk demand for labor, in all departments and of all grades, a demand that would constantly exceed the supply. Jobs would be hunting for men, instead of men hunting for jobs. The inevitable effect of that would be the disbandment of the army of the unemployed, increase of wages, and the consequent independence of workmen

Workmen, though hired, would then have to be treated as industrial equals. They could no longer be treated as serfs. If they objected to their treatmeut, others would be glad to hire them; and if they objected to being hired, they would be in position to refuse, for they could themselves become producers on a large scale, hiring one another.

The one thing to bear in mind with reference to the single-tax principle is that it contemplates the abolition of monopoly and the freeing of labor. It would accomplish this by making competition free. Competition is the antithesis of monopoly. To abolish one is to establish the other. To make competition free, therefore, is to apply the natural remedy to the ills that flow from monopoly. Now, all the ills which seem to come from normal production on a large scale, are caused by the monopolistic circumstances in which it is carried on. To get rid of them, free competition must be established. That being established, monopoly and all its brood of evils would disappear. Whoever will consider what free competition means, will realize the beneficently revolutionary character of the effects that would be produced by the introduction of a principle like that of the single tax, which is simply an appropriate method of unshackling competition. With competition freed and monopoly abolished, no one could fail to secure his equitable share in the benefits of social growth. To all such the new modes of production which were more prolific and required less labor, would be welcomed as a boon. It is the operation of the principle of monopoly, not of free competition, that makes them now a menace. If the great factory, the department store, capitalistic farming, or any other normal species of large production is a menace to any industrial class, it is not because such method is in itself bad, but because the injured class is disinherited of its competing power. Restore that power, by abolishing monopoly, through making competition free, and special difficulties of adjustment which now seem to be insuperable obstacles, would prove to be the merest shadows in the path. What labor of all grades needs is not to be helped, but to be freed. Being freed, it would help itself.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

The Baldwin County Woman's Suffrage Society meets the third Saturday, at 2 P.M., of each month, in Assembly Hall at Fairhope Ala. All who are interested are cordially invited to come and join us: especially the ladies are invited.

Mrs. J. A. Woods, President. Mrs. F.L.Brown, Secretary.
Mrs. O. A. Webb, Vice Pres. Mrs. S. H. Leech, Treasurer.

Religious services are held regularly at Fairhope every Sunday, as follows:

Sunday school	at	9:45 A. M.
Church service	"	11 A. M.
Christian Endeavor	"	7:30 P. M.

The Fairhope W. C. T. U. meets the second and fourth Thursday of each month at 2:30 P. M. with Mrs. Arthur Mershon.

Mrs. Nella Leech, President.
Mrs. H. N. Brown, Secretary.

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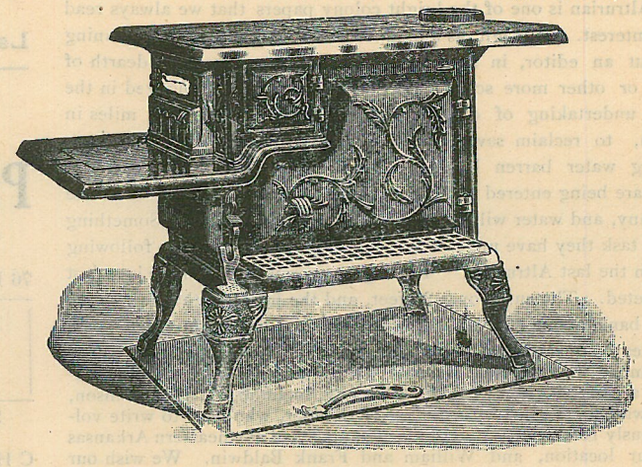

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WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DRUGGISTS AND SEEDSMEN.

The Altrurian, the journal of the Colorado Co-operative Company, has our thanks for a kind mention of Fairhope and the Courier. The Altrurian is one of the bright colony papers that we always read with interest. Though, as announced in a recent issue, it is running without an editor, in the interest of economy, there is no dearth of news or other more solid matter. The C. C. C. is engaged in the great undertaking of digging an irrigating ditch several miles in length, to reclaim several thousand acres of extremely fertile, but, lacking water barren lands, in Montrose county, Colorado. The lands are being entered under the desert land act by members of the company, and water will be furnished only to members. Something of the task they have undertaken will be gathered from the following item in the last Altrurian: "The big heavy cut and fill here is at last completed. The cut is over 25 feet, and the fill from the river to the ditch bank about 30 feet." The company, beside the ditch work, operates co-operatively a saw-mill, boarding house and hay baler. A number who have been at one time or another interested in Fairhope are connected with the company, including C. H. Robinson, who was for a time its president, J. Kinder, who used to write voluminously for Liberty Bell of the advantages of northeastern Arkansas for our location, and William and Frank Baldwin. We wish our friends great success.

FAIRHOPE INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION.

Organized and incorporated at Des Moines, Iowa, February, 1894.
Established Fairhope, Baldwin County, Alabama, January, 1895.

C. L. Coleman, Pres. — A. H. Mershon, Vice Pres.
G. M. Bancroft, Treas. — E. B. Gaston, Sec'y.

Fairhope Industrial Association was organized to MAKE GOOD THEORIES WORK. Its basic principle is the Law of Equal Freedom, "That every man has freedom to do all that he wills, provided he infringes not on the equal freedom of any other man." This law is applied by it:

IN GOVERNMENT, by personal vote, initiative, referendum and imperative mandate.

IN LAND HOLDING AND USE, by the principle of the Single Tax, the association holding the title to all lands and leasing to individuals in quantities to suit, at a rental "which shall equalize the varying advantages of location and natural qualities of all tracts." The association, out of the sum thus received, pays all taxes levied by the civil authorities on improvements and personal property held upon its lands, thus making the rent of land the only charge against individuals.

IN NATURAL MONOPOLIES—transportation, telephones, water, light, power. etc.—by association control and operation at cost, as fast as practicable.

IN A MEDIUM FOR EFFECTING LOCAL EXCHANGES, by the issuance of its non-interest-bearing notes for services rendered it, redeemable in equivalent services and land rent.

The above simple program has been in practical operation at Fairhope for more than three years, and its advantages are constantly becoming more apparent.

It should appeal to those who believe the path of progress does not necessarily lead to the substitution of a government trust for the multiple private trusts which in the enjoyment of special privileges have grown to be a national menace, but that freedom is a sovereign remedy for all our economic ills.

The association has a most beautiful, healthful and attractive location on the eastern shore of Mobile Bay, within sight of the important sea-coast city of Mobile, its lands having a frontage on the bay shore of about three fourths of a mile, and extending back—not wholly connected—three miles. They comprise 670 acres, owned free of incumbrance; and a very favorable option is held on nearly 2500 acres more.

The land is especially adapted to truck and fruit growing for northern markets, as well as general farming and stock raising. The association owns its own wharf, 1800 feet long, at which the side-wheel steamer Heroine, plying daily between Mobile and this shore, lands on all trips. Fairhope has a post office having a daily mail and doing a money-order business.

There are twenty-three dwellings on the ground, a store, hotel, saw-mill, cigar factory, blacksmith shop, and a public hall, used also for school and church purposes.

The cost of membership in the association is $100, which may be paid in instalments; but membership, though desired, is not requisite to the occupancy of land and the enjoyment of the economic advantages afforded by the association.

Beautiful bay-view building lots and desirable lands for farming are open for settlement by desirable parties, with no financial requirement further than the payment of the annual rent based on the value of the unimproved land, all of which will be expended in the interest of those paying it.

Fairhope Association pays no dividends, interest or bonuses to any one, and has but one salaried officer (receiving $10 a month). It was organized and exists solely to apply correct principles, for the benefit of those who participate and for a practical, visible example to the world. Its resources are all expended to that end; and to that end it invites the membership and moral and financial support of right-thinking men and women.

The following list of industries which would probably prove profitable at Fairhope is offered for the benefit of inquirers:

Truck farming, fruit growing, general farming, stock raising, poultry raising, nursery, cotton gin, rice huller, cane mill, cannery, ice factory, laundry, pottery bakery, brick-yard, tannery (using probably canaigre roots), water toboggan and other devices of like character for amusement of excursionists from Mobile and elsewhere, light manufacturing of almost any kind, mail order business &c.

For further particulars, address with stamp, E. B. Gaston, Secretary,
Fairhope, Alabama.

NOTARY PUBLIC.

I hold a commission as Notary Public, and am prepared to draw if necessary, and take acknowledgements of all legal documents.

E. B. Gaston, Fairhope, Ala.

Leslie Hall,
ATTORNEY AT LAW
Land Titles Examined. Daphne Ala.

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We buy and sell for cash and make our prices as low as possible; preferring quick and large sales, at small profits, to small, slow sales at large profits. DON'T SEND YOUR LARGE CASH ORDERS TO MOBILE-but let us figure on them. We can beat Mobile prices almost every time and the small margin-which is not Profit but small pay for our service-will remain in Baldwin County.
Fairhope Ala.

THE ALTRUIST
Is a monthly paper, partly in phonetic spelling, and devoted to equal rights, mutual assistance, united labor, and common property. It is issued by the Altruist Community, of St. Louis, whose members hold all their property in common, live and work together in a permanent home for their mutual enjoyment, assistance and support, and both men and women have equal rights and decide on all its business affairs by their majority vote. 25c. a year: specimen copy free. A. LONGLEY, Editor, 2819 Olive street, St. Louis, Mo. (Adv.)

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FAIRHOPE COURIER.

That which Nature provides is the Common Property of all God's Children; that which the Individual creates belongs to the Individual; that which the Community creates belongs to the Community.—GEN. J. B. WEAVER.

VOL. V. NO. 6. FAIRHOPE, ALA., OCT. 14, 1898. 25 CENTS A YEAR.

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

Pat Flynn had sixty-seven hats,
And wanted sixty more:
It was an odd, strange whim of Pat's,
For only one he wore;
But he would toil by night or day
To get a hat to lay away.

'Twas "Hats" the first thing in the morn,
And "Hats" at noon and night:
The neighbors laughed the man to scorn,
And said it was but right
To send such crazy cranks as he
To spend their days at Kankakee.

A million dollars Peter Doyle
Had laid away in store,
Yet late and early did he toil
To get a million more.
He could not use the half he had,
And yet he wanted "more," bedad!

His neighbors praise him to the skies,
Wherever he may go:
They call him great and good and wise,
And bow before him low.
Is there such difference as that,
Between a dollar and a hat? —Indianapolis Journal.

THE POST-OFFICE AND THE RAILROADS.

Justice Walter Clark in the Arena quotes from reports of Postmaster Generals Bissell and Wilson (year and page being given) testimony showing that while the government pays the railroads for mail transportation an average of eight cents per pound an average distance of 448 miles, that the express companies carry milk to New York, a distance of 396 miles at a charge of one sixth of a cent a pound, returning the cans free, and that the distance might be increased to 1000 miles and a profit still be made at that price. The same writer also declares that in addition to paying such exorbitant proportionate rates, the government pays the railroads $3 600 000 annually as rental for postal cars; or more than enough to build outright double the entire number in use. He estimates the $29 000 000 paid by the government to the railroads for mail transportation to be $15 000 000 in excess of a fair and moderate charge. The writer has personal knowledge that the compensation paid those employed directly by the P. O. D., notably fourth-class postmasters and mail contractors and messengers on minor routes, is in most cases far less than a "fair and reasonable compensation"; while the efficiency and honesty secured in such departments are remarkable. The only extravagance and fraud in the P. O. D. are where the high officials come in contact with private corporations able and willing to offer bribes—either directly or indirectly—which few can resist.

When it is remembered, as every one must remember, that the railroads were one of the most important factors in placing the present administration in power—that almost every railroad management exerted all its powers of persuasion and coercion to elect it— the hopelessness of expecting any relief through it must be apparent; but the time will come—we are confident not many years hence—when this source of corruption and extravagance, which is responsible for the deficit in the post-office department and a multitude of worse ills, will be removed.

The very name "yellow fever" is one to conjure with, and send the people scattering in all directions; but the statistics compiled by the Chicago Tribune show that though in the Cuban war the troops were taken into yellow fever districts and the fever actually broke out among them, that of the 1284 soldiers and officers who died of disease (only 350 having been killed in battle or died of wounds), 515 died of typhoid fever, and only 84 of yellow fever.

ABOUT FAIRHOPE WHARF.

The first cash ever turned into the treasury from the operation of Fairhope wharf was received on September 19th. Hitherto at least the percentage due the association has been received in certificates. The amount of canceled certificates in the treasury on October first was $755.15.

The first certificates ever redeemed in cash were one dollar's worth forwarded by P. B. Hirsch of the Colorado Co-operative Company, Pinon, Col., to whom they were sent by Ernst Ebel of Chicago as a contribution toward the building of a telephone line for the C. C. C., Mr. Ebel being an ardent friend of the Colorado colony as well as of our own. It seems a happy co-incidence that the first cash paid in the redemption of wharf certificates should continue on an equally beneficent mission to our colony friends so far away. And we wish them success in the securing of funds for their "public service" and great enjoyment of it when secured. It is something we are planning to have ourselves one of these days.

The Secretary has been instructed to list the subscribers to the Wharf Fund in the order of their subscriptions, and ascertain those who still retain any of their certificates, and the amount: and at the end of every month, all the cash received during the month from the wharf will be applied to the redemption of certificates in the order of their issuance. A fairer way perhaps would be, as long as the subscriptions were all made within a comparatively short time, to make pro rata payments: but the amounts which will be available for payment at any time, and most of the subscriptions themselves, are so small it does not seem practicable. We are very grateful to the friends who helped us to secure the wharf—which has been of the utmost importance to us— and quite proud of the success attending our plan of "co-operative financiering."

One dollar and twenty-five cents in wharf certificates were issued for every dollar paid toward the wharf fund: and as the payments were made just about three years ago, the wharf not being opened for business until January 1, 1896, it follows that those holding the $755.15 canceled up to October 1, have received not less than 8¼ per cent per annum on their investment, while the average would be fully twice that, and some received practically 25 per cent, as their certificates were redeemed in wharf uses almost immediately. In addition to thus paying for itself so rapidly and being of such immense advantage to us and to this whole section—for it accommodates people living twelve miles distant, and even farther—it has afforded almost, if not quite, a living for the man in charge of it.

When the certificates are all retired and the wharf has fully paid for itself, the receipts from its operation will afford a fund which will enable us to rapidly acquire other much desired public services, to in their turn become revenue bearing properties. Or we may—which is our ultimate ideal—greatly reduce the charges, or even make the use of the wharf free to residents on colony lands, thus stimulating settlement within the colony by making a distinct advantage appear of living inside the colony rather than outside. The effect of such a policy upon speculative land values adjacent will be readily appreciated.

Thus are the benefits of the principles of equity embodied in the constitution of Fairhope Association exemplified, and the contrast between them and the methods prevalent elsewhere made plain: in short "good theories made to work." Under the usual plan of allowing such public necessities to be a "private snap" for some one, having once paid for the wharf, we would immediately begin to pay for it over again, and so on to the end of time; but that is not the "Fairhope way."

School opened auspiciously on the third with an attendance of 20, since increased to 30. Miss Mabel Webb promises to be a very efficient and popular teacher.

FAIRHOPE COURIER.

Devoted to the LAW of EQUAL FREEDOM—"Every man has freedom to do all that he wills, provided he infringes not the equal freedom of any other man"—and to the effort now being made to immediately apply that law to the fullest extent possible under existing conditions, by the Fairhope Industrial Association, at Fairhope, Alabama,

Its motto, and that of Fairhope Industrial Association, is, "We will make good theories work." And it denies the possibility of a "good theory" which is "not practical."

ERNEST B. GASTON, - - - EDITOR AND MANAGER.

Published at Fairhope, Alabama, on the first and fifteenth of each month.

Subscription Price to any address in the United States, Canada or Mexico 25 cents per annum. In other countries of the International Postal Union' 50c.

Entered at Fairhope Post Office as second class matter.

Due notice of expiration of subscriptions will be given, and unless otherwise requested, the Courier will be sent to subscribers until ordered discontinued.

The National Single Taxer has recently changed from weekly to monthly issues, and the Progressive Thought from monthly to bi-monthly; while the Courier has gone forward from monthly to semi-monthly issues.

The American government has paid three million dollars for telegraph service since the commencement of the Spanish war. Yet the telegraph companies refused to stand their war tax of one cent each on telegrams. If the people ever get their eyes open, they will build a few lines of their own.—Citizen and Country (Canadian).

Were we asked to name the paper which one ought to to take who could afford but one, we would unhesitatingly say "The Public." Mr. Post's paper is in our opinion the most valuable publication now issued for the busy man who wishes reliable information on the important events of the day, and to the student of sociology. Whatever other papers you take or are compelled to forego the pleasure of taking, you ought to take the Public.

The initiative and referendum are to be voted upon at the coming election as an amendment to the constitution. The People's party platform enforces these measures and declares in favor of their adoption. Many Republican papers are favoring the adoption of these measures. The last one to speak favorably is the Redfield Journal Observer, which says that the more it examines these measures, the more it is satisfied as to their desirability. Every person who desires the people to rule and studies these measures, cannot fail to be convinced of their great importance.—Mitchell, S. D., Gazette.

The National Single Taxer comes to us from its new office of publication in New York, replete with interesting and encouraging matter. We regret however to note that it will hereafter be published monthly. This is quite likely made necessary by lack of support, but cannot but lessen largely the usefulness of the paper. As the paper reports less subscriptions among the 20 000 single taxers of New York than there are members of the Manhattan Club, we think the hope of going east for larger support was illusory.

JAPANESE PERSIMMONS.

"News" receives a specimen from Fairhope, Ala.

Ernest B. Gaston sends the News a huge Japanese persimmon from Fairhope, Alabama, where Mr. Gaston, with others from Des Moines and other places, has founded a flourishing colony. The persimmon weighs sixteen ounces, and is one of many from a tree planted in 1895 (then only a year old), and which also bore fruit last year. The fruit might well be called the custard fruit, he writes; as when fully ripe the meat, free from seeds, is just like a delicious custard. It can be transported across the continent.—Des Moines Daily News.

In a letter acknowledging receipt the News says, "It is certainly a noble specimen of your fruit. We have placed it on exhibition." This specimen was from Mr. Coleman's orchard. Last year Dr. Atkinson had a tree set out in February, which bore a couple of dozen or more persimmons in the fall of the same year; and Mr. Davis has grown them to weigh a pound and a half.

THE PROBLEM OF CHEAP LABOR.

Under this head the Mobile Register, discussing the labor troubles at Pana, Illinois, where the white union miners are forcibly resisting the introduction of Alabama negro miners, says:

"The white laborers have run against a hard and invincible economic fact: that they cannot live as cheaply as the negro, that they cannot support their families on what a negro will take for his day's labor, because a negro wants little for himself and has few domestic obligations, or rather assumes few such obligations. The negro works so cheaply that the operators, who could not get out coal at a profit while paying the whites the lowest wages a white man can live upon, are enabled by the use of negro labor to get the coal out and yet sell it twenty-five cents a ton under the former price and make a profit. This fact settles the question, if economic laws are to be observed."

Our esteemed contemporary evidently believes implicitly in the inexorable "iron law of wages", that "wages tend always toward the lowest point of subsistence." Not the earnings of labor, not its efficiency, is to determine its share of the world's product, but the least portion upon which laborers can exist and reproduce. Under existing conditions of monopolized natural opportunities and legalized special privileges of many kinds, this law must undoubtedly prevail; but these conditions are not natural, and must not continue. Restore the land to the people and abolish all other special privileges, and then see what will become of the iron law of wages; which is really a manifestation under unjust and unnatural conditions of the universal law that "all men seek to satisfy their desires with the least exertion." Right these unjust conditions, and the same law that sends colored miners to Illinois to take the place of white miners at a wage which the latter reject, but which to the former is comparatively attractive, will lead the miners, black and white, to demand and enable them to secure an increasing share with the capitalist of their joint product, until each gets his full and proper portion. As the reversal of an engine under steam sends it speeding in the opposite direction with the same force, so will this same law work beneficence instead of misery, with the reversal of the unnatural and unjust conditions which prevail.

REFORMS EXEMPLIFIED.

From the Star, San Francisco, Cal.

The Fairhope (Ala.) Courier is published at the single-tax colony of that name; where, so far as the people of the village and its administration are concerned, the public expenses are all met by collecting the full rental value of the land, and exempting all other values from taxation; where all public utilities are owned and operated for the common benefit; where the people themselves own the means of exchange among themselves ("Labor Exchange") without interest or intervention of banks; and where lots or farming lands are open to the choice of any person who may decide to join them, free of all charge except the payment of the annual rental value. In short, it is, locally speaking, an ideal single-tax, labor-exchange, municipal-ownership colony. If the state of Alabama, which renders no equivalent for its taxes, could only be induced to keep its meddling nose out, Fairhope would be an ideal reform colony.

Mobile Single Taxers under the energetic direction of Messs. Hall, Ettel and Norton have been pushing the single tax actively in Mobile this summer. For some months Single Tax meetings have been held at Monroe Park on Monday evenings, a significant fact being that the park manager was anxious to have the meetings and to have them announced as "Single Tax" meetings. Mr. Norton has also maintained with the assistance of others an able Single Tax department in the Daily Item, and the proprietors of the Daily News have also requested the maintenance of a similar department in the News. The wholesale raises in assessments, though perhaps just enough under the system in vogue, have aroused the people wonderfully, and put them in a mood to listen to the single tax.

Bro. C. L. Coleman of Fairhope colony, Alabama, sent us one of the largest persimmons we ever saw - fully as large as a good-sized apple. Ye scribe has been cyphering around to get a bite out of the aforesaid "simmon," but Secretary McMahon also had his eye upon it, and so far the many little innocent games to obtain possession have come to naught.—The Coming Nation.

CHAUNCEY IS PROSPEROUS: ARE YOU?

Before the Hamilton Club of Chicago on Monday last Chauncey M(ountebank) Depew spoke thus of the times since November, 1896 and through which we are now passing:

It was not in the power of the human mind to conceive the wonderful and beneficial changes which would happen in twenty four months. From industrial paralysis has come industrial activity: from labor vainly seeking employment has come employment seeking labor; from capital hidden and locked up and unremunerative and worse than useless has come capital flowing into channels which added to the strength, prosperity and wealth of the whole country; from gloom we are in the light and from despair we are happy.

Doubtless the times are prosperous for Mr. Depew and his fellow-beneficiaries of class legislation. It was the intention of the campaign of '96 to make them so.

The foregoing item was not yet in type, before news came of the bloody conflict between striking Union miners and imported negroes at Virden in the same state, where Mr. Depew delivered his grandiose, lying address. "Employment" was in this case "seeking labor," but it was jumping over the heads of the white men of Illinois and seeking homeless and family-less negroes graduated in the penal mines of Alabama; because, as the Register says, "assuming fewer obligations of civilized existence than the whites," they could and would work for less. Great is Republican prosperity!

SUNDAY AFTERNOON MEETINGS.

Owing to the rain Mr. Norton was unable to attend and lead the discussion on the revision of the Alabama Constitution, on the second. On the tenth Mr. Coleman led the discussion on "What is it practical to do in the way of Co-operation?" presenting a very interesting paper on the subject. The discussion was participated in by Mess. F. L. and C. K. Brown, Norton, Gaston and Stimpson. The meeting was one of the liveliest and most interesting held. The spirit manifested in the meetings is admirable and if it can be preserved—which we doubt not it can—they will prove to be a very enjoyable and profitable feature.

On next Sunday, to-morrow, Mr. Norton will be the leader on the subject announced for two weeks ago; and on the following Sunday the writer will take the initiative in discussing the subject "What can we do at Fairhope for our mutual benefit and the exemplification of correct principles of economics?"

Mrs. Nella M. Leech was elected president for the ensuing four weeks.

Meetings begin at 3 o'clock. The topics for discussion are important and a more general attendance is desired.

Mississippi and Louisiana are having a more or less serious time with the yellow fever, but up to this writing Alabama has been kept free of it. September was an unusually healthy month in Mobile according to the mortuary reports; and the local health officers are making strenuous efforts to keep the city in good sanitary condition, and to prevent the importation of the disease from other points. The death rate from the fever continues low—only about 10 per cent. We have no fear of the fever in Fairhope; but the editor is somewhat uneasy that an outbreak in Mobile County should cause a quarantine by Baldwin, which would prevent for an indefinite period his family's return from their northern trip. The light mortality in the yellow fever epidemics last year and this, and among the soldiers in infected camps in Cuba, seem to prove quite conclusively that with improved methods of treatment and sanitation the disease has been robbed of its virulence.

ST. LOUIS FALL FESTIVITIES.

Including the St. Louis Exposition, St. Louis Fair, Veiled Prophet Procession, Grand Illuminated Bicycle Parade, Horse Show, and many other attractions. For this occasion the Mobile & Ohio R. R. will sell tickets to St. Louis and return at very low rates, giving ample limits. The St. Louis Fall Festivities this year will be more brilliant than ever before, and the low rates now offered by the Mobile & Ohio R. R. make it possible for every one to participate in them. For rates, tickets, and full information, also for one of their beautiful Veiled Prophet hangers, call on any agent of the Mobile & Ohio R. R.

LOCAL AND PERSONAL.

Frank Brown is building a large barn on his place.

Sharks have been reported seen from the wharf recently.

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Carlson have moved into their new house on Fairhope avenue.

Rev. E. R. Clarkson preaches at Fairhope, morning and evening, to-morrow and the Sunday following.

Frank Davis on one morning recently gigged from Fairhope wharf five sheephead, the smallest of which weighed 3⅔ pounds.

Mershon Brothers' new sign adds much to the business-like appearance of their store front. It was the work of Mr. Olaf Tuveson.

Mr. Dawson of New York has written to the Fairhope House for terms for accommodations for his wife from November first to April first.

Mrs. Larson has been much worse lately, and Mr. Larson was compelled to leave his work at Daphne and come home to take care of her.

From July 1st to October 1st foot wharfage was charged only one way over Fairhope wharf, but on the latter date the charging of foot wharfage both ways was resumed.

A soap-bubble entertainment will be given for the benefit of the school fund, Friday evening, October 28. Music, humorous recitation, refreshments. No charge for admission.

The schooner Minnie L. has been hauled out and cleaned of barnacles this week, and is just back from the oyster reef with several barrels of oysters, and everybody will have oysters over Sunday.

On October first the fare on the steamer went up to fifty cents each way, the usual winter rate. The James A. Carney is on the run now, having discontinued her trips to Point Clear, and the Heroine being laid up.

The approach of winter in the north makes the people there long for a place of refuge in the south. From letters received by friends in Fairhope, this is true of more than one party who would be glad to be back again.

Miss Etta Deremer, postmistress at Fairhope, Pennsylvania, who sent a short-time subscription to the Courier on receipt of a sample copy some time since, found the paper of sufficient interest to renew her subscription for a year.

Friend S. S. Mann sends another club of four subscribers, with the necessary funds (paid out of his own pocket), and expresses the deepest interest in Fairhope affairs and the strongest faith in its future. We may expect him with us soon.

Will Stimpson is back from Fort Morgan, for the present at least, and is finding plenty to do on his own place. We suspect that Will found it hard to stay away from that baby, which is thriving finely, and as fine a lad as one might see in a day's journey.

Rev. K. O. Brune and family returned to Mobile early in the month. While here they made many friends, and were so well pleased themselves with Fairhope that if they remain in Mobile another year, they expect to spend the summer here.

G. E. Baldwin of Booneville, Iowa, from whom we had hoped for a visit this winter, says, "I hardly think it possible I can visit you this winter; but I believe you are engaged in a noble undertaking, and wish you the greatest of success." His subscription for another year accompanied his message.

Charles A. Hall is kept busy in Mobile, and says he thinks he sees three years' work ahead of him. Friend Hall is such a superior workman that he has no trouble in getting work when there is any going. He does not manifest any burning desire to go back to Minneapolis, especially at this time of the year.

Miss Anna Dickinson Brown has made several Sunday addresses recently at Daphne, in the interest of W. C. T. U. and Loyal Legion work, and was well received. Mrs. Leech accompanied her on one trip, and delivered one of her recitations. Miss Brown would have started on a lecture tour through this and adjoining states but for the quarantine.

Mrs. Creswell left on the eighth for an extended visit with her daughter, Mrs. Laura Creswell Jacobs, and family in Saint Louis. Mr. Creswell is more fortunate than the editor in that in the absence of his better half he is not reduced to the extremity of turning cook himself. Miss Minnie remains to take care of the male members of the family.

Mrs. Mead, as intimated in the last issue, has become the owner of the Vander Meulen property, and of the Vander Meulen's membership as well. Her sister, Mrs. Ferguson, arrived about the first of the month, and they are occupying the premises—as comfortably as may be—while having the galleries re-roofed, the rooms ceiled, and other much needed improvements made.

Mrs. E. A. Donahue writes from Davenport, Iowa, that having completed arrangements for spending at least the coming winter in the south, and being in sympathy with the aims of our association, she would like to visit Fairhope, and inquires for accommodations for light housekeeping for herself and son. Accommodations which we think will suit her can be readily secured, and we trust she will at least spend the winter with us.

The Fairhope House has enjoyed a good patronage from Mobile people as well as northern tourists this summer, and has made a reputation which will be of great advantage to it next season. Prospects for the winter are also bright; and all who wish a comfortable, congenial place to spend a part of the winter and escape the rigor of the northern winter, would do well to speak early. We hope to see many of our northern friends this winter.

Mr. Peter Bebolt, the hustling Frenchman of Section Twenty-eight, renews his subscription to the Courier with one of his unexcelled brooms. Mr. Bebolt makes the best brooms to be secured in this part of the country and is enjoying a very good trade for them, though disappointed in his own crop of broom corn this year and being obliged to import his raw material. He has devised a novelty, in the shape of a whisk broom in which he uses chiefly pine straw (the long, slender leaves of the pine tree). They take well in Mobile.

LAND FOR SALE.

Twenty acres in the southwest corner of Section 28, on main road between Battles and Marlow, about 2½ miles from Fairhope and the same distance from Battles. Four acres cleared of roots and stumps and in cultivation, balance practically clear of timber. 40 rods new picket fence. House 12x16, with good shingle roof, cistern.

Will sell for $150. Address H. F. Landes,
n15 Fairhope, Ala.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

The Baldwin County Woman's Suffrage Society meets the third Thursday, at 2 P.M., of each month, in Assembly Hall at Fairhope Ala. All who are interested are cordially invited to come and join us: especially the ladies are invited.

Mrs. J. A. Woods, President. Mrs. F. L. Brown, Secretary.
Mrs. O. A. Webb, Vice Pres. Mrs. S. H. Leech, Treasurer.

Religious services are held regularly at Fairhope every Sunday, as follows:

Sunday school	at	9:45 A. M.
Church service	"	11 A. M.
Christian Endeavor	"	7:30 P. M.

The Fairhope W. C. T. U. meets the second and fourth Thursday of each month at 2:30 P. M. with Mrs. Arthur Mershon.

Mrs. Nella Leech, President.
Mrs. H. N. Brown, Secretary.

ST. LOUIS EXPOSITION.

Opens Sept. 14th. Closes Oct. 29th, 1898.

For this occasion all ticket agents of the Mobile & Ohio R. R. will sell tickets to St. Louis and return at very low rates. Tickets will bear ample limits. For exact rates, tickets and full information, call on any Mobile & Ohio agent.

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MANUFACTURERS AND IMPORTERS OF

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Building work a specialty.

EAST SIDE ROYAL BET. ST. LOUIS & ST ANTHONY, MOBILE, ALA.

IMPROVED PROPERTY FOR SALE.

New House, 5 rooms; Hall, Gallery, front and back; 40 acres good farming land, 10 fenced and under cultivation; abundant water, barn 30x20 feet, with large loft.

Also, 35 acres adjoining; 10 acres fenced and having 4000 grape vines in bearing, Delaware, Niagara, Brilliant, Salem and others,

Rock creek, a never failing stream runs across west end of land. Hardwood timber, also pine in abundance.

One mile due east of Daphne, county seat.

Will divide lots in size to suit. Address E. Q. Norton,
Daphne, Ala.

MOBILE & OHIO RAILROAD.

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ST. LOUIS, CHICAGO, MEMPHIS, HOT SPRINGS, LOUISVILLE, CINCINNATI, CAIRO, CLEVELAND, DETROIT, TOLEDO, DES MOINES, KANSAS CITY, ST. PAUL, MINNEAPOLIS,

AND ALL POINTS in the NORTH, EAST and WEST.

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This road has for sale the finest farming and timber lands in the South at astonishingly low rates and upon easy terms, in the states of Tennessee, Mississippi, and Alabama. Also Government lands subject to homestead entry. Most delightful and even climate in America. For descriptive matter and full information apply to—

Alabama Land and Development Co. Mobile Ala.

Low rate excursions for land-seekers several times each month. Also low one way rates for settlers and their household goods.

For information as to rates, tickets, time, etc., apply to,

G. W. KING, City Ticket Agent, Mobile, Ala
R. W. SMITH, City Passenger Agent, Mobile, Ala.
J. N. COMATZAR, Traveling Passenger Agent, Mobile, Ala.
R. CARROLL, Vice-Pres't & Gen. Mgr.
E. E. POSEY, General Passenger Agent.

MOBILE, ALABAMA.

SALESMEN WANTED.

Good wages to sell our Nursery Stock. Apply for terms. We will have for Spring and Fall. 1898, an immense stock of Apples, Pears, Peach, Plum, Apricot, Cherry, Grape, etc. Also small fruits, shade and ornamental trees, Roses etc. We make a specialty of wholesaling to large planters direct. Write us for wholesale prices. Address: Southern Nursery Co. Winchester, Tenn.

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B. C. A. C.

As the first Saturday in this month was a rainy day, the Baldwin County Agricultural Society met last Saturday. The use of the Fairhope House having been offered, the invitation was accepted. After the basket dinner had been eaten on the east gallery, president Norton called the meeting to order in the dining hall. The secretary was instructed to write to the Interstate Commerce Commission and to the representative from this district and the senators from this state, approving of the legislation asked by the Commission to give the power needed to carry out the purposes for which it was appointed. Most of the time was devoted to discussing vegetables and fruits which may be planted during the remainder of the fall; particularly turnips, ruta bagas, beets, cabbages, strawberries, persimmons, pears and grapes. C. K. Brown was requested to inquire for further information about the Sudduth pear, and Dr. Atkinson about a new grape which has appeared in Bell county, Texas. A committee was appointed to print the constitution and by-laws. The treasurer's report showed that the society is free from debt. It was voted to have the next meeting at River Park, November 5, at 10:30 A. M. The Directors especially are requested to be there early.

A CORRECTION.

Extract from a letter to E B. G.

Long ago I intended to ask you to say in the Courier for me that I fear all the comrades are going to be disappointed in me. I have so many faults. I cannot bear to be overestimated. I will not particularize further than to say I could hardly be called a musician, unless a knowledge of the science of music and very modest attainment upon the violin could make me so.

One statement in a late issue is not quite correct. We carried to Mexico but a remnant of the books collected in Europe by Edward Howland, and a smaller remnant has found its way back to the States, I bringing some 20 or 30 volumes when I left in 1893; but there should be over 1000 volumes. The Lovell library, a much larger collection and more adapted to the common reader, being novels mostly, are still in the colony. I made a catalogue of those also, and will send you a copy when I get my "things" from New Hampshire. "We" are terribly scattered.

Most certainly I intend to devote my books to the use of the Fairhope members, and to donate them finally, or sooner or later, to the library of which, I trust, they will form the nucleus. I do not expect to ever move again until I cross the "Great Divide."

May every blessing you deserve attend you, and the colony as a whole!

Yours faithfully,

Marie Howland.

BOAT & MAIL SCHEDULE.

Steamboat Heroine or James A. Carney leaves Mobile daily except Sunday for Fairhope at 3 P. M. and leaves Fairhope for Mobile at 7:25 A. M. Saturday evening returns to Mobile direct from end of her run, at Battles, and leaves Mobile Sunday morning at 9:15. Does not return to Mobile on Sunday afternoon. Mail carried on all trips. Mail leaves Fairhope post-office at 7 A M. week days, and at 4:30 P. M. also on Saturday. No outgoing mail on Sunday. Mail opened immediately on arrival at office on week days, and on Sunday (as required by law) at close of religious service, about 12 M.

MERCHANTS AND BUSINESS MEN, ATTENTION!

Now is the time to purchase your fall and winter stock at the great commercial center, St. Louis, Mo. Owing to the immense increase in business within the last few years, during which time St. Louis has spared no effort nor money to give satisfaction to all Southern merchants buying their goods there, the wholesale merchants are now in a position to offer the best possible inducements to retailers.

Take advantage of the low rates now offered to St. Louis, Mo., and return by the Mobile & Ohio R. R. on account of the St. Louis Fall Festivities, and while there purchase your fall and winter stock. For tickets and full information, call on any Mobile & Ohio agent.

FOR SALE,

Half interest in a complete saw-mill. Mill 80 horse-power. Finest boiler and engine made. Planer, shingle saw and everything complete. Best well of water in the county. Excellent opportunity to put in other paying machinery. A chance of a life-time for some good man.

FAIRHOPE MFG. CO.

Fairhope, Ala.

Leslie Hall.

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SELL DRY GOODS, BOYS' CLOTHING, CARPETS, MATTINGS, CLOAKS, CORSETS, GLOVES, ETC. CHEAPER THAN ANY OTHER HOUSE IN THE SOUTH.

Sole agents for BUTTERICK,S Patterns.

McMILLAN AND HARRISON

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AND TIES; HAY, CORN, OATS, BRAN, MILL FEED, COTTON SEED MEAL, ACID PHOSPHATE, GERMAN KAINIT; PERFECTION GUANO, GROUND BONE, GROUND TANKAGE, DRIED BLOOD, M. POTASH, SUL. POTASH, N. SODA.

50, 56, 58-60 N. COMMERCE ST., MOBILE, ALA.

Star Restaurant

MRS. E. R. QUATTLEBAUM. PROPRIETRESS.

Meals, 15 cents, Lodging, 25 cents.

GOOD CLEAN BEDS AND SQUARE MEALS

16 So. ROYAL ST. MOBILE, ALA.

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Mershon Brothers

DEALERS IN Flour, Feed, Fertilizers, Staple and Fancy Groceries, Cured Meats, Dry-goods, Hardware, Implements and everything kept in a first-class stock of

GENERAL MERCHANDISE

We buy and sell for cash and make our prices as low as possible; preferring quick and large sales, at small profits, to small, slow sales at large profits. DON'T SEND YOUR LARGE CASH ORDERS TO MOBILE-but let us figure on them. We can beat Mobile prices almost every time and the small margin-which is not Profit but small pay for our service-will remain in Baldwin County.

Fairhope Ala.

James McDonnell Company,

Wholesale Grocers and Liquor Dealers,

NOS. 9-11 & 13 NORTH COMMERCE ST.

WAREHOUSES, 14-54 56 S. COMMERCE. ST. MOBILE, ALA

FOR SALE.

2 horses, buggy, Holstein cow, implements etc. Also household goods. Cheap for cash.

W. I. Hunt,

d30 Sec. 28.

SEPTEMBER WEATHER.

September was a month of most extraordinary rainfall following a month which was but little behind. The following facts as to the excessive precipitation were gathered by a reporter for the Mobile Register from the local observer.

Mr. Dudley said that during the recent storm, or from September 28 to October 1 at 8 P. M. inclusive, the total rainfall had been 9.14 inches, more than half of the total for the entire month, and something quite unusual in the way of rainfall in the history of the local office. The total rainfall for the month of September was 16 40 inches, and the excess of precipitation for the month was 11.25 inches. The excess since January 1 to September 30 was 1.34. During the recent storm the greatest rainfall in any twenty-four hours was 5 inches.

LOW RATES TO KANSAS CITY, MO., AND OMAHA, NEB.

During the continuance of the Trans-Mississippi and International Exposition, September 15th to October 30th, 1898, Coupon Agents of the Mobile & Ohio R. R. Mobile to Red Bud inclusive, and Montgomery, Ala., to Columbus, Miss., inclusive, will sell tickets to Kansas City, Mo., and Omaha, Neb., and return, at the very low rate of ONE FARE plus $2. For dates of sale, limits, and full information, apply to Mobile & Ohio Agents.

NOTARY PUBLIC.

I hold a commission as Notary Public, and am prepared to draw if necessary, and take acknowledgements of all legal documents.

E. B. Gaston, Fairhope, Ala.

FAIRHOPE INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION.

Organized and incorporated at Des Moines, Iowa, February, 1894.
Established Fairhope, Baldwin County, Alabama, January, 1895.

C. L. Coleman, Pres. — A. H. Mershon, Vice Pres.
G. M. Bancroft, Treas. — E. B. Gaston, Sec'y.

Fairhope Industrial Association was organized to MAKE GOOD THEORIES WORK. Its basic principle is the Law of Equal Freedom, "That every man has freedom to do all that he wills, provided he infringes not on the equal freedom of any other man." This law is applied by it:

IN GOVERNMENT, by personal vote, initiative, referendum and imperative mandate.

IN LAND HOLDING AND USE, by the principle of the Single Tax, the association holding the title to all lands and leasing to individuals in quantities to suit, at a rental "which shall equalize the varying advantages of location and natural qualities of all tracts." The association, out of the sum thus received, pays all taxes levied by the civil authorities on improvements and personal property held upon its lands, thus making the rent of land the only charge against individuals.

IN NATURAL MONOPOLIES—transportation, telephones, water, light, power, etc.—by association control and operation at cost, as fast as practicable.

IN A MEDIUM FOR EFFECTING LOCAL EXCHANGES, by the issuance of its non-interest-bearing notes for services rendered it, redeemable in equivalent services and land rent.

The above simple program has been in practical operation at Fairhope for more than three years, and its advantages are constantly becoming more apparent.

It should appeal to those who believe the path of progress does not necessarily lead to the substitution of a government trust for the multiple private trusts which in the enjoyment of special privileges have grown to be a national menace, but that freedom is a sovereign remedy for all our economic ills.

The association has a most beautiful, healthful and attractive location on the eastern shore of Mobile Bay, within sight of the important sea-coast city of Mobile, its lands having a frontage on the bay shore of about three fourths of a mile, and extending back—not wholly connected—three miles. They comprise 670 acres, owned free of incumbrance; and a very favorable option is held on nearly 2500 acres more.

The land is especially adapted to truck and fruit growing for northern markets, as well as general farming and stock raising. The association owns its own wharf, 1800 feet long, at which the side-wheel steamer Heroine, plying daily between Mobile and this shore, lands on all trips. Fairhope has a post office having a daily mail and doing a money-order business.

There are twenty-three dwellings on the ground, a store, hotel, saw-mill, cigar factory, blacksmith shop, and a public hall, used also for school and church purposes.

The cost of membership in the association is $100, which may be paid in instalments; but membership, though desired, is not requisite to the occupancy of land and the enjoyment of the economic advantages afforded by the association.

Beautiful bay-view building lots and desirable lands for farming are open for settlement by desirable parties, with no financial requirement further than the payment of the annual rent based on the value of the unimproved land, all of which will be expended in the interest of those paying it.

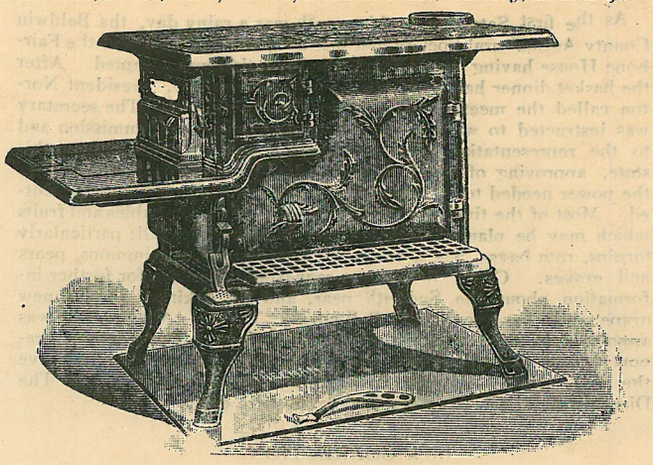
Fairhope Association pays no dividends, interest or bonuses to any one, and has but one salaried officer (receiving $10 a month). It was organized and exists solely to apply correct principles, for the benefit of those who participate and for a practical, visible example to the world. Its resources are all expended to that end; and to that end it invites the membership and moral and financial support of right-thinking men and women.

The following list of industries which would probably prove profitable at Fairhope is offered for the benefit of inquirers:

Truck farming, fruit growing, general farming, stock raising, poultry raising, nursery, cotton gin, rice huller, cane mill, cannery, ice factory, laundry, pottery bakery, brick-yard, tannery (using probably canaigre roots), water toboggan and other devices of like character for amusement of excursionists from Mobile and elsewhere, light manufacturing of almost any kind, mail order business &c.

For further particulars, address with stamp, E. B. Gaston, Secretary,
Fairhope, Alabama.

Headquarters for Cooking and Heating Stoves, also Builder's Hardware, Doors, Sash, Blinds, Window Glass, Cutlery, Grates &c



No. 7 Stove only $4.00. No. 8 Stove only $5.50
No. 7 Cook Stove, with 30 pieces furniture.....$7.00
No. 8 Cook Stove, with 30 pieces furniture.....$8.00

Stikes Hardware Company.

NO. 7 NORTH WATER ST. MOBILE ALA.

G. M. BANCROFT, Prop. Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Andrews, Mgrs.

FAIRHOPE HOUSE

FAIRHOPE, ALABAMA.

The popular "Eastern Shore" Hotel. Everything New, Clean, Comfortable, Wide Galleries On All Sides

ESPECIALLY ATTRACTIVE TO TOURISTS.

Boating, Fishing, Bathing. Good Rigs and Good Roads to all Points in Interior.

RATES $1.00 PER. DAY. SPECIAL TERMS BY THE WEEK.

Fruit and Nut Trees

AND VINES AND SMALL FRUITS FOR SOUTHERN ORCHARDS, VINEYARDS and GARDENS.

We grow Trees and Plants Specially Adapted to the Gulf .... Coast country ....

We have no Agents to support, and our prices are as Low as possible. Write for catalogue.

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Call on R. O. HARRIS

— FOR —

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N. E. Cor. Dauphin and Joachim Streets, MOBILE, ALA.

SEEDS! Are you interested in farming or gardening? If so, send us your name and address and we will put you on our mailing list for a copy of our new **Illustrated Seed Catalogue and Truckers' Guide.** ☞ New edition out in December

AMZI GODDEN CO. BIRMINGHAM, ALA.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DRUGGISTS AND SEEDSMEN

FAIRHOPE COURIER.

That which Nature provides is the Common Property of all God's Children; that which the Individual creates belongs to the Individual; that which the Community creates belongs to the Community.—GEN. J. B. WEAVER.

VOL. V. NO. 7. FAIRHOPE, ALA., NOV. 1, 1898. 25 CENTS A YEAR.

THE LINE OF LEAST RESISTANCE.

The "line of least resistance" is the one to be followed always for the most effective work—that is, of course, the line of least resistance leading in the direction in which we want to go. The single tax is such a line leading in the direction of a freer, happier, more prosperous people. It does not say to the individual product of countless generations of self-seeking, "You must cease working for self, and work for the common good of all." It does not say to the man with genius for managing great undertakings, "You must work where and as the state may direct, and share alike with those who lack your ambition and ability." It does not shriek to a generation which holds the right of property to be more sacred than that of life or liberty, " 'Property is robbery' and private property must be abolished!"

And even though it does say that property in land cannot be justified in reason or morals, it does not propose to interfere with existing titles to land or its possession and transfer. By a simple change in the existing system of taxation it proposes to draw the fangs of landlordism, to make capital a blessing to all instead of a means of oppression to many and inordinate enrichment to a few, to set employment seeking labor, instead of labor seeking employment, to make labor-saving machinery a means of freeing labor rather than shackling it, to start wages upward, lessen the expense of government, lessen crime, lessen pauperism, lessen everything undesirable about our civilization and stimulate everything that is good.

It is not strange that people are skeptical about so seemingly small a change effecting such marvelously great results, yet nature presents many instances of effects apparently as disproportionate to the causes. A spark in a powder magazine lets loose tremendous agencies of destruction: the slightest change in chemical composition will sometimes make a deadly poison of nourishing food: within a rod may start rivulets whose ends are mighty rivers flowing into distant seas. So the seemingly slight change in existing conditions made by the single tax—the taking for public use through taxation of the rental value of land, instead of permitting its continued appropriation by individuals—will bring marvelously great and beneficent results. This simple remedy for industrial ills it is our purpose at Fairhope to apply at once as far as possible under conditions beyond our control, while working with its advocates everywhere for its larger extension

How can such a simple change bring such great results? By bringing together and keeping together the two great primary factors of production, land and labor, the idle lands and the idle hands. The highest and apparently most complex triumphs of civilization can be readily resolved back into these two primary elements. How will the single tax do this? By taking away the profit in the holding of land, and securing the user in the undisturbed possession of the whole of his product. Were those who hold valuable lands required to pay for the privilege all that others would pay—which is the measure of their value—they would either make use of them or surrender them to those who would. If they do the former, they become employers of labor; and when employment seeks labor and the laborer can choose between jobs, wages will rise: if they do the latter, the laborer becomes his own employer.

But some say labor is powerless in these days, even if natural opportunities were free, without capital. Not so: it is capital that is powerless without labor. Capital may be of very great advantage to labor, but with access to natural resources labor can be independent of capital—can produce its own capital; else would there be no capital to-day. On the other hand, the most marvelous triumphs of inventive genius in the way of labor saving machinery—the capital most feared—are absolutely inert and worthless without labor. The machine may do the work of a thousand men with ten, but men must have, or it is of no more utility than the ore from which it was made, hidden in the bowels of the mountains. And if those ten have access to field and forest, to ore and coal and all the other boundless resources of nature, they will demand and be able to secure a share of the joint product of their labor and the capital represented by the machine which will soon enable them to provide their own machines. From one point of vantage to another will labor thus step, until it gets its full reward and the benefits of inventive genius and advancing civilization are fairly diffused among the whole people.

WHAT WE CAN DO AT FAIRHOPE FOR OUR MUTUAL ADVANTAGE AND THE EXEMPLIFICATION OF CORRECT THEORIES.

Address of E. B. Gaston Sunday afternoon, October 23rd.

We have been at these meetings for some time discussing measures of reform, which, however important, we cannot hope to accomplish much toward the adoption of. It is mine to-day to suggest some things we can ourselves do toward the exemplification of correct principles and for our mutual advantage. This is my special hobby of course; and while I enjoy a canter on other reform horses occasionally, I am most at home on this.

The constitution of Fairhope Association declares:

"Its purpose shall be to establish and conduct a model community or colony, free from all forms of private monopoly; and to secure to its members therein equality of opportunity, the full reward of individual efforts, and the benefits of co-operation in matters of general concern."

It is not necessary, I hope, that I should devote much time to argument upon the correctness of the principles which are embodied in our constitution: the equal right of all to participation in the direction of affairs in which all are interested, the collection for the public use of the increasing values or land due to the presence and activity of the public, instead of allowing their appropriation by individuals, the conduct of all public services by the agents of the public for the public benefit, and perhaps least, but not little, the issuance of our own promises to receive, instead of to pay, to facilitate the settlement of balances between the association and individuals without the use of money. It may not be unprofitable, however, before proceeding to talk of what we might do, to briefly glance at what advantages we now enjoy which may fairly be charged to the working of these principles: for I am led to believe that they are sometimes overlooked.

In the first place, the land upon which Fairhope is located was secured for the homes of those who are here and many more who may follow, without a cent of profit or bonus to a soul—barring the original owner. Each comer having been free to locate on whatever unoccupied site he chose, our settlement has been built upon a comparatively small area, so that we have had but a correspondingly small amount of streets to maintain, and our people are able to enjoy much of the advantages of both town and country life. Some have been able to secure homes who might otherwise have hardly hoped to do so—certainly not so favorably located. What our people have earned, they have been able to keep for their own benefit. Having nothing to tempt those who seek to thrive at the expense of others, we have not and are not likely to acquire any aristocracy of idleness. Industry is a much esteemed virtue in Fairhope, and the man able to work but content to remain idle has to be thick-skinned indeed to live in comfort here. Under the wise and just method adopted, friends generously lent us their aid in securing the wharf, which has been of such incalculable advantage to us, and which when paid for out of its earnings will belong to the community, to be administered for the common benefit, instead of our having to pay for it over and over

[continued on fourth page.]

FAIRHOPE COURIER.

Devoted to the LAW of EQUAL FREEDOM—"Every man has freedom to do all that he wills, provided he infringes not the equal freedom of any other man"—and to the effort now being made to immediately apply that law to the fullest extent possible under existing conditions, by the Fairhope Industrial Association, at Fairhope, Alabama,

Its motto, and that of Fairhope Industrial Association, is, "We will make good theories work." And it denies the possibility of a "good theory" which is "not practical."

ERNEST B. GASTON, - - - EDITOR AND MANAGER.

Published at Fairhope, Alabama, on the first and fifteenth of each month.

Subscription Price to any address in the United States, Canada or Mexico 25 cents per annum. In other countries of the International Postal Union' 50c.

Entered at Fairhope Post Office as second class matter.

Due notice of expiration of subscriptions will be given, and unless otherwise requested, the Courier will be sent to subscribers until ordered discontinued.

The Republican brand of "prosperity" is one of "more work at lower wages" according to Republican authority. Every one who likes that brand ought by all means to vote for it.

Tax Commissioner Frank S. Stone, Esq., has been rendering the county a valuable service in hunting up property which has been escaping taxation, and getting it on the tax list.

Socialists say give or "get men work." Single-taxers say give them the opportunity, or "let men work." A difference of one letter in phraseology, but a vital difference in principle.—Freemen's Labor Journal.

We notice that a rule has been adopted at the Christian Commonwealth, of keeping and publishing the working time of all members. This is a very good indication that either some are disposed to shirk their fair share of the labor of the community, or others think they are—causes about equally productive of trouble in a communistic society.

We are requested to announce that a bachelor gardener can learn of an opening at Fairhope, where his board will be certain and abundant opportunity afforded to do as much more as he is able; by addressing L. care of the Courier. [To avoid misunderstanding and disappointment to any one, we should perhaps say that "L" is not any one of our bachelor ladies, seeking a partner.]

Because colossal combinations of capitalists(?) are in control of the opportunities for employment and crushing the independence—even life—out of the people, it does not necessarily follow that the remedy must be a greater combination, whose benefits shall be equitably diffused among the people. Simply repeal the laws which foster such combinations, and the people will see that they get their share.

We have hitherto discouraged any one without capital to employ himself, coming to Fairhope; but the fact is that the demand for labor is now most of the time in excess of the available supply, and there is now room for one or two—possibly more—good, industrious single men, who are able and willing to work at anything useful which offers. Wages are low, $1 a day for ordinary labor; but expenses are also low, and land on which one can employ himself when other employment fails, and eventually build up a permanent home of his own, can always be had for the asking.

The influence of an act or thought expressed can never be measured. Every once in a while we hear from some one who has run across some old copy of the Courier or some article about Fairhope written long before. A late instance is that of Mr. J. D. Molter of Appalachicola, Florida, who says: "I accidentally came across a copy of the Fairhope Courier of January, 1897, and have become much interested, and desire to know more about your little community at this later date, with a view to joining you should I see my way clear, after knowing more about your organization."

FAIRHOPE AND CO-OPERATION.

While Fairhope is not a co-operative colony in the accepted sense, and the Courier does not advocate co-operation as the only remedy for economic ills, it must not be thought that we are hostile to co-operation—by no means. We believe with Henry George as quoted by Rev. A. Kent in his address recently published in the Courier, that the freeing of land by the taking away of all profit in its mere holding would "tend to cause the organization of labor wherever large capitals were used, to assme the co-operative form," and that "government would change its form and become the administrative of a great co-operative society;" but we hold with him that the first and essential thing is to secure to all equal freedom to natural opportunities, believing that they can then safely be left to adopt the methods which will prove most effective and beneficent to all.

What we have said which may have been by some construed as against co-operation, has not been said to discourage co-operators, but to set the matter of co-operation in its true light as one of secondary importance to that of the primary equal right of men to equal access to the bounties of nature, to point out some of the practical difficulties which we have found to lie in the way of co-operation, and to correct some extravagant ideas of the benefits which may be expected to flow from it.

As "an ounce of prevention is better than a pound of cure," so a pound of actual experience is often worth a ton of beautiful abstract theory. A case in point: Many co-operators look upon the retail merchant as an entirely unnecessary evil, and the margin between the price at which he buys and the price at which he sells as "profit" which might be eliminated or saved to the consumer by "co operation." Co-operative merchandising has been made quite a success in some cases; but where it has succeeded in one case, it has failed in ten. For a co-operative mercantile venture to succeed, the circumstances must be right for it, as well as for a like undertaking by an individual, and above all, the co-operators must be able to command the services of a manager thoroughly posted in the business. The constitution of Fairhope originally provided for a co-operative distributive department. Every member had to contribute a certain amount toward the capital necessary to stock a store, for which he was to receive the association's certificates good for merchandise of equivalent value at the store. At the beginning of our settlement here, we thought (most of us, some perhaps wiser heads thought differently) that our merchandising department should be put in operation at once. A small store was built, a small stock placed in it, and a manager selected.

As a result of our actual experience, we found that though we sold goods to ourselves and others alike, at the same prices at which we might have purchased them at the nearest private stores, that we not only had no profit at the end of the first quarter's business, but a loss. The margin between wholesale and retail prices was not profit at all, but was entirely consumed in various items of unavoidable expense and the meagre compensation allowed the manager.

We found too, that that the management was always a subject of criticism and complaint. When therefore we had a proposition from Mershon Brothers to purchase the store and run it as their own, the most ardent co-operators among us were glad to embrace the opportunity. "All is not gold that glitters," neither do all the supposed beauties of co-operation materialize in practice.

A DINNER AT THE FAIRHOPE.

Mrs. Axie Andrews, the popular hostess of the Fairhope House, entertained the married ladies of Fairhope at dinner on the twentieth. The editor, partly no doubt because of his being the editor and partly perhaps because of sympathy for his forlorn condition, was also honored with an invitation, as was Rev. Mr. Clarkson. The always bright and cheerful dining room of the Fairhope was tastefully decorated for the occaston; and an elegant dinner, such as the hostess knows so well how to spread, was served. The following ladies were present: Mesdames Davis, C. K. Brown, Ferguson, Sykes, Swift, Woods, Mead, Webb, N. Mershon Atkinson, Larson, A. H. Mershon, F. L. Brown, Leech, Cullen and Clarkson. Mrs. Norton and

Mrs. Yuille, of Daphne, were delayed by rain, and did not arrive until after dinner.

At two o'clock the regular weekly meeting of the Baldwin County Woman's Suffrage Society was called to order in the dining room. Mrs. J. A. Woods presided with her usual tact and dignity. Mrs. F. L. Brown read from the Woman's Journal of what had been accomplished in the suffrage reform in other states. Mrs. Norton spoke of the work of the Woman's Club of Daphne, and Mrs Leech read a selection. The discussion which followed was participated in by several of the ladies and the gentlemen present.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON MEETINGS.

On the 16th Mr. E. Q. Norton gave an able and interesting address on the subject of the revision of the Alabama constitution, and the discussion following was generally participated in. The consensus of opinion was that efforts should be concentrated on two propositions: one providing for the submission to the voters of the state every ten years of the question, "Shall the constiution be revised?" and the other providing for local option with counties and municipalities on the rates and subjects of taxation and all other purely local affairs. Mr. Norton speaks again by special request on methods of work for these purposes.

On the twenty-third the editor led the discussion on the topic, "What can we do at Fairhope for our mutual advantage and the extension of correct principles?" A lively discussion was provoked, and so much interest manifested that the time for the discussion was extended fifteen minutes. The editor's remarks are given in substance in this paper.

On the thirtieth the question of the amending of the state constitution was discussed further, under the leadership of Mr. Norton. On next Sunday Mr. J. A. Woods will lead the discussion, her subject being "What can be done in the way of "higher education" at Fairhope?

Messs. Coleman, C. K. and F. L. Brown, Bancroft, Andrews, Cullen and Gaston comprised a delegation which appeared before the County Commissioners on the eighteenth, to support the petition for the new road extending back into the Dr. Slosson neighborhood. It was expected that those interested at the other end of the road would be represented, bur they were not. The expected opposition did not, however, develop either, and the road was established. In the present state of the county's treasury and with the few hands available for working the road, it is not likely that it will be opened soon, unless done with volunteer labor. That however will doubtless be done at the Fairhope end. The Fairhope committee extend thanks to the County Board, Judge Hall, Assessor White and other county officers for the courteous treatment accorded them Attendance on the sessions of the board will give citizens a more correct idea than they are otherwise likely to have of the difficult task of the Commissioners in meeting the varied needs of the county with a comparatively small revenue to be distributed over so large an area.

LOCAL AND PERSONAL.

[Excuse dearth of local and personal items in this issue. The editor's time has been divided among too varied duties lately. Will do better hereafter.]

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Delaware of Des Moines were announced to start for Fairhope to-day.

Will Davis has gone to Fort Morgan to secure employment, provided there are any openings there.

The entertainment last Friday evening was a success, and cleared over five dollars for the school fund.

Captain Lawrence made the run to Mobile with the "Minnie L." one morning recently in just two hours.

Rev. E. R. Clarkson was accompanied in his October visitation by Mrs. Clarkson, who made many friends.

The Minnie L. broke from her moorings during one of our recent heavy nor hers, and was driven hard and fast upon the beach, whence she was again floated with difficulty. No damage was sustained however.

Neighbor Swift has returned home from his northern tour, glad to get back. His son, Mr. George Swift, returned with him, and will spend the winter at Fairhope.

Remember the meeting of the Agricultural Society at River Park on Saturday, November 5. All who are interested in cultivating the soil or marketing the crops, are invited to attend.

Mrs. Smith and two children, of Battles, have been quite sick, dangeronsly so in fact, but are much better now. Mr. Coleman, Mrs. Sykes and Mrs. Webster, of Fairhope, rendered them such assistance as they could.

Mr. Andrew Carlson unfortunately contracted a severe attack of inflammatory rheumatism—to which he is subject—by unduly exposing himself while working upon his house, and has been confined to his room tor several days.

A late letter to Mrs. Sykes from Mrs. Dr. Bartlett indicates that they are likely to come south sooner than even Mrs. Bartlett anticipated when she left here. Mrs. Bartlett says that Kelsey Japan plums are retailing at Chicago at seventy-five cents a dozen.

Mr William S. Biggs of Atlanta, president of the Atlanta Baking Powder Company and an ardent reformer, was a recent visitor to Fairhope. Mr. Biggs came here from Ruskin, and gave us a very interesting report on that colony at the conclusion of the soap bubble entertainment. We shall hope to see him again.

Mrs. Gaston and children and Mrs. Leah Mershon reached home on the twenty-eighth, and the editor is happy with his re-united family. They experienced much bad weather while in the north, especially the last few days of their stay, experiencing a very severe blizzard for the season, which heightened their pleasure in getting back to the balmy air of Fairhope.

The following interesting card has just been received from Mr. T. S. Teas of Salem, Ohio, formerly of Spiceland, Indiana:

I have a copy of your paper, the issue of October 1, last year. If your flag is still waving, please send me another copy, and I will send you the amount of a year's subscription immediately. I am much interested in anything that is in the line of an uplift for humanity, and have great hopes of the success of your work.

Captain C. E. Nichols contemplates setting out about 4000 fruit trees, chiefly peach, on his forty acres near Fairhope, and is very much interested in the establishment of a cannery here to utilize the fruit which is too ripe for shipment, or the whole of it when prices fall so as to make shipments unprofitable. He would probably invest some in a cannery with a competent man who understood the business, beside investing a good deal of capital in getting ready to supply the raw material.

Our faithful Fairhoper, Brother George Knowles, writes from Delphos, Kansas: "Cold weather is coming on again and I begin to long for the south. I think we will come about the middle of next month. I see that you have been improving Magnolia avenue; and I suppose that the bath-house is finished, and that bridge across the gulch built, so that Mrs. Sykes has a nearer and easier way of getting 'to mill and to meetin' " [Alas, the bridge is not built!] "I am glad to see by the Courier, that you get such encouraging letters from Fairhope's well-wishers. I hope that Mrs. Howland will be a help to us, and that we shall not detract from her well-being. It does seem that if we keep ourselves straight in the line of justice there can be a community built up there the members of which will vie with each other in doing service for all." Brother Knowles is prepared to help some on the purchase of the 320 acres. We will announce his proposition later. We are going to have that land yet.

The undersigned, Editor of this paper, extends his full and hearty endorsement to Messrs. Yeend & Potter, proprietors of the well known

BLUE * STORE

(the strictly one-price Cash House of Mobile, Ala.).

We recommend them to our readers and subscribers as the right people to patronize for Dry Goods, Notions, Men's and Ladies' Furnishings and Underwear, Men's, Youths' and Boys' Clothing, Hats, Caps, Shoes and House Furnishings. (Signed) E. B Gaston.

FAIRHOPE TRANSPORTATION LINE.

Remember that the staunch Schooner "Minnie L." of Fairhope, Capt. G. A. R. Lawrence, makes regular trips twice a week (oftener if neccessary) between Fairhope and Mobile, handling all kinds of freight either way with security and dispatch. Will touch at all points along the eastern shore when business demands.

The Minnie L. has extra facilities for protecting freight from the weather and makes a specialty of handling merchandise and household goods. Special rates to persons moving to Fairhope

☞ SPECIAL! Capt. Lawrence will attend personally and without charge, to purchasing and selling orders in Mobile for his patrons.

[contiinued from first page.]

again ad infinitum, as is the usual practice. Our principles and the character of those advocating them have been such as to draw together here a community whose superiority in intelligence and all other esteemed qualities over those elsewhere drawn together under ordinary cohditions is marked, and remarked upon by every unprejudiced observer.

These are some—others might be mentioned—of the advantages already realized. I have heard that it has been said, if we would "drop this single-tax foolishness" we would grow a great deal faster. I deny it utterly. If the single tax has been an element of weakness, why is it that more has been accomplished in the way of permanent settlement and public and private improvement in Fairhope than in any of the other settlements which have been projected on this side of the bay? Some of them, as is well known, have been backed to a greater or less extent by men of wealth and reputation. They have advertised extensively, have had agents in large cities, have had the active co-operation of railroads; and what have they accomplished? They have sold off a lot of land, it is true, to non-residents, who are most of them speculators in spirit as truly as the original proprietors, who were induced to invest by alluring promises of being able to exact 200 or 300 per cent advance on their purchases from those who might come a little after them; but none of them have secured the actual settlers that Fairhope has, jealousy and distrust have prevented any concerted effort to enhance the common good, and nobody has profited but a few speculative owners of land.

Had Fairhope started out on such a plan, the bulk of her most desirable land would long ago have passed into the possession of non-resident owners who would have neither used it themselves nor permitted others to do so without a big advance upon their investment, and who would have anticipated every step in the development of the community, and the faster it grew the tighter would they have held to their possessions. Those who have helped Fairhope freely with time and means would not have turned a hand, had it not been for the principles upon which it was founded; and in their stead would have come to the front those who would have have planned and schemed to draw out two dollars for every one they put in.

But I am about to consume all of my time in talking about what we have done, and I was to talk of what we can do. One of the disadvantages we have labored under, is that the advantages of our system—particularly with regard to land—cannot be made conspicuously apparent while land values within and without the colony are merely nominal. As land values increase, the advantages of taking them for public use become constantly more apparent. One of the first things therefore which we should all try to do, is to get more people to come to Fairhope. We ought not to misrepresent; and it is not necessary. While there are drawbacks in Baldwin county, as there are everywhere, and every man of experience will count on such, there are also advantages; some of which can hardly be duplicated elsewhere. Let your friends know of them: write letters to the local papers in the towns whence you came: get your friends to come and visit you. Sacrifice your wife's relations if necessary, as I have done.

It is not necessary that you should figure out beforehand just what everybody is going to do to be able to succeed. That is for them to figure out; and it is not a violent presumption that some may know even better than we with our limited experience, what to do. Don't exaggerate the good things; but don't, for heaven's sake, exaggerate the bad. Don't be discouraged because some go away disgusted. It has been so and is everywhere else. The same people were dissatisfied where they were, or else they would not have come here; and most of them have been equally unhappy after going away. I am really afraid that some of us are so afraid that people will become dissatisfied and go away, that they are rather inclined to discourage them coming at all. That is no way to build up a community.

There is one class of people, the wisdom of whose coming no one disputes. That is those who have incomes sufficient to live upon or nearly so, and who wish a home in the south, in an intelligent, moral, progressive community. By all means encourage all such to come. They will be a benefit to us; and they cannot find a pleasanter, healthier place, nor better people, than at Fairhope. Those who come now have a great deal better chance to succeed (thanks to our system, which protects them from having to pay tribute to forestall-

IMPROVED PLACE FOR RENT.

Desiring to get nearer the bay, in order to be more convenient to his work, Captain Lawrence wishes us to announce that he will give a favorable lease for a year or longer, on his ten acre place on Fairhope Avenue. The place has about 8 acres in a fine state of cultiva with 10 acres more adjoining enclosed for pasture. House of four rooms, chicken house and yards, some fruit to come in bearing next season, &c. &c.

For further particulars, terms, etc., address,

Geo. A.R. Lawrence, Fairhope, Ala.

IMPROVED PROPERTY FOR SALE.

New House, 5 rooms: Hall, Gallery, front and back: 40 acres good farming land, 10 fenced and under cultivation; abundant water, barn 30x20 feet, with large loft.

Also, 65 acres adjoining; 10 acres fenced and having 4000 grape vines in bearing, Delaware, Niagara, Brilliant, Salem and others,

Rock creek, a never failing stream runs across west end of land. Hardwood timber, also pine in abundance.

One mile due east of Daphne, county seat.

Will divide lots in size to suit. Address E. O. Norton,

Daphne, Ala.

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ST. LOUIS, CHICAGO, MEMPHIS, HOT SPRINGS, LOUISVILLE, CINCINNATI, CAIRO, CLEVELAND, DETROIT, TOLEDO, DES MOINES, KANSAS CITY, ST. PAUL, MINNEAPOLIS,

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This road has for sale the finest farming and timber lands in the South at astonishingly low rates and upon easy terms, in the states of Tennessee, Mississippi, and Alabama. Also Government lands subject to homestead entry. Most delightful and even climate in America. For descriptive matter and full information apply to—

Alabama Land and Development Co. Mobile Ala.

Low rate excursions for land-seekers several times each month. Also low one way rates for settlers and their household goods.

For information as to rates, tickets, time, etc., apply to,

G. W. KING, City Ticket Agent, Mobile, Ala.

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I. N. COMATZAR, Traveling Passenger Agent, Mobile, Ala.

R. CARROLL, Vice-Pres't & Gen. Mgr. E. E. POSEY, General Passenger Agent.

MOBILE, ALABAMA.

SALESMEN WANTED.

Good wages to sell our Nursery Stock. Apply for terms. We will have for Spring and Fall, 1898, an immense stock of Apples, Pears, Peach, Plum, Apricot, Cherry, Grape, etc. Also small fruits, shade and ornamental trees, Roses etc. We make a specialty of wholesaling to large planters direct. Write us for wholesale prices. Address: Southern Nursery Co. Winchester, Tenn.

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TRANSACT A GENERAL BANKING BUSINESS. DEPOSITS SOLICITED.
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RESIDENTS OF BALDWIN COUNTY INVITED TO USE OUR STORE AS A MEETING POINT, WHEN SHOPPING IN MOBILE.

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MANUFACTURERS AND IMPORTERS OF

MONUMENTS, TOMBS, GRAVESTONES, MANTELS &c.

Building work a specialty.

EAST SIDE ROYAL BET. ST. LOUIS & ST. ANTHONY, MOBILE, ALA.

ers) than we had. They find society, school, church, shipping and trading facilities, where we found piny woods only; and they can have the benefit of our experience for the asking, and we have learned a good many things.

What we need after people, and to attract people and make them prosperous and contented, is primarily an increase in our manufactures. The saw-mill has been of great advantage to us, and will be more. The community has not had to invest anything in it, and we have had no opportunity to scrap over how it ought to be run; but its benefits have nevertheless been distributed among us all. We have been able to get our lumber less freight and wharfage, have been able to utilize our timber which would otherwise have gone to waste. Many of us have been able to secure material for improving our homes by direct or indirect exchange of services without cash, which we could not have secured otherwise. And we have found the proprietors ready to do their full share toward every public improvement.

Other industries would benefit us all in the same way. Personally I believe I am prepared to express my own opinion that the best and most satisfactory basis, all things considered, on which to have them, would be that of the saw-mill, by private enterprise; but if individuals cannot be found to undertake them, a simple and just plan ought to be devised, by which all who could furnish money, materials or labor might co operate equitably in establishing and operating such industries. The Labor Exchange, with probably some modifications, affords such a plan.

Among the first needed industries which would not require much capital and which would be of the greatest importance, both in affording opportunities for employment to those not having the capital or knowledge necessary to employ themselves on natural resources and in widening the opportunities for profitably utilizing our natural resources, are a rice-huller, cotton gin and canning factory. All of these ought to be in operation in time to take care of next season's crops. Rice is a crop especially adapted to this country, a grain of universal consumption, the area of profitable cultivation of which is, on this continent at least, comparatively limited. It is a staple, is not perishable, and always commands a good price.

Cotton is the great southern staple, as corn is of the central west. The fibre is lower now than ever known before, but constitutes only a part of the valuable product of the plant. Even with the great distance which it has to be taken to be ginned, people will grow it in Baldwin county; and if a good gin were assured here, a large acreage of it would undoubtedly soon be grown. Brother Brown is figuring seriously on adding a gin and rice-huller to his mill equipment. He could put these in with less expense than any one else, and is competent to run anything that uses cogs or pulleys; and I sincerely trust he will do so, and do it in time, so that people can prepare ground for planting rice and cotton. If he cannot or will not, other means of securing them ought to be at once devised.

Another industry which ought to be assured before another season is a canning factory. While we are at a disadvantage here, as compared with some northern localities in growing fruits and vegetables cheaply because of the expense of fertilizing, we have a great advantage in that, because of the earliness of our seasons, our early crops will command a fancy price for shipment. If we had a canning factory for converting into non-perishable form the later pickings, which will not pay for shipping and are often practically a dead loss, it would be of incalculable advantage.

But we have some crops in which the more fertile lands of the north cannot compete with us. This is the home of the sweet potato, of which hundreds of tons are canned annually and shipped north. It is the home also of the fig. The Japanese plums in great variety promise to do well here, and are equal to any California plums for canning. A good many bushels of figs were shipped from here last year to Biloxi; and more went to waste, which could have been secured by a factory here, though so far no one has pretended to grow figs beyond a few around the door-yard. The Barataria canning factory at Biloxi is advertising here now for sweet potatoes for canning. Occasionally we have abundant crops of peaches; and while experience with the improved varieties has not yet been very satisfactory, I have no doubt good peaches can be grown successfully here. And there's the sand pear, which ought to have a chapter to itself. But we are not confined for our raw material to the products of the land. The sea with its wealth of food product is at our door: natural oyster reefs line the shores of the lower bay; and I am convinced from personal experience with boiled mullet, that they would be delicious and popular, canned as salmon are.

The cost of a canning factory of a size suited to present needs would be comparatvely small. I have figures from several manufacturers of plants that would perhaps surprise you. A building, I believe, could be erected almost without cash.

Other industries might be mentioned which ought to be secured early, but in my opinion attention ought to be concentrated on these. At the proper time I shall ask for the appointment of a committee to consider the matter and present facts and figures, and make practical suggestions along these lines at an early date.

Leslie Hall,
ATTORNEY AT LAW
Land Titles Examined. Daphne Ala.

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WILL FILL YOUR ORDERS AS CHEAP AS THE CHEAPEST, FOR
Paints, Oils, Wall Paper &c.
Estimates furnished for all kinds of work in the Interior. Write for ADVICE & COLOR CARD. We solicit a trial.
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SELL DRY GOODS, BOYS' CLOTHING, CARPETS, MATTINGS, CLOAKS, CORSETS, GLOVES, ETC.
CHEAPER THAN ANY OTHER HOUSE IN THE SOUTH.
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McMILLAN AND HARRISON
Grain, Fertilizers, Bagging
AND TIES: HAY, CORN, OATS, BRAN, MILL FEED, COTTON SEED MEAL, ACID PHOSPHATE, GERMAN KAINIT; PERFECTION GUANO, GROUND BONE, GROUND TANKAGE, DRIED BLOOD, M. POTASH, SUL. POTASH, N. SODA.
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Star Restaurant
MRS. E. R. QUATTLEBAUM, PROPRIETRESS.
Meals, 15 cents, Lodging, 25 cents.
GOOD CLEAN BEDS AND SQUARE MEALS
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A. H. Mershon Nathaniel Mershon
Mershon Brothers
DEALERS IN Flour, Feed, Fertilizers, Staple and Fancy Groceries, Cured Meats, Dry-goods, Hardware, Implements and everything kept in a first-class stock of
GENERAL MERCHANDISE
We buy and sell for cash and make our prices as low as possible; preferring quick and large sales, at small profits, to small, slow sales at large profits. DON'T SEND YOUR LARGE CASH ORDERS TO MOBILE-but let us figure on them. We can beat Mobile prices almost every time and the small margin-which is not Profit but small pay for our service-will remain in Baldwin County.
Fairhope Ala.

James McDonnell Company,
Wholesale Grocers and Liquor Dealers,
NOS. 9-11 & 13 NORTH COMMERCE ST.
WAREHOUSES, 14-54 56 S. COMMERCE. ST. MOBILE, ALA

NOTARY PUBLIC.
I hold a commission as Notary Public, and am prepared to draw if necessary, and take acknowledgements of all legal documents.
E. B. Gaston, Fairhope, Ala.

As to things that Fairhope Association ought to do, as distinguished from what we as citizens should do, I would mention first the securing of the 320 acres of land upon which our option expires. We need that, because our available supply of good farming land this side of Section 15, which lies two miles from the store, is about exhausted. With that secured, while the temptation to strive for all that joins us is strong, I think we should resist it, and devote such means as we can secure toward securing public services which will, beside conducing greatly to our own comfort and advantage, be the greatest factor in bringing people here, in causing them to locate within the colony instead of outside, and in making them contented and happy here. The first of these public services in order of importance is an adequate water supply. Telephone and electric light should follow before the year 2000. You smile perhaps, but the first cost of these things is surprisingly light, and the subsequent cost of maintenance but a trifle; while the advantages cannot be overestimated. When we get them, we will wonder how we ever got along without them. The method pursued in securing the wharf affords the plan, and the skilled labor required can be had for day-laborers' wages. When we get these, it will be time to take up the matter of securing a railway outlet to the world, provided railway enterprise has not given us one. I have a plan in mind, and others of our friends are thinking upon the subject. It can be done. These things can too be secured and conducted in a way that will to a limited degree only, bring undeserved advantage to non-participants or speculative owners of adjacent land.

The most encouraging thing here is that no one can live to himself if he wanted to, nor can he thrive without helping us to thrive with him. No means are available in Fairhope by which one can command the services of another without rendering something tangible in return; and however selfishly he may plan his sphere of activity, it cannot invade harmfully the spheres of the other members of the community.

To summarize: Let us get people. Let us diversify our industries, encouraging private citizens to put in needed factories: and if we cannot get them thus, combine to get them; enlarge our borders, and increase our public services in the ways I have suggested.

BOAT & MAIL SCHEDULE.

Steamboat Heroine or James A. Carney leaves Mobile daily except Sunday for Fairhope at 3 P. M. and leaves Fairhope for Mobile at 7:25 A. M. Saturday evening returns to Mobile direct from end of her run, at Battles, and leaves Mobile Sunday morning at 9:15. Does not return to Mobile on Sunday afternoon. Mail carried on all trips. Mail leaves Fairhope post-office at 7 A M. week days, and at 4:30 P. M. also on Saturday. No outgoing mail on Sunday. Mail opened immediately on arrival at office on week days, and on Sunday (as required by law) at close of religious service, about 12 M.

FOR SALE OR RENT.

House with 6 large rooms, 2 fireplaces, 3 rooms lathed and plastered, one half acre of ground set out to fruit: Pears, Peaches, Apples, Figs, Grapes, Blackberries and Dewberries. Cistern. One street from post-office and store. For further information address

A. J. Cullen, Fairhope.

LAND FOR SALE.

Twenty acres in the southwest corner of Section 28, on main road between Battles and Marlow, about 2½ miles from Fairhope and the same distance from Battles. Six acres cleared of roots and stumps and in cultivation, balance practically clear of timber. 80 rods new picket fence. House 12x16, with good shingle roof, cistern.

Will sell for $150. Address H. F. Landes,
n15 Fairhope, Ala.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

The Baldwin County Woman's Suffrage Society meets the third Thursday, at 2 P.M., of each month, in Assembly Hall at Fairhope Ala. All who are interested are cordially invited to come and join us: especially the ladies are invited.

Mrs. J. A. Woods, President. Mrs. F. L. Brown, Secretary.
Mrs. O. A. Webb, Vice Pres. Mrs. S. H. Leech, Treasurer.

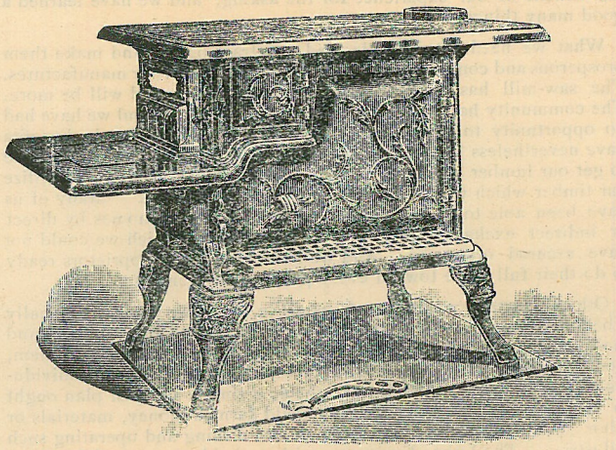
Religious services are held regularly at Fairhope every Sunday, as follows:

Sunday school	at	9:45 A. M.
Church service	"	11 A. M.
Christian Endeavor	"	7:30 P. M.

The Fairhope W. C. T. U. meets the second and fourth Thursday of each month at 2:30 P. M. with Mrs. Arthur Mershon.

Mrs. Nella Leech, President.
Mrs. H. N. Brown, Secretary.

Headquarters for Cooking and Heating Stoves, also Builder's Hardware, Doors, Sash, Blinds, Window Glass, Cutlery, Grates &c



No. 7 Stove only $4.00. No. 8 Stove only $5.50
No. 7 Cook Stove, with 30 pieces furniture.....$7.00
No. 8 Cook Stove, with 30 pieces furniture.....$8.00

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NO. 7 NORTH WATER ST. MOBILE ALA.

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The popular "Eastern Shore" Hotel. Everything New, Clean, Comfortable, Wide Galleries On All Sides

ESPECIALLY ATTRACTIVE TO TOURISTS.

Boating, Fishing, Bathing. Good Rigs and Good Roads to all Points in Interior.

RATES $1.00 PER. DAY. SPECIAL TERMS BY THE WEEK.

Fruit and Nut Trees

AND VINES AND SMALL FRUITS
FOR SOUTHERN ORCHARDS,
VINEYARDS and GARDENS.

We grow Trees and Plants Specially Adapted to the Gulf Coast country

We have no Agents to report, but our prices are Low as possible. Write for catalogue.

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Call on R. O. HARRIS

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SEEDS! Are you interested in farming or gardening? If so, send us your name and address and we will put you on our mailing list for a copy of our new Illustrated Seed Catalogue and Truckers Guide. New edition out in December

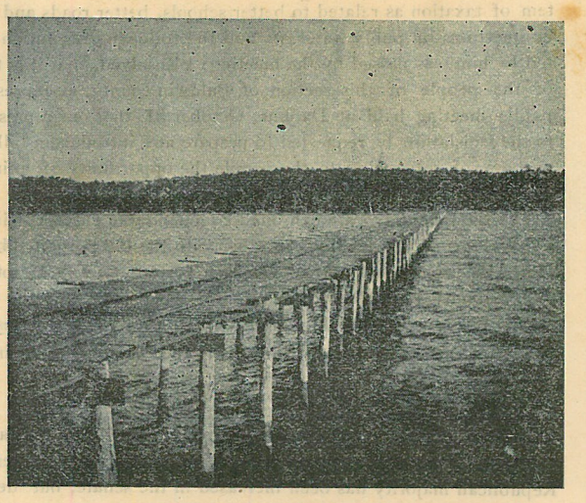
AMZI GODDEN CO. BIRMINGHAM, ALA.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DRUGGISTS AND SEEDSMEN

FAIRHOPE COURIER.

That which Nature provides is the Common Property of all God's Children; that which the Individual creates belongs to the Individual; that which the Community creates belongs to the Community.- GEN. J. B. WEAVER.

VOL. V. NO. 8. FAIRHOPE, ALA., NOV. 15, 1898. 25 CENTS A YEAR.



FAIRHOPE WHARF.

Looking shoreward from the pier-head, 1800 feet.

FRIENDS, ATTENTION!

It is of the utmost importance that the half-section of land held for us by Mess. Bostedo and Nusbaum for two years and for the last year by Mr. C. K. Brown, should be secured to the Association at once.

We have plenty of lots near the bay, available for small holdings, but the good agricultural lands in our first purchases are practically exhausted, and there is a growing—and sensible—disposition to take larger tracts in order to let a portion each year go to crops to be turned under as fertilizers, or fed upon the place and returned in the form of manure.

We have 320 acres it is true, untouched, but it lies beyond the 320 of which we speak, the nearest point being two and a half miles from the wharf and two miles from the store; and while it will come into demand all right after the intermediate land is settled, it now seems too far out.

A trifle over $380 will buy this 320 acres now—thanks to Mess. Bostedo and Nusbaum—though it is easily worth twice that, and the title is perfect.

The Courier feels that with the success thus far achieved by Fairhope Association, its present secure position and its clear-cut application of the single-tax principle in throwing the lands it may secure open to settlement with no other condition than that of the payment of its annual rental value, all of which, after the payment of state and county taxes, is expended for the common benefit of the rent-payers, it has a right to ask and expect the aid of the single-taxers of the country in securing this land.

Without any action of the Fairhope Association, the Courier therefore invites subscriptions for this purpose, which may be sent direct to the Treasurer of Fairhope Association, Mr. George M. Bancroft, or to the Manager of the Courier, and in either case will be acknowledged in the Courier.

Up to the time of going to press, we have received the following subscriptions to this fund:

J. Bellangee, Des Moines, Iowa,	$ 5.
Jose Gros, Morristown, N. J.,	10.
W. K. Smith, Chicago, Ills.	5.
Geo. C. Madison, " "	5.
Mrs. C. P. Sykes, Fairhope	5.
Cash from a friend,	5.
Total to date,	35

We again present the foregoing statement, in the hope of eliciting from our friends at this eleventh hour, subscriptions sufficient to secure this land.

In addition to the subscriptions noted above, we are promised by brother George Knowles the use of $100 without interest, to apply on this purchase and feel authorized by friend P. A. Parker's statement of some time since, to add $10 on his account. We have also in the association treasury, funds enough "not otherwise appropriated" to bring the available total up to, or above $200.

Our option expires on January first, less than a month and a half from the time this will reach our readers, and whatever is done must be done quickly.

A couple of paid-up memberships would easily make up the balance; and no doubt amounts however small might, if desired, be credited on membership account, the balance to be paid when convenient. Remember this land lies right between our two tracts, and you will appreciate the importance of our securing it. Consider too, that we are not asking the purchase of this land on account of those of us who are here. We do not need it: we have all the land we individually want, and would personally be far more benefited by applying what means we have and can secure to very much needed public improvements; but we want it to provide homes for others and increase the area and population to be brought under the domination of our principles.

A contribution of $5 or $10 toward this purchase will not be consumed like so many others have in a single propaganda effort the results of which were not apparent, but will aid in a continuing effort increasing in potency as the years go by. Let us have a general and generous response before the next Courier goes to press; for 'nothing succeeds like success," and if others see that the money is coming, they will act too. Subscriptions may be made if desired, conditioned on the whole amount being raised. Do not be prevented from doing anything because you cannot do as much as you would; but do what you can.

A NEW CROP FOR THE SOUTH.

A plant which has been attracting much attention lately as one which should be a profitable new crop for the southern states, is the cassava. It is the plant from which the tapioca of commerce is made; and it is also extraordinarily rich in starch, for which product chiefly its cultivation is now being advocated. While in Mobile recently, the writer saw in the office of Mess. Bell & Driver some of the plants, and acquired some information as to its growth and value; Mr. Bell being especially interested and working to secure the erection in the vicinity of Mobile of a large plant for the manufacture of the various products of the plant, for which a company of capitalists are looking for a location.

The plant belongs to the same family as the castor bean, which in habit of growth it considerably resembles; but the valuable part is the roots, which are about 1½ to 2 inches in diameter, and sometimes 5 or 6 feet long. They grow at right angles to the stalk near the surface of the ground, and are easily harvested. They are crisp and brittle, and of a pleasant taste, somewhat like a potato. The plant is propagated like sugar cane, from the stalk. It is best adapted to a dry, loamy soil, and is claimed to thrive on high pine lands with very light fertilizing. One specimen shown in Mr. Bell's office was claimed to have grown without any fertilizing on new piny-woods land, the weight of the roots indicating a yield with a full stand (4x4 feet) of 16 tons to the acre. Another plant, highly fertilized, was about 10ft. tall, and showed more than twice as heavy a yield. The roots are claimed to be an excellent food for all kinds of stock, especially for milch cows, and also edible, though not so well liked as sweet potatoes. We shall investigate the subject further, and report for the benefit of our readers.

FAIRHOPE COURIER.

Devoted to the LAW of EQUAL FREEDOM—"Every man has freedom to do all that he wills, provided he infringes not the equal freedom of any other man"—and to the effort now being made to immediately apply that law to the fullest extent possible under existing conditions, by the Fairhope Industrial Association, at Fairhope, Alabama.

Its motto, and that of Fairhope Industrial Association, is, "We will make good theories work." And it denies the possibility of a "good theory" which is "not practical."

ERNEST B. GASTON, - - - EDITOR AND MANAGER.

Published at Fairhope, Alabama, on the first and fifteenth of each month.

Subscription Price to any address in the United States, Canada or Mexico 25 cents per annum. In other countries of the International Postal Union, 50c.

Entered at Fairhope Post Office as second class matter.

Due notice of expiration of subscriptions will be given, and unless otherwise requested, the Courier will be sent to subscribers until ordered discontinued.

The New Republic, Middletown, Connecticut, closing an article on Fairhope, says:

I could fain wish that many readers of the New Republic would send subscriptions for the Fairhope Courier. It is no more than fair that the people of Fairhope should have a fair hope of success and a fair chance. The venture made by the people of this settlement in Alabama is looking forward to the New Republic of the future. "There are others," millions of them, who are "looking forward" with similar hopes, the only difference being that our brothers in Fairhope are putting into practice the principles they believe. Their little paper tells all about the enterprise, which is truly Christian in spirit without profession or acclaims: works with faith.

The persistency with which many individual Single Taxers have taken it upon themselves to instruct us—assuming that because we don't drop the Labor Exchange and turn Progressive Thought into a Single Tax organ, we were unacquainted with their doctrines—and their taking offense every time we fairly and candidly stated our position and advised them to put their theories into practice, as we were doing, had rather turned us against Single Taxers. Consequently we had not paid much attention to the Fairhope, Alabama, S. T. colony, though saying nothing against it. A recent perusal of their prospectus in the "Fairhope Courier" makes us feel like changing our attitude. These people seem to be exceptionally practical. They appear to have a good plan and to be prospering. Success to them! And may all the controversial Single Taxers go and do likewise!—F. W. Cotton in Progressive Thought.

When in Mobile one day recently, we took the opportunity to call upon Mr. Kennedy, secretary of the Commercial Club, with whom we have at various times had correspondence relative to the resources and opportunities offered in this vicinity. We found Mr. Kennedy a most pleasant and accommodating gentleman, earnestly desirous of rendering all the assistance in his power toward the development of Mobile and vicinity. We are authorized by him to extend our friends a cordial invitation to call at the club rooms, on the northwest corner of Dauphin and Royal streets, up stairs, and make themselves comfortable when in the city, and also to those at a distance who wish further information than we are able to give, to write Mr. Kennedy.

BALDWIN COUNTY WAKING UP.

A public meeting was held in Daphne on the night of October 31, to discuss the subjects: "Better schools, better roads, a better system of taxation." Circuit court being in session, there was a large attendance, and all parts of the county were represented. Mess. C. K. and F. L. Brown, Coleman, Webster, Stimpson, Bancroft and Cullen, of Fairhope attended. The announced speakers were Judge Hall, Hon. J. H. H. Smith, E. Q. Norton and Oscar Hall. Mr. D. C. Byrne, County Superintendent of Education, was present and participated, as did others, including our F. L. Brown.

Judge Hall presented a bill "directing and requiring" the County Commissioners to levy and collect annually a special school tax of as many mills as when added to the assessments paid for other county purposes shall amount to the one and one half per cent allowed as the total levy within the state by the coustitution, the special tax to be for the support and maintenance of the public schools. The bill was approved by vote of the meeting, and our representative instructed to use his best efforts to secure its passage at the coming session of the state legislature.

Mr. Norton made a very able address on the subject of a better system of taxation as related to better schools, better roads and all other questions of public interest: and the following resolution submitted by him was passed by the meeting: "Resolved, that it is the wish of the people of this section of Baldwin county, as expressed at a public meeting held at Daphne, October 31, that our representative to the legislature be requested to prepare and introduce a bill for the purpose of submitting to the people the opportunity of voting upon the question of local option in taxation."

The Baldwin Advocate exhibited commendable enterprise in giving a full report of the meeting, together with the bill presented by Judge Hall, the resolution offered by Mr. Norton and a local-option bill later submitted by Mr. Norton as illustrating more fully the purpose of his resolution. It is highly encouraging to see the interest being awakened in these important subjects in the "state of Baldwin."

THE ELECTION.

The election has again brought disappointment to zealous and sanguine reformers, though not without its encouraging features. The Republican majority has been increased in the senate, but decreased in the house, showing a net loss in the combined majority, but giving them control of both houses. This is cause for congratulation, for it will give them full scope to apply their policies and compel them to shoulder the responsibility for the results. Nothing is so unsatisfactory as a divided congress or a hostile executive.

Governor Pingree who has been so outspoken against the dominant plutocratic influences in his party, has gained another signal victory in Michigan.

Among the severest disappointments are the return to power of the republicans, in Kansas, Nebraska, Washington and Wyoming; the defeat of Jerry Simpson, Lewis, of Washington, Barry of California, and Weaver of Iowa, for congress; and Maguire for governor of California.

One result of the election is not unlikely to be, to cause increased interest in Fairhope; in our effort to apply reforms without waiting the slow and often reactionary progress of majorities.

THANKSGIVING AT FAIRHOPE.

Great preparations are being made for the proper celebration gastronomically at least, of Thanksgiving at Fairhope. A grand union dinner will be spread at the Fairhope House, in which all colonists and their neighbors will co-operate. The bill of fare, we are told, will comprise oyster soup, crackers, cabbage salad, roast turkey, chicken pie, baked possum, Irish and sweet potatoes, baked beans, tomatoes, bread, jelly, mince pie, sweet potato pie, chocolate cake, doughnuts, coffee, bananas &c. &c. An absence of French and Italian high sounding names unintelligible except to the initiated, will be noted in the menu; but the good old-fashioned dishes that our "mothers used to make," will be abundantly in evidence. It will be a good time for our friends from abroad to visit us, and a cordial invitation is extended them to participate with us.

A thoroughly competent electrical and mechanical engineer is contemplating removing to Fairhope to help develop our resources and the equipment of our public services, while also prosecuting his business throughout the adjacent territory. We believe the move would be a wise one on his part and of very great advantage to Fairhope, and hope he will decide favorably.

The editor knows more about 'possums than he did. He was fattening one for Thanksgiving, and shifted him to new quarters, but left the cracks between the slats too wide for his condition of fatness; and he squeezed out. A stray possum turned up about the Fairhope House, which we have a robust suspicion was ours; but as we were not thoughtful enough to tag ours, we have no means of identifying him.

We feel that we have done well to accomplish what we have at Fairhope in these panic times, and such is the opinion of all our visitors; but an esteemed friend in Chicago thinks the colony a total because we have not met his extravagant hopes. He says: "Fairhope is a failure. Were it not so, each individual would be in a thrifty financial condition now. Were it not so, the population would now be several thousand instead of about one hundred people, transportation facilities and many other advantages of civilization would now be theirs" &c. We have not accomplished all that we had hoped in the less than four years of our existence; but, certainly, if any one cherished such extravagant expectations, he is alone responsible for them. It has always been conceded that we could make little or no impression upon the general level of prices or wages, (where the effect of the general application of the principles we hold would soon be apparent) and which would be necessary to so rapid a growth as our friend anticipated. And it has been well understood that until there was a material rise in land values the advantages flowing from our policies would have to be chiefly taken on faith. We are sorry that our friend has gone from one extreme of optimism to the other of pessimism—which is, however, a perfectly natural vibration—but never having indulged such extravagant anticipations, and above all being disposed to do the best we can and rest content therewith, we shall go right along with our self-appointed task.

The convict contract system, under which the convicts of Alabama are hired out to private contractors—chiefly in the coal-mining districts, is a disgrace to the state and to nineteenth century civilization; and we are glad to note the success of the convict farm system in our neighboring state of Mississippi. The state owns and operates 8000 acres of rich delta lands, which have been found profitable; and there is a strong sentiment in favor of the purchase by the next legislature of 10,000 to 20,000 acres more, upon which shall be established the main convict farm, "The tax-payers of Mississippi," says the Mobile Register's Mississippi correspondent, "feel that they have solved the convict problem—they are not only made to pay large sums into the treasury, but they are humanely treated, being so comfortably housed, warmly clad and generously fed, that no word of complaint is ever heard from white or black.

LOCAL AND PERSONAL.

P. A. Parker has applied for 5 acres opposite Herman Stemerdink's.

The clearing of Magnolia Ave. is almost completed. The opening of this fine street will be a great improvement.

The Woman's Suffrage Society will meet with Mrs. Leech on Thursday, the 17th, instead of at the school-house.

Four years ago to-day the "Pilgrim Fathers" (which of course includes the mothers) of Fairhope landed in Baldwin County.

Just received, and more to follow, a large stock of shoes. Come and see us before you buy. Our prices are right, and the shoes are O. K. Mershon Bros.

The editor is adding a room to his dwelling to accommodate Mother Mershon, and is also enlarging his verandah, or "gallery" as we call it here.

Ed. Adams, the colored boy who burglarized Mershon Brothers' store, was sentenced to eight months in the penitentiary, at the late term of Court.

Word has been received from Mrs. Creswell that she will be home soon to prepare for the coming of Mrs. Jacobs and son Sumner, who will follow about December 15.

Mr. Creswell has been digging some enormous potatoes of the white yam variety, grown on the Phinney place. One on exhibition at the store weighs four and one half pounds.

Mr. Carlson is improving, but slowly. It seems strange that Mr. Carlson should be so afflicted with rheumatism here, where almost all who come here with it experience great improvement.

Mr. Cullen,s cigar business is still increasing. He recently received an order for nearly fifty dollar's worth for shipment to Tennessee, the order coming through a highly pleased customer in the upper part of this county.

Miss. Jeanette Webb, of Des Moines, is visiting her parents, Mr and Mrs. O. A. Webb, and sisters Mabel and Veva. She will remain until January, at least.

Rev. E. R. Clarkson will preach at Farhope next Sunday and the Sunday following. As Thanksgiving will occur during his stay here, there will probably be a Thanksgiving service; but this we are not authorized to announce.

Mr. Jerome Stapleton, living between Fairhope and Battles, an old settler, who furnished us with beef, died on the fifth and was buried the following day. The funeral was largely attended, there being seven carriages from Fairhope in the funeral profession,

Charles J. Stromberg and wife, of Chicago, are at the Fairhope and have been for some time. They will spend the winter in the south for Mr. Stromberg's health, and we hope will continue so well pleased with Fairhope as to spend the greater part of the time here.

Herman Stemerdink was home a few days ago from his work at Fort Morgan to look after his claim at Fairhope. We were all glad to see Herman again, and sorry that we could not keep him; though as he has a good job at the Fort, it is probably the part of wisdom for him to hold to it.

The ad of Koppersmith & Bogue, shoe merchants of Mobile, will appear in the next issue of the Courier. This enterprising firm, which has always been popular with Fairhope people, will be more so in their new quarters at the old and well known McGill stand on lower Dauphin Street, where they will be so convenient to eastern-shore purchasers.

The bay is unquestionably a great protection against frost though the northers seem to gather fierceness as they sweep across it. Our first frost occurred on the morning of October 27th, but it merely blackened the tops of the sweet potato vines here, while in Mobile it killed all tender vegetation, and even a few miles back of us was much more severe.

We are requested to announce that a bachelor gardener can learn of an opening at Fairhope, where his board will be certain and abundant opportunity afforded to do as much more as he is able; by addressing L, care of the Courier. [To avoid misunderstanding and disappointment to any one, we should perhaps say that "L" is not any one of our bachelor ladies, seeking a partner.]

Rev. Gardner L. Tucker, of Mobile, who visits Fairhope once a year or oftener, to note our progress, and who gave us a very discriminating write-up in the Mobile Register last January; made us a pleasant call again a few days since. Mr. Tueker is a minister of the Episcopal Church and ministers to several congregations on this shore. He is an able and progressive young man, and we are always glad to see him.

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Delamare (erroneously printed Delaware in last Courier) arrived as per announcement, and were also accompanied by Mr. Delamare's brother, Mr. Wm. Delamare. They spent a week with us, looking over the country in and about Fairhope, and seemed greatly pleased. We have strong hopes of their deciding to locate at Fairhope. Mr. Alfred Delamare brought letters of introduction from old friends and single-taxers of Des Moines.

THE NIKSUR MAGAZINE.

The Niksur Magazine is a new monthly periodical of twenty pages advocating socialism, including co-operation, direct legislation, and universal brotherhood. Subscription price, fifty cents a year: five samples, ten cents: one sample, a two-cent stamp.

Niksur Magazine, Voegeli Building,
Minneapolis, Minn.

FOR SALE OR RENT.

House with 6 large rooms, 2 fireplaces, 3 rooms lathed and plastered, one half acre of ground set out to fruit: Pears, Peaches, Apples, Figs, Grapes, Blackberries and Dewberries. Cistern. One street from post-office and store. For further information address

A. J. Cullen, Fairhope.

LAND FOR SALE.

Twenty acres in the southwest corner of Section 28, on main road between Battles and Marlow, about 2½ miles from Fairhope and the same distance from Battles. Six acres cleared of roots and stumps and in cultivation, balance practically clear of timber. 80 rods new picket fence. House 12x16, with good shingle roof, cistern.

Will sell for $150. Address H. F. Landes,
Fairhope, Ala.
n15

At the patrons' meeting in the school district, comprising the south half of this township, it was voted to hold two schools in the district; one of which will be at Battles and the other in the "Ohio settlement." Mr Moog, we understand, will give the use of a building for the former, and Mr. N. L. Nilsen has given an acre right in the center of Section Twenty-eight, for a site, on which a school-house is now being erected. Five pupils from the district are attending the Fairhope school, and have applied for transfers, as they do not now desire to change.

The proprietors of the Point Clear hotel, who used a great many of Doctor Atkinson's grapes last season, report to her that they had nothing which gave such good satisfaction. They regretted greatly that the ending of the grape season so soon after the opening of the hotel (which is not until in July) prevented their having them longer. The doctor intends to try next year to supply the demand for several weeks at least beyond the usual season, by building a double-walled storage room in which the bunches can be laid on open racks, after dipping the ends of the stems in wax to retain the freshness, as recommended. If successful, it will be a great advantage to our grape growers as well as consumers of this luscious fruit.

It will be remembered that the strawberry bulletin of the Alabama Agricultural and Mechanical College at Auburn, lately quoted in these columns, placed the Lady Thompson at the head of the list of varieties, in combination of desirable qualities for this section. This rating has lately been confirmed by reports from various other sources. We are pleased to announce that plants of this variety can be procured of Mr. T. D. Jackson, Evergreen, Ala., for 25c. per hundred or $1.50 per thousand. By request of various parties, we have already ordered and received 1000 plants from him, which have been distributed in the neighborhood; and have heard of several others who would like some If others wanting lots less than 1000 will state their wants at the Courier office, we will be glad to assist them by bunching their orders and ordering a larger lot.

Our staunch friend and member, Fred. C. Ford, now at Lulaville, Georgia, sends the following by way of apology for not writing:

"I think I owe you a letter, perhaps two of them; and I suppose I also owe the Courier something more than a letter, so please find it enclosed. The fact is, I knew you needed money more than letters (though a good letter is sometimes as encouraging as money); and as my circumstances will not permit me to aid the colony financially. I have felt like letting others, more fortunate than myself, come to the front. Some time ago you asked for my experiences and views of the south for the Courier. I will do so, but not now. I hope to be able to demonstrate conclusively soon, that one can get started and make a good living in this southland with less than half the money that Mr. Coleman thinks is required. I am pleased to note that the colony is progressing, though rather slowly. I suppose you will inaugurate some other venture when the wharf is paid for. It should be quite a send off by way of securing money for further investment. It is hard to see you in need of funds to secure the 320 acres and not be able to help, but such is the case. Still I am getting along very nicely, and think I shall not have to get down onto my last dollar, as I once feared. But good bye, and regards to all."

The undersigned, Editor of this paper, extends his full and hearty endorsement to Messrs. Yeend & Potter, proprietors of the well known

BLUE * STORE

(the strictly one-price Cash House of Mobile, Ala.).

We recommend them to our readers and subscribers as the right people to patronize for Dry Goods, Notions, Men's and Ladies' Furnishings and Underwear, Men's, Youths' and Boys' Clothing, Hats, Caps, Shoes and House Furnishings. (Signed) E. B. Gaston.

FAIRHOPE TRANSPORTATION LINE.

Remember that the staunch Schooner "Minnie L." of Fairhope, Capt. G. A. R. Lawrence, makes regular trips twice a week (oftener if neccessary) between Fairhope and Mobile, handling all kinds of freight either way with security and dispatch. Will touch at all points along the eastern shore when business demands.

The Minnie L. has extra facilities for protecting freight from the weather and makes a specialty of handling merchandise and household goods. Special rates to persons moving to Fairhope

☞ SPECIAL! Capt. Lawrence will attend personally and without charge, to purchasing and selling orders in Mobile for his patrons.

FOR SALE,

Half interest in a complete saw-mill. Mill 80 horse-power. Finest boiler and engine made. Planer, shingle saw and everything complete. Best well of water in the county. Excellent opportunity to put in other paying machinery. A chance of a life-time for some good man.

FAIRHOPE MFG. CO.
Fairhope, Ala.

IMPROVED PROPERTY FOR SALE.

New House, 5 rooms; Hall, Gallery, front and back; 40 acres good farming land, 10 fenced and under cultivation; abundant water, barn 30x20 feet, with large loft.

Also, 65 acres adjoining; 10 acres fenced and having 4000 grape vines in bearing, Delaware, Niagara, Brilliant, Salem and others,

Rock creek, a never failing stream runs across west end of land. Hardwood timber, also pine in abundance.

One mile due east of Daphne, county seat.
Will divide lots in size to suit. Address E. Q. Norton,
Daphne, Ala.

MOBILE & OHIO RAILROAD.

FOR

ST. LOUIS, CHICAGO, MEMPHIS, HOT SPRINGS, LOUISVILLE, CINCINNATI, CAIRO, CLEVELAND, DETROIT, TOLEDO, DES MOINES, KANSAS CITY, ST. PAUL, MINNEAPOLIS,

AND ALL POINTS in the NORTH, EAST and WEST.

FINE NEW EQUIPMENT. SOLID, WIDE-VESTIBULED TRAINS, with VESTIBULED PULLMAN PALACE SLEEPING CARS. Quick time. Sure connections.

This road has for sale the finest farming and timber lands in the South at astonishingly low rates and upon easy terms, in the states of Tennessee, Mississippi, and Alabama. Also Government lands subject to homestead entry. Most delightful and even climate in America. For descriptive matter and full information apply to—

Alabama Land and Development Co. Mobile Ala.

Low rate excursions for land-seekers several times each month. Also low one way rates for settlers and their household goods.

For information as to rates, tickets, time, etc., apply to,
G. W. KING, City Ticket Agent, Mobile, Ala
R. W. SMITH, City Passenger Agent, Mobile, Ala.
J. N. COMATZAR, Traveling Passenger Agent, Mobile, Ala.
R. CARROLL, Vice-Pres't & Gen. Mgr.
E. E. POSEY, General Passenger Agent.

MOBILE, ALABAMA.

SALESMEN WANTED.

Good wages to sell our Nursery Stock. Apply for terms. We will have for Spring and Fall. 1898, an immense stock of Apples, Pears, Peach, Plum, Apricot, Cherry, Grape, etc. Also small fruits, shade and ornamental trees, Roses etc. We make a specialty of wholesaling to large planters direct. Write us for wholesale prices. Address: Southern Nursery Co. Winchester, Tenn.

WM. H. LEINKAUF & SON

BANKERS,

MOBILE ALABAMA.

TRANSACT A GENERAL BANKING BUSINESS. DEPOSITS SOLICITED. BUY AND SELL FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC EXCHANGE.

DRUGS SEEDS — WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.

G. VAN ANTWERP & SON.

Corner Royal and Dauphin Sts. Mobile, Ala.

RESIDENTS OF BALDWIN COUNTY INVITED TO USE OUR STORE AS A MEETING POINT, WHEN SHOPPING IN MOBILE.

FUNERAL DIRECTORS

Beroujon Sands and Co.,

Coffins and Shrouds to Suburban Residents at Special Low Prices

N. W. COR. CONCEPTION AND CONTI STS. MOBILE, ALA

McDonald, March & Company;

MANUFACTURERS AND IMPORTERS OF

MONUMENTS, TOMBS, GRAVESTONES, MANTELS &c.

Building work a specialty.

EAST SIDE ROYAL BET. ST. LOUIS & ST ANTHONY, MOBILE, ALA.

CORRESPONDENCE.

FAIRHOPE AND CO-OPERATION.

As Mr. Gaston says, Fairhope is not a co operative colony, neither does the Courier advocate co-operation as a remedy for our industrial evils, except in two things as per our constitution: (1) tenure of land, (2) the use of public utilities. Which as far as they go have worked well, and are the two principles keeping Fairhope alive. As to Mr. Gaston pointing out some difficulties in the way of co-operation, I am not aware that we have found any in Fairhope but what also confront private enterprise. except it be be that there are very few co-operators in Fairhope. 'Tis true, co-operative merchandising has failed in many cases, but the principles underlying true co-operation were not the cause. Even the Rochdale plan (which is merely a dividend hunter) has been a great success. Where then are the practical difficulties in the way of true co-operation, wherein we work together for mutual good instead of individual strife wherein the weakest will go to the wall?

The co-operative distributive department at the beginning of our settlement had some disadvantages over the merchants at different points on this shore, which Mr. Gaston does not mention. At that time there was no wharf at Fairhope: the goods had to be hauled two miles up a very bad road, and we had to pay wharfage to our nearest competitive merchant. Shortly after the store was stocked, there arose discontent among the members, which resulted in a good portion of them giving up their interest in Fairhope Associaton and settling some distance away Under these circumstances, the report of Mr. Gaston is not surprising. Neither Mershon Bros. nor any other merchants would have taken up the mercantile business at that time; threfore there is good reason to believe the co-operative distributive department was beneficial.

Now, with our own wharf and the business we have created, we would find a co-operative store to our mutual benefit. It is said that the store is the only paying business in Fairhope, which is not saying much for other private enterprise. I believe the circumstances are right and all we need in Fairhope is some of those who believe that at least some of the supposed beauties of co-operation will materialize in practice.

Wm. Stimpson.

B. C. A. S.

The November meeting of the Baldwin County Agricultural Society was held at River Park on Saturday, the 5th. The attendanee was only fair, Fairhope furnishing a large quota.

A directors' meeting held in the forenoon, allowed some small expense bills, and referred to the Society a resolution to make the Secretary's salary for the present year $1 per month, which was approved by the Society. No action was taken on compensation of last year's Secretary.

The time of the afternoon session of the Society was chiefly occupied by business matters, no educational program having been prepared. E. B. Gaston volunteered to gather such information as he could about upland rice: methods of planting fertilizing, cultivation; its relative value as a market crop as well as for home use as compared with other cereals; harvesting and preparing for shipment etc. and present it at next meeting.

The next meeting will be held at the residence of J. W. Grove, on the banks of Fish River, the first Saturday in December.

The Society can accomplish much good if the proper interest is taken in it by Baldwin County agriculturists, and it is hoped there will be a large attendanee at the next meeting.

ORANGES IN BALDWIN.

In the winter of '94—5 (in the year one of Fairhope,) there was an abundant crop of oranges of fine quality. We bought elegant oranges for eighty cents to one dollar a hundred. The heavy freeze of February. 1895, killed all the trees to the ground; Most of them however sprouted trom the roots the next season, and there are quite a good many oranges in the county again this winter.

USES OF PEANUTS.

Mrs. Woods furnishes the following:

NUT BUTTER. Grind roasted peanuts to a fine meal. Mix with water to a proper consistency. Makes excellent sandwiches.

PEANUT PIE-CRUST. One part uut butter to two parts flour. Cold water, slightly salted, should be used. Do not knead. More hygienic than lard shortening.

PEANUT CAKE. Bake any plain cake in layers. Spread each layer, except the top, with nut butter.

Leslie Hall,
ATTORNEY AT LAW
Land Titles Examined. Daphne Ala.

ADRIAN B. DURE & CO.
WILL FILL YOUR ORDERS AS CHEAP
AS THE CHEAPEST, FOR
Paints, Oils, Wall Paper &c.
Estimates furnished for all kinds of work in the Interior.
Write for ADVICE & COLOR CARD. We solicit a trial.
76 DAUPHIN ST., MOBILE, ALA. THE WHITE FRONT.

3 Stores In ONE.
L. Hammel & Co.
MOBILE, ALA.
SELL DRY GOODS, BOYS' CLOTHING, CARPETS, MATTINGS, CLOAKS, CORSETS, GLOVES, ETC.
CHEAPER THAN ANY OTHER HOUSE IN THE SOUTH.
Sole agents for BUTTERICK,S Patterns.

Star Restaurant
MRS. E. R. QUATTLEBAUM, PROPRIETRESS.
Meals, 15 cents, Lodging, 25 cents.
GOOD CLEAN BEDS AND SQUARE MEALS
16 So. ROYAL ST. MOBILE, ALA.

A. H. Mershon Nathaniel Mershon
Mershon Brothers
DEALERS IN Flour, Feed, Fertilizers, Staple and Fancy Groceries, Cured Meats, Dry-goods, Hardware, Implements and everything kept in a first-class stock of
GENERAL MERCHANDISE
We buy and sell for cash and make our prices as low as possible; preferring quick and large sales, at small profits, to small, slow sales at large profits. DON'T SEND YOUR LARGE CASH ORDERS TO MOBILE–but let us figure on them. We can beat Mobile prices almost every time and the small margin–which is not Profit but small pay for our service–will remain in Baldwin County.
Fairhope Ala.

James McDonnell Company,
Wholesale Grocers and Liquor Dealers,
NOS. 9-11 & 13 NORTH COMMERCE ST.
WAREHOUSES, 14-54 56 S. COMMERCE. ST. MOBILE, ALA

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NOTARY PUBLIC.

I hold a commission as Notary Public, and am prepared to draw if necessary, and take acknowledgemants of all legal documents.

E. B. Gaston, Fairhope, Ala.

FAIRHOPE INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION.

Organized and incorporated at Des Moines, Iowa, February, 1894.
Established Fairhope, Baldwin County, Alabama, January, 1895.

C. L. Coleman, Pres. — A. H. Mershon, Vice Pres.
G. M. Bancroft, Treas. — E. B. Gaston, Sec'y.

Fairhope Industrial Association was organized to MAKE GOOD THEORIES WORK. Its basic principle is the Law of Equal Freedom, "That every man has freedom to do all that he wills, provided he infringes not on the equal freedom of any other man." This law is applied by it:

IN GOVERNMENT, by personal vote, initiative, referendum and imperative mandate.

IN LAND HOLDING AND USE, by the principle of the Single Tax, the association holding the title to all lands and leasing to individuals in quantities to suit, at a rental "which shall equalize the varying advantages of location and natural qualities of all tracts." The association, out of the sum thus received, pays all taxes levied by the civil authorities on improvements and personal property held upon its lands, thus making the rent of land the only charge against individuals.

IN NATURAL MONOPOLIES - transportation, telephones, water, light, power, etc. - by association control and operation at cost, as fast as practicable.

IN A MEDIUM FOR EFFECTING LOCAL EXCHANGES, by the issuance of its non-interest-bearing notes for services rendered it, redeemable in equivalent services and land rent.

The above simple program has been in practical operation at Fairhope for more than three years, and its advantages are constantly becoming more apparent.

It should appeal to those who believe the path of progress does not necessarily lead to the substitution of a government trust for the multiple private trusts which in the enjoyment of special privileges have grown to be a national menace, but that freedom is a sovereign remedy for all our economic ills.

The association has a most beautiful, healthful and attractive location on the eastern shore of Mobile Bay, within sight of the important sea-coast city of Mobile, its lands having a frontage on the bay shore of about three fourths of a mile, and extending back—not wholly connected—three miles. They comprise 670 acres, owned free of incumbrance; and a very favorable option is held on nearly 2500 acres more.

The land is especially adapted to truck and fruit growing for northern markets, as well as general farming and stock raising. The association owns its own wharf, 1800 feet long, at which the side-wheel steamer Heroine, plying daily between Mobile and this shore, lands on all trips. Fairhope has a post office having a daily mail and doing a money-order business.

There are twenty-three dwellings on the ground, a store, hotel, saw-mill, cigar factory, blacksmith shop, and a public hall, used also for school and church purposes.

The cost of membership in the association is $100, which may be paid in instalments; but membership, though desired, is not requisite to the occupancy of land and the enjoyment of the economic advantages afforded by the association.

Beautiful bay-view building lots and desirable lands for farming are open for settlement by desirable parties, with no financial requirement further than the payment of the annual rent based on the value of the unimproved land, all of which will be expended in the interest of those paying it.

Fairhope Association pays no dividends, interest or bonuses to any one, and has but one salaried officer (receiving $10 a month). It was organized and exists solely to apply correct principles, for the benefit of those who participate and for a practical, visible example to the world. Its resources are all expended to that end; and to that end it invites the membership and moral and financial support of right-thinking men and women.

The following list of industries which would probably prove profitable at Fairhope is offered for the benefit of inquirers:

Truck farming, fruit growing, general farming, stock raising, poultry raising, nursery, cotton gin, rice huller, cane mill, cannery, ice factory, laundry, pottery bakery, brick-yard, tannery (using probably canaigre roots), water toboggan and other devices of like character for amusement of excursionists from Mobile and elsewhere, light manufacturing of almost any kind, mail order business &c.

For further particulars, address with stamp, E. B. Gaston, Secretary,
Fairhope, Alabama.

BOAT & MAIL SCHEDULE.

Steamboat Heroine or James A. Carney leaves Mobile daily except Sunday for Fairhope at 3 P. M. and leaves Fairhope for Mobile at 7:25 A. M. Saturday evening returns to Mobile direct from end of her run, at Battles, and leaves Mobile Sunday morning at 9:15. Does not return to Mobile on Sunday afternoon. Mail carried on all trips. Mail leaves Fairhope post-office at 7 A. M. week days, and at 4:30 P. M. also on Saturday. No outgoing mail on Sunday. Mail opened immediately on arrival at office on week days, and on Sunday (as required by law) at close of religious service, about 12 M.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

The Baldwin County Woman's Suffrage Society meets the third Thursday, at 2 P.M., of each month, in Assembly Hall at Fairhope Ala. All who are interested are cordially invited to come and join us: especially the ladies are invited.

Mrs. J. A. Woods, President. — Mrs. F. L. Brown, Secretary.
Mrs. O. A. Webb, Vice Pres. — Mrs. S. H. Leech, Treasurer.

Religious services are held regularly at Fairhope every Sunday, as follows:

Sunday school	at	9:45 A. M.
Church service	"	11 A. M.
Christian Endeavor	"	7:30 P. M.

The Fairhope W. C. T. U. meets the second and fourth Thursday of each month at 2:30 P. M. with Mrs. Arthur Mershon.

Mrs. Nella Leech, President.
Mrs. H. N. Brown, Secretary.

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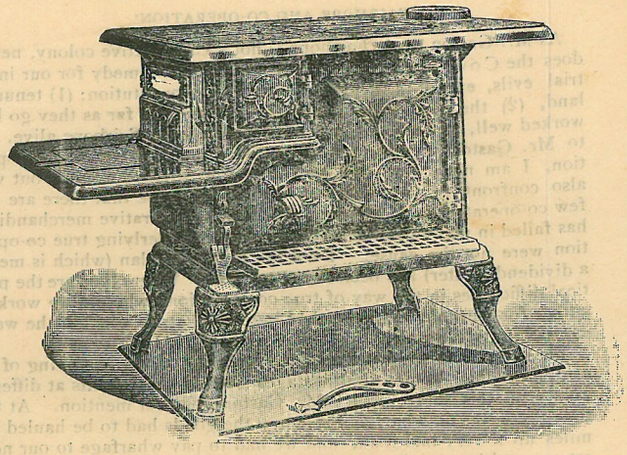

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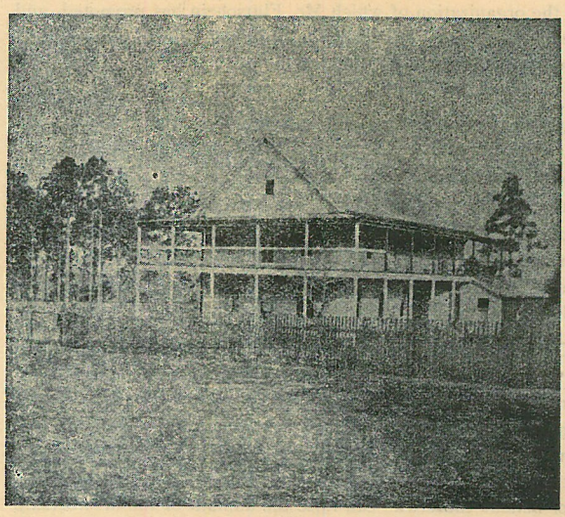
FAIRHOPE COURIER.

That which Nature provides is the Common Property of all God's Children; that which the Individual creates belongs to the Individual; that which the Community creates belongs to the Community.— GEN. J. B. WEAVER.

VOL. V. NO. 9. FAIRHOPE, ALA., DEC. 1, 1898. 25 CENTS A YEAR.



THE FAIRHOPE HOUSE.

Where Thanksgiving dinner was eaten.

THANKSGIVING AT FAIRHOPE.

Our "union Thanksgiving dinner" at Fairhope proved to be a great success. The Fairhope House threw wide its hospitable doors for the occasion. The rooms were tastefully decorated, especially the dining room, which was made beautiful indeed with the wealth of evergreen branches, vines, flowers and berries which are at the command of the decorator in this favored country of ours, and with roses and chrysanthemums. Two long tables were spread the full length of the dining room and another in the office, accommodating the just about one hundred who were present, at two sittings. Those who ate at the second tables waited upon those who were at the first, and were in turn served by them.

Under the efficient management of Miss Anna Brown and Mrs. Nella Leech, there was the greatest abundance of good things for the various courses, and little of the confusion in service usually noted on such occasions. The baked 'possum was about the only announced delicacy which failed to materialize. There was oyster soup—excellent it was too—of which Frank Brown was the architect, being like the writer—we shall have to say it ourself, for no one else will—an accomplished culinary artist. Roast turkey, chicken pie, Irish and sweet potatoes, baked beans, cabbage salad, mince pie, sweet-potato pie and other pies, cakes in great variety, not omitting the good old-fashioned doughnuts (reputed indigestible, but the only ones that worried us were the ones we didn't get), coffee and bananas. Other "et ceteras" there were no doubt, which we have not enumerated; but these will suffice to show that we had a genuine, old-fashioned Thanksgiving spread—and we haven't heard of any one who had to call the doctor.

The dinner was excellent, but it was by no means all: the good fellowship which prevailed among Fairhopers and their friends was more. We know that new-comers present could not but be, and were, impressed with the intelligent, good-natured and agreeable class of people who are after all the chief charm of Fairhope.

LOCAL OPTION IN TAXATION.

The bill submitted as carrying out the intent of the resolution adopted at the public meeting at Daphne—as reported in last issue of this paper, made it the duty of assessors, in assessing real property of any kind, to "assess the value of land separately from all buildings, structures, drains, crops, plants, trees and other improvements thereon, and to state in separate columns the assessed value of each piece of land and of the entire improvements thereon."

It further provides that the board of county commissioners in each county, and the common council, aldermen or other legally constituted body in each incorporated city of the state "may in their discretion direct that all taxes in such city [or county] collected exclusively for city [or county] purposes shall be levied upon the assessed value of personal property alone, or upon the assessed value of real estate alone, including land and all improvements thereon, or upon the assessed value of land alone, exclusive of improvements and of personal property, or upon the assessed value of land, improvements and personal property taken together."

Section 4 provides: "Nothing contained in this act shall be construed as diminishing the proportion of the state tax which any city or county may be required to pay into the state treasury under the existing laws or under any laws which may be hereafter enacted; but in every city and county the value of all real and personal property shall be assessed and returned in the manner now or hereafter prescribed by law; and every city and county in which any species of property may be exempted from taxation by virtue of the powers hereby conferred, shall nevertheless pay the same proportion of state tax which it would be liable to pay if such exceptions were not made."

We call attention to these—the important sections of the bill—to show the scope of the resolution passed at the meeting referred to, and to congratulate the citizens representing all parts of the county there assembled for adopting a resolution so progressively democratic; for certainly the essence of real democracy is the "rule of the people," and why should not the people of every county, city or town be permitted to determine the method by which the revenue to which they are liable should be raised—the method which should be applied upon themselves?

We have another purpose in calling attention to it at this time, when a similar measure recommended to the citizens of perhaps the most progressive state in the Union (Washington) by a non-partisan vote of its legislature has just been defeated: to direct attention to the fact that the people of Fairhope are working under such a rule by their own "option" without waiting the "aid or consent" of anybody but themselves.

The late election, like every one which has preceded it since Fairhope was projected, confirms our judgment in the wisdom of our effort to apply good theories without waiting for legislation. We invite the attention too of friends who, strangely, look upon us as having withdrawn from the fight for legislative reform, to the opportunity which we have helped to make, of working for it under such a resolution as that we have quoted, endorsed by a representative body of citizens of our county.

Our work for it will certainly not be weakened by the fact that what we urge upon our fellow citizens of Baldwin County and Alabama, we are trying upon ourselves and able to pronounce it good from experience.

FRIENDS, ATTENTION!

It is of the utmost importance that the half-section of land held for us by Mess Bostedo and Nusbaum for two years and for the last year by Mr. C. K. Brown, should be secured to the Association at once.

We have plenty of lots near the bay, available for small holdings, but the good agricultural lands in our first purchases are practically exhausted, and there is a growing—and sensible—disposition to take larger tracts in order to let a portion each year go to crops to be turned under as fertilizers, or fed upon the place and returned in the form of manure.

We have 320 acres it is true, untouched, but it lies beyond the 320 of which we speak, the nearest point being two and a half miles from the wharf and two miles from the store; and while it will come into demand all right after the intermediate land is settled, it now seems too far out. (Continued on third page.)

FAIRHOPE COURIER.

Devoted to the LAW of EQUAL FREEDOM—"Every man has freedom to do all that he wills, provided he infringes not the equal freedom of any other man"—and to the effort now being made to immediately apply that law to the fullest extent possible under existing conditions, by the Fairhope Industrial Association, at Fairhope, Alabama.

Its motto, and that of Fairhope Industrial Association, is, "We will make good theories work." And it denies the possibility of a "good theory" which is "not practical."

ERNEST B. GASTON, - - - EDITOR AND MANAGER.

Published at Fairhope, Alabama, on the first and fifteenth of each month.

Subscription Price to any address in the United States, Canada or Mexico 25 cents per annum. In other countries of the International Postal Union, 50c.

Entered at Fairhope Post Office as second class matter.

Due notice of expiration of subscriptions will be given, and unless otherwise requested, the Courier will be sent to subscribers until ordered discontinued.

Captain George A. R. Lawrence, is an authorized agent of the Courier in Mobile.

The November number of Why? contains a very able address by our J. Bellangee, entitled "Christ's Kingdom on Earth," and the "Problem of Individual Life" by Henry George—a splendid propaganda number.

The National Single Taxer has not made its appearance since September first; but according to the Public will resume publication December first, with George P. Hampton as manager. There has evidently been some miscalculation in the move to New York and change of management.

Justice, the bright and aggressive single-tax weekly published at Wilmington, Delaware, has been recently greatly improved in paper and typography. Now that the National Single Taxer has abandoned the field of weekly journalism, Justice we hope will get a very large increase in circulation.

The Journal of Labor, Atlanta, Ga., is a new and appreciated visitor to our exchange table. It is the organ of the Atlanta Federation of Trades, and is as perfect typographically and as progressive editorially as one would expect a paper published under such auspices to be. Our friend, E. A. Davidson, edits a column on "Co-operation."

Note the new ads in this issue, of Koppersmith and Bogue, footwear; M. Muller and company, furniture; and Marx Produce company, commission merchants. These are among the best houses in Mobile, in their respective lines, as are our other advertisers, and our friends should give them the preference every time, when trading in in Mobile.

An interesting cartoon published in Citizen and Country, Toronto, represented a vertical section of a part of the city of London, probably the busiest place in the world. Above the ground surface runs the elevated railway, on the street are the omnibuses, business and pleasure vehicles and pedestrians, beneath the street are shown the gas mains, water mains, underground railway, the main sewer, and seventy-seven feet beneath the street surface, another underground railway, at right angles to the former.

We are deeply indebted to Mr. E. E. Posey, the genial and progressive General Passenger Agent of the Mobile & Ohio R. R. for the gift, with the compliments of that favorite line, of a splendid set of views taken in and about Fairhope by Mr. Hinchey of De Soto, Mo., the official photopher of the M. & O. The views are x inches in size, and in the highest style of the photographic art. They constitute an "Edition de Luxe" of Fairhope scenery, and we wish they could be enjoyed by all our friends, especially those who have never been permitted to visit Fairhope in person. We shall try to have cuts made from some of them for the Courier.

Hail, South Dakota! Banner state of the Union! The woman-suffrage and direct-legislation amendments to the Constitution of South Dakota both carried at the late election.

We are indebted to Mr. Michael Flurscheim for the initial number of the "Commercial Exchange Gazette," the official organ of the New Zealand Exchange Company (limited), Wellington, N. Z. It is dedvoted to the interests of the exchange or co-operative banking institution the organization of which Mr. Flurschein has promoted, and which seems to start out swimmingly. In another number we will report upon the plan and its prospects.

It has been decided to hold our regular anniversary celebration on New Year's eve instead of evening, as New Year's falls on Sunday. In view of the elaborate spread provided for Thanksgiving and the work devolving on the ladies therewith, there will be no banquet proper this season; but after the anniversary program, oysters and other light refreshments will be served by the Fairhope House at a slight charge, for all who wish to partake of them. The necessary committees have been appointed, and another very enjoyable time may be looked forward to.

Mr. C. L. Howell of Tillman, Florida, a new correspondent, inquires, "You say that $100 entitles to a share, or a membership, in your colony, and yet all who occupy land there pay the tax. Now I really want to know what advantages a shareholder has over one who is not, but simply a renter." This question affords us opportunity to say that unlike most colony organizations, Fairhope does not exist solely to benefit those who can raise the amount of the membership fee, but to, as far as possible, help those who are willing to work under its rules, whether members or not. The only practical difference in treatment of members and non-members is that the former have a right to vote in all association matters, and are stockholders, having an interest in all the property of the association proportioned to the amount of their stock. This interest gives them no advantage over non-members while the association exists to apply its present principles, but in case of its disbandmeat would entitle them to share in the division of its assets. These advantages, it seems to us, are both the rightful due of those who support the association with their minds and means, and abundant inducement to membership.

SOME OLD COLONISTS HEARD FROM.

The following from a personal letter from Rev. Aug. Dellgren, who was one of the first party of Fairhope colonists, now in Minneapolis, Minn., will be of interest. "Well, I see you are getting along very nicely, most of you, down at the colony; and I am glad of it. I myself can be of more use up here among my countrymen. My paper has been widely used in the late campaign in behalf of some single-tax candidates and for propaganda purposes. Most of my candidates have been elected; and we are especially delighted over the election of S. A. Stockwell to the state senate and F. C. Brooks to district court. Give my kindest regards to all who may remember me."

Another old colonist from the "year one" to be lately heard from is Peter Keil, who is at La Cienega, via Santa Ana, Sonora, Mexico, in charge of a pumping plant for the Mexican Gold & Silver Recovery Company, a large mining corporation. He says: "I cannot tell when I wrote you last. It must have been about a year ago. Nevertheless I still think about you folks at Fairhope, and wonder how you are getting along."

THE SOUTHERN CO-OPERATIVE ASSOCIATION.

Our long-time correspondent, Mr. E. A. Davidson, Mr. W. T. Biggs (our recent visitor, coming here from Ruskin), Mr. E. A. Seddon of "the Evangelist," all of Atlanta, and others have organized at that city the "Southern Co-operative Association;" the object of which is stated in their application for a charter to be "to carry on the business of general dealers in household supplies, and to manufacture, purchase and sell all kinds of food products, goods, wares and merchandise; also to own, buy, sell, rent and exchange real estate; also to contract to build, to own, to operate and deal in buildings; also to operate departments of printing, publishing and education; and to do such other acts and things of a legitimate character as will redound to the profit and benefit of said association, all on the co-operative plan."

[contiinued from first page.]

A trifle over $380 will buy this 320 acres now—thanks to Mess. Bostedo and Nusbaum—though it is easily worth twice that, and the title is perfect.

The Courier feels that with the success thus far achieved by Fairhope Association, its prese t secure position and its clear-cut application of the single-tax principle in throwing the land it may secure open to settlement with no other condition than that of the payment of its annual rental value, all of which, after the payment of state and county taxes, is expended for the common benefit of the rent-payers, it has a right to ask and expect the aid of the single-taxers of the country in securing this land.

Without any action of the Fairhope Association, the Courier therefore invites subscriptions for this purpose, which may be sent direct to the Treasurer of Fairhope Association, Mr. George M. Bancroft, or to the Manager of the Courier, and in either case will be acknowledged in the Courier.

Up to the time of going to press, we have received the following subscriptions to this fund:

J. Bellangee, Des Moines, Iowa,	$ 5.
Jose Gros, Morristown, N. J.,	10.
W. K. Smith, Chicago, Ills.	5.
Geo. C. Madison, " "	5.
Mrs. C. P. Sykes, Fairhope	5.
Cash from a friend,	5.
Total to date,	35

We again present the foregoing statement, in the hope of eliciting from our friends at this eleventh hour, subscriptions sufficient to secure this land.

In addition to the subscriptions noted above, we are promised by brother George Knowles the use of $100 without interest, to apply on this purchase and feel authorized by friend P. A. Parker's statement of some time since, to add $10 on his account. We have also in the association treasury, funds enough "not otherwise appropriated" to bring the available total up to, or above $200.

Our option expires on January first, less than a month and a half from the time this will reach our readers, and whatever is done must be done quickly.

A couple of paid-up memberships would easily make up the balance; and no doubt amounts however small might, if desired, be credited on membership account, the balance to be paid when convenient. Remember this land lies right between our two tracts, and you will appreciate the importance of our securing it. Consider too, that we are not asking the purchase of this land on account of those of us who are here. We do not need it: we have all the land we individually want, and would personally be far more benefited by applying what means we h ve and can secure to very much needed public improvements; but we want it to provide homes for others and increase the area and population to be brought under the domination of our principles.

A contribution of $5 or $10 toward this purchase will not be consumed like so many others have in a single propaganda effort the results of which were not apparent, but will aid in a continuing effort increasing in potency as the years go by. Let us have a general and generous response before the next Courier goes to press; for "nothing succeeds like success," and if others see that the money is coming, they will act too. Subscriptions may be made if desired, conditioned on the whole amount being raised. Do not be prevented from doing anything because you cannot do as much as you would but do what you can.

MONEY COMING.

Since last issue we have received the following subscriptions to this fund:

Mrs. Marie Howland	$5.
N O. Nelson, St. Louis, Mo	10.
Wm. Le Fevre (if enough is subscribed)	5.
P. A. Parker (confirmed)	10.
	$30.

We have some other assistance "in sight" to come in on the home stretch which we will announce later, but we want a lot more of these $5 and $10 subscriptions. There are plenty of the Courier readers who are able to give that amount without missing it. Let us have $200 in new subscriptions to report in next Courier, which will be the last before the expiration of our option.

LOCAL AND PERSONAL.

Some relatives of the Gaston family are expected soon from Pennsylvania to spend the winter at Fairhope.

Mrs. Dr. Slosson and daughter and her guests, Mrs. Curtis and Mrs. Nelson, spent a day at Fairhope recently.

Our literary entertainments will be resumed this week, Mr. A. H. Mershon having charge of the first program, which will be given tomorrow evening.

At the last meeting of the "Ladies' Auxiliary" of the B. C. A. S. Mrs. Sykes was elected president and Mrs. F. L. Brown secretary, for the ensuing year.

This season Mr. Hiram McGill planted two quarts of goober-peas, and as a result he gathered four bushels of large and fine quality. —The Baldwin Times.

Mrs. Woods is going to make a beginning in the direction of "Higher Education in Fairhope." She will teach a class of young men on three evenings a week.

Mr. E. Q. Norton has gone to Montgomery to appear before certain committees of the legislature in behalf of reform measures, and Mrs. Norton is in the meantime stopping in Fairhope.

The Chapman cottage on Magnolia Avenue has been enlarged by the addition of another room. Miss Chapman is still engaged all of her time in Mobile, but expects to spend a little time in Fairhope soon.

Mr. Stromberg is quite encouraged over the improvement in his condition since he came to Fairhope. Mr. and Mrs. Stromberg are very genial, pleasant people, who make friends of all with whom they come in contact.

Forbes Bebolt, who recently returned home, the shadow of his former self, from Jacksonville, Fla., where he had been employed as an army teamster, is rapidly recovering. Forbes now thinks home is good enough for him.

Mrs. C. P. Sykes spent several days in Mobile recently, the guest of Mrs. Dr. Harrison, who, it will be remembered, spent some time in Fairhope last summer. Mrs. Sykes reports Dr. Harrison as also much interested in Fairhope.

Our neighbor boys, Will Davis and Carl Tiffney, whose departure for Fort Morgan we noted in last Courier, did not succeed in getting positions on that trip, but have gone back on notice from the government, and are now at work there.

Miss Almira Lawrence accompanied her father on a recent trip to the city. Coming back they experienced some quite rough weather, a heavy norther compelling them to run for the "deep hole" off "the Village" above Daphne, and lay there for more than a day.

The Christian Church has decided to employ Rev. Clarkson—should he accept—to preach two Sundays a month for the coming year. Mr. Clarkson is a young man of zeal and ability, who has won the esteem of the entire community by his earnestness and candor.

Rev. Shupe reports Mr. Dunbar, who spent most of last winter here and was so markedly benefited, as being very low with consumption when he left Cleveland. Mr. Dunbar assured Mr. Shupe that if he got well enough again to travel, he would come right down to Fairhope.

A. White of Vallejo, California, inquired for full particulars about the 320 acres, the amount required to complete the payment, &c.; also for the amount of capital required for canning factory, cotton gin and rice huller. He thinks of coming to Fairhope in the spring, and says there is another gentleman there, who talks of coming with him.

Brother George Knowles, daughter, Miss Delia Knowles, and little granddaughter, Miss Carrie Betts, arrived since last issue, and have been stopping at the Fairhope House while waiting for their goods to get through. In the meantime Mr. Knowles is at work clearing his lots and getting ready for a garden. We are pleased that Miss Knowles seems favorably impressed with Fairhope, and hope she will continue so.

The undersigned, Editor of this paper, extends his full and hearty endorsement to Messrs. Yeend & Potter, proprietors of the well known

BLUE * STORE

(the strictly one-price Cash House of Mobile, Ala.).

We recommend them to our readers and subscribers as the right people to patronize for Dry Goods, Notions, Men's and Ladies' Furnishings and Underwear, Men's, Youths' and Boys' Clothing, Hats, Caps, Shoes and House Furnishings. (Signed) E. B. Gaston.

Following the discussion of the subject of Christian Union at the Sunday afternoon meeting of November 20th, Rev. Clarkson preached upon the subject the same evening. At the close of the sermon, opportunity for discussion was offered and freely accepted. This novelty in ministerial methods was highly appreciated by the people of Fairhope, who have their own ideas on almost all subjects, and the ability to express them. The best of spirit was manifested by all.

Frank Creswell left us on November twenty-second, after overstaying a little while the six months he had counted on spending at Fairhope. He went back to St. Louis and had the pleasure of eating Thanksgiving dinner with his mother and Mr. and Mrs. Jacobs. Mr. Creswell was not entirely free from his old enemy, hay-fever, while here; but the annoyance was greatly mitigated, and he will no doubt seek refuge among us again. He made many friends in the community, and all were sorry to see him leave.

Mrs. Nella Leech and children expect to leave in a day or two, to join Mr. Leech at Silex, Missouri, where he has located. We part with the family with great regret. Mrs. Leech is a lady of talent and usefulness whom we can illy spare. We shall hope that the move will be immediately advantageous to them, but that Fairhope will grow and develop so that in a few years Mr. Leech can return and prosecute his business profitably here. Miss Anna Brown will leave at the same time for a lecture tour in Texas.

Mr. E. Q. Norton delivered a lecture at the hall on Thanksgiving evening, for the benefit of the school fund. The lecture was announced as a "humorous" one and the subject, "The Great Delusion." Though not devoid of humour in the ordinary sense, the humour Mr. Norton had most in mind was that arising in the blood from vaccination, which was his "Great Delusion". The lecture was an interesting and instructive one and with the auction sale, at its close, of several beautiful bouquets netted the school fund five dollars.

Friend Veitch— now at St. Louis— was much pleased with the Courier of November first and our suggestions in regard to diversification of industries at Fairhope. He says: "Things would move much faster than they do, if there was only something of that kind to hold people after they got there. To show you how I feel about it, if you had some such business as you suggest, and would say to me, 'We need help: come down,' I would start to-morrow and work for my board for three months, so as to get things in running order."

The family of Mr. H. H. Hatch of Des Moines are intending to spend the winter at Fairhope, and it is possible he may purchase a winter home here. Mr. Hatch wrote for information, and was given the same in copies of Fairhope Courier, acknowledging which he wrote: "Kindly send your valuable paper to my address for one year. I am greatly pleased with it. I don't endorse all you say, but I think you put out a very nice, clean little paper." Our friend and Fairhoper, James P. Hunnel, interested Mr. Hatch in Fairhope.

Don't forget the meeting of the Baldwin County Agricultural Society, which will be held at the beautiful home of Mr. and Mrs. I. W. Grove on Fish River, on next Saturday. The writer hopes to present some interesting and practical information on rice, and valuable information on agriculture in Baldwin will no doubt be obtained from other sources. The social feature is alone worth all the trouble of the trip, not to mention the opportunity of eating the good things taken by your neighbors, at the basket dinner. Let there be a good attendance.

Among the guests of the Fairhope House since last issue were the following parties, all of Chicago: John M. Green, son and party of four others, looking at lands in the interior; C. I. Grimes, nephew, Mr. R. Grimes, and Mr. Cline, who have located at River Park: Mr. A. W. Dean, who was looking at lands along this shore; and Mr. Nick Molinaar. The latter gentleman, who is a practical gardener, has purchased five acres near Fairhope, and is going to try raising lettuce for the Chicago market. He has rented a few acres of the Gatchel-Ainley tract for immediate use.

MRS. F. L. BROWN WRITES OF FAIRHOPE.

The following from a letter of Mrs. F. L. Brown to her physician in Chicago, which he unexpectedly printed in the "People's Health Jounal," of which he is the editor, will be interesting.

Dear Doctor:

You likely have heard that we left Chicago over one year ago, to come to our present location in the South.

We, as I said, have been here one year and have passed through the various seasons, and now are able to say that the climate is all that can be desired; the winters are very pretty, indeed. Instead of snow and ice all over everything, we have the most beautiful roses and all kinds of trees in bloom. Nature is most beautiful here in December: 'most all through the winter, during the sunny hours we are comfortable with doors and windows both open. In the summer the sun shines down very hot, but in the shade and breeze it is very comfortable indeed: in fact, the South is lovely.

IMPROVED PROPERTY FOR SALE.

New House, 5 rooms; Hall, Gallery, front and back; 40 acres good farming land, 10 fenced and under cultivation; abundant water, barn 30x20 feet, with large loft.

Also, 65 acres adjoining; 10 acres fenced and having 4000 grape vines in bearing, Delaware, Niagara, Brilliant, Salem and others,

Rock creek, a never failing stream runs across west end of land. Hardwood timber, also pine in abundance.

One mile due east of Daphne, county seat.
Will divide lots in size to suit. Address E. Q. Norton,
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Good wages to sell our Nursery Stock. Apply for terms. We will have for Spring and Fall. 1898, an immense stock of Apples, Pears, Peach, Plum, Apricot, Cherry, Grape, etc. Also small fruits, shade and ornamental trees, Roses etc. We make a specialty of wholesaling to large planters direct. Write us for wholesale prices. Address: Southern Nursery Co. Winchester, Tenn.

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Buil ing work a specialty.

EAST SIDE ROYAL BET. ST. LOUIS & ST ANTHONY, MOBILE, ALA.

Fairhope land is all from sixty to one hundred feet above the sea level, and lies on the eastern shore of Mobile Bay. We bathe in the bay at our own leisure from March until December, the water being quite salty most of this time. There are fine fish to be caught all the time. A short time ago the gentlemen caught one fish weighing 127 pounds and another weighing 40 pounds in the same day.

Figs grow abundantly here, and are delicious, both raw and cooked. We get fine large bunches of bananas in Mobile for twenty-five cents, then ten cents to bring them over; or if we carry them ourselves on and off the boat, they come for nothing; so if we choose, we get a large bunch of bananas for twenty-five cents. We have the finest dewberries here I ever saw, and peaches this year galore, the average peach measuring 2⅜ inches in diameter and almost 8 inches in circumference. The watermelons are sweeter and more juicy than in the North.

This certainly cannot be surpassed as a health resort: very few people come here without being benefited. Our little girl, you remember, had acute attacks of bronchitis during winters in Chicago; but down here she has had none of it whatever, being in perfect health. She plays out doors all the time, and goes barefooted.

Mr. Brown still coughs with his chronic bronchitis, but we think he is improving. He works right in the pine all of the time, and we live near his business, so that he breathes it all the time. He weighs more now than at any time since we left Chicago.

We have a good hotel here; and if you have any patients who need to come south, this certainly is a good place, especially for pulmonary troubles.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON MEETINGS.

We omitted in last Courier to mention the meeting of the 13th, which was addressed by Mrs. Woods on the subject of "Higher Education in Fairhope." Mrs. Woods thought some steps in that direction might and should be taken at once.

On the 20th Mrs. Leech read a paper on "Christian Union," with a practical application to Fairhope. The paper was a brilliant one, as would have been expected from Mrs Leech, marked by earnestness and deep feeling upon the subject, and elicited quite general discussion. The attendance was about the best so far.

On the twenty-seventh, Rev. Clarkson delivered an address on "Christianity the solution of social problems." The chief criticism provoked was upon the ground that Mr. Clarkson and the church in general did not particularize enough, and that he (and it) should specifically condemn those laws and customs and individual acts which were incompatible with Christ's teachings and spirit. Of course the single tax was presented as a means to secure the equal enjoyment of God's gift to all men—the earth.

In his summing up Mr. Clarkson maintained his position ably, and insisted that he should not be placed in a position of hostility to the single tax, that he was not opposed to it, on the contrary thought well of it so far as he had investigated, and was continuing his study of it.

Like all the other meetings which had preceded it, it was marked by the utmost courtesy and good feeling on the part of all the speakers: and the Courier feels like again congratulating the people of Fairhope on the admirable spirit manifested in these discussions. With such a spirit the discussion of such important questions cannot but be productive of much good. The subject for next Sunday is "What is Christianity?" with C. K. Brown as leader. E. B. Gaston was elected president for the ensuing four weeks.

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Leslie Hall,

ATTORNEY AT LAW,

Land Titles Examined. **Daphne Ala.**

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Meals, 15 cents, Lodging, 25 cents.

GOOD CLEAN BEDS AND SQUARE MEALS.

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GENERAL MERCHANDISE

We buy and sell for cash and make our prices as low as possible; preferring quick and large sales, at small profits, to small, slow sales at large profits. DON'T SEND YOUR LARGE CASH ORDERS TO MOBILE–but let us figure on them. We can beat Mobile prices almost every time and the small margin–which is not Profit but small pay for our service–will remain in Baldwin County.

Fairhope Ala.

James McDonnell Company,

Wholesale Grocers and Liquor Dealers,

NOS. 9-11 & 13 NORTH COMMERCE ST.

WAREHOUSES, 14-54 56 S. COMMERCE. ST. MOBILE, ALA

FAIRHOPE TRANSPORTATION LINE.

Remember that the staunch Schooner "Minnie L." of Fairhope, Capt. G. A. R. Lawrence, makes regular trips twice a week (oftener if neccessary) between Fairhope and Mobile, handling all kinds of freight either way with security and dispatch. Will touch at all points along the eastern shore when business demands.

The Minnie L. has extra facilities for protecting freight from the weather and makes a specialty of handling merchandise and household goods. Special rates to persons moving to Fairhope

☞ SPECIAL! Capt. Lawrence will attend personally and without charge, to purchasing and selling orders in Mobile for his patrons.

FAIRHOPE INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION.

Organized and incoprorated at Des Moines, Iowa, February, 1894.
Established Fairhope, Baldwin County, Alabama, January, 1895.

C. L. Coleman, Pres. — A. H. Mershon, Vice Pres.
G. M. Bancroft, Treas. — E. B. Gaston, Sec'y.

Fairhope Industrial Association was organized to MAKE GOOD THEORIES WORK. Its basic principle is the Law of Equal Freedom, "That every man has freedom to do all that he wills, provided he infringes not on the equal freedom of any other man." This law is applied by it:

IN GOVERNMENT, by personal vote, initiative, referendum and imperative mandate.

IN LAND HOLDING AND USE, by the principle of the Single Tax, the association holding the title to all lands and leasing to individuals in quantities to suit, at a rental "which shall equalize the varying advantages of location and natural qualities of all tracts." The association, out of the sum thus received, pays all taxes levied by the civil authorities on improvements and personal property held upon its lands, thus making the rent of land the only charge against individuals.

IN NATURAL MONOPOLIES—transportation, telephones, water, light, power, etc.—by association control and operation at cost, as fast as practicable.

IN A MEDIUM FOR EFFECTING LOCAL EXCHANGES, by the issuance of its non-interest-bearing notes for services rendered it, redeemable in equivalent services and land rent.

The above simple program has been in practical operation at Fairhope for more than three years, and its advantages are constantly becoming more apparent.

It should appeal to those who believe the path of progress does not necessarily lead to the substitution of a government trust for the multiple private trusts which in the enjoyment of special privileges have grown to be a national menace, but that freedom is a sovereign remedy for all our economic ills.

The association has a most beautiful, healthful and attractive location on the eastern shore of Mobile Bay, within sight of the important sea-coast city of Mobile, its lands having a frontage on the bay shore of about three fourths of a mile, and extending back—not wholly connected—three miles. They comprise 670 acres, owned free of incumbrance; and a very favorable option is held on nearly 2500 acres more.

The land is especially adapted to truck and fruit growing for northern markets, as well as general farming and stock raising. The association owns its own wharf, 1800 feet long, at which the side-wheel steamer Heroine, plying daily between Mobile and this shore, lands on all trips. Fairhope has a post office having a daily mail and doing a money-order business.

There are twenty-three dwellings on the ground, a store, hotel, saw-mill, cigar factory, blacksmith shop, and a public hall, used also for school and church purposes.

The cost of membership in the association is $100, which may be paid in instalments; but membership, though desired, is not requisite to the occupancy of land and the enjoyment of the economic advantages afforded by the association.

Beautiful bay-view building lots and desirable lands for farming are open for settlement by desirable parties, with no financial requirement further than the payment of the annual rent based on the value of the unimproved land, all of which will be expended in the interest of those paying it.

Fairhope Association pays no dividends, interest or bonuses to any one, and has but one salaried officer (receiving $10 a month). It was organized and exists solely to apply correct principles, for the benefit of those who participate and for a practical, visible example to the world. Its resources are all expended to that end; and to that end it invites the membership and moral and financial support of right-thinking men and women.

The following list of industries which would probably prove profitable at Fairhope is offered for the benefit of inquirers:

Truck farming, fruit growing, general farming, stock raising, poultry raising, nursery, cotton gin, rice huller, cane mill, cannery, ice factory, laundry, pottery bakery, brick-yard, tannery (using probably canaigre roots), water toboggan and other devices of like character for amusement of excursionists from Mobile and elsewhere, light manufacturing of almost any kind, mail order business &c.

For further particulars, address with stamp, E. B. Gaston, Secretary.
Fairhope, Alabama.

BOAT & MAIL SCHEDULE.

Steamboat Heroine or James A. Carney leaves Mobile daily except Sunday for Fairhope at 3 P. M. and leaves Fairhope for Mobile at 7:25 A. M. Saturday evening returns to Mobile direct from end of her run, at Battles, and leaves Mobile Sunday morning at 9:15. Does not return to Mobile on Sunday afternoon. Mail carried on all trips. Mail leaves Fairhope post-office at 7 A. M. week days, and at 4:30 P. M. also on Saturday. No outgoing mail on Sunday. Mail opened immediately on arrival at office on week days, and on Sunday (as required by law) at close of religious service, about 12 M.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

The Baldwin County Woman's Suffrage Society meets the third Thursday, at 2 P.M., of each month, in Assembly Hall at Fairhope Ala. All who are interested are cordially invited to come and join us: especially the ladies are invited.

Mrs. J. A. Woods, President. Mrs. F. L. Brown, Secretary.
Mrs. O. A. Webb, Vice Pres. Mrs. S. H. Leech, Treasurer.

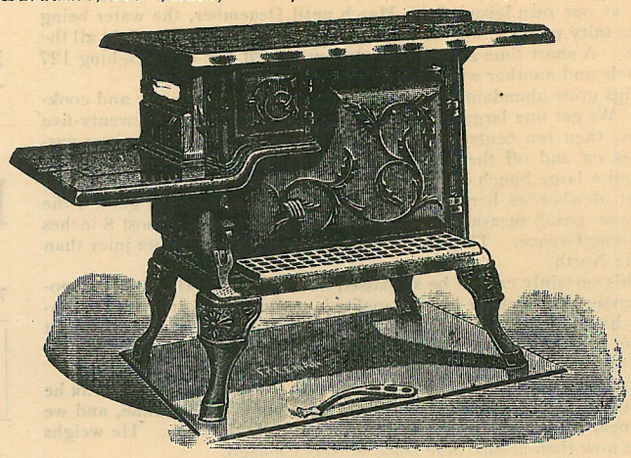
Religious services are held regularly at Fairhope every Sunday, as follows:

Sunday school	at	9:45 A. M.
Church service	"	11 A. M.
Christian Endeavor	"	7:30 P. M.

The Fairhope W. C. T. U. meets the second and fourth Thursday of each month at 2:30 P. M. with Mrs. Arthur Mershon.

Mrs. Nella Leech, President.
Mrs. H. N. Brown, Secretary.

Headquarters for Cooking and Heating Stoves, also Builder's Hardware, Doors, Sash, Blinds, Window Glass, Cutlery, Grates &c



No. 7 Stove only $4.00. No. 8 Stove only $5.50
No. 7 Cook Stove, with 30 pieces furniture.....$7.00
No. 8 Cook Stove, with 30 pieces furniture.....$8.00

Stikes Hardware Company.

NO. 7 NORTH WATER ST. MOBILE ALA.

G. M. BANCROFT, Prop. Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Andrews, Mgrs.

FAIRHOPE HOUSE

FAIRHOPE, ALA.

The popular "Eastern Shore" Hotel. Everything New, Clean, Comfortable, Wide Galleries On All Sides

ESPECIALLY ATTRACTIVE TO TOURISTS.

Boating, Fishing, Bathing. Good Rigs and Good Roads to all Points in Interior.

RATES $1.00 PER. DAY. SPECIAL TERMS BY THE WEEK.

Fruit and Nut Trees

AND VINES AND SMALL FRUITS
FOR SOUTHERN ORCHARDS,
VINEYARDS and GARDENS.

We grow Trees and Plants Specially Adapted to the Gulf .... Coast country ....

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N. E. Cor. Dauphin and Joachim Streets, MOBILE, ALA.

SEEDS! Are you interested in farming or gardening? If so, send us your name and address and we will put you on our mailing list for a copy of our new Illustrated Seed Catalogue and Truckers' Guide. ☞New edition out in December

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WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DRUGGISTS AND SEEDSMEN.

FAIRHOPE COURIER.

That which Nature provides is the Common Property of all God's Children; that which the Individual creates belongs to the Individual; that which the Community creates belongs to the Community.- GEN. J. B. WEAVER.

VOL. V. NO. 10. FAIRHOPE, ALA., DEC. 15, 1898. 25 CENTS A YEAR.

"HULLO!"

BY SAM WALTER FOSS.

W'en you see a man in woe,
Walk right up and say "hullo!"
Say "hullo," an' "how d'ye do?
How's the world a-usin' you?"
Slap the fellow on his back,
Bring your han' down with a whack!
Waltz right up, an' don't go slow:
Grin an' shake, an' say "hullo!"

Is he clothed in rags? O sho!
Walk right up and say "hullo!"
Rags is but a cotton roll,
Jest for wrappin' up a soul;
An' a soul is worth a true
Hale an' hearty "how d'ye do!"
Don't wait for the crowd to go:
Walk right up an' say "hullo!"

W'en big vessels meet, they say,
They salute an' sail away.
Jest the same as you an' me,
Lonesome ships upon the sea,
Each one sailing his own jog
For a port beyond the fog.
Let your speaking trumpet blow:
Lift your horn an' cry "hullo!"

Say "hullo" an' "how d'ye do?"
Other folks are good as you.
W'en you leave your house of clay,
Wanderin' in the far-away,
W'en you travel through the strange
Country t'other side the range,
Then the souls you've cheered will know
Who you be, an' say "hullo!"

—Back Country Poems.

ASSURED OF THE 320 ACRES.

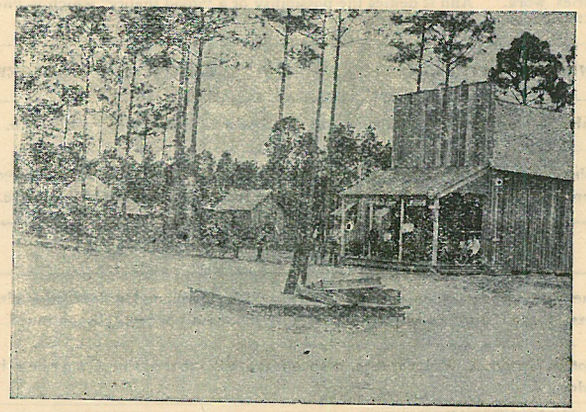
The following is the status of the subscription for the 320 acre land purchase, as we go to press:

J. Bellangee, Des Moines, Iowa,	$ 5.
Jose Gros, Morristown, N. J.,	10.
W. K. Smith, Chicago, Ills.	5.
Geo. C. Madison, " "	5.
Mrs. C. P. Sykes, Fairhope,	5.
Cash from a friend,	5.
Mrs. Marie Howland	5.
N O. Nelson, St. Louis, Mo	10.
Wm. Le Fevre (if enough is subscribed)	5.
P. A. Parker	10.
Wm. Morphy Des Moines	5.
E. P. McElwain, "	5.
Wm. Schmenour. Waterville, O.	5.
"A friend", Toronto, Ont.	5.
Total to date,	85.

In addition to these direct subscriptions for the purpose, we are assured of enough to make up any deficiency, as loans, without interest, and payable at our convenience; so that we are certain of securing the much desired land. What is borrowed however, must some day be repaid, and we do not want to incur any more indebtedness than is absolutely necessary, even on such favorable terms.

We hope that others who are interested in our "free land" experiment will yet demonstrate their interest, by helping us to enlarge our domain, and not require us to both apply good theories upon ourselves and tax ourselves to provide means for extending their influence over others, while themselves do neither. Let us hear from many more of you at once.

We open the form to announce the receipt of a check for $100 to apply on the land purchase, from Mr. Joseph Fels of Philadelphia, and for which he takes a paid up membership.



MERSHON BROTHERS' STORE, RESIDENCES OF MRS. J. A. WOOD AND C. A. HALL, FAIRHOPE.

["Town Pump" in the foreground.]

MESSAGES FROM OUR HELPFUL FRIENDS.

OFFERS $200 WITHOUT INTEREST.

This being Thanksgiving morning, and feeling that I have not a little to be thankful for, with the contents of the Courier fresh in my mind, as I read it last night from end to end, I have decided to make the association the following offer: I will advance you $200, more or less as you may require, taking the scrip of the association for the same and on your own terms, to be redeemed the same as the money advanced on the wharf: that is, as it comes into the treasury.

As the time is limited, an early reply will be required, should you find my offer satisfactory to the association.

As I will surely visit you in the spring, unless some unforeseen event should keep me from doing so, I will not propound any more queries about the associaion; as I will learn more on the ground than any letter writing will do.

Hoping that you will continue to progress in the right direction, and in a greater ratio than in the past, I remain,

Yours respectfully,
A. White.

OFFERS MONEY FOR SCRIP.

Mr. M. M. Cope of Fresno, California, writes:

Why would it not be a good plan to sell "scrip" to get "legal tender" to purchase that 320 acres of land you need so much? Scrip that is good for all dues and demands at the office of the association should be worth ninety-five per cent of its face value. Open a subscription list for that, and put me down for five dollars: the scrip to be issued within six months after the money is paid in, and may be redeemed at any time by the association at par, legal tender money of the United States.

FROM AN OLD DES MOINES FRIEND.

The receipt of the following letter from an old Des Moines friend gives us genuine pleasure for various reasons: because it is the first direct testimony we have had of Mr. Morphy's interest in Fairhope; because it gives us assurance that Mr. and Mrs. Delamare, who lately visited us, carried back a not unfavorable report to their and our friends in the city where Fairhope Association had its birth; because of the subscriptions of Mr. Morphy and Mr. McElwain toward the land purchase; and because there is a prospect of a visit from Mr. Morphy after the holidays. We presume he did not think of our publishing his letter, but trust we will not offend in doing so. The letter is as follows:

(Continued on third page.)

FAIRHOPE COURIER.

Devoted to the LAW of EQUAL FREEDOM—"Every man has freedom to do all that he wills, provided he infringes not the equal freedom of any other man"—and to the effort now being made to immediately apply that law to the fullest extent possible under existing conditions, by the Fairhope Industrial Association, at Fairhope, Alabama.

Its motto, and that of Fairhope Industrial Association, is, "We will make good theories work." And it denies the possibility of a "good theory" which is "not practical."

ERNEST B. GASTON, - - - EDITOR AND MANAGER.

Published at Fairhope, Alabama, on the first and fifteenth of each month.

Subscription Price to any address in the United States, Canada or Mexico 25 cents per annum. In other countries of the International Postal Union, 50c.

Entered at Fairhope Post Office as second class matter.

Due notice of expiration of subscriptions will be given, and unless otherwise requested, the Courier will be sent to subscribers until ordered discontinued.

Captain George A. R. Lawrence, is an authorized agent of the Courier in Mobile.

SPECIAL!

To those who have been notified of the expiration of their subscriptions, but have neglected to renew. Please do so at once, if you desire the paper continued to your address; and if you do not, remit the amount due to date, and so advise us.

We have several dollars' worth of subscriptions out, which would come in very nicely to enable the parental Santa Claus to properly perform his pleasing function.

The merely nominal subscription price of the Courier amounts to but little to you, but the aggregate of many due is a matter of some importance to us.

THE ANTI-TICKET-SCALPING CRUSADE.

We have received numerous communications, documents etc. lately from the "Central Anti-Ticket-Scalping Committee" with headquarters at Chicago, endeavoring to enlist us in its campaign against the ticket scalpers. The latest is a "Museum of Ticket-Scalping Iniquity," giving photographic reproductions of numerous forged and altered tickets.

We do not doubt the dishonesty of many, probably most, scalpers, and have never considered it a legitimate business; but we do not agree with the C. A. T. S. committee as to the proper method of abating the evil.

The way to do away with ticket scalping is to do away with non-transferable tickets sold at all sorts of prices, and make railroad transportation salable at uniform rates to all persons and good, from whomsoever presented, until used. The theft and counterfeiting of railroad tickets would not then entirely cease, any more than the theft and counterfeiting of postage stamps or paper currency; but there is, or should be, abundant law to punish the perpetrators of such crimes.

It certainly would do away with ticket scalping.

It is hardly necessary to add that the remedy we suggest can only be applied through government ownership and operation of the railways. This is the remedy, and the only one, for the host of evils following the private administration of the properly public function of transportation; of which ticket scalping is by no means the greatest.

THE CANNING INDUSTRY.

From an editorial in the Mobile Register we learn that the Bayou le Batre Canning Company (located on the opposite shore of the bay, somewhat below us) has met with such success that it will largely increase its capital stock and facilities. The Register says:

"The Bayou le Batre Canning Company has made money in its operation so far, coving oysters in the oyster season and packing vegetables and fruit, and curing or canning the fine fish food so abundant in the gulf waters. Its limited means have resulted only in experimental ventures heretofore, but these ventures have been attended with such success as to demonstrate that the business can be made profitable.

"In addition to packing oysters, Mr. Dorlan has made a market for canned crabs, canned redfish, canned shrimp, the smelt of the gulf waters, salted mullet and fish roe. He has also learned that the offal of his industries, oyster shells, fish cleanings and inedible fish, can be turned into by-products—fertilizer and fish oil—that are in steady demand and find ready sale. The Bayou le Batre Company's product is now sold in every part of the Union, and in South America, Central America, Mexico and Cuba. The fish-packing industry in this section affords the cheapest wholesome fish food in the markets of this country."

What is being done at Bayou le Batre can be done at Fairhope; and we have the added advantage that—so far as the lands of Fairhope Association are concerned—landlords will not absorb the advantages accruing because of increased opportunities for utilizing the products of the soil. We would be glad to hear from some friend who can develop this industry at Fairhope.

PRESIDENT GATES ON LAND SPECULATION.

In a late number of the Kingdom, President George A. Gates gives a couple of letters to him from the —— Investment Company soliciting him to invest in lots in "Oaklawn" and an "open letter" to the company in reply. In the latter he says:

Gentlemen: I have yours of September 5th and 8th, with their remarkable inclosures. Certainly I am under obligation to you for making it so easy for me to invest twelve hundred and sixty dollars in real estate speculation.

I have practically no money of my own to invest, but have invested a few hundred dollars for a relative, in a certain city. I tried recently to give away the lot but did not succeed. It is not worth the taxes. I think that experience will last for a little while. I have no fault to find with the loss; I ought to have lost it. It was pure gambling, and I was perfectly conscious of it at the time and very much ashamed of it.

If that word "gambling" seems obnoxious to you I call attention to the fact that I use it concerning my own act. The distinction between what I did in sending money to that Western State to be "invested" in a town lot, and placing the same amount of money at roulette, is very slight in principle. I knew it was pure speculation. It is prostitution of a good word to call it investment. It was not dealing in real estate in any legitimate way. I had no interest in the real estate of that town; I simply staked it on the probable rise of that property. Experience is a school where the tuition comes high but the instruction is valuable and efficient.

It will not do to say that this which you ask me, or in your own phraseology "offer" to me, is legitimate real estate business, like opening up a city addition and making homes and putting in streets and pavements and sidewalks and water and sewers and gas. All that is quite another matter. It can be and often is perfectly legitimate. But what you put before me is not that; it is stark naked speculation, separable by the narrowest margin from any other kind of gambling. Of course, it is on the whole respectable gambling in a respectable community, and with respectable people handling it. But for the life of me I cannot make out why gambling is not just as proper a name for it as the somewhat more euphemistic and Latinized speculation."

Concerning your business proposition, I will simply say that if your offer is so advantageous as your letter would indicate, you are bigger fools than I take you to be if you do not do all the investing with your own money, or money which you can borrow on what must be practically unlimited credit, judging from the recommendations you inclose. That several prominent clergymen and one college president are in the list does not make your offer more tempting, nor modify my judgment of its character. Why you should be seeking to induce entire strangers to rob you of a good business venture which you have clearly in hand is a mystery which lies beyond my comprehension.

GOOD ROADS CONVENTION.

The law relating to roads in Baldwin County having been repealed, it is now advised that citizens of this county meet in conference at the earliest possible day, to formulate such a bill to be introduced into the legislature as will give us a law under which our public roads can be successfully worked, on a basis of permanently improving them, without necessarily increasing the present burden of taxes.

In pursuance of the above object, a meeting is hereby called, to be held at the Court House, Daphne, Thursday, December 29th, 1898.

Citizens.

[continued from first page.]

Dear Friend Gaston:

I am worried about that option on the 320 acre plat expiring so soon. As I understand it, it is a very important matter to the welfare of Fairhope.

I have always hoped that I could take my family down to Fairhope some winter with a view to move there if conditions were desirable to us. I confess I did not have very much faith in the success of the colony at first, on account of the determination to experiment with artificial co-operation. Now that you, and I suppose the rest, see so clearly that free exchange is true co-operation, I think your prospects are much brighter.

I have seen Mr. A. Delamare since their return, and got all the information I could from him and his observing, excellent wife. We were all at McElwain's for dinner Thanksgiving, and Fairhope was almost all our talk. Mac is as anxious as I about that option. He said he would give five dollars, provided he could afterward have it apply on a membership if he wished, and I said I would do the same.* I expect to have some money to invest after the first of January, but that would be too late to do you any good on that option.

Could you, under your constitution, pledge the first two memberships sold for the use of two hundred dollars to be applied on the purchase of the 320? Or could you not buy the whole piece and divide it so that it would keep your land all connected, and resell the other half to a person furnishing you the funds to pay for it and who would be willing to give a further option without robbing the colony?

I do not know, and will not know whether I shall ever want a membership for myself, until I go and see for myself; and I cannot go till after the holidays, though I could raise $100 any day—say $200. I do not know if I could make as good a living down there as I can here, and can't afford to give more than $5 at present.

Please write me, if you have time, as to your plans to raise the money and secure the land: perhaps mine are not feasible.

Your friend and well-wisher,

Wm. Morphy.

* Certainly, we would be glad to have any and all subscriptions applied in that way.

PUT ME DOWN FOR $5.

So writes Brother Schemenour of Waterville, Ohio, who has always been ready to do all in his power for every good work at Fairhope. See his letter elsewhere.

URGES SUPPORT FOR FAIRHOPE.

Your letter came to-day, just as I finished one to Mr. Lawson Purdy of New York, in answer to one from him in reference to efforts to revive the National Single Taxer. Following are two paragraphs from my letter to Mr. Purdy. The first will explain to you why I cannot help as I would like to, in the purchase of that land you are trying at present to secure. The second will show you that I am as much interested as ever in Fairhope.

"From time to time I contribute something, in one way and another to our great cause; but it is not much that I can do. Personal needs and those of an invalid son, together with assistance to other unfortunates, exhaust pretty much all my earnings.

"There are various ways in which I would like to spend something—more than I do or can—for the single tax. I believe that at this time the best thing that single-taxers could do, besides establishing a national organ, would be to help the Fairhope enterprise. It seems to me that with anything like the effort put forth in behalf of the Delaware and Washington campaigns, a thriving town or city could be established in a short time, where all the advantages of the single tax possible under existing conditions could be exemplified. Just now the Fairhopers are trying to secure a large tract of land they have an option on till January first, and a couple of hundred dollars would enable them to secure it. Should you be interested in this matter, write to E. B. Gaston, Fairhope, Ala., for particulars."

I have been trying to figure so I could myself send you $5 at least to help secure the land you now want, but fear I shall be unable to do even that.

I had intended to send you $1 on subscription to the Courier, but have not that much to spare at present. I send 25c.

Keep at it. Things may come your way yet.

Best wishes. Fraternally,

John H. Blakeney.

CORRESPONDENCE.

FROM AN OLD STAND-BY.

I am still laboring along hard lines, the results of my labor being such that I am as far away from coming to the colony as when it was first organized. I had built castle after castle, hope upon hope; but all to no purpose: all have fallen flat. Still I do not despair; and looking out of my domicile at the snowy, frosty landscape this evening makes me long to be there with you. We now have five inches of snow, ice about two and a half inches on slack water, and the weather is decidedly arctic.

You may put me down for five dollars to apply on the purchase of that parcel of land. I will forward you the money with my renewal to Courier, in say two or three weeks if the time is all O. K. If the funds cannot be got together to purchase the parcel of dirt, I would suggest that the money that was intended for that purpose be applied to a better water system for the association grounds.

Indifference is, I think, largely the cause of reformers, so called, in not coming forward with something practical in pushing our movement: some are so bent on acquiring fame and wealth, some are so scared and pinched with want and the fear of want, some are disgusted with what is in sight as regards legislation. In short, they have given up hope. I too have caught some of the disease, and have thought we were quite out of tune and time trying to set a pattern. But I do not want to be classed as one who has not tried to do something: therefore I make this small donation, and wish it were many times five; but my circumstances are such that I can do no more at present.

Again. Referring to your able article in a late Courier, as regards some industries which would be advantageous to the colony, I would suggest a committee be appointed among you, this committee be empowered to draft a plan of co-operation as stock company to operate such industries as will be advantageous to Fairhope and surrounding country. Solicit subscriptions for stock. I think this could be done. I will take, say twenty-five dollars, in anything which will be of benefit to us. Talk this matter over among you. If it is a good thing, push it along. Fraternally,

Wm. Schemenour.

KIND WORDS FOR THE COURIER, FAIRHOPE AND THE OONSHIU ORANGE

Enclosed you will find my father's subscription to the Courier for another year. We have enjoyed the breezy little sheet very much, especially as we have always felt that we were practically one of you. If the day should ever come when the "great wave of prosperity" should burden us all with too much riches, we all feel that that day will find us with you for the summer at least.

Enclosed you will also find a slip that I cut from one of the Times-Democrats, November twenty-third I believe:

A decision by the General Board of Appraisers was announced yesterday, of great interest to orange planters as establishing the entry, free of duty, of the famous Oonshiu orange plant of Japan, which is grafted and budded on the Trioliate stock, and which makes the hardiest known orange. In North Caarolina a grove of the Oonshiu budded on trifoliate withstood five successive years of ice and snow with a temperature of 16 degrees.

Last spring Major H. H. Baker imported several thousand young trees from Kobe, Japan. They consisted of Oonshiu branches budded on trifoliate stocks, and he imported them for cultivation on his lower coast plantation

The Oonshiu orange is a glove orange of the Mandarin variety; seedless and thornless, although it grows on the trifoliate stock, a plant so thorny that birds can't fly through it, and yielding a fruit so seedy as to be absolutely unfit for food even for animals. The Oonshiu, however, which grows by grafting and budding on this stock, is an exceptionally fine fruit in every way, and under the test of practical demonstration the hardiest of all the citrus fruits.

Trifoliate means three-leaved. I don't know whether our northern friend, the hedge, comes under this heading or not. If you can get any cuttings of this, with your grapes, strawberries, persimmons and

oranges, you ought to be easily independent.

Yours fraternally,

Clare C. Mechem.

LIKES JAPANESE PERSIMMONS.

T. E. Mann writes thus regarding a Japanese persimmon sent him:

Persimmon was greatly admired by all who saw it. Not long, perhaps four days, after receiving it, it became soft and ripe: was therefore obliged to take it from exhibition sooner than desired. Our family of seven all had a good taste of it, and pronounced it delicious fruit—the first persimmon we ever tasted. All join in returning you sincere thanks.

Mr. George E. Chase, Philadelphia, who was a contributor to Fairhope wharf to the amount of $5, writes:

Your kind favor is duly received. I never received any certificates (wharf) nor any other kind for the $5 I contributed, and therefore do not hold any.

You are very welcome to apply this amount in establishing a public water system that would provide an abundant and wholesome water supply for all Fairhope colonists for purposes of crop and soil irrigation, household use &c., and established and conducted on same plan as the wharf.

I am very sorry that it is not possible for me to help you get the 320 acres, as the bad condition of business &c. has hit me very hard, more so of late than for a long time.

LOCAL AND PERSONAL.

The clearing of Magnolia Avenue is completed, and is a great improvement.

The "City Hall" is to be thoroughly overhauled, ceiled and painted at once.

Miss Chapman expects to spend the week between Christmas and New Year's in Fairhope.

Mr. Charles Andrews' father arrived on the evening of the 13th, to spend the winter with him.

Mrs. Creswell has returned from her visit in Saint Louis; and Mrs. Jacobs and son Sumner are expected soon.

Miss M. S. Mercer of Colfax, Iowa, is here for the winter, and is domiciled with Mesdames Mead and Ferguson.

It has been decided to change the date of the anniversary celebration from Saturday to Monday evening, January 2.

Mrs. Marie Howland has concluded the purchase of the F. A. Smith place on Magnolia Avenue, and is expected down soon.

Professor Saunders of the Agricultural College, Brookings, South Dakota, spent some days in the vicinity of Fairhope recently, gathering specimens of our flora and geological formations.

Miss Mary B. Francis and Mr. Victor Francis of Star Junction, Pennsylvania, cousins of Dr. Atkinson and the editor, have arrived to spend the winter. They have rented the Fairhope Exchange cottage.

The cultivation of rice in this neighborhood is becoming quite an important industry. The steamer Carney took over 110 bags of the upland variety last Friday for shipment to New Orleans.—The Baldwin Times.

Mr. L. V. Bernhart of Battles and Will Scarvell have both been helping Andy Cullen in the cigar factory quite steadily for the last few weeks. On a recent trip to Bay Minette Andy took orders for over $100 worth of cigars.

Mershon Brothers' store draws trade from as far as Perdido River, thirty-five or forty miles distant. People who have a considerable cash amount to spend like to take advantage of their well selected stock and low cash prices.

Mrs. H. Hatch and daughters, Misses Fay and Beth, are here with intention of remaining five or six months. Mr. Hatch will join them in a couple of weeks. They are now at the hotel, but may take a house. [Mrs. Hatch has rented the Charles A. Hall place.]

The uneven settling of piling due to soft spots in the bed of the bay has caused low places in the floor of the wharf, which Wharfinger Creswell has been leveling up. The old track also is worn out in many places, and is to be replaced by a new one. It is the intention also to put a railing on the side for the greater safety of pedestrians.

IMPROVED PROPERTY FOR SALE.

New House, 5 rooms; Hall, Gallery, front and back; 40 acres good farming land, 10 fenced and under cultivation; abundant water, barn 30x20 feet, with large loft.

Also, 65 acres adjoining; 10 acres fenced and having 4000 grape vines in bearing, Delaware, Niagara, Brilliant, Salem and others,

Rock creek, a never failing stream runs across west end of land. Hardwood timber, also pine in abundance.

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Will divide lots in size to suit. Address E. O. Norton,
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EAST SIDE ROYAL BET. ST. LOUIS & ST ANTHONY, MOBILE, ALA.

Mr. Thomas F. Moulton, who spent the summer in Michigan, returned last Thursday. Mr. Moulton says he has spent the winter season in many states, besides California and Oregon, also in Central America, Mexico and many other countries, but has found no place as delightful during the winter months as old Baldwin.—Baldwin Times.

Owing to the threatening weather on the morning of the third and the copious rain which had fallen, making the mud deep and soft in low places on the roads, the December meeting of the Baldwin County Agricultural Society was not largely attended; but it proved a pleasant time to those who did go. The next meeting is to be at Fairhope on Saturday, Jan. 7. Basket dinner.

Mess. S. S. Mann and John Youngerman have arrived to spend the winter with us. Brother Mann seems delighted to get back among us, and we are certainly glad to have him. He has been one of Fairhope's most faithful and helpful members since its organization. This is Mr. Youngerman's first visit to Fairhope, but we hope he will be so well pleased that we may see him here to spend the winters with us regularly hereafter.

Mrs. Andrews of the Fairhope House has received a letter from Mrs. Cronin, who with her husband located at River Park but returned north, saying that they and her parents may come to Fairhope next winter. Mr. Cronin, she writes, became quite interested in Fairhope, and they want the Courier to become more fully posted on our plans. Mrs. Andrews has also heard from a friend in Chicago, advising her of a party of half a dozen or more who expect to come down from that city for a visit next month.

We had a very pleasant visit last week with friend Sumner W. Rose of the late Grander Age colony, which was located on the Mississippi coast near Biloxi. Mr. Rose's family have been north for some time, and he was en route to join them when he visited us. We compared experiences of the past four years, the Grander Age colony having made its beginning in the same year and month as Fairhope, and had what we trust was a mutually enjoyable time. It was certainly so to us. Mr. Rose expects to remain north for the winter at least, but is much in love with this coast country, and expects to return and make it his home.

Mr. C. K. Brown led the discussion at the meeting on Sunday afternoon, the 4th, on the subject, "What is Christianity?" He read, as expressing his views very nearly, a paper by Rev. R. E. Bisbee on the Essentials of Christianity, lately published in the New Time, and enlarged thereon. On the 11th Mr. Bancroft presented a paper on "Why the church has failed to solve the problems of the day." The meetings will be discontinued until after New Year's. On January 8th Mr. Coleman will present his views on Christian Theology. At Mr. Coleman's request he will be given the full time in which to present his views, and the discussion will follow on the succeeding Sunday.

TOBACCO GROWING IN BALDWIN.

It seems certain that with proper knowledge of its culture and care, tobacco should be added to the profitable crops of this county, which may be held for a favorable market or bear shipment to any distance. Mr. James G. Timney exhibited at the last meeting of the Baldwin County Agricultural Society a specimen of the tobacco grown this season on their place on Fish River, which Mr. Cullen pronounced fine, and all of which he has contracted for at a good price. The following item in regard to tobacco growing in Florida, which we clip from an exchange, will be of great interest.

The culture of tobacco in Florida is a new industry, but I am told that according to all estimates the crop this year will be worth thousands of dollars It will be the biggest crop in the history of the state and one of the most successful, in spite of the fact that in many instances the planting of the weed was an experiment, to ascertain the adaptability of the soil. Tobacco is now being grown in all parts of the state, and largely on every line of railroad; and so far there has not been a single report of failure where the work was done intelligently.

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THE BEES AND THE DRONES.

"I tell you, my friends," said a big wasp at the busy bees' convention, "I am sick and tired of listening to those disgruntled, disconsented, dissatisfied, dyspeptic, demagogic bees who are continually howling against the drones Why, my friends, if it wasn't for the drones, you'd starve to death! actually starve to death! The trouble is, you haven't half enough drones in the hive! that's the reason you can't get rid of the omnipresent overproduction which causes hard times." (Great applause.)

"Now let us reason together," continued the wasp. "It's as simple as a, b, c. The more drones you have, the more honey is eaten. The more honey is eaten, the more work you have producing honey. Do you follow me? And work is what you're always looking for: isn't it?" (Vociferous applause.)

"Now, my friends, I repeat, let us reason together," continued the wasp. "Let us suppose you didn't have a single drone in the hive: what would you do with all your honey, I'd like to know?" (A voice, "Why, eat it ourselves, of course!" Cries of "Order! Police!")

"And if you didn't have drones," continued the wasp, after the commotion had subsided, "who'd support your churches and seminaries? Who'd endow your hospitals and libraries? Who'd subsidize your colleges and newspapers? Who'd contribute to your soup-houses and foreign missions? I'd like to know. Why, my friends, if you didn't have drones, you wouldn't have any one to be kind to you and give you charity! You wouldn't have—" (A voice, "We wouldn't need charity, if we didn't have drones!" Meeting breaks up in confusion.)—Dan Cavanagh.

THE NIKSUR MAGAZINE.

The Niksur Magazine is a new monthly periodical of twenty pages advocating socialism, including co-operation, direct legislation, and universal brotherhood. Subscription price, fifty cents a year: five samples, ten cents: one sample, a two-cent stamp.

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Will sell for $150. Address H. F. Landes,
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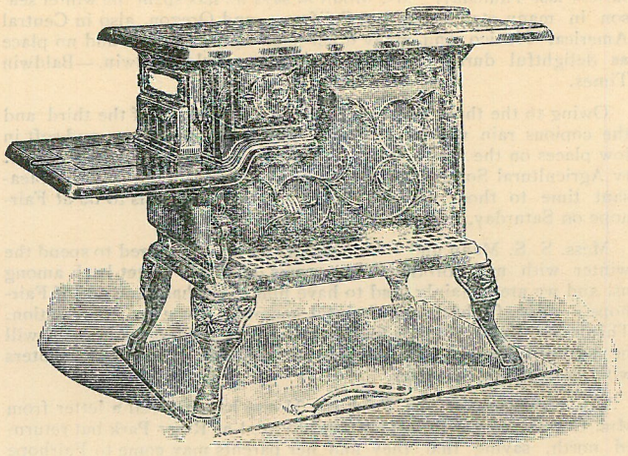

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