

Huge Construction Record for Past 12 Months Marks Nation's Rush to Florida



TYPICAL NEW FLORIDA HOMES AT DAYTONA BEACH

ST. AUGUSTINE, Fla.—Building records of Florida during the past twelve months show the facts of its rapid development. The greatest migration in the world's history brought about a vast construction program to house the new comers, and the new business, professions and industries. Florida cities that a few years ago were ranked as small towns are today talking about zoning laws for their skyscrapers.

A marked feature was the development to expedite the shipment of Florida products to the North. Large and larger cold storage plants and greater facilities were under construction. Florida has in the past year sent millions to the North for supplies. An important work of the year was made in the direction of home production.

Big Railroad Increases.

An event of the year was the great development program undertaken by the Florida East Coast Railway Company, in double-tracking its main line while handling the largest number of trains ever operated over a division of a single track line. By the middle of November, 220 miles of main line between Jacksonville and Miami had been double-tracked. It completed the program authorized for the year 1925. The Moultrie cut-off south of St. Augustine, shortening the distance between Jacksonville and Miami to 347 miles, formerly 366 miles, and reduced the travel time to save almost an hour's time to Miami. A new freight terminal at South Jacksonville increased the terminal capacity by 50 per cent, while a new terminal at Miami resulted in a 250 per cent increase. Freight cars at the Jacksonville terminal were returned to normal. Eleven passenger trains daily each way were operated on schedule to Miami, according through train service from all parts of the North, with an additional train announced for January, making a total of 24 trains daily.

"All transportation systems in Florida have advanced. No resort section in the world has more modern and frequent train service than the great chain of cities on the East Coast of Florida," said J. D. Rahner, Gen. Passenger Agent of the Florida East Coast Railway. "Our improved system will give the East Coast the best service it has ever had."

West Palm Beach in 1910 was a fishing village with 1,739 people. Today it has a permanent population of 30,000 and an influx of more than 60,000 visitors between December and May. In October its building permits reached \$2,284,270, exceeding Kansas City, Pittsburgh, Milwaukee, and Cincinnati. The city has a deep water canal to Lake Okechobee and a rich back country.

One Hundred Million Building Mark.

When the building permits for the year 1925 are totaled, Miami will be found close to or perhaps even exceeding the \$100,000,000 building mark. In October, it was surpassed in building permits by only five cities in the United States, exceeding such big towns as Cleveland and Boston. It is becoming a city of skyscrapers. It added more than 46 new hotels and 315 apartment houses during the past year, and a huge commercial section. Ft. Lauderdale, Coral Gables, Hollywood, Homestead and other nearby towns showed marvelous growth. Increase in population in Ft. Lauderdale in 1925 was 13,000, giving a population of 20,000. Assessed valuation increased from \$6,112,000 in 1923 to \$50,000,000 at the close of 1925. Building permits for St. Petersburg in October were \$2,902,600, for Tampa \$3,158,824, for Miami Beach \$1,220,300 and for Orlando \$1,241,015. Miami in 1910 had a population of but 7,500 people. It did not begin to grow rapidly until after the war.

Stuart, one of the newer towns, 105 miles north of Miami, and at

the mouth of the St. Lucie River, had \$510,000 in building permits in 1924. The first eleven months of 1925 showed a total investment of over \$1,250,000. Bank deposits increased 300 per cent. Over 1,000 people came into Stuart to buy homes and expect to be counted as permanent residents.

Daytona Beach Speeds Up.

The new city of Daytona Beach, population 22,000, consolidates Daytona, Daytona Beach, and Seabreeze. Building permits for September, 1925, the highest month, amounted to \$1,384,600, while in 1924 they amounted to but \$1,414,000. They were all for structures under \$50,000 and show the city is building homes. Several large and costly subdivisions are adding to the permanent population. The city is stepping along with the fastest in Florida. Chamber of commerce estimates there will be 2,000 new homes in March or April. During the winter upwards of 100,000 visitors are entertained in Daytona Beach and some 20,000 in summer.

St. Augustine's Big Record.

St. Augustine is experiencing a phenomenal development unknown in its 360 years. In the first ten months of 1925 the building

permits reached a total of \$2,521,999. Among new projects is that of D. P. Davis, who created the Davis Islands by raising sunken land in Tampa Bay, a half mile from the Tampa City Hall. The Davis project in St. Augustine will involve a total outlay of \$50,000,000. It will make that city one of the busiest of its size and involve the raising of sunken lands, half a mile from the St. Augustine waterfront. A large fleet of dredges is at work. Before a single plat was available, citizens of St. Augustine and of the whole country had oversubscribed the first unit of the property amounting to \$1,268,000, by the sum of \$7,137,000, a total of \$18,405,000 being received.

"A White Way" lighting system, a sea wall, a new soft water system with 59 miles of water mains, and the filling in of several hundred acres adjacent to the city are among municipal projects. St. Augustine has a fine healthful climate and is the center of varied industries.

The total resources of Florida banks, which on June 30, 1924, were \$346,732,222, had almost doubled by June 30, 1925, for they were \$685,335,232.

END OF YEAR GOOD TIME TO START THRIFT PRACTICES

By S. W. STRAUS,
President American Society for Thrift.

WITH the end of another year at hand, today is a good time to take stock of one's individual progress.

In a material way, the past year has been wasted unless you have saved something out of your earnings. For saving money is the final test of one's personal upbuilding.

It may be easy enough to find excuses for lack of thrift, but it is foolish to take this attitude.

Unless the circumstances are very unusual, the test of your success lies in your ability to save. If you have not enough will-power to do this, the chance of your making progress is slight.

Let this day be one of firm decision in this respect and only because of the immediate amount of money that it will mean to you in your bank or your strong-box, but also on account of the stability of character it will give you.

If you have been living beyond your means, now is a good time to pull yourself together and start on a new basis of spending less than you earn.

The man who starts next year with a definite resolution to save money and get ahead will find that before he is far along in 1926 these fixed habits will accomplish far more for him than he ever dreamed could be the case.

If the old year and the ones preceding it have brought only failure and disappointment to you, do not be discouraged.

Let all the unpleasant memories of the past be buried with the years that have gone.

In this endeavor your very first step must be a firm resolution to practice thrift.

INCREASING LEISURE TIME.

Charlotte News.

The few Americans who are holding out against providing for the spare time of our working population, or doing something, at least, to make it possible for the increasing amount of leisure which these people are coming to have, are probably well-meaning but they are not in touch with the facts of the situation. It is an issue that cannot be superficially dealt with or summarily brushed aside.

The fact that the American workmen have today a shorter working time than ever before only aggravates and complicates the problem of leisure which is comparatively a new thing in this country. Although workmen's wages are higher now than ever, at the same time, hours of work have been shortened to a point never before reached, we learn from the department of labor.

The department studied working conditions which govern the activities of more than 700,000 members of organized trades in the United States. The study disclosed that working time in a week has been gradually decreasing.

Taking the average working time in the year 1913 as a basis, it was found that the working time in 1925 was 7 per cent less than in 1913. A year ago the working time per week was 6.1 per cent less than in 1913. The 1924 figures exactly equalled that of 1921.

From 1921 to 1922 there was a small increase in weekly working time and a very small decrease from 1922 to 1923. This is explained by the fact that in 1921 there was unemployment and workers were in a less advantageous position to insist on the shorter day. The effort of this extended into the next two years. With a cessation of unemployment, however, the trend toward shortening of working time set in once more.

The Government figures establish that the American worker has more leisure than any other in the world, a fact which comes forcibly to the attention of many foreign observers in the United States.

And it doesn't have a particle of effect upon the situation what we may personally think about this condition, whether we approve of it or not. It is a situation that confronts us and not a mere theory, and it ought to be dealt with as such.

To be sure the fact that there is so much leisure time or arbitrary to assert that the best way to handle the leisure-time problem is to cut it out is not getting anything.

A sick man may as well contend that he has no business being sick and try to get well that way as for the American people simply to assert that the workingman of our country ought to be working at such length that the leisure-time equation would solve itself.

"A Dozen Dempseys Can't Knock Me Out." In the January of Muscle Builder, a Macfadden publication, there is the account of Frank Anson, Richard whom seven men with a battering ram could not dent. He can stand the hardest sort of sledgehammer blows in the stomach and kidneys. "From a Hollow Chested Youth to England's Strongest Boy" is the record of Eric Trengrove, who was given up by the doctors four years ago and who today at sixteen is the strongest boy in England. "Wanted Muscle Like Soudow" that ambition made Clarence Weber Australia's strongest man and he is still champion after twenty-one years. These are only a few of the stories appearing in the current issue.

The Ads In This Newspaper

are a never-failing source of information regarding the things you want and the things you need. They tell you about the newest and best, together with the prices and the places where they can be most advantageously obtained. Do you read them carefully before you make your purchases? Look them over before you lay this paper aside.

TODAY'S EVENTS

Wednesday, December 23, 1925

Check up your Christmas list today!

One hundred and twenty years ago today was born Joseph Smith, the founder of the Mormon Church.

Greetings to Oscar S. Straus, son of a Jewish immigrant who has risen to be one of America's foremost citizens, and who is 75 years old today.

Emilia Figueroa-Larrain will be formally installed as President of Chile today in succession of Arturo Alessandria, who recently resigned.

A statue of Nathaniel Hawthorne will be unveiled today in Salem, Mass., with which place the famous author was intimately associated during his lifetime. The unveiling ceremony will be performed by Rosamond Mikkelsen, of Danbury, Conn., a granddaughter of Hawthorne.

Our Richest Cabinet.

The present cabinet is one of the wealthiest on record.

Secretary of the Treasury Mellon is its richest member. His fortune, which ranks among the greatest in the country, makes him 300 times a millionaire. He made it in banking, railroads and steel.

Now comes Secretary of Commerce Hoover who is believed to be worth up to \$10,000,000, derived from his

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Gibson Drug Store.

America's Latest Prima Donna



Mary Lewis, Now Metropolitan Opera Star, Sings as She Cooks

FROM choir singer to grand opera star in six years' time is a remarkable accomplishment. Pretty Mary Lewis, who will sing with the Metropolitan Opera in New York, has another accomplishment of which she might be justly proud—she can cook.

And has opera turned Mary Lewis' head? In no way. She still cooks in her little New York apartment which is kept spotlessly clean and neat. In fact that she plays the role of cook as easily as well as the role of Mimi in "La Boheme" which she will probably make her debut in January and to judge from her control of the enameled soupçon she is no novice in the art of cooking. Miss Lewis will tell you that her knowledge of

cooking has stood her in good stead as she traveled the strenuous road to fame. She was forced to earn her own living and many times that meant preparing her own meals.

Her career really began when she ran away from her home in Little Rock, Arkansas, because she was tired of being spanked and being told not to do things, and she maintains that no girl in any of the shows she appeared in from "Reckless Eve" to Ziegfeld's Follies ever had quite as many spankings as she received at the hands of her foster mother. She will confess to you that spanking was an important part of her education, but that she would not be where she is today if she had not learned a little something about the art of spanking.

EMBARRASSING MOMENTS

New York Mirror.

The sidewalks were very slippery the other morning and I saw whom I took to be a friend of mine on his way to the office. I did not wish to behind him and slapped him suddenly on the back. He lost his footing and fell. When he looked up I saw, not my friend, but a stranger. My apologies were not accepted, and the early morning crowds heard me getting a calling down.

One evening my five-year-old sister and I went to a theatre. I wore my watch, which had been broken for a long time. In the theatre a man asked me the time. I did not wish to tell him my watch was broken, and said, "I'm afraid my watch has stopped." My sister said in a loud voice, "Oh, how can you say such things; you know very well your watch has been broken for a long time."

While working in a fruit store a lady made some purchases, so I took one of her heaviest parcels and handed it to her husband, and said, "Here you are, noerrpplie." To my embarrassment he was.

I was about to sneeze while sitting in a trolley, but the feeling passed away. A little girl sitting across from me noticed the action and called her mother, saying, "Mother, that man is making faces at me."

I wished to try out a new job, and get off on sick leave from the present one. In case I should lose my new job, I wished to have the old one to return to. After being on the job two days I was sent on a message to my former employer.

It was the first of the month and the landlord was expected. As I was alone I decided to lock the door and remain very quiet until my unwelcome visitor went away. Someone knocked on the door, and upon receiving no answer tried the knob. The door flew open and there stood the landlord staring at me. You can imagine how embarrassed I felt.

The New Hampshire University winter sports team will include Gunnar Michelson, winner of last year's Intercollegiate Winter Sports Union ski-jumping championship; Stewart Weston, winner of the Marshall Fosh Ski Jumping trophy at Lake Placid in 1925; and F. W. Peaslee, winner of the Intercollegiate Winter Sports Union snow shoes cross-country championships last season.

A French historian has written, "Money is like the water of a river; if it suddenly floods, it devastates; divide it into a thousand channels where it circulates quietly and it brings life and fertility to every spot."

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Creomulsion is guaranteed satisfactory in the treatment of persistent coughs and colds, bronchial asthma, bronchitis and other forms of respiratory diseases, and is excellent for building up the system after colds or flu. Money refunded if any cough or cold is not relieved after taking according to directions. Ask your druggist, Creomulsion Company, Atlanta, Ga. (ad-3)

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PURE silk, no weighting or adulteration—permanently shaped by Durham's knit-to-fit process—with slender, graceful ankles. Unusual durability of these beautiful stockings makes it truly economical to wear silk hosiery for all the tasks and pleasures of the busy day. See this charming hosiery—Durable-Durham style "DAPHNE"—fresh shipment just arrived, all the fashionable shades. \$1 the pair. Special offering, 3 pair for \$2.75.

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