

WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITIES AWAIT HOMESEEEKERS ON DODGE COUNTY'S FINE LANDS

Good Roads Afford Easy Access to Markets in Several Thriving Towns — Good Schools and Churches

BY HAMILLE BRANCH

EASTMAN, Ga., May 27.—When one looks out over the broad expanse of these fertile farms in Dodge county, it is hard to believe that it is only a few miles from the city of Atlanta. In fact, the county was practically all one piece of land given over to virgin pine forests with here and there a cluster of hamlets. And when one contemplates the several thriving cities and towns, and numerous community centers, one cannot realize that settlements were few and far between thirty years ago, and that where the well-graded and all-year sand clay roads are now, there were no roads at all. Today there are more than 1,000 fine farms in Dodge county, and 2,000 of the farmers who operate them are white men.

Homeseekers' Opportunity
Georgia is a state of fine farms and fine lands, but it is doubtful if there is another county in the state which offers better inducements to the prospective farmer than does Dodge. Land that will produce all kinds of agricultural, horticultural or truck crops, and which affords fine pasture for cattle and hogs, can be bought for from \$25 to \$75 an acre, according to location.

Almost all the farms are accessible to good sand clay roads, and it is the purpose of the county authorities that those farms not now in the hands of modern twelve-month-a-year roads are given such thoroughfare. In every section of the county are consolidated schools to which many pupils are transported by motor busses.

Eastman, Chauncey, Chester and the other towns provide markets for all the farm products, including hogs, cattle, hogs, poultry, eggs, dairy products.

Churches of the several denominations are found in all sections of the county, and it is said that several of the churches have more than a hundred members.

Early Settlers
The early settlers of this section were sturdy, high-charactered, Scotch Presbyterian farmers from the Carolinas and the descendants are to be found in all parts of the county. In addition to these, many high-class men and women have been attracted from other states and from the north. Some of the most prosperous farmers came here from north Georgia.

Every one hereabouts is agreed that the small landowners contribute more to the general prosperity of the county than the large holders, and do the very large estate is toward small the tendency is toward small. The large landowners are few, and their farms are being broken up for sale in small lots.

Leading Cotton Producer
Many city men are buying 75 and 100-acre farms where in addition to raising feed on foot crops and some raising cotton they have dairy, commercial and truck farms, orchards and truck gardens.

and day-old chicks have been bought by the farmers during the past two years for the purpose of improving their flocks.

Dodge county has one of the best creameries in the state and during the year more than 200 farmers sell cream to the creamery. The ready cash income of a few cows has enabled many a farmer to get on a cash basis and to make a crop he otherwise could not have made. The Dodge County Creamery, owned by Mrs. W. M. Leitch, and managed by M. Khonry, has been in operation but two years, yet it has inaugurated what will undoubtedly be a great dairying industry. Last year the creamery paid about \$55,000 to the farmers and this year it has already paid them \$100,000 with seven more months to go. The creamery has a capacity of 50,000 pounds a month and buys cream from eight or ten counties.

Dodge county farmers have bought six cars of dairy cattle during the past two years. Two of these cars were of registered Guernsey bulls and heifers. There are more than 20 Guernsey bulls in Dodge county farms and an equal number of cows whose calf production has during the two years reached nearly a hundred head.

Dodge county pastures are among the best in the state and are being rapidly improved. Up to the present more than 1,000 acres have been fenced and partially sown to lespedeza and carpet grass, which furnishes a ten-month grazing season and pastures a cow to the acre.

Dodge county peanut acreage last year totaled 1,000 with prospects for a much larger acreage this year. Dodge county produces more than 100 cars of watermelons in 1924, the very choicest varieties being grown. More than 1,000 acres adjacent to Chauncey and Empire were planted in watermelons.

Sweet Potatoes
Dodge county is one of the state's leading sweet potato counties, and the establishment here of the 25,000 bushel curing houses of the Georgia Yam Curing company, has given a great stimulus to the industry. Last year 35 cars were shipped, bringing more than \$15,000 to the farmers.

Dodge county is rapidly getting rid of scrubby cattle. About 100 cars have been sent to market as a direct result of the introduction of better grades, and these shipments brought about \$50,000.

Dodge county farmers last year planted 600 acres in soy beans and more than 1,000 acres in winter wheat, and these crops are all the state crops that were raised.

Dodge county boys' clubs are among the most active in the state. There are 75 boys in the county and corn club. Dodge county farmers are giving much serious attention to soil improvement and in this connection this year they planted 50 acres in hairy vetch.

Indications are that 600 acres will be planted in vetch this fall. Dodge county farmers market their products through the co-operative marketing associations — in the cotton, watermelon, peanut and pecan associations, of which more than 1,000 Dodge county farmers are members.

Here are a few examples of profitable farm dairies:
J. D. Lucas, of Chauncey, has purchased a Guernsey Guernsey bull and two cows as the foundation of a herd of Guerneys. He is now milking 12 cows and feeding a large milk crop.

Elmer Adams is milking five cows, from which he is getting enough cash to keep up operations on a three-horse farm.

W. F. Fitzgerald has bought a 100-acre wooded land near Eastman and with the help of his family, Leghorn, has built a poultry and dairy farm that brings him a handsome income.

Commercial High Leaders
IN THE SPOTLIGHT AT COMMERCIAL HIGH are Edwin Horne, recently elected president of the student body, and Miss Mary Morris, secretary (above), and, below, left to right: Miss Annette Levin, winner of the declamation medal, and Miss Lorena Cheek, second in the declamation contest.—Staff photos by Winn.



and clay roads and many thousands of feet of steel bridges in Dodge county. In addition to the several county highways the county is traversed by the Jefferson Davis Highway, which begins at Richmond, Va., and terminates at Vicksburg, Miss. In the lower part of the county a link in the east and west highway, leading from Savannah to Georgetown, is under construction.

Notable Citizens
Some of the outstanding citizens and former citizens of Eastman and Dodge county now dead were William Pitt Eastman, who donated the land upon which the streets were laid out, the churches and schools built and the cemetery located, and for whom the city of Eastman was named; General I. T. Foster, the commander-in-chief of the Confederacy for Georgia, who built the first sawmill in Eastman and was the city's first mayor; Dr. J. M. Buchanan, a first physician, who served several terms in the legislature and who was postmaster; W. W. Ashburn, for whom the town of Ashburn in Turner county, was named and who was one of the pioneer railroad builders of south Georgia; Judge James Bishop, many years county school commissioner and a large landowner.

W. W. Harrell, a prominent business man and public-spirited citizen; Judge D. M. Roberts, for many years judge of the Oconee county, and a Confederate officer; Mr. H. Edwards, prominent churchman and leading business man; John F. Delaney, for many years solicitor general in the Oconee circuit, editor of the Georgia Journal, and a large landowner; and J. M. Birch, ordinary of

the board of missions, former secretary of the South Georgia Baptist convention, trustee of Mercer university for 22 years, and a gallant Confederate soldier; Judge O. J. Franklin, judge of the city court; Walter Anthony, pastor of the Mulberry Street Methodist church at Macon, who was former pastor of the Eastman Methodist church; E. D. Smith, solicitor of the city court; R. F. Birch, Jr., legislator, farmer and Dodge county commissioner; and W. L. Jessup, lumberman, banker and civic leader; Mrs. A. L. Wilkins, first vice president of the state organization of the D. A. R., state chairman of patriotic education and chairman of the national committee on patriotic education; Mrs. W. B. Daniel, state D. A. R. chairman of conservation and thrift; Judge C. B. Murrell, Confederate soldier and former merchant; Fort E. Land, state superintendent of schools.

New Orleans Joins Nashville in Scoring Jackson Biography

NEW ORLEANS, La., May 27.—(By the Associated Press.)—A biographical sketch of Andrew Jackson, written by the late Mrs. M. M. Jackson, wife of Andrew Jackson, recently published in the Saturday Evening Post and written in resolutions made public here Wednesday by two

PROUD OF DISASTER ON MISSISSIPPI IS BEGUN AT MEMPHIS

MEMPHIS, Tenn., May 27.—First sessions of the board of inquiry appointed to investigate the sinking of the United States steamer Norman in the Mississippi river near Memphis on May 8, with a loss of 23 lives, began here Wednesday. The initial question brought up for discussion related to the methods to be employed in conducting the investigation, which is expected to last several weeks.

Major H. H. Suckney, of Memphis, a government engineer, is chairman of the board, which was appointed recently by Colonel C. L. Potter, president of the Mississippi river commission. The personnel of the board includes two army officers and three civilians, all familiar with the Mississippi river.

Much information concerning the disaster, has been presented to the board by Major Donald H. Connolly, a survivor of the sinking and an officer in the army engineering corps, who has been in charge of a preliminary probe.

Hydrographic and topographic

Denied, "Drop"
Just for Rec
NEW YORK, May 27.—Associated Press.—Some advantage of Harry Thaw's presence on Broadway to himself, according to B. Coyne, Thaw's attorney. Coyne denied Wednesday Thaw showed tips regarding cabaret Sunday as reported by the press. Thaw merely dropped in for a little recreation. At his hotel Tuesday he might remain here for an hour or three weeks. "I'm simply here on I'm going to attend to and leave," he said. One investigator of the bill was produced and the check for \$91. Another report says Gray, dancer, credited cabaret, is wearing a two rows of diamonds surveys of the scene man says will be completed in the next few days by Gillette, who plans over to the board of Thirteen bodies had entered since the vessel.

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