

BUFFALO MAN BUYS MORE LAND

W. J. Connors Increases His Holdings in the Everglades To Six Thousand Acres.

(Special to The Herald.)

West Palm Beach, March 12.—By the purchase yesterday from the Southern States Land and Timber Company of two additional sections of Everglades land William J. Connors, the millionaire publisher and Great Lakes boat owner of Buffalo, N. Y., increased to over 6,000 acres the total of his holdings in the Everglades.

The transfer includes three fields of growing sugar cane, buildings and a strip mill erected and equipped by the Southern States Land and Timber Company in co-operation with the bureau of chemistry of the United States department of agriculture. The consideration was near \$200,000.

Mr. Connors announces that the portion of the newly purchased land not now cultivated will be planted to sugar cane. He states that within two years he will have in at least 2,000 acres of sugar cane and probably 3,000 acres, and will then erect a sugar cane mill of capacity sufficient to take care of all the sugar cane grown in the Everglades.

The two full sections just purchased contain 1,280 acres. One of the sections, No. 4, has a mile frontage on Lake Okeechobee. It is the fertile and famous "custard apple land," demonstrated of superior character for the growth of sugar cane. The other section is No. 10, on the West Palm Beach canal.

Ownership of a mile frontage on Lake Okeechobee gives ample room and advantageously located site for a lakeside dock should Mr. Connors not find West Palm Beach canal adequate for all purposes of transportation. Okeechobee City, on the north side of the lake, with a branch of the Florida East Coast Railroad, and Moore Haven on the west side, with the Atlantic Coast Line, give alternatives to shipments on the canal via West Palm Beach. With his Buffalo (N. Y.) experience as harbor builder, boat builder and director of lake transportation, Mr. Connors is superiorly qualified to provide for the immense farm the best transportation facilities.

The large additional land purchase and the operations that are related to it are a further realization of the purpose announced by Mr. Connors when he bought his first tract of Everglades, to "make it the finest farm in the south." His present farm is stocked with thoroughbred hogs and cattle. He has in hundreds of acres of tomatoes and potatoes and thousands of acres of cultivated grasses. Loring Brown, formerly of Atlanta, Ga., is the agricultural expert in charge of operations on the farm.

Mr. Connors has become a permanent resident of West Palm Beach. His son-in-law, Sherman Sexton, of Chicago, also is an owner of a farm in the Everglades.