

**Texas Information Free**

We are acquainted with all the land and all land propositions in Southern Texas (the irrigated section of the Lower Rio Grande Valley) and are prepared to furnish, free of charge, reliable information as to climate, soil, price and terms. If you are interested in any of the many bargains to be had in Texas lands, we will act as your agent and see that you buy land worth the money, and land that is adapted to what you want to use it for.

We can help you buy direct from the owner and thus save you the middleman's profit. We own and operate the Barber Plantation of 1,000 acres, and have no land for sale.

As locating agents and land appraisers we can be of service to prospective buyers. Correspondence solicited. Call on or address

**H. O. BARBER & SONS,**

Box 162, San Benito, Cameron County, Texas

References: Bank of San Benito, San Benito, Texas; First National Bank, Lincoln, Neb.; First National Bank, Holdrege, Neb.; Bradstreet or Dunn, at Lincoln, Neb. address.

**The National Monthly**

Edited and Published by Norman E. Mack

A monthly periodical of high-grade character, in mechanical appearance and subject matter. Forceful editorials and interesting articles from prominent democrats. Short stories and matter to interest every member of the family.

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Address **THE COMMONER** Lincoln, Nebraska

*San Benito, Texas, is in the very heart of the Fertile Lower Rio Grande Valley, 19 miles north of Brownsville on the main line of the*

**ST. LOUIS, BROWNSVILLE AND MEXICO RAILWAY**

The climate is ideal, being semi-arid and healthful. The winters are mild and pleasant, the summers comparatively cool, being tempered by constant and refreshing breezes from the Gulf of Mexico.

Irrigation here is necessary, but when irrigated with the water from the Rio Grande, this delta soil produces not only a greater variety of products than that of any other section of the United States but products which excel in quantity as well as quality.

We have twelve months of growing season every year.

The soil at San Benito is a rich alluvial deposit, many feet in depth.

Water in abundance and a constant supply is necessary for successful irrigation. This we have at San Benito.

San Benito has the only gravity canal in the Lower Rio Grande Valley. No pumps to break down. The canal is 37 miles long, averages 250 feet in width and 20 feet in depth. We can store in the basin of the main canal over 30,000 acre feet of water.

**Storage and gravity are the two most necessary conditions for successful irrigation.**

The products of the Lower Rio Grande Valley include sugar cane, cotton, corn, alfalfa, sorghum and other forage crops, as well as truck and fruits. The Lower Rio Grande Valley is the winter garden of the nation. The mild winter climate permits us to get our products on the market at the time when they bring the highest prices.

Come and see San Benito. Write for illustrated booklet.

**SAN BENITO LAND & WATER COMPANY**

San Benito, Texas

**ALBA HEYWOOD, President and General Manager**

**Commoner Condensed Volume VII**

As its title indicates, this book is a condensed copy of The Commoner for one year. It is published annually and the different issues are designated as Volumes I, II, III, IV, V, VI and VII, corresponding to the volume numbers of The Commoner. The last issue is Volume VII, and contains editorials which discuss questions of a permanent nature.

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Address, **THE COMMONER**, Lincoln, Nebraska.

protects privileged monopoly. Let us point to the stand of the democrats of the cotton schedule, print paper, petroleum and wood pulp. On those schedules the democrats did nobly and in part at least proved to be a vindication for the failure of certain democrats to vote against the tariff on lumber, coal and iron ore. Let us remind our republican friends that out of sixty republican senators only nine remained true to their cause; that with an overwhelming majority the tariff could have been revised in spite of democratic opposition; that the schedules which were increased or remained the same were obtained by republican and not democratic votes. Let us not forget to repudiate the republican press when they say that the tariff is no longer a party issue. It is a party issue, all but one democrat voting against the tariff measure in the senate on the final ballot. Let us point with pride to Chamberlain, Shively, Hughes, Gore, Owen, Stone and others who have championed the cause of the people in this age of political corruption. And last, but not least, William J. Bryan is still fighting for the cause of human liberty and freedom; is still the champion and leader of democratic principles. In the words of Lowell, "Now is the high time of the year; then whatever of life hath ebbed away comes flooding back with a cheer." Let every true democrat sit up, think and act.

Fred A. Young, Seal Gardens, Cal.  
—The most important question before the people of California today is, Who owns the tide-lands, water-fronts and entrances to the harbors? The government has and is spending millions of dollars dredging the channel and building a sea wall at San Pedro harbor. Yet private persons and railroad companies claim title to all the desirable and most useful water frontage. Almost every foot of the channel is occupied by railroad wharfs. For a quarter of a century politicians have won local fame by their "position on the harbor question." Something like a dozen lawsuits are now pending in the courts to test the ownership of the titles to the water frontage and grave fear exists as to the sincerity of the efforts to have "all claims, contracts and deeds cancelled." I enclose herewith a communication from T. S. Knoles, a well known Los Angeles democrat, to the Los Angeles Express, which he claims to be universally applicable to all sovereign powers whithersoever situated. If the principle enunciated by Mr. Knoles is correct, the harbor question is solved, not only for the Pacific coast, but for the sovereignties of the world and the proper place for Mr. Knoles is in congress. We want the opinion of The Commoner on the principle announced by Mr. Knoles. I also enclose another clipping from the Express, that The Commoner may know that Mr. Bryan's advocacy of the election of United States senators by the people is bearing fruit on this coast:

**Titles to Harbors and Tidelands**

Los Angeles, July 15.—To the Express: Some months ago a prominent state senator from one of the southern counties publicly announced "that the title to the water fronts and tidelands about all the harbors of this state, except San Diego and San Francisco, were vested in private individuals and corporations." Wide research has since been made to discover, if possible, how such a shocking state of affairs and conditions could exist, in view of the fact that San Pedro harbor has been a bone of bitter contention for more than a quarter of a century, and as a result the underlying principles governing the titles to tidelands, water fronts and the entrances to harbors have been uncovered, and

effectually solves all questions and matters involved. All things necessary for the protection, preservation and perpetuity of national sovereignty are adjuncts to the prerogative powers of sovereignty, such as the army, navy, the channels, or river beds of navigable streams, bays, harbors, all submerged lands along the sea coasts, commencing at the extreme high tide line and extending three miles seaward, and are not subjects of barter and private ownership; all these are indispensable arms of national defense and are therefore inalienable.

T. S. KNOLES,

Secretary of the City Charter League.

**TOM JOHNSON STATES OBJECT OF FELS FUND**

The many separate local reform movements in the United States are merging, like the trusts, and a common understanding, if not a uniform policy, is expected to result. The Fels fund of America is developing into a strategy board, and with the \$25,000 a year given by Joseph Fels and the \$25,000 to be raised to match it (about half of which has been raised), the strategy board will be enabled to back its policies, and its policy is to bring about in the United States, that which the world sees, the beginning of the British budget, viz: the taxation of land values. That this same British budget which has stirred the lords to such frenzy of opposition is in a large measure due to the Fels activity, is not doubted.

It was not the purpose, and it is not the intention of the Fels fund commission to be a strategy board. The idea was simply to back up reform movements that were making along land value lines. But at the first meeting of the commission it was decided not to scatter the \$50,000 a year, but to concentrate; to put large sums into places which, of themselves, have made the most progress and were the nearest to success. This was democratic. The commission was to do nothing. It was to co-ordinate and back any going concerns which were proving their vitality. But this led to a study of all the reform movements and will require a particular understanding of them all. To this end consultations are held with local leaders, and out of this is growing a central consciousness of shoulder-to-shoulder work all along the line.

It means, among other things, that reform in America is passing the skirmish stage and entering upon the organization of a regular army, that it is rising above the merely moral, to the truly ethical economic consideration of the problems of reform, that the United States, in brief, is joining the forces of world progress.

Fels, with whom the plan originated, is a Jew, who has all the energy of his race. He is also a philanthropist. But he has no notion of re-establishing a Jewish nation in Palestine. He has the conviction that most social problems would solve themselves if we could get rid of the things which have raised them, and it is with this thought in mind that he has offered to spend \$25,000 a year for five years in this country and a like sum in Great Britain in the promotion of a system which he believes would put involuntary poverty out of business by making it possible for everybody to get a job who really wants one. He has also offered to spend \$5,000 a year in Germany, the same amount in Denmark, the same in Australia, the same in Canada, the same in New Zealand and all for the same purpose.

TOM L. JOHNSON.

Cleveland, O., June 29, 1909.