

about four miles distant from the tract, is a progressive town of some 5 000 population. Located on Pantego River, it provides both fishing and boating. Its stores and schools are a credit to a town of this size. Nevertheless, it seems advisable to plan for a Community School on the tract, with attending social features.

On the R. T. Crane Farm for the widows and children of employes killed in the Crane Works at Wheeling, Ills., a building for school, dancing, entertainments and athletics has been erected. Weekly visits are made by a doctor and a dentist, who inexpensively bring to the tenants the advantages - nay necessities - which so often are denied or at best laboriously obtained by farmers. Such an institution would not necessarily be a matter of the immediate future, but should enter into the plans of a carefully thought-out development.

PRESENT CONDITIONS

At present the Broad Acre Ranch which is

separated from the Norfolk Southern Farms tract, has about 800 acres of its 2 000 acres under cultivation. On this farm are seen the various stages of reclamation which are just being started on the 45 000 acre tract. On Broad Acre can be seen the original condition of the land, one year later, two years, three years, four years and five years after reclamation began.

As virgin land, the swamp is covered very densely with a growth of Cypress, Maple, Juniper, Gum and Pine. The underbrush is of tropical luxuriance and water covers the land. At present all main canals and laterals have been completed on Broad Acre Ranch. On the Norfolk Southern Farms about one-third of the main canals are dug; two years will be required for their completion. These canals and ditches remove all water from the surface and lower the water-table from two to five feet.

On Broad Acre Ranch about 800 of the 2 000 acres are cleared and drained. On this land a splendid crop of corn was seen. The stalks averaged

thirteen and fourteen feet in height and the ears were large and firm. Soy beans, too, grew in rank luxuriance with well-filled pods. The enormous growth of all foliage plants on this soil is amazing. Abundantly supplied with Nitrogen, the soil produces an extremely heavy growth of stem and leaf.

INITIAL WORK OF RECLAMATION

The initial work of reclamation consisted of dredging the main canals. These were dug at intervals of a mile on the earliest work, but on the large Norfolk Southern Farms tract they are being dredged at distances of a half mile.

These canals are dug with the proceeds of drainage bonds which were issued and mainly sold in neighboring cities. The drainage, where main canals were one mile apart cost approximately \$10 00 per acre; with this ditch at one-half mile intervals, the cost is \$18 00 per acre. To these main canals are dug lateral ditches, ten to the mile, with the main ditches one mile apart, and six to eight where one-half-mile apart. The hand-ditching