

taken up but down in the southwest in Missouri, Oklahoma, Arkansas and Kansas—there is splendid farming land for sale at every railway station you may stop at. Why is this good land for sale? One reason is that the typical backwoods farmer is a restless individual. He is always looking for a place a little better than the one he is on—looking for the good country where things will grow without much work.

Another reason is that a man can cultivate only so much ground. If he plants more than he can cultivate, he must hire help or lose what has been planted. The farms in the Southwest, as a rule, are large and many of the farmers are anxious to sell off the surplus land which they are unable to cultivate. This land can be bought in small tracts at from \$10 to \$40 per acre. Besides, one can find for sale plenty of small farms with buildings already up. The soil in the Southwest is very productive, adapted to the raising of fruit, grains and vegetables of all kinds.

With a team, a wagon, one turning plow, a double shovel plow and a few rakes and hoes a man could cultivate a small farm and handle successfully all the farm products with the exception of wheat, oats, rye and barley. Wheat raising on a small farm would not be profitable. Corn, broom corn, vegetables and fruit would give the best returns. Besides, on a small farm a man could raise enough poultry to provide all the household necessities and then have something left to the good.

A reason many city people, with a hankering for a small farm, advance for not hurrying off to the country is that they will fail because of the great amount of hard work necessary to cultivate land. My dear sir, that is a mistake.

There are few farmers in the country who put in as many hours as the office man. There are not more than 90 or 100 days in a year that the farmer really has to do what one would call work. That is in the summer time while his crops are growing. In the winter all he has to do is feed the stock and keep warm. Then, too, the farmer does not work when it rains or snows. It's different with the city man. He is bound to work winter and summer,

whether it rains or the sun shines, to be able to keep on good terms with the grocer and the butcher. When the farmer has gathered his crops he has the long winter months to devote to study. He is blessed with more opportunities to cultivate his mind than any other class of men, but alas! few take advantage of the opportunities. True, there are no theaters in the country and also few saloons. The women generally offer the strongest objections to going to the country to live permanently. Once there was a city man who had a friend who went to the country and started a poultry farm. The city man wanted to visit his country friend but the city man's wife vigorously opposed the trip.

"What! Go to the country for four months?" said she. "Oh, dear, how dreary and monotonous it will be. I don't see how I will ever live through it."

However she went out to the country, carrying novels enough for a good library foundation and a phonograph with all the latest and most popular airs of the day to dispel the ennui which she foresaw. In the country the birds delivered such a symphony of sweet sounds that "Josephine, My Joe," "Violets," "Whoa, Bill!" "Under the Bamboo Tree," "Turkey in the Straw," etc., were seldom heard. Then, too, there was a dear little garden near the house and she got so interested in the growth of the vegetables that she was busy there from early until late. Well, the summer slipped joyously by and when the city man's wife got back home this is actually what she wrote to the man in the country:

"I am homesick for the country and it is the very first time I ever was homesick. I have been thinking about our life out there and yearning for the country with each thought. Not a day passes that we don't say that we wish we were back with you. If we could buy that house from you, we'd be misers until we saved enough. I am thoroughly discontented with the city after our summer out there. And to think, we tried to persuade you to come to town with us! I'll never again wish you any such bad luck."

Say, get a small farm "and have chickens, cows and pigs and horses to look after" and be independent and free, get up in the morning when you want to and work when you feel like it. Be leaders in the improvement of the soil, for agricul-

ture is the backbone of all business. When the farmer raises good crops there is prosperity abroad in the land. But let there be a crop failure and all lines of business suffer.

THE ESTABLISHMENT OF HUNTING PARKS IN OKLAHOMA.

Nothing is too good for the Oklahoman. In the past it has been that nothing was too difficult for him to conquer, no hardship too great for him to endure, and now when he has commenced to rise

tem's branch line running between Enid and Vernon. This hunting site, established through the enterprise of Charles Hunter, owner of the townsite and a town builder of more than local fame, is greatly



Scene near Roosevelt, Oklahoma.

above it all, he is taking time to enjoy himself.

As a result of this feeling, game preserves, summer resorts, pleasure parks, are being established all over the Territory, but at no one place has the hunting fever gained such a stronghold among the citizens as in the new country—that is the Kiowa and Comanche country. The number of hunting parks in all parts of Oklahoma has increased greatly, especially in the past two years. One of the finest parks in the Territory is the one at Mountain Park, Oklahoma, on the Frisco Sys-

patronized by all Oklahomans, as well as persons from the Indian Territory, Texas, Kansas, and elsewhere. In a few years more it is believed that this great hunting region, bordering as it does onto the famous Wichita Mountains, will be much visited by St. Louis and Kansas City sportsmen.

Hunting in the Wichita Mountains yields almost as many exciting and daring encounters with game as in the Rockies, although the wild game is not quite so numerous. In the game parks around Mountain Park, such game as wild cats,

panthers, and the cougar are not altogether unknown. But turkey, deer, and such game are found in abundance.

Charles Hunter, who is townsite agent for the Bes line, now a part of the Frisco System, has for some time had in view the establishment of this game preserve near his several towns and for the accommoda-

leave the borders of their own Territory and do not in the first place deem it necessary. They therefore are only too happy to accept the game parks at home and therefore from the time the trees begin to yellow in autumn until after Christmas time, the Territorial sportsmen are busy shooting game and catching fish from the



Scene on Otter Creek, near Roosevelt, Oklahoma.

tion of his friends of the Territory in hunting and fishing season. There are many men high in the business and industrial life of that young Territory who are just beginning to find time to leave their places of business in the fall and take a month or more hunting and fishing. Many of them are too loyal to wish to

streams and in the woods of the parks.

Besides the park at Mountain Park, there is also a park at Roosevelt, on the Bes line. In fact all along the Frisco in the new country, and adjacent to the Wichita Mountains, there are many such hunting preserves for the use of the new Oklahomans.

VICE VERSA.

I never see my rector's eyes—
 He hides their light divine;
 For, when he prays, he shuts his own,
 And, when he preaches, mine!

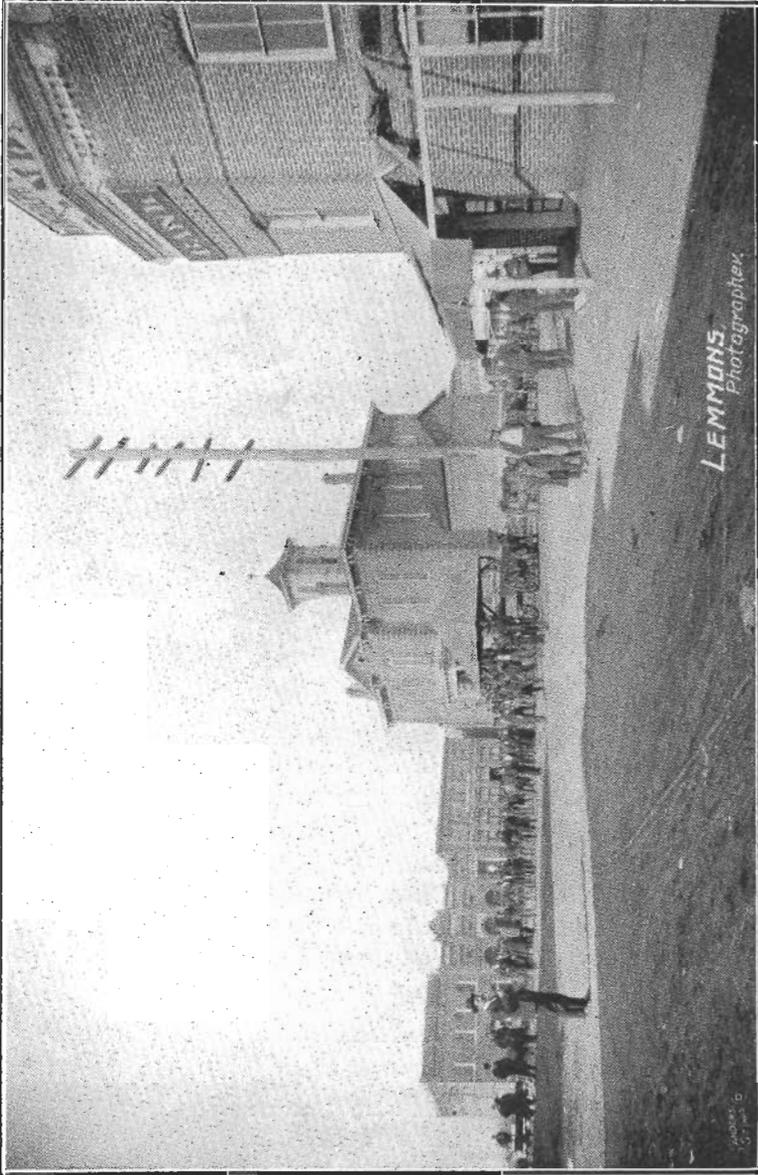
—Smart Set.

POCAHONTAS, ARK.

One of the most thriving towns in the Black river country, along the Frisco System, is Pocahontas, Ark. It is the county seat of Randolph county and has a popula-

there. The story of the foundation of Pocahontas is one of the best tales of early day politics:

The county commissioners were author-



One side of square showing Court House, Pocahontas, Ark.

tion of 1500. It has eighteen substantial business houses, two fine public school buildings and churches of various denominations. It is a manufacturing town in wood supplies and the largest bending works in Eastern Arkansas are situated

ized to select two places for the county seat and then leave it to the voters which they would have. The commissioners selected Pocahontas and another spot near a famous spring eight miles distant. A man by the name of Bettis owned the

present location of Pocahontas. The election was held in the summer of 1836 and the contest between the partisans of the two sites was a lively one, but Bettis knew a thing or two. On the day appointed for the election he gave a free barbecue which he had advertised by runners throughout the county. Nearly every voter in the

merciantly it is as live a town for its size as could be found anywhere. All of the mercantile lines are well represented, and its financial institutions are strong and prosperous. The town also has one of the largest creameries of the state, and also a huge cold storage plant.

All of the churches are represented in



Bridge over Black River, Pocahontas, Ark.

county went to Bettis' barbecue. And that settled it. Pocahontas won.

Pocahontas is surrounded by a fine territory, being a large cotton market, as well as lumber. Its schools are of the best. In addition to the public schools there is a large Catholic Convent, which is well filled with pupils throughout the year. Com-

this pretty little city. The Methodist and the Roman Catholic have fine edifices of worship.

It is also a heavy shipping point for fruit and berries in season. As an indication that the town is on the upgrade, its population has more than doubled in the last ten years.

IN DOUBT.

ANNE VIRGINIA CULBERTSON.

When lashes drooping lie
 On cheeks of softest rose,
 Ah, how demure and sly
 The wonted aspect grows,
 When lashes drooping lie!
 And yet, until he try,
 No man of surety knows
 When lashes drooping—lie!