

Garden of The Hesperides

An Ancient Myth With a Modern Meaning

"Show thee the tree leafed with refined Gold
Whereon the fearful Dragon held his seat
That watched the Garden of the Hesperides."



HERE is a Grecian myth that in the "Mystic West" there was a beautiful garden with golden fruit hanging from golden branches, half-hid with golden leaves. This golden garden was held as the exclusive property of the greedy daughters of Hesperus and guarded for them by the dragon, Ladon, until he was slain by Hercules in his eleventh labor.

THIS MYTH HAS A MODERN MEANING. Many golden gardens have been discovered in our "Mystic West," America. The greedy sisters, Rent, Interest and Profit, however, have claimed them, the cruel dragon, Monopoly, has guarded them and the common people, to whom they belong, have been but little better off for the discoveries.

The eleventh labor of the Hercules, Coöperation, is to slay the cruel dragon and dispossess the greedy sisters; and the twelfth and last is to bring the common people into their golden inheritance.

Execution of such double task is now in progress under the auspices of Ruskin Homemakers' Society.*

RENT is abolished by providing a ten-acre Home in Southern Florida and an income sufficient to insure a good living for an average family in return for an investment of \$2.00 down and \$1.00 per month for not to exceed thirty-six months.

This is done by investing the money thus received in low-priced lands, which are cultivated for the members by the Society. Three crops per year are raised, netting more than 100 per cent. upon the capital invested in each crop. The Society retains 90 per cent. of the profits until each member has \$1,000 per share to his credit in the treasury, the other 10 per cent. going to him. He then gets ten acres of improved land deeded to him with each share. This land cultivated coöperatively will yield him at least \$1,000 per year as dividend on each share. He may live on an acre or larger plot in the Coöperative Village, leased at a nominal rate, and work for the Society; or he may live on his own land and cultivate it himself, or live where he pleases and draw his income.

INTEREST is abolished by the Society loaning to its members who are organized into "Local Homes," when in need, limited sums without interest, to be repaid out of their accumulating profits.

PROFIT is abolished by the Society giving each member, by the above method, the full product of his investment of cash or labor, barring indirect tribute paid to our commercial system, which under this plan is reduced to a minimum.

RUSKIN UNIVERSITY is the Society's Educational Center, and will establish branch colleges on its plantations. Free tuition will be furnished to those making the requisite investment and employment to cover expenses will be provided for all students.

The affiliation of the University with the Society provides for a large equipment-fund for the former, insuring a great future for the institution. Every investment made in this enterprise by ARENA readers will add materially to this fund.

Anyone interested in promoting Industrial Education or Economic Coöperation may have free literature with full particulars by addressing GEORGE MCA. MILLER, President of Ruskin University, Glen Ellyn, Illinois, or RUSKIN HOMEMAKERS' SOCIETY, 92 La-Salle Street, Chicago.

* A Corporation, chartered under the laws of Illinois. Authorized Capital, \$5,000,000; applying the business methods of successful corporations to the development of Fraternal Coöperation; an interesting business proposition open to a live worker in each locality.