

"I Felt That I Had Worked for the Other Man Long Enough," Says Ed Stewart

DOING \$5,000 WORTH OF BUSINESS MONTHLY

IT WAS on Dec. 31, 1925, at the River Rouge Plant of The Ford Motor Company of Detroit, Michigan, when Ed Stewart turned in his badge and tools and drew his last check from the payroll.

"Why are you leaving?" asked the foreman. "You've been in this department three years and have always done your work well."

"I'm not the least dissatisfied with the job," replied Mr. Stewart. "I've always been treated right since I've been working here. I like The Ford Motor Company. It's a good place to work. I have a good reason for leaving—to go into business for myself."

To start a business of his own was an oath he had made to himself more than ten years previous, when he had to discontinue school to help his parents with the work on the farm. He lived with his parents on a farm at Jasper, Florida, working many years through the entire farming period from sun-up until dark, getting only discouragements and disappointments in the end. Despite all of these struggles, he had a determination not to work for "the other fellow" all his life.

At the age of thirty he was married to Fannie Clyde of Valdosta, Florida. He was then only a country boy without education. He had done only farm work and timber cutting. He knew practically nothing about any other kind of work. Many a night after sawing timber all day he would sit by the dim oil light, reading of the success of other farm boys after having so many handicaps, and wondered how far away was his own success.

He had already done farm work, timber cutting and factory work—all for the other fellow. Now he felt that he should start his own business and work for himself.

"After I had worked at The Ford Motor Company at a salary of \$7.29 per day," he explained, "I felt that I went immediately to a friend of mine that owned a grocery store on



Ed Stewart, who wasn't afraid to "launch out" for himself

the west side. He explained to me many important points about best terms, good places to get my stock

South Sea Race Disappearing?

EVER since the inhabitants of the Marquesas island became "civilized" they have been victims of the banes as well as the boons of their sophisticated enlightenment. It was the famous Captain Cook and other explorers who introduced the first dawn of civilization to these naked but innocent savages. These discoverers inaugurated fruits and vegetables and other modern customs on Nuku Hiva, the largest of the Marquesas islands.

When the white man first visited this island cannibalism was the rule—anything else was the exception. Though it may seem strange, these people had considerable difficulty adapting themselves to such tasteless dishes as fruits and vegetables.

They much preferred the savory meats of healthy humans, moreover they cultivated humans for "Sunday" dishes as the average American nurtures the proverbial fowl for the ornamental Sunday meal. The favorite dish was known as "long pig" (meaning elongated humans), which

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of groceries, and fixtures, and other advice regarding the retail grocery business, in which he was already experienced.

"I bought a frame building at a cost of \$5,000 at 4141 Hastings street. We lived in the rear. With a \$500 stock of groceries I opened my store in the front part of the building.

"At this time I was the only colored retail grocer on Hastings street, which was a colored people business district. Across the street on the same corner was a chain grocery store, with still another in the next block. These stores could afford to sell their groceries at a lower price than I could, but for some undetermined reason my business drew the attention of both colored and white folks, and I gained their trade." Mr. Stewart remarked in conclusion.

Today seventy-five per cent of the people of both races living in this vicinity do their trading with Ed Stewart. His groceries and vegetables are always fresh. He always wears a smile regardless of what a customer may say. Service and square dealings are his "daily goings."

Mr. Stewart employs two clerks daily and four on Saturday afternoon. He has free delivery service for his customers who desire it.

From a three-year start he is still in the same building, doing \$50,000 worth of business a year.

Mr. Stewart is 34 years of age, a member of The Ebenezer A. M. church, the K. of P., and Masonic Temple.

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