

# THE A. B. EDWARDS

REAL ESTATE AND FIRE INSURANCE AGENCY

SARASOTA, FLORIDA

January, 11th, 1912.

Mrs. Potter Palmer,  
"The Oaks"  
Osprey,  
Fla.

Dear madam :-

Replying to your letter of the 10th inst., I am not very familiar with the sanitary laws of Florida but as I understand it any person polluting any public water which would be a menance or detriment to public health would be liable for serious damages, and undoubtedly if the matter was called to the attention of the state board of health the condition would be investigated immediately.

If as a matter of fact the party conveying the sewerage into the Bay does so on their own riparian rights and the sewerage is conducted far enough into the water to prevent any unhealthy affect I fear therewould be no redress.

However I suggest that you investigate the matter of the owner-ship of the riparian rights in front of the property from where the sewerage comes and it may be found that such riparman rights are owned ny parties from whom you might get controll.

Yours very respectfully,

abe / ejl.



This letter is from A.B. Edwards, a real estate broker and Sarasota's first mayor (1914-1915), to his friend Mrs. Potter Palmer, who eventually purchased over 80,000 acres of land in Sarasota County. Mrs. Palmer died in 1918, and in 1934 Edwards helped to negotiate the purchase of part her land, Meadow Sweet Pastures, from the estate of her brother Adrian C. Honore. That 17,500-acre purchase was the foundation for creating Myakka River State Park. To learn more about the lives of Mrs. Potter Palmer and A. B. Edwards, visit the Sarasota History Center at <http://www.scgov.net/HistoryCenter/>.