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## History of Orange County, Florida: Narrative and biographical

William Fremont Blackman

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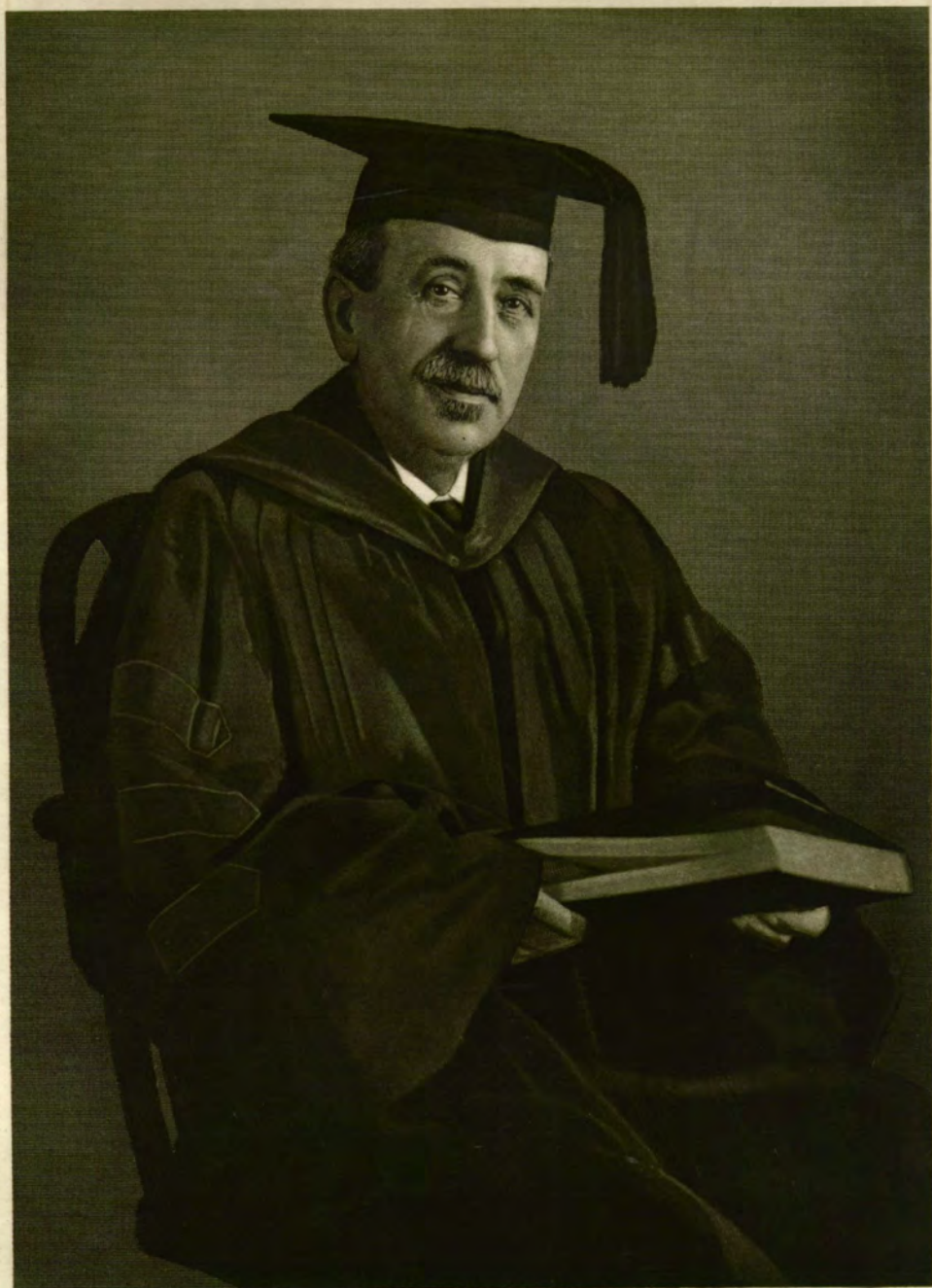
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HISTORY OF  
ORANGE  
COUNTY  
FLORIDA





William Fremont Blackman



*History*  
*of*  
**ORANGE COUNTY**  
**FLORIDA**

NARRATIVE AND BIOGRAPHICAL

By

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*Author of "The Making of Hawaii; A Study in Social Evolution"*

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WILLIAM FREMONT BLACKMAN  
ORLANDO, FLORIDA

*History of  
Orange County, Florida*

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Winter Park

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TO LUCY WORTHINGTON BLACKMAN—

*O Love, what hours were thine and mine  
In lands of palm and orange blossom,  
Of orange, aloe, maize and vine.*

—Tennyson: "The Daisy."

## The Floridian's Creed and Covenant

---

Dedicated to the Florida Federation of Women's Clubs

---

*I BELIEVE IN FLORIDA, land of the open and fathomless sky, of lambent stars, of mountainous opalescent clouds, of soft benignant airs, of incessant summer, of unstinted and vivifying sunshine, of responsive and fecund soil.*

*I BELIEVE IN FLORIDA, laved on every hand—cooled and warmed and cleansed and fed and decorated—by the azure and teeming waters of tropic seas, and by countless and sparkling lakes and streams.*

*I BELIEVE IN FLORIDA, land of wide-stretching and open woods, of limitless green prairies and glades, of dense and vine-hung hammocks, of mysterious bays and swamps, all in their various forms lovely and fruitful; the land of fragrant pine and mourning cypress, of moss-draped oak, of waxen magnolia, of comely palm, of regal poinciana, of flaming vine, and of shy and brilliant orchid.*

*I BELIEVE IN FLORIDA, land of the orange and pomelo and spicy kumquat, of peach and pear and persimmon and loquat, of pineapple and guava and mango and avocado; of corn and cotton and cane and cattle, and of whatever else is anywhere borne of trees or grown by the soil of the earth.*

*I BELIEVE IN FLORIDA, the home of creatures strange, curious and beautiful—the saurian monster, the gliding reptile, the darting dainty lizard, the aquatic manatee, the egret in snowy nuptial array, the roseate spoonbill, the exuberant mocking-bird, the flame-like, flute-like cardinal, the wood-pecker with ivory bill and the humming-bird with ruby throat, the painted butterfly sipping nectar in winter days.*

*I BELIEVE IN FLORIDA, land of romantic legend and adventurous history, of towns the most ancient and the newest, of*



*swiftly-growing cities, of farms and orchards, and of wide and inviting solitudes still awaiting man's coming.*

*I BELIEVE IN FLORIDA, magnet and meeting-place for men and women of the North and the South, the East and the West, and countries over-sea, Americans all, one blended and indissoluble and free people. I believe in her eager boys and winsome girls, in her schools and colleges, in her churches of divers faiths, in her institutions of philanthropy and mercy, and in her press, the voice and the instructor of her common mind and will.*

*IN FINE, I BELIEVE IN FLORIDA, the commonwealth old yet young, unformed as yet, but palpitant with energy and faring forth into the future with high hope and swift step; and believing thus,*

*I COVENANT with all her people of like faith to give myself to her service, mind and heart and hand and purse, to explore and develop her hidden resources, to celebrate her praises truthfully, to win worthy citizens for her void spaces, to till her fields, to keep pure her politics, to make more efficient her schools, to strengthen and unify her churches, and thus to make her in full fact what she is by human right and Divine dower,*

**THE QUEEN OF COMMONWEALTHS**

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# *History of Orange County, Florida*

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## FOREWORD

I first saw Orange County forty-one years ago, and like most other visitors fell in love with it promptly and permanently. I soon after planted my first orange grove, in what was then Orange County, but is now Lake.

For many years thereafter I was an almost annual visitor to this region, and a zealous student of its conditions and problems; a quarter of a century ago, I made my home in Orange County.

As college president and bank president, and then, when health failed, as rancher and farmer, president of the Florida Livestock Association and member of the Florida Livestock Sanitary Board and numerous other state-wide organizations, I have been rather intimately acquainted with the educational, financial, agricultural, social and religious life of Florida, and in particular of this portion of the state.

I mention these facts as explaining why I have undertaken to write the History of Orange County.

This book should perhaps be called a Story rather than a History. There are two schools of historical writers; the first, like Freeman, are interested chiefly in facts and dates, which they set down with meticulous accuracy and often in dull and dry style; the second, like Macaulay and Green, are interested primarily in people, their character, their motives, their way of making a living, and their influence on their contemporaries and descendants. The first are chroniclers, the second are poets, interpreters; the first take photographs, the second paint pictures. Both are useful, but the first are read only by a few scholars, while the second, because they make the past times live again, appeal to a wider range of readers.

I like the second sort of historical writings better than the first; and so, while I have tried to set down facts and dates accurately and in due order, I have tried also to portray the men and women who have peopled Orange County and made it what it is, so far as I could do so, "in their habit as they lived." And I have sought to make it of such sort that plain people and school children will find pleasure and profit in reading it. How far this effort has been successful, others may judge and time will tell.

I have read old letters, faded diaries, huge scrapbooks, stained newspaper files, and dusty official records, and have spent many days talking over the old times with the few who still live of the early settlers. And



for all this labor, I have been abundantly rewarded; I have gained a vivid sense of the vast debt we owe to those who pioneered, mostly in poverty, isolation, and manifold difficulties and discouragements, but with brave hearts, in this region now so rich and beautiful. "They rest from their labors, and their works do follow them."

If the history of Winter Park is recited in fuller and more intimate detail than that of other communities, this is only because the early settlers there were wise enough to set down their doings from day to day in diaries and scrap-books, which a later generation has preserved with pious care.

It is obvious that a detailed history of Orange County from its creation until now, would require a volume many times as large as this; it has been necessary to set arbitrary limits. When did the Past end? When did the Present begin? And so, what is Historic and what is Contemporaneous? It is hard to say, but I have chosen to make this history end with the close of the nineteenth century, and to call the last twenty-seven years "Now." I have written as fully as I could of the 1880's, much less fully of the 1890's, and very sketchily indeed of the early twentieth century, with which many of my readers are as familiar as I. I have assumed that it is the story of the early days which would be most interesting, and which ought to be told before it is too late; other hands will carry the record on. But in my last chapter, nevertheless, I have sought to portray Orange County as it is to-day, the consummation of all that has gone before, and the starting point for what is to follow.

A word as to the biographical sketches and portraits which constitute Part Two of this work. In the main, these include the men and women who have evinced their interest in the undertaking by subscribing for the book, and I thank them for their co-operation, without which I could not have accomplished the costly task. But a few others have been included, who, because they are no longer living or for other reasons, could not assist me in this way; some of them have given me valuable help as members of the Board of Advisers; some have rendered generous assistance by gathering materials for my story; and some have read the proofs of various sections.

These sketches are of necessity brief and meager, on account of the limitations of space, and they do not include to any considerable extent eulogies and encomiums, however deserved. Though printed in a separate section of the work, I regard these biographies as an essential part of the Story of Orange County, as they contain a multitude of intimate and personal details which could not well be included in the Narrative portion of the book.

Among those who have helped me in my work, I must make mention of my wife, whose varied, capable, patient and sympathetic assistance during a prolonged period of illness has made it possible for me to complete the task.



My work is now finished—a labor of love and joy—and I am happy to add as the final word of this prefatory note, that as I have reviewed the lives, and estimated the characters, of the men and women, living and dead, who have dwelt in Orange County—this long line of founders, pioneers, natives, new-comers, merchants, manufacturers, lawyers, physicians, preachers, teachers, editors, home-makers, and the like—I have felt that I was in exceedingly good and pleasant company, and that we of the last days owe a debt to those who have gone before, or who still linger beside us, which we can never repay, except by a consecration like theirs to the service of our beautiful city and bountiful county.

W. F. B.

Orlando, Florida, August 15, 1927.

*HISTORY OF ORANGE COUNTY  
FLORIDA*

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*Part I*

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*NARRATIVE*



# *History of Orange County, Florida*

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## CHAPTER I

### THE BACKGROUND

**T**HE background of this story of Orange County and its people must be sought elsewhere than in this volume. This background, centuries deep, is geological, geographical, ethnological and political; it is pre-historic, traditional and historic; it is partly clear, partly dim and confused, largely tragic, and altogether colorful and romantic.

It will suffice for our purpose to remind the reader that when this region was first brought to the attention of Europe, it was occupied, as it no doubt had been occupied from immemorial times, by various tribes of Indians—Muskogans, Tomokans, Caloosas, Creeks, Seminoles and others—who supported themselves chiefly by hunting and fishing. They roamed the coasts and the interior, nearly naked; they fought with one another fiercely, with spears, bows and arrows, tomahawks and clubs; they cultivated a few vegetables, corn, squash, beans and tobacco; they engaged in athletic sports and contests; they worshipped the Great Spirit and held festivals for the sun and moon. Where the new county court house now stands, Seminole chiefs may have dispensed justice after their crude and cruel fashion, and where St. Luke's Cathedral gathers Christian worshippers, these redskins may have celebrated the rites and ceremonies of their primitive faith, stretching their hands in the morning toward the rising sun and in the evening toward the setting sun. The scene was the same as now, the same sweet climate, the same oaks and pines and cypresses, the same sparkling lakes, the same singing birds, and the same sandspurs and mosquitoes and alligators, but the people, and their mode and quality of life, how different!

And then came the inquisitive voyagers, warriors and priests from overseas, searching for new lands and treasure. First came the Spanish explorers, DeLeon, DeNarvaez, DeSoto; then the French colonists, massacred and expelled by the Spaniards; then followed the first Spanish supremacy, of nearly two centuries duration; then the English supremacy for some twenty years; then the second Spanish supremacy, from 1780 to 1821; then the supremacy of the United States, from 1821 until Florida seceded from the Union in 1861; and finally, the admission of the state again to the Union, in 1868.

Florida was organized as a Territory March 3, 1822, with a Governor and a Legislative Council—thirteen of the "most fit and discreet persons of



the Territory,"—and it was admitted to the Union as a state on March 3, 1845. During the various European occupations the history of Florida "was more tragedy than a song. Here explorers, brave knights, soldiers of fortune, lured by the siren song of wealth and the hope of glory, suffered and died and the world knew them no more. Here were armies sacrificed to satiate the vengeance of European monarchs, massacred by savage redskins or other vengeful enemies, with every refinement of cruelty that an ingenious mind could conceive or an experienced hand execute. Here Spanish and French and English contributed something to the horror-laden history of colonial conquest \* \* \*. Army after army buried itself in these swamps and forests \* \* \* bound by the thralldom of stupid traditions, they pursued the fateful errand of death and failure; no city of gold was their reward, no treasure-mine offered remuneration; only misery and death and the immunities of a forgotten grave."\*

At last, after these bloody centuries, came, in 1821, the cession of Florida by Spain to the United States, and a peace which was thenceforward broken only twice, by the two Seminole Wars and by the withdrawal of the state from the Union and four years more of strife and bloodshed, this time between brothers. Finally, in 1868, Florida returned to the fold, having adopted a new constitution and fulfilled the conditions imposed by the Federal Congress.

On July 21, 1821, soon after the cession of the Territory by Spain to the United States, the following decree was issued, dated at Pensacola:

"By Major-General Andrew Jackson, Governor of the Provinces of the Floridas, exercising the powers of the Captain-General and of the Intendent of the Island of Cuba, and of the Governors of said Provinces respectively: *Whereas* from the extent of the ceded territories it becomes necessary to make such divisions as will promote the convenience of the inhabitants, and the speedy execution of the laws, wherefore, and in virtue of the authority vested in me by the Government of the United States, I do

#### ORDAIN

Sec. 1. That the said Provinces be divided as follows: *All* the country lying between the Perdido and Suwaney rivers, with all the islands therein, shall form one county to be called Escambia.

All that country lying east of the river Suwaney, and every part of the ceded territories not designated as belonging to the former county, shall form a county to be called St. Johns."

ANDREW JACKSON.

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\*H. B. Fuller, "The Purchase of Florida," 1906.



On December 29, 1824, the Legislative Council created from St. Johns County the County of Mosquito, embracing all the country southward from near St. Augustine to Monroe County, which was created by the same Act, and westward to Alachua County. This vast region contained some 700 residents. In 1843 the county seat of Mosquito County was moved to Enterprise, now Benson Springs.

But the name Mosquito does not seem to have pleased the people,—and no wonder!—for on January 30, 1845, two months after Florida was admitted to the Union as a state, an Act was approved, “that from and after the passage of this Act, the name of Mosquito County in this Territory, be changed, and that said county from henceforth be called and designated as Orange County.” The accompanying map shows the size and boundaries of the county in 1846. This map is taken from the excellent History of Volusia County, by courtesy of its author, Mr. Daniel Pleasant Gold. Mr. Gold writes that when on an auto trip through Cincinnati last year, he was so fortunate as to pick up in a second-hand book store of that city a map, about three by four feet in size, compiled by the Bureau of Topographical Engineers, showing all the counties of Florida. He had the portion covering Orange County photographed, and used it in his book, which says, “The southern boundary of Orange was a straight line beginning at a point on the Atlantic Ocean a little south of the present town of Melbourne, running west to about where the town of Bartow is at present located, thence the boundary extended in a straight line across Lake Apopka to the northern central part of Lake George, where it turned in a northeasterly direction, running in a straight line to the mouth of Haw Creek on Dunn’s Lake, now a part of Crescent Lake, and followed Haw Creek’s northern branch to its head, continuing thence in a straight line northeast to the Atlantic Ocean at a point a few miles south of Matanzas Inlet.”

This map shows that there were ten “Forts” in the Orange County of 1846, namely, Ft. Butler, near the south end of Lake George, Fort Kingsbury, at the northeast end of Lake George, Ft. Mellon, on the south bank of Lake Monroe, Ft. Lane, on the west side of Lake Harney, Ft. Maitland, Ft. Gatlin, Ft. Christmas, Ft. Taylor, to the west of Lake Winder, Ft. McNeal, some distance west of Lake Poinsett, and Ft. Ann, on the Halifax River. The location of these “forts”—which were doubtless for the most part mere stockades, made of logs thrust perpendicularly into the ground—would indicate that attacks by Indians were apprehended along the course of the St. Johns River, rather than on the coast, the river being a thoroughfare for their canoes.

Orange County, as we now know it and as it will be dealt with in this work, is a remnant. It is not necessary to detail here the long process by





Map of Orange County in 1846, including the territory of Volusia, the year after the name, Mosquito County, was changed to Orange.



which the various counties lying to the north, east, south and west, were carved from the territory of Orange, ending with Osceola, Lake and Seminole; it will suffice to say that the vast unorganized territory of the original county was gradually reduced, and its boundaries readjusted by process of give and take, until it reached its present proportions, as portrayed in the map on the following page.

For this map, which was drawn expressly for this work, the author is indebted to Major Charles A. Browne, engineer of Orange County.





## CHAPTER II

### ORANGE COUNTY

**H**AVING glanced at the background of Orange County, we will now approach its history by the route which most of the early settlers themselves traversed, namely, the St. Johns River, and the Indian and military trails southward through the county from Lake Monroe.

The following letter to the author by that jovial and picturesque figure, Captain T. W. Lund of the Clyde Steamship Company, tells something of the early days on the river:

"In the year 1873, June 6, I came to Florida to visit my parents; my father was operating a steamboat between Jacksonville and Salt Lake, the latter the nearest point to Titusville by water. I was a boy fourteen years of age. We had competition the first year our steamboat was in commission by two other steamers, but as there was not enough business for three boats, the Silver Springs and the Lollie Boy left the business for the Volusia, my father's boat.

"In addition to connecting with teams at Salt Lake for Titusville, Sand Point and the Indian River country, we also connected with teams at Tuscawilla, a landing on Lake Jesup, where Mr. G. C. Brantley, a former state senator from Orange County, operated a large store and warehouse from which teams from Maitland and Orlando hauled freight.

"At that time the leading merchants of Orlando were W. A. Patrick, J. R. Montague, J. DeLaney, W. G. White and Nat Poyntz, and perhaps others whom I never knew.

"There was strong talk of a railroad being built from Tuscawilla to the points above mentioned. In fact, Mr. Brantley visited New York to purchase iron for said road. It was winter and he contracted cold, terminating in pneumonia, and he died there. His death put an end to the project.

"Capt. Jacob Brock operated two steamers to Mellonville from Jacksonville, leaving the latter place at 10 a. m. daily except Sunday, stopping over night at Palatka until 4 a. m. the following morning, arriving at Mellonville and Enterprise at about 4 to 6 o'clock in the afternoon.

"Later there was also another boat called the Starlight which was owned by Capt. Coxetter, but this only ran during the winter months for tourists; it afterwards caught fire and burned at Sanford.



"In December, 1874, my father built a boat to explore the Wekiwa River. On the 23rd of December of that year we entered the little stream, but it was so blocked with fallen trees and a water plant known as lettuce that we found it a difficult matter to make much headway. We did, however manage to reach Clay Springs, after removing sunken trees and clearing away the lettuce by using hoes and rakes and all kinds of agricultural implements.

"We continued for a year to operate this boat, connecting at the entrance to the Wekiwa River with boats to and from Jacksonville."

The DeBary-Baya Line and the Independent Line ran between Jacksonville and Sanford in the 70's, and in January of 1889, the Clyde Steamship Company bought out the DeBary Line, which it continues to operate.

Landing at Mellonville, the settlers and visitors found their way south through the woods in various primitive vehicles or on foot. Among these, was Mr. J. O. Fries, who afterward came to know Orange County, its acres, lakes, streams, forests, wild life, and old trails and roads more intimately than anyone else.

For a dozen years Mr. Fries lived in Oviedo, and for more than two score years his home has been in Orlando. For twenty-eight years he was deputy United States surveyor, and for many years county surveyor for Orange and Brevard Counties. He also surveyed the Everglades for the United States Government and took a census of the Seminole Indians; he spent three months on this wet task, and enrolled 339 names.

One wishes he might know how many thousands of miles Mr. Fries has tramped, with his instruments and assistants, through the woods and swamps of this region, and yet at almost eighty-nine years of age, his heart and wind and legs and mind are still measurably sound.

Mr. Fries landed in Sanford December 24, 1871, and came to Orlando the following day, which was Christmas, to spy out the land. And this is the way he came, and the things he saw. George Lewis had a team, a horse and a mule, harnessed largely with bits of rope, and an old lumber wagon on whose bed several small boxes were nailed down, to furnish seats for his passengers. Of these there were five, Mr. Fries among them. The fare for each passenger from Sanford to Orlando was ten dollars. This imposing and comfortable journey began at nine o'clock in the morning, followed the old military trail east of Altamonte Springs and Winter Park, and reached its end in Orlando after dark. And Mr. Fries avers that he saw but one house between Sanford and Orlando, and a little store building at Maitland, then the "metropolis" of the region.

In Orlando, he remembers seeing the court house, and not to exceed a half dozen structures, all told. He spent the night with Mr. Wm. Lovell.



The following morning, Mr. Lewis generously proposed to take him back to Sanford for the reduced sum of eight dollars; but Mr. Fries had the same capable pair of legs which have served him so faithfully ever since, and none too much money, and so he set out on foot, after the wagon had left, plodding through ankle-deep sand, passed the wagon at Longwood, and reached Sanford some hours before Mr. Lewis drove in. That was fifty-six years ago. If anyone wishes to get a vivid sense of the changes which a half century has brought, let him keep this story in mind while he drives his automobile over the hard-surfaced roads between Orlando and Sanford, or sits at the window of a Pullman car and takes note of the two thriving and beautiful cities, the attractive towns through which he passes, the handsome dwellings that line the highway, surrounded with shrubbery and flower gardens, the churches and schools and filling stations, and the orange groves and truck farms.

Two years after Mr. Fries' journey, Mr. E. W. Henck of Longwood, made the same trip, in part. This is his story of the journey and of other interesting matters, written for this work:

"When the writer arrived in Mellonville in November, 1873, that town consisted of two general stores, a so-called hotel, a saloon and two cottages. This was the main landing-place for all coming to what was then called South Florida. Sanford, three-quarters of a mile west of Mellonville, had one general store, one dwelling, a small board church (Episcopal), and one drug store, the proprietor of which also kept on sale caskets in which to ship his victims North. Mellonville was the distributing point for Fort Reed, Maitland, Orlando and Apopka, and was the head of navigation on the St. Johns River, although small boats plied between that point and Lakes Jesup and Harney.

"At that time the mail arrived at Sanford by boat three times a week and was distributed throughout the county by a route from Sanford to Apopka, Maitland and Orlando, carried in saddle bags by a man on horseback three times a week; the entire mail for all these points could have been put into an ordinary coat pocket.

"Two days after arrival, the writer located a homestead upon which the town of Longwood is now situated. As there were few horses in the country—none for hire—this trip was made on foot, the party arriving back in Sanford at midnight after a thirty-mile walk. In the spring of 1874 the writer had the above mail route discontinued and a route established direct from Sanford to Orlando *via* Longwood and Maitland. The mails were still carried in saddle bags for some time, each postmaster as the mail arrived at his post-office sorting out his few letters and sending the rest on. Soon,



however, the country was settled up, and a stage line was operated tri-weekly between Sanford and Orlando by Mr. Joseph Bumby.

"The writer named Longwood after the beautiful suburb of Boston of the same name which he, as a young engineer, had helped to lay out. At that time there were no other inhabitants in what is now the corporation of Longwood, but on the outskirts at Fairy Lake there lived a family named Hartley of which there are now many descendents still in residence. Homestead settlers arrived rapidly and most of the vacant land was entered by 1876. In the spring of 1874 the writer made a reconnaissance on horseback looking toward the construction of a railroad from Sanford to the Gulf. Orlando, which was a mere trading post, grew considerably in the succeeding five years, and in 1879 the need of transportation had grown so greatly that the writer believed the time had come for construction, and with two friends he incorporated the South Florida Railroad Company, floating the bonds in Boston, and the actual construction was begun in the fall of 1879. The officers of the road at that time were, E. W. Henck, president; E. T. Crafts, secretary and C. C. Haskell, treasurer.

"The road reached Orlando the latter part of October, 1880, and regular daily service between Sanford and Orlando was begun November 15, 1880, connection being made at Sanford with boats on the St. Johns River. There was no railroad south of Jacksonville at this time and boat connection was maintained until 1886, when the Jacksonville, Tampa & Key West Railroad reached Sanford. In 1883 the Florida Midland Railway was incorporated and 45 miles of road was constructed from Lake Jesup to Kissimmee via Apopka. By the sudden death of the contractor of this road this company was thrown into litigation which was not finished for some years, when it was sold by order of the United States District Court and purchased by the Plant interests which had already control of the South Florida Railroad.

"The whole of Orange County increased rapidly after the construction of the South Florida Railroad and remained as a whole until 1913 when it was divided into two counties, Orange and Seminole.

"Longwood 'points with pride' to the fact that the whole development of this section of Florida was inaugurated by three Longwood citizens who, unaided, constructed the first railroad in this state after the Civil War, and who had the vision and the nerve to evolve and carry out a plan for such development in spite of the jeers and headshakings of the old railroad magnates in Jacksonville



and the opposition of pessimists among the citizens of Orange County."

Another pioneer to make the same trip in the same way was Mr. Mahlon Gore, who at a meeting of old settlers held in 1908, told of his advent to Orlando in 1880:

"I walked over from Sanford, taking two days to make the trip. The sand was deep and the last end of the road stretched out unaccountably long. At about the present intersection of Magnolia Avenue and Livingston Street, was a little house owned and occupied by a clergyman named Beveridge, pastor of the Presbyterian church. And a block to the east, discernible through the trees, was another, the home of E. W. Spier. No other buildings were in sight, but meeting a man on horseback, I inquired how far it was to Orlando; the man on horseback looked me over for several seconds, sized me up for a tenderfoot, and then replied, 'Why you d—— fool, you're in Orlando now.' There were just two houses in sight. I had come fourteen hundred miles to get to Orlando; I wanted to go home right then. But another quarter of a mile brought me in sight of the little wooden court house and a cluster of about a dozen buildings."

So much for the route by which, in the main, Orange County was reached and peopled from the world outside in the early days, and the aspect and state of development of the country northward from Orlando to Lake Monroe. But there were pioneers who came by other paths, and to other destinations than Orlando. West Orange was then, as it is now, a particularly attractive region, its soil fertile, its surface undulating and well-drained, its climate healthful, and already in the fifties it was attracting settlers, mainly from the southern states, some of them coming in caravans of ox-carts and mule teams and with their slaves, a sturdy stock. Clearing land about beautiful Lake Apopka, where the fine towns of Winter Garden, Ocoee and Oakland now stand, they devoted themselves to raising cotton, sugar cane, sweet potatoes and cattle—the Hudsons, the Ropers, the Simses, the Speerses, the Starkes and others.

To the eastward and southward of what is now Orlando, there stretched vast areas of land, to Kissimmee, Ft. Christmas and beyond, largely fiatwoods and much of it poorly drained, with a scanty and scattered population, and large herds of range cattle. There was some farming, but for the most part this region was devoted to the raising of cattle and hogs.

The history of Orange County will be found in detail in the chapters of this work which are devoted to the several cities and communities of the county; only certain outstanding facts relating to the area and population of the county, its political organization, and its development as a whole will be set down in this place.

#### AREA

The map on page 22 shows the limits of the county, its divisions into commissioners' districts, and its hard-surfaced roads, completed or projected, in the year 1927. The county has a maximum length, north and south, of thirty miles, and a maximum width of about forty-eight miles; it has an area, according to the Soil Survey of the federal Department of Agriculture, issued in 1922, of 899 square miles, or 575,360 acres.

#### POPULATION

The following table, compiled from the decennial reports of the federal census and the quinquennial reports of the state census, show the growth of the population from 1850 to 1925:

Year	Population
1850	466
1860	987
1870	2,195
1880	6,618
1885	14,400
1890	12,582
1895	12,459
1900	11,374
1905	13,591
1910	19,107
1915	15,397
1920	19,890
1925	38,325
1927	42,000 (est.)

It should be remembered in examining the foregoing table, that Volusia and Brevard Counties were organized and withdrawn from the territory of Orange County during the decade 1850-60, with a combined population of 1,404, that Osceola and Lake Counties were organized in the 80's with a combined population of 11,167, and that Seminole County was



organized in 1913 with a population of 9,483. The joint population of Orange, Volusia, Brevard, Osceola, Lake and Seminole Counties, all included in Orange County in 1850, was 466 at that time, as compared with a population of all these several counties in 1925, of 113,676 and of Orange County alone, of 38,325.

The facts to be especially noted regarding the movement of the population are, 1, its growth after the Civil War, during the 60's and 70's; its diminution after the "big freeze" of 1904-5 and the great and cumulative increase during the last two decades; it nearly doubled during the five years from 1920 to 1925.

A very interesting volume, preserved by Mr. A. C. Starbird of Apopka, is the "Orange County Gazetteer," published in 1887 by John R. Richards & Co., of Jacksonville, and issued by the Times-Union press. It is, the publishers proudly say, "the first County Directory ever published in the State of Florida." This Gazetteer includes a directory which purports to give a full list of the residents of all the towns and settlements in the county, and also a list of all business concerns, classified by towns.

The judicious historian will not vouch for the accuracy of all the information given in this ambitious book, but it helps to measure the changes, up and down—and mostly up—which two score years have wrought.

It gives the population of Orlando as 4,556; "within four years Orlando has thribled her then population," it affirms. The population of Sanford, then in Orange County, is not given, but one gathers from the directory that it may have been about 900. Kissimmee, then also in Orange County, had about 500 residents. The population of Apopka is given as 947; this figure must have been very gratifying to the people of Apopka, at that time, but it is perhaps less gratifying now, when one recalls that according to the state census of 1925, the population of Apopka was 1,005, a gain of fifty-eight in forty years! The publishers gratefully and rhetorically say that they "have experienced nowhere in the County of Orange a more liberal support and patronage, or a more hearty welcome, than Apopka has extended and shown, which illustrates to our satisfaction the merited worth and deserving success it has attained." Perhaps their gratitude for this warm welcome may have lead them to make a generous guess at the size of Apopka's population. Tavares which "bids fair to become a railroad center of great importance," is credited with a population of 697, and Winter Park with 613.

Longwood has 1,027 residents, with five churches, three hotels, eight stores, and a weekly newspaper, but less than sixty names are listed in the Longwood directory. Altamonte Springs is credited with a population of 347, of which only twelve appear in the directory. Maitland has 400 residents, Oakland 200, Ocoee 115, Oviedo 310, and Lake Charm 250. One



wonders how much territory was included within the limits of these several towns, and how the count was made.

The business directory is interesting and instructive. It lists only seventy-one real estate agents in the territory now covered by Orange, Osceola, Lake and Seminole Counties, as against approximately 2,600 in Orange County alone, in 1926. According to this directory, these four counties had only one horseshoer, G. E. Macy of Orlando; two dairies, one in Orlando and one in Winter Park; two music teachers, both in Orlando, one being F. N. Boardman; three news dealers, two of them in Orlando; sixteen newspapers, three of these in Orlando, the Daily Record, the South Florida Sentinel and the Southern Progress. There were fifteen lawyers in Orlando, and eleven physicians and surgeons. Winter Park, a small and healthy place, is credited with seven physicians and surgeons. There was only one stenographer in the county, he or she being in Orlando. Of saloons there were eleven, four of these in Orlando, and two pool rooms, one in Orlando and one in Winter Park. Orlando is credited with 21 hotels, and with about 120 of the 1,000 fruit and vegetable growers of the whole territory. Among these are such living or well-remembered citizens as W. R. Anno, A. G. Branham, F. N. Boardman, C. A. Boone, Joseph Bumby, James DeLaney, W. H. Holden, J. P. Hughey, W. B. Hull, the Rev. W. Keigwin, Presbyterian pastor, G. E. Macy, N. L. Miller, J. B. Parramore, E. W. Spier (postmaster), the Standard Oil Company, J. Summerlin and H. Sweetapple.

The public affairs of the county, as distinguished from the several communities, are transacted by four organizations, the Board of County Commissioners, the County School Board, the Courts and the County Chamber of Commerce; and to these may be added, as having a semi-public character, the newspaper press and the banking institutions.

#### POLITICAL ORGANIZATION

The Constitution of Florida, as amended at the general election of 1900, contains this clause:

"Immediately upon the ratification of this Amendment the County Commissioners of the several counties of the State shall divide the respective counties into five commissioners' districts, to be numbered respectively from 1 to 5 inclusive, and each district shall be as nearly as possible equal in proportion to population, and thereafter there shall be in each of such districts a County Commissioner, who shall be elected by the qualified electors of said county, at the time and place of voting for other county officers and shall hold his office for two years."



The Constitution also provides for the election of the following county officers, a clerk of the Circuit Court, a sheriff, constables, an assessor of taxes, a tax collector, a superintendent of public instruction, and a county surveyor.

In accordance with this provision of the Constitution, Orange County is divided into five districts, each of which has a representative on the Board of County Commissioners. These districts, however, as the map reveals, are strikingly unequal in area, and they are perhaps even more strikingly unequal in population. District No. 5, stretching eastward from near Orlando to the St. Johns river, with a very sparse population, has representation, and at least a nominal influence, on the Board equal to that of District No. 1, which includes Orlando and Winter Park. This seems to be hardly in accord with the terms and intent of the Constitution, and hardly fair or wise; and the disproportion seems likely greatly to increase as time goes on, unless the territory be re-districted.

The history of the county as a body politic prior to 1869 cannot now be written, and never hereafter can be written. All the official records covering the history of the county from its organization to the year 1868—the minutes of the meetings of the Board of County Commissioners and the County School Board, and the Court records—were reduced to ashes, with the exception of one or two books, by the fire which destroyed the court house in 1868, an immeasurable misfortune from the historic point of view, a misfortune all the greater because these records covered the vital and turbulent period of the establishment of the Confederacy, the Civil War and the early reconstruction days. Moreover, no newspaper files covering this period are extant, and there are very few persons still living whose memories reach back into and beyond the 1860's even if memory were a trustworthy source of information. The earliest history of Orange County has been swallowed in oblivion, and we must be content to begin the story with the year 1869.

However this seems to be the proper place to make note of three facts of prime interest belonging to the earlier time.

The county seat of Orange County, which had previously been at Enterprise, was removed to Orlando in 1856. There were three candidates for the place; Ft. Reed, where most of the business of the county was transacted; Apopka, then called the Lodge; and what was later called Orlando, Ft. Gatlin being the only point thereabouts which had arrived at the dignity of a name. The competition was lively, Judge J. G. Speer "bethought himself of the fact that the United States soldier was privileged to vote wherever he might be on election day, so he went to Sumter County, where a company of soldiers were



stationed, and persuaded a number of them to be here on that day, assuring them of a good picnic dinner. Before the noon hour the soldiers were on hand, and after enjoying the lovely dinner, remembered that they might vote here, which they did, thereby swelling the vote sufficiently for a victory."\* Whatever may be thought of the ethics of this transaction, it is interesting to remember that it was Judge Speer who not only gave its name to the settlement, but also made it the county seat.

A very interesting record which was not destroyed by the fire is that of a warranty deed given to the Board of County Commissioners on Oct. 5, 1857, by Mr. James G. Speer, acting under power of attorney for Mr. Benjamin F. Caldwell of Talladega County, Alabama, which conveys a tract of land . . . . "better known as the Town Plot of the village of Orlando, as the county site of Orange County, containing four acres more or less," the consideration being five dollars. This instrument was witnessed by Thomas H. Harris and John R. Worthington. Mr. Caldwell, an early store-keeper, appears to have owned eighty acres embracing the site of the present court house.

As has already been stated, the first court house, a two-story hewn-log affair, was burned in 1868. It was conjectured at the time that the fire was of incendiary origin, the intention being to destroy inconvenient, and perhaps incriminating records.

It has been generally understood that all books belonging to the county were destroyed by this fire, except one which had been carried to his home the previous night by the clerk of the Court; this was Deed Book D.

However, in rummaging through the shelves in the court house, the author has found one book of an earlier date which must also have been saved somehow, somewhere, and by someone; this is the Minutes of the Circuit Court for the Eastern Circuit, which then included Orange and St. Lucie Counties. The first entry in this book is dated April 20, 1847, more than eighty years ago; the record continued to November 18, 1863, with six blank pages, begins again in 1866, and continues through the Special Term of July, 1869.

This is the first entry: "This being the day appointed by law for the holding of the Spring Term of the Circuit Court for the counties of Orange and St. Lucie in the Eastern Circuit of Florida, Peter G. Hyrne Clerk and John Simpson, Sheriff of said County, attended at the court house in Mellonville in said county and the Judge thereof (Thos. Douglas) not being in attendance the court was adjourned pursuant to the Statute to 12m tomorrow." This Judge Douglas had been elected Judge of the Eastern Circuit in 1845; the year in which Florida was admitted to the Union and Orange County con-

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\*Mrs. S. S. Griffin, in a paper read before Sorosis, June 16, 1923.



stituted, and was afterward the first Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. He was, I believe, a Connecticut Yankee, had been in business in the territory of Indiana, and settled in St. Augustine in 1829.

In the Fall Term, Gregory Yale (elsewhere spelled Yeall), Felix Livingston, and George R. Fairbanks were "admitted and enrolled as Counsellors of law and solicitors in chancellery of the Circuit court of Orange and St. Lucie Counties, they having conformed to the rule of this Court." Two other names were added April 4, 1854, those of James B. Dawkins and Geo. W. Hawkins. It seems likely that this Geo. R. Fairbanks was the distinguished scholar and publicist of that name who was born in New York in 1820, lived in St. Augustine and Fernandina, served in the Confederate Army, and wrote the History of Florida which is still a standard work.

At the April Term of 1849, Judge Douglas makes the following elaborate and handsome apology, and causes it to be enscribed in the Minutes:

"To all whom it may concern be it known that I Thos. Douglas Judge of said Court took passage in the Steamboat Sarah Spaulding which left Jacksonville on Monday morning the 16th inst., for this place, that said Boat is the only one which plies between the said places and affords the only opportunity of getting up to Mellonville the seat of Justice where said court is required to be holden for the Counties aforesaid, that I took passage in time to have arrived in season to have opened the Court on the 1st day of the present term, had not said boat been detained, that said Boat was detained waiting for the mail at Palatka & by a fog between Palatka and this place so that it was impossible for me to arrive here in time to hold the court on Tuesday the 1st day of the term but is was holden on Wednesday the second day of the term and the business transacted, and it is further ordered that the same be recorded on the Minutes of said court."

Similar explanations and apologies are made by Judge Douglas at the Fall Term 1849—which, by the way, was opened by prayer by Judge Douglas, a commendable example—and again in the Spring Term of 1851. Manifestly, transportation on the St. Johns river was at that time irregular and uncertain.

On April 18, 1849, the Grand Jury presented to the court the following minutes: "We, the Grand Jury of Orange and St. Lucie Counties beg leave to offer to the Hon. Thos. Douglas, Judge in our counties, our cordial thanks for his services as Presiding Judge, also the same to our solicitor and officers of the Court in General, and further we feel ourselves thankful that having no further business before us we retire from this Court trusting that we shall continue to see the laws of our state and of our country continue in the peaceable stand that we at present boast of."



At the close of the Fall Term of 1849, the Grand Jury submitted the following statement:

"That inhabiting one of the most exposed and defenseless frontier Counties they were among the first to feel the pressure of the disastrous circumstances which have occurred in consequence of the hostile demonstration of a portion of the Seminole Indians resulting in the brutal murder of one of our most valued and respected citizens, Mr. James Barker, in the mutilation of Major Russel and the depopulation of the entire county of St. Lucie.

"That under these circumstances driven from their homes and forced to huddle together in hasty defenses we urged our defenseless condition upon the governor of our state who made answer to our earnest entreaties and with a promptness dictated by the highest virtue of humanity and patriotism sent forward for our protection a force of Volunteers aided by whose presence we have been enabled to save our property and continue our avocations.

"That we cannot too gratefully approve the prompt action of our Executive and we do earnestly in this public manner request our Senators and Representatives in Congress to urge upon the justice and humanity of that body the speedy payment by the Government of the volunteers so called into service.

"That the Seminoles now remaining in Florida were permitted to remain in the state against the wishes of our people and that we have increasingly desired these dangerous neighbors to be removed from our borders, that the neglect to do so hitherto has been productive of great injury to our county and state and that our prospects as a people are utterly paralyzed by the present state of affairs."

On April 2, 1851, is this minute: "In consequence of the inebriety of Nicholas Shepherd, a Petty Juror, rendering him unfit to perform the duties of a Juror, It is ordered that the Sheriff take into custody said Shepherd and to keep him secure from all intoxicating drinks until tomorrow at 9 o'clock."

There were numerous trials for assault and battery, assault with intent to kill, murder, larceny, adultery, fornication, divorce, retailing spiritual liquors without a license, slander and so forth.

On April 5, 1859, the Judge in remanding a certain convict to jail, orders that "there being no Jail now in the county of Orange nor any nearer than Ocala in the County of Marion, the Sheriff is ordered to convey said convict to the Ocala Jail for safe-keeping."

At the close of the Fall Term of 1859, the Grand Jury, which seems to have had the homiletic habit, said: "1st We have much to be thankful for in



point of health, Having enjoyed unprecedented health in the length and breadth of our County. While we have plenty of the good things of life, yet we are constrained to confess that our public morals are not so good as we could desire to see, still as good as is generally to be found in most counties."

These were "the good old times;" the Judge leads in prayer, and the Grand Jury has the spirit of the moralist, the censor and the prophet. Nevertheless the county seems to have been something less than a Paradise; human nature and the vexatious problems of community life seem to be much the same always.

Another interesting fact, however, which occurred in this period, may be set down here; when on January 10, 1861, the secession convention which had been called by Governor Perry voted that all political connection between Florida and the government of the United States "ought to be, and the same is hereby annulled, and said union of states dissolved," the representative of Orange County, Hon. William W. Woodruff, voted Nay, with six other courageous delegates, out of a total vote of 69. Mr. Woodruff was the father of Mr. Seth Woodruff of Orlando, (see biographical sketch in Part Two of this work.)

#### THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

The records of the Board of County Commissioners begin with the year 1870, and are continued without break to the present time. They are embodied in ten ponderous volumes, well-preserved, but the ink in places poor and faded, the handwriting difficult to decipher, and the language and grammar often unique. These records have been diligently searched for the purposes of this study.

The first volume of these records begins with a list of the qualified voters of the county, mostly registered during the year 1870, and a few during the two preceding years. The whole number of registered voters at that time is given as 494, which seems astonishingly small in relation to the immense territory then covered by the county, and its population. But the negroes, though counted in the census, were not enrolled as electors, the days of women's suffrage had not yet arrived, and it is likely that a considerable number of men of voting age did not take the trouble to qualify as voters.

The minutes of the first meeting are dated September 24, 1869. There were present, David Mizell, president of the Board, A. H. Stockton, clerk, Hugh S. Partin, John Tanner, and M. M. Mizell, sheriff. Fixing the date of the burning of the old court house, and indicating the real estate values of the time, it was voted to pay \$10 per month rent for the house occupied by the clerk and Judge of Probate, pending the completion of the new court



house, and it was ordered—perhaps in the hope of rendering another fire less likely—that the doors of the court house “be kept locked all the time and used for public meetings, holding courts and preaching, and for no other purpose.” On January 15, 1870, it was voted that the clerk “be paid the sum of seventy-one dollars and nine cents for services rendered as Clerk of the Board and other services as per bill filed for the years 1868 and 1869”—truly, a sumptuous salary.

On February 4, 1871, an account is noted of twenty dollars paid for “rent of house for the use of the Circuit and other courts of the county, and for horse-hire and a hand furnished for the use of the court at the fall term.”

The amount due the county for taxes on the assessment rolls for the year 1870 is given as \$1,662.57, and the back taxes due as \$729.97, a total available for expenses, provided it was all collected, of \$2,382.54. It was voted that the “Election Precinct be removed from the Lodge (now Apopka) and the said Precinct be established at Clay Springs in Orange County;” also, that election precincts be established in the store of I. F. I. Mitchell at Lake Jesup, and in the home of Henry H. Hodges in the vicinity of Lake Taylor.

At a meeting held July 26, 1870, the following action was taken:

“It is hereby ordered by the Board that the Road Commissioners on the publick road leading from Orlando and Mellonville be required to summon all the hands as herein directed Mess. M. J. Doyle and David Hartly be required to summon all the hands in and around Mellonville, Mess. M. M. Mizell and James P. Hughey be required to summon all the hands to the west of said road from Soldier Creek bridge to Orlando and south of Orlando that are subject to road duty, and they are required to instruct their overseers to summon said hands and notify them of what kind of a tool to bring to work with. Both parties on each end of the road will meet at Soldier Creek bridge on Thursday the eighteenth day of August and build a good and substantial bridge across said creek and then work on each end of the road.”

On March 4, 1871, it was ordered that “a public road be opened from Orlando to Ft. Christmas by the nearest and most practicable route,” and Messrs. Wilson R. Simmons and John R. A. Tucker were appointed commissioners to attend to the matter.

On February 7, 1872, James G. Speer was elected chairman of the Board and J. P. Hughey clerk; Judge Speer resigned, however, in the following November.



In June, 1872, James G. Speer was elected chairman of the Board.

The financial condition of the county is set forth thus: "County Tax Assessment for 1871, \$4,963.02; uncollected, \$1,800; County debt exceeds \$4,000." It was voted to paint the court house "for a sum not to exceed one hundred and twenty-five dollars to be paid in scrip bearing 8% interest, but not receivable until the present indebtedness of the county shall have been paid."

In 1872, a jail was built at a cost of \$1,650 on a lot which cost fifty dollars; later, a house for the jailer and a wall about the two buildings were erected for \$475.

The new court house seems to have buzzed in those early days, as in later times. The first court house was burned in 1868 and the second one was "received" from the contractor on September 25, 1869, and "thirty dollars allowed him for extra work." This structure is said to have cost \$1,250. The need of a new court house was being agitated.

A highly interesting episode which is not mentioned in the records, may be referred to here.

There was issued in Orlando in 1906 for a short time only a newspaper called the Democrat, J. Holland Starbuck, editor and publisher. In Vol. 1, number 22, of this paper, which Mrs. J. H. Davet has preserved, was printed an article entitled, "Echoes of Dead Days," which gives an account of a struggle between General Sanford and Jacob Summerlin to secure the proposed court house for the thriving town of Sanford or the straggling and struggling settlement of Orlando. Some extracts from this interesting story are quoted here:

"At the time of which we write, Orlando was duly, by the selection of proper authorities, the seat of county government and the lawful location of the court house, yet it was scarcely more a town and had prospects probably less bright to the ordinary eye, than have some of the country postoffices of the county today which are located far from the nearest railroad and have absolutely no apparent prospects of noticeable growth, yet to the eyes of Mr. Jacob Summerlin the town had the brightest of prospects.

"It was at this time that General Sanford, former American Consul to the Court of Belgium, and a very pompous northern gentleman, followed the course of the St. Johns river from Jacksonville to Mellonville. . . . In 1875, he looked upon his work and saw that it was good, for he had built a town that in those days was a model for the section in which it was located, and then he dreamed his dream, and saw a city beside the blue waters of Lake Monroe, a city such as Orange County had never known, and in his dreams, that city which bore his name was the county seat, the home



of county officials, the business center of affairs. He dreamed his dream and laid his plans to make the vision real. The county seat must be moved from Orlando, that little backwoods settlement, located among the pine forests, blue lakes, and low rolling hills some twenty-two miles to the south, and located at Sanford, so certain to become the great city of southern Florida.

"So the matter stood when the Board of County Commissioners met in Orlando to make their final decision.

"General Sanford came to the county seat to be present at the meeting and to personally make his offer to the Board. He came confident of success, certain of victory. When he arrived in the little town, he went at once to the Summerlin Hotel, which stood near where it stands today. Mr. Summerlin sat on the porch, smoking a corn-cob pipe, dressed in rough clothing, a blue flannel shirt, coarse trousers and heavy shoes. The General gave him one glance as he crossed the porch and entered the office, swinging a heavy gold-headed cane. He was a pompous man, dressed in the most correct styles of the day, with a high silk hat and spotless linen. At the desk in the office sat Mr. A. N. Harrington, clerk of the hotel, and it was to him that General Sanford addressed his first words, 'Where can I find this gentleman, this Mr. Jacob Summerlin, who I am informed, dares to oppose me in my efforts to locate the county seat of Orange County in the town of Sanford? I, Sir, am General Sanford,' all of which was spoken in a voice plainly audible to Mr. Summerlin. Mr. Harrington took the General to the porch and introduced the two gentlemen. The surprise of the general was apparent but his words were spoken in a most cordial manner. He asked what objection Mr. Summerlin could possibly raise to the change in question. He pointed out the advantages which he really believed would be derived from the movement; he argued, he explained, he grew eloquent, as he drew a verbal picture of the wonderful growth which would surely come to Sanford within a few short years, and through it all Mr. Summerlin sat, an attentive listener, a courteous kindly gentleman, yet a man with a mind of his own, who had pondered the matter and who had drawn his own conclusions, and who would stand by them to the very end.

"Next day, the Commissioners met in Orlando and before them appeared General Sanford and Mr. Jacob Summerlin. When the subject came up, General Sanford rose and addressed the Commissioners, every one of whom he had met and talked with personally previous to the meeting. He explained his proposition, he stated the case, he was eloquent, he was forceful, he was generous, he offered land and money—money, the scarcest article of the land—and



when he took his seat it is said that there was not one member of the body not ready to accept his offer. It was then that Mr. Summerlin spoke for the first time during the meeting. First, he asked if Gen. Sanford had finished his offer, if he had anything further to say, to which came the General's reply that he had finished, 'then,' said Mr. Summerlin, 'I will make my offer. The County has its land for the court house here in Orlando; leave this point the county seat and I will build a \$10,000 court house, and if the county is ever able to pay me for it, all right, and if not, I won't ask to be repaid.'

"It is needless to say that the offer was accepted. The \$10,000 was repaid, but not for ten long years."

And now, to recur to the minutes of the Board of County Commissioners. Messrs. Frances Foster, W. R. Brown and John Dobb were appointed a committee to "draw plans and specifications for a court house. The building is to be Constructed of Wood and to contain Seven Offices and a Court Room; the Court Room to be sufficiently large to seat five hundred persons, a Brick Vault to be built in the Clerk's Office for containing the Safe." Mr. W. R. Brown's plans and specifications were accepted, for which he received twenty-five dollars. Sealed proposals were invited through the South Florida Journal and the Weekly Union, and on December 8 the contract was awarded to Mr. A. M. Hyer for \$7,800 in Orange County bonds. Court House Number two was sold at "public outcry" in February of 1875, to Mr. C. C. Beasley for \$611.50, "to be removed from present site at once, and to be used by County Officers until completion of new Court House now under contract."

The building of the new court house seems to have been a lingering achievement. By November of 1875, a few of the offices were being used and a watchman was employed to guard the building, at fifty dollars a month. It was not until February 7, 1876, that the building was "accepted" and rooms assigned to various officers and judges, the "S. W. Room for the Grand Jury and Rooms in the Attic for the Petit Jury." An item in the minutes for October, 1877, records the fact that the old court house had not been paid for, and it was sold by the county for \$500 to Jacob Summerlin.

"The Church" was given permission to hold public services in the court room, and the "Benevolent Dramatic Association of Orange County" to erect a stage for a performance; later, the Good Templars and other organizations also met in the court house.

A good deal is said about paupers and criminals in the records of the 70's. Paupers were boarded with those who would take them, the county paying from twenty to forty dollars a month for their care. The County Judge is asked to investigate the conditions of certain persons soliciting help, and he "is hereby requested to punish such of said persons as are vagrants and bind



out such of them as are minors." Mention is made of the county paying \$300 for the amputation of a leg and the subsequent care of one of these dependents, in the home of Dr. W. A. Shelby.

Rewards of from fifty to two hundred dollars for the apprehension of murderers and criminals are surprisingly frequent. In 1876, it was ordered that the sheriff should be permitted to use the county convicts for county work, and that "he be allowed to hire out said Convicts at 25 cts. per day and their Board, first taking good and sufficient security for their Safe Keeping." The jail was constantly needing repair, and there were frequent additions of cells, with much complaint of the sort of housekeeping which the quarters received.

Road-making was even at the earliest recorded time the chief interest of Orange County. Each of the eleven districts into which the county was divided had its road commissioner, whose duty it was not only to keep the public highways in good repair, but who must also locate and pass upon the opening of new roads. It is several times recorded that these commissioners were notified "to put the roads in good repair at once, or they will be reported to the States Attorney for prosecution according to Law." Hundreds of petitions for the opening of public roads, and the taking over of private roads by the county are on record, and one wonders why a community so scant in population needed such a criss-cross of publicly supported roads, when travel through the piney woods was so easy and so pleasant. Each petition to open a road aroused long and bitter opposition, and often obstructions were built by the protestants and the law had to be called in to settle the vexed question. Opening a new road meant simply the cutting down of the trees and the filling up of holes by throwing in sand from the sides. As late as 1896, after the roads had been worked by contract, the "specifications for work on Public Roads" read as follows: to be "Kept clear palmetto and other roots, trees, bushes, etc., for a width of eight feet. Low places to be causewayed, poles 16 ft long, well covered with dirt. Sand kept off bridges." The contracts were let at prices ranging from \$300 to \$750 a year, depending on the length of the road. Innumerable bridges were built, repaired and rebuilt. It was not until 1890, that the order was passed that "all timber used for bridges be creosoted as a measure of economy and safety."

Ferries across the Wekiwa and St. Johns rivers and the Econlockhatchee creek were chartered and licensed to various persons; the tolls were about the same generally as for that of the Wekiwa ferry at Montgomery's crossing in 1877, which were as follows:



Four horses or oxen and team .....	\$ 1.00
Three horses or oxen and team .....	1.00
Two horses or oxen and team .....	.75
One horse or ox and team .....	.40
Saddle horse and rider .....	.25
Foot passenger .....	.25
Cow, calf, sheep, goat or hog .....	.10

Expenses for the county for the year ending December 31, 1874, were \$9,998.98; among the items were, maintenance of prisoners, \$1,607.02; criminal prosecutions, \$1,405.75; public buildings and bridges, \$2,507.49; fees of county officers, \$1,037.32; assessing and collecting taxes, \$1,034.75; Board of Commissioners, \$324.98; and general election, \$275.65.

The taxes assessed for the year 1874 were: County tax proper, \$4,163.48; County tax special, \$2,324.28; licenses, \$417.50; and county school tax, \$3,098.30—a total of \$10,003.66.

The development of the county seems to have gone forward steadily during the decade 1880-90, roads and schools claiming much attention. There was a general increase in the value of property, especially of orange groves. In 1881, the contract was made for a county map, at a cost of \$720, the map to show all state and United States entries of lands up to March 1, 1882. The court house was the center of the county community life, being used for church services, lodge meetings, political gatherings, brass-band practice, and as a skating rink. A petition, signed by a majority of the registered voters, led in 1883 to the issuing of licenses to sell liquor in the county, and the commissioners were overwhelmed with applications; this innovation may have led to the need for a new jail, which was built in 1884 at a cost of \$10,700; this jail stood on the west side of Orange Avenue at Washington Street, and was sold, with the lot, to Mr. Braxton Beacham in 1916 for \$20,000, when the present jail at Wall and Court Streets was built at a contract price of \$11,000.

In 1885, a northern visitor who owned one hundred and fifty acres of land on Lake Concord, sent an elaborate address to the commissioners, rehearsing the beauties of Orlando and its promising future, but regretting that the court house should be located in a congested part of the town and with no park about it. Confident that he owned the ground which in the near future would be the center of a new and finer Orlando, he offered the county a large plot upon which to erect a court house, with substantial financial help in gifts and loans; a municipal building was also to be erected in this place. The Board, in declining the offer, said that the titles to that part of the original tract which had been sold were valid only as long as the court house stood on some part of this plot; if it were moved away, the entire property would revert to the heirs of the donor. Whether this contention was correct or not,



does not appear from any records which have been consulted; at any rate, it was effective.

Four years' experience with saloons brought a demand for an election in September of 1887, "to determine whether or not Spirituous, Vinous, or Malt Liquors should be sold in the County of Orange;" we may as well dispose at once of this much-voted upon question by presenting the following table which shows the comings and goings of the saloon in Orange County.

Year	For Selling	Against Selling
1887	1,196	1,496
1889	1,171	718
1898	517	551
1900	276	328
1902	624	437
1907	589	592
1911	1,104	1,231

Anticipating, probably, an exciting event which occurred as a farewell to the 1880's, the commissioners went on record in September of 1889, in favor of erecting a brick court house, thus giving notice as to what was in store for the town which should win in the agitation then in progress for a change of the county seat from Orlando to Sanford.

The election occurred December 18, 1889, and resulted in 1,907 votes for Orlando, 724 for Sanford, and a few scattered votes for favorite home towns.

In April of 1890, advertisements were published in the Manufacturers Records of Baltimore and several other papers, inviting designs for a brick court house for the county. Fourteen plans were submitted from eight different states, and the first choice was given to the plan submitted by Mr. A. S. Wagner of Williamsport, Pennsylvania. It was not until the following February, that bids for building the court house were invited; all the first bids were rejected, and a second advertisement was published. On August 5, 1891, the bid of the W. C. Green Company of Chicago, for \$54,937, was accepted. The vault was to cost \$522 extra, and the architect received \$1,648.11, plus his expenses to Orlando, which amounted to \$93.20. About \$6,000 went into the furniture, and the Board contributed \$300 toward the clock for the bell tower, the City Council and private citizens making up the full sum.

The old court house was sold to Mr. J. L. Bryan for \$600, and was to be moved to another site. The offices were moved to the Armory Building, the county paying \$400 for the use of the building "if the Court House is finished by January, 1893." The City Council agreed to give to the county



that part of Wall Street "lying North of the Court House except not less than twenty feet on the north side." A previous act of the Board had given permission to the property owners to "close that part of Court Street north of Oak and portion of Oak east of Main on the original plan of the town of Orlando, so far as the county has any right of way thereover by reason of its ownership of the Court House property."

On February 7, 1888, a committee appointed to consider the "feasibility of establishing a poor farm" reported in a remarkable document, partly sermon, partly exhortation, largely sentimental, concerning the duty of the community toward its poor and unfortunate. The committee recommended that eighty acres of land, close to the town, be secured by gift or purchase for a "poor farm," and that a superintendent's house, a hospital, and two cottages for white and colored adults, should be built; \$3,000 was the estimated cost of the building.

Two years later, in March of 1890, the land where the County Home now stands was purchased from M. Virginia Shine for \$2,100. The first buildings were not erected until the Spring of 1892, at a cost of \$1,300, and it was ordered that the institution should be known as the County Home. Mr. A. J. White was the first warden, at a salary of \$450. There was an orange grove on the property, and peach and pecan trees were added, one hundred each, and one hundred grapevines. The records show constant solicitude for the care of this institution and the welfare of its inmates. The hospital was built in 1922, and the nurse was paid ten dollars a month.

On the grounds of the County Home there were subsequently built two cottages for the Parental Home, one for boys and one for girls, at a cost of \$13,490. This excellent institution grew out of the notable work of the Juvenile Court, which was established in 1921; Mr. Donald A. Cheney was appointed as Judge, he having served as the first probation officer of the county for a year.

The tax levy in 1892 had risen to \$53,155.22. The first mention of persons being given permission to carry repeating rifles occurs in the records for 1892; also the first mention of regulations for the protection of deer.

In 1895, Messrs. Mahlon Gore of Orlando, Dudley W. Adams of Tangerine, and Dr. J. J. Harris of Sanford, were appointed a committee to prepare and publish a booklet "setting forth the advantages offered by Orange County to settlers and industries," to be distributed at the Cotton States and International Exposition in Atlanta that year, and an appropriation of \$300 was made for that purpose; this seems to have been the first publicity publication by the county, so far as these records show.

Permission was granted to Mr. John M. Lennon in 1895, to erect a system of telephone poles and wires along the public highways of the county.

"Occupational taxes" were assessed for the first time in 1895.



The Good Roads Movement was launched in the Spring of 1896, and is heralded in a resolution presented on May 5, by a committee of the Board which had been appointed to inspect the work on the road from Winter Park toward Orlando, upon which the citizens of Winter Park had spread a layer of clay, and also some shell road, not designated.

The committee commended the "recent experiments which public-spirited citizens have been making with clay and shell," and recommended that the Board take steps to assist in this work. In August of 1896, the Board ordered the levy of a tax of three mills for a special fund for "putting clay, shell or other hard substance upon the public roads of the county." The tax was expected to yield about \$11,000, and the county was to pay one-half the cost of these improvements, if the communities would arrange for the other half. The clay was to be five inches thick in the center of the road, after rolling. The following scale of pay was adopted: first-class double team and driver, \$3.75 a day; single team and driver, \$2.25; laboring men, \$1. Land on which clay was found seems to have varied in price from twenty-five to seventy-five dollars per acre, and the whole county fell to hauling clay and spreading it on the road.

The commissioners passed a resolution in 1897, urging the citizens to plant shade trees, "especially along the newly-improved highways," and asked the press "to give prominence to this matter." A Good Roads Congress was held in Orlando the same year. The Board decided that after January 1, 1898, the county would construct its own hard-surfaced roads, and voted to employ a competent person as foreman at fifty dollars a month, with an assistant at thirty dollars; the county convicts were to do the work, as far as possible. Mules, horses, wagons, tents, camping outfits, et cet., were purchased, Messrs. H. H. Dickson and H. K. Fuller being the committee to procure the outfit. A feature of these highways was the bicycle path which was built, and which paralleled the roads in many cases, along the edge of the woods; one of these followed the east road from Orlando to Winter Park, and returned by the west road, affording very delightful outing for the bicyclists.

The roads and bridges tax soared to six mills, and by 1908 there were 150 miles of hard-surfaced roads in the county.

The Orlando Water and Light Company, through Hon. J. M. Cheney, secretary, asked permission in 1908, which was granted, to erect poles and wires along the public highways between the pumping station and Orlando and Winter Park, the franchise to continue for twenty years.

Several attempts were made by the county in the early 90's to buy Rock Spring for the purpose of using the rock deposit on the roads, and although the price offered rose from \$600 to \$1,000 for "certain privileges," and although the owner was willing to sell even when the price was \$600, the obstinate wife refused to sign on the dotted line, and thus saved for Orange County one of the beauty spots of Florida, now the Howard A. Kelly Park.



The commissioners issued an address to the people in the summer of 1910, reviewing the road-building operations of the county for the previous fifteen years, during which time the roads had been constructed from material found in the county, clay and marl. The best of these materials had been used up, and the roads were so unsatisfactory as to amount to a waste of money. The commissioners asked for a bond issue of \$1,000,000, for the building of brick roads, nine feet wide with curbs, at a cost of \$8,000 a mile; the election was held December 7, 1910, and resulted in a vote of 602 for the bond issue, and 1,357 against it. A Good Roads Mass Meeting was held in September of 1913, and the bond election which occurred on November 11 of that year resulted in a vote of 785 to 239 in favor of bonding the county for \$600,000—\$500,000 for brick, and \$100,000 for clay roads.

A second mass-meeting in the interest of a bond issue, held in the court room June 5, 1921, enthusiastically endorsed a program calling for a bond issue of \$2,500,000 for roads, and \$150,000 for enlarging the court house; the election was held on July 19, and was carried by a vote of 1,445 to 196; this added thirteen mills to the county taxes for meeting interest charges and providing a sinking-fund.

The project to enlarge the court house was abandoned as not feasible, and in February of 1924, the county bought the property known as Bishopstead from the Endowment Fund Corporation of the Diocese of South Florida, for \$250,000, and the city of Orlando bought the court house property for \$137,000.

Mr. Murray King's plans for the new court house were accepted before his death in September of 1925, and his son has superintended the erection of the noble building. The first shovelful of dirt was thrown out for the foundation by Captain B. M. Robinson on May 4, 1926, and the building was accepted on September 5, 1927. The building with furniture, cost \$825,000; the total cost, including the lot, was approximately a million dollars.

Another mass-meeting of citizens on February 9, 1926, resolved on a bond issue of \$7,000,000 for hard-surfaced roads; the election was held March 26, 1926, and resulted in a vote of 993 for, and 143 against.

In view of the fact that several tracts of land had been deeded to the county for park purposes, the office of Park Commissioner was created in June of 1926; Mr. Wilbur Warren was made Park Commissioner.

One has only to compare the following table of millages for the year 1927 with that of the earliest records given in this History, to understand what growth Orange County has made in the short space of less than sixty years, and how great a burden of taxation the citizens of the county have voluntarily assumed, to promote this growth:



## Millage for 1927-28

	Mills
General revenue fund .....	5
Fine and forfeiture .....	1
Publicity fund .....	1
First bond issue .....	1½
Second bond issue .....	4
Third bond issue .....	7½
Court House issue .....	5
Schools .....	10
	<hr/>
Total	42 mills
State and County taxes .....	7½
	<hr/>
Grand Total	49½ mills

In addition to the foregoing, the Special Tax School District taxes range from three to seventeen mills.

The following have served as chairmen of the Board of County Commissioners during the period under review: David Mizell, 1869-72; James G. Speer, 1872-73; William H. Holden, 1873-76; John R. Mizell, 1876-77; James G. Speer, 1877-78; James M. Owens, 1878-81; Dr. King Wylley, 1881-85; Clinton Johnson, 1885-87; B. F. Whitner, 1887-90; C. E. Smith, 1890-93; A. C. Martin, 1893-94; J. A. McDowell, 1894-95; J. N. Whitner, 1895-97; H. H. Dickson, 1897-1908; J. H. Lee, 1908-11; M. O. Overstreet, 1911-20; Arthur Schultz, 1920-25 and L. L. Payne, 1925-27.

The present county officials are as follows:

Board of County Commissioners: Messrs. L. L. Payne, Orlando, chairman; S. S. Sadler, Tangerine; W. T. Chapman, Winter Garden; Col. R. M. Shearer, Pinecastle; C. E. Barber, Fort Christmas; Captain B. M. Robinson, clerk.

Bond Trustees: Messrs. W. H. Reynolds, Orlando, chairman; Mayor J. B. Steinmetz, Wekiwa Springs; Mr. J. H. Sadler, Oakland.

Circuit Court: F. A. Smith, judge; Captain B. M. Robinson, clerk.

Criminal Court of Record: W. L. Tilden, judge; Mr. W. DeLaney Way, clerk.

County Court: Victor Hutchins, judge; Mr. W. DeLaney Way, clerk.

Juvenile Court: D. A. Cheney, judge.

Sheriff's organization: Mr. Frank Karel, sheriff and deputies; Mr. E. A. Taylor, chief of traffic department, with five traffic officers.





Orlando, Municipal Auditorium, A. C. L. Railway Station, County Court House

Photos. by Robinson



Tax Assessor—Mr. Arthur Butt.

Tax Collector—Mr. W. M. Martin.

County Engineer—Major C. E. Browne.

County Surveyor—Mr. E. E. White.

County Home—Mr. John F. Harris, superintendent.

County Parental Home—Mr. M. J. Hardy, superintendent; with a Board of Governors; connected with the Juvenile Court.

County Physician—Dr. C. D. Christ.

County Demonstration Agent—Mr. K. C. Moore.

County Home Demonstration Agent—Mrs. Nellie W. Taylor.

#### THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The history of Orange County, like the history of all other American communities and of the nation, is in large part the history of its common schools. Next to the family, the school, and especially the free public school as it exists in this country, is the most vital and formative factor in developing the life of the people. Here all the children and youth of both sexes, at the impressionable age, gather from homes, native and immigrant, Christian and Jewish and infidel, rich and poor, and not only receive instruction and acquire the knowledge which is power, but are also mingled intimately together as companions in study and sport, and are played upon by a single set of creative and compelling intellectual and social forces which tend to blend them into one living body. The public school is also the focus of community interest as no other institution is, the central point to which the minds and hearts of fathers and mothers daily turn, from the palace and the hut, from the store and factory and office and home—for where the treasure is, there will the heart be also. No doubt, private and parochial schools have their place in supplementing and stimulating the common schools.

As a background of the history of the public schools of Orange County, the following account of public education in the state is quoted from Caroline Mays Brevard's *History of Florida*:

"The first interest in public education manifested in Florida was the organization of the Florida Educational Society in 1831 for the declared purpose of collecting information and paving the way for the establishment of a school system . . . . In 1839 the Legislature provided for three trustees in each township whose duty it was to look after the sixteenth section, which had been appropriated by Congress for educational purposes,



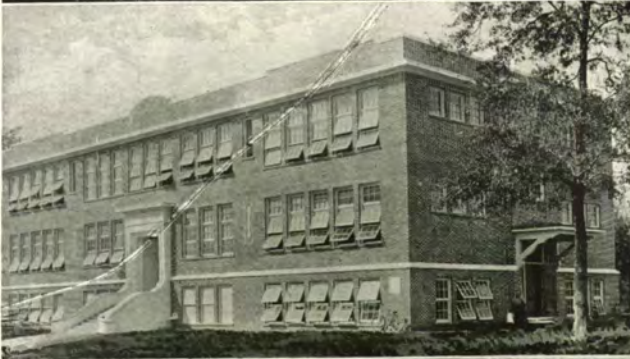
and to see that the rents were applied to the common schools. As most of the townships had no residents whatever, and there was little, if any, opportunity to rent lands in the sixteenth or any other section, this provision had little meaning. Various changes in the school law of the Territory were made from time to time. At one time it was the duty of the sheriff 'to attend to the education of the children of the poor,' and later, in 1845, the county judges of probate were given charge of the school interests. . . . Up to this time there was little interest in public education, but Congress now authorized the sale of school lands, and the register of public lands was made *ex-officio* superintendent of common schools. . . . Public schools had been regarded theretofore as 'pauper schools'. The people of the better class considered themselves disgraced if their children attended the public school, and the less enlightened class cared nothing for the opportunities. . . . In 1853, there were reported 16,573 white children of school age in the state and an appropriation of \$5,031.07 of public school funds for their education—thirty cents per capita. The constitutional convention of 1865 gave the subject little recognition, but in 1868 another convention was held, and the resulting constitution provided liberally for a system of public education. It declared that the state should provide for the education of all children of school age, established a uniform system of county schools, provided for state and county superintendence of public instruction, and established a state school fund.

"In 1885, a new constitution was adopted which not only preserved all the desirable features of the educational article in the constitution of 1868, but made several important steps forward, among them being the provision that any community may levy a special district tax, and that every county must levy a school tax of not less than three mills and not more than five mills."

Later, laws were enacted permitting a county tax of seven mills, and then of ten mills.

The history of public instruction in Orange County is told in part in the chapters of this work which are devoted to the several cities and towns of the county; here it must suffice to trace this history in outline as it is found in the records of the County Board of Public Instruction. Unfortunately, these records, as all other official records prior to the year 1869, were destroyed by the fire which burned down the first courthouse; we begin with the minutes of the Board meeting of this year.





Orange County School Houses



The Board of Public Instruction met at the courthouse, December 11, 1869, "for the purpose of organizing said board." Mr. W. C. Roper was elected chairman, Mr. A. C. Caldwell and Mr. Z. H. Mason were the other members present, and Mr. W. A. Lovell was elected county superintendent and secretary of the Board. The one item of business transacted was the passing of a resolution that "each member of the Board shall be constituted an examining committee in his neighborhood to examine the qualifications of teachers and to grant certificates of competency."

The Board did not meet again until May 27, 1871, when, in addition to Mr. Roper and Mr. Caldwell, there were present Mr. M. W. Prince and Mr. James P. Hughey. Mr. Hughey was elected treasurer of the Board and "ordered to make requisition upon the Comptroller for the sum now due for the scholastic years of 1869-'70-'71." The schools in the county at this time were: Mellonville, with fifty pupils; Orlando, with thirty pupils; the Lodge, with twenty-five pupils; Blackwater, with fifteen pupils; Lake Jesup, with fifteen pupils; and Cross Prairie, with fifteen pupils, a total of one hundred and fifty pupils. The Board voted to "levy a tax of one-tenth of one per cent on all taxable property" for school purposes.

The teachers received one dollar a month for each pupil, and the term was three months long, this term being taught at any time during the year, at the convenience of the teacher and trustees.

It is evident that there were many private schools in the county, and these were converted into public schools from time to time upon application of the teacher—and probably proprietor—the teacher appearing before the Board for examination and acceptance. During the early seventies, schools were authorized at Ft. Mason, Shingle Creek, Benton's Prairie, the Point, Lake Conway, Lake Tracey, one "in the neighborhood of Henry Overstreet's," and others "near Isaac Winegord's" "near Mr. Robert Bass' residence" and "in the vicinity of Foster's store." Among the teachers of these early days were, N. W. Prince, Dr. E. R. Prince, Captain B. M. Sims and Messrs. C. A. Boone, J. Jacob, J. J. Davis, R. N. S. Byrne, C. Russ, and Daniel H. Thrasher; among the members of the Board up to 1875 appear the names of Messrs. Francis Epps, William Hull, William Hunter and S. M. Tucker.

The first few years of the records of the Orange County Board of Public Instruction disclose a chronic state of difficulty between the Board and the tax collectors. These officials seemed always reluctant to part with the funds belonging to the schools and "formal demands" upon the collector and threats of "legal proceedings in fifteen days" are frequent. In 1877, suit was brought against the former collector who was



accused of keeping a larger commission than the law allowed. Later, an appeal was made to the Attorney General for a decision as to whether the tax collector had the right to keep any of the school money as a commission; when the decision was given that the commission should be paid out of the county fund and not by the school authorities, the Board brought suit against certain former tax collectors for refunds, but there is no record how these cases were settled.

In May, 1874, Mr. W. C. Roper was made county superintendent. Mr. Roper announced an ambitious program of "twenty-four schools for the county with an average of twenty-two scholars to each school," a program which the Board adopted and which was "made a basis of action to raise funds." A tax which would produce \$3,824 was ordered, to cover the expenses of the schools for the years 1874-75. The superintendent's salary was made \$600 a year, the treasurer was to receive \$60 a year, and the members of the Board were to be paid \$3 a day when in attendance upon meetings.

By January, 1875, retrenchment became necessary. The superintendent's salary was cut in twain, and he was "to be paid \$300 in four Installments in Currency as heretofore." Mr. Roper's minutes look like blank verse, since he began the first word of each line down the page with a capital letter.

The superintendent's annual report of May, 1876, gives the number of schools in the county as forty-six, with an enrollment of 749 pupils, and \$5,047 paid in teacher's salaries. At a special meeting on July 20, 1876, the Board found the school funds exhausted, and ordered all the schools closed on July 26, not to be reopened until October. The schools still began and closed for a term of from three to six months, at the will of the local authorities.

In October of 1876, it was ordered that "In view of the uncertain condition of the school funds we deem it inexpedient to attempt to continue the public schools for more than one quarter during the present scholastic year," and bills were ordered paid "as soon as there is money for this purpose."

Spread across an entire page of the record book at this point, in a new and elaborate script, is the legend, "New Board," and beneath are the minutes for April 12, 1877. The members of the board are Dr. W. Kilmer, chairman; J. J. Davis, Esq., and Mr. George H. Hammond, Esq.; the superintendent is Mr. J. M. Burrall. The superintendent reviewed the action of the former board in reducing the superintendent's salary from \$600 to \$300 a year, and gave copious and cogent reasons for its restoration to the former amount, and the Board agreed with him. But the tax-payers do not seem to have acquiesced in the restoration of the



larger salary for the superintendent, and in June the grand jury ordered the \$300 basis again, in view of the fact that the school term was to be only three months.

The Board ignored the ruling of the grand jury, and on July 16, a public meeting was held and a resolution adopted denouncing the action of the Board and declaring \$600 an excessive salary; the Board succumbed.

Early in 1878, Prof. W. P. Haisley, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, paid Orange County a visit, and an open meeting was held in Orlando. An interesting report of his address, covering six large pages, is written into the records of the board. Prof. Haisley was visiting every county in the state except Dade, there being no school at that time in Dade County.

In October, 1898, Mr. L. M. Preston and Mr. Franklin Owen were given the first scholarships from the county to the East Florida Seminary at Gainesville.

There follow some of the names of the schools which are found in the records up to this time:

Shingle Creek, Blackwater, Mellonville, New Hope, Lake Irma, Benton Prairie, the Lodge—which appears as Apopka City in 1877—Ravenswood, Ft. Reed, Meeks Mill, Lake Crescent, New Upsala, Econlockhatchee, Longwood, Lake Virginia—established at the request of Judge John R. Mizell—Pendryville, changed to Crooked Lake, Cross Prairie, Oakland, Fairview, Boggy Creek, Long Prairie, Lake Harney, Partins, Lake Conway, Formosa, Altamonte Springs, Hartford, Maitland, Orange Church, Ft. Mason, Spring Hill, Akron, Tucker's Mill, Howell Creek, Mt. Zion, Prospect, Starke, Lake, Zellwood, Clay Springs, Sylvan Lake, the Point, Golden Lake, Hawkinsville, Ft. Christmas, Live Oak Church, Seneca Lake, Tuscavilla, Sorrento, Harwells, Orange Ridge, Salem, Orange Banks, Dann, Sanford and Orlando; after 1880, the following names are added: Bethel, Glendale, Altoona, Umatilla, Mt. Dora, Tangerine, Kissimmee, Pine Castle, Driggs, Paola, Myrtle Lake, Mt. Carwell, Turkey Creek, Lovells Landing, Seneca, Grand Island, Astor, Rock Springs, Rock Lake, Bay Ridge, Chuluota, Conquest Church, Oviedo, Round Lake, Narcoosee, Emerald, Wekiwa River, Gabriella, Ocoee, Victoria, Gainesville, Fitzsimmons Mill, Messina; many of these appear for only one or two terms, and a study of the list indicates in a very instructive manner the births and deaths, the ups and downs, of the communities of Orange County.

Mr. I. T. Beeks became superintendent in March, 1879, and served for eighteen years. Mr. Beeks seems to have been a progressive man, for he called the teachers of the county together the following August, to



organize a Teachers Institute. His records are quite remarkable, written in a plain, old-fashioned hand, the language elaborate and oratorical. The complaints of patrons and trustees and teachers are faithfully recorded, and the manner in which the Board sought to appease those holding a grievance who appeared before it is told with painstaking detail. One gathers from these early records that the members of the successive Boards well earned the stipend given them. Their time was spent in seating and unseating trustees, examining teachers for certificates, and wrestling with the ever-annoying financial shortage, and with the problem of establishing schools in new communities. In 1880, the superintendent's "salary" was again under fire; it was argued that \$600 was too much, and the county commissioners wanted it reduced by half. The Board replied that the salary was paid in "county scrip," which was worth only fifty cents on the dollar, and therefore the \$600 ought to stand; the matter was compromised by paying the superintendent \$300 in United States currency.

An event of interest to the county in March, 1885, was the first meeting of the County Teachers' Institute, which was held in Orlando, and was attended by forty-three teachers; state superintendent, A. J. Russell, and Prof. John A. Graham of the Nashville Normal College were the leading speakers.

The first Arbor Day was celebrated on February 10, 1886.

In the year 1887, Lake and Osceola Counties were separated from Orange, the former receiving \$521.98 as its share of the school funds, and the latter \$229.59.

The Board bought an Edison mimeograph for the use of the superintendent, and the numerous works of art preserved in his records, drawn by the versatile superintendent himself, attest the pleasure he took in this gift; there are teachers' certificates, notifications of appointment, cards of invitation, poster announcements, all done in sepia, with borders and garlands of oak and palm, and with artistic lettering, in addition to the real business for which the machine was intended.

At this time the Board ordered "that we introduce some good music books for the public schools, and that the teachers be required to use them each day from 15 to 30 minutes." The superintendent was given \$15 "to defray his expenses to the Superintendent's Congress and State Teachers' Institute at DeFuniak Springs;" a later entry shows that there were four hundred in attendance at this meeting, eleven from Orange County.

This was the year when the school books were sent to Florida by way of Macon, since "Jacksonville is now infested with yellow fever."

The superintendent's annual report for 1887-88, gave the number of schools in the county as seventy-five, eleven of them colored, the number



of pupils as 2,494, 635 of them colored, and the assessed value of property in the county, real and personal, as \$4,652,573. The amount raised for school purposes from all sources was \$17,294.74; the value of school buildings and grounds was \$23,665.00; the salaries paid teachers amounted to \$19,400.99; and the superintendent's salary was \$1,512.60.

There is space here to mention only a few of the interesting events of the decade 1890-1900, during which period the schools grew in size and system, and buildings were erected in a number of the towns.

The schools had a great Christmas celebration in 1890, when "each pupil in the public schools regardless of age or condition" who were enrolled on the 24th day of December, received a "beautiful chromo" from the Board, accompanied by a very attractive Christmas card and greeting, the work of Superintendent Beeks and his mimeograph.

On January 8, 1892, the cornerstone of the court house was laid, and there was deposited in it a history of the public schools from 1869 to 1892, prepared by Mr. Beeks, and marked "To an unknown friend in some future age. When this package is opened, we hope to be occupying a finer structure with the school board, teachers, pupils (graduated) and this people across the river of life; a building not made with hands. Continue the good work. 'Deo Volente.' Signed, J. T. Beeks, Superintendent."

The first class graduated from the Orlando high school April 21, 1892, with an elaborate program in the opera house; there were eleven in the class.

On October 21, 1892, all the schools of the county participated in a nation-wide celebration of the four hundredth anniversary of the discovery of America. Superintendent Beeks prepared a very elaborate program, and 3,692 flags, at a cost of \$118, were distributed to the schools and the school children, in honor of the event. It was estimated that 12,670 citizens and 2,986 children participated in the celebration. Mr. Beeks sent a circular to all the parents of the county, calling upon them "to prepare the children for the Great Bielias Comet and allay fear in them." Specimens of the school work of every child in the county were sent to the World's Fair in Chicago, bound in books and with many photographs; these are now preserved in the National Pedagogic Museum in Washington.

Mr. W. B. Lynch was elected superintendent in 1897. Between the years 1902 and 1905, practically every school district in the county voted to become a special school-tax district. Consolidation of rural schools began and the transportation of children by the county authorities was



introduced (1902), and grew rapidly in favor. New school houses were built and high schools were started in Sanford, Apopka, Winter Garden and Winter Park.

Professor Lynch died in 1911 (see biographical sketch in Part Two of this work), and was succeeded in office by Rev. Dr. J. F. McKinnon. The budget for school expenses at this time was about \$50,000; teachers' salaries ranged from \$225 a month for the Orlando and Sanford principals, to \$30 per month for the teachers of one-room country schools.

A constitutional amendment in 1912 gave the special school-tax district power to issue bonds for school houses and equipment, and the minutes of the Board for the fifteen years since that time are largely the records of bond issues for school purposes in every district in the county.

In 1913, Seminole County was formed, and Orange County was re-districted as follows:

District No. 1—Orlando, Winter Park, Pinecastle, Conway and Taft.

District No. 2—Ft. Christmas, Pickett and Fish.

District No. 3—Maitland, Lockhart, Apopka, Bay Ridge, Zellwood, Clarcona, Ocoee, Winter Garden, Oakland, Orange Center and Gotha.

In 1915, the trustees of the Apopka district asked permission of the Board to transport children in automobiles, instead of wagons. The same year the home demonstration work was introduced in the county, supported jointly by the state, the county commissioners and the Board of Public Instruction, and Miss Harriet Layton was employed as agent. Three years later, Mrs. Ora D. Layton became the first county social service worker, and Mrs. Nellie Taylor was appointed as home demonstration agent. In 1918, one canning club girl was sent for the short course to the Florida College for Women at Tallahassee, and given \$15 toward her expenses; in 1927, Mrs. Taylor took twenty-five girls to Tallahassee for the short course in demonstration work.

Mr. A. B. Johnson became county superintendent in 1917, and the ten years during which he has served may well be called the building era for Orange County's schools. The commodious and handsome buildings which have been erected do not tell the whole story of the wonderful progress made by the schools during the past decade, but are only an indication of the growth in efficiency and modern methods which characterizes the school system of Orange County today, under Mr. Johnson's direction.



During the last ten years, the following bond issues for school purposes have been voted, almost without opposition in every case:

District	Year	Amount
Orlando	1917	\$ 40,000.00
Oakland-Winter Garden	1917	30,000.00
Apopka	1918	16,000.00
Orlando	1920	150,000.00
Gotha-Windermere	1920	2,000.00
Orlando	1921	300,000.00
Ocoee	1921	40,000.00
Fairvilla	1922	5,000.00
Winter Park	1922	25,000.00
Maitland	1922	10,000.00
Orlando	1923	150,000.00
Pinecastle	1923	20,000.00
Beulah	1924	3,000.00
Oakland-Winter Garden	1924	35,000.00
Apopka	1924	25,000.00
Orlando	1925	300,000.00
Orlando	1926	1,000,000.00
Winter Park	1926	200,000.00
Ocoee	1926	105,000.00
Oakland-Winter Garden	1926	190,000.00
Total		\$2,446,000.00

The value of school property in the county for the year ending June 30, 1926, was \$2,597,025. The budget for 1927-28, as presented by Superintendent Johnson, is \$344,530, which includes \$291,105 for salaries, \$10,000 for the social service and health department, \$21,425 for transportation, \$5,300 for the superintendent's salary and expenses, \$5,500 for attendance officers and expenses, and \$1,000 for the canning club agent.

The following have served as Chairmen of the Board from 1869 to the present time:

- Mr. W. C. Roper, 1869-1873.
- Mr. W. F. Russell, 1873-1875.
- Mr. S. M. Tucker, 1875-1876.
- Dr. O. P. Preston, 1876-1877.
- Dr. W. W. Kilmer, 1877-1885.
- Col. E. C. Morgan, 1885-1889.
- Col. George S. Foote, 1889-1895.



Mr. James DeLaney, 1895-1897.

Rev. R. W. Lawton, 1897-1909, (Mr. Lawton died in office).

Mr. Sidney E. Ives, 1909-1913.

Mr. James A. Knox, 1913-1927.

The following have served as county superintendents:

Mr. W. A. Lovell, 1869-1873.

Mr. W. C. Roper, 1873-1877.

Mr. J. M. Burrall, 1877-1879.

Mr. I. T. Beeks, 1879-1897.

Mayor W. B. Lynch, 1897-1911, (Mr. Lynch died in office).

Dr. J. F. McKinnon, 1911-1917.

Mr. A. B. Johnson, 1917-1927.

In addition to its public schools, the county has four private educational institutions of importance.

For the history of Rollins College, Winter Park, see Chapter V.

St. Joseph's Academy was founded Oct. 7, 1889, four Sisters beginning the work of teaching at that date. Four years later it became a boarding school for girls which it continued to be until 1913, when owing to the increased number of day pupils, boarders could no longer be accommodated, and the dormitories were turned into class-rooms.

For the first twenty-nine years of its existence, St. Joseph's Academy was merely a grammar school but in the year 1917 the first class of graduates went forth, and since that time other classes have been graduated.

At present the teaching staff consists of seven Sisters. The school is filled to its capacity, which is a little more than two hundred pupils. The curriculum is complete in all respects and its graduates enter college with no difficulty.

The school has a music department and extra-curriculum activities including athletics for boys and girls.

The Cathedral School for girls was founded in 1900 by the late Bishop William Crane Gray, at that time head of the Episcopal Church in South Florida. Having been presented with a new official residence, he determined to devote the handsome home he formerly occupied to the establishment of a school for girls, a purpose he had long cherished. The vision of the founder has been abundantly realized, and the school has long since attained a position of self-support and popular esteem. From the beginning, the aim has been to combine in the school-life the three-fold idea of sound learning, approved manners, and practical religion. Though intended primarily for Florida girls, its patronage has extended to many northern states, the advantages of its happy home life and educational benefits making an appeal to those who would enjoy the land of sunshine and flowers.



The Cathedral School is beautifully situated on the shores of Lake Eola, near the heart of the city, yet sufficiently retired for the purposes of study. There are five buildings devoted to school use, including auditorium, study-hall, recreation hall, classrooms, music-rooms, dining-room and dormitories. The courses of instruction are complete and comprehensive, covering the college preparatory and general courses, and the school is a Florida state accredited institution. While under the control of the Episcopal Church, the school is not sectarian, and has always numbered among its teachers and pupils members of various Christian denominations. The first principal of the school was the late Deaconess Harriet Randolph Parkhill, in whose honor one of the school buildings is named. Rev. Roderick P. Cobb served in that capacity for a period of ten years, and the present principal is Miss Clara Burton. Bishop Cameron Mann is president of the Board of Trustees, and Rev. A. E. Johnson is chaplain.

The Robert H. Hungerford Normal and Industrial School is located at Eatonville, a negro town adjoining Maitland on the west. This school was founded by Professor and Mrs. Russell C. Calhoun in 1897. These two capable and devoted teachers had been students at the Tuskegee Institute, of which the husband was a graduate.

In the Spring of 1898, Mr. E. C. Hungerford of Chester, Connecticut, who had a winter home in Maitland, gave the school, together with several relatives and friends, 160 acres of land adjoining Eatonville, now included within the corporate limits of the town, as a campus and farm. The first cash donation was made by Miss Mary Brown of Winter Park, to whom reference is made in Chapter Four of this work; the second gift of \$400 came through Booker T. Washington of Tuskegee. Additional land was bought from time to time, and the corner stone of Booker T. Washington Hall was laid in 1899; it was finished and dedicated the following year.

Later, Mr. George B. Cluett, the manufacturer of Troy, New York, gave \$8,000 for the erection of a second building, and \$4,000 toward the purchase of an orange grove near the campus. Cluett Hall was burned in 1922, and was replaced by a stone structure, bearing the same name, a year and a half later. Mr. Cluett also gave a considerable sum to finish the dining-hall, which he insisted should be named Calhoun Hall, and he contributed \$500 annually for current expenses, for a number of years.

Professor Calhoun died November 10, 1910, and Mrs. Calhoun served for twelve years as principal of the school. She was followed by Elijah Chisholm, S. Baker, and J. T. Jordan, the present principal.

Mrs. Kingmill Marrs, of Boston and Maitland, left the institution \$5,000 by will at her death.

The school has upwards of a hundred boarding pupils, and a number of day scholars; it also carries on a night school for adults. An industrial building for girls is now in process of construction.



## COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Orange County Chamber of Commerce was organized June 1922. The first officers were: President Mr. William Edwards; vice-presidents, Mr. J. A. Treat, Winter Park, and Mr. J. G. Strozier, Winter Garden; secretary Mr. E. B. Morrey, Apopka; treasurer Mr. S. S. Sadler, Tangerine.

In September 1922, Mr. Karl Lehmann was employed as secretary on a half-time basis. In October of that year he began work as full-time secretary.

One of the first things done by the organization was to submit to the people a vote on the question of a one-mill publicity tax to be levied by the County Commissioners and expended under their direction by the County Chamber of Commerce in the work of the organization. This election carried by a vote of more than four to one, and the bill authorizing this tax levied for two years was enacted by the Legislature in 1923. In 1925 the Legislature passed a bill providing for the levying of this tax for 1296 and each year thereafter.

The present officers of the Orange County Chamber of Commerce are: president Mr. William Edwards, Zellwood; vice-president Mr. J. A. Treat, Winter Park; vice-president Mr. S. B. Hull, Oakland; treasurer Mr. S. S. Sadler, Tangerine; auditor Dr. J. C. McMichael, Windermere; secretary Dr. Karl Lehmann, Orlando; assistant secretary Mr. Crawford T. Bickford; and office assistant, Mr. Francis Smathers, both of Orlando.

The members of the Board of Directors are as follows: Apopka, Mr. J. G. Grossenbacher; Bithlo, Mr. S. S. Philbrick; Clarcona, Mr. E. J. Hobson; Conway, Dr. W. J. McBurney; Edgewood, Col. R. M. Shearer; Fort Christinas, Mr. L. L. Hardy; Gotha, Mr. E. S. Lawrence; Lockhart, Mr. G. R. Long; Maitland, Mr. J. H. Hill; North Orlando, Dr. J. A. Pines; Ocoee, Mr. T. C. Hawthorne; Orlando, Mr. N. P. Yowell; Pinecastle, Mr. P. M. Shanibarger; Plymouth, Mr. J. G. Grossenbacher; Taft, Mr. G. R. Brickley; Vineland, Mr. W. L. Shuck; West Side Improvement League, Orlando, Mr. A. M. Crittenden; Winter Garden, Mr. J. L. Dillard.

The Orange County Chamber of Commerce, with a membership of 4,000 is the largest county Chamber of Commerce in the south. Some idea of the scope and activity of this organization is seen in the facts presented in this year's annual report, as follows in part:

"We have conducted a national advertising campaign in publications with a combined circulation of nearly 600,000 copies.

"We have carefully bulletined to the Chambers of Commerce, real-estate men in the county, banks and newspapers more than 3,000 names of prospective settlers who have written us as a result of our national advertising.



"Have secured more than 600 columns of publicity about Orange County in the press of the country. If laid end to end this publicity would stretch one-fifth of a mile.

"The secretary has participated in 7,000 personal interviews with prospective settlers and others interested in Orange County.

"The secretary has delivered 300 addresses on Florida and Orange County to more than 50,000 people.

"We handled the publicity features of the Orange County exhibit at the Canadian Exposition in Toronto in August. . . .

"We helped finance the Florida exhibit at the American Legion convention in Omaha. The Orange County film was shown during this exhibit.

"We arranged for the showing of the Orange County film at the great southern summer-school for teachers at Peabody College, Nashville, Tenn. . . .

"We have helped plan, and participated in, two \$10,000 advertising campaigns in the newspapers of the state calling attention to the Orange County and Central Florida section of the state.

"Arranged for the special mass-meeting held to advance the interests of Central Florida roads before the Legislature, and our secretary served as secretary of the Florida Good Roads Association formed at that meeting. . . .

"We participated in the World's Advertising Convention at Houston, Texas, and sent our secretary to assist St. Petersburg in inviting the next convention.

"We have taken an active part in suppressing and securing the arrest of fraudulent land operators in this county.

"We sent a delegate to the meeting of the United States Chamber of Commerce in Washington, D. C. . . .

"We granted our secretary a month's vacation, which was spent in trip of the west, including the Pacific Coast, where much valuable information was obtained and will serve in strengthening the work of the Chamber. . . .

"We participated in the activities of the Florida State Commercial Secretaries Association, which organization honored Orange County by the election of its secretary as president of that body this year. . . .

"We have actively participated in the work of the Orange County Beautification Commission.

"We were active in securing and arranging for the operation of the first Smith-Hughes Agricultural High School in Orange County, located at Pinecastle. . . .



"We handled the publicity incident to the trip of a large party of Orange County girls to the short course at Tallahassee. This trip was made under the direction of Mrs. Nellie W. Taylor, and was one of the most effective bits of publicity for Orange County this year. . . .

"We put the machinery of the Orange County Chamber of Commerce heartily into the making of the state census, assisting the county enumerator in every possible way, with the result that a most complete census was secured. . . .

"We made addressograph plates and handled the extensive followup on the 1,200 names secured by the Orlando Realty Board as the result of the radio broadcasting in Texas.

"We issued seven new pieces of Orange County literature and maps, and published more than 60,000 copies of these for distribution. . . .

"We participated with other organizations in sending Major Charles A. Browne to Washington, D. C., to the conference called by Secretary Herbert Hoover, dealing with important road matters; also participated in sending Major Browne to Morganton, N. C., and Spartanburg, S. C., to important highway meetings.

"We sent our secretary to the convention of the National Association of Commercial Secretaries at Washington, D. C. Participated in the Better Homes Campaign for Orange County, and helped entertain the party of Texas citrus growers who visited this county, October 25-28.

"We arranged for representation at the meeting of the Dixie Highway Association at Rome, Ga., and were responsible for securing at that meeting the designation of the Cheney Highway as the connecting link between the East and West Dixie Highway in Florida. . . .

"We sent our secretary to Washington to interview representatives of the Bureau of Public Roads, and conducted an extensive correspondence and telegraphic communication which finally secured the recognition of State Road No. 2 as a part of the system of United States Highways. . . .

"We arranged for the making of a motion picture film recording two important events of the year, the dedication of the Cheney Highway and bridge, and the movement of a solid trainload of range cattle from this county when the 'no-fence' law went into effect. . . .

"We have written and mailed 24,248 letters and sent out 176,895 pieces of printed matter on Orange County including 64,000



copies of 'Orange Echoes;' this mail has gone to practically every section of the world."

The rather remarkable spirit of harmony and cooperation which exists among the several communities of Orange County is no doubt due in large part to the work of the County Chamber of Commerce, and in particular to the genial and sympathetic spirit, the tactful manner, and the wise and comprehensive programs of its secretary, Dr. Karl Lehmann.

#### THE NEWSPAPER PRESS OF ORANGE COUNTY

The following account of the newspaper press of Orange County has been prepared in the main for this work by Mr. W. M. Glenn, owner and editor of the Orlando Morning Sentinel:

The early history of the Orange County Press is somewhat obscure. Journalism actively flourished intermittently in the county from the late 70's and continued to record and chronicle the events of a growing community during the hectic years brought on by a disastrous freeze in the early 90's, and continuing through two wars, those of 1898 and 1914.

Orange County journalism may be considered in three phases; that of 1880 to 1890, when the weekly was undisputed king of the Fourth Estate; from 1890 to 1910, during which there sprung up bi-weeklies and tri-weeklies, followed by a demand for a daily newspaper; from 1910 to the present time the daily newspaper has occupied the center of the stage.

During the nearly fifty years which we have under survey many papers came unheralded and as silently passed into the by-gone days of yesterday. Some of them seem justified and others occupied the limelight merely as organs of personal gratification and not with the evidently sincere purpose of serving the community.

The Orange County Reporter was established in 1880 by S. B. Harrington and was located in a frame building north of the present Armory. Conducted by Mr. Harrington for a period of two years, the paper passed under the control of the late Mahlon Gore who successfully conducted and published the Reporter until 1890. Mr. Gore came from Sioux City, Iowa, and is survived by Mrs. O. S. Robinson, a daughter, of Gatlin Avenue. Mr. Gore was one of the pioneers who not only gave of his talents to the newspaper profession but early saw the advantages and possibilities of real estate. It might be said that Mahlon Gore laid out the first subdivision that Orange County had, this being a tract of land on either side of Gatlin Avenue and bounded on the north by Lake Jennie Jewel and on the south by Lake Gatlin. In 1890, Mr Gore sold his interests in the publication to the late S. R. Hudson, who published the paper for a period of six years selling out to Josiah Ferris



in 1896; Mr. Ferris in turn sold the paper to the Reporter-Star Publishing Company, headed at that time by W. R. O'Neal, president, M. O. Overstreet, vice-president, N. P. Yowell, secretary and treasurer; they with T. P. Warlow and W. D. Yowell composing the Board of Directors. About 1912 the Reporter-Star passed into the hands of G. H. Walton of Richmond, Kentucky, and George Kellar, now representative of the Mergenthaler Linotype Company. In 1913, J. Hugh Reese of Miami became interested in the paper and later Messrs. R. B. and J. C. Brossier, Mr. Reese's brother-in-law. Save for the addition of Mr. J. F. Schumann as associate editor, the management of the Reporter-Star has been vested with the Messrs. Brossier since 1914.

In 1895, the South Florida Sentinel, the forerunner of the present Orlando Morning Sentinel, was established by Latimer Clark Vaughn, and the plant was located in the old building on Pine Street which is north of the Baptist Church. This old two-story frame building housed the publication for a number of years, with the composing room on the second floor and the editorial and business offices on the first floor. Previous to his arrival in Orlando, Mr. Vaughn had published newspapers in Henderson, North Carolina and Marianna, Florida. It is to his credit that the first Campbell press which ever came to Orlando was brought here and installed. The Campbell press was the pride and joy of Orlando and many a person viewed the intricate, noisy and somewhat cumbersome press in action as it turned out a paper of huge proportions. Mr. Vaughn, who died two years ago, conducted the paper for a period of nine years, selling to Josiah Ferris, who came to Orlando from Tampa in 1885. Before coming to the City Beautiful, Mr. Ferris was on the case with Col. D. B. McKay, publisher of the Tampa Times. He was an intimate friend not only of Col. McKay but also of Col. W. F. Stovall, for many years publisher of the Tampa Tribune. With noteworthy distinction, Mr. Ferris successfully conducted the South Florida Sentinel from 1894 to 1914, and in 1913 established the Orlando Morning Sentinel, published every day in the week except Monday morning.

Josiah Ferris, dean of Orange County newspaper men, is a stalwart soul who has given untiringly of his ability to the upbuilding of Orange County and Florida, ever mindful of the sacred obligations which rest upon the heart of every true and honest publisher. He put in the first telegraph service for a newspaper in Orange County, becoming a member of the International News Service in 1913 with the advent of the daily publication. In 1912, he purchased and installed the first perfecting press in Orange County, the Miehle; this was a flat-bed press and published four pages at one impression, the paper then being removed and the reverse side being printed. After that, the paper went through a somewhat crude folder and eventually made its way into the hands of the reader. The paper was six columns wide, each column being 13½ ems wide. In 1914, Mr. Ferris was taken ill and the duties



of publication devolved upon Mrs. Ferris, who gave every ounce of energy to carrying on the arduous duties of a daily publication. During that time she was ably assisted by the late W. S. Branch, who contributed many editorials and conducted a column of light verse and terse sayings. In November, 1914, the South Florida Sentinel and the Orlando Morning Sentinel were sold to W. C. Essington of Noblesville, Indiana, and W. M. Glenn then of Indianapolis, with Mr. Essington as business manager and Mr. Glenn as editor. This partnership continued under the most pleasing conditions until July 15, 1925, when Mr. Glenn purchased the interest of Mr. Essington and became sole owner and publisher of the paper. The South Florida Sentinel continued its career as a weekly until the summer of 1916, when it ceased publication due to the fact that the public demanded a daily newspaper.

In the early 90's, hard times hit the land, and newspapers felt the pinch of financial and economical depression, reaching a climax during the panic of 1893, followed closely by a disastrous freeze which ruined the citrus trees of Florida. In this period, rival publishers forgot animosities and rushed to each other's assistance. In the case both of the Reporter and the South Florida Sentinel, many publication dates were missed, and it was during this period that the two Orlando papers consolidated for a brief period, becoming the Sentinel-Reporter, published by Messrs. Hudson and LaSalle, the latter representing Mr. Vaughn.

In the fall of 1890 the late Mahlon Gore made a trip to the west carrying with him a great many pictures of Florida. While in the west he spent an evening with Mr. S. R. Hudson, a former employer with whom he had worked in Kansas City, in the early 80's. Mr. Gore had purchased the Orlando Reporter, and in 1891 Mr. Hudson decided to visit Orlando and make a survey of conditions here with a view to buying the paper. Early in March, 1891, he came to Orlando, purchased the Reporter, and in April of that year returned to Orlando with his family and took over the paper. With him were Joe M. Rice, a reporter, and Geo. M. Munger, a compositor. In 1892 he started the daily Reporter, the plant being in a building on the lot where the Angebilt Hotel now stands. The late Chas. Wiemer was a reporter on the paper and Mr. Ferris was in the composing room part of the time. According to Mrs. S. R. Hudson and her daughter Miss Hattie Hudson, who reside in Orlando, Mr. Hudson's Reporter consolidated with the Sentinel in the fall of 1898 and the plant was removed to East Pine Street, the publication being called the Reporter-Sentinel. Mr. Rice went to Virginia and Mr. LaSalle represented Mr. Vaughn's interest in the Sentinel.

Some time previously to this, Mr. Hudson had purchased the Record, a paper published when he came to Orlando. The name was dropped from the Reporter when this paper was combined with the Sentinel. In 1905, the consolidation was discontinued, and Mr. Hudson moved the Reporter into the Rogers and Martin building, later selling to Mr. Ferris.



The Orange County Chamber of Commerce issues Orange Echoes monthly, at twenty-five cents a year.

The Orange County Citizen, a weekly paper, was originally published in Apopka, by Dr. Geiger, a Baptist preacher, who lived in that town and was held in high esteem throughout Florida. As a weekly publication it ranked with the best papers of the state for the moral tone of its editorial policy. Dr. Geiger was appointed to a traveling missionary position by his church, and found that he must dispose of the paper, much to his regret.

Hon. A. B. Newton of Winter Garden, representative in the state Legislature, bought the paper and removed it to Winter Garden. Mr. Newton, who previous to coming to Florida had been a county superintendent of schools in his native state, continued the high-grade policy of the Citizen, but as his business and legislative duties increased, he found it difficult to give the attention needed to the paper and, after several talks with Mr. C. E. Howard, who at that time was editor of the Reporter-Star in Orlando, agreed to sell him, stating that he did so only because of his acquaintance and agreement with Mr. Howard's policies; the paper was thereafter published in Orlando.

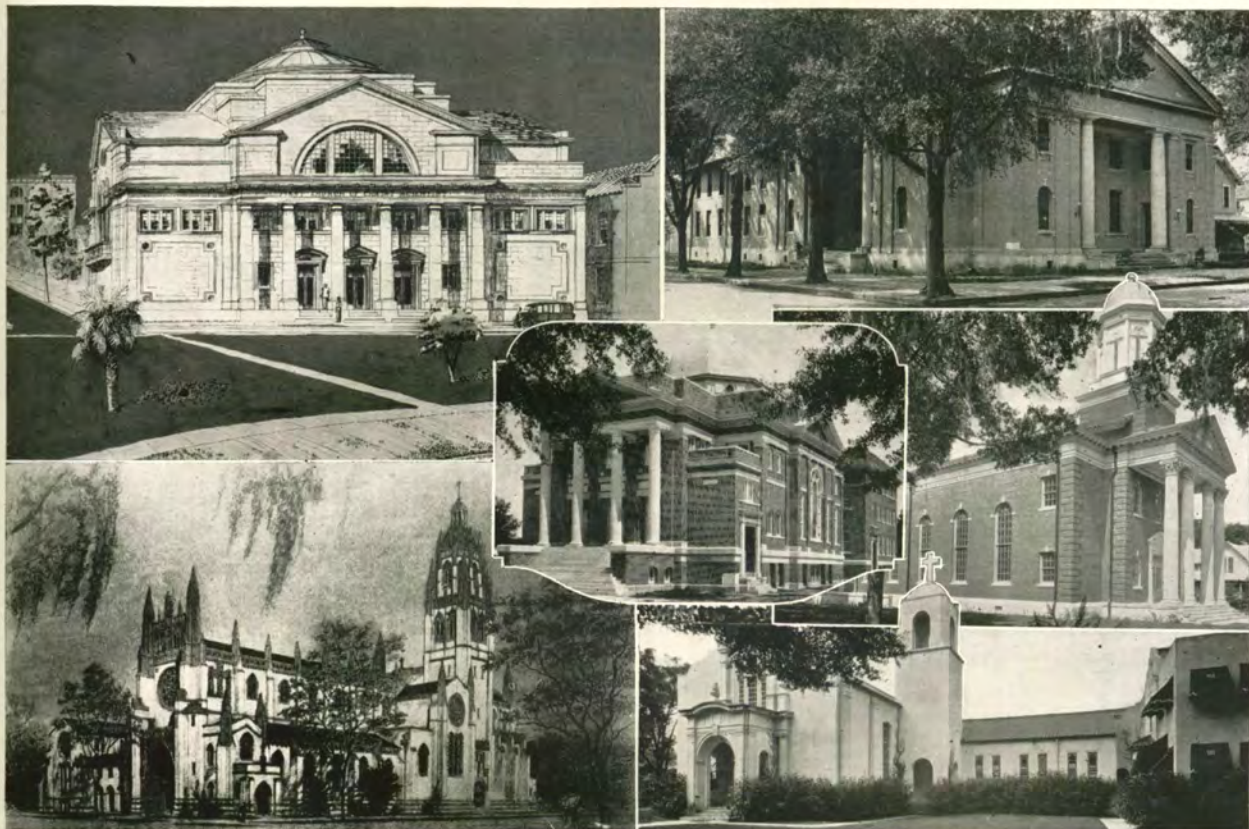
These policies, under which the paper flourished from first to last, were democratic, prohibition and absolutely independent, in character, three traits that distinguished its editorial policy; and as the paper was of the old-fashioned type of weekly, largely editorial in its sphere, it continued to be positive, rather than negative on the questions of the day.

After seven years of service, largely in the prohibition cause, the object of its publication having been attained, Mr. Howard, having many other duties, sold the paper to Arthur Ivey, a young reporter on the Sentinel, who after a time discontinued publication.

The Democrat was established in 1906, J. H. Holland Starbuck, editor and publisher; its life appears to have been brief.

There are many copies of the Orlando papers of the early days and the author of this historical sketch has perused a number of them brought to the office and treasured by various people. The Florida Record is very interesting. On Page 1 appear these words, "Title of this paper—The Orlando Daily Record." Then there appears a line, "March 6, 1893." It was of seven columns, 13 ems to a column, and measured 24 by 18 inches. On the editorial masthead appears the name of James Irving Crabbe, reporter, Florida Press Association, affiliated with the National Editorial Association. Then appears the subscription rates and "terms invariably in advance." The rates were, daily one year by mail, \$5.00 and weekly one year by mail, \$1.00. A copy of the old Orange County Reporter dated February 4, 1892, volume 14, number 47, whole number 723, has come to our attention, being loaned by F. S. Richards. The paper measures 22¼ inches by 29. The editorial





Some Churches in Orange County



masthead reads "Mahlon Gore, editor, and S. R. Hudson, publisher." With the volume number and the serial number, the first publication of the Orange County Reporter would seem to have occurred sometime in the year 1878. On the editorial page appears this line, "one copy one year, \$2.00." In volume 13, page 9, whole number 633, published May 15, 1890, Mahlon Gore's name appears as editor.

One of the early publications was the Orlando Star, a tri-weekly. Volume 1, number 33, loaned to the author, was published Thursday, September 3, 1896. The price was three cents. On the left dog-ear of page 1 appears "for President W. J. Bryan of Nebraska," and on the right ear "for Vice-president Arthur Sewall of Maine." The Star was published Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday; the subscription rate was one year \$2.00. In the paper dated Thursday, October 15, 1896, the names of W. H. Jewell appear as editor and W. F. Barnes as business manager. Two days later, October 17, the name of C. A. Weimer as city editor was added to the above. Perusing the Orange County Reporter for May 15, 1890, we discover a paper of large proportions; clumsy and difficult to handle, being 5½ inches longer and five inches wider than the standardized paper of today, which measures 23 by 17½ inches. The Reporter of that day was of nine columns, 13½ ems to a column. In the thirty-seven year old paper, we find a schedule of the De Bary Line on the St. Johns River, leaving Jacksonville at 3:30 p. m. and arriving at Sanford at eight o'clock the next morning, also a schedule of the South Florida Railroad, with north-bound trains leaving at 6:35 p. m., 11:55 a. m., and 2:00 p. m. except Sunday, and at 11:40 p. m. daily; south-bound trains at 10:40 a. m., 3:18 p. m., 5:45 p. m., and 6:13 p. m. Also the "Tropical Trunk Line," the Jacksonville, Tampa and Key West System, only 5¼ hours between Orlando and Jacksonville; also the schedule of the Tavares, Orlando and Atlantic Railroad Company, with a schedule between Orlando and Tavares by way of Wekiwa, Apopka and Zellwood, trains leaving Orlando at 5:55 p. m. and 5:40 a. m., arriving at Tavares at 8:15 p. m., and 7:10 a. m. respectively, and leaving Tavares at 6:45 p. m. and 6:40 a. m., arriving at Orlando at 8:20 p. m. and 9:00 a. m.

In addition a time-table of the Orlando and Winter Park Railroad appears, the intermediate stations being Lakemont Park, Winter Park, Bonnie Burn and Rowena. The interesting information is conveyed that trains will stop on signal only at the Arcade, Concord Street, Orange Avenue, Fair Oak, Highland, Rowena, Rose Hill, Lake Mable, Bonnie Burn, Rollins College and Lakemont Park. Advertising appears by the Orlando Novelty Works, the South Florida Foundry and Machine Company, Curtis and O'Neal, and the First National Bank of Orlando, all these firms being in business in Orlando at the present time. There was considerable real estate activity in the early days. A large advertisement on the front page by the Sinclair Land Agency offers "high pine land in healthy locality, from \$2.00 to \$100 per acre," and



another by Mahlon Gore exhorts the reader to "get a home on the installment plan," and offers "homes for actual settlers, ten acre tracts, \$20.00 to \$50.00 per acre, according to situation and quality," concluding with the words, "now is the time. The winter of 1889 and 1890 will see these lands all taken by actual settlers. Come and make selections early;" "let no man make a purchase until he has carefully examined the situation; buy only good land, make only good improvements, and you will always be in the lead." W. F. Barnes & Company offer special bargains, but no prices appear.

There were no hypocrites in those days, for one finds fine liquors advertised for sale by Rogers and Martyn, who evidently conducted a cosmopolitan saloon in Orlando, with a line which stands out prominently to the thirsty hypocrite of today. "We pay special attention to the jug trade," it says alluringly; "we import our wines and liquors direct from Europe where we have a special agent. We buy in large quantities for cash, therefore we can sell in any quantity, large or small, as cheaply as any firm in the country and guarantee the quality to be as represented. Agents for several good brands of champagne, Scotch and Irish whiskey and direct importation of choice Ceylon tea. Why send away for your liquors when we can do as well for you here and you know who you are dealing with." The advertisement was marked "599-Y;" we do not know what this means, but we take it to mean that 5 stands for May the month of publication and the 99 means for the remainder of the year.

In the early days of 1890, phosphate was coming into its own in the southern part of Florida, and on the editorial page of the Recorder appears an analysis of phosphatic rock by Thos. R. Baker, professor emeritus in Rollins College who recently celebrated his ninetieth birthday. Interesting items such as these punctuate the journal under survey. "Sudden gust of wind blew down the file of the Citizens National Bank, and some pedestrians passing along at the time narrowly escaped injury as the file fell crashing to the sidewalk;" "excursion tomorrow. An excursion train will go through direct to Clay Springs without change." "A hail storm visited Apopka. Some of the stones were said to have been as large as hen's eggs." "Governor Fleming will deliver the annual address to Rollins College; trains over the Orlando and Winter Park Railroad will be run in such a way as to accommodate all who wish to go from here to attend the Commencement Exercises at Rollins College;" "truckers at Clermont are shipping tomatoes at from \$4 to \$8 per standard crate;" "from all accounts Cedar Key must be in a deplorable condition under the domination of a besotted and desperate mayor." "Thos. A. Johnston shot and killed Wm. Lee of Oakland in front of the First National Bank." Here comes the exciting part of the evidence collected by the reporter. "Lee said, 'G—d—y, I've got you now,' and when Lee got within several feet of Johnston he rushed his horse up and struck at Johnston with his hand. Johnston



then drew his pistol and as his horse fell, shot Lee in the right side, then turned his horse about and as both horses were running he shot a second time and Lee soon fell from the saddle. Johnston checked up his horse, came by Bill Johnston's house and told him he had shot Wm. Lee and then surrendered himself to the sheriff."

The names of Major M. R. Marks is given as mayor; John D. Broome as Judge of the Circuit Court; C. G. Butt as Judge of the Criminal Court; and J. L. Bryan as Judge of the County Court. W. M. Poage was pastor of the Methodist Church South, J. G. Patten of the Presbyterian Church, C. S. Farriss of the Baptist Church, J. Chris Williams of the Congregational Church, S. B. Carpenter of the Protestant Episcopal Church, F. M. C. Eads of the Methodist Church and J. J. Creed of St. James Catholic Church. J. W. Anderson was president of the Y. M. C. A.; James M. Lane was Worshipful Master of the Orlando Lodge number 69; C. O. Myers was High Priest, Eureka Royal Arch Chapter, number 7; Wm. H. Jewell was Eminent Commander of the Olivet Commandery, number 4; A. J. Mosteler, Odd Fellows and Carl Warfield, C. C. Knights of Pythias.

Buggies were selling from \$50 to \$150; saddles from \$3 to \$20 and bridles from \$1 to \$5. Rough pine lumber was quoted at \$11 per thousand feet. Good buggy horses were \$125 to \$200. Irish potatoes 35 cents per peck. Chickens 30 to 50½ cents per pound, eggs 20 to 55 cents per dozen, cow peas 10 cents per quart and strawberries from 10 to 50 cents per quart. Papers from which clippings were taken and mentioned in the Recorder were as follows: The Leesburger, the Floridian of Tallahassee, the Jacksonville Metropolis, the Pensacola News, the Fort White Boomer, the St. Andrews Messenger, the Belleview Blade, the Fernandina News, the Dade City Democrat, the DeLand Record, the DeLand Agriculturist, the Sumterville Times, the Key West Equator; the Sumterville County Times, the Volusia County Record, the Madison Record, the Florida Times-Union, the Mandarin News, the Palatka Times, the Ocala Banner, the Ocala Capitol, the St. Augustine News and the Leesburg Commercial.

Just recently there came into our hands the first three volumes of Lochmede, a publication printed by J. B. Henck, Jr., at Longwood. The first number was issued July 1, 1887, and the last June 28, 1889. It was more in the form of a magazine, being three columns wide, containing editorials, news items and advertising, all type hand-set. The main attention of the publication was devoted to Winter Park and Rollins College. There is no indication who was editor other than information under the masthead which advised that communications by mail should be addressed to Mr. Henck at Longwood, and that an office was maintained at Winter Park, with Charles J. Ladd in charge. The publication was entered at the postoffice at Winter Park as second-class mail matter.



The Winter Park Post was established by A. Ellison Adams; during Mr. Adams' service in the World War, the Post was issued by Mrs. Hiram Powers and Miss Emly Nichols. It was purchased by Mr. J. H. Wendler, who changed its name to the Florida Post, and whose ambitious efforts to make it the Republican organ of the state resulted disastrously to himself, the stockholders and the paper. The Winter Park Herald was then established by Mr. E. B. Mendsen and Dr. R. F. Hotard. On May 1, 1925, the Herald was purchased by Mr. William M. Traer of Jacksonville, who incorporated the Orange Press the following August. In April, 1926, Mr. Traer erected a fine building in West Morse Boulevard, and enlarged the paper to seven columns. Mr. Traer owns all the stock in the Orange Press, Inc.; the paper now has more than three times the paid circulation that it had when he bought it.

The students of Rollins College have for many years issued a weekly publication known as the Sandspur; the college also publishes Bulletins at frequent but irregular intervals.

Apopka has a long and interesting newspaper history, but it comes down to us in fragmentary condition, due to the fact that the files were not preserved; for this reason it has been difficult to get the record of the early publications.

The first paper published in Apopka was established by the Rev. Dr. Hughes, a Baptist clergyman from North Carolina who came here in the early 70's, with his brother-in-law, the Hon. J. J. Combs. This paper had a brief existence, though it gave evidence of considerable ability behind it. Then came Rev. Willis M. Russell and his son, Rev. A. M. C. Russell, Methodists, who founded the South Florida Citizen. The Florida Conference transferred Rev. Russell to another town and the paper passed into the hands of Rev. Frank A. Taylor, another Methodist clergyman, who lopped off the words "South Florida" from the name, the paper being known as the Apopka Citizen. Mr. Taylor sold the paper in a couple of years and the plant was moved to another town. At a later period, George Eugene Bryson established a paper here, but it did not last long; then came Walter S. Russell, now of Jacksonville, who for nearly four years published the Apopka City Union. Mr. Russell later established the Jacksonville Metropolis which was highly successful; he sold the paper at a good price and it became the present Jacksonville Journal. The next venture in Apopka was made by Fred H. Perry, who established the Apopka Advertiser which for a time was regarded as one of the best weekly newspapers in Florida. In spite of this fact, the paper had a hard road to travel; it was moved about, and was edited for a time by Mr. F. S. Witherby, the well-known Apopka merchant of today. There were other ventures here, among them the Apopka News, of which Mr. Witherby was business manager.



Next came the splendid Apopka Chief of today, established in 1923 by Major Albert M. Hall, an experienced newspaper man who came here from Maryland, but who for nearly forty years had labored in the daily newspaper field in New York state. The Chief has been a success from its first issue. It is a clean and attractive paper, edited with great care and ability and is quoted far and wide. A short time after its establishment, Mr. Hall organized the Apopka Printing Company, Incorporated, and an up-to-date building was erected in the business district and equipped with a linotype and modern machinery throughout. It was soon turning out high-class commercial work, including color and process work. Today its business is running \$50,000 a year. In addition to the Chief the company issues several other regular publications, weekly and monthly, including a high-class magazine. Mr. Hall is president of the company, Mr. William Edwards vice-president, Mr. D. F. Hall, secretary, and Mr. C. Ellwood Kalbach, general manager.

The Chief is independent in politics and holds to a high standard on all moral questions. It boasts that it goes into every home in Apopka and surrounding communities.

Hon. A. B. Newton established and edited the first newspaper in Winter Garden in the early 90's, under the sprightly name, the Ricochet. This was followed by various other ventures, among them the Orange County Citizen, which was moved from Apopka to Winter Garden by Mr. Newton, and later sold by him to Mr. C. E. Howard of Orlando, where it was published for several years. At present, the Winter Garden field is ably occupied by the Journal, which is owned by Mr. Howard Parker.

During the past three years, the Bithlo Tribune Company has published a weekly paper, printed in St. Cloud, devoted to the interests of Bithlo and eastern Orange County; it is edited by Claud F. Johnson, and the subscription price is two dollars a year.

Two papers devoted to the interests of the negro population, and edited by a capable and right-minded man of that race, were published for a number of years in Orange County, the Winter Park Advocate, which was carried on for some twelve years, and the Florida Christian Recorder, which was published for about fifteen years in Orlando. The editor and proprietor of both papers was G. C. Henderson, who died some ten years ago and whose widow is a teacher in the Orlando colored high school.

The latest paper to be established in Orange County is the Florida Republican, issued on the fifteenth day of each month in Orlando by the Republican Publishing Company, and edited by Mr. W. C. Lawson. The first number of Volume One is dated August 15, 1927.



## BANKING INSTITUTIONS\*

There were no organized banks in Orange County prior to 1883. Mr. W. G. White, merchant, operating a general store located at the corner of Church Street and Orange Avenue, Orlando, had purchased a large iron safe for his personal use. Persons living in Orange County availed themselves of the opportunity of leaving any moneys or valuables that they had with him in packages for safe keeping. Any drafts or bills of exchange which were received in payment for cattle sold in Cuba, or for the infrequent shipment of oranges, or for any other purpose, were remitted by Mr. White to Jacksonville and New York merchants in payment of goods which he purchased, credit being given to the parties who owned it very largely in exchange for merchandise. There was little need of exchange in the community at that time, as such real estate as was purchased was paid for in gold, and the casual traveler in Florida brought currency with him, so that no banking, as the term is now understood, was necessary. That which was true of Mr. White was also true of the general stores operated by General Sanford in Mellonville and by Mr. Bryan in Kissimmee.

On January 23, 1883, a private bank was organized in Sanford known as the Lyman Bank, with Mr. Moses Lyman as president, Mr. Fay S. Phelps, cashier, and Mr. Frank Forster, assistant cashier. This bank was re-organized November 1, 1887, as the First National Bank, with Mr. Frederick H. Rand, president, Mr. F. W. Lyman of Winter Park, vice-president and Mr. Frank P. Forster, cashier. This institution has continued to serve the people of Sanford in a very satisfactory and effective way until the present time, Mr. Rand continuing as president until 1918, when he was succeeded by Mr. Forster, there being but two presidents of the bank in the forty years of its life. In 1925, the bank erected a new home on the opposite corner from that on which it began business, and has kept the same relative location through its entire history.

The Bank of Orlando, an unchartered bank, was located in the one-story frame building adjoining the Summerlin Hotel, on the northeast corner of Central Avenue and Main Street, Orlando. This bank began business some time in the latter part of 1883 with Mr. Charles Joy as president, and Mr. Nat Poyntz, as cashier. The records of the state of Florida do not show that this was a chartered bank. On February 24, 1886, the Bank of Orlando was re-organized and chartered as the First National Bank, with a capital of \$50,000, Mr. Charles Joy, president, and Mr. J. H. Vivian, cashier. The directors were, Messrs. Nat Poyntz, John G. Sinclair, Wm. J. Copeland, T. J. Shine, E. Pringle Hyer and Charles Joy. A brick building

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\*For this account of the banking institutions of Orange County, the author is indebted to his friend, W. R. O'Neal, LL.D., Chairman of the Board of Directors of the First National Bank of Orlando.



was erected on the northeast corner of Pine Street and Orange Avenue by Andrew Johnson and the bank was located in this building when completed. This bank at once took a prominent place in the financial affairs of South Florida and was the outstanding bank in all the territory south of Palatka and Ocala. It increased its business very rapidly, enjoying the confidence and support of depositors and bankers throughout South Florida. It was consolidated with the Citizens' Bank on March 22, 1893.

The Citizens' National Bank was organized August 25, 1887, with a capital of \$50,000 and with the following officers: Mr. L. O. Garrett, president, and Mr. H. G. Garrett, cashier; the directors were, Messrs. L. O. Garrett, H. G. Garrett, Cecil G. Butt, Charles W. Arnold, Henry S. Kedney, Charles E. Pierce and Allen S. Apgar. The bank was located on the northwest corner of Central and Orange Avenues, in the corner room of the San Juan Hotel. It was moved to the two-story brick building on the northwest corner of Pine and Court Streets and re-organized with Mr. W. L. Palmer as president and Mr. James L. Giles as cashier. On March 22, 1893, the Citizens Bank was voluntarily liquidated and consolidated with the First National Bank of Orlando with the following officers: Mr. Nat Poyntz, president; Mr. W. L. Palmer, vice-president; and Mr. James L. Giles, cashier; its capital was increased to \$150,000. The panic of 1893 throughout the United States seemed not to have been expected in Florida and least of all as in any way affecting the consolidated bank, therefore no provision was made for additional reserves. When the panic became acute, the correspondent banks either could not or would not extend aid, withdrawals affected the bank as they did all other financial institutions, and a receiver was asked for on August 14, 1893. The bank was restored to solvency May 21, 1894, with Mr. W. B. Jackson as president and Mr. I. W. C. Parker as cashier. The re-opened bank received the confidence of the community, was increasing its deposits, money came out of hiding places and the bank was doing a satisfactory business. In 1895, the disastrous freeze which affected all South Florida left little available money in the community and as there seemed no immediate possibility of borrowers being able to repay the amounts borrowed, the directors voluntarily closed the bank November 29, 1895, refused to receive further deposits, and notified all those having money in the bank to withdraw.

In November, 1893, after the closing of the First National Bank, the Merchants' Bank was chartered by the state with a capital of \$25,000, and opened for business in the old banking room of the First National Bank, with Mr. W. H. Reynolds as president, and Mr. B. H. Kuhl as cashier. On the re-opening of the First National Bank, an attempt was made to consolidate the Merchants and the First National, and a charter was issued as a national bank, but the consolidation was never perfected and the assets of the Merchants Bank were sold to Messrs. Joseph L. Guernsey and Carl



Warfield, who conducted a banking business under the name of Guernsey & Warfield. This business was later merged with the State Bank of Orlando, the Merchants Bank being liquidated.

The State Bank of Orlando was organized October 27, 1893, with a capital of \$50,000, Mr. Louis C. Massey, president, Mr. T. Picton Warlow, vice-president, and Mr. Ingram Fletcher, cashier. This bank was located on the southeast corner of Pine Street and Orange Avenue, and was converted to a Bank & Trust Company, October 21, 1919. Through all the vicissitudes and changes and growth of the community the State Bank has continued to function and do a safe and conservative banking business under the same management as when originally organized, and it today has the largest amount on deposit of any bank between Jacksonville and Tampa.

The Orlando Bank and Trust Company was organized April 17, 1906, with Judge J. D. Beggs as president, Mr. M. M. Smith, vice-president, and Mr. Thomas Hopkins, cashier. On the death of Judge Beggs, he was succeeded by Mr. M. M. Smith, who in turn was succeeded by Mr. H. L. Beeman. This bank was located in the old First National Bank room on the southwest corner of Orange Avenue and Pine Street, continuing in business there until its removal to the south side of East Pine Street for the purpose of erecting a new building, which was begun in January, 1923, and occupied May, 1924. This is a ten-story building and complete in every particular. The present officers are: Mr. H. L. Beeman, president; Messrs. W. M. Davis, R. L. Hyer, and T. H. Evans, vice-presidents; Mr. Fred C. Allen, cashier, and Mr. J. W. McLendon, assistant cashier. This bank has grown steadily since the day of its organization and has filled a large place in the community.

The Peoples' National Bank was organized August 1, 1911, located on the south side of Pine Street in the Magruder Arcade, with the following officers: Mr. J. C. Patterson, president; Mr. C. A. Campbell and Mr. C. E. Johnson, vice-presidents and Mr. W. G. Talton, cashier, and continued in that location until October 15, 1913, when it was removed to the west side of South Orange Avenue, between Church and Pine Streets. President Patterson resigned in January, 1914, and was succeeded by Hon. M. O. Overstreet as president, Mr. Charles P. Dow becoming cashier. In January, 1917, Mr. Dow was succeeded by Mr. E. G. Hauselt, who continued as cashier until 1926.

In February, 1920, the name of this bank was changed, by permission of the Comptroller, from the Peoples' National Bank to the First National Bank in Orlando, Mr. Thomas Hopkins succeeding Mr. Overstreet as president. In December, 1921, Mr. Hopkins resigned and was succeeded by Judge William T. Bland as president, Mr. L. B. Giles, as vice-president, Mr. W. R. O'Neal as Chairman of the Board and Mr. I. L. Cook, cashier. The bank being the only National Bank in Orlando, and a member of the Federal Reserve system, has filled a large place in the community.



The Bank of Orange & Trust Company was organized October 21, 1919, as a bank and trust company, but was a conversion of the Bank of Orange which was organized September 25, 1916, with a capital of \$50,000. This bank was located on the north side of Central Avenue, between Orange and Court Streets, with the following officers: Mr. U. G. Staton, president, Mr. J. F. Ange, vice-president, and Mr. J. H. Tucker, cashier. This bank later removed to the room on the northeast corner of Orange and Wall Street in the Angebilt Hotel and continued in business until March 21, 1927, when it was voluntarily liquidated and from its assets was organized the Orlando Commercial Bank with the following officers: Mr. E. E. McGill, president, Mr. W. E. Martin, vice-president, Mr. V. B. Newton, vice-president, and Mr. W. L. Jackson, cashier; it opened for business May 23, 1927, continuing the location in the same place as the Bank of Orange & Trust Company.

The Church Street Bank, located on the southeast corner of West Church Street and Hughey Street, was organized in May of 1923, with Mr. E. P. Hyer, president, Mr. S. Kendrick Guernsey, vice-president, and Mr. A. M. Crittenden, cashier. This bank was organized particularly for convenience of the residents and business men of West Orlando, and has successfully met this need, the same officers continuing since its organization.

The North Orlando State Bank opened for business August 16, 1926, with \$50,000 capital, Mr. L. C. Massey as president, Mr. C. DeWitt Miller, vice-president, Mr. J. P. Holbrook, cashier, and Mr. Z. V. Raulerson, assistant cashier. Mr. Holbrook later resigned as cashier, and Mr. Miller, vice-president, is acting cashier until one is appointed.

The Bank of Winter Park was opened Oct., 10, 1911, with Dr. W. F. Blackman as president and Mr. C. D. Powell as cashier. As the needs of the growing town of Winter Park had been strong and insistent, it was a gala day for the town and was made a very auspicious occasion, merchants advertising 20% discount on each dollar's worth purchased. As evidence of support and appreciation, the sum of \$20,000 was deposited on the first day. The banking house first occupied has been enlarged twice, with increase of capital. The present officers are: Mr. E. B. Mendsen, president, Mr. Frank W. Cady, vice-president, Mr. H. A. Ward, vice-president, and Mr. C. L. Sutliff, cashier. This bank has filled a very important place in the community, and has increased its deposits far beyond that which the population would seem to indicate.

The Union State Bank in Winter Park was organized in 1917 with a capital of \$30,000. Dr. C. D. Christ was elected president, Mr. Thomas M. Henkle, vice-president, and Mr. Ed. F. Keezel, cashier. The bank has enjoyed a steady normal growth, increasing its capital in 1921 to \$50,000. The present officers are: Mr. Irving Bacheller, Chairman of the Board, Mr. D. K. Dickinson, president, and Mr. Paul E. Davis, cashier.



The Bank of Winter Garden was organized in 1908, with Mr. D. McKinnon as president, Mr. B. T. Boyd, vice-president and Mr. G. T. Smith as cashier. Mr. McKinnon resigned in 1910 and was succeeded by Mr. Boyd, who served in that capacity until his death in 1924, when Mr. G. T. Smith was elected president and continues to serve. The capital is now \$25,000.

The First National Bank of Winter Garden was organized in 1919, with a capital of \$25,000, Mr. J. D. McMillan as president, and Mr. A. B. Newton, cashier. The present officers are: Mr. J. M. Sullivan, president, Mr. A. S. Ficquette, vice-president, Mr. J. S. Fairchild, vice-president, Mr. M. V. Pilcher, cashier, and Mrs. L. M. Biggers, assistant cashier.

The Bank of Oakland was organized December 12, 1912, with Mr. J. H. Sadler as president, Mr. C. H. Tilden, vice-president, and Mr. C. E. Teasley as cashier. The bank continues to fill a very important place in the community in which it is located.

The Bank of Ocoee was organized Dec. 20, 1919, Mr. F. H. Maguire, president, and Dr. M. N. Jensen, cashier, with a capital of \$25,000. The banking house was the first brick business building in Ocoee. The present officers are, Mr. D. A. Minor, president, Mr. D. E. Ewing, vice-president, Mr. D. S. Wurst, cashier.

The State Bank of Apopka was organized in 1887, with Messrs. Joseph L. Guernsey, E. R., O. W. and A. P. Prince, as directors, Mr. E. R. Prince served as president and Mr. Joseph L. Guernsey as cashier. This was an unincorporated bank and closed in 1892.

The State Bank of Apopka was organized February 12, 1912, with Mr. C. P. McCall as president, Mr. A. C. Starbird, vice-president and Mr. W. G. Talton, cashier. President McCall retiring in 1913, Mr. W. R. O'Neal was elected president, serving until 1912, at which time Mr. William Edwards was elected to succeed him. The deposits in this bank are now more than a half-million dollars, which is evidence of the esteem and appreciation which the community holds for the bank.

The total deposits in the thirteen banks of Orange County, on June 30, 1927, amounted to \$17, 590,000.91.

#### FOUR DISASTERS

Four disasters have befallen Orange County, in common with all Florida, during the period under review, three of them caused by the blind and irresistible forces of nature, and the fourth by the cupidity of man. These disasters were the great storm of 1871, the "big freeze" of 1894-95, the protracted drought of 1906-07, and the so-called "boom" of 1925-26.

In August of 1871, an unprecedented storm of wind and rain occurred. For forty-eight hours, the tempest raged without intermission; then fol-



lowed a week of calm weather; and then for another forty-eight hours, "the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew." Mr. A. J. Lovell, of Apopka, reports that a flour barrel standing on end was filled and overflowed by the rain, that the Wekiwa River was a mile wide, that the Yowell-Drew corner was four feet or more under water, that the ground in the flatwoods was saturated to such a depth that horses could not be driven over it, that thousands of cattle were bogged down and drowned on the prairies, and that countless numbers of pine trees were prostrated. Fortunately, most of the houses of that time were built of heavy logs, and so withstood the onset, but the property loss was great. No reference is made here to the hurricane which in September, 1926, devastated the lower East Coast of the state, inasmuch as this did not reach to Orange County.

The second disaster was the reverse of the first in character—there was too little water rather than too much. In 1906-07, occurred a severe and protracted drought. For more than a year, scarcely any rain fell. Crops of fruit, grain, and vegetables were destroyed; citrus and ornamental trees and shrubbery were injured; water courses and lakes were dried up, live stock suffered for want of both water and grass; and from ten to fifty per cent of the pine trees of the state were killed, except on the lower and moister lands, and many other varieties of forest trees were injured or destroyed. Naval store operators, lumber men and owners of timber lands suffered great loss.

The third disaster was the "big freeze" of 1894-95. At this time, the state was mainly dependent on citrus fruits for its money income. Diversified farming, the growing of vegetables for the market, had not yet been developed, or hardly thought of. Many thousands of people from the North and West had made their homes in Florida and invested all their scanty means in orange groves, which yielded them a comfortable support. And then, "as a thief in the night," crept across the land the northwest wind, bringing freezing temperatures. The following interesting affidavit may be found in the miscellaneous records of Orange County:

"On this 8th day of February, A. D. 1896, personally appeared Benjamin M. Robinson, who being first duly sworn, deposes and says:

"That on the night of December 29th, 1894, a freeze occurred in Florida, by reason of which the entire crop of oranges and other fruits in the County of Orange and other counties was ruined and lost;

"That afterwards, to-wit, on the night of the 7th of February, A. D. 1895, a still greater freeze occurred, in fact, the greatest ever known



in the history of the state, the thermometer reaching as low as 18 degrees above zero, by reason of which second freeze, almost all of the orange trees in Orange and other counties were killed to the ground.

"That this affidavit is made and asked to be recorded for the information of future generations,"

BENJAMIN A. ROBINSON,  
Sworn to and subscribed before me this  
8th day of February, A. D. 1896.

J. N. BRADSHAW,  
Clerk of the Circuit Court.

The first freeze had denuded the trees of their leaves; in the warm and moist interval which followed, the cambium layer of the bark had been deluged with sap, and new growth had been put on, in the desperate effort for recovery; the second freeze turned the sap to ice, ruptured the bark, practically girdled the trees, and thus destroyed the entire citrus industry of the state.

The trees stood bare, gaunt, pathetic; the ground beneath them was covered with fallen fruit in layers; the air was laden with the stench of decaying oranges; the people were shocked, disheartened, apparently bankrupt and helpless. For them, this was "the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet standing where it ought not." Multitudes abandoned their groves and homes, in some cases leaving tables set and beds unmade, and went away. Business was at a standstill, banks failed, all civic and social institutions—churches, schools, clubs—were partially paralyzed. But many more courageous spirits stayed on and took up the task of rehabilitation. Dead trees were cut down and burned, funeral pyres of extinct hopes, young sprouts thrown up by still living roots were budded at the ground, nurseries were replanted, and the citrus industry slowly came back, reaching finally proportions hardly dreamed of before.

One good result of this calamity was the diversification of agriculture and horticulture which followed. It was now clearly seen that Florida could no longer be a "one-crop" state. The growing of vegetables for the winter market was undertaken, staple crops were cultivated, and dairying and raising of poultry were engaged in, providing thus more varied, safer and more helpful conditions of life.

The fourth of these disasters was the so-called "boom" of 1925-26.

For this disaster, it should be said at once, the people of Florida were not primarily and chiefly accountable, though they cannot escape their share of responsibility for it. Also, it should be said that Orange County suffered less than many other portions of the state from its effects.



No attempt will be made here to analyze thoroughly the causes of this "boom." It was no doubt brought about largely by the same traits of human nature, and the same economic forces and conditions, which have staged similar "booms" periodically, in other parts of the country. And the mental unrest, and relative abundance of money which followed the World War, probably had an influence on the course of events. Also, the unique attractiveness of the Florida climate, the peculiar magic which the orange and its culture had long exercised on men's minds, the crowds of tourists who came to the state every winter and succumbed to its charms, the rapid, though normal, growth of many of its cities and towns, the abundance of cheap lands which were available for exploitation, and the advantages which all these conditions provided for publicity and advertising campaigns, made, all together, a strong appeal to speculators in land, and subdivision promoters.

And so they came in increasing throngs from all parts of the country, many of them shrewd and experienced in the business of land exploitation, and set about the task of "selling" the country. No doubt many of these were honest, both in intent and in methods of operation, and their work has been of permanent and inestimable value to the state; but not a few were adventurers, intent only on making a quick "kill," of "skimming the cream." Numberless subdivisions were laid out adjoining the cities and towns and extending far out into the country; "improvements" were made, sometimes substantial and sometimes scanty; alluring promises of further improvements were given; more or less attractive but often flimsy stucco gates were built, opening upon these developments; wide-stretching areas were laid off in lots and marked with white stakes like a cemetery; streets and walks were laid down; and lots were sold to eager purchasers at inflated prices, relatively small initial payments frequently being made, and obligations incurred which later turned out to be difficult or impossible of fulfillment.

And in the wake of these speculators, and a result of their publicity campaigns, hundreds of thousands of men and women poured into Florida by train or automobile, from every state in the Union, most of them with no purpose to become permanent citizens but eager to secure a share of the "easy money" which they believed awaited them here. They bought and sold lots, often making handsome profits on paper, and obligating themselves for deferred payments which they believed could easily be met.

As was inevitable, the local population was infected by the enthusiasm thus kindled. It was contagious, and it became epidemic, almost



an obsession. Bank clerks, store clerks, teachers, stenographers, nurses, high school pupils, launched themselves in the real estate business, some in newly-opened offices, some as peripatetic salesmen on the streets and from house to house. It is estimated that from three to five thousand realty operators, of high and low degree, came and went in Orange County during this period. Ambitious building programs were entered upon; freight embargos followed; the postal service was disorganized; the prices of lots and houses and rents were advanced by leaps and bounds; living expenses were increased; there was only one topic of conversation on the streets; the passer-by heard only talk of lots, and of thousands and millions of dollars; some banks and loan companies extended credits unduly, though the financial houses of Orange County followed a more conservative policy than was the case in many other cities; debts were contracted on a large scale; bond issues were floated by counties and municipalities for street and road paving and the building of school houses, perhaps larger and more numerous than normal conditions would have justified, involving an increased burden of taxation; in short, the entire life of the community was reorganized, on a partly fictitious and temporary basis.

And then came the reaction which might have been expected, but which many did not anticipate. There was a "slump." Buyers lessened in number and in eagerness; northern investors became chary; prices sagged; banks curtailed credits and made demands for impossible payments; the "binder-boys" from the North returned home or sought fresh fields for their operations; many of those who had left their positions to engage in the real estate "game" found themselves out of work; deferred payments had to be met; foreclosures of mortgages followed; vacant offices and empty houses appeared in the streets. Large suburban and rural areas which had been cut up into lots, of which a few here and there had been sold, could not easily be got back into acreage properties, for use as farms or otherwise. And so the people were faced by new problems of all sorts which were by no means easy of solution. What was most tragic in all this, was the investment by many people of small means, residents and visitors, of all their little property—and its loss.

But as the three earlier disasters passed, so this fourth is passing. Normal conditions are being restored, values are being stabilized. Of the multitudes of visitors and investors who were brought into the county and the state, many were added to its permanent population. The vast and costly improvements and extensions made by the railroads, public utility companies and other great corporations, and the hard-surfaced



roads and commodious and beautiful school houses which were built, remained to serve the uses of the people and enrich their lives. In Orange County perhaps a dozen subdivisions were laid out, around the shores of its entrancing lakes, which are veritable dreams of beauty, and which will infallibly attract purchasers and homeseekers. What was premature will become mature with the passing of time; the community will "catch up with itself" and be all the better off at length for the passing flurry.

#### ORANGE COUNTY CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN RED CROSS

The Orange County Chapter of the American Red Cross was organized as the Orlando Branch of the American Red Cross at a mass meeting held in the Grand Theatre on April 19, 1917. Mrs. A. B. Whitman served as chairman and Miss Eloise Robinson (now Mrs. Roy V. Ott, of Ocala), as secretary. Brief addresses were made on the work and purpose of the Red Cross by Dr. J. S. McEwan, Dr. M. B. Swift, Mrs. G. H. Edwards and Mr. H. H. Dickson.

One hundred and forty members were enrolled at this meeting and the following officers elected: Mr. N. P. Yowell, chairman; Mrs. W. R. O'Neal, vice-chairman; Miss Elizabeth Rand, secretary, and Mr. S. Waters Howe, treasurer. Mrs. H. L. Beeman, Mrs. A. B. Whitman and Mr. M. O. Overstreet were elected to serve with the officers on the executive committee.

Another meeting was held in the Grand Theatre on April 24, when the offer of the Rosalind club house as headquarters for the Red Cross was gladly accepted. The chairman announced the following committees: publicity; Messrs. C. E. Howard, J. H. Reese and W. M. Glenn; chairman of finance, Mr. S. A. Johnson; of membership, Mrs. Edna Fuller; of work at headquarters, Mrs. E. G. Hauselt; purchasing, Mrs. G. H. Edwards; cutting, Mrs. J. W. Simmons; distributing, Mrs. S. E. Ives, Sr.; inspection, Mrs. Seth Woodruff; surgical and hospital supplies, Mrs. J. S. McEwan.

Beginning with May 1, headquarters at Rosalind club house were opened daily for work from 9 A. M. to 5 P. M. Sewing machines and work tables replaced other furniture, and from that time till the close of the war, vast quantities of garments and surgical dressings were made and packed there, besides the very large amount of similar work done by the Red Cross auxiliaries and units throughout Orange County, whose members received material from the Rosalind headquarters and returned the finished articles for shipment. Hundreds of sweaters, socks, scarfs and caps were knitted; a report made in August, 1917, gave the number of articles shipped as 4,460, with value of materials used as \$760.

To meet the constant expense of these materials, voluntary gifts were made beyond the membership fee, many individuals and clubs making a monthly contribution for this work.



At this time, state headquarters for Red Cross were located in Jacksonville, called the North Florida Chapter, with branches and auxiliaries throughout the state, instead of the separate county chapters as arranged a few months later. Miss Ruth Rich, director of branches of the North Florida Chapter, gave an interesting address on the Red Cross at a meeting held in the Presbyterian lecture room on May 1. The chairman announced that evening that Mrs. O'Neal would be unable to serve as vice-chairman, and Mrs. W. G. McLean was unanimously elected to that office.

During that first month, large classes were formed in first aid under Dr. McEwan, and in elementary hygiene and home nursing under Miss Davids, a Red Cross nurse, and plans were made toward forming the Junior Red Cross. The latter work was started by Mrs. T. E. F. Hoskins, and was carried forward under the chairmanship of Mrs. Francis Laughlin, whose efficient labor found a most willing co-operation from the children of Orange County, with excellent results in gifts and service.

A report of the North Florida Chapter in the Times-Union for May 27, 1917, gave Orlando as second in membership of the twenty-six branches and auxiliaries, and added this mention: "Orlando branch, when less than a month old, had enrolled 378 members, a large proportion of these being subscribing members, while several life members have been enrolled. It is probable that Orlando has the largest proportion of life contributing and subscribing members of any of the branches."

Late in September, 1917, the reorganization of Red Cross branches into one chapter for each county was advised by southern division headquarters, and a committee to consider such a step was appointed, the members being Mesdames McEwan, Edwards, Heltzen, Reams, Fuller and Dean Glass and Judge Warlow.

At a special Red Cross meeting on October 11, 1917, the Orlando branch was reorganized as the Orange County Chapter, American Red Cross. The same officers were continued, and the following directors elected: Dean Glass, and Mesdames Whitman, Heltzen, Giles, Abberger and Pedrick. The executive board appointed the following chairmen: Finance, Miss Maggie Hart; publicity, Mrs. Edna Fuller; purchasing, Mrs. G. H. Edwards; headquarters, Mrs. E. G. Hauselt; surgical dressings, Mrs. W. O. Reams; membership, Mrs. H. Bourne; classes in surgical dressings, Mrs. T. P. Warlow. Sub-committee chairmen were Mrs. Abberger, cutting; Mrs. Heltzen, distributing; Mrs. Woodruff, inspection; and Mrs. Edwards, packing.

A committee appointed to draw up a set of rules consisted of Dean Glass, Mrs. Hauselt and Miss Elizabeth Rand. Later the report of this committee was accepted with slight alterations. The resignation of Mr. S. Waters Howe as treasurer was accepted with regret, and Mr. Harry M. Voorhis was appointed to this office. A committee on civilian relief, with Mr. James M. Knox as chairman, was appointed in December, 1917, this starting the work which later became the home service section.



The first annual Red Cross Roll Call was held just before Christmas, 1917, with Mr. S. Y. Way as chairman. A quota of 800 members had been assigned to Orange County from division headquarters, and in this, as in production quotas both before and since, Orange County's chapter kept its reputation for not merely reaching all quotas, but exceeding them, the total enrollment at that time being 978.

Reports of the secretary, Miss Elizabeth Rand, showed a rapid increase of Red Cross articles, especially in production work, from May, 1917, till November of 1918. In October, 1918, this chapter had two branches, the West Orange branch, which included Oakland, Winter Garden, and part of Ocoee, and the Winter Park branch; it also had nineteen active auxiliaries, located at Apopka, Clarcona, Conway, Drennen, Fairvilla, Fort Christmas, Formosa, Lockhart, Ocoee, Pinecastle, Tangerine, Taft, Windermere and Zellwood. A large auxiliary was organized among the colored people of Orlando; and other auxiliaries among the colored people were formed at Apopka, Eatonville, Tangerine and Winter Park.

With the great joy and relief of Armistice Day, came an inevitable reaction from the long strain of zealous labor, and a decrease in Red Cross activities with the lessened need for the production work.

Early in March, 1919, at a called meeting of the executive committee, it was decided to extend the work of the home service section to meet in fuller degree the increasing needs of our service men and their families, both for men then still in service, and for those returning, in their many difficult problems during the trying re-adjustment period.

It was decided to elect an executive secretary who would attend a Red Cross Institute held in Jacksonville for a special six weeks' course of training in this work. This training included lines of family welfare service, and the executive committee elected Miss Corinne Robinson to take this work in addition to that of the Associated Charities already held, both boards approving this step with the understanding that the joint work be carried forward from the same office later.

On May 9, 1919, the home service office was opened, space being kindly granted by the Orlando Chamber of Commerce in the old Rosalind club house, where the Angebilt hotel now stands. Two years later, the office moved to the city hall in the old armory building, and later with the city hall to its present location.

For both white and colored ex-service men, this work of the Orange County Red Cross has been of untold help in many ways, and numerous claims due from the government have been secured for men who had been totally unable to handle these for themselves, because of not knowing how or where to present such claims.

Early in 1921, the first Red Cross Ford was purchased, this car being supplied and maintained by the Red Cross for the work both of the Red Cross and the Associated Charities.



Since the war, the Orange County Chapter has filled frequent requests from national headquarters for hospital garments and sweaters, also making a large quantity of kimonos for children in Japan after the earthquake loss there.

For the past five years, this chapter has supplied Christmas bags for men in service at foreign stations, and each summer for seven years a large quantity of warm clothing has been collected and shipped for use in the Near East.

Those who have served as roll call chairmen are Mr. S. Y. Way, for the first annual roll call, held in December, 1917; Mr. Wm. E. Castle; Mr. J. Y. Cheney, who served during two roll calls; Messrs. W. M. Glenn, J. E. Mileham, Dr. M. B. Swift, Karl Lehmann, O. P. Swope and in 1926, Mr. G. Jackson, Jr., who was chairman for Orlando, and Mrs. Price chairman for Windermere. For the eleventh annual roll-call, in November of 1927, Mr. Blaine McGrath is chairman.

Mr. N. P. Yowell served most efficiently as chairman from the organization of this chapter until October 13, 1927, when he resigned through press of business claims, and Mr. G. Jackson, Jr., was elected chairman. Other officers are: Mrs. W. C. McLean, vice-chairman; Miss Alta Wright, secretary; Mr. A. N. Goodwin, treasurer; and Miss Corinne Robinson, secretary of the home service section.

Immediate Red Cross relief work followed the first tidings of the south Florida hurricane, Sept. 18, 1926, large quantities of emergency supplies of all kinds being rushed to both the Miami and the Moore Haven sections, with workers who rendered notable personal service. Cash contributions from Orange County through the Red Cross for the hurricane relief totalled about \$20,000 and many refugees were cared for here.

In April, 1927, a telegram from National Red Cross headquarters asked the Orange County Red Cross to raise \$3,000 for the Mississippi flood sufferers. This appeal was published in local papers, the chapter officers designated to receive gifts, and with no personal solicitation whatever, so generous was the speedy response, that this quota was doubled within one week, and further gifts gave a \$9,000 total through this Red Cross Chapter.



## CHAPTER III

### ORLANDO

**L**ONG before Orlando had a "local habitation and a name," Ft. Gatlin was established by the Federal Government, some two miles southeast of the present city, one of the chain of several forts along the Indian trail leading from Lake Monroe to Tampa; these forts were built during the first Seminole War. Ft. Gatlin was established in 1838.

There is a tradition that a council of representatives of the government and Indians met here under a huge live oak tree, and this oak, now no longer existing, was long known as the "Council Oak."

Whether Ft. Gatlin was named for the lake, or the lake for the fort, is not known. However, in a recent letter to the author, General Lutz Wahl, Adjutant General of the army, says: "Referring to your inquiry, nothing is found in the official records here to show for whom Ft. Gatlin, Florida, was named. It is highly probable, however, that it was named in honor of Dr. John S. Gatlin, assistant surgeon, United States army, who was killed in the Dade massacre in the present Sumter County, Florida, December 28, 1835, at which time nearly 100 soldiers were killed by Indians. That officer was born in North Carolina, and was appointed from that state. Fort Gatlin was established November 9, 1838, and was abandoned November 22, 1849."

On March 27, 1924, the Orlando Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution unveiled a granite marker near the site of the fort, on what is now known as Gatlin Avenue, with impressive ceremonies, at which Miss Frances E. Gregory, regent, presided, and Mrs. W. C. McLean made an interesting historical address. The tablet on this marker carries the following inscription:

*Erected By The  
ORLANDO CHAPTER D. A. R.  
March 27, 1924  
Marking the Site of Fort Gatlin, 1838,  
MILITARY OUTPOST*

Pinecastle and the Conway region received a number of settlers before Orlando was more than a name, a trading point in a small way, and the site of the county government.

Will Wallace Harney, pioneer, journalist, essayist, poet, orange grower, settled in what is now Pinecastle in 1869 (see Biographical Sketch in Part Two of this work). Leonard Tyner and Charles Sweet came in the seventies, and about the same time the father of Mr. George E. Macy built a home in Pinecastle where he lived until his death; he was a blacksmith and surveyor.



Mr. William Benjamin Hull came to Orange County from Georgia in 1855, and lived during most of the remainder of his life in Conway. (See Biographical Sketch in Part Two of this work).

Mr. Joseph A. Barber was a native of Orange County, and was born near Lake Conway December 18, 1860. He was the father of eleven children, the family being pioneers in the cattle, cotton and citrus industry.

Mr. Andrew J. Barber, son of William, came to the county in 1855; he served in the Seminole War, and afterward engaged in stock raising and farming in what is now Osceola County.

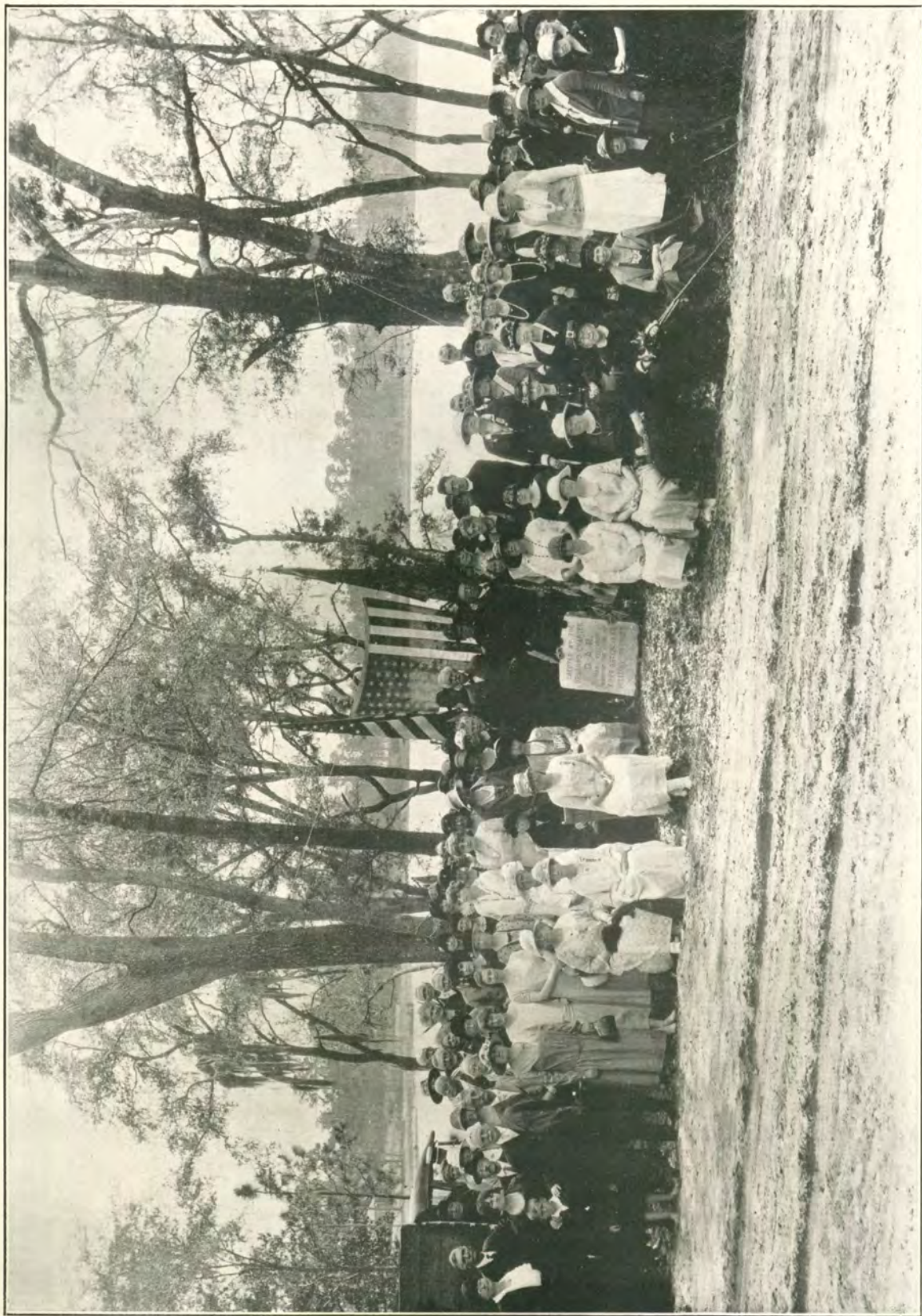
In 1872, Messrs. Greenup Arnold, L. J. Griffin, Charles Sweet, and T. M. Carpenter came to the Conway district from Gadsden County, with their families, a party of twenty-one. Mr. Arnold homesteaded in Conway, and Mr. Sweet in the heart of what is now Pinecastle; Mr. Carpenter settled in Conway and later moved to Pinecastle. With Mr. Arnold came his two sons, the elder of whom took up a homestead in the Conway district, where his widow now lives; the younger son, J. H. Arnold, is still living in Conway. He does not recall another person now residing in or about Orlando who was here when he came. A son of Mr. Griffin, Hon. S. S. Griffin, lives in Orlando, and has long been an active factor in the business and political life of the county; an account of his life may be found in the Biographical Section of this work Part Two, and in the story of Windermere, Chapter IX.

Hon. George W. Crawford came to Conway from Tennessee in 1873, and engaged in the growing of oranges and the cattle industry. He was thrice elected a member of the lower house of the state Legislature, and at the age of seventy-five years of the Senate. He was connected with the Mizell family, having married Sarah, daughter of David Mizell; she still lives in Orlando. For an account of Senator Crawford's highly successful and useful life, see the Biographical Sketch in Part Two of this work.

Mr. John R. Worthington seems to have arrived in 1859; he was a prominent man in the community, but little can now be learned of his character and doings. He built a small "hotel" on the lot where the new court house now stands, and this was conducted by Mr. and Mrs. William B. Hull; Mr. Hull was the first mail carrier between Mellonville and Orlando. A sketch of his life may be found in Part Two of this work.

Mr. James P. Hughey, born in Georgia, came to Orange County in 1855, bringing his family and household effects in a two-wheeled cart, and unloading them on the west bank of Lake Lucerne, near the site of the present home of Hon. James L. Giles. He then enlisted in the Seminole War, and on his return took up 160 acres of land under the armed occupation act, lying between Lucerne and the present railroad tracts. During the Civil War, he "made the journey by mule team twice each month to Gainesville, then the nearest supply station and postoffice, and brought back provisions, clothing and other





Dedication of Marker, Fort Gatlin

Photo. by Robinson



necessities for the families of his neighbors. During the early days of the settlement, the planters were greatly annoyed and harrassed by gophers, that fairly swarmed over the land and destroyed their crops. Mr. Hughey suffered in common with his neighbors, but instead of declaring war to the death upon the tortoises, he set traps for them and instructed his children to capture them alive. Then once or twice a week, when he had a pen full of the creatures, he would load up his cart with them, and on his way to Sanford, for he was at the time official mail-carrier between the two points, Mr. Hughey would ford the Maitland branch, and on the further shore liberate the four-footed pests in the wild land where they would be shut off from the settlement by the water barrier.”\*

Mr. Hughey served as clerk of the Circuit Court for about a score of years, and as clerk of the Town Council for a considerable period. His name is worthily perpetuated in that of an important thoroughfare of the city.

Captain Aaron Jernigan, a veteran of the Seminole War, and a citizen of substance, lived on what was later called Lake Holden, after Mr. W. H. Holden had purchased the property from Captain Jernigan on which he built his home on the north side of the lake.

There were four Patricks, three brothers and a cousin, William A., James J., Goffe and “Dink”; William owned property to the southwest of the community center, and was a partner of Mr. C. A. Boone in the mercantile business. He later moved to Kissimmee, where he built the first hotel in that town, and died.

Captain John W. Wofford came from Georgia to Marion County, and then in 1859 to Orlando. He had been a captain in the Mexican War and a lieutenant in the Seminole War; he served later also in the Civil War. His three surviving sons now live in Lockhart.

Mr. W. Jackson Brack, a cattleman from south Florida, was the first mayor of Orlando, when the town was incorporated in 1875; he returned later to south Florida and was found dead in the woods, setting on the ground and leaning against a tree, gun in hand.

Mr. L. Purvis, a farmer, lived some two miles east of Orlando, and Mr. Isaac Winegord a little further out. Mr. Winegord was later sheriff of the county.

Messrs. Isaac Powell and Len. Tyler lived to the southward. Mr. Tyler's widow lived for a year in Ft. Gatlin, as a refugee from hostile attacks by the Indians.

Mr. Nat Poyntz appears to have homesteaded in Pinecastle, in the 70's; he later moved to Orlando, and was engaged with his brothers in banking, of which business some account may be found in a later section of this chapter. Mr. Poyntz is still living in Boston. A recent issue of a Boston

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\*From an article in the Weekly Reporter-Star for October 27, 1911.



newspaper contains a portrait of Mr. Poyntz, and says: "Nat Poyntz, 79, sole survivor of the Confederate army in Massachusetts, the last soldier of the Confederacy to be mustered out of the U. S. army service, in May, 1926, and said to be the oldest member of the American Legion, will spend Memorial day quietly with friends in Boston."

He had been invited by the United Daughters of the Confederacy of Boston, of which his daughter with whom he makes his home, Mrs. Walter H. Fletcher of 51 Norton Street, Dorchester, is a member, to decorate the grave of a Confederate soldier at Deer Island, who died while a prisoner during the Civil War. He was the last soldier of the Confederacy in the U. S. service.

Mr. Joseph Bumby came to Orlando in 1873, and was the first railroad agent in the place; he lived a half-mile north of the entrance to Greenwood cemetery (see Biographical sketch in Part Two of this work).

Mr. J. J. Davis, county surveyor, also lived near the cemetery in the early 70's.

Prof. B. Gould, Orlando's second school teacher, came in 1875.

Two Givens brothers, bachelors, lived west of Park Lake at this time. Mr. E. W. Spier, postmaster for a decade, built and occupied the residence since known as the David Lockhart place, probably the oldest house still standing in Orlando. A Dr. Shelby lived east of Lake Eola, and a Mrs. Terry owned the forty acre tract on which Admiral Jouett's "Anchorage" afterwards stood.

Mr. J. W. Williams served as the first marshal of the town, and was shot by a deputy sheriff; the records of the Board of County Commissioners mention a reward offered for the capture of his slayer, but the reward appears never to have been claimed.

Mr. John Ivey seems to have come in 1858; he lived southwest of the court house.

Five Hodges brothers, Henry, Elias, Samuel, William and John, lived to the eastward, and Mr. Vincent Lee, a farmer and cattleman, settled to the southward.

Mr. L. P. Westcott came to Orlando from Detroit, Dec 4, 1875, and engaged in the citrus and nursery business; his nursery occupied an entire square between Central Avenue and Church Street, on the east side of Lake Eola. He built what is said to have been the first plastered house south of Palatka, just north of the brick court house, taking down the rooming house erected by Mr. Worthington, and lived there until 1886, when he built a house where the new court house now stands. This house he sold to Mrs. Pell of New York and built on Clear Lake, west of the town, later erecting a cottage in Orange Avenue across the street from the Coliseum. The Diocese of South Florida acquired the Pell property as an Episcopal residence, called Bishopsgate, and



this was sold to the county as the site of the court house. Mr. Westcott's son, Mr. W. L. Westcott, still lives in Orlando.

Two physicians lived west of the settlement, Drs. Hackney and Jackson.

It appears to have been after the close of the war that Mr. Nathan Beasley and his son Hiram settled to the west of Orlando; the latter was janitor of the court house for many years. About this time, Mr. Alex. Powers operated as a butcher, selling meats to the settlers from a two-wheeled cart; he lived two or three miles east of the center.

Mr. David Mizell came to Orange County with his family in 1858, and built the first house, a log cabin, in what is now Winter Park. (See Chapter IV of this work). He afterward lived with a son in Conway, and purchased a home from the widow of this son. In the Conway cemetery is a headstone bearing the inscription, "David Mizell, born February 23, 1804, died January 16, 1884." Mr. Mizell was a member of the state Legislature at the breaking out of the Civil War. His name appears as chairman of the Board of County Commissioners in the earliest records which have survived, for the year 1869. He had five sons, John R., Joshua, Thomas, Morgan and David M., who was sheriff of the county and who was killed in the discharge of his duty, his death leading to a bitter and bloody feud between two factions.

A son-in-law of David Mizell was William Harrison Holden, a conspicuous pioneer of Orange County. Mr. Holden came to Florida in 1848. He settled first on the Indian River, where he was employed as an army scout, and carried the mail to the southern part of the state. He later moved to Enterprise, now Benson Springs, importing fine blooded breeding stock for the cattle business which he carried on at that point; when the Union army entered the state, Mr. Holden's entire stock of cattle was confiscated; he then moved to Orlando, where he bought from Captain Aaron Jernigan a tract on the lake which later took his name. This land, together with that purchased from the United States government, comprised an estate of about twelve hundred acres, and it was Mr. Holden's intention to establish here a fine stock farm; however, the natives burned his fences, stole and butchered his cattle, and thus forced him to pasture his stock on the open range in the southern part of the state. He eventually gave up the cattle business on a large scale, keeping only a small herd on his home place. The tract which he bought from Captain Jernigan had on it an old house built of hand-hewn logs, which had been used as an Indian stockade; the old Tampa trail ran along the section line of this property.

Later on, Mr. Holden began his agricultural and horticultural experiments and developments. He planted out a large grove in a variety of citrus trees; he had a large sugar plantation; he followed general farming and stock raising on a small scale, and he seems to have been the first to raise vegetables for the market in Orlando.



Mr. Holden married Nancy Mizell in 1860; his daughter, Mrs. Lagenbach, who still lives on the old home place, on beautiful Lake Holden, recalls that Orlando comprised in her childhood a small log postoffice, a small frame store, a rude little court house and a few scattered dwellings, all surrounded by unbroken forests, and with cow trails for streets. At the front of the single store, one could buy peg shoes and calico, and in the rear whiskey and other "necessities of life."

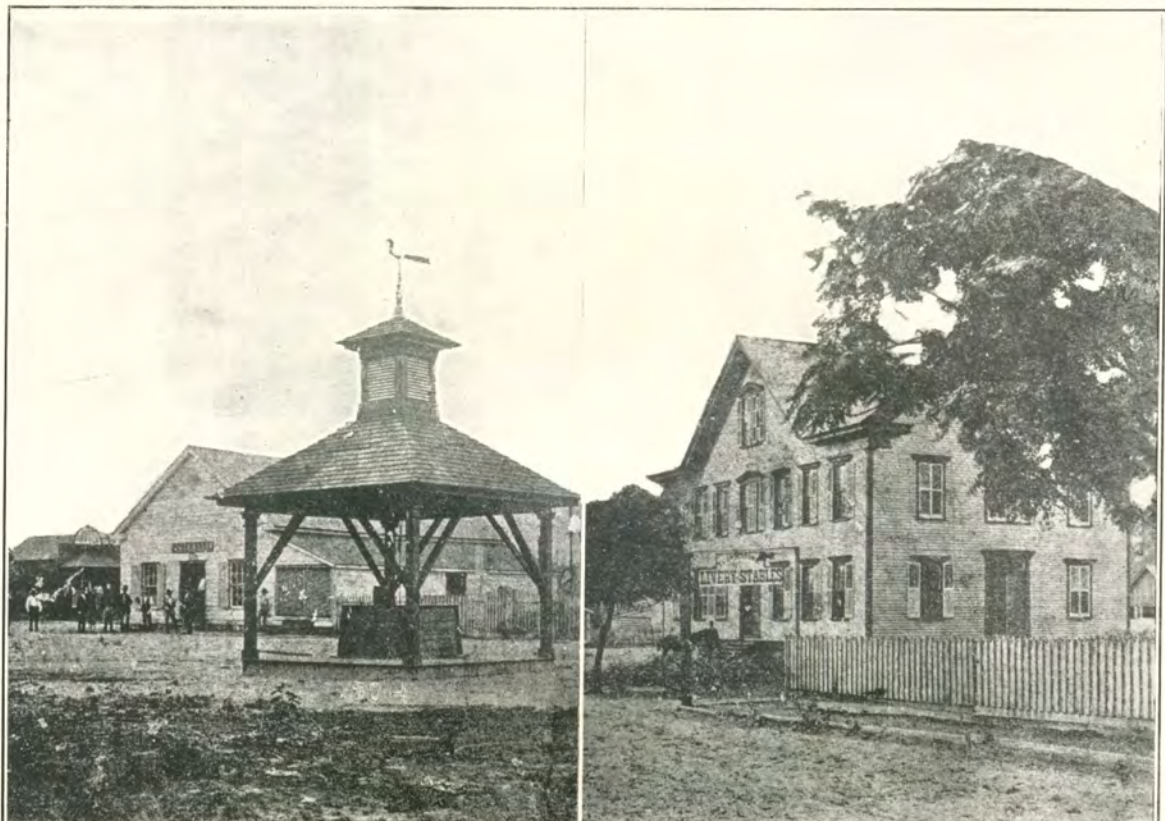
The first school house which Mrs. Lagenbach remembers was a one-room shack of unplanned lumber, with a plank floor and wide cracks, a combination school house and church; as all the razor-back hogs in the community used the sand underneath the floor as a rendezvous, the school children—and no doubt the worshipers also—were kept wide awake. Mr. Holden died in May, 1913.

Mr. William A. Lovell came from South Carolina in 1854, first to Niggertown near Ocala, then to Mellonville, then to Orlando, then to Hawkinsville on the St. Johns river, and then to Apopka. During the period of his residence in Orlando, Mr. Lovell was very active and influential in its affairs. He purchased a steam sawmill, grist mill and cotton gin in what is now Volusia County, and moved them to the northwest side of Lake Eola; later, this mill was sold and moved to Apopka, where it occupied successively several sites, being moved from place to place by six or eight yoke of oxen. Mr. Lovell conducted a store in Orlando, and also owned a hotel which was managed by Mr. C. A. Boone.

Mr. Boone came to Orlando in February, 1872, some three years before the town was incorporated; during the two previous years he had resided on the Blackwater, where he had taught the first public school in Orange County; he was also the first teacher in the Orlando schools. Mr. Boone was one of the earliest store keepers in the settlement, in partnership with Mr. W. A. Patrick. He served for six years in the office of the county clerk, and then established a hardware business on the site now occupied by the Woolworth Company. Mr. Boone was an active member of the Town Council for many years, and mayor in 1883. He conducted a dairy and nursery business for some fifteen years, and originated the Boone's Early Orange, which is still a standard variety; he afterward served as city clerk, tax assessor and tax collector.

Mr. George W. Macy came to Orlando October 25, 1875, and set up a blacksmith shop; his chief business was making branding-irons for the cattlemen of the region, but he also repaired guns and later wagons and buckboards, and did the blacksmithing work for the sawmills of the countryside. In 1880 he began the manufacturing of wagons—the Macy Wagon Works—and built up a large business. He made many thousands of wagons, sixteen different sorts of one-horse wagons, and employed some forty workmen; he received





Top—Early Orlando, Town Well, Early Orlando, Third County Court House  
 Bottom—Early Orlando, Corner of Orange Avenue and Court Street  
 Episcopal Church, Right; Catholic Church, Center



pay for wagons and work mostly in Spanish doubloons, chickens, hogs and other products. Mr. Macy is still living in Orlando.

Mr. and Mrs. James DeLaney came from Covington, Georgia, in 1875, purchased a forty acre tract, extending from Lake Lucerne to Lake Cherokee, and built on it a three-room house. This house was erected in what was a pine thicket, partially cleared for the purpose, and has since been enlarged; perhaps Mrs. DeLaney is the only resident of Orlando who has lived continuously for more than half a century in one place. From her front door in the first days, she could see the lights of only four or five buildings, stores and dwellings. The streets were only trails, winding among the trees, traversed by two-wheel carts drawn by oxen or cow ponies, the man of the family riding the animal and the cart full of womenfolk and children. Gazing in pop-eyed wonder at the first window glass he had ever seen, one of these "cracker" teamsters overturned his cart against a stump and spilled his human cargo on the ground. Montague and Pointz kept a store in Main Street, and Mr. DeLaney also built a store soon after their arrival. Mrs. DeLaney does not recall a single person now living in Orlando who was here when she came. The DeLaney name is perpetuated in that of one of Orlando's most attractive residence streets, and school buildings.

Another woman of distinction who came to Orlando the same year with Mrs. DeLaney, 1875, was Mrs. Mary Kerr Duke, then Mrs. Henry Gore Fernandez. Mrs. Duke taught school at Ft. Reed and later in Orlando. For many years she presided over Duke Hall, in which multitudes found a pleasant home, meantime taking an active part in various civic, educational and charitable organizations and movements. Duke Hall, now conducted by her daughter, Miss Hallie G. Fernandez, keeps alive in Orlando the name of a woman greatly esteemed and beloved.

Mr. Edgar A. Richards came to Florida from New Boston, New Hampshire, in 1868, first to Waldo, then Mellonville, and then Orlando. In 1879, he built a residence and blacksmith shop on the land now occupied by the home of Hon. M. O. Overstreet, which Mr. Richards had purchased from Mr. Jacob Summerlin, clearing and grubbing ten acres for Mr. Summerlin and receiving the five acres on which he built as compensation for this work. In 1880, Mr. Richards opened the first undertaking establishment in the county, in Court Street. He was active in civic and fraternal affairs, and was a highly useful citizen. His son, Mr. F. E. Richards, tells of fishing as a boy in a pond in Main Street, in front of Mrs. James DeLaney's house, and in another pond between the Yowell and Drew building and the State Bank Building; he thinks that the David Lockhart house, built by Mr. E. W. Speir, postmaster for ten years, just east of the Magnolia school, is the oldest house still standing in Orlando; another landmark is the house in Garland Street built by Professor B. Gould, the second teacher in the Orlando schools.



Col. W. B. Anno and Mr. John C. Anno came to Orange County in August, 1877; Mr. L. J. Dollins, a native of Tennessee, in 1875; Mr. J. B. Magruder in 1878, (see Biographical sketch in Part Two of this work); Mr. Lucius Stebbins, from Hartford, Connecticut, in 1879; Hon. John G. Sinclair, a leader of the Democratic party of New Hampshire and a member of the Senate of that state, in 1879; Samuel A. Robinson, a native of Michigan, a gifted scholar, a skillful engineer, and for many years one of the most conspicuous figures in the life of the county, as county surveyor, tax collector, tax assessor, member of the Legislature, member of the Town Council and notary public, in October, 1876; somewhat later, Prof. Norman Robinson, Samuel's elder brother, who had bought land in Sanford in 1875, professor of Natural Science in Rollins and state geologist; Dr. Washington Kilmer in 1872, first to Altamonte Springs in 1872, and then to Orlando.

Mr. Jacob Summerlin was one of the most notable figures in the early history of Orlando. He was born in Lake City, February 22, 1820, in a fort erected as a defence against Indian attacks. His father was an Englishman; he resigned his commission in the army, came to America, and was given a grant of land at Mandarin, on the St. Johns river. He later moved to Columbia County, where he owned a large tract of land, comprising the whole of what is now Lake City. He gave his son Jacob, a portion of his lands, horses and negroes, and at the age of sixteen years Jacob went to Bartow, where he bought lands from time to time from the state, at twenty-five cents per acre, finally acquiring about half of Polk County, and lands further south. Forseeing the Civil war, he sold his negroes, probably three hundred in number, and invested the proceeds in cattle, of which he ranged as many as 100,000 head, finding a market in Cuba. He was known as the "cattle king" of south Florida. His name is perpetuated in Bartow in the Summerlin Institute.

In 1867, Mr. Summerlin located his family in Liberty County, Georgia, in order that the children might have school privileges, and in 1873 came to Orlando, where he built the first considerable hotel, the Summerlin Hotel, still standing in enlarged form, gave Eola park to the town, defeated Gen. Sanford in his effort to remove the county seat to Sanford, served on the Town Council some time, and in many ways played a conspicuous and generous part in the development of the town. Some of these activities are mentioned elsewhere in this work. Dressed in a blue serge suit, carrying his coat, which he never wore, over his left arm, and in cold weather wrapping himself in a blanket, he was a striking and picturesque figure.

Captain B. M. Robinson, since 1904 clerk of the Circuit Court, recorder and auditor and ex-officio clerk of the Board of County Commissioners, came to Orange County in 1874. A Biographical sketch of Capt. Robinson may be found in Part Two of this work.

The foregoing is an incomplete roster of the settlers in and about Orlando during the 60's and 70's.



We will now turn back a decade or two and see how the earliest of these settlers lived.

Here are two items, taken from the county records, which throw a vivid light on the social and financial conditions of the time.

On Nov. 16, 1860, Mr. David Mizell "gave, granted, bargained and sold" to Ann E. Roberts "a certain negro woman named Harriet aged about twenty-five years, together with her three children . . . together with the future issue and increase of the said negro woman and her children."

Mr. William Mills, on Nov. 1, 1864, gave a promissory note to Mr. J. G. Speer for \$1500 in Confederate treasury notes, with the stipulation that "if a further depreciation should take place in the Confederate currency the said note is to be discharged by the payment of one hundred dollars in gold." (Deed Book D.)

The late "Uncle Dan" Prescott, shortly before his death in July, 1927, drew a faithful picture of the life of the farmers and cattlemen of the time, in conversation with the author of this work.

Daniel W. Prescott was born in Clay County, Florida, April 15, 1856, and came to Orange County with his father's family in 1867, settling some thirteen miles south of Orlando. There he afterward took up a homestead, and devoted himself to raising hogs and cattle. In 1914, he moved to the farm near Pinecastle where he spent the remainder of his life. Here he died on July 30, 1927—a friendly soul and a born story-teller.

Mrs. Prescott's father, W. W. Baxley, operated a water-power cotton gin and grist mill about 1862 on the run leading out of Lake Ivanhoe; he also operated the first blacksmith shop in the community near Lake Conway. He made and repaired the two-wheeled ox-carts which were then in use, getting his iron from guns, thrown away by the soldiers and others worn out or broken. He also made fine pocket knives, butcher knives and bowie knives from discarded files, the lining of the handles made from the brass hoops from old buckets, and the handles themselves fashioned from the horns of bucks. The bowie knives were mostly for the Indians. He also made hoes, rakes, plows that would turn two furrows at once, and other farm implements, harnesses, saddles and bridles.

These versatile and industrious pioneers also made spinning wheels and looms; they fashioned bee-hives from hollow logs; they made chairs, tables, bedsteads, side-tables and other articles of furniture. The settlers ranged their hogs and cattle in the woods; the hogs were fed on sweet potatoes, slaughtered, smoked and the lard packed in containers made from large gourds. The cattle were also slaughtered, their hair removed from the hides by means of lye made from the ashes of oak, the hides tanned in "tan ooze" made from oak bark, and fashioned into boots and shoes for common and Sunday wear, on lasts which were made from black gum, and with pegs cut from maple



trees brought from the swamps. Deer skins were also used for dress shoes. They made their own household implements, largely from gourds, dippers, milk pans, jars for meat and lard, containers for butter, and the like.

They also made their own clothing, from the first process to the last. They planted cotton, stripped the bolls, ginned, carded, spun, reeled and warped the threads, and dyed them with indigo for blue, the bark of the black jack for brown, and the cotton bloom for yellow, and wove the cloth on hand-made, wooden looms. Mrs. Prescott still has the cards and spinning wheel used in the early days. From these fabrics they made table-cloths, sheets, pillow cases, quilts, counterpanes, suits and shirts for husbands and sons, stockings, socks, gloves, sunbonnets. Hats were woven of palmetto and grasses and carpets knit with large needles. Of these various articles "Aunt Virginia" has preserved a large number of samples, the colors still fresh and the fabric intact.

These implements and household utensils and furnishings, the like of which can hardly be found elsewhere, ought to be secured before it is too late, if possible, and preserved in some suitable place. It may be suggested to the Honorable Board of County Commissioners whether space cannot be provided in the superb new court house for cases in which these and other records and relics of the early days may be preserved, which would otherwise be destroyed or lost through the passage of time.

The pioneer used the cow-pen method of farming, as is still the custom with the Florida "cracker." Within a fence of split rails the cattle were penned at night until the soil was sufficiently enriched, when a new pen was made and the first one planted to sweet potatoes; later, corn and other crops were grown on this lot for a year or two. They planted and ground sugarcane and made their own sugar and syrup; the syrup sold for around fifty cents a gallon, the drippings for twenty-five cents and the sugar at ten cents a pound. Their "coffee" was brewed from sweet potatoes cut in cubes, dried in the sun, parched and ground. When on hunting trips bamboo roots were macerated in a hollow tree and put in a sack through which water was poured into a vessel underneath; the water was drained off and pone was made from the resulting flour.

The people lived chiefly and cheaply on pork, beef, grits, sweet potatoes, syrup, a little milk and butter, whiskey—which they distilled in considerable quantities—and game and fish, which were abundant; the principal articles brought in from Fort Reed by ox-teams were salt and some wheat flour.

Everybody wore long hair, which often harbored large and lively colonies of cooties; when the hair was trimmed, this was done by means of a red-hot iron rod; there was a great deal of drunkenness, and occasional bitter and fatal feuds among the cattlemen.





Articles and Implements of a Half a Century Ago. All Hand-Made by "Uncle Dan" and "Aunt Virginia"  
Prescott and Others



"Uncle Dan" was an ardent fiddler, and remained such all his life. His fiddles were made in the early days from gourds, with strings of catgut or, that failing, of horse hair. He played at dances and weddings far and wide. These weddings were prolonged and festive occasions, the guests coming many miles in ox-carts and wagons and on horseback and afoot, and the dancing being prolonged sometimes for two days and nights; they were feasted on barbecued beef and pork and sweet potatoes—and whiskey.

It seems almost incredible that only sixty years ago, life here was so different, so isolated and primitive, so like in many ways to that of the New England colonists of some three centuries ago, and the southern mountaineers of later times. Will the next sixty years bring other changes as startling and revolutionary as these?

#### THE TOWN COUNCIL

The period of gestation was now over, and the time was come for the birth of a town.

How did the name Orlando come to be adopted by the little settlement? The matter is in doubt. Three versions have been given; first, that it was named in honor of one Orlando Reeves, an Indian fighter who was ambushed by the Seminoles and killed in "Hughey Bay," to the southward, and buried in a nearby knoll; second, that "a man named Orlando became very ill here and was taken into Judge J. G. Speer's home and cared for, and that he was afterward in Judge Speer's employ; that a cordial friendship sprang up between the two, and that Judge Speer named the settlement in his honor;" and thirdly, that Judge Speer, who was a student and lover of Shakespeare, named the place for the leading character in "As You Like It," being moved thereto in part perhaps, by his fondness for this friend. This seems the likeliest opinion, and is accepted here.

The corporate life of Orlando may be traced from year to year in the minutes of the Town Council. Here is the first record:

On June 3, 1875, a "large assembly of the duly qualified electors of the village of Orlando and its immediate vicinage assembled in the court house in said village, and organized by electing Col. R. W. Broome as chairman, and requesting Mr. J. R. Cohen to act as secretary," the purpose of the meeting being to take steps looking to the incorporation of the town. It was voted that "the metes and bounds of said town be for the distance of one mile due east, one mile due west, one mile due north, and one mile due south, forming a square, the electors within that distance were listed and the result was twenty-nine names," four more than required by law.

On July 21, a meeting was held at the court house, attended by twenty-two electors, and it was voted to incorporate the town with the name Orlando,



and a corporation seal was "elected." At an adjourned meeting held the following Monday, these officials were chosen: William J. Brack, mayor; James P. Hughey, clerk; J. W. Williams, marshal; and James R. Montague, Jacob Summerlin, E. W. Spier, W. C. Stubblefield, E. A. Richards, C. A. Boone, and J. R. Cohen, aldermen.

The first meeting of the Town Council, following incorporation, was held in the court house on August 4, and Jacob Summerlin was elected as president and Colonel R. W. Broome as attorney. At the next meeting, the attorney presented for consideration and approval twenty-three ordinances, all of which were adopted except two, which were vetoed by the mayor. These ordinances related to disturbances of the peace, nuisances, offences against public decency, the use of fire-arms (this was vetoed), the keeping open of business houses on "the Sabbath day," vagrancy, the "throwing of fire balls"—whatever these may have been—street obstructions (this also was vetoed), the running at large of animals, the protection of churches and cemeteries, the showing of "stallions or Jacks," the killing by the marshal of any bitch found running at large, drunkenness and the use of profane and indecent language, the collecting of fines, the duties of officers, licenses, and other matters. Additional ordinances were adopted at subsequent meetings.

The salary of the marshal was fixed at \$300 per annum.

At the next meeting, it was voted to publish the ordinances which had been adopted in the *Mellonville Advertiser*, "at a cost of twelve and one-half cents for every one thousand letters." A tax assessor was subsequently elected, and apparently a treasurer.

At a meeting on September 2, it was voted that "any person desiring to build a sidewalk in the town of Orlando shall be allowed to do so at their own expense provided that the same shall not be more nor less than five feet wide." Mr. E. R. Trafford seems to have "surveyed, defined and established the boundary lines of the corporation" Oct. 1 and 2; his field notes may be found in volume 4 of the minutes; his starting point was the center of the court house.

The first reference to a jail is found in the minutes of the meeting held October 10, and at the same meeting an ordinance was adopted "authorizing the mayor to organize and appoint a police force." On December 9, it was "ordered that the marshal summon all male persons between the ages of eighteen and forty-five years residing within the corporate limits of Orlando, to work the public Roads and Streets of the corporation, and that all delinquents be fined according to the State Road Law;" among such delinquents were mentioned at a subsequent meeting Mr. C. A. Boone, an alderman, and John Hughey, and they were fined one dollar each.

On January 28, 1876, it was voted that "three Commissioners of Roads, Streets and Bridges, etc., be appointed by the president, one from the alder-



men, and two from the citizens of the corporation, said Commissioners to act under the supervising control of the marshal," whereupon the president appointed E. A. Richards, C. D. Sweet and L. P. Westcott as said Commissioners.

At the meeting held February 3, 1876, it was reported that the assessment roll showed the "local taxable property within the corporation amounted to the sum of \$64,125."

On May 15 of this year, it was voted that "the committee on education be and they are hereby authorized and requested to solicit and receive contributions in money or land for the purpose of establishing a high school at Orlando."

At the first anniversary meeting of the Council held July 26, 1876, the following resolution was adopted: "that the Council hereby heartily render to our worthy fellow-townsmen, W. J. Brack, our thanks for the honesty, faithfulness and energy with which he has performed the arduous and important duties of mayor during the year just closing and further that to him more than any one man is due the success of this, our first year of life."

On August 3, Mr. W. J. Brack was re-elected, to serve during the second year of the corporate life of the town.

In July of 1877, J. H. Allen was elected mayor and J. L. Bryan, clerk.

On October 4, 1877, a curious ordinance was adopted providing that "every owner of any hog or hogs running at large upon the streets or commons of the Town of Orlando, shall be required to ring the same, with a suitable ring through the grizzle of the nose." This ordinance was vetoed by the mayor.

Mr. Charles H. Munger was elected mayor for the year 1878.

At the meeting which was held July 3, 1879, it was voted that "the map of the Town of Orlando drawn by Mr. Westcott be accepted as the official map of the Town and all streets as laid down thereon be and are declared public highways or streets, thirty feet in width. And that all streets or highways in any portion of said town that do not appear on said map, be and hereby are discontinued, except in the original four acres of the Town of Orlando." It seems likely that these "original four acres" were the area lying between Court and Main streets, and Central Avenue and Oak, now Wall street, and thereabouts. An ordinance adopted September 13, 1880, provided that "all streets hereafter laid out shall be from forty to sixty feet wide."

On July 24, 1879, it was reported in the Council that at an election held that day to determine "whether a new charter should be procured or the present charter be surrendered and the corporation be dissolved"—some question having arisen as to the legality of the existing charter—eleven votes were cast in favor of a new charter, thirteen in favor of dissolution and one for "no corporation." Whereupon, the mayor issued a proclamation that the "corpora-



tion is dissolved by the majority vote of the citizens of Orlando," and it was ordered that "the books and papers of the corporation be deposited in the Circuit Court Clerk's Office for safe keeping." Nevertheless, although the corporation, and with it the Town Council, were defunct, a meeting of the Council was held the following October, business was transacted as usual, and an election was ordered for town officers on November 12; this election resulted in the choice of A. M. Hyer as mayor.

By what means, and for what reasons, the town of Orlando had been resuscitated as a body politic between July and October, does not appear in the records, nor has anyone been found who can supply the missing facts.

In 1880, R. L. Summerlin was chosen as mayor.

On Nov. 25, 1880, it was declared to be "unlawful for any swine or hogs (a nice distinction!) to run at large upon the streets of Orlando," and the marshal was allowed a fee of "Five cents per head for each of head of Hogs or Swine taken up and impounded by said Town Marshal;" however, this ordinance appears to have been vetoed by the mayor.

On Dec. 16, 1880, it was ordered that the marshal "proceed at once to the erection of a Town Jail, the cost of which shall not exceed fifty dollars."

In 1881, J. L. Bryan was elected mayor.

On September 12, 1881, it was voted to instruct the marshal to build a pound for stray animals, at a cost not to exceed fifteen dollars.

On January 20, 1882, the mayor, Mr. C. D. Sweet, addressed the Council, urging, among other matters, that a suitable place be provided for the meetings of the Council, "more within keeping with the dignity of their office than when holding court in some back shed, stable, or on a Dry Goods Box;" that a safe place be provided for keeping the records of the town, now "lying in a paper box under the desk of one of our merchants;" and that measures be taken to establish a town school and a town park.

On April 19, 1882, it was voted to "adopt the original plot of the town of Orlando, together with the additions of Jacob Summerlin and Robert R. Reed as surveyed and plotted by S. A. Robinson, surveyor."

At this time, there was a good deal of discussion of the bad sanitary conditions of the town, extending through several meetings, and it was decided to "procure a horse and cart to do scavenger-work," but on April 28, a committee reported that "the town was unable to procure a horse and asked to be discharged."

On June 13, 1882, it was voted that an annual salary of fifty dollars be paid to the mayor for his services, plus a fee of one dollar for each case brought before the mayor's court, and that the members of the Council be paid one dollar for each meeting attended by them, "Provided that each member may be fined in a sum not exceeding Two dollars" for unexcused absence from such meetings.



The first proposal to bond the town was made at a meeting of the Council, June 27, 1882, for the purpose of building a school house and procuring suitable grounds to this end. It was voted to order an election for the purpose of deciding whether bonds for this purpose amounting to four thousand dollars, and bearing interest at the rate of ten per cent per annum, should be issued. Whether this election was held, and with what results, does not appear in the records.

In August, 1882, Mr. C. A. Boone was elected mayor and Mr. George C. Munger, clerk.

Apparently the first notice of sidewalks ordered to be built by the Council is in the minutes of the meeting of January 11, 1883, namely, "from the depot on the north side of Church Street to the corner of Church and Orange, thence North on the West side of Orange to the corner of Orange and Pine streets, thence North on the West side of Main Street to the corner of Central Avenue and Main Street, said sidewalk to be seven feet in width." Numerous other sidewalks were ordered at subsequent meetings; indeed, the meetings of the Council during the year 1883 were largely devoted to the matter of new streets and sidewalks.

On February 14, 1883, a contract was awarded to Columbus Sweat, "for clearing trees and stumps from the streets," and the marshal was "instructed to have a plank crossing laid on Pine street at the intersection of Main," and at a meeting five days later, Pine street from Main to the railroad was ordered widened from forty to fifty-two feet. On February 26, the opening of a street was authorized, "beginning at the south end of Orange street and running west to the street passing George Macy's shops, the same to be fifty feet wide;" this was East South street, and it would appear from the records that Orange Avenue at this time extended no further south than the present City Hall.

On April 20, it was voted to extend Court street to Church street; to authorize the opening of a sixty foot street beginning at South street between the lands of James DeLaney and J. D. Anderson, and running southward "to a bayhead and around it, and continuing in a straight line to the corner of the lands of McRae and Jeffreys;" to extend Central Avenue to the east boundary of the town; to extend Main street south to Lake Lucerne, and that a drive sixty feet wide be opened around said lake.

In August of 1883, Mr. J. L. Bryan was elected mayor and Mr. George C. Munger, clerk.

On May 10, 1883, "Mr. Jacob Summerlin came before the Board and stated that he would give the Town of Orlando from forty to sixty feet of land around Lake Eola to be used for the purpose of a park, provided the town would improve and keep the same by planting shade trees, making a drive around the margin of the lake, etc.; and on August 29, Mr. Summerlin "pre-



sented a deed donating Lake Eola and a specified portion of the land around it to the Town, to be used as a public park, which was on motion accepted by the Board." But one could wish that a vote of thanks had been passed and spread on the minutes! And one could wish also that the name Summerlin Park, by which the Council subsequently referred to this lovely tract, had never been disused!

But this tract was not so lovely in the early days as now. The lot where the Junior high school stands was a swamp in which mules had been known to be bogged down to their necks in mud. Lake Eola at times overflowed the lot on which the Cathedral school now stands; a drainage ditch was dug and the lake lowered to its present level.

On November 22, 1883, it was "ordered that 28 stumps in DeLaney Street be removed." This matter of stumps engaged the frequent attention of these "city fathers;" on June 10, 1886, the street committee reported having removed 560 such stumps.

On January 22, 1884, the question of bonding the city for waterworks was first raised, and on October 9, a proposition was made by J. D. Fuller to establish waterworks, the town to pay \$2,000 a year for fire plugs.

On January 8, 1885, permission was granted the Southern Bell Telephone & Telegraph Company to erect poles and stretch wires in the streets, and on February 16, a committee was authorized to "make a contract with Mr. L. Mayne for building a Council Chamber and City Jail on the lot to be purchased of R. R. Reid."

Mr. E. J. Reel, an alderman, was elected mayor in 1885, and re-elected in 1886.

In March of this year three fire companies, evidently volunteer, were organized, which were consolidated in one sometime in July; on July 9, the name of John W. Weeks appears as chief of the fire department. Mr. Weeks was a son-in-law of Hon. J. G. Sinclair, and served as Secretary of War in the Cabinets of Presidents Harding and Coolidge.

On April 21 of this year, it was ordered that the Council be composed of seven, instead of three members; about this time, the body is sometimes mentioned in the minutes as the City Council, instead of Town Council, as heretofore.

On September 10, a topic is introduced which has frequently puzzled and tormented the makers of laws and ordinances, municipal and other: "A committee appointed to investigate the Mott wine report that upon investigation they cannot tell if the alcohol is caused by the sugar or has been put in the wine;" it was ordered that the marshal collect a license fee from Mr. Mott for selling spirituous liquor.

On June 4, 1886, it was reported that the special election which had been held with reference to bonding the town for \$10,000 for school purposes had





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15 Plating Mill, Stab, Dye and Blind Manufacturing

16 Carriage and Wagon Manufacturing

17 Carriage and Wagon Manufacturing

18 Carriage and Wagon Manufacturing

19 Residence of W. J. Campbell

20 Machine Shop

21 Residence of Jacob Summerlin

CHURCHES.

A Presbyterian

B Episcopal

C Baptist

D Baptist

SINCLAIR'S REAL ESTATE AGENCY OFFICE OPPOSITE CHARLESTON AND ORANGE AVENUES LOOKING WEST

BIRD'S EYE VIEW OF

ORLANDO, FLORIDA.

COUNTY SEAT OF ORANGE CO.

1884.

2 Sinclair's Real Estate Agency

3 Sinclair's Real Estate Agency

4 Sinclair's Real Estate Agency

5 Sinclair's Real Estate Agency

6 Sinclair's Real Estate Agency

7 Sinclair's Real Estate Agency

8 Sinclair's Real Estate Agency

9 Sinclair's Real Estate Agency

10 Sinclair's Real Estate Agency

11 Sinclair's Real Estate Agency

12 Sinclair's Real Estate Agency

13 Sinclair's Real Estate Agency

J. SIDNER, MAPS, N. Y.



been lost, for want of the necessary two-thirds majority; a study of the records of the Orange County School Board seems to indicate that this is one of only two or three cases in which a bond election for school purposes has been lost in Orange County during the last half century.

On October 5, 1886, an elaborate contract was made between the city and Mr. A. A. Parker of Huntington, Pennsylvania, and associates, for the construction of a system of water-works, and granting a franchise to the Orlando Water Company for ten years, "or until such time as they may be purchased by said city;" this contract was signed on behalf of the city by Mr. E. J. Reel, mayor, and Mr. C. F. Gooding, clerk. On February 24, 1887, on motion of Alderman Giles, it was ordered that this contract be annulled, Mr. Parker and his associates not having complied with its terms.

On November 11, 1886, was presented a "petition of Dr. S. Henkel and J. H. Livingston and others, requesting attention to the Pond of water at corner of Orange Avenue and Livingston Street; the street commissioner reported that it was settled by dry weather."

On December 9, 1886, "the Clerk was ordered to Telephone congratulations to the Mayor and Council of Sanford on the Telephone connection of the two cities."

On February 24, 1887, an ordinance "authorizing the South Florida Gas and Electric Light Company to construct Gas works in the City of Orlando" was adopted, and on August 6, the same company was given a franchise to put in an electric light system.

On March 29, 1887, "a petition, signed by nearly all of the Physicians in the City asking that no orange wine manufacturies be allowed to be made in the City limits as it would cause sickness," was presented.

Permission was given to the Orlando and Winter Park Railroad, on May 18, 1887, to lay their tracks in Gertrude Avenue.

On December 9, 1887, the salary of the mayor was fixed at fifty dollars per annum, and it was voted that the Board of County Commissioners be urged to reimburse the city for money spent "to keep up the quarantine during the yellow fever epidemic;" on July 12, 1888, Mayor Chapman reported that the yellow fever epidemic at Plant City was under control, and that "Orlando was in first-class sanitary condition and at the present time one of the healthiest cities in the country."

On December 12, 1887, the Finance Committee reported that the First National Bank had agreed to advance money to the city for current expenses, at the rate of twelve per cent per annum, and that the Citizens National Bank had agreed to perform the same service for ten per cent, if it were made the city depository; the latter offer was accepted.

The question of providing a sewer system for Orlando was discussed for the first time by the Council on March 22, 1888, and on May 19, the citizens



voted, by the necessary two-thirds majority, to issue bonds for sewers, schools, and the refunding of the debt.

In December of 1888, Mr. Mathew R. Marks was elected mayor, and on the first day of February, the council adopted a resolution which was of great significance for the future of Orlando, and which will cause the name of Mayor Marks and his administrators to be remembered with appreciation and gratitude:

*"Resolved*, that the Street Commissioner (Mr. G. W. Papot) be and hereby is authorized to advertise for bids and procure shade trees of suitable size and variety and cause the same to be planted in the City limits at such places and on such streets as the Mayor and the Street Commissioner may designate, and that an appropriation is hereby ordered of a sum not to exceed Five Hundred Dollars for such purpose for the current year; all bids to be accepted or rejected by the Street Commissioner."

A special committee on shade trees is casually mentioned a little later, and it was voted that "a warrant be drawn in favor of A. G. Brannon and Company in the sum of Two Hundred and Fifty dollars for part payment on account for shade trees, let out under contract."

Mr. Branham, an account of whose valuable service in providing shade trees for Orlando appears on another page, deserved to have his honored name spelled correctly by the clerk of the council.

On May 24, 1889, it was resolved, on motion of Alderman Ives, that it had "become absolutely necessary that the expenditures of public money by this city be reduced and a rigid economy practiced;" accordingly, one member of the police force was dismissed, the salary of the street and sanitary commissioner was reduced to forty dollars per month, one horse and cart were sold, and all work on the streets was stopped; at a later meeting, a motion was passed over the veto of Mayor Marks, abolishing the pay of aldermen.

On October 22, an ordinance was adopted providing for the reduction of the distance between saloons or bar-rooms where liquors were sold from four hundred to two hundred feet, and licenses to sell liquor were granted to four applicants, and another on the following day.

Major M. R. Marks was re-elected mayor for the year 1890.

On January 6, 1890, "Alderman Sperry moved a committee of three be appointed to act in conjunction with the Mayor in relation to a collation to be spread on the opening of the S. F. R. R. Depot on the 14th inst.; the Chair appointed Aldermen Sperry, Bowen and Macey as such committee."

A very adroit resolution, introduced by Alderman Dickson, was passed July 17, 1890, as follows: "Whereas a petition has been presented to this Council signed by a large number of citizens, asking for a reduction of taxes, and whereas, we do not see how the city government can be efficiently administered with less than our present expense, therefore, Be it Resolved, That the said petitioners be requested to appoint a Committee of three from



their number to submit to this Council a plan by which the expenses of the city can be reduced, with a view to the reduction of the rate of taxation." This committee was appointed, C. G. Butt chairman, and a conference was held, the citizens' committee "being fully satisfied that you are doing all in your power to reduce the taxes to a minimum and that you will give due consideration to our humble suggestions."

At a meeting held on New Year's Day 1891, Mayor Marks bade farewell to the council in a message of old-time southern eloquence and fervor, and his successor, Mr. W. L. Palmer, was inducted into office.

On March 19, 1891, it was voted, "that a committee of five be appointed by the President of the Council (Mr. George E. Macy), to consist of the mayor, the city attorney and three members of the council, and the said committee be requested to call to their assistance ten citizens, and that said committee of fifteen be authorized and requested to formulate a charter for the city, to be placed in the hands of the members of the Legislature from this County, at the coming session." A similar committee was appointed for the same purpose on February 16, 1893, and a mass-meeting of citizens was called "to hear said charter read."

On September 12, 1891, an election was carried, by the necessary two-thirds majority, providing for the issuance of seven per cent bonds to the amount of \$15,000, for the purpose of paving the streets with clay. The meetings of 1892 and the following year were devoted chiefly to the matter of claying the streets.

On September 22, 1891, the council voted to condemn as a nuisance "the building known as the old church on the large lot at the corner of Main and Pine Streets, belonging to Davis;" and ordered this building torn down within ten days.

Mr. W. L. Palmer was re-elected Mayor for the year 1892, and again for the year 1893.

At an election held April 16, 1892, the third series of bond issues was authorized, amounting to \$20,000, of which \$15,000 was for street improvements, and \$3,000 for the purchase of Greenwood Cemetery; on March 25, on motion of Alderman Sperry, against the protest of Alderman Dickson, who thought the price "exorbitant," it was voted that the cemetery grounds be purchased for the sum of \$3,000, and at a later meeting Messrs. G. F. Sperry, E. H. Rice, and William Smith were made a cemetery committee.

On May 5, 1892, it was ordered "that the board sidewalks in the city limits are hereby condemned and ordered taken up . . . within twenty-four hours after the notice is given," these to be replaced with clay.

On August 25, it was voted to enter into a contract to build a brick addition to the public school, at a cost of \$6,000.

It was voted on November 17, that "the balance of the driveway around Lake Lucerne unclayed be now clayed as soon as the right-of-way can be



secured;" a part of this right-of-way had to be secured by condemnation proceedings.

On January 7, 1893, an ordinance was adopted repealing the franchise of the Orlando Street Railway Company; this was vetoed, but on March 2, it was ordered "that N. L. Mills, Robert E. Green and John G. Sinclair, the present owners of the Orlando Street Railway Company, be notified by the City Solicitor to resume at once the running of their cars and on failure to do so to show cause before the City Council within thirty days . . . why the right heretofore granted . . . to use the streets of Orlando for said railway purposes should not be terminated and forever put to an end."

On July 26, 1893, a special meeting was held "for the purpose of taking action to protect the city against possible loss of its money in view of the failure of the First National Bank of Orlando."

Mr. Mahlon Gore was elected Mayor for the year 1894.

On April 5, 1894, a warrant was issued in favor of A. A. Branham & Company in the amount of \$110 for planting 440 shade trees.

Mr. Mahlon Gore was re-elected mayor for the year 1895, and again for the following year, and Mr. W. R. O'Neal was elected alderman for the years 1896-97.

On February 22, 1896, the Council celebrated Washington's Birthday by condemning nine or ten buildings as being "in an unsanitary and ruinous condition," including "the building known as the wine factory," ordering that these buildings be repaired or demolished.

On May 17, 1900, the "street committee reported 1579 loads of clay hauled, of which 385 yards were laid on Main Street, 1388 on Central Avenue, 407 on Orange Avenue, at a cost of \$773.38."

On August 6, "a telegram from the State Board of Health to Mayor Parramore in relation to the yellow fever outbreak in Tampa, authorizing him to prevent passengers from Tampa from getting off in Orlando, was presented and read," and appropriate and drastic action was taken.

On January 3, 1901, after discussion in many meetings as to the relative merits and costs of gas and electricity, "President O'Neal reported that the Welsbach lights were expected to arrive in a day or two, and the Council fixed a time to meet in committee as a whole, to consider and decide on the location of said lights, and a representative of the Gas Company to be requested to meet with them."

On May 2 of this year, bids for electric lighting of the streets from Mr. J. M. Cheney, representing the Orlando Light & Water Company, and Mr. George Shaw of Jacksonville, were considered and the former bid was accepted; two weeks later a contract was authorized with the Orlando Water & Light Co., for "28 arc lights of 2,000 nominal candle power or their equivalent in incandescent lamps, for \$2,000 per annum;" an election was called for June 22, at which the contract was ratified.



On January 6, 1902, it was "voted that Parramore Street North from Central Avenue be opened up," and that "100 shade trees be bought and set under supervision of the street commissioner." It was given as the sense of the council "that all Automobiles, Locomobiles, and power Vehicles shall be provided with suitable gong or alarm, and that drivers of the same shall give alarm when turning corners, and further that the speed within the fire limits of the city shall not exceed five miles per hour, and the same penalty shall apply as for fast driving or willful disturbing the peace and good order of the City." On March 19, however, the speed limit was extended to seven miles, and five years later, on November 7, 1907, it was further extended to eight miles within the fire limits and fifteen miles elsewhere.

Mayor Parramore died suddenly in office, and the council spread on its minutes, February 20, 1902, a resolution concerning him, which recites in part: "The City has lost a Mayor who in his official capacity truly represented the honor and dignity and integrity of the office vested in him . . . the City has lost a citizen who in his private character represented the good, the noble and the true." A special election was held on May 3, at which Captain B. M. Robinson was elected mayor, to fill out the unexpired term of Mayor Parramore.

In June of 1902, an election was held which resulted in "Orlando and vicinity being made and constituted a Special Tax School district" and in August the school buildings and furnishings were turned over to the district trustees, together with an indebtedness of \$2,000.

On September 18, "a petition from the Sanford Telephone Company was read asking a thirty-year franchise to operate a Telephone System in corporate limits of City. On motion, a twenty-year franchise was granted above company;" this franchise was issued in November. Also in November, as the result of a special election, a contract was entered into with the Orlando Water & Light Company for furnishing water to the city, and a twenty-year franchise was granted this company.

On New Year's Day of 1903—this being the traditional time for good resolutions—an ordinance was adopted "relating to licensing and regulating the sale of intoxicating liquor in the City of Orlando." Its main provisions were, that "a license tax of fifty per cent of the amount of the state license tax" be imposed; that any one selling liquor without having secured such a license, shall be "punished by a fine of not less than Two Hundred and Fifty Dollars, and not more than five hundred dollars," or by imprisonment, or both fine and imprisonment; that any such dealer who shall "knowingly permit dice throwing or card playing in any place where he sells such liquor shall be punished by fine not exceeding One hundred dollars" or imprisonment; that "any person who shall throw dice or play cards in any place where liquor is sold shall be punished by fine not exceeding twenty-five dollars or imprisonment;" that "no place for the sale of intoxicating liquor shall be established within three hundred feet of any school house or church in the



city;" that "the words intoxicating liquors and liquor as used in this ordinance shall include all intoxicating liquors whether spirituous, vinous or malt." Supplementary ordinances were adopted November 3, 1904, providing that "no music, instrumental or vocal, shall be permitted in any saloon;" on March 2, 1905, that all saloons shall close at midnight; and on May 4 of this year, prohibiting the selling of liquor to minors, intoxicated persons and certain others. An excellent ordinance was adopted that "the city clerk shall keep a list of persons convicted of drunkenness in the Mayor's Court, with the date of conviction, and when any person shall have been convicted of drunkenness two times within two years, the City Clerk shall make a certificate of that fact to the City Marshal, who shall forthwith notify every saloon keeper, in writing, not to sell or furnish intoxicating liquors to such person."

On April 2, 1903, a thirty-year franchise was granted to the Southern Bell Telephone & Telegraph Company, the franchise being given on condition that "the charge for services shall not exceed \$18 for private houses and \$30 for business houses, per annum, for each telephone instrument furnished at any point within the city."

On October 1, 1903, the Council adopted an ordinance imposing a license tax on "every business, profession or occupation engaged in within the city."

On March 2, 1905, a franchise was granted to the Postal Telegraph Cable Company.

On July 20, 1905, on recommendation of a committee composed of Messrs. Hammond, Payne, and Way, an ordinance was adopted providing for the "systematic numbering of the houses, stores, and buildings in the city."

On August 16, 1906, an ordinance was passed providing for the issuing of five-year bonds to the amount of \$12,000 for street paving, and an election was called.

And now the women begin to appear with petitions and advice; on January 3, 1907, a committee of aldermen was appointed "to co-operate with the City Improvement Society in all matters pertaining to the good of the city, whereupon the Chair appointed Messrs. Smith, Guernsey, Isaacson and Overstreet as such committee;" and on March 7 of this year, "Mr. W. R. O'Neal, accompanied by a delegation of ladies from the Orlando Park Improvement Association, addressed the council at length on the subject of buying the County Jail lot and converting the same into a public Park, stating that the property could be had for \$5,000, \$3,000 of which city is asked to pay and take title to the property, the Improvement Association guaranteeing to donate the \$2,000 balance;" this pleasing proposition was subsequently laid on the table.

On March 22, 1907, an ordinance was introduced "to prohibit the sports known as cock-fighting, dog fighting or prize-fighting."



On June 20, Mr. L. C. Massey presented his resignation as city solicitor, and it was "Resolved, that the city has lost the services of a most capable and conscientious officer, one who performed the duties of his office promptly, cheerfully and with marked ability;" Mr. Lincoln G. Starbuck was later elected to this position.

On September 5, a resolution on the death of Alderman Oscar Isaacson was adopted—"an able, capable, honest public servant . . . a good, true and loyal friend, and a generous, public-spirited citizen."

And now, the liquor question comes up again, though in a new form; in November, 1907, the following ordinance was adopted:

"Whereas on the 8th day of October, 1907, an Election was had in the County of Orange and State of Florida under Article 19 of the Constitution of the said state to determine whether the Sale of intoxicating liquors, wines or Beer should be prohibited in said County, and Whereas on the 14th day of October, 1907, the Board of County Commissioners of Orange County met and canvassed the returns of said election and found that 589 votes were cast therein 'For Selling' and 592 votes were cast therein 'Against Selling' and that a majority of 3 votes were cast against selling, Wherefore the said County Commissioners issued a certificate of said election showing said majority of three against selling, whereby it became unlawful to sell intoxicating liquors, wine or beer within the County of Orange, Wherefore be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Orlando that it shall be unlawful for any person or persons to sell within the City limits any intoxicating liquor, wines or Beer, or any preparation intended for or which may be used as a beverage which may produce intoxication."

The Council recalls that Orlando has a semi-tropical climate, and sympathetically resolves, on May 7, 1908, "that during the Summer months from the first day of May to the first day of October of each and every year, the Marshal and Police may, at their discretion, appear in duty without a coat. A vote was not taken on the resolution, but an expression was given in which a majority favored allowing such officers to appear on duty—hot days—without coats."

About this time, the first mention of vitrified brick as a paving material occurs in the records; Pine Street from Court to West Street is mentioned on June 18, 1908, as having been so paved. There appears to have been a healthy epidemic of sidewalk construction during this summer of 1908, largely promoted by Mr. M. O. Overstreet, chairman of the street committee.

On October 7, 1908, an ordinance was unanimously passed prohibiting "the selling or giving away to minors of cigarettes or cigarette materials."



On February 3, 1910, an ordinance was introduced changing the name of Irene Avenue to Gore Avenue, "in honor of Mahlon Gore."

On May 5, 1910, a committee was appointed to "investigate and report a practical source from which an ample supply of pure water, suitable for all city purposes, may be obtained . . . and an electric light plant of sufficient power to supply the city."

On June 2, \$1,000 was subscribed toward the proposed Orange County Fair, "as soon as the sum of \$10,000 shall have been made up by private subscription;" this sum seems to have been raised, for on February 16, 1911, Mr. W. R. O'Neal, treasurer of the Fair Association, reported that the "Fair had been a success in every particular and everybody interested was happy and satisfied with the investment."

On November 3, 1910, the Democratic Executive Committee of the city of Orlando submitted a report of a primary election, for the purpose of nominating candidates for city officers; so far as appears in the minutes, this was the first and last time that nominations were made by a partisan committee, though at a later date a White Man's Primary submitted nominations.

On December 1, Mr. Charles Lord was reimbursed in the sum of \$95 for the expense incurred by him in transporting four swans from England to Orlando.

On May 11, 1911, it was decided to pave Orange Avenue with brick twelve feet on either side, leaving twelve feet of clay in the center.

At the meeting held on June 15, the question of a municipally-owned water and light plant was discussed, and a committee was appointed to investigate Lake Underwood and Hoosier and Palm Springs as possible sources of supply.

On December 11, 1911, it was voted that "all Railroad steam whistles stop blowing or sounding Whistles inside the City limits."

The naming and re-naming of streets was up for frequent discussion; on July 4, 1912, Alderman Samuel A. Robinson addressed the Council on this subject, urging "the elimination as far as possible of all personal names in street nomenclature." This would have involved a change in the name of Robinson Avenue, which would have been unfortunate; this matter is mentioned in a subsequent section of this chapter.

There are various references in the records to Lake Leora; the name Park Lake appears for the first time in the minutes, August 15, 1912.

On September 5, city solicitor L. B. Giles gave it as his opinion "that the names of streets cannot be legally changed without the consent of all the abutting property owners on such streets;" whether or not such consent was secured, the council on October 4 ordered several changes in the names of streets—Meyers Street to be incorporated with Shine; Silliman with Summerlin; Norman with Cathcart; Burke with South Orange; Garland with Gould; Shelby Street, Palm Avenue and Anno Street with Hughey; Park



Avenue with Reel (now Westmoreland); Wallace Street, Sweet Avenue and Beauclaire Avenue with Colonial Drive; Wall and Edgewater Streets with Washington; Summerlin Avenue, Pine Street and Patrick Street west of Depoline with Long Street (this seems hardly comprehensible); Campbell Street with Carter, and Speir Avenue with West Street; of the names thus dropped, at least five are of historic interest, and should have been retained, Shine, Shelby, Anno, Reel and Sweet.

On November 7, a petition was received from the Orlando Country Club that Colonial Drive be opened up and improved westward from Orange Avenue to the city limits.

It was ordered on March 6, 1913, that "Lucerne Circle be paved with vitrified brick as soon as the sewerage pipes are laid around the said lake, and that North Orange Avenue be paved to Marks Street as soon as the brick can be secured."

At a special election which was held April 3, 1913, to decide whether a commission form of government should be adopted, very little interest seems to have been shown by the electors, only 262 votes being cast out of a total of 668 registered voters, 132 in favor of the proposed charter, and 130 against it. The council ordered another election to be held, and on August 5, 250 votes were cast for, and 87 votes against, the proposed change, and so the new form of government was approved.

On May 1, 1913, Postmaster O'Neal complained of "the manner in which the House Numbers on many of the Streets have been placed;" whereupon it was voted that "the City Engineer be given instructions and authority to employ a competent man to systematically number all houses in the City that are not already properly numbered and to charge the sum of 25c for all newly numbered houses;" this sensible ordinance was passed fourteen years ago, and similar action was urged by Postmaster Claudia DeLaney at a later date, but the numbering of the houses is still, in 1927, lamentably incomplete and vexatious.

At a meeting held June 5, a committee of the Ladies' Civic League, composed of Mesdames Mary B. Patterson, Marie St. Clair Beeman and Mary Ellis Mathews, requested that the council "take steps toward acquiring ownership and control of the waters of Lakes Highland, Lucerne and Cherokee, together with sufficient margin of these Lakes to form the beginning of a Park System, the women of the Civic League pledging themselves to aid financially and otherwise in a plan of park development; they understood that Lake Eola was already owned in this way by the City;" on recommendation of the street committee it was ordered that these three lakes be "condemned and owned by the City of Orlando, and condemnation proceedings ordered begun."

On August 7, a resolution was offered by Alderman Giles and adopted, that Kuhl Avenue from Gore Avenue to the southern limits of the city be paved with brick, "as soon as found expedient."



A special election, held August 19 of this year, resulted in the issuing of bonds to the amount of \$100,000 for street paving purposes.

On August 25, a Board of Park Commissioners was created, in connection with the gift of land and money for park purposes by Mr. E. F. Sperry, consisting of Messrs. Sperry and Beeman and Mrs. Maud Whitman, "to be paid Twenty-Five Dollars each;" Mr. Sperry resigned from the commission, to take effect July 1, 1914.

On September 18, a resolution was adopted providing for the erection of uniform ornamental lamp poles in streets where eighty per cent of the property owners on both sides apply for them, the lights to burn from November 1 to May 1, and from sunset to midnight.

Mr. E. F. Sperry was elected Mayor for the year 1914, and resigned as chairman of the Board of Bond Trustees; at a special election held on January 27, of the following year, Mr. J. T. Hendricks was elected to fill the unexpired term of Mr. Sperry.

And thus, on the last day of the year 1913, the municipal form of government passed out, and the commission form came in. This important change is noted in the minutes as follows: "This is the beginning of Commission form of Government for the City of Orlando, Orange County, Fla.; at eight O'clock A. M. January 1st, A. D. 1914, being Thursday, E. F. Sperry, Mayor Elect, H. Clarke Robertson and Samuel A. Johnson, Commissioners Elect, met at the Court House, in the office of the Hon. W. M. Martin, County Judge of Orange County, and the oath of office was duly administered by him to the same E. F. Sperry as Mayor and to H. Clarke Robertson and Samuel A. Johnson as Councilmen;" the former officers were reappointed, Mr. L. C. Massey as City Solicitor, Dr. P. P. Pillans as City Physician, Mr. William Dean as Chief of the Fire Department, Mr. Carl Jensen as City Clerk, Mr. C. A. Brown as Collector of Taxes, Mr. J. L. Giles as Park Commissioner; later, Mr. S. Waters Howe was appointed as Treasurer; Mr. Howe "donated his salary of \$100 per year to the City Park Improvements."

On April 7, 1914, there was received a "deed to a strip of land on Lake Eola and in front of the Cathedral School from St. Luke's Cathedral, deeded upon the express condition that the land be used for Park purposes only and that no buildings or other structures be erected thereon," and two weeks later deeds from Messrs. E. F. Sperry and C. F. Grannis to lands given by them for park purposes were also received by the council.

On April 21, Messrs. H. L. Beeman and J. L. Giles and Mrs. Maud Whitman were appointed members of the Park Commission, and on May 1, deed was taken to land on Lake Eola purchased for \$2,000 from Mr. J. P. Musselwhite.

On September 4, an ordinance was adopted creating a city Board of Health to be composed of the councilman having charge of the Sanitary Department and the City Physician, ex-officio, two "regular physicians prac-



tising in the City and one member not a physician, this board to be elected by the council at its first meeting in January of each year, for a term of three years;" Dr. Sylvan McElroy, Dr. G. H. Edwards and Mr. W. H. Reynolds were appointed as the first members of this board.

In the Spring of 1915 deeds were received from Senator Buxton, Mrs. C. A. Boone and husband, Mr. E. A. Thomas, and Mr. C. E. Graham, to property on Lake Lucerne.

On June 8, 1915, "a communication was received and read from Mr. Samuel A. Robinson and Mr. C. A. Boone, the only two of the original incorporators of the City Cemetery now living in Florida, requesting that the city cemetery be named Greenwood;" this name was adopted at a later meeting. An account of the cemetery appears in another section of this chapter.

In the summer of 1916, two distinguished and useful citizens of Orlando died, and the council adopted suitable resolutions respecting them. On June 27, it was resolved that "in the death of the Hon. Mahlon Gore, Mayor of the City of Orlando during the years 1894-96, the City has lost one of its respected and beloved citizens . . . and that the City Hall and Fire Department be draped in mourning for 30 days;" and on August 14, it was "Resolved that in the death of Hon. E. F. Sperry, Mayor of the city of Orlando, on Aug. 13, 1916, the whole city of Orlando has sustained an irreparable loss . . . that the Public Buildings of the city be draped in mourning for 30 days." The council also incorporated in the minutes a tribute to Mr. Sperry signed by Mr. J. H. Reese, editor of the Reporter-Star, Mr. W. M. Glenn, editor of the Morning Sentinel, and Mr. C. E. Howard, editor of the Orange County Citizen.

On October 31, 1916, it was voted "that the Hon. James L. Giles be and hereby is appointed to be Mayor of the City of Orlando, to fill the unexpired term of the late Hon. E. F. Sperry, Mayor, the appointment of Hon. James L. Giles to take effect immediately." With the incoming of this administration, the minutes are kept for the first time in a loose-leaf book, and in typewritten form—a welcome change to the eyes and the patience of the historian and of such others as have occasion to consult the records. Also one senses a new alertness, initiative, energy and efficiency in the conduct of the business of the council.

On January 22, 1917, Mayor Giles reported that no daily, weekly or even monthly report of business transacted had been made heretofore, and recommended that the mayor and each commissioner be required to make such a report every week, covering the work of all departments in detail, together with its cost; this recommendation was adopted by the Council.

On March 5, it was voted "that the City pay one half of the costs of the removal of the Confederate Monument from Central Avenue to Eola Park, and warrant for \$150.00 was ordered drawn in favor of Mrs. Edna Fuller, Treasurer of the Fund."



On March 22, the following very explicit and detailed ordinance was adopted: "From and after the passage of this Ordinance it shall be unlawful for any person to make or deliver any public speech, oration or declaration, to any audience assembled in any public place in the City of Orlando, containing any inflammatory utterances, expressions or declarations, directed to or about any religious sect, charging any religious sect, church, denomination or organization or any of its members, followers or believers as such, with lack of patriotism, honesty or morality, or containing opprobrious and derogatory insinuations or epithets referring to such religious sect, denomination, church, or organization, or any of its members on account of their connection therewith, that would be calculated to excite the anger of the members of such religious sect, church, denomination or organization, or that would be calculated to provoke a breach of the Peace." But at the next meeting, this ordinance was repealed on recommendation of the Mayor.

On March 27, a special election was held with reference to the issuance of bonds, \$60,000 for street paving, \$10,000 for the construction of a fire-alarm system, \$20,000 for the construction of an electric White Way system, and \$30,000 for the construction of municipal buildings, a total of \$120,000. All these propositions excepting the White Way were carried by substantial majorities, but none of them received the necessary two-third majority. At the meeting held April 20, Mayor Giles addressed a communication to the council, evincing his disappointment at the results of this election and proposing that another election be held for the issuing of \$70,000 of bonds for paving and \$30,000 for municipal buildings. "Orlando," he said, "is not going ahead as it should, and unless we get busy we will begin to slip back . . . we are doing practically nothing compared with Miami, St. Petersburg or Lakeland." The Council ordered such an election to be held May 23, but both proposals failed to receive the necessary two-third majority, though in the case of paving by a very narrow margin.

At a meeting held on August 31, 1917, the Mayor recommended that a White Way be installed in the central streets of the city, and this recommendation was unanimously adopted.

On November 11, it was voted that a campaign of tree planting be inaugurated, and that the owners of property be asked to pay one dollar for each tree, the city to do the work of planting and watering the trees, agreeing also to replace any that might die.

December 18, the mayor introduced and the council adopted resolutions in memory of Mr. Cassius A. Boone, reciting that Mr. Boone "was a man of the strictest integrity and although modest and unassuming, he was a noble man as a city and public officer," and that in his death "the City of Orlando has lost a most valuable and splendid citizen, the City a most competent and painstaking officer, and the Mayor, the City Commissioners and the various officers and employees of the City a faithful friend." Similar



resolutions were adopted August 8, 1918, on the death of Mr. Frank H. Williams, city clerk for three and a half years.

On June 15, 1918, it was ordered that "it shall be unlawful for any person, persons, firms or corporation to sell or dispose of any intoxicating liquor, fluid or beverage other than for medicinal purposes upon a physician's prescription."

On August 26, it was voted that "the City take charge of and keep all parkways in proper condition, at the expense of the City, and have it understood that all property owners will be required to comply with the ordinance to at least keep their lots in a respectable condition."

In the fall of 1918, an epidemic of "Spanish influenza" visited Orlando, and on October 17, the council resolved "that all stores of any kind or description in the City of Orlando be and they are hereby ordered to close their doors to all business at the hour of five o'clock P. M. each and every business day of the week, except Saturday, on which day they may remain open until 6.00 o'clock;" the epidemic seems to have continued, for on November 2, it was ordered that "all schools, theatres, churches or any other congregations should be closed for one week." However, it was agreed three days later that the "lid be taken off on November 9." It was reported that there was "little influenza in the city and that there has been reported only ten deaths in this entire section."

On November 11, 1918, the only entry in the minutes, and this in capital letters and red ink, underscored, were these words: "*VICTORY DAY CELEBRATION. NOTHING ELSE WORTH WHILE.*" And a newspaper clipping, dated November 22, is pasted in the records, containing a proclamation by Mayor Giles calling on the citizens to join in a Victory Day parade and mass-meeting on the following Thursday, Thanksgiving Day.

On January 16, 1919, a petition was presented, asking that the name of West Street be changed to Poinsettia Avenue. The discerning mayor suggested that the name Poinsettia would not be distinctive, and proposed Rosalind Avenue as being appropriate in connection with the name Orlando, and in view of the fact that the Rosalind Club had erected in that street a club house "which is a monument to the City of Orlando and would do credit to any city in the South;" the suggestion was approved by the Council and adopted at a later meeting. At this same meeting, a petition was presented that the name Amelia Avenue be changed to Wilson Avenue, in honor, doubtless, of President Woodrow Wilson; this petition was refused. On February 10, the name of Liberty Place was changed to Cheney Place, and Thompson Avenue and Oakwood Avenue to Greenwood Avenue; several other changes in street names were also made.

On April 23, an ordinance was passed providing for an election as to the issuing of bonds to the amount of \$150,000 for street paving and improvements, and on May 26, the election was held, 415 votes of the whole number cast, 466, being in favor of the bond issue. The mayor appointed



Messrs. M. O. Overstreet, W. E. Martin, and W. M. Davis as bond trustees in connection with this issue; later, Messrs. Overstreet and Davis resigned and Messrs. W. R. O'Neal and Samuel A. Johnson were appointed in their stead.

In December of 1919, the Rosalind Club offered to give a lot to the city on condition that three lots in the Sperry and Grannis Addition in Central Avenue, adjoining the club property, be purchased, the whole to be added to Eola Park, and the offer was accepted with thanks by the council, the lots in question being bought for \$10,000.

The minutes of the Council for December, 1919, and January 1920, contain no record of, or allusion to, the annual election of city officials, an unprecedented oversight; it appears, however, that Mr. E. G. Duckworth was elected mayor for the year 1920. Two new features were introduced; the meetings were opened with prayer by the mayor, the aldermen, the city clerk, and occasionally a visiting citizen; and the business of the mayor's court was interspersed with that of the Council. This latter feature, however, seems to have been discontinued after the first few meetings, but the prayers were continued so long as Mayor Duckworth remained in office.

On January 21, 1920, a committee headed by Mr. N. P. Yowell appeared before the Council in the interest of a public library, and the Council agreed to include a one-mill tax in the next levy for library purposes. In the election held May 11, the voters voted overwhelmingly in favor of a library tax, 414 votes being recorded for it and 22 against.

On March 21, the mayor appointed a Public Utilities Commission of twenty-one members, Mr. S. Y. Way, chairman.

On August 22, the beginning of the fiscal year was changed from January 1 to August 1.

On November 10, the following resolution was adopted:

"True loyalty and patriotism to home and community is put to the test in times of impending dangers, when threatened outbreaks against law and order inflame the minds of men and women. Just at such moments as these, it is gratifying to know that we have such types of men, who bravely and willingly sacrifice their time and personal interests for the protection, peace and welfare of our communities.

"Be it therefore resolved, that we, the citizens of Orlando, represented by its commissioners in session on Wednesday, November 10th, A. D. 1920, do hereby express our thankful appreciation to Captain Preston Ayres, each and every Ex-Service Man, Chief of Police Ed. Vestal, and to all others who rendered such valuable and faithful service during the recent emergency which confronted us," and it was voted "to give a supper to the Ex-Service Men in appreciation of their services."

On September 2, 1921, it was voted to purchase the property of the Orlando Water and Light Company "at a price for each to be fixed by one board of three arbitrators . . . . engineers of national reputation."



On November 9, 1921, the question of securing a public library was discussed, and the "proposition of a certain Mr. Albertson of N. Y. State to donate his library of books to the city of Orlando if the city would furnish a building to house them, was mentioned;" however, no action was taken at that time. The matter was discussed again two days later, and it was voted to accept Captain Albertson's proposition, namely:

"1. The library shall be known as the Albertson Library. Same shall be put in large letters over the front entrance.

"2. The loose-leaf encyclopedia, so called, shall be continued for all time to come, and if at any time it is discontinued, the Albertson books will be withdrawn.

"3. Captain Albertson shall be made Advisory Superintendent.

"4. This offer is good for one year."

The formal agreement was adopted November 28, 1921.

The Mayor reported on January 11, 1922, that an agreement had been reached with the Board of County Commissioners that the city would buy the court house and jail for the sum of \$137,500, but on March 17, the Council was notified by the County Commissioners that this deal was "off."

On February 22, a special election resulted in favor of issuing bonds for \$340,000 for sewer construction, \$975,000 for the purchase of the water and electric light plants, \$25,000 for the construction of an incinerator, and \$60,000 for the erection of a public library, a total of \$1,400,000; on June 26, the Mayor appointed Messrs. J. Pendleton Holbrook, William E. Martin and Robert L. Hyer as bond trustees.

On April 3, the council voted to erect the library on the northwest corner of East Central and Rosalind Avenues, and on May 13, the plans of Mr. Murry S. King, architect, were accepted, the total cost not to exceed \$75,000.

On March 14, Mr. S. Kendrick Guernsey was appointed chairman of the City Planning & Zoning Commission.

On May 4, it was voted to establish a Cemetery Commission, and the mayor appointed Mrs. W. R. O'Neal as chairman, and Mrs. Marcus Floyd, Judge C. O. Andrews and Mrs. D. E. Fishback as such commissioners.

On July 10, it was voted to purchase the fair grounds for \$125,000 plus one year's taxes, \$810; but the Fair Association announced that it would not care to proceed further with the negotiations.

On December 12, 1922, a city election was held, at which Mr. Duckworth was re-elected as mayor, and Messrs. J. G. Manual and G. H. Sutherland as aldermen; also, the vote favored the creation of a Charter Board.

The first meeting of the year 1923 was held on January 1, Messrs. Ayers and Topliff retiring from the Council, and Messrs. Manual and Sutherland appearing. The unanimity of feeling and action which had hitherto generally marked the meetings of the Council was now interrupted. The mayor announced his appointment of officers for the ensuing year, but it



was voted to defer ratification of these appointments, and an ordinance was adopted the following day providing that the "Council by a majority vote shall make all appointments." This ordinance was vetoed by the mayor as being contrary to the city charter and ordinances, but was passed over his veto. It may be added that most of the votes taken in these days, on whatever subject, were passed two to one, the mayor voting in the affirmative and the two other commissioners in the negative, or vice versa.

On January 4, the offer of Mr. C. H. Beuchler to deed to the city twelve lots on the south side of Lake Cherokee for park purposes was accepted.

On January 24, an ordinance was passed providing that "no City warrant shall hereafter be honored or paid unless the same shall be issued under the common seal of the City, signed by the Clerk, and Countersigned by the Mayor and one other Councilman, or countersigned by two members of the council."

On February 27, at a special election, it was voted that the city purchase the fair grounds, and also that the amendment to Ordinance 13, providing that city officers be elected by a majority vote of the city council be adopted.

On March 6, in accordance with a petition which had been presented by the Woman's Christian Temperance Union and signed by "several hundred members of the women of the First Baptist, First Methodist Episcopal and the First Presbyterian Churches, it was voted "that the City of Orlando go on record as opposing the introduction here on Sunday of any musical or other entertainments for which an admission fee is to or will be charged, as the holding of same would tend toward the secularizing and commercializing of the Lord's Day and would be against the best Christian sentiment of our community."

On March 7, Dr. H. M. Beardall resigned as city physician, and Mr. Ed. Vestal as Chief of Police.

On April 10, it was voted that seven bills be prepared and be presented to the Legislature: 1, extending the limits of the city of Orlando; 2, creating the office of Municipal Judge; 3, creating a Utilities Commission; 4, authorizing the transfer of city moneys from one fund to another on certain conditions; 5, validating time warrants; 6, authorizing the city to borrow money on its promissory notes; and 7, authorizing a general Zoning Commission Law and defining its powers. The bill which created the Public Utilities Commission was ratified at a special election held June 19, and Messrs. W. T. Bland and J. F. Ange were appointed members of the commission; later Mr. A. J. Nye was elected to fill the unexpired term of Mr. J. F. Ange; the other members of the commission were Messrs. L. C. Massey, H. H. Dickson and H. L. Beeman; Mr. W. R. O'Neal was appointed in the stead of Judge Bland, who resigned. On July 10, a special election approved the bill enlarging the city limits, and on June 20, it was voted that "a County and Municipal Social Welfare Department be organized, by con-



currence of the Board of County Commissioners, the County School Board, the local Board of Trustees, and the City Council."

On April 25, 1923, a special election was held at which it was voted to levy an additional one-mill tax for publicity purposes, and the following were elected as members of the Charter Board; Messrs. J. F. Ange, E. W. Davis, H. H. Dickson, C. P. Dickinson, V. W. Estes, S. K. Guernsey, L. C. Massey and N. P. Yowell, and Mrs. Maud Whitman.

On July 18, the matter of opening up Pine Street eastward through the grounds of the Cathedral School was discussed, and considerable controversy was occasioned both in the Council and outside by this proposal.

On August 28, a special election was held at which the proposed Charter was disapproved.

On September 4, another special election was held at which the proposal to issue bonds to the amount of \$525,000 for extending the water works and electric light plant, did not receive the necessary two-thirds majority, and so was rejected; it was re-submitted at a special election held December 18, and carried.

On December 11, a special election was held at which it was voted to ratify the act of the Legislature regarding the height of buildings to be erected, the location of trades and industries, the area of open spaces, and the like, and the following were appointed members of the Planning and Zoning Commission; Messrs. W. C. Lawson, L. B. Mathews, R. F. Maguire, F. W. Fletcher and Murry S. King, and Mesdames E. S. Bridges and F. N. Watkins.

On January 2 of 1924, Mr. R. G. Higgins was appointed City Auditor.

On March 5, Mr. Duckworth resigned as Mayor, and at a special election held April 1, Mr. James L. Giles was elected to fill the unexpired term by the extraordinary vote of 581 out of a possible 598. During Mr. Duckworth's administration, the outstanding achievements were the carrying of the bond issue for the purchasing and rehabilitating of the water and light plant; the purchase of a site for the present power plant on Lake Ivanhoe, and erection of the plant; the laying of over thirty miles of sewer extension; the purchase of a lot and the building of the Albertson Library; the inauguration of a special petition for paving, and the paving of about one hundred streets; the acquiring of parks on Lake Cherokee, Lake Lorna Doone, Park Lake and the Fair Grounds; the creation of the forestry department for the care and preservation of the city's trees; the placing of the police department on a twenty-four-hour service, and the addition of the finger-print department; the making of the fire department a fully paid department, instead of partly volunteer as formerly; the securing of a municipal judge; and the passage of bills in the Legislature, creating the Utilities Commission.

On April 9, it was voted to change the name of Winter Park Highway to North Orange Avenue.



On May 3, Mr. F. W. Fletcher reported on behalf of the Zoning Commission that the city had been divided into six zones: 1, private residences of the best class; 2, general private residences; 3, business district; 4, manufacturing district; 5, unrestricted area; 6, colored section.

On May 28, it was voted that the city purchase of the Special Tax School District No. 1, the old high school building on Orange Avenue for the sum of \$115,000, to be used as a City Hall; and on July 1, the Council removed the city offices from the second floor of the Armory Building to the City Hall.

On May 31, it was voted to proceed with the construction of a fire station on the west side.

On September 24, 1924, the members of the Council "stood for one minute in silence, in honor of the memory of the Honorable Braxton Beacham, former mayor, and one of Orlando's best citizens and largest taxpayers."

A bond election was held on September 30, covering \$100,000 for the erection of the auditorium, \$35,000 for the purchase of a municipal pipe organ, and \$65,000 for improvements on the fair grounds property. The first item was carried by the necessary two-thirds majority; the second and third items were lost.

On November 22, it was ordered that "it shall be unlawful for any person, persons, firm or corporation to sell any lots, blocks, or other description of real estate in any addition, subdivision, or re-subdivision of the City of Orlando, Florida, before said addition, subdivision or re-subdivision plan or plot is approved by a majority of the Zoning Commission and a majority of the City Council."

On December 9, at a special election, the proposal to issue \$43,000 of bonds for various uses was defeated.

On December 10, City Solicitor Crawford gave it as his opinion that the property of the City Library is vested in the members of the Library Board and their successors in office, rather than in the city.

It was voted on December 27, at the request of Mrs. Susie G. Newell, that the names of the streets around Lake Cherokee be changed to Cherokee Drive, and on January 31, 1925, City Engineer Matthews reported to the Council more than one hundred changes in the names of streets in the new city map.

On January 14, 1925, it was voted to accept the proposition of the Utilities Commission to extend the White Way from Jefferson Street northward to the Winter Park line.

On January 17, Mr. F. W. Fletcher resigned as a member of the Zoning Commission; this resignation was held over; the other members of the Commission also resigned.

It was voted at the meeting held February 14, that Lord Avenue and Bidwell Street be changed to Lucerne Terrace; thus the names of two dis-



tinguished citizens of Orlando were erased, unfortunately, from the map of the city.

On March 4, Dr. W. F. Blackman and Mr. C. DeWitt Miller were appointed members of the Public Library Board, and on March 7, Messrs. E. S. Bridges and C. D. Kime were appointed members of the Zoning Commission.

On March 25, a letter was read from Mr. S. A. Robinson, stating that the School Board not having available funds for making suitable cases for the specimens which he had given to the city, he had himself arranged to have two fine cases made in Grand Rapids, at a cost of about \$500, and that he hoped to add to the collection and to furnish additional cases when necessary; the offer was gratefully accepted.

On April 4 of this year, it was voted on motion of Mayor Giles that "hereafter, in case of any request or requests for cutting down trees, and petition for widening streets where trees will have to be removed, that same be first referred to the Park Commission, before any action is taken, for recommendation to the Council if the Park Commission and the party or parties making the request cannot arrive at some amicable agreement."

On April 18, the city solicitor was instructed to take steps to condemn the property of the Cathedral School for the purpose of extending Pine Street from Rosalind Avenue to Liberty Street, and on May 12, the case was tried, the jury condemning the property, and fixing the amount of compensation at \$7,000.

On May 4, it was voted at the request of Mrs. Alice Hamilton Badger that the Council appropriate \$100 per month toward the support of the Day Nursery.

At a special election held June 19, 1925 Messrs. Jay J. Newell and F. W. Fletcher were elected as members of the city commission.

On June 20, Mr. H. H. Dickson, on behalf of the Beautification Commission, asked and received permission to erect a bronze tablet in the hall or portico of the City Hall, "in memory of Major M. R. Marks, who when mayor began the setting out of the oak trees in the city;" this tablet, however, was affixed to a large oak tree on the south margin of Lake Lucerne, as is reported elsewhere in this chapter.

On June 27, the Council authorized a Board of Public Recreation, to be appointed by the mayor, and to have the management of "all Public playgrounds, athletic fields, swimming pools, bathing beaches, and other recreation centers."

On July 8, the mayor appointed Miss Isabelle Roberts of the Park Commission, Mr. Jay J. Newell of the City Council, Major C. A. Browne of the Zoning Commission, Dr. R. P. Buckmaster of the City School Board, and Mr. I. W. Phillips of the Chamber of Commerce as such commission.



At the same meeting, it was voted to issue bonds to the amount of \$500,000, for the purpose of refunding the indebtedness of the city; these bonds were sold to the Orlando Bank & Trust Company.

On July 15, at a special election, a bond issue of \$175,000, bearing five per cent interest, was voted for the building of the auditorium; these bonds were sold to the Florida National Bank of Jacksonville, for \$180,689.57, a price which indicates the excellent credit of the city.

On July 29, a charter was granted to Mr. A. C. Marshall of the Orange Belt Auto Lines, to operate a bus line in the city.

Naturally, the so-called "boom" of 1925-6 registered itself in various ways in the records of the City Council. A great number of subdivisions were projected, and the plans and plats of these had to be submitted, discussed and passed upon; permits for the erection of houses, hotels, apartment houses and business buildings had to be examined and authorized; both the Council and the people were no longer satisfied with the steady and piecemeal development of the earlier days, and hence a bond issue of immense proportions was ordered, for the grading, curbing and paving of nearly seventy miles of streets and the construction of more than forty-two miles of sewers, all of these improvements being on petition of the owners of abutting properties. The ordinance providing for this issue of bonds was passed August 15, 1925. On October 14, it was stated that the "total cost of said improvements of said streets, alleys and avenues is hereby estimated and determined to be \$2,929,000," and on October 21, it was estimated and determined that the cost of the sewer construction should be \$595,000, and a contract was entered into with Chas. K. Horton for this work. Already, on October 10, a contract for the improvement of the streets had been made with Murphy & Pryor.

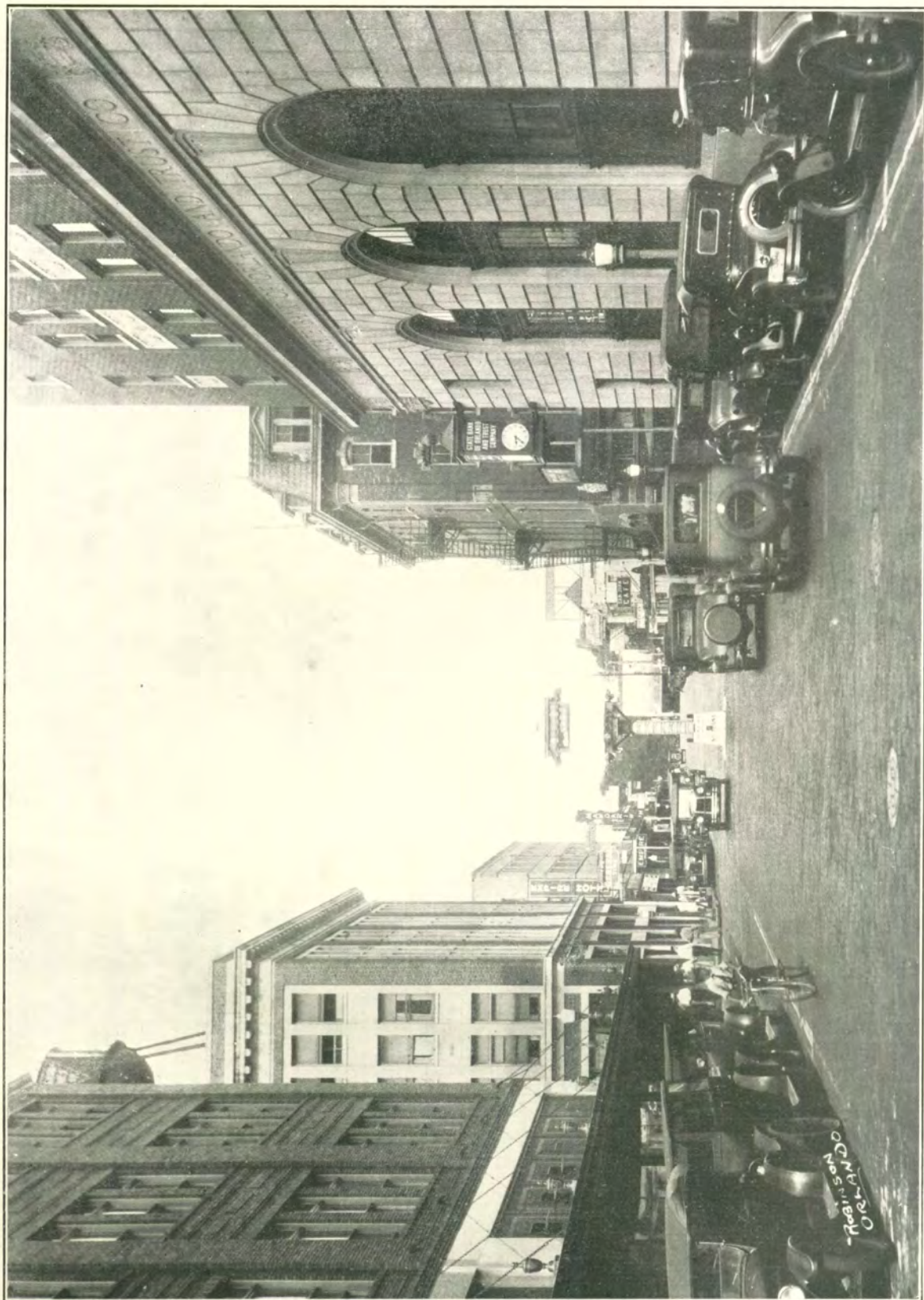
On October 21, it was voted to authorize serial improvement bonds to the amount of \$2,050,000, to provide funds for the financing of the paving contracts, and three days later improvement bonds for the financing of the sewer contract, to the amount of \$410,000, were authorized.

On October 24, "representatives of several of the Civic Clubs appeared before the Council and asked that some action be taken in regard to a definite plan for the City, and asked that a Committee from the Council be appointed to work with them in the matter. Mayor Giles appointed Commissioners Fletcher, Newell and Manual a Committee on City plans, to work with the Committee from Orlando's Civic Clubs."

On November 28, it was voted that Mr. Harlem Bartholomew of St. Louis be employed as City Planner, to be paid \$10,000 for services and \$4,000 for maps.

On the same day, the Executive Committee of the Citizens White Primary presented the following candidates for city officers: Mr. L. M. Autrey, mayor and Messrs. J. M. Cook, G. R. Ramsey, Jay J. Newell and F. W.





Orlando, Central Avenue Looking West



Fletcher as commissioners; on December 8, an election was held and the foregoing were elected for the term of three years.

On December 2, contracts were authorized for the construction of the auditorium, amounting to \$170,282.40.

During Mayor Giles' administration, 1924-25, many progressive measures were put through; the present city hall was purchased; the old debts of the city were refunded, amounting to some \$500,000, drawing eight per cent interest, with 5 per cent bonds, payable at the rate of \$50,000 a year through a period of ten years, thus saving three per cent interest charges; the municipal auditorium was contracted for and construction begun; the recreation department was established; the White Way was created; the street traffic signals were established; the police and fire-alarm signal systems were contracted for and begun; the west side fire station was erected, and land purchased in the north and south parts of the city for additional stations; and contracts for paving and otherwise improving streets and putting in sewers, amounting in the aggregate to some \$3,000,000, were entered into; this is said to have been the largest undertaking in one contract ever made by any city in the south.

On January 7, 1926, a Park Commission was appointed, consisting of Mesdames Emily L. Bridges, Mrs. J. W. Simmons, Mrs. Maud Whitman, Miss Hope Starbuck, and Messrs. H. D. Piper, L. T. Hewitt and A. M. Crittenden.

On January 27, it was voted to begin the fiscal year with the first day of January, instead of the first day of August.

On February 3, it was voted to divide the city into four election wards, corresponding to the four commission districts, Orange Avenue and Central Avenue being the two axes.

On Feb. 11, the city purchased from Mr. W. C. Rives the property known as the Boardman Home, located in Summerlin Place, in the Grannis and Sperry subdivision, at a cost of \$67,000 as the site of a new City Hall, and on March 1, the property known as the Boardman Apartment House, on the corner of Main Street and Summerlin Place, was purchased from Mr. C. H. Hoskins for \$110,000, for the same use.

On March 24, the office of City Auditor was abolished, the office of City Comptroller was created, and Mr. R. G. Higgins was appointed Comptroller, an office which he has filled until now with notable efficiency.

On March 31, it was voted to deed to the Chamber of Commerce a fifty-foot lot on East Central Avenue, as a site of the Chamber of Commerce building, which was about to be erected.

On April 7, an elaborate and important ordinance was passed, "prohibiting any person, persons, firm or corporation to cause or permit within the corporate limits of the City of Orlando any collection of standing or flowing water in which mosquitoes breed or are likely to breed," and suggesting seven particular methods of treating the mosquito problem.



On April 21, on motion of Mr. Fletcher, an ordinance was passed establishing a City Planning & Zoning Commission, of seven members, two being commissioners, two members of the Realty Board, two members of the Chamber of Commerce, and the City Engineer; these were to serve without compensation other than for actual expenses; they were to make plans and maps of the streets, parks and playgrounds of the city, to look after the extension of dead-end streets, the preservation of historical landmarks and works of art, and the designing of public structures; they were to recommend action in all these matters to the Council, all such plans to be approved by the Commission and adopted or rejected by the Council. On April 28, the following were appointed members of the City Planning & Zoning Commission: Messrs. Fletcher and Cook, representing the Council, Mrs. Edna Fuller and Mr. J. P. Holbrook, representing the Realty Board, and Mr. E. G. Duckworth and Major C. A. Browne, representing the Chamber of Commerce, together with Mr. Morton Maccartney, city engineer.

On May 5, the city limits were extended westward.

On May 12, it was voted to purchase of Dr. P. Phillips 160 acres of land on Lake Underwood for park purposes, for \$200,000, to be named Dr. Phillips' Park. On the same day, it was voted to purchase 160 acres of land, for \$32,000, for a new cemetery, some six miles westward from the city, to the north of the Winter Garden road.

On May 26, "Mesdames Whitman, Bridges and Simmons of the Park Commission appeared before the Council and thanked them for the steps taken to preserve the trees on North Orange Avenue"—one of many similar communications on this subject.

At a special election held June 8, bonds amounting to \$1,591,000, were authorized, \$530,000 for securing rights-of-way and opening, widening and paving seven specified streets; \$85,000 for widening and paving West Lucerne Circle and Lucerne Terrace; \$175,000 for opening and paving Kuhl Avenue northward to Lucerne Circle; \$177,000 for purchasing a site for a City Hall; \$50,000 for erecting and equipping a City Hall; \$50,000 for the construction of two new fire stations; \$50,000 for the construction of a new incinerator and the purchase of a site for the same; \$110,000 for completing payments on the fair grounds property; \$50,000 for completing the purchase of the new cemetery, and improving the same; \$75,000 for developing land now owned by the city for park purposes; \$40,000 for constructing a swimming pool on the fair grounds; \$64,000 for recreation equipment; \$35,000 for purchasing an organ for the auditorium; \$30,000 for completing the auditorium; and \$70,000 for constructing a police and fire-alarm system. The election resulted in approving the bonds for the new fire stations, incinerator, and the police and fire alarm system, and all the other items were defeated.

On December 1, resolutions of sympathy were adopted on the death of Mr. Samuel A. Johnson.



On December 15, an ordinance was adopted prohibiting the use of the streets for advertising purposes by vehicles "using band, bagpipes, megaphones, steam piano, calliope or any other noisy instrument," or the giving out of advertising matter on the streets.

On January 27, 1927, the city purchased from Mr. W. P. Gwynne, for \$25,000, the property known as the Sink Hole, adjacent to Greenwood Cemetery.

On February 9, an ordinance was passed limiting the speed of vehicles within the signal light zone to twenty miles per hour, within the fire limits outside the signal light zone to fifteen miles, and elsewhere to twenty-five miles.

On March 3, a resolution was adopted that in view of the fact that the city had appropriated \$19,000 at various times to the maintenance of the Orange General Hospital, the Council disapproved the proposal to sell this property.

On March 9, the Utilities Commission was authorized to borrow \$50,000 of the Barnett National Bank of Jacksonville for extensions and improvements of the light and water systems.

On March 16, on recommendation of the Planning & Zoning Commission, an elaborate ordinance in twenty-six sections was adopted, dividing the city into ten districts, a residence district, three multiple residence districts, three commercial districts, two industrial districts, and one unrestricted district, with specific regulations concerning each.

On June 8, it was voted to spend \$3,500 in building a municipal bath house on Lake Lorna Doone; also in June it was voted to appropriate \$2,000 to the City Beautification Commission.

On the same day, it was voted to ask the Board of County Commissioners to provide as soon as possible a hard-surfaced road to the new cemetery property, and on June 19, an agreement was entered into with the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad to take over seven plots of ground surrounding the new station, for beautification.

On June 22, it was ordered that a general revision and consolidation of the city ordinances be prepared, to be known as "The Code of the City of Orlando, 1927."

On June 29, an Act of the Legislature, approved May 26, 1925, is quoted in the minutes, extending the limits of the city northward from Orange Avenue, Lake Highland Drive and Lakeview Avenue; eastward from Fern Creek Avenue; westward from Kentucky Avenue, and southward from Miller Avenue—an area perhaps somewhat embarrassingly large.

At the same meeting, the offer of the Fair Ground Association to accept five per cent bonds for \$110,000 for the grounds was agreed to.

On July 13, as a result, no doubt, at least in part, of the collapse of the boom, Messrs. Overstreet, Daetwyler and Spessard represented to the council that the need of charitable help was desperate, and the council voted accord-



ingly to increase the regular appropriation to the Associated Charities from \$50 per month to \$400 per month during July, August, September and October.

On August 3, it was voted to reduce the salaries of all city employees who were paid on a monthly basis, by ten per cent.

On August 12, it was voted to borrow \$100,000 on promissory notes dated August 1, \$100,000 on notes dated September 1, and \$50,000 on notes dated October 1, at four and three-fourths per cent interest; these notes, together with those mentioned above, were bought by Wright-Warlow & Company, an Orlando firm.

On October 12, a resolution was adopted in memory of Mr. Sidney E. Ives, who died October 10; it was recited that Mr. Ives had "shared well his part in the building of the present Orlando, . . . the popular Dickson-Ives department store, the First Presbyterian Church, of which he was an elder for nearly fifty years, boys and girls into Christian men and women, a friend with every acquaintance, a name that meant everything good, a life that all should follow, and instrumental in many other worthwhile undertakings."

On September 28, Comptroller Higgins made a report which must have been gratifying to the tax-payers, to the effect that he had met the members of the Council, the City Clerk and twenty-five leading citizens, and had discussed with them the budget of 1928, and the probable necessary expenditures of the coming year. It was agreed that the assessment roll, totaling approximately \$110,600,000, should stand as made up by the Tax Appraising Board. Mayor Autrey expressed the belief that the millage could be reduced from 21 mills to 19, and the percentage of assessment from 60% to 50%, which statement "met with universal acclaim."

Among the accomplishments of Mayor Autrey's administration, from January 1, 1926, to November 5, 1927, are the following:

The construction of one concrete and two wooden septic tanks, of incinerator No. 2, of two additional fire stations—including equipment—of a warehouse and storage yard, of a modern bath house, and of an ornamental concrete bridge over Fern Creek at Washington Street; the installation of sixty miles of sanitary sewers, of twenty-four miles of sidewalks, of four miles of storm sewers, and of fifty-eight miles of brick paving; the completion of the police alarm system, with fifteen alarm boxes, and the fire alarm system, with one hundred and seventy-five boxes, the traffic signal system, the rest room at Greenwood Cemetery, and the Municipal Auditorium, including equipment; the purchase of sites for a fifth fire station and a new cemetery; the purchase of a Bear Cat Clam Shell excavator; the purchase of Lake Underhill and surrounding land and the installation of a pumping plant and a twenty-inch main from the lake to the city; the securing of a site for a new City Hall, and the acquiring of additional park areas; the further beautifying of parks; the establishment of a Planning and Zoning Commission and a Recreation Department with capable superintendents; large additions to the



White Way system and to the water and light plants; the opening of Garland Street north and south of Livingston Avenue, and of the north end of Magnolia Avenue; the opening up of Court and Wall Streets, the widening and repaving of Washington Street around the new Court House, and the opening and widening of West Washington Street, now in process; and the repainting of the City Hall and painting of street names on the corner curbs.

These records, from the first meeting in 1875 to the present, in twelve large volumes, have been read through for the purposes of this work. This was a somewhat tedious task; for the most part, these are of course records of routine matters, as dull as the Biblical books of Chronicles. Yet they recount the development of the community from year to year, from decade to decade, its "growing pains" from birth to maturity; its progress through village, town and city; from municipal to commission form of government; the opening of new streets and the closing of old ones, the paving of streets and the laying of sidewalks and the different materials employed for these purposes; the changes in transportation from the ox cart, the mule team, the carriage and wagon, to the automobile; the gradual growth of such public utilities as water, gas and electricity, and the sewerage system, and of police and fire protection; the growth of the school system; the change in the civic and moral ideals and ideas of the people; the long struggle with the liquor traffic; and the developing sense and love of beauty, as shown in the planting of shade trees, the providing and care of parks, the condemning and destruction of ugly and unsanitary structures, and the marked improvement in the architecture of public and private buildings. The records reveal also the strength and the frailty of human nature, for here are the pull-haul of conflicting ideas and interests, both within the Council itself and in the community—scores of pages of appeals from tax-payers to have their assessments decreased, and objections from the owners of property to ordinances requiring the paving of streets and the laying of sidewalks.

If an apparent effort of politicians to control city affairs in their personal and political interests appears occasionally, yet the main impression which a study of these records makes, is that of officials—mayors, councilmen, clerks, marshals, police and fire chiefs, members of numerous commissions and boards—who have served the city faithfully, conscientiously, ably, diligently, unselfishly, many of them for long periods of years and with scanty financial reward. On the whole, it is a goodly company, from first to last, deserving to be remembered with gratitude by the community which they have served, and in large part made what it is, a city beautiful, prosperous, substantial, law-abiding and cultured.

One of the most interesting and significant facts revealed in these records is the coming of women into public influence and position. For a long while, in accordance with the ideas and habits of the time, it was men only who directed the affairs of the community; then, gradually, women appeared in the meetings of the council with suggestions and petitions; then they were ap-



pointed members of the Park Commission, the Zoning Commission, the Cemetery Commission, the Library Board, the Charter Board, and other commissions and committees; finally, a woman was made collector of taxes. And meanwhile the right of suffrage was conferred on women by an amendment to the Federal Constitution.

During this half century, the following gentlemen—there are, as yet, unhappily, no ladies among the number—have served Orlando in the important and honorable office of mayor. Elections having occurred at different times of year, there is some overlapping of dates in the list:

Mr. W. J. Brack, 1875.  
Mr. J. H. Allen, 1877.  
Mr. C. H. Munger, 1878.  
Mr. A. M. Hyer, 1879.  
Mr. R. L. Summerlin, 1880.  
Mr. J. L. Bryan, 1881.  
Mr. C. D. Sweet, 1881.  
Mr. C. A. Boone, 1882.  
Mr. J. L. Bryan, 1883.  
Mr. E. L. Reel, 1885-86.  
Dr. — Chapman, 1888.  
Major M. R. Marks, 1889-90.  
Mr. W. L. Palmer, 1891-92-93.  
Mr. Mahlon Gore, 1894-96.  
Mr. J. B. Parrimore, 1897-1902. (Died in office).  
Capt. B. M. Robinson, 1903-04.  
Mr. J. H. Smith, 1905-06.  
Mr. Braxton Beacham, 1907.  
Gen. Wm. H. Jewell, 1908-09-10.  
Mr. W. H. Reynolds, 1911. (Two terms of two years each).  
Mr. E. F. Sperry, 1914. (Died in office).  
Mr. James L. Giles, 1917.  
Mr. E. G. Duckworth, 1920.  
Mr. James L. Giles, 1923.  
Mr. Latta M. Autrey, 1926.

#### THE ENGLISH COLONY

A unique and picturesque feature of the life of Orlando during the middle 80's was the so-called English colony.

Prior to this period, large tracts of Florida land had been purchased in England from the state or railway corporations, at around a dollar per acre. These investors in Florida lands had agents in London, who put out fascinating advertisements in pamphlets and sporting papers, of the new



Eldora, particularly exploiting the orange industry, which promised a certain annual income of at least \$10,000 after the groves had reached maturity, and describing the delightful outdoor life which might be enjoyed in this new land. Many responded to these allurements.

Mr. R. A. Arnold of Lake Conway, has furnished most of the information concerning this interesting company for this work. Mr. Arnold divides them into three groups; the elder section, made up largely of retired professional men and army officers, who came to Florida on account of its benignant climate and in some cases because of their limited incomes; the younger section, sons of "gentlemen" mostly, just out of school and university, who were sent abroad by their parents for various reasons and supported by remittances from home—and therefore known as "remittance men;" and common laborers, some of these brought out as servants.

Mr. Arnold himself left England in February, 1885, and located in Narcoosee, then in Orange County, this destination being chosen through an interview which he had with Mr. Arthur Fell, brother of Mr. E. N. Fell, who was the associate of Mr. W. B. M. Davidson in promoting the English colony at that point, and for whom the town of Fellsmere on the East Coast was afterward named.

In the party which went to Narcoosee were Mr. Arnold and his younger brother, a medical student from Aberdeen University, named Reade, and two young men of the name of Stillwell, sons of a farmer in the south of England. The state of transportation in those days, and the discouraging remoteness of the new home, are shown by the fact that the party had to remain in Kissimmee for five days before they could be transferred across Lake Tohopekaliga to Brack's Landing and thence by wagon roads eight miles to Narcoosee. On returning for the night to the attic of the crowded hotel, the young men, running true to English form, placed their shoes outside the door to be polished; much to their disgust, they found them in the morning where they had left them, untouched, and were assured by the young English clerk that they were "jolly lucky" to find them at all. Among those who welcomed them here, was Mr. P. A. Vans Agnew, now an attorney in Winter Park.

When Mr. Arnold passed through Orlando on his way south, he was favorably impressed by the business-like appearance of the village, and resolved to return for a further inspection of the place, though without thought that this would be his home for more than forty years. In July of 1885, he came to Orange County, to occupy the property which had been previously purchased by his father, Rev. C. W. Arnold, some five miles southeast of Orlando, in the Conway section. There were already a number of English settlers in this region, and the following winter added many more. A Captain Snead had a fine bearing grove, and in connection with Mr. Aubrey Hopwood, whose father owned the Bigelow place



at Winter Park, was instrumental in bringing many settlers to Conway. A Mr. Ruck and a Mr. Percy Dashwood now at the head of a School of Dentistry in Atlanta, bought property adjoining that owned by the elder Mr. Arnold. Colonel H. B. Church, among the first settlers in the section, had a grove on the southeast side of Lake Underhill. In September of 1885, Mr. Arnold's father and sister, together with six young men and two servants, came out from England and built a home in the Conway section, called Arnold's Court, in which he had a private chapel, and where he erected a ten-room barracks for young men. Four young Englishmen lived with him during the year 1886; of these, a Mr. Tyler bought the east portion of the Church grove, and the Boucher brothers, from the Isle of Wight, bought a valuable grove and considerable land from Captain T. A. Shine, then clerk of the Circuit Court; Mr. Chas. H. Boucher is still living in Orlando. His wife was the daughter of a Mrs. Brownrigg, widow of a retired naval officer who bought property on Lake Underhill and built the house in which Mr. Arnold now lives on Lake Crystal; this house she afterward sold to the widow of Dr. Wakley, editor of the famous London medical and surgical journal, the *Lancet*.

Among the other Englishmen who settled in the Conway section were, Dr. and Mrs. Norton Taylor, about 1893; Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Radcliff; Mr. and Mrs. Henry Roberts; Mr. Lyalph Rhodes, who engaged in the cattle business and later moved to New Zealand; Mr. Arthur Gaynor; Mr. A. E. Moseley; Mr. E. H. Crux, now living near Lancaster Park; the Porter brothers; Mr. S. J. Springer, who still lives here, and Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Salt, who come in the later 80's and settled near Lake Underhill.

The English settlement at Conway was greatly indebted to Mr. Dudley G. Cary-Elwes, a retired army officer, who came to Florida in the latter part of 1886 with his family and built the large house on what is now called Lake Fredericka. He entertained liberally, many of the younger people meeting at his home every Wednesday to play tennis. He was also largely instrumental in building the Protestant Episcopal Church. Mr. Cary-Elwes seems to have done more than any one else to hold the colony together. He later moved to Orlando, where he and his wife died in 1914, and were buried in the Conway cemetery, together with two of their sons; in this burial ground are also interred a considerable number of other English settlers of the early days.

These Englishmen were, as is the common and characteristic habit of Englishmen everywhere, devoted to sport. There were then no game laws, and the woods were full of deer, quail and pigeon. A favorite sport in the fall of the year was to lie in wait for the vast flocks of pigeons, as they flew to the lakes for water before going to their roosting-places for the night, and shoot them in great numbers.



The polo team was organized by a retired army officer, General J. S. Swindler, formerly colonel in the Dragoon Guards, who came to Florida in 1886 and bought a large grove and considerable land a little west of Orlando. According to Mr. Wyndham Gwynne, a member of the team, now living in the Conway district, polo games were started in 1888. In 1890, the Orlando Polo Club was organized; it had more than a hundred members. In 1906, the club became a member of the American Polo Association, and laid out full-sized grounds in Orlando. Games were played here for many seasons, the contests between Orlando and Camden, South Carolina, arousing great interest. In the records of the American Polo Association for 1912, one finds the Orlando Club listed, with the following players: Messrs. A. E. Adams, Harold Bourne, James Calder, Jr., M. J. Daetwyler, Walter Cary-Elwes, Wyndham Gwynne, James Laughlin III, James Magruder, Jr., Allan Pirie, Seth Woodruff, Charles Hiley, Duncan Bell and B. Cotton. Florida cow-ponies were used in these games; their mettle can be judged by the fact that Mr. Gynne bought one of these tough and agile little beasts for forty dollars and sold it in Camden for \$400.

Sport of another sort was enjoyed by the young men of the colony in the English Club House, which they erected on the northeast corner of Pine and Main Streets, and occupied for a number of years, and where it is understood they had many festive times.

Captain Benjamin Cotton, from a well-known family of the Isle of Wight, who served in the Fifty-third Shropshire Light Infantry during the campaign in the Sudan, came to Florida about 1910, chiefly for its hunting and fishing, and lived as a bachelor at Oakland. He married Mrs. Lena Hartripp and bought the place on Lake Lucerne now owned by Hon. James L. Giles and lived there a number of years, later moving back to the Isle of Wight. Capt. and Mrs. Cotton took an active part in the social life of Orlando. He entered the World War and served in the Gallipoli campaign, afterward returning to England, where he died.

Mr. W. P. Gwynne came from South Wales in 1885, for the purpose of learning the citrus business with Capt. Snead; he still lives in the Conway district, where he conducts a successful dairy.

A retired colonel of the Grenadier Guards who owned a fine property on Lake Sue, between Orlando and Winter Park, was Mr. R. H. C. Drury-Lowe. His son, Mr. E. H. C. Drury-Lowe, had previously come to America, to undertake farming in the west; he made a tour of Florida in the winter of 1885 in company with a Mr. Philpots, master of one of the English public schools, and settled in Narcoosee before coming to Orlando. Mrs. Drury-Lowe was very active in the social and religious life of the community.



Another retired army officer who came to Florida some years later was Sir Horace Beaucham, late Colonel of the Twentieth Hussars, a brother of Mrs. Drury-Lowe. Colonel Beaucham arrived in Florida in the spring of 1907 to visit his sister. He found that she had sold the Lake Sue estate, and moved to Orlando, Colonel Drury-Lowe having died in England the previous year. Mrs. Drury-Lowe returned to England in 1907. Colonel Beaucham invested in Conway property with Mr. Arnold in 1910, and lived with Mr. Arnold. He owned one of the first automobiles in Orange County, and he and Mr. Arnold made what is believed to be the first round trip by auto between Orlando and Jacksonville. Colonel Beaucham returned to England in 1913, engaged again in military service, returned to Florida the following year for a visit, volunteered in the World War, accepted the command of the Fifth Norfolk Regiment, and was reported "missing" in an engagement soon after landing in the Gallipoli campaign.

There were also several English families living with their families in and about Orlando, among them Mr. T. Picton Warlow, afterward Judge of the Criminal Court of Record (see biographical sketch in Part Two of this work), Mr. Algerman Hayden and his brother-in-law a Mr. Smythe, Mr. Charles Lord, (see biographical sketch), and Mr. Harold Bourne; and others in Oakland and around Lake Apopka; and the Hopwoods and Willetts at Winter Park and Maitland. There was also at the same time at Sanford, then in Orange County, a considerable colony of English people sent out by the Florida Land & Colonization Company, of which Mr. William Beardall, afterward resident in Orlando, was manager.

But there came the "big freeze" of 1894-95, killing practically all the citrus trees of Orange County to the ground. It was characteristic of these lively young Englishmen that during the three days of this freeze, they engaged in playing "soccer" but almost immediately afterward more than half of them left precipitately, some two hundred together, abandoning groves, homes, furniture, with tables set and dishes unwashed—it is reported that one of them sold a grove for which he had paid \$40,000, for the price of a ticket to England—and returned to the old country, starting life afresh, numbers of them, in Australia, New Zealand and South Africa, where many are reported as prospering. Those who remained in Orange County, have in the main, proven themselves useful citizens, and have contributed much to the business and professional development of the community.



## CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, CLUBS

Perhaps no other organization has had so great an influence on the development of Orlando in later years as the Chamber of Commerce. Mr. H. H. Dickson gives the following interesting account of the beginning and growth of this civic body :\*

"The first organization was called the Merchant's Association and it held its meetings over the old Dickson-Ives store, occupying a room in the southwest corner, and the Rosalind Club has the north side. Mr. Mahlon Gore was the first president.

"Somewhere about 1890, the Association raised funds to build the first paved road in Orange County, long known as the Iron Bridge Road.

"Shortly after this, the Orlando Board of Trade took the place of the Association, and Judge John M. Cheney was the first president. Mr. W. R. O'Neal acting as secretary. We held our meetings in a room in the old Orlando Water and Light Building; where there was anything particular that needed to be done, Judge Cheney appointed a committee and it was done.

"Then Mr. C. E. Howard became secretary and for a number of years our meetings were held in his studio, then located above what is now the Evans-Rex Drug Store, on South Orange Avenue. During that time we had quite a membership, and when the question of dividing the County came up, the Board of Trade naturally opposed such division, but nevertheless Seminole County was created in 1913.

"Later our quarters were established in the San Juan Hotel, and for part of the time Dr. V. W. Estes was secretary. We had quite an organization and our membership dues were set at ten dollars then Mr. W. S. DeWitt was secretary for a short time.

"Meanwhile, the Rosalind Club had grown into an important organization, with its own clubhouse, a one-story building where the Angebilt Hotel now stands, and we leased that building from them when they built the present Rosalind Club House on Lake Eola, and re-organized as the Chamber of Commerce, taking up the pleasurable new responsibility of providing a meeting place for our increasing number of winter visitors and tourists, as well as adding new departments of work in our new quarters. At this time,

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\*This statement by Mr. Dickson is quoted by permission from an article in the Orlando Morning Sentinel by Mrs. Jane Washburn, who follows it with a full account of the later development and activities of the Chamber. It is understood that Mrs. Washburn is preparing for publication a History of Orlando, which will be authoritative and of the greatest interest and value.



Judge Wilbur L. Tilden was made president; in 1919 Mr. E. G. Duckworth was president and Mr. H. M. Voorhis secretary.

"Then again the growth of the city brought the necessity for a new location, and we bought the building in Wall Street which we occupied until last May, when, having again outgrown our quarters, we sold it in anticipation of a new home suitable for our needs. During the summer, we were again back in temporary quarters in the San Juan Hotel, moving to the Armory Building the first of October.

"Succeeding Mr. Voorhis as secretary was Mr. Benjamin R. Cox, who resigned in March, 1923. At that time, Mr. R. F. Maguire was president, and Mr. S. Kendrick Guernsey became secretary, followed in September, 1925, by Mr. Carl Hunt, formerly manager of The Associated Advertising Clubs of the World."

Mr. Guernsey, a biographical sketch of whom may be found in Part Two of this work, was a native of Orlando, a young man of character, ability, energy, enthusiasm and tact; during his term of office, the Chamber increased in membership from three hundred to more than nine hundred. With others, he helped to plan the present imposing and convenient Chamber of Commerce building in East Central Avenue, and to establish a club house for the use of tourists in Sunshine Park, a tourist camp on Lake Lorna Doone, the Tinker Field for baseball games, the passing of a bond issue for the erection of a Municipal Auditorium, and many other improvements.

Mr. Guernsey was followed as Executive Secretary by Mr. Carl Hunt, whose recent untimely death was greatly deplored by his associates and by the people of Orlando, to whom he had greatly endeared himself.

Mr. C. M. Gay was elected secretary in 1927.

In 1922, Mr. George S. Nash was made Director of Publicity, and he issued on July 22 of that year the first number of the Orlando Magazine, which was continued until 1926. Mrs. Jane Washburn was added to the editorial staff, and her striking articles in the magazine and in numerous publications throughout the country helped greatly to attract friendly attention to the city.

Since November, 1925, Mr. W. T. A. Webb has acted as tourist secretary; he has maintained an information bureau and a card index of apartments and houses available for rent; has organized fourteen tourist clubs, in which the residents of the various states and Canada foregather; has conducted Sunshine Park, where facilities for bowling, roque, shuffle-board playing, quoits, and various other entertainments for tourists are provided; and has recently had charge of the Municipal Auditorium. The Chamber of Commerce has also sponsored the Open Forum, which has been held during the winter seasons of the last two years on Sunday afternoons, in the Beacham Theatre, under the direction of Dr. W. F. Blackman.





Orlando Chamber of Commerce, Interior



Orlando Chamber of Commerce, Facade

Photo by Robinson



Since May, 1926, Mr. A. F. Coith has served as Beautification Secretary, acting also a part of the time as secretary of the county and city Beautification Commissions.

Recent presidents of the Chamber have been: Mr. J. M. McCormick, 1924; Mr. H. P. Len, 1925; and Mr. V. W. Estes, 1926; the present officers are: Col. George C. Johnston, president; Mr. C. DeWitt Miller, first vice-president; Mr. J. F. Schumann, second vice-president; Mr. C. M. Gay, secretary; and Mr. I. L. Cook, treasurer. The directors are: Messrs. A. Phil. Maurer, R. F. Maguire, T. A. Langford, C. A. Russ, J. P. Williams, Mayor L. M. Autrey, T. W. Kissam and W. H. Mouser.

The present superb home of the organization, one of the finest in the South, was erected in 1926-27, on ground leased from the city for the term of ninety-nine years at a yearly rental of one dollar; the cost of the building and equipment was \$120,000.

In addition to the Chamber of Commerce, Orlando has eight civic clubs, all active and influential, as follows:

The Orlando Realty Board—Mr. H. W. Barr, president; Mr. Paul P. Barnett, treasurer; Mr. J. H. Hill, corporate secretary.

The Rotary Club—Mr. Guy Ramsey, president; Mr. W. S. Branch, secretary; Mr. S. Waters Howe, treasurer.

The Kiwanis Club—Mr. O. P. Swope, president; Mr. A. P. Mickler, secretary.

The Exchange Club—Mr. A. W. Brennan, president; Mr. C. B. Stowe, secretary.

The Civitan Club—Col. R. M. Shearer, president; Mr. H. D. Wright, secretary.

The Lions Club—Mr. W. Ed. Brown, president; Mr. T. J. Gurney, first vice-president; Mr. Thomas J. Lantz, secretary; Mr. Charles Potter, treasurer.

The Orlando Ad Club—Mr. John Masek, president; Mr. Alan Roth, first vice-president; Mr. A. J. Hanna, second vice-president; Mr. Mandlecorn, secretary-treasurer.

Junior Chamber of Commerce—Mr. R. B. Brossier, president; Mr. A. Phillips, secretary.

#### WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS

Orlando Sorosis was organized in 1893, with a limited membership of twenty-five, for the purpose of bringing together a congenial group of women who were interested in literature. The charter members were Mrs. D. S. Shine, Mrs. W. R. Anno, Mrs. Forrest Lake, Mrs. H. W. Greetham, Miss Lilly Shine, Mrs. Pomeroy, Miss Emily Dickinson and Mrs. Robert



Hull, the last-named being elected president. Sorosis was one of the several organizations which sooner or later had their headquarters in the Armory Building, and it was in the three connecting rooms which Sorosis occupied that the first circulating library in Orlando had its beginning; it was merged, years after, in the Albertson Public Library. The club moved later to the Knox Block in East Pine Street, and this property was afterward presented to Sorosis by Mr. W. C. Comstock of Winter Park, in memory of his wife who had been an active leader of the club.

The era of small things passed in Orlando, and Sorosis recognized the opportunity for service which a larger membership and a wider program offered. Under the leadership of Mrs. A. B. Whitman, who was for nine years its president, Sorosis adopted both of these forward-looking changes. The building in Pine Street was sold and the handsome Sorosis House in Liberty Street was built, at a cost of \$30,000, the bonds for its erection being sold among the members and their immediate families. In addition to the club's interest in cultural studies, its main purpose has become the advancement of the public interest in city, county, state and national questions. The contributions of the club go to the Red Cross, Day Nursery, Associated Charities, Orange General Hospital, Park Commission Work, Florida Children's Home in Jacksonville, Near East Relief, and to meet other calls for financial assistance. The membership is now well over the four hundred mark, and the social life of its members is not neglected.

Mrs. R. M. Shearer followed Mrs. Whitman as president, and Mrs. Alexander Akerman has recently retired from this office after two years service; Mrs. C. D. Christ is the present presiding officer.

The Rosalind Club was organized in March, 1894, for social purposes, as its first name, Ladies' Social Club, indicates, and it went to house-keeping in attractive furnished rooms in the Armory Building. Later the name was changed to the Rosalind, Mrs. Leslie Pell-Clarke, the first president, suggesting the name. Charter members were Mrs. Leslie Pell-Clarke, Mrs. W. A. White, Miss Margaret Hart, Mrs. George R. Newell, Mrs. C. G. Butt, Mrs. Bell Shepherd (now Mrs. E. G. Hauselt), Mrs. M. C. Rerdell, Mrs. M. B. Palmer, Miss Mollie E. Ray, Miss Maude Anno (now Mrs. Forrest Lake), Mrs. L. C. Vaughan, Miss Maggie Fitts (now Mrs. Margaret Barnes), Miss Mary Rerdell (now Mrs. Kirby Smith), Miss Mary Holden (now Mrs. Otto Langenbach), the Misses Orna and Alice Coffey, Mrs. L. H. Lawrence, Mrs. L. H. Davis, Miss Clara Hutson, Mrs. A. F. Odlin, Mrs. Addie L. Webb, Mrs. W. R. Anno, and Mrs. Lena Hartridge (now Mrs. Ben Cotton).

In 1901, the club built a home of its own on the property now occupied by the Angebilt Hotel. This commodious club house was the center of the social and musical life, not alone of Orlando, but its hospitality reached out to the surrounding towns of the county.

In 1916, the business section of the city, which had seemed so remote when the club house was built, had brought its noise and confusion to the



neighboring streets, and the club house and lot were sold, and the handsome home of the club on Lake Eola was built, and has continued to dispense a delightful hospitality to the younger women as they have come along, as well as to the winter visitors in the city. During the World War, the club house was the headquarters for the surgical dressings work of the Red Cross, and its members were in charge of that branch of the war activities in the county.

The presidents of the Rosalind Club have been Mrs. Leslie Pell-Clarke, Mrs. T. Picton Warlow, Mrs. Seth Woodruff, Mrs. H. L. Beeman, Mrs. S. G. Hauselt, Mrs. James C. Patterson, Mrs. W. R. O'Neal, Miss Maggie Hart, Miss Mary R. Robinson, Mrs. Chester C. Goodrich, Mrs. George H. Holden, Mrs. E. S. Bridges, and Mrs. J. Y. Cheney. Mrs. George R. Newell has been its only treasurer.

On April 23, 1898, a charter was granted to the following women of Orlando for a chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy; Mesdames L. P. Lawrence, Mary A. Broome, Mary A. Person, L. C. Vaughn, C. G. Butt, C. E. Hart, Mary K. Duke, Robert Howe, W. H. Greetham, George R. Newell, S. E. Ives, Caroline Shine, Anna M. White, Seth Woodruff and Misses Fannie Dickinson, Adele Duer, Margaret Hart, Hallie Fernandez, Mollie Ray, and Emma Floyd.

On May 7 of the same year, the complete organization took place. The chapter was named for Mrs. Annie Coleman of Orlando. The first officers were: Mrs. Broome, president; Mrs. Greetham, vice-president; Miss Nellie Beeks, secretary; Mrs. W. H. Jewell, treasurer; and Miss Mollie Ray, historian. Since that time the following have served as presidents of the Chapter; Mrs. C. G. Butt for ten years, Mrs. B. C. Abernethy, Miss Margaret Hart, Deaconess H. R. Parkhill, Mrs. A. C. Branham, Miss Mary Robinson, Mrs. Leroy Giles, Mrs. Seth Woodruff, Miss Agnes Person, Mrs. E. R. Bliss, Mrs. L. F. Blankner, Mrs. L. P. Lawrence, and at the present time Mrs. E. R. Bliss.

The aim and objects of the Organization are benevolent, memorial, educational, historical and social.

The Orlando Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution was organized December 15, 1906, by Mrs. Carrie Packard Schuller, as organizing regent, with twelve charter members, as follows: Mrs. Athena Y. Packard, Mrs. Mary B. Robinson, Miss Emilie Y. Temple, Mrs. Jessica Y. Branch, Mrs. Mary A. Hudson, Deaconess Harriet Parkhill, Mrs. Bessie M. Warren, Mrs. Francis P. Montague, Mrs. Mabelle C. O'Neal, Mrs. Florence A. Hendricks, Miss Florence Hudson, and Miss Annie M. Taylor. The membership has increased to one hundred and fifteen.

The Orlando Chapter concerns itself chiefly with patriotic education, Americanization, and the marking of historic sites. Its interest in the Montverde Industrial School in Lake County is shown in the financial help extended to girls who are students of the school, and in its present effort to



raise funds for the building of a dormitory, which will be a home for fifty girls; it also contributes to other schools and to immigration work on Ellis Island. The Montverde School has the endorsement, not only of the Florida Daughters of the American Revolution, but of the National body as well.

On March 27, 1924, there was unveiled by the Chapter a granite marker on the site of Fort Gatlin, mentioned elsewhere in this chapter. On Armistice Day, 1924, a memorial to the Orange County men who fell in the World War was unveiled in front of the Memorial High School; this monument is a large granite boulder carrying a bronze plate which bears the following inscription:

“LEST WE FORGET”

IN MEMORY OF  
THE ORANGE COUNTY BOYS  
WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES  
IN THE WORLD WAR

ERECTED BY THE ORLANDO CHAPTER  
DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION  
AIDED BY PATRIOTIC CITIZENS OF  
ORANGE COUNTY  
1924

The Florida Equal Suffrage Association was organized in Orlando in November of 1913, with Rev. Dr. Mary A. Safford of Orlando as its president. The activities of the state association were directed from the Orlando office. Dr. Safford travelled over the state, organizing local branches, and the great national leader, Dr. Anna Howard Shaw, who had a winter home in Florence Villa, lent her aid, and the work went rapidly forward until the time came when the object of the association had been attained by the adoption of the Eighteenth Amendment to the Federal Constitution. Mrs. John T. Fuller followed Dr. Safford, and was president of the Association when the suffrage amendment was adopted; the Association having accomplished its mission, was then disbanded.

The Business and Professional Woman's Club was organized in 1920, and incorporated two years later; there were thirty-two charter members. While the main object of the club is the social acquaintance of its members, with the help that comes through co-operation in its domestic plans, the club has been active in promoting civic betterment and has brought to Orlando under its auspices the Redpath Chautauqua, Fritz Kreisler and Edgar Guest, and has sponsored many other concerts and lectures.

The members of the club have maintained a lunch room for themselves and the public, always of excellent quality, and are at present comfortably at home in their club rooms in East Pine Street. The presidents have been:



Miss Dorothy Pratt, Mrs. Grace Holt Beidler, Miss Ida Ryan, Miss Mary McQuarters, Mrs. Carol K. White, Miss Louise Allen, and Miss Mildred Dovell; Miss Claudia DeLaney, postmaster of Orlando, is the present president.

The Orlando Art Association was organized January 15, 1924, Mrs. Ruby Warren Newby initiating the movement and Mrs. Lee Halsted Jerome being the first president; the other directors were Mrs. F. X. Schuller, Mrs. W. G. Jamieson, Mrs. R. E. Hinshaw, Mrs. Florence Hudson, Madame Charlotte Gero, the late Mrs. Charles L. Smith of Winter Park, Miss Virginia Robie, and Mrs. D. R. Cobb. The Association was later incorporated on the suggestion of Rev. Dr. Mary Safford, one of the charter members. It is affiliated with the Southern State Art League and with the American Federation of Art; last year it led in the organization of the Florida State Federation of Art.

Starting with some two score members, it has grown to more than two hundred.

The Association is looking forward confidently and eagerly to establishing an Art Institute in Orlando, with an adequate club house, a school of art and a permanent art gallery.

#### THE ALBERTSON PUBLIC LIBRARY

For a number of years in the middle 90's, Sorosis maintained a circulating library for the use of its members; the privileges of this library were extended later to the public for a moderate fee. At an election which was held May 11, 1920, it was voted to levy a one-mill tax for the maintenance of a public library, and in 1922 bonds to the amount of \$60,000 were issued for the erection of a library building, and work on this building was begun; its cost, including equipment, was \$110,000. In February of the following year, a Library Board was appointed by the City Commissioners, consisting of Professor Sexton Johnson, Mrs. W. F. Jamieson, Mrs. F. W. Taylor, Mrs. T. P. Warlow and Captain Charles L. Albertson, who had previously offered to give his collection of books, amounting to some 15,000 volumes, and particularly rich in historical, biographical and geneological material, to the city. Later, Professor Johnson removed from Orlando and Mrs. Warlow withdrew from the board; Dr. W. F. Blackman and Mr. DeWitt Miller were appointed in their stead, Dr. Blackman being chosen as president.

Soon after the organization of the Library Board, and after careful search far and near, Miss Olive Brumbaugh was engaged as librarian. Miss Brumbaugh graduated from the high school at Frankford, Indiana, studied at Earlham College, Richmond, Indiana, where she received a certificate in Library Science, and took special courses in English and library science at Butler College, the University of Wisconsin, and Columbia University, where



also she was awarded a certificate. Miss Brumbaugh became librarian of the Frankfort Public Library in 1923, which position she held until she came to Orlando in 1923; she established both county and township branches of the Frankfort library. She was elected treasurer of the Indiana Library Association in 1917, and again in 1919, and achieved a recognized and outstanding position in the library field in that state.

Miss Brumbaugh took up the task of organizing the Albertson Public Library in Orlando in May, 1923, and supervised the work of cataloguing and arranging the books, and of purchasing others. She has continued to act as librarian and manager of the library up to the present time, with distinguished success. It is chiefly due to her ability, thorough training, experience, enthusiasm, tact and energy, that the library has not only taken its place as a leading cultural force in the city, but has also achieved a nation-wide recognition. It has been placed on the honor roll recently compiled by the American Library Association, only twenty-six other libraries being included in this list, which is based on service and per capita appropriations; the Albertson Library is the only one in the South whose name appears in this roll.

Miss Brumbaugh was elected president of the Florida Library Association in March, 1927.

The Albertson Library now contains nearly forty thousand volumes, and serves some eighty thousand monthly borrowers; through the main library and its school and colored branches, it circulates from fifteen to twenty thousand books every month. The total disbursements of the library during the year 1926 were \$38,763.99.

A biographical sketch of Captain Albertson may be found in Part Two of this work.

It was the author's intention to add a special section to Chapter Two, on the development of art, music and literature in Orange County, but, to his very great regret, he has not been able to assemble the necessary materials for this story.

However, there follow a few specimen poems by a half-dozen of Orange County's writers, of the early and later days.

A biographical sketch of Will Wallace Harney, founder of Pinecastle, may be found in the second section of this work. From Mr. Harney's volume entitled *Spirit of The South*, published in 1909, is quoted this graceful and tender lyric:



## FLORIDA DAWN

The moon is low in the sky,  
And a sweet south wind is blowing,  
Where the bergamot blossoms breathe and die;  
In the orchard's scented snowing;  
But the stars are few, and scattered lie,  
Where the sinking moon is going.

With a love sweet ache, a strain  
Of the night's delicious fluting  
Stirs in the air, with as sweet a pain  
As the flower feels in fruiting;  
And the night air blows a breath of rain,  
Over buds and tendrils shooting.

Sweet as the wedding oath,  
Of the light and shadow sworn,  
As the mist, like a great white cloth,  
Draws out of the orchard and corn,  
Out of her chamber, blush and loth,  
Like a bride comes the dewy Morn.

The following poem is reminiscent of a tragic episode in the history of the Seminoles:

## THE OLD CANOE

Only an old canoe  
Hewed out of a cypress log,  
Half sunk in a saw-grass bog,  
And suncracked through and through.

In the live-oak crotch on the bluff,  
A lookout scans the horizon  
Of sallow saw-grass; but deep enough,  
In the channel, to swim a bison.  
A bow shot south of the slough,  
There is many a wattled hut and thatch;  
Cornfield, melon, potato patch,  
Rots with the old canoe;  
Dead as the bones that lie  
In the shell marl, under our feet,  
By the thousands, withering white and dry,  
In their chalky winding-sheet;  
The graves of a nation lived all through  
That left no sign but the old canoe.

Over fifty years ago,  
The women came wailing, two by two,  
To see the tall warriors, all arow,  
Follow their chief to the war canoe,



That lay by yon little sedgy shelf,  
And watch the rowers row;  
The paddle swing, like the heron's wing,  
The young chief going to give himself,  
A hostage, for Philip the King,  
And his squaw must watch at the live oak crotch,  
For a word that a bird of the air will bring.

Coo-a-coo-chee has broken his parole;  
Slipped from a casemate and out of a porthole,  
His fetters left for the next deserter.  
But, after he passed,  
Was a shuddering shriek like the cry of murder,  
And the hoofs of riders riding fast,  
And when he came in the war canoe,  
The robe of scarlet, purple, and blue,  
Of the King in Hamlet, was dabbled red  
By a new wig torn from an actor's head.

As they sat at feast of the ripened corn  
The wise old Philip spoke of ease  
And of peace, beyond the narrow seas,  
But Coo-a-coo-chee was full of scorn,  
Of the White's man's cunning to deceive,  
And the squaw wife waiting at his side,  
Looked down and said, "How can we leave  
The grave of the little one that died?"

But Coo-a-coo-chee had broken his parole!  
Recaptured under a flag of truce,  
The fetters clink for the long gun barrel;  
Shot pouch, moccasin, deerskin trews,  
He lies in irons in Tampa Bay,  
His captors warning him every day  
To send for his people. Thereto he said,  
"If my people listen to hear my word  
The rattle of my chains is heard;  
And they will not heed, they are afraid.  
Then said the White Chief,\* "Choose you, men;  
In forty days, if they come again,  
And bring your warriors, war shall cease;  
You and your people shall go in peace.  
If not, at the end of the fortieth day  
You hang at the yard-arm in Tampa Bay.

Once more and no more, the old canoe,  
By winding waterways, goes and comes,  
It bears a people away from their homes,  
Like Charon's ferry that bore the shades,  
Out of the old life into the new,  
And was left adrift in the everglades.

---

\*General Jesup, U. S. A.



But fifty years ago!  
And the shell marl under our feet,  
Still keeps the dead in its winding sheet,  
In the places they used to know.  
The saw grass, bright as a basket of gold  
Still holds the picture it used to hold;  
The slough, bayou, and the river,  
And the wreck of the old canoe,  
But the forms of life and love it knew  
Shall it know no more forever;  
And the low, white vapor curled  
Over empty village and open graves,  
And the cry of the silly, whimpering waves  
Is like the end of the world.

Victor Starbuck was born in Orange County, November 16, 1887. He practised law in Orlando for a number of years, and now resides in Asheville, North Carolina. He has published many poems of notable quality in various magazines, most of them written in Orlando, which have been collected in a volume, *Wind of the Pines*, issued by the Yale University Press in 1923.

Victor Starbuck is an authentic singer, and every poem in this collection is a "gem of purest ray serene." It is difficult to make a selection, but these three may suffice to indicate their quality:

These broken shards of what I might have done—  
Great dreams with gulls and planets winged and starred  
That shouted to me when the heart beat hard  
In nights of tempest; sails against the sun,  
The doom of cities, and loud wars begun—  
All these I tried to sing, but all I marred  
With incompleteness. Maimed, deform and scarred,  
They merge into the silence, every one.

God of all Wholeness! by these nameless things  
Judge Thou me not; but that I strove to find  
Some clear and starry height where angels come  
To light the darkness with their flaming wings—  
Forgive me that I stumbled, being blind.  
Forgive me that I stammered, being dumb.

#### THE PINE AGAINST THE BLUE

If I but knew  
The meaning of yon pine against the blue  
And what the wise winds whisper blowing through,  
What need were mine of books to teach me lore?  
I—gathering shells along life's windy shore  
Where all that is and all that was before  
Breaks on Eternity—If I but knew  
The meaning of the pine against the blue!



If I could sing  
The faintest flutter of a swallow's wing,  
What need had I for any other thing?  
Yea, what of worth to me were Homer's lyre  
Or Dante's vision, or Mahomet's fire  
To harp down Heaven to the heart's desire  
Or chant men up to gods—If I could sing  
The faintest flutter of a swallow's wing?

## THE HEART OF EVE

O Little Heart, whereon I rest my head  
At eventide, what makes thee beat so fast?  
Is it remembrance of the guarded gate,  
The dreadful angel and the flaming sword,  
Or thought of this cold world without the walls  
That makes thee tremble when the dark draws down?  
Or memory of that unlawful fruit,  
The fig-leaf apron, and the Voice of God  
That called at evening? Nay, be not ashamed,  
O Little Heart; the fault was mine, not thine;  
For I, the elder, should have guided thee,  
And I, the wiser, should have counseled thee,  
Yea, I, the stronger, should have held thee safe  
From that strange yearning in thy heart to *know*.

For when God walked through Eden in the dusk  
He took a clod of simple earth His foot  
Struck up in passing, and He smiled, and wrought  
Therewith, and made me, Adam, Red-Earth-Man,  
And thewed my limbs with sinews strong as steel,  
And fused the tempest-wrath into my heart,  
And burned the lightning flash into my brain,  
And gave me life, to build or to destroy:  
And therefore am I called the son of God,  
And brother to the furrow of the field.

But thee He fashioned out of softer things,  
O Little Heart—When He had thought a space,  
He took thee, living, from my living side,  
All warm and throbbing; and to give thee grace  
He fleshed the bare, white shard of naked bone  
With rose-leaf, dew and star-dust, and for breath  
He gave thee singing tones of brook and breeze,  
So all thy words are music: and He sealed  
Thy spirit with the mystic flame of love  
That makes thee yearn for beauty. So we twain  
Be perfect comrades, to go hand in hand  
Through all the years; my hands to build, and thine  
To keep and cherish.



Therefore thou dost hold  
 The gift of life: and in thy beating heart  
 I hear the stir of millions yet unborn;  
 And at the fountains of thy breast shall drink  
 The thirsting generations. Yea, I hear  
 Within thy flesh the tramp of marching hosts  
 With sudden trumpets and the thrill of swords,  
 The pomp of princes and of emperors,  
 The vatic madness and the martyr's fire  
 And throbbing life of cities yet to be—  
 All these shall spring from this white flesh of thine  
 And they shall call thee Mother. Is it this,  
 O Little Heart, that makes thee beat so fast?

Reverend George Henry Badger has been pastor of the First Unitarian Church of Orlando for some eight years, prior to which time he held pastorates in New England, New Jersey and Texas. He was for twelve years Field Secretary of the American Unitarian Association; he was also editor of the *Advance* for ten years. Mr. Badger has published a book of poems through the Beacon Press of Boston.

## COMRADES OF THE ROAD

Stars of the strange, still sky,  
 That thrill with mystic light,  
 I know not what may lurk beyond  
 Your curtain-pall of night;  
  
 But ye, and God, and I  
 Are comrades of the road;  
 Oh wonderous peace, of strength secure,  
 Be ours, who fare with God!

## THE CLOUD FLAKE

All the vast sky above me spread,  
 So blue, so blue;  
 Ocean of silence asleep o'er my head,—  
 Eternity's hue;  
 And on it one cloud-flake, one coil of strange light  
 Sails all alone, glorious in isolate flight,—  
 So tiny, so slight,  
 So valiantly bright!  
 I care not for ocean of vast-spreading blue;  
 I see not the span of eternity's hue:  
 That cloud-flake's the sky, for me!

## SLEEP

How good it is to sleep! . . .  
 To put the hush of darkness  
 Between what was



And what is going to be;  
 To gaze up to the wondrous stars,  
 So silent and so tender,—  
 So far apart from all that fouls our day,  
 Yet steadfast in their brooding calm of friendliness: . . .  
 Then to close one's eyes:  
 And lose oneself  
 In the vast Sea of Silence—  
 That is God!  
 To wrap oneself about  
 With the still mystery  
 Of the ineffable life—  
 So holier, nobler, purer than all earthliness:  
 And thus,  
 Oneself forgetting,—  
 Sleep . . . .

Then comes another day:  
 Clean, fresh, beautiful:  
 Past things are past,—  
 The flush of dawn's remedial.  
 Heart's faiths wax stronger,  
 Braver glow ideals;  
 New day—new hold on life,—  
 New self, regenerate . . . .  
 Because in sleep's baptism,  
 One's soul was buried in God . . . .  
 Then rises cleansed—  
 In daily resurrection . . . .  
 So good it is to sleep!

## QUATRAINS

*The Visible God*

I said: "God is not seen,—no eye can know;  
 By Faith's dim guess the way of life we go."  
 But look:—once heart has learned love's mystery,  
 What else than God, in all the world, to see?

## PRAYER

I tried to pray: my lips could find no word;  
 Heart's eager faith-pang voiceless in me stirred,  
 Then out from heaven God's comfort came to seek—  
 "Thy heart-throb touches mine; what need to speak?"

## THE SKY

'Twas good of God, that where men's eyes must face  
 The awful front of Heaven's abysmal space,  
 He veiled its bleak despair in pitying lie:—  
 This tender hush of friendliness,—the sky.



## MODERN FAITH

I grasped for faith in God, while creeds grew stale;  
 I wrestled with grim doubts,—to no avail.  
 Spake One as God, deep in my soul's Soul, then:—  
 "Why fret for Me? Go, serve thy fellow men!"

## EASTER MORN

On Easter morn the joy of men shall be  
 Faith's blessed dream of Immortality.  
 O soul of mine, dream whatso'er you may:  
 But live thy Heaven—with God—on earth—today!

## FIRST DEITY

The little child looked up,—for faith was young,—  
 And when the bed-side song of prayer was sung,  
 Said, wondering, "God so good and pure must be,  
 Mamma, it must be—you are God—for me!"

## THE WOOD THRUST

'Tis but a shred of vagrant song:  
 A tiny shaft of lilting glee;  
 But lo, o'er the dregs of a day so wrong,  
 How it brings a heaven of hope to me!

Reference is made to Mrs. Rose Mills Powers in the biographical sketch of her husband, Mr. Hiram Powers, in the second section of this work. Mrs. Powers has issued a volume of poems, *Psyche's Lamp*, and is a member of the Poetry Society of Florida and the Poetry Society of America. Her love for Florida is shown in the two following poems:

## FAERY FLORIDA

Like the slender body flung,  
 Immemorially young,  
 Of a nymph upon the sand,  
 Water-laved on either hand,  
 Offspring of the earth and sea,  
 Bred of wind-blown mystery,  
 Green of wave and gold of sun  
 And flowing vermillion;  
 Smiling from the embracing tide,  
 Salty-lipped and starry-eyed,  
 But holding to her warm sweet breast  
 Age-old secrets unconfessed,  
 That no mortal hand may stir,  
 Hidden at the heart of her;  
 By unnumbered lovers wooed,



Still untamed and unsubdued,  
Donning civilizing dress  
To frolic back to nakedness,  
To wreath in moss her body bare  
And wind the jasmine in her hair.

O FLORIDA, BELOVED!

*(Tune: Jerusalem the Golden)*

Enthroned above the waters  
And glorious as a queen,  
With crown of sparkling radiance  
And robes of living green;  
O Florida, beloved!  
The springs of life are yours,  
A never-fading splendor  
Of beauty that endures;  
Enthroned above the waters  
And glorious as a queen,  
With crown of sparkling radiance  
And robes of living green.

Immortal in your beauty,  
For you our spirits yearn,  
Wherever we may wander  
Till back to you we turn;  
Where, smiling from the shadows,  
The centuries have flung,  
You lift, serene, undaunted,  
A face divinely young;  
Immortal in your beauty,  
For you our spirits yearn,  
Wherever we may wander  
Till back to you we turn.

O Florida, beloved!  
Our pledge we now renew;  
An ardent, pure devotion  
And service, ever true;  
Though shadows fall upon us,  
To keep till we depart,  
The soul attuned to beauty,  
The high, courageous heart;  
O Florida, beloved!  
Our pledge we now renew;  
An ardent, pure devotion,  
And service, ever true.

Rev. Dudley Matthews was for some years the beloved pastor of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Winter Park. On account of his frail health, he found it necessary to give up the work of the ministry, and opened an architects' office in Orlando, and later in Winter Park, and



designed a number of bungalows and other buildings, marked by a fine artistic sense. The Angel Alley Press of Winter Park has issued a thin volume of Mr. Matthews poems, since his lamented death, entitled *My Castle of Dreams*, two of which follow:

## THE LOST CASTLES

Ho, Traveller, have you seen them in lands beyond the sea,  
Or marked you aught of my Castles that now are lost to me?  
Perchance in nearer borders than those that lie afar  
Beyond the seas, you've found them—Cans't tell me where they are?

I fashioned first in childhood, in Playtime's holiday,  
And peopled them with fancies, Goblin and Gnome and Fay;  
With many a tower and turret, and minaret piercing the sky,  
And walls that kissed the cloudlets that stooped in passing by.

In youth I reared still others, less marvellous—yet grand—  
In a place where a pulsing ocean throbbed on a golden strand;  
A land full free from sorrow, unknown to night-winged care  
And 'neath the silvery moonbeams I took my Princess there.

As years sped on I built each less lordly than the last  
And, scorning the fancies and follies that peopled those of the past,  
I built them sane and solid, from futile fancies free,  
And stored with means abundant for my posterity;

But, sunk in the sordid struggle, drugged by the daily task,  
My castles, quite forgotten, slipped from my heedless grasp.  
I care not that Winter is on me, that frosts are on my hair;  
I grieve but to think I've lost *them*— my Castles in the Air.

## MAKE-BELIEVE LAND

Ho, Little Boy Blue, come climb on my knee,  
And cuddle up closely, as snug as can be;  
With gentle closed eyelids and tightly clasped hand  
We'll journey together to Make-Believe Land.

The Genii and Fairies and Trolls of the Hill,  
You'll find there a-waiting to do what you will;  
O, a wonderful company—a right loyal band  
Are these queer little people of Make-Believe Land.

They'll make all your wishes come true as can be,  
They'll carry you swiftly to lands o'er the Sea,  
They'll change poorest homes to palaces grand—  
But that's nothing strange, here in Make-Believe Land.

Your soldiers of tin, in their colors so gay,  
Will all become real, in martial array—  
Then, clasp on your helmet! and saber in hand!  
Hurrah for the armies of Make-Believe Land.



Your engine has steam up all ready to go,  
The track is all clear—but be sure to go slow  
And see that your train is properly manned—  
For awful wrecks happen in Make-Believe Land.

The Animals are coming by twos to their ark,  
Remind us that now it is growing quite dark!  
And this wonderful journey our fancies have planned  
Must soon have an end e'en in Make-Believe Land.

Reverend Clarence A. Vincent, D. D., pastor of the First Congregational Church of Winter Park, is a poet as well as an effective preacher and beloved pastor. A sketch of Dr. Vincent's life with accompanying portrait, may be found in Section Two of this work. Here are three of Dr. Vincent's poems:

#### ORLANDO

O City beautiful, where the fair sun  
Doth witch the winters into balmy spring;  
Where, night and day, the birds ecstatic sing,  
And Nature has her richest harvests won.  
The long year through the children sport and run  
In God's great open fields, and build their health.  
The citrus groves bear fragrance, fruit and wealth.  
The gentle breezes come with healing balm,  
And blossoms wait the bee where'er he roams.  
There broods o'er all at night a mystic calm,  
And through it all a spiritual City comes,  
Where love and peace hush every bitter strife,  
And God's own spirit fills the common life.

#### THE CARDINAL

Welcome once more to tree and lawn!  
Your voice awoke me at the dawn.  
For weeks I've waited you to come  
And build in this low bush your home,  
Where your bright color should be seen  
As, flashing in and out the green,  
You sing your songs, distinct and clear,  
And court your mate without a fear  
That any harm can come from me  
To you and yours on lawn or tree  
As long as you remain my guest,  
And build, as last year, your frail nest.  
And why not make this place your home,  
Nor fly away nor longer roam  
From clime to clime, but sing for me  
And mine, and share our crust and tree?



## A CLOUD

Small, fleecy, cumulus cloud in the bright sky,  
 Ablaze with light from the departing sun  
 Which it flings back now that the day is done,  
 You ride the air as neither man nor bird can fly  
 And anxious not that soon you, too, will die,  
 Not to oblivion when your course is run  
 But into other forms, life just begun—  
 Thus even death you valiantly defy:—

And can it be that I, who feel and think,  
 And make long plans that cannot finish here,  
 Shall the dark waters of oblivion drink  
 And life and plans shall perish at my bier?  
 No! Larger life awaits us on the brink  
 Of death. Plans grow forever. Then, why fear?

With due apologies, the author submits these three early out-breathings of his modest and now long silent Muse. A sketch of Dr. Blackman's life may be found in Section Two of this work.

THE FELLOWSHIP OF HIS SUFFERINGS  
 (*A Sonnet*)

When I consider all the weary way  
 In which earth's countless multitudes do go;  
 The pagan millions fed on lies, the woe  
 Of immemorial times that had no ray  
 From Heaven to light the gloom; the savage sway  
 Of famine, earthquake, plague and bloody war;  
 The strong that feast like vultures on the poor;  
 The nether masses, wallowing in the clay;  
 The false and sundered loves, the blighted hopes;  
 The cities of the dead nigh every town;  
 The faith perplexed that in gross darkness gropes  
 For God;—when on my soul such thoughts press down,  
 I know Thy grief, O Christ, if but in part,  
 The mighty, yearning love that broke Thy heart.

## HYMN

(Sung at the laying of the corner-stone of Warner Hall, Oberlin Conservatory of Music, January 23, 1884).

O, Author of all concord,  
 Who tuned'st the morning star,  
 Gav'st harp and psalm to David,  
 And through the Gates Ajar  
 Dost show us shining thousands  
 Who sing the Lamb's New Song:—  
 To Thee, from star to seraph  
 All harmonies belong.



O'erflowing the full heavens,  
They float upon the earth,  
As through the plains of Bethl'em  
They floated at His birth;  
And Christ and Peace and Good-Will  
Are aye the theme of song:—  
For unto Thee, O Jesus,  
All harmonies belong.

Song thwarts the tempter's power,  
Charms sobbing grief to rest,  
Pours mighty inspirations  
Within the human breast,  
Binds heart with heart together,  
And tames the venom'd tongue:—  
To Thee, O earth's Redeemer,  
All harmonies belong.

Dwell Thou, then, in the Temple  
We rear to Song and Thee,  
Join art with truth and duty  
In sacred ministry;  
And, O, from usurpation  
Of lust and strife and wrong  
All harmonies deliver,  
Since they to Thee belong.

MAY SONG

(From the German of Goethe)

How splendid seems now  
Nature to me!  
The sunbeams sparkle,  
Earth laughs with glee.

On every twig now,  
Flowers scented spring;  
In bush and tree top  
Glad voices ring.

Filled in each bosom  
With joy and mirth,  
As floods the sunshine  
The smiling earth.

O, Love! O, my Love!  
Rosy and fair  
As clouds of morning  
Floating through air,—

Thou art to my soul  
As vernal showers  
Are to sere meadows,  
Or breath of flowers.



As the lark loveth  
High heaven and song,  
Odors celestial  
From roses flung,  
So love I thee, Love,  
With heart of youth,  
Brim-full of warm blood,  
And full of truth.  
The songs I sing, Love,  
Come all from thee;  
Heaven be thy guardian,  
While true to me!

Arthur Philip Maurer, a native of Memphis, has resided in Orlando for almost a decade; a sketch of his life may be found in Section Two of this work. Mr. Maurer has written a number of poems and aphorisms in the negro dialect, under the pseudonym "Parson Ebony Snow," which are marked by an accurate understanding of the negro temperament, a spirit of optimism and good cheer, and a literary style simple and striking and melodious.

## WHISTLIN'

You kin scatter clouds about,  
Whistlin';  
'Cause it bring de sunshine out,  
Whistlin'.  
Mister Red Bird in de tree  
Keep a tellin' you an' me  
He am happy as kin be,  
Whistlin'.  
Worry an' Trouble dey don't like,  
Whistlin';  
An' you start 'em quick to hike,  
Whistlin'.  
While you's gittin' your row hoed  
Or am reapin' what you sowed,  
You kin lighten up your load,  
Whistlin'.  
You kin take a graveyard trip,  
Whistlin';  
'Cause it make de ghosts all skip,  
Whistlin'.  
Maybe in de bye an' bye,  
We'll be Angels in de sky  
Flyin' all around up high,  
Whistlin'.



## KEEP ON TRYIN'

Keep on tryin'—Don't give up—  
You kin win some kind of cup,  
    If you keep on tryin'.  
When you's slippin', dig right in;  
When you's down, brace up agin;  
Dair am much dat you kin win  
    If you keep on tryin'.

Don't let go—use all your grit—  
You'll do things folks won't fo'git,  
    If you keep on tryin'.  
Show your teeth an' use your eyes;  
Swat your fears de same as flies;  
You'll lick trouble twice your size  
    If you keep on tryin'.

Fire up—keep makin' steam—  
You kin cross de widest stream,  
    If you keep on tryin'.  
You kin land de hardest licks,  
Keep away de swiftest kicks,  
An' git out most any fix  
    If you keep on tryin'.

## CHURCHES

There are now some two score churches in Orlando, white and colored. Most of these were organized in comparatively recent times, and it is impossible to rehearse their interesting history here in detail.

Five of these churches may be regarded as historic; the First Presbyterian, the St. Luke's Protestant Episcopal, the First Methodist Episcopal, South, the First Baptist, and St. Joseph's Roman Catholic. These were organized prior to the year 1900, when Orlando was a village, and they have kept pace with the growth of the community, have exercised a profound and precious influence on its life, and have given themselves in sacrifice both of members and of money, for the support of mission branches and the founding of other independent churches, to meet the religious needs of the expanding city.

The First Presbyterian Church was organized March 18, 1876, by Rev. J. E. Telford, and Rev. W. H. Dodd; there were eleven adult members with their children, twenty-six in all. These eleven charter members were Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Stubblefield, Mrs. Jacob Summerlin, Professor and Mrs. B. Gould, Mr. and Mrs. William A. Milton, Mr. E. M. Clark, Mr. C. H. Munger, Mr. J. M. Clark, and Mrs. J. Preston.



The first services were held in what is known as the "old church building," located east of the postoffice. The lot was donated by Mr. John Patrick, formerly a merchant in Orlando, and Mr. J. J. Patrick, owner of the building in which the Sentinel office was located.

The building was erected by subscription, and was used by the Methodists and Episcopalians in connection with the Presbyterian, each church occupying the building one Sunday in each month; it was also used for school purposes. After worshipping here a few months, the Presbyterians held their services in the court house.

There was a succession of ministers, serving for part-time and brief periods, Rev. J. C. Sturgeon, Rev. A. H. Mathers, Rev. J. Beveridge, (who is remembered as the clergyman who built with his own hands and unaided, a cottage on Magnolia Avenue), Rev. W. G. F. Wallace, Rev. Mr. Gordon, and Rev. Henry Keigwin, who became pastor in 1884.

The first church building was dedicated February 15, 1884, the contract price being \$1,186, and the total cost \$4,300; it was burned February 23, 1888, the church meeting then in the court house and opera house. The present church building was erected in 1888, and occupied in the following January. Three years later, the Congregational Church, which stood on the northwest corner of Main and Robinson Streets, was moved to the south side of the Presbyterian Church—the Congregational Church having disbanded—and used as a chapel. It was later enlarged and beautified. The cornerstone of the present Bible School building, a commodious and imposing structure, three stories in height, was laid on the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the church.

Later pastors of the church have been Rev. J. I. Norris, 1899-1905; Rev. C. O. Groves, 1906-10; Rev. J. W. Stagg, 1911-23; and Rev. T. H. McConnell, 1915-24. The present pastor, Rev. J. Blanton Belk, began his work on September 16, 1924.

The church has been fortunate in having a succession of able and faithful ministers and Bible school superintendents—among these, the greatly-loved Mr. George R. Newell and Mr. W. R. O'Neal, who has conducted the school continuously for a quarter of a century—and a membership made up in large part of capable and sagacious business and professional men, and women of leading influence in the city; it has admirably illustrated its favorite Calvinistic doctrine, "the perseverance of the saints."

The first services of the Episcopal Church in Orlando were probably held in 1873 by Rev. Francis R. Holeman, in a small schoolhouse where the Tremont hotel now stands.

In the latter part of 1874 and early in 1875, Mr. Francis Epps held lay services in his home southeast of Orlando; then for several years Rev. Lyman Phelps, who had located near Sanford, conducted a monthly service in the old courthouse, making the long drive with horse and buggy over sand roads.



Among the zealous workers of those early days were the Epps, Shine, Summerlin, Westcott and Greetham families, with others who united in the development of this mission.

On January 9, 1882, the large lot where the Cathedral and other parish buildings now stand was purchased from Robt. R. Reid and wife for \$300. Within that year a small church was erected, which still forms part of the building now used for the Cathedral Church school; this first church was completed in 1882.

Through the latter part of 1883, services were held by Rev. C. W. Ward, who resided at Winter Park. On April 28, 1884, the formal organization of the mission into St. Luke's parish was made. The first vestry, elected on May 23, 1884, consisted of Mr. C. W. Jacocks, senior warden; Mr. T. J. Shine, junior warden; T. S. Coart, secretary; W. H. Holden and Dr. L. W. Pilley.

Mr. Ward resigned February 2, 1885; succeeding rectors were Rev. C. D. Barbour and Rev. E. M. W. Hills; then temporary charge by Rev. S. B. Carpenter until Rev. J. J. Andrew became rector in April 1890.

The church was consecrated by Bishop Weed on March 18, 1892. In April of that year, the rectory on the corner of Magnolia and Livingston Avenues was purchased; this property was sold in August, 1912, shortly before the erection of the present deanery.

In October, 1892, the Missionary Jurisdiction of Southern Florida was set apart by the General Convention, and Rev. William Crane Gray, rector of the Church of the Advent, Nashville, was elected the first missionary bishop of this field. He was consecrated in Nashville on December 29, 1892, and reached Orlando on January 5, 1893. St. Luke's parish approved the division of the diocese and rejoiced in Bishop Gray's decision to reside in Orlando.

The tower for the bell, and the vestry-room were completed in January 1893, this expense provided jointly by Mr. Pell-Clark and St. Luke's Guild.

During an interval of temporary supply following the resignation of Rev. J. J. Andrew, active steps were taken by Bishop Gray and the vestry toward making St. Luke's a cathedral parish and toward enlarging the church to double its seating capacity. Rev. Lucien A. Spencer, then in charge at Bradenton, was called to become the first Dean, and served from March 1902 to March 1913. Plans which he drew for the enlargement of the church were accepted, and the work was begun April 1, 1902 and completed the latter part of May. While this work was in progress, regular services were held in the Congregational Church which then stood unused at the north end of Main street. Formal change to a cathedral parish was completed on March 31, 1902.

Members of the first Cathedral chapter were Bishop Gray, Very Rev. L. A. Spencer, Rev. H. W. Greetham, Messrs. L. C. Massey, T. P. Warlow,



A. Haden, A. W. C. Smythe, W. A. Dade, Chas. Lord and T. P. Robinson, Rev. W. W. DeHart of Tampa, Mr. M. E. Gillett of Tampa and Geo. M. Robbins. Mr. T. P. Warlow was elected secretary and Rev. H. W. Greetham, treasurer.

Impressive services on Trinity Sunday, May 25, 1902, marked the re-opening of the enlarged church. Bishop Gray inducted Rev. L. A. Spencer as Dean of the Cathedral, Rev. J. H. Davet as senior canon, Rev. H. W. Greetham as minor canon and Rev. John Gray as archdeacon.

Dean Spencer's long charge was marked by an extensive building program. Enlargement of the church was followed by the erection of the chapter-house, in 1905, and during that year two buildings at the Church Home and Hospital and the Bishop Gray Hall at the Cathedral School were erected. The Harriet Randolph Parkhill Hall at the Cathedral School and the first home for nurses at the Church Home and Hospital were added in 1906; three more hospital buildings were erected in 1910, and the present deanery was completed early in 1913. Dean Spencer resigned in March, 1913, and temporary supply followed, including Rev. Campbell Gray, son of Bishop Gray, and now Bishop of northern Indiana, who was acting Dean from October 14, 1913, till early in January, 1914. Rev. Henry R. Remsen became Dean in January, 1914, and resigned three years later.

Two other priests, not having charge of this parish but rendering notable service throughout years of ever helpful residence are Rev. Alfred A. Rickert, who made Orlando his home from 1902 until his death, February 22, 1917, and Rev. R. P. Cobb, beloved and efficient principal of the Cathedral School for nine years, and making his home in Orlando since 1911.

St. Cecelia's Guild purchased a pipe organ in 1905. The beautiful carved oak altar was given in November 1908 by St. Clement's Church, Philadelphia, and the small altar previously used was placed in the hospital chapel.

The resignation of Bishop Gray was accepted by General Convention in October 1913, when the Rt. Rev. Cameron Mann, then Bishop of North Dakota, was elected his successor; Bishop Mann arrived in Orlando on January 5, 1914.

Bishop and Mrs. Gray moved to Nashville, where she died on May 11, 1915; Bishop Gray died there on November 14, 1919. A beautiful stained glass window was placed in the Cathedral, dedicated April 30, 1916, in loving memory of Mrs. Gray and this window was transferred to the new Cathedral, and a handsome carved oak pulpit, placed in the new Cathedral as a memorial to Bishop Gray from this diocese, was dedicated by Bishop Mann on October 18, 1926. Two other deeply valued memorials in the new Cathedral are the excellent pipe organ, given by Messrs. W. R. O'Neal and A. D. Mallory in memory of Mrs. O'Neal who had served as choir director for years, and the handsome carved stone portal, given by Mr. L. L. Payne in memory of Mrs. Payne and their daughter, Ruth Isaacson.



Rev. Jas. G. Glass was elected Dean in January 1917, and served for five years.

Rev. C. S. Long was called to take temporary charge in February of 1922; was elected Dean two months later, and resigned November 25, 1926. In October of 1922, the old Cathedral was moved to the south side of the church lot, to give space for the new Cathedral. During Dean Long's charge the hopes and plans of many years were realized in the erection of the beautiful new Cathedral. Construction work began the latter part of February 1925; the cornerstone was laid by Bishop Mann on April 13, 1925.

Mr. C. DeWitt Miller, now a member of the Cathedral chapter, served most efficiently as chairman of the Cathedral building committee. This Cathedral was first used on Eastern even, April 3, 1926, when it was dedicated by Bishop Mann. Several parish organizations have added to its welfare. St. Luke's Guild was started in the winter of 1882, and the St. Luke's branch of the Woman's auxiliary was organized a few years later. St. Cecelia's Guild, of young women, rendered helpful service through a number of years. These guilds and the Woman's auxiliary were merged in the Church Service League, organized the latter part of 1915, with Mrs. W. R. O'Neal as first president, and still continuing its work. St. Mary's Chapter, Daughters of the King, the first chapter of this order in Florida, was started under the guidance of Mrs. Leslie Pell-Clark, in March of 1892, and its work has continued from that time. The Young People's Service League was organized in November of 1926.

A special convention, called to elect a bishop-coadjutor, met in the Cathedral on May 6, 1925, Rev. John D. Wing, D.D., of Chattanooga, was elected. He was consecrated on September 29, 1925, and was later officially introduced by Bishop Mann to the Cathedral congregation in Orlando.

Glad commemoration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of Bishop Mann's consecration to the episcopate was held in Orlando on December 8, 1926, and was shared by clergy and laity from points throughout this diocese. The Bishop's brother, Rt. Rev. Alexander Mann, D.D., Bishop of Pittsburg, preached the anniversary sermon.

Following Dean Long's resignation, Rev. Frank P. Johnson came for temporary charge, and in March, 1927, Rev. Phillips S. Gilman of Nashville was called as Dean.

Present members of the Cathedral chapter are Bishop Mann, Bishop Wing, Dean Gilman, Messrs. Floyd L. Knight, chancellor, T. W. Bethea, senior warden; T. P. Robinson, junior warden; A. S. Derby, secretary; A. Haden, treasurer, and Messrs. F. H. Rand, Chas. Lord, Ernest McCarthy, W. H. R. Cadman, E. S. Bridges and C. DeWitt Miller.

The first reference of any kind to the Methodist Church is that found in Rev. John C. Ley's "Fifty-Two years in Florida," in which he mentions mak-



ing "long trips to Orange County from headquarters at Micanopy, Florida, in the year 1863."

Thereafter for many years occasional traveling preachers held forth here and there over southern Florida, but there seems to be no church record until the year 1880, when the "preacher in charge" at Orlando was Rev. M. E. Bishop and the church was organized, with regular preaching in the court house.

In 1882, Rev. A. Peeler was appointed to take this charge and he built the first church at the corner of South Main and Jackson Streets, the location of the present First church.

Following this appointment, there succeeded at intervals the following preachers: Rev. Messrs. C. E. Pelot, J. C. Anderson, W. M. Poague, J. T. Marshall, B. K. Thrower, W. J. Carpenter, W. M. Poague, F. R. Bridges, L. W. Moore, H. E. Partridge, R. V. Atkisson, J. B. Mitchell, J. S. Chapman, J. E. Ray, J. B. Ley, J. R. Cason, W. A. Cooper, J. C. Jenkins and O. E. Rice, the present pastor.

The first record of Sunday school superintendents is that of Capt. W. G. Johnson, who served a short while, followed by Mr. James A. Knox who served fourteen years, Mr. C. E. Howard who served twenty-seven years, Judge F. A. Smith who served about two years, and Mr. Hal Atkinson now serving two years.

The chairmen of the Board of Stewards have been Messrs. W. J. Johnson, F. A. Curtis, James A. Knox, J. L. Guernsey, Grey Rush, W. S. Swope and Col. R. M. Shearer, the present incumbent.

The chairmen of the Board of Trustees have been Mr. F. A. Curtis, and Mr. James L. Giles, now serving. For almost the entire time Mr. H. H. Dickson acted as treasurer, followed by Mr. D. J. Mason and the present Mr. Hal Atkinson.

There have been three successive church buildings, the present one having been erected in 1913, and the capacious and convenient Sunday School building in 1924.

Including the present First church there have grown out of it three other Methodist churches. These churches have a large and active membership, and exercise a powerful influence on the religious and moral life of the city.

The First Baptist Church was organized March 5, 1871. No names of the charter members or the first pastors or deacons are available; in the early days the church was served by visiting ministers who rode on horseback for several days in order to fill a monthly appointment. In 1879, Rev. E. S. Gore became pastor; he served the church very acceptably for several years, giving only part time. In 1883, Rev. A. L. Farr became the first full time pastor; in 1885 he was succeeded by Rev. William Powell, under whose ministry the church prospered and grew for two years, when in 1887 Dr. N.



A. Bailey, who was the editor of the Florida Baptist Witness, became the pastor and served for some years. He was succeeded by Dr. Farriss now vice-president of John B. Stetson University at DeLand, where he has held the chair of ancient languages for a third of a century. Rev. S. H. Hughes became pastor in 1893 and served for only one year, when Dr. W. J. Bolan, then a boy preacher, now preacher in Tampa, became pastor. In 1896, Rev. J. W. Gillian, a young man just finishing a course of study in the theological seminary at Louisville, became pastor; he has during the intervening years served some of the leading churches of the south, and is now pastor of the First Church, Shawnee, Oklahoma. He was succeeded by Rev. J. C. Massey, now pastor of Tremont Temple, Boston. Several short pastorates followed—Rev. Claude Roboteau, Rev. M. A. Clounts of St. Petersburg, Rev. A. Ernest Crain of South Carolina—and in 1905 Dr. Nelson became pastor and rendered a splendid service to the church; he remained pastor for six years and was succeeded by a young man, Rev. Mr. Calloway of Georgia, now pastor of the First church, Thomasville. Dr. Frank Cramer succeeded Dr. Calloway and served the church for a short time, when Dr. Edward Poulson, now of St. Petersburg, became pastor. Under his leadership the church grew from a small congregation to a membership of more than 400, and it was under his leadership that the first unit of the present church building was erected. On October 1, 1919, the present pastor, Rev. J. Dean Adcock, entered upon his work. Since this time the church has grown from 442 members to 1600. During this period the following churches have gone out from the First church: North Park Baptist Church in 1923; Lucerne Park Church in 1925; and Miller Memorial Church in 1927; the church also maintains two thriving missions. The total membership of the city has grown to more than 2,200. During this period the education building has been erected and the pastor's home.

St. James Church, Orlando, as is usually the case in any organization, had a very small beginning. Before it had a resident priest it was visited by priests from Jacksonville, Palatka and Maitland; Mass was said in private houses by these visiting priests.

Father Felix P. Swenbergh was the first resident priest of Orlando. The date of his arrival was some time in the latter part of 1885 or the early part of 1886. Father Swenbergh erected a church on the Orange Avenue property which had been purchased in 1881 by Bishop Moore for \$1,050; he also built a church in Sanford.

In response to a call from Bishop Moore, Father Swenbergh went to Tampa during the yellow fever epidemic, and succumbed to the dread disease on October 31, 1887.

From this date until 1892, Orlando was visited by various priests, chief among whom were the Jesuit Fathers. It was during this interval—in October, 1899—that St. Joseph's Academy was founded. It was conducted by the Sisters of St. Joseph, from St. Augustine, Florida.



The Reverend Michael Fox took charge of Orlando and its missions November 4, 1892. The territory entrusted to his care was extensive, comprising Orange, Lake and Sumter Counties. Such an amount of territory entailed a good deal of labor.

Mass was celebrated at Orlando and Sanford two Sundays in the month, at Minneola every fifth Sunday, and at irregular intervals at Killarney, Eustis, Umatilla, Leesburg, Montclair, Tavares, Sylvan Lake, Oviedo and Winter Park.

When Rt. Rev. W. J. Kenny was appointed to the See of St. Augustine, a change was made in the territory; Sumter County was given over to another pastor and Osceola was attached to Orlando, leaving Father Fox still in charge of three counties, Orange, Lake and Osceola.

As a result of the growth of the congregation in Orlando, the missions had to be relinquished to the care of other pastors. Father Fox and his assistant now have care of the whole of Orange County.

The present church building being quite inadequate for the increasing Catholic population, it is expected that some time in the near future a new church will be erected, and in connection with it a school, rectory and convent. These buildings will be located on property purchased near Lake Eola.

For many years the Catholic residents of Winter Park attended St. James Church in Orlando. However, to make it possible for the hotel employees to attend to their religious duties, mass was said in the winter seasons of 1921-1924 in the home of Mr. H. W. Barnum. Through the generosity of Miss Victorine Reynaert and other donors, it was found possible to build a church. The building was begun August 8, 1924, and was completed in December of the same year. It was called the Church of St. Margaret Mary, and the first mass was said in it on Sunday, December 8, although the formal opening did not take place until March 15 of the following year. On Sunday, January 30, 1927, the Church was dedicated by Right Rev. Patrick Barry, Bishop of the diocese of St. Augustine.

Through the help of the Rev. John H. Reynaert, a retired priest of Marquette, Michigan, it was possible to have mass every Sunday in Orlando for many years.

Father Reynaert had the distinction of being mayor of Maitland. By ecclesiastical and civil permission, his body is interred in the Church of Winter Park.

In 1921, the Rev. P. J. Nolan, D. D., was appointed assistant pastor by the Rt. Rev. M. J. Curley. On his promotion to the care of Gainesville, the Rev. C. L. Elslander was appointed in 1924, and remained until he was transferred to the pastorate of Tallahassee in 1925. To him succeeded Rev. B. J. McGivney, who in turn was succeeded in 1926 by the present assistant, Rev. J. F. Walsh.



The Sisters of St. Joseph have taught in St. Joseph's School, Orlando, for thirty-eight years. These self-sacrificing women devote themselves to the training of youth in Christian principles and the duties of citizenship. An account of St. Joseph's Academy may be found in Chapter Two of this work, Narrative Section.

#### ASSOCIATED CHARITIES

The Associated Charities of Orlando was organized in May, 1915, to meet the increasing need for co-ordinating relief work, with definite provision for such work to be handled in a systematic way.

Previously to this time, any case of need which became known was aided by various church organizations and by individuals, none of whom knew what was being supplied by the others; none feeling any responsibility for trying to solve the problem which caused the need, or for giving other than most temporary assistance.

Among those who greatly aided in organizing the Associated Charities were several earnest workers who have since been called from earthly life: Mrs. Harry L. Beeman, Rev. J. B. Ley, Rev. Dr. Stagg and Mayor E. F. Sperry having each rendered notable service during the early days, with others whose interest and work have continued.

The first officers elected were Mr. W. R. O'Neal, president; Mr. N. P. Yowell, first vice-president; Rev. H. R. Remsen, second vice-president; Mrs. Harry L. Beeman, treasurer; and Miss Corinne Robinson, secretary. Four additional members elected to serve with the officers of the first Board of Directors were: Mrs. J. T. Fuller, Mrs. G. H. Edwards, Mrs. J. M. Pedrick and Rev. J. B. Ley.

A general solicitation of Orlando residents through one day met with helpful response, and the work then started has continued to the present time, with steadily increasing scope.

The Associated Charities of Orlando was the first organization of its kind to be established in Orange County, and while originally intended, as its name indicated, to work within Orlando only, its field was soon extended to meet urgent appeals from beyond the city limits, for which there was no other provision.

Among other prominent workers through its early years were Mrs. Inez F. Bellows, now of Winter Park, whose long service as treasurer was of especial help, Mrs. T. P. Warlow, Mrs. Frances Laughlin, Mrs. James L. Giles, Mrs. E. F. Sperry, Mrs. James D. Burden, Mrs. Leroy B. Giles, Mrs. E. W. Davis, Mrs. J. P. Holbrook, Rev. James G. Glass, Mr. A. G. Branham and Mr. C. W. Goodrich.

Early records give marked contrast to those of the present, the first annual report including mention of sixty-five calls by the secretary during the year, where now that number is usually more than doubled monthly.



Increase of the work has inevitably meant large increase in grocery bills (always the highest item of expense), and often in other lines of relief the funds entirely depleted.

The generous co-operation of Orlando's physicians and dentists has ever been a chief dependence, their personal service freely rendered for many persons brought to them by the secretary, or visited in homes when unable to be moved. For all surgical cases and for other forms of serious sickness, Orange General Hospital has given splendid assistance.

Both white and colored people have been aided through the Associated Charities, each case of need reported having prompt and careful attention, with always the effort to help each family in overcoming the cause of destitution or sickness—obtaining employment for those able to work and aiding in various ways beside the immediate material relief needed.

This organization has also sought to eliminate street begging and the former house-to-house solicitation by individuals for themselves.

Orange County Red Cross has vastly aided this work throughout recent years by providing and maintaining a car for the joint use of the Red Cross and the Charities.

The Orlando Morning Sentinel helped greatly by raising a special "Christmas Fund" each December for the use of this organization in supplying Christmas cheer in barren homes. Generous donations of food supplies for this purpose from our markets, bakeries and grocers, with the helpful co-operation of Sunday School classes and of individuals have provided for a glad special work at both Thanksgiving and Christmas which has brought untold joy and comfort in many homes that would not have shared the season's brightness.

Donations of second-hand clothing have supplied urgent need through each month, and many other donations of food supplies, jelly, etc., have been gladly placed where greatly needed and appreciated.

Present officers of the Associated Charities are Judge T. P. Warlow, president; Harry N. Dickson, first vice-president; Mrs. J. T. Fuller, second vice-president; Mrs. Harry M. Voorhis, treasurer; and Miss Corinne Robinson, secretary. Other members of the Board of Directors are: Mrs. James L. Giles, Mrs. M. Palmer, C. O. Spessard, Wilbur Warren, Mrs. Frances Laughlin, Mrs. J. D. Burden, Mrs. Nat Berman, Miss Helen Hurlburt, L. L. Payne, M. O. Overstreet, Dr. J. A. Ford, J. C. Brossier, Nixon Butt, O. P. Swope and M. J. Daetwyler



## ORANGE GENERAL HOSPITAL

Plans toward starting a hospital which should provide both for pay patients and for the destitute sick were started by a group of leading physicians and influential citizens of Orlando, and a county-wide campaign was made for funds, enlisting a large number of supporters throughout city and county as the Hospital Association; among prominent workers were: Dr. J. S. McEwan, Dr. C. D. Christ, Messrs. M. O. Overstreet, M. M. Smith, J. L. Giles, N. P. Yowell, William Edwards, L. W. Tilden, W. R. O'Neal and others.

As a result, Orange General Hospital was incorporated in July, 1916, and was opened in November, 1918. The building cost \$150,000 and the equipment then placed cost \$15,000, with a capacity of a hundred beds.

The members of the first Board of Governors were Mr. Jas. L. Giles, president, and Messrs. M. O. Overstreet, H. L. Beeman, A. C. Starbird, L. W. Tilden, N. P. Yowell, William Edwards, and W. R. O'Neal.

In 1923, a Nurses' Home was built, costing \$25,000, and in the fall of 1926 an entire new wing of fifty private rooms was added to the hospital, this costing \$150,000.

The work of the hospital has grown rapidly; during the first year the patients numbered slightly over 400, while during 1926 care was provided for 3,000 patients.

The present Board of Governors consists of Mr. C. DeWitt Miller, president, Messrs. L. L. Payne, L. M. Autrey, D. E. Fishback, W. M. Glenn, I. W. Phillips, William Edwards, W. E. Martin, L. W. Tilden, N. P. Yowell, J. L. Giles, W. R. O'Neal, M. O. Overstreet, Judge D. A. Cheney, Col. R. M. Shearer, and Mesdames Rose Simmons, N. P. Yowell, Mary Rand, Kate Ferris and A. E. Dick.

Mr. Henry has been the efficient Manager for a number of years.

While following with keen interest the growth of the Orange General Hospital, older residents of Orlando recall vividly the early pioneer hospital service rendered amid great difficulties and discouragements by the Church Home and Hospital, the first institution for the care of the sick in Orlando and for many years the only hospital within many miles.

Cases of distressing illness among destitute strangers who were sent here as a "last chance," clinging to the hope of benefit from the Florida climate, yet with no plans for their care and no funds, had awakened a few warm-hearted individuals to the complete lack of any provision for the destitute sick, whether belonging to the community or "strangers within the gates."

Desiring to meet this need, Rev. Henry W. Greetham, a devoted member of St. Luke's parish, enlisted the co-operation of several friends in the



purchase of a small lot on Anderson Street, containing two primitive frame cottages.

In 1891 this property was offered to the community on condition that an organization should be formed to provide for the care of the sick. The Orlando Cottage Hospital Association was then organized, but after eighteen months of effort, this association gave up the work.

When the Rt. Rev. William Crane Gray began his work as Missionary Bishop of Southern Florida in January of 1893, the feeble effort to begin hospital service met his hearty approval and interest. Through his influence the diocesan convocation agreed in January, 1895, to make the embryo hospital a diocesan institution, and it was incorporated as the Church Home and Hospital.

Throughout Bishop Gray's twenty-one years' charge in South Florida, the Church Home and Hospital had his devoted support. Before he relinquished his charge he had seen those two cottages replaced by a large group of substantial buildings, well equipped and carrying forward a noble work, not only for the community and county, but also for patients from far distant homes. The main hospital building had its operating room, its wards and private rooms, while other buildings included one for the Old Ladies' Home, a nurses' home, a building for colored patients, a separate laundry, a dining room and kitchen, a chapel and the chaplain's cottage, the buildings connected by a covered walk. No distinction of creed or race was made where it was possible to take in any needy applicant.

Bishop Gray was a frequent visitor, and through many years, Rev. A. A. Rickert was hospital chaplain. An early record showed that more than half of the patients received through fifteen years following the incorporation were unable to pay for their care.

Through later years, increasing difficulties confronted the hospital authorities. The welcome expansion of buildings and grounds meant vast increase of expense. With the rapid growth of Orlando, private sanitoriums were built which attracted patients which could pay large prices, yet left the charity cases to be cared for by the Church Home and Hospital. In 1915, the name was changed to St. Luke's Hospital.

Bishop Mann worked diligently to raise an endowment fund for supporting the hospital, but response was slow. With funds exhausted, it was deemed necessary to close the hospital. This decision, made with keen regret, was in the hope of soon resuming work, but shortly afterward the Orange General Hospital was started, where the ministry to the sick, begun in so humble a way by the Church Home and Hospital, has been carried forward steadily.



## GREENWOOD CEMETERY

In a local paper dated September 14, 1915, Mr. Samuel A. Robinson gave the following account of the early burial places of Orlando, and of Greenwood Cemetery:

"In the first days of the town, interments were made in various places; some were taken to Conway, some also to Powells, south of Orlando, and some to the Beasley plot six miles west of Orlando; many were buried at their home grounds. . . . In the north part of Orlando overlooking Highland Lake many burials were made, but there is now nothing left there to show a single grave. Many were buried north of a building which stood on the north side of Church Street in the east part of the Tremont Hotel yard; this building was used as a church and school house.

"The above conditions prevailed until about 1880, when people began to wake up to the necessity of a proper and permanent place of burial. . . . Mr. Mahlon Gore, the Dean of the newspaper fraternity of South Florida, did some valient work through his newspapers in stirring up the people to the necessity of acting in the matter, which finally culminated in eight residents of Orlando joining together and buying of John W. Anderson, now deceased, twenty-six acres of land, upon which the original cemetery was laid out. The stockholders who bought this tract and paid \$1,800 for it were as follows: L. P. Westcott, C. A. Boone, James K. Duke, J. H. Livingston, Nat Poyntz, W. R. Anno, James DeLaney and Samuel A. Robinson. . . . I designed, surveyed and platted the cemetery, and it has been pronounced by experts as being one of the best original designs. . . .

"Several years since, the city Councilmen purchased the cemetery for Orlando, and subsequently fourteen acres lying north of it, together with a tract to the west of it which had been sold, were added to it. In 1911 the boundaries of the city were changed by an act of the Legislature, so as to include the forty acres by the city."

## STREETS, TREES, LAKES

As Winter Park furnishes a notable illustration of the advantages which result from the laying out of a community by a competent engineer, in accord with a coherent and artistic plan, prior to its settlement, so Orlando, in certain sections, furnishes an illustration equally striking of the confusion and manifold disadvantages which result, and grow more serious with the passage of time, of a short-sighted and haphazard beginning and development.



Two serious infelicities mar the street system of the city, beautiful as it otherwise is; the streets are too narrow, and there are too many dead-end streets and "jogs."

The Town Council on July 3, 1879, four years after the incorporation of the town, passed an ordinance that the streets must be thirty feet in width. On September 13 of the following year, however, it was ordered that "all streets hereafter laid out shall be from forty to sixty feet wide." When Mr. A. A. Patrick and Mr. R. R. Reid effected a compromise of interest by assigning a large area of land to the eastward of the present railway tracks to Mr. Reid and a similar area to the westward of the tracks to Mr. Patrick—it is interesting to recall, by the way, in view of later developments, that Mr. Patrick believed himself to have acquired much the more valuable half—and when Mr. Reid proceeded to lay off his land in building lots, he insisted that the streets should be only thirty feet in width, as "the land was too valuable to be given up to streets." Mr. Samuel A. Robinson, who surveyed and platted the tract, more sagacious and far-seeing, insisted on sixty-foot streets, and fortunately for the future of the town finally had his way. But if Mr. Reid had accepted Mr. Robinson's view that the streets should be from eighty to one hundred feet wide, his memory would have been blessed by those who have come after.

In general, it seems evident that when the owner of acreage in the earlier time set out to subdivide it, he did so without reference to any general plan or the street system of adjacent land, and with no adequate vision of future development; hence, in many sections of the city, a tantalizing and now dangerous maze of short and dead-end streets.

Subsequently, and especially during the eighties, the Town Council made valiant efforts to correct this condition, as may be seen in the minutes of its meetings cited in the earlier pages of this chapter. Many streets were widened, and many dead-end streets were cut through in thoroughfares, but the map prepared by the Planning and Zoning Commission, in which all dead-end streets and jogs are marked by a circle—a very curious map—shows how much remains to be done. Here is a problem with which the city must sometime deal in thoroughgoing and costly fashion.

The names of the streets present a highly interesting study to the historian. In the minutes of the meetings of the Town and City Councils, quoted elsewhere, are records of the naming and re-naming of many Orlando streets, the names of more than a hundred having been changed at one time, when a new map of the city was prepared.

What a fine custom this is, of naming streets, avenues, lakes, parks, public buildings and cemeteries for distinguished and beloved citizens, living or dead. It seems to hold them still in their accustomed haunts, though departed; to give a more human flavor to the community life; to bind the generations together in one living and unbroken procession; and to testify to



all later generations to the debt which they owe to those who have gone before. Such names, as we speak them, are like the echoes of voices once heard, a kind of outdoor Biographical Dictionary and Hall of Fame.

And there are many such streets in Orlando—Osceola, named from the Seminole pioneer who doubtless loved this country as we do, and worshipped here the Great Spirit with hands devoutly uplifted toward the sun, rising across these lovely lakes; Marks, Parramore, Reel, named for former mayors; Robinson, Boone, Gore, Hughey, Shine, Macy, Cheney, Woodruff, for county or city officials; Livingston, Kuhl, DeLaney, Holden, Bradshaw, for influential early settlers; Amelia, for the wife of a former mayor, Mr. C. H. Munger; and a multitude besides.

But what more prosaic than the name "Main Street!" Suppose Central Avenue is still geographically correct, what human memory does it embalm? And what does South Street mean? Or Division Street, or Oswego Street, or Euclid Avenue, or Pasadena Place, or Mariposa Street, or America Street, or Liberty Street, or Grand Avenue—none too grand—or Chicago Street, or Las Animas, or Spokane, or Xzenia, or scores of other names without particular meaning or distinction? The name "Church Street" now seems inappropriate, inasmuch as the leading church buildings of the city are located on Main Street; but in the early days, there stood on the present site of the Tremont Hotel a small rough board structure, which was used by various religious bodies for their services, and during the week for a public school house; hence, the name Church Street. This name, therefore, has historical significance and should be retained.

May not the suggestion be made to the City Councils and Planning & Zoning Commissions of the present and coming days, that these unmeaning names be changed, gradually and as opportunity serves, until the map of the city shall be as a calendar of its worthies, a kind of "Saints Calendar"? If one may venture to suggest a single example of what is meant, would it not be well if a street or avenue should bear the name of Mr. Sidney E. Ives, the devoted and beloved citizen who died only the other day? Such a street should be straight and broad, as was he.

And so of the thousand or more lakes of the county and city. There is something about these bodies of water with which nature has so lavishly bedecked the landscape, especially the smaller of them, so essentially feminine, one feels—so bright or clouded, so sparkling, so vivacious, so rounded and restful to look upon, so every way charming—that one would like to have them, or at least many of them, bear the names of the women who, from the pioneer days onward, have given grace and color and refreshment to life here. There are some such names; there should be more.

Perhaps the most conspicuous and delightful feature of Orlando, Winter Park, Maitland and other sections of Orange County, are the oak trees which line the streets and give to them their comforting shade and stately beauty.



These trees have a history, which can be told here only in small part. The superb oaks at Maitland were planted for the most part by those public-spirited pioneers, Messrs. Isaac Vanderpool, H. S. Kedney, George Packwood, and Dr. Richard Packwood. Among those who took a leading part in the early plantings at Winter Park were Mr. Loring A. Chase, founder of the town, Dr. M. A. Henkel, Charles Lord on behalf of Mr. Lewis H. Lawrence, Dr. Thomas R. Baker, Professor L. A. Austin and others. The citizens sometimes came together in "bees," planted trees, ate picnic lunches, and listened to speeches. Among those who were most active in this matter in Orlando, were Messrs. Mahlon Gore, Cassius A. Boone, Samuel A. Robinson, Mathew R. Marks, Willis L. Palmer, Rev. Henry Keigwin, E. F. Sperry, George E. Macy, A. G. Branham, C. H. Hoffner, H. H. Dickson, F. A. Lewter and George Abbott.

Mr. Branham says that when he arrived in Orlando, March 18, 1885, there were very few shade trees in the village, some isolated live oaks and water oaks here and there, of native growth or planted about the houses of the early settlers; some of these pioneer trees are still standing. Public interest was aroused by Mr. Gore, through newspaper articles, and during the decade 1885-95, planting went forward briskly. Mr. Branham was employed by the Town Council and by individual citizens to set trees and care for them, and during this decade he planted from three to five thousand oaks. In 1885, when Orange Avenue was extended southward from South Street to Lake Lucerne, Mr. Branham removed thirty-six bearing orange trees from the right-of-way to the R. F. Epps grove, and planted the oaks along the newly-opened avenue which are still the pride of Orlando, and the wonder of tourists. These are slowly yielding to the invasion of commercial interests and are being slaughtered by axe and saw—as though there were not space enough for shops and filling stations, without sacrificing this finest bit of scenery which the city affords!

Mr. Branham continued in the business of planting trees through the year 1888, and was followed by Mr. C. H. Hoffner in 1889. Mr. Hoffner planted the palms and magnolias about Lakes Lucerne and Eola in 1910 or 1911. He was employed by the county, also, and set out some thirty-five hundred trees on the highways in 1912, toward Oakland, Longwood, Pinecastle, Orlo Vista and the County Home; of these, many were killed by drought and vagrant cattle, but many still survive. Mr. Hoffner also set trees in Winter Park during the years 1923-24; altogether, he planted some five or six thousand trees, of one variety or another, in Orange County.

Mr. George Abbott was especially interested in palms; he bought some two hundred of the more ornamental varieties, and sold them to various home-owners for planting.

Mr. Mahlon Gore, as a member of the Town Council, framed and introduced the ordinance under which a large number of Orlando's famous oaks were set out.



On the initiative of Mr. H. H. Dickson, chairman of the County and City Beautification Commissions, a handsome bronze tablet was affixed to a gigantic oak on the south bank of Lake Lucerne in 1925, bearing this inscription:

IN MEMORY OF  
MATHEW ROBINSON MARKS  
MAYOR OF ORLANDO  
1889 - 1890

THROUGH WHOSE VISION  
THE PLANTING OF OUR  
MAGNIFICENT SHADE TREES  
WAS INAUGURATED

A. D. 1925

There are now in the streets and parks of the city, besides many other varieties of trees, more than ten thousand oaks—live oaks, finest of the family, slow-growing but long-lived, huge of trunk and with wide-spreading branches, patriarchal and majestic in aspect; and water oaks, of more rapid growth but of smaller stature and shorter life, graceful, densely umbrageous, delightful to the eye and comforting to the traveller. It has been computed that if these oaks were set a hundred feet apart, they would line the highway on both sides from Orlando to Tampa, a distance of a hundred miles. As the water oaks reach the limit of their lives, they will no doubt be replaced by live oaks, of which the enthusiastic and efficient city forester and park superintendent, Mr. E. J. Fuller, has a great number growing in one of the municipal nurseries.





Orlando, Orange Avenue Looking North



## CHAPTER IV

### WINTER PARK

SOME half-century ago, before the town of Winter Park was founded, there was a small and scattered settlement along the east side of the lakes and on the Indian trail which ran from Conway to Lake Jesup; this settlement was called Osceola, after the famous and unfortunate Seminole chief who is believed to have had his camp here, overlooking the lake which bears his name. The first house built in Osceola, and thus the first in Winter Park, was a log cabin, erected in 1858 by David Mizell, across the street from the residence now occupied by Mayor C. Fred Ward, and near the lake which perpetuates the name of this first pioneer settler. A large sycamore tree, which grew from a switch which was thrust into the ground by one of the women of the party on its arrival, marks the site of the house. Mr. Mizell came from Alachua County, purchased a large area of land here, and devoted himself chiefly to the growing of cotton. It is believed that he had been told about this fine section by a son who had enlisted in the Indian War, and was still in service at Fort Meade; after his discharge from the army, this son also homesteaded land in this vicinity.\*

Another son, John R. Mizell, later known as Judge Mizell, who played a conspicuous part in the early history of Winter Park and of Orange County, lived with his father. He was later elected a member of the State Legislature, and was married in Tallahassee, bringing his bride back to Osceola. His father afterward went to Orlando, while John continued to reside on the home place, which had, it is said, been given to him by his father. Judge Mizell was wont to tell how the startling howl of panthers could frequently be heard from his cabin door.

Other settlers came to Osceola—Dr. Ira Geer, the Livingstons, the Richmonds, the Thayers, the Pierces, Miss Brown and Miss McClure, the Comstocks, the Phelps, the Berrys, the Speeres, whose house is perhaps the oldest now standing in Winter Park, at the corner of Phillips and Mizell Avenues, and others, and in 1870 a postoffice was established in Osceola, in the home of Mr. Livingston, who served as postmaster. In a letter to Chapman and Chase, dated August 12, 1881, Mr. Wilson Phelps says: "In May, 1875, after an extended tour with my son through south Florida in search of a place to locate, I found myself, one beautiful afternoon, upon the east bank of Lake Osceola \* \* \* and exclaimed in an outburst of enthu-

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\*I follow here information given by Mrs. Clara B. Ward, whose articles in a local paper on the early history of Winter Park, and whose conversations, have been of great use to me.



siasm to my son, 'Here is the place I have been looking for, and here if anywhere, must be my future home.'"

In the meantime, settlers were finding their way into the neighboring territory, and were building homes and planting orange groves around Lake Maitland and elsewhere.

And then came Loring A. Chase and Oliver E. Chapman, and the doors swung open upon a new era.

The first premonition of the future Winter Park is found in articles printed in the South Florida Journal and the Orange County Reporter for September 8, 1881. The first of these articles runs in part as follows: "Loring A. Chase, Esq., formerly of Massachusetts but for several years past a real estate dealer in Chicago, and Mr. Oliver E. Chapman of Canton, Mass., son of the late O. S. Chapman, one of the builders of the Union Pacific Railroad and for a number of years one of its directors, have bought six hundred acres 'midway between Maitland and Willcox.'" Here they propose to create "a first-class resort for northern and southern men of wealth, where, amidst orange groves and beautiful lakes, and surrounded by all the conveniences and luxuries that energy, enterprise and wealth can devise and command, a community of grand winter homes, a resort second to none other in the South." The fact is "demonstrated that this region is below the frost line beyond a doubt." The fact is pointed to with pride that "Bishop Whipple of Minnesota, W. C. Comstock of the Chicago Board of Trade, Hon. Lewis Lawrence, a millionaire from Utica, N. Y., Governor Sinclair of New Hampshire, General French of Georgia, James M. Willcox of Philadelphia, and a score of other prominent men, all have fine groves within two miles of Winter Park, and that some of the trees bore as many as 3500 oranges last year, which were sold at two cents apiece at the hotels."

In the Orange County Reporter of the same date, the alluring fact is divulged that "already the Central Canal Company has been chartered for the purpose of putting on to these lakes a line of steam yachts for freight and pleasure purposes." Mention is made of other distinguished and delightful people in the neighborhood, who were waiting to receive newcomers with open arms—John P. Morton, the wealthy publisher of Louisville, Major Marks of Georgia, Rev. N. Robinson, former pastor of the Second Baptist Church of St. Louis, Judge Wilkinson of South Carolina, Prof. Hurt of Louisville, and J. C. Stovin, the English engineer.

Mr. Chase visited what is now Winter Park in 1881, about a year after the South Florida railroad was built. Why he made this visit, by how narrow a margin he missed doing so, and to whom thanks are due for interesting him in seeing it, is told in the following letter, written to Mr. Oliver E. Chapman, Mr. Chase's partner in the venture, by Mr. S. O. Chase of Sanford, under date of February 26, 1927:



"On Mr. Loring Chase's first visit to this part of Florida in the eighties he made a trip on a small steamer running south of Sanford to Salt Lake, which is located directly west of Titusville, from there he was conveyed by team to Titusville. From there he took a boat to Rockledge, where he went to inspect a tract of land which he thought might meet his ideas for a development. He was not altogether pleased with the Indian River section, so he returned to Sanford. A few minutes after he landed at Sanford, coming north on the steamer "Fox," I was on the street going towards the post office; somebody called me by name and I turned around to answer the call. A short distance behind me was a man who later turned out to be Loring Chase, and after I finished the interview with the party who called me, he stepped up and asked if my name was Chase. When he learned it was he shook hands, which was the start of our long acquaintance and friendship.

"At that time I was in Mr. J. E. Ingraham's office, who was General Agent for General Sanford, who had a large tract of land in this section. I invited Mr. Chase to the office, showed him our plats, and told him I thought we could interest him in a location near Sanford. He was inclined to remain over in Sanford and look at the property, and after our first interview at the office he went to the Sanford House to get accommodations, but learned that they did not have a spare room, or a spare cot. He returned to the office and said he would be forced to take that day's steamer for Jacksonville. I was so anxious to have Mr. Chase remain over that I offered to share my bed with him that night. He accepted the invitation, and that is the real reason why he was able to connect with you a little later, after he had inspected the Winter Park location.

"We spent several days driving around together, but there was no location which he inspected that seemed to appeal to him. Mr. B. R. Swope had given me a blue print of property he owned around Lakes Maitland and Osceola, and told me in event I failed to interest any customers who were looking for property around Sanford to hand them the blue print and refer the parties to him. When I found that Mr. Chase was about to leave for Jacksonville, I remembered about this blue print Mr. Swope had given me, and turned it over to Mr. Chase, who at once saw Mr. Swope and inspected the property. Shortly after that there was a dance at the Sanford House, and that evening I met Chase again and he told me he was very much pleased with the Swope property, but he hesitated about tackling the purchase and development of the property by himself, and remarked that an old friend of his, a Mr.



Chapman, was somewhere in Florida with his wife, who was an invalid, visiting her brother. I asked Mr. Chase what Mrs. Chapman's maiden name was, as I at that time knew nearly everybody who lived in Orange County and thought possibly I might know Mr. Chapman's brother-in-law. He told me your brother-in-law's name and I immediately informed him that there was a party by that name who had a homestead near Sorrento and as there was a telegraph office in Sorrento we could wire there and ascertain whether or not it was your brother-in-law, which we did, and as I recall the matter now the next day about noon you arrived in Sanford and met Mr. Chase."

In a recent letter to Mr J. C. Chase of Orlando, Mr. Chapman says in part:

"Your letter pleased me very much, and started a train of memories of the place which will always have a soft spot in my heart. . . . Sickness in my family was the cause of my going South, and we went to Sorrento, a place of but four or five houses then, as we had relatives there who had taken up a homestead. During his stay in Sanford, Mr. Chase looked about and saw the land that we later bought. Mr. Chase proposed that we go and look at this land, with the idea of development, which we did, were pleased with it, and finally bought three homesteads of about six hundred acres, situated on Lakes Osceola and Virginia.

"I removed my family from Sorrento to Maitland, and occupied Dr. Haskell's house at the head of the lake. He was a brother of one of the owners of the Boston Herald. From there we went daily back and forth to our land, surveying right through the summer.

"It took us some time to decide on a fitting name, but finally it became Winter Park. The name of the surveyor I do not remember, but he lived in Orlando and was the only one there, I think.\*

"After the preliminary survey, we decided on a plan of streets, lots, etc., and I made a map of the same which we took to Boston and had electrotyped, Mr. Chase attending to the reading matter.

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\*The town was named August 29, 1881. In Mr. Chase's scrapbook is found a receipt to Chapman and Chase from Samuel A. Robinson for \$50.00 for "surveying, platting, and mapping their tract of six hundred acres near Osceola Station," a munificent fee!



"The railroad would not build a station for us, so we had one built that cost about \$1,100, as I remember.† We also built a two-story building on the corner of the park and Boulevard, the upper story for church and entertainments, and the street floor for store and post office. I was appointed postmaster by President Arthur, but Mr. Ergood from Washington, D. C., assumed the duties shortly after. There was a saw mill on Lake Virginia, on what is now college property, operated by Mr. G. T. Moyer.\* I built a cottage on Interlachen Avenue, and was told a year ago that it was then standing.

"We reserved three lots for hotels and one for a small hotel. The latter we gave to a Mr. Rogers, who was one of the first to build, he putting up a small house on the Boulevard, on the south side of Interlachen Avenue.† One of these hotel lots was where the college is; the one between Osceola and Virginia we gave to the Knowles Brothers of Worcester, Massachusetts, who built the first Seminole; and one where the present Seminole stands.

"We set out a thousand orange trees, mostly on the lots on the Boulevard; I have often thought of them and wondered if they have withstood the frosts. When the railroad was completed to Tampa, the people were invited to a ride on flat cars to the end of the line, and I think we all went.

"Mr. Chase spent most of the winter months in Jacksonville, meeting visitors to Florida and getting them to go to Winter Park, where I would show them about with our horses and buckboard.

"The water oaks on the Boulevard and Interlachen Avenue we had set out, and I have been told that they have grown to good size and are quite attractive."

These two founders of Winter Park had imagination and foresight in unusual measure. They were seers; this prophetic gift led them, in the first place, to select for their proposed operations in Florida, among all the places

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†An undated subscription paper, preserved in Mr. Chase's scrapbook, contains pledges toward "the building of a depot at Winter Park on the South Florida Railroad." It starts out bravely, quickly dwindles, and comes to an end with ten contributions in cash and two in labor. The railroad company and Chapman and Chase pledge \$150.00 each; L. H. Lawrence and W. C. Comstock \$100.00 each; Dr. Ira Geer, J. C. Stovin and a Mr. Conway, \$50.00 each; Wilson Phelps \$25.00; while Mr. L. L. Galt agrees to give \$25.00 and Mr. R. R. Thayer \$8.00 in work, a total of \$708.00.

\*For many years the debris of this sawmill, slabs and sawdust, disfigured the lake margin, until the college students, under the direction of Dr. Baker, blew it up with gunpowder.

†Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Rogers were found by Mr. Chase, camping about a mile east of the town site. Mr. Chase offered to give them a lot, if they would build and operate a hotel, and the offer was accepted.



they visited and appraised, the best available site. It lay, not to one side, but in the path which travel must inevitably take as the state developed. It was beautiful, with its pine forests and lovely lakes; it was relatively high above the sea level, healthful and free from insect pests; and it was not far from the head of navigation in the St. Johns River. It also adjoined the village of Orlando which was manifestly fated to be the largest and finest city of inland Florida. And having selected the best site, and purchased a sufficient acreage to protect their project on all sides, they proceeded to lay out the town of their vision with consummate skill. Before the days of city-planning and zoning, they provided parks, straight and curving avenues and streets, a business center, sites for schools, hotels and villas, and a separate and adequate area for the negro population. They set such prices on the lots offered for sale as, while not extravagant, would insure purchasers of means, substantial buildings, and well-ordered grounds. That the names of the founders and first settlers might not be forgotten, they gave the names Chapman, Chase, Comstock, Lyman, Fairbanks, Webster, Phelps, Pulsifer, and others to the avenues and circles of the unborn city. So well was all this planned, that there was afterward little need to widen or prolong streets, tear down shacks, or otherwise correct a poor and thoughtless plan. Winter Park did not "just grow," as did Topsy and as have many cities, haphazard; it was predetermined and guided.

And then, these sagacious founders set out searching among their numerous acquaintances and by expensive and alluring advertising among others, for the kind of settlers who would fit into their scheme, men and women of intelligence, culture, character, taste and means.

And their quest was highly successful. Mr. Chase's glowing pamphlets and incessant labors, together with the increasing allure of Florida, bore fruit. Among those who made their permanent or winter homes, or purchased property in the new town during the following decade or a little later, were these—I set them down in alphabetical rather than chronological order:

J. H. Abbott, a surveyor, who promoted the Orlando and Winter Park railroad; Rev. G. M. Alden, a Presbyterian clergyman, whose wife, "Pansy," was a famous writer of children's books; E. F. and J. B. Ames; Professor L. A. Austin and Professor Nathan Barrows, of Rollins College; Dr. S. H. Bassenger; D. N. Batchelor; J. H. Bear, whose widow still lives in Winter Park; Dr. J. H. Brecht, a dentist, who afterward went to Ft. Myers as a missionary to the Seminoles; Mrs. Mary Bull, wife of the manufacturer of cough syrup and sister of Mrs. D. N. Batchelor; J. S. and S. S. Capen; Henry S. Chubb; E. J. and E. N. Coan; President J. W. Cook, of the Illinois State Normal University; Dr. J. L. B. Eager; Philip Dale, still a resident of Winter Park; Chauncey C. Denny, whose widow still resides in



Winter Park; J. G. and J. W. Diffenderfer; Commodore G. L. Dyer, a graduate of the Naval Academy in 1870, a naval attache at Madrid, a teacher at Annapolis, Governor of the island of Guam, Commandant of the Charleston navy guard, who died April 2, 1914, and whose brilliant daughter, Susan, was for some years in charge of the Rollins Conservatory of Music; J. R. Ergood, a wholesale grocer from Washington; Dr. Evernden; Col. Franklin Fairbanks, of St. Johnsbury, Vermont; Gen. S. G. French, of Georgia; Dr. W. A. Guild, of Boston, whose daughters still reside in Winter Park, and a biographical sketch of whom may be found in the Biographical Section of this work, Part Two; Col. Gilbert Hart, a wealthy manufacturer of emery wheels in Detroit, who founded an unsuccessful savings bank in Sanford; Dr. M. A. Henkle, a sketch of whose life may be found in the Biographical portion of this work, Part Two; Mrs. Holbrook; J. I. Hopwood; Henry Huntington, treasurer of the college; H. Griswold; H. S. Kedney, who built the San Juan Hotel in Orlando; W. J. Kirkpatrick, a writer of Sunday School hymns; Francis B. Knowles; C. J. Ladd; Mr. Lane; Hon. Lewis H. Lawrence, of Utica, New York, a friend of President Arthur and Roscoe Conkling; Miss Evelyn Lamson; Deacon Larrabee; E. L. Mark; E. L. Maxson, storekeeper and postmaster; J. H. Morton; Hugh and Archibald McCallum; E. M. Meriwether; Chas. H. Morse of Chicago; A. H. Paul, storekeeper; Major W. G. Peck, whose two daughters taught music in the college; Col. Peleg Peckham; G. D. Rand, a Boston architect; A. E. Rogers; A. W. Rollins; James Ronan, saint and fisherman; Wm. Schultz, Jr., storekeeper, whose two sons are leading citizens of Winter Park; C. L. Smith; W. R. Smith; the Misses Sparrell; Dr. J. R. Tantum; R. A. Thayer; C. J. Tousey; E. K. Palmer, for whom Palmer Avenue was named; E. K. Pierce, market man and dairyman; William Chase Temple, a biographical sketch of whom may be found in Part Two of this book; C. H. Ward, a sketch of whose life may be found in the Biographical Section of this work, Part Two; W. J. Waddell, whose widow is still in Winter Park; Judge J. F. Wellborne; R. White, Jr., storekeeper; J. H. Wyeth, and others.

Before following further the history of Winter Park, we may turn aside to examine the nine diaries, kept by Miss Mary E. Brown, and preserved in the Winter Park Public Library. The first of these records covers the year 1881, and the last the three years, 1896-97-98; some intervening years are lacking.

Miss Brown was perhaps the most piquant personality in Winter Park during the early days. She came from Evanston, Illinois, in 1881, with her friend, Miss McClure, following the Geers, Comstocks, Richmonds, and other people from Evanston, who were among the very first settlers here. These ladies had been school teachers in Evanston. They built a cottage in



Osceola and called their modest and virgin domain by the rather threatening name, "No Man's Land;" later, they moved into the village, transferring the name to the new home, and also tore down the earlier house and moved it to Winter Park.

Miss Brown was in a high degree intelligent, energetic, capable, neighborly, keen-eyed, and of a spicy and critical temper. These diaries contain a cash account, which shows what commodity prices and wages prevailed in that early time, and also Miss Brown's somewhat straightened circumstances. They present a picture of life in Winter Park during its first period, all the more vivid because of their homely details and personal touches; and they mention many occurrences and dates which serve to fix the outlines of the story of the town. Here are most of the early settlers and visitors; the mention of these names will call to the memory of the "old timers" who still live, in both Winter Park and Orlando, a notable and friendly company of neighbors. Theirs was the "simple life," the life of "plain living and high thinking." They plant trees and shrubs and flowers with their own hands, and set down with meticulous care their botanical names in Latin; they hoe weeds in their gardens and groves; they cart pine needles and maypop vines; they split wood, build hen houses, paint porches, laundry clothes; and then they borrow, and no doubt study, encyclopedias, read *Lochinvar*, visit the library; some of them write clever stories and read sample chapters to their friends. They "call," they "breakfast," they "take dinner," they "spend the day," they "spend the night;" they borrow and lend small sums of money; they give to one another presents of eatables—fruit, cakes, rolls, bread, doughnuts, mince pies, dumplings, puddings; they exchange cuttings of plants and flowers, tools, books, magazines. They praise and criticize one another, with entire but friendly freedom. A personage who moves through the record, slow and stately and useful and tuneful, is Jack, or Johnny Brown, the famous donkey of these delightful spinsters.

Here now are some illustrative extracts from these diaries.

"Hauled load of Maypop vines. Got thorn in foot." "To Maitland for glass jars"—for Maitland was the metropolis and emporium of this time. "Set the white hen on Molly's eggs"—later, "cooked Molly." "Went to see Mrs. Mac's poultry—no great show;" "fox barks at night, hawk swoops by day;" "4 hens stolen last night;" "last guinea chick dies."

"Made sawbuck, moved stove"—what wonder that this indefatigable maiden adds, and frequently repeats, "tired out!"

In 1884 is the entry "Pd. tax \$6.24;" "Bot 27 bundles lath of Mr. Guild, and bro't home 6, walking myself" doubtless leading the faithful Jack. Miss Brown obeys the injunction to "watch and



pray," for on a Sunday she says, "to Congl Church for communion—*set black hen.*" Mr. Chapman brings the Englishman, makes out the Deed, receives the cash!" "Barn finished and Began moving into it" (May 16, 1884). On two Sundays, this faithful soul notes that "M and I formed the total congregation." "Chickens drowned, half drowned, and blind with catarrh;" "Church, weary-some;" "Saw terrapin laying eggs under Big Oak;" "To meeting—no one there;" "I to Park—try on dress;" "To John Partins—lost the way;" "Painted the wagon; Made 2 gal. wine." On Easter Sunday—perhaps in the Episcopal Church, of which Miss Brown and Miss McClure were members, though they attended impartially the Congregational and Methodist Churches also—she notes, "14 present, nearly all late." "Got Jack's hoofs trimmed." "Yellow fever at Jacksonville, 24 cases yesterday, exaggerated" (August 11, 1888). "Death of H. McCallum" (October 14, 1888). "Returned Cyclopedia to Jewell's;" "Bell tolling for Canon Street" (February 4, 1889.)

"Long call from Mrs. Holbrook who read a chapter from her new book, 'Whiz,' very clever." "Xian Science talk from Mrs. Baker;" "Mrs.—— effusively kindly." "Dr. Hooker on the Capital Duty of physical health, prosy, repetitious & long," (Sunday, December, 1897); "75 years old today—feeble" (June 26, 1897).

"Indigestion at night, Sick all day, dose of Hot Drops, clear, by mistake, fiery, fainted away;" "19 magazines from Mrs. Holbrook." "Van Sickles arrive" (October 14, 1898); "Mr. Peck died at 7 p. m." (October 19, 1886). "Bible readings, and prayer meeting of W. C. T. U. led by Mrs. Drury-Lowe, a lovely, modest, unpretentious English lady" (October 27, 1896). "———stays in my parlor til 8:30 (apparently in Miss Brown's absence) I told her she had taken an unwarranted liberty." "To church—Sermon on Sin, poor fare."

"Walked to Osceola with Mr. Bethune who is to make estimate of taking down house and rebuilding it," (November 22, 1897); "Bethune brings contract" (December 5)—and this was done. Thanksgiving day at the Methodist Church (November 25, 1886), "Dr. Hooker berated Tammany;" "To Marks, no sympathy."

And there is a list of fifteen books read during a visit to Tryon and Asheville; manifestly, this erstwhile school-ma'am and present farmer, painter, and semi-invalid, loves books better than anything else, and is seldom too weary to read.



"Found ice in keg three inches thick, slight snow" (January 12, 1886). "In my absence, calls from seven Seminoles"—but were these Indians, or guests of the Seminole Hotel? "Mr. Field ran into my buggy and broke a wheel;" "Clark takes the last Fowl. Farewell!" "To Ergoods to decline paying bill twice;" "To Dedication of College 3 P. M." (March 9, 1886).

And now follows an entry which will surprise many people: "Earthquake! House shaking and everything rattling; clock stopped at 9:10 P. M." (August 31, 1886).

On February 19, 1889, Mr. Chase "brought Pres. Seelye" the distinguished and beloved President of Amherst College—one would have liked to hear the talk!

"To Dr. Brecht's and had three last teeth extracted;" "Sick and sorry;" "Pierce bill for wine;" "Miss Lamson calls by request and consents to act as my executor" (February 15, 1897)—and so the shadows gather.

"To Fair. Bishop Whipple fine speech" (February 18, 1897).

"Mrs. Evernden alters bonnet strings, helped Mrs. Shaw with classical references in Palace of Art;" "To Chubbs about loan, cannot get it;" "To church, Mr.——, deadly sleepy through the sermon, rambling, slow, wearysome; call from ——, gush;" "Speech by man from Nashville, drumming up an interest in the convention to be held there in July. Rubbish—came away in a few minutes;" "Library meeting where committee decides to beg lot and build. Comstock promises \$200." Always in these and in later days, Mr. Comstock was making generous promises, and promptly fulfilling them.

And these are only a few samples from these vivacious chronicles.

This free and friendly and neighborly way of life continued on well into the Twentieth Century, its center being for a decade the President's House where Mrs. Blackman frequently gathered all the people of the town and the college, cultured and plain, rich and poor, church folk and unbelievers, in joyous companies. Gradually, as the village waxed and became a city, and as distinctions of class and station became more marked, and life more crowded, complex, luxurious and conventional, this delightful, democratic fellowship of necessity waned.

Mr. James S. Capen, one of the early pioneers of the town, a sketch of whose life may be found in the Biographical Section of this work, Part Two, has furnished the following reminiscences of the early days:

"I arrived here in March, 1884, on a prospecting trip and met Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Rollins at the Rogers House. Mr. Rollins



asked me to take a boat ride across Lake Osceola, to see his grove, now a part of the Brewer estate. Near his house were one or two fruit trees which were loaded with luscious fruit hanging in clusters, and bending the limbs to the ground. I asked Mr. Rollins what this fruit was, and he replied, 'Oh, they call them grapefruit here.' 'Are they good to eat?' questioned I. 'Nobody eats them.' I said 'I am going home in a few days, may I take one of those branches along?' 'Yes, take all you want, they are used only for ornaments here.' In a few days I left, taking a branch with five or six fruit with me; by dint of tips to porters on the railroad and the steamboat, I got them home safely, and they were the wonder of the little town—nobody had ever seen any grapefruit before.

"In October, my family and some relatives, making a party of eight, arrived in Winter Park, and soon the firm of Capen and Company began the business of planting and caring for orange groves. About the year 1887, this firm bought and sold to shippers a hundred and ninety thousand grapefruit, selling them at one cent each and realizing a small profit. I think Mrs. Frank Leslie bought the whole lot, and lost considerable money on them in New York, where they were still almost unknown.

"For a long time after Winter Park was established, it was included with Maitland in one voting precinct. During this time, one election included the question of local option on the liquor question. The owners of large properties, and the large holders of stock in the Winter Park Company, wrote to their agents that the result of the election must not be in favor of what is now called the 'wet side,' as it would not do to have saloons in a college town. Nearly all the white residents were 'dry,' and the negroes were easily influenced, but the Maitland part of the precinct was believed to be almost unanimously 'wet.' The officers of the Winter Park Company and others who had negroes in their employ rounded them up on the morning of the election, put the proper ticket in the hands of each one, loaded them into three or four lumber wagons, and accompanied them to the polls. There were about forty voters in the procession, and, as near as could be ascertained, there was only one 'wet' vote. The election was carried 'dry' by a majority of thirteen votes, and from that time there has never been any legalized selling of liquor in the precinct; soon after this election, the precinct was divided, and Winter Park was made a precinct by itself."

Most of the lumber for the first college buildings came from the saw mill of P. A. Diemons in Longwood; much of this lumber was "sappy"



and had to be thrown out. Diemons, who figured as a Russian count exiled on account of his political opinions, projected the railroad which came to be known as the Orange Belt Railroad from Longwood to St. Petersburg. He sold considerable stock, acquired the right-of-way, had the ties cut along this right-of-way, got the rails and some rolling stock from the North, collected all the cash he could, paid as few of his obligations as possible, and disappeared. The only memorial he left behind him was the name "St. Petersburg" which he persuaded the people of that settlement to adopt, in memory of his native land.

Five of the pioneers of Winter Park deserve special mention, Mr. Chase, Mr. Knowles, Mr. Lyman, Mr. Rollins, and Mr. Comstock.

Mr. Loring Augustus Chase, founder of the town, was born in Nassau, New Hampshire, July 1, 1839. An orphan at the age of two years, he was reared by an uncle and aunt in Canton, Mass. He enlisted in the Civil War in October of 1862, and was discharged from the service in June, 1863. The following year he went to Chicago. He studied in the Illinois State Normal University for two years, and afterward taught in this institution for a short time. He came to Winter Park at the age of forty-five years. His health failing, he went to Saranac Lake, N. Y., where he died; he was buried in the cemetery at Winter Park which had been given by him to the town. In his will, dated at Saranac Lake, July 20, 1906, he made Rollins College his residuary legatee, on condition that a building to bear his name and costing not less than \$10,000 should be erected on the campus.

A service in memory of Mr. Chase was held in the Congregational Church at Winter Park on Sunday evening, February 17, 1907, at which addresses were made, and letters read by a number of friends of Mr. Chase. Dr. Blackman said of him in part:

"I could never think of Mr. Chase as a business man; he was, it seemed to me essentially an idealist, a poet in the Greek sense, a 'maker.' He was always devising something, plans, schemes, institutions, a town. . . . Nevertheless, he had a way of getting his dreams bodied forth in reality, for his contagious enthusiasm, his indomitable purpose, his untiring persistence, and his persuasiveness of speech, together with the general sanity of his mind, brought others to his help, and these supplied cash and caution for the enterprise in hand. . . . It was here that he wished his flesh, or at least his ashes, to sleep the long sleep, and how appropriate it was that his body should be the first to find a resting place in the ground which he himself had given for a cemetery. . . . Let us now say goodbye once again to this fine, strong, suffering, patient, courageous, lonely, loving friend.



Mr. Francis B. Knowles, a manufacturer of Worcester, Mass., became interested in Winter Park through Col. Franklin Fairbanks. He was the most lavish benefactor which Winter Park has ever had, early or late. He gave the funds for the first college buildings; he furnished the large sum required for the erection of the old Seminole Hotel; he gave freely to all other good causes; he invested largely in real estate in and about the town; it is believed that in gifts and investments he expended approximately a half-million dollars in the young town. And with his money went his constant encouragement and sagacious council. His memory is enshrined in Knowles Hall on the college campus, in the Knowles Public School building (now the Winter Park Hotel), in Knowles Lake and Knowles Terrace. At the dedication of the school building, then the finest in Orange County, February 11, 1890, Mr. Chase said: "I utter no unmeaning and fulsome word and am sure that I voice the sentiment of the community, when I say that long after this building, named in his honor, shall have passed the last stages of decay, will the name of Francis B. Knowles be to this people a revered and cherished memory, growing brighter and brighter with each passing year."

Mr. J. S. Capen, who was intimately associated with Mr. Knowles as Secretary of the Winter Park Company says: "As an employer, he was kind and thoughtful. His interests in the growth of the town were zealously looked after and everything done to make this the pretty city that it is. In this, his wishes were ably carried out by Mr. C. H. Hutchins, his son-in-law, who died in 1924. Mr. Knowles was genial and affable, and both he and Mrs. Knowles were a great addition to the social life of the fast-growing city. Himself a consistent and earnest Congregationalist, he was broad-minded and tolerant; he helped all denominations then in existence almost equally, and an appeal to him for help in religious and charitable matters met with a generous response as soon as he knew that the cause was worthy and in honest hands."

Mr. Frederick W. Lyman came to Winter Park from Minneapolis in 1882, and threw himself heart and soul into the building up of the town, the church and the college. He was the first president of the Winter Park Company, and also the first president of the Board of Trustees, Rollins College, whose location in Winter Park he, more perhaps than anyone else, had brought about. He later moved to Pasadena, California, where he still resides, but his interest in Winter Park has never waned. Mr. Lyman was a true son of the Pilgrims, shrewd and sound of judgment, a natural and trusted leader of men and movements, and a generous giver of time and sympathy and money to every good cause. A biographical sketch of Mr. Lyman may be found in Part Two of this work.

And Mr. A. W. Rollins was a man of like sort. He came to Winter Park in the early 80's, and died in Chicago, Sept. 2, 1887. His most notable



contribution to the town was his subscription of \$50,000, in cash and real estate, to the fund of \$114,000 which determined the location in Winter Park of the college which fitly bears his name. This story is told in later pages. At a meeting of the Winter Park Company, held March 31, 1888, a resolution was presented by Dr. Hooker and Mr. Comstock, committee, and adopted, which recited, in part, "That we recognize and honor Mr. Rollins as one of the friends and benefactors of Winter Park and Florida, . . . we record our sense of personal loss in this early removal from among us of our honored associate and personal friend. We miss his counsels and all his helpfulness in all our work. But even more, we miss and mourn the man and the friend." Mrs. Rollins, long resident in Washington, has continued her husband's interest in the college which bears his and her name, and has steadily contributed to its funds.

Of Mr. Wm. C. Comstock, last of this noble quintet, the author may be pardoned for speaking more intimately, as he knew him better. In an address in memory of Mr. Comstock, delivered February 22, 1925, during the exercises of Founders Week at Rollins College, he said, in part: "For many years it was Mrs. Blackman's and my happy habit to partake of a frugal and dainty supper with Mr. Comstock on the Sundays, and then sit together through the long winter evenings, talking of religion, of philosophy, of the old and new books with which shelves and tables were filled, of music, of economics and politics, and of the affairs and personages of town and college. . . . There was first, of course, the handsome face, the fine figure, the neat attire, the erect bearing, the kindly and friendly eyes, the courtly manner, the rich and resonant voice, the atmosphere and aroma, so to speak, of good breeding and knightly character, which marked the physical man . . . and as we came to know him better, the outstanding impression was of his extraordinary versatility, of the spaciousness and great variety of his intellectual endowment. . . . Mr. Comstock was not only a philosopher, he was a convinced and devout Christian also."

Of such sort were the founders of Winter Park, men of distinction, fine character, great administrative ability, abundant means, and generous spirit.

Early in 1885, Mr. Chapman sold his interest in the property and accounts belonging to Chapman and Chase to Mr. Chase, for \$40,000, and the Winter Park Company was chartered by the Legislature to carry on the business. The capital stock was \$300,000, and the officers and directors elected were, Mr. F. L. Lyman, president; Col. Franklin Fairbanks, vice-president; Mr. F. W. Webster, treasurer; Mr. L. A. Chase, secretary and Messrs. Knowles, Welborne, Rollins and Comstock, directors. The first meeting of the incorporators was held April 16, 1885, at which Mr. Chase subscribed for 2,990 shares of stock to be paid for in real estate and other



Winter Park property, Mr. Chapman for six shares, Mr. Lyman and Mr. Rolins for one share each, and Judge Welborne for two shares. Mr. Chase was paid \$1,000 in cash, and assumed the collection of various accounts.

On April 22, the company voted to authorize the president and secretary to make a contract for the erection of a 150-room hotel, to borrow \$50,000, and to engage W. E. Forbes as manager at a salary of \$1200 per year, with board for himself and wife.

And so, the famous old Seminole Hotel, the largest hotel south of Jacksonville, and the most outstanding landmark of central and south Florida, was launched. Mr. Knowles offered to provide the necessary funds for the building, \$150,000 was borrowed from him, and building operations were begun under Mr. Chase's management. The hotel opened its doors on January 1, 1886; bonfires blazed, 2,000 visitors came and went, and a sumptuous dinner was served followed by a ball. During the first three months 2,300 guests were registered and many more turned away for want of room.

During the next few years, the Seminole entertained many important guests, a few of whom were President Arthur, President Cleveland, Hon. Edwards Pierrepont, Hamilton Disston, Secretaries McVeigh, Whitney and Vilas, Senator Chace, of Rhode Island, the Duke of Sutherland and Hon. S. Plimsoll of England, Charles F. Crocker, of San Francisco, George M. Pullman, George Westinghouse, and many others of like sort. Among its managers, Colonel A. E. Dick, now living in Winter Park, was one of the most successful. A sketch of Col. Dick's life may be found in the Biographical section of this work, Part Two.

The Seminole Hotel was burned in September, 1902.

The papers of April 8, 1886, announced the resignation of Mr. Lyman and Mr. Chase as president and secretary of the Winter Park Company and the election of Col. Fairbanks as president, and J. S. Capen as secretary. In a letter, probably to his friend, President J. W. Cook, written next day and found in Mr. Chase's scrapbook, Mr. Chase reports that he has sold his stock in the Winter Park Company—I believe to Mr. Knowles—and that he has now "money enough to last me while I live," besides 110 acres of land, and a building worth about \$20,000. "I feel as Bunyan's Pilgrim did when he lost his load."

Mr. Knowles, already the largest stockholder in the company, bought the interests of Mr. Lyman and Mr. Chapman; Mr. Chapman went to Wyoming to join his brothers on a cattle ranch, and Mr. Chase became a man of leisure.

The telegraph office was opened Jan. 1, 1883. The first message was sent out by Mr. Lewis H. Lawrence and read, "To my friend, Chester A. Arthur, President of the United States, Washington: Happy New Year, first message from office opened here today. No North, No South."



April 9, 1883, was made memorable by the visit of President Arthur to Winter Park, accompanied by Secretary W. E. Chandler, and the correspondents of several metropolitan newspapers; a telegram on a blank of the South Florida Telegraph Co., from Mr. Lawrence, announcing the hour of President Arthur's arrival is preserved in the scrapbook; it reads, "President refuses introductions. Too nervous, all can see him who wish." Secretary Chandler fell out of a buckboard at Winter Park, driven by Commodore Dyer, and received a severe sprain; Mrs. Dyer was also thrown to the ground but was not injured.

One of the "bright young men" of the New York Sun suggested in an editorial that the accident to Secretary Chandler may have been a penalty for stealing the vote of Florida in the electoral college for President Hayes.

Despite his ill-humor, and this accident, President Arthur said that Winter Park was "the prettiest place he had seen in Florida."

But the year 1886 was marked by an event far less pleasing than the erection of the Seminole Hotel and the visits of notables. The papers had boasted that there were more than 850 acres of orange groves in the neighborhood and about twenty-five business houses in the town. Settlers were coming in increasing numbers; land was selling at high prices and in large volume; new and costly buildings were being erected; hotels and boarding-houses were full and prosperous—and then came, in January of 1886, a freeze, which stripped the orange trees of their fruit and foliage and chilled the spirits of the people. Confidence was impaired, and some of the more timid residents moved away. But the local paper, *Lochmede*, sagely remarked that the cold weather "froze out a horde of leeches, that were fattening on the opportunities of flush times, and left honest men a chance to do business, with only honest competition to meet." And it was soon found that the trees were not injured to the extent which had been supposed; they put on a new and vigorous growth, young trees came into bearing, and two years later, the crop was the largest that ever had been harvested.

And then, in the summer, came the scourge of yellow fever in Key West and Tampa, and later in Jacksonville, bringing fears, excitements, vexations, quarantine restrictions, and interrupted transportation.

But despite the freeze and the fever, a local census, taken the following year, showed that there were 203 white families in the village, representing 29 several states and foreign countries, Massachusetts 31, Illinois 29, New York 20, Georgia 17. Fifty-one of these families were from the south, 141 from the north and there were 133 Republicans, 57 Democrats and 8 Prohibitionists.

The year 1887 was marked by the incorporation of the town, and the beginnings of the Orlando and Winter Park railroad. The town was incorporated October 12, 1887, including Osceola within its boundaries and ex-



cluding Hannibal Square, the negro quarter; this was accomplished after several stormy sessions and much vehement discussion. The first mayor was Robert White, Jr.; in the forty years following, there have been twenty-five mayors.

Early in the year, Mr. J. H. Abbott conceived the idea of building a railroad from Orlando to Winter Park. Numerous difficulties were encountered, connected especially with the right-of-way and the financing of the enterprise, but the project was pressed through by Messrs. Abbott, Chubb, Mizell and Capen, and on August 17 the road was incorporated. Work began April 11, 1887, Colonel Peleg Peckham throwing the first shovelful of earth, and Judge John R. Mizell, first president of the road, driving the first spike on July 6, 1888. Bonds were issued for financing the road, but proved to be insufficient; Mr. F. B. Knowles came to the rescue, as he did in so many other projects, and the road was completed with the following officers; F. B. Knowles, president; J. R. Mizell, vice-president; C. H. Hutchins, treasurer; J. M. Russell, secretary; G. R. Newell, local secretary; J. H. Abbott, superintendent and engineer; H. S. Chubb, general freight and passenger agent and J. S. Capen, auditor and purchasing agent. Announcement was made that it was expected to extend the road to the Atlantic Coast, and connect with a steamship line and with a railroad down the East Coast; "This will be one of the most important and profitable lines of transportation in Florida."

The road was opened to the public Feb. 13, 1889, when 2000 tickets were issued and trains run frequently from nine o'clock to ten-thirty. The Orlando and Winter Park railroad is now a branch of the Seaboard Air Line, and has got as far on its way to the Atlantic Ocean as Oviedo and Lake Charm. It crosses the campus of Rollins College, and is known by the students and others by the affectionate, or perhaps derisive, name as the Dinky.

A quitclaim deed, dated Feb. 27, 1904, made by the executors of the will of Mr. F. B. Knowles, conveys to C. H. Morse "all the right, title and interest to the estate of Francis B. Knowles" in lots and lands in and about Winter Park, excepting Lot 5, of Block 58, revised plat and the so-called Knowles Lake property and Mizell property. This transfer included about a thousand town lots and a considerable outside acreage, and the price paid is believed to have been \$10,000; this indicates not only the low ebb which the "big freeze" had brought to property values here and elsewhere in the state, but also the heavy losses which Mr. Knowles and his heirs met in his investments in Winter Park. The calamitous effect of the freeze is also indicated by the facts that the home and grove which had been contributed to the Rollins College fund by Mr. A. W. Rollins when the institution was founded, was sold by the college to Mr. E. H. Brewer for \$6,500, and that Mr. C. Fred Ward, now mayor, bought the place where he still lives, including fifty acres of land, ten acres of orange grove, and a house for \$500.



The bank of Winter Park was opened Oct. 16, 1911. This was a gala day for the town; coffee and punch were served, and it was advertised that "all merchants will allow a discount of 20 per cent on each dollar's worth purchased." On that day, the bank received deposits amounting to \$20,000; its first president was Dr. W. F. Blackman, and its first cashier Mr. C. D. Powell. Its present officers are Mr. E. B. Mendsen, president; Mr. Frank W. Cady, active vice-president; Mr. H. A. Ward, vice-president; Mr. O. L. Sutliff, cashier and Messrs. J. P. Shuter and John C. Mendsen, assistant cashiers; it has more than a million dollars deposits.

The Union State bank was organized in 1917 by Mr. Ed F. Keezel, a biographical sketch of whom appears in Part Two of this work, and associates; its present officers are Mr. D. K. Dickinson, president; Mr. J. F. Wellman, vice-president; Mr. P. E. Davis, cashier and Mr. W. R. Rosenfelt, assistant cashier; it has deposits amounting to \$400,000.

There are five churches in Winter Park, Congregational, Protestant Episcopal, Methodist, Baptist and Roman Catholic. The Congregational Church had its beginning in a Sunday School organized in the town hall, December 17, 1882; on January 17, 1884, the church was organized with twelve members. The church building was dedicated on January 23, 1886, and the Hooker Memorial House on May 26, 1907. The present edifice was dedicated in January, 1925, its cost being approximately \$100,000, including a very fine pipe organ. Among the pastors of this church have been Dr. E. P. Hooker, first pastor and first president of Rollins College, Rev. C. D. W. Brower, and Dr. C. A. Vincent, the present beloved minister, a sketch of whose life may be found in Part Two of this work.

All Saints Episcopal Church was carried on as a mission from 1886 to 1924, when it was organized as a parish church, under the rectorship of its first and present rector, Rev. James D. Thomas, Ph.D.

The Ella K. Comstock Memorial rectory and the Harriett Street Switzer Memorial Parish House, were built in 1925. A tablet in the Parish House bears the following inscription:

This Parish House erected in loving memory of  
Harriett Street Switzer  
1854-1919

Daughter of Canon George C. Street and wife of  
Charles Russell Switzer, M. D., Senior Warden of  
this Parish.

The organ in this church is a memorial to Miss Nannie Hayes. Besides his work as rector of All Saints Church, Dr. Thomas is a professor in Rollins College, giving courses in Bible Study and Comparative Religion; he is an author and poet of distinction.





Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Ward of Winter Park and Family



The Methodist Episcopal Church was organized in 1885, with seven members and a number of probationers. A church edifice was erected in 1896, during the pastorate of Rev. J. H. Martin, and the present commodious and handsome church and pastor's home was built in 1922, under the lead of the present capable minister, Rev. Harry Ingham, D.D., Ph.D.

The Baptist Church was organized in 1911 in the home of Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Betts, with thirteen charter members. The first pastor was Rev. E. Lee Smith; much credit is due Rev. and Mrs. C. T. Douglass who laid the lasting foundation. The present church edifice was erected in 1913; under the present pastorate of Rev. U. E. Reid the church is experiencing a gratifying growth, having now about 250 members; plans are on foot for the erection of a larger and more suitable building.

The First Roman Catholic Mass was celebrated in Winter Park about the year 1900, in the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. LaMontagne, by Rev. Fr. M. Fox, pastor of St. James Church in Orlando. During the winter seasons of 1921-24, mass was said on Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Barnum; in the meantime a site was purchased and funds raised for a church building, which was formally opened for use March 15, 1925, after having been informally used during the preceding winter. The name of the church is St. Margaret Mary.

The Winter Park Public Library is the outgrowth of a movement begun in December, 1885, by a group of women who had some months previously formed a reading club under the leadership of Mrs. E. P. Hooker, wife of the president of Rollins College. These women established the Winter Park Circulating Library, and Mrs. Hooker was named president and Miss Evelyn Lamson, afterward Mrs. C. L. Smith, was elected librarian; she held this office without salary for twenty-three years, until in 1918 she was elected president of the Winter Park Library Association.

Open shelves in the hall of Miss Lamson's home held the books which were donated to the new institution, and the library was opened to the public twice a week for the drawing of books. When the shelves held two hundred and nine bound, and eighty-four paper-covered, volumes, they were moved to a room in the Winter Park Land Company's building, on the site now occupied by the Hamilton Hotel. Four years later, another move was made to the room occupied by the Women's Christian Temperance Union on East Park Avenue.

In 1893, the Winter Park Library Association was incorporated, and Mrs. J. H. Ford was elected president. Mrs. W. C. Comstock became president in 1897, and the Association held its first meeting in the new library building January 7, 1902. Mrs. Comstock died the following summer. Dr. W. F. Blackman was the next president and served for sixteen years. Mrs. C. L. Smith followed in 1918 and served until her death in 1926. Mrs. E. H.



Brewer was president for a short time after Mrs. Smith's death. The present officers are, Mr. E. W. Packard, president; Rev. Richard Wright, vice-president and Miss Susan Gladwin, secretary-treasurer; Mrs. Inez Bellows is librarian.

Three additions have been made to the original building; a kitchen and serving room on the east, the gift of Mr. C. H. Morse; a reception room on the north, the gift of Mrs. C. L. Smith; and the Ella K. Comstock children's room on the south. There are nearly six thousand books in the library at present, with an average circulation of about eight hundred volumes a month; the library is open every afternoon except Sunday. The city contributes \$350 annually toward its support; Mrs. Comstock gave \$1,000 toward the support of the children's corner in addition to other generous gifts; and Mrs. C. L. Smith left a bequest of \$5000 to the institution which she had served and loved for so long a time.

The Winter Park Board of Trade was organized in March, 1909, and its successor, the Chamber of Commerce, was incorporated Nov. 1, 1923; it now has three hundred members; the Business Men's Club was organized in 1919, and still continues to function.

The new Seminole Hotel was built in 1912 by the Seminole Hotel Co., Mr. R. P. Foley, president; a sketch of Mr. Foley's life may be found in Part Two of this work. The Alabama Hotel, on a beautiful site overlooking Lake Maitland was built in 1922; it is owned by Mr. Clifford Folger and is under the capable management of his son, Mr. Fred H. Folger.

The Woman's Club was organized January 13, 1915, with about thirty charter members. Its officers were, Mrs. C. H. Morse, president, Mrs. W. F. Blackman, vice-president and Mrs. Hiram Powers, secretary-treasurer. The Club House, which cost about \$60,000, was erected in January of 1921, the lot being given by Mrs. Morse and \$5,000 each being subscribed to the building fund by Mr. Morse and Mrs. W. C. Temple. The club has been, and continues to be, one of the most potent influences in the life of the city; its present president is Mrs. H. W. Barnum.

The Business and Professional Women's Club was organized in May, 1926, by Mrs. E. S. Kennedy, who is still its president, and now has sixty-three members; Mrs. Kennedy is also the efficient secretary of the Chamber of Commerce; a sketch of her life may be found in Part Two of this work.

The present railway station was opened for use April 8, 1913, under the auspices of the Board of Trade.

The large and carefully kept park surrounding the station, which was provided for by the founders of the town, is strikingly beautiful; it attracts the enthusiastic attention of all who pass through by rail or automobile.

Winter Park was granted a special charter by the Legislature in 1925, which provides for a mayor-commission form of government. The com-



mission consists of five members, of whom one is mayor-commissioner. Mr. C. Fred Ward, a sketch of whose life may be found in Part Two of this work, is now serving his fourth consecutive term in this office; he is also city manager.

The city has made rapid and substantial improvements during the last two decades, which have been financed by the following bond issues:

- 1889—\$8,500, for school, cemetery, jail and street improvements.
- 1912—\$12,000, for water works improvements.
- 1913—\$10,000, for electric light improvements.
- 1915—\$12,000 for town hall, jail and street improvements.
- 1917—\$12,000, for street improvements.
- 1919—\$45,000, for drainage and street improvements.
- 1924—\$17,000, for water works improvements.
- 1924—\$100,000, for street improvements.
- 1926—\$100,000, for water works improvements.
- 1926—\$50,000, for electric light improvements.
- 1926—\$275,000, for sewer, street and park improvements.
- 1924 to 1927—\$1,344,000, Assessment bonds for street improvements.

Under the new charter all street improvements may be assessed against the abutting property, and property owners may pay for same in ten annual installments. Ten year serial bonds are issued against these paving liens.

The above shows the original amount of issues and does not represent the outstanding indebtedness, as many of the above bonds have matured and have been paid.

The first of the school buildings now in use was built in 1914; this building was used for grades and high school. In 1923, an addition equal in size to the original building was added. The new \$250,000 high school was started in 1926 and two units are now ready to relieve the congestion in the other buildings.

In 1907, Mr. Loring A. Chase donated to the city five acres of land for cemetery purposes. In 1924, Mrs. Evaline Lamson Smith donated the fifteen acres adjoining the original tract for the same purpose. This tract is situated on Webster Avenue and is well timbered with pines and oaks.

Clay and lime rock was used for paving up to 1915. During that year the first brick street was laid in Winter Park. This was the Dixie Highway



nine-foot paving, which was laid through the city by the county. The city bonded for additional brick paving and for widening the main street at this time. Since that date 115 miles of brick and asphalt streets have been laid in all parts of the city. The founders of Winter Park wisely planted oak trees along all streets that were platted. These trees are now well taken care of by cleaning moss and trimming, and plans are made to reset new trees at the rate of 500 trees per year. These trees are to be set on new streets and in spaces where old trees have died.

The population of Winter Park was 1,018 in 1910, 2,300 in 1920 and 6,500 in 1927.

The above information was courteously furnished for this work by Mr. Eugene F. Bellows, city clerk.



## CHAPTER V

### ROLLINS COLLEGE

**M**R. FREDERICK W. LYMAN, of Winter Park, is credited with having made the first suggestion looking to the founding of a Christian college in Florida. On January 15, 1884, Dr. E. P. Hooker, pastor of the newly-formed Congregational church, "preached an eloquent sermon in the Town Hall," seconding this suggestion, and in March of that year, a paper on the subject was read before the General Congregational Association, holding its first annual meeting in Winter Park, by Miss Lucy A. Cross, a graduate of Oberlin and a former professor in Wellesley College, and the principal of the Daytona Institute for Young Women. At the next meeting of the Association, which was held in Orange City in January, 1885, an address was made by Dr. Hooker on "The Mission of Congregationalism in Florida," and the Association voted that "the time has come to take the initiatory step toward the founding of an institution for the higher education in the State of Florida," and a committee, composed of Dr. Hooker, Mr. Lyman, Dr. S. F. Gale, Missionary Superintendent of the State, Rev. C. M. Bingham, of Daytona, and R. C. Tremaine of Mt. Dora, was appointed to receive such proposals as might be made by various towns, to report at a later special meeting of the Association. This meeting was held at Mt. Dora on April 15; it was found that overtures had been received from Jacksonville, Daytona, Interlachen, Orange City, Mt. Dora and Winter Park. The meeting was continued the next evening and the following day at Winter Park, and it was voted to locate the proposed college in Winter Park, which had offered \$114,000 in money and property, as against \$35,000 by Mt. Dora, the other towns having withdrawn from the contest. It was voted to accept the proposition of Winter Park. The statement was made, then or afterward, that "it is expected that Rollins College will be to the South what Yale and Harvard have been to the East, and that its fame as an institution of learning will rival theirs."

When word came to Winter Park of this decision, the church bells clamored and great excitement prevailed; in the evening, the citizens gathered at Mr. Lyman's house to celebrate the event and pay honor to Mr. A. W. Rollins, whose subscription of \$50,000 had decided the issue; there was more ringing of the bell, bonfires, speeches, music, and the reading of an original poem by Emily Huntington Miller. In contrast with this enthusiasm, was the sour statement made in an Orange City newspaper, that the college had been located "at a place surrounded by swamps and about nine months of the year the hooting owls hoot to the few families



that will forever be the only inhabitants of Winter Park;" it wanted to know whether there had been foul play in the affair.

Before the end of April, the committee appointed by the Association to secure the legal incorporation of the college had met at Sanford and drafted a constitution and by-laws, naming officers and trustees. Dr. Hooker was appointed President of the college, and the officers of the Board of Trustees were: President, Mr. F. W. Lyman; Vice-president, Rev. C. M. Bingham; Treasurer, Mr. A. W. Rollins; Auditor, Dr. Nathan Barrows; and Secretary, Rev. S. D. Smith. A beautiful tract of ten acres of land bordering on Lake Virginia was included in the original offer of money and property to be used as a campus. During the summer of 1885, under the superintendence of Mr. Geo. A. Rollins, work was begun on Knowles Hall, and plans were made for the erection of two other buildings for use as dormitories; the total estimated cost of these three buildings was \$25,000.

On November 4, the opening exercises of the college were held in the Congregational church. Dr. Gale telegraphed the Florida Times-Union that the college had "opened this morning at the advertised hour, with a full faculty on hand. There were present two freshmen, eight college preparatory students, three in the normal department, and more than thirty in the training school. The total will be doubled in a few days. The faculty and citizens are enthusiastic."

The faculty consisted, besides Dr. Hooker, of Dr. Nathan Barrows, Mathematics and Physics; Rev. Frank S. Childs, English and American Literature and Elocution; W. W. Lloyd, Ancient Languages, and Principal of the Preparatory Department; Miss Annie W. Morton, Principal of the Training Department; and Miss Louise M. Abbott, Assistant in the Training Department, in charge of the grammar and primary grades. Not an imposing list, but other names were soon added, among them Professor J. H. Ford, Greek, and Prof. L. A. Austin, Latin; Prof. Austin was a college classmate and personal friend of Dr. Hooker. Teachers of painting and music were selected later in the month, and seventy-six pupils reported.

Work was carried on in the Congregational church and in the town hall over White's store, pending the completion of Knowles Hall. This building was dedicated March 9, 1886; perhaps the most interesting feature of the program was the reading of a letter from Mr. Knowles, offering to meet the entire expense of the erection of a dormitory for women. The bell in Knowles Hall bore the inscription: "Presented to Rollins College Corporation for Knowles Hall by the Builders, January 1, 1886." This bell was melted in the fire which destroyed the building on December 2, 1909.

Pinehurst Cottage was erected in 1885, Lakeside and Cloverleaf Cottages in 1886, and the Lyman Gymnasium, the gift of Mr. F. W. Lyman, later.



Dr. Hooker retired from the presidency in 1892, and died November 29, 1904. Of him, Mr. Chase said, at a memorial service which was held in the church, December 11 of that year, "Dr. Hooker was "the most illustrious name in the annals of Winter Park, a man of commanding presence, with a large body, a noble head, a handsome face illuminated by a kindly smile, reflecting his sunny disposition. His powers of speech were great, his voice being rich and deep, appealing strongly to the feelings, and his enunciation clear and distinct. Mentally strong, his logical method carried conviction to the minds of his hearers. Of rich scholarship, his sermons were intellectual feasts; of deep piety, he inspired all with the strong desire to seek the paths that lead to righteousness and God; of a ready wit, he enjoyed the joke and its attending laughter."

During an interval of two years, Professor Ford served as Acting-President. Charles G. Fairchild was inaugurated as President, February 21, 1894; he belonged to a family of college administrators, his father having been president of Berea College in Kentucky, a famous uncle president of Oberlin College in Ohio, and another uncle president of Manhattan College in Kansas. Mr. Fairchild remained at Rollins only one year. Professor Ford was again put in charge of affairs, and in 1895 the Presidency was assumed by Dr. George Morgan Ward.

Dr. Ward was a native of Lowell, Mass. He studied for two years at Harvard University and graduated at Dartmouth College in 1882, and from the Boston University Law School in 1886. He was admitted to the bar in Massachusetts but did not practice. For four years he served as Secretary of the International Society of Christian Endeavor. He graduated also from Andover Theological Seminary and was ordained a Congregational minister.

Dr. Ward came to the work immediately after the "big freeze" had devastated the entire state and disheartened and almost beggared its people; his task was by no means an easy one, but by his engaging personality no less than his ability and ample and various training, he held the steadfast loyalty of old friends of the institution, attracted new ones, and succeeded in gathering the necessary funds for current expenses, and an increasing body of students. He was ably assisted by Rev. O. C. Morse, who came to Rollins in the Fall of 1898 as Vice-President and Instructor in Christian Evidences and the Bible. Mr. Morse was of an illustrious family, nephew of S. F. B. Morse, inventor of the telegraph, and brother of the editor of the New York Observer, and of Richard C. Morse, General Secretary of the International Committee of the Young Men's Christian Association; he had a wide circle of relatives and devoted friends, and was himself a notably capable, cultivated, courteous, and courageous gentleman, a graduate of Yale University and a student in the University of Leipzig, Germany. Mr. Morse gave his energies chiefly to raising money for the institution, and he con-



tinued in this service for some time during the following administration, and was very helpful in raising the endowment fund.

Dr. Ward's resignation was reluctantly accepted by the Board of Trustees, February 20, 1892, and he was succeeded by Dr. William Fremont Blackman, whose term of thirteen years was the longest in the history of the college. Dr. Blackman began work in October, 1892, and was inaugurated as President, April 2, of the following year. A specially interesting and important feature of the exercises was an address by Dr. D. K. Pearson of Chicago, who had spent the winter in Winter Park with his lovely wife, inspecting the college with critical eye and mind. Dr. Pearson announced that he had made an offer to the Board of Trustees of \$50,000, conditioned on the raising within a year of an additional sum of \$150,000, for a permanent endowment, and that the offer had been accepted. He said: "One year from today we will meet again in this room to count the money that has been collected, and turn over to you my check for \$50,000. I know you and your people will raise the money. I have unbounded faith in this, and my check will be in readiness for you. I tell you, it does a man's soul good to give and give bountifully."

Dr. Pearson's confidence was more than justified, for on April 14, 1904, the date which he had fixed, the total subscriptions received amounted to \$206,285.50. There were seventy-three donors, besides fifty-three women of the Ladies Auxiliary Committee, a total of one hundred and twenty-six. Those who gave \$1,000, or more, were: Mrs. A. W. Rollins, Mr. G. A. Rollins, C. H. Morse, L. F. Dommerich, J. H. Whittemore, Mrs. Frederick Billings and Frederick Billings, Mrs. J. N. Harris, Mrs. M. T. Turner, Mrs. Frederick Mather, Miss E. A. Sparrell, H. G. Ludlow, W. H. Nichols, E. H. Brewer, the Misses Sumner, J. H. Converse, Mrs. Orilla Ames, W. C. Temple, W. R. O'Neal, C. H. Hall, C. L. Mark, Mrs. G. W. Coburn, Mrs. A. S. Whittemore, Mrs. Helen Camp, F. W. Lyman, A. S. Worthington and Lucy Worthington Blackman, the Ladies Auxiliary Committee (of which Mrs. E. H. Brewer was chairman and Mrs. W. F. Blackman was secretary), and former students, guaranteed by Professor Fred P. Entzminger.

Unhappily, Dr. Pearson was unable to be present as he had promised on April 14, to bestow his check, open the "plum pudding," felicitate the college, and celebrate his eighty-fourth birthday. However, he spent the following winter in Winter Park, in the home of President and Mrs. Blackman, his beloved wife now no longer with him. A scholarship of \$1,000 was contributed by the women of the faculty in his honor, called the Banquet Scholarship.

Dr. Pearson was an extraordinary character, tall, gaunt, Lincoln-like in looks, with shaggy brows and piercing black eyes, brusque in manner, abrupt in speech, careless and untidy in attire, his head covered always, in-



door and out, with an ancient "stove-pipe" or an equally old and soiled white felt hat bought years before in Cairo, Egypt, a cheap and black cigar in his mouth; sagacious and penurious in small matters and lavish in large benefactions—a most extraordinary and memorable person, indeed, the second founder of Rollins College. For now, the institution had, for the first time, an Endowment Fund, small indeed, but a beginning; its feet were on the ground at last.

On April 26, the completion of this Endowment Fund was celebrated. The new boat house was dedicated in the morning, and the skiffs and racing shells were launched. In the afternoon the Rogers House, which had come into possession of the college and which had been repaired and enlarged, was re-named, little Dorothea Temple pulling the silk ribbon which unfurled a large banner, with the words, "I christen thee Seminole Inn." After this service, the Cuban students held a ring tournament. In the evening, supper was served in the dining hall of the Inn, speeches were made, dancing was indulged in, and a flaming bonfire was towed into Lake Osceola. The Rogers House had been purchased by Messrs. C. H. Morse and W. C. Temple for \$7,000, and presented to the college as a part of its Endowment Fund, conditioned upon the Trustees raising \$10,000 for improvements on the building, which was done.

The next long step onward was taken in 1909, when the campus was enlarged westward, Cloverleaf Cottage and the dining hall were removed to the lake front, and Carnegie and Chase Halls were erected; these were dedicated February 18. The former, an administration and library building, was made possible by a gift of \$20,000 by Mr. Andrew Carnegie, and the latter, a home for young men, was erected as a memorial to Mr. Loring Augustus Chase, founder of Winter Park, by a legacy from Mr. Chase, supplemented by gifts from more than a score of his boyhood and later friends, and comrades of the Forty-Fourth Massachusetts Regiment. A powerhouse and a fine water-supply system for the campus was provided in 1909 through the generosity of Mr. W. C. Comstock.

On December 1, 1909, Knowles Hall was completely destroyed by fire and an appeal was made for funds with which to replace this first and most important building on the campus. At the next annual meeting of the Board of Trustees, the president read the following letter from Mr. James A. Bertram, Mr. Carnegie's private secretary: "Responding to yours of January 15, and other communications with regard to a science building for Rollins College, Mr. Carnegie will be glad to provide \$25,000 for the erection of a science building, provided you get \$25,000 new endowment to be devoted to the maintenance of the Science Department." This amount was raised, Mrs. F. B. Knowles giving \$10,000, Mr. W. C. Comstock \$2,500, Mr. F. W. Lyman \$1,000, and others various sums, which, together with the



insurance money, made up the necessary amount. On March 9, the twenty-fifth anniversary of the dedication of the first Knowles Hall, the new building was dedicated. The piano in this building was the gift of Mrs. Homer Gage, Mrs. G. E. Warren and Lucius J. Knowles, children of Mr. Knowles.

At the thirtieth annual meeting of the Board of Trustees, which was held September 30, 1915, Dr. Blackman resigned the presidency of the college, on account of impaired health, and his resignation was accepted. A resolution was adopted by the Board which recited, in part: "*Be it resolved*, that the Board expresses its appreciation of President Blackman in the upbuilding of the college. During his administration, there has been added to the campus Carnegie Library and equipment, Knowles Hall and equipment, Chase Hall, Sparrell Cottage, power-plant and the boat house, and the removal and repair of the Ladies' Hall and the dining hall, and the campus enlarged and beautified. There has also been raised an Endowment Fund of \$243,000 for the support of the college.

"*Be it Resolved*, that the Board expresses its sincere appreciation to Mrs. Lucy Worthington Blackman for the unselfish, capable, and loyal service that she has rendered Rollins College during the presidency of her husband, Dr. William Fremont Blackman. Always ready, willing and anxious to do anything and everything for the good of the college, her assistance has been invaluable in the upbuilding of the school."

It was Mrs. Blackman who introduced early in her husband's administration and for some time personally conducted, the Department of Domestic and Industrial Arts, which has been a highly useful feature of the training of the young women students. Biographical sketches of Dr. and Mrs. Blackman may be found in Part Two of this work.

After the withdrawal of President Blackman, Dr. George Morgan Ward again took charge of the institution during the trying years of the World War and immediately after, except during the years 1917-19, when Dr. Calvin H. French, a fine scholar and educator and a courteous gentleman, served as President; he is now President of Hastings College in Nebraska. The last period of great progress of the college began in 1919 when President Ward launched a campaign for increasing the endowment, and the Trustees voted to drop the Academy and make Rollins an exclusively collegiate institution. The endowment campaign was successful and the permanent funds of the college were raised to over \$600,000. In 1922, President Ward withdrew from the active administration of the college but remained as a member of the Board of Trustees.

From 1922 to 1924, the institution was administered by Dean R. J. Sprague, who also served as Acting President, and who devoted much of his time to the organization of the Rollins Union which was projected to bring the two Presbyterian churches of the State, and the Congregational



Church, into a union for the support and control of the college; this project, however, failed of accomplishment.

In 1924, Dr. Wm. Clarence Weir was called to the presidency; he resigned the following year, and in 1925, Dr. Hamilton Holt was elected President. A biographical sketch of Dr. Holt may be found in the biographical section of this work, Part Two.

On October 23, 1925, at a dinner given by the alumni to welcome President and Mrs. Holt to Rollins, an address outlining plans for the realization of his purpose to develop the institution into "the ideal small college of America" was made. He said: "We propose that Rollins shall become a shining exception to the rule that the greatness of the college is measured by the number of its students, and the multitude of its buildings. The things that make a college great are the quality of those who teach and those who are taught.

It is the professors who make a college great. And yet, how rare is a great teacher! As we add to our faculty, we shall invite only those rare souls to join us whose personality appeals to young men and women. They must have the gift of teaching and the nobility of character to inspire youth.

What shall we do to upbuild the material side of Rollins? We shall find the most beautiful buildings of the Mediterranean type in Florida, and the architect who created them. We shall then hope to get that man to design every building on our campus necessary for the comfort and pleasure of seven hundred selected students and seventy-five golden-personality professors—all buildings in harmony and each a part of a unified whole.

It is our ambition to have at Rollins a group of professors, each one revered and beloved, and all equipped with every line of educational apparatus from laboratories and seminar libraries to moving pictures and stenographers, teaching seven hundred students—four hundred men and three hundred women—in the most beautiful spot in Florida.

In other words, we propose to enrich the lives and characters of our students by the personalities of our teachers and by beauty of environment."

In order to be free to proceed immediately with this plan, which involves the raising of approximately \$5,000,000 within the next five years, it was seen that current expenses covering that period would have to be provided, to meet the annual deficit of approximately \$20,000, to increase salaries of professors and raise standards, and to meet the emergency needs of the college. It was estimated that at least \$60,000 annually would be required to cover these obligations.

President Holt, therefore, proposed to raise in Orange County a fund of \$300,000, or \$60,000 a year, for five years. Preparations were begun in January and an intensive drive opened on April 14, 1926. On April



19, twenty-four hours before the time set for the closing of the campaign, a total of \$345,000 had been pledged. On the following evening the goal had been oversubscribed by \$81,000. In referring to the magnificent response to this appeal, Irving Bacheller, famous author and trustee of the College, said, "the soul of Florida has spoken."

President Holt is now engaged in the undertaking to raise approximately \$5,000,000 as a permanent endowment.

Finally, there is no space to recite here even the names of the trustees and teachers who have assisted these nine presidents and acting-presidents in conducting the affairs of the college; they have come and gone, a considerable multitude.

Two among them, however, the one a trustee and the other a member of the faculty, should have special mention, Mr. W. R. O'Neal and Professor Thomas R. Baker. Mr. O'Neal has served as trustee of the college from its first days until now, nearly all the time as Secretary and Treasurer. In total, he has given more time and effort by far to its affairs than any other official, and his services have been invaluable. A sketch of Mr. O'Neal's life may be found in the Biographical Section of this work, Part Two.

Dr. Baker came to Rollins in 1890, as professor of Natural Science, and continued in that service until 1912, when he was made *professor emeritus*, and retired on the Carnegie Foundation, as were Prof. Frances E. Lord and Prof. Susan A. Longwell.

No other instructor at Rollins has served so long or has known so many successive generations of students as Dr. Baker. And no other has been so revered and loved, alike by teachers, students and townspeople. His wide and accurate scholarship, his integrity of mind, his friendly and sympathetic spirit, and his gentleness of manner, endeared him to all who knew him. He celebrated his ninetieth birthday, Feb. 27, 1927. The Thomas R. Baker Museum of Natural History which he created and cared for, will keep his name in perpetual remembrance.



## CHAPTER VI

### MAITLAND

THE attractive town of Maitland was named, as was the lovely lake on whose borders it stands, for Ft. Maitland, which was built by Major William Maitland at the time of the Seminole War, in 1835. The probable site of this fort was afterwards owned by Mr. C. C. Beasley and is now the property of Mr. E. R. Hall, a sketch of whose life may be found in Part Two of this work.

One of the earliest and most public-spirited and influential pioneers in Maitland was Mr. Isaac Vanderpool, a native of New York City, who came here in 1870, and six years later brought his bride and established a permanent home. Mr. Vanderpool, a sketch of whose life may be found in Part Two of this work, died in 1917; Mrs. Vanderpool still lives in the old home, with her daughter, Kate, at the age of eighty-one years, active indoors and out, and interested in all that concerns the life and development of the town. Much of the information concerning the early settlers contained in this work has been contributed by Mrs. Vanderpool.

Mr. Vanderpool had met Mr. H. S. Kedney on a steamship *enroute* from Rio de Janeiro. Mr. Kedney's father, the Rev. Prof. John S. Kedney of Fairabault, Minnesota, had visited his friend, Bishop Whipple, in Maitland, and had told his son of its charms; it was through Mr. Kedney's persuasion that Mr. Vanderpool came to Maitland. Mr. Kedney owned a place on the lake which he afterwards sold to a Mr. Willett, an Englishman, now occupied by his son, Mr. W. B. Willett, and built a home in Winter Park on the north shore of Lake Maitland; he erected the San Juan Hotel in Orlando, and later went to Mexico, where he died; Mrs. Kedney was a sister of Mrs. J. C. Stovin, whose home was near that of the Kedney's in Winter Park.

Captain J. C. Eaton also came from Rio de Janeiro on the same vessel with Messrs. Kedney and Vanderpool. He built a home on Lake Katherine which he bequeathed at his death to his cousin, Mrs. Mary Boynton, of Boston; Mrs. Boynton and her daughter occupied this home for many years, and sold it to Dr. K. E. Kilborn, a retired physician, who remodeled and now occupies it.

Dr. Nevins, a New York physician, arrived about four years after the Vanderpools, and built the imposing house overlooking Lake Faith, which was later owned and occupied by Mrs. E. M. Massey. Dr. Nevins and Mr. John Prentiss built an ice plant in the early 80's where The Oaks now stands, on the northeast shore of Lake Faith, the site of the dwelling which was occupied for many years by Mr. W. B. Jackson. A sister of Dr. Nevins,



Mrs. Edward A. MacDowell, wife of America's most famous composer and herself a distinguished pianist and interpreter of her husband's music, and founder of the MacDowell Peterborough Colony in New Hampshire, has visited Maitland a number of times; she was the guest of Mrs. J. H. Hirsch last winter.

Mr. C. C. Beasley homesteaded a tract and built a house, which was sold in the late 80's to Mrs. Woodward, and then to Mrs. Banks; it is now occupied by Mr. Doeg.

General Alfred Iverson built a house in the early 80's, now occupied by Mrs. S. B. Hill, and kept a girl's school; this place was later occupied by Mr. Frank Potter, whose distinguished uncle, Bishop Henry C. Potter, of New York, visited him here.

Mr. S. B. Hill, who was to be the leading figure and force in the development of Maitland, came with his father's family in January, 1872, at the age of fourteen years. A sketch of Mr. Hill's life and achievement may be found in Part Two of this work.

Mr. E. R. Hall, a banker of Chicago, whose father, Mr. Chas. H. Hall, had owned an orange grove in Maitland for some time, and who gave the land on which the Protestant Episcopal Church stands and also a scholarship to Rollins College, first came in 1875, and some thirty years later made his permanent home in Maitland; a sketch of his life may be found in Part Two of this work. Mr. Hall writes concerning his early days in Maitland:

"In the fall of 1875, there was no railroad or other means of public conveyance in Orange County. When my mother and I landed at Doyle's dock at Mellonville at sundown one evening in December of this year, we found that the nearest hotel was the Brock House at Enterprise, on the other side of Lake Monroe. The steamer which brought us from Jacksonville had consumed thirty-six hours in making the run; the captain announced that he would not cross the lake that night, the fact being that owing to the contents of a certain black bottle, he was in no condition to navigate either himself or his boat.

"I went ashore and applied at the only house in sight for lodgings, and Mrs. Hicks, the owner, kindly took us in.

"After breakfast the next morning I found that I could get a team and a lumber wagon of a Mr. Parramore, and we started for Maitland, arriving there about four o'clock in the afternoon, where we put up with Mr. C. C. Beasley, the homesteader, from whom my father had bought a piece of land on the west end of Lake Maitland on which were the ruins of the old fort.

"I found at Maitland the following settlers, B. R. Swope, George H. Packwood, Major Browne, Captain J. C. Eaton, C. C. Beasley,



John Bigelow, H. S. Kedney, Isaac Vanderpool, the Hill family, and Louis Wise. Mr. Wise had recently been made postmaster and kept a small canteen; the Parton brothers had built a mill on Howell Creek, between Lake Maitland and Lake Howell."

Mr. George Packwood came from New York in the early seventies, a southerner by birth, a northerner by residence, and built the large house and set out an expensive orange grove on the north side of Lake Sibelia, now occupied by Mrs. Rice. Mr. Packwood is still living in Tampa. He built what was then called the Opera House, containing a social hall, beside the railroad track; this structure was demolished a few years ago. His brother, Dr. Richard Packwood, was the only practicing physician in the neighborhood for several years.

Mr. R. B. Swope, a Virginian, owned the only bearing orange grove in the 70's, which had been set out by the Partins; Mr. Swope was the manager of the South Florida Railroad, of which Maitland was for a year the southern terminus.

Judge Bolling Baker moved in from Tallahassee in the late seventies and died some ten years afterwards; his only daughter still occupies the house which he built.

Another early settler was Meyer Simmons, who is survived by a daughter, Mrs. M. C. McNair, and two sons; his brother, Dr. Simmons, kept a drug store in Maitland for some time.

Bishop H. P. Whipple of Minnesota, came in the seventies, and built the house which was later enlarged and occupied by the second Mrs. Whipple; it is now owned by Miss Elizabeth McConnell. Bishop Whipple built the Church of the Good Shepherd as a memorial to his son and a rectory. Mr. and Mrs. Kingsmill Marrs of Boston enlarged the rectory and occupied it for many years as a winter residence; it has recently been further enlarged and is occupied by Bishop Wing of the South Florida Diocese of the Protestant Episcopal Church.

The Park House was erected by a Mr. Wilcox, a Catholic, for use as a convent; he also built the Roman Catholic Church. The convent was subsequently used as a hotel and was destroyed by fire two years ago; on its site is the home of Mr. and Mrs. Harter.

The first store building was erected in the 70's by Mr. N. J. Bayard.

Mr. Wm. H. Waterhouse, an architect, came to Maitland in 1881; he erected the fine houses occupied by Dr. Haskell, the Halls, the Bronsons, the Johnstons and others. His son and daughter still reside in Maitland.

In 1881, Mr. Vanderpool sold land to Dr. Waldo L. Kingsley, of Elizabeth, N. J., who built the house in which his son and two daughters still reside.



Mr. Frank Adams of New York, took up the homestead in the early 70's on which three generations of Adamses have lived, his grandson, F. Ellison Adams, being the present mayor of Maitland.

Mr. Louis F. Dommerich, a wealthy silk merchant of New York, bought from R. B. Swope an extensive estate on the northeast edge of Maitland, in 1890. He named the place Hiawatha, built a large house, laid out the grounds and beautified them with shrubs and flowers and spent his winters here for many years; the place is still in the possession of his children, and has long been one of the show places of Orange County. Mr. Dommerich was for many years a trustee of Rollins College and a generous contributor to its funds; he gave a sum for the endowment of a public library in Maitland in memory of his wife. Further reference to Mr. Dommerich is made in the account which follows of the Florida Audubon Society.

Captain Wm. H. Johnston came from Ishpeming, Michigan, and purchased a home in 1907. For ten years he was a winter resident; since 1917, he has made Maitland his permanent home. A sketch of Mr. Johnston's life may be found in Part Two of this work.

Mr. L. P. Bronson, also from Ishpeming, came about the same time; Mrs. Bronson was for many years prior to her death the devoted secretary of the Florida Audubon Society.

Mr. J. H. Hirsch came to Florida in 1912, and is engaged in the real estate business in Orlando. He owns and occupies a beautiful home on Lake Eulalia, a mile west of Maitland; some account of Mr. and Mrs. Hirsch may be found in Part Two of this work.

It will be seen from the foregoing that the town of Maitland, like its near neighbor Winter Park, was peculiarly fortunate in the character of its founders and early citizens, men and women of exceptional ability, culture, refinement and public spirit.

Maitland was laid out as a town in 1876, by Isaac Vanderpool, H. S. Kedney, and the Packwood brothers; the superb oaks which line its streets, were planted by these far-seeing men.

Nothing has given a wider repute and a greater distinction to Maitland than the fact that it was the birthplace, and for long the headquarters, of the Florida Audubon Society, to which a paragraph or two should be devoted.

This society was founded by Mr. and Mrs. Dommerich and a few of their friends in March, 1900, and was incorporated two years later. Its first president was the renowned and revered Bishop H. B. Whipple, friend of the Indians of the Northwest, who called him by the fitting name "Straight Tongue." Mrs. Dommerich was the first secretary-treasurer. The society had an imposing list of honorary and active officers, among them Theodore Roosevelt, then Governor of New York; Governor W. D. Bloxham, of Florida; General J. M. Schofield, of the United States Army and William C.



Prime, first vice-president of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York; later, the names of President Grover Cleveland, Governor W. S. Jennings of Florida, Joseph Jefferson, Mrs. Thomas A. Edison and E. W. Bok were added to this list. Perhaps no other organization in Florida has ever had so distinguished a list of officers—two Presidents or past-Presidents of the United States, three Governors, two Bishops, two college presidents, two widely-known clergymen, six writers of books, two judges, four editors, three famous ornithologists and two other scientists, two army generals, an actor of illustrious name, and numerous mere millionaires.

The secretary-treasurer, Mrs. Dommerich, died before the first annual meeting was held, and soon after, the president, Bishop Whipple. Mr. Dommerich was elected president, Mrs. Vanderpool secretary, and Mrs. Bronson treasurer; Mr. Dommerich held the office of president until 1912, and the two faithful women until a much later date. In his will, Mr. Dommerich left the sum of \$5,000 to the National Association of Audubon Societies, the income of which was to be expended in Florida, for the protection of its birds.

For years, the annual meetings of the society were held in the spacious and beautiful grounds at Hiawatha; the business of the society was transacted, the cause of bird protection was discussed, and a lavish hospitality was dispensed by the host and enjoyed by a multitude of members and guests who came from far and near.



## CHAPTER VII.

### WINTER GARDEN, OCOEE, OAKLAND

THE western part of Orange County, bordering Lake Apopka, has always exercised a strong lure over the visitor and home-seeker. Its soil is fertile; its surface is varied; its woodlands are dense and umbrageous; and its great lake, the second largest body of fresh water in Florida, cools the air in summer, warms it in winter, and affords bathing, boating, fishing, gunning and picnicing for leisure hours. And so there came to it in the early days, as there have continued to come, discerning men and women in search of a home. Its chief centers are Winter Garden, Ocoee and Oakland, and there are a number of smaller settlements of equal charm.

The following vivid reminiscences of early life in west Orange County, particularly in Winter Garden and Oakland, have been contributed to this work by Mr. R. B. F. Roper, now living in New Smyrna. Mr. Roper is the son of Mr. W. C. Roper, who came to Florida from Georgia in 1860, with his large family and belongings, and whose descendents have so large a part in the development of that section:

"W. C. Roper, father of the writer, moved from Merriweather County, Georgia, in December of 1859, arriving on the south side of Lake Apopka about the first of January, 1860. At that time, I was about eight years old. My father had come down in the previous summer, and had bought a farm of six hundred acres from Isaac Hudson, lying along the south shore of the lake, from the present town of Oakland to where Winter Garden is now located.

"The move to Florida was made by mule team. There were twenty-eight head of horses and mules, five wagons, two carriages, and one buggy in the procession. We also brought with us two other families, those of B. B. Reams and A. J. Dunaway, who also settled in Orange County. In our party I think there were about twenty-eight whites, besides several slaves belonging to my father; of the whites, ten were my brothers and sisters and one was a brother-in-law, A. M. Caudle. When we arrived, we found plenty of good houses for all. There were about two hundred acres of land in cultivation, a steam sawmill, grist mill, cotton gin, etc., the only ones in the county at that time. We found everything needed on a farm when we came, such as corn, sugar cane and a stock of cattle and hogs, everything was in readiness to make a crop.



"When we arrived in Orange County, Judge J. G. Speer owned and lived on the farm adjoining us on the west, where the town of Oakland is located. I think Judge Speer came originally from South Carolina, and had settled here about three years before we came. A little later, he sold his farm to a Dr. Burford, who in turn sold to Jas. Jackson about the year 1865. Mr. Jackson lived here until his death, and Judge Speer bought back the Oakland farm from Mr. Jackson's heirs, and lived there until his death.

"About 1857, Henry Harrell moved from Alabama, and settled on a farm in what is now the city of Winter Garden, and lived there until 1865, when he sold out to William Mills from Tennessee, and moved to Marion County. Mr. Mills sold part of this farm to S. W. Sigler from north Georgia, and after about ten years, Mr. Sigler sold out and moved back to Georgia.

"About 1857, Murray Hudson settled and cleared up a farm north of, and adjoining, the farm afterwards occupied by Mr. Sigler. In 1859, Mr. Hudson sold his farm to Henry Kirby, from middle Florida; the Hudsons, Isaac and Murray, moved to Texas in the fall of 1859. The Murray Hudson farm was at Crown Point and the land along the lake is now covered by fine orange groves, owned by the Minors, Mr. Vick, T. J. McKey and others. Mr. Kirby moved to Columbia County during the Civil War.

"Dr. J. D. Starke was living on the farm north of the Murray Hudson farm in 1860, he having settled on this place about 1857. During the Civil War, Dr. Starke raised the company in which he enlisted, but before leaving for the army, he moved his slaves to West Apopka and settled a farm there; this is now Montverde.

"The people mentioned are all that were living along the south side of Lake Apopka in 1860.

"Corn, cotton, sugar cane and sweet potatoes were the only crops raised in those early days, cotton for a money crop and the others principally for home use. Some sugar was shipped out, but not much. A good deal of corn was raised, and sold from the farms around the south side of the lake, the stockmen coming from as far south as one hundred miles to this section to buy corn. The cotton was hauled to Mellonville and shipped to Savannah and Charleston for sale, the growers often going with the cotton, and when sold buying such supplies as cloth, shoes, coffee and flour. There was no need to buy meat, as everybody had plenty of hogs in the woods, most had cattle on the range, and such as did not have these could take their rifles, go to the woods, and in a few hours load up with game, which at that time was very plentiful, while the lakes abounded with fish, as they do yet, for that matter.



"According to the best of my recollection, there was not a church or school house in Orange County in 1860, certainly there was neither on south Apopka. We used to have preaching services in my father's home; later, a bush arbor was put up where preaching was held once a month. In the fall of 1865, Captain B. M. Sims came to south Apopka from east Tennessee, just out of the army; my father, William Mills and S. W. Sigler employed him to teach school for a year. This school was held in a vacant house where J. W. F. Bray now lives, near Winter Garden; I am sure that this was the first school taught on south Apopka, and was the first school I attended in Florida. Two or three years later a log school house was built in the Beulah settlement, where Captain Sims taught for two or three terms.

"The first church was also built in the Beulah settlement, about three miles south of Winter Garden. This church was built of split logs, and answered for a church for several years. There was no lumber to be had at that time, my father's sawmill, grist mill, cotton gin and sugar mill having been destroyed by fire in the fall of 1867; this left no other sawmill in the county. However, before our mill was burned, we sawed the lumber for the first frame court house in Orlando; Captain Sims was the contractor.

"In 1870, Rev. J. G. Tyson built a home and settled on Starke Lake, and soon after other families moved there. My wife took up a homestead adjoining Mr. Tyson; in 1885 I platted our land into town lots and named it Ocoee, after a small town in east Tennessee where my wife was raised. In 1900 I sold out and moved to New Smyrna.

"When we came to Florida, the nearest post office was Mellonville, but about that time a star-route was established between Mellonville and Orlando; then my father succeeded in getting a mail route from Orlando to Sumterville, in Sumter County. The only post office on the line at that time was in our house, and it was called Oakland. This mail route connected at Sumterville with a stage route from Gainesville to Tampa. The nearest railroad station was at Gainesville.

"During the Civil War, the steamboats were taken off the St. Johns River; then we had no transportation at all and were compelled to live on what was produced at home. We raised plenty to eat, but could not get flour and coffee; our women made the cloth at home for our clothes; occasionally, a blockade runner to Nassau would bring in some cotton thread which was eagerly taken by the women to weave into cloth. My father put up a tannery and we made our own shoes.



"In the spring of 1861, my father took me with him to Orlando; on the way we met the mail carrier and he told us of Fort Sumter having been fired on. When we arrived in Orlando, the court was in session. The court house was a hewed log affair, the first built in the county. There were two log stores on the east side of the court house square; one was empty and the other had a few goods and was kept by Henry Roberson. There was a frame house north of the court house owned by J. R. Worthington and used as a boarding house; here the judge and lawyers boarded when holding court. There was one other house northeast of the court house. J. P. Hughey lived on a small farm in the southwest part of the settlement; he was clerk of the court, and carried the mail to Mellonville once a week. This was Orlando in 1861."

The descendents of W. C. Roper have played an important part in the development of west Orange County. He had eleven children, four of whom are still living. Four grandsons, Bert, Oscar, Frank and Fred, (See biographical sketches in Part Two of this work,) and their cousin Roy Roper, are actively engaged in the citrus industry in Winter Garden.

In 1889, Dr. Wylie, Mr. Roland and J. B. Staten of Valdosta, Georgia, bought from the Hudson estate through Judge Speer, several hundred acres of choice land, mostly hammock, along the shores of Lake Apopka, which they used in vegetable and citrus growing up to the time of the freeze of 1894-95. Soon after this, they sold the property to John T. Fuller from Tennessee who gave careful attention to the property. After his death it was sold to the Standard Growers who have made a marked success of the groves.

The following interesting account of the pioneer days in west Orange County has been contributed by Mr. William P. Blakely of Ocoee, a sketch of whose life may be found in the Biographical section of this work, Part Two.

"During the Civil War when very nearly all the citizens of the United States were engaged in fratricidal strife, several enterprising spirits hied themselves down here to the shores of Lake Apopka, bringing their slaves with them, to engage in the peaceful pursuit of cotton growing, thinking, doubtless, that it was the opportunity of their lives to amass fortunes. Among these men were the Hudsons, the Pignes, the Ellerbys and Dr. J. D. Starke.

"Dr. Starke, finding himself and many of his slaves stricken with malaria, moved out from the hammocks of Lake Apopka, and established his camp in the beautiful, open pine woods on the shores of the lake which still bears his name, Starke Lake. Here they were



free from malaria. They found that the clear waters of this sand-bottom lake were good even for drinking. They all regained their wonted good health, and they worked in the cotton fields on Lake Apopka during the day, and retired to this haven of rest at night.

"After the war, very nearly all these men returned to the states from which they had come, though several of them acquired title to the lands they had been cultivating, before they left Florida.

"It so happened that the place where Dr. Starke had established his camp on Starke Lake became the nucleus around which the present town of Ocoee began to grow. For several years the name of the post office was Starke Lake.

"After the departure of the war-time cotton growers, settlers began to come in and take up homesteads. Among these were Charles Darley, the Chambers brothers, Miss Ella Duncan, Miss Mamie Tyson, J. C. Hooks, Mrs. Mary J. Roper, Josiah Vining, Wm. A. Dann, Mr. Dann, Sr., Hamp Walker, S. M. Witty, J. S. Witty, Reuben Kaigler, and others. Several of these original homesteaders abandoned their claims without complying with the homestead law, and after the proper legal procedure the lands were re-homesteaded by T. J. Sanders, R. W. Kelley, Wm. P. Blakely, Capt. J. A. Harris and others.

"Among the early settlers in the vicinity of Starke Lake where Ocoee now stands, were in the year 1881 James G. Tyson, Capt. B. M. Sims, R. B. F. Roper, Reuben Kaigler, Mrs. M. A. Brannon, the Miller family, J. S. Witty, T. D. Pennington, Wm. A. Dann, John Hughey, and the widow Brown and daughter, originally from Covington, Ga. Of these heads of families, all are dead except Capt. B. M. Sims and R. B. F. Roper. Capt. Sims still lives here within one hundred feet of where he lived in 1881, having made that spot his home during all these intervening years. He is now in his ninety-first year and is quite feeble. R. B. F. Roper lives in New Smyrna.

"The first school at Starke Lake was taught in the year 1880 by Mrs. E. D. M. Perkins whose home was within the present limits of Winter Garden. In 1882 Wm. P. Blakely reorganized the school, and taught it for twelve consecutive years. There were never over forty-five pupils enrolled at any one time during that period. This year, 1927, there were over 500 pupils enrolled, and the city boasts of one large frame school house and two magnificent brick school buildings valued at \$150,000. The school is recognized as one of the best in the state as to both its primary and high school departments.



"Perhaps the first tomatoes and cucumbers grown commercially in south Florida were produced in 1879 and 1880, by Capt. B. M. Sims at Starke Lake, and by Judge J. G. Speer at Oakland. As to citrus fruits, the growing of them was confined principally to the few that were produced in the yards about the primitive dwellings of the settlers though at this time the elder Mr. Dann had a regular grove of orange trees in full bearing, and Capt. B. M. Sims had seven acres in full bearing and some twenty acres of trees which had almost reached the profitable bearing stage. The crops from these groves were sold in bulk at so much per thousand fruits. They were hauled in wagons to Clay Springs, placed on barges and floated down the Wekiwa river to the St. Johns and shipped thence by steamer to the various markets. It was not until about the year 1880 that the orange box came into use. The sides for the boxes were shipped from Bangor, Maine, and the heads were made at local sawmills, by sawing twelve inch boards into twelve inch lengths. One of these mills was located at Apopka, at that time more frequently referred to as The Lodge, the Masonic Hall being located there. The other mill was at Mayo, near Maitland. This mill also boasted an ice factory, one of the few then in Florida.

"The settlers in the Starke Lake region, back in the 80's, relied for sustenance principally upon sweet potato patches, sugar cane patches, and the cow range. There was considerable corn grown, but the weevils were bad, and good corn bread could be enjoyed for only a few months during the year, from the home grown product. Flour cost twelve dollars per barrel in Orlando, and it had to be hauled from there over the sandy roads. It took one whole day to go to Orlando and return. By ox-team it took one day to go and a day to return, or rather a day to go and a night to return, for very few of us could afford to pay board and lodging over night. If we remained over night, we usually drove out to the shore of one of the numerous lakes and camped till the next morning.

"The first thing to stir up the settlers and to put new life into them, was the building of the railroad through this part of Orange County in 1885-86. There were two prospective railroads that furnished themes for conversation in the homes, in the fields, while traveling along the sandy roads, and I was about to say, during religious services, but I won't say that. These railroads were the Florida Midland Railway and the Orange Belt Railroad. They became household words, and the little babies learned to lisp them. Mr. John Dorr of Boston, was to build the Florida Midland Railway and Mr. Demens, a Russian, was the builder of the Orange Belt Railroad. The Florida Midland was to be a broad gauge road to



connect the navigable waters of the upper St. Johns at Lake Jesup with deep water on the Gulf of Mexico, probably at Boca Grande. The Orange Belt Railroad was to run between Lake Monroe at Sanford and deep water somewhere on the Pinellas peninsula. Starke Lake had the choice of these two railroads, and, through Capt. Sims its leader, the Florida Midland Railway was chosen, as it was to be a broad gauge road and the Orange Belt only a narrow gauge concern. But Mr. Dorr became bankrupt, and succeeded in building his road only from Longwood to Kissimmee, while the Russian succeeded in putting his road through and in founding a city at its terminus on deep water, which he named for the capital of his native country, St. Petersburg. This road was finally made a standard gauge railroad, while the Midland road shrank, so to speak, to a narrow gauge road of the most diminutive proportions, and remained in this sad plight for a number of years, until the Atlantic Coast Line made it a good modern standard gauge road. But Starke Lake was thoroughly aroused. It sloughed off its old name in 1886, and came forth as the butterfly from the chrysalis, under the new name of Ocoee which is an Indian word meaning 'no cold.' This was, as stated in the year 1886. A real estate firm sprang into existence composed of Dr. H. K. Clarke, Chas. J. Chun, and R. B. F. Roper. The city of Ocoee was duly laid out and the plat recorded. There were white stakes everywhere over three square miles. Several families moved in at this time and built some creditable homes, among them Dr. H. K. Clarke, and General Wm. T. Withers. Others whose descendents are today among our most worthy citizens, as the Maguires, Bigelows, Minors, Hawthornes, Pounds, Moores, Eckles and others, came about this time. But notwithstanding our little city was under the protection of the magic name which, as we have said, means 'no cold,' in December, 1886, there came a baby blizzard which caused the oranges to freeze and drop from the trees. This was a stunning blow. We had not been taught to expect such weather. Had not the writer been here five years and had he not testified time and again that there had only been a few slight frosts during that period? And such a thing as frost here must have been very exceptional, for did not the map of Florida gotten up by Major Marks, show the 'frost line' drawn across the state in the latitude of Palatka? Surely no damage could be expected from cold so far south of that line as Ocoee is. But there were the frozen oranges. One could not put his foot down in Mr. Tyson's grove without stepping on one of them. We were all discouraged. The real estate firm immediately went out of business. We were ruined! There could not possibly be any come-back to Florida!



"And now when we look back over the intervening years to the year 1886 and see what has been accomplished, how much fruit and how many vegetables have been produced and sold at good prices, enriching the growers beyond their most extravagant imaginings, and this too, notwithstanding the fact that we have had several blizzards in this period more devastating than was the blizzard of 1886, we should not be disheartened by any present passing disaster.

"As we have said, the new town of Ocoee had this rough experience while it was still in its swaddling clothes. It has had many others since, just as all other localities on this globe have had and will continue to have from time to time throughout the ages to come, but the south has continued to grow slowly and steadily all these years. Like the oak tree, the storms only serve to strengthen it. Ocoee is in the midst of one of the best vegetable and fruit sections in Florida. It has two large packing houses, one of which is almost if not quite as large as any in the state. It is served by both the Atlantic Coast Line and the Seaboard Air Line Railroads. It has many stores and several churches, and its schools are among the best in the state.

"The first church in the settlement was a Methodist church. There was preaching once a month, the worshipers meeting under a brush arbor when the weather was fair, and in a hut with only three sides to it in inclement weather. It was in this hut that Mrs. Perkins, followed by Wm. P. Blakely, taught their first schools; and it was by order of one of these leaders of thought, that the south wall of the house was torn away to let the heat from a log-heap in to warm the children on chilly days. The Methodist Camp Ground was located about a mile and a half southeast of Starke Lake. Here the people gathered from all points of the compass for a hundred miles around. Sometimes the meetings would continue for two or more weeks and many were converted by the Reverend Mr. Giles, Mr. J. G. Tyson, and others.

"The first store worthy of the name was owned and conducted by James Hughey, Jr., son of James P. Hughey, who for many years was clerk of the Circuit Court in Orlando. Mr. Hughey carried a very good stock of groceries and some dry-goods and hardware; but when a settler got together enough money to buy as much as a barrel of flour, he usually went to Orlando for it."

There may be added to Mr. Blakely's interesting reminiscences, the following account of Capt. B. M. Sims, now approaching his ninety-first birthday, which is taken by permission from Mr. C. E. Howard's booklet, *Early*



Settlers of Orange County. A brief sketch of Capt. Sims' life may be found in Part Two of this work:

"When the war came on, most of the settlers left, the negroes being freed. Capt. Sims rented fifty acres of Dr. Starke's plantation and planted cotton and corn. He raised 2,000 pounds of cotton and 1,000 bushels of corn, selling the cotton for \$2,000. While he was cultivating the crop, he bought a piece of wild hammock land on Lake Apopka, with wild orange trees. He cut the wild trees off and put sweet buds in the stumps, and planted a citrus nursery, which was probably the first commercial citrus nursery in the United States. He has kept that business up to the present time (1915), furnishing trees for almost all the large old groves in this part of the state, and shipping a great many to California. He is probably the only man living who was selling oranges and trees of his own raising in 1870. When the 'big freeze' came, he owned sixty acres of bearing grove, after having sold thirty acres for \$30,000. At that time, he owned stock in the Citizens' National Bank of Orlando, and was one of the directors. The freeze caused the bank to break, and the stockholders had their stock doubled on them and lost it all. He is the oldest Freemason in the county, and was once district deputy Grand Master for the state."

The author is indebted to Mr. A. B. Newton, first merchant and first mayor of Winter Garden, for the following items of information:

Mr. Newton came to Winter Garden from Mississippi in 1892. At that time there were only a half-dozen dwellings within the territorial limits of what is now Winter Garden. A small railroad station, some twelve by sixteen feet in size, with a platform along the tracks, had been built about two years prior to his arrival, and given the name by which it is still known. Near where the present station stands was a small saw mill, owned by a Mr. Pennington; this saw mill continued to operate for about four years longer, and furnished the lumber for the first store, which was built for Mr. Newton's use.

Just outside Winter Garden, and within a mile, there were some eight or ten additional houses, while only two miles to the southward, centered one of the really old neighborhoods of this part of Florida, Beulah, where a number of pioneers had settled prior to the Civil War.

On the Bart Ream's place, there were orange trees which were said to be seventy-five years old; these trees were killed to the ground by the "big freeze" in 1894-95. This ancient community is still known as Beulah; it furnished what might be called the background for Winter Garden, many



of whose most prominent and respected citizens are descended from these early settlers.

Mr. Newton succeeded in getting a postoffice established in 1893, and a few months later was made station agent for the Orange Belt Railroad, shortly afterward an express office was established. The Orange Belt, an account of whose promotion and building is given elsewhere, was a narrow-gauge road; is was later absorbed by the Plant System and afterward became a part of the Atlantic Coast Line and was made standard gauge.

The Tavares and Gulf Railroad was extended from Oakland to Winter Garden about 1898; it is now a part of the Seaboard Air Line system.

Winter Garden was incorporated as a town in 1908; the following officers were chosen at the first election: Mr. A. B. Newton, mayor; Mr. G. T. Smith, clerk; Mr. J. S. Merritt, marshal; and Messrs. G. J. Strozier, J. L. Dillard, R. R. Roper, B. T. Boyd and L. D. Jones, aldermen. About the same time the first bank was established, and ten years later, a second bank.

Winter Garden has a live Chamber of Commerce, a Cooperative Club, composed of the younger business men of the city; a flourishing Woman's Club, Baptist, Methodist and Presbyterian churches, and excellent schools. The new high school building is among the finest in the state.

No where in Florida, perhaps, can more striking examples be found of the determining influence which a few sagacious and high-minded pioneers can exert on the subsequent development of a region or a town than may be seen in two communities in Orange County, Winter Park and Winter Garden. It is these pioneers who set the pace; they create the moulds in which the life of the community tends to run; they provide ideals, teaching, example and incentive; they attract other settlers of like sort. Their influence may be wholly or mainly good, or they may eat sour grapes and set the teeth of children and neighbors on edge—"unto the third and fourth generations," so the infallible promise runs, and the warning.

It will not seem invidious if three such fathers of west Orange County be particularly mentioned, Captain B. M. Sims, school-teacher and agriculturist; Judge J. G. Speer, civic leader and publicist; and Mr. L. F. Tilden, pioneer of industry. Biographical sketches of Captain Sims and Judge Speer may be found in Part Two of this work.

Luther Fuller Tilden, still living at Tildenville at the age of ninety-three years, was born in Vermont, and inherited the sterling and sturdy characteristics of his New England forbears. He spent his early life in Illinois and came to Orange County in 1875, and bought 160 acres of land at Apopka. He later purchased a large acreage fronting on Lake Apopka at what is now Tildenville, removed to that tract, and began the process of



development which has made the name of Winter Garden so appropriate in later times—it is, indeed, a “garden spot.”

Mr. Tilden's eldest son, Charles Herbert, followed in his father's footsteps and is now one of the largest landowners and orange growers in the region; he lives at Oakland; his wife, Anna E. Sadler Tilden, is the granddaughter of the distinguished pioneer of Orange County, Judge J. G. Speer, who gave its attractive name to Orlando, and whose influence throughout the county was so potent. Another son, Mr. Luther Willis Tilden, who now cultivates many hundred of acres of citrus groves and truck farms and whose services as County Commissioner, member of the School Board, one of the founders and officers of the Florida Citrus Exchange, director of various organizations connected with the financing and marketing of citrus fruits, trustee of Rollins College, president of the Board of Governors of the Orange General Hospital, and in manifold other relations and activities, have been of inestimable value in the development along constructive lines of his community, the county, and the state. A daughter of L. F. Tilden is the wife of Mr. A. W. Hurley, also an extensive grower of citrus fruits and vegetables, and a son of C. H. Tilden is Judge Wilbur L. Tilden, a leading attorney and jurist of Orlando. A grandson of Judge Speer, Mr. J. H. Sadler, formerly treasurer of Orange County, lives at Oakland, as do his eight children; Mr. Sadler is very extensively engaged in fruit and vegetable growing; a sketch of his life appears in Part Two of this work.



## CHAPTER VIII

### APOPKA

**A**POPKA derives its name from the great lake, the second largest body of fresh water in Florida, which lies four miles to the south of the present town, and the lake, in turn, was named for the tribe of Indians, the Apopkans, who lived on its northeastern shores from immemorial times. These Indians are reputed to have been peaceful and industrious, though often forced to defend themselves against attacks by hostile tribes.

Prior to the Civil War, a number of settlers from Georgia and other southern states, moved into the region, some of them bringing negro slaves with them, attracted by the fertile soil, and engaged in the growing of corn, cotton, sugar cane, sweet potatoes, and other crops, and the raising of cattle and hogs. Some of them went away during or after the war, but the marks of the early cultivation may still be seen.

Among these early settlers were the Buchans, the Lovells, the Stewarts, the Delks, the MacFaddens, and the Shaws. The only one of the first settlers still living in Apopka is Mrs. M. S. Buchan, who came from Georgia with her father's family when a young girl. Mrs. Buchan is now ninety years of age and lives with her youngest son, Mr. Chip Buchan, four miles north of Apopka, on the road to Rock Spring. She has lived in this neighborhood continuously for more than eighty years, except for a period during the Civil War, when the family moved to the East Coast, near the present site of Indian River City. When they returned to Apopka, they came by way of the St. Johns River to Sanford and the Wekiwa River to Wekiwa Springs, then known as Clay Springs. They constructed a barge on the St. Johns River, on which they bestowed all their belongings, including several barrels of salt which had been evaporated from sea water. The barge was floated down the St. Johns and paddled up the Wekiwa, and the salt was sold to their neighbors at a handsome profit. As illustrating the conditions which prevailed after the Civil War, it may be mentioned that Mr. W. A. Lovell, who kept a store in Apopka, sold five bales of cotton which had been raised prior to the war, for \$4,375.

Other early settlers were Mr. David B. Stewart, who served as county commissioner for many years; Mr. M. A. Jeffcoat, who was a local Methodist preacher and a grove owner; John and Edward Bradshaw, brothers of Colonel J. N. Bradshaw, of Orlando—Edward Bradshaw was later mayor of St. Petersburg; Judge W. A. Mills, a striking



character, who with his son Columbus ran a sawmill, grist mill and cotton gin by water power on Mill creek; Mr. Lawrence Hughey from Fort Reed, who opened the first store; and Mr. J. J. Combs, who drove a mule team from North Carolina to Apopka in 1876, and who kept a store, at first in the front room of his house and afterward in the Lodge building, and who was mayor of the town. Mr. Combs and his wife are still living in Miami with their son, Walter H. Combs. Mr. W. A. Lovell kept a dry goods store about this time. Honorable James L. Giles, afterward twice mayor of Orlando, was a clerk in this store at the age of ten years. Mr. Lovell left the business with his youthful assistant for some months, during his absence from Apopka, and James purchased five thousand cigars of a traveling man, on condition that they should be labeled Giles' Best. On his return, Mr. Lovell was much disturbed by this transaction, but the supply of Giles Best cigars was exhausted within a year's time.

For many years Apopka was known as The Lodge, the name Apopka being adopted in the year 1887. The reason for this rather curious name is this; Dr. Zelotus H. Mason and Peter Buchan, influential members of the Masonic fraternity, lived in Apopka, and led in the organization of a Masonic lodge, which secured a charter in 1856. There was at that time no other lodge in Orange County, though the master Masons of the region had been holding meetings for several years at Barnhart's Mill, and afterward in the home of John L. Stewart. On November 26, 1858, a building committee was appointed, consisting of John R. Worthington, Amos Newton, Mathew A. Stewart, Demit A. Newton and J. L. Stewart, and on October 21, 1859, "the new building was presented to the lodge with appropriate ceremonies."\*

In this building meetings were held always "on the Friday before the full moon" from "two o'clock to candle light," and these meetings were attended by Masons from Orlando, Sanford, Kissimmee, Tavares, Sorrento, Fort Mason and other settlements, far and near. The first officers of the lodge were: Judge James G. Speer, worshipful master; L. A. Newton, senior warden; J. S. Stewart, junior warden; E. M. Hudson, senior deacon; William L. Delk, junior deacon; John L. Stewart, secretary; and Robert Barnhart, tiler.

The Lodge is still standing in Apopka, a monument to the early days, and the second floor is still used as a lodge room.

Major W. A. Delk came from Liberty County, Georgia, in the forties, first to a site on the St. Johns river, then moving to Mississippi, and finally returning to Rock Spring, six miles north of the present Apopka, where he built a home and engaged extensively in farming. He

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\*See an article on Apopka by Mr. R. G. Grassfield in the Orlando Morning Sentinel of August 14, 1927.



brought nineteen slaves with him. He hauled his supplies from Hawk-insville on the St. Johns river, a distance of eighteen miles. His house of logs, just north of the spring, was burned down, and another shack was built, the foundations of which may be still seen. He built a dam and operated a mill with a bucket water wheel. He cultivated a hundred acres of cotton, and considerable areas of sugar cane and rice. Major Delk was an old line Whig, and encountered more or less suspicion during the Civil War, he failed to pay his taxes and lost his property. He freed his slaves and moved away; the negroes floated down the Wekiwa river, were picked up by a Federal gunboat on the St. Johns, and were taken north, where they joined the Union Army. Major Delk died in 1885, and was buried in a rough box in Apopka.

Joseph G. Roberts, the mulatto son of Major Delk, who later homesteaded land near Sorrento and afterward at Mt. Dora, an intelligent and prosperous negro, not long ago visited the old plantation at Rock Spring, in company with Mr. Wm. Edwards and Mr. A. M. Hall, editor of the Apopka Chief, and told a very interesting story of life as he knew it there in the days prior to the Civil War; this story was published in the Chief of May 13, 1926. Mr. Hall relates that the old negro stood by the spring with bared head, and chanted this greeting and farewell:

"Best greetings, Mr. Rock,  
Howdedo, Mrs. Spring!  
From whence you come, I do not know,  
From whence you came in the beginning.  
And whence do you flow, we do not know.  
Blessings for years you have continued to bring.  
Wherefore you are known as Old Rock Spring.  
For, lo, many years did I here remain,  
This you may know, it is old friend Joe,  
Who worked here so long, midst sorrow and woe.  
Good night, old spring, forever."

This spring, six miles north of Apopka, with the land surrounding it, is one of the most charming spots in Florida. From beneath a huge limestone rock, the water pours forth some 26,000 gallons a minute. The spring, and more than two hundred acres of the beautiful country surrounding it, were recently acquired by Dr. Howard A. Kelly of Baltimore, and given to Orange County as a public park, on condition that the native features of the area be forever retained untouched. The Board of County Commissioners have purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land adjoining the property, and the three hundred and sixty-two acres have been named the Howard A. Kelly Memorial Park.

Apopka was incorporated in 1882, as the Town of Apopka City; the first officials were: Mr. J. D. Fudge, mayor; Dr. G. L. Jones, clerk; Mr. T. A. Vick, marshal; and Messrs. J. F. Stillings, J. J. Combs and C. W.



Mills, aldermen. The commission form of government was adopted March 5, 1919, and still continues.

A school house was built in 1894, which was blown down in a storm in 1918. The present graded school building was erected in 1918, and the high school building was completed in 1925.

The Chamber of Commerce was organized about the year 1914, with some forty or fifty members; Mr. Frank Davis was the first president, and Mr. W. G. Talton secretary. A biographical sketch of Mr. Davis may be found in Part Two of this work. The Chamber now has about sixty members, and the officers are: Mr. C. Ellwood Kalbach, president; Mr. H. H. Witherington, vice-president; and Mr. J. W. Wray, secretary-treasurer; the directors are Messrs. H. H. Witherington, William Edwards, W. S. Chamberlain, W. G. Talton, J. D. Jewell, J. G. Grossenbacher, C. E. Crater and Norman W. Gould.

Apopka has four churches, the Presbyterian, built in 1886; the Protestant Episcopal, built as a Congregational Church about 1888 and purchased by the Episcopalians in 1902; the Baptist, built in 1907; and the Methodist Episcopal, built in 1922.

A very handsome and commodious hotel, the William Edwards, was built during the present year at a cost of approximately \$180,000, and is now open to the public.



## CHAPTER IX

### SOME SMALLER COMMUNITIES

#### GOtha

**G**OTHA was founded, as its name indicates, as a German settlement, and is an excellent example of the large and fine contribution to American life which immigrants from western Europe, intelligent, capable, sturdy, industrious, and lovers of beauty, have made.

The author is indebted to Mrs. Herman Bennin, of Gotha, daughter of Mr. H. A. Regener, one of the pioneers, for most of the following facts concerning the early and later development of the place; a sketch of Mr. Regener's life may be found in the Biographical section of this work, Part Two.

In 1876, this region was an almost unbroken stretch of woods, containing three families, those of Ed. Bann, Frank Murray and Gus. Mohr. Gotha had no name then, and the nearest postoffice was Orlando. Supplies were brought from Orlando by ox-teams, horses and mules not being known at this time, the trip taking five hours going and four hours returning.

The next settler was Mr. H. P. Belknap, of Cincinnati, then a young single man; Mr. Belknap was highly educated and engaged in teaching school, at what is now known as the Patrick settlement; it was then known as Robinson. These were the days when bear, panther and deer could be seen almost anywhere, and at almost any time.

In 1878, Mr. H. A. Hempel, of Buffalo, spent a few months in the neighborhood; he liked this wild section, and made it his home the following winter. In the meantime, the patent which Mr. Hempel had been working on, the quoin of the printing press, proved successful, and he received for it a considerable sum of money. After this, he decided that it would be a good thing to start a town on the present site of Gotha. Being of an adventurous nature, he began everything on a large scale. He purchased an extensive area of land from the government, and laid it out in a town plat. He had it in mind to found a German town, but was at a loss to decide what name to give it. Mr. Belknap suggested that it be named after Mr. Hempel's birthplace in Germany, Gotha, and so the new town was christened.

Mr. Hempel had to bring people to this new Gotha, and so sent pamphlets to many Northern cities, advertising the attractiveness and opportunities of the place. Among the first families to come after this, were Mr. B. Huppel, also a native of Gotha, Germany, who brought with him his young wife and small son; this son is now one of Orlando's well-known



business men, Mr. Al. Huppel; Mr. J. Huppel and Mr. G. Huppel of Orlando are also sons of this Gotha pioneer. Both the father and mother are now dead, and buried in Gotha. The next to come was Mr. L. Hartman; he has a family of six daughters and one son, most of whom are now living in Tampa; Mr. and Mrs. Hartman are still true to Gotha. Mr. Harry Moore, Mr. H. A. Regener, and Mr. L. Wichtendahl then followed, Mr. Moore coming from Cincinnati; also, Mr. C. P. Belknap. Mr. Wichtendahl came from Lincoln, Nebraska; he has a family of five sons and daughters, of whom Gotha is proud, most of them now living in Orlando. Mr. Wichtendahl served as clerk of the Orange County Criminal Court for many years; he died four years ago, a man who numbered his friends by his acquaintances. Mr. H. A. Regener came from Philadelphia, arriving in that city from Bremen, Germany, a few years before. He was in the shoe business in Philadelphia, and his health failed, his physician telling him that he had only a few years to live if he remained in the North. He happened on one of Mr. Hempel's pamphlets and came to Gotha, for his health's sake mainly, though of course, like many others, seeking wealth, too. He brought a young wife and three children; one of these is H. H. Regener, of Tampa; another, Mrs. H. Benin, who still clings to Gotha; and the third, a son, A. H. Regener, who was born in Gotha and still lives there.

After these families arrived, Mr. Hempel had to give them employment, and so he started planting citrus trees, set up a saw mill, and opened a grocery store. He paid a mail-carrier from Orlando out of his own pocket, so that the people of the settlement might get their mail. Mr. Hempel also brought the first mule team to Gotha, and everything went humming to the tune of hammers and saws. Homes were built, and many of the first residences in Winter Park, Maitland and Altamonte Springs were built of lumber hauled from this saw mill in Gotha.

In 1887, a Lutheran Church was built; it had quite a large membership for years, but most of the Lutherans having died or moved away, it has now a very small congregation.

Mr. Miseland was in charge of the store. Mr. Moretze, Mr. Barthells, Mr. Patchns, Mr. Busch, Mr. Rausch, and many others from different states, mainly of German origin, came during the eighties. In 1886, the Turnverein was organized, with thirty or more members, and a fine hall was built; here all the families, quite after the good old German fashion, gathered for amusements, dancing, athletics, bowling and the like. Mr. and Mrs. Harry Newell's orchestra furnished the music for these festivities.

After Mr. Miseland decided to go into farming and fruit growing, he sold his store to Mr. Chas. Koehne, who came from Indianapolis. He brought two sons, Louis and Will, and five daughters, the Misses Anna, Minna, Lillie, Adele, and Alma. Mr. Koehne died, and Mrs. Koehne and her



children are still living in Indianapolis. Mr. Koehne was greatly interested in the affairs of the town, where he lived for many years, and did much for its betterment.

In 1885, Mr. H. P. Belknap was the first school teacher, the school building being a small log hut. A few years later, the Turnverein gave a lot and built a neat frame building for a school house, which was turned over to the county about twenty years ago.

In the meantime, Mr. Hempel erected a home, one of the most beautiful and modern for miles around. The "big freeze" impaired his financial resources, and he had to sell his saw mill, though he kept his grove for many years afterward. He later sold his home to Mr. J. E. Mosley, who after some years sold it to Mr. H. Wendel, of Chicago; this home was burned several years ago but was replaced by a very pretty modern residence. Mr. Hempel died in Buffalo some ten years ago.

A good many more young men and families came from the North seeking their fortunes, and many new groves were set out; the "big freeze" disheartened the people, many families left Gotha, and the place suffered a very serious set-back. A few kept up heart, and brought their groves back into good bearing condition; among those who remained were the Wichtendahls, Huppels, Hartmans, Regeners, Nehrlings, Hempels, Belknaps, Harry and Gus. Mohr. A good many wealthy people from Chicago, Milwaukee, Louisville and other Northern cities made their winter homes in Gotha, and this helped the place greatly, as it gave employment to the people. Among those who came to Gotha about this time, was Mr. H. Wilkening from Kansas. Mr. Wilkening had poor health, but was full of energy, and built up a fine farm; he has done more for the development of Gotha than any other late comer. He has erected a business block, in which is a garage, grocery store, and drug store, and he has put up a water-plant for the use of the community, and is always ready to help in any new project.

Gotha has now fifty families, a good schoolhouse, a church and a postoffice. Mr. Klein, of Ohio, now conducts the store, which was known as Koehne's store in the early days. A new schoolhouse is under construction at present. The Gotha Ladies' Club and Community House is the most important thing on the program just now.

Only six of the pioneers are now living in Gothia; Messrs. H. C. Moore, H. A. Mohr, H. P. Belknap, H. A. Regener, L. Hartman and C. P. Belknap.

To these reminiscences by Mrs. Bennin, may be added the following account of a former resident of Gotha.

Mr. Henry Nehrling, a native of Wisconsin and the son of immigrants from Erfurt, Germany, came to Gotha in 1883. He had been a teacher in Chicago and in Texas. Mr. Nehrling's ten-acre garden in Gotha



was for a number of years one of the show places of central Florida, filled with trees and shrubs native to the state, and imported from China and Japan. The *Amaryllis*, largely hybridized by Mr. Nehrling, and especially the 150,000 *Caladiums*, of about 2,000 distinct varieties, many of them originated by Mr. Nehrling and named for his lady friends—among these Mrs. Jessie M. Thayer (O'Neal), Mrs. Frances Laughlin, Mrs. W. L. Palmer and Mrs. H. L. Beeman, residents of Orange County—constituted a resplendent spectacle, never to be forgotten by those who saw them.

Mr. Nehrling is also a student and lover of birds. His work in two sumptuous volumes, entitled *Native Birds of Song and Beauty*—issued also in German with the title *Die Nordamerikanische Vogelwelt*—to which he devoted some eighteen years of research and observation, was published in 1889—96.

Mr. Nehrling now resides in Venice, Florida.

#### ZELLWOOD

The first settlers in what is now Zellwood appear to have been Mr. Frank Gill, who located on Grasmere Lake; Mr. Frank Goolsby, whose home was also on Grasmere Lake; and a Mr. Neal. These pioneers cleared small areas of land, and planted orange groves and gardens.

Col. T. Elwood Zell, a publisher of Philadelphia—Zell's *Cyclopedia* will doubtless be remembered by some of our older readers—discovered this lovely region of lakes and hills in 1875 or '76, and for a time made his winter home here with his brother-in-law and business associate, Mr. John A. Williamson. The son of Mr. Williamson, Mr. A. D. Williamson, now a resident of Bradenton, gives an account of the early days in an article by Mr. R. G. Grassfield in the *Orlando Morning Sentinel* of April 24, 1927:

"Mr. Williamson and his wife and three children left Philadelphia, going by way of steamer to Jacksonville, and then up the St. Johns River to Sanford and from there to their future home. They arrived at Zellwood on October 28, 1876. The thirty mile trip from Sanford to Zellwood across the country took fifteen hours.

"The Williamsons made their home with Daniel H. Fleming in the Neal home. Mr. Fleming had made arrangements with Mr. Neal to house the newcomers for a period of seven weeks. In the meantime workmen were in the woods, hewing logs on three sides, and the new house was rapidly put under roof. At the end of seven weeks the Williamson family moved into their new home. The house was without doors or windows, and the first cooking was done over a fire outside of the house. In this manner and under these circumstances, the pioneer life of the Williamsons began. I recall



seeing deer grazing not far from the house. I was a boy of seven years at that time.

"Colonel Zell and Mr. Williamson married sisters, and when the Zells came to Florida, they made their home with the Williamsons. This continued for several winters. Col. Zell subsequently built his home near the Williamson home and this house is one of the oldest dwellings in Zellwood. Col. Zell adopted the name Zellwood for his home and this name was formally adopted by the residents for the name of the community.

"During the early part of 1876, R. G. Robinson, a native of Kentucky came to Zellwood and settled on the southeast corner of Lake Maggiore. The land he owned was at one time the property of Zackery Taylor, from whom Mr. Robinson secured the piece. Mr. Robinson was a near relative of the former president of the United States. Mr. Robinson brought his family to Zellwood in November, 1876 and thus, the Robinsons, the Williamsons and D. H. Fleming were the pioneer settlers of Zellwood. Another who came a little later to become a part of the community life and to engage with the others in the growing of citrus fruits was George C. Welby, the son of the poetess, Amelia Welby, of Louisville.

"With the completion of the Williamson home, it became the social center of the community. Religious services, private theatricals and dances were held. People from as far as Eustis and Apopka came to take part in the frequent entertainments.

"With the founding of Zellwood there was no idea of establishing a community of retired army officers; however, Colonel George Foote and Captain D. A. Irwin bought property from Colonel Zell and lived in Zellwood up to 1895. Colonel Foote engaged in the growing of citrus fruit until he returned to Washington. Captain Charles Sellmer brought his family to Zellwood, coming there through the influence of Mr. Robinson. He engaged in the citrus growing industry and in the real estate business. Captain Sellmer was not retired from the army until a number of years after he came, but he returned to Zellwood upon his retirement and died in his Zellwood home.

"During these years the small homes could not accommodate boarders, so the Williamson home became the place where those who came to found homes remained until they could erect homes of their own. Among those who made their homes with the Williamson family while their new homes were under construction were the Laughlins, Loraines, Footes, Irwins and a number of others. Not only the house but the barn and its loft also became the home of these early newcomers to Zellwood. The hospitality of the early pioneers was



complete. The burden was shared by all, but upon those sturdy women of early Zellwood fell the greatest cares. Not one of them had known hardships, for they came from comfortable convenient northern homes into a new country, in order that the course of empire might be broadened."

One of the early settlers was a Mr. Davenport, an attorney and mayor of Kansas City, and one of Theodore Roosevelt's trusted lieutenants in his campaign for the presidency. He built a home on Lake Maggiore, and was killed by a fall from the tower of his water-tank. His daughter, Edith Fairfax Davenport, is a artist of distinction; an exhibition of her paintings was given some four years ago, in the Albertson Public Library of Orlando.

"Between the years 1882 and 1888 Zellwood grew considerably. It was during this period that Mr. James Laughlin, Jr., and family came to Zellwood and acquired considerable property. Another who came was W. O. Hughart, president of the Grand Rapids and Indiana Railway, and his family. Yet others were: J. O. Loraine, of Philadelphia; Hill Burgwin and family, of Pittsburgh; J. W. Paul and family, also of Pittsburgh and Charles H. Baker, son-in-law of Mr. Paul, and for a number of years the accomplished Demonstration Agent of Orange County; Ethelbert Nevin, also a son-in-law of Mr. Paul and one of American's greatest musical composers came to Zellwood for the winters.

"The St. James Episcopal church was established in 1878 by Mrs. Williamson and Mrs. Robinson. The members of the community rived boards out of the woods and built the first church on the site where the school house now stands. This building was destroyed in a storm during the year 1882. Following this, services were held in the little log school house. Several years later the present church was constructed, then an addition was built and for many years members of all denominations worshipped here.

"R. G. Robinson was the first postmaster of Zellwood but held the office but a short time after the office was established. J. A. Williamson was given the appointment and he held the office for more than thirty years and until two weeks of his death in 1911."

There is perhaps in all Florida no more imposing and delightful estate than Sidonie, erected on the banks of Lake Maggiore by the late James Laughlin, Jr., of Pittsburg. All that owner, architect, builder, decorator and landscape engineer and gardener could devise, at whatever expense, went to the fashioning of this perfect estate and home. Mr. Laughlin was a member of the famous firm of Jones and Laughlin, iron-masters of Pittsburgh, a grad-



uate and trustee of Princeton University, a trustee and benefactor of Rollins College and a devoted member of the Presbyterian church.

The estate has long been in the competent care of Mr. William Edwards, whose charming home also overlooks Lake Maggiore. Mr. Edwards is president of the Orange County Chamber of Commerce, of the Bank of Apopka, and of the company which has recently erected the fine William Edwards Hotel in Apopka; a sketch of his life may be found in Part Two of this work.

#### TANGERINE\*

Many years ago on a pine-clad hill, overlooking the sparkling waters of the lake, there stood the camp of an Indian Chief. Here was the home of the red man; his swift darting canoe sped across the blue waters and the deer roamed the forest.

This was the site of the town of Tangerine and beautiful Lake Ola; the lake was named for the daughter of the Indian Chief.

Tangerine is a community including many miles of hills, valleys and lakes and also many citrus groves. The town comprises a store and filling station, the Congregational Church, a new school house, a health resort, a community hall and many homes. It is located in the extreme northwestern corner of Orange County. To the east is the Dixie Highway skirting the community and on the south Lake Ola. On the west, within the town, is Lake Angelina while further to the north and west lie Lakes Beauclair and Carlton. These lakes are part of the chain of lakes that constitute inland Florida's waterway. From Tangerine through these lakes and the St. Johns river on to the Atlantic, one may travel.

Tangerine was founded early in the seventies by Honorable Dudley W. Adams of Winchendon, Massachusetts. Seeking relief from bronchial trouble he visited Florida. He followed first the St. Johns river and the coast country and then started inland and spent two winters searching for the ideal spot in Florida. At last, one January evening, he came to the hills overlooking Lake Beauclair just as the sun was setting;

"In the radiant west, the magic glow,  
Reflects itself in the lake below;  
The rainbow clouds have each shining fold,  
Richly embroidered round with gold,  
O! where on earth is a scene more fair  
Than a sunset view on Lake Beauclair."

Mr. Adams writes of this occasion—"To the north, Lake Dora half encircled beautiful Beauclair in her crimson embrace, while to the south Ola and Carlton glistened through the pines like gems of purest water in

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\*This account of Tangerine has been contributed to this work by Mrs. Winifred Wood Estey, friend and former pupil of the author.



emerald settings. Among the health-giving pines, surrounded by lovely lakes to furnish sport to the angler and food to the hungry and bear our freight and pleasure yachts; here is Tangerine, our home, the gem of Florida."

Then came the pioneer days, filled with joys and hardships. They hewed from the wilderness, with their axes, their humble dwellings and traveled thirty miles to store and post office.

It was in 1875, that Mr. Adams located here. A man of character and ability, Past Master of the National Grange, a poet, a writer and a naturalist. He labored and watched until he saw the fulfillment of his dreams and an active village the result. He did not confine his efforts to the town but his influence was felt throughout the state and he served for several years as the president of the State Horticultural Society.

It was Miss Bessie Huestis, sister of Mr. Adams, who gave the community the name of Tangerine. Previous to this the place was known as Olaville but at a meeting of the citizens at the log cabin home of Miss Huestis, the name was changed to Tangerine; it was named from a tangerine tree growing near the door-step. This was in 1879. It is interesting to know that Lake Angelina was named for a half-sister of Mr. Adams.

In the early development of the place and prominently associated with Mr. Adams are the names of Mr. R. J. Wright and Mr. Lewis Marot.

Mr. Wright came to this community in 1878 from Port Huron, Michigan. He bought orange trees from Mr. Adams and set them out in five-acre tracts. He was a promoter of many of the early enterprises and served as justice of the peace for many years. It is to his eldest son, W. G. Wright, that credit is due for the drawing of the early maps of this region.

Lewis Marot, though originally from Illinois, came here from St. Louis, driving all the way with a pair of mules and a covered wagon. At that time the nearest store and post office were located in Sanford. Mr. Marot drove to Sanford each week and secured supplies for the village. The people met him at an appointed place on his return and secured their groceries.

The mail was brought first from Sanford, through Tangerine to Apopka, and later from Ft. Mason to Apopka. At that time a little store was built and Lewis Marot became the first store-keeper and the first postmaster.

A few years later freight was transported by steamer across the lakes to the Tangerine dock on Lake Beauclair.

There is no person in the entire community more familiar with the early history of Tangerine than Mr. Holland Williams. He is the only



person living here who was among the pioneers, coming to this section in the early 70's from Alabama. He helped Mr. Wright set out the early groves, hewed out the foundations for the buildings and built the first store. He is today manager of the Barnett groves on the east side of Lake Ola; his home is on the hill overlooking the lake and highway.

Thus the pioneers were cosmopolitan, representing various parts of the country.

As a part of Tangerine, and following close in sequence of time, was the little settlement in the northeast part of the village. George H. Wood purchased a homestead and named the place Deer Park in 1883. A number of New England families settled here although Mr. Wood, the following year, built his home in the center of town, the place that is now known as Woodlawn Villa. Mr. Wood's first winter in 1882 was spent with Mr. Adams in his log cabin home.

A few of the older settlers not mentioned were Dr. I. H. Hedge and Messrs. David Simpson, O. J. Bean, J. W. Kelley and W. E. Hudson. The Hudson place was the old Norton homestead and the site of the present home of Mr S. S. Sadler on the south shore of Lake Ola.

In the early 80's a number of families came whose names are familiar ones today in the community. These were Messrs. E. W. Chamberlain, Henry Marot, John Griffin, William H. Earl, George H. Rice, S. M. Scott, Henry Pierce, Frank Howard, George Dwelley, W. L. Jameson, A. C. Bennett and Preston Barnett.

The first hotel was built in 1883 and purchased later by Mr. Earl of Worcester, Massachusetts, who gave it the name of Wauchusett House. For many years this place was the scene of all the social activities in town, a community center. It is now the remodeled home of the Lust sanatorium.

The Congregational Church was organized in May, 1886, with an appropriate program. Mr. Thomas Jewett and Mr. George H. Wood were the first deacons and were the prime factors in the organization. The Sunday School was organized the previous year. The bell was secured through the efforts of Mrs. Wood. Later she filled the office of treasurer of the church, left vacant by the death of Mr. Wood in 1909, and held the same till her death in 1925.

The Ladies' Aid Society was organized by Mrs. Wood in 1913 and is today a helpful society.

The school of the town was originally held in a log cabin on the east side of Lake Ola, and the first teacher was Miss Minnie Wright, a daughter of one of the pioneers. Later a school was built in the center of the community near the church, and today we have a new building, modernly equipped, and employing two teachers.



One of the most important organizations of the town is the Tangerine Improvement Society, which was organized in April, 1909. With this society is closely connected the name of Mrs. Addie G. Earl, for many years the president of the society. Her efforts were continual and effective for the public welfare of the place. Today the society is an incorporated body and the Community Hall is one of its achievements.

In Tangerine is located the Naturpath Sanitarium of Dr. Lust of New York. It is one of Florida's leading health resorts and is open from early fall until summer, offering rest and quiet under expert medical supervision.

About the community are acres upon acres of orange groves; many formerly owned by Mr. E. W. Bonyng of New York and Mr. R. W. Hunt of Chicago, who until their death spent their winters here. The Hunt groves are in charge of Mr. W. F. Bloodgood and are of tangerine, orange and grapefruit. They skirt the Dixie Highway and beautify the drive, partially hiding the town of Tangerine, lying just to the west.

The famous Ocklawaha Nurseries had their origin in Tangerine in a small nursery owned and operated by its founder, Mr. O. W. Conner. Later he moved to Lake Gem where extensive nurseries were developed. After Mr. Conner's death his wife continued the business and later married R. J. Trimble. For a biographical sketch of Mr. Conner, see Part Two of this work.

Trimble Park, located on a point of land projecting into Lake Beauclair, near the junction of Beauclair and Carlton, was given to the people of Orange County by Mrs. Trimble. It is beautiful and tropical, and nearly every shrub, plant and tree native to this part of the state may be found here. A municipal dock is to be erected on Lake Carlton at the entrance of Trimble Park.

A new municipal park has recently been acquired; it is located in the center of town near the school and church, and comprises five acres of beautiful pine land. Tennis courts have been laid out and further beautification will follow.

One of the prominent leaders of the community is Mr. S. S. Sadler. As a member of the Orange County Board of Commissioners, he has been influential in the upbuilding and development of North Orange. His faith in the county as well as the state is inspiring.

"Tangerine is one of the beauty spots of Florida. Her virgin forests, her hills and valleys hold out alluring offers to those seeking health and enjoyment in growing with the community. Though the growth and development has not been rapid, yet there is every evidence of general community awakening to the tremendous possibilities inherent in the soil and the beauty of the forest-clad hills and sparkling lakes."



## WINDERMERE

Among the early settlers in the neighborhood of what is now Windermere, were Dr. Abel Griffin, Dr. Stanley Scott, Mr. P. J. Jaudon, Mr. J. C. Plant, a Mr. Shulan and Mr. L. J. Griffin.

Dr. Scott was a graduate of Oxford University in England, a scholar and traveller; he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Windermere and developed a handsome estate. Dr. Abel Griffin had operated a grist mill by water-power at Iron Bridge, west of Orlando, before removing to Windermere; Mr. Jaudon had lived in Orlando and had served as marshal of the town; Mr. Plant, from Macon, Georgia, together with a son, had bought land from the state; Mr. Shulan, like Dr. Scott and Mr. Dawe, was an Englishman, whose heir, Lady Frances Barrington, transferred her interests to Honorable S. S. Griffin.

Mr. John H. Dawe, general manager of the Florida Midland Railroad, which ran from Longwood to Kissimmee through the Lake Butler region, gave the name Windermere to the settlement. Being an Englishman, it is probable that the name was reminiscent of the Lake Region of his native land. He laid off the town, established the headquarters of the railroad here, erected a fine office building, and made Windermere his home; he later returned to New York and the railroad went into the hands of a receiver, afterward being absorbed by the Atlantic Coast Line.

Mr. L. J. Griffin came to Orange County from Gadsden County in 1872, and located in the Conway district. In the early days he purchased a considerable acreage adjoining what is now Tinker Field in Orlando, set out an orange grove, and made his home there. He afterward moved again to Conway, where he operated a sawmill until his removal to Windermere in 1888; here also he ran a sawmill.

Honorable S. S. Griffin bought up these several properties in 1908, and the following years, finally owning all of Windermere and much of the surrounding country. He built several houses, sold his Waco holdings to Chase & Company and the Windermere properties to Messrs. J. C. Palmer and Dr. J. H. Johnson, both from Wauseon, Ohio. They formed the Windermere Improvement Company, and have promoted the later development of the place. Mr. H. W. Metcalf of Orlando also purchased property from Mr. Griffin between Lakes Butler and Crescent, adjoining Windermere; Mr. Metcalf later sold this property to Mr. Wilbur Warren of Orlando, who is now developing it.

The first store in Windermere was operated by Mr. R. R. Kline, also of Wauseon; he later sold out to Mr. B. B. Maddock, now postmaster, who in turn sold to Mr. A. L. Gill.

The Chase citrus grove is one of Orange County's notable sights. It is nearly five hundred acres in extent, is kept in perfect condition, and is highly



productive. Many other thriving groves, large and small, fringe the lakes in all directions.

Windermere lies in a region of great charm. Lake Butler, Lake Down, Lake Bessie and numerous other spring-fed lakes of various sizes, many of them connected by navigable canals, their shores abrupt, and with clean white sand beaches, furnish the framework in which the village is set.

The Windermere Chamber of Commerce was organized and its officers are Dr. J. C. McMichael, president, and Marion Able, secretary. The Woman's Club is an active and useful organization; it lends its club house for the meetings of the Chamber of Commerce. A Union Church ministers to the spiritual needs of the community. The Crawford-Hulvey Military Academy, after some years in Orlando, moved to Windermere in 1926.

#### TAFT

Prosper Colony was started in 1909, by Mr. Braxton Beacham of Orlando and the late Mr. W. L. Van Duzor of Kissimmee. It embraced some 6,000 acres lying eight miles south of Orlando, on what is now the Dixie Highway and was surveyed and laid out by Mr. Gus Hart of Orlando. It was planned to divide the area into five and ten acre farms, each farm carrying with it a building lot in the town site. An advertisement of the project was published in the Saturday Evening Post, and this paper was asked to suggest a name for the projected town; the paper suggested the name of Taft, in honor of the President of the United States, and this name was adopted.

As a result of this and other advertisements, more than a thousand farms were sold in a brief space of time, and a considerable number of settlers arrived, built homes and began farming operations. Prior to this time only a turpentine still and camp existed at this point, operated by Mr. M. M. Smith, and called Smithville; this business was afterward carried on by Spahler Brothers.

The terrain was flat—though not low, being some thirty or forty feet higher than Kissimmee—and was often flooded after heavy storms. The drainage system which had been promised was not constructed, and in October of 1910, a year after the colony had been projected, a severe storm flooded this district, discouraging the settlers and resulting in many of them abandoning the homes and farms which they occupied.

This calamity, together with Mr. Beacham's protracted illness and consequent absence from the state, brought the project to a standstill; Mr. Beacham and Mr. Van Duzor dissolved partnership, and the latter moved to Jacksonville. The property was sold at sheriff's sale and was bought in by Mr. Beacham.

The post office was established in 1910. The town was incorporated in 1912, the first mayor being Mr. Nicholas Dennis. The present efficient



mayor is Mr. S. A. Harrington, the only citizen of Taft who has lived there continuously since the colony was founded.

The Taft Drainage District, under state law, was established in 1913-14, and bonds were issued and sold for financing the project. Some 54,000 acres were included in the district, and more than 67 miles of ditches were dug, thirty and forty feet wide. This network of canals has been highly successful, the entire area being satisfactorily drained of surplus water, and rendered safe and suitable for cultivation. Mr. S. A. Hutchins is president of the district and Mr. William Beardall secretary; Messrs. S. A. Hutchins, Wilbur Warren and L. C. Klein are supervisors. Several land companies own considerable acreages within the district. The soil is fertile, and the region is particularly well adapted to the growing of improved grasses and forage crops, dairying, truck farming and fruit growing.

Taft supports two churches, Methodist and Baptist, a good public school and a Chamber of Commerce. Spahler Brothers, who carried on a commissary previous to the establishing of the colony, later enlarged this into a general store.

It may safely be predicted that Taft, despite the misfortunes of various sorts which have befallen it, has a productive and prosperous future before it.

#### FORT CHRISTMAS AND BITHLO

Fort Christmas is situated in the extreme eastern part of Orange County, bordering on the St. Johns River.

The old fort exists only in memory, it having been long ago destroyed through forest fires and complete neglect. It was in fact, no doubt, merely a barricade built for the protection of the white people from attacks by Indians; it was occupied on Christmas Day in 1835, hence its name.

In the year 1855, Andrew Jackson Barber, grandfather of Honorable Carl E. Barber, now County Commissioner, moved to Fort Christmas with his family, intending to make this his permanent home. Having cattle and hogs and good virgin land, he was successful in making himself and his family very comfortable, but after about one year, they were attacked again by the Indians and forced to leave their home and go to Fort Gatlin, near what is now Orlando, for protection. He tells some interesting tales of how the rattlesnakes used to bite and kill so many of their cattle and hogs on the prairie just back of their house that they were nearly ready to quit the business.

About the year 1860, other settlers came in, among them Messrs. J. N. A. Tucker, Albert Roberts, Samuel and Henry Hodges, and Johnson, Simmons and Sykes.

"Grandpa" Tucker came to Fort Christmas at a very early period, and went into the business of raising cattle and hogs, and also the citrus business,



which was quite a novelty and venture at that time; in both lines he was successful. As the only means of travel was either with ox-cart or on horse back, and as the settlers lived far apart, Mr. Tucker's home was a kind of stopping-place for travellers, so that he had opportunity to become acquainted with almost everyone who came and went through the region. His nearest neighbor was Mr. Albert Roberts, who lived at a distance of eleven miles from Mr. Tucker's home.

As more settlers came in, there was a call for churches and schools, and in 1871 or thereabouts, the First Missionary Baptist Church was organized, with twelve charter members, among them Mr. Tucker, Mr. Samuel Hodges and Mr. Henry Hodges, and their wives. Services were held in "Grandpa" Tucker's home until a log church could be built, close to the site of the present church building. This same little log house was used also as a school house; its crude seats were hewn boards, nailed to the wall at one end and supported by a stick driven through a crack in the floor into the ground, under the other. Reverend R. W. Lawton of Oviedo was in charge of the church, and walked from Oviedo to Fort Christmas once a month to hold services until the church members combined to raise sixty dollars and purchase a pony for him to ride.

About this time, the government put a road through from Sanford to Lake Washington, traces of which are still plainly to be seen, though now very seldom used except by hunters and woodsmen.

Fort Christmas has a good school building and an efficient school, carrying pupils through the eighth grade; it also has a Chamber of Commerce, now reorganizing, and a Parent-Teacher Association. The Orange County Company, which owns a large tract about Fort Christmas and Bithlo, is now engaged in clearing land, building houses, and promoting the settlement of the region. From immemorial times this region has been exclusively a cattle and cowboy country, the flatwoods and the prairies stretching along the St. Johns river, covered with heavy switch grass and other grasses, furnishing excellent pasture; it now bids fair to become also a prosperous agricultural section. With the extermination of the pestiferous cattle tick, and the introduction on the rich and moist lands of the region of improved grasses, the business of dairying and the growing of pure-bred and high-grade cattle, should be highly successful.

Perhaps the most precious product of Fort Christmas is one of its native sons, Mr. Hughlette Wheeler, great grandson of Mr. Tucker the pioneer, "America's cowboy sculptor." Mr. Wheeler has already in early youth achieved fame and seems destined to secure a foremost position in the world of art.

Bithlo is situated eighteen miles east of Orlando and ten miles west of the St. Johns river which is the eastern boundary of Orange County. It is virtually a midway point on the Cheney-Dixie Highway, with its thirty-eight



mile stretch between Orlando and Indian River City, where it connects with the East Coast Dixie Highway, extending throughout the length of the state.

The town is located at the intersection of this highway with the Okeechobee branch of the Florida East Coast Railway, running north and south between New Smyrna and Okeechobee City, keeping inland about twenty miles.

Relatively speaking, Bithlo is a new town, the real beginning of which dates from the opening of this section of the county by the railway in 1915. Prior to the year 1900, the Bithlo section of the county remained undeveloped woodland, with the exception here and there of homesteaders' premises, some showing development in agricultural lines, but mostly this not being the case.

The homesteaders of the earlier days were mostly cattlemen, with horses, cows, and hogs running at large, as the main source of income; supplemented with fishing, hunting of game, and the family garden plot. The prosperity of the homesteader was usually gauged by the number of cattle carrying his particular brand.

Among the early homesteaders the family names of Partin, Tanner, Hancock, Canada, Lockwood, Cox, Hodges and others, still remain as the pioneers of the section.

With the coming of the railroad, the cutting of timber, clearing of lands, and the lumber industry were set in motion. One of the first sawmills established was located about two miles south of Bithlo, operated by Mr. John H. Tucker, for the Rutherford Lumber Co. The Osceola Lumber Co., built a tramway southward, to take out cypress from the swamps along Long Branch, which is an offset of the Contoohatchee river. This tramroad made a junction with the railroad just on the outskirts of the town to the south. Then came the Brown and McIntosh mill at Bithlo proper.

The cutting of the timber from the woodlands, marking the beginning of development, resulted in the laying out of the town proper by the developers, Bailey and Lott, in 1920, and the subsequent paving of five miles of streets by way of improvements for the townsite, thus shaping the wilds into a semblance of a town. During this year, three houses were erected. Mr. Charles Driver, connected with the Bailey and Lott Company, erected a small building and started the first store. Mr. Robert Parker built a combination store and residence; and at the same time this building operation was going on, Mr. J. H. Hughes was building a residence.

The Bailey Development Co. carried on the work started by Bailey and Lott, and the latter company was succeeded by The Townsite Corporation (Massachusetts interests) in 1925.

Under the guidance of the latter company, all improvements have been placed at the disposal of the community.

Prior to the erection of the three houses in 1920, there were really only four homes connected with the Bithlo section; those of Mr. T. H. Hancock,



in the southwestern corner of the town, a homestead; Mr. H. M. Hancock, who had a homestead in the town proper, a little east of the central portion; Mr. H. G. Partin, homesteader, who had a home about one mile west of the town; together with Mr. L. L. Fertie, who lived in a railway company house just south of the town; Mr. Fertie came to this section from Okeechobee City in 1919.

Bithlo was granted a charter in 1922. The first postmaster was Mrs. N. A. Miller of Orlando, who was succeeded by Charles Driver, and later by Oma Crenshaw, who looks after it at the present time.

Three mayors have served to guide the destinies of the town; Messrs. H. E. Trowbridge, Robert Parker and F. W. Eddy, the last named now being in office.

Practically the whole development of Bithlo with all of the advantages of a full-grown city, have come about since the opening of the Cheney-Dixie Highway, December 31, 1924. After this, the community made rapid progress, which in turn has brought about the agricultural development of the fertile soils of the outlying sections.

It is understood that the name Bithlo was applied to the station established by the railroad. It was named by the wife of Mr. Flagler, the founder of the Florida East Coast Railway system. The names chosen by Mrs. Flagler were Seminole Indian names; "Bithlo" carries the meaning of "outlook."

The officers of the Bithlo Chamber of Commerce are Mr. J. A. Foley, president, and Mr. E. M. Darlington, secretary.



*HISTORY OF ORANGE COUNTY  
FLORIDA*

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*Part II*

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*BIOGRAPHICAL*



*Biographical Sketches  
of  
Citizens  
of Orange County, Florida*

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CAPTAIN B. M. ROBINSON

BENJAMIN MCCAIN ROBINSON was born in Russell County, Alabama, November 16, 1845; he is the son of William Bryan and Harriet Elizabeth Robinson. His father was a contractor, and an owner of slaves, and his grandfather was a Methodist preacher. Soon after Captain Robinson's birth, his father moved to Columbus, Ga., and later to Tuscaloosa, Ala.

Captain Robinson received his early education in the schools of Tuscaloosa, and matriculated in the University of Alabama, where he studied for three years; at the end of the Junior year, he left the university and entered the Confederate Army, in 1864. He was 1st Lieutenant in Co. G, 63rd Infantry of Alabama. The family afterwards moved to Arkansas where his father owned a plantation. Captain Robinson was engaged in various lines of business and had charge of a steam manufacturing plant of brick in Covington, La. Here he met a university room-mate, of the name of Holmes, and together they came to Florida intending to go to the Indian River country, but reaching Orlando, October 9, 1874; Captain Robinson avers that he then thought the country about Orlando and what is now Winter Park a veritable paradise—and he thinks so still.

Captain Robinson and Holmes bought 160 acres from Arthur Ginn for \$1500, lying some three or four miles southwest of Orlando, Holmes' brother financing the purchase. Here Captain Robinson lived until 1883, when he moved to Ft. Reed and married; he remained in Ft. Reed until 1891 when he came to Orlando, where he has resided ever since.

Captain Robinson was elected to the legislature in 1885; he was Chief Deputy Clerk of the Circuit Court under Bradshaw, from 1891 to 1904, since which time he has served as Clerk of the Circuit Court, Recorder and Auditor and Ex-officio Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners. He has been re-elected to this office every four years, without opposition, up to the present time. He has conducted the affairs of this office with marked efficiency, due in part to the capable and faithful services of Miss Mary Howard, chief clerk.



During the World War Captain Robinson, as clerk of the Circuit Court, served as clerk of the Selective Service Board, from 1917 until the armistice.

Captain Robinson is a member of the City and County Chambers of Commerce, the Rotary Club, the Knights of Pythias, the Masonic Order, a Knight Templar and the First Presbyterian church.

Captain Robinson married Fanny L. Randolph, April 25, 1883; she died June 8, 1892. In 1900, he married Marian Curtis, daughter of Mr. F. A. Curtis of Orlando. The children of the first marriage were, Mary Randolph, Fannie, wife of Judge Donald A. Cheney, and William Randolph; the children of the second marriage are Elizabeth, who is connected as a writer with the Reporter-Star; Harriet, recently graduated from the Florida College for Women, and Theresa.

It should be added that there is perhaps no other man in Orange County who has so many friends as Captain Robinson. As clerk of the court and the county for 23 years he has been all this time, day in and day out, at the center of the county life, the court house, where the people have filed in and out, they asking questions, looking for this or that record, seeking advice, and he attentive, alert, patient, suave, sympathetic and helpful—this is "Captain Ben."

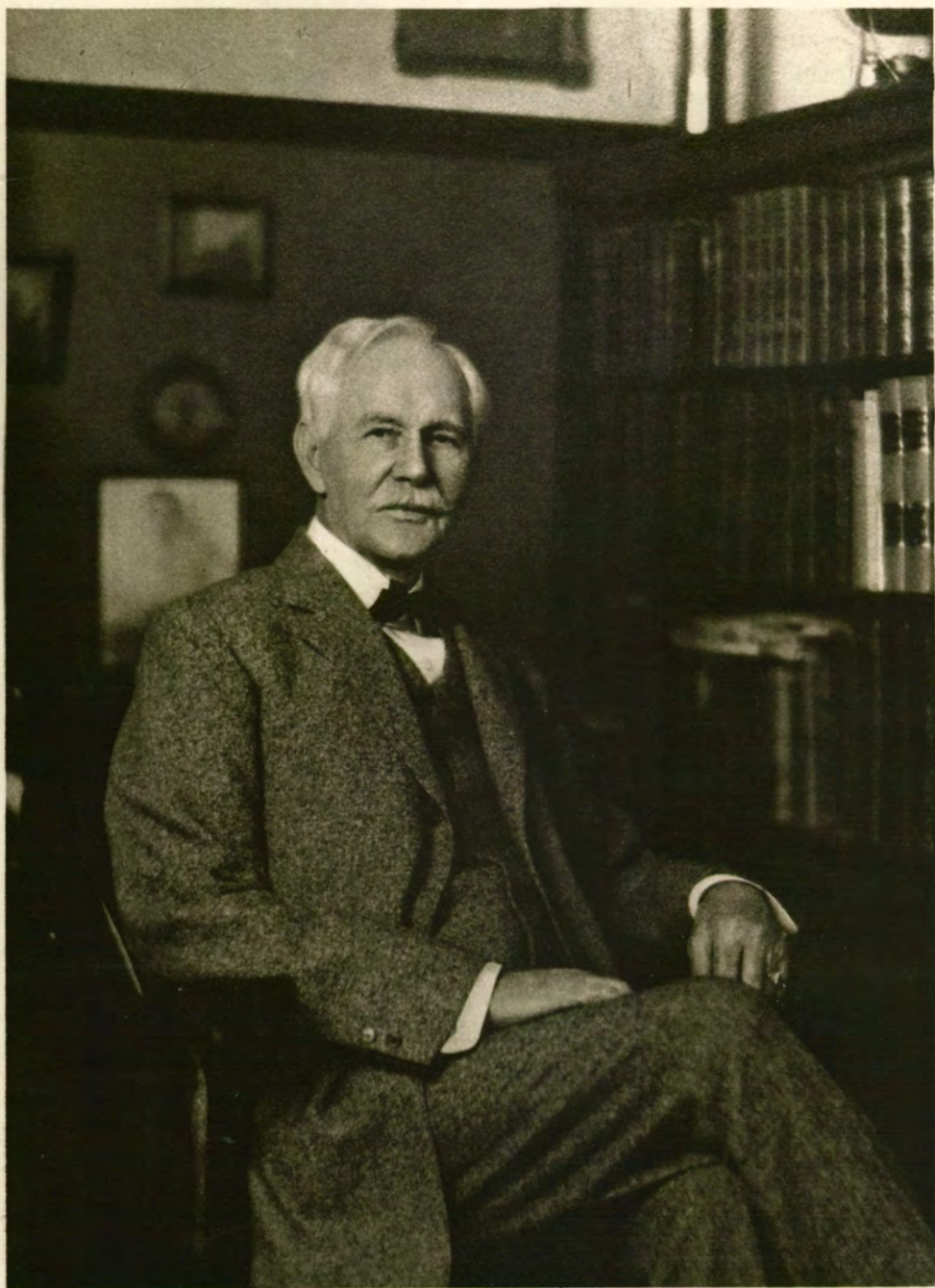
#### *HON. M. O. OVERSTREET*

MOSES OSCAR OVERSTREET was born in Kirkland, Georgia, October 10, 1869, the son of James W. and Susan Ann Solomon Overstreet. His father, who was engaged in the agricultural and live-stock industry, was a highly esteemed and influential citizen, and lived to the age of 78 years. He was the father of fifteen children, all but one of whom lived to the age of maturity.

Mr. Overstreet lived on the home farm until the age of 21; taught school for two years; contracted to build railroad trestles and drains and engaged in the turpentine business with his brother-in-law, with whom he came to Florida, September 16, 1898. He was engaged in the naval stores business in Orange County until 1923. He organized the Overstreet Turpentine Company, with a capital of \$200,000; from 1905 to 1917 he owned and operated a sawmill at Lockhart, for the manufacture of fruit and vegetable crates, under the name of Overstreet Crate Co., which was capitalized at \$200,000, employed 325 hands and turned out a million and a quarter of crates annually. This mill was burned in 1917, since which time he has been occupied in buying and selling land in Orange, Seminole and DeSoto counties. He is now the largest individual land owner in Orange and Seminole counties.

Mr. Overstreet moved from Plymouth to Orlando in 1903, and became the president of the People's National Bank, now known as the First Na-





B.M. Robinson



tional Bank, resigning this position in 1920, and of the Overstreet Investment Company, which owns the Atlas Manufacturing Company.

He has been active and influential in the affairs of city and county. He was a member of the Board of County Commissioners from 1907 to 1921, being opposed for re-election only once, and for the last 12 years of that period was chairman of the board. He was a member of the city council for a number of years, and its president for two terms. He was elected a member of the State Senate, representing Orange, Seminole and Osceola counties, in 1920, and re-elected in 1924, and his services in this body have given great satisfaction to his constituents.

Mr. Overstreet is a Mason, a Shriner, a Knight of Pythias, an Elk and a Moose. He married R. Ethelyn Chapman of Plymouth in 1900; their children are Robert D., Hazel, Elizabeth and Mildred.

#### *JUDGE J. G. SPEER*

The following account of Judge Speer is copied by permission from the booklet "Early Settlers of Orange County, Florida," by C. E. Howard of Orlando.

Judge J. G. Speer was born in South Carolina, June 23, 1820. His ancestors were sturdy Scotch-Irish. His grandfather, William Speer, came from County Antrim about the beginning of the Revolutionary War, espoused the cause of the colonists, fighting through the war in General Picken's command. Judge J. G. Speer was a staunch defender of the right, though it might be the weaker side, and was independent of popular opinion in taking a stand against what he conceived to be wrong and would never buy success by compromising principle. Coming to Florida at an early date (1854) he became widely known and deservedly esteemed. He took an active part in the organization of the county, which at that time included a large part of Osceola, also a large part of Lake and all of what is now Seminole. He was repeatedly called to places of honor and trust, serving one term in the lower House of the Legislature and two terms in the State Senate. At one time he was a candidate for the United States Senate, lacking only one vote of election, causing a deadlock for ten days, at which time he withdrew his name. Two years later he was a candidate before the gubernatorial convention for governor of the state, and hung that body several days, when he withdrew in favor of Honorable Francis P. Flemming, who was elected.

When duty called him to antagonize a powerful and unscrupulous interest, he did not hesitate. The liquor traffic felt and remembers the blows he gave it in the legislature and before the people. He was in the convention that gave the state its present constitution, and was the author of Article 19



of the constitution, regulating the liquor business. He was living at Fort Gatlin, near Orlando, when the question of locating the county seat came up. This was a three-cornered fight: Ft. Reid, "The Lodge" (so called because here was located the only Masonic Lodge in the county) now Apopka City; and Fort Gatlin, each place being championed by its settlers. A distant cousin, Dr. Sidney Speer, led the Fort Reid forces; Isaac Newton led the Lodge crowd, and Judge Speer led the Fort Gatlin settlers, and Fort Gatlin won. At once the question of a name came up, and it was named Orlando by Judge Speer for one of Shakespeare's characters.

He was county judge for several years, until he moved to the section now known as South Apopka. In 1880 he took charge of the Apopka Drainage Company, for the purpose of draining the muck lands on the north of Lake Apopka.

In 1886 he induced the Orange Belt Railroad to come by way of Oakland on its way south, (the road was to have gone several miles south of Oakland) giving the railroad company a half interest in two hundred acres of land on which the town of Oakland is located.

His life and Christian character will leave the most enduring impress on those who knew him best. He died October 31, 1893.

Various other references to Judge Speer may be found in the narrative part of this history, part one.

### *LUCIUS LEE PAYNE*

LUCIUS L. PAYNE was born in Greenfield, Massachusetts, November 21, 1869, the son of Henry W. and Maria L. Payne.

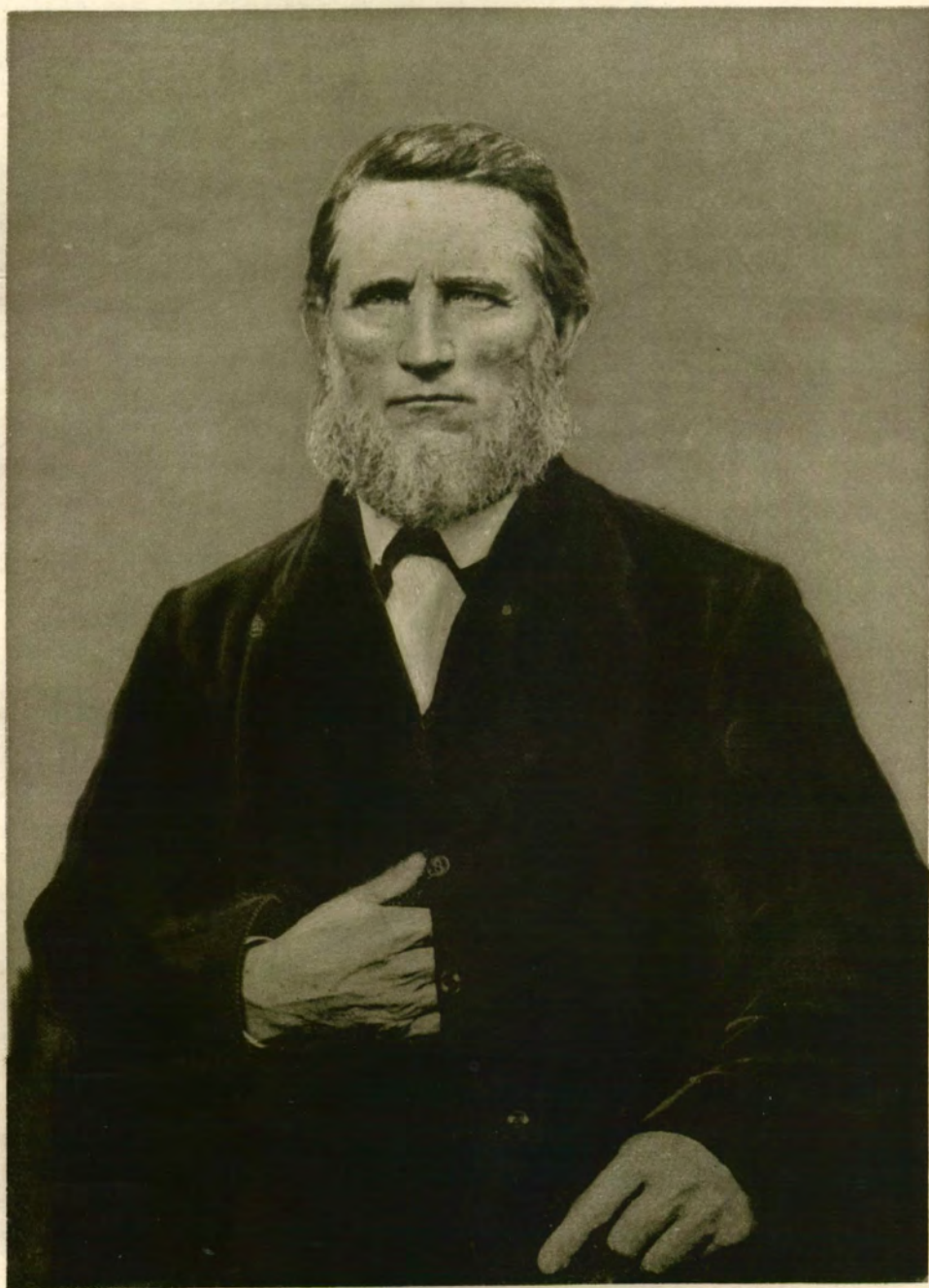
After receiving his education in various schools in Massachusetts, Mr. Payne engaged in many different businesses in various parts of the United States, until 1900, when he moved to Orlando, Florida.

Soon after his arrival at Orlando Mr. Payne was with the South Florida Foundry and Machine Works until January 1, 1906; became acquainted with Judge John M. Cheney who owned the Water & Light Company here, and became manager of this company January 1, 1906, which position he retained until August, 1908. In 1908 he bought out the Southern Fertilizer Company, and about two years later he became connected with the Southern Mill Work Company, of which he is president.

Mr. Payne was chairman of the committee that built the State Bank building, and he is now secretary and treasurer of the State Bank Building Company.

He was elected a member of the Orlando City Council in 1905, which position he filled for two years, and in 1925 he was elected county com-





*James G. Speer*



missioner, and at the present time he is chairman of the Board of County Commissioners.

He has taken a very active part in the building of the new county court house, and is chairman of the Building Committee for this structure. When completed this will represent an investment of nearly a million dollars, including land, building and furniture, and will be one of the finest county buildings in the south.

Mr. Payne is a member of the local Chamber of Commerce, he is also a Mason and an Elk. In Masonry he has held many important offices, including that of District Deputy Grand Master. Director State Bank of Orlando since April, 1911.

Mr. Payne married August 20, 1908, Augusta F. Isaacson, who died Nov. 13, 1926.

### *N. P. YOWELL*

NEWTON PENDLETON YOWELL was born in Luray, Virginia, December 16, 1871, son of David Marshall and Susan Hershberger Yowell. He is a descendant of an old Virginia family. His family came to Orlando in 1884 for his father's health, who died soon after.

Mr. Yowell, as the eldest son, was thus made largely responsible for the management of the family affairs. He went to work at the age of 14 and worked for eight years as a clerk in different dry goods stores. In 1894 he opened a store of his own in Orlando, and later on acquired five stores, scattered over Florida.

In 1913 Mr. Yowell formed a stock company, known as the Yowell-Duckworth Company, bought the present location on the corner of Orange and Central avenue and erected the first large building in Orlando. In 1919 Mr. Yowell bought out Mr. Duckworth's interest in the business and the name was changed to Yowell-Drew Company. The original building has been added to three times and is one of the handsomest, most complete department stores in Florida, doing now the fourth or fifth largest business in the state of Florida. The firm has recently bought out an old established firm in Daytona Beach and contemplates making marked improvements over there.

Mr. Yowell is an elder in the Presbyterian church and is the teacher of one of the largest Sunday School classes for men in the state. He probably thinks more of this work than anything else. He is past president of the Orlando Rotary club and Past Grand Chancellor of the Knights of Pythias, is also a Knight Templar and an Odd Fellow. He has been chairman of the Orange County Red Cross Chapter ever since the war and is a past



president of the Orlando Chamber of Commerce. He is probably the only man in the state who is a director of the state, county and city Chambers of Commerce.

He is a director of the Orange County Building & Loan Association, one of the most successful associations of the state, trustee of Rollins College, Winter Park, and has been on the Board of Governors of the Orange General Hospital ever since its organization.

Mr. Yowell has taken an active part in all philanthropic and civic matters, has headed a great many drives, the greatest of which was the Y. M. C. A. drive for a new building which had pledged \$804,000.00 in 1926.

He married Gertrude Southgate, a native of Kentucky, in 1897. Five children were born to this union: Richard, the oldest son, who died while in college; Elizabeth, Virginia, Lydia and Newton Pendleton, Jr.

The subject of this sketch has lived in Orlando ever since coming to Florida, and is a firm believer in the future of all Florida.

#### *HON. CHARLES O. ANDREWS*

CHARLES OSCAR ANDREWS was born at Ponce de Leon, Florida, March 7, 1877, the son of John and Mary Andrews. Through his father he is of Scotch-Irish lineage and through his mother of Scotch and Swedish ancestry. His grandfather moved to Florida from the Carolinas when Florida was a territory and settled in Walton county, which portion later became Holmes county. His father was treasurer of this county for many years and served throughout the Civil War in Clanton's Cavalry in the Confederate army and was under the fire of Sherman's army from Chattanooga to Atlanta.

Judge Andrews received his early education in the public schools of Florida and holds a diploma from the University of Florida. For seven years he taught school and studied law, part of the time at the University of Virginia, was admitted to the bar in 1907 and in the meantime was elected bill secretary of the Florida senate three successive sessions. He served for two years in the office of the state comptroller, practiced law at DeFuniak Springs in Walton county and was for two years Judge of the Criminal Court of Record of that county and while so acting received appointment of assistant Attorney General of the State in 1912. At the request of the bar of the Seventeenth Judicial Circuit, composed of Orange, Osceola and Lake counties, he was appointed Circuit Judge of that Circuit and became a resident of Orlando. He resigned this office in the latter part of 1925 to enter the practice of law and during the time he was Circuit Judge he was elected president of the Florida State Bar Association in 1921. He is general counsel for the Florida Real Estate Commission, the city of Orlando





*M. D. Gower*



and several financial institutions. He also has had as part of his education two years military training in the Florida Military Institute, which later merged into the University of Florida in 1905. He also served as Captain of Company M, First Florida Regiment immediately following the Spanish-American War. He is a Rotarian, a Mason and officer of the First Presbyterian church of Orlando. He married Margaret Spears, of Tallahassee, who is a daughter of one of the first families that settled in Florida after its purchase from Spain, and they have three sons.

### *DR. KARL LEHMANN*

KARL LEHMANN was born in Oconomowoc, Wisconsin, October 5, 1887, the son of Gustave and Hulda J. Lehmann. His paternal grandfather came from Germany and settled in Ontario, Canada, where his son was born.

Dr. Lehmann received his education in the public schools of Wisconsin and New Mexico. He served for 20 years as a field secretary of the Christian Endeavor Society, first for the states of Colorado and New Mexico; then for the United Society of Christian Endeavor in Boston; and finally as secretary of the United Society for the Southern States, with offices at Birmingham and Chattanooga.

Dr. Lehmann came to Florida in July, 1920, and to Orange county in August, 1922. For three years he served as vice-president of the Montverde school, a highly interesting and useful institution, and for five years he has acted as secretary of the Orange County Chamber of Commerce, being loaned for nine months of this period for part-time service to the Orlando Chamber of Commerce, as secretary.

Dr. Lehmann has for many years been deeply interested in the Boy Scout movement. He has served for nine years as Special National Field Commissioner, for three years as a member of the Regional Committee of the Southeastern States, and he is now president of the Central Florida Council.

Dr. Lehmann served as chairman in the Rollins College campaign which raised \$385,000.00 in Orange county, on the coming of Dr. Hamilton Holt to the presidency of the institution. He received the degree of Doctor of Laws from Rollins College in 1927. He is a member of the Oakland Presbyterian church, of the Orlando Rotary Club, he is a Master Mason.

Dr. Lehmann was the first president of the Orlando and Orange County Advertising Club, chairman of the Orange County Beautification Commission, chairman of the Beautification Committee of the State Chamber of Commerce, chairman of the Business Methods and Boy's Work Committees of the Orlando Rotary Club, and president of the Florida State Commercial



Secretaries' Association, vice-president of the Southern Commercial Secretaries' Association and has served three years as a director of the Orange County Y. M. C. A.

Dr. Lehmann married Helen Shafer, of Maywood, Illinois, September 3, 1917.

*HON. JAMES L. GILES*

JAMES LEROY GILES is a native son of Orange county, having been born in Zellwood, June 16, 1863, the son of Rev. LeRoy and Sarah Elizabeth Goolsby Giles. The first of his family to come to America migrated from England and settled in Virginia. Mr. Giles' father came to Orange county as a young man about 1854; he was a pioneer minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, and a member of the Florida conference of that church.

Mr. Giles attended the schools of Apopka until the age of 12. He then entered business as a clerk in a store in Apopka, later acting in the same capacity in Orlando; from the first he saved his earnings and invested them in real estate. His first purchase was the lot on which the First National Bank building now stands, for which he paid \$250; it is now worth at least \$120,000. In 1883 he engaged in the real estate business in Orlando, being thus one of the earliest, if not the earliest, real estate operator in the city. He has owned or handled thousands of acres of unimproved land in Orange and Seminole counties, as well as numerous orange groves and other improved properties.

He built the first brick store in Orlando, then known as the Giles building, in which the Telephone Company was for a long time located. He also built the Charleston block now the Watkins block in 1893, and was responsible for the erection of the Orlando Bank and Trust building, Astor Hotel, Dixie building, and numerous residences, including his own magnificent home Oakleigh on Lake Lucerne. These building operations have thus been a considerable factor in the upbuilding of the city. Mr. Giles is a director of the First National Bank and secretary and treasurer of the First Bond and Mortgage Company, the largest financial institution of the kind in Central Florida.

Mr. Giles has served several terms on the city council, and as mayor of Orlando from 1916 to 1920, and during 1924 and 1925. He was a member of the city council when the waterworks were first installed some 25 or 30 years ago. During his last term as mayor the largest single contract for paving and sewerage work ever made in the south was let, totalling \$3,500,000.00. He also arranged for the erection of the Municipal Auditorium, the White Way, fire alarm, police and traffic signals, and many other notable improvements.

Mr. Giles is a member of the Chamber of Commerce, Kiwanis Club, Knights of Pythias and Elks; he is an active and influential member of the





Wm. L. Giles



Methodist church. He married Nannie C. Bartlett in Orlando, May 23, 1883; their children are LeRoy B., Anna Estelle (Mrs. A. L. Weathersbee of Tampa) and Edna Adelma (Mrs. C. S. Radebaugh).

### *W. E. GILES*

WILLIAM ENOCH GILES was born in Zellwood, August 4, 1859; he enjoys the unique distinction of being, as he believes, the oldest native-born citizen of Orange county now resident within its limits.

Mr. Giles traces his descent from England, through Georgia, to Florida. He is the son of the Reverend LeRoy B. and Sarah Elizabeth Goolsby Giles. His father, a native of Georgia, came to Orange county and served for many years as a pioneer minister of the Methodist church—he died at the age of 40.

Mr. Giles attended school in Apopka, and in a business college in Atlanta. He has been extensively engaged in farming and the growing of oranges, and has owned considerable tracts of land in Winter Park, Fairvilla, Zellwood, and elsewhere; one of his orange groves was recently subdivided into Dubsdread Heights. He operated a dairy for 14 years at Winter Park, supplying milk to the hotels of the town and to Rollins College; this he has now sold.

Mr. Giles is a member of the Woodman of the World. He married at Zellwood, Rosetta W. Robertson of Virginia, now deceased; his children are Raymond and Cecil, both in the citrus business, and Elizabeth, deceased.

### *J. P. HOLBROOK*

JOHN PENDLETON HOLBROOK was born in Buford, Kentucky, July 30, 1885. He was the son of John B. and Oma Field Holbrook. He was educated in the schools of Kentucky, Hartford College and the Kentucky State University at Lexington.

He came to Orlando in 1908, and engaged in the automobile business. He was the first Ford dealer between Jacksonville and Tampa, and brought the first Ford Model T to Orange county. He continued in this business for eight years, being the second oldest automobile dealer in the county when he sold out.

He served in Texas during the World War with the air service, with the rank of Cadet.

After the war he bought 500 acres in the western part of the county for development, and eventually organized the Orlando Groves Company. This company now owns 6,600 acres of land, of which they are developing and marketing 4,000 acres under the name of "Avalon Groves." This is one of the leading orange grove developments in the state, being capitalized for \$5,000,000.



Mr. Holbrook is a member of the Masonic, Shrine, Elks and Knights of Pythias orders, a life member of the Orlando Country Club, a director of the Chamber of Commerce, Realty Board, and the State Bank of Orlando, and secretary and treasurer, as well as local manager, for the Orlando Groves Company. He organized the Rotary Club in Orlando and was its first president.

He married Miss Marjory Smith, sister of Judge Frank Smith, in Orlando, April 30, 1909.

### *E. W. DAVIS*

EDWIN WALLACE DAVIS was born near St. Paul, Minnesota, the son of Wallace and Helen D. Winslade Davis. His father was born in London, and had resided in Madison, Wisconsin, before removing to Minnesota. Mr. Davis was educated in the schools of Canton, Ohio.

He moved to Ocala, Florida, in 1886, and studied law in a law office there for a number of years. In 1892 he was admitted to the bar, and from that time until 1913 he practiced law in Ocala. In that year he moved to Orlando, and opened an office for the general practice of law with his son under the firm name of E. W. and R. C. Davis, which enjoys a very large practice in all branches of the law. They are the legal representatives of the Florida Public Service Co. From 1903 to 1913, Mr. Davis was state's attorney for the 5th Judicial Circuit.

He is a member of the Chamber of Commerce and of the American, Florida and Circuit Bar Associations, having been president of the Circuit Bar Association, 1921-22. He is a Mason and Shriner. He married Sarah Wallace in Ocala; their children are Wallace E., Robert C., Sarah W., and William T.

### *S. W. HOWE*

STEPHENSON WATERS HOWE was born in Louisville, Kentucky, June 26, 1869, the son of Robert and Hadassah Waters Howe. His father was with a Louisiana regiment throughout the War between the States. Mr. Howe was educated in the schools of Louisville and Orlando, and attended Rollins College, being one of the group of students who registered there on the first day of its history.

Mr. Howe's family came to Orlando in 1883; his father was for many years manager of the old ice company, and Mr. Howe himself was a clerk with this concern until 1893. In 1895 he entered the employ of the State Bank of Orlando as collection clerk; he has been successively bookkeeper, teller, assistant cashier, cashier, and executive vice-president since November 4, 1924. He is thus one of the oldest bankers in Orange county in length



of service. When he entered the service of the bank, the deposits amounted to some \$60,000; it now has a total of about \$6,000,000. Mr. Howe was also city treasurer for about eight years.

He is a member of the Chamber of Commerce, both Country Clubs, and a charter member and treasurer of the Rotary Club; a Mason and Knight of Pythias. He married Georgene Lawrence in Orlando in 1896.

#### *DR. J. S. MCEWAN*

JOHN SINGER MCEWAN was born in Cooperstown, N. Y., September 4, 1877, the son of John and Nancy Fletcher McEwan. He was educated in the schools of his home town, the University of the State of New York and Northwestern University, from which institution he received the degree of Doctor of Medicine in 1905. After a year and a half as chief of staff and house surgeon in the New York City Hospital, he came to Orlando on December 13, 1906, and practiced medicine with Dr. R. L. Harris for a year and a half before establishing a practice of his own. His twenty-one years of successful service establish him as one of the oldest practicing physicians in the city in point of service. He established the Orlando Clinic, the first clinic in Orlando. Dr. McEwan specializes in surgery, and is attending surgeon at the Orange General Hospital.

During the World War Dr. McEwan served overseas at the American Ambulance Hospital at Juilly, France, where he was Medecin de Chef from June, 1917 to January, 1918.

Dr. McEwan is a member of both Country Clubs of Orlando, of the Phi Beta Pi fraternity, and of the Masonic, Shrine and Odd Fellows organizations. He is also a member of the American Medical Society, the Southern Medical Association, a former president (1926) of the Florida State Medical Association and a member of the Orange County Medical Association. He is a director of the State Bank of Orlando and one of the organizers and a director of the North Orlando State Bank.

He married Roberta Dunn in Orlando in 1907, and has three sons, John Adair, Oswald Beverly and Robert Hale.

#### *R. F. MAGUIRE*

RAYMER FRANCIS MAGUIRE is a native of Orange County, and was born in Ocoee, November 30, 1890; he is the son of David O. and Margaret F. Maguire. His parents were pioneer residents of west Orange County, having settled there in 1886.



Mr. Maguire received his early education in the schools of Ocoee, and was graduated as Bachelor of Laws from the University of Florida in 1915, and engaged in the practice of law in Orlando the same year, at first as an associate of Wilbur L. Tilden, then for a time for himself, and after the World War in partnership with Mr. Tilden until 1921, when he formed a partnership with H. M. Voorhis, under the firm name of Maguire & Voorhis. During the World War, in 1918, he was in training at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology as a naval aviator.

Mr. Maguire was president of the Orlando Chamber of Commerce during the years 1923-24.

During the past two years, he has rendered efficient service as president of the Alumni Association of the University of Florida, where as a student he had served as president of the combined senior classes. He is a member of the Blue Key Society, and of the Kappa Alpha, Phi Kappa Phi, and Phi Delta Phi fraternities. He is a Mason, Pastmaster of the Orlando Lodge No. 69, a Shriner and an Elk; former president of the John Marshall Club, and a member of the State Bar Association, serving as chairman of the committee on Uniform Laws; he is a member also of the American Bar Association.

Mr. Maguire was state attorney of the 17th Judicial Circuit of Florida during the period of 1923-27; he is a life member of the Orlando Country Club, a member of the Dubsdread Country Club, a steward of the First Methodist Episcopal church, and president of the Federated Men's Bible classes of the city.

Mr. Maguire married Ruth McCullough, January 8, 1920; their children are Jane Isabelle, Raymer Francis, Jr., and Martha H.

#### *GEORGE R. NEWELL*

GEORGE RIPPARD NEWELL was born in Baltimore, Maryland, April 7, 1858; he was the son of Professor McFadden Alexander Newell and Susanna Rippard Newell. His father graduated from Queens College, Dublin, Ireland. He was founder and president of the Maryland State Normal School, and superintendent of Public Instruction for the state; he also served as president of the National Education Association. He received the degree of Bachelor of Laws from the University of Maryland, and practiced law for one year in Baltimore.

Professor Newell came to Lake Charm, then in Orange County, in 1881, and acted as general manager of W. S. White's general store, which was later moved through the woods to Orlando. He practiced law in that city from 1885 until his death in 1898, in partnership with Mr. Garrett.

Mr. Newell was one of the chief promoters of the Orlando and Winter



Park Railroad, and served as its attorney. He belonged to the Shine Guards, famous in the annals of the Florida National Guards.

Mr. Newell was a member of the First Presbyterian church, the beloved superintendent of its Sunday School for several years, and a deacon, and choir leader; he was a member of the Florida State Bar Association, and of the Lucerne Club.

Mr. Newell married Susie Helen Gibson of Baltimore, January 6, 1885; Mrs. Newell still lives in Orlando, a founder of the Rosalind Club and treasurer from the beginning, and a leader in the social life of the community; their children are Leigh Gibson and Sidney Philip.

Mr. Newell died August 28, 1898.

### *LEIGH G. NEWELL*

LEIGH GIBSON NEWELL is a native of Washington, D. C., where he was born December 5, 1891. He received his early education in the public schools of Orlando, spent one year at Rollins College, and received the degree of Bachelor of Laws from the University of Virginia in 1915. He then began the practice of law in Orlando, at first with Davis & Giles, then in partnership with Judge Wilbur Tilden, and now as senior member of the law firm of Newell & Boyer, which was formed in 1920; for one year, also, he had charge of the law office of Carl B. Robinson. Mr. Newell is a member of all bar associations, American, Circuit, and State, of the Kiwanis Club and of the Masonic Order. He is an unusually effective speaker, and his services are much sought for at the meetings of civic and social organizations.

Mr. Newell married Vandine Logan at Tampa, April 3, 1926. They have a son, Leigh Gibson Newell, Jr.

### *LAWRENCE GENTILE*

LAWRENCE GENTILE was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, November 25, 1883, the son of Joseph and Liboria Gentile. His father established a fruit business in Cincinnati in 1879 under the firm name of Joe Gentile & Co. Mr. Gentile was educated in the schools of Cincinnati, and then engaged in the commission fruit business in that city. He came to Florida in 1903, living first in Tampa for a year, then in Clearwater for two years, moving to Orlando in 1906.

He began to handle fruit in a small way independently, but soon became manager of the Standard Growers' Exchange, which position he filled for three years. In 1921 he organized, with his brothers, the firm of Gentile Brothers, growers, packers and shippers of fruit. This firm is capitalized at \$1,000,000; Lawrence Gentile is president; Leonard, secretary and treas-



urer; Joe, first vice-president; Victor, second vice-president, and Gus a director. The company owns groves in Orange, Polk and Putnam counties, totaling 2,000 acres, about half of which is in bearing. They have set out 200 acres of new grove this year, and usually set out about 200 acres annually. They are thus the largest single organization engaged in citrus culture in Orange county.

Mr. Gentile is a member of the Chamber of Commerce and the National League of Fruit Growers. He is also president of the Gentile Realty Company of Orlando, and an Elk.

He married Lena M. Descalszaki in East Liverpool, Ohio; they have one son, Joseph Lawrence.

### *HON. S. S. GRIFFIN*

SAMUEL S. GRIFFIN was born in Gadsden county, Florida, November 5, 1871, the son of Lawrence Jefferson and Julia E. Griffin. His father, a farmer in Gadsden county, moved to Orlando soon after Samuel's birth, and his continued residence here since 1872, makes him among the oldest settlers of this region, now alive. After securing his education in the schools of Orange county, Mr. Griffin engaged in the saw mill business and later in the railroad business for some ten years. He also engaged in the cross tie business and was the largest contractor in this line in Florida for some years. Then he began to clear land and set out orange groves, which he has continued to do for the past 25 years. Most of his activities along this line have been in the western part of the county along the Winter Garden road. He formerly owned and developed Windermere, which he sold to J. C. Palmer and J. H. Johnson, who now reside there, and who have developed Windermere into a very high class place. Mr. Griffin has also bought and sold most of the large orange grove estates between Orlando and Windermere.

In 1914, 1920 and 1922, Mr. Griffin was elected to represent Orange county in the State Legislature, and was active in securing the passage of numerous bills of benefit to this county, including bills prohibiting hogs and cattle from running at large in certain parts of the county. He also secured the passage of bill standardizing the size of field boxes for orange picking, which has proven very satisfactory to the growers of the state. He was always an ardent champion of organized labor and stood solidly for a square deal for the farmers.

Mr. Griffin has been a member of the local lodge of Knights of Pythias for 25 years.

He married Miss Willie Vick in West Orange county. They have four children—Hilda (Mrs. Donald C. Holland), Helen (Mrs. A. C. Caraway), Stanley S., and Joyce.



*F. C. BOARDMAN*

FRANK CAREY BOARDMAN was born in Kissimmee, Florida, July 16, 1889, the son of Franklin N. and Wilhelmina Clutha Boardman. His father had come to Florida from New Hampshire; his mother was born in New Zealand. He attended the schools of Orlando, Porter Military Academy in Charleston, S. C., John B. Stetson University, and the Baltimore College of Dental Surgery, from which institution he graduated in 1911 with the Degree of Doctor of Dental Surgery.

Dr. Boardman began his practice of dental surgery in Sanford, but after a year moved to Orlando in 1912, and has maintained his office there since that date, except for the four year period from 1917 to 1921, during which time he served as a Lieutenant in the Navy, being in charge of equipping new dental units for the Navy at Naval Operating Base, Hampton Roads, and Washington, D. C.

He is State Dental Surgeon for the Florida National Guard, with rank of Captain. He is the third ranking officer in the 31st Division of the Dental Corps.

He is a member of the Baptist church, American Legion, and both city and county Chamber of Commerce, of the National, State, District and Local Dental Societies, the International Anesthesia Research Society, the Association of Military Surgeons of the United States, the Old Colony Club, Orlando and Dubsdread Country Clubs, Xi Psi Phi Dental fraternity, and a Mason. He married Caroline Dorethy Abplanalp in Annapolis, in 1919; they have one daughter, Grace Dorethy, born May 23, 1924.

*S. J. SLIGH*

SAMUEL JEFFERSON SLIGH was born in Ocala, Florida, February 10, 1863, the son of Samuel Presley and Mary Hardin Sligh. His parents came to Florida in 1854 and settled in Marion county; after the Civil War they settled on Lake Griffin, and Mr. Sligh's father ran the first steamboat from Silver Springs to Palatka. Mr. Sligh was educated in the schools of Lake county and under private tutors.

In 1883 he entered the citrus fruit business, and he has expanded this business until he has become one of the largest individual packers and shippers of the State. Along with his packing and shipping business, he has always had large grove holdings, now owning five or six groves in Orange county, one of the largest groves in Osceola county, and one in Seminole county. Four of these groves he set out and brought into bearing himself. He also has seventy-five acres of vegetables in Lake and Osceola counties.

Mr. Sligh is a member of the Elks and Knights of Pythias, of which organization he has been a member for 40 years. He also belongs to the National League of Commission Merchants, American Fruit & Vegetable



Shippers Association, and other associations working for the betterment of the produce industry, and is a member of the Kiwanis Club.

He married Helen S. Putnam in Orlando, on July 28, 1917.

### *COL. JAMES H. HIRSCH*

JAMES HUGO HIRSCH was born in Chicago, July 20, 1869, the son of Adolph M. and Matilda Hildebrandt Hirsch. His father was a pioneer resident of Chicago, where he had done early civil engineering and railway work, and served as Assistant City Engineer for 32 years. Col. Hirsch secured his education in the schools of Chicago and Notre Dame University, South Bend, Indiana.

Until some 15 years ago, Col. Hirsch was in the wholesale clothing manufacturing business in Chicago under the firm name of James H. Hirsch & Company, a large and nationally known concern. He first came to Orlando in 1912; was for many years in the real estate business as a member of the firm of J. N. Bradshaw & Co., formerly Lord and Bradshaw. Since the death of Col. Bradshaw he has carried on the business for himself. He owns a number of valuable properties in Orange county, including the 30 acre orange grove in Maitland where he resides. Among the most important developments in which he has been interested are Lawndale, which was sold out as a whole, and Virginia Heights in Winter Park, the first high class subdivision developed in Orange county.

Col. Hirsch is a member of the Episcopal church, the Chicago Athletic Club, The Royal Arcanum, the Masonic Order and a life member of the York Chapter. He was formerly a member of the city council in Chicago, the Lincoln Park Commission, and a member of Governor Yates' Staff. He married Anna M. Fox in South Bend, Indiana, March 1, 1883; they have two children, Harold H. of Chicago, and Verna M. of Lake Stearns, Florida.

Mrs. Hirsch is an accomplished musician, and is active in promoting musical studies through the Florida Federation of Music Clubs. She has also served as chairman of the committee on Music Libraries in the National Federation of Music Clubs, in which position she has been highly successful in securing the establishment of musical departments in the public libraries of the country.

### *C. P. DICKINSON*

CHARLES P. DICKINSON was born in Morven, Georgia, May 4, 1879, the son of Edward N. and Nancy Dickinson. At the age of three years he came to Florida with his mother, settling in Madison county. He attended the schools in Madison county, and later taught school there, studying law privately while doing so. In 1906 he moved to Orange county, and served



as principal of the public school of Winter Park. He was admitted to the Florida bar in 1909; in 1911 he began the practice of law in Orlando, engaging in general practice, but with some emphasis on real estate legal matters. On January 1, 1926, he was joined in this practice by his older brother, Judge J. J. Dickinson of Sanford, under the firm name of Dickinson and Dickinson.

Mr. Dickinson is a member of the Chamber of Commerce and of the Country Club, and a Knight of Pythias. He married Marie Darby of Winter Park in Sanford, August 24, 1914.

In addition to his legal interests, he owns a number of valuable real estate holdings, including some 56 acres of orange grove. Mr. Dickinson is a striking example of the success which may be achieved in Florida despite early disadvantages, by industry, intelligence, persistent effort and diligent study.

#### *W. A. WHITCOMB*

WILLIAM ARTHUR WHITCOMB was born in McLean county, Illinois, May 19, 1869, the son of Jeremiah and Lucinda Grey Whitcomb. He was educated in the schools of Illinois. Leaving the home farm in 1889, he became interested in the lumber and hardware business at Downs, Illinois, until his removal to Bloomington, Illinois, in 1900, where he engaged in general real estate business.

Becoming largely interested in Seminole county, Florida, he took up his residence in Sanford in 1918, and in 1920 removed to Orlando, where he is principally occupied with the development and marketing of his own properties. He is president of the Loch Haven project, owning 75 per cent of the stock in the enterprise. This property embraces 110 acres in the northern district of Orlando, and fronts for one mile on beautiful lakes. It was put on the market in 1926.

Mr. Whitcomb is an elder in the Park Lake Presbyterian church, and a member of the Chamber of Commerce and the Orlando Realty Board.

He married Agnes Dooley, in Downs, Illinois, in September, 1893. Their three children are Donald D., Glenn M., and Miriam.

#### *JUDGE T. PICTON WARLOW*

THOMAS PICTON WARLOW was born in India, of English parentage. He is a descendant of the Picton-Warlow family of Glamorgenshire, Wales; his maternal grandfather was a clergyman of the Church of England. His father was a captain in the Seventh Hussar Regiment of the English Army, serving in India.

Judge Warlow received his education in England, France and Switzerland, and came to Orlando in November, 1884. Four years after his arrival,



he was admitted to the bar, and became associated with the legal firm of Massey & Willcox. He formed a partnership with Mr. Massey, under the firm name of Massey & Warlow, in 1894; this firm, now known as Massey, Warlow & Carpenter, has enjoyed a very extensive practice.

Judge Warlow became county solicitor in 1907, and judge of the County Criminal Court of Record in 1911.

In 1893, Judge Warlow took part in organizing the State Bank, now the State Bank of Orlando and Trust Company, and has served as its vice-president from the first. The bank was organized just prior to the calamitous freeze of 1894-95, which wrecked many financial institutions throughout south Florida, and temporarily paralyzed the business of the state; the State Bank survived this disaster, and has steadily and rapidly increased its operations and resources up to the present time. A historical sketch of this strong and conservative financial institution may be found in the narrative section of this work. Part One.

Judge Warlow has been prominent in the fraternal organizations of the city and the state. As a Mason, he has served as Deputy Grand Master for the Thirteenth District of Florida, Grand Master of the Florida Grand Lodge, and Grand High Priest of the Royal Arch Masons; he is a Shriner, and Exalted Ruler of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. He is a member of the Chamber of Commerce, of which he was formerly president, and a member of the Executive Committee.

Judge Warlow is a member of the Wright-Warlow Company, dealers in investment securities.

Judge Warlow is president of the Associated Charities of the city, and has for many years given his services as counsel of the Florida Audubon Society.

Judge Warlow is by conviction, no less than by family tradition, a zealous church man, active in the affairs of the Florida Diocese of the Protestant Episcopal church, and in the work of St. Luke's Cathedral in Orlando.

Judge Warlow married Halle Wright, in 1894; their children, all residents of Orlando, are Helen (Mrs. George H. Strickland), Grace Picton (Mrs. Leal G. Barr), and Thomas Picton, Jr., now a student.

Mrs. Warlow has been a foremost leader in the social, musical, charitable, and religious life of Orlando; she is an active member of Sorosis and of the Rosalind Club. She was responsible for the organization, and largely for the maintenance, of the Orlando Day Nursery, and was its first president; the Kiwanis Club has for some years, at her request, served as sponsor for this fine charity. As a former teacher of music, and an accomplished singer, Mrs. Warlow has done much to foster musical interest, and educate musical taste, in the city; she is also an effective writer, both in verse and prose.



*ARTHUR F. LANDSTREET*

ARTHUR F. LANDSTREET was born in Chattanooga, Tennessee, March 5, 1891, the son of G. F. and Ida N. Landstreet. He came with his father to Dania, Florida, in 1904. He was educated in the schools of Atlanta, Georgia, and attended Rollins Academy and College for six years; he was graduated from the Ohio Wesleyan University in 1914, with the Degree of A. B.

After his graduation he spent a year in Miami, and was then employed by the Wilson & Toomer Fertilizer Company as manager of their branch in Winter Garden. He came to Orlando in 1917, where he established a branch office of the Wilson & Toomer Fertilizer Company, which he managed for two years. He then engaged in the automobile business with Nixon Butt, under the firm name of The Butt-Landstreet Company; during the continuation of this partnership, they financed, erected and owned the Phillips building, which they afterwards sold. Mr. Landstreet then became distributor for the Autocar truck. In 1923 he became a director in the Bank of Orange, and was connected with this bank in an active capacity on the outside. He acted as manager of the Angebilt Hotel from June, 1924, to September, 1925. In November, of 1924, he took on the agency for the Chrysler car with S. S. Ferguson. In August, of 1925, this business was reorganized as Scott-Landstreet, Inc., covering seven counties of central Florida. In 1926, he formed a company to lease the Fort Gatlin Hotel for 99 years, and is president of the company. He is also president of the Lake Ivanhoe Development and Construction Company, which owns a large tract of land on Lake Ivanhoe.

Mr. Landstreet is a deacon in the First Presbyterian church of Orlando, and is a member of the Masonic Order and a Shriner.

He was married on June 17, 1925, at Delaware, Ohio, to Lucile G. Somerside, and has two daughters, Lucile Lenore, and Elizabeth Jane.

Mr. Landstreet is an outstanding illustration of the opportunities which Orange county affords to young men of ability and character.

*JAMES A. STINSON*

JAMES ARTHUR STINSON was born in Irwinton, Georgia, July 10, 1894, the son of Ira B. and Lou Ella Brooks Stinson. His education was secured in the public schools of Irwinton, the high school of Warthen, Georgia, the Hearn Academy at Cave Spring, Georgia, and the North Georgia Agricultural College at Dahlonega, Georgia; during his second year at this institution he was a corporal, and his squad won the prize as the best drilled squad in Company A; during his third year he was Senior Color Sergeant. Was a member of the Decora Literary Society at the latter institution.



He started his business career in the bank at Toombsboro, Georgia; afterward he moved to Girard, Georgia, and later to Macon, Georgia, where he was employed for two years by the Fourth National Bank. He came to Orlando, February 15, 1920, and became connected with the Orlando Bank and Trust Company; he was an assistant cashier of this enterprise when he resigned in 1923. He was appointed to succeed J. C. Barnard as city clerk of Orlando in September, 1923, and has been reappointed to this office four times as a testimonial to his faithful and efficient service.

During the World War, Mr. Stinson served with a machine gun battalion at Camp Hancock, Georgia.

He is a junior deacon and clerk of the First Baptist church of Orlando, a York and Scottish Rite Mason, Shriner and Eastern Star, and a member of the Orlando and Orange County Chambers of Commerce, Civitan Club, Florida Automobile Association and American Legion. He is unmarried.

### *S. B. HILL*

SUMPTER BROOK HILL, a pioneer resident of Orange county, was born in Clayton, Alabama, May 18, 1857, the son of James Ervin and Louise Morris Hill, both natives of South Carolina. He came to Florida with his parents when he was 14 years old, reaching Maitland on January 5, 1872; he has lived continuously in Maitland since that time.

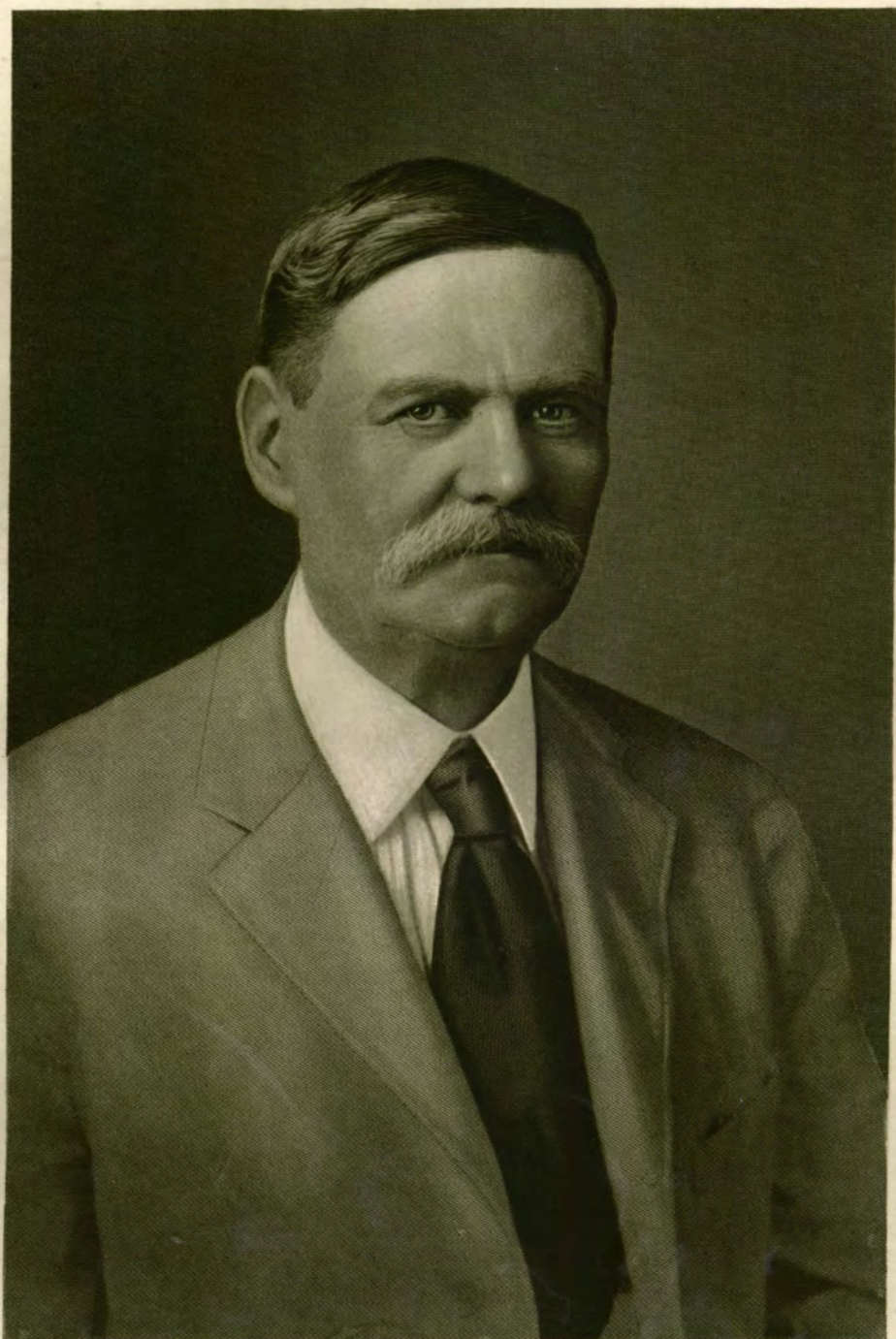
Mr. Hill received his early education in the public schools of his native state, and graduated with the first class of the East Florida Seminary, now the University of Florida. He graduated later from the law department of Vanderbilt University, and was admitted to the bar both in Tennessee and in Florida, but he never engaged in the practice of law.

Mr. Hill was engaged in the citrus nursery business, and in the mercantile business during nearly all of his life in Maitland; he retired from all active business some six years ago, since which time he had been occupied with the care of his orange grove properties.

Mr. Hill has always taken an active and influential part in the affairs of the town; he served as mayor for several terms, and was a member of the council, and held many other offices of public trust. There was no concern having to do with the welfare and development of the community, in which he did not take a leading part. The site of the public school was given by him for this use, and the school was named the Hill school in his honor. His sons have followed in their father's footsteps in efforts to promote the well-being of the community.

Mr. Hill married Georgiana Trout at Staunton, Virginia; their children are Margarite Agnes, (Mrs. S. J. Stiggins) of Maitland, Katheline Louise (Mrs. G. C. Bucher) Georgiana, and two sons, J. Harold Hill and S. B. Hill, Jr. Mrs. Hill and all their children survive Mr. Hill, and live in





*S. B. Hill.*



Maitland, except Mrs. Bucher, whose home is in Santiago, Cuba; there are also two surviving sisters, Mrs. B. A. Galloway of Maitland, and Mrs. Abram Hunter of Winter Park, and two brothers, C. H. Hill and T. J. Hill, both of whom reside in Maitland.

Mr. Hill died suddenly in his orange grove, April 6, 1927, of the present year. He had been in the best of health and spirits, and his death caused a severe shock not only to his family, but to all his friends and neighbors.

### *C. FRED WARD*

CHARLES FREDERICK WARD, the son of Charles H. and Emma R. Chubb Ward, was born in Montpelier, Vermont, in 1874. His parents moved to Florida some 45 years ago, and have been highly esteemed residents of Winter Park since 1886. Mr. Ward returned to Vermont in 1894 and was engaged in the grocery business in that state for ten years. In 1904 he came back to Winter Park and established the largest poultry farm in Florida; he also conducted the Pioneer Store for sometime. In 1910 he established the Lakemont Dairy, one of the most extensive dairies in the county, with 150 cows, and with all modern equipment.

Mr. Ward is now serving his fourth consecutive term as mayor of Winter Park, of which he is also city manager; he is a member of the Business Men's Club, and a former president of the Chamber of Commerce. He has been indefatigable in his service to the city, which has made extraordinary progress in all directions during his term of office.

He was married to Clara Layton, a graduate of Rollins College, and their children are Orrin H., Frederick H., Carrol and Charles Rodney. Mrs. Ward is a former president of the Winter Park Women's Club, and has written and published a number of interesting articles on the early history of the town; she has been of great service in the preparation of this work.

### *J. H. SADLER*

JAMES HARDY SADLER was born in Anderson, South Carolina, April 21, 1859; he is the son of James H. and Catherine E. Speer Sadler. His father lost his life in the Civil War, and his mother came to Florida at the close of the war. Mrs. Sadler was the daughter of Judge J. G. Speer, a distinguished pioneer of Orange county who bestowed its name on Orlando.

Mr. Sadler came to Florida with his mother and two sisters, and established his residence at what is now Tildenville about 1878. He homesteaded 160 acres on Black Lake Road; he has sold a portion of this land, but still owns 35 acres of the tract, most of it in an orange grove. He also has other citrus groves in the neighborhood of Tildenville, some 150 acres altogether.



Mr. Sadler was one of the pioneers in vegetable growing in this part of the county, and had great influence in promoting this enterprise. As was to be expected, he encountered great difficulties and perplexities in shipping his crops in the early days.

Mr. Sadler has been president of the Bank of Oakland ever since it was organized; he is also director of the South Lake Apopka Citrus Association, of which he is one of the organizers. He was elected treasurer of Orange county for three successive terms. He is a member and an elder of the Presbyterian church of Oakland, a Mason and a Shriner.

Mr. Sadler married Minnie Tilden of Tildenville, who had been a student in Rollins College; their children are Ralph T., Julian E., James C., Edith, Catherine and Floyd H. The family lives in a beautiful home which Mr. Sadler built at Tildenville in 1906.

#### *E. B. MENDSEN*

EDWARD B. MENDSEN is a native of Chicago, where he was born September 12, 1871; he is the son of Edward and Mary Mendsen; his father was a pioneer settler in Chicago, in 1849. He received his education in the schools of Chicago and Evanston.

Mr. Mendsen was engaged in the manufacture of paper for a number of years in Michigan, first with the Butler Paper Company of Chicago, and then with the Michigan Paper Company of Plainville; he took up his residence in Winter Park in 1921.

In 1922, Mr. Mendsen became connected with the Bank of Winter Park as vice-president; in 1923 he served as vice-president and cashier; in 1925 he became president and active head of the bank. During this period deposits in the bank have grown from \$287,000.00 to more than \$1,350,000.00

Both as banker and citizen, Mr. Mendsen has been active in promoting the interests of Winter Park; he is a member of the Business Men's Club, and of the Aloma Country Club; he is also a Mason. He married Cornelia C. Cleveland, at Kalamazoo, Michigan, and has one child, John C.

#### *O. P. SWOPE*

OLIVER P. SWOPE was born in Seymour, Indiana, September 10, 1875, the son of Edward M. and Mary Swope. At the age of nine he moved with his family to Wichita, Kansas, and Mr. Swope received his education in the schools of that city. For many years he was engaged in the real estate business in Wichita, and also traveled out of that city as a traveling salesman.

In 1910 he moved to Sanford, and for two years handled the development of some 2,000 acres of farming and trucking land in Black Hammock along the south shore of Lake Jesup. In 1923 he removed to Orlando,





G. P. Swope



and since that time has lived there; he has engaged in the building of homes on his own properties for resale, not only in Orlando but also in Kissimmee, Oviedo and Sanford.

Mr. Swope was county commissioner of Seminole county for six years, and has been very active in the successful campaigns of the Y. M. C. A. and the liberty loans. He was president of the Orlando Realty Board in 1926, president of the Kiwanis Club for 1927, and president of the Orange County Y. M. C. A. for the past three years. He is chairman of the board of stewards of the First Methodist church, a director in the First National Bank of Orlando, vice-president of the Bank of Oviedo, a director of the Orange County Building and Loan Association, and a director in the Morris Plan Bank and is interested in a number of other companies. He is a Mason, Shriner, Elk and Modern Woodman. He married Ella M. Shirley in Oklahoma in 1909; they have three children, Sidney M., Shirley M., and Olive P.

### *C. S. RYBOLT*

CHARLES STEPHEN RYBOLT was born in Mulberry, Ohio, in 1870, the son of Stephen J. Rybolt and Eunice Nichols Rybolt. His parents came to Melrose, Florida, some 40 years ago, as winter residents.

Mr. Rybolt received a high school education in Ohio, and attended the Ohio Wesleyan University, also graduated at Nelson Business College in Cincinnati, Ohio. Mr. Rybolt came to Florida in 1884, first to Melrose, and later to St. Petersburg. He organized the Lakawanna Springs Poultry Co., which carried on a chicken farm at Lackawanna Springs for some time; this enterprise was not successful, and Mr. Rybolt returned to the north; in 1908 he came again to Jacksonville, and for two years managed the department store of Cohen Brothers, and for three years the Wilson Dry Goods Company. He came to Orlando November 1, 1914, and entered the Yowell-Duckworth Company, which was succeeded by the Yowell-Drew Company, of which Mr. Rybolt is now a director, and secretary and treasurer. This company occupies the largest building devoted to merchandising in Central Florida, and did a business during last year of nearly \$2,000,000.00, having patrons in all parts of the state. He is former secretary and treasurer of the Orlando Potteries, and owns a large amount of real estate in and about the city.

Mr. Rybolt is president of the Retail Merchants Association of Orlando, and former vice-president and treasurer of the Chamber of Commerce. He has been especially active in the Y. M. C. A. work; during his presidency of the Lions Club, this organization gave \$10,500.00 to the Y. M. C. A.

Mr. Rybolt married Florence A. McGary, daughter of Judge McGary of Cincinnati, in 1925.



*DR. H. M. BEARDALL*

HAROLD M. BEARDALL was born near Sanford, February 5, 1885, the son of William and Florence Bonsor Beardall, both of whom were native of England. They were married in New York. Mr. Beardall was the representative of an English Land Company which established a considerable colony in Florida.

Dr. Beardall attended the public and high schools of Sanford, and the Porter Military academy in Charlestown; he graduated with the degree of M. D. from the University of Louisville Medical School in 1908. He spent two years in the leading hospitals in New York city after his graduation, and two years as Government Physician and Surgeon in the National Military Home at Leavenworth, Kansas; he returned to Orlando in 1912 and engaged in the general practice of medicine; since this time, he has taken post-graduate courses of study in Boston and Chicago.

Dr. Beardall enlisted in June, 1917, in the Medical Corps of the United States Army, and was commissioned in August of the same year as First Lieutenant at Camp Dick. He went overseas with the Three Hundred and Twelfth Field Hospital, Seventy-eighth Division, and was in command of this hospital. He was commissioned as Captain, April 24, 1918, and Major in September, 1918; he was discharged from the service, November 25, 1919.

Dr. Beardall is a member of the American, Southern, Florida, and County Medical Societies, of the Orlando Country Club, of the Chamber of Commerce, of the American Legion, and of St. Luke's Cathedral church; he is also a Kiwanian, and an Elk.

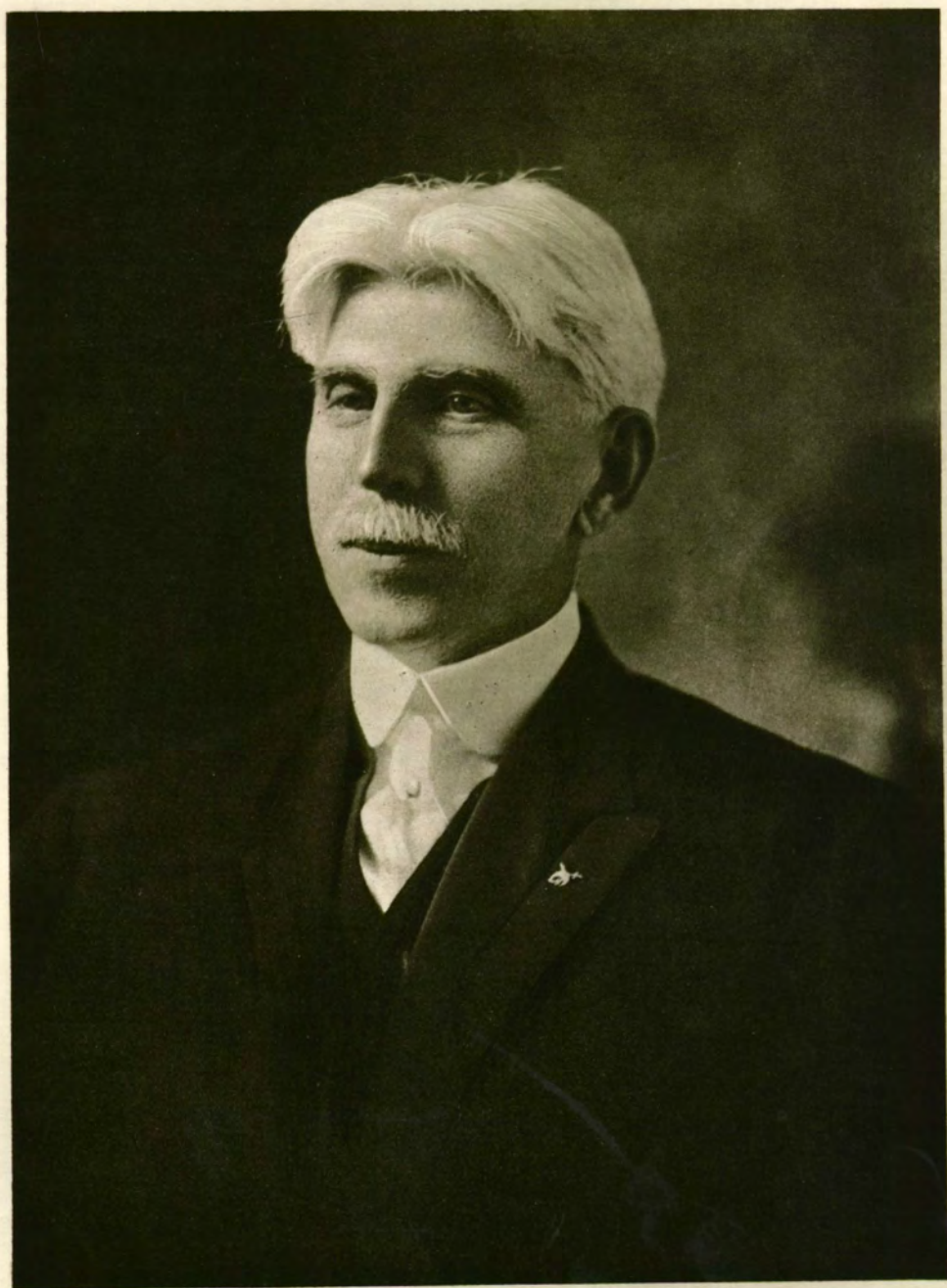
Dr. Beardall married Laura J. Fagan, of Far Rockaway, L. I., in 1913 at Charleston, South Carolina.

*W. R. O'NEAL*

WILLIAM RUSSEL O'NEAL was born near Belpre, Ohio, June 4, 1864, the son of Edwin Russel and Nancy Jane Scott O'Neal. He is of sterling Scotch-Irish descent. Mr. O'Neal's paternal grandfather was a Virginian by birth; his maternal grandparents were natives of Pennsylvania. His education was secured in the public schools of his native town; he graduated from the senior high school. He studied law and was for a time engaged in the insurance business.

Mr. O'Neal came to Orlando in 1886, and at once entered into the business and religious life of the community with energy and enthusiasm. The following year he engaged in the book and stationery business, and the firm of Curtis and O'Neal was for many years perhaps the only and always the leading concern of this kind in the town. Mr. Curtis died in 1923,





*W. R. O'Neal*



greatly beloved and mourned by the entire community, and the business was soon afterward merged with that which had been formerly conducted by W. S. Branch, the firm name now being the O'Neal-Branch Company.

Mr. O'Neal also conducts an extensive business in insurance and loans as the Curtis & O'Neal Company. He is president of the First Bond and Mortgage Company and a director of the Orlando Building and Loan Association. He is also connected as a stockholder and officer with several other important financial and business interests, being chairman of the Board of Directors of the First National Bank; secretary and treasurer of the Seminole Hotel Company, which owns and operates the leading tourist hotel in this part of the state at Winter Park; and president of the Sub-tropical Midwinter Fair which is held annually in Orlando. For many years he was actively connected with the State Bank and Trust Company, the oldest and perhaps the strongest banking institution now existant in Central Florida; he is still a stockholder in this bank. During nearly the whole life of Rollins College at Winter Park, Mr. O'Neal acted as secretary and treasurer of the institution, giving to it almost unlimited time, thought and effort; he still acts as secretary and chairman of the Finance Committee. His service to the college, and through the college to Florida, cannot be computed nor forgotten—this is the testimony of the former president of the institution who writes this notice. In fitting recognition of these services Mr. O'Neal received the degree of Doctor of Laws at the recent inauguration of President Hamilton Holt.

Mr. O'Neal has been a conspicuous figure in the civic, political and religious life of the community. A republican by conviction, he has been at various times the candidate of his party for superintendent of Public Instruction, Congress, Governor and United States Senator. He has served his city as acting mayor, president of the City Council and chairman of the school board. For 25 years he has served as superintendent of the Sunday School of the First Presbyterian church, of which he is also the ruling elder.

Mr. O'Neal is a Mason, a Knight Templar, Shriner, Odd Fellow, Knight of Pythias and Elk. He has received abundant recognition in these organizations, being a Past Grand Chancellor of the Knight of Pythias, and chairman of the finance committee of insurance in the Supreme Lodge; a Past High Priest of the Royal Arch Masons; and Past Grand Commander of the Knights Templar.

Mr. O'Neal married Mabelle Copeland in Berwick, Maine, August, 1886; she died in 1910. Their children are Helen (Mrs. Erik S. Palmer of New Haven, Connecticut), a pianist of distinction, and Mabelle, who has served as librarian in Rollins College and Rockford College, Illinois. In 1914, he married Mrs. Jessie Mallory Thayer, who died November, 1923.



*WILLIAM H. MOUSER*

WILLIAM H. MOUSER was born in Sullivan, Illinois, on December 8, 1882, the son of Abram C. and Emma M. Mouser. The first member of the family to come to America settled in Virginia in 1720, and branches of the family later moved to Ohio and Pennsylvania. When Mr. Mouser was three years old his father went to California, and there he spent his boyhood and received his education in the schools of San Diego. He entered the fruit business in Los Angeles, and was for some time connected with the sales department of the California Fruit Growers' Association. In 1908 he came to Florida, where he became vice-president and sales manager for Chase and Company at Jacksonville. In 1924 he moved to Orlando as a representative of Chase and Company, but in 1925 he opened an office of his own under the name of W. H. Mouser & Co., Citrus Fruit Marketing Agency, and devoted his energies to the packing and marketing of citrus fruit for growers, and also to the purchase of crops on the trees. This business has prospered and expanded until now Mr. Mouser operates seven packing houses in the state—one in Orlando, one in Putnam county, one in Lake county, two in Polk county, one in Manatee county and one in Pinellas county.

Mr. Mouser is a member of the Rotary Club, a Mason, Knight Templar, Elk and Shriner, and has always been active in civic affairs as well as in his particular business. He was a director of the Chamber of Commerce for 1927, a director of the Fruitmen's Association of Florida, of the Growers' and Shippers' League of Florida and of the American Fruit and Vegetable Shippers' Association. He is president of W. H. Mouser & Co., Inc.

In 1900 Mr. Mouser married Mary E. Weaver in San Diego, California; they have two children, Ethel B. and Richard W.

*ARTHUR SCHULTZ*

ARTHUR SCHULTZ was born in Atlantic City, New Jersey, July 28, 1890, the son of William and Josephine L. Schultz. His parents moved to Winter Park in 1890, and his father was the proprietor of the Pioneer Store until his death.

Mr. Schultz came to Winter Park as an infant, and received his education in the public schools of that place, including the high school. For ten years he was engaged in the retail grocery business in the Pioneer Store, and since that time has operated extensively in real estate, with the Winter Park Land Company, of which he is sales manager. He has been a member of the city council off and on for some 15 years, and was for sometime its president.

From 1921 to 1925 he was on the Board of County Commissioners, and served as its chairman; he was also the president of the Winter Park Board of Trade, and later of the Winter Park Chamber of Commerce.



Mr. Schultz is a member of the Business Men's Club, of the Aloma Country Club and of the Methodist Episcopal church, which he serves as superintendent of the Sunday School and chairman of the board of stewards; he is also a Mason. He married Mary Alberta Smith, daughter of M. M. Smith of Winter Park; they have one son, William Smith Schultz.

During Mr. Schultz' chairmanship of the Board of County Commissioners, hard-surfaced roads were built in the county to the value of \$2,350,000.00, and an additional bond issue for \$150,000.00 was carried for court house improvements, which finally resulted in the erection of the new court house, the site of which was purchased for \$250,000.00 during the same period.

#### *G. R. RAMSEY*

GUY ROBERT RAMSEY was born in Amoy City, Pennsylvania, October 16, 1871. He is the son of William and Sarah Nice Ramsey; his father came from Scotland, and his mother was a descendant from French Huguenots. He received the degree of Bachelor of Arts from Hobart College, in the state of New York, in 1894, and later studied civil engineering by himself. He was employed by the Erie Railroad for four years as a resident engineer, and with the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul, Pittsburgh, McKeesport and Connellsville Electric Railway, and others, until 1910, when he became assistant city engineer in Spokane, Washington, in charge of outside construction.

Mr. Ramsey came to Orlando in 1910 and engaged in the practice of civil engineering; he has been extensively employed by the municipal authorities in various cities of the state, his work including paving, sewers, waterworks, and the like. He built the first brick road in Orange county in 1914-15, 57 miles in length; he also built roads in Seminole and Osceola counties.

Mr. Ramsey was city engineer for seven years, off and on, from 1912 to 1923, and was elected a member of the Board of City Commissioners in 1926. He is a member of the Rotary Club, a 33rd degree Mason, a Shriner and a member of the Kappa Alpha fraternity. He married Bessie L. Little, at Columbus, Ohio, in 1909, and has two daughters, Rose and Rita.

#### *B. H. ROPER*

BERT HAUSE ROPER was born in Winter Garden in 1879, the son of Emmett and Elizabeth Roper. His father came to Winter Garden before the Civil War, together with his father, William, and both took up homesteads there. Mr. Roper has seen Winter Garden grow from almost nothing to its present populous and prosperous condition.

Mr. Roper received his education in the public schools of Winter Garden, and has been engaged in truck farming and orange growing nearly all his



life. He has a packing house in Lake county, and another at Winter Garden, and owns now about 125 acres of orange groves and about 40 acres of trucking land. He still owns a part of the homestead which was taken up by his grandfather; he was taught by both his grandfather and father to value, acquire and retain real estate.

Mr. Roper has served his community as a member of the town council, and as mayor for two years. Several miles of street paving have been laid down during his term of mayor, and the sewerage system has been greatly extended. He has been president of the Winter Garden Chamber of Commerce, and is a member of the Rotary Club, a Mason, and a Shriner.

Mr. Roper married Charlotte Smizer at Columbia, Tennessee.

### *MAHLON GORE*

MAHLON GORE was born in Climax, Michigan, February 4, 1837, the son of Larned and Lucinda Bowne Gore. The Gore family are of French Huguenot extraction; the first of the name who came to America was John Gore, who settled in Pennsylvania in 1635.

Mr. Gore attended school in Michigan, but he always asserted, and with excellent right, that his education was secured in a printing office. He went to Iowa in 1860, and took up a homestead there, and lived for 20 years in Iowa and other western states, until he came to Orlando in 1880.

Mr. Gore came to Orlando on account of enfeebled health. He bought the Orange County Reporter soon after his arrival here; this was a weekly journal, and under Mr. Gore's able and energetic management, the paper came to have a great influence among the people of the county, and to attract a large number of immigrants from other states. Mr. Gore conducted this newspaper for some ten years, and then sold it to Mr. S. R. Hudson. He then went into the real estate business, at first in connection with former Governor Sinclair. During the later part of his life he was greatly interested in citrus culture. He had a number of orange groves, all located on and around Lake Gatlin. He located and cut through Gatlin avenue, and developed Gore's subdivision. His name will always be remembered in Orlando by the fact that Gore avenue was named for him, he being the first to erect a house on this street.

Mr. Gore was elected as mayor of Orlando for three successive terms; as a member of the town council, he framed and introduced the ordinance under which Orlando's famous oaks were planted.

Mr. Gore was a member of the Unitarian church, a Mason, and a Knight Templar.

He married Josephine Dolly, November 11, 1860, and she died in 1903. He married Caroline Grosenger, who died in 1924. Mr. Gore's only daughter is Mrs. Owen Robinson, who lives near Lake Gatlin.





*S. A. Johnson*



*A. Y. FULLER*

ALPHEUS YOUNG FULLER was born in Alachua county, Florida, November 22, 1871; he is the son of Alpheus Wade and Helen Young Fuller; his mother was a native of South Carolina, and died when he was three months old; his father came from Georgia to Florida soon after the Civil War in which he was engaged, and settled in Alachua county. Mr. Fuller was educated in the schools of his native county and of Orlando, of which he became a resident in 1884. Both his parents died when he was a child, and he was raised by an aunt in Orlando. He entered upon the grocery business in this city at the age of 21 and continued in it for 17 years. After selling out his grocery business, he engaged in growing oranges, and also ran a dairy for four years. Sometime ago he retired from active business, and built a large and lovely home on East Colonial Drive, beyond the city limits of Orlando. He has dealt with marked success at various times in real estate, and still owns considerable real property.

Mr. Fuller is a Baptist in his church affiliations, and a Knight of Pythias. He was married in Kentucky to Mary A. Crawford; their children are James Kirby, Mary Ellen, Lelia Nora, Virginia Frances, and Emma Lucretia.

*SAMUEL A. JOHNSON*

SAM JOHNSON, as he was universally and affectionately called, in Orlando, was born February 28, 1857, in Salem, New Jersey. He learned the printing trade early in life and followed it for some years, first in Philadelphia, and afterward in Chicago, where he set type for the Daily News. He then became associated with the Standard Oil Company, later forming the Vacuum Oil Company, which he served as president.

Mr. Johnson came to Orlando about 25 years ago, and became active in the real estate business, organizing the Sam Johnson Company; in this business he was highly successful. He was a member of the first City Commission from 1913 to 1915, for a part of this period serving as acting mayor. He was active in the Chamber of Commerce and the Orlando Realty Board.

Mr. Johnson was a member of the Masonic Order, and Past Grand Commander of the Olivet Commandery, No. 4, and Most Eminent Commander of the Grand Commandery of Florida, Knight Templars; he was president of the Orlando Shriner Club, and Grand High Priest of the Egyptian Temple. He was an enthusiastic sportsman, hunting being his favorite diversion. He was deeply interested in the cause of bird, game and fish conservation, and was a member, and at one time president, of the Orlando Chapter of the Izaak Walton League of America.



He was married to Abbie Louise Harvey, and died November 28, 1926, at the age of 69 years, leaving one step-daughter, Marion (Mrs. Thomas B. Brodwater of Orlando). Glowing tributes to his memory were paid in the local papers of the day following his death by N. P. Yowell, Mayor L. M. Autrey, Judge C. O. Andrews, H. H. Dickson, W. R. O'Neal, L. C. Massey, Senator M. O. Overstreet, L. L. Payne, and other leading citizens.

### *WILLIS L. PALMER*

WILLIS LUCULLUS PALMER was born in La Grange, Troup county, Georgia, December 13, 1854. He was the son of Jesse Alexander and Emily Geary Cotton Palmer, and was of English and Scotch descent. He attended Bowdoin College in 1873-75, and Emory College, Oxford, Georgia, 1875-77; he received the B. A. degree from this institution. In 1878 he became president of the Sulphur Springs Institute in Meriwether county, Georgia, and was president of Hamilton College, Hamilton, Georgia, from 1880 to 1882. In 1884 he was admitted to the Georgia bar.

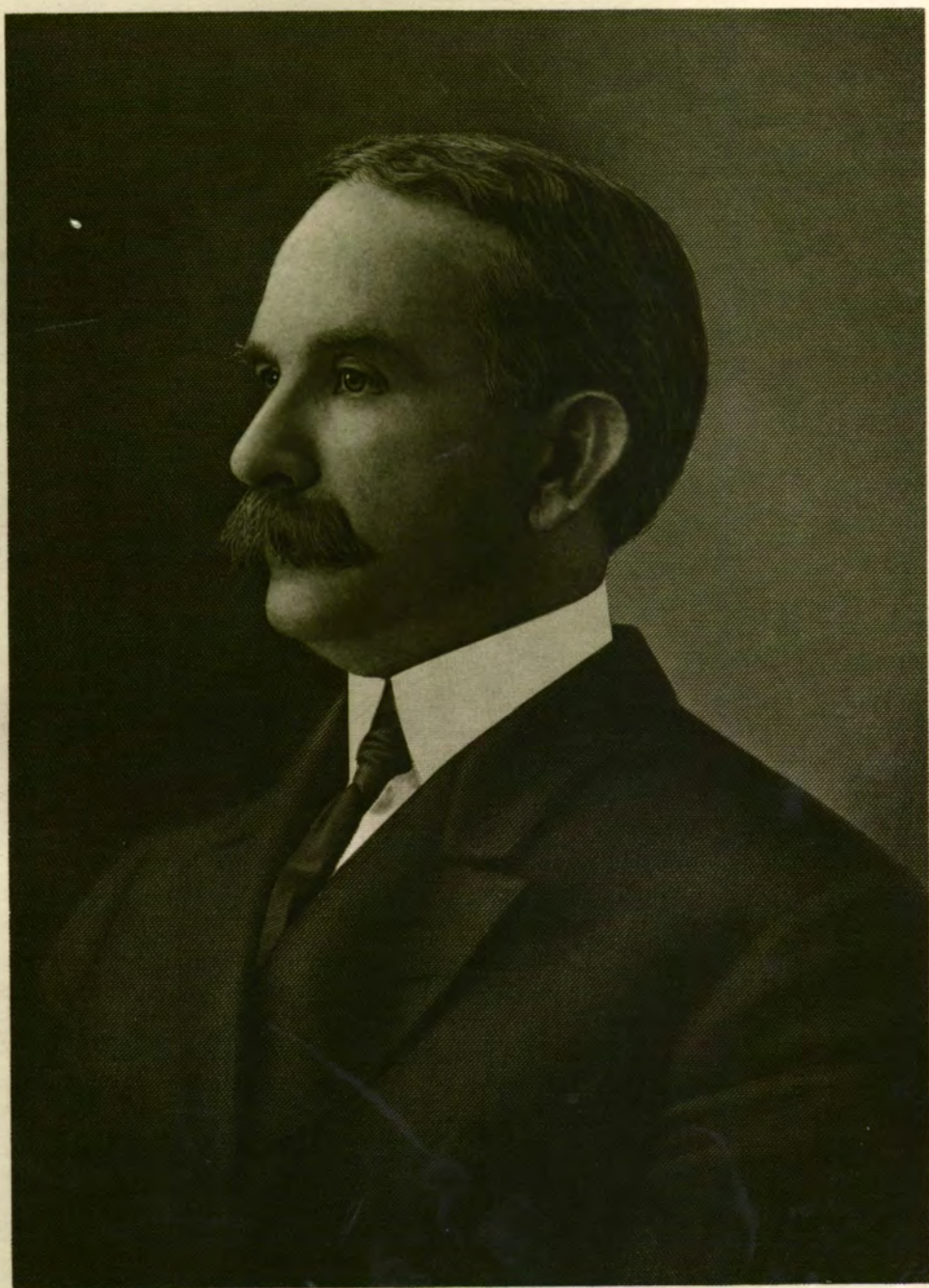
At the instance of Major M. R. Marks, Mr. Palmer moved to Orlando in 1885; he formed a partnership for the practice of law with Judge James D. Beggs, which partnership continued until the death of Judge Beggs in 1908. Mr. Palmer was admitted to the Florida bar in 1885 and to practice before the Supreme Court of the United States in 1891. He was active with Major Marks in formulating Orlando's system of shade trees, and carried on this work after the death of Major Marks.

In addition to his law practice, Mr. Palmer was interested and actively engaged in the growing of citrus fruits, in which business he was associated with the late Braxton Beachman. The first grove he purchased after his arrival in Orlando is still in his family. He was one of the organizers of the Florida Citrus Exchange, and also on the first Board of Directors of the Citizens' Bank of Orlando, and later with the Orlando Bank and Trust Company. He was energetically devoted to the creation of a system of good roads throughout Florida. In 1890 he was elected mayor of Orlando, and served three terms in this office; in 1899 and 1901 he represented Orange county in the Florida legislature. His work in courts and public life extended from Tallahassee and Jacksonville to Key West.

He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, South, and of the Kappa Alpha fraternity.

He married Martha Bayne McAlister of Danville, Kentucky, in Orlando, March 4, 1891; their children are Willia McAlister, born in Orlando February 8, 1892, died January 16, 1912; Donald McAlister, born in Orlando June 18, 1901, died December 17, 1902; Allison Everhart, born in Danville, Kentucky, September 20, 1897.





W. L. Salveson



Mr. Palmer died in Orlando October 30, 1912. He was distinguished for his courtesy, friendliness, civic patriotism and facile and delightful gift of public speech. The extent to which his ability and fine character were recognized, not in Orange county only, but also throughout the state, was shown when, years after his death, his son Allison took the bar examination before the Supreme Court sitting en banc at Tallahassee. His name on the list of applicants was recognized by members of the court, and he was publicly welcomed to the bar by the entire court as a tribute to his father's memory.

#### *ALLISON E. PALMER*

ALLISON E. PALMER was born in Danville, Kentucky, September 20, 1897, the son of Willis Lucullus and Martha B. Palmer. His early education was obtained in the Episcopal high school at Alexandria, Virginia, and he pursued college studies in the University of Virginia for two years, and graduated from the law school of this institution with the degree of LL. B., in 1920.

Mr. Palmer practiced law for a year in New York city with the firm of McKinstry, Taylor, Patterson & Ellis, at 60 Wall street, and came to Orlando in 1921, where he has been engaged in the practice of his profession from that time to the present, for a time with Carl B. Robinson, and later by himself. He served in the World War, at Camp Plattsburg and Camp Lee, and was commissioned as Second Lieutenant after the armistice. He is a member of the Phi Gamma Delta and Phi Delta Phi fraternities, of the Kiwanis and University Clubs of Orlando, and of both Country Clubs. Mr. Palmer married Leah Jane Dawson October 14, 1926. Miss Dawson was the daughter of former Governor W. M. O. Dawson of West Virginia.

#### *DR. W. C. PERSON*

W. C. PERSON was born in Franklin county, North Carolina, October 6, 1845; he is the son of Weldon E. and Mary A. Jeffries Person. He attended school, including high school, in Leuisburg, North Carolina, and took his degree in medicine at the Missouri Medical College in St. Louis, in 1873.

He moved from North Carolina to Missouri in 1862 with his father.

Dr. Person practiced medicine at Airmount and Coffeville, Mississippi, until 1890, when he came to Orlando for his health. He practiced medicine here until 1926, his office being on the corner of Church and Court streets for 27 years; he has been a leading physician and influential citizen of the city.



Dr. Person has been interested in the growing of citrus fruits, and still owns an orange grove; he built a home on the corner of Main and Jackson streets, in which he has lived for 36 years. He was city physician for about 15 years.

Dr. Person served in the Civil War from 1863 until the end, in the Third Mississippi Cavalry, Forrest's Corps.

He is a charter member of Post No. 54, United Confederate Veterans; only one other charter member of this organization, Captain B. M. Robinson, is now living. He is the oldest Mason now in Orlando, a Knight Templar; he has been a member of the Masonic order for half a century.

Dr. Person married Mary Sanford at Ripley, Tennessee, November 8, 1876; their children are Weldon E., of Atlanta, a physician and surgeon; Agnes; Willia (Mrs. W. L. Tilden); Jean Murry (Mrs. Bruce Floyd of Orlando); and there are five grand-children.

Dr. Person has the confidence and affection of multitudes in Orlando and the surrounding country, and is enjoying the fruits of a long and active life of ministry to the health and growth of the community.

#### *W. M. TRAER*

WILLIAM M. TRAER was born in Vinton, Iowa, July 30, 1876, the son of W. M. and Delia Boggs Traer; he attained his education in the public and high schools of his native state, and then entered the newspaper business, first with the Vinton Eagle, and afterward with the Wright County Monitor, the Cedar Rapids Republican, and the Burlington Hawk Eye, made famous by the writings of Robert Burdette. For ten years he edited and published the Western Telephone Journal, at Vinton.

Mr. Traer came to Florida in 1910, and published the Melbourne Times for one year, after which he moved to St. Augustine and established the Florida Farmer, a monthly periodical. He moved this business to Jacksonville in 1915, and continued it until 1926, when he took over the active management of the Winter Park Herald, which he had purchased the previous year. He erected the Herald plant, in which also he publishes the Florida Engineer and Contractor, for the Florida Engineering Society, and does job printing.

Mr. Traer is secretary of the Florida Livestock Association, and takes a very active and helpful part in the work of this organization; he is also a member of the Chamber of Commerce, Orlando Advertising Club, the Orange County Typothetae, and is an Elk.

Mr. Traer married Sarah Hallett, of Vinton, Iowa, in 1910; their children are William M., Jr., and J. Whitney.



*DR. ROBERT J. BIGELOW*

ROBERT JOHN BIGELOW was born in Jacksonville, Florida, January 14, 1835, the son of Robert John and Elizabeth Bigelow. His father moved from Massachusetts to the small settlement where the city of Jacksonville now stands.

Dr. Bigelow graduated from the Jefferson Medical College of Philadelphia, with the degree of Doctor of Medicine. He practiced his profession at Lake City for many years, and for some time in Branford, Suwanee county. He came to Ocoee in 1886, and was the first physician and druggist, and for many years the only one, in the town; he traversed a wide area in the practice of medicine, at first on horseback and later with a horse and buggy. During the Civil War, he served in Company D of the Fourth Florida Regiment; in the spring of 1862 he was commissioned assistant-surgeon and continued as such until honorably discharged near Tallahassee in the spring of 1865.

Dr. Bigelow was a devout and active member of the Methodist Episcopal church, South, and a Mason. He married Stella Ward of Lafayette county; their three children were John, deceased, Robert C., and Jessie F. (Mrs. E. F. Alford of Ocoee).

Dr. Bigelow died January 9, 1912.

*ROBERT C. BIGELOW*

ROBERT C. BIGELOW, the son of Dr. and Mrs. Robert J. Bigelow, mentioned above, was born in Lafayette county, Florida, March 1, 1879. He studied in the public school of Ocoee, and for a year in the Agricultural College at Lake City, which was subsequently absorbed in the University of Florida at Gainesville.

Mr. Bigelow conducted a grocery business in Ocoee from 1907 to 1917, since which time he has been engaged in truck farming and orange growing; he has eight acres in citrus fruits and leases 20 acres for the growing of vegetables.

Mr. Bigelow has been interested in all matters of civic concern in his town; he served for two terms on the Board of County Commissioners, 1920 to 1924. During his period of office as treasurer and town clerk of Ocoee, \$180,000.00 raised by bond issues, were expended for city improvements, and during his term as county commissioner, land was purchased for the new Court House now about complete at a cost of \$250,000.00, and bonds to the amount of \$2,500,000.00 were issued for the building of good roads, and the paving program was completed.

Mr. Bigelow served in the Spanish American War with Company F, First Florida Volunteer Regiment of Infantry; he is a member of the



Methodist Episcopal church, South, a charter member of the county Chamber of Commerce, a member of the county Democratic Executive Committee, and a Mason; he is unmarried.

*R. P. FOLEY*

REUBEN PRATT FOLEY was born in Wellsboro, Pennsylvania, January 1, 1863, the son of Andrew and Mary Pratt Foley. He received his education in the schools of Pennsylvania and Michigan, to which state he moved when a boy. Upon completion of his schooling, he engaged in the hotel business in Charlevoix, Michigan; he became manager of the Belvedere hotel in Charlevoix in 1897, and continued in that capacity until 1922.

In 1904 he was brought to Winter Park by Dr. W. F. Blackman to act as manager of the Virginia Inn. After several years of remarkable success in this undertaking, he organized the Seminole Hotel Company, which built the Seminole Hotel in 1912. Mr. Foley managed this fine hotel from its erection until his death January 24, 1927. The Seminole had about 100 hundred rooms, and its situation in five acres of beautiful grounds overlooking Lake Osceola made it one of the most attractive hotels in this part of the state. Mr. Foley later bought the Virginia Inn, and for some years acted as manager of both these fine hostleries. He was for some time president of the Charlevoix State Savings Bank, and an organizer and director of the bank of Winter Park.

He was a Mason and Knight Templar. He married Frances Edith Jones in St. Ignace, Michigan. Their children are Edith Jennette, John Sherwood, Mabel, James Pratt, Frances and Helen.

*JOHN SHERWOOD FOLEY*

JOHN SHERWOOD FOLEY, the eldest son of R. P. Foley, was born in St. Ignace, Michigan, February 18, 1897. He received his education in the schools of Michigan and the academy of Rollins College; then he attended the University of Pennsylvania, receiving the degree of Bachelor of Science in Economics from that institution in 1909. For two years thereafter he was engaged in the banking business in Chicago, but returned to Winter Park in 1921 as assistant to his father in the management of the Seminole Hotel and Virginia Inn. Upon the death of his father he succeeded him as president of the Seminole Hotel Company and manager of the hotel, in which position he has carried on his father's work with signal success.

During the World War, Mr. Foley was an ensign in the United States Navy, stationed at Great Lakes, Illinois. He is a member of the Chamber of Commerce.



*FRANK H. DAVIS*

FRANK H. DAVIS, a pioneer and leading citizen of Apopka, was born in Manchester, N. H., April 5, 1854. His father was Dr. E. H. Davis, for 30 years a physician in Manchester, and an army surgeon during the Civil War.

Mr. Davis was graduated from the Manchester high school in 1874, and was in business in Boston for a few years; he came to Apopka in April, 1876, took up a homestead, cleared land and planted an orange grove; he also had other groves at Plymouth, Winter Garden and elsewhere, as well as truck gardens. In this early time, Apopka was known as The Lodge; it had one mail delivery a week, and a single small store, supplies being hauled by wagon from Mellonville and later from a point on the Wekiwa river. He afterward opened a real estate office in Apopka, and continued in this business until his death in August 1925. At the time of his death, he was mayor of the town, and had been at various times a member of the common council. He was the first president of the Apopka board of trade, and was always active in this organization.

*JUDGE J. M. CHENEY*

JOHN MOSES CHENEY, lawyer and jurist, was born in Milwaukee, Wis., Jan. 6, 1859, son of Joseph Young and Juliette (McNab) Cheney. His father, a native of Vermont, was a musician. The son received his preliminary education at the New Hampton Literary Institution. He was graduated at the Boston University Law School in 1885 with the degree of LL. B., and in that year, he was admitted to practice in the Massachusetts supreme court, Boston. The following year he was admitted to practice also in the courts of Florida, and began the practice of his profession at Orlando, as a partner of Arthur F. Odlin, in the firm of Cheney & Odlin. He served as city attorney, Orlando, in 1889; was supervisor of the United States census for the 2nd district of Florida, 1900; was republican candidate for congress in that district in 1900 and 1904; served as United States attorney for the southern district of Florida, during 1906-12; was republican candidate for governor of Florida in 1908, and was United States judge for the southern district of Florida, from August 1912 to March 4, 1913, after which he resumed general practice at Orlando. In 1920 he was republican candidate for the United States senate. He was a member of the American Bar Association, Florida State Bar Association, Orange County Bar Association, and his cases included many important ones in the Federal and State Courts of Florida. Aside from his professional activities he promoted and organized in 1901 and was afterward secretary-treasurer and principal owner of the Orlando Water & Light Company, operating water, gas, electric and ice plants at Orlando. His chief forms of recreation were hunting, fishing and general out-of-doors sports.



A lover of music and amateur theatricals, he contributed his ability and support to these activities as well as all other civic affairs and improvements. He was a member of the B. P. O. Elks and Masonic Lodges, having served as Worshipful Master of Orlando Lodge No. 69 F. & A. M., and High Priest of Eureka Chapter, Royal Arch Masons. For a number of years, he served as trustee of Rollins College, at Winter Park. He was an ardent exponent of modern good roads and highways and one of the leaders in this movement in his county and section of the state.

In commemoration of his service the portion of the Dixie highway in Florida, from Orlando to Indian River City was officially named the Cheney Highway.

He was married November 23, 1886, to Elizabeth, daughter of Horace T. Alexander, a merchant of Bristol, N. H. They had three children, Glenn A., wife of Douglass R. Ellerbe; Donald A., and Joseph Young Cheney, all of whom survived him at his death in Orlando, Florida, June 2, 1922.

No other citizen of Orange county was more esteemed and beloved than Judge Cheney.

### *SETH WOODRUFF*

SETH WOODRUFF was born at Fort Reed, (now part of Sanford), Florida, March 10, 1862. His father William W. came from Pike county, Mississippi, in 1848, and settled at what was then Fort Mellon. The father bought land in this locality and was one of the early cattle men of the state. He was a member of the Florida Secession Convention held at Tallahassee in 1861.

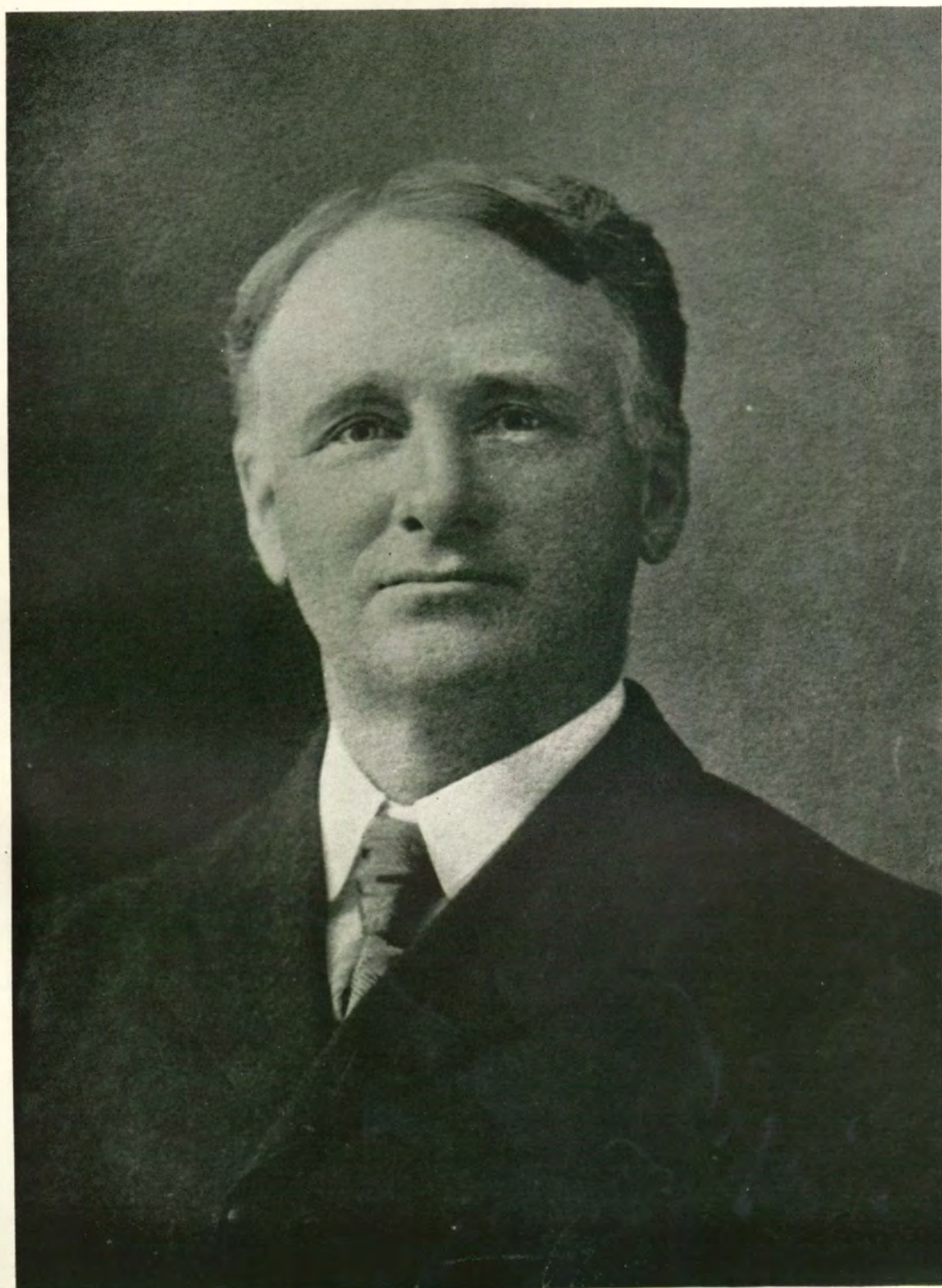
Seth Woodruff attended the public schools of Sanford and later went to Erskine College in South Carolina, where he graduated with the degree of A. B. in 1882. After leaving college he returned to Sanford where he worked in a store for sometime, and also engaged in the cattle business.

He was elected county tax assessor in 1892, at which time he moved to Orlando; Orlando and Sanford at that time both being in Orange county. Since residing in Orlando he has become active in many directions. He is one of the largest cattle men in the state, owning about 4,000 head in Orange, Volusia, Brevard and Seminole counties. He is also much interested in orange growing, and owns two large groves in Orange county.

Mr. Woodruff was one of the organizers of the Sub-Tropic Mid-Winter Fair, and was also one of the organizers and is a director in the First National Bank of Orlando. He was president of the Orlando Country Club from 1920 to 1922, and was food administrator for Orange county during the World War.

Besides having been tax collector of Orange county from 1892 to 1904, he was a member of the State legislature in 1917 to 1919, and prior to moving to Orlando he was tax collector, city clerk and treasurer of Sanford.





*J. McHenry*





Chauncey A. Boyer



Mr. Woodruff was a member of the committee which was responsible for the first bond issue of \$600,000 for county roads. This issue was the fore-runner of the many others that have been issued during the past few years, which have resulted in giving Orange county such a magnificent system of county roads.

Mr. Woodruff is a member of the county Chamber of Commerce, of the Elks, Knights of Pythias, Odd Fellows, Red Men and of the Kiwanis Club. He is also a member of the Orlando Chamber of Commerce of which he was president for two terms.

He was married at Orlando, in 1896, to Elizabeth Shine, and has one step-grandchild, Richard S. Woodruff.

#### *C. A. BOYER*

CHAUNCEY ATKINSON BOYER was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, May 30, 1890, the son of John and Elsie Lawrence Boyer. He is of English descent. After attending the public schools of Philadelphia he studied at Rollins College, taking a conspicuous part in the athletic activities of the institution; he then studied law at the University of Florida, receiving the degree of Bachelor of Laws in 1915. He was connected with the Herrmann Physical Training Institute for some two years, and helped pay his way through college by giving exhibitions of weight lifting, in which he has been interested for many years.

Mr. Boyer began the practice of law in Orlando in 1915; in 1920 he formed a partnership for the general practice of law with Leigh Newell under the firm name of Newell & Boyer. In the fall of 1926 he was appointed state's attorney for a four year term.

During the World War Mr. Boyer was a captain in the infantry, and saw service overseas with the 82nd division; he was also in charge of physical training work in Camp Gordon and Ft. Harrison.

He is a member of the American Legion, Kiwanis Club, Chamber of Commerce and the Phi Kappa Alpha and Phi Kappa Phi fraternities, and a Mason. He is a director in the Orlando Coliseum Corporation and in the Security Mortgage and Investment Company.

He married Esther Gerrish in Jacksonville, June 6, 1917; they have three children, Jack, Caroline and Dorothy.

#### *W. S. BRANCH, JR.*

WILLIAM S. BRANCH, JR., was born in Parker, South Dakota, then a territory, March 18, 1884, and was educated in the schools of his native town and the University of So. Dakota. He came to Orlando with his father's family in 1903.



Mr. Branch's first occupation in Florida was that of piano salesman, covering the entire state in the interests of the Cable Piano Company; he followed this business for some ten years, making his headquarters in Jacksonville and his home in Orlando. He then entered his father's store, and when this was consolidated with the Curtis-O'Neal Company, he became and is now the active manager and treasurer of the firm, under the name of O'Neal-Branch Company.

All of the members of the Branch family have had a notable talent for music, and Mr. Branch has served as the very efficient organist in St. Luke's cathedral for the past five years. He is a member and past president of the Rotary Club, a member of the Chamber of Commerce, a Mason and a Shriner.

Mr. Branch married Mildred B. Reed at Lawrence, Kansas, September 12, 1916. She is the niece of Verner Z. Reed of Denver, known as the wealthiest resident of that city. Their children are Dorothy, Margery and Robert Harold.

#### *GEORGE F. BRASS*

GEORGE F. BRASS was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, February 3, 1895, the son of Charles E. and Caroline Brass. He was educated in the public schools of Philadelphia. He was a buyer for a ship building concern in Chester, Penn., before coming to Orlando in 1921. He reached Orlando with only \$100; entered the real estate business, was in the office of Walter W. Rose for two years and then opened an office of his own. He is chairman of the Appraisal Committee of the Orlando Realty Board, a member of the Appraisal Committee of the State Realty Board, and also does a great deal of independent appraisal work.

During the World War, Mr. Brass was with the Construction Division of the Quartermaster Corps for two and one-half years; enlisting as a private, he emerged with a First Lieutenants commission.

He is a member of the Presbyterian church, Exchange Club, Realty Board, Chamber of Commerce and Dubsdread Country Club. He is also a Mason. He married Dorothy Koegel in Orlando in 1919.

#### *M. H. EVANS*

MAYNARD H. EVANS was born in Orlando, September 15, 1891, the son of James A. and Mary A. Pillans Evans. His father came to Orlando in 1890, and was engaged in the dairy business. Mr. Evans was educated in the schools of Orlando and the College of Pharmacy in Macon, Georgia.

Returning to Orlando after completing his course, he was associated for some years with the Estes pharmacy, but subsequently he and his brother D. S. Evans established their own drug store in 1918, which is known as the



Evans-Rex pharmacy. In 1922 Mr. Evans, with his Brother D. S. Evans and R. J. Ivey, established the San Juan pharmacy, which they have made a great success. Mr. Evans, by his connection with these two large pharmacies, stands as one of the leading druggists of the city.

He is a Mason, Knight of Pythias, member of the Presbyterian church and Chamber of Commerce. He married Lura Westover in Orlando in 1913; their five children are Helen, Beulah, Maynard, James and Lura.

### *JAMES NORMAN WRIGHT*

JAMES NORMAN WRIGHT was born in Chicago in 1878, the son of Abner Miles and Helen Sophia Wright; his mother lived for many years in Orlando, with her daughter, Mrs. T. Picton Warlow.

Mr. Wright studied in the schools of Chicago and at Stetson University. After completing his studies, he engaged in the bond business in Chicago, and remained there for some years; he then moved to Denver in 1908 where he established the firm of James N. Wright & Company, dealers in bonds.

Mr. Wright had lived in Orlando for two years when he was of the age of 16, and for two other years when he was 21. He was so interested in the state that in 1924 he established in Orlando, Wright, Warlow and Company, as a branch of the Denver business; subsequently giving up his Denver residence. He is president of the company, and Judge T. Picton Warlow is vice-president. Mr. Wright is a former member of the Board of Governors of the Investment Banker's Association of America, and former vice-president of the Banker's Trust Company of Denver.

He is a member of the Mile High Club, of Denver, the Union League Club of Chicago, the Denver Club, the Cactus Club, of Denver, the Cherry Hills Country Club, of Denver, the Orlando Country Club, the Dubsdread Country Club, the Orlando Chamber of Commerce, and the Orlando Realty Board.

During the World War Mr. Wright served in the Naval Reserve Flying Corps, stationed at Pensacola.

Mr. Wright married at Chicago, Catherine Smith Rollo; their children are Mary Rollo, now a student of Smith College, James N. Jr., Pemberton, and Helen Sophia.

### *DR. MEREDITH MALLORY*

MEREDITH MALLORY was born April 21, 1889, at Wichita, Kansas, the son of Albert D. and Susan B. Mallory. His preliminary education was received at Batavia, Illinois. In 1911 he graduated at the University of Illinois with the degree of Bachelor of Arts and in 1915 with the degree of



Doctor of Medicine from Harvard University. After serving an internship at the Iowa Methodist Hospital, he started the practice of medicine at Des Moines, Iowa, where he remained until September 1922, with the exception of 16 months in the Medical Corps in the United States Army, during the World War, serving as an instructor at the Medical Officers' Training Camp at Ft. Oglethorpe and on a special heart board at Camp Meade.

Dr. Mallory moved to Orlando in 1922 and associated himself with Dr. J. S. McEwan and Dr. G. H. Edwards, limiting his practice to internal medicine.

Dr. Mallory is a member of the Orlando Junior Chamber of Commerce, the Orlando Country Club, the American Legion, the Orlando University Club and the Chi Psi fraternity; he is also a member of the following professional organizations, American Medical, Southern Medical, Florida Medical and the Orange County Medical Associations, staff of the Orange General Hospital and of the Medical Study Club.

On November 11th, 1916 he married Mary Stiles Jones of Batavia, Illinois and they have three children, Meredith, Jr., Norman Douglas, and Mary Jane.

#### *S. G. DOLIVE*

SILAS G. DOLIVE was born in Daphne, Alabama, May 10, 1861, the son of Louis and Aurelia A. Dolive. He was educated in the schools of Alabama, and engaged in the turpentine business in that state. In 1886 he removed to Orlando, where he became interested in the buying and shipping of oranges. In 1895 he entered the real estate and insurance field, and this firm is still operating under the name of S. G. Dolive and Son, being thus one of the oldest firms of its kind in the city. The population of Orlando was about 2,200 when Mr. Dolive first came there, and with its growth to its present size he has had much to do. He has owned, and still owns, much valuable property in the city.

Mr. Dolive is a charter member of the Chamber of Commerce. He married Kate Covington in Montgomery, Alabama, June 5, 1886; they have three sons, Louis S., Jenkins, and George C.

#### *FRANK KAREL*

FRANK KAREL was born in Blue Earth, Minnesota, March 22, 1872, and is the son of Ignatz and Johanna Stelter Karel. His father was a pioneer in Minnesota, and was distinguished as the inventor of the twine binder, for use in the harvesting of grain. He attended school in Seminole county, which was at that time included in Orange county. His father set-



tled near Sanford in 1881, and engaged in farming. Mr. Karel was interested in the growing of citrus fruits and the meat business for a considerable period. He was connected with the County Road Department for 23 years, and acted as superintendent of the roads of the county from 1919 to 1921. He was elected sheriff of Orange county in 1921, and re-elected four years later.

Mr. Karel is a member of the Orange County Chamber of Commerce, and of the Odd Fellows, Red Men, Rebeccas, Moose and Elks organizations. He was married in Arcadia, Florida, to Ida Garrett, December 25, 1905; their children are Frank Jr., and George.

Mr. Karel has administered the office of sheriff with efficiency; the office employs six deputies, besides deputies in the smaller towns.

### *H. CARL DANN*

HANFORD CARL DANN is a native son of Orlando, and was born September, 1885 at 318 Long street, Orlando. He was the son of Hanford and Mary Dann, who were early settlers at Windermere on Lake Butler. Mr. Dann received his education in the public schools of Orlando.

During the last 19 years, Mr. Dann has developed and placed on the market 61 separate properties, including a number of golf courses. Among the most important and successful projects which Mr. Dann has put on are Dubsdread, Mt. Plymouth, Concord Park, Park Lake and others.

Mr. Dann is president of the Orange County Investment Company, vice-president of the Fidelity Title & Loan Company, president of the Southern Development Company.

Mr. Dann is a member of the Benevolent & Protective Order of Elks. He married Louise Giles, of Atlanta, and they have one child, Carl Morris Dann.

Mr. Dann is a very clever advertiser; his portrait in the papers, pointing the way to his numerous subdivisions, with a stout stick, and describing himself as "the man who started life as an infant and was born without a dollar in his pocket; in fact, he had no pocket," has attracted a great deal of attention throughout the United States.

### *F. H. TRIMBLE*

FREDERICK HOMER TRIMBLE was born in Essex, Ontario, June 2, 1878, the son of Andrew Hill and Cynthia Wright Trimble. His father was of English descent, and had been a farmer and cattle raiser in Canada since 1860; his mother was a native of Canada, though of Pennsylvania Dutch parentage. His father's cattle farm was considered the prize farm in the dominion.



Mr. Trimble received his education in the schools of Canada and in Morningside College, Sioux City, Iowa, from which he received the degree of Bachelor of Arts in 1911. He spent seven years in China as an architect for the missionary society, and came to Orlando in 1916 after two years at Fellsmere.

Mr. Trimble is one of the leading architects of the state; among the notable buildings created by his skill in Florida are the Fellsmere high school, Okeechobee high school, Lake Worth high school, Gulf high school, Sebring high school, Stuart high school, the building of Southern College at Lakeland and of the Montverde Industrial school, the Princess Martha hotel at St. Petersburg, and other public buildings and hotels. Since coming to Orlando he has drawn the plans for the Memorial high school, West Central Grammar school, Delaney school, Methodist Episcopal church, Amherst apartments, Fort Gatlin hotel, and Orange General Hospital.

He is a member and lay leader of the Methodist church, a member of the Chamber of Commerce, Civitan Club, Masons, Knights of Pythias, and Knights of Khorassan, and a trustee of Asbury College, Wilmore, Kentucky. In 1906 he married Rena Bowker, a college classmate and fellow missionary in China; they have four children, Gladys Emmaline, Leonard Bowker, Jerome Bowker and Ethel Wallace.

#### *P. A. VANS AGNEW*

PATRICK ALEXANDER VANS AGNEW was born in British India in 1867, the son of George and Rosa Vans Agnew. His father was in the East India Civil Service. Mr. Vans Agnew was educated in England, principally in Kensington school in London.

In 1884 he came to Kissimmee, where he engaged in the culture of citrus fruits and studied law in the office of Judge Beggs of Kissimmee. He was admitted to the bar in 1889, and practiced law in Kissimmee until 1914, when he removed to Jacksonville and continued his practice there for six years. In 1920 he removed to Winter Park, where he has practiced his profession to the present time.

Mr. Vans Agnew specializes in Drainage District law, and is the foremost exponent of this phase of legal work in Florida. He has handled the legal aspects of the following important drainage districts in this state: Upper St. Johns, Napoleon B. Broward, Melbourne, Tillman, Fort Myers, Crane Creek, Cocoa, Rockledge, Iona, New Smyrna, DeLand, South Hastings, North Ormond, Bunnell, Miami, Flagler-Volusia, Upper St. Johns River Navigation District, South Brevard and San Sebastian. For some time he was in partnership with W. B. Crawford, and during that time acted as attorney for the Southern Utilities Company, which was later bought by the Florida Power and Light Co.



Mr. Vans Agnew is a member of the Episcopal church, Seminole Club of Jacksonville, University Club of Orlando, and National Democratic Club of New York. Although he has never held political office himself, he has wielded a considerable influence in the political circles of the county and state.

### *C. H. WARD*

CHARLES HEZEKIAH WARD, descendant of a very old New England family, was born in Montpelier, Vermont, February 24, 1848, and received his education in the public schools of Montpelier. His early life was spent on the farm; he then engaged in the mercantile business in Northfield, Vermont, for six years.

Mr. Ward came to Orange Park, Florida in 1879, and lived in Orange Park, near Jacksonville, for 7 years and was postmaster there for some time, resigning that office to come to Winter Park. He came to Winter Park in 1886, and leased about a hundred acres of land, located at what is now known as Ardmore. After the freeze of 1894-5, he gave up the lease on this property, and bought ten acres of orange land, on Sylvan Shores, on which his house now stands; about this time he and his son, H. A. Ward, bought several other groves about Winter Park, which they brought back into good condition and sold. He also engaged extensively in truck-farming, and shipped fresh vegetables all over the state.

Mr. Ward was a member of the first town council of Winter Park; he is senior deacon in the Congregational church, which he has served in this office almost since its foundation.

Mr. Ward married Emma Ruth Chubb, in Montpelier, June 12, 1872.

Their children are Charles Frederick, Harold Anson, and Raymond; there are 14 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren, four generations of the family, all residents in Winter Park.

### *H. H. WITHERINGTON*

HENRY H. WITHERINGTON was born in Tuscaloosa county, Alabama, in 1862, the son of S. S. and Louise Witherington; his father was a farmer in Alabama, and was a plantation overseer during slavery days.

Mr. Witherington attended the schools of his native state, and was employed as salesman in a country store in Alabama for two or three years. Mr. Witherington came to Apopka in 1884, when only 22 years of age; being attracted to Florida by the orange industry, and to Apopka in particular on account of its high, rolling ground. For a short time after his arrival he worked in a store, after which he entered on the business of agriculture and the growing of citrus fruits. First and last, he has owned a considerable



number of orange groves, all of which he has now disposed of. He has been greatly interested in making experiments along various agricultural lines, and has found that many farm crops can be grown here that are not now raised in Florida. For about 20 years he operated a general store in Apopka, dealing first in groceries and later in hardware. He is now in the real estate and insurance business. He owns a good deal of real estate in and around Apopka, and has erected a number of buildings; at present he is completing the Witherington building, a solid brick structure of two stories, containing several offices, and located across the street from the new William Edwards hotel.

Mr. Witherington served for 14 years on the county school board, and was elected a member of the State Legislature in 1923 and 1925. In both positions he was untiring in service. He is a member of the Chamber of Commerce of Apopka.

Mr. Witherington married Anna Belle Turner in Alabama, in 1887; their children are Katie Belle (Mrs. H. C. Waters), Allison, James R., and Agnes Berry.

#### *D. A. COOPER*

DAVID A. COOPER was born near Peoria, Illinois, October 13, 1871, the son of Absalom J. and Elizabeth Cooper. His grandparents were pioneers in Illinois; his mother was of Pennsylvania Dutch ancestry. His education was secured in the schools of Illinois; he worked on his father's farm until he was 19 years old. Later he was engaged in the mercantile business in Guthrie, Illinois, and in the photographic business in Elgin.

Arriving in Orlando June 10, 1911, Mr. Cooper entered the real estate business; he formed a partnership with Mr. S. H. Atha in 1912. In 1921 Mr. H. W. Barr entered the firm, which has since been widely and well known as the Cooper-Atha-Barr Company, doing a very large business in general real estate, real estate development, mortgages, loans and insurance.

Mr. Cooper is a member of the Christian Science church, Chamber of Commerce, Civitan Club and Orlando Realty Board. He married Jennie M. Dueringer in Elgin, Illinois, May 14, 1901; they have two children, Wayne and Alta, the latter now attending the State College for Women in Tallahassee. The former is associated with the Cooper-Atha-Barr Co.

#### *H. M. VOORHIS*

HARRY M. VOORHIS was born in East Smithfield, Penna., October 19, 1889, the son of Wilson F. and Carrie Cowell Voorhis. He is of Dutch descent. He was educated in the public schools of Pennsylvania and the high school of Athens, Penn., then attended the law school of Dickinson College, receiving the LL. B. Degree in 1913.



Coming to Orlando in 1913, he was associated with the People's National Bank for about one year. He was then connected with M. O. Overstreet for two or three years, afterward being engaged as secretary of the Chamber of Commerce. For a little over a year he filled this position, and during this time the Chamber of Commerce was materially strengthened. He then entered the law office of Tilden and Maguire, and is now a partner in the firm, with the firm name of Maguire & Voorhis.

During the World War he was a corporal in the infantry of the United States Army at Camp Lee, Virginia.

Mr. Voorhis is a member of the Chamber of Commerce, Country Club, Elks, Delta Chi legal fraternity, and is a Mason, Knight Templar and Shriner. He is a member of the American, State and County Bar Associations. He married Caroline McFarquhar in Orlando, April 11, 1917; they have one daughter, Elinore.

### *JAMES A. KNOX*

JAMES A. KNOX was born in Weekly county, Tennessee, July 21, 1854, the son of William W. and Cynthelia Knox. He was educated in the public schools of Tennessee and at Cumberland University, from which he received the degree of Bachelor of Laws in 1876. He began the practice of law in McKenzie, Tennessee, where he lived until 1880; in December of that year he moved to Orlando for his health. There he engaged in the fire insurance business, and has been in the insurance business ever since, confining his activities at the present time to life insurance. He has been the representative in Orlando of the New York Life Insurance Company for the past 35 years.

Mr. Knox has resided on the same lot on Lucerne Circle for the past 44 years. When he moved to Orlando, the population was about 1,000; it is now around 35,000, and Mr. Knox played a conspicuous part in this remarkable growth. In the early days of the city he was several times an alderman; he erected the second brick block to be built in Orlando, formerly called the Knox building, but now known as the Building and Loan building. He also erected numerous houses, and now owns considerable valuable real estate in that city.

Mr. Knox is the only charter member of the Knights of Pythias now residing in Orlando. He was for 16 years county treasurer. He is also the only member of the first board of directors of the Orlando Bank and Trust Company who is still serving in that capacity with the company. He is the chairman of the county school board; during his tenure of this office ten of the fine and adequate new school buildings of the county have been erected. He is a member of the Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Knox married Miss Mamie Watson of Tiptonville, Tenn., in 1881; from this union one daughter is surviving, Mrs. F. G. Rush, of Orlando.



*L. FRANK ROPER*

L. FRANK ROPER was born in Winter Garden, on the old family homestead, February 22, 1892. For interesting facts regarding his ancestry and family, see the preceding biographical sketch of his brother, Bert Hause. He attended school in Winter Garden and the high school at Tildenville.

Mr. Roper left Winter Garden in 1913 and conducted a general store near Sanford, returning to Winter Garden in 1922. He owns a quarter interest in the family homestead, practically all of which is set in orange trees; he also owns 140 acres of undeveloped land, in connection with his brother Fred.

During the World War Mr. Roper was in training at Key West in the United States Navy, at the seventh Naval District headquarters, for a year and a half; he was a seaman. He was one of the organizers of the American Legion at Sanford, and served it as Post Commander; he has also been Post Commander of the American Legion at Winter Garden. He is a member of the Rotary Club, and chairman of the Boy's Work Committee, and is a Thirty-second degree Mason and a Shriner. He has always been deeply interested in the Boy Scout movement, and was the organizer of the three troops of Boy Scouts in Winter Garden.

Mr. Roper married Mary Ellen McAllister of Logansport, Indiana, April 12, 1920; their children are Mary Katherine, and Bert Edward.

*V. B. NEWTON*

VICTOR BENAR NEWTON was born in Halcyondale, Georgia, in December, 1891. He received his education in the public schools of Georgia and in Emory University.

Mr. Newton engaged early in the banking business in Sylvania, Georgia. He came to Orlando in September, 1916, and took a position with the People's National Bank, of which he was assistant cashier when he resigned after a year and a half of service. From 1917 to 1919, he served in the United States Navy, and was stationed in New York.

After the World War, Mr. Newton returned to Orlando and joined the Standard Growers Exchange, of which he is now vice-president, treasurer and general manager. This is a subsidiary of the Georgia Fruit Growers Exchange. The Standard Fruit Growers Exchange own 4,800 acres of orange groves, and about 1,000 acres of orange land, in Orange county; also 4,000 acres of vegetable land in Florida, as well as 2,000 acres of peach orchards in Georgia; it is capitalized at \$2,500,000.00, and its business covers the states of Florida, Georgia and Tennessee. It grows about 90 per cent of the fruit and vegetables which it markets. It has offices in Orlando,





*W. H. Munson*



Miami and Macon, a packing house in Orlando and seven others in various parts of the state.

Mr. Newton is president of the Lucerne Packing Corporation of Polk county, and also of the Lucerne Park Fruit Association; it owns about a thousand acres in Polk county.

Mr. Newton is a member of the Orlando and Dubsdread Country Clubs, and chairman of the House Committee of the former; he is also a member of the Kiwanis Club, the University Club, the Chamber of Commerce, the Masonic Order and the Elks.

One of the most valuable services ever rendered the Florida citrus industry was brought about by Mr. Newton while president of the Fruitman's Club. As a distributor, he realized that New York city was the barometer market of the country, and good prices on Florida citrus fruits maintained there would be reflected in better and more stable prices elsewhere.

Under existing rates and rules effective for many years, consequently inadequate and outgrown by enormous increase of shipments, it was impossible to regulate or control into New York city a supply to meet a healthy demand at satisfactory prices, and prevent oversupplies and disastrous gluts that automatically depressed prices on the same products in the surrounding markets.

Mr. Newton gave the subject careful study and presented the matter to the Fruitman's Club. He was authorized to select a committee and effect arrangements with the railroads entering New York city to give Florida shippers and receivers the following privileges heretofore denied them:

First—Holding yards on the Jersey side, where all Florida citrus fruits would be held until ordered across the river by the shipper or receiver.

Second—The assignment to Florida citrus fruit of exclusive space on Pennsylvania Piers No. 27, 28 and 29.

Third—Unloading and displaying Florida citrus fruits in car-load lots instead of hauling samples from the piers to the auction rooms.

Fourth—The equipment of auction rooms on the piers so that for the first time in the history of the Florida citrus industry its fruits could be unloaded, displayed and sold under the same roof.

Mr. Newton handled the above negotiations from start to finish, and arranged for and attended conferences with traffic officials in New York and elsewhere; his presentation of the needs of the industry were so clear and convincing that his requests were granted in spite of opposition from local receivers.

### *H. V. CONDUCT*

HAROLD VAIL CONDUCT was born in Hartford, Connecticut, September 17, 1900, the son of G. Herbert and Anna Neil Conduct. He is of Scotch-Irish descent. He received his education in the schools of Plainfield, New



Jersey and at Lafayette College, Easton, Pennsylvania, from which institution he received the degree of Bachelor of Arts in 1922 and Master of Arts in 1927. From 1922 to 1925 he was associated with the Chase National Bank and the New York Trust Company in New York city; in 1925 he came to Orlando to serve as trust officer of The State Bank of Orlando and Trust Company in which capacity he has won the confidence and admiration of all who have come in contact with him.

Mr. Condict is a lieutenant in the Officers' Reserve Corps of the Infantry receiving his training at Plattsburg and in Officers' Training School. He is a member of the Chamber of Commerce, Orlando and Dubsdread Country Clubs, Kiwanis Club, a Mason, and president of the Central Florida Alumni Association of the Kappa Sigma fraternity. He married Marjorie Searing in Plainfield, New Jersey, January 3, 1925; they have one son, Lawrence Richards.

#### *DR. ELIJAH MARTIN*

ELIJAH MARTIN was born in Gilford county, North Carolina, in 1819.

Dr. Martin attended the public schools in North Carolina, and received his medical education at the Medical School of Cincinnati, from which institution he received the degree of M. D. in 1855. It is very much to his credit and an indication of his great perseverance that he worked his way through college.

He began the practice of medicine in North Carolina, and practiced in that state for some years. In 1869 he came to Orange county, Florida, and settled at Fairvilla, at which place he took up a homestead and commenced practice of medicine. He was one of the very first doctors in Orange county, and he traveled all over the county on horseback, visiting his patients, and as money was very scarce in the early days his fees were often paid with live stock and even with fruits and vegetables.

Dr. Martin married Eliza Terry at Greensboro, North Carolina, and they had three children, W. E. Martin, the present county tax collector, Mattie J., (Mrs. W. L. Story of Winter Garden), Emma (Mrs. R. L. Reeves of Winter Garden), Sally (Mrs. J. D. Henderson) deceased.

#### *W. S. BRANCH*

WILLIAM S. BRANCH was born January 15, 1854, at North Madison, Ohio, the son of Samuel G. and Arvilla Crocker Branch. He was of English descent; Peter Branch, the progenitor of the family in America, came from Kent, England, in 1638, and settled at Scituate, Massachusetts; his grandson, William Branch, assisted in taking down the body of Major Andre from the gallows.



Mr. Branch attended the public schools of Lake county, Ohio; he then worked in the drug store at Rochester, Minnesota, in which Dr. William Mayo was also employed; Mr. Branch taught Dr. Mayo the elements of drugs and medicines. From Rochester he removed to Parker, South Dakota, then a Territory, where he conducted a drug and stationery business; from Parker he came to Orlando in 1903, in search of health.

Soon after his arrival at Orlando, Mr. Branch opened a store on Orange avenue, in which he carried a stock of novelties, books, stationery, etc. About a year after his death, this business was consolidated with that of the Curtis-O'Neal Company.

Mr. Branch was interested and active in everything that concerned his adopted home. He served as government weather reporter up to the time of his death, and he was the first person to propose the establishment of tourist headquarters in the city, of which Sunshine Park was the direct outgrowth. He was especially interested in Sunday School work; from his twenty-first year until his death, June 21, 1921, he served either as superintendent or assistant superintendent of a Presbyterian Sunday School. During his later years he was associated with W. R. O'Neal in the superintendency of the Sunday School of the First Presbyterian church of Orlando, of which he was a very active member and an elder. The Branch Memorial Chapel was named in his honor.

Mr. Branch was a Knight of Pythias. He married Jessie Foster Johnson, in Rochester, Minnesota, November 16, 1881; their children were W. S. Jr., Payson L., deceased, and Roberta Louise, (Mrs. Braxton Beacham, Jr., of Orlando).

#### *A. PHIL MAURER*

ARTHUR PHILIP MAURER was born in Memphis, Tennessee, August 10, 1875, the son of Philip and Emma Maurer. His father was a wagon maker by trade and his mother an opera singer in Germany. He received his education in the schools of Ohio, including stenography and bookkeeping in a Business College.

Mr. Maurer was connected with The Metropolitan Paving Brick Co. of Canton, Ohio, one of the largest concerns of its kind in the United States, for 18 years, and resigned his position as sales manager to come to Orlando, Florida, in 1918, and engaged in the real estate business. He was a director in the Orlando Realty Board for a number of years, also a director of the Orlando Chamber of Commerce; a past president of the Orlando Lions Club.

He is the mayor of Belle Isle, a municipality joining Orlando on the south; a Mason, Elk and a Pythian. Mr. Maurer was married to Edna B. Clay at Massillon, Ohio, March 29, 1899; they have two children, Harry and Hazel.



Under the pseudonym of Parson Ebony Snow, Mr. Maurer frequently contributes to the press epigrams and verses in the negro dialect, which cleverly embody a knowledge of human nature, a homely philosophy of life and a joyous optimism which is delightful.

As a member of the Orlando Realty Board, the Chamber of Commerce, the Lions Club and the Orlando and Orange County Advertising Club, Mr. Maurer has contributed freely his time and efforts in the upbuilding of Orlando and Orange county.

### *J. F. ANGE*

JOSEPH FENNER ANGE was born in Martin county, North Carolina, on May 3, 1872, the son of J. B. and Sarah Ange. After receiving his education in the schools of North Carolina, he followed in his father's footsteps by entering the business of general contracting, chiefly in North Carolina. In January, 1913, he moved to Orlando, where his first undertaking was the construction of the Yowell-Duckworth store building. He also built the Angebilt hotel, one of the finest hotels in Central Florida, which will long endure as his monument. He organized and was president of the Bank of Orange and Trust Company, but subsequently sold his interest in this concern. He now owns the Pineola Lime Company in Citrus county, and was the first to advocate the use of a rolled lime rock base as a foundation for roads in Florida. Largely through his efforts this method of road construction was first adopted, and the Cheney highway was built with lime rock from his quarry, as well as many other roads in Orange county and other parts of the state. His company now owns 20,000,000 tons of lime rock suitable for this purpose.

Mr. Ange installed the first plate glass front put in in Orlando—that in the McElroy pharmacy—and has erected many other buildings in that city. He also secured the charter for the proposed railroad from Orlando to Canaveral Harbor, and is a director in this company. Mr. Ange is also president of the Angebilt Land Company, which owns and has developed much real estate in and around Orlando.

### *O. J. BAILEY*

OLIVER JOSEPH BAILEY was born in Peoria, Illinois, April 20, 1902, the son of Ralph N. Bailey and Eleanor Marsh Bailey, his paternal grandfather was Oliver J. Bailey, a very prominent lawyer and banker of Peoria, and his maternal great grandfather was Oren Marsh, a Floridian and at one time Indian agent for Florida to the Seminoles. His early life was spent in South Carolina and his education was received in schools of that state and at North Georgia Agricultural College at Dahlonega, Georgia.



In 1914 he moved to Jacksonville, Florida, with his mother and sister where he started in the business world as a Western Union messenger boy, in 1915 he became engaged in the insurance business. He moved to Orlando in 1923 and established the firm of Hoag & Bailey. A year later this firm was dissolved and he organized Oliver J. Bailey & Company, and in 1925 the firm was changed to its present status, being Bailey, Owens & Company. Mr. Bailey is president of this company, which handles all kinds of insurance and surety bonds except life, and is capitalized at \$17,000.00. Mr. Bailey formed the first general insurance agency in Central Florida, and is the youngest general insurance agent in the United States. His aim is to organize a Florida Casualty and Surety Company, with headquarters in Orlando, which project he believes, would be of great benefit to the whole state and to Orlando in particular.

Mr. Bailey is a member of the Exchange Club International, University Club, Dubsdread Country Club, Chamber of Commerce, he is an honorary member of the Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity. Mr. Bailey has the distinction of having underwritten and executed the largest contract surety bond ever written by any bonding company in the State of Florida, being the \$2,769,881.50 bond covering the completion of 79 miles of brick street paving in Orlando.

### *BENNETT LAND*

BENNETT LAND was born in Currituck county, North Carolina, January 17, 1878; he was the son of Dr. Henry Gaskins and Sarah Jane Land. He received his early education in the public and private schools of Virginia and North Carolina, and graduated from the State College at Raleigh, N. C. with the degree of Bachelor of Engineering, in 1903. He was associated with the Cape Fear Power Company at Buckhorn Shoals on Cape Fear river, North Carolina, for a year and then with the Seaboard Airline railroad for 17 years. Three years in the construction department as resident engineer and engineer in charge of construction and 14 years as division engineer in the maintenance of way department with headquarters in Jacksonville and Tampa.

Mr. Land left the Seaboard in 1921, and with Frank N. Mebane of Orlando and Albert Schneider of Plant City bought out the stock of the Consumers Lumber & Veneer Company of Apopka. Mr. Land is secretary and active head of the company. This company, which was established about a score of years ago, is engaged in the manufacturing of fruit and vegetable crates and carriers and markets its product in all parts of Florida. It has the largest output and payroll of any concern in that part of the county and turns out about a million packages per year.

Mr. Land is a registered engineer of the state, a Mason, an Odd Fellow, and a member of the American Railway Engineering Association. He mar-



ried Josephine H. Schneider in Plant City, January 11, 1912; their children are Henry William, Bennett, Jr., Lydia Poyner, Josephine H. (deceased), John H., Catherine Schneider and James Gaskins, twins and Sarah Jane.

#### *W. L. A. SELLERS*

WILLIAM L. A. SELLERS was born in Perry county, Ohio, June 14, 1877, the son of H. P. Roberts Sellers. He was educated in the public schools of his native state, and engaged in the furniture business in Newark, Ohio. In 1914 he moved to Tampa, remaining there five and a half years in the furniture business. In 1922, he removed to Orlando, where he established the Sellers Awning Shop, manufacturer of window shades, awnings, porch curtains, tents and anything made of canvas. Mr. Sellers is the sole owner of this venture, and has built it up into the largest concern of its kind between Jacksonville and Tampa.

He is a member of the First Presbyterian church in Orlando, and of the Orlando and Winter Park Chambers of Commerce. He was married to Generva McCaslin in Zanesville, Ohio, September 4, 1901.

#### *S. S. SADLER*

SAMUEL SLOCUM SADLER was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, September 14, 1885, the son of Orin Winslow and Emma Josephine Slocum Sadler. He comes of an old New England family, both sides of which came from England about 1620.

Mr. Sadler attended school in Pittsburgh, and at Mount Dora, and spent five years in the preparatory and college departments of Rollins College, where he was a leader in athletic activities; from Rollins, he went to the Pennsylvania State College, where he received the degree of Bachelor of Science in 1909.

He was employed in the Forestry Department of the Pennsylvania Railroad for two years, after which he took a post-graduate course at the University of Toronto, covering one year, and was given the degree of Bachelor of Science in Forestry. He then was employed by the Canadian Government in Forestry work, being assistant-chief of the tree planting division of the forestry branch, with headquarters at Indian Head, Saskatchewan. He returned to Florida in 1914 and settled at his old home in Tangerine. His family had come to Florida in 1882, where they have resided since that date.

Mr. Sadler has served on the Board of County Commissioners for four terms, and is now the oldest commissioner, in point of service, on the board. All the major bond issues in the county were passed while he was on the board, and the site of the new court house was bought, and court house building erected during his term of office also, he being a member of the



building committee. Two of the younger members of the board, Mr. Sadler and Arthur H. Schultz of Winter Park, were particularly active in securing the site and first plans for this improvement. He was treasurer of the Orange County Chamber of Commerce, and in a sense its organizer; he suggested such an organization to Mr. William Edwards, and together made possible its existence.

Mr. Sadler owns a home, grove and unimproved land on the South side of Lake Ola. He is a partner in the firm of The Lake & Hills Realty Company at Mount Dora.

Mr. Sadler is a member of the Sigma Chi fraternity of the Pennsylvania State College chapter, and is a Mason. He was married to Madge Allison Tees of Montreal at Saskatchewan, Canada, in 1913; their children are Frances Mackay, Samuel Slocum, Jr., and Stuart Tees.

### *CLYDE M. MCKENNEY*

CLYDE M. MCKENNEY was born in Smithville, Georgia, June 12, 1887, the son of Benjamin I. and Mollie J. McKenney. His father, a native of Butler, Georgia, was a farmer, and also owned a cotton warehouse and a general supply store. He came to Orlando in 1915, and purchased two large orange groves, one in Maitland and the other in Hillsboro county; he also operated the Chero-Cola Bottling Plant in Orlando.

Mr. McKenney was the father of four sons and five daughters, Paul K., Earl R., Clyde M., Hugh L., Nell, Edith (Mrs. E. B. Martin), Kate, Helen and Annette (Mrs. Fred L. Scott).

He died February 15, 1922.

Clyde M. McKenney received his education in the public schools of Georgia and in the Georgia School of Technology in Atlanta. He was for some years associated with his father in farming, fruit growing and cotton warehousing, and came with him to Orlando in 1915.

In 1924 he built the McKenney-Rylander building on the corner of Orange avenue and Washington street, containing ten stores and 26 offices; this building was enlarged in 1926. He and Mr. Rylander later erected a store building on the corner of Church and Garland streets; they also built the McLander Arcade building at Sanford in 1926, containing 19 stores and 26 shops in the arcade.

Mr. McKenney served as city tax collector and assessor under Mayor Duckworth, and was later a member of the tax board of Orlando; he is now chairman of the Citizens Appraisal and Equalization Board.

During the World War he was a member of the Quartermaster's Corps, first as a private and later as captain; he was stationed most of the time at Camp Pike in Arkansas as Commanding Officer of 409th Reserve Labor Battalion.



Mr. McKenney is a member of the city and county Chambers of Commerce, Orlando Country Club, Dubsdread Golf Club, of the Orlando Realty Board, of the Knights of Pythias, and of the Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity; he is Past-Exalted Ruler of the Elks.

Mr. McKenney is president of McKenney-Rylander, Inc., and vice president of Rylander Investment Co., both organizations having had much to do with the upbuilding of Orlando's down town business section during 1924 and 1925.

### *ELDRIDGE HART*

ELDRIDGE HART was born in Boston, Massachusetts, July 4, 1884. He is the son of Stanley C. and Margaret Eldridge Hart.

Mr. Hart is of English descent, and studied in the University of London, where he received the degree of Bachelor of Laws; he was also a special student of law in Harvard University.

Mr. Hart was engaged in public accounting and economic survey work in Chicago for about twelve years and came to Winter Park in 1920. He taught Business Administration at Rollins College, 1921-1923, and also at the University of Florida summer school. He entered the general practice of law at Winter Park in 1924.

During the World War, Mr. Hart was in training in the Reserve Officers Training Corps at Fort Sheridan, when the armistice was signed.

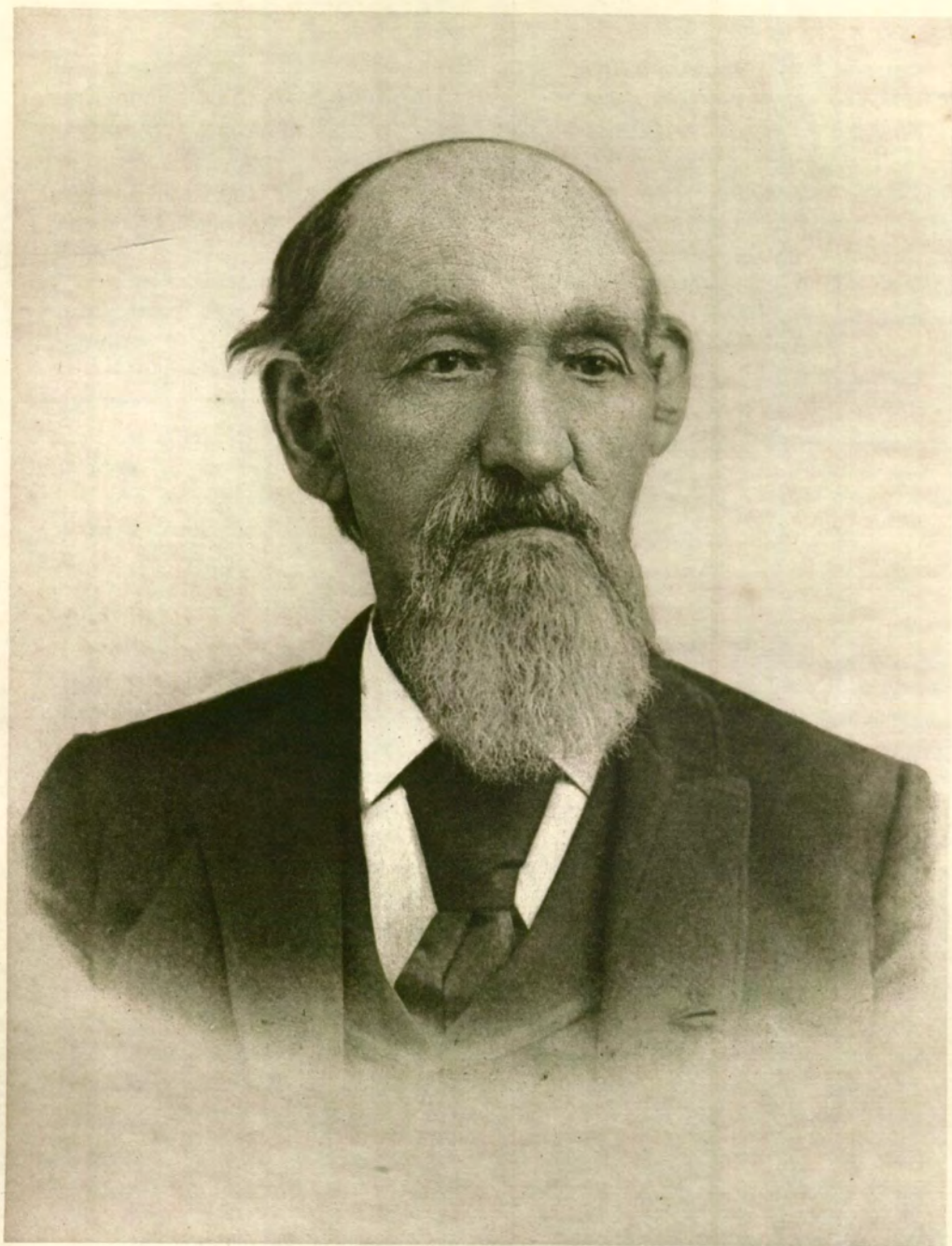
Mr. Hart is a member of the State and Circuit Bar Associations, and of the Commercial Law League of America; National Association of Comp-trollers; he is also a member of the New England Historical Society and of the Winter Park Chamber of Commerce.

### *DR. R. M. DICKENSON*

ROBERT MONROE DICKENSON was born at Danville, Virginia, April 19, 1820; he was the son of Josiah and Patty Campbell Dickenson, the only daughter of Sir Thomas Campbell of Dublin, Ireland, and owner of a grant of land in Virginia.

Dr. Dickenson received his education in the schools of Virginia, and in the Randolph-Macon Medical College. He was at once a practicing physician and a minister of the Methodist Episcopal church; he practiced medicine in Louisiana and Virginia, and also in Orlando for 20 years after his arrival here in 1881; his practice extended throughout Orange county, in which he held a leading position in his profession and otherwise until his death in 1900.





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On coming to Florida in 1881, Dr. Dickenson travelled over the entire state in search of the healthiest location and town with a future, and finally settled in Orlando, where time has proven the wisdom of his choice.

Dr. Dickenson founded the Methodist churches of Conway, Ocoee, Geneva, Fairvilla and other communities of the county, and he served as trustee of the college which the Methodist church conducted for a time in Orlando.

Dr. Dickenson was also editor of the local paper in Paris, Tennessee, and served as president of the Press Association of that state; he was a surgeon in the Confederate Army throughout the Civil War.

He was a cousin of the famous Edward Everett Hale. He was a Mason and an Odd Fellow for 50 years.

Dr. Dickenson married Martha Hunt Hallabs of Virginia, his daughter is Mrs. C. Earnest Wade of Orlando.

As will be seen from this sketch, Dr. Dickenson led a varied life, and a highly useful one.

#### *L. M. ROBERTSON*

LOREN M. ROBERTSON was born in Pleasant Hill, Missouri, June 17, 1882, the son of Rev. Alex. T. and Laura Milligan Robertson. His father was a Presbyterian minister. He received his education in the public schools of Iberia, Ohio, and Freeport, Pennsylvania. He finally entered the wholesale electrical supply business in Birmingham, Alabama, where he remained for 15 years, until his removal to Orlando in 1922. He established his business in that city under the title of Robertson Supply Company, and has built it up to the point where it does a business of some million dollars a year. He also has a branch house in Miami. Mr. Robertson is president of this concern, which is the only wholesale house for this sort of supplies in the county.

He is a deacon in the First Presbyterian church, and a member of the Kiwanis Club and Chamber of Commerce; a director of the Orlando Bank and Trust Company and the Orlando Orange Groves Company. He married Mary A. Ashbaugh in Freeport, Pennsylvania, Oct. 2, 1907; they have one son, Robert A.

#### *DR. J. A. FORD*

JAMES ARTHUR FORD was born in Fairfield, Florida, June 22, 1892, the son of William G. and Josephine Ford. His father moved to Florida about 50 years ago. Dr. Ford went through the public schools and high school of Arcadia, Florida, and then completed the medical course at Vanderbilt University, receiving his degree of Doctor of Medicine from that institution in 1916.



Dr. Ford started the practice of medicine in the United States Government Hospital at Ancon, in the Panama Canal Zone. Later he was located at the La Gracia gold mines in Nicaragua.

During the World War he was a First Lieutenant in the Medical Corps, stationed at Camp Jackson.

At the close of the war, Dr. Ford came to Orlando in 1919, and resumed there his private practice of medicine, including surgery, and has been a resident of that city since that time.

Dr. Ford is a member of the Chamber of Commerce, Kiwanis Club, American, Southern and County Medical Associations, Kappa Psi Medical fraternity, and is a Mason and Shriner. He married Sybil E. Winfrey in Nashville, Tennessee, March 28, 1918; their children are James Arthur, Jr., and Harriett Sybil.

### *EDWARD R. HALL*

EDWARD ROBERT HALL is a native of the state of New York, where he was born in 1854; he was the son of Charles H. and Amelia M. Hall. His father was a mining engineer in Ishpeming, Michigan, and president of The Ishpeming National Bank.

Edward R. Hall was vice-president of the Lincoln National Bank of Chicago for many years.

Mr. Hall's father had purchased 20 acres of land, including the site of Ft. Maitland, at the head of Lake Maitland, without seeing the land, and his son came to Maitland in 1875 to look after this property. He remained in Maitland for sometime, and set out an orange grove on the place, returning then to Chicago, where he lived for 30 years. In the meantime, his father lived at Maitland during the winters, caring for his grove, and taking an active interest in the concerns of the town. He gave the land on which the Episcopal church at Maitland was built, and contributed a scholarship to Rollins College, which bears his name.

Mr. Hall owns a large amount of land in and about Maitland, including a 140-acre farm, a mile east of the town; this farm is called "Eagle Grove."

Mr. Hall married Jane Bigelow of Green Bay, Wisconsin, in 1881; their children are Charles G., of Chicago, a graduate of Yale University, a volunteer in the World War with the rank of Captain, and a manufacturer in Chicago; Edward B., also of Chicago, a graduate of Yale University, and assistant vice-president of the Harris Trust & Savings Company of Chicago; was an Ensign in the U. S. Navy during the World War; Jeanette (Mrs. Donald Miller); and Catherine, (Mrs. Lawrence Bragg.)

An account of early Maitland, largely contributed by Mr. Hall, may be found in this work, Part One.



*E. E. WHITE*

EARL EMMETT WHITE was born in DeWitt, Nebraska, December 1, 1883, the son of Arthur C. and Eva A. Connell White. His father was a pioneer settler in Nebraska. He secured his education in the public schools of Nebraska and graduated from the University of Nebraska with the degree of Bachelor of Science in 1908. After leaving college he began his engineering career in Cuba, later engaging in irrigation work in Morgan county, Colorado. In 1912 he moved to Orlando, opening an engineering office; in 1916 he was elected county surveyor, which office he has held continuously since that year. He has engineered a large amount of canal construction in the western part of the county, connecting together various lakes in that region; he has also done the engineering connected with the development of such well-known subdivisions as Mount Plymouth, Sanlando, Orwin Manor, Avalon, Aloma, and others in Orlando and adjoining cities. During his many years as county surveyor he has accumulated some four or five thousand surveys all over the county; from these he compiled a new map of Orange county in 1924, which was adopted by the board of county commissioners as the official map of the county.

Mr. White is a member of the Kiwanis Club, Chamber of Commerce, both Country Clubs, and the Avalon Club; he is a Mason and Elk. He married Wilhelmina Henderson in Fort Morgan, Colorado, in 1910; their children are Earl E., Jr., William H., and Arthur W.

*H. A. WARD*

HAROLD A. WARD was born in Burlington, Vermont, June 12, 1878, the son of Chas. H. Ward and Emma R. Ward. He was educated in the public schools of Winter Park and the academy of Rollins College, from which he graduated with the class of 1895. His family had moved while he was a boy first to Orange Park, and then in 1886 to Winter Park. After completing his schooling, he was for some ten years connected with the Pioneer Store in Winter Park. In March, 1904, he became manager of the Winter Park property of the late Charles H. Morse, whom he had been instrumental in inducing to purchase the Knowles estate, comprising some thousand building lots in the city and other surrounding property. He continued in this capacity for the estate after Mr. Morse's death in 1921. He has also been treasurer of the Winter Park Land Company since its inception, tax collector, tax assessor, city clerk, alderman and mayor of Winter Park at various times. He is president of The Winter Park Fruit Co., Winter Park Refrigerating Co. and vice president of The Bank of Winter Park. He is a member of the Congregational church, Business Men's Club, Aloma Country Club and Chamber of Commerce. He is a member of the Board of



Trustees of Rollins College; a member of the Winter Park public school board; also for many years a trustee of the Hungerford Normal & Industrial school at Eatonville. He married Annie M. Guffin in Asheville, N. C., October 22, 1902; their children are Harold A., Jr., Gertrude O., Ruth E., Ernest M., Earl G., Walter M., Florence M., and Margaret.

### *W. L. TILDEN*

WILBUR LUTHER TILDEN was born in Oakland, Florida, on October 20, 1886, the son of C. H. and Anna E. Sadler Tilden. His family came to Jacksonville in 1875 from Illinois; his grandfather originally came from New England. On his mother's side he is the great-grandson of Judge J. G. Speer, who gave Orlando its name. He was educated in the public schools of Orange county and at the old Florida Agricultural College at Lake City; then attended the academy of Stetson University and studied two years in the college courses there. After another year in the law school of Stetson University, he went to Washington and Lee University, from which he received the degree of Bachelor of Laws in 1910.

Returning to Orlando, Mr. Tilden began the practice of law with Beggs and Palmer, and was also in the office of Massey and Warlow for one year. In 1912 he opened an office for the general practice of law, and this has now been expanded into the firm of Tilden, Sherman and Hays. During part of 1920 he served as county solicitor, and in 1924 was appointed Judge of the Criminal Court of Record.

Judge Tilden is active and influential in civic affairs, a member of the American, State and Circuit Bar Associations, Phi Gamma Delta fraternity, and a Mason and Shriner; he is a member and former president of the Chamber of Commerce, and a charter member and past president of the Rotary Club.

He married Willie R. Person in Orlando, November 30, 1915; they have two daughters, Jean Murry and Anna Sadler.

### *HOPE STRONG*

HOPE STRONG was born in Ashburn, Georgia, in 1894, the son of Tescharner de Graffenreid and Annie Bagley Strong. His father is a minister of the Methodist Episcopal church, and resides in Savannah, Georgia.

Mr. Strong attended several different schools in Georgia. He studied law under the private tutorship of Judge D. W. Krauss, in Brunswick, Georgia, and afterward attended the law school of Columbia University in New York city. He then practiced law as a partner of Judge Krauss in Brunswick for six years. He came to Winter Park in 1924, where he has



since engaged in the practice of civil law, with corporation law his specialty, and enjoys a very extensive practice.

During the World War Mr. Strong served in the United States Navy, and was later transferred to the army and commissioned as First Lieutenant in the Judge Advocate General's Department.

Mr. Strong is a member of the Georgia and Florida Bar Associations, the American Bar Association, the Orlando Country Club, the Aloma Country Club, and of various civic and fraternal organizations, including Alee Shrine Temple of Savannah, Georgia.

He married Dorothy Lane Krauss, of Brunswick, Georgia, in 1918; and they have three children named Hope, Jr., Daniel de Graffenreid and Willard Lee.

### *FRANK H. BURNS*

FRANK HUGHSON BURNS was born in Kingston, Ontario, Canada, in 1900, the son of Robert and Elizabeth Burns. He received his education in the Kingston Collegiate Institute in his native city, and immediately thereafter became connected with the theater business. He was for four years connected with the A. J. Small circuit of theaters in Canada, one year with the Miles Theater in Detroit, one year with the theaters of the Southern Enterprises, Inc., in Jacksonville, and for the past seven years with the theaters of this concern and other owners in Orlando. Mr. Burns has seen, and been in large measure instrumental in the growth of the Orlando theaters during these seven years to their present successful condition.

Always closely associated with advertising work he was president of the Orlando and Orange County Advertising Club in 1925-26 and in 1927-28 was appointed to a much higher honor, that of president for the Fourth District (State of Florida) of the International Advertising Association. He is a member of the Episcopal church, Advertising Club and Chamber of Commerce. He married Lois Roberts in Orlando in 1924; they have one daughter, Marjorie Jane.

### *J. MERLE McELROY*

J. MERLE McELROY is a native son of Orlando, where he was born July 18, 1888, the son of Dr. J. N. and Queenie E. McElroy. He attended the schools of Orlando, Rollins College, the East Florida Seminary, John B. Stetson University, and the University of Virginia. In 1912 he entered the pharmacy business in the store which was established since the early days of the city by his father; he is now a heavy stockholder in the business, which has been incorporated under the name of McElroy's pharmacy. Mr. McElroy is the active head of the business now, acting as secretary-treasurer



of the corporation and manager of the store. The store now does ten times as much business annually as it did when Mr. McElroy became associated with it.

During the World War Mr. McElroy served with units of the Hospital Corps stationed at Macon and Baltimore.

He is a Mason, Shriner, member of the Chamber of Commerce and both Country Clubs, a director in the First National Bank, and Sergeant-at-Arms of the Rotary Club. At the University of Virginia he became a member of the Sigma Nu fraternity. He owns large amounts of valuable property in addition to the pharmacy business. He married Fletcher McCarty, of Birmingham, Alabama, in Orlando, in 1906; they met while students together at Rollins College. They have four children, Merle, Jr., Ellen, James, and Mary Ann.

#### *JOHN W. GETTIER*

JOHN WESLEY GETTIER was born in 1878, in Baltimore; he was the son of Cornelius and Eliza Gettier, and was of French descent. He was educated in the schools of Baltimore, and was one of the early pioneers in Orlando, where he settled in 1885.

Mr. Gettier was assistant passenger agent for the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad, in Orlando, and in 1904 became passenger agent for the same road in Plant City. Two years later he returned to Orlando, and became passenger agent, holding this position until he died, February 27, 1913.

Mr. Gettier was in a high degree public spirited; he was interested and active in everything that concerned the good of the city; he was prominent and useful in the activities of the Methodist church, and was a Mason and Knight of Pythias.

Mr. Gettier married Ida Elizabeth Williams, of Baltimore, in 1881; their children are Herbert C., Norma, and Elma (Mrs. E. B. Saxton).

#### *JOHN G. GROSSENBACHER*

JOHN G. GROSSENBACHER was born in Switzerland, April 11, 1875, and was brought to the United States at the age of five years. He is the son of Jacob Grossenbacher and Anna Gasser Grossenbacher, who settled in California, Mo., in 1880.

Mr. Grossenbacher received his preparatory education at Missouri State Teachers College in Warrensburg, Mo., and graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Arts from the University of Missouri in 1906; while a student in the university, he served as an assistant in the department of Botany. He was teaching fellow in Harvard University, in the department of Botany,



during 1906-7; Teaching Fellow University of Wisconsin in 1911-12; Assistant Botanist of the New York State Experiment Station, at Geneva, 1907-1909; and Associate Botanist in this station from 1909 to 1912, when he was appointed a Plant Pathologist in the United States Department of Agriculture, in which service he came to Florida in 1912.

Mr. Grossenbacher established the Florida Insecticide Co. at Apopka, in 1916. The business was incorporated in November of 1926 with a capital of \$200,000.00. This company manufactures and distributes in large quantities, insecticides for use in citrus groves, and markets throughout the citrus growing area of the state.

Mr. Grossenbacher has achieved wide recognition as an expert on the diseases and insect pests affecting citrus groves; he has published a number of papers on Diseases of Trees and Plants; and has made a number of discoveries along these lines which have not yet been published. He is a regular writer for the Florida Grower, and publishes the Citrus Leaf, a monthly journal, at Apopka.

In 1908 he was married to Isadore Smoot, A. B., A. M., University of Missouri. They have one daughter and five sons.

#### *W. M. MURPHY*

WILLIAM M. MURPHY was born in Tallulah, Madison Parish, Louisiana, February 22, 1889, the son of William Milton Murphy and Elizabeth White Murphy. He is of Scotch-Irish descent. He received his education in the schools of Sewanee, Tennessee and St. Louis University, from which institution he graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Laws in 1913. He practiced law in Jacksonville two years before removing to Orlando in 1915, opening an office in that city. In 1921 he became county solicitor, and has faithfully and efficiently discharged the duties of this office to the present time, representing the county in all criminal offenses except those involving capital punishment.

He married Nellie L. Scoble in Jacksonville, October 26, 1914; they have three children, Catherine Lee, W. M., 3rd, and Robert S.

#### *A. M. HALL*

ALBERT MORTIMER HALL was born in Oswego, New York, in 1861, the son of William M. and Caroline Adams Hall. His mother was a descendant of the famous old Adams family of Massachusetts. After completing his education in the schools of Oswego, he entered the newspaper business, which he has followed for some 40 years. He was for 20 years editor of the Oswego "Palladium"; for seven years editor of the Elmira



"Daily Advertiser," and for some years on the editorial staff of the Syracuse "Herald." He then operated a newspaper feature bureau in Washington, D. C., and subsequently founded the Sykesville Herald in Maryland.

In 1921 he moved to Apopka, where he established the Apopka "Chief," a weekly published by the Apopka Printing Company, of which Mr. Hall is president. The firm does a thriving printing business in all parts of the county.

Mr. Hall has all his life been active in social and civic affairs. While in Oswego he was mayor of the city, and collector of Canal Statistics for New York state. While in Maryland he collaborated with General Felix Angus—for years editor of the Baltimore American—in the publication of a book entitled "Maryland," which fulfilled somewhat the same purpose for that state that this history aspires to fill for Orange county. He was a major in the 3rd New York Regiment of Infantry during the Spanish-American War, and a member of the New York National Guard for 23 years. He is a member of the Chamber of Commerce of Apopka, and chairman of the Board of School Trustees of that city; superintendent of the Sunday School of the Methodist church, and a licensed preacher in that denomination. He was largely instrumental in securing the establishment of the Boy Scout camp for Central Florida near Apopka.

He married Lovina Parkhurst in Dutchess county, New York, in 1884; they have two children, Carrie (Mrs. David W. Dean) and Albert C.

### WILLIAM C. TEMPLE

WILLIAM CHASE TEMPLE was born in Starke, Bradford county, Florida, December 28, 1862, and died January 9, 1917. He was the son of William Clemons and Mattie Josephine Chase Temple. He was the descendant in the sixth generation from Wm. Temple Parish of Atworth, Wiltshire, England, who came from England in 1714 and settled in Pennsylvania. A remote ancestor was Henry de Temple, Earl of Leicester and Coventry. His mother was a native of Farmington Falls, Maine.

Mr. Temple went to Delaware, in which his family had resided before coming to Florida, for his education, and attended the public schools of Wilmington, graduating in 1879 from the Delaware State Normal School.

He then went to Milwaukee and became connected with the packing-house of Plankinton & Armour and afterward held a position in the Alexander Mitchell Bank. He later returned to his native state, engaged in the lumber business for two years, and then became manager of the Alexandria orange grove, on the St. Johns river. He afterward organized the business of the Johnson Automatic Temperature Control, and went to New York in 1885, where he promoted several electrical enterprises, particularly the Metropolitan Service Electric Company, of which he was president and general manager.





*W. C. Trumpet*



On removing to Pittsburgh, he became district manager in Pittsburgh for the Babcock & Wilcox Company, manufacturers of steel boilers, and took a conspicuous part in the organization of iron, steel, coal, railroad, telegraphic, machinery and plate glass companies. He formed the Cahall Sales Department, for the marketing of the water tube boilers manufactured by the Aultman and Taylor Machinery Company of Mansfield, Ohio, and brought to this organization an enormous success. He became a director in more than a score of banks, trust companies, lumber, coal and mining companies in and about Pittsburgh, and served several of them in an advisory capacity up to the time of his death.

Mr. Temple came to Winter Park in 1898, and the following year purchased the estate and orange grove on Lake Maitland which he named "Alabama." He remodeled the house on this property, and occupied it until his death, January 9, 1917.

Mr. Temple was deeply interested in all that concerned the welfare and progress of Winter Park. He served the town as mayor for sometime, was active in forming the Board of Trade, of which he was the first president, and was for many years a trustee of Rollins College and a generous donor to its funds.

In 1909 he joined with other leading growers of citrus fruits in Florida, in forming the Florida Citrus Exchange, a cooperative marketing agency, and served it as general manager until 1913, during which time its business was increased from \$200,000.00 to \$5,000,000.00, an indebtedness of \$80,000.00 was paid, and a surplus of more than \$125,000.00 was accumulated.

Mr. Temple was a Mason, Odd Fellow and Elk; a member of the Sons of the American Revolution, and the Mayflower Society; and a member of the Duquesne Club, of Pittsburgh, the Cuyamaca Club, of San Diego, and the Rotary Club of Tampa, as well as various other civic and fraternal organizations.

Mr. Temple was a remarkable man, of a keen, alert and penetrating mind, courageous in initiative and enterprise, independent in opinion and judgment, determined in purpose and inflexible in will, a firm friend and a formidable opponent.

Mr. Temple married April 13, 1884, Carrie Lee Wood, daughter of James Wood of Chicago; they had four children, one son and three daughters; of these, three died in early childhood—William, who died of yellow fever, Mary Louise and Carrie Ruth. The surviving daughter is Dorothea, (Mrs. Adelbert W. Mason of Winter Park) whose children are Carolyn and William Temple.

Mrs. Temple survived her husband for seven years. Moving to Orlando, she built a beautiful home overlooking Lake Cherokee, which she occupied until her death, June 11, 1924. While living in Winter Park, she was greatly interested in the work of the Women's Club, serving it as vice-president and contributing some \$10,000.00 towards the building of the



Club House and other expenses. She was also a generous donor to the funds of the Montverde School, and of the Orange General Hospital, of whose board of directors she was a member. During the World War she took a leading part in the preparation of the hospital supplies, and in other activities. She was a member of the Orlando Country Club.

#### *FREDERICK W. CADY*

FREDERICK W. CADY was born in Wilmington, Illinois, December 24, 1869; he is the son of Hebert L. and Lucy B. Cady. His father went to Illinois as a pioneer in 1863, and his son received his education in the public schools of Wilmington and Joliet, in that state.

Mr. Cady was employed for 28 years in the office of the treasurer of Cook county, Chicago; he came to Winter Park in 1925, since which time he has been the active vice-president of the Bank of Winter Park.

Mr. Cady came to Winter Park on account of its favorable climatic condition, and has made it his permanent residence; he owns his home and other real estate in the city. He is a member of the Men's Business Club and Chamber of Commerce of Winter Park and the Orlando Country Club; he is a Mason.

Mr. Cady married Lois P. Mills at Chicago, Nov. 24, 1895.

#### *DR. N. L. BRYAN*

NORMAN LUTHER BRYAN was born in Newton Grove, North Carolina, October 29, 1877, the son of Josiah H. and Mary E. Bryan. His father was a civil war veteran and the father of 17 children. He was born on a farm 18 miles from the nearest railroad and remained on same for 24 years, until after the death of his father. He received his education in the country public schools of North Carolina, and graduated from the Southern Dental College in 1905 with the degree of Doctor of Dental Surgery. Like most country boys, he worked his way through college. He then moved to Lakeland, Florida, where he practiced two and one-half years. He returned to Goldsboro, North Carolina, for two years, thence moving to St. Cloud, Florida, and then again to Lakeland. In 1915 he moved to Orlando, where he practiced his profession until 1920. After selling his practice he remained in Orlando until 1925, becoming interested in the automobile and real estate businesses. He developed one of the largest real estate offices in Orlando and a branch office in Winter Park, employing an office force of 25 and a field force of about 50. In 1925 he moved to Winter Park, where he built a beautiful home on Lake Virginia, later selling his Orlando office and making his headquarters in Winter Park.



His principal real estate developments have been the Dr. N. L. Bryan subdivision in Orlando, Ellno-Willo, Sylvan Park, Bungalow Park, and Fairbanks Park in Winter Park, and Fairvilla Park and Forest Pines adjacent to Orlando.

During the World War, Dr. Bryan was active in promoting the Liberty Loan drives, and was influential in the financial affairs of the Baptist church in Orlando; he is a Knight of Pythias, member of the Orlando, Winter Park and Orange county Chambers of Commerce, the Orlando Realty Board, and a deacon in the Baptist church in Winter Park. He was formerly a member of the Executive Committee of the Florida State Dental Association, and a member of the National Dental Association. He was also a member of the Orlando School Board for two terms, and active in securing the erection of the Junior high school, Delaney grammar school and Jones Memorial high school (colored), while a member of this body. He married Mary E. Pillans in Lakeland, October 25, 1906; she is the daughter of W. P. Pillans, who was for many years a member of the city council of Orlando. They have four children, Elliott P., Norman L. Jr., William P., and Mary Louise.

#### *DR. P. M. LEWIS*

PERRY M. LEWIS was born in Withlacoochee, Georgia, March 28, 1892, the son of J. H. L. and Mary Ellis Lewis. Graduating from the Atlanta Medical College in 1915, he began the practice of his profession in Bainbridge, Georgia. In 1924 he removed to Orlando, where he opened an office for the special treatment of eye, ear, nose and throat diseases exclusively.

During the World War Dr. Lewis was with the Medical Corps of the United States army; he was also prison physician, Decatur county, Bainbridge, Georgia, and a member of the city council in Bainbridge, from 1922 to 1924. He is a Mason, a member of Kappa Psi fraternity, the Chamber of Commerce and the Country Club; he also teaches the Men's Bible class of the Baptist church in Orlando and is a deacon in the First Baptist church. He is a member of the National, State and County Medical Associations.

#### *DR. R. R. KIME*

RUFUS ROBERT KIME was born near Clarksville, Tennessee, February 11, 1857, the son of Dr. John and Ellen Morrison Kime. After attending the public schools of Kentucky and Indiana, he studied at the University of Indiana and the University of Michigan, receiving the degree of Doctor of Medicine from the latter institution in 1880. He then took a post-graduate course in the University of Louisville. He practiced medicine in Indiana for



13 years, in Atlanta, Georgia, for 25 years, and in Lakeland, Florida, for four years, specializing in surgery and gynecology. At various times during these years he completed later graduate studies in medical colleges, hospitals and clinics in New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, Cleveland, and Rochester, Minnesota with the Mayo Brothers. In 1922 he came to Orlando, and entered at once upon the practice of medicine there, specializing in X-Ray and laboratory work, for which he has an unusually complete and fine equipment.

Dr. Kime was formerly chairman of the staff of the Georgia Baptist hospital in Atlanta, and taught at the Southern Medical College; he was president of the Tri-State Medical Association (Georgia, Alabama and Tennessee); president of the Atlanta Medical Society and of the Georgia Fifth District Medical Society; president of the Polk county and Florida Midland Medical Associations; and president of the Atlanta Tuberculosis Association. He was chairman of the Georgia Anti-Tuberculosis Committee.

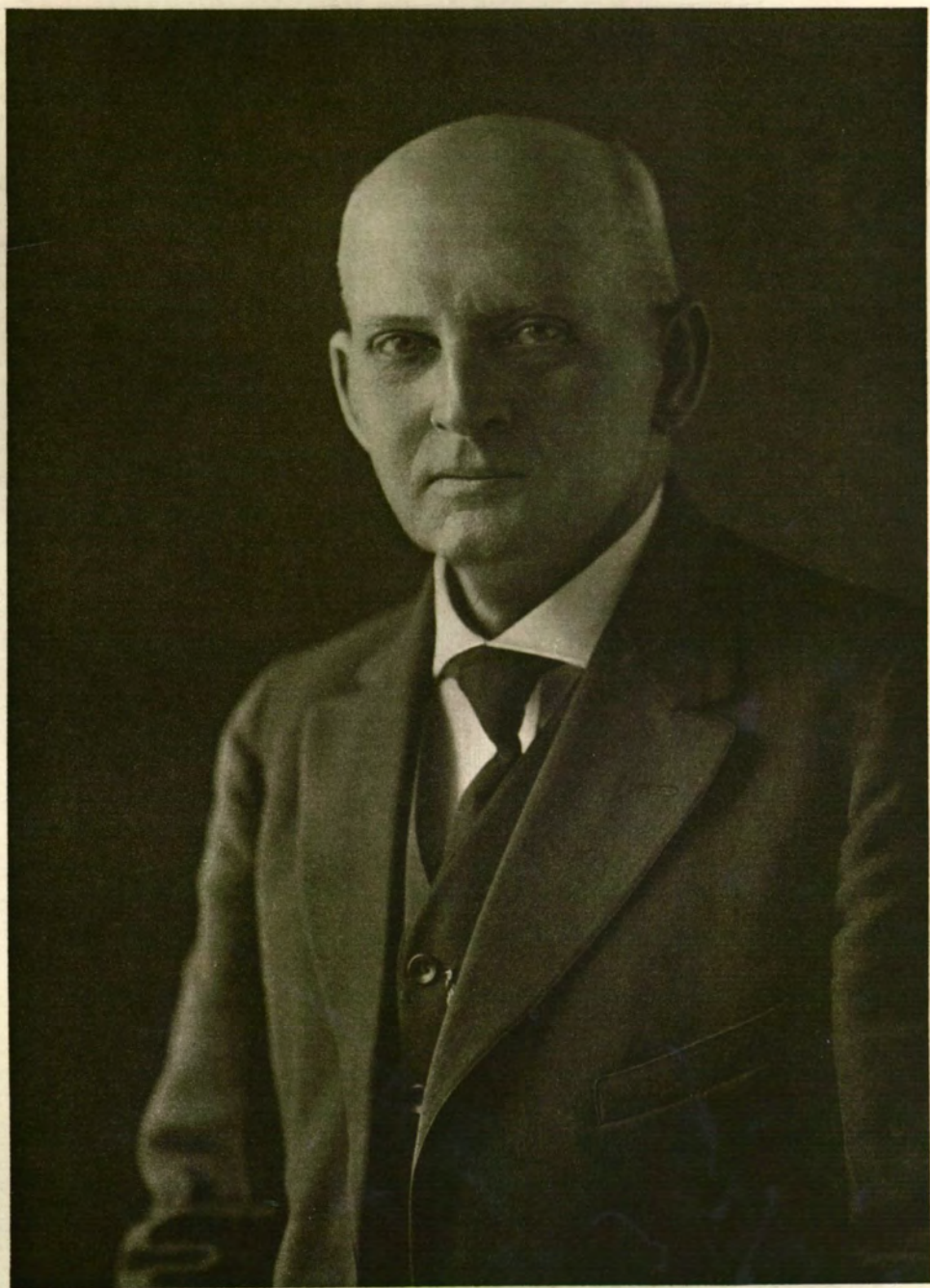
He is a fellow of the American College of Surgeons, the only active member of this distinguished body at this time in Orlando; a member of The Gorgas Memorial Association of the American Medical Association, Southern Medical Association, and the state and county Medical Associations. He is also a member of the Knights of Pythias and of the Woodmen of the World. He was for a long time ruling elder in the Cumberland Presbyterian church in Atlanta, afterward becoming a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, South.

He married Hope Davidson of Princeton, Indiana, October 20, 1883; she died in 1911. They had three children; Charles D., for many years the efficient agricultural agent of Orange county; Virgil M., who taught Economics at the University of Michigan two years, then Actuary of Casualty Department, Travelers Insurance Co., Hartford, Conn., and Agnes Clay, of whom only the first survives. In 1919 he married Mrs. Caroline D. McGrath of Muskegon, Michigan.

#### *F. A. LEWTER*

FREDERICK AUGUSTUS LEWTER was born in Halifax county, North Carolina, December 14, 1854, the son of James Madison and Mary Davis Lewter. He came from an illustrious ancestry, his father being descended from Martin Luther, this name being changed to Lewter after the family came to America, the word Luther being pronounced in German as the name is now written. He was educated in Elm Grove and Buck Horn Academies in North Carolina and in Richmond College, Virginia. He taught school for a brief time, and in 1876, he managed several hotels in Philadelphia. Returning to his early home he was in charge until 1883 of the farm which his father had owned before his death, operating also three stores.





*Dr. A. Lewton.*



*EMMETT ROPER*

EMMETT ROPER, founder of the numerous and influential Roper family of Winter Garden, was born near Woodbury, Georgia. He was the son of William and Caroline Roper.

He came to Winter Garden at the age of seven years with his father and both took up homesteads there. He was one of the earliest farmers in this region; he grew oranges before there was a railway, and hauled them by wagon to Sanford where they were shipped by boat to Jacksonville; ox teams were used for this purpose. He was one of the largest owners of land in this section when he died, some 14 years ago, at the age of 56.

For facts concerning the arrival of Mr. Roper in Orange county, and the conditions of life and labor in Winter Garden at that time, see the preceding biographical sketch of his son Bert Hause Roper. Two of his brothers served in the Civil War.

Mr. Roper married Elizabeth Roberts of Winter Garden; his children are Bert Hause, Maud (Mrs. H. A. Holmes), Leila (Mrs. L. P. Crews), Alma (Mrs. O. F. May), W. Fred, L. Frank and E. Oscar.

*CAPT. WILLIAM H. JOHNSTON*

WILLIAM H. JOHNSTON was born in Manheim, New York, December 1, 1847, the son of John F. and Jeanette M. Johnston. His parents were married at Neenah, Wisconsin, from where they removed to Appleton, in the same state, when their son was a year old. They were the first white couple to settle in Appleton and they built the first house there.

For some time after locating in Appleton, Mr. Johnston's father was interested in lumbering and later engaged in the hotel business.

Captain Johnston's early education was secured in the schools of Appleton and afterward he attended Lawrence University which had been established there. Entering business, he was successively connected with hotels in Appleton, and also in Chicago and Evanston, Illinois.

In 1876 he engaged in iron mining with the Lake Superior Iron Company of Ishpeming, Michigan, at which place he made his home until his retirement from business in 1917, at the age of 70. From the formation of the United States Steel Corporation in 1901, until his retirement, he was general superintendent, in charge of all iron mining operations for the corporation in the Marquette (Mich.) District.

During his residence at Ishpeming, he was mayor of the city for three terms and was a member of the city council for ten years. He was a member of the board of control of the Michigan Branch State Prison, located at Marquette, for a number of years and filled one term as chairman of the



Michigan State Penology Commission. He was for some time vice-president of the Miners' National Bank of Ishpeming.

On May 4, 1870 he was married to Eva Rich at Horicon, Wisconsin. Two daughters and two sons were born to them, of whom the two daughters are now living, Myrtle (Mrs. Henry S. Thompson) and Agnes (Mrs. Selden F. White). They have eight grandchildren and one great grandchild. In May of this year Captain and Mrs. Johnston celebrated the 57th anniversary of their marriage.

Captain Johnston purchased his home in Maitland in 1907, and up to the time of his retirement from business in 1917 was a winter visitor. Since then he has become a permanent Florida resident. He is a director of the Bank of Winter Park and vice-president of the Maitland Public Library Board. He is a member of the Maitland, Winter Park and Orange county Chambers of Commerce; a 32nd degree Mason and a Shriner.

#### *J. E. WRIGHT*

JAMES ELWIN WRIGHT was born in Corinth, Vermont, July 9, 1890, the son of Joel A. and Mary M. Goodwin Wright. He is descended from one of the earliest American families, both his father's and mother's forebears settling in New England around 1650. He was educated in the public schools of New Hampshire, and after completing the high school course he attended business college; at the age of 15 he entered the real estate business in Romney, N. H. Removing to Orlando in 1919, he continued in this business, operating his own office the larger part of this time. He developed Muriel Terraces, and was interested in Lancaster Park; he and his associates own about a million dollars worth of real estate in Orange county. He is president of the Sias-Shepherd-Wright Investment Co., president of the Immanuel Investment Co., treasurer of the Sunniland Holding Co., and secretary of the Poinsettia Land and Mortgage Co.

During the World War he was a member of the State Guard in New Hampshire.

Mr. Wright is a member of the Chamber of Commerce and the Orlando Realty Board. He married Florence Dunkling in New Hampshire July 8, 1911; they have one daughter, Muriel V.

#### *DR. JAMES A. DAVIS*

JAMES ABRAM DAVIS was born in Bostwick, South Carolina, December 27, 1876; he is the son of Dr. W. M. Davis and Mary Blaine Davis. His father served as a surgeon in the Confederate Army during the Civil War, and was twice elected to the legislature of South Carolina; he was the father of nine children, and lived to the age of 80 years.



Dr. Davis acquired a common and high school education in South Carolina and studied in Hartsville College; he graduated from the Medical Department of Emory University with the degree of M. D., and began the practice of his profession in Winter Garden the same year. He has served this community as physician for 21 years; he has also acted as local physician and surgeon for the Seaboard Air Line railroad.

Dr. Davis has built several houses and business buildings in Winter Garden, where he is the owner of valuable real estate; he is a director of the Bank of Winter Garden, and also a member of the Chamber of Commerce, the Kiwanis Club, and the American State and County Medical Societies; he is a Master Mason, and a member of the Baptist church.

Dr. Davis married Angie Marie Phillips of Orlando, in 1907; they have one son, Robert Everett, now at Emory University, preparing for the practice of medicine.

#### *W. E. MARTIN*

WILLIAM E. MARTIN was born near Greensborough, North Carolina, on April 17, 1867, the son of Dr. Elijah and Eliza Terry Martin. When Mr. Martin was two years old his father came to Orange county for reasons of health, locating first at Lake Apopka, but soon moving near Orlando. At that time he was the only physician in the southern part of the county.

Mr. Martin attended the public schools of Orange county, and was a student for one year at Rollins College; this was in the second year of the college's existence.

His first venture into the world's work was as teacher in the county school at Fairvilla, for which service he received the princely wage of \$25 per month. After teaching for some five years, he engaged in the business of growing pineapples, in which industry he was a pioneer; he also raised oranges for awhile. In 1904 he was elected county tax collector, and has been so faithful and efficient in that office that he has held it continuously since that year. He is thus one of the oldest county officials in point of service, Captain B. M. Robinson, county clerk, having first filled his office in the same year. Mr. Martin reports that the taxes collected in 1904, including what is now Seminole county, amounted to about \$85,000, while in 1926 for Orange county alone they totalled \$2,132,000.

Mr. Martin has always been interested and active in religious and civic affairs. For 30 years he has been on the board of stewards of the Methodist church, and for 20 years a member of the Chamber of Commerce. He helped organize the Orange County Fair Association. He is a Mason and Odd Fellow, and a member of the Kiwanis Club and the Country Club.

In 1910 Mr. Martin married Mattie Chapman in Orlando; they have one adopted daughter, Josephine.





*N. E. Mastui*



*FRANK HAITHCOX*

JAMES FRANKLIN HAITHCOX was born in Smith Grove, Davie county, North Carolina, May 7, 1882, the son of Daniel M. and Julia Ellen Heckard Haithcox. Educated in the public schools of Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

Frank Haithcox' entire early life was spent in the theatrical profession; his biggest success being in the original cast of *Prince Pro Tem*, that had a record run of that time—the late nineties, of nearly 200 nights in Boston. Mr. Haithcox' professional work was all under his given name, and several Franklin shows of today grew out of his various efforts.

He came to Orlando in 1921 where he engaged in real estate development, the most notable of these projects being the beautiful Sanlando properties at Altamonte Springs, where Mr. Haithcox makes his home.

Frank Haithcox has organized five successful Florida corporations, among which is the Orange Furniture Company which began business in 1923 under the able management of his father.

During the World War he was attached to the staff of Major Woods, at Explosive Plant Nitro, West Virginia. Was a member of the West Virginia four-minute-men (unattached), and headed up practically all Liberty Loan, Y. M. C. A. and Red Cross work in that section. Mr. Haithcox' war work covered everything from isolated camps to convoy escort.

Frank Haithcox is a member of the Lion's Club, a Mason, and an Elk.

He married Marion Day of Charlottesville, Virginia; they have two children, James Frank and Frances Amelia.

Frank Haithcox' hobbies are horses, fishing, writing of verse and short stories.

*VICTOR T. POWE*

VICTOR THRASHLEY POWE was born in Newton, Mississippi, May 8, 1892, the son of Elijah E. and Rose A. Clark Powe. His paternal grandfather was a judge in Mississippi, and his father was also a judge; his maternal grandfather was a newspaper owner in Illinois, whose father before him had been in the newspaper business in Portland, Maine. Mr. Powe attended the public schools of Newton, and studied for three years at Clark College in the same city.

He began his business career with the Bell Telephone Company at Newton as an operator; he rose successively through the ranks as lineman; clerk; manager at Brookhaven, Mississippi; cashier; commercial supervisor for the states of Mississippi and Louisiana; clerk in the general commercial office in Atlanta; chief clerk in Mississippi; and finally in 1926 came to Orlando as district manager for Orange and Seminole counties.



During the World War, Mr. Powe served as a First Lieutenant in France for a year and a half; he was commissioned in the cavalry, but later transferred to an anti-aircraft machine gun unit.

Mr. Powe is a member of the Orlando Chamber of Commerce, the Junior Chamber of Commerce, Orange county Chamber of Commerce, Rotary International, and Orlando Country Club, a Mason and Shriner. He married Mamie Hunter in Newton, Mississippi, July 6, 1921; they have one daughter, Rosemary.

The new building of the Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company, in Orlando, opened for service November 6, 1926, is the third largest and one of the finest telephone buildings in the entire state, costing, with equipment a million and a quarter dollars.

### *MURRY S. KING*

MURRY S. KING was born at Murrysville, Pennsylvania, July 13, 1870, the son of Robert and Mary (Parks) King, also natives of Pennsylvania. His father was a wagon maker by trade. Murry S. King grew to manhood at Murrysville, attending public school and an academy there. He was three years of age when his mother died, and from early boyhood learned to depend upon his own efforts for advancement. The best part of his education was acquired in the intervals of earning his own livelihood. He learned the carpenter trade and after a few years became a superintendent of construction, studying architecture in his intervals of leisure, combining actual experience with his studies, until he became a past master of all the arts and trades entering into building, whether the modest home or large business structures.

Mr. King came to Orlando, Florida, in 1904 and entered into the practice of architecture, which profession he was actively engaged in up to the time of his death, September 21, 1925. He was highly esteemed as an architect, and drew plans for many of the most important and beautiful buildings of central Florida. His last work was designing the new Orange county court house; his death occurring during the preparation of the drawings for this structure, which were completed by his son, James B. King, who also supervised the construction of this building. This beautiful monumental type court house, with its exterior built of Indiana limestone, and designed in the Roman Tuscan order, is a monument to Mr. King's architectural genius.

Mr. King was a member of the American Institute of Architects and served as a member of the State Board of Architecture from the time of its inception and was its president for six years. He was a charter member of the Florida State Association of Architects and a member of the Board of Supervising Architects of the Florida state hotel commission. He was a Knight of Pythias, an Elk, a member of the Lion's Club and the Orlando



Chamber of Commerce and was a member of the Presbyterian church. At the age of 20 he married Miss Annie R. Dible at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, in 1890. The children born to their marriage are; H. LeRoy, Florence, James B., Murry S. and Merrit A., twins, the latter deceased, Edward T. and Pearl. Pearl died at the age of 16. Florence married Louis K. Doutrick.

### *A. B. STRUBLE*

ARCH BOYD STRUBLE was born in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, June 11, 1886, the son of Lemison and Rebecca Wineland Struble; he is of German and French lineage, his paternal grandfather having come to this country from Germany, and engaged in farming in Pennsylvania, in which occupation his son followed him.

Mr. Struble's early education was obtained in the public schools of Westmoreland county, and he graduated from the International Correspondence School of Scranton, completing the course in Contracting and Building. He went to Pittsburgh in 1901 and worked at the carpenter's trade; during the year 1909, he traveled extensively, covering 27 states and 10,000 miles, reaching the Pacific Coast. He acted as superintendent of building and construction operations in Pittsburgh, for the Duquesne Construction Company and E. Z. Pfeffer Co.

Mr. Struble came to Orlando in September, 1920, and has been employed in the same lines of work as in Pittsburgh, at first by James Wellman in Winter Park, and later on his own account. He superintended the erection of the beautiful residence on Lake Sue, "The Ripples." Entering business for himself in 1922, he erected the Franklin garage, a store building which the Church Street Bank put up in Hughey street, and another store in Church street. He then erected successively the residence of Dr. G. H. Edwards, the Masonic Temple, the St. Luke's Cathedral, the Bible School building of the First Presbyterian church, the Francis Marion hotel, the annex to the Orange General Hospital, all beautiful and imposing buildings.

Mr. Struble is a Kiwanian, a Mason, an Odd Fellow, and a member and officer of the Park Lake Presbyterian church.

He married Mary Ruth Leshner at Pittsburgh, April 30, 1919; their children are Elinor Parks, Arch Boyd, Jr., and Mary Ruth.

### *DR. M. A. HENKEL*

MILLER ABRAHAM HENKEL, the "beloved physician of Winter Park," was born in Newmarket, Virginia, October 26, 1848. He was the son of Solon and Anna Maria Henkel. The Henkel family came to the United States from Germany in 1717; the first member of the family in this country,



Gerhart, was exiled from Germany on account of his religion, and established the first Lutheran church in the United States in Philadelphia.

Dr. Henkel received his medical degree at the University of Pennsylvania, and practiced his profession at Winchester, Virginia, for some 12 years. He removed to Winter Park in 1883, and practiced medicine in the town and through a wide surrounding territory from that time until his death, May 30, 1911.

Dr. Henkel built the Henkel block at Winter Park in 1886; for many years, the small stretch of concrete was the only sidewalk in the village. He was either mayor or councilman during most of the period of his life in Winter Park; he was also an active member and an officer of the Congregational church. He owned a 200 acre orange grove at Maitland, and others at Winter Park, and he planted many of the oak trees along the streets which are so beautiful feature of the city.

Dr. Henkel married Fannie Moore, of Newmarket, Virginia, who died in 1886; their children are Thomas M., and Fannie (Mrs. W. B. Smith).

Dr. Henkel's memory will long be cherished in Winter Park, as a physician, a civic patriot, and a friend.

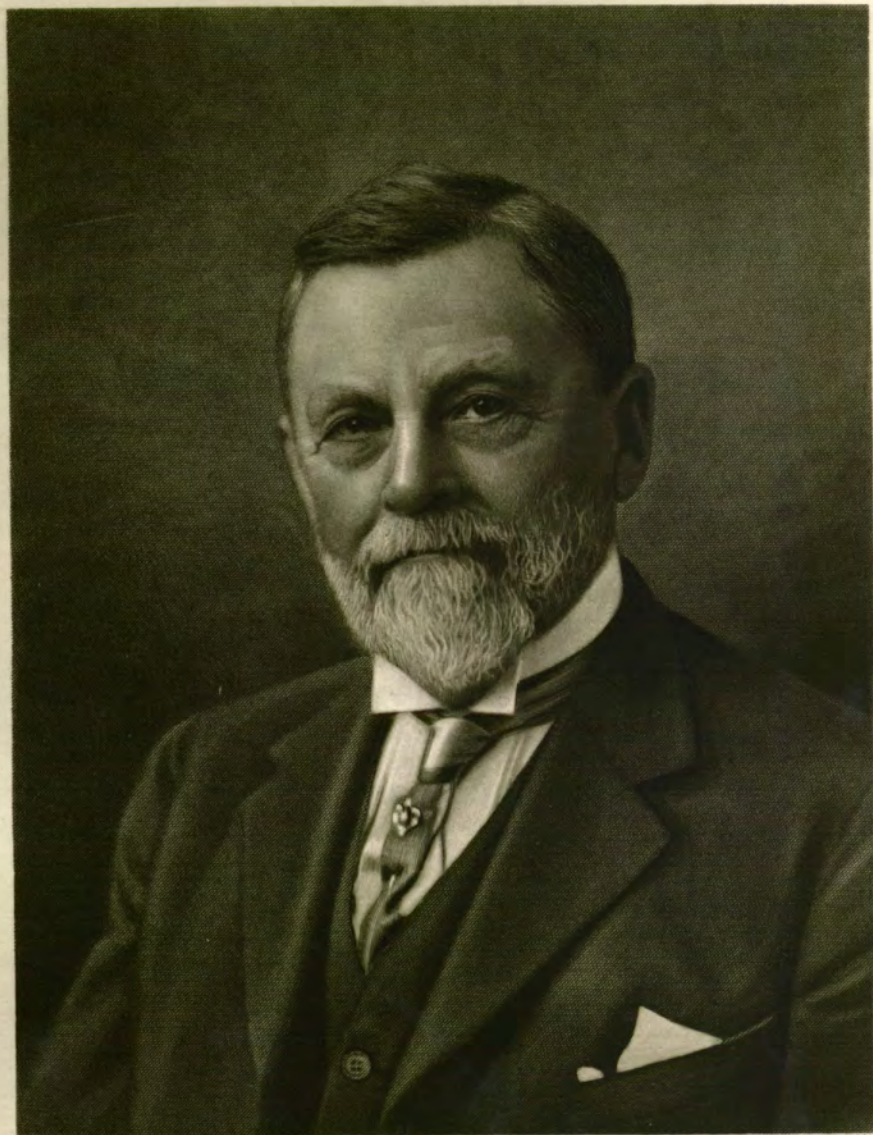
### *CHARLES H. MORSE*

CHARLES HOSMER MORSE, Winter Park's most distinguished citizen, was born in St. Johnsbury, Vermont, September 23, 1833, and died May 5, 1921, in Winter Park, Florida. He was the son of John and Elizabeth (Hosmer) Morse. He enjoyed such educational advantages as were afforded in that early day by the public schools of his native town and the St. Johnsbury academy.

Mr. Morse became associated with E. & T. Fairbanks & Company, of St. Johnsbury, famous manufactures of scales, December 11, 1850, at the age of 17, as a bound apprentice, at \$50.00 a year. He was soon advanced to a position with Fairbanks & Company in New York, and in 1858 was sent to Chicago to assist in establishing the firm of Fairbanks & Greenleaf in that city, becoming a partner in the firm four years later.

In 1864, Mr. Morse went to Cincinnati, where he founded and became head of the firm of Fairbanks, Morse & Co., and while there, he established in Cleveland, Pittsburgh and Louisville, the first branch houses of the business, which was thereafter to be known, and is still known the world over as Fairbanks, Morse & Co. Returning to Chicago in 1869 to take charge of the business there, because of the failing health and ultimate retirement of Mr. Greenleaf, that house, in the year 1872, also became Fairbanks, Morse & Co. Of this firm Mr. Morse was, and continued to be until his death, the dominant figure and force.





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C. H. Morse  
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In 1866, the manufacture of letter and waybill presses and warehouse trucks was added to the business in a small way, and the sales agency for typewriters, coffee mills, windmills, and other products, was taken on. Other fields of manufacture were invaded, windmills, engines, motors, pumps, air compressors, feed grinders, and an immense factory was erected in Beloit, Wisconsin, and later others in Indianapolis, Three Rivers, Michigan, and West Toronto and Sherbourne, Canada.

Mr. Morse came to Winter Park with his friend, Franklin Fairbanks, in 1881; each of them purchased a lot in Interlachen avenue on Lake Osceola; from that time onward, Mr. Morse's interest in Florida and Winter Park was maintained, and in 1905 he made it his permanent winter home. He was greatly interested in fruit culture, and owned a number of orange groves; one of his cherished avocations was tarpon fishing, in which for many years he eagerly engaged.

Mr. Morse married Martha J. Owens in Cincinnati, June 30, 1868; their children were Elizabeth (wife of Dr. Richard M. Genius of Chicago); Charles Hosmer, Jr., who succeeded his father as president of Fairbanks Morse & Company; Robert Hosmer, also an officer of this company; and Franklin Fairbanks, who died in infancy. Mrs. Morse, who is tenderly remembered by all who knew her in Winter Park and elsewhere, died October 24, 1903, and on July 22, 1911, Mr. Morse married Mrs. Helen H. Piffard of New York, who survives him, a winter resident of Winter Park.

Mr. Morse was a member and an active and generous supporter of the Congregational church. His memory is honored in Winter Park by the chimes and echo organ contributed by his daughter, Mrs. Richard M. Genius, to the Congregational church. He is further honored by the Morse Memorial Park, a tract of some five acres between the Dixie highway and Interlachen avenue, a part of the former golf course. This tract has been acquired for the purpose of creating a park in the memory of Mr. Morse; it will be beautifully decorated, and at the center of the tract a memorial will be erected, whose precise form has not yet been determined.

### *THOMAS M. HENKEL*

THOMAS M. HENKEL was born in Winchester, Virginia, June 21, 1875, the son of Dr. M. A. Henkel, mentioned above.

Mr. Henkel attended Rollins College, being registered on the day when the college first opened its doors; he studied in various departments of the institution for nine years, after which he was a student in the East Florida Seminary, now the University of Florida, at Gainesville.

Most of Mr. Henkel's life has been devoted to the buying and selling of real estate; for the most part he has handled his own properties, and has never acted as a broker. He is a director in the company which is develop-



ing the beautiful subdivision, Aloma, where his home is located; he has also served as a director of both the banks at Winter Park; and is now a director in the Union State Bank.

Mr. Henkel was twice elected mayor of Winter Park, and served for a number of terms on the town council, both before and after his terms as mayor. He is a member of the Congregational church, of the Chamber of Commerce and of the Business Men's Club.

Mr. Henkel married Bessie D. Galloway; his children are Miller S. and Mary Louise, both by a former marriage.

### *GEORGE H. WOOD*

GEORGE H. WOOD, one of the founders of the Town of Tangerine, was born in Royalston, Massachusetts, in 1843. He conducted a large and prosperous wholesale grain and flower business at Winchendon, Mass., for a number of years, and came to Tangerine in 1882, where he took up a homestead of 160 acres. At that time, the little settlement was called Deer Park, and it was Mr. Wood, in connection with Dudley W. Adams, who was for many years one of the best known orange growers and writers on horticultural subjects in Florida, and R. J. Wright, who founded Tangerine, and attached to the settlement its present attractive name. Mr. Wood owned several citrus groves at Tangerine prior to his death in 1909.

Mr. Wood was an Odd Fellow and one of the founders of the Congregational church of Tangerine. He married Calista S. Morse, at Worcester, Mass., in 1873; their daughter Winifred, (Mrs. C. H. Estey) still resides at the old home, "Woodlawn Villa."

### *W. T. CHAPMAN*

WILLIAM THOMAS CHAPMAN was born near Apopka, October 28, 1861. He is the son of Giles P. and Martha H. Harris Chapman. His father, who was a native of South Carolina, came to Florida in 1856 and was at that time actively engaged in the Seminole War. During the Civil War the family moved to Sumpter county, Florida, and the son attended the schools of Adamsville in that county.

Mr. Chapman, as a young man, was engaged in farming and fruit growing in Sumpter county where he was also sheriff for ten years from 1887 to 1897. He then moved to Palmetto, Florida, where he served as mayor and engaged in the livery business. He soon returned to Orange county, however, and there for 12 years was connected with a large mill at Lockhart, living first at Lockhart, then Ocoee and later at Fairvilla. In 1913 Mr. Chapman moved to Orlando, where he remained for six years and served as



county superintendent of roads and bridges. In 1919 he moved to Winter Garden where he still resides. He served Winter Garden for three terms as mayor. He was elected a member of the Board of County Commissioners in 1924 and re-elected in 1926 without opposition.

The present board has had entire charge of the construction of the county court house. It expects to built 250 miles more of hard surface roads within the term of its existence. Mr. Chapman's favorite slogan is "Good roads and more of them." He is also interested in better schools for the county.

Mr. Chapman is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. He is a Mason and a Woodman of the World.

On December 12, 1886, he married Mary L. Whitfield at Adamsville, Florida. Their children are Maggie D. (Mrs. J. S. Eaton), Giles Whitfield, Charles Edwin, Mary Louise (Mrs. C. F. Gregory), Mattie G., Willie A., and John Wilbur.

#### *EDWARD S. BRIDGES*

EDWARD STANLEY BRIDGES was born in Ghent, Kentucky, July 23, 1877, the son of David Matthew and Mary Ann Reed Bridges. He is of English descent. He attended the public schools in Kentucky, was graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Arts from Hanover College and received his legal education at the New York law school. He practiced law in Carrolton, Kentucky, until 1911; he was thereafter for seven years attorney for the Government Department of Public Works in the Philippine Islands, serving at the same time as Professor of Law in the University of the Philippines. Coming to Orlando in 1918, he engaged in the practice of law with Carl B. Robinson under the firm name of Robinson & Bridges; on the death of Mr. Robinson in 1923, Mr. Bridges succeeded to the firm practice. Mr. Bridges came to Orlando originally to visit his brother, the late Dr. John J. Bridges and was so delighted with the city that he decided to remain permanently. He lived in the Philippines during the official residence there of his brother-in-law, Col. R. M. Shearer, who, with Mrs. Shearer, now also resides in Edgewood, a suburb of Orlando.

Mr. Bridges served with the 159th Indiana Regiment during the Spanish-American War.

He is a member of the Episcopal church, Chamber of Commerce, Civitan, Elks and Orlando Country Club. He married Emily W. Loos in Lexington, Kentucky, January 22, 1904; they have two sons, Edward L. and David William.

Mrs. Bridges has long taken a prominent part in the civic affairs of Orlando. She is chairman of the Orlando Park Commission, with which she has long been identified, and a member also of the Orlando Beautification Committee. Mrs. Bridges is a past-president of the Rosalind club and a past-officer of Sorosis.



*JUDGE VICTOR HUTCHINS*

VICTOR HUTCHINS was born in Covington, Kentucky, September 11, 1900, the son of J. N. Hutchins and Josephine Stevenson Hutchins. His family removed to Florida when he was four years old, settling first at St. Andrews Bay and then at Pensacola, where Judge Hutchins started his education in the public schools of that city. Later he moved to Okaloosa county, and then to DeLand; while there, Judge Hutchins worked his way through the law school of John B. Stetson University, from which he received the degree of Bachelor of Laws in 1923. He then came to Orlando and entered the practice of law with his father, later moving to Winter Garden for a time. On October 1, 1925 he was appointed to the office of County Judge left vacant by the appointment of Judge Frank Smith to be Circuit Judge.

At the age of 17 Judge Hutchins enlisted in 6th Co. Coast Artillery, National Guard of Florida and later in the 52nd Infantry of the 6th Division of the Army of the United States, and served with that organization at Camp Forest, Georgia, and for 11 months and 22 days in France, being discharged at Camp Gordon, Georgia, on June 19, 1919.

In his youth he also worked as a locomotive fireman for two years and conductor two years on the Florida, Alabama and Gulf railroad, which road was later known as the Audalusia, Florida and Gulf R. R.

Judge Hutchins is a member of the American Legion, of which organization he is First Vice-Commander; he is Chef de Gare of the Forty and Eight; a member of the Chamber of Commerce; an Elk, and a member of the Sigma Nu Phi legal fraternity. He married Goldie M. Bradley in Pensacola, December 22, 1921; their two children are Victor Herbert and Mary Jane.

*ISAAC VANDERPOOL*

ISAAC VANDERPOOL was born in New York city in 1850, where he resided till a young man. Impaired eyesight forbade him from entering Yale, for which he was prepared, instead he went to Brazil and traveled extensively in South America, till 1870. Returning home he met H. S. Kedney who persuaded him to accompany him to South Florida. In 1870 he bought from the Government 160 acres on Lake Maitland and left Mr. Kedney to prepare and plant it in grove.

In New York, in 1876, he married Harriet Langman of that city and together they came to their property and made it their home. Here were born Charles H., Harry, Mary Louise, Fred W. and Kate Vanderpool.

Death claimed Mr. Vanderpool in 1917. During his life he was an active leader in all that served to promote the interests of the town of which he was a pioneer settler.





*Wm. Stahump*



He built and operated the first packing house, and together with H. S. Kedney planted all of the oaks that now make the town beautiful, and his death was felt as a distinct loss to the town of Maitland he had helped to create.

Mrs. Vanderpool still owns and lives in the home to which she came in 1876.

### *C. H. ESTEY*

CLARENCE H. ESTEY is a Canadian by birth, having been born in Carleton county, Province of New Brunswick, in 1870; he was raised on a farm in Canada, and received his education there. He came to Florida in 1909, and settled at Kissimmee, but moved to Tangerine in 1918, going into the merchantile business, and later receiving appointment of postmaster at that place.

Going out of the merchantile business, Mr. Estey is now devoting his time to orange growing. He is a member of the county Chamber of Commerce, of the Florida State Horticultural Society, he is also a 32nd degree Mason and a Shriner, and Modern Woodman.

Mr. Estey married Winifred M. Wood of Tangerine in 1920. She was the daughter of George H. Wood, a pioneer resident and leading citizen of Tangerine; and studied six years at Rollins College, receiving the degree of Bachelor of Arts at that institution in 1910. He has one daughter, Erma, and three sons from previous marriage, Ward, Leon and Theodore.

### *J. W. F. BRAY*

J. W. F. BRAY was born in Butts county, Georgia, June 24, 1851, and received his education in the schools of his native state.

Mr. Bray came to West Orange county, in 1880, and took up a homestead near the present site of Winter Garden, upon which he settled April 21, 1881. He still owns 75 acres of the original 160 included in the homestead, 60 acres of this being in bearing orange trees, three acres in grapefruit, and a half acre in tangerines. When he took out his homesteading papers, the entire tract was covered with pine woods. He himself cleared the land and planted the trees, and now has one of the best orange groves in the region.

His homestead, and the home in which he now lives, are on the trail which General Andrew Jackson traveled from Mellonville to Tampa, still known as the Jackson's Trail.

Mr. Bray is an active member of the Baptist church of Winter Garden, and has for many years served as a deacon of this church and Sunday School worker for the past 40 years and still a Bible class teacher.



Mr. Bray has been twice married; his second wife was Emma Dixon of Whigham, Georgia; their children are Earnest Eakes Bray, John Herbert Bray, and Mitty (Mrs. William Evans). The above children by his first marriage. He also has adopted two orphan children to raise, Margurite Dixon and Wilmer Ralph Dixon.

#### *W. FRED ROPER*

WILLIAM FRED ROPER is a native, not only of Orange county, but also of the community where he still lives; he was born in Winter Garden, March 10, 1886. He was the son of Emmett and Elizabeth Roper.

Mr. Roper's father was a pioneer resident of West Orange county, and Fred attended school at the old Beulah school, near Winter Garden, and was a student for two years in Rollins College, where he distinguished himself as a football player.

Mr. Roper, like all the other members of his family, has been engaged in the growing of citrus fruits. He owns about 25 acres of orange groves, and some 35 acres in partnership with his brother, L. F. Roper; he owns also 20 acres of truck farm. He is the manager of the Roper Bros. packing house, for citrus fruits only, at Winter Garden. This is the oldest packing house in the community, and has a capacity for a 1,000 boxes daily.

Mr. Roper is a member of the Chambers of Commerce of the county, and of Winter Garden. He is a Mason, a Shriner of the Egypt Temple, Tampa. He has seen the settlement at Winter Garden grow from almost nothing to a town of 2500 inhabitants.

#### *JOSEPH BUMBY*

JOSEPH BUMBY, a pioneer and highly esteemed and influential citizen of Orange county, was born in London, England, and died in Orlando, in February, 1911. He received his education in the London schools, and came to the United States and to Orlando in 1873. He homesteaded 160 acres of land eastward from the city, all of which has been subdivided and included within the city limits.

In the early days, before the building of the South Florida railroad, Mr. Bumby, then a young man, carried the mail between Mellonville and Orlando and intermediate points, at first on horseback and later in a wagon; he also operated a hack line between the same points. He was the first railway ticket agent in Orlando.

For a number of years prior to 1886, Mr. Bumby carried on an extensive business in hay, grain and fertilizer; he then established a hardware business which later became the Joseph Bumby Hardware Company, of which



he remained the active head until his death. He erected the large building on Church street, which is still occupied by this business. The Joseph Bumby Hardware Company is the largest concern of its kind in central Florida, operating four stores, in Church street and Orange avenue, Orlando, and in Winter Park and Winter Garden; all these stores are managed by Mr. Bumby's sons.

Mr. Bumby was a director of the State Bank of Orlando & Trust Co., for many years prior to his death; was a Mason and Shriner; was a devout member and elder in the Presbyterian church; and was interested in every effort to promote the growth and the beautification and moral betterment of the city.

Mr. Bumby married Mary F. Elderkin of London on August 25, 1867, they had nine children, all of whom are still living; Ruth (Mrs. J. S. Moore), Harry, Alice (Mrs. J. F. Maddox), Alfred W., Charles, Joseph, Ada (Mrs. W. W. Yothers), Frank, and Leonard.

### *E. G. DUCKWORTH*

EUGENE G. DUCKWORTH was born near Lincoln, Nebraska, April 29, 1875, the son of Manly Goodman and Ida Jennings Goodman. Adopted by Thos. A. and Emily C. Duckworth in 1885.

His education was secured in the public schools of Cincinnati, Ohio, and Orlando, to which city he came February 22, 1885. He worked in the old armory for a time; later he entered a dry goods store, and was employed in the store of N. P. Yowell for a year. At the age of 22 he engaged in the shoe business for himself, and continued in this business for 17 years; his store became well known as Duckworth's shoe store. In 1913 he became associated with Mr. N. P. Yowell as the Yowell-Duckworth Company. They erected the five-story department store building in which they did business until 1919, when Mr. Duckworth sold out his interest in the firm. He was secretary and treasurer of the company during his connection with it. At one time he owned a shoe store in St. Petersburg, but this he has also sold. Mr. Duckworth is now in the real estate business; he was one of the organizers of Orlando Orange Groves and is a director in this company.

Mr. Duckworth was mayor of Orlando in 1920-1922 and 1923-24. During his tenure of this office the city bought the Public Utilities Plant and rehabilitated it, erected the Albertson Memorial Library building, and paved over 100 streets without a bond issue and laid about 30 miles of sewer extensions.

Mr. Duckworth is a member of the Methodist church, which he joined at the age of 10 years; he is a charter member of the Rotary Club of Orlando, a Mason and a Shriner. He married Ethel Campbell at Orlando, October 20, 1898. They have three children, Robert, Manly and William.



*ROBERT A. JENKINS*

ROBERT A. JENKINS, an early pioneer, and beloved citizen of Orange county, was born August 24, 1857; he was the son of Allen and Sarah Brown Jenkins. After securing his education in the schools of Georgia, he came to Mellonville, then in Orange county, in 1875, at the age of 18 years. There being no railway in those days, he made his way on foot to Longwood, through which he afterward helped to survey the Dixie highway.

Mr. Jenkins spent most of his later life in Longwood, and engaged in the growing of citrus fruit. One of his outstanding characteristics was his love of flowers, which was shown by his naming his first daughter Calla Lily. He had a wonderful garden of roses and other flowering plants and shrubs at Longwood, which he cultivated with assiduous care and which attracted and delighted many visitors. He was affectionately known as "Uncle Bob" by his neighbors and friends. He was a member of the Protestant Episcopal church.

Mr. Jenkins married Elizabeth Blum Brooks of Sanford, at Longwood; their two children are Mrs. C. L. McCracken and Mrs. Lida Williamson.

Mr. Jenkins died in the Florida Sanitarium at Formosa, at the age of 69, on February 26, 1926, and was interred in the Longwood cemetery.

*JAMES THOMAS GURNEY*

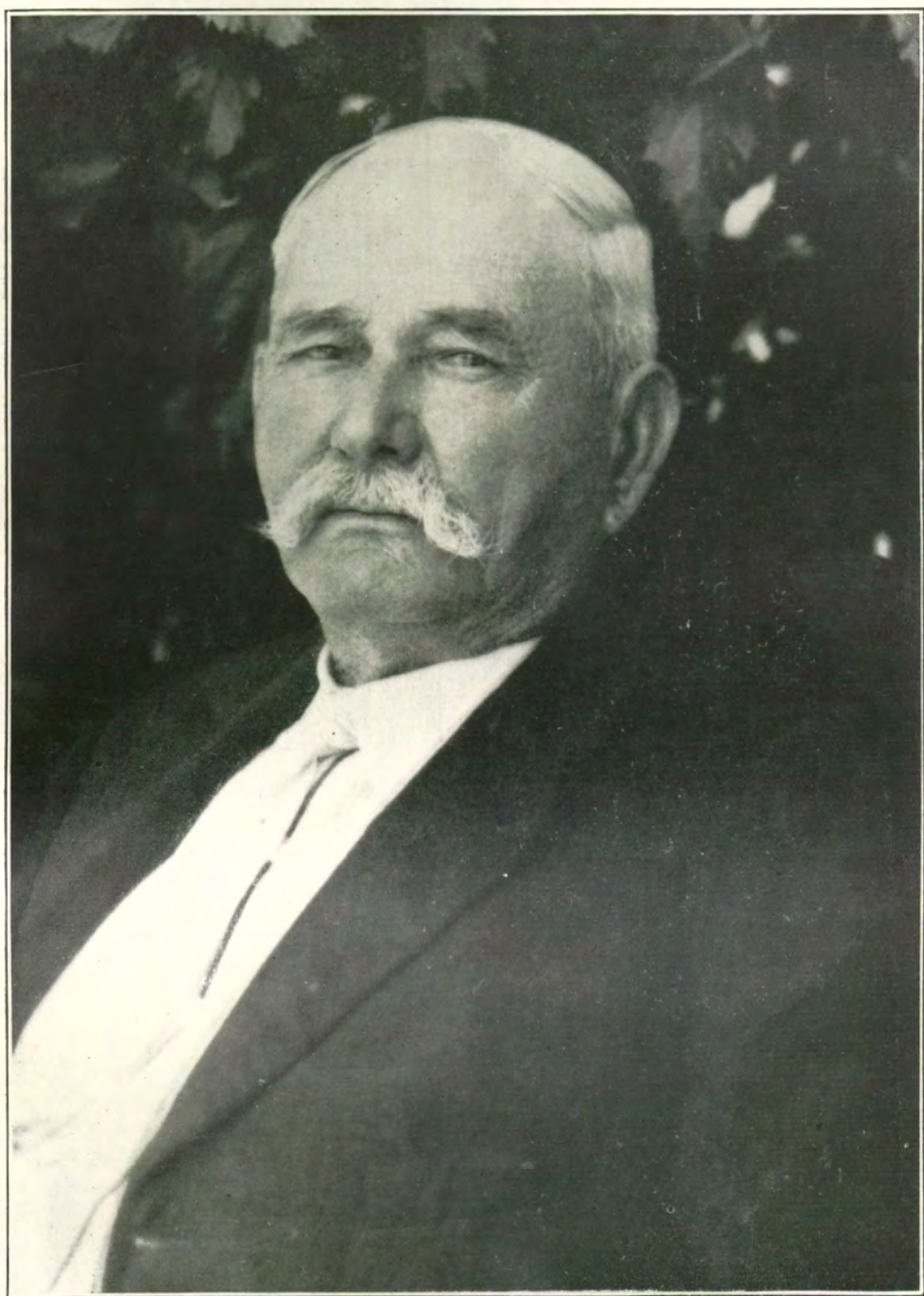
JAMES THOMAS GURNEY was born in Ripley, Miss., January 24, 1901, the son of James A. and Mary J. Gurney. William Gurney, his paternal uncle, was a Confederate soldier of the Civil War.

Mr. Gurney graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Arts with distinction at the Mississippi College, Clinton, Miss., in 1919 and afterwards attended Columbia University and the University of Chicago. He received the degree of Bachelor of Law, Cumberland University, in 1922. He held the Chair of History and Science in the Mississippi Woman's College for two years. He came to Orlando in 1923 and entered into partnership with LeRoy B. Giles in 1925. The firm specializes in real estate, corporation and banking law, and represent the First National Bank of Orlando, Atlantic Coast Line railroad, Standard Growers Exchange, First Bond & Mortgage Company and Orange County Building & Loan Association.

Mr. Gurney is a member of the American, Florida, and Circuit Bar Associations; he is Deputy District Governor of the Lions International, Florida district and is a member of the Chamber of Commerce, and Dubs-dread Country Club.

Mr. Gurney married Blanche Johnson in Bogalusa, La., in 1925.





*R. A. Jenkins*



*S. J. T. SEEGAR*

SOLOMON J. T. SEEGAR was born in northeast Georgia, July 4, 1856, the son of Solomon and Winnie Seegar. His father was a native of Georgia also, and engaged in farming there.

Mr. Seegar received his education in the schools of Georgia, and later worked on his father's farm until his marriage, after which time he bought his own farm.

Mr. Seegar is one of the pioneer settlers in west Orange county, having come here in the fall of 1884. He bought 20 acres of land southeast of Ocoee shortly after his arrival, improving and cultivating the same. Prior to engaging in farming, however, Mr. Seegar erected a saw mill near Ocoee and conducted this business for four years. Later he accumulated more acreage, all of which he improved, finally acquiring over a hundred acres, all planted to vegetables and orange grove, and Mr. Seegar enjoyed the reputation of being one of the leading and largest farmers in this section of the county when he sold all his property and retired about seven years ago. He now owns 10 acres of land on Starke Lake in Ocoee, on which he has built a beautiful home.

He is a member of the Ocoee Chamber of Commerce, a director in the bank of Ocoee and one of the organizers and vice-president of the Ocoee Finance Corporation, which was organized three years ago.

Mr. Seegar married Emma Minor, November 3, 1875, in Stone Mountain, Ga. Their children are, Ola (Mrs. J. Russ, of Minorville), Beatrice (Mrs. J. M. Argo, of Ocoee), William N., Robert H. of Ocoee, Ida (Mrs. John W. Pounds, of Orlando), and Bertie May Miller of Ocoee.

*DR. C. P. BARTHOLOMEW*

CHARLES P. BARTHOLOMEW was born in Baltimore, in 1870, the son of Thomas Jefferson and Ella Virginia Bartholomew.

Dr. Bartholomew received the degree of Doctor of Medicine from the University of Maryland, in 1893; he also has eight other degrees from various institutions of learning. He has practiced medicine in Brooklyn, Chicago and Paris, France. He has put up the remedies which he has used with great success during the past thirty years, in proprietary form, and markets them by mail throughout the United States and in many foreign countries; and he has made many notable cures with his remedies for asthma, epileptic fits, diseases of the nerves and lungs, etc. His laboratories are in Winter Park.

Dr. Bartholomew has owned much valuable real estate in Orlando. He developed the East Colonial drive section of the city, and built the first house there. An avocation in which Dr. Bartholomew has been especially interested



is floriculture; he is recognized as an authority on the growing of roses and other flowers, and has written many articles on this subject for the Orlando papers. He has also imported thousands of rose bushes from Holland, to be grown in Orlando.

Dr. Bartholomew received the French Cross of Honor in 1923, for reading a paper on Pellagra before the French academy of Medicine.

Dr. Bartholomew married Edna May Langford, of Baltimore City, July 23, 1904. Dr. Bartholomew has one daughter, Irene, (Mrs. W. M. Hyres) of Altamonte Springs.

### *GEORGE H. STRICKLAND*

GEORGE HUDSON STRICKLAND was born in New London, Wisconsin, September 25, 1882, the son of George R. and Kate Meiklejohn Strickland; he is of mingled Scotch and Welsh descent. He attended Williston Seminary, at East Hampton, Massachusetts, and Lawrence University at Appleton, Wisconsin. He served as reporter on the city press of Chicago, and was connected with chain banks in Minnesota for some time.

Mr. Strickland came to Leesburg, Florida, in 1916; was connected for a time with the Florida National Bank of Jacksonville; and came to Orlando in 1918, where he became cashier of the Orlando Bank and Trust Company. Since that date he has been interested in the mortgage business, as manager of the Mortgage and Loan Department of Fidelity Title and Loan Company, and as treasurer of Wright-Warlow Company; he is president of Orlando Loan and Savings Company, which was established in 1923, with a capital of \$100,000; this company deals exclusively in mortgage securities, and has assets amounting to a quarter of a million dollars. Mr. Strickland is a director in Fidelity Title and Loan Company, and a director in Lake Region Abstract and Title Guarantee Company of Tavares.

Mr. Strickland is a member of the Country Club of Orlando and Mount Plymouth. He is a member of the Orlando Chamber of Commerce and a Mason; also a member of Dubsdread and Orlando Country Clubs as well as St. Andrews at Mt. Plymouth.

He married February 7, 1924, Helen Picton Warlow, and lives in Dubsdread; he has one son, George Hudson, Jr.

### *A. N. GOODWIN*

ARTHUR N. GOODWIN was born in Reidsville, North Carolina, February 25, 1881, the son of T. C. and Josephine Goodwin. He secured his education in the schools of his native state, and then engaged in the lumber business there. In 1904 he moved to Marion county, Florida, where he continued in the lumber business. In 1913 he came to Orlando; and was for



ten years the private secretary to Senator M. O. Overstreet. In 1924 he became connected with the Johnson-Patterson-Barr Company, the firm name being changed to the Barr-Goodwin Lumber Company. He is president of this firm, which does a large business in all kinds of builders' supplies, lumber, hardware, sash and doors, mill work, etc. The firm has its own mill.

Mr. Goodwin is a member of the Presbyterian church and the Chamber of Commerce. He married Mary Patterson in North Carolina in 1911. He has been treasurer of the Orange county chapter American Red Cross for nearly ten years, and a director of the Orange county Young Men's Christian Association since its organization.

### *R. J. IVEY*

RALPH JULIAN IVEY was born in Selma, Alabama, July 29, 1892, the son of Robert A. and Elizabeth Ivey. He secured his education in the schools of Georgia, and attended John B. Stetson University for two years. He was, before coming to Orlando, in the drug business in Fort Pierce.

In 1919 Mr. Ivey came to Orlando, where he was employed for a year and a half in the Estes pharmacy. He then formed a partnership with Mr. M. H. & D. S. Evans of the Evans-Rex drug store; they opened and operate the San Juan pharmacy. Mr. Ivey is vice-president of this company.

During the World War Mr. Ivey was a Sergeant in the 315th Regiment of Field Artillery with the 80th Division. He was in France 15 months, and went through the battles of San Mihiel and the Argonne.

He is a member of the Chamber of Commerce and Kiwanis Club and a Mason. He married Iva L. Robertson in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Sept. 18, 1923; they have one daughter, Anne Elizabeth.

### *J. J. NEWELL*

JAY JUDSON NEWELL was born in Ashtabula, Ohio, April 13, 1880, the son of Lester and Ellen R. Newell. His parents moved to Florida in 1875, and settled on what is now the site of the town of Taft, where they owned two sections of land. For many years he and his family came to Florida during the winters and spent the remainder of the year in Ohio, and he attended the schools of Pinecastle, Florida, and Ashtabula, Ohio, under this arrangement. Before removing permanently to Florida, Mr. Newell was in charge of the electrical construction work of the electric light plant in Ashtabula.

In 1911, he came to Orlando as a permanent resident, and engaged in the electrical business. In 1914 he established the Newell Electric Company, electrical contracting and supplies, in which firm Mr. Ed Little is an active



partner. He organized the first and, so far, only broadcasting station in Orlando, W. O. C. B., in his own shop, and has built up his business to a successful and profitable condition.

Mr. Newell has always been active and interested in civic affairs; when the city government was changed to comprise a mayor and four commissioners, he was elected one of the commissioners, and was later re-elected to this office, receiving more votes than any other candidate for this office in Orlando ever received. He has been especially interested and influential in the installation of the fire alarm and traffic signal systems; a close study of this subject has convinced him that the systems now in use in Orlando will be adopted all over the United States. As a result of his efforts in this direction, fire insurance rates in Orlando have been materially lowered as a result of the installation of the fire alarm system. He has also been instrumental in securing the free care by the city of the City Cemetery lots.

He is a member of the Chamber of Commerce and Rotary Club, an Elk, Moose, and Knight of Pythias. He married Anna E. McDowell in Ashtabula, Ohio, Nov. 25, 1901; they have four children, Edward, Katherine, Elizabeth and Marjorie.

#### *E. FRANK SPERRY*

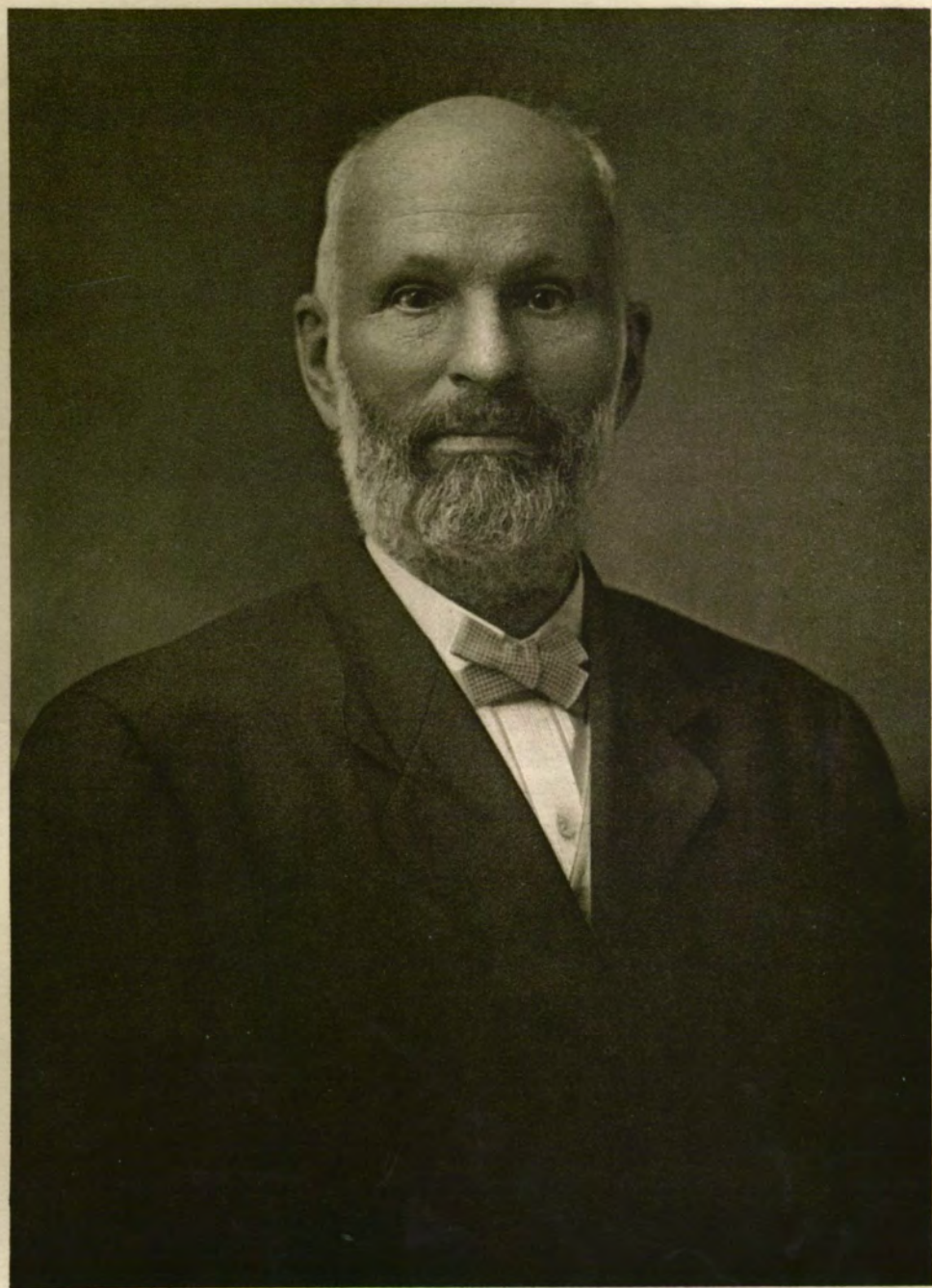
E. FRANK SPERRY, a leading pioneer in the development of the industries of Orlando, was born in Bethany, Connecticut, June 18, 1843, a member of a large and influential Connecticut family. He was educated in the schools of Bethany and New Haven, and in the Fort Edward Institute, in the state of New York.

Mr. Sperry resided in Ansonia, Connecticut, for some years, where he had a farm and also engaged in the grocery business in connection with a brother for some ten years. He organized here the Sperry Manufacturing Company, makers of carriage hardware.

Mr. Sperry arrived in Orlando in 1886, on a visit, but was so much pleased with the town that he made it his residence and purchased extensive city property. Later he started the South Florida Foundry & Machine Works, together with C. E. Johnson, the only concern of this character south of Jacksonville, and which was developed into a large enterprise. Mr. Sperry was actively engaged in this business for a number of years, and sold out his interest on account of failing health. He owned a large amount of real property in Orlando, and was greatly interested in the growing of citrus fruits in the county.

Mr. Sperry served as the first mayor of Orlando under the commission form of government; he was also a member of the Park Commission, and gave to the city the fountain which still stands in Lake Eola Park. He was active in all efforts to promote the growth of Orlando, particularly along





*E. G. Sperry*



the lines of manufacture and general business; he was also president of the Orlando Citrus Exchange.

Mr. Sperry belonged to the Masonic Order, and was a Unitarian in his religious faith.

Mr. Sperry married Mary W. Pratt of Ansonia, Oct. 13, 1869. He died August 13, 1916; his wife survives him, as does also the memory of his various and faithful services to the city of his adoption and love.

#### *DR. J. C. MCMICHAEL*

JOHN CHARLES MCMICHAEL was born in Bellbrook, Ohio, Sept. 1, 1865. He was the son of Dr. J. B. and Mary Hanna McMichael. His father was president of Monmouth College in Illinois for 20 years; a brother, Thomas H. McMichael is president of this college at present, and has been for 25 years.

Dr. McMichael graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Arts from Monmouth College in 1886, was head of Department of Mathematics of Pennsylvania State Normal school for four years and received the degree of Doctor of Medicine in 1895 from the Medical School of Western Reserve University. He practiced medicine in Cleveland for 25 years.

Dr. McMichael came to Windermere, in Orange county, in 1920; he has a beautiful home at Windermere, overlooking Lake Butler, and owns an orange grove at Tangerine. He is vitally interested in public education, and is one of the trustees of the Gotha school district; he is also active in all the organizations for the improvement and development of the community.

Dr. McMicheal was one of the organizers of the county Chamber of Commerce, of which he is also a director; he is an organizer and director of the county Automobile Club, recently formed.

Dr. McMichael is an elder in the Park Lake Presbyterian church of Orlando. He married in 1904 Ruby M. Richards; they have one child, Marjory, who is a member of the freshman class of Rollins College.

#### *SIDNEY D. WEST*

SIDNEY DUNCAN WEST was born in Bedford county, Virginia, December 3, 1880. He received his education in the schools of Virginia. He was engaged in farming in Virginia before removing to Ocoee in 1905. He arrived in that town with \$200, and cared for a grove belonging to his uncle, J. W. West of Lynchburg, Virginia. As he learned the secrets of citrus culture, he undertook the care of other groves, and ultimately bought land of his own and set it out to grove. As his own business expanded, he organized the South Apopka Citrus Fruit Company, of which he is now



manager and one-half owner. This concern owns about 200 acres of citrus groves, and cares for other properties; it is one of the most extensive citrus growing organizations in this part of the state. He is a director in the First National Bank of Winter Garden.

Mr. West married Ida Berry in Virginia; their children are Mabel R. (Mrs. William Pounds); Grace Scott; Ida Berry; Sidney Lea and Thomas Scott.

### *J. W. JONES*

J. W. JONES was born in Neosho, Missouri. He is the son of General John L. and Emma Hamilton Jones. General Jones and wife were raised in Tennessee and moved to Missouri and lived a short while, moving back to Tennessee and served as District Attorney-General and volunteered as a Confederate soldier. His home was in Columbia, Tennessee. The son studied in the Webb school, Bell Buckle, Tenn., a preparatory school for Vanderbilt University. Mr. Jones served for 20 years as secretary of the American Breeders' Association of Jacks & Jennetts, Columbia, Tennessee.

Mr. Jones moved west about 1906 and lived in Colorado, Arizona, New Mexico, Arkansas, and finally wound up in Texas and located near Dallas and from there he moved to Zellwood, Orange county in 1910, and bought 15,000 acres of muck land near Zellwood, with his associates. This enterprise did not prove to be successful, owing to lack of drainage; he then lived in Winter Garden for two or three years, and came to Killarney in 1918. He owns Deer Island, near Killarney, where he has a 200-acre bearing orange grove, and also a large amount of land in the neighborhood, including several orange groves.

Mr. Jones owned most of the land between Ocoee and Winter Garden, and sold a considerable part of it to settlers whom he brought from Tennessee and other states.

Mr. Jones married Essye Troy Walker, of Louisiana; his children are Frances, Jane, Horace B., Annie (Mrs. Franklin Pierce), and Hamilton, all children by a previous marriage.

Mr. Jones is a member of the Baptist church.

### *C. H. GALLOWAY*

CARL HILL GALLOWAY was born in Timmonsville, South Carolina, August 13, 1885; he was the son of Braxton and Virginia C. Galloway. His parents removed to Maitland about 40 years ago and Mr. Galloway was educated in the schools of Winter Park and in Rollins College. He was employed as telegraph operator in Winter Park for a time, and afterwards with the Gulf Pipe Line Company in Texas, returning to Winter Park in 1910.



The following year Mr. Galloway organized the Winter Park Telephone Company, which he operated as an individual until 1921, when it was incorporated with an authorized capitalization of \$300,000.00 as the Winter Park Telephone Company. The first central office was at Maitland. The instruments of the first ten subscribers were installed free of charge; the company now has 1,000 subscribers in Winter Park, Maitland, Altamonte Springs, Eatonville, Forest City, Lake Howell, Goldenrod, Gabriella, Fairview and Lockhart. The company demonstrated its faith in the future of Winter Park and the surrounding country by the erection of the most modern and up-to-date telephone exchange building in any city three times its size. Mr. Galloway is president of the company, and Mrs. Galloway is its secretary and treasurer.

Mr. Galloway is a member of the Business Men's Club, the Chamber of Commerce, the Aloma Country Club, and the Congregational church of Winter Park; he is also a Mason. He married at Dallas, Texas, Lena Key, a member of a prominent Texas family, in Dallas; their children are Josey, Allison and Carl, Jr.

Mr. Galloway has served on the city council, and was chairman of the Street Committee during the period when most of the streets of the city were paved.

#### *DR. C. A. VINCENT*

CLARENCE A. VINCENT was born December 17, 1859, in Bainbridge, Ohio; he is the son of Augustus and Laurancy Vincent. He is a kinsman of Bishop John H. Vincent of the Methodist Episcopal church, the founder of the Chautauqua assembly.

Dr. Vincent received his preparatory, college, and theological training in Oberlin College, from which he has the degrees of Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Divinity; he pursued graduate studies in the Yale Divinity school and Graduate school, for one year.

Dr. Vincent has served as pastor of a number of large and influential Congregational churches, at Buffalo, Sandusky, Galesburg, Boston and Washington; in Boston he was pastor of the Eliot church, and in Washington of the Mt. Pleasant church. He became pastor of the Congregational church in Winter Park in 1917, where he has enjoyed a highly successful pastorate. The membership of the church has increased four-fold during his pastorate. His most notable achievement here was the building of the new meeting-house, one of the finest church edifices in Florida, which was completed in 1926 at a cost of \$150,000.00, including a large and very fine pipe organ. He has been a builder, four churches having erected fine structures during his pastorate and under his leadership. The site for the church in Winter Park was given by Charles H. Morse, and the chimes and echo organ by his daughter, Mrs. Richard M. Genius.



Dr. Vincent received the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity from Hillsdale College, in Michigan. He has written three books, "The Acts of the Modern Apostles," "Problems of Self Government," and "The Knight and the Star"; these books have been well received by the public. He is also a poet and hymn-writer of distinction, and a number of his poems have been published in newspaper and magazine form.

Dr. Vincent has served as president of the state conferences of Congregational churches in New York, Ohio, Illinois, and Florida; also president of the Parent-Teacher Association of Boston, and of the Congregational Club of Boston. For some time he was president of the World's Scientific Temperance Federation, the organization which furnished a large amount of data for the prohibition movement.

Dr. Vincent married Lucy S. Hall of Dover, Ohio, in 1888; their children are Hope, manager of the American Forestry Association at Boston; Ruth, of Brooklyn; Helen (the wife of Dr. F. C. McLane, dean of the Medical school of the University of Chicago); Clarence H. of Akron, a school teacher; Donald, in the insurance business in Winter Park; and Howard, a student in Harvard University.

### *COLONEL J. N. BRADSHAW*

JOHN NEILL BRADSHAW was born in Cleveland, Tennessee, October 20, 1862; he was the son of the Reverend James Neal and Anna Brown Bradshaw. His father was a clergyman of the Presbyterian church.

Colonel Bradshaw received his education in the public school of his native state, and came to Florida at the age of 21 years, settling first at Apopka, where two older brothers had been living for some ten years; one of these brothers was afterward mayor of St. Petersburg.

Colonel Bradshaw removed to Orlando in November, 1883, where he served as deputy clerk of the Circuit Court, two years later succeeding T. J. Shine, after his death, as clerk of the Circuit Court, which office he held for 19 years, since which time his Deputy, Captain B. M. Robinson, has served continuously in this position. In 1887 Colonel Bradshaw was appointed also clerk of the Criminal Court of Record.

In 1904, Colonel Bradshaw resigned from office in Orlando, and moved to Cameron, Texas, where he was vice-president and later president of the First National Bank; he then moved to Amarillo, Texas, and engaged in the real estate business. He returned to Orlando in December, 1911 and formed a partnership with Charles Lord in the real estate and insurance business, which continued until the World War, when he was appointed on the Draft Board.

Colonel Bradshaw had always been interested in the local military companies. He served in the National Guard of Florida for 19 years, at first





J. N. Bradshaw



as a private, and later as lieutenant, and then as Captain of the "Shine Guards," which was known as the "crack company" of the state. He entered the Spanish American War as Captain of Company C, First Regiment, Florida Volunteer Infantry, which was mustered out at Tallahassee, December 4, 1898.

Captain Bradshaw was soon after promoted to be Major in the Second Regular Florida National Guard, and then as Colonel of the same regiment. He was placed on the retired list with the rank of Colonel, March 6, 1905.

During the World War Colonel Bradshaw served as chairman of the Draft Board for nine months, resigning to join the Food Administration, and was put in charge of the sugar division. When this service was no longer required, he entered again the real estate business, in which he was a leading figure up to the time of his death, January 17, 1926.

Virginia Heights and several other important subdivisions were developed by him.

Colonel Bradshaw had a deep love for Orlando and Florida, and took an active and enthusiastic part in every movement for the progress and improvement of the city and state. He was one of the early presidents of the Chamber of Commerce, and of the State Realty Board. He was a Thirty-second degree Mason, and served as Grand Master of this order; he also belonged to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

Colonel Bradshaw married Elise Alexander, February 28, 1905, who survives him; she is the daughter of the late Dr. Lawrence Stirling Alexander, a leading physician of St. Augustine, Florida.

### *HARRY N. DICKSON*

HARRY NELSON DICKSON was born in Atlanta, Georgia, December 8, 1880, the son of H. H. and Annie May Dickson.

Mr. Dickson received his education in the schools of Orlando, including the high school, in the East Florida Seminary, (now the University of Florida at Gainesville,) and Rollins College.

He came with his family to Orlando in 1887, and worked for his father and Mr. Sidney Ives in the grocery business for eight years, and was later connected with the State Bank of Orlando for about four years. In 1912 he and Mr. F. T. Scruggs went into the retail clothing and furnishing business; and in 1914 he became connected with Dickson-Ives Company, and is secretary-treasurer of this company, since which time the business of this company has grown to probably ten times its size then.

Mr. Dickson is a member of the Rotary Club, the Chamber of Commerce, the Orlando Country Club and the Dubsdread Country Club, and of the Masonic Order.

Mr. Dickson married Ann Higgins at Sanford, in 1916; their children are Ann, Adelaide and Nelson.



*DONALD ALEXANDER CHENEY*

DONALD ALEXANDER CHENEY was born in Orlando, Florida, on January 23rd, 1889, the son of John M. and Elizabeth A. Cheney. He received his early education in the public schools of Orlando and in the academy of Rollins College at Winter Park, Florida, and also attended Dartmouth College at Hanover, N. H., where he received his degree of Bachelor of Arts with the class of 1911.

After completing his education, Mr. Cheney returned to Orlando and went into business with his father, who was the principal stockholder in the Orlando Water and Light Company, serving Orlando with water, electricity, gas and ice. In 1913, Mr. Cheney was appointed general manager of this company and assumed active management of its operations until the plants were sold in 1922 and 1924, during which time he had also been made a director in the company and its vice-president. Following the sales of the public service plants, the name of the company was changed to Cheney Investment Company, and Mr. Cheney has served as its president. He is also president of the Cheney Development Corporation, and a director in the Cheney Art Tile Company.

During the association year of 1921-22, he was president of the southeastern division of the National Electric Light Association, comprising the states of North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama and Tennessee, and has been a director of the First National Bank in Orlando since 1921.

Becoming interested in work among boys, Mr. Cheney was in 1919 appointed probation officer for Orange county and through his activities, a juvenile court was established in 1921, with Mr. Cheney as judge, he having been re-appointed in 1925. In this office, he became convinced that a local institution for the handling of juvenile cases was desirable, and was successful in securing the co-operation of the city of Orlando, the county of Orange and the Orange County School Board in the establishment of the Orange County Parental Home in 1924—the first of its kind in Florida—and the Home has proven of inestimable value.

He has served as president of the Florida Probation Association and president of the Florida State Conference of Social Work. It was also through his interest and efforts that the central Florida Council of Boy Scouts of America, including in its area the counties of Brevard, Volusia, Lake, Seminole, Orange and Osceola, was organized in 1922, of which organization he has served two terms as president and several terms as treasurer. As the chairman of a special committee of the Orlando Parent-Teacher Association, he was instrumental in the organization of the Orlando Board of Public Recreation and Playgrounds as a department of the city government in 1925.

Since 1923, Mr. Cheney has served Rollins College, Florida's oldest institution of higher learning as trustee. In the past he has served as a director



of the Orlando Chamber of Commerce, and for several years was chairman of its Industrial Committee. In 1926, he was elected to the Board of Governors of the Orange County Hospital Association and as its treasurer, and he is also a director in the Florida Public Health Association.

Mr. Cheney was a member of the First Presbyterian church and was elected to the office of deacon in 1916, but transferred his membership to the Park Lake Presbyterian church when that congregation was organized by the First church in 1925, when also he was elected to the office of ruling elder.

A charter member of the Orlando Rotary Club, Mr. Cheney served as a director during 1925, and is also a member of the Orlando Country Club, Knights of Pythias, B. P. O. Elks, and the Masonic Orders, including the Knights Templar and Shrine, and served as Worshipful Master of Orlando Lodge No. 69 during 1922.

In school and college, Mr. Cheney enjoyed athletics, participating especially in track, football and rowing. He is a lover of the outdoors, fishing and hunting being his favorite forms of recreation. He has sung in his church choir for many years and frequently contributes his abilities in amateur productions by local talent. He has consistently supported movements for the civic and cultural welfare and improvement of his community.

Mr. Cheney was married at Orlando on April 21st, 1915, to Fanny S., the daughter of Captain B. M. Robinson of Orlando, and their children are Donald A. Jr., and Barbara Randolph.

#### *WILLIAM P. BLAKELY*

WILLIAM P. BLAKELY was born in Nashville, Tennessee, April 6, 1857, the son of W. P. and Mary E. Blakely; he received his education in the high school of Columbia, Tennessee, and Mossey Creek College. At the age of 24 years, he came to Orange county, at the suggestion of W. G. White, the leading merchant of that time.

In 1881, Mr. Blakely went to Ocoee, where he was employed in Captain B. M. Sims' orange grove for a time; he then served as principal of the public school of the town for 13 years; this school he really organized. He reports that there are now more residents in Ocoee than were in Orlando when he arrived in Orange county, and that there were only two bearing groves in the section, those of Captain Sims and the Dann grove.

While Mr. Blakely was in charge of the school, he also looked after an orange grove which he had planted, and after he resigned as school teacher, he devoted his entire time to the growing of citrus fruit and to the mercantile business. At one time he owned more than 165 acres of land at Ocoee, most of which he has sold; he now has about 25 acres in grove, and also a large vegetable farm in the Everglades, in Palm Beach county, where he owns his own packing house.



Mr. Blakely also conducted a general store at Ocoee, for some 25 years, and served as postmaster from 1907 to 1915.

In the early days he acted as justice of the peace, and for many years was notary public. He is a member of the Christian church, of the County Chamber of Commerce, and of the order of Elks. He is unmarried.

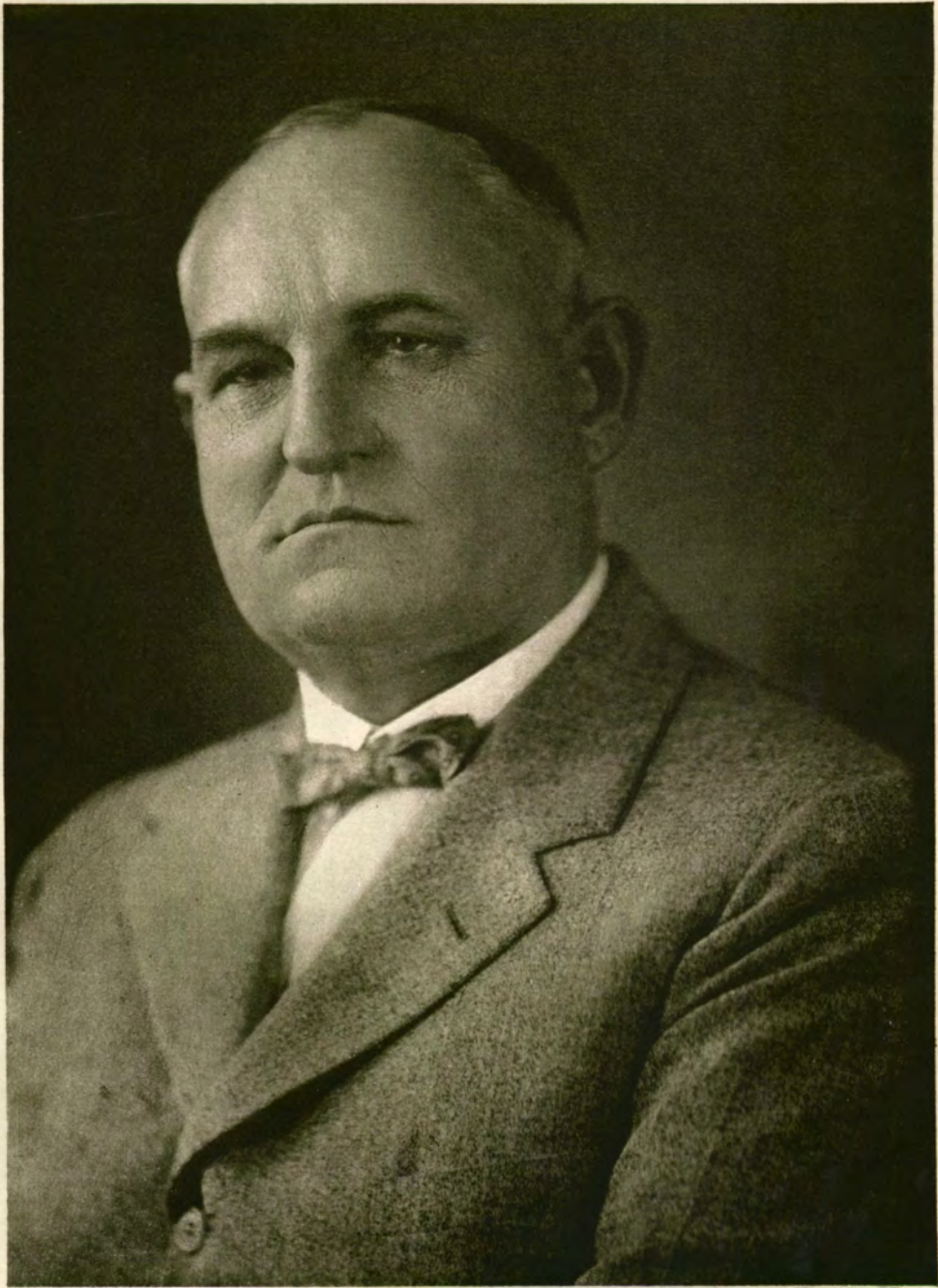
### *DR. C. D. CHRIST*

CALVIN D. CHRIST was born in Hughesville, Charles county, Maryland, October 16, 1878, the son of Henry and Caroline Hoffman Christ. He was educated in the Charlotte Hall Military Academy at Charlotte Hall, St. Mary's county, Maryland, and was graduated with the degree of Doctor of Medicine from the College of Physicians and Surgeons, of Baltimore, Maryland, in 1905. He was resident physician in the Presbyterian Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat Hospital in Baltimore city, coming to Orlando, Florida, in March, 1906, and entering the general practice of medicine. He has attended from time to time the various large clinics of the country such as the Mayo clinic, the Cleveland clinic, the Polyclinic in New York, University of Pennsylvania, Johns Hopkins University, and the University of Maryland.

Dr. Christ has long been one of the outstanding competent surgeons of central Florida. He has incorporated the Orange Clinic, located on Lucerne Circle in Orlando, and now has six physicians associated with him, specializing in all lines of practice. Dr. Christ has been county physician for the past 19 years, during which time the unfortunate sick of Orange county have had his personal care in the Orange County Home. He was surgeon for the Local Draft Board during the war. He is a member of the Orlando and Orange county Chambers of Commerce, and a life member of the Orlando Country Club. He is a Mason, a Shriner and an Elk. He has been surgeon for the Seaboard Air Line Railway for the past five years. He belongs to all medical associations, including the American, Southern, State and County. He has served as first vice-president of the State Association, and is now a member of the executive committee; he is also a past president of the County Association.

Dr. Christ and Elizabeth Abbott were married at Moorestown, New Jersey in 1911. They have one son, George Abbott, who was named for his maternal grandfather, a distinguished resident of Orlando, Florida, and Moorestown, New Jersey, who was greatly interested in the growing of the finer varieties of palms and is responsible for a great number of the palms in Orlando today. Mrs. Christ has long been active in club work and was recently elected president of the Sorosis.





*CD Christ*



*JAMES E. HARPER, JR.*

JAMES E. HARPER, JR., was born in Winter Park, Florida, June 10, 1888, the son of James E. and Mary Francis Harper. His father was a native of Atlanta, Georgia, and served through the War between the States in a Georgia regiment; at the close of the war he moved to this section in 1866, and homesteaded 40 acres in what is now Orwin Manor. He had an orange grove and dairy farm there for many years, and his son helped him on this farm while attending the schools of Winter Park. Mr. Harper, Sr., died in 1914.

In 1912 Mr. Harper engaged in the plumbing business in Winter Park, and has steadily built up his business to its present large proportions. The firm is now known as the Winter Park Plumbing Company; Mr. Harper is president and majority stockholder therein. It does a general plumbing business and deals in heating and gas appliances. It was one of the earliest concerns of its kind in the county.

Mr. Harper is a member of the city commission of Winter Park, and a member of the state militia. He is also a member of the County Chamber of Commerce, and a Mason. He married Mary Francis Feber in Winter Park, April 17, 1910; they have five children, Arthur, Louise, Freda, George and James, Jr.

*HON. L. C. MASSEY*

LOUIS CONRAD MASSEY was born in Philadelphia, the son of Lambert R. and Elizabeth Conrad Massey; his father was a prominent merchant of Philadelphia. Mr. Massey is of distinguished ancestry, Irish and German. One of his forbears on his father's side fought in the Revolutionary War as an officer, and was a member of the Pennsylvania State Naval Board. On his mother's side, he is descended from Dennis Conrad, a German who came to America in 1683, and took part in the founding of Germantown; his descendant in the fourth generation, Professor Solomon W. Conrad, of the faculty of the University of Pennsylvania, was Mr. Massey's grandfather.

Mr. Massey graduated from the University of Pennsylvania, and entered the office of George W. Biddle, at that time the leader of the Philadelphia Bar. He practiced law in his native city until 1885, when he came to Orlando and entered upon the practice of his profession in Orlando, where he has held a conspicuous position at the bar for 41 years, at first with Massey, Keating & Willcox, then Massey & Willcox, then Massey & Warlow in 1893, Massey, Warlow & Carpenter and finally Massey, Warlow, Carpenter & Fishback, the present style of the firm.



Mr. Massey has served the city, the county, and the state, in many responsible positions, elective and appointive. At various times he has been city solicitor, county commissioner, member of the state commission on Uniformity of Legislation, commissioner for the revision of the General Statutes of Florida, State Senator for the Nineteenth District, Counsel to the Florida railroad commission, and professor in the Law school of Stetson University.

In 1893, Mr. Massey organized the State Bank of Orlando, now the State Bank of Orlando and Trust Company, and has served as its president continuously until the present time; an account of this financial stronghold may be found in the narrative section of this work, Part One.

Mr. Massey is a devoted member of the Protestant Episcopal church, which he served as chancellor of the diocese from 1893 to 1925. He is greatly interested and influential in various fraternal organizations. He has been Grand Master, Grand High Priest, Grand Commander of the Knights Templar, and Grand Master of the Grand Council in Florida. He is also an Elk.

Mr. Massey married Edith Robinson of Zellwood, September 1, 1920.

#### *MAJOR W. B. LYNCH*

WILLIAM BINGHAM LYNCH was born on the family estate, Mount Repose, Mechenburg county, North Carolina in the year 1834. He was the son of Thomas and Mary Bingham Lynch. His father, Dr. Thomas Lynch, was a Presbyterian minister. His maternal grandfather, William Bingham, founded in 1793 the famous Bingham Military school at Mebane, North Carolina, at which institution young Lynch received his preparation for college.

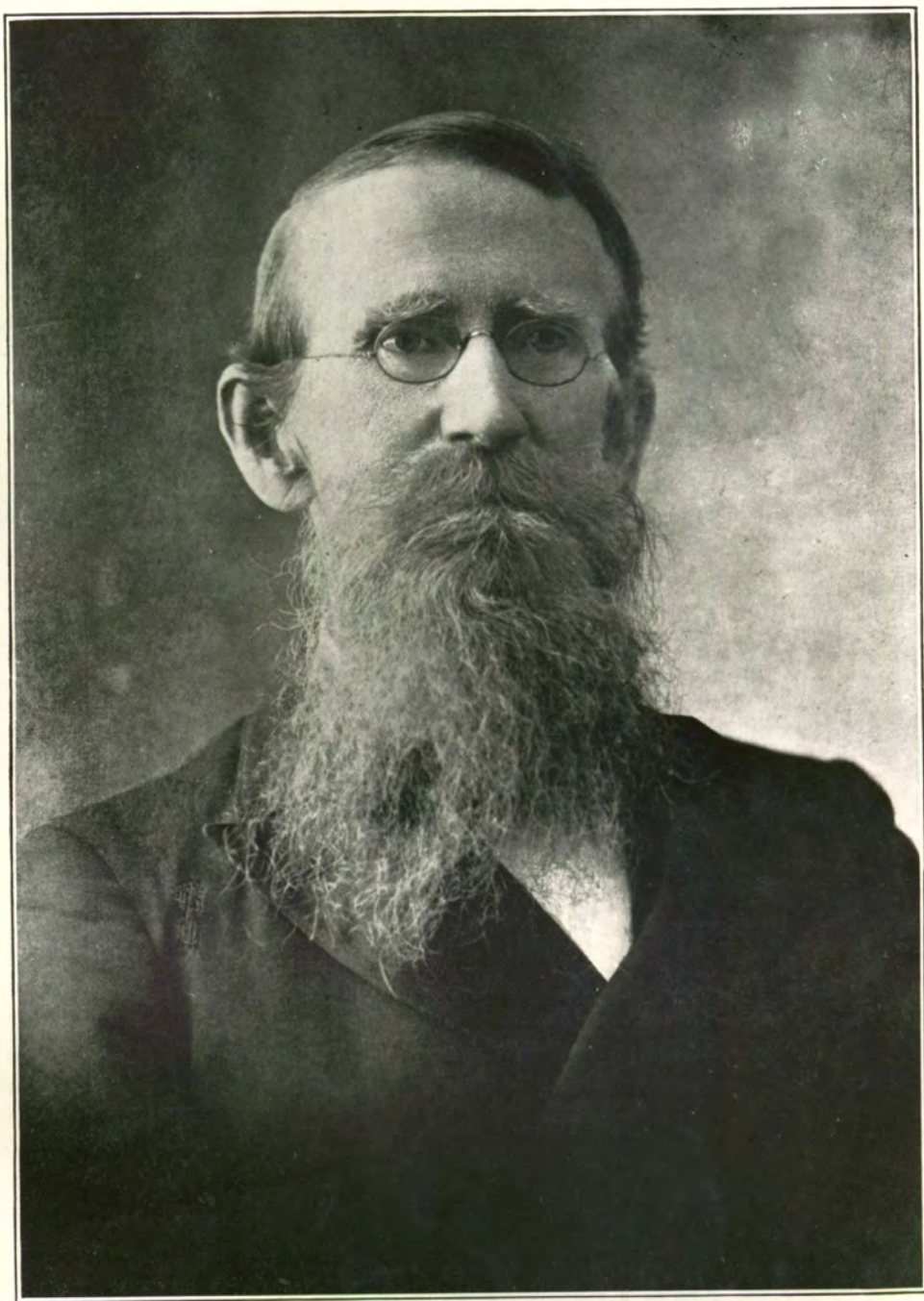
In due course of time he matriculated at the University of North Carolina and graduated with first honors in the class of '59. In that same year he accepted the chair of Greek at Davidson College.

In 1862 he resigned from the faculty of Davidson and took the position of co-principal at the Bingham school of which he was joint owner with his cousins William and Robert Bingham.

Mr. Lynch was commissioned a major by the Confederate Government serving as military instructor at the school. He remained in this office until 1882, when ill health caused him to remove to Florida, where he settled near Sanford.

When his health was regained he again entered educational work as principal of the Sanford schools. In 1897 he accepted the position of superintendent of the Orange county schools, which post he held until his death in 1911. During this period the entire school system of the county was re-organized, and the school's standard raised. It was Major Lynch who laid the foundation for the present fine school system of the county. He assisted





W. B. Lynch.



in founding the Hungerford school for negroes at Eatonville, near Maitland.

Major Lynch was an elder in the Presbyterian church and a member of the Masonic Order.

In 1861 he married Rebecca Neal of Caswell county, North Carolina. The surviving children are Robert, of Sanford, Maggie (Mrs. Chas. Lartigue), and Rubie (Mrs. Dexter C. Thompson) both of Orlando. Major Lynch left behind him a name long to be remembered with appreciation and gratitude.

#### *M. J. DAETWYLER*

MARTIN J. DAETWYLER was born in Egg Harbor, New Jersey, December 9, 1884, the son of Jacob and Mary Giggelman Daetwyler. His parents came to the United States from Switzerland. He was educated in the schools of New Jersey, and became active in the wholesale fruit business in Philadelphia. In 1905 he removed to Orlando, where he engaged in the orange growing and packing industry; he is still interested to some extent in grove property.

Mr. Daetwyler has always been interested in agriculture, and established the Superior Nurseries in Orlando. Originally he handled citrus nursery stock altogether, but now he has a large and successful ornamental nursery and landscape organization, which furnishes plans as well as plants for the beautification of parks, estates and home grounds. His nursery is located two miles southeast of Pinecastle, and comprises 67 acres of land, 59 of which are set out to nursery stock. Mr. Daetwyler has been untiring in his efforts and generous in his gifts toward the beautification of Orlando and Orange county.

He is a Past Master of the Masonic Lodge, Past High Priest of Eureka Chapter, past president and several times director in the Chamber of Commerce; he was a charter member and one of the organizers of the Fruitmen's Club of Orlando, and was its first secretary. During the presidency of Mr. Daetwyler, the first Chamber of Commerce building was bought.

He married Helen Macauley in Glens Falls, New York, in 1927. They have three children, Mary Ellen, Peggy and Betty.

#### *R. G. HIGGINS*

RAYMOND GEORGE HIGGINS was born in Adams, Massachusetts, October 23, 1900, the son of Frank G. and Flora M. Alsdorf Higgins. His paternal grandfather came to America in a sailing vessel from Cork, Ireland; his paternal grandmother originally came from England. On his mother's side he is of French descent. After completing his education in the schools of New York state and Massachusetts, he entered the contracting business with



his father in Albany, N. Y. When he was 16 years old, the family moved to a farm at Whitehouse, near Jacksonville, and Mr. Higgins worked there with his father until the World War. During the war he was employed in the shipyards in Jacksonville, serving as Assistant Engineer of the S. S. Dinsmore during her construction. After the war he returned to Fall River, Massachusetts, where he was engaged in engineering work until 1920; he was then employed by C. E. Hilyer in the construction of the Lee street viaduct in Jacksonville, having charge of the ordering and fabrication of all the steel used in this work. He was then connected with the erection of the Angebilt hotel in Orlando, for which Mr. Hilyer was the contractor; he was also assistant superintendent during the construction of the Amherst apartments in Orlando. In 1922, he entered the Auditing department of the city of Orlando, and in 1923 became city comptroller—probably the youngest city comptroller in the United States.

Mr. Higgins is a member of the Chamber of Commerce and Kiwanis Club; a Mason and a member of the Woodmen of America. He married Mary A. Price in Orlando, September 26, 1922.

#### *L. C. TOWNSEND*

LUTHER CALVIN TOWNSEND was born in Iva, South Carolina, January 31, 1887, the son of Richard and Ellis Townsend.

He obtained his early education in the public schools of Iva, including the high school. He learned his trade as a builder in South Carolina also, and later went to Atlanta, Georgia, where he engaged in this business for several years, coming to Orlando in 1914, continuing his profession here. His first contract was the First Methodist church which he built for a Georgia firm which had obtained the contract. Some of the notable structures erected by Mr. Townsend are the Mt. Plymouth hotel at Mt. Plymouth, Senator M. O. Overstreet's residence, Braxton Beacham, Sr., residence on North Orange avenue, the Jefferson Court, Seth Woodruff home, H. Carl Dann's, H. H. & Harry Dickson's, the County Jail, Phillips building, Phillips apartments, First Baptist church, Buick garage building on West Central avenue, and the Carolina apartments. He also built several homes in Orlando for himself. He has erected buildings of all kinds, including residences, hotels, apartment houses, etc., in Orlando and Orange county aggregating in value several millions of dollars.

Mr. A. E. Arthur was taken into Mr. Townsend's firm as a partner a few years prior to Mr. Townsend's death, which occurred on October 8, 1926.

During the World War Mr. Townsend engaged in active service at the front in the Quartermaster Corps, with the rank of Captain.





*P. B. Townsend*



He was a member of the Associated Reformed Presbyterian church, an Elk, a Mason, a Shriner, a Knight of Pythias, and a Moose.

He married Rosa Jane Burton at Iva, South Carolina, on January 12, 1899; they have one daughter, Effie, (Mrs. N. H. Langenbach), and one granddaughter, Elsa.

Mr. Townsend was prominently engaged in the upbuilding of Orlando and Orange county since coming here, and many of the best buildings in the city and county stand as monuments to his skill and creative genius, for surely a man who adds to the permanent, habitable, business and religious buildings of a city is a citizen worth while, and his active life and Christian character has left an enduring impression on those who knew him best.

### *F. W. SHEPHERD*

FORNEY WELCH SHEPHERD was born in Alpine, Alabama, April 7, 1879, the son of S. P. and Mary Hannah Shepherd. He attended the schools in Winter Park and the high school in Olean, New York; studying for two years at Syracuse University. In 1901 he entered business in Winter Park, establishing a general store dealing in hardware, dry goods, groceries and other supplies; in 1923 he sold this store and entered into partnership with R. S. Fuller, dealing in feeds and fertilizers under the firm name of Shepherd and Fuller.

Mr. Shepherd has been active and influential in the civic affairs of Winter Park for many years. He was a member of the city council for 16 years; served as a director in the Bank of Winter Park; was then for three years president of the Union State Bank; and is now again a director in the Bank of Winter Park. He was formerly vice-president of the Winter Park Chamber of Commerce and president of the Business Men's Club, and is also a member of the County Chamber of Commerce and a Mason.

He married Martha Funkhouser, a niece of Dr. Miller Henkle, in Winter Park, May 19, 1908; they have two daughters, Dorothy and Kathleen.

### *A. E. ARTHUR*

ALLEN EDGAR ARTHUR was born in Bedford county, Virginia, August 17, 1888, the son of Henry Washington and Sallie Betty Arthur; his father was a farmer. He received his education in the schools of his native town, and came to Orlando May 13, 1913. He became associated at once with L. C. Townsend, who conducted a very large building and contracting business. Since Mr. Townsend's recent death, Mr. Arthur has continued the business. Among the important buildings which Mr. Townsend and Mr. Arthur have erected, are the Mt. Plymouth hotel, costing approximately a quarter of a



million dollars, the First Baptist church of Orlando, the Presbyterian church of Oakland, Jefferson Court, the Phillips apartments, the Buick garage in West Central avenue, the residences of B. Beacham, Senator M. O. Overstreet, Seth Woodruff, H. D. Piper, Carl Dann, H. H. Dickson, Harry N. Dickson, Miss Ruth K. Gaylord, Phil Rosenberg, Captain J. W. Wilmott, and many other residences and miscellaneous buildings in Orlando.

Mr. Arthur is a member of the Chamber of Commerce, a Mason, an Odd Fellow, a Knight of Pythias and a Moose.

Mr. Arthur married Mary Sue Ryder, May 11, 1913; she died July 19, 1919.

#### *SUPT. A. B. JOHNSON*

ALBERT BALDWIN JOHNSON was born at Fort Valley, Houston county, Georgia, December 23, 1862, a son of Russell Pope and Mary Ann (Baldwin) Johnson, the former of whom was born at Culloden and the latter at Augusta, Georgia, old families in that state, of Revolutionary stock. Russell Pope Johnson was a lawyer and merchant. In 1872 he came to Florida and homesteaded in Lake county, near Sorrento, and also purchased land in the same county at Grand Island, where he spent his winters until his death, his family still residing at Griffin, Georgia.

Albert Baldwin Johnson was reared at Griffin and was educated in the Samuel Baily Male Institute. He also studied for three years under private instructors, taking up foreign languages and higher mathematics.

Prior to 1885, when he came first to Florida, Mr. Johnson was engaged in agricultural implement, seed and cotton business at Griffin and Montezuma, Georgia. For two years after coming to Florida he carried on a general mercantile business at Grand Island, and was instrumental in having a post office established there, and after that for some years, was concerned in vegetable and fruit growing.

In 1895 Mr. Johnson moved to Sayre, Pennsylvania and became chief clerk in the Maintenance of Way Department of the Lehigh Valley Railroad system until 1904, when he returned to Florida and took up his residence in Orlando. He has always been active in Democratic politics and within the next few years served as deputy county tax collector, deputy county tax assessor and deputy county clerk. In 1909 he became identified with the Florida Citrus Exchange, and from 1912 to 1917 he was manager of the Orange county branch of this organization. During this period he also served on the Orlando school board. In 1916 he was elected county superintendent of schools and assumed the duties of the office in January, 1917, was re-elected in 1920 and 1924. His tenure of this office has been marked by rapid strides of educational progress, as shown by the increased enrollment of from 1,200 pupils in 1917 to 13,000 in 1927. The physical equipment of this department has been greatly improved in quantity and quality by the



erection during the past few years, of numerous fine and large school buildings in various parts of the county. Mr. Johnson generously gives this credit to the co-operation of the patrons of the school, the teachers, the school trustees and county officials, everyone of whom appreciates the generosity but disclaim the credit that properly belongs to the able and faithful superintendent.

Mr. Johnson married at Grand Island, Florida, February 15, 1887, Miss Clara Malinda Morse, who was born in Spencer, New York, and they have two children; Mary Irene, now Mrs. G. F. Tresher, who graduated with the class of 1921 from the Florida State College for Women, and Albert Morse, who is a student in the State University at Gainesville. Mrs. Johnson and her daughter are members of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Mr. Johnson is a Knight Templar, Thirty-second degree Mason and a Shriner and belongs also to the Odd Fellow and Knights of Pythias. The Baptist church claims his membership.

#### *WILLIAM B. HULL*

WILLIAM BENJAMIN HULL was born in Georgia, September 28, 1829, and came to what is now Sanford in 1855, arriving on Christmas day. The journey from Georgia was made in wagons; there were 34 people in the party, including a number of negro slaves. It is said that their arrival nearly doubled the population of Orange county.

After two years at Fort Reed, where he handled supplies for the soldiers in the Seminole War, Mr. Hull moved to Orlando and kept a boarding house there until the outbreak of the Civil War. Mr. Hull enlisted in Capt. Joshua Mizell's company of Home Guards, the Eighth Florida Regiment, and saw service in Virginia; he was twice wounded and was captured at the first battle of Gettysburg, spending nearly two years at Fort Delaware as a prisoner of war. He returned to Orlando in July 1865, walking from Palatka.

During Mr. Hull's absence in the army, Mrs. Hull continued to manage the boarding house, and also acted as postmistress and carried on a farm. Mr. Hull then engaged in growing cotton at Lake Conway, and with the money thus earned purchased what is now the W. L. Dolive estate, east by south of Orlando and adjoining the city limits, and moved there in 1867. He continued buying land about his first purchase until he owned 240 or more acres in one body at one time, and was one of the largest land owners adjacent to Orlando. He was among the first to ship oranges, having sold some as early as 1870. He was a member of the Orange County School Board in the early days.

Mr. Hull married Emily H. Watson on May 21, 1854 at Marietta, Georgia; their children are four sons and five daughters now living.



Mr. Hull died April 12, 1914.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Hull were charter members of the First Baptist church of Orlando; the edifice contains a beautiful Memorial Window, placed in their honor.

### *J. C. HULL*

JOHN CALVIN HULL was born on the home place adjoining city limits of Orlando in the Seventies; the son of one of the early pioneers, William Benjamin Hull; see the biographical sketch immediately preceding.

Mr. Hull attended a school in Orlando and at Conway, and was for two years a student in Rollins College. He has been engaged in orange growing most of his life, and also in general farming in the Conway neighborhood. He has spent most of his life on the old home place, and has watched the amazing changes which have come to pass during his lifetime in the county.

Mr. Hull is a member of the County Chamber of Commerce, of the Red Men of the World and of the First Baptist church of Orlando; he is unmarried.

### *DEXTER C. THOMPSON*

DEXTER CAMPBELL THOMPSON was born in Brockton, Massachusetts, November 8, 1859, the son of Nehemiah and Adeline Gibbs Thompson. He was educated in the schools of Boston. In 1882 he came to Florida, settling near Lake Mary in what is now Seminole county, where he established a shingle mill on the Wekiwa river. After some years this mill was moved to Sumter county. He owned extensive tracts of timber lands in Orange county, and in 1901 established the Lockhart Crate Factory at Lockhart, this being a branch factory of the Warnell Lumber and Veneer Company of Plant City, of which Mr. Thompson was president. He died in New Mexico in 1907.

Mr. Thompson was a 32nd degree Mason and a Shriner. He married Addie, daughter of Major W. B. Lynch, in 1890; they had two daughters, Addie, now Mrs. H. H. Root of Tampa, and Ruth, now Mrs. Frank Mebane of Orlando. Mr. Thompson's first wife died in 1895; in 1897 he married Rubie Lynch, another daughter of Major Lynch. They have one daughter, Rubie Neal, now Mrs. I. Faison Witherington of Mount Olive, N. C.

### *R. C. DAVIS*

ROBERT C. DAVIS was born in Ocala, Florida, May 15, 1898, the son of E. W. and Sarah W. Davis. He attended the public schools in Ocala and the high school in Orlando, then took the law course at John B. Stetson University, graduating in 1921 with the degree of Bachelor of Laws. Re-



turning to Orlando, he entered the practice of law in the office of Davis and Giles, and in 1923 he formed a partnership with his father, E. W. Davis, under the firm name of E. W. and R. C. Davis, one of the best known law firms in the state.

During the World War Mr. Davis enlisted in the Infantry; he was with the 31st Division at Camp Wheeler for a year, then transferred to the 26th Division in France. He was a line sergeant in both these divisions.

Mr. Davis is president of the Orlando Lions' Club, a member of the city and county Chambers of Commerce, and of the Sigma Nu and Phi Alpha Delta fraternities, and the representative for Orange county on the State Democratic Executive Committee. He married Doris Tilden in Tildenville, April 27, 1922; they have one daughter, Betty.

### *HIRAM POWERS*

HIRAM POWERS was born at Florence, Italy, the only son of Georgiana (nee Rose) and of Longworth Powers. The latter, his father, born in Cincinnati and educated at the Troy Polytechnic Institute and at West Point, devoted his later life to art, in Italy. His grandfather was the distinguished American sculptor, Hiram Powers, who was encouraged to perfect his art in Italy by President John Quincy Adams, Daniel Webster and others, in 1837.

Mr. Powers spent his childhood and began his education in private schools and at the Lyceo in Italy, but later continued it in Germany where he was a student for four years. Upon his arrival in America, he prepared at the English and Classical Schools near Boston, later entering the University of Michigan from which he graduated in 1893 with the degree of LL. B. While at the University, he held the position of left end on the Michigan "Varsity" foot-ball teams for two years and was a member of the track team. He was also member of the Zeta Psi Fraternity and other societies.

Mr. Powers was admitted to the practice of law in Michigan and later, to the Bar of New York in 1894, subsequently being with the well known firm of Rogers, Locke and Milburn in Buffalo. For many years he was interpreter in the New York Supreme Court and acted as counsel for a number of Italian organizations in this country and abroad.

Called to the chair of Modern Languages at Rollins College, Mr. Powers came to Winter Park in 1911, filling this position until the summer of 1917. His experience and training in law and foreign languages led him to his appointment in the A. E. F. in France and Italy, during the World War, where he was engaged from November, 1917, with the First Division, until August, 1919, with the Second Army, in charge of the work of contracting for billets, officers' and privates' quarters, warehouses, depots and the like, while, later in the settlement of claims with the Board of Damages in Paris.



In 1915 Mr. Powers had become interested in Florida real estate and upon his return from France, he opened an office in Winter Park, to resume his brokerage business. Specializing in acreage during 1925 he sold fifty-three thousand acres of land in Seminole, Volusia and Orange counties, besides closing many other smaller sales. He has been broker in the transfer of large tracts in and around Sarasota, and personally owns considerable property in the state. He was formerly president of the Lakewood Estates, Inc., of Orlando, is now president of the Eastmoreland Corporation and is a director of the Bacheller-Bonties Corporation, of Winter Park. He was formerly the owner and manager of the Winter Park Post, weekly newspaper and printing plant.

He is a charter member of the Orlando Realty Board, is a member of the Business Men's Club, the Florida Historical Association, Michigan Club and Zeta Psi Club of New York, is the secretary of the College Chapel Association, treasurer of the Allied Arts and belongs to the First Division Association of Chicago and to the "M" Club of Ann Arbor, Michigan. He has recently joined the Winter Park Realty Board, newly created.

Mr. Powers married Rose Edith Mills, of Rochester, New York. Mrs. Powers was born of American parents in China. She studied at Cornell University and at the University of Michigan and has won distinction as a writer and as a poet. She is author of the Rollins Alma Mater song and more recently of "Psyche's Lamp," a book of poems, the publishing of which was a prize award granted her by the Poetry Society of Florida, of which she is vice-president. She is a member of the Poetry Society of America as well.

They have one daughter, Rose MacMaster—now Mrs. Carlton G. Van Cleve, of New York.

### CHARLES LORD

Charles Lord was born at Todmorden, England, on the 12th day of July, 1855, son of John Lord and Sarah Lord.

He received his education in England and Edinburgh, Scotland, and came to Florida in 1876, settling first at Jacksonville and a few months later moving to Orange Park where he engaged in the growing of oranges.

In 1885 he moved to Orlando, and followed various occupations until he went into the grocery business. For a time he was connected with the grocery store of Mr. H. Taylor, and subsequently he established the Lord grocery store, which was ultimately amalgamated with the store of Warlow & Massey.

He sold out the grocery business, finding that the strain of carrying on this sort of business was injurious to his health, and went into the real estate business in partnership with Mr. Mahlon Gore. In this business he



has been very successful, having bought and sold a great deal of valuable property in and around Orlando.

He was a member of the city council at Orange Park, and since he has resided in Orange county he has been a member of the Masonic fraternity since 1889.

He was married on the first day of June, 1885, to Alice M. Taylor at Orange Park, Florida.

Mrs. Charles Lord died at Orlando the early part of 1927, greatly beloved by her many friends there.

### *F. L. SKELLY*

FRANK LEO SKELLY was born in Honesdale, Pennsylvania, January 19, 1878, the son of Edward and Ann Skelly. His father was a farmer and his early years on the farm did much to equip him with a practical knowledge of considerable value in his later work of marketing farm products. After attending the schools at Honesdale Mr. Skelly taught school for one term; and was for a time actively interested in Democratic politics in that section of Pennsylvania. His first commercial employment was in connection with a local firm of apple shippers. Simultaneously he served as mercantile appraiser for Wayne county, Pennsylvania. From Honesdale he went to Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, where he took charge of the fruit and produce department of a large wholesale grocery and produce company, in which position he was active with great success for a number of years. In 1909 the Florida Citrus Exchange was organized and Mr. Skelly was selected as manager of its Philadelphia branch. In 1911 he was promoted to general charge of all of the northern selling offices of the Florida Citrus Exchange and in 1913 he was called to Tampa and made General Sales Manager of that organization. In 1919 the American Fruit Growers Inc. was organized and Mr. Skelly was made manager of the Florida division of that organization, in which capacity he still serves. One of his first official acts was to remove its Florida headquarters from Tampa to Orlando because of its most advantageous position with relation to all the citrus-producing areas. The somewhat remarkable success obtained by the American Fruit Growers Inc. in Florida is in good part attributed to Mr. Skelly's direction by both Florida growers and his associates in the organization.

Mr. Skelly is very loyal to his adopted state of Florida and to Orlando and Orange county. He is an optimist concerning the future of Florida's citrus industry, toward the marketing problems of which he has so long devoted himself. He is generally recognized as one of the substantial men of the industry in the state, whose counsel is sought in connection with whatever problems may arise. Mr. Skelly is a director of the national organization of the American Fruit Growers Inc., of the Fruitman's Club,



the Growers and Shippers League of Florida, the Orlando Commercial Bank and half a dozen commercial organizations; is a member of the Orange County Chamber of Commerce, the Orlando Chamber of Commerce, the Orlando Kiwanis Club and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. In 1913 he was married to Laura Cummings in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. With their three children, Elizabeth Ann, Janet and Frances they reside at 800 Lucerne Terrace, Orlando.

### *HON. GEORGE W. CRAWFORD*

GEORGE W. CRAWFORD was born in Rogersville, Tennessee, June 13, 1840, to James Young and Mary White Crawford. He was educated in the schools of Como, Tennessee and at the Rogersville academy. He was married in 1875 to Sarah C. Mizell, daughter of David Mizell. He died at the age of 80 in Orlando, Florida. He left surviving him, James E. Crawford, Dr. George C. Crawford, Ethel Louise Crawford, Cora Bell Crawford, and Mrs. Frank Cullen.

During his early manhood he served as lieutenant in the Civil War. He was twice wounded and was one of the thirty survivors of his original regiment of 1,300 hundred men, to surrender at the close of the war.

He married at the age of 35. His wife, Sarah, was the daughter of David Mizell, one of the pioneer settlers of Orange county, after whom Lake Mizell and Mizell avenue in Winter Park are named. George W. Crawford's widow has lived continuously in Orlando for 70 years, and has probably resided in the city longer than any other inhabitant.

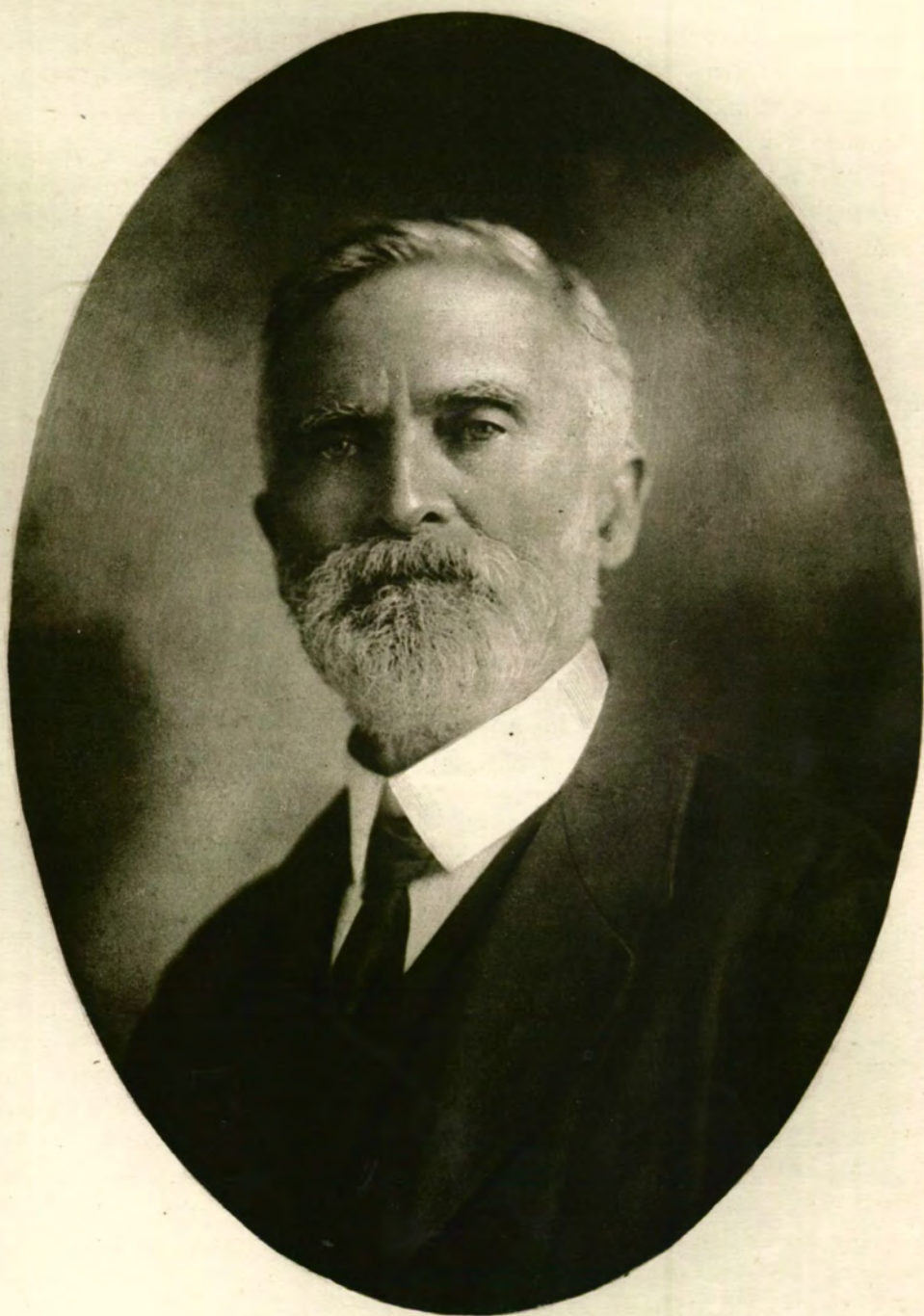
George W. Crawford was an active power in the community as evidenced by the fact that he was three times elected to the Lower House of the State Legislature, and at the age of 75 to the office of State Senator representing the 19th Senatorial District. A strong prohibitionist, he introduced the first prohibition bill ever introduced in the legislature of the State of Florida. He was an ardent supporter of all legislative movements to better educational methods, further good roads and foster beautification.

Mr. Crawford was a very religious man, and a tireless worker in the Methodist Episcopal church South.

In private life, he managed his large grove on the east side of Lake Conway, and also engaged in the cattle business. It was here at Conway that he spent the last 48 years of his life.

Although a comparatively old man, he never retired from active life, dying August 13, 1920, at the age of 80 years, during his term of office as State Senator.





*George W. Crawford*



*W. G. WHITE*

WILLIAM GRANT WHITE, the "merchant prince" of Orange County's early days, was born in Macon, Georgia, August 12, 1842, the son of Joseph and Martha White. He was educated in the schools of Marshallville, Georgia. He was living on a farm when the War between the States broke out, and served during the entire four years, ranking as a Sergeant. After the war he returned to Macon, where for some time he conducted a general store. He later became manager of the wholesale dry goods firm of S. T. Coleman & Co., and in this position received the highest salary paid any man in Macon, the then enormous amount of \$400 per month.

In 1879 he removed to Florida, settling at Oviedo. He built a home, store and wharf on the shore of Lake Jesup, and established a postoffice which he called Clifton Springs in honor of Dr. Henry Foster, whose sanitarium was at Clifton Springs, N. Y., and whose winter home was at Lake Charm. Mr. White opened roads and built bridges through the virgin forests to Lake Charm and Oviedo, and had the largest store and stock of goods south of Jacksonville. When the railroad was extended from Sanford to Orlando, he decided that Orlando would some day become an important center; he therefore erected a large store building there, and moved his stock of goods by ox team from Clifton Springs to Orlando. In view of the scarcity of lumber he also tore down his story and a half residence and moved that by ox team to Orlando, where it was re-erected on Church street.

Mr. White was a leader in all social and civic activities in the town in those early days. He was a member of the City Council, and several times refused to run for mayor. He was a Mason and Knight Templar, and a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. Among those who were associated with him in the early days of the city were James L. Giles and J. R. Irvine, both of whom once served as clerks in the store on the corner of Church street and Orange avenue.

Mr. White married Annie Amos in Indian Springs, Georgia, February 5, 1867; they had one son, William Audley, now state agent for New Jersey, of the John Hancock Mutual Life Insurance Company. Mr. White died in Orlando, January 22, 1885, and is buried in Rose Hill Cemetery, Macon, Georgia. His wife still survives, at the age of eighty-five years, and makes her home with her son in South Orange, New Jersey.

*J. C. and R. B. BROSSIER*

JOSEPH C. and ROBERT BAZILE BROSSIER were born in Key West, May 9, 1891, the sons of Colonel and Mrs. Felix Clement Brossier. Their parents on the father's side moved from Alsace-Lorraine immediately after the Franco-Prussian War, to Galveston, Texas. Their mother was a grand-



daughter of Lord Alexander Campbell, first governor of the Bahamas; she was also a niece of Mrs. David Livingston, wife of the famous African explorer, and a descendant of the English General, John Burgoyne.

The Brossiers attended the Jesuit College at Key West, and graduated from the public high school of Dade County. Born in Key West, they resided there for eight years, and afterward returned to Key West for four years. They then went to Miami, where they remained until November of 1914, when they moved to Orange County, and purchased the Reporter-Star Publishing Company. Their early life on the lower East Coast put them in touch with the pioneers, having been there several years before the Florida East Coast Railroad was carried into that section. Their grandmother, Mrs. George Duncan Moffat, was one of the pioneers of Dade County, and a personal and intimate friend of Mrs. Julia Tuttle, known as the "Mother of Miami."

The Brossiers started their newspaper career in Key West at the age of ten years, when they took over the delivery of the Miami Record, now the Miami Herald, also assuming the delivery of the Miami Metropolis, the Key West Inter-Ocean, now the Key West Citizen, the Atlanta Constitution, the Jacksonville Times Union, and the Saturday Evening Post. During their residence in Miami, they were connected with the Miami Herald and the Miami News-Metropolis, Joseph Clement being circulation manager of the Metropolis, and Robert Bazile circulation manager of the Herald.

The Brossiers purchased the Orlando Reporter-Star in December, 1914; under their management, and with the capable co-operation of Mr. J. F. Schumann, associate editor, the Reporter-Star has achieved high rank among the newspapers of Florida, and a great and wholesome influence on the public opinion and municipal policies of Orlando.

### *FRANKLIN O. KING*

FRANKLIN O. KING was born in Phillipsburg, Pennsylvania, February 20, 1873, the son of Charles S. and Sarah J. Peters King. His father was of Scotch-Irish descent, and was born at St. Johns, New Brunswick, Canada, and his mother of Pennsylvania Dutch and English ancestry.

Mr. King obtained his education in the Curwensville High School of Curwensville, Pa., and took a special literary course in the Northwestern University of Evanston, Illinois. After completing his education he became connected with John Lee Mahon of New York City in the advertising department of Mahon Advertising Company of Chicago.

On October 13, 1919, Mr. King came to Orlando, where he at once entered actively into the social, religious and civic life of the city and county, assisting wholeheartedly in every civic movement for the betterment of the community.



Mr. King is local manager and half owner of the Sylvester E. Wilson Land Company, one of the largest and most prosperous dealers and developers of real estate in Orange and Seminole counties, and known practically all over the United States by their slogan "Twenty Acres and Plenty."

Mr. King has been president of the Orlando Baseball Club for two years; was a director of the Orlando Chamber of Commerce; has been twice district governor of Florida Lion's Clubs; is a colonel on the staff of Governor John W. Martin; a member of the legislature for Orange county, which session has just closed. Mr. King has introduced to the legislature twenty-seven bills, and has passed twenty-six of them. He introduced and passed the Motor Vehicle Commissioner Bill, which places all of the automobile tag and licenses in hands of the commissioner, taking it out of hands of comptroller.

Colonel King was also chairman of the Aquatic Committee of Rollins College for seven years.

He is a Mason, a Knight of Pythias, an Elk and a Moose.

He married Josephine M. Dibert of Bedford, Pennsylvania, on May 25, 1909, and they have one son, James Groth King, twelve years of age.

Mr. King is one of the outstanding characters of the community, his dry wit and humor refreshing and delightful.

#### *H. A. REGENER*

H. A. REGENER, the second oldest resident of Gotha, was born in Germany in 1854, and came to the United States in 1880. He settled in Philadelphia, and followed the shoemaker's trade there for four years.

Mr. Regener came to Gotha, in Orange county, April 15, 1884. He purchased a double lot and five acres of land there, and gradually acquired larger holdings. He now has about 40 acres of orange land, and is one of the largest growers of citrus fruits in the neighborhood. He has planted nearly all the orange trees about Gotha for other people who have set out orange groves at Gotha.

Mr. Regener has developed a seedless and thornless variety of oranges, called "Regener's Seedless Improved"; this orange is oval in shape, sweet and juicy, and is already much in demand; it is the result of many years of careful experimentation.

Mr. Regener is a Moose.

He married Lena Milmar, in Germany, now deceased. Their children are Herman H., who has been connected with the Tampa Tribune, Adolph, of Gotha, and Ella (Mrs. Herman Bermann) of Gotha. Mr. Regener is a fine example of the strength and intelligence which was brought to the United States in the earlier stream of immigration from northern and western Europe.



*THOMAS A. YANCEY*

THOMAS A. YANCEY was born in Augusta, Ky., in 1867, was the son of Garland M. Yancey and Sallie Yancey. Garland M. Yancey, his father was president of a college for women in Kentucky, and after moving to Florida was superintendent of schools in Orlando, Key West, and several other Florida cities.

Mr. Thomas A. Yancey was a graduate with honors from the college at Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

Mr. Yancey came to Florida in 1887, entering into the livestock, wholesale and retail meat and produce business. He was very successful in these lines, conducting one business for over 25 years in one location. He was considered by his friends to be a good judge of horse flesh, and a true gentleman sportsman on the turf.

Mr. Yancey was a communicant in the protestant Methodist Episcopal church, and was a member of several secret orders, in all of which he stood well.

Mr. Yancey, was particularly an outstanding figure in the early development of Orange county and Orlando, was very energetic, and very quick to grasp an opportunity.

Mr. Yancey, married Miss Isabella Braye, of Whist Sulphur Springs, Ga., in 1889, she being the daughter of Captain Wilbur C. Braye. There are two children of this union now living, Thomas A. Jr., and Sarah Williams, who received the degrees of Bachelor of Arts, from Rollins College, Winter Park, Florida. The son is still operating in Florida very successfully, and has many friends; the daughter is doing special instruction work at Columbia University, N. Y., and is married to Mr. Jene La Reuter, who is also connected in an official capacity at Columbia.

Mr. Yancey was known by all to be a man of good sound judgment, extremely likable, and very charitable. His life in his home is a monument of achievement to him. He died in September, 1913 with poisoning in one of his feet. He was much loved by all who knew him, and his untimely death caused bereavement to all Orlando.

He never seemed too busy to give a helping hand to any one in trouble, and his means he spent liberally to help the needy. His personality was the most pleasing, and his manners to all were almost courtly.

He was a true Southern gentleman in every sense of the word, and his death was a severe loss to Orlando, his friends, and family. He always wore a smile regardless of conditions.

Mr. Yancey held large quantities of real estate in and around Orlando.





*Захаров*



*W. P. NEWELL*

WALTER P. NEWELL was born in Manchester, New Hampshire, November 8, 1852, the son of Wm. P. Newell and Eunice Reed Newell. He received his education in the schools of New Hampshire, and was engaged in the wholesale clothier's supply business in Boston. In 1912 he moved to Apopka, and established the fernery of Newell and Ustler there; they were the pioneer fern growers in Apopka. Mr. Newell later bought out Mr. Ustler's interest in the fernery, and at present he himself no longer grows the ferns but handles the shipments of ferns for others under the firm name of W. P. Newell Co. He also acts as agent for the Mapes fertilizers at Apopka. His shipments of ferns total over one million annually, representing a value of some \$75,000.

Mr. Newell held office in city government and was at one time mayor.

*DR. O. F. SIMS*

OTIS F. SIMS is a native of Orange county, and the son of its oldest living pioneer, Capt. B. M. Sims; he was born in Ocoee in 1871; attended the schools of his native town, the Normal School at Spencer, Tennessee, and the Baltimore Dental College, where he received the degree of D. D. S.

Dr. Sims has practiced his profession in Orlando, Atlanta, Fort Myers, and for a short time in Bellingham, Washington. For some fifteen years he has grown citrus fruits and truck at Ocoee; he has retired from active business, and lives at Winter Garden, where he has an orange grove. He is one of the comparatively few now living who saw the first railway train enter Orlando.

Dr. Sims is a member of the Christian church, and an Elk. He married Miss Stella Forquer, Fort Myers; their one child, Irene, is deceased.

*CAPT. B. M. SIMS*

CAPT. B. M. SIMS was born in Georgia, September 30, 1836. He is probably the oldest living pioneer and citizen of Orange county, nearing his ninety-first birthday.

Capt. Sims came to Florida on horseback from Tennessee in 1861, and took up a homestead near Fuller's Crossing, in west Orange county. He began operations on this homestead by raising cotton; he then operated a cotton gin, taught school near Fairvilla, started a citrus nursery, and set out the first commercial orange grove in the county. Perhaps he may be called the father of orange growing in this region.



Some references to Capt. Sims' activities, and to the conditions of life in west Orange county during the early period of his residence here, may be found in the narrative section of this history, part one.

Capt. Sims was engaged in the Civil War in a Georgia regiment. He is a member of the Masonic order. He married Fanny Roper, daughter of William Roper of Winter Garden; their children are Eugene O., Walter, Dr. Otis S., and Lena (Mrs. George Brannon).

#### *H. F. BAKER*

HARDIE F. BAKER, Chief of Police, was born in Port Arthur, Texas, July 21, 1891, the son of Alexander Stephens and Emmie Simmons Baker. He was educated in the schools of Port Arthur. He then served for years in the police departments of Port Arthur, Beaumont, Houston and Dallas, Texas; in January, 1926, while serving as chief of detectives in Port Arthur, he was called to assume the duties of chief of police of Orlando. Since assuming this office, he has completely reorganized and greatly improved the police department of the city; has established an excellent identification bureau with finger-print system, and a traffic bureau connected with his department. During the winter season his department comprises some 50 officers and clerks, but only about half this number during the summer. Chief Baker was in command of the relief train sent from Orlando to Moorehaven at the time of the recent hurricane, and distinguished himself by the efficiency and energy with which he conducted relief measures for that stricken community.

Chief Baker is a member of the Chamber of Commerce, and of the Association of Police Chiefs; an Elk and Knight of Pythias. He married Amelia Bringol in Houston, Texas, December 12, 1912; they have one daughter, Vivian Ray, now 13 years old.

#### *JAMES D. POUNDS*

JAMES D. POUNDS was born in Stone Mountain, Georgia, March 27, 1881, the son of J. R. and Mattie L. Pounds. His parents moved to Minorville about 1885, and his father engaged in the lumber business with W. J. Minor and S. T. J. Seegar. Mr. Pounds was educated in the schools of Ocoee, attended John B. Stetson University for five years, and graduated from Harvard University in 1908 with the degree of Bachelor of Arts.

Upon his graduation he was placed in charge of the Boston office of the Northern Equipment Company, dealing in steam specialties. In 1909 he was transferred to the main office of this company in Chicago, and remained there for a year and a half. He returned to Orlando in 1910 and operated a novelty works with his brother. In 1912 he moved to Philadelphia, and for 12 years he was registrar and in charge of the Business Law Depart-



ment of the Banks Business College in that city. He later filled the same positions and was also a director in the Philadelphia Business College.

In 1923 he returned to Winter Garden, where he joined his brother Hoyle Pounds in the automobile business, with which concern he is now associated.

Mr. Pounds was captain of the baseball team at Stetson University which won the state championship, and also played on the basketball team there. At Harvard he was right fielder on the Varsity baseball team for three years, was a member of the Varsity Club, Kappa Gamma Chi fraternity and Harvard Round Table. He is a member of the Winter Garden Chamber of Commerce. He married Martha W. Rhode in Chicago, in January, 1910; they have one daughter, Rhode Jean.

#### *DR. H. K. AND A. M. CLARKE*

HENRY KIP CLARKE was born in Cooperstown, New York, about 1837. He received his education at Hobart College and the Albany Medical School, from which institution he received the degree of Doctor of Medicine. He practiced his profession in Geneva, New York, about 20 years, then removed to St. Augustine, Florida, in 1884. In 1885 he met Capt. Sims in DeLand, and was persuaded by him to remove to Ocoee; he purchased land near the town and built the home now occupied by J. W. Graves. He devoted some of his time to the practice of medicine, and also grew several acres of grapes. He published the first newspaper in this part of the county—the "South Apopka Times," a weekly, which was continued for about a year.

During the War between the States Dr. Clarke was surgeon to the 10th New York Cavalry. He married Catherine Watson in New York state, and died at Battle Creek, Michigan, December 4, 1896.

ARTHUR MIDDLETON CLARKE, the sole surviving child of Dr. H. K. Clarke, was born in Geneva, New York, in 1881, and came with him to Ocoee as a child. He was educated in the schools of Ocoee, the University of the South at Sewanee, and John B. Stetson University, giving up his college work to join the First Florida Regiment for the Spanish-American War. Returning to Ocoee at the close of the war, he devoted himself to citrus culture and real estate, and has been instrumental in furthering the growth and progress of the town. He was president of the town council when the town was first incorporated, and is at present filling the same office. He was for two years mayor of Ocoee, in 1924 and 1925. He is president of the Ocoee Chamber of Commerce, and of the Ocoee Realty Company. He is also a member of the County Chamber of Commerce. During his terms as mayor the municipally owned water works was installed, and bonds were voted for street improvements.

He married Ann Watson in Milwaukee in 1907.



*CHAUNCEY HOLT*

CHAUNCEY HOLT was born in New York city, December 27, 1844; his parents were Henry Dobbs and Elizabeth Hawley Holt, of an old and distinguished American family.

Mr. Holt attended the public schools of New York and Jersey City, and was then engaged in the printing and publishing business in New York.

Mr. Holt came to Orlando in September, 1910, and purchased property extending from East Concord avenue to Hillcrest avenue, and from Magnolia avenue to near Broadway; he subdivided this large area and it was known by the name, "Holt's Subdivision." He planted all the oak trees along these streets, and erected several houses in the subdivision.

Mr. Holt served with the New Jersey troop in the War between the States, and had the rank of Captain when discharged.

Mr. Holt married Annie Strothers in Jersey City; their children are Frank L., Chauncey, Jr., Mary (Mrs. Dr. C. L. Brundage), and Grace (Mrs. E. J. Biedler.)

Mr. Holt was a member of the First Presbyterian church of Orlando. He died in September, 1910.

*I. C. COOK*

INT LESTER COOK was born in Hazelhurst, Georgia, in 1892, the son of Int Lester Cook. He was educated in the schools of Hazelhurst, and subsequently completed a business course in Macon, Georgia. He began his business career as bookkeeper in the Bank of Hazelhurst. In 1917 he removed to Orlando, where he was first assistant cashier and is now cashier of the First National Bank.

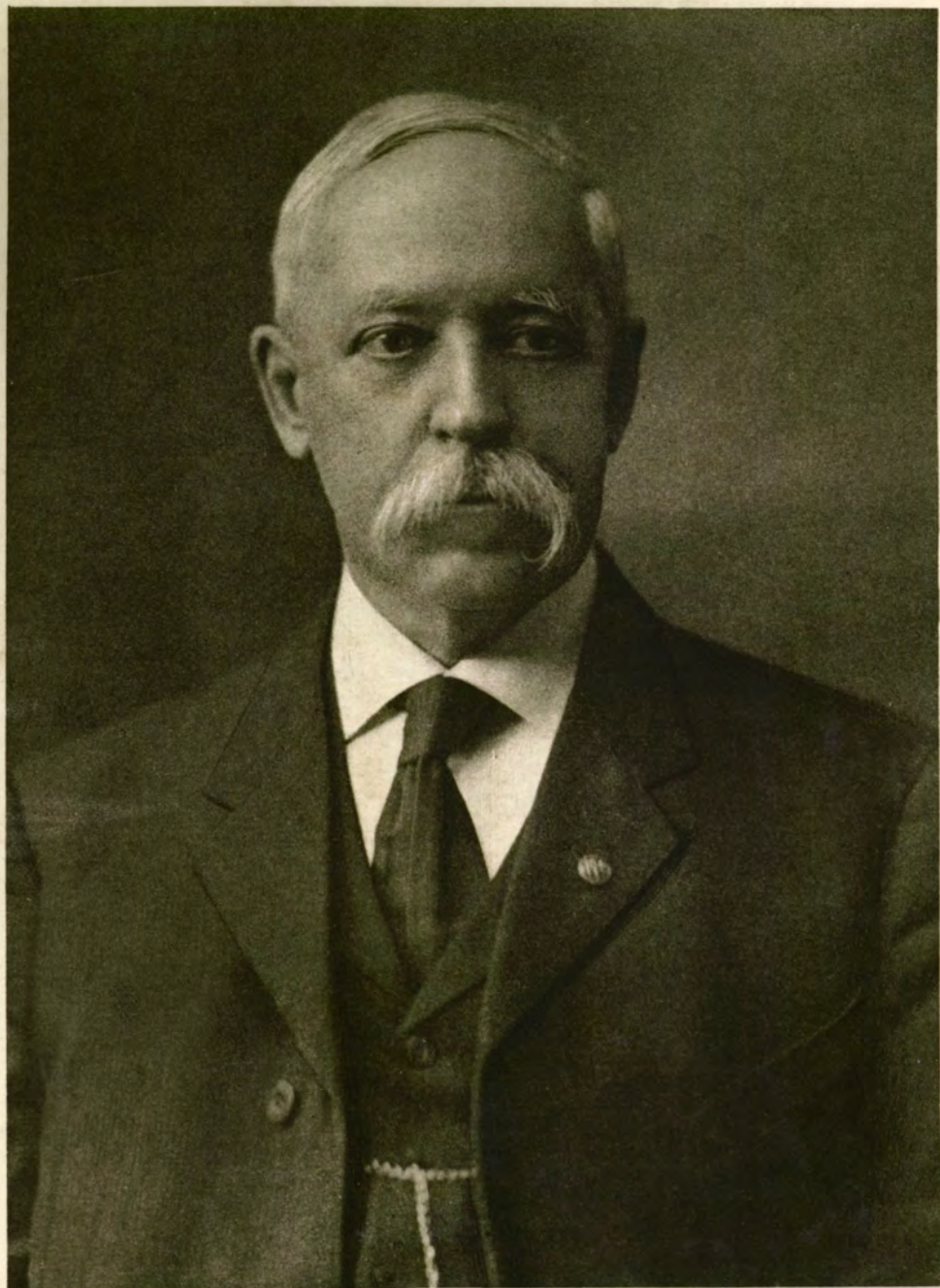
Mr. Cook is a member of the First Methodist church. He married Anna Della, daughter of A. J. McCulley, in Oviedo, March 14, 1914; they have one daughter, Mary Edith.

*E. J. RYAN*

EDWARD J. RYAN was born in Plattsburgh, New York, July 10, 1867, the son of James and Elizabeth Riley Ryan. He came to Apopka with his mother at the age of 13, and has resided there since that time. He was educated in the schools of Illinois and Merrimac, Florida.

Mr. Ryan began his business career as an associate with A. C. Starbird in the sawmill business, and remained with him for 34 years. In 1920 he established Ryan and Co., in which his two sons are associated with him. The firm handles all varieties of builders' supplies and hardware, and operates the only lumber yard between Orlando and Mount Dora.





Chauncey Hall



Mr. Ryan is a Mason and Knight of Pythias, and has been a member of the city commission of Apopka since January, 1926. He first married Emma Yocum in Apopka; they had three children, Mark B., Nat C. and Minnie May (Mrs. W. H. Stewart). The first Mrs. Ryan died 24 years ago. Subsequently Mr. Ryan married Minnie Franklin; their children are Arthur, Edward J. Jr., and Daisy Elizabeth.

### *H. W. BARR*

HARRY W. BARR was born in 1867 at Dekalb, West Virginia, the son of Thomas and Allie Barr; his father was a country physician in West Virginia, and is still living at the age of 84, in California.

Mr. Barr received his education in the schools of Nebraska and Colorado, in which states he also taught school for sometime. In 1892 he went to Chicago, from which point he traveled as a salesman for a number of years. He was associated with the Automatic Registering Corporation at Jamestown, New York, from 1908 until 1917, in which year he came to Florida for his health. Three years later he purchased an interest in the Cooper-Atha Company, now the Cooper-Atha-Barr Real Estate & Mortgage Co., Inc., one of the largest and most successful concerns in this line in central Florida. He is president of the College Park Finance Corporation, vice-president of the Waterwitch Club of Orlando, and president of the Conway Yacht Club; he is also president of the Orlando Realty Board, a member of the Country Club, the Kiwanis Club, and the Orlando Chamber of Commerce, a Mason and a Shriner.

He was married in Colorado to Myrtle A. Grolean; their children are Leal G. Barr, with the Barr-Goodwin Lumber Company; Betty, (Mrs. R. G. Little); and Robert, now a student in Rollins College.

Mr. Barr is actively connected with the First Bond & Mortgage Company, and vice-president of the Orange County Building & Loan Association.

### *CHARLES R. EMERICK*

CHARLES RUSSELL EMERICK was born in Auburn, New York, in 1881, the son of Arthur Russell and Esther De Elte Emerick. He was educated in the schools of his home town, including the high school and business school courses. For some years he was engaged in the manufacture of shoes in the North.

Coming to Orlando in 1909, he leased the Orland hotel and operated this for some seven years. About 12 years ago he changed the cafe in this hotel to a cafeteria, this being the first such venture in Orlando. It was very successful, and Mr. Emerick has expanded this business until he now



owns three cafeterias and one delicatessen store in Orlando, feeding about 4,000 people daily. He has also acquired considerable other valuable real estate.

During the World War he was in charge of six government cafeterias in Washington.

Mr. Emerick is a Mason, Shriner, Knight of Pythias, and a member of the Chamber of Commerce. He married May A. Hamilton in Auburn, New York; they have one daughter, Dorothy R., (Mrs. John P. Grange).

### *JAMES T. TREAT*

JAMES T. TREAT was born in Bradford, Pennsylvania, October 2, 1869, the son of Alvie and Margaret Treat. He received his education in the schools of Owego, New York, and then engaged in the publishing business; he owned a newspaper in Binghamton and also in Johnson City.

Mr. Treat served for sometime as mayor of Johnson City, as well as fire commissioner and tax collector; when a resident of Binghamton he served as county commissioner of elections.

Mr. Treat came to Winter Park in 1914, and purchased the LaMontagne estate near Orlando, which he sold and which has been subdivided in building lots. He developed College Place, comprising 20 acres, which was subdivided in lots, and on which Mr. Treat has built some 40 houses.

He was twice elected mayor of Winter Park, in 1922 and 1923; was president of the Business Men's Club for two years; and has served on the school board of the city. He was active in the organization of the County Chamber of Commerce, and has been its vice-president from the first. He is a Thirty-second degree Mason, a Shriner and an Elk.

Mr. Treat married Lillian Shelton at Johnson City, New York, and they have one daughter, Anna.

### *SIDNEY IVES*

SIDNEY IVES, a conspicuous figure in the mercantile history of Orange county and of Florida, was born in Macon, Georgia, in 1854. He was the son of Edwin and Mary Ives. He received his education in the public schools of his native state.

Mr. Ives came to Orlando in November, 1882, having previous to that time been engaged in the grocery business in Quitman, Georgia. In 1883 he established a grocery business in Orlando, in East Church street, known as "Ives grocery store." About 1897, he formed a partnership with H. H. Dickson, and his store was moved to East Pine street, and was called the "Dickson-Ives grocery store." This store was later moved to the present site



of the Dickson-Ives store, and a small department store was added to the grocery business. In 1914 the business was incorporated, and the present imposing building erected. The grocery department was then discontinued.

The Dickson-Ives department store does a very large business in Orlando and throughout Orange county, and has patrons in more than a 100 towns in this state. Of this flourishing corporation, Mr. Ives is vice-president; his two sons, Marion B. and Sidney, Jr., are also officers in this corporation.

Mr. Ives served for 15 years as a member of the County School Board, and for a number of years as a member of the city council. He is a director in the Morris Plan Bank. He is an elder in the First Presbyterian church, a member of the Chamber of Commerce, and both Country Clubs, a Mason and a Shriner.

Mr. Ives has been twice married; his children by his first wife are, Sydney, Jr., Emma (Mrs. H. B. Scruggs) and Marion B. In 1907, he married Isidore Gilchrist.

### JOHN TILDEN

JOHN TILDEN was born in Cooper county, Missouri, May 15, 1892. He is the son of Thomas and Charlotte Arnold Tilden. His education was secured in the public schools of Missouri and Florida, and at the University of Missouri. He came to Orlando and engaged in the practice of law, specializing to some extent in commercial law problems.

Mr. Tilden served for 20 months in the United States army during the World War, and rose from private to second lieutenant; eight months of this service was overseas. He is now a first lieutenant in the United States Officers Reserve Corps.

He is a member of the Chamber of Commerce. He married Josephine Hetty Sipprell in Petersburg, Virginia.

### B. A. MINOR

BARON A. MINOR was born in Stone Mountain, Georgia, in 1885, the son of A. and S. E. Minor. His father came to Ocoee, Florida, in 1885, and bought some land in and about the town, and is one of the oldest residents there, having seen it grow from a small settlement to its present proportions.

Mr. Minor received his education in the public schools of Ocoee, and was a student for two years at the University of Florida. After completing his education, Mr. Minor became connected with the Atlantic Coast Line railway, and continued with this company for eight years, during which time



he was stationed at Tampa, serving in various capacities for five years. During the past ten years Mr. Minor has been engaged in citrus fruit growing and truck farming, and owns 40 acres of land, 30 acres of which are in oranges, all situated near Ocoee and Crown Point.

Mr. Minor served for two years, 1926-1927, as mayor of Ocoee, and was a member of the town council for two years prior thereto, and was president of the town council during year 1926; he has also been president of the Bank of Ocoee since January, 1927. While Mr. Minor has been mayor of the town, approximately \$180,000.00 have been expended in paving of streets.

Mr. Minor is a member of the Orange County Chamber of Commerce, and is a Maçon.

He married Myrtle E. Anderson at Lake City, Florida, and they have one daughter, Dorothy.

Mr. Minor belongs to one of the most beloved and highest respected families in west Orange county, all of whom have devoted their untiring efforts toward the upbuilding and growth of the entire community.

#### *H. H. DICKSON*

HENRY HILL DICKSON was born in Athens, Georgia, April 26, 1849, the son of William Early and Louise Templeton Dickson; his father was a soldier on the Confederate side in the Civil War.

Mr. Dickson, like Benjamin Franklin and many other notable men, received his education principally in the printing office. After serving an apprenticeship in this business in Athens, he moved to Atlanta at the age of seventeen years, where he later founded a job printing establishment, which did a large and profitable business; he was also for a time associated with Henry Grady in the publication of a society newspaper.

From Atlanta, Mr. Dickson removed to Orlando, October 4, 1887. For a time he was in the grain and fertilizer business; later he formed a partnership with Sidney E. Ives in the general grocery and grain trade, from which firm the present Dickson-Ives Company was developed; this was organized in 1914, as a department store, and has grown steadily and rapidly to its present large proportions. Its business is not confined to Orlando and Orange County, but extends to a hundred other towns and communities throughout central Florida. The business is carried on in a large four-story fireproof building, erected in 1917, and equipped with every convenience both for the firm and for its customers; about a hundred and twenty-five people are employed in the business.

From the first, Mr. Dickson has been greatly interested in the civic affairs of the city and county, and has devoted a great deal of time and energy to this work. For two years he was president of the City Council. In 1896, he became commissioner for district No. 1, of the county, and





*H. H. Lickson*



held this office by appointment or election for sixteen years, being chairman of the board for ten years. He assisted in building the first paved roads which were constructed in the state, in 1898. He was vice-president of the State Good Roads and County Commissioners' Association, in 1890-1891. He is a director and president of the Orange County Building and Loan Association, vice-chairman of the Orlando Utilities Commission, and chairman of the beautification committees both of the county and city.

During the Civil War, Mr. Dickson was a member, at the age of fifteen years, of the Home Guards of Georgia militia.

Mr. Dickson has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and of its Board of Stewards, since about 1889, and has served as treasurer for some twenty years; he is an Odd Fellow, a Knight of Pythias, and a member of the Orlando Civitan Club. He married Annie M. Nelson, of Brunswick, Georgia, December 4, 1879; their children are Harry Nelson and Ethel, who is the wife of R. B. Brossier, business manager of the Orlando Reporter-Star.

#### *FRANK N. MEBANE*

FRANK N. MEBANE was born in Withville, Virginia, March 26, 1893. He was educated in the schools of his native state. He entered the profession of mechanical and electrical engineering, and was for some years assistant to John Andrews, electrical engineer of Boston, Mass.

In 1917 he came to Florida, settling first in Plant City, where he engaged in the manufacture of crates for fruit and vegetables. In 1920 he removed to Orlando, where he has since resided. In 1922 he bought the Cook Auto Co. and acquired the Buick and Rolls-Royce agencies. He has tripled the business of this concern since taking charge of it, and his garage is now one of the largest and most completely furnished concerns of its kind in the state. Mr. Mebane is also one-half owner of the Apopka Mill Company, and a director in the Apopka State Bank.

Mr. Mebane is a Mason, Shriner, and director in the Rotary Club. He married Ruth Thompson in Melbourne, North Carolina, April 22, 1915; they have two children, Althea and Frank, Jr.

#### *H. S. WILSON*

HARRY STUART WILSON was born in Mitchell, South Dakota; the son of John Joseph and Carrie Worthen Wilson. He was educated in the public schools of Miami, Oklahoma, and was afterward for ten years in the shoe business in Mitchell.

Coming to Orlando, October 30, 1917, he established the Wilson Shoe Company at 110 South Orange avenue, and has continued in this business



since that time. He is also a director in the Church Street Bank and vice-president of the Orlando Loan and Savings Company. He is a charter member of the Orlando Rotary Club.

Mr. Wilson married Laura Lydia Hoover in Plankinton, South Dakota, October 31, 1907; their two children are Viola Lydia and Glenn Charles.

### *A. P. MICHAELS*

AUGUSTUS PHILLIPS MICHAELS was born in Chillicothe, Ohio, November 13, 1885, the son of A. P. and Mary A. Michaels. After completing the work in the public schools of his home town, he took a special course in Electrical Engineering at Ohio University. He was subsequently associated with the W. S. Barstow Management Corporation at Reading, Penna.; the Cleveland Illuminating Company; the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, with which body he was assistant chief of engineers, in immediate control of a staff of 57 engineers. In 1923 he came to Orlando as general manager of the Orlando Utilities Commission, in which capacity he has been in direct charge of the water works, light plant, and all construction work throughout the city connected with these two plants. The capacity of these plants has been about doubled since Mr. Michaels took charge of them; they now employ some 200 men, and the payroll runs annually to about \$500,000.00.

Mr. Michaels is an Elk, and a member of the Sigma Alpha Theta fraternity and Dubsdread Country Club. He married Clara B. Overly in Chillicothe, Ohio, April 20, 1910; they have two sons, Jack P. and Robert K.

### *JOSEPH B. TINKER*

JOSEPH BERT TINKER was born in Mouskoda, Kansas, July 27, 1880, the son of Samuel and Elizabeth Williams Tinker. He received his education in the schools of Kansas City, where he lived until he was 22 years old. He then signed a contract to play shortstop for the Chicago Cubs, and played that position with them for 16 years. In 1917 he bought the Columbus Baseball Club with T. E. Wilson of Chicago. Mr. Tinker was president of the club and acted as manager for two years.

In 1921 he came to Orlando on account of his health, and for one year he was manager of the Orlando Baseball Club, with which he won the pennant. He then engaged in the real estate business with Roy McCracken in the Walker building at a salary of \$20 per month. After four years with Mr. McCracken they took Mr. Tinker's sons into partnership with them, forming the firms of Joe Tinker & Sons and Joe Tinker & Company. He promoted and built the baseball park in Orlando, which was then called



Tinker Field, but which has since been sold to the Cincinnati Club of the National League, the only baseball club in the United States which owns its spring training quarters.

Mr. Tinker owned and developed "Jamajo" with a partner, and after selling this subdivision out he next developed "Tinker Heights" on the Cheney highway. He was instrumental in inducing the city of Orlando to purchase the fair grounds, which will, after this year, become a city park of some 40 acres. He erected the Tinker building at 16 West Pine street in Orlando, and the Tinker building in Longwood, which houses the Longwood Bank. He was one of the promoters of the Seminole race course near Longwood.

Mr. Tinker is an Elk and a Mason.

He married Mary Rock in Orlando, in May, 1926; he has four children by a previous marriage, Joseph, Rolland, William and Ruby, and one son, Jerry, by his present wife.

#### *A. L. WRIGHT*

ALONZO LEE WRIGHT is a native of Lynn, Indiana, where he was born June 2, 1874, the son of Christian H. and Mary M. Wright. He attended school in Winchester, Indiana, and was for three years a student in Perdue University. After leaving the university he engaged in the engineering business, and became county engineer of Randolph county, Indiana, which position he held for eight years; he then served as city engineer of Winchester, Indiana, for a year and a half, and came to Orlando in 1910. He was engaged with the Prosper Colony, operating at Taft, for two or three years, after which he maintained his own office, and also did work for the city in connection with the sewerage system. He was resident engineer under G. R. Ramsey when the county roads were built under the first bond issue which was voted and sold for this purpose. He then took charge of the Taft Drainage District, and constructed 60 miles of canals at that place, at the same time being resident engineer for the State Road Department, supervising the construction of the highway between Kissimmee and Loughman; he has also done considerable engineering work for subdivisions in the neighborhood of Titusville.

Mr. Wright was appointed superintendent of roads and bridges in Orlando in 1919 and has served the city in this position for the past eight years. When he took this office the county had one tractor and three mule teams; now the department owns a fine building in the southern part of the city, has about 26 trucks and two 5-ton tractors, together with the graders that go with these; it also has two power excavators and four power-operated graders and eight mule teams. The pay roll amounts to from \$1,200.00 to \$1,500.00 a week, not including the convict labor employed; at present, there are about 125 employees in Mr. Wright's department, which is divided



into five districts, with a foreman at the head of each district. The department does not construct roads, but has charge of their maintenance only. Mr. Wright now has charge of 403 miles of sand roads, 122 miles of clay roads, and 120 miles of brick and asphalt roads.

Mr. Wright is a member of the Sigma Nu fraternity in Winchester, Indiana; he is also a member of the Orange County Chamber of Commerce, a Mason and a Knight of Pythias. He married Bessie B. Wright in 1900.

### *JOHN H. K. GREGORY*

JOHN H. K. GREGORY, a pioneer of Winter Garden, was born in Tennessee in 1857, and received his education in that state. He was engaged in railroading, making his headquarters in Cincinnati; he served as block signal inspector for a number of years.

Mr. Gregory came to Winter Garden in 1893, and purchased an orange grove; the trees were destroyed in the freeze of 1894-5, but were rebudded and brought back into bearing; he had about 30 acres of orange grove. He was in the contracting and building business at Winter Garden for some time.

Mr. Gregory married Fannie Fletcher, in Winter Garden; his children are Hugh, who died in the United States service; John B., now of Hollywood; Charles F., now of Bradenton; Frederick D., of Orlando; Earl, now of St. Augustine; and Arnold D., by a former marriage.

### *F. D. GREGORY*

FREDERICK D. GREGORY, a native of Florida, was born in Winter Garden, October 16, 1898, the son of John H. K. and Fannie Fletcher Gregory; his father, mentioned in the previous sketch, came to Winter Garden some 35 years ago, and engaged in the business of orange growing; his mother is a native of Florida.

Mr. Gregory received his education in the public schools of Winter Garden, and in Rollins College and Southern College.

Mr. Gregory acted as manager of his father's orange groves for five years, and then entered the insurance business; he is agent for several companies, including the Hartford, Aetna, Northwestern Fire & Marine, National Society, Union Indemnity and others.

Mr. Gregory is a member of the Rotary Club, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Masonic Order; he is a Shriner.



*EDWIN C. AND EDWIN H. McDOWELL*

EDWIN C. McDOWELL was born in Asheville, North Carolina, October 27, 1872, the son of Joseph A. McDowell. His father was of Scotch, and his mother of Irish ancestry. He was one of the pioneer settlers of Orlando, coming to that city in 1884. He received his education in the schools of Orlando, and became a painter, following this trade for a number of years. During the early days of the city, he took an active interest in civic affairs; he was a member of the volunteer fire department and of the state militia. In 1915 he was appointed deputy sheriff and served in this capacity under two sheriffs until his death January 19, 1927. He was also game warden for Orange County for one term.

Mr. McDowell was a member of the Elks Order. He married Lorena McQuaig in Orlando, in 1896; they had two children, Edwin H. and Louise.

EDWIN H. McDOWELL was born in Orlando, June 6, 1898. He attended the public schools of Orlando, the Southern School of Commerce in Orlando, and the Business School of John B. Stetson University in DeLand. He was for a time assistant to the county tax assessor, then connected with the Dickson-Ives Company. He then accepted a position with the Orange County Abstract Company, which later became the Fidelity Title and Loan Company, and was after that connected with the Central Florida Abstract Company. In August, 1922, he was appointed deputy city clerk, and in the fall of 1923 he was appointed city tax assessor, which position he has filled in an eminently satisfactory and creditable manner, and which he now holds.

During the World War Mr. McDowell was with the S. A. T. C. at John B. Stetson University, and also served with the Food Administration.

He is a member of the Chamber of Commerce and an Elk. He married Louise Maclean in Orlando, December 27, 1923; they have one son, Edwin H., Jr.

*DR. SYLVAN McELROY*

SYLVAN McELROY was born in Orlando, October 1, 1883, the son of James Newton and Queenie McElroy. He attended the public schools of Orlando, and graduated from the academy and the business department of John B. Stetson University in DeLand. He attended Rollins College for one year, then took the medical course at the University of Maryland, receiving his degree of Doctor of Medicine in 1907. He took a post-graduate course at the Presbyterian Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat Hospital and was an interne in St. Joseph's Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland.

Dr. McElroy returned to Orlando in 1908, and engaged in the practice of medicine. He has held the office of city physician for 14 years except



during the mayoralty of E. G. Duckworth, and has been remarkably efficient and successful in conducting the affairs of this office. He has secured the establishment of a municipal laboratory for the testing of milk and foods, and his department also maintains an inspector to exterminate mosquitoes. His efforts have resulted in a marked improvement in many conditions conducive to public health.

Dr. McElroy is a member of the Presbyterian church, Chamber of Commerce, Kiwanis Club, University Club, Delta Sigma Phi fraternity, and a charter member of the Orlando Country Club; he is a Mason and a Shriner. He married Edna Dozier, October 20, 1911; they have one son, Sylvan, Jr.

### *J. P. WILLIAMS*

JAMES P. WILLIAMS was born in Bridgeport, Connecticut, in 1886, the son of Isaac and Eunice Williams. After attending the public schools in his home town, he studied in the Sheffield Scientific School of Yale University, graduating in 1910 with the degree of Bachelor of Science. Coming to Orlando in 1910, he became connected with the Southern Fertilizer Company and the Southern Millwork Company, and is now secretary and treasurer of both these concerns. He is also a partner in the Payne & Williams Real Estate Company. He was for one year deputy clerk of the Circuit Court under Captain B. M. Robinson.

Mr. Williams is a director in the Chamber of Commerce, a national director representing the State of Florida in the National Retail Lumber Association, past president and secretary of the Florida Millwork Association, and a Mason, both Chapter and Commandery. He married Jewel Polk Womble in Orlando; their two children are James P., Jr., and Janet E.

### *WILBUR WARREN*

WILBUR WARREN was born in Clifffield county, Pennsylvania, in 1860, the son of Lewis A. and Elizabeth Warren. He was educated in the schools of his home county and of Burleson county, Texas. From Texas he moved to Goffs, Kansas, where he engaged in the hay and grain business, subsequently moving to Kansas City, Missouri, where he established the Kansas City Hay and Grain Company. He operated this business with much success for 29 years, selling out in 1918 to remove to Orlando.

Mr. Warren has been engaged in the business of citrus growing since his arrival in the county, and has developed some 600 or 700 acres of orange groves; he now owns about 100 acres personally. Most of this development has been in the Lake Conway section. He has also been active in other business lines, having been one of the organizers and a director of the Orange County Building and Loan Association, and a director in the First



National Bank. He has always been intensely interested in the problems of beautification of the city and county, and was a member of the Citizens Committee of 25 which submitted recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners for the building of the system of roads in Orange county. He presented the city with a ten acre tract on Lake Conway to be made into a public park, which will be named Warren Park. His interest and ability in the question of parks led to the creation of the park commissioner of Orange county, and Mr. Warren is the first incumbent of this office. It is his ideal to have one or more public parks in each district of the county.

Mr. Warren is an Elk, a member of the Chamber of Commerce and of the Orlando Realty Board. He married Rose May Dudley in Goffs, Kansas, in 1885.

### *J. J. HENNESSEY*

JOHN J. HENNESSEY was born in Beverly, Massachusetts, August 28, 1881, the son of John and Mary Hennessey. He was educated in the public schools and English high school of Boston. He has been engaged in the hotel business for many years, having acted as assistant manager of Briarcliff Lodge, New York; manager of the Maplewood hotel, Maplewood, New Hampshire; assistant manager of the Hotel Green, Pasadena, California, and the DeSoto hotel, Savannah, Georgia.

Mr. Hennessey came to Winter Park in 1920 as manager of the Virginia Inn. This was originally the Rogers House, one of the first buildings erected in Winter Park, and conspicuous in the early history of the town. It was later purchased by W. C. Temple and J. H. Wyeth, trustees of Rollins College, and given to the college as part of the Endowment Fund, on condition that President W. F. Blackman would raise \$10,000 for improvements. This was done and the name changed. R. P. Foley was brought to Winter Park from Charlevoix, Michigan, to act as manager of the hotel, and he later bought it from the college and operated it in connection with his other fine hotel, the Seminole, securing the services of Mr. Hennessey as manager. In 1926 Mr. Hennessey formed the Virginia Hotel Company, and purchased the hotel from Mr. Foley's company. The company is incorporated for \$300,000; Mr. Hennessey is president and James A. Cotter treasurer and half owner. The hotel is situated in four acres of beautiful grounds overlooking Lake Osceola; it has 100 rooms, and is open from December 1 to May 1 each season. It has become one of the most attractive and popular winter hotels in this region.

Mr. Hennessey is a member of the Catholic church in Winter Park, an Elk, Knight of Columbus, and a member of the Business Men's Club. He married Edith Coolegan, October 4, 1905.



*BRAXTON BEACHAM*

BRAXTON BEACHAM was born on a farm near Dublin, Georgia, September 12, 1864. His parents were Lewis and Martha Knight Beacham, the former a native of Georgia, and the latter of Rhode Island. He was educated in a private school in Dublin, where he pursued the usual studies, including Latin and Greek.

Mr. Beacham came to Maitland in 1883, and engaged in orange growing; the next year he moved to Orlando, where he lived until his death, September 24, 1924, at the age of 62 years. For a time he worked as clerk in a drygoods store, but his energy, thrift, and keen foresight soon led him to undertake large operations in real estate. At one time he owned about 150,000 acres of timber lands, and some 500 acres of orange groves in Orange and Seminole Counties; he also owned at one time a farm in Alachua County, on which he raised purebred swine.

In 1921 he erected the Beacham theatre, which perpetuates his name in the city which he loved, and was active in promoting the building of the Angebilt hotel, the largest hostelry in central Florida, eleven stories in height.

Mr. Beacham served as mayor of Orlando for one term, and food administrator for a year and a half without compensation during the World War, by appointment of President Woodrow Wilson. This unique, perplexing and perhaps distasteful duty, he discharged with an energy, a courage and wisdom which were admirable.

Mr. Beacham married Roberta Holland of Kentucky, who died August 16, 1926; their children are Norma K. (wife of Dr. Dudley Hughes of New York), Braxton, Jr., of Orlando and Roberta Augusta (Mrs. W. D. Rogers of Orlando.)

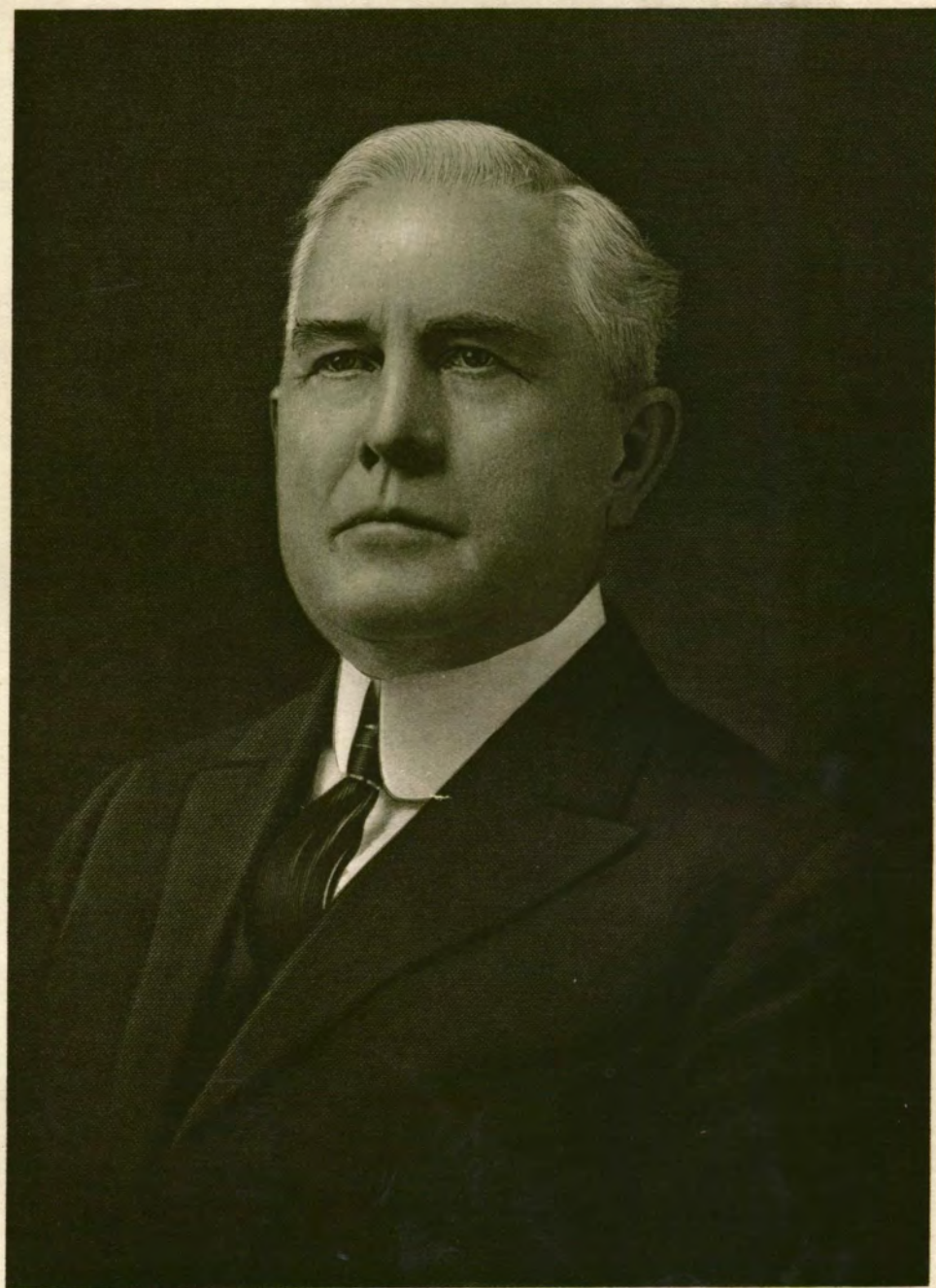
In 1914, Mr. Beacham erected the imposing and beautiful Colonial house on North Orange avenue, which with his family he occupied until his death.

*BRAXTON BEACHAM, JR.*

BRAXTON BEACHAM, JR., was born in Orlando, March 21, 1891. He attended the schools of Orlando, including the high school, and was graduated from the University of Virginia in 1915, with the degree of Bachelor of Laws. He then engaged in the practice of law, in Orlando; however his attention has been largely absorbed in the administration of his father's estate. At one time he managed all of the theatres in Orlando.

Mr. Beacham served in the United States Naval Reserves during the World War; he is a member of the Sigma Nu fraternity, a Mason, an Elk and a Knight of Pythias.





*R. Leachman*



Mr. Beacham married Roberta Branch, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Branch of Orlando, in 1917. Mrs. Beacham is one of the leading musicians of Orlando, an organist and accompanist of rare ability, whose services are constantly sought and highly appreciated.

*DR. F. H. HARMS*

FRANK HENRY HARMS was born in Chicago, Illinois, July 12, 1875, the son of Otto F. and Augusta Emgwer Harms. After completing the work of the public schools in Chicago, he attended the University of Chicago, receiving the degree of Bachelor of Philosophy, and then studied in the Rush Medical school, from which he graduated in 1910 with the degree of Doctor of Medicine. He served two years as interne in the Cook County Hospital, and practiced medicine successfully in Chicago until 1920. He taught in the Rush Medical school for a number of years, becoming an assistant professor. During 1916 and 1917 he was a special assistant to the American Ambassador in Berlin, and did medical and relief work among the British soldiers confined in German prison camps. For this work he was later presented with a silver flower centerpiece by the King of England. When the United States entered the war, he became a First Lieutenant in the Medical Corps, and was stationed at various camps in the United States. He also served as pathologist on the staff of the Cook County Hospital. While abroad he studied two years at the University of Paris and two years at the University of Berlin.

In 1921 Dr. Harms came to Orlando, and opened an office for the general practice of medicine, including surgery, in which undertaking he has been very successful.

He is a Mason, a member of the Delta Kappa Epsilon and Mu Sigma Nu fraternities, Florida Governing Committee of the Gorgas Memorial Institute, Chamber of Commerce, Civitan Club and of the National, State and County Medical Association. He married Edna Sands in Chicago; he has four children by a previous marriage, Hubert, Mary E., Robert and William.

*DR. C. D. HOFFMAN*

CARL DONNELLY HOFFMAN was born September 26, 1900, in Atlanta, Georgia; he is the son of Frank E. and Mary DeVitt Hoffman. He received his academic education in the schools of Atlanta, and graduated from Emory University, with the degree of Bachelor of Science, in 1922, and with the degree of Doctor of Medicine in 1924. He served as interne in the Grady Hospital of Atlanta during the years 1924 and 1925.



Dr. Hoffman came to Orlando in 1925, and engaged in the general practice of medicine, specializing in surgery; his offices are in the Autrey Arcade.

Dr. Hoffman is a member of the First Presbyterian church, of the University Club, of the Lions' Club, of the Chamber of Commerce, of the Dubs-dread Country Club, and of the Theta Kappa Psi fraternity—a fraternity of the Medical school of Emory University—and the Aesklepios, an Honorary Medical fraternity. He belongs to the American, Southern, State and County Medical Associations.

#### *ROLFE A. SAULS*

ROLFE ALEXANDER SAULS was born in Tallahassee, Florida, January 23, 1896, the son of William and Gertrude Henderson Sauls. His father was a pioneer settler in west Florida. He secured his education in the schools of Jacksonville, completing the high school course there and then attending business college. He then became connected with the Chamber of Commerce in Jacksonville for two years, and was with the Gas Company in that city for a year and a half. From 1919 to 1923 he traveled as a salesman in the state.

He removed to Orlando in January, 1923, and served as service manager with the Orlando Utilities Commission until February, 1926, when he was appointed city tax collector, which position he now holds.

From 1917 to 1919 he served with the 48th Regiment of Coast Artillery; he saw service overseas for one year as Sergeant Major with that organization.

Mr. Sauls is a Mason, Esteemed Lecturing Knight of the Elks, and a member of the Chamber of Commerce. He married Anita Banckman in Seabreeze, in March, 1925.

#### *DR. S. R. SCOTT*

SAMUEL R. SCOTT was born in Blakely, Georgia, on the 11th day of February, 1881, son of Steven and Louisa Scott. He was reared on his father's farm, and received his elementary education in the schools of his native state. The University of Nashville, now consolidated with the University of Tennessee, bestowed upon him the degree of Doctor of Medicine in 1911.

Dr. Scott practiced his profession for a short time in Baldwin, near Jacksonville, and afterward for ten years in Campbellton, Jackson county. He came to Ocoee, August 1, 1922, and entered on the general practice of medicine, including minor surgery. His practice covers a large part of West Orange county.



Dr. Scott is also interested in fruit culture and real estate. He owns an orange grove of 30 acres at Ocoee, is vice-president of the Ocoee Realty Company, and is the owner and developer of Marion Park, a subdivision in Ocoee, the property formerly owned for a long period of time by Captain B. M. Sims.

Dr. Scott was mayor of Campbellton when he resided there, and also chairman of the Board of School Trustees. He is a member of the American, Southern, State and County Medical Associations, of the Orange County Chamber of Commerce, and of the Ocoee Chamber of Commerce; he is also a Mason, and a Shriner.

Dr. Scott married Bessie M. Toney at Franklinton, Louisiana, Nov 1, 1911; they have one child, Mildred.

#### *B. A. COX*

BOYD ABEL COX was born in Washington county, Florida, October 10, 1888, the son of John W. and Elizabeth Cox. He received his education in the schools of Chipley and at the University of Florida. He acted as an abstractor of land titles for a number of years at Panama City and Blountstown, moving to Orlando November 14, 1920. For five years he served as abstractor of land titles with the Fidelity Title and Loan Company; in 1925 he resigned from this organization to enter the practice of law, which profession he has since followed. In 1919 he was elected mayor of Blountstown.

Mr. Cox is a member of the Masonic order, the Baptist church, the University of Florida Club and the Chamber of Commerce. He married Gertrude Gainer in Vernon, Florida, September 16, 1916; they have two children, Audrey Elizabeth and John William.

#### *E. A. HOVEY*

EDWARD ARTHUR HOVEY was born in Glens Falls, New York, the son of Charles A. and Caroline M. Irish Hovey. He was educated in the public schools of Glens Falls and at Cornell University, from which institution he received the degree of Bachelor of Chemistry in 1911.

For three years following his graduation from Cornell, he was associated with the vast chemical works of the Dupont Company in Wilmington, Delaware. In 1913 he moved to Orlando, and engaged in the real estate business under the firm names of Hovey & Hovey and Hovey & Parks. He is now interested in the erection of four residences in Orlando.

Mr. Hovey is a member of the Country Club, the American Chemical Society, the Cornell Club of New York, and is a Mason and Shriner. He married Edith, daughter of Daniel Craycroft, in Orlando, March 18, 1925.



*JOHN M. COOK*

JOHN M. COOK is a native of Orlando, having been born in this city October 9, 1874; he is the son of Lewis P. and Alice Cook. His father's family came to Orange county in 1856 and settled at Geneva; his grandfather established Cook's Ferry at Geneva. He attended school near DeLand, where the family had moved, and remained there until he was 16 years of age, when he became a resident of Orlando. For several years he was engaged with the Macy Wagon Company, and entered the automobile business in 1903. He established the Cook Automobile Company, and had the agency for the Cadillac and Buick automobiles for some 20 years.

Mr. Cook has owned considerable real estate in the city, including the site where the office of the Western Union Telegraph Company is now located. He has served as city commissioner since January, 1926. While on the city commission he has had practically entire control of the Motor Transport Division. He is also a member of the Finance Committee of the city commission.

Mr. Cook is a member of the Methodist church, a Mason, an Odd Fellow and an Elk. He married Elizabeth J. Nutt of Asheville, North Carolina; their children are Howard L., and Mildred E. (Mrs. Donald C. Flower).

Mr. Cook enjoys the distinction of being one of the oldest native-born citizens of Orlando.

*HARRY L. BEEMAN*

HARRY L. BEEMAN was born in Cleveland, Ohio, January 11, 1864. He was the son of Dr. E. E. and Mary Cobb Beeman, and a descendant of a prominent family of Connecticut. Dr. Beeman was born in Elyria, Ohio, and practiced medicine for many years in that state; he was also prominent in various business enterprises.

After securing an education in the schools of Cleveland, Mr. Beeman accepted a position with the mercantile firm of Strong & Cobb. Later, he organized the firm of Dr. Beeman & Son, afterward known as the Beeman Chemical Company, and which was afterwards sold to the American Chicle Company, which carried on the manufacture of chewing gum, which Dr. Beeman had originated.

Mr. Beeman came to Orlando in 1887, in search of health, and engaged in the growing of citrus fruits at what is now known as Beeman Park; he had a fine estate on Lake Sue. In the fall of 1893, he bought the San Juan hotel, which had been built by H. L. Kedney of Winter Park, and added two stories to it, afterward building the new addition at an expense of more than a half million dollars, an imposing structure eight stories in height, of steel and concrete; this is now one of the finest hotels in Florida. Mr.



Beeman leased this popular hostelry to S. Y. Way and I. N. Burman, Mr. Burman later buying out Mr. Way's interest.

Mr. Beeman has been president of the Orlando Bank & Trust Company for the past 11 years. When he became connected with this bank, the deposits amounted to about \$350,000; they are now about \$4,000,000, and have nearly doubled within the past two years.

Some years ago, Mr. Beeman with several associates, acquired the Southport Cattle Company, and engaged in the raising and marketing of beef cattle; he was also interested with others in the erection of Jefferson Court, an imposing apartment house in Orange avenue.

Mr. Beeman is a charter member of the Orlando Chamber of Commerce, a Mason, a Shriner, Elk, and Knight of Pythias; he has also served as a member of the City Council of Orlando.

Mr. Beeman married Marie St. Cyr of St. Louis in 1891; they had one son, Edwin, who served as manager of the San Juan hotel, but who is now deceased. Mrs. Beeman is also deceased. Mr. Beeman built a magnificent home on Gore avenue, where he still lives; Edwin's daughter Mary, and her mother live with Mr. Beeman.

### *EARL HUNTER*

EARL HUNTER was born in 1880, at Okolona, Mississippi; he is the son of Robert and Betty Hunter. The family came to Micanopy, Florida, when Earl was four years old; his father practiced dentistry there for many years, being the only dentist in the town.

Mr. Hunter received his education in the public schools of Micanopy, and then entered the fruit business, in which he has been engaged all his subsequent life. He came to Winter Garden in 1912. He began his business career by branding boxes in a packing house at Micanopy, afterwards making boxes for citrus fruits. He then became foreman of a packing house in Manatee county, and later went to Georgia, Maryland and Connecticut, still in the fruit business, dealing for the most part in peaches. He then returned to Florida, and for four years was foreman of the packing house of the Winter Garden Citrus Growers Association, serving later for a period of 11 years as manager and secretary, which offices he still holds. This association includes Winter Garden, Ocoee, Windermere, Oakland, Gotha and Clarcona, and has 180 members. It has a capacity of six carloads a day; its business has increased from 10,000 boxes for the first season of Mr. Hunter's connection with it, to 275,000 boxes at present. About 90 per cent of the fruit grown in this entire section is marketed through co-operative agencies.



Mr. Hunter is a member of the Rotary Club of Winter Garden, and of the Winter Garden and county Chambers of Commerce; he is also a Mason and Shriner. He married Willie Youngblood of Green Cove Springs; their children are Robert and Edna.

### *JOHN F. EMPIE*

JOHN F. EMPIE was born in Watertown, New York, in 1883, the son of Joseph L. and Frankie Freeman Empie. His father moved with his family to Orlando in 1885, and was a boat builder. Mr. Empie was educated in the public schools of Orlando and at Rollins College.

Sixteen years ago he established the John F. Empie & Co. retail grocery—the largest business of its kind in Orlando, and has built up a fine business along this line.

Mr. Empie is a member of the Rotary Club and Chamber of Commerce, and a charter member of the Elks. He married Marie Hale, of Little Rock, Arkansas, in Orlando in 1913; they have one son, John F., Jr., age 6 years.

### *P. C. SAMWEL*

PETER CORNELIUS SAMWEL was born in Holland, January 9, 1974. He emigrated to Canada in 1908. His education was secured in Holland, Germany and England, where he studied architecture under recognized masters in the profession.

After spending thirteen years in the city of Winnipeg, Canada, Mr. Samwel came to Florida in 1921, settled at Winter Park, and engaged in the profession of architecture.

His first project was an addition to the high school building, followed by the Hill school at Maitland, and the high school at St. Cloud. In rapid succession followed the Hamilton hotel, the American Legion club house at Orlando, the Business Men's Club, the Aloma club house, the Lincoln apartments and the Catholic church.

In between Mr. Samwel designed and supervised the construction of some twenty-five beautiful residences at Winter Park and Orlando. Among them the residence for Mr. Thomas H. Smith of Denver at Edgewater Heights, lately sold to Wm. N. Reynolds, president of the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company of Winston-Salem, N. C. Also the residence for Mr. W. B. Joiner, president of Union State Bank at Winter Park. He is at present engaged in building the Catholic church at Lake Wales.

Mr. Samwel is a member of Royal Architectural Institute of Canada and the Florida Association of Architects.



Mr. Samwel was married in Holland to Clara Laura Reimer; they have two daughters, Petronella, married to Mr. H. P. Talman, former physical instructor at Rollins College, now living at Asheville, N. C., and Maude.

### *COL. R. M. SHEARER*

ROBERT MITCHELL SHEARER was born in Crittenden, Grant county, Kentucky, May 19, 1871, the son of Patrick Henry and Frances Medora Taylor Shearer. The family genealogy may be traced in a definite and unbroken line to 1463. Col. Shearer's paternal ancestors were Irish Protestants, and also included Presidents John Adams and John Quincy Adams; his maternal ancestors were French Huguenots who fled from France during the French Huguenot War, and landed in the United States in the latter part of the seventeenth century, settling at New Rochelle, New York. His maternal great-grandfather was a Methodist circuit-rider and built the first Methodist Episcopal church in Kentucky, before Kentucky was admitted to the Union. His father fought in the Civil War on the Union side, enlisting when under sixteen years of age.

The family moved to Lexington in 1876, and to Covington in 1888. Col. Shearer was educated in the schools of Lexington, and followed various lines of business in Cincinnati for some time.

Col. Shearer went to the Philippine Islands in 1898, where he served in the volunteer and regular army.

He is a veteran of the Spanish-American War, the Philippine Insurrection and the World War, serving in the latter as Adjutant General of the Philippine Division and also as Chief Cable and Postal Censor for the Philippines.

During twenty years service in the Philippines, he served on detail or by appointment as Collector of Internal Revenue, Treasurer of the Provinces of Cavite and Pampanga, as special aide to the Governor-General, as Assistant Executive Secretary for the Philippines, as Secretary to the Governor-General, and as Director of the Bureau of Posts, this Bureau including in addition to the postal service all telegraph, telephone and cable lines and wireless stations.

Postal savings banks were inaugurated and operated by the Bureau of Posts in the Philippines some two years before their introduction by the United States Postal Department in this country.

Col. Shearer returned to the United States in 1919, and came to Orlando in October of that year; he purchased an orange grove on Lake Conway, near Pinecastle, in what is now known as Edgewood; this grove included thirty acres of land, and an attractive residence overlooking the lake.

Col. Shearer has taken a very active part in the affairs of the county. He has been a member of the Board of County Commissioners since July,



1926. He served as the first mayor of Edgewood after its incorporation. He is president of the Orange County Motor Club, director of the Orange County Chamber of Commerce, president of the Orange County Mortgage and Investment Company, president of the Civitan Club of Orlando, and past president of the Florida Association of Civitan Clubs; he is also a member of the Central Florida Council of the Boy Scouts of America. He is a member of the building committee which is erecting the new county court house in Orlando. He is also greatly interested in the program of road building in the county, \$2,500,000 of road bonds having been sold during his term as county commissioner.

Col. Shearer is a member of the First Methodist Episcopal Church, South, of Orlando, and chairman of its Board of Stewards. He is a Scottish and York Rite Mason and a Shriner.

Col. Shearer married Lucy Catherine Bridges in Bacolor, Pampanga Province, Philippine Islands, on August 19, 1902.

Mrs. Shearer has taken a very active and influential part in the social and club life of Orange County, and of the state. She has been president of Sorosis and chairman of several of its more important committees, and is now a vice-president of the Florida Federation of Women's Clubs, in charge of Section Seven, which includes Orange County.

#### *PROF. JOHN W. SIMMONS*

JOHN WESLEY SIMMONS was born on a farm near Paola, Orange County, Indiana, September 22, 1885. He received his early education in the public schools of Indiana and in a small college at Danville, and was given the degrees of Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Arts from the University of Indiana; he also took a postgraduate course at the University of Tennessee. He began teaching at the age of sixteen years and worked his way through college by teaching.

Prof. Simmons taught for two years at the East Florida Seminary, now the University of Florida, and came to Orlando in April, 1905, where he served as assistant superintendent of schools, later superintendent of schools, and still later, after an interval devoted to business, principal of the high school; he was a member of the school board of Orlando, for some time. He held these various positions for about a dozen years, and made a wonderful record, his fine, strong character, his skill as a teacher and disciplinarian, and his tact in dealing with pupils and parents being notable.

Prof. Simmons was something more than schoolman; he was greatly interested and active in the civic and business affairs of the city, and was recognized as among the most public-spirited, noble-minded and useful of its citizens. He owned considerable property, and was connected with the First National Bank as a director. Because of his sterling character and agree-





*J. W. Simmons*



able personality, he was honored and admired by a host of friends in Orlando and other cities; he was Past Master of Orlando Lodge No. 69, F. & A. M., also Past High Priest of Eureka Chapter No. 7, R. A. M., and Eminent Commander of Olivet Commandery No. 4, Knight Templars. He was a member of the First Methodist Episcopal church and of its board of stewards; he also served as superintendent of the men's department of the Sunday School.

Prof. Simmons married Rose Hume in Orlando, August 14, 1907; he died February 15, 1920.

Mrs. Simmons is a member of the Orlando Park Commission, and has been prominently identified with the work of the beautification of the city from the first efforts of the Civic League.

### *MRS. JOHN T. FULLER*

EDNA GILES FULLER was born in Hillsborough County, Florida, August 5, 1874, a descendant of two southern families. Her parents were Enoch H. Giles and Melville Wells Giles. She attended the public schools of Florida, and took her college work at Rollins, Wesleyan (Macon, Georgia), and Centenary (Cleveland, Tennessee); she received the degree of Bachelor of Arts from Centenary, graduating as valedictorian of her class. She is a member of the Phi Mu fraternity.

Mrs. Fuller came to Orlando in 1888, and was married to John T. Fuller, August 3, 1904; their children are Lois (Mrs. Sidney E. Ives III) and Dorothy. Mr. Fuller died in 1912.

Mrs. Fuller's interests have been broad and varied, and wherever she has placed her sympathy and talents, she has found leadership awaiting her. As a member of the First Methodist Episcopal Church, South, she has been president of the General Board of Women's Work, a member of the Board of Stewards, and chairman of the Finance Committee, the first woman to be given this responsible post. In the Sunday School she has served as associate superintendent and teacher of a large class of young men. She early gained recognition in the work of women for women. She has been active in the Rosalind and Sorosis Clubs, president of the County Federation of Women's Clubs, chairman of important committees in the Florida Federation of Women's Clubs, and president of the Florida Suffrage Association.

During the World War, Mrs. Fuller was assistant food administrator for Florida, under Herbert Hoover and the late Braxton Beacham, a position which took her into practically every county of the state as an organizer and speaker. She represented Florida on the commission under the leadership of former President Taft and under the auspices of the League to Enforce Peace, to confer on "The Cause and Cure of War."



Mrs. Fuller is a member of the city and county Chambers of Commerce, of the Orlando Realty Board, of the City Planning and Zoning Commission, and of the Interracial Committee of the Chamber of Commerce.

### *S. B. HULL*

SIMEON BENJAMIN HULL was born at Orlando on May 17, 1867, the son of William B. and Emily H. Hull. He attended the schools of Orlando and subsequently worked in a number of places as carpenter and brick mason. He finally returned to the old home place near Orlando, and for several years lived there.

In 1906 he moved to Oakland, purchasing the oldest orange grove in the state of Florida—known as Burdette Island. This grove contained some thirty acres and Mr. Hull has added thereto forty acres since, besides developing forty-five acres in grove in Lake County.

He has never held any public position except where the office sought the man. He served on the County School Board for four years and as trustee of the Oakland-Winter Garden school district and several other positions of trust.

He has been vice-president of the County Chamber of Commerce from its organization. He was recently appointed by the Board of County Commissioners to make the 1927 agricultural and industrial survey of Orange County for the State Department of Agriculture.

He married Marguerite M. Winkelman of Oakland, June 3, 1900. They have six children living; Horace S., Marian M., Herman J., William Benjamin, Hilda Jean and Cecil Oliver, the first child, Eva, having died in infancy.

Mr. Hull is a member of the First Baptist church of Orlando, and is active in all movements of good citizenship.

### *MRS. A. B. WHITMAN*

HELEN MAUD ISABEL NEFF WHITMAN was born in Clarion, Iowa, September 12, 1878. Her parents, James Henry Neff and Henriette Augusta Tucker Neff, moved to Iowa from New York State, and Mrs. Whitman traces her English, Scotch and Dutch ancestry far back in the history of colonial New York and New England, among whom were Col. Abram D. Fonda, for whom the town of Fonda, New York, was named, and also to one of the founders of the town of Waltham, Mass.

When Mrs. Whitman was nine years old, the family came to Florida and set up a new home in an orange grove four miles from Dade City, in Pasco County. At fourteen years of age she entered the Academy at



Rollins College. She was graduated from the piano department of the Music School of Rollins. After living with her parents in Tampa, Cuba and Jacksonville, she came to Orlando in October, 1902, and took charge of the music department of the Cathedral School, as well as having classes in piano among the townspeople.

Miss Neff was married to Dr. Alton B. Whitman of Orlando, January 16, 1908.

Mrs. Whitman has taken a leading part in the affairs of the city, particularly in the development of its parks and in its beautification. She was the only woman member of the first Park Board of three appointed by Mayor Sperry, and served as secretary-treasurer of this board. She did much of the planting and gardening herself, to save expenses; this is especially true of the beautiful grounds surrounding Lake Eola, redeemed from an unsightly waste; this park stands as a monument to Mrs. Whitman's indomitable spirit and good taste. Later, when the Park Board was incorporated in the city government and enlarged, Mrs. Whitman was made chairman; she is still a member of this Board and its representative on the Board of Public Recreation. She is president of the Garden Clubs of Orlando, a movement which she organized to further the beautification of the city, and a member both of the county and city beautification committees. She was the only woman on the Orlando Charter Board, and the first woman to act as an election teller in the city.

Mrs. Whitman has been no less prominent as a social, club and welfare leader. She was for eleven years president of Sorosis; she also served as an officer of the Rosalind Club, Regent of the Orlando Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution and vice-president of the state organization, a member of the Board of Directors of the Day Nursery, and first president of the Orange County Federation of Women's Clubs. She has also served the State Federation of Women's Clubs in many positions, notably as vice-president of Section Seven, and as chairman of the Department of Conservation and the Division of Forestry.

Mrs. Whitman called the organization meeting of the Orange County Chapter of the Red Cross, and served as director of woman's work in the Orange County Chapter of the Red Cross until the armistice.

Mrs. Whitman is an active member of St. Luke's Cathedral.

### *C. E. HOWARD*

CLARENCE EVERETT HOWARD was born in Reading, Pennsylvania, September 7, 1859; he is the son of the Rev. S. B. and Clara Howard. He is of English descent, two branches of the family coming to America about the same time, one settling in Baltimore and the other in Nova Scotia; it is from the latter branch that Mr. Howard is descended.



Mr. Howard received his education in the schools of his native state, and came to Orange County in September, 1884, settling on an orange grove five miles south of Orlando; he removed to Orlando in September, 1894, and opened a photographic studio, in which business he has been continuously engaged till the present time. In addition to this business, Mr. Howard was connected with journalism for some twenty years, as editor of the Orlando Star, the Orlando Reporter, the Orlando Sentinel, the Orlando Reporter-Star, and as editor and proprietor of the Orange County Citizen. As a facile and vivacious writer, and an acute and friendly observer of neighborhood life, Mr. Howard's endorsement and help was freely given to every good cause, and was always influential.

Mr. Howard served as alderman for twelve years, as chairman of the City Council for five years, as secretary of the Orlando Board of Trade for six years, as secretary and manager of the Orange County Fair Association for ten years, as chairman of the Orlando District School Trustees for fifteen years, and as District Attendance Officer of the public schools for three years. Eleven of the twelve schoolhouses in the Orlando District were built while Mr. Howard was chairman of the Trustees; these schoolhouses are notable for their beauty and adaptation to their uses. It has been difficult to keep pace with the growth of the school population of the city, which has increased in number during Mr. Howard's administration from two hundred to five thousand.

Mr. Howard has been chairman or secretary of a great number and variety of committees—chairman of the City Council which built the first brick streets in Orlando; chairman of the committee which procured the first electric lights; chairman of the committee which secured the people's contract from the water company; chairman of the committee which managed the first fair in the county after the freeze of 1894-95; secretary of the committee which built the first hard-surfaced roads in the county, secretary of the building committee which erected the new First Methodist church, and secretary of the Methodist Orphanage for fifteen years.

Mr. Howard has been a member of the First Methodist Episcopal church, south, for thirty-three years, a member of the church board for thirty-two years and superintendent of the Sunday school for twenty-six years.

Mr. Howard married Kate Hartley, youngest daughter of Judge John Hartley, in Bedford, Pennsylvania, March 24, 1883; their children are Florida Estelle and Mary Lillian.

### *J. G. MANUEL*

JAMES GARLAND MANUEL was born in Newfoundland in 1885, the son of Jacob and Phebe Manuel. For a number of years before coming to Orlando in January, 1910, he was engaged in the building and contracting business in Westfield, New Jersey. He continued his work in this direc-



tion after moving to Orlando, and was for a number of years prominent and successful in the building activities of the city, erecting such notable buildings as the Sorosis Club House, V. W. Estes residence, Carmock residence and others. He has also acquired considerable valuable real estate in the city, and built a handsome home for himself at 324 East Jackson Street.

Mr. Manuel was a member of the City Council from 1922 to 1925. While he was a member of this body, the fair grounds were purchased by the city, the municipal auditorium was promoted, and the traffic signal system and fire department greatly enlarged and improved. Mr. Manuel was also particularly interested in the development of the park system of the city during his tenure of office. In 1925 he was a candidate for the office of mayor.

He is an Odd Fellow, Moose and Knight of Pythias, and a member of the Chamber of Commerce. He married Lulu Chance in Orlando, Fla., June 8, 1915; they have one son, Franklin.

#### *W. M. GLENN*

WILLIAM MEHARRY GLENN was born in Hillsboro, Ohio, April 21, 1888, the son of Frank S. and Eva Meharry Glenn. The Glenn family settled in Staunton, Virginia, in the eighteenth century; his grandmother, Katherine Glenn, was one of the founders of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union.

Mr. Glenn was a student in the University of Illinois, 1906-08, and in DePauw University in 1908-11; he received the degree of Bachelor of Arts from the latter institution.

Mr. Glenn has long been engaged in journalism, as reporter, artist, editor, and owner. He served as reporter on the Morning Herald of Anderson, Indiana, and the Eastern Illinois Register, of Paxton, Illinois; as contributor to the Chicago Herald and N. E. A., 1912-13, and as department head and reporter and artist on the Indianapolis Star, 1914.

Mr. Glenn came to Orlando November 1, 1914, and purchased a half interest in the Orlando Morning Sentinel, with W. C. Essington. On July 15, 1926, he purchased Mr. Essington's interest, and became sole owner of the Orlando Morning Sentinel.

Mr. Glenn was president of the Florida Press Association, 1925; president of the Associated Press Club of Florida, 1925 and president for one month of the Orlando Chamber of Commerce, January, 1919. He was secretary of the Park Board during Mayor Duckworth's administration, and was Florida vice-president of the National Editorial Association, 1925. He is a director of the Orlando Bank and Trust Company and of the Morris Plan Company. He is Lieutenant-Colonel on the staff of the Hon. John W. Martin, governor of Florida.



Mr. Glenn is a member of the Delta Tau Delta fraternity, and a charter member and first national president of the Sigma Delta Chi, an honorary journalistic fraternity founded at DePauw University in 1909. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Mr. Glenn married Lois Sample of Bloomington, Illinois, a student at Rollins College, June 27, 1914; their children are Rosemary and Dorothy. Mr. and Mrs. Glenn toured Europe in 1921-24-26.

Under Mr. Glenn's management, the Sentinel has greatly increased in circulation and influence; it is unfailing in its support of every effort and organization for the upbuilding of the city and the betterment of its life.

### *HONORABLE L. M. AUTREY*

LATTA M. AUTREY was born in Fayetteville, North Carolina, July 7, 1880. He is the son of Alfred R., and Elizabeth J. Autrey. His father was engaged in the naval stores business and both father and mother were killed in a runaway accident when their son was a boy.

Mr. Autrey attended the Lafayette Military Academy in Fayetteville. He has always been engaged in the naval stores business, in various states, in Lucedale, Mississippi; in Jasper, Texas, Georgia and Florida. He was president of the Guarantee State Bank of Newton, Texas, and president of the Jasper Grain Company in Jasper, Texas. He was also president of the Paramount-Autrey Department Store and owned the City Drug Store, both of Newton. He is president of the Autrey and Johnson Company of Live Oak, Florida, and of the Autrey-Booker Company of Carrabelle.

Mr. Autrey came to Orlando in September of 1919, as vice-president and general manager of the Gillican-Chipley Company, of New Orleans, Louisiana, the largest producers of naval stores in the world, which had purchased a million and a quarter acres of land in South Florida for turpentine and lumbering; Mr. Autrey was active in this company until about a year ago.

Mr. Autrey is president of the Orange Investment Company of Orlando, which is engaged in the real estate business; he is also president of the Orlando Novelty Works, the oldest concern of this character in the city.

Mr. Autrey was elected in November, 1925, as mayor of Orlando, for a term of three years. The so-called "collapse of the boom" brought to Mayor Autrey and the City Commission many grave and difficult problems of administration; it is only fair to say that Mayor Autrey and his associates have met these problems with courage, ability and efficiency.

Mayor Autrey is a member of the First Presbyterian church, of the Rotary Club, of the Woodmen of the World, of the Knights of Pythias; he is also a Mason and a Shriner.





W. H. H. H.



Mayor Autrey married Selia Brannan of Mississippi, November 1, 1906; their children are Gladys (Mrs. Oscar Forrest McGill), Lottie Mae, Annie, Ollie, Bessie and Walter.

### *LESLIE P. WAITE*

LESLIE P. WAITE was born in Apopka, Florida, in 1892, the son of Edward B. and Abbie P. Waite. He was educated in the schools of Apopka and attended Rollins College for two years. Returning to Apopka, he entered the real estate and citrus culture business, but subsequently centered his efforts on the growing of ferns, disposing of his other activities. He now has six acres of ferns in bearing, and is setting out an additional three acres; he is thus the largest industrial fern grower in the region. He ships his product to all parts of the United States.

During the World War he was in the 30th Service Company of the Signal Corps, stationed in New York City. He has been twice a member of the City Commission of Apopka, and is a Knight of Pythias and a member of the Chamber of Commerce, Rotary Club and vice-president of Apopka Sportsmen's Club. He, with his associate, J. D. Jewell, erected the Waite-Jewell Building in Apopka, and has developed several subdivisions about Apopka, chief of these being Dream Lake Heights and Highland Park. He is the active head of the real estate firm of Waite and Jewell.

Mr. Waite married Nellie Mae Witherby in Apopka, April 27, 1917.

### *HOYLE POUNDS*

HOYLE POUNDS was born in Ocoee, Florida, December 6, 1893, the son of John R. and Mattie L. Pounds. After completing the work of the public schools in Ocoee, he attended the University of Florida from 1910 to 1913, pursuing a course in mechanical engineering, but left the institution before graduation.

Returning to Ocoee, he engaged in the garage business on a small scale in 1915. For five years the business grew and prospered, and in 1920 Mr. Pounds moved the business to Winter Garden, where he formed a partnership with J. D. McMillan and secured the authorized Ford agency. After one year Mr. Pounds bought the interest of Mr. McMillan in the firm; within little over a year an average of about a car a day was being sold. In 1924 the business had increased to such an extent that Mr. Pounds appealed to his brother, James D. Pounds, to come from Philadelphia and become a partner in the garage. This he did, and in the fall of 1926 they secured a \$12,000 lot in Winter Garden, on the corner of Plant and Orange Streets, erected a \$50,000 building, and they now own and operate the most modern and well-equipped plant of its kind in west Orange County.



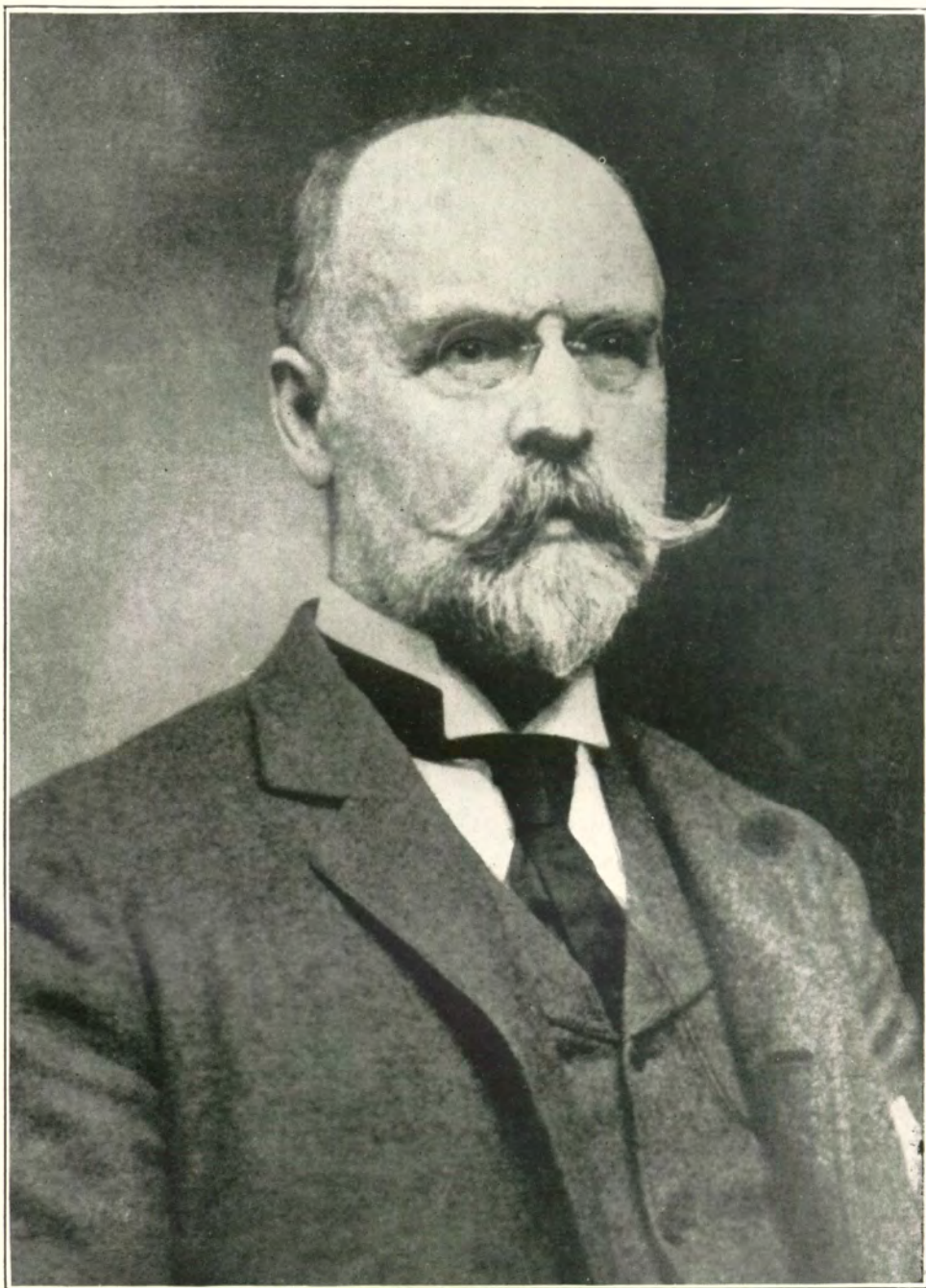
Mr. Pounds is also a specialist in tractors and their operation, and has sold many of them in the vicinity of Winter Garden. He has recently invented a rubber-tired tractor wheel which is being manufactured by the Pounds Motor Company, and which has met with a most favorable reception among the tractor users of the vicinity. Over one hundred and twenty-five sets have already been sold, and this equipment has proven itself an efficient and economical adjunct to the tractor in the sand soils of the ridges. Large scale production will soon be under way, and a widespread distribution arranged for.

Mr. Pounds is a member of the Christian church of Ocoee, Florida, and of the Winter Garden Chamber of Commerce. He married Lucy New in Ocoee, in 1914; their children are Donald, Herbert, Russell and Harriet Marie.

*R. D. MACDONALD*

ROBERT DHU MACDONALD was born in Glasgow, Scotland, where he was educated and trained in the American export trade. At the age of 16 years, he went to South America in search of adventure and fortune. In his twentieth year he served as salesman and general clerk in British Guiana for one of the largest Liverpool houses; in the interest of this concern, he visited the entire coast from the Orinoco River to Cayenne. He spent one of his vacations in making a personal expedition, along with the Indians, up the Berbice River to the plateau lands of the interior. Later, as manager or overseer on several large sugar plantations, he became familiar with the peculiarities and methods of managing of tropical laborers, such as negroes, East Indians, Chinese coolies, and Madison and Cape de Verde Portugese. Subsequently, he returned to Scotland, but soon went to Canada and engaged in railroading, acquiring practical knowledge of train work and the duties of station and general freight agent at the deep water terminus on the Gulf of St. Lawrence. Finding the outlook unpromising, he joined a large wholesale drygoods house in St. John, New Brunswick, one of whose partners he had known in Glasgow. He remained in this business for a number of years, traveling throughout the Provinces, and familiarizing himself with the lumbering and shipbuilding trades in which many of the largest customers of his firm were engaged. He later went to New York, where he organized and managed the accounting and the general office and correspondence department of the Ramapo Iron Works; during this connection, he was local correspondent of the Bradstreet Company, and was later appointed to a position in the statistical department, in the general executive office, of that company. He next became manager of a large iron foundry in Worcester, Massachusetts, which he successfully conducted until the death of its proprietor closed the business. He later removed to Boston and joined the firm of F. W. Dodge Company, and was delegated to open branches of





*R. S. Macdonald*



this business in New York, Philadelphia and Pittsburgh. His next engagement was with the Hess-Bright Ballbearing Company of Philadelphia, and he was an active factor in building up this extensive business which later proved so signal a success in the automobile world.

On the advice of his physicians, Mr. Macdonald retired from active life, and purchased land in Winter Park, where he built a fine colonial home on the border of Lake Maitland.

He employed his leisure in planting and caring for a grove of oranges, grapefruit and tangerines.

Mr. Macdonald was vitally interested in all the affairs of the town; he was elected mayor, and later became president of the Union State Bank and chairman of the Board of Directors.

Mr. Macdonald died February 10, 1927, at his home, "Greyacres," and was interred in Greenwood cemetery, Brooklyn. His fine property was purchased by a company of financiers, and is now being developed into a restricted residential park; the present owners have paid his memory a handsome and deserved tribute by naming it the "Robert Dhu Macdonald Park." Mr. Macdonald was a worthy representative of that noble type, a Scotch gentleman, of high principles, indomitable will, undaunted courage, and unfailing kindliness and courtesy toward all those with whom he came in contact.

#### *M. A. PEARCH*

MILTON A. PEARCH was born in Nebraska, and studied in the schools of his native state. After being engaged in the laundry business in Indiana for some years, he came to Winter Park in October of 1918. He was for some time connected with the packing house at Winter Garden, then was foreman for the Winter Park packing house for five years, and manager during the past year. This packing house was built in 1909; it has a capacity of six cars of oranges or ten cars of grapefruit per day, and has about one hundred employees on its pay roll. Mr. Pearch also owns a small citrus grove in Winter Park.

Mr. Pearch was married in Indiana. He is a member of the Woodmen of the World and Red Men.

#### *NORMA GETTIER*

NORMA GETTIER was born at Orlando, February 16, 1889, the daughter of Ida Elizabeth and John W. Gettier. She attended the schools of Orlando, and since then has travelled very extensively all over the United States and Europe, having made frequent trips to Paris during last few years to obtain the newest of ideas in designing of gowns, wraps and garments of all kinds for use in her dressmaking business.



Miss Gettier was connected with the firm of Dickson & Ives from 1914 to 1917, being their very capable manager of the ready-to-wear department, and in the latter year removed to Tampa where she opened and conducted a high class ready-to-wear department for Robert Glenn, under the firm name of "Glenn's Toggery." She returned to Orlando, however, in 1920, and established her own business, known as "Norma Gettier, Modiste," a designer of beautiful gowns, etc.

Miss Gettier is a member of the Christian Science Church.

#### *D. N. BATCHELOR*

DICK NEAL BATCHELOR was born in Louisville, Kentucky, August 6, 1843. He received his education in the schools of Louisville, Kentucky. After residing in various parts of the United States, he moved to Kansas City, Missouri, where he was engaged in the grocery business for nine years. In 1883 he came to Winter Park, where he entered the citrus-growing business, owning one grove in Winter Park and another at Sorrento, in what is now Lake county.

In 1886 he built a large and attractive home in Winter Park, and after retiring from citrus culture he operated this as a hotel under the name of The Batchelor House.

Mr. Batchelor was much interested in local and national politics, and was for some time postmaster in Winter Park, and for several terms a member of the City Council. He was the first man to plant oak trees along the streets of the city, thus starting the beautification program which has been of so great value to the city. He was a member of the Methodist church, and active in social and civic lines.

He married Mary De Haven in Ohio; they have one son, De Haven. Mr. Batchelor died in Winter Park, June 11, 1926.

#### *DE HAVEN BATCHELOR*

DE HAVEN BATCHELOR was born in Appleton City, Missouri, April 19, 1874, the son of Dick Neal and Mary De Haven Batchelor. He was educated in the schools of Kansas City, Missouri, and Winter Park, and was one of the group of students who matriculated at Rollins College on the first day of its history. He arrived in Winter Park with his father in 1883. After completing his education he entered the bicycle repair business in Winter Park. He later established an automobile garage in Orlando, and for many years was agent for the Cadillac cars. Eight years ago he sold this business, and was with the Gulf Refining Company and the Peninsula State Oil Company for a number of years.

Mr. Batchelor was connected with the city clerk's office for some seventeen years at various times. He married Louise Meriwether in Winter Park, Oct. 20, 1897; they have one son Richard, now living in Winter Park.



*C. D. HORNER*

CHARLES DANIEL HORNER was born in Tuftonboro, New Hampshire, March 8, 1871, the son of Daniel and Lizzie Horner. He received his education in the schools of his native town and took a course in automobile work in the Boston Y. M. C. A. School, and a course in mechanical engineering with the International Correspondence Schools. For several years he worked as a machinist in Boston, then became associated with the Howard Watch Company as foreman, and worked as a machinist with the Unit Shoe Machinery Company.

In October, 1926, he removed to Maitland, successfully passed the examination of the State Board of Plumbers, and established himself in the plumbing business, under the firm name of The Maitland Plumbing Company. He does an extensive business throughout the northern part of Orange and the southern part of Seminole counties.

Mr. Horner is a Mason and Odd Fellow. He was president of the Maitland Chamber of Commerce in 1927, and has been active in sponsoring a beautification campaign for that city. He married Grace Morrill in Waltham, Mass., in 1903; they have one son, Arthur.

*H. K. FLOWER*

H. K. FLOWER was born in St. Louis, Missouri, the son of Walter L. and Belle K. Knott Flower. He was educated in the public schools and the central high school of St. Louis; before his coming to Orlando he was a traveling salesman for the Certainteed Products Corporation.

Mr. Flower came to Orlando in 1920, and has been actively and successfully engaged in the real estate business. He is now president of Flower Brothers, whose principal interest has been in the development of "Forest Hills," a subdivision near Winter Park, which, lying around the shores of several lakes with high wooded banks, is of altogether exceptional attractiveness.

Mr. Flower is a member of the Presbyterian church and a Mason. He married Gladys, daughter of George B. Huston, in Orlando, November 28, 1922; they have one son, George Huston.

*A. P. FUDGE*

ANDERSON P. FUDGE was born in Americus, Georgia, September 22, 1859, the son of James D. and Sarah Brown Fudge; his father was a cotton grower and the son was raised on the farm. For a number of years he lived in Dooley county, Georgia, and came to Florida with his family in 1875. They settled at first between Maitland and Longwood, where the



father owned a twenty-acre orange grove. Mr. Fudge lived here for five or six years; at the age of twenty-one he took up a homestead near Plymouth, on which he still lives. There were only four or five other settlers in Plymouth at the time of his arrival there; he was a pioneer in this region. He cleared the land and planted orange trees, mostly with his own hands, and now has a fine grove of fifteen acres of forty-six-year-old trees; he markets his fruit independently of any packing house or marketing agency.

For about a score of years Mr. Fudge carried on the cattle business in addition to his fruit interests; he disposed of this sometime ago.

Mr. Fudge married Jennie Scarlett at Apopka; his wife was born in Brunswick, Georgia; they have one child, Elizabeth Scarlett (Mrs. E. F. Akers).

#### *T. A. LANGFORD*

THOMAS A. LANGFORD was born in Manor, Georgia, December 23, 1894, the son of Alexander and Mary E. Langford. His grandfather fought in a South Carolina regiment during the Civil War.

Mr. Langford studied in the schools of his native state, including a high school course. After completing his education he was associated for two years with the Bank of Quitman, Georgia.

Mr. Langford came to Orlando in February of 1913, and became associated with the State Bank of Orlando & Trust Company and continued this connection until 1925, latterly as cashier. In 1926 he became connected with the Church Street Bank, as executive vice-president.

Mr. Langford has been a director of the Orlando Chamber of Commerce for the past six years; he is Worshipful Master of the Orlando Lodge F. & A. M., No. 69.

Mr. Langford married Annie Self, of Winter Park, a native of Orange County; their children are Carl, Jean, and Edward.

#### *G. O. KUMMER*

GOTTHILF OSCAR KUMMER is a native Floridian, having been born in Lundy, Florida, March 24, 1889. His parents came to Florida in 1886, and were married in Palatka; his father has been for twenty-four years in the Cocoa-Cola bottling business in Palatka. Mr. Kummer received his early education in the schools of Palatka, then attended John B. Stetson University at DeLand for four years, where he played center and guard on the football team. He returned to Palatka for a time and worked with his father, then went to New York City for a short time. In 1912 he returned to Florida, moving to Winter Park. He reached this town with twelve dollars and a kit of carpenter's tools, and worked first as a carpenter during the erection of the Seminole hotel. In 1913 he established a business in



Winter Park under the firm name of G. O. Kummer & Co., dealer in all sorts of builder's supplies. He has been highly successful in developing this business, and now carries about \$60,000 of stock in his yard at all times. He is also one of the group which erected and own the fine Lincoln apartments building in Winter Park, and owns personally or is interested in many other residences and business properties in that city.

Mr. Kummer is a Mason. He married Amanda Theresa Larson in Atlanta, January 18, 1913; they have two children, Christine and Charles.

### *EDWARD F. KEEZEL*

EDWARD F. KEEZEL was born in Tennessee. While he was still young his family moved to Kansas, and Mr. Keezel received his education in the schools of that state. He early entered business with the Bank of Greeley, in Kansas. Later he organized the Culver State Bank in Octawa county, Kansas, and was connected with this institution for ten years. In 1912 he moved to Winter Park, where he organized the Union State Bank, of which he became president, continuing as such for seven years. In 1923 he sold his interest in this bank, and engaged in the real estate and insurance business in Winter Park. He is one of the largest property owners in that city, both of business and grove property. He has erected a number of buildings in Winter Park.

Mr. Keezel has served as mayor of Winter Park and a member of the city council for several years. He is a Mason, and a member of the Chamber of Commerce and Business Men's Club. He married Tillie Fabricius at Garnett, Kansas; they have four children, Florence, Herbert C., Joseph O., and James E.

### *PHIL C. PETERS*

PHIL C. PETERS was born in Belleville, Illinois, in 1883, the son of Chris and Caroline Peters. He started his schooling in Illinois, but moved to near Winter Garden with his parents in 1890, and continued his education in the schools of that town. His father bought ninety acres of land two miles south of Winter Garden, and developed it into a citrus grove. Mr. Peters bought his father's interest in the property in 1916, and is now the sole owner; he also owns an eighty-acre truck farm at Ocoee.

He was the representative for Orange County in the Florida Citrus Growers' Exchange, and vice-president of that organization in 1922. He is a member of the Rotary Club of Winter Garden, a Mason and Elk, and a director in the Bank of Winter Garden and in the Winter Garden Orange Growers' Association. He married Margaret Sims in Ocoee. They have two daughters, Frances and Caroline.



*CLARK POTTER*

CLARK POTTER was born in Norr, Oakland county, Michigan. He was educated in the schools of his native state, and was engaged in the candy and ice-cream business in Three Rivers, Michigan, for several years. He moved to Orlando in February, 1917; for many years he was associated with the Ambrosia Ice Cream Company. In 1922 he established the Potter Candy Company, making all kinds of candies under the name of Orlando Maid. His factory is located on West Church street, and he has also a retail store on East Central avenue. The business has expanded remarkably since its establishment, and Mr. Potter now does a flourishing business all over the state, as well as a mail order business to outside points. He now sells some \$120,000 worth of candy a year. The company is incorporated, and Mr. Potter is president of the company, which is now the largest candy factory in Orlando.

Mr. Potter is a Mason, Knight of Pythias and member of the Chamber of Commerce.

*H. M. REYNOLDS*

HOWARD M. REYNOLDS was born in Detroit, Michigan, June 17, 1885. His grandparents were pioneers in Detroit, and owned much property now within the limits of that city; his old home was located on the site of the first Ford factory there. He received his education in the schools in Detroit.

In 1909 Mr. Reynolds began the practice of architecture in Los Angeles, California, where he worked four years, subsequently spending a number of years in the practice of his profession in Seattle, Portland and other Pacific Coast cities. His work had chiefly to do with apartment houses and residences; he drew the plans for the "Westlake Apartments" in Los Angeles.

He came to Orlando in 1920, and has practiced architecture here since that time. With one exception, Mr. Reynolds has drawn the plans for every school building erected in Orange County during the past five years, as well as the Chamber of Commerce building, and other structures. He is the architect for the proposed First National Bank building in Orlando. He was appointed county architect by the Board of County Commissioners. With the exception of a little work in Sanford and Kissimmee, all of Mr. Reynolds' business has been done in Orange County and he is proud that he has made it possible for this county to have school buildings as fine as any in the state at a comparatively low cost.

He is a member of the Lions Club of Orlando and of the Elks.

He married Doris Crandall in Detroit. They have three children, Marie, Howard M. Jr., and Robert.



*JACOB BURKHARD*

JACOB BURKHARD was born in Bavaria, Germany, January 26, 1888. He was educated in the schools in his native land, and twenty-four years ago came to this country, settling first in Pittsburgh, where he engaged in the plumbing business. In 1905 he came to Orlando, and was in the employ of various plumbers there until 1912, when he established his own business in a room twenty feet square on West Pine Street. He later purchased this property. He then moved to South Main street, and now owns his shop there and also the adjacent property. He has built up one of the most complete and extensive plumbing businesses in the county. He has installed the plumbing and heating fixtures in the new telephone building, State Bank building and a number of the large new school buildings. He has recently built a truck which is a miniature plumbing shop on wheels, carrying about eighteen hundred parts and capable of performing almost any kind of plumbing job imaginable.

Mr. Burkhard is a member of the Chamber of Commerce, Rotary Club and the National Plumbers' Association; he is also a Mason and Shriner. He married Corrine Lockhart in Orlando; their children are Bertha, Corine, and Jacob, Jr.

*M. C. BRITT*

MORGAN C. BRITT was born at Stone Mountain, near Atlanta, Georgia, March 26, 1887. He was the son of Willis M., and Ammarinta Mason Britt, both natives of Georgia; of their seven children, one son is a resident of Sanford and three of Winter Garden.

Mr. Britt was educated in the schools of Georgia, in which state he was engaged in farming for sometime. He came to Winter Garden in 1909. At first, being without capital, he worked for wages; he began trucking on his own account with only two acres under cultivation, gradually increasing his holdings and trucking operations, until he has become one of the most extensive and successful truck farmers in the state. He operates some two hundred acres of rich land, tiled, supplied with flowing water from artesian wells, perfectly drained, and on this area he grows immense quantities of lettuce, cucumbers, tomatoes and other vegetable crops. With Mr. G. T. Smith, president of the Bank of Winter Garden, he owns about a hundred acres of orange groves; he also owns twenty acres of Avalon groves, and twenty-five acres of tangerine groves.

Mr. Britt is a member of the city commission of Winter Garden, and has been a director in the local Chamber of Commerce; he is a member of the Masonic Order, and of the Baptist church.

He has three children Thomas Mark, Eula and Harold Morgan.



*J. W. BRYAN*

JOHN WESLEY BRYAN was born at Dallognia, Georgia, May 24, 1886; he is the son of James C. and Malinda Elizabeth Bryan. His father was greatly interested in fraternal orders, belonging to a larger number of these than any other citizen of Georgia, save one. He was engaged in the building business in Atlanta for sometime, in association with his father.

Mr. Bryan came to Orlando in 1925, where he has developed a very large building business. He erected the Broadway Court, the Orange laundry in Winter Park, the grammar school of Winter Park, the Federal Motor Company building, the Okahumpka high school building at Ocoee and the high school building at Titusville, now in process of construction, and the residences of Dr. T. A. Neal, L. T. McCoy, J. S. Wynn and many others. He has built some two millions of dollars worth of buildings in and about Orlando within the past two years.

Mr. Bryan is a member of the Orlando Chamber of Commerce and the Orlando Credit Association.

He married Mamie Lackey of Atlanta; their children are Howell and June.

*S. W. ELDREDGE*

SAMUEL WILLIAM ELDREDGE was born in Malden, Massachusetts. He was educated in the schools of his native state. He first came to Orange County as a visitor about 1880, and in 1883 he removed permanently to Apopka, where he first engaged in the grain business, later becoming interested in the grocery business. He also dealt extensively in real estate and building, erecting the postoffice building in Apopka, the second brick building in the town. He operated, with a partner, one of the first packing houses established in Orlando. He died in August, 1919, in Apopka.

Mr. Eldredge was a member of the City Council and School Board of Apopka, served as postmaster during the presidential administration of Woodrow Wilson, and was for several terms a member of the Board of County Commissioners. He was a member of the Baptist church, a Mason and Knight of Pythias, and ever active and influential in the good works of his community. He married Mary Stewart in Apopka; they have three children, Alfred, Lillian and Mabel (Mrs. William Barnsley).

Mrs. Eldredge's father was Daniel B. Stewart, who was born near Savannah, Georgia, in 1838. When Mr. Stewart was a child, his family moved to Marion county, Florida, where his father served as a soldier in the fighting against the Seminole Indians. About 1852 Mr. Stewart removed to Apopka, where he continued to reside until his death in 1916. He was a



prominent farmer, citrus grower and cattleman, and was the first settler in Apopka and one of the earliest pioneers of Orange County.

Mr. Stewart married Missouri A. Goolsby in Apopka; their two children, S. W. Stewart and Mary (Mrs. S. W. Eldredge) are still residents of that community.

### *J. A. BROWN*

JAMES A. BROWN was born in Whiteville, North Carolina, February 12, 1895, the son of James Monroe and Anne Elizabeth Brown. His family is descended from President Monroe. He was educated in the schools of South Carolina and at the University of South Carolina. He first came to Florida in 1914, settling in Lake county, but later removing to Palatka, where he operated a general mercantile business until the United States entered the World War. During the war he served as a sergeant in the Quartermaster Corps at Plattsburg and Madison Barracks.

After leaving the service, he went to Louisiana, where he was associated with the Gulf Lumber Company of Fullerton; he was also interested in the automobile business there. In 1921 he returned to Florida, moving to Maitland, where he bought the general mercantile business of S. B. Hill. In 1925 he erected a fine new brick and stone building to house this business, at a cost of some \$50,000; this is the finest store building in this part of the county. He maintains a very complete and varied stock of general merchandise.

Mr. Brown is a member of the Methodist church, Chamber of Commerce, an Elk and Woodman. He served as mayor of Maitland in 1924-25, and was before that city clerk; in 1926 he was chairman of the City Council. He has acted as president of the Maitland Chamber of Commerce, and was a member of the first board of directors of the County Chamber of Commerce. He was vice-president and a director in the Bank of Maitland.

He married Madeline Elizabeth, daughter of J. W. Worley of Salem, West Virginia, September 22, 1925.

### *E. R. PHILLIPS*

EUGENE R. PHILLIPS was born in Providence, Rhode Island. He was educated in the schools of Providence, and was associated in business there with the Washburn Wire Company and American Electrical Works. In 1917 he first came to Winter Park as a winter visitor, but purchased considerable valuable property there, and became a permanent resident of the town. He built a beautiful home in Golfview Terrace and also erected the Phillips building on East Park avenue in 1924. This building contains ten stores and twenty-eight offices, and is the largest and perhaps the most handsome business block in Winter Park.



He is a member of the Winter Park Chamber of Commerce, the various local Country Clubs and the Mount Plymouth Country Club. He married Mary J. Lamb in Providence.

### *W. T. MURPHY*

WILBURN T. MURPHY was born in Martin, Tennessee, in 1877, the son of T. J. and Molly Murphy. He received his education in the schools of his native town, and entered business as a contractor in Tennessee. While there he built more state highways in Tennessee than any other contractor; he also did all the construction work except the laying of the track itself in the Illinois railroad cut-off between Fulton, Kentucky and Edgewood, Illinois. Mr. Murphy came to Orlando in October, 1925, and has continued his work as a contractor under the firm name of Murphy and Pryor. This firm was awarded the largest street paving contract ever let in the South up to the time it was awarded—the paving of sixty-nine miles of streets in Orlando, at a cost of about \$2,900,000. Nine bids were submitted for this work, and Murphy and Pryor were \$152,000 lower than their nearest competitor. The work is now about half completed.

Although the firm is engaged in numerous contracts in other localities, including a million dollar seawall at Gulfport, Mississippi, the head office has been permanently established in Orlando.

Mr. Murphy is a member of the Chamber of Commerce and an associate member of the Realty Board. He married Emma Knox, daughter of George S. Knox, in Tennessee; they have five children, Knox, Elizabeth (Mrs. W. C. Coleman of Atlanta), James, Lillian and Frank.

### *MAJOR PRESTON AYERS*

PRESTON AYERS was born in Colquitt County, Georgia, October 29, 1882, the son of John J. and Abbie Gill Ayers. The family came originally from Scotland; his great grandfather fought in the Revolution, and his grandfather was killed at Gettysburg. Major Ayers received his education in the schools of Polk County, Florida, where he moved with his mother in 1886; he attended the Summerlin Institute in Bartow, the Florida Agricultural College in Tampa, and Rollins College in Winter Park, being a member of the football team there. In 1903 he went to the Pacific Coast, where he entered the electrical trade. Returning to Orlando in 1905, he was for four or five years superintendent of the Orlando Water and Light Company in charge of all line construction. In 1910 he formed a partnership with Mr. J. J. Newell as the Ayres & Newell Electrical Company. From 1912 to 1924 he was manager of the Brooksville Electric Light and Power Company, and then was in charge of the installation of a number of power



plants in various cities of the state. After the close of the World War, Major Ayers returned to Orlando and established the Ayers Electric Company; among the more important jobs of construction which he has handled are the new court house, junior high school, Angebilt hotel, Fort Gatlin hotel, municipal building at Gainesville and school building at Melbourne.

Major Ayers has had a long and varied experience in military affairs, having fought in the Spanish-American War, Philippine Insurrection, Boxer uprising in China, and the Mexican border troubles in 1916; during the World War he was Captain of the 124th Infantry with the 34th division, serving overseas about a year. He has been several times Captain of the Florida Rifle team in the National matches at Camp Perry, and has won eight cups and twenty-seven medals for proficiency in rifle shooting.

Major Ayers is a Mason, Shriner, Elk, Knight of Pythias and Knight of Khorassan; a member of the Orlando Country Club, American Legion, and Chamber of Commerce. He was formerly president of the Electrical Contractors' Association of Florida and is vice-president of the local chapter of the Officers' Reserve Corps. He was from 1920 to 1923 a member of the city commission of Orlando; during his term the fair grounds were purchased by the city, and the municipal light and power plant was secured.

He married Edith A. Kelly, May 3, 1908; they have one daughter, Edith.

### *C. H. TILDEN*

CHARLES H. TILDEN was born in Grundy County, Illinois, December 21, 1860, the eldest son of Luther Fuller and Emily (Aurora) Willis Tilden.

He received his education in the schools of Illinois and studied for one year in Emory College, Georgia; he came with his family to Apopka in 1876, later making his home in Tildenville, where he owns ninety acres of bearing orange grove, all planted by himself, and on which he has built a beautiful home. He is one of the largest and most successful orange growers in western Orange County. Besides his grove property, he owns considerable real estate in other sections of west Orange County.

Mr. Tilden is a former president of the South Apopka Citrus Association and is a director of the Bank of Oakland. He is an elder in the Presbyterian church of Oakland. He is a Mason and Shriner, being Past Master, Past High Priest, Past Thrice Illustrious Master and Past Commander in the various branches of the Masonic order. He married Anna E. Sadler in 1883, a granddaughter of the distinguished pioneer of Orange County, who gave its name to Orlando, Judge J. G. Speer; their children are Mabel (Mrs. Dan McKinnon), and Judge Wilbur L. Tilden of Orlando.

Further mention of the Tilden family may be found in the Narrative section of this work, Part One.



*JOSEPH M. McCORMICK*

JOSEPH MORRISON McCORMICK was born in Spencer Station, Montgomery County, Kentucky, in 1878; he is the son of Benjamin Franklin and Margaret Perry McCormick. His father was in the lumber business in Kentucky and founded the Lexington Lumber Company, a very large business.

Mr. McCormick secured his education in the public schools of Kentucky, including the high school at Lexington, and State College at Lexington. After completing his education, he joined his father in the lumber business at Lexington.

Mr. McCormick became a resident of Florida in 1907, when he and his brother-in-law, Harry Hannah, established the Lake County Manufacturing Company which was continued until the opening of the war; when the war ended, Mr. McCormick bought an interest in the F. A. Peppercorn Building Material & Lumber Company. A year later he took over the lumber end of the business and changed the firm name to the McCormick-Hannah Lumber Company, which has branches at Eustis and Leesburg. The business was started with a capital of \$10,000.00 and has since been increased to \$200,000.00. Mr. McCormick is president of the company, and Mr. Hannah vice-president. The company deals in all kinds of lumber, millwork and building hardware.

Mr. McCormick is a former president of the Orlando Chamber of Commerce, a member of the Rotary Club, a Mason, a Past High Priest of Chapter 32nd degree Masonic Lodge of Lexington, Ky., and a Shriner. He is a past president of the Florida Millwork Association, and is greatly interested in the Boy Scout movement.

Mr. McCormick married Edna May Hannah of Missouri; their children are Sarah and Margaret.

*A. C. STARBIRD*

AUSTIN C. STARBIRD was born in Freeman, Maine, May 5, 1862, the son of Amos D. and Mary J. Gilkny Starbird. He comes from an old family in Maine. He attended the schools of his home town and Bridgeton academy in North Bridgeton, Maine, and became interested in the sawmill business in that state. In 1885 he removed to Orlando, and in 1886 to Apopka, being thus one of the earlier settlers of the county. He operated a small sawmill at Forest City with his father for about twelve years; he then bought his father's interest in the venture and in 1903 he established the Consumers' mill at Apopka. This was at first a stock company, but Mr. Starbird later bought out the other stockholders and became sole owner. He sold his interests in this mill in 1921. During his lumbering operations he has cut timber from some twenty-five thousand acres of land around Apopka, and has owned considerable tracts there and in the vicinity of



Wekiwa Springs. He now has extensive real estate holdings near Apopka, and a subdivision property in Jacksonville.

Mr. Starbird is a Mason, and a Knight of Pythias; a member of the Apopka Chamber of Commerce; a deacon of the Presbyterian church and for many years has been superintendent of their Sunday School; he has been vice-president and a director in the State Bank of Apopka since its organization. He served as a member of the city council and mayor of Apopka for six years, and was for six years a member of the Board of County Commissioners.

The first brick roads in Orange County—about sixty miles—were constructed while Mr. Starbird was a member of the Board.

He married Cora L. Love in Apopka; their children are Roy L., Harry V., and Lionel T.

#### *CLIFFORD FOLGER*

CLIFFORD FOLGER was born in Nantucket, Massachusetts, in 1856.

He came to Winter Park in 1923, and bought the Alabama Hotel, which had been built on the former W. C. Temple estate overlooking Lake Maitland. The hotel has about one hundred rooms, and its setting in nine acres of beautifully landscaped grounds above the lake shores renders it one of the most attractive resort hotels in the central part of the state. The hotel is open from December to May under the highly successful management of Mr. Folger's son, Fred H. Folger.

Mr. Folger is a Mason and a member of the Chamber of Commerce. He has two children, Fred H., manager of the Alabama Hotel and, during the summer season, of the Sea Cliff Inn at Nantucket, and Ethel Conrad.

#### *J. B. MAGRUDER*

JAMES BAILEY MAGRUDER was born in Thomasville, Georgia, November 11, 1860, the son of Major C. B. Magruder. He came to Florida at the age of ten years with his father, who owned some eight thousand acres of land along the Indian River; he had much to do with the founding of the towns of Cocoa and Rockledge. At the age of fifteen years, the boy operated the first trading boat on the Indian River, selling groceries and other merchandise to settlers and Seminoles.

Mr. Magruder located in Orange County, at Lake Howell, in 1878. He conducted a livery business in Sanford, and dealt in horses, mules and wagons.

Mr. Magruder came to Orlando in 1900, and conducted a livery business there for some fifteen years. But he had many other interests and activities. Among the buildings which he erected were the Arcade, the Empire Hotel, the Lucerne Theatre, and the Oak Lodge apartment house



on East Church street. He founded Jonestown, near the cemetery, and built some forty houses there for negro occupation. He manufactured Magruder's Liniment, which has a wide sale throughout the South.

Mr. Magruder was an extraordinarily energetic and busy man; at one time he operated simultaneously the Arcade, the Empire Hotel, three restaurants, the Lucerne Theater, a combined livery stable and garage, a chicken farm, hog farm and a dairy of seventy cows. He also conducted a fruit business in Birmingham, Alabama.

Mr. Magruder was a member of the First Presbyterian church and of the Woodmen of the World. He married Carrie Josephine Telford of Sanford; their children are Susie (Mrs. E. B. Bledsoe), Chesley G., Clarence C., and Richard S. He died Jan. 7, 1925, and is buried in Greenwood.

#### *C. C. MAGRUDER*

CLARENCE C. MAGRUDER was born at Fort Reed, Florida, February 12, 1900, the son of James B. and Josephine Telford Magruder. He received his early education in the schools of Orlando, and then completed the law course at John B. Stetson University, receiving the degree of Bachelor of Laws in 1922. Returning to Orlando, he began the practice of law in the office of Maguire and Voorhis, but in July, 1923, he opened a law office of his own, and has engaged in a general practice of all branches of the law except criminal cases. For a time he was associated with Parker Enwright, former Municipal Judge, as his law partner.

While at Stetson University, Mr. Magruder was a member of the Student Army Training Corps, and the Sigma Nu and Phi Alpha Delta fraternities; he is an Elk and Knight of Pythias, and a member and former president of the University Club in Orlando.

#### *F. W. FLETCHER*

FREDERICK W. FLETCHER was born in Townsend, Massachusetts, March 19, 1857, the son of F. W. and Elizabeth Fletcher. He is a descendant of one of the oldest families in New England; three brothers came across the Atlantic in the seventeenth century, two settling at Plymouth Colony and one at Jamestown. He received his education in the country school at Acton, Massachusetts. He then entered the printing and newspaper business, and followed this for twenty-five years; during 1884-5-6 he was superintendent of the Jacksonville Times-Union office. In 1886 he returned to the North, and worked for many years on various Northern newspapers.

In December, 1916, Mr. Fletcher came to Orlando, engaging in the florist business. He had become interested in floriculture through his connection during the last years before he returned to Florida with the "New



England Florist," a journal devoted to this subject. He built two greenhouses—one a fernery and the other a glass house—and sells most of the flowers so grown in his own store in the city.

Mr. Fletcher is a member of the Rotary Club, Chamber of Commerce, and the City Council of Orlando; he is also chairman of the City Planning and Zoning Commission. In this position he has been active and successful in bringing order, beauty and convenience to the city; he was largely instrumental in securing the purchase by the city of one hundred and sixty-three acres of land for a municipal cemetery six miles northwest of the city.

He married Elizabeth R. Dudley, a member of an old New England family, November 22, 1871; their children are Mary (Mrs. D. W. Morton), Cora (Mrs. C. W. Salisbury), Lester V., Florence A., and Lyman F. Fletcher.

### *L. W. TILDEN*

LUTHER WILLIS TILDEN was born in central Illinois, August 29, 1869, the son of Luther Fuller and Emily Aurora Willis Tilden. In 1874, when he was five years old, he came to Florida with his father, who took up a homestead in Apopka, and also purchased land near Winter Garden. Mr. Tilden's education was begun in a little frame shack built by his father; in the third year of the history of Rollins College he was enrolled in that institution as a preparatory student. At the age of seventeen he left school and began his life work as a citrus and vegetable grower on a tract of land given him by his father; during the years since that time he has added to his holdings until he now cultivates nine hundred acres partly in citrus groves and partly in truck crops. The development of the Winter Garden region into one of the foremost vegetable growing centers in the state has been largely brought about by the industry and intelligence and example of Mr. Tilden.

Mr. Tilden was for thirteen years county commissioner from his district, and served for many years on the school board. He was one of the original group of citrus growers who journeyed to California to investigate the methods of the Citrus Exchange there, and who returned to Florida and organized the Florida Citrus Exchange. He was president of the South Lake Apopka Citrus Growers' Association, represented that district in the Orange County sub-exchange, and was for a total of eleven years at two different times a director, and for a time first vice-president of the Florida Citrus Exchange. He was also a director in the Growers' Loan and Guarantee Association, a director of the Exchange Supply Company, and is a director and vice-president of the Growers' and Shippers' League. He is a member of the Board of Trustees of Rollins College, in whose welfare he has always been profoundly interested; six of his children have been students at this institution. He is a member of the Board of Governors of the Orange General Hospital, and is now president of this Board; he is a member of the



Co-operative Club of Winter Garden and a member of the Executive Committee of the Winter Garden Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Tilden married Jennie May Wise in Oakland, Florida, May 4, 1893; their nine children are Clarence G., Harold C., Gladys Tilden Robinson, Doris Tilden Davis, Grace Tilden Stark, Robert W., Frederick, Luther Willis, Jr., and Virginia.

Further reference to the Tilden family will be found in the Narrative portion of this work, Part One.

#### *DR. HAMILTON HOLT*

HAMILTON HOLT was born in Brooklyn, August 19, 1872, the son of Judge George Chandler and Mary Louise Bowen Holt. He is descended from old Connecticut and Massachusetts stock, among his forbears being John Eliot, the Apostle to the Indians, and Benjamin Franklin's sister.

Dr. Holt received his early education in the Woodstock, Conn., academy and the Columbia grammar school of New York City. He graduated at Yale University, with the degree of Bachelor of Arts, in 1894, and pursued graduate studies at Columbia University. For many years he served as managing editor, editor, owner and consulting editor of the Independent, a journal founded and owned by his grandfather, and which enjoyed a very wide circulation and exercised a potent influence throughout the country.

After he sold the Independent, Dr. Holt moved to Woodstock, where he resided for two years in his ancestral home, until he came to Winter Park in September of 1925, as president of Rollins College.

Dr. Holt was the founder of the League to Enforce Peace, and has been among the most active members and officers in promoting the League of Nations. He was the executive director of the Woodrow Wilson fund. He has lectured in nearly all of the leading universities and colleges of the country, the principal subject being International Relations, and the various efforts to promote peace and co-operation among the nations.

Dr. Holt's untiring efforts in this direction, and his personal character, have been recognized and rewarded by numerous foreign decorations, among them being the Order of Sacred Treasure (Japan); the Order of George I (Greece); the Order of Public Instruction and Legion of Honor (France); Order of the Crown of Italy; Knight Polonia Restituta (Poland); Knight of North Star (Sweden); and Order of St. Sava (Serbia).

Dr. Holt visited all the battlefronts of the World War in 1918 as the official guest of England, France, Italy, Belgium and the United States.

Dr. Holt has received the honorary degrees of Doctor of Literature and Doctor of Laws from a half dozen universities and colleges. He is a Congregationalist, a Mason and a member of the Psi Upsilon fraternity.

He ran for the United States Senate at a special election in Connecticut on the democratic ticket, in 1924.



Dr. Holt has unique and ambitious plans for the development of Rollins College, which are exciting nation-wide interest.

President Holt married Alexina Crawford Smith of Baltimore, February 8, 1889; their children are Beatrice, Leila, John Eliot and George Chandler.

*DR. C. E. COFFIN*

CHARLES E. COFFIN was born in Otsego, Michigan, January 5, 1865, the son of Matthew and Sarah Coffin. His forbears came to America from Plymouth, England, in 1642, and were the original purchasers of Nantucket Island, Massachusetts, from the Indians; Dr. Coffin is in the seventh generation in America of these pioneers.

Dr. Coffin received his medical degree from the Medical College of the Nebraska State University in 1889. He lived in Nebraska from 1881 to 1911; he was one of the earliest settlers of this state and had much to do with the constructive work, private and public, of its first days. He was Assistant Superintendent and Superintendent of the Nebraska State Hospital for the Insane at Lincoln from 1895 to 1901, and was president and physician in charge of the Nebraska Wesleyan Hospital from 1901 to 1911.

Dr. Coffin came to Winter Park in October, 1911, and purchased the Chubb grove in the northern part of the town, on Lake Maitland. He came to Florida with the intention of retiring from active professional work, but this the demands on him made it difficult for him to do; however, his practice has been practically limited to office work, and this he has nearly eliminated for the past two years. He has devoted much time to experiments in the agricultural and horticultural fields, and has fully demonstrated the splendid opportunities which Florida presents for profitable grove and agricultural work, for anyone willing to give time and attention to it; in these avocations he has found health and happiness.

Dr. Coffin has served as mayor several times in the cities in which he has lived, and since coming to Winter Park he has been active in building up its religious, social and financial interests; in his earlier days he was actively engaged in Sunday School work, and is now a member of the Methodist Episcopal church of Winter Park, as also of several fraternal organizations.

Dr. Coffin married Lottie Eastman in Ord, Nebraska, in 1887; their children are Mrs. Pansy Currier, Mrs. Hazel Lenfest and Mrs. Eleanor Sawyer, all resident in Florida; and there are five grandchildren.

Dr. Coffin's favorite hobbies have been hunting, fishing and travel. He gives enthusiastic testimony to the pleasures of rod and reel in many states, and in the waters of the Gulf and both oceans. He has sojourned in all but two or three states of the Union, and in the adjoining foreign countries; in 1924 he and Mrs. Coffin made a tour of the world, occupying ten months and most delightful and educational in character.



*JOHN F. SCHUMANN*

JOHN F. SCHUMANN was born in Steuben county, Indiana, the son of Jacob and Rachel Schumann; his forbears came to America from Holland. He received his early education in the public schools of Waterloo, Indiana.

Mr. Schumann was trained in the legal profession, and practiced law and engaged in newspaper work before coming to Orlando. He was a partner of Judge Roby of Indianapolis, and he owned newspapers in Elkhart and Frankfort, and for a time did special work on the Indianapolis Star and the Toledo Commercial.

Mr. Schumann came to Orlando in October, 1910. Aside from private investments, his time has been almost wholly devoted to newspaper work in Orlando and Lakeland. He edited the Orlando Morning Sentinel for a time, and is now, and has been for many years, a part owner and editor of the Orlando Reporter-Star, the Melbourne Times-Journal and the Vero Beach Press-Journal.

Mr. Schumann has never held any political positions except appointments on school boards and in the Coast Defense Congress appointed by President Cleveland when war was threatened with England over the Venezuela question. It was this appointment which occasioned his first visit to the coast of Florida.

Mr. Schumann is a member and elder of the First Presbyterian church, second vice-president of the Orlando Chamber of Commerce, a Knight of Pythias and an Odd Fellow.

Mr. Schumann married Blanche M. Jackman in Waterloo, Indiana, July 10, 1895; their children are John Justin and Helen Margaret Schumann.

Mr. Schumann loves to declare himself as "just belonging to the great mass of common people," but there is nothing common in the editorials with which he enriches the columns of the Reporter-Star; these are timely, clear, sagacious, of high moral tone, and couched in telling English.

*O. W. CONNOR*

OWEN W. CONNOR was born in Owensboro, Kentucky, and came to Florida in 1880, his family settling in Tangerine. He went into the citrus business as soon as he was old enough to work, and pursued it with distinguished success until his death. He founded the Oklawaha Nurseries in 1897, a part of this property being in Orange County and a part in Lake County; which is now perhaps the oldest and largest citrus nursery in central Florida. It has two slogans; "Quality Pedigreed Citrus Trees," and "No tree is a first-class tree unless budded from a bearing tree of a known quality and quantity of production."



Since Mr. Connor's death, Mr. S. M. Trimble has served as president and treasurer of the company, and Mr. Connor's son as secretary.

Mr. Connor is survived by his widow (now Mrs. S. M. Trimble) and two children Owen W. Jr., and Dorothy.

### *E. H. BREWER*

EDWARD HILL BREWER was born in Cortland, New York, September 5, 1851, and was the son of Henry and Mary Ann Lee Brewer. His father was born in 1809, and drove, probably with an ox-team, from Hartford, Connecticut, to Cortland, as a young man; he was engaged here in the business of a harness maker.

Mr. Brewer secured his education in the Cortland Academy and State Normal School. He succeeded his father in the harness business; he owned several patents connected with this industry. He engaged in the manufacture of carriage accessories in 1892, when he built the nucleus of the present factory. He later organized the Cortland Carriage Goods Company, and this still later became the Brewer-Tichener Company, a corporation, which included also the Cortland Forging Company and the Crandall-Stone Company of Binghamton. All of Mr. Brewer's children are stockholders in this corporation.

Mr. Brewer came to Winter Park in search of health, in the fall of 1895. For a time, the family occupied the Chapman bungalow (the first residence erected in Winter Park), and the Schultz home, now owned by Mr. J. K. List; Mr. Brewer then bought the estate on the east shore of Lake Osceola, formerly owned by Mr. A. W. Rollins and given by him to the college which bears his name. This place contained an extensive orange grove, which was destroyed by the "big freeze" of 1894-95; it was set out by Dr. Geer long prior to the founding of the town of Winter Park, the little settlement to the east of the lakes being known as Osceola.

During the World War, Mr. Brewer managed the placing of the first and second Liberty Loans in Cortland. For many years he was president of the Cortland Hospital, and made large contributions, both during his lifetime and in his will, to this institution; he was also a generous benefactor of the Y. W. C. A. and Children's Home. In Winter Park, he was a continuous and generous contributor to the funds of the Congregational church, Rollins College and the Town Library and numerous other institutions and causes. For many years he served as a trustee of the college, his interest in education, his business experience and sagacity, and his cordial relations with his colleagues on the Board, being of inestimable value to the institution.

Mr. Brewer suffered for many years as an invalid; he greatly impressed all who knew him by the courageous and cheerful spirit with which he bore up under this affliction, and carried on his great business and met his social



and philanthropic engagements; he died September 26, 1924. Shortly before his death, he undertook the rebuilding of his home into one of the most capacious and beautiful residences in Orange County; it is pathetic to recall that he did not live to enjoy, or even to see, this home which he had planned with such interest and hope.

Mr. Brewer married, October 16, 1878, Eda Aroa Ainslie; their children are Mabel (wife of Dr. R. P. Higgins of Cortland), Edward Ainslie, Robert Lee, Eda (Mrs. Fred F. Wooley of Sarasota), Donald A., and Lee Brewer.

It should be added that not the least of the benefactions to the people of Winter Park, made by Mr. and Mrs. Brewer, has been the throwing open to the public of their extensive and lovely place, "The Palms;" it serves the uses of a public park, and is visited annually by thousands of tourists and residents of Winter Park, Orlando and the surrounding country.

#### DR. W. F. BLACKMAN

WILLIAM FREMONT BLACKMAN was born in North Pitcher, N. Y., September 26, 1855; he is the son of John Smith and Orpah Freeman Blackman. On his father's side he is descended from the Rev. Adam Blakeman (as the name was then spelled), who was born in Staffordshire, England, in 1598, graduated from Christ Church College, Oxford University, was ordained as a clergyman in the Established church, came to America in 1639 or 1640 in search of religious freedom, and was for twenty-five years pastor of the Congregational church in Stratford, Conn., where his salary was sixty-three pounds a year; of him, the famous Thomas Hooker wrote: "For the sake of the sacred and solemn simplicity of the discourse of this worthy man, if I might have my choice, I would choose to live and die under Mr. Blakeman's ministry," and the still more famous Cotton Mather wrote of him in the same strain. On his mother's side, Dr. Blackman is descended from Edmund Freeman, a graduate of Harvard University and "proprietor" of the town of Sandwich on Cape Cod.

Dr. Blackman graduated from Oberlin College in 1877, and from the Yale Divinity School in 1880. He was pastor of Congregational churches in Steubenville, Ohio, Naugatuck, Conn., and Ithaca, N. Y., then for nine years he held a professorship in Yale University, and then for thirteen years was president of Rollins College at Winter Park. He received the degree of Ph.D., *magna cum laude*, from Cornell University in 1893, and the honorary degree of LL.D., from the University of Florida in 1910. He was a student in Berlin University, Germany, for a year, and attended lectures in the College de France in Paris.

Dr. Blackman was founder and first president of the Bank of Winter Park, 1911-18; president of the Florida Livestock Association, 1915-19; member of the Florida Livestock Sanitary Board, 1917-21, and owner, with





Lucy Worthington Blackman



Mrs. Blackman and their son Berkeley, of the Wekiwa Ranch on the St. Johns river, near Sanford, on which he lived for eight years.

Dr. Blackman was an editor of the *Yale Review* for a number of years, and is the author of "The Making of Hawaii, a Study in Social Evolution," 1899.

Dr. Blackman married Lucy Worthington of Steubenville, Ohio, July 1, 1884; their children are Berkeley, Worthington and Marjorie (Mrs. Glancy O. Wallace.)

Dr. and Mrs. Blackman have made their home in Orlando for the past four years; he is president of the city Library Board, and a member of the city beautification committee.

#### *MRS. W. F. BLACKMAN*

LUCY WORTHINGTON BLACKMAN was born in Steubenville, Ohio, July 1, 1860, of New England and Southern ancestry. Her father, Benjamin Dyer Worthington, was a native of Connecticut, and her mother, Eliza Jackman, originally spelled Jacqueman, was born in Kentucky. She studied in the high school and Female Seminary of Steubenville, but gained her education chiefly during three years of travel and study in Europe, where she lived in Berlin, London and Paris.

Miss Worthington was married to William Fremont Blackman, July 1, 1884, in Washington, D. C., where she spent much time with a brother's family.

Mrs. Blackman has been identified with the Florida Federation of Women's Clubs for some years, serving as chairman of its literary and education departments, as vice-president in charge of Section Seven, and as president of the State Federation from 1923-26. During her presidency, she served as director from Florida to the General Federation of Women's Clubs, in which organization she is now chairman of the Department of Education.

Of Mrs. Blackman's intellectual and administrative ability, her comeliness of person, her graciousness of manner, the good cheer which her presence radiates, and her faithfulness in duty, it is for others who know her to speak or write, rather than the author of this book.

#### *W. L. STORY*

WILLIAM LASENBY STORY was born in Warren County, Georgia, September 3, 1860; he is the son of William Rhodes and Rowena Lasenby Story. He is of English stock on the paternal side, and of French descent on the maternal side; his great grandfather, Samuel Story, emigrated from England to South Carolina, and fought in the War of the Revolution. Mr.



Story was left an orphan at two years of age, and was reared by his brother, David. After spending two years in Texas, Mr. Story came to Winter Garden in December of 1886. After working for wages and as a share-cropper for two or three years he purchased thirty-five acres of land, to which he afterward added other acreage, and planted this to vegetables and later to citrus trees. He now owns a hundred and forty acres of groves, principally oranges, but with some grapefruit and tangerines. Some of these trees are forty years old.

Mr. Story has been not only a successful farmer, but has also taken an active interest in the affairs of his neighborhood and of the county. He was at one time a member of the County School Board, and has also served as Trustee for the local schools of Winter Garden and Tildenville. He is a member of the Winter Garden Chamber of Commerce, and of the Winter Garden Baptist church.

Mr. Story married in October, 1894, Mattie C. Martin, a descendant of Lord Martin, a colonial governor; their children are Kate Agnes (Mrs. William B. Burch), Lena Martin, William Lasenby, Jr., and Edward Rhodes; both daughters are graduates of the Florida State College for Women.

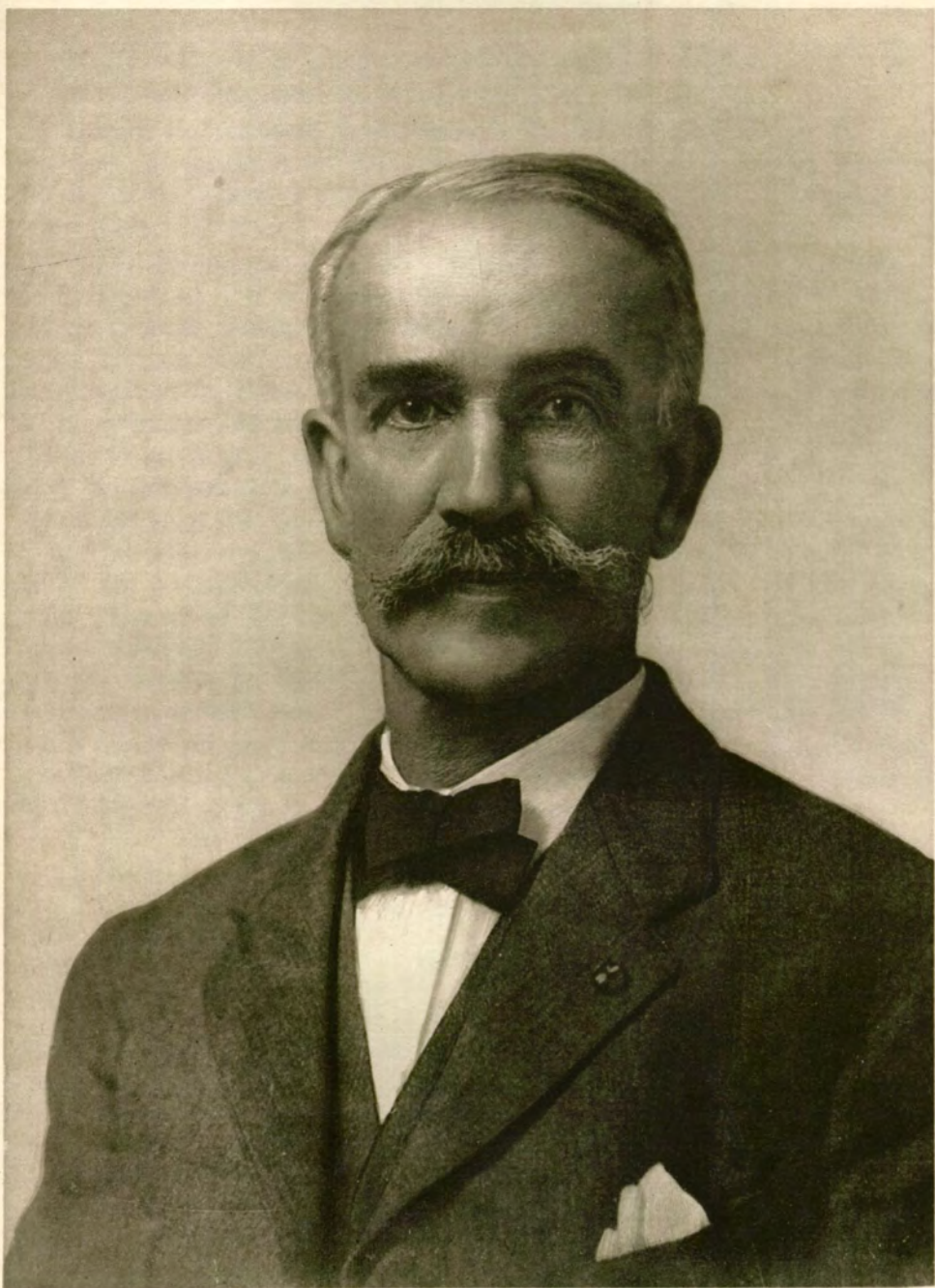
#### *F. H. RAND*

FREDERICK HENRY RAND was born in Boston, July 19, 1846, the son of Edward Sprague and Elizabeth Arnold Rand.

Mr. Rand prepared for college in the schools of his native city, and entered Norwich University in 1861; in 1863 he withdrew from the University to enlist in the Civil War. He was commissioned First Lieutenant, First Independent Battalion of the First Regiment of Massachusetts Cavalry, July 2, 1863, and was promoted Captain Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry, January 19, 1864. He was confined in Chesapeake Hospital, Virginia, for some time, and was discharged from the service on account of illness in August of the same year. He entered the service again as Second Lieutenant of the First Battalion Cavalry, Frontier Service, December 27, 1864, and was promoted Captain three days later; he was discharged August 30, 1865. Mr. Rand is a member of the Massachusetts Commandery of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion.

In October of the following year, Mr. Rand went to California and engaged in mining, as assistant superintendent of the Nieswander Mining Company, until April of 1869. In October, 1869, he founded the firm of Carter, Rand & Co., in Boston, wholesale dealers in men's furnishing goods, and continued with this firm until 1873, in which year he became a partner in the firm of James B. Summer & Co., lumber manufacturers of Middlebury, Vermont.





*Frederic H. Rand*



Mr. Rand came to Longwood, near Sanford, in August, 1876, where he resided until he moved to Orlando in 1916.

During his residence in Longwood, he became identified with many important enterprises in and about Sanford, then included in Orange County, and during the whole of this period he was engaged also in the growing of citrus fruits.

He became connected in 1879, with the newly-incorporated South Florida Railroad, serving as secretary and assistant treasurer in 1880 and 1881, and as general passenger and freight agent and secretary from 1881 to 1886. He was also active in the development of the Tampa Bay Steamship Company, and the Sanford and Indian River Railroad. From 1886 to 1906 he was manager and attorney in fact of the Florida Land and Colonization Company, an English corporation. For nine years, beginning in August, 1886, he was president of the Sanford Waterworks Company. Mr. Rand was president of the First National Bank of Sanford from its incorporation in 1887 to 1916, resigning this position after his removal to Orlando. He served also for some years as president of the Sanford Light and Fuel Company, secretary of the Sanford Telegraph Company, and secretary and director of the South Florida Telegraph Company.

Mr. Rand is an active member of the Episcopal church, having served as treasurer of the District of Southern Florida for thirty-two years, and also serving as a member of the Chapter of St. Luke's Cathedral, Orlando. Mr. Rand was for a number of years a member of the Board of Trustees of the University of the South at Sewanee, Tennessee.

#### *DR. C. R. SWITZER*

CHARLES R. SWITZER was born in Canada, March 13, 1849.

After practising medicine in Chicago and Evanston with marked success for a number of years, Dr. Switzer came to Winter Park in 1880, in search of health. He built his home, Bonnie Burn, in 1883, and three years later, his health being improved, he returned to Chicago for the practice of his profession, spending the winter season for the most part, however, in his Winter Park home.

Dr. Switzer is one of the very few of the fine company of first settlers who still live in Winter Park and who have witnessed and actively participated in the development of the town from its founding until the present time. Dr. Switzer married Harriet Florence Street in 1883. Mrs. Switzer was the daughter of the Rev. Dr. Street, known as Canon Street, of Chicago, who led in the organization of All Saints' Church in Winter Park. She was an accomplished musician and a woman of great ability and charm, and she gave herself without reserve with her husband to the social, edu-



cational, religious and civic interests of the place. She died in 1919, and her memory is tenderly cherished by all who knew her.

Dr. Switzer led in the organization of the company that secured the building of the first clay road in Orange County, between Orlando and Winter Park, and acted as its treasurer. He was formerly president of the Orange County Citrus Exchange, of which he was one of the organizers and a director. He has served as a trustee of Rollins College for a number of years.

Several references to Dr. Switzer will be found in the Narrative section of this work, Part One.

#### *E. O. ROPER*

EMMETT OSCAR ROPER was born in Winter Garden, September 23, 1881, a son of Sidney Emmett and Elizabeth Roper. He received his education in the schools of Winter Garden, and has been engaged in orange growing and truck farming all his life. He owns eighty acres of orange grove and fifty acres of truck farm, which he has operated with marked success.

Mr. Roper served on the town council of Winter Garden from 1922 to 1926. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and of the Masonic order.

Mr. Roper married Grace Bernice Davis, August 15, 1909; their children are Oscar Rowlett, James Emmett, William Stanley, Fred and Harry Davis.

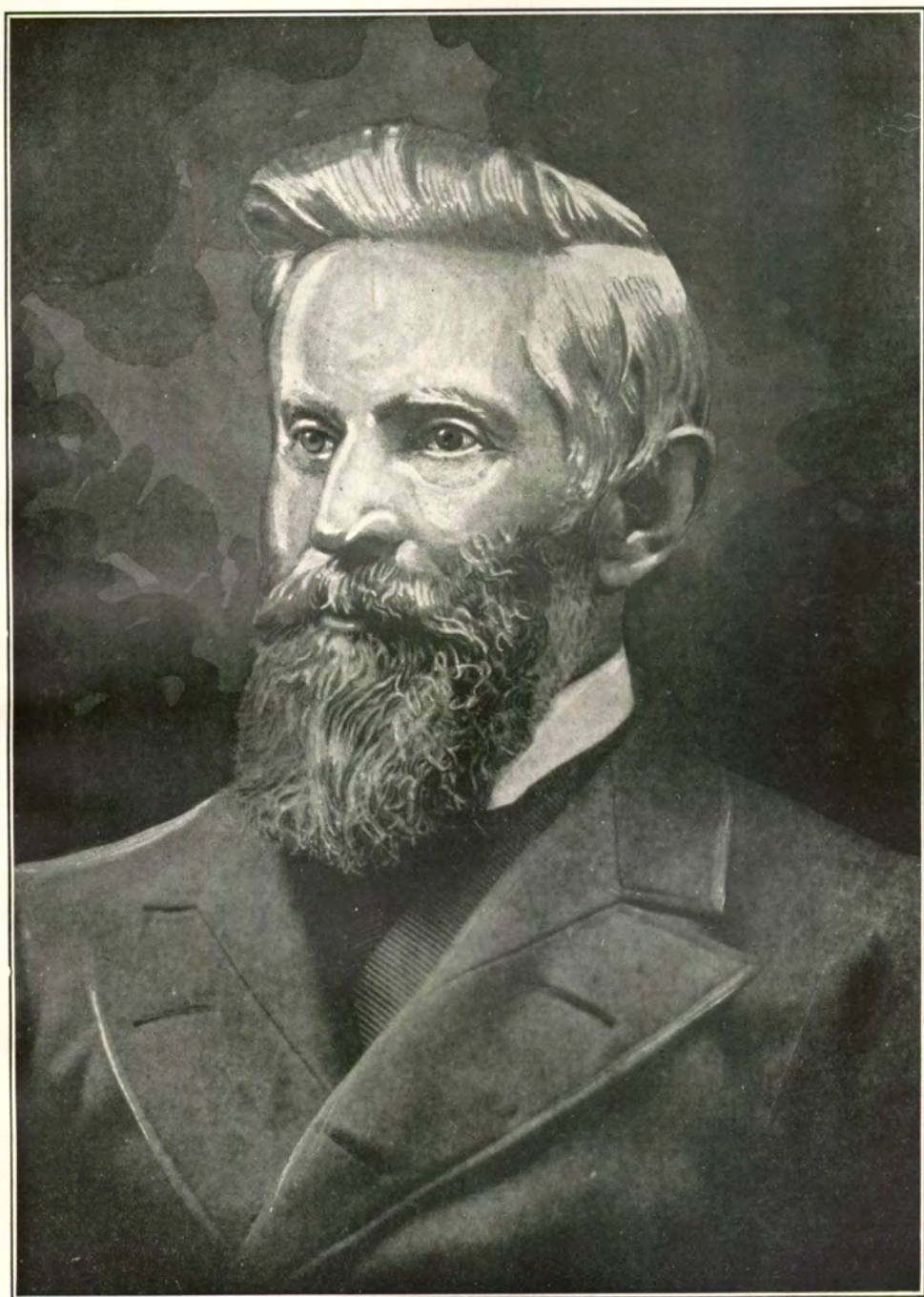
#### *H. B. SWEETAPPLE*

HENRY BOOKER SWEETAPPLE was born in England, August 27, 1822. He was educated in England, and came to Canada with his family when a boy. He went to California and Nevada in 1849, and had a quartz mill in Dayton, Nevada, and later engaged in silver mining in Columbus and Ward, in partnership with Benjamin Hazeltine, who later came to Jacksonville and operated sailing vessels out of that port. At Mr. Hazeltine's invitation, Mr. Sweetapple came to Florida and accompanied him in his yacht to Sanford and thence came on a visit to Orlando. In 1883 he purchased a grove on Lake Concord, which his daughter still owns, and another near Lake Conway; he also made other investments in Orlando.

When the Orange Belt Railway was projected, Mr. Sweetapple purchased a considerable amount of stock, and became the treasurer of the road. This turned out to be an unfortunate venture.

Mr. Sweetapple was a member of the Protestant Episcopal church. He married Mary Evelyn Kent in Canada, who died in Orlando, August 24,





*H. S. M. Tupper*



1926. Their children are, Jane Heath (Mrs. J. H. S. Hammond of Orlando), and several sons, all deceased.

Mr. Sweetapple died August 26, 1887; after his death, Bishop A. W. Whittaker, of Pennsylvania, an old and intimate friend, wrote a letter to Mrs. Hammond, giving testimony to her father's fine character; he had known Mr. Sweetapple, he said, for a score of years, loved him as a brother, honored him above all men, and would have trusted him with his dearest possession. Mr. Sweetapple was of Quaker descent, and inherited from his forbears their devoutness of character, simplicity of spirit, and punctilious honesty.

### *LEROY B. GILES*

LEROY BARTLETT GILES was born in Orlando, March 13, 1886, the son of James Leroy Giles, a distinguished citizen and former mayor of Orlando, and Nannie Bartlett Giles. He received his education in the schools of Orlando, at Rollins College, and at the old East Florida Seminary; he received the Degree of Bachelor of Arts from the University of Florida in 1904, and of Bachelor of Laws from the University of Virginia in 1908.

Returning to Orlando after his graduation, he entered upon the general practice of law in 1908, in which he has achieved a notable success. He has served as city attorney of Orlando, Apopka, Winter Garden, Clermont, Oakland and Taft. He has been general counsel for the Standard Growers' Exchange, and attorney for the Orange County School Board, as well as for numerous banks and other corporations. He has also served as vice-president of the First National Bank, director and counsel of the Orange County Building and Loan Association, vice-president and counsel of the Central Florida Abstract and Title Guarantee Company, director and counsel of the First Bond and Mortgage Company. Mr. Giles has been also active in many civic and social organizations and movements, as president of the Kiwanis Club, member of all Masonic bodies, a Knight of Pythias and a member of the Chamber of Commerce; he is a member of the First Methodist Episcopal church.

Mr. Giles married Nell Broward, daughter of Montcalm Broward, in 1915.

### *W. H. REYNOLDS*

WILLIAM HAYDEN REYNOLDS, a pioneer and for many years an influential leader in the business and civic affairs of Orlando, was born in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, where he spent his childhood and youth. At the age of sixteen years, he enlisted in the Union Army and served for four and one-half years in the Civil War. He then engaged in the railroad business, and was a train conductor for about a dozen years.



Mr. Reynolds came to Orlando, December 9, 1881, "finding here only a small village, the streets of which were little more than deer and rabbit runs." He built a sawmill, and furnished most of the lumber used in the first business buildings and residences of the settlement. He returned to Thomasville, Georgia, in 1889, and operated a planing mill there for some years. He returned to Orlando in 1898, and for ten years thereafter he was engaged in the marketing of citrus fruit in Arcadia and New York. In 1908, he purchased the Orlando Telegraph Company, and served as its president until January, 1912, when he sold out to Hale Dean and associates; the company was purchased by the Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company, April 1, 1916.

Mr. Reynolds was one of the organizers of the Merchants Bank in Orlando, and served as its president for a number of years; he is now a stockholder in the Orlando Bank and Trust Company. He aided in the organization of the Orlando Fair Association.

Mr. Reynolds served two years on the City Council and was elected mayor in 1910, and re-elected the following year, his administration being marked by energy and efficiency. During his second term, the commission form of government was adopted.

Mr. Reynolds is a charter member of the Masonic Order, Blue Lodge, Chapter and Commandery, and is Past Commander of the local post of the Grand Army of the Republic; he is chairman of the County Board of Bond Trustees.

Mr. Reynolds married Kitorah Giles of Ohio, and after her death, Virginia T. Denio; his children are Kitorah (Mrs. W. A. Holsehouser of St. Petersburg) by his first wife, and by his second wife, Raymond R., plant chief of the Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company, Orlando, for the last eighteen years, and Edna May (Mrs. J. W. Pruett of Daytona); there is one grandchild.

#### *DR. W. A. GUILD*

WILLIAM AUGUSTUS GUILD was born in Dana, Massachusetts, August 31, 1827, the eldest child of Benjamin and Mary (Bosworth) Guild; his father, Benjamin Guild, belonged to the sixth generation from John Guild, who came to this country from Aberdeen, Scotland, settling in Massachusetts; his mother, Mary, was of the Bosworth family of England.

Dr. Guild received his education in the schools of Lowell, Mass., where his parents had moved soon after his birth. He attended the Harvard Medical School, 1849-52, intending to be a physician, but on the completion of the course became a pharmacist in Boston, located for thirty years under the United States Hotel, in the well known firm of Littlefield and Guild. For many years he was an active member of the Massachusetts Pharmaceutical Association.





*Wm. A. Guild.*



For several winters Dr. Guild came to Palatka and St. Augustine for his health, and in the spring of 1883 to Altamonte Springs at the suggestion of his friend, Mr. George Frost, intending to buy there, but meeting Messrs. Chapman and Chase he was persuaded to look over their new town site, and decided to locate in Winter Park. He bought twenty acres on the north shore of Lake Osceola, clearing the land immediately and setting out an orange grove. In the fall of that year, Dr. Guild brought his family from Boston to make a permanent home.

Much of the lumber for the house was hewn from timber grown on the land; the finish was brought by horse from Moyer's mill at Forest City, beyond Altamonte. All hardware, paint, etc., was brought from Boston as well as carpenters. This material was lost when the steamer "City of Columbus" foundered off Gay Head, and had to be replaced.

This was the first of many losses. In 1886 came a frost that killed over six hundred of the young orange trees and a drought followed that was as disastrous. Another memorable year was when the yellow fever came to the state and everything was quarantined. Fortunately, the land was so productive that supplies for the table were not lacking, sugar being the only article that had to be doled out. The final disaster came with the "big freeze" in 1894-95, yet notwithstanding all these set-backs the lure of the land was just as great.

It was after Dr. Guild bought that the railroad came; up to that time all supplies came by boat to Mellonville, and thence by team. The railroad was narrow-gauge, running from Sanford to Orlando; it was later widened to broad-gauge and extended to Tampa.

Dr. Guild took an active interest in town matters, serving as councilman and for a number of years as town clerk. He was instrumental in obtaining many improvements; he promoted and urged with others the setting out of shade trees along the streets, he himself furnishing and setting those on Palmer Avenue from the bridge east, and all on Dixie highway from Swope to Canton avenue.

Dr. Guild was married November 11, 1849, to Laura J. Barnes. They had four daughters, Mary Latona, Laura Virginia, Alice Ellen, and Clara Louise.

In 1899 Dr. and Mrs. Guild celebrated their golden wedding anniversary.

When Rollins College was opened, Dr. Guild decided that his daughter Clara, who was ready for college and had intended to return north, might enter here; she did so and was graduated in the first class. His daughter Alice, a graduate of the Massachusetts Normal Art School, was in charge of the art department of Rollins for twelve years.

Dr. Guild died November, 1902; his daughters, Alice Ellen and Clara Louise still reside in Winter Park.



*WILLIAM BEARDALL*

WILLIAM BEARDALL was born near Sanford, May 5, 1890, the son of William and Florence Bonsor Beardall. His parents came to Florida from England in 1883, and the father acted as manager of the Florida Land & Colonization Company, which laid out the town of Sanford, with delightfully wide streets, and developed it.

Mr. Beardall received his early education in the schools of Sanford, the high school of Orlando, and the Porter Military Academy of Charleston, South Carolina; he also studied two years at the University of Virginia, where he was a member of both the baseball and football teams. He received the degree of Bachelor of Laws from Stetson University in 1913, and was admitted to the bar the same year. He practiced law in Orlando in partnership with Carl B. Robinson from 1913 to 1917, when he volunteered for the World War. He was First Lieutenant of Company C, Florida National Guard, 31st Division; was promoted to Captain and assigned to the 18th Division, and moved to San Antonio, Texas.

At the close of the war, Mr. Beardall became secretary and treasurer of the Orange County Abstract & Title Company; the capital of this corporation was increased from \$10,000.00 to \$250,000.00, and its name was changed to the Fidelity Title & Loan Company, of which Mr. Beardall is manager, as well as secretary and treasurer. This company insures titles through the Title Insurance Company of New York.

Mr. Beardall is a member of the Sigma Nu Fraternity, the local Chamber of Commerce, the Knights of Pythias, the Masonic and Elk Orders, and the American Legion; he is a member of the Episcopal church.

Mr. Beardall has been president of the Orlando Country Club during the past three years, having served it as vice-president for two previous years, and as member of the Board of Directors prior to that time.

Mr. Beardall is one of a trio of brothers, all of them active, influential and successful in various spheres, Dr. H. M. Beardall, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this work, and Commander John Reginald Beardall, of the United States Navy, at present serving as one of the four assistant naval attaches of the United States Embassy at the Court of St. James, and William.

Mr. Beardall was married in Asheville, North Carolina, July 13, 1922, to Shadie Livingston Hamer; daughter of W. M. Hamer, of Orlando and Asheville; their children are William Hamer and Harold Martin.





*Hubert Beazley*



*J. S. CAPEN*

JAMES SEYMOUR CAPEN was born in Union Springs, Cayuga County, New York, Oct. 18, 1852, the son of Luman Whitcomb and Eliza Munger Capen. He is of French Huguenot ancestry. The name was originally Capinne; when his forbears were driven out of France and went to England, they changed the name to Capen. They came to America about 1630, to Dorchester, now a part of Boston. Their home there was occupied by an unbroken succession of Capens up to about 1905; the tombstone of Bernard Capen is supposed to be the oldest marked tombstone in the United States, its date being about 1638.

Mr. Capen was educated in the public schools of Bloomington, Ill., and the State Normal University at Normal, a suburb of Bloomington, from 1865 to 1870; he then worked until 1873 as a clerk and bank bookkeeper. For eleven years after this he traveled as the representative of a wholesale china and glass business, in Illinois, western Indiana, and eastern Missouri.

Mr. Capen came to Winter Park in 1884, at the solicitation of Loring A. Chase, founder of the town, whom he had met as a fellow student in the Normal School, and who had come to Florida from Mr. Capen's home in Bloomington, where he had boarded for some time.

Coming to Florida in March, 1884, on a prospecting tour, Mr. Capen returned home, closed up his business and returned to Winter Park in July. He assisted Mr. Chase in his office until Mr. Chase sold out his interest to Mr. F. B. Knowles, when he was made secretary of the Winter Park Company, which position he held until the "big freeze," when he returned north and entered the employ of Capt. Gilbert Hart, in Detroit; he remained with Capt. Hart for fifteen years, and then operated a mercantile business for himself until August, 1925, when he returned to Winter Park where he has since resided.

Further references to Mr. Capen may be found in the Narrative portion of this work, Part One.

*MRS. E. S. KENNEDY*

ELLA SHIVLER KENNEDY was born in Baltimore August 1, 1877, the daughter of James R. and Hannah D. Davis Shivler; after Mr. Shivler's death, Mrs. Shivler married Wm. Schultz, Jr., in April of 1894, and made her home in Winter Park; the Shivlers came from Switzerland, and the Davises from Wales, of Quaker stock.

Mrs. Kennedy's education was received in the public schools of Baltimore and Philadelphia, and in Pierce's Business College in the latter city. Before her marriage she served as private secretary to the president of a large Philadelphia corporation.



Mrs. Kennedy came to Winter Park in May, 1894, since which time she has spent from three to six months each year in Winter Park, and for six years has been a permanent resident.

For two years Mrs. Kennedy was connected with the Winter Park Land Company, the oldest realty firm in the town; owing to the many demands made upon her in that office for information by tourists and her ability to answer their questions in a satisfactory manner, she was persuaded to take the position of secretary of the Publicity Department of the city of Winter Park, and later, when the city turned this department over to the Chamber of Commerce, she was elected secretary and treasurer of this organization, which position she has filled very efficiently for the past three years. She was the first paid secretary of the Chamber; this organization has increased its membership from less than 100 in 1924 to 1,077 in 1926.

Mrs. Kennedy has always been very active in civic affairs. She has the honor of being the first president of the Business and Professional Women's Club of Winter Park, which was organized by her last May and now has a membership of 63. She is also a member of the movie committee of this club which is sponsoring better films for children and is successfully running children's Saturday morning matinees every week.

For two years Mrs. Kennedy has served on the Better Homes Committee, whose work gained honorable mention for Winter Park in the National Better Homes Contest; she is also one of the Founders Day Committee which is responsible for the pageant and entertainment given annually by the city and Rollins College in February.

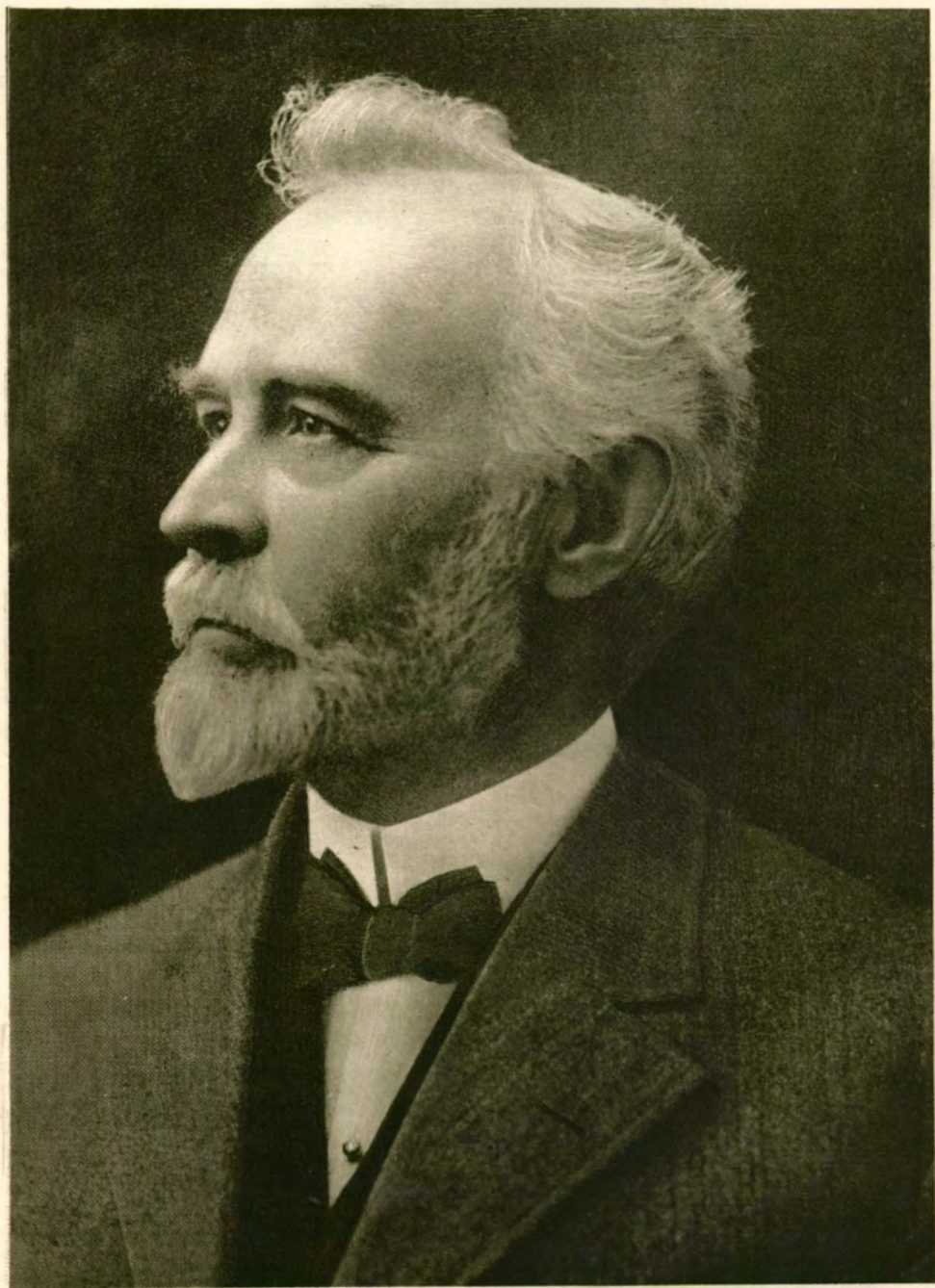
### *W. A. COURSEN*

WILLIAM ASHTON COURSEN was born in Port Richmond, S. I., January 26, 1860, the son of William A. and Jane Chester Coursen. He is descended from the old French Count de Courcey, whose castle was considered the finest specimen of mediaeval architecture in France, and was completely destroyed by the Germans in the World War.

Mr. Coursen received the degree of Bachelor of Arts from Princeton University in 1881, and the honorary degree of Master of Arts in 1883; he also received the degree of Bachelor of Laws from Columbia University in 1883. He was admitted to the bar in New York, and practised as an attorney and counsellor-at-law in New York City for about ten years; he was also connected with the United States Customs Service for some fourteen years, and with the Corporation Counsel's office of New York City. However, the "call of the wild" took him to Texas, where he found the life among the cowboys much healthier and happier than that of a city office. He has made his home in Winter Park since 1915; he also has another home in Marietta, Georgia.

Mr. Coursen married Harriet Van Wyck Bennett, daughter of Judge





*W.A. Cowser.*



Anthony Van Wyck of New York, January 22, 1907; after her death, he married on February 22, 1923, Elizabeth Richards Marean, widow of Justice Josiah T. Marean of the New York State Supreme Court, a wise judge wide repute.

Mr. Coursen is a member of the Clio Hall, Princeton University; during his college days he was devoted to athletics, especially to football and baseball, and he continues his rowing to the present day.

#### *F. W. LYMAN*

FREDERICK WOLCOTT LYMAN was born in Plymouth, Connecticut, June 18, 1849, the son of Rev. Ephraim and Hannah Dolbeare Richards Lyman. The founder of the family in America came to this country in 1631, the scion of an old and important English family. General Jedediah Huntington, Mr. Lyman's great-grandfather on his mother's side, served on General Washington's staff during the Revolutionary War and was his intimate friend; he was one of the most prominent citizens of Connecticut.

Mr. Lyman received his education in the public schools, and in the Gunnery School at Washington, Connecticut, which was made famous by Dr. J. G. Holland in his novel, *Arthur Bonnicastle*.

In 1871 Mr. Lyman moved to Minneapolis. He became treasurer of the Lyman-Eliel Drug Company, wholesale druggists; director of the National Bank of Commerce, the Northwestern National Bank, and the Minnesota Loan and Trust Company, President of the Business Men's Association, and a member of the City Charter Commission. He has served as trustee of three educational institutions, Pomona College at Claremont, California, the Chicago Theological Seminary, and Rollins College.

Mr. Lyman came to Winter Park in the spring of 1882, and for many years spent his winters there. He was president of the Winter Park Company, a founder of Rollins College and chairman of its Board of Trustees, and vice-president of the Lyman Bank of Sanford. He was active in the planning, construction and furnishing of the first four buildings of the college and of the first Seminole Hotel. An account of his invaluable services on behalf of Winter Park and Rollins College, and of his personal character, may be found in the Narrative Section of this work, Part Two, Chapters Four and Five.

Mr. Lyman has been prominently identified with Plymouth Church, Minneapolis, as deacon, superintendent of the Sunday School, and chairman of the Board of Trustees; during his residence in Winter Park he was a leader in the affairs of the Congregational Church, superintendent of the Sunday School, and a generous donor to its funds.

Mr. Lyman married Elizabeth Huntington Clark May 9, 1876, in Minneapolis; their children are Catherine H., Jennie H., Margaret F., and Frederick C.



*REV. DR. MARY A. SAFFORD*

MARY AUGUSTA SAFFORD was born in Quincy, Ill., December 23, 1851; she is the daughter of Stephen Farrar and Louisa Safford. Both her parents were natives of New Hampshire and both were teachers. Later in life, her father devoted himself to the development of a farm and a town; after his death, his wife managed the farm and educated her six children. Dr. Safford attended public and private schools, and the Iowa State University; her preparation for the ministry was made by reading and study, in part guided by an experienced and scholarly minister, Rev. Oscar Clute. Dr. Safford came to Orlando in February, 1905.

In February, 1905, it was her privilege to officiate at the marriage of Mahlon Gore and Caroline Groninger in St. Louis. Her friend, Helen Wilson, and she had started for California, but as Mr. and Mrs. Gore urged them to come to Florida and emphasized their persuasions by offering to pay their expenses as a wedding fee, they came. Through Mr. Gore, Dr. Safford had previously bought a small grove on Lake Conway, and he wished her to see how finely it was located. During her stay in Orlando, she preached in the Elk's Club House, and was impressed by the cordial hearing given to liberal religious thought. On returning to Orlando, after an absence of several years, she preached again, but made no attempt to organize a church, as she was going to England in May, 1909, as a delegate to the Woman's International Alliance, with Dr. Anna Howard Shaw and Helen Burton Wilson. This trip proved most delightful, giving her the opportunity to meet many celebrated authors and artists. Later, she spoke at the annual meeting of the British and Foreign Unitarian Association, and was invited to fill so many pulpits in England, Scotland and Wales that she spent nearly six months in these wonderful countries, preaching every Sunday in London, Liverpool, Manchester, Aberdeen, Glasgow, and other interesting cities. Entertained in many English homes, she enjoyed the cordial, friendly spirit of their owners toward her native land, and since that time she has been glad to speak of England as "Our Mother." The year 1910 was divided between the North and the South, but in 1911 she built her home on South Main Street, Orlando, where she has since resided. She preached for several months in Magruder's Hall, where she gathered together a number of people of liberal religious faith who formed the nucleus of the First Unitarian Church in Orlando, which was later organized by Rev. Eleanor Gordon. Her health not permitting her to work in her chosen profession, she gave her time and strength to the organization of local and state suffrage work, and the development of her orange grove. Both lines of labor proved health-giving, with satisfactory results. As she gradually increased the productiveness of her grove, she set out more trees and bought more land where it was her delight to conserve the growth of beautiful oak and pine woods for the happiness of those to follow her, as





Mary A. Safford



well as for her own satisfaction in one of Florida's greatest assets. Having spent her early life on a farm, during the Civil War, when women shared largely in the work out-of-doors, her experience greatly helped her to cope successfully with the difficulties which every orange grower must face; these were as many and various as those she encountered in the ministry or the suffrage work, yet not so great as was the joy found in overcoming them. It was hard for her to relinquish the ownership of her grove, even for \$50,000, when Unity Place was sold in 1923 and re-named Waterwitch.

During the World War, she called and presided at the first mass meeting held in Orlando, to quicken patriotism and consider the most effective ways of developing and using the resources of Orange County for our country's good; she organized the Home Defenders, and sold many government bonds.

Dr. Safford has served as a minister of three churches, Humboldt, Iowa, for five years; Sioux City, Iowa, for fourteen years; and Des Moines, Iowa, for eleven years. She is now pastor emeritus of the latter church. She has also served as president of the Humane Society of Iowa, president of the Iowa Unitarian Association, president of the Iowa Equal Suffrage Association, honorary president of the Orlando Art Association, honorary member of the Friends in Council of Lansing, Michigan, honorary member of Sorosis, Orlando, director of the American Unitarian Association, and director of the Orlando Citrus Growers' Association. She is a member of the Orange County and Orlando Chambers of Commerce.

No biography is complete unless its purpose and convictions as well as its outer events are given; it has been Dr. Safford's purpose to grow, and to help others to grow, in all that helps one to obtain the best. Believing that all human beings are children of the Infinite Life which we reverently call God, she has found strength and inspiration in proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus, as summed up in "Love to God and Man." And believing that through ages past, women have borne the heaviest burdens of the race and have done their full share of its most important work, she has deemed it a privilege to labor for the equal rights of women with men in all departments of life.

Dr. Safford has received a certificate from the National American Woman Suffrage Association, showing her name on the Roll of Honor for Distinguished Service.

#### *DR. GEORGE PORTER*

GEORGE PORTER, who spent almost the entire period of his professional life in Orlando, was born in Manchester, New Hampshire, and received his education in the high school and academy there; he graduated from the New York Medical Homeopathic College in 1881.

After three years of practice in Webster, Massachusetts, he removed to Orlando, where he remained in active practice thirty-seven years.



When Dr. Porter came to Orlando in 1884, he found it a straggling village. He boarded at Eola Cottage on Magnolia Avenue, which seemed far out in the country at that time. The streets, even in the business section, were sandy, with a few board walks. The business blocks were unimposing, and mostly one-story in height. The houses were built for summer, in two sections divided by a wind-swept open space. The winter was ignored; it was a direct imputation upon the climate to wear an overcoat or sit by a stove. On very chilly evenings, a bonfire was built in the street, which was conducive to much sociability among the men—what the women did is not recorded.

Dr. Porter's early professional associates were Dr. Person, Dr. Harris, Dr. Kilmer, and Dr. Peake. There was more leisure, more charm, connected with the practice of medicine in those early days than at the present time of stress and hurry. There was more time to become acquainted with one's patients, for the doctor, like the minister, was the recipient of family burdens, and gave generously of sympathy and advice. Nothing could surpass in beauty and pleasure the rides through the woods over pine-needle trails with horse and carriage; of course, the frequent calls at night to Maitland, Conway, and other communities were not so easy to compass as now.

Dr. Harris possessed the first automobile which was brought to Orlando, a very primitive affair; after calling on a patient, he would secure a pine torch and crawl under his car to heat it up; his approach was heralded by a noise equal to the siren of a fire engine.

Dr. Porter was closely identified with the town from its most primitive beginnings to its present opulence and importance. He watched its growth step by step, always with willing hand ready to further everything that made for progress. He took pride in its ambitions and improvements, and yet sometimes, he viewed almost with alarm the rapid change, for he loved the little town, the close and intimate friendliness of it, for he was essentially a friendly man; his life was full of kind little acts, which to him were only a part of the day's work, never to be thought of again and which could not be recorded.

In August, 1907, Dr. Porter married Cornelia W. Chappell, of New London, Connecticut, who died in Orlando, December 27, 1908.

Dr. Porter died in Orlando, April 29, 1921. On the day of his funeral, some small boys came bearing a large bunch of water-lilies, which they had gathered "for Dr. Porter, because he was so kind."

What sweeter tribute could be paid to any man!



*CAPT. C. L. ALBERTSON*

CHARLES LEWIS ALBERTSON was born in Windsor, Broome County, New York, January 5, 1856; he is the son of Lewis and Caroline Stewart Albertson.

On February 21, 1874, Capt. Albertson left his farm home in Chemung County for New York City, where he was appointed a member of the police department, February 7, 1879. He was later promoted through the several grades to the highest, which was inspector. He was retired on April 28, 1905, and from that date has been a resident of Waverly, New York, and of Orlando; since 1913, his home has been on Lake Jennie Jewel, just outside of the city.

In 1922, Captain Albertson presented the City of Orlando with his private collection of books, valued at \$100,000; to house this valuable library, especially rich in historical material, the city built the handsome structure which stands at the corner of Central and Rosalind Avenues. An account of the Albertson Public Library may be found in Chapter III of this work.

Captain Albertson has been president of the Tioga County, New York, Humane Society since 1909, and of the Tioga County Historical Society for the past ten years.

Captain Albertson married Addie West, October 18, 1876; she died in February of 1923, leaving two children, Lewis A. Dacie and D. Earl.

Captain Albertson was married to Lillian M. Barnum, who was for many years the librarian of the Albertson Public Library, in Orlando, on July 6, 1925.

*C. D. MILLER*

CLINTON DEWITT MILLER was born in Tunkhannock, Pennsylvania, February 26, 1891, the son of Albert P. and Harriet C. Carpenter Miller. Both families settled in this country prior to the American Revolution.

Mr. Miller received his education in the Georgia Institute of Technology and Rollins College, having come to Orlando with his father's family on June 30, 1904, at the age of thirteen years.

Mr. Miller was brought up in the hotel business, and has been active in the management of the Wyoming Hotel since December 24, 1911; he is president and managing director of the Wyoming Hotel Company.

In addition to his private business, Mr. Miller has taken an active part in the financial, commercial, civic, philanthropic and recreational affairs of the city. He is a director of the State Bank of Orlando and Trust Company, vice-president of the North Orlando State Bank, director of the Orlando Orange Groves Company, president of the Orange County Hospital Association, trustee of the Albertson Public Library, vice-president of the Orlando Chamber of Commerce, and director and chairman of the house committee



of the Orlando Country Club. He was a member of the Board of Tax Assessors from 1921 to 1924.

Mr. Miller is a member of the Orlando Lodge, number 69, F. and A. M., Eureka Chapter, Olivet Commandery, and Past Commander of the Olivet Commandery; he is also a member of the Morocco Temple and of the Orlando Lodge number 1079, B. P. O. E. He is a vestryman in St. Lukes Cathedral, and past president of the Orlando Rotary Club.

Mr. Miller married Arline Major in Tunkhannock, Pennsylvania, on September 20, 1914; they have one daughter, Joan.

### *F. B. KNOWLES*

FRANCIS BANGS KNOWLES was born in Hardwick, Massachusetts, November 29, 1823, the son of Simeon and Lucetta Newton Knowles, and died in Washington, D. C., May 15, 1890. His paternal great-grandfather, whose mother, Sarah Payne Knowles, was a kinswoman of Robert Treat Payne, signer of the Declaration of Independence, was a soldier in the Revolutionary War. The first of the line in America, Richard Knowles, was born in England, and settled in Eastham, Massachusetts, about 1653; the name was often spelled Knollys, both in England and America.

Mr. Knowles inherited the fine and sturdy qualities of the line of Puritans and Pilgrims from which he was descended. He secured his education in Leicester Academy and taught school for a time in Dana, Massachusetts, and Gloversville, New York. Not much relishing school work, he became a traveling salesman for Mills and Smith, glove manufacturers of Gloversville, in which occupation he was notably successful. On April 1, 1845, he started in business on his own account, as a manufacturer of buckskin gloves at Gloversville, and later engaged in the manufacture of men's clothing; during the Civil War he filled government contracts for army gloves.

In March, 1862, Mr. Knowles joined his elder brother, Lucius J., a distinguished inventor and manufacturer, in the making of looms and steam pumps, the business growing rapidly and being removed in 1866 from Warren to Worcester. In 1884, the loom-works covered five acres of ground, employed four hundred workmen, and was the largest in this country if not in the world. The business was incorporated in 1884, under the name of the Knowles Loom Works; Mr. Knowles was president of the company, and remained in this office until his death. A large business was also developed in England.

Mr. Knowles was active in Worcester in civic, religious and charitable work. He was one of the founders of the Piedmont Congregational church, and made large contributions to other churches, to the Young Men's Christian Association, the Young Women's Christian Association and many other organizations of similar character.



An editorial in the 'Worcester Spy' at the time of his death expresses the public estimation of the character and service of Mr. Knowles: "By the death of F. B. Knowles, Worcester loses another of the energetic and skillful mechanics who have built up the prosperous industries of the city. The great manufacturing establishment founded by the elder brother and conducted by the younger since the former's death, had become one of the most productive and most noted in Worcester. Besides his active superintendence of the factory, Mr. Knowles gave much attention to religious and philanthropic affairs and was a frequent and generous contributor to deserving objects of that character. Mr. Knowles has borne his prosperity modestly. The great bulk of his income has been dispensed in charities of which the public never had an inkling, and he chose that they should not. He had immense interests in Winter Park, Florida. In his death the city loses an honored citizen, the church a respected adviser, the family a loving father, and his business acquaintances are without an associate whose word was as good as his bond."

Mr. Knowles married Ann Eliza Poole December 23, 1845; their children were Eliza Evaline (wife of Charles H. Hutchins, who succeeded Mr. Knowles as president of the Knowles Loom Works) and Frank P., now a resident of Auburn, Massachusetts. After the death of his first wife, Mr. Knowles married Hester Greene, April 23, 1867, who died March 17, 1916. The children of the second marriage are Mabel R. (wife of Dr. Homer Gage, of Worcester), Frances W. (wife of Mr. George Eddy Warren, of Boston), and Lucius J.

Mr. Knowles became interested in Winter Park through Colonel Franklin Fairbanks of St. Johnsbury, Vermont. He first visited Winter Park in the early 80's, and spent a portion of the year here for many years; he was the largest benefactor, both of the town and of Rollins College, during the early development. An account of his activities in Winter Park may be found in Chapters IV and V of this work.

### *W. H. SCHULTZ*

WALTER H. SCHULTZ was born in Philadelphia, February 17, 1888, the son of William Schultz, Jr., and Josephine Lea Moore Schultz. His paternal grandfather was a locomotive engineer and builder; he shipped two locomotives to Russia in 1848, and superintended the construction of the railway from Moscow to St. Petersburg, and ran the first train over this line.

Mr. Schultz came to Winter Park with his father's family in October, 1890. He secured his education in the Winter Park Public Schools, Rollins Academy, and the East Florida Seminary at Gainesville.

In the summer of 1904, Mr. Schultz entered his father's general merchandise store, and later, after his father's death in 1907, conducted this



business with his brother, Arthur Schultz, under the firm name of Schultz Brothers. He sold the grocery and feed business in 1913, and opened a shoe and clothing store in the Henkle block. In 1915, he built the brick block at the corner of East Park and Welborne Avenues, and moved the business to this corner. In 1925, he sold the shoe and clothing business and entered the real estate and insurance business with the Winter Park Land Company.

Mr. Schultz has been an active and influential factor in the development of Winter Park in all directions, and especially in its educational affairs. He was a member of the Board of Trustees of the Winter Park School District for six years, and has been a member of the Orange County Board of Public Instruction for the past eight years. He was a member of the Town Council from 1912 to 1918, mayor of the city during 1918-19, and city commissioner in 1925-26 under the new charter.

Mr. Schultz is a member of the Winter Park Chamber of Commerce, the Business Mens' Club and the Congregational church; he is also a Mason.

Mr. Schultz married Mary Louise Bradshaw on February 6, 1912; their children are Walter Bradshaw, Wallace Lea, and Stanley Arthur Schultz.

#### *COL. A. E. DICK*

ADOLPH EDOUARD DICK was born in Cologne, Germany, September 3, 1848; he was the son of Johann and Gertrude Sybilla Marx Dick. His father took part in the political upheaval in Germany in 1848, and together with many others who held the same opinions, found it advisable to leave Germany for Alsace; later, having accumulated sufficient means, he brought his family by sailing vessel from Antwerp to this country, locating successively in Utica and Oswego, New York, and Detroit, Michigan. Colonel Dick enlisted in the army from Oswego; during his service, the family moved to Detroit, where he joined them in 1865, at the close of the war. He served as drummer boy in the One Hundred and Eighty-fourth Regiment, New York State Volunteers, and after the war for twenty years in the Twenty-second Regiment, New York State Militia; all together, he saw fifty years of military service. He is a member of the Army and Navy Club of America, and Junior Vice-Commander of the George Washington Post of the Grand Army of the Republic.

In 1870, Colonel Dick removed from Detroit to New York City, where he made his home for half a century.

In 1895, Colonel Dick came to Winter Park as manager of the Seminole Hotel for the Plant System; after three years he was transferred to the management of the Tampa Bay Hotel in Tampa, which he continued for the period of four years. On retiring from business in 1921, he established his winter home in Winter Park.

Colonel Dick has always been actively interested in the civic and social affairs of Winter Park. It was through his efforts with the business men of



Winter Park and Orlando that the first clay road was built between these towns, and in this part of the state; he was christened "the Father of Good Roads." He was also instrumental in stimulating the growing of vegetables in Winter Park; he served only fresh vegetables on the table of the Seminole Hotel, when other hotels were using canned goods, and these vegetables were furnished by Mr. C. H. Ward and his three sons, all still residents of Winter Park.

#### *DR. G. H. EDWARDS*

GASTON HOLCOMBE EDWARDS was born in Granby, Connecticut, the son of Dr. Geo. W. Edwards and Ann Eliza Holcombe.

Dr. Edwards received the degrees of Ph.B., M.S., and M. D., from the Sheffield Scientific School and Medical School of Yale University. After two years hospital service in New York City, he spent a year in travel in the West Indies and South America. He was in the medical service of the United States Government from 1906 to 1909 in Canal Zone, Panama, acting as surgeon for two years at the Colon Hospital in Colon, Panama.

Dr. Edwards began the practice of medicine in Orlando in 1909 and in 1914 he formed a partnership with Dr. John S. McEwan and together they organized the Orlando Clinic, which was at first located in the building in East Central Avenue, afterward occupied by the Chamber of Commerce, and later in the Bonnie Villa Hotel on Lake Eola, which they purchased and remodeled for this use. Fourteen physicians are associated in the Orlando Clinic, a specialist for every sort of service.

Dr. Edwards has been a member of the Orlando Public Utilities Commission for the past four years. In 1918 and 1919 he served with the American Red Cross acting as Deputy Commissioner to Serbia with headquarters in Belgrade and was decorated by King Peter with the third order of St. Sava and the Serbian Red Cross. For refugee work in Macedonia he was made a member of the Order de Lutra. For service in France he received the French "Medaille Commerate." He is an active member of The McKey Post of Veterans of Foreign Wars. He has been president of the local Kiwanis Club and deputy governor of the State for this organization. He is a member Sigma Chi and of the Nu Sigma Nu fraternity and of the American, Central Florida, Southern and Orange County Medical Associations. He belongs to the K. of P., Elks, Buffaloes, Snarks, Hopping Fleas and many other eleemosynary organizations.

Dr. Edwards married Adair Irwin Dunn, daughter of Capt. E. W. D. Dunn, a prominent pioneer of Sanford; their children are George, Mary Adair and Warren.



*J. B. LAWTON*

JOSEPH BENJAMIN LAWTON was born in St. Charles Parish, Louisiana, August 27, 1860, one of a family of eleven children. He is the son of William H. and Mathilde Delhommer Lawton. He is of Scotch descent on the paternal and of French descent on the maternal sides. His father was a native of Fall River, Massachusetts, and came south as a school teacher, serving as a tutor in private homes. He married one of his pupils, a native of Louisiana, of French lineage. He was engaged in the telegraph business, and at the opening of the Civil War volunteered in the Confederate Army, in that branch of the service.

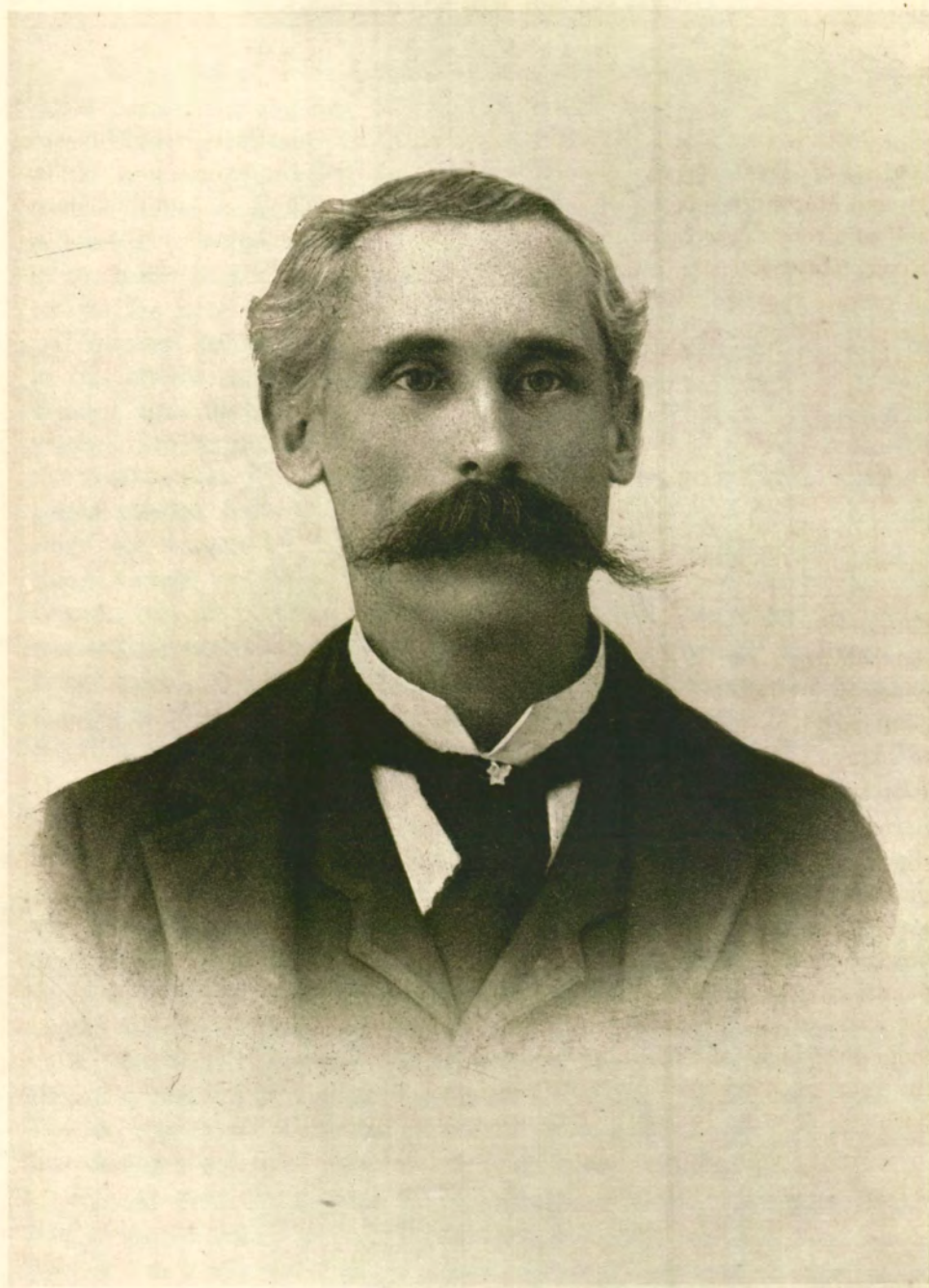
Mr. Lawton's early education was supervised by his father, but, like Benjamin Franklin and many others, he received his real education chiefly in the printing office, an excellent school. He was clerk in a store at the age of eight years, and at the age of ten began to learn the printer's trade, in which he has continued until now, except for a short experience in a Louisiana sugar-house. At the age of twenty, he was engaged by Mr. J. Y. Gilmore as local editor and manager of the Louisiana Sugar Bowl, which was published in New Iberia, and he continued in charge of this paper until 1885, when he established a paper of his own, the New Iberia Enterprise; this he conducted for some eighteen years until he sold out and came to Orlando, to engage in the growing of pineapples. This fruit he grew successfully, but found the marketing of the product through commission houses unprofitable.

Mr. Lawton established the printing business in 1904 which he has conducted since, latterly in partnership with his son, Cestia. He also was interested in real estate, opening up a subdivision on the northeast side of Lake Eola, in connection with Mr. Henry C. McDaniel; here he made a notable contribution to Orlando's wonderful wealth of shade trees, setting out palms, oaks, and camphor trees on his lots and along Robinson Avenue and the east half of Ridgewood Avenue, some four hundred feet, as well as the magnolias in Eola Park in front of his residence, and the oaks on the lots in the rear of his home. He owns his residence in Robinson Avenue and a business block on the northeast corner of Pine and Court streets.

Mr. Lawton is a Catholic, and an original member of the Orlando Chamber of Commerce, carrying four or five memberships in this organization; he is also a Knight of Columbus and a Knight of Pythias. He married Laura Cestia May 17, 1884, in New Iberia. Their children are J. Cestia, Joseph Benjamin, Jr., Rita and Lawrence.

Mr. Lawton's experience in the newspaper business and in politics during his residence in New Iberia was noteworthy, and at times exciting. He had decided to move to Washington and engage in another line of business, but was persuaded to remain in charge of the Sugar Bowl, and this was the turning point in his life.





*J. B. Lawton*



The period of reconstruction which followed the Civil War, the so-called "carpet-bag regime," had had deplorable results in Louisiana. The carpet-baggers, adventurers from the North; the "scalawags," the dregs of the southern population, and gangs of negroes, had combined to obtain control of the public life of the state. They had disorganized its finances, debased its schools, and introduced disorder into its social life. The struggle of the better class of citizens to recover control had succeeded to a large extent in the state, but Iberia Parish was still dominated by these dishonest and ignorant elements. William Pitt Kellogg was a candidate for Congress in this district, and a company of carpet-bag and negro orators had descended upon the parish to conduct the campaign, insisting on forcing the negroes into boarding-houses kept by white widows. Mr. Lawton attacked this combination with great vigor in his newspaper. Mr. Kellogg won, and a local election followed in 1884, in which Mr. Lawton continued his campaign for decency against the baser elements. Demands for retraction of charges made and threats of violence followed, but without result. Mr. Lawton had the Governor of the state behind him, and finally by various methods the carpet-baggers were cleaned out, the "scalawags" and negro officers retired, and the intelligent and conservative element of the population put in the saddle. This was accomplished without resort to violence or Ku Klux raids, but as the result of persistent newspaper and other agitation.

Mr. Lawton also attacked the school system then in force. The teachers, especially of the rural schools, were selected by favoritism, and were wholly incompetent; the impossible attempt was made to teach in both the English and the French languages; and there was no proper supervision of the schools. Mr. Lawton was appointed by the governor as a member and president of the parish school board for a term of four years and re-appointed for a second term; trained teachers from the State Normal school were secured; the French language was disused and adequate superintendence of rural schools was provided. These reforms attracted attention throughout the state, and led to similar movements elsewhere. In the meantime, Mr. Lawton was elected a member of the City Council and was instrumental in introducing a system of water and electrical supplies for the city.

About 1900, Mr. Lawton led in a movement to establish a State Normal and Industrial school in New Iberia. The necessary tax was voted but the project was finally defeated by certain reactionary elements; this led to Mr. Lawton's decision to come to Florida.

This chapter of southern history, deplorable in many respects at the time, but now happily almost forgotten, has seemed to the author to be worthy of preservation in this work.



*W. W. HARNEY, JUDGE W. M. RANDOLPH, DR. O. P. PRESTON,  
J. R. MONTAGUE*

WILL WALLACE HARNEY was born in Indiana, June 20, 1832, the son of John Hopkins and Mary Wallace Harney, and the descendent of Lieutenant Jenathan Harney, who came to America from Wales and fought in the Revolutionary War at Bunker Hill and Long Island.

John Hopkins Harney was for a time a college president, prepared the first algebra published by an American, and was for a quarter of a century editor and publisher of the Louisville Democrat; this was during the period when the Know Nothing, or American, Party—afterward called The Constitutional Union Party—a secret, oath-bound organization, was making a considerable stir in the politics of the country. Mr. Harney was given a silver tray and two goblets, with inscriptions, in recognition of his services in quelling riots caused by this anti-foreign movement.

Will Wallace Harney graduated from Transylvania University in Kentucky, took a course of study in law, and became a teacher in the Louisville schools serving for two years as principal of the newly-established high school. After a brief time given to the practice of law, he associated himself with his father as assistant editor of The Democrat, and assumed the editorship of this paper after his father's death.

Mr. Harney came to Orange County in 1869, on account of the ill-health of his wife, homesteaded 160 acres of land about four miles south of Orlando, and built a home on this tract which he called Pinecastle. This name was given to the community which grew up around Mr. Harney's home, and to the postoffice which was afterward established. Mr. Harney set out a small orange grove, and devoted himself to authorship, contributing articles to Harper's Monthly, Lippincott's Magazine and the Atlantic Monthly, and to the Cincinnati Commercial, New Orleans Times-Democrat and Boston Courier, descriptive of Florida; these articles brought many settlers to the State, Swedes, English, Union and Confederate soldiers, and others.

In 1884, Mr. Harney established a weekly paper in Kissimmee, the first to be published there, named Bitter Sweet, for the purpose of encouraging river traffic through Lake Tohopekaliga, the Kissimmee River and Lake Okeechobee to the sea; he continued to issue this paper for a number of years.

In 1909, Mr. Harney published a volume of sketches and poems—three tales in prose and forty-five lyrics—through the Gorham Press of Boston, which he dedicated to his son, William Randolph Harney, "without whose help and assurance this work could not have been written or published." Excerpts from this volume may be found in the Narrative part of this work, Chapter II.

Mr. Harney married Mary St. Meyer Randolph in August of 1868. She was the daughter of Judge W. M. Randolph, a native of Virginia and a



leading citizen of New Orleans. Mr. Harney died March 28, 1912, and Mrs. Harney in 1870, leaving one child, William Randolph Harney, now a resident of Jacksonville.

WILLIAM ST. MEYER RANDOLPH moved to Orange County with Mr. Harney in 1869, and took up the homestead on Lake Conway, which is now owned by Captain B. M. Robinson, his son-in-law. He spent a part of a year in Florida, meantime carrying on his law practice in New Orleans, until his death in 1876. He built the first hotel in Ft. Reed, which his family occupied for a time after his death as a residence; they afterward erected and occupied a fine home on the northwest shore of Lake Gem Mary; this lake was named for Mrs. Randolph. A family burial ground, often mistaken in later times for an Indian burial place, was located near the house; in this some half-dozen bodies were interred, all of them later being removed to Greenwood Cemetery.

Judge Randolph married Mary Eleanor Pitts; their children were Mrs. Harney, William Beverly, and Fanny Randolph. William Beverly Randolph was active in Orange County politics, representing the county in the state legislature, and serving as a member of the first Constitutional convention after reconstruction days; the daughter Fanny, became the first wife of Captain B. M. Robinson.

OUACHITA PUSHMATAHA PRESTON married a sister of Mrs. Randolph, Jane Eliza Pitts, in Missouri. He went to California with the "forty-niners," and afterward settled in Texas where he operated a plantation. He entered the Confederate Army in 1861, served with Gen. Forrest's cavalry forces, and was brevetted major at the close of the war. He then returned to Texas.

Dr. Preston came to Orange County in 1869, with Judge Randolph and Mr. Harney, and after a short time spent at Ft. Reed, took up a homestead at Ft. Gatlin. He practiced medicine on horseback over a wide territory, being paid for his services often with a sack of potatoes, a barrel of sugar, or other such-like commodities. Without a regular training in medicine, he had a natural aptitude for this work, and this was supplemented by his army experience and a considerable library of medical books. He was a typical pioneer, useful and beloved. His children were Lambeth M., Fanny St. Bernard (wife of J. R. Montague), and Francis Howard Preston.

JAMES ROBERT MONTAGUE, one of the pioneers of Orange County, was born in Lowmoor, Virginia, August 29, 1845. He enlisted in the Confederate Army, Carpenter's Battery, Stonewall Brigade, in 1861, at the age of sixteen years. He was wounded three times, at Gettesburg, Manassas and Winchester, but served to the end of the war. He then finished his studies at Washington and Lee University, and came to Florida in 1871, first to



Cedar Keys, then to Bartow, and finally to Orlando, where he married Fanny St. Bernard Preston, January 6, 1875. He was a partner in the firm of Poyntz and Montague, in the mercantile business, and served as tax collector for the county; he also owned an orange grove on the north shore of Lake Jenny Jewel, to which Dr. Preston had given this name in honor of his wife, Jane Elizabeth. Mr. Montague died Dec. 15, 1910; he had four children, Mary Elizabeth (Mrs. Frank M. Warren), of Johnstown, S. C., Jane Bratton (Mrs. W. R. Harney) of Jacksonville, Francis St. Bernard (Mrs. A. R. Bogue) of Orlando, and Shirley Preston (Mrs. Robert Morrow) of Jacksonville. Mrs. Montague died Oct. 6, 1923.

### *WILLIAM EDWARDS*

WILLIAM EDWARDS was born in Edinburg, Scotland, November 29, 1869, the son of William and Mary Jane Edwards. He graduated from the public school, and attended Forfar Academy in Forfarshire. He left Scotland in March, 1885, and on his arrival in America went to Iowa, where he resided for thirty-seven years; he then removed to Chicago where he lived until he came to Florida, March 25, 1899.

During his residence in Chicago, Mr. Edwards was associated in various positions with Carson, Pierie & Scott Company, and he came to Florida to superintend the fine Pierie estate at Plymouth in Orange County; he has also acted as superintendent of the James Laughlin, Jr., estate at Zellwood, some account of which may be found in Chapter IX of this work.

During his life in Chicago, Mr. Edwards was a member of the Young Men's Christian Association, and attended the night classes in the old Farwell Building and the LaSalle Street branch; he was also active in gymnasium work. He was a member and clerk of Mr. D. L. Moody's old Chicago Avenue Church, as also first assistant superintendent of the Sunday School and at various times a deacon and usher.

During the World War Mr. Edwards served in the Florida Home Guards. He is a member of the Orange County Board of Education, of the State Educational Survey Commission, of the Apopka Chamber of Commerce and Rotary Club, of the Orlando Chamber of Commerce, of the Eustis Presbyterian Church, and of the Orange County Chamber of Commerce, of which he has been president from its organization. He is also president of the State Bank of Apopka and of the company which recently erected the Williams Edwards Hotel in that town.

Mr. Edwards married Isobel T. Stewart, April 27, 1897, in Chicago; their children are James Stewart, David S., and Margaret Jean Edwards.



*L. P. OSBORNE*

LOUIS P. OSBORNE was born in Rockfort, Indiana, and spent his early life on a farm; he came to Zellwood, in Orange County October 7, 1881.

During the past thirty-eight years Mr. Osborne has been engaged in the mercantile business in Zellwood, and since 1911 he has served as post-master at that place. He helped to clear the right-of-way and build the first good roads in Orange County.

Mr. Osborne is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church South; in 1901 he married Lilla Hammond of Zellwood; their children are Leon, Wallace, Ralph, Ruth and Rufus.

*S. KENDRICK GUERNSEY*

SAMUEL KENDRICK GUERNSEY is one of the most active and popular of the "native sons" of Orlando. He was born March 11, 1892, the son of Joseph L. and Anna L. Welburn Guernsey. His father and mother came to Orlando from Kentucky; the family is of English ancestry. Mr. Guernsey attended the public schools and high school of Orlando, and graduated in 1914 with the degree of Bachelor of Science from the University of Pennsylvania.

Returning to Orlando, he acquired his early business training in his father's hardware store, which he and his brothers later owned and operated. He organized the Church Street Bank of Orlando, and was at first vice-president; he is now president of this organization. He organized the Peninsular Chemical Company, of which concern he has been president from the first. He is a director in the Orlando Bank and Trust Company, and has erected a number of residences and business buildings. His principal business is investments, the buying and selling of real estate and properties of various kinds. With one of his brothers he built and now operates the Francis Marion Hotel, and he was one of the organizers of the Orlando Orange Groves Company, owners and developers of Avalon Groves in west Orange County.

In addition to his own varied and numerous business enterprises, Mr. Guernsey has found time to act as Executive Secretary of the Orlando Chamber of Commerce from 1923 to 1925, during which time he played a large part in bringing to Orlando a number of industries and enterprises which have since then become firmly and profitably established. (See account of Chamber of Commerce, in Chapter Three of this work.)

He has also served as second vice-president of Rotary International; chairman of the Boys' Work Committee of Rotary International; president of the International Boys' Work Conference; governor of the 39th District, Rotary International; member of the Board of Directors of the Big Brother and Sister Federation; president of the Florida Educational Loan Association



(which provides funds for assisting worthy boys to attend the University of Florida); and vice-president of the Victory National Life Insurance Company.

Mr. Guernsey has never held, and declares that he will never hold, public political office. During the World War he enlisted in September, 1917; attended Officers' Training School at Camp Jackson, South Carolina; was commissioned, and ultimately became senior instructor in Company Administration in the Officers' Training School at Camp Joseph E. Johnston in Jacksonville.

He is a member of the First Methodist Church, Rotary Club, Chamber of Commerce, Country Club, Dubsdread Club, Avalon Club, Board of the Y. M. C. A., Masonic Lodge, Chapter, Commandery, Council, Shrine and the Phi Kappa Psi Fraternity. He married Edythe Green of Newark, New Jersey.

### *W. J. LEE*

WILLIAM JUSTICE LEE was born in Philadelphia, June 26, 1891, the son of Leighton and Mary Justice Lee. His great-great-grandfather was Benjamin Lee, a British sea captain; his great-grandfather was the Reverend Alfred Lee, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Delaware; his paternal grandfather was Dr. Benjamin Lee, a surgeon; and his maternal grandfather was Mr. William W. Justice.

Mr. Lee was educated in the Chestnut Hill Academy, and in the Asheville School, and received the degree of mechanical engineer in the University of Pennsylvania in 1913. He is a member of the Institute of Radio Engineers, and an associate member of the United States Naval Institute.

Mr. Lee was engaged in business for two years in Philadelphia, and for twelve years in Jacksonville, Florida; he removed to Winter Park in June of 1923. He is a stockholder and director of Chase & Company, growers of, and dealers in, citrus fruits; Mr. Lee is secretary-treasurer of this company.

Mr. Lee is Division Commanding Officer of the United States Naval Reserves, Communication Division; Consulting Radio Engineer, connected with Rollins College; and treasurer of the Orlando Broadcasting Company, Inc. During the World War he served for nineteen months as Lieutenant, junior grade, and then as Lieutenant in the United States Naval Reserve Flying Corps, receiving a Victory medal.

Mr. Lee is a member of the Phi Kappa Sigma (A) fraternity, the University Club of Orlando, the Aloma Country Club of Winter Park, and the Sanford Yacht Club. He owns and operates the only experimental radio transmitting station licensed in Florida by the United States Government, and maintains an experimental laboratory in his home at Winter Park.

Mr. Lee married Frances Vaughn Merrick at Prout's Neck, Maine, July 25, 1914; their children are William Justice, Jr., Leighton, Rodney, Mary, John V., Frances and Elizabeth; another son, Benjamin Lee, III, died at the age of six years.



*C. A. BOONE*

CASSIUS A. BOONE was born in Candler Station, North Carolina, February 2, 1850, the son of Mr. Marquis L. Boone, and a descendant of the famous frontiersman, Daniel Boone. He spent his early life on a farm, and graduated from Eastman Business College at Poughkeepsie, New York.

Mr. Boone came to Florida in 1870, going up the St. Johns and Wekiwa rivers to Clay Springs, where he bought a mule and made his way to Orlando. He taught the first public school in Orange County, on the Blackwater. He made his home in Orlando in 1872, where he also served for some time as a teacher. He conducted the hotel built by Mr. W. A. Lovell, and later kept a store in partnership with Mr. W. A. Patrick. For six years following 1875, he was engaged in the office of the county clerk; he then entered the hardware business on the site now occupied by the Woolworth building in Orange Avenue, selling out in 1893. He conducted a dairy and nursery business for some fifteen years, originating the Boones' Early orange, which is still a standard variety.

Mr. Boone was one of the incorporators of the town in 1875, and served for many years as a member of the Town Council; a study of the minutes of the Council meetings shows how active, diligent, intelligent and influential he was, in shaping the corporate life of the community during its early and formative period. He was elected mayor in 1883, and afterward served as city clerk, tax assessor and tax collector.

Mr. Boone took a leading part in the movement to plant shade trees in the streets. He set out the superb oaks now standing in Grace Street, which was named for one of his children, and gave its name to Lake Lucerne.

Mr. Boone married, April 24, 1873, Sarah F. Hughey, the daughter of Mr. James P. Hughey, for more than a score of years clerk of the Circuit Court; of their seven children two died in infancy; the survivors are Mrs. Maud Boone Rogers, Mrs. Clark Robertson, Miss Grace Boone, Dr. Cassius Boone and Mr. John K. Boone.

Mr. Boone died December 11, 1917 and was buried in Greenwood Cemetery, which he, with seven others, had laid out nearly half a century before his death.

*R. R. ROPER*

ROY REMLEY ROPER was born in Hernando County, September 22, 1883; his family moved back to Orange County when he was two years old, and he has made his home in the county until present time. He is the son of Preston Hill and Rebecca Hennes Roper. He is one of four children, two boys and two girls. Mr. Roper's mother was killed in a cyclone February 13, 1901,



at Winter Garden; his father was a leading stockman in Orange County, owning many thousands of cattle; he removed to Dania some twenty years ago.

Mr. Roper traveled out of Philadelphia and New York for fifteen years, buying fruit and vegetables; he now occupies his father's former home and grove in Winter Garden, comprising forty acres of citrus fruits; he also owns several business buildings in Winter Garden.

Mr Roper is active in the civic and religious affairs of his town; he served on the City Council of Winter Garden for one term, and is a director of the First National Bank. He is a member of the Winter Garden and Orange County Chambers of Commerce, a steward in the Methodist Episcopal Church, a Mason (Blue Lodge, Chapter and Commandery,) and a Shriner; he has held all the offices in the Blue Lodge of Winter Garden.

Mr. Roper married Nannie S. Shropshire of Paris, Kentucky, in December of 1913; they have one daughter, Alice Rebecca, who was born January 1, 1919.

#### *DR. R. J. SPRAGUE*

ROBERT JAMES SPRAGUE was born in Frankfort, Maine, January 19, 1868, the son of James E. and Cornelia K. Sprague. His ancestors came to Massachusetts in 1637, and fought in all the American wars from the battle of Lexington on to the Civil War.

Dr. Sprague received his education in the East Maine Conference Seminary, the Ohio Wesleyan University, the College of Liberal Arts of Boston University, from which he received the degree of Bachelor of Arts in 1897, and the Graduate School of Harvard University, which bestowed on him the degree of Master of Arts in 1900, and the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in 1901.

Dr. Sprague served for a time as superintendent of public schools in the Penobscot District of Maine. He was head of the department of Economics and History in Knox College from 1901-06, and of the Department of Economics and Sociology in the University of Maine from 1906-11. From 1911 to 1920 he was head of the Division of Humanities (Liberal Arts) and Professor of Economics and Sociology in the Massachusetts Agricultural College. The subjects which he was called upon to teach in these various institutions were such as these: Economics, Public Finance, Taxation, Business Organization and Administration, Labor and Industrial Problems, Social Institutions and Reform, Comparative Civilization, the History of Revolutionary Movements, Government and Politics, and International Law and Diplomacy. He has also published numerous monographs and articles on Taxation and Tax Reform, Bank Failures, Race Betterment, Eugenics, the American Family, Negro Problems, Revolutionary Movements, International Problems, and the like.



In addition to his academic work, Dr. Sprague has had a wide experience in practical matters. Before entering college, as a young man, he was secretary-treasurer of a District Assembly of the Granite Cutters' National Union, and of the Knights of Labor. In 1903-04 he was engaged in an Investigations Squad in the survey of special problems in Chicago. During two summer vacations, he acted as Investment Agent in the northwest for the Illinois Land Company. From 1909 to 1911, he was promoter and secretary of the "Maine 1920 Movement" which developed the roads and built up the civic interest of that state. He promoted the Miner's Chocolate Company of Springfield, Massachusetts, and served as Industrial Investigator and Adviser of the American Writing Paper Company of Holyoke. Since 1925, he has been a member of the National Council of the American Eugenics Associations, and chairman of the committee which is promoting interest and progress in eugenics in Florida.

Dr. Sprague has traveled extensively, for the purpose of studying the topics in which he has been interested; in 1898, in the British Islands; 1903, in Germany; 1906-08, as a research investigator in connection with the Carnegie Institution of Washington; and in 1919, in Southern Europe and the Mediterranean countries.

During the World War, Dr. Sprague served as organizer, in 1917-18, of the Student Army Training Corps in New England, in which he gave lectures. He saw overseas service in the Educational Corps of the American Expeditionary Force, serving as special lecturer on European and International Problems in all the camps of France and Germany, being selected by the Government to explain modern revolutionary movements; he was in Paris during the making of the Treaty.

Dr. Sprague is a member of the Beta Theta Pi, a college fraternity, the Phi Beta Kappa, and the Phi Kappa Phi, a graduate fraternity of the technical colleges; he is also a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He is a member of the Congregational Church, and was ordained as college preacher in 1904.

Dr. Sprague came to Winter Park in September, 1920. During the two following years he served as Dean of Rollins College and Professor of Economics and Sociology. He was acting president during the years 1922-24, then for two years dean and professor, and since 1926 Professor of Economics and Sociology.

Dr. Sprague married Helen M. Guernsey of Winchester, Mass., September 15, 1900; their children are Eleanor Margaret, Richard Guernsey, Frances Guernsey, Robert Guernsey and Miriam Guernsey.



*M. M. SMITH*

MICHAEL MCKENZY SMITH was born in Tattnall County, Georgia, the son of James B. and Georgia Anna Smith. Mr. Smith's father was a very prominent man in his county, being elected at different times to various county offices, and representing the county in the state Legislature a number of times.

He went to Valdosta when but a boy. For a number of years he was a clerk in a general store, afterwards engaging in the naval stores producing business in Columbia County, Florida, and Lowndes County, Georgia. In 1900, Mr. Smith came to Orange County, where he continued the manufacture of naval stores, and engaged in buying and selling large tracts of timbered lands; he moved his family to Winter Park early in 1902.

Mr. Smith received his early education in the common schools of Georgia.

In 1906 Mr. Smith was the prime mover in the organization of the Orlando Bank & Trust Company, of which institution he was first vice-president for seven years, and then president for three years, succeeding the late Judge James D. Beggs. Likewise in 1906, Mr. Smith organized the Peoples' Bank of Sanford, of which institution he was president ten years. Also, about 1908, he organized the Bank of Winter Garden, of which institution he was a director for eleven years. In 1910 or 1911, he organized the Bank of Oviedo, and was president of this institution for three years. In 1915, Mr. Smith was appointed by Governor Park Trammell to membership on the State Road Department of Florida, which department was created by the Legislature of that year. At the end of one year, and the expiration of this appointment, he was reappointed by Governor Trammell to membership in the department for four years, the last two years of which time he served as chairman of the board, and it was under his administration that the foundation for the system of state highways which is now being built, was laid.

For many years Mr. Smith was a strong and active advocate of the abolition of what is known as the convict-lease system, through which all state prisoners were leased out to private workers, such as naval stores, phosphate and saw-mill operators; and it is rather a coincidence that through the Legislative enactment of the session of 1919, this system was abolished and the able-bodied state prisoners put to work on the public highways under Mr. Smith's supervision as chairman of the State Road Department.

In 1915, the Florida State Automobile Association was incorporated, and Mr. Smith was elected president, which office he has held continuously from year to year until the present time.

Mr. Smith is a member of the Methodist Church in Winter Park, of which church he has been a trustee for more than twenty years. He also served on the County Board of Education a part of one term, filling out the





*Cary Hand*



unexpired term of Mr. E. L. Thrasher, when Orange County was divided and Seminole County was created through such division; and he was trustee of the Winter Park high school for six years; he also served on the Town Council of Winter Park for about a year.

Mr. Smith married Kate Fry at Valdosta, Georgia; their children are Stella (Mrs. Walter W. Rose of Orlando); Berta (Mrs. Arthur Schultz of Winter Park); Louise (Mrs. J. C. Lettice of Winter Park), and M. M. Smith, Jr., now a student in the University of Florida.

Mr. Smith's many and varied activities, as banker, business man and official, together with his genial disposition and cordial manner, have won for him a wide circle of friends in Orange County and throughout the state.

### *CAREY HAND*

CAREY HAND was born October 18, 1878, in Shelbyville, Indiana; he is the son of Elijah and Sarah Davis Hand.

Elijah Hand was one of Orlando's pioneer business men, coming here before the building of the South Florida railway. He was the second undertaker in the town, and built up an extensive and profitable furniture and undertaking business. He continued to live in Orlando until his death, January 29, 1915.

Carey Hand received his elementary education in the public schools of Shelbyville, and took a course in an Indiana College of Embalming. He engaged in the furniture and undertaking business successively in Elwood, Carthage and Greensburgh, Indiana. He sold his business in Greensburgh at the close of the year 1906, and arrived in Orlando in January of 1907. For a number of years he was associated with his father in his business, and bought him out in February of 1914, since which time he has done a large and constantly increasing business.

Mr. Hand built the handsome and convenient Funeral Home in 1918; in 1925 he added a crematory, the first to be built south of Washington and Cincinnati.

Mr. Hand is a charter member of the Rotary club, a member of the Orlando and Orange County Chambers of Commerce, a 32nd degree Mason, a Shriner, a Knight of Pythias and an Odd Fellow. He is also a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. He has always been greatly interested in the Boy Scout work, and has taken an active part in advancing many enterprises for the growth and improvement of Orlando. With Mrs. Hand, he is a member of the First Church of Christ, Scientist.

Mr. Hand married Nellie G. Rybolt of Greensburgh, Indiana, on September 6, 1905.



*W. C. ESSINGTON*

WALTER CARLIN ESSINGTON was born in Noblesville, Indiana, November 8, 1885, the son of J. G. and Elizabeth Essington. His early education was obtained in the public schools of Noblesville, including the high school; he then studied in Purdue University.

On the completion of his university course, Mr. Essington engaged in the newspaper business in Indiana, in which he continued until his removal to Orlando in October of 1914.

Mr. Essington and Mr. William M. Glenn purchased the Orlando Morning Sentinel, Mr. Glenn acting as editor, and Mr. Essington as publisher and business manager; he continued in this business, which was highly successful, until July, 1925, when he sold his interest to Mr. Glenn.

Mr. Essington is a member of the Kiwanis Club of Orlando, of which he was the first president; he is also president of the Orlando Country Club, a member of the Masonic order, a Knight of Pythias, and an Elk. He is a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Orlando.

Mr. Essington married Shirley Craig November 15, 1906; they have had one child, a daughter, Elizabeth, who lived only one year.

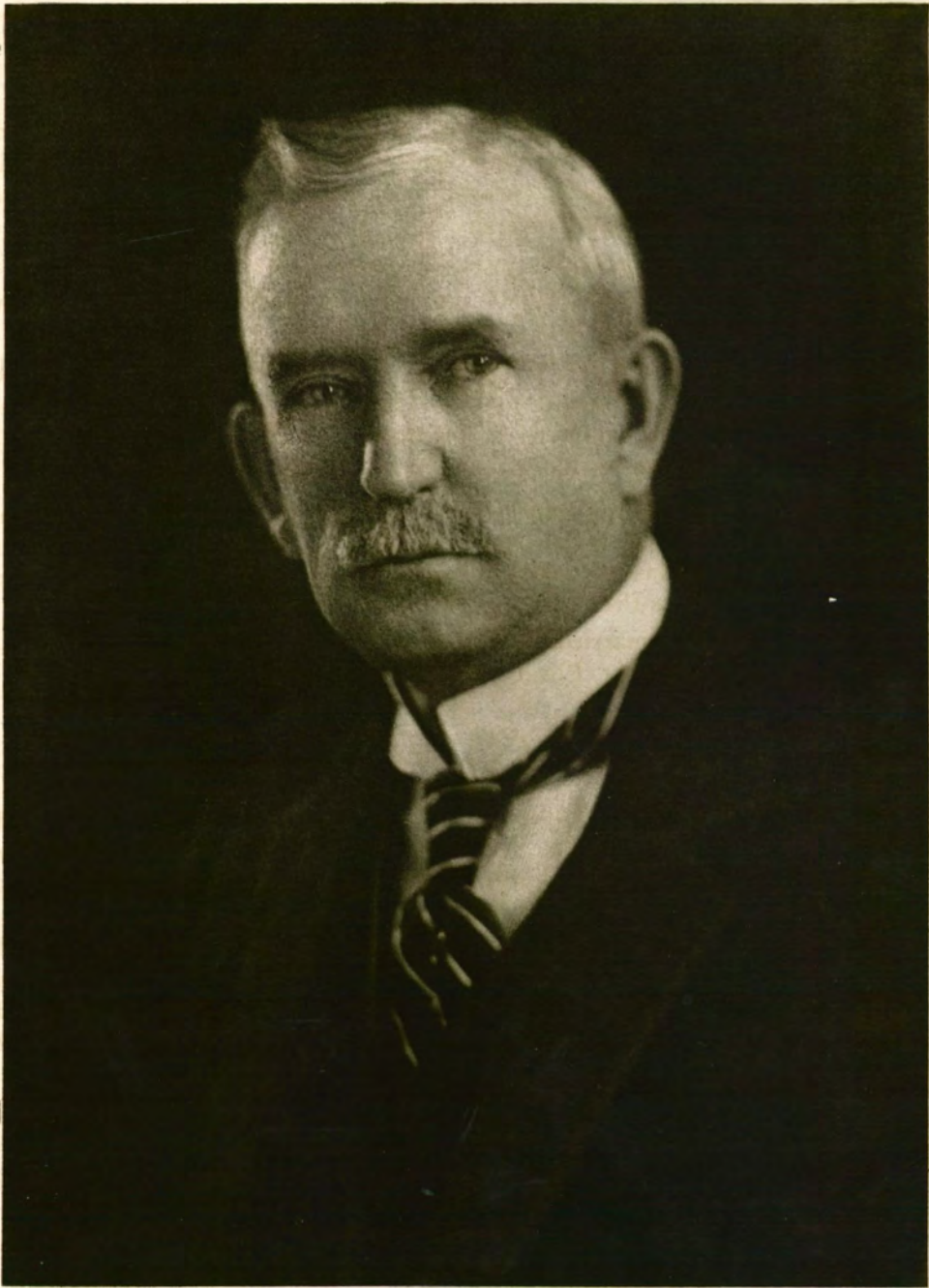
*FRANK L. FERGUSON*

FRANKLIN LADU FERGUSON was born in Tamworth, Ontario, Canada, June 21, 1861, the son of Rev. John Ferguson, a Methodist minister, and Catherine Matilda Pomeroy Ferguson. His father was a direct descendent of the Ferguson clan of the north of Scotland, of which Annie Laurie was a member, and his mother was descended from the original Pomeroy who came over in the Mayflower and whose genealogy goes back to the Huguenots. His parents settled near Firth, Ontario, and his father served in the Methodist ministry for some sixty years, and was closely identified with the founding of Albert College, in Belleville.

Born in a Methodist parsonage, Mr. Ferguson attended various village schools, and was prepared for college in the high schools of Athens and Iroquois. At fourteen, he matriculated at Albert College, and after completing his college course entered into business.

In 1888, he graduated from the Yale Divinity School and became pastor of the First Congregational Church of Milford, Connecticut, one of the oldest and largest Congregational churches in that state. During his pastorate of three years, the town and church celebrated their 250th anniversary, the occasion being one of the most memorable in the history of the church. His preaching attracted unusually large congregations, and the church had exceptional prosperity in all departments.





L. L. Ferguson



In 1890, he accepted a call to the pastorate of the First Congregational Church, Chadron, Nebraska, and to the principalship of Chadron Academy. The deciding factor in the exchange was his earnest desire to become associated with educational work in the growing west. Chadron Academy was the only institution of higher education in an area of 300 miles. His success in the organization and development of this institution attracted the attention of the directors of the American Education Society, afterwards known as the Congregational Education Society, of Boston. After three years at Chadron he accepted the secretaryship of this society, founded a hundred years before for the purpose of aiding young men to secure a higher education for the ministry and fostering young and struggling colleges in the west and south. He was the youngest man ever called to so important an office by any of the national societies conducting Congregational missions. He had the supervision of eight colleges and more than a dozen western preparatory schools. He was unusually successful in securing large gifts from the wealthy men and women of New England for the maintenance of the young institutions of higher learning. Rollins College at Winter Park was one of the beneficiary institutions. The permanent funds of the Education Society were doubled during his administration. He also had the special confidence of Dr. D. K. Pearson of Chicago, who gave several millions of dollars to various institutions of higher education, including Rollins College, which had the endorsement and financial assistance of the Education Society.

At that time, overtures were made to him to consider the presidency of Rollins College. Later, he accepted the presidency of Pomona College in southern California, which was in imminent financial peril. The friends of the college in California and many others in New England rallied at once to pay its indebtedness. Under his administration the college flourished, and became the third largest institution of higher learning in California.

After four years of service in Pomona, Mr. Ferguson decided to enter business life and returned to Boston, where he owned considerable real estate. In the most attractive suburbs of Boston, he developed various tracts of land and built homes and business blocks thereon. In 1906, New York City appealed to him as a larger field for real estate investments and operations. He became the president and manager of six real estate corporations, and developed large tracts of land in the Boroughs of Brooklyn and Queens, more particularly in Jamaica and vicinity. He built several hundred houses, and some business blocks and apartment hotels.

Having been influenced as a young man by the writings, lectures and sermons of Henry Ward Beecher, Mr. Ferguson and his family became members of Plymouth Church, Brooklyn. He was made chairman of its music committee, then of its finance committee, and later served as president of its board of trustees for several years. While president of the board, Plymouth Church celebrated the hundredth anniversary of Mr. Beecher's birth and spent



several hundred thousand dollars in the erection of the Arbuckle Memorial Institute and of a monument to Mr. Beecher, on land immediately adjoining the church property. To start this great memorial program Mr. Ferguson purchased four lots directly opposite the church, which had been chosen originally for the location of Mr. Beecher's monument, on condition that the church would buy the property adjoining its own. He now wears a locket and watch chain given to him by the trustees of Plymouth in expression of their confidence and gratitude. He served with Dr. Lyman Abbott, successor of Mr. Beecher, as pastor of Plymouth, and Dr. Rossiter W. Raymond, as a committee of three in revising its creed. He also gave to Plymouth Church a memorial window, being one of a series of windows designed to show the growth of Puritanism in the United States, and dedicated it to the founders of Christian Education. Its inscription consists of the famous words of Rev. Mannasseh Cutler as he stood on the top of the Allegheny Mountains, and, looking over the Ohio and Mississippi valleys, uttered the prophetic words, "I hear the tramp of a million," by which he foretold the tremendous growth of the New West. Mr. Ferguson now attends the Congregational Church in Winter Park, whose pastor, Dr. C. A. Vincent, he first met at Yale as a fellow student.

In 1919, seeking the restoration of his health which had been impaired by many years of overwork, he came to Florida to spend the winter of 1919-20. After carefully investigating the other cities of south Florida he chose to locate in Orlando, with its beautiful lakes and large oak trees which suggest New England communities renowned for scenic beauty.

He has always been active in civic and political affairs. At Chadron, Nebraska, at the time of the great Populistic movement which swept over the west, besides being pastor of the local Congregational Church and president of the academy which is now a state Normal School, he purchased and combined the local Republican and Populist newspapers, for which he wrote all the editorials. He advocated the gold standard, and was invited to be a candidate on the Republican ticket for Congress, but declined to give up his professional work for a political career.

While in business in Boston he became one of the Selectmen of Winchester. Living in New York during the presidential campaign when Roosevelt ran against Taft, he became chairman of the Progressive Committee of Queens Borough and a member of the New York State Committee. He was also at the head of the non-Partisan Committee of the Borough of Queens when Mitchell was nominated and elected mayor of New York City. Overtures were made to him at that time to run on the non-Partisan ticket for the presidency of the Borough of Queens, which he declined to consider.

In Orlando he has shown an active interest in all civic matters. He has been president of the South Orlando Civic Association and of the South Dixie Association since their origin. He headed the movement for the widening of



Kuhl Avenue, also for the South Dixie Highway from the southern limits of Orlando to the northern limits of Osceola County.

Mr. Ferguson is a member of the Yale Club and the Orlando Chamber of Commerce. He married Margaret Jeannette Maxwell, September 16, 1884, in Fremont, Nebraska. Mrs. Ferguson is the daughter of Hon. Samuel Maxwell of Fremont, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Nebraska. She graduated from Brownell Hall, Omaha, gold medallist of her class. Their children are Dr. John Maxwell Ferguson, professor of Economics in the University of Pittsburg, and Franklin Pomeroy Ferguson, attorney of New York; both are graduates of Phillips Andover Academy, Harvard University and Columbia University (post-graduate degrees). A daughter, Jeannette, graduate of Barnard College, New York, died in 1919.

### *S. A. ROBINSON*

SAMUEL AUSTIN ROBINSON was born in Emmett, Calhoun County, Michigan, near Battle Creek, March 12, 1849. He was the son of Samuel Parks and Urania Parks Robinson, of Livonia, New York, and was one of a family of about a score of children. He was a descendant of Richard Wallace, who was noted for having swum Lake Champlain in ice water, during the Revolutionary War, to deliver an important message to an officer on the other side. His ancestors came from England, and his grandfather moved from Schoharie County, New York, to Michigan in the early days of that state.

Mr. Robinson's father died before his birth. He attended the country school until he reached the age of thirteen years, after which he lived with a Presbyterian clergyman for sometime, helping on the farm, and receiving private instruction; later, he taught school in Indiana, returned to Michigan, was married and came to Florida for the purpose of setting out an orange grove for his brother Norman, who subsequently followed him to the state, and became a notable figure in the life of Orlando and of Rollins College, where he served as a professor.

Mr. Robinson came to Orlando in the fall of 1876, and built a log house on the site now occupied by Mr. Carl Dann's home; this was a part of his brother Norman's grove property. He filled in the chinks between the logs with plaster; this was the only house constructed in this way, and aroused a great deal of interest and curiosity among his neighbors, as did the organ which he brought with him from Michigan; few of the residents had ever seen such an instrument.

Mr. Robinson was for sixteen years county surveyor, and laid out many of the present highways, and also a number of nearby towns. He served for five years as state and county assessor, and was a member of



the state Legislature for two terms. He gave to the Metropolitan Museum of New York many valuable specimens of gold, silver and ornaments which he unearthed from Indian mounds in Florida; he also gave a number of similar specimens to Orlando, and provided suitable cases for them at his own expense.

Some further account of Mr. Robinson's activities may be found in the catalogue of the pioneer settlers of Orlando, in Section One of this work, and in the account of Greenwood Cemetery.

Mr. Robinson was one of Orlando's most useful citizens, and it is fitting that his name should be perpetuated with honor in Robinson Avenue.

Mr. Robinson married Mary Agnes Bird of Pennfield, Michigan, May 25, 1876; their children were Ede Urania (Mrs. William Palmer Pillans of Lakeland), and Alice Beauclaire of Orlando; a son, Samuel Clyde, died in infancy. Mrs. Robinson died in California September 16, 1917, and Mr. Robinson died in Orlando February 21, 1926; both were interred in Greenwood Cemetery, which Mr. Robinson laid out and loved.

#### *MAJOR C. A. BROWNE*

CHARLES A. BROWNE has been identified with the construction of hard-surfaced roads in Orange County since January 1, 1922, previous to which date he was for several years State Highway Engineer for Florida. This latter position he resigned to accept the offer of the Board of County Commissioners of Orange County, to take charge of the road construction under the two and one-half million dollar bond issue which was voted in 1921, and which up to that time was the largest bond issue for roads ever voted by a Florida county. He also was retained by the county to supervise the construction of the roads now being built under the seven-million dollar bond issue voted in 1926, which is the largest issue of bonds to date for that purpose voted by any county in Florida, and possibly by any county in the United States; which goes to show that Orange County not only leads Florida in the construction of roads, but probably leads the world.

Major Browne was with the Federal Government in construction work under the corps of engineers of the United States Army, and has a record of twenty-five years in the location and construction of hard-surfaced roads. He is a recognized authority not only in Florida, but in other states and by the Bureau of Public Roads in Washington.

Major Browne was born in Galena, Ohio, and completed his education at the Ohio Wesleyan University at Delaware. He married Mrs. Hariot Hitchcox-Joy of Delaware, and they have three sons and one daughter. Two of





*Samuel A. Robinson*



the sons are located in Birmingham, Alabama, and one in Chicago. The daughter, Christine, is in Orlando.

Major Browne is a Mason, being a Past Master of the Princeton, Illinois, Lodge, No. 587, a member of the Phi Delta Theta fraternity, and president of the Orlando Alumni Chapter. He is also a director of the Florida State Automobile Association and of the County Highway Officials' Division of the American Road Builders' Association. He is vice-president of the Recreation Department of Orlando, and a member of the city Planning and Zoning Commission. He is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers, the American Association of Engineers, and the Society of American Military Engineers, and vice-president of the Florida Engineering Society. He is also a vice-president of the Orange County Mortgage & Investment Corporation, and a member of the Orlando Chamber of Commerce and the Lion's Club.

### *R. G. ROBINSON*

RICHARD GOLDSBOROUGH ROBINSON was born near Louisville, Kentucky, March 16, 1844.

Among the early settlers of Orange County who braved pioneer hardships and discouragements with unwavering faith and courage, few gave themselves more unstintedly and efficiently for the welfare and development of the county than did Richard Goldsborough Robinson, who came from Kentucky in 1875 to homestead land where later the town of Zellwood was established.

With Jacksonville then the nearest railroad point, his journey was continued by river boat to Mellonville and thence on horseback to the location of his new home, where he lived alone in a primitive shack for a year until he could build a small house, where his wife and three small children joined him in December, 1876.

With no sawmill available, no transportation facilities, no roads except a few sand trails, the erection of even a small cottage presented difficulties now hard to comprehend. Each piece of timber, from the foundations up, including flooring and shingles, had to be riven by hand from trees felled for that purpose. Later a larger log house replaced this early building.

Together Mr. and Mrs. Robinson gave their utmost energy and ability to promote the neighborhood welfare. Their home speedily became noted for its simple but ever gracious and genuine hospitality, freely offered to stranger and to friend amid varied and strange claims upon their sympathy or assistance, their advice or encouragement; and it was a center for happy neighborhood gatherings, gladly shared by residents from far and near, for music and other recreations.

Here the first school in that section was held. Desiring to continue regular lessons for her own children, Mrs. Robinson invited others who were grow-



ing up with no school privileges, to share her daily instructions, patiently teaching nearly grown boys and girls to read and write, instilling meanwhile a lasting influence for higher ideals, beloved by all who knew her.

When, largely through Mr. Robinson's efforts, a post office was established at Zellwood, the Robinson home was the only location available. William Terry, another early settler, was made first postmaster, on May 12, 1877, but soon resigned and Mrs. Robinson was in charge from February 2, 1878 until she resigned, September 19, 1882.

Mr. and Mrs. Robinson gave five acres of their homestead as a location for an Episcopal Church, and another large lot for a public school. Both buildings, of hand riven timbers, were designed by Mr. Robinson and were erected under his guidance, he and other men of the community donating their time and labor each Saturday until both school and church were completed. Shortly afterward, this church was completely wrecked by the storm of Aug. 31-Sept. 2, 1880, when Mr. and Mrs. Robinson started work anew toward the pretty Gothic church built in 1885. Mr. Robinson served as lay-reader between the infrequent visits of early missionaries, while Mrs. Robinson was organist and choir leader, and nurtured the Sunday school which was started through her efforts.

Mr. Robinson was instrumental in bringing a railroad through Zellwood, the Tavares, Orlando and Atlantic (now the Seaboard Air Line) completed early in 1885; and his ardent, unceasing advocacy of good roads greatly furthered early steps toward Orange County's excellent road system of today. He served with Mr. H. H. Dickson and others on the first good roads committee of this county. Gaining the interest and cooperation of later Zellwood settlers, Mr. Robinson made practical demonstration there of the value and feasibility of clay, as the only road material then available. With clay roads then almost unknown, the Zellwood sample was widely noted and adopted elsewhere.

As vice-president and business manager of the Naples Company for a long period following the founding of Naples on the gulf coast late in 1885, Mr. Robinson worked zealously for that early development. The president and most of the directors were prominent business men of Louisville, but the secretary-treasurer was Mr. C. W. Jacocks of Orlando, and another director was Dr. J. Oscar Lorraine of Zellwood, father of Hal Lorraine who is justice of the peace in Orlando.

Amid constant press of other work, Mr. Robinson studied law and practiced with distinction after admission to the bar. He was twice chosen as representative to the state legislature, ably serving this district in that capacity in 1885 and 1887. For many years he was justice of the peace at Zellwood.

Devoting himself with marked success to orange culture, Mr. Robinson had charge of large groves for northern residents who were attracted to this



county through excellent descriptive articles which he wrote for magazines and newspapers. His writings were welcomed by Lippincott's, McClure's, the Youths Companion, the Louisville Courier Journal, the Chicago Record and other publications, besides his frequent editorials and other contributions on state and county topics in local papers.

Then came the "big freeze" of 1894-95, which not only killed all groves to the ground, but destroyed confidence in orange culture when that was practically the only industry. Hardship and anxiety beyond that of earlier years pressed heavily, while Mr. Robinson struggled to support his large family through his law work and his pen.

He made vigorous and effective protest in behalf of his community against having the Zellwood section included in Lake county when effort to claim that additional portion of Orange County was made by promoters of the new county.

In 1897, Mr. Robinson was appointed county solicitor and moved his family to Orlando, where he resided until his death, July 30, 1901. He was the oldest son of Archibald Magill Robinson, who moved from Virginia to Louisville in early manhood, and Mary Louise Taylor Robinson, niece of Gen. Zackary Taylor. On Feb. 12, 1867, he married Laura Pickett Thomas of Holly Springs, Mississippi, who died on May 10, 1901. Of their nine children, three sons and three daughters who survive are Thomas Pickett Robinson, Arthur Laurence Robinson, Corinne Robinson and Mrs. Louis C. Massey, all of Orlando; Mrs. Roy V. Ott of Ocala and Edward Senteny Robinson of DeLand. Two who died at Zellwood were Mary Evermont, Dec. 20, 1891 and David Irwin May 15, 1889. Another son, Charles Bonner, carried forward his parents' high ideals and sterling character in marked degree, holding from boyhood the highest esteem of all who knew him, winning a high place in the county and state bar associations, retained as counsel by the Board of County Commissioners and by the Seaboard railroad. His death in Orlando on March 20, 1923, removed a citizen widely known and beloved, and keenly missed.

#### *W. F. BLOODGOOD*

WILLIAM FRANCIS BLOODGOOD was born in Northville, Michigan, November 20, 1864, the son of Rev. George Whistler and Anna Perrin Mobley Bloodgood. His father, a native of Albany, New York, was an Episcopalian minister, and his mother was a native of England. The Bloodgoods are of Dutch descent, the first of the name having come from Holland to Maine in 1645.

Mr. Bloodgood was educated in the public schools of Michigan. His early life was spent in his native state; later, he lived for fifteen years in Missouri. He was a marine engineer by profession, serving in steamships



on the Great Lakes. He afterward engaged in sanitary engineering, specializing in steam-fitting and plumbing.

Mr. Bloodgood moved to Tangerine in 1916, to take charge of the extensive citrus properties known as the Hunt groves.

Robert W. Hunt was a native of Bucks County, Pennsylvania, and was among the pioneer American experimenters in the making of steel, after graduating from the Renselaer Polytechnic Institute of Troy, New York, of which he was later a trustee. He was connected with the Cambria Iron Company, and the Griswold Bessemer Works; he was also president of the American Institute of Mining Engineers.

Mrs. Hunt's sister was related to Mr. Raymond Wright, one of the founders of Tangerine, and was herself the owner of an orange grove in that settlement. Mrs. Hunt joined her sister in the citrus industry; she still spends her winters in Tangerine.

Mr. Bloodgood has for many years been in charge of this beautiful grove of seventy-four acres which lies on both sides of the Dixie Highway, and which attracts the admiring attention of all passers-by.

Mr. Bloodgood is an Odd Fellow, a Macabee and an Elk. He is president of the Tangerine Improvement Society and of the Mount Dora Citrus Sub-Exchange; he is an Episcopalian.

Mr. Bloodgood married Stella Scofield Clark of Detroit, December 14, 1898; they have one daughter, Frances Elanor, now a student in the Florida College for Women in Tallahassee.

### *E. L. SPAHLER*

EDWARD LEE SPAHLER was born near Columbia, South Carolina, February 18, 1877, the son of Edward and Emeline Hutto Spahler.

Mr. Spahler's father was of German descent but American birth; his mother was also born in America, of English parentage.

Mr. Spahler received his early education in the public schools of South Carolina, afterwards being engaged in farming and in the naval stores industry in his native state. He came to DeSoto County in 1903, lived in Polk County the following year, and came to Orange County in 1905, being engaged in the naval stores business in all three counties.

Mr. Spahler settled in what is now Taft, then Smithville, in 1905, and removed to Pinecastle in 1909. In Taft, he bought out the general stores of Addon Brothers and of Edge and Howard, running the business for some four years, converting the commissary which he had previously operated into a general store. This business he sold to his brother, Mr. D. B. Spahler, when he removed to Pinecastle; here he engaged for a time in the general mercantile business, afterward operating a lumber yard and a store for building materials and hardware; this business he began in 1920, and continues in it until the present time. While residing in Taft, he dealt largely in real estate, and still owns considerable land in that neighborhood.



Mr. Spahler served as a member of the Board of County Commissioners in 1918-20; he also served as school trustee in Pinecastle for several terms. He is a member of the Orange County and Pinecastle Chambers of Commerce, and of the Pinecastle Baptist Church.

Mr. Spahler has been interested and helpful in the development of Pinecastle, where he now resides; he has built seven dwellings and warehouses there, and has otherwise promoted the growth of the town.

Mr. Spahler married Lora Sightler in 1899.

#### *DR. D. L. ANDREWS*

LAURIN LUNDY ANDREWS was born in Beloit, Mitchell County, Kansas, the son of John Wendell and Louise Jennie Hiddleson Andrews. His father was a native of Ireland and came to America at the age of eleven years; his mother was born in Illinois, her father being of Pennsylvania Dutch parentage and her mother of English extraction.

Dr. Andrews received his elementary education in the public schools of Kansas, and graduated from the Emporia State Normal School, Latin-English course, in 1902; he also graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Arts from the State University at Lawrence, in 1908, and from the George Washington Medical University, of Washington, D. C., in 1910, receiving the degree of Doctor of Medicine; since then he has been engaged in the active practice of medicine, one year in California, three years in Atlanta where he had charge of a small sanitarium, three years in Fort Myers, in private practice, and ten years in Orange County.

In 1917, Dr. Andrews accepted the superintendency of the Florida Sanitarium in Orlando, and continues still in that position.

The Florida Sanitarium and Benevolent Association was started in 1908, under the auspices of the Seventh Day Adventist Church Conference of Florida. Beginning in a humble way, it has enjoyed steady growth and enlargement. At present, it occupies sixteen buildings, well equipped for their respective uses in housing and caring for the large sanitarium family of about a hundred and seventy-five employees, and a company of patients amounting to about one hundred and twenty-five. It has a well-equipped surgical department, and a medical and surgical staff of four regular graduate physicians and surgeons. Dr. Andrews, the medical superintendent and chief of staff, specializes in surgery, gynecology and obstetrics. The chemical laboratories are modern and well equipped. A regular licensed training school for nurses is maintained, with a rigid course of study covering three years, and a student body of about seventy-five nurses in attendance.

Dr. Andrews is a member of the Orlando Chamber of Commerce, and the institution has taken out three additional memberships. He is a member of the Seventh Day Adventist Church.

Dr. Andrews married Myrtle Alice Bristol, of Washington, D. C., Sep-



tember 30, 1911; she died in Atlanta, September 1, 1913, leaving a babe who died in 1915.

### *W. W. ROSE*

WALTER WASHINGTON ROSE was born in Athens, Georgia, June 9, 1888, the son of B. O. W. and Georgia A. Rose. His early education was obtained in the schools of Georgia. After leaving school, he became connected with the Western Union Telegraph Company, and was manager of their offices in several Georgia cities while still in his 'teens.

While connected with the Western Union, Mr. Rose came to Orlando in November of 1909, for the purpose of making a transfer of the office, but was ordered by the superintendent to take charge of the office himself; this work he continued for six months. He then travelled for a specialty house for two years, out of Orlando.

Mr. Rose entered the real estate business in Orlando in 1913, with a cash capital of twenty-five dollars. From the beginning, the idea of developing properties made a special appeal to him, and his business history shows that each year one or more subdivisions have been created and sold. During this time, no detail of service was overlooked, and Mr. Rose's motto, "Deliver the Service and the Dollars Will Take Care of Themselves," continued to attract desirable purchasers to the Walter W. Rose Investment Company, the firm name adopted by him in September of 1925.

Some of the better known of these subdivisions are Oak Hill, Rose-arden, Buena Vista, Eola Rose, Rosemere and Rose Terrace, and finally the development which was the fruition of his dream of creating a subdivision which would not only be a desirable place in which to live, but would serve also as a definite expression of an ideal of beauty and community betterment—this development is Orwin Manor.

In addition to the properties which Mr. Rose has himself developed and marketed, he has shown a general and vital interest in the progress of the community, the county, and the state. He was largely instrumental in drafting and procuring the passage of Florida's first real estate license law, and was appointed by the governor as the first chairman of the Real Estate Commission; he also assisted in further perfecting this law by the addition of various amendments, as new contingencies arose. He was one of the organizers of the Orlando Realty Board, and served for two terms as president of the State Association of Real Estate Boards. He has also been a director of the National Association of Real Estate Boards, and served for one term as vice-president of this organization.

It has been a rule of Mr. Rose's business life to give one-half of his time to work for affairs of public interest; he was one of the organizers of the Florida State League of Baseball Clubs; he served throughout the war as chairman of the Orange County Council of Defense; he is a member of the Orlando and Orange County Chambers of Commerce, a Mason, an Elk and a Knight of Pythias.



## *Index of Biographical Sketches*

(NOTE: Orange County seems to have been a human "melting-pot," the ingredients of which have come from far and near. The more than three hundred persons particularly mentioned in the following biographical sketches were born as follows: In Switzerland, Italy and Holland, one each; in India, two; in England and Scotland, three each; in Germany, four; and in Canada, six—a total of foreign nativity of twenty. Three were born in Maine, four in New Hampshire, one in Rhode Island, one in Connecticut, fourteen in Massachusetts, and four in Vermont, a total for New England of twenty-seven. Nineteen were born in New York, three in New Jersey, twenty in Pennsylvania, four in Maryland, and one in the District of Columbia. Nineteen were natives of Ohio, four of Indiana, thirteen of Illinois, seven of Michigan, three of Wisconsin, two of Minnesota, four of Missouri, three of Kansas, two of Iowa, three of Nebraska, two of North Dakota, and two of South Dakota. Ten were born in Kentucky, nine in Tennessee, ten in Virginia, one in West Virginia, sixteen in North Carolina, five in South Carolina, thirty-three in Georgia, six in Alabama, three in Mississippi, five in Louisiana, and one in Texas. Forty-nine were born in Florida, and twenty-six were native sons of Orange County. The following fourteen states made no contribution to this number: Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Delaware, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Oregon, Utah, Washington and Wyoming.)

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