

# *Search For Yesterday*

## **A History of Levy County, Florida**



### **Chapter Fourteen**



June - 1985

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# EARLY NEWSPAPERS

By Jack Holland

Newspapers are the daily journals of a community's activities. It is history recorded on site. You will find the chronicals of events which have shaped, are shaping, and will shape the development of the area and growth of its people by reading its newspapers. This chapter takes a look at those Levy County newspapers that recorded the daily events of the people they served from the middle of the 1800's to the present.

*The Florida Dispatch of Newsnansville* is the oldest weekly newspaper of record to serve Levy County. The paper's service began before the county was created out of a portion of the western portion of Alachua County in 1845. Many subscribers continued to receive the paper even after the establishment of the first newspaper of record in new county. Legal notices appeared in *Dispatch* as well as the *Florida Times-Union*, a young daily published in Jacksonville in the early years. The practice of using out-of-county newspapers following the establishment of the first newspaper within the county was because of the need to reach all of the county residents. Early small weeklies had localized subscription lists.

Levy County's first newspaper of record was *The Telegraph*. The first publication appeared during January of 1860 in Cedar Key. The paper was published each Saturday by owner, Charles W. Blanchard. E. M. Graham served as editor. A reproduction of a front page of the *Telegraph* appears within this chapter and illustrates the typical "tombstone" appearance of newspapers of that era. The paper was entirely hand-set in a small shop in the island community. No dates has been determined when this paper ceased publication nor are there any indications it merged with other publications appearing on the scene in the early 1860's.

*The Bronson Artery*, published at Bronson, was in publication on October 24, 1874 and carried legal advertising for the county. A paper must be published for 52 consecutive weeks to be considered an eligible newspaper for a special second-class mailing permit from the United States Postal Service. This was and still held as a general qualification for papers seeking to carry official notices for government agencies. Owners of the paper were J. Ira Gore and another man named Burford (last name). Burford was listed as editor. This was another small hand-set week-

ly. Records have not been found to establish the life-span of this newspaper.

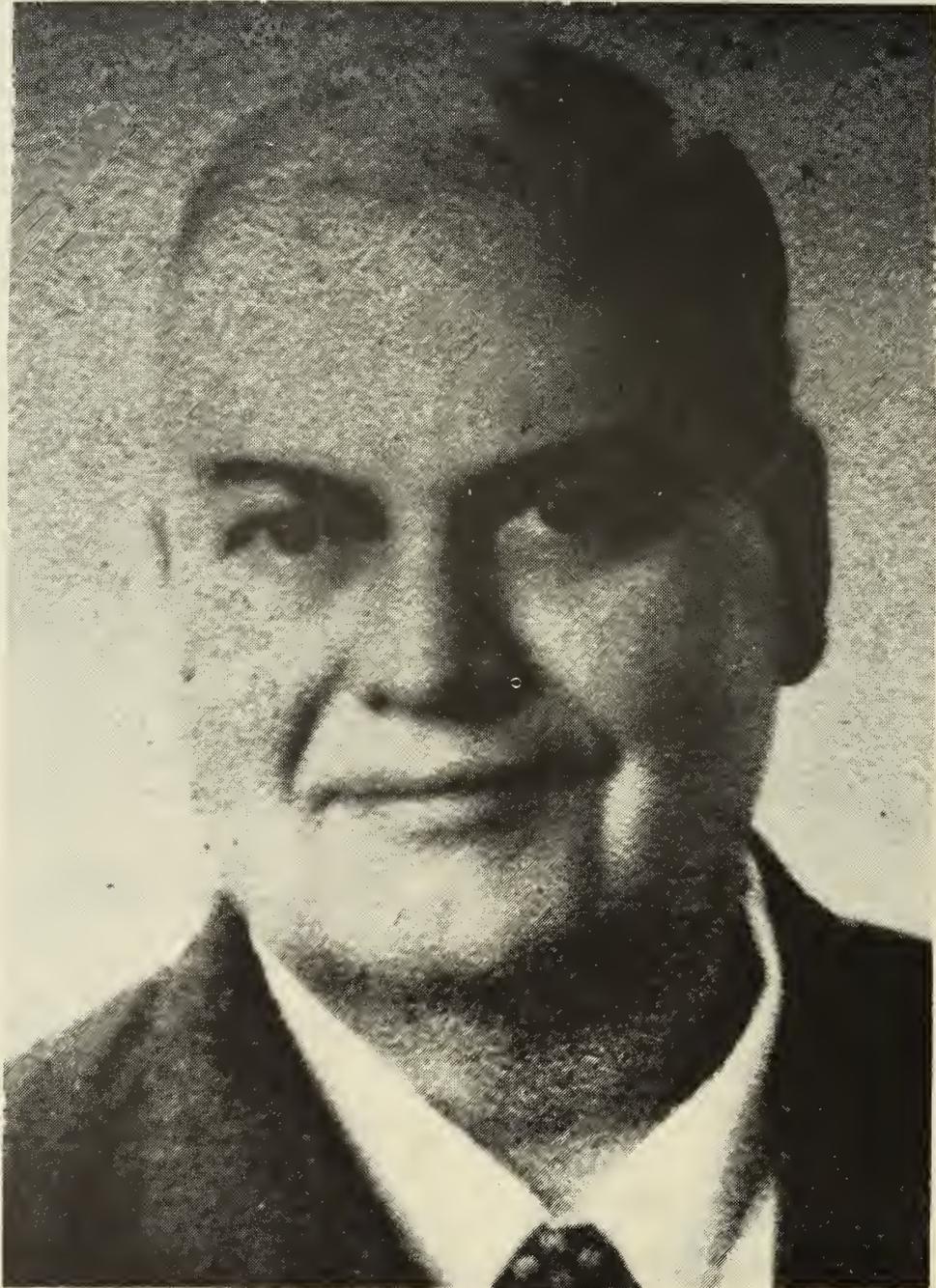
*The Levy County Times* began publication in 1879 in Bronson. County record reflect its name over the next several years; the last report being in late 1888. Research did not produce the name of the paper's owner or editor. *The Times* is mentioned in later years in the *Levy-Times Democrat* as being a merger of a new weekly, *The Democrat*, with the older paper, *The Levy County Times*. *The Democrat* began its publication in 1892 and the first edition carried in its masthead the name, *The Levy-Times Democrat*.

Two brothers, J. Ira and F. S. Gore began the weekly newspaper, *Florida State Journal* in Cedar Key during January 1875. Ira Gore served as editor until around 1883. Records of news clippings show Dr. R. H. McIlvane was serving as editor during 1877. This newspaper provided local news and news from around the nation and a few foreign countries brought in by the sailing ships. The paper was published on Saturdays. A year's subscription was \$2.00. This newspaper ceased publishing sometime in the middle or late 1880's.

From 1890 through 1905 there were frequent changes in ownership and number of newspapers serving the county. J. Ira Gore, one of the original owner-publishers of the *Florida State Journal*, Cedar Key, showed up in records of *The Cedar Key Commercial*, dated April 12, 1890 as editor. It could not be determined if Gore was the owner of this short-lived newspaper.

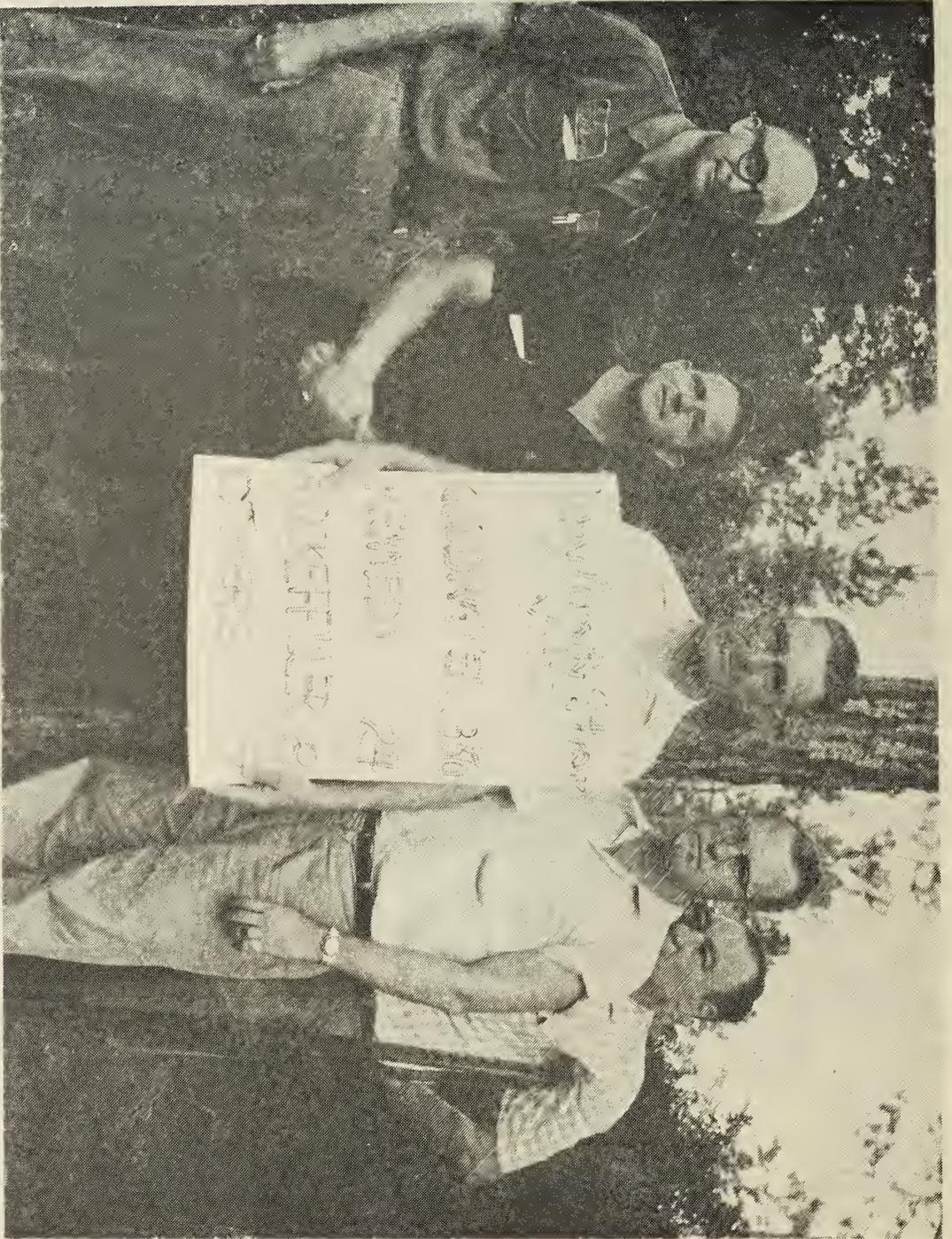
*The Levy Times-Democrat*, a combination of a new and an old newspaper, was first published in Bronson by O. J. Farmer. (See *The Levy County Times* above.) Farmer served as editor in the early years. P. B. Butler served as editor during 1915. Other editors were J. C. Sale, 1916; Lydia Bell, 1919; and, Farmer again as editor in 1920. He had moved to Jacksonville during the intervening years and worked as a reporter for the *Florida Times-Union*. Farmer sold *The Levy Times-Democrat* to G. M. Sheppard and L. E. Vause in the early 1920's.

*The Times-Democrat* did job printing. This extra activity of printing billheads, stationary items, programs, etc., became a way-of-life for



R. B. Child, editor and publisher of the Levy County Journal, 1928 to his death in the Fifties.





Three county editors join the "Goldwater Team", left to right are Jack Holland, Chiefland Citizen; Leonard Hayes, Suwannee Valley News; team leader, Herman Wellman; Elton Cobb, Levy County Journal; and, Frank Weaver, foreman of the Citizen plant. (Taken during the Sixties.)



small rural newspapers to make needed money. Today you will find most small weeklies having commercial printing and stationary departments in with their publishing business.

It was noted from the issues of *The Levy Times Democrat* that it did a good job covering the local scene, including local government. *The Levy Times-Democrat* merged several times. It merged with *The Levy County News*, *The Williston Sun*, *The Williston News*, and the *Suwannee Valley Sun-News*.

Legal documents in the Levy County courthouse revealed a weekly newspaper, *The Cedar Key Commercial*, was in existence April 12, 1890. Its editor was J. Ira Gore according to the signature on the "Notice of Publication" attached to the documents. The clippings contained no paper date or volume number to assist in establishing how long the paper had been in publication. Records show that Gore was affiliated with three of the early newspapers of Cedar Key.

*The Gulf Coaster*, another weekly newspaper, published in Cedar Key during 1893 was identified through courthouse records. The editor was listed "Editor" Corr. No other mention of the paper or Corr was found.

Two more weeklies were found in the courthouse records. *The Cedar Key Hustler* was being published in 1902 in the island city. *The Levy County Advocate* was identified through the court records as being published in Bronson in 1904. These papers' publishers and editors have not been unearthed.

Records of the early 1900's showed conditions stable among the county's newspapers. *The Levy Times-Democrat* was the largest of the papers and the only paper that appears continuously during this era. *The Williston Progress*, published in Williston, was identified as the only new paper during this period. *The Progress* editor was J. T. Lewis and the only issue available for verification was during 1918.

The arrival of the 1920's heralded a host of new newspapers, mergers, sales, and terminations of existing papers.

*The Williston Sun* began publication in 1921 at Williston. The first publishers were Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Miller. Mr. Miller was the first editor. L. E. Vause and G. M. Sheppard leased the newspaper from the Millers in 1925. A little later, Vause purchased *The Williston Sun* and ran it for many years. The first issue of the *Sun* after the lease carried "Successor to the Levy Times-Democrat—Cedar Key Breeze" in its masthead.

R. J. Holly bought *The Williston Sun* from L. E. Vause and after a few months of publish-

ing the paper he changed the masthead to read, "The Williston News." This masthead carried a subhead stating it was the successor to *The Williston Sun* and *The Levy Times-Democrat*.

*The Williston Sun* was purchased by Jack Holland and he continued to print it as *The Williston News*. Several years later Holland sold the newspaper to Louie Wadsworth who changed the name back to *The Williston Sun*. Bess Williams bought the *Sun* in 1970 and merged it with her own paper, *The Suwannee Valley News* to form *The Suwannee Valley Sun-News*.

Among the editors of the Williston paper besides Miller were: Vause, Holly, Holland, Lamar Nash, Emma Rene Weaver, and Williams.

I. B. Hilson began his publication, *The Levy County News* at Bronson in 1923. His brother, J. F. Hilson, served as the first editor and J. L. Santerfeit served as associate editor. On January 28, 1927 the newspaper sold to L. E. Vause who merged it with *The Levy Times-Democrat*. The new masthead showed the main line to be *The Levy County News* and a small secondary line read, "The Levy Times-Democrat." The first editor of the merger was George Sheaff. He was followed by Henry Coulter. This paper was published on Fridays. One of the unique facts about this particular paper was it had an oil editor, Robert L. Steffey.

*The Cedar Key Breeze* was a weekly newspaper printed in Williston and published in Cedar Key. It was owned by G. M. Sheppard and L. E. Vause. They began publishing the paper in 1923.

A few months after publishing the *Breeze*, Vause and Sheppard leased *The Williston Sun* (May 8, 1925). The *Breeze* appeared in the first leased issue of the *Sun* as a subhead, in the masthead along with *The Levy Times-Democrat*. Both papers were dropped temporarily from the *Sun's* masthead on March 11, 1926. This was also the week *The Levy Times-Democrat* appeared as a Bronson paper. The *Breeze* did not appear in either of the two papers' masthead. *The Island City News* appears a few months later in Cedar Key showing Vause as owner-publisher (Oct. 14, 1927).

*The Island City News* was published for over two years before disappearing from the newspaper scene. Vause served as the first editor and J. L. Taylor served as the second and final editor of the small newspaper.

The first issue of *The Levy County Journal* appeared May 1, 1928 with Roy B. Child as publisher and editor. It was published in Bronson, the county site. Child was from Moore Haven where he published *The Glades County Democrat* before coming to Bronson. *The Journal's*

# THE WILLISTON SUN

LEVY TIMES DEMOCRAT -- CEDAR KEY BREEZE

PUBLISHED IN THE HEART OF THE AGRICULTURAL SECTION OF FLORIDA

VOLUME 3

WILLISTON, LEVY COUNTY, FLA., MAY 6, 1928.

NUMBER 49

## OVER ONE HUNDRED CARS CUCUMBERS SHIPPED FROM HERE

### MAIZE CROP TOMATOES AND WATERMELONS

...of Williston ... will be ...

### PREVENT STEM-END, ROT OF MELONS

Watermelon losses in ... at last year were greater than the year before.

## LOCAL ITEMS OF INTEREST

On Thursday J. H. ... purchased the Long ... party on West Main St.

Four inquiries for ... were made at the ... this week.

The A. C. ... were ... along the ... which will ...

### A FISH THAT STOLE A LINE

Every time Rev. ... had ... in ...

With this in mind, Rev. ... went to ...

Rev. Williams called at the ... office of the Sun one day this week and very kindly gave us some local news.

## PERSONAL MENTIONS

Mrs. M. P. ... and ... of Oak, ...

J. J. ... of ...

Mr. and Mrs. ...

Mrs. ...

Rev. ...

J. D. ...

Vale ...

## WILLISTON REAL ESTATE NOW ON BOOM

### LAND VALUES INCREASING

### CHURCH NEWS MOTHERS DAY TO BE OBSERVED

The E. P. U. ...

Next Sunday at ...

This company will have an ...

Mr. ...

The firm of Miller & ...

Appropriate ...

# THE LEVY COUNTY NEWS

THE ONLY NEWSPAPER PUBLISHED AND PRINTED IN BRONSON, THE COUNTY SEAT OF LEVY COUNTY, IN THE AGRICULTURAL HEART OF STATE FLORIDA

VOLUME 3, NUMBER 36.

BRONSON, LEVY COUNTY, FLORIDA, APRIL 8th, 1926

\$1.50 A YEAR

## Meeting of Commissioners

At a special meeting of the Board of County Commissioners in and for Levy County, State of Florida held at the Clerk's Office on this the 27th day of March, A. D. 1926, with the following members of the Board present, to-wit:—

W. R. Hodges, Chairman,  
J. P. Kimble,  
M. M. Clavatt,  
W. S. Yearly,  
E. C. Price.

It was announced by the Chairman that the meeting was called for the purpose of discussing State Road No. 19 thru Bronson to Williston.

Upon motion by Commissioner Kimble the following petition was read:—

We, the undersigned citizens and taxpayers of Levy County, Florida being advised that petitions are being circulated with a view of defeating the present location and progress of State Road No. 19 thru Levy County Florida as now surveyed and located by your Engineering Department of the State Road Department of the State of Florida, earnestly petition you as our delegated authority to continue your progress on said Road No. 19 as now surveyed, laid out and located, in order that the work of construction and completion of said road may not be delayed longer.

M. D. Utah,  
G. A. Boyd,  
John Cas,  
B. B. Broder,  
F. A. Dean,  
F. D. Marshburn,  
W. F. Osteen,  
Margaret F. Marshburn,  
David Graham,  
B. W. Hiltch,  
J. E. Langford,  
Tom Wilkerson,  
C. A. Lindsay,  
R. P. Wellman,  
J. E. Dean.

## Notes of Court Proceedings

Circuit Court opened Monday A. M. with Judge A. V. Long presiding, with all other attaches of the court present.

The court in giving the charge to the Grand Jury was a very instructive charge. As to their duties. The Grand Jury finished their work Monday reporting the following true bills to-wit:—

State of Florida vs Robert Hatcher and Dave Smith, breaking and entering.

State of Florida vs Edlie Chisholm, larceny.

State of Florida vs Joe Lee, murderer in the first degree.

State of Florida vs Shelton Spales murderer in the first degree.

Sattle of Florida vs Thad Ware, murderer in the first degree.

There were several civil cases tried also several criminal cases were disposed of.

Probably the most interesting case was that of Julia Warren, the trial consuming most of Tuesday, the jury fining her guilty of murder in the first degree with recommendations of mercy to the court, which carried a sentence of her natural life in the state prison.

Will Pickett was found guilty of manslaughter and was sentenced to state prison for five years.

On account of illness of Col. W. W. Hampton probably the most interesting civil cases were continued for the term which were the cases of J. G. Growler's Exchange vs. S. A. L. Roiborn and Company. These were pretty heavy damage suits and would undoubtedly have consumed two or three days in trying them.

## FULL PROCEEDINGS OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

At a regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners, in and for Levy County, held at the Clerk's Office in Bronson, Fla., on this the 2nd day of April A. D. 1926, with the following members of the Board present to-wit:—

W. R. Hodges, Chairman,  
J. P. KIMBLE,  
M. M. CLAVATT,  
W. S. YEARTY,  
E. C. PRICE.

The minutes of the Regular and Special meetings held during the month of March were read, considered and approved as read.

The bills presented, were read, considered and ordered paid in the aggregate sums from the respective funds as hereinafter set out to-wit:

General Revenue Fund ..... 1,222.50  
Fine and Forfeiture Fund ..... 687.13  
Road and Bridge Fund ..... 3,493.00  
State Aid Fund ..... 3,360.76

**COUNTY BOND PROJECTS**

Project No. 3 — General Expenses ..... 362.66  
Project No. 4 ..... 6903.61  
Project No. 7 ..... 4783.20  
Project No. 8 ..... 1350.50  
Project No. 8 ..... 45.50  
Project No. 10 ..... 1903.65  
Project No. 19 ..... 52.00

The Bank Depositories filed statements of the funds under the Control of the Board of County Commissioners showing receipts, disbursements and balances on hand in the following manner to-wit:

**BANK OF LEVY COUNTY**

Fine and Forfeiture Fund, Receipts 1,063.79; Disbursements, 1,663.62; Balances 4,422.27.

**CITIZENS BANK OF WILLISTON**

General Revenue Fund Receipts, 2,281.02; Disbursements, 1005.30; Balances 2,283.44.

**BANK OF CHIEFLAND**

Road and Bridge Dist. No. 3-A, None; Disbursements 107.85; Balances 95.53, U. D.

The Notary Public of S. E. Watson, Jr., with John H. Willis and A. C. Johns as surties in the sum of \$500 each was taken and approved.

## STATE ROAD 13 TO PARALLEL R. R.

Mr. W. R. Hodges, Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners after returning from Tallahassee where he was in conference with the officials of the State Road Department, announced that State Road Number Thirteen has been designated and will be built directly beside the Seaboard Air Line Railway through Levy County, passing through the towns of Meredith, Bronson, Lennon, Otter Creek, Wiley, Rosewood, Sumner and on to Cedar Key. There has been much discussion as to the location of this road, some saying that it should leave the railroad at Otter Creek and cross the Cedar Key—Chiefland road near the old State Stand.

Mr. Hodges further stated that State Road Number Nineteen will be built immediately and that one section of it is being advertised to contract now. This section being from the Suwannee River to Bronson through Hardestown and Chiefland.

Levy County, the most ideally located County in the State, will soon have plenty of good paved roads, which will be in keeping with the progress she is making in other lines.

Mr. O. J. Turner of Treston Florida who is at present time the largest wholesale and retail butcher of Gilchrist County, last week butchered one calf four months and six days old dressed 218 pounds was sold to Raley Fleming Company Gainesville, Fla.

Mr. Turner wants to know if anyone in this county has one as good.

This calf was raised on the hills of Bell, Florida.

Mr. Turner will buy all fat calves at any time, provided you will his price.

## Notice

### POINTED PINE PARAGRAPHS

O. H. L. Wernicke  
Pine Institute of America, Inc.

Some crops are planted this month and are harvested next. Some take a year. Fruit trees take several years. Nut trees take nine to fifteen years to start carrying a crop. All of them require a great deal of care and protection. The soil must be prepared and the seedlings bought and planted in the best possible soil. Generally they must be sprayed from one to half-a-dozen times during the season. Even then a wind, or a frost, or a rain, or a bug may get them.

It takes longer to bring a pine crop to the point of yielding profit than it does to raise a corn crop and a sugar crop. A matter of security. I'd rather loan money on a pine crop than on any other crop.

### POINTED PINE PARAGRAPHS

O. H. L. Wernicke  
Pine Institute of America, Inc.

Everyone knows that when there

ownership was left in trust after his death in the mid-1950's to his four daughters, Betty, Neva, Anna Bea, and Royala. Child's brother-in-law, Elton Cobb, leased the newspaper from the trustees and served as editor for several years. Cobb purchased the *Journal* in the early sixties.

*The Chiefland Citizen* was started by Jack Holland October 19, 1950. The paper was printed in Bronson and published in Chiefland during the fifties. In the sixties the printing plant was moved to Chiefland. The *Citizen* began as a tabloid size newspaper and later changed into the full-size. It was the county's first of the old style newspaper to make the change from setting type by linotype machines to the photo process. Holland sold the *Citizen* to Walter Wilson in 1973. Wilson brought the first roll-fed press into the county when he installed a 2-unit Community Goss. A few years later Wilson put in two more units.

*The Suwannee Valley News* was first published in Chiefland in June of 1963. After three weeks the weekly moved its operation to Williston. The first owner-editor was Leonard Hayes, Jr. and his wife, Nelle, was the paper's editor. *The Suwannee Valley News* was the first totally offset newspaper in the county. Hayes sold the paper to Warren Torlay, Jr. in November of 1963. Other owner-publishers were John Banks, Gordon Rhieker and his brother-in-law, Ken Smith, and Bess Williams. Williams bought out Smith several months later. Williams purchased *The Williston Sun* from Louie Wadsworth in late 1970.

The youngest newspaper in Levy County history is also the oldest newspaper. That paper is the *Suwannee Valley Sun-News*. It is a descendant of *The Levy County Times* established in 1879 in Williston. On the adjacent page is a table showing the lineage from the *Times* down to the *Sun-News*. It is interesting to note the same publisher at one time or another owned the majority of the newspapers in this long chain. The publisher was L. E. Vause.

The four-year period, 1925 through 1929, saw newspaper merging with and emerging from each other. It was not disclosed why the switching of newspaper names from one to another and from town to town occurred.

Several events occurred during this four-year period which may provide clues for the numerous shifts in the names of the newspapers. One was the boom of the mid-twenties that saw Levy County caught up in economic development with the prospects of this area becoming an oil field. There were several oil wells drilled around the county. A well near Cedar Key did produce a

low-grade oil at the rate of a few barrels a day. This well was still active during the early thirties.

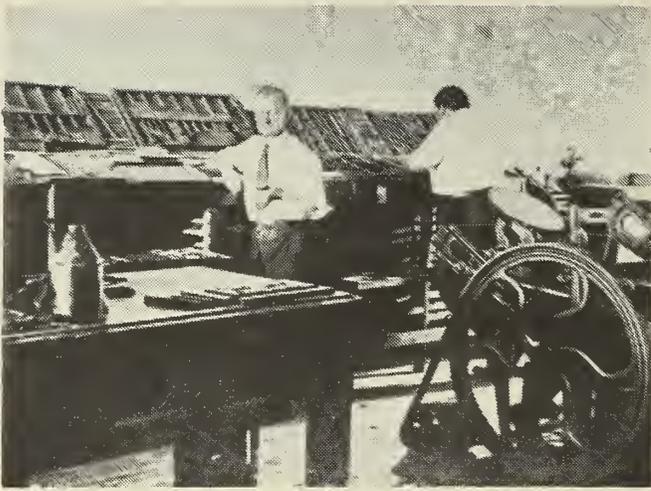
Second events were two major hurricanes—one in 1927 and the other in 1928. These hurricanes did considerable damage to the county and caused millions of dollars in damage and the heavy loss of life in the Lake Okeechobee area. Roy Child was publishing *The Glades County Democrat* at Moore Haven during the 1927 hurricane.

A third event was the crash of 1928 with the resulting financial losses. It was during this later period of the four years that one of the largest tax lists was published. It had to run in the newspaper selected as the "official organ of the county commission." The last shift in the newspaper names occurred shortly after the publication of the tax list.

Many of the mastheads of various newspapers appear to be the same paper. Examine them closely, you will find other newspapers identified as being a part of that particular paper. This was and still is a legal maneuver to preserve the legal status of a newspaper in order it could carry public notices. If you look at the dates and the names of the mastheads of the several newspapers shown on pages appearing within this chapter you will see many of these piggy-back changes.

Several editors, publishers, and contributors were celebrities of sorts during their newspaper careers. L. E. Vause served as president of the Florida Press Association and was very active in the organization for many years. Roy Child served on the Board of Trustees of the Bronson High School. Ken Smith served as State Representative from this district. Louie Wadsworth and Jack Holland produced award-winning newspapers and served on the executive board of the state press association. Wadsworth served as president of the association and was a National Guard General. Holland served as mayor-commissioner of Chiefland and was an Army Colonel. Elton Cobb served on the Bronson City Council. O. J. Farmer and Warren Torlay were outstanding daily newspapermen. J. Ira Gore was noted for his dedication in providing the area with newspapers in the early years. Walter Wilson served on Chiefland's Planning and Zoning Board. Bess Williams was the county's first lady publisher.

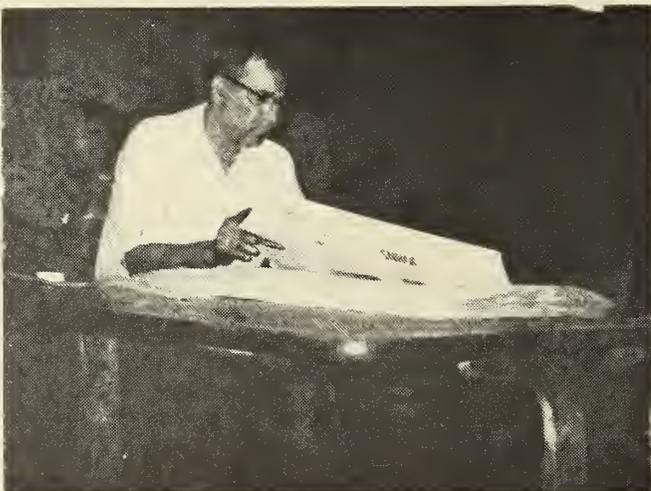
There have been several lay-persons who have made contributions in the newspaper field through their articles of historical nature. T. R. Hodges of Cedar Key, William Coulter of Bronson, and Ruth Verrell of Chiefland enriched readers with articles about the culture, folklore,



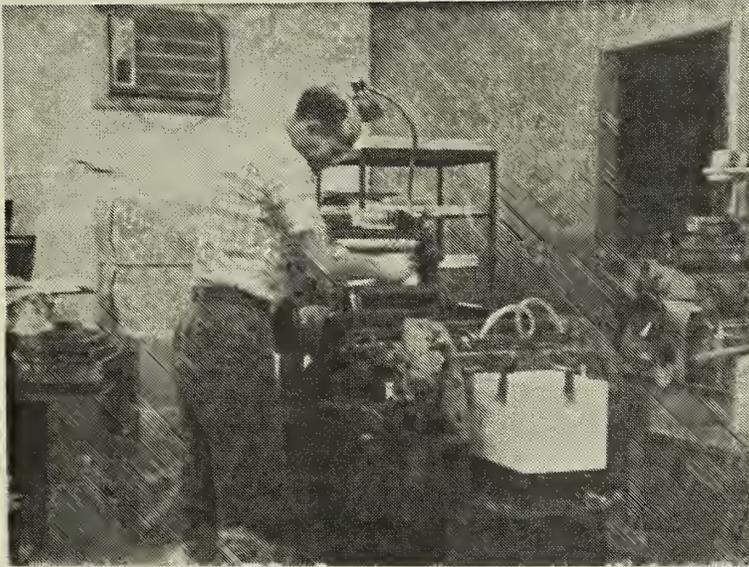
Inside of an early printing and publishing plant.



Ruddy Janney is shown working an early model linotype machine.



Hand-feeding one of the old two-page flat bed presses is Jim Evans.



**Gordon Reichart, editor of the Suwannee Valley News, during the Sixties.**



**Kay Langford setting type on an old Model 5 Linotype.**

and governments of the times of which they wrote. There probably is not a family in the county, whose roots go back at least three decades or more, that has not had one of its members work as correspondent or columnist for one of Levy County's newspapers. Other long-time newspaper people who wrote or printed for the county papers include Macie Petersen, Emma Lee Loften, Frank Weaver and Norwood Ishie.

Levy County witnessed its newspapers progress from hand-set, hand-fed equipment, through the hot metal stage of linotypes and casting boxes, to cold type and web-fed presses of the offset era.

*The Levy County Journal*, until early 1983, was one of two weekly newspapers in Florida still being produced by the hot metal process. When the *Journal* went offset it left the Bristol newspaper in West Florida as the sole survivor of the old method of production. The first offset paper in the county was a small tabloid paper, *The Suwannee Valley News*. *The Chiefland Citizen* quickly followed the trend to offset. When Walter Wilson bought the Chiefland paper he enlarged the capacity of the equipment by expanding the computer typesetting system and installing the first web-fed press. The press was a Community Goss capable of printing eight pages on one press run. A few years later Wilson added two additional units and raised the capacity of the press to run 16 full-size pages. In the early eighties *The Chiefland Citizen* was printing all of the weekly newspapers in the tri-county area.

One of the ways to tell the old newspapers and their offices was by the smell of printer's ink and molten metal. The offices of today's newspapers smell more of chemicals.

It was learned during the research for this chapter on the newspapers of Levy County that most happenings occur in cycles. The eighties saw a revitalization of local Chamber of Commercences. History, or the newspaper records, revealed Cedar Key, Williston and Bronson each had their own chambers in the twenties and the early 1900's. The economy has been the concern each quarter century. Promoters appear periodically promoting oil, specialty agriculture crops, barge ports and canal, railroads and highways, and even citrus production. The last grove of commercial status disappeared after the big freeze of 1898.

Three cars were given away as prizes in one of the largest subscription drives ever held by weekly newspapers. The contest was held during 1928 by *The Williston Sun*, *The Levy County News*, and *The Island City News*. The cars were a 1928 Chrysler, a Ford sedan, and a Ford Roadster.

Alma Clark won the Chrysler, Harriet Whiddon won one of the Fords and Mary West won the other.

An oil drilling spree began in June of 1943 led by Colonel Frank Thompson and William A. Pollard. This was the second time in twenty years the area was excited by the possibility of oil being discovered in the county. Several wells were drilled in the sand hills west of the Bronson-Williston highway. No oil was found but the drillers did strike salt water. It was an artesian well and had to be capped to keep the salty water from killing the trees in the path of its stream.

Montbrook Army Air Base, located near the community of Montbrook, was very active during 1942-43. Victories in Europe and the South Pacific brought an early closing of the camp in late 1943. A skeleton crew remained at the base until the end of the war.

L. E. Vause, Jr., son of publisher Vause of *The Williston Sun*, was killed in Europe during December of 1942. Young Vause was the navigator for a bomber crew.

Elections were always big news for the early newspaper. The tradition of gathering at the newspaper offices to get the election returns were looked forward to by young and old. This bi-annual event continued until the county went from hand ballots to the use of voting machines.

The Williston and Cedar Key papers usually put up make-shift tally boards for the local citizens to keep count of the votes each candidate received by precinct. For years *The Levy County Journal* and *The Chiefland Citizen* sponsored a tally board at the courthouse where final returns by precinct were officially reported.

Television, computers and voting machines drew the curtain on the night-long wait on the counting of hand ballots and posting of results of each race on the tally boards.

## OLD-TIME DEFINITIONS OF THE NEWSPAPER TRADE

**Press Run:** one run of the printing press that produced two pages of a newspaper. An eight-page paper required four press runs.

**Quoins and Quoin Key:** quoins came in pairs and were wedge-shaped; used with a quoin key to lock type in printing frames.

**Hell Box:** a box that held last week's newspaper type slugs to be remelted.

**Kill Sheet:** a marked copy of last week's paper showing what type to be thrown in the hell box.

**Make-up Rule:** a small two-inch steel scrape, which is used to scrape the bottom of linotype

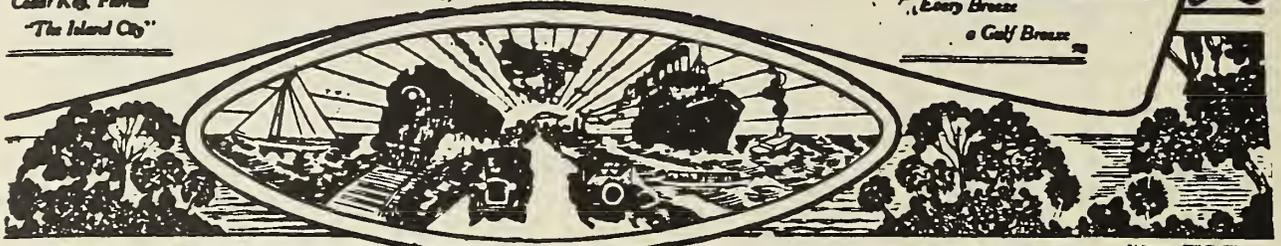


# ISLAND CITY NEWS

ON THE GULF.

Cedar Key, Florida  
"The Island City"

"Easy Breeze  
a Gulf Breeze"



CEDAR KEY, FLA., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1927

NUMBER

## LOCAL MENTION

This paper your paper—and as being so very sickness, deaths, births, marriages, obituary 6:30 P. M. Tuesdays.

Mr. Fred T. Davidson was in Jacksonville last Thursday and Friday on business.

Mrs. M. S. Hale of Oklawaha, was the guest of her son, Mr. W. H. Hale, several days last week.

Mrs. P. T. Davidson motored to Oklawaha Monday to see her mother, who is seriously ill.

Misses Fannie Pate and Nive Moore of Dunedin, were in the Island City visiting friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Van Helder motored to Oklawaha Thanksgiving afternoon.

Miss King spent a few days in Atlanta last week.

Mr. Henry Davis, who is attending school in Lakeland, spent Thanksgiving week and with his parents, Rev. and Mrs. Ous A. Davis.

Misses P. O. Holden, M. C. Lynch and Harry James motored to Ft. White Sunday.

Mr. Charles Andrews, who is attending Gainesville High School, spent the week end in the Island City.

Rev. West filled his regular appointment at the Baptist church Sunday.

Misses Verona Wadley and Ethel Killman, who are attending the Woman's College in Tallahassee, spent a few days with Miss Madry's mother.

Mr. J. Peacock of Miami, was in the city making preparations for a hunting trip here.

Mr. and Mrs. Randolph Over of Oklawaha, were the guests of their parents, Mrs. Susan Bishop Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. M. M. Boothby and children of Waco, were in the Island City last week, visiting Mrs. Boothby's parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Berry.

Misses Alex Kerpote Arlington (better known as "Skippy") Overman and Misses Kathryn Key and Bertha Langston motored to Williston Thursday.

Mr. H. P. Harrison of Jacksonville, spent a few days in the Island City last week.

## ASSESSMENT BOOKS ACCEPTED BY COUNCIL GIVING CITY LARGEST TOTAL ASSESSMENT

Increase in Assessments This Year Over Last Year \$61,000; Most of Amount is Increase of Personal Tax; Millage Not Fixed Yet

Last week the city council accepted the assessment rolls from the city tax assessor, complaints having been heard of an earlier date. The total assessment shows Williston for the first time to be assessed at over a million dollars. The total amounted to \$1,282,382, with a deduction for widows of \$1,500, making a net assessment to tax payers of \$1,280,882.

Mr. Earl Bryce and Etta Ann, and daughter, of Bryersville spent several days in the Island City last week with relatives.

The season for catching mullet closed December 1 until January 30. The fishermen have been making some good catches the last few days.

Mr. J. C. Priester left Tuesday for Lake Butler to accept a position for which his success in his new undertaking.

Mr. W. P. Alford has returned home from Leaksville, Miss., where he has been visiting relatives for several months.

Mr. E. C. Wadley escorted Miss Verona Wadley back to school at Tallahassee after spent the week end in the city.

Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Marchetti and children, of Archer, were visitors in the Island City. Mr. Marchetti is general manager of Bell Naval Stores.

Mr. Carlton Mason, of Williston, spent the week end in the city with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Mason.

Miss Mary Hale who is attending school in Gainesville spent Thanksgiving in the city visiting relatives and friends.

Mrs. H. B. Rowe returned Friday from a visit to friends and relatives in Jacksonville.

Mr. Dan Kirk of Inverness, was in the Island City Sunday on business.

Mrs. M. C. Bird and son Louis, of Gainesville spent Thanksgiving in the Island City.

Mr. and Mrs. B. P. Griffin were in the Island City last week.

The assessments for districts is as follows:

Public Survey	27,000	687,500
John Wilks Addition	25,000	62,500
Spurman Addition	25,000	62,500
Bowman Addition	25,000	62,500
Oak Villa	15,000	37,500
Williston Heights	15,000	37,500
Woods Hills	15,000	37,500
Midwood	2,500	6,250
Williston	2,500	6,250
Assessors not subdivided to lots	121,000	302,500
Personal Property	220,700	551,700

Mr. and Mrs. Lisa Rowland, Jr. of South Jacksonville, was in the Island City Saturday and Sunday visiting relatives and friends.

Mr. James Conway spent the week end (including Thanksgiving) in Madison with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Conway.

Mr. J. B. Whit motored to Oklawaha Sunday afternoon.

Mr. Dave Brown, of Perry, was in the Island City Sunday, guest of his sister, Mrs. J. J. Langston.

As the season for catching mullet came to a close the fishermen all got busy and it has been estimated that forty or fifty thousand pounds have been caught in the last week—several cars have already been shipped. Twelve men caught four thousand five hundred pounds in one day. The season for catching mullet has closed until January 30, 1928.

Mrs. J. L. Taylor was called to Brookner on account of the illness of her mother, Mrs. Willie Crews. We are glad to state she is better at this writing.

### METHODIST CHURCH NOTES

The Sunday School Program was a little unusual on last Sunday morning. It being Martin Luther Day, Mr. Mar. Joyce, Superintendent, took charge of the devotional service, as usual; then announced that these were to be some letters from Poland. At this time Miss Alma Kirchhane came in with her class of girls, each being dressed in bright colored costume. At every festival music and bright colors have a great part. The harvest hymns the singing of Christmas carols, the songs of the peasants at their work all show what a music-loving nation Poland is and how deeply religious her people are. Only their religious teaching has

## Cedar Key School News

### FOURTH GRADE

The fourth grade has a new teacher. Her name is Mrs. Overman. There are two new pupils in the fourth grade, Charles Colburn and Robert Alvin Shuchley.

### FIFTH GRADE

The good readers selected from the fifth grade this week are Roger Kenney, Marshall Oler, Vivian McCain, Pearl Wilson, Annie Lee Bayler, Clifford Whidden, Nettie Mari Hodges.

The sixth grade girls and boys gave ten dollars to the orphan home in Jacksonville for a Thanksgiving offering.

Mrs. Taylor paid quite a long visit to the sixth grade room Wednesday and gave us an interesting and valuable talk on health.

The Audubon Club and the Reading Club both held their meetings in sixth grade room Wednesday. Both gave very interesting and educational programs.

Monday in spelling class, sixth grade were asked to write impromptu paragraphs on "What I Would Do With a Million Dollars." The following were chosen as the best:

I would visit the sick and afflicted and buy them food to eat and clothes to wear; I would give the money to the poor; I would get some of it in the bank. I would buy books to help support the poor children that haven't a mother or father. I would send money to the orphan home. I would go to college and get a good education and get me a good job.

Wilhelmina Bishop.

I would finish school and go through college. I would study hard and not waste my time in college. With some of the money I had left I would have a nice house built with nice furniture, and some servants. I would then buy a car and some nice clothes. With some of the money I would help the poor and orphan children. Then the money I had left I would take trips over the world and learn more about it than I learned in school.

### SEVENTH GRADE

The seventh grade is glad to have Marie Langston come back. The seventh grade elected the officers for their room Friday, Nov. 18. The following were elected: Lorna Baker, President; Thelma Hodges, Secretary; Randolph Bostet, Treasurer; Wilma Mack, Chairman Program Committee.

The seventh grade took Wednesday afternoon off for cleaning up. We cleaned our windows, black boards and some of the boys raked the yard. We are sorry that Norwood Lake has

ing with their averages. Janet Hale & Mural Radcliff 80.

They have neither been absent early during the month. We hope to have more girls and some boys on next time.

We are very sorry that Jack Cole was absent Monday. She must have eaten her match Thanksgiving dinner as she was absent on account of being sick.

The class enjoyed the Thanksgiving holidays very much and some of us went hunting.

Teacher (to class)—What kind of birds are frequently kept in captivity? O'Brien—Jail birds.

Milly (to wife)—Didn't I write you not to bring your mother with you?

Wife—That's what she wants to see you about, she read the telegram.

Teddy O'Brien to Louise Roland—Hello, hello, is this Louise?

Louise—Yes.

Teddy—Do you still love me?

Louise—Yes, who is it?

The minister was speaking to the small daughter of the hour. You say your sister Helen is the oldest, and who comes after her?

Small daughter—Oh a different fellow "meat every night!"

In a street on the other day a man and his wife saw a cockroach. I never see one of those things, said the man, without wondering where it came from.

And I never see one, said his wife, without wondering where it is going.

Ave Lee—Yes. Mother—Well, he was carrying out your ideas.

Miss Whittington, to Mr. Carnes—This dinner isn't fit for a pig to eat.

Mr. Carnes—Well, don't eat it then.

Miss Lock, to Bertie—What do you mean by coming to school with your hair in this disgraceful condition?

Bertie—No comb, m'm.

Miss Lane—Can't you use your father's comb?

Bertie—No hair, m'm.

Mr. Carnes—How is your hat fixed?

Mr. Padgett—By growling at the janitor.

Teacher, to Mr. Padgett—You told me to file these letters.

Mr. Padgett—Yes.

Teacher—Well I was thinking that it would be easier to trim 'em with a pair of scissors.

RED CROSS PROGRAM AT SCHOOL

# The Chiefland Citizen

SINGLE COPY

10c

Published at Chiefland, Florida . . . The Gem of the Sunshine

Volume 20 - No. 21

ESTABLISHED 1960

CHIEFLAND, FLORIDA 32006

THURS., MARCH 2, 1972

## Levy County Farmers Are Signing Up Before The March 10 Deadline

More farmers are coming daily to the Levy County ACO Office to sign up in the 1972 feed grains, wheat, and cotton program, with 147 enrolled to date and another 200 to 250 expected before March 10, closing of the sign-up period.

So reported J.P. Seaman, Chairman of the Levy County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committee, who added that a rush of business early in the sign-up period consisted primarily of producers seeking information on new farm program options opened by the U.S. Department of Agriculture in January and February after early announcement of the program last fall.

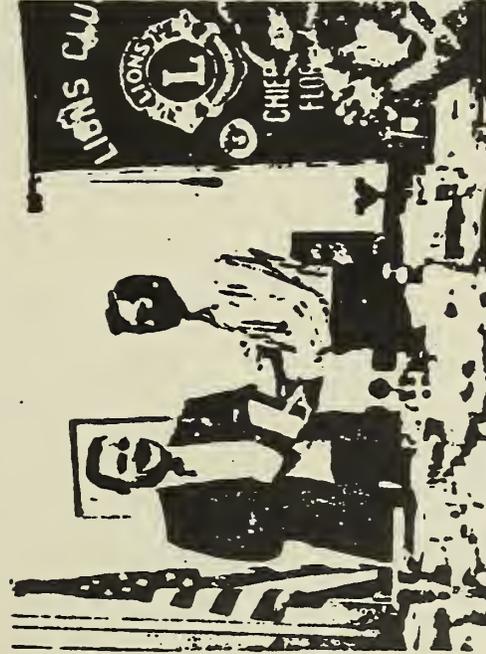
New options for additional set-aside acreage at higher payment rates for corn, grain sorghum, and wheat were added. Detailed information on these options and all other options and provisions of the 1972 set-

## Grant For Mental Health Given Levy

The Mental Health Association of Alachua County announced it recently received word from the National Advisory Mental Health Council that the Gainesville Area Comprehensive Community Mental Health Center staffing grant application was approved. Dr. Robert Overalls, acting director for the center, noted that with each of the 10 counties paying 80% per capita, there will be \$5.00 per capita in mental health services received.

Training of the Mental Health Technicians, 32 in all, will begin full-time July 1, 1972, according to District 46 Mental Health board Chairman, Brian H. Brevins. Persons wishing to apply for these positions should contact members of the board for their area or members of their Citizen's Advisory Committee. The formal education of the applicant, or the lack of formal education, is not as important consideration for these positions.

For this 6000 square mile area, which includes 200,000 people, the grant and facility will provide 80 employees. This area is currently serviced by



Jack Stuart of the Jacksonville Rhoast Lions Club hands an American flag to Chiefland Lions president Lloyd Stockman at a special program held Monday night at the regular Lions meeting.



## Western Union Service To Be Discontinued In Chiefland

It was announced this week that there will no longer be a Western Union in Chiefland. The nearest Western Union will now be in Gainesville. The effective date of the office closing here was March 1st.

## Williston High School Suffers \$15,000 Fire Damage Last Thursday

Six persons have been taken into custody as a result of the fire which caused an estimated \$15,000 damage to the Williston High School early Thursday morning. The six also were charged on burglary charges from simultaneous store break-ins during the fire.

Three were arrested later in the day Thursday and were identified as Harold Eugene Brown, 21, Robert Anderson, 18, and Eugene Burton, 18. They were arraigned before County Judge A. S. Adams on the fire charges and \$2,000 each on the burglary charges. On Friday, Herbert Collins, 20, surrendered to the Williston Police Chief. Saturday morning Timothy Donald, 16, and Charles Donald, 17, were surrendered to authorities by their mother, Mrs. Aggie Mae Donald. The two boys had fled to Marianna to their father following the fire and they had called them and they voluntarily returned.

## Pictures To Be Taken Of Chiefland Children To Appear In Paper.

For many years the Chiefland has been running a pictorial feature of the youngsters in this area as "Children of Tomorrow" in the near future we will again be publishing free a picture of all the children who are brought by their parents or other guardians to the Dal Rye Motel between 11 AM and 7 PM on Thursday and Friday, March 16th and 17th.

An expert children's photographer will take the pictures to ensure uniform quality and also for best reproduction. This year will be taken in natural living color. Please dress your children colorfully to take full advantage of the beauty of color photography. The



Jack Holland, editor and publisher of the Chiefland Citizen, 1950-1973.

slugs, remove and replace corrections, and general space out page forms in printing chases.

**Leads and Slugs:** type-high lead or brass material used to space between lines of type to fill or tighten a page form.

**Type Lice:** all of the unseen gremlins that cause letters, words, and other mysterious events to occur with type.

**Casting Box:** a box that you place a mold (mat) to form a casting of type, figure or an ad which has been pre-matted.

**Mats and Matrix:** most common name for the brass molds of letters used by casting machines.

**Tag Line:** an identification line at the beginning of a news story to be able to locate it in the galley bank.

**Heads:** a short name for headlines.

**Printer's Devil:** a novice or apprentice in the composing department of a newspaper or print shop.

**Slug Cutter:** a device used to cut slugs and rules the appropriate length to fit type forms.

**Type:** individual letters, figures, or symbols casted in lead or brass either singularly or together.

**Linotype:** a machine that sets type in metal (lead) for newspaper and print shop composition.

**Cut:** short name for an engraving used to print pictures on paper.

**Rule:** strips of various widths of metal used to produce printed solid line border.

**Metal:** a mixture of lead, tin, and zinc used in several type of casting machines to produce type.

**Wood and Metal Furniture:** large pre-sized metal or wood spacing material to fill large voids in page forms.

**Make-up:** the putting together of all type, heads, spacing materials within a printing frame to form a page of the newspaper.

**Put to Bed:** when the last run of the last two pages have run through the press and everyone is ready to go home.

**Scoop:** a news story of considerable importance that you publish before your competitors.

**Correspondent, Stringer:** people who work parttime in the outlying areas of a paper's circulation area gathering news.

**"Thirty" or Dingbat:** a symbol used at the end of a news story to signal the end of the story.

**Chase:** a steel picture frame device used to place type to form a newspaper page.

**Plane:** a wooden block placed on a type form and struck by a mallet to insure that all type is level.

**Galley:** long metal trays where completed typeset stories are stored ready to be placed into proper pages.

**Proof:** a single reproduction of a galley or page of type to be read for errors and used to make identified corrections.

**Corrections:** normally refers to linotype type corrections made from a galley proof and to be inserted in place of the type with the error.

**A Tail:** a piece of cardboard attached to a mat (paper mold) to keep metal from running behind the mat when it is casted.

**Scratch:** means to remove a story or ad from an edition of the newspaper.

**Ad:** where the money is made. Businesses advertising their goods and services in the newspaper.

**Obit:** a short title for obituary or death notices.

**Sorts:** odd combinations of letters; ie, ff's, ffi, ffl, etc., cast on one body in order to save space.

## ABOUT THE WRITER—JACK M. HOLLAND

Parents were Jack and Rubye Holland, timber (cross-ties) and merchants in Bronson in the early thirties and forties.

He graduated from Bronson High School in 1941, attended the University of Florida. Drafted into the army and served with General George Patton's 3rd U.S. Army. He returned to the University after the war and graduated with a BAJ degree in 1949. He continued his army career as an active reservist, rising to the rank of Colonel.

He started the newspaper, The Chiefland Citizen, in 1950 and sold it 23 years later to the present owner, Walter Wilson.

Holland was with the Levy County School system for four years where he developed the Adult and Community Education program which the county has today.

He is currently serving as Chief Analyst for the House of Representatives Committee on Governmental Operations. He served four years as the Staff Director of the House Agriculture Committee before being asked by the Speaker of the House and Rep. Gene Hodges to take over his current position.

He is married to the former Neva Child of Bronson and they have one son, Jack Martin Holland, III. Holland has two daughters, Jeri and Joan, by a previous marriage.

In college he was a member of the Theta Chi fraternity and was selected to be a member in Sigma Delta Chi, honorary journalist fraternity.

**Jacksonville Trip**

**A First for Chieffland Women's Club**

Members of the Chieffland Women's Club are planning to spend the day in Jacksonville as a member of the Jacksonville Chapter of Chieffland. Tuesday, November 9, several groups from Georgia have participated in the program. The Chieffland Women's Club is the first Florida group of W.P.A.

The plans for the day have been made at the request of the club members.

The members will leave from the Women's Club building at 9:30 a. m. on a chartered Greyhound bus and arrive in Jacksonville in time to appear on the "Radio Hour" at 9:30 a. m. on WFLA Channel 13 with Virginia Allen. All former World War II National Youth Council members and many of them plan to accompany the group and appear on the show.

The regular guests, Miss Evelyn Brock, presently a student at Valdosta State Teachers College, will be present for a special interview on the show. Miss Allen has been a judge in the Jacksonville festival in the past and also appeared with the Jimmy Archibald band when it entertained at the festival.

Following the television appearance the group will visit the Chamber Gallery of Art and be the guests of Mrs. A. the hostess for the day, for lunch at 12:30. Informal dancing will take place at a ballroom and early in the afternoon a special wife demonstration will be given immediately following the luncheon.

The ladies will be free to shop on their own until 3:30 when the bus departs for the return trip to Chieffland. Arrangements are tentatively to contact Helen Oaker or Mary Jane Wiles by October 31 and pay the bus transportation costs. The only cost in these making the trip is transporta-

# The Williston News

Successor To The Williston Sun - Published In The Heart Of The Agricultural Section Also The Levy Times Democrat Which Began Publication In 1879. Published and Printed In Levy County

VOLUME 28 - No. 5 WILLISTON, FLORIDA THURSDAY, OCT. 29, 1936



**RIDING IN STATE** is Miss Sheila Moody, now possessor of the 1966-67 Homecoming Queen Crown. Her coronation was last Friday evening at the Homecoming football game, when last year's reigning queen, Miss Linda Watson presented her with the crown and title.

## Miss Sheila Moody Named 1966 Chieffland High Homecoming Queen Last Friday Night at Game

The weeks of preparation and planning for Thursday night and Friday's game, the 1966-67 Homecoming Queen Crown, her coronation was last Friday evening at the Homecoming football game, when last year's reigning queen, Miss Linda Watson presented her with the crown and title.

Miss Moody, a senior at Chieffland High School, was crowned at the game between Chieffland and Panama City. She was presented with the crown and sash by Miss Linda Watson, the outgoing queen.

The coronation ceremony took place at the game, which was held at the Chieffland gymnasium. The game was a close one, with Chieffland winning by a score of 14-12.

Miss Moody is a member of the Chieffland High School cheerleading squad and is also a member of the Chieffland High School Glee Club.

## 1 SCHOOL URGED BY BRICE AT RAD MEETING MONDAY

The monthly meeting of the Levy County Rural Area Development Council was held Monday at the Brown town hall with Donna Oels presiding.

The RAD decided to join with the Levy County Committee for quality education in endeavoring to follow proposed educational goals in the county as set forth in the state made previously and conducted in the economic development plan job listed in the survey entitled, "Levy County Looks to the Future."

## Newspaper Moves Into New Plant And Office Building On 27th Alt. With Only Minor Delays to Paper

The new party go are no late with the paper this week, but we have moved into our new building on Young Street.

Everything went fine in moving to the new plant. The old equipment until we started to move the big stamping or press. It begged down the first lift and the truck. The machine came to rest on the ground only a few feet away from the door in the new shop.

However, after laughing and paid the usual laughing plants we were able to get it inside the building.

## VFW Rebel to Host Families at Open House Tonight

Practically right as arranged by the Patriot Post club, Veterans of Foreign Wars for the grand opening of their new Post 164, the Friday evening, a coronation dinner supper is being planned at children and party entertainers.

Buddy Owens is traveling the pipe, the children are being purchased and the chef in charge will be Doug Cannon.

Decorations and their families are supplying the covered dishes for the celebration.

Entertainment is to be furnished by Benny McCall and the band which will play for the supper and the dancing following.

Admission is to be furnished by the families of the members of the VFW Post 164.



The new newspaper plant on Young Street.

# Suwannee Valley News



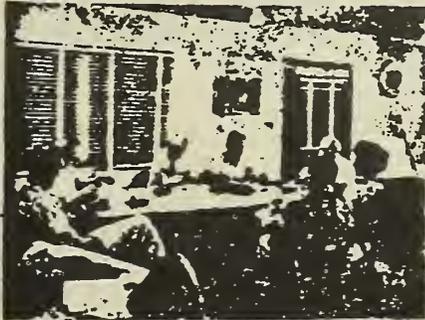
"SERVING SUWANNEE VALLEY AND SURROUNDING AREA"

VOL. 1 - NO. 1

CHEFFLAND, LEVY COUNTY, FLA. WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5, 1953

★ Eight Pages

## Watermelon Festival Directors Meet



The Board of Directors for Cheffland's 10th annual Watermelon Festival scheduled for June 15, met Tuesday night at City Hall in Cheffland with Lion President Hal Halliday presiding. Purpose of the meeting was to make semi-final plans for the forthcoming festival and parade.

In the picture from left to right are: Walt Krewett; Hardy Dean; Cecil Stanley; Jack Holland; Boyd Griffin; Hal Halliday; Mrs. Martha Martin, Swanns Club President and Jimmy Harris.

## Mrs. Geiger First Subscriber



Mrs. Eugenia Geiger

Mrs. Eugenia Geiger, Independent Life Insurance agent in Cheffland, became the first subscriber to this SUWANNEE VALLEY NEWS. Names of subscribers will be listed in each edition of the NEWS. May we list your name next week? You will find subscription blanks elsewhere in this issue.

## Cheffland Holds Reading Pgrm.

The vacation reading program sponsored by the Central Florida Regional Library began at the Cheffland Library Monday.

Mrs. Fredis Etheridge, local librarian, urges all children to register for this program.

Children registering for the club during the Smokey Bear's visit Wednesday afternoon, received a Smokey Bear button, a read and color book, the conservation pledge and a bookmark.

Each member keeps his own reading record and list of library books read during the summer.

The general public is encouraged to read a variety of books during the summer. Mrs. Etheridge said, to "increase their pleasure and knowledge with their reading skills."

The reading program will continue through Aug. 24.

Subscribe To The NEWS

## AUTO RAMS HOUSE TRAILER; NO INJURIES



A 1954 Plymouth, driven by Victor N. Kendall, Providence, R. I., crashed into the back of a house-trailer at the traffic light on south Main St. in Cheffland, Tuesday at 1:55 p.m.

The driver of the car pulling the trailer was Orville Smith of Clearwater. There were no injuries in the crash. Trooper J. K. Wade estimated damages to both vehicles at \$750.

## Narcotics Stolen From Local Pharmacy

Griffin's Pharmacy was entered sometime Saturday night and an estimated \$100 worth of narcotics was taken. Bellis Griffin, proprietor of the pharmacy, said the intruder presumably came into the store through a back window. The lock was broken on the narcotics cabinet and it had been wired open. The opened back window was discovered Sunday morning. Deputy Sheriff Pete Smith of Williston investigated the incident.

## Police Chief Resigns Post

CHEFFLAND — The Cheffland City Council last night accepted the resignation of Police Chief J. C. Corbin.

Don Clynk was appointed as a trial boss by the council to replace Corbin, but he resigned Tuesday afternoon.

Corbin, a veteran police officer and deputy sheriff, said he was quitting as police chief for business reasons. His resignation was effective immediately.

In other action, the council discussed but took no action on a proposed street improvement program.

## Smokey Bear To Visit

Smokey Bear visited the Cedar Key Library at 11 a.m. Wednesday to launch the Smokey Bear Reading Club.

The reading program, sponsored by Friends of the Library will include a story hour at the library each Wednesday morning during the summer, beginning at the close of Vacation Bible School.

At a recent meeting of the Friends of the Library, Mrs. Wayne Turner, chairman, reviewed the achievements of the summer library by the addition of a new book shelf, a new bulletin board, two folding chairs for children and two lamps.

The library is a branch of the Central Florida Regional Library system and is a public library for the use of everyone in the community. Mrs. Turner added.

The Friends are planning a used book sale for Cedar Key, and people who wish to donate books may leave their copies in the library. These will be sorted and the best ones added to the shelves, while duplicates will be sold for 10 and 25 cents each in front of the library each Saturday. The proceeds from these sales will be used for future library needs.

Mrs. Turner said much credit for the success of the Cedar Key Library is due to Mrs. Katherine Peas, a member of the Levy County Library board and the many friends of Cedar Key who are interested in the progress of the community.

A special vote of thanks was given the librarian, Mrs. Frank Billingsley, and her assistant, Mrs. W.H. Hale, for work well done. Mrs. Helen Tomko will be the summer librarian during the absence of Mrs. Billingsley and Mrs. Hale.

## Two Injured In Auto-Truck Mishap



Pictured above is the '63 Corvair and State Road Department paint truck which was involved in an accident at Int. 339 and Alt. 27 Monday a.m.

An auto-truck collision occurred at 11:36 Monday morning at the intersection of Int. 339 and Alt. 27, resulting in injuries to two persons.

Florida Highway Patrolman J. E. Wade, who investigated the accident, said the paint truck was attempting to make a left turn off Int. 27 onto Alt. 339 and the automobile attempted to pass the truck. The impact occurred in the west-bound lane, approximately 6 feet from the center line. The driver of the truck was charged

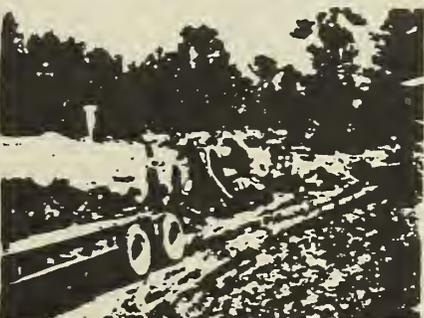
with improper changing of lanes.

Joseph V. Bolester and his wife Jeanne Diane Bolester, occupants of the car, were taken to Gainesville Medical Center by Wilson-Dixson Ambulance Service.

Mrs. Bolester suffered lacerations of the head, neck and back and Mr. Bolester received bruises and contusions of the chest. Both were kept overnight and released.

Mr. and Mrs. Bolester listed their address as 185 Prescott Ave., Staten Island, N. Y.

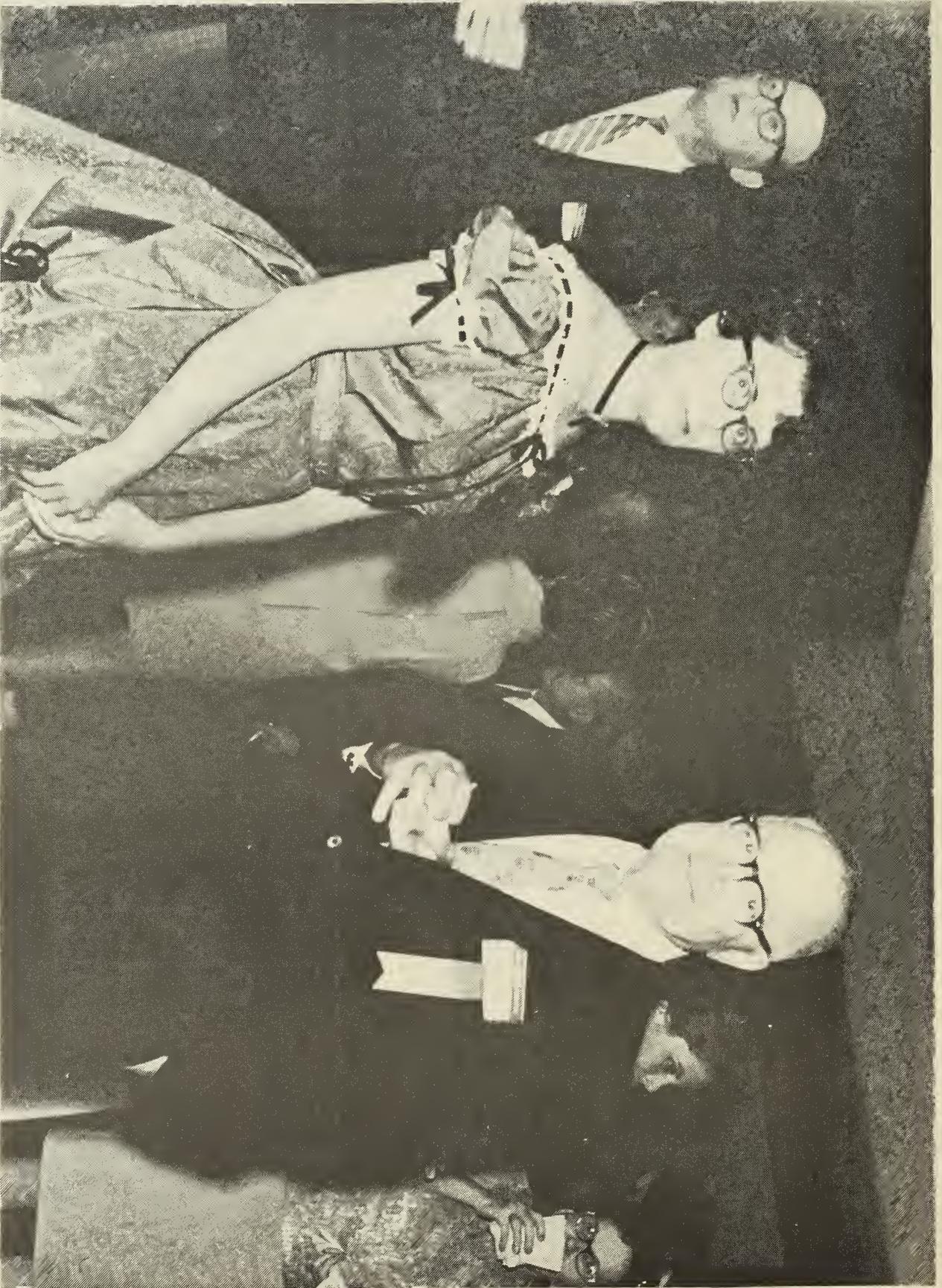
## Transport Overtakes at Otter Creek



Jimmy White was backing the transport off the truck in the above photo when both truck and transport began sliding sideways. White managed to leap clear

as the transport overturned. There were no injuries in the accident.

The transport is owned by Owens-Illinois Glass Co.



Louie Wadsworth, editor of the Williston Sun in the mid-sixties, shown at a dress-ball of the Florida Press Association.

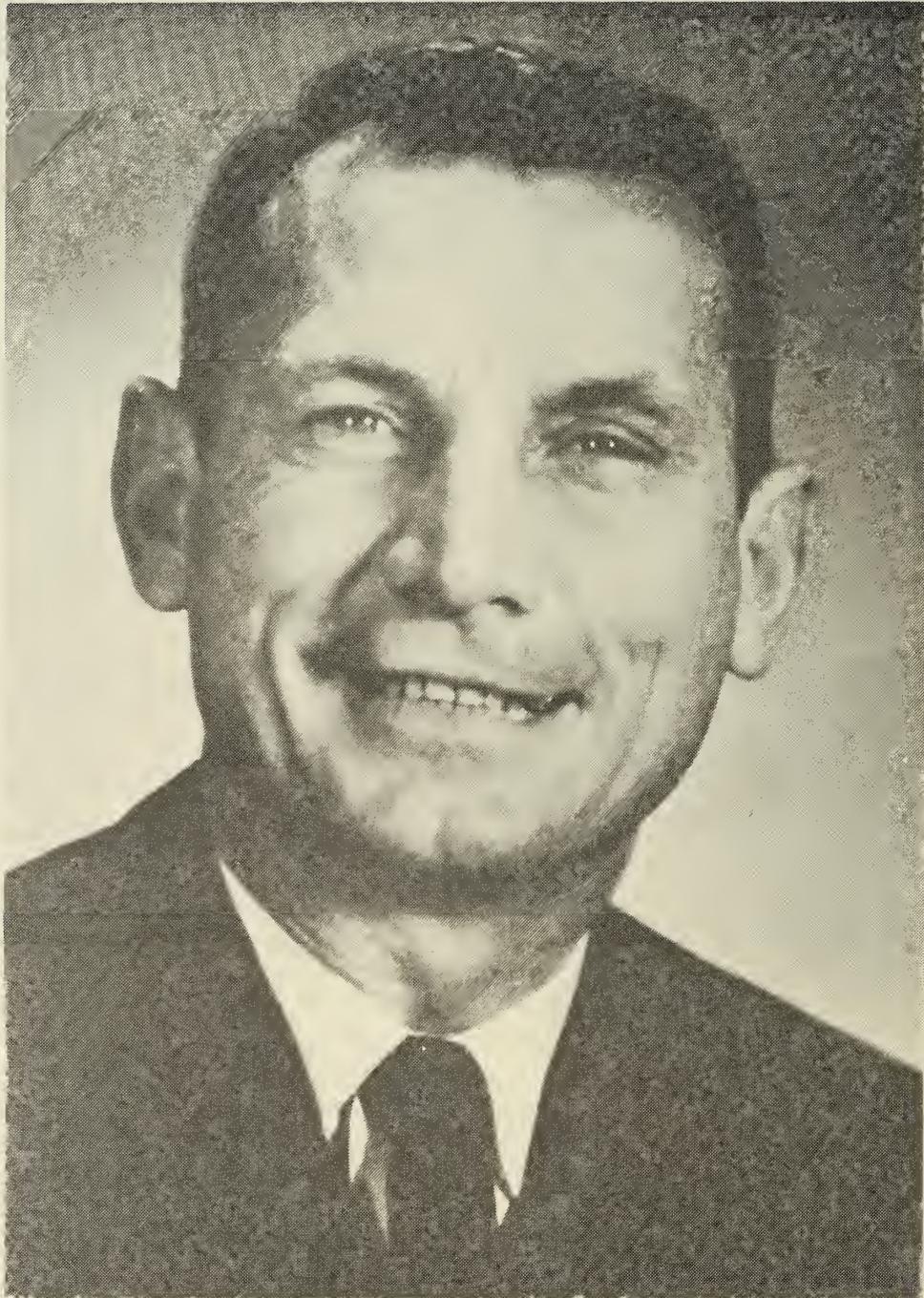
His army record shows that he served in Europe earning Meritorious Unit Citation, Good Conduct Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, two Combat Stars, and Reserve Medal for his services.

Holland served six years as Mayor-Commissioner of the City of Chiefland. He was Levy County's initial appointee to the Suwannee River Authority by Gov. Collins. He has served numerous boards and councils of state government.

He is a charter member of both the Bronson and Chiefland Lions Clubs, serving as the first

secretary of the Bronson Club and later serving as President of the Chiefland Club. His membership in the Chiefland Club extends nearly 30 years.

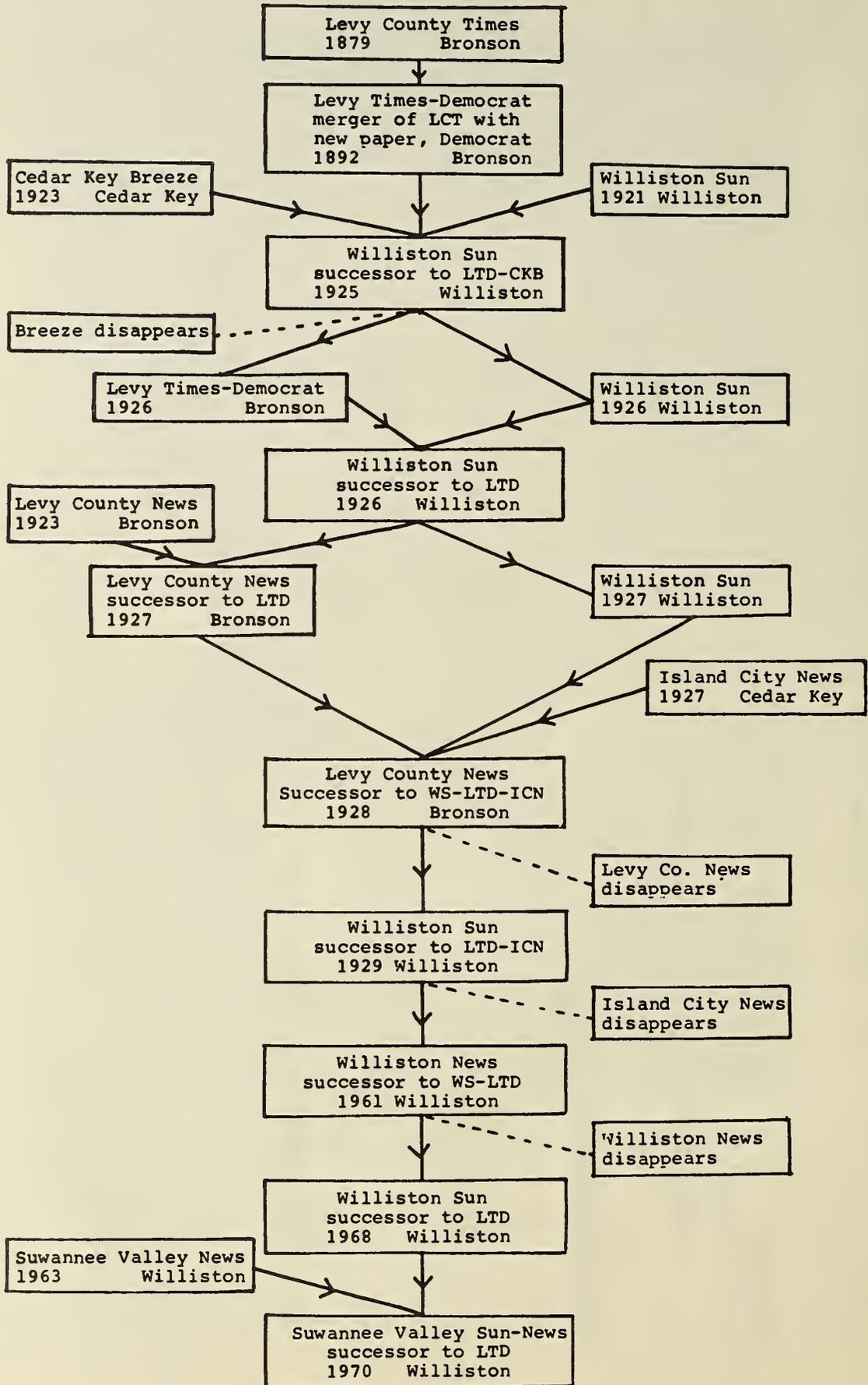
He is both an artist and a writer. Many local people have pieces of his work in art. His most recent book, "The Reception Station", is a story of many of the local men and women who had served in the area's oldest and largest U.S. Army Reserve unit. He has two new book releases out shortly.



Ken Smith, editor of the Suwannee Valley News during the early to mid-sixties.



# The Family Tree of the Oldest Newspaper in the County





LEVY COUNTY HAS FOUR MAIN STATE HIGHWAYS AND FIVE RAILROADS

# The Levy Times-Democrat

LEVY COUNTY'S OLDEST NEWSPAPER

No. 32

BRONSON, FLORIDA, THURSDAY MARCH 25, 1926.

News Section

## COUNTY COMMISSIONERS LET ROAD CONTRACTS

### CONSIDERS NEED SPECIAL SESSION SOLONS

of Florida Bonds Being Questioned After Repudiation of State by Unpaid

making the office of unconstitutional increases and the

### FARMERS WHO RAISE OWN FOOD AND FEED HAVE MONEY IN BANK

While I know that growing corn in Florida is an expensive proposition, I also am sure that many Florida farmers could grow their own feed and feed crops to advantage if it is fully to think of raising corn as a money crop but it is most

### BRONSON C. OF C. HOLDS MEETING

Meeting called to order by Pres. A. C. Johns. Minutes of last meeting read by the Warden. Minutes approved. The Warden - News.

### Several Important Road Projects Contracted for. Right of Way for 19 to be

Continued on page 4

# THE LEVY COUNTY NEWS

ONLY NEWSPAPER PUBLISHED AND PRINTED IN BRONSON, THE COUNTY SEAT OF LEVY COUNTY, IN THE AGRICULTURAL HEART OF STATE FLORIDA

JUNE 3, NUMBER 38,

BRONSON, LEVY COUNTY, FLORIDA, APRIL 8th, 1926

\$1.50 A YEAR

### Meeting of Commissioners

Special Meeting of the Board of County Commissioners in and for Levy County, State of Florida held at the Clerk's Office on this the 27th of March, A. D. 1926, with the following members of the Board present:—  
W. R. Hodges, Chairman,  
J. P. Kimble,  
E. M. Clyatt,  
E. C. Price.

### Notes of Court Proceedings

Circuit Court opened Monday A. M. with Judge A. V. Long presiding, with all other attaches of the court present.  
The court in giving the charge to the Grand Jury was a very instructive charge. As to their duties. The Grand Jury finished their work Monday.

### FULL PROCEEDINGS OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

At a regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners, in and for Levy County, held at the Clerk's Office in Bronson, Fla., on this the 2nd day of April A. D. 1926, with the following members of the Board present to-wit:—  
W. R. HODGES, Chairman,  
J. P. KIMBLE,  
M. M. CLYATT,  
W. S. YEARTY,  
E. C. PRICE.

### STATE ROAD 13 TO PARALLEL R. I.

Mr. W. R. Hodges, Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners after returning from Tallahassee where he was in conference with the officials of the State Road Department, announced that State Road Number 13 has been designated and will be built directly beside the Seaboard Line Railway through Levy County, passing through the towns of Mered, Bronson, Lennon, Otter Creek, Kilby, Wyly, Rosewood, Sumner and Cedar Key. There has been much discussion as to the location of the road, some saying that it should leave the railroad at Otter Creek and

WE NEED FIRE PROTECTION, CITY HALL, FIRE STATION, TOURIST CAMP, PARK, WHITE WAY, BONDS WILL DO IT

THE INDUSTRIAL CITY

# The Williston Sun

BEST CLIMATE AND SOIL IN FLORIDA

PUBLISHED IN THE HEART OF THE AGRICULTURAL SECTION OF FLORIDA

AND THE LEVY TIMES-DEMOCRAT

No. 37.

WILLISTON, FLORIDA, THURSDAY, APRIL 29, 1926.

NEWS SECTION

## Local Kiwanis Club Receives Charter

### Junior Class High Receives Diplomas In the Rymer Of Law

# The Levy County News

THE LEVY TIMES-DEMOCRAT

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF LEVY COUNTY DEDICATED TO THE PROGRESSIVE ADVANCEMENT OF THE COUNTY  
BRONSON, FLORIDA, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1927  
NUMBER 17

### BUY OF ENTIRE STATE AUTHORIZED BY COMMISSIONER MAYO

Nebraska Says THE STATE OF FLORIDA IS SOLD  
Congressman Says Four Years Ago Was Time for Land Gambling, Now Time for

### WILL AID IN BUILDING ROADS

Henry Williams, (retired) who was arrested in Crystal River a few weeks ago and placed in the Levy county jail by deputy sheriff W. B. Walden, plead guilty to charges of obtaining money with intent to defraud and received a sentence of six months on the county road. He was delivered by Sheriff L. L. Johns to proper authorities Tuesday afternoon.

### FIGURES GIVEN ON SIX MONTHS SCHOOL PERIOD

Over Thirteen Hundred in Florida Operated That Term or Less.  
Over thirteen hundred schools of Florida operated for a period of six months or less during the term of 1925-26, according to figures made public by W. B. Caverton, state supervisor.

### LEVY COUNTY WAS FORMED BEFORE FLORIDA BECAME STATE

Section Named For First U. S. Senator Here—Bounded By Water on Three of Four Sides—Famous for its Mild Climate and Fertile Soil.  
COUNTY BOARD OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION  
Levy county, famous for its mild climate and fertile soil, was formed March 10, 1845, four months before Florida became a state. It was the seventeenth county created in the state. It was early recognized by

# ISLAND CITY NEWS

ON THE GULF

Cedar Key, Florida  
"The Island City"

Every Evening  
a Gulf Breeze



CEDAR KEY, FLA., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1927

NUMBER

## MENTION

In this paper your paper—read or bring to news stations details births, marriages, obituary 6:30 P. M. Thursday.

## ASSESSMENT BOOKS ACCEPTED BY COUNCIL GIVING CITY LARGEST TOTAL ASSESSMENT

Increase in Assessments This Year Over Last Year \$61,000; Most of Amount is Increase of Personal Tax; Millage Not Fixed Yet

## Cedar Key School News

FOURTH GRADE  
The fourth grade has a new teacher Mrs. Miller is Mrs. O'Connell

THEir first average about that of school's record of 80 They have neither been absent

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF LEVY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

# The Levy County News

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF LEVY COUNTY

SUCCESSOR TO THE LEVY TIMES-DEMOCRAT THE WILLISTON SUN AND THE ISLAND CITY NEWS

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF LEVY COUNTY DEDICATED TO THE PROGRESSIVE ADVANCEMENT OF THE COUNTY

NO. 49

WILLISTON, FLORIDA, THURSDAY DECEMBER 13th 1928

NUMBER 17

### WILLISTON HIGH SCHOOL

dots and Dashes by the Students

**CEDAR KEY SCHOOL NEWS**

Editor Key School News.  
Last Thursday afternoon after lunch a ball game was played at the girls' camp, organized by Miss Irene Wray and Miss Mildred Steady signed up to the water tank. It gained their support.

### STORES THIS WEEK ARE TAKING ON REAL CHRISTMAS APPEARANCE BUSINESS GOOD

Stores here and nearby cities decorating and putting on Christmas Aisr- Shop early campaigns are doing their bit and buying is getting heavy.

This week sees the Christmas fest, the buying starting with a rush. Where you go the stores are decorated and the displays are busy. Campaigns are being waged for early shopping to avoid the last minute rush.

**NEW J. C. WEST DIES SUNDAY**

Mr. J. C. West was killed by death.

### MRS. CALVIN COUGLEDGE

Dedicating Florida Passenger Plane

# The Williston Sun

PUBLISHED IN THE HEART OF THE AGRICULTURAL SECTION OF FLORIDA  
SUCCESSOR TO THE LEVY TIMES-DEMOCRAT AND THE ISLAND CITY NEWS

BEST CLIMATE AND SOIL IN FLORIDA

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF LEVY COUNTY DEDICATED TO THE PROGRESSIVE ADVANCEMENT OF THE COUNTY

NO. 50

WILLISTON, FLORIDA, THURSDAY JANUARY 17th 1929

NUMBER 22

### WILLISTON SUN MAKES APPEARANCE

dots and Dashes by the Students

Editor-in-Chief ..... Darrie Tyson  
Assistant ..... Dorothy Mims

### WILLISTON HIGH SCHOOL

dots and Dashes by the Students

Editor-in-Chief ..... Darrie Tyson  
Assistant ..... Dorothy Mims

### GOVERNOR STARTS COUNTY OFFICIALS BIG SUGAR MILL ORGANIZE TUESDAY

OLEWISTON, JAN 16. Gov Doyle's cartoon this afternoon launched a contest to inaugurate the making of sugar as a new Florida industry. In an address shortly before he started the wheels of the 1,200 ton sugar mill of the Southern Sugar Co., today here the governor lauded the

The board of county commissioners met Tuesday and reorganized for the coming two years by electing W. B. Hodges of Cedar Key chairman. There are two new members on the board this year, S. C. O'Connell of Cedar Creek and J. D. Sheffield, from the Oklawaha district.

10 cents

# Suwannee Valley News



"SERVING SUWANNEE VALLEY AND SURROUNDING AREA"

VOL. 1 - NO. 1      CLEVELAND, LEVY COUNTY, FLA. WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5, 1930      ★ Eight Pages

**Watermelon Festival Directors Meet**      **Narcotics Stolen From**      **Two Injured In**

# The Williston Sun

WELLISTON, FLORIDA 32086, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1970 VOL. 68, NO. 81

## Peanuts To Be Special Show At The County Fair Next Month

(1) Virginia Type. Producers are invited to an exhibit per class. (2) USDA Grade. (3) General appearance as to uniformity and brightness of hull. (4) Market desirability including absence of cracked...

## New Business Opens Here Saturday

One Mid-Florida Electronic Service are announcing their opening Saturday October 3. The co-owners, Fred Cing and Charles Beckwith will be offering quality service on all types of electronic equipment including radio TV stereo hi-fi and hi-fi and hi-fi equipment.

## Askew, Chile: Shevin, Bevis And Kirk Winners In Tuesday's Election

Only about a third of the voters, 236, voted in the past Tuesday in the county and state elections. Voters in the county and their vote counts are as follows: For Governor: Democrat: Fawcett, 1412 and 4,170, 750 Republican, Kirk, 103, Eberd, 27.

## Red Devils Lose Second Game By Big Score

Williston Red Devils lost their second game of the season Friday night to North...

# The Chiefland Citizen

Published at Chiefland, Florida . . . The Gem of the Sunshine

SINGLE COPY 10c

Volume 20 - No. 21 ESTABLISHED 1960 CHIEFLAND, FLORIDA 32086 Thurs., March 2, 1973

## Levy County Farmers Are Signing Up Before The March 10 Deadline

More farmers are enrolling in the program for the first time.

## Grant For Mental Health Given Levy

The Mental Health Association of Alachua County announced it recently received word from the National Commission on Mental Health that the Gainesville Area Comprehensive...



## Williston High School Suffers \$15,000 Fire Damage Last Thursday

Still the Best Investment - U. S. Savings Bonds Keep On Buying Them

# Levy County Journal

Back Your Own Future By Putting Every Spare Dollar In Savings Bonds

VOLUME 22, NO 17 BRONSON, FLORIDA, THURSDAY, AUGUST 21, 1969 \$2.00 PER YEAR, IN A COPY

## Prominent Educators Work In Levy-Gilchrist Workshop Going On Now At Chiefland

CHIEFLAND Aug. 20 - Dr. DeWald W. Clark, Ph.D. professor of education at the University of Illinois and Mrs. Daley joined the staff of the Levy-Gilchrist County Workshop for Adult Personnel, August 21, 1969. They led groups of educators and administrators who are coming with reading problems. Professor and Mrs. Clark...

## Gov. Warren Given Proof of No New Tax Statements He Made

Gov. Warren this week received proof of statements reported by him and having to do with his earlier position on new state taxes in accepting the challenge. The Florida State Revenues Association today presented direct evidence from address Warren made during his campaign for the Governor's office. They stated: Labeled Ledger April 11, 1968, reporting an address Warren made in Snow Park, Lakeland, quoted him as follows: 'We don't need any more taxes.'

## Hogs Cheaper At Trenton Sale Tuesday

In the sale this week at Trenton we sold over 700 head of hogs. We will sell over 700 at Trenton and over 1000 at Newberry next week. We hope to see our best sell ever and...

## Levy Co. Health Unit Makes Report on Tuberculosis Mass Survey

TOTAL 1968 We wish to thank those volunteers for their valuable assistance: Mrs. W. J. Anderson, Mrs. C. Lee Jernick, Mrs. Ruth McCoy, Mr. John Holmquist, Mrs. W. H. Harker, Mrs. Elsie Holmquist, Mrs. Maxine C. Harden.

## Work on Road 55, Fannin to Chiefland Being Held Up For Wider Right of Way Lands

County Clerk Jack L. South, who whose hands all of the information and most of the responsibility of getting necessary right of way for the widening, resurfacing and otherwise improving State Road No. 55 from Fannin Springs to Chiefland has been held up by the fact that he has been getting help in working on obtaining the necessary deed required for the land...

## Jacksonville Trip A First for Chiefland Women's Club

Members of the Chiefland Women's Club are planning to "Spice the Day in Jacksonville" as guests of the Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce and Mayor's Reception. Several groups from Georgia have participated in this program but the Chiefland Women's Club is the first Florida group of WFC's. The plans for the day have been made at the request of the club members. The members will leave from the Women's Club building at 8:30 a.m. in a chartered Greyhound bus and arrive in Jacksonville in time to appear on the "Spice Show" at 9:30 a.m. on WFLA Channel 10 with Virginia Allen. All former Woodstock Festival guests have been contacted and many of them plan to accompany the group and appear on the show.

# The Williston News

Successor To The Williston Sun - Published in The Heart Of The Agricultural Section Also The Levy Times Democrat Which Started Publication in 1879. Published and Printed in Levy County

VOLUME 68 - NO. 3 WILLISTON, FLORIDA THURSDAY, OCT. 8, 1969



## 1 SCHOOL URGED BY BRICE AT RAD MEETING MONDAY

The monthly meeting of the Levy County Rural Area Development Council was held Monday at the Bronson town hall with Debra Cobb presiding. The RAD committee to join with the Levy County Commission for quality education is endeavoring to set up proposed educational goals in the county as set forth in the study made previously and submitted in the...

## Newspaper Moves Into New Plant And Office Building On 27th Alt. With Only Minor Delays to Paper

We are sorry we are so late with the paper this week, but we have moved into our new building on Young Blvd. Everything went fine in moving the equipment until we started to move the big newspaper press. It bogged down the press and the truck. The machine came to rest on the ground only a few feet away from the door in the new shop. However, after tagging and pulling the machine back into the shop...



# THE BRYANT - HARDEE CONNECTION

By Eugenia Smith Rowe

Silvester Bryant, born 27th January 1800, in Camden County, Georgia, (the son of Langley Bryant—one of the earliest settlers of St. Patrick's, Camden County, Georgia) grew up to be a prosperous farmer of that area. He met and married Elizabeth Niblack, born 27th February 1807, daughter of a prominent neighbor, William Niblack, who was a member of the 1801 Georgia Legislature from Camden County.

Silvester and Elizabeth married in 1826 in Camden County. Here their daughter, Esther Ann Bryant was born on the 24th of April 1828. It was shortly after the birth of Esther Ann that Silvester and Elizabeth decided to move their small family to lands owned in Columbia County, Florida. And it was in that area, near Lake City, that their son, Silvester Bryant, Jr., was born on the 23rd of February 1830. A daughter, Elizabeth Bryant, was born the 19th of November 1831. She died soon after.

Silvester was a very prosperous farmer and he and Elizabeth became "Pillars of Society" in the Lake City area. Their daughter and son grew to be young adults amid wealth and plenty.

In due time the young swains (and by all accounts, one not so young) were courting the petite, vivacious Esther Ann, among them a dashing young man by the name of Isaac Pierson Hardee, who was an emigree from the State of South Carolina, by way of Georgia. Isaac was born the 11th of October 1817 and had, at the age of 22, come down to Florida in 1839 as a soldier to help fight the Seminole Indians. As a result of his military service, (he enlisted as a drummer and after serving for a year he was discharged as a fifer) he was awarded land grants and by the early 1840's he was back in Florida looking around for a new plantation and for a wife (not necessarily in that order), to found his own dynasty and help make his mark in the world.

Now Isaac, son of John and Lucritia Hardee, was also from a proud and prosperous family from the Horry District of South Carolina. The idea that he would lose Esther Ann to an older, well-to-do swain, favored by Silvester and Elizabeth, after a quarrel between the young couple, didn't seem to set too well with this determined red-headed descendant of an Irishman and he therefore refused to be daunted.

Having acquired a hotel in the Tallahassee, Leon County, Florida area in the early 1840's, Isaac did have a home to offer a bride, but not such a life, as yet, to offer the darling of Silvester and Elizabeth Bryant, as was offered by the older well-to-do widower, living in the Lake City area. Also, being a red-headed Irishman with a ready wit, its not hard to imagine that he would also have a ready temper . . . In any event, he and Esther Ann quarreled and she was promised, by her Father and Mother, to wed the older gentleman, even though (it is said) she preferred the young Irishman.

As the wedding day approached the young lovers may or may not have communicated their misery to each other. Tradition is unclear on that point, but, I somehow believe that Isaac must have been encouraged a little, at least. But tradition (and History) is very clear that on the eve of the wedding day, Isaac, with the help of his slaves, spirited, not only the willing Esther Ann, but also the massive amount of food prepared for the wedding feast of his rival, out the window of Silvester Bryant's home. And Isaac, Esther Ann, the slaves, the food and the wedding cake, stole away in the night and were married on the 30th of March 1844 in either Lake City or Tallahassee. The latter being where he took her, as his bride, to live, we presume, happily ever after.

Isaac and Esther Ann's first child, born the 26th of June 1845, was a daughter and (ever an Irishman and a politician) they named her Elizabeth Niblack Hardee, for her maternal grandmother. The second child, born the 6th of May 1847, was a son, John Sylvester Hardee, named for the two grandfathers. They were still living in Tallahassee at this time.

Silvester Bryant and his wife, Elizabeth, had extensive real estate holdings on the Suwannee River in Levy County, and after the marriage of Isaac and Esther Ann, he removed his family from Lake City, Columbia County, Florida area, to these remote acres in the Clay Landing vicinity.

Between May 1847 and January 1850, Isaac and Esther Ann and their two children left Tallahassee and removed to the same area of Levy County, near Clay Landing, on the Suwannee River. The Bryants had built a two story log

cabin and it was here that Isaac and Esther Ann's third child, Issac Bryant Hardee, was born on 22 January 1950, named for his father and the Bryant family name. It has to be assumed by this time that all had been forgiven the eloped couple and they were one big happy family.

On the 20th of March 1853, the second child child of Silvester and Elizabeth Bryant, Silvester, Jr., was married to the Lovely Miss Susan Tyner, born on the 6th of September 1834 in Effingham County, Georgia. (The daughter of Jackson and Sarah Ann Pace Tyner, then living in Marion County, Florida). By 1858 Silvester and Susan Bryant were living at Ft. Fanning where he was Post Master, Ft. Fanning being the largest fort in the area to protect these pioneering inhabitants from the Indians.

----

Jackson Tyner was born the 9th of July 1911 in Effingham County, Georgia. He met and later married Sarah Ann Pace, born the 16th of July 1814, also of Effingham County, Georgia on the 13th of December 1832. Jackson Tyner was a farmer and also served for a time as the County Coronor for Marion County, Florida. He died after 1880, as he is listed on the 1880 Census at Bronson, Levy County, Florida at that time. No further record is found of him.

Sarah Ann Pace Tyner died the 24th October 1898 and is buried in the Old Bronson Cemetery. Jackson and Sarah Ann had six children:

1. Susan, 6th September 1834, Effingham County, Georgia.
2. Mozelle, 29th July 1836, Effingham County, Georgia.
3. Barnet Tryon, 1st September 1838, Florida.
4. Jane Verlilue, 27th September 1842, Florida.
5. Isaac Bronson, 10th November 1846, Florida.
6. William Badger, 2nd March 1850, Effing-Florida.

----

By about 1855, Silvester Bryant, Sr. held twenty slaves. Their value was around ten thousand dollars and they helped him maintain a plantation of 480 acres. Some of those slaves and their value were:

1st Family—William	\$800.00
Big Mary	500.00
Their Children:	
Sarah Phrna	\$700.00
Marie	500.00
Dianne	300.00
Phillis	300.00
Lenora	300.00

Lenora	300.00
James	250.00
Henry	200.00
Thomas	75.00
Calvin	1,000.00
	\$4,925.00

2nd Group:	
Little Mary	\$750.00
Margaret	450.00
Florida	550.00
Hester	300.00
Georgian	300.00
Handy	300.00
Chany	75.00
Firby and child	1,100.00
Jake	1,000.00
	\$4,825.00

Slaves were needed to grow and harvest cotton. This was the farmers money crop. Cotton produced along the Suwannee River was shipped down river to Cedar Key and thence loaded on ships, until the completion of the railroad in 1861, and then by rail to the northern and European markets.

The Bryants and Hardees were known to entertain lavishly. To hold merry gatherings with music and dancing and feasts prepared by slaves and served on tinkling china and crystal and shining silver. Life was good for these families and on the 27th of February 1852, they celebrated the birth of Joseph Owen Hardee, their fourth child, named for Isaac's grandfather, Joseph Hardee of South Carolina and Isaac's brother, Joseph P. Hardee, who later came to live with them.

The Hardee children appeared regularly. Andrew Jackson Hardee was born the 16th of September 1854 and named for that famous Indian Fighter of Tennessee who first led the Seminole Indian War soldiers and who in later years became President of the United States.

On the 20th of November 1856 sadness entered their lives with the death of Silvester Bryant, Sr. His estate passed to his wife and two living children, and their young families.

Silas Langley Hardee, named for his great-grandfather, Langley Bryant, was born the 22nd of February 1857, just three months after the death of Silvester.

On the 23rd of October 1857, was born to Silvester Bryant, Jr. and his wife, Susan Tyner Bryant, a son whom they named Sylvester Bronson Bryant. This was to be their only child.

In 1860 disaster struck in the form of typhoid fever. An epidemic which before it was done had swept away the lives of several slaves and the unnamed infant son, born 24th of February, died the 25th of February 1860. He lived just one day

and was buried with his mother, Esther Ann Bryant Hardee, who died on the 1st of March 1860. They were buried in the Bryant-Hardee Family Cemetery, located near their home at Clay Landing. They joined Silvester Bryant, Sr. and several of their slaves in this burial ground which is now lost on the banks of the Suwannee River along with the site of that first log home.

Three months after the deaths of Esther Ann and her son, on the 1st of June 1860, Sylvester Bryant, Jr. succumbed to the dreaded disease and was buried in what is now the Hardee Cemetery, Hardeetown, Levy County, Florida. His was the first grave.

Isaac Pierson Hardee, grieving widower, married his former sister-in-law, Susan Tyner Bryant, grieving widow, in November of that same fateful year of 1860. Isaac, left with six living children under the age of fifteen and Susan, left with her three year old son, Sylvester Bronson Bryant, and their aging (54 year old) mother-in-law, Elizabeth Niblack Bryant, had decided to pool their families and their resources and make a home at Pine Hill Plantation for all of them. Thus, first cousins became step-brothers and step-sister, Aunt and Uncle became Step-Mother and Step-Father.

The arrangement was a successful one as on the 23rd of September 1861, Oscar Davis (Or Daves) Hardee was born; followed by Eugene William Jackson, 3rd of August 1864; Dora Ann Hardee, 23rd March 1866 (who died 4th of May 1866); and last but not least, Emmett Russel Hardee, born on the 29th of October 1867.

Isaac Pierson Hardee, aged 62, soldier and planter, died on the 26th of November 1879 and was buried in the Hardee Cemetery at Pine Hill Plantation. Susan Tyner Bryant Hardee lived to be 74 years old, died on the 30th of August 1908 and was buried beside Isaac.

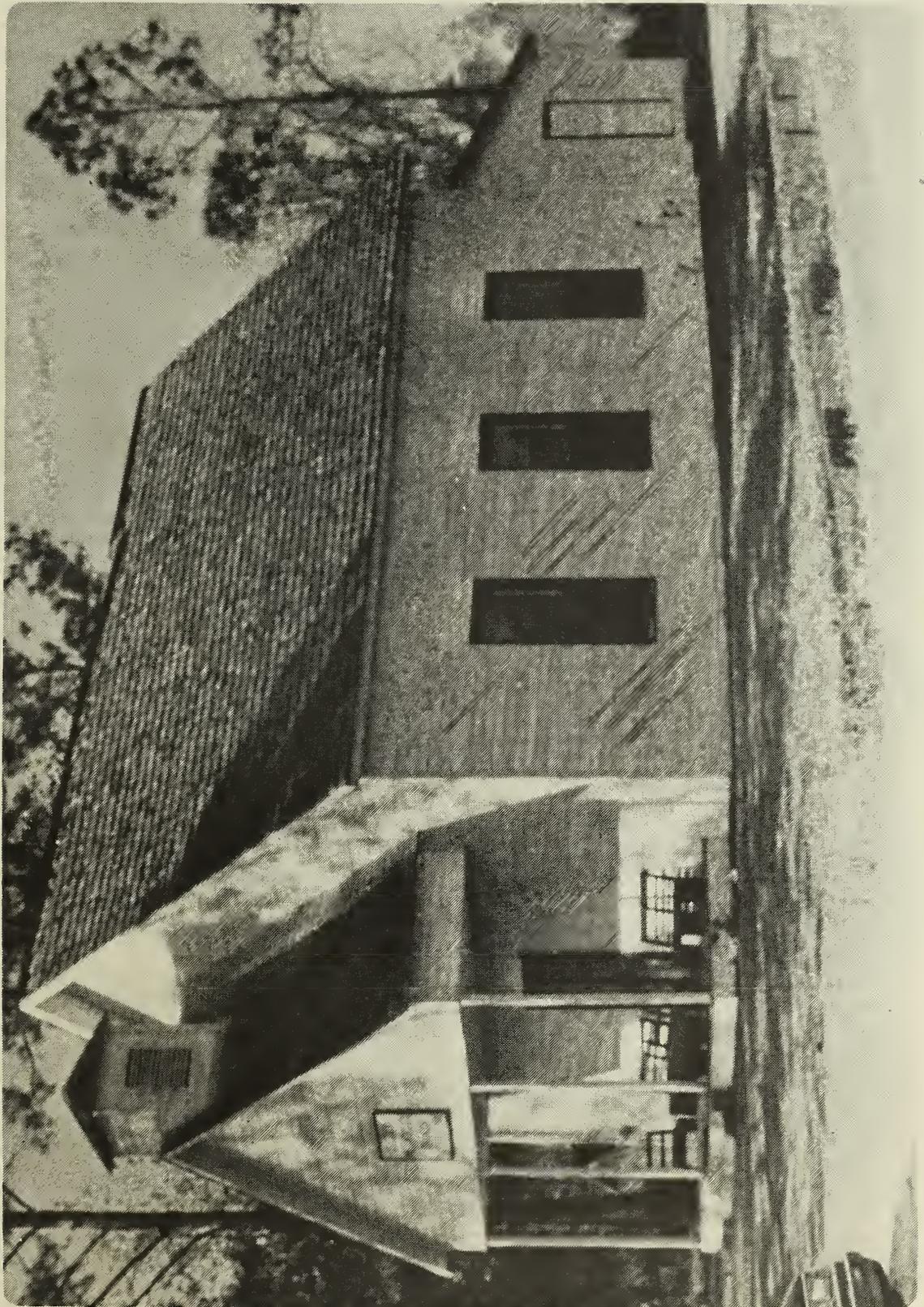
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Sylvester Bronson Bryant, only child and heir of Sylvester Bryant, Jr. and Susan Tyner Bryant Hardee, married on the 19th of August 1896, Miss Alice Wanamaker, born 31st July 1878. She was sickly and died a year later on the 3rd of September 1897 at the home of her parents in Tampa, Hillsborough County, Florida. She was buried in the Key Stone Churchyard Cemetery in Tampa.

About 1900 he was married to Miss Sarah Eleanor Worthington, of Levy County, Florida. She was born 25th December 1877, daughter of John Langley Worthington, and his wife, Susan Taylor Worthington. They were blessed with six children:

1. Eulalee, 24th September 1901.
2. Ida Mae, 12th March 1903.
3. Bronson Worthington, 16th August 1904.
4. Elenor, 5th October 1905.
5. Sylvester Langley, 22nd February 1907.
6. Susan, 16th September 1908.

On the 30th of May 1929, Eulalee was married to J. Mauley Hudson. On the 5th of April 1930, Bronson Worthington Bryant married Miss Martha Esther Howell, and they have one son, Bronson Howell Bryant, born 4th of December 1931.



Ellzey Methodist Church built in about 1865.

# THE ELLZEY METHODIST CHURCH

By Marie G. Meeks

Between the year 1850 and 1860, Robert Marvin Ellzey, a young Methodist preacher, felt a call to go to the frontier to help spread the Gospel. With his wife he started out from Barnwell County, South Carolina. They traveled down until they crossed the Georgia-Florida line and from there on everywhere they stopped he preached. He would pray and ask for Divine Guidance at every place he stopped, in order that he might know where to stop and establish a church.

They traveled down through central Florida, finally arriving at Lake Butler. Here he stopped and preached, supposedly for several months. While there his wife passed away.

After the death of his wife, he moved on down thirty-six miles west of Gainesville, to what was called Eurika, but later changed to Ellzey. Upon arriving there he said that this was the place he felt that he had been looking for. He immediately established a Homestead Grant and took up residence.

Soon after getting a cabin fixed for himself with the help of a few settlers, they erected a one room log cabin to be used for a church. They split the logs to make the floor and used wooden pegs for nails.

By this time Parson Ellzey or Uncle Ellzey, as he was more commonly known among his close friends in the surrounding communities, had married Avarilla Williams, who was quite a help mate for him. Along with raising four children, she conducted Sunday School and made arrangements to feed and lodge the many people who came from the surrounding communities to attend services at the church.

Sometime during the years between 1860-1865 the one room log cabin church burned. A Mr. Worthington agreed to cut the lumber, and by this time a number of families lived in Ellzey and all agreed to go to work and build a new church on the same sight. This is the church that is standing today. The only difference to be found in it is, the storm which passed through in 1889 blew the steeple off, new windows and several new roofs have been added and also three Sunday School rooms have been added to the back.

In 1872 Parson Ellzey's circuit included Bronson, Cedar Key, Ellzey, Archer, Shell Pond, Blich Schoolhouse, Hardee Schoolhouse, Clyatt School, Levyville, Rocky Hammock and Oak

Grove. This included practically all of what is known as Levy County today except the Williston area.

A ledger containing a few remaining sheets of old church record dating 1871, at the time when Parson Ellzey was admitted to conference, lists the names of eighty-seven persons on the church roll in 1894. The sheets containing the roll before that time were torn out.

Mr. W. W. Ellzey states that his father walked to churches within eight miles and rode horseback to the others. He says his father was paid mostly in produce from the farms and with the little money they received they bought clothes. The majority of the money went to buy the long tailed parsons coat which his Father wore. He says his Mother was a good manager and even though his Father was away from home most of the time his Mother managed to keep things going.

At the twenty-seventh Conference held in Tallahassee in 1871, Robert Marvin Ellzey was admitted to Conference.

Out of the eleven churches that Parson Ellzey served in 1872, there are four still active today. They are: Ellzey, Bronson, Cedar Key and Archer.

In 1853 a railroad was built to Cedar Key from Fernandina. The train burned cord wood so several of the families found that they could make good by cutting cord wood for the train, others found that they could do well cutting the cross ties to build and then to repair the railroad tracks.

Around 1900 Ellzey went through a period of growth. A cedar mill was constructed and a little later a turpentine still was put into operation. Many of the older families, some of which are still represented here today are as follows: Phelps, Ellzey, Meeks, Perryman, Hogans, Pinner, Ishie, Williams, Tindales, Becks, Berryhill and Oglesbees. All were farmers.

During the period of growth the church prospered and many preachers came and went. A Baptist church was added to the community during this period and was maintained until around 1918 when the cedar was cut out and the cedar mill moved. The turpentine still operated by West Brothers was closed down in 1952.

Sunday School and Church services have con-

tinued continuously from before the building of the first log church when services were conducted in the homes up until the present time in Ellzey. They have been conducted on the same site except for the times that calamities have befallen the building.

In 1936 several people in Ellzey decided to start raising goats. They overran the place and due to neglect of the people they took the church so the people just moved out to the school building where services were conducted for about two years. A new preacher, Reverend Skelley came to us who had zeal and determination, so he started a campaign to reclaim the church. Under his direction we were, in a few months, back in the old church with a new roof on it, windows repaired and a new door with a lock on it so that the goats could not enter.

We had been back in the church approximately a year when one afternoon three boys of the community sought refuge in the church from an electrical storm. While in there they had nothing else to do so they shot the windows out. Services were then forced to be conducted in the schoolhouse again.

Due to the fortitude of Brother M. B. Cox, Mr. Robbie Pinner, who was then Superintendent of the Sunday School, Mr. W. W. Ellzey, son of the late Parson Ellzey, and Mr. N. J. Meeks, with the combined help of the other members of the church, the windows were replaced and services were soon resumed in the church.

On the first Sunday in June 1939, after church services were resumed in the church, the first "Homecoming" was held. This was the beginning of the annual "Ellzey Homecoming" which is attended by hundreds from near and far each year, giving proof that the church has had a far reaching effect and has a history behind it.

The Ellzey Church has approximately twenty-five active members today. The old church is very much in need of repair. Due to the encouragement brought to the church by the young student pastors serving it, out of the University of Gainesville and due to the consecration, love and devotion of the few remaining members, the church carries on today conducting Sunday School and church each Sunday.



The old Curry homestead, 1904: Lem and Fannie Curry, Baby Alma, Blake, Gad, Lizzie, Belle, and Effie. The deer was a pet.

# HENRY MIMS MATTAIR (18 -19 )

Transcribed by Eugenia Smith Rowe

I was born over there in an old log house which is now gone. My father built this house the year I was born, and I have lived right here ever since. I have farmed all my life, raised cows, hogs, just regular farming.

My father was a farmer and a blacksmith. He was raised about two miles from here in the direction of Williston. My grandfather lived somewhere around Lake City and then he moved to Jacksonville. After he married my grandmother, they lived over in what is now the Ocala National Forest. My father was born there. I believe it was a place called Long Swamp. That was about 1850.

My wife is named Ima Vira Reeves Mattair. She was born in West Virginia. We have been married fifty years and have four sons and one daughter.

When I was a boy, there were more people living around this neighborhood than now. You could say that our place is southwest of Wacahoota.

My Great Grandfather fought in the Indians Wars. I don't know when he came to this country, but it was before the Indians and whites got mad at each other. I have heard my Grandmother tell about the Indians coming to their house when she was about six or seven. She remembered one day when six Indians were setting on the porch with Old Man Tyner (that was my Great Grandfather). They had brought some brooms and baskets to give to the older children, so my Grandmother wanted to play around there so she could see what was going on. The Indians were sitting and lying on the floor. They had brought some knives along to show Old Man Tyner. One of the Indians reached for a knife right at my Grandmother's feet and she took off like a streak. The Indians all laughed at that.

My Great Grandmother was Nancy Tyner and that was in the early 1800's. I don't recall hearing what kind of Indians those were. My Great Grandfather Tyner came here in 1832. Williston did not exist then. My wife, Ima, who was a Reeves, was born at a place called Balls in Monroe County, West Virginia.

I have heard my Grandfather say that after the war started, the Indians captured a Negro woman and took her over to Micanopy and made

her work. After awhile some whites captured her back down around Stafford's Pond close to Montbrook which used to be Phoenix. They changed it to Montbrook because some families named Brooks moved in. I guess they named the place after Old Man Mont Brooks. Anyway, to get back to my story, the Negro woman told the whites that when the Indians killed Old Man Stafford, they scalped him, took his stuff off him, and went over to Micanopy and danced around that scalp for two or three days.

Great Grandpa Tyner killed an Indian and brought the scalp in and hung it on his back porch. Great Grandma Nancy Tyner made him take it down. I don't know whatever became of it but I still have the tomahawk that the Indian had at the time.

During the Indian War times, the people built forts. There was one not far from Col. Smith's, right there where you turn to go to MacIntosh. Some people today still have these here big old musket balls; what the whites shot at the Indians when they tried to slip in. When the ground was plowed up the people would find the musket balls. I remember when Mr. Willard Smith lived up here, he had a box full of them.

The Indians, before the war broke out, would come in here and trade huckleberries for milk. There was not a regular trading post here.

I never knew much about my Grandmother's brothers and sisters because they either died or got killed during the Civil War. My daddy went off to the Civil War, also my uncle. The first person ever buried at the Orange Hill Cemetery was William Tyner and some of his people live around Williston now. Mrs. Gilley is one of them. Carl Gilley found two tomahawks in a mound in Gulf Hammock during hunting season. I heard that they are over at the University now. I don't know exactly where the Indians lived around here. I have heard that they used to drive cattle from Stafford's Pond to the prairie over there where Whitehurst lived, the other side of his place. They must have lived, for one place, around Johnson Lake because so many arrowheads have been found there. After my Grandfather and Grandmother separated, she married a man by the name of Tanner. Both of them had children to finish raising, so you might say Old

Man Tanner raised my daddy. The old Tanner Cemetery is still down there, about two and a half miles from here. The Wacahoota Methodist Church, about two miles from here, is a lot older than the Orange Hill Cemetery. I think the first settler around Wacahoota was a man named Smith.

My father left Florida and went off to the Civil War. He was wounded five times. I heard him talk about Chickamauga, also some place called Lookout Mountain. He got shot twice in the arm there and in his knee.

There was a log cabin down the road from here that Mrs. Horne used to live in. I used to go down there when I was a child and she would always give me something to eat, usually a biscuit and sausage.

My grandfather was named Johnathan J. Tyner, he was born in September, 1824. My Grandmother was named Frances and she was born in 1826. They called her Fanny. Grandpa died when he was 76.

In that Orange Hill Cemetery there's a big Oak Tree and that's where William Tyner picked out the place for him to be buried. Some people since then have wanted to cut the tree down and there were some fusses about that. Some of Tyner bunch objected, said their Grandpa owned the land at the time he was buried and a whole row of Tyners are buried there.

My Grandmother never had bad experiences with the Indians. This old Bible here, they gave it to her when she was a child. I remember her saying that the white people had no business taking Florida away from the Indians. When the Indians were chased out of here, Grandma said she wished she was back in Mississippi. Ethel Gilley of Williston, that's Mrs. Waldo Gilley, is also the great granddaughter of Old Man Tyner and the granddaughter of William Tyner. Grandma used to go there and they would get to talking about the old times and Ben was still living, that's Ben Tyner who was Ethel's father. Ethel might remember more than I do.

## WHY RYE . . . KEY, THAT IS?

Why should a small island at the north of Way Key, on the Number Four Channel, have borne the name "Rye Key" ever since the first government survey of the Cedar Keys in the 1850's? (The railroad route excepted.) The answer lies with a young homesteader named John E. Johnson, who received a permit to enter and settle upon 160.5 acres on January 23, 1843. In addition to the small island upon which he built his dwelling, Johnson's tract included much of the northern and central portions of Way Key, the island selected by David Levy (Yulee added later) to become the Gulf terminus of his projected trans-peninsula railroad from Fernandina.

About the same time, an acquaintance of Johnson, young Thomas H. Parsons, received a permit to homestead 164.31 acres on Way Key, more to the southeast, where most of the City of Cedar Key has developed. Both men's permits came through U.S. Government's land office in Newnansville, which was managed for six years by Seminole War veteran, Major John Parsons. The major was an uncle of Thomas H. Parsons.

On precisely the same date, August 1, 1853,

John E. Johnson and Thomas H. Parsons received title to their respective lands by patent from the General Land Office of the United States. Then, exactly six months later, on February 1, 1854, these two homesteaders sold their entire acreage to Major John Parsons. The major, in turn, sold those lands to the Florida Railroad Company on September 22, 1855 and again, it appears from the deeds, on June 30, 1856. In the first transaction, David Levy Yulee was one of the grantors on the deed; in the second, Major Parson's wife, Susan Decatur Parsons, was another grantor. In each transaction, the lands were identical, so many may conclude that the Florida Railroad Company, creature of Yulee's tireless efforts, was well-possessed of those 324.81 acres so vital to its future.

So what has all this to do with the name of Rye Key? John E. Johnson's birthplace was Rye, New Hampshire. And that is where the Parsons came from.

--Charles C. Fishburne, Jr.,

April, 1984

Archivist, Cedar Key Historical  
Society

# THE CEDAR KEYS, STEAMBOATS, AND THE SUWANNEE RIVER

By Charles C. Fishburne, Jr.  
Archivist, Cedar Key Historical Society  
April 10, 1984

When steamboats began operating on Florida waters in the 1830s, some serving the U.S. Army were ascending the lower Suwannee River by 1836. However, not until 1845, two years after the U.S. Government declared the Second Seminole War over, did the first regular steamboat service on the Suwannee commence. On October 25 of that year, the *St. Augustine News* reported that the *Orpheus* was in operation between the Cedar Key and Santa Fe and Columbus. Steamboat authority Edward A. Mueller (*Florida Historical Quarterly*, January, 1967, pp. 271-88) adds that the *Orpheus* met an obscure and tragic end on the Suwannee in 1847. She was soon to be followed by the *Glasgow*. The new service was announced in the *Tallahassee Floridian* on May 13, 1848 by the captain, himself, as follows:

## STEAMER GLASGOW

James Tucker, Master

THE undersigned avails himself of this mode of informing the public that the new Steamer *Glasgow* is now performing her regular trips on the Suwannee River between Columbus and Cedar Keys. This boat is strongly built of the best materials and propelled by two engines, and capable of carrying one hundred tons burthen, or 400 bales of cotton, with suitable accomodations for forty passengers, of light draft, requiring but seventeen inches water, thereby enabling her to

perform her trips regularly at all seasons of the year between Columbus and Cedar Keys, leaving Columbus every TUESDAY morning at 7 o'clock, A.M. and Cedar Keys every FRIDAY morning . . .As soon as practicable this boat will extend her trips up the Suwannee River to the Upper Springs, and also up the Withlacoochee River.

. . .The Florida State Internal Improvement and Steam Navigation Company . . .will soon complete their arrangements . . .for purchase of cotton and other products of the country . . . As soon as practicable a line of suitable packets will be established by the Company between Cedar Keys and New York and New Orleans for the conveyance of freight and passengers . . .The facilities offered to parties of pleasure and others to visit the Keys, at all seasons of the year, one of the most healthy and desirable retreats for invalids and others in the State, and the beautiful and romantic scenery of the Suwannee will, it is supposed, offer inducements to many to avail themselves of so pleasant an excursion.

For further particulars, apply to Messrs. D. P. SMITH & Co., Columbus, Messrs. SMITH & HARRIS, Madison, Messrs. PUTNAM & RICHARDS, Cedar Keys, or to the undersigned. Columbus, Florida, January 22, 1848

JAMES TUCKER

And others, Proprietors



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