building at Orange and Main Streets. The Dixie Guards was a well-drilled company and won several competitive prizes. It served on riot duty during the street car strike in Jacksonville in 1912. The company was disbanded in November, 1916, for failure to recruit to full war strength as required by the National Defense Act; some of the members then joined the other local companies.


Jacksonville Blues

Jacksonville already had four infantry companies when this company was organized. To meet the requirements of the War Department that the First Regiment be increased to 12 companies, the Blues was the first of the extra companies to organize. It was mustered in with 62 men on September 12, 1913, as Co. E, First Regiment, N. G. F. The company was composed largely of young Hebrews of the city. Its history is short, as the company failed to recruit as required by the National Defense Act, and was disbanded in November, 1916, some of its members going to the other local companies in order to save them.


National Guard of Florida

Prior to 1884, the military organizations of the State were detached, but in February of that year they were brought together in a battalion formation under the name First Florida Battalion. An encampment was held at Magnolia Bluff, near Pensacola, in the summer of 1884, with Captain W. B. Young, of the Jacksonville Light Infantry, in command. Shortly afterward Captain Young was commissioned major of the battalion.

June 8, 1887: A military law was passed by the legislature creating the Florida State Troops, dividing them into three battalions. The Jacksonville companies were assigned to the First Battalion: Co. A, Jacksonville Light Infantry;