

RESOURCES EXTENSIVE

Okeechobee County Possessor of Great Sources of Wealth In Agricultural Lands, Timber and Fishing Industries; Section Grows Rapidly Following Establishment of Transportation.

By Mrs. H. R. CHAMPLIN
Herald Staff Correspondent

BUILDING FACTS URGED

OKEECHOBEE, Fla., May 22.—Carved out of sections of St. Lucie, Palm Beach and Okeechobee counties, Okeechobee county, situated at the northern end and to the west of Lake Okeechobee, came into being by special act of the legislature in 1917. The present city of Okeechobee, now its county seat, is a product of Henry M. Flagler's early dream, when after completing the Florida East Coast Railway to Miami his vision turned to the inland empire of the Everglades. On the banks of the Okeechobee river on the north shore of Lake Okeechobee the stakes were laid, and the ground dedicated to a future city which was dignified with the name of the great lake, meaning in the Seminole language "Big Water."

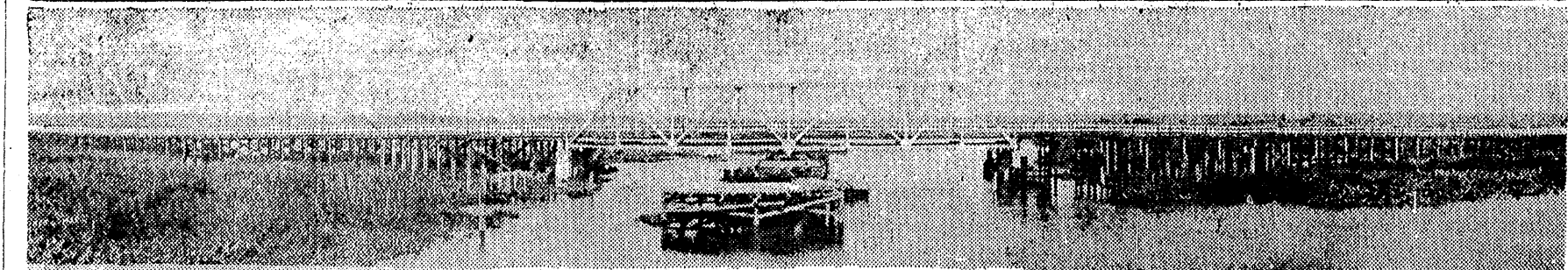
President of State C. of C. Asks Towns To Maintain Construction Figures.

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., May 22.—If Florida towns could be induced to realize the benefit a community derives from official building construction reports, every municipality in the state would make public the statistics that show the growth of their communities. Herdan Danu, president of the Florida State Chamber of Commerce, says that it is "practically impossible for one to erect a new structure or to make alterations before noting the statistics, and the estimated cost, which are part of the official record."

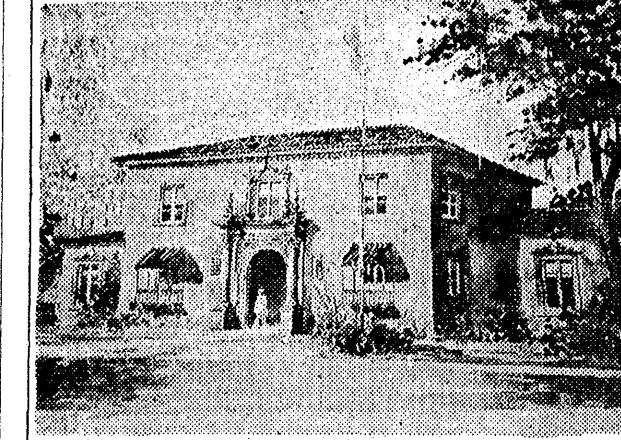
The growth and activity of the county in recent years is transportation. Bridging the gap between this county and the East Coast by conquering the muck with engineering feats hitherto held impossible was the vision of W. J. Connor, and on July 4, 1925, the opening of the road bearing his name was celebrated by one of the largest barbecues ever held in the state. On January 25, 1925, the bridge across the Kissimmee river was opened to traffic. Nearly two-thirds of a mile of grade and timber trestles in the approach to the Kissimmee river bridge, and a steel draw span 152 feet long makes the total length of the bridge 3.12 feet. Field construction work on the project was started in September, 1924, and less than five months later, January 10, 1925, the structure was completed.

On March 3, 1926, the celebration of the completion of state road No. 8 was held at the county seat. Until 1924 Okeechobee was the terminal of the New Smyrna branch of the Florida East Coast Railway, but the division is now at work extending the line through to Miami. The Seaboard Air Line Railroad also is engaged in extending that route through to Miami.

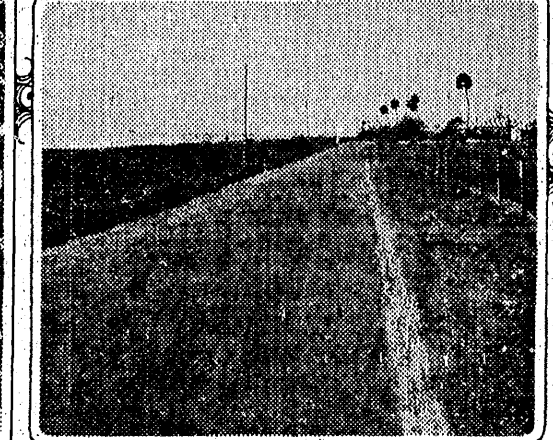
With the work finished, there remains only a few miles of the highway to be completed. All of this is in one stage or another of construction, and it will be only a few months before the highway will be a table top will have been provided across the northern part of the state.



BRIDGE SPANNING KISSIMMEE RIVER



PROPOSED OKEECHOBEE CITY HALL



CONNORS HIGHWAY AT OKEECHOBEE



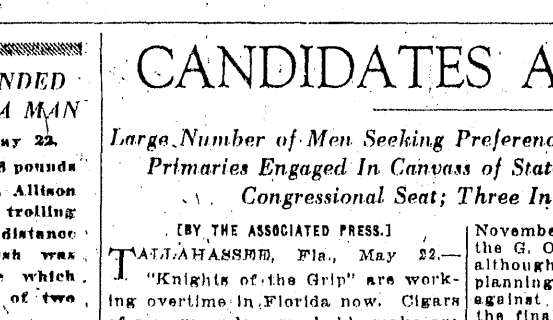
OKEECHOBEE COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING



ROAD WORK CONTINUES

Old Spanish Trail Construction Completed in Walton County, State Body Advised.

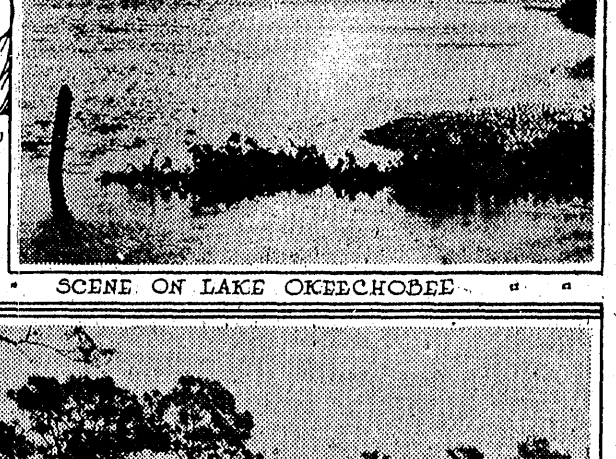
JACKSONVILLE, Fla., May 22.—Highway construction forces completed state road No. 1, the Old Spanish trail, through Walton county last week, the Florida State Chamber of Commerce has been advised, providing a continuous stretch of road from Caryville, in Washington county, to Oklawaha, a distance of more than 40 miles.



NEW HIGH SCHOOL NEARING COMPLETION



SCENE ON LAKE OKEECHOBEE



LUMBER MILLS AT SHERMAN

WAGE GROUP NAMED

Committee To Promote Minimum Salary For Teachers.

TALLAHASSEE, Fla., May 22.—Plans for the promotion of a state-wide minimum salary for school teachers of Florida are to be taken up immediately by a committee of five appointed by R. M. Sealey, president of the Florida Education Association. Mr. Sealey selected the committee in accordance with a resolution adopted at the last meeting of the association, which was to create a state-wide minimum salary for teachers.

DISPOSAL OF KITTENS WORRIES CITY'S POLICE

Tempa, Fla., May 22.

THE Tempa police now have an additional worry. A woman who had parked her motor car on Franklin street returned to find a sack of kittens deposited upon the front seat. She passed them over to a traffic officer. The officer turned them in to police headquarters. They were transferred to the detective squad. The detectives gave them to the sergeant on duty, and the latter switched them to the lieutenant. According to last counts the lieutenant was considering sending the kittens to the fire department.

PATROL OFFICER HIRED

BUNNELL, Fla., May 22.—Flagler is the most recent county to employ a motorcycle highway patrol officer. The county commissioners have announced that he has been assigned to duty on the Dixie Highway from St. Johns to the Volusia county line. Speeding is virtually impossible on the brick highway from the St. Johns line to Bunnell, and the chief of police of the county will be largely devoted to "road hogs."

84,000 ACRES ARE SOLD

BONIFAY, Fla., May 22.—Sixty-four thousand acres of land in Holmes county, northeast of Bonifay, Okeechobee county, has been sold according to a local newspaper. The land will be divided into 40-acre farms and will be prepared for occupancy at once.

AGENTS ARE PRAISED

County Agricultural Officials' Work Called Essential.

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., May 22.—The county without an agricultural agent is like a small community without a railroad station agent, says the Florida State Chamber of Commerce. The station agent in a village usually is called upon to perform a greater variety of duties than any one individual in the community, and heretofore he has held the record in this respect. The county agricultural agents are being praised for the service they have rendered.

LARGE TARPON LANDED BY PUNTA GORDA MAN

Punta Gorda, Fla., May 22.—A TARPON weighing 116 pounds was caught by R. H. Allison this week while he was trolling in Charlotte Bay a short distance from the city. The fish was landed after a struggle which consumed the best part of two hours.

BRITON WILL SPEAK

Sir Alfred Witherspoon To Address Sebring Convention.

By R. H. CHAMPLIN

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CANDIDATES ARE BUSY

Large Number of Men Seeking Preference At Coming Democratic Primaries Engaged In Canvass of State; First Woman After Congressional Seat; Three In Senate Race.

(BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS)

TALLAHASSEE, Fla., May 22.—"Knights of the Grip" are working overtime in Florida now. Cigars of a more or less amiable make are at a premium. "Warm" handshakes and "cherry" greetings are the order of the day. It's the election season.

BYRD SENT REGARDS BY FLORIDA FRIEND

Lake City, Fla., May 22.—(AP) NO ONE was more gratified at the successful flight of Lieutenant Byrd over the North Pole than Julian B. McCurry, secretary-manager of the chamber of commerce of Lake City and Cassimidia county.

HOTEL OFFICIAL IN CITY

SARASOTA, Fla., May 22.—Albert Kellar, managing director of the Ritz-Carlton Hotel Company, who arrived here yesterday with Mrs. Kellar and guests of Mr. and Mrs. John Ringling, secretary of the Longboat Key Hotel, have elapsed since his former visit, he can see in the city considerable progress of a substantial nature, especially in the erection of buildings.

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CHURCH TO BE ORGANIZED

SARASOTA, Fla., May 22.—Arrangements for the organization of a Christian church here have been completed by the Rev. O. H. Greenwell, who probably will be the first pastor. He came here some days ago to take part in revival services, but decided to make the city his home, and organized the church, which will hold its services at the municipal recreation pier.

LEGAL APPLICANT CLASS IS LARGE

Nearly 400 Expected To Take State Bar Examinations.

TALLAHASSEE, Fla., May 22.—(AP) A class as large as any previously appearing before the board is expected to take the next examinations of the State Bar of Florida. It is estimated that there will be upwards of 400 persons on hand.

MARTIN WILL DELIVER COMMENCEMENT TALK

APALACHICOLA, Fla., May 22.—Gov. John W. Martin will deliver the commencement address of Chapman High School, and the Rev. I. D. Lowe, president of the Florida Baptist Convention, will deliver the commencement address at the Methodist Church.

SHIPPING RULES GIVEN

State Railroad Commission Prescribes Regulations For Less Than Carload Loads.

TALLAHASSEE, Fla., May 22.—The Florida railroad commission has issued an order prescribing rules to be adopted for the intrastate movement of less-than carload shipments of perishable freight in refrigerator cars.

The rules provide that the railways must furnish, permit shippers to use, or participate with connecting roads in handling refrigerator cars, with or without ice, to be loaded by shippers at their expense with fruits, vegetables, berries, melons, or other perishable freight in less-than carloads, subject to a minimum weight of 12,000 pounds per car, covered by one bill of lading, from one shipper at a point of origin to one consignee at one destination for certain charges plus the freight charges at less than carload rates. Any deficit in weight under the 12,000 pound minimum referred to must be charged for on a basis of the highest rated article contained in the car.

Continuing, the rules say: "When shipments referred to are made in cars with ice in bunkers and instructions are given the roads to re-ice such cars at any being station in transit or at destination, the charge will be made for the actual amount of ice supplied by railways in re-icing."

Shippers will be permitted to initially ice cars in bunkers, at their expense, if they give a written advance notice furnish a car initially loaded in bunkers for the handling of shipments. When railways refuse to re-ice such cars, the penalty for ton shall be assessed and collected."

LIBRARY SURVEY TO BE CONDUCTED

Joint Committee Named To Make Statewide Study.

TALLAHASSEE, Fla., May 22.—(AP) A joint committee of the Florida state council of education and the Florida Library Association has been appointed to make a survey of the state's high school libraries. It has been announced at the department of public instruction, where the committee is composed of the following:

From the Florida state council of education: R. M. Senley, chairman; Miss Gladys Johnson, teacher of English, Fort Pierce, high school; Prof. C. R. Robertson, professor of English, University of Florida; Kenneth Hart, teacher of English, Wauchula High School; Mrs. E. B. Brawley, principal, Quincy High School.

From the Florida Library Association: Mrs. Anne Van Ness Bynum, president of the organization; Miss Olive Brumbaugh, librarian, Albert Smith High School, Tallahassee; Miss Louise Richardson, librarian, Florida State College for Women.

The committee members were appointed at meetings of the two organizations. It will begin functioning at once in making a survey of the libraries. Mr. Bynum will be the view of recommending improvements wherever such are found necessary. The work will be largely conducted by mail, and at various meetings to be held over the state.

ATLANTA VISITS FLORIDA

Sponge Exporting, Fla. May 22.

FOR the purpose of establishing an agency for the sponges from the Tarpon Springs market, the largest in the world, Conrad Keetof of Copenhagen, Denmark, has traveled 8,000 miles to see the local sponge exchange, of which he had heard in Europe.

It is anticipated that if an arrangement is effected the export business of sponges would be greatly increased. Mr. Keetof has been representative for one of the largest exporters in New York for 15 years. During the past six years he has bought quantities of sponges from the Tarpon Springs market through George M. Emmanuel and Company, with whom negotiations are being made for furthering the European business.

BULLETIN ARRANGED

Florida Agricultural Publication Is Being Prepared.

TALLAHASSEE, Fla., May 22.—(AP) The next quarterly bulletin of the state department of agriculture, to be issued in October, will be prepared under the supervision of the state home demonstration staff, according to T. J. Brooks, director of the immigration bureau. The title of the bulletin will be "Rural Home Life in Florida," and its publication will mark the first time in the United States that such evidence of cooperation is shown between the state and extension forces of the United States department of agriculture. The bulletin is expected to include articles and illustrations on all phases of the extension work, as it is conducted in Florida. It will cover not only programs carried out in the homes, but also those which are carried out in the schools. The bulletin's illustrations will deal largely with summer meetings and other gatherings held under the supervision of the extension department during the summer. The bulletin will be given wide circulation through the United States, Mr. Brooks said.

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Lake City, Fla., May 22.—(AP) NO ONE was more gratified at the successful flight of Lieutenant Byrd over the North Pole than Julian B. McCurry, secretary-manager of the chamber of commerce of Lake City and Cassimidia county.

Lieutenant Byrd and Mr. McCurry are friends of long standing, as well as the former's brother. Governor Byrd of Virginia. They are members of the Kappa Alpha fraternity.

Lieutenant Byrd carried two Kappa Alpha flags with him in his flight and planned to place one on the North Pole.

The last message of "Good wishes" received by Lieutenant Byrd from the flight was from Mr. McCurry, according to Governor Byrd.

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