

McIntosh Gazette

McIntosh, Florida

8th Edition

October 31, 1981

Welcome to the McIntosh Tour of Victorian Homes —



Tickets are \$3 for the entire tour and can be bought at two locations in the park. The map on the back page will help you locate each stop on the tour. If you should still have trouble finding a particular house, ask at the Information or Tour of Homes Booths. There will be guides to answer questions you might have at each location. We ask that you do not bring any food or drink into the houses you visit. Remember, the funds generated from the tour go toward PRESERVATION in McIntosh.

Enjoy your tour!

Chéad Mile Fáilte

CHEAD MILE FAILTE. A hundred thousand welcomes.

What a charming blend of Gaelic and Southern hospitality — a combination that speaks for the Scottish origins of the McIntosh and other clans of many of our ancestors and the Southern hospitality that has graced McIntosh from its earliest days to the present time.

Walk our tree-line streets, marvel at our vintage churches and visit our tour homes, so rich with Victorian influences, and think of the way it was when our town was young and our pioneer settlers set the tone that has kept it rich in tradition and modern in outlook.

Spend the day with us and make your own memories of skirling Scottish pipers, beautiful authentic costumes of the turn of the century and before, gracious homes and a touch of history in the restored Victorian depot, the old hotel, homes, houses of worship, pleasures in the park and everything else to make a wholesome, joyful, family-oriented holiday.

And to quote another old Southern saying, "Don't be a stranger." You are among

THE FRIENDS OF MCINTOSH

Moy Hall
Inverness-shire
SCOTLAND

29 Sept. 1980

"I follow with interest and admiration the great work of the Friends of McIntosh. I am delighted to have this further link between the United States and Clan Mackintosh."

With best wishes yours sincerely,

Lachlan Mackintosh of Mackintosh

The 1981 1890's Festival Programme, McIntosh, Florida

Welcome To The Eighth Annual 1890's McIntosh Festival

11:00 Grand Parade

11:30 Registration for Victorian Costume Contest —
Stage at Van Ness

12:00 Band Concert in the Van Ness Park —
Gainesville Community Band

12:30 Victorian Costume Contest —
Open to everyone; 1st, 2nd, 3rd & honorable mention ribbons will be given to the 4 best dressed in each group of those 12 years and younger and those over 12.

1:15 Welcome McIntosh Clan

1:30 Concert by the Tampa Pipe Band

2:00 Ballet, Childrens Ensemble of Gainesville Civic Ballet

2:30 Barbergators of Gainesville

4:00 First Lovel Gospel Singers of Grace Episcopal Church of Ocala

5:00 Conclusion

Your Master of Ceremonies is Dan Sharp, with Dennis Stowe, as pianist.

More ENTERTAINMENT on back page with map.

1981 Tour of Homes

Welcome to the **1981 McIntosh Tour of Homes**. This year we are fortunate to have three houses which were picked for the strong image they project of the classic American home at the turn-of-the-century. Each of these homes remained in the hands of single families through several generations. They are now owned by people who are restoring them to the era of McIntosh's heyday. The Wiedegreens, Buffums and Lamberts invite you in to turn back the clock to the 1890's. **Come join the tour!**

Tickets for all three locations are \$3⁰⁰ and can be purchased from the booths at the northwest and southwest corners of the Park. The tour will start immediately after the parade and end at 5:00 PM. You may visit the houses in any order, and if you do not wish to take the entire tour you may visit any single house for \$1⁰⁰, payable at the door.

There will be guides to help answer questions you might have at each location. We ask that you do not bring any food or drink into the houses you visit. Remember, the funds generated from the tour go toward PRESERVATION in McIntosh.

1 Thomas-Buffum House

As McIntosh was being surveyed in 1885, J.S. Thomas had just completed his new home. It is unusual for a late Victorian house to display such symmetry. The Greek revival roof line contrasting nicely with a very delicate two-story porch, has made this house a favorite with photographers and artists to the area.

All three of the houses on tour are really farm houses. What appears to be an old garage behind the house is really all that remains today of a large dairy barn.

The interior of the Thomas house uses plain materials and board and bead ceilings and wide plank floors. The house was electrified early for McIntosh, and the old push button wall switches are still evident.

Mamie Thomas McFadden continued living in the house until her move to St. Augustine about 8 years ago. In 1978 **Bob and Ginny Buffum** bought the house and proceeded to begin the arduous task of fixing up an old house. Painting the exterior was the single biggest improvement. "I did it all myself," Bob will proudly tell you, "except the upper parts of the gables — that is when you ask your friends for help!" Floors and woodwork were stripped downstairs, and the bedrooms upstairs insulated. "That first winter there wasn't much difference between outside and inside," Ginny remembers.

The most recent projects include enlarging the kitchen and installing a pool. "We have everything here in McIntosh we could want," Bob says. Bob works for Publix in Gainesville and Ginny works for the School Board of Alachua County. Both appreciate the quiet life of a small country town: church bells ringing a hymn every evening, fishing on Orange Lake, neighbors you can depend on.

The Buffums take pride in what they have accomplished so far on their house. Weekends always find sons **Shane** (age 12) and **Troy** (age 10) helping their parents with yard work. Shane maintains a seemingly endless flock of chickens behind the house. Whether egg sales outnumber feed bills is still a moot point!

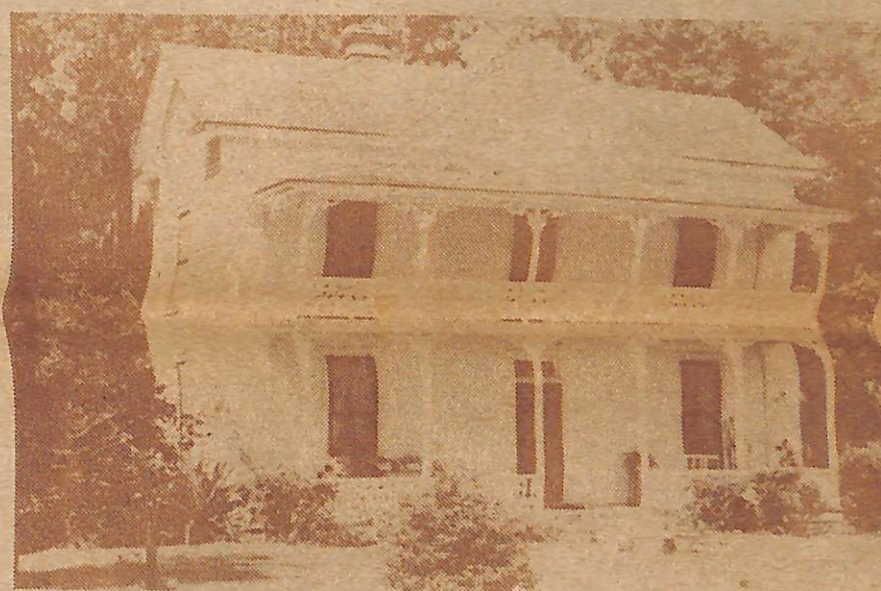
A Big Thanks...

What house isn't more lovely with the addition of fresh flowers! Special thanks to the following florists for making this an extra special tour:

At the Wiedegreen House —
Petal Pusher Florist
739 E. Silver Springs Blvd., Ocala

At the Buffums —
Crevasse's Regency
Westgate Regency Plaza, Gainesville

At the Lamberts —
House of Flowers, Inc., Gainesville



The Buffum House today.

Special thanks go to **Carol and Rodney Green**, of the **Antique Addict**. Some of the beautiful pieces from their shop have transformed the vacant second parlor in the Buffum house into a memorable room from the 1890's. The **Antique Addict** is located in the Harvest Village, 1 mile north of McIntosh on U.S. 441. The Green's specialize in wicker furniture and Roseville pottery.

In addition to these homes, please visit the four Churches of McIntosh, which are open today for all to see.

The Methodist Church was moved, pulled by mules, in 1895 and served as the Sanctuary for all demoninations in the early years of the town. Look at the old picture of the Church in the Vestibule.

In 1903, the **Baptist Church** was built on the Wire Road (now U.S. 441). The beautiful stained glass windows were a gift from the J.K. Christian Family.

The Christian Church (1904) boasts an open belfry which still rings out each Sunday as a call to worship. To the right of the Church is the site of the first permanent school house in the town (1889) which had an enrollment of about twelve pupils.

The Presbyterian Church (1907) started as the Center Point Church in Boardman in 1885. It has just finished a major restoration program.

2 Norsworthy-Wiedegreen House

The Norsworthy-Wiedegreen house was built in 1890 by William Gist. Mr. Gist had come to McIntosh with his brother-in-law, S.H. Gaitskill, the town land agent. In 1885 Gist helped an engineer lay out the grid pattern of McIntosh so typical of railroad towns of this era. Elizabeth Gist Walkup, now 94, remembers living in her father's house as a small child. She still lives only one block away in the house her husband built in 1911.

On the death of Mrs. Gist in 1893, the house was sold to W.G. and Lillian Norsworthy, French Canadians (their portraits hang in the front entry hall). Mr. Norsworthy was a major citrus producer in the area. The family remained in the house until the early 1940's. Louise Norsworthy, a daughter now in her 80's has written the Wiedegreens of the many good times friends and family had in the house.

Eric and Sandy Wiedegreen purchased the house in 1975 when it was subdivided into four apartments. Many of the larger, older homes in McIntosh were used as apartments during the 1940's 50's and 60's, when their style and size made them white elephants on the real estate market.

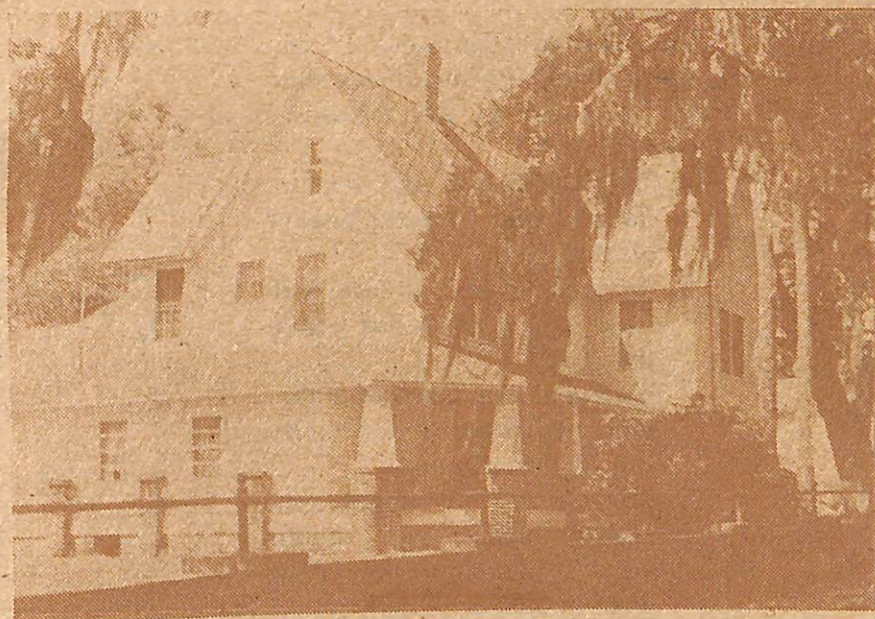
"We were fortunate in not having to do too much to return our house to its original condition," Sandy will be glad to tell you. "Not too much" involved extensive painting, inside and outside, removal of an enclosed porch, reinstitution of a verandah rail, plaster repairing and the removal of two complete kitchens. "The hardest work," Eric says, "was refinishing the floors in the parlor and hall and stripping woodwork, mantles and the staircase."

A quick inspection will show how well their work has paid off. The staircase and fireplace mantles (six in all) were built by a local craftsman. The house is built solidly from local pine, and was originally lit by gas fixtures. Two of the bathrooms are original, unusual for a house of this era built in the country (but even then they were not entered directly from the house but opened onto porches).

The kitchen was originally an out-kitchen, separate from the main house to avoid heat transfer in the summer and as a means of fire prevention. Today, as in many homes, it is often the very center of family activities.

The Wiedegreens love to use their home to entertain large groups of friends at a time. "We have purposefully put together spaces with different atmospheres for people to gather in and feel at ease," Eric explains. Designing workable spaces is nothing new for Eric. He is a registered architect with Edward Snowden d'Avi, AIA, in Ocala. Sandy's favorite room is their newly completed den, which is a careful blend of contemporary and antique decor. Many of the unusual accessories in the Wiedegreen house are found in Sandy's shop, **Cornucopia**, a gift and accessory shop in the Harvest Village train depot, one mile north of McIntosh.

While the Norsworthy family had six children to fill the house, the Wiedegreens have only one son, **Kristiaan**, age 3½ years. His favorite part of the house is the old stone wall - perfect for a little boy to climb and conquer.



The Wiedegreen House in 1975.



Those incredible edibles on the dining tables of our tour houses are the concoctions of the chef at the Danish Bakery in the Main Street Publix, Gainesville.



The Lambert House at the turn-of-the-century.

3 Neal-Lambert House

In 1893 John S. Neal finished construction of his second house in McIntosh. His first, built on the site of the Norsworthy-Wiedegreen House (number 2 on this tour), was burned to the ground after being struck by lightning. Pictures in the hall today show a house newly painted, seemingly in the "middle of nowhere", with the Neals: John, Lulu and children Barkley and Hattie standing proudly before it.

Hattie Neal remained in the house until her death several years ago. A haunting picture hangs in the parlor of a young Hattie curtsying in a favorite party dress. She grew, sadly, into a reclusive old woman, living a sheltered existence in a dark, foliage-covered house — someone you might very well find in a Faulkner novel.

In January of 1980, **Ginger Lambert** moved into the house. "I can't even guess at the number of truck loads of overgrown plants, trees and refuse we hauled from the lot," Ginger will tell you. "You really couldn't even see the house at all until some *very extensive* pruning was done."

The dingy of years of neglect was erased by fresh paint, newly stripped floors and totally new plumbing and electric wiring. Ginger's fiancé, **Peter Blinn**, now a lawyer in Jacksonville, was affectionately known as "The Spackling Fool" for his consummate skill as a plaster repairer!

On entering the double doors of the entry, with their frosted glass panels, you will find nicely proportioned rooms, with a layout well suited for modern living. Ginger is a "Collector" - the many small accessory items around the rooms add up to reveal a complex individual with more than a touch of humor. *Ginger teaches Composition and Developmental English at Santa Fe Community College in Gainesville.* Daughters **Dawn** (age 15) is a J.V. cheerleader at North Marion High School and **Kimberly** (age 9) attends school in Gainesville.

Current plans call for painting the exterior and repairing the porch roof and flooring. Aside from the anxiety of being on this year's Tour of Homes, Ginger has an even more important event in the near future - she and Peter are being married in December. "The house is perfect for Peter and the girls and me," Ginger says. "We like to entertain in small intimate groups, and all of us like to find a corner now and then just to read or listen to music."

If a home could talk, the Neal-Lambert (or should we say Neal-Blinn!) house would no doubt tell us these people were perfect for it too!

Photographs by STEVE JETT



The Wiedegreen House today.

And The Work Goes On!

Our work has continued with the depot; additional kitchen cabinets, gutters along the west side of the loading ramp, and a men's rest room.

The Friends purchased 66 feet of the railroad track and the 60 foot right of way. We really wanted to buy the 360 feet of track by the depot but the price was nearly \$10 a foot.

Our activities were certainly varied beginning with our big Christmas party. The high point of the party was a surprise visit by Santa Claus.

In the spring we had our first quilt show and sale. There were 119 quilts (antique and new) exhibited. Over 600 people enjoyed seeing such lovely works of art.

For six months we researched for the site forms to submit to the National Register for nominations in the historic register. It was a very detailed and interesting look at the history of our town.

We participated in the Marion County History Week by awarding a \$100.00 savings bond to the middle school winner.

The 1890 Festival is truly a labor of love. Love of town and its natural beauty and its people, past and present.

Many hours are spent planning to entertain thousands of people in such a small area.

This year we have four co-chairman:

Hank Greene	Bazaar
Sandy Wiedegreen	Bazaar
Eric Wiedegreen	Tour of Homes
Jane Sharp	Entertainment
Robert Roess	Parade
Sharon Perry	Food Concessions
Margie Karow	McIntosh Gazette
Burnette Akin	Advertising
Gladys Reynolds	Advertising
Margie Karow	Advertising
Betty Hopwood	Treasurer
Anice Johnson	Advertising

Clubs and Organizations working together to make the day so enjoyable are:

McIntosh Lion's Club	
	Hot Dogs and Drinks
Gainesville Lion's Club	
	Chicken Bar-B-Que
Disabled Veterans	
	Hamburgers and Drinks
North Marion Band Boosters	
	Hamburgers and Drinks
McIntosh Civic League	
	Bake sale & coffee
Ocala Civitan	
	Early Risers
	Pies

The Pilot Club of Greater Gainesville

Victorian Garden Party
Shady Oaks 4-H

Ice Cream Parlor
Millwood 4-H

Drinks
McIntosh Boy Scouts

Snow Cones
McIntosh Cub Scouts

Boiled Peanuts



The Friends of McIntosh, Inc., is a non-profit, benevolent organization dedicated to the following purposes:

- To preserve and enhance the natural and historic beauty of McIntosh.
- To promote and sponsor cultural and recreational activities.
- To assist the Town of McIntosh and its people, especially the senior citizens.
- To encourage friendship, community spirit, and understanding among people of all ages in our town.

We organized in September of 1973 with dues of 50¢ a month and none if over 65 years of age, AND WELCOME VISITORS TO VISIT US DURING THE YEAR.

1890 Festival Cookbook

THE NORTH MARION NEWS

Published Weekly in the Center of the Fertile Vegetable, Fruit, Farm-Products, Stock and Poultry Section of South Alachua and North Marion Counties

VOLUME I

McINTOSH, FLORIDA, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 1924

NUMBER

MR. BRYAN HERE LET'S DRESS-UP THE PARK

Addressed an Interested Audience Upon Political Issues of the Day—Speech Well Received and Applauded

Hon. William Jennings Bryan came down from Gainesville where he was the guest of friends, and addressed a large audience here Friday afternoon, the 15th, upon the "Political issues of 1924."

He was introduced by Dr. Zoll, mayor of McIntosh, in a few well chosen remarks, and spoke upon several national political questions in his usual forceful, clean-cut and convincing manner.

Our little city has a valuable and beautifully located plot of ground presented by the VanNess estate to be used as a park, which with some effort and a little currency can be made into "a thing of beauty and a joy forever." It would not cost a great deal to put sidewalks around necessary walks to recover and repair and get a landscaper to lay off the ground hedges, shrubber plots.

The giant oaks already there in a magnificent grandeur; hand of the Or whom, it would seem

ALACHUA COUNTY BOOTH ONE OF OUTSTANDING EXHIBITS SOUTH FLA. FAIR

The exhibit of Alachua county is one of the outstanding displays of the 25 Florida counties represented at the South Florida fair now in progress at Tampa, attorney S. L. Scruggs of this city declared Friday upon his return

charge of the Alachua exhibit.

Mr. Scruggs said the Alachua county booth was attracting as large crowds as any booth at the fair and that many flattering comments on the display were heard. "It seemed funny to hear spectators expressing surprise that this county could raise citrus fruits," Mr. Scruggs said. During the few minutes he was inspecting the exhibit, he heard several North Marion visitors inform County Agent Langstaff that they intended to stop over here for a several days visit en route to their Northern homes.

The Tampa fair closes February 9 and Mr. Craft will crate his exhibit for speedy delivery to New York City where it will be on display there at the Madison Square

HERE'S "REAL MONEY" IN FARMING.

A few days ago we enjoyed a drive with M. J. Young, a prominent citizen of this place, out to his splendid farm near Fairfield, where we had the pleasure of feasting our eyes upon the promising appearances of his farming operations in general and, from the promising outlook for bountiful crops, picturing in our mind a greatly "puffed-up" bank account for our friend at the end of the harvest.

Last spring Mr. Young bought twelve acres in town, which he sold \$2,600.00 cash. The total cost of production and delivery would not exceed \$600.00, thus leaving a net profit of \$2,000.00, or \$166.66 per acre from a crop planted in February and finished gathering by early in

TO FINISH UP ROAD TO

State and Federal Road Departments Will Close the Gap between Ocala and Lowell soon

From Wednesday's Daily: District Engineer L. B. Thrasher of the state road department informed the Star this morning that plans for the completion of state road two between Ocala and Lowell were being finished by the state in the near future.

way, Mr. Thrasher said, soon as this is done advertisements will be made for bids to the work. Eleven miles of road are to be built and Mr. Thrasher

JUNE 6, 1924 NUMBER 25

CONTEST OPENS WITH VIM

The News' subscription contest opened Monday morning with a very favorable outlook for complete success. Twenty-one nominations were in; several of the nominees having already reported that they are getting in the game with the intention of winning the Ford. However, the contestants should not lose sight of the cash prizes, as they, also, are well worth making an effort for.

No new nominations have come in during the past week, but if there are others who would like to get in the contest, the way is still open. Nominations will be accepted for a few more days only, so be prompt in sending them in if you would try your hand for these prizes.

The date for the first count will be given next week. Also some other announcements that will interest every active participant in the contest immensely. Watch next week's issue for these announcements, and if you are not already busy it will be wise for you to get very busy at once. The opportunity is here and will not occur again within some years, at least. Don't be backward, but go at it. The list of nominees follows:

Miss Burnett Lindsey,	McIntosh.
Mrs. Roy R. Lewis,	"
Mr. W. E. Grubbs,	"
Miss Sadie Dansby,	Reddick.
Miss Della Harper,	Citra.
Miss Opal Gilbert,	"
Miss Grayton Johnson,	"
Mrs. J. F. Yoder,	Dunnellon.
Mr. Charlie Rou,	Lowell.
Miss Evelyn Cook,	Fairfield.
Miss Carrie May Burry,	Orange Lake.
Miss Mary Wood,	Evinston.
Miss Louise Norsworthy,	McIntosh.
Miss Rebecca Gist,	"
Mrs. Ed A. Smith,	Shiloh.
Miss Evelyn Brabham,	Orange Lake.
Mrs. W. A. Johnson,	Evinston.
Miss Mamie Fant,	Irvine.
Mrs. K. E. Ausley,	Fairfield.
Miss Linnett Johnson,	McIntosh.

Please read the news items from the year 1924 and enjoy remembering times past in our community.

The Marion County Historical Commission has approved funds to microfilm all the remaining issues of the *North Marion News*. The films will be kept at the Osceola Room in the Ocala Library and the museum at the McIntosh Depot.

Band Begins Practice

The instruments for our brass band having arrived several days ago, the organization has now been perfected and regular practice begun. Mrs. Cole, of Ocala, who has been chosen as instructor, has met with them on two occasions and seems very favorably impressed with the attitude of the members and the promise of rapid advancement. She is giving two lessons each week, and if the pupils will give proper attention to the work, splendid progress may be expected.

The line-up of the twenty-one instruments is as follows:

Cornet—Billy Zoll, Carl Ayer, Wilbur Martindale, I. H. Jordan, Leland Hendrix, Arnold Johnson.
Trombone—Edmund Bateman, Corrie Huff, Floyd Huff.
Clarinet—N. A. Russell.
Alto—Winston Hendrix, W. E. Grubbs.
Baritone—F. B. Biddulph, Paul Boulware.
Tuba—Roy Smith.
Bass Drum—Roland Thomas.
Snare Drum—Oscar Huff.
Saxophone—Burnette Lindsey, Alberta Flewellen, Herbert Dodd, B. L. Feaster.

Subscribe for the News

J. I. Gist Captures Prizes

at County Poultry Show

Of the many prizes and awards in the splendid poultry exhibition at the recent Marion county fair, the exhibits of Mr. J. I. Gist, of this city, took prizes and ribbons as follows:

Chickens—2nd Sweepstake; 6 blue and 2 red ribbons; 2nd best cock on exhibition, the latter being a very fine White Wyandotte.

Ducks—1st prize for best display; 21 blue ribbons and 8 red ribbons. A pretty good showing, when the extent of competition is taken into consideration.

Passenger Train Schedule Changed

Slight changes in Atlantic Coast Line passenger trains are announced and now effective, the arrival of trains at McIntosh being as follows:

No. 10, northbound	7:00 a. m.
No. 40, "	2:38 p. m.
No. 39, southbound	2:38 p. m.
No. 9, "	8:12 p. m.

Card of Thanks

I take this means of thanking my friends for their support in my race for County Judge.

Edward B. Green.

The First State Bank

McIntosh, Florida.

Resources

\$186,000.00

Large enough to serve you

Strong enough to protect you

Small enough to know you

Advertising Pays

Social and Society

Mrs. W.E. Atwell, of Daytona, is the guest of her mother, Mrs. Laura Thomas, for a few days.

Miss Gladys Rush was the guest of friends in Ocala last week, being among those forming a most congenial and delightful house party.

Mrs. Floyd, of St. Augustine, was charmingly entertained last week by Miss Hattie Neal and brother, J. B. Neal, at their attractive home here.

Mrs. F. B. Biddulph returned Saturday from a delightful visit to Daytona and she and Mr. Biddulph are now preparing to move to Port Orange.

Winston Hendrix left Tuesday for Fort Barancas, Florida, where he will take his fourth course in the citizen's military training camp, during the month of July.

Mrs. W. F. Taylor, of Haines City, who has been the guest Mrs. W. R. Dedman for some time, returned to her home last Friday. A number of ladies delightfully entertained in her honor during her stay in our little city.

Misses Elizabeth Christian, Edmona Rush and Frances Christian are spending the week at Rollins College, Winter Park, where the club girls of Marion, Sumpter, Lake and Orange counties are enjoying a four days camp.

ORANGE LAKE

Mr. Perry, of Live Oak, visited friends here Sunday.

Mr. B. P. Hatchett spent the week end in Jacksonville.

Mrs. E. J. Bryan leaves this week to spend the holidays with friends in St. Petersburg.

The people of this vicinity were awakened early Tuesday morning by the many whistles of a freight train which had run away. Fortunately none were hurt, but cars of the train surely was a balmixup.

The following represented Orange Lake at the school play a Micanopy Tuesday night: Nelson Burry, Thigpin Savage, Newland Firth, Corning Smith and Mr. DeVore and family. All pronounced it fine.

Mrs. Walter Thigpen, Miss Georgia Burry and Miss Mabel Newland had the misfortune to run into some calves while motor ing on the Dixie Highway and by Mrs. Thigpen's presence of mind in holding her car steady it eased over on its side and none were hurt, but the car didn't look pretty any more, so now they are driving a new Ford.

Mr. and Mrs. N.A. Russell and little daughter will spend the Fourth and until Sunday evening with Mr. Russell's mother, Mrs. E. A. Russell, at Kissimmee.

Evinston Items

Among the recent visitors to Gainesville were Misses Mary Wood and Mary Johnson and Mr. and Mrs. F. B. Hester.

Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Welch spent last Friday in Jacksonville.

Miss Iris Smith has as her guest this week, Miss Polly Sheppard, of Mont Verde.

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Wolfenden, of Palatka, were visiting Mrs. Wolfenden and Mrs. Baker last Sunday.

Miss Mary Wood has returned from Jacksonville where she was a guest of Mrs. Raymond Cromartie. Mrs. Cromartie was formerly Miss Merle Shettleworth of Evinston.

The Woman's Missionary Society held its June meeting at the Methodist church Monday afternoon. This society has been under the consecrated leadership of Mrs. P. K. Richardson, its president, for fifteen years.

Miss Ruth Bateman is spending this week in Gainesville with her cousin, Mrs. Albert Vidal.

Mr. F. B. Hester, of Evinston, was transacting business in this city Thursday.

We are glad to report that Mrs. S. H. Gaitskill is improving as rapidly as can well be expected.

Friends of Mrs. Ida Smith deeply regret that she is very ill at this time, and hope for her speedy recovery.

Mrs. Mary Camp, who is teaching in Gainesville, is expected home Saturday to spend Christmas week.

Reddick

Miss Hazel Bennett is at home for the summer after finishing her school duties at Cocoa.

Mr. Knox Thompson, of Melbourne is a visitor at the home of Mr. E. S. Dansby.

Miss Fannie Dansby who taught school at Melbourne this year is at home for vacation.

The country newspaper is the best newspaper for the farmer.

Healthy baby is the most valuable asset any community can produce. Give it a fair chance.

Christian Mercantile Co.

McINTOSH, FLORIDA

The Large North Marion Store

SPECIALTIES

I. H. C. Co's. Mowers and Repairs—Engines, etc.

Coffins and Caskets. Motor Hearse Service

Furniture—Corrugated Iron Roofing—Cement, Brick, etc.

Call on Us. We Have what you want

McCALL'S PATTERNS Phone 4 PATTON'S SUN-PROOF PAINTS



Now the Bream are Biting Fine,
You can Catch 'em Fast with Hook and Line
A Boat and Guide you Should Take
And Enjoy the Wonders of Big Orange Lake.

DAVIS & GIST

McINTOSH,

FLORIDA

Ford

THE UNIVERSAL CAR

Back to Nature This Summer

The enjoyment you'll get out of a Ford touring car this summer, is another good reason why you should no longer postpone buying.

You, your family and friends can benefit by pleasant trips at minimum cost—evening drives, week-end excursions or a long tour on your vacation.

Buy a Ford, if you want a car that is always reliable, simple to handle, needs almost no care, and carries you at lowest cost.

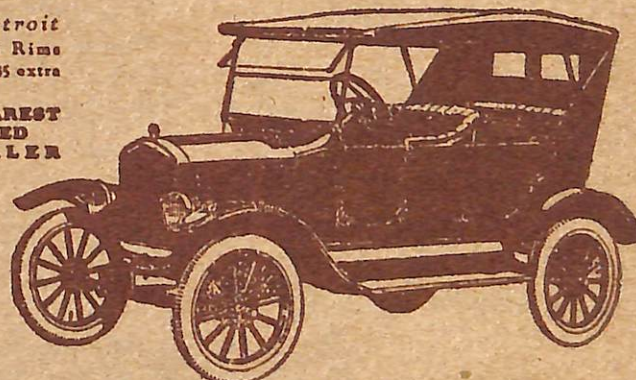
Ford Motor Company
Detroit, Michigan

Runabout \$265 Coupe \$525 Tudor Sedan \$590 Fordor Sedan \$665
All prices f.o.b. Detroit

The Touring Car
\$295

F. O. B. Detroit
Demountable Rims
and Starter \$85 extra

SEE THE NEAREST
AUTHORIZED
FORD DEALER



You can buy any model by making a small down-payment and arranging easy terms for the balance. Or you can buy on the Ford Weekly Purchase Plan. The Ford dealer in your neighborhood will gladly explain both plans in detail.

McIntosh Motor Company

There was a time, our past, when children skipped over the wide plank boards of the loading ramp singing of the puffin' billie due to arrive any moment. They'd hear her thundering way down in Orange Lake, feel her rumbling up the narrow gauge track, and come big as lightning right through Mr. Brown's cornfield, whistling so loud, every dog in town was carrying on such you couldn't hear yourself think, while just about everyone was making haste to the depot to in some kind of hurry.

After all, more than mail came four times a day to McIntosh. The wood burning Baldwin's carried a steady flow of northerners during the winter months to fish and duck hunt on the lake. So down to the depot folks hurried to see who was coming to town — or buy a paper, or rave over the latest hats in Artie Barkley's Shop, or wager on the chances of Norsworthy's melons making the New York market before prices dropped.

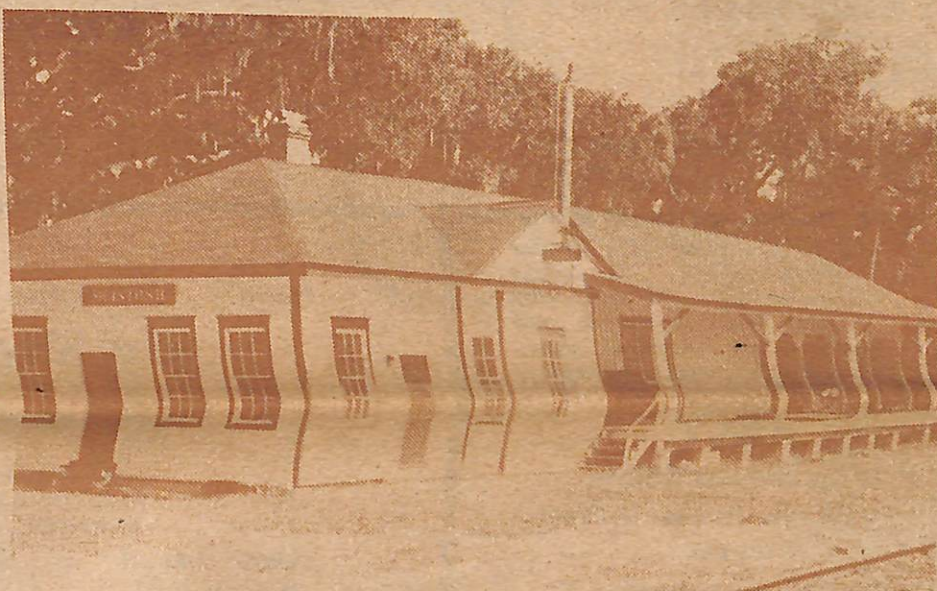
The town didn't amount to much until the puffin' billie came along in 1882. Then the depot got built a year or two later and things started happening. Word spread that Marion County was the land where dreams turned to gold with a little water, some hoeing now and then. Families packed children and belongings on the iron horses and travelled the gleaming steel road down from Kentucky, Georgia, the Carolinas all the way to the good life and an orange grove of their own.

And a good life it seemed to be. By 1894 McIntosh was bustling. A boom town with many of its fine homes built, a two-story school house, packing houses, mercantile companies, and the start of a nineteen-room hotel, all because a handful of seeds some Spaniard gave a few Indians two centuries earlier sprouted and grew into bright orange fruit bigger than gold doubloons.

Settlers kept coming by the trainloads to the land of McIntosh until the night of the "Big Freeze." The shock came just after midnight of February 8, 1895: Temperatures fell below 20 degrees and hung there until morning despite all efforts at banking and firing the groves. The bark on the oldest trees split right down to the milky white cambium laid open like bones in the cracked, rimed skin. Every last grove looked a withered wasteland save a few straggling, scattered trees. Families were ruined. The hotel changed hands — unfinished. Packing houses closed.

The McIntosh Depot.

*Down at the station
early in the morning,
see the little puffin' billies all
in a row:
See the little driver turn a little
handle:
Puff. Puff.
Whoooo! Whoooo!
Off they go.*



Some folks just up and left, catching the first train out. The rest held on somehow, their homes paid for so mortgage money could be got to turn the fertile groveland to vegetables. But the real blessing lay in the gleaming steel road down by the depot stretching all the way to those up country markets. By 1898 McIntosh and surrounding countryside boasted themselves the largest vegetable shipper in Florida. McIntosh was booming again — smiling as every boxcar of squashes whistled out of town. (One happy farmer was so gratified with his good fortune in squashes that he trimmed the eaves of his new home with gable carvings of the crook necked beauties.) Everyone was downright happy for forty more years, paving streets, getting lights and power, and putting all their money in the McIntosh First State Bank.

Then something called "The Depression" got started somewhere up in New York maybe, though no one knew what went wrong exactly with all their vegetables. Before anyone could stop this depression thing, it had spread like the blight all the way to McIntosh. And to make matters worse: the muck country down south was grabbing the vegetable market all for itself.

Well folks just pulled in their belts again and managed to get through the next thirty years. The town stayed pretty. The trains kept passing through alright, but less and less, until the day they no longer stopped at all. What business was left moved on up to the highway.

The depot was forgotten — stuck off down at the other end of town — paint peeling, windows broken a sad reminder to oldtimers of better days. Two years ago, things were such with the building, that it faced becoming a pile of scrap lumber; it didn't seem good for much of anything. But the Friends of McIntosh, preservation-minded townspeople, got busy. After months of correspondence with Seaboard Coast Line officials, it was agreed the group could have the building. All they had to do was move it from the railroad's right-of-way.

It seemed simple enough, but when they came down to it, how did a club raise \$13,000 to move and restore an 80-ton structure over 109 feet long, when their main sources of income are bake sales and monthly dues and none, if you're over 65? So the group had more bake sales and more chili dinners and then an 1890 Festival recreating a day from the Gaslight era when the town and its depot were happy together. They made enough money to buy the land, but not enough to get the building to it. Then they were faced with a deadline and forced to sign a promissory note to move the building before the wreckers came. And then they wrote this little book with the help of every cook in North Marion County to help pay for the depot's new home.

So when you cook something choice from its collection of nostalgic recipes, think of the depot in fresh white paint content with its new life and good times once more. All paid for too! You see this book for you has given life to all of us here in McIntosh.

Maybe, who can tell, a thundering puffin' billie may come whistling through Billie Brown's cornfield and sigh to a stop while we all climb aboard with our little cookbook tucked away in overnight bags. Tagged: "ANYWHERE, U.S.A." Puff. Puff.

Whoooo! Whoooo!
Off we go.

Mitzi Karow - 1974



Stationery

Be sure and see historic McIntosh Stationery, the latest creation of the friends of McIntosh. These beautifully illustrated pen and ink drawings by Tony Morgan of Gainesville capture the grace and nostalgia of some of our town's most noteworthy and historic homes. They are available at the 1890 Festival or write: Stationery, Box 1890, McIntosh, Florida 32664. Price: \$3.00 ppd.

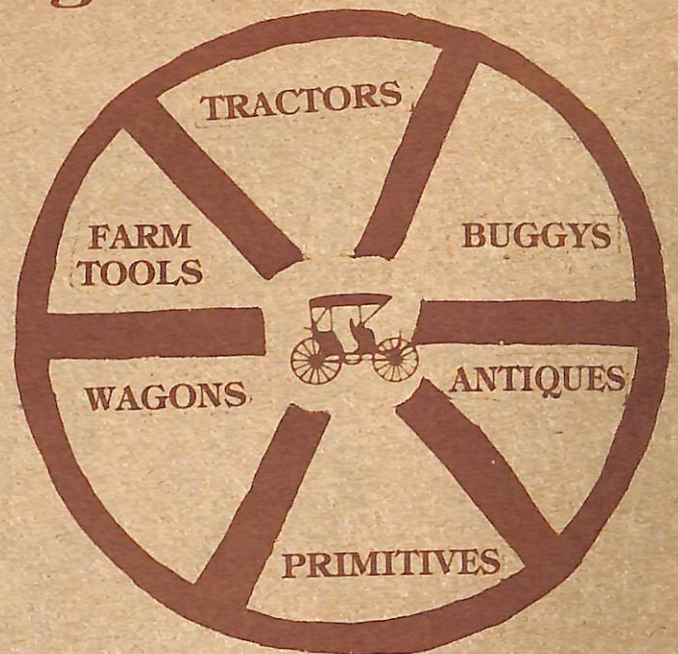
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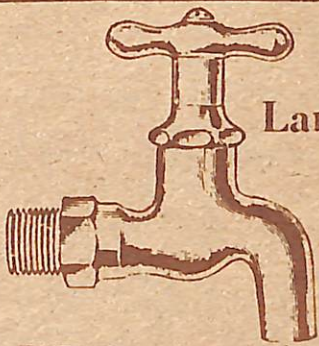


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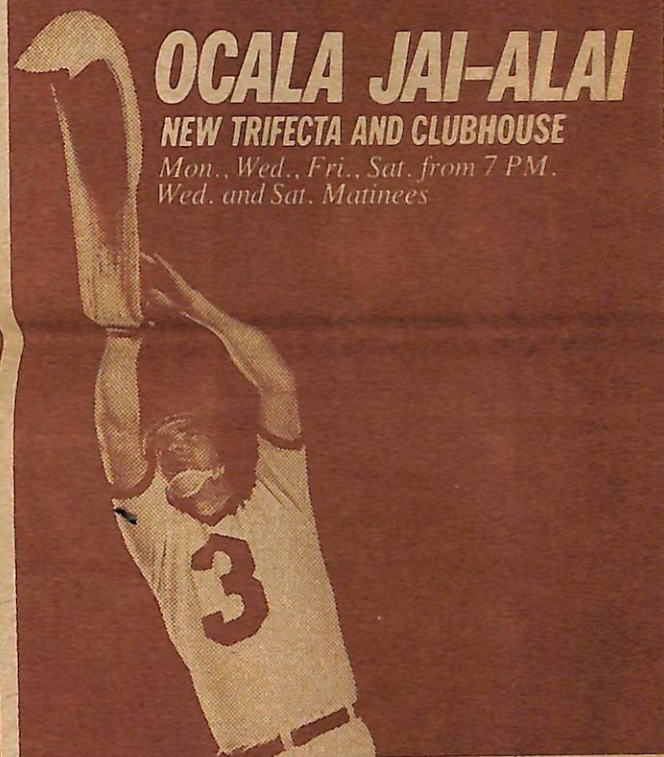
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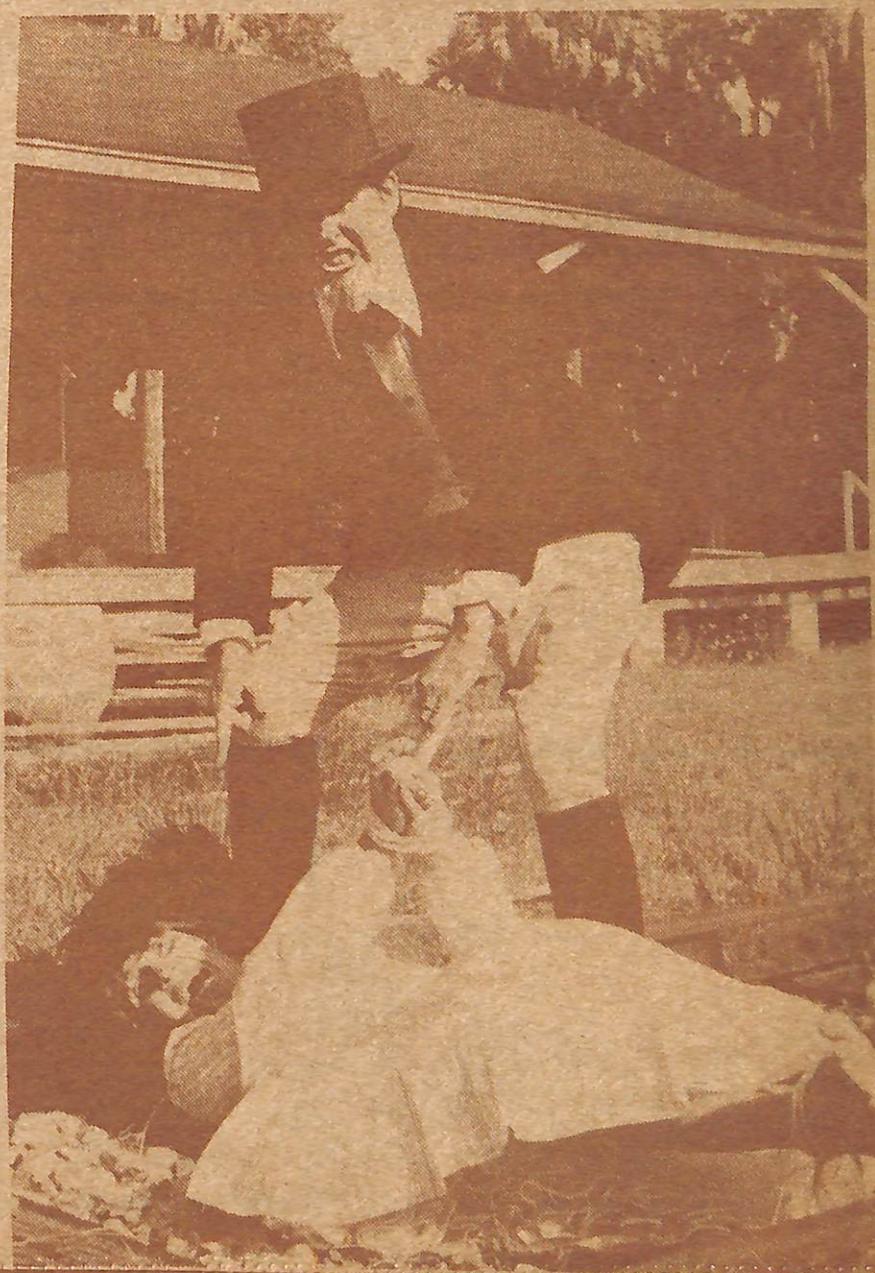
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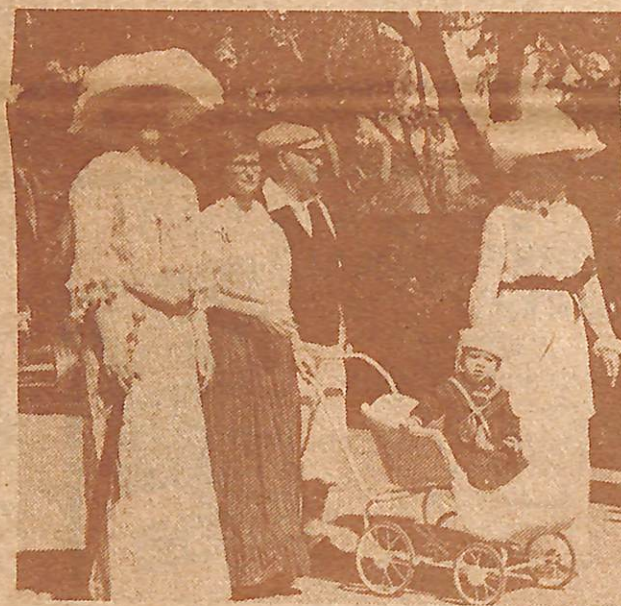
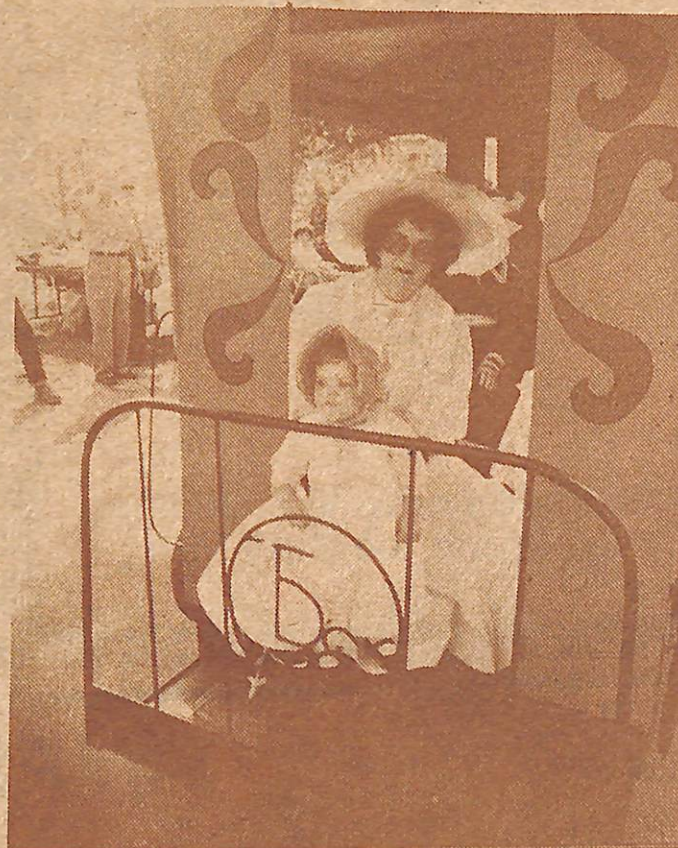
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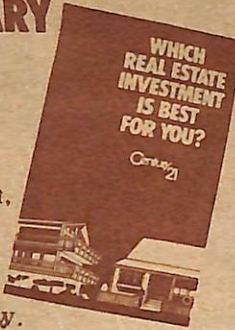
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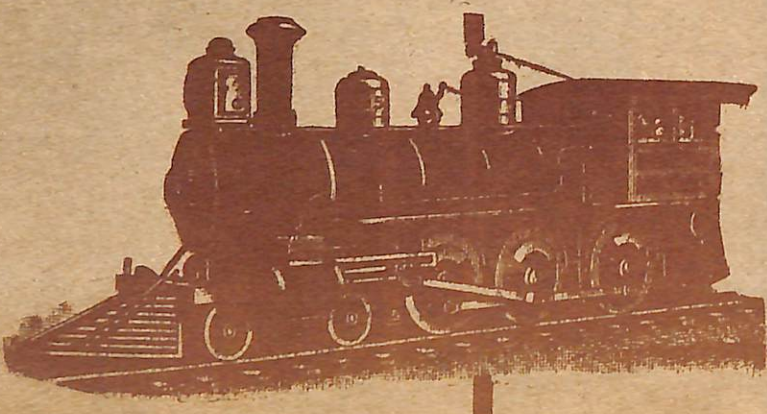
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PAGE 13

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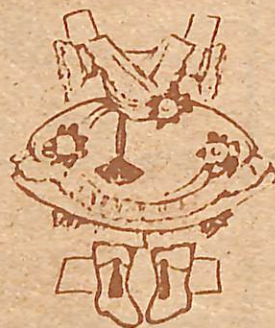
Afternoon Suit



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Party Dress



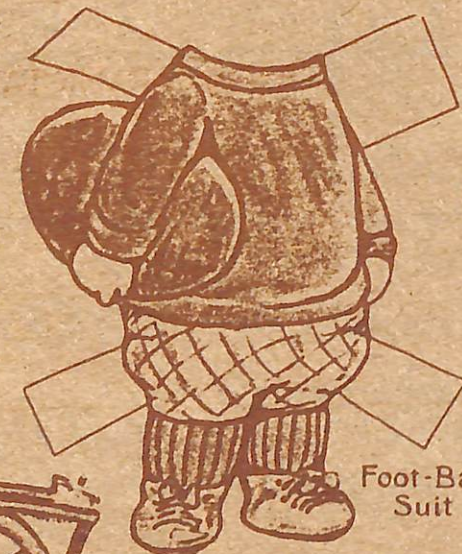
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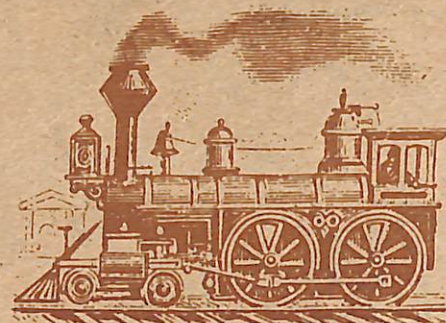
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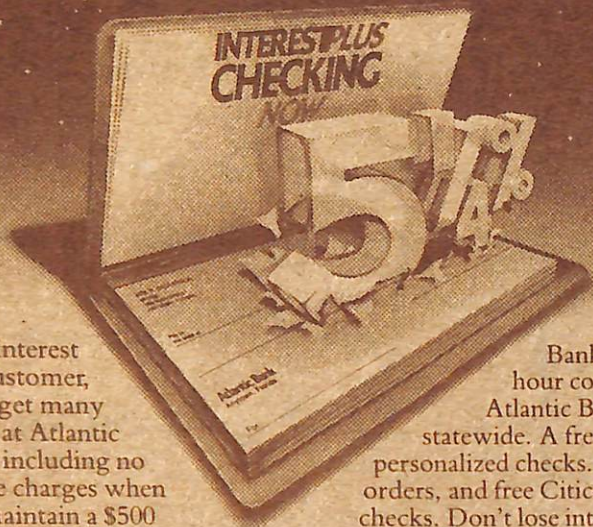
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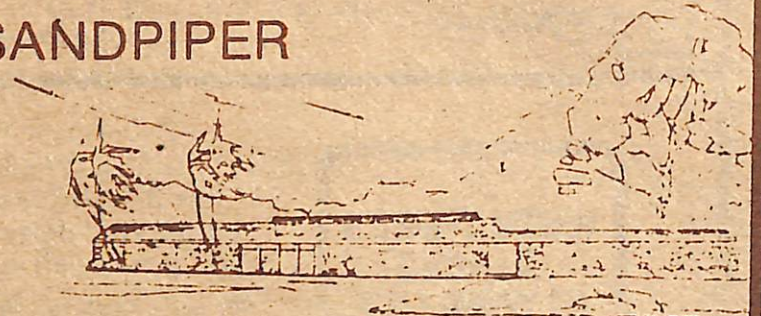
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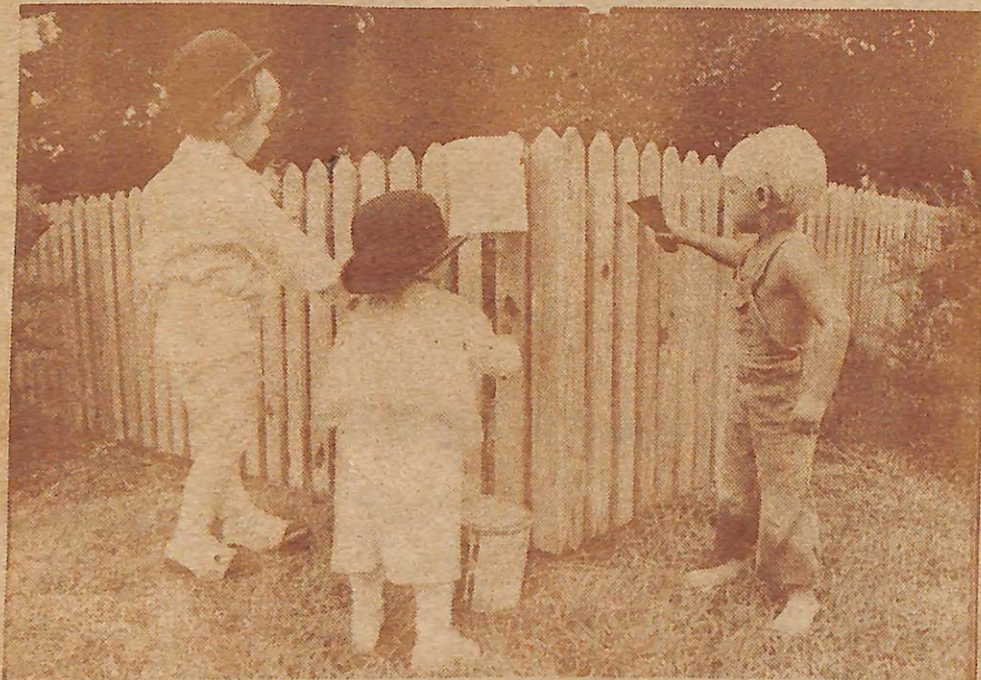


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Can you guess who? Answer on page 9

