

The empty vessel
makes the
greatest sound

One gives nothing
so liberally
as advice



McINTOSH GAZETTE

McIntosh, Florida

FINAL EDITION

October 25, 1986

WELCOME TO THE THIRTEENTH ANNUAL 1890'S FESTIVAL

Welcome to the historic town of McIntosh and our Thirteenth Annual 1890's Festival. We invite you to explore one of the finest concentrations of nineteenth and early twentieth century homes, churches and buildings in the state.

Stroll down narrow streets under a canopy of century old live oaks and reminisce about a time when life was less complex — a time when people depended on the land and each other. Immerse yourself in the Victorian charm of our town, a small railroad community that has remained virtually unchanged for a century.



Courage

One may possess physical courage, so that in times of danger, a railroad accident, a steamboat collision or a runaway horse, the heart will not be daunted or the cheek paled; while on the other hand, one may be morally brave, not afraid to speak a word for the right in season, though unwelcome, to perform a disagreeable duty unflinchingly or to refuse to do a wrong act, and yet be a physical coward, trembling and terrified in a thunderstorm, timid in the dark, and even scream at the sight of a mouse.

Courage, both moral and physical, is one of the finest attributes of character, and both can be cultivated and gained if desired and sought after. Some girls think it interesting and attractive to be terrified at insects, and will shriek with fright if they happen to be chased a few rods by a flock of geese, but they will only excite laughter and do not gain the admiration which a brave girl, who this is to help herself, would deserve.

by Mrs. E.C. Blakeslee (1890)

ENTERTAINMENT SCHEDULE 1890's FESTIVAL October, 25, 1986

11:00 a.m. Grand Parade

CIVIC CENTER

Dan Sharp, Master of Ceremonies
Bill "Fingers" Monroe, Piano Man

12:00 noon North Marion High School
Band Concert

12:30 p.m. Announcements

1:00 p.m. Tampa Pipe Band

2:00 p.m. Jongleur Jugglers

2:45 p.m. Appreciation Ceremony for
Colin Lindsey

3:00 p.m. Big Sun Chorus of Ocala,
and Barbershop Quartets

3:45 p.m. Festival Quilt Raffle

4:00 p.m. Dennis Stowe, variety of music

McINTOSH HOTEL

12:15 p.m. Performances by the
Sundance Cloggers and the
Sundance Kids

DEPOT

Burr Oak Singers
AARP Chorus
Pony Rides
More Surprises!

ENDLESS BAZAAR

Antiques, Crafts, Foods
Candle Making, Weaving,
Basket Making



A History of McIntosh



by Ray Washington

McIntosh is in at least one sense rather typical of most Florida communities. It began as a planned community — a kind of 19th Century subdivision conceived of by an out-of-state land developer who platted out homesites and peddled them to other out-of-staters tired of snow and ice. In that sense, McIntosh is part of a grand Florida tradition that got its start in the 1880s and continues down to the present day with such land development companies as General Development and Deltona and Arvida still selling lots to cold outsiders.

The first American to own this land was a Baltimore merchant named Neamiah Brush who acquired his holdings from Don Fernando de la Maza Arredondo, a Havana merchant, who had in turn acquired the land as a grant from the King of Spain in the years before Florida became a United States Territory.

During the first two decades after Florida became part of the United States in 1821, the peninsula portion remained largely unsettled, except by Seminole Indians. By the 1840s, when the Indians had largely been removed by deportation or death at the hands of U.S. troops sent to Florida to drive them out, development of the peninsula began in earnest, but in these last years before the Civil War the federal and state governments disposed of millions of acres, with the result that Florida lands were plentiful and cheap or even free.

The heirs of Neamiah Brush in these years received many offers for their lands, and sold some of them, but they were not content to let their father's legacy go cheaply. A Florida governor tried to buy the two sections that now comprise the town of McIntosh for about \$20 an acre — many times the original price — but the heirs held out for more, to their later regret. By the time the Civil War was underway, land could hardly be sold at all.

During the war and well into the reconstruction that followed land prices remained depressed. But Reconstruction in Florida ended in 1877, and those who managed to hold onto their lands began to make fortunes. In the early 1880s, the Florida Southern Railroad announced its intention of opening an "Orange Belt Route," which would traverse the Brush lands. Charles Brush, the administrator of his father's estate, filed a plat creating a community he called McIntosh. He dispatched an agent to begin selling lots. The lots sold well. When Charles Brush fell ill, his brother-in-law, Eugene Van Ness, promptly filed another plat, with smaller lots promising even greater profits. Van Ness printed pamphlets promoting the sale of these lots, and these were circulated around the country. Within a few years, McIntosh was a settled village.

For the most part, those who purchased lots in McIntosh were not wealthy speculators, but, rather, unexceptional middle class residents of other states who wanted to live in Florida. Many of them were from Kentucky. They brought with them their own housing designs and ways of living. By the 1890s they had largely formed the character of the town.

McIntosh in the 1890s was a prosperous farming village shipping vegetables and citrus to

northern markets by rail. The commercial center of the town developed adjacent to the railroad. The residential part of town developed west of the railroad, away from the mosquito-infested areas near the lake. Most of the yellow-pine, two-story Victorian Gothic style homes that give the McIntosh Historic district its present character were built during this period. The convergence of various historical forces has resulted in the preservation — for a time, anyway — of a community that in many ways continues to retain its 1890s flavor.



Probably the first event that served to help McIntosh retain its 1890s state was the freeze of 1894-1895. This freeze virtually wiped out citrus in the region, and kept the village from expanding, much. Fortunately, the land surrounding McIntosh was good land, and the residents were able to cultivate a wide variety of vegetables that found ready acceptance in the northern markets. This was enough to insure that the community would continue. The village did not simply dry up and blow away as so many places did. During the decade following the freeze the local hotel remained in operation, several churches and a local school came to McIntosh, and several mercantile businesses were organized or continued operations. The fact that the town had a depot probably did a lot to continue its existence.

All of this contributed to establishing a sense of permanence in McIntosh, while at the same time there was no great economic draw to bring in new settlers who would change the face of the community. By 1913, when the town was incorporated, there were only about 300 people living here. By the late 1920s, land drainage and mechanization had opened up other parts of Florida for large-scale truck farming operations, a development which served to further stagnate McIntosh growth, and much of the land around McIntosh eventually returned again to citrus cultivation. In the 1930s, however, McIntosh, like many other places, had economic problems which prevented growth.

In the years after World War II there have been some slow changes in McIntosh, and those changes continue today, and threaten to significantly accelerate. The deadly freezes of the early 1980s destroyed the orange groves that had once formed a sort of protective buffer around the town. The explosive growth that is visiting itself upon Marion County has already begun to change the face of McIntosh.

Victorian Garden Party



THE ALLEN-KAROW HOUSE

Among the older homes in McIntosh is the Allen-Karow House built in 1888 by the town's first Postmaster, W.E. Allen. While the house has a similar assymetrical form as others in town, it alone has examples of Italinate detailing, seen in the ornate rafter brackets on the roof line and the lovely guadrifoil attic vents.

The house was in a state of disrepair and had been subdivided into apartments when the Davenport Karow's purchased it. The house was originally lit by gaslights and has been painstakingly renovated. From the light wood floors to the beautiful floral wallpapers and period furniture, the house is a tribute to the loving care Mrs. Karow gives it.

In addition to her many community activities and active career in real estate, Mrs. Karow finds time to tend the spacious grounds surrounding the house. The yard is landscaped with many flowers and shrubs popular in Victorian times. In the spring, the entire lawn is carpeted with wild violets, and an ancient Wisteria has climbed to the top of the trees to show off its lavender blooms. The azealas, hydrangeas and dogwoods add pinks, blues and white, and the yard is scented with Gardenias and Confederate Rose. Something is always in bloom for us to admire and enjoy.

Punch and cookies will be served on the lawn, and we are honored to have the grandchildren of the Allen family on hand to answer your questions. Also, several prominent members of our pioneer families are acting as hostesses.

So, take a moment to reflect and enjoy. Who knows — if you close your eyes, you may even be able to hear the "clack" of croquet balls or the laughter of children as they roll hoops on the lawn...



Halloween In McIntosh

The routine of school settles around us and we gather the last of the bounty from back-yard gardens. The moon loses its summer silver and its soft orange glow reminds us that Halloween is almost at hand.

On all Hallows Eve, the witches, goblins, and so forth, gather on the street, eager with skeptical enthusiasm, not knowing exactly what spine-tingling "treats" await. Scarecrows and muslin ghosts decorate lawns. Porches and verandas glimmer with oil lamps and candles. Jack-O-Lanterns grin and leer.

Trick-or-Treaters in McIntosh never know who or what will answer the door! It might be a complete family of wild Indians offering white paper ghosts, or a gnarled, old couple, tossing handfuls of candy while complaining about the tom-foolery in suspiciously youthful voices.

The grand finale of the evening is always a cautious trip through the Roess's garden where myriads of flickering luminaries cast sinister shadows. What on earth could be making those horrible noises from the attic? Is that a vampire lurking by the fence? Did you hear that scream?

By mid-evening, the creepies go back from where they came, and the small children are tucked safely in their beds. Now, families and friends can settle back on the porches with a glass of cold cider and tell the real ghost stories of our town.

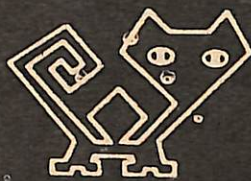
There are tales of footsteps in the attic, of ice blasts of air in the summer, of doors and windows mysteriously opening or closing, a cold, invisible hand gripping the shoulder... Some believe, some are skeptics. No matter! Conversation is one of our favorite pastimes here. And, what better subject on a crisp, October night?



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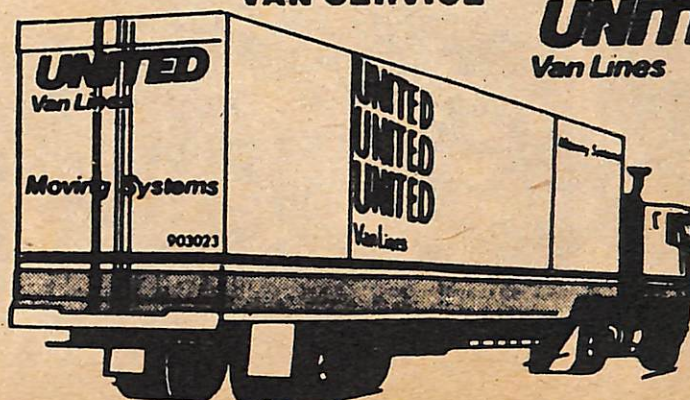
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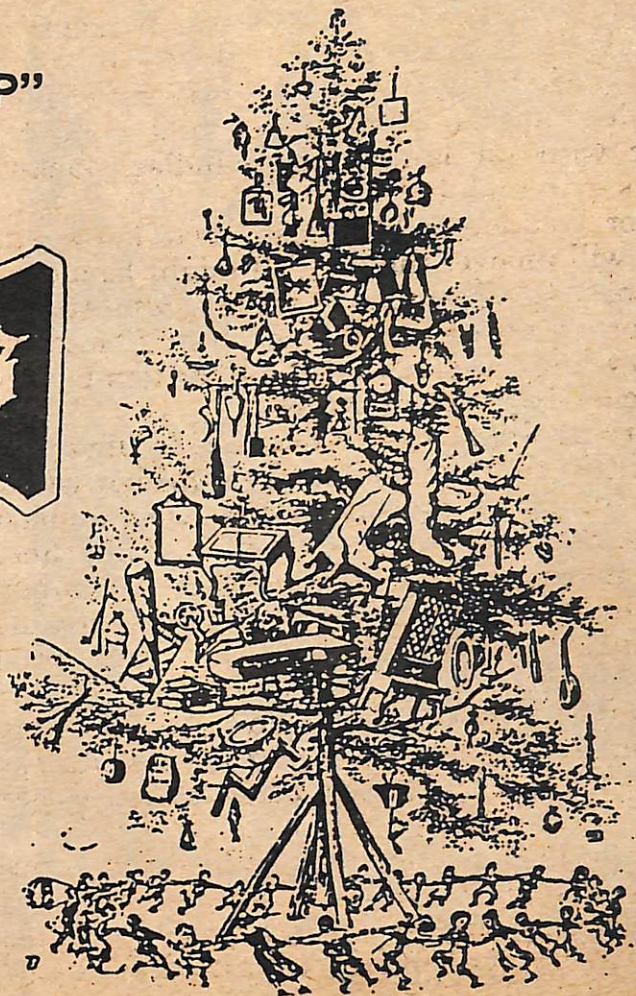
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**LAYAWAY NOW FOR CHRISTMAS
WHILE THE SELECTION IS GOOD**



Blest Be The

A Religious Tradition



THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

This church was built in 1907 at Ave. F and 7th Street. Avenue F was originally known as Church Street with three of the four churches on the avenue. Colin Lindsay donated the beautiful chimes which ring daily. The church has Art Glass windows and Oak Eastlake Pulpit furniture.



THE METHODIST CHURCH

The Methodist Church located on the corner of Ave. F and 8th Street was pulled here by a single mule from Center Point in 1895. It served as a sanctuary for all denominations until the Baptist Church was built.



Down from Kentucky, the Carolinas and Georgia in the 1880's, the early settlers to McIntosh had hardly enough time to sink good wells and get their families under roof before they were going off to worship every Sunday morning. And since they hadn't had a chance to build any churches in town, they met up at Centerpoint in the Presbyterian Church or at North Boardman with the Methodists for several years until getting better situated and seeing that their young orange groves were well established. For awhile the little folk got their Sunday School teaching from Mr. and Mrs. McCormick Neal under a large oak in the town park.

In the winter of 1895 the Methodists decided they were ready to move their frame church down to McIntosh. Using log rollers and a single mule, the one-room building came 1½ miles to town on February 7, stopping overnight at the spring-water branch just this side of the present meat market. Folks went home pleased with their work, the children exhausted from following the church all day; between midnight and morning, the second of the 1895 freezes struck, devastating the prosperity of McIntosh. Many families left

town, but those who stayed brought the church on over to its present site.

Years ago, back when some of the old-timers here were youngsters, summer was a time for at least two Sunday school picnics a year, and the four churches would all meet on the grounds of Van Ness Park, having cut short the traditional 11 o'clock service so that everyone could get together at the Pavillion for a community picnic. The buggies would tie up around the open-air building and out would come the big oak baskets woven by the neighboring Negroes; then the fun was in seeing who'd brought the fanciest cake which was always carefully packed on top of fried chicken, potato salad, pineapple and cucumber sandwiches on homemade yeast bread; lemonade made from sour oranges, and garden-ripe tomatoes to be sliced and served on platters of cucumber and green tomato pickles.

Of course there'd be watermelon chilled down with ice brought in on the TG&Y or the Coastline; but ice cream was the best treat, churned that morning with fresh cream and eggs and packed down in ice with a clean bean sack tamped on top to keep the cream from rising as the ice melted.

Tie That Binds



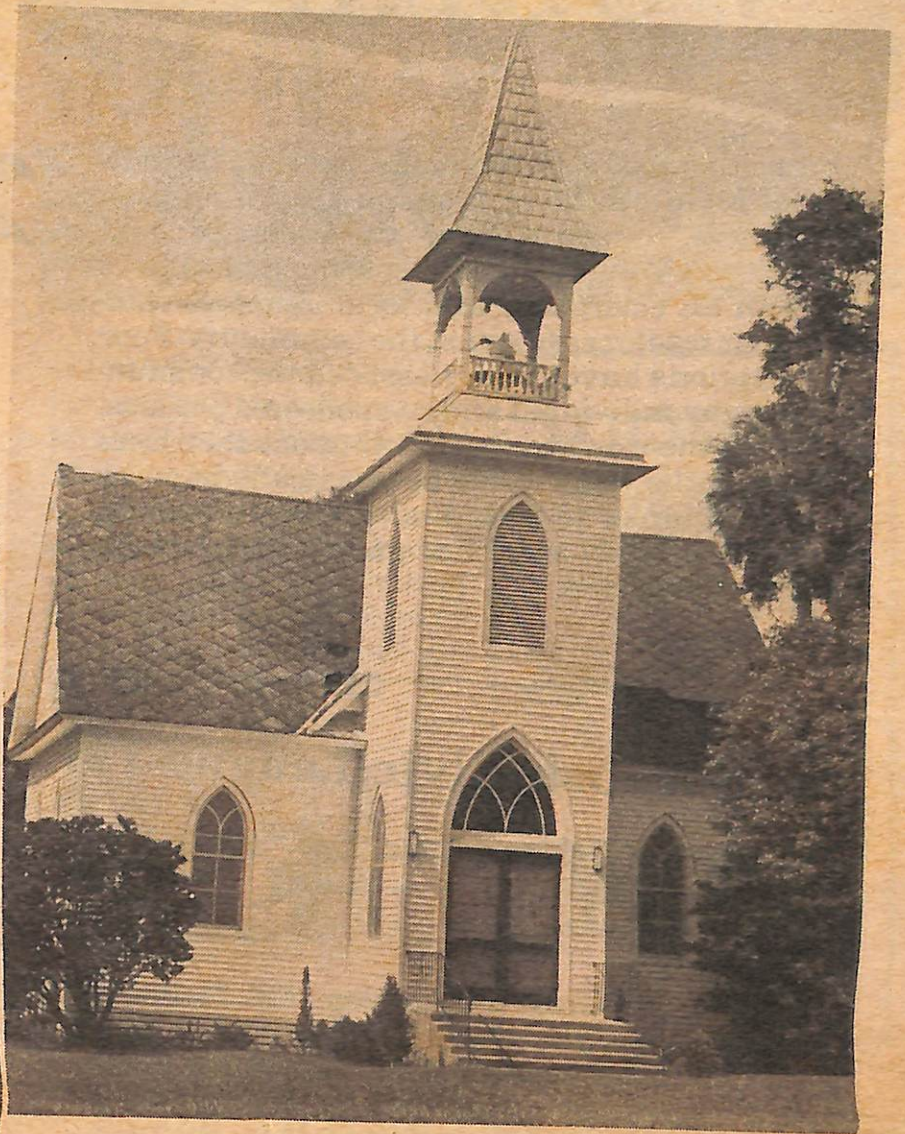
Joins Past With Present



THE BAPTIST CHURCH

This church was built in 1903 on the old "Wire Road", now U.S. 441. It was the first church built in town. The beautiful stained glass windows were a gift of the Christian family. Recently, a new Sunday School room and Fellowship Hall were added.

All four churches are open today, and members will gladly show you around and relate more of their history.



THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

The Christian Church maintains its open belfry which still rings on Sunday. It was built in 1904, next to the old school house on Ave. E and 7th Street. The original records are intact and were a great source of information for the Historical District Survey done in McIntosh.



McINTOSH CEMETERY

In 1899 the young community of McIntosh set aside land for the cemetery, issuing lots to early settlers for their families and descendants. At first an iron gate enclosed the cemetery with a hand gate for mourners and double-hung gates wide enough for wagons and automobiles to bring the deceased, his relations, and neighbors to the burying place, but over the years the iron fence was replaced with other fences which served their time, then gave way to azaleas and shrubbery planted by family and the McIntosh Cemetery Association.

Many of the town's first settlers are buried in the oak-shaded cemetery and something of their history can be understood from the headstones. Some of the early names, Price, Gist, Gaitskill, Walkup, Flewellen, Neal, Baldwin, Petty and Norsworthy are carved in the marble stones; the names of infants dying in childbirth from diseases no longer feared today, or the name of a young wife or husband give witness to the hardships and sorrows of a community and a record of its past.

The cemetery is located on the west side of U.S. 441 at Ave. E and 12th Street.

WORKING TOGETHER

From the 1800's through the present, the citizens of McIntosh have shown a special unity, a willingness to share their time, energy, and resources. A Volunteer Fire Department is always ready in an emergency and local churches combine their resources to assist the community. Four organizations have greatly assisted the community on many individual and co-sponsored projects. To list all the worthwhile contributions they have made over the years would be practically impossible. Our thanks to past and present members, whose community spirit has greatly enriched the quality of our lives.

McIntosh Civic League

Born in the Great Depression, the McIntosh Civic League was organized in September, 1931, when local women responded to the economic distress of their community. Meeting in the Presbyterian Church, the ladies elected Mrs. Harry S. Culpepper; Mrs. A.P. Booker and Mrs. W.R. Brown to lead the small group in its charitable undertaking — collecting money for food and clothing while being sensitive to real need and to the pride of their less-fortunate neighbors. As the Civic League ministered to the community, its membership grew, allowing the club greater influence and success within the struggling town, and what had seemed incurable conditions were overcome when a few women felt the need of sharing and would move beyond feeling into action.

Later on, the club enlarged its original purpose to undertake civic development projects and maintenance of the town cemetery. Sometime in the late 30s, Mrs. Clarence Bateman, Mrs. Gertrude Joiner and Mrs. Myrtis Rush Carter formed a committee to raise money for a permanent community house to replace the open pavillion in Van Ness Park with the U.S. Government matching funds through WPA. The committee then sought the support of businessmen in North Marion County and had their own fund-raising projects, the most successful being an oyster supper in the Arredondo Packing House. Built of Florida lime rock, the new Civic Center had one large room which would house the Town Council, ice cream socials, dances, adult education courses, Miss Lois Dickson's spring piano recitals, and other club activities.

When the war years came, Civic League set up sewing machines in the community house and the women rolled bandages, made pajamas and night shirts for American soldiers, as well as baby clothes for overseas children left homeless during the conflict; all the while carrying on their care of needy families here at home. In 1956, Civic League celebrated its 25th anniversary with a "Silver Tea," members donating silver money to support a children's home in Jacksonville. The Silver Tea was to become an annual event and now marks the first meeting of the season in October.

McIntosh Lion's Club

Organized in 1950, the Lion's Club has assisted our town in many ways. While their national work with sight conservation and the blood bank are well known and appreciated, they also sponsor and provide many local community services.

Projects have included street lights, signs, memorial plaques, and the sprinkler system in Van Ness Park. They have built and maintained our tennis, shuffleboard and volleyball courts, and supplied the community's playground equipment.

The Club has sponsored the Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts since 1958, and provides funds for area Girl Scouts. They help sponsor the Summer Recreational Program in town, and speaking of summer, what would the 4th of July be without Lion's Activity Day? Sack races, watermelon eating contests, tug-of-war, and egg tosses are old-fashioned fun for all!

The annual Memorial Day Auction is quite an occasion. Practically the whole town turns out to socialize, eat good food, and bid on bargains under the oak trees. The Club sponsors a Drug Awareness Program, *Students Against Drunk Drivers* (SADD), and Lion's Safety Day. Charitable contributions range from the United Way to the local Ministerial Emergency Fund.

This group of men has committed themselves to our youth, our health, our safety and recreation. Anyone interested in participating or contributing, should stop by the Community Center at 7:30 p.m. on the first or third Monday of each month.

The Seedlings Garden Club

Residents of McIntosh have always had an interest in cultivating the land. Oranges and vegetables were the first priority, but soon after, folks started transplanting wild crepe myrtles, trumpet vines, and other native flora to beautify their yards. Even our majestic oak trees were but spindly seedlings when the town was platted in the 1880's.

In keeping with a tradition of a love of the land, our newest organization, The Seedlings Garden Club, was formed. As an informal, mostly recreational group, the Garden Club meets monthly from October to May, with programs and discussions of local concern. Past topics and workshops have included flower arranging, wreath making and lectures by county extension agents.

Civic projects involved landscaping the park and information on poisonous houseplants and flowers native to the area. Members recently planted the beautiful, creeping junipers in the median on the north end of town. The club also works in conjunction with the civic league for the April Flower Show at the community center in Van Ness Park. Meetings are the first Thursday of the month (Oct.-May) at 9:30 a.m. New members and guests are always welcome.

The "Friends of McIntosh"

On September 26, 1973 a small group of community-minded individuals concerned with the preservation and enhancement of the natural and architectural beauty of our town formed an organization named "The Friends of McIntosh."

The first undertaking of the "Friends" was the Mini-Park, located next to the Post Office. The land was leased and a quaint, Victorian style gazebo, patterned after 1890 blueprints, was moved onto the site. The members met on a Saturday to landscape, build a fence and paint. On October 28, 1973, the little park was dedicated with a large crowd attending.

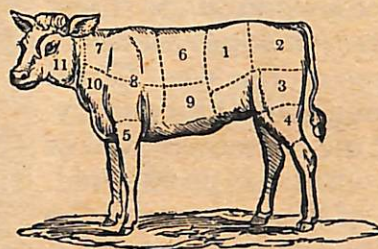
When it was learned that the old depot in town could be had if it was moved off the railroad right-of-way, a string of money making activities followed. Bake sales and dinners failed to generate the sizable sum needed for the project, so the first 1890's Festival was planned for October 19, 1974. Over \$2700.00 was raised and a tradition was born.

With funds raised from the 1890's Festival, the Friends of McIntosh has continued to contribute to the beautification of the community. White picket fences and Victorian style street lamps in Van Ness Park were recent projects, and 144 dogwood and oak trees were planted last Arbor Day. The group also sponsors free tennis lessons in the summer for children from the area, and contributes to such charities as the Scouts, Salvation Army, and local Emergency Assistance Fund. The Friends were instrumental in the national recognition of the town of McIntosh and the designation of the McIntosh Historic District. Future projects include a large gazebo in Van Ness Park to be used for community concerts and programs. Membership in the FOM is open to anyone interested and there are many members who do not live in town. Membership is \$6.00 but there is no fee for senior citizens who wish to participate. Meetings are held monthly in the Depot and guests are welcome.



Remember When?

Locomotives came to McIntosh four times a day: They'd thunder in, airbrakes hissing and squealing, the big engines slowing at the depot just as old Charlie got the last of Mrs. Burry's cows off the tracks...



To Fatten Calves —

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(Book of Knowledge, 1890)

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Purdy K. Richardson - Evinston Farmer and Poet (1870-1947)

by Mitzi Karow Roess



Purdy K. Richardson was a farmer. Vegetables mostly, in that golden season when the cabbage crowned men kings and dubbed the neighboring countryside of McIntosh and Evinston the produce dominion of the South. It was an era spanning nearly four decades, from the late 1890s to the mid 1940s, in which the names Christian and Neal, Norsworthy, Bateman, Huff and Richardson would be the titled families of the land. Their wealth was weighed by the ton in cabbages, straight-neck yellows and zucchini squash, cucumbers, eggplants, melons and Black Valentine beans shipped by the train load to the New York markets. Their lettuce was bought by the boxcar for the dining rooms of the Queen Elizabeth and her sister vessels in the heyday of ocean travel.

Credit was good, but cash was better, and these lords of the earth were men of means by any scale of reckoning, one grower shipping 400 freight cars of vegetables north in a single season to the finest accounts in the business: First National Stores in New England, Safeway Stores on the West Coast and the A & P chains throughout the country. These were men whose word meant a trainload of squash by Monday - if that's what was promised.

No doubt about it, this end of the county was the vegetable empire of the nation with four trains a day whistling into McIntosh and on up to Evinston. Places like Immokelee and LaBelle were unheard of - just peanuts in comparison. But before the Everglades stole the big east markets, the vegetable kings of north Marion County were growing their vegetables and raising their families and growing vegetables to feed those families which was about all they had time to do. And, like his neighbors, Purdy K. Richardson was up every morning before the sun got above the cow bunnets on Orange Lake and out in his fields looking after his vegetables. For fifty years Mister Purdy did this. Six days a week, before he earned time to rest and write his poetry. And even then, it took a heart attack big enough to just about kill him before he could sit in the porch swing hung from an oak tree in his son Mark's backyard and write his poems.

Mister Purdy got started in vegetables sometime in the late 1890s, having left the cotton-poor land of the Carolinas to come south to Florida. He had his youth, one suitcase of belongings and an uncle a few miles west of Evinston where he could stay until he got situated. For the most part, he "batched it", as he would say of those early years, accepting any invitation to a meal with his new neighbors, especially those that came from the family of Miss Edna Wolfenden. However, he was in no position to sit around and think about his next meal. He had to make vegetables; then he had to make the market if he was to make some kind of a living. Beyond that, he'd just have to wait and see. What tools were needed, he bought at Christian and Neal Mercantile Store down in McIntosh. Seed and fertilizer from Wood and Swink in Evinston. With a promised percentage of his harvest come picking time, he rented a little piece of lake bottom on the Evinston side of Orange Lake and set out his seed.

Boston lettuce was his first crop, and it did right by him. He made a little money, enough to buy more seed and fertilizer, pay the rent on the land and put some money aside. He replanted, and kept on replanting. When he could, he bought a piece of land. "All he wanted, was to own what joined

him," he would say with a quiet grin that wrinkled the corners of his eyes.

In the meantime Edna Wolfenden had grown up and married him; then blessed him with three boys and two girls. He gave thanks and planted more vegetables. He studied everything available on increasing crop yields and improving the quality and uniformity of his produce, so that his customer, the American housewife, would put his vegetables in her basket.

And that's all there was to it - along with the work of course - that would eventually make the Richardson holdings one of the largest and best managed in the county. A simple life, Mister Purdy's life, not counting late March freezes, droughts, no rain when he needed it and too much when he didn't, aphids, nematodes, grasshoppers, poor markets, depressions and any of the other



PURDY K. RICHARDSON

things that wouldn't let him sit in the porch rocker, prop up his feet and write a poem or two. But it was the life he had chosen, and it was the experience of such a life from which he would harvest the material for the poems he was to write.

When he recovered from his heart attack in 1942, which took the better part of a year, he let his boys Leroy and Mark and Walter, when Walter finished up with school, run the farm and begin to do with it what they felt was the way of the future. By then the Glades were ruining the local produce market, and cattle and citrus would be the money makers. So Mister Purdy at 70 years of age, no longer able to make vegetables, began to make poems for the next four years of his life.

They were simple poems of his Evinston and McIntosh neighbors. Poems about farming and his family: his wife, children and grandchildren. Poems that spoke of his childhood and sweethearts. There were those that spoke of the world war beyond Orange Lake and the Atlantic Ocean but which nevertheless affected him and his neighbors. There were verses that wryly, yet gently nudged politicians and made comments on taxes and propaganda. In all, the two small volumes of poems were one man's pensive, often wistful reflections and observations about whatever struck him that morning as he sat in the oak-shaded swing and wrote; and as such, they would give a glimpse into the man that was Mister Purdy and his almost-gone way of life that was rural Florida.



EDNA W. RICHARDSON

The following poems are taken from *ALONG THE TRAIL*, a volume of fifty poems published in 1945; and from *HERE - THERE AND EVERYWHERE*, a collection of sixty poems written between 1943 and 1944.

Orange vs. Guava

Said the Orange to the Guava,
"You have an awful smell."
Said the Guava to the Orange,
"That's why I'm known so well."

Said the Guava to the Orange,
"You don't have much smell."
Said the Orange to the Guava,
"That's why I sell so well."

Said the Guava to the Orange,
"I have a vitamin content."
Said the Orange to the Guava,
"It isn't worth a scent."



Propaganda

Propaganda,
Propagooose,
They doll me up
And turn me loose.

I walk around
And look about,
The whole wide world
Is on my route.

I shake myself
And, like a hawk,
Spread my wings
And give a squawk.

I sow my seeds
Around and about,
Fly on further,
Then change my route.

I've covered my country
With Propagand;
I'll sail and sail,
Somewhere I'll land.

I see an island
In the sea;
I'll just drop down
And give 'em some tea.

I'll sail again
For foreign lands;
There they use me
To beat the band.

I've scattered my seeds
The world around;
I'm on the job
Wherever I'm found.

Propaganda
Turned aloose,
We listen, listen;
Who's the goose?

Bird and Animal Talk

Possum up the 'simmon tree,
Raccoon on the ground;
Raccoon says — you rascal you,
Throw some 'simmons down.

Rabbit in the hollow log,
Hound begins to wail;
Hound he says — cannot reach you,
wish you had more tail.

Hen is in the chicken house,
Fox is on the side;
The fox he say — my lady dear,
Where do you biddies hide?

The buzzard sees a carcass,
Walks around it with a sigh;
Don't know that you are breathing,
I'll pick out your little eye.

The crane he sees a fishie
Swimming in the lake;
The crane he says — my buddie,
Here for a bath to take.

The bird he sees a buggie
Hopping in the hay;
The bird he says — my dearie,
This is my meatless day.

Says the martin to the bee,
You are so plump and round,
I have a beautiful flower
And wear it on my crown.

Says the eagle to the fishhawk,
You are a fisher grand;
You catch the fish, I make it drop
And catch it 'fore it lands.

The spide. makes a little web
In order to lure the fly;
The fly he says, old fellow
I have other fish to fry.

Sometimes I sit and wonder
Why all these things are so;
But if you lived among them,
You'd find there's many more.

Soil Building

Tell me, my brother farmer;
As owner of your land;
What are you doing to build it up,
Or is it a bank of sand?

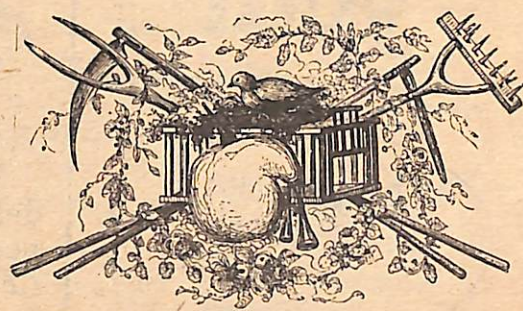
Do you continue to dig and dig
And rob it all you can;
And never give it anything back,
And be a destructive man?

As we travel along the road
And see the hungry land;
Why don't you put something back,
And feed it all you can.

In the stores there's plenty of seeds
To feed this hungry land.
Let's stop gouging, feed it some
And be a constructive man.

Whatever be your project
In order to do its best,
Feed your soil with legumes;
Nature will aid the rest.

So hand in hand with nature,
Er planting of the crops,
Feed well the soil, it helps you
To make your stuff the "tops."



My Farmer Grandson

I have a little Grandson
A farmer he will be,
He rises early in the morning,
And waits for the sun to see.

He eats his morning breakfast
And grabs his little cap,
Out the door he plunges
And whistles for Ginger Snap.

Down to my shop he wanders
And hunts his little toe,
Plants some seed of every kind
And loves to see them grow.

He rides the trucks with the darky men
And likes to see them haul,
He knows the names of every one;
A favorite with them all.

Asked one day where Granddad was
Answered right off the bat,
"He's supposed to be in the
bean field,
But no telling where he's at."

He loves the big outdoors,
Sign of a mind that's broad.
Something the whole world needs
To secure the peace for all.

Altho the farmer is handicapped
With injustice from every slant,
Time will come; ere many years,
When he'll be begged to plant.

Let's encourage these little boys
Who wish to stay on the land,
Give them every advantage
And help them all we can.

In these latter days few of the boys
On the farm remain,
They prefer to seek the big red lights
The cities all contain.

Here's to you, my farmer lad
On the land you love to stay,
Nature helps those who help
themselves
May many blessings come your
way.



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Remember When?
Miss Lois Dickson defended the Post Office versus Home Delivery:
"For us old-timers, going to the Post Office - that's how we do our 'Howdyin', and find out what everyone has planned for the day."



To Make Self-rising Flour

This is made by adding 4 pounds of the following mixture to every 100 pounds of flour, and then mixing all completely. It must be kept perfectly dry, and, in using, mix quickly and put into the oven at once. Here is the mixture referred to above:

Carbonate of Soda, 56 pounds
Tartaric Acid, 28 pounds
Potato Flour, 112 pounds
Having used bread made from self-rising flour, we can testify that it is good and will last a while.



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Nowadays, everyone has a Christmas tree. At the turn of the century, just about the only Christmas tree was set up in the church. There was a present underneath for every boy and girl in town. There was no electricity, so the tree was decorated with candles.

Times have changed things a little. The old cedar tree in the park is lighted with hundreds of multi-colored lights. Santa Claus is graciously invited by the McIntosh Lions Club to visit our town the week before Christmas. He arrives in town on the fire engine, lights flashing, and sirens wailing in typical Florida fashion. In his big velvet bag is a present and candy for each and every child in McIntosh. Our heartfelt thanks to the Lion's Club for thirty-five years of helping Santa "make his list and check it twice"!

How To Be Handsome

Where is the woman who would not be beautiful? If such there be — but no, she does not exist. From that memorable day when the Queen of Sheba made a formal call on the late, lamented King Solomon, until the recent advent of Jersey Lily, the power of beauty has controlled the fate of dynasties and the lives of men. How to be beautiful, and consequently powerful, is a question of far greater importance to the feminine mind than predestination or any abstract subject. If women are to govern, control, manage, influence, and retain the adoration of husbands, fathers, brothers, lovers, or even cousins, they must look their prettiest at all times.

All women cannot have good features, but they can look well, and it is possible to a great extent to correct deformity and develop much of the figure. The first step to good looks is good health, and the first element of health is cleanliness.

In the matter of baths, we do not strongly advocate a plunge in ice cold water as it takes a woman of clear grit and strong constitution to endure it. If a hot bath be used, let it come before retiring, as there is less danger of taking cold afterwards; and besides, the body is weakened by the ablution and needs immediate rest. It is well to use a flesh brush, and afterwards rinse off the soap-suds by briskly rubbing the body with a pair of coarse toilet gloves. The most important part of the bath is the drying. Every part of the body should be rubbed to a glowing redness, using a coarse, crash towel at the finish.

Ladies who have ample leisure and who lead methodical lives take a plunge or sponge bath three times a week, and a vapor or sun bath every day. To facilitate this very beneficial practice, a south or east apartment is desirable. The lady denudes herself, takes a seat near the window, and takes in the warm rays of the sun. The effect is both beneficial, and delightful. If, however, she be of a restless disposition, she may dance, instead of basking, in the sunlight. Or, if she be not fond of dancing, she may improve the shining hours by taking down her hair and brushing it, using sulphur water, pulverized borax dissolved in alcohol, or some similar dressing. It would be surprising to many ladies to see her carefully wiping the separate locks on a clean, white towel until the dust of the previous day is entirely removed. With such care, it is not necessary to wash the head, and the hair under this treatment is invariably good.

If it is desirable to increase the brightness of the eyes, it may be done by dashing soapsuds into them. Eyelashes are practically worthless if not long and drooping. To obtain these fringed curtains, anoint the roots with Balsam made of two drachms of Nitric Oxide of Mercury mixed with one of leaf lard. After application, wash the roots with a camel's hair brush dipped in warm milk. Tiny scissors are needed to carefully but slightly trim the lashes every other day.

If commenced in youth, thick lips may be reduced by compression, and thin, linear ones are easily modified by suction. This draws the blood to the surfaces and produces a permanent inflation.

Everyone cannot have beautiful hands but there is no plausible reason for their being ill-kept. Red hands may be overcome by soaking the feet in hot water as often as possible. If the skin is dry and hard, use tar soap, saturate them with glycerine, and wear gloves in bed. Never bathe them in hot water, and wash no oftener than is necessary.

by Miss Emma Leslie (1890)

Victorian Cosmetiques (circa 1890)

Complexion Wash

Put in vial, one drachm of Benzoin Gum in powder, one drachm Nutmeg Oil, 6 drops of Orange Blossom Tea, or Apple Blossoms, put in half pint of rainwater and boiled down to one teaspoonful and strained, one pint of Sherry Wine. Bathe the face morning and night; will remove all flesh worms and freckles, and give a beautiful complexion.

To Clear A Tanned Skin

Wash with a solution of Carbonate of Soda and a little Lemon Juice; then with Fuller's Earth Water or the juice of unripe grapes.

Oil to Make the Hair Curl

Olive Oil, one pound; Oil of Organum, one drachm; Oil of Rosemary, one and one-half drachms.

Wrinkles in the Skin

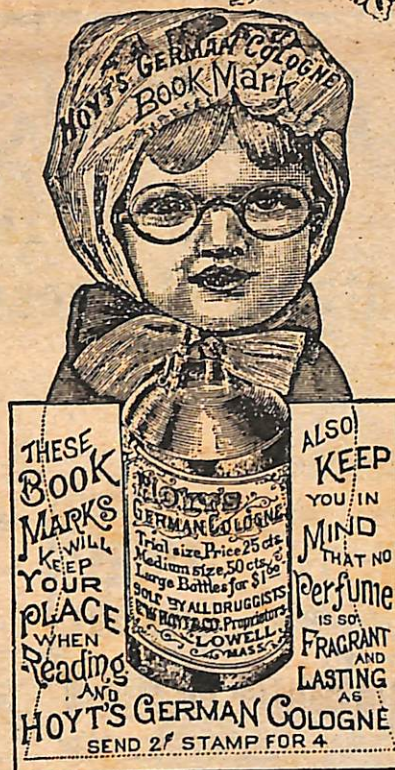
White wax, one ounce; strained Honey, two ounces; juice of Lily Bulbs, two ounces. The foregoing melted and stirred together will remove wrinkles.

Complexion Pomatum

Mutton grease, one pound; Oxide of Bismuth, four ounces; powdered French Chalk, two ounces.

Leanness

Leanness is caused generally by lack of power in the digestive organs to digest and assimilate the fat producing elements of food. First restore digestion, take plenty of sleep, drink all the water the stomach will bear in the morning on rising, take moderate exercise in open air, eat oatmeal, cracked wheat, graham mush, baked sweet apples, roasted and broiled beef, cultivate jolly people and bathe daily.



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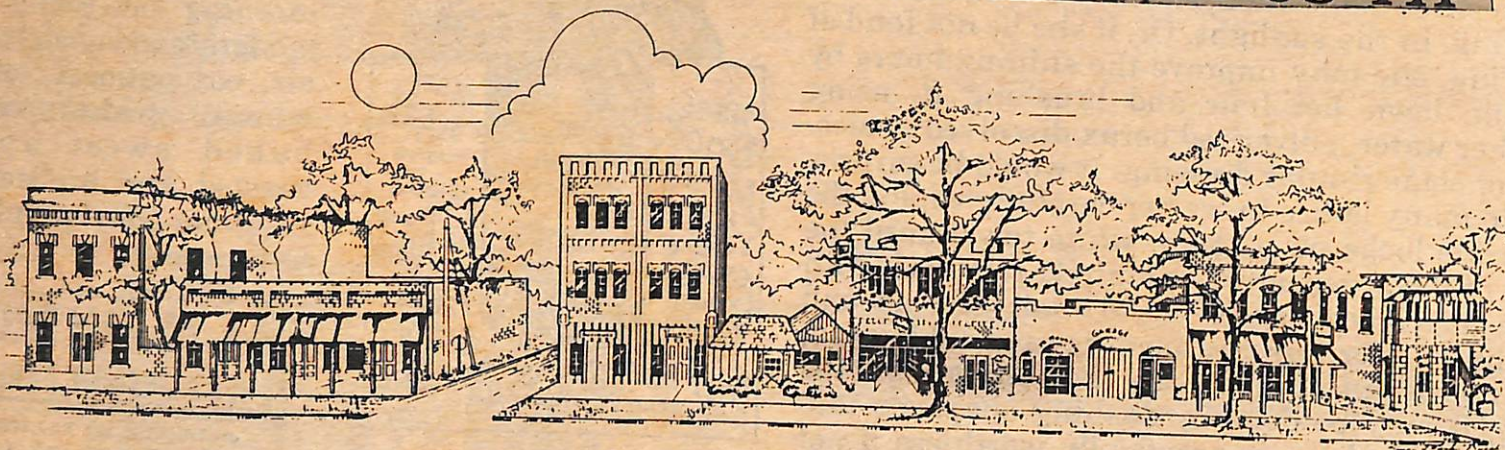
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Mr. Rob Wood

by Jerome Feaster

Robert Pierce Wood, better known as "Mr. Rob", was born and raised in Evinston, just down the road from McIntosh. Rob still lives there with his wife Alelee, but he has been a fixture in our community as long as most can remember. Eighty-four and still going strong, he can be seen at the McIntosh Supply "waiting on the trade".

Mr. Rob's career of waiting on the trade began in 1930 when he took over his father's store which is now the Evinston Post Office. He ran it for four years, also serving as Postmaster. Several years later, he came to McIntosh to work for W.E. Christian down by the depot, and has been here every since.

Mr. Rob was the Christian's Farm Manager during spring and summer and clerked in the store during the off season. When Bill Wynne took over from his father-in-law in the late fifties, Rob was still at it. Erwin Reddick bought out Bill in the late sixties and Rob Wood was waiting on the trade. Mr. Reddick left town in 1970 and Fred Wilson built a new home store on U.S. 441, and you guessed it, Rob is still waiting on the trade! When asked to describe him, his bosses and co-workers were unanimous — "DEPENDABLE. You can depend on Rob, rain or shine."

One of Mr. Rob's other interests is baseball. Henry Burry relates that he played in the local leagues until he was forty years old. He was renowned as a pitcher and one day while at bat, a lady in the bleachers yelled, "Hey, look at that old man!" Rob hit a double and as he rounded the bases, his wife hollered back, "Yes, look at that old man!"

Mr. Rob also loves to duck hunt. He tells of rising in his youth, before daybreak, milking seven cows, shooting a mess of ducks on Fish Prairie, riding

his bike to McIntosh, and playing a game of baseball before the school bell rang.

Back in those days, there wasn't any limit on ducks and Rob used to fill a burlap bag with ducks most anytime. Once on Levy Lake, Rob tells of killing eight ducks with one shot. He and a friend were in a canoe and slipped up on a pothole full of ducks. The ducks flew out and Rob cut loose! 8 ducks went down on the first shot and one more fell on the second shot. He got so good at killing ducks that shooting them with a shotgun became boring, so he turned in his 12 gauge for a 410.

Rob has been active all his life. Up until the last big freeze, he kept a small grove of orange trees beside his home. He still finds time to plant a few tomatoes and a few other things in his garden, although he admits it's getting tough to hoe! He is a member of the Micanopy Masonic Lodge, earning the title of Past Master, York Rite Mason, and recently, became a Noble of the Shrine.

Time changes us all, maybe we can't throw a baseball as fast, or shoot with as keen an eye, but character is formed at an early age, and Mr. Rob's good nature and dependability has endured, and is an inspiration to all who know him.



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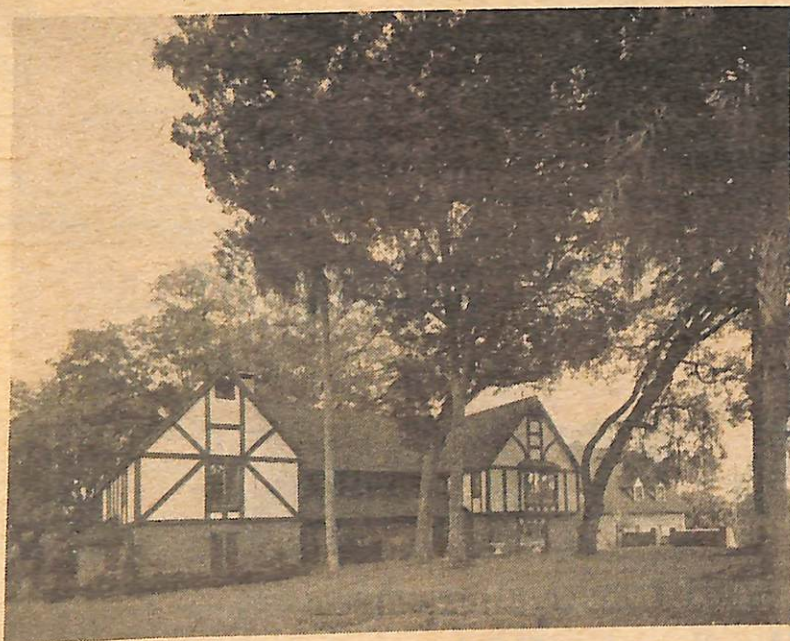
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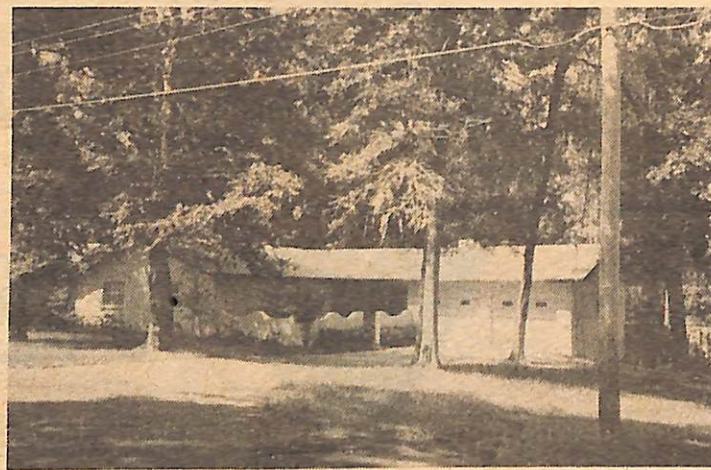
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Health Cures of 1890 from the "Everyday Cookbook"

The Quinine Cure for Drunkenness

Pulverize one pound of fresh quill-red Peruvian Bark and soak it in one pint of diluted alcohol. Strain and evaporate down to one half pint. For the first and second days give a teaspoon every three hours. On the third day give one half teaspoonful, on the fourth reduce dose to 15 drops, then to ten, and then to five. Seven days, it is said will cure average cases, though some require a whole month.

Fever and Ague

Four ounces galangal root in a quart of gin, steeped in a warm place; take often.

Asthma

A lady writes that sufferers from asthma should get a muskrat skin and wear it over their lungs, with the fur side next to the body. It will bring certain relief.

Infant's Cordial

Pleurisy-root, scull-cap, skunk-cabbage, hops, cramp-bark, prickley-ash berries, calamus, angelica seed, sassafras, of each, in powder, one ounce. Ginger, capsicum, of each, two drachms. Pour on six pints of boiling water: when cold add three pints of good Holland Gin, and two pounds of loaf sugar. Let it stand two weeks, shaking frequently.

Children's Nosebleed

The body should be sponged every morning with cold water, and the child put under a course of steel wine, have open air exercise, and, if possible salt water bathing. A key suddenly dropped down the back between the skin and clothes, will often immediately arrest copious bleeding.

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Dot Cake's Woodpecker Pudding

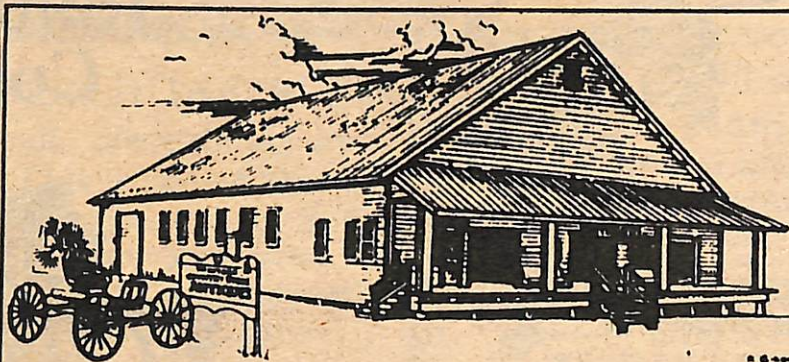
Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Gather up all leftover bread ends, biscuits, and corn bread, (can be moldy) and mix in large bowl with enough water to hold the breads together. Then add old cereal, (weevils and all) corn meal, oat meal, or any grain food no longer useful, to fat and drippings saved from cooking. Stir all of this into the bread mixture, adding sugar, however much can be spared, and blobs of peanut butter. Pour entire mess into a greased, large loaf pan and bake til firm and a crust has formed on top. When cool, serve to the birds!

The 1890's Festival is sponsored by the Friends of McIntosh, Inc. 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.

Charter Members were:

Sadie Alston
Dottie and Ned Cake
Kay and John Campbell
Betty and Ernie Hopwood
Margie Karow
Susan and Joe Phillips
Katie and Ed Johnston
Betty McKeone
Mitzi and Robbie Roess
Hester and Roger Stevenson
June and Fred Ward
Alice and Howard Warrington
Jane and Dan Sharp



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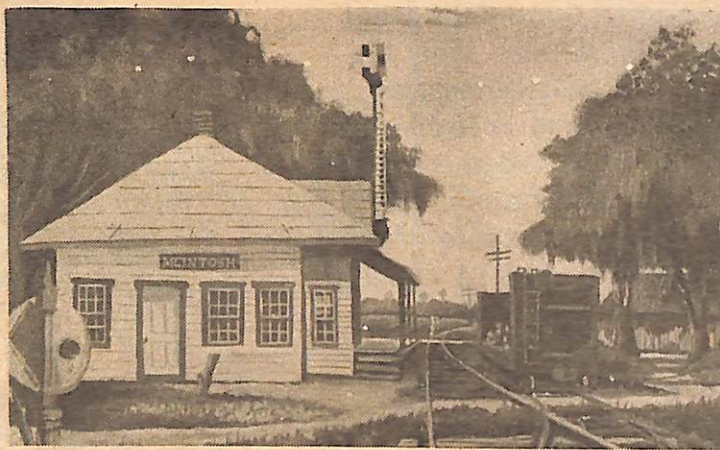
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Spoon Bread

by Mabel Pringle Morton

- 1 c. grits
- 1 c. uncooked cornmeal
- 4 eggs
- 3 tsp. baking powder
- ½ stick butter
- 1 c. rich milk

Cook grits, add meal to hot grits. Then add milk, well beaten eggs and baking powder. Pour into greased baking dish and bake about 40 minutes in 375 degree oven.



Chicken Corn Pie

by Lila Yongue Devore

- 1 hen
- 12 ears of corn
- 1 rich pie crust
- ½ stick butter
- rich milk



Cook hen in small amount of water til done. Cut meat from the bones. Use the chicken stock, butter, and plenty of rich milk to cream the cut and scraped corn to medium thickness. Salt and pepper to taste. Add the chicken. Put in casserole and cover with a rich pie crust. Slit the top and bake in moderate oven, 25-30 minutes until crust is brown and crisp. When done, put in a lump of butter and a small amount of rich milk.

1890 Festival Cookbook

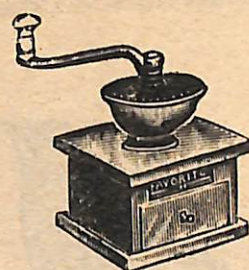


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Cookbook
P.O. Box 1890
McIntosh, FL 32664

Add \$.50 for postage and handling



Fried Green Tomatoes

by Virginia Hatchett

- 5 medium green tomatoes
- 1/3 c. flour
- ¾ tsp. salt
- few dashes pepper
- ¼ c. Crisco

Cut tomatoes into half-inch crosswise slices. Mix flour, salt and pepper. Dip both sides of tomato slices into mixture. Heat shortening in skillet until sizzling hot; put in tomatoes and cook quickly until browned on underside. Turn tomatoes carefully, reduce heat until thoroughly hot and soft through center. Put on a hot platter and serve.



No Crust Coconut Pie

by Mrs. Allen Gibson

Makes its own crust.

- 1 stick oleo
- 1¾ c. sugar
- ½ c. flour
- 2 c. milk
- 4 eggs
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- ½ tsp. lemon juice
- 7 oz. can or pack coconut



Melt oleo, beat in sugar and flour. Add eggs, one at a time. Pour pie mix into 8 or 9 inch pie pans. Bake at 350 degrees for 45 minutes. You can usually make two pies.

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Grampa's Thermometer

Count the number of cricket chirps in one minute. Subtract 40 - divide by 4, then add 50 to equal the temperature in degrees fahrenheit.

To Keep Flies Off Gilt Frames

Boil three or four onions in a pint of water and apply with a soft brush.

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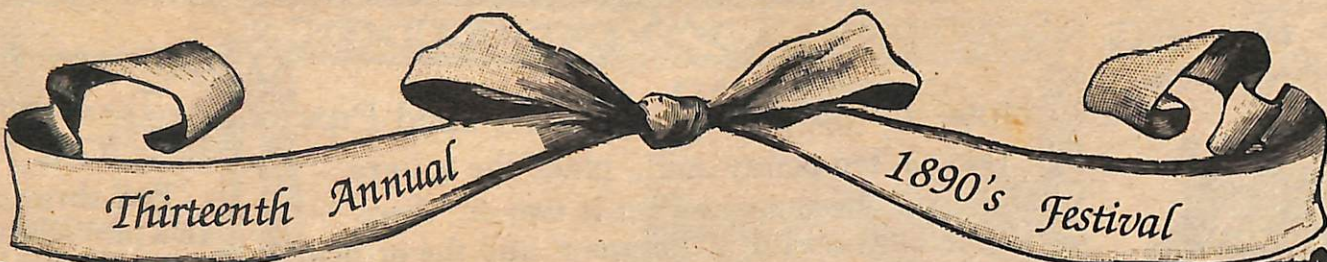
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