

THE GREAT REBELLION

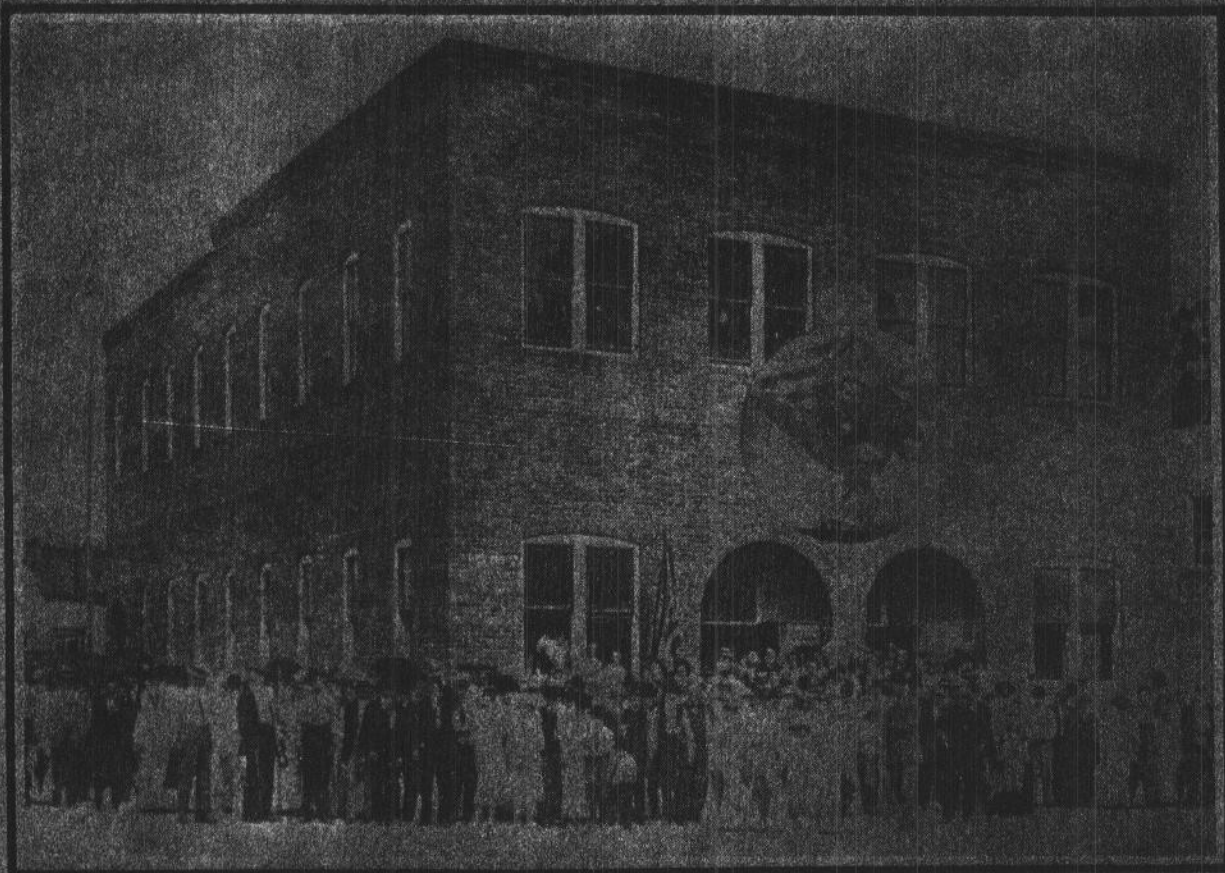
THE OFFICIAL NATIONAL ORGAN OF THE G.A.R. HISTORIAN & COLLECTORS

Vol. 3 No. 4

South Lyon, Michigan 1984

\$10.00 per Volume of Four Issues

ST. CLOUD



L.L. MITCHELL POST IN FRONT OF THEIR NEW MEMORIAL HALL IN 1914

VETERANS COLONY

THE GREAT REPUBLIC

Published by
Roger L. Heiple

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RIGHTS RESERVED

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the editor should include a self-addressed envelope to help speed the reply.

Dear Roger

As per sketch enclosed I am trying to locate items to complete a G. A. R. past officers badge. I have one of the vet's stars that has the 1 1/4 inch device at the top to fasten the 1 1/4 inch ribbon, so in case I can locate one of the 1 1/4 inch flag ribbons or a 1 1/4 inch solid color ribbon I could put together, also would like one of the rank straps to fasten to the ribbon. I don't have the eagle (1 1/4) yet but I have a guy I am writing to that does have one for sale or trade. Should you not have any of the above items for sale at this time perhaps you can suggest another collector I can contact?

In F. C. & L.
Eimer

Eimer

You have reached a point every collector of G. A. R. items has been at one time or another. The search for member badge ribbon both flag style and solid has been very difficult at best. The solid ribbon is silk, a material that is not used in most types

of ribbon today. So the best chance of finding a matching style and color is to search old ribbon stores. The flag style for past officers is not found easily. It was originally sold by many of the supply houses in 12 yard rolls. The flag was adopted in 1887 at the St. Louis National Encampment when the committee on rules, regulations, and ritual, "reported favorably on the incorporation of the flag-ribbon of the membership badge of official badges" and the report was adopted by the membership.

While I usually do not favor correcting badges found with parts that were assembled by the veteran, and don't correctly match, I do match the correct pieces when re-assembling an officers or past officers. So, you must identify the date of the officers star, find the eagle clasp with the wide shank (officers style), then place the correct ribbon (usually the flag style), and place the correct past commander rank strap on the ribbon (Eagle on a blue field for Post Commander)

Good luck on the ribbon. It does turn up occasionally and if you find a roll, you will have plenty of customers for the remaining ribbon. Learning about the various parts of the members badge, officers badge, and past officers badge, is a rewarding part of collecting. A display of these badges is always attention getting.

Ed

GENERAL COMMENTS FROM THE EDITOR

The publishing schedule of the GREAT REPUBLIC has been inconsistent this year and your editor must shoulder the responsibility. The publication of only two issues in 1983 has been the result of a combination of reasons. I hope that I can explain these reasons without sounding as if I'm complaining.

The Great Republic is not a self-sustaining publication. The interest in the G. A. R. is not shared with most of the Civil War historians or collectors. The result is that any publication dealing with the veterans and the G. A. R. will only have a limited interest. I knew this going into the first volume and was content to personally subsidize the publication. Since the first issue my income and many other Michigan residents income has taken a severe drop, funds to handle publication have been very limited. This is the basic reason for not reprinting the first volume, I do not have the \$250-300 for the six issues to be printed. Without raising the subscription price, we are continuing to publish four issues per volume. My printer has been very generous, giving the GREAT REPUBLIC a special rate, but I must wait for a slow period in his business. Plans for volume 4 are to continue with 4 issues with little change in format.

A problem area has been the mid-year start of each volume. All subscriptions start with the first issue of each volume and new subscribers are sent issues back to the issue No. 1 of the present volume. This has been confusing for new subscribers, for the first issue has been the summer issue. The solution will be to start the next volume (Number 4) at the first of the year, 1984.

The publication of this newsletter has been founded on my concern for the preservation of the records, materials, structures, badges, and souvenirs of the G. A. R. The information that is published is fully helpful toward that goal. With continuing help of the regular contributors, the staff, and the support of the subscribers the GREAT REPUBLIC will continue to dig out the information on the Grand Army of the Republic and its membership.

Yours in F.C. & L.
Roger

Your subscription status is as follows:

Volume 4 is due - \$10.00

Volume 4 has been paid

Prompt payment of Volume 4 dues is appreciated.

The Veterans Colony at St. Cloud, Florida

The second veterans colony was located at St. Cloud, Florida, the first being at Fitzgerald, Georgia. St. Cloud is easy to find, for it is located just south of Disney World in Orlando. Between Disney World and St. Cloud are many motels and restaurants. It affords the GAR buff an opportunity to provide his or her family an alternative to the extended history tours that they sometime feel they must endure. So while the family is enjoying the Disney World, you can have an uninterrupted day in one of the most interesting GAR sites.

The first notice of the St. Cloud veterans colony appeared in the National Tribune, February 25, 1909. John McElroy assured veterans that the colony was 50,000 acres of very productive land and that it had a most healthful climate. Of course John McElroy was partial, he not only was the Editor of the National Tribune but the President of the Seminole Land and Investment Company. He boasted that the colony had many advantages at its inception over the colony at Fitzgerald. Fitzgerald had been built in a wilderness, whereas St. Cloud was located on a line of the Atlantic Coast Railroad. Another advantage, McElroy pointed out was the unlimited source of water. Finally, the climate allowed the growing of semi tropical crops of oranges, lemons, grapefruit and pecans.

Tracts of land in the city were measured out at 25 feet by 125 feet, with an accompanying five acre plot outside the city. For \$50, in the first offer, the veteran got a share in the Colony Company, a city lot, and a five acre plot in the surrounding area. The sale of property was an outstanding success with over 4,000 deeds notarized in just one month. Many veterans sold their property in the North and headed south to St. Cloud only to find the colony unprepared for the crowds of arriving veterans. The War Department sent a railroad car of tents to aid the housing shortage. One large tent was included to be used for community meetings and worship. It was located on Massachusetts Avenue between 10th and 11th. Streets. In February of 1910, John McElroy, in the company of Past Commanders-in-chief John R. King and Henry M. Nevius, left Washington for an inspection of St. Cloud. At this time about 2,000 people lived in the colony. Already 360 houses had been built and over 100 tents were still in use as temporary homes for arriving veterans.

The veterans were a very industrious and by October on 1910 the colony had 600 building, including a waterworks, electric lights, telephones, churches, and schools. The pride of the colony was the large St. Cloud Hotel. The first sidewalk in the city was from the train station to the St. Cloud Hotel. Another important building in the colony was the St. Cloud National Bank, the only National Bank

NEW ST. CLOUD

"PRIDE OF OUR CITY"

ST. CLOUD, FLORIDA



One of the Best and Most Up-to-date Hotels in Florida for

Fire-Proof Structure Strictly Modern Rooms with Bath	WINTER RESORT VISITORS	Excellent Cuisine Open Fireplaces Electric Lights
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American Plan SPECIAL WEEKLY RATES European Plan
Fine Boating, Bathing and Fishing Facilities at the Lake

in Osceola County in 1910. Both the hotel and bank buildings remain on New York Ave looking very much like when they were built in 1910.

The success of St. Cloud is reflected in a delegation ribbon worn to a National Encampment calling the colony the "Wonder City"

The location of the colony was an important selling feature. St. Cloud is located in Osceola County, and in 1910 its access to rail and ship transportation was necessary. Its location to the Gulf port of Tampa, 80 southwest and Jacksonville, 170 miles northeast, gave direct rail access to ports. The National Tribune wrote, "The colony property lies six miles from the town of Kissimmee, along the southern shore of Lake East Tohopekaluga, a beautiful sheet of water of nearly circular form and at one time of about nine miles in diameter. Since that time it has shrunk some. This lake lies 70 feet above the level of the sea. Its waters drain into Lake Tohopekaliga which is drained by the Kissimmee River."

By 1913 construction of the permanent GAR hall, called Memorial Hall, had begun. The L.L. Mitchel Post No. 34 was to become one of the largest posts in the country. The Memorial Hall, now in private hands, is located at the

corner of Mass. Ave. and 11th. Street. The exterior of the building has not been changed except for the addition of two open metal protective gratedoors in the front. When the Memorial Hall was built, two panels of bricks were placed on either side of the front doors. Each of the bricks had the name and regiment inscribed on it. This is something not to be missed on your tour of St. Cloud. The grate doors are now protecting the brick panels from further defacing and are an outstanding example of the historic preservation a private company can do.

The Memorial Hall is a two story building with an auditorium on the first floor and the meeting room on the second. The present owners have made a number of internal changes, but fortunately few changes have had any effect on the basic structure. The auditorium has not been changed, and has been restored. The curtain on the stage is the original, painted in 1913. A few changes on the second floor have been accomplished without destorying the historic room. A wall was put through the center of the meeting room, dividing it into two rooms. This wall appears to be one that can be removed easily. The raised platform for the post commander is still in place and the outlines of the other stations can still be located on floors. The only major change that seriously changed the original building was the removal of the rear stairway from the ground level to the meeting room. It was the main entrance to this room. The stairs had a handgrip in the center so the old veterans could use both hands to climb the stairs. At the top of the stairs were the traditional doors with the peepholes. All of this was removed and meeting rooms have been built in place of the stairwell area. This GAR Hall is an outstanding building and certainly a most important historic remnent of the Grand Army.



The L.L. Mitchell Post in front of their first post hall in 1912.

THE POST WAS NAMED FOR MR. L.L. MITCHELL WHO WAS THE FIRST PERSON TO DIE IN ST. CLOUD, 1909.

THE VETERANS'
COLONY

St. Cloud, Fla.



The Wonder City

BUILT IN FOUR YEARS

BY THE

UNION VETERANS

1913

RIBBON WORN BY DELEGATES TO THE NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT IN 1913 BOASTING ABOUT THE "WONDER CITY" in FLORIDA.

The colony was growing fast and by 1914 its influence on the Department of Florida was shown. The first Florida Encampment was held in the "Wonder City" with the following groups present; GAR, WRC, Ladies of the GA and representatives of the S ov V. The hall not been entirely finished, but the veterans covered the unfinished areas with decorations and flags. The St. Cloud Tribune reported, "Windows of the business places of the city displayed the artistic taste of the individual firms, each different from the other, all beautiful and appropriate. Rest rooms had been provided in Makinson's big store and in the rooms of the Improvement Club at the corner

AT THE NEW STORE

ATTENTION!

Just received another Car of Neponset Roofing, of all Grades: Red Rope, Granitized, Paroid and Proslater; from \$1.00 a roll up. Nothing better made. In use here four years with best of results.

Wall Board, Cheaper than Ceiling or Plaster, and it is Water-proof. Finished in White or oak.

Sash and Doors: we have a large stock, at prices that cannot be beaten.

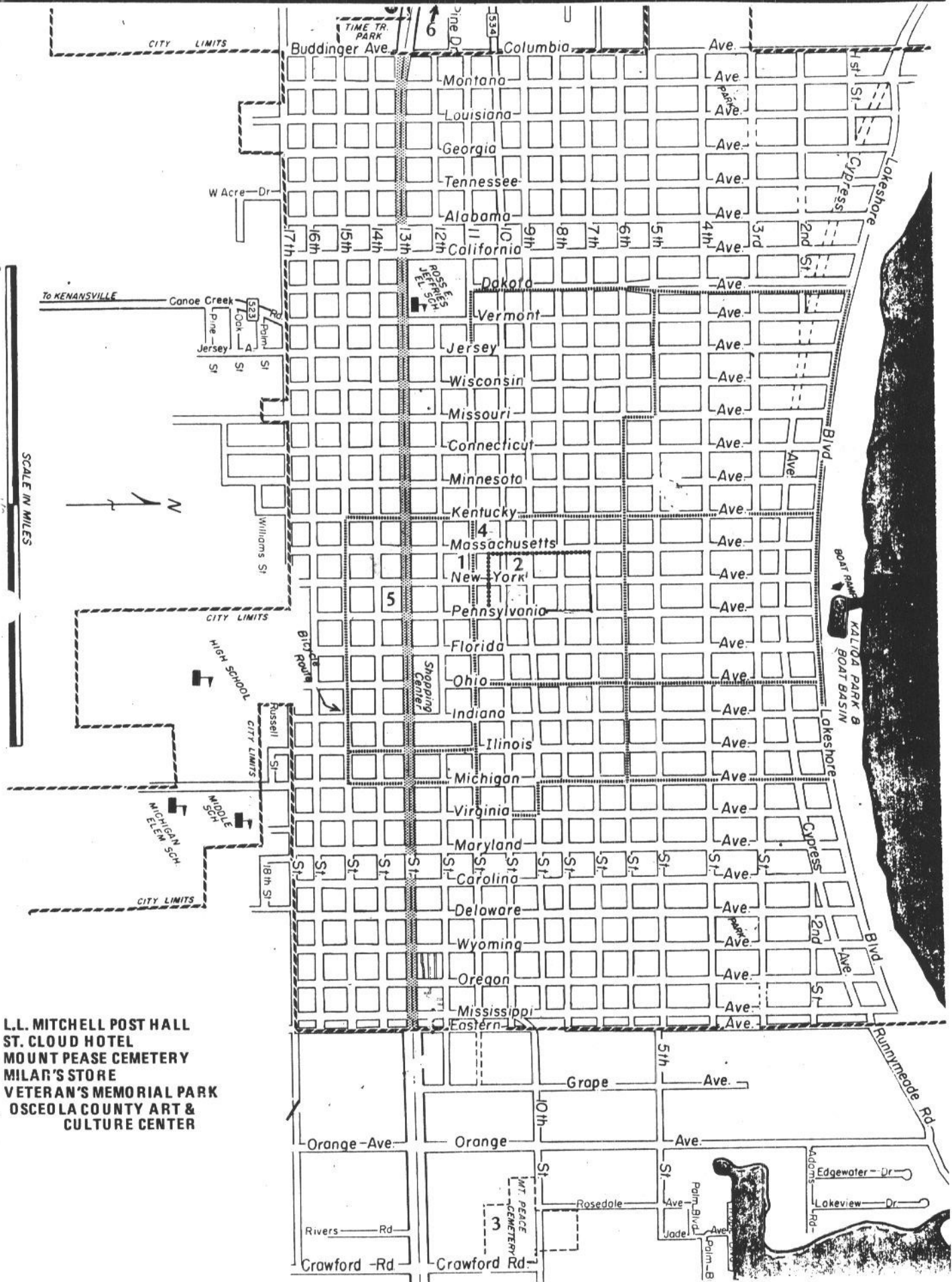
A large assortment of Locks, Butts, Sash Locks, Lifts, etc. Paints—Atlantic White Lead, Zinc, also Mixed Paint that is Strictly Pure.

Pure Linseed Oil, Turpentine; also Colors in Oil and Dry General Hardware, Furniture, Wagons and Farm Tools.

Come in and see our new Floor Covering, just out. Oil Stoves, five kinds to choose from, Florence is best. Gasoline Stoves—National and Detroit.

W. B. MAKINSON CO.

BETWEEN THE PARKS ON NEW YORK AVENUE
ST. CLOUD, FLORIDA



1. L.L. MITCHELL POST HALL
2. ST. CLOUD HOTEL
3. MOUNT PEASE CEMETERY
4. MILAR'S STORE
5. VETERAN'S MEMORIAL PARK
6. OSCEOLA COUNTY ART & CULTURE CENTER

of Florida and 10th. street, S.W. Porter's office and Dr. Cooper's office. Many automobiles were in readiness to convey vistor about our town and to all places." The biggest parade ever held in St. Cloud, up until that time, took place on April 15, during the Encampment. 400 GAR veterans, 50 sons of veterans, 150 WRC & Ladies of the GAR, and 200 children. Included in the parade were two drum corps and two bands. The parade formed at Mass. and 11th., marching to Indiana, north to 10th., west to Penna. Ave., south to 11th., west to N.Y., north to 10th., west to Mass. and then south to 11th.



While everything in St. Cloud was progressing, the fortunes of John McElroy were taking a definite downward turn. At the National Encampment in Atlantic City (1910) following the address of Comrade McKey nominating McElroy for Commander-in-Chief, John McElroy obtained recognition, and taking the platform said:

Com mander-in-Chief and Comrades: I became a candidate for Commander-in-Chief in the most absolute good faith and in response to the kindly urging by thousands of our comrades all over the country. I have endeavored to conduct a campaign upon which I could look back without the slightest regret. Every act in it has been dictated by regard for the highest principles of our Order, and not a word has been said by me or any of my friends in derogation of the very estimable comrade who was my opponent. On the contrary, I have been made the target of the vilest and most cowardly and the most calumnious slanders and accusations. Nothing has been omitted that would injure me or my character. In entire justice to my opponent I want to say in the most emphatic manner that I exculpate him and his immediate friends from any knowledge or consent in this. It was done outside of them entirely. The G.A.R., however, represents the highest order of morality in the Nation, and a man seeking the exalted office of Commander-in-Chief should bring to it an absolutely unblemished reputatuion. Within the last few days I have learned here, catching me without preparation, a charge of the most damaging character, involving unfortunately a disput with a comrade now dead. This relates to the authorship of a book called "Si Klegg". There are other rumors in connection with St. Cloud, which I want investigated. The obvious intent of this was to catch me without preparation

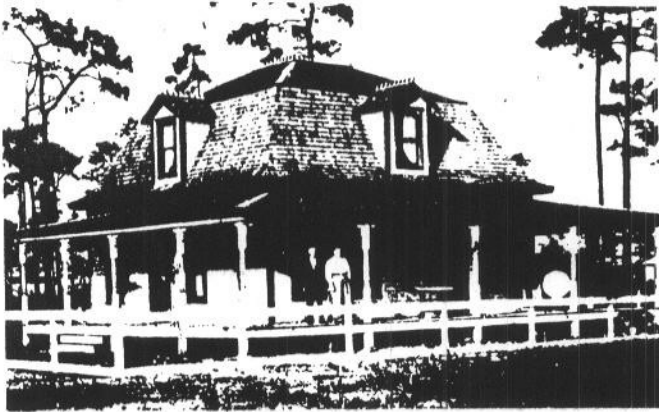


POST RIBBON OF MR. F. H. H. POPE

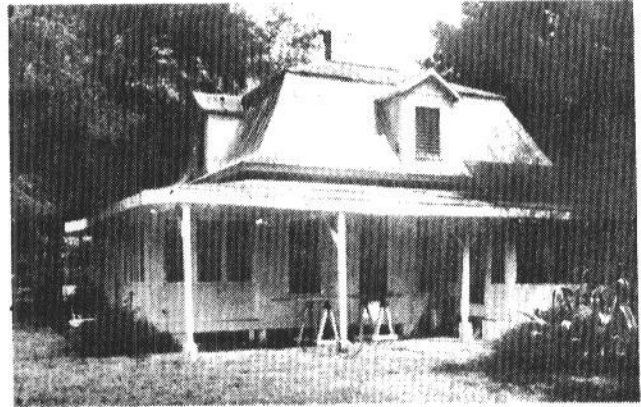
to defend myself, and I cannot too highly reprehend this manner of conducting a campaign in the Grand Army of the Republic, where all should be fairness, justice and embodying to the utmost our cardinal principles of fraternity, charity and loyalty. Believing that any man who seeks the leadership in our Order should be without reasonable reproach. I hereby withdraw my name and request the comrades not to vote for me until I have cleared the character I have borne before all men curing my life from every aspersion. I demand a court of inquiry, which shall probe to the bottom every allegation against me as to my relations to anyone, man or woman, living or dead

Thanking with an overflowing heart those who have given me such a generous support, I promise them that I shall leave no stone unturned to clear myself of even a suspicion of wrongdoing. Life is not long enough nor can I do enough to show my appreciation of the friends who have advocated my election as Commander-in-Chief. I want them to all feel that I have a personal attachment to them and I feel it is due them that I should exert every effort to justify their friendship for me"

John McElroy's withdrawal was greeted by loud cries of "No! No!" from all over the hall, and a number



Residence of Mr. and Mrs. L. Williams, Mich. Ave. & 15th. St.



of veterans voted for him in spite of his withdrawal. The roll call vote was 675 votes for Gilman and 216 for McElroy. McElroy then took the platform and addressed the veterans,

I respectfully request the appointment of a court of inquiry to take under consideration certain allegations and rumors affecting my personal integrity, especially as to the authorship of "Si Klegg" and the founding of the St. Cloud Colony. I ask that the incoming Commander-in-Chief be instructed and directed to appoint a committee of five, who shall investigate any charges or allegations made against me in these matters."

Past Commanders-in-Chief Wagner, Rassieur and others supported this request of McElroy's. A delegate from Pennsylvania said that the action could not be taken, since there had been no charges preferred. Gardner, of Michigan, answered that it was a matter of common knowledge on the streets and in the offices that these rumors and aspersions had been industriously spread and had seriously affected the vote. He said that Comrade Hinman, the alleged author of "Si Klegg" was a member of his regiment, and he had always believed him to be the real author. He had known Comrade McElroy for many years, enjoyed his personal friendship, and had the highest esteem for his ability and thought him the foremost historian of the day. No one who had written such works as "Andersonville," "The Struggle for Missouri" and the accounts of campaigns which had run

thru the National Tribune could be affected by a charge of plagiarism. The question was properly before the Encampment as it affected that which was as dear to a comrade as his military honor, his reputation as an author and an upright man.

McElroy's request was granted by a voice vote.

A report from the committee appointed has not been found, but their findings could not alter the vote of the Encampment for Gilman. The Commander-in-Chief for 1910-11 was Gilman, and McElroy never achieved that position, one which he wanted so much.

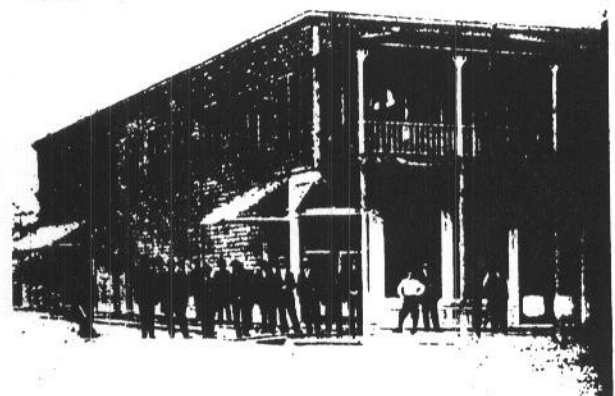
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CAMPAIGN BUTTON 1910

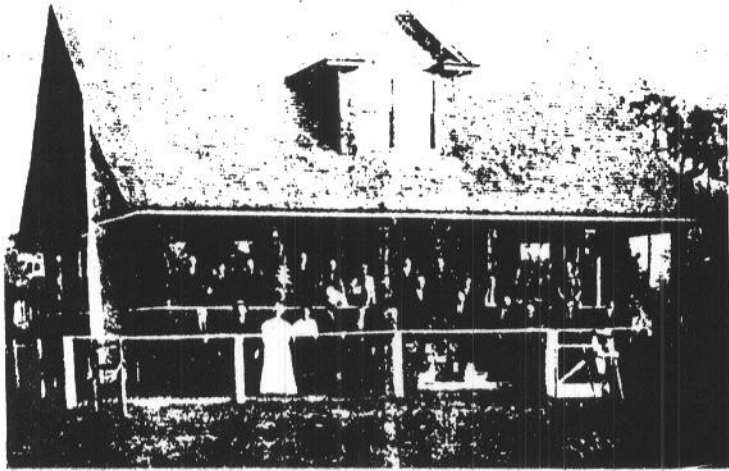


Home of Col. F. M. Sterrett, Lake Front Boulevard



J.F. Farris & Co., New York Ave. and 11th. Street.

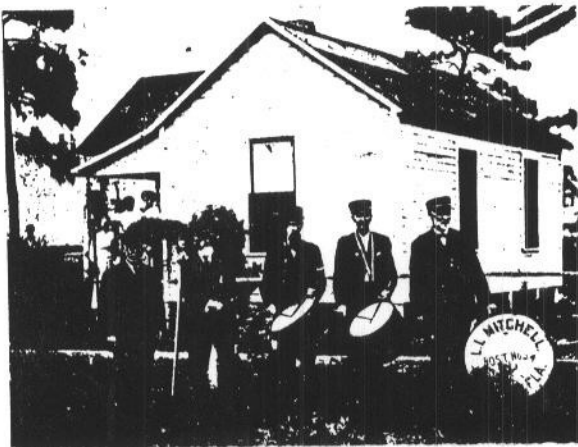
Views of early homes & buildings



Home of F.G. Knapp on Florida Avenue during a meeting of the New York Veterans' Association.



Home of Dr. E.G. Farris, New York Avenue.



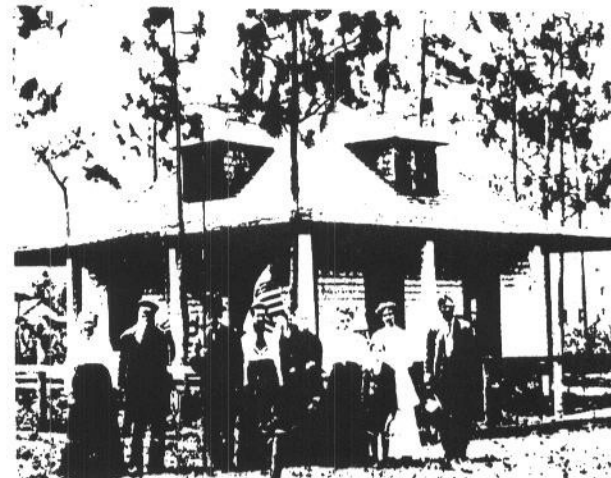
St. Cloud Drum Corps. - N.W. Ferguson, T.F. Van Arsdale, W.A. Stewart, Joseph Burbank, L.O. Bowers.



J. W. Miller's Home, Ohio Avenue.

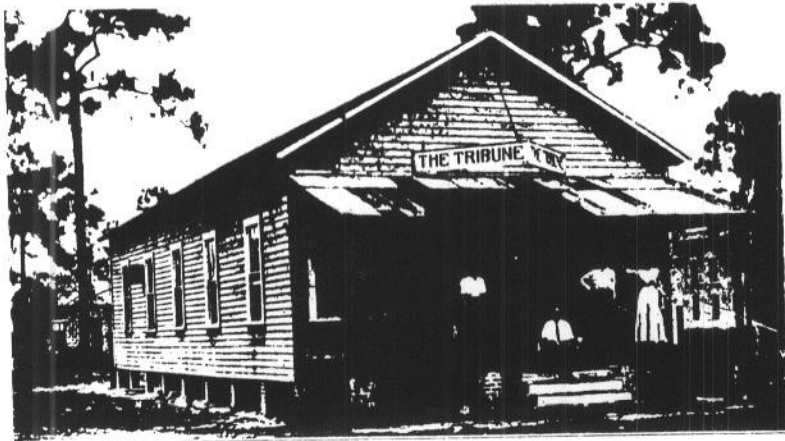


Mayor's Office — H.D. Colvin - Mayor, J.O. McNew - Assessor, J.J. Johnson - Clerk, (Mr. Colvin was also a pension attorney)

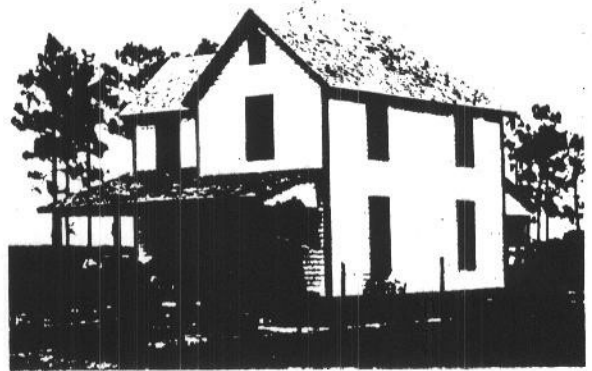


Home of Dr. N. Wells on Carolina Avenue.

n St. Cloud veterans colony 1913-14



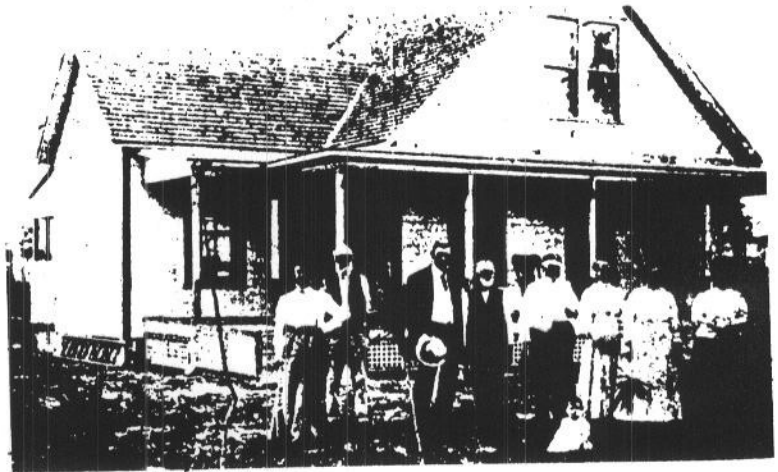
Home of the St. Cloud Tribune on Massachusetts Avenue.



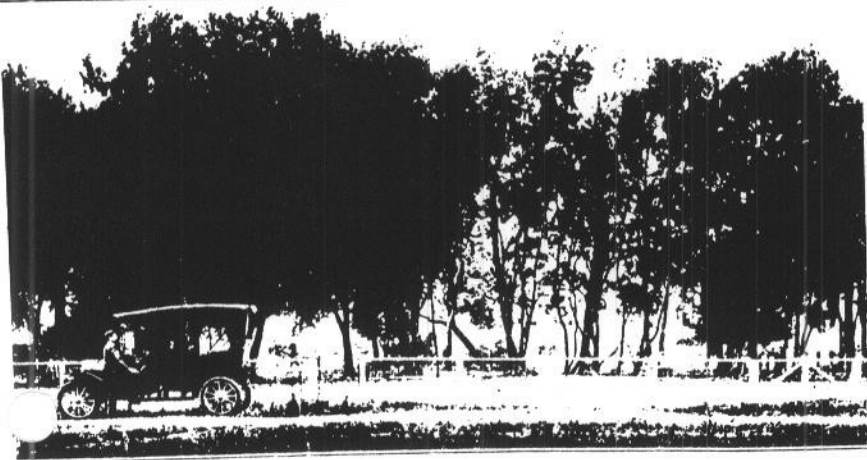
Home of J.N. Hoskins; Carolina Avenue.



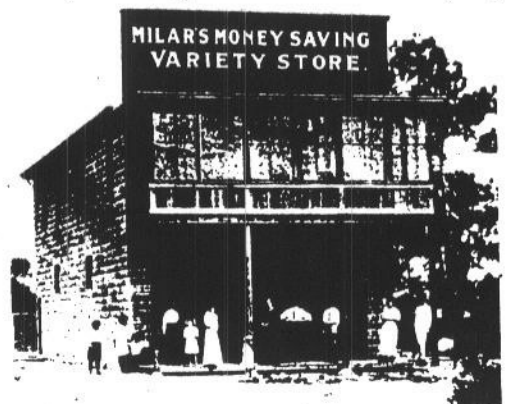
Corner in sitting-room at the home of Col. A.H. Kinney.



Home of C.A. Bride, Seventeenth Street. The first baby in St. Cloud is standing in front of the group - Ruth Edwards.



Building Lot of Major John McElroy on Lake Front Boulevard (Did he ever build in St. Cloud ?)

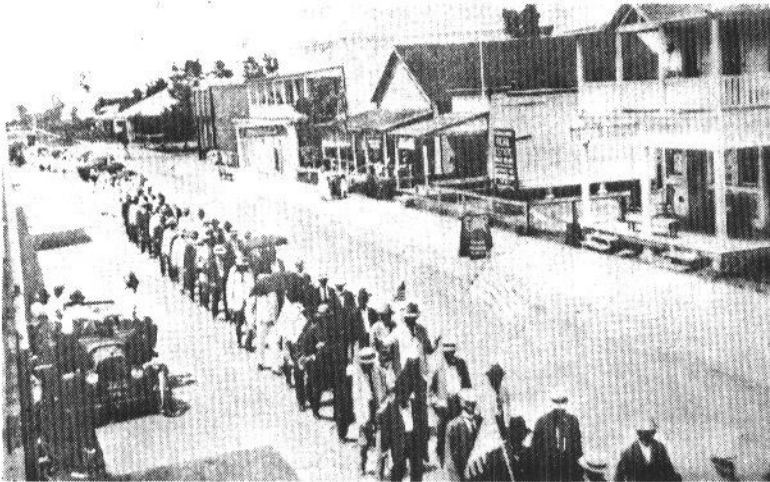


Milar's Store, Mass. & 11th. St. (This building is still standing and is located across from the GAR Memorial Hall)

Early Views

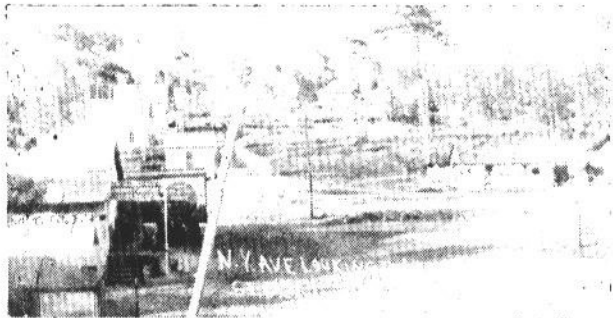


MEMORIAL DAY IN EARLY ST. CLOUD

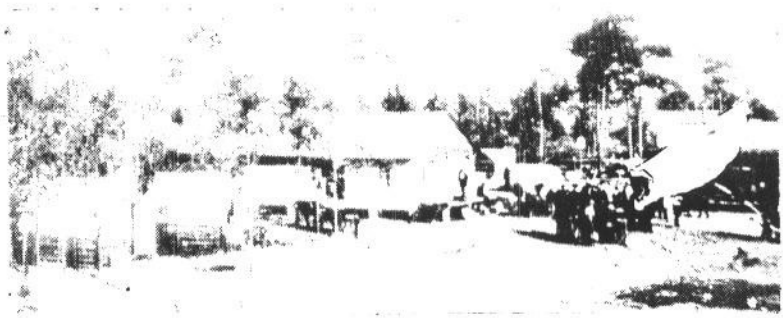


MEMORIAL DAY IN ST. CLOUD

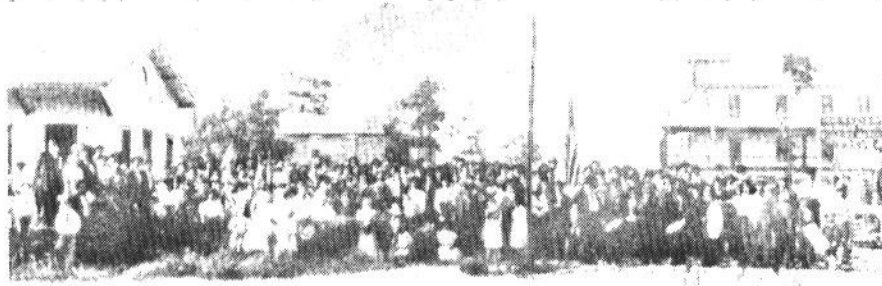
<h1>MILAR'S</h1>	
N. Y. AVE. NEAR 10TH ST.  11TH ST. AND MASS. AVE.	
MILAR AND MOSHIER	
PENNA. AVE. COR. 10TH ST.	
Groceries	Household and Kitchen Utensils
Fresh Fruit, and	Crockery, Glassware, Stoves, Ranges
Vegetables of all kinds in	Lamps of all kinds
season	Farm Implements, Harness
Hay and Grain	Trunks, Valises, Sewing Machines
	Shell Hardware, Paints, Oils
	AT PRICES THAT WILL PLEASE YOU



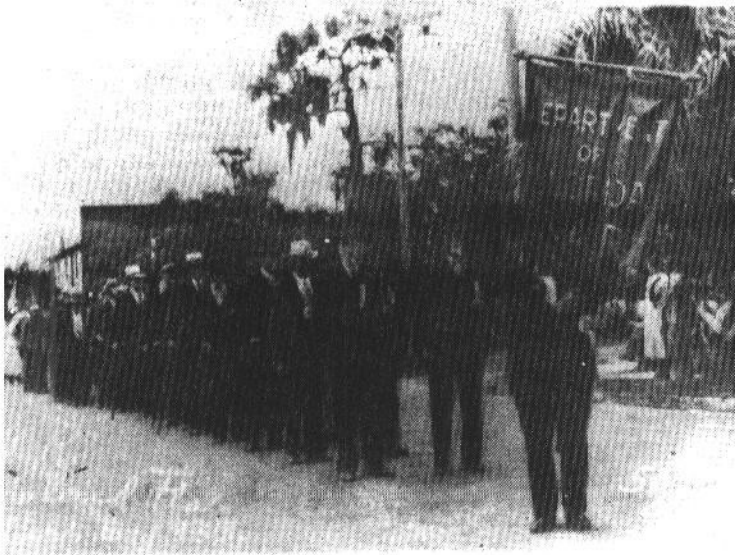
NEW YORK AVE LOOKING TOWARD THE LAKE



EARLY VIEW OF ST. CLOUD SHOWING TENTS



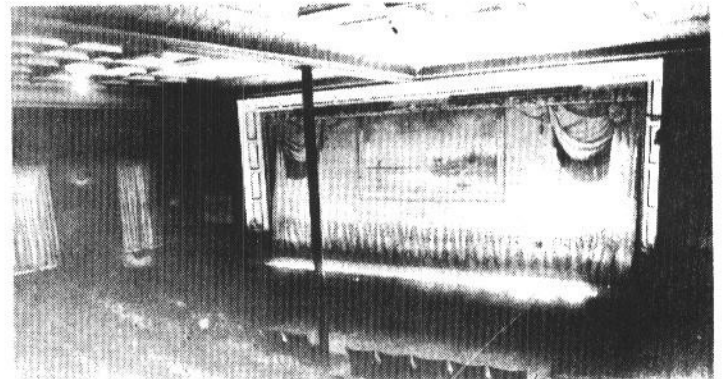
CROWD AT THE ST. CLOUD DEPOT ON MEMORIAL DAY TO MEET AN EXCURSION TRAIN



DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA MEETING IN ST. CLOUD (1933)



MARKER ON MEMORIAL HALL



FIRST FLOOR OF MEMORIAL HALL TODAY

LUCIUS L. MITCHELL, Post No. 34
 Department of Florida
 Organized January 4th, 1910, in St. Cloud, Florida
 THE CHARTER MEMBERS

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| W.W. Angel | 5th. Ind. Cav., Co.D |
| J.F. Tebbets | 6th. Mass. Inf. |
| W. Ferguson | 125 th. Ohio Vol. Inf., Co.k |
| J. Wilyard | 1st. Ohio Art., Co. I |
| M.P. Julian | 115th. Ills. Inf., Co.D |
| H.D. Colvin | 72nd. Ills. Inf. Co. E |
| J.H. DeGraw | 50th. Penna. Vol. Inf., Co.I |
| J. W. Hoffman | |
| J. O. McNew | 123rd. Ind. Inf., Co. G |
| Orin. B. King | 1st. N.H. Cav., Co. B |
| B.F. Callender | 169th. Ohio Inf., Co.C |
| F.H.H. Pope | 11th Ky. Inf. Co. H |
| D.E. Rhodes | 17th. Iowa Inf., Co. F |
| Chas Chase | 8th. Vt. Inf. Co. G |
| J. N. Thompson | 11th N.J. Inf., Co. D |
| A.E. Cram | 35th. Ills. Inf., Co. F |
| J. W. Albertson | 23rd. Ohio Inf., Co. D |
| C.W. Doop | 35th. Ills Inf., Co. F |
| G.W. Penn | 23rd. Ohio Inf., Co.D. |
| A.C. Clewis | 1st. N.J. Inf., Co. C |
| J. A. Segner | 88th. Penna. Vol. Inf., Co. F |
| P. C. Merton | 103rd. Ohio Vol Inf., Co. I |
| Monroe Johnson | 12th Ind Inf., Co. K |
| J. L. Hank | 11th. N.Y. Cav., Co. C |
| P.V.L. Purdy | 5th. N.Y. Inf., Co. E |
| S.S. Anderson | 64th. Ohio Inf., Co. K |
| C.P. Stanton | 15th. N.Y. Cav., Co. B |
| H.E. King | 13th. Md. Vol. Inf., Co. E |
| Robert Anderson | 19th. N.J. Inf., Co. C |
| J. B. Nichols | 187th. Ohio Inf., Co. I |
| D.H. Bricker | 6th. Ohio Cav., Co. M |
| I. Huntsinger | 72nd. Vol. Inf., Co. A |
| W.A. Stewart | 47th. Ind. Inf., Co A |
| S. D. Gundworth | 210th. Penna. Vol. Inf., Co. K |
| J. I. Cummings | 11th. Mich. Inf., Co. D. |
| E. B. Faurot | 36th. W. Va. Inf., Co. I |
| J. F. Burbank | 6th. Penna. Reserve Inf., Co. I |
| T. Y. Stenison | 138th. Ills. Inf., Co. E |
| Hartwig | 5th. Iowa Inf., Co. E |
| hos. King | 2nd, Ky. Inf., Co. B |
| D. M. Wright | 154th. N.Y. Inf., Co. C |
| Gideon Fry | 4th. Michigan Cav., Co. A |
| G.W. Woodard | 11th. N.H. Inf., Co. G |
| J.B. Shuler | 47th. Ind. Inf., Co. B |
| E.K. Allen | 1st. N.J. Inf., Co.D |

- | | |
|------------------|-----------------------------|
| W. H. Wood | 93rd., Ills. Inf., Co I |
| P. F. Twitchell | 23rd. Ohio Vol. Inf., Co b |
| J. Rinkle | 11th. Ind. Inf., Co A |
| G. C. Miller | 15th. Mich. Inf., Co E |
| J. E. Oliver | 136th. Penna. Cav., Co F |
| W. G. Custon | U.S. Navy |
| C. A. Cook | 9th. Maine Inf. |
| F. P. Knapp | 6th. N.Y. Inf., Co. K |
| W. B. Armstrong | 102nd. Ills. Inf., Co B |
| Edwin Sterns | 20th. Mich. Inf., Co F |
| Z. Barzgar | 13th. Iowa Inf., Co A |
| P. Lovejoy | 5th. Maine Inf., Co K |
| P. Mohr | 7th. N. Y. Inf., Co G |
| F. Carolun | 27th. N.Y. Inf., Co E |
| R. Zimmerman | 2nd. Mo. Inf., Co E |
| J. H. Armstrong | 7th. Mich. Inf., Co F |
| Jacob Hoffer | 143rd. & 150th. Ills., Inf. |
| F. Gideon | 4th. W.Va. Inf., Co A |
| J.E.K. Buton | 71st. N.Y. Inf., Co. I |
| H.W. Russel | 1st. Ills Inf., Co I |
| T. F. Vanarsdale | 80th. Ohio Inf., Co G |
| P. Rolhaick | 48th Penna. Inf., Co K |
| John M. Brown | 48th. Penna. Inf., Co K |
| A. P. Kniffinger | 32nd. Ohio Inf., Co H |
| A. U. Colley | 16th. Mich. Inf., Co. D |
| A. B. Daniels | 111th. Ohio Inf., Co c |
| R. Alberts | 88th. Ind. Inf., Co A |
| Wm. Moore | 62nd. Ills. Inf. Co A |
| W. H. Empson | 124th. Ohio Inf., CO A |
| Robert Patterson | 70th.----- Inf., Co H |
| C. D. Blood | 8th. Mass. Inf., Co K |
| J. K. Cloud | 7th. Iowa Inf., Co H |
| P Blayer | 7th. Ohio Inf., Co M |
| J. J. Whitbeck | 160th. N.Y. Inf., CoA |
| N. Oaks | 12th. N. Y., Inf., Co C |
| M. M. Kenney | 31st. Iowa Inf., Co. H |
| E. R. Weatherbee | 46th. Ills. Inf., Co E |
| Jas. L. Duttomn | 23rd. N.Y. Inf., Co A |
| W. H. Phipps | 8th. N.Y. Inf., Co F |
| G. W. Hayward | 3rd. Wis. Cav. Co H |
| Chas. Sortell | 26th. Penna. Inf., Co B |
| A. Flint | 85th. N. Y. Inf., Co K |

EXACTLY FINE

ST. CLOUD HAS A FINE PEOPLE A FINE CLIMATE A FINE SOIL A FINE FUTURE

St. Cloud Tribune

THE WEATHER AT ST. CLOUD IS DELIGHTFUL AT ALL SEASONS IT IS INVIGORATING AND PROMOTES LONGEVITY.

ONE DOLLAR PER YEAR

ST. CLOUD, OSCEOLA COUNTY, FLORIDA, THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 1914.

VOLUME 5, NUMBER 33

STATE ENCAMPMENT G. A. R. OF FLORIDA

Royally Entertained by L. L. Mitchell Post and W. R. C. of St. Cloud

H. S. COMMISSIONER OF PENSIONS COL. G. M. SALTZGABER A GUEST

City Opened to its Capacity with Delegates and Visitors—Citizens Join in Extending Courtesy—Event a Success in Every Detail—Weather Conditions Ideal

St. Cloud can always point with pride to her first entertainment of the State Encampment of the G. A. R. Department of Florida. It was a success in every particular. No pains were spared by any committee to do its full duty and the citizens assisted without stint. The spirit of St. Cloudians cordially prevailed, and we feel not a guest will hesitate to come again. The Wonder City's holiday attire is always the stars and stripes, and by Monday afternoon she was properly garmented for the State Encampment of the G. A. R. and the convention of the Woman's Relief Corps, and the Ladies of the G. A. R. While the new G. A. R. hall is not fully completed, it was sufficiently so to be used and the decorations both inside and out were beautiful and appropriate and meetings held within its walls seemed a proper first for the building. At the Baptist church flag burning and pennants of the G. A. R. were hoisted and a profusion of flowers, added their beauty and fragrance to the windows of the business places of the city displayed the artistic taste of the individual firms, each different from the other, all beautiful and appropriate.

Rest rooms had been provided in Mahanox's big store and in the rooms of the Improvement club at the corner of Florida and 2nd Street. S. W. Porter's office and Dr. Cooper's office. Many automobiles were in readiness to convey visitors about our town and to all places of interest.

At 3 p. m. the first special train arrived. The special car came from St. Petersburg and was attached to the train at Kissimmee where they first train brought seventy-three from St. Petersburg, seventy from Zephyrhills, one from Tampa, and thirty from other places to the regular corps and visitors. To the regular train at five o'clock was attached three extra cars all full and each succeeding train was loaded to its capacity.

Department Headquarters of the G. A. R. W. R. C., and Ladies of the G. A. R. was established at the Hotel St. Cloud. The interesting time between the arrival of the trains and the citizens reception, which was held in the evening, was spent in registering at the registration office in the elegant and spacious rear room fitted up by W. B. Mahanox and Co., and to the assignment of quarters.

Citizen's Reception. At the new St. Cloud Hotel the citizens tendered the visitors a grand reception Monday evening from 7:30 to 9:30 under the supervision of Mr. S. W. Porter and Mr. Sylvester Squires. The hotel was most beautifully decorated. The national colors predominated in the decorative scheme with an artistic background of the native palmetto, green and moss gray of Florida.

An orchestral booth was formed in one corner of the lobby by ropes of gray moss and red, white and blue hushing. Handsome flags filled spacious walls, five places were backed with moss and native green, strands of hushing were artistically used, and a profusion of Florida flowers everywhere. In the receiving line were the citizens' host, Mr. Sylvester Squires and his bride and Mrs. Lida Mosher, hostess, Mrs. Elmira C. Westcott,

Department President W. R. C. Mrs. Isabel Worrel Ball, Past National Vice President W. R. C., Mrs. D. L. Rice, Mrs. Flora Cox, Mrs. Anabash and the chairmen of the various apartment committees.

Mr. J. Star Anderson introduced the guests. Mrs. O. S. Watta received them at the writing room door where Mrs. Foss, assisted by Miss Gill presented the complimentary souvenir badges to the guests.

Mr. Lynn Daugherty ushered the guests to the dining room where Mr. S. W. Porter tactfully directed. Mrs. D. L. Rice and Mrs. Widrig presided at the table, and Misses Goodrich, Bartlett, and Dr. Heckmaster and Clark assisted in serving.

Much to the disappointment of all the train from the north bringing Commissioner of Pensions, Col. G. M. Saltzgaber and Co. John McElroy, from Washington, D. C., was late and three guests of honor did not arrive until the majority of the guests had been seated.

Mr. J. W. Squires announced the presence of the distinguished gentlemen and that they would be pleased to meet all the old soldiers present.

It is regrettable that count was not made of the throng at this impromptu reception. Mrs. Squires' voice evidently has good carrying power and the result was most appreciable to all concerned.

Opening Session. The opening session of the G. A. R. Encampment was called to order in the new G. A. R. Hall, at 9:30 a. m. April 14th, 1914, by Department Commander, Prayer by Rev. J. B. Westcott.

Roll call of officers. Commander W. N. Higgins, Zephyrhills. St. Vice Commander A. S. Shaffer, Lakeland. Samuel Sage, Zephyrhills. Commanding Officer, J. M. Lashley, St. Petersburg. Chaplain, W. F. Martin, Archer. Medical Director, W. H. Mulrath, Jacksonville.

Ast. Adp. Gen. and Quartermaster, Saml. Sage, Zephyrhills. Legal Advocate, Wm. Emerson, Tampa. Chief Mastering Officer, M. H. Porter, Kissimmee. Chief of Staff, Francis Gov. Zephyrhills.

Chief of Aid, P. M. Murphy, Kissimmee. Council of Administration. Commodore W. B. Lowery, J. O. Thompson, L. C. Vance, L. H. Prosser and C. C. Little.

The Roll call of delegates showed 53 posts represented in the Department with a membership of nearly 800 members.

The Department Commander then read his retiring address, giving a full and detailed report of the Department of Florida, which was well received.

The Department put itself upon record that Florida is the state for the veterans of the Civil War.

A resolution denouncing any change in the Flag except adding a star for each new state went through with a hurrah.

The afternoon business was suspended to receive Mrs. J. W. Westcott, Department President of the W. R. C. and staff. Mrs. Westcott made a short address of welcome and was followed by Mrs. Isabel Worrel Ball, associate Editor of the National Tribune, who made eloquent address, and was followed by Mrs. Dennis, of Tall, and Mrs. J. R. Kich,

FIFTH ANNUAL CONVENTION OF LADIES OF G. A. R.

Department of Florida Assemble in Christian Church in St. Cloud

The Ladies of the G. A. R. in convention assembled at the First Christian church of St. Cloud at 2:30 p. m. Tuesday, April 14th, with Miss Bertha Twitshell, Department President, in the chair.

They were pleased to find the beautiful little church adorned with liberally yet tastefully decorated with the National colors and with flowers.

Delegates were seated and the reports of the secretary and treasurer were read and accepted.

The president in a complimentary speech presented the secretary, Mrs. Francis J. Van Duser and the treasurer, Mrs. Mattie Porter, each with a beautiful gold recognition pin of the order. Both of whom accepted with grace and gratitude.

During the session of business a committee of three ladies of the W. R. C. was announced and conducted with much ceremony to the platform by conductors Sweet and Mod.

The visitors brought kindly greetings from their convention. Memorial services were held for those who had passed to the Great Beyond.

Meeting adjourned until 10:30 a. m. April 15th. Wednesday. The morning session of the Ladies of the G. A. R. convention was called to order by Department president, Miss Bertha Twitshell.

The routine of business was followed. Report of resolution committee accepted as follows:

Resolved that the Department President, Mrs. A. Twitshell, Officers and members of this Fifth convention, we, the resolution committee submit the following:

Resolutions of the Ladies of G. A. R. Resolved that we the officers and delegates of the Ladies of the G. A. R. of whom spoke most entertainingly.

The Encampment then adjourned to meet at 10:30 April 15.

The parade was the finest in St. Cloud's history, and exclamations of surprise and pleasure were heard on every lip concerning it.

There were about fifty sons of veterans, four hundred veterans, one hundred and fifty W. R. C. and Ladies of the G. A. R. and two hundred school children in line, with two drum corps and two bands.

The appearance of the school children, each carrying a flag, was especially interesting feature.

Leading the W. R. C. in the march was the Department President, Mrs. Elmira C. Westcott, assisted by Mrs. Isabel Worrel Ball, Mrs. D. L. Rice, Mrs. Mosher, Misses Stewart and Jenness carrying a beautiful flag.

The order of parade was as follows: L. L. Mitchell Post Drum Corps Sons of Veterans Zephyrhills Coast Band. Department Commander Higgins and staff, visiting delegates.

L. L. Mitchell Post No. 30 G. A. R. and all visiting courtesies Army and Navy Union, St. Cloud Drum Corps. Department President W. R. C. and Aid.

Ladies of L. L. Mitchell Corps No. 12. Department President Ladies G. A. R. Teachers and children of St. Cloud High School. Parade formed on Massachusetts and 11th. The line of march was from Massachusetts Ave. and north to Indiana Ave. Thence north to south, thence west to Penn Ave. and south to 11th St. Then west to N. Y. Ave. Then north to 10th St. and west to Mass. Ave. and south to 11th Street.

of the Republic in the fifth convention. Do express our sincere and heartfelt thanks for the hospitality and courtesies extended to us during our stay in St. Cloud, Fla.

For the cordial words of welcome spoken by the Post Commander, Twitshell. The press for items. To the pastor of the First Christian Church for the use of the church, and to the W. R. C. corps who worked so hard to have us all enjoy ourselves in the Wonder City of St. Cloud.

For the decorations in the lovely little church, and the excellent dinner they had prepared for us all.

It shows they have sincerely felt for us, as we are all working for the boys in blue, as we used to call them in the days of long ago. Sincerely thanking one and all.

Respectively, submitted in F. C. L. Susan H. James, Past Dept. President, Ellen H. Plummer, Past Dept. President, Emma Harrison, Pres. St. Petersburg, Circle.

The afternoon session was devoted to the election of officers which resulted as follows: Department President—Gertrude Thompson, Leesville, Fla. Senior Vice President—Emma Robinson, St. Petersburg, Fla. Junior Vice President—Jennie Benson, Gainesville, Fla.

Secretary to be appointed. Chairman—Susan H. James, Jacksonville. Treasurer—Harris I. Foster, St. Petersburg. Council of Administration.

Officers followed and installed. Committee of Ladies of the G. A. R. were presented to the convention during the morning session, and Past Department Presidents, Mrs. Mrs. Plummer, Mrs. James, and Mrs. Chapman addressed the convention.

During the afternoon session committees to extend greetings to the W. R. C. and Ladies of the G. A. R. were appointed.

The sessions were attended by full delegations from each post of the Department, each and every one giving the utmost attention to the details of the work in hand. After the regular business had been dispersed with electing of officers was in order, and resulted in the election of the newly elected officers were fully and impressively installed by J. F. Bullard of St. Cloud St. Vice Department Commander.

M. H. Porter, of Kissimmee, Jr. Vice, Department Commander. Mrs. J. W. Westcott of St. Cloud, Dept. Chaplain.

H. A. Murphy of St. Petersburg, Dept. Surgeon. For Department Chaplain—Rev. J. B. Westcott.

For Department Surgeon—M. H. Murphy. For Council of Administration—Lowery, Thompson, Hudson, Little, Skinner.

For Delegates at Large to fill vacancy—L. H. Prosser, J. H. Parks. For Alternates—Edward Lalonde, E. L. Farrington, G. L. E. Field.

The next Encampment will be held in Jacksonville, Fla. the last Tuesday and Wednesday of March 1915.

The newly elected officers were fully and impressively installed by Anna Hoffman of Wilmington, Ohio, Past Department Commander of Ohio, and the work of the Encampment of 1914 was closed, and to a most satisfactory manner. Many of the delegates left for their homes early and surprisingly installed by Anna Hoffman of Wilmington, Ohio, Past Department Commander of Ohio, and the work of the Encampment of 1914 was closed, and to a most satisfactory manner. Many of the delegates left for their homes early and surprisingly installed by Anna Hoffman of Wilmington, Ohio, Past Department Commander of Ohio, and the work of the Encampment of 1914 was closed, and to a most satisfactory manner.

The scene at the station was most animated like that of the previous year.

Wednesday. After pursuant to adjournment, and after regular routine, business, election of the Republic in the fifth convention.

CONVENTIONS W. R. C. AND LADIES OF G. A. R.

In Conventions Assemble in The Wonder City April 14th and 15th

MANY SOCIAL COURTESIES EXTENDED VISITING DELEGATES

Mrs. Isabel Worrel Ball, Past National Senior Vice President of the W. R. C. Among the Guests—Uniting Effort of Committees Makes Event Grand Success

The first convention of the W. R. C. Department of Florida, opened at session in the First Baptist church, St. Cloud, Fla., Tuesday morning April 14th, 10:30 a. m. Mrs. Elmira C. Westcott, department president, presiding.

The convention proceedings were appropriately begun with song, "America" and prayer by Mrs. Helen Dennis, of Tall.

The color bearers then escorted Mrs. Isabel Worrel Ball, of the National Tribune, Washington, D. C., Past National Senior Vice-President of the Woman's Relief Corps to the platform and introduced to the convention.

Mrs. Ann D. Squires, president of the L. L. Mitchell Post No. 12, of St. Cloud, in beautifully rounded sentences extended a cordial welcome to the visiting members. In part she said: "The work of the year and to assist her in every way."

Mrs. Westcott stated that during the past year she had been very busy. She said that in laying aside the work of an arduous year, she had just said "good-bye," she intended to keep right on with her work for the veterans and the flag.

Prolonged applause greeted the completion of the address.

One of the features of the convention was the adoption by the Department convention of a strong protest to the National convention of the Woman's Relief Corps, against the abolition of the National committee on prevention of desecration of the flag. The protest declares it to be the belief of the Department of Florida that a committee created by National convention must be specifically authorized by that body. Also that since a National President and a National convention had established the right of this committee to exist, no succeeding National President has the power to reverse their decisions. Past members of the Woman's Relief Corps all over the country are vigorously protesting against this action of the National President.

A letter of regrets from the National President, Mrs. Ida McElroy of Indianapolis, Indiana, was read, explaining her absence. Mrs. M. B. B. had accepted the invitation to visit St. Cloud, and then concluded that the expense of the trip would be too great, so remained with Eastern Department.

In brief she said: "A letter of regrets and apologies was also received from the Department Chaplain, Mrs. Sofia F. Lecky, of Garfield Corps, in reply to a letter of invitation to her because of the death of her daughter, Florence."

Mrs. Eliza Brown Duggert, past National secretary, sent sincere greetings to the convention.

The memorial services for those who died in the past year have passed to higher duties, was recited by prayer led by Mrs. Powell, of St. Petersburg.

Past National Senior Vice President, Isabel Worrel Ball, spoke of the passing of three Past National Presidents, Mrs. Sarah E. Fuller, Mrs. Charity Rusk Craig, and Mrs. Kate Brownlee Sherwood.

In tender memory she reviewed the list work of these three women whom it had been her pleasure to know and who had been her pleasure to know for thirty years, especially in Relief Corps work.

On Mrs. Fuller she said, in part, that she was a quiet unassuming woman little known except in Relief Corps work.

Mrs. Westcott said in brief, that the year had been a pleasant one with no inharmonious in the official family. "As I look into your earnest faces," she said, "I feel of saddest things to me, saddest that I cannot fully and impressively installed by Anna Hoffman of Wilmington, Ohio, Past Department Commander of Ohio, and the work of the Encampment of 1914 was closed, and to a most satisfactory manner. Many of the delegates left for their homes early and surprisingly installed by Anna Hoffman of Wilmington, Ohio, Past Department Commander of Ohio, and the work of the Encampment of 1914 was closed, and to a most satisfactory manner."

The Department President then said that she did not ask the mantle of charity to cover her mistakes, but rather the charity of fraternal love.

The application of the convention showed that she had her dear friends. The Department President said that much interest and enthusiasm had been displayed by the Corps and the annual visit of the Inspector. She recommended a study by all Corps officers of the rules and regulations and the ritual. She inspected the Panama City Corps and found it doing well.

During the year she has issued four General Orders and appointed a large number of aids. She recalled many favors extended during the year, by both Grand Army and Woman's Relief Corps, and declared that the associations of the year would ever remain to her a pleasant memory. She paid full tribute of praise to her secretary, Mrs. Agnes Live more, and treasurer, Mrs. Dennis, both of whom had unflinchingly labored to advance the work of the year and to assist her in every way.

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(Continued on page 11.)

(Continued on page 6.)

The following article was published in The National Tribune, Thursday, June 10, 1909. The paper was printed weekly in Washington, D.C. for the cost of .00 per year. John McElroy was the editor of the paper, and his connection with the St. Cloud Colony probably cost him the election to Commander-In-Chief post of the G.A.R.

ST. CLOUD COLONY

A Home for Veterans in Land of Fruits and Flowers.
35,000 Acres Secured for Colonization Purposes, Situated on the Atlantic Coast Line Railway, Between Lakes Tohoekaliga and East Tohopekalgia.

Dear Comrade:

For several years The National Tribune has been requested by thousands of its reader to take up the work of forming a colony in some favored section in the South.

The Seminole Land and Investment Company has been organized for this colonization project, and has purchased between 30,000 and 35,000 acres of land situated in Central Florida, on the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad, between Lakes Tohopekalgia and East Tohopekalgia, within six miles of Kissimmee, the County Seat of Osceola County.

The location is, without exception, one of the most beautiful, accessible and productive localities to be found anywhere in the South. There is not a month in the year when a large and profitable crop cannot be produced on this land.

A high quality of pine and cypress lumber for building purposes can be purchased here at much lower prices than elsewhere, on account of the close proximity of timber, the cheapness of manufacture, and absence of freight charges, all of which will make it possible to build comfortable homes at an exceedingly moderate cost.

The climate is healthful and cool, the country being swept by breezes from the Atlantic Ocean of the east and the Gulf of Mexico on the south and west. There are many artesian wells in the neighborhood, artesian water being found at a depth of from 100 to 130 feet, with a large, steady flow. Ordinary wells are found at a depth of from 25 to 35 feet. The water from these as well as the artesian wells is pure and healthful for drinking and other purposes.

There are no swamps or marshes on the land, and, on account of it being practically surrounded by lakes, there is always sufficient moisture, even during the driest seasons, to produce fine crops. For this reason, irrigation has not been used to any great extent, although from the flow of water from the artesian wells and the gently undulating character of the land, it is possible to irrigate successfully and economically. The fact that the lakes have sandy bottoms and shores — the water being clear and fresh — and the total absence of swamps and stagnant water make it one of the most beautiful localities in the South.

A partial list of the many profitable fruits and vegetables that can be grown upon these lands is as follows:

Oranges, grapefruit, lemons, limes, bananas, plantain, peaches, pears, strawberries, pineapples, sugar cane, tobacco, rice, Indian corn, barley, hops, buckwheat, cassava, avocados (alligator pears), paw-paws, persimmons, mulberries, figs, and guavas; beans, cabbage, squash, tomatoes, okra, celery, egg-plant, beets, cucumbers, lettuce, cauliflower, sweet and white potatoes, watermelons, canteloupes, citrons, and peanuts. In addition to the fruit-bearing species, the pimento is grown, as pepper, cloves and other spice trees. The fruit and vegetable grower in Florida can employ the entire year in the production

of the various enormously profitable crops that can be grown in this locality.

Only one other colony of this character has been attempted on a large scale in the South, which resulted in the present City of Fitzgerald, Georgia. Founded in a pine wilderness, 22 miles from a railroad, the assessed valuation of the colony site has increased in a few years from a few hundred dollars to several millions of dollars. The population, from a few scattered loggers, has increased to over 20,000 comfortably and prosperously located people on the colony lands, of whom practically one-half are within the corporate limits of the city. Fitzgerald to-day is rated the fourth largest banking city in the State of Georgia. Lots that sold for \$25 at the commencement of the settlement have since sold for \$3,000, and are now held at even a higher figure. Many who went to the colony poor men are now wealthy. So much for what has been done in Fitzgerald.

Considering the beautiful location, surrounded by charming lakes (well stocked with many fine varieties of fish), and the natural richness and productiveness of the soil, this colony should far exceed in prosperity that of the one just mentioned. Unlike the conditions at Fitzgerald, settlers will not have to wait for a railroad to be built, as the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad runs through the property. There are two stations located on the land, which provide unsurpassed transportation facilities.

An offer was made to the veterans to subscribe and pay for 1,000 city lots, with 1,000 five-acre plots of ground outside the city limits. This offer was readily accepted by the veterans and the total amount over-subscribed within less than three weeks from the time the project was first advertised. The Company now offers 1,200 additional city lots and 1,200 five-acre plots of land outside of the city limits, for the sum of \$100 for the lot and five-acre tract of land.

Considering the fact that the success of the enterprise has been assured by the purchase of the first 1,000 lots and five-acre plots to the veterans—which provides the nucleus for a large and prosperous town, and settlement adjacent thereto—this offer is considered an exceptionally good one.

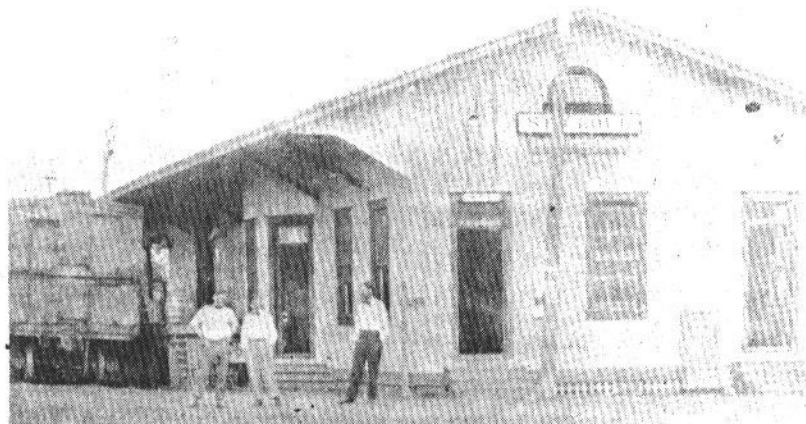
If you are thinking of moving South, this is your chance. If you are looking for an investment, this offers an opportunity of doubling your money many times over during the next two or three years. Remember that only 1,200 lots, together with 1,200 five-acre plots of land, will be sold on these terms. After this has been sold, there will not be another opportunity offered to secure property in this colony under such favorable conditions, as the larger the project grows, the more valuable the property becomes.

If you desire to avail of this offer, you may send \$100 and secure one city lot, 25X150 feet, and a five-acre plot of land outside the city limits. Not more than four lots, with the accompanying plot of five acres with each lot, will be sold to any one person.

The town is being laid out and the five-acre plots surveyed, and until this is completed The National Tribune and the Seminole Land and Investment Company will issue their receipt to each subscriber for the money received. This money will be deposited in the National City Bank of Washington, D.C. and the bank will issue its receipt, stating from whom the money has been received, and when the surveys have been completed each subscriber will receive a warranty deed for the number of lots and five-acre plots of land subscribed for.

All selections of lots will be desirable, and the five-acre plots of land will be such as will be susceptible of the highest cultivation.

Many veterans have sent their representatives to look



THE FIRST DEPOT AT ST. CLOUD, REPLACED BY THE BRICK DEPOT

McElroy never attempted to run for the position of Commander-in-Chief again, but he apparently tried to promote other, and was an influence in outcome of at least one election. His close association with Johnny Clem (see letter on Page 15), when Johnny Clem ran for Commander-in-Chief had a most direct influence as described by James Tanner, an Ex-Commander-in-Chief.

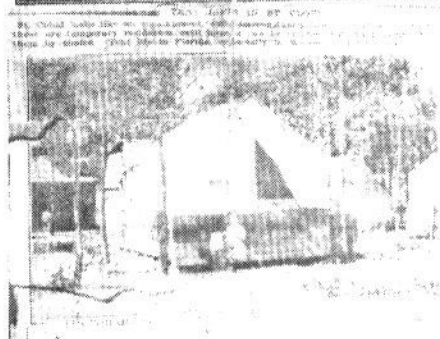
We have been to the Grand Army National Encampment at Des Moines, and we are back home. We did not have votes enough so we were licked. Clem was assassinated by poison gas, namely McElroy. He had been so close for so many years to McElroy that the Comrades could not see any possible point of cleavage between them, and so as they were so betterly opposed to anything that tasted of McElroy, they put their votes against Clem and for Walsh, who, by the way, is a very fine gentleman with a good soldier record, and who will emphatically fill the bill. (October 6, 1926)

And in another letter, Tanner again states,

Well, for once in my life I did not pick the winner and Walsh won out. My conscience tells me that it was best so. The fact of the business is, Florence, that both my girls were earnest champions of Col. Walsh and pounded me well that I had allowed myself to be arrayed in opposition to him, but I could not handle the New York delegation for him, but I am well content with the result.

McElroy killed General Clem's chances, and it was his gathering that fund of many thousands of dollars, which went into the pockets of Senator Bursom, and to which, if I remember rightly, your mother was one of the innocent contributors. I said at once when the result was known that poison gas killed General Clem. I told his the day his condidacy was first announced that every vote cast against him at Des Moines would be on account of McElroy. The Grand Army is just about through with John McElroy and the National Tribune. He knows it and he felt it at Des Moines and he kept mighty quiet. (October 12, 1926)

The feelings of the Grand Army were not supportive of John McElroy and his National Tribune. I'm sure the problems encountered in St. Cloud had something to add to these negative attitudes. Problems of early St. Cloud, with the lack of facilities, resulting in the tent city and drainage of the area during rainy seasons were not forgot easy. St. Cloud did raise above it connection with the National Tribune, John McElroy, and the land development company he was associated with. It was the veterans who moved to St. Cloud and built their city that can take credit. Today St. Cloud is still a "Wonder City" and for the G.A.R. historian, buff, or collector, it is one of the most interesting places to visit. Many of the homes are unchanged as are many of the building. There is only one thing I wished I could have, that is a directory to the



NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS OF "TENT CITY" IN EARLY ST. CLOUD. MCELROY WAS CRITICIZED FOR LACK OF PLANNING.



DEPOT NOW THE V.F.W. HALL (ON NEW YORK AVE).

over the locality, and they have been so well pleased with the quality of the land and its surroundings that they have, in almost every instance, subscribed for the full amount allowed to any one subscriber, realizing that the lot alone is worth more than the total amount they are paying for the five-acre plot and the town lot — and this before the surveys have been completed.

If you are desirous of securing this valuable tract of land under these conditions it will be necessary to avail yourself of the opportunity at once.

Yours in F., G., and L.,

THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE

A WELCOME RECRUIT

"Headquarters Department of Texas, Office of the Chief Quartermaster."

Headquarter Department of Texas,
Office of the Chief Quartermaster
June 1, 1909.

Dear Mr. McElroy:

I don't see how you can help making a great success out of the St. Cloud Colony, as we old chaps are now "buying rummy". Please put me down for one lot and five-acre tract. Check for same inclosed.

Wishing you great success, sincerely your friend,

John L. Clem.

Comments by John McElroy in regard to the letter in "Johnny Clem"

It seems hardly necessary to tell any man in the G. A. R. who "Johnny Clem" is, and what a welcome addition he will be to our number. Yet, it is a pleasant story to tell, and that is excuse enough for repeating it. Johnny Clem was a 12 year old drummer boy in the 23d Mich., and during the awful confusion and excitement of Chickamauga had thrown away his drum and picked up a musket with which he was doing as good service as much older men. A Confederate Lieutenant-Colonel rode up, struck at him with his saber and ordered him to throw down his gun, upon which Clem shot him dead. The act was witnessed by many, and by them brought to Gen. Rosecrans's attention. Gen. Rosecrans promoted him to Sergeant. In 1871, he was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the 24th U.S., was transferred to the Quartermaster's Department in 1882, and now is Chief Quartermaster of the Department of Texas and fourth in rank in the Department, with the rank of Colonel. A dove him are only the Quartermaster-General and two Assistant Quartermaster-Generals. Col. Clem has done good service wherever he has been stationed, attracted particular attention by his service in the Philippines, and has made a host of friends in Texas, where he has been stationed for many years. A few years ago he married a second time and is now the father of a handsome girl. The picture given is a reproduction from a recent photograph. During his service in the Regular Army, Col. Clem has kept up close connection with his comrades of the G. A. R. While stationed at Atlanta he was an active member of O. M. Mitchell Post, commanded it, and in 1896 was Commander of the Department of Georgia and South Carolina. He will be a valuable addition to the colony and the comrades will give him a welcome such as few other men can evoke.

The National Tribune, June 10, 1909

4th ANNUAL GAR ENCAMPMENT

Again the G.A.R. Collectors & Historians will be having their Encampment in conjunction with the Ohio Civil War Relic and Collectors Show (April 25 & 26th.) Tables for display or selling are \$20.00 for two days. A competition for the "Best of Show G.A.R." will take place and all are encouraged to display. For information contact: Don Williams, 1083 Oak Hill Circle, Ashland, Ohio, 44805, Phone 419-289-3120

More details on the Encampment plans in the next issue. Make plans now for Ashland in '84



THE G.A.R. ENCAMPMENT WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE OHIO SHOW



OHIO Civil War Relic and Collectors Show

Open to the public at ASHLAND COLLEGE CONVOCATION CENTER, Clarendon Avenue, Ashland, Ohio

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Saturday, April 25
Sunday, April 26
Annual G. A. R. Encampment

For tables or information, contact: Don Williams, (419) 289-3120, 1083 Oak Hill Circle, Ashland, Ohio, 44805

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THE FIRST OLD SOLDIER IN ST. CLOUD (1809)

original homes and the names of the veterans that built them. Maybe the historical groups in the city could take the challenge.

This issue couldn't have been possible without the help of the Osceola County Historical Society, Mr. R. C. McKinney, Betty Metzger, Mrs. Van Camp, the Chamber of Commerce, and many others. The Osceola County Historical Society has a museum in the Art & Culture Center located on US 192 & 441 between Kissimmee and St. Cloud. It is open on the weekends.

VETERAN' ASSOCIATION How the "Town Meeting" Form of Government Controlled Affairs at the Beginning and is Still Influential

The Veteran' Association of St. Cloud, Fla., is a unique organization. It was the outgrowth of conditions peculiar in character and exacting in their demands upon brain and brawn. Two years have gone since the first colonist settled in St. Cloud. As the days passed the stream of increasing settlers grew in volume, and by early Fall of the first year a thousand people were on the ground, all eager for home building, clamoring for material and labor that a shelter for self and family might be erected. Things were crude, totally unlike the conditions at the old home. By the many St. Cloud was regarded as an experiment. The early settlers were thought to be taking long chances. At the same time the public mind failed to take account of the fact that those who turned their faces southward in this St. Cloud movement were of that fiber of which men are made, and also that the brave women who dared come with them were of the Spartan mold.

It was felt that some form of organization or government was a necessity. There must be authority based on equal rights to which all might yield allegiance, a common center about which all might rally. A parallel is seen in the fact that when the pilgrim Fathers gained foothold on the New England Coast they had an organization closely resembling the Veteran Association. A Constitution and By-Laws were adopted, officers elected, provision made for an Executive Committee and the machinery put in motion. Its membership embraced all honorably discharged soldiers and sailors of the United States Army and Navy, their wives, the widows of soldiers or sailors, while the sons and daughters of the same were eligible for associate membership.

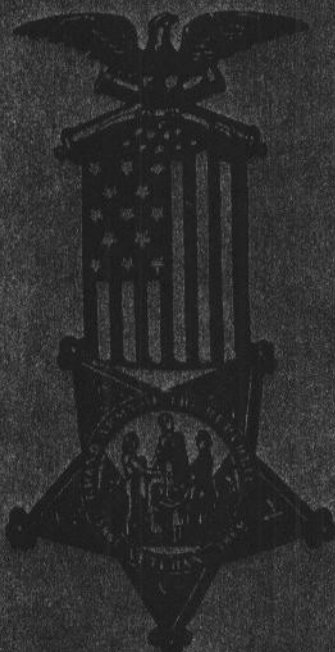
(St. Cloud, Tribune 1911)



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