

# The Lake Wales Highlander

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF THE "CROWN JEWEL OF THE RIDGE" IN PARTICULAR AND THE SCENIC HIGHLANDS OF FLORIDA IN GENERAL

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LAKE WALES, FLORIDA, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8, 1923

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## MUCH HEAVIER RAINFALL DURING 1923 SO FAR THAN THE AVERAGE: IS LIKE OLD TIME RAINY SEASON

Lakes and Watercourses Are All Much Higher

36.59 IN. TO DATE

Average for Seven Months 5.23 Inches

Average for Same Time Last Season Was But 3.96 Inches Says Chandley.

That this year and last have been years of more than the average rainfall are well known to all observers. All the lakes and watercourses are higher than they were two years ago and the rainy season seems to hang on with a fine shower every day. Some interests like it, some do not, but it comes nevertheless. Lake Wales is easily four feet higher than it has been seen by men like R. N. Jones who have lived here for several years. On the other hand men like A. G. Zipperer, who has been familiar with this region since before the War Between the States has seen the lake much higher than it is now. Mr. Zipperer says that this year is more like the old time rainy seasons than he has seen in many a year. His observation has been that since the railroads came to South Florida in 1884 the rainy seasons have been falling short of what they used to be, probably due to the fact that was about the time when the cutting of timber on a large scale began.

A table showing the rainfall for the past 24 months, containing portions of three years, has been prepared by E. O. Chandley, government weather observer at Mammoth Grove, the nearest government man. His table runs back to the opening of their office, in August 1921. More rain fell in May and July 1923, than

(Continued on page 8)

## Citrus Exchange Is Stepping Off Fast Under New Manager

Optimism, progressiveness of policy and a broad spirit of community pride and co-operation marked the deliberations Monday of the Board meeting of the Lake Wales Citrus Growers Association. Grady Zellner, the new manager, was authorized to install at once a Skinner Big Six Washer and Polisher, and to convert the plant from a two unit operation to one unit, which will permit of handling a larger volume of the products to be processed, at a reduced expenditure.

A new marking machine which will affix the individual brand of the Lake Wales Association was also authorized. A new feature this season, is the privilege accorded to members of insuring, individually, through the Hartford Fire Insurance Co., against loss by freezing, and against market hazards. The exterior of the plant is not to be neglected, either. It will be repainted, signs renewed, etc. The office has already been refurnished.

Grady Zellner in addressing the Board outlined a policy of service to members that is broad in scope; pointing out that he does not consider his labors ended with the applied knowledge of his packing experience, but that his services as an experienced horticulturist are at their command.

The Board, as a matter of course, contracted for a full page showing in the coming What's What and Who's Who Editions of the Lake Wales Highlander and Lakeland Star-Telegram in the modern spirit of not keeping secret the progressive activities contemplated and being put into effect, and in the additional community interest of doing their part to see that Lake Wales and vicinity obtains its just, creditable representation, in comparison with other Polk County communities in this county-wide showing of Imperial Polk's resources and possibilities.

## Babson Park Citrus Exchange Expects to Put Up 70,000 Boxes

Dr. Stafford, head of the Babson Park Packing house, says they expect to pack about 70,000 boxes of fruit this season. The house is being put in shape for the opening of its first season, as rapidly as possible, machinery being installed and everything made ready. The packing floor will be unique in that it is 10 feet above the ground so that there will be plenty of light and air and no necessity for the use of artificial light. All of the "mussy" operations will be carried on the lower floor and the packing floor will thus be kept attractive. The house is a handsome one. Plans are on foot for parking the space between it and the highway and thus keeping it a credit to the fine neighborhood it will serve.

The Ladies of the Methodist church will give a food sale Saturday afternoon from 4 to 6 o'clock, in the rear entrance to the State Bank Building near the Lake Wales Land Co. office.

## HARDEE TO LAKE

Looks Personally Into Lake Okeechobee Situation

Lake Is Nearing The High Water Mark of Last January.

Gov. Hardee and members of the I. L. Board, who, drawn by fears that the Everglades would see another flood this fall left Tallahassee for the Everglades, Saturday night have been in the Glades this week. As yet no reports of their conclusions have been made.

At Canal Point the lake has reached a height of 18.05 feet, near the high water mark of last year. Apparently the rainy season at the lake was not so severe this year as it is in the watershed further up the river. Capt. T. W. Webb, whose interview in The Highlander on the high water June 20, first attracted attention to the matter, says that Lake Pierce has risen 11 in. at his place in a week. There was more than eight inches of rainfall last week at the Mammoth Grove station according to Mr. Chandley. All this will finally reach Okeechobee.

Cuthill's Opinion  
Lake Wales, Fla., Aug. 2, 1923  
To the Editor of The Highlander: I read the articles in The Highlander, also several articles in Tampa Tribune in regard to the overflow in the Everglades. I spent several years at different points on Lake Okeechobee, farming for myself and others. At this season the farmers and large land owners have nothing else to employ their minds, but indignation meetings on various subjects. Just 18 months ago it was too dry to farm and they were causing Elliot for letting all the water out of the lake. The farmers around Moore Haven in the spring of 22 made a failure for the lack of water. The low water was caused by severe drouths ever since 1913. The evaporation is great down there, but what do the people blame. Why the C. E. of the state of Florida also U. S. C. E. Now the government can't control the weather and the weather has been wet for 12 months. The probability is that in less than 18 months the people now cussing high water, will be wishing it would rain. There is a great deal of room for improvement in the drainage scheme and the State Officials have warned settlers that the drainage is incomplete. It is impossible to complete the vast amount of work necessary to drain Lake Okeechobee in the time they have been at it. The government continued the work right through the war period when every commodity was at its highest, a scarcity of men, also material. Yet the people of the lake section seem to have forgotten those things. I am up in Lake Wales waiting for the water to recede, when it gets dry enough to farm I am going back. It is cool there in the summer and warm in the winter. I would like to attend some of those indignation meetings. I have often gotten a great deal of amusement out of them. One might as well get amusement as I never knew anything else to come out of them.

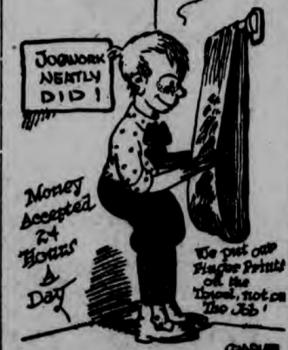
W. A. CUTHILL.

## March of Democracy.

When Jefferson wrote "Governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed," he flung the challenge of new-born democracy into a world of oligarchy and despotism. If one wants the measure of Jefferson's vision, he needs only consider the political changes that have taken place in the last 146 years.

## MICKIE SAYS

OLE CAP CRABBS SAYS HE'S BEEN READING THE PAPERS, MAN 'N SON, FOR WELL NIGH ONTO SIXTY YEARS NOW AN' HE'S YET TO HEAR OF A OUSE YHERE A NEWSPAPER WUZ CARRIED OUT FEET FIRST DEUCE A PERNED PATRON WUTHDREML HIS ADVERTISING ER CHOPPED HIS PAPER!



## AIR TRAVEL NEXT MET A SAD DEATH

Walker Pope Urges Local Landing Place

Says 10 Years Hence Will See 100 Planes Privately Owned Here.

J. Walker Pope, the "Duke of Winter Haven" as the boys used to call him, and by many regarded as the Daddy of Lake Wales as well, by virtue of having sold in the first place much of the land in this section, was in town a few days ago and made a pleasant call on The Highlander.

"Why don't you folks get together and plant a fine avenue of oaks and palms along the Scenic Highway leading down to where in time you are bound to have a union depot at the crossing of the two railroads," said he. "Don't put them too close together but leave plenty of room for growth. In ten years you will rise up and call me blessed for the suggestion—if anybody happens to remember that I made it."

Mr. Pope has made many predictions about the Ridge, for which he has been a booster for years, and a good lot of them have come true. He makes another one right here which The Highlander 10 years from now, proposes to cut out and run on its front page again.

"Get ready for the airplane flivver," said he. "Its coming. In 10 years there will be 100 airplanes owned in Lake Wales and driven by local owners. Your town authorities should be looking about for 60 to 80 acres that can be used as a landing field. It will be needed before you know it."

Mr. Pope went on to point out that 10 years ago, here in Polk county, automobiles sold slowly because one could hardly go anywhere with them. The Loughman sand hill for many years almost absolutely barred visiting back and forth between the two coasts. Then came good roads and not one of the modern generation of automobile drivers ever knows that there is a hill at Loughman.

"Landing places are to the airplane what, good roads were to the automobile," says Mr. Pope. "Provide them and the traffic will come."

## How Machine Pulls Flax.

One of the most costly and tedious of the processes in connection with the manufacture of linen is the pulling of the flax, which hitherto has had to be done by hand. New attempts are now being made in Europe to do this mechanically and several tests recently have been made of different flax-pulling machines. The most successful seems to be one that is now running in Ireland. This machine, like others tried in England, France, Russia and Canada, fundamentally consists of a comblike arrangement that grasps the flax stems and by the resistance of the seed capsules of the fiber plucks them from the ground. After being pulled, the flax is thrown onto a binder arrangement similar to that used in grain harvesters. It is then bound and shocked, also like sheaves of grain.—Popular Mechanics Magazine.

## How Phonograph is Improved.

By controlling the speed of a revolving phonograph record, an English inventor gets twenty minutes of music on one side of a twelve-inch record, instead of the usual four minutes or thereabouts, according to Popular Mechanics Magazine. When the record disk revolves at a uniform angular speed, as at present, the outer groove of the record moves more swiftly than any other groove that is nearer to the center. Thus, although the outer groove is about four times as long as the inner one, it can contain no more music, making necessary a variation in the recording speed. In the new method, the recording speed is made constant, and by correspondingly controlling the speed of the record, the impression upon it of a very much greater number of sound vibrations is made possible.

## A. G. Zipperer at Nearly 80, Puts in a Mango Grove; 70 Years in Polk

A. G. Zipperer, one of the real pioneers of this section, who has been living in Polk county since before the War Between the States, brought a fine big mango weighing two pounds and 13 ounces to The Highlander this week. It was grown on his place in town as well as some smaller mangoes of a bright yellow which Mr. Zipperer recommended more highly for eating than he did the big fellow which he said was much better for jelly, a thing the household editor of The Highlander found to be a fact. Mr. Zipperer has just set out 500 seed of the smaller mango at his place in town and looks forward to a fine mango grove in time. He has many mangoes planted also at his place on the north end of Lake Kissimee, about 20 miles from Lake Wales where he has a fine cattle ranch of several hundred acres in one of the most

fertile spots the Kissimee watershed.

In the early days Mr. Zipperer's father was one of the cattle barons who owned large herds of cattle in South Florida, having grazed as many as 12,000 to 15,000 head at times on the Istokpoga prairie. During his almost 80 years of experience in Florida Mr. Zipperer has come in contact with many diverse experiences from the Indians and scattered cow men of the fifties, to the asphalt roads and orange growers of the present day. He has both fought Indians and lived with, or at least near them. For nine years prior to the War Between the States he put in a crop of nearly 100 acres of corn on a farm he owned north of Bartow on their advice as to planting time and never failed to hit the rainy season with the corn at just the right stage to set a big crop.

Funeral services for Mrs. Wilson were held at the home in Bartow Saturday morning. They were largely attended for she was a most popular young woman. Two young children, her husband and her parents are left to mourn her untimely death.

Miss Floyd's remains were taken to her old home at Waycross, Georgia, Saturday where interment was made. Her mother, Mrs. H. O. Lane, her brother, S. F. Floyd, and two sisters the Misses Vera and Bernice are left to mourn her sudden and untimely death. In their loss they have the heartfelt sympathy of this community of which the Floyd's were for some years most popular and honored residents.



Landed Fine String of Bass  
Marcus Roberts and John W. Logan are proud of the string of fish they caught in a recent visit to Pierce Lake when they landed a string of 27 fine bass. Two of the Big Uns weighed seven pounds apiece and there were a number of others that weighed in at four and five pounds apiece. The picture of the men shows a string of fish that would make R. B. Buchanan and F. H. Giddings, winter visitors, weep with joy if they could but be photographed with such a string.

## Better Pay Taxes Now and Avoid the Penalty on Sept. 1

In a notice this week City Clerk J. F. DuBois lets those who have not paid city taxes yet understand that it is time they were paid in if the owner wishes to escape a heavy penalty. The council, knowing city paying taxes were heavy, has from time to time extended the time for paying city taxes. Now council has instructed the city clerk that if taxes are not paid by Sept. 1, the city tax roll is to be turned over to the city attorney for collection. If collected by him there will be court expenses and legal fees to add to the tax. Better pay now and avoid the penalty.

## Acuff Has Been On Several New Homes at Highland Park

L. S. Acuff has been busy on several other homes at Highland Park this summer, in addition to the big home he has been building for Mr. Yarnell at the park entrance. The Yarnell home is nearly ready for occupancy. It is practically all finished but for the painting and a big gang of men are at that work. It is hoped that it may be ready by Sept. 1.

Among other homes Mr. Acuff has been working on or is about to start are the following. Work of plastering the R. H. Williams home has begun. The Hill house foundation and first floor have been laid. Work of laying the foundation for Mrs. Patton's house has commenced while work will soon begin on the new homes to be built for N. J. Roberts and Mr. Major.

## UNCLE HANK

In politics, there's a lot of "blow-hards" who don't need th' inspiration of a handkerchief.

## Bartleson Filling A Block; May Put Up Building Later

J. F. Bartleson of the Lake Wales Wholesale Grocery is filling in the block of land he bought recently between Bullard and Polk aves. at the corner of First street with the idea of erecting some buildings thereon in the near future. The place has always been a pond but is well located at the point where the Bartow road enters the city and Mr. Bartleson figures that there will some day be a business section there. The block Mr. Bartleson is filling is located across Bullard ave., from the new brick garage and filling station erected by LeRoy Horton this summer which makes the nucleus for a business district. Mr. Horton has fitted his garage out in fine shape and is doing a good business.

## TAKE PLENTY TIME Judge Edwards Looking for Further Facts

It is probable that there will be no immediate or hasty decision by Judge Edwards in the matter of the effort made by Mr. Carson to have dissolved the injunction granted last year at the request of H. E. Fairchild, P. J. Keiser, Jason Hunt and many other residents of Babson Park and the Lake Caloosa section forbidding the lowering of the lake level by opening the drain at the south end of the lake.

Judge Edwards has expressed a desire to have surveyors figures on the level of the lake together with, as the Highlander understands it, some figures as to the depth of the lake. This indicates that Judge Edwards is going into the matter most thoroughly and that there will probably be no immediate decision.

It has often been stated that old government maps of the lake show the level at 132 feet above sea level. Probably this was the level found by the government surveyors who first laid out this country. It is understood that a survey made within the last few months showed the lake to be 128 feet above sea level so that it would appear that it is now considerably lower than it stood in former years. There is almost unanimous opinion that the level should not be lowered. It is pointed out that scores of property owners have bought their lands based on the idea that the level of the lake was as it appeared and not thinking there was any chance of the level being lowered. Ownership of the only piece of property that could be favorably affected by lowering the lake only recently passed to the hands of Mr. Carson so this paper is informed. It is the old Stokes ranch on the southwest shore. So far as we know his interest is the only one asking that the lake be lowered.

## Getting Wise. Storekeeper—I suppose you'll want your usual order of cigars for election?

District Captain—Not this year. Too many women voting in my ward. Let's see what you've got in the line of cheap candy!

## The Plain Truth.

"So that young fool wants to marry you, does he? What does he expect to live on?"  
"You, I think, father."

## Tiresome.

"Why do you avoid Flubdub?"  
"Well, if you ask him how he is, he'll expect you to listen to the details."

## May Come to That.

"I don't like this barefoot dancing."  
"Shut up, Fred. First thing you know we'll have to do 'em socially."

## WEATHER REPORT

Official Bulletin of daily temperature and precipitations furnished by the Lake Wales Cooperative U. S. Weather Bureau Station, located at Mammoth Grove for the week ending August 5, 1923.

Date	High	Low	Rain
7-30	96	72	1.65
7-31	97	70	1.38
8-1	96	69	2.46
2	96	72	.00
3	96	72	.00
4	95	70	1.30
5	95	71	1.30

Average 96 71 Total 8.21  
MAMMOTH GROVE,  
E. Chandley, Observer

## CURTAIN AT SCHOOL

Parent Teachers Association Responsible

Asbestos Curtain Given By Unknown Donor; Painted by Business Man.

When Lake Wales attends entertainments given in the high school auditorium this winter it will find a fine asbestos curtain for the stage instead of the make shift contrivances of sheets, shawls or lace curtains and strings. It will be one of the best that can be had and will be adorned with a view showing Crystal Lake and a stretch of Lake Wales.

The Parent Teachers Association is responsible for the curtain, a committee composed of Mrs. M. R. Anderson, Mrs. R. N. Jones and Mrs. B. K. Bullard having been at work on it for some time. Mrs. Bullard who is president of the association announces that a donor who refuses to allow his name given, was responsible for the gift of the curtain. As it is asbestos, 17 by 27 feet in size, it is certain that the unknown donor must be deeply interested in the school and the community for it is sure that he has showed his interest in a highly practical and undoubtedly rather expensive way.

## NATION IN GRIEF

Over Untimely Death of the President

Memorial Services to be Held Friday from 2:15 to 3 O'clock.

Out of tribute to the memory of the dead president all stores are to close Friday afternoon from 2 to 4 o'clock during the hours of his funeral services at Washington. President R. F. Urie of the Lake Wales Merchants Association went afternoon and met with a unanimous response to his suggestion that this course be followed and that Lake Wales show in united fashion its sorrow at the untimely death of the nation's president.

Revs. Tinkler and Crisler took up the matter of a program of patriotic, sympathetic nature and announced that one would be held at the A. R. P. church, because handiest to the business center, from 2:15 to 3 o'clock Friday afternoon. There will be a brief address, probably the singing of one or two of the president's favorite hymns and of one or two patriotic songs. It is hoped many will attend.

When news of the death of Mr. Harding was circulated Friday morning, Commander Wylie Harrell of Dykeman—Pinkston Post, American Legion and Alex. Simpson saw to it that the American flag was flown at half staff on the met at Crystal Lodge where it has flown every day since in token of the sorrow felt by the people at the president's death.

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