



*Charles & Rosa (Schmitt) Huaser  
aka Uncle Charlie and Tanta*



*L-R: Bill, Marion, Jane, Bill Sr., Rosa, Rose, Irene, Joe*

*Will and Rose's 1936 Florida Trip with letters to "Tanta".  
The trip combined business with pleasure with Grandpa  
Drueke making sales calls at various department stores and  
gift shops along the way.*

*By 1936, with the "reboot" of the Wm F. Drueke & Sons  
company now in it's fourth year, prosperity was beginning to  
take hold for the Drueke family. Daughter, Irene, was 28 and  
would marry Phil Cowan the next year on August 3rd. At this  
point, Irene was the only one of the kids that was not involved  
with the Drueke company. The others, Marian (27), Joe (25),  
Bill (23), Jane (21) and Rosemary (19) were involved with the  
Drueke Company in some capacity. Jane would be married  
the following year to Al Biggins and sister, Irene, would be  
tragically killed in an auto accident.*



Washington D.C.  
March 5 - 1936.

My dear Yanta,

As you probably have heard I left Grand Rapids at seven A.M. Monday on the "Blue Goose" bus line. I came early enough to get the best seat in the bus. But to my surprise we changed buses at Lansing - that bus was already filled and I had to take the only vacant seat elevated up over the back wheel consequently the ride was not so good. We arrived in Detroit at twelve-noon.

I went directly up to Irene's "furnished home department" in Hudson's and found Marian there. The girls were so glad to see me. Marian was very happy because she had just gotten a position in the "ladies ready to wear dress department". Her new work is to begin a week from Monday March 9th. I will surely miss Marian at home but feel that she needs the change. The girls spent last Sunday apartment hunting. They will take an apartment alone, just the two.

Monday Marian left Detroit on the 4 o'clock bus for home.

Jack O'Hara took Irene & <sup>me</sup> to his home for dinner. We had a nice visit with Otilia until Phil called for Irene & took me down to Yuller Hotel where I spent the night. The bus depot is in that hotel and thought it would be worth something to be near it in the morning.

Tues. Mar 3.

The bus for Pittsburg left at eight A.M. Irene stopped to see me on her way to work. I enjoyed the all day ride very much, and was not at all tired. We arrived in Pittsburg at 6 o'clock P.M. I went directly to the Fort Pitt Hotel.

Wednesday Mar 4.

I had my breakfast and was ready to board the bus at 7 A.M. The bus left at 7:30. There is no snow in Pittsburg - my boots looked ridiculous so I took them off. In fact I have not seen snow since we entered Ohio Tuesday.

I enjoyed every bit of my bus ride to Washington. There seemed to be such nice people travelling - it was interesting and we got quite well acquainted as we piled in & out of the bus at different joints. I was

glad the bus stopped at Gettysburg. I sent you a card from there.

Will met me at the station at 6 o'clock in Washington. We had a nice sea food dinner. He had a grand room at the Raleigh - which I did not expect - then we took a long walk.

Thursday Mar. 5.

Will finished his business here at noon - we had lunch and then saw the Senate in session - and listened to an interesting speaker in the House of Representatives then walk over to the new Supreme Court building. It is a grand marble building - the court was in session where we listened just a few minutes.

I am sorry to be writing this in such a hurry. It is 3:30 and Will is waiting for me. We are leaving for Richmond. want to make as much territory as we can before dark.

I am sorry to check out of this lovely room.

Lots of love from  
Rose.



CHERRY BLOSSOM TIME. WASHINGTON. D. C.

# FREDERICKSBURG



FROM early Colonial times, through Revolutionary and Civil War periods, Fredericksburg has been the center of events that have borne a vital part in the history of the nation, and is especially attractive to history lovers. In 1727 the town was officially laid out and named in honor of Frederick, Prince of Wales. It was to Fredericksburg that George Washington came as a youth, grew to manhood, and was made a mason in the lodge here. Kenmore, (built 1752) the beautiful home of Betty Lewis, the only sister of George Washington; the home of Mary Washington; the Rising Sun Tavern; the James Monroe Law Office, and the Hugh Mercer Apothecary Shop are preserved as National Shrines.

Other places of interest are: The only home in America of John Paul Jones; the home of Matthew Fontaine Maury, the Pathfinder of the Seas; the Old Slave Block, a relic of the ante-bellum days; the Presbyterian Church, with two cannon balls in one of its columns; the St. George's Church and burying ground, the Sentry Box, the Monument erected to Mary Washington, and others.

Fredericksburg was the scene of two of the greatest battles of the Civil War. The National Cemetery, the historic Marye's Heights and Old Stone Wall are within easy walking distance. Nearby are the battlefields of Salem Church, Chancellorsville (where Stonewall Jackson was killed), the Wilderness, the Bloody Angle, Spotsylvania Court House and Hamilton's Crossing. Within this space more men were killed and wounded than previously had been on any similar area in the world. The Government is now building a Battlefield Park, marking and preserving the battle lines.

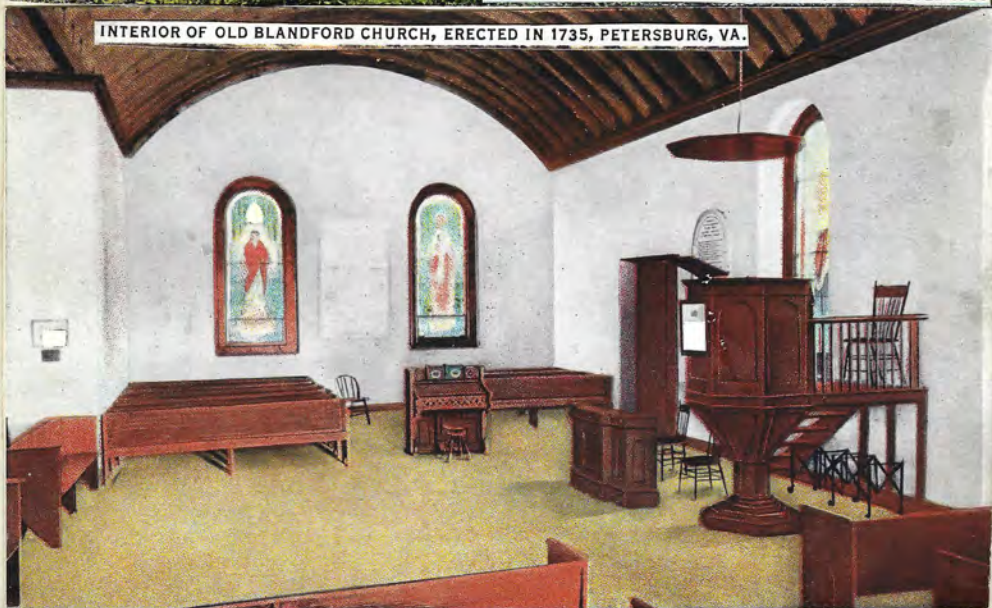
On the King's Highway is situated the Boyhood Home of George Washington; "Wakefield," the birthplace of George Washington; "Stratford," the birthplace of Robert E. Lee; Christ Church (built 1706) and other places connected with the early history of the country.







OLD BLANDFORD CHURCH, PETERSBURG, VA. ERECTED 1735



INTERIOR OF OLD BLANDFORD CHURCH, ERECTED IN 1735, PETERSBURG, VA.



GENERAL LEE HEADQUARTERS, PETERSBURG, VA.

Savannah, Ga.

March 10-1936.

My dear Yanta,

Am writing this on the 6<sup>th</sup> floor of the hotel and can see the whole town of Savannah before me. It is raining down here and not so pleasant to be out walking. We are covering lots of territory but I feel I am getting a great deal out of the trip. We have had nice sunshine weather until today. Have seen daffodil gardens all week also hyacinths. Fields and trees are green. Sounds queer to hear you had snow last Friday.

I last wrote you -

Thursday Mar. 5.

After checking out at the Raleigh Hotel in Washington we drove around the city - drove into the "White House" premises up to the front entrance. There are a great many tall sycamore trees in the heart of the city. Then we drove along the Potomac and saw those lovely Cherry trees that were given by Japan. The branches overhang the banks of the river and when they blossom in May people come from every where to see them.

Alexandria Va. is only about twelve miles from Washington and Will picked up a little business there. We had our dinner in this town then drove as far as Fredricksburg. We stopped at a very nice hotel there

March 6 - Friday.

There is much to see in historical Fredricksburg. We saw James Monroe's law office, the old cemetery, home of Washington's mother, and the original slave block where slaves were sold. All over this district are engraved markers + slabs marking battle fields and army positions.

We arrived at Richmond Va. about 10 o'clock A.M. which was about 65 mi. Richmond is a beautiful city. We went directly to the "Miller Road's" store. The store is like Herpolsheimers. Will wanted me to meet the buyers for our merchandise. She is a very fine woman and also buyer for the knitting department and when she saw my "boucle" suit we immediately became friends. She took me to the knitting section and I had all I could

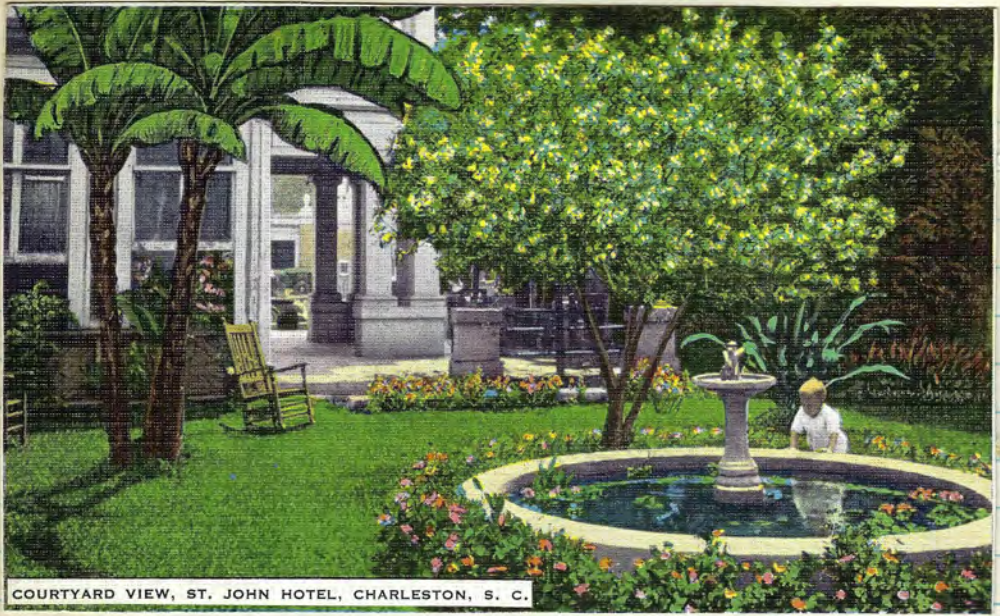
do from starting a crochet blouse. My better judgement told me to just buy the book. Will lauded a very good order there.

From Richmond we drove to Petersburg and staid there about two hours. Then drove to Durham, N. C. and arrived there in time for dinner.

I am sorry not to be able to write more today but Will is ready to leave. There seems to be so little time for writing. Time flies so fast for me it hardly seems possible that I have been away a day over a week.

Lots of love from.  
Rose.

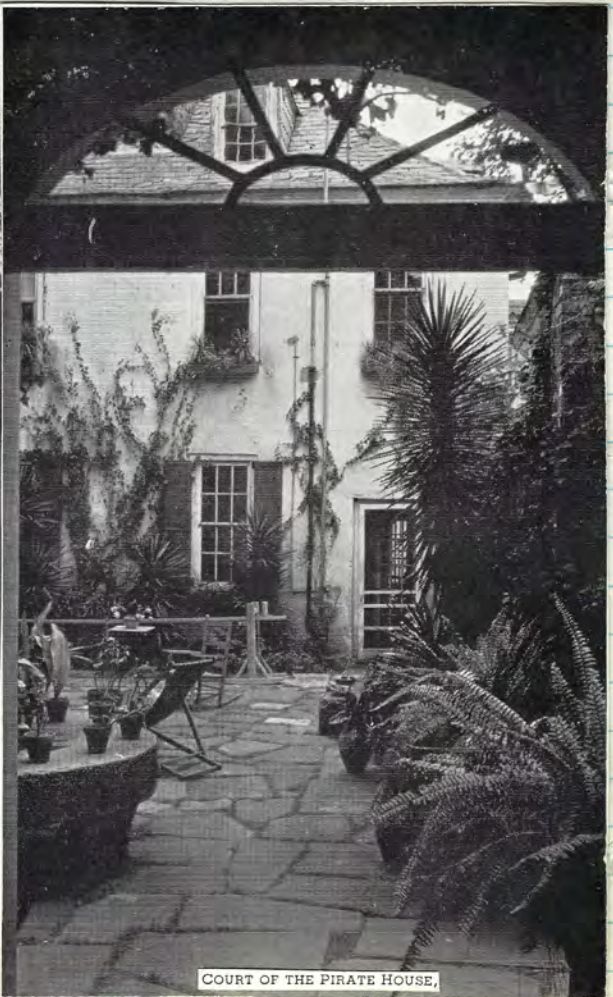




COURTYARD VIEW, ST. JOHN HOTEL, CHARLESTON, S. C.



CAROLINA COASTAL SCENE



COURT OF THE PIRATE HOUSE,

Monday Mar. 9-1936.

Charleston S. C. is surely a quaint old town. Everything about it is historical. Some buildings date back to 1700. They have preserved one street just as it was during the slave market. You can see Ft. Sumter from the mainland.

The store buildings are very small and janky about every 3<sup>rd</sup> store is an antique shop or a tiny little eating place. Everything is built up close to the sidewalk and without a bit of space between the buildings. The main street is so narrow it is a one way street.

Even the dwelling houses are close to the side walk. All the windows have blinds on them. And knockers on the doors. But there little back yards + "patios" are beautiful - all flowers + palm trees.

There is a lot to see in Charleston the shore drive with the massive old mansions + huge palm trees is indescribable. We did not come to Charleston to stay and go sight - seeing so we find ourselves on the way to Savannah Ga. in the afternoon.

After dinner we went to a movie near the hotel.

Tuesday A.M.

March 10-36

Still raining in Savannah. I did some writing in my room weather did not permit any sight seeing & we were quite ready to be on our way after lunch at noon.

All along this district pecans or prelane nuts are raised - they are being sold all along the road side. And there are many forests of the tall very long needle pine trees & they are tapped and turpentine made from the sap.

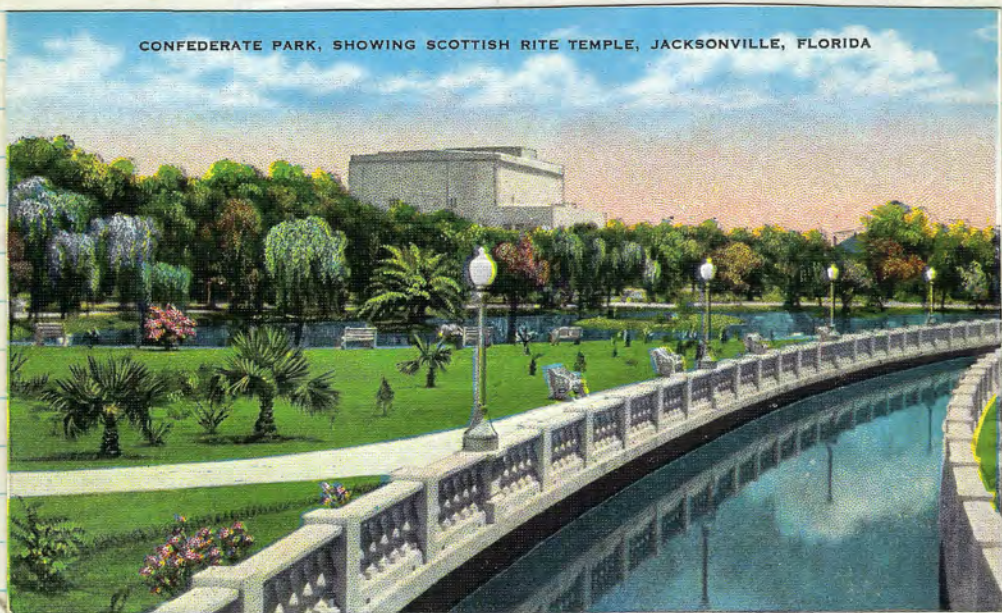
Also many rice marshes. In fact the whole country down here seems to be marshy along the side of the road.

And did I get one big thrill when we finally came to a big floral and wired arch over the road saying "State of Florida". And in 30 miles we were in Jacksonville.

It is quite a large metropolitan city. I liked it there - so many flowers and palm shrubs and trees. I kept

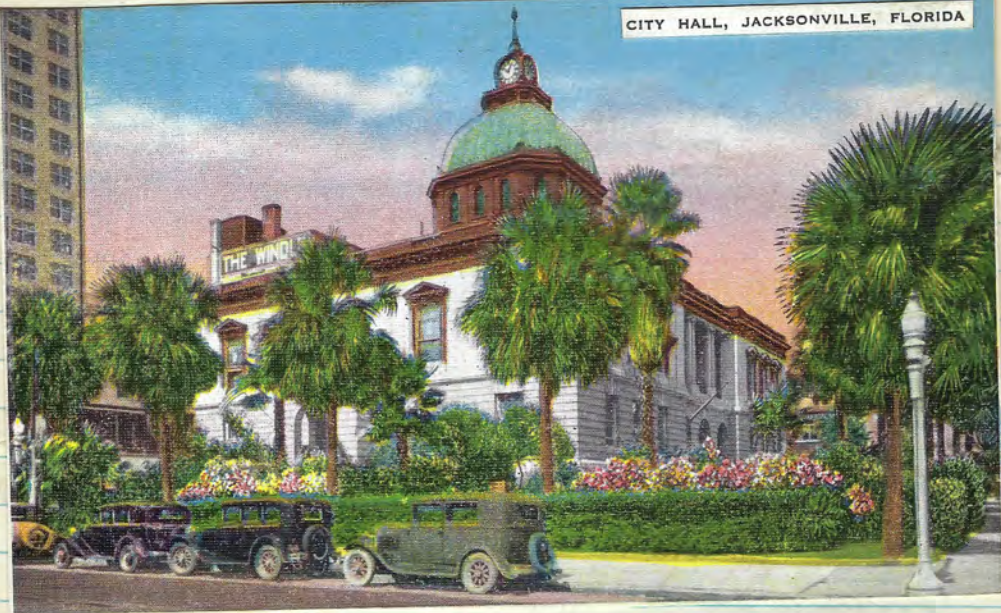
thinking about when I was a little girl there was a Mrs Kate Henke a friend of my grandmother's lived in Jacksonville. And I used to write to her regularly for my grandmother.

Will was busy here all day of - Wednesday Mar. 11.  
And we had some business here. We left Jacksonville after dinner at night and made a 38 mile drive to St. Augustine and find there is much to see in this historical place.





CITY HALL, JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA



RUSTIC BRIDGE OVER ONE OF THE CANALS, FLORIDA CYPRESS GARDENS



8876

OLD CITY GATES, ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA-



THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CATHEDRAL AND PLAZA, ST. AUGUSTINE, FLA.



THE OLDEST CITY IN THE UNITED STATES



AVENUE OF PALMS IN ST. AUGUSTINE



OLD SLAVE MARKET, POINT OF INTEREST IN THE PLAZA



THE ARCH, FORT MARION, ST. AUGUSTINE, FLA.



WATCH TOWER, FORT MARION, ST. AUGUSTINE, FLA.

Daytona Beach, Florida  
March 12, 1936.

My dear Yanta -

I was so sorry to leave my writing ~~more~~ in Savannah - It had such a good start and so much to write.

Continuing -

Sat. Mar 7, 1936.

Our business in Durham N. C. was finished at noon. We had lunch at the Washington Duke hotel then drove around the city. Saw the Chesterfield Cigarette factory. Drove around the campus of the Washington Duke Universities - one for boys and one for girls - given by Washington Duke the millionaire tobacco king.

N S. C. - Its a typical southern capital city. The stores were small and junky. I never saw so many "niggers". Will would like to have stayed there over night because he liked the hotel. But Charleston being 310 miles - I thought as we were not tired it would be wiser to make some of the territory. So we went as far as Fayetteville that afternoon.

Sunday March 8 1936

We went to Mass in a very tiny little wooden church. in Fayetteville. After Mass we drove about 100 miles to Florence S.C. Where we had our noon dinner. We rested a while then drove on to Charleston S.C. It was an interesting drive. In several places I saw tall trees with the funniest looking dry seeds hanging down - looked like large gourds about 1 dozen on a tree. so we stopped and asked. Sure enough they were large gourds hollowed out and hung on the trees by the niggers for the martin bird's nests to scare away the chicken hawks.

The nigger's homes all along the way are such poverty stricken & shiftless shacks - never any windows - just boards for shutters.

When you come to whole forests of tall trees just covered with that long gray hanging moss. It looks like fairy land.

As we neared Charleston we began seeing those lovely palm trees like the California trees.

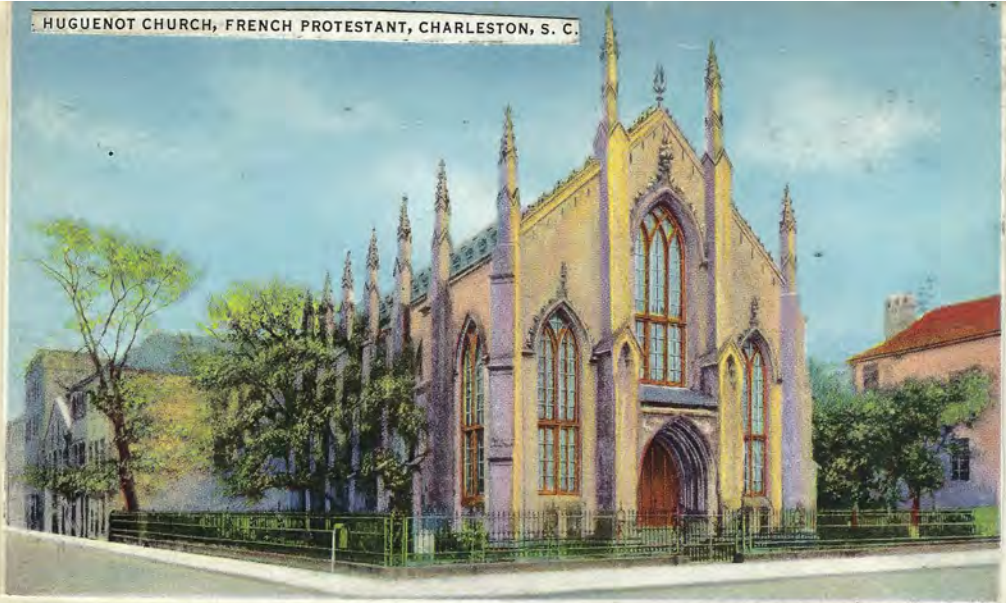


THE FIREPROOF BUILDING—FIRST IN AMERICA, CHARLESTON, S. C.



INFANTRY BARRACKS AT THE CITADEL, CHARLESTON, S. C.

HUGUENOT CHURCH, FRENCH PROTESTANT, CHARLESTON, S. C.



ASHLEY HALL, CHARLESTON, S. C.



Goose Creek Church Charleston S.C.



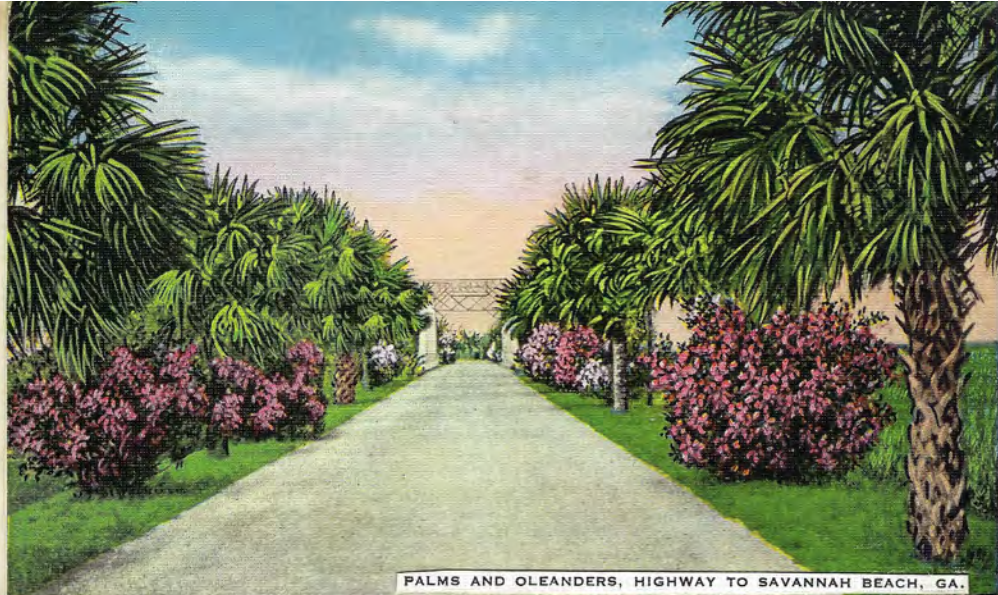
AVENUE OF OAKS LINING OLD PLANTATION DRIVEWAY



THE PIRATE HOUSE, CHURCH STREET, CHARLESTON, S. C.







PALMS AND OLEANDERS, HIGHWAY TO SAVANNAH BEACH, GA.



SCENE IN BONAVENTURE CEMETERY, SAVANNAH, GA.



VICTORY DRIVE, SAVANNAH, GA.

Arvon Park, Florida.

March 21, 1936.

My dear Yenta,

It seems so long ago since I sent my last letter. It has been very hard to get to the writing. I mailed the last as we arrived in W. Palm Beach. We were there from Fri. Mar 13<sup>th</sup> till Tues. Mar 17<sup>th</sup>. And from Tues. the 17<sup>th</sup> until this A.M. Sat 21<sup>th</sup> Mar. we were in Miami. That sounds as though I should have had a lot of time to write.

In Palm Beach we had an apartment and met so many nice people we kept very busy.

Will had another ulcerated tooth which gave him lots of trouble. Then he took cold and had a sore throat. Then a couple of days he had one bad swollen eye. His throat just wouldn't heal so we went to a doctor in Miami yesterday & he thought the trouble all came from the teeth.

I don't believe I got any further than Jacksonville, Florida in my letter to you last. We had some business in Jackson<sup>v</sup>ille and left there after dinner & drove as far as St. Augustine. There we walked around the old city a while that

night and decided <sup>to</sup> get an early start next morning & see as much as we could.

Thursday March 12, 1936

We visited the "Fountain of Youth" before breakfast. It was a very interesting place. I sent you a booklet from there which I trust you received and enjoyed.

St Augustine reminded me of San Antonio, Texas, probably because it is so Spanish in architecture. It's the oldest city in U.S. was settled about 200 yrs. before the Revolutionary War.

We went through the ancient city gateway - its gray with age. The old street is very interesting, very narrow, one way street. The buildings on this short street are so quaint & old. Then the old slave market is an interesting old place.

We went through "Old Fort Marion" with a guide & a sight-seeing party so I can tell a lot of interesting things about it.

St Augustine is a beautiful resort too right on the ocean there are many grand homes and summer cottages.

Three "Big Bill" Pelicans Greet You from New Orleans, La.



8A-H-371

A Gorgeous Bird is the Pelican,  
Whose Bill can Hold more than his Bellican,

He can put in his Beak, Food enough for a week.  
But I'm Blest if I can see how in Hellican.

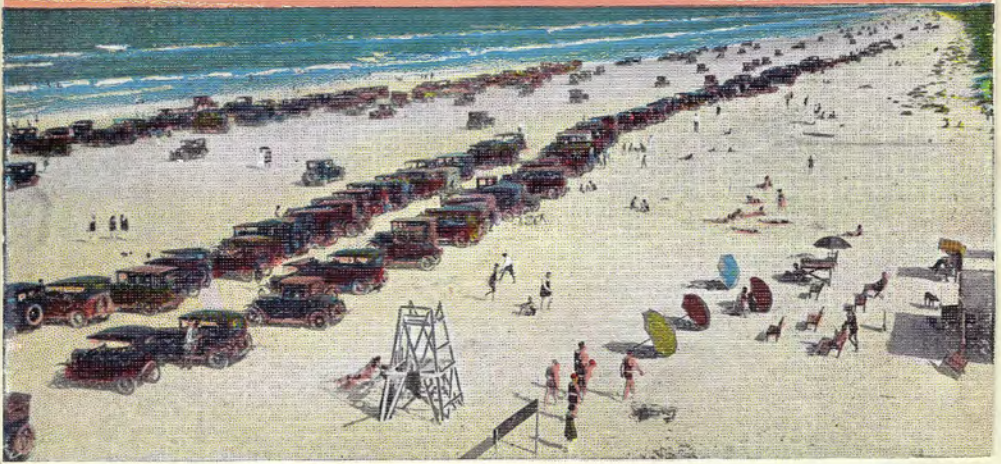
© c. t. & co.



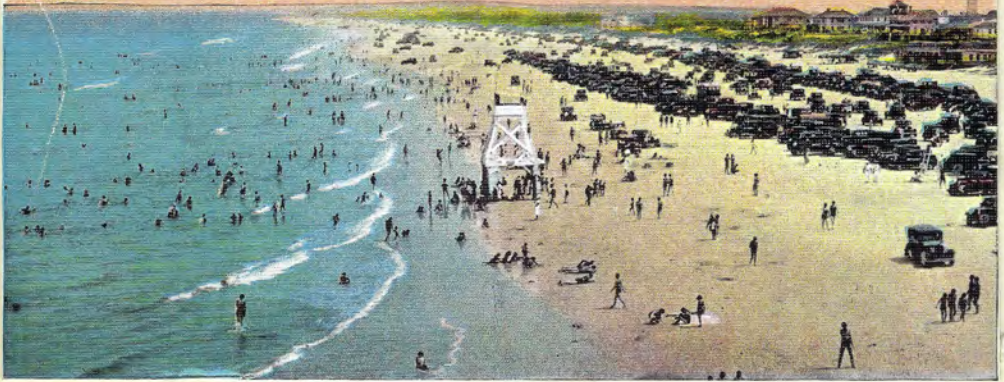
THE JACARANDA HOTEL — Avon Park, Florida

68216

THE WONDER BEACH OF THE WORLD, DAYTONA BEACH, FLORIDA—76



THE WONDER BEACH, DAYTONA BEACH, FLORIDA—88



March 12 - continued.

We arrived at Daytona Beach at noon. After eating lunch we drove right on the beach one wheel at the water's edge. It's the wonder beach of the world. The beach is a natural speedway for motor races. Nature re-surfaces it with every tide. It is hard packed sand and coquina shells. We stayed there all afternoon & watched the tide go out. I walked along the beach as the tide went out and found so many kinds of shells which were washed ashore. I saw a lot of jelly fish - & saw found 2 star fish, which I have. The sand was so white & fine just like "dutch cleanser". I wanted to take a little with me. But Will said "No!" - so when he fell asleep I took some anyway. Will estimated that I had walked 3 miles along the water edge. One can drive 23 miles along this strip of sand which at low tide is 500 ft wide.

Stopped at Knox Hotel, Cocoa, Fla. overnight

March 13, 1936.

All Friday morning we drove down the eastern coast of Florida and arrived at

West Palm beach at noon.  
After lunch we drove out to  
the El Cid Apartments to call on  
Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Harper. They  
were very glad to see us. And  
we were fortunate to get a  
little apartment next to them.



It was a very nice and  
comfortable place to  
stay. We found that  
Mr. Blandford the  
manager was a Grand Rapids man.  
He knew Nellie Kearns (Mrs. J. Nelson)  
and phoned her for us. He also  
called Mr. John Noel to come and  
see us.

That night Mr. + Mrs. Noel came  
over and we had a party of just  
Michigan people. Later in the  
evening we went out with the Noel's.

Saturday Mar. 14-1936.

The Harpers went to Miami Beach  
for the day. Mrs. H. left her bathing  
suit for me to use. The day was  
ideal - we put on our bathing  
suits + went over to Palm Beach  
for the morning.

I must tell you about our  
cozy apartment. We had a  
nice living room with twin  
in-a-door beds, a gate leg  
table with 2 straight chairs. Then  
there were 2 wicker chairs a chaise

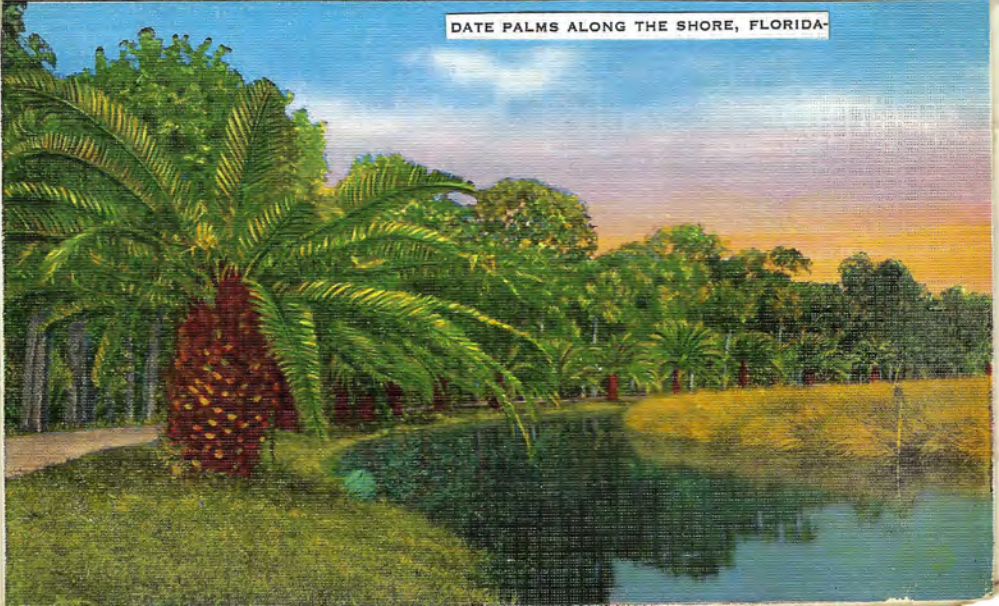
A ROYAL PALM DRIVE, FLORIDA.



COCOANUT TREES ALONG THE COAST OF FLORIDA



DATE PALMS ALONG THE SHORE, FLORIDA





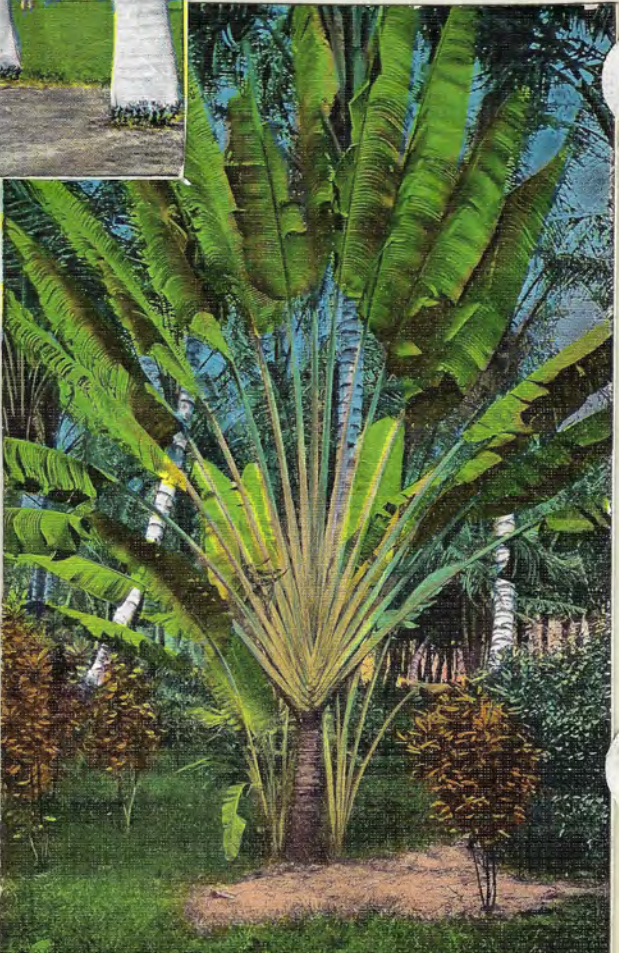
ROYAL PALMS ON LAKE WORTH. PALM BEACH, FLORIDA-



POST CARD  
ST. CARD



ONE OF THE CITY'S SEVERAL EXCELLENT BEACHES



TRAVELER'S PALM, FLORIDA



THE BREAKERS, PALM BEACH, FLORIDA



TEA GARDEN AT THE BREAKERS, PALM BEACH, FLORIDA—127



ROYAL POINCIANA TREE, RITER ESTATE GROUNDS, PALM BEACH, FLORIDA



ST. EDWARD'S CHURCH,  
PALM BEACH, FLORIDA—122



INTERIOR OF ST. EDWARD'S CHURCH, PALM BEACH, FLORIDA-

lounge & a writing desk. We had a dressing room with a dresser a bathroom & a kitchenette. It was a lot of fun cooking and keeping house for two for a few days.

A slogan in the house was "Going to the dogs?" Every night there were dog races. That night we went "to the dogs" with Noel's. People go at 8 P. M. & stay until midnight and bet on the different dogs. It really is very exciting - but it gets tire some. Then we went out to Noel's home and had some lunch. They have a beautiful home.

Sunday March 15, 1936.

We went to Mass to St Edward Church at Palm Beach. Every thing over there is very exclusive and distinctive. The church was built & is being kept up by very wealthy people. After Mass we took a long drive over there & saw so many beautiful homes along the ocean.

Will was not feeling well so went to bed & I went to the Flower show with Mrs Noel, Mrs A. E. Harper & Mrs Wm Harper.



DOG RACING

That night everybody was down stairs listening to Major Bowls. And at nine o'clock we had a wonderful treat. A Mr. Williams from the Boston Symphony was among the guests. A violinist and he + his wife accompanying him, gave a wonderful hour program. It was a real treat.

Monday March 16-1936.

In the morning Will + I went down town in the business section. He had a little business. In the afternoon we called on Nellie and Joe Nelson. I loved their little home + garden. He sawed off a little branch of one his trees with 2 green coconuts on it. I wanted to fill the back seat of the car with coconuts but didn't dare to smuggle more than 4. I saw many interesting plants and flowers. He gave me a slip of a tropical air plant - which probably will not live.

I was very anxious to go on to Miami as we had had no mail for a week. but Will did not feel well so we stayed another day. That night I played bridge with some ladies.

Tuesday March 17-1936.

We left West Palm Beach about 10 A.M. It was a lovely drive down to Miami. It is so beautiful as you drive along the Miami Beach. The Hollywood hotel is a very magnificent place. We could see lots of trees that had suffered by the hurricane last fall. You can see lots of trees propped up by poles and wires.

After driving around in Miami we decided to stay at the "Miller hotel". It is run by a sister of Mr. Chas Norton of G. R. + Mrs. Chas. Norton junior has charge of desk. It was a nice place to stay. I will tell you about it later.

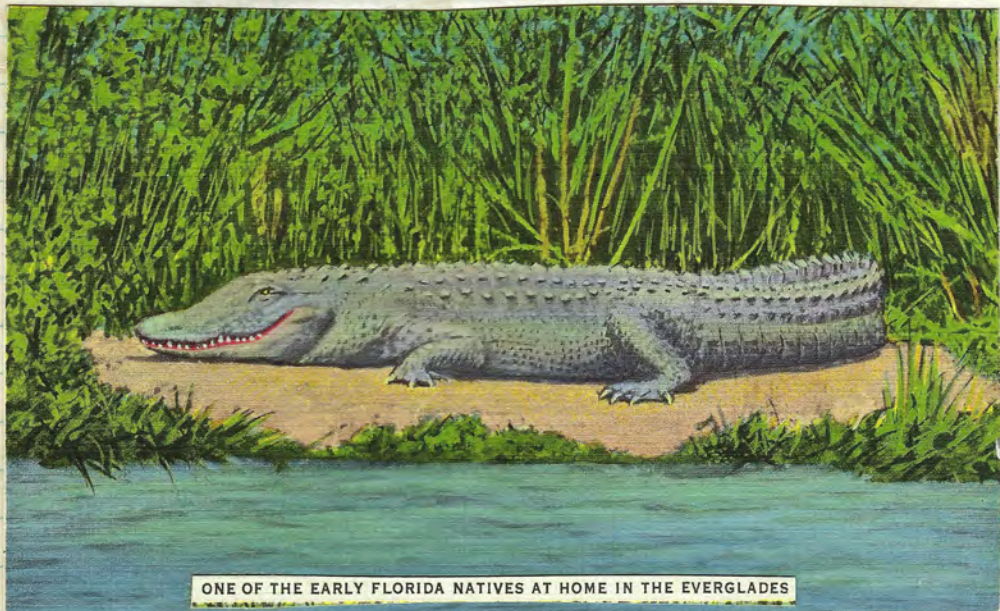
We will probably be home about next Monday Mar. 30.

I hope you are all well.  
Loads of love from  
Rose.

HOTEL MILLER  
229 N. E. FIRST AVENUE  
MIAMI, FLORIDA.



*Section of Patio and Palm Garden*



ONE OF THE EARLY FLORIDA NATIVES AT HOME IN THE EVERGLADES

Knoxville, Tennessee.

March 26-1936.

My dear Yanta -

We are homeward bound but I think I can get out the last chapter of my book to you tonight.

Continuing Tues. Mar. 17-'36.

I forgot to tell you about stopping at the alligator + ostrich farm on our way to Miami.

They say an ostrich lives to be 80 years old. We saw one, a beautiful black one 30 yrs. old. Two birds were only 3 months old and were almost full grown. One alligator was claimed to be 700 yrs. old. Then there were crocodiles too - they tell them only by the difference in the shape of their mouths. Also saw many different kinds of snakes. A baboon mother was nursing its baby and holding it just as a woman does - and she was eating peanuts with the other hand.

We saw a rubber tree there and were shown how elastic the sap is.

I sent you a picture of the



Miller hotel. - the rooms were all outside rooms and the center section and garden like lobby had no roof - every room door was an outside door. Mr. + Mrs. Chas. Norton were there. We enjoyed our stay there, met all the guests and just about settled all the great political questions of the day.

That night we walked all around the business section then went to a movie and saw "Three live ghosts" - it was very good.

Wednesday Mar. 18.

We spent the day over to Miami beach. We went to see the "Roney Plaza" - a gorgeous hotel. It is noted for having those beautiful flamingo birds in the garden. They look like a crane, are larger and have longer legs. When they sleep they stand on one leg and twist their long neck in a double twist and rest their heads on their back. There were also 6 beautiful peacocks in the garden. One was pure white.

That day we saw a large zeppelin in the sky.



PLANTATION NEAR WEST PALM BEACH



BEAUTIFUL BANANA TREE BEARING FRUIT, IN FLORIDA-

Thursday Mar. 19-1936.

Will went out and found a little more business. We walked over to the "Yamiami" & got our mail. There was considerable excitement in Miami because the President was expected to board his fishing yacht that day.

Friday Mar 20-1936.

We intended leaving Miami but Will's throat was so very sore and he felt so badly we went to a doctor.

In the afternoon we walked over to the park in the bay - it was four blocks from the hotel. We sat there a long time and watched the yachts go by.

Saturday Mar 21.

About 10 A.M. we leave Miami for a 150 mi. drive to Ft. Myers. We were on the Yamiami trail along the Yamiami canal swamp land on each side of the road - This part of Florida is called the "Everglades". We saw so many cranes along the shore sitting on stones & water lily leaves - rather they were standing on one leg. There was not a house in sight. We soon came upon the Seminole Indian territory.

First we saw 3 Seminole squaws along the road. They were dressed in very bright striped dresses - the stripes going around. Then we came upon several real Indian huts. We stopped at the next settlement. Admission was 15¢. One squaw had a Singer sewing machine & was busy making clothes. Instead of using a piece of material she was tearing it all in strips & sewing the different colors together.

I bought a little doll which will illustrate the type of dress this tribe wears. Some of the squaws were busy making these dolls. - they are made out of the fiber from a coconut tree.

I bought 3 post cards which will illustrate more than I could write and tell.

We had our lunch in Ft. Meyers then drove out to see Mrs Cartier. The winter homes of Thomas Edison and Henry Fords are very near her place.

The Cartier winter home is a grand large commanding looking place. They have rows of palm trees on either side of



SEMINOLE INDIANS AT CHESTNUT BILLY'S CAMP  
(DOUBLEDAY)



SEMINOLE INDIAN WOMAN  
SEWING CHESTNUT BILLY'S  
VILLAGE



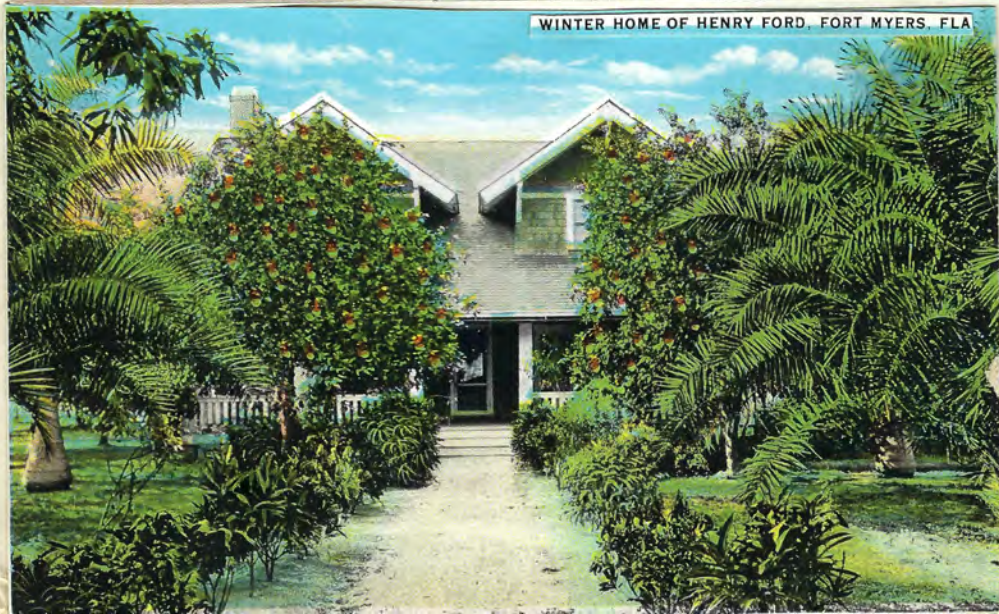
WORKING WITH CHESTNUT BILLY'S SEMINOLES  
VILLAGE TAMIAH



McKEE JUNGLE GARDENS, VERO BEACH, FLA.



FRANKLIN ARMS HOTEL, FORT MYERS, FLORIDA



WINTER HOME OF HENRY FORD, FORT MYERS, FLA

the path leading down to the bay. The garden and grass is beautiful and well kept.

Mrs Cartier and Ethel were home - they were very glad to see us and wanted us to stay. We had a nice visit with them for 2 hours.

Then we drove on to Avon Park. We passed Stella's car three miles from the park - she was going somewhere - so we missed her that night. We arrived at the Jacaranda hotel at 7 P. M. It is a nice hotel - I will say - because the porter brought us a pitcher of orange juice - gratis.

We had our dinner, Will did some reading and I wrote my third chapter to Yanta.

Sunday Mar 22. - 1936.

We went to Mass at Sebring eight miles south of Avon Park. They drove 8 miles around a little lake and went through a National Park called "Highland Hammocks". It was like a jungle with all kinds of tropical trees.

When we came back to the hotel we found Stella waiting

for us. A Professor, a friend of Stella's and Stella, Will and I had dinner together. We had a nice visit. In the evening we played cards.

Monday March 23-1936.

We had an early morning start and I got a great shock when Will, on getting his directions for Yampa suddenly decided that we would not go via Lake Wales to see the "Singing Tower". It was the one place of interest I did not want to miss. I could have gone there Sunday with Stella had I known this. We had a very bad road and two bad detours going this way - we had been given a bad steer. Will didn't care but it upset me considerable.

We arrived at Yampa before noon and Will made his business appointments for the afternoon.

Yampa being the greatest cigar center in the world we drove around to find something of interest. We found a section called the "Latin quarter". But there was nothing special



NIGHT-TIME "THE SINGING TOWER"



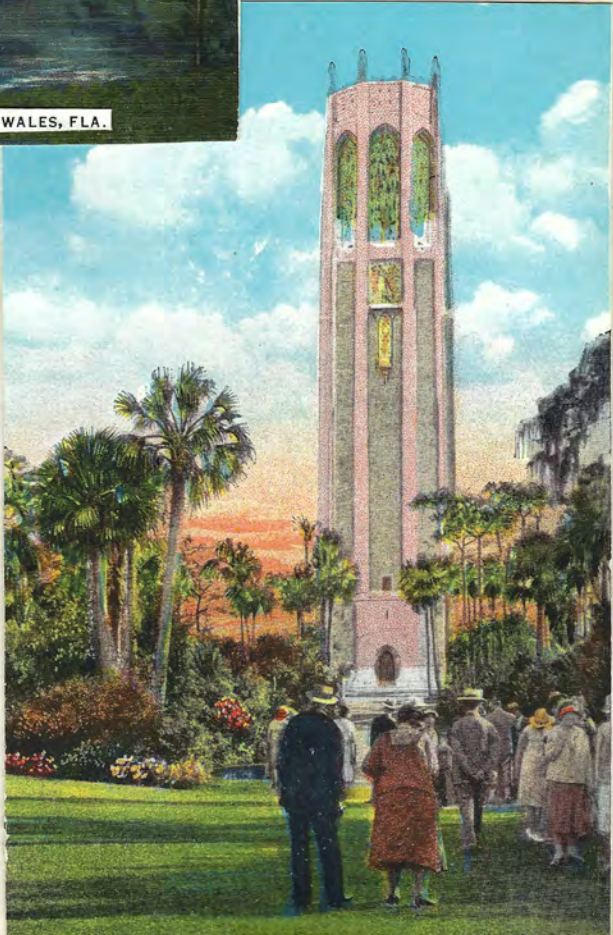
MOUNTAIN LAKE SANCTUARY, LAKE WALES, FLA.

PLACE  
YOUR  
STAMP  
HERE

PLACE  
YOUR  
STAMP  
HERE



Feeding the Pellicon's on the pier at St Petersburg.



THE SINGING TOWER NEAR LAKE WALES, FLA.



THE SINGING TOWER IN MOUNTAIN LAKE SANCTUARY, LAKE WALES, FLA.

INSIDE THE SINGING TOWER, MOUNTAIN LAKE SANCTUARY, LAKE WALES, FLA.



A "CLOSE-UP" OF THE SINGING TOWER.



MOUNTAIN LAKE SANCTUARY, LAKE WALES, FLA.

At 5 o'clock we drove over that great "Gandy Bridge" across the Tampa bay to St Petersburg. We found a nice place to stay there "The Shelbourne". Then at night we took a long walk through the business & resort section. The season is at its height here - everything is filled up and crowded. You never saw more people out walking. On the main street there are benches placed cross-wise like for a band concert. The walks were crowded and it was hard to find an empty bench.

The people in Florida are crazy about playing these nickel gambling machines & Will read paper yesterday that the law is stopping them now.

Tuesday March 24-36.

In the morning while Will worked I took a long walk. I called on Mrs Forbes Sr. she is at the "Martha Washington hotel" two blocks from where we were.

In the after noon we went out on the million dollar pier. Almost every post has a huge pellicon bird sitting on it - people feed them & keep them there.

It was so grand and warm

and sunshiny in St Petersburg we were tempted to stay another day.

That morning we were awakened by the birds singing at our window at day break. I never heard so many kinds of bird calls.

There - we saw a bamboo tree. And in front of our place were camphor trees.

We left at 4 P. M. and went back over "Gandy bridge" and through Yampa - we bought a few oranges & grape fruit and started on our trip homeward.

Donnell

When it got too dark to drive we stopped in a very poor town over night in an old time hotel. There was so much cattle in the road we were afraid to drive further.

Wednesday Mar 25.

We get a 7 o'clock start. As we travel North in Florida we see no more orange groves and no more palm trees. Then there are miles and miles of the long needle pine trees and we see whole forests of them tapped for sap for turpentine.

We kept on a steady all day drive and arrived in Atlanta Ga. at dinner time. We stayed at the Atlanta hotel - found a letter there from Jane. She tells us that someone wants to buy our house - I hope she does not sell it before we get home.

We took a long walk around town & Will located the places he would call on.

Thursday Mar. 26.

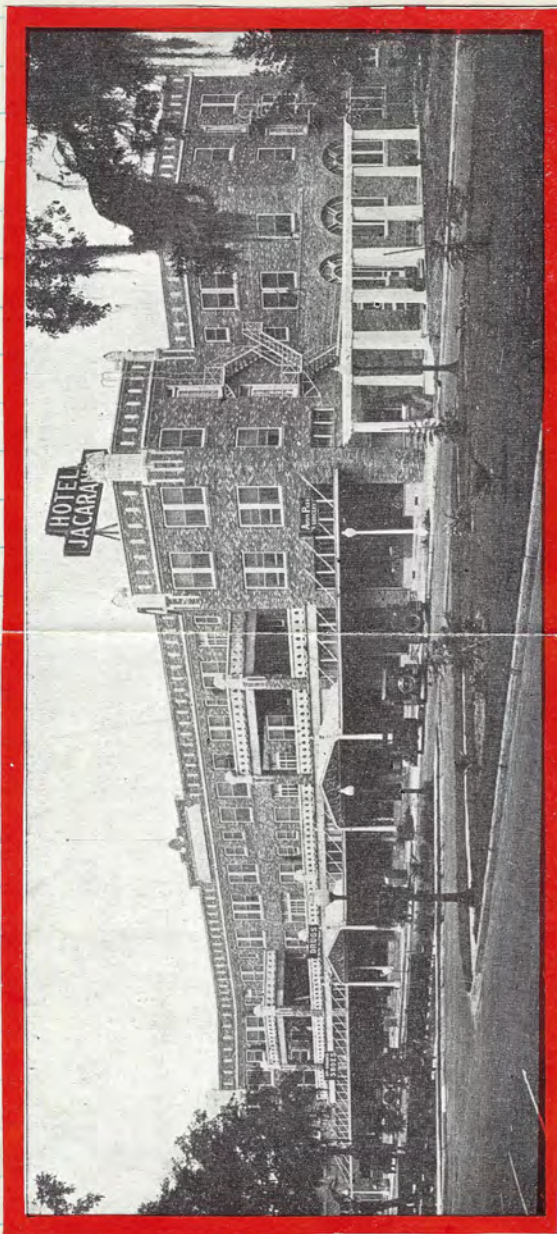
Will worked in the A.M.  
I got a shampoo & wash.

We went into a restaurant to have our lunch and were very much surprised to run into Dr. & Mrs. Snaps of G. P. - we had our lunch together and a grand visit.

Then we drove until we got to Knoxville Tenn. Will went to sleep while reading the paper and I am down in the writing room - Colonial Hotel - and I should be in bed - its late.

We hope to get to Cincinnati maybe tomorrow night and Detroit maybe Sat. night, & home maybe Sun - maybe Mon.

Hope you are well. Loads of love for you & Uncle Charlie - Rose.



This is the hotel owned by the Jack Frey family.  
It is where Stella spends her winters. A grand place to stay.