

# Earnest's

You Will Find one of the Most Complete and Up-to-Date **SPRING STOCKS** In South Florida.

Our Line is Complete in Every Detail. All the Latest things in **Spring and Summer Dress Goods, Laces, Embroideries and Trimmings.**

Up-to-Date **MILLINERY** for Ladies, Misses and Children. **Clothing, Shoes, Hats, LADIES' AND GENT'S FURNISHINGS.**

Our Goods are Right, So are **OUR PRICES!**

Money Saved By Trading **At Earnest's**

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## THE PUNTA GORDA TRADING COMPANY

Wholesale and Retail Dealers in: **STAPLE and FANCY GROCERIES, HARDWARE OF ALL KINDS, PAINTS, SHIP CHANDLERY, AND BOAT EQUIPMENTS, Farming Implements and Fertilizers; Stempel Fire Extinguishers. Men's Shoes, Shirts and Overalls.**

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**THE TAMPA MONUMENTAL WORKS** ARE PREPARED TO Execute orders, great or small, with promptness and satisfaction to all patrons. Our stock is the **LARGEST IN THE STATE** And Prices Lowest For Good Material. Write us **TAMPA MONUMENTAL WORKS,** Tampa, Florida.

**FIRE, HEALTH AND ACCIDENT INSURANCE!** JOHN H. FARRINGTON - Agent. Acton Insurance Company of Hartford Conn. Continental Fire Insurance Company of New York. Pacific Fire Insurance Company of New York. The Fidelity and Casualty Company of New York. Do you know what **HEALTH INSURANCE** is? It may be worth \$5 per week to you to call at this agency and be informed.

**LOCAL BREVITIES.** PERSONAL POINTERS FITELY PRINTED. Various Items Garnered From This and Other Fields—What Our People Are Doing.

Lowney's candles. Regular services in the Episcopal church, Sunday. Money to loan. K. B. Harvey, agt. Pillsbury flour, best on the market, at Newsome's. The weather the past week has been quite cool, like early spring. Select line of fine coffees and teas at the Bakery. Lowney's Candles. It is generally believed that passenger trains will be running to Fort Myers by April 1st prox. For an artistic photo, see Harry Goldstein. Call and see samples. Ask at Wade's for "Evangelino" box paper at 10c. Mr. R. K. Seward spent several days this week looking after his business interests in Tampa. Best home-made sausage at J. A. Newsome's market. A complete line of base ball goods always at Wade's. Mr. W. H. Brown, of the Trading Co., paid Tampa a business visit Tuesday and Wednesday. SIX GOOD MULES for sale cheap. Address P. O. Box 169, Punta Gorda. For the nicest Florida and Western fresh meats, order of J. A. Newsome. Hon. Geo. W. McLane and Druggist B. M. Wade attended circuit court at Arcadia, Wednesday. See that new line of spring clothing at Earnest's. Water ground meal at Newsome's. Curtis, the tin smith, has moved into the shop opposite the Bateman House formerly occupied by M. T. Swift. Now in—men's and boys' summer underwear and hosiery.—J. R. Elliott. Mother's Oats (a package at Newsome's).

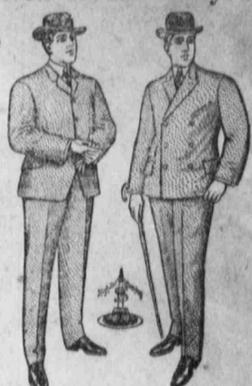
An exhilarating little northwest gale, followed by a refreshing shower of rain, swept across the bay Monday afternoon. Anything in the line of fresh meats kept in full supply at J. A. Newsome's. See our new spring hats for men and boys.—J. R. Elliott. Miss Minnie Roeseh, one of Ft. Oden's most charming young ladies, paid Punta Gorda a shopping call, Wednesday. Big supply of fresh fruits of all kinds at the Bakery. See that new and handsome line of spring goods at Earnest's.—5 Miss Rosalie Boecker, an attractive young lady of Key West, spent the past week visiting Mrs. M. V. Williams on Cross street. Don't forget Easter Sunday is April 3rd. We want to furnish your hat and dress.—J. R. Elliott. Try our premium coffee and get a nice piece of crockery free.—King & Shirley. Mr. and Mrs. E. T. Becker have rented a cottage in Arcadia and gone there to live. Good for Arcadia, bad for Punta Gorda. Eight bars good laundry soap 25c. at the Bakery. If needing anything in the harness line, A. Roe has something good to show you. Yesterday (Thursday), was St. Patrick's day, and some of our folks felt green, some looked green, a very few were green, and still fewer wore green. Our line of gents' furnishing is complete; the best line in Punta Gorda.—J. R. Elliott. For the freshest vegetables and fruits, call on or 'phone to King and Shirley, Dade Block.—5 An excursion down the bay on the steamer "St. Lucie" is set for March 23rd inst. Maj. J. W. Booth, local axletree of the Coast Line, will be the chaperone of the occasion. Good laundry soap, 8 bars 25c. at the Bakery. The prettiest line of umbrellas ever shown here, from 75c. to \$3.—J. R. Elliott. Mrs. M. O'Mara of Savannah, is expected here next week to visit her son, Mr. J. E. O'Mara. We are sure she will enjoy her visit and we hope it will prove so pleasant as to induce her to locate here permanently. Best line of dried and evaporated fruits at the Bakery. Gus Cook's 5-legged cow arrived last week and at once became the cynosure of all eyes. Sunday afternoon many people visited the Cook

home to see the cow, the big alligator, the otters and other attractions. Fresh water ground meal just received at J. A. Newsome's. Our shoes are right in styles and prices—for men and ladies, boys and girls.—J. R. Elliott. L. A. Jernigan, of Gainesville, says that he recently gave a female pointer to a friend in Punta Gorda and that the dog ran back home from Punta Gorda, a distance of over 200 miles, in less than three days. Good leather, good shoe-making, good style, modest profits: That is our platform.—J. R. Elliott. We carry a complete line of pipes and smokers' supplies.—Wade's drug store. Mrs. S. C. Whidden and her fine baby boy came back from Brooksville on Sunday to stay a few days preparatory to removing to Lakeland. The many friends here of Mr. and Mrs. Whidden greatly regret to lose them. Visitors are welcome. No compulsion to buy today. Our lease has a long time to run.—J. R. Elliott. Envelopes in bond, plate, cream, fiber, parchment or tints at Wade's drug store. Capt. Watts this week moved his building from Cross street on to the lot on Marian avenue next to the Gulf Pharmacy, which lot had been made vacant by the removal of a part of the building called the "Rookery." The finest and best selected stock of millinery ever brought to DeSoto county will be found at Earnest's. Waterman's fountain pens give perfect satisfaction; all styles at Wade's drug store. Bruce Camp, the gentlemanly little brother of Mrs. A. C. Freeman, was brought home from Useppa Monday, very ill. He has been engaged at Useppa Inn since January. Since coming home, his condition has improved. I am now prepared to take photographs in any style and guarantee satisfaction.—Harry Goldstein. 10 Keep your horses and cows healthy and your hens laying by giving them Magic Food; for sale by A. Roe. 10 That courtly Kentuckian, Mr. W. H. Wilkes, of Louisville, Ky., who has warm friends in Punta Gorda, is now in France hobnobbing with the gay and festive Parisians. He has our thanks for a copy of the Paris edition of the New York Herald. When in need of any good, reliable fertilizer, call on A. Roe and he will demonstrate to you that the brands he sells are all right. 10 Hawkes' specialist will be at the drug store of B. M. Wade & Co. about the middle of April. Wait for Hawkes and try no other. The recent warm weather caused an early opening of the tarpon season. John Vanderlet, the well known guide, claims the first catches this season for the Punta Gorda guides, Alfred Whitehead and Wm. McGuire. The catches were made last week. If you become a customer of Jas. A. Newsome, you can get 20 pounds of standard granulated sugar for \$1. Just received, a new line of men's working pants, from 75c to \$2.—J. R. Elliott. Congressman Sparkman and Hon. Rebt. McNamee, candidates for congress, had a joint debate in Arcadia on Wednesday night of last week. While both gentlemen made fine speeches and were attentively heard by a large audience, the News reports that "honors were about even." You need shoes, we need money: We're on a trading basis; come in and see us.—J. R. Elliott. Full assortment National Biscuit Company's goods, very freshest and nicest, at King & Shirley's. 61 HERALD subscribers failing to get their paper in due time will please report the fact promptly to the office. No subscriber's name is intentionally omitted, unless so ordered by him or he actually refuses to pay for the paper; but the office mailing machine, when run in a hurry, sometimes skips a name. Our line of oxidized belt pins and shirt waist sets are beauties. You should have some of them.—J. R. Elliott. Soda water chips—a bright, new thing at Wade's. They are pretty and get a 5c drink. They are nice to carry in the pocket. Judge George S. Darrance, of Arcadia, who is a candidate for county judge, visited Punta Gorda Wednesday in the interests of his candidacy. While here, he paid a pleasant call at this office, during which he expressed great satisfaction over his prospects, which he said made him feel confident of winning. Fifty cases of shoes, about \$1,500 worth, all of the celebrated Selz shoes; all styles, men's, women's and children's, just received. Can fit any one; prices right, at Earnest's. The local gun club had a shoot Wednesday afternoon at clay pigeons. Experts representing the Dupont Powder Co. and the Union Metallic Cartridge Co. participated in the contest and were beaten by the local club members. Chester Blount, the clothing merchant, made the highest score, his record having been 91 out of 100.

Other people may be fischer, other stores larger, but none have better purer or more reliable drugs and medicines or treat customers more politely than W. A. Roberts.—12. Dr. E. O. Taylor, of Boston, Mass., delivered a series of three lectures in our Methodist church, beginning on Monday night. His lectures were on the subject of temperance from a scientific view and were of high order. Considering their character, they should have been heard by all our people, but unfortunately his audiences were comparatively small. Measures taken for men's and youths' suits, and clothing made to order and a fit guaranteed by R. C. Blount, agent for the Royal Tailors. We recommend Bidwell's tooth-brushes as the best on the market. All styles, with our own positive guarantee.—Wade's drug store. One of the lawyers of this section of the country who can be relied on to attend to business promptly and correctly is Victor H. Knight, of Tampa. THE HERALD knows this from experience. Mr. Knight, as is well known throughout this region, is a gentleman of ability and integrity. See his card on the first page of this paper. If you wish to be dressed in the neatest, latest fashion, have your clothes made to order by the Royal Tailors, for whom R. C. Blount is agent. Special attention given to supplying our customers with the very best fresh meats of all kinds, including Western and home-made sausage, hoghead cheese, etc.—Jas. A. Newsome's. Shipments of fresh fish on ice from Punta Gorda for the week ending Wednesday, 16th inst., amounted to two solid cars and 400 barrels, aggregating 128,000 pounds. Most of the fish shipped are pompano, Spanish mackerel and sheepshead, which are now more plentiful in these waters than they were at this time last year. The wholesale dealers have all the orders that they can fill. We buy our jewelry and watches direct from one of the largest manufacturers in the United States, and we buy at jobbers prices, which are less than wholesale; our customers get the benefit.—Wade's drug store. Don't fail to see our spring millinery, ladies' and children's ready-to-wear sailors and walking hats from 25c. up.—J. R. Elliott. Some of Punta Gorda's retail prices are as follows: eggs and oranges 25c. a dozen; lemons 20c; grapefruit 10 to 15c. each; pineapples 6c. lb.; strawberries 25c. qt.; cabbage 3c. lb.; beets 5c. lb.; egg plants (small) 2 1/2 to 5c. each; string beans and tomatoes 10c. qt.; onions 5c. per bunch of six; turnips with tops 5c. for enough for a family of five; coconuts 5c. each, bananas 20c. doz. We are headquarters for millinery. If you want the very latest in styles and the best talent and taste in trimming, you will serve your interest by patronizing us.—J. R. Elliott. Punta Gorda should provide a public hall for the political visitors, who will soon be coming here to thrill us with their eloquence and elegance. The city hall may answer, but it needs seats and lights. Gen. Gilchrist, Capt. W. H. Johnson and Hon. J. R. Sandlin are hereby appointed a committee to secure the necessary seats and lights by getting up a subscription and contributing liberally themselves. The best dressed men—those who look nicest and whose clothes last longest and look neat until worn out, are those who have their suits made to order by the best tailors, who are represented by R. C. Blount, agent. A widow's card should be engraved with her husband's name preface with "Mrs." as before his death. A Christian name following the prefix—as "Mrs. Mary Jones"—is provincial and used only by women who have been divorced. I have never seen it on a visiting card. Of course she signs her name "Mary Jones" "Mrs." is a courtesy title, and her late husband's name is still hers by courtesy unless she accepts that of another.—Ladies' Home Journal. We were fortunate in securing six months ago a large lot of India linens before they advanced in prices and are able to sell them now at what they will cost today to produce. Compare the quality with others and you will be convinced. A saving of 25 per cent. at Earnest's. REES-GOUGE. Mr. Arthur E. Rees and Miss Dora Googue were married in this city at the home of the bride's parents at 2 p. m. Tuesday, the ceremony being performed by Rev. R. L. Honiker, pastor of the Methodist church. The wedding was a quiet affair, only family connections and the special friends of the happy couple being present. Immediately after the ceremony an elegant lunch was served and was greatly enjoyed by all. The couple took the 4 p. m. train for Tampa, where they are spending a few days with relatives and friends. They will return on Sunday and make their home here. Mr. and Mrs. Rees are very popular here, having many friends who wish them a long life of uninterrupted happiness. SCHOOL CONCERT. The Punta Gorda colored school will give a concert Tuesday night, March 29, at the colored Masonic Hall. We cordially extend this invitation to our white friends of Punta Gorda. Beginning at 7:30 p. m. Admission 15 cents, children 10 cents. Benj. J. Baker, Teacher.

# J. R. ELLIOTT.

*Here's Your Chance!* We are Able to Fill all Wants in Our Many Different Lines. **Summer Clothing.** NOW is the time to look around for your **SPRING SUIT.** We have them at **\$7, \$8 and \$10...** That are Well **Worth Much More.**



**SHOES and HATS.** We can't be Beat. All Up-to-Date Goods; Latest Styles and Shapes; Prices to Suit the Hard Times. **MILLINERY.** Always the Best—Now Better Than Ever—with the Largest Line we have ever shown for you to select from. 25c. Up. **Spring Dress Goods.** The Latest Fabrics and Newest Designs with all Necessary Trimmings. A Beautiful Assortment. **Muslin Underwear.** A Beautiful Line of Ladies' Muslin Underwear. Everything in this line; also a nice line of Men's and Boys' Underwear. We guarantee to please in **QUALITY AND PRICES.**

**J. R. ELLIOTT.** Phone 10. **THE PEOPLE OF PUNTA GORDA AND VICINITY** Can get on short notice and at the lowest prices **Plenty of The Best Fresh Meats.** Including Florida and Western **Beef, Mutton, Pork and Sausage.** By ordering of **JAMES A. NEWSOME,** Who Keeps Also a Large and Varied Stock of **FAMILY & FANCY GROCERIES, Vegetables, Fruits, Poultry and Eggs.** Special Care is Taken to Fill and Deliver Orders Correctly and Quickly, Giving Only the Best and Most Reliable Goods. At the Lowest Prices obtainable. Special Inducements to Regular Customers.

**James A. Newsome.** **HAY, GRAIN & ALL KINDS FEED STUFFS;** **Reliable Fertilizers; CRATE MATERIALS, HARNESSES, McCORMICK MOWING MACHINES, For Sale By A. ROE, Punta Gorda, Fla.**

**AT WOTITZKY'S** Mason Fruit Jars, all sizes; Gents' Furnishings; Handsomest Dress Shirts ever shown in line of. **First Class Groceries,** Promptly delivered. **Chair Bottoms, French Zinc, and Paints** ALL AT THE LOWEST PRICES **AT Wotitzky's.**

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