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J. O. BICKLEY,
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County.

INTERESTING SKETCH OF THE FAMILY LIFE OF

Governor-Elect Sydney J. Catts. Maternal Ancestor Was Closely Allied in Kinship to the Celebrated South Carolina Statesman, John C. Calhoun.

The following interesting sketch of the family life of Rev. Sydney J. Catts, governor-elect of Florida, appeared in the Jacksonville Times-Union, yesterday's edition. The sketch was written by Christine O. Gillis, and will no doubt be read with interest by many of the subscribers of the Daily News:

"Naturally the interest of the people of Florida centers just now upon the distinguished people who will soon occupy the executive mansion; and it is nothing but right that they should know something of the private life of the governor and his family.

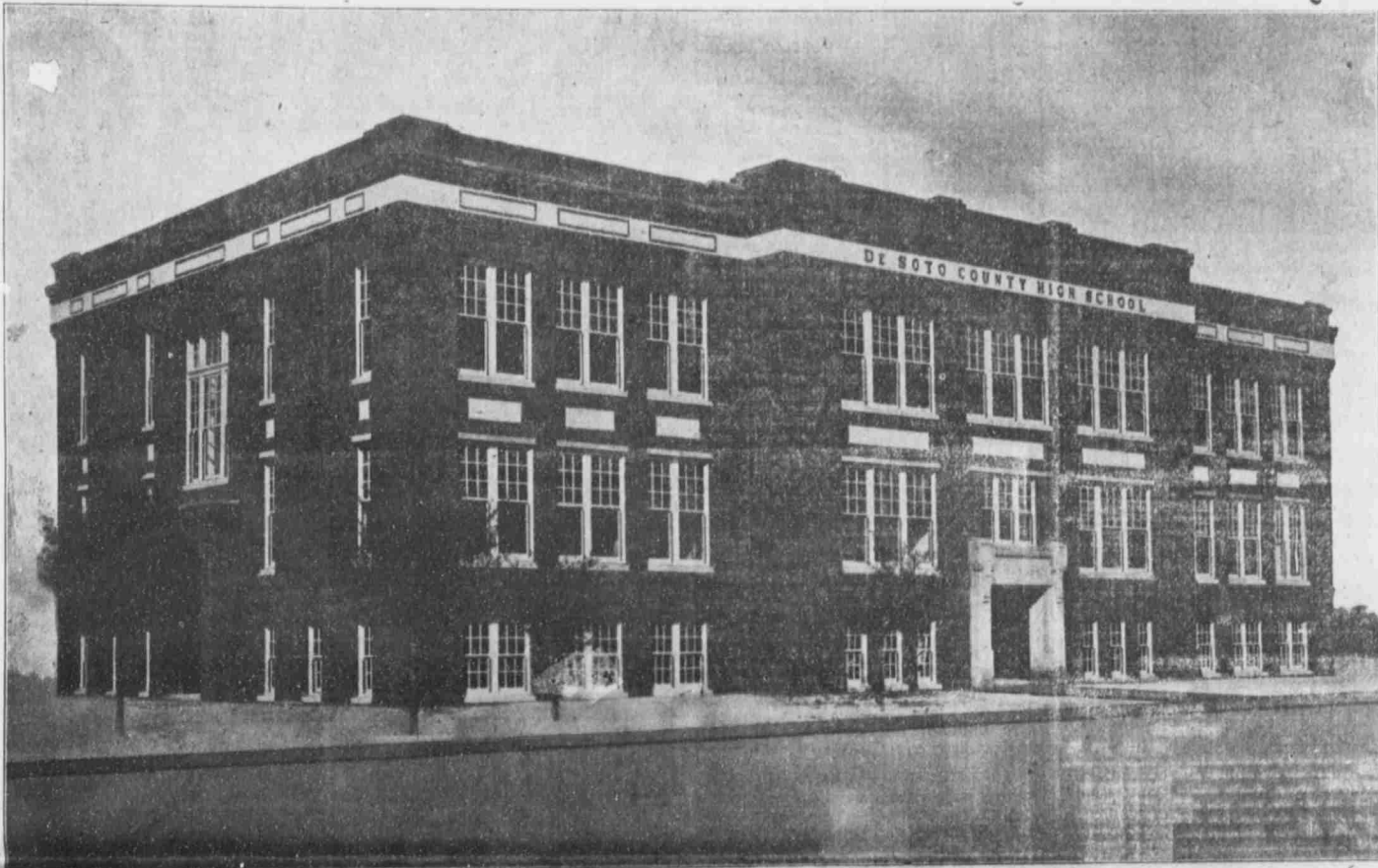
"About 1821, in the early pioneer days of Alabama, at the same time that General Lafayette and his attendants were approaching the river boundary between Georgia and Alabama, John Smyly, the maternal ancestor of Sidney Johnston Catts, appeared on the banks with his family and retinue of slaves, on his way from South Carolina to Alabama. John Smyly, upon recognizing the great French-American patriot, Lafayette, offered to give him precedence in the passage over the river, but the ferryman insisted 'first come, first served.' This pioneer settler in Alabama was closely allied in blood kinship to the celebrated Caldwell family of South Carolina, and also to the great statesman, John C. Calhoun, the boy of the slashes of the Palmetto to State. John Smyly settled in what is now Dallas county, Alabama, and owned one of the largest plantations in the state. Some years afterwards, Adeline Smyly, a daughter of this famous pioneer, married Samuel W. Catts, a Virginian by birth, and a very successful merchant and planter. When Samuel W. Catts, who was afterwards a captain in the Confederate army, left Alexandria, Virginia, to go to Alabama, Mr. Bloxham, his first cousin, came with him and settled in Florida. He was the father of Governor B. J. B. of Florida. Mr. Catts was proud of his wife, and the Catts home was noted for its great hospitality. He loved fine stock, and always possessed a span of Kentucky horses. The young couple made their home on the Catts plantation, where in 1863 Sydney Johnston Catts was born. At the age of three an unfortunate accident deprived him of the sight of an eye. The wound was inflicted by a pair of scissors accidentally while he and his nurse were cutting pictures. Mrs. Catts was left a widow soon afterwards, in comfortable circumstances. This lady is described by a near relative as being an aristocratic person of culture and great refinement. Her education was obtained at Judson college, and she was one of the four of the first graduating class. Her father, John Smyly, was a Presbyterian, but the daughter under the influence of the Baptist institution became a useful member of that denomination. The mother devoted her life to the training and education of her son, and he in turn was equally as careful of the mother's welfare and comfort.

Sydney J. Catts attended Howard College three years, the Alabama Polytechnic Institute at Auburn three years, and later graduated from the law school of Lebanon, Tenn., obtaining degrees from all three colleges. Although prepared for the lawyer's profession, he decided to enter the ministry. Upon this decision having been made the mother is quoted as saying: 'I prayed that Sydney might become a consecrated Christian, and the Lord granted more than I asked.' Her greatest desire was for him to take up the profession of law. After serving a short pastorate in his home town he was called to Fort Deposit, Alabama, where he spent five years. His next call was to Tuskegee, where he remained for several years. He was then rated at \$50,000 by Dunn and Bradstreet, but five bad crop years caused him to lose his property. While he inherited and acquired this property in Alabama, he was always the friend of the poor, and took the part always of the every day citizen. He later returned to Pleasant Hill. Early in 1911 he was called to the Baptist church of DeFuniak Springs, Florida. Two years ago he commenced his memorable campaign for governor, in which his wonderful powers of oratory had no little to do with his phenomenal success.

It is conceded by those who know Mrs. Catts, now the first lady of Florida, that her influence has had much to do with the ambitious and success of her husband. She was Miss Alice May Campbell, of Montgomery, Ala., and was married to Mr. Catts in 1886, in the early days of his ministry. Mr. Catts took his bride to his ancestral home, and she soon became the idol of the mother-in-law's heart. She is a woman of sterling worth of character, and possesses a sweet dignity of manner. Her life is devoted to the interests of her husband and children. One daughter recently made the remark, 'Mama; and Papa are just like sweethearts yet. They write love letters to each other

WELCOME, FLORIDA TEACHERS

Florida teachers, you are welcomed into the hearts and homes of the citizens of Arcadia, Arcadians place a premium on everything that is for the educational and moral uplift of the community and state. Arcadians know that among the greatest contributors to these worthy causes are the teachers of the state, and therefore feel a just pride in the honor of entertaining them. May your stay in this city be pleasant and profitable, and may the lives of each of you be made to count for all that is possible in the great work you have chosen! Welcome, thrice welcome!



HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING, WHERE CONVENTION WILL BE HELD.

FIRST SESSION OF THE FLORIDA EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION TONIGHT IN HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

The exercises will begin at 7:30 o'clock, or as soon thereafter as the members can get a little rested from their long ride and come to the building.

every day when Papa is away from home. Mrs. Catts is highly esteemed in DeFuniak Springs, whose people belong to the highest type of citizenship.

"None the less interesting are the six children, four of whom live in DeFuniak Springs, and two older sons Douglas and Sydney, Jr., in Birmingham, Ala. Miss Ruth Catts, the charming young lady of the family, is of the blonde type and an accomplished violinist. She, like her grandmother, is a graduate of Judson College. She is a popular member of the younger society set of DeFuniak Springs. Mrs. K. R. Paderick, nee Miss Bessie Catts, considered a very beautiful woman of the brunette type, is an accomplished musician. Her marriage to Mr. Kempster R. Paderick about three years ago, was a brilliant social event. They have one son, Kempster, Jr., the only grandchild of the governor. The youngest daughter of the family is only a little miss, in the eighth grade of Walton High School. Rozier, the typical young American son, is a member of the junior class of the Walton High School. "Sug," as he is nicknamed, is a great favorite with all the young people. He drove his father's car during the latter part of the campaign, and enthusiastically wrote home on several occasions, 'We are gaining votes every day.' The loss of the son, Walter, who died under an operation last summer, has saddened the family, and indeed, the entire community. He had just been graduated from the Walton High School a few months before his death, and many predictions had been

The Florida Educational Association will hold its first session tonight in the magnificent High School auditorium. The citizens have made every arrangement for taking care of the convention, and there is every promise of its being one of the most successful in the history of the association. The big special train is due to arrive at 5:40, and the teachers will be met at the train by automobiles and carried to their lodging places. After supper has been served they will be carried to the auditorium

CONTROL CLOVER SICKNESS.

The results so far obtained in experiments in clover sick regions, being carried on by the United States department of agriculture, in co-operation with the Indiana and Wisconsin experiment stations, indicate that in the cases investigated the incorporation of certain green manures, together with proper fertilizer treatment, accomplishes a control of this trouble.

A device has been originated by specialists of the United States department of agriculture which promises a more satisfactory and practical application of the hot water treatment for the prevention of loose smut of

made that he would be a star in our legislative halls, for he had wonderful talents and great ambition.

Governor Catts and his interesting family are, by birth, education, and training, eminently fitted to assume the state leadership in affairs both political and social; and the people of Florida have always given their loyalty to those who steer their ship of state."

FLORIDA DOCTOR IS ON THE PROGRAM.

Atlanta, Ga., Dec. 28.—The first annual meeting of the Southeastern States Veterinary Medical Association has convened here for two days. Veterinary surgeons from all parts of the southeastern states are in attendance, and a two full days' program is scheduled.

Dr. F. W. Porter, of Tampa, appears on the program, speaking on the veterinary profession, "Past and Future." It is the intention of the association to form a permanent organization. The adoption of the constitution and by-laws and the election of officers will follow.

A feature of the program today is a visit to the stock yards, where many diseases of horses, mules, cattle and dogs will be available for inspection. Many other phases of the professional work will be demonstrated.

FARMERS CAN AFFORD BETTER MACHINERY NOW.

The farmer who has been scratching the soil with one-horse farm machinery has the chance now to buy good implements. Increased prices of farm and garden products will pay for them. Decreasing the amount of labor that has been necessary in previous years will also make a big saving.

Just now farmers are working the soil in preparation for another crop, and John M. Scott, animal industrialist to the University of Florida experiment station, recommends the use of all labor-saving machinery possible. He says that the thorough preparation of the seed bed will produce a better crop of corn or cotton with less cultivation during the growing season; and it requires modern farm machinery to make this thorough preparation economically.

Take plowing, for example. Mr. Scott says the riding sulky plow will do the work ninety per cent. better and with seventy-five per cent. less exertion on the farmer than if a one-horse plow were used. Also, the work will be accomplished in one-third the time.

When planting time comes, the corn and cotton planter with fertilizer attachment can be operated by a boy with one mule. From six to eight acres can be planted in a day's time, reducing the cost to less than



CAPT. GEO. M. LYNCH,
Principal DeSoto County High
School.

CITRUS FRUIT GROWERS READ THE FOLLOWING ARTICLE

From the Pen of H. G. Gumprecht, the Manager of the Bradentown Citrus Exchange. Mr. Gumprecht Shows the Absolute Necessity for Closer Co-Operation of the Growers With the Federal Agricultural Department.

We most heartily endorse a recent signed statement made by Mr. H. G. Gumprecht, manager of the Citrus Exchange packing house at Bradentown. This paper has contended in the face of government reports to the contrary, that this year's fruit crop would be far below that of a normal year. We have also contended that no greater injury can be done the growers than such an over-estimate should be made, and that it is often the carelessness of the growers that causes such erroneous reports to become so broad over the country. We take pleasure in giving the three first paragraphs of Mr. Gumprecht's statement, and hope it will be carefully read by all the fruit grower readers of this paper:

"There is hardly anything more damaging to the citrus industry than over-estimating a crop. All buyers and speculators immediately take full advantage in showing the growers that they had better sell at their price, because of the crop being much larger than first estimated, and in this case back up their contention by the government report.

"Let there be no misinterpretation of this statement. It is not made to criticize the government's efforts in getting an estimate; to the contrary, we personally know Mr. C. C. Hare, the government field agent, and know him to be a conscientious and most competent worker. But this being the first time the government has been trying to secure an estimate, and consequently depending more or less from the reports they secure from the various growers, and many of them fail to co-operate, leaves it very doubtful as to actual figures, and therefore more or less speculative. This should convince every grower of the necessity of closer co-operation with the department, as this is the only way they could hope to get a reliable crop report.

"Our interests of course are with the growers; first, last and always; and we have made it a point to keep in close touch on the question of crops, and from the information we have been able to gather, does not show anything like the government report; and while the writer is only expressing his personal opinion, is therefore frank to state that in his opinion it is very doubtful if the orange crop would reach the six million mark. But when it comes to grape fruit, he does not think there is much over a million boxes in the state. About fifty per cent. crop as compared with last year, and from these figures you must make the necessary allowance for draps and general weather conditions, and half of that spent for hand labor.

With labor costs increasing, it is very necessary that a farmer equip himself with machinery so that little labor need be hired. The profits of farming may be measured by such labor savings.