

# WHITE GIFT OFFERING AT THE BAPTIST CHURCH

Unique Service Was Held at the Baptist Church Sunday Night. A Program of Unusual Beauty and Merit Was Presented.

A most unique and interesting Christmas service was held Sunday night at the Baptist church in the presence of an overflowing house. The program had been arranged peculiarly with the "giving idea" dominant in the minds of all, and was designated as the "white gift service." The giving was done by classes, each class making a gift of the same thing, whether money, food or clothing, and all of which was to be given to the Baptist Orphanage of this city. All the classes entered into the spirit of the occasion with much zeal, and it was an interesting sight to observe the various classes, headed by the teacher, march around and deposit their gifts, all of which were carefully wrapped in white. We have no means of knowing the full value of the contributions, but from the size and number of the packages, they were sufficient to make it a worthwhile service in behalf of the home, and it could easily be seen that those who participated greatly enjoyed it. The decorations of the pulpit were beautiful and artistic, all being of pure white. A cross had been erected in the center of the platform, which was lighted by some forty or fifty electric bulbs, giving it a most impressive appearance when all the other lights of the building had been turned off.

The program was well rendered, and consisted of Christmas recitations by the primary and intermediate grades and Christmas music by the choir. The children all showed themselves to have been well trained in their parts and the music by the choir was sweet and appropriate.

After the gifts had all been deposited, Dr. Holt, the venerable editor of the Baptist Witness, asked for the privilege of "butting in," as he was pleased to call it. It proved to be a happy "butting in" to the pastor, for Dr. Holt in his characteristic manner, told a beautiful story in praise of the faithful service of the pastor and of the appreciation of the church in supplementing his salary \$300. The pastor made response as best he could, hinting that this was not a part of the program that had been placed in his hand, and intimating that he could have done better in response had he been aware it was a-coming. Anyway, it could be seen with half an eye that he enjoyed the surprise, and could even stand more of it, should it be necessary.

After the exercises Santa Claus made his appearance and delivered to the primary and intermediate classes candies and other goodies which it is needless to say they fully enjoyed. Taken altogether it was an evening spent most enjoyably and most profitably.

plant must be sprayed, or the beetles will attack the parts missed. The beetles may be scoured away by the use of fine dust such as air slaked lime, tobacco dust, wood ashes or dust from a clay road, but such measures of relief are only temporary.

It has been found that a few thorough applications of crude petroleum to the interior of poultry houses will destroy completely the common red mite infesting chickens.

## LEGAL ADVERTISING.

**Notice.**  
The annual meeting of the Stockholders of the Security State Bank of Fort Ogden, Fla. will be held in the office of the bank Tuesday, January 9th, 1917.  
J. O. CARR, JR., Cashier.

**Notice of Application for Tax Deed.**  
Notice is hereby given that A. H. Zimmerman, the purchaser of Tax Certificate No. 144, dated August 5th, 1912, has filed said certificate in my office, and has made application for tax deed to issue in accordance with law. Said certificate embraces the following described property situated in DeSoto County, Florida, to-wit: Northeast quarter of township 33 south, range 24 east, Tallahassee meridian, the said land being assessed as to date of the issuance of such certificate in the name of Unknown. Unless said certificate shall be redeemed according to law, tax deed will issue thereon on the 30th day of January, A. D. 1917.

Witness my official signature and seal this 22nd day of December, A. D. 1916.  
(Seal) A. L. DURRANCE,  
Clerk Circuit Court of DeSoto County, Florida. By Clarence J. Carlton, D. C. 12-28 to 1-25

**Notice.**  
In the Circuit Court of the Tenth Judicial Circuit in and for DeSoto County, Florida, in Chancery. The Old Colony Trust and Savings Bank, a Corporation, Complainant, vs. Helen M. Covey, et al., Defendants. Bill to Quiet Title.

To the defendants herein, C. B. Hough and William J. Pringle, and each of you, you are hereby notified that a Bill of Complaint has been filed in this cause against you. This is, therefore, to command you to appear at the Court House, Arcadia, DeSoto County, Florida, on the 5th day of March, A. D. 1917, and appear to said Bill of Complaint. You are further notified that in the event you fail to appear, the matters and things set forth in said bill of complaint, will be taken as confessed by you, and each of you.

It is further ordered that this notice be published in the DeSoto County News, a newspaper, published in DeSoto County, Florida, for eight consecutive weeks prior to return day hereof.

Witness my hand and official seal, at Arcadia, DeSoto County, Florida, on this 22nd day of December, A. D. 1916.  
(Seal) A. L. DURRANCE,  
Clerk of the Circuit Court of Tenth Judicial Circuit in and for DeSoto County, Florida. 12-28 to 2-22

**Notice.**  
In the Circuit Court of the Tenth Judicial Circuit in and for DeSoto County, Florida, in Chancery. The Old Colony Trust and Savings Bank, a Corporation, Complainant, vs. Helen M. Covey, et al., Defendants. Bill to Quiet Title.

To the defendants, Helen M. Covey, R. C. McLeese, John J. Ralston, Edward B. Frieble, William Orr Kinker, John D. Hood, James Ryan and William C. Johnstone, and each of you, you are hereby notified that there has been filed in this court a Bill of Complaint against you, wherein certain relief is prayed. Therefore, this is to command you to be and appear before this court on the 5th day of February, A. D. 1917, at Court House, Arcadia, in DeSoto County, Florida, and appear to said Bill of Complaint, and in the event you fail to appear, the matters and things set forth in said Bill of Complaint will be taken as confessed by you.

It is further ordered that this notice be published once a week for four consecutive weeks in the DeSoto County News, a newspaper published in DeSoto County, Florida.

Witness my hand and official seal on this 22nd day of December, A. D. 1916.  
(Seal) A. L. DURRANCE,  
Clerk of the Circuit Court of Tenth Judicial Circuit in and for DeSoto County, Florida. 12-28 to 1-25

**Notice of Contest.**  
Department of the Interior, United States Land Office, Gainesville, Florida, December 22, 1916.  
To Johannes J. Jensen, of Unknown Address. Contestee:

You are hereby notified that Thomas D. Whidden, who gives Arcadia, Florida, as his postoffice address, did on November 27, 1916, file in this office his duly probated application to contest and secure the cancellation of your Homestead Entry No. 012323, Serial No. 012323, made November 29, 1913, for south half of northwest quarter and north half of southwest quarter section 34, township 33 south, range 29 east, Tallahassee Meridian, and as grounds for his contest he alleges that Johannes J. Jensen, who has not been on said land within the last past eighteen months, nor has he placed any improvements upon said land of any appreciable value; and that said alleged absence from said land was not due to military service in connection with operations in Mexico or along the borders thereof, or in mobilization camps elsewhere.

You are, therefore, further notified that said allegations will be taken as confessed, and your said entry will be canceled without further right or on appeal, if you fail to file in this office within twenty days after the FOURTH publication of this notice, as shown below, your answer, under oath, specifically responding to these allegations of contest, together with due proof that you have served a copy of your answer on the said contestant either in person or by registered mail.

You should state in your answer the name of the postoffice to which you desire future notices to be sent to you.

ROBERT W. DAVIS, Register.  
Date of first publication, December 28, 1916.  
Date of second publication, January 4, 1917.  
Date of third publication, January 11, 1917.  
Date of fourth publication, January 18, 1917. 12-28 to 1-18.

## REPORT OF COUNTY FINANCE, DE SOTO COUNTY, PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 30TH, 1916.

The following report of the Receipts and Disbursements of the several funds of DeSOTO COUNTY for the period ending SEPTEMBER 30th, 1916, ment by the assets and liabilities, and the value of the county property, as reported by the Clerk of the Circuit Court and the County Commissioners on the 30th day of September, 1916, is hereby published under the provisions of Chapter 6313, of the Laws of 1915.

W. V. KNOTT, Comptroller.

### General Fund.

Treasurer's balance March 31st, 1916 ..... \$ 103.96  
Warrants outstanding March 31st, 1916 ..... 7,139.71  
Deficit March 31st, 1916 ..... \$7,035.75

**RECEIPTS:** March 31st to September 30th, 1916.  
From: Comptroller, taxes and redemptions ..... \$ 325.53  
Fees of candidates ..... 2,761.69  
Tax collector, taxes ..... 1,314.83  
Transferred from other funds ..... 1,728.37  
Total receipts ..... \$7,450.42

Making balance ..... \$27,458.42  
Disbursements: March 31st to September 30th, 1916:  
For: Salary of Clerk as Auditor ..... \$ 500.00  
Per diem and mileage members of board ..... 858.80  
Paid Judge of attendance on board ..... 58.00  
County Prosecuting Attorney ..... 150.00  
Attorney for commissioners ..... 240.00  
Supervisor of Registration ..... 450.00  
Paid for meals furnished jury ..... 40.95  
Repairs on County Buildings:  
Court House ..... 57.12  
Jail ..... 209.30  
Furniture and Fixtures: For:  
Court House ..... 291.15  
Jail ..... 5.85  
Expense of County Buildings:  
Janitors and other attendants ..... 509.57  
Light, fuel and water ..... 431.45  
Incidentals ..... 75.00  
Jail expense ..... 652.02  
Care of County Poor: Allowance made to paupers outside of poorhouse and paid by warrant ..... 2,119.00  
Witnesses' Inquests: Fees of officers, jurors and witnesses ..... 55.10  
Insanity Inquiries: Fees of officers and committees ..... 134.81  
Stationery and Printing:  
General stationery, blanks, etc. .... 630.34  
Record Books ..... 476.45  
Advertising required by law ..... 277.40  
Commissions Paid to Officers:  
Tax Assessor ..... 2,500.00  
Tax Collector ..... 2,864.17  
County Treasurer ..... 1,582.62  
Expense of election ..... 1,285.93  
Interest on warrants ..... 84.28  
Zolfo Drainage District ..... 259.70  
Fort Ogden Drainage ..... 18.20  
Charlotte Harbor spl. R. & B. Dist. .... 22.88  
Hernando Drainage ..... 21.25  
County Commission road inspection ..... 78.00  
Work on court house yard ..... 828.00  
Transferred to fine and for. fund ..... 200.00  
Transferred to spl. indubtedness fund ..... 157.20

Total disbursements ..... \$19,539.15  
Balance September 30th, 1916 ..... 858.52  
Unpaid warrants cancelled ..... 90.50  
Net balance September 30th, 1916 ..... \$ 777.62  
Warrants outstanding September 30th, 1916 ..... 4,922.96  
Treasurer's balance September 30th, 1916 ..... \$5,899.98

### Fine and Forfeiture Fund.

Treasurer's balance March 31st, 1916 ..... \$ 472.34  
Warrants outstanding March 31st, 1916 ..... 3,631.88  
Deficit March 31st, 1916 ..... \$3,159.54

**RECEIPTS:** March 31st to September 30th, 1916.  
From: Comptroller, redemptions ..... \$ 81.38  
Comptroller, taxes, R. R. ..... 490.43  
Transfers from other funds ..... 2,209.00  
Tax collector taxes ..... 5,248.71  
Fines collected ..... 955.94  
Total receipts ..... \$9,176.46

Making balance ..... \$6,016.92  
Disbursements: March 31st to September 30th, 1916:  
For: Sheriff and deputies cost bills in crim. cases ..... \$3,344.18  
Constables, cost bills in crim. cases ..... 2.40  
Clerk Ct. Ct. cost bills in crim. cases ..... 224.31  
County Judge cost bills in crim. cases ..... 10.41  
Justice of the peace cost bills in crim. cases ..... 22.86  
County Prosecuting Atty. convicts ..... 245.00  
Witness fees ..... 551.40  
Court stenographer, insolvency cases ..... 96.75  
Sheriff's commission on fines collected ..... 37.41  
Feeding prisoners ..... 969.70  
Transportation paid for and discharge money paid to convicts worked on roads ..... 177.50  
Drugs, etc., for prisoners ..... 163.27  
Total disbursements ..... \$5,936.19  
Balance ..... 80.73  
Warrants cancelled ..... 7.27  
Actual balance September 30th, 1916 ..... \$ 88.00  
Warrants outstanding September 30th, 1916 ..... 946.42  
Treasurer's balance September 30th, 1916 ..... \$1,034.42

### Road Fund.

Treasurer's balance March 31st, 1916 ..... \$ 7,678.48  
Warrants outstanding March 31st, 1916 ..... 14,368.69  
Deficit March 31st, 1916 ..... \$ 6,690.21

**RECEIPTS:** March 31st to September 30th, 1916.  
From: Comptroller, tax redemptions ..... \$ 651.12  
Comptroller, R. R. taxes ..... 5,423.37  
Taxes, tax collector ..... 42,430.89  
Hire convicts ..... 15.00  
Grading ..... 305.50  
Refunds ..... 197.63  
City of Wauchula for pay for engineer ..... 232.50  
Sale of rock, oil, etc. .... 671.30  
Sale of mules ..... 250.00  
Other sales of property ..... 34.28  
Miscellaneous receipts ..... 100.00  
Total receipts ..... \$50,462.57

Making balance ..... \$49,772.36  
Disbursements: March 31st to September 30th, 1916:  
For: Salaries of road superintendents and overseers ..... \$ 4,200.14  
Paid for road inspection ..... 29.00  
Cost of material ..... 5,332.04  
Oil gas and tractors ..... 2,176.52  
Incorporated cities and towns ..... 3,833.56  
Tools, machinery, cost and repair ..... 305.50  
Live stock, cost, care and feed ..... 4,658.21  
Paid for free labor other than guards ..... 14,909.62  
Pay of convict guards ..... 1,208.75  
Feeding and care of convicts on roads ..... 7,350.88  
Advertising ..... 6.75  
Payments on account of roads built by contract ..... 1,104.29  
Payments on acct. of disc. convicts leased ..... 1.95  
Total disbursements ..... \$46,837.51  
Deficit September 30th, 1916 ..... \$ 3,665.15  
Warrants cancelled ..... 291.61  
Actual deficit September 30th, 1916 ..... \$ 3,863.49  
Warrants outstanding September 30th, 1916 ..... 12,914.07  
Treasurer's balance September 30th, 1916 ..... \$10,054.55

### Murdoch Drainage Fund.

Treasurer's balance April 1st, 1916 ..... \$12,644.62  
Warrants outstanding April 1st, 1916 ..... 4,359.37  
Net balance April 1st, 1916 ..... \$ 8,285.25

**RECEIPTS:** April 1st to September 30th, 1916:  
From: Tax collector, taxes ..... \$7,429.00  
Comptroller, taxes and redemptions ..... 70.00  
Total receipts ..... \$7,499.00

Making balance ..... \$15,784.25  
Disbursements: April 1st to September 30, 1916:  
For: Interest on warrants ..... \$ 600.00  
Interest coupons ..... 3,000.00  
Excavation ..... 10,476.60  
Engineers ..... 128.00  
Drainage committees ..... 28.00  
Oil and gas excavation ..... 1,000.00  
Incidentals ..... 490.38  
Total disbursements ..... \$15,752.98  
Balance September 30th, 1916 ..... \$ 1,031.27  
Warrants outstanding September 30th, 1916 ..... 838.57  
Treasurer's balance September 30th, 1916 ..... \$ 1,871.84

### Punta Gorda Drainage Fund.

Treasurer's balance April 1st, 1916 ..... \$ 185.78  
Warrants outstanding April 1st, 1916 ..... 8.06  
Net balance April 1st, 1916 ..... \$ 177.72

**RECEIPTS:** April 1st to September 30th, 1916:  
From: Tax collector, taxes ..... \$ 497.42  
Comptroller, taxes and redemptions ..... 18.50  
Total receipts ..... \$ 515.92

Making balance ..... \$ 693.64  
Disbursements: April 1st to September 30th, 1916:  
For: Interest on warrants ..... \$ 1.20  
Interest coupons, paid ..... 680.00  
Total disbursements ..... \$ 681.20  
Net balance September 30th, 1916 ..... \$ 12.44  
Warrants outstanding September 30th, 1916 ..... 5.00  
Treasurer's balance September 30th, 1916 ..... \$ 67.44

## Special Indebtedness Fund.

Treasurer's balance April 1st, 1916 ..... \$ 427.01  
Warrants outstanding April 1st, 1916 ..... 25,525.21  
Deficit April 1st, 1916 ..... \$25,098.20

**RECEIPTS:** April 1st to September 30th, 1916:  
From: Tax collector, taxes ..... \$20,982.87  
Comptroller, taxes and redemptions ..... 3,087.21  
Transfers from other funds ..... 157.20  
Total receipts ..... \$24,227.28

Making balance ..... \$1,416.98  
Disbursements: April 1st to September 30th, 1916:  
For: Transfer to fine and for. fund ..... \$1,900.00  
Errors in warrants paid ..... 5.40  
Warrants No. 2042, paid in error ..... 5.00  
Total disbursements ..... \$1,910.40  
Net deficit September 30th, 1916 ..... \$ 493.42  
Warrants outstanding September 30th, 1916 ..... 4,608.75  
Treasurer's balance September 30th, 1916 ..... \$4,115.31

## Court House Fund.

Treasurer's balance April 1st, 1916 ..... \$ 1,014.15  
Warrants outstanding April 1st, 1916 ..... 11,997.70  
Deficit April 1st, 1916 ..... \$10,983.55

**RECEIPTS:** April 1st to September 30th, 1916:  
From: Tax collector, taxes ..... \$10,503.22  
Comptroller, tax redemp. and R. R. taxes ..... 1,543.63  
Total receipts ..... \$12,046.85

Making balance ..... \$1,062.28  
Disbursements: April 1st to September 30th, 1916:  
For: All purposes; none ..... \$ 0.00  
Balance ..... \$ 1,062.28  
Credit correction acct. error in Lukenbill audit ..... 1,882.10  
Net deficit September 30th, 1916 ..... \$ 819.72  
Warrants outstanding September 30th, 1916 ..... 3,087.50  
Treasurer's balance September 30th, 1916 ..... \$3,268.72

## Arcadia Drainage Fund.

Treasurer's balance April 1st, 1916 ..... \$ 279.37  
Warrants outstanding April 1st, 1916 ..... 6.00  
Net balance April 1st, 1916 ..... \$ 273.37

**RECEIPTS:** April 1st to September 30th, 1916:  
From: Tax collector, taxes ..... \$ 979.88  
Sale of bonds ..... 24,700.00  
Total receipts ..... \$25,679.88

Making balance ..... \$25,953.25  
Disbursements: April 1st to September 30th, 1916:  
For: Excavation ..... \$14,650.66  
Engineering ..... 516.50  
Advertising and printing ..... 83.88  
Drainage committee ..... 225.00  
Incidentals ..... 59.00  
Material ..... 6.25  
Reimbursing general fund ..... 701.00  
Circuit Court Clerk Costs ..... 20.37  
Attorney's fees ..... 400.00  
Interest coupons paid ..... 1,560.00  
Total disbursements ..... \$18,202.66  
Net balance September 30th, 1916 ..... \$7,750.59  
Warrants outstanding September 30th, 1916 ..... 147.89  
Treasurer's balance September 30th, 1916 ..... \$7,904.48

## Special Road and Bridge District No. 1.

Treasurer's balance March 31st, 1916 ..... \$170,827.65  
Warrants outstanding ..... 18,681.27  
Net balance ..... \$189,508.92

**RECEIPTS:** April 1st to September 30th, 1916:  
From: Tax collector, taxes ..... \$11,031.72  
Comptroller, taxes and redemptions ..... 1,647.09  
Total receipts ..... \$12,678.81

Making balance ..... \$202,187.73  
Disbursements: April 1st to September 30th, 1916:  
For: Advertising and printing ..... \$ 30.77  
Material ..... 15,470.97  
Bridges ..... 8,738.40  
Engineering expenses ..... 1,583.59  
Road contracts ..... 106,841.87  
Machinery and repairs ..... 1,109.91  
Oil and gas ..... 302.67  
Trustees ..... 782.72  
Interest on bonds (coupons) ..... 6,300.00  
Bonds retired No. 1 to 14 inclusive ..... 7,000.00  
Total disbursements ..... \$148,166.90  
Net balance September 30th, 1916 ..... \$154,020.83  
Warrants outstanding September 30th, 1916 ..... 4,660.29  
Treasurer's balance September 30th, 1916 ..... \$158,681.12

## Special Road and Bridge District No. 5.

Treasurer's balance April 1st, 1916 ..... \$325,677.82  
Warrants outstanding April 1st, 1916 ..... 245.17  
Net balance April 1st, 1916 ..... \$325,922.99

**RECEIPTS:** April 1st to September 30th, 1916:  
From: Taxes, tax collector ..... \$10,420.66  
Interest ..... 83.33  
Refunds ..... 126.15  
Comptroller, taxes and redemptions ..... 1,219.69  
Comptroller, taxes and redemptions ..... 2.25  
Total receipts ..... \$11,850.08

Making balance ..... \$337,773.07  
Disbursements: April 1st to September 30th, 1916:  
For: Advertising and printing ..... \$ 253.84  
Engineering ..... 2,046.92  
Interest ..... 26.71  
Road contracts ..... 28,706.85  
Right of way ..... 8,699.84  
Culverts and bridges ..... 7,423.08  
Tools and machinery ..... 6,715.14  
Material ..... 727.50  
Transferred to Hanover National Bank for payment of interest coupons and to retire bonds ..... 15,500.00  
Total disbursements ..... \$61,405.73  
Making net balance September 30th, 1916 ..... \$276,367.34  
Warrants outstanding September 30th, 1916 ..... 15,065.09  
Treasurer's balance September 30th, 1916 ..... \$291,432.43

## Punta Gorda Special Road and Bridge District.

Treasurer's balance April 1st, 1916 ..... \$175,754.50  
Warrants outstanding ..... 0.00  
Net balance April 1st, 1916 ..... \$175,754.50

**RECEIPTS:** April 1st to September 30th, 1916:  
From: Taxes, tax collector ..... \$7,732.44  
Interest ..... 3,693.20  
Comptroller, taxes and redemptions ..... 1,539.32  
Total receipts ..... \$12,965.96

Making balance ..... \$188,720.46  
Disbursements: April 1st to September 30th, 1916:  
For: Labor ..... \$53,049.88  
Contracts ..... 14,131.25  
Material and supplies ..... 15,979.84  
Engineering ..... 1,409.24  
Freight and express ..... 2,287.92  
Interest ..... 6,000.00  
Total disbursements ..... \$92,858.13  
Making balance ..... \$96,862.33  
Warrants cancelled by order of the board ..... 517.59  
Net balance September 30th, 1916 ..... \$96,344.74  
Warrants outstanding September 30th, 1916 ..... 259.19  
Treasurer's balance September 30th, 1916 ..... \$96,603.93

Treasurer's balance September 30th, 1916 ..... \$ 162.24  
Trustees' balance September 30th, 1916 ..... 98,617.67  
Total ..... \$98,779.91

## Fort Ogden Drainage Fund.

Treasurer's balance April 1st, 1916, Nothing.  
Receipts: April 1st to September 30th, 1916:  
From: Sale of bonds ..... \$2,660.00  
Disbursements: April 1st to September 30th, 1916:  
For: Printing ..... \$ 25.00  
Reimbursing general fund ..... 627.00  
Clerk Ct. Ct. costs ..... 3.53  
Excavation ..... 105.84  
Drainage Committee ..... 120.63  
Attorney ..... 50.00  
Interest coupons ..... 25.00  
Total disbursements ..... \$ 927.00  
Net balance September 30th, 1916 ..... \$1,732.00  
Warrants outstanding September 30th, 1916 ..... 6.00  
Treasurer's balance September 30th, 1916 ..... \$1,738.00

## ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

**Assets.**  
Total available assets ..... \$462,494.25  
Warrants outstanding for current expenses ..... \$47,228.50  
Bonds outstanding as follows: Road ..... \$753,000.00  
Drainage ..... 140,800.00  
Total liabilities ..... \$948,922.75

**Value of County Property.**  
Court house ..... \$150,000.00  
Jail ..... 10,000.00  
Other property of county (not school) ..... 17,450.00  
Total ..... \$177,450.00

Advertise in the DeSoto Co. News