

YOUR NEWSPAPER

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The World's Greatest Vegetable
Spot and Richest Garden Land.

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Sanford Got Start As Celery Center With Freeze Of '95

Industry Began Slowly But Developed Into Profitable And Extensive Venture

BANK FACILITIES OF SANFORD ARE ON SOLID GROUND

Sanford Atlantic Institution Has Safe And Sound Policies

By E. L. HARKELL
Sanford's tremendous vegetable industry owes its origin to a great catastrophe. At the time of the big freeze in 1895, Seminole County was one of the largest producers of oranges in the entire State of Florida. The freeze killed most of the citrus trees on the ground, and left many of their owners practically destitute. In desperation, they turned to the production of vegetables as a quick source of revenue, and found the new industry more profitable and reliable than the old. Most of the citrus groves were pulled up never to be replanted, and in their place we now find luxuriant fields of celery, lettuce, beans and other vegetable crops.

The production of vegetables was first confined to such so-called staples as new potatoes, cabbages, beans, etc. Celery was grown in a small way, but was not shipped in car lots until about 1899, when four carloads were sent to northern markets.

The new industry grew slowly. Celery had always been regarded as a luxury enjoyed only by the rich, and its consumption was confined to the Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday seasons. It was five years before the annual shipments of Sanford celery reached a hundred cars. By then it was apparent that in spite of custom and prejudice, more people could be persuaded to eat celery and that it

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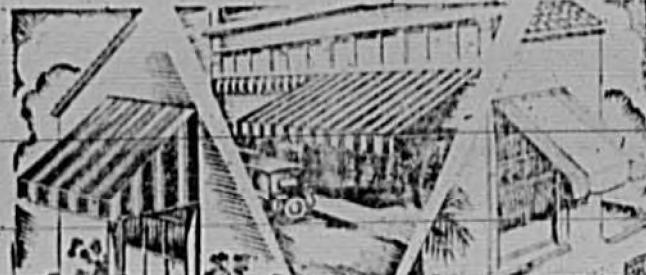
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SANFORD'S LEADING TOURIST HOTEL



The newest hotel was constructed in 1928 at an approximate distance of the business section of the community parties during the Sanford social season.

Sound Foundations In Sanford Churches Local Benevolence Has Administrator Well Prepared To Set Fine Example Spiritual Desires

By Leon Page
Seminole County, as interesting from many standpoints, is fortunately very aptly situated. Formerly it was the hunting, fishing and trapping grounds of the Seminole Indians. Today one may search and find evidence of their occupations and traits.

Throughout the County are to be found huge mounds of shell, the scenes of ancient Indian feasts, but the most impressive site to my mind, in the whole county is between Lake Mary and Longwood, namely the "big tree" known as "Semita". This tree was named in honor of Senator Oliver Olcott of Orlando, who presented the tract on which it stands to Seminole County to be set aside as a park in its natural state.

"Semita" is a swamp cypress, is 727 feet high, 47 feet around the base, and 17 and one-half feet in diameter. Its great age is very interesting feature. Around the trunk may be seen horizontal lines, corrugations, from the base up to the height of about 14 feet. These from 11 feet to 14 feet are rather hard to see but they are there nevertheless. These are the water marks from the tree standing in water for ages. The language of water previous to the drawing of the swamp is very evident. The tree is 240 years old, (Continued On Page Four)

Sanford's Library Has Enjoyed Rapid Rise In Popularity

"BIG TREE" LURES MANY TO COUNTY TO VIEW ITS SIZE

Indian Mounds, Relics Also Draw Lovers Of Natural History

Local Institution Is Supported By Taxes And Has Fine Record

The Sanford Public Library which stands in the City, is supported by taxation and is free to all taxpayers non-residents having to pay a nominal fee of \$1.00 a year for its use. Since 1927 the circulation has more than doubled and records show that since the establishment of the first Sanford Library in 1880 by Mrs. A. D. Key and Mrs. A. M. De Forest, the institution has rapidly increased in favor and popularity not only in Sanford but throughout Seminole County.

The books for this first library were bought with money raised by a rummage sale held at the Woman's Club. For this purpose the library was housed in one room of the Woman's club house until the erection in 1924 of the modern building which it now occupies. Books could be obtained by membership only until the opening of the new building as a free public library six years ago.

The library at present has over 16,000 adult members and almost 100 juvenile members. During the month of August last year there was a circulation of 3,000 the largest in the history of the institution and 425 readers were added to the library during the year.

The library offers every modern convenience and is as well equipped as many in the larger cities. The juvenile room is well stocked with children's fiction and junior reference books. There is also a large and unequalled reference room fitted with desks and chairs, modern a lares, maps and

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