

August 1, 1929

This Pioneer Baptist Minister Served Florida Churches Many Years Ago

OCALA, KEY WEST AND FERNANDINA PASTORATES

Brother Jas. L. Rodger of Miami was born in a small house with grass roof, near the banks of Rio Samborombon, Province of Buenos Aires, Argentina. From fourteen months old till almost fourteen years old, lived in

soon after received a call to a field of three small churches, with an area attached of about 60 miles by 20, of mountains, canyons, tablelands, and valleys, which were well combed. Unforgettable, and invaluable experiences. Then a brief pastorate in Nipomo, California. After brief trip to Europe, came to Florida October 1896. Early in 1897 accepted call to Ocala, Florida, the most gracious, and best loved field, of any held anywhere.

Early in 1898 accepted call to Key West, and—including a six month's "release" in 1899, when assisted Missionary O'Halloran and others, in Cienfuegos and other parts, Province of Santa Clara, Cuba—was there till the fall of 1900.

Had a delightful and useful period of service with the excellent good people in the pretty old city of Fernandina, a pastorate which from some standpoints has given rise to many mellow memories. Again returning to first coming to Florida, in early part of 1897, along with progressive pastors—some of them—and church members, and under leadership of Rev. John J. Parsons, then of First Church, Jacksonville, had quite a part in making beginnings of more extensive B. Y. P. U. work in Florida. Surprising opposition as recent as 1897 of some good pastors, some of them enlightened scholarly men at that, to young people's work. Those of this day could hardly believe it, if it were fully described. Last 22½ years Bro. J. L. Rodger has resided mostly in Miami.

Brevity of space prevents the witness from using more about the experiences of Brother Rodger and others of our pioneer preachers. We hope to have more from them later. (P. L. J.)

Short News Stories of Florida Baptist People.

The members of Circle No. 5, of the First Baptist Church, Sanford, met with Mrs. Francis E. Bolz, Monday afternoon, at her home. Mrs. Bolz presided over the business session. Those present were: Mrs. F. W. Stanley, Mrs. T. J. Newby and Mrs. Bolz.

The Baptist Evangelistic Brotherhood of Jacksonville was in charge of the service Sunday at the Norwood Baptist Church.

Mrs. H. Cummings entertained members of Circle No. 4 of the First Baptist Church of Sanford at the regular monthly meeting.

Plans are now being completed for the annual summer picnic of the T. L. class of the South Jacksonville Baptist Church Sunday School, to be held August 15, at Jacksonville Beach.

The City Federation of the Baptist Woman's Missionary Societies of Jacksonville held the quarterly meeting at 10:30 o'clock Tuesday at the Franklin Street Baptist Church.

The Intermediate Girls' Auxiliary of the Starke Baptist Church had its regular meeting at the home of Miss Eunice Canova, Monday afternoon. Following the devotional and business meeting a program on prayer was given by Misses Thelma Silcox, Melba Silcox, Louise Hayes and their leader, Mrs. W. J. Epperson. Others present were: Misses Connie McGauley, Alice and Fannie Silcox.

Friends in Jacksonville of the contracting couple will be interested in the following article taken from a recent issue of the Valdosta Times, Valdosta, Ga.:

"The marriage of Miss Rena Mae Davis to Mr. Edward J. Fowler was solemnized Tuesday evening at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jeff M. Davis on Slater street. The impressive ceremony was performed by Rev. A. C. Pyle, Pastor of Lee Street Church, in the presence of many friends and relatives.

The marriage of Miss Ella Blanche Truluck, daughter of Mrs. S. O. O. Truluck and the late Mr. Truluck to Mr. Vivian A. Chisholm was solemnized Tuesday, July 16, at the home of the bride's mother, 3619 Columbia Ave., Talleyrand Park, Jacksonville. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. McEmore, pastor of the Talleyrand Baptist Church, in the presence of relatives and a few close friends of the bridal couple.

FROM MOODY'S BIBLE

Repentance—a change of mind; New mind about GOD.
Conversion—a change of life; New life for GOD.
Regeneration—a change of nature; New heart for GOD.
Justification—a change of state; New standing for GOD.
Adoption—a change of families; New relationship toward GOD.
Sanctification—a change of character; New life for GOD.