

Research copy  
D. Boca Raton in  
the teens

# The Spanish River Papers

OCTOBER 1980

VOL. IX, No. 1



OLD CITY HALL, HOME OF BOCA RATON HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
Jeanne Nixon Baur, Artist

A report to the membership of  
**Boca Raton Historical Society, Inc.**

P.O. Box 1113 • Boca Raton, Florida 33432

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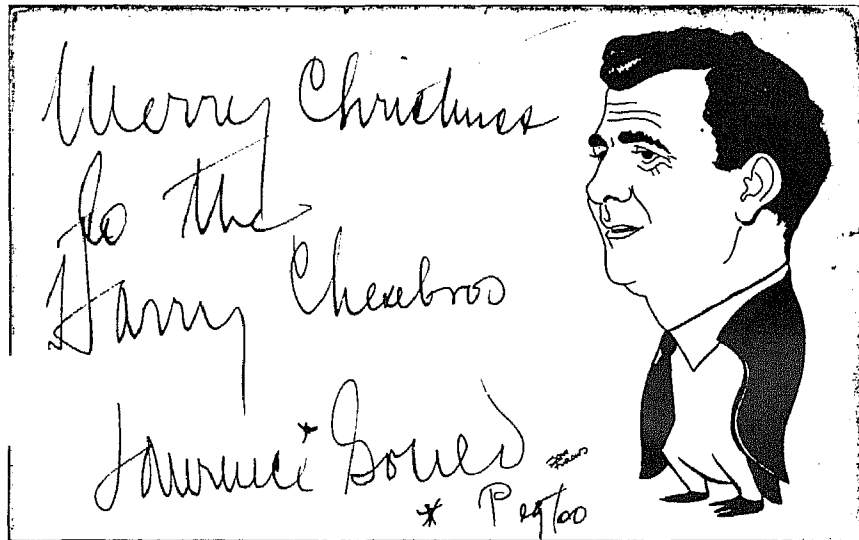
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Laurence Gould and a student from Yamoto. When the picture was taken, Gould served as the teacher of the Boca Raton School.



Christmas card received by the Harry Chesebro family from Laurence Gould sometime after his Antarctica adventures. Note the "\*and Peg too" addition at the bottom of the card. Peg was Mrs. William C. Young.

## BOCA RATON IN THE 'TEENS

This edition of the Spanish River Papers includes documents and letters from the collections of the Historical Society that date from the era of the First World War. Pioneer days had ended and the land boom times were still in the future. Boca Raton was a small neighborly town: its citizens interested in making life better, improving the environment, and giving its children a good education.

The minutes of the Board of Trade tell of the active involvement of Boca Raton's residents in making the town a good place to live. There is even a hint to suggest that no matter how much things change, they still stay the same. The student "newspaper" may well be the first newspaper published in Boca Raton. The person responsible for the newspaper was Laurence McKinley Gould, who served as teacher of the Boca Raton School from the fall of 1914 to the end of the school year in 1916. The letters, sent to Mr and Mrs William C. Young, tell of Gould's army life during the First World War. ("Bill" Young, a stone-carver, had come to South Florida to work on the Deering Estate in Miami. In Boca Raton the Young's owned a general store and Mrs. Young served as postmistress.)

After the war Gould studied geology at the University of Michigan, earning a Sc.D. in glacial geology in 1925. He first gained national recognition as second-in-command of the Byrd Antarctica Expedition of 1928-30. In 1931 he received a Congressional Gold Metal honoring his Antarctica work. He later became president of Carlton College in Northfield, Minnesota. On his retirement from the presidency in 1962 he was named professor of geological science at the University of Arizona in Tucson where he still lives. In 1964 he was elected president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, perhaps the highest honor that can be conferred by American scientists.

In 1979 Gould returned to the Antarctica at age 83 with a group that included Senator Harry F. Byrd, Jr., of Virginia, Admiral Byrd's nephew, to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the historic expedition.

MINUTES OF THE PRELIMINARY  
MEETING OF THE BOCA RATONE BOARD OF TRADE

A preliminary meeting for the organization of a Board of Trade was held by the people of Boca Ratone on Wednesday evening, August 11, 1915, at 7:30 p.m. Ten citizens were present and G. A. Long was selected as temporary Chairman, H. D. Gates acting Secretary.

After discussing the possibilities of the organization, it was moved and seconded that the Secretary be instructed to prepare a set of by-laws for the government of the association and present them for approval at the next regular meeting. It was suggested that the annual dues of the association be One Dollar and that all be invited to join.

After a discussion relative to good road, opening of Boca Ratone Inlet, etc., the meeting was declared adjourned.

H. D. Gates, Secretary

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MINUTES OF THE FIRST REGULAR  
MEETING OF THE BOCA RATONE BOARD OF TRADE HELD  
AUGUST 18, 1915

The first regular meeting of the Boca Ratone Board of Trade was held on Wednesday evening, Aug. 18, 1915, at 7:30 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Geo. A. Long, Temporary Chairman and the following officers and directors were elected by those present:

W. H. Sistrunk, President  
F. H. Chesebro, Vic.-Pres.  
H. D. Gates, Secy-Treas.  
H. B. Fultz, Director  
B. B. Raulerson, "  
Geo. A. Long, "  
W. J. Sistrunk, "

The newly elected president took charge of the meeting and the by-laws prepared by the secretary were approved and accepted.

The Inlet matter was freely discussed and it was moved and carried that the President appoint a committee of three to make investigations regarding the possibility of getting the Inlet opened. G. A. Long, H. D. Gates and B. B. Raulerson were so appointed.

The Secretary was instructed to choose depository for funds of the Association and authorized to purchase 250 suitable letterheads and 250 envelopes for correspondence purposes.

Thanks was voted to the gentleman who prepared the hall and the meeting was then declared adjourned.

Those present were: B. B. Raulerson, G. A. Long, L. B. Merriam, F. H. Chesebro, Chas. Schneider, W. C. Young, W. P. Purdom, Geo. Aitken, W. J. Sistrunk, F. L. Craig, W. H. Sistrunk, H. D. Gates, H. B. Fultz.

H. D. Gates, Secretary

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MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF  
THE BOCA RATONE BOARD OF TRADE HELD SEPT. 6, 1915

A special meeting of the Boca Ratone Board of Trade was held Monday evening, Sept. 6, 1915, at 7:30 p.m. The meeting was called to order by President Sistrunk who explained that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss the action of the County Commissioners relative to the Main County Highway.

The road matter was freely discussed and Messrs. Raulerson and Chesebro reported on what they had learned relative to the different systems of road building.

It was moved, seconded and carried that a committee be appointed to meet the County Commissioners at West Palm Beach on the following morning to inform them that the Boca Ratone Board of Trade approved of the Delcher system of road building and to recommend that system. President Sistrunk appointed Messrs. Gates, Raulerson and Chesebro to act as such committee.

The meeting was then adjourned.

H. D. Gates, Secretary

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H. D. GATES  
ESTABLISHED 1907  
REAL ESTATE AND INVESTMENTS  
BOCA RATONE, FLA.

ASSESSED VALUATION IN PROPOSED ROAD AND  
BRIDGE DISTRICT

Real Estate east of Canal.....	\$6,110.00
Real Estate west of Canal.....	158,840.00
Personal Property.....	1,820.00
Railroad and Telegraph.....	55,896.00
TOTAL	\$222,666.00

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MEETING OF THE BOCA RATONE BOARD OF TRADE  
HELD THURSDAY EVENING, SEPT. 9

Called to order by the President 8 p.m.

Moved by Mr. Chesboro, seconded Mr. W. J. Sistrunk that Mr. Fultz record the minutes in the absence of the Secretary. Carried.

Mr. Chesboro then reported for the delegation to Palm Beach to see the County Commissioners in regard to roads. Discussion followed then moved by Mr. Fultz seconded by W. J. Sistrunk that the Committee continue their work and report further developments. Carried.

Considerable discussion followed in regard to the proposed planting of Pine trees along the streets. Moved by Mr. Fultz, seconded by Mr. Long that the Board of Trade cooperate with the Utility Club, the members of the Board giving all the labor they can, to assist in the planting of the trees. Carried.

A lengthy discussion followed in regard to the proposed \$100. dwelling on Palmetto Park Road. Moved by Mr. Sistrunk seconded by Mr. Young that Messrs. Long, Merriam and Fultz be appointed a committee to see the parties concerned, to try to stop such a building, as the Board was entirely against having such buildings. Carried.

Moved by W. J. Sistrunk, seconded by Mr. Long that the hearing of the report from the Committee, in regard to the Canal and Inlet be heard at the next meeting. Carried.

On motion the meeting then adjourned.

Herman B. Fultz, Acting Secretary

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MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE  
BOCA RATON BOARD OF TRADE HELD SEPT. 15, 1915

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by President Sistrunk. The ladies and all parties interested in the uniform system of improving the streets were guests.

Mr. Long called on the Secretary of the Utility Club to explain the purposes of that organization and Miss Long responded telling something of the principals of the organization.

Mr. Long also explained that all the parties he represented would insist on the trees being set 10 feet from the lot lines. Mr. Merriam exhibited a map of the principal streets and showing the exact condition of the roads, lots and proposed changes. He explained that setting out trees had in experience caused much trouble and suggested 8 feet from the lot lines as the best location. Later Mr. Merriam moved that the trees be set 8 feet from the lot lines, but the motion was not seconded and so lost.

It was moved and seconded that trees be set on the 10 foot line and this motion was carried.

Moved and seconded that a delegate be appointed to attend the meeting of the East Coast Chamber of Commerce at Lake Worth on the 27th inst. The motion was carried and President Sistrunk appointed H. D. Gates as delegate with the suggestion that at least every director accompany him and as many members as wished.

With a few well chosen remarks by President Sistrunk thanking the ladies for their presence, the meeting was declared adjourned.

H. D. Gates, Secretary

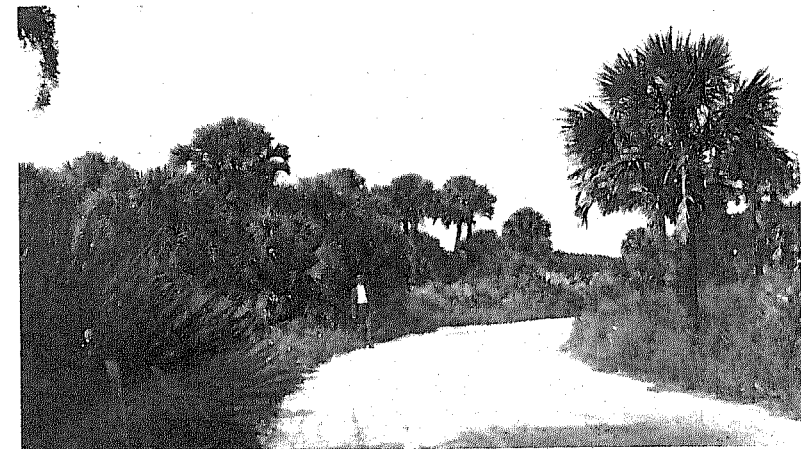
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MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING  
OF THE BOCA RATON BOARD OF TRADE HELD OCTOBER 14, 1915

The regular monthly meeting of the Boca Ratone Board of Trade was held on Thursday evening, Oct. 14, 1915, at 7:30 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by President Sistrunk and the minutes of previous meetings were read and approved.

The Inlet Committee had no special report to make, though Mr. Long stated that he was trying to get the State Engineer to look into the matter and hoped to accomplish something along this line.



It was moved, seconded and carried that the Boca Ratone car owners meet the Dixie Highway Convention at Delray and escort them as far as the county line. It was also voted to have the Board of Trade prepare a banner to be hung across the Dixie Highway at the time the Convention would pass through, and it was suggested that the Board of Trade ask the Utility Club to assist in preparing such banner and decorations. The Chair appointed Messrs. Chesebro, Long and Fultz to take charge of this matter.

It was voted to have the Secretary prepare a petition asking the Government to correct the spelling of the word Boca Raton, such petition to be circulated among the citizens of the town.

It was moved, seconded and carried that the Secretary answer the letter received from the Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce relative to the free distribution of advertising matter for the different commercial organizations of the East Coast.

The Secretary's bill of \$3.50 for 250 letterheads and 250 envelopes was voted paid.

It was then voted to urge the School Trustees of the Boca Ratone district to furnish suitable drinking water for the school children of Boca Ratone.

There being no further business the meeting was declared adjourned.

H. D. Gates, Secretary

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MINUTES OF THE REGULAR  
MONTHLY MEETING OF THE BOCA RATONE BOARD OF  
TRADE HELD THURSDAY EVENING, NOV. 11, 1915

The regular monthly meeting of the Boca Ratone Board of Trade was held Thursday evening, November 11, 1915, at 7:30 p.m.

In absence of the President, the meeting was called to order by Vice-President Chesebro.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

It was voted to write the Section Foreman, of the East Coast Railroad, to take proper steps to remove all loafers from the station platform and to prevent as far as possible the colored population from hanging around the depot.

The matter of appointing a Station Agent for Boca Ratone and asking for a waiting room for passengers was freely discussed and it was suggested that this matter have further discussion at the special meeting to be held the following week. It was voted to have a special meeting on the evening of the 17th to consider the above matter and to confer with the citizens and Utility Club relative to a suitable location for a cemetery.

It was suggested that the Board of Trade co-operate with the Woodmen in connection with having a dinner at some future date.

There being no further business the meeting was declared adjourned.

H. D. Gates, Secretary

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MINUTES OF A SPECIAL  
MEETING OF THE BOCA RATONE BOARD OF TRADE  
HELD WEDNESDAY EVENING, NOVEMBER 17, 1915, AT 7:30 P. M.

A special meeting of the Boca Ratone Board of Trade was held on Wednesday evening, Nov. 17th, 1915, at 7:30 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by President Sistrunk with most of the members and a number of the ladies present. The President explained the purposes of the meeting and the matter of selecting a cemetery site was first considered.

Mr. Long stated that he thought the railroad would contribute five acres for this purpose as has been customary in other towns on the East Coast.

It voted that a committee of three be appointed to confer with the Utility Club relative to the proper site, and the President appointed Messrs. Raulerson, Chesebro and Long.

There was a somewhat lengthy discussion relative to asking for a waiting room and agent at Boca Ratone, and it was finally voted to have a petition prepared and circulated among the citizens and truck growers asking for a waiting room and for the services of an agent. It was voted to have a committee appointed to prepare such petition and Messrs. Gates, Chesebro and Fultz were appointed.

An informal report on the Everglades trip was given by delegates Sistrunk and Fultz.

There being no further business the meeting was declared adjourned.

H. D. Gates, Secretary

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MINUTES OF THE REGULAR  
MONTHLY MEETING OF THE BOCA RATONE BOARD OF  
TRADE HELD THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1915, AT 7:30 P. M.

The regular monthly meeting of the Boca Ratone Board of Trade was held on Thursday evening, Dec. 9, 1915, at 7:30 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by President Sistrunk and the minutes of previous meetings were read and approved.

The report of the Cemetery Committee was heard and it was suggested that they continue their investigation and confer with the Utility Club as soon as possible.

The Committee on drawing petition for waiting room and services of Station Agent reported that the petition had been prepared and circulated and was in the hands of the Railroad Company. It was suggested that they report as to results at the next meeting.

It was voted to thank the Section Foreman of the East Coast Railroad for his interest in cleaning up the station.

It was voted that the Board of Trade pass a resolution approving of an all East Coast Route for the Government Canal in preference to the St. Johns River Route, and that the West Palm Beach Board of Trade be handed a copy of this resolution and a statement as to shipments from this point to be used at the meeting of the Government Engineers at Jacksonville.



It was voted to have the Secretary write the Internal Improvement Board inviting them to visit Boca Ratone and Palm Beach County to discuss the Everglade drainage project.

Government ownership of the East Coast Canal was freely discussed.

It was voted to have Mr. Fultz represent the Board of Trade as delegate at the East Coast Chamber of Commerce meeting to be held at Miami next month.

The bills of H. B. Fultz and W. H. Sistrunk for Everglade trip expenses were voted paid.

There being no further business the meeting was declared adjourned.

H. D. Gates, Secretary

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MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING  
OF THE BOCA RATONE BOARD OF TRADE, HELD JAN. 13, 1916

The regular monthly meeting of the Boca Ratone Board of Trade was held on Thursday evening, January 13, 1916, at 7:30 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by President Sistrunk and the refusal of the Florida East Coast Railroad to provide Boca Ratone with a waiting room for passengers and the services of an agent was discussed by those present. It was moved by Mr. Fultz and seconded by Mr. Raulerson that a suitable reply be sent to the Railroad expressing the regret of the people at their failure to provide the facilities for which the petition was sent. It was suggested that this letter incorporate the information that \$65,000 was returned to the growers of Boca Ratone for produce shipped last season and that this season's shipments would greatly exceed that amount. The motion was carried.

It was then voted to have a petition prepared and sent to the Railroad Commission asking for the service which the Railroad refused to provide.

The minutes of the previous meeting were then read and approved.

Mr. Fultz made an informal report on his visit to the East Coast Chamber of Commerce Convention at Miami, and it was voted to have the Secretary write a suitable letter to the Miami Chamber of Commerce assuring them of our support in connection with harbor improvements at that city.

The Cemetery Committee reported that the Utility Club approved of the site selected by the Committee as suitable for a cemetery and it was suggested that action be taken to secure this site if possible.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

H. D. Gates, Secretary

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RESOLUTION PASSED BY THE DIRECTORS  
OF THE BOCA RATONE, FLORIDA, BOARD OF TRADE, ON  
JANUARY 17, 1916

Whereas, A hearing is to be held at Washington, on January 25, 1916, to consider improvements on St. Lucie Inlet.

And whereas, The people of Boca Ratone believe that this project is one that commands the support of every citizen of Palm Beach County, and believe will result in a considerable saving to the people of our community in connection with freight rates and will assist us materially in the development of our county.

Be It Resolved, That the Directors of the Boca Ratone Board of Trade request our Congressmen and Senators to use every effort to induce Congress to make suitable appropriations to successfully carry out the project at the earliest possible date, and that a copy of these resolutions be sent to our representatives at Washington.

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President  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Vice-Pres.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Sec-Treas.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Director  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Director  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Director  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Director

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MINUTES OF THE REGULAR  
MEETING OF THE BOCA RATONE BOARD OF TRADE, HELD  
FEB. 10, 1916.

The regular monthly meeting of the Boca Ratone Board of Trade was held on Thursday evening, February 10, 1916, at 7:30 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by President Sistrunk and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

The Secretary reported that the petition to be sent to the Railroad commissioners asking for better station facilities had been prepared and would be forwarded within a few days.

A letter from the Secretary of the Florida East Coast Chamber of Commerce asking for advance payment of dues was read and it was voted to write the Secretary informing him that the Board of Trade could not see their way clear to pay the dues until they became due.

Mr. Fultz read a set of resolutions passed by the East Coast Chamber of Commerce and submitted to the Board of Trade for approval. No action was taken in this matter.

Mr. Raulerson reported that Mr. Campbell of West Palm Beach had a resolution for the people of Boca Ratone to sign relative to the Inlet, it being the wish to the Palm Beach people to have Boca Ratone Inlet made the outlet for the waters of Hillsboro Canal. It was

suggested that the Secretary inform Mr. Campbell that the organization would entertain him at the special meeting to be held at his pleasure.

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned.

H. D. Gates, Secretary

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MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY  
MEETING OF THE BOCA RATONE BOARD OF TRADE HELD FEB. 13, 1916

The regular monthly meeting of the Boca Ratone Board of Trade was held Thursday evening, Feb. 13, 1916, at 7:30 p. m.

The meeting was called to order by Vice-President Chesebro in the absence of President Sistrunk.

The minutes of previous meetings were read and approved.

It was voted to change the petition to the Railroad Commission asking for a new station and services for an agent, so that it would read "shipments for this season should be" rather than "will be in excess of last year."

Mr. Fultz reported that the Assistant Engineer of the State was stopping at Deerfield evidently for the purpose of conducting investigations relative to the Inlet. It was suggested that members of the Board make an effort to get in communication with him.

The secretary read some miscellaneous correspondence of minor importance.

Mr. Chesebro reported that Mr. Long had informed him that the site for a new Board of Trade building would be given by Mr. Ingraham. Plans for the building were submitted through courtesy of Mr. Townsend. It was voted that a committee of three be appointed to obtain prices and estimates on the plan. Messrs. Raulerson, Fultz and Gates were so appointed.

The matter of securing a new school building for Boca Ratone was discussed and it was suggested that the Directors be asked to do what they could towards getting the building for us.

There being no other business the meeting was declared adjourned.

H. D. Gates, Secretary

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MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING  
OF THE BOCA RATONE BOARD OF TRADE HELD THURSDAY  
EVENING, FEBRUARY 24, 1916, AT 7:30 p.m.

A Special Meeting of the Boca Ratone Board of Trade was held on Thursday evening, Feb. 24, 1916, at 7:30 p.m., for the purpose of passing resolutions relative to the improvement of Boca Ratone Inlet.

In the absence of President Sistrunk, the meeting was called to order by Vice-Pres. Chesebro, with T. J. Campbell, of West Palm

Beach, and J. T. Barton, of Lake Worth, as guests of the Board of Trade. The Secretary explained the purpose of the meeting and Mr. Campbell asked a number of questions as to the advantage of Boca Ratone Inlet as an outlet for the waters of the Hillsboro Canal over a direct route from Deerfield. Mr. Long answered these questions, after the resolutions were prepared and accepted by the Board members. It was voted to adopt them and forward a copy to the Internal Improvement Board at Tallahassee.

Messrs. Campbell and Barton were elected Honorary members of the association.

The building of a suitable Board of Trade building was presented to the members by Mr. Campbell, who made a motion that Messrs. Gates and Long be appointed to select a site for the building. The motion was carried, after which Mr. Campbell made another motion that Messrs. Raulerson, Fultz, H. M. Chesebro, L. E. Merriam, W. J. Sistrunk, Long and Gates be appointed a committee to get plans and prices on a Board of Trade building to be presented for consideration at the next regular meeting. This motion was also carried. Mr. Campbell then offered \$25 as an initial subscription for the building.

A vote of thanks was extended to Messrs. Campbell and Barton for their attendance and suggestions, after which the meeting was declared adjourned.

H. D. Gates, Secretary

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MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOCA RATONE BOARD OF TRADE HELD MAY 11, 1916

The regular monthly meeting of the Boca Ratone Board of Trade was held Thursday evening, May 11, 1916, at 7:30 o'clock.

In the absence of the President, Vice-President Chesebro called the meeting to order.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

The Secretary read some correspondence relative to the Inlet matter.

A list of the material required for the new Board of Trade building was presented and the Committee were instructed to get estimates on the cost from different lumber concerns.

The question of building lateral roads was next presented. Mr. Brown stated that he thought the roads should be built by the day rather than by contract and that work should be given to local people.

County Commissioner Smith addressed the meeting and said that he had a regulation wagon bed for hauling rock in use at Delray and that he thought the local team owners could do the work satisfactorily by having their wagons altered. He thought that rock could be delivered as required.

It was stated that Boca Ratone would receive about \$12,000 for bridge and lateral roads and that \$1700.00 to \$1800.00 had already

been expended. A petition was then presented to Commissioner Smith asking that the drawbridge across the East Coast Canal be constructed of wood in place of steel owing to the advance price of steel and difficulty in getting delivery of material.

It was voted that a Committee of three be elected to take charge of the road matter and determine and report just where the money could be best expended to the satisfaction of the people. Messrs. Chesebro, Long and Raulerson were so elected, Mr. Chesebro being Chairman of the Committee.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

H. D. Gates, Secretary

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MINUTES OF THE  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOCA RATONE BOARD OF TRADE  
HELD JUNE 8, 1916

The regular monthly meeting of the Boca Ratone Board of Trade was held Thursday evening, June 9, 1916, at 7:30 p. m.

In the absence of President Sistrunk, Vice-Pres. Chesebro called the meeting to order.

The minutes of the previous meeting were held over until the next meeting for approval.

A letter from the West Palm Beach Board of Trade requesting the Boca Ratone Board of Trade to appoint a member for the Palm Beach County Citizens Highway Commission to work towards securing practical expenditure of the recent bond issue for road work was read and on the motion of G. A. Long, seconded by B. B. Raulerson, the Secretary was appointed to fill serve in this capacity.

It was voted to request the County Commissioners to provide sign boards with proper indication marks to be placed at all public road crossings in Palm Beach County, in accordance with the law passed by legislature of 1913.

H. D. Gates was appointed delegate to represent the Board of Trade at the meeting of the East Coast Chamber of Commerce to be held in Orlando, on July 11th.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

H. D. Gates, Secretary

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MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING  
OF THE BOCA RATONE BOARD OF TRADE HELD JULY 24, 1916

A Special Meeting of the Boca Ratone Board of Trade was held Monday evening, July 24, 1916, at 7:30 p. m.

In absence of the President, Vice-President Chesebro called the meeting to order.

The minutes of previous meetings were read and approved.



The Secretary made a brief statement regarding his membership in the Palm Beach County Citizens Highway Commission and read some correspondence relative to the East Coast Canal matter.

Chairman Chesebro of the road committee gave a report regarding the expenditure of money and work done to date on lateral roads. His report showed that there was \$11,760 to be expended in the Boca Ratone district. Of this sum \$5587.40 had been expended and \$6172.60 remains to build the bridge across the East Coast Canal and to finish the lateral roads west and rebuild the road to the canal. This sum was deemed sufficient to do the necessary work on these roads. Moved that the report be accepted and thanks given the committee for their careful work.

Mr. Gorton made a brief address urging that the bridge across the canal and completion of Palmetto Park Road be pushed forward as rapidly as possible, stating that several thousand dollars would be expended by property owners when this work was complete. He also made a plea on behalf of the winter visitor and asked that the Board work towards municipal improvements.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

H. D. Gates, Secretary

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MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL  
MEETING OF THE BOCA RATONE BOARD OF TRADE  
HELD AUG. 10, 1916

The Annual Meeting of the Boca Ratone Board of Trade was held Thursday evening, Aug. 10, 1916, at 7:30 o'clock.

Vice-President Chesebro called the meeting to order and the minutes of previous meeting were read and approved.

The report of the Treasurer was submitted and accepted with thanks.

Mr. Long made a statement regarding Major Ladue's opinions relative to the improvement of Boca Ratone Inlet.

The election of officers and directors next took place. F. H. Chesebro was duly elected President, B. B. Raulerson, Vice-President, H. D. Gates, Sec-Treas., and W. C. Young, G. S. Aiken, H. M. Chesebro and Geo. A. Long, Directors.

The Treasurer collected \$5.00 in dues, after which the meeting was adjourned.

H. D. Gates, Secretary

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MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING  
OF THE BOCA RATONE BOARD OF TRADE HELD OCT. 21, 1916

A special Meeting of the Boca Ratone Board of Trade was held Saturday evening, Oct. 21, 1916, at 7:30 p. m.

President Chesebro called the meeting to order and read a few suggestions outlining the work of the Board for the coming year.

He explained the difficulties encountered in the road work and stated that the Australian pines along the roads would be replanted where some had died and that this would be done at an early date. One suggestion was that Lake Boca Ratone be dredged and improved, another that the Board of Trade building be financed if possible, and that the cemetery work be started at an early date.

Mr. Long explained the purpose of the meeting relative to the sentiment of the people as to the forming of a Special Road & Bridge District to extend the ocean boulevard to the county line and build lateral roads to the Range Line Canal. He stated that the boulevard should be built for \$3000 a mile for a 12 foot road and gave some information as to the cost of lateral roads west to the Range Line Canal.

It being the unanimously sentiment of the meeting that further information be submitted, Mr. Long agreed to get further particulars and submit at the next regular meeting.

H. D. Gates, Secretary



THE BOCA RATON SEMI-OCCASIONAL

PUBLISHED BY THE PUPILS AND TEACHER OF BOCA RATON SCHOOL;  
ENTERED AT THE POSTOFFICE AT BOCA RATON AS SECOND CLASS MATTER  
NOVEMBER 6TH, 1915.

"OUR SCHOOL"

How dear to our hearts are the scenes of our school-days,  
When fond recollections present them to view,  
The little lone trail, the deep tangled scrub oak,  
And every loved spot surely all of us knew;  
The little pine tree, the pump that stood neath it,  
The white sandy playground, the sand burrs all in it,  
The games and the "fusses" all the best ones can tell,  
The house of our pleasures the bushes so nigh it,  
And e'en the front porch where we all ate our lunch,  
The little white schoolhouse with its windows so "swell",  
The dearest and best of all schools, we all love so well.

Boca Raton School, unlike the town itself, does not have its beginning veiled in the mists of antiquity. The first school here was opened in Mr. Long's packing house in 1908 with Professor Rhebinder as teacher. In a short time the school was moved to the schoolhouse which had just been completed and which has since that time been the sole institution of learning. After one year of successful teaching Mr. Rhebinder was succeeded by Miss Harper who after the same length of time gave the task into the hands of Miss Johnson. Miss Johnson like all of her predecessors found one year quite enough and was accordingly succeeded by Miss Esther Chesebro who was the first teacher to teach two years. Since Miss Esther dissolved her connection with said school it has been the honor of the author of this sketch to have guided the younger members of Boca Raton's growing population in the paths of learning and while he is writing about the school, would it be inappropriate for him to state at this time what his plans and purposes are, or what he is trying to do here.

When I was a lad at home I did not have to ask for the privilege of doing work on the old hilly farm. It was a necessity I used to know that my father was rather severe on me, requiring so much of me, but today I am very grateful to him for he taught me a lesson thereby which is of inestimable value to me. As I plowed on the old farm I was daily learning one of the greatest lessons that life has yet given me to learn; and that lesson was the importance of work as a direct means of developing manhood. After having made a study of the life and character of young men in my work, I am convinced that the most important factor in their education is work. Our Creator has so arranged this work that our children must work to sustain life. And so it becomes the duty of our schools to train our boys and girls to get real enjoyment out of their daily tasks. So my purpose and aim here is to encourage our pupils to do honest, useful work and lots of it. I want them to become real men and women who will be of real value in the world, I want them to get a bigger and broader view of life, not that they may live it in the larger sense, that they may live it fully, deeply, and richly.

HE WHO DOES NOT IMPROVE TODAY WILL GROW WORSE TOMORROW

GOD GIVES EVERY BIRD ITS FOOD, BUT DOES NOT THRUST IT INTO ITS NEST

MERIT IS SURE TO RISE.

SOCIETY NOTES

Never did the little people enjoy themselves so much as at the home of Edith Richardson Saturday P.M. October 23, the day being Edith's birthday. The children played many games after which delightful refreshments consisting of lemonade, cake and oranges were served. Those present besides Edith were: Ernestine Purdom, Myrtlelee Raulerson, Faith Richardson, Iva Raulerson, Sadie Richardson, Thelma Purdom, Harry Purdom, Stanley Craig, Charles Scott Jr., Vernon Richardson, Raymond Rowe, Douglas Rowe, Eugene Rowe. All the little people left, full not only of joy and lemonade and cake but full also of wishes that Edith's birthday would come oftener than once a year.

Though in no way connected with our school, but owing to his popularity in our town we could hardly pass over the recent marriage of Mr. George Akins without some favorable comment. He certainly is to be congratulated upon his ability to keep a secret for no one really knew that he was going to be married until the deed had been done. Needless to say he has been wearing a broad smile since the memorable event and we join with the rest of the people in Boca Raton in wishing that said smile may never fade on account of any matrimonial troubles.

There is one other topic of such general interest to all of us that we as a school wish to express our appreciation of what has been done by them; we mean the "Utility Club," the young women's club which has had more to do with beautifying and bettering our town in every respect than any other organization that the history of our town records. In its purposes and in its ability to carry out what it proposes to do the "Utility Club" is a unique club. We know of no other club or organization of its kind and we doubt the existence of any similar organization with the ability to put thru as big things and put them thru as quietly as the young women have done here thru the "Utility Club." This Club thru its many lines of endeavor has become so much a part of our community life that we feel that we could hardly dispense with it, and we wish them the greatest success in whatever they may desire to do in the future.

CLASSIFIED WANTED ADVS: RATE FOR ADVERTISING \$3000.00 PER WORD;  
RESULTS GUARANTEED: FOR FURTHER PARTICULARS CONSULT THE  
ADVERTISING MANAGER.

WANTED: A cast net, must be in good condition, by a boy with a spread of twelve feet--Apply to Andrew Myrick.

WANTED: A brand new song book by a girl with all the new songs in. Apply to Jewell Purdom.

WANTED: Some pen points in good condition by a boy without rust on. Apply to Harry V. Purdom.

WANTED: A piece of burlap to serve as door to our play house by a little girl size 16 by 20 -- apply to Thelma Purdom.

WANTED: To purchase, a billy goat--must be kind and gentle by a little boy without horns--apply to Arthur Smith.

WANTED: To rent some farm land by a boy about half an acre in extent. Apply to Charlie Scott.

"EARLY TO BED AND EARLY TO RISE MAKES A GOOD FARMER"

### JOKES

Old Adam was a lucky man  
I often wish that he  
Had struck the job of writing jokes  
Instead it fell to me.

Whatever trouble Adam had  
No man could make him sore  
By saying when he told a joke  
"Oh I've heard that before."

"Do you know where little boys go who don't put their Sunday-School money in the collection plate?" asked the teacher.

"Sure" was the reply "to the movies."

"Why do they speak of two people who are wed as becoming one?"  
"Because thenceforth they both miss half their lives."

A little iron - a cunning curl,  
A box of powder - a pretty girl.  
A little rain, away she goes,  
A homely girl with freckled nose.

Fond parent: "Johnny do you know where little boys go who smoke?"  
The son: "Sure, up the alley."

Little Willie: "Maw am I descended from a monkey?"  
Mother: "I couldn't say, Willie, I never knew any of your father's people."

"Have an opening here for me?" asked the assertative young man.  
"Yes" snapped the capitalist "it's right behind you."

A private anxious to secure a leave of absence, sought his captain with a most convincing tale about a sick wife breaking her heart for his presence. The officer, familiar with the soldier's ways, replied: "I am afraid you are not telling me the truth. I have just received a letter from your wife urging me not to let you come home because you get drunk, break the furniture and mistreat her shamefully."

The private saluted and started to leave the room; he paused at the door, asking, "Sir, may I speak to you, not as an officer but as a man to man?"

"Yes; what is it?"

"Well sor, what I'm saying is this," approaching the captain and lowering his voice, "You and I are two of the most elegant fellows the Lord ever made. I'm not married at all."

Mrs. Murphy was getting supper for her children on Saturday evening when a young woman came to the door.

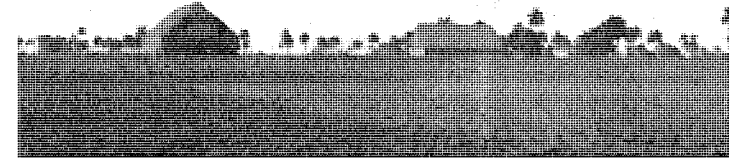
"I'm a collector for the Drunkard's home," she said. "Could you help us?"

"Come around tonight and I'll give yez Murphy," said the housewife and she went about her work.

A woman is judged by the society she does not keep.

Where there is a will there is a lawsuit.

A goat ate all our jokes,  
And then began to run.  
"I cannot stop," he softly said,  
"I am so full of fun."



Laurence Gould to Mr and Mrs William C. Young, January 3, 1918

I trust you have all enjoyed a very happy holiday season. I certainly did considering the distance I was from home and close friends. I am in the camp Y.M.C.A. as I write this and the helmet that you sent me Mrs. Young is on my head. I have worn it every day since I received it. The weather has been unusually cold here for more than two weeks. A man told me that they had had the coldest weather in 37 years. The thermometer has been way below zero at times and it still continues in the neighborhood of zero. We have no drilling now but we are supposed to have studies in French and in the mechanics of the Ford. Yesterday morning we were told to prepare at once to go to France or Italy--We do not know which place. We began packing up and if nothing had happened we should have left Allentown tonight at midnight. But of course something had to happen. A man came down with measles in the afternoon and one with the scarlet fever. Neither man was in our section but both were in the same building with us and in the same battalion so the whole building and our whole battalion was placed in quarantine and we cannot leave the camp--we cannot enter any other barracks. We do not know how long we shall be quarantined but we know that we cannot go over tonight with our regular contingent under Major Metcalfe. We may be delayed for weeks and perhaps months yet before we go. It is very disappointing to get ready and have to unpack again. We ought to be used to it however for we have been in an overseas contingent since last September--already to go at any time. Some of the Ambulance Sections are going to Italy and we may go there when we go any place.

...Not long ago I had a short letter from Jack Sistrunk. He sent me his picture and said "Here is the picture of a real sailor." I suppose things go along about as usual with you. I fancy no war could stop Kitty's vast real estate dealings or could stop Aunt Anne's nagging. How are Myrtle Lee and Ivy? Do both of them go to school? Do you ever see anything of your Pompano friends?

Now will you please thank Miss Muhle for her Christmas Greetings and will you accept my hearty thanks for the very fine helmet and Christmas Greetings which you yourself sent me. I cannot tell you how much I appreciate all the good things you have done for me. Some day I may get to France and do my bit for the U.S. and for the Scotchmen too and thus show my appreciation.

Laurence

Laurence Gould to Mr and Mrs William C. Young, March 3 1918

...I am always so glad to get the news from Boca Ratone and you certainly give it to me in an unusually interesting manner. I had a letter from Father a few days ago and he told me about Raulerson putting the fish in his shirt pocket--quite an interesting fish story. I am very glad that your competitors have not yet run you out of business. I expect to buy my supplies of you when I establish my winter home in Boca Ratone.

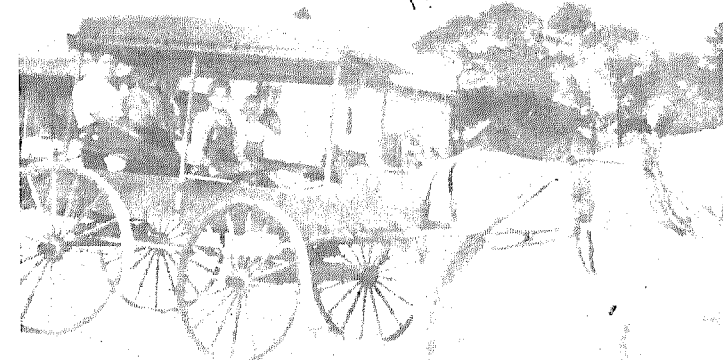
Spring is coming now. Most of the snow has melted now and the roads are very muddy but that does not prevent us from hiking. It seems that at last there is some assurance that we are going to leave Allentown. Our battalion commander assures us that we are going to Italy. An Italy General is coming to review us

sometime soon and we are drilling in full field equipment day order to make a good impression on him. Thirty ambulance sections are going to Italy and the Italian government is to furnish transportation for us not later than April 7th. I would much rather go to France than to Italy but I should be glad to go even to the central part of Africa to get busy at some active work.

I have put my application in to be called for examination for a commission. I feel that I can pass my examination all right. I can only get called up. But hundreds of men put in their applications and are never called for examination. However I have a "pull" that may get me ahead. A lieutenant-colonel on the staff of Surgeon General Gorgas will probably write a letter for me. I am not called for examination pretty soon I am going to try very hard to get into some combatant branch of the service. In the height of my ambition now to get into a Machine Gun company. It is almost impossible to transfer from this service however. I have become so barbarous that I want to shoot the Huns up. I think I shall be satisfied to cart the wounded men around now. I want to wound the men or better still kill them. I think I really enjoy running a bayonet thru a Hun now, after hearing so much about their practices.

Well I cannot think of much to write. You see we are still under quarantine and cannot get out. I have some pictures downtown that I want to send you but I have been unable as yet to get down to the photographer. There is really no use in keeping in quarantine any longer. I am glad you are doing so much red cross work. I am sure you will enjoy it. Now must stop for want of more to write. Yours faithfully,

Laurence



Lawrence Gould to Mr and Mrs William C. Young, July 7, 1917

I have but a few moments left before mess but your letter was so good that I am going to start answering it now to make sure that I will finish it after I eat.

I am mighty glad to be here--I do not think our country made any mistake by entering this war. We are going to demonstrate this fact soon. We are all anxious to get to France as soon as possible. Billy Sunday says if you would turn Hell upside down you would find "made in Germany" written on the bottom of it. I think he did not miss it far. We know that we are at war with the most barbarous nation that history records. I am told that the fatality is very high in the medical division of the army--this is the division I am in--so my future may not be very long, as it were. I do not think of those things however. I only want to get "somewhere in France" as soon as possible and after that it may be somewhere else. I am not at all afraid of where that place may be.

I am not subject to conscription--not being old enough but I just had to get into the fight anyhow. I am really a conscript to my own convictions. My Dad told me that he wished I had not enlisted yet but my mother, hard as it was to have me go--never once told me not to. It is mighty hard for her. You see I was home only one day before I was ordered to report for duty. It was much harder than as if I had not gone home at all....

Your letter was so full of interesting news. I don't know just how I can adequately answer it. I am glad Boca Ratone is growing so fast. I suppose we may need all the new youngsters just growing up if the war lasts long. For the Germans will certainly decrease the size of our army somewhat before the Stars and Stripes float over Berlin--and my dear friend--I do not want to come back until the Stars and Stripes are actually floating there--or until we are completely rid of the Kaiser and his breed. I do not know if there is a Hell but if there is the Kaiser will have to take a flying machine to get that high. When he gets in Hell he will pollute the morals of 3/3 of the people there too.

I should like to see your new house. It must be very comfortable if one can judge from the picture....

I am glad you have some one to help you in your work for you need it. I can imagine your life as quite happy now. I should be very happy just to be back there a little while and see all you people who were so good to me and still continue in your goodness to me.

I have perhaps changed a little since I left Boca Ratone so I am sending you a photograph of myself in a few days--You will notice that I am wearing spectacles in the picture--I don't wear them now--but I used to when I was doing so much studying.

I hope I shall not be wanting in letters--but believe me--letters like yours are always refreshing and welcome indeed--so don't think about how many others may write to me.

It helps so much to know that one is thought of so kindly--I am grateful to you for your good wishes. I shall try hard to live up to your expectations and even if my future is short I hope to make it one my friends may be proud of.

Yours faithfully just,

"Laddie"

Lawrence Gould to Mrs. William C. Young, July 10, 1918, "on service, American Expeditionary Force, with the Italian

Yesterday I made a trip into the city--one of the oldest in Europe. There are no records showing how old it is. Tradition says it was founded by one of the sons of Noah right after the Deluge. It is a place of great interests to us Americans--he finds the remains of the house in which Christopher Columbus was born. Yesterday I visited the Catholic Cathedral of Saint L. In this great building one finds the tomb of John the Baptist brought here from Jerusalem in the time of the Crusades. Also is an emerald cup here which is said to have belonged to Solomon from which Christ is said to have drunk at the last supper. One finds all these interesting relics in addition to the great interest of the building itself.

They have here in this city also the richest cemetery in the world--I have been thru it twice and here I have seen the most wonderful examples of sculpture I ever saw any place.

I could rave on indefinitely telling you of the interesting buildings, forts etc around here but I want to write you just a word about the people and the way in which they have received us here. I carried the Italian flag as we marched from the boat to our temporary quarters and such a welcome! As the people saw the flag beside the American flag they began to press out into the street to touch and kiss the flags--many times barring our path--many of them were weeping and it was really a most touching scene. Again on the Fourth of July they entered so whole-heartedly into the celebration of our great holiday that one would have thought they were celebrating a holiday of their own. How they cheered us and threw flowers at us until it seemed as though we were marching thru a flower bed--from thousands of throats all the way we were greeted with "Vive L' America!" "Vive L' America!" This kindly feeling of the Italians makes us mighty glad that we are here even though we were so slow in getting here.

Our camp at present is just a little way from the coast of the Mediterranean sea so it seems quite like old times to get in the sea again. I certainly enjoy it immensely. I find the climate here quite similar to that of your place at this season of the year except that it is somewhat cooler here. One sees a few palm trees but not so many as where you are. I suppose in southern Italy the climate and vegetation would be quite like southern Florida. Here there are mountains which adds greatly to the scenic effect.

Please write to me frequently and believe me, Always just

"Laddie"

[Letters from the American Expeditionary Force were censored by military officials. Thus Gould could not mention the city's name in which he was stationed. It is obviously Genoa.]

Lawrence Gould to Mr and Mrs William C. Young, September 16, 1918  
"on active service, American Expeditionary Forces, somewhere  
in France."

For nearly a month now we have been moving about here and there in this Section of France. On account of being always on the move I have very scandalously neglected my correspondence and yet conditions have been anything but ideal for letter writing. Sometimes for days at a time we see no sun and all around us mud, mud, mud but oh joy! when the sun does shine again we promptly forget there ever was any mud even though we may be walking in it up to our ankles, for when the sun does shine here it is indeed "sunny" France for everything seems sunny--one just can't feel "grouchy."

From what I have just written you know that I love France and yet down in Italy when they told us that we were to come up here I was sorry. Over in America I always wanted to come here to France--I was prejudiced against Italy but my prejudice soon wore away after I landed there and much as I love this land and people I must still say that I prefer Italy. There is something in the very atmosphere or spirit of Italy that appeals to me much more than anything I have experienced here--and yet I saw only a small part of Italy--someday I hope to return and revel in the glories of Florence, Venice, Milan, Rome and the other portions of Italy that I did not see while there. I was in a part of the land which has played a tremendously important part in the history of Europe.

But just now I would not for anything return to Italy. It is great to be up here where the big things are going on. You are reading good news in the papers these days. In fact I can now see the point of view of that man who said "This is the best day the world has ever seen--tomorrow will be a better." And it is so; greater things are to happen over here than you have yet read about.

Your letter was most welcome. You always write the most newsy letters. It is almost as good as visiting Boca Ratone again--which I hope someday to do.

Right now I envy you the ocean. I miss the swims I used to have in the Mediterranean--up here water is at a premium, it is often hard to get enough to drink. This afternoon I took a bath in a muddy little stream grown full of bull rushes. I stepped in the water and sank into the mud clear up to my knee.

I had a letter from Father Chesebro shortly before I left Italy but he said nothing about them going up to Michigan. I suppose they are back now. I have not heard from either the Rockwells or the Myricks since I came here. I seldom hear from any of the Myricks anyway....

The same day as your letter came to me (yesterday) I also received a letter from "Billy" Majewski--the first one I have had in about a year I think. I wonder if she is as full of life as usual--I hope so!

I am sorry that it is growing dark and I must stop. I would write more in the morning but perhaps we shall move before then. I would also write and tell how much your letters mean to me....Someday I am coming down to hear all those new records you have and to swim again with you in the ocean.... "Laddie"

Lawrence Gould to Mr and Mrs William C. Young, December 27, 1918  
"with the Army of Occupation, Coblenz, Germany."

I guess it is high time that I again write you a little of myself. You may be surprised to hear from me way up here Germany--but here I am anyhow.

We thought when the armistice was signed that we should be sent back to Italy--but not so we were attached to the Army of Occupation and came up to Germany. And do you know of all the Ambulance Sections in the American E.F., Section 590 is the one to come clear up to the Rhine.

This is a great country--I just wish you and Bill with your appreciation of the beautiful could have driven down the valley with me a few days ago. On either side of the river the banks rise so high as to be almost mountains--all the way up they are terraced to support the grape vines. Now and then on some particularly rugged cliff one beheld one of those famous old castles around which so much of the romance of the middle ages is woven. It is a truly wonderful country--this Rhine valley. I wish you could say as much for these pigs of Germans.

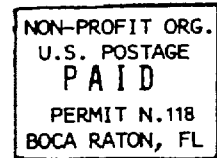
We were stationed a few days in Trier or Treves. It lies in the valley of the Moselle. It is especially interesting to me as it is an old Roman city and many of the old Roman ruins are still to be seen--and even in their ruins these old amphitheaters and temples make the German architecture look hideous by comparison--for it is a splendor or grandeur in their massive construction that does not find in the German buildings.

Bill would enjoy all the Rhine wine, good beer, etc. that we have here! I suppose your Christmas was a merry one. This year I just had to skip Christmas--for me the day was just the twentieth of December. Some of the fellows got "liquored up" to an extent that they made a good show for the rest of us! I was not one of them of course.

At this time of the year--and especially since the war--we think of all essentials over--we think especially of home and friends--just now this army of occupation is a home sick army. I have no idea as to when we shall be sent home. We still think that we shall first be sent to Italy. I hope so for of all the places we have been that seems quite the best to me--and I say this after having been in France, Luxembourg, Belgium, Alsace Lorraine, and Germany. There is an indefinable something in the atmosphere of Italy that sure casts a spell over me.

I trust you are both well and that Boca Ratone Society is along in its accustomed channels. I should certainly like to be back there for a time--I am looking forward towards doing it. Write to me for I am not coming home soon, Faithfully,  
Laurence

BOCA RATON HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.  
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