

# BROWARD

---

## IN

---

# BROWARD

---

### A Documentary Chronicle of Governor Napoleon Bonaparte Broward's Activities in what is Today Broward County

A native of Duval County and a lifelong resident of north Florida, Napoleon Bonaparte Broward's name is inseparably linked with the southern peninsula. During his term in office as Florida's governor from 1905 to 1909, Broward insured this legacy by championing the state-sponsored Everglades reclamation program begun by his predecessor and by actively presiding over the launching of the first state dredges cutting drainage canals between the lower east coast and Lake Okeechobee.

Today, most Floridians recognize the name Broward as that of the state's second most populous county, named for the governor when it was created from Dade and Palm Beach counties in 1915. In selecting Broward's name, local civic leaders, who promoted the county's creation, chose to honor the respected and recently-deceased state leader whose policies had had a tremendous impact on the region, and who was a

familiar figure well-known to area residents.

A tugboat captain by trade, Broward made his political career in

Jacksonville, serving as county sheriff, city councilman, and member of the Florida House of Representatives. He became familiar with

Place names are frequently bestowed to honor individuals with little or no personal knowledge or connection to the places named for them, as evidenced by the myriad of Florida counties named for early presidents and national political and military figures. Such was not the case with Broward County. Although a north Floridian, Napoleon Broward not only left his imprint on his south Florida namesake by presiding over the launching of the state's Everglades dredging operation, he also frequently visited the region and became thoroughly familiar with its land and people.

"Broward in Broward" documents the Governor's many trips to the area later to become Broward County with reprints from newspapers and government documents in the Broward County Historical Commission archives. These reprints are drawn primarily from the Daily and Weekly Miami Metropolis and the Minutes of the Board of Trustees Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, with additional excerpts from the West Palm Beach Tropical Sun and the Jacksonville Florida Times-Union. The original spelling and punctuation has been retained. Taken together, these articles not only illustrate Broward's personal role in south Florida history, but provide a colorful look at the region's political and economic life during the first decade of the twentieth century.



*Official portrait of  
Governor Napoleon Bonaparte Broward  
(courtesy of Florida Photographic Archives).*

south Florida first as a result of his shipping business. The maiden voyage of his famous tug, the *Three Friends*, in 1896 included stops at Miami and Key West to pick up cargo for delivery to Nassau. In the years immediately preceding the Spanish-American War, Broward earned great fame as a "filibusterer," smuggling arms and ammunition to Cuban revolutionaries. Although his filibustering activities brought him to south Florida waters, and while cargoes were known to have been smuggled to Cuba from New River, no documentation that Broward visited present-day Broward County during this period has surfaced. From 1901 to 1903, Broward spent an extended period in Miami and Key West while overseeing two lucrative salvage contracts. He returned to south Florida in April 1904 to campaign for the governorship. In his 1950 biography, Napoleon Bonaparte Broward: Florida's Fighting Democrat, historian Samuel Proctor notes that

Broward visited every county in Florida.

Nevertheless, it was the drainage project that thoroughly familiarized Broward with the territory that would later bear his name. He visited the area on at least twenty occasions during his term of office, and returned at least three times in the following year to pursue his interests in Everglades drainage and development and to campaign for election to the United States Senate. The following excerpts from newspapers chiefly the *Daily and Weekly Miami Metropolis* — and the Minutes of the Board of Trustees Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida document Broward's visits to the area which is today Broward County during and immediately following his term as governor. The complete documents are on file in the archives of the Broward County Historical Commission.

*Weekly Miami Metropolis,*  
February 17, 1905

**GOVERNOR'S PARTY PASSED  
THROUGH Miami Last Night  
After Having Come Down From  
Palm Beach in the Yacht Linnet  
— Trip Was Pleasant**

After having been on the Water several days and journeying south by the inland passage from St. Augustine, Governor N. B. Broward, ex-Governor W. S. Jennings, State Chemist R. E. Rose, Attorney General Ellis, President Miles, and General Manager G. G. Gleason, of the Coast Line Canal and Transportation Company, and others arrived in the city late Tuesday afternoon aboard the little yacht Linnet, Captain L. D. Potter commanding.

The party came here from Palm Beach via the canal, leaving there Monday, and proceeding at leisure to Fort Lauderdale, from which place they went up Little river to the Everglades. Returning to the town they remained over night, and yesterday came on down the bay, and without stopping went to the beach on the other side where an inspection of the Government work on the new deep water channel was made. They also viewed the jetty, and from there came across and proceeded up the Miami river to the tram road leading into the Glades. The afternoon was spent in that locality, and again returning to the Linnet they came to the Royal Palm [Hotel] dock and landed.

This was about dark, and proceeding to the Biscayne Hotel dinner was had after which the party boarded the north-bound train at 7:20 o'clock en route to Jacksonville.

The trip, as is known, was made with a view of determining the feasibility of draining the Everglades and to inspect the waterways and tributaries thereto. Governor Broward expressed himself as well pleased and impressed with the trip.

The outing was generally enjoyed and much valuable data on the question, or undertaking under contemplation, secured.

*Weekly Miami Metropolis,*  
December 8, 1905

**GOVERNOR BROWARD AND  
PARTY NOW AT  
FORT LAUDERDALE —  
Is Arranging Preliminaries for  
Draining Everglades —  
Machinery and Lumber for the  
big Dredges Now Arriving at  
New River — State Chemist  
Rose is in the Party**

The Times-Union of last Saturday says:

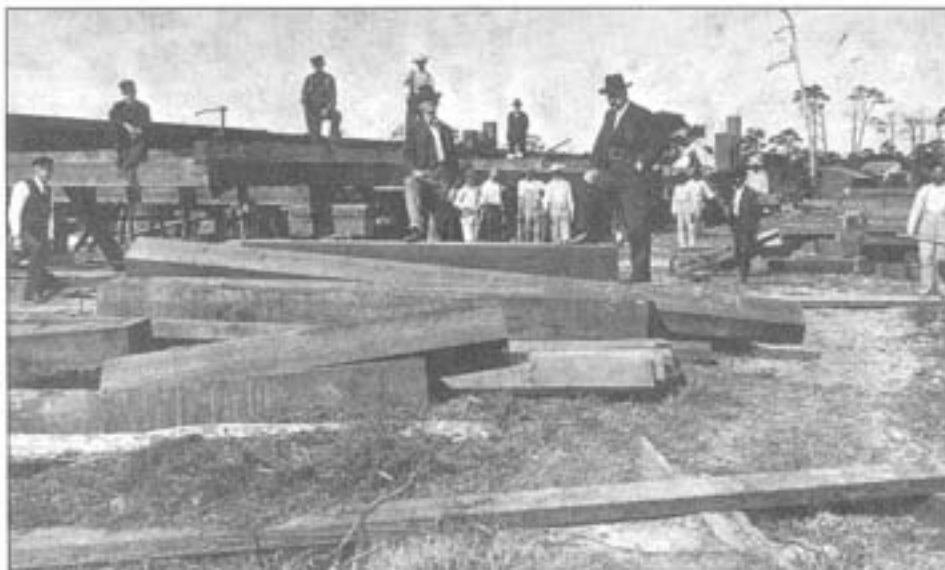
"Hon. Napoleon B. Broward, Governor of Florida, accompanied by Mrs. Broward and one of their daughters, arrived in the city yesterday morning and registered at the Aragon Hotel.

"Governor Broward, accompanied by Capt. R. E. Rose, State chemist, proceeded on a trip down the East Coast Railway. The Governor's visit is in connection with the construction of the two large dredges to be used in draining the Everglades.

"All of the machinery for these two dredges was purchased by Governor Broward last summer, while he was in Chicago and has been shipped down the east coast, where the hulls are to be built, to the west of the bridge of the F.E.C. Railway, where the road crosses New River. The dredge will work up New River, through the Everglades, toward Lake Okeechobee.

"The lumber for constructing the hulls of the dredges has been shipped down the east coast, and the work of putting the hulls together and setting the machinery in place will be done by the Merrill-Stevens Engineering Company of this city.

"On account of the dredges being of greater width than the opening in the draw bridges over the New River and the St. Lucie River, it has been found necessary to build the hulls and erect the machinery for the dredges to the west of the draw bridges. One of the dredges will be named the Okeechobee, and the other will be named the Everglades. Other dredges of the same general style will be built for the great



*Governor Broward (right of center, with hand in pocket) inspecting dredge construction at Fort Lauderdale.*

drainage work at an early date.

"The work is to be done under the general supervision of the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of Florida."

---

*Minutes of the Board of Trustees  
Internal Improvement Fund of the  
State of Florida, vol. VI, page 97*

**MINUTES OF  
DECEMBER 15, 1905**

The account of N. B. Broward, Governor, for thirty-eight dollars and seventy-three cents, expenses from Tallahassee to Fort Lauderdale and return, to inspect drainage operations, was approved and ordered paid.

---

*Daily Miami Metropolis,*  
January 26, 1906

**FORT LAUDERDALE NOTES**

The Times-Union's Fort Lauderdale correspondent under date of the 22d, says:

Governor Broward spent Saturday here in the interest of the Everglade drainage.

*Minutes of the Board of Trustees  
Internal Improvement Fund of the  
State of Florida, vol. VI, pages 117-118*

**MINUTES OF  
MARCH 1, 1906**

Governor N. B. Broward presented his account for forty-five dollars and fifteen cents for expenses of trip to Fort Lauderdale and return to inspect work being done on the dredges for the reclamation of the Everglades, which was approved and ordered paid.

---

*Daily Miami Metropolis,*  
March 8, 1906

**GOVERNOR BROWARD VISITS  
FAIR AND DELIVERS  
IMPROMPTU ADDRESS**

**Chief Executive Enthusiastic  
Over Splendid Exhibit of Farm  
and Truck Produce**

**Declared Fair an Educational  
Institution, Where Knowledge  
to be Acquired in No Other  
Way, Can be Obtained — Delivered  
Splendid Words of Praise.**

**Sugar Cane Growing  
Advocated But Drainage  
Scheme Not Touched**

By request of the [Dade County]



Fair management Governor N. B. Broward, who arrived in the city this morning from Fort Lauderdale, where he had been directing the building of dredges and otherwise preparing for beginning drainage operations in the Everglades, delivered an impromptu address at the Fair building at noon.

Owing to the unseasonable hour, and the fact that no one knew of the coming of the Chief Executive or had made plans for his reception, or the address, not more than one hundred persons were present, but they enjoyed a most interesting talk, confined entirely to the products of Florida and the country and the great education fairs and expositions are to man.

The Governor prefaced his remarks with the usual formality but soon got down to business by declaring that education by books was necessary, but that the greatest educator of all is nature. He classed the fair as an [sic.] university and said that much was to be learned there that could be had in no other way, and in dwelling on the products of the country where certain articles are indigenous and can be raised nowhere but there, he asserted that a greater and more varied number of agricultural products could be produced in Florida and this section than upon any other spot or part of the world.

Here the Governor recited statistics showing the amount of oats, corn, tobacco and other staple articles raised in the United States last year, the amount of yield per acre and the total profit per acre, which averaged about \$11. A few years ago, he said, a man worth \$20,000 in the North was considered well fixed, and in the South rich, but that times and conditions were different now, especially in the South and Florida, where a farmer or trucker expects to make that much money in one year and from one crop. In Illinois a farmer averages but \$6 profit to the acre, while a Dade county trucker figures on nothing less than \$100 per acre and from that up into the thousands.

The Governor said that he had

traveled extensively in this section of the State and had found everywhere evidence of thrift and prosperity. He classed the resources and the fertility of Dade county as the brightest and best under the sun and called as evidence to his assertion the mass of vegetation, fruit, etc., that adorned the Fair building, and to which a superior could not be found.

Here the chief executive changed his line of address and declared that he believed in diversified farming, because it relieved a possible congestion in the raising and marketing of any one crop. He said that he had heard that the danger of over producing the tomato crop was encountered every season, but that a few days ago he talked with a representative of a Northern commission house, who told him that such an idea was incorrect and that the crop could have been disposed of to good advantage last season had it been three times as large as it was. He had also been told no later than this morning by a gentleman that a week ago he paid \$1.60 per dozen for tomatoes in Chicago. "This being the case," said the Governor, "there is money in tomatoes and no danger of a grower losing out."

Continuing on the line of diversified farming, the Governor approached dangerously close to his Everglades drainage scheme and lecture by asserting that one of those crops was the growing of sugar cane for the making of sugar and which could be grown to immense advantage in this section. He quoted a great many statistics showing the amount of cane grown in the United States, the amount of sugar made, and the quality of the same. He declared that the total amount of taxable property, real and personal in Florida did not exceed thirty million dollars, and that there were enough acres of uncultivated land in Florida to produce a crop of sugar cane that would be worth \$137,000,000, or more than four times the total assessment of Florida each year.

At times the Governor almost got his foot, so to speak, into the mire of

the Everglades, but he evaded it by not telling just where the lands to grow all of this crop of sugar cane were to be found.

The address, which was entirely impromptu, was interesting and frequently the Governor called attention to the exhibits around and about his audience as evidence of what is possible from the soil of Dade county. He declared repeatedly that the fair was an educational institution and that much could be learned there that could be acquired in no other manner.

He was given an ovation at the close of his remarks which were timely and to the point throughout. The Governor is accompanied by State Chemist R. E. Rose, and together they will return north tonight.

*Minutes of the Board of Trustees  
Internal Improvement Fund of the  
State of Florida, vol. VI, page 121*

#### MINUTES OF MARCH 16, 1906

N. B. Broward, Governor, for expenses of trip to Fort Lauderdale and return to inspect dredges . . . \$44.25.

*Minutes of the Board of Trustees  
Internal Improvement Fund of the  
State of Florida, vol. VI, page 125*

#### MINUTES OF APRIL 6, 1906

N. B. Broward, Governor, expenses of trip to Fort Lauderdale and return to inspect dredges...\$44.25.

*The Tropical Sun, April 7, 1906*

#### EVERGLADES DREDGE LAUNCHED

A dispatch from Tallahassee [sic.], under date of April 5th, says:



*Photo above shows produce grown by Walter Waldin on reclaimed Everglades land on display at the Dade County Fair, 1904. Below is a Florida sugar cane field, photographed in the early twentieth century.*

"Governor Broward and Captain R. E. Rose returned last night from Fort Lauderdale, where they were present at the launching of the dredge 'Everglades' Monday. The launching of the big dredge boat was attended by a large crowd of enthusiastic onlookers. Miss Constance Bryan broke the customary bottle of champagne over the bow of the boat and christened her 'Everglades,' as she slid from the ways into the water. Governor Broward made a very happy speech as he looked upon the boat constructed to take part in the fulfillment of his plans for the reclaiming of the Everglades.

The Everglades is the largest and finest dredge boat south of Philadelphia. It is 42 by 180 feet long, with 500-horse power engine and powerful modern equipment. It will be ready for work within six weeks. The Okeechobee, the sister dredge, will be ready for launching within thirty days, and will be twin to the Everglades, having the same equipment and power."



*At left is Constance Bryan, who christened the dredge Everglades at Fort Lauderdale in 1906. At right is the Everglades at work on the North New River Canal, ca. 1909.*

*Daily Miami Metropolis,  
May 12, 1906*

**BROWARD, WATSON AND  
WORLEY TONIGHT**  
At the Fair Building  
Well Known Politicians Will  
Discuss State and Local Issues  
That are of Much Importance to  
The Public

A large crowd should turn out tonight to hear the speaking at the Fair building by Governor Broward, Hon. J. W. Watson and Hon. George A. Worley, the two latter, candidates for Representative from Dade county to the State Legislature. The speaking will begin at 8 o'clock, and Hon. F. M. Hudson, by request of Mayor Sewell will preside.

Governor Broward will discuss the pending issue of Constitutional amendments, and the two local speakers will, it is presumed, define their platforms upon which their candidacies are based.

Governor Broward spoke at West Palm Beach last night and this morning left that place by automobile for Fort Lauderdale to review





*George A. Worley.*

the preparations being made there to commence the drainage of the Everglades. This afternoon he will proceed to Miami by the same conveyance, and will arrive in ample time for the meeting.

All three of the above mentioned gentlemen are fluent speakers and the public are assured of interesting political discussions. All are invited to attend.

*Daily Miami Metropolis,*  
May 14, 1906

# **GOVERNOR BROWARD DISCUSSED THE EVERGLADES DRAINAGE PLAN**

**To Large Audience at Court House Saturday Night — Messrs. Worley and Watson Gave Way and Postponed Debate Until Tonight.**

Governor N. B. Broward, who came down Saturday afternoon from West Palm Beach, by auto, accompanied by Hon. George A. Worley, John Townley and others, addressed the voters of Miami at the courthouse that evening, and made a most favorable impression.

The Governor enjoyed his auto trip immensely and says it was the first time he had ever had such an opportunity of viewing the country. Quite a lengthy stop was made at Fort Lauderdale, where the prepara-

tions for draining the Everglades, which he is engineering, were visited. Other stops were made en route and the party given an enthusiastic reception at each place.

At 8 o'clock in the evening, it having been decided to change the place of speaking to the court house, a crowd of several hundred people had gathered to hear the addresses that had been announced would be delivered by Governor Broward and the Messrs. Watson and Worley, those of the latter two gentlemen in favor of their candidacy for the Legislature from Dade county, but owing to the length of the speech of the former, they waived him the privilege and agreed to debate their issue at the same place at 8 o'clock tonight.

Hon. Fred'k M. Hudson, presided at the meeting. Governor Broward had as his subject "Everglade Drainage." He went into full details and presented a convincing argument in favor of the plan. He recited how this vast territory of inundated land could be drained, of its great productiveness, and asserted that enough sugar cane could be grown there to alone supply the world with syrup and sugar.

He quoted passages of law showing that the Everglades belong to the State of Florida, and that it therefore devolved upon the State to drain and make these millions of acres of land tillable and serviceable. Two hours or more were consumed in the speech, a part of which the chief executive devoted to paying his respects to the two Jacksonville daily papers, both of which he said were controlled by the corporations and paid by them to oppose the drainage of the Everglades. He said that he had never accused other papers of the State press of being bought and controlled, but that many of them had been misled by the Jacksonville papers. He declared that the Times-Union, with all its wealth and enterprise, had never taken the time or occasion to examine the State records and see what the law says relative to the Everglades as State property and otherwise.

The Governor backed up his

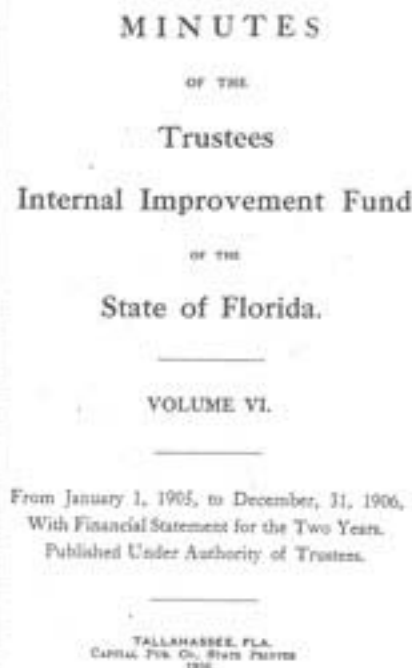
arguments by facts and figures and the majority of his audience were most favorably impressed. Yesterday morning he returned to Fort Lauderdale, and this morning went to Dania, where he will speak this afternoon, probably on the same subject.

*Minutes of the Board of Trustees Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida, vol. VI, page 134*

## **MINUTES OF JUNE 5, 1906**

The account of N. B. Broward, for forty-five dollars and seventy-five cents, expenses of trip to Fort Lauderdale and return to inspect dredges was presented, approved and ordered paid.

*Weekly Miami Metropolis,*  
July 13, 1906



*Title page of the Minutes of the Trustees Internal Improvement Fund, of the State of Florida, covering Broward's first two years as governor.*



# **GOVERNOR BROWARD HOLDS MANY PROXIES And Will Attend Policyholders' Meeting in New York**

The Times-Union of last Saturday contains the following relative to the recent doings of Governor Broward and the preparations to begin the drainage of the Everglades:

"Gov. Napoleon B. Broward spent yesterday in Jacksonville and left last night for New York, where he goes to attend the meeting of the policy holders of the great insurance companies of the United States. He has a large number of proxies of Florida policy holders and it is understood that they will be turned over to Thos. W. Lawton to vote at the meeting.

"Gov. Broward has just returned from Fort Lauderdale, where he has been to witness the starting to work of the dredge Everglade, built for the purpose of carrying out the Governor's pet scheme of draining the Everglades.

"The dredge was built at Fort Lauderdale in New River, to the westward of the railroad bridge across the river. This place was selected because the dredge, when completed, was too wide to pass through the draw-bridge opening. From this it will be seen that this dredge can never be used anywhere else, unless it is taken apart and then rebuilt on the other side of the bridge. It can keep on cutting its way up New river, however, until it enters Lake Okeechobee, and then cut out again, provided enough funds can be obtained to carry on the work.

"Governor Broward is having another dredge of the same class as the Everglade built at Fort Lauderdale. The second dredge will be known as Okeechobee.

"No report has yet been received of the working of the dredge and nothing has yet been heard of it being sighted on the banks of the great inland sea of Florida."

---

*Minutes of the Board of Trustees*

*Internal Improvement Fund of the  
State of Florida, vol. VI, page 152*

## **MINUTES OF JULY 21, 1906**

Governor N. B. Broward presented his account for \$44.00 to cover expenses of trip to Fort Lauderdale to inspect work on dredges, which was approved and ordered paid.

---

*Minutes of the Board of Trustees  
Internal Improvement Fund of the  
State of Florida, vol. VI, page 164*

## **MINUTES OF AUGUST 15, 1906**

The following accounts were presented and ordered paid . . . A. C. Croom, expenses self and Governor to inspect dredges under construction at Fort Lauderdale . . . [\$]88.30.

---

*Minutes of the Board of Trustees  
Internal Improvement Fund of the  
State of Florida, vol. VI, page 264*

## **MINUTES OF DECEMBER 17, 1906**

N. B. Broward, Governor, R.R. fare and other expenses on trip to Fort Lauderdale, and return, to inspect drainage operations . . . \$45.00.

---

*Weekly Miami Metropolis,  
December 21, 1906*

## **HAVE CUT FIVE MILES**

"The dredges working from Fort Lauderdale into the Everglades have already cut their way through the shale rock," said a resident of Fort Lauderdale [sic.] this morning, "and has only three miles further to go before getting out of the shale rock and striking mud and sand, when the progress will be easier and more rapid. Dredge No. 2 is now building and being supplied with machinery. It will be a very able machine and will be put to work as soon as completed. Governor Broward spent Thanksgiving at Fort Lauderdale, inspecting the dredging operations, and announced that he had no

intention of abandoning [sic.] the work."

---

*Minutes of the Board of Trustees  
Internal Improvement Fund of the  
State of Florida, vol. VII, page 86*

## **MINUTES OF AUGUST 21, 1907**

*Resolved, By the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida that the invitation of the Commission for investigation of the Acts and Doings of the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida be and is hereby accepted and that Gov. N. B. Broward and Comptroller A. C. Croom be and are hereby designated and requested to accompany the members of the Commission on their contemplated trip to Fort Lauderdale and New River to inspect the drainage operations now being conducted by the Trustees in the Everglades.*

The Secretary was directed to advance the sum of one hundred dollars cash to the Committee to defray their expenses on the trip, vouchers for which will be furnished on their return.

---

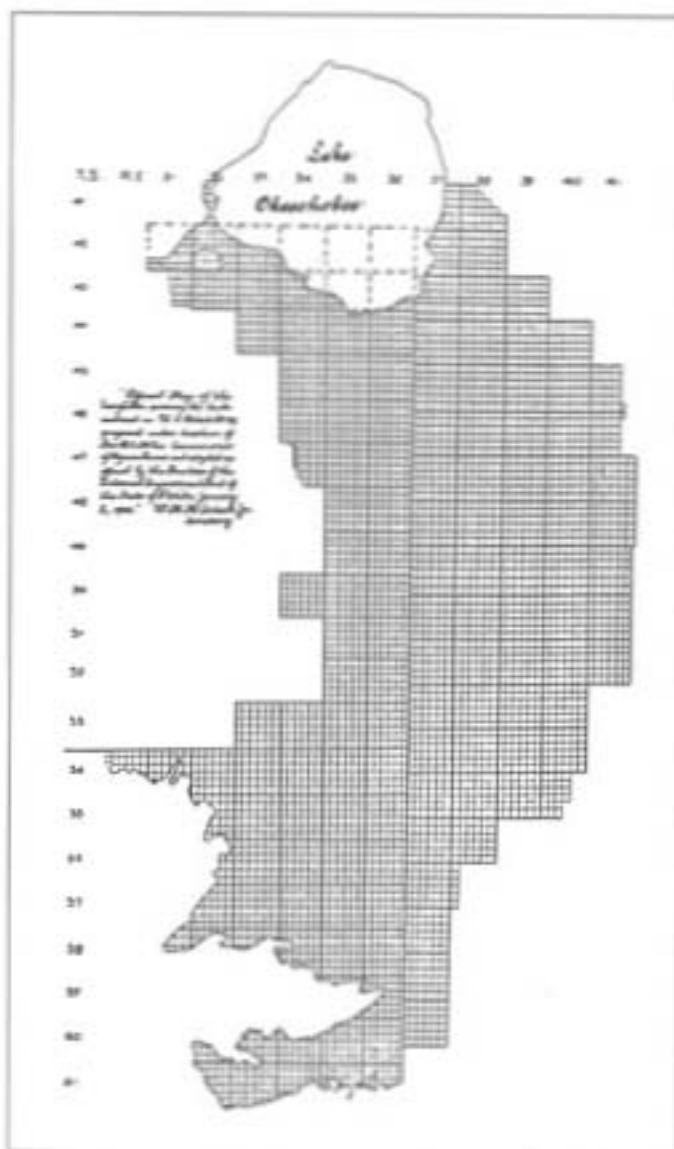
*Weekly Miami Metropolis,  
August 30, 1907*

## **A VISIT TO THE EVERGLADES DRAINAGE OPERATIONS WITH GOVERNOR BROWARD AND INVESTIGATING COM.**

**Dredges are Now Working  
About Two Miles Apart and  
Making Progress**

**Satisfactory to Executive  
Will Soon Be Out of Rocks —  
Will Likely Put on Other  
Dredges, one of Them in the  
Miami River**

For some time past the Metropolis has been receiving many inquiries regarding the progress of draining and reclaiming the overflowed lands in this county, and also having noted many favorable and unfavorable comments of Governor Broward and the drainage trustees who have this work in hand, the editor of this paper



*The official map of the Everglades, adopted by the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund on January 2, 1905.*

decided to visit the scene of operations and make a personal inspection of the work and be in a position to give the information asked for, at the same time, when the occasion arose be able to discuss the work with some degree of intelligence and not from hearsay testimony.

With this object in view, and at the invitation of Mr. Reed A. Bryan, the general superintendent of the drainage work, we left Miami last Saturday morning for Fort Lauderdale. Upon reaching this point we were agreeably surprised to find that Governor Broward and Hon. A. C. Croom, of the drainage trustees, had arrived the night before in company with several members of the internal

improvement investigating committee, including Hon. Syd L. Carter, R. Pope Reese, Geo. G. Leggett and M. S. Knight, who were down for the purpose of making a general inspection of the dredges and drainage operations. We were invited to join the party and at about seven-thirty all were aboard Mr. Bryan's commodious launch enroute to the headwaters of New River.

It would be folly to attempt to give a detailed account of what we saw on this trip as it would take more space than we can at this time spare; however we will endeavor to cover some of the more essential features of this drainage project. The people of the state, and of Dade county, for that matter, have not the faintest

conception of the magnitude of the drainage work which is being carried on right here in a few miles of Miami by the trustees, and to properly grasp the real situation one should make the trip and see for themselves what is being done.

The two large dredges of the State were first visited, and there Engineer Newman explained in detail the work in hand and the plans of the trustees for the immediate future. It was shown that the dredges were working to the westward in parallel lines and about two miles apart with Pine Island the objective point. When these dredges reach Pine Island the trustees will have reclaimed a body of about nine thousand acres of the richest muck land in the state of Florida, with one canal bordering on the south and one on the north. The land will be absolutely reclaimed as the land is only about two miles wide and the canals will prevent any possible overflow from the vast Everglades surrounding. Pine Island is about twenty-five feet high and there can be no overflow from the western boundary.

For the past few months the dredges have been cutting through solid rock, and naturally could not make the headway that they will when they cut through the rock rim. There is now about three miles of rock to be dredged on both canals, after which it will be only muck until Pine Island is reached.

The dipper(s) now being used on the dredges are for taking out rock and have a capacity of only two and one-half cubic yards. As soon as the dredges pass through the rock stretch new dippers will be installed which will have a capacity of from four to six cubic yards, thus making from two to three times the headway that is being made at the present time.

In discussing the drainage proposition with Governor Broward he talked earnestly and was full of enthusiasm over what had been done and the plans for the future. He is anxious to put on more dredges and believes that before another year he will have at least six dredges



in different parts of the drainage district as busily engaged as the two in the New River section. He feels that the sooner the work is completed the better it will be for the people of the state, and that with a certain amount of work to be done, if it takes ten years to complete the job with two dredges, then with six it should be done in one-third the time, and the people enjoy the fruits of the labor that much quicker.

In reply to a question as to whether he intended to place a dredge in the Miami River, the governor replied that it is likely that one will be placed here at no distant date, but that it depended a great deal on the people whether or not they would offer any resistance to such a move on the part of the trustees.

Replying to an inquiry as to the progress of the work of the investigating committee, Hon. Syd L. Carter, the chairman, informed us that the committee expected to complete their work within the next ten days, and that the report would undoubtedly be turned over to the Secretary of State not later than September 15th. He said that the work had been very confining and arduous and that every member of the committee was glad that work was nearing its end.

Another interesting feature was the life and activity noted along the banks of New River from Fort Lauderdale back to where the dredges are at work. Many new homes have been erected there by truckers and orange and grapefruit growers. Launches, row boats, and other craft were flitting here and there from one end of the river to the other, all engaged in various pursuits.

A notable feature of the trip along these canals was the richness of the soil, which is a creamy black and ranging anywhere from three to five feet thick. Along the banks where the muck and rock have been thrown out great varieties of weeds are growing, some reaching the height of fifteen feet, with a diameter at the base of from three to six inches. This growth is most remark-

able, especially when it is taken into consideration that much of it is less than a [sic.] six months old.

---

*Minutes of the Board of Trustees  
Internal Improvement Fund of the  
State of Florida, vol. VII, page 98*

#### MINUTES OF OCTOBER 11, 1907

The following accounts were presented, approved and ordered paid:

N. B. Broward, expenses to and from Fort Lauderdale to inspect dredges . . . \$43.65.

---

*Minutes of the Board of Trustees  
Internal Improvement Fund of the  
State of Florida, vol. VII, pages  
166-117*

#### MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 21, 1907

Governor Broward made a verbal report of his recent visit to the dredges "Everglades" and "Okeechobee" now at work in the drainage and reclamation of the swamp and overflowed lands near New River, in the Everglades, and presented a map prepared by John W. Newman, Engineer and Sur-

veyor, in charge of platting the reclaimed lands preparatory to sales thereof, for the consideration of the Trustees.

Page 122

Jacksonville, Fla., Nov. 19, 1907  
Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund, Tallahassee, Fla.

Dear Sirs: —

At Governor Broward's instance I accompanied him on a visit and tour of inspection of the drainage canals now being cut by the dredges "Everglades" and "Okeechobee" under your directions, and beg to advise that we traversed the canals from New River to the dredges and made a careful observation of the general effects and results of the work and its progress.

The distances and details of the work are no doubt shown accurately by the reports of the superintendents and engineers. To the point of view of a layman, the work done has been something marvelous, and the achievements far beyond the most sanguine or hopeful expectation of those in charge of its inauguration. For the entire distance of both canals are great banks of material, principally rock removed by the dredges in cutting the canal approximately ten feet deep and sixty feet wide, these banks appearing to be about fifteen feet high and forty to sixty feet wide



*Downtown Fort Lauderdale, looking southeast with the Andrews Avenue bridge across New River at right, ca. 1910 (courtesy of Fort Lauderdale Historical Society).*



*Former Governor  
William Sherman Jennings*

on either bank of the canal.

That the canals are a success and are reclaiming the land as the dredges progress, is thoroughly established. The canals reduce the water level from the surface to a point six feet below the surface of the ground as shown by the water in the canal, and the land for a mile on either side of the canal is entirely reclaimed, and is practically ready for preparation for cultivation, and the general influence of the drainage reaches to a much greater distance than one mile. While on the dredge "Everglades," Captain John Newman, the engineer, exhibited to us his survey plan of the reclaimed lands that you are contemplating putting on the market in a short time . . .

Generally speaking, the work is a great success. The objections that have been urged to the plan and undertaking have been overcome by actual demonstration of the results and effect of the work. The anxiety that some urged that if the water was turned through the channel of New River from the Everglades it would overflow the banks, is dispelled by the facts which are a

demonstration to the contrary. The influence on the river has never been and is not perceptible. The reduction of the water level to six feet below the surface of the ground is all and more than could have reasonably been expected. That water will flow through the canal and on to the ocean is not only demonstrated, but the positive truth is that the superintendent finds it necessary to keep a sufficient quantity of water in the canal to float the dredge, while in front of the dredge is the water pouring over the front of the canal and falling six feet over a perpendicular dam to the water level of the canal and thus going on to the ocean.

The result is that the reclamation of the land is fully demonstrated. We walked for a distance of half a mile or more along an Indian trail or canoe route through the saw grass, where twenty days ago the Indians traveled with their boats and canoes, the water having all been drawn off from this territory by the cutting of the canal, thus lowering the water level. Yours very truly,

W. S. Jennings,  
General Counsel

---

*Weekly Miami Metropolis,  
November 29, 1907*

**NEW 'GLADES LANDS TO BE  
PLATTED  
And Put on the Market —  
Are Along the Route of the  
Reclamation Canal Now Being  
Cut by the State**

Governor Broward and ex-Governor Jennings visited the Everglade reclamation operations at Ft. Lauderdale a few days ago, and on their return north were interviewed at Ft. Pierce by a representative of the Fort Pierce News. The News says:

"Governor N. B. Broward and Ex-Governor W. S. Jennings were passengers on Sunday's northbound train, returning from a visit to the dredges which are at work digging the Everglades canals. In conversation with the News man they stated

that the work was progressing nicely and that good time was being made considering the fact that both dredges were cutting through solid rock.

"Governor Broward told us that within a week he expected to have a plat made and put on the market a number of lots on the route of the canal for truck farms. These will, no doubt, be taken up in short order, as the canal eliminates all possibility of an overflow. Both Governor Broward and ex-Governor Jennings are enthusiastic over this proposition and are confident of quick sales of the land and big crops to the buyers."

---

*Weekly Miami Metropolis,  
January 10, 1908*

**THE GOVERNOR AT  
FT. LAUDERDALE  
And Expressed Himself as  
Highly Pleased With Work of  
the State Dredges**

Fort Lauderdale, Jan. 4 — We were honored by a visit from Governor Broward this week. The Governor is much pleased with the work the dredges are doing.

---

*Daily Miami Metropolis,  
January 28, 1908*

**MANY CITIZENS GO TO  
MEET THE GOVERNOR  
Who Will Confer With Them  
Regarding Local Drainage  
About Seventy-five Went to  
Lauderdale  
A Great Many Went by Train  
and Private Automobile —  
Parties Started at Eight O'clock  
— Much Interest in Result**

Quite a large delegation of business men and others interested in the matter of having a dredge start drainage operations up the Miami river, left this morning by train and automobile for Fort Lauderdale, where they will meet with Governor N. B. Broward and lay the plans before him.







*Downtown Miami, 1908, showing the mouth of the Miami River and, at left, the Royal Palm Hotel (courtesy of the Historical Association of Southern Florida).*

say regarding it.

One of the party, in speaking of the visit said that the meeting was a veritable love feast, for it was known that a number of the party had not been favorable to the drainage scheme of Florida's governor in the past, but who, after hearing the governor's talk, and visiting the dredging operations in the upper part of New river, seemed to have altered their opinion regarding the feasibility of drainage.

"All along the route to the dredges," said the speaker, "good, big healthy tomato plants, laden with fruit, could be seen on the rich muck land, and signs of thrift and prosperity were everywhere in evidence."

"The party arrived at Fort Lauderdale in dribbles, those on the train getting there first. Automobiles hove in sight from time to time up to about 10:30, when Mr. T. V. Moore, president of the Board of Trade of Miami, with his party, arrived upon the scene. Upon his arrival, a meeting was held in the hall over Stranahan's store, where, as chairman of the meeting, Mr. Moore made a few remarks concerning the object of their presence there, and then asked Senator Fred M. Hudson to introduce the governor.

Mr. Hudson arose, and in a few well placed remarks, salient to drainage, introduced Governor

Broward. From those who were present, to a unit, it is learned that his speech brought out more facts regarding drainage, that were backed up by figures and surveys, than had ever heretofore crossed their minds. The speech was more of the general conversational character, plain, impressive, and fortified by a true sincerity that could not be misunderstood.

The governor stated that he was gratified to see the group of men before him, whom he knew were influential men and a representative class from Miami. He said that it inspired him in his work and referred [sic.] to Sam Jones' story about his dog, the latter, when on a drive, with his master, was attacked by a ferocious looking mungrel, but instead of stopping to fight his antagonist, pushed on ahead with as much energy as was contained in his frame, not wishing to stop and argue unpleasant features. The governor likened himself to Jones' dog, that he felt like spurting on ahead with the work, since such men as faced him were met with him for the purpose he has been advocating.

The governor pointed out also that he had always believed water would run down hill, referring then to the decline of 21 feet in the forty-five miles from Lake Okeechobee to where the state's dredges are now working. He referred also to a number of surveys taken by numerous surveyors, private and state and government, all of which confirmed the findings of the former.

In closing the governor told his



*Tom Bryan standing in front of his family's New River Inn, 1954. In 1908, the inn, then owned by Bryan's father, Philemon, was described as "Bryan's new stone hotel."*



*Reed A. Bryan and his second wife, Barbara Estelle Ummel, about the time of their 1912 marriage. Bryan's first wife, Anna W. Baker, died tragically of fever in 1909, while Bryan was employed as superintendent of the New River dredging operations.*

hearers to go back to Miami and tell the people that as soon as possible, a dredge would be sent there, and that he thought it would be in the very near future.

The gathering then went to Bryan's new stone hotel, and there had dinner, afterwards taking boats to the scene of dredging operations in the 'Glades.

Among the prominent visitors there was Hon. John N. C. Stockton who was very much interested in the meeting as well as the operations of the dredges. Mr. Stockton, when called upon made a short address regarding his views of the drainage scheme, and Mr. R. T. Daniel, of this city, also made a very fine discourse on what he termed was the very best thing to do with the Everglades. His remarks were sincere and from a viewpoint of one who saw in the Everglades land, land unexcelled in any part of the country.

Among those who were at Fort Lauderdale were J. W. Watson, Joseph A. McDonald, John B. Reilly, J. H. Tatum, R. T. Daniel, F. M. Hudson, J. M. Townley, T. V. Moore, Harry C. Budge, F. W. Hahn, Samuel O. Pitts, Joseph F. Chaille, T. L. Townley, Mr. Townley, Sr.,

Isador Cohen, C. T. McCrimmon, M. J. Peppard, H. C. Roome, C. M. Brown, Sr., A. L. LaSalle, B. F. Laseter, W. W. Prout, F. W. Wharton, J. R. Girtman, Richard Ashby, R. T. Daniel, J. H. Tatum, J. W. Horner, Gus A. Muller, J. C. Ferris, Edwin Nelson, and others.

---

*Daily Miami Metropolis,*  
January 30, 1908

**GOVERNOR BROWARD INSPECTS SOME OF THE DREDGE BOAT OUTFITS OF THE FLORIDA EAST COAST RAILROAD CO.**

**With a View of Procuring One of More For Dredging Operations From the Head of Miami River — Governor Came Down Fort Lauderdale This A.M. With Mr. and Mrs. Reed Bryan — Representative of Government Meeting With Gov.**

Governor N. B. Broward arrived in the city this morning about ten o'clock, from Ft. Lauderdale, accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Reed A. Bryan and Miss Constance Bryan of that place.

The governor and Mr. Bryan

spent the morning looking at some of the dredges of the F.E.C. Railway now laid up in the upper part of the Miami river, to ascertain whether or not any of them could be used in connection with the drainage operations in this locality.

Returning to the city, Governor Broward was met at the Iroquois hotel by Mr. T. V. Moore, president of the board of trade and several other prominent citizens, and together the party dined. Mr. J. O. Wright, of the drainage department of the government's department of agriculture, arrived on the morning train and met with the party at the Iroquois.

It is the intention of Governor Broward to return north tonight. While here he was the recipient of much marked attention.

---

*Weekly Miami Metropolis,*  
February 7, 1908

**NEWS NOTES FROM FORT LAUDERDALE**

Fort Lauderdale, Jan. 31 — . . . Gov. Broward visited Fort Lauderdale Tuesday and looked over the work the dredges are doing. About

sixty Miamians met the governor here and spoke to him for the purpose of inducing him to put a dredge in the Miami river. Governor Broward and a number of other gentlemen spoke in Stranahan's hall Tuesday morning.

---

*Minutes of the Board of Trustees  
Internal Improvement Fund of the  
State of Florida, vol. VII, page 236*

**MINUTES OF MARCH 7, 1908**

The account of N. B. Broward, expenses to and from Ft. Lauderdale to inspect drainage operations, was approved and ordered paid for \$120.70.

---

*Minutes of the Board of Trustees  
Internal Improvement Fund of the  
State of Florida, vol. VII, page 236*

**MINUTES OF MARCH 10, 1908**

Resolved, that the Secretary of the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida is hereby required to furnish to each of the following Trustees: Governor N. B. Broward, Mr. W. V. Knott and Mr. B. E. McLin, the sum of \$60.00 to cover expense of inspecting drainage work now in progress at Ft. Lauderdale, the same to be accounted for by itemized expense account.

---

*Weekly Miami Metropolis,  
March 14, 1908*

**BIG OVATION WAS  
TENDERED GOV. BROWARD**

The entertainment of Governor Broward and party, other than that mentioned as transpiring in the Metropolis yesterday afternoon, continued last night. During the early hours of the evening the party were delightfully serenaded by the Miami band, and interested by a drill by the Zouaves on 12th street in front of the Iroquois hotel, the governor enjoying the pleasures thoroughly.

Later on, and following the meeting of Mrs. [Carrie] Nation in the big tent, Governor Broward delivered a short address, speaking to one of the largest and most

enthusiastic crowds of citizens ever assembled in Miami. His audience was a representative one and was composed about equally of men and women.

Governor Broward's address was in the nature of a talk. There was no flow of eloquence or demonstrative gestures. It was a plain, common sense talk of man to man and as such was more appreciated than had it been made otherwise. The Governor spoke of the development of the state and Dade County, and the possibilities that confront us. He told us of his duties in office and how he had tried to fulfill them; of the success that had been met with, and of the future possibilities and probabilities for our state and section. His remarks were well received and he was accorded generous and frequent applause.

At one point of his talk Governor Broward paid his respect to his enemies and won the admiration of his audience by stating that if he had enemies he did not desire them, and that those who were, wasted their time and energies by venting their feelings and grievances, as he had no time in which to pay attention to them.

Following the tent speaking a dollar dinner was served at the San Carlos, participated in by fully one hundred of the leading representative citizens, among whom were many ladies. The evening was made a memorable one, and it was after midnight, when the delightful occasion was brought to a close.

Mr. R. T. Daniels [Daniel] acted as master of ceremonies, and during the evening remarks of a happy and pleasing nature were made by Governor Broward, Ex-Governor Jennings, Treasurer W. V. Knott, Commissioner of Agriculture B. E. McLin, Prof. R. E. Hall, W. W. Prout, John W. Watson, Guy I. Metcalf, and others.

The reception tendered Governor Broward was one of the best ever accorded a public official in Miami, and in return the chief executive made many new friends and admirers. The party left this morning for Fort Lauderdale where they will

spend the day inspecting the dredging operations now underway there.

---

*Florida Times-Union (Jacksonville),  
March 18, 1908*

**TOURISTS LINGERING AT  
MAGIC CITY**

**Oceangoing Railroad is  
Still Extremely Popular  
Fishing Parties Are Having  
Excellent Luck With  
the Finny Tribe**

**Other Notes.**

Times-Union Bureau, Miami, March 17 . . . Gov. Broward and party of officials, who spent last Friday in this city, have returned from Fort Lauderdale, where they have been inspecting the canal and arranging for placing a lock in it. The visitors are here with a view of placing a large dredge in the Miami river.

---

*Daily Miami Metropolis,  
March 23, 1908*

**MAKING PLANS TO DRAIN  
THE GLADES**

Governor Broward, who arrived in the city this morning, came for the purpose of arranging final details for beginning preparations to put a dredge in the upper Miami river, and was closeted all the morning with the committee of citizens at the Iroquois hotel.

He returned to Fort Lauderdale this afternoon and tonight will go to Jacksonville to attend the funeral of the late Senator W. J. Bryan, on Wednesday. He expects to return here the latter part of the week, when all details will be arranged.

---

*Minutes of the Board of Trustees  
Internal Improvement Fund of the  
State of Florida, vol. VII*

**MINUTES OF JUNE 26, 1908**

N. B. Broward, expense two trips to and from Ft. Lauderdale to inspect drainage operations . . . \$127.03.



*Florida Times-Union* (Jacksonville),  
August 12, 1908

# **FORT LAUDERDALE ITEMS**

Fort Lauderdale, Aug. 10. — Gov. N. B. Broward arrived on this morning's train. The governor will inspect the state drainage work which is in progress at this place.

*Daily Miami Metropolis*,  
September 24, 1908

## **GOVERNOR BROWARD AT FT. LAUDERDALE ON INSPECTION**

### **With a Party of Friends He Is Looking Over the Operations**

Governor N. B. Broward, Mr. J. M. Barrs, of Jacksonville, one of the State's leading attorneys and several other prominent gentlemen in official circles at the State Capitol, were among the passengers on the south bound train this morning and all left the train at Ft. Lauderdale, where they will spend the day viewing the work of the state's dredges, operating now ten miles out in the Everglades and digging their way to the goal.

It is understood that while on this trip of inspection Governor Broward and his associates will visit

Miami, and confer with the promoters of the drainage scheme of draining the land near the head of the Miami river. The governor was expected to arrive here this morning by several of the committee. With his party, he will be taken up the river, and it is understood the point where the dredge will start work will be settled upon.

*Daily Miami Metropolis*,  
September 25, 1908

## **GOV. BROWARD IS A VISITOR IN CITY TODAY**

Accompanied by  
**J. M. Barrs of Jacksonville**  
**The Governor Spent Yesterday  
at Lauderdale**

**Investigating Work  
Today He is Looking Over  
Situation in the Vicinity of  
Miami, with the Object of  
Placing a Dredge in the Miami  
River. Says Before Long he will  
Give Out Good Piece of News  
For our Citizens**

Governor N. B. Broward arrived in the city yesterday afternoon accompanied by Hon. J. M. Barrs, of Jacksonville, coming here via automobile from Ft. Lauderdale, where

they had spent the morning looking over the work of the State dredges operating in the Everglades several miles up the New River.

The governor and Mr. Barrs spent the afternoon in consultation with Mr. J. H. Tatum relative to the Tatum dredge now working in the Miami River, and in discussing plans for the drainage of more territory in and around the city.

In the evening, Governor Broward and Mr. Barrs registered at the Green Tree Inn, where they had supper and spent the night. During the evening, Governor Broward was in consultation with Mr. W. W. Prout, at his home on Tenth street, relative to propositions along the drainage line in the immediate vicinity of Miami.

This morning Governor Broward and Mr. Barrs registered at the Tatum dredge in the big touring car of the J. H. Tatum & Co. Real estate agency, and reviewed the work done by the dredge thus far.

This afternoon, in company with Mr. Prout and others, the governor and Mr. Barrs are visiting the estate and farm of Walter Waldin, at Orange Ridge [at what was then the edge of the Everglades near Miami]. Tonight, the governor and Mr. Barrs



*John M. Barrs*



*W. W. Prout*



*J. H. Tatum (courtesy of the Fort Lauderdale Historical Society).*

will return north.

Early this morning, Governor Broward was interviewed at the hotel by a Metropolis reporter and was asked what progress the drainage work at Ft. Lauderdale was making. To this the governor replied:

"The work is going on splendidly and the dredges are far out into the 'glades working full time and you may rest assured it will not be necessary for another dredge to come along and do the work left undone by the 'Okeechobee' and the 'Everglades.'"

Regarding the work in the Miami River and the placing of a dredge there, the governor stated that he was not prepared to say anything about the matter, but that before long, he would make a statement which he knows will be good news to the people of Miami and Dade county. In speaking of the drainage canals, the governor said:

"You know, everyone has an idea how these canals should be scattered in the Everglades, and many ideas differ. We are going to construct the canals in a manner to drain the lands adjacent to them. One canal cannot do the work, not two. It will require a series of canals here and there throughout the entire area south of Lake Okeechobee, like a net-work, to properly drain the over-flow, and that is our plan. We, of course, will have what we term as the main canals, with a series of laterals on the order of a river with its branches. These laterals will in performing their functions cast off on the main canals, the latter casting their burden on New River."

The governor was then asked if New River is being taxed by the extra work already thrown upon it, to which the governor replied, "No sir, nor will it with all the canals in operation so long as the Atlantic ocean remains where it is, so that New River can reach it."

Florida Times-Union (Jacksonville),  
September 27, 1908

### BROWARD AND BARRS INSPECT DREDGES

Times-Union Bureau, Miami, Sept. 26.

Gov. Broward and Hon. J. M. Barrs arrived in this city from Fort Lauderdale on Thursday afternoon via automobile. They have been at Fort Lauderdale inspecting the dredging that is being done there by the state, the governor expressing his satisfaction at the progress of the work. The afternoon was spent with Mr. J. H. Tatum discussing the dredging interests in this section. In the evening Gov. Broward spent some time at the home of W. W. Prout discussing the drainage of lands in the immediate vicinity of this city.

Yesterday morning Gov. Broward and Mr. Barrs, accompanied by J. H. Tatum, visited the Tatum dredge, which is cutting a drainage canal from the south fork of the Miami river to a point three miles west. In the afternoon, accompanied by Mr.

Prout, Gov. Broward and Mr. Barrs visited the Orange Glade section, where they called upon Walter Waldin, who owns and operates one of the best trucking farms in Florida. Mr. Waldin is also president of the Dade County Fair Association. Gov. Broward and Mr. Barrs left last night for Jacksonville.

*Minutes of the Board of Trustees  
Internal Improvement Fund of the  
State of Florida, vol. VII, page 332*  
**MINUTES OF OCTOBER 1, 1908**

The following accounts were presented and ordered paid:

N. B. Broward, expenses of trip  
to Ft. Lauderdale to inspect drainage  
... \$53.60

## Real Estate Bargains

We offer a few choice properties for the next 10 days  
as follows:

2 lots, 50x150 on paved street, on the part of city, each	\$475.00
1 lot on 10th street, near Ave. C, a big building lot	\$1500
3 lots on Fifth street, each	\$350.00
House and lot on Third street, 6 rooms, four place, easy terms	\$1800
One-half lot on Twelfth Street, for	2500
Elegant home on 8th street	\$4000

Riverside lots are selling rapidly, but we have a few choice ones left at the following prices:

Corner lots on Twelfth Street	\$1250
Inside lots on Twelfth Street	\$1000
Inside lots on other streets	\$750
Corner lots on other streets	\$1000

Remember that water, sewer, lights, paving and street railway will all be down there in the next sixty days.

## J. H. Tatum & Co.

Advertisement for J. H. Tatum & Co. real estate agency in the  
April 10, 1906 Daily Miami Metropolis.

*Daily Miami Metropolis,*  
October 24, 1908

### THE PEOPLE FAVOR DRAINAGE

... In opposing the work of reclaiming land in the Everglades the News-Record does not represent the prevalent sentiment in this county. This subject formed an important issue in our last political campaign. It is a well known fact that Gov. Broward was supported for United States Senator by a large per cent of our business men — those who attended the meetings of the Broward-Stockton Club remember with what enthusiasm our leading business men spoke in warmly endorsing the work at Ft. Lauderdale and how eager they were to see the work successfully completed.

They were all of the opinion that the cultivation of the Glades meant an inestimable increase in wealth for our county and state.

It will furthermore be remembered that a large delegation of representative citizens visited in a body Fort Lauderdale while Governor Broward was there on a tour of inspection last spring, and urgently requested him to put a dredge in the Miami River, in order to reclaim lands here. These gentlemen who saw for themselves the drainage operations were favorably impressed with the work and wanted to see it completed.

The sentiment of our county was expressed at the polls at our last primary election held June 16th.

At this election a large majority vote was cast for Governor Broward which meant an endorsement of the drainage proposition. The county gave Gov. Broward a majority of 453. Every individual precinct gave him a majority except two and he lost in these by a combined vote of only 10. In Miami he received a majority of 166. At Ft. Lauderdale where the people know most about the drainage he lost only 8 votes, receiving 78 out of 86 votes cast. Had the people throughout the county known as much about the drainage work as those at Fort Lauderdale, he doubtless would have received a still larger majority...

*Daily Miami Metropolis,*  
October 24, 1908

### GOVERNOR BROWARD ENTHUSIASTIC OVER EVERGLADE DRAINAGE WORK

**Tells of Recent Purchases of  
Lands and That Work Is  
Progressing  
Chief Executive Amused Over  
Abrams' Article**

**Broward Says that he Showed  
Maj. Abrams Article Criticizing  
Drainage Scheme to a New  
York Capitalist and that this  
Gentleman Immediately  
Purchased Eight Thousand  
Acres of Land**

Governor N. B. Broward, accompanied by R. J. Bolles and M. O'Brien, wealthy capitalists of Colorado, who are interested in the production of sugar in the Everglades, are spending the day in the city as guests of the Aragon, says the Jacksonville Metropolis. The Colorado gentlemen, it is understood, have made, or will make very extensive land purchases in the Everglades from private parties, and will commence the work of producing sugar cane at no distant date.

### Governor Talks

Governor Broward, who has just returned from a trip to the Everglades, talked with unusual enthusiasm regarding his gigantic scheme for reclaiming millions of acres of fertile lands, work upon which has in recent years been pushed with marked energy and success, owing to the Governor's persistence in carrying out his plans, in spite of great opposition. Two new dredges, as stated recently, will begin work in a few weeks. One of these dredges which is being built by the Tampa Foundry and Machine Works, will be ready for launching in two weeks and the Governor will go to Tampa in honor of that event.

### Conditions Satisfactory

"I found everything in a most satisfactory condition in the Everglades," said Governor Broward,

"and am greatly pleased with the work done. To one who has recently visited the Everglades the article recently published in the Times-Union by Major Abrams and an engineer which made it appear that the entire country was overflowed appears absurd in the extreme. Immediately after reading the article I showed it to Mr. W. R. Comfort, a wealthy sugar man of New York, who proceeded to add to his purchase by taking 8,000 acres from the state and the remainder from the Florida East Coast Railway. Some of the wealthiest men in the country are anxious to purchase thousands of acres of these reclaimed lands, and there is no trouble whatever about selling them to people who are able to spend millions in promotion work that will make the entire section a paradise. Mr. Comfort, in spite of the fact that his property has been 'deluged,' has for some time been making preparations for planting sugar cane."

Several deals, compared to which the sale made to Mr. Comfort are insignificant, have been under way for some time, and there is no doubt but that Governor Broward will make good his every campaign promise regarding the reclamation of the Everglades before his term expires.

### Million-Dollar Deal

Asked as to the progress of the deal whereby 1,500,000 acres will be sold for as many dollars, mention of which was recently made in the Metropolis, Governor Broward stated that he was not in a position to report any progress on the matter. "I have been in the Everglades for some time," said he, "and therefore, do not know what progress has been made at Tallahassee."

### That Extra Session

Governor Broward was asked if the report recently published in The Metropolis that he would call an extra session of the Legislature was true. He replied that he would be in position to make some statement regarding the matter within the next ten days, but at present was unable to say anything for publication.



---

---

*Minutes of the Board of Trustees  
Internal Improvement Fund of the  
State of Florida, vol. VII, page 467*

**MINUTES OF  
NOVEMBER 23, 1908**

It was ordered that Governor Broward be advanced the sum of fifty dollars (\$50.00) to pay his expenses on a trip to inspect the work being done by the dredges.

---

---

*Florida Times-Union (Jacksonville),  
December 2, 1908*

**FORT LAUDERDALE**

Fort Lauderdale, Dec. 1 — Gov. N. B. Broward was in town on Thursday and enjoyed his Thanksgiving dinner on one of the state dredges.

---

---

*Minutes of the Board of Trustees  
Internal Improvement Fund of the  
State of Florida, vol. VII, page 474*

**MINUTES OF  
DECEMBER 5, 1908**

The account of N. B. Broward, for \$45.10, expenses of trip to Miami and Ft. Lauderdale in the interests of drainage, was approved and ordered paid.

---

---

*Daily Miami Metropolis,  
December 28, 1908*

**BROWARD AND PARTY  
EXPECTED TO VISIT IN  
MIAMI TOMORROW**

Senator William H. Milton and Other Distinguished Citizens in Party — Will Investigate Drainage Operations Here

A party of distinguished citizens of the State are expected in the city today from Ft. Lauderdale, where yesterday, they reviewed the work of the state dredges, Everglades and Okeechobee, which have been digging canals near that town for a year or more.

In the party is Governor Broward, prime mover in the reclamation of

the Everglades by drainage, Mr. John T. Lewis, of Ocala; Mr. F. B. Lanier, of Kissimmee; Mr. J. R. Miller, of Eustis; Mr. A. C. Croom, state treasurer, of Tallahassee; Mr. John E. Hartridge, of Jacksonville, Hon. W. H. Milton, United States Senator from Florida, and Mr. J. W. Bushnell, of Tallahassee.

This visit of Governor Broward to the dredges at Ft. Lauderdale and Miami will probably be the last of his official visits as governor, and he will probably culminate all plans for the work of the dredge Miami, which is expected here within the next fortnight to start operations in the Miami River.

The tract of land already drained near Ft. Lauderdale by the two dredges it is said, will be used to demonstrate the feasibility of drainage, and at Miami the work will be carried on along the lines planned several months ago.

The governor and party expressed great satisfaction at the progress made by the dredges, and Governor Broward feels especially gratified with the work he has done and leaves to his successor to handle as he sees fit.

---

---

*Florida Times-Union (Jacksonville),  
December 30, 1908*

**RUMORED SALE OF  
EVERGLADES LAND**

Times-Union Bureau, Miami,  
Dec. 29.

Gov. Broward and party are expected to arrive in Miami some time today. They have been spending a few days at Fort Lauderdale inspecting the dredges and the work done by them under the Broward administration, and the party comes here to make the final arrangements for the dredging of the Miami river.

It is said that the new dredge, Miami, which is being completed at Tampa, will arrive here in about two weeks, when the state's work will be commenced. It is said that Gov. Broward is highly pleased with the work at Fort Lauderdale, which has been accomplished under his direction. It is said that the plans

formulated by the governor some months ago for cutting a drainage canal through the north fork of the Miami river will be carried out without change.

Rumor has it that Gov. Broward and his associates have sold a large tract of the Everglades to a Mr. Boll(e)s of Colorado, and that the contract is of such a nature that it will be necessary to continue the drainage scheme as mapped out by Gov. Broward.

---

---

*Minutes of the Board of Trustees  
Internal Improvement Fund of the  
State of Florida, vol. VIII*

**JANUARY 1909 EXPENSE  
SUMMARY**

January 4 [number] 1861—N. B. Broward, expenses of trip to Fort Lauderdale and to Miami in re drainage . . . \$109.35.

---

---

*Daily Miami Metropolis,  
August 16, 1909*

**EXHIBITION FARM AND TWO  
DREDGES WILL HELP**

Supplement and Assist Great  
Work of Drainage

Richard Bolles Owner of a  
Million Acres Talks  
of Everglades

Says that Work is Proceeding  
Well Under Circumstances —  
Thinks There will be Two More  
Dredges Soon — Finds Trustees  
Interested in Work — Tells  
of Demonstration Farm, and  
Predicts Great Things for  
Miami

"I thought in the beginning that the drainage of the Everglades was a good proposition, though something of a bugbear, and the more I know of it and the further the work progresses the more am I impressed with the idea that the undertaking is bound to bring a magnificent development to Florida with great growth and prosperity to Miami."

Thus spoke Richard Bolles, of New Mexico, this morning upon his arrival in Miami. Mr. Bolles is the purchaser of nearly a million acres of

land in the Everglades, which he is holding for development, for he has refused offers which would have cleared him cool millions on his holdings if he had cared to close out on a mere speculative basis.

Mr. Bolles was accompanied by his attorney, former Governor W. S. Jennings, Hon. N. B. Broward, and Mr. Harold Wheeler, of New York. The latter represents a number of capitalists who are engaged in the development of properties in different sections. Mr. Wheeler is here in the capacity of an expert and will report upon the value of the Everglades lands to his associates.

The party was met at the train this morning by Mr. Henry Russell Wray and Mr. H. Dale Miller in the latter's motor car and driven to the Green Tree Inn for breakfast. Shortly after breakfast the start was made from the stone dock for the dredge Miami, which is working some miles above the city.

Mr. Bolles is in Miami for the fourth time. He has been in Florida already for several weeks, having spent some time at the scene of the dredging operations in the Caloosahatchee, then at Tallahassee and later at Jacksonville. The work is proceeding with satisfactory progress in the opinion of Mr. Bolles. "You can't complete a project like this in a hurry," he said, "There are many problems to be worked out in the beginning, and I think the work is going along finely considering the difficulties that have been encountered. The dredge in the Caloosahatchee is doing particularly good work; that machine is going ahead at the rate of 150 feet a day, which is very good progress."

Mr. Bolles said that he thought it probable that two new dredges would be put to work before a great while, and this supplementary battery for ditch digging will do much toward bringing about a completion of the work. The early completion of the canal cutting will mean, as a matter of course, the earlier realization by the State on the investment that is being made by way of expense in pursuing the work. Mr. Bolles said that he found



*Richard J. Bolles*

the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund very much interested in the work and prepared to take every advantage in pushing it.

#### **As to Double Shifts**

The matter of putting two shifts, or crews, on the dredges, Mr. Bolles thought, was a matter for the engineers to decide. There was obviously some objection to it, he said, prominent among them being the item of repairs. If two crews were

worked each would want to make the best time possible; the day crew would not want to make repairs that the night crew had left necessary and the same would be true of the night crew following the day crew. It had been suggested that a repair crew be put on also, but these things, he said, were to be determined by the engineer and the trustees. He would like to see the work proceed with all the haste possible, but he was aware that the men in charge of the work had many problems to solve, many difficulties to deal with, and felt sure that the best work possible would be done in making the drainage of the Everglades a completed task.

#### **Demonstration Farm**

Mr. Bolles was told that the people of Miami were anxious that a demonstration farm should be opened in the Everglades for the purpose of showing the visitors to Miami just what could be done on Everglades soil. The Waldin farm on the edge of the glades was used as he knew to show the possibilities of the soil and the climate, but a demand had arisen for a demonstration within easy reach of Miami of what might be done on Everglades lands.

That such a farm would instill faith in the project and allay doubts



*Idyllic depictions of small farmers on their reclaimed homesteads were popular in Everglades land sales promotions. This example was published by the Everglades Land Company in 1911.*

## Green Tree Inn

Situated on Avenue N and Eleventh street opposite palatial Hialeah Hall hotel. All modern conveniences, white domestic service, rates \$2.50 to \$3.50 per day. Opens October 15th.

MRS. M. H. MARCH, Prop.  
MIAMI FLA.

*The Green Tree Inn was a favorite stopping place for Governor Broward and other state officials when visiting Miami.*

as to the productivity of the Everglades soil there could be no doubt, and the early establishment of a place for the purpose of making such an exhibition would be an advertisement of a value almost incalculable.

Mr. Bolles said that plans had already been made for such a farm. Mr. Walter Waldin, he says, owns land in the Everglades, not very far from town, and he understood it to be his purpose to plant such a farm on this land in the fall. It would be growing by winter, and in the course of a short time would afford the kind of an object lesson that was demanded by the skeptics.

### Believes in Miami

That the city of Miami has a great future, one that gleams and glows, with the roseate tints of prosperity and promise, Mr. Bolles is assured. "I believed in Miami," he said, "before I had faith in the Everglades. Now I have faith in both. When I first came here, I was delighted with the climate, the location, the possibilities of develop-

ment. It seemed to open an almost virgin field for work and development. The drainage of the Everglades I decided after a little investigation was a great big bugaboo, which had scared a great many people off by the magnitude of it and the failure to understand it. It just needed somebody to take intelligent hold of it to make it a great success. I was impressed that an empire was going to waste here in Florida, and I am glad that I was permitted to take some hand in the development which is coming, just as surely as the dredges keep digging."

Mr. Bolles and his party will probably go to Lauderdale tomorrow morning to visit the scene of the dredging operations there and will proceed from that point to Jacksonville.

*Daily Miami Metropolis,  
January 8, 1910*

### CALLING OF CONVENTION WOULD BE TAMPERING WITH PRIMARY SYSTEM

**Ex-Governor Broward Gives  
Strong Impression  
Affirms that He Will Run for  
Senate and Make it Hot Race  
State Chemist Rose Accompa-  
nies Broward and Party of  
Prospectors to Miami, and They  
Take a Trip to the Everglades  
— Except Rose**

There was suppressed excitement among the help at the White Palace yesterday, for it was noised among them that "the Governor" and his party were coming and there was much doing about in anticipation, for the help is not accustomed to seeing "the Governor" as often as the year-

round residents of Miami.

The big dining hall was filled when former Governor Broward, State Chemist Rose and a party of western prospectors blew in from Lauderdale. There was a scurrying of porters and the head waitress rustled to the door and took an observation. Turning to the nearest guest she inquired in anxious, not to say disappointed, tones:

"Is that the Governor?"

"Yum-hump," responded the man as articulation struggled with a pineapple fritter,

"My!" exclaimed the head waitress, and turned away dejectedly.

"Look here," said the fritter-stuffer, as he left off the engaging occupation for a moment to attend the pressing needs.

"That's the governor; he's been to the Everglades and he hasn't got on his Sunday duds, but lemme tell you he's like a singed cat — understand, he's a lot better than he looks.

### Opposes the Convention

Former Governor Broward is in Miami today, and having his attention directed to the call for a meeting of the State Democratic Executive Committee, he was asked if he thought it likely that the committee would order a convention.

"I think it likely," he responded, and being urged for an opinion continued.

"From what I have heard I believe it to be the purpose to have a convention. Whatever the need that may be urged for a convention it is tampering with the primary system to call one, and I regard it as dangerous to tamper with the primary system. Whoever does that is doing a dangerous thing, in my opinion."

REACHES ITS READERS  
16 HOURS AHEAD OF  
OTHER NEWSPAPERS.

Published in the Best Section of the Best State in the Country

# THE DAILY METROPOLIS

THE WEATHER  
PARTLY CLOUDY TO-  
MORROW AND WARMER.  
SAT. LIGHT FOG.  
SUN. B. WIND.

VOLUME 7 NUMBER 81

MIAMI, FLORIDA, TUESDAY, MARCH 22, 1910

10 PAGES

This Paper Reaches More People Today Than it Did Yesterday, and Will Reach More Tomorrow Than it Does Today—This is GROWTH

*The Daily Metropolis and its sister paper, the Weekly Metropolis, devoted much attention to the drainage project as well as both state and local politics during the first decade of the twentieth century.*



The ex-governor was told that some of the State papers are still saying that he is not going to run for the Senate.

"Well, I am," said he most emphatically. "You can write that down in red and underscore it a dozen times. I'm going to run and some of them will wish I hadn't before I get through."

#### Been Studying Some Time

The former governor was called away at this moment to join an auto party to the Everglades country, and was whizzed [sic.] away in a jiffy. But it wasn't long before State Chemist Rose loomed up.

"Hello, Captain," said an acquaintance. "Down to study the Everglades proposition, I guess." The State Chemist regarded his interlocutor with an expression intermingled with scorn and superior intelligence.

"My dear sir," he said with a Cannonesque ejaculation that had a familiar sound to those who know the State Chemist well. "I've been studying the Everglades for the past forty years. I'm letting others do some studying now."

A large party came and are being cared for today by the representatives of the land companies. The weather is ideal and they are enjoying their stay in Miami.

*Daily Miami Metropolis,*  
April 13, 1910

#### BROWARD TO SPEAK AT COURT HOUSE TONIGHT IN INTEREST OF CANDIDACY On Way From Palm Beach Where He Made Speech Many Friends of Former Governor will Likely Turn Out to Hear Him

Former Governor Napoleon B. Broward will speak at the court house tonight at 7:30 o'clock, in the interest of his candidacy for the U.S. senate.

Several days ago the former governor sent a telegram from Lakeland saying that he would be in Miami tonight and would work his

way down from West Palm Beach during the day after delivering a speech there in the forenoon.

This afternoon he wired the Metropolis from Delray, saying that he would be here in time for the speech and to make the announcement for him.

*Napoleon Bonaparte Broward won election as United States Senator by defeating incumbent Senator James P. Taliaferro in the June 7, 1910 Democratic run-off, but died suddenly in Jacksonville on October 1, before taking his seat in Washington. Exactly five years later, the south Florida county named in his honor and settled largely as a result of the state's Everglades reclamation project, came into existence.*

## To the Democratic Voters of Florida

I take this opportunity of addressing you a last word, as this is the last publication of the weekly papers before the battle of the ballots takes place on May 10th, to say to each of you that we know that the United States senate is composed largely of men representing the corporations and trusts of our country, and I believe that fact is notorious.

I have offered myself as a candidate for United States senator, to be voted for by all of those who believe that the masses of the people should control the legislation of the country. You know that I will, in the future, as I have in the past, represent by my political actions the masses of the people. We should look the matter squarely in the face. If you believe that the people should be more strongly represented in the senate of the United States, then they should vote for their candidate. I am that candidate.

I have nothing to say against my opponents. I believe that one of them is making an accusation against me, intended to involve my integrity. The accusation is made for the purpose of detracting from me and is wholly false. In no particular is it true.

If the people want to be represented more distinctly in the senate of the United States than they are now, I ask that they do not permit themselves to be humbugged by campaign falsehoods. You know that I have not and am not guilty of any official misconduct of any kind. You know that if elected I will work for the people with all my power. There is no reason for me to be defeated. There are more of us than there are of those who seek special privileges and who enjoy special privileges, and if we stand together for our protection and benefit as the special privileged few will stand together for their benefit, we are bound to win, and every man should do his duty as an American citizen by voting his own conviction, though money and other influences are exerted against us. We know that money has been spent, and is now being spent in large amounts for the purpose of defeating your candidates. The special interests are furnishing this money and you know that all of it is being spent against me. I ask that you double your efforts, if such is possible, to defeat such methods. It is my opinion that we will win a great victory on May 10th, 1910.

Yours truly,

N. B. BROWARD

*This campaign announcement, advertising Broward's U.S. senatorial candidacy, appeared in several issues of Miami's Daily Metropolis in May 1910.*