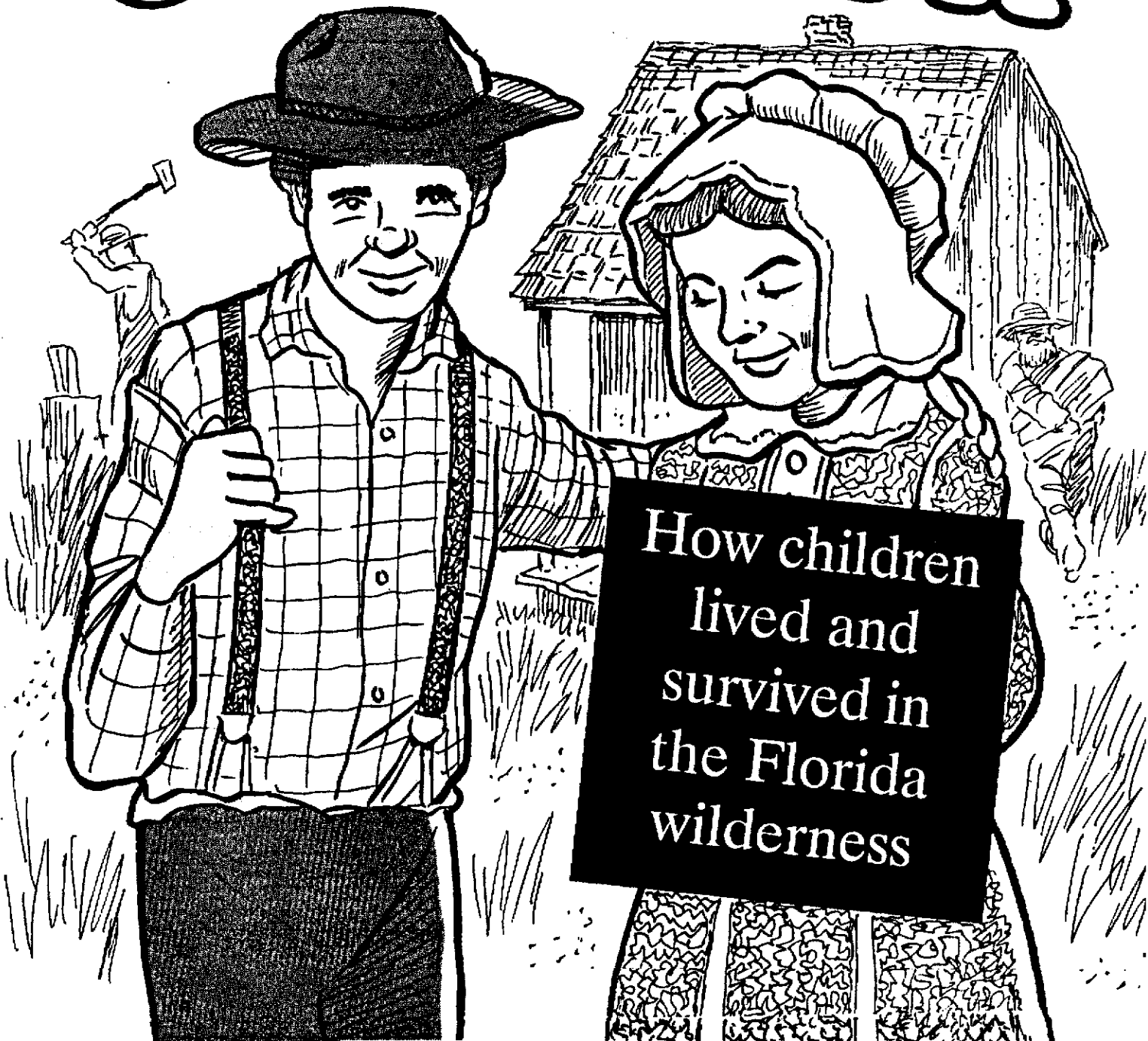


Cracker Country's

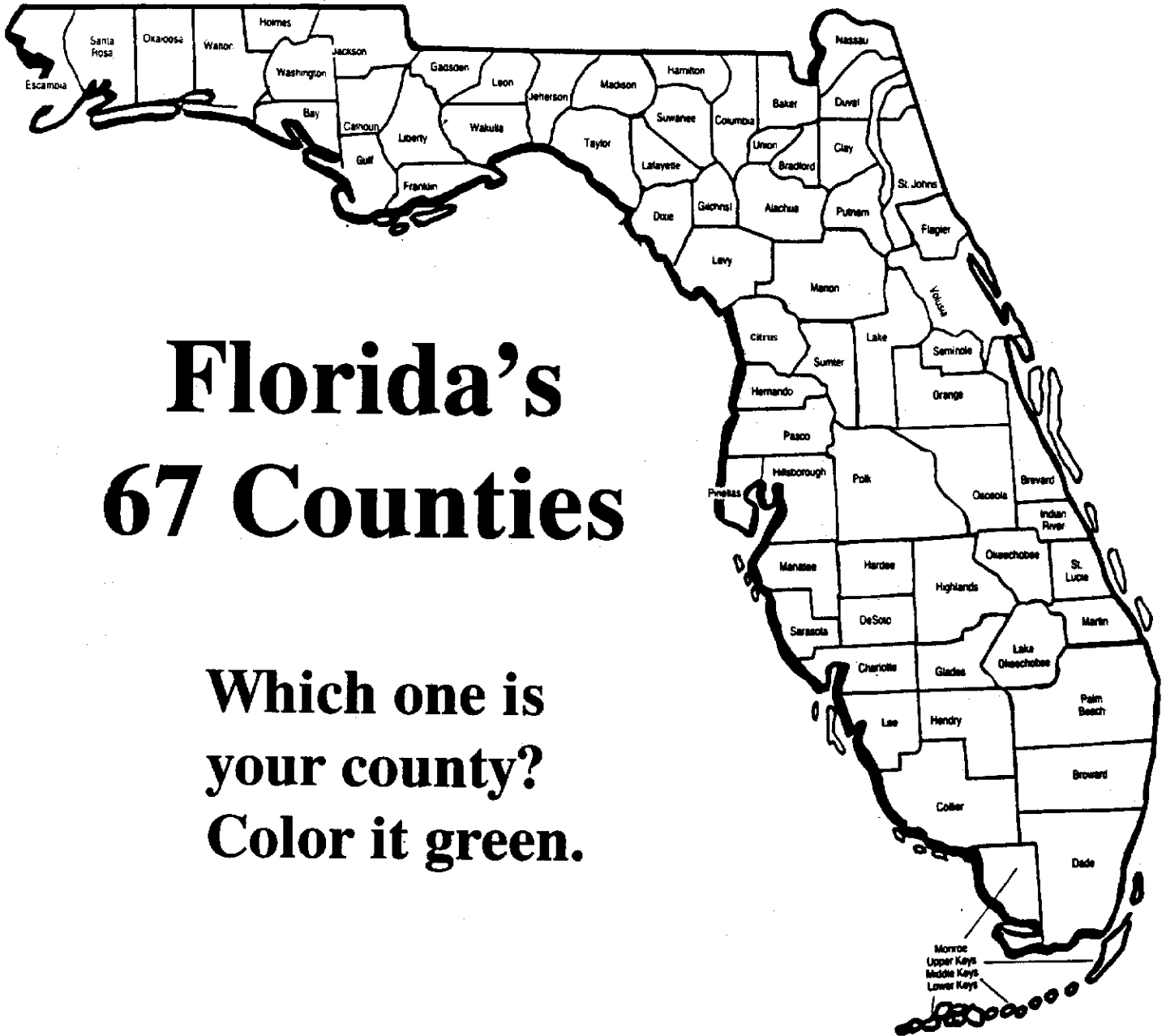
FRONTIER Children



How Florida got its name...



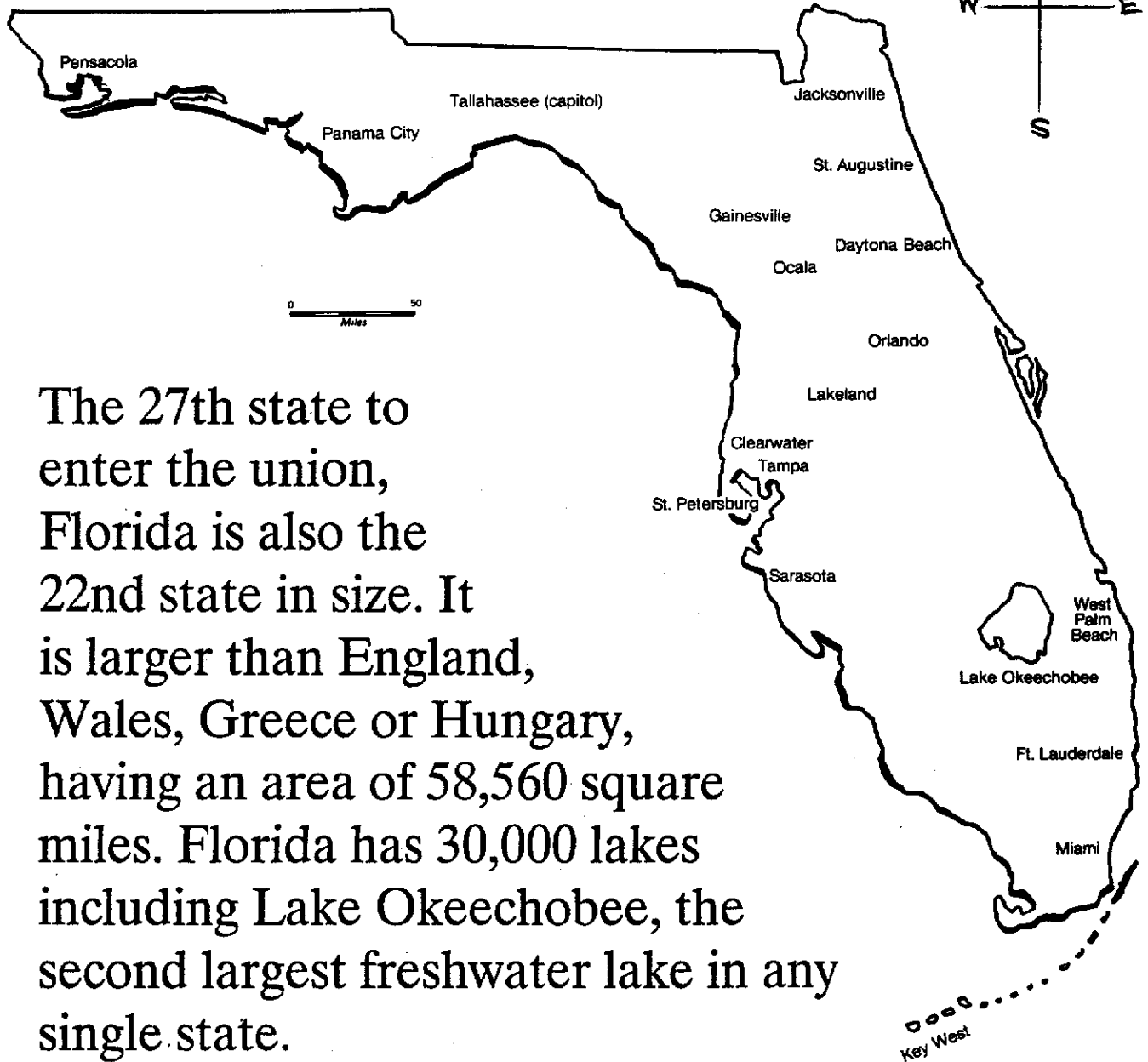
In 1513, Ponce de Leon discovered and named Florida (land of the flowers). In 1521, on his second trip to Florida, in search for the fountain of youth, he was attacked by hostile Indians and later died from his wounds. Soon Spain had forts and missions throughout Florida



Florida's 67 Counties

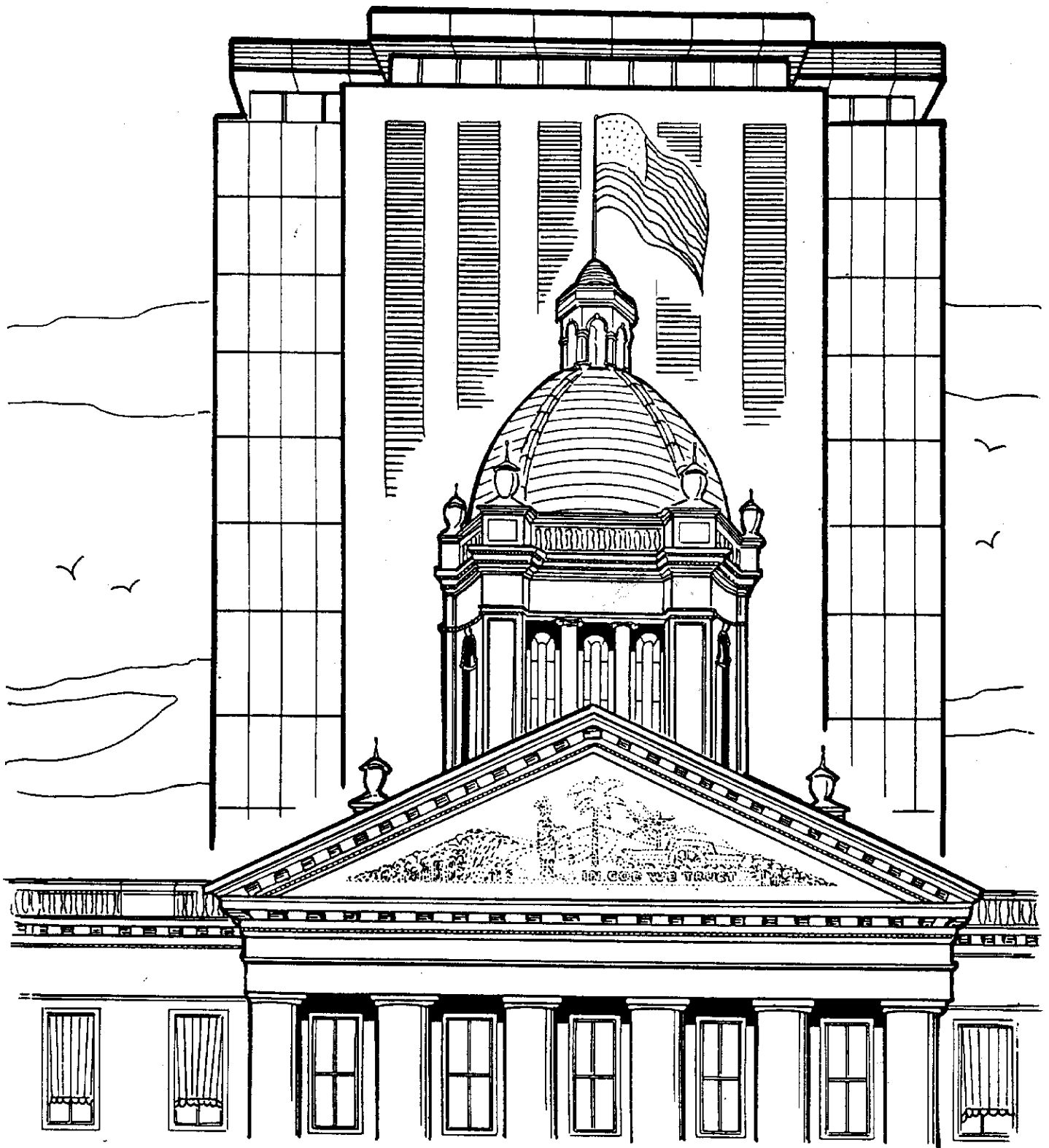
Which one is
your county?
Color it green.

Florida

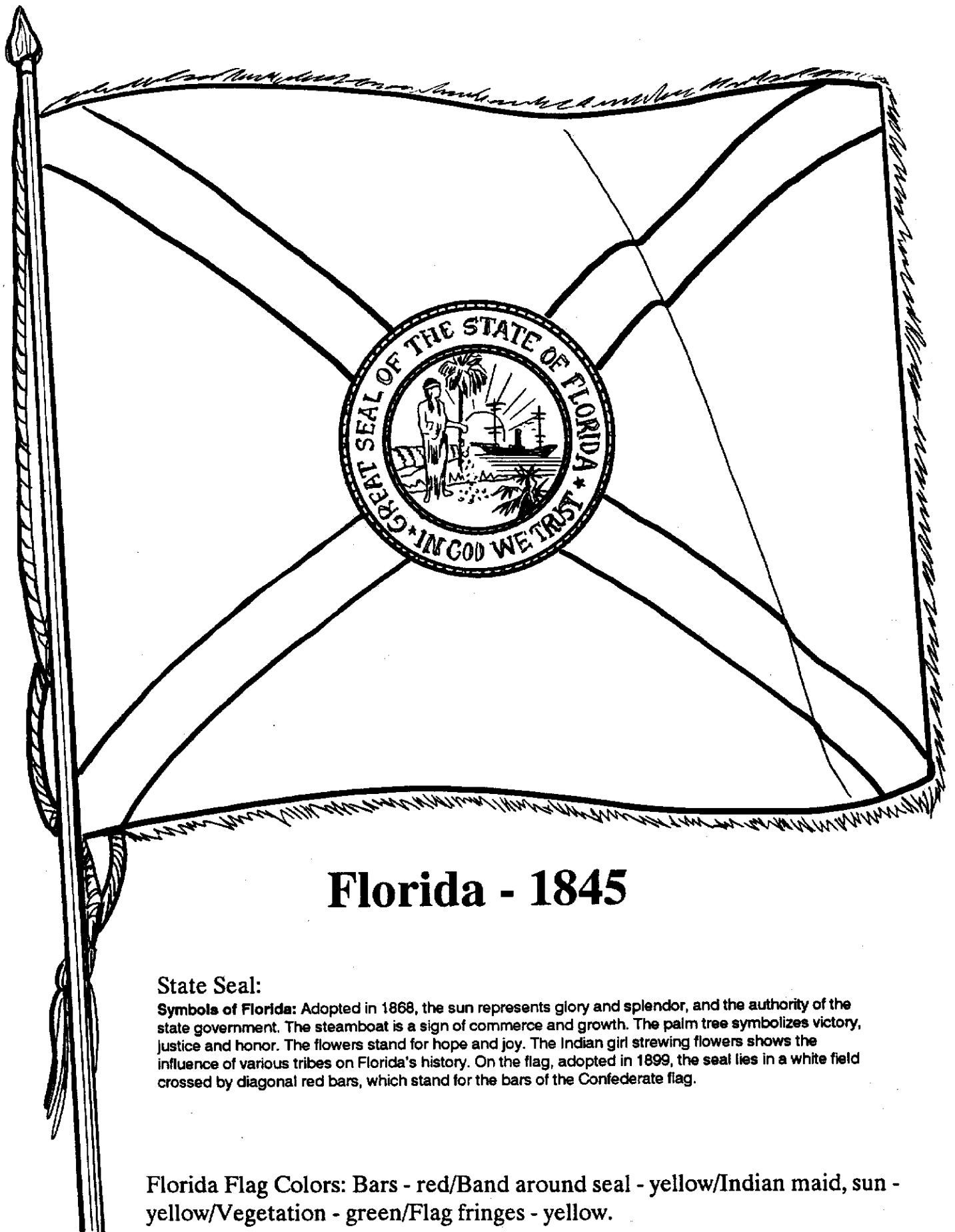


The 27th state to enter the union, Florida is also the 22nd state in size. It is larger than England, Wales, Greece or Hungary, having an area of 58,560 square miles. Florida has 30,000 lakes including Lake Okeechobee, the second largest freshwater lake in any single state.

**Circle the city
nearest your home**



The old and the new Florida. Completed in 1977, the new capitol in Tallahassee rises above the old gold-dome statehouse. The old capitol was built in 1845, the year Florida became a state, and its gold dome was added in 1901.



Florida - 1845

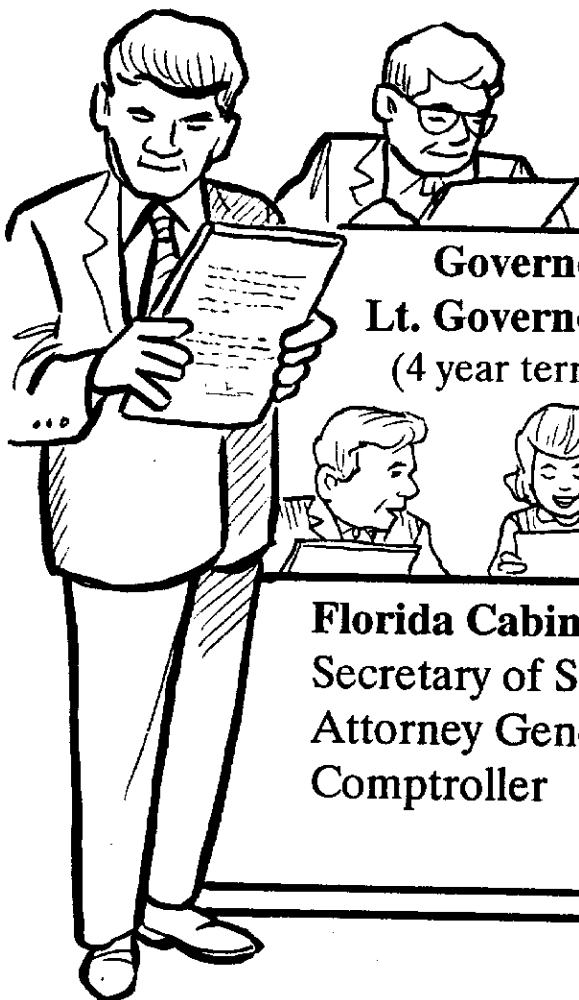
State Seal:

Symbols of Florida: Adopted in 1868, the sun represents glory and splendor, and the authority of the state government. The steamboat is a sign of commerce and growth. The palm tree symbolizes victory, justice and honor. The flowers stand for hope and joy. The Indian girl strewing flowers shows the influence of various tribes on Florida's history. On the flag, adopted in 1899, the seal lies in a white field crossed by diagonal red bars, which stand for the bars of the Confederate flag.

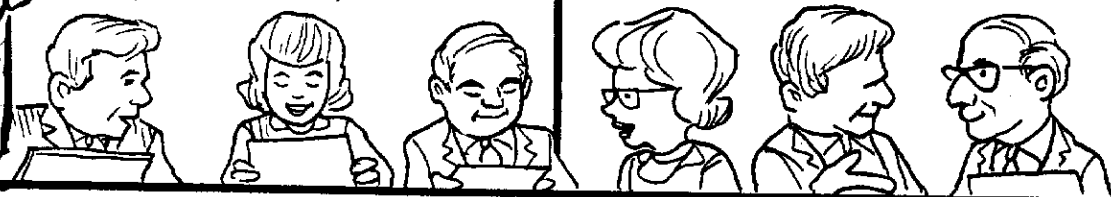
Florida Flag Colors: Bars - red/Band around seal - yellow/Indian maid, sun - yellow/Vegetation - green/Flag fringes - yellow.

Florida's

Executive



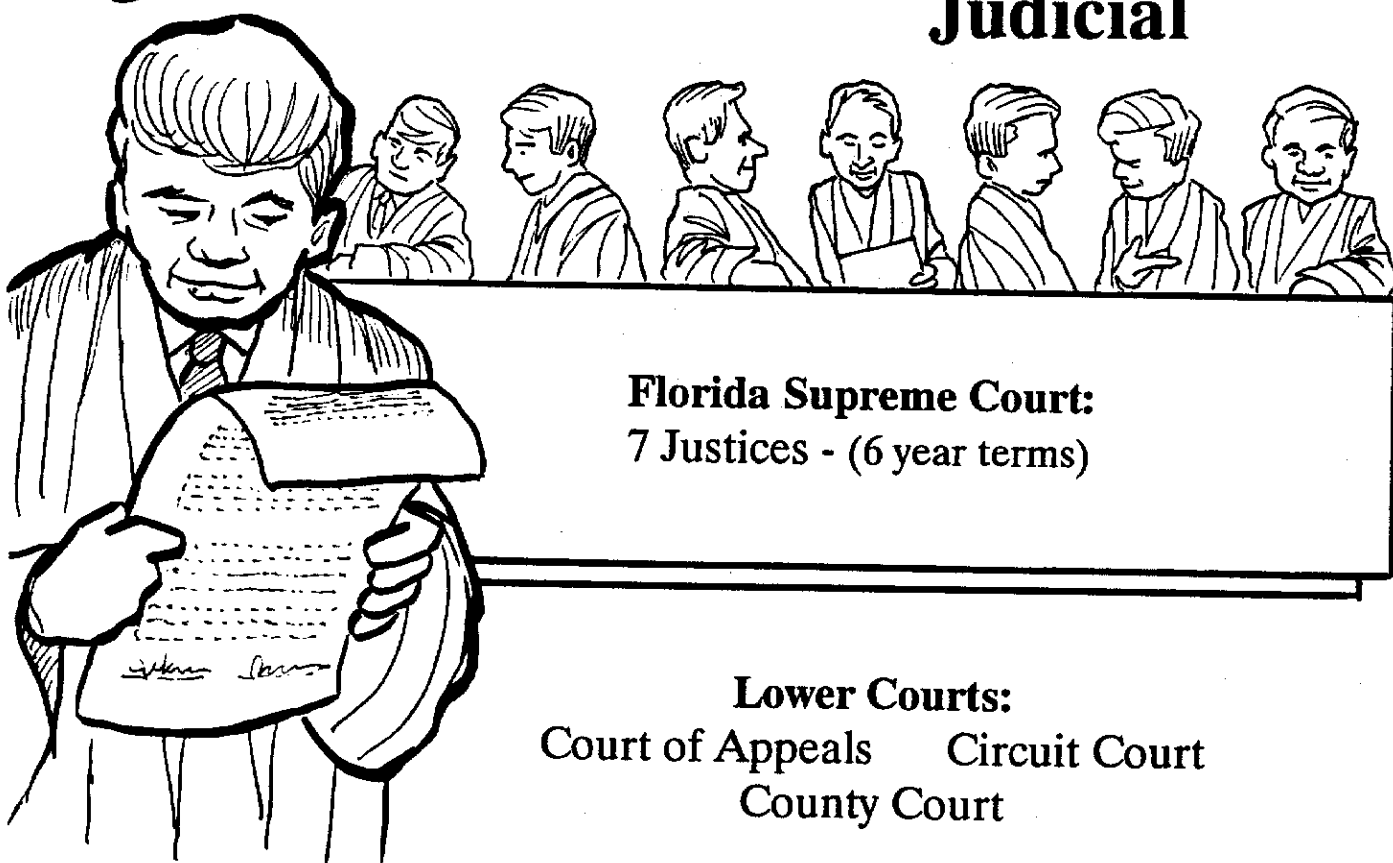
Governor
Lt. Governor
(4 year term)



Florida Cabinet:
Secretary of State
Attorney General
Comptroller

Treasurer
Commissioner of Agriculture
Commissioner of Education
(4 year terms)

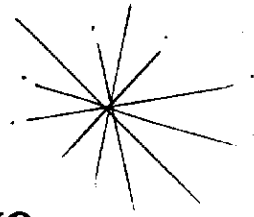
Judicial



Florida Supreme Court:
7 Justices - (6 year terms)

Lower Courts:
Court of Appeals Circuit Court
County Court

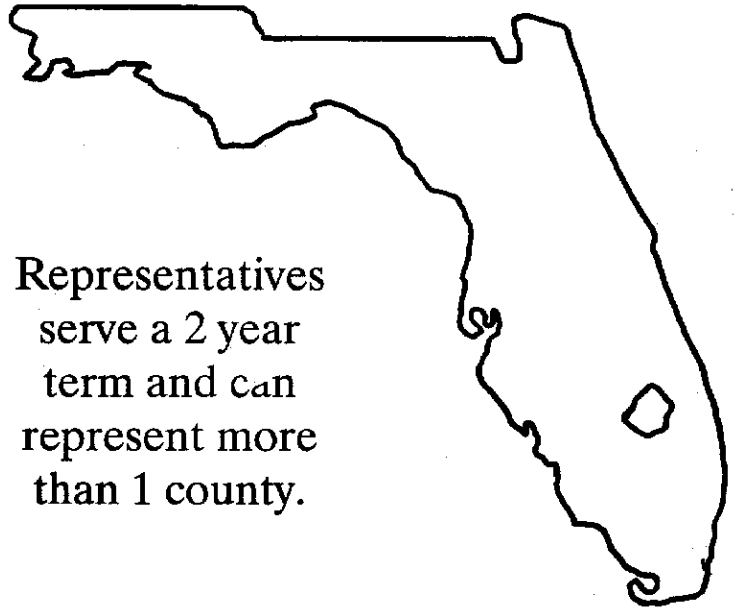
Government



Legislative

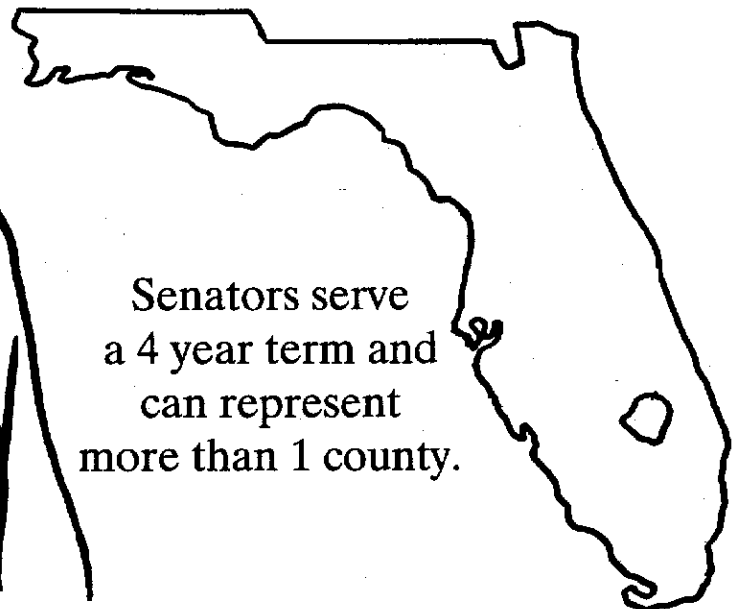
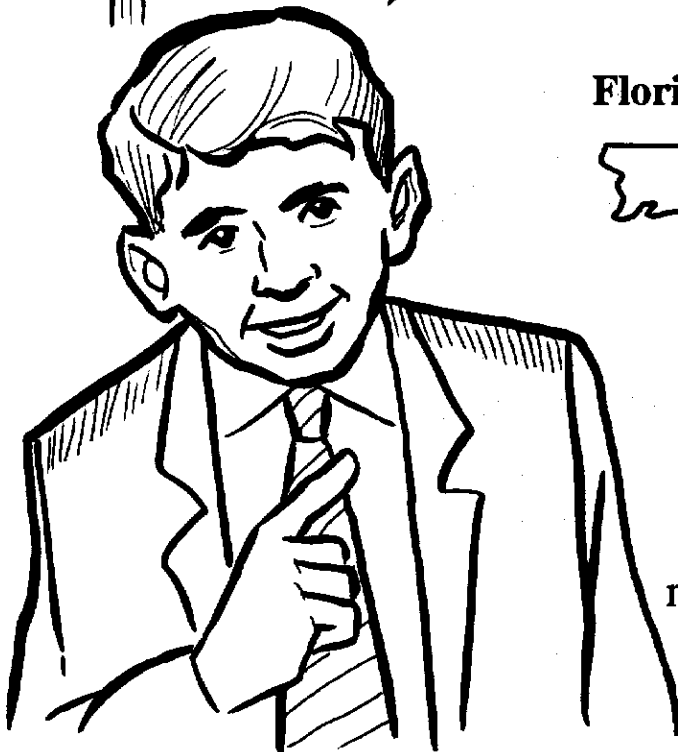


Florida House of Representatives



Representatives serve a 2 year term and can represent more than 1 county.

Florida Senate



Senators serve a 4 year term and can represent more than 1 county.

Can you name them?

Governor

Lt. Governor

Cabinet:

Secretary of State

Attorney General

Comptroller

Treasurer

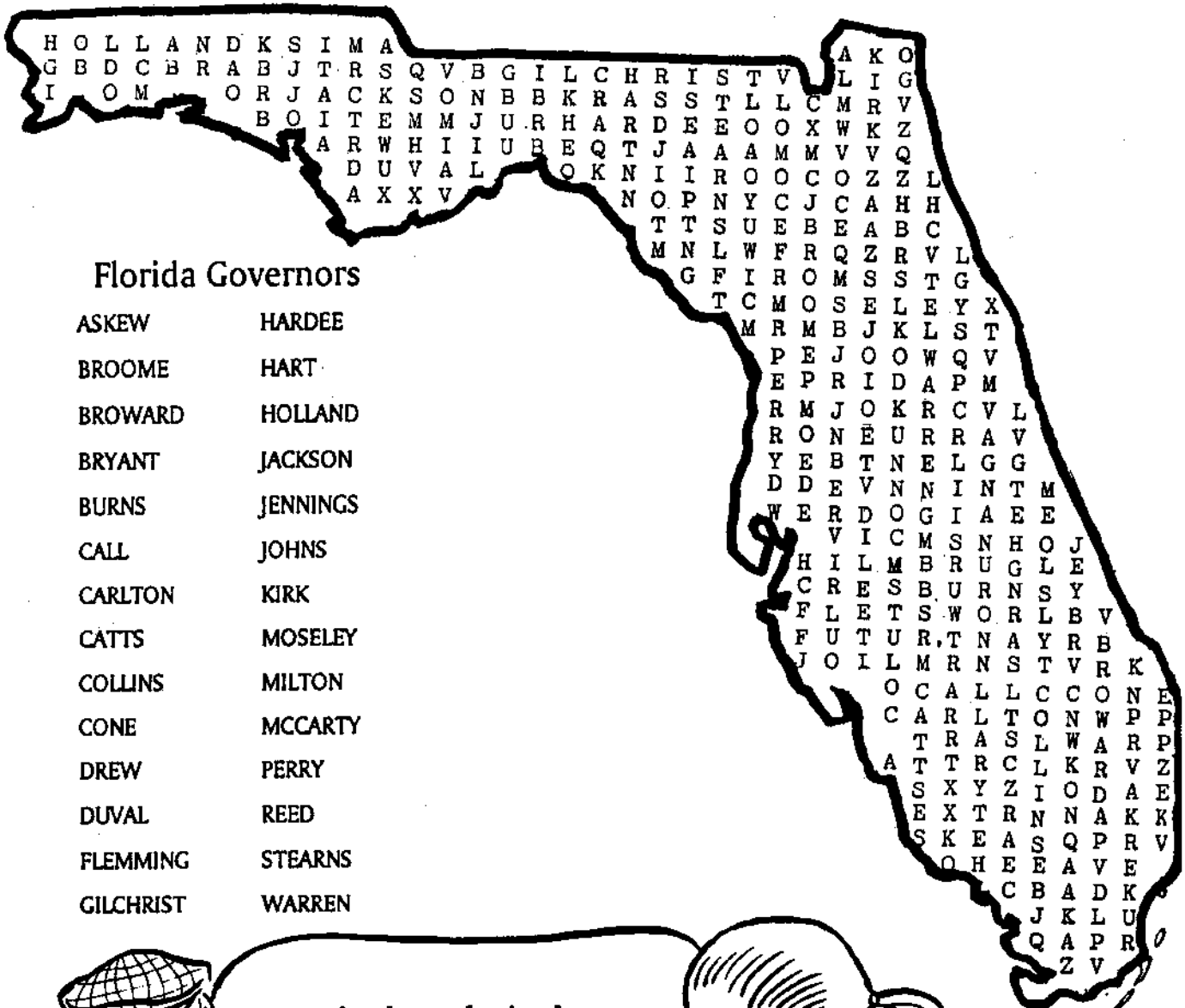
Commissioner of Agriculture

Commissioner of Education

Your State Senator

Your State Representative

For information on the state government and cabinet offices, write to:
The Capitol, Tallahassee 32304



Florida Governors

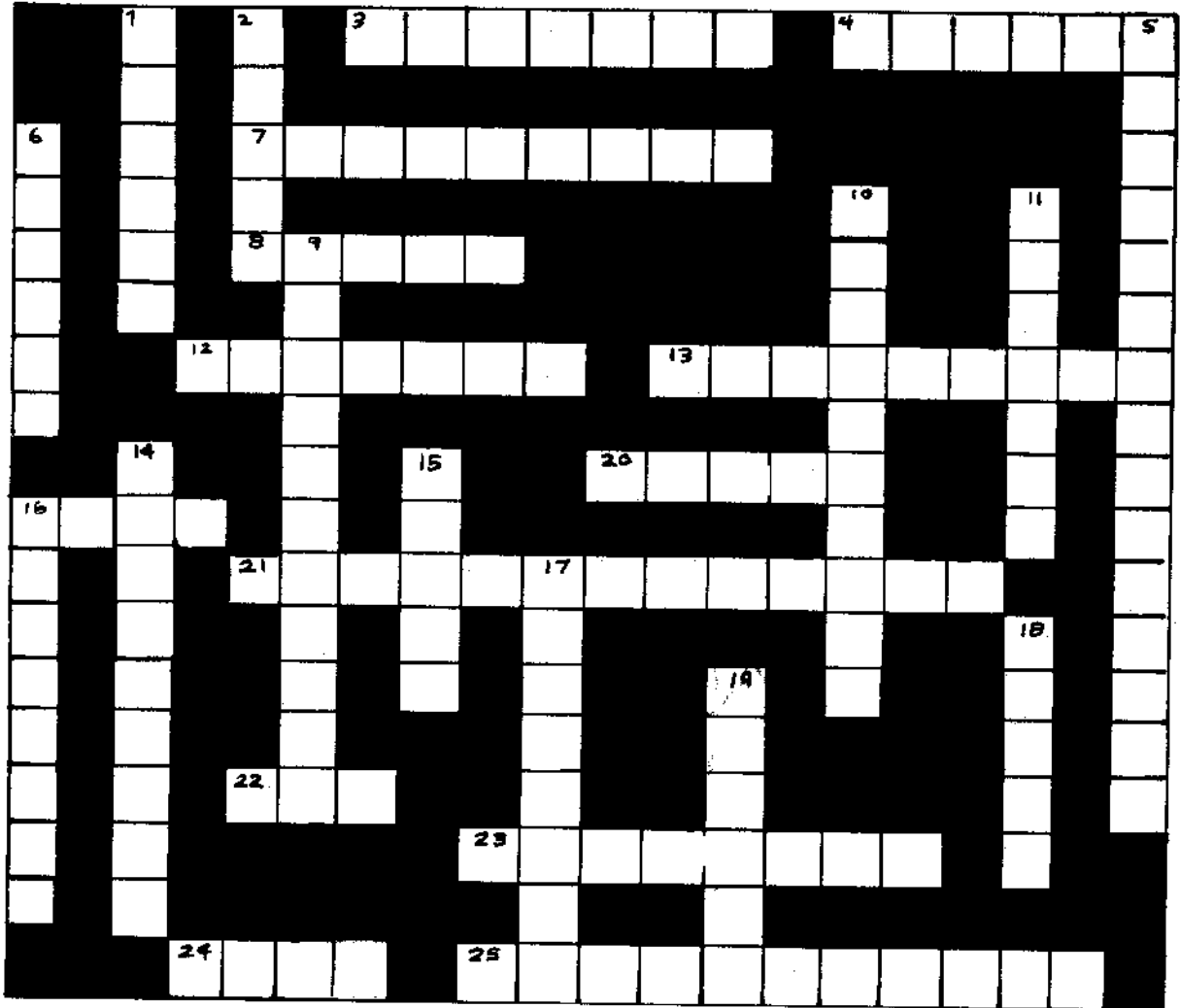
- | | |
|-----------|----------|
| ASKEW | HARDEE |
| BROOME | HART |
| BROWARD | HOLLAND |
| BRYANT | JACKSON |
| BURNS | JENNINGS |
| CALL | JOHNS |
| CARLTON | KIRK |
| CATTS | MOSELEY |
| COLLINS | MILTON |
| CONE | MCCARTY |
| DREW | PERRY |
| DUVAL | REED |
| FLEMMING | STEARNS |
| GILCHRIST | WARREN |

Find and circle as many Governors of Florida as you can.



(Answers on the last page)

Can you solve this crossword puzzle?



DOWN

1. Products of a quilting bee
2. Too expensive for windows
5. A branch of the legislature
6. Florida state flower is the _____ blossom
9. He discovered Florida
10. He made and repaired tools
11. A branch of the Executive
14. Florida state tree
15. Product made from grinding sugar cane
16. Florida state song
17. Roof of old Capitol
18. Used to make butter
19. The family's work

ACROSS

3. Florida, land of the _____
4. A way of trading at the store
7. Florida state reptile
8. Country that discovered Florida
12. A member of the Legislature
13. One branch of the government
16. What the Florida Cracker would do with his whip
20. What the blacksmith made and repaired
21. Without this fish is salted
22. Number of rooms in a frontier school
23. The top executive officer of Florida
24. How men got food
25. A branch of the state government

(Answers on the last page)

Florida State Symbols



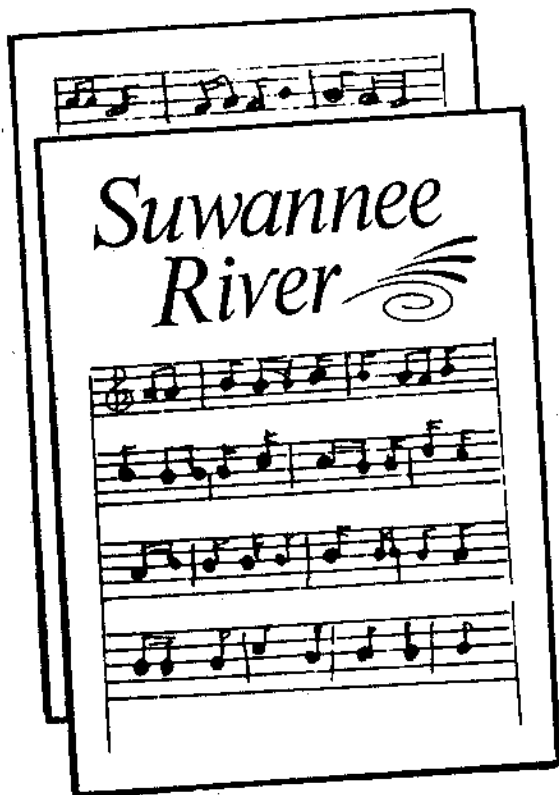
Florida Bird
Mockingbird
Song bird found
all over Florida.
Grey and white
in color.

Florida Flower
Orange Blossom
White flowers with
orange center.

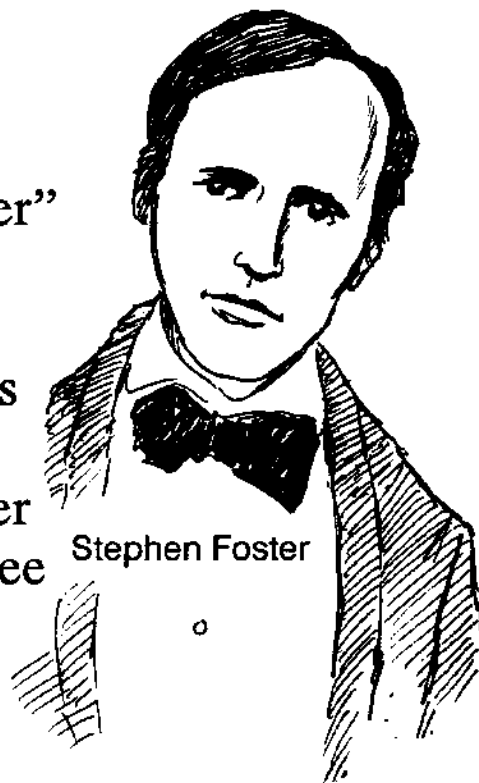


Florida Tree
The Sabal Palm

It furnished both food
and shelter to the
early settlers.

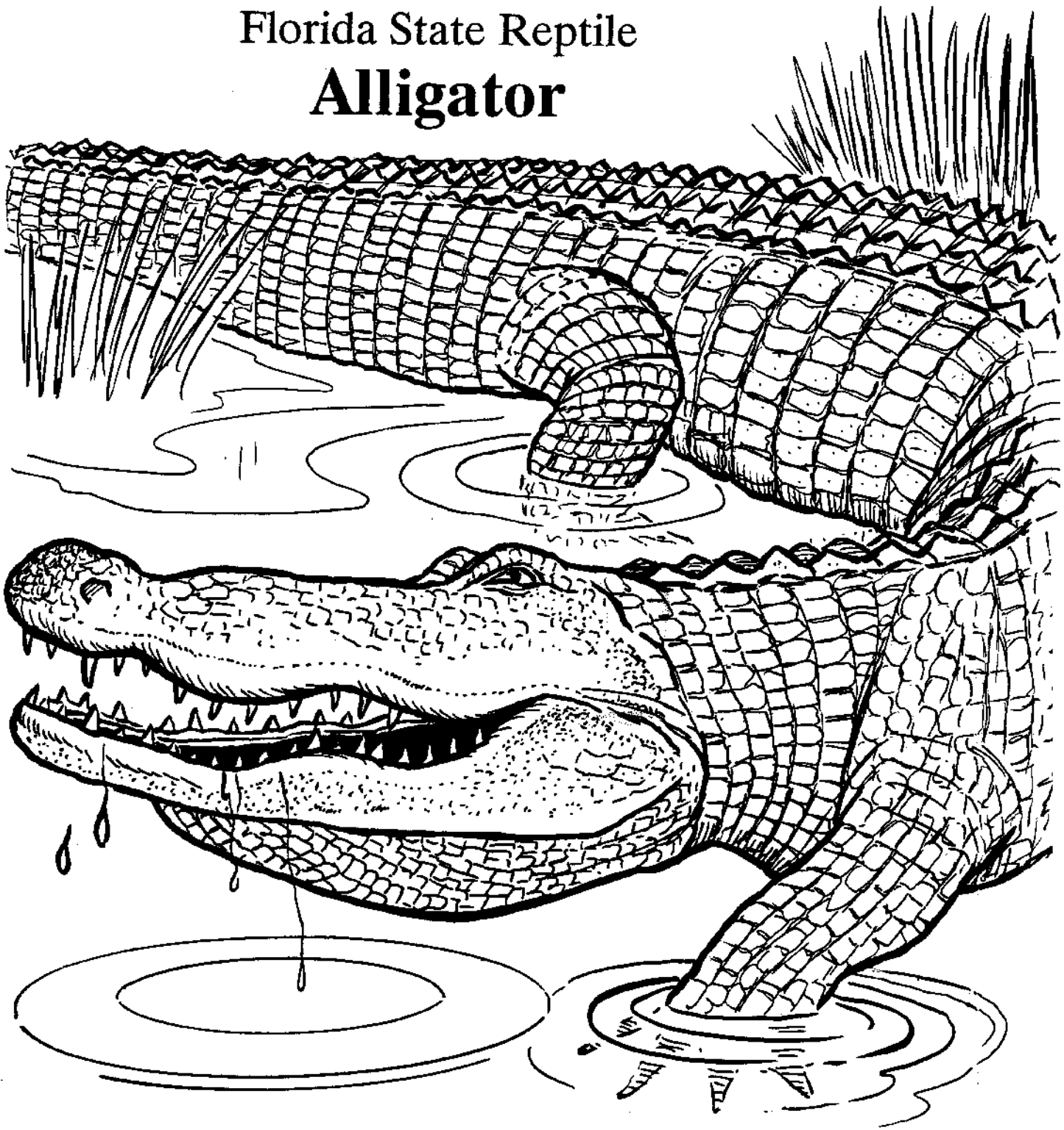


Florida Song
"Swanee River"
composed by
Stephen Foster,
although records
show that in his
lifetime, he never
saw the Swanee
River.



Stephen Foster

Florida State Reptile Alligator



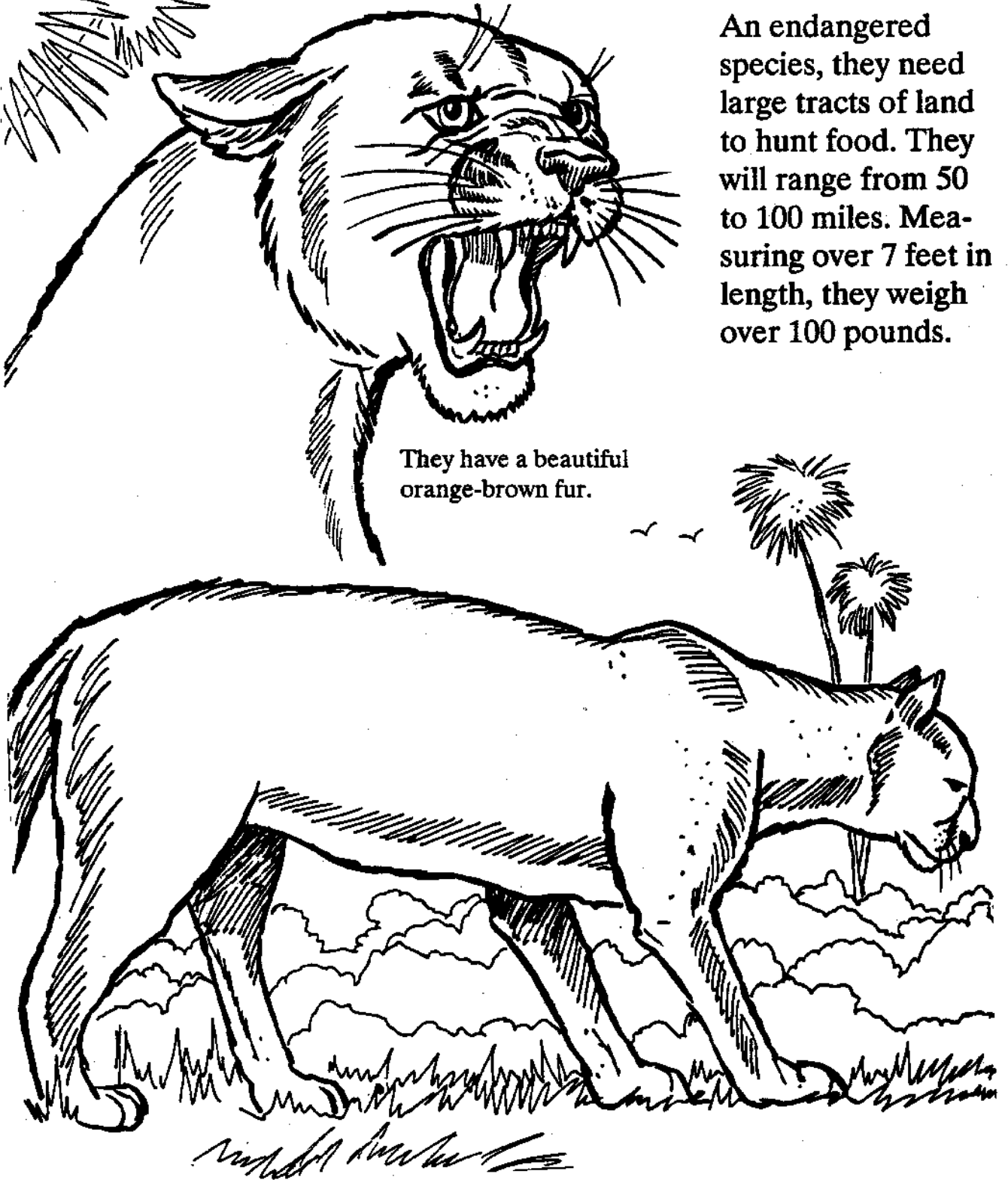
The alligator is found all over Florida in its fresh waters that include rivers, lakes, drainage canals, ponds and ditches. They grow to an average length of 6 to 12 feet, but records show some alligators as large as 19 feet. They are grey-green in color. The alligator is considered dangerous and should not be fed.

Florida State Animal

Help Protect The Panther!

An endangered species, they need large tracts of land to hunt food. They will range from 50 to 100 miles. Measuring over 7 feet in length, they weigh over 100 pounds.

They have a beautiful orange-brown fur.

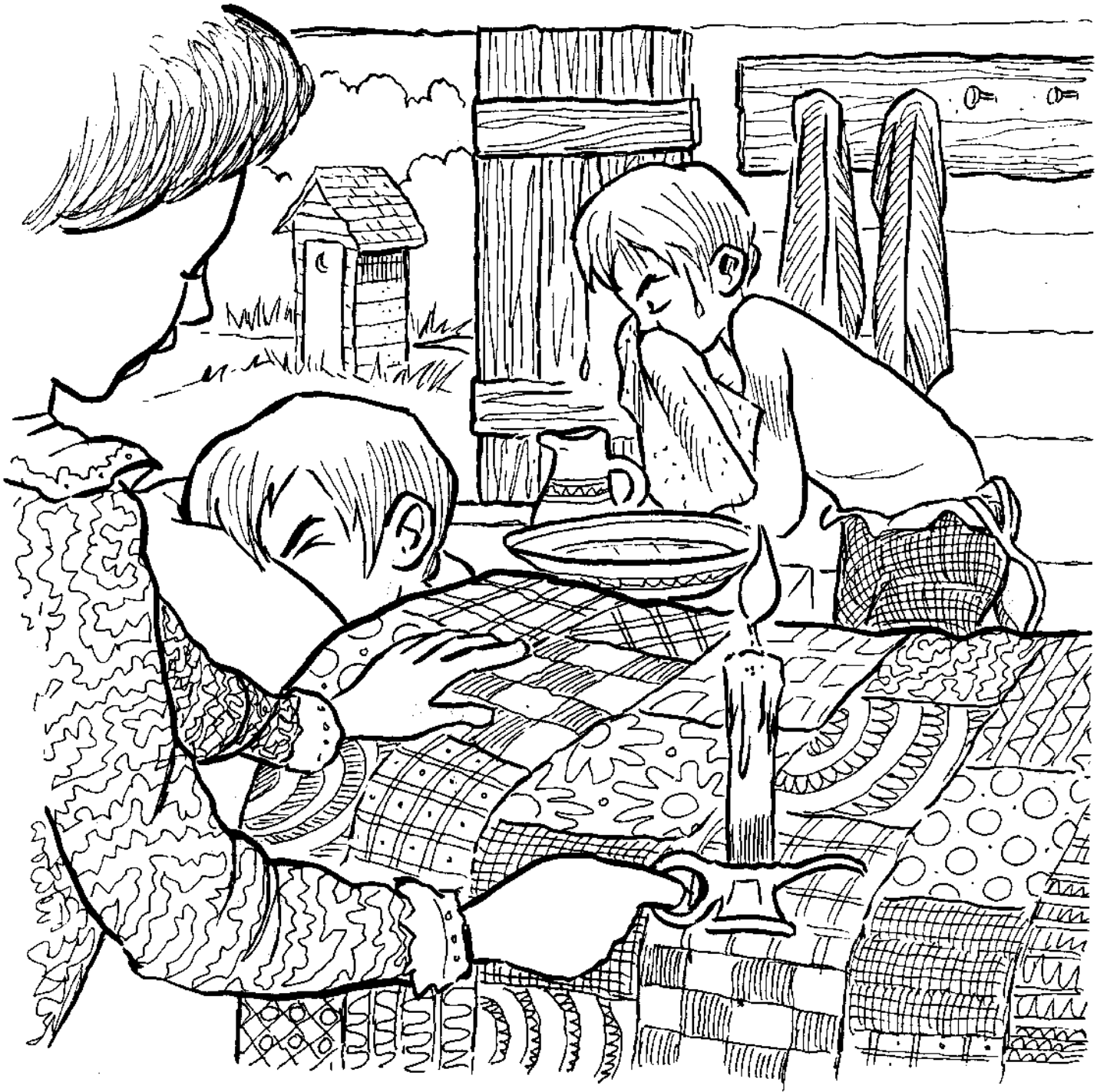


How the “Florida Cracker” got his name



The Florida Cracker

Migrating to Florida, the settlers, whether on horseback with cattle or driving wagons of oxen, would snap or “crack” long whips over the animal’s heads to control them. This loud “crack” soon resounded all over the Florida woodlands and the men who carried these long whips were called “crackers.”



Everyday begins very early for the frontier children because the chores must be done. Since glass is expensive, most frontier homes have wood shutters. There is no electricity, no indoor plumbing and no closets. Clothes are hung on a rack or a nail.



Breakfast is one of the few times the family has a chance to come together. Family produced foods include eggs, chickens, corn meal, bread, pork, ham, bacon, meat from game, syrup and vegetables from the garden.



The chores must be done — milk the cows, feed the chickens, gather the eggs, clear the land, chop the wood, hoe the garden, can the vegetables, pump the water, wash the clothes, hunt and clean the game, churn the butter and countless other chores that fill the day and start all over again the next day.



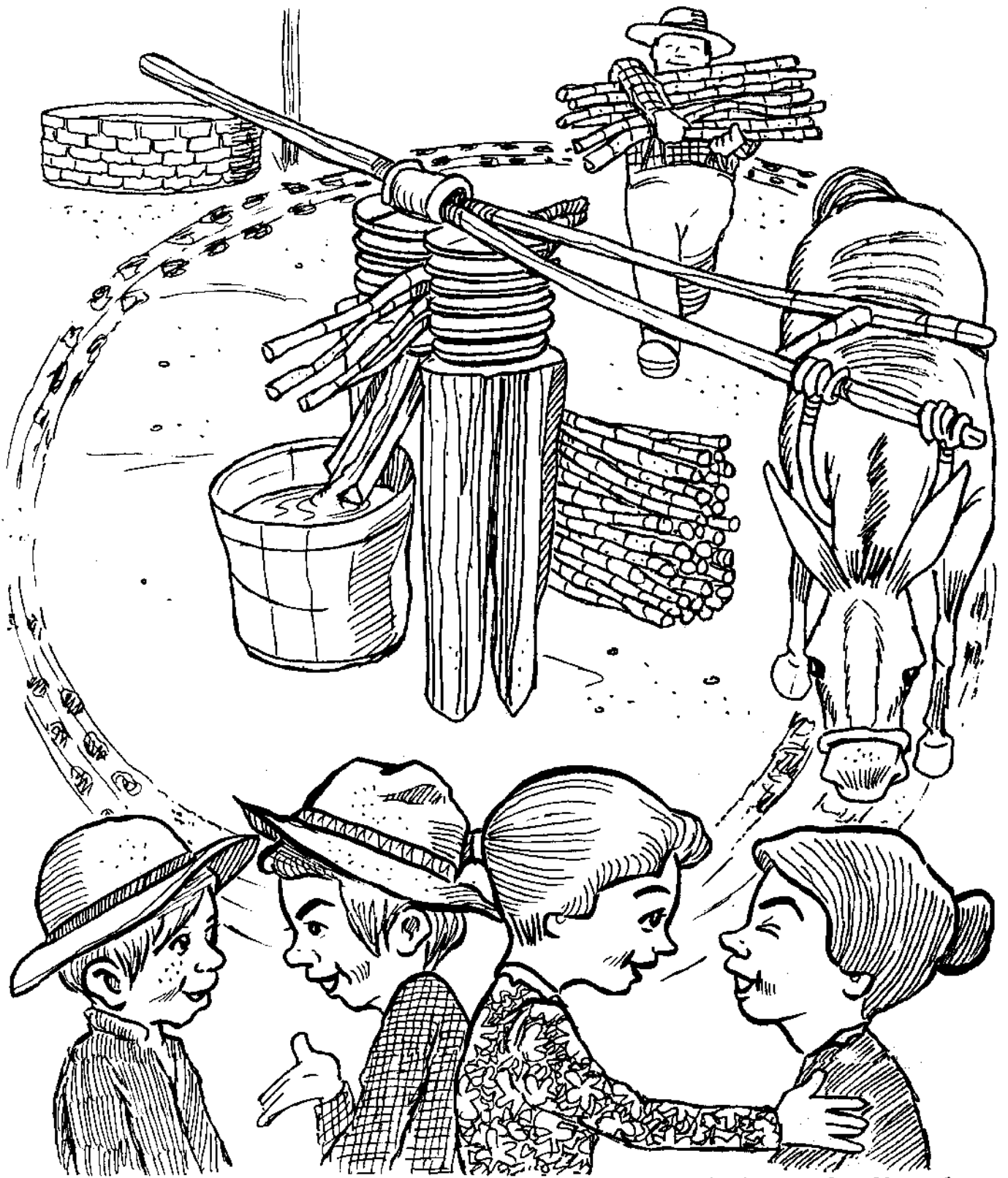
The Florida frontier homes, except for the wood-burning stove in the kitchen, has no heat — only the fire place. On those cold winter nights the children will warm up their front side, warm up their backside, then dash off to bed to get under a layer of quilts.



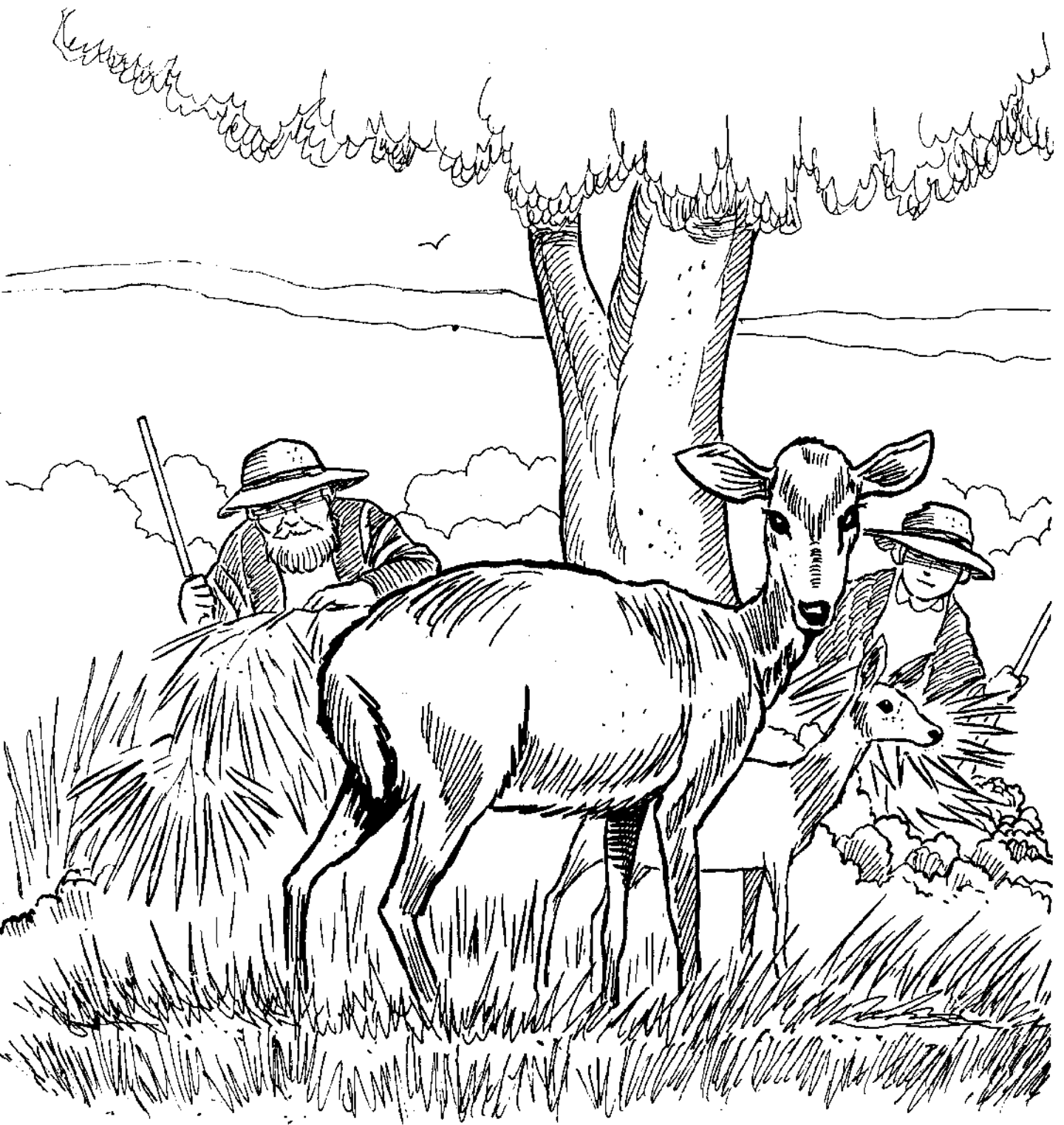
The quilting bees, where women come together to make quilts, also serve as a place for the women to watch the smaller children as they sew, stitch and trade the day's news.



All the family's clothes are homemade by the women and girls. They are usually ill-fitted because warmth and comfort are more important than style. Clothes are handed down from the older children to the younger ones.



In the fall the sugar cane is gathered and the grinding begins to make syrup. Cane syrup was used in place of sugar. It is also a time for neighbors to come and help and give the children time to meet their friends.



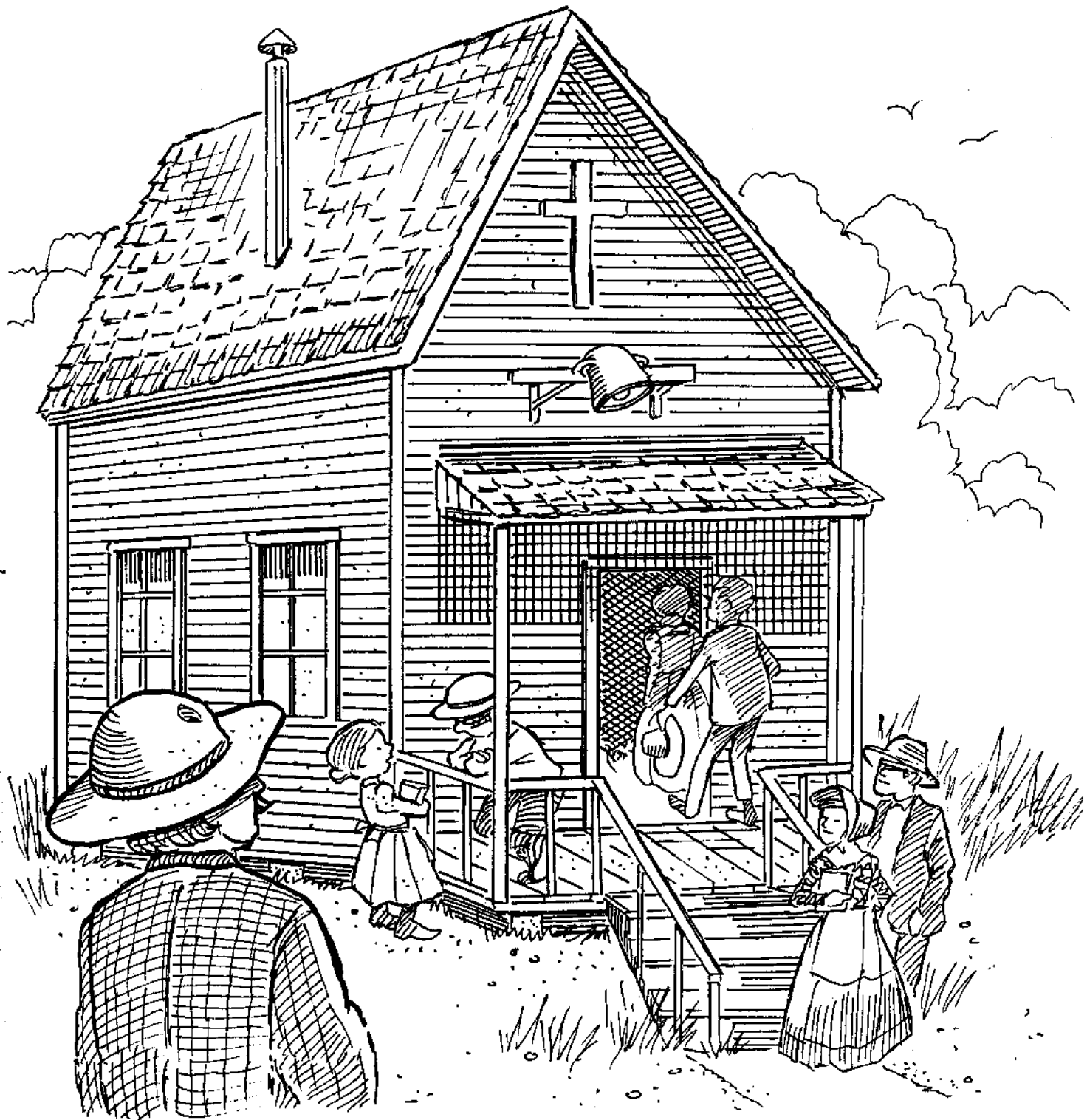
The men and boys hunt for game to add meat to the family table. They also fish in fresh and salt water to catch fish, turtles, shell fish, etc. With no refrigeration, some of the fish is salted in barrels and saved to be used later.



If there is a frontier school it is usually a one-room schoolhouse built by friends and neighbors. The students have to get there any way they can, some by foot, some on horseback and some by boat.



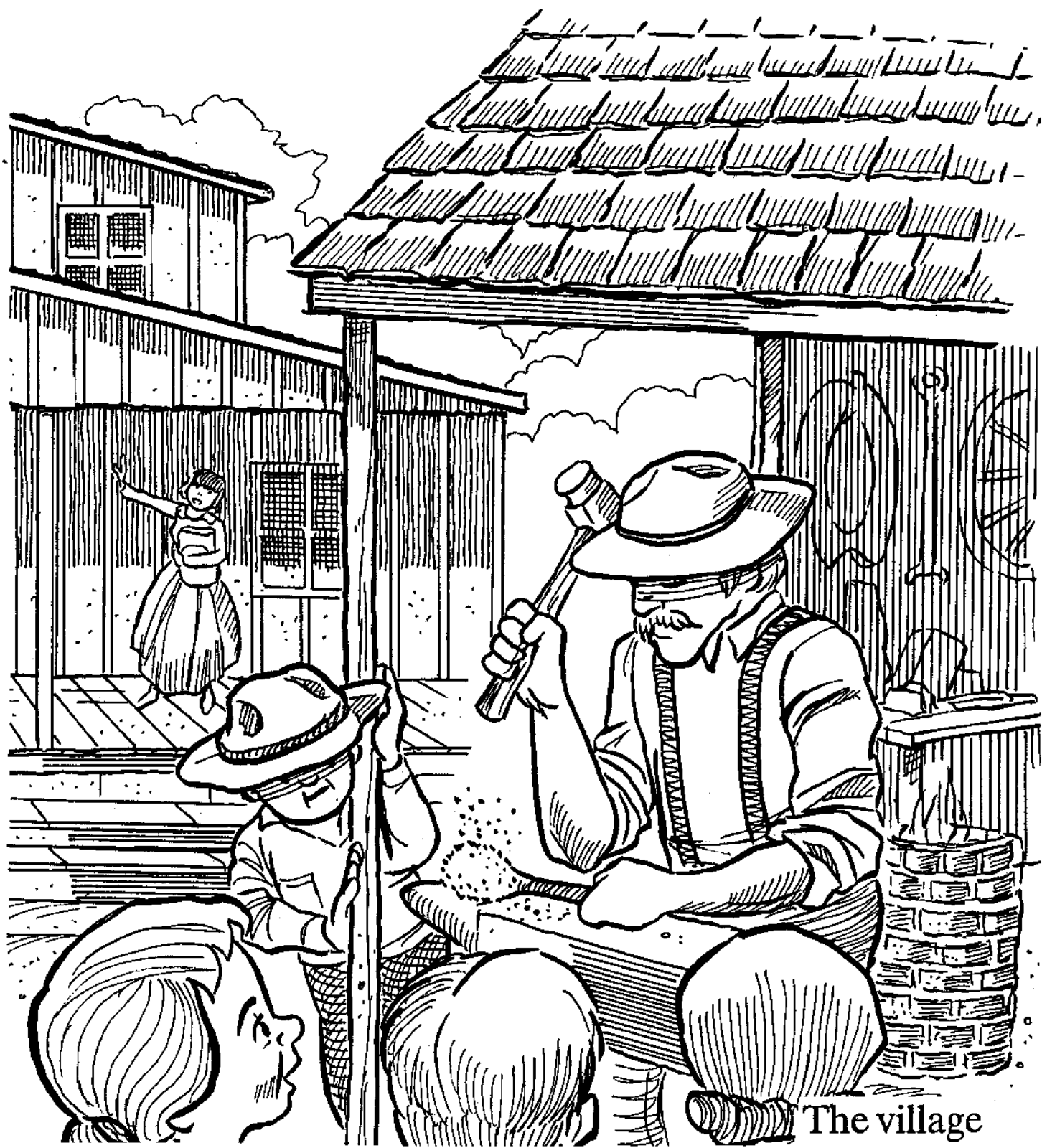
In the early schools the students sit on homemade benches. All grade levels and ages are in the same room. The only heat is from a wood-burning stove. The teacher ordinarily is hired by the community and boards with the parents of one of the students.



The church is also built by the local residents and is large enough for meetings, church socials, weddings, funerals and many other functions. It serves as a social center as well as a religious center.



When it's time for the frontier family to take a trip to the nearby village and general store it's time for a bath. In the meantime mom is washing clothes while dad chops the wood for the fire that keeps the water hot in the large wash tub. Lots of chores to be done before the trip.



The village blacksmith is usually a must stop for adults needing repairs to their house or farm equipment. The frontier children love to watch the blacksmith work and make magical shapes from the metal.



Inside is everything the family needs — cloth material, thread, household items for mom, farm tools and equipment for dad and for the frontier children . . . all the goodies to satisfy any sweet tooth. It is a pleasure inside the store to hear all the sounds, see all the merchandise and taste all the goodies.



Many times in place of money the frontier family will bring in eggs, chickens, bacon, ham, beef, syrup and other homemade products and barter for the store's manufactured goods. It works well for both the frontier family and the general store.



From out of the Florida wilderness came these frontier children. They grew up to be the men and women that become the future governors, judges, legislators and local officials who led Florida into becoming the great state it is today.



Cracker Country® is a village concept where cultural and architectural history have been preserved for future generations. History is presented in a living, interpretative atmosphere that accurately reflects life as it was in Florida at the turn of the century.

Florida State Fairgrounds

Located at the intersection of I-4 and U.S. Highway 301 in Tampa, Florida

Telephone (813) 621-7821

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