



"The Turning Point" Home of Alice Carr



The Jessephs relax in their oak grove



Dayton Blvd. and Savannah Drive

## New Village Is a 'Planned Community' . . For Creative Living'

By WALTER EDGE  
Herald Correspondent

MELBOURNE—There is something new under Florida's sun. It's Melbourne Village, a new and different type of community, which is rising out of the fertile farm land two miles west of here.

This new undertaking has as its creed "A planned community of productive homes for creative living." The originators' idea came about through a desire to capitalize on the natural resources of the land and to put these resources to work for them.

Actual work was begun about nine months ago by a group of Northern people looking for a place to make their home. The basic idea behind the starting of Melbourne Village was the desire for security. These people were looking for a place where the social, economic and spiritual welfare of a large group of individuals could be combined into an organization whereby the most good could be derived for all.

The reason this organization picked Florida and Melbourne in particular was for climatic reasons. Here they will have the opportunity for year-round development. This opportunity to produce the year round from their land, they felt, is a decided advantage over similar developments which have been started in the North, particularly in New England.

Situated on 200 acres of beautiful and fertile Florida land, this group of representative Americans believe theirs will be a better community than any they have known.

This organization sells the individual a membership, not the land, although each member receives an individual deed

to the property. The money thus received is used for the development of the community as a whole. This includes such items as public buildings, community roads, co-operative store and the like.

As they come into the group new members will also have a share in the community planning. Memberships include a plot of land varying in size from one-half acre to one acre. Additional land can be purchased if desired.

Melbourne Village will be a democratic community where each member will have one vote and where the New England Town Meeting will come to life again. The organization is a nonpolitical, nonsectarian and nonprofit corporation.

The village is governed by a group of trustees. Lewis Jesseph is president; Miss Elizabeth Nutting, vice-president; Mrs. Virginia Wood, secretary; Miss Margaret Hutchinson, treasurer, and William W. Newcomb, assistant secretary-treasurer and publicity head. Norman S. Lund is general manager for the group. All of these are now living in the village. Other trustees of the group, but who are not here at the present time, are: Barton Myers, Dayton, O., capitalist; W. E. Odiorne, advertiser from Yellow Springs, O., and Willis Nutting, a professor at the University of Notre Dame.

Louise Odiorne, Ohio State university graduate, prepared the plot plan. She is also a member of the organization.

### The Miami Herald

Sunday, March 26, 1940

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An important provision within the by-laws is the establishing of a building and grounds committee. The purpose of this committee is to see that all buildings are built with the idea of being structurally sound, pleasing aesthetically and have good livability. Both temporary and permanent permits for homes are issued.

Serving on this committee are Mrs. William W. Newcomb, Lewis Jesseph, Mrs. Virginia Wood and Norman S. Lund.

Nine homes have either been completed or are now under construction in the village. Construction at present has been at the rate of one new home each month. This pace is expected to accelerate within a few months. Several miles of roadway have been graded. Present on the grounds of the village are large deposits of marl. When worked into shape this material makes an ideal dirt road.

A new venture in adult education is being planned as the center of community life. This is an American Folk School, where men and women can learn the skills essential to the citizens of a planned community for productive homes and creative living. Here they hope to prove that folks can realize through their own experience what life in the real American tradition can mean.

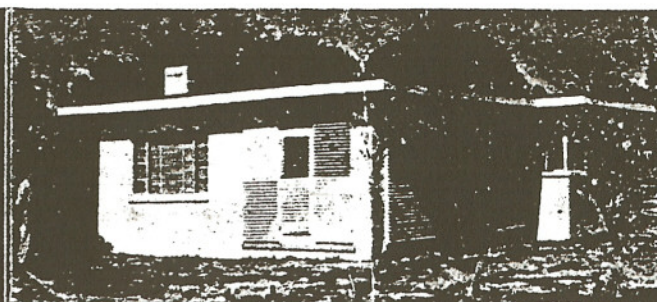
Included in the program for the social activities of the members and their guests is a Community Clubhouse. This is planned as an interim lodging place for those not yet ready to establish their own homes.

While Melbourne Village is still in its embryonic stage at the present time, every indication points to a rapid and continued progress of this unique community.

View from canal bank behind Nutting-Hutchison home



Home of the Village President, Lewis C. Jesseph



The Odiornes inspect Village-grown melon (32 lbs.)

