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‘Pay Today, I'll Trust Tomorrow’

‘ALEX’ PHILLIPS WAS A PIONEER TAMPA MERCHANT

By JO ANN HASKINS CIMINO

Since man to man is so unjust,
I hardly know which one to trust.
I've trusted many to my sorrow.
So pay today, I'll trust tomorrow.
-Sign in Phillips Store

Samuel Alexander Phillips is shown, above, in his carriage at his residence on East Street. He owned a grocery, feed and grain business at 501 E. Harrison Street. During the depression years times were hard and though this sign hung in his store, Phillips had compassion for his customers. Their debits increased until he had to give up his store and land.

"Alex" Phillips in a better year is shown on the left in the rear seat. The other gentleman is unidentified. Behind the steering wheel is his daughter Ruby Phillips, wife of Vernon "Gadabout" Gaddis, television personality of fishing fame. Daughter Jeannette Phillips, Mrs. Lee A. Prior, is sitting opposite her sister. They are shown in their "Auburn Beauty" of early 1900 vintage, obviously on
a festive occasion in their gaily decorated auto.

"Gadabout" Gaddis now resides in Jacksonville, Florida and spends his summers in the state of Maine.