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Specialist Home Demonstration Extension Services - January 1933

Prairie View College

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Prairie View, Texas
January 6, 1933

Mrs. Bernice Clator
Specialist, Home Demonstration Extension Service
College Station, Texas

Dear Mrs. Clator:

I wish to acknowledge receipt of the instruction sheets and to say that the Housing Survey Material have been forwarded to all Negro Home Demonstration Agents to date. We are anxious to assist with this project, so feel free to call on this office for any assistance possible.

Yours truly,

Mrs. I. W. Rowan, District
Home Demonstration Agent

IWR:U

Prairie View, Texas,
January 11, 1933.

Mrs. A. B. DeMont,
708 South East 4th Avenue,
Mineral Wells, Texas.

Dear Mrs. DeMont;

The following named women will be pleased to cooperate
in the Better Homes Movement;

Name	Title	Address
Mrs. I. S. Kinchion,	Negro County Home Demonstration Agt.	Palestine, Texas
" C. J. Hall	" " " "	Angleton, Texas.
" L. W. Ragsdale	" " " "	Jacksonville,"
" L. G. W. Hodge,	" " " "	2911 Flora St., Dallas, Texas
" L. G. Smith	" " " "	Marlin "
" P. J. Harris	" " " "	Navasota, "
" L. E. Harrison	" " " "	Seguin, "
" A. G. H. Edwards	" " " "	308 Odd Fellows Bldg., Houston, Tex.
" C. B. H. Meck	" " " "	Marshall, Texas.
" M. E. Bledsoe	" " " "	Crockett, Texas.
" M. J. Campbell	" " " "	600 N. Denton St., Mexia, "
" C. P. Washington	" " " "	Bay City, "
Miss R. O. Phelps	" " " "	131 1/2 So. Second, Waco "
Mrs. L. B. Austin	" " " "	P. O. Box 1072, Corsicana "
" E. W. Thomas	" " " "	P. O. Box 88, Henderson, "
Miss H. D. Dirden	" " " "	Shepherd, "
Mrs. M. N. Biggs	" " " "	505 So. Cameron St., Victoria, "
" B. E. Wilson	" " " "	Hempstead, Texas "
" L. E. Lusk	" " " "	Route 6, Box 19, Brenham, "
" B. B. Savannah,	" " " "	P. O. Box 401, Wharton "

Yours truly,

I. W. Rowan, Supervising
Home Demonstration Agent.

Texas Federation of Colored Women's Clubs

OFFICE OF

MRS. A. B. DeMENT, President

708 South East 4th Avenue

MINERAL WELLS, TEXAS

Jan. 16, 1933.

Mrs. I. W. Rowan
Supervising Demonstration Agt.
Prairie View, Tex.

Dear Secy:- How much I do hope
you are feeling well, and may you
not be too hard worked.

Kindly accept my sincere thanks,
for your very great help, in the secur-
ing of the names of splendid persons
whom you sent me, pledging themselves
to help in our Better Homes In America program.

I've sent their names to Headquarters,
and I'm certain they shall be hearing
from them in short. too I shall
write them just as soon as I receive
my supplies.

Truly I feel that "Divine Love" directed
me in attempting to secure your help
in this work and now that all is well,
I am both grateful and content.

Feel free to make any suggestions, offer
any plans of help.

I have written Mrs. M. H. Kamm
(State Statistician of T. F. C. W. C.) to send application
blank to you, have you heard from her?

Wishing for you the best health.

I am
Your Service A. B. DeMent

MRS. A. B. DEMENT, President
 708 S. E. 4th Ave., Mineral Wells
 MRS. C. H. CHRISTIAN, 1st Vice-Pres.
 1211 E. 11th St., Austin
 MRS. F. J. DODD, Recording Secretary
 2012 N. Pearl St., Dallas
 MRS. A. B. MILLER, Asst. Rec. Sec.
 1104 E. 2nd St., Fort Worth
 MRS. A. X. B. ROBERTSON, Cor. Sec.
 435 Island St., Marlin
 MRS. V. C. FEDFORD, Treasurer
 816 Avenue K, Galveston
 MRS. M. C. DONNELLY, Chr. E. Board
 2031 Myrtle St., El Paso
 MRS. R. H. HINES, State Organizer
 Box 166, Texas College, Tyler
 MRS. W. H. HARVEY, Statistician
 1308 Bessie St., Fort Worth
 MRS. C. E. ADAMS, Custodian Girls'
 Home Fund, 1095 Carlos St., Beaumont
 MRS. E. E. BURNETT, Auditor
 207 Elmira St., Cleburne
 MRS. I. GODFREY, Parliamentarian
 1402 O'Neil St., Houston
 MRS. S. B. MCGEE, Chr. Young Women's
 Dept., 601 Sandford St., Marshall
 MRS. C. E. LINDSLEY, Chr. Transpor-
 tation, 1017 E. Humboldt St., Ft. Worth
 MRS. J. A. GRUMBLES, Custodian of
 Girls' Home, 1115 Wyoming, San An-
 tonio.
 MRS. M. L. WILLIAMS, Chaplain
 Box 246, Mart
 MRS. L. M. JOHNSON, Chr. Finance
 1130 E. Humboldt St., Fort Worth
 MRS. H. E. WILLIAMS, Chr. of Creden-
 tials, 900 E. 6th St., Corsicana
 MRS. S. L. GIBSON, Chr. Registration
 327 Island St., Marlin
 MRS. G. E. MARTIN, Chr. Program
 Box 365, Tyler
 MRS. E. M. FOWLER, Chr. Health
 Box 833, Wichita Falls
 MRS. M. V. DENSON, Chr. Art
 248 George St., Marlin
 MRS. L. J. YOUNGBLOOD, Chr. Pub-
 licity, Terrell, Texas
 MRS. D. L. SMITH, Chr. Social Service
 Box 71, Wiley College, Marshall
 MRS. B. A. THOMAS, Chr. Ways and
 Means, Box 446, Cameron
 MRS. A. H. BLEDSOE, Chr. Negro
 Authors, Prairie View College, Prairie
 View
 MRS. M. L. TUCKER, Chr. American
 Citizenship, 108 S. Houston St., Fort
 Worth
 MRS. LOIS WATERS, Chr. American
 Homes, 1324 N. Palace, Tyler
 MRS. M. O. BELL, Chr. Badges and
 Banners, R. 6, 206 Humphrey, Wichita
 Falls
 MRS. L. L. AUSTIN, Texas Ass'n of
 Colored Girls
 1107 Wilson St., Houston
 MRS. B. H. HENDRICKS, Financial Sec.
 3111 Thomas Ave., Dallas

STUDENT LOAN COMMITTEE

MRS. LILLIE L. AUSTIN, Chairman
 1107 Wilson St., Houston
 MRS. ETHEL RANSOM, Secretary
 1115 E. Terrell Ave., Fort Worth
 MRS. S. B. MCGEE, Box 552, Marshall
 MRS. G. E. MARTIN, Box 365 Tyler
 MRS. A. E. S. JOHNSON
 315 Island St., Marlin

HONORARY PRESIDENTS

MRS. M. E. Y. MOORE (Deceased)
 Gainesville-Fort Worth
 MRS. INEZ SCOTT, Paris
 MRS. W. M. ALPHIN, Fort Worth
 MRS. C. E. ADAMS, Beaumont
 MRS. R. A. RANSOM, Fort Worth
 MRS. H. E. WILLIAMS, Corsicana
 MRS. A. E. S. JOHNSON, Marlin

TRUSTEES GIRLS' HOME

MRS. R. H. HINES
 Box 166, Texas College, Tyler
 MRS. Z. E. TRIMBLE
 Box 163, Wichita Falls
 MRS. W. MAXEY, 920 Dallas Blvd., Waco
 MRS. A. E. JOHNSON,
 315 Island St. Marlin
 MRS. R. A. RANSOM
 1115 E. Terrell Ave., Fort Worth
 MRS. H. E. WILLIAMS
 900 E. 6th Ave., Corsicana
 MISS A. BOWDEN
 St. Phillips Junior College, San Antonio
 MRS. C. E. ADAMS
 1095 Carlos St., Beaumont

BETTER HOMES IN AMERICA

An Educational Organization Incorporated in the State of Delaware, 1923

1653 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE
WASHINGTON, D. C.

January 16, 1933.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
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JOHN M. GRIES
CHRISTIAN A. HERTER
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WILLIAM STANLEY PARKER
MRS. HAROLD IRVING PRATT
MRS. JAMES J. STORROW
JAMES FORD, Executive Director

Mrs. I. W. Rowan,
Supervising Home Demonstration Agent,
Prairie View,
Texas.

My dear Mrs. Rowan:

We are delighted to learn from Mrs. A. B. De Ment, Chairman of the Texas Better Homes in America Committee for Colored Citizens, that you will serve as Secretary of her State Committee.

Enclosed you will find a memorandum on the work of State Better Homes Committees and, under separate cover, I am sending to you two copies each of our 1933 Guidebook and of our other publications, including book and pamphlet bibliographies. You will find, also, some reprints from *The Southern Workman*, by Miss Blanche Halbert, which describe the work of local Negro Better Homes Campaigns of earlier years.

Attached you will find also a list of the local colored appointments which we have made in Texas for the 1933 Campaign.

Hereafter we shall send to you copies of our letters which go to the State Chairman and vice versa so that you will each be informed of any developments in the correspondence with your State.

As soon as letterheads are prepared for the State Committee we shall send a supply to you as well as to Mrs. De Ment, together with stamped envelopes. Meanwhile we are sending ten of our business reply envelopes for use in correspondence with this office and an equal number of our regular stamped envelopes for correspondence with Mrs. De Ment and others until the letterheads and stamped envelopes are ready to be sent to you.

At this time of the year the most important thing which a State Committee can do is to select county and local chairmen so that they can get to work on their local programs just as soon as possible. We will, of course, send Guidebooks and other campaign materials to each local and county chairman.

After you have had opportunity to look over the material which we have sent to you, please let me know of any questions which it may raise in your mind or of any further information which you may need.

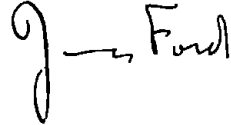
Mrs. I. W. Rowan

- 2 -

January 16, 1933.

We deeply appreciate your cooperation in the National Better Homes Movement as Secretary of the State Committee for Texas and believe that you will find this a form of public service of exceptional interest and lasting value.

Very sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "J. F. Ford". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Executive Director,
Better Homes in America.

JF:ma

January 19, 1933.

Mrs. A. B. DeMent,
708 South East 4th Avenue,
Mineral Wells, Texas.

My dear Mrs. DeMent:

We are delighted to learn from your letter of January 15 that you and Mrs. Rowan are going ahead rapidly with the organization of the Better Homes program for the Colored citizens of Texas.

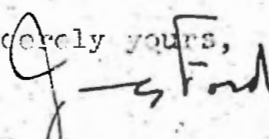
We have made a note of the persons whom you have invited to serve on your State Committee and, as soon as we learn of their acceptance from you, we will write to each of them sending a copy of our 1933 Guidebook.

The persons listed in Mrs. Rowan's letter to you have all been recorded as 1933 chairmen for their respective counties, with the exception of Mrs. I. O. W. Hodge, of Dallas (Dallas County), and Mrs. M. E. Bledsoe, of Crockett (Houston County). In Dallas County our records show that Mrs. Annie B. Fields, Route 5, Box 92-A, Dallas, is serving again this year as County Chairman; and Mrs. Mabel P. Langrum, P.O. Box 402, Crockett, who also served last year, has accepted the County Chairmanship again for 1933. Should these county chairmanships be transferred to Mrs. Hodge and Mrs. Bledsoe or will they serve jointly with Mrs. Fields and Mrs. Langrum?

Letters acknowledging their acceptances and copies of our publications are being sent to each of the other persons on the list, and we are returning herewith Mrs. Rowan's letter to you, as you request, retaining a copy of it for our files.

An order has already been placed for the printing of five hundred letterheads for the use of your State Committee, and they will be forwarded to you together with a supply of stamped envelopes within the next few days.

Very sincerely yours,



Executive Director,
Better Homes in America.

KH
Encl.

Copy to Mrs. Rowan

Prairie View, Texas,
January 30, 1933.

Mrs. A. B. DeMont,
708 S.E. Fourth Avenue,
Mineral Wells, Texas.

Dear Mrs. DeMont:

I have your letter of January 16 before me and also a copy of Dr. James Ford's letter to you under date of January 19.

In the matter of County Chairmanship in Dallas and Houston Counties I would advise that Mrs. Hodge and Mrs. Bledsoe be permitted to serve jointly with Mrs. Fields and Mrs. Langrum and if possible to be furnished the type of guides and information that could be advantageously used by an Agricultural Extension worker.

To date I have not received the application blank from Mrs. W. H. Harvey.

With every good wish for your success, I am,

Yours truly,

I. W. Rowan,
Secretary.

IWR:G

BETTER HOMES IN AMERICA
TEXAS STATE COMMITTEE FOR COLORED CITIZENS

Mrs. A. B. DEMENT, Chairman
708 South East Fourth Avenue
Mineral Wells, Texas

Mrs. I. W. ROWAN, Secretary
Supervising Home
Demonstration Agent
Prairie View, Texas

Mineral Wells, Texas
February 10, 1933

Dear Secy: - Your letter of a few days ago was wonderfully helpful, for I had just received a letter Mr. Ford wanting to know what to do in the cases of Mrs. Hodge + Mrs. Bledsoe. Thanks for the information sent.

Now I am wondering if I get out a form and send to your office, if you will be too heavily taped to get it to the workers who have accepted Chaurmanahjis?

Do do you think of any of the women named that might make us a good corresponding Secy, a woman who is not so busily engaged, to my mind, would be of valuable service.

I realize your office is a busy one, and my my, while the Legislature is in session and with Dist meetings nearing my office is run over.

Kindly suggest someone and I shall be glad to write them about the office.

To my dear, do you plan coming to Dallas soon or before "National Better Homes in April"? - my hope is to get the State Com. together either here with me or in Dallas that we may formulate some plans etc for the effort.

The following have accepted State Com. membership:-
Prof. W. W. Pratt (Dallas) Dr. Barnwell (St. Worth) + Mrs. Waters (Tyler)

BETTER HOMES IN AMERICA
TEXAS STATE COMMITTEE FOR COLORED CITIZENS

MRS. A. B. DE MENT, Chairman
708 South East Fourth Avenue
Mineral Wells, Texas

MRS. I. W. ROWAN, Secretary
Supervising Home
Demonstration Agent
Prairie View, Texas

Now when we can settle on a Co-
Soc'y that will give sit members
counting us on state Com.

What do you think of the idea of
asking each of the women who have ^{accepted}
to be Dist' Chs. and then ask them to
name the Counties they will be willing
to work in, then allow them to appoint
County Chairmen in their respective districts
and then the Co. Chairmen can organize
their cities towns rural places etc.
Hair them ⁱⁿ ^{by} ^{each} ^{of} ^{us} ^{on} ^{what} ^{they} ^{decide}
Please just write me frankly
what you feel will be best, know
I shall appreciate it.

I really believe you could say just
what I want said to them without any
form from me, simply assure them
how grateful we are to have them as
associate workers, further state, I am
depending largely on their cooperation &
suggestions etc; too ask them about
accepting Co. Chairman ship - Thanks - I
would be grateful to see one of the letters
before it goes out - Thanks. Use my
name.

A word about the application blank,
I feel you will certainly receive it soon,
from Mrs. A. K. S. Roberts, 435, Island St. Marlin, Tex,
Yours for
Better Homes, A. L. D.

Prairie View, Texas,
March 4, 1933

Mrs. A. B. DeMont
708 South East Fourth Avenue
Mineral Wells, Texas.

Dear Mrs. DeMont:

Being out of the office until February 27th has caused me to get so far behind with my correspondence until I am really ashamed. I was glad to receive your letter of February 10th and note with care all that you say.

Is the Mrs. Waters of Tyler one Mrs. Lois Waters in attendance at the State Federation of Colored Women's Clubs in Marshall last July? If so, I would suggest Mrs. Waters as Corresponding Secretary. I will be glad to send out the letter you will prepare to go to the County Chairmen and hope to find some upon my return to the office on the 19th.

If it will not be possible to have Mrs. Waters serve as Corresponding Secretary I would name our Home Demonstration Agent in Wharton, Texas, Wharton County, Mrs. E. B. Savannah.

I will be in Dallas during the Better Homes Exposition March 17 to 27 (about March 22 to 25). Do you consider this a good time and place for the State Committee to get together?

Yours truly,

I. W. Rowan, District
Home Demonstration Agent.

IWR:g

BETTER HOMES IN AMERICA

TEXAS STATE COMMITTEE FOR COLORED CITIZENS

Mineral Wells, Texas

March 12, 1933

Mrs. A. B. DeMENT, Chairman
708 South East Fourth Avenue
Mineral Wells, Texas

Mrs. I. W. Rowan, Secretary
Supervising Home
Demonstration Agent
Prairie View, Texas

Dear Mrs Rowan: - Without even a word of explanation coming from you, I can understand just how interested you are, and further know that it is only uncontrolled conditions that occasions delays for you.

Your letters are all so helpful, and I am so grateful for your suggestions. - Glad indeed that you are to be in Dallas, at this "right time", I plan being there at least on 3/24, have been invited to speak at Conat Bldg. Fair Park about 10:30 a.m. all of our workers who can arrange to be present are invited. - Members of our State Com. will receive invitations from Com. soon, if they are not out.

I have written Mrs. Hodge, Mrs. Hardin & Mrs. Fields, Prof. Pratt, Dr. Barnwell and asked them to be with us if possible, asked Mrs. Hodge to arrange for a little "get together" meeting, to be decided at morning meet. Thanks for the correlating idea, I had just suggested same to Dr. Barnwell, when your letter came about attempting a meeting. Indeed it is kind of you to consent to give me the help asked for, but I am thinking now that since we are all soon to be together we shall defer the letters to workers, until we are all decided on plans & suggestions to offer and let our letter contain such information too.

May I depend on you to help catch every worthwhile suggestion etc. and we shall then pass it on.

BETTER HOMES IN AMERICA

TEXAS STATE COMMITTEE FOR COLORED CITIZENS

MRS. A. B. DEMENT, Chairman
708 South East Fourth Avenue
Mineral Wells, Texas

MRS. I. W. ROWAN, Secretary
Supervising Home
Demonstration Agent
Prairie View, Texas

Yes it is Mrs. Laid Waters, who was with us in Marshall, that is a member of our State Com. she is member of the S. F. C. W. C. Chr. of American Homes that her duties also, but she has explained that her duties are arduous, so I feel we could not ask more of her; but I shall certainly appreciate your securing Mrs. Savannah's service for us. Looking forward to seeing you soon, and with a grateful spirit for your kindness

I am
Yours truly
A. L. Dement.

P.S. Kindly did you receive the blank from the Cor. Secy's office for membership in the S. F. C. W. C. I have any pictures or outlines for you if you will be of interest or any material that during our hr Fri morn 3/24 bring it over and I'll spare my time with you to present it etc. (if you'd like).

Prairie View, Texas
March 20, 1933

Mrs. A. B. DeMent,
702 South East 4th Avenue
Mineral Wells, Texas.

Dear Mrs. DeMent:

A notification of a change of dates for the Better Homes Exposition and conference at Dallas to March 31 to April 10th with the Conference on April 7th has caused me to change my itinerary. Instead of the proposed Committee meeting on March 24 as previously set, may we not meet on April 7th?

Will answer your message of March 12 immediately.

Yours truly,

I. W. Rowan,
Secretary.

IWR:g

BETTER HOMES IN AMERICA
TEXAS STATE COMMITTEE FOR COLORED CITIZENS

March 21, 1933.

Mrs. A. B. DEMENT, Chairman
708 South East Fourth Avenue
Mineral Wells, Texas

Mrs. I. W. ROWAN, Secretary
Supervising Home
Demonstration Agent
Prairie View, Texas

Dear Mrs. Rowan: - Kindest wishes
for your good health, as for me
I am keeping ^{fair} only with so many sorrowful
happenings occurring among our Club family
it has been a struggle not to go to bed but
the urge of a desire to discharge duty compels me!

Certainly hope to see you and the
Committee folk during the meeting.

Am writing now to ask if you have
received a letter ^{from me} mailed 3/28 or 3/29 con-
taining the suggestion program? The inquiry
comes because I am not certain the
letters sent to O.C. were mailed and I do
want ^{to know} so much, that the persons to whom
they were addressed, that they have received
them.

Kindly let me have a word soon.

Yours,
A. B. Dement.

Prairie View, Texas,
March 22, 1935

Mrs. A. B. DeMont,
708 South East Fourth Avenue
Mineral Wells, Texas.

Dear Mrs. DeMont:

In reply to your letter of March 12, will say that I am looking forward to our State Committee conference and to the Better Homes Exposition and Conference with the keenest interest. Sure, you may depend upon me to assist in making our work more effective by catching those suggestions that can and should be passed on to our group.

Mrs. Savannah will be in my office on March 24, at which time, I will talk with her at length concerning the position of Corresponding Secretary for the State Committee.

Thanks for the opportunity to bring pictures of our work in home improvement. I will attempt to make the collection from my agents for this purpose.

The blank for membership in the T. F. C. W. C. has been received.

Yours truly,

I. W. Rowan, Secretary.

BETTER HOMES IN AMERICA

An Educational Organization Incorporated in the State of Delaware, 1923

1653 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE
WASHINGTON, D C.

February 8, 1933.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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MISS HARLEAN JAMES
MRS. W. F. LAKE
MRS. WILLIAM BROWN MELONEY
WILLIAM STANLEY PARKER
MRS. HAROLD IRVING PRATT
MRS. JAMES J. STORROW
JAMES FORD, Executive Director

TO STATE CHAIRMEN AND SECRETARIES:

A list of the persons who have accepted district, county or local chairmanships in your State since January 1st is enclosed. Please let us know of any errors or omissions. On March 1st we plan to send you a complete list of all accepted chairmen in your State up to that date.

It would be most helpful if you could send to us within the next two weeks your recommendations for chairmen for any of the counties or cities in your State in which we have not yet secured acceptances for the 1933 campaign. If we can receive such recommendations and make the appointments this month it will give those communities and counties sufficient time in which to organize their committees and plan their programs for Better Homes Week.

Please let us know of any special problems which your committee faces on which we might be able to render assistance.

With our very best wishes for a successful campaign,

Very sincerely yours,

James Ford

Executive Director,
Better Homes in America.

DB
Encl.

BETTER HOMES IN AMERICA
TEXAS STATE COMMITTEE FOR COLORED CITIZENS

MRS. A. B. DEMENT, *Chairman*
708 South East Fourth Avenue
Mineral Wells, Texas

MRS. I. W. ROWAN, *Secretary*
Supervising Home
Demonstration Agent
Prairie View, Texas

Mineral Wells, Texas
March 28, 1933

Mrs. I. W. Rowan
Sec'y Texas State Committee for Colored Citizens
Prairie View, Texas

Dear Mrs. Rowan:

Your letter of March 22nd, received with appreciation. Happy to know it will be convenient for you to be present April 7, 1933 and that we shall have some chance to get together.

I ran in for a few minutes Friday, March 24th, at Prairie View to see you but found you out of office. Had thought perhaps I might have this tentative program approved as our other plans for getting together had failed. One of the programs is enclosed, kindly make any corrections you feel will help, and I shall appreciate your getting the enclosed information to the workers. You have a list of them, do you not?

Hope your conference with Mrs. Savannah proved successful. Feel terribly glad that you have consented to bring along some pictures. Space will be given us for all of our program at 10:30 a.m.

Looking forward to seeing you soon,
I am

Yours truly,

A. B. De Munt,
Sher.

April 2, 1933

Mrs. A. B. De Ment
708 S. East 4th Avenue
Mineral Wells, Texas

Dear Mrs. De Ment:

I am in receipt of your letter of recent date.

The attached letter and program was mailed to the county chairmen on April 1. Mrs. Savannah has accepted the duties of Corresponding Secretary for our State Committee and will accompany me to Dallas on the 7th.

Yours very truly,

I. W. Rowan,
Supr. Home Dem. Agent.

IWR:w
Encl. 3

April 6, 1933

Mrs. A. B. DeMent,
708 South East Fourth Ave.,
Mineral Wells, Texas.

My dear Mrs. DeMent:

Thank you for your letter of March 28th and for the copy of the excellent letter and program which you sent to each of the workers in your State. Such a program will doubtless be very helpful to your division, county, and local chairmen in working out their plans for the observance of Better Homes Week.

We are making a note of the fact that you wish a list of the workers in your State sent to each of the five members of your State Committee, whose names you list in your letter. If we find it possible to make an up-to-date list of the accepted chairmen in your State, we will be very glad to see that a copy is sent to each of these persons, as you request.

With very best wishes, I am

Very sincerely yours,

Katherine F. Linton
Administrative Assistant,
Better Homes in America.

KL:BN

May 10, 1933

Mrs. A. B. DeHent,
708 South East Fourth Avenue,
Mineral Wells, Texas.

My dear Mrs. DeHent:

Thank you very much for your letter of May 5th, and the accompanying report blank which you filled out.

This white questionnaire was sent to you with the accompanying form letter to county and local chairmen so that you might be informed of the type of report blank, which we sent out to our local chairmen for their use in reporting on Better Homes demonstrations. Since you have filled this out for the community of Mineral Wells, we assume it indicates the work which was conducted in that community, although our records do not show that we have an accepted chairman there. If you have appointed a local chairman for Mineral Wells kindly let us have her name and address so that our records may be complete.

The questionnaire for the use of State Committees is being prepared and a copy will be sent to you as soon as it is available for your use in reporting on the Better Homes work which was organized under your direction as State Chairman.

We have made note of the fact that Mrs. B. B. Savannah is serving as the Corresponding Secretary of your State Committee. Am I correct in assuming that Mrs. J. B. Connor of Waco, and Mrs. M. W. Waters of Fort Worth, whom you mentioned in your letter are serving as members of your State Committee?

With very best wishes, I am

Very sincerely yours,

Katherine F. Lister

Administrative Assistant,

Better Homes in America.

KL:BN

60-10-11

BETTER HOMES IN AMERICA
TEXAS STATE COMMITTEE FOR COLORED CITIZENS

MRS. A. B. DEMENT, *Chairman*
708 South East Fourth Avenue
Mineral Wells, Texas

MRS. I. W. ROWAN, *Secretary*
Supervising Home
Demonstration Agent
Prairie View, Texas

Mineral Wells, Texas
March 28, 1933

Workers of "Better Homes in America".
Greetings:

Know that I am happy to have an interested person like you to direct the work in your section. Emphasize our program during Week of April 23-30th.

Let us each make a definite contribution toward the task of making the Negro home a better physical and spiritual entity, too, if we can do our best in making a beautiful environment for the Negro child during his formative years. We shall be sharing our privilege with the builders of a nation in making successful citizen out of the Negro youth of this Country.

Let us endeavor to know where our people live and how they live throughout this state, urging them to feel the responsibility that is theirs of having clean, well-ordered homes, and the responsibility that is theirs in creating the ideal of beautiful home life.

Let the unsightliness of our Colored neighborhood disappear in exchange for beauty and ordiliness. See every Negro child happy, healthy, contented and protected. Build ourselves along lines of highest development, and thereby assist in the great cause of social betterment.

For remember:

Better Homes in America is an educational organization under the control of a Board of Directors of outstanding persons; it was initiated in 1922 by Mrs William Brown Meloney and as advisory council of which our former President Calvin Coolege was honorary head. Dr. Lyman Wilbur Secretary of the Interior is President; and Dr. James Ford Executive Director.

Keep your local newspaper advised of plans of your community; urge extensive publicity.

DIVISION, COUNTY AND LOCAL CHAIRMEN; Just after Better Homes Week you will receive a QUESTIONNAIRE from HEADQUARTERS--BE SURE AND FILL THIS OUT REPORTING EVERYTHING ACCOMPLISHED IN YOUR TERRITORY--AND RETURN TO BETTER HOMES IN AMERICA 42 BROADWAY NEW YORK CITY. NOT LATER THAN MAY 27, 1933. So that you and TEXAS may get credit for your work.

I wish again to thank you for your cooperation, and I beg you to continue your interest.

As a tentative program for your thought and criticism, may I suggest the enclosed en for "Better Homes Week".

Yours truly,

A. B. Dement, PRES.
I. W. Rowan, SEC'Y

66 copies

SUGGESTIVE PROGRAM
(Vary to suit local needs)
April 23-30, 1933

Sunday: Sermons by the Ministers.

- (a) The Home of Mary and Martha
- (b) The Family Bible in the Home and show how it helps the church. Urge family church attendance.

Monday: Home Beautification

- (a) Remodeled House
- (b) Refurnished living room.
- (c) Well planned and equipped kitchen.
- (d) Attractively furnished porch.
- (e) Attractive use of color.
- (f) Flower exchange and yard landscaping.

Tuesday: Own a Home Drive

- (a) What to look for in buying.
- (b) Thrift- a starting point.
- (c) How to finance the purchasing of a home.
- (d) Find percent of home owners in your community.

Wednesday: Model Home

- (a) Use one of your own or borrow one.
- (b) Borrow furnishings.
- (c) Open to visitors.
- (d) Stress single family houses and remodelings to reconditioning old houses.
- (e) Use uplift agencies in discussion of Child's duty to the Home, and duty of Home to the child.

Thursday: Handcraft Exhibits and Citizenship

- (a) Furniture made from old pieces.
 - (b) Furniture made from old boxes.
 - (c) Rugs-hooked, crocheted, etc.
 - (d) Odd pieces reconditioned.
- What kind of citizens are developing and how?

Friday: Community Projects.

- (a) Yard and Garden Contests--Backyard and alley.
- (b) Graveled and lighting streets.
- (c) Work and playground and recreational centers.
- (d) Visit schools, clubs and lodges. Discuss cooperation the home may give each organization.

Saturday: Budget Day

- (A) Family income, expenses, Profit and Loss
- (b) Insurance (house, furniture, and life)
- (c) Keep a daily record of expenses and income.
- (d) Make a will.

P.S. Kindly send a copy of your report to Better Homes in America Headquarters, 42 Broadway, New York, City, N.Y., and to my office, A. B. DeMent, 708 S. E. 4th Ave., Mineral Wells, Texas, Chairman of your activities. Thanks.