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Newsletter - February 1940

Prairie View State Normal and Industrial College

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PRAIRIE VIEW STATE COLLEGE - PRAIRIE VIEW, TEXAS

OLUME IX

FEBRUARY - 1940

NUMBER 6

- CALENDAR FOR FEBRUARY - 1940

- 1 Negro History Discussions -
 - (a) What Democracy Means to the Negro Department of English February 8
 - (b) Business Opportunities for Negroes in Texas Mechanic Arts Division February 9
 - (c) Consumer Problems of the Rural and Urban Negro -Social Sciences Division - February 15
 - (d) Contribution of Negroes to the Natural Science with Opportunities for the Future Department of Sciences
 February 16
- 2 State Basketball Tournament Class A Schools February 17
- 3 N F A Basketball Tournament and Convention and Judging Contest February 22-23-24
- 4 Homemakers Convention and Judging Contest February 22-23-24
- 5 Class AA Schools Basketball Contest March 1-2

3 - WILD LIFE -

Your attention is called to an article appearing in the Houston Press January 29, 1940, on the subject of the College participating with Federal and State Governments in making the campus a Wild Life Reserve. All the school lands will be posted this month, and 150 quails will be released on our premises by February 15, 1940. We wish to urge parents, employees, and students to refrain from molesting birds of any kind on the campus. You will probably see quails around your homes, and in case you do, please feed them and see that nothing disturbs them. In the near future, several lectures by experts will be delivered and slides will be run on the importance of Wild Life information in our education.

- SUMMER SCHOOL -

For the past five years our Summer School has indicated very definite trends. The enrollment in the Freshman and Sophomore classes has declined to less than 100; the enrollments in the Senior and Junior classes, Special and Graduate courses have shown sharp increases. This means that it will not be possible to carry on the Summer School Faculty many of our faithful teachers. Those who can be retained will be notified very soon.

Those members of our staff who have not been in school within the last five years, it might be well to lay plans to attend school. The question of employees attending Summer School is still a live one. Those who have not satisfied the minimum requirements of teaching at the college, are urged to satisfy these requirements. It is possible that there will be cases where an employee desires to attend school, but our program of work will not permit him to carry out his plans. If such is the case, we shall accept the responsibility.

D - FACULTY DINNER -

The Faculty Dinner on January 10 pointed definitely to the fact that the staff at Prairie View can entertain itself. This was an occasion that will be long remembered. We appreciate this fine spirit of cooperation by 140 members of the faculty.

E - TURNED DOWN CHECKS -

It can be understood how a person can overdraw his bank account through oversight, and consequently, have the check turned down for lack of funds. There is no excuse, however, when attention is called to the "turned down Check" and the one responsible refuses to take steps within a reasonable time to cover. Whatever the excuse may be, if a person gives a check and does not cover the same when "turned down" within a reasonable time, it gives a color of "dishonesty". Unfortunately, there comes to my attention every now and then a complaint that a certain faculty member gave a check and was turned down and he refuses to take care of it promptly.

F - COMMUNITY CHEST -

So many things have mortgaged our funds within the last sixty days that it has been impossible to give attention to our Community Chest obligations. Now that we are heading towards the Spring Season, let us take care of our Community Chest dues as early as possible.

G - HOUSTON Y M C A PLEDGES -

It was commendable on the part of the staff of the institution to subscribe to the Y M C A Building Fund last Spring. These subscriptions were made with the understanding that they would be paid in monthly installments. Kindly check the records and see if you are behind with your payments and try to bring your pledge up to date. This is a most worthy cause.

H - NATIONAL FLOWER SHOW -

America's FAMOUS FLOWER and GARDEN SHOW will return to Houston February 28 - March 6. Tickets purchased between now and February 21 will cost 45 cents, but after this date, they will be 75 cents. For the convenience of our people, Mrs Graham will be in the Office of the Dean of Women Sunday, for the purpose of selling tickets.

I - AND FINALLY -

The Land-Grant College in its truest sense is a Service Institution. In consequence, it should strive to discover ways and means by and through which it can serve the masses of people at the points of their greatest needs. Prairie View State College accepts this philosophy of education; it recognizes its binding and unescapable obligation to the people; it accepts this challenge realizing the impending dangers that may be encountered in breaking away from entrenched educational traditions and embarking upon unorthodox educational experiments.

Yours truly

W R Banks Principal

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PRAIRIE VIEW WILL STUDY GAME

(Houston Press - January 29, 1940)

AUSTIN, TEXAS - January 29 - With the announcement that plans have been completed for the incorporating of wildlife conservation study into every branch of the curriculum of Prairie View State Normal and Industrial College in Waller County and for initiating a wildlife restoration project on the 1494 acres of land administered by the college, conservation education continues to spread.

WR Banks, Principal of the school, has appointed a committee of faculty members to incorporate conservation teachings into the curriculum. Extensive food and cover improvements for quail are planned on the acreage, including a dozen food patches, 15 brush shelters and 150 cover plantings. LAPotts, director of agriculture, is in immediate charge of the habitat improvement work. RS Byrd, professor of soils, and two advanced students will carry on life history and management work under the supervision of the regional game manager of the Texas Game, Fish and Oyster Commission, sponsor of the project.

Going even farther in the teaching of wildlife conservation, the subject is being incorporated in the elementary school at Prairie View, in Boy Scout work and even before colored women's clubs. Wildlife will also have a place in future short courses at the college.

OUR CREDIT UNION'S FINANCIAL STATEMENT

December 31, 1939

OUR CREDIT UNION OWNS man to the family income in 1939, and effected a

Loans due from 22 members \$ 1,196.36

Cash: The World does not stop with though the description can be

Insured deposits in bank (available for loans) \$ 411.29

Reserve required kept on deposit (5% total paid in

\$ 79.25

ouch. Each of the 33 counties, served by a Newro county hope genon

OUR CREDIT UNION OWES ires from each home demonstration club in the county. The

Accounts and notes payable \$ 0.00

Other Debts

TOTAL LIABILITIES

0.00

OUR CREDIT UNION'S NET WORTH

Savings of 73 members

\$ 1.584.99

Reserve for future bad loans

Undivided Profits

Total Savings, Reserves Earnings

\$1.686.90

HOME DEMONSTRATION WORK Texas - 1939

It is not possible to exhibit in a written report the value of home demonstration work in dollars and cents, or reflect its real contribution to the home life of the farm. Reckoned in dollars and cents, the 9,143 home demonstration club women added an average of eight dollars (\$8.00) each in cash to the family income in 1939, and effected an average saving of \$21.00 each, in addition to providing better food, clothing, shelter, and family life by their various activities fostered by the home agents. The work does not stop with these home demonstration club members, however. There are 7,567 girls doing 4-H club work and 3,543 other farm homes in which changes in practice have resulted from home demonstration work.

The home demonstration program is conducted and administered through: girls' 4-H clubs, women's clubs, unorganized groups, individual demonstrators, and county home demonstration councils. This year the 373 girls' clubs had an average of 20 members each and the 477 women's clubs 19 members each. Each of the 33 counties, served by a Negro county home demonstration agent in 1939, had an active county home demonstration council to serve as advisors and disseminators of information. A council is made up of at least two representatives from each home demonstration club in the county. The Home Demonstration Staff offered and gave cooperation to all groups and agencies interested in improving home life and agriculture. We recognize the fact that agriculture is the backbone of our economy and that a prosperous agricultural area is a certain index of good homes and prosperous urban communities.

Major home demonstration activities in 1939, are headed by adequate food for the family, with beautified homes (exterior and interior) and active organizations a close second. The year has not been a bad one. New records were set by home demonstration clubs and club members in all activities engaged in.

Five thousand eight hundred and fifty-one families had a safe diet served regularly this year. The number of families with each member having the amount of food called for in the Texas Food Standard follows:

Six thousand two hundred and fifty-four of these families improved their food preparation practices, table setting, service and etiquette. Two thousand nine hundred and fifty-eight filled balanced preservation budgets. There is hope that the deficiency of fruit in the diet will be remedied shortly as a result of 47, 815 peach and other fruit seeds planted this year and 36,380 cuttings added and living.

To improve the landscape 15,169 native shrubs and trees were planted for background and shade. Nursery shrubs and roses were added also, 17,336 of which were rooted from cuttings and seeds by the women and girls. Six hundred and thirty-nine yards were planned by demonstrators for cooperators and non-club members. One thousand seven hundred and six houses were made more comfortable and attractive because the family added a chimney, repaired

or replaced the roof, made the foundation secure or painted the house. One thousand seventy-three porches and steps were repaired and 1,131 windows added. The 8,129 demonstrators and cooperators in Interior Home Improvement spent an average of \$3.00 each improving kitchens and bedrooms. Thirty-two thousand two hundred and seventy dollars and seventy-six cents was spent by all club members making improvements in bedroom, living room, kitchen, and landscape which amount does not describe the beauty, convenience, and satisfaction resulting from their efforts.

One hundred and eighty-five women and girls served as Clothing demonstrators in 1939 while 13,365 other individuals followed recommendations in constructing and selecting clothing. Clothes closets were built and remodeled, ironing boards were added, shoe racks and hat stands provided and 38,762 garments made as a result of the home visits made, method demonstration meetings and meeting as result demonstrations held by agents.

The home demonstration clubs began the year 1939 with a program they had helped to make. In the past the home agent furnished the program and the women and girls attended club meetings expecting a pleasant surprise. This change in program making has greatly increased club attendance and satisfactory completion of work. Uniform year books were used by women in 27 counties. Girls in 19 of these counties were furnished year books also. Tours, Achievement Events, Rallies, Exhibits and Training Meetings were most frequently used, this year, to instruct and inspire club members and at the same time explain home demonstration work to friends, those not so friendly, and to others that had not thought about it.

Looking back over our accomplishments it seems a long way to 1915, when with keen vision and rare courage the first Negro home demonstration agent for Texas began "giving instruction and practical demonstrations" to the rural women and girls. As at the beginning of home demonstration work, so it is now, that every home agent effectively and loyally discharges her duty.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF HOME DEMONSTRATION WORK TEXAS - 1939

MAJOR PROBLEMS WORKED ON

Home Food Supply

RESULTS ACCOMPLISHED

5,866 families served better balanced meals, 5,061 produced and preserved food according to annual home food supply budget. 1,306,935 quarts of canned vegetables, fruits and meats; 405,648 containers of jelly, jams and other products; 1,193,026 pounds of dried fruits and vegetables; 1,579,685 pounds of cured meats; 161,708 pounds of nuts; 667,831 pounds of vegetables stored fresh and 166,831 pounds of brined fruit and vegetables were placed in pantries and other storage space. 6,254 families improved their food preparation practices, table setting, service and etiquette. 3,307 families purchased pure bred chicks and 98,545 pullets were added to the poultry flocks. Each of the 33 counties served by a Negro county home demonstration agent has an average of 39 home food supply demonstrators.

Home Improvement

15,169 native shrubs and trees planted and living 17,336 of the roses and nursery shrubs were rooted from cuttings and seeds.

1,706 homes were made more comfortable and attractive by addition of a chimney, roof repaired or replaced, house painted or foundation made secure.

1,074 steps and porches were repaired.

391 bedrooms, 236 kitchens and 204 living rooms were added.

1,337 mattresses were added - 681 of which were made at home.

464 families added facilities for recreation and entertainment

Clothing

13,365 individuals cooperated with the 185 clothing demonstrators in selection and construction of clothing.
38,762 garments were made.
3,692 girls completed the requirements for club girls.
1,255 of this number kept clothing accounts.
\$85,782.95 is the total estimated savings due to the clothing program.

MAJOR PROBLEMS WORKED ON

RESULTS ACCOMPLISHED

Extension Organizations

There are 477 adult home demonstration clubs and 373 girls 4-H clubs with a combined membership of 16,710. There has been an increase of 35 clubs and 365 members since 1938.

33 active county home demonstration councils promoted home demonstration work in 1939.

7,252 families, outside of clubs, were helped and all phases of the home demonstration program were encouraged.

\$1,716.50 was expended by the councils.

18 tours were conducted.

122 Achievement Days and Encampments (11) were held.

13,173 persons attended and took part in these special events.

Home Industries

Products	Value of sales
Dressed and live poultry Eggs Fresh meats Butter and milk Fresh vegetables and fruit	\$ 8,449.52 22,839.90 2,221.92 13,737.55 ts 18,500.61
Canned vegetables and fruits	1,039.48 1,366.00 \$68,154.98

CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

PRAIRIE VIEW STATE COLLEGE Prairie View, Texas

FEBRUARY THROUGH MAY - 1940

1	Basketball Tournament "A" Class Schools (Boys and Girls)	February 17
2	N F A Basketball Tournament	February 22-23-24
3	N F A State Conference	February 22
4	Vocational Agricultural Judging Contest	February 23
5	Vocational Homemakers Conference	February 22
6	Vocational Homemakers Judging Contest	February 23
7	State Basketball Tournament Class AA Schools	March 1-2
8	Post Graduate Medical Clinic	March 4-7
9	State Conference of Librarians	March 7
.0	Eleventh Educational Conference	March 8
1	James Weldon Johnson Memorial Exercises	March 10
12	State Band and Violin Festival High Schools	March 23
L3	The Annual Mahegris	April 4
L4	Southwestern Inter Collegiate Track and Tennis Meet	April 4-5-6
L5	State Interscholastic League Meet Class AA Schools	April 6
16	State Interscholastic League Meet Classes C and D Schools	s April 19
17	State Interscholastic League Meet Classes A and B Schools	s April 20
18	Leadership Institute	pril 29-30 - May 1
19	Mid Wives Institute	May 10
20	Honors Day	May 14
21	Annual Coordinated Institute	May 27-31