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The Prairie View Standard

DEVOTED TO THE EDUCATIONAL AND GENERAL IMPROVEMENT OF THE NEGROES OF TEXAS

VOL. VII.

PRAIRIE VIEW, WALLER COUNTY, TEXAS, SATURDAY, JUNE 23, 1917

NO. 17

THE PRINCIPLES OF GOOD FARMING

In portions of Texas, indications seem to be that cereal crops will be short this year owing to lack of rain in those parts in the proper time. The food shortage was already too great, bringing high prices to the consumer. Now that another set-back has come in production, the country faces a grave situation.

Of those who think well of the economic conditions now confronting us, all are in accord in proclaiming the doctrine of diversification, thrift and economy. This is no new doctrine; but the lessons it teaches have added weight brought on by the stress and strain of the war, together with the shortage of crops now apparent.

To diversify is to change the one crop system, to raise various products with an eye for home consumption as well as for the market. The farmer who produces on the farm only those things which he hopes to sell will find himself under absolute control of the markets when he comes to buy. This means high prices and hard times; for prices are not controlled by the producer. Prices are often regulated by the markets after the producer has exhausted his supply, leaving the latter but little to say in the matter. The spirit of proper diversification extends not only to raising different products on the farm, but to the harvesting and keeping a reasonable portion of these products for home consumption.

Farming is a business and like any other business, it is only profitable when the rules of economy are made and followed. Labor is unprofitable that does not save. Therefore all leaks on the farm should be stopped; stock should be taken with a view of running the farm on a larger scale with less outlay. This means prosperity, both public and private, for thereby the store of production will be increased and the general public will share in its benefits by reduced prices and better times.

The Standard summons its people everywhere to the virtues and practices of industriousness, diversification and thrift, knowing that in these times, facing conditions as we are, they will add much not only to their own well being, but to the happiness of all.

MANNER OF SAVING CORN

College Station, Tex., June 16.—The following suggestions to Texas farmers have been prepared by the extension service of the A. and M. College of Texas. The curing and storing of the corn crop as feed and the utilizing of every energy in the production of a feed crop where the corn has been destroyed is exceedingly important under prospective conditions.

In certain sections of the state the recent severe drouths have destroyed a large percentage of the corn crop, and in view of the unusual demands for feed for live stock, farmers should immediately arrange to cut such corn as may be practically destroyed, curing it for roughage

or storing in silo. Arrangements should be made to plant these fields to June corn, sorghum, cowpeas or peanuts as soon as the present crop has been removed.

It is suggested that the best method of preparing the soil for this planting will be to immediately plow out the old corn stubble with a lister, following this with planter. Plant in a deep list, but cover shallow. The seed planted will not germinate until after a rain, but if planted at this time there is not sufficient moisture in the soil to injure the germinating qualities of the seed, therefore they will lie dormant until such time as sufficient moisture falls to germinate them. After a rain they will immediately germinate and much valuable time will be gained.

In this connection great care should be exercised not to cover the seed too deep, as a heavy rain would have a tendency to wash soil over the seed and if they should be covered in this way to too great a depth, a very poor stand will be secured even after a good rain.

All energies possible should be exercised to grow a feed crop of some kind where the corn crop has been destroyed, and there is yet sufficient time to grow a reasonably good crop of the kinds suggested provided immediate action is taken. The harvested corn will make a fairly good grade of roughage. If silos are available, this young corn will make a fairly good grade of ensilage and should be saved in this way as it will have considerable more feeding value as silage than if cured dry.

If land is planted to June corn, rows should be six or seven feet in width, and a row of cowpeas or peanuts may be planted between the rows of corn. This will practically assure at least a half crop of feed, for if the June corn should fail to make a reasonably good crop, the cowpeas or peanuts may be depended upon for a partial crop. After rains the cultivation should be rapid and thorough with an implement that will keep a good dust mulch at all times. Cultivation should be repeated immediately after each rain until the late-planted corn is practically matured.

JUNE THE NINETEENTH

The Summer school was suspended part of the day June 19, in commemoration of the freedom of the colored people of the United States.

In the evening an appropriate program was rendered. Speeches were delivered by members of the faculty. Prof. A. W. Jackson, principal of the colored high school of Rosenberg, Texas, was the orator of the day.

In addition to the above program, a lawn social was held fronting the academic building. This feature, as well as the program, was attended by the larger number of the student body.

Why do we not tell those who are dear to us how we love and appreciate them while they are living, instead of waiting until they have gone beyond the reach of our voices? Give the love and sympathy to day while they are needed.

The Soldier of Right

BY NAPOLEON B. EDWARD

Sometimes we are faint and tired
Of the stress and strife
Like a Major just retired
From the rough camp life.

But a Soldier of Right must fight on
And every 'Rong must hush.
He is not bound by a raging storm
Nor Lucifer's Legion rush.

He cannot quail because the day
Is cold and drizzling, drear,
Nor stack his armor by the way,
Nor turn his back in fear.

But over the hills of doubt and gloom,
Over the dark abyss,
He must bring the day a big rose bloom,
The world a smiling kiss.

Then will the world hand back in song,
On the last drum-beat day,
From Hands that roll the ages along,
A well earned, sweet bouquet.

BUYING A HOME

By C. C. Bowsfield in Oklahoma Farmer Stockman

Men in city life, who are ground between the millstones of strenuous business, often yearn for land ownership and a home in the country. In fact, there is a rising tide of sentiment in every large town which promises to develop into an important sociological movement, sending thousands of city families to the rural districts.

It is entirely feasible for city men to acquire homes and tracts of land in suburban neighborhoods without giving up their employment or making serious changes in business connections. It seems like an ideal existence to have ten or twenty acres within an hour's ride of the city and where there is suitable transportation. The family gains much in health and comfort and there is plenty of evidence to show that the cost of living can in this way be reduced.

Perhaps one of its greatest attractions is the feeling of security and independence imparted by land ownership in a good neighborhood. For one thing the investment is always sure to be safe. If other localities are like Chicago in this respect no venture could be more successful than the purchase of a bit of land. Real estate in and around this city has advanced by leaps and bounds. Many instances are spoken of where farms, large and small, have actually doubled in price within five years. Thus land owners are not merely safe, but they are making money fast simply by the natural rise in values. It is well known that many of our richest families, both east and west, owe their success to fortunate investments in real estate. No person should think for a minute that such opportunities have gone by. The situation today is just the same as ever, for it is a fair proposition that property will continue to advance in value in proportion to the increase of population and in accordance with the amount of educational effort used to show city families the wisdom and necessity of establishing homes in the country.

It is fully realized by the

author that men who feel the need of obtaining relief from business cares and who wish to make their families more comfortable and secure cannot afford to make a mistake in this matter of buying country property, and I would emphasize the importance of making a thorough investigation in every case, covering such points as social conditions, transportation and the character of improvements on the land. These things are of more consequence than the quality of the soil, although the latter point is not to be overlooked.

SAVE YOUR SHOES

The proper care of shoes will not only do much to extend the life of the shoe, but will also improve its appearance.

Keep the heels squared. A "run over" heel forces the counter out of shade and often breaks it.

Avoid getting leather wet, but when wet and muddy, gently wipe off the mud instead of letting it dry on and while the leather is still wet, rub in a little warm oil. The shoe should dry slowly. Do not place it in a hot oven or on a hot radiator, as intense heat and cold are bad for leather and especially the change from one to the other.

Shoes should be kept clean and well polished, as this prevents dirt getting into the pores and rotting the leather. The friction polishes are preferable to the gloss polishes as they contain wax which helps to keep the leather soft.

The soles of shoes may be made more pliable, durable and water resisting by an over-night application of linseed oil.

It is well for shoes to have a rest period, therefore, it is economy to have at least two pair of shoes and to change the shoes often. It is also good for the shoe if one has a pair of shoe trees which can be placed inside the shoes while they are at rest.—Charlotte E. Carpenter, Colorado Agricultural College, Fort Collins, Colorado.

There is always hope in a man who actually and earnestly works. In idleness alone, is there perpetual despair.

MRS. HUNTER DEMONSTRATES CANNING

After an illustrated lecture, dealing largely in the theory of canning and preserving, Mrs. M. E. V. Hunter, the colored extension agent for Texas, gave a practical demonstration here Saturday, June 16.

The demonstration was given in the open air in front of the auditorium and was viewed by over 600 students. Mrs. Hunter had all material and apparatus for the occasion, stove, cans, etc., and vegetables from the college farm. With these, she demonstrated canning by actually doing the work and showed how easily and successfully this work can be done in the colored homes of the State at very little cost.

Mrs. Hunter emphasizes the necessity of saving the surplus products of the farm and cites canning and preserving as means by which this can be done. The canning system being taught by extension agents, when put into general practice, will save thousands of dollars each year by the conservation of food products that otherwise would be wasted.

The colored citizens of the State are growing more and more appreciative of the extension work. This is being brought about through the effective work of the agents now touring different sections of the state.

ROBEY L. CRAWFORD

Robey L. Crawford, the only child of Mrs. N. W. Crawford, widow of J. H. Crawford, for several years the peerless teacher of science at Prairie View State Normal, took his bachelor of science degree at Wilberforce University Thursday, June 21. He is a graduate of Prairie View College, having grown up at the school from the age of five years. He was a favorite on the campus. His complete lack of self-conceit has won for him the good will and love of all, and his ability as an athlete—having featured as a baseball, football and tennis star—evoked constant praise and admiration and sent his reputation hurling round the length and breadth of the state.

His many friends are zealously watching and guarding his career with implicit faith that he will round out a noble life. This young man is one among the best minds and characters the school has turned out and the institution can feel justly proud of the reputation he has sustained.

Robey, who is the idol of his mother, received besides congratulatory telegrams from a great many of his friends, a message of hope and encouragement from her, including an open-face gold watch, with a double vest chain and charm. He will enter the State University of Iowa next fall, where he intends pursuing a four-year medical course. He has the good wishes of innumerable friends who are interested in his welfare.

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RENEW YOUR SUBSCRIPTION.

A blue pencil mark at the head of this column indicates that your subscription has expired. The publishers of The Standard will be glad to keep your name on the mailing list, but to do this it will be necessary for you to send in your renewal. We hope to receive your renewal subscription before your paper is stopped. In this way you will receive every issue of The Standard without missing a copy.

SATURDAY, JUNE 23, 1917

BUILDING HUMAN EFFICIENCY

The manufacturer who would find the source of efficient workmanship must go outside the glare of his furnace fires. He must come into contact with the uplifting influences of the home.

Efficiency does not begin when the workman takes up his daily task, nor does it end when he lays it down.

The company's interest in its workmen follows them to their homes, since the form of amusement, entertainment, or diversion in which they engage when off duty determines, to a large extent, their degree of efficiency when they return to the shop.

The workman who does not own his home is inclined to be discontented, unreliable, and un dependable.

The renter, as a rule, is not so efficient as is the home owner.

Those who live at boarding houses are the first to leave for other points when the mills are temporarily closed, and new men must be trained to fill their places when work is resumed.

On the other hand, the workman who owns his home, who beautifies his grounds and raises a garden, develops a degree of efficiency not equaled under other conditions.

The pride of ownership acts as a stimulant and the home proves a magnet which attracts and holds him. The garden provides employment for otherwise idle hours, and the open air exercise enjoyed in cultivating the plants improves his health.

The products of the garden also play an important part in solving those economic questions upon which the contentment and peace of mind of the workman so often depends.

Approximately 40 per cent of the wages of workmen is expended for food and the man who produces any portion of his food proportionately reduces his

cost of living. This gives him an additional sum of money to add to his sayings, improve his home or expend for recreation and pleasure.

The workman who owns his home and has a garden, and possibly a few chickens, is able to stand having idleness thrust upon him for a few weeks for the reason that he has no rent to pay and has much of his sustenance growing out of or living upon his own soil. Such a man is never found in the bread line.

But the renter and boarder is not so well fortified against temporary misfortune. When one of the big steel mills at Pittsburgh resumed operations after a brief shut-down, it was found that every employe who did not own his home had moved away.

"The expense to the company in breaking in new men to take their places," declared the manager, "was greater than would have been the amount paid the men if they had been kept on the payroll during the period of suspension."

Good health, temperate habits, contentment—these are the three leading elements which make for efficiency. This is the declaration of corporations who have directed their efforts toward establishing real homes for their workmen and in promoting home and vacant lot gardening.

—P. G. Holden, in Galveston News.

THE NEGRO IS TRUE

The registration shows that nearly ten million men were subject to the call. In this the colored man figures well; and in all other steps that may be taken by the government he will do his part.

Ever true to his country in the past he will be no less true in the future. Obedient to every call of duty, he will prove anew his worth and title to freedom and citizenship.

Miss C. Gertrude Howard was at the college this week after closing a successful session in the domestic science department of the colored high school of Dallas, Texas. Miss Howard was teacher in the domestic science department of Prairie View college prior to accepting a similar position in Dallas. Here as well as there, her efficiency in her line of work has been of the highest order.

There's still time to put in cowpeas, soy beans, millet and sorghum, all of which will make good feed. If you haven't the seed, buy them—it will pay you. Every piece of stubble land, every acre not otherwise in use, should be put to work, and put to work at once. Remember, it will probably be a case of raise feed or do without.

From present indications, the South will this year make a large crop of sweet potatoes—possibly the largest we ever made. It is estimated that each year about one-fifth of our sweet potato crop rots, because of poor storage facilities. Now is the time to get ready for storing the crop next fall, and our readers who are interested should write the United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. for free Farmers' Bulletin NO. 548, "Storing and Marketing Sweet Potatoes."

The French government has adopted for use in one of its textile plants a process invented in that country for printing on silk by a photographic color process. One of the newer stationary vacuum cleaners automatically washes the dust from the air drawn into it and forces the water and dust out through a discharge pipe.

It has been estimated by a European scientist that the commercial value of the electricity in a flash of lightning lasting one one-thousandth of a second is 29 cents.

AGRICULTURAL BUILDING PARTLY DESTROYED

The Agricultural building of the college was partly destroyed by fire at 1 o'clock, p. m., Thursday, June 21. The cause of the fire has not been ascertained. Theodore Scott sustained a wound on his arm while fighting the flames.

DR. J. J. TAUBENHAUS

Dr. J. J. Taubenhaus, author and plant pathologist, connected with the Texas experiment station, was here last week examining one of his plots on the college farm.

There are twelve substations and one sheep-breeding station operated by eminent scientists of the A. & M. college. These substations are located in advantageous positions in different portions of the state, where experiments are systematically conducted along all lines of farming interests. It was in pursuance of these plans that Dr. Taubinhaus came to his plots here last week.

The doctor is an eminent author and has been employed to edit a series of books for leading publishers of the North. He has kindly consented to place some of his works in the library here. They will be of inestimable benefit to the student body in their relation to the subject of agriculture and science in general.

The Value of Biography

It is not only commanded by ancient practice to celebrate the memory of great and worthy men, as the best thanks which posterity can pay them, but all the examples of virtue are of more vigor, when they are thus contracted into individuals. As the sunbeams, united into a burning glass to a point, have greater force than when they are darted from plain superficies, so the virtues and actions of man drawn together into a single story, strike upon our minds a stronger and more lively impression than the scattered relations of many men, and many actions; and by the same means that they give us pleasure, they afford us profit. too.... and as the reader is more concerned at one man's fortune than those of many, so the writer, likewise, is more capable of making a perfect work if he confines himself to the narrower compass.—Dryden.

A Suggestion to Dry Farmers.

(From the Yonkum Herald.)

The hot dry weather is getting the best of the late corn, but a gentleman remarked yesterday that it may be a blessing in disguise. Like all such blessings, it is tough on the party of the first part, as he is the first and heaviest loser. But those who must lose their corn will have plenty of time to plant sorghum, cane and cow peas, beans, black-eyed peas, etc. Beans or peanuts will make more money and a surer crop. It is to be hoped that our merchants, commercial club and other business men interested will see to it that there is plenty of seed here and to be had on such terms that every farmer can get all he wants. If all the farmers who lose corn will plant beans, peanuts and black-eyed peas, the loss of the corn may prove a benefit rather than a loss. At least we can only hope so. Beans ought to produce \$100 to \$200 an acre easily, and peanuts with last year's prices made many farmers \$50 an acre.

Prairie View SUMMER SCHOOL

**Eighth Session
Opens June 5. Closes Aug. 3**

Work Covered During Summer Session Credited as a Term

New Course of Study

as revised for Regular Session 1916-17 will be in full force and effect for the coming Summer School.

One or two new features have been added to the curriculum, making the course of study much stronger and more liberal.

Dormitory and class room facilities more adequate and conditions generally more wholesome, more comfortable and more attractive. With the improvements already made and others to be made soon, studying here in the Summer School will be a real pleasure.

Every equipment for the health, comfort and convenience of the student is being installed. Physical appearance of the campus and grounds has already been greatly improved and arrangements have been made to have an expert Landscape Gardener lay out a general plan for further beautification of grounds.

Military drill for the men adds zest to their out-door activities. Movements are on foot to improve athletics and physical culture among the young women in order to invigorate the recreational side of their lives.

The school recognizes and appreciates the value of cheerful spirit in the educational development of any class of people.

The Y. M. C. A. project is slowly but surely gaining impetus which bids fair to carry it to a perfect and early achievement.

It is the plan and aim of the Summer School to arrange for a series of lectures by a specialist in educational methods and problems.

Compulsory educational laws of the State are accentuating the need for better prepared and more progressive teachers.

The Summer School is designed to meet the special requirements of teachers along all lines.

The advantages of the Summer School are becoming more and more pronounced each year.

Write Principal I. M. Terrell for terms and requirements for admission.

H. J. Mason, Secretary.

Pertinent Paragraphs

Frugality is good if liberality be joined with it. The first is leaving off superfluous expenses; the last bestowing them to the benefit of others that need. The first without the last begets covetousness; the last without the first begets prodigality.—William Penn.

All around us are people whom we think we know, but when we come to think about it do we really know them? We are familiar with the faces of our acquaintances, but their hearts—their inner life—the real person—we seldom trouble ourselves to learn. We meet and talk of common place things, and perhaps gossip about the faults and failings of others, when if we but knew the motives behind the deeds we condemn, we would find them pure and noble, we can not judge a man's motives by his deeds, because people differ in their ideas of right and wrong, and sometimes I think if we only knew them we would love them.

Just as the sunshine floods the earth on a summer day, so does joy flood the universe; and if we do not get our share it is because we have barred the doors and windows of our hearts to keep it out.

Being forced to work and fore-

ed to do your best will breed in you temperance and self-control, diligence and strength of will, cheerfulness and content, and a hundred virtues which the idle never know.—Charles Kingsley.

The Summer session moves pleasantly forward; all are earnestly engaged in the work set before them. The Summer school is composed mainly of practical teachers who have come to better prepare themselves to do their work in the schools of Texas. Their presence here indicates the growth of education in the state and the increasing demand now put upon those who aspire to teach. All of this means not only a better class of teachers for our race; but better schools and better citizens.

The world's supply of wheat is certain to be dangerously short this year, and this shortage will undoubtedly greatly affect corn prices to the benefit of the grower.