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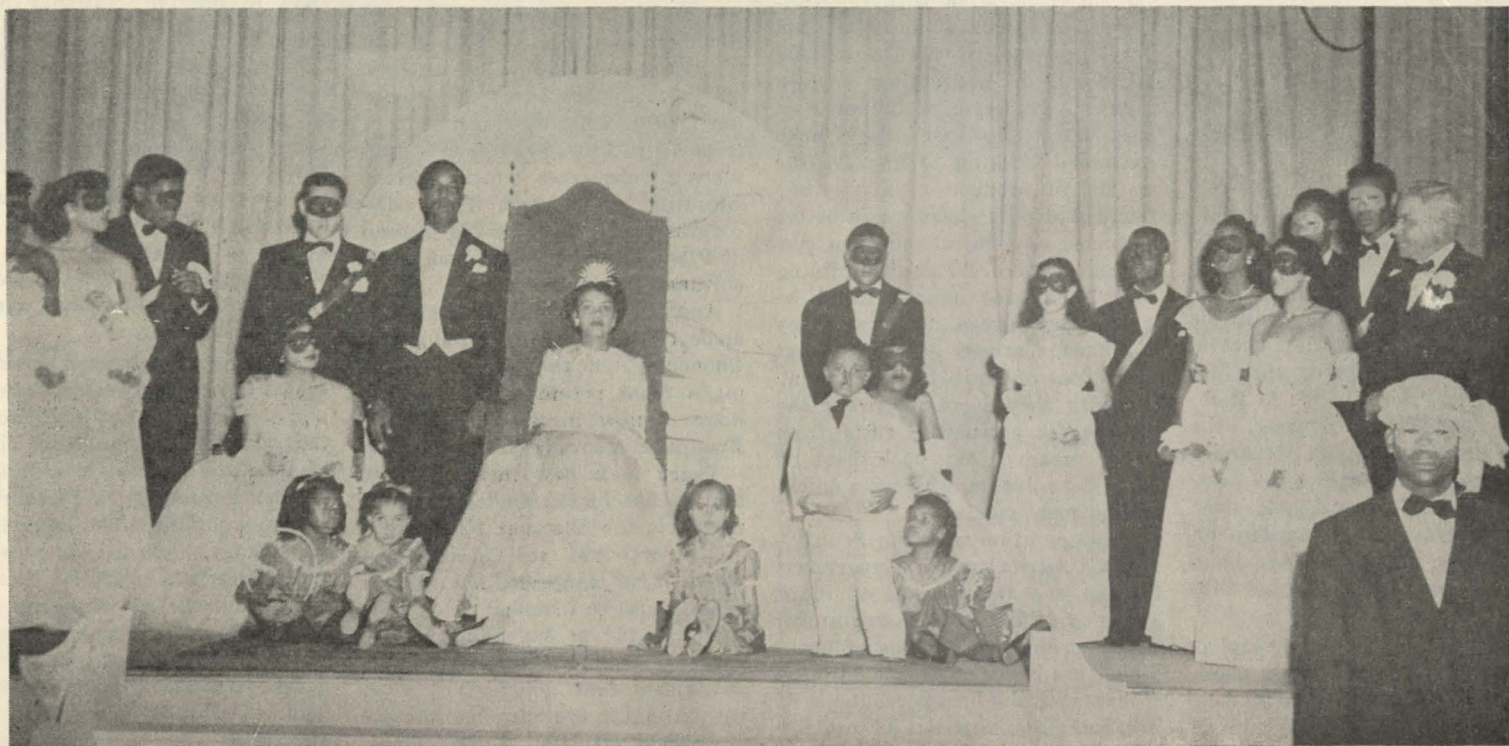
THE PANTHER

Vol. 23

Prairie View A. & M. College, Prairie View Branch, Hempstead, Texas, March, 1949

No. 3

Scene at Coronation Ball



PRAIRIE VIEW CROWNS QUEEN IN AN OCCASION OF MUCH SPLENDOR

"Queen Ida of the House of Keith" (Miss P.V.) was crowned February 5, 1949 amid pomp and ceremony the like of which has not been seen before on our campus. There have been more formal and more elaborately decorated Coronations in its seventeen-year history at this institution, but never has there been one more fantastic and gay, for it was Mardi Gras.

The decorations, the routine and the beautifully gowned damsels and immaculately dressed men bespoke the spirit of Mardi Gras. The planners: Misses J. Walden, Theresa Pratt, Ida Mae Keith, Ruthcelia Lane, and Messers R. W. Hilliard, W. R. Gerald and J. T. Ashford, arranged for a 45-minute show which was commended by all who witnessed it.

Clyde Messiah escorted the Queen to her throne and president E. B. Evans crowned her. Miss Betty McDonald and Miss Massalina Stockton (First and Second attendants) were escorted by Messers Elwyn Stubberfield and James Mosley, respectively. Other couples on the stage were Miss Peggy Mitchell and Samuel Collins, Miss Francis Boone and Ray Don Dillon, Miss Mamie Abernathy and Craig Spotsor, Miss Blynthis Winter and Lawrence Shepherd, Mrs. S. Vaughn Jackson and W. G. Anderson, Miss

A. Marie Crunk and Lytle Taylor.

The ladies on the stage wore beautiful white fashions, the queen's being satin especially designed by her Mother, Mrs. Alice Keith Balfour, (who was presented with a party of ten).

Twenty couples of lower nobility (as stated by the announcer Prof. Melvin B. Tolson) made a beautiful scene with their gorgeous gowns of various colors. (Men wore dark suits and black ties).

The usual parade of beautifully gowned ladies, and their escorts was shortened to allow for entertainment by dance groups which were clothed in designs by Miss Ruthcelia Lane, and trained by Mr. J. T. Ashford and Misses Walden and Pratt.

The African dance was led by J. M. Otoo a Prairie View student who hails from the Gold Coast, British West Africa. Others in the dance were James Glyne Charles, Charlie Rhodes, Blandene Curl, Evelyn Washington, Oscar Simmons, Maurice Crain, V. O. Ewell and Lindley Shackford.

The Spanish dance was done by Willie Ethel Duncan, Blandene Curl, Charlie Rhodes, Delores Woods, Oscar Simmons and V. O. Ewell; Clara De Lune was done by Willie Ethel Duncan, Evelyn B.

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Governor Jester Designates Negro Newspaper Week

In recognition of the prominent part played by the Negro press toward the betterment of our present way of life, Hon. Beauford H. Jester, Governor of Texas, has issued the following official proclamation to the people of this state:

"This Nation and its people derived all their blessings from a just God and a just Constitution.

"The Courts of Public Opinion among us have always been ready to hear and grant relief when justified to those who, rightly or not, felt the need for such appeal.

"Their freedom to enjoy life has long depended in large measure upon a free press.

"Such a free press, available to and used well by our minorities is the Guardian of their rights and a pleader for justice for them.

"THEREFORE, I, as Governor of Texas, do hereby designate February 27 to March 5, 1949, inclusive, as NEGRO NEWSPAPER WEEK in Texas and urge that the people of this State avail themselves of this period to become more familiar with this important minority press which, while serving the interests of a special group, has protected also the interests of all Americans against encroach-

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Observance of Negro Press Week

By JOE SMITH

February 27 through March 5 has been set aside for the observance of the Negro Press. This is done in order to pay to the men and women of the Negro Press throughout the nation recognition for the progress they have made since the first Negro paper was published. There has been a great increase in the number of Negro newspapers, too numerous to mention. They have played tremendous parts in keeping their readers up with the latest issues on the Negro in America.

Not only do we wish to pay tribute to the papers themselves but to the editors who have been so diligent in securing information and assembling it in the best available manner that we may receive firsthand accounts of important events.

It is admitted however, that our papers carry some striking headlines sometimes, but there is always some good to be found in most of them. This is what we must do—(1) Be able to look over the bad and profit from it; (2) Take the good and use it as a stepping stone.

Then too, we must admit that in our Southern White papers, most of the crimes committed by members of our race are stated on the

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THE PANTHER

Voice of the Students

Published by the students of Prairie View Agricultural and Mechanical College. This issue sponsored by the Alpha Pi Mu Chapter of Alpha Kappa Mu Honor Society.

EDITORIAL STAFF

Editor-in-Chief FANNIE SMITH
Associate Editor TIMOTHY MCGILL
Feature Editor JOE C. CALHOUN
Sports Editor ULYSSES WALLACE
Typist EVELYN RANDALL
Typist JAMES W. REED

What Prize For Me?

By HILLIARD GEORGE LEWIS

It is a sad commentary on man's inability to progress in some ways, while making great Progress in others, that no Nobel Failing Prize will be awarded this semester. Prizes, no doubt, will be awarded to those persons who distinguish themselves with the highest Scholastic Averages. They will be awarded the T. K. Lawless award, Harrison-Valien award, the Mechanic Arts Prize, Dr. W. A. Richardson award for Nurses, the Science Staff Prize, J. M. Alexander Sunday school award, the outstanding Cadet Award, and even the Veteran's club scholarship on Honors Day. But will there be a Nobel Failing Prize awarded that day?

Not in the history of any higher branch of education has there been awarded a Prize to the student falling below the institution's standard in Academic work. As we look over the dim pages of history of the higher branches of knowledge, we see where the student making an average of 50% or below in his semester's work is asked to withdraw from the institution because the institution has a standard and a record to protect.

To enumerate all the paths along which a student is capable of failing in his Academic work would take more space than is available here. But, so far, at the fingertips of the registrar is the student's past semester's record lined with unsatisfactory letters from the Alphabet. An institution must issue to those students falling below the academic standard E's and F's to save its name and record from the noose.

Today the sciences in particular have done much to make life easier, more pleasant and safer for those not killed in war. Almost daily discoveries are announced that mean further progress in the warfare on disease, along with new inventions for the services of mankind, new production methods to raise the levels of industrial output and make it possible for more millions of human beings to enjoy the comforts, conveniences and luxuries provided by a capitalistic economy.

A student with the above stated record of E's and F's in his academic work can join this parade in the service of mankind by taking a "Special" to success. Only a few

SCIENCE FLASHES

In many ways, our lives are made healthier and more enjoyable as a result of modern scientific research. Here are a few hints of what is new in the field of science.

Ever since research workers at the Eastern Regional Research Laboratory discovered the substance known as rutin in tobacco and, in cooperation with the University of Pennsylvania Medical School, proved its value as a drug beneficial in preventing certain types of hemorrhage in cases of high blood pressure, they have continued working to improve the method of production. First, they found that buckwheat was a better and more economical source of rutin than tobacco. After determining that buckwheat plants could be used either green or dried, they developed methods of drying that keeps loss of rutin to a minimum. Recently they have improved the process for extracting rutin from either green or dry buckwheat by using hot solvents, which are quicker and more efficient.

In cooperation with the Pennsylvania Agricultural Experiment Station and the Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering, new strains of buckwheat are being developed through wheat with higher percentage of breeding. Two new strains promise to be superior in rutin content to the one previously considered best.

Expanding medical uses of the drug include beneficial effects in hemophilia, frostbite, and diseases involving hemorrhages of the eye. Perhaps the most spectacular development is the discovery that rutin is able to protect against the harmful effects of X-rays. This suggests that it might benefit persons exposed to atomic radiation.

The Bureau of Human Nutrition and Home Economics recently com-

years ago Thomas A. Edison stood in your shoes. He was asked to leave school because he could not learn. But today we enjoy the comforts and conveniences of the electric lights. Electricity was his specialty. Why don't you, instead of going home when asked by the institution because of your academic work, look about you and take up the trade of your choice?

The student who can change horses in the middle passage without losing faith in himself, realizing that there is success even after a loss, and use the reserve initiative to carry on in a new endeavor is the winner of the Nobel Failing Prize. The students showing this will be awarded on Honors Day by all institutions of learning.

What prize for me is a challenge to you. If it's the Nobel Failing prize, it is a symbol of victory over defeat.

pleted a study of the effects of home cooking methods on nutritional values of foods which showed that vitamin C and thiamine are more readily lost than the other vitamins and the minerals.

Also the Bureau has designed and demonstrated a kitchen that minimizes useless steps and motions—a help to the housewife.

It might be interesting to note that methods have been discovered for treating apples so as to greatly reduce rot and other diseases of stored apples. In addition there have been improved methods of treating potatoes with growth regulating substances which prevent sprouting in storage. These discoveries were made by the Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering.

Another interesting development, made by the Bureau of Industrial Chemistry, is that flour can be made from potatoes. Such potato flour is now in demand for the European recovery program.

There is a new instrument or tool in use in the field of Science and it is the Electron Microscope. An object that still looks small when it is magnified 50 million times, must be invisible, to say the least, so far as the naked eye is concerned. This magnification is 200 times that attained by even the strongest ordinary microscope. It is done with the electron microscope.

This is only a small number of the new developments on scientific research. These, together with the extremely vast number of others, are all playing important parts in the advancement of humanity.

CANCER IN VERMONT

Since 1935 the number of cancer deaths in the United States has increased almost 50 percent. But in the state of Vermont there has been little perceptible increase in the cancer fatality rate.

Among the reasons for this remarkable record are the ten-year-old program of public education and service to cancer patients carried on by the Vermont division of the American Cancer Society, the service program of the Vermont State Cancer Commission, and the educational program of the State Medical Society.

In that period the proportion of early and still curable cancer cases hospitalized for treatment in Vermont has almost tripled. A survey, made by the Cancer Society at the request of the Vermont Cancer Commission and published last week, shows that nearly 60 percent of the men and women admitted to Vermont hospitals in 1947 has localized malignancies. Ten years earlier this figure was only about 20 per cent.

Prairie View Joins Celebration

By HILLIARD G. LEWIS

Prairie View A. & M. College realizing that there has been hardly any great forward movement of humanity which did not draw its inspiration from the knowledge or the idealization of the past found time to observe National Negro History Week February 6-13.

The members of the W. R. Banks Library Staff knowing that, "books are paths that upward lead", led the attack by a display of books by and about Negroes who have blazed the way in various fields of knowledge. The theme was, "The Wheel of Progress." There was also a display of pictures of famous Negroes in the popular reading room of the library.

After being motivated by several events during the week, the faculty and student body sat motionless in the auditorium-gymnasium on the campus and listened to an address Sunday evening by a speaker who was well qualified. The Department of History, Political Science and Philosophy presented Mrs. Ina Bolton, head of the department of Philosophy, and Dean of Women at Texas State University for Negroes. Mrs. Bolton is a former student of Prairie View. She was graduated from both high school and Prairie View Normal College. She received her M.A. Degree from Kansas State University and the Ph.D. from the University of Southern California.

Mrs. Bolton used as her subject, "These Few" for such an occasion. She based her talk on the minority groups in America, and gave the ingredients by which they may solve their problems. She stated that, "We must seek the rights of minorities other than our own; next for the rights of all men; and last of all our own; every member of every minority must fight on every front at once; every member of every minority must try to live an honorable not just an acceptable life; and every member of every minority must prepare himself to die readily and sweetly."

She then spoke about the island of isolation among the minority groups in the communities. She stated that, "an island of isolation causes people to withdraw and develop a don't care attitude. As a result they exercise little initiative and assume less responsibility. I plead with you to prepare yourselves in mind, in spirit, and in resources to become a part of your total communities."

In speaking of the island of isolation of intergroup education she concluded with her beliefs. She believes, "That school staffs must become increasingly aware of the

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JUNIOR CLASS OFFICERS



Reading from left to right the officers of the Junior Class are Joe Smith, president; Hilliard G. Lewis, business manager; Dorothy Adams, secretary; Lucille Wallace, assistant secretary; Phillip Young, vice-president.

Youth Conference

By PHILLIP YOUNG

On January 28, and 29, 1949, one of the most outstanding conferences in the history of Prairie View was held on the campus. This conference in the interest of the Negro Youth brought many outstanding visitors to the campus. These people came from all parts of the country and the cooperating agencies, namely, the State Department of Public Welfare, State Department of Health, Texas Tuberculosis Association, The Hogg Foundation, and the State Department of Education.

Miss Elizabeth McGuire, State Department of Public Welfare made very clear the purpose of the conference in the first general assembly held on January 28, 1949. She gave as the aims of the State Department of Public Welfare in

every community the following:

1. To develop efficient functioning citizens.
2. To work with the Child in his whole environment; physical, mental, social and emotional.
3. Co-ordinate home, school and community, and child and youth activities.
4. Through community planning to know resources and plan for filling in the existing gaps; co-operation not as a word but as a way to thought and action. Miss McGuire said "The focus of this conference is on the adequacy, balance and effective utilization of all services involved in meeting the basic needs of Negro Children and youth in communities throughout our state. This is the responsibility of every one of us and not one belonging to a single individual, agency, department or institution.

To achieve this, agencies, departments and institutions should submerge their identity for the common cause of developing efficient functioning citizens of our children and youth of today. There were three purposes of this conference as stated by Miss McGuire.

1. An interpretation of available resources for services to Negro Children and Youth.
2. An explanation of programs operating in various communities of Texas and how similar local programs may be started.
3. And how the needs of the children, youth and families can be met through coordination of services.

On the evening of the 28th, Dr. Otto R. Neilson was presented to the entire student body of Prairie View A. & M. College from the stage of the Auditorium-Gymnasium in the second general assembly. Dr. Neilson who is now Dean of the Texas College of Arts and Industries, Kingsville, Texas gave a very informative and entertaining lecture on "Youth's Responsibility in Family Living."

On the morning of January 29, 1949 Mrs. Annie Lee Davis Consultant on minority groups, Children's Bureau, Washington, D. C. was presented to the student body in the third general assembly. Mrs. Davis is the only Negro of her rank working with the children's Bureau. She gave a most inspiring address on "Child Welfare and Services in a Total Community."

During the day of the 28th, group clinics were held in which problems were discussed and ironed out as much as possible. The highlights of these work groups were revealed to the student body in the third general assembly by the following highlighters:

1. *Availabilities of Services for Children*, Mrs. Ada Yerwood, Texas Tuberculosis Association
2. *Guidance and Counseling*, Professor Ross E. Townes, Director Department of Health and Physical Education, Wiley College, Marshall, Texas
3. *The Child and the Family*, Professor F. R. Rice, Principal Blackshear Elementary School, Austin.
4. *Group Work Programs For Children And Youth*, Mrs. L. M. Mitchell, Field Director, Girls Scouts, Austin

Governor Jester

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ments, real or potential, upon their civil liberties.

"In official recognition whereof I hereby affix my signature this 21st day of February 1949.

"BEAUFORD H. JESTER
"Governor of Texas"

Let the other man talk first, and you'll save yourself a mess of mistakes and embarrassments.

Crooked rivers get that way by following the line of least resistance. So do some men.

A dominating personality ain't much use if the other guy is driving a ten-ton truck.

The College Salutes You

By HILLIARD G. LEWIS

The Students who have pursued a minimum of twelve hours and achieved an average grade of "B" or better with no grade below "C" compose the College Honor Roll for the first semester, 1948-49.

Of the 132 students making the Honor Roll special recognition goes to four students who made an average of 3.00. They are Miss Onis Fox, senior in the Division of Home Economics (Six A's), Mr. Lavaniel Henderson, senior in the Division of Agriculture (Four A's), Miss Jean Norris, sophomore in the Division of Arts and Sciences (nine A's) and Mr. Alonzo Alexander, two year trade student in the Division of Mechanic Arts (two A's). Also recognition goes to the twenty-five veterans for their superb achievement.

Due to the space allotted here, it is impossible to print the entire list of honor students. Of the 132 Students 50 were male and 82 female. There were 59 Seniors, 22 Juniors, 17 Sophomores, 27 Freshmen, 6 Second year trade students and 1 First year trade Student.

The President, Staff, Faculty and Editor wish to take this means to congratulate each of you for an outstanding achievement. You have not only helped yourselves, but your fellow classmates by such exemplary work.

P. V. Crowns Queen

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Washington and Blandene Curl. The Panther Dance was done by Alderine Hall. The clowns were Sarah J. Hawkins, Junita Williams, Alderine Hall and Billy Dooley.

Flower girls were Carolyn Owens, Mattie P. Hilliard, Annie Herndon and Sandra Vails. The ring bearer was Ashland O'Neal Brown.



FANNIE M. SMITH, Editor-in-Chief of the Panther is an English Major and has worked with the Staff since she was a Freshman. Miss Smith has written two poems which appeared in the VICTORY ANTHOLOGY OF VERSE, they are "Somewhere Over Sea," and "When Another Day Dawns."

Observance or Negro Press Week

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front pages; but not often do we find the good mentioned. For example, when Levi Jackson was chosen captain of Yale's 1949 football team it was hardly mentioned in many of the papers I read. A person who merely glanced at the paper would hardly notice the article. By way of another incident of this same caliber, when Congressman Dawson was selected chairman of the Committee on Expenditures in the executive department of the Federal government, it was barely mentioned. Things of this nature are worthy of recognition by all the presses. However, it falls the lot of the Negro Press to keep its readers up-to-date on such issues. This means that the Negro Press is doing a commendable job.

Negro papers are not restricted to Negroes alone, they are sold to all people. This is a good way to let people know about some of the good Negroes are doing. It helps to change the attitudes and conceptions that other people have of us. They are, then, informed of the good as well as the bad that we do. From the information obtained they are able to interpret and find out how we rate. Usually they find more good than evil.

Thus, I wish to pay a special tribute to the Negro Press of America and I know that I am voicing the sentiments of all the thousands of readers of the Negro Press when I say this. Here's hoping that this year's observance will lead to many more.

Prairie View Joins Celebration

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interdependence and the interrelationship of the world and its people; that they must realize the effects of improved communication and transportation. What affects one affects all; that research in the field of human development has revealed principles of human behavior and the dynamics of human motivation. These principles must serve as a basis for the improvement of human relations; and that the boys and girls of America, regardless of color, ethnic group, or creed, are our greatest resource; therefore, a unique responsibility rests upon the staffs of the public schools to see that each has an opportunity for his or her fullest capacity."

After Mrs. Bolton finished one of the most informational and inspirational speeches delivered this year the faculty and student body waited to hear the regular Sunday night broadcast, "Prairie View Serves Texas" over Station KLEE at 10:30 P.M. The Discipline

SPORTS REVIEW

By ULYSEES S. WALLACE

The Prairie View Panther Basketball Team coached by Jimmie Stevens has been playing excellently for the past month. Up to present time, the Panthers have won eighteen games and lost only six. They are climbing to the top rapidly.

The Panthers are in first place in the Southwest Conference standing. The Texas College Steers and Langston University tied for second place in the conference. The Panthers lost their two games to Texas College and Langston University.

The Pantherettes coached by Miss Catchings have lost two games of this season. They have played six games. The two games they lost were to Grambling. The Grambling girls have not lost a basketball game within the past three years. Miss Catchings's girls team consists mostly of Freshman girls. Some of the most outstanding players on the team are: Eloise Brown Olivia White, Ima Buford, Mary Dow, Bette Johnson, Yvonne Brigman, Barbara Williams, and Louise Harris. Eloise Brown is Captain of the team.

Elmer Redd is the captain of the boy's team. Among the most thrilling games played by the Pan-

thers were the games with Southern and Texas College. In the Southern game, everything that was ever put into a basketball game was portrayed by the members of both teams. The score was a continual tie, first one team made two points and then the other made two. The victory for the Panthers came when the Southern Jaegers had weakened down and the Panthers were still strong. The game ended with the score 59 to 56 in favor of the Panthers.

thers were the games with Southern and Texas College.

In the second game, the Panthers had to fight hard again. They started making scores but couldn't get away from the Jaegers. At the end of the first half, the scores were 20-19 in favor of the Jaegers. In the second half, both teams came back fighting hard. At the end of the game the score was all tied up 50-50. The teams had five minutes rest and came back and played five minutes more. Each team had made four points each and with about forty seconds to play, one of the Jaegers fouled Lemons and that is what brought the victory. The scores ended 56-54. James Hall was the high point man in both games.

Some of the most outstanding players on the Prairie View team are: Pipkin, Hall, Johnson, Redd, Lemon, Henson, Sams, Matherson and Barnes.

Scores for the Panthers during the season: Prairie View 55—Bishop 50; Prairie View 58—Fisk 45; Prairie View 35—Tennessee State 66; Prairie View 53—Morris Brown 48; Prairie View 64—Morehouse 45; Prairie View 55—Tuskegee 65; Prairie View 55—Alabama State 59; Prairie View 53—Grambling 40; Prairie View 66—T. S. U. 38; Prairie View 64—Wiley 51; Prairie View 78—Samuel Huston 55; Prairie View 42—Lackland Air Base 58; Prairie View 56—Langston 61; Prairie View 76—Langston 70; Prairie View 66—Texas College 77; Prairie View 53—Texas College 52; Prairie View 71—Bishop 56; Prairie View 66—Bishop 57; Prairie View 64—Tillotson 32; Prairie View 78—Southwestern Business College 45; Prairie View 60—Wiley 45; Prairie View 53—Wiley 47; Prairie View 59—Southern 56 and Prairie View 56—Southern 54.

The Prairie View Track team has started training for the track season. The panthers have been winning the Prairie View relays for the past three years and was also the Southwest Conference champs last year. Some of the lettermen returning to training are Davis, Harrison, Robinson, Garret,

Negro Experts Help Set Record In Federal Meat Inspection Work

White and colored veterinarians and lay meat inspectors of the U. S. Department of Agriculture inspected a record volume of meat last year, reports Secretary of Agriculture Charles F. Brannan.

The Secretary says that inspection work carried out last year at nearly 1,000 slaughtering and meat processing establishments. The number of animals inspected exceeded 86 million. And more than 12 billion pounds of meat from these also were inspected. This was a record volume of operations.

A round purple mark is stamped on meat and meat food products which have been inspected and approved. About two-thirds of all meat sold on our retail market bears this stamp which is the consumers' assurance of purity.

The inspection is done by a corps of 3,000 white and colored veterinarians and specially trained lay inspectors employed by the Department. Typical of these are Dr. Raymond M. Williams of Chicago and Rogers Shumate of Washington D. C. Both are colored.

The former is a graduate of veterinary medicine at Kansas State College and has been on the inspection staff since 1927. The latter, Mr. Shumate, has been a lay inspector since 1917. He now inspects meat arriving in the nation's capital. Mr. Shumate is a graduate of a Washington high school where he took courses in biology and chemistry.

The Department's inspection of meat dates back to 1890 when Congress provided for this service in response to European complaints that U. S. exported meat bore no official evidence that it came from healthy animals. Later the law was broadened to apply to slaughtering and meat processing plants that prepare meat food products for interstate and foreign commerce.

However, the meat inspection law exempts farmers and to some extent retail butchers and dealers who make interstate shipments in serving their own customers. A meat business confined within a single State is not required to have Federal inspection of its products. As the system actually works, about two-thirds of the country's meat supply now receives U. S. inspection.

Ryce, Sapenter and Matthew Clay.

James Bradley has been elected captain of the 1949 Panther football team. Bradley is a Junior in the Mechanic Arts Division and hails from Corpus Christi, Texas. He is expecting to lead the Panthers to many victories during the coming season.