THE POST GRADUATE COURSE AT TUSKEGEE

Theory and Practice Combined In Training For Future Usefulness.

INTERESTING STORY OF THE PEACH CROP

From the Setting Out of The Shrubs to the Marketing of the Fruit

(Special to Afro-American Ledger.)

Tuskegee Institute, Ala., Aug. 8—Just as one finishes at college and then pursues special studies in a university, so students, after receiving a fair elementary tra'ning in both academic and manual work are turning their attention to special industrial training at Tuskegee Institute. In no calling is this special training in higher demand than in Agriculture, and in no school are the facilities so ample to meet this demand as at Tuskegee. There is the laboratory with its appilances and apparatus suited to the experimental study of farming--to the study of seeds, seed germination, chemistry of soils, and the composition and importance of various kinds of fertilizer. The best Negro teachers available, teachers who understand the colored student and teachers who can also grow the product, conduct the classes and experiments. On the other hand, there is the farm with its 2,400 acres of farm land, 1,000 of which is under cultivation, to test and apply the theories developed in the laboratory

This combination of theory and practice exists not only on the general farm but in the special branches of farming as well. Over all farming industries there is one man known as the Director of Agriculture. Under him, there is a head for each division. Then there is one man who instructs in, and has charge of pig raising—and he actually raises pigs. There is another who has charge of butter making and the selling of milk—while actually making butter and supplying a market himself. .There is a third who gives instrucion in truck farming—while he himself is raising and handling produce for 2,000 people about Tuskegee Institute. It thus happens that no student could take a course in agriculutre and go away a mere farm laborer. Rather he goes away with skill in all the various lines of his work.

The story of this year's peach crop at Tuskegee Institute will illustrate in detail this system of Argiculture training. In the orchard there were several students specializing in fruit growing. Of course they were taught in a practical way how to grow other fruits than peaches, but as peaches called for the biggest harvest they will be taken. To begin with the school bought 1,000 peach shrubs and set them out on land that was good for little else, but excellent for peach growing. It taught the student how to set out a peach tree—how deep to dig, when to dynamite a hole and why, what vegetables could be grown in the young orchard and why, when the growing of any other product in the orchard should cease and why. At the same time there was a vast orchard over there bringing forth peaches. What was to be done here and why. There was smudging to be done if the weather was cold, there was the making of solutions for spraying the tree. Moreover, there was spraying for different purposes and at different times of the year, each requiring a different solution. There was one kind of spraying for San Jose Scale, another kind for insects, and still another kind for worms. All the theories of spraying peaches were learned—and then applied right there on the trees.

Then came the peach harvest. Given a large peach crop, how shall the student save it. The first problem was that of labor Persons were hired to pick by the bushel, but it was found that they raked anything off the tree to fill up the measure. Thus they ruined the harvest. Then these persons were hired by the day, but an average number of bushels were determined upon and required of each picker. If a workman fell below the average for any length of time he was docked. It was found too that very small boys and girls can pick peaches thus saving the heavy workmen for other tasks.

Another problem they learned to handle was that of marketing. What will a man do when his products overrun the local markets? Break into another market. How, and at what gain? All this the young fruit grower learned this year by actually doing, for this was the situation confronting the fruit growing division at Tuskegee Institute. Thus the student fruit grower learned how to plant, harvest, pack, and ship his fruit meeting in a practical way every problem he would meet in actual life.

The incident in the fruit growing division is typical as showing the kind of training the Negro agriculturalist receives. He meets this same happy combination of theory and practice in farming, truck gardening, market gardening, care and management of horses and mules, dairy husbandry, dairying swine raising, beef production, and slaughtering, canning and veterinary science.

To meet the demand for the student trained in agriculture Tuskegee offered several alluring advantages.. It will be noticed that in all cases the agricultural student must work, must do actual and profitable work. For this work the institute gave him certain advantages. In the first place, all other students on entering school pay $10 entrance fee; the post graduate agricultural student has this sum omitted. All other students pay $10 per month for board, part of which they may work out. The post graduate agricultural student receives $15 per month for his work. Thus, after his board is taken out he has $5 per month. In this way he receives training and earns a small wage besides.

That good positions await him is shown by the positions held during the last few years by the Tuskegee graduate in Agriculture. There are T. M. Campbell, Washington A. Tate, Crawford D. Menafee, and Harry Simms, Farm Demonstration Agents for Uncle Sam. There are Watler S. Buchanan, Jesse E. Whitfield, Austus Simms, Luther Van Hose, Rollin W James, Dennis A. Starks, Christopher T. Evans, Grover C. Buchanan, all principls of schools or heads of agricultural work because of their training in Agriculture. Their salaries range from $50 to $100 per month the year round.

DESERTS THE ROOSEVELT CAMP

REV. R. C. RANSOME

Denton Notes.

(Special to The Afro-American Ledger.)

Denton, Md., Aug. 8—Bethel A. M. E. Church and Denton M. E. Mission are holding a joint camp meeting at the People's Industrial Association Park. Rev. J. G. Bryant and C. H. Cooper are the pastors.

Mr. J. L. Mason, of Baltimore, made a business trip here last Friday and Saturday.

Mesdames Mary M. Hite and Carrie Turner, of Baltimore, were summoned to the bedside of their father, Mr. Thomas Harner.

Mrs. Elsie Ross, of Batimore, is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Robt. Fountain.

Mrs. Elvelyn Salsbury, of Atlantic City, is visiting her sister-in-law' Miss Beatrice Salsbury.

Miss Julia Cooper, of Baltimora, is visiting relatives here.

Mrs. Jessie Wayman, of Ridgley, Md., is visiting her brother, Fred Wayman.

Mrs. Harriett A. Dyer has returned home from Chester, Pa., where she has been visiting her son:

Mr. Joe Giebier, of Kingston, Jamacia, has been showing some very interesting scenes each night this week.

Mr. Archie Fountain son of Mr. and Mrs. Robt. Fountain died last Sunday afternoon after an illness of several weeks. A mother and father and five sisters survive.

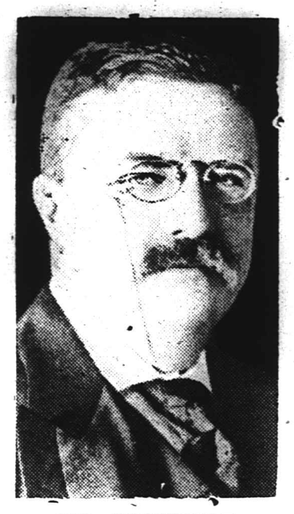
Mrs. B. B. Bailey, of Pittsburg, Pa., is visiting her mother and sister-in-law, Mrs. M. A. Bailey, and Miss Lucy Bailey.

ROOSEVELT SEVERELY CRITICISED BY HIS ENEMIES

The Colonel's Letter To Julian Harris Concerning His Policy Toward Southern Negroes Is Generally Criticised by the Northern Press

The letter that Colonel Theodore Roosevelt sent to Julian Harris, of Georgia, stating that he believed that the Southern Negro should be excluded from participation in the councils of the Progressive party has been generally criticised by the daily papers of the Northern and Western States.

A number of opinions follow:



COL. ROOSEVELT
—Courtesy of Baltimore News

Would Sacrifice Anything

"Certainly no one believes that that would have been written had the colored delegates at the Chicago convention yielded to the tempting persuasiveness of Ormsby McHarg, and betrayed their trust in sufficient numbers to give Roosevelt the Republican nomination for President. They showed much keener sense of honor than his lieutenants who attempted to debauch them; but to make his point he marks himself ungateful and illogical. It is only another instance of his readiness to sacrifice anybody, friend well-wisher, or benefactor, who for the time being seems to be an obstacle in the fruition of his incorrigible obsession."—Boston Transcript.

Vena! Because They Oppose Him

After charging that Mr. Roosevelt's backers trumped up contests with Negro delegates in the South at the Republican National Convention, the Philadelphia Public Ledger says: "Mr. Roosevelt now declares that the Republican party in the South is a fraud; that its Negro delegates are venal, representing nothing, and that persistence is employing the frauds in so far as disrupted the party in so far as Mr. Roosevelt's efforts can accomplish that end, but he was eager to use that fraud for the purpose of wresting the nomination from Taft and when he failed to have the "fraud" on his side he founds a party on his failure."

Nothing New

"The Progressive policy on the Negro question as declared from Oyster Bay is of a kind. To be sure, the Fourteenth Amendment, to the Constitution was intended to give equal political rights to men regadless of the color of their skin and the courts have interpreted the language literally., but is one of the cardinal principles of the Progressive party that the people shall rule, even in the interpretation of the Constitution. The colored brother must accept the measure of his Constitutional rights by the sentiment of the community in which he lives"—Philadelphia Bulletin.

Swallows His Own Words

That at a stroke Mr. Roosevelt swallows his own words, repudiates his own past, and goes over bodily to the position of the most extreme Southern Bourbons—namely, that the black man has no business in politics, and that, if he attempts to assert his Constitutional rights, they must be denied him by a combination of force and fraud. Col. Roosevelt knows perfectly what he is about. He makes no bones of giving up what he calls his "ideals" in the face of what he thinks to be "facts." These facts, he says, are very "sad," but we are bound to face them. Everybody can see, however, just what he is facing. He hopes to get votes in the South, but knows that, to do so, must sacrifice, the Negroes, and hence does it without a scrupie. But the thing is so transparent that we do not believe it will impose upon anybody in the South, while in the North it should arouse new distrust of a man who lets no principle stand in the way of ambition. Particularly ought the self-respecting and intelligent Negroes of the North to resent this deliberate abandonment of their race, and refuse to have part or lot with the self-seeker capable of this brutal betrayal. A first and telling protest would be the withdrawal from the Chicago Convention of every colored delegate from the North."—The New York Evening Post.

Shiftless and Insincere

"Shiftiness and insincerity mark Mr. Roosevelt's deliverance on the Negro question. For his own sake he favors a lily-white party in the South, and a black and tan party in the North. Where the colored vote is cast and counted he wants a "whack" at it, and coddles the colored man with fine words. Where the colored vote is outlawed, he suscribes to the policy and endorses the nullification of the Constitution as respects that matter. He applauds the work of Thaddeus Stevens forty odd years ago, and that of James K. Vardaman today. In other words, Mr. Roosevelt is juggling with the Negro question as he is with all other questions. He is out for votes, and bidding for them in any way in any quarter that seems to him best for his purposes."—Washington Star.

An Appeal To The Man.

"The Progressive party will ask for the support of the colored vote as it asks for the support of the white man, on the broad ground that the policies it advocates will inure to the advantage of all the people. It wants the colored vote on no other ground, and until the colored man is prepared to act upon this principle and use his ballot for the general good, weighing party promises and professions as all other voters should do, calculating their effect to the reproach that he does not deserve the ballot.',—Washington Times.

Stone Crusher the Best

The New York Sun sums up what Roosevelt might have said in his 20,000 word confession at Chicago, but which time precluded as follows:

"Prove all things, hold fast that which is good."

"I have tried the Steam Roller, but the Rock Crusher beats it to a frazzle."

Nothing that has votes in it is alien from me. In the name of social justice we dote on the decent colored men in the North, but a movement of truth sincerity and wisdom requires their abstention from politics in the South.

"As I have said of the trusts, is the colored man productive? If he can produce the votes it is imperative to the welfare of our people that he be encouraged.

If he cannot produce the votes the Progressive party in the South would be damaged irreparably from the beginning by the admission of Negro delegates at Chicago.

"I believe just as firmly in 'fraud' and stealng at the South as I condemn them at the North when they do not assist the movement.

"By heping Me, the colored men will help themselves. For the movements for universal and equal social justice, white and colored; black and white in the North, in the South, owing to prejudices that we respect even if we deprecate, whiter than the Lily or Myself.

"It would be wicked as well as foolish to throw away votes."

Less Than Zero

Each Bull Moose delegate from Louisiana carries one third of a vote, but the colored man there is not considered even a fraction of humanity.—Boston Transcript.

Rapid Color Changes.

Mr. Taft's secretary says third term candidate is white to the South and black to the North. It is now safe to predict that after splashing around a little red paint he will settle down into a perfectly stable and permanent blue New York Herald.

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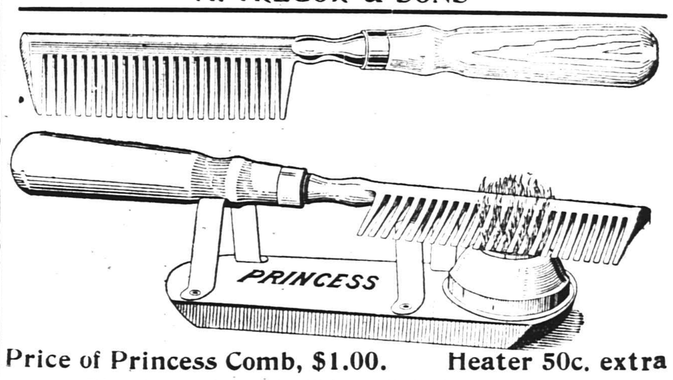

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