

# THE PANHANDLE PROGRESS

Vol. 3.

FRIONA, TEXAS, APRIL 1, 1909.

No. 3.

## Texas, Galveston and the Panama Canal.

Farmers and shippers of Texas are vastly interested in the Panama canal. Already they have advantages not given their competitors elsewhere by reason of their nearness to an export outlet, which amounts to several cents per bushel in their favor on wheat and other grain, but it is reasonable to suppose that that advantage will be increased when the Panama canal is completed. Therefore this article from the Coming Country is of interest:

"With the opening of new fields of production in the West and Southwest, the question of the transportation of their products to tide water has been a complex one. Commercial centers long established eagerly reached out for a share of the trade from these new fields, and with their already long-established facilities were able to control a large share of it. But with the opening of the port of Galveston more convenient facilities were offered for the diversion of the products of field, mine and factory, and transportation economists were quick to seize the opportunity presented because of the reduced cost of transportation. The result has been a constant increase in the tonnage handled through the port of Galveston. Naturally those commodities produced in the greatest quantity were the first attraction to exporters, and the result has been that Galveston took first rank of all ports of the United States in the export of raw cotton. Cotton, finding a market in the milling centers of the United Kingdom and through continental ports, and representing, as it did, the largest individual percentage of the production of the Southwest, it followed that the steamship lines first established from Galveston were limited to the markets where cotton could be forwarded with profit, and the establishment of steamship lines from Galveston to New York, to the ports of the United Kingdom, the ports of Northern Europe and to the Mediterranean came about naturally.

The gradual deepening of the water in Galveston harbor brought larger and better steamships, to such an extent that today the service afforded for the transportation of commodities to the old world out of the port of Galveston is excellent, and commercial interests have been naturally attractive to the facilities for the transportation of various other commodities which in themselves are of minor importance compared with cotton and grain, but which in the aggregate amount to a very large tonnage. These commodities, being staple necessities and

finding markets all over the world, it will require the establishment of additional steamship service to properly facilitate their distribution.

The great States of Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska and Missouri are essentially agricultural States. Manufacturing in these States has not yet reached its zenith, and the farms therein are still, and will likely remain, the great sources of profit. The productiveness of the soil and the energy of the people combine to produce a large surplus of staple foodstuffs, such as grain, flour, meal, packing-house products of all kinds,

typically 2,200 miles, as against 3,500 miles by the old established route. Commerce, like water, will seek the line of least resistance, and there is no question but what the gateway of the future for the products of the West and Southwest to the countries of the world will be found in the port of Galveston. It is the most important port of the entire Southwest, and as such is destined to play a leading part in the commercial growth and welfare of the territory it serves.

No city of such small proportions, so far as population is concerned, does anywhere near the amount of business that annually



rice, salt, cotton-seed, cotton-seed meal, cotton-seed oil, etc. Add to these the products of the forests and the natural deposits of oil and other mineral wealth, and there is offered an immense quantity of the necessities of life available for export through the nearest deep water port.

The geographical location of Galveston with reference to the Panama Canal is significant and not to be ignored. From the producing fields of the West to New York it is 1,400 miles, and from New York to Panama 2,000 miles, making a total distance of practically 3,500 miles.

The maximum distance from the same fields to Galveston is not quite 800 miles, and from Galveston to Panama not quite 1,500 miles, making a total distance of prac-

passes through the Port of Galveston. A citizen of London or Liverpool, not informed of its size, would draw the conclusion, after reading the record of exports and imports, that Galveston must be a city of from 200,000 to 300,000 population. In Galveston, with a population of 50,000, the Southwest has a port handling during the past year foreign exports amounting to \$161,352,201, foreign imports of \$7,407,698, and a coastwise trade of over \$200,000,000. Galveston is now served by thirty lines in foreign service, and in addition a large number of tramp steamers, under charter, are used, thus giving the port competition both in rates and in the excellency of the service furnished.

The total land area of the States of Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas is more than 265,-

000,000 acres, of which less than fifteen per cent is now in cultivation. With Galveston at present in second place, in the matter of exports, among all the ports of the United States, with the immense amount of productive land tributary, it is not difficult to foresee the position Galveston will occupy in the years to come among the ports of the United States when all of this land shall be under the influence of the plow and the energy of dwellers in this great Southwest Empire.

#### More About Texas.

In regard to J. S. Brigham's article on Texas, in the January 2 Ohio Farmer, I think it hardly fair to the Panhandle section. He says it is too dry for crop raising, as we farm in Ohio. From an experience of six months' residence on those plains in August, May, April, February, September and October, as well as four trips to that section, I believe I am competent to give the conditions as they are:

The government weather bureau at Amarillo (about the center of the plains) gives the average rainfall, for fourteen or more years, as above 23½ inches, of which 17½ inches is between May and October. The winter and spring is liable to be dry, which is bad for wheat and oats unless plowing is done immediately after harvest and tillage done to conserve moisture. The soil is the most retentive of moisture of any in the West and wherever Ohio and Northern methods of tillage have been followed the best of results have been obtained. The climate and conditions make it possible to plow all winter. It is a fine corn and alfalfa country and vegetables of all kinds grow with best results. I have seen sweet potatoes weighing 5, 7 and 9 pounds.

The Panhandle swept the platter nearly clean at the state fair in sweepstakes prizes on grain, vegetables and fruit, for 1908. The one drawback is deep and expensive wells, but I have spent three times as much in Ohio in labor and money to get rid of water as it would be necessary in the Panhandle to produce it. Besides, with cisterns and dirt tanks, wells are not absolutely necessary. Yet after sinking a well and putting in all its conveniences you would say that your greatest mistake in Ohio is not having its duplicate.

I believe that in fifteen years the Plains country of Texas will be as productive as any section of the West and its land selling for as much per acre. And it will be Northern farming that will make it. I have a son

farming 320 acres there, and they consider him a wonder simply because he sticks strictly to business and as the expression is "saws wood." If anyone desiring to settle in Texas will follow Mr. Brigham's advice next summer and ride over the Plains he will bear me out in what I have said.—S. A. Bassett, Huron Co., Ohio.—Ohio Farmer, February 27, 1909.

#### The Increase in Land Values.

A Minnesota paper prints the following letter from an observant farmer:

"I notice in your January 30th number some items about land sales in Nebraska and South Dakota which reminds me of the time when as a real estate agent in Minneapolis, from 1884 to 1890, I had several thousand acres of Central South Dakota lands listed for sale at \$5 per acre and was unable to secure purchasers at that. Now in the circulars issued by land agents I notice the same lands priced at from \$21 to \$60 per acre.

"It also reminds me of the time when as a real estate agent in Worthington, in 1880 and 1881, I spent over \$2,000 in advertising Southwestern Minnesota land at from \$5 to \$7 per acre, and only succeeded in selling 160 acres, three miles west of Worthington, at \$5 per acre. The same lands sell readily now at from \$40 to \$75 per acre.

"The rapid increase in land values calls to mind the late prophecy of James J. Hill, that a land famine is coming in the near future, and your advice to farmers to place their surplus money in land is good. It is only a few years since Minnesota and Wisconsin cut-over lands were considered worthless. Lumbermen let them be sold for taxes, or sold them if opportunity offered at 60 cents per acre. Now we find the cut-over lands as productive as any and good farms with substantial buildings are seen where once the lumber camps stood. Land values have advanced from 60 cents to from \$5 to \$25 per acre. Prosperous villages, creameries, churches and schools now dot the country where only a few years ago the 'tote' team wended its way over the logging road with supplies for the lumber jacks in camp.

"It is said that population doubles every twenty-five years, and when I notice that there are 80,000 children in the Twin Cities' schools, with a proportionate number in all other cities and in the country, and that when twenty more years have passed all these children must have homes with some-

thing to eat and wear, and when we add to these nearly 1,000,000 immigrants coming from foreign lands, I believe that within the next twenty years the population of the United States will be over 150,000,000, and that land values will more than double in less than that time. The large bonanza farms will be sub-divided and forty and eighty-acre farms take their place. I am a believer in small farms. A forty or eighty-acre farm well cultivated is more profitable than larger ones. I have noticed many instances where the farmer with only twenty or forty acres was more prosperous than his neighbor with 160 or 320 acres.

"I agree with James J. Hill that a land famine is coming, and wealthy farmers will do well to take your advice and place their surplus money in land. There can be no safer investment made. Banks may fail, but the soil out of which must come the sustenance of 150,000,000 people is as safe as the earth itself.

#### Public Land Soon Will Be Taken.

It will startle a great many people who have failed to note the rapidity with which the public land of the nation is passing out of its hands to be informed that in about six years, at the farthest, all of the public lands of the United States now open to homesteaders will have been absorbed in private ownership; that is except in the barren mountainous areas of Nevada and Wyoming and some smaller but equally unavailable tracts in Montana, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah and Oregon. Yet such is the result of a careful compilation of facts and figures made by W. W. Palmer, assistant in the United States land office at Miles City, Montana. He has observed the rate at which the yet unappropriated government land in each of the twenty-four states containing such land has been taken up during the last year and a half; and taking this rate as a basis, reaches the conclusion that the average time of the exhausting of the public lands for all the said states is twenty-four years. But in getting this "average" Montana and Wyoming are given respectively 570 and 155 years, since there is next to no call for snowclad or barren mountains for homesteads. Omitting these, the average time in the remaining twenty-two states is about six years. As the land is taken up with increasing rapidity each year, the probabilities are that it will have been absorbed in even shorter time than six years.—St. Paul Pioneer Press.



THE SANTA FE'S NEW DEPOT AT HEREFORD.

The picture is shown in the Progress for the reason that we are assured that the plans have been adopted and the material secured for a depot of the same design at Friona. It is given out that the only difference will be in the dimensions of the building.

#### PANHANDLE SOIL SURVEY.

##### Government Expert in Amarillo Arranging for an Extensive Work on the Plains.

Macy H. Layham, of the United States Department of Agriculture, arrived in Amarillo from Washington Saturday evening on a mission fraught with vital concern to Amarillo and the great plains.

Mr. Lapham comes to arrange preliminaries for a campaign by the soil experts of the government. A complete soil survey will be made of this portion of the Panhandle, later to branch out and include all of the great plains of Western Texas.

When the preliminaries are perfected a number of government experts will arrive in Amarillo and with Mr. Lapham will begin a work that will be the means of aiding farmers in this region to make many more pounds and bushels and tons of productions grow on an acre than grows upon an individual acre at the present time.

Besides being of great worth to the present population of the Panhandle, this work will be of much value in increasing immigration, as the government force will classify and map the soils of the Panhandle, and these reports will be available to the thousands of Northern and Eastern homeseekers who are now besieging the government agricultural department for true information regarding this growing section of Western America. This work of the government will satisfy this demand in the form of correct maps of the soil of various divisions of the Panhandle. Mr. Lapham reports that the demand for information of the plains comes in constantly to headquarters at Washington.

The work of Mr. Lapham and associates in this region will be, for a time, of a general character, of broad nature; later to be taken up in minute detail, with the final result of a perfect system of soil survey of the great plains, and then the farmer of the Panhandle will know exactly what to and what not to plant on his particular holding.—Daily Panhandle.

#### Raising Alfalfa in Texas.

I began trying to raise alfalfa in Western Kansas in 1887. After experimenting until 1892, I finally got a stand of two acres, and thereby the distinction of getting the first good stand in Decatur county. After that

I planted several fields for myself and others, with the best of success. Now the farmers have made fair-sized fortunes out of this crop, and experience no more difficulty in getting a stand from the first seeding than they do of wheat.

When I first began it was a new thing to me, and no one else in that section knew anything about it, therefore I could get no advice, except from some other section of the country, where conditions were entirely different. Since I closed out my business in Sedalia, Mo., I have spent two years in Texas, and my hobby has been alfalfa all the time.

There are six things that must be considered in selecting ground and its preparation for alfalfa that are essentially necessary: First, the land must have a sub-soil which the roots can penetrate for twenty feet or more. Second, the land must lay so that water will run off readily, as few hours of water standing on it will ruin it. Third, the ground must be prepared suitable for a garden where small seeds are planted. Fourth, in this section be sure and put in plenty of seed, say twenty-five pounds per acre; if it is too thick your hay will be finer and better hay and will produce just as many tons as the taller, thinner and coarser hay that comes from light seeding. Fifth, in this section do not sow a nurse crop with it, and I do not think it advisable in any country. Sixth, be prepared to care for it when the harvest time comes, which is when about one-half in bloom.—Correspondence Coming Country.

#### Reflections of an Old Farmer.

Often is our attention drawn to the fact that fertile and profitable farm lands in a once new and sparsely settled region have reached a cash value in the open markets rendering it almost impossible for the succeeding and enlarging generation to gain a foothold that can ever be called their own.

As we look over the past and see the younger generation crowded by increasing numbers from their boyhood homes and following the fresh trail of the hunter and the adventurer in the tangled wilderness of an unsettled country, there to stake their claims, carve out homes and reap fortunes in the face of the many obstacles and disappointments which are met with in pioneer life, we cannot fail to see that "history repeats itself."

The day may be past, and the place hard

to find, where the fertile soil, the sun and rain, with one accord, work in unison to the interests of the pioneer.

The profitable day of the new settlers is fast drawing to a close.—Northwestern Agriculturist.

#### MORE RAILROADS IN TEXAS.

Since the first of the year thirty-four railroad enterprises have been organized or incorporated in the South and Southwest, ten in Texas, four in North Carolina, four in Missouri, three in Arkansas, three in Tennessee, two in Oklahoma, two in Louisiana and one each in Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, Maryland, Virginia and West Virginia.

Texas leads the rest of the Southern states in the number and size of its new railroad projects. The rapid influx of settlers upon the unoccupied lands of that state has created a vigorous demand for transportation facilities in regions where the population was hitherto satisfied if a railroad could be found within twenty-five or thirty miles, although not a few localities had no railways at all and still did not grumble, because, no doubt, the population was not large enough to be heard.

The Panhandle of Texas and various counties immediately south thereof is now a favorite field of the railroad projector, who finds clamorous demands for tracks and equipment where not so long ago the maps pictured a high tableland, desolate and arid, under the name of "Llano Estacado, or Staked Plains." It was apparently a forbidding country, yet now we hear of it as a land of much availability, attractive to settlers from our own and foreign lands.—Manufacturers' Record.

#### 80,000 Trees Planted on Spring Lake.

Spring Lake is the most prosperous community in the tree planting line reported to date and they are buying from Dimmitt nursery.

A. W. Taylor and S. H. Roush were in Monday and hauled out 3,000 fruit trees. They state that the following citizens of their community have planted over 30,000 trees this season: R. O. Frenzel, W. B. Lamberson, J. L. Duncan, T. M. Devening, S. H. Roush and A. W. Taylor.

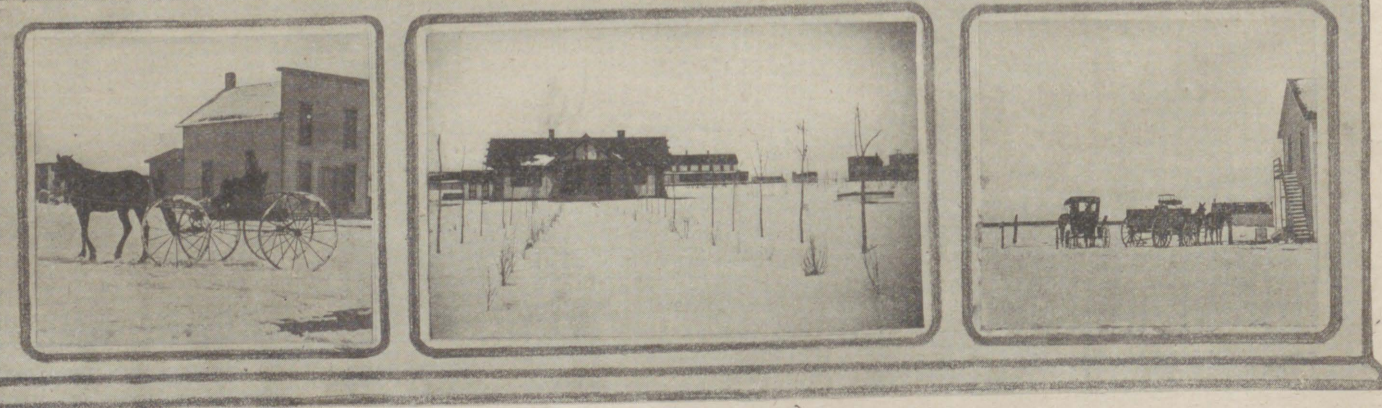
These gentlemen live northwest of Spring Lake postoffice, and we would not be surprised if there has been planted in all Spring Lake neighborhood this year over 80,000 trees.—Dimmitt Plainsman.



FOUR DEARS IN A BUNCH.

Two of them are the children of Citizen Roush; the others are the pet antelopes in which Mrs. John Saxine takes so much interest.

### The Recent Snow at Friona



The Panhandle was visited by two six-inch snowfalls during the month of March. Although it disappeared within a day or two after its appearance the snow was greeted with gladness by the new settlers from the North as an assurance of a large wheat harvest.

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THE annual tax upon the hog-raisers of Missouri by cholera is estimated at between a million and a half to two million dollars. This immense sum is a drain upon the farmers that reflects itself in the decreased profits realized in the industry. So grievous has become the burden that the present legislature has appropriated \$10,000 for the purchase and manufacture of a serum that is alleged to be a specific for the disease, and costly experiments are now being undertaken to prove the worth of the new discovery. Missouri is not unlike any other of the Mississippi Valley States; it is not subject to the ravages of cholera among hogs to a greater degree than others of the States. They all suffer alike from the plague. In great and glowing contrast is the hog industry of the Panhandle of Texas. Experience has proven that the animals here are absolutely free from cholera; that the germ of the disease cannot exist in this climate. Taking in connection with this fact others of equal importance; that is, the economy of production because of the comparative cheapness of land, the great productiveness of the soil of crops particularly adapted to the rapid growth of the hog—alfalfa, kafir corn, peanuts, among others—and it is not a wild prediction to make that the day is not far distant when the Panhandle hog will cut a great figure in the general market—as, indeed, it is already doing in the markets most closely allied to the region. It is my belief that no Panhandle farmer will ever regret putting a very great share of his time and attention to hog-raising, and that his bank account will certainly grow steadily and rapidly as a result of intelligent effort along this line.

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"A FARMER with \$5,000, or even double that sum, in Central Illinois may as well have not a cent, so far as the possibility of becoming a landowner there is concerned," is the remark of a citizen of that section when explaining why so many of the young and ambitious farmers were leaving there for the Southwest. Five thousand dollars would purchase quite a large farm in the Panhandle and leave enough cash on hand to enable the purchaser to get a good start on the road to prosperity. Here the profit-taking can begin almost immediately upon arrival. The ground is ready for the plow; climatic conditions do not require expensive housing for man or beast, and quick response is given every effort intelligently directed. The five thousand dollar man would search a long time before finding another country in which his money would double so quickly as here; and, better than all, it will keep on doubling year by year for a long time to come.

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ABOUT the "sores" person I have run across lately was a man to whom Panhandle land was offered three years ago at \$10.00 and \$12.00 per acre, and for which he is asked \$20.00 and \$25.00 per acre today. He now sees how greatly mistaken was his judgment when at that time he

turned the offer down. Two or three years hence he will be just as angry at that puny judgment of his if he allows it to interfere with his purchase now—and for the same reason. There is no doubt about it, Panhandle land, acre for acre, is today actually worth as much as the best that Illinois and Indiana can offer, measured by the only true method—value of crops produced.

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THE high esteem in which the German element of the American population is held is a matter of frequent comment. The German character is well grounded in things substantial. Thoroughness has so long been a dominant trait in German philosophy and life that it has become peculiarly one of the attributes of his nature. All German progress has been of the slow but sure kind—the careful, investigating kind that accepts no standard as good except that which is worth striving for. It is for this reason that the German farmer, the German artisan, the German tradesman and the German professional man is always accepted as being as good or a little better than are those of other nationalities in the same class, without credentials other than that he is a German. As a pioneer, whether in town or city, politics or religion, commerce or agriculture, he is a success because he has faith in his own ability, backed by a judgment that is centuries old in its formation. Many parts of the Panhandle of Texas have felt the effects of the "German invasion," and at no place have they been more uniformly and characteristically successful than in the region surrounding Friona. We do not hesitate to voice the pleasure we experience in extending a welcome to all of this nationality who care to come. If that welcome is a degree or two more fervid toward them than to others it is because we know that their stern and hardy nature will quickly subdue the land, satisfactorily prove its worth, and give it that substantial and general prosperity for which we look with confidence.

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OUR attention has been called to a so-called "topographical" map of Texas purporting to show the annual rainfall in various portions of the State. Were it not for the fact that the map is circulated with the knowledge and consent and under the authority of one of the great American railroad systems, we should pay little attention to its glaring inaccuracy; but under the circumstances it is our duty to make this reference thereto. The map carries with it the astonishing information that in the Panhandle of Texas the annual rainfall is but 15 inches per annum! It may be that the compiler of the information had access to methods and means for ascertaining these figures not vouchsafed the United States, and it may be that they should be considered more reliable than those furnished by the agents of the Government, whose duty it is to collect and report such data. Still, we apprehend that the American people will prefer official reports to unsubstantiated assertions. There may be a coincidence between the figures borne by this map and the fact that the railroad referred to is greatly interested in the development of another part of Texas; yet we are loathe to believe that a great corporation would so far depart from honorable methods of competition as to resort to means so futile, so easily controverted and so absolutely indefensible. To those who are interested we suggest that a request upon the Department of Agriculture Weather Bureau, Washington, D. C., or

upon the observer in charge of the Department station at Amarillo, Texas, will be followed by the receipt of the table printed elsewhere in the columns of the Progress today. At least we have every reason to believe so, for such a request by the writer was followed by the receipt of the table just as it is printed. And we do not believe that the Government is in the business of deceiving citizens or is paying salaries to employees to act for it in that capacity.

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WHEN one happens to consider the wonderful changes that have been made in the theory of the origin of disease during the last decade or two, he is stricken with astonishment that the old-time doctor was ever successful in the practice of his profession; likewise, he is apt to conclude that possibly the latter-day doctor may also be as badly mistaken in his theories as was he of the former period. We are far less certain, in fact, in any of our conclusions since science has succeeded in turning topsyturvy notions that prevailed in all directions. Medicine is only one of the sciences that has been affected by research and discovery; not one of them has escaped entirely. It is not surprising, therefore, that, along with the others, agriculture has made forward leaps and that the growing necessities for the products of the soil has enlarged the possibilities and the opportunities of the man behind the plow. Nor need we grow dismayed in contemplation of the approaching time when all the virgin soil of earth has been despoiled and made to yield comfort to the human family; for it must be true that as the need arises so will it be met by nature and the discovery of means to utilize her bounty. But there can be no questioning the fact that changed methods and the greater knowledge will also serve to enhance the value of the soil. As population grows, with it grows the call upon the earth's productiveness. Since there is absolutely a limit to the quantity of land—just as there is to sunshine, air and water—while there cannot be said to be a possible limit to the size of the human family, a problem is presented that all the wisdom of earth will be called upon to solve in due time. Meanwhile, there are none of us so foolish as to dispute the proposition, trite because of the frequency of its iteration, that "the best investment on earth is a bit of the earth itself."

### Irrigated Farming is Expensive.

To Wallace's Farmer:

In a recent issue you had something to say concerning some of the irrigation projects in the West. I have just made an extensive trip through the West. I do not want to discourage those who think of going there, but I want to call their attention to the fact that it takes more money to start there than in the rain belt. Where there is sage brush it will take at least \$15 an acre to clear, level and ditch the land before anything can be raised, and it is slow work. There is no such thing as raising a crop of sod corn or flax the first year. There is a water assessment of 40 cents to \$1 per acre to be met, whether the land is used or not. I do not want to be understood as "knocking" on the proposition; most of these government projects are all right, but I aim to give a word of caution to folks who go out there with the expectation of improving a piece of land with a small amount of money. I saw a number of people who were unable to meet their payments and have lost all they invested.

SUBSCRIBER.

Nebraska.

### CONSIDERING NEW CROPS.

#### Farmers' Institute Discusses Plans For Raising More Crops in the Hereford Country.

An interesting session of the Farmers' Institute was held in the court house last Saturday afternoon.

Considerable consideration was given to the matter of adding cow peas and broom corn to the regular farm products of the Hereford country and it is proposed to ship in quantities of seed this spring and to make a thorough test of these two crops. They have been tried by different farmers of the community and the reports are all to the effect that both will be successful here. It is certain that they will be highly profitable crops when they are given proper attention. The farmers are enthusiastic over the matter of engaging in the production of both these crops and confident that they will be successful. As to cow peas, one man who raised them in Collins county, this state, raised a half-acre or more last year and said that he was more successful here than he had ever been in the former county. Others had experimented and all reported splendid results. Cow peas are great fertilizers as well as one of the best feed crops that can be grown. Broom corn is regarded as a certain success. About the only requirements are the planting and care of the crop and the provision for threshing the grain from the straw.—Hereford Democrat.

#### Pioneer Experience.

By Chas. F. Gardner.

It is sometimes a rather difficult matter to convince the present generation that there ever was a time in the history of the best part of agricultural Iowa when it was a treeless prairie and thought to be unfit for the purposes of the farmer. Nevertheless there was such a time, and it is with something like elation that we print the following illuminating account of the difficulties that confronted one pioneer to that region, as given by himself in the Northwestern Agriculturist:

"My first experience in growing evergreens was in Oakdale township, Howard county, Iowa, in the year 1866. In those early days the country was mostly bleak, bare prairie, with no timber except the native trees along the streams and a few popular groves, scattered here and there where they could get a foothold. It was thought by many to be impossible to grow evergreens or fruit trees, except the varieties of wild plum and crab-apples and a few specimens of hardy juniper found growing on the bluffs in sheltered places.

"But my people, coming, like so many others, from the fruit and timber country of old York State, missed their accustomed fruits and the protection afforded by forests from the wind, and I have a very pleasant recollection of going with my father to the Root River country in Minnesota, in the spring of 1866, for the purpose of digging some of the wild white pine, balsam, fir and red cedar that were to be found growing along the banks of that beautiful Minnesota stream. These trees being wild, it was generally hard to dig them in proper shape for successful transplanting. We soon found that the smaller sizes were the best to get, say from four to six inches in height, or even smaller, they standing the shock of removal and planting out much better than larger sizes, and in ten years being equal to them in size and of better form.

"We would take a supply of moss with

us to pack with, and each tree had its roots covered with moss as soon as it was lifted from the soil. These small trees were taken home and set out in beds and given a little shade the first year. Many of the trees so procured are still standing on the old farm home today as a monument to those early pioneer efforts.

"While still a boy on the farm, I began to experiment to see if it were possible to grow evergreens from the seed, here in Northern Iowa. After many failures and disappointments I succeeded in growing them by the million, but it requires much experience and expert care to get the little seedlings through the first season. Many times have I lost my entire plant and had nothing but bare beds in the autumn to show for my labors."

#### Changes in Texas.

Twenty years ago the average Easterner smiled when some mad enthusiast spoke of Texas as a State for agriculture. Men thought of it as a wild, arid land, full of horned cattle, swashbucklers and whiskey. This judgment did not apply merely to the western end or the southern, but to the whole land, from El Paso to Texarkana. These two places were the gateways, and men tried hard to decide which was the closer imitation of hell. There the interest of the average Eastern man in Texas ended.

Ten years ago men had come to recognize that Galveston, Houston, Austin, Fort Worth, Dallas and one or two other towns had a commercial being. Cotton and corn poured out of this quondam desert in a volume that commanded respect. Oil from Beaumont, yellow pine from East Texas, spoke up for themselves. But the myth of the old Texas died hard. If men were forced to admit that the great markets of Texas had emerged from the wilderness stage, had bought pianos and graphophones and taken on a few other appurtenances of civilization, they yet clung to the belief that the greater part of the State was a crazy place, "incapable of development," to use the cant phrase of the ultra-conservative. They pointed to the Panhandle and the big valleys west of Fort Worth, just as men ten years before had pointed to the whole of Texas.

Another ten years has gone into history. The plains west of Fort Worth often years richest section of the Texas of ten years ago. Thousands of acres of the Panhandle are under cultivation, producing rich harvests, making men wealthy and happy. The Panhandle has followed Eastern Texas out of the "desert class." "Dry farming," and farming that is not dry are crowding the "staked plains" where once, so short a time ago, huge herds of half-wild cattle roamed over millions of unfenced acres.

#### Wonderful Increase in the Population of Texas.

The year 1909 is all that is left before the census taken enters Texas as a five million State. He will find Texas with room for ten times five millions, as a good beginning. But will he find the 5,000,000 in 1910 ready to be doubled on the new start Texas Five Million clubs expect to make to turn it into a ten million State.

Each Texan knows how much faster his own part of Texas is growing than any other part, and all know how much faster Texas is growing than any other part of the country, but in answer to the question: "Will Texas make it five million?" the answer is unanimous—"Yes."

Will it make it before the arrival of the census taker in 1910? Well, it is about turning the four-million mark now. It will have to hurry to turn the five-million mark before June 30, 1910. It has been hurrying, of course, or it would not be able to show totals turning the four-million mark now, when in 1900 it had barely the three-million mark.

Texas is larger than South Carolina, New York, Illinois, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Delaware and Tennessee combined. She has an area of 265,760 square miles, an equivalent of 170,099,200 acres, divided into 240 counties.

#### The Poultry Industry.

The average farmer with his fifty or hundred chickens, the care of which is usually turned over to the women folks, will hardly realize that the eggs and poultry produced on the farms of the United States during 1908 were worth as much as the hay crop, the wheat crop or the cotton crop, seed included, but such are the facts. The United States Department of Agriculture is authority for the statement. According to the last census there were 233,598,005 chickens of laying age in the United States. The eggs they lay would, if divided, allow 203 eggs annually for every person—man, woman and child—in the United States. The value of all the fowls would entitle every person in the country to \$1.12 if they were sold and the proceeds divided. All the weight of the animal products exported, the pork, beef, tallow, ham, bacon and sausage, weigh 846,860 tons, while the weight of eggs laid yearly tips the scales at 970,363 tons.

Poultry is one of the steady and helpful sources of farm income. The profits from this source may seem small in individual cases, but for the amount invested poultry gives the largest income on the money of anything on the farm. The demand for poultry and poultry products has been increasing from year to year. Secretary Wilson, in his annual report, shows that the mean farm price of eggs throughout the United States was 11.15 cents per dozen in 1899. In 1904 it had increased to 17.02 and last year the price was 18.3 cents per dozen. The wholesale price of dressed poultry in New York in 1899 was 11.15 cents per pound; in 1903, 12.97 cents; in 1907, 14.9 cents, and in 1908, 13.56 cents per pound. Recent newspaper reports state that in some cities in Indiana eggs are now selling at 50 cents a dozen, and they can not be supplied even at that price.

Poultry raising presents an excellent opportunity for the average farmer to increase the net profits of his farming operations. The other and larger features of his work may seem to be more important, but it is certain he cannot afford to neglect his poultry.

#### From 90c to \$22 Per Acre in 8 Years.

J. R. Roberson, a former citizen of Hereford, Texas, arrived in Stanton Monday. He states that land advanced near Hereford from 90 cents to \$22 per acre in eight years and that a rise of \$4 per acre was noted there from fall to spring.—Stanton Reporter.

#### THE FRIONA HOTEL

Rates \$2 per day. \$7 per week.

Meals Served at 35c during the stay of THE WRIGHT'S SPECIAL TRAIN

You are invited to make this House your headquarters while in town.

E. F. NANCE, Proprietor.

# The Lure of the Land.

Everyone wants a home. It is the supreme effort of one's existence to get one. Think of the satisfaction, the genuine pleasure and contentment of being able to stand and proudly survey the plot of ground or broad acres of the farm you have acquired, knowing that it is yours—yours to have and to hold as long as you so desire.

In this day of increasing land values, the very exigencies of the case are forcing the city man to the suburbs and to the farm. The farmer, too, finds his land increasing rapidly in value, and he in turn seeks another location, finding it to his advantage to go elsewhere where cheaper land can be had.

It may be that you have not as yet realized that ambition of owning your own home. As a renter you are slowly but surely paying for a farm that will never be your own. The little improvements you are making from time to time may add somewhat to your comforts, but the real value of these improvements is the added profit of your landlord. If you continue to live on a rented farm it is certain you will have paid for it long before you reach old age, but with no deed ever recorded in your name. In reality you are paying for the farm and still permitting the landlord to own it.

Or, perhaps you own a little place, bought cheap some years ago, but now worth from \$75 to \$150 per acre. The land all around you is equally as high. You have a family of boys growing up. You want more land, but the price makes an addition to your little farm prohibitive.

In either case the Southwest holds out an alluring invitation. Save the money you are paying for rent—the money with which you are buying some other man's farm, only to give it back to him at the end of the year, and put that money into Southwest land, which can be had cheap now, but which in a very few years will double and treble in

price. Or sell the few acres you have at a high price. Invest the money in Southwest land, which is just as rich and productive, but can be bought for one-fifth the price you ask for yours.

While the impossible is no easier of attainment, the same amount of work put into a farm in the Southwest will bring bigger and better returns than elsewhere. This is aptly proven by the successes of the farmers now there; men who saw and realized the advantages of the Southwest in soil and climate, and then followed it up by investing there.

It is, after all, a question of net returns on a fixed investment.

With land capable of producing the same value crops, dollar for dollar, as compared

with the North, at from twenty to forty per cent of the cost per acre, the returns on Southwestern farms are not difficult to understand.

Nor is it strange that the Southwest farmer is adding to his wealth each year, not only in the profit from production, but in the increasing value of his holdings as the country is settled up. Another factor, equally important as the land values, in favor of the Southwestern farmer is the climate—a factor of healthfulness as well as of productivity. The growing seasons are longer and cattle can be kept in the open practically the year round. Contrast these conditions with those up North, where land is scarce, prices high, and the climate in winter most unfavorable, and it is easy to understand why thousands of farmers are going to the Southwest, each year, and finding new homes.

## Letters to the Editor.

### Great Country for the Farmer.

I went to Friona in October, 1906. Bought a section of land on the Star Ranch. Last year I had 141 acres plowed and planted it to Kaffir corn. I sold part of the crop in the field in the shock at \$15.30 per acre, netting me \$11.50 per acre above cost; the remainder I threshed for the grain and it was equally as profitable. I have at this time more than 300 acres ploughed, and it is my intention to have 500 acres put in crop this year. I am well pleased with the country in every way and believe that it is to be a great country for the farmer.

R. E. FLENNIKEN,  
Wisner, Neb.

### Looks for 60 Bushels Wheat Per Acre.

Hereford, Texas, Feb. 19, 1909.—I have yours of the 17th inst. and in reply will say that I hardly know what the department calls successful. If they call growing 25 to 40 bushels wheat per acre successful, I suppose my experience would come in that list.

In regard to the Panhandle of Texas will say if a man will farm scientifically there is no use in his ever making less than 30 bushels of wheat per acre. In fact, I am convinced that this should be his average during a series of years.

I am making scientific soil culture and wheat growing a specialty and have no fears of the results. I am now developing a tract of land that I confidently expect to make produce 60 bushels per acre. This may sound "wheaty," but nevertheless, I expect to make good. If I can be of further service to you, let me know.

L. GOUGH.

### Will Correct a Serious Error.

St. Louis, April 1, 1909.—I desire to thank you for yours of March 31st, calling my attention to error in our Texas topographical map, which shows average rainfall in the Panhandle country at 15 inches annually, as against the correct average of 23.07 inches.

In compiling the information for this map we endeavored to secure accurate data, using as far as possible what we understood to be Government figures.

We have no desire to discriminate against any section of the great State of Texas and we are glad to have our attention called to any figures that may appear to be incorrect in any of our publications.

We contemplate several changes in our map plate within a very short time and I will see to it that the average rainfall in the Panhandle country is corrected in accordance with the table which you have furnished me.

S. G. LANGSTON,  
Sec'y and Mgr. M., K. & T. Land Bureau.

### Handled Two Thousand Cars of Grain.

Chicago, March 25, 1909.—I am in receipt of statistics from Mr. D. L. Meyers, our General Freight and Passenger Agent, advising that during last year they handled two thousand cars of grain from various points on our Panhandle line.

While this may not be such a remarkable showing, at the same time I think it demonstrates beyond a question of doubt that the Panhandle is now a proven quantity and can be regarded with safety as an agricultural country. With the influx of actual settlers into the Panhandle, and under fair conditions, the showing this year will of course be very much greater.

C. L. SEAGRAVES,  
General Colonization Agent Santa Fe Ry.

### Mehr Eisenbahnen in Texas. Zehn Projekte sind seit dem Ersten des Jahres begonnen worden.

Seit dem Ersten des Jahres sind 34 Eisenbahn-Unternehmungen im Süden und Südwesten organisiert oder inorporiert worden, davon sind zehn in Texas, vier in Nord Carolina, vier in Missouri, drei in Arkansas, drei in Tennessee, zwei in Oklahoma, zwei in Louisiana, und eine in Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, Maryland, Virginia und West Virginia.

Texas führt die übrigen südlichen Staaten, sowohl in der Anzahl als auch in der Größe der neuen Eisenbahn-Projekte. Der schnelle Strom von Ansiedlern auf den unbesiedelten Ländereien dieses Staates hat ein lebhaftes Verlangen nach Eisenbahnen in Regionen hervorgerufen, wo vorher die Bevölkerung zufrieden war, wenn eine Eisenbahn in einer Entfernung von 25 bis 30 Meilen zu finden war, obgleich nicht wenige Striche überhaupt keine Eisenbahnen hatten, und doch nicht müßten, weil ohne Zweifel die Bevölkerung nicht zahlreich genug war, um beachtet zu werden.

Die Panhandle von Texas und verschiedene Counties direkt südlich davon, sind jetzt ein Viehweidfeld für den Eisenbahn-Projektor, der ein starkes Verlangen nach Eisenbahnen und Zugdienst da vorfindet, wo noch vor kurzem die Landarten ein hohes Tafelland angaben, unbewohnt und natürlich, unter dem Namen „Mano Estacado oder Stated Plains.“

Es war offenbar ein verlorenes Land, doch jetzt kennen wir es als ein Land voller Aussichten, erwünscht sowohl den Ansiedlern unseres als auch anderer Länder.—Manufacturers Record.

### Texas, Galveston und der Panama Canal.

Farmer und Fruchthändler von Texas sind ziemlich in dem Panama Projekte interessiert. Schon jetzt haben sie Vortheile über ihre Konkurrenten in anderen Theilen des Landes durch ihre Nähe zu den Exporthäfen, die ihnen mehrere

Cents per Bushel an Weizen und anderen Getreide einbringt, aber es ist sicher anzunehmen, daß dieser Vortheil sich noch erhöht, wenn der Panama Kanal fertig gestellt ist. Daher ist dieser Aufschwung aus dem „Coming Country“ von Interesse.

Mit der Eröffnung von neuen Produktionsfeldern im Westen und Südwesten ist die Frage der Transportation von deren Produkten nach den Seehäfen eine brennende geworden. Langjährige Handelsstädte trugen Verlangen nach ihrem Antheil an diesem Handel von diesen neuen Gebenden und mit ihren langjährigen Geschäftskennntnissen und Einrichtungen waren sie im Stande sich einen großen Theil zu sichern. Aber mit der Eröffnung des Hafens von Galveston wurden bessere Bedingungen für den Absatz der Erzeugnisse des Feldes, der Minen und Fabriken geboten und man war schnell bei der Hand sich diese Vortheile zu Nutzen zu machen, hauptsächlich die reduzierten Transportkosten. Das Resultat ist eine beständige Zunahme des Handels, der durch den Hafen von Galveston geht. Natürlichere Weise waren die Produkte, die in größten Quantitäten erzeugt wurden, die ersten, welche die Aufmerksamkeit der Exporteure erregten und die Folge ist, daß Galveston an erster Stelle steht unter allen Häfen der Vereinigten Staaten in der Ausfuhr von roher Baumwolle. Da Baumwolle ein Absatzgebiet in den Webereien von Großbritannien und den Häfen von Europa findet, und den größten Prozentatz von allen Produkten des Südwestens darstellt folgt daraus, daß die ersten Dampfschiff-Linien, die von Galveston ausgingen, sich auf die Marktplätze beschränkten, wo Baumwolle mit Profit abzusetzen war, und die Einrichtung von Dampfschiff-Linien von Galveston nach New York, nach den Häfen von Groß-Britanien und den Häfen des nördlichen Europa und des Mitteländischen Meeres war die Folge.

Die erfolgte Vertiefung des Hafens von Galveston brachte größere und bessere Dampfer in solchem Maße, daß heute der Dienst zur Beförderung aus dem Hafen von Galveston nach der

alten Welt vorzüglich ist, und daß das Interesse des Handels für andere Artikel geweckt ist, die obwohl von geringerer Bedeutung, als Baumwolle und Getreide, zusammen, aber doch von Bedeutung sind. Da dies Stapelartikel sind, die ihren Markt in der ganzen Welt finden, so wird es die Einrichtung von weiteren Dampferlinien nötig machen, um ihre richtige Vertheilung zu ermöglichen.

Die großen Staaten von Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska und Missouri, sind hauptsächlich Ackerbau-Staaten. Die Fabrikation hat in diesen Staaten bis jetzt ihren Höhepunkt noch nicht erreicht und die Farmen sind hier noch die großen Quellen des Einkommens und werden es auch noch bleiben. Der Bodenreichtum und der Fleiß der Bevölkerung vereinigen sich hier um einen großen Ueberfluß an Stapel-Produkten, hervorbringen, wie Getreide, Mehl, Fleisch, Reis, Salz, Baumwollsaamen, Baumöl und Leuchtöl, u. i. w. Zu diesen Sachen kommen noch die Erzeugnisse der Wälder und die natürlichen Schätze an Del und Mineralien. So sieht man welche große Mengen von Produktion für den Export bereit sind, um durch den nächsten tiefen Hafen zu gehen.

Die geographische Lage von Galveston mit Rücksicht auf den Panama Kanal ist vorzüglich und kann nicht übersehen werden. Von den produzierenden Feldern des Westens nach New York ist es ungefähr 1400 Meilen und von New York nach Panama 2000 Meilen, eine totale Entfernung von etwa 3,500 Meilen.

Die größte Entfernung von denselben Feldern nach Galveston ist nicht ganz 800 Meilen und von Galveston nach Panama nicht ganz 1500 Meilen, macht eine totale Entfernung von etwa 2,200 Meilen gegen 3,500 der alten etablierten Route. Der Handel ist wie Wasser, er folgt den Weg des geringsten Widerstandes und es ist gar keine Frage, daß in der Zukunft das Thor für die Produkte des Westens und Südwestens im Hafen von Galveston zu finden sein wird. Es ist der wichtigste Hafen des ganzen Südwestens und ist als solcher bestimmt, die leitende Stellung

### RAINFALL IN THE PANHANDLE.

The misinformed and prejudiced should study well the annexed table, covering the rainfall in the Panhandle of Texas for a period of 29 years, as reported by the United States Department of Agriculture Weather Bureau; Amarilla and Fort Elliott Stations.

Year.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ann'l.
1880.....	T.	0.05	0.40	0.16	4.48	4.50	2.11	1.70	0.54	2.40	0.10	0.35	16.79
1881.....	0.47	0.74	T.	1.26	5.27	0.10	3.28	0.49	3.18	0.69	0.42	0.26	16.16
1882.....	0.33	0.16	0.53	0.66	7.48	1.54	5.65	1.55	3.18	2.32	0.96	0.40	24.76
1883.....	T.	0.53	0.04	0.82	4.56	1.66	2.87	6.56	4.97	5.32	0.04	0.84	28.21
1884.....	0.61	0.27	0.34	1.08	6.29	6.86	1.29	5.60	0.84	5.54	2.14	3.05	33.91
1885.....	0.45	0.87	1.86	4.67	7.23	9.82	3.62	4.94	0.65	0.60	0.25	2.11	37.07
1886.....	0.62	1.44	1.49	2.44	0.23	3.45	1.50	4.57	(2.00)	5.04	0.18	0.09	23.05
1887.....	0.01	0.06	0.19	6.06	7.01	2.39	0.92	3.52	1.67	0.69	0.23	0.08	22.83
1888.....	0.32	0.61	0.40	2.69	3.19	1.34	2.50	2.27	0.71	0.85	0.79	0.84	16.51
1889.....	1.63	0.89	1.28	4.86	0.72	1.64	0.88	1.83	1.94	2.99	0.74	0.00	19.40
1890.....	2.40	0.01	0.02	3.94	1.69	1.71	0.88	2.89	0.05	(1.10)	0.52	0.20	15.41
1891.....	0.92	0.00	0.49	0.82	0.82	(4.00)	3.50	1.25	2.00	2.25	0.10	1.00	17.15
1892.....	0.42	0.57	2.10	0.21	2.70	1.49	1.85	1.93	0.24	2.85	0.16	1.08	15.60
1901.....	0.09	2.03	T.	0.16	2.19	2.03	2.05	2.67	5.27	0.03	0.28	0.43	17.23
1900.....	0.02	1.15	0.05	0.85	1.30	3.59	1.82	3.41	2.41	0.39	0.00	0.82	15.81
1899.....	1.60	1.92	0.16	1.31	1.78	6.84	2.88	3.87	0.57	2.26	0.81	0.79	24.79
1898.....	0.76	0.41	0.21	1.95	2.20	2.31	7.04	0.63	2.45	3.09	0.35	2.88	24.28
1897.....	2.26	0.65	0.47	1.08	4.44	2.32	2.16	2.71	0.73	1.63	0.08	0.63	19.16
1896.....	0.86	0.82	0.35	0.98	3.52	4.81	3.88	4.03	0.48	0.41	0.34	2.06	22.54
1895.....	0.29	0.07	0.17	0.23	3.12	4.45	6.96	0.51	6.09	1.15	3.24	1.11	27.39
1894.....	0.59	0.47	0.48	5.47	4.53	1.84	3.21	0.83	5.25	1.58	0.08	0.07	24.40
1893.....	0.03	0.48	0.02	4.90	5.99	0.92	1.56	3.03	2.19	3.26	2.00	0.04	24.42
1902.....	0.04	T.	0.74	1.83	9.14	2.01	1.45	2.42	0.95	1.74	2.24	0.55	23.11
1903.....	0.12	2.93	0.26	0.90	1.79	2.83	3.38	4.67	0.82	2.58	0.00	T.	20.28
1904.....	0.16	0.08	T.	0.63	2.88	5.53	2.48	4.69	3.55	0.44	0.20	0.69	21.33
1905.....	1.00	1.52	2.62	4.52	6.16	2.19	3.76	0.63	3.08	0.30	5.09	1.45	32.32
1906.....	0.41	0.51	0.64	3.23	1.18	2.07	2.90	6.76	1.96	2.49	2.58	0.19	24.92
1907.....	1.11	0.24	0.02	1.25	0.99	1.97	1.49	6.20	0.91	1.79	0.66	1.46	18.09
1908.....	0.26	0.72	T.	1.90	3.55	1.73	5.40	2.75	1.83	0.40	0.51	0.00	19.05
Average 29 yrs.	0.61	0.70	0.53	2.10	3.67	3.03	2.87	3.06	2.09	1.94	0.91	0.82	23.07



A TYPICAL HOME ON THE PRAIRIES OF TEXAS.

Homes such as shown above dot the prairies. About three years is required for improvements such as are shown, in which time the trees grow and an appearance and permanence has developed.

in dem Handel und der Wohlfahrt des Territoriums einzunehmen, die ihm zukommt.

Keine Stadt so klein, so weit ihre Einwohnerzahl in Betracht kommt, erreicht bei Weitem den Handelsumsatz, der jährlich durch den Hafen von Galveston geht. Ein Einwohner von London oder Liverpool, der die Größe von Galveston nicht kennt, würde, nachdem er den Werth der Ein- und Ausfuhr von Galveston gelesen hat, zu dem Schluß kommen, daß es eine Stadt von 200,000 bis 300,000 Einwohner sei. In Galveston mit einer Bevölkerung von 50,000 Einwohnern, hat der Südwesten einen Hafen, der im vergangenen Jahre eine Ausfuhr im Werthe von \$161,352,201, eine Einfuhr von \$7,407,698 hatte und eine Küstenhandlung von \$200,000,000. Galveston wird jetzt von 30 regelmäßigen Dampferlinien angefahren, und außerdem noch von einer Anzahl von nicht regelmäßigen Dampfern. Dadurch hat der Hafen einen vorzüglichen Dienst, der auch wohl im Stande ist, die Raten von anderen Häfen zu unterbieten.

Die drei Staaten Kansas, Oklahoma und Texas haben zusammen mehr als 265,000,000 Acker von den weniger als 15 Prozent jetzt unter Kultur ist. Mit Galveston jetzt schon an zweiter Stelle was den Export betrifft, unter allen Häfen der Vereinigten Staaten, mit dem vielen fruchtbareren Land, das auf ihn angewiesen ist, ist es leicht einzusehen, welche Stellung Galveston unter den Häfen der Vereinigten Staaten in der nahen Zukunft einnehmen wird, wenn all' dies Land unter Pflug sein wird und bebaut von den Bewohnern dieses großen südwestlichen Reiches.

#### Wunderbare Zunahme der Bevölkerung in Texas.

Der Censusbearbeiter wird Texas im Jahre 1910 als einen Staat von 5 Millionen Einwohnern finden. Aber Texas hat noch für 10 mal 5 Millionen Platz, um einen guten Anfang zu machen. Werden aber die 5 Millionen in 1910 bereit sein, sich zu verdoppeln durch den neuen Aufschwung den der Texas fünf Millionen Club zu machen gedenkt, um es zu einem zehn Millionen Staat zu machen?

Jeder Bewohner von Texas weiß, wieviel schneller sein Theil von Texas wächst, als irgend ein anderer Theil, und alle wissen, wieviel schneller Texas wächst, als irgend ein anderer Theil des Landes, aber in Beantwortung der Frage: „Wird Texas seine fünf Millionen in 1910 haben?“ ist die einstimmige Antwort: „Ja.“

Wird es sie noch vor der Censusaufnahme im Jahre 1910 erreichen? Es steht jetzt auf ungefähr vier Millionen. Es muß sich beeilen, wenn es seine fünf Millionen am 30. Juni 1910 erreichen will. Es hat sich beeilt, natürlich, oder es würde jetzt nicht auf vier Millionen stehen, während es im Jahre 1900 kaum drei Millionen hatte.

Texas ist größer als Süd Carolina, New York, Illinois, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Delaware und Tennessee zusammen. Es hat ein Areal von 265,760 Quadrat Meilen, gleich bedeutend mit 170,099,200 Acker, eingetheilt in 246 Counties.

#### Veränderungen in Texas.

Vor zwanzig Jahren lachte man im Osten wenn jemand enthusiastisch von Texas als einem Ackerbau-Staate sprach. Man glaubte, Texas sei ein wildes Land, angefüllt mit gehörnten Rindvieh, unkultivirten Rinderhirten und Schnaps. Dieses Urtheil bezog sich nicht speziell auf das westliche oder südliche Texas, sondern auf das ganze Land von El Paso bis nach Texarkana. Diese zwei Orte waren die Thore und es war unentschieden, welcher die Hölle am besten verkörperte. Hier hörte das Interesse des Durchschnittsmannes im Osten für Texas auf.

Vor zehn Jahren hatte die Menschheit allmählich begriffen, daß Galveston, Houston, Austin, Fort Worth, Dallas und ein oder zwei andere Städte eine Bedeutung als Handelsstädte hatten. Baumwolle und Mais (Corn) quoll aus dieser verkannten Wüste in solcher Menge, die Beachtung verdiente. Erdöl von Beaumont, Kieferholz von dem östlichen Texas wurde viel verhandelt. Aber die Sage von dem alten Texas starb nur langsam. Wenn Leute gezwungen waren, zuzugehen, daß die großen Märkte von Texas über

das Wilderney-Stadium hinweg waren, daß sie Pianos und Graphophone kaufen und noch manche andere Zeichen der Civilisation sich angeeignet hatten, so klammerten sie sich doch an dem Glauben fest, daß der größte Theil des Staates ein Platz sei, der sich nicht entwickeln könne. Diese Leute deuteten nach der Panhandle in dem großen Thal westlich von Fort Worth, gerade wie zehn Jahre vorher Leute nach dem ganzen Staate gedeutet hatten.

Wieder sind zehn Jahre dahin gegangen. Die Ebenen westlich von Fort Worth wetteiferten mit dem reichsten Theile von Texas vor zehn Jahren. Tausende von Aekern von der Panhandle sind jetzt unter Kultur, geben reiche Ernten und machen Menschen wohlhabend und glücklich. Die Panhandle ist dem östlichen Texas aus der Klasse der „Wüstenländer“ nachgefolgt. „Trockenfarmerei“ und Farmen, das nicht trocken ist, besiedelt jetzt die Ebenen, wo vorher, vor nicht langer Zeit große Herden halbwildes Rindviehs diese Million nicht eingezäunter Acker belebte.

Die nächsten zehn Jahre werden noch eine andere Geschichte erzählen. Heute zeigt der konservative Mann aus dem Osten nach den Ebenen, die im westlichen Texas und südlich von der Panhandle liegen, gerade wie er vor zwanzig Jahren nach dem östlichen Texas und vor zehn Jahren nach der Panhandle zeigte. Er sagt, es sei ein gutes Land für Klapperschlangen, Rindvieh und Kuhhirten. Dies ist alles wahr. Es war gerade so richtig von dem östlichen Texas wie von der Panhandle. Aber die Zeiten ändern sich. Nach zehn Jahren werden sicherlich keine 55 Counties in Texas mehr ohne Eisenbahn sein, dann wird sich kein Platz in Texas mehr finden, der mehr als 100 Meilen von einem Lunch-Counter entfernt ist.

Dieser Wechsel ist unausbleiblich, denn jetzt sind ganze Counties in Texas mit reichen Möglichkeiten zur Entwicklung, die keine Meile Eisenbahn innerhalb ihrer Grenzen haben. Mit dem Bau dieser benötigten Eisenbahnen ist ihre Zukunft gesichert. Sicher ist, daß ihre großartigen Schätze die Entwicklung erwarten, welche die Eisenbahnen allein bieten können.

## HOMESEEEKERS' EXCURSION

# Wright's Special Train

LEAVES

## KANSAS CITY for FRIONA, TEX.

On WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14, at 10:30 a. m.



This Train is run for the exclusive benefit of Homeseekers—in charge of our Agents, and goes directly to our lands in the Panhandle of Texas. It is made up of Pullman sleepers and dining car and provides every comfort and convenience at a minimum cost.

HOMESEEEKERS' EXCURSION RATES are given by all Railroads on TUESDAY, APRIL 13. Buy your ticket at your home station on that day and be sure that it reads from Kansas City to Friona over the Santa Fe.

If you want to know about the Great Panhandle Country—the land of NOW that offers unexcelled opportunities to farmers, stockmen and capitalists—call on us for maps and literature.

Or Write GEO. G. WRIGHT CO., Suite 314 Commerce Bldg., Kansas City, Mo.

**NOTE--Date of Excursion should be April 21,**  
HOMESEEEKER'S RATES GIVEN ON TUESDAY, APRIL 20th.