

THE ROBERT LEE OBSERVER.

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Cotton Acreage Reduction Plan.

Dallas, Dec. 19.—We, the finance committee appointed by Governor O. B. Colquitt, in behalf of the movement for a reduction of cotton acreage, as recommended by the cotton states governors at New Orleans on October 31st and November 1st, after due consideration, heartily endorse the plan of reduction as there submitted, and appeal to all the people of Texas to co operate in the movement to convert a cotton loss into a cotton profit.

Governor Colquitt has already appointed a committee, in every cotton growing county of the state, for securing pledges of reduced acreage, and organization is already under way in many counties. We now appeal: To the county judge in each cotton growing county of Texas to call in the principal towns of his county, mass meetings of business men, commercial organizations and farmers, both organized and unorganized, to consider the situation, appoint a financial committee of three to five men to raise from \$250 to \$1,000 in each county, according to the county's cotton production, to pay the local committee heretofore appointed by the governor, 75 per cent of such fund and forward 25 per cent of such fund to the chairman of this committee, W. B. Yeary, Farmersville, Texas. The county chairmen, heretofore appointed by the governor have already been instructed in the details of organization and securing pledges, and they can put the plan into successful operation, if they have the funds for sending men out into the country districts to organize and secure pledges.

2. To all farmers, landlords, and tenants alike, to sign pledges to reduce next year by 25 per cent, the acreage, they cultivated in cotton, this year. We are confident that the farmers will keep their pledges and that the proposed reduction will insure a profitable price for next year's output and for such part of the present crop as may be carried over. This year's crop, estimated at approximately 15,000,000 bales, is selling at \$300,000,000 less than last year's crop of 12,000,000 bales. We are reliably informed that other cotton states are proceeding earnestly and in good faith to reduce acreage 25 per cent and prompt action by Texas, will insure the success of the plan throughout the South.

3. The commercial organizations, Boards of Trade, Commercial clubs and Chambers of Commerce, bankers, merchants, and business men generally, to co-operate with the county judges and with the local committees appointed by the governor to put this plan into effect. The whole South is losing money on the present crop, and it is manifestly to the interest of every man to help the farmer secure a profitable price. The reduction of cotton acreage will

insure a diversification, multiply the South's industry and bring a profit upon our great money crop. We suggest that 75 per cent of the funds collected in the counties be retained for use of the local committees, and 25 per cent be sent to W. B. Yeary, Farmersville, Texas, the chairman of this committee.

In addition to the work of local organizations, there is much to be done by this committee in sending out lecturers, distributing literature, and keeping local committees in touch with one another.

We invite contributions from all citizens, but especially do we appeal for the moral support of bankers, merchants, railroad men and business men generally. Tobacco farmers, orange growers and fruit and vegetable producers by concert have succeeded in securing remunerative prices for their products, and the cotton farmers of the South can and will do the same thing, if they act together and if they have the assistance of men of affairs, who have a common interest with them in securing a

committee was called to order by Governor Colquitt, who related the circumstances of the New Orleans meeting and then left the committee to its own deliberations. The committee was unanimous in its conclusions, and the members expressed confidence in the success of the undertaking.

Life Saved At Death's Door.

"I never felt so near my grave," writes W. R. Patterson, of Wellington, Tex., as when a frightful cough and lung trouble pulled me down to 100 pounds, in spite of doctor's treatment for two years. My father, mother and two sisters died of consumption, and that I am alive today is due solely to Dr. King's New Discovery, which completely cured me. Now I weigh 187 pounds and have been well and strong for years." Quick, safe, sure, its the best remedy on earth for coughs, colds, lagrippe, asthma, croup and all throat and lung troubles. 50c & \$1.00. Trial bottle free. Guaranteed by P. D. Coulson & Son.

and wool in Fort Worth for direct shipment from there to the tanneries.

Newcastle has a 90,000,000 gallon reservoir under construction.

A copper smelter has just been completed at El Paso at a cost of \$400,000.

A \$25,000 bridge bond election will be held in Robertson county January 20th.

Extensive improvements are being made on the Texas State irrigated experimental farm located three miles from Pecos.

The Cornell-Miller Farms Sales Company has been organized with a capital stock of \$300,000 for the purpose of settling up the Southwestern section of Texas. Special attention will be given to procuring immigration from the north and east to this section of the state.

Plans are being made to build an inter-state highway from Tahoka to Roswell, N. M. The road has been completed part of the way, and the intervening counties are preparing for bond issues.

head of sheep in the San Angelo country will be shipped to the markets early in the spring.

From July 15th to date Claude Station has shipped this year 300 cars of oats; 7 cars of wheat; 56 cars of milo maize; 9 cars of cane seed; 16 cars of hay; 1 car of kaffir corn and 62 bales of cotton.

A California grape grower has purchased 340 acres of land near Plainview and will devote the entire tract to the culture of grapes.

A Crosby county farmer recently shipped to the Galveston warehouses a full car of cotton raised on his farm.

The department of agriculture at Washington is urging the organization of boys' cotton clubs in Texas and other cotton growing states.

The experiment of the rubber plant on Brewster county land has been proved entirely satisfactory. This new industry will open up between six and seven million acres of practically worthless land in Texas.

A 5,000 acre tract of land located in Crane, Upton and Crockett counties, is to be divided into forty and eighty-acre farms, irrigated and colonized by northern farmers.

Kaufman has organized a Commercial Club.

150,000 turkeys have been shipped out of San Antonio during the past few weeks.

The first full-blooded Karakule lamb ever born in America is on exhibition at the Young ranch in El Paso county.

The Chamber of Commerce of Dallas has started a movement asking for a new postoffice to cost not less than \$1,000,000.

A company known as the Cornell-Miller company, with a \$300,000 capitalization, and having for its purpose the promotion of immigration to Texas was recently organized.

Tortured For 15 Years.

By a cure defying stomach trouble, that baffled doctors, and resisted all remedies he tried, John W. Modders, of Moddersville, Mich., seemed doomed. He had to sell his farm and give up work. His neighbors said, "he can't live much longer." "Whatever I ate distressed me," he wrote, "till I tried Electric Bitters, which worked such wonders for me that I can now eat things I could not take for years. Its surely a grand remedy for stomach trouble." Just as good for the liver and kidneys. Every bottle guaranteed. Only 50c at P. D. Coulson & Son.

Miss Frankie Graves left Sunday, for Winters to resume her position on the Winters Enterprise, after spending the holidays here, visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Graves.

Must Have Cash.

We are now working for cash strictly and will not credit any one.

Cross & Brown.

FARMERS AND RANCHERS!

The Old Reliable Hardware Store Still Carries

Domo Cream Separators, Dazey Churns, Feed Grinders (Hand, Horse and Power) Fuller and Johnson Farm Pumps, Acetylene Gas Machines, Stover Gasoline Engines, Centrifugal Pumps and Irrigation Outfits

And a Full Stock of General Hardware. ❄ ❄

FINDLATER HARDWARE CO.

Headquarters for Wind Mills, Well Supplies and General Hardware.

PROMPT ATTENTION TO MAIL ORDERS.

fair price for their chief product. Governor Colquitt, who is chairman of the executive committee of the cotton states governors' conference, has the assurance of other cotton states governors that they are proceeding in their states with similar organization for reduction of cotton acreage. The county judges will exercise their discretion as to the details of calling these meetings. In some counties it may be wise to have only one general mass meeting, and in other counties more mass meetings. Each judge will determine also the best time for holding the meeting. We suggest Tuesday, Jan. 9, and request that reports of results be sent to the chairman of this committee.

W. B. Yeary,
Chairman.

Peter Radford,

J. S. Williams,

F. M. Hammond.

I cordially approve these recommendations.

O. B. Colquitt.

Chairman Cotton States Governors' Conference.

The foregoing address is the conclusion of the governors' cotton committee, which met here at 2 p. m. and spent the afternoon in discussion. The com-

Texas Industrial Notes.

The Caldwell Country Association was organized recently.

The funds from the sale of the \$100,000 road bonds of Howard county will be available to begin work January 1st.

Plans are being made in Beeville for the organization of a Young Men's Progressive League.

A \$75,000 trust company has been organized by Seguin business men to begin operations soon after January 1st.

During the past week there went forward from Texas points more than 100 cars of mistletoe, 50 cars of hollyberry and evergreen leaves, over 500,000 turkeys and equally as many ducks, geese and chickens to help brighten the Christmas tables of the East and North. About 100,000 cedar Christmas trees were also shipped.

T. R. James & Son of Fort Worth filed an amendment changing its name to the James-Mickle-Schow Company and increasing its capital stock from \$200,000 to \$400,000.

Arrangements have been made all over North Texas and Oklahoma to concentrate hides

The Bowie Chamber of Commerce has called a meeting of the Boy's Corn Club of Montague county for the purpose of perfecting the organization for the coming year.

The Adder Machine Company of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., has taken out a charter with the secretary of State and has opened headquarters at Dallas. The capital stock of the company is \$750,000. A demonstration school for the training of salesmen will be conducted in connection with the regular business of the company.

The Thompson-Breece Co., of Wapakoneta, Ohio, has submitted a proposition to the citizens of Brownsville to erect an auto plow factory in that city. It is reported that the Gulf, Colorado & Santa Fe will build short lines through the sugar cane growing section southwest of Houston.

The largest turkey raised in Texas this year weighed 47 pounds and was shipped to Boston.

Aldredge Lumber Company has let contracts for a new mill to be erected at Aldredge at a cost of \$400,000.

It is estimated that 70,000

The First National Bank,
OF ROBERT LEE, TEXAS.

Capital Stock - - - 25,000.00.

Do business on business principals Your account solicited.
W. J. ADAMS, President. J. R. PATTESON, Vice-Pres.
A. P. STONE, Cashier.

DIRECTORS:—W. J. Adams, J. R. Patteson, M. B. Shepard, E. C. Rawlings, J. D. Collier, J. Q. McCabe, A. P. Stone.

M. Stroud returned this week, from a month's visit to his old home in Wilson county.

R. A. Hall, cashier of the San Angelo National Bank, was in the city this week, on business.

Attorney D. T. Averitt, returned this week, from Upland, where he went on legal business.

City Marshal Sanders and Will Good were in the city, Tuesday, from Bronte on business.

Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Douglas entertained the young people, with a delightful social Friday night.

Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Stone entertained the junior young people with a delightful social Tuesday night.

For Sale—We have a splendid upright piano, which we will sell at a bargain.

McCallum Reed Co.

Jim Stroud, after spending the holidays with homefolks has returned to Cedar Hill to resume his school.

Dick Stephens returned Monday to his home at Schullenburg, after spending the week in the city, visiting relatives.

Miss Pearl Burroughs has returned to Sanco to take up her school duties again, after the pleasant vacation of the holidays.

Elder Geo. McCraw, returned the first of the week from Coleman county, where he filled an appointment at Cleveland school house.

Mrs. T. Johnson and little daughter, Angie, and Miss Alta Bell Popplewell, who visited at Bronte during the holidays, returned Monday.

Chas. Payne, of White River, Arizona, who has been spending the holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Payne, left for his home, Monday.

Miss Mabel Pharr, one of the teachers in our public school returned this week from Waco, where she spent the holidays with relatives.

John Stroud and wife have returned to their home near Silver, after a pleasant Christmas, spent with their people. John will reopen his school at Sand Creek.

Jake Richardson, principal of the Valley View school, was a visitor to our city Saturday. He expresses himself as well pleased with his school and the progress it is making.

Examining Trial.

At an examining trial, Tuesday and Wednesday in cases of Louis Sims, charged with theft of cattle, and illegally altering and defacing brands of animals. He was bound over to await the action of the grand jury. This bond was placed at \$1,000 in each case, which was given.

A. G. Sims, charged with unlawfully receiving stolen property was admitted to bond in the sum of \$400.

FIGS A POPULAR FRUIT

EVE'S FAVORITE BECOMES GOLD IN TEXAS PROGRESS.

LARGEST ORCHARDS HERE

The fig was the early companion of man. Its leaves furnished the initial garments for our first ancestors, its fruit nourished early civilization and its foliage has shaded and sheltered man and beast since the beginning of time.

It has had more free advertising than any other fruit in the vegetable kingdom. It figured conspicuously in the episode that resulted in closing the Garden of Eden, the Savior used it in a parable and it is closely woven in ancient legends and in the history of nations. To mention the fig leaf makes mankind smile and to mention the fruit makes the whole world hungry.

It is the most sensational, romantic and popular of fruits. It threads its way through the literature of the world. It is a favorite with the sculptor and the painter; it is one of the most useful of medicines, and with the consumer it is the most popular fruit on the market.

The soil, climate and altitude of the coast country for one hundred miles inland is especially adapted to the hardy growth of the tree and the perfect maturity of the fruit and the skillful horticulturist has developed varieties especially adapted to natural conditions.

It responds generously to kind treatment, makes few demands upon its owner, its yield is reliable and abundant and the tree shows remarkable business instinct in making Texas its domicile.

The fig is the pioneer of Texas fruits and the numerous races of the tree have explored most every section of the State, but it has more thickly populated the coast country than any other part of Texas.

According to the Texas Almanac we have 3,710 acres now in commercial fig orchards on the coast country and the planting of an additional thousand acres is under contract. Galveston County leads in fig culture, having 1,225 acres. The largest fig orchards in the world are located in this county. The farm value of the annual output of one acre of bearing figs averages \$250 and the total value of the annual Texas output approximates \$1,000,000.

Christmas Wine and Walnuts

Wonderful Man.

Decem—Ginks had the most wonderful control of his features of any man I ever knew.

Burr—I understand he was a marvel.

Decem—He was. Why, I've even seen that man look pleased when he saw what his wife had bought him for Christmas.

In Advance.

Mrs. Skinfint—Oh, John! Mary, the parlor maid, has just swallowed a quarter! What ever shall we do?

Old Skinfint—Do? Well, I suppose we'd better let her keep it. She'd have expected a Christmas present, anyhow!

Once Enough.

"Christmas comes but once a year," said the cheery citizen.

"No use in its coming twice a year," said the morose person. "Must give a man a chance to save a little money before he can spend it!"

Too Late.

Highwayman—Halt! Your money or your life!

Victim—It's no go, stranger. My wife's in the same line of business all ways at Christmas time, and she's just finished with me.

Two Kinds.

There are friends and Christmas tree friends. The latter take all the presents they can get and present you with beautiful boughs.

Subscribe for the Observer, only \$1.

Pure Drugs...

When you buy Drugs and Preparatory Medicines, you should be sure they are fresh and pure.

PURITY IS PARAMOUNT HERE

We allow nothing to be used or to go out, except what we know to be the best.

Our line of Druggist's Sundries are the best money can buy. Your Prescriptions filled day or night, by a registered Pharmacist.

THE CITY DRUG STORE

Children and Christmas in Many Lands

horrid habit that our jolly old St. Nick would scorn. He generally leaves in the stockings a bunch of switches in case they should be needed before his next call.

THE Servian children have a strange custom. On Christmas Eve the father of the family goes to the wood and cuts a straight young oak, which he drags into the room where the family awaits him, saying as he does so: "Good evening and a merry Christmas!"

Then the children shout back: "May God grant both to thee and mayst thou have riches and honor."

With this they shower their father with corn and the tree is thrown on the fire to burn until Christmas morning, when it is greeted with pistol shots.

THE French children rarely have a tree. Sometimes they hang up slippers to be filled, instead of stockings, and there is great chanting of "Noel, Noel," the Christmas song.

Like the Scandinavian children, little French boys and girls never forget the birds, but instead of placing sheaves of grain on long poles, they are hung along the eaves of the houses.

THE children of Belgium on Christmas Eve are dressed in gay colors and form a procession, which marches through the streets, led by an orchestra and singing carols. Each child holds aloft either a Christchild in a manger or a crucifix.

AMERICAN mothers find one day of Christmas merrymaking distracting enough for their children, how would they like to live in Russia, where work is often suspended for a fortnight, while all the people keep holiday.

Even the poorest peasant has a tree and it is harvest time for beggars, for no one will refuse him anything.

In some of the country districts the boys dress as animals, and led by other boys as keepers, march through the streets headed by a band of boys making dreadful music with harsh sounding instruments. These processions go from door to door, pound until they are admitted, and all given food and drink, and two small pieces of money.

All over Scandinavia a week is given to merrymaking. Every one goes to six o'clock church on the dark Christmas morning, and in the evening every home in the land is illuminated. They have wonderful trees, around which grown people and children dance and sing. The Scandinavian child is very good to the poor on Christmas and takes gifts and food to poor families.

Bulgarian "Koleda."
In Bulgaria "Koleda," as Christians is called, is marked with many quaint ceremonies. One is called "Koledars," the name given to a band of boys, mostly, who go about proclaiming that the season of fasting is over, and heralding a reign of feasting and merriment. Each Koleda party numbers seven—the Old Man, the Old Woman, the Crumb Picker (who collects the presents and money, while the Old Man and Old Woman play the fool), and Four Singers, who carol out the Christmas songs. The attire of the Koledars is most grotesque, and their procession is joined by a huge crowd of townspeople, who take a great delight in the antics of the jesters.

The Observer \$1.00.

