

SPUR FARM LANDS

SOUTHWEST
COLLECTION

Bro-Dart INDUSTRIES
Newark 14, N.J. • Los Angeles 25, Calif.
Toronto 28, Ontario Made in U.S.A.



SPRING HOUSE AT OLD SPUR RANCH HEADQUARTERS.

SPUR FARM LANDS



THE HOMESEEEKER'S
OPPORTUNITY

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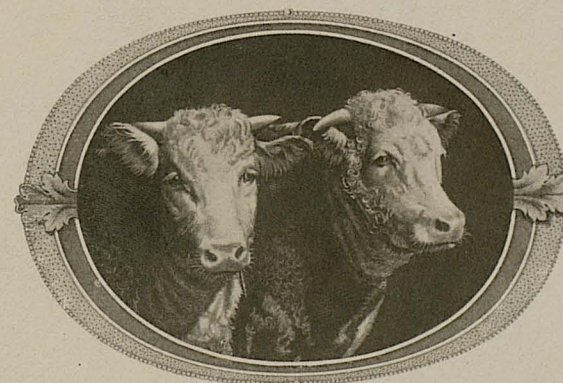
The Most Important Money Crop

SPUR FARM LANDS

THE HOMESEAKER'S OPPORTUNITY

STOCK FARMS AND SMALL RANCH TRACTS

FROM THE
FAMOUS SPUR RANCH
IN NORTHERN TEXAS



Stock Farms and Small Ranch Tracts

CLIFFORD B. JONES
MANAGER FOR

S. M. SWENSON & SONS
SPUR, DICKENS COUNTY, TEXAS

Original Accession



No. 1: Spur Cotton Farm, W. T. Wilson, S. E. Quarter, Section 191. No. 2: Red Maize, E. A. Fleming's Farm, S. W. Quarter, Section 296. No. 3: Egyptian Wheat, W. S. Dunn's Farm, S. W. Quarter, Section 227.



Red Maize, Homer A. Boothe. The yield from two acres, less 365 square yards, of this field was 9,280 pounds dry maize heads, or practically $2\frac{1}{2}$ tons per acre. Southeast Quarter Section 205, two miles Southeast of Spur.

Geographical

THE Spur Farm Lands are located in Northwest Texas, lying partly in each of the following counties: Dickens, Kent, Crosby and Garza, and contain in their entirety about six hundred and seventy-three square miles—approximately 437,000 acres.

The lands offered lie almost entirely under or below the high plains, all in cotton producing area, there being a few sections which extend into the true plains above the cap-rock, which everywhere through this region divides the plains from the lower lands. All of the creeks and rivers which run through the Spur Farm Lands are in the upper Brazos drainage.

Character of Lands

The character of the Spur Farm Lands is in great variety, lying generally in broad valleys and sloping ridges, with occasional rough portions which will lend themselves readily to the making of ideal stock farms, with grazing in the rougher portions and areas of varying extent splendidly suitable for farming. The range of selection is so



To encourage the farmers of Texas to show the world what Texas lands can do—The Texas Industrial Congress offered this year a series of prizes for various crops. Class D. was for unirrigated forage crops, anywhere in this big state, for the best two acres of kafir corn or milo maize raised without irrigation. After the prizes were awarded, the first name on the honor roll of this competition, was W. P. T. Smith, who raised his crop on Spur Farm Lands, on South-east Quarter of Section No. 331. Here follows the official record for this class:

HONOR ROLL


"W. P. T. Smith, Spur, Dickens County—Kafir corn. 106.66 bushels per acre. Cost of production twelve cents per bushel—net profit at 40 cents per bushel, \$29.06 per acre, a return of six per cent on an investment of \$484.00 per acre."

The above photograph shows the Smith kafir corn crop including the two acres entered in this competition. Mr. Smith paid us \$15.00 per acre for this land two years ago, the above realization being practically twice its cost in one year! What do you think of his bargain?

great that from Spur lands a farmer may choose his favorite soil, ranging from black loam to sandy, with all the variations between, insuring admixtures of loam and sand in whatever proportions he prefers. If he is partial to a loose sandy soil, with clay foundation, it is here, ready for his plow and it takes small power to send the plow through such soil. If his experience suggests a tighter land, it may be had for his choosing. If he wishes to improve some ridge land for orchards or vineyards, it will not be difficult to find a location conforming to his ideas. In fact, the variety is so great, and the tract so extensive that no farmer need seek further to find just the farming home that he wants. No section of West Texas has so fine an agricultural area with so little waste land, and the fine long stretches of rich farming lands account for the statement heard all over West Texas in recent years, expressed in various ways, but summed up in: "Whenever that

Spur land goes on the market, I am going to have some of it." The reputation of the Spur Farm Lands is wide. The average high quality of Spur lands leaves small chance for any farmer to make a mistake in his selection.

What the Word "Spur" Means

Before passing into the hands of S. M. Swenson & Sons and associates this old-time Texas ranch was devoted by a foreign syndicate to an immense cattle ranch, the cattle all being branded with a character representing an ordinary spur, reproduced here ; all the land and all the cattle have been known far and wide by the familiar titles of Spur Ranch or Spur cattle, and in the passing of these lands to agriculture, they are known as the Spur Farm Lands. The great extent of these lands has caused the adoption of the term "Spur Country" to describe them, including a wide radius about them.

Prices and Terms

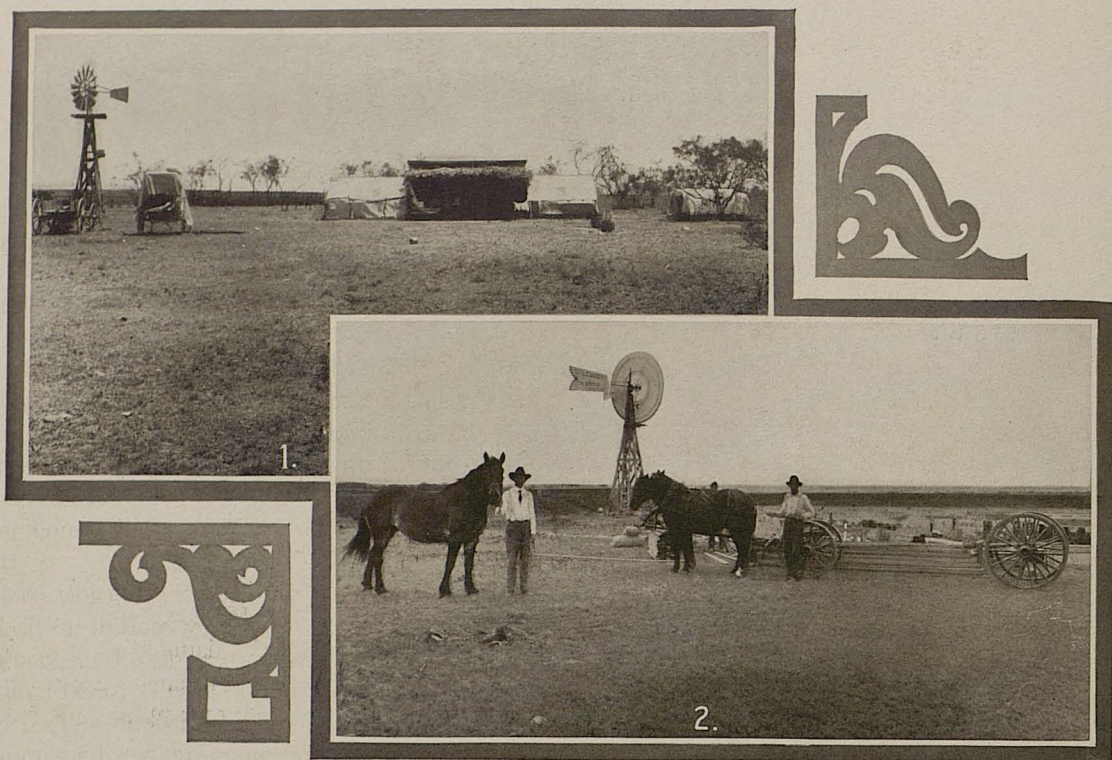
The Spur Farm Lands are on sale at prices of approximately \$15.00 per acre on the average for farming lands of high quality. Suitable lands for stock farming, the larger portions suited for grazing, with sufficient good agricultural land for raising feed crops, are offered at very much lower prices, some of the rougher lands being classified at \$5.00 per acre. Definite price will be given on any tract offered for sale upon application to the Company's office at Spur.

The terms are one-fifth down, balance in six equal annual installments, secured by vendor's lien notes upon the lands sold, bearing eight per cent interest, all notes payable on or before maturity. A purchaser may pay as much more than one-fifth down as he desires, thus decreasing his interest charges, but knowing the absolute intrinsic value of the land, we are just as well satisfied with security upon it as with the money in hand. We are selling as owners, and the lands thus pass direct from our hands to the homeseeker at prices that are fair to the buyer—not loaded with selling commissions. Under the commission plan, the usual one in West Texas, several dollars per acre go to the middle man, which most assuredly come at last out of the pocket of the purchaser. In buying Spur Farm Lands the purchaser gets the last dollar of his investment in land value.

We Welcome Personal Investigation

We are always glad of an opportunity to show Spur Farm Lands to any farmer who is looking for a substantial, productive farm. We fully appreciate that when a man is selecting a home place he should know all the conditions and never be in so much of a hurry that he cannot be sure that the tract is just what he wants. We had rather never make a sale than have the purchaser afterward become dissatisfied.

The farmer and his family live on the place three hundred and sixty-five days in the year, and he cannot be too careful when the selection is made. It is our intention to be truthful and conservative in all statements, and if the descriptions of the lands pleases the homeseeker, the lands themselves surely will on the personal inspection they will



No. 1: This scene is typical of the temporary home of Spur farmers who arrive late in the season and postpone their permanent home until crop is made. No. 2: Starting a home on Spur Farm Lands.

undergo before he decides to purchase. A land concern which exaggerates the character of its holdings only encourages distrust, and the deception is sure to be discovered when the day of inspection comes.

Title

In taking our own title to this vast property, the most careful examination into the title was made by the best land lawyers in Texas. In protection of our own interest we could not afford to leave a single flaw, and at the end of their work they pronounced the title perfect. We are thus justified in giving every purchaser an absolute warranty deed, and this is the character of instrument which is used in conveying Spur Farm Lands. The strong responsibility back of this warranty safeguards and protects every transaction. In buying Spur Farm Lands the sense of complete soundness of title is a comfortable security. We furnish a complete abstract at our expense to each tract sold.

Security of Land Lines

In some localities the land lines are a source of trouble. When the lands of this general country were first surveyed, the instrument men had to keep one eye on the



Products of Surrounding Country.

compass and the other on the Indians; the inaccuracy of the first surveys was therefore excusable. The property lines of the Spur Farm Lands have since been carefully adjusted, and they now stand firmly fixed, stamped with the approval of the State Land Commissioner.

Development in Spur Farm Lands

The Spur Ranch was one of the great old-time ranches and under the foreign ownership agriculture was discouraged and no chance for foothold in its fertile lands was open to the farmer. A few men held their school sections within the main body and the demonstrations which they made in raising abundant crops for many consecutive years was a convincing feature in the consideration of the purchase of the ranch by its present owners, as the farming value of the lands was conclusively proven by these pioneer farmers. It was clear that what these dozen or so men had done, hundreds of farmers could do if they could secure the land. The Swensons and their associates bought the ranch, including the many thousands of cattle bearing the Spur brand, and promptly sold all the cattle to enable them to confine themselves strictly to the land business and the

development of Spur Farm Lands. While the Spur Farm Lands have been on the market but a comparatively short time, there has been a strong, steady development by farmers of good class. Among the purchasers are the following:



November Peaches, photographed October 12.

Name	Address
D. K. ALLISON	Denton, Texas
W. T. ANDREWS	Stamford, Texas
W. H. ARMES	Jayton, Texas
L. C. ARRINGTON	Afton, Texas
LEONARD A. BARROW	Post, Texas
W. C. BASS & SON	Chico, Texas
W. C. BALLARD	Dickens, Texas
A. E. BARKER	Mart, Texas
R. G. BEADLE	Girard, Texas
W. BENDER	Spur, Texas
L. F. BECKNER	Lelia Lake, Texas
J. A. BIRD	Post City, Texas
L. W. BILLBERRY	Gilpin, Texas
J. T. BOND	Jayton, Texas
R. S. BOOTHE	Girard, Texas

Name	Address
S. R. BOWMAN	Spur, Texas
THOS. A. BAILEY	Girard, Texas
M. C. BINGHAM	Girard, Texas
T. A. BINGHAM	Clairemont, Texas
D. H. BOWEN	Santa Anna, Texas
J. H. BOOTHE	Spur, Texas
J. A. BOLAND	Girard, Texas
J. A. BLAIR	Girard, Texas
W. D. BLAIR	Spur, Texas
T. J. BRADDOCK	Afton, Texas
J. E. BROWN	Spur, Texas
GRANVILLE BROWN	Spur, Texas
F. F. BRETT	Topeka, Kansas
A. T. BURAL	Spur, Texas

Name	Address
C. M. BUCHANAN	Dickens, Texas
A. C. BUCHANAN	Temple, Texas
B. F. BURAL	Gilpin, Texas
J. T. CARLISLE	Spur, Texas
C. M. CARLISLE	Spur, Texas
JONAS CARLISLE	Gilpin, Texas
H. E. CARTER	Pecos, Texas
W. F. CATHEY	Spur, Texas
LEONARD CARPENTER	Spur, Texas
W. S. CAMPBELL	Spur, Texas
J. C. CAMPBELL	Munday, Texas
J. N. CAMPBELL	Munday, Texas
C. F. CATES	Spur, Texas
C. I. CANNON	Spur, Texas
S. L. CHERRY	Spur, Texas
SARAH FRANCIS CHERRY	Moulton, Texas
H. C. CHEELEY	Spur, Texas
J. J. CLOUD	Spur, Texas
T. L. COWSERT	Spur, Texas
H. P. COLE	Dickens, Texas
C. D. COPELAND	Spur, Texas
J. E. COUNTS	Spur, Texas
O. M. COLSTON	Fort Worth, Texas
THOMAS N. COOK	Spur, Texas
W. A. CRADDOCK	Spur, Texas
T. B. CROSS	Clairemont, Texas
WM. CHILDRESS	Spur, Texas
J. C. DAVIS	Dickens, Texas
S. R. DAVIS	Spur, Texas
L. W. DAVIS	Spur, Texas
R. P. DAVIS	Spur, Texas
V. H. DAVIS	Spur, Texas
T. V. DAVIS	Spur, Texas
J. E. DEMENT	Spur, Texas
W. A. DOOLEY	Girard, Texas
ROBT. T. DOPSON	Harrison, Arkansas
H. G. DRAPER	Spur, Texas
H. C. DRAPER	Spur, Texas
G. A. DRAPER	Spur, Texas
W. S. DUNN	Spur, Texas
E. C. EDMONDS	Spur, Texas
P. C. ELLIS	Spur, Texas
T. A. EDMONDSON	Spur, Texas
E. T. ESTES	Spur, Texas
W. D. EVANS	Spur, Texas
J. H. FARMER	Spur, Texas
J. B. FAULKNER	Post City, Texas
C. W. FINCHER	Girard, Texas
E. A. FLEMING	Chicago, Illinois
R. C. FORBIS	Afton, Texas
H. T. GARNER	Spur, Texas
J. H. GARRETT	Lawrence, Kansas
J. P. GIBSON	Spur, Texas
R. T. GIBSON	Spur, Texas

Name	Address
G. W. GILMORE	Girard, Texas
MARY E. GILPIN	Spur, Texas
J. P. GOEN	Dickens, Texas
G. B. GOODALL	Jayton, Texas
R. I. GOODALL	Girard, Texas
J. D. GREEN	Afton, Texas
H. E. GRABENER	Spur, Texas
L. J. GREGORY	Rule, Texas
J. H. GREGORY	Rule, Texas
C. R. GUNN	Dickens, Texas
D. D. HAGINS	Gilpin, Texas
P. E. HAGINS	Gilpin, Texas
B. J. HAGINS	Gilpin, Texas
E. HAASE	Spur, Texas
F. S. HASTINGS	Stamford, Texas
H. L. HASTINGS	Jersey City, N. J.
T. J. HARVEY	Slidell, Texas
H. H. HAZELWOOD	Spur, Texas
J. D. HARKEY	Dickens, Texas
T. G. HARKEY	Spur, Texas
S. R. HAWKINS	Girard, Texas
MARK HARDIN	Spur, Texas
J. P. HIGGINS	Spur, Texas
PERCY J. HILL	Dallas, Texas
H. H. HILL	Spur, Texas
A. C. HINDMAN	Spur, Texas
R. L. HENDERSON	Chillicothe, Texas
G. B. HETHERINGTON	Topeka, Kansas
P. H. HOLLINGSHEAD	Girard, Texas
FRANK HOLDEN	Girard, Texas
M. HOWELL	Spur, Texas
O. S. HUNTER	Clairemont, Texas
W. M. HUNTER	Spur, Texas
J. E. HUTT	Kansas City, Missouri
B. D. HOLLY	Spur, Texas
HARRIETT JENNINGS	Chicago, Illinois
R. R. JOHNS	Spur, Texas
OSCAR JACKSON	Spur, Texas
P. E. JOHNSON	Girard, Texas
J. E. JOHNSON	Spur, Texas
W. A. JOHNSON	Spur, Texas
M. LUTHER JONES	Spur, Texas
C. A. JONES	Spur, Texas
C. W. JONES	Fort Worth, Texas
L. E. JONES	Palmer, Texas
J. A. JORDAN	Hico, Texas
M. A. JORDAN	Spur, Texas
J. L. KARR	Spur, Texas
H. B. KENNEDY, JR.	Anson, Texas
R. F. KEEN	Spur, Texas
JAMES C. KELLAR	Spur, Texas
J. A. KERLEY	Medicine Mound, Texas
H. J. KOCH	St. Joseph, Missouri
G. KESLER	Fort Worth, Texas



No. 1: Spur Experimental Farm, Rye. No. 2: Spur Experimental Farm, Wheat. No. 3: A Spur Farm-land Kafir Corn Crop. No. 4: Heading a Spur Farm Kafir Crop. H. C. Allen, S. E. Quarter, Section 319. No. 5: Spur Experimental Farm, Oats. No. 6: Spur Farm Land Peanuts. These will make a hog farmer rich. Easily raised and very profitable.

Name	Address
J. E. LANGFORD.....	Spur, Texas
J. H. LATHAM.....	Girard, Texas
OPHELIA LEDFORD.....	Talpa, Texas
V. A. LEONARD.....	Clarendon, Texas
ALONZO LOLLAR.....	Spur, Texas
E. LUCE.....	Spur, Texas
J. N. LUCE.....	Tap, Texas
W. J. MABEN.....	Rotan, Texas
J. J. MARTIN.....	Spur, Texas
J. D. MARTIN.....	Spur, Texas
W. F. MARKHAM.....	Spur, Texas
B. F. MAYFIELD.....	Girard, Texas
J. W. MEADOWS.....	Spur, Texas
TOL MERRIMAN.....	Spur, Texas
J. M. MORRIS.....	Spur, Texas
B. E. MORGAN.....	Spur, Texas
T. W. MORGAN.....	Spur, Texas
J. L. MOORE.....	Matador, Texas
J. B. MORRISON.....	Spur, Texas
H. C. MULROY.....	Chicago, Illinois
J. A. MURCHISON.....	Spur, Texas
W. L. McATEER.....	Dickens, Texas
R. F. MCGILL.....	Spur, Texas
MINNIE E. MCBROOM.....	Spur, Texas
FRED O. MCFALL.....	Spur, Texas
R. A. MCMINN.....	Spur, Texas
J. R. MCDANIEL.....	Gilpin, Texas
D. J. MCDANIEL.....	Gilpin, Texas
J. G. NORRIS.....	Wake, Texas
J. A. NEIGHBORS.....	Spur, Texas
B. C. PALMER.....	Spur, Texas
GEO. PADDICK.....	Spur, Texas
S. D. PARKS.....	Clarendon, Texas
WALTER L. POWELL.....	Jayton, Texas
J. D. POWELL.....	Spur, Texas
CLARENCE PHIPPS.....	Jayton, Texas
J. E. PURYEAR.....	Hawley, Texas
W. M. RANDALL.....	Spur, Texas
S. W. RATHER.....	Spur, Texas
GEO. W. RENFROE.....	Jayton, Texas
F. T. RENNIE.....	Galveston, Texas
JEFF D. REAGAN.....	Spur, Texas
J. A. REEVES.....	Spur, Texas
J. J. RANDALL.....	Spur, Texas
J. D. RICHARDS.....	Kyle, Texas
T. F. REILLY.....	Childress, Texas
ROY RODDY.....	Afton, Texas
R. F. ROGERS.....	Spur, Texas
S. B. SCOTT.....	Watson, Texas
O. C. SCOTT.....	Afton, Texas
GEO. SCOTT.....	Afton, Texas
BAXTER SCOGGIN.....	Spur, Texas
R. F. SELF.....	Watson, Texas
JOHN N. SELF.....	Tap, Texas

Name	Address
W. G. SHERROD.....	Spur, Texas
W. F. SHUGART.....	Spur, Texas
J. E. SHELTON.....	Spur, Texas
C. J. SMITH.....	Spur, Texas
W. P. T. SMITH.....	Spur, Texas
THOS. A. SMITH.....	Spur, Texas
J. W. SMITH.....	Dickens, Texas
EFFIE H. SLOAN.....	Chicago, Illinois
G. T. SNODGRASS.....	Spur, Texas
J. A. SNODGRASS.....	Plainview, Texas
T. E. STANDIFER.....	Spur, Texas
W. R. STAFFORD.....	Afton, Texas
W. H. STEPHENS.....	Spur, Texas
AL SULLIVAN.....	Spur, Texas
G. W. SULLIVAN.....	Spur, Texas
A. E. SWEET.....	Chicago, Illinois
E. H. SWEET.....	Lawrence, Kansas
BERTHE B. SWENSON.....	New York, N. Y.
L. A. SQUIRES.....	Spur, Texas
H. J. TABOR.....	Chillicothe, Texas
W. H. TAYLOR.....	Gilpin, Texas
T. A. TEAGUE.....	Alvarado, Texas
J. COLBY THOMAS.....	Lubbock, Texas
R. E. THOMAS.....	Tap, Texas
W. G. THOMAS.....	Girard, Texas
J. M. UPSHAW.....	Spur, Texas
A. W. VANLEER.....	Spur, Texas
J. F. VERNON.....	Spur, Texas
WILLIAM WALKER.....	Spur, Texas
W. F. WALKER.....	Spur, Texas
T. E. WAGONER.....	Girard, Texas
A. J. WALLACE.....	Spur, Texas
J. D. WELSH.....	Denver, Colorado
M. C. WEST.....	Spur, Texas
W. H. WEST.....	Spur, Texas
F. W. WEST.....	Spur, Texas
JOHN WEATHERS.....	Spur, Texas
ELIZABETH H. WENDELL.....	Amsterdam, N. Y.
J. D. WEBB.....	Girard, Texas
G. P. WEBB.....	Spur, Texas
W. A. WELLS.....	Bowie, Texas
G. A. WILLIS.....	Spur, Texas
GEO. M. WILLIAMS.....	Spur, Texas
W. T. WILSON.....	Spur, Texas
L. G. WILSON.....	Plainview, Texas
ROSCOE WILSON.....	Lubbock, Texas
S. T. WOOLDRIDGE.....	Paris, Texas
E. Z. WYATT.....	Spur, Texas
D. A. YOUNG.....	Spur, Texas
D. O. YOUNG.....	Tulia, Texas
M. M. YOUNG.....	Girard, Texas
W. H. YOUNG.....	Girard, Texas
S. YANDELL.....	Girard, Texas



No. 1: Spur Turnips. No. 2: June Corn north of Spur. No. 3: Spur Farm Land Peanuts, large, thrifty field. No. 4: "Some Pumpkins" raised on sod land by J. H. Boothe, S. W. Quarter, Section 205. No. 5: Spur Farm Hogs. No. 6: Spur Farm Land Kafir Corn.

We publish the names of the above farmers who either hold deeds direct from us, or are subsequent purchasers of Spur Farm Lands through others, in the thought that some farmer who is considering a change of home, would like to find out from a brother farmer already located and farming in the Spur Country, what his experience has been. Most of these have purchased to make homes on the lands bought, and are occupying and raising crops on them. Some of the others have improved on the tenant plan, which according to the custom of the country, yields the owner one-third of the feed and one-fourth of the cotton raised. The owner furnishes land and improvements, the tenant seed and cultivation.

The Spur Farm Lands tracts are so extensive that over twenty-five hundred farmers can find homes therein, owning a quarter-section each.

No Fertilization Necessary Here

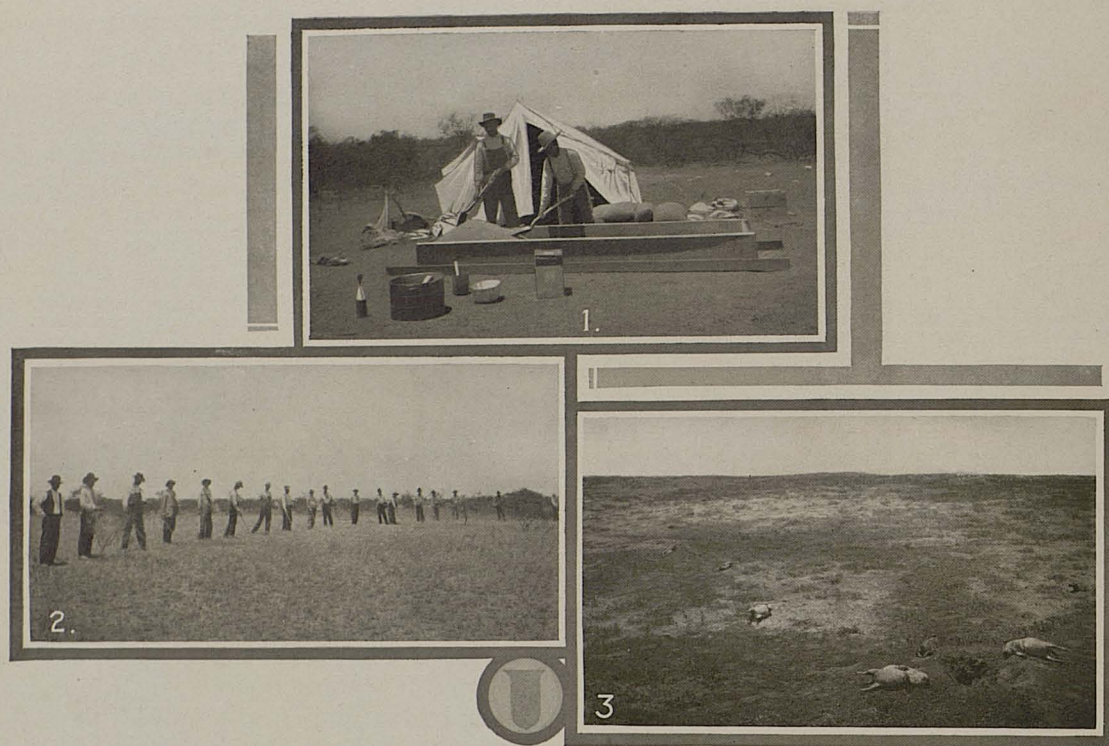
It is well to remember that in old farming regions good yields are only had by the use of fertilizers, expensive to buy and to apply to the soil. The Spur Farm Lands are naturally fertile and require no artificial building up. We have never heard of a pound of commercial fertilizer being used in this country. The oldest farms in the Spur country have yielded crops for a little over twenty years, and now show no weakening under successive crops.

Certainty of Cotton Crop in Spur Lands

The cotton crop in this section has never been a total failure since the first cotton seed sprouted in its soil. The farmer is sure to gin if he plants. The yield has varied so as to average from one-quarter to one-third of a bale per acre in the worst years, and from three-quarters to over one bale in the best. We believe it is entirely safe to figure on an average crop of from three-eighths to one-half bale per acre year in and year out. One-half bale per acre is considered the ten year average. It of course goes without saying that the better cultivation and care a farmer gives his field, the higher will be his returns. The most vital fact to the cotton grower is *complete freedom from boll weevil*. This destructive pest is absolutely unknown in this region, and for scientific reasons it cannot propagate here. Two modern cotton gins are now operating at Spur, one at Girard, one at Dickens, and their number will increase with addition of cotton growing area. The cotton crop is distinctly a money crop, readily convertible into cash at any time.

Spur Cotton Brings Premium in the Market

The lands in the Spur country are in the upper Brazos drainage, fast becoming famous for its excellent cotton, which has an unusually long staple—although the true long staple cotton is not to be confused with this statement. The town of Spur has come to be considered an excellent market for cotton, and farmers bring their cotton



POISONING SPUR RANCH PRAIRIE DOGS

No. 1: The Poison Mixers. After the grains have absorbed the poison solution, each grain is sugar coated by shoveling back and forward in a long box, a syrup made from sugar being added. It is then dried by the addition of flour, forming a protective covering against the elements, and will retain its deadly qualities even after months of exposure. No. 2: One of the Poison Squads. These men work in close formation placing the poisoned grain with long handled spoons, baiting each hole. No. 3: In the wake of the poisoners. It is estimated that probably one in five of the poisoned prairie dogs dies on top of the ground, the larger percentage reaching their holes before death.

here from long distances to take advantage of this fact. The explanation is that cotton buyers recognize the higher value of cotton raised in the surrounding country, and they pay a premium for it. Middling basis cotton from the country for a wide radius about Spur is this year bringing three-sixteenths to a quarter of a cent per pound premium above the product of same grade in other localities, because of its long fibre. This is a fact of great importance to the cotton farmer.

Increasing Demand for Cotton

The United States produces practically the world's supply, and only a limited area of its land is capable of raising cotton and all of the Spur Lands are cotton producing. Texas produces one-fourth of all the cotton raised in the United States. The demand for this staple is increasing much faster than the population in the world, because new uses

for it are constantly being developed. As an example, the mercerization of cotton, producing a substitute indistinguishable from silk is annually consuming an enormous amount, creating an outlet never dreamed of a little while back. Cotton goods were at one time synonymous with cheap goods, but advances in manufacturing methods have brought to perfection the most beautiful fabrics with a strictly cotton base. With this increasing demand, and climatic restriction as to area of cotton production, it is certain that reliable cotton lands will be in constantly increasing requirement, and that the cotton produced on them will command an average high price.

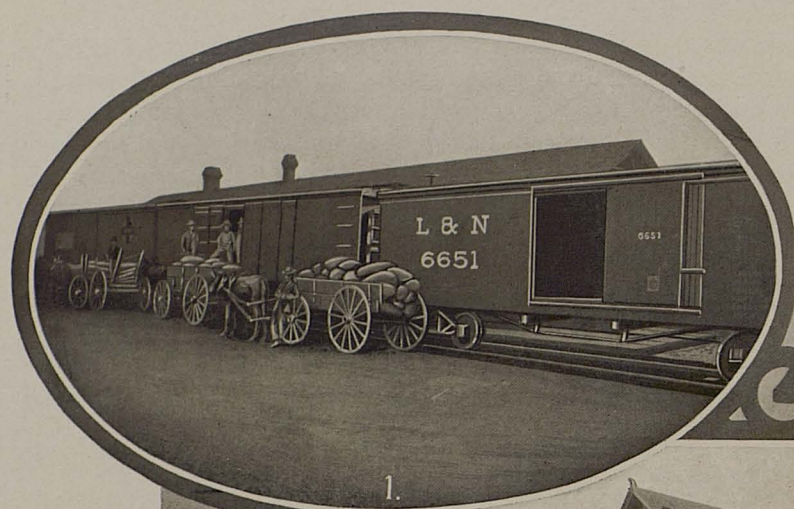
Some poetic soul, inspired by his subject, writes:

"The uses to which cotton is put are legion. Not only are our swaddling clothes made from it, but our shroud is woven therefrom. The poor man's friend on account of its cheapness, it has become the rich man's luxury by reason of the wonderful process of manufacture. It varies from the heavy, waterproof canvas that defies the elements, to the exquisite muslin of such delicate texture that it becomes invisible under a heavy dew. Prince and peasant alike demand it. In the palace it is rapidly displacing silk and fine linen; in the cottage it is supreme—nothing can take its place there. Neither are the uses of cotton confined to the surface of the earth. We see it overhead in the aeroplane and the dirigible; underground in the brattices of the mine; undersea in the submarine. It is equally noticeable in the flag of peace and the high explosives (guncotton) of war. So varied are its uses through the subtle art of manufacture that it is serviceable in all climes and under all conditions. It protects alike the Polar explorer from the freezing blasts of the wintry winds and the Sahara traveller from the rays of the scorching summer sun."

General Crops

Beside cotton, excellent crops of maize, kafir corn, sorghum, wheat, oats, millet, June corn, potatoes, peanuts, and every variety of the melon family can be raised. In fact experiments on such a great range of farm products have been so universally successful that it is sure all crops adapted to this latitude and altitude will thrive on the Spur Farm Lands. A good Indian corn crop is sometimes raised, but we urge the farmers of this section to plant largely of milo-maize and kafir corn, which never fail, being drouth resistant to an astonishing degree. They will wait for weeks for rain. If hot winds and the lack of moisture make them wither and curl somewhat during the day, these plants will freshen every night. They may be forced to stand still and not grow much for days, or for weeks, but will live and keep green. When the deferred rains do come, they shoot out heads quickly, which fill with grain and a good yield follows. With favorable conditions of moisture and weather, milo-maize will mature a crop in ninety days from planting. Ten bushels of these grains have the same value as nine bushels of corn for feeding work horses, beef and dairy cattle, hogs or sheep, while a bushel of either is worth more than a bushel of corn for feeding poultry. While a bushel of corn has a slightly greater feed value than a bushel of kafir corn or maize, an acre of kafir corn or maize has a much greater feed value than an acre of corn. An acre of either will average a yield of grains sufficient to produce more pork than an acre of corn. They will often yield fine crops in years in which corn is a total failure. Why take any chance when the certainty may be had? Maize and kafir are healthy, strong feed. The farmer who once feeds it to work stock will never want to go back to corn—"Never had a sick horse or mule since I commenced feeding maize or kafir" is often heard from farmers lips.

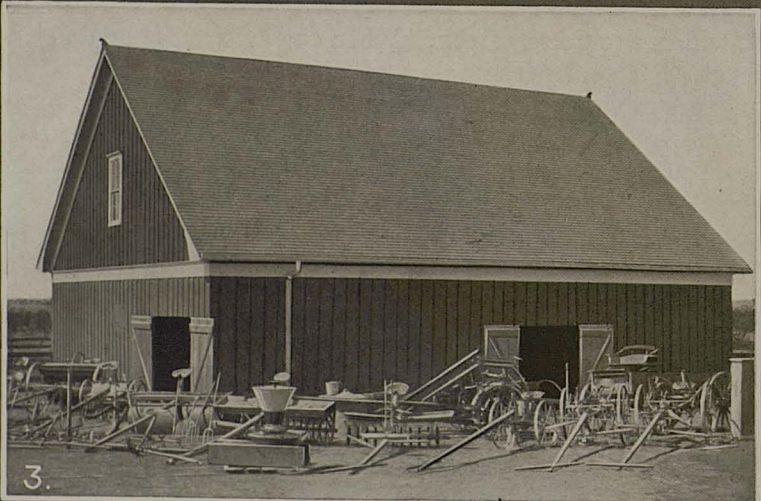
While magnificent maize crops are raised all over Spur Farm Lands, there are few opportunities to get figures on yield—the average farmer is satisfied to harvest his big crop and be happy and content simply in the knowledge that he has more than enough.



1.



2.



3.

No. 1: Shipping Peanuts from Spur Freight Station. Spur farmers shipped many cars of this crop this year, sacking the nuts and saving the hay, which is equal to alfalfa. No. 2: Threshing Kafir Corn at Spur State Experimental Farm. No. 3: Barn and implements at the Spur State Experimental Farm.



A Plate of Spur Farm Lands Peaches.

In a recent production contest some records were kept and from a plat which measured 365 square yards less than two acres, H. A. Boothe, farming on the Southwest quarter of Section No. 205, Spur Farm Lands, gathered 9,280 pounds of dry maize heads, or practically two and one-half tons of grain to the measured acre. This field is illustrated in colors on page 3.

Vegetables

The garden is what the farmer wishes to make it, as there is no limitation to the variety he may provide for his table. For it he may easily grow with ordinary care potatoes, onions, sweet-corn, tomatoes, cabbage, okra, beans, peas, lettuce, radishes, greens, beets, asparagus, turnips, cucumbers, egg-plant, squashes, berries, cantaloupes, watermelons and so on down the line. The farmer's table in the Spur country need never be without home grown vegetables in their various seasons. The land is especially prolific in raising excellent melons and cantaloupes, their flavor being exceptionally fine.

Fruits and Vineyards

This is a splendid fruit region, no finer peaches are grown anywhere, and while peach trees have been favorites of the early settlers, and fine bearing orchards of these trees are seen at most pioneer homes, there is a great variety of other fruits which ex-

periments show will do equally well. Fruit trees of many kinds bear fruit in this locality, including apples, peaches, pears, apricots, cherries and all similar fruits. Wild plum thickets scattered all over the Spur Farm Lands show this to be the natural home of all fruits of the plum variety, and all such thrive wonderfully. Sandy hill slopes are adapted to vineyards, and grapes do well. Wild grapes are seen in many places. A bearing pecan grove just outside the northern boundary of the Spur tract is an interesting object. It is at Pecan Springs, and its origin is variously accounted for, probably from nuts brought by the Indians from distant localities in the early days.

Poultry

Poultry thrives and no household need ever be without abundance of chickens and fresh eggs. The raising of poultry may be made a source of profit, if it is desired to go into this pleasant phase of farm life on a large scale. Rhode Island Reds, Plymouth Rocks, White Wyandottes, Leghorns, Orpingtons (buff or white) Minorcas, and many other varieties have their advocates—while a great number of farmers have flocks of “just chickens.”

Egyptian Wheat

Egyptian wheat has been tested by a few farmers in the Spur Farm Lands, and its yield is excellent, maturing a fine heavy head of grain and is evidently a crop of much value for the Spur region.

Broom Corn

Broom corn experiments on extended scale show the Spur country excellently adapted and good yields are made. Lack of knowledge as to curing and harvesting is the only barrier to splendid success. Farmers who know how to care for the crop will make good money with it. The lands will produce it, the farmer has only to care for it properly.

Hog Raising

Hog raising is sure to become an important industry. The fattening of hogs on farm product brings better returns than marketing it straight, and hogs can be brought to a weighty maturity in Spur Farm Lands. In shinnery districts, there is a fine opportunity for hogs to roam at will and feed upon the mast at such times as their owner does not care to force growth. Peanut feeding is a practical, commercial way of finishing hogs for the market; here the peanut crop is sure and abundant, and its feeding is easy and cheap. Maize, kafir corn and sorghum fatten hogs with as firm flesh as corn. The sweepstakes prize for hogs at the Texas State Fair in Dallas last year was taken by peanut fed hogs from one of the counties in which Spur Farm Lands are located. *The total absence of cholera* is to the hog farmer what the absence of the boll weevil is to the cotton

farmer; these twin benefits are of incalculable value. There is practically not a single farmer in the country about here who does not raise his own hogs, even if he fits none for the market, and investigation will convince any doubter that the dreaded scourge which may pauperize a prosperous hog raiser in a cholera-infested section, has never claimed a victim in this neighborhood. There is no better hog country anywhere. The high prices of beef and of all meat products seem sure to last indefinitely, and is a mighty incentive to bring farmers to a country where hogs can be reliably and cheaply raised.

The Fort Worth packers are paying high prices for hogs, and yet are compelled to ship in a large share of their hogs from Oklahoma, and over \$300,000.00 of packers' money is going out of the state each month, which should be collected by the Texas farmers in payment for hogs of their own raising. The rate from Spur to Fort Worth on hogs, in car loads, is twenty cents per hundred pounds, or fifty cents on a two-hundred and fifty pound hog, and the run is quick. The hog business is one of the many substantial roads to money making open to Spur farmers. Select your breed and let the products of your farm fatten them for the Fort Worth market.

Hogs from this region have topped the Fort Worth market frequently this year. C. C. Shirley was recently on the Fort Worth market with a load of Crosby County hogs, which he sold at \$8.70 per 100 lbs. These hogs had never been fed on anything but milo and kafir corn. The hogs brought the top price on the market, which goes to show that the farmers of west and north Texas should raise more milo and kafir, incidentally more hogs.

“We have had a good crop of milo and kafir,” said Shirley. “We feed milo and kafir altogether, as we have very little corn in the country, but the two grains, milo and kafir, are just as good feed for hogs as corn, and it finishes them almost as good. The corn fed these hogs in the pen here this morning is the first they have ever had in their lives.”

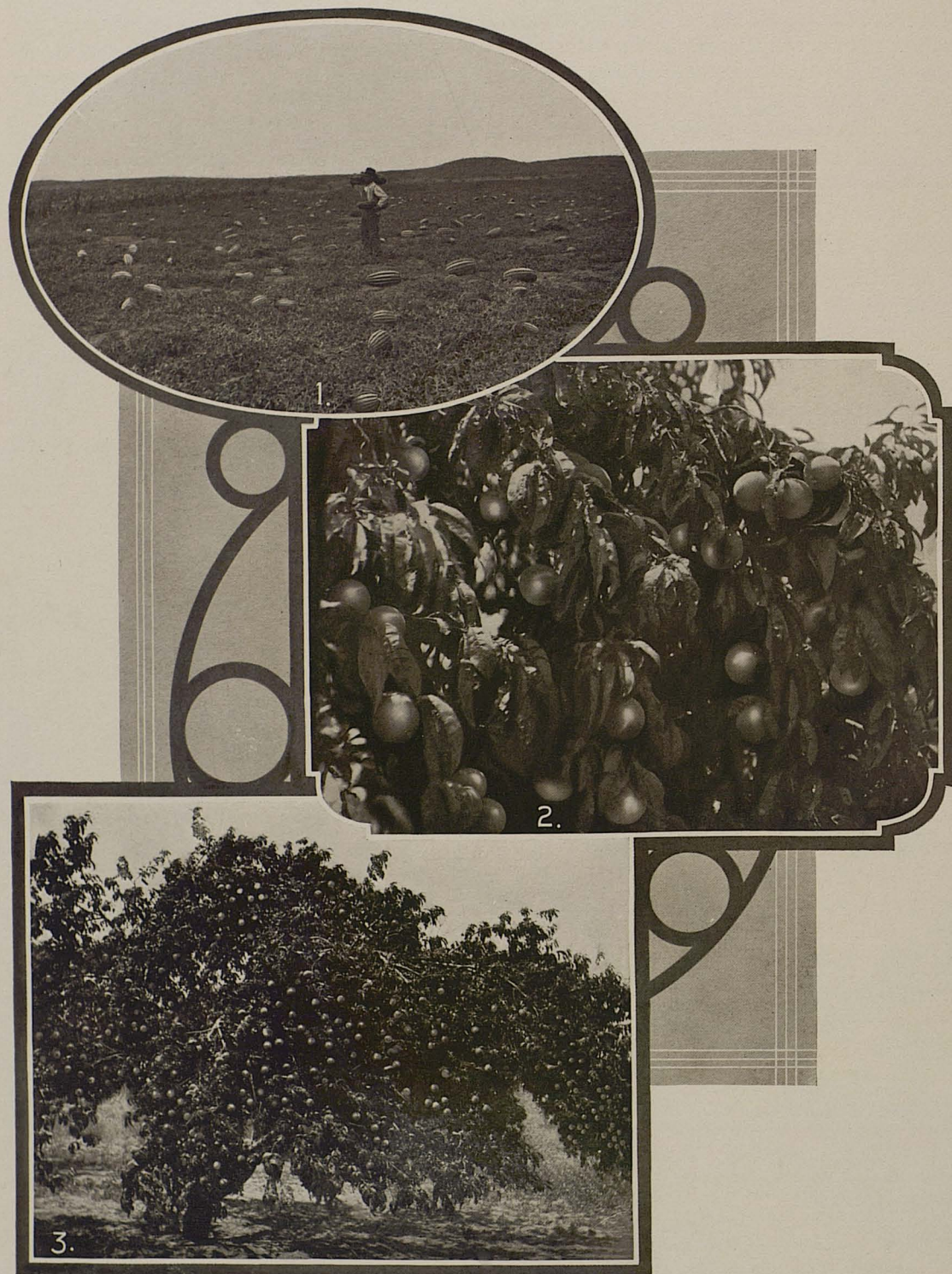
W. A. Johnson shipped his hogs from his ranch, two miles northwest of Spur, the first week in November last, and the Spur-raised hogs (finished on milo maize) topped the Fort Worth market for the week.

R. C. Forbis shipped in last December, eighty head of Dickens County hogs, and realized over \$15.00 net profit per head thereon.

There was at one time a feeling among farmers that corn was the best, if not the only, finishing feed for hogs, but kafir corn and maize have been fully demonstrated as its equal. There is no country which excels the Spur country in raising abundant crops of these grains—they never fail here.

Experience is superior to theory, and a convincing example is a recent shipment from Spur, of Dickens County hogs, shipped by E. D. Chambers, and the Southwestern Farmer and Breeder has this to say:

“One of the features of the Fort Worth hog market last week, was the sale on Tuesday of a car load of choice hogs from Spur. These hogs were raised and fattened by E. D. Chambers, and had received nothing but milo-maize and kafir corn from the time they were weaned. They have never seen a grain of nothing but milo-maize and kafir corn from the time they were weaned. They have never seen a grain of Indian corn. Armour & Company, who purchased them, report the quality of the hams, bacon, pork cuts and lard, as fully up to the highest standard of pork. In addition to the firmness and high quality of the meat, the proportion of live weight to dressed weight, was three and one-half per cent greater than the average of the entire kill for that day. This is simply another demonstration of the repeated declaration made in the past two years by the packers, and by those who have experimented, that the Texas farmer has at his command, a feed crop that is fully equal in feeding value to Indian corn. A little investigation



No. 1: Watermelon Patch of R. F. Rogers, N. W. Quarter, Section 333. No. 2: Peach Tree Limb. Haile orchard. No. 3: Dickens County Peach Tree (L. B. Haile) bending under its load of Elbertas.

will also show that this same milo-maize and kafir corn can be matured for probably one-half what it costs to mature Indian corn in the northern states, and with absolute sureness.

Mr. E. J. Hosey, Manager of the Hog Department for Armour & Company, made this Spur shipment of hogs the basis of a speech, in which he said that the Company he represented kept a close tab on the hogs bought, and could tell exactly what each lot produced, and that the kafir and milo-fed hogs were the best that were sold on the Fort Worth market. He further said "We bought Mr. Chamber's hogs, and paid him the top of the market for them, and we will buy all the hogs the people of Texas will raise. The Fort Worth market is, and has been for a long time, the highest hog market in the United States. You raise the hogs and bring them to Fort Worth, and we will pay you prices that will make you glad you tried it."

Rainfall

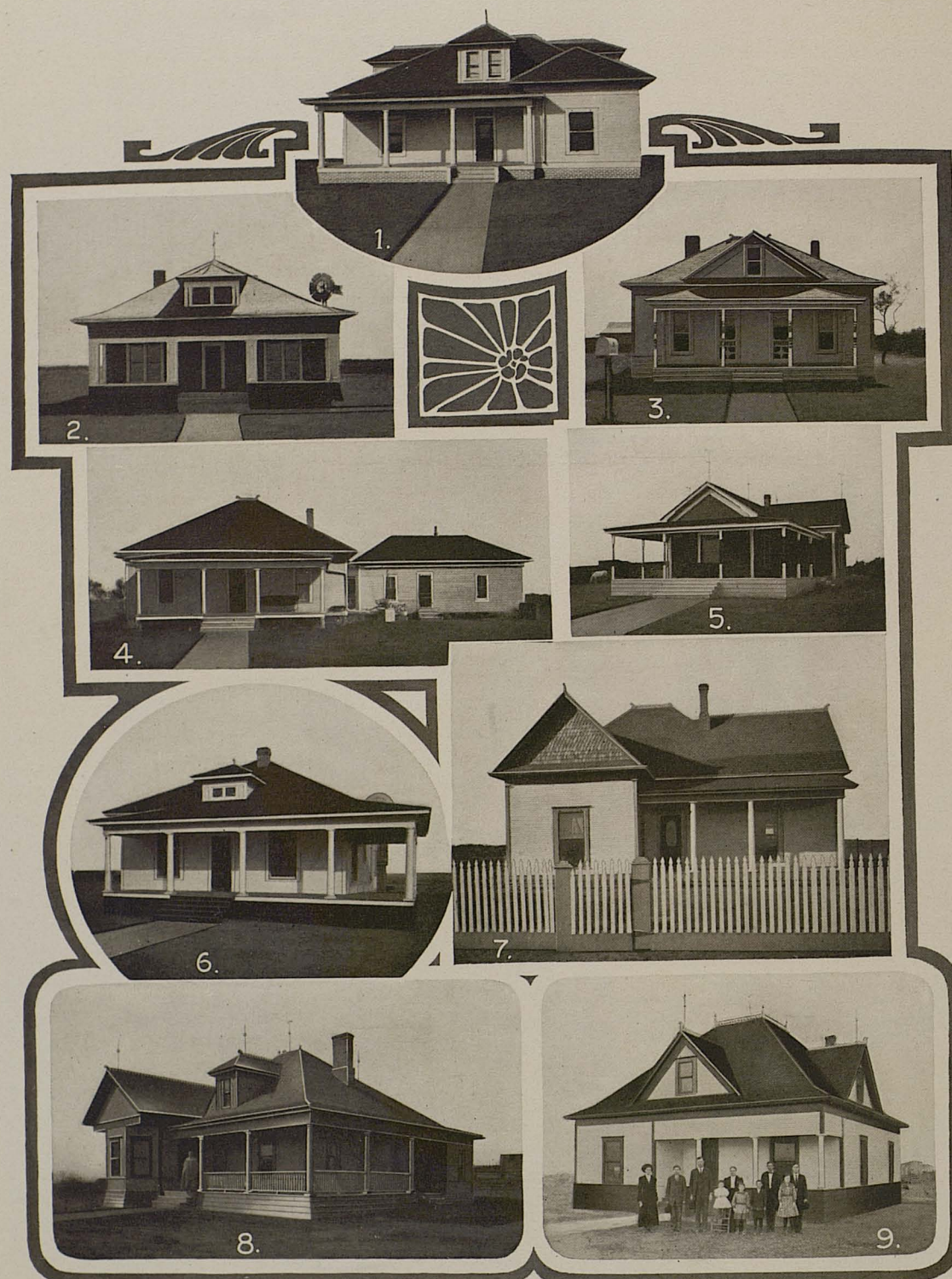
The rainfall of this region is best shown by the official records from the nearest stations of the U. S. Weather Bureau. The records of Mount Blanco, in Crosby County, about twenty miles from the Spur tract are used for the years prior to the establishment of a government observation station at Spur. A combination of the two records gives a continuous rain gauge record for seventeen years, commencing with 1895, and it shows monthly and yearly averages for this period as follows:

January.....	0.51 Inches
February.....	1.20
March.....	0.84
April.....	1.90
May.....	2.26
June.....	3.21
July.....	4.05
August.....	2.00
September.....	1.59
October.....	1.80
November.....	1.30
December.....	0.73
Annual Average.....	21.39 Inches

It will be observed that the distribution of rainfall is most favorable to the growing of crops. Annual precipitation alone is not a satisfactory guide, for a torrent of water falling in a short time with quick run-off would swell the total, but would damage instead of help the crops. This rain fall in the Spur country has proven ample, and properly distributed for the successful growing of cotton and the other crops of this section. The rainfall of 1910 was the lightest in twenty-five years, as shown by the quarter-century records of the nearest government observatories. The crops grown on Spur Farm Lands in that year prove that even with this record-breaking shortage of rain, the Spur lands produced strongly, and leave nothing to fear from the future. The crops of succeeding years of practically normal rainfall have been highly satisfactory.

Water

Water occurs about these lands occasionally as springs, while the main reliance of the farmer in this country for both home and stock water is windmills and tanks. There is usually no difficulty in securing water at depths varying from twenty feet to 125 feet, and there are many instances of shallow wells yielding ample supply. We have drilled



FARM RESIDENCES

No. 1: S. R. Bowman, N. E. Quarter, Section 300. No. 2: J. E. Cherry, N. W. Quarter, Section 113.
 No. 3: D. A. Moore, N. W. Quarter, Section 133. No. 4: C. D. Copeland, Section 231. No. 5: R. R.
 Johns, S. Half, Section 299. No. 6: H. P. Cole, Section 384. No. 7: J. H. Farmer, E. Half,
 Section 302. No. 8: H. T. Garner, S. W. Quarter, Section 280. No. 9: J. P. Gibson, West
 Half, Section 169.

over fifty wells for ranch purposes in different portions of the lands, and the average depth to water is a trifle less than eighty feet. Beside the drilled wells, we have a few mills mounted over springs. Each farmer will decide the means which best suit his individual case and the house cistern is always an easy means of domestic supply.

Fire Wood

The fire wood of the country is mesquite, than which (green or dry) there is no superior. This class of tree growth is abundant over much of the lands, and will become a merchantable product. If a farmer should feel that the yield of fuel and posts does not compensate for the labor, he will of course have to purchase, and those who have an excess of such growth will be able to dispose of same to those choosing lands free from it.

State Experimental Station

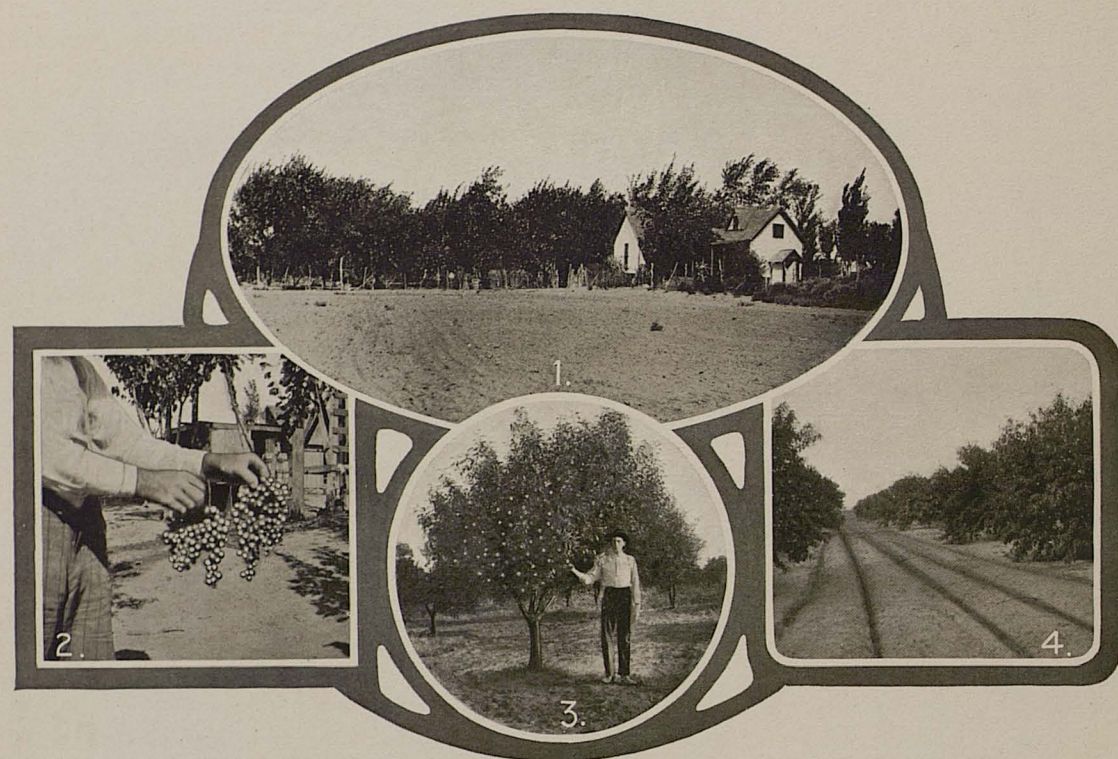
The state has in operation at Spur an experimental farm station, which will prove a wonderful benefit to the farmers of this country. The state is in earnest in its intention to demonstrate in the Spur country in a practical and helpful way, what crops are best suited to its soil and conditions. The idea of seed selection will receive much attention. The station is always open to visitors, and pains will be taken to show the results of various experiments.

One of the most important planks in the Democratic platform is the pledge to further the agricultural interests of the state in every way possible—specializing upon the establishment of additional farm experimental stations, and extending the scope of the Agricultural and Mechanical College by establishment of branch colleges—or greatly increasing the facilities of the present institution, which has shown itself entirely inadequate for the immense territory which it is expected to cover, and the farmers of Texas can expect every help from the officials of this state.

The establishment of the Spur Experimental Station had the warm support of Commissioner of Agriculture, Ed. R. Kone, who made a personal inspection of the lands, together with the Director in Chief of Texas Farm Experimental Stations, the State Horticulturist, and a government cotton specialist. They were all enthusiastic as to the character and future of this large addition to the agricultural area of Texas.

Climate and Altitude

The altitude of the Spur Farm Lands is approximately two thousand feet above sea level, which in this latitude insures a delightful climate, healthy and invigorating. The railroad depot at Spur is 2,274 feet elevation. The summers are long, the winters short and mild. In summer the middle of the day is hot, but without depressing effect, such as is experienced at same temperatures in low, moist localities, and the summer nights are cool and comfortable always. The wonderful healthfulness of this climate is well established. There exist neither malaria, nor chills or fever, nor any of the miasmatic troubles



No. 1: Orchard and Home of C. M. Buchanan, Peaches, Apples, Plums, Blackberries, Grapes and Apricots. No. 2: Dickens County Grapes. No. 3: Apples. B. F. Whittaker. No. 4: Part of C. M. Buchanan's Orchard.

of lower altitudes and the air is soft, yet bracing. It is a never-ending source of comfort to those locating here to know that they have selected a home where there are no unhealthy conditions, but instead a climate which insures abundant health and strength and in which it is a joy to live.

There has been an idea that the farmer with northern experience is handicapped in undertaking farming under different climatic and soil conditions, but many of the most successful farmers of Texas have had their earlier experience on the farms of northern states. The expenditure of the same energy and exercise of the same intelligence has yielded them far more bountifully, and they are to-day the greatest Texas enthusiasts. Instead of enduring rigorous winters they and their families enjoy a climate so nearly ideal that the crisp, bracing days of winter sunshine have an exhilarating and buoyant effect on every living creature. Contrast the pleasurable life under such climatic conditions with that of the dweller in the northwestern prairie states. For weeks and months of the past winter the temperature out there ranged from zero to fifty degrees below, accompanied by heavy snows and biting winds. In less degree all northern farmers are subjected to similar conditions. Imagine if you can, what farming life under such conditions must be! It is no wonder that northern farmers to an extent never known before, are

planning to move to states further south. They can produce more with less work on Spur Farm Lands and withdraw themselves and families from the unavoidable suffering of long hard winters in the north.

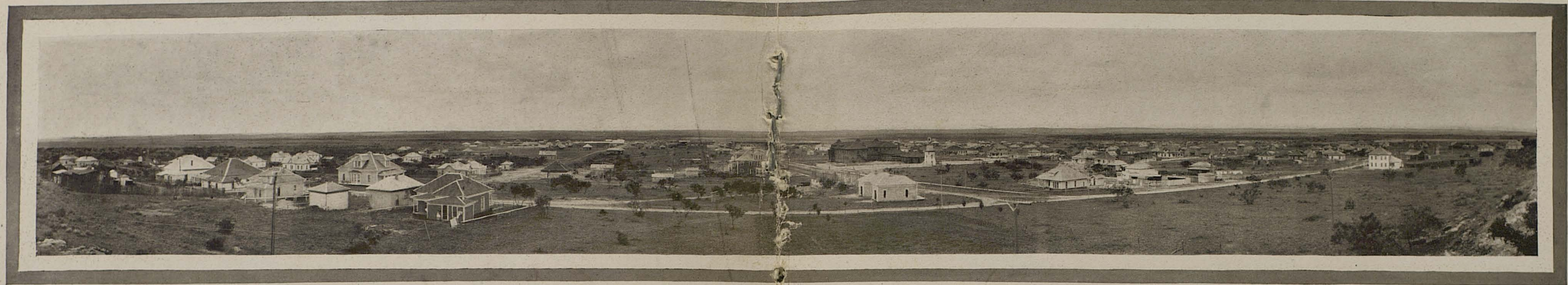
Who's better off—the farmer living in a moderate climate who can work on his land and make it work for him every day, or the farmer living in a northern climate, who must remain practically idle day after day in the winter and whose land is covered by a blanket of snow several months in the year? Again, who has the better investment—the northern farmer with money tied up in one hundred dollar-an-acre land or the farmer in a new southern agricultural district, who is paying fifteen dollars an acre on easy terms for virgin soil equally productive, and the value of which is sure to increase?

Schools

The right kind of farmer is always deeply interested in the school facilities of the country in which he is to make his home. The Spur country is far in advance of most rural communities in this regard. A graded high school at Spur, housed in a substantial, dignified structure, costing \$25,000.00, is the main scholastic building of Spur Independent School District. A school building of practically equal importance and character is at Dickens, at the northern edge of the lands, accommodating the settlers in the upper Spur Lands. The owners of this tract have from the first made it a rule to donate sufficient land for school sites and play grounds at such locations as best determined by settlement needs and schools have already been built in the following locations serving the people in the various communities:

Soldier Mound	Upper Red Mud
Duck Creek	Lower Red Mud
Red Hill	Antelope
Lost Lake	Center Point
Steele Hill	Tap Settlement
Spring Creek	Girard
Dry Lake	Wilson

The school trustees of the various districts have almost invariably provided teachers of high class. There need be no uneasiness as to the educational opportunities of the children of the Spur farmer, for as fast as need arises other schools will follow. It will be the policy of the Company to do its share in the problem of building and maintaining schools. The Stamford Collegiate Institute for boys and girls is only a short distance away and comprehends an educational range from primary to collegiate, with dormitories for each sex, and present capacity for five hundred pupils. Texas has a permanent school fund of \$72,040,000.00, resulting from sale of its school lands and takes great pride in school matters. The proceeds of this large fund are distributed to each district in accordance with its scholastic census.



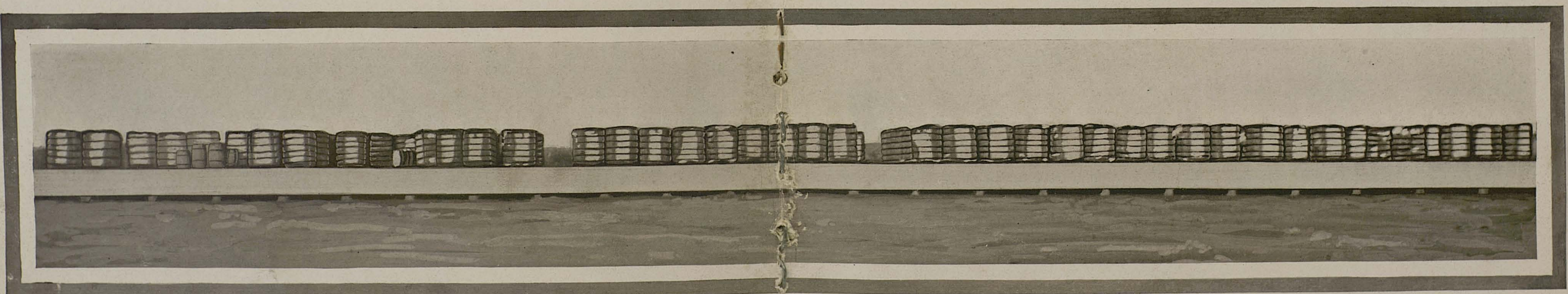
Panoramic View of Spur.

Churches

Churches of several denominations have been established in the Spur country for years, and mission work extends to various points in the lands. At Spur, the Methodist, Baptists, Presbyterians and Christians all have their own churches, while other denominations have made temporary arrangements for services. The people of the country are church-loving, law-abiding citizens, and the incoming population will find every assistance from the resident population in the furtherance of church work. Nearly all the school houses are used on the Sabbath as places of worship.

Telephones

The telephone service of the Spur country is reliably good, and increasing its scope as the region develops. The Southwestern Telephone Company gives perfect long distance service to Texas cities, and a conversation with parties in Fort Worth or Dallas, and other cities is carried on as distinctly as with ones next neighbors. The Luzon, Crosbyton and Afton Telephone Companies connect Spur with neighboring towns and communities and make it possible for the farmer to communicate quickly with the town merchant, his doctor or his neighbor.



Spur Cotton Shipping Platform.

Railroads

The Wichita Valley Railway operates daily passenger trains each way between Stamford and Spur. It is one of the best built roads in Texas and penetrates to the heart of this rich body of land. It is part of the Burlington System (the best farm developing road in America) and the satisfactory handling of freight from the lands tributary to this new extension is made certain by these railroad facilities.

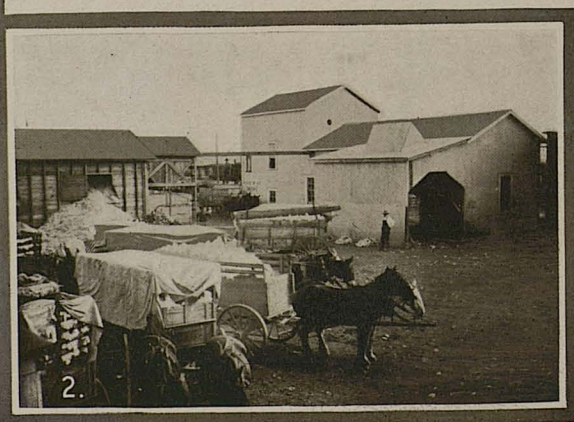
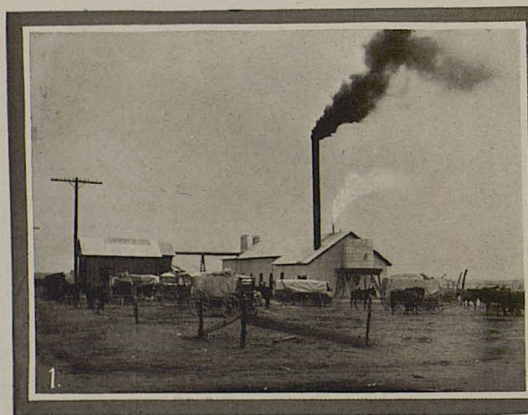
Spur, the terminal town, is in Dickens County; Girard, fourteen miles below Spur, in Kent County, will become an important trading point. Spur is fast taking rank among the most important towns in West Texas.

Prairie Dog Pest at an End in Spur Farm Lands

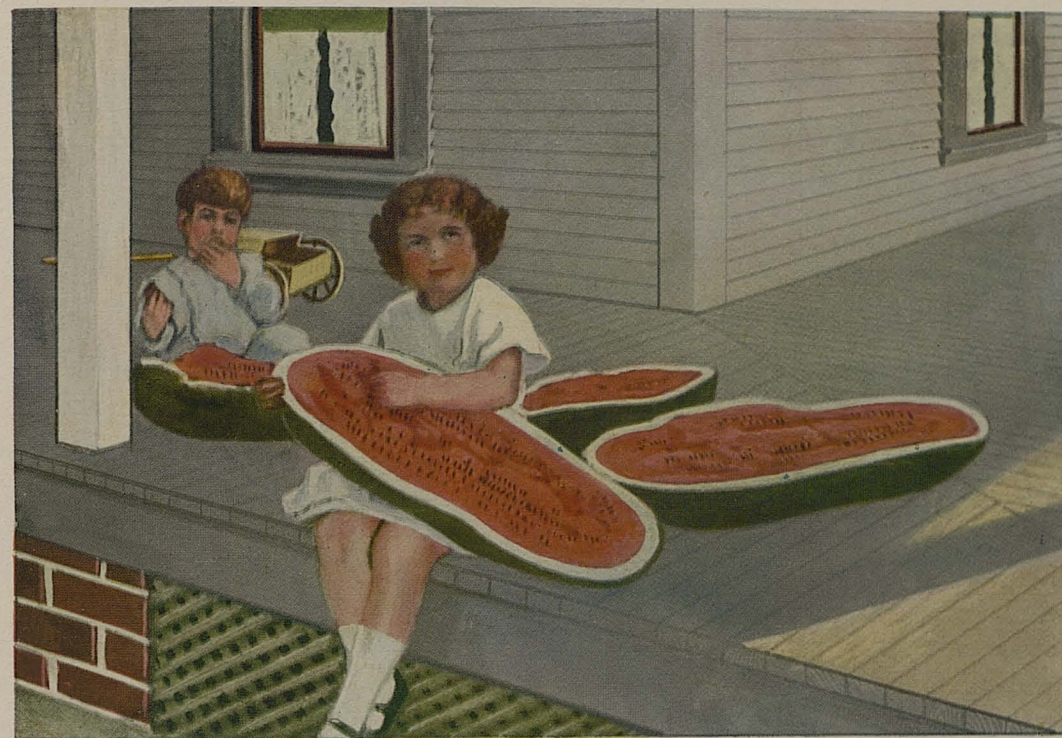
The first farmers in the Spur country found their crops seriously reduced by the prairie dog pests, which would cut down all tender growing plants, including cotton. When this matter was brought to the attention of the owners of the lands a wholesale plan of extermination by poisoning was undertaken, so successfully that at this time a prairie dog is almost a curiosity in Spur Farm Lands. It has taken two years of time, and nearly thirty thousand dollars to do it, but it is worth it to the farmers, who are thus freed from this destructive pest. Strychnine and cyanide as basic poisons, carried in solution into maize grains which were then "sugar coated" to tempt the victims, was the method so successfully employed.

A Purchase Now Means Independence Hereafter

The absolute independence of the West Texas farmer is sure. He can raise practically all he requires. The staples of the world's food supply—its bread and its meat—can be



No 1: Spur Farm Land Ginning Scene. Gin No. 1 Spur, which alone turned out 2,446 bales of cotton this year. No. 2: The Farmers' Gin at Spur.



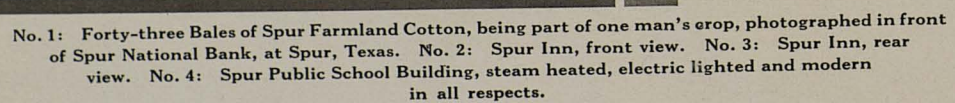
Happy Childhood Days on Spur Farm.

produced here both bountifully and cheaply. The farmer of the future *must have land* and will have to pay the advanced price to its fortunate owner, paying tribute to his judgment in foreseeing that the inevitable law of supply and demand would send the price of farm lands upward. The price of Spur lands will soon be considered cheap. Think of the profit that is sure to come to you from the purchase of fifteen dollar land which produces as much as any hundred dollar land; consider the impossibility of now procuring a farm at reasonable figures in the older farming communities. What are the boys of the farm homes of to-day to do for homes a few years hence?

One Man Can Farm More Acres

Lands in the Spur country are more easily cultivated and it is sure that a farmer can care for more acreage here than elsewhere, with better and more satisfactory results. While here, as everywhere, careful and intelligent cultivation brings the best harvest, a man can make a living here more easily than elsewhere, and the same amount of labor necessary to a bare existence on farms not responding so readily will yield him handsome returns here.

With equal cultivation Spur Farm Lands will produce as much in cash returns as



We are not opening the entire tract of 100 square miles is more than any prospective settler can choose. We are offering choice portions from the tract, not too large for the land as we have, and add to the offer of choice portions thus always have fresh lands to show, and the best have been selected.

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No. 1: Forty-three Bales of Spur Farmland Cotton, being part of one man's crop, photographed in front of Spur National Bank, at Spur, Texas. No. 2: Spur Inn, front view. No. 3: Spur Inn, rear view. No. 4: Spur Public School Building, steam heated, electric lighted and modern in all respects.

To illustrate how rapidly the lands of Texas are being taken up, statistics show that during the ten years (1900 to 1910) the number of Texas farms increased 65,580. In 1900 Texas had 352,190 farms, and in 1910 had 417,770 farms.

During the same period a healthy tendency to better farming is indicated by the fact that the size of farms was reduced from an average of 357.2 acres, to each Texas farm in 1900, to an average of 269.1 acres in 1910. The average size in the United States is 138.1 acres per farm.

The U. S. Census bureau reports the total value of Texas farm lands and buildings in 1910 as \$1,843,208,395.00, compared with \$691,773,613.00 in 1900. This increase of \$1,151,434,782.00, or 166.4 per cent shows wonderful growth. Within that period, Texas passed Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, Missouri, Indiana and California in value of farm property.

It is plain that the man who wants a good farming home in Texas had better get it early—values are increasing every year.

Fresh Lands for Selection

We are not opening the entire tract at one time. Six hundred and seventy-three square miles is more than any prospector would care to investigate. We will select choice portions from the tract, not too large to work over, and which will include as good land as we have, and add to the offerings as fast as the first tracts are taken. We will thus always have fresh lands to show, instead of tailings from which the best lands have been selected.

No Extravagant Claims

Some land agencies are claiming in their literature that West Texas lands can be paid for at present prices out of the results of one crop. We prefer to say that this may be done, and has been done, but should not be expected with certainty. Any farmer will be well satisfied if he can pay for his lands from the crops of a few years.

We have not attempted to paint glowing word pictures of the Spur Farm Lands, much as they deserve them, but have tried to state plain facts in a plain way, so carefully and truthfully that a thorough investigation would verify every statement. The farmer is a practical man, preferring land to literature, results to rhetoric, potatoes to poetry. We do not expect or desire to sell land by correspondence, but it will be our great pleasure to assist the bonafide homeseeker to get a home which will thoroughly satisfy him now and forever, and to this end, every service we can render is entirely at his disposal.

The Young Farmer's Chance

The conditions are surely right in the Spur Farm Lands for the young farmer, anxious to make a home of his own, to get the start no longer possible in the fully developed states. The only destiny for him there is as a renter, while here he can quickly become master of his own acres. It is a proper ambition for every man to own his home.

These lands are cheap enough for a farmer to acquire his own home by easy payments, improve it to his liking, paying out his holdings from the products thereof, and so secure an independence. The great tide of immigration to Texas has been absorbing large areas of farming lands, naturally the first to go being those nearest the railroads. The remote lands are being brought into the railroad zone rapidly and in a short time will be gone.

The steady, positive advance of Texas lands is a guarantee that they will go constantly upward until on a parity with lands in older communities which produce no more nor more certainly.

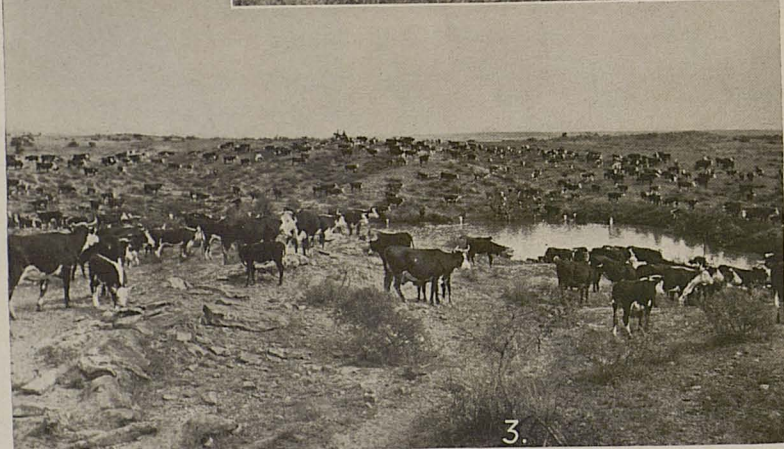
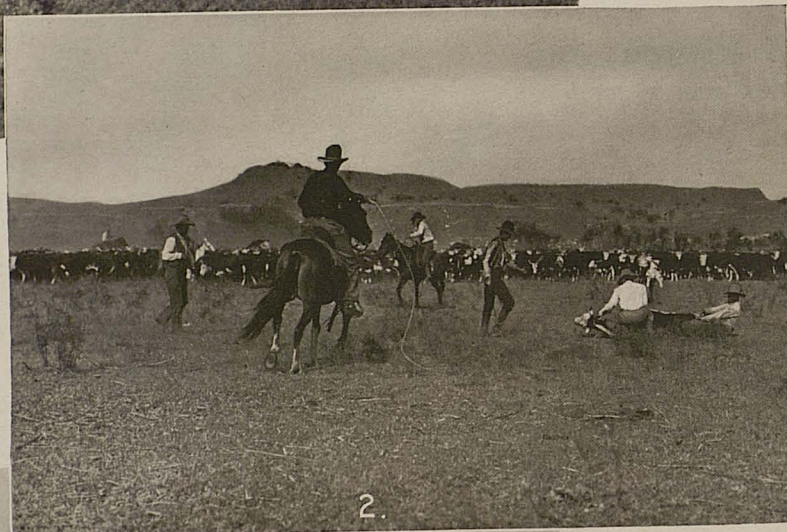
Taxes in Texas are low—among the lowest in any state. Its laws are favorable to the home-builder.

Lands Long Withheld a Present Benefit

Much has been written about the withholding of tremendous areas of agricultural land for the uses of the "cattle barons" and of their tenacity in holding them for grazing purposes only. They may deserve some of the abuse they have received, but the fact remains had this not been the case, the lands would have long ago been absorbed, and the homeseeker of this day would not have his present wonderful, but fleeting opportunity. Those who grasp it now will reap great profit in the comparatively small area of lands, the fast vanishing fragment available for cheap homes. Lands in Oklahoma (so lately government and Indian land) a short distance from us, are being readily sold at \$30.00 to \$35.00 per acre, to people who do not know that our lands, every bit as rich, or richer, may be bought for about half the price.

Available Farming Area Being Constantly Reduced

The rapidity with which available farming lands are being absorbed is astonishing to the observer, and the lands of West Texas are going fast, and when gone, the difficulty of securing good farming lands will be greatly increased. In fact, Texas and the Canadian border offer the only virgin farming lands in America which must not be redeemed by irrigation. In the last ten years the acreage in farm cultivation in the United States has increased about thirty per cent as compared with the previous ten years. It does not require a statement beyond this to bring the realization home that farm values are sure to increase. The history of farming in Texas shows without exception that farm lands have steadily increased in values, and the farmers in the older portions of the state are selling their lands at from \$50.00 to \$80.00 per acre (which cost them less than one-third those amounts a few years back) and are coming to West Texas to buy three times as much land as they had before, securing farms with equal producing capacity, and with the certainty that history will repeat itself, and corresponding increases take place in less time. As the available lands for further extension are lessened in extent, prices will further advance. A farm which will yield on the average from three-eighths to half a bale of cotton to the acre is sure to rise in value to high figures.



No. 1: Spur Cutting out scene: "on the prod." No. 2: Going into a Spur herd for unbranded calves.
No. 3: Holding a Spur herd on the water.
Copyrighted by E. E. Smith, Bonham, Texas.

Ask yourself if there is a reasonable hope for increased value in Spur Farm Lands at the price you can own them and with the certainty of their producing capacity. The lands are richly fertile in all the natural elements to support long series of crops without exhaustion.

Some Timely Advice

R. T. Milner, formerly Commissioner of Agriculture, now President of the Texas Agricultural and Mechanical College, urges every man in Texas without a home to buy such property at once, as lands are going up, and a home may be purchased at present for much less than it will bring in the future. President Milner says:

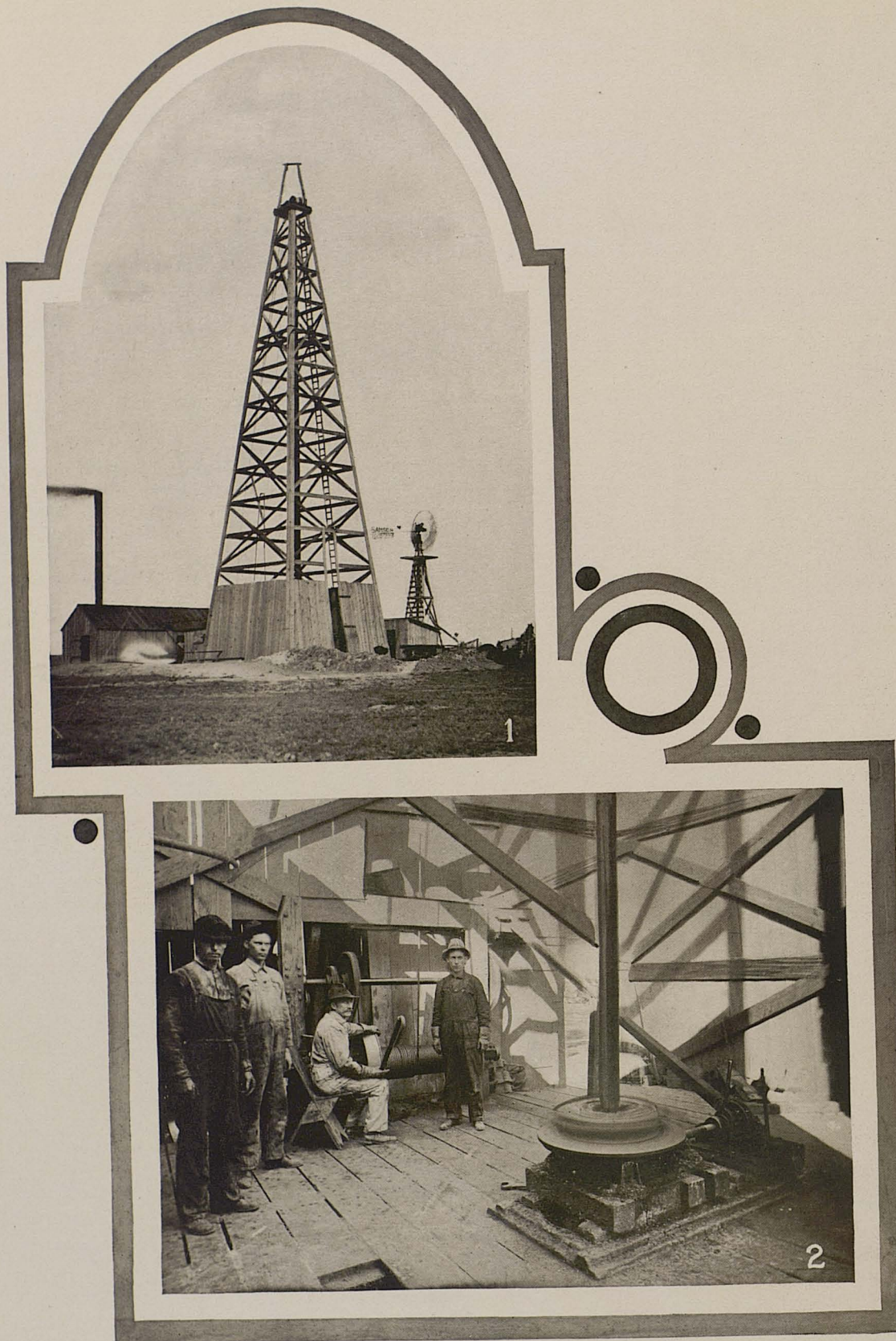
"I want to put all the emphasis possible on the fact that every man in Texas, not already in possession of a home ought to go right now and buy one. Don't wait for land to get any cheaper, because it will go higher. Land which we thought high at \$3.00 and \$5.00 per acre ten years ago is selling now at \$15.00 and \$25.00, and in some places the advance is much greater than that. More people are coming to Texas now than ever before. We are daily getting letters from people living in the middle northern states and north-western states, expressing a desire to come to Texas and asking for information pertaining to the soil and other things naturally concerning those in search of a new country. Nearly all these persons are farmers. When they reach here and find land as good as they left, seventy-five per cent cheaper, and getting acquainted with the people already here, they begin to write back home of the advantages in Texas, and hence a constant tide sets in and keeps increasing; and this tide will never cease until land values here go to where they are now in Illinois. They have found out at the north that sectionalism and northern hatred no longer exist here.

The next twenty years will witness the greatest tide of immigration to Texas that ever flowed to any state in the Union. I look for a stampede to Texas when the Panama Canal shall have been completed that will surpass any immigration of people known to history. Hence, I would advise every man and boy in Texas who expects to make his living by tilling the soil to go right now and buy a piece of land on any terms possible."

Increase in Value of Texas Farm Lands

The United States Government in issuing a bulletin on Texas agricultural statistics said:

"During the decade 1900 to 1910, the average value of land per acre increased from \$4.70 to \$14.53, or more than trebled."



ARTESIAN WELL OPERATIONS AT SPUR

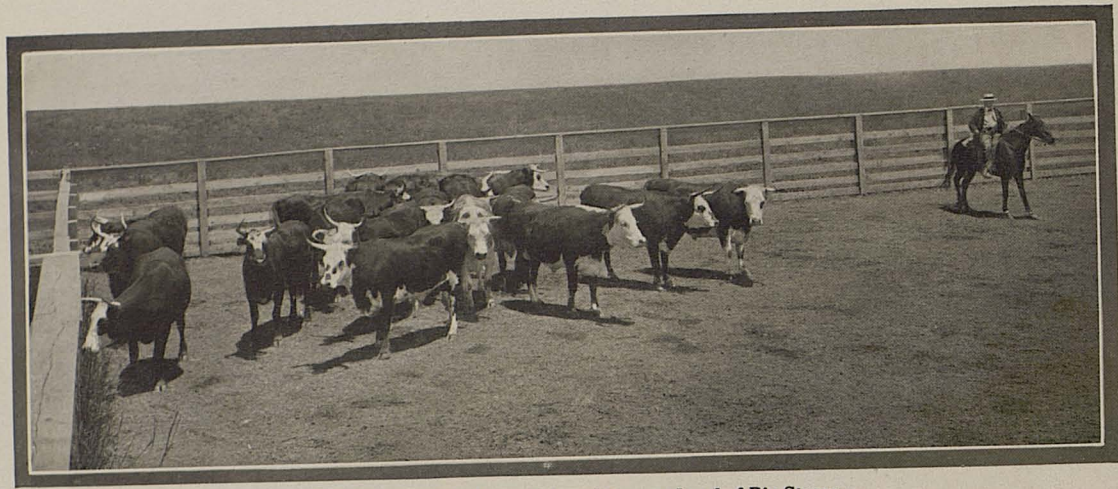
Drill Rig. The Spur well is now over 4,400 feet deep (still drilling) and is the deepest well in all Texas.
Lower picture: Interior of the Drill Room at bottom of derrick.

Actual Results on Spur Farm Lands

The following is a photographic reproduction from a recent issue of the Texas Spur, published at Spur.

Mr. Scott and his brother purchased a half-section of Spur land out of their returns as renters on a Dickens County farm. Last year was not considered an average year in crop production, but out of the proceeds they have paid more than one-half of the total purchase price of this half-section, making the first obligation now remaining due January 16th, 1915. The Scotts are young farmers of energetic type, and what they have done, other men can do:

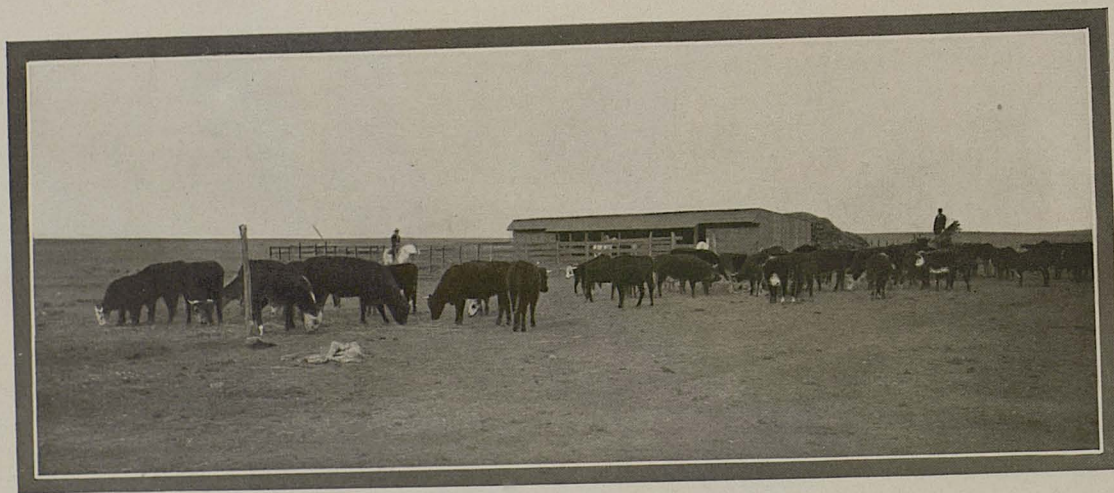
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Going to Market. Trimming up a Load of Big Steers.

First Year Returns

HOMESEEEKERS are generally vitally concerned in the result of the first year's crop. In many, if not most, localities a purchaser of raw, unimproved lands loses the labor of the first year in clearing and preparing his land. In Spur Farm Lands a sod crop of cotton or feed stuffs can be put in easily, and its production the first season will surprise any farmer not familiar with the lands of this section: it is often practically as great as on land that has had a season or more of cultivation. This year one of the best crops in the Spur lands is on land purchased last February and which was unturned sod on March first. In late winter or spring, a purchaser can select open lands for his field, requiring little or no grubbing, leaving the wooded land in his pasture,



Typical small ranch herd. H. P. Cole's place, northern part Spur Farm Lands.

and the fall will find him putting his crop money in the bank. In verification of this general statement, the experiences this year of some of the farmers who made late spring purchases or occupation of their lands are interesting, and we take pleasure in reproducing some letters written by them as follows.

One of the finest farming homes built this year by the farmers on new places is that of S. R. Bowman, northeast of Spur. Mr. Bowman was considered one of the very best and most substantial farmers of Hill County, Texas, where he had farmed for many years. Of his first year in Spur Farm Lands, he says:

"When I looked the Spur country over, and investigated the results the farmers were getting on this comparatively cheap land, I made up my mind to sell my Hill County place and get me a large farm, while land was cheap, where I was sure I could do as well in production one year with another. I got \$73.00 per acre for the old place, and came down here in January (did not get on the land until February) of this year. I bought the east half of section No. 300, near Soldier Mound, a fine piece of Duck Creek land. One quarter was in cultivation, the other was sod. I let my brother have the old quarter, and tackled the new one myself. On it I have beat my old Hill County place very bad on feed crop, and did about as well as it has done on cotton. My cotton did not all make a good stand, while part of it is as good as I ever raised anywhere. I have a big barn, and it is filled already with feed. I have feed to sell and am not near through heading my crop. I raised millet on sod land, making two tons to the acre, and some cotton I planted on sod June 29th, looks now like it would make half bale to the acre.

"My brother came from Nolan County, and has a fine crop on the south one of my quarters. He was discouraged one time over a hail, which he thought had ruined his cotton, and wished he was back in Nolan, but that same cotton got so heavy with bolls that it weighted down the stalks. He has heard from the place which he left in Nolan County, and the total crop was two bales of cotton and two loads of feed. We are both mighty well pleased with the first year out here—and expect to do a whole lot better next year."

S. R. BOWMAN.

Mr. J. H. Boothe who came to make his home in Spur Farm Lands from Runnels County writes:

My experience in farming on Spur Farm Lands has been so good, that I feel like giving my brother farmers the benefit. I bought the Southwest quarter of Section No. 205, southeast of Spur. My land was in sod up to February, and I broke it for the first time in February and March. I got on the land on January 7th, and had everything to do ahead of me, cross fencing, house building, etc.

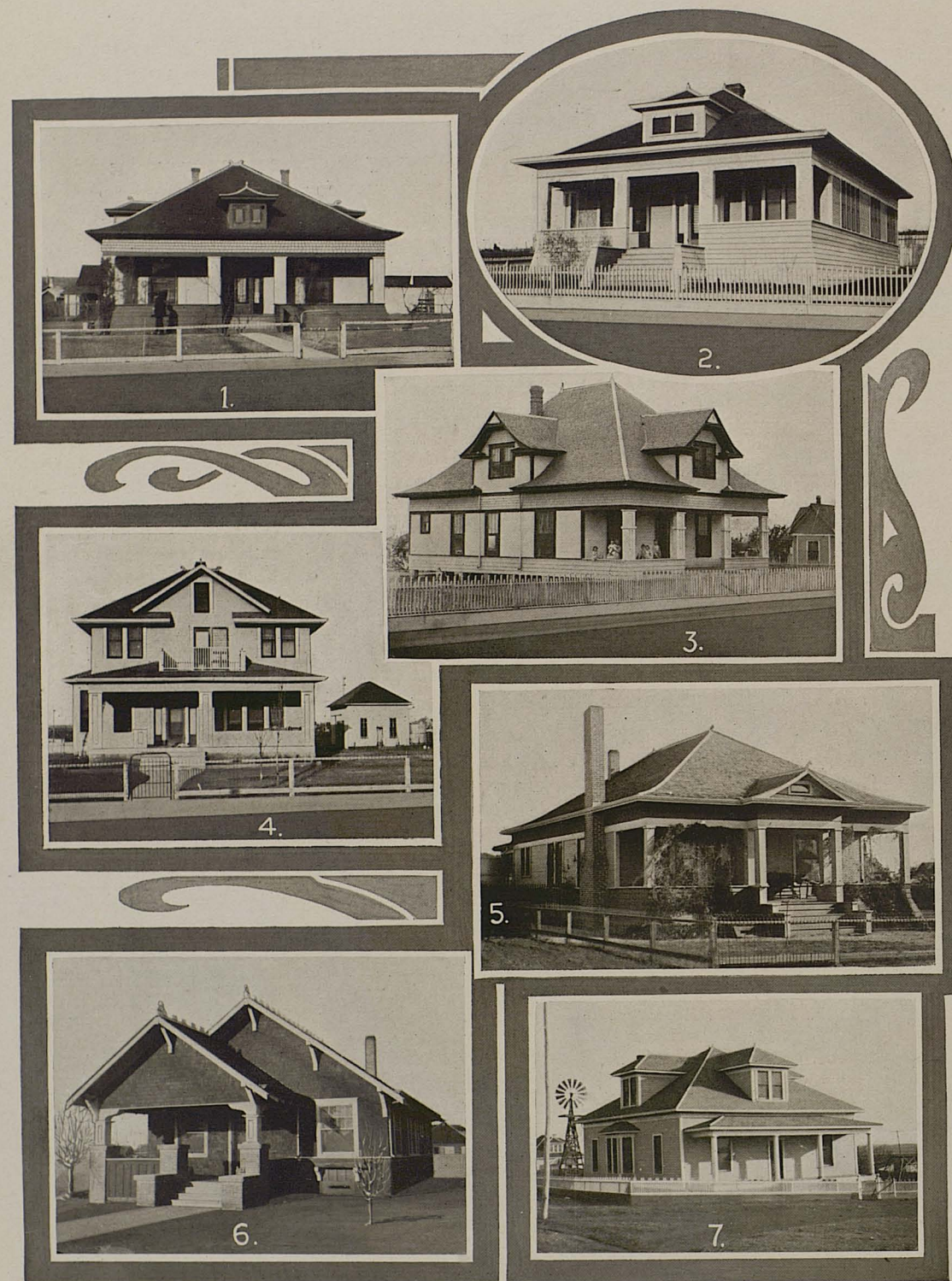
I put about sixty acres in cotton, and at the time I am writing, (October) I have already ginned twenty-two bales, and feel sure I will get enough more to make the yield come to an average of a half-bale to the acre. This from sod land in a year not thought to be an average year by other farmers, makes me feel I made no mistake in coming to the Spur country.

Everything I planted has done well. One thing I noticed especially—in picking over my cotton field, I have not found a single stalk of dead cotton. Cotton does not die here like it does where I came from, and I have heard other farmers around here say the same thing.

I sold over \$200.00 worth of vegetables this year, all raised on sod. I have no chance to irrigate anything in my garden. I sold snap beans, peas, okra, squashes, watermelons, kershaws, and have the finest pumpkins a man ever looked at.

I sold my old home place in Runnels County mostly on time, and while that is counted a good farming country, the man I sold to has not made any crop worth naming, and writes that he cannot even pay the interest on the money he owes me. I am certainly well pleased with my first year in the Spur country. I let my boy have nearly two acres to plant in maize, and he gathered 9,280 lbs. of dry maize heads from the patch. My feed crop is fine, both maize and sorghum cane.

J. H. BOOTHE.



SPUR RESIDENCES

No. 1: D. G. Hisey. No. 2: W. G. Broyles. No. 3: J. F. Vernon. No. 4: Geo. S. Link. No. 5: Jeff D. Reagan. No. 6: R. B. Bryant. No. 7: S. R. Davis.

Mr. R. R. Johns is one of the substantial new farmers who have recently bought farms in the Spur country. In a recent letter he said:

I had been farming for a number of years in Johnson County, Texas, near Alvarado. Lands in that neighborhood got to be worth a good deal of money. I heard about the Spur country, and made a trip to see it. After careful investigation, I concluded the lands would produce as well as the farm I was on, and sold my place at \$71.00 per acre, and bought the south half of Section No. 299, in the Spur Farm Lands, at less than one-third of that price, thus getting three acres for one. I made the contract for purchase on February 15th—went back home and shaped things up for the move.

The land I bought was all sod land, and I had to clear the land, fence it, build my house, and prepare the land in the hope of making some sort of a crop for the year, late as it was. About March 15th, I commenced breaking, running the plows about as thin as I could cut it, just ordinary sod depth—perhaps two inches. I have been considered a fairly thorough farmer all my life, and I am ashamed to tell how little I did to make this year's crop, but I had so much on hand that I just "niggered it."

After breaking, I never put a disc in the field, but simply dragged it over with a section harrow behind four mules. That was the only preparation. I planted flat with common single row planter. After planting the only cultivation it had was one plowing. I ran through the middles with two ten inch shovels on a cultivator, taking two rows at a time, and nothing else was done until picking time. I did not realize I had worked—comparing with my ordinary method of making cotton. I put in 108 acres in cotton, and while the cotton is not yet fully gathered (I am writing in late October) I will make at least one-third of a bale to the acre. I had good seed, but had not brought enough to plant the acreage, and so planted a thin stand. I did not realize how thick cotton will stand and fully mature in this section, but I have learned in my first crop that it will stand thicker and make better than in any country I was ever in. Some places where I happened to plant a thick stand, I am sure the crop is making a bale to the acre.

My neighbor adjoining on the east, Wayne VanLeer, planted thicker, and is making an average of half a bale. My hands, even the boys, chopped six acres a day to a stand. In Johnson County it cost me 75c to \$1.00 per acre for chopping, and this saving is a big item to a cotton farmer. We have no weed or grass trouble, and farming is a snap here in comparison with Johnson County, and I can see the average yield of crops is better here than back there.

I planted about fifty acres in feed—thirty-five in maize (some red and some white), fifteen acres in sorghum. The grub worms got my first sprouts and I replanted, putting in the maize July 4th, and the sorghum as late as July 25th. My feed crop looks like a cane brake, and I will have more than enough grain to make next year's crop, and more bundled roughness than I can feed. I think on an average year in this country, sorghum will make four tons to the acre. I have eight head of work stock and seven or eight cows.

The place I sold for \$71.00 per acre in Johnson County (old land of course) has not made any more cotton per acre this year than I have on Spur sod, and I would not trade it acre for acre on an even basis, for a man doing the same work here as where I came from, will make twice as much.

I like the superior school advantages of the country, the climate is fine. Mrs. Johns likes the country and its people, and the end of the first year crop season, on land that was sod eight months ago, finds us more than content with the change.

R. R. JOHNS.

The Old Timers' Endorsement

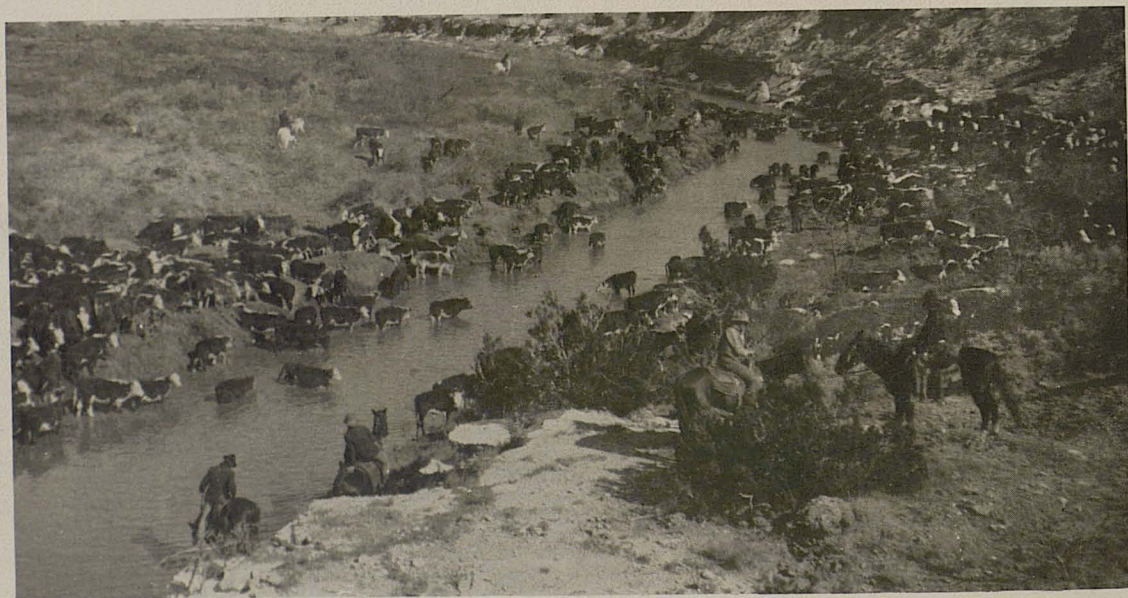
While it is a satisfaction to read the successes which attend the first year experiences of the new settlers, it is with equal pleasure that we state the verdict of men who have been longest in the country. H. T. Garner is entitled to the claim of being among the oldest continuous residents in Dickens County. He was County Treasurer for fourteen years, and has been Commissioner from District No. 3. He says:

"I came to Dickens County in 1890, and for twenty-two consecutive years I have farmed either personally or by tenant—all the time in Dickens County, and much of the time in the Spur lands. In all these years I have never made a failure. On the average I have raised about a half bale of cotton to the acre, and in good years over a bale. On my home place I kept a record one year, planting forty acres in cotton



Results breeders on Spur stock farms can secure. The above shows S. M. S. yearlings being finished on feed. Several thousand head of the S. M. S. herd are now in the Spur pasture.

and ginned forty-two bales, and figure I lost at least two bales wasted in the field for lack of prompt picking. For the same time I have averaged about thirty-five bushels of maize and kafir corn to the planted acre—this year I am raising much more. This has proved a fine fruit and vegetable country. I have raised apples, peaches, pears, apricots, grapes, cherries and plums, and in the vegetable line I have had finesuccess with cabbage, okra, beans, peas, squashes, beets, potatoes, sweet corn, melons, cantaloupes, etc. This country beats the world on the melon crop—in flavor and abundance. The hardest, driest years we have ever had in the country were 1892 and 1893. I was farming my own place these years and made a partial crop.

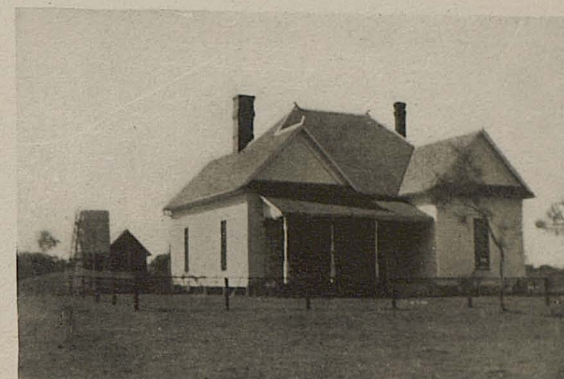


Watering Calf Herd on the Trail.

TYPICAL IMPROVEMENTS ON SMALL STOCK RANCHES



The Barn



The Home

"I know from many years experience here that a man can make a crop every year if he will just try, and not plant everything at one time. On the average he will make as much again here as he will outside of this general country, as he can cultivate more land than anywhere else that I know of, and before I came here I farmed in Jack County, Texas, and before that in Franklin County, Tennessee. The reason he can cultivate more is because in the first place the land is just naturally easier worked; he can work more days in the year on account of the climate; there is a long growing season, and the ground is not poisoned up with crab grass and weeds and such, which it is in some form or other in most farming countries.

"It is a hog country right. I have raised and cured my meats every year I have been here—twenty-two hog killing times. The high price of bacon and lard don't bother me any. I can't remember when I paid out money for hog meat.

"The health of the country is good—except for one operation I have never called a doctor but once, in all these years, and I have raised seven children. Didn't need him then—got scared, and he poured out a little liniment, and went on.

"When I came into the country, we had to haul chuck and everything about one hundred miles. I did not have much, and started out with a tent and a half dug-out about ten by twelve. I am not in the millionaire class yet, but I have made a good living, am now comfortably fixed, and am going to stay here, as I know I cannot do as well anywhere else. The Spur country has been good to me.

H. T. GARNER.

The experiences of the farmer who made the first crop in the territory now included in Spur Farm Lands, should be valuable in assisting to conclusions as to their continuing productiveness. This man is J. Carlisle, who is living to-day on the same farm he settled on when he came to Dickens County. At that time there was no farming whatever in the Spur Ranch (now Spur Farm Lands) except a feed crop on the Cattle Company's place near the Espuela Store. The story of his farming life here is best told in his own words:

"I started out as a farmer in Georgia, going from there to Montague County, Texas, and afterwards I went to Collin County and staid there five years. I heard about the new country in northwest Texas, that had good land, and where a man could get school land from the state, and struck out to find out for myself—intending to settle on it, and brought my wife and nine children with me. In January 1890, I took up section No. 156 on Duck Creek, in the old Spur Ranch tract, built me a house of cottonwood logs, and put in a crop on the same farm I am on today. It was the first crop ever grown on Spur land, except the Scotch Company's own feed crop in the north part. I planted cotton, maize and Indian corn, and



Cattle at Cunningham Tank, Spur West Pasture. Dave Carter, old-time Spur Cowman on "Butterbean" in foreground. We regard this as a wonderful specimen of animal photography, and it is published through the courtesy of Mr. E. E. Smith, Bonham, Texas, who has made the greatest collection of range pictures in America, and to whom we are indebted for the best of the ranch pictures herein.



Spur Outfit Chuck Wagon on the move from one round-up ground to another.
Copyrighted by E. E. Smith, Bonham, Texas



Iron Pool Fed by Windmill.



Turning out the Bull Herd at the beginning of the serving season.

raised fair crop all around that first year—and needed it, for I landed with a house full of children and hardly anything else. I am almost ashamed to say how little I did have. Since that time, at one time or another, I have planted nearly everything in the farming line. I have made a bale of cotton or more to the acre on at least two crops, and three-quarters or more several times, and from that on down to as low as one-quarter in one of the worst. That ain't a bad record for nearly a quarter century, is it? I have made good money on corn, but have become an advocate of maize and kafir, because they are dead-shot crops every year, and corn goes back on us sometimes. I have always raised my own hogs, and have had meat to sell most of the time. I have raised enough mule and horse colts to know that we can breed and raise as fine stock as any place—big, strong, healthy animals.

"Peanuts is one of my pet crops, and I know it is one of the best paying crops here. It makes hay as good as alfalfa, and the nuts make good feed for everything on the farm, hogs, dogs, horses, mules, cows, chickens or children.

"I have raised wheat on my tighter land, and in the old days I hauled it to Albany to be ground, and one hundred and twenty-five miles is a long ways to go to mill. I took it first to Anson, in Jones County, but the mill there was out of whack. I think much of the tight land of this country is good wheat land, if prepared right, and put in right. I have hardly ever missed sowing oats, and have always fed and sold them in the bundle. I never threshed any, but have often had them guessed off at seventy-five bushels to the acre. Have planted rye occasionally, and it matured well. Have never tried barley, but I know from other crops in the country it is suited. J. T. George raises it every year to my knowledge. I raise millet regularly, and my barn loft is full of it now. Egyptian wheat (which ain't wheat at all to my notion) is a wonderful crop for feed; an old Dutchman gave me a little seed to start with, and it will make a man more grain feed to the acre than any other crop; it will often sucker out and mature heads after the regular crop is gathered. Sorghum is a reliable crop and is fine roughness. I have headed sorghum and sold seed as far away as Snyder. Properly managed, a man will net \$25.00 per acre on a sorghum crop.

"Until now we have never had a good market—just had to feed up our crop, or botch around with it the best we could. Now there is a cash market for everything we raise, because we have a railroad and towns.

"I have never made a total failure in all the years I have been farming here—it is the easiest country to farm in I have ever seen—and my farm is every bit as productive as when I commenced farming it nearly twenty-five years ago. In Georgia I used to have to buy guano to fertilize. Here I never think about such a thing. The land here is as rich without fertilizer as the old states land is with it. The black land belt may suit some people, and all such are welcome to it, for I would not be back there pulling through the black mud, when I can live where my daily farm life is profitable and pleasant; where my crops never fail, and my work always counts. The men who know the country best and longest have the strongest faith in it—for they know what it has always done and will do.

J. CARLISLE.

The Town of Spur

The town of Spur is really a remarkable example of the confidence of the people in the future of this tract. Opened to sale November 1st, 1909, over six hundred lots were sold on that date. These lots were largely bought by people for the purpose of getting a foot-hold in this great country, for business development and for homes. All classes were represented.

These purchases have been improved beyond the lot of many towns of its age. It has graded streets, cement side-walks, approximately one hundred business houses, covering all lines of business, three banks, an electric light plant, five church buildings, a splendid weekly newspaper, sewer system, two cotton gins, four lumber yards, up-to-date merchandising stores, drawing business from a large area.

Residences are of high class and show in their construction and surroundings that they are built for permanent homes.

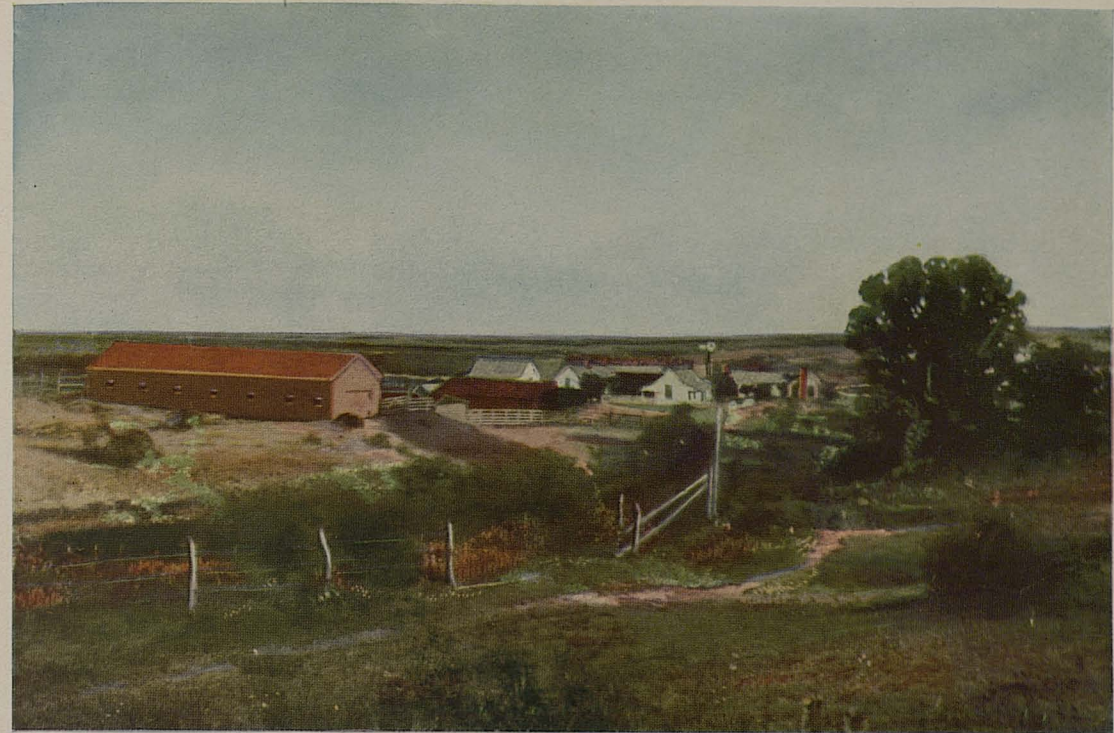
The Spur National Bank has its home in a two-story brick building which would reflect credit anywhere. This bank has a unique position in banking circles. Its capitalization is \$100,000.00. The President is R. V. Colbert, and among its stock holders are E. P. Ripley of the Santa Fe; B. F. Yoakum of the Frisco; Girard Trust Company of Philadelphia; S. M. Swenson & Sons of New York. The deposits of this bank reached \$102,000.00 within two months after its doors were opened and are now far above these figures. W. G. Sherrod is cashier.


The First State Bank is housed in a brick building of its own on one of the principal corners. Its capital is \$50,000.00; G. H. Connell, President, E. C. Edmonds, Cashier.

The Farmers & Merchants Bank owns its home, capital \$15,000.00; H. P. Cole, President, J. F. Vernon, Cashier.

The Spur Inn is a \$40,000.00 brick with stucco and staff finish, which will be a pleasant surprise to every traveller. One could not be more comfortable anywhere. The altitude of Spur Inn is 2,330 feet. A deep well is being sunk at Spur in the hope of developing an artesian supply. It is now over 4,400 feet deep, and drilling is being continued.

Girard is a small railroad town in the Spur lands, fourteen miles below Spur, in the center of a beautiful body of land—is destined to become a good trading center.



A general view of the Spur Ranch Headquarters. For the quarter of a century preceding the surrender of this fine body of lands to the farmers, this was the administrative headquarters under the Spur () brand.

STOCK FARMS AND SMALL RANCH TRACTS

THE Spur Ranch has long been recognized as one of the best big cattle ranches in Texas, and the main body is fast going into settlement as farms. There are portions of the land adjoining good farming tracts which are not well adapted to agriculture, being however, splendid grazing lands. A combination of the two form ideal stock farms, and we are therefore prepared to offer them in sizes to suit the needs of the applicant, from one section to fifty, as we appreciate the needs of each man are special. We are not, therefore, blocking out tracts of arbitrary size, but will adjust them as desired. The prices per acre will vary so greatly with the percentage of agricultural land included that we will not attempt to price them in advance of selection, but will show the lands in tracts to suit, and will give price thereon. The terms will be one-fifth down, balance in one, two, three, four, five and six years, at eight per cent, notes payable on or before maturity.

To a large percentage of those into whose hands this booklet will fall, the Spur Ranch is well known, either directly or by reputation, as wonderfully adapted to the breeding and maturing of cattle. The lands are not on the plains, and the protection afforded by

the breaks, mesquite and oak thickets have always brought the Spur cattle through the winters in fine condition. The curly mesquite is of chief value as winter grass; it cures perfectly upon the stem and is full of nutrition. There is a great variety of other grasses and winter weeds. Water can be secured either by windmills or tanks. The farming lands produce wonderfully and reliably for either carrying or fattening.

The production of cattle will more and more come from small ranches, never larger than can be thoroughly supervised by the owner. This means an increase in calf drop and decrease in mortality, which will result in the production of three head of cattle from the area now required to mature one. Texas has always stood pre-eminent as a breeding ground. The comparative cost of producing cattle in Texas as opposed to the more northerly territory, has sent the corn belt buyer to Texas for his calves so steadily that the price of Texas calves, costing practically no more to produce than formerly, has risen greatly within the past few years.

For years the slaughter of cattle has been beyond maintenance, and the advancing prices have forced the people to cast about for substitutes for meat. This very fact has so increased the use of corn as a human food that it has had its effect upon increasing the cost of butcher beef. The increase in population will absorb any increase in the cattle supply. The prices now obtained for beef will probably be held or exceeded for the future—for there will always be enough well-to-do people to pay the price.

The development on Texas grass will always enable the owner to produce a calf from \$5.00 to \$7.00 per head cheaper than the northern breeder, as \$150.00 per acre land in the corn belt must enter vitally into the problem. The corn belt feeder is now trying as full development as possible on grass, and making a short finish on corn—sixty to ninety days. We believe the facts warrant the statement that the producer of a Texas calf of good quality and breeding may depend upon receiving \$20.00 for heifer calves and \$22.00 for steer calves, say an average of six months old November 1st.

Henry Exall, President of the Texas Industrial Congress forcibly illustrated the change from old conditions, when in a recent address he said: "Thirty or forty years ago hundreds of thousands of cattle were annually driven from western Texas to the northwestern pastures. They had been raised on free grass; the main cost of producing them were the wages of the few cowboys necessary to ride the lines of the almost boundless range. They were grazed practically free to their destination. If it had been necessary to fatten them in the grain states corn could have been bought at eight to ten cents per bushel, grown on land that could have been purchased at \$10.00 per acre. The corn is now worth sixty or seventy cents at the crib, and the land in the corn belt, which produces less now than it did then, because it has been mined instead of farmed, is worth one hundred gold dollars per acre, and there is no more free grass in all this mighty Nation. The bread and meat of the people are largely represented in this incident, and these are large factors in the higher cost of living."

A stock farm from Spur lands will enable its owner to perpetually raise stock which will bring a fine investment return.

Under old time range conditions the calf drop was seventy per cent on ranches where cattle were given ordinary ranch care. A man breeding in a small way where he can look after and take care of cows as they are dropping calves, can figure on eighty-five to

ninety-five per cent. Sorghum makes an ideal winter keep, and in the average year, sorghum will yield three tons per acre, with four to six tons in a good season. Cotton seed meal and cake are furnished at a minimum cost from oil mills in this territory, and any hard winter months can be made harmless by feeding sorghum or cotton seed cake on grass, if necessary.

The Silo is Coming

The small stock farmer of West Texas will be immensely benefited by the addition of silos to his place. No country is better suited to their profitable use, as kafir corn, maize, and sorghum are reliable, staple crops and are ideally kept in silo storage. This subject has had but little study in this section, but the astounding successes which have attended their use in the stock country just to the north of us will be repeated here. They are taking a strong place in the stockraising business everywhere, and it is believed that no farmer ever has been known to use one and later discard it, unless to build larger and better ones. Endless experiments in all parts of the stock country prove the value of silage in maintaining beef herds. Each year has seen a steady growth of sentiment in progressive stock raising communities, and the most prominent beef cattle breeders and feeders are among the foremost users of silage for feeding purposes. It is undoubtedly of especial value in the feeding of beef breeding cows and in the wintering of calves and young cattle intended for beef production. All the feeding value of both grain and fodder are preserved in the form of silage. A well filled silo will provide plenty of nutritious feed for live stock during that period of the year when pastures are short and when green feed is unobtainable. One of the largest feeders of beef cattle, on the subject of silage-for-beef as to cattle on pasture, says:

"We carry on the same land more than fifty per cent more cattle than we did before we had silos, and whatever the correct theory of the matter may be, this solid, hard fact is sufficient to satisfy us that very much more can be got out of the plant in the form of silage than when fed dry in any manner which is practicable."

Numbers of cowmen in the coast country of Texas, are coming strong on the advantage of silos, and progressive cattle men everywhere are finding that they can run more cattle and make more money by their use.

There is produced every year on the farms of the United States sufficient forage to feed liberally all its livestock and leave a good balance besides. The shortage each year is due to the spoiling and wasting of forage already grown and the means of preserving this wastage will be a tremendous economy in any country.

The millions of tons of stalks and rough forage which are now annually going to waste will find use in the form of silage and will make possible a cheaper production of stock and stock products.

Farmers should make a study of the silo, as they will here find a means to increase their profits and do this with less labor. The silo is a forage bank which if put into general use will save a vast amount of valuable feed to our people.

The progressive stock-farmer who comes to occupy Spur ranch tracts will find the silo a great aid and improver of his financial condition, as he can produce and maintain his stock cheaper than he can without it. It is a sound business proposition which once investigated will be adopted. There are dozens of factories making them in all styles and sizes.

The first silos to be erected in any of the counties in which Spur Farm Lands are located, were erected by Mr. Julian M. Bassett, on the lands of the C. B. Live Stock Company, and concerning his experience he writes as follows:

"I have found the silo a very useful addition to the farm, as it is a very economical way of storing feed and very satisfactory. These silos have been extremely satisfactory, and were I to make any change it would be to the concrete stave silo, which might prove to be better for this country than the wood. The wood however, is very satisfactory and I have no complaint to make.

I find feed goes three times as far as when dry, and I would thoroughly recommend to anyone putting in a farm and building barns, sheds, etc., to add a silo to their improvements. It will be the best part of their investment.

I find kafir corn makes excellent silage, and none can be better."

Silage

The Texas Agricultural Experimental Station maintains a division of Animal Husbandry, which has been conducting a series of experiments this year as to silage results. They have just issued results in their bulletin No. 153, which gives in great detail the full history of various experiments—abundantly proving the astonishing advantage of the silo. The published summary is as follows:

1. Silage was much cheaper feed than cotton seed hulls, and yielded slightly larger gains.
2. There was practically no difference in the shrinkage of the two lots of steers in shipping.
3. There was practically no difference in the dressing percentage of the two lots.
4. The silage-fed steers showed considerably better finish, and brought twenty cents a hundred-weight more on the market than the hull-fed steers.
5. The net profit on the silage-fed steers was \$10.40 a head, and the net profit on the hull-fed steers was sixty-seven cents a head.

The results of this experiment seem to indicate that a ration of cotton seed meal and silage may be used far more profitably than a ration of *cotton seed meal* and cotton seed hulls for fattening cattle.

Kindly reread paragraph five and get its full force. That tells the whole story in a few words.

Shipping Facilities

The shipping facilities of the Spur country are ample. There are two shipping stations within the ranch; Spur and Girard; on the Wichita Valley Railroad (part of the Burlington System).

General

Some portions of Texas ranch lands are so badly infested with prairie dogs as to make them almost worthless in grass production. The extermination of these dogs on Spur lands has been accomplished, as more specifically referred to in preceding pages.

Showing the comparative prices of grass in rented or owned lands—a recent announcement from Cottonwood Falls, Kansas, stated that six to eight dollars per head for grazing privileges during the pasture season was being paid on the pasture country of that neighborhood. *It pays to own the grass to develop your own cattle.*

The climate in the Spur country is splendid. There is no more healthy and pleasant

region—altitude of the 673 square miles of Spur Ranch lands varies from 2,000 to 2,600 feet.

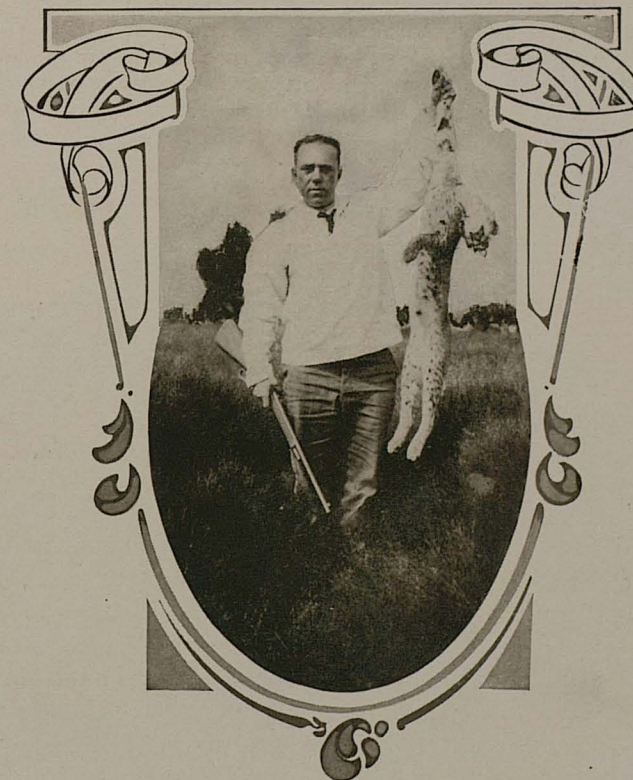
If you are not personally interested, you may have some friend who is looking for just such a chance. There are men whose training inclines them to the raising of stock instead of straight farming, and Spur stock farms and small ranch tracts will give them an opportunity to get in—or remain in this business. It will be perpetually a profitable and pleasant business.

Hogs, Horses and Mules

While we have considered cattle chiefly in this booklet, hog ranches, horse or mule ranches will find excellent locations here. Vigorous, healthy, well-muscled, sound-footed stock are the natural results of conditions on the Spur ranch lands and the great success of those who have branched out in this character of stock raising is full assurance that it will be a paying business on any scale.

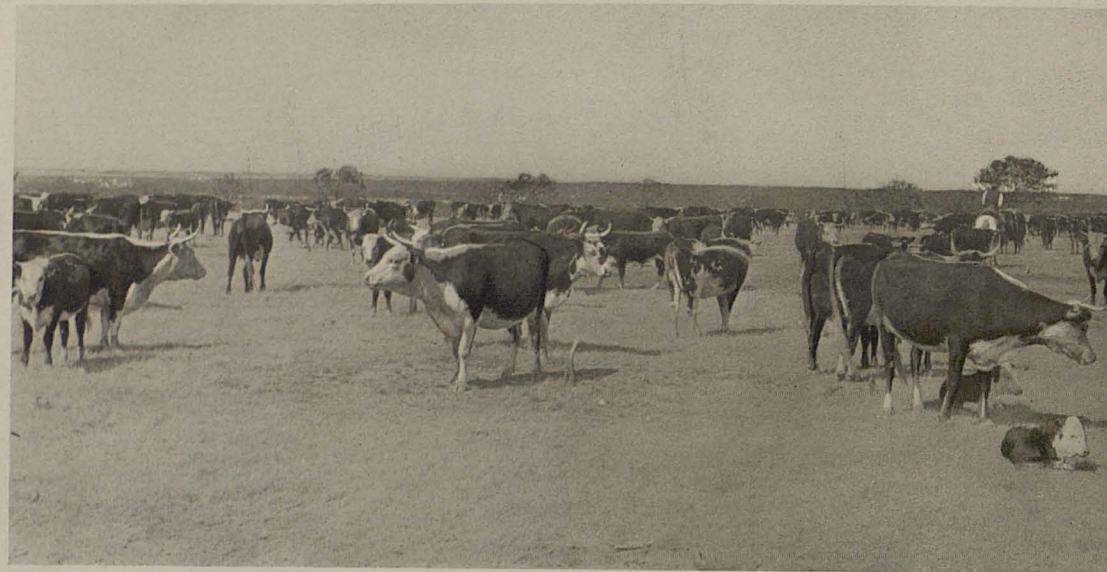
We will be very glad to have you visit the lands, and make a personal selection, and every facility will be provided for thorough inspection.

For further particulars address: **Clifford B. Jones**, Manager for S. M. Swenson & Sons, Spur, Dickens County, Texas.



A Spur Ranch Trophy

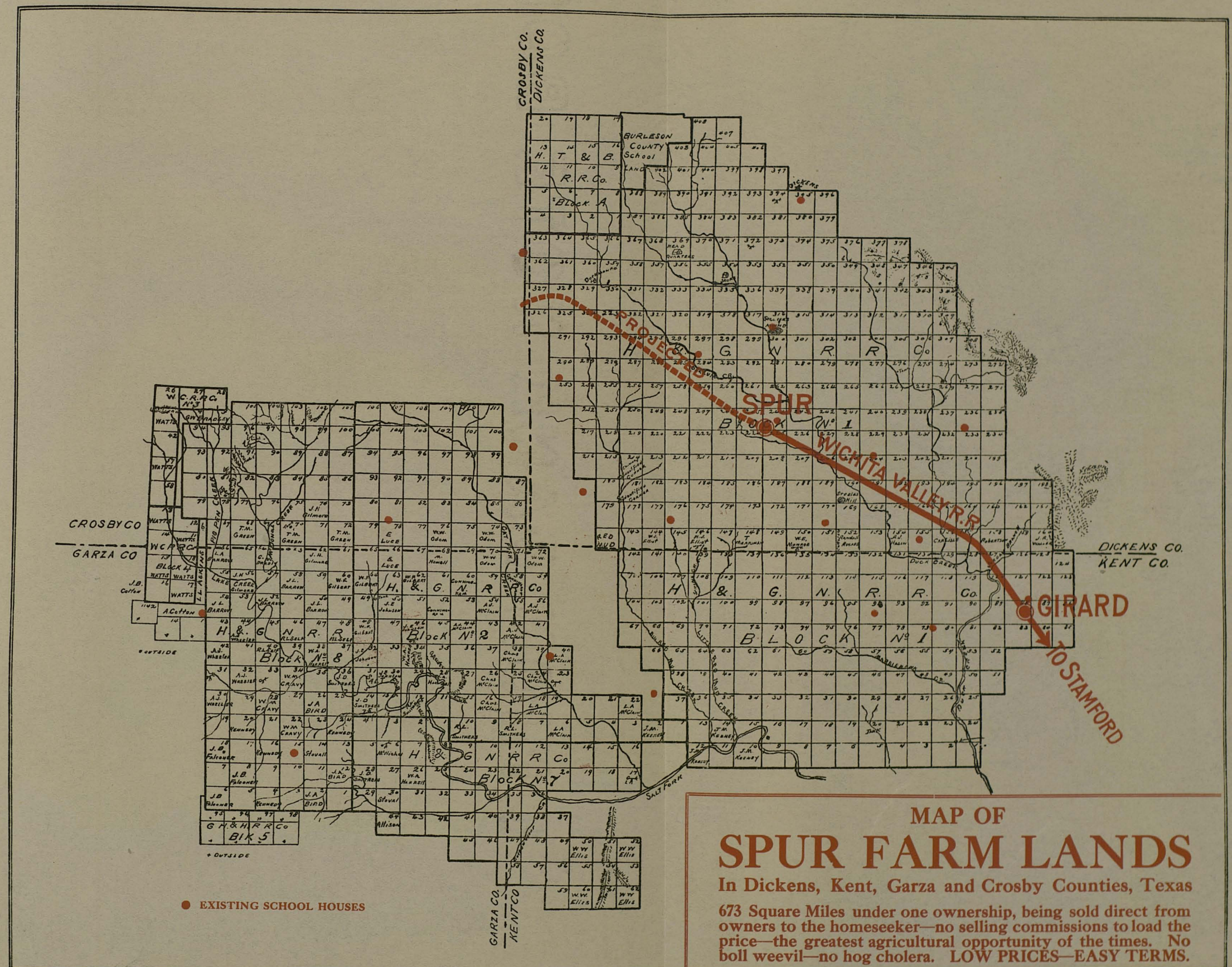
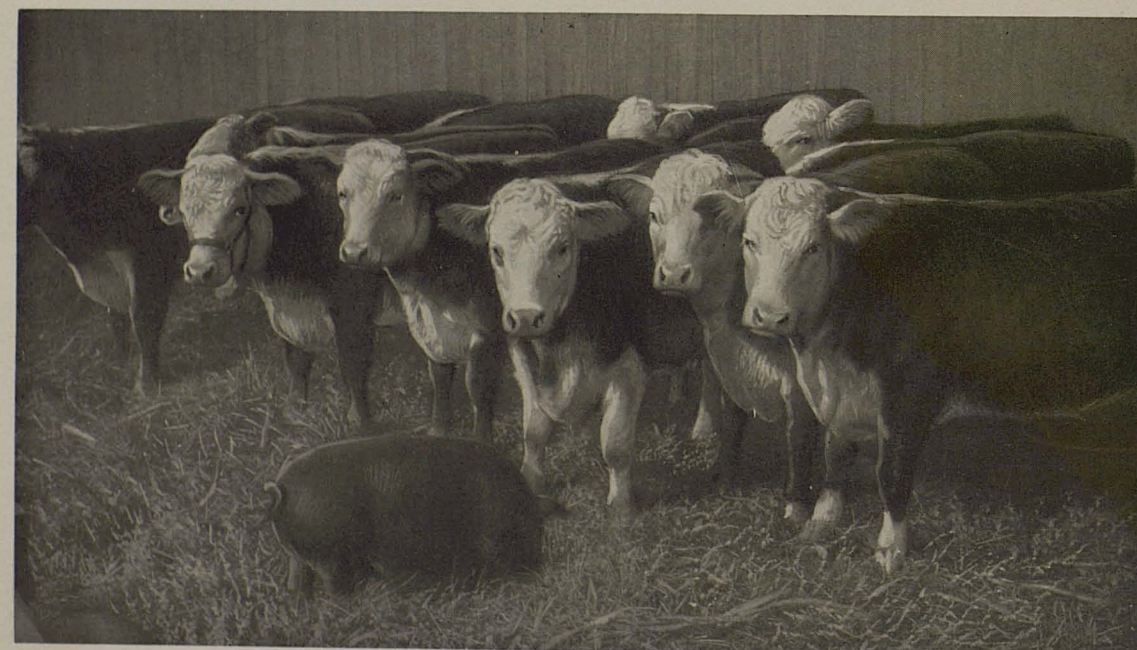
S. M. S. FEEDING CATTLE



Typical Pasture Scene. S. M. S. Roundup.

The upper picture shows the general character of S. M. S. Cattle as they may be seen at any round up. The lower picture shows the finish of our breeding on feed. Our booklet tells all about them, and we will mail free the S. M. S. illustrated booklet to anyone interested in well bred calves or yearlings for feeding or breeding purposes.

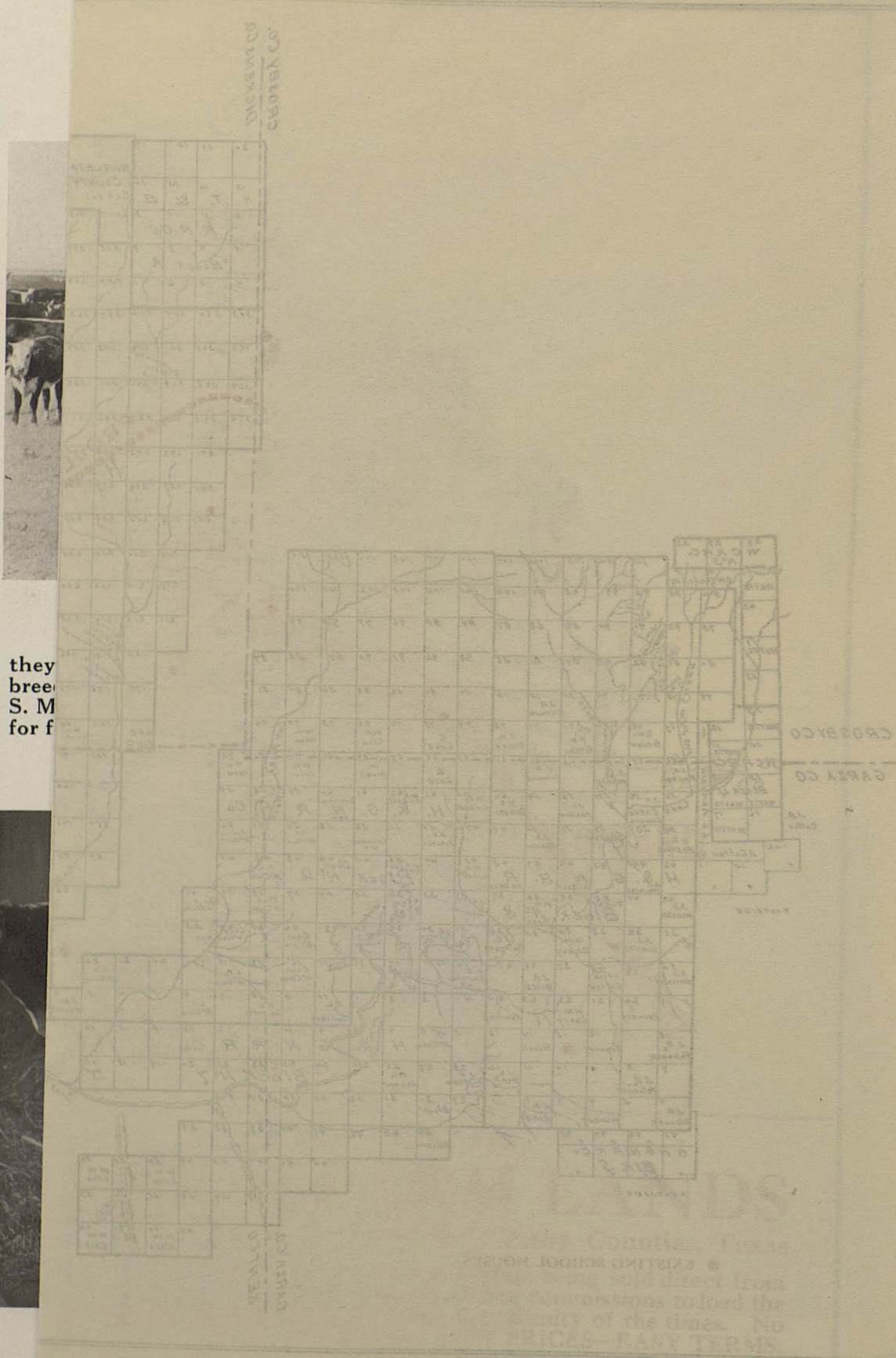
SWENSON BROTHERS,
F. S. Hastings, Manager. Stamford, Texas.



MAP OF SPUR FARM LANDS

In Dickens, Kent, Garza and Crosby Counties, Texas

673 Square Miles under one ownership, being sold direct from owners to the homeseeker—no selling commissions to load the price—the greatest agricultural opportunity of the times. No boll weevil—no hog cholera. LOW PRICES—EASY TERMS.



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SPUR FARM LANDS

Are in a wonderful climate, reliable in production, reasonable in price, and on terms so favorable that any good farmer who applies average intelligence and industry can make the land pay itself out entirely from the products thereof.

SOUTHW. EST
COLLECTION