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HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT DEPUTATION WORK?

Did you know that a quiet, earnest group of men were making a reputation for this college in a way that you have probably not heard of before? Yet other colleges in the South have strong organizations in the work. Why not A. & M.?

The work in question is what is known as deputation work, and consists of sending out groups of men into rural communities to make speeches upon religious, agricultural or engineering subjects, and to take a part in rural organizations generally.

During the whole of last year, W. P. Martin led a religious service at Union Hill every Sunday evening. The people of that community were more than glad to have a man from the college do this. Mr. Martin made some of the warmest friends of his four years in college by doing this work. He also gained an insight into the undercurrents of a rural community, which will be of inestimable value to him after leaving college. He also gained a new conception of his Maker, by mingling with people who had never bothered about the theory of evolution or the laws of physics. It was a surprise to the people of this community that a man

from the A. & M. College would do such work. For they had always considered the college as a place where hazing and other "roughneck" stunts were the common occupation of the students. Imagine in what a new and different and better light the work of Mr. Martin must have placed the college in their eyes.

Something over two weeks ago B. H. Faber and G. C. Moffett went to Steep Hollow Church and made speeches on "Why I Am a Christian—From a Student's Standpoint." They were well received and were asked many questions which they could not answer.

But it was definitely demonstrated that the people of rural communities were ready, willing and anxious to know the college man's viewpoint of religion.

Something over a week ago two groups went out on the same Sunday. B. H. Faber, O. W. Greene and R. W. Stiles went to an Italian settlement called Smetana. The Italians are steadily displacing the negro in some rural communities today, very much to the negro's chagrin, of course. In one community in Brazos County there has already been one race riot between the negroes and Italians, and others are imminent. There is a problem here for all agricultural students, i. e., the proper co-

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ordination of the energies of the two races, without arousing enmity between them. For in a few years the conditions will be the same over a large part of the South as they are today in the community cited.

On the same day Prof. Blackwell and three Seniors, V. C. Denton, S. C. McCarty and S. K. Mason, went to Union Hill and each made a speech. They expressed themselves as being of the opinion that such work was well worth while.

Certain it is that there are many opportunities right here in Brazos County for such work to be done.

Some things have already been brought out. The farmers of Brazos County do not think that the A. & M. College has anything that will help the farmer. The veterinary department is excepted in making this statement. But the writer has actually seen fields within one mile of the college being plowed with oxen which were hitched to tools that were more properly used in the Middle Ages. Neither did these fields show any marks of the scientific management which we all know is well taught at this college. I have also heard farmers say that they were opposed to

the college on any grounds, because it made taxes higher to support it. It is also a fact that a smaller percent of people living near the college send their sons to it than of those living farther away.

So, readers, you see there is a purpose and a service in the sending out of groups of men on deputation work. It only takes time and the benefits derived by those who go fully repay them for the time. So please give this subject some thoughtful consideration and then if you would like to know something more, make an inquiry to the general secretary of the Y. M. C. A. or some of the members of the cabinet.

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