

VALLEY LAND CO. TO GIVE FARM TO SOME AGGIE

With the viewpoint of securing the services of a qualified and hustling A. and M. man as an actual citrus grower, to take the lead in development of the citrus industry, the American Rio Grande Land and Irrigation Company, general offices at Mercedes, is making a most liberal offer to an A. and M. graduate. They proposed to deed over to an A. and M. graduate who demonstrates his ability as well as his stickability, twenty-three acres of land on their North Capizallo tract, near Mercedes. This land, according to Dean E. J. Kyle of the School of Agriculture, and Director B. Youngblood, who selected the land and announced the proposed award is as good as the best land in that section and will be easily worth between \$4,500 to \$5,000 when it is turned over to the man selected.

In announcing the conditions governing this gift, Dean Kyle stated that the idea that Mrs. John C. McReynolds of Dallas, sister to Harry L. Seay, vice president of the organization, and H. B. Seay, vice-president of the company, had in their minds when this plan was conceived, was that if they could get a wide awake, highly practical A. and M. man, well grounded in the necessary subjects relating to horticulture, etc., to take over his own place down there, that he probably would become the leader in the development of the citrus growing industry. Improved conditions and methods as well as types should result from the study and work of such a man.

"The land from which this acreage is to be taken is as good as the best in the Valley," said Dean Kyle in discussing the matter. "It is being farmed by a high type of farmer who has been meeting with splendid success. Ever alert for improvement it is the theory of Mrs. McReynolds and Mr. Seay that an A. and M. man with some practical experience should be able to set new marks of production and quality and develop into a leader from every standpoint in the section where their holdings are. The American Rio Grande Land and Irrigation Company is one of the most forward-looking organizations dealing in irrigated lands in the lower Rio Grande Valley, and while the plan was conceived and fostered by Mrs. McReynolds and Mr. Seay, it has had the widespread support of the entire organization.

"After a trip to the Valley with Director B. Youngblood of the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station system, and after consultation with Mr. Seay and Dr. Youngblood, as well as Arthur T. Potts, horticulturist to the Experiment Station system, we have drawn up the following regulations governing the selection of the Aggie to whom this offer is to be awarded and the full details of the award:

"The American Rio Grande Land & Irrigation Company, general offices at Mercedes, Texas, offers to deed 23 acres of land situated on their North Capizallo tract to a graduate of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas, under the following conditions:

"1. The offer shall be open to any person who has graduated from the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas, during the past five years, including the class of 1925.

"2. The person must have made grades above the average during his college course.

"3. In addition to other general work and technical agricultural courses, he must have completed the follow-

ing specific subjects: Plant Propagation, Vegetable Gardening, Poultry, Entomology and Sub-tropical Fruits.

"4. He must be of a highly practical nature and possess character of leadership and a high moral character.

"5. He must agree to work as a day laborer in the orchards and gardens of the American Rio Grande Land & Irrigation Company for a period of 60 days prior to taking charge of the tract of land. This is to acquire practical experience.

"6. He must agree to live on the land and develop it along the lines of citrus fruits, truck farming and poultry for a period of five years.

"7. Applications must be submitted to the following committee:

"Dean E. J. Kyle, Director B. Youngblood and Professor A. T. Potts, not later than February 20, 1925. Recommendations from heads of departments in which work is done and testimonials in regard to practical accomplishments will be welcomed by the committee.

"8. The same committee will select the land.

"9. The winner of the prize will be announced by President Bizzell Commencement day, June 2, 1925."

She: "I showed father the verses that you sent me. He was pleased with them."

He: "Indeed. What did he say?"

She: "He said that he was delighted to find that I wasn't going to marry a poet.—Ex.

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