

DISCOVERY AFTER DIGITIZATION: ENCOURAGING RESEARCH THROUGH ENGAGEMENT

Deborah Cooper
Digital & Special Collections Librarian
Mann Library
Cornell University

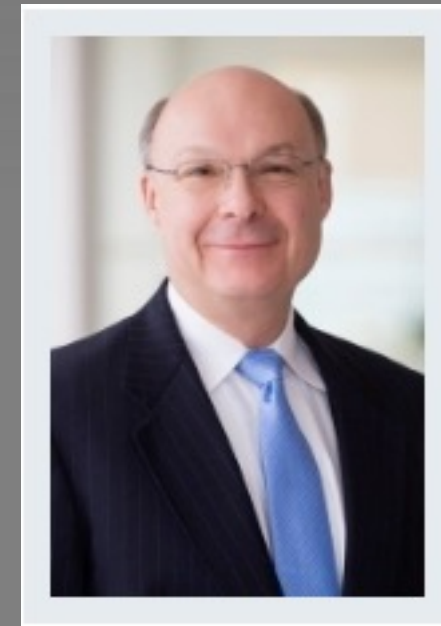
Selena Bryant
Teaching & Learning Librarian
Mann Library
Cornell University

Presentation
ACRL Digital Scholarship Section
May 28, 2021

Collection History and “Rediscovery” of *The Modern Farmer*



Thane Scott,
great-grandson of
James P. Davis



James P. Davis (right), Editor,
The Modern Farmer

THE MODERN FARMER

Vol. VIII.

NASHVILLE, TENN., MAY 15, 1935

No. 4

Talks To Colored Farmers About "Supporting The A A A"

SEC. LEON HARRIS GIVES INFORMATION

**Editor Modern Farmer
And Federation Official
Presents Unanswerable Facts**

BROTHER FARMERS:—Got a letter from a Texas farmer the other day and he asked me a direct, clear question. His question was, "Should colored farmers support the policies of the AAA?" (Agricultural Adjustment Administration). Said he wanted to know because a lot of Texas leaders, colored and white, were cussing the AAA, especially the cotton plan, going and coming, and they had him thinking hard but all mixed up.

I gave him a plain answer. I told him "Yes, support the AAA,—keep on supporting its policies,—and tell your brother farmers in Texas to do the same." I am certain the good brother will do this if he keeps on "thinking hard" as he says he's doing.

When President Roosevelt started the AAA to look after his No

RAW VEGETABLE DAY

It is the Fibrous Structure You Soften

Why do we cook vegetables? Some people say we shouldn't, and it is true that cooking takes away some food values. For this reason it is advisable to eat at least one raw vegetable or fruit each day, to get food values you might lose in cooking.

With most vegetables, it is the fibrous structure you soften when you cook them. The fibrous structure is the invisible framework that gives shape and form, and holds together the other substances of the vegetable. In scientific cookery, this material is called cellulose. It is what we commonly call "roughage." It cannot be digested in the human body and is useful for that very reason. Its job is to furnish bulk of a kind that helps to eliminate the waste products of digestion.

Cooking for Flavor

You cook vegetables to soften the cellulose just enough to make it an agreeable carrier or container of the

LEARN NEW PROFESSION

Students Given Course In Soil Erosion Control

Progress of the soil erosion control work now under way in Iowa and Missouri and slated for expansion soon is handicapped to some extent by the lack of trained personnel for this specialized type of work, sponsors of federal projects say.

"Trainees"

As soon as the college year closes next June the number of "trainees" will be increased to from 65 to 75. Most of these recruits are being drawn from the ranks of the colleges of agriculture at Columbia, Mo., and Ames, Ia.

It is probable that these men as soon as their training course is completed will be assigned to various areas in the two states where definite projects have been established with farmers agreeing to co-operate in controlling erosion and adopting a system of farming that will shift some of their farm land from cultivated crops to grass.

It Pays To Own Your Own Home

PROPOSED FARM TENANTS

Home Crop Is Given Endorsement by Jordan

Editor Constitution: I read with deep interest and approval the statement published in The Constitution relative to a proposed bill by Senator John H. Bankhead, of Alabama, to create and finance a Farm Tenants' Home Corporation operative by the federal government.

No greater service could be rendered to the south and nation than the establishment of a federal system by which efficient and capable tenant farmers could be encouraged and aided to become prosperous and independent small landowners.

Approximately 75 per cent of the farmers in Georgia and the other cotton states are either tenants or sharecroppers. This unfortunate system has developed a distressing condition

NATIONAL BETTER HOUSING PROGRAM WILL HELP FARMERS

Here's How You Benefit

Your Home—Repairs, alterations, and home improvements result in healthier surroundings, a lightening of every-day tasks, and a more livable environment for the entire family. New equipment and home improvements, new paint, additional plumbing and heating conveniences attract the young people in a family and give them pride and satisfaction in the farm home.

Your Farmstead—Well-maintained farm buildings permit efficiency in farming operations, more orderly marketing of products, and decreased fire hazards and insurance. Satisfactory, improved buildings, well equipped and in proper condition, provide better protection for farm machinery, equipment, supplies, livestock.

1929-1949

SAVE MORE! EARN MORE! HAVE MORE! BE MORE!

Every Colored Farmer

SHOULD BE A MEMBER OF THE

The National Federation of Colored Farmers

ORGANIZED, JUNE 5, 1922
PROGRESSIVE, Not Radical!

INCORPORATED, NOVEMBER 19, 1930
SANE, NOT VISIONARY!

**IF A FARM OWNER, TENANT, SHARECROPPER OR
FARM HAND, YOU SHOULD JOIN THIS ORGANIZATION**

It is the only national organization of colored farmers in America.
Its growth has been steady and substantial.
Its officers and leaders are men of experience and foresight.
It is non-partisan and non-secret.
Its actions speak louder than its words.
Its policies are sane, sound and progressive.

It teaches co-operative buying, production and marketing.
It is a builder of Negro farm communities.
It promotes the general interest of all its members.
It studies and investigates all agricultural problems.
It fosters the improvement of rural homes, and rural life.
Its members work together to accomplish what cannot be done individually.
It makes farm business more profitable.



Delegates to 1932 Annual Convention, N. F. C. F. Memphis, Tennessee.

The following are excerpts from letters on file in the national office:

"Through the N.F.C.F. we have been able to grow crops in Wisconsin that none thought could be grown here. We are planning for

"Since joining the N.F.C.F. we have saved in our community from 25 to 40 per cent on the purchase price of farm and home supplies."

farms and handle them in a workmanlike manner."

W. B. Clark, Land Dept.

"The National Federation of Colored Farmers believes that the Colored Farmers of America should own and control their own co-operative associations--*Cooperation with All--Affiliation with None.*"

Background and life during *The Modern Farmer*



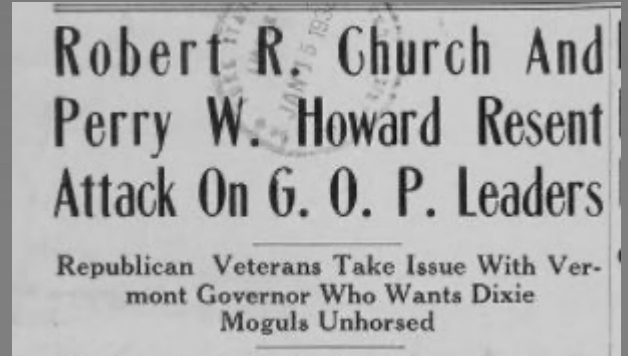
Lange, 1937, <http://digitalcollections.nypl.org/>



Lange, 1937, <http://digitalcollections.nypl.org/>

Found in *The Modern Farmer*

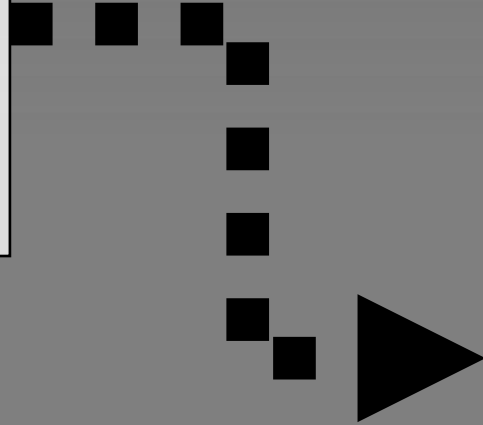
- Agricultural Information
- Politics
- Women's section
- Christian Faith



Determining our outreach strategy

STARTING POINT:

- Printed volumes had little usage
- Full run digitized and accessible via the Internet Archive
- Page views 2017-2019, under 300 per volume
- Some occasional outreach via social media, internal stakeholders



GOALS:

- Go big and broad!
- Reach as many people as possible
- Don't limit ourselves to faculty
- Tell the story with digital tools.
- Convey a lot of info, accessibly
- Provide context



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The Modern Farmer

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

The Modern Farmer was a national monthly **African American** publication published in Chicago, Illinois, and Nashville, Tennessee, by the **National Federation of Colored Farmers** (NFCF). It was published between 1929 and 1949 for African American farmers. The editors were Leon Ray Harris and James P. Davis, the president of the NFCF, Head Field Officer of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, and a member of President Roosevelt's "Black Cabinet."^{[1][2]}

Contents

- History
 - The National Federation of Colored Farmers (NFCF)
 - The Modern Farmer* newspaper
- Editorial Perspective and Breadth
- References

History



Black in S.T.E.M. Wikipedia Edit-a-Thon

Thursday, Feb. 25
4:00-6:00 pm

- Open to everyone, no prior Wikipedia experience necessary.
- Optional training during the first hour.
- Join and leave when you want!

Register at:

bit.ly/black-in-stem-wikipedia2021

Co-sponsored by Mann Library & MANRRS-Cornell





The Modern Farmer: Home

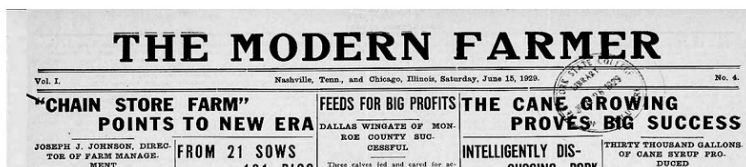
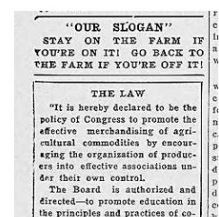
Search this Guide Search

This guide covers *The Modern Farmer*, a serial publication from 1929-1949 published by the National Federation of Colored Farmers (NFCF) and the history of Black Americans in agriculture.

URL: <https://guides.library.cornell.edu/modernfarmer>

- Home
- History of the Modern Farmer
- Instruction
- Related Sources
- Contact Us
- Black in STEM Wikipedia Edit-a-Thon

Excerpt from The Modern Farmer



Purpose of This Guide

This Guide focuses on the historical periodical *The Modern Farmer*, covering the history of the publication and related topics; the history of African Americans in Agriculture and the history of African Americans in the Labor Movement.

Mann Library holds the only known surviving print copies, and the complete run is fully digitized. Like any newspaper or serial published at that time, it was originally received at Cornell by postal subscription before Mann Library even existed. Then when Mann was established as the agricultural library in 1952, The Modern Farmer became part of our historical holdings.

Learn how you can use *The Modern Farmer* for instruction and research.

The Modern Farmer Periodical

The Modern Farmer was one of the only serial publications published in the Depression-era United States that was aimed at African-American farmers. It was published between 1929-1949 by the National Federation of



The Modern Farmer: Black in STEM Wikipedia Edit-a-Thon

Search this Guide Search

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Wikipedia Event

Black in S.T.E.M. Wikipedia Edit-a-Thon

Thursday, February 25, 2021 from 4:00pm - 6:00pm

Join us at this edit-a-thon to honor and highlight under-recognized contributions in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (S.T.E.M.), by people in the African diaspora! Open to anyone interested in making Wikipedia a more inclusive space.

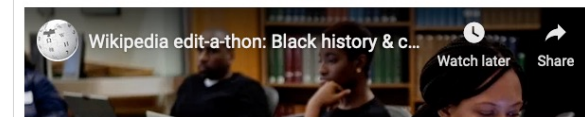
No prior Wikipedia editing experience is necessary; there is optional training during the first hour. If you know how to edit Wikipedia drop in at any time! Stay as long as you want. There will be editing suggestions depending on whether you have 30 min, 60 min or the whole 2 hours!

[Register for the event here](#) to get the Zoom link.

You can edit through the [outreach dashboard](#) the day of and several days after!

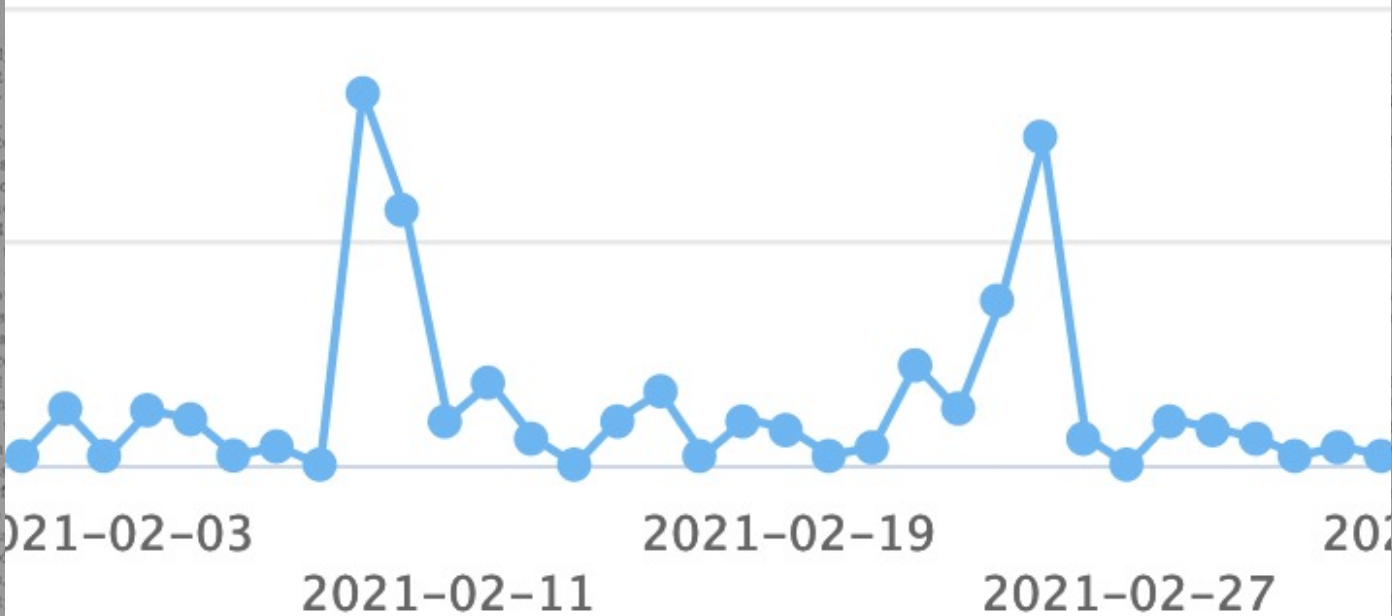
Check out the Outreach dashboard above for a list of suggested articles to edit.

Learn more about editing Wikipedia in this [Libguide](#).



LibGuide
<https://guides.library.cornell.edu/modernfarmer>

RESULTS: LibGuide



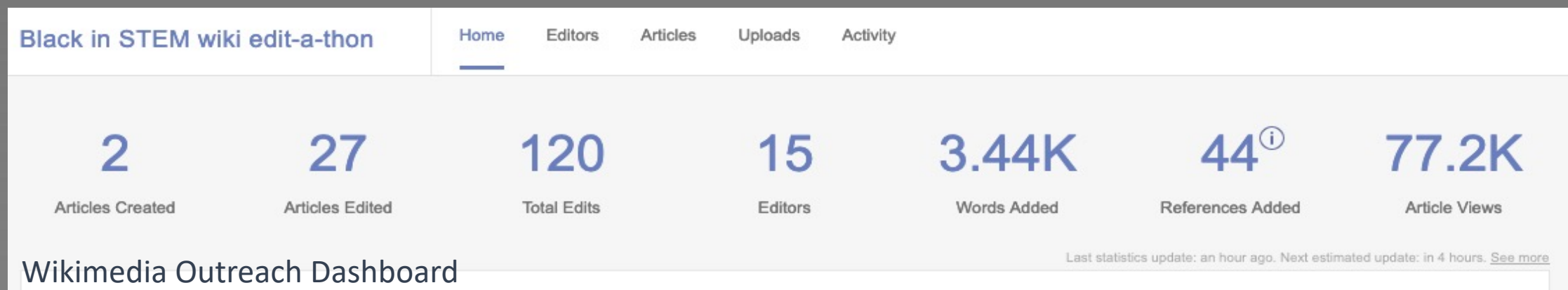
RESULTS: Wikipedia Page

References [[edit](#) | [edit source](#)]

- [^] Cornell University Libraries (February 27, 2020). "Modern Farmer" [↗](#). *Mann Library Tumblr*.
- [^] ^{***a***} ^{***b***} "The Modern Farmer" [↗](#).
- [^] "Illustrated Feature Section" [↗](#). *Richmond Planet*. May 24, 1930.
- [^] ^{***a***} ^{***b***} *The world of Jim Crow America : a daily life encyclopedia* [↗](#). Reich, Steven A. (Steven Andrew), 1965-. Santa Barbara, California. 24 June 2019. ISBN 978-1-4408-5081-3. OCLC 1081339954 [↗](#).
- [^] Gordon Nembhard, Jessica (March 2018). "African American Cooperatives and Sabotage: The Case for Reparations" [↗](#). *The Journal of African American History*. **103** (1–2): 65–90. doi:10.1086/696361 [↗](#). ISSN 1548-1867 [↗](#). S2CID 224828547 [↗](#).
- [^] ^{***a***} ^{***b***} Roll, Jarod (2012-06-10), Reid, Debra; Bennett, Evan (eds.), "The Lazarus of American Farmers": The Politics of Black Agrarianism in the Jim Crow South, 1921–1938" [↗](#), *Beyond Forty Acres and a Mule*, University Press of Florida, pp. 132–149, doi:10.5744/florida/9780813039862.003.0007 [↗](#), ISBN 978-0-8130-3986-2, retrieved 2020-10-19
- [^] *The world of Jim Crow America : a daily life encyclopedia* [↗](#). Steven A. Reich. Santa Barbara, California. 2019. ISBN 978-1-4408-5081-3. OCLC 1081339954 [↗](#).
- [^] "Tell of Methods to get Farm Loans". *The Chicago Defender*. January 24, 1931.
- [^] Jones, Lu Ann (Spring 1998). "In Search of Jennie Booth Moton, Field Agent, AAA" [↗](#). *Agricultural History*. 72, No 2. (2): 446–458. JSTOR 3744392 [↗](#) – via JSTOR.
- [^] The Chicago Defender (October 29, 1938). "10 GOVERNORS ENDORSE FARM GROUP CONFAB: 4 NAME REPRESENTATIVES TO ATTEND MEETING AT FORSYTH, GA". *Chicago Defender*.
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- [^] National Federation of Colored Farmers (Feb 15, 1933). *The Modern farmer* [↗](#). Cornell University Library. Nashville, Tenn., and Chicago, Ill., National federation of colored farmers, inc. p. 1.
- [^] National Federation of Colored Farmers (June 15, 1933). *The Modern farmer* [↗](#). Cornell University Library. Nashville, Tenn., and Chicago, Ill., National federation of colored farmers, inc. p. 3.
- [^] Franklin, John Hope (1940). "Rochdale Cooperation among Negroes" [↗](#). *Phylon*. **1** (1): 39–52. doi:10.2307/271171 [↗](#). JSTOR 271171 [↗](#).
- [^] ^{***a***} ^{***b***} National Federation of Colored Farmers (May 16, 1932). *The Modern farmer* [↗](#). Cornell University Library. Nashville, Tenn., and Chicago, Ill., National Federation of Colored Farmers, inc. pp. 4–5.

Categories: [African-American newspapers](#) | [History of agriculture in the United States](#)

RESULTS: Wikipedia Edit-A-Thon Event



“Learning a lot about the National Federation of Colored Farmers and their newspaper The Modern Farmer. Will continue! Thanks.” Eliza B.

“Thank you. I learned a bunch!”
Carmen G.

... farm organiza-
... remedies which must
... to American agriculture
... can be any hope that
... over from the many ills
... afflict it, and arise to the
... gnized as the prime in-
...-line Nation. The three
... are these:
... farmers must ORGANIZE to
... their products.
... Farm surpluses must be
... by a STRONG ORGANIZA-
... the interest of farmers.
... ORGANIZATION must be on
...-line rather than on a poli-
...
... three remedies, and for
...-lar benefit of colored farm-
... must be added. The
...-edy is:
... ED FARMERS MUST
... STRONG GROUP OR-
...-ON FOR THEIR OWN
...-ION.
... glad that we can say that
...-st and enthusiasm shown
... farmers in the organiza-
...-tion of the National Federa-
...-tion of Colored Farmers,— which is
...-ization for a million of us,
...-out a doubt that most of
...-at a strong group organ-
...-sential. It is so neces-
...-sary and welfare that
...-as come when we cannot
...-do without it. IT MUST
...-d IT MUST FUNCTION.
...-ican colored farmer must
...-support it, and it, in turn,
...-to every American colored
...-very advice,—the very
...-—and the very protection
...-and must have.
...-re in America more than
...-a colored farmers and ap-
...-y twenty-five per cent of
...-their own farms. The
...-ederation of Colored Farm-
...-organization for these farm-
...-provides the medium for
...-h which the first remedy
...-in this article for the ben-
...-k agriculture may be ap-
...-is here to market their

Your membership and your support of it is bound to make it a STRONG ORGANIZATION. We said that the second remedy for sick agriculture is "that farm surpluses must be handled by a STRONG ORGANIZATION in YOUR interests."
We are not one bit egotistical or big-headed when we proclaim, honestly and proudly, that you have right now, a STRONG ORGANIZATION. Its only weakness is its small membership. You farmers who have not as yet joined and paid your annual dues are responsible for this. But, in every other way, we proclaim that it is strong. Its leaders are men of experience,—men of faith,—men of vision. Its leaders are men who will not recognize the existence of such a bumble as "failure." Recently, a prominent Negro educator remarked to the president of YOUR ORGANIZATION, "Brother, you have tackled a mighty hard job." The president replied,—"I am used to hard jobs. The harder my job the better I have learned to do it." Such men have founded YOUR ORGANIZATION. Plain, strong men.
No colored farmer who is acquainted with the aims of his organization can accuse his organization and leaders of a lack of the knowledge necessary to establish it upon an unshakable foundation. The stated purpose and reasons for the establishment of YOUR ORGANIZATION read like a Negro Farmer's Magna Charta,—like a Negro Farmer's Declaration of Independence. We say that "the time" for such an organization "has arrived." It has. Who doubts it? Certainly not the poor colored farmer who has been toiling and struggling for a mere existence for himself and family all of his life. Certainly not the colored farmer who has never known a day when he was out of debt. Certainly not the colored farmer who has never known what it was to receive fair price for his products. This farmer SURELY KNOWS that the time is ripe and rotten-ripe for some kind of a chance, and we believe he will receive, with open arms, an organization that promises relief and assistance.
So we say that the time has come when colored farmers should form a National Organization devoted to scientific farming (which is only sensible, successful, farming),—to the right way to prepare farm products

... put the producer close to
... your friend, the consumer. It
... will decrease the cost of marketing
... your products. Some of the money
... you are now paying for freight and
... storage (for YOU PAY IT,—don't for-
... get that) will fall back into your own
... money-sack. It will minimize decay
... and waste, and the consumer will
... get your products fresher and in bet-
...-ter condition. This will make him
... love you all the more.
We also say that it is the aim of
... OUR ORGANIZATION to keep in
...-touch with all matters of National
...-Legislation affecting agriculture and
... to keep you, the members, inform-
...-ed. Ignorance is not bliss here in
...-America. It is not bliss either.
...-Legislation already passed by Con-
...-gress and by various States and
...-tures for the benefit of farmers and
...-some colored farmers little good,
...-simply because they knew nothing
...-about it, or because they did not
...-know the right way to take advantage
...-of it. It may have been that the
...-enactors of it were sharp enough
...-and sharp enough to use word the
...-bill was a remedy for colored
...-people, but the farmers all over
...-the country have borrowed mil-
...-lions of dollars from the government,
...-at interest, through the banks,
...-banks, and the money has been
...-ed long for it, but they have not
...-got it. A way could always be
...-found to turn down the colored ap-
...-plicant. YOUR ORGANIZATION
...-simply tells you the right way to
...-talk to the government and to
...-edit the colored farmer's organ,
...-can farmers.
We also say that the "problems of
...-the farmer's wife will not be over-
...-looked." When there are hungry
...-Helen, who is a mother and a
...-might be a mother and a mother
...-love for her husband and chil-
...-dren, the wife of the average col-
...-ored farmer would be the most mis-
...-erable feminine creature on the face
...-of the earth. She is hogtied to an
...-existence that promises little indeed
...-and no woman on earth is more de-
...-serving of all the happiness life can
...-afford. YOUR ORGANIZATION
...-promises much for her and certainly
...-you will want YOUR ORGANIZA-
...-TION to make good this promise.
We also say that "on the Federa-
...-tion's staff are marketing experts." These experienced men will be able
...-to tell you how you can get the most
...-money for what you have labored
...-for.

... ing promise. The founders of
... YOUR ORGANIZATION know that
... something cannot be gotten for noth-
...-ing. YOUR ORGANIZATION will
...-succeed because YOU will put your-
...-self and your money into it. You
...-will market your products and pur-
...-chase your supplies cooperatively.
...-You will link and plan and work to-
...-gether. The colored farmer and his
...-wife are running an organized busi-
...-ness household. The farmer's
...-power will increase—your wealth
...-will increase, and no politician nor
...-political party will dare withhold
...-from you the recognition you deserve.
...-You will have influence—you will be
...-felt—because you will have the
...-brains, the organization and the
...-money to back you.
...-The colored farmer must func-
...-tion. This is the remedy for the
...-ills of American agriculture which
...-we Negro farmers must apply. We
...-must get out of the bushes. We
...-must hold up our heads and keep our
...-chins up. We must stop being
...-mealy-mouthed. We have brains
...-enough to talk sense and business so
...-let's talk it. Farming is a business,
...-and there is something wrong some-
...-where when our business shows a
...-loss. Let's discuss the matter and
...-correct it. Get into YOUR OR-
...-GANIZATION and stay there. Talk
...-to it. Work for it. Pray for it.
...-It is the only way to get out of
...-this mess. It is the only way to
...-win. It is the only way to
...-will be the most mournful, the most
...-melancholy, the most miserable song
...-a colored farmer can sing. Let it
...-be a song of praise and thanksgiving
...-for this.

... But live, man live! Here is YOUR
...-ORGANIZATION shining as brightly
...-as the noon-day sun. Get in the
...-sunlight. Start with it and grow
...-with it. JOIN THE NATIONAL
...-FEDERATION OF COLORED FARM-
...-ERS AND JOIN TODAY!
Plow, Plant and Prosper
We all read about the much talked
...-of Farm Bill that was passed by U.
...-S. Senate in Washington for an ap-
...-propriation of about 2 millions of dol-
...-lars for the agricultural development
...-and relief of the farmers.
If the colored farmer and land

... have the same mind to
...-bring about a more co-operative
...-effort on the part of Negro Farm-
...-ers.
2. SIGNS OF THE TIMES. The
...-signs of the times point to co-opera-
...-tive effort in all directions, whether
...-in production or distribution. The
...-springing up of numerous chain
...-stores is a splendid example of co-
...-operative buying and selling exempli-
...-fied in every community.
3. THE AMERICAN FARM FEDERA-
...-TION. A splendid example of this
...-is the magnificent piece of co-opera-
...-tive work being demonstrated by the
...-American Farm Bureau Federation
...-(white). This organization is ten
...-years old with a membership of 300,
...-000 in forty-five states. They have
...-led the way.
The colored farmer is laying out his
...-about the same time as the white
...-of the last of August. The first eggs of
...-the season are rarely fertile. Fertili-
...-ty and vitality are the keystones of
...-success to duck culture.
One way to make money out of
...-ducks is to be ready with a good sup-
...-ply at the opening of the season,
...-writes Michael K. Boyer in the Farm
...-and Ranch. Another important item
...-is the value of the manure, that of
...-duck ranking second to hog for grow-
...-ing vegetables.
The trade for ducks is largely
...-found in the restaurants and moun-
...-tain and shore resorts, where they
...-are served in quarters—the carcass
...-being cut into four pieces. Conse-
...-quently a duck weighing 4 or 5
...-pounds will yield a profit of its
...-carcass and its manure. A duck will
...-weighing 2 pounds more.
In all large cities, where there is a
...-large Jewish population, live ducks
...-are in demand. In Chinese sections
...-of cities, ducks are raised for the
...-exchange.

... States and the co-operation of good
...-will of the public. It hopes to be
...-a mighty lever to the "man with the
...-hoe." Its desire is to bring sunshine
...-and happiness to the friends of the
...-farmer by its interesting and instruc-
...-tive articles.
The price is \$1.00 per year in ad-
...-vance.
Commission is Named by Governor to
...-Help Pull Farms out of the Mud
...-Trenton,—How to pull more than
...-one-third of New Jersey's farms out
...-of the mud is the problem to be solved
...-by a commission proposed by Governor
...-Morgan F. Larson.
To carry out a pledge made in the
...-Governor's inaugural address to aid the
...-farmers, of which 2022 miles were
...-travel. On January 1, 1927, there were
...-143 miles of concrete township roads,
...-fifteen of stone block, forty-eight of
...-sheet asphalt or macadam on a concrete
...-base, twenty-eight of bituminous con-
...-crete, 132 of bituminous penetration, 270
...-of surface treated macadam, 191 of
...-water bound macadam, 150 of cinders
...-and twelve of miscellaneous surface.
Hunterdon County had the greatest
...-number of farms on unimproved high-
...-ways. Of the country's 2,605 farms,
...-1,720 were on dirt roads. Union Coun-
...-ty had three of its 525 farms on unim-
...-proved highways. Cumberland, with
...-3,340 farms, the largest number of any
...-county, had 756 on dirt roads. Mon-
...-mouth county has 2,622 farms, 528 be-
...-longing to the class of unimproved
...-roads.
lepartment, of which 2022 miles were
...-travel. On January 1, 1927, there were
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...-proved highways. Cumberland, with
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FUTURE PLANS

- To reach out to faculty directly.
- Potential for further research.
- Continue to promote the resource.

... farm organiza-
... remedies which must
... to American agriculture
... can be any hope that
... over from the many ills
... afflict it, and arise to the
... gnized as the prime in-
...-line Nation. The three
... are these:
... farmers must ORGANIZE to
... their products.
... Farm surpluses must be
... by a STRONG ORGANIZA-
... the interest of farmers.
... ORGANIZATION must be on
...-line rather than on a poli-
...
... three remedies, and for
...-lar benefit of colored farm-
... must be added. The
...-edy is:
...
... FARMERS MUST
... STRONG GROUP OR-
...-ON FOR THEIR OWN
...-ION.
... glad that we can say that
...-st and enthusiasm shown
... farmers in the organiza-
...-ins of the National Federa-
...-tion of Colored Farmers,—which is
...-ization for a million of us,
...-out a doubt that most of
...-at a strong group organ-
...-sential. It is so neces-
...-sary and welfare that
...-as come when we cannot
...-do without it. It MUST
...-d it MUST FUNCTION.
...-ican colored farmer must
...-support it, and it, in turn,
...-o every American colored
...-a very advice,—the very
...-and the very protection
...-and must have.
...-re in America more than
...-a colored farmers and ap-
...-y twenty-five per cent of
...-their own farms. The
...-ederation of Colored Farm-
...-organization for these farm-
...-provides the medium for
...-h which the first remedy
...-in this article for the ben-
...-k agriculture may be ap-
...-is here to market their

... community is dominated by our
... two schools a grammar
... that are well patronized.
... our co-operation in serving
...-e.

Your membership and your support of it is bound to make it a STRONG ORGANIZATION. We said that the second remedy for sick agriculture is "that farm surpluses must be handled by a STRONG ORGANIZATION in YOUR interests."

We are not one bit egotistical or big-headed when we proclaim, honestly and proudly, that you have right now, a STRONG ORGANIZATION. Its only weakness is its small membership. You farmers who have not as yet joined and paid your annual dues are responsible for this. But, in every other way, we proclaim that it is strong. Its leaders are men of experience,—men of faith,—men of vision. Its leaders are men who will not recognize the existence of such a bugbear as "failure." Recently, a prominent Negro educator remarked to the president of YOUR ORGANIZATION, "Brother, you have tackled a mighty hard job." The president replied, "I am used to hard jobs. The harder my job the better I have learned to love it." Such men have founded YOUR ORGANIZATION. Plain, strong men.

No colored farmer who is acquainted with the aims of his organization can accuse its organization and leaders of a lack of the knowledge necessary to establish it upon an unshakable foundation. The stated purpose and reasons for the establishment of YOUR ORGANIZATION read like a Negro Farmer's Magna Charta,—like a Negro Farmer's Declaration of Independence. We say that "the time" for such an organization "has arrived." It has. Who doubts it? Certainly not the poor colored farmer who has been toiling and struggling for a mere existence for himself and family all of his life. Certainly not the colored farmer who has never known a day when he was out of debt. Certainly not the colored farmer who has never known what it was to receive fair price for his products. This farmer SURELY KNOWS that the time is ripe and rotten-ripe for some kind of a chance, and we believe he will receive, with open arms, an organization that promises relief and assistance.

So we say that the time has come when colored farmers should form a National Organization devoted to scientific farming (which is only sensible, successful, farming),—to the right way to prepare farm products

... put the producer close to
... your friend, the consumer. It
... will decrease the cost of marketing
... your products. Some of the money
... you are now paying for freight and
... storage (for YOU PAY IT,—don't for-
... get that) will fall back into your own
... money-sack. It will minimize decay
... and waste and the consumer will
... get your products fresher and in bet-
...-ter condition. This will make him
... love you all the more.

We also say that it is the aim of
... OUR ORGANIZATION to keep in
...-touch with all matters of National
...-Legislation affecting agriculture and
... to keep you, the members, inform-
...-ed. Ignorance is not bliss here in
...-America. It is not bliss either.
...-Legislation already enacted by Con-
...-gress and by various state legisla-

... For our own protection and for our
... own welfare, this strong GROUP
... ORGANIZATION of ours must func-
...-tion. This is the remedy for the
...-ills of American agriculture which
... we Negro farmers must apply. We
...-must reach out to faculty directly.
...-Potential for further research.
...-Continue to promote the resource.

... ing promise. The founders of
... YOUR ORGANIZATION know that
... something cannot be gotten for noth-
...-ing. YOUR ORGANIZATION will
...-succeed because YOU will put your-
...-self and your money into it. You
...-will market your products and pur-
...-chase your supplies economically.
...-You will thus and in a worst
...-of-all the benefit of a like man
...-who are running a organized busi-
...-ness should do when, your buy-
...-ing power will increase—your wealth
...-will increase, and no politician nor
...-political party will dare withhold
...-from you the recognition you deserve.
...-You will have influence—you will be
...-felt—because you will have the
...-brains, the organization and the
...-money to back you.

... For our own protection and for our
... own welfare, this strong GROUP
... ORGANIZATION of ours must func-
...-tion. This is the remedy for the
...-ills of American agriculture which
... we Negro farmers must apply. We
...-must reach out to faculty directly.
...-Potential for further research.
...-Continue to promote the resource.

... YOUR ORGANIZATION will discover
...-it. YOUR ORGANIZATION will
...-correct it. Get into YOUR OR-
...-ganization. It is your duty for
...-it. And, if you don't join it, and join it,
...-now, then sink for it the old song,
...-"The Fault's In Me, My Lord." That
...-will be the most mournful, the most
...-melancholy, the most miserable song
...-a colored farmer can sing. Let it
...-be your dismal dirge, for economical-
...-ly and progressively, you will indeed
...-be a dead one.

... But live, man live! Here is YOUR
... ORGANIZATION shining as brightly
... as the noon-day sun. Get in the
... sunlight. Start with it and grow
... with it. JOIN THE NATIONAL
... FEDERATION OF COLORED FARM-
...-ERS AND JOIN TODAY!

... Plow, Plant and Prosper

... We all read about the much talked
... of Farm Bill that was passed by U.
... S. Senate in Washington for an ap-
...-propriation of about 2 millions of dol-
...-lars for the agricultural development
... and relief of the farmers.

... If the colored farmer and land

WHEN TO MARKET DUCKS

Time to Make More Money
Able to State

... ducks at eight weeks of age
... should weigh 9 pounds to 10,
... and at ten weeks ought to reach 10
... to 11 pounds. They command best
... prices about the first of May, and
... from then on until July the price
... gradually drops. From July 1 to Sep-
...-tember prices remain unchanged, but
... by September to November they are
... up again.

... The general laying season starts
... about February and continues until
... the last of August. The first eggs of
... the season are rarely fertile. Fertili-
...-ty and vitality are the keystones of
...-success to duck culture.

... writes Michael K. Boyer in the Farm
... and Ranch. Another important item
... is the value of the manure, that of
... a duck is worth about 10 cents per
... bushel. The trade for ducks is largely
... found in the restaurants and moun-
...-tain and shore resorts, where they
... are served to customers the same
... as the geese.

... In all large cities, where there is a
... large Jewish population, live ducks
... are in demand. In Chinese sections
... there is also a heavy call for this
... favorite fowl.

—Exchange

TO THE PUBLIC

Yielding to the necessity and de-
-mand for a constructive magazine de-
-voted to the interests of the Colored
-farmers of the United States, the
-Modern Farmer makes its bow to the
-public. It will be a monthly publi-
-cation and non-political. Due to the
-fact that statistic show that there
-are 218,900 Colored farmers and 727,
-000 managers tenants and croppers,
-there is every reason to believe that
-such an organ should be a valuable
-mouthpiece to the farmers of our
-Race.

... 1. BETTER TIMES. A not day
... of hope looms brightly before the
... Negro Race with splendid organiza-
...-tion and the necessary co-operation,
...-which can come only from the intelli-
...-gent activities, as will be demon-
...-strated through the National Federa-
...-tion of Colored Farmers.

... 2. SIGNS OF THE TIMES. The
... signs of the times point to co-opera-
...-tive effort in all directions, whether
... in production or distribution. The
... springing up of numerous chain
... stores is a splendid example of co-
...-operative effort in selling exempli-
...-fied in every community.

... 3. FUTURE OUTLOOK. The
... future outlook for the Negro, not only
... on the farm, but in every walk of life,
... will grow brighter and better. In
... union there is strength. Modern
... methods of production and distribu-
...-tion as exemplified by this organiza-
...-tion, will do much to bring about
... the desired conditions for thousands.

... 4. URGENT NECESSITY. The
... colored farmers position, with the
... vast majority living in southern
... states make the necessity for co-
...-operative organization all the more
... urgent in order that economic life
... might be saved and that the
... colored farmer might be able to
... live.

... 5. SELF HELP. Not for chari-
...-ty, but the desire of helping himself,
... the Negro Farmer must take
... the initiative. Not only in buying
... supplies and marketing their sur-
...-pluses, but this organization will be
... a great source of strength to our
... members in many other movements
... that might be begun for the improve-
...-ment of conditions among Negro Farmers
... everywhere.

... 6. MODERN FARMING. One
... of the most important items in the
... program of the National Federation
... from the very beginning has been to
... promote the best interest of its
... thousands of readers, but will fill in
... a bigger way, a long felt need for
... further advancing the great horde

... States and the co-operation of good
... will of the public. It hopes to be
... a mighty lever to the "man with the
... hoe." Its desire is to bring sunshine
... and happiness to the fireside of the
... farmer by its interesting and instruc-
...-tive articles.

... The price is \$1.00 per year in ad-
...-vance.

... Commission is Named by Governor to
... Help Pull Farms out of the Mud
...-Trenton,—How to pull more than
... one-third of New Jersey's farms out
... of the mud is the problem to be solved by
... a commission proposed by Governor
... Morgan F. Larson.

... To carry out a pledge made in the
... Governor's inaugural address to aid the

... 7. BETTER TIMES. A not day
... of hope looms brightly before the
... Negro Race with splendid organiza-
...-tion and the necessary co-operation,
...-which can come only from the intelli-
...-gent activities, as will be demon-
...-strated through the National Federa-
...-tion of Colored Farmers.

... 8. FUTURE OUTLOOK. The
... future outlook for the Negro, not only
... on the farm, but in every walk of life,
... will grow brighter and better. In
... union there is strength. Modern
... methods of production and distribu-
...-tion as exemplified by this organiza-
...-tion, will do much to bring about
... the desired conditions for thousands.

... 9. CONTINUAL GROWTH. The
... National Federation of Colored Farm-
...-ers has not come about spontane-
...-ously, but with the great mass of her
... people still on the farm, either as
... land owners or tenants, produces a
... splendid opportunity for continual
... growth as espoused by our organiza-
...-tion.

... 10. IMMEDIATE GOAL. With
... the Farmers fully organized,
... they will be in position to bargain
... collectively. Not only in buying
... supplies and marketing their sur-
...-pluses, but this organization will be
... a great source of strength to our
... members in many other movements
... that might be begun for the improve-
...-ment of conditions among Negro Farmers
... everywhere.

... 11. MORE MEMBERS? WHY NOT?
... The National Federation of Colored
... Farmers, Vincennes Hotel, 34th and Vin-
...-cennes Avenue, Chicago, Ill.

... department, of which 2022 miles were
... traveled. On January 1, 1927, there were
... 143 miles of concrete township roads,
... fifteen of stone block, forty-eight of
... sheet asphalt or macadam on a concrete
... base, twenty-eight of bituminous con-
...-crete, 152 of bituminous penetration, 270
... of surface treated macadam, 191 of
... water bound macadam, 150 of cinders
... and twelve of miscellaneous surface.

... Hunterdon County had the greatest
... number of farms on unimproved high-
...-ways. Of the country's 2,605 farms,
... 1,720 were on dirt roads. Union Coun-
...-ty had three of its 525 farms on unim-
...-proved highways. Cumberland, with
... 3,340 farms, the largest number of any
... county, had 756 on dirt roads. Mon-
...-mouth county has 2,622 farms. 528 ha-

FOUR HUNDRED DOLLARS PER ACRE

Last year C. H. McCaslin, of Mc-
-Duffie county Georgia, grew 494 dol-
-lars worth of vegetables on one acre
... of his land.

... He first planted cucumbers, which
... were followed by a late crop of corn
... and cowpeas. The land was rich,
... sandy soil. Before plowing he
... broadcasted about 200 pounds of
... lime. After plowing, he gave it a
... good harrowing. This was three
... weeks before planting. The cucum-
...-bers were planted the last of March.
... The fertilizer consisted of a small ap-
...-plication of cow manure at plant-
...-ing time.

... Just as the vines began to run, a
... side dressing of 75 pounds of 10:4:4
... and 25 pounds nitrate of soda was
... applied with the hands. The cu-
...-cumber crop netted him 362 dollars.
... By the last of June this crop was
... cleared off and the land planted in
... corn, using a hundred pounds of 12:
... 4:4. Between rows of corn, cow-
...-peas were planted in rows. These
... crops were cultivated only once. The
... yield was 30 bushels corn estimated
... at 1 dollar per bushel 300 bundles
... fodder at \$1.50 per hundred and five
... bushels cowpeas at \$1.50 per bushel.

... Our members might try this out on
... one acre.

EARLY SWEET POTATOES

The Southern sweet potato is a moist
... flesh type, commonly called a yam, and
... has not been appreciated in the North
... and East. Usually the crop is harvested
... just prior to frost, and by that season
... the dry sweets from Jersey and other
... such sections are on the market. With-
... in the past few years, however, a num-
...-ber of growers have come into the pro-
...-duction of early sweet potatoes for this
... Eastern trade. Some of them have
... planted the Porto Rico, a yam type, har-
...-vested it during July or August and
... shipped it profitably to the large cen-
...-ters of population.

... Others in favored localities have turn-
...-ed to the Big Stem Jersey, a dry varie-
...-ty adapted to boiling, and quite popular.
... As this variety comes to maturity in

... Total
... cluding
... Total
... cluding
... Total
... production
... amount
... Total
... amount
... dried
... farmer
... practical
... fertilizer
... test of
... this amo
... operative
... saved ex
... produced
... bales of
... Some
... farmers
... J. H.
... Springs
... A. D.
... Springs
... E. P.
... Allen
... Jno. D.
... Kelly

... Total
... farms
... 651 acre
... In 192
... and sold
... In this
... farmers

... In Dor
... 1483 who
... farm
... largest t
... country
... The ac
... thousand
... has 1491
... ored farm
... 145 acres
... the per
...-ates per
... Mr. Ja
... Madison
... est produc
... ket of Bu
... He has
... duction of
... farmers
... Mr. H
... duce busi-



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Email: sdb243@cornell.edu

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