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CURRENT EVENTS
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harrowed down or flattened by means of a fine tooth harrow before planting.

"Small potted varieties are usually sowed in water over eight and planted pots and all. Approximately two bushels of sowed seed are required to plant an acre, and planted in rows four across to twelve inches apart, depending somewhat on the variety. Planting should not be done until the ground becomes thoroughly warm in the spring, as little is to be gained by planting potato seed in cold ground. From April until June 1 is the best time to plant the potato.

"Potatoes are cultivated much like corn, sorghum, etc. Hoesing should be done only

when necessary to keep down the grass and weeds.

"Potatoes should be harvested and stacked to dry. Frying should not be done until the potato have become dry and the grass fire. They can be picked profitably by hand, if they are not grown extensively in your section and there is no thrasher. The proper stage to pick the crop is indicated by the tendency of the potato around the base of the plant to shed and the vines to turn yellow. There will usually be enough potatoes left in the ground and wanted to allow you to use it for a hog pasture and fatten your hogs through the winter."

Farming Near Texarkana, Texas

From "A Tale of Two Cities"

From Texarkana, which has an altitude of 222 feet, the country gradually drops to the north to the valley of Red River, reaching the practically level bottom lands at about six miles from the city. The upland soils are gray sandy loams and loess and clay, merging into loess and black sandy loam and clay in the bottoms of the Red River on the north and east, and the Sulphur river about two miles to the south of Texarkana.

On the uplands small fruits and vegetables are the most profitable crops and intensive farming, though little practiced here, has brought wonderful results.

At the farm of D. W. Smith, just five miles east of the city, my guest learned something of the methods of growing sweet potatoes and of the profits of this very valuable crop. Mr. Smith grows what is known as the Honey Ball sweet potato and produces an average of 225 bushels to the acre. Besides selling a large amount of seed stock, he sells on the local market at shipping time the larger part of his crop and receives an average of sixty cents per bushel, or better, but by holding them until January, February and March it is quite easy to get \$1.25 per bushel. The value of this business and sugary tuber has only just begun to be recognized in our northern markets and the demand for them has shown a remarkable increase.

Cantaloupes and watermelons are thriving and profitable crops in the sandy loams of

the uplands and bring to the intelligent farmer advances \$75 to \$125 per acre.

Eldest son, a true indigenous to tropical and semi-tropical countries, is successfully grown here. H. F. Edwards, four miles west of Texarkana, specializes in corn and in producing pure Illinois corn sprang—a sort of magic accomplishment in a stock of hot rains. Mr. Edwards secures a production of 225 to 235 gallons of spring corn per acre and realizes liberally sixty cents per gallon at wholesale or seventy-five cents at retail. The corn is grown from stalks or joints, being carefully selected at cutting time, baled out for the stover and transplanted in the spring.

Sorghum, a member of the same family, and quite generally grown, is both a popular and a profitable crop in this section. W. T. Wade, living two miles south from Texarkana, produced this year 222 gallons from one acre of sorghum on brackish bottom land, without fertilizer, and which yielded 222 gallons.

Both peaches are planted early, during January and February, and where land selection and fertilization have been properly observed, yields of 225 bushels have been obtained; market prices are considered good at sixty to seventy-five cents per bushel, although many farmers, through their methods of selling direct to the consumer, secure much higher prices.

Strawberries are a profitable crop on small acreages. J. H. Champion, three miles west of Texarkana, finds it worth while to give the larger part of his time to

Corn, Cattle and Hogs.

Good corn land is getting scarce and in the north the prices are high.

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FORTY THOUSAND ACRES VIRGIN PRAIRIE

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NO STONES NO STUMPS NO SWAMPS

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Corn, Oats, Cotton, Rice, Cane, Lezpedeza Clover, Potatoes, Cowpeas, Sorghum, Sweet Potatoes, Velvet Beans, All Vegetables, Figs, Oranges, Peaches, Plums, Pears, Pecans, Strawberries.

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