

AMAZING AGRICULTURAL ADVANCE OF THE SOUTH

Baltimore, Md., March 15.—The Manufacturers Record this week publishes an elaborate review of the value of the farm products of the South last year, showing the following astonishing figures:

In 1915 the gain in the value of all farm crops in the United States over 1914 was \$526,070,000.

Of this gain \$317,209,000, or a little over 60 per cent., was in the South, an amazing illustration of the increase in the diversification of Southern agriculture.

The gain in the entire country, outside of the South, was \$208,861,000, or \$108,400,000 less than the gain in the South.

The percentage of increase for the South in 1915 over 1914 was 13.85 per cent.

The percentage of increase for the rest of the country in 1915 over 1914 was only 5.25 per cent.

Notwithstanding the great decrease in the value of the cotton crop last year, by virtue of war conditions, compared with the big crops and high prices for some years prior to the war, the rate of increase of the South's farm crops over the five-year average from 1909 to 1913 was 6.23 per cent.

Though the cotton crop last year was small and prices were lower than for some years prior to the war, the value of last year's farm crops in the South was \$153,000,000 greater than the average value for the five-year period from 1909 to 1913, both inclusive.

Notwithstanding the much lower value of last year's cotton crop compared with 1909 to 1913, while on the other hand the West had large grain crops with high prices due to the phenomenal European demand for foodstuffs, the value of the South's farm crops for 1915 was \$2,607,349,000 as compared with \$4,181,556,000 for the rest of the country. The United States Department of Agriculture estimates the value of last year's cotton crop, not including seed, at \$580,000,000, which we think is probably an ultra-conservative figure. Counting the value of the seed, we believe the crop may be safely estimated at \$750,000,000, though no exact figure can be given until the end of the crop season. Taking, however, an estimate of \$750,000,000 as the value of the cotton crop, including seed, this would leave as the value of other crops \$1,957,000,000, or, in other words, the value of diversified crops was considerably more than two and one-half times as great as the value of the cotton crop and nearly twice as great as the most valuable cotton crop ever produced by the South.

It must be borne in mind that these figures relate to farm crops and not to all agricultural products, for they do not include the value of animal products.

The Department of Agriculture estimates the total value of animal products for the United States in 1915 at \$3,849,000,000, but does not attempt to make an estimate as to the value by States.

As the South has almost exactly one-third of the total number of livestock in the United States, it is reasonable to estimate the value of the animal products of this section as approximately one-third of the total value for the whole country. This value may be a fraction too high, but it cannot be very far out of the way. Nevertheless, to be on the safe side, we will estimate the value of the South's animal products as 30 per cent. instead of 33 1-3 per cent. of the total for the whole country. This would make the total for the South \$1,054,000,000. Taking the round figure of \$1,000,000,000, to be on the side of conservatism, and adding it to the value of farm crops, we have a total of \$3,600,000,000 as the value of all agricultural products of the South last year, and of this only about \$750,000,000 was represented by cotton.

Even if we were to take the strictly cotton-growing States of North and South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, Arkansas, and Oklahoma, it would be found that the value of farm products other than cotton is very much greater than the value of their cotton crops, whereas, when we include the non-cotton producing States, such as Kentucky, Maryland, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia, and Missouri, we get the strikingly important fact which cannot be too often reiterated and emphasized that the value of diversified farm products of the South last year was \$2,850,000,000, against \$750,000,000 for cotton. Cotton, therefore, comprised but little more than one-fifth of the total agricultural products of \$3,600,000,000 of the South, and the other products were nearly four times as great in value as the cotton crop.

Some very striking facts are brought out by comparing the value of farm crops in some of the Southern States with Eastern and Western States.

For instance, the value of Georgia's farm crops, last year, of \$233,506,000 was more than \$1,000,000,000 in excess of the value of Pennsylvania's, and was \$32,000,000 in excess of the value of Michigan's, \$54,000,000 in excess of the value of Wisconsin's, nearly \$13,000,000 in excess of the value of North Dakota's, and \$66,000,000 in excess of South Dakota's.

Kansas, with all of its wonderful agricultural prosperity, exceeded the value of Georgia's farm crops by only \$29,000,000; but Kansas and Pennsylvania and New York and Michigan and Wisconsin and Minnesota, and even Iowa, are all left completely in the shade in comparison with the value of the farm crops of Texas, which figured up last year \$407,000,000. If to this could be added the value of the livestock products of Texas, the total for that State would show amazingly large

figures. California fell \$21,000,000 behind Georgia in the value of its farm crops, and was only \$10,000,000 ahead of North Carolina, which had crop values of \$202,000,000 against \$212,000,000 for California.

Washington and Oregon were insignificant in crop values as compared with most of the Southern States. Virginia had twice the value of Oregon; North Carolina three times as much and South Carolina considerably more than twice as much as Oregon.

These statistics of comparison of Southern States with other States open up such a wide avenue for study and investigation that it may be worth while presenting the value of all crops by States for the entire country that our readers may have the chance of picking out for themselves many interesting facts.

These values were as follows:

State.	Estimated value of all crops. 1915.
Maine	\$ 56,306
New Hampshire	19,443
Vermont	39,262
Massachusetts	46,183
Rhode Island	5,102
Connecticut	30,832
New York	273,724
New Jersey	58,360
Pennsylvania	232,340
Delaware	12,362
Maryland	55,082
Virginia	152,717
West Virginia	68,945
North Carolina	202,079
South Carolina	150,940
Georgia	233,506
Florida	43,488
Ohio	260,680
Indiana	234,066
Illinois	408,110
Michigan	200,646
Wisconsin	179,091
Minnesota	241,897
Iowa	324,898
Missouri	251,518
North Dakota	220,892
South Dakota	167,398
Nebraska	245,830
Kansas	262,188
Kentucky	152,007
Tennessee	146,362
Alabama	160,371
Mississippi	149,690
Louisiana	114,584
Texas	407,040
Oklahoma	173,680
Arkansas	145,340
Montana	76,043
Wyoming	24,693
Colorado	71,656
New Mexico	15,633
Arizona	10,262
Utah	26,865
Nevada	12,988
Idaho	48,735
Washington	92,609
Oregon	70,679
California	212,283
United States	\$6,788,905

It may also be interesting to compare the value of all crops for 1909 and 1915 for the Southern States. The figures are as follows:

States	1909.	1915.
Ala.	\$144,287,000	\$160,371,000
Ark.	119,419,000	145,340,000
Fla.	36,142,000	43,488,000
Ga.	226,595,000	233,506,000
Ky.	138,973,000	152,007,000
La.	77,336,000	114,584,000
Miss.	43,920,000	55,082,000
Mo.	147,316,000	149,690,000
N. C.	220,664,000	251,518,000
N. C.	142,890,000	202,079,000
Okla.	133,454,000	173,680,000
S. C.	141,983,000	150,940,000
Tenn.	120,706,000	146,362,000
Tex.	298,133,000	407,040,000
Va.	100,531,000	152,717,000
W. Va.	40,375,000	68,945,000
Total for South	\$2,132,724,000	\$2,607,349,000
Total for rest of country	\$3,353,891,000	\$4,181,556,000
	\$5,486,615,000	\$6,788,905,000

The gain in value of farm crops in 1915 in the United States over 1909 was \$1,302,000,000, of which \$474,623,000, or 36.4 per cent., was in the South.

When it is remembered that the war gave almost a staggering blow to the South's cotton, while it enormously enhanced the price of Western wheat and corn and resulted in a great increase in the acreage devoted to wheat, it is an amazing fact that the increase in crop values between 1909 and 1915 was 22.2 per cent. in the South and only 24.7 per cent. in the rest of the country, whereas one might have expected the rest of the country to make almost twice as good a showing as the South.

It will be noticed that the progress in some of these States has been very much larger than in others, suggesting an investigation on the part of those which have not relatively kept pace with the more progressive ones as to the cause of the small rate of growth.

The amount of corn still on farms on March 1, according to reports just made by the United States Department of Agriculture, shows in twelve Southern States, omitting West Virginia, Florida, South Carolina and Maryland, for which figures are not available, 170,000,000 bushels of corn in excess of the amount on farms in these twelve States on the same date last year, whereas in all the rest of the country there was only 58,000,000 bushels of corn more than on the corresponding date last year. On March 1, these twelve Southern States still had on the farms a total of 463,358,000 bushels of corn against 293,000,200 bushels at the corresponding time last year. The total amount of corn on all farms in the entire country on March 1 was 1,138,000,000 bushels, and of this considerably over 40 per

cent. was on Southern farms. These figures as to the amount of corn on Southern farms strikingly show the increasing strength of diversified agriculture in the South and of the ability of Southern farmers to hold their grain. If the farmers of the South, through the hearty co-operation of land owners and every business man, banker, merchant and manufacturer, will continue for one or two years more to give the attention to diversified farming shown in this presentation of amazing improvement, this section will forever get beyond the one-crop system which formerly prevailed, cotton will then become a surplus crop, grains, grasses and cattle will be found in abundance in every part of the South, and universal prosperity of farmers and all interests dependent upon farmers will prevail as never before.—Manufacturers Record.

ALL IRISHMEN, GOOD AND TRUE, CELEBRATED 17TH

Last Friday, Was the Birthday of Ireland's Patron Saint Observed Throughout the World.

The Celtic race and its descendants celebrated Friday in all countries of the world. From the Emerald Isle men have gone far and wide in search of fortune and liberty, and have cherished in their children the memory of St. Patrick, the patron saint. In America Friday, as in the quaint villages and mighty cities of Ireland, as in the battle ranks and warships' turrets under Britain's flag, the shamrock was worn and the good St. Patrick is remembered.

From the Atlantic to the Pacific, every town and hamlet has its Irishman or its man of Celtic blood. Every city witnessed the gathering of its Irish citizens to pay honor to the saint. While in some the rancor of saint. While in some the rancor of politics stirred up by those who would cause, the gatherings are mainly patriotic and religious, expressing more than ever the profound hope for liberty and progress in the green isle.

Despite the fact that authentic records of St. Patrick are to be had, some dating back almost to his own time, the average reader will probably admit that all he knows about St. Patrick is that he drove the snakes out of Ireland and is beloved by the Irish. But St. Patrick is more deserving of honor and fame for turning the Irish from their worship of idols and hobgoblins to Christianity than for ridding the Emerald Isle of creeping things. He was the apostle of the Irish, and there was no influence so great as his in the history of the race.

The date of St. Patrick's birth is a mooted question, some writers placing it at 377, and others five years earlier. He undoubtedly lived to a ripe age, and historians place his death on March 17th, 454.

He was captured by pirates when he was sixteen years old and taken to Ireland from France. He was set to work tending sheep in the mountains, and while doing so prayed fervently day and night "in the snow, in the frost and in the rain." After six years of slavery, St. Patrick escaped from Ireland in a small boat and returned to France, where he was again captured. Some few years later he again made his way to Ireland where he began his long work of combatting the Druids at Tara.

There is a story to the effect that when he was first taken to Ireland by the pirates, he was sold into slavery in exchange for an old kettle. When this kettle was filled with water and placed over the fire, the water became colder and colder as the fire increased instead of hotter, and would not boil until St. Patrick himself prayed over it.

There are several versions of the banishment of snakes from Ireland. One is that while St. Patrick was on Mount Eagle, he was attacked by serpents, which he drove headlong into the sea. Another historian declares that an Egyptian prince visited Ireland and expelled the reptiles, and that toward the close of St. Patrick's life there was a certain huge snake that had not been expelled. St. Patrick procured a huge oak chest, so the story goes, into which he enticed the big serpent by suggesting it would be more comfortable than the hard ground. The lid was bolted down and the serpent begged for his release. But St. Patrick was obdurate and said he would release him "to-morrow." Then he tossed the chest into the lakes of Killarney. The legend further runs that fishermen ever afterward heard the wily old snake crying to know if "tomorrow" had come yet. And they said his writhing was what caused the waves of the sea and his pleas for release the ocean's roar.

The ruins of Slane Abbey on Tara Hill is the greatest memorial to his labor. Throughout Ireland are many "standing stones" with a cross graven on them by order of St. Patrick, symbolic of the consecrating of the Emerald Isle to Christianity. Before St. Patrick's time these stones were fetishes of the pagan belief; but he placed the cross upon them to typify the triumph of Christianity. The Cathedral of St. Patrick at Dun Patrick is filled with monuments and memorial tablets. There is a covered well within the enclosure believed to have been used by the saint himself. St. Patrick's body is buried under a huge rock adjacent to this cathedral. On the rock is engraved the single word "Patrick."

ANDERSON TO ATLANTA BY ELECTRIC RAILWAY.

Anderson, March 16.—A corps of engineers began a preliminary survey this afternoon of the proposed electric railway from Anderson to Atlanta. Anderson county's share of the allotment to secure the road has been placed at \$175,000. Two routes are under consideration. People living on the upper or Townville route announce that they have secured \$150,000 and more to be raised tomorrow. The road is being promoted by Atlanta capitalists.

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