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MAMMOTH COTTON CROP HARVESTED

Several States Already Gathered More Cotton than During the Whole of Last Season.

Washington, Dec. 8.—North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia have ginned thus far this year more cotton than ever before was grown within their borders.

All cotton growing states except Arkansas, Mississippi, Oklahoma and Tennessee already have ginned more cotton than was grown in the States last year or the year before, according to the census bureau's cotton report issued today showing the ginning prior to December 1.

To that date there had been ginned in the United States a total of 12,814,832 bales, exceeding the total season's ginning of every year except 1904, 1906 and 1908 and coming within 637,000 bales of the total ginned in 1904, the record year.

During the period between November 14 and December 1, an average of 107,256 bales of cotton was ginned. The census bureau's sixth cotton ginning report of the season, issued at 10 a. m. today and showing the number of running bales, counting round as half bales, of cotton of the growth of 1911 ginned prior to December 7, with comparative statistics to the corresponding date for the past three years, is as follows:

United States: 12,814,832 bales, compared with 10,139,712 bales last year, when 87.7 per cent. of the entire crop was ginned prior to December 1; 8,876,886 bales in 1909, when 88.1 per cent. was ginned, and 11,008,661 bales in 1908, when 84.1 per cent. was ginned.

The number of round bales included were 87,567, compared with 10,718 bales last year, 134,393 bales in 1909, and 201,480 bales in 1908.

The number of bales of sea island cotton included were 87,457, compared with 66,696 bales last year, 71,591 bales in 1909, and 68,396 bales in 1908.

Ginning by States, with comparative statistics and the percentage of the total crop ginned prior to December 1 in previous years, follow:

State	Bales	Percent ginned	of crop
Alabama			
1911	1,436,155	89.2	
1910	1,063,198	88.2	
1909	917,106	88.2	
1908	1,175,629	88.3	
Arkansas			
1911	682,049	78.3	
1910	625,226	88.0	
1909	613,939	78.0	
1908	776,461	83.0	
Florida			
1911	71,018	81.0	
1910	54,396	96.7	
1909	56,132	83.0	
1908	58,603		
Georgia			
1911	2,337,770	89.7	
1910	1,625,573	90.4	
1909	1,673,301	88.0	
1908	1,739,657		
Louisiana			
1911	212,614	88.3	
1910	217,956	92.3	
1909	238,675	84.6	
1908	394,918		
Mississippi			
1911	893,288	80.1	
1910	970,626	81.0	
1909	869,368	80.1	
1908	1,297,677		
North Carolina			
1911	829,150	81.7	
1910	615,637	84.5	
1909	535,653	81.1	
1908	554,346		
Oklahoma			
1911	783,741	90.2	
1910	829,387	91.5	
1909	505,584	62.5	
1908	431,504		
South Carolina			
1911	1,310,613	85.6	
1910	1,036,889	87.8	
1909	998,158	86.5	
1908	1,051,550		
Tennessee			
1911	319,763	77.8	
1910	249,927	85.7	
1909	206,297	83.7	
1908	279,654		
Texas			
1911	3,745,930	94.7	
1910	2,794,125	89.6	
1909	2,213,144	88.0	
1908	3,193,096		
All Other States			
1911	88,741	66.6	
1910	56,472	85.6	
1909	49,229	76.6	
1908	56,016		
Sea Island Distribution			
The distribution of sea island cotton by States was as follows:			
Florida			
1911	32,359		
1910	23,683		
1909	25,905		
1908	27,907		
Georgia			
1911	51,288		
1910	35,405		
1909	43,163		
1908	32,140		
South Carolina			
1911	3,810		
1910	7,628		
1909	8,522		
1908	8,349		

WIND-UP COMMISSION TO MAKE REPORT

It is Said that this will be the Final Report of the Commission and that Its Affairs will soon be Wound Up.

Columbia, Dec. 2.—The State dispensary winding-up commission will make, after its meeting next week, its final report to the governor, according to the plans of the commission, as announced in a statement issued Saturday afternoon about 2 o'clock, following a conference between the members of the commission. The commission held a meeting Friday, and was to have met again Saturday at noon. On account of the absence of some of the members, however, matters were not brought to a close as was hoped. The governor conferred with the commission previous to the issuance of the following statement:

"The dispensary commission was to meet today at 12 o'clock, and hoped to have matters in shape to give something out to the public; but on account of a death in the family of one of the commissioners, Mr. Thomas Brantley, which called him away, and the absence of another member of the commission, Mr. Wallace, on business in the west, and Mr. Thompson, the secretary of the commission, being engaged on the trial of a case in the common pleas court, no report can be given out at this time. The commission will meet some time during the coming week, to make its final report to the governor.

"As to the Felder indictment. The commission, at this time, has nothing to say as to the proceedings of the court in Newberry this week, or what the commission's future action will be in regard thereto, except to say that the newspaper statement that Governor Blease appeared before the grand jury in Newberry, or was a witness in the case, was an absolute and unqualified falsehood. The only witnesses summoned to appear before the grand jury, were Messrs. Evans, Boykins and Towill."—Greenville News.

SUNK FROM OUTSIDE.

So Says Report of Examining Board Into Explosion of the Battleship Maine.

Washington, Dec. 8.—The United States battleship Maine, which sank beneath the waters of Havana harbor in February, 1898, as the result of an explosion, was blown up from the outside. This was announced today by the naval board, which has been examining the wreck. The finding confirms the report of the original investigators who made a superficial examination of the wreck shortly after the disaster.

The statement given out by the navy department is brief. Secretary Meyer does not believe it necessary to make any extended explanation of the board's conclusion beyond the flat statement that an external explosion was responsible for the loss of the warship and the lives of many men.

The statement was as follows: "The board finds that the injuries to the bottom of the Maine were caused by the explosion of a charge of low form of explosives exterior to the ship between frames 28 and 31, strake B, port side. This resulted in igniting and exploding the contents of the six-inch reserve magazine, A-14-M and contents, including a large quantity of black powder. The more or less complete explosion of the contents of the remaining forward magazine followed. The magazine explosion resulted in the destruction of the vessel."

May Amplify Statement.

Secretary Meyer announced that there might be a further statement on the report of the board after it had been considered by the president. One member of the board was of the opinion that the report never would be published in full, but would be kept in the confidential archives of the navy department. The declaration that "a low form of explosive" was used in the outside explosion indicates a belief that a mine and not a dirigible torpedo was the instrument of destruction.

This only deepens the mysterious destruction of the Maine. A mine charged with sufficient gunpowder to blow in the bottom of the ship must have weighed several hundred pounds. To plant such a mine and make electric connections necessary for its discharge would have required the services of a number of men.

In the absence of more complete information from the navy board official Washington tonight declined to comment on the findings. Officials and officers of the navy department alike were silent, while members of congress refused to venture any guess as to the true inwardness of the report. Until President Taft has had opportunity to examine the findings it will not be known whether any more of the report will be made public, and the question of whether the Maine was lost as the result of a discharge of a Spanish mine or was the victim of a torpedo launched by other hands will remain unsettled.

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