

# Record-Breaking Crops Make Farmer Supreme

Most Vital Factor in National Prosperity. He Sets the Pace for Industrial Activity and Wall Street Finance—All Former Years Eclipsed.

By Prof. W. G. Johnson, managing editor of the American Agriculturist.

CROPS that have swelled yearly to more and more fabulous proportions have made the American farmer the most important factor in our national prosperity. He is the dictator of the world of commerce. His wonderful achievements during the last few years have astounded the world. All other classes of producers drop into insignificance when compared with him.

His wealth was shaken to its very foundation when he demanded \$6,415,000,000 in cash for his 1906 crop. Railroad managers stood aghast and were unable to speak because they realized their inability to handle this wonderful man a clean bill of lading to transport his products.

It required \$4,900,000,000 in hard cash in 1904; but financiers had to make provision for an increase of \$1,515,000,000 to take over the crops of 1905, as their total valuation was \$6,415,000,000. Such unthinkable figures and demands paralyzed both financial and commercial institutions. The world's history had no such marvelous records. While captains of industry were making provision for delivering the cash and for handling the products of 1905, up to that time the most bountiful and wonderful crop ever produced, the sturdy farmer had his hand on the plough looking toward 1906.

Not satisfied with the achievements of former years, he sets his standard still higher and plunged into the future. As a result, the modest demand of the American farmer for \$6,800,000,000 could hard cash to cover his harvest of 1906 came like a bolt of lightning from a clear sky. Neither financial or com-

mercial institutions were prepared to meet any such demand.

It has brought from the secretary of the national treasury, Mr. Shaw, the statement that "we, who pray, should ask God to save us from any increased prosperity. We have all we can stand. We are growing more crops than we can harvest, and harvesting more than we can haul to market."

## PLANS GREATER ACHIEVEMENTS

This is, indeed, a radical statement and reflects more or less the actual conditions confronting the farmer, but do not think for a moment that the hard handed plowman will look backward. He is advancing step by step, and season by season. He encounters and overcomes meteorological and economic conditions that would deaden the iron nerve and zeal of the most successful Wall Street veteran. Unfavorable weather conditions, lack of help to harvest his crops and inefficient facilities to market them are not factors that will force the American farmer to sit down and idly fold his hands.

Marvelous as was his success for the year just closed, the dawn of 1907 is no less promising. He has made plans for still greater things. His winter wheat crop, now seeded for the coming midsummer harvest, is more than a million acres in excess of that of 1906. Who can fathom the future and say where this wonderful producer will stop? He has confidence and implicit faith in the ability of financial and transportation leaders to pay for and transport his products; hence his unfaltering and unchangeable belief in the future of his profession—for a most exact profession is agriculture.

The American farmer has set the pace for industrial activity. It is he who is first consulted before Wall Street

ventures far into the future. By reason of his successes the last 10 years the man behind the plough has become a dominating influence in every branch of our industrial life. Bankers reckon with him first, railroads regulate their rolling stock and track facilities after glancing at his crop reports, ocean liners base calculations for service on his harvests, brokers are at sea until the farmer opens his granaries, cities clamor for recognition because their millions of occupants are dependent solely upon the farmer—he feeds the world.

Is there any reason, then, why so potent a factor in our national life as the American farmer should not hold his head high and look straight ahead? He is happy and contented; his home is comfortable and independent, perhaps more so than that of any other class; his granaries are bulging and overflowing, his barns are filled with livestock, his cellar is packed with fruits and vegetables, his bank account has been increased considerably with each successive crop, his credit is unlimited; all together, there is on our 6,000,000 farms a freedom and independence of life that reflect the stability and character of our basic wealth in agriculture.

## CORN IS KING, COTTON QUEEN.

The year just closed may be summarized as one of uniform and almost unparalleled excellence in crop production. The liberal bulk of tonnage, with reasonably good prices, means continued prosperity for farmers, and that in a very large way points to further business health of the country at large. It is not often that a season has shown such uniformity in excellence of farm yields. Climatic conditions proved favorable throughout the growing season and disappointed some of the pessimists who expressed fears

that the abnormal winter of 1905-1906 would be followed by crop disaster. In all the staple crops the average was distributed, temperatures in the main were favorable and the drawbacks were few.

A full appreciation of the increase in the wealth of the country by reason of a good crop year is really beyond the grasp of the human mind. So accustomed is the eye to the public printed statements reeled off in six or eight figures relating to production in mining, stock and trust schemes that it is a relief to turn for a moment to something even more impressive, especially as it has reality. For instance, take the corn crop of 1906. Its bulk cannot be comprehended in terms of bushels, there are 2,862,000,000 bushels to put through the various avenues of commerce. An ordinary freight car carries 600 bushels. In this basis it will require 4,770,000 cars to transport this crop. Such figures are vague and confusing, but reduced to miles, allowing 28 feet to the car, including coupling, this corn train would encircle the world at the equator and lap on a side track extending from Chicago to Central China. The cash valuation of this crop may be roughly estimated at \$1,100,000,000.

If corn is king, cotton is queen. The cotton crop stands second in importance in cash value and should be worth at least \$640,000,000 to the farmers who produced it. Third in order is hay, for which the farmers' bank accounts will be increased \$500,000,000. Wheat stands fourth in the list and will swell the bank accounts of the producers to the extent of \$450,000,000. Some of the other crops are as follows: Oats, \$380,000,000; potatoes, \$150,000,000; barley, \$85,000,000, showing a gain of 21 per cent in seven years; tobacco, \$55,000,000; sugar beets, \$24,000,000. Seven years ago the total value of the sugar beet crop was only \$7,000,000. This remarkable development now places this crop ninth in the list of productions.

The corn and wheat crops are the largest on record, as noted in the accompanying table, while the other cereals all show very full yields; cotton exceeded but seldom; hay short of some

recent years, but made up in increased value; potatoes, onions, hops, cranberries, etc., full crops; apples a half better than last year's short yield. The better paid farmers might well be higher in some instances, yet considering the volume of the crops the situation has often been far less satisfactory than now.

## NOT ENOUGH FREIGHT CARS.

More or less congestion in transportation is anticipated, owing to shortage in cars. This has somewhat interfered with the farmer's business, yet the crops are moving normally and fairly satisfactorily. The farmers' balances in bank are proportionately better than ever before. During the year there have been established many farmers' national banks.

The economical evolution that has taken place in agricultural science, has been one of steady development. Marvellous as the results have been, it would be no great task to increase by one-half the present corn crop and double or even treble the production of cotton per acre.

Important as is the workshop, factory and mill, the farm still overshadows them in providing exports. The fleets of the ocean will be loaded with the surplus crops of 1906. For the next fiscal year, it is safe to say, the value of the agricultural products sent abroad will exceed those of any year in our history. Cotton will without doubt maintain a long lead over other products. The agricultural products exported for the year ended June 30, 1906, were valued at \$976,000,000.

There is no place in the world where skill, energy and scientific methods count for so much as on the farms in this country. The American farmer has not been handicapped by the traditions of centuries, as have the farmers of the Old World. Our farmers have been hoeing their own row. With the help of the government and state experts at the agricultural colleges and experimental stations and exchange of practical experiences through the agricultural press our farmers have advanced more rapidly in technical, specific and practical knowledge than any other class. Farm homes are connected with telephones,

served with daily mail and enjoy all the comforts found in the modern city home.

It would be impossible to find a more contented and happy family circle than that around the farmer's fireplace. Modern equipment and furniture make his the best home in the world. His children are given better advantages for education than ever before. In fact, as the farmer's power to purchase increases his home approaches the condition of the most comfortable and happy American ideal. He faces the new year with a confidence that his is the best of all vocations. He is the supreme master of the soil and of our national prosperity.

## A Miracle of Change.

Steam and electricity have wrought no more spectacular miracles than in the handling of cargoes on the Great Lakes.

One of the first cargoes of iron ore ever mined in the Lake Superior region was trundled aboard a little schooner about 50 years ago. Four days were required to put 300 tons aboard her. A week was required to get the ore out of her. Two seasons ago the great steel steamer Augustus B. Wolvin loaded more than 10,000 tons of ore in 89 minutes, or in less than an hour and a half. And this huge cargo was jerked out of her in a little more than four hours.—Ralph D. Paine, in Outing Magazine.

## CARRIE NATION

certainly smashed a hole in the barroom of Kansas, but Ballard's Horehound Syrup has smashed all records as a cure for coughs, Bronchitis, Influenza, and all Pulmonary diseases. T. C. H., Horton, Kansas, writes: "I have never found a medicine that would cure a cough so quickly as Ballard's Horehound Syrup. I have used it for years." Sold by Z. C. M. I. Drug Dept., 112 and 114 South Main Street.

Commencing Wednesday, until sold, the complete stock of Carstenson & Ansen Co and Beesley Music Co., will be sold at 25c on the dollar. Beesley Music Co.



## SICK HEADACHE

Positively cured by these Little Pills. They also relieve Distress from Dyspepsia, Indigestion and Too Hearty Eating. A perfect remedy for Dizziness, Nausea, Drowsiness, Bad Taste in the Mouth, Coated Tongue, Pain in the Side, TORPID LIVER. They Regulate the Bowels. Purely Vegetable. Small Pills. Small Doses. Small Price.

## Hotel Grace

EUROPEAN PLAN. Headquarters for Utah People and Mormon Missionaries in CHICAGO. Location, Opposite Postoffice and Board of Trade, Exact Center of Business District, Jackson Boulevard and Clark Street. 30 Rooms at \$1 per day, and upward. Every room has hot and cold water. C. C. COLLINS, Proprietor.

# POULTON, MADSEN, OWEN & CO.

## BONA FIDE SALE OF Clothing AND Men's Furnishings



Correct Clothes for Men  
MADE IN NEW YORK  
Alfred Benjamin & Co. MAKERS  
NEW YORK

All New and Clean Stock. Commencing MONDAY MORNING, JAN. 7, 1907, and running all week MEN'S SUITS and OVERCOATS' Alfred Benjamin & Co's make—

## 33 1-3 PER CENT OFF

\$37.50 Suits and Overcoats . . \$25.00  
\$35.00 Suits and Overcoats . . \$23.35  
\$32.50 Suits and Overcoats . . \$21.65  
\$30.00 Suits and Overcoats . . \$20.00  
\$27.50 Suits and Overcoats . . \$18.35  
\$25.00 Suits and Overcoats . . \$16.65

\$22.50 Suits and Overcoats . . \$15.00  
\$20.00 Suits and Overcoats . . \$13.35  
\$18.00 Suits and Overcoats . . \$12.00  
\$15.00 Suits and Overcoats . . \$10.00  
\$12.00 Suits and Overcoats . . \$8.00  
\$9.00 Suits and Overcoats . . \$6.00

## BLUES AND BLACKS, TWENTY PER CENT OFF

Young Men's SUITS and OVERCOATS, sizes 30 to 36, 33 1/3 per cent off. Children's Suits, knee pants, 2 1/2 to 16 yrs., 20 per cent off. Men's Odd Pants, One-fourth off. All Fancy, Soft and Stiff Bosom Shirts, 25 per cent off.

Winter Underwear 20 per cent off. All Men's and Boys' Soft Hats, One-fourth off. Sweaters, One-third off. NOW is your opportunity to be clothed and to clothe your children.



REMEMBER THE TIME--JANUARY 7 AND ALL WEEK--ALSO THE PLACE

# POULTON, MADSEN, OWEN & CO.,

111-113 MAIN ST.

WHERE THE CLOTHES FIT