

UNCLE SAM'S MOST WONDERFUL YEAR FOR CROPS

ESTIMATED MONETARY YIELD ONE BILLION DOLLARS GREATER THAN EVER BEFORE IN THE HISTORY OF THE NATION

WASHINGTON—If America is waiting for good crops this year to bring about the dawn of prosperity greater than she ever has known before she will have her fondest hopes realized. The government's report of acreage and probable harvests shows beyond peradventure that the yields of grain and cotton will be big—some of them record crops. But bumper years in grain and cotton frequently have brought low prices. It will not be so this year. Outside of America the harvests of the world will be smaller than usual. As a consequence the agriculturists in this country will receive a thousand mill-

ions of dollars more for the products of their fields than they ever realized in a single year before. The total value of the four great staples alone—wheat, oats, corn and cotton—will be greater this year by nearly three-quarters of a billion dollars than they have been in any year of this country's history.

Never before have the great corn fields of America yielded such bounteous harvests as they are going to this year. The government's estimate is nearly three and a quarter billion bushels—and nine times out of ten the government guesses considerably under the actual figures when all the records are made up. The biggest yield of corn that this country has ever known was in 1905, less than three billion bushels. The average price last year was a little more than 50 cents a bushel. Corn for December delivery is selling now at 65 cents a bushel. Figuring the value of the present crop this price would make its value total the vast sum of more than two billions of dollars—2,000 millions of money. When

the figures of the government's estimate of the bumper crop of corn came out the other afternoon there was a hush in one of the big Wall street grain brokerage offices. Then a man spoke up: "Great heavens! there isn't loose money enough in the world to corner that crop." Corn alone will make the American farmer not far from \$500,000,000 richer this year than he was last.

BUMPER CROPS SURE FOR BOTH COTTON AND WHEAT.

Take cotton, too. Last year's crop was 11,581,829 bales. The average price was a little under 10 cents a pound and its total value a little more than \$579,000,000. The ind-

the last two years, and it looks as if this year's yield was going to be scant also. Outside of America, Europe depends largely on the vast wheat fields of the Argentine for her bread. Thirty per cent. less wheat was sown there this year than last, and it is estimated that the yield will be 50,000,000 bushels less. All this benefits the American farmer.

The American farmer will get over \$60,000,000 more for his crop of oats this year than he did last. In 1908 the yield was 789,000,000 bushels, and it sold for \$321,000,000. This year's estimate is 983,000,000 bushels, which at the minimum price of 40 cents a bushel would bring in the huge sum of \$393,200,000. Only about a million and a half bushels of oats are exported. Not all the rest goes to feed horses and cattle by any means. The 200,000 automobiles in this country have cut down the number of horses and the consumption of oats correspondingly. This decrease has been more than made up, however, by human beings eating more oats than they used to. Many of the cereal breakfast foods are made from oats, and their consumption in that way cuts a big figure.

To recapitulate the way the record runs in this year's increase in the value of the four great staples, so that the eye can take it in at a glance, here are the figures:

Cotton	\$200,000,000
Cotton by-products	25,000,000
Corn	240,000,000
Oats	64,000,000
Wheat	109,000,000
Total	\$638,000,000

Beside these the crops of hay, alfalfa, potatoes, tobacco and the other products of the soil are either no less or else far greater than usual. Experts estimate that the added wealth that these will stow away in the pockets of the American farmer this year will be not far from \$100,000,000. Add this to the total of the three

which is the basis of sugar. Most of the candy that America eats is made from sugar that comes from corn. The people of this country are consuming it in other ways, too—ways that were unthought of a few years ago, when corn bread and muffins were all that came out of the bakers' ovens. An enormous number of breakfast foods are made out of corn today. Almost every month sees some new preparation of this sort. Instead of eating corn in some form once a week, as we used to do, we now consume hundreds of thousands of bushels every morning at breakfast, disguised by baking and sugaring so that most of its resemblance to its original form and taste has been lost.

EVER-GROWING MARKET FOR AMERICAN COTTON.

It is predicted that the price of cotton will not fall materially below 13 cents a pound for a long time to come. Cotton consumption is increasing faster than the lint is being raised. The steady increase in population all over the world, of course, makes an ever growing market. Many of the millions of China clothe themselves in cotton cloth whose fibres grew in the southern United States. The Hankow-Szechuan railroad that is now being financed by great European and American interests will open up territory in China that is larger in area

TO RETIRE FROM GAME AFTER THIS YEAR



Charlie Dooin, catcher of the Philadelphia Nationals, is playing his last season as a professional player. Dooin made up his mind before the present season began that he would not play after this year, when his contract with the Phillies runs out.

Dooin has desired to keep the fact of his intended retirement secret as long as possible, as he did not want to handicap the efforts of his fellow players to win this year's pennant or to hurt the club in its efforts to find another man to fill his shoes.

While stories of players retiring are seldom taken seriously, it is known that Dooin is in absolute earnest. "The stage is not the only thing that is luring me away from the diamond," said Dooin. "My wife has been urging me for a long time to quit the game and I have a chance next

fall to go into business with my father-in-law, who is a large wholesale grocer at Rochester, N. Y. This offer I have decided to accept, and I expect to start work in Rochester shortly after the first of next year."

Dooin's determination has been strengthened by the trouble which he has had in his shoulder this year. In a recent talk Dooin said: "I have got to quit. Any idea that I might possibly continue after this season would be knocked out by my trouble in the right shoulder. This seems to be a nervous affection. It does not interfere with my throwing, but frequently it is two o'clock in the morning before I can get any sleep, and the pain is breaking me all up." Dooin's loss to the Phillies would be greater than that of any other player, for first-class catchers are very rare.

GOOD PITCHING, SPEED ON BASES AND HITTING

Three Requisites Absolutely Necessary to Land a Pennant, Declares Leader of the Giants.

There are three things that are absolutely necessary and there might be others," said Manager John McGraw of the New York Giants in answer to a question as to what he thought were the necessary requisites of a ball club to make it a championship possibility.

"No ball club can be a champion," he went on to explain, "unless it has a great pitching staff, a squad of fast men on the bases and a club of good hitters."

"Then, again there is a certain kind of feeling that must pervade the whole team. It is a pretty hard thing to describe, but it is something like each man pulling for the other, and all of them believing that the combination is a winner. "A championship ball club must have a great pitching corps, good base runners and heavy hitters. It is seldom that we find the exact combination, and that is why a team can go so long sometimes without winning a pennant. All the good management and intelligent direction of players isn't worth a cent unless the players have got the brains to absorb it. I would rather have an ordinary player with a quick brain than a wonder who couldn't think quick when the time came."

"Some men have what we call ball-playing instinct. They seem to know exactly what to do at the right time and do not have to take time to consider. They are natural ball players and their peculiar minds direct them what to do without any effort. I have seen some young men who were highly educated and brilliant conversationalists who were regular block-heads on a ball club. It was not that they didn't have the brains. If given plenty of time they could probably outwit the others, but in baseball we must have the man who can think and act simultaneously—on the jump."

"As I said, there are three requisites—good pitching, fast base running and heavy hitting—and the greatest of these is the wallow."

"You cannot run bases unless you get on them, and a game cannot be won by pitching. The pitching is needed to hold the other fellows down. The batters must do the winning."

Coakley a Semipro Manager.
Pitcher Andy Coakley, formerly of the Chicago Cubs, has become manager of the Manhattan baseball club, a strong semi-professional team in New York city. He will do the pitching and Tom Doran, the former catcher of the Boston American league club, will be the backstop.

Its Punctuation.
For sheer simplicity of phrase and conception few have surpassed that delightful old lady who, with a shrewd twinkle in her eye, inquired whether "soda water" should be written as two separate words, or if there should be a hyphen between them?—Argonaut.

One Day Less.
News Item—To-day there are but 364 days in a year on the Island of Chichi. The sultan took a day off yesterday.—Judge.

PITTSBURG'S STAR PITCHER



Vic Willis, the Pirate twirler, has done much to put his team in the lead in the National league race. Up to the time of this writing Willis has lost only three games out of 19 played. He was taken out twice and finished one game. He has won 13.

Corbett Given His Release.
Joe Corbett, who attained fame in the baseball world as a pitcher for the noted Baltimore Orioles, has been released at his own request by Manager Long of the San Francisco team of the Pacific Coast league. Corbett complained that he is unable to regain the control that once distinguished his work in the box.

President R. L. Hodges of the St. Louis Browns has purchased the release of Pitcher Rose and Catcher Kilmer from the Houston club of the Texas league.

The Obliging Dealer.
Shopper—Give me a half-dollar's worth of sugar.
Grocer—Yes'm. What address?
Shopper—I'll take it with me, if it's not too heavy to carry.
Grocer—I'll try to make it as light as I can for you, ma'am.

Real Thing.
Dolly—Do you approve of this present fashion of having no hips?
Jack—Sure! A poor fellow isn't so likely to get stuck on a girl's shape.—Puck.

HOME OF HARRIMAN

Mansion on Top of Mountain 40 Miles from New York.

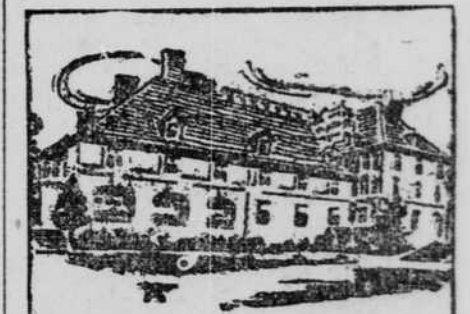
With a Park Three Times the Size of Manhattan Island the Country Estate Will Be Most Remarkable in North America.

New York—It was once said of E. H. Harriman by an attorney as skilled in the rules of the game of law as the great transportation king is in the complex shifting of blocks of bonds and stocks that represent his title to more miles of railway than one man ever dominated before, that Mr. Harriman moved on a plane and in an atmosphere so altitudinal that no ordinary mortal might hope to do more than contemplate his eminence from afar. That was true in a figurative sense, perhaps, when it was announced—at any rate, the adulatory attorney appeared to think it was—but now it is about to become literally true, so far as Mr. Harriman's home in the country is concerned.

His house on the top of one of the mountains of the Ramapo range at Arden, not far from the dejected town of Suffern on the Erie, is on such a height and surrounded by so many leagues of pathless forest that he is his by right of purchase that he can dwell there, if he chooses, in an isolation so splendid as to be incomparable with that enjoyed by another American multimillionaire. It is doubtful if Mr. Harriman in his wanderings over continental Europe this summer will see any castle that can equal his in its majesty of view and aloofness from—yet geographical nearness to—a vast center of population.

The Harriman home at Arden has been building for nearly three years, and when he went abroad a few days ago he left orders that it must be ready for his occupancy when he returns in the early autumn—that no expense was to be spared; that the work must be pushed forward night and day, if necessary, but that it must be finished.

The Harriman house at Arden conforms to the rules of no style of archi-



One View of Harriman's Mountain Home.

ecture except the rectangular school. The dormer windows in the attic roof are more English in their design than anything else. That is the only feature to which any architectural nationality can be assigned. It looks more like an attempt to reproduce in stone on a large and modernized scale some old New England farmhouse. It is undoubtedly designed more for use and comfort than for anything else. It contains 70 rooms and 22 of these are bathrooms.

Set on the apex of one of the highest and steepest mountains in the Ramapos, the land originally sloped abruptly away from the site of the house. The art of the landscape artist has broken and softened these declivities by the formation of a series of terraces. Many of them had to be blasted out of solid rock and their sharp outlines smoothed over with earth and turf, so that now the once rugged outlines of the boulder-strewn hilltop are graceful in their descent to the edge of the forest. In other places the terraces rise vertically from the edge of a cliff.

Hard by the house is a great swimming pool of stone and cement—a bath whose size even Caesar or Caracalla might have envied had Harriman lived in Rome in their day and built his palace there. About the grounds, too, are many sunken courts that in summer will be filled with flowers. Through the green shrubbery will shine the whiteness of marble statuary, and cool fountains in the courtyards and Italian gardens will plash and whisper all night long in midsummer, when the cities on the lowlands toward the sea are swathed in torrid, humid air.

Beneath this commonplace looking mansion is a network of tunnels for the passage of servants, the conveyance of everything needed. Some are ways for the whisking of things to and fro. Everything contributing to comfort that the skill of the mechanical engineer could adapt to use in a dwelling has been installed. Human hand service has been supplemented everywhere, so far as possible, by steam, electricity and compressed air. For indoor amusement there are billiard parlors and bowling alleys enough for the entertainment of all the guests the house can hold.

The Harriman estate in the Ramapo mountains is probably the largest in area of any private property of its kind in America, though there are several that far surpass it in magnificence. Tower Hill, however, is unique in the isolation and solitary grandeur that it will afford its master.

Deserved No Sympathy.
There was an uproar and a pale chap was observed to be running for his life. Behind him in a cloud of dust came the determined crowd.
"Poor fellow!" said the stranger. "I hope they don't catch him."
"You do, eh?" commented the man on the corner. "Do you know who he is?"

"N-no. Some assassin?"
"Worse than that."
"Firebug?"
"Worse still."
"Great Caesar! Who is he?"
"Why, he's the kid that started the expression, 'Oh, you nut!' Now, do you think hanging would be too good for him?"

Spread of German Language.
In Chili there are regions where there are so many Germans that the native servants learn their language



ions of dollars more for the products of their fields than they ever realized in a single year before. The total value of the four great staples alone—wheat, oats, corn and cotton—will be greater this year by nearly three-quarters of a billion dollars than they have been in any year of this country's history.

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IS MERELY A POPULAR MYTH.

Idea That Frogs Live for Centuries in Rocks Has Been Exploded by Scientists.

Something akin to a nine-day wonder, writes a correspondent, has been caused in the village of Neuchâtes by the discovery of a frog entombed in a boulder. Time and again have similar discoveries been made, and some startling theories have been propounded to explain the mystery. The most popular belief is that the animals were incarcerated ages ago, when the stones were in plastic form, and have remained in durance vile ever since. If this were the case, scientists would only have to study the frog to learn the secret of the elixir. Unfortunately, the problem of the alchemist cannot be thus easily solved. The explanation of the matter, however, is very simple. Frogs, like numerous other species, lie dormant during the winter months; doubtless last autumn the animal in question hopped into some nook or cranny in the side of

ated crop this year, according to the government's experts' reports, will be at least 12,000,000 bales. It is likely from the present outlook that this crop will be marketed at not less than 13 cents a pound, \$65 a bale, \$730,000,000—over \$200,000,000 more than last year with but a small increase in the yield.

The wheat crop this year will be at least 663,000,000 bushels, and experts say that it is not likely to fall below \$1.10 a bushel for a long time to come. That means \$729,000,000 worth of wheat will soon be on the way to the elevators. Last year's harvest was 660,000,000 bushels, and it brought \$620,000,000, so the American wheat farmer will have \$109,000,000 more to spend from that source than he did the year before.

The reason wheat is worth more than a dollar a bushel, which used to be a price that the farmers dreamed of, is not because the crop in this country is especially short. It is but a little below the record crop of 1906. But there has been a shortage in the wheat crop all over the world for

PIRATE FLAG OVER CHURCH.

Manner of Its Removal Only Clue Good People Had As to How It Got There.

"The recent talk about smuggling at the port of New York and the recurring news references to the government's plans for stopping it have been making food for conversation and reminiscence in more than one pious community of our neighbors," said a week-end back from the country. "One good story I heard in a community not a hundred miles from the metropolis brought home to me the lesson that in their modest way the fellows we call countrymen are about as clever in devising ways to make a little money now and then as their city brothers whom they sometimes denounce as wicked. "This little community is on the coast, a coast much indented by arms of the sea. Smuggling in a quiet way became natural to some of the people; not that they defrauded the government of much duty—indeed they could

plead the historic plea that their sin was 'such a little one.' But as living was and is cheap thereabout and it doesn't take much to constitute a fortune there, there came to be rich people in the town whose riches the neighbors say came from smuggling. And some of these were members of one of the town churches. "One day the town woke up to find a pirate's flag at the top of the steeple of this church. It had been nailed up there and nobody could get it down. "The pirates or smugglers, if such there were, had grown old as well as respectable and religious, and none could shun up the steeple as they might once have gone up a mast. Finally the church offered a reward of \$25 to anybody who would get the flag down. "After a time a young blacksmith volunteered and won the money. And that was the only clue the church ever got as to how the flag got up there."—N. Y. Sun.

FAILURE OF OLIVE CROP GOOD THING FOR AMERICA

Last year the European olive crop failed. The devout Moslems of Turkey and Asia Minor would not eat butter or lard. There was little olive oil to be had. They bought cotton seed oil by the shipload. Now they like it better than olive oil and they don't care whether that crop fails or not.

CONSUMPTION IS KEEPING UP WITH PRODUCTION.

America exports only about 2 per cent. of her corn. She sends seven-twelfths of her raw cotton to foreign lands. The domestic consumption of corn is more than keeping pace with the huge increases in production. Millions of bushels go to feed and fatten the cattle and hogs whose beef and pork, grown on the western prairies and slaughtered in Chicago, feed the inhabitants of every corner of the globe. But one of the chief uses of corn has sprung up during the last decade and has grown into an immense industry. Millions and millions of bushels are made into glucose,

ICE COLD SODAS ARE EXCELLENT DRINKS FOR CREATING A THIRST.

Ice cold sodas are excellent drinks for creating a thirst.

WATER TAKE PLENTY OF FRESH AIR AND SALT.

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