

NEBRASKA IS NOT ONLY A GREAT STATE, BUT A LEADER

Ranks First Among the States in the Value of Its Beef Cattle and the Average Wheat Yield per Acre

HER NATURAL RESOURCES UNLIMITED

With a Splendid Climate and Variety of Soils, Nebraska's Prestige As An Agricultural State is Unassailable—Manufacturing and Dairy Interests Are Growing to Large Proportions.

- Nebraska is first in the value of beef cattle.
- Nebraska is first in average wheat yield per acre.
- Nebraska leads the corn belt state in per capita bank deposits.
- Nebraska is second in per capita wealth on farms.
- Nebraska is second in the production of alfalfa.
- Nebraska is second in the per capita value of the wheat crop.
- Nebraska ranks second in the per capita value of horses.
- Nebraska ranks second in the per capita value of swine.
- Nebraska scored fourth place in the value of rye.
- Nebraska ranks fourth in potato production.
- Nebraska ranks fourth in the value of dairy cattle.
- Nebraska ranks fifth in oats.
- Nebraska has the smallest farm population of any of these ten states; her farm population is but 57 per cent of the average population of the corn belt. A state which can make the record enumerated above has good soil and progressive people. Stand up for Nebraska.

region has not been used to its full advantage, partly through mismanagement and a waste of the natural grasses. With better attention it could be made to produce more extensively and there is but little question that this will be done.

The high plains region occupying much of the western part of the state consists of broad smooth table lands, small areas of buttes and canyons, a few bad lands areas and the valley floors of several rivers, the largest being that of the North Platte. The principal soils are fine sandy loams and sandy loams with small areas of dune sand, stoney and clayey land. The benches along the North Platte, Lodge Pole and other valleys of this region are well suited for irrigation. Much of the smooth upland, especially that with deep fine sandy loams and sand loam soils is well suited for dry farming. Several distinct areas of such soil have been developed to a high degree.

WELL WATER.

Perhaps no state in the Union is more fortunate than ours so far as well water supply is concerned. Wells supply most of the drinking water for the entire state. They are as a rule of moderate depth and have a strong flow of water. It is seldom that any of them run dry and a water famine

development in the Loup and the nearby Platte. The Niobrara is a good power stream, but is further from a market. Future developments in the state may enhance the power of the Niobrara and it will be found equal to any task that may be assigned it. The Loup rivers give a more constant flow than other streams because of the fact that they are fed by thousands of springs supplied from storage in the Sand Hill region. The large volume and the constant and permanent flow of this system are its chief characteristics, making the power more valuable than that of other streams. The Big Blue is developed more completely than any of the other rivers, although the Little Blue is running several plants as are also the Republican and Elkhorn. The power development of the Little and Big Nemaha rivers has been greatly interfered with on account of floods in their basins.

It is safe to say that at least 200,000 horse power awaits development in Nebraska, and that this mighty force will be utilized before many more years have rolled around.

IRRIGATION.

Much has been done in the way of irrigation in the dryer portions of Nebraska, and every effort in this direction has yielded profits in big proportions. Notwithstanding the abnormal lack of rainfall during the past summer the irrigated districts are giving splendid crops of alfalfa, wheat, barley, rye, oats, sugar beets, corn, potatoes, fruit, etc., and this is a region that was formerly arid.

There is yet much to be accomplished in this direction, however. The possibilities of the Republican valley and basins of the Lodge Pole, Hat Creek, White and Niobrara rivers are vast. They could be made to blossom under the reviving effects of water brought to them by irrigating. The natural lay of the land in these sections make the problem of irrigation a comparatively easy one.

The tri-state canal carries water to about 60,000 acres. The inter-state, or government canal, now in course of construction, is to cover fully 90,000 acres and other projects water more than 100,000 acres in the North Platte. By proper management and the impounding of the flood waters much of the valuable bench land of the North Platte valley is quite sure to be brought under irrigation in the near future. Here the country is rapidly developing. Stock feeding has become an important industry. With this general industrial advance in the valley will come the development of Scotts Bluff, Gering, Morrill, Mitchell, Minatare, Bayard, Bridgeport and many other towns.

FRUIT.

Nebraska is naturally well suited for fruit raising. Apples, plums, cherries, strawberries, etc., are grown to some extent in every county. Certain districts in the southeast have gained prominence in the raising of apples especially. This latter product is now receiving organized attention by competent fruit growers and will soon become one of the states most noted resources.

FORESTS.

A little over three per cent of Nebraska is in forests. The forest of the Pine Ridge country of northwestern Nebraska occupies about 600 square miles. Other small areas of pine timber occur in Lodge Pole, North Platte and the Niobrara valleys. The total area of natural pine timber is about 800 square miles.

STONE.

There are over twenty distinct limestone ledges in Nebraska, ranging from one to twenty-five feet in thickness and outcropping between Wayne and Plattsmouth. There are six large quarries and about two hundred smaller ones in this district getting out this rock and putting it on the market. The output is used for many purposes, but principally in concrete construction. Further west in the state is a deposit of chalk rock 400 feet thick in places and which is both overlaid and underlain with shale. These shale and chalk formations are well suited for the manufacture of cement, and a large cement plant is soon to be established at Superior.

SAND AND GRAVEL.

These are found in large quantities along the various streams. Seventeen large clam dredges are operating along the Platte at Cedar Creek, Louisville, Meadow, Ashland, Valley and Central City. Each of these load from eight to fifteen cars a day, making a train more than a mile long. The annual production from these dredges and from seven hundred to eight hundred sand pits has a value of over \$1,000,000. Shipments are regularly made to southwestern Iowa,

line, where the marketing facilities are unexcelled. Fortunes have been made in the apple and vinegar business. An outcry that convulsed the entire state followed the statement last fall that seven Nebraska counties exported more apples than two of the much heralded fruit states of the Pacific coast. Nebraska investors who were busily paying for fruit ranches in Wyoming were amazed to find that the apple production of that state was about the same as that of Dakota county, Nebraska.

southwestern Missouri and northern Kansas and other points.

DAIRYING.

The climate and rolling pastures of Nebraska make it an ideal place for stock raising of all kinds. Especially is it adapted for the dairy industry, and this fact is fast being discovered. The advance in this particular industry has been greater in the past few



MR. GEORGE W. KLINE, Publicity Manager of Nebraska State Board of Agriculture.

Mr. Kline has been very helpful with suggestions and data in our efforts to get up this attractive and instructive page. He is not only exceedingly well versed in Nebraska's resources, but is a live wire—on the job all the time.

years than at any other time in the history of the state. This is largely due to the efforts of the Nebraska Dairy-men's Association and its able and energetic Secretary, S. C. Bassett. The farmers throughout the state are beginning to realize more and more the splendid profit that can be realized from a properly managed dairy farm and are turning their attention to it in earnest.

At present it has not yet reached the stage where a large number of local creameries would be a profitable investment for their promoters, but owing to the splendid railroad facilities throughout the state this is little or no drawback. At present the creameries are operated under what is known as the centralizer plan, i. e., the establishment of large creameries at central points which are easily accessible. Under this plan there is not a railroad station nor a commercial center in Nebraska in which there is not a cream receiving station where a farmer can sell on any business day, cream in any quantity from ten pounds up and receive his cash for it. This condition makes it possible to dairy on a cash basis even in those portions of the state where the cow population will average less than three to the square mile. As fast as conditions will justify it, local creameries will undoubtedly be established.

MANUFACTURING.

While not as yet especially noted for this branch of industry, nevertheless Nebraska has within her borders at Omaha, South Omaha, Lincoln and other points manufacturing industries of which she may well be proud. Omaha turns out manufactured products to the value of over \$193,000,000 annually. Since the organization of the Nebraska Manufacturers Association about a year ago much has been done to advance the manufacturing interests of the state and the time is not far distant when she will take her rightful place with other states more noted along these lines.

THE STATE OF OPTIMISTS.

One of the best promises for the future development of Nebraska along all lines is the optimism of its people. Full of confidence in their own ability and the natural resources of the state they are going steadily ahead, overcoming all obstacles that present themselves and working for a common cause—that of the advancement of the state they love. This is evidenced everywhere. In the cities prominent men are cheerfully giving their time and talent through their various Commercial Clubs and other organizations to the advancement not only of their respective cities, but the state as a whole. Throughout the smaller towns and on the farms the same spirit is manifest.

Probably no better example could be cited than the hearty support given the project advanced at the Nebraska Editorial Association held this year to "boost" Nebraska. Over two hundred editors throughout the state pledged themselves to issue 1000 extra copies of their respective papers containing a story of Nebraska's greatness and to mail them broadcast over the country. This is being done at their own expense, their reward being the advancement of their state. They were ably assisted in this move by the Commercial Club of Omaha and other public organizations.

With such a citizenry as this it is no wonder that Nebraska is advancing by leaps and bounds. Who can forecast her future greatness?

NO MORE TOTAL CROP FAILURES IN NEBRASKA

Mr. Geo. W. Kline, than whom there is no better "Booster" in the state, is convinced that the days of total crop failures are over in Nebraska. In an interesting letter he says:

Nebraska has experienced her last total crop failure and it occurred years ago. Drouth, hot winds, hail and flood are merely local in their scope. For now the resources of the state are so varied and scattered over so much territory that wholesale failure is impossible.

Alfalfa is one of the big items in the prosperity of the state, according to figures compiled by the State Board of Agriculture. It is an immensely profitable crop; it yields early money for the grower and pays a high percentage of profit for the time and money spent in its culture. Nebraska is the second state in the union in alfalfa growing and is crowding close upon Kansas, which state now has the leadership.

A resident of the city of Lincoln bought a piece of land in Buffalo county several years ago. He secured 300 acres for \$2,500. He planted 288 acres to alfalfa. A farmer in the vicinity harvests it on shares. Last year the alfalfa ranch netted the Lincoln man, who did not even go to the scene of action during the summer, \$1,800, or a 6 per cent dividend on \$30,000.

To the live stock enthusiast and the dairyman the alfalfa growing means increased profits. The crop is reasonably certain. In the drouth sections this year the early cuttings were heavy and the last crop, matured during the dry weather, was allowed to seed, as it is well known that seed matured under drouth conditions is most valuable.

Farm experts, after inspecting the dry counties of the South Platte country, estimate that the silage is worth \$75,000,000. The cornstalks, properly harvested and put into the silo, would be worth this amount to the farmers. It would let them market their grain and keep their livestock. Every effort has been made to give this theory publicity.

"Save the corn crop with the silo," urged one of the dairy experts of the state. "With care and caution the entire forage crop can be saved."

"There will certainly be a large amount of damaged corn in all parts of the state. Some sections suffered worse than others, but the general result will be a decreased yield of grain. This, under usual conditions, would cause a shortage of stock feed and exert a depressing effect on the cattle situation. Practically, it need not do so at all.

"The damaged corn will make fine ensilage and will take the place of well cured hay and grain. The hay crop has been good and the price will be tempting. Before the winter is over grain will be high priced. With a little forethought and mental calculation it will be possible to realize more from the silage this year than from a good yield of corn under ordinary conditions.

"Nebraska cannot afford to sacrifice cattle because of a slight yield of corn in the grain. There is already a shortage of live stock. All animals should be kept for breeding or finished in a fattened condition. There is plenty of forage in sight to feed liberally and well all the live stock within the state.

"It is necessary to save the forage and the farmers who have not sufficient stock to feed will find it advisable to feed their neighbors, or pick up in the markets sufficient stock to consume the silage they put up.

"As to the quality of the silage made from the damaged corn there is little data, but all that is available points to the fact that it will make excellent feed and, though not quite as good as the normal corn, is valuable for feeding because of its high per cent of dry matter and low per cent of water. Much of the nutrient which goes to make the grain is now latent in the stalk and leaves. This can be preserved if put into the silo before it turns entirely dry or is killed by frost."

In Kansas and in other states pit silos have been recommended. Farm experts, however, look with criticism on the pit silo, and recommend it only when other kinds of silos cannot be secured. A considerable amount of the silage rots while the task of getting the silage up out of the pit is an unpleasant one.

Cattle feeding tests at the state farm last spring proved conclusively that corn silage was a valuable item in the economical fattening of cattle. The explanations of the tests were made in the presence of about a hundred of the leading live stock feeders of the state.

So it has been demonstrated that there is at least \$75,000,000 in possible wealth in the corn fields which have been classed as damaged by dry weather.



MRS. CHARLES OLIVER NORTON, Of Kearney, Neb.

Mrs. Charles Oliver Norton of Kearney, Neb., has pursued a career which proves that Nebraska affords unusual opportunities for ambitious business women. Mrs. Norton has made a careful study of ranch and farm lands and is said to be the best judge of all branches of agricultural resources in the state.

Her husband died sixteen years ago. Since that time she has continued his business, the handling of lands and money. She is now one of the wealthy women of Nebraska. Mrs. Norton has just finished her second term as state regent of the Nebraska Daughters of the American Revolution. While in office she led the movement which resulted in the marking of the Oregon Trail in Nebraska. She is a member of a number of kindred societies and is prominent in church and charitable work.

such as was experienced in Kansas recently is unknown in Nebraska. This water is not only abundant, but of an exceptionally good quality and is rated high among the resources of the state.

WATER POWER.

One of the least developed, but none the less available resources of Nebraska is its water power. There have been, and still are, problems connected with its development that have not as yet been solved, but master minds are now working along these lines and the immediate future will witness great strides in the harnessing of this mighty force and putting it into proper channels. Most streams are affected considerably by floods, the cold of winter, or the drouths of summer and until recently it was not thought possible to develop the power of broad streams with sandy beds because of the difficulty in anchoring dams and maintaining canals. It is now possible, however, to construct diversion dams and large canals, carrying the water to high points on the valley slopes from which it is dropped to lower levels, thereby generating power under more favorable conditions than was possible with the old overshot wheels.

There are over one hundred developed powers in Nebraska driving flouring mills, lighting towns, etc. Fully 100,000 horse power awaits de-

possibilities has in the past received the most attention and consequent improvement. However, there are other resources just as great which have been lying dormant awaiting only the magic touch of modern endeavor to awaken them to add to Nebraska's prestige. This awakening is being felt all along the line as is evidenced by the wonderful increase in manufacturing and other industries all over the state.

Prosperity is manifest on every side. Go where you will in Nebraska and you will find a happy, contented and prosperous people. Not only in the larger cities of the state are the modern improvements of electric lights, water works, paved streets, etc., to be found, but also in the majority of the smaller villages the citizens have installed these civic conveniences. The automobile is a common mode of conveyance both in town and country, and power driven farm machinery is extensively used all over the state. These surface evidences of prosperity bear out the assertion that Nebraskans are living in a land of plenty.

To one unacquainted with the state it may prove surprising to know that her area is greater than that of all the New England states. Located as it is in the central mid-west it has splendid transportation facilities to all the markets of the world. This affords an easy outlet for its products and permits them to come in competition wherever a demand for them exists.

SOIL.

Nebraska has three soil regions, varying greatly in their agricultural possibilities. The State and Federal Soil Surveys have mapped about fifty soil types that are clay loams, silt loams, fine sandy loams, sandy loams, gravelly and stoney loams. The southeastern 40,000 square miles of the state forms the great Loess region with its smooth uplands, extensive bottom lands and a considerable area of fertile hilly land. Nearly all of this region is subject to cultivation, the soils of the largest distribution being silt loams and fine sandy loams. The subsoil is characterized by its depth and fertility.

The sandy loam region is given over largely to grazing because of an abundance of grass and a suitable water supply. The prevailing soils are dune sand and sandy loams. Much of the basin and dry valley land is suited for the production of hay and cereal crops. There are places in this region where one-third of the surface is hay land or agricultural land. The native grasses of the sand hills are important resources, but too often they are overlooked. This

fair. In fact the state has the reputation of holding one of the best positions in the country. The speech program, the attendance, the educational features, the machinery displays, the automobile attractions and the musical and amusement features cannot be excelled anywhere.

Pure bred live stock, intensive methods in corn cultivation, pure seed corn and progressive ideas in general have always received encouragement from the fair officials. Marketing, scientific distribution, the value of fertilization and the solu-

To one assigned the duty of "Boosting" Nebraska, the difficulty lies not in what to say, but how to say it in the small space available at this time. To condense in a few words a description of the many and varied resources of this peerless member of Uncle Sam's domain, and yet give a fair presentation of them is a task which requires much careful study. With a variety of soil and climate that permits the cultivation of practically every product known to the temperate zone, and with resources that offer inducements to every branch of industrial endeavor, Nebraska is fast taking her rightful place among the leading states of the Union.

This is conclusively shown by a glance at the summary of Nebraska's standing among her sister states as



WILLIAM ROBERT MELLOR, Secretary State Board of Agriculture.

William R. Mellor, of Loup City, has been connected with the Nebraska State Board of Agriculture for thirteen years. He has been secretary since 1906. During his incumbency the educational value of the fair has been emphasized. He is a practical farmer and believes that the annual exposition should be a model school in the best that the state produces.

It appears at the head of this column. This is a summary of FACTS, and facts which should cause the heart of every Nebraskan to thrill with pride at the achievement made possible not only by the natural wealth of the state, but by the energy and enterprise of its sons and daughters.

And yet with this proud record of present achievements, a start has only been made. Primarily and agricultural state, this side of Nebraska's

UNLIMITED OPPORTUNITIES IN NEBRASKA

The average Nebraska citizen brushes up against more opportunities for wealth than is possible to encounter in any other section of the United States. This statement is true year in and year out, declares Secretary W. R. Mellor of the State Board of Agriculture.

Nebraska is the twenty-eighth state in population and ranks seventh in the attendance at the annual state