

# WHAT NEBRASKA HAS DONE

Nebraska was admitted to the Union in March, 1867, and is therefore but forty-four years old. When admitted the population was less than 50,000, three-fourths of them living within fifty miles of the Missouri river. When admitted to the Union Nebraska was considered a "desert." Indeed, the school maps of that time included four-fifths of Nebraska in what was designated "The Great American Desert." For thirty years people had been hurrying across Nebraska, believing that her plains were as unproductive as the sands of Sahara. A little later cattle raising began and flourished wonderfully. Little by little the homesteaders came drifting in, and it was soon discovered that the soil of this so-called desert was as productive as the soil of any other similar area of territory. In the short span of forty-four years Nebraska has grown from a state with 50,000 inhabitants to a commonwealth with 1,300,000 inhabitants with farms producing upwards of \$400,000,000 worth of produce each year; with cities turning out upwards of \$200,000,000 worth of manufactured articles each year.

Four hundred and fifteen miles east and west, by 205 miles north and south, Nebraska contains a total area of 77,000 square miles—or 49,000,000 acres. Of this total acreage only about two-fifths, or, 18,000,000 acres, are under cultivation, and this two-fifths of the total acreage produces annually \$400,000,000 worth of grain and grasses. Of the remaining three-fifths of the total acreage more than one-half are just as good for raising corn, wheat, oats, rye, barley and alfalfa as the 18,000,000 acres now under cultivation, and of the remaining 15,000,000 acres fully one-half will in time, under proper cultivation and thorough knowledge of soil conditions, be added to the wealth producing area.

It took Nebraskans more than a quarter of a century to learn that they could not make the soil fit the man. Then came the most wonderful discovery of the age—the discovery that by adapting the man to the soil Nebraska could be made the greatest agricultural wealth producer in the world. Each year since that discovery has seen hundreds of thousands of acres of soil, before considered almost worthless, brought under cultivation and yielding returns that are so astonishing that it is hard to make people believe the truth.

There is room and welcome awaiting in Nebraska for 500,000 honest and industrious homeseekers and homemakers—farmers who will till the soil intelligently. "With what do you mix your paints?" some asked of Landseer. "With brains,"

was the reply. There is no better fertilizer than brains, and Nebraska farmers are using their brains. What is the result?

Nebraska is the fourth largest wheat producing state, and the youngest of the four. She raises more wheat to the acre than any other state.

Nebraska is the fourth largest oats producing state, and the youngest of the three. She raises more corn to the acre than any other state.

Nebraska is the fourth largest oats producing state, and the youngest of the four. She raises more oats to the acre than any other state.

Nebraska is the third largest producer of sugar beets.

Nebraska produces more butter per capita than any other state.

Texas is the largest cotton producing state. Her 1909 crop of cotton was not worth as much as Nebraska's 1909 crop of corn by \$47,000,000. Nebraska's 1909 wheat crop came within \$6,000,000 of being worth as much as Texas' cotton crop in the same year.

In 1908 the farm value of the tobacco crop of the nation was \$74,000,000—less than the value of Nebraska's corn crop for the same year.

In 1909 the agricultural and live stock products of Nebraska were worth more than the mine value of all the bituminous coal dug from the bowels of the earth in the United States.

All the gold and silver mined in the United States and Alaska in 1910 would not pay for the corn and wheat raised in Nebraska in the same year.

The value of the 1910 product of crude petroleum in the United States was not equal to the value of Nebraska's 1910 crop of corn and wheat.

The steel industry of the United States is gigantic. The values of the iron ore produced in the United States in 1908 was \$60,800,000. Nebraska's corn crop in the same year was worth much more.

Nebraska has no mines producing gold bearing ores, but in 1910 the dairy cows of Nebraska minted the grains and grasses of Nebraska into \$10,000,000 worth of golden butter.

Consider the stupendous figures—then remember that all this product is from 18,000,000 cultivated acres, with not less than 20,000,000 equally fertile acres yet awaiting the touch of the plow of the husbandman.

And less than a half-century ago what is now Nebraska was considered to be the heart of "The Great American Desert!"

In 1910 Nebraska with a population of 1,300,000 produced more from her soil than Japan, with 40,000,000 people, pro-

duced from her soil and purchased from other nations. The per capita of agricultural wealth production in Nebraska is greater than that of any other state. Even the hay crop alone in 1910 was worth more than Alaska's output of gold and silver.

This is the state that invites you from the congested centers of the east. This is the state that offers you the opportunity to build a home and acquire a competence. This is the state that throws wide her gates and invites the industrious and the honest from all four quarters of the earth.

## SOME INTERESTING

## NEBRASKA FACTS

### WORTH REMEMBERING

Here are a few facts about Nebraska that will interest you, and which will be valuable material to store away in your memory:

Total area, 77,000 square miles.

Total acreage, 49,000,000.

Railroad mileage, 6,006.

Has the third largest stock yards in the world.

Has the third largest packing center in the world.

Has the fourth largest state university in the Union.

Is the third largest corn producing state.

Is the fourth largest wheat producing state.

Produces more butter per capita than any other state.

Has the largest creamery company in the world—at Lincoln.

Has the largest butter market in the world—Omaha.

Has the smallest percentage of illiteracy of all the states.

Has fewer convicts in proportion to the population than any other state.

Has more money per capita in her permanent school fund than any other state.

Has the second largest smelting plant in the world—at Omaha.

No state has a river equalling in mileage the Platte river in Nebraska—415 miles as the crow flies, and over 700 miles by the channel.

Is the third largest producer of sugar beets.

The second largest sheep market of the world is at South Omaha.