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NEBRASKA'S UNRIVALLED RESOURCES.

By Louis V. Guye.

As an empire of progress and opportunities, Nebraska presents to the world many features in advance of other states, in way of low price, productive land valuations. In presenting her magnificent advantages both as an agricultural and manufacturing state, her soil, climate, temperature, rainfall, schools and railroad facilities should be taken into account. As an agricultural state we include as our principal crops corn, wheat, oats, barley, rye, alfalfa, hay, potatoes, sugar beets, sorghum cane, kafir corn, speltz, broom corn and orchard products.

The total crop for 1911 being as follows: Corn 133,400,303 bushels, value \$87,310,196; wheat 46,609,885 bushels, value \$46,609,885; oats 32,035,258 bushels, value \$12,814,343; barley 918,180 bushels, value \$504,999; rye 923,871 bushels, value \$692,903; alfalfa 1,985,100 tons, value \$24,813,750; hay 3,168,710 tons, value \$36,608,875; potatoes 4,668,199 bushels, value \$5,845,248; sugar beets 142,268 tons, value \$596,072; sorghum cane 227,739 tons, value \$1,821,912; kafir corn 24,460 tons, value \$73,380; speltz 430,878 bushels, value \$185,277; broom corn 4,186 tons, value \$355,810.

Fruit Growing.

While it has been conceded by government experts that eastern Nebraska has soil and climate better suited to commercial orcharding than other parts of the United States, the following shows the production of fruit for the year 1911, as follows: Apples 9,935,889 bushels, value \$9,935,889; cherries 12,286,551 quarts, value \$860,058; grapes, strawberries, blackberries and all other small fruits, value \$500,000.

Crop values.....\$221,205,650
Fruit crops..... 11,295,947

Total crop and orchard values.....\$232,501,597

Live Stock.

The total value of live stock for the year 1911 was as follows: Horses 918,240 head, valued at \$69,534,025; mules 91,137 head, valued at \$8,483,930; cattle 2,229,976 head, valued at \$50,311,890; hogs 1,979,784 head, valued at \$15,378,045; sheep 383,602 head, valued at \$1,184,315; giving us a total valuation upon our live stock of \$144,892,205.

Manufacturing Resources.

The total number of manufacturing concerns reporting for the year 1911 were 1,107, having a total combined capital of \$88,161,893. The total number of wage earners employed in the concerns reporting was 22,860. The total cost of materials used was \$115,230,099, the total value of goods manufactured being \$168,366,383.

The increase in the number of establishments over 1910 being 157; increase on capital \$24,778,077; increase in number of wage earners being 2,901; increase in the total wages paid \$2,614,250; increase in the cost of materials consumed \$1,779,818; increase in the total value of goods manufactured \$18,257,763.

It will be observed that in the manufacturing industries, the photographers, tailors, dress makers, and milliners are not listed as manufacturing concerns for the reason that it is almost impossible to secure a reliable report upon such institutions. As a manufacturing state, Nebraska stands eighteenth, without the above industries, in the value of output, thirty-first in capital invested, thirty-second in the number of wage earners employed, and thirty-third in the amount paid in wages. A careful comparison of Nebraska's population as compared with other states which surpass her in manufacturing industries, together with the fact that Nebraska is without coal and mineral products, meaning expensive power and the shipping of raw materials, such facts demonstrate the progressive enterprise and thrift of Nebraska and her business interests.

By-Products of the Farm.

Nebraska produced in 1910, in by-products of the farm, aside from the regular crops, live stock and manufacturing industries, as shown by our schedule of surplus shipments which represent the amount of products shipped from the state and does not take into account that part consumed at home, as follows: Poultry, both live and dressed, \$2,604,622; eggs, \$40,279,651; vegetables, \$38,100; dairy products, including cream, milk, butter, cheese and ice cream, \$26,422,243; hides and pelts, \$3,969,742; furs, \$106,440; honey, \$401,865, a total of \$73,822,663, or approximately \$61.92 per capita for every inhabitant in the state of Nebraska. Hence we find the aggregate wealth to be as follows:

Crop valuation.....\$221,205,650
Orchard products..... 11,295,947
Manufacturing output..... 168,368,383
Surplus, or by-products..... 73,822,663

Total valuation.....\$474,690,643

This is \$398.15 per capita wealth for every person in the state. Nebraska with a population of 1,192,214, with only one-half of her land under cultivation, and with the average size farm approximately 300 acres, produced in 1910 a surplus per capita valued at \$61.92 which together with the crop and orchard production would total an amount sufficient to maintain double the population which we now have. This record was made upon lands valued at the price of taking (homesteading) up to the irrigated sections valued as high as \$200 per acre.

Opportunities for Home-Building.

Nebraska has approximately 23,000,000 acres of untilled land, a part of which is used for grazing purposes. The remainder is idle, being held for speculation. A large amount of this land is deeded.

The state may logically be divided into three general divisions which would thus be known as follows:

The southeastern section, comprising the corn, wheat, hog, alfalfa and orcharding district, will be found to run from \$50 to \$150 per acre.

The rough land along the Missouri river, which is especially adapted to orchard growing, is the cheapest grade in such district, averaging from \$50 to \$100 per acre, which, as a rule, is too rough for crop growing. It adds to the value of the land as a fruit-growing district.

The second section, consisting of the southwestern part of the state, which embraces alfalfa, small grain and those crops particularly suited to irrigation, embraces sugar beets, onions, etc. Land values in this district range from \$50 to \$150, embracing the entire Platte Valley.

The northwestern district comprising what is known as the hay and stock raising district, has as the chief enterprises haying, stock

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