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NEBRASKA'S GREAT RECORD.

Do you remember the old story of Alladin and his wonderful lamp? Remember how he rubbed it and summoned a genii who obeyed his every command?

Well, it isn't so difficult to believe that old tale told in Arabia thousands of years ago when one pauses long enough to think what is being done right here in Nebraska every year. Nebraska farmers do not rub lamps to summon genii, they merely "rub the soil" and summon the genii of the sun and the rain to do their bidding, and as a result enough wealth is poured into the lap of Nebraska every year to make the tales of treasure trove told by the wily wife of the blase Sultan of Turkey sound like boys' tales of recovered marbles.

In the period represented by the years 1901 to 1911, inclusive, Nebraska produced 1,546,065,473 bushels of corn. The human mind cannot grasp the immensity of those figures. A billion bushels means absolutely nothing because we cannot comprehend it. But when we reduce it to smaller terms we may begin to grasp the truth. For instance, if all the corn raised in Nebraska since 1901 were shelled and loaded into standard freight cars, it would require 2,730,095 such cars. There are not enough freight cars in the world to make up this number. If these cars were made up into trains of fifty cars each, it would require 54,602 engines to put all the trains under motion at once. There are not enough freight locomotives capable of getting up steam to haul that many freight cars. One hundred and seventeen freight cars, with locomotive and caboose, will make a train a mile long. The freight cars that would be necessary to transport to market at once the corn raised in Nebraska since 1901 would make a freight train 22,750 miles long. You could not get them all on a seven-track railroad reaching from New York to San Francisco. It would reach from San Francisco around the globe to Boston, with a few miles of cars left over for good measure.

But we raise more than corn in Nebraska. We raise wheat. In fact Nebraska is the third largest wheat producing state, producing more bushels per acre than any other state, and increasing her annual acreage and output more rapidly than any other state. Since 1901 Nebraska has produced 402,447,852 bushels of wheat—another inconceivable amount. To transport that amount of wheat would require 574,954 standard freight cars, making a train of wheat 4,788 miles long—a distance equal to that between New York and San Francisco and back again to the Missouri river.

But corn and wheat are not the only grains Nebraska produces in profusion. This state is a wonderful oats producer. Since 1901 Nebraska has produced 540,954,537 bushels of oats. To transport this production of oats to market by rail would require 772,793 standard freight cars, making a freight train 6,440 miles long—more than twice the distance between New York and San Francisco.

Now take all three of these grain crops, corn, wheat and oats, since 1901, load them into standard freight cars, and we would have a freight train 33,978 miles long—one and a half times around the globe at the equator. A thirty-track railroad between New York and San Francisco would not hold all the cars. That train would fill every mile of a railroad track in Nebraska, including switches, five times over.

And we raise rye and barley and speltz and sugar beets, to say nothing of potatoes and onions and cabbage. And then, again, there is hay and livestock. Try reducing all these products to terms of car loads if you want to play an interesting game that will be full of startling information concerning the wonderful productivity of Nebraska.

"Know Nebraska Better!" That should be the slogan of every loyal Nebraskan. "Nebraska and Her Resources" should be a compulsory study in the public schools of the state. Nebraska school children should know more about their state than merely to bound it, name her principal cities and rivers and enumerate her chief products. They ought to know her as they know their alphabet. The more we know about Nebraska the prouder we will be that we are Nebraskans.

And the more we know about this grand young state the more eager we will be to advertise her glories abroad.

Wonderful as her development has been during the past forty years, it is but an earnest of the development that is to be during the next four decades. No other state has equalled her in development, just as no other state can equal her in agricultural productivity. Let us tell all the world about Nebraska. But in order that we may be able to tell it intelligently we must first learn about Nebraska.

WE ARE GETTING IN BAD.

Will Maupin's Weekly is getting in bad with the patriotic gentlemen who are working Nebraskans in the interest of the boasted apple lands of the northwest. This newspaper is accused of exaggerating about Nebraska and libelling the northwest. Of course, the charge is untrue, and for two reasons. First, we couldn't exaggerate about Nebraska; second, this newspaper would not libel anything or anybody. We admit that the northwest is a good apple country—but we claim that Nebraska is a better one. And we are willing to leave it to the proof. And the way to prove it is to come through with the exhibits.

If the land boomers of Oregon will agree to make an exhibit of their apples in Lincoln, alongside an exhibit of Nebraska apples, subject to fair rules and regulations, Will Maupin's Weekly will undertake to provide the exhibition hall and give the exhibits a pretty fair measure of publicity. We stipulate that all exhibits shall be unmarked save by secret signs known only to a committee to be appointed by the exhibitors. The judges are to be selected from states not entered in the competition, these judges to be ignorant of the names of the exhibitors and the states from whence the exhibits come. The exhibition is to be free to the public, and the daily press of the states entered in the competition to guarantee full publicity to the awards.

These stipulations are eminently fair. Now will the agents of the northwest come across? We'll leave the Nebraska exhibit in the hands of Secretary Marshall of the Nebraska State Horticultural Society, and suggest early in January as a good time for the competition.

SOUNDED VERY FAMILIAR.

Little Willie (reading from the Good Book)—"And they came to the brook of Eschol, and cut down from thence a branch with one cluster of grapes, and they bare it between them upon a staff." Grandma (looking up from her newspaper)—"Why, Willie, what Nebraska newspaper are you reading now; and I never knew there was a creek called Eschol in this state. What county is it in?"

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