

### HOW CORN AFFECTS PRICES

It Bears a Relation to General Prosperity Not Realized.

### INFLUENCES OTHER MARKETS

Has Much to Do with Advance in Price of Meat and Dairy Products the Country Over.

Few people realize to what extent the prosperity of the country taken as a whole rests upon the outcome of the corn crop. Recently the Department of Agriculture announced its preliminary estimate of a yield of 2,767,316,000 bushels for this year, making the third largest in the history of the country. The United States grows about 90 per cent of the world's corn crop on the average, and seldom exports more than 5 per cent under existing conditions of domestic demand. It is preeminently the American crop on which rural prosperity and through it general prosperity, rests.

As a basis of material progress corn has extended its area with the growth of the country. Last year for the first time it exceeded 100,000,000 acres. No further back than 1877 the area under corn was only half of that. The doubling of the acreage has brought the doubling of yield and almost a doubling of price. With higher prices of corn has come an increasing tendency to sell direct from the farm rather than to convert it into meat and market it in that form. The low prices of the eighties and nineties led to live stock production on a more scientific basis, while the higher prices of the current decade have tended to reduce the quantity of live stock grown through the consumption of corn.

This influence has much to do with the advance in meat and dairy prices so general throughout the country and the world. Corn, in its capacity as a farm asset, is practically an addition to rural capital. What railroads would charge to maintenance of equipment the farmer charges to the upkeep of his live stock through corn consumption. It is nevertheless more than simply maintenance; it is an investment in the form of live stock, poultry and dairy products prepared for the market. A well-filled crib of corn is the farmer's best bulwark against any change in the financial fortunes of the country. Without an ample supply he is poor; with it he is ready for anything, because he has the means of maintenance till the next season's production.

Corn, unlike cotton or wheat, is less the farmer's money crop than his means of making money. In a rotation system it is indispensable to the American system of agriculture. Its future lies there rather

than in any very great extension of acreage beyond the present limits. Probably in another decade we may have as much as 125,000,000 acres under corn. But then the crop will have to share the total farm acreage in newer crops that are now wedging their way into rural systems of using land. Its future will depend on two things—on the price which the consuming world is prepared to pay for it, and on its part in the maintenance of farm fertility. Its acreage yield of 202 might easily be improved by 20 per cent under demonstrated methods of seed selection and proper culture. The yield need not therefore be less, but rather greater as the years advance.—Wall Street Journal.

### Walls of Corn.

Smiling and beautiful heaven's dome  
Dreads softly over our prairie home.  
But the wide, wide lands that stretched  
Before my eyes in the days of May;  
The rolling prairie's billowy swell,  
Breexy upland and timbered dell;  
Stately mansion and hut forlorn—  
All are hidden by walls of corn.  
All the wide world is narrowed down  
To walls of corn now sere and brown.  
What do they hold—these walls of corn,  
Whose banners toss in the breeze of morn?  
He who questions may soon be told—  
A great state's wealth these walls entail.  
No sentinels guard these walls of corn,  
Never is sounded the warder's horn;  
Ye, the pillars are hung with gleaming gold,  
Left all unbarred, though thieves are bold.  
Clothes and food for the toiling poor;  
Wealth to heap at the rich man's door;  
Meat for the healthy and balm for him  
Who moans and tosses in chamber dim;  
Shoes for the barefooted; pearls to twine  
In the scented tresses of ladies fine;  
Things of use for the lowly cot;  
Where (bless the corn!) want cometh not;  
Luxuries rare for the mansion grand,  
Booty for thieves that rob the land—  
All these things, and so many more  
It would fill a book to name them o'er,  
Are hid and held in these walls of corn,  
Whose banners toss in the breeze of morn.  
Where do they stand, these walls of corn,  
Whose banners toss in the breeze of morn?  
Open the atlas, conned by rule,  
In the olden days of the district school.  
Point to this rich and bounteous land  
That yields such fruits to the toiler's hand.  
"Treeless desert" they called it then,  
Haunted by besets and forsook by men.  
Little they knew what wealth untold  
Lay hid where the desolate prairie rolled.  
Who would have dared, with brush or pen,  
As this land is now, to paint it then?  
And how would the wise ones have laughed  
In scorn  
Had prophet foretold these walls of corn,  
Whose banners toss in the breeze of morn?  
ELLEN P. ALLERTON.

### Cotton Unable to Dethrone Old King Corn

Dixie's Vaunted Monarch of the Field Cannot Yet Wield the Scepter Over All.

Corn is king, even the price of cotton soaring to such dizzy heights that this year's crop, although smaller than some of its predecessors, will come near to breaking records in the amount of money placed in circulation. One must think and talk in big figures when the corn crop is under consideration, for all other American crops are dwarfed by comparison with this greatest of grain of cereal crops. According to the preliminary report of the crop-reporting board of the Department of Agriculture, the 1909 yield of corn in the United States is 2,767,316,000 bushels. As the price is hovering around 90 cents per bushel, the actual value of this single crop is more than \$1,600,000,000, or nearly \$1,600,000,000 more than the value of our wheat crop. The latest estimate of the department is about 25,000,000 bushels greater than the figures indicated by the October report, but they are far short of the early estimates, which ran as high as 5,000,000,000 bushels. That this enormous crop of corn can be easily taken care of in the markets at home and abroad is shown by the movement of the preceding crops. That of 1908 was 2,682,000,000 bushels, and in the poor crop year of 1907 the yield dropped to 2,102,000,000. The crop of 1906 was 2,827,000,000 bushels, so that the average for the three years preceding 1909 was 2,739,000,000 bushels, or but 28,000,000 bushels less than the 1909 crop. This shortage, as compared with the average supply for the preceding three years, is a mere bagatelle, and it is strange that the announcement of the department's figures should have caused weakness in the market.

There is a steady increase in the consumption of corn, and each year finds an increasing quantity diverted to uses which are of very recent inception. Not very many years ago corn was so cheap that it was used for fuel in Kansas, but the case with which the markets at home and abroad have assimilated an average of 2,725,000,000 bushels per year for the last three years points conclusively to the fact that corn will never again be available at a price that will warrant its use for fuel. Unless there is a weakening in the price of other grains, home consumption will take up all of this mammoth corn crop, and leave us again with bare bins, as was the case when the 1908 crop began moving to market. King cotton is all right in his small kingdom in the south, but as a prodigal distributor of wealth, corn is king by an overwhelming majority.—Portland Oregonian.

### Woodmen of World Proves a Wonder

Remarkable Success of an Omaha Enterprise in the Insurance Field.

The success of the Woodmen of the World, the greatest of fraternal insurance orders, has been remarkable. It is one of the largest financial enterprises in the many which headquarter in Omaha.

The Woodmen of the World took its beginning in the present form, known as Perfected Woodcraft, a little more than ten years ago. The founder, J. C. Root, sovereign commander, had at that time, in about ten years past, built up an organization that was limited in the radius of seven or eight states about his headquarters in Lyons, Ia.

The order then went through a process of transformation and the year of rapid growth which it is now enjoying began. The Woodmen of the World now numbers some 8000 camps, as the individual lodges are known. The order extends over the United States and Canada, with an occasional camp in Mexico and the Philippines.

In securing a charter from the Dominion government of Canada J. C. Root, the sovereign commander, accomplished what to others had been an impossible task. No other American organization of the kind ever before or since secured a charter from the Dominion. The Woodmen of the World have about 15,000 members in Canada.

The total membership of this remarkable organization is about 700,000, and constantly growing.

Many features of the Woodmen of the World as an insurance organization are original with it. In building for the future the Woodmen are piling up an emergency fund which has now reached, together with the cash surplus on hand, a sum of about \$2,000,000.

The payments made by the sovereign camp of the Woodmen of the World illustrate forcibly its magnitude when they are reduced to months, days, hours and minutes. The death losses last year aggregated \$1,000,000, which means a monthly distribution of \$83,333, or \$7,522 per week. This, when reduced to minutes, shows an outlay of \$15.22 every minute of the year. Three thousand deaths were reported in 1908, one death every three hours.

The insurance of the Woodmen of the World embodies an endowment feature, which in effect becomes an old age disability benefit. When a member reaches 70 years of age he is entitled to draw one-tenth of the face value of his certificate each year until his 80th year it is exhausted. If he should die in the intervening period the unpaid balance is paid over to his beneficiaries.

Every member of the Woodmen of the World is entitled to a marble monument on his grave at the expense of the order. More than 27,000 of these have been erected by the Woodmen.

J. C. Root, the founder of the order, is yet the administrator of affairs, and in his busy office building he may be seen every day dealing with the affairs of the organization he has built up. In the beginning back in 1899 he met with factional trouble in the formation of the plans for the order which became the Woodmen of the World, but he carried it through and the order has now reached a degree of success which assures permanency.

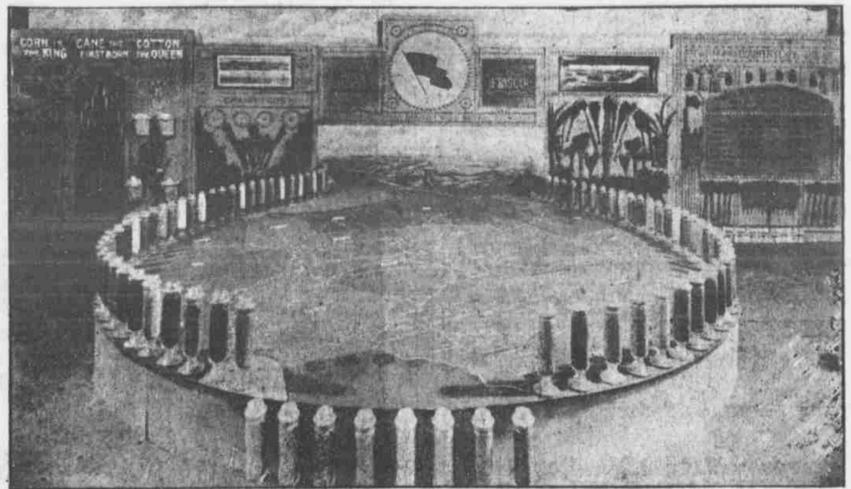
### One Successful Case.

"Doctor, you're not so foolish as to think you can make people good by performing operations on them, are you?"  
"That depends on what you call making people good. You can check their disposition to commit crime."  
"As far example—"  
"Well, I once knew a man who was cured by a simple operation of a tendency to rob banks and holdup railway trains."  
"Did you perform it, doctor?"  
"No, I was merely made to verify the result after the operation was over."  
"Well, who did perform it?"  
"A frontier sheriff."—Chicago Tribune.

Persistent Advertising is the road to Big Returns.

# The Great Southwest

offers *certainty* to the settler. He'll *reach* it *comfortably* and find *comfort* after he *arrives*. Profits are *sure* to the *worker*. Rich land, equal to the *finest* soils of *any* state in the union, can be bought in Oklahoma, Texas, Southern Missouri, Arkansas, New Mexico and Louisiana, for *less* than *worn out* farms in the *thin-soiled* sections. The *climate* never stops *working*. Crops can be harvested at *all* periods of the year



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# An Invitation

We extend a special invitation to all corn show visitors to visit our place during their stay in Omaha this next week. We shall endeavor to make it pleasant, and we think a trip through our implement warehouses will be interesting to them.

We shall be glad to have all implement and vehicle dealers to visit us.

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