

GROWTH OF STATE

North Carolina's Wonderful Development for Five Years Briefly Told

The wonderful industrial development in North Carolina during the past five years is told in advance sheets of statistics to be issued by the Census Bureau, giving the development of manufacturing establishments in North Carolina for the year ending December 31st, 1904, as compared with the same date 1900.

The three great manufacturing industries of the State, cotton goods, furniture and tobacco, have made almost marvelous growth since the reports of the 12th census, which were published in 1900.

The value of the products of tobacco manufacturing establishments in the State has increased from \$13,850,960 to \$28,087,969; the increase of the products of furniture, factories \$6,181,619 as compared with \$1,547,305 in 1900; and the jump in the value of textile products is from \$28,372,798 to \$47,254,054.

Cotton mills have increased in number during the past five years from 177 to 212, while furniture factories have increased from 44 to 105. Strange as it may seem the tobacco establishments, which have made such large increase in output have shrunk from 96 in 1900 to 55 in number in 1905.

SOME INDUSTRIES EXCLUDED.

The following letter from the Chief of the Bureau of Manufactures to Director North, of the Census Bureau, accompanied the advance data relative to North Carolina industries is of interest and is given herewith:

"This census was taken in conformity with the act of Congress of March 6th 1902, and is confined to the manufacturing establishments with a product of \$500 or over, thus excluding the neighborhood industries and hand trades, such as the building trades, dressmaking, custom millinery, custom sewing and grinding, cotton ginning, cobbling, and blacksmithing. Including these industries there were reported at the 12th census, 7,226 establishments with 70,570 wage-earners and products valued at \$94,919,663. These totals are reduced as nearly as possible to a comparative basis and the results presented in the following tables, which show the totals for the State and Wilmington and the totals for five principle industries in 1900 and 1905. The statistics indicate that there has been a substantial increase in the manufactures of the State. The decrease in the number of establishments is due to a decrease in the number of small establishments or to the inclusion of a few small establishments in 1900 that were omitted in 1905 because they do not form a part of a factory census. The best indication of the progress of manufactures is to be found in a comparison of the capital, wage-earners, wages, materials, and products."

INCREASE IN VALUES.

The increase in the value of the products of all manufactures in North Carolina is 67.1 per cent. Their value in 1900 was \$85,274,083, and in 1905 had jumped to \$142,520,776. The capital stock increased 106 per cent, being \$141,000,639 in 1905, as compared with \$68,283,005 in 1900. The increase in the cost of materials used was 76 per cent., being \$79,174,996 in 1905, as compared with \$44,854,224 in 1900. The increase in salaries of clerks was 40 per cent. in number, and in salaries 58 per cent. The wage earners increased from 72,322 in 1900, to 85,389 in 1905 which was an advance of 18 per cent. The wages increased 52 per cent. The jump being from \$14,051,784 to \$21,375,294.

Wilmington is the only city in the State whose industries are singled out for comparison. The increase in the value of products of manufacturing establishments in Wilmington is 38 per cent. Their value in 1905 was \$3,155,458 as compared with a value of \$2,283,253 in 1900. The increase in the costs of materials used was 30 per cent. in the number of establishments 10 per cent., in the amount of capital stock 9 per cent. in the number of salaried clerks 76 per cent., and their salaries 84 per cent., in the number of wage earners 18 per cent and their salaries 52 per cent.

THE GROWTH OF CAPITAL.

The capital of cotton mills increased from \$33,011,516 to \$57,413,418; the number of salaried clerks, clerks, etc., from 659 to 902; their salaries from \$586,730 to \$973,148; the number of wage earners from 39,473 to 35,356; their wages from \$5,120,087 to \$7,563,512; the cost of materials used from \$17,386,924 to \$32,932,352.

The capital furniture factories increased from \$1,026,375 in 1900

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Useless Books in Our Schools.

The case of the Gaston county young girl, who was expelled from school for refusing to study a text book on agriculture, has provoked no little comment, practically all of our contemporaries expressing sympathy for the girl and wondering that a course in agriculture should be required in a public school. This Gaston county case is not isolated. We verily believe that a majority of the public schools in North Carolina one or more text books are taught that are of no value to the children studying them. At the same time the parent of the little girl from Gaston did her child an injustice when she encouraged her to insubordination. Discipline in the school is as necessary as in the home, and if children are to be permitted to select their own course of study, they are but a step from the privilege to rule their own conduct. Such a condition would inevitably result in chaos, and the eventual destruction of the public school system. We admire the nerve of the little girl in question but deplore the lack of judgment exhibited by her parent.—Ex.

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