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U. S. COTTON CROP REPORT FOR 1912

TOTAL OVER TWO MILLION BALES LESS THAN RECORD OF PREVIOUS YEAR.

LARGE NUMBER OF LINTERS

U. S. Census Bureau Issues Final Estimate—Figures About as Had Been Expected.

Washington.—The United States census bureau issued the annual cotton report.

The final estimate of the cotton crop of 1912 is 14,076,430 bales.

The crop for 1911 was 16,109,349 bales, and for 1910 it was 11,965,862 bales.

Expressed in 500-pound bales, the 1912 crop is 14,295,500 bales as compared with 16,250,276 bales for 1911 and 12,005,688 for 1910.

The final estimate by states and by subdivisions follows:

Figures by States.

| | Estimate | Estimate |
|----------------|------------|------------|
| | Yield | Yield. |
| Alabama | 1,366,424 | 1,911,121 |
| Arkansas | 803,071 | 938,791 |
| Virginia | 25,485 | 31,099 |
| Missouri | 56,065 | 95,336 |
| Florida | 60,033 | 91,146 |
| Georgia | 1,887,461 | 2,867,741 |
| Louisiana | 391,437 | 395,603 |
| Mississippi | 1,048,034 | 1,212,046 |
| North Carolina | 934,420 | 1,152,459 |
| Oklahoma | 1,054,857 | 1,043,803 |
| South Carolina | 1,257,708 | 1,727,094 |
| Tennessee | 289,504 | 457,957 |
| Texas | 4,886,415 | 4,238,510 |
| All Others | 15,516 | |
| Total | 14,076,430 | 16,109,349 |

Figures by Quality.

| | 1912-13 | 1911-12 |
|-----------------------------|------------|------------|
| Equivalent in 500 lb. bales | 14,295,500 | 16,250,276 |
| Round bales | 81,528 | 100,439 |
| Sea Island | 236,641 | 119,252 |
| Linters | 605,704 | 556,726 |
| Average weight | 507.8 | 504.4 |

Included in the statistics for 1912 are:

Linters, 605,704 bales; Sea Island cotton, 236,641 bales; round bales, 81,528. Round bales are counted in the estimate as half bales.

The average weight of the bale for 1912 is 507.8 pounds as compared with 504.4 pounds for 1911 and 501.7 for 1910.

Cotton not yet ginned is included in the total estimate, and is placed by ginner and delinters as 129,172 bales.

The only surprise in the estimate is the great increase in linters, which this year are placed at 605,704 bales, a startling jump from 1911.

Analysis of the figures by states shows big crops west of the Mississippi; Texas with nearly 5,000,000 bales and Oklahoma with a million. When the crop west of the river is heavy, linters show a great increase, and the diminished crop in the east has very little effect on linters.

The Texas cotton has a fuzzy seed, which will not gin clean.

MANY ARE KILLED BY STORM

Buildings Demolished, Houses Unroofed, Wires Paralyzed, Crops Injured.

Atlanta, Ga.—More than one hundred persons are reported killed and hundreds were injured, some mortally, by a storm of tornado intensity, which raged over central western, southern and parts of the eastern states. Property damage will run well into the millions.

Reports from Alabama show the loss of life was heaviest in that state, the number of dead there being placed at sixty, with additional fatalities reported, but not confirmed. Two towns, Thomasville and Lower Peachtree, were practically wiped out. Two are dead in Indiana, two in Tennessee, two in Ohio, two in New York, one in Michigan and one in Louisiana.

McCombs Won't Go to France.

Washington.—William F. McCombs, chairman of the Democratic national committee, issued a statement announcing that he had declined to become ambassador to France. He said: "I do not feel that I can afford to leave my life work—the practice of the law. I feel compelled to devote myself to my personal affairs, and at the same time, I will lend my assistance in my power that will contribute to the success of the Democratic administration and the Democratic party."

DEATH AND DESTRUCTION IN WAKE OF TORNADO

HUNDREDS OF LIVES LOST AND MILLIONS IN PROPERTY RAZED IN OMAHA, NEBRASKA.—PATH OF TORNADO EIGHT MILES LONG.

THE CITY OF OMAHA IS PUT UNDER MARTIAL LAW

Convents and Schools Are Blown to Atoms and Every Piece of Glass Blown From Largest Office Building—Illinois Central Bridge Destroyed.

Omaha, Neb.—A tornado swept through Omaha, cutting a path four to six blocks wide and eight miles long, causing an appalling loss of life and immense destruction of property.

Hundreds of buildings were destroyed, at least a hundred were killed and thrice that number injured.

Lincoln, Neb.—One hundred are dead, twice as many more were injured, some fatally, by a tornado which devastated Omaha and its environs. It demoralized telegraph and telephone service and cut Omaha off from communication with the outside world.

Property damage will amount to hundreds of thousands. The tornado swept in from the southwest and zigzagged to the northeast over the residence portion of the city, leaving in its wake destruction and carnage from two to four blocks wide.

Fire sprang up all over this area and added to the horror of the twister. Firemen were unable to respond to the numerous alarms, and many houses were allowed to burn to the ground. The police were unable to protect the stricken district and the soldiers from Fort Omaha were called out. The tornado zone is now practically under martial law.

The villages of Benson, Dundee and Florence, suburbs of Omaha, are practically wiped out. A heavy rain fell after the tornado saved the mass of wreckage and many of the bodies from being buried.

The Webster street telephone station, containing a score or more of girls, was one of the buildings hit by the storm, and, in a moment, was twisted and torn. Several of the girls were killed and many others injured.

A moving picture show which was just putting on its final film was struck. The roof of the building fell in and in the rush through the only exits many who were not hurt by the collapse of the building were trampled and crushed. The rush continued over the bodies of the dead, and a few of the attendants escaped.

Mayor Dahlman of Omaha wired Governor Morehead for several militia companies to prevent the residences and the dead bodies from being looted. The three Omaha companies were only partially available, according to the reports and the governor and Adjutant General Hall.

Governor and Adjutant General Hall immediately ordered two Lincoln companies and others from nearby towns. The governor himself left on a special train for the scene of the disaster. Passengers arriving in Lincoln at midnight brought information that the tornado first destroyed the suburb of Ralston and from there swept up into the residence portion of Omaha.

At Fortieth and Farnum, a garage was destroyed and a large strip of territory north and east of that corner all seriously damaged. The Illinois Central bridge over the Missouri river was destroyed. All wires are down with the exception of a single railroad wire into Lincoln, which is not now available for press reports.

Semi-hysterical persons arriving here say that the hospitals of Omaha are full of injured and the dead are very numerous. The Woodmen of the World building, the highest structure in the city, was damaged to a great extent, every piece of glass from two sides being blown out.

What is known as the Venus Valley district was leveled by the wind. Refugees by the hundreds flocked to the business section. They were taken care of in the principal hotels. The hotels were full of patients, according to E. G. Swift of Chicago, who arrived here. When he left Omaha every ambulance in the city was rapidly swelling the congestion of the wards.

Omaha's suburbs suffered heavily from the storm. Ralston, southwest of Omaha, was razed to the ground and a half score or more are dead. East Omaha, which felt the full of the twister, reported houses demolished, but no lives were lost. Council Bluffs, Iowa, suffered nine dead, a score or more injured and great damage to property.

The worst damage was done and the largest toll of lives was exacted in the western part of Omaha and the vicinity of Twenty-fourth and Lake and from there northeast to Sixteenth and Binney. This is the residence portion and the destruction wrought was appalling. Whole blocks of homes were picked up and dashed into a shapeless mass. Street cars were hurled from the tracks and demolished.

A moving picture show at Twenty-fourth and Lake streets was destroyed. Ten dead and eight injured have thus far recovered from the ruins. About fifty persons were in the theater at the time of the disaster and it is feared that most of them are buried in the debris.

Bemis Park, one of the prettiest residence districts in Omaha, was razed to the ground and fires dotted the park, completing the destructive work of the tornado.

Among the show places of the city damaged by the storm was the Joslyn Castle. The roof was torn off and the trees and shrubbery uprooted. The convent of the Poor Clares at Twenty-ninth and Hamilton streets was unroofed and the grounds were littered with debris.

The storm so paralyzed the telegraph service that no reports of the disaster could be communicated to the outside world. The Omaha telegraph office sent their Associated Press messages to Lincoln on an early morning train in an effort to get them east.

Omaha presented a sorry spectacle as a result of last night's terrific storm. From the Field club, which is the western part of the city, to the Carter Lake club, situated at the northwest extremity, is one mass of debris from two to six blocks wide.

Federal soldiers from Fort Omaha assisted the police in keeping looters and morbid curiosity seekers at bay. The presence of the soldiers gives the city the appearance of being under martial law.

Terre Haute, Ind.—With a known death list of sixteen, reports brought by messengers on horseback from the southern part of Vigo county indicated that the toll of a tornado which struck here would be increased to fifty. It may be several days before the exact number of dead will be known, as many are believed to be buried in the ruins of their homes. The property loss will probably exceed five hundred thousand dollars.

In addition to destroying about three hundred homes in the southern portion of Terre Haute, Prairieton, a small town six miles south of here, was destroyed and the intervening territory devastated. The injured will number at least three hundred, many of whom are in a serious condition. The hospitals are filled.

\$100,000 of Human Hair Found.

New York.—Creditors of Antonio Meica and his son, Philip, the hair importers, who are under arrest in New Orleans, charged here with obtaining over a million dollars from twenty-two banks through fraudulent invoices, learned that human hair valued at \$100,000 had been found in a secret sub-cellar of a stable owned by the Musicas in the Bay Ridge section of Brooklyn. Deputy sheriffs made the discovery while conducting a search on a writ of attachment. They found 217 bags of hair.

DEFRAUDED BANKS OUT OF THOUSANDS

HAIR SWINDLERS CAUGHT WHILE TRYING TO ESCAPE ON STEAMER.

MUCH MONEY RECOVERED

Thousands of Dollars Found on Them. Defrauded Banks Out of One Million Dollars.

New Orleans.—Charged with defrauding banks in this country and Europe of approximately one million dollars through alleged manipulation of invoices, Antonio Musica, his three sons, George, Arthur and Philip Musica, New York hair dealers, were arrested in their apartments on the steamer Heredia here. Two daughters of the elder Musica, Louise and Grace, were also detained. The party was taken into custody just before the departure of the Heredia for Colon, Panama.

When searched at police headquarters, a large amount of money and much negotiable paper was found in the possession of the prisoners. Fifty thousand dollars was secured from Arthur Musica and about ten thousand more from other members of the party.

The Musicas carried with them nine pieces of baggage, which the police hauled to headquarters. It is believed that much more money and valuable papers will be recovered.

The Musicas did not appear to be perturbed over their arrest. Affidavits were sworn out charging the father and three sons with being fugitives from justice and the two daughters with being material witnesses.

On the way to the central police station an incident occurred which caused some excitement. The elder Musica attempted to secure from Philip a revolver which the son had in his pocket.

"No, won't give it up. I am going to kill myself before I get to police headquarters," Philip declared.

The weapon was taken away from him after a desperate struggle with one of the detectives escorting the party.

Eighteen thousand dollars in bills of large denominations was found hidden in Miss Grace Musica's corset. Eighty thousand dollars was recovered from Musica and his three sons.

HOW TO BUILD A SILO.

Valuable Booklet Offered Free to the Farmers by the Southern Railway.

Atlanta, Ga.—How the average farmer, using ordinary farm tools, at an expense of only \$65 can construct a silo with a capacity of 55 tons—enough silage to feed 20 cows forty pounds per day for four months—is told in a booklet just gotten out by the Live Stock Department of the Southern Railway, a copy of which will be mailed free to any farmer addressing request for same to Mr. F. L. Word, Live Stock Agent, Southern Railway building, Atlanta, Ga.

"Where There Is Live Stock on the Farm There Should Be a Silo" is the title of this booklet, which tells of the advantage to the farmer of having a silo and the great saving which it enables him to make in the cost of winter feeding for his live stock. The figures given are taken from the practical experience of a Tennessee farmer who built a silo on the lines indicated twenty years ago, who finds it as good as new today, and feels that it has paid for itself many times over every year.

Secretary of Agriculture Wilson has recently declared that the Southern states constitute the ideal section of the United States for live stock raising and must be looked to in future years for the nation's food supply. To stimulate interest in the live stock industry and to aid farmers to successfully follow this line, the Southern Railway has established its Live Stock Department, which is giving undivided attention to this work.

Indian Camp on Roof of Hotel.

New York.—An Indian camp has been established on the roof of one of the city's newest and most fashionable hotels. Chief Three Bears, who is 80 years old, protested against the confining four walls of a mere room. So he and Long Time Sleep, White Wolf, Lazy Boy, Pig Top, Medicine Owl, White Wolf's Squaw and Medicine Owl's Squaw and a 10-year-old Indian girl all pitched their tepees above the eaves, where they are

NEWS OF NORTH CAROLINA

Short Paragraphs of State News That Has Been Condensed For Busy People of State.

Charlotte.—Visitors in the city recently from various sections of the county brought in reports of considerable damage wrought by the recent storm in the various localities.

Spencer.—Politics has warmed up in East Spencer, a twin town to Spencer, and located just across the railroad yards. A municipal ticket is suggested with former Mayor H. C. Baeck for reelection, being a leading Socialist.

Burlington.—Ferry Murray, a young man of West Burlington was arrested, charged with having committed the assault upon Miss Mary Walton several days ago. He was given a hearing before justice of the peace and bound over to Superior Court.

Salisbury.—Pleading guilty to an assault upon a helpless colored man, Dan Jones, in East Spencer two weeks ago, J. S. Finger, a young white man, was sentenced to one year on the county roads by Judge Teo. F. Klutz, of Rowan court.

Shelby.—The three-year-old child of Mr. and Mrs. Matt Brooks was playing about a bucket of hot water in the yard where its father was preparing to kill a hog and was scalded to such an extent that the burns caused its death. The child was a girl, and has a twin brother.

Washington, D. C.—North Carolina lands another juicy slice of patronage in the appointment of Hon. W. H. Osborne, of Greensboro, as commissioner of internal revenue. The announcement was just made that the appointment will be sent in when Congress reconvenes.

Stateville.—Mr. Lon Sherrill of North Newton has been working for two years on an airship and thinks it will be ready for its first flight in a short time. This is no plaything. Mr. Sherrill, who is a genius in such things, studied out a plan by which he thinks air navigation will be made simple. While his model is rude in construction, he believes he has the right idea.

Wilmington.—The plant of the Wilmington Handle Works in South Wilmington was destroyed several days ago by fire originating in the dry kiln. The loss is estimated roughly at \$35,000 to \$50,000, with something more than \$25,000 insurance. The handle works was one of Wilmington's youngest and most thriving industries.

Washington.—Senators Simmons and Overman wrote to Secretary of Agriculture Houston endorsing Daniel W. Adams of Ashe county for appointment as Chief Forester. Mr. Adams has been in the Forestry Bureau several years and is in line for promotion. The Senators advised Secretary Houston they would call upon him in regard to Mr. Adams' appointment the first week in April.

Washington.—Secretary Daniels of the Navy Department announced that he had selected Howard A. Banks of Hickory, N. C., for his private secretary. Mr. Banks who will assume his duties in a few days, is owner and editor of The Hickory Democrat. He was graduated from Davidson College in 1888 and did post graduate work at the University of North Carolina.

Salisbury.—Statesville brought the banner delegation to the big Pythian meeting held in Salisbury recently, having about 35 men in the party and 13 candidates for initiation. Lexington brought 23 men with six candidates. Rowan Lodge in Salisbury had nine candidates and Salisbury Lodge furnished 23. There were also a number from other places including Concord, Lenoir and North Wilkesboro.

Shelby.—The Board of Aldermen is preparing for the installation of a city mail delivery service. A Charlotte engineer came up and went over the situation with the members of the board. A blue print will be made of the town, the streets surveyed, named and placarded and the houses numbered. Postmaster B. A. Baber says the postal receipts, if they keep up the present rate of increase, will exceed the \$10,000 mark, which qualifies the town for free delivery service.

Forest City.—Rutherford county has enlisted in the good roads column of the state. April 23 the citizens of this county will vote on a \$250,000 bond issue for building and maintaining good roads. Much enthusiasm is aroused and the issue is expected to carry by a good majority.

Greensboro.—Mason W. Gantt, who served as chief deputy under the late Clerk Pybis of the Superior Court, was appointed clerk by Judge H. A. Foushee. Other appointments

TARIFF REVISION ENGAGES WILSON

THE QUESTION OF SINGLE BILL OR SCHEDULE BY SCHEDULE TAKEN UP.

THE DIPLOMATIC POSTS

President Confers With Senators and Representatives on Matters—Failure to Secure Men For Foreign Posts Gives Him Much Concern.

Washington.—President Wilson started work in earnest on what he considers the foremost task of his Administration—revision of the tariff. He had a long conference at the White House with Representative Oscar W. Underwood, the Democratic majority leader in the House, and canvassed not only the details of the tariff bill drawn by the Ways and Means Committee, but gave consideration also to the strategy necessary to steer the tariff question speedily and effectively through both houses of Congress.

The question admittedly uppermost in the minds of members of Congress now is whether the tariff should be revised schedule by schedule or in a single tariff bill. The party caucus will decide the issue, but the wishes of the President are being consulted by Democratic leaders. The idea of coming to an agreement on a single measure carrying with it the weight of the Administration's approval has appealed strongly to the President because it suggested more expeditious action and the possibility of legislation on currency and other questions before the adjournment of the extra session. Close friends and supporters of Mr. Wilson both in the House and Senate, however, openly have been questioning the advisability of a single tariff bill, renewing the objection hitherto raised that sectional interests might bring about enough defections among the Democrats in the Senate to defeat the measure there. They have urged that by the schedule-by-schedule plan enough Republican votes can be enlisted on those schedules wherein there are Democratic losses, to pass them without difficulty though not as quickly.

While Representative Underwood has been understood of late to favor the single tariff bill idea, it is known that other Democratic leaders in the House and members of the Ways and Means Committee hold the opposite view and have hoped to convert Mr. Underwood to their way of thinking. The President discussed the tariff with Senators Gore of Oklahoma and Hughes of New Jersey.

Britishers Seem Much Surprised.

London.—The House of Commons was astonished when informed by Francis Acland, Parliamentary Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs, that the British Government had been left to glean from the newspapers its only knowledge of the change in the American Government's attitude toward the Chinese loan. Mr. Acland said that as late as March 3, the American Minister at Peking, acting on the instructions of his Government, joined the Ministers of other Powers in presenting to China proposals regarding the loan. He continued: "The British Government has since then had no intimation of any kind from the Government of the United States that the American official attitude toward the Chinese loan has undergone a change and I have no information about the matter except what I have read in the newspapers."

Mexico is Now Pacified.

Washington.—That 75 per cent of the revolutionary element in Mexico is now pacified and that the pacification of Sonora is only a matter of time is the statement of the Mexican Government by the American Embassy in Mexico City. The Provisional Government has decided upon a new punitive measure to terminate the activities of the men who have been financing revolutions.

President Wilson Offers Aid.

Washington.—President Wilson telegraphed Mayor Dahlman of Omaha, as follows: "I am deeply distressed at the news received from Nebraska. Can we help in any way?" Mayor Dahlman replied: "We deeply appreciate your offer of assistance but our people are responding nobly and I believe we can handle the situation."