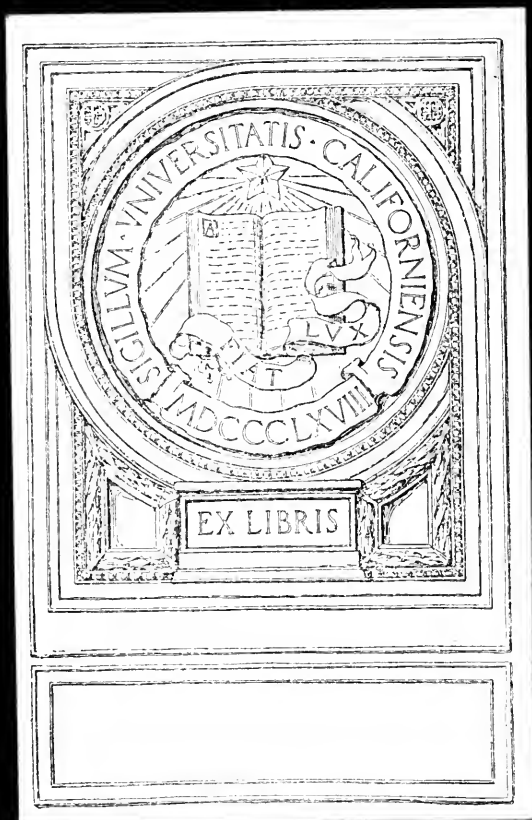


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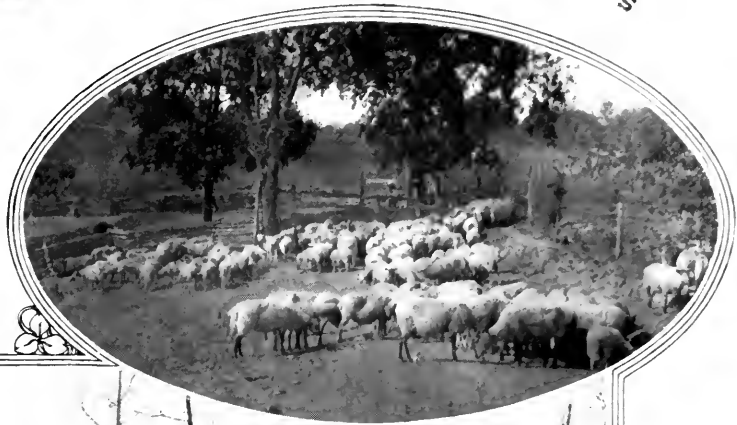


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Mississippi State Capitol

## Mississippi's Welcome

In its civic and religious life, Mississippi holds out a broad, cordial and tolerant welcome to those from all parts of the world who may come in a spirit of righteous and patriotic citizenship seeking a place in which to cast their lot.

Perhaps in no state in the Union is found a more thorough and cordial relationship existing between the people of the towns and cities and those of the country districts than in Mississippi.

This feeling of common fellowship makes for healthy and stable public thought, of oneness of purpose for the common good, and is free from those elements of differences, discord and unrest with which some communities are unfortunately afflicted.

Insofar as the general outlook and settlement and investment privileges are concerned, Mississippi presents the attractive prospect of being a land of "Frontier Opportunity"—where twenty millions of acres are yet to be had at moderate prices—the pre-eminently great opportunity, where the man of moderate means may yield to the deep-souled and home-building impulse of the real American, with every assurance of success and happiness.

And it is not amiss just here to say that there is only one direction that land values in Mississippi can take, and that is—UPWARD.

Here are unbounded opportunities for the settlement of the gallant soldiers of the Republic, now returning from the stress and storm of war, as well as others who may be seeking a new land where they may spend their days amidst happiness and plenty—as the great privilege is given under an over-ruling Providence.

Being richly favored with all that may bless and prosper human kind, this State keenly realizes that its greatest present and future need is more good, thrifty people to come and share its unlimited bounties and help in the building here of a prosperous and splendid civilization.

Mississippi sends greetings to those of other climes—the great North, East and West, as well as here in the genial Southern land—and stands with outstretched hands to extend them a cordial invitation and bid them a generous welcome, where all may strike hands with united hearts and energies, pledged to the common purpose of bringing her marvelous natural resources into life and adding them to the Nation's great storehouse of wealth.

## MISSISSIPPI

To make a division of Mississippi according to the different types of soil would be next to impossible in a booklet of this kind, but we may properly divide the State into five general sections or divisions which are quite distinct. Each section will be briefly described so that the homeseeker may get an intelligent idea of the soil, crops, water, climate and general agricultural conditions throughout the State.

### NORTHEAST MISSISSIPPI

In the northeastern portion of the State the country is generally rolling or hilly, and originally was heavily timbered. The general surface of the land lies between 400 and 600 feet above sea level. There are many fertile valleys and stretches of rolling, undulating country that are now in a splendid state of culti-



Japanese Cane in Northeast Mississippi Produces 200 to 300 Gallons  
Japanese Honey Cane Syrup per Acre

vation. The soil in the valleys and bottoms is very productive and is composed of the finest sediment. The uplands are mostly gray loams or clays, valuable for pasturage and the staple crops. Here may also be found valuable deposits of gravel and clays.

Between the hills of Northeast Mississippi and the Prairie Belt is a large body of flat, sandy loam land, that is not only valuable for general farming, but is especially valuable for corn production. From this section more than two and one-half million bushels of corn are being marketed annually. This section is well qualified for the raising of live stock of all kinds, owing to the abundance of nutritious grasses grown there, among them Lespedeza and clovers. Vegetables, fruits and garden truck of all kinds may be grown very successfully. The general conditions in this section of the State make it ideal for rural life.





Two Hundred Head Aberdeen Angus Cattle

### BLACK PRAIRIE BELT

In the northeast portion of Mississippi, adjoining the Northeast Highlands, is a stretch of country known as the Black Soil Prairie Belt. Its greatest length is about 100 miles and its width is from 10 to 26 miles. It is one of the most affluent and prosperous sections of the State, which is directly traceable to the fertility of this soil, the basis of all wealth, when combined with climate and moisture. The prevailing soil is deep, dark loam, rich in carbonate of lime. Outcropping at places are lighter soils, clay and sandy loams. The black soils yield abundant crops of corn and cotton, oats, alfalfa, cow peas, velvet beans, Lespedeza and all other clovers. With these crops, the dairy and live-stock industries are closely allied. Several creameries have already been established in this section, thus providing a ready market for the dairy farmer's milk and cream.



Green Fields All the Year Mean a Good Herd of Dairy Cattle



Baling Alfalfa

### Fertile Soil

A bulletin of the U. S. Department of Agriculture states: "As an illustration of its extraordinary productivity and durability, it may be cited that most of this land will produce today a bale or more cotton to the acre, after 50 to 75 years of continuous cultivation to cotton and corn without any fertilizer."

### Alfalfa Land

This same bulletin further states: "The wonderful adaptability of the soils of the Black Belt to alfalfa is bringing about an agricultural readjustment of alfalfa; is naturally deep, fertile and of good texture; is unusually well drained naturally and contains the proper amount of lime."

### Elevation

This section is most healthful, having an elevation of 300 to 500 feet above sea level, with excellent drainage conditions. The temperature is uniform and pleasant. Rainfall is abundant and well distributed throughout the year.



The Black Prairie Lands of Mississippi Are the Ideal Lands of the United States for Growing Alfalfa



## THE YAZOO-MISSISSIPPI DELTA

The Yazoo-Mississippi Delta, located in the western part of Mississippi, is an alluvial empire in itself, consisting of 6,648 square miles, or 4,250,000 acres of the most fertile lands in the United States. About 2,200,000 acres of this valley is in cultivation and for generations has been noted for its continued production of the famous long-staple cotton of commerce. This valley extends from Memphis, Tenn., to Vicksburg, Miss., a distance of about 170 miles and its greatest breadth is about 65 miles. Many streams, rivers and bayous provide natural drainage for the Delta lands, but planters and farmers whose lands need artificial drainage, will, in the opinion of some of our best engineers, encounter no unusual obstacles. The entire Delta has a natural drainage from east to west, and from the north to the south.



On a Delta Plantation

### Soils

These alluvial soils have been termed the "geological cream" of the United States, composed of the fertile topsoils brought down by the "Father of Waters" and its tributaries from the extreme northern part of the United States to the Gulf of Mexico; so that in the composition of the soil we find all of the highly productive agricultural states of the North joined hands in building this mighty empire. In these alluvial soils are mingled the loams and silt, the nitrogen and humus, the potash and phosphates, which, combined, make an almost perfect soil. The most famous alluvial lands are called "gumbo," "buckshot," silty loams and sandy clays. The sandy and loamy soils were deposited along the course of the streams and the clayey soils in the interior. The coarser loam soils contain 5 per cent clay and 15 per cent silt. The finer grained soils contain from 12 to 18 per cent clay and 30 to 65 per cent silt. The larger portion of the remaining composition is a very fine sand. The soil varies in depth from 12 inches to 3 feet on the loam soils to 100 feet on the alluvial soils. The "gumbo" soil is a dark, waxy clay and is one of the most productive when properly handled. These soils grow splendid crops of alfalfa and other legumes. They range in depth from one to six feet.

### Climate

The climatic conditions in the Delta are ideal for the growing of cotton, which is the principal money crop and which in the past has yielded large returns to

the planter. This plant requires a long season of warm weather. However, the temperature is not oppressive, and sunstrokes, which are so common in the Northern states, seldom occur in the South. The average temperature for the year 1917 at Greenville, Miss., was 63 degrees. Winter temperature seldom goes below freezing and will range somewhere between 36 and 60 degrees. In summer the temperature rarely goes above 96 degrees. The annual rainfall is about 56 inches.

### Water

The excellent health conditions that prevail in the Yazoo Delta country are largely due to the pure drinking water obtained from flowing artesian wells, of which there are about 5,000. Nearly every large plantation, village, hamlet and city gets its water supply from this source, which was not true in the pioneer days in the South any more than it was in the North, where the water was drawn from shallow wells and cisterns. Wherever proper drainage and sanitary conditions prevail, the health of the people compares favorably to that of any other section of the United States. Coming from a depth of several hundred feet, the water is not subject to contamination, and is therefore of the highest quality and purity.

### Crops

**Cotton.** For more than a century the Delta has gone unchallenged as the Champion producer of long-staple cotton. This staple was king and reigned supreme, and on good land, under proper cultivation, yields from one to two bales per acre. A bale consists of about 500 pounds and at war prices is worth about \$200, and under pre-war times was worth from 18 to 25 cents per pound. Conditions have changed in the Delta since the advent of the boll weevil, which a few years ago threatened the entire cotton belt with ruin, just as the chinch bug did the wheat farmers of the North some years ago. Under these conditions the cotton planter was forced to revise his farming methods, which he did by diversifying his crops. The one-crop system no longer prevails, but with profitable results crops of corn, alfalfa, oats, soy beans, cow peas and velvet beans are marketed annually.



Mississippi for Cotton



Seventy-Five Bushels of Corn per Acre on Delta Lands Are Not Uncommon

**Corn.** Even on these alluvial soils where crop rotation is practiced and legumes are grown, the mechanical texture of the soil is noticeably improved in increased crop production. One planter in 1917 planted 2,200 acres to corn, soy beans, cow peas and other food crops. Of this acreage, 1,500 was planted to corn and under the best methods of tillage produced 100 bushels per acre. One measured acre yielded 118 bushels. We would say this was an exceptional yield on so large an acreage, although much larger yields are recorded on a smaller acreage under intensified methods of cultivation. Seventy-five bushels per acre on Delta lands are not uncommon and the average is very little below that figure. The seed from which these yields are made is of the prolific varieties, producing two or more good ears per stalk.

**Soy Beans.** This crop is growing more and more in favor with the farmers of the South, as it is highly profitable as a forage crop and a soil restorer. As a feed for cattle, with corn ensilage, it provides a nearly balanced ration and by some stock men is considered superior to alfalfa. Yields vary, depending upon the fertility of the soil and the care and attention given to cultivation. One planter last year on a field of 600 acres had an average yield of 40 bushels per acre. Under normal conditions, we would say the average yield per acre for the State would be about 25 bushels. The price was \$3.00 per bushel for 1918.

**Velvet Beans and Cow Peas.** Both of these legumes are considered very valuable from the viewpoint of their feed value, especially in the raising of live stock. In 1918, Mississippi harvested 525,000 bushels of velvet beans and \$1,760,000 worth of cow peas. This, however, does not represent the full production or value of either crop, as large proportions of both crops are left in the fields to be harvested by the hogs and cattle. Like red clover, sweet clover, and other legumes, the velvet bean and cow peas are nitrogen gatherers and leave the soil in a higher state of fertility, thereby increasing its productive powers, and larger yields of field crops the following year are the result.

**Hay.** According to the figures furnished by the United States Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Crop Estimates, the total value of the hay crop in Mississippi for 1918 was \$8,589,000. One of the most valuable hays is Lespedeza, or Japanese clover. When combined with Bermuda, white and crimson clover, one acre will easily maintain a full-grown steer as long as rainfall is sufficient. On a well-balanced soil Lespedeza will yield from one to three tons per acre. It is one of the most easily cured hay crops in the State, often requiring less than 24 hours



Lespedeza Grows Luxuriantly

to effect a cure. It is very palatable and readily relished by all kinds of live stock. There is always a keen market at remunerative prices for this crop when properly cured.

Alfalfa has been grown very successfully in the Yazoo Delta for several years past on plantations that were well drained, as this plant will not survive on lands that are water-soaked and flooded. Nearly all of these lands grow alfalfa successfully, as the soil is highly impregnated with lime. However, the soils on some of the farms will have to be inoculated to successfully grow this legume. Properly handled alfalfa yields from five to six cuttings per season and an average of one



Alfalfa Yields Five to Six Cuttings per Season



Record-Breaking Yields of Oats Are Made in Mississippi

ton per acre each cutting. It is cut once every forty days from May to November. Alfalfa in the hands of a skilled farmer will yield an income equal to cotton.

Oats is another of the staple crops grown in the State and in the production of which the Delta has broken the record, as the following figures from the Experiment Station at Stoneville would indicate:

	Bushels per Acre		Bushels per Acre
Black Tartarian.....	42.2	Hastings One Hundred Bushel .	118.2
Swedish Select.....	82.8	Bancroft.....	119.0
Sensation.....	91.0	Red Rust Proof.....	135.6
Appler.....	118.0		

With a fertile soil, abundant rainfall, a healthful climate, excellent drinking water, good drainage, there slumbers in the lap of this great alluvial valley, awaiting the touch of the trained and experienced homeseeker, an OPPORTUNITY, which, if seized, will lead to FORTUNE.



Delta Hogs

## CUT-OVER LANDS IN SOUTH MISSISSIPPI

These lands may be described as "logged-off" or "stump land" from which the merchantable timber has been removed. The year 1908 witnessed some recognition of the agricultural worth of Southern cut-over lands. This first stir of interest was as the "little leaven in the whole lump," but gradually and extensively the assimilation of these denuded lands for other than lumber purposes proceeded. Native farmers, here and there, followed closely upon the heels of the axe and saw in the logging camps and opened settlements in response to the local demand for farm products. Some of the more progressive lumbermen, realizing the possibilities of their cut-over lands, established thereon demonstration farms, community settlements and colonization projects.

In the meantime State and National agricultural experts went into this great stump empire and commenced to work out the potentialities of the cut-over regions. As the United States furnished 80 per cent of the world's naval stores, science pointed out the profitable utilization of the rich resinous content in the tree wreckage left in the wake of the sawmill. Wood pulp paper mills, pine tar



This Cut Is Representative of the Lay of the Cut-Over Lands of Mississippi. Also Represented

product plants, sprang up and began to manufacture stumps, tree trunks and limbs into paper, turpentine, pine oil, flotation oils, pitch, rosin and charcoal, thus establishing a market for waste wood in the logging fields measurably sufficient to reimburse the farmer for the cost of clearing.

The railroads realizing that when the great asset of lumber is gone, they will need some people to carry and freight to haul, have industriously influenced agriculture to follow close on the retiring steps of the timber interests. So, through one agency or another, the merits of cut-over lands have developed until those skilled in agricultural pursuits now regard the opportunities for trucking, dairying, stock farming and ranching offered by these cut-over regions as the one distinct find in recent times.

### Topography

The lands are neither in the high hills nor low plains, nor swamps, but level, open, undulating and gently rolling. Altitude from 100 to 600 feet, or even higher.



### Soil

The soil is dark, sometimes gray or light chocolate in color. The top soil is of the nature of a sandy loam, warm, buoyant and responsive. The subsoil is a heavy, sandy clay which holds the moisture for the growing crops. Experts say the subsoil possesses rare qualities for plant food. It has been demonstrated that the soil is susceptible of the highest development by proper culture.

### Drainage

The drainage as a whole is natural. The gently rolling lands shed the rainfall readily and naturally. The few lower and more level places may be ditched, and it is this reclaimed land which is among the richest in the State.

### Water

The whole country is blessed with water courses. These streams afford pure, cool and sweet water for both man and beast. Pure pump water is found at 25 to 60 feet and artesian water at from 300 to 1,000 feet, the artesian wells flowing with a force and pressure surprisingly strong. The rainfall is, as a rule, ample and well distributed.



Standing Trees, Stumpage and Discarded Tree Trunks Generally Found on These Lands

### Crops

Indian corn, kaffir corn, milo maize, German millet, Egyptian millet, oats, Lespedeza or Japanese clover, sorghum cane for forage, Sudan grass, Natal grass are the principal grain and hay crops. Lespedeza produces a most luxuriant hay crop and analyzes favorably with alfalfa as a nutritious hay feed. Carpet grass and Bermuda grass are native to the soil and are means through which we build permanent pasture. The lands are also noted for sugar cane. The South is growing diversified crops, but a few acres of cotton makes a ready cash crop. Sugar cane yields per acre 200 to 500 gallons of the famous sugar cane syrup and sells for fifty cents to one dollar per gallon. Two or three neighbors join in buying a grinding mill and evaporator which may be obtained at minimum cost. The soil makes a very good yield of Irish potatoes and especially sweet potatoes. Peanuts do well, the tops being utilized for hay and the nuts find ready sale in the market. All the fruits do well, with perhaps the exception of apples. The soil is noted for its yields of watermelons and cantaloupes. The country is noted for perhaps the greatest strawberry production section, of equal acreage, in the country. Pecan



Sugar Cane Yields 200 to 500 Gallons of Syrup per Acre, Making a Good Cash Yearly Crop

trees grow wild in the woods and the famous paper-shell pecans do equally well. These grafted pecan trees may be planted and farming carried on between the rows. Every vegetable known will grow in this soil. The production of the country is away behind the consumption of the commercial and industrial centers. This cheap, intensive soil, with a near-by market for all garden produce is just the opportunity the trucker is looking for.



Cantaloupes

## Dairying

Dairy farms on cut-over lands furnish all the natural essentials of successful dairying as described in Bulletin No. 155, U. S. Department of Agriculture, and quoted as follows:

"The first and most important natural advantage of the South for profitable dairying is its climate, which makes it possible to have good grazing on fresh pastures from nine to twelve months of every year. The least expensive feed for the maintenance of any animal is that which is gathered by grazing. It is impossible to secure a full flow of milk from a cow which does not have fresh and succulent food from fresh pastures, soiling crops, root crops, or the silo, and the best of these is fresh pastures. Natural pastures of Bermuda grass, Lespedeza grass and other plants are abundant and good through the summer. Cow peas and sorghum will carry the cows through the fall in constantly improving condition, and by December, with oats, vetches and crimson clover, afford rich



Dairying on Cut-Over Lands

grazing, which lasts until the natural grasses begin their spring growth. In no other part of the country is it possible to secure good grazing through so great a part of the year at so little cost. The mild winters make it unnecessary to provide expensive buildings for protection from cold. The increase in the amount of food needed simply to sustain animal heat in the region where the temperature ranges from 20 degrees to 30 degrees F. lower, as it does in most of the prominent dairy sections of the country, is no small item in the cost of maintenance, and in those sections there is always a marked decrease in the flow of milk whenever additional feed is needed for warmth. The more mild the winter the less will be the total amounts both of forage and grain needed for the support of the animal. In nearly every part of the South there is a good home market for all dairy products, and the demand will be beyond the supply for many years to come. There are few counties in this section which do not consume double the amount of butter they produce, and in which really good butter will not bring a satisfactory price in the local market. A local market is always the best market for any farm product."



Twenty-Thousand-Dollar Hereford Bull on a Mississippi Stock Farm

Railroads or lumber companies in many instances have furnished dairymen the free service of approved pedigreed bulls. Many communities have organized bull associations, the associations purchasing or replacing bulls of high-bred standards for community use.

### Cattle

During the years 1917 and 1918 the United States and State Agricultural Departments, in order to save hundreds of thousands of cattle from death by reason of drouth in the West and Southwest and meet urgent war needs, influenced the transfer of many great herds from the Southwest into the grass of the cut-over lands in Mississippi. The experiment in the main proved highly successful and thus the stamp of approval was placed upon cut-over lands as the coming range country for cattle. The better business method with cattle is to acquire native stock and cross breed to pedigreed animals until you have built up to half and three-quarter standards. Adopting this plan, it works out that you acquire a herd at a low initial cost and economically build up to high-priced animals which become big profit producers. It is highly significant that there are now stock



Herds of Hereford Cattle Become Big Profit Producers



Mississippi Is Raising Champion Hogs

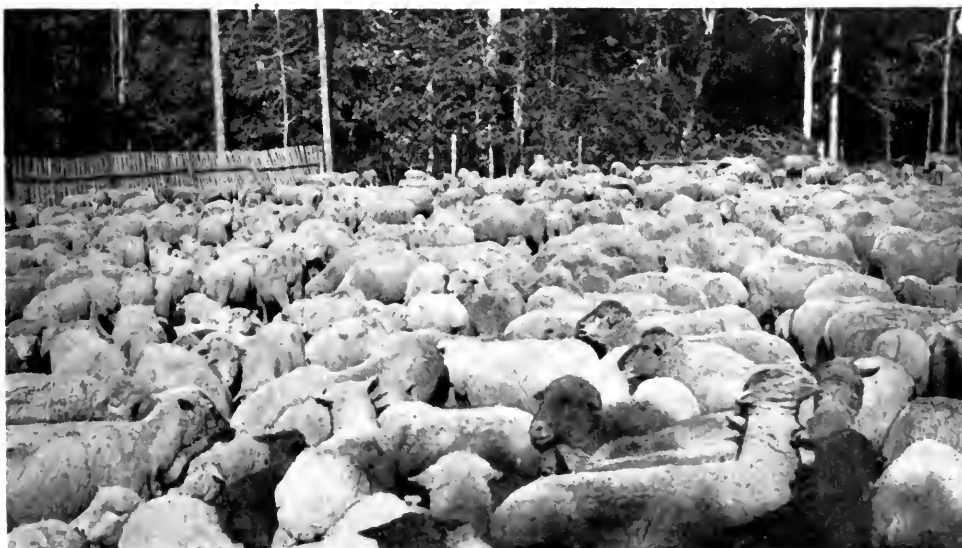
farms on the cut-over lands of Mississippi on which there are prize-winning bulls, one breeder having paid \$20,000 for a pure-bred Hereford bull.

### Hogs

Hogs are a necessary live-stock accompaniment to cattle. They are as free from the ordinary diseases as those anywhere. Having mild seasons, little loss of pigs and abundant forage and feed crops for hogs, you need but look to the actual increased production of swine in Mississippi to be convinced of the possibility of hog raising as a business venture, which is evidenced by two sales of pedigreed hogs held in February, 1919, where the average price for sows was over \$300 at one sale and over \$600 at the other.

### Sheep

Sheepmen have commenced to run flocks on cut-over lands. The consensus of opinion is that it is better to purchase native flocks, or flocks in territory of similar altitude, import pedigreed rams and build to high standards by cross breeding. In this way, to begin with, you measurably solve the knotty problems of adaptability to climate, feed and grass. Experienced flock masters do not run



Specimen of Sheep to Be Found on the Cut-Over Lands of Mississippi





Every Farmer Should Have Some Sheep on His Farm

sheep on low lands where they incur the risk of foot rot, but are selecting the higher or rolling lands, of which there are millions of acres. Internal parasites, present in greater or less degree in almost every sheep growing country, may be avoided by shifting and changing pasture often on the unlimited range of cut-over lands. External parasites, or scab, may be controlled by the simple process of dipping. A great change of sentiment regarding the dog has come about and the people of Mississippi now prefer more sheep and less dogs. Drastic laws are in sight and predatory animals as a menace in the future will be negligible.

The range sheep at first on the cut-over lands in the South were as a rule undoubtedly descendants of the old Mexican ewe imported during an early day from Spain, and in that state were a mixed type, greatly degenerated by inbreeding. Roaming the denuded woodlands were small flocks of 15 or 20, with no human care except when their burdens were tenderly lifted at shearing time. These sheep, thanks to our propitious soil and climatic conditions, actually propagated and in a way worked out their own salvation with fear and trembling before their neglectful owners. Now, if these inferior grades of sheep, without care or feeding, survived our mild winters, is it not a powerful argument in support of cut-over lands as a sheep country?

Sheep run on Southern cut-over lands should be of such breed as grow a good-sized carcass and a medium wool production. Our nation is rapidly becoming a mutton-eating country. If there be anything in the statement that the warm climate of the South retards putting on a heavy fleece, the value of the increased carcass would more than atone for the decreased wool production.

Among the advantages of sheep range conditions on cut-over lands are mild winters, early lambing and minimum loss from cold—not so hot in summer, with carefully selected breeds, as to work a ruinous degeneration in quality of the fleece and not so cold in winter as to make feeding a continued necessity. We may further mention cheap lumber, inexpensive sheds, fuel and fence posts on the ground for the getting, private ownership of land without Governmental restraints, no thick underbrush to pluck the wool, near-by markets and no wolves or coyotes.

### Early Lambing

“The best paying feature of the sheep industry is the quick sale of fat lambs” says a sheep expert of one of our Southern State Universities. Healthy lambs make use of every ounce of feed that goes into them and while they are young is the time to plan and feed for early marketing. The lambs should be





Sheep Are Profitable and Assist in Clearing the Land

dropped as early as possible in December and January and the last of May should find all lambs for sale gone to market and the money in the farmer's home bank. The Mississippi flock masters should set out to produce the 100-day fat lamb and have them all gone to the market by June. The ewes, thus freed from suckling so early, go through the summer in much better condition, come to the breeding season earlier and in better flesh and they are sure to shear a heavier fleece of wool. Velvet bean forage, in cornfields, oats and rye, should be relied on for winter feed for ewes. If an acre of velvet beans will carry 25 sheep through the winter, as the Agricultural Commissioner of one of the Southern states avers, then ten acres of velvet beans would provide winter pasture for 250 sheep, making it economical to carry over large flocks from summer grazing. What applies to sheep applies with equal force to goats, except that goats are hardier, require less feeding and are immune from many diseases that sheep are heir to.

If sheep or cattle were intelligently herded and their grazing directed by shifting from one grazing area to another, leaving sufficient acreage entirely untouched until winter months, the reserve pasture would have twice the carrying power over that of the range taxed to its full capacity during the summer months. If well-set carpet grass be allowed to go to seed after July, the tops will fall down over the matted roots and will greatly benefit and protect the green pasturage all winter. Same is true of Bermuda grass. Sheep and goats find a sappy and budding condition of shrubbery during most of the winter, and beggar-weed also retains nutriment in the winter season.

A committee appointed by the National Wool Growers' Association to investigate cut-over lands in Mississippi for sheep, made the following report:

"There is no doubt in the minds of your Committee that there is no place in the United States that offers better opportunities for the man who wants to combine farming and stock raising than this Mississippi country does."

The Committee, by inference, questioned the carrying power of our grasses for sheep and cattle after the frosts have struck them in the winter. There is little or no question about preparing a reasonable amount of feed to supplement the pasturage during the short, lean grazing period. In such emergency cultivated fields or pasture could be utilized. Abruzzi rye, wheat, oats, burr and crimson clover make most excellent pasture. Soy and velvet beans and cow peas, after the frost strikes them in the cornfields, are most nutritious feeds. Pea vine and Lespedeza hay may be saved in quantities and ensilage may be preserved in unlimited supply. Root and forage crops are fine supplementary crops.



Gulfport, Miss.

### THE GULF COAST

Those counties in Southern Mississippi bordering on the Gulf Coast, although located in the "yellow pine" district that has had the merchantable timber removed, are considered a distinct section of the State, and this strip along the Southern border is internationally known as the "Gulf Coast." Some of its residents, however, who have traveled in many lands before selecting this as their permanent residence, prefer to call it "The Riviera of America," because it has the charm of Europe's favorite section, with none of its disadvantages.

While the Coast towns have developed into winter resorts for the Northerners and summer resorts for the inland Southerners, the rural sections are intensively developed as trucking and fruit-growing districts.

Practically every vegetable and fruit known to the gardener and horticulturist is grown in great quantities along the Coast, and many subtropical products have been developed which find here an exceedingly congenial home and prove highly profitable to the grower.

### Trucking Industry

One district specializes in radishes and ships them in carloads each year. These radishes mature in a very short time and, being grown in midwinter, command almost fabulous prices on the Northern markets.

As an instance of the intensive manner in which these truck farms are operated, some of the growers plant lettuce in October, and when it comes off in January, plant Irish potatoes. A week later radishes are planted in the middle of the potato rows, and when the potatoes are up a few inches, the radishes are picked and shipped and corn put in their places. Then, when the potatoes are dug, cow peas are sown in the middles, and all of these crops are grown usually between groves of Satsuma oranges or paper-shell pecans.

Large quantities of peas, carrots, shallots, lettuce, cabbage, cauliflower, turnips, beans, watermelons, cucumbers, tomatoes, peppers, eggplant and other vegetables are also raised profitably, and asparagus is a permanent and never-failing source of profit, as it never winter-kills, grows to a tremendous size and sells for hot-house prices.

Trucking can scarcely be called an adjunct of farming along the Coast, as it has developed into a highly specialized industry, and the same care and pains are taken in the preparation and packing of the various products that the manufacturer takes in assembling the various parts of the products turned out in his factory. Returns are equally commensurate with those of the manufacturer, and dependent entirely upon the amount of capital, knowledge and labor that has been put into the work. Returns of several hundred dollars per acre from well-cared for and highly and intensively farmed areas excite no comment, as it is expected by the growers and accepted as compensation for their knowledge and ability to produce these products in the off season, when they are without any competition whatever from the Northern markets.



Cabbage—Ready for Shipment in May

### **Flowing Wells**

Flowing artesian wells are found all along the Coast, and they fit into the trucking industry very nicely, furnishing abundant water for the washing of the vegetables before they are shipped to Northern markets.

### **General Farming**

While the Coast is primarily a fruit and trucking center, unlike other sections, the farmers here do not send away for their food and live-stock feed, but after their early-season vegetables are shipped, they raise corn and hay for their work stock on the same ground that has brought them their more productive money crops.

Cattle and hogs are also being raised each year in increasing numbers, and dairying has become a highly lucrative form of farming, because of the inexhaustible markets close at hand for all dairy products.

### **Fruit Growing**

Every fruit known to the horticulturist, with perhaps a few species considered indigenous only to the tropics, is successfully and profitably raised along the Coast. Peaches, plums, pears, quinces, strawberries, dewberries, and black-

berries all do well. Grapes find a congenial home here and bear enormous loads of fruit within 16 months from planting. Practically all varieties of grapes, from the democratic Concord to the aristocratic hot-house varieties like the Seedless Sultana and Flaming Tokay, thrive in this congenial climate and soil, and well repay the efforts of the grower. The vines make a luxurious growth, and there is never any danger of their being winter-killed. Rot and mildew are not as prevalent as they have been in other sections.

### Satsuma Oranges

More attention has been paid to the culture of Satsuma oranges along the Coast than to any other one fruit. This variety is the hardiest member of the citrus family, the parent stock having been imported from Japan and budded on a deciduous cold-resistant stock, which enables it to go safely through much colder weather than the Weather Bureau's records indicate is likely to occur on the Coast.

The tree is a dwarf and a very large number of them can be planted to the acre and the fruit removed without ladders and at a slight expense. The oranges mature very early and go on the Northern markets at a time when there is no competition from other citrus fruits and command unheard of prices.



Satsuma Orange Grove in Southern Mississippi

While the Satsuma has been grown in a small way along the Coast for about 20 years, as a commercial product they have only been shipped in quantities in the last two or three years. Heretofore the local markets have gladly taken at good prices all of the fruit that could be produced, and when the commercial orchards came into bearing the northern markets showed the same disposition to absorb this exquisitely flavored seedless orange at highly gratifying prices.

The Satsuma is a true "kid glove" orange and the segments separate easily without the hands being soiled by any juice. The tree is thornless, and is as easily cared for as the Northern apple. The Satsuma orchards have experienced a temperature running around 20 degrees without suffering the slightest from the cold, and the future for this industry is very bright.

### Paper-Shell Pecans

The Gulf Coast is the birthplace of the nationally famous paper-shell pecan. The initial experiments in propagating and top-working the old seedling trees were made here, and the parent stock of nearly all the paper-shell pecans in the country have been secured from orchards and nurseries located on the Gulf Coast.



Pecan Orchard—One of Mississippi's Wealth Producers

The early French settlers found the pecan growing in all its majesty and grandeur here 300 years ago, and modern science and painstaking care and attention have developed these nuts into the toothsome delicacy that gastronomic connoisseurs pronounce the finest contribution ever made to the table.

The paper-shell pecan takes its name from the fact that the shells can be easily broken by crushing two of them in the palm of the hand. They will average from thirty-five to fifty nuts to the pound and prices the past few years have ranged from 75 cents to \$1.25 per pound, and the yields from the trees are measured only by the care and attention the grower has given his orchard. When



Drying Pecans

it is realized that a mature pecan tree attains such a spread of branches that it is not possible for over ten or a dozen of them to occupy an acre of ground without their root systems and branches becoming interlaced, and that they are literally loaded down with nuts, it can be readily seen what a tremendous crop they will bear upon attaining their full growth.

The Pabst, Stuart, Success, Russell, Van Deman, and Schley pecans, which are accepted as the best-known varieties in all sections, were all originated along the Gulf Coast, and the parent trees, from which the original stock was taken, are still to be found here in various orchards.

### Figs

Figs are another fruit that are as old as the earliest settlements here, and no door-yard is complete without a number of these thrifty, hardy trees. They bear enormous quantities of fruit and the housewives find a ready market for preserved figs at splendid prices for all they care to put into jars or cans, and the brokers advise there is no possible likelihood of a market for preserved figs at fancy prices ever becoming glutted.



Shell Road Along the Gulf Coast

### Almost Ideal Living Conditions

While the Gulf Coast originally made its bid for prominence because of the manifold advantages it offered in the way of a climate with 290 days and more between frost; chemically pure drinking water, which many physicians claim is a specific for numerous organic diseases that have not reached an advanced stage; fishing and hunting; and has attained a national reputation so great that President Wilson a few years ago established his Winter Capital on the Coast—the permanent future of the Gulf Coast will not depend upon its advantages as a place to live so much as it will upon the returns that general farming, live-stock, vegetable and fruit growing will give to the farmer from other sections who, with some means and abundant energy, will wrest from these productive areas the stores of wealth that Nature has for many centuries stored up, awaiting the touch of industry to realize.





Velvet Beans and Corn

### OTHER DIVISIONS

That portion of the State lying between the Black Prairie Belt and the Yazoo-Mississippi Delta Valley may be divided into the Pontotoc Ridge Soil, the Flatwoods Soil, and the Brown Loam and Loess Soil Areas.

This entire section extending through the middle of the State is gently rolling, with an elevation of from 300 to 600 feet above sea level. Under proper management and soil improvement these lands produce excellent crops of every variety grown on Mississippi soils, excepting alfalfa; although this legume has been grown in this territory, it is not considered one of the staple crops for this portion of the State.

### Crops

Crops grown most extensively on these soils are cotton and corn, although oats is coming very much in favor in certain localities. Cotton will yield one bale per acre on lands where the fertility has been maintained and where proper methods of cultivation are practiced.



Scene at a Mississippi Cotton Gin

Corn on the best of the lands has yielded anywhere from 40 to 220 bushels per acre; all depending upon the fertility of the soil, the seed, the preparation of the seed bed and cultivation. The 220 bushels were produced on an acre that had been given special care, but it demonstrates what can be done, and that the soil responds to good treatment.

Oats has yielded 91 bushels per acre on a field of 40 acres, with an over-weight of four pounds to the bushel. One county in this portion of the State produced over 3,000,000 bushels in a single year. Oats as a rule is seeded in the fall, from September to November, and harvested in May or June. As soon as the crop has been harvested, the land is plowed and some other staple crop may be grown the same year. This may consist of sweet potatoes, cow peas, soy beans, or corn, and if Lespedeza is sown in the oats, a splendid crop of hay may be had in the early fall. June corn with cow peas may follow oats the same year, furnishing ample roughage for the silo, providing an abundance of feed for live stock, which is so important in the economic production of meat and dairy products.



Oats an Important Crop in Mississippi—Yield 91 Bushels per Acre

### **Soils Prolific**

All of the soils in the above-named divisions are very prolific in crop yields when properly handled, and are very responsive to good treatment. With proper crop rotation, growing clovers and other legumes, raising of live stock and the liberal use of barnyard manure, Mississippi soils have made tremendous crops.

### **A Versatile Soil**

Nearly every kind of fruit, vegetable, grass, forage crop and staple crop grown in the United States can be grown on Mississippi soil, although it is not claimed that wheat or apples are grown for commercial purposes. Nevertheless there were 42,000 acres planted to wheat in the fall of 1917 and a larger acreage was planted in 1918.

### **Fruits**

Some very fine apples have been grown in the extreme northern part of the State and grapes have also been grown successfully in the same territory. Many small orchards of peaches, grapes, figs and pears are cultivated in every section of the State. Strawberries are grown in large quantities and are shipped in carload lots to the Northern markets early in the season when prices rule high.



Irish Potatoes

In the extreme southern portion of the State, along the Gulf Coast, grapefruit and oranges of various kinds may be grown quite successfully and profitably. The flavor of these fruits is so delicate and delicious that practically the entire supply is consumed on the Southern market.

### Vegetables

This is the home of the tomato and nowhere does it thrive better. From one little village in the central part of the State more than 1,000 carloads are shipped every season to the Northern markets. Green beans, peas, radishes, asparagus, cabbages, cauliflower, head lettuce, carrots, onions, peppers, beets, and turnips make up train loads of foodstuffs that are shipped from this State to the various markets extending as far north as Seattle.



Sorting and Packing Carrots for Shipment



Sweet Potatoes, the Largest Cash Crop of South Mississippi

### Sweet Potatoes

Mississippi is the home of the sweet potato, as there is not a soil within its borders where it will not grow. Of course some types of soil produce a better quality and flavor than others, just as some soils in the North produce a better quality of Irish potato than others do. The acreage planted to sweet potatoes in 1918 was 89,000, with an average yield of 95 bushels per acre. The total yield was 8,455,000 bushels, with a total value of \$8,793,000, which brings the sweet potato into third place in value among the State's crops. Increased production is bound to follow, as the Mississippi-grown sweet potato, especially the Nancy Hall variety, is coming more and more in favor on the Northern markets, and it is only a question of time when it will supersede the Jersey sweet. There are already 150 dry kilns, or curing-houses in the State, built by Government plans, and 500 more will be built during the current year. More than 20 factories are in successful operation, and where local factories cannot use local supplies, they are marketed according to the co-operative system, which has proved immensely valuable in the sale of all farm products in the State. The sweet potato is already the largest cash crop in South Mississippi and the piney woods sections are finding it a very valuable agricultural product.

For a comprehensive treatise on Mississippi soils, write to the Mississippi Agricultural Experiment Station, Agricultural College, Mississippi, for Technical Bulletin No. 7.

## CORN

Mississippi is rapidly forging ahead and is destined, in our judgment, to become one of the leading corn-growing states in the Union, and is practically growing sufficient of this staple to supply its own needs.

This condition has been brought about by many agencies, among the most important of which are the following: The insistent and systematic effort of the United States Department of Agriculture, through demonstration work, to have the farmers of the South grow their own feed crops; the continued efforts of the Mississippi Agricultural and Mechanical College, with its Experiment Stations and Extension Department; the advent of the boll weevil; the efforts of the leading business and professional men of the State; the teaching forces; the leading farmers; Development Bureaus of some of the more progressive cities; the railroads and other corporations; the State Department of Agriculture; and last, but not least, the Boys' Corn Club.



Corn as It Grows in Mississippi

## Yield

Going back to 1909, the date of the organization of the Boys' Corn Club and other demonstration work, the average yield of corn was  $14\frac{1}{2}$  bushels to the acre, with a total yield for the State of 28,429,000 bushels, which was increased in 1917 to the record crop of 83,300,000 bushels.

The above indicates a rather remarkable increase over 1909. However, there is great opportunity for increasing the acre yield and the acreage planted to this crop. While the average of the Corn Club boys in 1918 was 46.3 bushels to the acre, perhaps the average for the State will never reach such a high level, but certainly the demonstration made by these boys indicates the possibilities. The rainfall and distribution in the State is of such nature that a total failure in corn production is impossible.

## Records Made by Boys

The Corn Club boys of the State hold many 200 bushel per acre records. Among those holding such records, the authenticity of which is so well established that it has never been questioned, are Carlos Reddoch, with a yield of 206.6 bushels, and Carl Graves, with a yield of 202 bushels. And so far as we have been able to determine, Prof. J. W. Fox, manager for one of the largest plantations in the Delta, holds the world's record production on a large acreage. On a solid block of 200 acres he produced an average of 100 bushels per acre, one measured acre producing 136 bushels.

## Corn, Superior Quality

In point of quality, Mississippi corn is unsurpassed. In 1917 it ranked first and much was exported to Canada and elsewhere to be milled into corn flour. In 1918, with adverse weather conditions, the quality was superior and Mississippi corn commanded a premium. This superior quality is due largely to three reasons: **FIRST**, mongrel strains have been supplanted by pure varieties; **SECOND**, pure strains of the white prolific varieties, so well suited to this section, are being generally grown and offered to the markets; **THIRD**, one of the most important factors is the long growing season followed by a long dry period after the time of ripening. The term "frost-dried" corn is not known to the Mississippi corn grower, as corn brought direct from the field will in many instances test as low as 12, 14 and 15 per cent moisture.

## Possibilities in Corn Culture

By means of the most scientific methods of corn culture, the forces of the Extension Department hope to raise the present high quality of corn now grown within the State. This will be done by organizing the Corn Improvement Association and by advocating the planting of only four or five of the outstanding varieties.

The counties of the State are divided into five districts, and an effort will be made to secure at least one member for each district of the 82 counties who will agree to grow five acres of corn under the supervision of the County Agent, and who will further agree to field select seed according to the most approved plan. At the present time there is a fair supply of good seed. Under the above-suggested plan the agencies having the matter in charge hope in due time there will be available to every farmer in Mississippi an abundance of the very choicest seed corn.



## LIVE STOCK

Good land, good live stock and good people are closely allied, if not absolutely essential, to permanent agricultural prosperity. No better soil or live stock or people can be found anywhere in the world than in Mississippi. Farming absorbs the thought of over 85 per cent of its people, who obtain their livelihood directly from the soil. The problems of soil maintenance and improvement are vital not alone to this 85 to 87 per cent, but to the entire population, which is dependent directly or indirectly upon agricultural production.

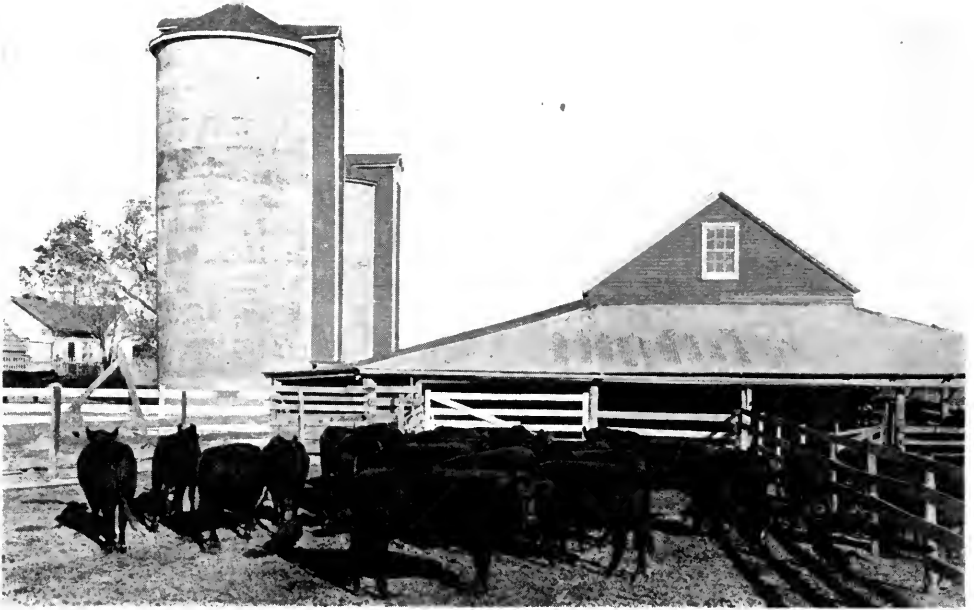
Ranking among the great cotton states, Mississippi is fast coming to the front in the production of live stock, and instead of this industry supplanting cotton as a money crop, it is rapidly adding one more great source of revenue to the farmers of the State. From January, 1914, to January, 1918, there was an increase in the number of hogs in the State from 1,467,000 to 1,902,000, or 29 per cent. During this same period there was an increase in the number of cattle from 911,000 to 1,152,000, or 26 per cent. In 1915 the number of hogs shipped to one of the central markets from this State was 7,242, while in 1917 it was 88,732. On January 1, 1918, there were 1,902,000, and on January 1, 1919, 2,289,835 head of hogs, with a total valuation of \$35,075,688, as compared with \$28,530,000 for January 1, 1918. The improvement in quality has been in keeping with the increase in numbers. During the past year Mississippi-fed steers have broken records for all sections and all times on the St. Louis market.

The tendency to produce all cotton is being discouraged and diversification is rapidly taking the place of the old one-crop system. The crops thus produced can be most advantageously marketed by means of live stock. By this method the farmer has learned he can retain from 70 to 75 per cent of the plant food in the crops grown instead of marketing them.

Among the most important feed crops that can be produced may be mentioned alfalfa, corn, oats, Lespedeza, grass hays, velvet beans, cow peas, soy beans, peanuts, sweet potatoes, rye, rape, red and crimson clovers. The velvet bean is the most important feed crop in the southern part of the State. In the Prairie Belt, the eastern part of the State, alfalfa is grown without liming the soil and is closely allied with the live-stock industry in that section; Lespedeza and alfalfa are especially valuable in the feeding of young cattle, and to successfully carry on dairying and live stock. Another important factor is cottonseed meal, which is available in all parts of the State.



Short Winters and Plentiful Pasturage Make an Ideal Live-Stock Country



Mississippi Is Fast Coming to the Front in the Production of Live Stock

To embark in the live-stock industry successfully, there must at all times be an abundance of good pastures well sodded with nutritious grasses. The most important pasture crops in the north part of the State are Bermuda, Lespedeza, Paspalum, bur and white clover. In the southern part of the State carpet grass should be added as a valuable addition to the group mentioned above. When well set with a mixture of these grasses, a pasture will frequently carry in excess of one cow per acre. Pastures north, south, east or west can be greatly improved, depending upon the ability of the farmer.

### Silos

While a combination of the grasses above named will furnish grazing over a long season, there are from two to three months each year during which all live stock should be supplied with feed other than that which may be obtained in the open field. There is no section in the State where the feed necessary for this purpose cannot be grown. Silos provide the most economical and efficient means for storing succulent feed. Silage, together with a small amount of either cotton-seed meal or velvet beans, will carry stock in good condition through the roughest weather.



Up-to-date Silos in Mississippi



Herd of Pure-Bred Herefords

### Improved Live Stock

During the last few years improved blood has been introduced into the State on a very large scale. Where the "scrub bull" was once monarch of all he surveyed, the pure-bred Shorthorn, Aberdeen Angus, Hereford, Holstein and Jersey may now be found of the very best breeding and blood lines. State-wide tick eradication has made possible the bringing of breeding stock from Northern and Western states with the same assurance of safety that may be felt in shipping to any part of the United States. The winnings of Mississippi animals at the Royal and International Shows indicate the class of stock which is being bred in the State. Sales of pure-bred stock, hogs and beef cattle recently held within the State have broken world's records for prices, and the very best animals in these sales were purchased by progressive farmers in Mississippi. At the leading pure-bred sales



Pedigreed Hereford Bull on a Mississippi Stock Farm

of the country, Mississippi breeders have been buying the best bred and best individual animals, bringing them into this great Commonwealth in order that their own herds and flocks may be bred up to the point where it may be said, "Of all that is good, Mississippi has the best." The demand for pure-bred sires for use on native and grade stock is already being met by breeders within the State. "Kill the scrub sire" is the slogan for animal husbandry improvement within the State and together with the tick and razorback hog, the scrub bull is fast becoming a memory of less efficient times. The beef cattle industry has been steadily increasing both in numbers and quality. On January 1, 1918, there were 644,000 beef cattle in the State, valued at \$14,103,000, while on January 1, 1919, there were 695,000 head valued at \$15,985,000.

### Important Facts

The following are some of the pungent facts in connection with the live-stock industry in the State. Because of the mild climate, abundant rainfall, cheap lands and large varieties of native grasses, Mississippi is certain to play a large part in the future production of meat animals. More of the work stock used can and should be produced within the State and would save millions of dollars to the farmers. Pork can be produced more economically than in those sections where the long, cold winters prevail, and can be placed on the markets at a season of the year when the markets are not glutted. All live stock is readily marketed either direct or through Farmers' Co-operative Shipping Clubs, which are handled by the County Agent or County Farm Adviser.

Packing plants are located at Natchez, Miss., New Orleans, La., Mobile, Ala., and other points, furnishing short freight hauls and near-by markets for live stock.



Cattle That Have Ranged Without Shelter During an Entire Mississippi Winter



Enter the Dairy Cow—Exit Want and Poverty

### DAIRYING

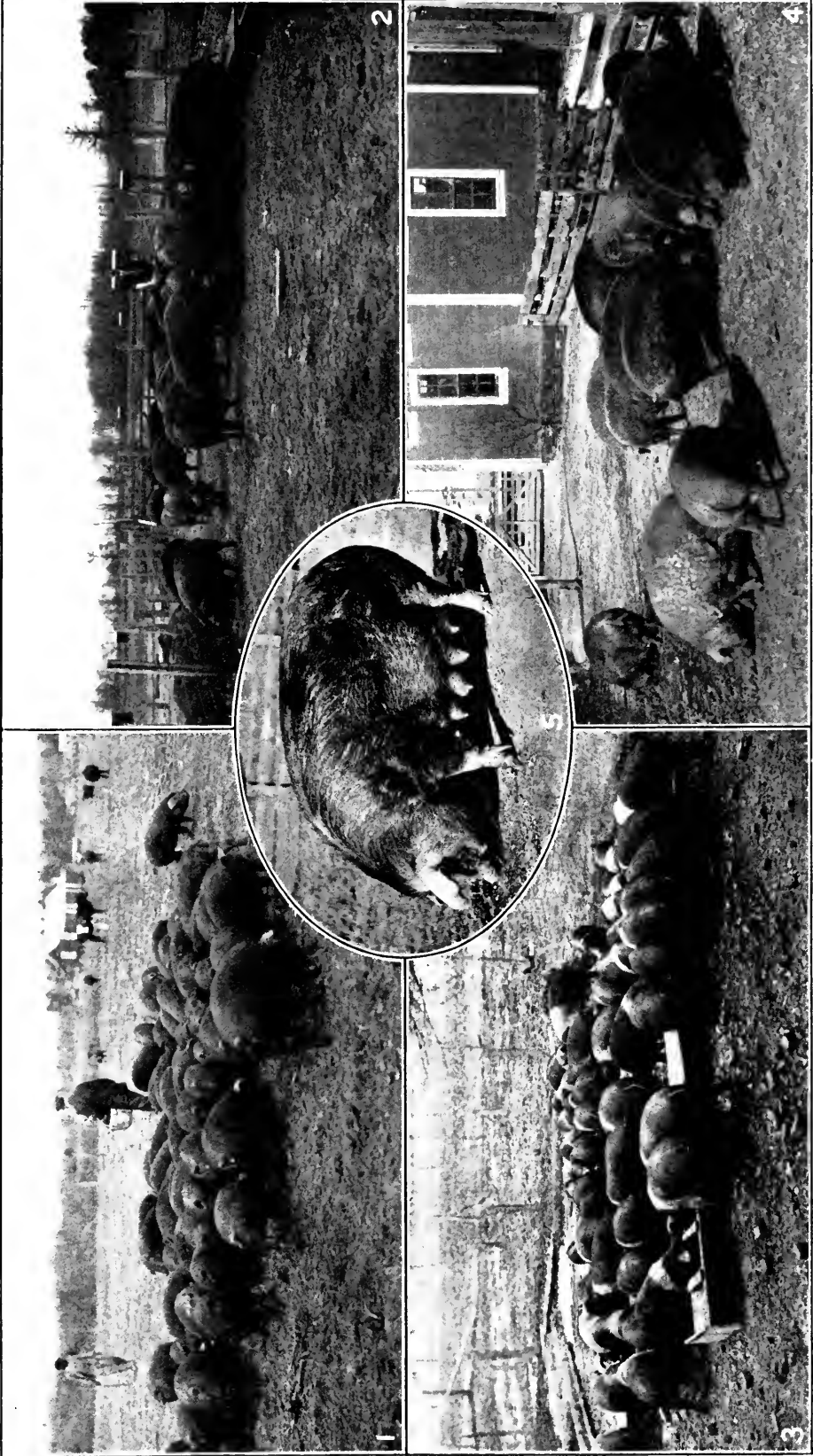
History repeats itself. Enter the dairy cow, exit want and poverty. Into whatever community or state the dairy cow enters, affluence follows in her wake. When the chinch bug had devastated the wheat fields of Iowa and Wisconsin and the fertility of the soils had been depleted to the point where they were unprofitably productive, the farmers of those states turned to the dairy cow as their only hope and salvation, and today these two states rank first and third in the output of dairy products. In communities where the dairy industry is highly developed, prosperity is unexcelled.

The same conditions prevailed in Mississippi, especially in the uplands and the Brown Loam section, where the lands had been cropped for over 40 years in cotton and the soil had been robbed of its fertility. With a soil depleted of fertility and the advent of the boll weevil, the agricultural situation became alarming, and it was evident that something must be done to rehabilitate the farm. It was about 1912 that "bossy" entered the warp and woof of the agricultural fabric in the reconstruction of Mississippi farming. With the modest beginning of one creamery in 1912, the entire output of which was 17,000 pounds of butter for that year, the industry has developed to 22 creameries, with an output of 3,062,000 pounds of butter in 1918, and for which the farmers were paid \$1,270,339. Adding to this the value of the calves and other by-products, including fertilizer, the increased wealth of the State from the dairy cow will exceed \$15,000,000 annually.

The following table shows the steady growth of this industry:

Year	Pounds Butter	Number of Creameries
1912	17,000	1
1913	184,027	2
1914	335,851	7
1915	580,074	10
1916	1,560,000	16
1917	2,727,767	20
1918	3,062,000	22

These creameries have experienced no difficulties in finding a ready market for their entire output, and would welcome a greater production of raw material for their use, so that dairymen need not hesitate to venture in this highly intensified phase of farming. These local creameries furnish a stable market, paying the same price for butter-fat and milk as prevail in the dairy sections of the United



The Climate, Pasture and Cheap Feeding Facilities Make the Raising of Hogs a Paying Business Venture in Mississippi

- 1—Purebred Duroc Gilts, Pine Crest Farm. 2—Brood Sows, Pine Crest Farms. 3—Young Gilts, Cepek Farm.
- 4—Pure-bred Durocs, Enoch's Farms. 5—The Kind of Durocs Raised on White Bros. Farm.



States. However, milk and cream can be produced on a much more economical basis than in the colder climates where the winter feeding season is long, covering a period of nearly six months, where feeds are made on high-priced land, and where expensive barns and barn equipment are the limiting factors in the more profitable production of these products.

### MISSISSIPPI HOGS BRING RECORD-BREAKING PRICES

The "razorback" hog in Mississippi is ancient history, and should one be seen now, it would be considered a curiosity, and would attract as much attention as the pure-bred when first introduced into the State. In this work the children, the Boys' and Girls' Pig Clubs, have played the most important part by raising improved breeds of hogs and thus interesting their parents in breeding up their flocks. To show what great strides have been made along this line, we quote from the Manufacturers' Record, under the above caption:

"Mississippi's claims to first place in the South as a hog-growing State took a leap upward when a new world's record for average price per hog was made at Fernwood recently at a sale attended by hog breeders from all over the United States.

The Enochs Farms began breeding fine Duroc-Jerseys only ten months ago. On January 16, 1919, thirty hogs were sold there for a total of \$25,560, an average of \$672.57, the highest average price on record prior to this sale being \$510.

Nineteen sows brought an average of \$907.40. One of these sows sold for \$2,100, to make her home on another Mississippi stock farm. One went to Nebraska for \$2,075, and three others brought as much as \$2,000 each.

A few days before the Enochs sale was held, 45 head of Durocs at the White Farms brought \$16,000, and the Pine Crest Farm closed a sale recently that brought almost as high an average as these two, with many individuals bringing \$2,000 or better.

At the Pine Crest sale one ten-months-old boar brought \$2,300, a record price for a pig of this age. His little mate brought \$500. The mother of this high-priced Duroc was bought by her present owner less than a year ago, and he has netted \$1,810 from the sale of her pigs, in addition to retaining possession of the sow and seven pigs of her latest litter. Counting these, his investment in the one sow has netted him about \$3,600 in less than a year.

These unusual prices clearly show that the South is raising champion hogs, and that instead of the Southern breeder having to seek the Middle Western owner, the situation is reversed. Some of the finest Duroc blood on earth is in Mississippi herds, and breeders from the great hog-raising Middle West are using Mississippi herd leaders, when a decade ago, a pure-bred Duroc hog was a curiosity in Mississippi.

It is not alone from the sale of this fancy breeding stock that the State is deriving a reputation for producing hogs. One county increased its hog shipments from \$24,000 in 1915 to \$218,000 in 1918, and this is indicative of shipments from the State to the great markets, especially during the war period.

The business is firmly established in all sections of the State. It is interesting to note that the Enochs and White sales took place in South Mississippi, in the great cut-over pine section.

### "Pigs Is Pigs"

"Pigs is pigs" no matter where they are raised. But the important factor to be considered is the cost of production. And in this respect it does make considerable difference as to where the pig is raised. Mississippi has a long growing season and a climate and soil that enable her farmers to grow a variety of crops suitable and almost indispensable in the economic production of pork. The various clovers and grasses make a splendid pasture, including Lespedeza and alfalfa; peanuts, cow peas, soy beans, velvet beans, sweet potatoes, rape, winter rye and corn, all of which grow abundantly and make it possible for Mississippi farmers to produce pork and other meats cheaper than in sections where short growing seasons prevail.

## RAINFALL AND CLIMATE

As given by the United States Weather Bureau, the normal monthly and annual temperature and precipitation in the Mississippi coast country are as shown by the following tables:

Month	Temperature Fahrenheit	Precipitation Inches
January	50.3	6.14
February	53.1	5.38
March	61.4	5.49
April	67.2	7.09
May	75.2	2.05
June	83.1	7.28
July	81.5	6.48
August	81.1	8.31
September	78.8	4.54
October	69.1	2.52
November	59.7	2.98
December	51.8	4.98
		<hr/>
		63.22

## GOOD ROADS

Next in importance to good schools, good churches and good land are good roads. They are not a luxury, but a necessity, in the making of better homes on the farm. They form the connecting link between the rural districts and the cities, local markets, schools, churches and the great industrial centers. Good roads are the avenues by which education and civilization enter the remote rural districts, obliterating illiteracy by lifting the barrier that has so long robbed the boys and girls, men and women of religious, educational and social privileges to which they were entitled.



One of the Many Good Roads in Mississippi

Mississippi has made wonderful strides in the past few years in the construction of permanent gravel highways, consisting of more than twenty-five hundred miles, and fully one thousand miles more will be built during the year 1919. Good roads make travel a pleasure in Mississippi. They make for progress and prosperity. They make for greater food production and greater profits, as the farmer will be in a position to market his crops more economically, and to govern his marketing in conformity to the law of "supply and demand."



Fine Type of a Mississippi Agricultural High School

### EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

The educational facilities of Mississippi are abreast of the times and show constant expansion and improvement. With a great Agricultural and Mechanical College, Federal and State Experiment Stations, fifty modern Agricultural High Schools, Federal Farm Demonstration Work and County Demonstrators—covering the practical field of life's agricultural and industrial equipment—well ordered and advanced higher educational institutions, and a fine system of both city graded schools and consolidated schools throughout the counties of the State, embracing not only regular class work, but also a thorough training in business, physical culture, domestic science, etc., those moving here from any section of the United States may feel assured in advance that their children will have access to as fine and thorough school advantages as anywhere in the world.



Consolidated School

## MISSISSIPPI HOME DEMONSTRATION WORK

By

Susie V. Powell, Assistant Director  
in charge of  
Home Demonstration Work

The purpose of Home Demonstration Work is to make for better living conditions in the rural homes and consequently in the rural communities; to afford farm women and girls opportunity, without leaving their homes, to make the money they need to improve living conditions, including shelter, food, clothing and cultural advantages.

In order to obtain these results, it is necessary to have organization and definite plans of work, which we call projects.

The work began in February, 1911, with the tomato project. The counties were organized and about 150 girls were enrolled. Since then, as funds from Federal, State and County appropriations have become available, the work has increased in scope to include: projects in canning, poultry, gardening, bee-keeping, clothing and textiles, dairy, basketry and labor-saving machinery for the home. Projects for house planning, improvement of home grounds and interior decoration will be put into effect soon.

The conservation of food, clothing and woman power are the three important features of the work embodied in the above-named projects. The increase in territory covered is proportionate. About 70 counties now have Home Demonstration Agents.

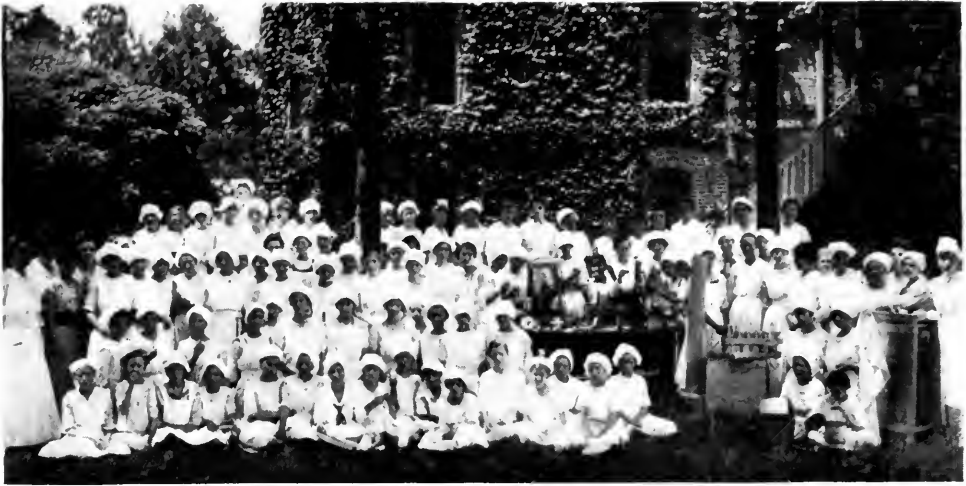
To make for economy and efficiency in the work of the County Home Demonstration Agent, and to develop community spirit, the women and girl demonstrators are organized into community clubs. These clubs co-operate with similar organizations of men and boys. More than 2,000 such community clubs have been organized in Mississippi, with a membership totaling about 50,000.

During the war these clubs, under the direction of the Home Demonstration Agents, were invaluable in promoting all war activities, such as Liberty Bonds, War Savings Stamps, Red Cross, etc. Thousands of women and girls who have never had a savings account, invested in Liberty Bonds and War Savings Stamps and thus learned lessons of thrift.

The main war work of the Home Demonstration Agents was increased food production through gardens, poultry, dairy and bee-keeping; conservation of food



Annual Returns from Poultry in Mississippi, \$10,000,000



First Canning Demonstration of the Season

by canning, drying and brining, and utilization of home-grown products to save transportation of staple foods, such as wheat, meat, sugar and animal fats. A special cottage cheese campaign to save meat resulted in the making of 343,131 pounds for home use and for market during 1918, and 117,886 pounds of "4-H" Brand butter was produced for market.

Other home-grown products which were stressed were fish, peanuts, poultry, peas, beans and native nuts. Demonstrations in the use of these and in the saving of wheat, meat, fats and sugar, were given to more than 300,000 people.

Special activities of the Home Demonstration Work resulted in the stocking of 1,000 farm fish ponds; a "kill the rat" campaign resulted in more than 200,000 fatalities to these pests.

At the request of the War Department and the Food Administration, the Home Demonstration Food Specialists gave instruction at Camp Shelby to the fifty head cooks in their company kitchens in the economical uses of staple foods. As a result of this instruction the Quartermaster reports a saving of 1,928,976 pounds of wheat flour, 428,775 pounds of sugar and 171,758 pounds of animal fat, besides a marked improvement in the quality of the food served to the 30,000 soldiers in the camp. The Home Demonstration Agents also gave assistance to the bakers in working out recipes calling for a certain percentage of reduction in wheat flour, and thus prevented them from being closed by the Food Administration for failure to comply with food regulations. When the ruling was made that every dealer in eggs must candle them, a state-wide call was sent to the Home Demonstration Agents to give instructions in egg-candling to the dealers, as they had already been giving it to the producers.

Because of the war claims, the orphanages were in a measure being overlooked, so the Home Demonstration Agents collected and sent 20,000 quarts of fruits and vegetables from the canning club members to the dependent little ones in these homes, besides quantities of other food produced and a nice sum of money.

During the epidemic of influenza these agents have been unremitting in their co-operation with the Department of Health in combating the plague. Practically every County Agent used her demonstration kitchen to prepare food to be delivered to the sick. Several put themselves and their cars at the disposal of the doctors and nurses. Many of them nursed the sick, until they were themselves taken ill. The State workers, with headquarters at A. & M. College, took charge of the hospital kitchens at the College, where there were about 1,800 drafted men and S. A. T. C. boys. Nearly 1,500 cases of influenza occurred and about 150 cases of pneumonia. These agents assisted to prepare the food for these men, the doctors, orderlies and nurses and many visitors who came to see their sick ones. They cooked meals and washed dishes for twenty-two days and nights, preparing three meals each day and a midnight supper for the night shift.

One County Agent acted under the county physician as visiting nurse to fourteen cotton mill families who were suffering from "flu." The Home Demonstration Agents have given instructions and demonstrations in invalid cookery all over the State and thus helped to combat "flu" with right food.

Short courses for instruction in home-making activities and county and community fairs have been held in most of the counties and have been of inestimable value.

About 150 demonstration kitchens have been established by the Home Demonstration Agents to give instruction to their club members and the public generally. About 2,000,000 pounds of vegetables were raised and conserved by the canning club girls and 1,399,590 cans packed by the women. It is estimated that nearly 3,000,000 cans of fruits and vegetables, meat, fish and game were packed by those attending demonstrations, but who were not enrolled.

The Home Demonstration Program includes social and recreational, as well as educational features. This cultural aspect of the work is recognized by the State Department of Education. The State Superintendent has issued instructions to the County Superintendents and teachers to co-operate in every way possible with the Home Demonstration Agents, especially in holding and organizing community clubs, and in keeping the business records of their work. They are advised to give two units of school credit for four years' satisfactory club work. The United States Department of Agriculture and A. & M. College jointly issued certificates to all girls completing four years of club work. More than 200 of these certificates have been awarded. The largest number of fourth-year certificates awarded in one year in a county was thirty-three, given to canning club girls in Lauderdale County.

The primary purpose of Home Demonstration Work is not commercial gain, but in 1918 the actual reports of Home Demonstration Work show the following figures:

Canned goods, fruits, vegetables, meat, fish and game.....	\$750,000.00
Dairy products, butter and cottage cheese.....	110,412.00
Poultry products.....	102,310.00
Saving of food at Camp Shelby.....	181,765.00
200,000 rats killed.....	200,000.00

A total of.....\$1,344,487.00  
which does not include sundries.

In one county \$256.00 worth of pine needle baskets were made and sold. Holly and other native greenery was sold in a number of counties to the value of several hundred dollars. More than a thousand fish ponds were stocked. Mere money could not express the value of the services of these women during the epidemic of influenza, their influence for better living in the homes, their improved community spirit and the loyal, patriotic service of the Home Demonstration Agents in both war and peace.

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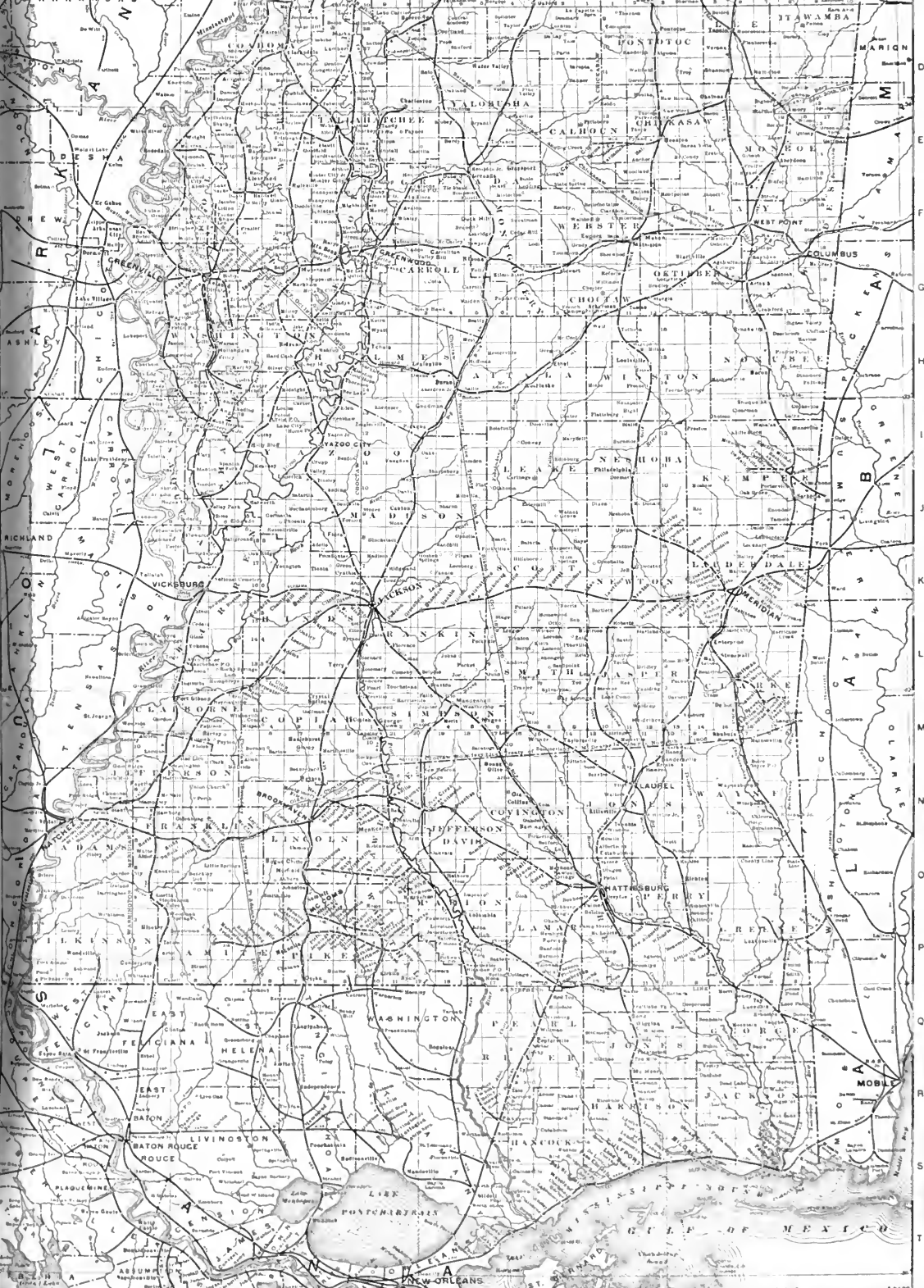
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# County Map of MISSISSIPPI

**EXPLANATION.**  
 The Map is compiled from the original records of the State of Mississippi.  
 Jackson, Vicksburg, Natchez, and other cities are shown in their actual positions.  
 The map is on a scale of 1 inch to 40 miles.  
 The map is published by the State of Mississippi, Department of the Interior, Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources.  
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# MISSISSIPPI



Gaylord Bros.  
Makers  
Syracuse, N. Y.  
PAT. JAN. 21, 1908

