

NUBS OF NEWS

Pay City, Tex., hopes to secure a rice mill. Capitalists have been looking for the ground.

The necessary amount of capital to build and operate a rice mill has been raised at Sherman.

Many settlers have reached Orange county, Texas, during the past few days for the purpose of growing rice.

Reports from the wheat belt of Texas are to the effect that rain is needed to prevent damage to the wheat crop.

A company is being organized to build a flour mill at Tiooga, Tex. A large amount of wheat is grown in that section.

R. L. Battle, recently sold his farm of over 1000 acres, located in Milam county, Texas, for \$27,000. There were ten purchasers.

Cotton pickers are still in demand in Texas. Farmers are offering from 75 cents to \$1.25 per 100 pounds for cotton picked.

The board of directors of the Gonzales Cotton mill recently let the contract for the building of the mill which is to cost \$43,000.

On New Year's day forty-five sacks of fresh cabbage were shipped from Corpus Christi to interior points. Several smaller shipments had been previously made.

The farmers of the Lampasas country report that the wheat which was sown in the early fall is doing well, and will soon furnish good pasturage for their stock.

Railroad commercial agents state that the March cabbage harvest in the Corpus Christi district alone will aggregate 1400 carloads. The shipments will be principally to New York, St. Louis and Chicago.

Eagle Lake, Tex., has a rice mill in course of construction and expects to get a \$250,000 sugar refinery and cane mill. The acreage of rice in that vicinity will be increased to about 12,000 acres for the next crop.

Advices from northern Mexico state that crops all over that republic are heavy this year, owing to a prolonged season of damp weather. Reports that there is financial depression in certain sections of Mexico are denied.

Cabbage growers in the Corpus Christi country are using shotguns and poison to destroy rabbits which eat the cabbage plants. In some cases wire netting has been put up around cabbage fields to keep out the pests.

J. F. Todd of Dripping Springs, Grayson county, speaking of a successful crusade he made against Johnson grass, said: "I pastured it for three or four years and the stock never al-

lowed it to go to seed. I then plowed it up and planted it in watermelons. I noticed one or two small tufts of the grass, and this I grubbed up. The next year the grass did not appear at all."

At a meeting of the stockholders of the Waxahatchie Cotton mill last week General Manager R. K. Erwin stated that the mills had 690 bales of cotton to begin work on, and that over \$18,000 had been paid in on the capital stock.

A prominent New York grain-house predicts a revival of speculation in wheat. In the trade the price is considered low as compared with the crop yield and the foreign demand. Reports say the farmers in the southwest are not in a hurry to sell, and in this territory the big crop was made.

The Nebraska experiment station, which has probably given larger attention to the subject of the so-called cornstalk disease among cattle than any other in the country, has collected a great many of observed cases and in some fields the bugs were abundant on the stalks, but in others the fields were entirely free from the pest. The cause of the disease will have to be sought elsewhere.

The Matagorda County Rice an Irrigation Board held its annual election a few days ago and chose the following directors: D. P. Moore, N. M. Vegelsang, F. Huebner, L. Huebner and Andrew Huebner. The directors then met and elected D. P. Moore president, F. Huebner first vice president, L. Huebner second vice president and N. M. Vegelsang secretary. Mr. Moore was also elected treasurer.

C. A. Andrews of Sherman, a manufacturer of cotton products, said a few days ago: "The official reports will show that Texas has this year produced about one bale for each man, woman, child and dog. The cotton is every person—white and black, old and young—in the state, and that means at least \$45 per capita. Add this to all the money diversification has placed in the hands of the people, and one can understand the phenomenal individual deposit reports of the banks."

THE CHRONICLE'S REPORT.—The New York Chronicle, in its issue of January 5, says: "Our telegraphic advices this evening indicate that the cotton market is unfavorable as a rule in the South this past week. Rain has been general and over considerable portion of the belt, particularly Atlantic and Gulf sections. The precipitation has been rather excessive. As a result of the unsatisfactory conditions the marketing of cotton has apparently suffered interruption."

IN COLEMAN COUNTY.—The farmers prospered last year as never before and a number of instances have come to our attention where they have made as much as a bale of cotton to the acre, but the best showing yet made, so far as we can learn, says the Coleman Voice, is that by G. A. Bruton right here in life

corporate limits of the town. He has gathered fifty-one 500-pound bales of forty-two acres, and, in addition, has gathered 400 bushels of corn and fattened and killed three 500-pound hogs. He has done this by himself, without any help except in picking cotton.

FRUITS FROM TEXAS.—The Cotton Belt railroad has issued a statistical report for the year 1900 of the fruits and vegetables carried during that period out of Texas; also from other states which its lines traverse. The reports show a very large increase in its traffic within the past few years. During 1897 but thirty-one carloads were shipped from Texas, while 335 carloads were sent out during the past year. The latter shipments include 153 carloads of peaches, 83 carloads of tomatoes and 50 carloads of potatoes.

HESTER'S REPORT.—Secretary Hester's statement of the world's visible supply of cotton, issued January 4, shows a decrease for the week of 1310 against an increase of \$816 last year and an increase of 75,487 year before last. The total visible is 4,077,077 against 4,073,393 the previous week, 4,303,292 last year and 5,642,273 year before last. Of this the total of American cotton is 3,356,077 against 3,406,393 the previous week last year and 4,937,273 year before last, and of all other kinds including England, Egypt, Brazil, India, etc., 716,000 against 667,000 last week, 720,000 last year and 703,000 year before last.

PARKER'S COTTON CROP.—The Weatherford Republic says of the cotton crop in Parker county: At the close of business, Dec. 27, this year Weatherford had received 25,670 bales of cotton. By the last day of March next, it is safe to calculate these figures will reach 30,000. This cotton has been sold at an average of about \$50 per bale (lint and seed), making the total money yield \$1,500,000 for this crop alone. Wherever there are cotton mills in the South, as for instance in Georgia, Alabama and the Carolinas, these mills have been paying on an average of one cent per pound or \$5 per bale more for cotton than other buyers have been paying or can afford to pay. If Weatherford had received the same cotton mill plant this season, and had paid the farmers one cent more per pound than they received in the general market, they would have had enough surplus money to have paid for the plant this year without any outside assistance.

THE ANNUAL SEED PAKE.—A Washington report says: The largest annual seed distribution ever made by the government will begin this week with the shipment of grain seed to farmers of the southern states, and will continue until every part of the country has been reached. The southern states, where planting time comes earliest, will be served first, and the northern states last.

Representatives have found it necessary to purchase seeds to supply the demands of their constituents, and, as a consequence, the appropriation was increased at the last session of congress from \$130,000 to \$170,000. This will allow an increase in each representative's quota of seed of over 3,000 packages, each package containing five or six varieties of seeds. While the agricultural department is charged with the enormous yearly task of getting this seed ready for shipment through the mails under the frank of members of congress, it has been the custom to let the contract for furnishing and packing the seeds to private individuals or firms. Last year a California planter secured the contract, but the distribution just to be made and the one for next year will be executed for the government by the New York Market Garden association. This firm has leased a large building in Washington, and is establishing a plant of machinery with which to do most of the work of packing.

Speaking of the seed distribution, Secretary Wilson said:

"The distribution of garden seed is not a matter of particular pride with the agricultural department, but it is one of our duties, and we endeavor to discharge it. All the seeds sent out will be tested for germination, purity and variety. The work will be constantly under the surveillance of inspectors from this department, and everything will be done to have the distribution satisfactory."

WINTER WHEAT OUTLOOK.—The following statements, relating mainly to winter wheat have been forwarded by state section directors of the climate and crop service of the Weather Bureau, and are based upon a large number of special reports collected near the close of the month in the principal winter wheat states:

Texas.—Weather of first decade favorable for seeding and germination of wheat, but dry weather latter half month unfavorable in several localities; seeding generally completed; late sowing yet up, early sown up to good stand, growing rapidly and being pastured; scattered complaints of fly, but no damage reported.

Arkansas.—Moderate temperature and good rains were favorable for wheat; frost did but little damage; the stand of early sown wheat is exceptionally good for December; late sown not so good, but it is looking fair; Hessian fly doing some damage to early sown.

Tennessee.—With generally favorable weather prevailing late wheat made good growth, although rather small for the season, as most of the crop was

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sown late, early sown wheat badly injured by fly, mostly in eastern and middle divisions; in the western division the crop is generally promising; for the state the condition is much below average.

Kentucky.—Wheat in fair condition; conflicting reports of damage by fly, but condition of crop as a whole is but slightly below average for time of year; weather conditions have been entirely favorable during December for all the crops.

Missouri.—Month remarkably pleasant and exceptionally favorable for wheat, sowing from some damage by fly to early sown in eastern and southern counties. The crop is in excellent condition.

Illinois.—Favorable weather for wheat, which is generally in very good condition; there has been considerable

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damage in the central and southern districts by Hessian fly, though it is serious only in a few localities; absence of snow covering caused slight damage from freezing in a few localities.

Indiana.—Weather mild and dry; rain or snow needed; rye and wheat have made some growth and look green; fly injured some early sown; clover and timothy look well; tobacco stripping has begun; corn most all cribbed; much corn fodder shredded; plowing and other farm work well advanced.

Kansas.—Comparatively dry, mild month, favorable for farm work; much plowing for spring seeding being done, wheat in fine condition and being planted in central and eastern counties, but germination and growth stopped by long drouth in extreme western portion.

Oklahoma and Indian Territories.—Month mild and pleasant, with light precipitation; wheat in fine condition and has made healthy growth; stock in fine condition and being pastured on wheat; plowing for spring crops in progress; moisture still plentiful.

Washington.—Mild and unusually wet month has been favorable for fall-sown wheat, which is reported in excellent condition; there is no covering snow to protect the wheat should there be a cold spell; considerable plowing has been done.

Oregon.—December weather very favorable for seeding, germination and stooling, and winter wheat is generally in excellent condition; acreage in Willamette Valley slightly below average; about usual amount sown elsewhere, but little damage done by insect pests.

California.—Recent cold weather and heavy frosts were beneficial to wheat, which made excellent growth during the month, and is in splendid condition in central and northern portions; in Southern California there is deficiency in moisture, but elsewhere it is in good condition and sowing is nearly completed; large acreage of wheat in all sections north of Tehachapi.

SOUTH CAROLINA COTTON MILLS.

Some very conservative persons expressed the fear more than a year ago that South Carolina might be "overdoing" the cotton manufacturing business. The progress in that direction made in 1898 was considered remarkable, while that of the succeeding year has surpassed the hopes of the most enthusiastic admirers of the enterprise. The idea of South Carolinians investing millions in manufacturing or anything else would, five years ago, have been considered chimerical. Yet for the year just closed the cotton mill building is calculated by the millions, where two years ago it was figured by the fifty thousands. Two of the largest one mills built the past year employ as much capital as all those constructed in 1898. The addition to the capital of one mill in 1900 required one and a half times the investment in the six mills built two years ago.

LOCAL OPTION IN TEXAS.

The temperance movement is having a steady growth in Texas. There are 224 organized and nineteen unorganized counties in the state. Of the 243 counties 107 contain no local option laws. The sale of liquor is now entirely prohibited in 100 counties local option prevails in part; in thirty-seven of the 100 no liquor is permitted to be sold in more than one-half of the county, leaving sixty-three with one or more local option precincts. In many counties the sale of liquor is prohibited, except at the county seat. Local option now prevails over fully one-third of the area of the state.

DAIRY

It may be through custom rather than a physiological reason that a cow requires salt, says Prof. Short. But whatever the reason, salt is now come to that state, that it is a necessity rather than a luxury, and if deprived of it, or if given at irregular intervals, the result is seen in diminished milk yield, as well as a general falling off in the bodily health.

CLEANLINESS.—Only men with cleanly instincts should be permitted to have a part in drawing the milk from the cow. Handling it at any time, says an exchange. If dirty men are to be retained on the farm they should be put to some other task that directly affects the milk. We hear about men that dip their fingers into the milk when they want to give the milkers general instructions. It has never seemed to the writer that the facts as reported could be possible, but the preponderance of testimony seems to be that there are such dirty milkers. That being the case, the dirty man must be recognized as existing and he should be prevented from contaminating the milk supply. But he is not always easy to find. His dirty tricks are kept by him in the background as much as possible. He must be run down. Perhaps the best way to find him is for the cow owner to give the milkers general instructions against such methods. When the dirty man is the proprietor himself the case becomes more difficult to handle, and until something like the curd test for dirt is adopted by the creameries and cheese factories there is little chance of getting the dirty man out of the way of the maker of both butter and cheese. The dirty man can be taught the finest skill in the world, if we would build up from the foundation we must eliminate dirt in men and methods. Cleanliness in all things is the first step in our upward progress.

SELECTING A DAIRY COW.—Having decided what kind of a cow is wanted on the place, or what the cow is wanted for, the next thing is to select the individual cow for the purpose. The shape and style of the cow being the first thing to take the eye, fix in mind the type of a good cow for milk, says the American Cultivator.

Without going into the detail of points, as given by some writers, which might be varied also for different breeds, remember that the good milk is wedge shaped, when looked at directly in front, that is, with slim, neck, rather thin through the shoulders, thick and deep in the body, to give abundant room for her digestive organs and the food they contain and broad across the hips.

The head should be carried well up, or not drooped when not feeding, broad between the eyes and rather long and narrow below them down to the jaw with the eyes large, full and clear looking, but not staring, as if scared. The wild-looking eye denotes a wild cow, not always pleasant to handle, possibly cross, while the dull, watery eye is a sign of lack of

Charters were granted to thirty-one new mills in 1900, with an aggregate capital of \$4,850,000. The capital of twenty-one of those mills ranged from \$100,000 to \$600,000, fourteen of them being \$200,000 and upward.

During the year fourteen established mills increased their capitals—the increase running from a minimum of \$50,000 to \$850,000, and the aggregate being \$2,945,000—making the total investment in mills chartered, with a total capital of \$510,000; in 1899 the number chartered was eleven, with \$3,275,000. This included the Olympia, at Columbia, with \$1,500,000 capital.

Twelve mills with a combined capital of \$1,495,000 were commissioned in 1900, but have not yet applied for charters. A number of them will begin building in the early spring, as it is certain they will soon qualify for charters.

To sum up the cotton manufacturing situation: In the first twenty-four months forty-two new mills have been chartered and thirty have been opened, and the capital thus represented is \$13,495,000—a greater amount than was invested in all enterprises chartered by the state during the preceding fifteen years. No other state in the union has such a record. The achievements this past year assure the Palmetto State passing Rhode Island in 1901 and taking her place next to the Bay State in cotton manufacturing.

It is notable that both in 1899 and 1900 the increase to the capital of established mills was large. They were in almost every instance made to build additions or entirely new mills adjoining the old ones. Of the fourteen mills that increased their capitals the past year, one was for \$50,000, another for \$70,000, the other twelve for \$100,000 or more. The most notable increase was in the Lancaster mill, which had a capital of \$150,000, and increased it to \$1,000,000. The extensions are made to almost all mills out of the surplus. No additional stock is issued, and the stockholders pay out nothing.

Despite the fact that cotton has advanced and the manufacturers of some classes of coarse goods made for the China trade have had some difficulty in disposing of their stocks, the year has been a very prosperous one. Not many mills were affected by the China war. Those having no machinery of a finer grade are preparing to install it, and the indications are that more attention will be paid to finer goods than heretofore.

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The Journal Institute

RESULTS OF A CROP OF RAPE.—The present time is the harvest season of experience for all who are engaged in the culture of the land or in the feeding of cattle, but most of all to the careful, intelligent shepherd, writer Henry Stewart in the American Swine Breeder. And of all the experimental knowledge gained in recent times, that in regard to the growth and uses of rape is just now the most valuable.

This crop is a standard one in all the European countries, especially in England, and the other parts of Great Britain in which sheep are thicker on the ground than in any other country in the world, and rape is the main fall sown winter feeding, along with turnips. It has got a good start here on this side of the world, but it is only like the first pale glimpse of the coming dawn compared with the bright fullness of the noonday sun. For by and by it will be found on the major portion of the farms and ranches of the ranges wherever the climate will admit of its growth, and the cheapness and value of it will be so fully recognized that sheep will be seen on every hand and their plaintive bleating will be heard from east to west, as the happy life and care of physical debility, quickly cured.

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REWARD FOR KIDNAPPERS.

At a special called meeting of the Omaha city council, that body adopted concurrent resolutions offering a reward of \$25,000 for the apprehension and conviction of the desperadoes who abducted Edward Cudaby, Jr., on the night of Dec. 18. For the arrest and conviction of one, the resolutions provide a reward of \$600; for two \$15,000 will be paid, and the whole amount is offered for the three principals. The votes by which the resolutions were passed were unanimous. The council also asked Mr. Cudaby to withdraw his offer of a reward of an equal amount for the capture of the criminals. The subject of the edicts after is largely relieved Mr. Cudaby and his family of the fear of reprisals from the bandits. Mr. Cudaby a few days ago received a letter threatening the life of his son if the reward offered by him was not withdrawn.

