

# Georgia - 'Empire State of South'

## Balanced Farm-Industrial Economy Cited; Income Up

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ATLANTA — Georgia, the thirteenth Colony, was founded by England for two purposes. Spain owned Florida and claimed to Beaufort, South Carolina. The Spanish Crown had established missions on the islands off the coast and a few on the mainland. This was a constant threat to the prosperous colony of South Carolina. The French had edged in from the Mississippi River and established themselves as far as Fort Toulouse in the present Alabama. The Indians had swept into South Carolina and terrified the inhabitants in the Yamasee War in 1715. To preserve that colony, England needed a military colony. Religious Revival Aids

About the same time there was a religious revival in England and the attention of Parliament was drawn to the condition of its honest poor people. Gen. James Oglethorpe, a man of wealth and a member of Parliament, was appointed to look into the welfare of these people. His recommendation that a home be created for them in the New World, combined with the necessity for a military colony, caused Parliament to found Georgia. Oglethorpe was appointed to take the colonists to America. It was the only colony in which rum and negro slaves were forbidden.

**Group Carefully Chosen**  
General Oglethorpe landed at Savannah, Georgia, Feb. 12, 1733, with his band of sturdy, industrious colonists who had been carefully selected.

Gradually, Georgia made treaties with the Indians, securing with each a cession of land from river

to river until, in 1825, Georgia reached the Chattahoochee. The United States government then promised to remove the Indians in exchange for the land from the Chattahoochee to the Mississippi.

**Prosperity Continues**  
Georgia aided in the Revolution against England and was the fourth State to ratify the Constitution, one of the three to do so unanimously.

Georgia led the states in education by creating the first state-owned University, Wesleyan College, at Macon, was the first chartered woman's college in America to grant degrees to women. The first orphan's home, Bethesda, was located in Georgia, and the first Protestant Sunday School in America was organized in Savannah.

Georgia, with 58,876 square miles, is the largest state east of the Mississippi River. The Blue Ridge chain of the Appalachian Mountains rises to a height of 5,000 feet. Georgia has Warm Springs with its flow of 1800 gallons per minute, principal clinic in the world for treatment of infantile paralysis. Its mountains has inexhaustible strata of marble.

**Products in Big Variety**  
Records show that Georgia has a greater variety of soil products than any other state. This state

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started the peach industry by using refrigeration in shipping peaches. It excels in watermelons, peanuts, pecans and tobacco. The cotton gin was invented in Georgia. Its forests, with 163 species of trees, furnish material for its naval stores, pulpwood and paper industry.

Georgia was the first state to build a railroad, which it still owns. The state owns 22 parks which give year-round play grounds.

An agricultural stronghold from its founding, Georgia celebrated its bicentennial in 1933 by moving toward industrialization. Its advance on this front has been breathtaking.

**Income Up Sharply**  
Twenty-five years ago, the total income of Georgians from all sources amounted to \$700,000,000. United States Department of Commerce figures show that in 1953 Georgians received a record total income of \$4,245,000,000. This reflects an annual income of \$1,184 for every man, woman and child in the State, white and colored.

Not only are Georgians earning more, but they have twice as much money in the bank as 10 years ago. Operating banks in the state went into the present year with deposits of \$2,101,623,000.

In agriculture, in a 25-year period, Georgia's total cash farm income has leaped from \$149,000,000 to \$634,000,000. Income from livestock, which amounted to \$24,000,000 a quarter of a century ago, now stands at \$259,483,000.

In 1935, when the commercial

broiler production for the entire nation was only 43,000,000 birds valued at \$25,000,000, the broiler industry was almost non-existent in Georgia. Today Georgia is the broiler capital of the world. Its annual production of 154,000,000 broilers brings \$110,000,000.

Georgia cotton in 1953 was valued at \$140,240,000, corn \$87,380,000, tobacco \$69,205,000, peanuts \$57,332,000. Vegetables were worth \$17,301,000, peaches \$9,413,000, pecans \$7,692,000.

**Second in Peaches**  
The commercial watermelon crop, the largest in the world, was valued at \$6,033,000, tomatoes \$4,050,000, and pimento peppers \$2,240,000. Georgia leads the nation in the production and processing of pimentos and only California is ahead of her in peach production.

Georgia led the South last year in production of lumber with a total output of 2,240,000,000 feet.

The State Department of Agriculture places the total value of all crops, livestock and livestock products, together with lumber, pulpwood, naval stores, fishery products, clay, marble ceramics, etc., in excess of a billion dollars a year.

**Firms Gain in Number**  
In 1944, there were 43,700 business firms in operation in the State, and in 1954 there were 75,100.

In 1939, retail trade sales were \$325,000,000. In 1953, they were \$3,000,000,000.

The 1939 manufacturing production figure, \$677,000,000 has increased six times, was over \$4,000,000,000 in 1953.

As cotton still is Georgia's chief farm money crop, so does cotton manufacturing remain Georgia's chief industry. Last year 300 textile mills employed 113,000 workers, paid them \$422,000,000 in

wages, and turned out production valued at \$1,283,000,000.

Food manufacturing and processing, which was a \$134,000,000 a year industry in 1939, now amounts to \$351,000,000.

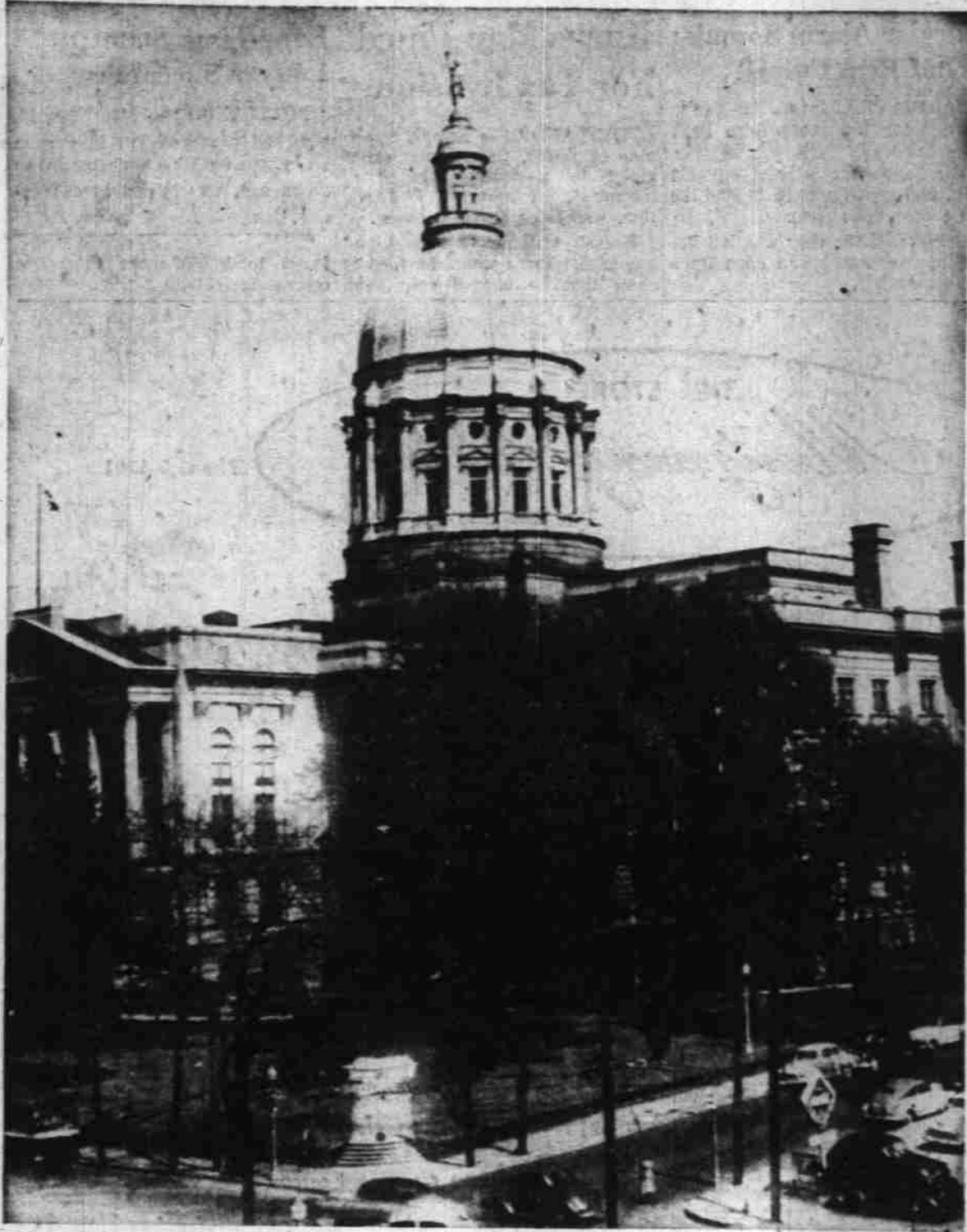
In 1939, \$17,000,000 worth of transportation equipment — automobiles, trucks, airplanes, boats, railroad rolling-stock — were produced in Georgia. Last year's production was \$416,000,000.

Paper and pulp manufacture, which amounted to \$29,000,000 in 1939, now comes to \$260,000,000.

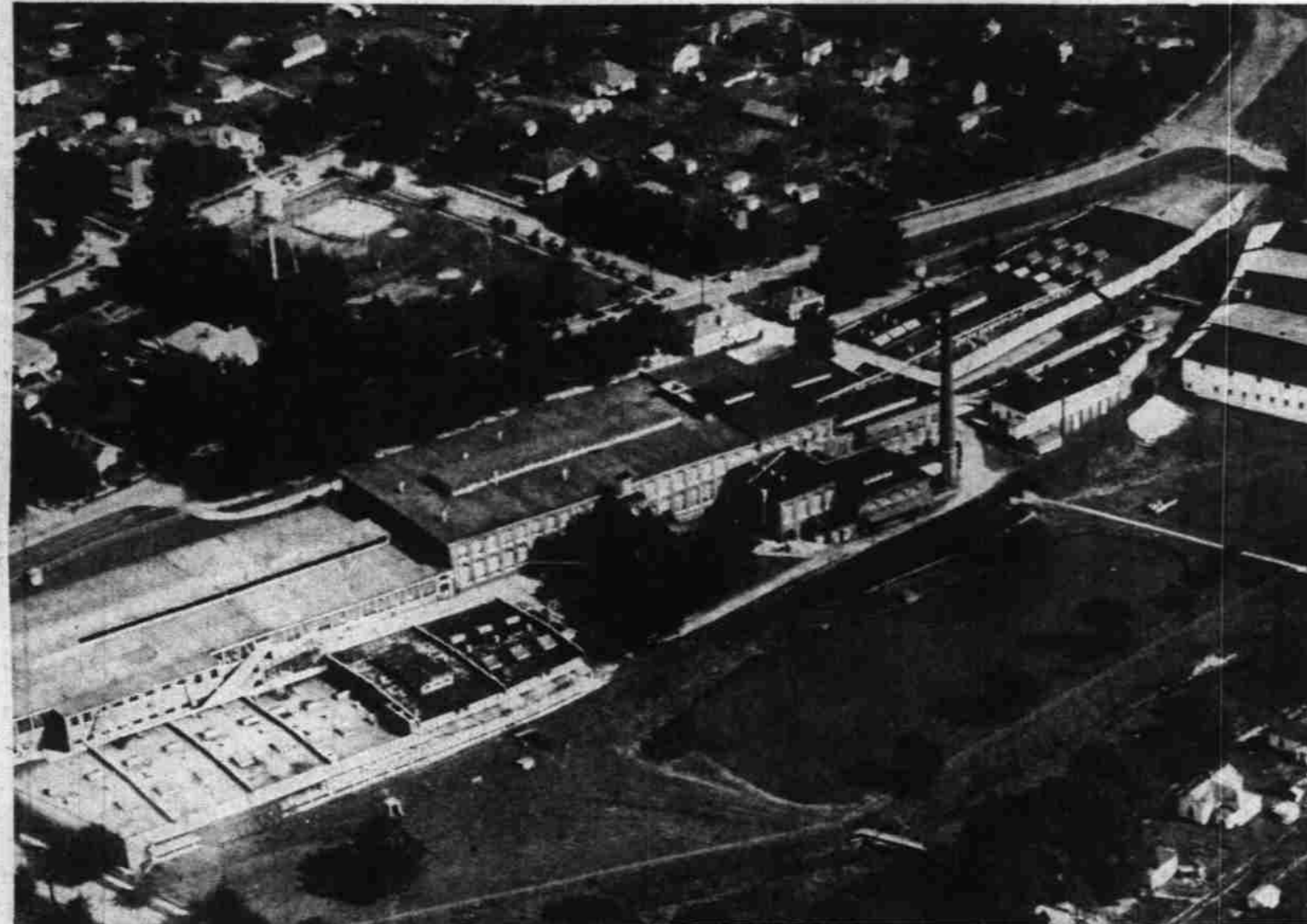
But let us not forget tourists. Yes sir, tourists are big business in Georgia these days — one of the biggest. Last year the state entertained 10,500,000 tourists. They spent \$277 million dollars during their visit.

Georgia has dependable labor; adequate rain fall, cheap fuel; vast developed and potential hydro-electric power; good highways, and sea ports with deep channels. It has breathless mountain scenery, fine beaches, good hunting and fishing. On every side one finds history as rich as "Gone With the Wind" rubbing shoulders with the throbbing modern world.

Georgia is truly the Empire State of the South!

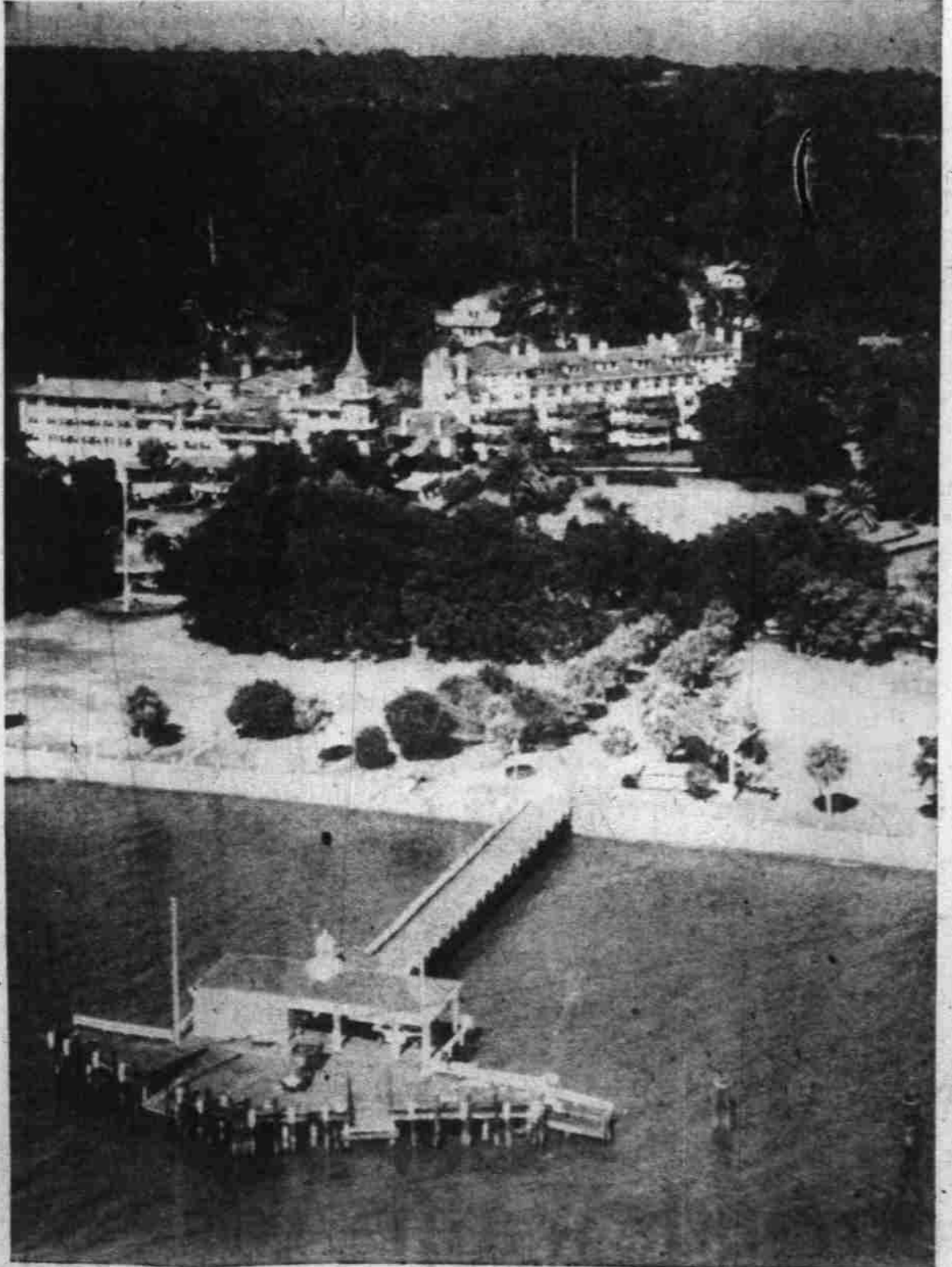


Atlanta, Ga.—The picturesque state capitol at Atlanta—an inland metropolis a couple of hundred miles northwest of Georgia's Atlantic Coast shoreline—is of late 19th-century vintage in the heart of other more modern buildings which have grown up around it.



Atlanta, Ga.—Textiles are a major Georgia industry. Here is a typical plant surrounded by a model town. It is the Oakleaf and Unity Spinning Plant of the Callaway Mills Company at La-Grange, Ga. Georgia also is the world's leading producer of watermelons (right) and harvest time finds growers plenty happy with the output.

**Georgia**  
Population—3,444,578, (20th).  
Area—58,876 (20th).  
Capital—Atlanta (pop. 333,314).  
Flower—Cherokee Rose.  
Bird—Brown thrasher.  
Tree—Live oak.



Atlanta, Ga.—Capital of Georgia is Atlanta but Savannah (above—pop. 119,638) points of refuge against Indian attacks. At the left is Jekyll Island developed by the so-called 100 Club (every member a multi-millionaire) before the island became a state park. It once was a pirate stronghold, then a fortress over which flew the British, French, Spanish, Confederate and American flags.