

21 BILLION IS VALUE OF U. S. CROPS THIS YEAR

Nearly 1,000,000,000 Bushels More Grain Was Raised Than in 1916.

CORN LEADS ALL THE REST

Production of Grain and Other Farm Products Far Exceeds Any Other Year in History of Country—Weather Ruins Flax.

Washington.—Farmers contributed approximately \$21,000,000,000 to the wealth of the nation this year in the production of grain and other farm products, far exceeding any other year in the history of the country. Of this immense total the corn crop leads with an estimated value of \$4,053,672,000. The oats crop is valued at \$1,061,427,000; wheat at \$848,372,000, and potatoes at \$543,865,000.

Final report on the crops has just been issued by the department of agriculture, and it showed that with the exception of wheat the leading grains established records in production. A big wheat area was planted, but severe winter killing cut down the crop heavily. Cotton was caught by an early frost and suffered a sensational loss of approximately 1,000,000 bales from early estimates. A late season and early frosts hurt the corn crop, but more in point of quality than quantity, and there is more soft corn in the country this year than ever before.

1,000,000,000 Bushels in Excess.

Nearly 1,000,000,000 bushels more grain was raised than in 1916. The final estimate shows a total production of 5,606,728,000 bushels of the five leading grains. This compares with 4,686,253,000 bushels last year, and is close to the record aggregate production in 1915.

The total wheat yield is given as 650,828,000 bushels, compared with 630,318,000 bushels last year, and 806,361,000 bushels, the 1911-15 average.

Corn production is estimated at 3,159,494,000 bushels, about 31,000,000 bushels under the preliminary figure and compared with 2,566,927,000 bushels raised in 1916. The five-year average was 2,754,164,000 bushels and the previous bumper crop in 1912 was 3,124,746,000 bushels.

The yield of oats was also a record

one and is given as 1,587,286,000 bushels, compared with 1,251,837,000 bushels last year. The five-year average was 1,230,469,000 bushels.

Production of rye is placed at 60,145,000 bushels, against 48,862,000 bushels last year and five-year average of 41,390,000 bushels.

The barley crop is finally estimated at 208,975,000 bushels, against 182,300,000 bushels last year.

The bumper potato crop is maintained in the final report; in fact the figure of 442,336,000 bushels is a little in excess of the preliminary estimate and compares with 286,953,000 bushels last year.

Weather Ruins Flax.

Unfavorable weather conditions ruined the flax crop and the yield is estimated at only 8,473,000 bushels, against 14,296,000 bushels last year. Production of hay was 79,528,000 tons of tame and 15,402,000 tons of wild, compared with 91,192,000 tons and 19,800,000 tons respectively last year. The rice crop totaled 36,278,000 bushels, against 41,982,000 bushels last year. Buckwheat production was 17,460,000 bushels, compared with 11,840,000 bushels in 1916. The kafir corn crop was 75,866,000 bushels, against 50,340,000 bushels last year.

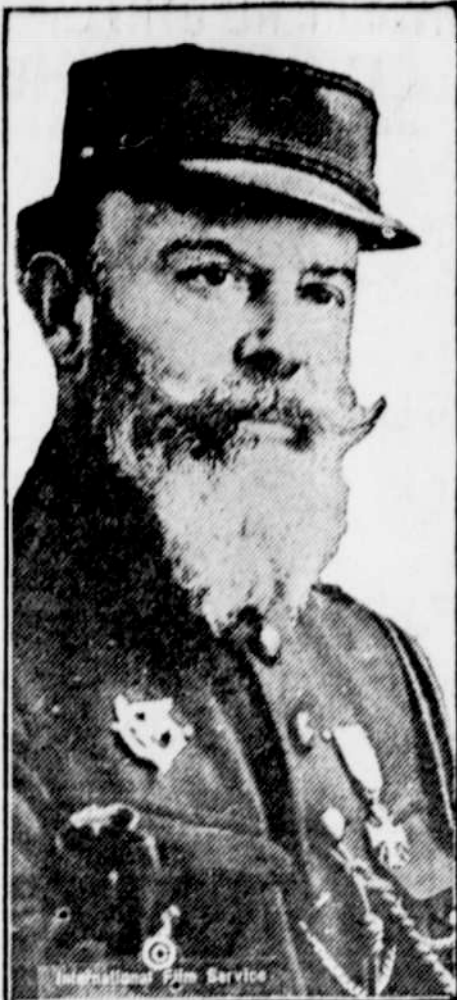
Following shows area, yield per acre and production in bushels of the leading crops:

	Area, acre.	Yield per acre.	Production.
Winter wheat.....	27,420,000	15.2	418,970,000
Spring wheat.....	18,511,000	12.6	232,758,000
Corn.....	119,755,000	26.4	3,159,494,000
Oats.....	43,572,000	25.4	1,107,286,000
Rye.....	4,192,000	14.7	60,145,000
Barley.....	8,835,000	23.7	208,975,000
Kafir corn.....	5,153,000	14.7	75,866,000
Potatoes.....	4,490,000	109.8	492,336,000
Sweet potatoes.....	963,000	91.4	87,141,000
Hay, tame.....	53,515,000	1.49	79,528,000
Hay, wild.....	16,472,000	.54	8,902,000
Flaxseed.....	1,969,000	4.7	8,473,000

*Tons. Cotton production this year is estimated at 10,949,000 equivalent 500-pound bales. Tobacco yield is given as 1,196,451,000 pounds; sugar beets, 6,237,000 tons; beans, 15,701,000 pounds; onions, 13,544,000 bushels, and cabbage, 502,700 tons.

The apple crop was 58,203,000 barrels; peaches, 45,066,000 barrels; pears, 13,281,000 bushels; cranberries, 245,000 barrels, and oranges, 12,832,000 boxes.

FRANCE'S AVIATION ARTIST



M. Henri Farro, official aviation artist of the French government, who has brought to this country a remarkable collection of paintings, depicting the aerial battles over the firing line and incidents of aviation life high in the clouds. As machine gun observer he took part in many of the encounters he so graphically portrays on his canvases. Arrangements are being made to exhibit this notable collection in the principal cities of the United States under the auspices of the Aerial Club of America.

Curiosity Aids Red Cross.

London.—A farmer in a village in southeast England raised \$1,000 for the Red Cross through the agency of a Zeppelin bomb which fell in one of his fields. Thousands of people came from nearby towns to see the crater, which is described as "big enough to put a house in." The farmer charged each visitor a small admission fee and turned the proceeds over to the local Red Cross.

HOMESTEADS FOR SOLDIERS

Opening of Reclamation Projects Advocated by Irrigation Congress.

Yakima, Wash.—Soldiers and sailors returning from the European war will find the government ready to give them homesteads on reclamation projects and prepared to set them up in business if legislation projected by the Washington Irrigation institute is enacted by that time. Legislation following the Australian plan as outlined by Dr. Elwood Mead in his address before a recent meeting of the institute will be fostered here.

At a meeting of the executive committee of the institute held here Friday evening, the proposition was discussed at length and a legislative committee composed of R. K. Tiffany, chairman, E. M. Chandler, George E. Rodman, D. V. Northland and E. F. Benson was appointed to draft a bill to be presented to congress through Washington members. The committee also decided on the date and place for the next annual meeting, fixing December 17 and 18, 1918, at Yakima.

Cotton Grown Along Columbia.

Ellensburg, Wash.—T. Brulett, of McPherson's sheep ranch at Richmond's ferry, on the Columbia river, has raised some cotton. It is of fair quality and good color, but is not long and had not fully matured. Those interested in its cultivation think that because of the long growing season and the hot, dry summers, and the fact that the country there is only 435 feet above sea level, the cotton may be grown on a commercial scale.

NORTHWEST MARKET REPORT

Wheat—Bulk basis for No. 1 grade: Hard white; Bluestem, Early Bart, Allen, Galgalus, Martin Amber, \$2.05. Soft white—Palouse bluestem, forty-fold, White valley, Gold Coin White Russian, \$2.03. White club—Little club, Jenkins club, white hybrids, Sonora, \$2.01. Red Walla Walla—Red Russian, red hybrids, Jones five, Coppel, \$1.98. No. 2 grade, 3c less. No. 3 grade, 6c less. Other grades handled by sample.

Flour—Patents, \$10. Millfeed—Net mill prices, car lots: Bran, \$30 per ton; shorts, \$32; middlings, \$39; mixed cars and less than carloads, 50c more; rolled barley, \$60 @62; rolled oats, \$62.

Corn—Whole, \$75 per ton; cracked, \$76.

Hay—Buying prices delivered: Eastern Oregon timothy, \$27 per ton; valley timothy, \$25@26; alfalfa, \$23.50; valley grain hay, \$24; clover, \$22; straw, \$8.

Butter—Cubes, extras, 50c per pound; prime firsts, 49c. Jobbing prices: Prints, extras, 52@53c; cartons, 1c extra; butterfat, No. 1, 56@57c, delivered.

Eggs—Ranch, current receipts, 45c per dozen; candled, 47@47c; selects, 50c.

Poultry—Hens, heavy, 24@25c per pound; light, 23c; ducks, 24@25c; stags, 18@20c; geese, 20@25c; geese, 15@17c; turkeys, live, 24c; dressed, choice, 35c.

Veal—17@18c per pound.

Pork—19c per pound.

Vegetables—Tomatoes, \$2@2.75 per crate; cabbage, 16@2c per pound; lettuce, \$1.75@2.25 per crate; cucumbers, 85c@1.75 per dozen; peppers, 15c per pound; cauliflower, \$2.25@2.50 per crate; sprouts, 10@11c per pound; artichokes, 85c@1.10; garlic, 7@8c per pound; squash, 2c; celery, \$3.25 @4.25 per crate; carrots, \$1.25 per sack; beets, \$1.50@1.75; turnips, \$1.50; parsnips, \$1.50@1.75.

Potatoes—Burbanks, \$1.25@1.40 per hundred; Yakimas, \$1.50 @1.65; sweet potatoes, 5c per pound.

Onions—Buying price, \$1.75 per hundred.

Green Fruits—Apples, \$1@2.25 per box; pears, \$2.25; grapes, 8c per pound; cranberries, Eastern, \$18 per barrel.

Hops—1917 crop, 15@18c per pound; 1916 crop, nominal.

Wool—Eastern Oregon, 50@60c per pound; valley, 50@55c; valley lamb, 45@50c; mohair, long staple, full year, 50c; six months, 40@50c; curry, 35 @40c.

January 15, 1918.

Cattle—Med. to choice steers... \$10.00@10.75 Good to med. steers... 8.75@10.00 Com. to good steers... 7.25@ 8.75 Choice cows and heifers... 7.25@ 8.00 Com. to good cows and hf... 6.00@ 7.35 Cannors... 3.00@ 5.50 Bulls... 4.50@ 7.00 Calves... 7.00@10.25 Stockers and feeders... 6.00@ 8.50

Hogs—Prime light hogs... \$15.45@15.60 Prime heavy hogs... 15.50@15.65 Pigs... 13.50@14.50 Bulk... 15.60

Sheep—Western lambs... \$14.50@15.00 Valley lambs... 14.00@14.25 Yearlings... 12.50@13.00 Wethers... 12.00@12.50 Ewes... 9.50@11.00

STATE NEWS IN BRIEF.

Fire which originated in the Odd-fellows' Building at Ione Thursday night wiped out half of the city's business section. The loss is estimated at \$40,000, with about \$20,000 insurance.

The Bear Creek Logging company has purchased seven miles of railroad, two locomotives, cars, logging engines and complete logging equipment of the Sorensen Logging company, near Svensen.

An ordinance which prohibits all youths under 21 years of age from playing cards, pool, billiards or bowling was introduced in the North Bend city council Friday night. The council expressed the opinion that the age should be reduced to 19 years.

As long as he buys a dollar's worth of thrift stamps weekly, Clarence Steinkopf, of Redmond, who pleaded guilty to a charge of desecrating the United States flag, will have his sentence suspended. He has promised to buy four stamps a week as long as the war lasts.

For many years there have been rumors of oil in the Rogue River valley, oil prospectors have come and gone, but as yet no oil has been found. Believing there is oil there, and that proper organization will find it, the Rogue River Oil company has been organized in Medford.

The experience of Lew Pritchard, a well-known young man of Klamath Falls, in entering the Army service indicates the great need of men in getting out spruce for Uncle Sam's aeroplane manufacture, and how quickly the government fits a man into his proper niche in the service.

Governor Withycombe reached a decision Friday to retain the special agents stationed in Clackamas county to cope with the strike situation in the mills there, after he had conferred with a large delegation of mill and business men of Oregon City, headed by Sheriff Wilson, of Clackamas county.

A service flag with 80 stars, representing the boys and girls among the students who have answered their country's call "in the last war for human liberty," was presented to the Eugene High School Friday. Boys from the school have volunteered in practically every branch of the war forces of the nation.

Enlarging of the North Bend mill, which commenced six months ago, is nearing completion, and the mill will operate under the new conditions on February 1, it is announced. The improvements, costing upwards of \$100,000, comprise drying kilns, planing mill and warehouses, together with a spur track connecting the mill with the Southern Pacific.

A number of important steps in fitting state regulations of railroads to the system of Federal control were taken by the Public Service commission Saturday, foremost among which was the acquiescence in the demurrage order issued by Director General McAdoo and giving to the Pacific Car Demurrage bureau authority to publish the demurrage rules accordingly. These new rules start demurrage charges at \$3 a car and go as high as \$10 a day, while the state rule starts at \$2 a car and go only as high as \$4 a day. The Federal rules will become effective January 21.

The State Land Board has granted to parties represented by Samuel Connell, of the Sam Connell Lumber company, of Portland, the right to make tests of the waters in Summer and Albert lakes, in Lake county, to determine the extent of the soda deposits in such lakes.

Captain C. E. MacFarlane, representing Colonel Disque, is on Coos Bay consulting with millmen, logging operators and owners of timber on the peninsula, with a view to opening several new camps in the spruce district, that the program for aeroplane stock may be increased heavily.

The warm, wet weather of the past month has been a boon to the stockmen of Umatilla county. In the hills where, during the last few weeks of fall, the range was dry as tinder, the grass is now green and succulent and the stock is making up for the lean months of late summer.

J. M. Peters, superintendent of the Clatskanie River hatchery, says the 5,000,000 young Chinook salmon now in the ponds are in excellent condition. The warm rains of the present winter period seem to agree with the salmon fry and an exceptional output will be the result this season. About 2,000,000 of the fry will be liberated in June and the rest in August.

The quarterly report of State Engineer Lewis, completed Wednesday, shows that 109 permits to appropriate water and 10 permits to construct reservoirs were issued during the quarter. These permits include for the irrigation of land amounting to 10,639 acres and water supply for three municipalities, the estimated cost of construction amounting to \$294,887.

GERMAN AGENTS START FOOD SHORTAGE SCARE

Washington.—The work of German agents among housewives to cause a disruption in the markets of household necessities and incite a discontent with war conditions has caused a false shortage in some places in commodities that really are to be had in plenty.

The national food administration, commenting on the reports of three successive buying drives by the housewives throughout the country on salt, laundry blue and matches, says there is no lack of these commodities among small retailers by the excessive buying, that the national stock is as large as ever, with no possible likelihood of shortage with a normal demand from the consumer.

The housewife is warned to disregard rumors and not to overstock, as such unnecessary buying may cause real shortages for a short time in certain localities.

COMFORT IN NATIONAL ARMY BARRACKS



The National army's "single men in barracks" don't find wintry days and nights unpleasant so long as they have letters from home, newspapers and music.

He heard her story, heard that her daughter would not let her bake the cookies, heard how she had waited until the daughter had gone shopping and then mixed the butter and done the goodies to a perfect brown. This morning she had stolen away. He helped her into his car and whisked her to Camp Ross. He found Roy for her and saw her weep for joy on Roy's blue jacketed shoulder. He ate one of the cookies. Grandmother and grandson visited and said good-by. Mr. Doyle took her back to the depot, helped her on a Chicago train, and returned to his neglected work. He was tickled as a kid.

Camps for Homeless.

Washington.—Among the largest of war relief work being carried on at the present time are camps for homeless thousands of persons in and around Saltonki, which were started by Dr. Edward W. Ryan, head of the American Red Cross in that region. There are 70,000 sufferers camping out in the tents which have been set up.

ROY GOT HIS DESIRED RAISIN COOKIES

Naval Paymaster Helps Out Grandmother in Distress.

She Stole Away From Home to Take Boy Goodies and Was Barred by the Guard.

Great Lakes, Ill.—One morning an old-fashioned grandmother from Chicago carefully climbed off a train at Great Lakes. She might have stepped from the daguerrotype pictorial page of an old magazine. A black bonnet crowned her silver hair and was tied with black ribbons under her chin. She gripped a large paper bag. The guard stopped her. "You can't come in today," he told her. "Wednesday is visitors' day." Her eyes filled with tears. "But Roy is going to sea today," she said. "I came to give Roy his cookies. I had to run away from home to get hers. My

daughter won't let me go out of the house much. She thinks I am too old."

She took a letter from a handbag. It was from Roy and it read in part: "Grandmother: I leave for sea on Friday and all that I lack to make me happy is some of your raisin cookies. The food here is good, but I had to leave without again tasting the cookies that I loved so much."

"I baked cookies for that boy since he was big enough to eat them, and he always had my cookies until he enlisted," she resumed. "His mother is dead. He is in Camp Ross. I must see him before he goes away."

The guard was iron. Paymaster J. D. Doyle is a busy man. But Paymaster Doyle was not too busy to stop and hear her story. He is not a young man and his hair is gray, but he likes raisin cookies and has a heart as big as the administration building.