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AGRICULTURE--ILLINOIS.

Statistics for the State and its Counties.

Prepared under the supervision of Le Grand Powers, former Chief Statistician for Agriculture, and John Lee Coulter, Expert Special Agent for Agriculture.

Farms and Farm Property.

Illinois ranks twenty-second in area and third in population among the states and territories of continental United States. It has passed out of the class of states that are adding materially to their total farm areas, having, in fact, a little less land in farms than it had in 1900, and only a little more than in 1880. The state of Illinois occupies the north central portion of the low plateau region which constitutes the upper portion of the Mississippi Basin. The surface of the state varies considerably in its different portions. The lowest altitudes are found in the alluvial bottoms at the junction of the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers in the vicinity of Cairo, where the elevation is approximately 300 feet above sea level. The plateau rises thence gradually northward, altitudes of 700 and 800 feet being attained in the central portion of the state, while the highest altitudes, slightly in excess of 1,000 feet, are found in the extreme northern and northwestern portions along the Wisconsin line.

All of Illinois except the northwestern portion of the state and the extreme southern counties near the confluence of the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers has been glaciated one or more times. Repeated glaciations have covered the central and northern portions of the state with a covering of glacial till, varying in thickness from 10 or 15 feet to depths of more than 200 feet. The glaciated plateau region occupying a considerable tract in the east central portion of the state and again in the northern portion, consists of an undulating to ridged upland intersected by deeply cut stream channels which are not infrequently bordered by alluvial bottoms. In the west and west central portion of the state this glaciated upland is covered by a deep layer of brown or yellow silty loam known as the loess. This material borders the course of the Mississippi River from the extreme northwestern portion of the state to the junction of the Ohio. The great southeastern portion of Illinois is chiefly occupied by a shallow covering of loess-like material which overlies the deposits of one of the older periods of glaciation. This shallow loess is gray or ash colored, compact and dense, differing in this respect from the brown or yellow, well-drained, and friable loess of the deeper areas.

The soils of the glaciated plateau consist of brown to almost black loams and silty loams which occupy the ridges, the gentle slopes, and all except the most depressed areas. All these soils are suited to the production of the principal staple crops of the climate. The soils of the deep loess in the west central portion of the state are prevailingly brown silty loams, deep, well-drained, and of undulating surface configuration, well suited not only to the production of the staple crops, but also in many instances to the raising of orchard fruits.

A very large proportion of the total land area of the state is topographically suited to the best forms of agricultural occupation, while the great variety of soil, the wide range of climatic conditions, and the favorable location of the state with respect to transportation and to markets have made possible a diversified and profitable agriculture.

Of the state's entire land area over nine-tenths is in farms, and only one county has less than three-fifths and only four other counties has less than four-fifths of their land in farms.

The counties in the central and northern parts of the state have in the greater number of cases from 90 to 95 per cent of their land in farms and a comparatively large number have over 95 per cent. The southern counties shown in frequent instances from 80 to 90 per cent of their total area in farms.

The average value of farm land per acre for the whole state is \$95.02. In 20 counties, mainly grouped in the east central part, the average value per acre is \$125 or over. Bordering this group and mainly included in a belt just north of it are the counties in which the average value per acre ranges from \$100 to \$125. Most of the southern third of the state consists of counties which show an average value per acre of from \$25 to \$50, while the northern and western portions are fairly evenly divided between the counties in which the average value ranges either from \$50 to \$75 per acre or from \$75 to \$100 per acre.

Progress during the decade 1900 to 1910.—Between 1900 and 1910 there was an increase of 817,041, or 16.9 per cent, in the population of the state, while there was a decrease of 12,279, or 4.6 per cent, in the number of farms, and 271,791 acres, or 0.8 per cent, in the area of farm land. As a result of the greater relative decrease in the number of farms, as compared with the total area of farm land, the average size of farms increased about 5 acres.

Farm property, which includes land, buildings, implements and machinery, and live stock (domestic animals, poultry, and bees), has shown an increase in value during the decade which approaches \$2,000,000,000. This great increase was chiefly made up of increases of over \$1,576,000,000 in the value of land and of \$180,914,000 in the value of buildings. There was also an increase of \$143,793,000 in the value of farm equipment, including implements and machinery and live stock, of which more than four-fifths represents the gain in the value of live stock. In considering the increase of values in agriculture the general increase in the prices of all commodities in the last 10 years should be borne in mind.

The average value of a farm with its equipment in 1900 was about \$7,600, while 10 years later it was \$15,505. The average value of land rose from \$46.17 per acre in 1900 to \$95.02 in 1910, this advance being accompanied by increases in the average value per farm of implements and machinery and of live stock.

Population, number of farms, and farm acreage: 1850 to 1910.—In the 60 years since 1850 the population of the state has increased by 4,787,121, or nearly six times.

There are 251,872 farms in Illinois, or more than three times as many as in 1850. The increase was very rapid from 1850 to 1880, averaging 5,984 per year. From 1880 to 1890 there was a considerable decrease in the number of farms, but between 1890 and 1900 the number increased 23,470, or 9.8 per cent, the total number in 1900 being the largest reported at any census. During the last decade, however, the number decreased from 264,151 to 251,872, or 4.6 per cent. The decrease during the last decade was quite general throughout the state, as only 22 counties show even slight increases.

The land surface of Illinois is approximately 35,867,520 acres. Of this area 32,522,937 acres, or 90.7 per cent, are included in farms, while 28,048,323 acres, or 86.2 per cent of the total farm acreage, are reported as improved land, representing 78.2 per cent of the total land area of the state. The total acreage of farm land decreased 0.8 per cent during the last decade. Since the reported acreage of improved land increased from 1900 to 1910, while the total acreage in farms decreased, the percentage of farm land improved was higher in 1910 than in 1900.

The proportion of the total land area of the state which was occupied by farms rose between 1850 to 1880 from 33.6 to 88.3 per cent; since 1880 there has been little change in this proportion. The proportion which improved land formed of the total land in farms increased from 41.9 to 82.5 per cent between 1850 and 1880. Between 1880 and 1890 there was a decrease in the total farm acreage as well as in that of improved land. In each decade since 1890 improved land increased in acreage. The proportion of farm land improved reached 86.2 per cent in 1910.

Values of farm property: 1850 to 1910.—The total wealth in the form of farm property is over \$3,900,000,000, of which 90.2 per cent is represented by land and buildings, 1.9 per cent by implements and machinery, and 7.9 per cent by live stock. The total value of farm property increased from 1900 to 1910 by over \$1,900,000,000, or 94.8 per cent. This was a greater absolute increase than that of the preceding half century, and a greater relative increase than during any other decade since 1860. The rate of increase of total value of farm property fell off at each census from 1850 to 1890. There have been very marked fluctuations in the decennial increases in value of domestic animals, the lowest increase being from 1890 to 1900.

Average acreage and values per farm: 1850 to 1910.—The average size of the Illinois farm decreased from 158 acres in 1850 to 123.8 acres in 1880. Since 1880 there has been a net increase of 5.3 acres. The average farm now contains 129.1 acres, and is larger than at any earlier census since 1860.

The average value of an Illinois farm, including its equipment, has grown during the last decade from \$7,588 to \$15,505, of which about \$14,

000 represents the value of land and buildings, \$1,226 the value of live stock, and \$293 the value of implements and machinery. During the last decade the average value of land and buildings per acre of land has increased \$54.48, or, in other words, has a little more than doubled. The value per farm of equipment, which includes implements and machinery and live stock, is nearly four times as great as it was 60 years ago.

Farm tenure: 1880 to 1910.—It is significant that the decrease of 12,279 in the total number of farms during the last decade is due entirely to a decrease of 12,960 in the number of farms operated by owners and managers, the number of those operated by tenants having increased 681.

In 1880 about thirty-one out of every one hundred Illinois farms were operated by tenants. This proportion increased during the following decades, and in 1910 about forty-one out of every one hundred farms were thus operated. Of these 41 tenant farms almost 15 were operated by cash tenants, including those with nonspecified tenure, and about 26 by share tenants and share-cash tenants.

Throughout the 30-year period, 1880 to 1910, the proportion of all farms operated by cash tenants (including those for which the form of tenure was not reported) has been increasing. Share tenants and share-cash tenants also show a net increase in proportion, though much less than cash tenants. In actual number of farms operated, cash tenants increased rapidly from 1880 to 1900, then decreased somewhat during the last decade. Share tenants' and share-cash tenants' farms, however, decreased considerably in number between 1880 and 1890, increased greatly during the next decade, and somewhat in the last 10 years. In 1880 share tenants and share-cash tenants were almost three times as numerous as cash tenants, including those with nonspecified tenure, and in 1910 they were considerably less than twice as numerous.

In 1910, 54.7 per cent of all land in farms was in farms operated by their owners (including part owners), 1.7 per cent in farms operated by managers, and 43.6 per cent in farms operated by tenants, the percentage for tenants and for managers being higher and that for owners lower than in 1900.

The average size of farms operated by managers in 1910 (234.1 acres) was nearly one and three-fourths times as great as that of farms operated by tenants (135.8 acres), which was in turn larger than that of farms operated by owners (122.6 acres). The average size of farms operated by tenants and by managers increased between 1900 and 1910, while that of farms operated by owners decreased. In 1910 the percentage of farm land improved was highest for farms operated by tenants and lowest for farms operated by managers.

(To be continued.)

VITOUX'S PERCHERON SALE.

As I will move out of the county, I will sell at public auction, at my home on the Lewis farm, 5 miles southwest of Martinton, commencing at 10 a. m. on

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25

11 HEAD OF HORSES—Roscoe II. (No. 63035) a black Percheron stallion 5 years old, he is a dandy, is registered in the Percheron Society of America, stud book, weight 1800. Cordia II. (No. 9037) a black Percheron stallion coming 2 years old, an extra good colt and the making of a ton horse, is also registered in the stud book of the Percheron Society of America, weight 1200. Delia. (No. 45206) a fine gray registered Percheron mare, mother of the above horses and now with foal, 12 years old and weighs 1750. Grisette. (No. 68036) an elegant dark gray registered Percheron mare, a colt of Delia, coming 4 years old, weight 1700. One 3/4 Belgian black mare, 7 years old, with foal, weight 1800; 1 black Percheron mare, 7 years old with foal, weight 1550; 1 black horse, 4 years old, weight 1350; 1 bay road colt, 3 years old, weight 900; 1 black Percheron colt, coming 2 years old; 2 black Percheron spring colts.

15 head of cattle.
One good Poland China brood sow, weight 450.

Full set farming implements, household furniture, etc.
TERMS—12 months time without interest. 7 per cent discount for cash. 7-2w V. M. VITOUX.

Effective Sunday, Sept. 15, 1912, and each Sunday thereafter, Chicago & Alton have \$1.00 excursion to Chicago, going No. 76 at 7:45 a. m., Sundays; returning No. 77 and 5, same date, at 4:15 p. m. and 9 p. m. H. L. Drennen, ticket agent.—Adv.

Statement of the condition of

The First National Bank Of Dwight

UNITED STATES DEPOSITARY

At the close of business February 4th, 1913

RESOURCES

Loans and Discounts	\$448,001.31
United States and other Bonds	103,812.78
Furniture and Fixtures	4,269.96
Real Estate	19,648.51
Cash and Due from Banks	94,910.94
	<hr/>
	\$670,643.50

LIABILITIES

Capital and Surplus	\$70,000.00
Undivided Profits	2,769.88
Circulation	42,650.00
Deposits	555,223.62
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	\$670,643.50

STATE OF ILLINOIS }
COUNTY OF LIVINGSTON } ss.

I, John J. Doherty, Cashier of the above named bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

JOHN J. DOHERTY, Cashier

Correct. Attest:

FRANK L. SMITH
JOE MILLER

CURTIS J. JUDD

Directors

Subscribed and sworn to before me
this 6th day of February, 1913.

R. D. GREGG

Notary Public

Mens' Overcoat Sale at \$15.00

In this sale are offered the most substantial Overcoat Bargains that you have ever seen. No better coats can be bought—they are cheap only in price.

THE MAKES INCLUDE

Hirsch Wickwire
W. S. Peck
Union Label

B. Kuppenheimer
Schaefer Brothers
Kohn Bros.

FORMER PRICES

\$35.00	\$32.50	\$30.00
\$27.50	\$25.00	\$20.00

Make Your Selection Now
at \$15.00

FUR COATS EXCLUDED

HEENAN'S
STREATOR, ILL.

LET US DO YOUR NEXT JOB OF PRINTING FOR YOU