A FEW THINGS ABOUT

RICE

AS GROWN ALONG THE
LINE OF THE

Southern Pacific...

....IN....

LOUISIANA
and TEXAS

PRESENTED BY
PASSENGER DEPARTMENT SOUTHERN PACIFIC
HOUSTON, TEXAS

A Few Things About Rice

AS GROWN ON LINE OF

SOUTHERN PACIFIC

IN

TEXAS AND LOUISIANA

PRESS OF
CUMMING & SONS
HOUSTON, TEXAS

PREFACE

All literature issued by railroads or individuals which is intended to attract immigration is naturally received with a greater or less degree of incredulity, because even with a most conscientious desire to state the facts, those who prepare it are prone unconsciously to color it and give it a tone of extravagance. There is peculiar danger of this result in literature dealing with such a subject as Texas, because the plain, obvious facts which are of common, every-day knowledge to Texas people frequently sound extravagant to those not familiar with conditions in that state.

In view of this fact, I have proffered to prepare this preface or introduction to this pamphlet as an act of service to my state. I do not represent the railroad company; have never done so. I have not an acre of land to sell as owner or agent. I have no investments to offer or trades to propose. I am not interested financially to the extent of a dollar in the work which is being so well done by the Southern Pacific-Sunset Route, but much of the statistical and other matter herein contained was prepared by me without compensation. I am familiar with the contents of this pamphlet, and every reader may confidently rely upon every statement contained therein.

It must be manifest to the most casual observer that the railroad company could not afford as a matter of policy, apart from a question of principle, to mis-state any fact or mislead or deceive any person. If it was detected in one false statement, whereby any immigrant or colony of immigrants was deceived, the report made by the victims of such deception would render worthless the work which has cost years of labor and thousands

of dollars to do. This pamphlet sets forth the truth, and every statement therein can be verified.

Neither Texas nor the railroad company wants any settler or citizen to come to that state under any misapprehension. There is no need to exaggerate or mis-state, because the plain unvarnished truth cannot fail to convince every man with intelligence enough to make his presence in Texas desirable that no state in the Union or no other land on earth presents so many attractions or possesses so many advantages.

Vast areas of fertile lands, a diversity of soil and climate and a capacity for prolific and varied production unequaled in the world, low taxation, free education absolutely assured for this and all coming generations, a safety to life and property are offered by her to homeseekers; and upon her merits she challenges the world in the race for agricultural and industrial supremacy.

NORMAN G. KITTRELL,
Judge Sixty-first Judicial District of Texas.

A NEW TEXAS CROP

What Rice Culture will do for the Coast Country

Mr. S. L. Cary, on Rice Possibilities.

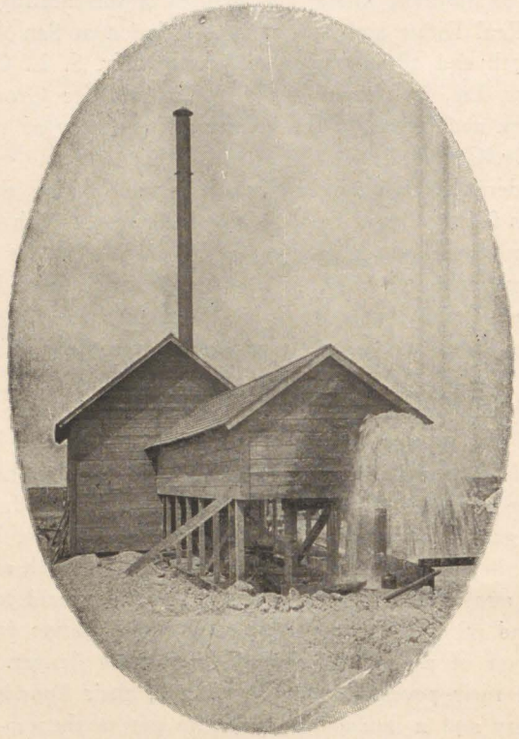
One of the most interesting features of the meeting of the Texas Real Estate and Industrial Association at San Antonio, June 27th and 28th, was an address by Mr. S. L. Cary, of Jennings, La., on the subject of "Modern Rice Growing in Louisiana and Texas." In reviewing the history of rice culture, Mr. Cary said:

"Modern rice growing is something new under the sun. Rice has fed the world from Adam to Roosevelt, with little or no improvement in its growing or its preparation for market from creation until A. D. 1884, when Maurice Brien brought his twine-binding harvester from Delaware county, Iowa, to Jennings, Louisiana, where it was used successfully in the rice fields.

"Eighteen years ago a few of us were growing one to five acres of rice in some low spot, trodden in the ground by Creole ponies or cultivated with a wood-tooth harrow, harvested with the sickle, threshed with mules and cleaned with a club. Today gang plows, press drills, 6,000-twine binding harvesters, threshers, and the largest and best mills on earth are placing on our home market the finest rice the world has ever seen; and all this was accomplished by immigration from the Northwest of people too poor to live there longer. They brought their poverty, their day's work, their knowledge of machinery and a laudable ambition to get to the top in any line presented.

"We have in Louisiana fifty rice mills, with 360,000 acres in rice; Texas has twenty mills, with over 200,000 acres in rice, and with several very large mills building by the largest importers of foreign rice on either side of the continent, and more to follow. Now capital is freely offered at reasonable rates.

"If the man who makes two blades of grass grow where one grew before is a public benefactor, what shall be said of the man who puts down a well and makes a farm? One thousand such wells are already in use, and it is found that for three hundred miles east and west, by fifty north and south, in Southwest Louisiana and Southeast Texas, these conditions exist. How much further will soon be determined. One six-inch well, a five-inch pump, with a fifteen-horse power engine—



Eight inch Well Irrigating 240 acres of Rice—Southern Pacific Sunset Route

cost of all $1,200 to $1,500—will flood from one hundred to one hundred and fifty acres of rice at a cost of $1.50 up to $2.50 per acre, and with results fully equal to the canals.

The most noted artesian wells of history, of great depth, could not furnish the amount of water we get from our shallow wells. The noted Crenelle, near Paris, 1798 feet deep, only furnishes 516 gallons a minute, while we get from 500 to 3,500 gallons in the same time. Seventy-five wells in the great Sahara yield 600,000 gallons an hour when united, while one of my pumps in Southwest Louisiana gives 1,000,000 gallons in the same time. Who can imagine the beauty and value of such a country, every acre a garden and every garden capable of almost perpetual cultivation?"

Mr. Cary told many instances of remarkable success.

"I know," he said, "of boys who have been working for from $5 to $20 per month who last year cleared from $500 to $2,000 each, and today are wearing store bought clothes, I know of single farmers who last year bought and paid for farm, improvements and machinery, and had enough money left to last until next harvest. Albert Anderson came from Maryville, N. D., one year ago, bought 195 acres in corporate limits of Jennings for $2,500, put in one eight-inch well and ninety acres in rice. The crop paid for the whole land, all improvements and expenses of crop. He has bought and put into rice three hundred acres and three more wells, and gone back to North Dakota after more people. The Maryville canal plant sold in 1899 from 2,000 acres $75,000 worth of rice and had 6,000 acres for 1900, including 3,700 for the company."

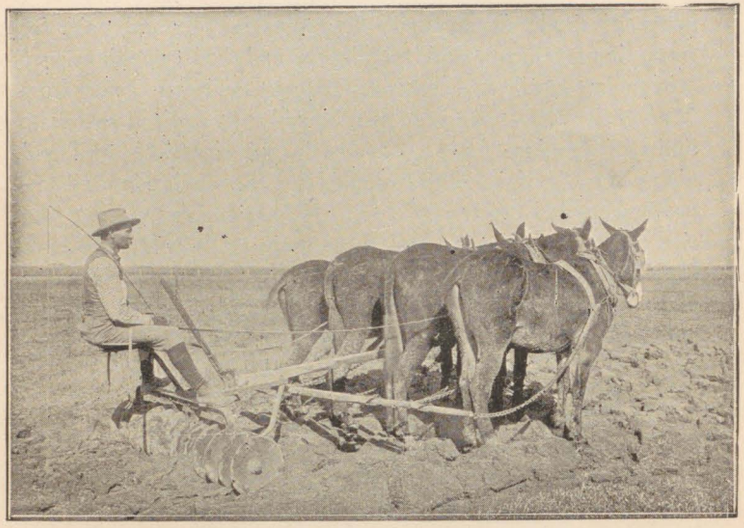
RICE GROWING.

The recent combinations by which a capital of $15,000,000 was added to the vast sum already interested in rice and the recent wonderful increase in Texas acreage devoted to the cultivation of the pearly grain has drawn general attention to the crop throughout the State. About thirty-five years ago the quantity of rice raised in Louisiana began to be worthy of attention and a considerable yearly increase was made until in 1896 the State produced 1,270,000 bags of clean rice, while last year the crop of Louisiana and Texas was 5,100,000 bags of clean rice.

The manner of cultivation changes with conditions and soil. The seed is usually sown with a seed driller in April and May. In wet culture the fields are flooded and plowed in

water, the rice is sown and harrowed in wet, after which the water is withdrawn and germination ensues.

Prairie rice lands in Louisiana and Texas have become, within the last ten years, an important feature. Owing to plenty of water, these lands have been very heavy producers. Gangplows, harrows, seeders, self-binders and the different sorts of machinery used in wheat culture in the Northwest are profitably used in the rice fields, and, with exception of the flooding of the fields, the culture and care of the two crops have much in common. The Louisiana experimental station



Harrowing Rice Field with Disc Harrow.

collected the expressions of a number of the most prominent rice growers, who agreed in the main on the following methods: The land is broken with four mule gang plows, reaching about three inches, although two to two and one-half inches is deep enough for sod. Disc and spring tooth harrows are used, and, where necessary, complete pulverization is secured by the use of a smoothing harrow. Should the ground be too hard, water is turned in to soften it. The stand is found more uniform where a drill is used, although the rice may be sown

broadcast. In moist, warm weather, water is not turned on for from four to six weeks, and then care is taken not to cover the tops. An average season requires three months' flooding.

The water is withdrawn from the fields when the heads begin to turn and the rice is passing into the "dough" stage. This is usually from ten to fourteen days before harvest begins.

Three horses with a modern self-binder will harvest from five to twelve acres daily. The same thresher used for oats will thresh rice. Where the farmer supplies the hands the thresher will usually charge two and one-half cents per bushel. In threshing from the shock something like seventeen men are required. Little fertilizer has been used thus far in rice culture, some claiming that after several years of rice growing, land shows no deterioration. The price of rice lands runs all the way from $10 to $50 per acre, and the yield per acre runs from ten to twenty bags.

RICE CULTURE.

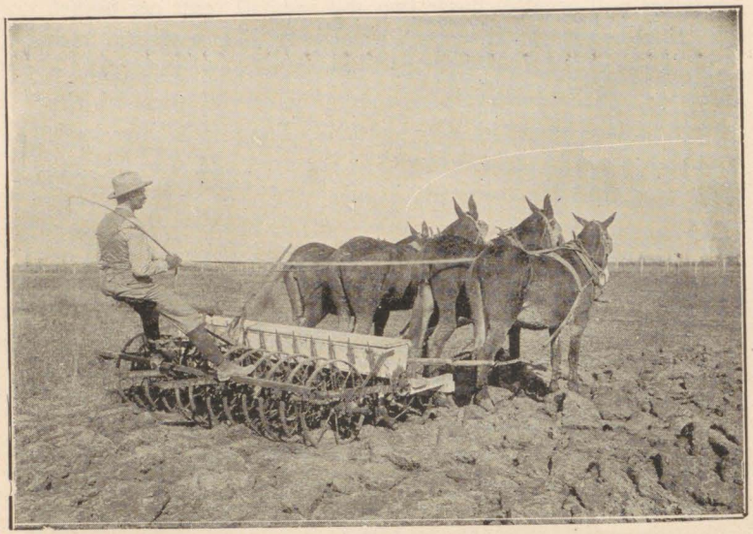
While scores of people throughout the length and breadth of our State and the United States hear of rice culture and read of the great profits and plenty it pours into the laps of the fortunate producers thereof, still these same scores of people are in blissful ignorance regarding the mode, methods and general details of this "king of all crops."

LANDS.

The first essential in the cultivation of all crops is selecting land suitable to the growing of the crop you desire to cultivate. In rice farming the lands must have a nearly level surface so that the water will stand evenly on the land and enable large fields to come under the smaller levees which hold the water on the land. The soil should be from four to fifteen inches in depth, under which must be clay so as to prevent the sinking of water into the earth. There are several other important reasons favoring shallow soil. The growth is not so rank, which gives a better head and less straw, the ground dries out more rapidly than deep soil, and the harvesting is much easier.

IRRIGATION.

Probably the greatest element in the transformation of the industry from a small and insignificant beginning to what is recognized today as one of the leading and best paying industries in the Southern States, may be found in the extensive system of irrigation that has been established in the last few years. The most sanguine believers in rice culture never expected to see the many inexhaustible streams and bayous, with



Drilling Rice on Sod Ground.

which the prairie region abounds, and which connect the large bodies of fresh water lakes and bays lying close to the Gulf coast, utilized for irrigation purposes, on account of the high lift from these streams, which, in many instances, is from twenty to sixty feet. In consequence, thousands upon thousands of acres of rice land that was supposed to be inaccessible for this purpose, have proven to be a "bonanza" to their owners. They have on this account suddenly developed an intrinsic value that readily places them by the side of the most valued agricultural lands in the United States. The development of rice culture requires considerable preparation and goes much further than planting and harvesting. In the first place, companies are organized to build the canals and put in the pumping machinery. This necessitates an outlay of from $50,000 to $300,000, according to amount of land to be irrigated.

RICE CANALS.

are constructed by building two parallel levees over the prairie, one hundred feet apart, and varying from three to eight feet in height. These levees are made the same as railroad dumps, except not so wide, and often extend four to six miles, and are termed lateral canals. Some canals have as many as six and eight laterals. The engineer, in locating the main canal and laterals, selects the highest lands, and hence some canals have many different courses. The object in clinging to the most elevated land is that all land will be below the level of the water in canal. Now, get pictured in your mind these parallel levees of the main canal, and branching off therefrom, the lateral canals, all of which penetrate, say, twenty thousand acres of land. The levees of the main canal begin on the bank of some inexhaustible stream, or its tributary, at which point the immense pumping plant is located. Whenever it becomes known that a rice canal is going to penetrate a certain territory, there is a rush for lands, and by the time the canal is finished, houses are completed and many farmers are engaged in breaking the sod. The two ten-gang plows and four large mules do the work. After plowing, the disc harrow is needed to cut the sod, and in April and May the sowing commences, and is done after the manner of wheat, oats and similar grain. The press drill or seeder can be used, but the drill is preferable, for it gives a more regular stand and ripens more evenly.

THE PUMPS.

started and a regular stream is sent boiling and foaming through the levees, filling them bank full The flood gates to the lateral canals are loosed and they are soon filled. You will note the water is now from one to six feet above the lands

The rice farmer from this time until harvest begins has only to watch his levees and cry out, "Give me water, water," to be irrigated. You behold field after field of rice, which resembles so many wheat fields in appearance, and which are now ready for the water. The canal superintendent goes from farm to farm and the flood gates from the main and lateral canals are lifted and thousands of gallons of water go pouring into the fields, which is held on the land by small levees constructed for this purpose, and with a view to have the water stand as evenly on the lands as possible.

Pumping Plant in Operation.

which he keeps up for about seventy days, the usual period of irrigation. The flood gates are now closed and the drainage gates opened.

HARVESTING.

begins as soon as the field dries sufficiently to permit the harvester to enter, which is from ten to fifteen days. The rice self-binder is identical with other grain harvesters, except

stronger, heavier, and with broad wheels to prevent cutting into the soft earth. The rice straw is larger and the yield of grain greater than wheat, hence the increased strength of machinery. Rice is shocked and permitted to stand for about twenty days, when it is either stacked or threshed from the shock.

THRESHING.

proceeds just as with wheat or oats. There is but little difference between the rice and wheat thresher. The charges per bushel are practically the same. Rice is sacked at the machine, and the average weight is one hundred and sixty-two pounds. It is not unsacked until emptied into the bin at the rice mill, for the reason that each field may have a different grade, and hence it is sold in lots. The unloading of a field of red rice into an elevator of pure white rice would depreciate in value the entire lot, hence the handling of the crop in sacks. Rice is sold by the sack, which weighs one hundred and sixty-two pounds.

THE YIELD.

It is difficult to determine the exact average yield of rice, but it is safe to calculate, however, when an abundance of water is at hand, the average yield will run quite twelve barrels per acre. Some farmers greatly exceed this, and I shall show herein some top crops as a possibility to those who have the best seed, land and plenty of water.

MARKETING

Rice warehouses are found in all the towns in the rice growing territory, for the farmers who desire to ship to the larger markets. This method, however, has been largely superseded by the rice mills, which have located in the towns, and either buy the crops or mill and sell the rice, for which they charge forty cents a barrel and also retain the bran and polish. The rice planter has, therefore, the opportunity of milling and selling his own crop, or the mill will do it for him, or he can dispose of it to the highest bidder "in the rough."

PROFITS.

Now we have reached the vital part of rice culture, and which, of course, influences all business enterprises. The first consideration is given to calculating the cost and the profit. No wise man ever embarked in an undertaking without weighing well these two points. One man can easily handle one hundred acres of land. Some handle a hundred and fifty. The cost per acre, including water rent, is about $10. If you are a tenant add $7 more for land rent, and your total cost is about $17. The average price of rice is $3 per barrel, and with an average yield you have $36 an acre, or $19 profit per acre, or $1,900 from one hundred acres. These figures are conservative, and many farmers make much more.

In an interview printed in one of the newspapers a few days since, attention was called to a fact in connection with the inducements that hold out to investors that cannot be too frequently repeated. That fact is, that in most instances agricultural lands in Texas and Louisiana can be bought at prices that do not more than equal the value of a single crop. So far as we know this is true of no other section of the country, and it ought to demonstrate to the world at large the immense fortunes that are yet to be made in such investments.

It would, perhaps, be unfortunate if such a statement of facts should lead to the purchase of this land for purely speculative purposes by alien corporations, but that is what must inevitably take place, unless homeseekers and our own people awaken to the possibilities in this line and avail themselves of the opportunities everywhere before them. Such a state of affairs cannot possibly be allowed to exist very long, now that attention is being directed to it, and it would be well if the young men of the State should provide themselves with homes against the inevitable time of high prices. Lands in the North and West that are not so productive as is much of that selling in Louisiana today at from $2.50 to $10 per acre, sell readily for $100 and $200, and with the movement that has already set in towards Louisiana and Texas, we may look for a steady rise in the price of our cheap lands, and a time not far distant when they will be rated in price by the value of the crop that they are capable of producing.

When this takes place, they will be beyond the reach of the poor man. In view of this fact, which is sure to take place, it is well that the young men of the State who have not yet acquired homes, should be warned of what is ahead of them. Invest in Louisiana soil, young men, even if it is necessary to buy it on credit; and in the years that are immediately ahead you will have a home and an investment that will pay better than the most gilt-edged stocks or bonds. The day is at hand when a title to a home in these States will be a luxury which only the rich will be able to indulge.

Another table from the last census places Louisiana and Texas largely ahead of any other States in the per cent of value of the annual crop per acre to the investment or cost.

The difference between rice culture and other agricultural pursuits is that a rice planter grows nothing else. He does not want to do so, for the product from one acre of rice will buy several acres of corn, oats, or hayseed. Therefore, he buys all his feedstuff, except, possibly, a portion of his rice straw, which, when properly saved and cured, is used instead of hay. The rice farmer is not a competitor, as regards any other crop grown in our State. In fact, he has gone onto lands heretofore unoccupied, and being a good consumer, he is creating a market for great quantities of corn, oats and hay. In fact, he goes further than this, and buys practically everything to eat and wear. He can afford to. Rice farming also takes just that much corn and cotton land from use for these crops, and pushes up the notch of diversification as regards these States.

Thousands of acres are rented to tenants for crop rent, and there is no crop grown that pays them so well. There is no road to a home quicker than rice farming. It is nothing uncommon for tenants to buy their own farms with the results of one year's work.

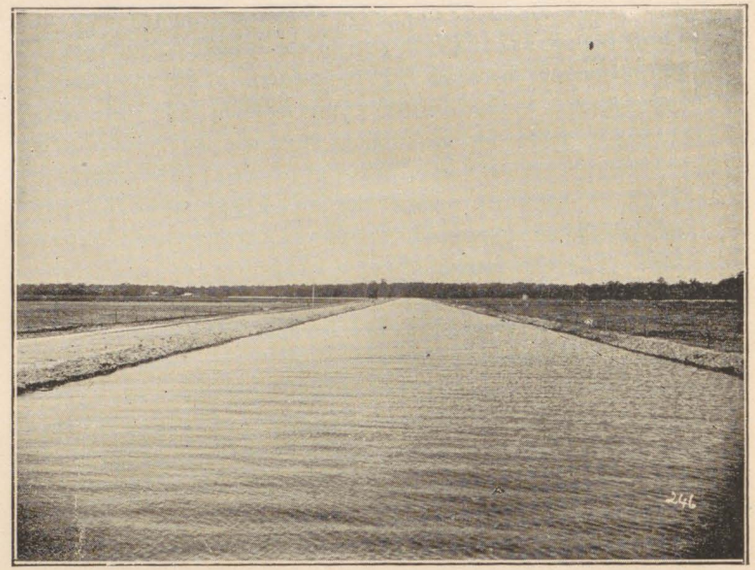
W. C. MOORE.

SOME COMPARISONS

Louisiana	100.9
Illinois	13.2
Tennessee	25.7
Indiana	15.9

Alabama	45.2
Wisconsin	14.3
Mississippi	44.4
Nebraska	16.7
Virginia	22.7
New Jersey	50.5
Vermont	20.3

These tables say plainly that our prices are one-fourth what they should be. Why is this so? Prejudice on account of



Rice Irrigating Canal.

past conditions and ignorance of the present, the most favorable and changed conditions. The prejudices of the past were unfouded. The ignorance of the present conditions is inexcusable.

To be subject to the powers that be, and to be content with our lot, has yet a greater influence upon the masses than honest doubt and personal investigation. We cling blindly to the heavy burdens that we have always carried, and scorn

easier conditions. We let others do our thinking and are too lazy to move.

Another hindrance to correct prices is the wonderful modesty of our settlers, who do not advise their friends of the good things they have found. Like the old rat in the cheese, they want it all, and refuse to let their lights shine. We are conservatives. The times and conditions demand radicals. The key to the situation is small farms and higher prices.

VALUE OF RICE AS A FOOD.

New York Commercial.

In view of the gradually increasing amount of capital which is being invested each year in the rice fields of Louisiana and Texas, and almost limitless commercial expansion which that industry holds out to the rice interests of this country, the question of the preparation of the cereal by the mills has now become a problem of importance.

The rice of commerce of the United States is milled by modern machinery the hulls being removed by rapidly revolving millstones and separated from the grains by screens and blowers. Other hullers remove the smaller particles and the flour and bran are separated. Then comes the polishing of the rice, which gives it a fine, glossy luster or pearly appearance, and makes it sell at a higher price on the market. This process, however, is really detrimental to the grain as a food product. It lessens the nutritive value by removing four-fifths of the essential oils and flavor besides 25 to 30 per cent of the frame building material.

All the nations which use rice as a standard food, and this includes more than half the people of the earth, use it without polishing, so as to retain all the flavor and nutrients. The effect of a rice diet on the Japanese and Chinese is reflected in their great energy and endurance. They are peoples of strong nerves, equable temper and wonderful physical vigor. They have energy without irritation, and perseverance without periodic collapse.

Rice possesses healing and curative properties to a greater degree than any other cereal, owing chiefly to its digestibility and nerve-building qualities, rice diet being known to be of

the greatest conceivable assistance to nature, restoring the system from the ravages of dyspepsia, indigestion and their various attending evils. The absence of such diseases in countries where rice is the principal article of food speaks for itself.

How to secure the most perfect nutrition is an important problem. With proper nutrition the human system will right itself under attacks of diseases, and normal conditions will soon be restored. For economy, for health and for vigor there must be a proper ratio between the frame building and energy producing constituents of food. As a rule foods are selected for the gratification of the taste rather than for the valuable nutrients they possess.

FOOD VALUE OF RICE AND POTATOES.

(Extracts From Reports of United States Department of Agriculture.)

COMPARATIVE ANALYSES OF

POTATOES		RICE
78.3	Water	12.4
2.2	Protein	7.4
.1	Fat	.4
18.4	Starch	79.4
1.0	Mineral Matter	.4
100%		100%
375	Fuel Value per pound	1630

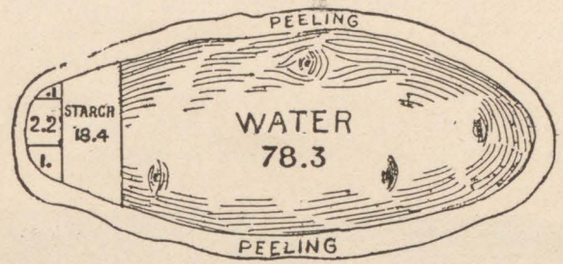
"In very many American families a considerable part of the money spent for food is wasted. In some cases excessive quantities of food are bought, while in other cases the expenditure, though ample, fails to provide adequate nourishment. There is opportunity, therefore, for material improvement of the diet to the advantage of both health and purse. By a wiser selection of food materials, based upon knowledge of actual nutritive value, a more satisfactory diet could be secured, which would be better adapted to the physical needs of the individual and at the same time be more economical."

POTATOES.

It appears from the figures quoted above, potatoes contain a large amount of water—78.3 per cent. As potatoes are com

monly eaten, a good deal of the flesh or edible portion is rejected with the skins. When they are rough from defects in growth, or from shrinking and shriveling after keeping, the amount of flesh cut off in the peeling is larger still.

In the table of analyses published in the late bulletins of this department, the amount of refuse and edible portion rejected with it is estimated at 20 per cent. of the whole, and the edible portion left as 80 per cent. Doubtless in many cases, *the rejected portion is very much larger.* The loss of actual nutriment of the potato by the rejection of so much of the edible portion with the skin, is a much more important matter from a standpoint of nutritive economy than people generally realize.

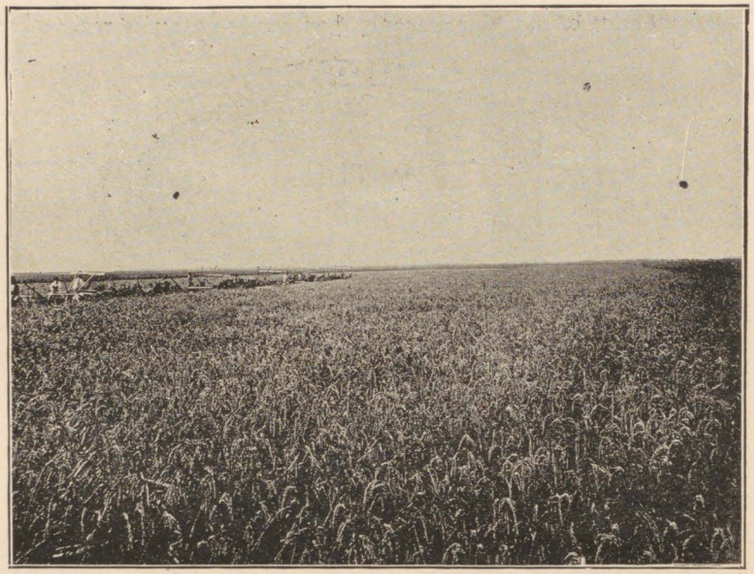


Carbohydrates (or starch) are sources of energy and cannot serve for the building and repairing of body tissues. Protein is necessary for this purpose, since it alone of the nutrients contains nitrogen, the characteristic element of the body tissue. In addition to this, protein serves as a source of energy, and thus while the body could not be nourished on carbohydrates alone, it could, theoretically, on protein, since that nutrient combines the two functions of food. This deficiency in protein in the potato is another matter which people generally do not appreciate; it helps to explain why large numbers of the country population of Ireland and Germany, whose food consists chiefly of potatoes, are so poorly fed.

RICE.

Among cereals and grains, rice unquestionably stands first in importance in regard to the number of persons who consume it, the area devoted to its cultivation, and the amount annually produced thereon in the whole world. It has been stated that rice forms the principal, and in some cases almost the only, food

of from *one-third to one-half of the whole human race,* a statement which cannot be made of any other edible product, except perhaps of meat. China and its dependencies have a population of about 404,000,000, or 27.5% of the total population of the globe, and rice certainly forms the principal food supply of its people. The same may be said of India, with its population of 273,000,000 or 18.6% of the total population. Statistics have shown that in Japan, which has a population of 39,000,000, rice forms 51% of the total sustenance. The population of the



Field of Rice.

principal remaining rice-consuming countries of Asia and Africa may be roughly estimated at about 80,000,000, and the total of the above figures reaches the sum of 796,000,000 people, or 54.2% of the total population of the earth.

Rice contains about 12% of water. Although the protein of rice is much higher than that of potatoes (being on an average of 8%) the carbohydrates make up the bulk of the nutrient material, and like potatoes, rice is classed as a carbohydrate food. Potatoes as purchased consist of ONE-FIFTH and rice

broken or ground. The usual method of cooking it is by boiling in water, though in some Asiatic countries it is simply parched or roasted, whereby part of its starch is converted into dextrine.

COOKING RICE.

Strange to say, except in the Southern States, the proper method of cooking rice does not seem to be understood in this country. It comes to the table as an uninviting, glutinous mass, instead of being, as it should be, one of the most appetizing dishes in appearance, with each snow-white grain distinct and separate from the rest. The great secret of the proper cooking of rice lies in allowing plenty of water, yet not too much; in not boiling for too long a time, and in not breaking the grains by stirring during the time of boiling. The rice should be washed in three or four changes of water to remove adhering rice flour, dust, etc., and should be boiled only until the grain is well softened; after this the water should be poured off, the vessel tightly closed and the rice allowed to steam.

A HIGH PRICE FOR WATER.

Referring to the preceding analyses: A bushel of potatoes at a price of $1.00 per bushel, when the 20% of waste matter is deducted, makes a bushel of *edible* potatoes worth $1.20; of this 78.3% is water, which leaves about thirteen pounds of nutritive value, or an average of nearly ten cents per pound. IN OTHER WORDS, THE CONSUMER PAYS OUT 94 CENTS FOR WATER. Rice, with 79% starch, 7% protein, and only 12% water, is today decidedly a more nutritious and economical food, at considerable less price.

MORAL—EAT RICE.

THE TRUTH ABOUT TEXAS.

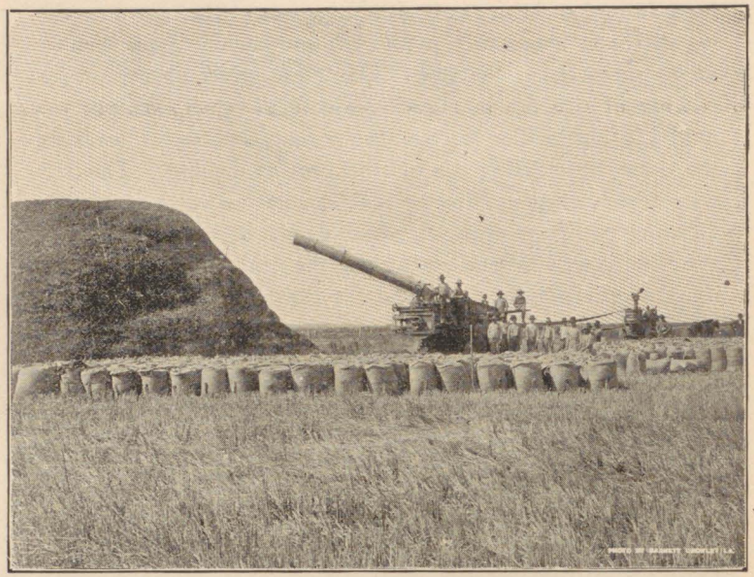
(Written for the Investor and Homeseeker by Norman G. Kittrell, Judge of the 61st Judicial District of Texas.)

Those who have never been in Texas often read with a large measure of incredulity the literature issued by the railroad companies and real estate agents and others financially interested in inducing immigration and selling lands, and this is true be-

SEVEN-EIGHTHS of nutritive material. Considering the two articles as ordinarily purchased FOUR AND ONE-HALF pounds of raw potatoes and ONE pound of rice contain nearly equal weight of each class of nutrients and have about the same nutritive value.

Tables show rice to be fully as digestible as wheat flour or Indian meal, and more so than bread or potatoes.

Rice is used for food in all forms, the grains being whole,



Rice Threshers at Work.

cause the plain, uncolored truth about a State of such vast area and great resources as Texas naturally sounds extravagant to one not familiar with actual conditions.

This being true, it has occurred to me that a plain statement, based on authentic official statistics, compiled from official sources, and made by one who is not employed by any railroad company or real estate or immigration association, nor directly or indirectly interested in either, and who has no lands to sell, no trades to propose or investment to offer, and who has neither promise, expectation or desire of financial reward for the labor, but who writes solely from a desire to do his "State more

service," might prove helpful to many interested in knowing the truth about this great State.

In such a spirit, under such circumstances, and with such purpose, the following statement is set forth:

AREA OF TEXAS.

Texas contains 265,780 square miles, or an area 17,660 square miles greater than the combined area of New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Illinois and Iowa, and greater than that of either France or the German Empire.

THE GROWTH OF THE STATE.

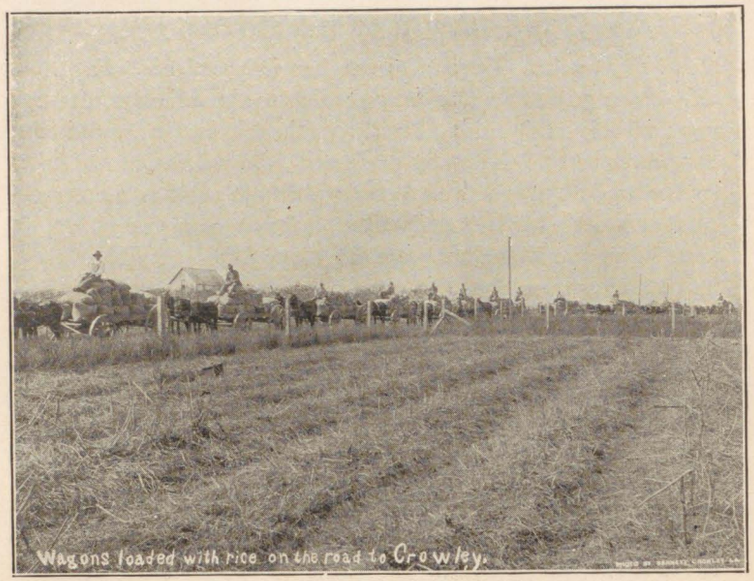
In 1836, when Texas achieved her independence, she had only about 30,000 population, according to the estimates of the most reliable authorities. In 1870 (though in the meantime her people had taken part in two wars), the population had increased to 818,579; and in 1900 to 3,082,288, and as the same ratio of increase has been maintained, it is now more than 3,300,000. The taxable values were, in 1870, $170,473,478, while in 1900 they were $914,007,924, and in 1902 $1,017,511,732, and upon the same ratio of increase are now $1,069,263,636. In 1870 Texas had but 711 miles of railway; in 1900 9,784 miles, and in 1901 10,153 miles, and in 1903 11,105 miles, representing, on a low estimate, an investment of $150,000,000. Such a record of increase in population, wealth and permanent investment has no parallel in the United States. Careful, conservative business men do not pour millions into a State where capital is not welcome, and where it is not protected, not only by wise laws, but by healthy and conservative public sentiment.

In 1896 Texas produced 2,247,554 bales of cotton; in 1900 she produced 3,808,568 bales—one-third of the cotton crop of the United States, and one-fourth of that of the world.

Official statistics prove that in 1900, with only one-fifteenth of her arable land in cultivation, Texas produced one-twelfth in value of the entire farm products of the United States; therefore, had all her arable land been tilled, she would have produced one and one-forth times as much as every State in the Union combined. In production of sugar she stands second only to Louisiana. The largest sugar plantation and refinery in the South are twenty-five miles south of Houston, on the Southern Pacific Railroad.

In 1895 only 2,000 acres of rice were grown in Texas; in 1903 there were 250,000 acres, and in 1902 there was grown within a radius of 100 miles of Houston, on the line of the Southern Pacific Railroad, 7,000,000 bushels of rice.

Many people outside of Texas have an idea that Texas is a treeless plain, yet in 1901 she produced 800,000,000 square feet of pine lumber, and for 1903 her output was approximately 1,000,000,000 square feet.



Wagons Carrying Rough Rice to Mill.

Despite adverse seasons, the wheat crop of the present year approximates an average of twenty-five bushels to the acre, one county producing 2,000,000 bushels, besides large crops of corn, oats and cotton.

Recent thorough and scientific tests and experiments by United States government experts have proved that the tobacco grown in Nacogdoches and contiguous counties in East Texas is equal in every respect to the best grown in Cuba, and the United States government has established a central tobacco warehouse at Nacogdoches for curing tobacco produced in that section.

In 1899 there were shipped from East Texas 300 carloads of watermelons, peaches, strawberries and vegetables. In 1902 there were shipped from the same territory 4,859 carloads.

There is in Cherokee County, which is traversed by one of the affiliated lines of the Southern Pacific System, the largest and purest deposit of brown hematite iron ore in the world, and along the line of the Southern Pacific Railroad in Jefferson and Hardin Counties there are the largest oil fields in the world, those of Russia not excepted.

In 1901 Texas had more cattle within her limits than any other State in the Union—6,892,825 head.

The widely prevalent idea that the heat in Texas is intense and unhealthful is most erroneous. The constant strong breeze from the Gulf of Mexico is felt throughout the entire State. A hot night is exceedingly rare, and the literal truth is stated when it is said that a death by sunstroke is as rare as a death by lightning.

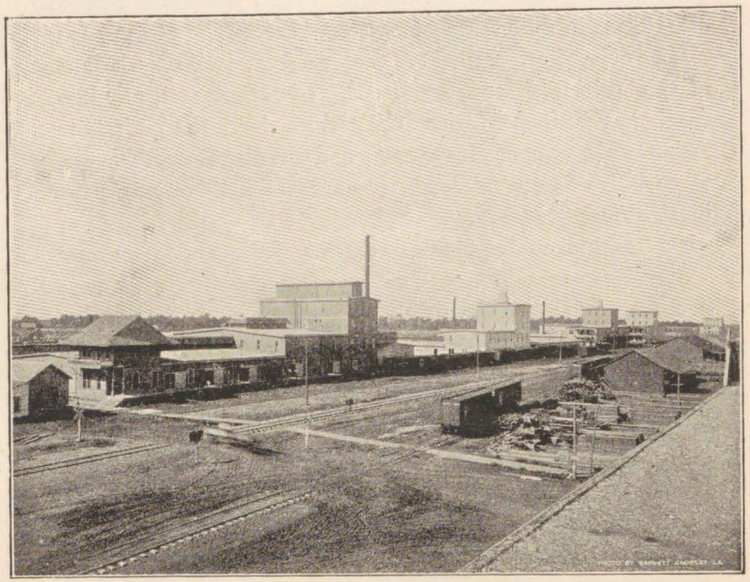
So much for the physical characteristics and resources of Texas, and we will now look at what may be justly termed her social and moral features.

The homestead of the family, nor the household furniture, nor work stock, nor family supplies can be taken for debt in Texas, but are absolutely exempt from forced sale. No subsidy can be voted or granted for any purpose, and no bonded debt created by any county, town or city except by vote of the tax-payers. The law is rigidly enforced, and the white and black man alike are guaranteed a fair trial. There has never been a charge of corruption against a judicial officer in Texas, nor a defalcation to the extent of a dollar on the part of any executive officer of the State.

Children of the present generation and of generations yet unborn are absolutely guaranteed a free education, because the permanent free school fund amounts now (and is rapidly increasing in value) to $42,817,730.53, from the interest upon which and proceeds of low taxation, over 700,000 children are taught in 11,092 public free schools. White and colored schools are entirely separate. Texas has a munificently endowed university, three normal training schools for white teachers, and one for colored teachers, and an A. & M. College, all supported by appropriations from the State treasury.

Despite the large expenditures necessary for maintenance of these institutions and the State government, the tax rate is for general revenue only 16 2-3 cents on the $100.00, and 18 cents for school tax—only three States in the Union having a lower tax rate.

These plain facts need neither argument to support nor rhetoric to embellish them. Every man with intelligence enough to make his presence as a citizen desirable can read in them,



Rice Mills.

that Texas possesses every material and moral element and incident which makes for law, order, prosperity and progress. This statement is submitted with the request that if any reader of it doubts its accuracy, he will inquire of any executive or judicial officer of Texas as to whether he who has prepared it has written the truth.

NORMAN G. KITTRELL,
Judge 61st Judicial District of Texas.

HOME-SEEKERS RATES

TO THE OLD STATES

The RICE FIELDS

OF

LOUISIANA

AND

TEXAS

Southern Pacific—Sunset Route


SOUTHERN
SUNSET
ROUTE
PACIFIC