

U. S. Wealth 353 Billion.

National wealth in 1922 was placed at \$353,000,000,000 and national income for 1922 at \$70,000,000,000, in a special report by the Federal Trade Commission, made public on Tuesday in response to a Senate resolution. While the increase in wealth between 1912 and 1922 measured in dol-

lars amounted to 72 per cent, the commission said, the real increase would be 16 per cent., allowing for changes in purchasing power of the dollar; and would compare with about 15 per cent. increase in population.

—The "Watchman" is the best letter you can send a friend away from home.

POWER OF KING COTTON GROWING

Night and Day Average Man Seldom Escapes Potentate's Influence.

Washington.—The serious prediction of chemists that within a few years we may order palatable "synthetic beefsteak" made from cottonseed, fixes a royal personage more firmly on his throne—his majesty, Gossypium Hirsutum, otherwise known as King Cotton. Something of this potentate's power in the world is told in a bulletin from the Washington (D. C.) headquarters of the National Geographic society.

"Night and day the average man seldom escapes the influence of King Cotton," says the bulletin. "He sleeps between cotton sheets on a mattress stuffed with the fluffy white fibers. After he discards his cotton pajamas and takes his morning bath, he uses a Turkish towel made of cotton; he dons cotton underclothes; and if it is summer, he probably wears outer garments at least partly made of cotton. The celluloid comb and brush which he uses in making his toilet, and even the handle of his toothbrush are probably made from the same indispensable fiber.

Under Scepter In Home and Office.
"Breakfast is not entirely cottonless even though the table is spread with linen. If margarin is used instead of butter it is probably made largely from cotton-seed oil; while the same oil or solid shortening made from it may be used in griddle cakes, biscuits or muffins. The morning paper, too, which Mr. Average Man thumbs through is dependent on cotton for the film from which its photographs were made.

"If he motors to town, he rides on tires that could not be made so cheap and strong and durable except for their 'carcasses' of cotton fabric or cords. Perhaps the upholstery, the brake-linings, and even the lacquer finish on the car have drawn upon cotton as raw materials. Arrived at his office he makes use of cotton in some of his stationery, his telephone insulation, his typewriter ribbons, his window cords, his shades, and probably in numerous other ways.

"Mrs. Average Woman leans even more heavily on the royal and potent Gossypium Hirsutum. The shelves of her linen closet are stacked high with white cotton goods used in bed and bath rooms. In her clothes closets hang dress after dress of the same material, while her dresser drawers are filled with cotton garments. Her dishes are dried on cotton dish cloths, her laundry (itself largely cotton) hangs on cotton lines, she darns and mends with cotton thread, and retires for the night to sleep in and between and upon cotton.

"From where does this indispensable cotton come?
"Most of it from American cotton fields of the South and Southwest. Crop Worth a Billion.

"The little plants which will supply the great American cotton crop of 1928 ('great' because even in poor years American cotton is seldom worth less than a billion dollars) are growing in rows three to four feet apart. They are planted rather thickly; but when they are several inches tall the farmers and their laborers go along the rows with hoes chopping out surplus seedlings, and incidentally, weeds and grass, leaving the plants from 12 to 18 inches apart.

"After this most of the cultivation is given with broad shallow plows and riding cultivators. Under the warmth of the Southern spring and summer the plants grow rapidly. When they reach maturity each is virtually a sturdy little tree three to four feet high, its branches touching those of its neighbors in its row and almost meeting the branches from plants in rows on either side.

"Cotton-picking time is as much a nature-marked season in the South as is the overflow of the Nile in Egypt or the appearance of the summer sun in the Arctic. The work appeals to the Southern negro. Industries lose their employees, housewives their maids, when the late summer exodus to the cotton fields begins. Many of the pickers camp out for weeks near the fields in which they work and look upon the outing as a sort of holiday. Even children and aged persons take part in the work, dragging their canvas sacks behind them.

"Approximately two-thirds by weight of 'seed cotton'—the cotton as it comes from the bolls—is seed, one-third lint or fiber. The latter adheres tightly to the seed, growing out from all parts of it in tiny white hairs. To separate lint from seed the seed cotton must be passed through a 'gin.' Numerous whirling saws tear the fiber from the seeds. The latter drop into chutes which carry them to huge grass-green piles in the seed room. The lint passes on belt conveyors in a broad endless stream to the presses where it is squeezed into bales weighing approximately 500 pounds.

"Until after the Civil war the value of cotton seed was not recognized. Millions of tons were burnt, thrown aside to rot, or shoveled into rivers. Now the seed from between three and four bales of cotton are worth as much as a bale of the fiber.

"The United States is the world's greatest cotton producer, furnishing more than half of the total crop, usually from 10,000,000 to 16,000,000 bales. A single state, Texas, produces about one-third of the American crop, or about one-sixth of the world crop."

RECORDS OF CIVILIZED RACE OF 4,000 YEARS AGO FOUND

Hurri, Hitherto Unknown, Sought In Vain to Prevent Rise of Capitalism.

Philadelphia.—Records of an ancient race, whose civilization vied with that of the Hittites and Egyptians as they lived in the shadow of the Tower of Babel, were revealed by speakers before the American Oriental society.

Dr. E. A. Spelzer and Prof. Edward Chiera of the University of Pennsylvania made the report after a year of study of a thousand clay tablets uncovered in southern Mesopotamia. The race, said to have existed 4,000 years ago, heretofore, had been unknown to archeologists. It is known as the Hurri, and the translation of the tablets was expected by the savants attending the meeting to add a new page to ancient history.

"This race," said Doctor Spelzer, "had a law against the direct sale of land. However, much as they tried to legislate against the growth of a capitalistic class, the effort failed. Land owners adopted those whose land they wished to obtain. As a result huge land tracts were under one family's jurisdiction. A man had a perfect right to kill his slaves, suffering no consequences whatever."

The tablets, the translation of which has just been completed, cover a period of five generations in one family.

Report of the discovery of two burial tablets, tending to bear out the traditional story of the burial of the bodies of Peter and Paul by Orientals on the Appian Way, near Rome, as related in the apocryphal writings, was made by Prof. Romaine Newbold.

The tablets, he said, bearing Aramaic inscriptions, were found in the Church of San Sebastian, on the Via Appia, about three miles from Rome. They are declared to be the first inscriptions in Aramaic found in Italy, and prove, he believes, there were Orientals in Italy during the First century of the Christian era.

Excavators found the tablets buried 80 feet deep. Translation revealed that they were placed there by an Oriental slave woman named Pecora, who buried her master and mistress there and who erected the tablets as grave markers. The master and mistress of this slave, Professor Newbold believes, were early Christians of the so-called Gnostic sect which tried to gain control of the Roman church.

Professor Newbold said the earliest date on which the burial of Peter and Paul by Orientals is recorded is around 258 A. D. and that the tradition has been accepted by the Roman Catholic church. Latin inscriptions invoking the blessings of Peter and Paul by the earlier Christians of the Third and Fourth centuries have been found frequently. None of them, however, attests to the presence of Orientals.

Secretary of Labor Is Listed as a "Fruitarian"



Secretary of Labor Davis is listed as a "fruitarian," as he lunches on apples, bananas and other fresh fruits, munching them on his way back to his desk after a noontime stroll. In this photograph the secretary was caught in the act of buying his lunch at a corner fruit wagon.

Call Moose, Deer Pests, So Many in North Woods

St. Paul, Minn.—Moose and deer so thick and so tame that they are a nuisance to his reconnaissance crew, were seen by A. E. Pimply, state chief of fire suppression, while on a six weeks' stay in the Canadian border country of Minnesota.

"We saw scores of moose and signs of many more," said Mr. Pimply. "If anyone thinks the king of the forest is fading in Minnesota, he should visit this part of the big woods. The deer were running in groups as high as ten. Both moose and deer were very tame."

The expedition was conducted by the forestry service to obtain data on state-owned timber.

Notes were made on locations for lake shore homesites and tourist camps and the conditions were studied from a fire hazard angle. The crew worked in the territory about twenty-five miles north of Grand Marais.

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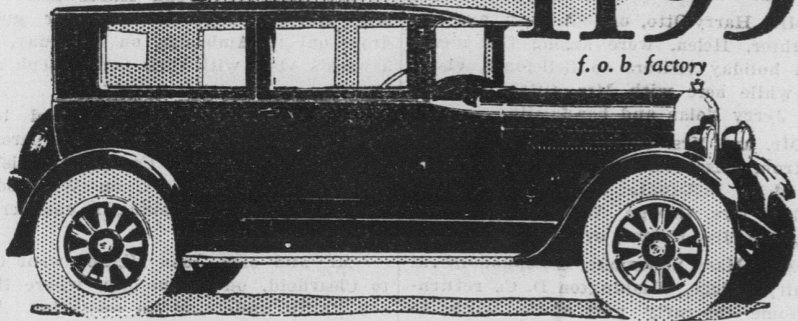
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