

**GREAT IS THE  
AMERICAN FARMER.**

GUY ELIOT MITCHELL,

Secretary Wilson's report to the President on the present condition of the American farmer and of the work of his Department is the most remarkable statement of a great people's prosperity which has probably ever been issued since time began. The Secretary

the highest value ever before reached. While only one crop, corn, reached its highest production this year, four crops—corn, hay, wheat, and rice—reached their highest value.

**Value of the Dairy Cow.**

No crop but corn produces the in-

able increases in bank deposits in agricultural States and the increase in the number of small country banks are directly and indirectly because of the profits that have come to the farmers.

**Weather Bureau Work.**

The report presents the work accomplished by the Weather Bureau for



**ASST. SECRETARY HAYS.**

the benefit of the farmers, mariners, and manufacturers, and points out that with all the development of this work the average per annum increase in the cost of the service for the past ten years is but 4.1 per cent.

**Suppression of Diseases of Animals.**

Of the Bureau of Animal Industry the Secretary says that the work of fighting contagious diseases of animals has been unremittingly carried on. The report refers in detail to the principal diseases which have been made the subject of study, and concludes that in every case the efforts of the Bureau have been attended with a more satisfactory control or complete eradication. He commends highly the skill

ing to our cereal products and prepared meats. The latter included a systematic examination of canned goods. Its practical experiments have developed the fact that, without exception, the addition of the ordinary preservatives to foods is prejudicial to health. The Secretary argues the need of protecting the public from these evil effects by legislation.

**Soil Surveys and Soil Studies.**

In spite of the activity of the Bureau of Soils, there are on file at the present time requests for mapping 215 counties in 40 States and territories. The surveys already made aggregate 63,000,000 acres in 44 States and territories. The soils adapted to spe-



**PROF. GALLOWAY.**

Chief of the Bureau of Plant Industry. cial crops such as the grape, the apple, citrus fruits, the sugar beet, alfalfa, rice, corn, cotton, etc., have all been made subjects of special study based on the field surveys. The investiga-



**MR. PINCHOT, CHIEF OF THE BUREAU OF FORESTRY.**

and energy which characterized the suppression of foot-and-mouth disease in the New England States in 1902 and 1903.

**Plant Diseases and Plant Breeding.**

The Bureau of Plant Industry is organized into eleven offices and employs over 500 persons, about 60 per cent. of whom are engaged in distinctly scientific work.

In its systematic work in securing new plants and seeds from foreign countries the Bureau of Plant Industry has been highly successful. Success has also attended its work in cotton breeding, undertaken with the view to obtaining new sorts combining improved length of staple with productiveness. The Secretary records the production of a new citrus fruit, the citrange, several varieties of which—the Rusk, the Willets, the Morton—have been developed. Another interesting product is the new tangelo, a hybrid of the pomelo or grape fruit, and the tangerine orange.

Very considerable importance is recorded in the manner of seed distribution. A special feature has been the encouragement of school-garden work thereby.

**Growth of the Forest Service.**

An important achievement in Forestry during the past few years has been to enlist the sympathy and cooperation of lumbermen and forest owners, and the Secretary urges that the work of education continue until

tions of the Bureau into the question of all fertility and manure requirements have attracted general attention and much comment.

**The Cotton Boll Weevil.**

In the work of the Bureau of Entomology considerable space is de-



**PROF. WHITNEY.**

Chief of the Bureau of Soils. voted to the Mexican cotton boll weevil. The subject of dissemination of the weevil through cotton gins has been very carefully investigated, and



**DR. HOWARD.**

Chief of the Bureau of Entomology. public opinion will not tolerate heedless waste or injudicious loss. In the saving of waste the Service has added vastly more to the National wealth than its total expenditures during its entire history. The control of the forest reserves, embracing property worth in cash at least \$250,000,000, has been transferred to the Forest Service. The Service continues to afford important aid to private forest owners.

**Chemical Investigations.**

The Bureau of Chemistry has conducted important investigations relat-

**DR. MERRIAM.** Chief of the Bureau of Biological Survey. important results have been obtained, resulting in recommendations to the ginners calculated to greatly reduce this danger.

**Beneficial Insects Introduced.**

Work has been done by the Bureau of Entomology in the introduction of the fig fertilizing insect of South Europe, the introduction of a parasite of the black scale so injurious to citrus and olive crops in California from South Africa, and the introduction with success in the Southern States

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of a parasite of the San Jose scale from China.

**Life Zones and Crop Zones.**

The work of the Bureau of Biological Survey includes the determination of the boundaries of the natural life zones of the United States and the corresponding crop zones. The chief purpose is to ascertain the boundaries of natural life zones with a view to aiding the farmer in selecting crops best adapted to his locality and in avoiding crops unsuited to it.

**Studies of Birds.**

One section of the Biological Survey is engaged in the study of birds and their various relations to man, especially to determine whether birds damage crops, whether they protect insects either injurious or beneficial, and to what extent they feed upon weed seeds. Thousands of birds' stomachs are examined in gathering facts on this subject.

**Publications of the Department.**

In the Division of Publications more than twelve million copies of publications have been distributed by the Department during the past year, nearly 45 per cent. of which were distributed through the Senators and Representatives in Congress.

**Need of Government Crop Reports.**

Referring to the work of the Bureau of Statistics, the Secretary says that the development of organizations to fix prices, and in some cases to force temporary changes giving unnatural advantages to price manipulators, has led to the need of a strong and impartial agency to make comprehensive reports of actual facts relating to prospective crops and yields, that all concerned may know how to buy and sell.

**The Improvement of Public Roads.**

The work of the Office of Public Roads is primarily educational in character. Its province is to detail experts to give information and advice. In many communities it is found advisable to supplement advice by practical demonstration of effective road building. These roads have been built in thirty-eight States.

Speaking of the growth of the Department, the Secretary reports the number of persons on the rolls July 1, 1905, to be 5,446. Of these, 2,326 are rated as scientists and scientific assistants. This shows an increase since July 1, 1897, of 3,063 persons on the rolls of the Department.

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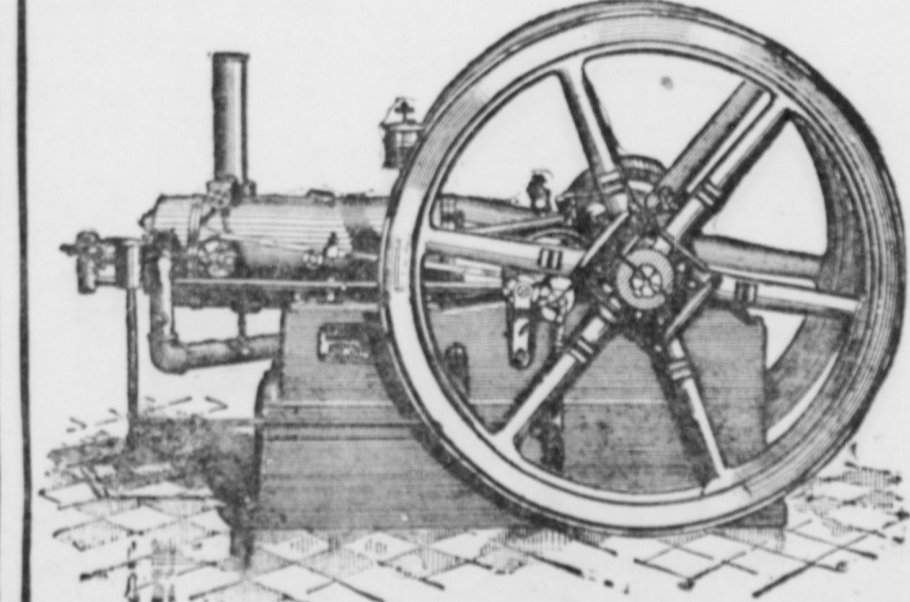
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**SECRETARY WILSON, OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.**  
The Secretary says that it is a most grateful task to present to his Chief and thus to the American people a pen picture of the American farmer as he is today, to make clear the pre-eminent position of the farming industry, its wonderful productiveness, and its large contributions to the general prosperity of the country.



**DR. WILEY.**  
Chief of the Bureau of Chemistry. The same is two-fold. It seeks to add to the knowledge of the man and to increase the productive capacity of the acre. Mr. Wilson does not, however, lay back upon his oars and intimate that everything is being done that is necessary, for, great as has been the work undertaken and accomplished, and gratifying as has been the results as shown in the first few pages of this report, he it remembered, remarks the Secretary, that we are still at the threshold of agricultural development and that the educational work which has led to such grand results has only been extended as yet to a portion of our agricultural population.

**Unprecedented Prosperity of Farmer**  
A year of unequalled prosperity has been added to the most remarkable series of similar years that has come to the farmers of this country. Farm crops have never before been harvested at such a high general level of production and value. Corn has reached its highest production, over 2,700,000,000 bushels, of a total estimated value of \$1,216,000,000. Hay comes second, with a value of \$605,000,000. Cotton is expected to yield \$575,000,000. The

come that the dairy cow does. The estimate of the value of dairy products for 1905 reaches \$665,000,000. The farmer's hen competes for precedence with wheat, poultry products aggregating half a billion dollars in value.

**Value of Farm Animals.**

The value of horses and mules on farms exceeded last winter \$1,452,000,000. Milch cows are advancing in numbers and are worth \$482,000,000. The value of all other cattle is estimated at \$662,000,000.

**Great Amount of Exports.**

During the last fiscal year, exported domestic farm products were valued at \$827,000,000. During the last sixteen years the domestic exports of farm products have amounted to \$12,000,000,000, or \$1,000,000,000 more than enough to buy all the railroads of the country at their commercial value, and this



**DR. MELVIN.**

Chief of the Bureau of Animal Industry. with the mere surplus for which there was no demand at home.

**Farmers as Bankers.**

One of the most notable outgrowths of savings by farmers is the great multiplication of small National banks in recent years. As many as 1,754 banks, each with a capital of less than \$50,000, were organized from March, 1900, to October, 1905. These were distributed mostly throughout the South and the North Central States, in rural regions. In the South 633 of these banks were organized, and in the North Central States 792. For the first time in



**DR. MOORE, CHIEF OF THE WEATHER BUREAU.**  
short wheat crop of last year is followed by one of 684,000,000 bushels and its value, \$525,000,000, overtops

the financial history of the South, deposited in the banks of that region now exceed \$1,000,000,000. These remark-