



# TEXAS

*Homes*  
*in the*  
*Southwest*

ALONG  
THE LINE  
OF THE

COTTON  
BELT  
ROUTE

R. H. BOWRON,  
1st Vice-Pres't and Gen'l Supt.,  
TYLER, TEX.

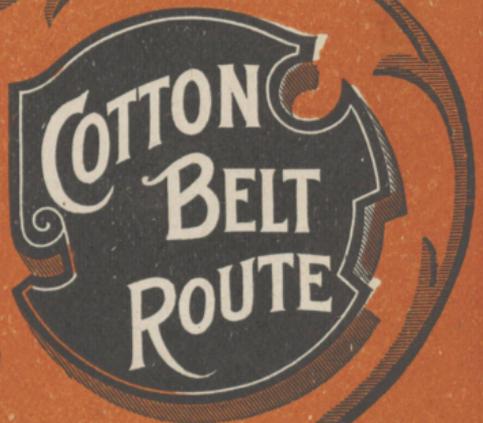
F. H. BRITTON,  
President,  
ST. LOUIS



# TEXAS

*Homes*  
*in the*  
*Southwest*

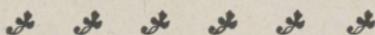
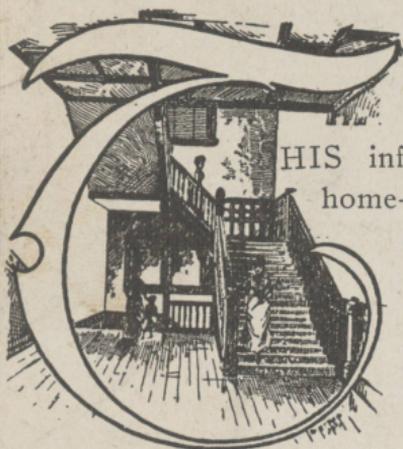
ALONG  
THE LINE  
OF THE



FRED. H. JONES,  
Gen'l Pass'r and Tkt. Agt.,  
St. L. S. W. R'y Co. of Texas,  
TYLER, TEX.

E. W. LABEAUME,  
Gen'l Pass'r and Tkt. Agt.,  
St. L. S. W. R'y,  
ST. LOUIS, MO.

# Homes IN THE Southwest.



HIS information is dedicated to the home-seeker, and published for the purpose of giving a concise, reliable and brief description of the natural resources of those parts of the great State of TEXAS through which the lines of the ST. LOUIS SOUTHWESTERN RAILWAY (THE COTTON BELT ROUTE) run.

Its statistical data has been furnished by gentlemen not personally interested in the sale of lands, and whose position in life excludes them from the slightest suspicion of giving "colored information;" for the purpose only of deceiving people.

---

## THE GREAT SOUTHWEST,

And in the same the GREAT STATE of TEXAS, offers to-day greater inducements to home-seekers, mechanics and capitalists than any other State in this UNION. To every good citizen, of every nationality, political or religious belief, the SOUTHWEST extends a HEARTY WELCOME, but the kind of immigrants desired are men who will add to the intrinsic value of the VAST DOMAINS, by cultivating and improving the same; men who will get up early in the morning, work six days in the week, and who will not consider it too much trouble to milk a cow, so as to have cream for their coffee.

The SOUTHWEST wants immigrants who will not be content merely to scratch the ground and make a bare living, but men who will plough deep and cultivate the land to its full extent. These are the kind of men that are wanted in Texas—able-bodied, strong men, who can plough and dig, sow and reap; men who are willing to accept reasonable wages, and who are neither ashamed nor afraid to work on a farm, drive a team, work in a mill or on a ranch.

TEXAS wants men that either have money enough to buy a farm, or to rent one, and, by economical living, will strive to save money enough to buy it later. These are the kind of men that will make a sure living in the Southwest, and that in immigrating to this State, will benefit their position in life, their neighbor's, and the community at large.



A TEXAS HERD OF JERSEY CATTLE. [FROM RECENT PHOTOGRAPH.]

## Traveling and Passenger Agents

### OF THE COTTON BELT ROUTE

For maps, time tables, rates of fare, information in regard to mill sites and location of manufacturing enterprises, and all general information, call on or address any of the following "Cotton Belt Route" Officials or Agents:

#### ST. LOUIS SOUTHWESTERN R'Y.

W. C. PEELER, District Passenger Agent, Memphis, Tenn.  
 H. H. SUTTON, Traveling Pass'r Agent, Chattanooga, Tenn.  
 W. G. ADAMS, Traveling Passenger Agent, Nashville, Tenn.  
 L. E. SAUPE, Traveling Passenger Agent, Chicago, Ill.  
 F. R. WYATT, Traveling Passenger Agent, Cincinnati, Ohio.  
 M. ADAMI, Traveling Passenger Agent, Cairo, Ill.  
 H. J. BAILEY, City Pass'r and Ticket Agent, Memphis, Tenn.  
 J. H. JONES, Ticket Agent, Cairo, Ill.  
 P. H. COOMBS, Gen'l East. Frt. and Pass'r Agt., Pittsburg, Pa.  
 J. L. CAMPBELL, Commercial Agent, Cincinnati, Ohio.  
 W. A. NEWELL, Commercial Agent, Chicago, Ill.  
 G. M. PAYNE, Commercial Agent, Kansas City, Mo.  
 E. S. ABADIE, Commercial Agent, St. Louis, Mo.  
 EDWIN STEWART, Traveling Freight Agent, St. Louis, Mo.  
 S. C. YEAMAN, Commercial Agent, Atlanta, Ga.

J. S. HOUSTON, Commercial Agent, Memphis, Tenn.  
 W. H. QUIGG, Division Freight Agent, Little Rock, Ark.  
 R. S. DAVIS, General Freight Agent, St. Louis, Mo.  
 E. W. LABEAUME, Gen'l Pass'r and Tkt. Agt., St. Louis, Mo.  
 A. S. DODGE, General Traffic Manager, St. Louis, Mo.  
 R. H. BOWRON, General Superintendent, Tyler, Tex.  
 F. H. BRITTON, Vice-Pres't and Gen'l Mgr., St. Louis, Mo.

#### ST. LOUIS SOUTHWESTERN R'Y CO. OF TEX.

C. M. SWAN, Division Freight Agent, Dallas, Tex.  
 J. B. WADLEIGH, Commercial Agent, Dallas, Tex.  
 F. A. WILLARD, Traveling Freight Agent, Dallas, Tex.  
 J. D. BONE, Commercial Agent, Houston, Tex.  
 G. M. WINSTEAD, Traveling Freight Agent, Houston, Tex.  
 R. C. HATFIELD, Commercial Freight and Live Stock Agent, San Antonio, Tex.  
 J. F. LEHANE, Commercial Agent, Fort Worth, Tex.  
 B. H. STEPHENS, Traveling Freight Agent, Ft. Worth, Tex.  
 H. K. REA, General Live Stock Agent, Ft. Worth, Tex.  
 D. M. MORGAN, Traveling Passenger Agent, Ft. Worth, Tex.  
 A. HOOVER, Traveling Passenger Agent, Waco, Tex.  
 H. E. FARRELL, General Freight Agent, Tyler, Tex.  
 FRED. H. JONES, Gen'l Pass'r and Ticket Agent, Tyler, Tex.  
 R. H. BOWRON, 1st Vice-Pres't and Gen'l Supt., Tyler, Tex.

# TEXAS

**H**AS an area of 250,004 square miles of land and 2,510 square miles of water surface, the latter consisting of lakes and bays, making a total of 252,514 square miles, equal to about 8.7 per cent of the entire area of all the States in the Union and Territories combined. It is much the largest State in the Union, being six times larger than New York, seven times as large as Ohio, and 100,000 square miles larger than all the Eastern and Middle States, including Delaware and Maryland. Compared with the countries of Europe, it has 63,000 square miles more than the Austrian Empire, 62,000 square miles more than the German Empire, and nearly 70,000 square miles more than France.

The State justly lays claim to a greater variety and richness of soil than any State in the Union. The black waxy, black sandy, black pebbly, hog wallow, gray sandy, red sandy and sandy loam and alluvial soils are each to be found in the State. About the best evidence of the richness and fertility of these various soils that can be offered is the fact that the "commercial fertilizers" now so common in the older States, and constituting as much a fixed charge on the agricultural interests of those sections as the seed necessary to plant the ground, are not used at all in this State. Another fact worthy of mention of this section is, that there are thousands of acres of land in cultivation in this State, that have been cultivated continuously for more than thirty years, which now yield as much per acre as they did when first planted. The variety of crops that Texas soils are capable of profitably growing is unbounded, and embraces all the species raised in different parts of the whole country.

The area of timber is much greater than is generally supposed by persons not familiar with the country. By many people outside of the State it is regarded as a vast, treeless plain, but this, like many other opinions of the State, formed at a distance, is wide of the mark. In the prairie region, the bottoms along the streams and ravines are skirted with timber, and in most places there is that happy admixture of prairie and timber land that so delights the herd farmer. Besides this, Eastern and Southeastern Texas is covered with dense forests of timber, embracing nearly every variety grown in the South.

Texas has variety in her climate as well as in other things, and a very large portion of the State is swept by the Gulf breezes, which dispense life and health to the inhabitants wherever they reach. The long summers characteristic of this latitude are rendered not only endurable but enjoyable.

So marked is the influence of the Gulf winds on the climate of the State that the average temperature in the country tributary to the main line of the St. Louis Southwestern Railway, and its branches, is much lower during the summer months than it is in higher latitudes of the North. The same influence neutralizes the cold of winter, and makes the winters in this State the mildest and most delightful of any in the Union.

The total annual crops, and their money values, according to the latest obtainable statistics show up as follows, viz.: 8,000,000 bushels of wheat, valued at \$5,360,000; cotton, 1,848,334 bales, valued at \$69,702,590; corn, 140,761,812 bushels, valued at \$38,594,671; oats, 21,238,567 bushels, valued at \$4,672,484; barley, 94,818 bushels, valued at \$75,854; rye, 52,275 bushels, valued at \$24,237; sweet potatoes, 4,831,960 bushels, valued at \$2,300,000; Irish potatoes, 1,112,937 bushels, valued at \$728,878; tobacco, 292,698 pounds, valued at \$73,149; millet, 204,823 tons, valued at \$1,060,546; cultivated hay, 101,116 tons, valued at \$543,713; prairie hay, 288,238 tons, valued at \$455,530; sugar cane syrup, 43,448 barrels, valued at \$693,542; 28,626 barrels of sugar, valued at \$310,399; sorghum cane syrup, 153,481 barrels, valued at \$663,712; sorghum fodder, 616,059 tons, valued at \$2,344,680; peaches, total value, \$1,283,956; apples, \$260,102; plums, \$56,006; pears, \$82,953; grapes, \$153,901; 2,790 barrels of wine, valued at \$82,611; garden products, \$4,281,358; melons, \$427,525; strawberries, \$100,000.

The State's opportunities, when once fully developed, could not be better illustrated than by the above.

---

### ANGELINA COUNTY,

**W**HICH contains an area of 878 square miles, is watered by the Angelina River, Neches River and a great many smaller streams, flowing principally southward into the Neches River. The general surface of the prairie land is undulating, while the timbered land, as a rule, is level. A large portion of the county is covered with a growth of long and short-leaved pine, ash, hickory, hackberry and the different species of oak. The soil is red and black, with stiff black land bordering on the streams. It is very productive, and the cereals grown in the best agricultural districts do well. It is the native home of the wild peach and the fragrant magnolia, which grow in abundance.

The principal industries are farming and stock raising, though the lumber trade is carried on on a large scale.

The assessed value of all property in the county is \$2,779,652. The rate of county tax for the present year is 50 cents per hundred assessed value. There are 979 farms in the county and 485 renters on farms. Improved lands sell from \$5 to \$7 per acre; unimproved, from \$2.50 to \$4 per acre. The average taxable value of land in the county is \$2.61 per acre. The amount of school lands in the county is 28,112 acres.

The product and value of last year's field crops is as follows: 9,114 acres of cotton yielded 3,880 bales, valued at \$125,185; 21,250 acres of corn produced 329,185 bushels, at a value of \$146,855; 110 acres in tobacco produced 45,000 pounds, valued at \$11,250.

The Baptist, Christian, Presbyterian and Methodist churches have extended organizations in the county, where there are also fifty-seven school houses.

The principal crops raised are corn, cotton, oats, Irish and sweet potatoes, peas, beans, cultivated hay and prairie hay, sugar cane, sorghum cane, and all kinds of fruits. The raising of winter wheat has just begun and proved to be successful. The same can be said relative to the raising of tobacco, for which the soil of Angelina County is particularly well adapted. The tobacco raised in this county from the genuine Vuelta Abajo seed is pronounced by experts to be the finest substitute for Havana tobacco in the American market.

## BOWIE COUNTY,

WITH an area of 915 square miles, has the Red River for its northern and the Sulphur Fork of the Red River for its southern boundary. The surface of the central portion of the county generally is that of an elevated and nearly level table land, from which all streams in the county flow either north or south. The soil away from the bottoms is of a sandy character; in the bottoms it is a rich red loam, and very productive, and all of the cereals are successfully raised, as well as the different fruits common to the South. The apple, especially, is successfully grown, and several sections of the county are covered with different timbers, oak and pine growing on the upland, and cypress, cedar, hickory, and walnut on the river bottoms.

The assessed value of all the property in the county amounts to \$4,263,550. Improved lands sell from \$4 to \$24 per acre; unimproved, from \$2 to \$6 per acre. Rate of county tax for the present year is 60 cents per hundred assessed value. The average taxable value of land in the county is \$2.77 per acre. There are 22,065 acres of State school land in the county. The county has 1,402 farms and 632 renters of farms.

Last year's product and value of field crops is as follows: 18,678 acres in cotton produced 6,361 bales, valued at \$222,866; 41,705 acres in corn yielded 312,601 bushels, valued at \$81,276. The yield in oats and wheat has materially increased within the last few years, and the yield in the different varieties of fruit was highly gratifying.

The different church denominations are well represented, and school facilities are ample.

The lumber mill business is of very great importance to the county, and is increasing from year to year.

Texarkana, which is the metropolis of the county, enjoys

the remarkable distinction of being situated partly in Texas and partly in Arkansas, the line separating the two States passing about through its center. Dalbey Springs, Ingensol, Chalybeate and Red Springs are mineral water springs recommended for rheumatism and dyspepsia.

### CAMP COUNTY

IS in the center of the finest fruit section of Texas, and one of the smallest counties in the State. Apples, pears, plums, peaches, apricots, grapes, and all the smaller fruits grow in great abundance, the soil and climate being admirably adapted to their culture and yield. The water supply is ample for all purposes; Big Cypress, which forms its eastern and northern boundaries, Lillies, Walker and Prairie Creeks, are all running streams. Besides these, there are several lakes in the county. Originally, the greater portion of the county, containing an area of two hundred and one square miles, was heavily timbered. These woodlands require little surface drainage, and when cleared, are fitted for cultivation at once. Improved lands sell from \$5 to \$12 per acre; unimproved, from \$2 to \$5 per acre. Rate of county tax for the present year is 85 cents per hun-

dred assessed value. The average taxable value of land in the county is \$2.85 per acre. There are 745 farms in the county, and 530 renters on farms.

Last year's product and value of field crops is as follows: 16,018 acres in cotton produced 4,677 bales, valued at \$149,755; 21,313 acres in corn yielded 403,335 bushels, valued at \$95,412. The yield in Irish potatoes was 8,675 bushels, valued at \$6,000. The oat crop from 2,123 acres amounted to 17,231 bushels. Some winter wheat has been successfully raised at various points in the county.

The Methodist, Baptist and Presbyterian churches are each represented by organizations, and there are thirty-seven school houses.

Pittsburg, on the main line of the Cotton Belt Route, is the county seat.

### CASS COUNTY

IS well watered by a number of small streams, which flow south into Caddo Lake and the Sulphur Fork of Red River. The general surface of the county is undulating; three-fourths of it is covered with a growth of oak, pine, hickory, cypress and walnut timber. The soil varies



LAKE ON COTTON BELT ROUTE, NEAR PITTSBURG, TEX. [FROM RECENT PHOTOGRAPH.]

from a gray sandy to a stiff waxy. The gray loam predominates, and is highly productive. The usual cereals grow with great success, and vegetables are produced in large quantities. The soil is especially adapted to the culture of fruits, and apples grown here are very superior in flavor and perfect in form.

The assessed value of all property in the county is \$1,936,949. Improved lands sell from \$3 to \$15 per acre; unimproved from \$2 to \$5 per acre. The average taxable value of land in the county is \$1.48 per acre. Rate of county tax for the present year is 62 cents per hundred assessed value. There are still 4,052 acres of State school lands in the county. There are 2,545 farms in the county, and 1,153 renters on farms. The county has eighty-four school houses, with two hundred and nine teachers.

Last year's product and value of field crops is as follows: 32,942 acres in cotton produced 9,573 bales, at a value of \$335,055; 46,077 acres in corn yielded 616,170 bushels, valued at \$184,851; 5,615 acres in oats yielded 54,051 bushels, valued at \$29,728; apple orchards yielded 20,787 bushels, valued at over \$10,000. Sheep raising is also carried on successfully and profitably.

Methodist, Baptist, Presbyterian and Christian churches are each represented by organizations.

The county seat is Linden, with a population of 450.

## CHEROKEE COUNTY,

**W**ITH an area of 1,008 square miles, is particularly a farming county, in which industry the majority of its inhabitants are engaged. About one-half of the area of the county is susceptible of cultivation.

The usual products of the best agricultural districts of the State are raised in abundance. All the fruits common to those sections of the State find here a propitious soil and climate. The surface of the county is rolling or undulating, and in places almost amounting to mountains.

The county is well watered. Besides the two rivers by which it is bounded, it has a number of smaller streams running through it, which give an ample supply of water for all purposes. This county contains very rich iron deposits, and is destined to become the largest iron producing section of the State. There are several mineral springs in the county that possess medicinal properties.

The assessed value of all property is \$3,200,000. Improved lands sell from \$5 to \$10 an acre; unimproved, from \$2 to \$5 per acre. The average taxable value of land in the county is \$2.59 per acre. The rate of county tax is 45 cents per hundred assessed value.

There are 3,503 acres of State school lands in the county. There are 2,027 farms in the county, and 1,141 renters on farms.

Last year's product and value of field crops is as follows: 38,112 acres in cotton yielded 9,236 bales, at a value of \$316,353; 57,537 acres in corn yielded 587,503 bushels, valued at



SHIPPING PEACHES FROM FRUITLAND, NEAR TYLER, TEX., ON COTTON BELT ROUTE.

\$176,250; 5,864 acres in oats yielded 53,800 bushels, valued at \$13,450. Truck gardening and fruit raising are very profitable, and yielded a handsome revenue. The raising of tobacco, for which the soil has been found to be particularly adapted, is carried on with gratifying results, and promises to be a staple product of no mean proportions.

The Presbyterian, Cumberland Presbyterian, Methodist, Baptist and Christian churches are each represented. The number of school houses is one hundred and ten, with one hundred and twenty-three teachers.

The county seat is Rusk, on the Lufkin Section of the St. Louis Southwestern Railway.

### COLLIN COUNTY,

**S**ITUATED in Northern Texas and containing 884 square miles, is exclusively an agricultural county, and lies in the center of the grain region of the State.

The soil for the most part is a black waxy, and very tenacious. It is highly fertile and produces heavy yields of all the cereals commonly grown in the South. Fruits and vegetables are also profitably raised, peaches especially are successfully cultivated. The county is well watered,

having the east fork of the Trinity River, with its many tributaries, distributed over the whole county. There are several lakes in the county to add to the water supply.

The leading varieties of timber are elm, pecan, hickory and oak.

The assessed value of all property is \$11,538,000. The rate of county tax is 37 cents per hundred assessed value. Improved lands sell from \$15 to \$40 per acre; unimproved, from \$5 to \$12 per acre.

The average taxable value of land in the county is \$11.12 per acre. There are 3,885 farms and 3,036 renters on farms in the county.

The Methodist, Primitive Baptist, Presbyterian, Cumberland Presbyterian, Christian, Catholic, Episcopal and Advent churches all have their houses of worship distributed all over the county. One hundred and forty-five school houses with one hundred and seventy-two teachers supply the educational wants of the county.

Last year's product and value of field crops is as follows: 107,732 acres in cotton produced 49,153 bales, valued at \$1,470,940; 141,046 acres in corn yielded 5,881,445 bushels, valued at \$1,024,473; 57,385 acres planted in oats produced 2,177,471 bushels, at an aggregate value of \$479,043. The

area planted with wheat last year amounted to 38,872 acres, producing 625,701 bushels, at a total value of \$419,219.

The experiments in raising barley and rye have proved very successful and profitable.

McKinney, with a population of over 3,000 is the county seat.

## CORYELL COUNTY,

**W**ITH an area of 960 square miles, is situated near the geographical center of the State, and in the midst of a superior farming section. The prevailing soil is black waxy, and along the borders of the streams it is very productive. About one-half of the entire area is well situated, and adapted to the cultivation of all the cereals grown in the South. The Leon River, which flows in a southeasterly direction through the county, is capable of furnishing water power for manufacturing and irrigating purposes. Besides the Leon and its tributaries, the county is watered by a number of other streams, and with springs of pure water in many localities.

The assessed value of all property in the county is \$5,142,600. There are 3,715 farms and ranches in the county, and 730 renters on farms. Improved lands sell from \$5 to \$25 per acre; unimproved, from \$3.50 to \$10 per acre. The average taxable value of land in the county is \$5.12 per acre. The rate of county tax for the present year is 55 cents per hundred assessed value. There are 10,306 acres of State school lands in the county.

Five thousand six hundred and twenty-four acres planted in wheat last year produced 42,378 bushels, at a total value of \$25,436; 20,669 acres planted in oats yielded 343,060 bushels, at a total value of \$85,605. Barley and rye do well.

Last year's product and value of field crops is as follows: 47,109 acres in cotton produced 12,024 bales, valued at \$480,960; 72,370 acres in corn yielded 1,923,100 bushels, valued at \$384,615. The wool industry is of considerable dimensions in this county, last year's clip of 128,750 pounds yielding an income of \$12,875.

The Methodist, Baptist and Presbyterian churches are each represented by organizations.

The number of school houses in the county is eighty-eight, with one hundred and seven teachers.

Gatesville, the terminus of the main line of the St. Louis Southwestern Railway, is the county seat.

## DALLAS COUNTY

**H**AS an area of 900 square miles, and is situated in North Central Texas. It is the most populous county in the State, and stands first in taxable values. The general surface of the county is undulating. The people are engaged largely in farming. The greater portion of the area of the county is admirably adapted to the culture

of all the cereals commonly grown in the best agricultural districts of the South. Fruits and vegetables are raised successfully, and small fruits, such as the dewberry and strawberry, do especially well. Live stock is raised in considerable numbers, but generally in pastures, or in connection with a farm. The Trinity River passes centrally through the county, from the northwest to the southwest. There are a number of smaller streams traversing the county which furnish an abundant supply of water for stock and all other purposes.

The assessed value of all property is \$35,000,000. There are 1,801 farms in the county, and 1,210 renters on farms. The average wages paid to farm laborers is \$15 per month.

Improved lands sell at from \$10 to \$60 per acre; unimproved lands, from \$5 to \$25 per acre. The average taxable value of land in the county is \$12.30 per acre. The rate of county tax is 50 cents per hundred assessed value. There are six national banks in the county outside of Dallas, with a capital stock of \$1,525,000, and a surplus of \$321,000.

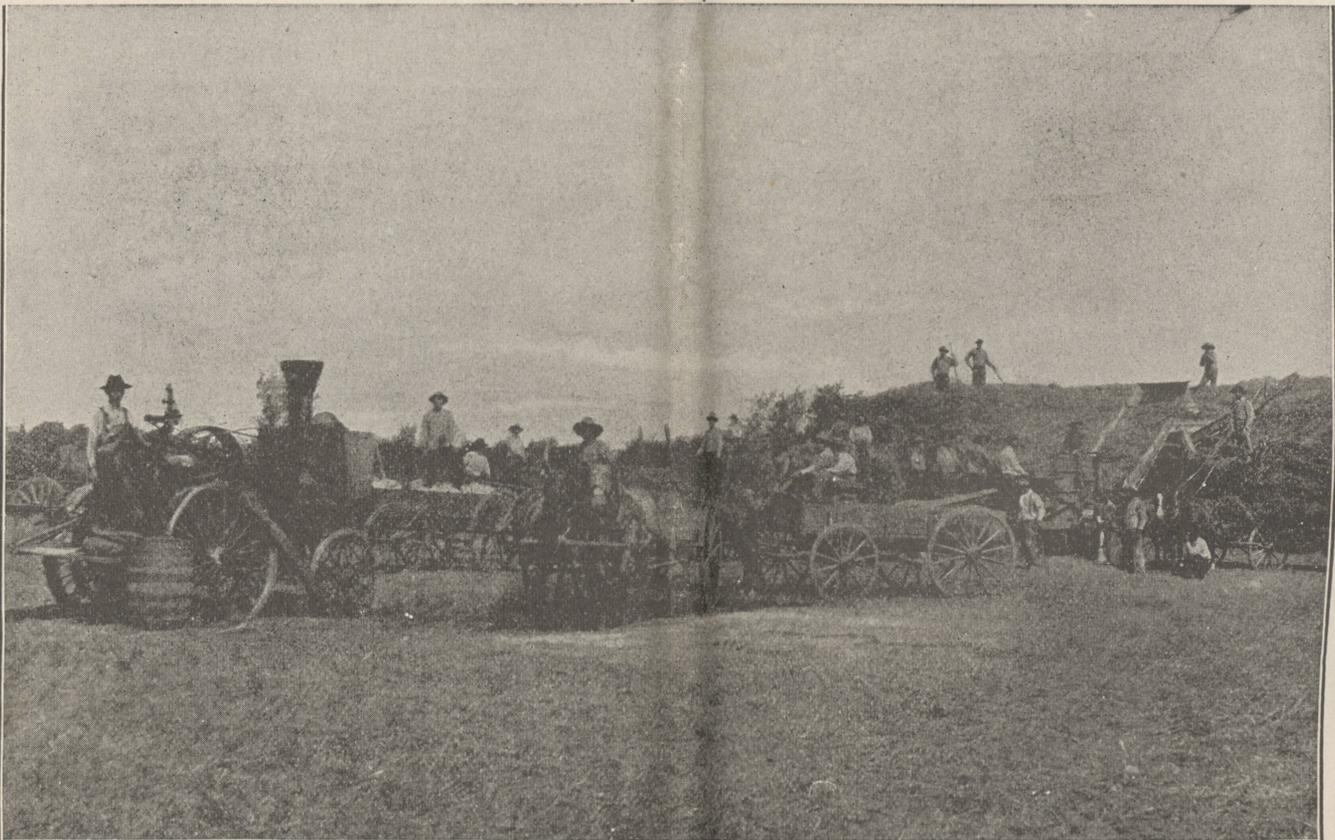
Almost all religious denominations are represented in the county.

The number of schools is 124, with 152 teachers.

Last year's product and value of field crops is as follows: 21,103 acres planted in wheat produced 316,335 bushels, at an aggregate value of \$211,944; 23,823 acres planted in oats yielded 719,965 bushels, representing a total value of \$187,148; 63,727 acres in cotton yielded 39,086 bales, valued at \$1,077,452; 51,979 acres in corn yielded 1,528,008 bushels, valued at \$458,402.

Dallas is the county seat, with a population of 61,000 inhabitants.

The manufacturing interests of this city have been largely augmented by the establishment of a number of important factories, the total number of which represents a combined capital of nearly \$5,000,000. The value of the products last year, exclusive of the cotton and wool mills, cotton seed oil mills and compress, was about \$4,500,000. There are six national, three private and one savings bank in the city, with an aggregate capital of \$2,000,000. The annual State Fair held in Dallas is one of the important features of the city. The street car system of Dallas is the most complete of any in the State of Texas.



THRESHING OUTFIT, ON LINE OF COTTON BELT ROUTE. [FROM RECENT PHOTOGRAPH.]

## FANNIN COUNTY

**C**ONTAINS an area of 891 square miles, and is one of the tier of Red River counties, the Red River forming the boundary between Northern Texas and the Indian Territory.

Agricultural pursuits engross the attention of the people. Stock raising, however, in connection with farming, is also an important industry. About one-fourth of the county is woodland, oak and hickory forming the chief varieties of timber. The soil is of the first quality, that of the prairie and bottom lands being deep black, well adapted to the growth of all small grains, as well as corn and cotton. All kinds of fruits abound, peaches and apples especially doing well. The celebrated Mead Springs contain iron and other mineral substances, which are recommended for chronic diseases.

The assessed value of all property is \$10,516,355. Improved lands sell from \$15 to \$40 per acre; unimproved, from \$5 to \$30 per acre. The average taxable value of land

in the county is \$8.76 per acre. The rate of county tax for the present year is 45 cents per hundred assessed value.

Last year's product and value of field crops is as follows: 88,950 acres in cotton yielded 45,560 bales, valued at \$1,805,405; 101,791 acres in corn produced 2,095,556 bushels, valued at \$544,844; 20,726 acres planted in oats last year produced 626,498 bushels, at an aggregate value of \$137,829. Wheat raising has grown steadily in favor, and the number of acres planted in wheat last year amounted to 12,065, producing 241,300 bushels, valued at \$156,845.

There are 3,784 farms in the county, and 2,828 renters on farms. The average wages paid to farm laborers is \$14.20 per month.

There are four national banks in the county, with a capital stock of \$360,000, and a surplus of \$155,250.

Bonham, with a population of a little over 5,000, is the county seat.

The religious denominations represented are the Baptist, Primitive Baptists, Methodist (North and South), Presbyterian, Cumberland Presbyterian, Christian, Episcopal, Soul Sleepers and Sanctificationists. The county has 151 schools, employing 177 teachers.



EIGHTY THOUSAND POUNDS OF WOOL IN WAGONS, AT SULPHUR SPRINGS, TEX. [FROM RECENT PHOTOGRAPH.]

## FRANKLIN COUNTY

**I**S one of the smallest counties in the State, having an area of 310 square miles only. The general surface of the county is undulating. The soil is a gray loam, and is easily cultivated. All of the woodland consists mostly of oak and hickory. The people are engaged in farming and stock raising. Most of the cereals common to the State are grown here. The soil is finely adapted to a diversity of crops. Sugar cane grows as luxuriantly here as in any section of the South, and produces a heavy yield. All kinds of fruits, also peaches, apples, pears, plums, etc., do especially well. Vegetables of all kinds are produced in abundance.

The assessed value of all property is \$993,225. The rate of county tax for the present year is 62 cents per hundred assessed value. Improved lands sell for from \$8 to \$20 per acre; unimproved, from \$3 to \$10 per acre. The average taxable value of land in the county is \$3.24 per acre. There are 2,960 acres of State school land in the county. There is a private bank in the county, with a capital stock of \$20,000. The number of farms in the county is 788, with 397 renters on farms.

The Baptist, Presbyterian, Methodist and Christian churches are each represented by organizations. The county has thirty-one school houses and employs thirty-four teachers.

Last year's product and value of field crops is as follows: Cotton, 49,625 acres yielded 4,672 bales, at a value of \$161,715; 18,187 acres of corn yielded 348,000 bushels, at a value of \$105,031; 2,210 acres in oats yielded 38,274 bushels, valued at \$15,544. The value of small fruits produced amounted to a round \$82,000.

Mt. Vernon is the county seat, and lies on the Sherman Branch of the "COTTON BELT."

## GRAYSON COUNTY

**H**AS an area of 968 square miles, the greater portion of which is rolling prairie. There is a belt of woodland running across the western part of the county, consisting principally of post oak and black jack, and known as the "cross-timbers." The bottoms along the Red River are covered with a heavy forest of walnut, elm, hackberry and a great variety of oaks. The soil of the county is about equally divided between black waxy and sandy loam, both soils being well adapted to the growth of cotton, corn, wheat, and the other cereals common to the State. The soil and the climate are propitious for diversified farming, and especially for fruits and vegetables. Peaches, pears, plums, apples, grapes, figs, etc., are raised in great abundance, and of good quality. The wheat raised in this section of the State is unexcelled by the best wheat grown in any of the



EDUCATION IN TEXAS.—PUBLIC SCHOOL AT HUBBARD CITY. [FROM RECENT PHOTOGRAPH.]

Western States. Stock raising, in connection with agriculture, is an important industry. The county is one of the wealthiest and most populous in the State. It stands third in point of population and ninth in land value. According to the last report of the County Treasurer to the Commissioners' Court, the county was without debt, and had a cash balance in the county treasury of almost \$50,000. The rate of county tax for the present year is 43 cents per hundred assessed valuation.

The assessed value of all property is \$18,381,559. Improved lands sell from \$25 to \$50 per acre; unimproved, from \$5 to \$20 per acre. The average taxable value of land in the county is \$9.50 per acre. There are 3,713 farms in the county and 2,787 renters on farms. The average wages paid to farm laborers is \$16 per month.

There are six national and private banks in the county, with a capital stock of \$1,500,000, and a surplus of \$250,000; seven flour mills, ice factories, saw mills, bag factory, and several foundries. The county has 135 school houses, and employs 161 teachers. All the leading denominations have churches.

Last year's product and value of field crops is as follows: 73,663 acres in cotton produced 32,848 bales, valued at \$1,170,827; 107,900 acres in corn produced 4,284,481 bushels, valued at \$872,251; 16,753 acres in wheat yielded 208,543 bushels, valued at \$110,235; 60,905 acres in oats yielded 2,143,555 bushels, valued at \$360,000.

Barley and rye are not generally introduced as yet, to any great extent, but where they have been raised they have shown a good yield.

Sherman, on the St. Louis Southwestern Railway, is the county seat, and is one of the liveliest town in Northern Texas, with large and steadily growing manufacturing interests, all modern conveniences, and a number of institutions for the higher education of young ladies.

#### HENDERSON COUNTY,

HAVING an area of 965 square miles, lies between the Trinity and Neches Rivers, which form, respectively, its western and eastern boundaries. Agriculture is the chief industry of the people. Stock-raising is confined to the farms, and the stock raised is almost solely

for domestic purposes. The surface of the county is diversified into level uplands, high sandy hills and wide river bottoms. The soil of the uplands is a gray sandy and that of the river bottoms a rich loam. All the cereals of this section are grown and yield well. The different kinds of vegetables are grown with marked success. Fruits grow to a large size and fine flavor; peaches and apples do particularly well. The value of the orchards in the county is estimated at \$75,000. The uplands are covered with the several varieties of oak and hickory. On the bottom lands are found water oak, sassafras and many other valuable timbers.

The assessed value of all the property in the county is \$2,776,402. The rate of county tax for the present year is 65 cents per hundred assessed value. Improved lands sell from \$5 to \$12 per acre; unimproved, from \$2 to \$6 per acre. The average taxable value of land in the county is \$2.59 per acre. There are 1,379 farms in the county, and 808 renters of farms. There still are 8,705 acres of State school lands in the county. Average farm wages, \$16 per month.

The Baptist, Christian, Methodist and Presbyterian churches are each represented by organizations. The county has eighty school houses, employing 107 teachers.

The product and value of field crops for last year is as follows: 21,216 acres in cotton produced 7,004 bales, at a value of \$257,858; 21,077 acres in corn produced 296,191 bushels, at a value of \$149,747; 1,946 acres in oats yielded 29,598 bushels, at a value of \$15,474. The value of the small fruits and melons produced is estimated at \$75,000.

## HILL COUNTY

**I**S one of the group of counties near the center of the State, and has an area of 1,030 square miles. The general surface of the county is rolling prairie, with black waxy soil, producing heavy yields of all the grains commonly grown in the State, and cotton of a superior staple. The soil in the timbered uplands is generally a gray sandy loam, and in the river and creek bottoms, a rich alluvial. The Brazos River, Noland and Aquilla Creeks furnish the water supply of the county. There are springs of pure water in different parts of the county, and well water is easily obtained at a moderate depth. A narrow belt of timber, known as the "cross timbers," traverses the northwestern part of the county. In connection with farming, the raising of improved breeds of live stock of all kinds is an important industry.

The assessed value of all property in the county is nearly \$11,000,000. Improved lands sell from \$20 to \$30 per acre; unimproved from \$5 to \$10 per acre. The average taxable value of the land in the county is \$8.45 per acre. There are 5,480 acres of State school lands in the county. The rate of county tax is 50 cents on the hundred assessed value.

There are two private banks and six national banks in the county, with a total capital of \$311,145. The number of farms is 2,163, with 1,469 renters on farms. The average monthly wages paid to farm laborers is \$15.50. Almost all the different Christian denominations are represented by large and thriving organizations. The county has 121 school houses and gives employment to 112 teachers.

The product and value of field crops for last year is as follows: 92,749 acres in cotton produced 39,524 bales, valued at \$1,474,970; 115,832 acres in corn produced 1,620,795 bushels, valued at \$421,406; 2,978 acres in wheat yielded 48,560 bushels, at a value of \$32,535; 33,645 acres in oats yielded 1,418,172 bushels, at a value of \$311,997.

The county seat is Hillsboro, situated near the center of the county, in the midst of a prosperous farming district, and on a branch of the "COTTON BELT."

## HOPKINS COUNTY

IS situated in the northeastern part of the State, and has an area of 755 square miles. The general surface of the county is level, with sufficient undulation to give it thorough drainage. The soil varies from a light sandy to a black waxy. The black loam is prevalent. The greater portion of the county is covered with forests of various kinds, oak, blackjack, hickory, elm and other timbers common to those sections of the State.

The people are engaged in farming, stock raising and wool growing, the situation and climate of the county being well suited to the prosecution of these different occupations. Fruits and vegetables grow in great abundance. Nearly every portion of the county is traversed by running streams, the principal ones being White Oak, Sulphur and Bird Creeks.

The assessed value of all the property in the county is \$4,907,680. The rate of county tax for the present year is 57 cents on the hundred assessed value. Improved lands sell from \$5 to \$30 per acre; unimproved, from \$2 to \$15 per acre. The average taxable value of land in the county is \$4.53 per acre. There are 3,252 farms and 687 renters on farms in the county. The average monthly wages paid to farm laborers is \$12.

The peach, berry and melon orchards in this county are

far-famed, and represent a value of \$90,000. The value of the apple orchards of this county is estimated at \$75,000. Truck gardening has wonderfully increased in size and profits.

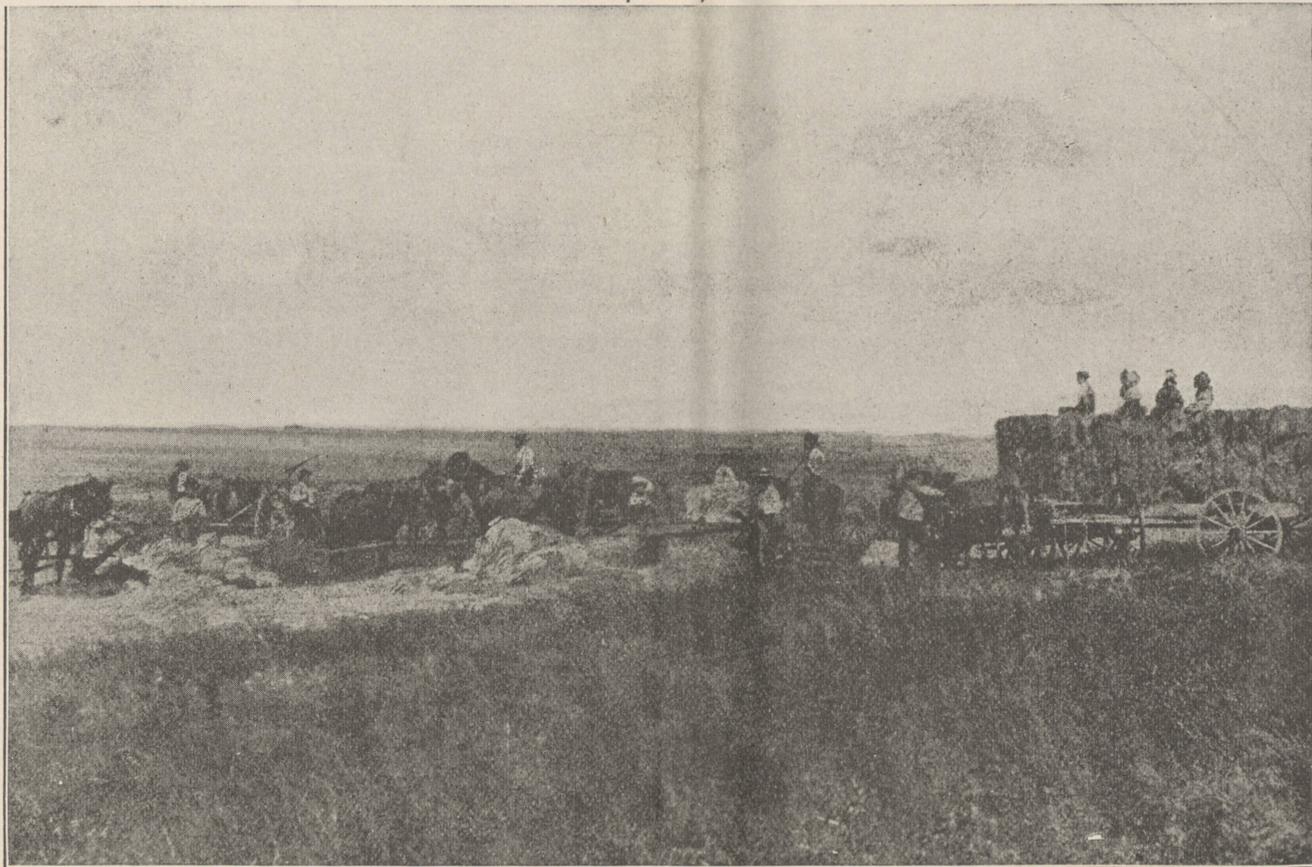
The Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian, Episcopal and Catholic churches are each represented by organizations. The county has ninety-three school houses, and employs 103 teachers.

The product and value of field crops for last year is as follows: 40,964 acres in cotton produced 15,310 bales, at a value of \$553,947; 59,006 acres in corn produced 1,159,078 bushels, at a value of \$372,409; 9,870 acres in oats produced 198,775 bushels, at a value of \$54,274; 1,094 acres in wheat yielded 9,559 bushels, at a value of \$5,728.

Sulphur Springs, on the Sherman Branch of the St. Louis Southwestern Railway, is the county seat, and the chief trading point in the county.

## HUNT COUNTY

HAS an area of 869 square miles, and is situated in the northwestern part of the State, being one of the second tier of counties south of the Red River. It is strictly a farming county, in which pursuit most of the people are engaged. The soil varies from a sandy to a black waxy, all of which is very fertile. Nearly the entire



HAY FARM NEAR FORT WORTH, ON THE COTTON BELT ROUTE. [FROM RECENT PHOTOGRAPH.]

area of the county is susceptible of cultivation. Cotton, corn and the different cereals are grown with great success. Fruit and vegetables are raised in great abundance. The general surface of the county is undulating, with broad and fertile valleys along the water courses. The county is watered by the Sabine River and North Sulphur, and various other small streams.

The assessed value of all property is close to \$10,000,000. Improved lands sell from \$10 to \$30 per acre; unimproved, from \$5 to \$20 per acre. The average taxable value of land in the county is \$8.44 per acre. The rate of county tax is 47½ cents per hundred assessed value. There are 2,549 farms in the county, and 1,053 renters on farms. The average monthly wages earned by farm laborers is \$14.50. The county has three banks, with a total capital of \$375,000. The different religious denominations are represented by the Baptist, Presbyterian, Cumberland Presbyterian, Methodist, Christian, Episcopal, Adventist and Catholic churches. The county has 122 school houses and employs 126 teachers.

The product and value of last year's field crops is as follows: Cotton, 72,094 acres yielded 55,581 bales, at a value of \$2,130,760; 158,075 acres in corn yielded 1,220,441 bushels, valued at \$366,132; 6,379 acres of wheat yielded 85,491 bushels, at a value of \$57,278; 23,754 acres in oats produced 698,737 bushels, at a value of \$153,722. The raising of broom corn has been undertaken lately in this county, and turned out very successfully.

Greenville, on the Fort Worth Branch of the "COTTON BELT," is the county seat, and situated in the heart of a fine agricultural region.

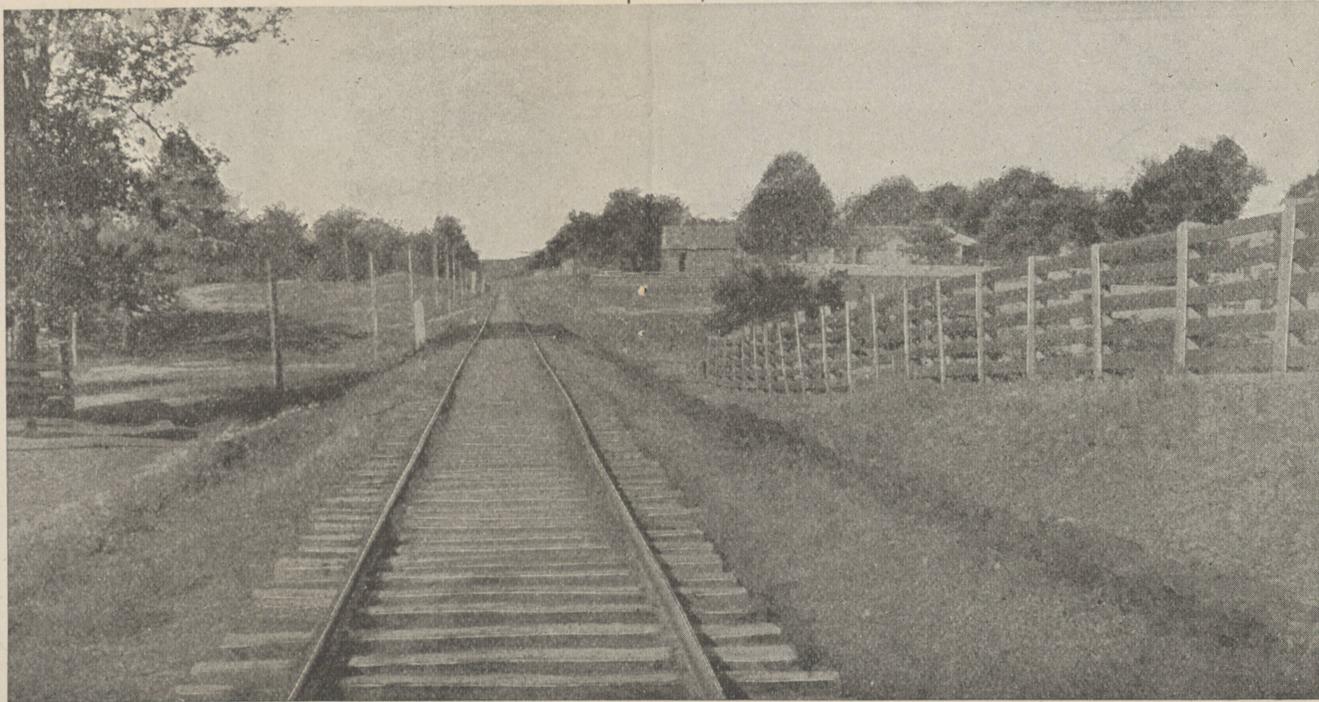
## MCLENNAN COUNTY,

WITH an area of 1,083 square miles, is one of the group of Central Texas counties, and is watered by the Bosque and Brazos Rivers, and their numerous tributaries, which flow through it. The general surface is gently undulating, with many large, level plains. The timber of the county is found bordering the river and creek bottoms. Oak, cedar, blackjack, elm, etc., are quite abundant. Farming is the chief industry of the people. The soil of the bottoms is a rich loam, and very fertile, producing cotton, corn, vegetables and fruit in great abundance. The prairie is black waxy, and finely adapted to the cultivation of wheat and other cereals. Stock raising constitutes an important branch of industry. The stock raised is mostly of the improved breeds. The assessed value of all the property is nearly \$23,000,000. Improved lands sell at from \$10 to \$75 per acre; unimproved, from \$5 to \$20 per acre. The average taxable value of land in the county is \$10.70 per acre. The county tax is 40 cents per hundred assessed value. There are 2,236 farms in the county, and 929 renters on farms. The average monthly wages paid to farm laborers is \$15.50.

The Baptist, Primitive Baptist, Presbyterian, Cumberland Presbyterian, Lutheran, Christian, Episcopal, German Evangelical, Catholic, Scandinavian and Liberal churches are each represented by organizations.

The number of school houses in the county is 114, employing 135 teachers.

Last year's product and value of field crops is as follows: 78,742 acres in cotton produced 30,932 bales, valued at \$1,095,120; 88,693 acres in corn yielded 1,070,282 bushels, at



A SAMPLE OF THE COUNTRY ALONG THE COTTON BELT ROUTE IN TEXAS. [FROM RECENT PHOTOGRAPH.]

a value of \$321,084; 5,017 acres in wheat yielded 70,418 bushels, valued at \$47,180; 29,817 acres in oats produced 474,407 bushels, at a value of \$118,601. The raising of barley and rye, lately started, has produced very satisfactory results, with a steady increase in average, and a corresponding increase in yield. The wool clip from 10,307 sheep amounted to 59,977 pounds, at a value of \$6,721.

Waco, on the main line of the St. Louis Southwestern Railway, is the county seat, and one of the most important manufacturing and commercial cities in the State.

### MORRIS COUNTY,

**W**ITH an area of 267 square miles, is one of the smallest counties in the State. It is situated in the northeastern portion of the State, and occupies a narrow strip of territory lying south of the Sulphur Fork of the Red River, which forms its northern boundary, and the Big Cypress, its southern boundary. The people in the county are engaged in farming and fruit raising. The soil is a rich sandy loam, and especially adapted to the growth of fruits and vegetables. The surface of the county is level. It is watered by the Sulphur Fork of the Red River and Cypress and White Oak Rivers.

The assessed value of all property in the county is \$931,885. The average taxable value of land in the county is \$2.15, and this year the rate of county tax is 65 cents on the hundred assessed value. Improved lands sell from \$3 to \$10 per acre; unimproved, from \$2 to \$5 per acre. Acres of State school land in the county, 7,646. There are 683 farms in the county and 437 renters on farms. The average monthly wages paid to farm laborers is \$10. Thirty-four school houses, with forty teachers, furnish ample facilities for all educational purposes.

The products and value of last year's field crops is as follows: 15,581 acres in cotton produced 5,963 bales, valued at \$201,386; 14,421 acres in corn produced 273,339 bushels, at a value of \$136,669; 1,985 acres in oats yielded 23,331 bushels at a value of \$9,328. The production of molasses from sugar cane and sorghum cane is largely developed in this county, the value of its last year's product amounting to almost \$25,000. Irish potatoes for early Northern markets are raised with success.

### NAVARRO COUNTY,

**W**ITH an area of 1,055 square miles, is one of the group of Central Texas counties, and is situated on the west bank of the Trinity River. The county is watered by the Trinity River, Chambers and Richland Creeks, and a number of small streams which flow into them. The surface of the county consists largely of gently rolling, open prairies and wide valleys, the latter covered with dense forests indigenous to the section. The soil is a rich black, sandy loam on the water courses, and black waxy and sandy on the uplands, and well adapted to the growth of cotton and corn. Smaller grains also grow well, particularly oats. The county is in a splendid financial condition, the last statement of the county treasurer showing that it is without debt, and has in the county treasury the cash amount of nearly \$7,000. The assessed value of all the property is \$11,013,250. Improved farming land ranges in price from \$10 to \$30 per acre; unimproved, from \$5 to \$15 per acre. Average taxable value, \$7.72 per acre. There are 3,051 acres of State school land yet for sale in the county. The county tax is 49 cents per hundred assessed value. There are 3,000 farms in the county, with



TARRANT COUNTY, TEXAS, WATERMELON FARM. [FROM RECENT PHOTOGRAPH.]

800 renters on farms. The average wages paid to farm laborers is \$13 per month. The number of acres in prairie lands in the county is 41,994; in timber lands, 67,389; in pasture, 110,431; in cultivation, 215,748.

Last year's product and value of field crops is as follows: 104,326 acres in cotton yielded 41,868 bales, valued at \$1,618,865; 90,543 acres in corn produced 2,499,040 bushels, at a value of \$549,735; 19,006 acres in oats produced 587,370 bushels, at a value of \$119,075; 721 acres in wheat produced 9,160 bushels, at a value of \$4,367. The raising of rye, barley and broom corn, which has been started only lately, has proved to be very successful.

The leading churches have prosperous organizations, and there are 117 school houses, with 137 teachers, in the county.

Corsicana, on the main line of the Cotton Belt, is the county seat, and has of late experienced a very rapid and successful development, largely due to the discovery of petroleum in and around the city. The number of flowing wells at this writing is 150, and new ones are constantly added. The refinery recently built has been compelled to build new additions, and to increase its capacity.

### SMITH COUNTY

**H**AS an area of 957 square miles, and is situated in Northeast Central Texas, on the Sabine and Neches Rivers, which form, respectively, its northern and western boundaries. It is a wealthy and populous agricultural county, with an abundance of timber, water

and rich soil. It is especially noted for its abundance of delicious fruit—apples, peaches, plums, pears, and grapes—last year's products of its orchards and truck gardens representing a value of nearly \$125,000.

The general surface of the county is broken. The soil is mostly a rich, sandy red, and yields good crops of cotton, corn, wheat and oats.

The assessed value of all property in the county is \$5,789,715. Improved lands sell from \$3 to \$15 per acre; unimproved, from \$2 to \$7 per acre. Average taxable value, \$3.95 per acre. This year's county tax is 62 cents per hundred assessed value. As a remarkable fact, it might be mentioned that only thirteen farms in the county are mortgaged, the total amount of said mortgages being \$4,470. There are 1,850 farms in the county, and 1,109 renters on farms.

Last year's products and value of field crops is as follows: 54,000 acres in cotton yielded 16,770 bales, valued at \$576,720; 64,332 acres in corn yielded 1,007,339 bushels, at a value of \$367,349; 7,057 acres in oats yielded 83,385 bushels, valued at \$38,941. The value of syrup from sugar cane and sorghum cane produced in the county reaches almost \$25,000.

Ten denominations are represented by church organizations, and there are in the county an adequate number of schools.

Tyler, in which the shops of the St. Louis Southwestern Railway are located, is the county seat, and one of the most progressive and rapidly developing cities of Central Texas.

## TARRANT COUNTY

**C**ONTAINS an area of 900 square miles, and is situated in Northern Texas. The county is abundantly watered, the Trinity River entering the same at the northwest corner and running in a southeasterly direction to about the center of the county, then making an abrupt turn and passing out at about the center of the eastern part of the county. Besides the Trinity River, the county is watered by the Little Bear, Rush, Deer, Denton, Henrietta, Mustang, Walnut and Indian Creeks, and a number of smaller streams, and Hurst and Park Lakes. This is a farming and stock raising county, and the soil is especially adapted to agricultural, and varies from a red sandy to a black sandy. The latter prevails. All the cereals grown in the best black land districts are produced in abundance. The general surface of the country is high and rolling. The water courses are timbered with oak, ash, pecan, elm, and hackberry. The eastern portion of the county is traversed by a belt of timber known as the "cross timbers." This timber consists largely of post oak, blackjack, and hickory.

The assessed value of all the property in the county is almost \$21,000,000, and the average taxable value of land in the county is \$8.92. Improved lands sell from \$10 to \$30 per acre; unimproved, from \$5 to \$15 per acre. The average wages paid to farm laborers amounts to \$20 per month.

There are 1,863 farms in the county, with 632 renters on farms.

The different Christian denominations are well represented by organizations, and there are ninety-eight school houses, with 103 teachers; thus ample facilities are furnished for the youth of the county.

Ft. Worth, the terminus of the Ft. Worth Branch of the "COTTON BELT ROUTE," is the county seat, and renowned for its superb artesian well, that furnishes a fine flow of fresh water. The commercial and industrial interests of the city have developed to a marvelous extent within the last few years, and speak well for the future grandeur of the city.

The products and value of field crops for last year are as follows: 27,089 acres of cotton produced 11,898 bales, at a value of \$476,220; 28,560 acres in wheat yielded 350,823 bushels, valued at \$235,051; 62,602 acres in corn produced 772,343 bushels, valued at \$231,602; 17,147 acres in oats yielded 505,297 bushels, at a value of \$126,324. Irish potatoes have proved to be a very profitable crop. The raising of berries has been very profitable, and is extended from year to year.

## TITUS COUNTY,

**C**ONTAINING 420 square miles, is one of the northeastern counties of the State. It is mostly timbered and well watered. Sulphur Fork of the Red River and Cypress Creek form, respectively, its northern and southern boundaries, and White Oak Creek, a running stream, flows across the county from west to east. Springs of good water are numerous. Blue and Fishlock Lakes add to the water supply. The surface of the county is sufficiently rolling to give good drainage. The prevailing soil is sandy loam, and agriculture is the chief industry of the people. The soil and climate are especially adapted to the growth of fruits; peaches, apples, plums, etc., are raised in great abundance. Vegetables and melons are produced in great quantity. Stock-raising is carried on to a limited extent in connection with the farms. The greater part of the county is covered with forests of different varieties of oaks, beach, hickory, blackjack, pine, linden, ash, walnut, hackberry, and other kinds of timber common to this section of

the State. The pine is being largely manufactured into lumber. Improved lands are valued at from \$3 to \$10 per acre; unimproved, from \$2.50 to \$5 per acre. Acres of State school land in the county, 3,739. The average taxable value of land in the county is \$2.79 per acre, and this year's county tax is 65 cents per hundred assessed value.

The assessed value of all the property in the county is \$1,633,226. The number of acres in prairie is 6,345; in timber, 124,402; in pasture, 2,023; in cultivation, 44,962. There are 992 farms in the county and 655 renters on farms.

The product and value of field crops for last year is as follows: 17,744 acres in cotton yielded 6,089 bales, at a value of \$228,337; 26,336 acres in corn produced 495,555 bushels, valued at \$125,118; 1,854 acres in oats yielded 27,591 bushels, at a value of \$11,300. Experiments with winter wheat have been very encouraging.

The church organizations are Episcopal, Methodist, Missionary Baptist, Presbyterian and Christian.

Mt. Pleasant, on the main line and the Sherman Branch of the "COTTON BELT," is the county seat, and has in its vicinity a celebrated mineral spring, known as Mt. Pleasant Red Spring.

### UPSHUR COUNTY,

**W**ITH an area of 519 square miles, is well adapted to agriculture, is well watered, and has an abundance of timber. The soil is largely sandy or gray loam, and is very productive. Corn and cotton are the principal

field crops. Fruits and vegetables are produced in great abundance. The county is timbered with oak of several varieties, hickory and pine. The Sabine River washes the southwest border of the county, and together with Cypress and Lilla Creeks, and their numerous tributaries, provides an abundant supply of water for all purposes.

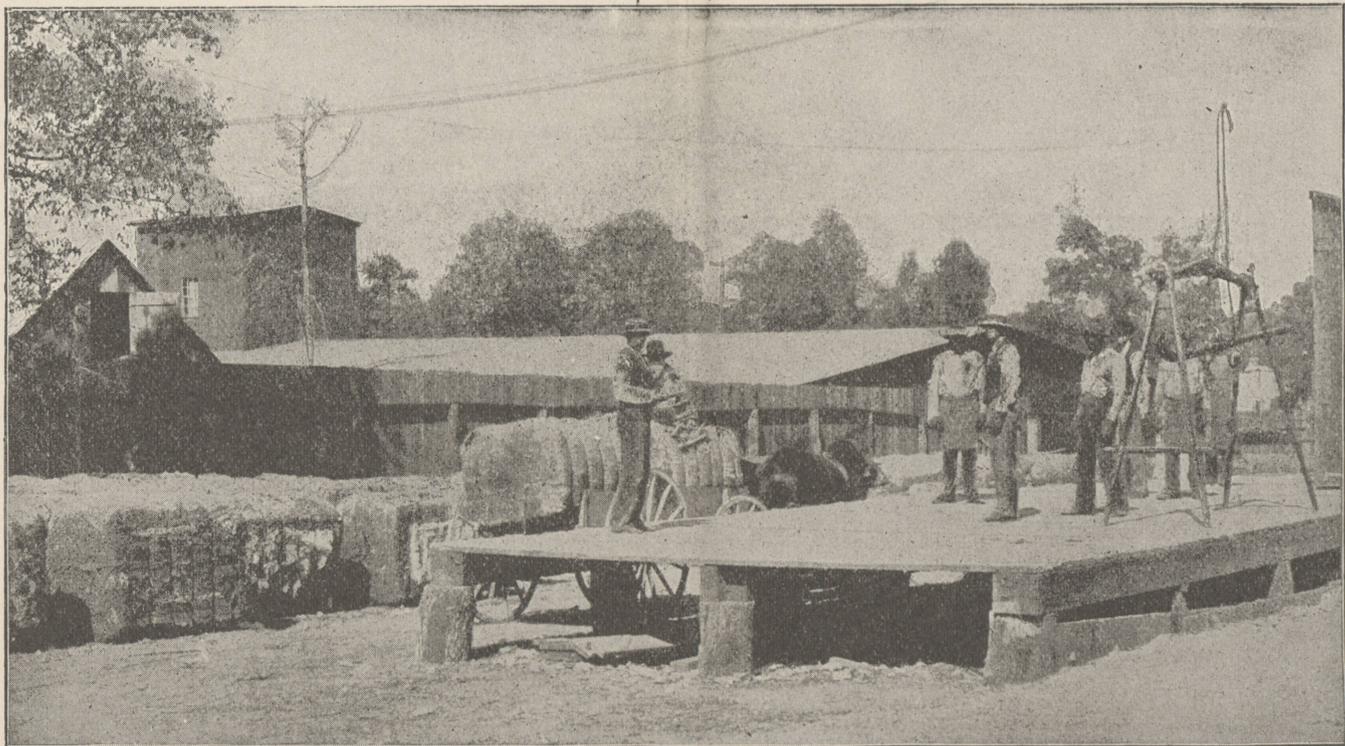
The general surface of the county is level, and the industry of the people is farming, though the lumber business is profitable employment, wherever it is undertaken. Stock is raised in connection with the farms. Improved lands sell from \$4 to \$12 per acre; unimproved, from \$2 to \$5 per acre. 1,583 acres State school land can be had yet in this county.

The assessed value of all the property in the county is \$1,777,071. The average taxable value of land in the county is \$1.86 per acre, and the county tax is 65 cents per hundred assessed value. There are sixty-nine school houses in the county, employing seventy-six teachers.

The religious denominations are the Baptist, Primitive Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian and Christian churches.

The county seat is Gilmer, on the St. Louis Southwestern Railway, and the Phillips Springs, about eight miles south of this place, are widely known and largely recommended for dyspepsia and general debility.

Last year's product and value of field crops is as follows: 16,246 acres in cotton produced 7,806 bales, valued at \$234,180; 29,461 acres in corn yielded 352,855 bushels, valued at \$105,756; 2,874 acres in oats produced 30,165 bushels, at a value of \$7,541.



TEXAS COTTON GIN AND PLATFORM. [FROM RECENT PHOTOGRAPH.]