GARDEN SPOTS OF THE SOUTHWEST

Oklahoma's Capital City, Guthrie, One of the Flourishing Towns That Amazes the Visitor by Its Spirit of Push.

METROPOLITAN IN TONE AND A CENTER OF TRADE

Manifold Resources of the Territory Tributary to It—Crops of North and South Grown Side by Side—Poverty Unknown.

BY HERBERT VANDERHOOF.
Special Correspondence.

GUTHRIE, Ok., Sept. 5.—This is the capital city of Oklahoma territory, but it has none of the somnolent earmarks that are generally characteristic of capital cities in the older settled states of the North and East. Quite the contrary. There is as much snap and ginger to the square inch here as there is in any other city of Oklahoma, and that is saying a good deal. While the city has not as large a population as Oklahoma City, it has fully as much push, and confidently expects in time to have as many or more inhabitants.

Guthrie is in Logan county, which is one of the banner counties of a territory which may be said to consist of nothing else but "banner counties," judged by Northern standards. But the term means something in Oklahoma, the territory whose progress has amazed the world. It is but a little over a decade ago that the site of this city was unbroken prairie, and land could be purchased for a few dollars an acre. Today an acre of land in the city limits means many thousands of dollars, and only the men with bulging bank accounts can hope to ever acquire it.

Many people in the North have an idea in connection with Guthrie and other cities in Oklahoma that they are crudely constructed places, with all the characteristics of a wild Western settlement. It would astonish this class of people to come down here and view the substantial and beautiful city that has been erected within a few years. Nothing like the rapidity of city building in Oklahoma has ever been known in the history of the world, and even many of the original settlers here, who have been in at the birth of many previous communities, have not yet got over their wonderment at what has been accomplished.

An Up to Date City.

Guthrie has all the modern improvements that are found in all the older communities of the North, supplemented by a glorious climate that cannot be obtained outside of this favored section. Its buildings are, many of them, pretentious structures of stone or brick, in the business portion of the city, and the beauties of architecture have not been overlooked in their designing. In the residence part of the city many of the houses would do credit to any community. The streets are well paved, the gas and electric lighting systems are excellent, and it has a water-works plant that provides an ample supply for domestic use as well as for fire protection.

"How much of a population have you?" I asked one of the leading citizens of the city.

"We have never been able to determine that question accurately," he replied, "because of our rapid growth. I should say, however, that we numbered about 20,000 people. But people are coming into this section so rapidly that the population of the city gains every day."

This rapid growth of Guthrie may be accounted for by its multifarious activities. Besides being the seat of the territorial government, which means a certain amount of fixed population, it is also a large jobbing and manufacturing center. There are two score or more concerns engaged in the jobbing trade in this city, with a business radiating all through the Southwest. Its location is in the most thickly settled portion of the territory, all the trade of which is tributary to it. It is also most favorably situated to command a large share of the trade of the Indian territory, and the influx into this latter section is making its influence perceptible.

Forced Into Larger Business.

As a rule, most of the jobbers in Oklahoma cities are also retailers, being forced into the wholesale business by the demands of the surrounding country. Dealers in the smaller towns will come into the cities and buy of the retailers for the supply of their communities. In this way most of the jobbers found themselves forced into a larger line of trade, and now go out after it with energy.

On the first settlement of Logan county, as was the case in most of the counties of the territory, the settlers devoted themselves mainly to the growing of wheat, and it is today one of the great producing wheat sections of the territory. Many an early settler paid the entire cost of his farm, if he was not fortunate enough to obtain one on the "rush," from his first crop of wheat, and then had a good sum of money left for improvements. Today the farmer does not confine himself to wheat alone. He has found out that it is better not to carry all his eggs in one basket.

It did not take the farmer long to ascertain that the rich lands of this and the adjoining counties were also well adapted to the growth of cotton, and that while as fine wheat could be grown here as in the North, so also could as bountiful a crop of cotton be harvested as in the South. So, as a rule, today the order is diversified farming in this section. Besides cotton and wheat, corn, fruit, melons, castor beans, broom corn, cattle, and hogs are raised. For fruit growing this has been found to be one of the best countries in the world, and in the territory around Guthrie some of the most magnificent orchards in the United States are found. And fruit finds a ready market and brings remunerative prices in this section, while steady shipments are being made to more distant markets, the railroads affording every facility to the development of this industry.

Some Mammoth Peaches.

"That's a pretty fine peach orchard you have there," I remarked to a farmer while driving through the country.

"Yes; you don't often see finer peaches than what we raise down here," was his reply. "They not only have the flavor of the best Delaware or Michigan peaches, but they have a much greater size than the California."

"Must grow pretty large, then," I answered.

"They do," he replied. "Why, I've gathered peaches in this very orchard that would average ten and eleven inches in circumference."

Naturally I was incredulous at this statement, but did not think it policy to show my disbelief. Later inquiries, however, convinced me that it was the exact truth, and that the farmer spoke without the slightest exaggeration. Truly Oklahoma has justification for the claim that it is the garden spot of the world.

It is this wonderful productiveness of the soil, combined with the delightful climate, that is bringing settlers into this country at the rate of 5,000 or more a month. For those who wish to farm there is land enough and at prices that seem ridiculously low to the man accustomed to land prices in the agricultural states of the West and North. The investor is also very much in evidence here. Many men of means have bought lands which they lease out to men who have not had the means wherewith to buy, taking their pay in a percentage of the crop. This is a good thing for the investor as well as for the poor man, as the former in two or three years will have received back the entire amount of his investment, while the latter will have made enough to buy for himself.

Poor Men Almost Unknown.

But talking of poor men, there are no poor men in Oklahoma in the sense in which the term is used in the North, because any man with the will and ability to work can always obtain employment. Artisans of all kinds are in constant demand. Blacksmiths, carpenters, masons, etc., find as much or more work as they can attend to, while unskilled labor finds ample employment on the farms.

As an illustration of this point, the county commissioners of Comanche county have been contemplating the buying of land and the establishment of a poor farm, but the project is meeting with great opposition. It is claimed that there are not enough paupers in the county to make it necessary, and that if one were established it would be made a dumping ground for paupers from other counties.

But to get away from the subject of poor men and money making. It must not be taken for granted that the entire activities of men in Oklahoma and the Indian Territory are devoted to the acquisition of wealth. They find time down here for the cultivation of the moral and intellectual side of existence as well as the material, and pursue it with the same intensity of purpose. The school system of Oklahoma will compare favorably with that of any state in the Union. The citizens take a justifiable pride in education and from the very beginning of the territory have fostered and extended the system. It is the same with religion, and handsome edifices of nearly all the denominations can be found in all the larger cities and scattered about the smaller towns.

Indians Seek Knowledge.

Even the Indians have become imbued with the thirst for knowledge, and while in the Indian Territory the majority of them are excellently educated, that is not the rule in Oklahoma. The other day a full-blood walked into a bookstore here and asked for a history of the United States. The proprietor felt some natural curiosity to know what the Indian wanted with the book and asked him the question.

"Going to be a heap big state here some day," was the reply of Lo, "and Indian want to read up on history like white man."

While Oklahoma has not as yet gone very heavily into the sheep raising industry, yet some parts of the territory are excellently adapted to this industry, and a good start has been made. Eastern Payne county is said to be filling up quite rapidly with herds, and the farmers claim to be making especially good money. A number of expert sheep raisers from other states have been down here to look over the field, and their general opinion is that in time Oklahoma wool will rank with the choicest fleeces produced in the country.

Journalism in the Territory.

Journalism in Oklahoma is well established and well patronized. Every town of any consequence has its paper, while the larger cities have a varying number. There are none of the crudities about journalism that one might expect in a new country; nothing of the "wild and woolly West" spirit, but the papers are generally conducted with ability and with an intense spirit of local pride.

Over in the territory the same high plane is noted about the local press, and everywhere there seems to be a disposition to take a cheerful and humorous view of local happenings. In the intervals of his arduous labors the editor of the Holdenville (Ind. Ter.) Tribune the other day dashed off the following:

"How'd you like to be the editor and in the sanctum roost, and skim through old exchanges and write for Jones a boost; and give Young Sport a calling down, Old Skads a ripping up, describe Miss Dash's new silk gown and praise Bill Syke's bull pup? To take in three old dollars and pay out sixteen more, to scheme to make two dollars do the work of more than four; to clip and paste and sweat and swear, and in your pants big holes to wear; to cuss your luck and write hot stuff, be slow to anger, quick to bluff, dun old subscribers, ne'er get blue, go chase up news at 7:02? I think it is just lovely, and so, no doubt, do you(?)"

Another Indian territory paper, the Marble City Enterprise, hearing that a brother editor had become involved in a little unpleasantness, made the following genial comment upon it:

"We see by the papers that our old friend Casey, of the Oktaha American, has had the misfortune to come in contact with a school teacher of cannibalistic tendencies to such an extent that he attempted to make a square meal out of the editor. The school teacher should lose his job forthwith for displaying such an appetite. It is a direct insult to every meat man in the city."

Here is another little extract from the Vinita Chieftain:

"A gentleman who had been down to Claremore the other day says that the radium water has such effect on the kidneys that when a person dies down there they have to take their kidneys out and kill them with a club."

For humorous and grotesque exaggeration Mark Twain seldom wrote anything better.

OKLAHOMA'S RAINFALL PROVED BY GOVERNMENT

Weather Station at Fort Sill Shows an Ample Average Precipitation—Well Watered Country.

BY W. H. HORNADAY.
Special Correspondence.

LAWTON, Ok., Sept. 4.—Lawton is four miles from Fort Sill, where the government has kept a weather station for the past seventeen years. The report of rainfall at that station is very interesting, and never fails to surprise the fellow from down East. People are told—and too many have faith in the tale—that it never rains in Oklahoma. Yet the report at Fort Sill for seventeen years shows an average annual precipitation of 30.65 inches. This table also shows the surprising fact that the rainfall is greater here during the six months of the growing season than it is in Illinois or Indiana. For April the average is 2.88 inches; for May, 5.10; June, 3.30; July, 3.25; August, 2.60; September, 3.40 inches, aggregating 20.53 inches.

The light rainfall in this region occurs when crops are not needing an extra amount of soil moisture. This enables the farmers in Comanche county to plow and do other farm work during all the winter months, and when the rush of spring comes they have all their preparatory work well in hand. It is an uncommon sight to see enough snow during an entire winter to track a jack rabbit, and farmers do most of their tree planting in December and January. The soil and the subsoil are always full of moisture from the fall rains, so that this farm work may always be conveniently and safely prosecuted. This light rainfall permits the most economic feeding and grazing of all kinds of stock during the entire winter.

It is a part of the topographic records of Oklahoma that Comanche is the best watered county in all the territory. There are more streams of moderate size than in any other part of the land of the Fair God. Besides the Red river on the south border and the north fork on the west the entire length of the county north and south is traversed by several large creeks filled with crystal water and lined with gravelly beds. Heavy hardwood timber abounds along the streams, even the small spring brooks being heavily shaded by stately elms and other forest trees.

The water supply for the city of Lawton is secured from a battery of large wells just outside the city limits. This supply was developed and most thoroughly tested by government engineers for over a year before it was approved, as it was not only to furnish water for the Lawton of today, but must be adequate for any demands that the future city might make. This water has been analyzed many times and found to be absolutely pure and soft, and ice plants are using it without filtration.

Lawton has a live chamber of commerce, with O. P. M. Butler as secretary. He and your correspondent will be pleased to answer any inquiries, although neither has anything to sell, both being strenuously engaged in acquiring still more property in this region.

OKLAHOMA'S BIG TRADE BRINGS WEALTH TO WICHITA

Kansas Jobbing Center Profits From Its Position at Gateway of the Great Southwest.

Special Correspondence.

WICHITA, Kan., Sept. 5.—Wichita is pre-eminently the first city in the state, looking at it from a commercial and manufacturing standpoint. This statement can be readily verified by referring to clearing-house statements and the general statistics of the state. This condition prevails largely because of her geographical location, and because of the incomparable richness of the agricultural district surrounding her.

But two cities contest for her trade—Kansas City, 200 miles to the northeast, and Oklahoma City, her rival, 175 miles to the south.

Wichita is at present distinctively a jobbing city, while manufacturing industries are growing to be a close second. This condition results from the fact of her geographic location and excellent railroad facilities. In the matter of freight service this city is from twelve to fourteen hours nearer the great developing Southwest than any of the Missouri river towns, and has thirty-six hours the advantage of St. Louis.

In these days of small stocks, quick turns, and small profits, a country merchant will purchase his goods where he can get quickest service, all things else being equal. Texas and Indian and Oklahoma territories are the gateway, as it were, to all this great and growing country, and Wichita is therefore an ideal location for certain classes of manufactories and the jobbing interests.

The present population of the city is approximately 35,000, and her age since incorporation thirty-five years, which shows a flattering development of a town located in an agricultural district.

Within a radius of 100 miles of the city there is already sustained a population of 710,000 people. The railroad development within the same district is 4,378 miles. It produced last year 48,775,580 bushels of wheat, 51,928,324 bushels of corn, and 12,144,813 bushels of oats.

One of the most urgent needs of this city is a development of her manufacturing possibilities to keep pace with her jobbers. Many articles of general consumption in the great agricultural Southwest can be manufactured in Wichita and distributed from there at a greater profit than from any other city.

The Wichita Commercial club is an institution ever alert to the interests of the city, and H. L. Resing, its secretary, is always ready to give visitors all information possible.

OKLAHOMA WHEAT CROP FAIR.

Corn Is Maturing and Cotton Is in Good Condition.

OKLAHOMA CITY, Ok., Sept. 7.—Thrashing from the stack was advanced to completion over most localities, with poor to fair yield of wheat and good yield of oats. Hay harvest progressed, with good yield and quality, but grass is becoming dried out and stemmy.

Early corn continues to mature, and cutting is progressing, with fair to good yields. The late was benefited by the rains of the preceding week, and is doing well. Cotton is generally in fair to good condition and is fruiting and boiling well. Damage by boll worms, sharpshooters, and shedding was reported, but less so than during the preceding week. Some early cotton is opening and being picked, with a few bales on the market. Broom corn, cane, Kaffir corn, millet, and cowpeas are being harvested, with good yields. Late potatoes are coming up to fair stands and are generally doing well.

Plowing for wheat is well advanced and nearing completion over some localities, with ground in good condition. Some seeding has been done. June corn and turnips are doing well, while gardens are drying up.

Fruit is giving poor to fair yields, with apples continuing to drop off badly. Range grass is drying up and water is becoming scarce over some localities, but stock continues to do well.

TEXAS CROPS IN GOOD SHAPE.

Cotton Will Give a Greater Yield Than Last Year.

SAN ANTONIO, Texas, Sept. 7.—W. R. Mosely, who lives several miles south of this city, was here today and reports that crops in his section are much better now than they were at this time last year.

Cotton, Mr. Mosely says, will make from half a bale to the acre upward, some of it possibly making as much as a bale. Corn also, Mr. Mosely says, is better this year than it has been for many years, as every man who planted corn and has taken any care of it at all has a good crop.

A. B. Burton is also here, and, when asked regarding the prospects in his section, said they are as good as he has ever seen in the twelve years he has been in Texas. In spite of the long continued wet weather during the spring, Mr. Burton says the cotton is looking well, and it is his opinion that it will make a larger crop than last year.

"Some people may think there will be a light crop of cotton in Texas this year, but from what I have seen of the state in traveling over it in the last few weeks I believe the crop this year, in spite of the bad weather in the spring, will be heavier than it was last year. From what I can learn, the boll weevil that destroyed so much Texas cotton last year is not operating on so expensive a scale this year, and this will make a part of the difference."

PIONEERING DE LUXE IN THE SOUTHWEST

How the Big Railroad Systems Build Up New Country by Shooting Ahead of Population and Taking People to See It.

FRISCO SYSTEM'S PLAN FOR AIDING HOMESEEKERS

Perils and Privations of the Old Time Pioneers and the Easy Time Provided for New Ones Picturesquely Contrasted.

BY W. D. EATON.

J. Sterling Morton used to tell of the days when he with a few other fortuitously gathered young men with their young families moved out across the Iowa prairies to the right bank of the Missouri and settled in the rich region that lies around the present town of Nebraska City. They were pioneers in the real sense, pilgrims of hope, builders of empire, and to their vision the vast flower clad plains of the West were not vacant, but covered with a future of prosperity, populous and content. The weariness of waiting was an accepted part of their lot, and every condition of civilized living had to be created where they sat, out of such materials as nature had provided to their hands. They were

The pioneers
Of nations yet to be—
The first low wash of waves where soon
Shall roll a human sea.

There were no surveys. Each of them wanted to "squat" on 160 acres that by cultivation and improvement could be made his own. But to avoid the lapping of claims was a puzzling problem, until Morton finally pointed out that if they built their shacks half a mile apart, each would necessarily stand in the middle of a quarter section.

And so they did it.

Waiting for the Cars.

The nearest railway terminal was away back in the east. They had made their several journeys by ox hauled wagons and on foot. The Indians were too near and too sociable for comfort. The goal to which their days pressed forward was set at the time when the engines would bring neighbors from beyond the two big rivers.

"We used to gather in the evenings and talk about the railroad coming, until we could almost hear the rattle of the cars," he said, "and many were worn out in the waiting, but at last it came."

Railways used to wait until a country was pretty well occupied before they would so much as look it over. The first of them to penetrate open country had to be subsidized by government or otherwise, in grants of credit or grants of land. Then came a great light. It was found that where a railway went population would follow with a rush, and the windswept solitudes of one year become the home of thriving thousands in the next. The old order changed by reversing itself. The railways themselves took up pioneering. Instead of waiting for a country to be settled they took settlement to the country, and created traffic for themselves at a rate and in a volume that made the old ways look petty. This was business, the very best business the railways ever did, and it was done because it paid, and paid enormously.

The modern development of that department of railway management which deals with land and the seekers after land is a very remarkable example of what can be done by thoroughness and fair dealing. Take the attitude of the Frisco System toward colonizing or filling up the Southwest, and see its effect not only in the growth and value of the corporation, but the vastly more important and far reaching significance it has and will continue to have in the making of history in that wide and opulent region.

The Way of the Present.

A few years ago the Frisco lines shot out into new territory in Oklahoma, Indian territory, and Texas, and by making it accessible soon made it populous. This last was not accomplished by merely building the lines and giving easy access to the land. The matter was taken up and organized into a system under which nothing was overlooked that could aid a man who might want to found a new home under freer conditions.

The work begins by a thorough examination of the land all along the line, for miles on either hand. This is done under the direction of the Frisco Immigration association. Careful and intelligent men collect all that is to be known upon the subject and this information is forwarded to the central office in St. Louis, whence it radiates to other offices in the North and East, whose business it is to impart it to prospective homeseekers, so that these latter may know before they start just about what it is they are going out to see. It is so arranged that if an inquiry for information reaches any one of the Frisco agents, or Mr. S. A. Hughes, the general immigration agent, at St. Louis, Mo., it is forwarded at once to the agent nearest the address of the inquirer, who personally communicates with him, and gives him the fullest possible knowledge of the subject of his inquiry, practically at first hand.

Then, twice each month, the company sells cheap rate excursion tickets to the Southwest, and on these dates it gathers the people at Kansas City and St. Louis, or other important points, and thence carries them on a tour of the Southwest, usually accompanied by a careful and capable man, who takes them to and through the special kind of country that interests them most, and sees to it that they get every scrap of information they can possibly want concerning the land, the climate, and whatever else would touch upon the question of living there.

This is pioneering de luxe. Men go to it in Pullman cars, and go through it without ever once getting out of sight of human habitation, or out of touch with telegraph and telephone facilities, or the daily papers. They don't have to experiment with a new country. All the experimenting has been done for them before they go, and the results in plain print are given them to read, or clearly told them by competent men, who make it their very serious business to know all the facts and impart them with fidelity.

The Old Pioneers.

Think of it, O ye who sit with comfort in the homes built up from rude beginnings by your brave forbears, who set their faces to the mystery of the West, and marched, not in companies, but more often alone, or in family groups, into the land whose very silence wooed them on; who fought with wild beasts and wilder savages, and in abundant sweat tore from the wilderness the makings of a state, that you and yours might be free, that your lot might be better in the new places than theirs had been in the old.

No figure in the story of the world is nobler or stands out more heroically than the figure of the old-time pioneer. The spirit of unrest moved him, the spirit of hope upheld him, and his was the strength of the old-time gods, of thew and of heart and of optimistic courage. He did a most majestic work and he did it by individual initiative, undreaming the splendor of its aggregated effect. But his was the old day, the slow day, the day of wide spaces and unvaluable time.

As things are now, hundreds find new homes in the Southwest, or rather have new homes found for them, where, in those days, tens made homes for themselves by their own unhelped work. And these hundreds have only to go see the place they want to see, and have everything done for them while they make the voyage. Days of utter comfort accomplish now what used to eat up months of utter toil; and the chances the old men faced at every turn and venture are all removed from the way of the new men when they fare forth to fresher fields. It isn't so heroic, but it is mighty comfortable, and it lands a man at the goal of his desires with a minimum of trouble to himself.

BIG TRADE OF CUSTER

OKLAHOMA CITY IS CENTER OF A PRODUCTIVE TERRITORY.

Great Variety of Crops and Large Yields Fast Building Up Town Into Commercial Center.

Special Correspondence.

CUSTER CITY, Ok., Sept. 2.—One of the first things that forcibly impress the Northern man coming to this country is the amazing variety of the agricultural products. In addition to all the products of the North, he here finds many of the crops of the semi-tropics, and all yielding with an abundance that the North has never dreamed of.

It is safe to say there is no other section of the Union which can show a greater variety of crops with so generous a yield. Among the staple products grown successfully here are corn, for which Oklahoma took the first prize at the St. Louis World's Fair; wheat, cotton, broom corn, kaffir corn, oats, barley, castor beans, milo maize, alfalfa, millet, cowpeas, potatoes, sweet potatoes, and peanuts. The crops of this section can always be depended upon. The deep soil stores up an ample supply of moisture, and in case of a few weeks of dry weather this reserve proves ample for the growing crops.

Coming Commercial Center.

Custer City is the natural marketing point for many miles of tributary territory, and has unexcelled shipping facilities for all the produce that is brought here. Its merchants are alert and progressive, and their hustle and wide awake business methods are certain to make this one of the great commercial centers of this country. At the present time there is being marketed here in good quantities corn, broom corn, oats, wheat, cotton, castor beans, and alfalfa.

"The magnitude of the business being transacted here may be seen in the single item of broom corn," said J. D. Chalfant, who, as president of the hustling Custer City Commercial club, has exceptional opportunities for keeping well informed on business affairs. "Up to date this season there has been marketed and shipped from this city over 1,300 tons of broom corn. For many years the state of Illinois has held the supremacy for this article, but it will be only a question of a few years when the title will be wrested from it by Oklahoma. The cheaper and more highly productive lands here give the farmer an insurmountable advantage over his competitor in the North.

Oklahoma's Peanut Crop.

"In the matter of the peanut crop Oklahoma has already become a formidable competitor of the Southern states that have heretofore had the monopoly of this product. While the crop will not be as large this year as it was last, the acreage being somewhat less, the returns to the farmer will be quite as large, as the quality is of an extra high grade, and the prices are in consequence much better than last year."

In consequence of the bountiful crops and the good prices at which they are selling, this section is overflowing with money, and on every hand the indications of prosperity are plainly manifested. The farmers have money in the banks, and are spending it freely for the luxuries as well as the necessaries of life. It can be set down as an indisputable proposition that any man who farms with ordinary judgment in this country is certain to make money, and many are making it with a rapidity that they never dreamed of until they came down here, the garden spot of the Union.

TAYLOR REALTY IN DEMAND.

Putting Land on Market in Small Tracts Starts Boom.

TAYLOR, Texas, Sept. 7.—The cutting up of the numerous large pastures in this section of Williamson county and putting the land on the market in small tracts to suit purchasers, and the rapid settling up of the black land contiguous to Taylor with an industrious and thrifty class of farmers, has increased the volume of Taylor's commercial interests most wonderfully during the past few years.

With this comes an increase in commercial pursuits and taxable values, attendant also with a spirit of crop diversification, and while the heretofore idle pasture lands are being sold at from $20 to $40 an acre, and improved lands at from $40 to $75 per acre, there is also an increase in citizenship. This advancement is noticeable also in the upbuilding of all mercantile lines, among which are the increased revenues of th Taylor postoffice under its present efficient management, and to the end that our people may be more efficiently served an effort is now in progress to secure to Taylor a system of free mail delivery, the revenues of the past year showing remarkable gains.

The urban and rural citizenship are now supplied by five rural routes of free mail delivery from the Taylor postoffice, and Special Agent W. E. Springer was here a few days ago inspecting two additional routes and making a revision of three routes already established. One of the new routes will take mail to the Wilson Springs community and the other in the direction of Thrall (Stile's Switch) and Noack, all thrifty and prosperous communities.

Mill Was Slow.

"'Pears to me your mill goes awful slow," said the impatient farmer boy to the miller; "I could eat that meal faster than you grind it." "How long do you think you could do it, my lad?" asked the miller. Replied the boy: "Till I starved to death."—Boston Transcript.

Charter for Territory Line.

GUTHRIE, Ok., Sept. 7.—A charter has been issued to the Tulsa, Turnersville & Texas railroad, with $3,500,000 capital stock, to build a line 150 miles in length, from the northeastern corner of Indian territory in a southwesterly direction through Muskogee and Tusla to Shawnee, Ok., passing through the Cherokee and Creek nations and Pottawatomie county. The incorporators are: Fred Turner, V. N. Sayre, and W. S. Harsch, all of Muskogee, and Joseph M. Neal and William N. Spurlock of Guthrie. The project includes a belt line at Tulsa.

HAVE YOU A HOME?
OKLAHOMA,
the land of plenty, the richest soil in the world, the paradise of the farmer, the opportunity of a lifetime to secure A HOME for yourself and your family at a price within the reach of all. MILD and HEALTHY CLIMATE. Northern people. Churches and schools. I am well posted on this section, and it will cost you nothing to let me describe it to you. Address
M. A. WERT, LAWTON, OKLAHOMA.

OKLAHOMA FOR 10c
COME NOW TO SOUTHERN OKLAHOMA
The BEST PLACE ON EARTH for HEALTH, WEALTH, and PROSPECTS. THE GREAT WICHITA MOUNTAIN-RED RIVER VALLEY, COMANCHE COUNTY, with its famous Capital City, LAWTON. MEDIUM Latitude, Longitude, and Altitude. ABUNDANT RAINFALL. The rich dark soil produces Corn, Wheat, Oats, Cotton, Broom Corn, Cane, in fact the grains, fruits, and grasses of North, East, South, and West. Land prices, $5 to $30 per acre.
SEND 10c for OKLAHOMA AND INDIAN TERRITORY latest combined COLORED MAP. Also free booklet, information, farm price list, etc. AGENTS WANTED EVERYWHERE. We give special railway rates. Show land in our RAMBLER Touring Automobiles and Carriages. Cut this out and SEND NOW.
POWERS LAND & LOAN CO., LAWTON, Comanche Co., Oklahoma.

SCOTT JONES
REAL ESTATE CO.,
CITY AND FARM PROPERTIES
OKLAHOMA & INDIAN TERRITORIES
Can locate you in profitable mercantile business. All inquiries promptly answered.
CHICKASHA, IND. TER.

TEXAS LANDS FOR SALE
Why Not Come South and Live?
I have lands for sale in southwestern, central, and northwestern Texas; can sell you land that can be irrigated from artesian wells in southern Texas; can sell you stock farms, both in central and northwestern Texas; lands where you can grow most anything that is produced from the soil. Why not own a farm in Texas, where within a few years your investment will more than double in value? Lands can be purchased at reasonable prices and on good terms.
Write for prices and description.
W. A. PATRICK,
Immigration Agent for Frisco System, San Antonio and Aransas Pass, Texas.

Free Trip to Oklahoma
The Frisco Townsite Company of Enid, Oklahoma, are town builders, and offer special inducements for purchasers of lots.
We need twenty-five first-class salesmen. We are now offering nine Oklahoma towns for sale. **All Railroad Towns.**
Full Particulars sent upon request. Address,
FRISCO TOWNSITE COMPANY,
Room 1125 Chemical Building, ST. LOUIS, MO.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION.
C. M. Bradley, president International Land Co. (capital and surplus $150,000), also president Bradley Realty Bank and Trust Co. of Muskogee, I. T., has compiled a 105 page manual of statistical information pertaining to the Indian Territory, also rules and regulations for the sale of lands, historical data, and the treaties with the five civilized tribes. This valuable book, containing information that will save you many times its cost, will be sent you with a classified map of the Creek and Seminole nations for $1.00 in stamps or currency. Cut out the attached coupon now and send same with $1.00 in stamps or currency, and the book and map will be sent you by return mail. Write us about lands and investments in Indian Territory. Numerous openings for splendid investments. Lands $1.00 to $25.00 per acre. International Land Company, Muskogee, I. T.
(COUPON) International Land Co., Muskogee, I. T.: Inclosed find $1.00. Send me Manual and Map by return mail.
.....
.....

MUSKOGEE
THE METROPOLIS OF
INDIAN TERRITORY
A Village of 3,500 People in 1900—Now a City of 20,000 and Declared to Have a Population of 50,000 by 1910.
This marvelous growth is due to the up-to-date, progressive policy and public spirit of its business men, coupled with the many natural advantages, such as fertile soil, best of climate, pure water, river navigation to the gulf, immense oil, gas, and coal fields, also unlimited quantities of brick, shale, building stone, granite, and marble.
Muskogee is noted for its railroads, fine schools and churches, its metropolitan business blocks, and one of the finest hotels in the Southwest. A twenty-five mile electric street railway affords transportation to all parts of the city and suburban parks. Many important improvements are under way, prominent among which is a twenty thousand horse water power plant.
This city affords more possibilities for profitable investment than any other city in the Southwest, and we are in a position to secure for you the very finest investments in farm and city property, which will more than double in value within the next three years. We are one of the oldest real estate firms in the Territory, and have a line on all desirable investments. If you are interested in our fine country and splendid opportunities, write us for any information you may desire, and we shall be glad to enlighten you and offer any other assistance within our power.
Watch this space for the next twelve weeks.
We have many interesting and important things to tell you.
S. A. DOUGLAS REALTY COMPANY,
MUSKOGEE, I. T.
References: Commercial National Bank.

YOU OUGHT TO KNOW BEFORE YOU GO!
Indian Territory
A PRE-COMMONWEALTH
Full information about buying and leasing lands. Tells the whole story. Gives the History, Resources, Government, Education, Religion, Taxation, Wealth, and Recent Treaties of the Indian Territory. Just the information you are looking for and need if you contemplate going to the territory. 250 pages, 60 illustrations, large colored map, sent to any address on receipt of price. Full cloth, 75 cents; paper, 50 cents. Address Commonwealth Publishing Co., 716 Traction Building, Indianapolis, Ind.

The Creek Information Bureau
MUSKOGEE, I. T.
We will furnish you a Classification Map of the Creek and Seminole Nation, giving the approximate classification of all lands in the Creek and Seminole Nations, showing the location and the number of acres of Agricultural lands, Rocky Prairie lands, Hilly and Rocky lands, and Mountainous lands.
We will also furnish you a complete abstract of the treaties and acts of Congress, designating the Recording Districts of the Indian Territory, and revised rules and regulations governing the sale and leasing of lands in the Creek Nation, Indian Territory (revised to March 20, 1905).
This Map and the information furnished is indispensable to Home Seekers and Investors in the Growing Indian Territory, as it shows you at a glance just where you can find the exact location of the kind of land that you are interested in. Sent postpaid on receipt of price, $1.00. Address all orders to CREEK INFORMATION BUREAU, Muskogee, I. T.

COME TO TULSA.
WE CAN MAKE YOU MONEY.
We will guarantee to persons who invest through us a profit of 20 to 25 per cent the first year.
We can sell you some property that will certainly double in one year. All of it will double in four years.
We buy and sell our own property, consisting of town property, both business and residence, in Tulsa, the coming city of the Southwest. We have good farm lands, oil lands, gas lands, coal lands, timber lands.
Write us for information regarding Indian Territory and Tulsa.
GEO. W. ADAMS,
CHAS. HALEY.
Reference: First National Bank, Tulsa, I. T.

AN UNEQUALED OPPORTUNITY TO GAIN WEALTH.
The Territorial Land, Loan and Investment Company of Muskogee, I. T., a $2,500,000 corporation, will upon application send you incontestable evidence that an investment in the stock of this company, recently placed on the market and liberally subscribed to by local investors, will net as high as 100 per cent. This is a bona-fide proposition, indorsed by the bankers and other leading business men of Muskogee, who are backing it with their money and brains. The stock is sold at $25 per share, payable in cash or in monthly installments. Interest at 8 per cent is guaranteed, payable annually. This is an investment opportunity that you cannot afford to ignore. You owe it to yourself to investigate and get at the facts. Thousands have failed to gain wealth by neglecting or refusing to investigate meritorious investment opportunities that have come to their very doors, like this opportunity now comes to yours. All we ask is that you give us a hearing and we leave your further action to your judgment, but do not sit in judgment until you have seen the evidence and investigated into its merits. One judicious investment is worth a lifetime of toil. Over 90 per cent of the increase in wealth from Ohio west in the last twenty years has been made in the increased value of real estate. Millions of dollars have been made in Oklahoma lands in the past few years, and millions will be made in the next few years in Indian Territory lands.
We will tell you all about the conditions existing in Indian Territory, the restrictions which will be taken off the Indian lands in 1907, and how money in the hands of a strong company like the Territorial Land, Loan and Investment Co. can be used now to buy freedman land and secure large holdings of Indian land that will increase manifold in value within a short time. This is a certainty. The money secured on subscriptions for shares in the Territorial Land, Loan and Investment Co. will be placed in land investments by officers of the company, who have lived in the territory for years and who know every foot of the country. The stockholders will have the best security obtainable; namely, lands—there is no better security.
Send one or both of attached coupons to us today and take the first step, which is the all important one.
For $1.00 in stamps, money, or money order we will send government classification maps of the CREEK, SEMINOLE, and CHEROKEE NATIONS, showing quality of land as classified by the government appraisers, and INDIAN TERRITORY recording district map and INDIAN TERRITORY MANUAL, giving government appraisement, interesting data, laws, treaties with Indians, and valuable information for Homeseekers, Land Buyers, Business Seekers, Investors, and Speculators. How to get land and get leases for farming, grazing oil, gas, and mineral purposes.
Now is the time. BIG OPPORTUNITIES and GOOD THINGS DO NOT LAST ALWAYS.
— — — — — COUPON. — — — — —
Send me literature explaining investment proposition.
.....
.....
— — — — — COUPON. — — — — —
Inclosed find one dollar for maps, manual, and valuable information.
.....
.....
Live Agents Wanted in Every County.
Write for Particulars.
THE TERRITORIAL LAND, LOAN AND INVESTMENT COMPANY,
MUSKOGEE, I. T.

READ THIS.
This space is all that was left when I applied. I have lived in Oklahoma. Have been all over it. It is not all good land. The best land will advance most. Can tell you where it is. Can show idle capital where to invest to make 15% interest while land is advancing. I go personally with home seekers and guide them and guard them in their purchases. I look after the titles; get easy payments, conditions, etc. Will loan you money on the farm and give you advice as to best crops, etc. Will get your car fare returned if you buy. You can join my excursion, no matter where you live. I am the Eastern representative of Rock Island and 'Frisco systems. Address G. M. NABER, care Farmers and Merchants' National bank, Wabash, Ind.

..Oklahoma Beats Them All..
Fort Supply Reservation now on the market, consisting of 27,000 acres in the valley of Wolf and Beaver Creeks. Not cheap land, but good land cheap. $3.50 to $15 per acre. Special prices on large tracts for ranch or colonization purposes.
This Is Your Opportunity to Own a Home.
Also improved farms along the line of the Rock Island from $15 to $50 per acre.
For further particulars call on or address
F. V. BRANDOM & CO.,
Immigration Agents,
105 Grand Ave., Oklahoma City, O. T.

MONCRIEF, COOK & CO.
Helped survey the new country and are leading real estate and Abstracters at Lawton. They can give you full and reliable information about any piece of land in Comanche county, and would be pleased to answer your inquiries. They are a permanent fixture, owners of the fine Mountain View Addition to Lawton, and are throughout vellable. DROP THEM A CARD.

For Space on This Page
Address
Manager Land Advertising,
Minneapolis Journal

Defective Page