

**FACTS CONCERNING**

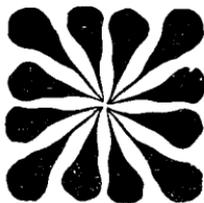
**THE**

**GILA VALLEY**

**The Farmers' Paradise**

**GRAHAM COUNTY**

**ARIZONA**

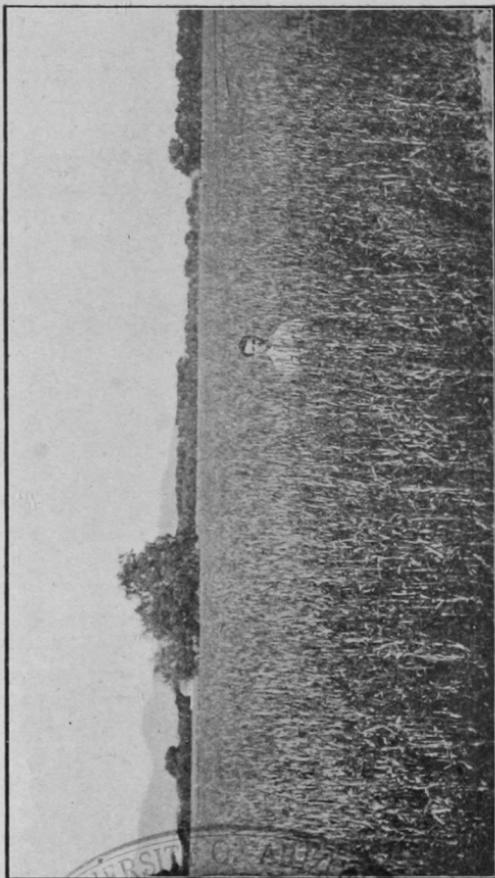


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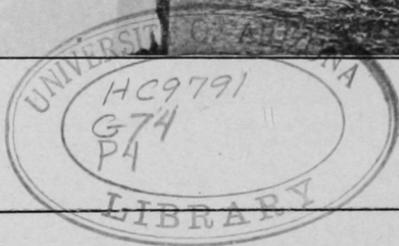
**A. C. PETERSON**

**IMMIGRATION COMMISSIONER**

**Thatcher, Arizona**



WHEAT FIELD



## GRAHAM COUNTY, ARIZONA

Population, 1910, 8,729.

Estimated population, 1915, 10,500.

Area in square miles, 4,700.

Elevation—Safford, 2,932 feet; Thatcher, 2,928 feet; Pima, 2,838 feet.

Assessed valuation, 1914, \$10,418,813.

## Climate

The climate of the Gila Valley is one of the grandest in the world. Winters are unsurpassed in any locality. Lung diseases and troubles are unknown among native residents.

Average maximum temperature, 109 degrees to 110 degrees above zero. The usual summer temperature runs from 90 degrees to 100 degrees.

People are never overcome by heat, as the air is not humid, but clear and invigorating.

Average minimum temperature, 16 degrees above zero.

Greatest extreme recorded, 8 degrees above zero.

Rainfall, 1914, 12.4 inches.

Average rainfall, about 10 inches.

Greatest extreme rainfall, 17 inches.

## Land and Crops

Land now under cultivation, 27,600 acres.

The value ranges from \$100.00 to \$250.00 per acre.

The land is a rich alluvial soil formation and produces most excellent crops, as follows:

Wheat, 30 to 65 bushels per acre.

Barley, 50 to 100 bushels per acre.

Alfalfa, 5 to 8 tons per acre.

Sorghum cane, 100 gallons per acre, value 75c per gallon.

Pears have produced \$400.00 per acre.

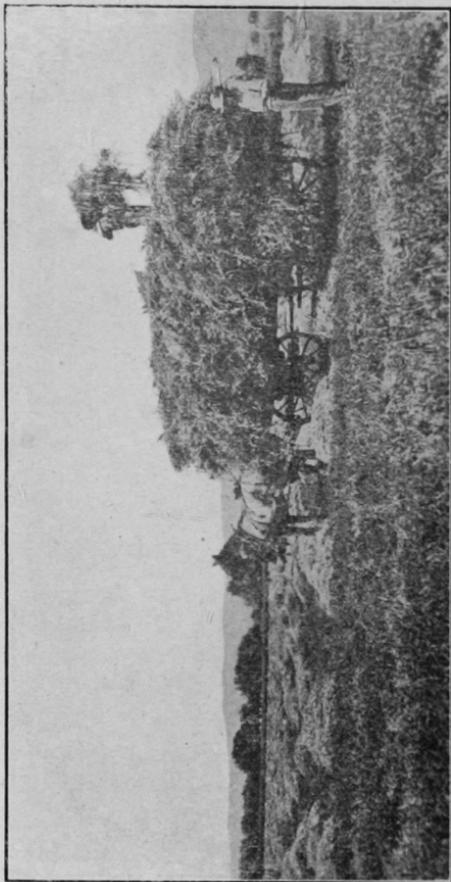
Apples have produced \$300.00 to \$450.00 per acre.

Peaches, \$4.00 to \$12.00 per tree, 75 trees per acre.

Cotton, Long Staple Egyptian, which always brings a good price, produces one to one and a half bales per acre.

Other fruits and garden crops do equally as well. Markets are excellent.

The above figures have been taken from farmers who have kept records, so these figures are accurate.



ALFALFA SCENE

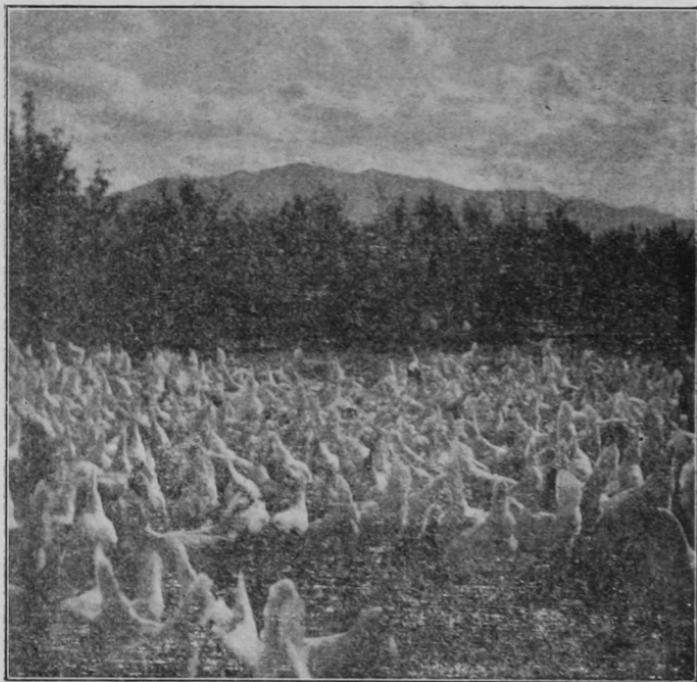
### Poultry

Because of our mild winters, abundant grain harvests and nearby markets, the raising of poultry is one of the very profitable branches of our agriculture.

Those who buy all their feed and equipment, find the cost of maintaining an adult fowl is from one dollar to one dollar eighty cents each year. Some flocks in the county average ten to fourteen dozen eggs per hen per year, at an average of twenty-five cents per dozen when disposed of to local merchants, and at a higher rate when shipped to market by the producer.

We believe that one dollar per hen profit is a conservative figure. No doubt the profit can be considerably increased by raising the feed and by improving the methods of handling.

Thoroughbred stock can be obtained from local poultrymen.



POULTRY SCENE, ANDRUS' EGG FARM

CANAL SCENE  
GILA VALLEY



## Hogs

Another very profitable business is that of raising hogs. Feed is cheap, as the hogs can be pastured on alfalfa and require no grain until they are prepared for market. This takes only a few weeks of grain feed.

Actual records show that hogs have been produced at a cost of  $4\frac{1}{2}$  cents per pound and sold at 10 cents, giving a profit of  $5\frac{1}{2}$  cents per pound.

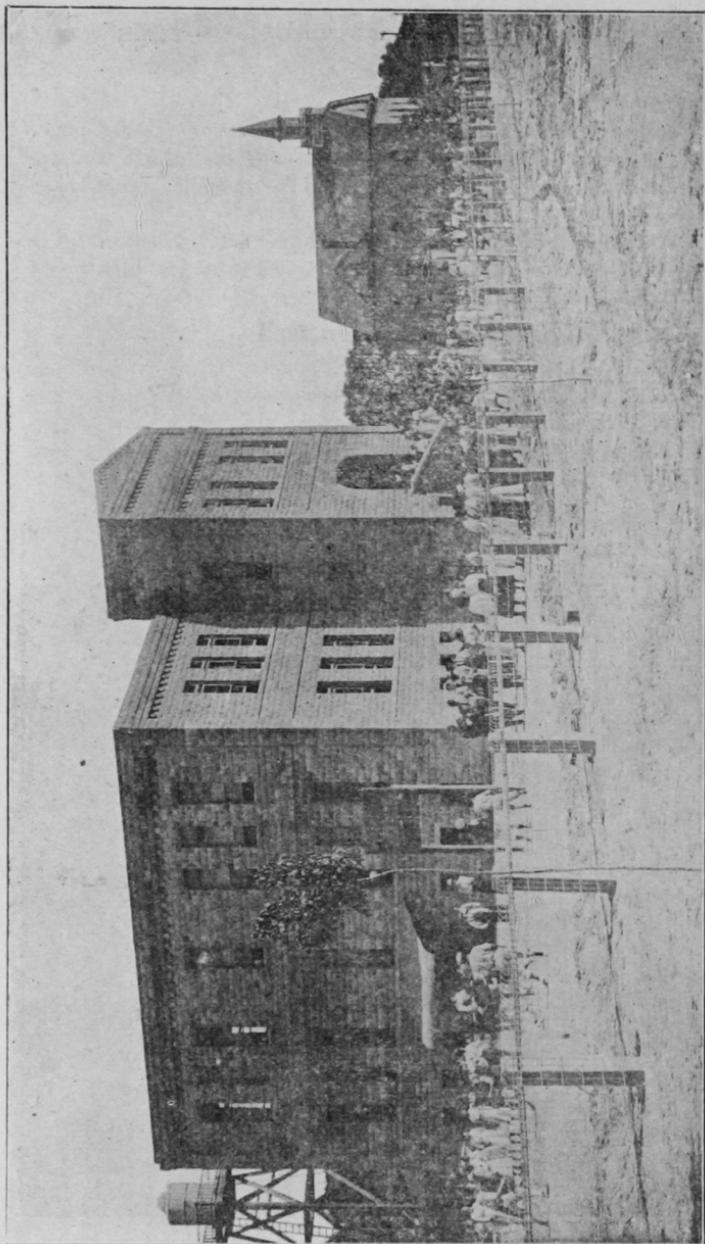
## The Artesian Belt

This section is particularly well adapted to truck farming, as frosts are later in the fall and not so late in the spring, thus giving a long season for crops which require more time.

This is a splendid locality for fruit. Cotton especially does well.

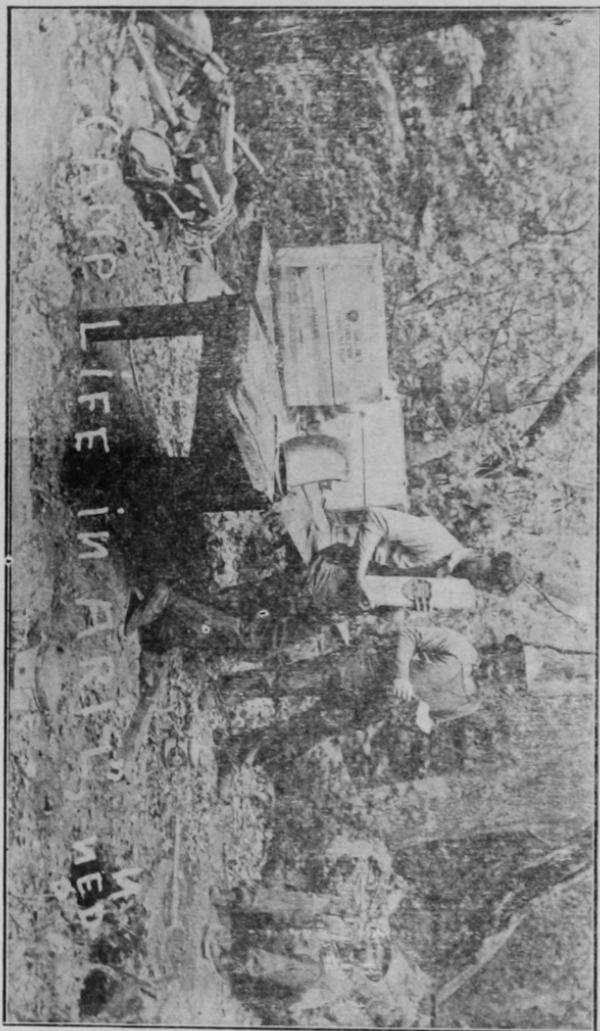


BY SMITH'S STRAWBERRY PATCH

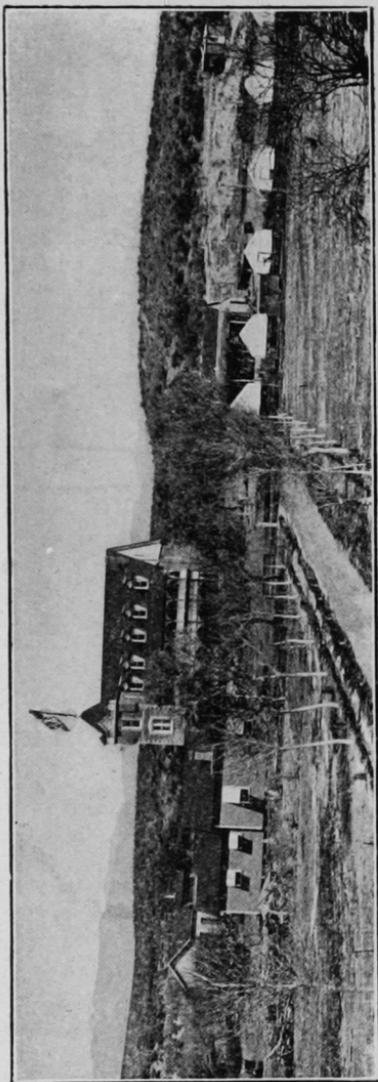


GILA ACADEMY, THATCHER

A MT. GRAHAM CAMP SCENE



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INDIAN HOT SPRINGS HOTEL AND SANITARIUM

The water supply is furnished by mountain streams and artesian wells.

Two of the best wells, which have been sunk recently, give a flow of 350 to 400 gallons, each, per minute.

These wells are 1,150 feet deep. The deeper the well the better the flow of water.

There is also excellent facilities for building reservoirs. A good place for a man with a little capital to go on.

### Roads

Graham County now has a most excellent system of roads, and is making rapid improvements each year. A large per cent of the people now have automobiles, in which to enjoy the good roads and unsurpassed climate.

The Transcontinental Highway passes through the entire length of the Gila Valley. After leaving the valley, this road passes on to Globe and Miami, and then on to the famous Roosevelt Dam, then on to Phoenix. The scenery of this noted highway is most beautiful, as it exhibits the grandeur of Western scenery.

### Resorts

The noted Indian Hot Springs are located in the lower part of the valley. The curative value of these waters are known far and wide. Good accommodations at reasonable rates.

The Graham Mountains, 10,000 feet high, are within a few miles of the largest towns of the valley. The scenery in these mountains is grand. Here, in the warmest part of the year, residents of the valley find a cool and refreshing climate, with water as cold as ice. The mountains are covered with a dense growth of pine and other timber.

The Federal Government has decided to make an elk reserve of these mountains. Other game is quite abundant.

### City Water Works

Three of the valley towns, Safford, Thatcher and Pima, now have mountain water piped into the towns. No better water can be found, as tests show it to be absolutely pure.

### Banks

The valley now has three well established banks, doing a good business. The Bank of Safford and Gila Valley Bank and Trust Co., are both located in Safford. The Citizens Bank at Thatcher. Branches of these banks are also located at Pima.

### Dairying

It is doubtful if any locality in the United States can be found which will equal the Gila Valley for the dairy business.

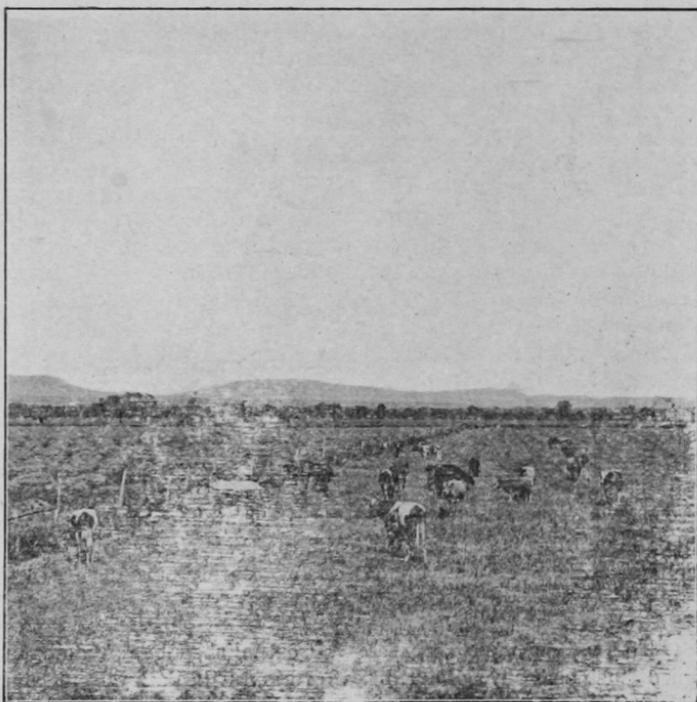
There is green pasture ten months in the year, which causes cows to give an extraordinary flow of milk.

The market makes a greater demand than the valley is able to supply.

Butter sells at 35 cents to 40 cents per pound.

The farmers are just finding out that the dairy business is more profitable than selling crops, so this industry is now becoming prominent.

There is only one good creamery in the valley at present, more are needed in different parts of the valley.



DAIRY SCENE

### Business Houses

The valley is well supplied with good stores of all kinds.

Safford especially has a good variety of business institutions, ranging from the small grocery to a splendid wholesale establishment. Several of these institutions have a capital of about \$20,000.00.

The Gila Valley Milling Company, doing a very large milling business, is located at Safford.

Pima also has a small flour mill doing a good business.

Thatcher and Pima both have several large retail establishments.

Smaller stores are located throughout the valley.

### Papers

Two weekly papers are published in the county. The Graham Guardian at Safford, and the Arizona Bulletin at Solomonville.

### Hotels

Safford has good hotel accommodations. Pima and Thatcher also have good hotels, ample for all demands.

Railroad facilities are good, as daily trains of the Arizona Eastern R. R., run each day, passing through all the principal towns of the valley.

### Beautiful Modern Homes

Many beautiful modern homes have been built during the past eight years, and many more are in course of construction.

These homes are beautified with flowers and roses. Roses, such as the American Beauty, bloom from April to December, something not found in many climates.

### Electric Lights

Safford and Pima both have electric lights.

### Public Schools

Graham County is particularly proud of her splendid School system. It is as good a system as can be found in large eastern cities.

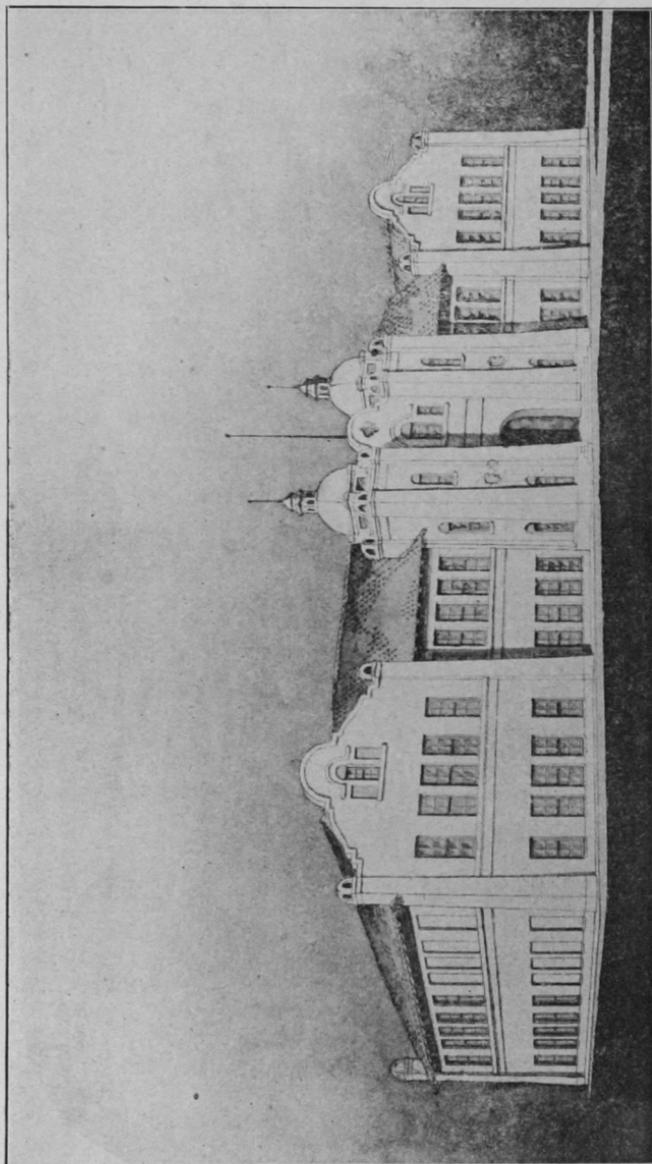
There are thirty school districts.

The average daily attendance is 2,000.

Sixty-two teachers, receiving salaries ranging from \$75.00 per month (the limit), to \$135.00 per month.

The average salary is \$86.00.

The larger towns, Safford, Thatcher and Pima, have splen-



HIGH SCHOOL, SAFFORD

did graded schools. Safford employs 12 teachers, Thatcher 10, Pima 6.

### High Schools

The Gila Academy, located at Thatcher, was established in 1881. It now has an enrolment of 200 high school students.

The following courses are given :

Regular four year's high school course.

Four years' commercial course.

Two years' course in domestic art and science.

Two years' course in wood work and agriculture.

Three years' course in music.

Graduates of this school are now doing quite a per cent of the teaching in the county. Others are found in banks, business houses and other occupations of life.

The building now occupied is most commodious, having twenty-two rooms. It cost \$30,000.00; furnishing and equipment, \$5,500.00; grounds, \$5,000.00; total valuation, \$40,500.

This is a private institution, run by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, but all students of good moral character are made welcome.

Non-members do not have to take the work in theology.

### Safford High School

This is an institution of recent development, having up to September, 1914, offered but the two years of High School work as provided for by the State. In February, 1913, the High School district was organized, and this year a most beautiful building, at a cost of \$32,000.00 has been erected.

The campus comprises several acres, making possible excellent play grounds and school gardens for experimental agriculture, which is an important subject in the curriculum.

The following four-year High School courses are offered and approved by the State Board of Education:

Regular Preparatory Course.

Commercial Course.

Household Arts Course.

Well organized and equipped departments in domestic science, manual training, agriculture, music, art and commercial branches are very popular and are so organized as to prepare for higher education.

This is a public institution, maintained by the Safford School District. Non-resident students of good standing are admitted at a minimum tuition.

Copy of Abstract of Assessment Roll of Graham County  
for the Year 1914

NO.	DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY	VALUATION
27,611	Acres, irrigated land or subject thereto	\$2,269,765.00
	Improvements on irrigated land	306,675.00
38,545	Acres, cultivated land (dry farming), grazing and desert land	316,717.00
	Improvements on cultivated land (dry farming), grazing and desert lands	57,020.00
13,800	Acres, waste land	16,560.00
1,181	Acres, non-productive patented mines	208,480.00
	Imp., non-productive patented mines	4,200.00
1	Concentrator	9,800.00
	Mining machinery and supplies	17,230.00
1,378	Town and city lots	183,120.00
	Improvements on town and city lots	333,970.00
3	Banks	123,674.00
	Furniture, household and office	55,045.00
292	Horses, stock	14,685.00
819	Horses, range	21,685.00
1,334	Horses, work—Class A and B	139,210.00
1,577	Horses, saddle—Class A and B	78,680.00
28	Horses, stallions	9,135.00
112	Mules—Class A and B	8,507.00
42	Asses	241.00
8	Jacks	1,475.00
75,450	Cattle, range and stock	1,586,001.00
1,133	Cattle, milch cows	57,285.00
1,608	Cattle, bulls	67,910.00
440	Sheep	1,321.00
23	Sheep, bucks	117.00
42,731	Goats	86,662.00
941	Swine	7,322.00
897	Dozen, poultry	4,520.00
1,518	Stands, bees	4,691.00
	Merchandise, stocks of	324,366.00
97	Automobiles	57,077.00
8	Motorcycles	1,175.00
84.63	Miles railroads, standard gauge	3,134,881.04
	Improvements on railroads	419,578.96
169.40	Wire miles, telephone lines	13,282.00
215.375	Wire miles telegraph lines	11,519.00
2	Gas, electric and power plants	3,500.00
2	Water works (public service)	17,500.00
	All other property	278,761.00
	Assessed valuation of all property after equalization by County Board	\$10,253,343.00
	Exemptions	61,100.00
	Less exemptions	\$10,192,243.00
	Additions by State Board Equalization	226,570.00
	Total valuation, amount levied on	\$10,418,813.00