

**REPORT OF THE GOVERNOR
OF OKLAHOMA TO THE
SECRETARY OF THE
INTERIOR**

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Report of the governor of Oklahoma to the Secretary of the Interior by Frank Frantz

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FRANK FRANTZ

**REPORT OF THE GOVERNOR
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REPORTS OF THE
GOVERNOR OF OKLAHOMA

TO THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR

1907



WASHINGTON : GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE : 1907

Year	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022																																																										
1	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100

REPORTS OF THE GOVERNOR OF OKLAHOMA.

ANNUAL REPORT.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE,
Guthrie, Okla., September 15, 1907.

SIR: Complying with your request under date of June 30, 1907, I have the honor to submit herewith my annual report concerning the progress and condition of affairs in Oklahoma covering the year ending June 30, 1907.

GENERAL PROGRESS OF THE TERRITORY.

BUSINESS CONDITIONS.

The financial and commercial conditions prevailing throughout the Territory the past year have been excellent and all lines of business have done well, money has been plenty, and the people generally prosperous. The number of business failures has been below the average and the trade outlook for the coming year is excellent.

No State or Territory has a better public and private credit than Oklahoma. Never has there been a bond or security of the Territory or any municipality thereof repudiated. County, city, and school-district bonds or warrants and Territorial warrants command a premium in the market at all times and are much sought after by investors.

Farm loans are being made at 5½ and 6 per cent and loans on city property at 6 to 8 per cent.

Several large loan companies which have been operating in the Territory for years state that they have never had a foreclosure and at no time is there any considerable amount of interest in arrears.

A number of street railway and interurban lines and gas and electric plants have been financed successfully, and openings for more investments of this kind are eagerly sought for by capitalists.

AGRICULTURE.

Oklahoma is situated in a preeminently agricultural region.

There was a time when the present was uncertain and the future looked dark to the men on the farms of the Territory, but to-day the farmer is more prosperous, better situated, and more contented than any other class of people. The feature which more than any other assures the success of the farmer in this Territory is the wide range of crops that can be successfully grown. No State in the Union grows so largely of each of the three great staple crops of wheat, corn, and cotton as does Oklahoma. Nowhere else on the continent does the farmer have so great a number of side crops which he can produce successfully. Everything listed in the seed catalogues will grow and

do well somewhere in Oklahoma. Oklahoma wheat was given the highest award at the Chicago World's Fair, Oklahoma corn took gold medals at Omaha in 1898 and at St. Louis in 1904, Oklahoma cotton was awarded the grand prize at the Paris Exposition, and at two great expositions the Territory has won the highest award for producing successfully the greatest number of agricultural products.

Allied with general farming is fruit and vegetable growing. Orchardists in Oklahoma are producing all of the leading varieties of tree and bush fruits and the profits are very encouraging. Many large apple orchards are bearing fine crops, and the farmers of Logan County alone marketed \$50,000 worth of Elberta peaches in 1906 and will do twice as well this year.

There are openings for thousands of people in Oklahoma, in farming and fruit and truck growing, where they can secure a pleasant home and be assured of a good living and an early competence. The value of crops and other farm products in 1906 is shown by the following tables:

Amount and value of crops in 1906.

	Product.	Area.	Value.
		<i>Acres.</i>	
Cotton.....	500-pound bales.....	261,064	\$18,824,338
Corn.....	bushels.....	48,009,354	17,142,081
Winter wheat.....	do.....	23,015,258	15,042,390
Oats.....	do.....	14,816,842	4,873,330
Barley.....	do.....	399,720	163,966
Rye.....	do.....	42,511	27,791
Castor beans.....	do.....	21,783	71,763
Kafir corn.....	do.....	4,333,781	1,485,937
Milo maize.....	do.....	2,180,145	870,767
Irish potatoes.....	do.....	998,467	737,996
Sweet potatoes.....	do.....	259,358	181,235
Onions for commercial purposes.....	do.....	36,443	36,886
Peanuts.....	pounds.....	810,139	88,761
Broom corn.....	tons.....	44,749	1,821,776
Cowpeas, hay.....	do.....	17,033	180,330
Cowpeas, seed.....	bushels.....	11,207	29,662
Soy beans, hay.....	tons.....	258	1,966
Alfalfa, hay.....	do.....	124,267	1,102,156
Alfalfa seed, threshed.....	bushels.....	17,302	113,668
Bermuda.....	do.....		574
Tame grasses.....	tons.....	10,626	88,799
Native meadow.....	do.....	168,739	784,393
Sorghum for forage.....	do.....	400,436	1,485,809
Total.....		6,096,803	63,022,149

Farm products in 1906.

	Quantity.	Value.
Field crops.....	acres.....	6,096,803
Garden products marketed.....		\$65,022,149
Poultry marketed.....		141,786
Eggs marketed.....		775,094
Cheese made.....	pounds.....	1,346,685
Butter made.....	do.....	8,946
Milk and cream sold.....		1,540,200
Animals fattened and slaughtered or sold for slaughter.....		625,817
Wool.....	pounds.....	5,917,114
Orchard products.....		7,580
Small fruits.....	acres.....	587,896
Grapes gathered.....	pounds.....	108,059
Wine manufactured.....	gallons.....	78,741
Honey.....	pounds.....	6,942
Beeswax.....	do.....	1,930
Wood marketed.....		463
Total.....		55,303
Total.....		76,117,517

From statistics on file in the office of the secretary of the Oklahoma board of agriculture the following estimates are made concerning the crop outlook for the year 1907:

The area of cotton planted in the spring of 1907 is estimated to be 20 per cent greater than in 1906, when it was 1,144,898 acres. Owing to an extremely wet spring, a great deal of the acreage originally planted was abandoned. Cotton had to be replanted, and in the rush of spring work the crop could not be properly cultivated; consequently about 10 per cent of the original acreage will not produce a full crop. The growing condition of the crop is average and promises an average yield.

The estimated increase in acreage of corn planted in the spring of 1907 over that planted in 1906 is 20 per cent, thus making approximately 2,000,000 acres planted to corn in 1907. Corn, like cotton, suffered in the early spring on account of wet weather. A large portion of the crop had to be replanted, and in the rush of spring work the crop did not receive the cultivation needed. In some sections dry weather set in and the corn that was not thoroughly cultivated was injured by the drought. Corn that was cultivated withstood the drought and will make an average crop. Everything considered, the yield of the 1907 crop does not give promise of exceeding that of 1906; in other words, with a slightly increased acreage and in some sections a decreased yield, Oklahoma ought to produce 65,000,000 bushels.

The number of acres sown in wheat in the fall of 1906 was 1,788,709, a decrease of 8 per cent; average yield per acre was 9.44 bushels; 10,500,000 bushels, valued at \$8,925,000, were harvested.

The area sown in oats in the spring of 1907 is estimated at 769,501 acres. The average yield has been 11.15 bushels per acre, thus showing that the oats crop for the year 1907 was a practical failure. This failure is due to the damage by the wheat plant louse, or so-called "green bug."

Estimated acreage of broom corn planted in the spring of 1907 is 157,737, showing a decrease of 30 per cent over that of 1906.

Farm lands in Oklahoma have been steadily growing in value each year as a result of the large increase in immigration from Northern and Eastern States and general development of the Territory. The fact that the public domain in Oklahoma is exhausted and there is no more Government land has been a potent factor in the growth in values the past year.

Many farms have sold the past year for from \$50 to \$100 per acre, but the prices more often prevailing for good average farms within reasonable distance of market have been from \$20 to \$40 per acre, and there are many good farms to be had in parts of the Territory not so well developed at \$10 to \$20 per acre.

The following table, compiled from statistics furnished by the registers of deeds in the various counties of the Territory, contains much information relative to farm sales in the month of April, 1907, and is indicative of the prevailing selling prices of farm lands:

Sales of lands in April, 1907.

County.	Number of sales.	Total acres transferred.	Total price paid.	Price per acre.		
				Lowest.	Highest.	Average.
Beaver.....	88	11,885	\$111,360.00	\$1.23	\$20.00	\$9.37
Blaine.....	96	10,540		5.00	115.00	22.00
Caddo.....	39	4,291.50	102,198.00	9.50	55.00	23.80
Canadian.....		3,340		5.00	75.00	35.00
Cleveland.....	29	4,082	86,775.00	6.25	53.12	31.30
Comanche.....	130	240,000	600,000.00	15.00	60.00	25.00
Custer.....	54	7,740	153,020.00	2.50	42.00	19.70
Day.....	19	3,133	35,385.00	5.00	33.43	11.60
Dewey.....	49	6,639	80,600.00	5.00	23.12	11.51
Garfield.....	33	5,476	239,855.55	16.25	101.24	45.45
Grant.....	24	3,332	121,164.00	17.00	60.00	36.37
Greer.....	128	67,600	363,000.00	10.00	125.00	25.00
Kay.....	23	3,350	149,740.00	9.37	93.75	44.25
Kingsfisher.....	44	5,403.57	117,320.50	20.00	47.00	30.00
Kiowa.....	34	5,650	126,040.00	7.50	87.50	25.00
Lincoln ^a						
Logan.....	35	4,800	126,775.00	11.00	62.60	27.95
Noble.....	23	2,707.32	61,577.00	15.62	40.50	22.00
Oklahoma ^a						
Pawnee ^a						
Pfaff ^a		5,175	102,368.00	9.00	200.00	22.00
Pottawatomie.....						
Roger Mills.....	30	4,800	98,000.00	10.00	30.00	20.00
Washita.....	47	6,651	151,200.00	9.37	43.75	22.73
Woods.....	104	15,080	287,475.00	3.75	55.00	19.06
Woodward.....		12,409	171,377.00	3.21	26.60	13.80

^a Registers of deeds failed to report.

LIVE STOCK.

In the early days of the Territory Oklahoma was naturally a stock country, but with the advent of the settler longhorn cattle have been gradually replaced by the shorthorn, the white face, and the Jersey. A few large pastures are still to be found in Beaver County, where much of the land is suitable only for grazing.

Sheep, goats, and swine do equally well here, and more attention is being paid to this class of stock each year. Poultry raising is fast becoming one of the important industries of Oklahoma and offers profitable opportunities. The value of all poultry products of the Territory, including eggs, exceeds \$5,000,000 per annum. The following figures, compiled by the secretary of the Territorial board of agriculture, show the value of live stock:

Value of live stock in 1906.

	Number.	Value.
Horses.....	378,190	\$27,735,727
Mules and asses.....	91,902	8,574,770
Cattle.....	879,885	20,115,837
Sheep and goats.....	28,280	135,815
Swine.....	484,263	3,694,625
Total.....		60,256,764

MANUFACTURING.

According to the figures compiled by the Census Bureau in 1905, 637 factories in Oklahoma employed 3,492 wage-earners, had \$11,074,267 capital invested, and produced an annual output valued at \$16,433,430. In the two years that have elapsed it is believed that the number of factories has increased fully 25 per cent, and yet the manufacturing industries of the Territory are but in their infancy and there is bound to be an unprecedented growth and development along this line in the near future, when outside capitalists come to realize the many openings and great inducements for the establishment of many kinds of factories and allied industries.

Twelve cotton-seed oil mills are reaping a rich harvest, 24 would all do as well; 10 canning factories are making big dividends, three times as many would flourish; 8 or 10 creameries do well, there should be 80 or 100; 1 packing house does a good business, 6 would all do better, and so on through a long line of industries. There are wagon works, iron foundries, sash and door factories, box factories, plow works, cigar factories, bakeries, printing and book establishments, cotton gins, flouring mills, salt and cement plants, and many other manufactories scattered over the Territory, but on every side are opportunities for the establishment of new ones and a richer field of this kind can be found nowhere in America.

Oklahoma has been producing the finest cotton on the market for years, but not until the last year was a single pound of it manufactured into a finished product within the Territory. A cotton-spinning mill erected at Guthrie at a cost of \$100,000 a year ago has done remarkably well and will double its plant at once. A second mill will also be put in by another company and other mills are projected at other points. Several large cement mills are turning out a large output of cement. Practically all of the cement used in the immense World's Fair buildings at St. Louis came from Oklahoma. A little salt is being manufactured, but the salt deposits of Oklahoma would supply material for a score of great salt plants.

BANKS.

There are in Oklahoma at this time 129 national and 295 Territorial banks, a total of 424, with a combined capitalization of \$7,817,200, individual deposits aggregating \$36,330,820.99, and total resources of \$55,486,757.85. The banking laws are well enforced and the business of practically all of the banks conducted upon a conservative basis.

Consolidated statement of the condition of all Territorial banks at the close of business June 1, 1907.

RESOURCES.

Loans and discounts.....	\$10,020,473.34
Overdrafts.....	384,373.49
Bonds, warrants, and securities.....	387,926.02
Banking house, furniture, and fixtures.....	703,682.72
Other real estate owned.....	58,180.19
Due from banks.....	5,334,658.61
Exchanges for clearing house.....	78,393.51
Checks and other cash items.....	93,144.58
Cash in bank.....	1,010,330.39
Total.....	18,051,162.85