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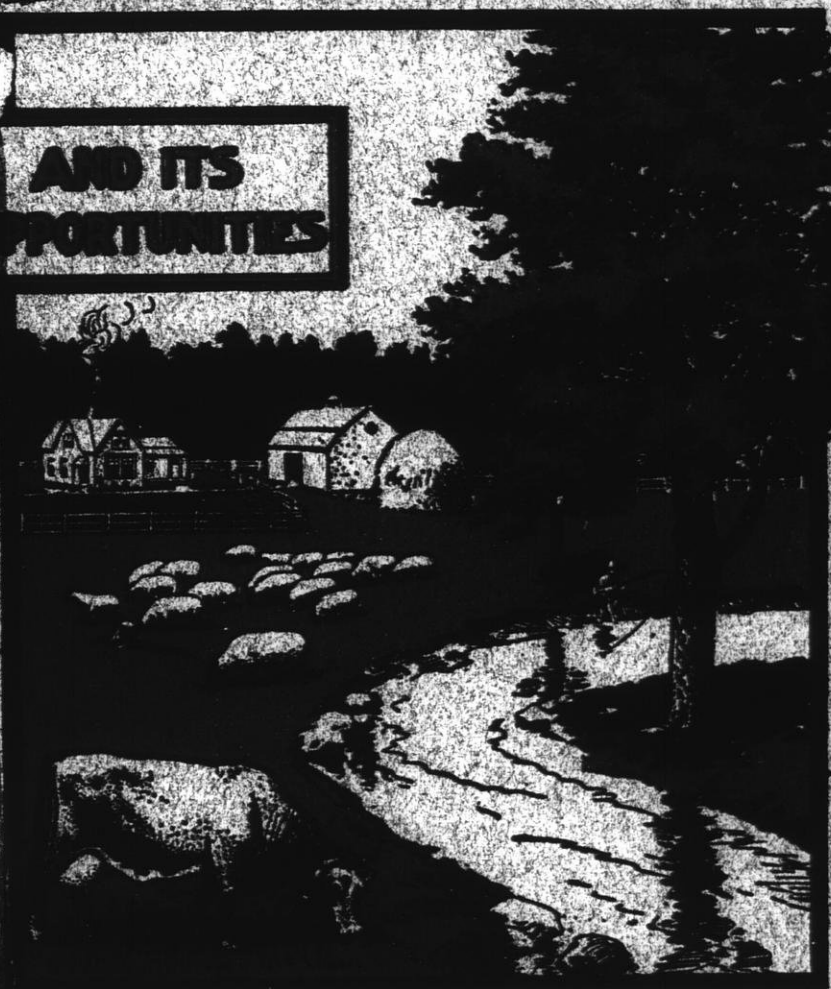
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WISCONSIN

AND ITS
OPPORTUNITIES

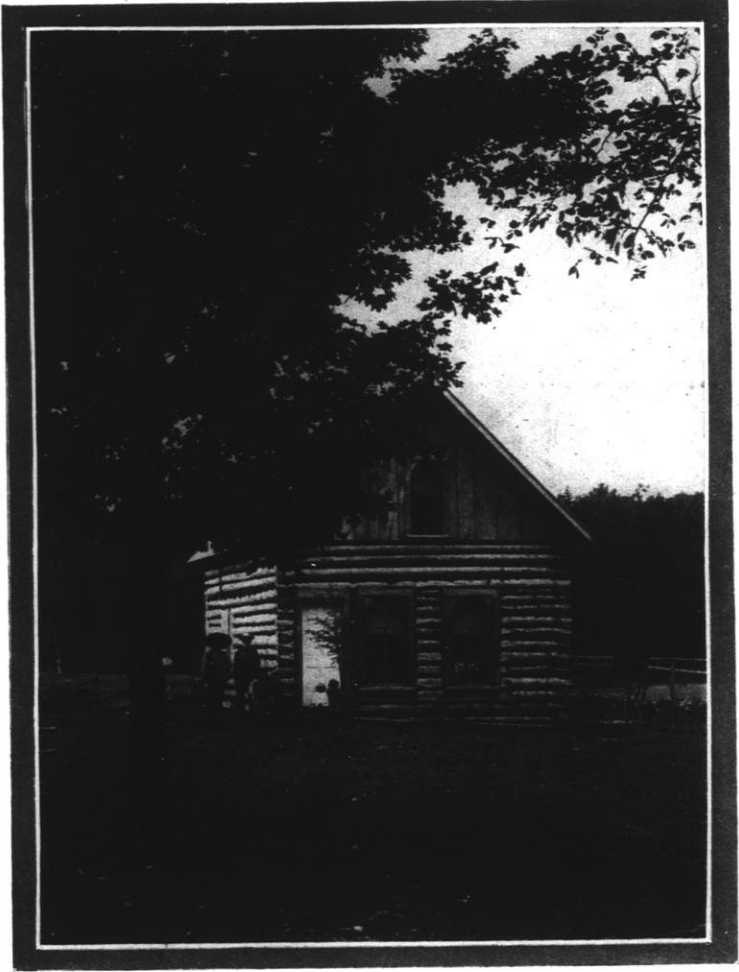


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ILLUSTRATED BY PHOTOGRAPHS
Taken in
NORTHERN WISCONSIN

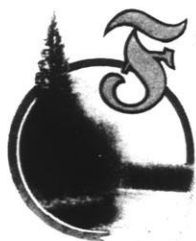
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A NEW HOME

WISCONSIN

And Its Opportunities



FOR many years Wisconsin has been looked to as one of the strongest and most progressive states in the Union. Her progress has that steady, quiet growth which means strength. Her cities are well established

commercial centers. Her business is on broad, yet conservative lines. Her natural resources are varied and many. The forests of Wisconsin, her mineral resources, her water powers and her fertile lands have brought wealth to her citizens, and this wealth continues to multiply and to develop the State.

The position of Wisconsin has naturally made her a great distributing center. Lake Michigan on the East and Lake Superior on the North, with excellent harbors, afford cheap transportation facilities to and from the East. On the West the Mississippi River gives water transportation to the South. The growing communities of the West and Northwest draw more and more on Wisconsin for their supplies. All these factors have helped greatly the general growth of the larger cities and the development of industrial enterprises throughout the State.

Eastern manufacturers are moving to, or establishing branch factories in Wisconsin, and giving added impetus to commercial life.

The nearness of the forests to markets have made possible the many saw mills, paper and pulp mills, charcoal retorts, tanneries, and plants manufacturing veneer; hoops, staves and heading; sash, doors and blinds; matches; wooden utensils; furniture, wagons and carriages, agricultural im-

plements, and other products of a like nature.

The geological deposits in Wisconsin supply large quantities of iron, lead, and zinc ore, and provide the material for plants producing lime, cement, stone, brick, tile and pottery.

Wisconsin's healthy and invigorating climate and excellent railroad and lake transportation facilities have done much towards promoting the recent advancement in all lines of general manufacture. She stands foremost in the production of engines, machinery and leather, while factories making shoes, gloves, mittens, watches, mattresses, farm machinery, together with woolen mills and knitting works, foundries, flour mills, and other industries which come to a center supplying a broad field, have found in Wisconsin those conditions that mean success.

With this industrial enterprise, with the many energetic and picturesque little towns and cities distributed throughout Wisconsin, she has in addition as rich and fertile land as is found anywhere in the Union. The number of her dairy institutions is





The Yield in Garden Produce is Marvelous

now more than those of New York—heretofore the banner state. Her butter and cheese find markets at distant points. Her farms supply to the great Western country their high-bred sheep and cattle. Canning and pickle factories are distributed throughout the State. Her soil is especially adapted to the raising of sugar beets, three sugar factories being now in operation, and several others planned.

Her citizens typify that strong and

energetic spirit that has made the United States one of the foremost nations of the earth. Those who live in Wisconsin realize its advantages best after travelling through other parts of the country and seeing actual conditions elsewhere. Those who come to Wisconsin soon recognize that the natural conditions help to stimulate a healthy and vigorous life, and bring prosperity to those who are willing to do their share to merit it.



FIFTY years ago a large part of all the so-called middle States offered large opportunities to the newcomer, and settlement progressed rapidly Westward. The men who were a part of this new life, often with only their muscle and energy to start them, soon became the prosperous and rich farmers of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, etc. These men appreciated the advantages of growing up in a new country, and they and their children are now reaping the reward. To-day many lands in these middle States, which were originally purchased from the Government at \$1.25 per acre, are now selling at \$100 an acre, and the question—Who received the benefit of this advance in price?—is not hard to answer.

Can the conditions of fifty years ago ever be duplicated?

To the same enormous extent, probably never again in the history of the world, but to-day in Northern Wisconsin there is an opportunity to obtain at a low price farm lands that equal in productiveness any lands in the Northwest.

People ask how it is possible that there should be a large body of unsettled lands, with excellent soil, in a prosperous state and directly tributary to large cities and towns. The following facts explain:

NORTHERN WISCONSIN'S HISTORY.

The entire district of Northern Wisconsin was originally covered with forests of pine and hardwood. At an early date towns started up where saw mills were located. These centers of the lumber interests gradually grew from towns to cities—from a group of houses around a saw mill into manufacturing and business communities. With this growth of the lumber business came the discovery of iron ore near Ashland, and the development of the Gogebic Iron Range. This created what are known as the "Iron Towns"

and added to the importance of Ashland, from which port the ore is shipped to the East. The chief interests in Northern Wisconsin have been lumber and iron, and, while farming communities have gradually extended around all the towns and cities, until recently it has not been possible to clear hardwood lands economically.

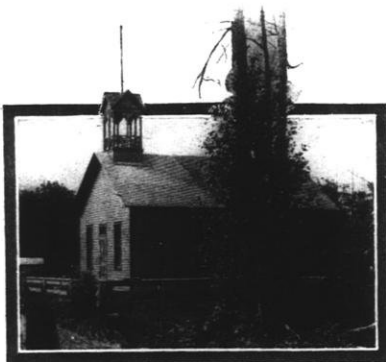
These lands have represented great timber value and have been controlled and held by lumber and other companies, until such time as the timber could be removed. For many years pine was the only timber taken from the lands, there being little market for hemlock and hardwood. Where the lands grew pine only, the soil was light, and with the timber removed the inducement offered to the settler was not great. These exclusively pine areas represent the poorer districts of Northern Wisconsin. Where the pine was scattered through the hardwood forests the soil was good, but if the lumbermen did not want the hardwood or hemlock saw timber suffi-



In the Woods

cient to take it when he was cutting the pine on the same forty it was difficult for the settler to make a profit in removing this timber. Yet even under these conditions many found that it paid to cut down the hardwood and burn much of it on the ground in order to put the fertile soil under cultivation. This valuable hemlock and hardwood timber has remained mostly in the hands of large companies. The market for it had to wait the exhaustion of the supply of pine. The beginning of the demand for hemlock and hardwoods was felt about 1898 and since then has been steadily increasing until now there are more saw mills in Wisconsin cutting this timber than there were pine saw mills. To-day a settler instead of burning his wood to clear the land can find a ready market for all the timber that remains,—in the form of posts, poles, ties, piling, pulpwood, kilnwood, cordwood and bark.

The exhaustion of the supply of pine and the demand for hemlock and hardwood has changed the entire situation in Northern Wisconsin. A few years ago progress was slow, now it is rapid. Men are clearing up the land because it pays them to do it. It pays them in two ways—They not only get returns from what they take from the land, but are opening up the soil for cultivation as well.



A Rural School

THE advantageous situation of Northern Wisconsin is appreciated when one examines the map and sees how near it is to cities of which the combined population to-day represents over three million people, all dependent on the tributary farming communities for their support. Chicago, the largest live stock and grain market in the world, is within a few hours' ride, while the



Knight Hotel, Ashland

markets of Milwaukee, St. Paul, Minneapolis, Duluth and Ashland, and many large mining towns, are always open to the products of Northern Wisconsin. Furthermore, the natural rate of increase in the population of these cities will produce an ever-increasing demand and offer larger and larger opportunities to the farmer for the disposal of his products.

MODERN CONDITIONS.

When a man comes to live in this district, he is not isolated from the advantages of older communities (as were those who came West years ago), nor does he have to undergo the hardships of the old pioneer. He goes to a country of good roads where schools are well distributed throughout the farming district, while high schools are in many of the larger towns, and there is no reason why his children should not obtain as good an education as in other parts of Wisconsin. Churches are located in all the towns and many are found in the smaller settlements away from the railroad.

The Rural Free Delivery and the Farmer's Telephone are the most recent additions to the comfort of the new settler. They are already in many localities, and should spread to all.

ROADS.

The roads are very good in the more

WATER.

Delicious cold springs are found throughout this hardwood country, while pure and soft water can always be obtained by digging a reasonable depth, often only fifteen to thirty-five feet.



One of the Many Streams

thickly settled parts, and in the newer portions are being built as rapidly as is practicable. It is often the case that a settler can get a better piece of land by going a short distance from present roads, and if he does so, he should apply to the Town Board, according to the Wisconsin Statutes (see §1275), who should build a road to his place to connect with the main traveled highway.

SURFACE.

The surface of this region is level to gently rolling, well drained by spring brooks, small streams and rivers.

The lakes and streams abound in all kinds of fish, including trout, bass, pickerel, muskallonge, etc., etc. Hundreds of fishermen come to this country every year. Deer and other game are plentiful; in fact, the country is ideal from the sportsman's standpoint.

FEW SWAMPS.

There are comparatively few swamps, and they do not comprise more than 5 per cent. of the lands in this district. It is quite unusual to find this state of affairs in a new country, but the high elevation and numerous streams are the explanation. Nearly all the

swamps with which a settler comes in contact can be easily and cheaply drained, and when this is done, a tract with a most fertile and almost inexhaustible soil has been obtained. The ease with which these swamps can be cleared and their great productiveness when seeded to timothy should be noted by those who are looking towards

early spring pasturage, so we here find the remarkable condition of having green grass from the melting of the snow in the spring until the snow again flies in early winter. This, as can be readily seen, is of great advantage to the sheep and dairyman. In Northern Wisconsin he also finds that his pastures in the middle of summer



Results After Treating Open Spruce Swamp With Wood Ashes

Northern Wisconsin as a stock-raising country. Often these swamps furnish a quick solution for winter feed. Most swamps are covered with tamarack, cedar or spruce. Tamarack brings a ready sale in the form of ties, cedar in the form of ties, posts and poles, and spruce is cut into pulpwood to be used in the manufacture of paper.

RAINFALL.

The rainfall is regular and abundant throughout the summer, and a drought is seldom or never known. This allows the fields to remain green throughout the season and to produce large second crops of clovers and grasses. This plentiful rainfall accounts for the fact that the actual time that sheep and cattle can be pastured on clover and grass without extra forage is often as long or longer than in Illinois and adjacent states.

PASTURAGE.

Fall grass is kept green by the covering of snow and is available for

do not get dry and parched, and while snow may come a little earlier in the winter (or in the first part of December) and remain a little later in the spring than in states further south, yet, because the farmer can depend on good pasture throughout the season, the amount of extra feed needed is not increased over that used by farmers further south. This pasturage produces milk of the richest quality.

WHAT THE SOIL WILL PRODUCE.

Oats, wheat, rye and barley give very large yields; corn of early varieties is successfully grown, while potatoes and other root crops of the best quality are produced. Small fruits flourish and come on the market a little later than from the localities near by the Chicago market, thus insuring good prices. Excellent crops of peas, beans, cauliflower, cucumbers and sugar beets are obtained.

Although we bring out the fact that

land in Northern Wisconsin produces large yields of grain, yet we do not consider that a settler's largest returns will come from growing it for the market, but rather by feeding the same to stock on his own farm. It has been the experience in the southern part of Wisconsin that of the farmers who raised wheat and those who raised cattle and sheep, the dairyman and sheepman made large profits, while the returns of the man raising wheat were uncertain and often small, owing to the competition of the large grain fields further west, and the constant depletion of soils which grow grains, while farms of the dairy and sheep man are constantly being enriched. In Southern Wisconsin, therefore, cheese factories and creameries have developed rapidly, and the large numbers which to-day exist are supplying butter and cheese to all parts of the United States. Farmers of Northern Wisconsin should profit by this experience, and those who intend to settle here should expect to take advantage of the natural adaptability of the country and try to extend the reputation of Wisconsin for dairy and sheep products which already has been put on a high plane by the farmers in the southern portion of the State.

THE "BURNT-OVER" DISTRICTS.

To the man who prefers from the start to go into the raising of sheep or

cattle certain districts that have been burnt over afford endless opportunities. To become ideal pasture these lands need the removal of scattering logs now lying on the ground, and sometimes some small second growth of timber and brush. The removal of the stumps is desirable but not necessary, and is no great advantage except in the tract set aside for garden purposes and for the growth of winter feed for stock. The removal of stumps therefore, is not as much to be dreaded as many people suppose. All hardwood stumps will rot away in a few years if left to themselves, while pine stumps or green hardwood stumps can be removed by the improved methods without much difficulty. In starting in on such land as this, a man should supply himself with a small flock of sheep or herd of cows, relying on land which he owns, together with the burnt-over lands in his vicinity which may be unused, to supply his stock with summer grazing, while he is at work putting his land into perfect condition. Sheep and angora goats help to clear the land, and wherever they graze a mat of white clover and blue grass is sure to appear. The profits from his stock, together with the employment which can be readily found during the winter, supply the newcomer with a good livelihood and money to increase his flock and improve his land.

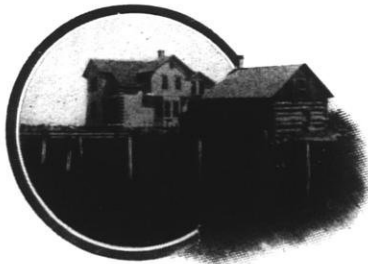


Harvesting Oats

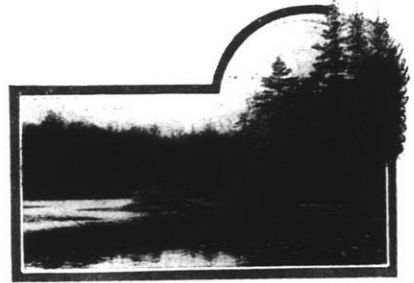
DEMAND FOR LANDS.

THE industrial growth of Wisconsin has added greatly to the value of her lands. It not only has meant nearby markets for farm products but also an ever-increasing population, which creates a strong demand for land from residents of Wisconsin alone.

The counties of Marathon and Clark, originally at the southern edge of the hardwood forests, are now well settled. Wild land in this district well located, and having good soil, could have been purchased six or seven years ago for \$5.00 an acre. The same character of land if offered to-day would bring from \$15.00 to \$25.00 an acre. Many people are wondering why they did not settle in these counties when they could have purchased lands at a low figure. Probably the same people a few years from now will be wondering why they did not settle in Price and Ashland counties. The same principle applies to Price and Ashland as applied to Marathon and Clark counties. To-day the southern edge of the hardwood forest is no longer in Clark or Marathon counties; it has moved to Northern Taylor and Prices counties. In a few years the forests in these counties will have been cut, and the lands put under cultivation. There will then be no supply of cheap lands in the market in that vicinity.



Progress—The Old and the New



NORTHERN Wisconsin appeals strongly to the man who wishes to live and have his children grow up under modern conditions and in pleasant surroundings. A man once remarked, "There are parts of the United States where I should like to live three months in the year, other parts for six months of the year, but since I have to live in one locality for three hundred and sixty-five days in the year—give me Wisconsin." This remark covers a big truth. We often hear of the delightful climate and the fertility of the soil of other localities, but were a person to live there throughout the year he would be likely to find times when this fertile soil became parched, the roads deep with dust, and the heat unbearable. In the same way a man visiting parts of the Western Plains when rains have been sufficient to produce large crops, cannot picture in his mind the time of drought, nor can he from a few weeks' visit in the summer understand what a winter blizzard means on these same plains.

The conditions in Northern Wisconsin insure good crops and good health year after year. The summers are delightful, and the still dry cold of the winter adds vim and energy to the body.

No man in Wisconsin need be far from markets, nor distant from good schools at which his children can be educated. If there is sickness or a serious accident, he is within reach of the best medical and surgical aid. He is always within a few hours' ride by train from some large and prosperous city from which supplies can be obtained, or at which he can market his product. If the farmer looks a little ahead, he can see in these same cities business opportunities for his growing sons, without having them go far from the farm home.

its greater. It may be a small beginning but the future results are certain where the settler is thrifty and industrious.

It is but seldom that you find a man with capital of less than \$500.00 who can support his family and educate his children and in addition look forward to a time ten years ahead when he will own property worth at least \$5,000.00. Yet that is just what is offered in Northern Wisconsin to-day. It is no flight of the imagination to believe that an eighty-acre farm is worth over \$50.00 an acre, including the buildings,



The Land Made this Farmer Well-to-do

IN coming to Northern Wisconsin a man must be willing to adapt himself to the local conditions.

The land that he purchases is not a farm in its present state. Like the tailor who buys a piece of cloth and makes it into a suit of clothes for which he can get a good price, the settler buys cut-over land and makes it into a farm equal in productiveness to any farm in Southern Wisconsin. He pays a low price for his land and needs but little capital to start with. Gradually as the farm begins to grow the wealth of the settler begins to increase. Each year the amount of land cultivated becomes larger and the prof-

live stock and farm implements, when it has soil that will produce as good crops as land in other parts of the State selling to-day for \$100.00 and even \$125.00 an acre.

As heretofore stated, during the first few years a settler must adapt himself to his surroundings. He must be willing to swing an axe, since his first returns from his land are usually from the wood on it. If in need of money he may have to work for a few months in a nearby sawmill, or in the lumber or bark camps. In the winter he may find it profitable to use his teams to assist settlers or lumbermen to haul their forest products to the railway,

sawmill or tannery. There is work to be done throughout the year. There are no idle times in Northern Wisconsin.

In the fall and early winter both the lumbermen and settlers are busy in the woods. This is the time when the man is cutting his pulpwood, cordwood, etc. When the sleighing becomes good the forest products are loaded and hauled to market. Winter is the busiest time in this district. The men

ber. Even the small boys are in this costume and in it they can roll around in the snow without harm. If a man is driving he often wears a fur or sheepskin coat.

In the spring there is more clearing of the land, and also the burning of the tree tops and brush. Then comes in succession plowing, seeding, planting, cultivating and harvesting to keep the settler busy during the summer



Note the Various Forest Products—Logs, Bark, Ties and Pulpwood

in their gaily colored flannel jackets make a picturesque sight on the roads and in the woods, for the "Mackinaw" jacket is seen everywhere. A visitor who expects to find Northern Wisconsin dreary in winter is surprised when he finds it as busy as it can be. He drives out from town and meets team after team coming in with forest products. It is very evident that no one pays attention to the cold. To be sure, the man one sees does not wear leather shoes and kid gloves. He has on a warm cap, short coat with heavy trousers, warm mittens, long woolen socks coming to his knees outside of his trousers, and some kind of a low rub-

months. All this time the saw mills are running full blast and offer employment to men who want it and in addition there is the peeling of hemlock bark during the summer, requiring the help of many men. The settler is living in a busy world and neither he nor his team need be idle at any time. Where the settler has some capital to begin with he can hire men to help clear his land and can spend all his time in getting his land under cultivation. If he has the money it will pay him to do this, but we want the man of moderate means to understand clearly the difference between trying to make a start in a country where

everything depends on an uncertain crop, and in Northern Wisconsin where one is able to earn money in many different ways and not at one or two periods in the year, but every day in the year, winter and summer.

MANY travelers passing through Northern Wisconsin on a train are not especially impressed with the country, and some people have been given very erroneous ideas by hearing the remarks of men who have given the district but a glance. In going through a prairie country on a train, one can see for miles in every direction and the sight is very impressive, but one cannot get a correct impression of a timbered country from a car window. A bit of cut-over land, though it may have a very productive soil and be a first-class investment to the small farmer, presents neither an artistic nor impressive picture, especially where a grass fire has burnt or killed the timber for a short distance on either side of the track. Furthermore, since a railroad is built on scientific plans, and not to set forth the beauties of the country, it often happens that in order to get a level road-bed the track runs through a series of swamps. Although these bits of country are unattractive they do not extend far on either side of the track, and half a mile away there may be a cluster of farms which will grow seventy bushels of oats to the acre, or raise every year two and one-half tons per acre of clover and timothy hay. This the traveler does not see and therefore does not mention. So we ask the prospective buyer not to be discouraged by any off-hand words of those who have only traveled over the railroad, but to judge for himself of the possibilities of this country by an actual personal examination. With the low rates granted by the Wisconsin Central Railway, and

the attention given free to each settler to aid him in getting a good idea of the country and in making a proper selection of land, no one should hesitate to take a trip to see whether what we write about is suited to his needs.



Home Built from Proceeds of the Land

THE FUTURE.

THE tendency of every locality is to specialize and to produce such things for which its natural resources make it best adapted. This is becoming more and more true of every part of the United States as competition increases and enlarged transportation facilities bring new districts into the market. At present Northern Wisconsin is chiefly known as a timber country, but in the future, when farming is the chief industry, it is safe to predict that the attention of the farmers will be centered chiefly in sheep and dairying. These two industries will find their reason for taking the lead in Northern Wisconsin in the remarkable adaptability of the soil for clover, and this, coupled with the equally remarkable growth of blue grass and timothy, will always allow this district to be among the producers of highest grade of stock. Just as Iowa is naturally adapted to the growth of corn, so is Northern Wisconsin adapted to clover. And as in Iowa we find that it is "corn and hogs," in Northern Wisconsin we shall find it "clover and sheep and cows."

CROPS

TIMOTHY.

TO one visiting Northern Wisconsin can help but notice the amazing growth of timothy found throughout this region along highways and logging roads and in the "cut and burnt-over" districts. As soon as the timber is removed and the sun is given an opportunity to shine on the ground, timothy seems to take possession and grows to a remarkable height and density. The seeds of this grass were undoubtedly first brought to the country by lumbermen in transporting their hay to the camps, but it is surprising to notice how much it must have seeded itself to be found so extensively throughout this region on unimproved lands.

RED AND ALSIKE CLOVER.

Even more remarkable than the growth of timothy is the natural growth and spread of red and alsike clover throughout this region. Like timothy, the seeds were probably first brought into the country by lumber-

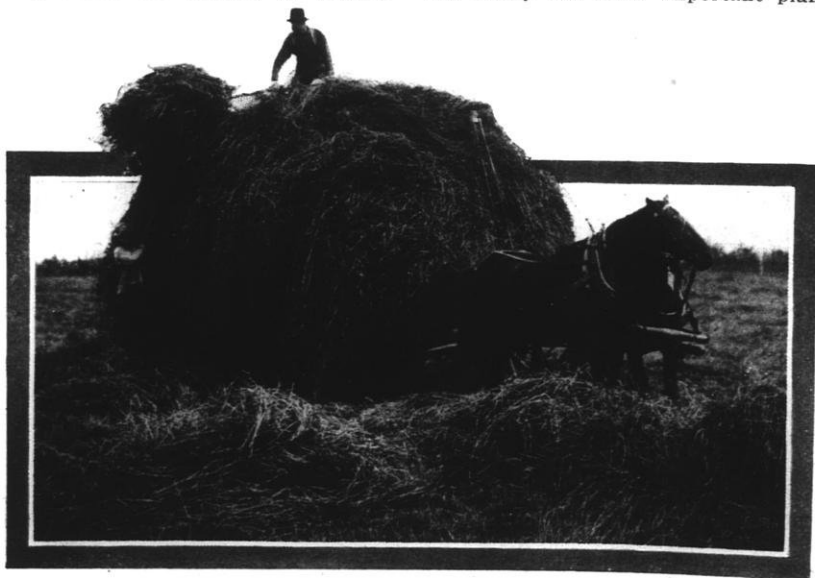
men, but it has spread itself through old cuttings and along roadways so that the proof of the claim that it does not freeze out is self-evident to one taking a trip through this district.

WHITE CLOVER AND BLUE GRASS.

Wherever sheep or cattle graze, white clover and blue grass spring up and cover the ground with a dense mat. The grass is the regular Kentucky blue grass, or what is sometimes called "June Grass" in some parts of the country. Every practical farmer will recognize that a country which will grow Kentucky blue grass, timothy, red, alsike and white clover as naturally as this does, is a region which cannot help but take the lead in dairying and the raising of sheep.

MR. GEO. M'KERROW ON "CLOVER."

In this connection the following statement by George McKerrow, the well-known sheep breeder and superintendent of the Wisconsin Farmers' Institute, is of interest: "The clovers are really the most important plants



TIMOTHY



A Field of Red Clover

that we can grow upon the Wisconsin farm. Clover is the only crop that will give us a good profit and leave the soil better than it found it. The clover plant is the nitrogen gatherer; the microbes or germs, or maybe I had better say the bacilli in the nodules of the roots, are partly what give value to the clover plant. They take nitrogen from the air in the soil and feed it into the clover plant, building up in the roots, and especially in the crowns of the roots, a great amount of nitrogen that is very valuable as a fertilizer, because people who are obliged to buy commercial fertilizer are now paying about sixteen cents a pound for it.

The clover plant also has the ability of going deep for its food stuff, for the potash, the phosphoric acid, the mineral matters, the ash, that it stores up in its body for the growing of bone in your live stock.

Again, clover is a drainage plant, because it runs its roots deep into the hard subsoil, making an opening for the water to get through and those roots in that way add fertility and add porosity to the soil below.

Clover helps to make poor land rich, and when properly handled helps to

make poor men rich; therefore, we say it is a good crop."

CORN.

Although not in the corn belt, corn is grown throughout Northern Wisconsin, and successful results are obtained with the early varieties. While it may be best for the farmer not to rely too much on corn for its grain value, yet it is usually advisable to grow some because of its abundant forage.

RYE AND BARLEY.

Rye and barley are both very reliable crops in Northern Wisconsin and give heavy yields. The demand is excellent, and good prices can always be obtained. The large Wisconsin brewers purchase Northern Wisconsin barley in preference to barley grown elsewhere because of its superior qualities. The area in the United States in which good barley can be grown is limited, and its price does not fluctuate like that of other grains.

WHEAT.

Winter wheat is grown with a considerable degree of success, but the competition of the wheat fields further west do not make this crop the most profitable one here, although the yield per acre is often very high.



Harvesting Timothy Among the Stumps

OATS.

This grain is probably the one which flourishes best in Northern Wisconsin, and enormous yields are recorded. Throughout the region one finds strong straw holding large clusters of grains which are plump and of the best quality. This development is aided to a great extent by the cool summer, which allows the plant to mature gradually. This is one of the best grains for horses, cows and sheep, and the fact that it grows with such good results is of great importance to the farmer.

PUMPKINS.

In speaking of pumpkins, Professor W. A. Henry, in his handbook for the homeseeker, writes as follows: "At Phillips, in Price county, large yellow 'Yankee' pumpkins were found fully ripe during the last days of August and early in September. These well-known farm products are highly appreciated by farmers who are in the habit of searching out a variety of foods for their live stock, and are happiest when the farm animals have the most to eat of the best that the soil furnishes. Nothing will give our readers a better idea of the climatic condition of North-

ern Wisconsin than this fact that yellow 'Yankee' pumpkins were found by us in abundance at points well to the north."

PEAS.

The adaptability of this district to the growth of peas is of importance to the raiser of hogs, sheep and cattle, as well as to the man interested in the canning industry. Again quoting from the writings of Professor Henry, he says: "The pea crop flourishes in Northern Wisconsin in a way perfectly surprising to farmers who have only seen this plant growing further south in the corn belt. Where corn flourishes best, the sun is too hot for the pea vine to do its best, and it usually grows small and spindling, and milldews badly; then, too, over most of our country there is a beetle laying its eggs in the peas, which develops into larvae; these feed on the pea grains much to their injury. We all know the reputation of Canada for producing fine peas in large quantities, and Northern Wisconsin will prove a strong rival to our neighbors in this particular crop. The pea crop of Northern Wisconsin will prove a very fair substitute for Indian corn, through

the ease with which it is grown and the large yields of forage and grain returned. For dairy cows a limited quantity of pea meal may be fed with advantage, while for sheep they are a most excellent food threshed or unthreshed. Hogs may be turned into the pea field to do their own harvesting, and will furnish fine pork if fattened off with a little corn or barley after their run of a few weeks in the pea field. They may also be fed with pea meal mixed with barley or corn. As a region for growing peas, the northern part of our State greatly excels the southern portion." Prof. John A. Craig writes: "There is likely no fodder, with the exception of clover hay, that sheep relish greater than pea straw."

ROOT CROPS.

"Roots grow remarkably well in Northern Wisconsin, for the same climatic conditions favor these that give large pea crops. The cooler days with the bright sun causes the mangel-wurzel beet, rutabaga and other roots to push ahead rapidly and produce roots of large size, tender flesh and with the very finest flavor. When the culture of root crops has been properly developed in our new North, enormous quantities will be used by stockmen for feeding dairy cows and sheep. There will then be no need of shipping carloads of rutabaga turnips from Canada to Wisconsin for table purposes, as is now done."

POTATO RAISING.

Wisconsin to-day supplies a large section of the United States with potatoes, the center of production in Wisconsin now being Waupaca and Portage counties on the line of the Wisconsin Central Ry., the potato lands there being worth from \$50 to \$100 an acre. Yet no better or more lasting results have been shown in these counties than are shown in the products grown in Northern Wisconsin. Furthermore,

potatoes grow here on the heavier soils and large crops are obtained everywhere.

The sandy loam district between Phillips and Fifield is especially adapted to growing potatoes on a large scale. This district has not yet re-



Potatoes that Ran 400 Bushels to the Acre

ceived proper attention from potato growers, but is destined to become exceedingly valuable.

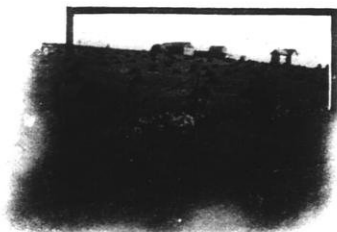
SMALL FRUITS.

The character of the climate as much as anything else makes the berries very large and hardy, bearing transportation exceedingly well. Berries grown here have the added advantage of coming on the market later and remaining about two weeks longer than those from the localities which now supply the larger cities. They thus bring high prices and big returns. The protection given by the covering of snow which remains throughout the winter prevents the bushes or vines from being killed by frost and is a great factor toward making success certain.

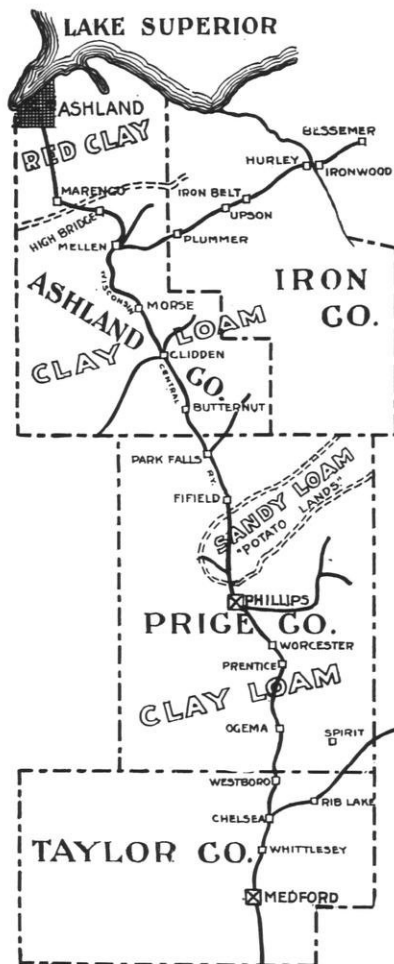
SOILS

THE character of the different districts of Northern Wisconsin varies considerably, and a man should be sure to obtain honest advice when planning his trip of inspection. The following describes, in general, the territory adjacent to the Ashland Division of the Wisconsin Central Ry., this being the district where lands can still be had at reasonably low prices, and where settlement is progressing rapidly. There is no prairie land, practically this entire area being originally covered with hardwood, with some pine. All parts of it are adapted to general farming. There are no sandy jack pine districts, such as are found both to the east and west.

Near Ashland on Lake Superior the surface is level and the soil a heavy red clay. A number of years ago fires went over the lands in this vicinity. They have thus been cleared of much timber, and the territory is especially adapted to stock and sheep raising on a large scale. The growth of clovers and grasses on these clay soils is phenomenal. In addition to the clovers and grasses very large crops of peas are produced, equalling the yields in the famous Manitowoc district. Parties settling in this vicinity should plan to purchase at least 80 or 160



acres, and contemplate going into stock raising.



Twelve miles south of Ashland adjacent to the Marengo river there is a small belt of land where the top soil is a sandy loam and subsoil clay. This soil is naturally adapted to potatoes, apples, strawberries, raspberries and blackberries.

From Highbridge south as far as Fifield the soil is a good clay loam. There is some stone to be found in portions of this district, but it is of a

kind that appears only on the surface, and when once removed there is no second crop. The surface is slightly rolling and well drained. The lands offered to settlers generally have standing green timber.

From Fifield to just north of Phillips there is a sandy loam belt with a clay subsoil, and here and there gravelly knolls and some swamp. Most

what in the different localities, but the soil is good throughout. In some places there are stones (popularly called "hard heads") scattered here and there over the surface of unimproved lands. Where such stones are found, an examination of nearby improved lands will verify the statement that when these stones are once removed there is no



Note the Good Road and Gently Rolling Surface

of the swamps can be drained and easily cleared. This territory is burned over, and offers exceptional opportunities for the sheep man desiring a ranch of considerable size. Much of it can be grazed in its present condition, being in parts very well grassed over. This soil is well adapted to the raising of potatoes, and other root crops, and also small fruits. The swamp soil, when properly treated, grows wonderful crops.

From Phillips south to Abbotsford, the district, generally speaking, has a clay loam soil with gently rolling surface. Its characteristics vary some-

second crop. Most of the lands offered to settlers have some standing green timber that can be marketed at a profit. The general conditions of this district favor the man without much capital.

The soil map of Northern Wisconsin appearing at the end of this pamphlet is inserted through the courtesy of the State University. We recommend a close examination, for it proves two things: 1st, that good soil exists in this district; and, 2d, that the best tracts are tributary to the Wisconsin Central Railway.

CLIMATE

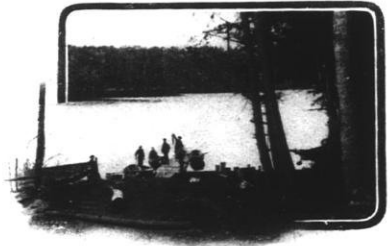
TO the farmer the matter of climate is of equal importance with the character of the soil.

Many men are held back from coming to Northern Wisconsin from fear that they are moving into too cold a climate, but by glancing at a map of the United States one can see that the larger part of Minnesota and that part of the state of North Dakota which contains the greatest wheat fields in the world are further north than any part of the territory to which your attention is called. Furthermore, nearly the entire area of Canada lies north of this region. Though a little colder than the states farther south, there are many advantages attendant on this colder climate, only fully realized by those who live here. The winters are almost entirely free from the continual thaws and sleet storms so detrimental to live stock. The covering of snow which comes in November and lasts continually throughout the winter, provides the ground with a blanket which protects the soil from freezing more than a few inches, and by this protection permits such great feeding crops as red clover and timothy to spread themselves from year



to year, instead of being a one season's growth, as in many states. Either from its situation or the timbered character of the land, this coun-

try is almost entirely free from blizzards. Its elevation is so high that the clear, still, dry cold keeps the blood in circulation, and the body withstands it without effort. Since one is relieved from the piercing winds of the states farther south, he finds that a low thermometer, when the air is



dry and still, is nothing to be dreaded. The snow is also a great aid to logging operations, and allows a farmer to depend on a cheap and easy haul for his logs, ties, posts, poles, pulpwood and other products of the forest. An offset to the cold weather is found in the great abundance of fuel supply always at hand. This permits a warm house without any cost except the work of cutting and piling the wood.

This region is remarkably free from those uncertain and varying changes in the weather during spring and fall, so common in most localities, and so trying to the health of man and beast. In the summer the air retains its bracing qualities, while the nights are uniformly comfortably cool.

The following clipping is a reminder that cold weather occurs in other parts of the United States than in Northern Wisconsin:

Washington, D. C., Feb. 6, 1905.—The weather bureau announced to-day that the outlook is for continued cold weather, not only in this section, but over a large part of the United States. Zero weather extends as far south as Oklahoma and the Dakotas report 20 to 30 degrees below zero this morning. The coldest point shown by the official reports is Valentine, Neb., which registered 32 below.

Northern Wisconsin

A NATURAL SHEEP COUNTRY

By COL. L. D. BURCH*

THE region visited lies about 350 miles north of Chicago, along and tributary to the Wisconsin Central railway, and embraces an area of about 3,500 square miles, covering the counties of Price and Ashland and contiguous portions of Bayfield and Iron counties. The great district forms as nearly

AN IDEAL SHEEP COUNTRY

as any the writer has seen in a quarter century of almost constant travel between the great lakes and the snowy range and from Manitoba southward to middle Texas. It is for the most part high and gracefully undulating and from 600 to 2,000 feet above sea level. It is interspersed with occasional cedar, tamarack, spruce and

gravelly loams, reddish or chocolate hued loams, and red clays. All of these soils abound in lime phosphate, lime carbonate, silica, alumina and other properties of value. They are warm, quick, porous, responsive soils, most of them intermixed with a fair measure of clay, and nearly everywhere supplemented by siliceous clay subsoils. A better combination for sheep farming or mixed farming could scarcely be made up. They not only give

THE WIDEST RANGE OF PRODUCTION

known to husbandry, but are the most bountiful in yield, considering the widely varying products suited to their versatile nature. All of the grains,



Sheep Feasting on Northern Wisconsin Clover

black ash swamps, but these have natural drainage, and their rich and inexhaustible vegetable soils have generally a basis in siliceous clays and marls, and for productive uses are as rich and enduring as the valley of the Nile. Ninety per cent of the country is dry land, always available to the tread of the golden hoof.

The soils of the uplands may be divided into three classes, viz., light

grasses and vegetables of the middle latitudes grow here luxuriantly, as the present season's crop attests, even corn (though beyond the corn belt) making a surprising growth. I saw winter and spring wheat, oats, rye, peas, potatoes, turnips, mangels, cabbage and garden plants and vegetables as fine as can be found in any of the older farm sections, and corn fields good for 40 and 50 bushels per acre.

* COL. L. D. BURCH is editor of the *American Sheep Breeder*, and for years has been an authority among the sheep men of the United States.

For

SPECIAL SHEEP CROPS

such as oats, rye, peas, cabbage, turnips, rape and fodder corn, no country in America can beat this region. All these crops, save rape, may be seen growing in luxuriance at almost any settled point in the district. I have tested rape and alfalfa in my own locality, and find them admirably suited to these soils. To say that this whole region is

A PEERLESS GRASS COUNTRY

is quite within the facts. Blue grass

"I reckon, sir, a clover seed was never lost in this country." Red clover here is as reliable as the tides. It never freezes out, never "heaves" out, but lives its allotted time, re-seeds the land, turns a volunteer crop, denser and stronger than its predecessor, and, like Tennyson's brook, "goes on forever." Two crops of red clover are grown in the season with unerring certainty. Indeed, clover is more tenacious here than timothy, and will run the latter out of a mixed clover and timothy meadow in two or three sea-



A Heavy Crop of Rye

and white clover, twin "children of the sun," and the finest grazing herbage of the middle latitudes, are indigenous, and grow in wild profusion from the water lines to the crown of the hills. For the larger clovers these lime-freighted soils are a veritable paradise. The traveler is rarely out of sight of them. They have been scattered over the burnt lands, along the lumber trails, the cow paths, railways, streets, roadways, and in the clearings by bird and beast, and may be seen in stools, fringes, patches and fields, growing in wild luxuriance. An old lumberman and farmer, long in the country, said to me in perfect candor:

sons, leaving the field a dense mass of its kind as if sown alone, a triumph of the law of the "survival of the fittest" in herbal life unknown, we believe, to any other country. Alsike does equally well, and is often seen growing in the burnt lands, by the wayside and in fields and woods where never a seed was sown.

THE CLIMATE

itself will prove one of the strongest aids to successful sheep husbandry in this favored and favoring region. The steady cold of winter gives appetite, tone and vigor to men and animals—more, indeed, to the sheep than any other farm animal. Sleet, slush and

mud in winter—the curse of the flock in the middle states—are quite unknown here. It is steadily cold from early December to early April, with an average of 70 to 80 days of snow. The winter feeding season is not a week longer than in northern Illinois and the reliable grazing season not ten days shorter. The summer, with its bright, warm days and cool, restful nights, is a benediction. The mercury goes no higher in summer and no lower in winter than in Chicago, Omaha or Buffalo, a rather remarkable climatic condition for this high latitude, and largely due, it is affirmed, to the influence of the neighboring Lake Superior, the largest and deepest sea of fresh water known. Of course, sheep consume more food in a northern winter than 500 or 800 miles further south, for the good reason that the climate gives greater tone, stimulus, vigor and appetite. For the same reason the food consumed gives decidedly better returns to the feeder. Better still, the food required for sheep in this region is far more cheaply grown on these rich, lime-laden, virgin soils, where lands are but a notch or two above government prices, than on high-priced lands southward.



Shropshires

CROP FAILURES ARE UNKNOWN in northern central Wisconsin. The average yearly rainfall is well above, and rarely goes below, 40 inches, and is well spread over the growing season, its certainty and equable distribution, it is said, being mainly due to lake influence. With the mercury up to 90 degrees in a dozen states south of here, the crops cut short, and pastures burnt brown by drouth, it was refreshing to see the fields and woods of this favored region as green and fresh as the hills of Ireland.

THE WATER SUPPLY could hardly be improved. From the little town of Phillips, the capital of Price county, 80 miles north, to the larger city of Ashland, the whole coun-



A Sheep Farm Near Fifield

try is meandered with clear, rapid rivers, creeks and trout brooks, all born of clear, cold springs and silver lakes and lakelets. No sheep farm or ranch need be beyond these sources of water supply. Every cedar swamp has its attendant and appropriate chalybeate spring, of which the cedar (*arbor-vitae*) itself is born. Indeed, this is the "land of bright waters." Sheepmen will hail with pleasure another local condition to successful sheep-keeping on these fresh northern fields. They are

FREE FROM CURRENT SHEEP DISEASES.

No large flocks have yet penetrated these wilds to scatter scab or nodular disease. The deadly stomach worm has not yet found a lodgment here, nor will he while the range abounds in richest browse and tonic weeds.

Sheep will feed in this country better than in others, for it impels appetite, growth, fat, finish and deep, perfectly grown wool as few other countries can. The mutton finished, a trunk line speeds it to market quickly and with trifling shrinkage. Yes, it is a great country for the sheep and lamb feeders, as results will show within the next decade. By the same sign it is a



Second Crop Clover, September, 1904

STRATEGIC POINT FOR SHEEP BREEDING.

The stud flock may be founded and carried up to highest levels, because secure in good health and vigor from the outset. To mate and breed good sheep is well, but to keep them healthy, strong and vigorous, with the reproductive functions unimpaired and in normal perfection, is better. No question of doing that here, where all the springs of life yield to the magic and magnetic touch of pure air, pure water, the sweetest of herbage, and a radiant climate that brings into action the best energies of animal life. Here are the



natural breeding grounds, and westward lies the market field for thoroughbred sheep. And will they be bred here? Yes; why not? Has not the good Prof. Craig already founded a breeding flock of Shropshires only two counties to the southwest? This critical sheepman, who has looked far and wide for a desirable location—and is it not something better than rumor that says the foremost sheep breeder in south Wisconsin—has his weather eye on the very district of which I am writing. Yes, gentlemen, I look for a steady stream of sheepmen to this region, because I believe in it as grand a natural sheep country, which needs only an introduction to the American sheep-keeping public to make it a point for rapid settlement. And I am

NOT ALONE IN MY LIKING

for the country. Before me came Prof. W. A. Henry, the first American authority on grasses and the dean of the Wisconsin Agricultural College. Prof. Thos. Shaw, of the Minnesota Agricultural College and Experiment Station (now Editor of *The Farmer*), and one of the ablest champions of the sheep industry, came later. Prof. John A. Craig, one of the most capable and critical sheepmen in the country, came early, saw clearly and has gone on record with unstinted praise of this region as a sheep country. Prof. Henry indorses the country to sheepmen in positive terms. Prof. Shaw goes on record with his warm approval.

A dozen miles north of Phillips, at Fifield, the north and south forks of the Flambeau river (both broad, clear, rapid streams) drain a large and particularly fine district for handling sheep, most of it high, rolling, burnt land, well covered with grass and easily cleared. Like the Squaw creek country east of Phillips, this district is admirably suited

FOR LARGE FLOCKS.

The country, of which I have given at best but superficial glimpses, is THE LARGEST BODY OF GOOD TERRITORY, without serious blemish that I have yet seen in this north country, but to the great mass of sheepmen is as veritable terra-incognita as the shores of the Polar ocean. The men of the flocks have drifted westward with the popular tide of travel and empire till the plains and mountains are covered with their great herds and the grazing fields are taxed to their full capacity. To ambitious young shepherds there is little left of room or opportunity on the treeless plains or in the mountains. I call their attention to this region because the soil is virgin, the fields fresh and untrodden, and possibilities of sheep husbandry great enough to satisfy a great ambition. That

A BRIGHT FUTURE

is in store for breeders, feeders and flocks in this country of peerless clovers and grasses admits of no question. Competence, comfort and even wealth are here for level-headed men who seek them.



Dairying in Northern Wisconsin

BY PROF. THOS. SHAW*

THE adaptation of northern Wisconsin to dairying is owing, first, to the wonderful suitability which the soil has shown to the production of pastures, to its wonderful adaptation in the production of legumes, to the elegance and variety of crops of small grains produced, to the fact that it can grow immense quantities of fodder corn and soiling foods:

know; but they come and come to remain forever. If the birds and winds could speak, they would probably tell us whence they come. Their rapid growth suggests the thought of spontaneous generation, which is, of course, impossible. But their coming so quickly and growing so luxuriantly calls up the thought of the high adaptation of the country to those grasses. Even in



A Natural Pasture

because it will produce field roots abundantly, because it has ample shade and water: and for the further reason that it is happily situated with reference to markets.

THE PASTURES.

No sooner has the forest been cut away and fire done its work in removing the encumbering timber and brush than blue grass and white clover spring up like magic and take possession of the land. Where they come from so quickly nobody seems to

trails in the forest they thrive where they must needs struggle for the light. This abundant growth not only furnishes fine pastures, permanent in character if desired, but their presence is an assurance that here is a land with a high adaptation to a great variety of crops. In such a soil mixed pastures, also permanent in character, and containing many varieties, can undoubtedly be grown, but the need for these has not yet been felt by the settler.

*PROF. THOS. SHAW is Editor of *The Farmer*, one of the foremost farm papers in the Northwest, and was for many years Professor of Animal Husbandry in the University of Minnesota. Prof. Shaw stands to-day among the best known agricultural experts in the country.

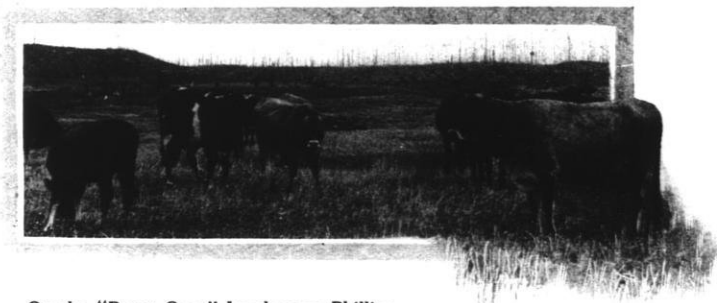
GROWTH OF LEGUMES.

The open prairie all up and down the Mississippi basin has shown high adaptation in the production of carbonaceous foods. But in some areas, especially along its western border, it has not been found so easy to grow protein crops to balance the great preponderance in the carbonaceous food elements. In other words, it is not easy to furnish food leguminous in charac-

ter to make a balanced ration that can be fed along with corn. In northern Wisconsin this question is already settled. The growth of clover is simply phenomenal. The ease with which clover can be grown, the certainty with which a stand can be secured, the extraordinary luxuriance of the clover meadows and clover pastures, can scarcely be credited by one who has never visited the country. The reasons for this remarkable growth of clover are doubtless to be looked for in the abundance of the elements found in the soil which are essential to the plentiful production of this legume. The protecting snow of winter also still further favors its growth, but these are only an aid to, rather than the cause of, its free growth.

legumes and both can be used to great advantage in dairying. Alfalfa has feeding properties the same as clover. It remains much longer in the soil favorable to its growth, produces two or three crops per year, and is equally adapted to the production of fodder and soiling food to be fed summer and winter respectively.

Peas, which will not grow at their best in the central states, because of



On the "Burnt Over" Lands near Phillips

the midsummer suns, do grow admirably in the moderate summer climate of northern Wisconsin, tempered as it is by proximity to the great lakes. This has been proved by the crops grown. But before they had ever been tried, the assurance of success in the growth of Canada field peas was furnished in the timber of this region and the climate amid which it grew.

The seed of Canada field peas is now largely drawn from Canada. Some day it will be largely drawn from northern Wisconsin, unless, indeed, the crops should all be required in feeding dairy cows and other live stock.

CROPS OF SMALL GRAIN.

In the extraordinary growth of clover in all its leading varieties, as, for instance, the medium, the mammoth and the alsike, a guaranty is furnished that alfalfa and peas are also likely to grow abundantly. Both are

the forest trees speak of a soil well adapted to small grains. The character of the soil was a guaranty of the same, and so the settlers have found it to be. Winter rye can be depended upon any season when it has been properly sown, either for pasture or

for the grain. Wheat will grow very well also, but there is not much necessity for growing it in a country pre-eminently adapted to dairying. It would not be correct to say that this region has the same adaptation for wheat culture as the prairies of the northwest, and yet there are no good reasons why good crops may not be grown when desired, in all the years to come. What has been said of wheat may also be said of flax. Oats and barley grow in fine form. The weather is favorable to the growth and maturing of oats and barley, both of which are, or ought to be, staple food crops on land with a high adaptation for dairying. And the permanency of these crops is assured under the fertility of the soil and can easily be maintained through the growing of clover and other legumes.

FODDER CORN.

The settler in the corn belt can readily be made to assent to the proposition that clover and good grasses may grow in the area named, but he shakes his head when he is told that good crops of corn can readily be grown thus far north. And yet, incredulous as it may seem to him, or to any one else, it is true. More than once I have said that as much food for cattle can be obtained from an acre of corn

grown in northern Wisconsin and northern Minnesota, as from an equal area in the heart of the corn belt. I say it again, and without fear of successful contradiction. The acre in the north when fed to the cow will in time produce as much of dairy products as the acre further south, as now grown. Fodder corn may thus be grown, and splendid yields may be obtained. The same is true of sorghum grown for a similar purpose. The corn does not need to be husked, but may be fed directly in the cured form, run through the cutting box and mixed with other foods, or it may be fed in the shredded form or in ensilage. It may be fed along with ample supplies of clover hay, alfalfa or pea and oat hay, thus making a nicely balanced ration.

SOILING CROPS.

The growing of soiling crops, that is, crops to be cut and fed green in a dairy country, is always an important question. Where these can be grown in unbroken succession, the milk flow can be maintained regardless of the character of the season. This region has more than average adaptation for the growing of these crops. The alfalfa crop would be ready to cut and be fed thus, in the early days of June. Immediately after the first cutting the red clover would be ready. Before this



On a Dairy Farm, Taylor County

was gone, peas and oats sown for the purpose would be in the blossoming stage. Before this crop had become too ripe for feeding, millet or corn or the second growth of alfalfa or clover would be ready. Before these crops had been fed sorghum would be far enough advanced for cutting and this crop, with the autumn pastures, could be made to carry the stock right into the winter season, that is, until the first snow had put upon the pastures their winter covering. Such a complete succession of soiling foods can be grown in but a few localities, and all of these named are high in milk producing qualities.

FIELD ROOTS.

The soil that produces the crops just named is also well adapted to the production of field roots. The temperature is not too warm in summer for the growth of rutabagas, and the soil in hardwood timber areas shows a higher adaptability for such a purpose than the vegetable soils of the prairie. Mangles, carrots and sugar beets will respond admirably to the efforts of those who grow them properly. All these are excellent for dairy cows, except rutabagas, which taint the milk. These, however, are good for young cattle, and are no less helpful in growing swine.

SHADE AND WATER.

Shade in a dairy country is always a factor of much importance. Animals which have it rot when torrid suns are shining down from a heated sky cannot possibly produce so well as those who have shade to adequately protect them. Because of this the wise dairyman always tries to furnish pastures well supplied with shade trees. The shade trees may be had to any extent in the region under consideration, unless the settlers are so supremely foolish as to cut away all the trees in the fields in which they intend having their abiding pastures. Groves and

thickets may be retained in certain portions, in which the shade will be dense, or trees may be left in clumps



or individually as may be desired. And if the settlers are only discerning and wise enough to leave uncleared a rim of the natural forest around their dwellings on the windward side, they will have perpetual protection around those dwellings, which even the north wind cannot penetrate. Generally, however, the first thought of the settler is to cut away everything that obscures his view in the immediate vicinity of his home, and then, long years after, he sets to work to plant trees to take the place of those which he had been so eager to destroy.

Reference has been made to the frequency of the running streams. But water is not hard to get from wells. The distance to go is not far, and the supply is plentiful. It is not alkaline, or brackish, or bitter, but clear as that which flows from the crystal streams.

PROXIMITY TO MARKETS.

Dairy products, and indeed any products, find ready sale to the North, East and West. The demand comes from the lumber camps, from Chicago, from the cities beyond the lakes, and from the great and growing cities on the Minnesota border. In time the demand from the lumber camps will cease, but that from the East, South and West will grow greater, especially for dairying and live stock products.

Angora Goats on Brush Land

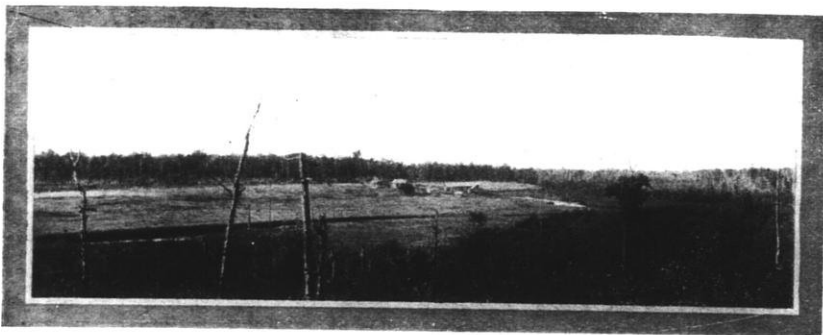
ANGORA goats are automatic brush destroying machines. It has been said that they will do work for nothing and pay for the privilege.

In the spring a farmer securely encloses a small tract of brush land and turns in his Angoras. In the Fall he finds his land cleared, and his Angoras

"The Angora Goat and Its Usefulness."

BY PROF. THOS. SHAW

ALTHOUGH Angora goats have not been introduced into Northern Wisconsin in any considerable numbers, their day is coming. Much of the land is covered with a dense growth of brush and



View of a Clearing—Brush in Foreground is Ideal Angora Goat Pasture.

fattened and ready for the market. The fence that encloses the Angoras must be properly constructed so that the goats will not push through or climb over, for they are great climbers, but the profit from these animals justifies this expense. Their meat finds a ready sale in the Chicago markets as mutton or "venison," and the mohair brings a high price.

The great value of the Angora is admirably presented in an illustrated Bulletin (No. 27) published by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, entitled "Information Concerning the Angora Goat" by G. F. Thompson. This will be sent free to those addressing the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

young trees. These dense growths are tedious to clear by the ordinary methods. It would not be necessary to labor thus if goats were introduced. They would do the clearing. And while thus engaged they should prove a source of revenue to the owner. The forest that is well timbered may easily be made a source of revenue to him who clears it, in the sale of the timber and the wood on it. But usually brush land is expensive to clear. It is a great matter then, when, by the introduction of goats, brush can be given a money value.

GOATS AS BRUSH DESTROYERS.

No animal yet introduced into America will compare with the goat as a destroyer of brush, briars and young timber. The time required will depend upon the closeness with which the leaves are kept eaten by the goats in summer. They will also browse in



winter when the snow is not too deep, but at that season they should not be confined to browse alone. They will also eat the bark on many kinds of trees and in that way kill them, but their mission is rather the destruction of brushes and twigs that cover the land, in some places so thickly that one can scarcely walk through it. As not a little of the cut-over land is of this character, and indeed some that has not been cut over, there is wide room for the introduction of goats as clearers of land. The lands that have been burnt over also sustain a most vigorous growth of young trees, such as goats love to browse upon. It is very probable, therefore, that large flocks of goats will yet be introduced into Northern Wisconsin to help clear the land.

THE COST OF CLEARING BRUSH LANDS.

It has been stated that timber land will usually produce a sufficient return in wood and lumber to pay for the cost of clearing. In the absence of personal experience in clearing brush lands with goats in Northern Wisconsin it may be hazardous to state that the goats will give a return sufficient to repay the outlay of the investment, but I can see no reason why they should not be made to pay, so that the land could virtually be cleared for nothing. The goats could turn the brush into meat. For this meat there is a sale in our markets, and for the mohair there is also a good demand, since so much of it is imported from other countries. When the goats destroy the brush, the portion of the young bushes that can't be eaten soon decay and fall upon the ground. Tufts of grass begin to come up as the sunlight is let in where the bushes grew, hence by the time the twigs are dead there is good pasture for sheep or other live stock. And the growing of this pasture may be hastened by scattering the seed of certain grasses and clover over the land in the early spring while

the browsing is still going on. It should be remembered, however, that the goats would have to be well fenced in if they are to do the work assigned them in the most approved fashion. The fence may be made of rails, boards, or woven wire. In any event



it would be necessary to have it a good height, but the fence would be there when the brush had disappeared, and would be equally useful for inclosing pastures for other classes of live stock.

Goats have been but little kept on the forest lands of the North, hence very little is known about them by farmers in the Eastern States. The Angoras in the high-grade form would be the kind to introduce, not because they would kill the brush more readily than common goats, but because they furnish mohair and meat that bring a superior price. They ought not to be kept on brush alone as they will fare better when they can have some grass. Like sheep, they require shelter in winter and forage in addition to whatever browsing they may do. And they ought not to be allowed to produce their young until the weather is settled in the spring, as the young kids are more tender than the lambs. They can also be kept on grass pastures after brush has disappeared, although it is at least questionable if they will pay as well as sheep under these conditions.

Hog Raising

By DR. A. S. ALEXANDER, Prof. of Veterinary Surgery, Wisconsin College of Agriculture

WHILE the attention of stock-breeders is being justly attracted to the wonderful possibilities offered for the successful production of sheep for mutton and wool upon the fertile, virgin, soils of the cheap, "cut-over" lands skirting the lines of the Wisconsin



Central Railroad in Northern Wisconsin it should be borne in mind that the same region offers essentially practical inducements to the swine raiser.

The corn belt, with its magnificent yields of golden grain—corn that by reason of its treasures of starch and oil furnishes the best possible material for the production of animal fat—has given rise to a breed of swine noted the world over as "the lard hog." This, surely, is a fitting name for the Poland China, which, with the trotting horse, lays claim to American origination and has brought credit and cash galore to its producers. But even corn, like other kings, has its failings and the lard hog is not the criterion of conformation, constitution, or quality. Corn is an incomplete food—superlatively rich in fat formers but correspondingly poor in bone and muscle-making materials—hence animals produced generation after generation upon corn as a well-nigh exclusive diet become similarly incomplete. Like corn they abound in fat; like corn they

lack the corresponding constituents of protein—they are deficient in vim, vigor, bone and muscle. To these hogs cholera has proved a scourge. Their debilitated constitutions and sluggish blood have offered the germ of the disease its most suitable habitat and proliferating place; thus the annual ravages of the fell disease have sadly offset the profits of marketing corn in the shape of the lard hog. In Canada the lard hog has not been extensively bred; nor could it originate in that colder, higher land where corn is not the cheapest, most prolific grain. Where legumes luxuriate there the bacon hog thrives best. His frame is strong in bone; his muscle well developed; his constitution rugged and hardy; his blood pure and his whole system healthy, hence cholera and kindred diseases rarely find in him a breeding place. Nowhere do legumes flourish better than in Northern Wisconsin. Clover springs up wherever sown, drowning unsightly stumps in billows of succulent green forage. One seeding is enough, for clover here neither winter kills nor throws out with frost. Crimson, red, white and alsike clover, cowpeas and beans—these are the legumes, while supplementary nitrogenous food is near at hand in the cheap wheat screenings to be had from the great flour mills of Minnesota and used with profit for hog feeding.

When to high altitude, pure water, invigorating atmosphere and abundance of oats and other protein-rich feeding material cheaply produced and procured is added the fact that swine disease has never invaded this region, it surely becomes apparent that here is to be found Nature's sanitarium for the production of healthy swine.

Making a Farm in the Woods

Being a Paper read by Mr. E. Nordman before a Meeting of the Wisconsin Farmer's Institutes, held at Kaukauna, Wis., March 15 to 17, 1904.

I WISH to say in the beginning that conditions are so varied in the northern part of the State and men's circumstances are so different, that probably no two farmers in all this region should proceed in exactly the same way to achieve the greatest success. Nevertheless, the men who undertake to carve a farm and a home out of a tract of cut-over land in Northern Wisconsin have many problems to work out that are peculiar

made aware is that his land is no farm, but simply the raw material from which a farm can be made. He will also soon learn that making a farm out of a forest requires good ability, hard, steady work, and economical living. It is important that these facts be understood, in order that no one be deceived as to the character of the work he undertakes when he starts in to clear up a farm. Many a new settler has failed because he found the work harder and



Clearing Land. Note the Piles of Cordwood

to this section of the State, and it is more particularly with these questions that I wish to deal in this paper.

There is much inferior land, badly situated, in Northern Wisconsin and the new settler cannot be too careful in making his selection that it is not some of this class of land that he is buying. He should ascertain beyond a question of doubt that the land he is purchasing is of good quality, reasonably free from stone, covered with a vigorous growth of small, hardwood trees, if it is cut-over land, and as near to market as it can be had.

HOW TO CLEAR A FARM.

Having bought the land, about the first fact of which the owner will be

more difficult than his land agent told him it was, and while I know that the northern part of the State has incomparable opportunities for the man with muscle and gumption, yet I nevertheless believe it best for all concerned that the facts be presented without any coloring.

If his land has been selected with good judgment, the settler is ready to go to work. Clearing a farm such as I have advised taking, is a much less difficult undertaking than it was twenty or even ten years ago. The reason for this is that sound timber of all kinds is to-day a source of revenue to the settler, whereas formerly it was a great burden. Land can now be cleared



At the Edge of the Woods

ready for seeding with the proceeds of the timber growing upon it; this, too, where the work is done by hired men. If the settler does his own work, or does it in conjunction with a hired man, he can clear five or six acres of land every year; put up the necessary farm buildings, build fences, and so on, and the sale of his timber, or rather the material that is cut from it, will enable him to keep out of debt while these improvements are being made. The cut-over land that I am acquainted with, will average a yield of about fifty dollars' worth of merchantable material per acre. This can readily be cut and the brush piled in one week by two men accustomed to this kind of work.

In the winter time, this material can be moved two and one-half miles to market, on sleighs, in about three days by a man and team. It is therefore plain that besides clearing the land and allowing a liberal amount for the wages of his hired man, the settler has considerable money left from which to

live and to apply to his permanent improvements.

In cutting material for the market the right way for the farmer to do is to cut the timber clean as he goes along. If more land is cut over in this way than can be cleared ready for tilling, it can be sowed to pasture grasses and made useful in this way.

After all of the salable material has been removed from the land, it will be found that not much more work is required to get the land cleared ready for seeding, and this should be done at once whenever it is possible to do so.

BEST SEEDING FOR THIS LAND.

Timothy and alsike clover seeded with oats and peas for a nurse crop, make the best seeding for land of this character. The reason for this is that this combination, if handled right, produces a first-class quality of hay, and besides the alsike clover will last longer among the stumps than any of the other clovers.

If the stock is kept, as it should be to consume the hay, and the manure from this stock is carefully saved and applied to the meadow lands, these meadows can be made to produce two tons of hay or more per acre each year, until the stumps have decayed sufficiently to admit of their being cheaply removed. It will be found that this will take about seven years.

In the meantime, the grass on these meadows will, of course, have to be cut in the old-fashioned way with a scythe. This may seem like a hardship to some, but we all know there is a great deal in getting used to anything. Hay can be made in this way for less than two dollars per ton, so there is no great sacrifice after all in the few years it will have to be cut in this manner. Besides this, I would not advise any man to ever undertake the clearing up of a new farm if he is afraid of swinging a scythe, for the reason that a new settler has of necessity

this and several other kinds of work to do that are rather more tiresome than driving a modern mower over smooth meadow land.

CLEARED LAND MAKES GOOD PASTURES.

There is usually a good opportunity for the farmer in this section to make at a small cost an excellent pasture of tame feed for his stock, outside of his cultivated fields. Wherever the timber has been thinned out sufficiently to let the sunlight onto the ground and to admit of a free circulation of air, timothy grass will grow luxuriantly. Grass seed can be sowed broadcast in such places and in others that have been burned over, and if scattered at the rate of about four quarts of seed to the acre late in the fall, or before the snow goes off in the spring, it will yield a fine pasture from the start. In two or three years, most of the timothy will be crowded out by blue grass and white clover, but the pasture will not suffer because of this fact. Besides furnishing pasture, this method of seeding land helps materially in clearing for cultivation when the farmer gets ready to extend his clearing over the places that have been

seeded. Around these places it will be found that the brush has been entirely destroyed by the stock, the stumps rot sooner, and altogether the clearing will be more easily done than where no grass grows.

As already stated, the land should be in clover and timothy the first six or seven years after clearing. When the stumps are out, a rotation should begin, consisting of corn the first year, followed by grain the second year, with which the land should again be seeded and allowed to remain for two years. This makes a four-year rotation.

NORTHERN WISCONSIN A DAIRY AND SHEEP SECTION.

Now if a silo is built to take care of the corn crop, I believe there is no place in the world where, taking it one year with another, more cow or sheep feed per acre can be raised than in this section. This fact, I think, should make it plain that Northern Wisconsin is pre-eminently a dairy and sheep section. The new settler who plans his future operations guided by this idea is on the high road to success, be-



Oats on Recently Cleared Land

cause he is working in harmony with his surroundings.

IMPORTANCE OF SAVING A WOOD LOT.

One other idea and I must close this paper. I believe every settler in clearing up his farm should plan to have a good-sized wood lot. If twenty acres of woods is left on every eighty acres farm and this woods is fenced so the stock cannot get at it, twenty years hence will find this the most profitable part of the farm. The lumberman's axe is fast depleting this country of its original timber supply, while practically nothing is being done to create a new source from which timber can be

obtained. This makes it certain that timber must constantly raise in value as the years go by, and certain, too, that the farmer who engages intelligently in timber culture in connection with his other lines of farming is laying a sure foundation for a safe and steady income in future years.

The foregoing observations are suggested by twenty years of experience as a farmer in the region of which I write. I have not attempted to cover the whole field, but rather to throw out a few helpful suggestions to some of the beginners of this section who are lacking in this experience, and I hope I have succeeded in this.

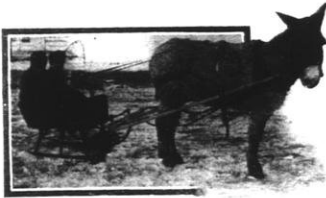


Northern Wisconsin Has Good Roads

The Log House Child

LET those who feel that by becoming pioneers in a new country they leave some of the attractions of older communities read the words of Burton Ingersoll, who thus writes of the child of the pioneer:

"Ah, if the fashionable world only knew the pleasure that was in store for the log-house baby it would envy



Off for School

him. When he gets a little bigger his father will take him along with him out to where he is burning brush and stump piles, and will set him down in a warm spot, and his body guard, the faithful dog, will lie beside him. Then he can watch his father strike his ax into the big trees, and can see them come crashing down with a noise like thunder. After awhile he and his dog will go off with his mother berrying to where the bushes bend down with the black and red fruit. By and by he can go fishing down at the brook that runs through the wild woods just behind the log barn. What fun it will be. His bait will scarcely touch the water before it will be snapped by the hungry fish and jerked away like a flash under the rooty bank. He will be living the best of all boy lives, but he will not know it until it is past.

Sometime he will grow to be a man and may leave his nest among the

pinces and fly away out into the wide world.

He may some day be rich and famous, and live in a modern palace, but no matter how high he may rise in the world, no matter how much he may mingle with the butterflies of fashion, he will never forget the old log house.

Something of its rude strength, something of its homely hospitality, its old-fashioned charming simplicity, will cling to him as long as he lives. His integrity, his stamina, his bodily health, his frugality—the inheritance from his forest home—will not desert him, and amid all the world's temptations and frivolities he will stand as firm as the old log house. Society will never be able to quite remodel him. No feast will taste to him like the food his mother used to cook—no banquet table will be like the rough pine one in the old home.

In his ear will always be the song of his native pines, and in his heart the fragrance of the balsam and the spruce.

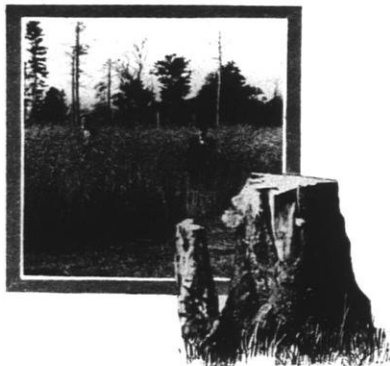
And when at last he is old and all the comfort he has is in looking backward, there will be among his recollections of days gone by none sweeter than the memory of the old log house."



Personal Testimony

Sugar Grove, Ill., Oct. 29th, 1904.
Wm. H. Killen, Esq.,
Land Commissioner, W. C. Ry.,
Milwaukee, Wis.

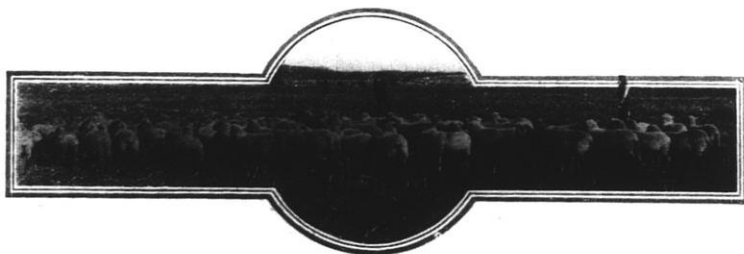
Dear Sir: Having had thirty-two years' experience as a feeder and



buyer of sheep over nearly all the Western Range Countries, and having carefully observed the conditions in the raising and production of lambs and mutton sheep in the various sections of this range country, and after one years' experience in Northern Wisconsin raising lambs and handling sheep, I do not hesitate in saying that I believe this country is destined to become one of the best, if not the very best place for the production of mutton lambs that I know of. I saw lambs that were dropped in April and killed in October that dressed 43 to 51 pounds of meat, and had only the grass for

food and no grain, and were of only very ordinary breeding. I wish to call the attention of sheep men to the fact that our ewes milk the whole season through, and do not dry up in June as range ewes usually do. Consequently our lambs get no setback, but keep growing right along. My friend, Mr. George Taylor of Saratoga, Wisconsin, formerly of Meeteelse, Wyoming, and a Western man of much experience, was at my ranch near Ashland, Wisconsin, this summer, and he told me that he had lambs at that time, July 5, that were dropped in May that weighed 55 pounds or better. Another point, and that is this: I was told by some parties that they doubted if our clover and other grasses would make good hard fat, and I am free to say that I had some fears of it myself, but I have set all fears at rest so far as I am concerned. I shipped a double deck of ewes to the Chicago market on September 23rd, that were good enough to sell as high as anything of their class, and were pronounced good by the killers.

Not being a dairy man, I do not feel like saying too much along this line, but from what I have seen the past season with our pure water and nutritious grasses I do not hesitate in pronouncing this a fine dairy country. And aside from this, we have a country that cannot be surpassed in the production of hay, small grains and vegetables, and in conclusion I would



say to the young man who is struggling with land that rents from \$5.00 to \$7.00 per acre—QUIT IT. Come to Northern Wisconsin and get a piece of good land—stay with it—and at the end of ten years it will double many times and you will make no mistake.

Yours very truly,

FRANK CATLIN.

"GRAZING WESTERN SHEEP ON CUT-OVER LANDS."

Marengo, Wis., Jan. 4th, 1905.

Mr. W. H. Killen,

Milwaukee, Wis.

Dear Sir: In regard to your inquiry about our sheep will say that our sheep were Western sheep that were raised on our sheep ranch in Wyoming. The experiment was a success-



Street Scene, Ashland

ful one and we expect to make a large shipment from the West this year. One carload was grain fed and they topped the market that day. They brought \$5.60 per hundred pounds. I will state further that Ashland county is as fine a sheep country as ever I saw. Sheep do fine here. The country has natural drainage enough so as to make it a good sheep country and clover and timothy grow in abundance. I do not think that the Marengo River Valley can be beaten for sheep raising and hay. I have always heard of the cold of Northern Wisconsin, but I have not felt any cold yet that will go through you like a north wind on the Western Plains.

Yours truly, A. J. DIXON.



Oats

CHEQUAMEGON VIEW FARM,

Ashland, Wis., Dec. 16th, 1904.

Mr. Wm. H. Killen,

Land Commissioner W. C. Ry.,

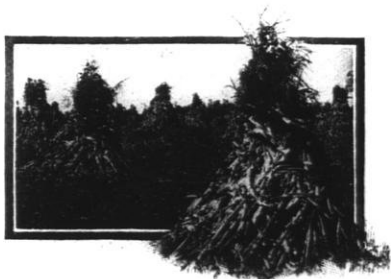
Milwaukee, Wis.

Dear Sir:

* * * * *

We raise strawberries and I am always ready and happy to talk about them. We feel that we are past the experimental stage in growing them, and that we now KNOW that we can raise as fine berries here as can be raised anywhere. Our home is always a very lively place in strawberry time.

We have been growing some fine ones ever since we have lived on the farm, and two years ago this coming spring we went at it in earnest. Sent to R. M. Kellogg's famous farm for several thousand plants, which gave us a fine crop last year, and we planted many more plants last summer, from which we expect good results next



Excellent Fodder Corn is Grown

summer. The plants grow very rapidly. Dr. Dodd and G. M. Burnham of Ashland measured some of the berries here in berry season of 1903. One measured six inches in circumference.

Yours very truly,

MRS. ELIZABETH KETCHUM.

Skilled laborers are in demand at all times both in the woods and about the mills, and of course their salary depends entirely upon their industry and skill in the performance of special kinds of work.

There is a good market here for all



Saw Mill of John R. Davis Lumber Co., at Phillips

Phillips, Wis., Dec. 31st, 1904.

W. H. Killen, Land Commissioner,
Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Dear Sir: In reply to your favor of recent date and in reference to the capacity of our mills at Phillips, we are pleased to inform you as follows:

Sawmill cuts about 150,000 ft. on the average in ten hours and runs about nine months each year. Planing mill has a capacity of ten cars and box factory two cars per day, planing mill and box factory running the year round.

When our mills are running full force at Phillips we employ about 500 men all told. This includes the men in the woods logging, peeling bark, railroading, etc.

The average wages at Phillips is from \$1.50 per day for common laborers up to \$5.00 per day for skilled workmen boarding themselves, and in the woods from \$26.00 per month for common laborers up to \$35.00 for skilled workmen with board.

kinds of forest products, logs and bolts, bark, poles, posts, cordwood, etc., and probably no less than 150 settlers haul logs and other products to us during each winter season, which gives full employment for themselves and their teams when they are not working on their farms.

We wish to state that we need more farmers, more cows, creameries and cheese factories. We have splendid soil, grasses, and water and yet there are not farmers and dairymen enough to supply our home markets with meats, poultry, or dairy products.

Respectfully,

JOHN R. DAVIS LUMBER CO.,
Per B. W. Davis, Sec'y.



"WORK IN THIS DISTRICT MEANS PROSPERITY."

Price County, Feb. 18th, 1904.

Mr. Wm. H. Killen,
Land Commissioner, W. C. Ry.,
Milwaukee, Wis.

Dear Sir: In 1897 I purchased and moved my family, consisting of my wife and six small children, on one hundred and sixty acres of stump land about seven miles east of Phillips. This land was all I had and on it I had a debt of \$1,000. The outlook was very gloomy. I soon sold eighty acres of my land, and then bought five cows, a pair of old plugs, and an old dilapi-

2,800 pounds, new harness, new wagon and buggy, new mower and hay rake, new plows and cultivators, twelve head of cattle, of which seven are good milking cows.

One thing more, we have confidence in the future, and I am thoroughly convinced that North Wisconsin is the coming cow, butter, cheese and sheep country of America.

With these prospects in view we keep right at it, attending to our own business. I am,

Yours very truly,

C. F. GLISSENDORF.



The Home of Mr. C. F. Glissendorf. Read his Letter

dated farm wagon. I had no building of my own, so I moved my family into an old logging camp, and the cows and horses into an old logging barn. Things did not go very smooth at first, but we worked hard and did not get discouraged. We had many troubles, but where seven years ago you could not see anything but stumps there stands to-day a modern eight-room dwelling all finished, and 20,000 feet of lumber on the ground for a large new frame barn, which will be built next summer. In place of those old plugs we have a heavy team weighing

"A MAN IS HAPPIER OWNING A SHEEP FARM THAN WORKING FOR SOME OTHER FELLOW."

Price County, Feb. 28th, 1904.

Mr. W. H. Killen,
Land Commissioner W. C. Ry.,
Milwaukee, Wis.

Dear Sir: In the Fall of 1900, after realizing that I would not live long if I remained in the South, and hearing of Northern Wisconsin as being healthy and also a fine grass country, I concluded to investigate, and came to Phillips, Price County. Here I found that wherever the land was

opened up at all grass was growing knee high. Grass and clover were everywhere. It had possession, nothing else could grow.

I bought a section of land eight miles northeast of Phillips, and moved on it in April of 1901. In June of the same year I shipped a double deck car of sheep from Arkansas, 850 miles south of Phillips. When the sheep had been shipped they had not been doing



Mr. McKibben Among His Chickens

well for some time and we had lost quite a number from internal diseases.

When the sheep landed in Phillips, we drove them direct to my land, which was pretty wild at that time, but the sheep began to pick up wonderfully, except a few that were sick at the time they came. I have had no trouble with my sheep being bothered with internal diseases since they have been here. On the contrary, my sheep have kept freer from disease here than any place I have ever lived.

I think that this is the most healthful place for sheep that I know of and I will add further that I consider this one of the best dairy countries on the face of the earth.

Yours truly, J. H. McKIBBEN.



A Creamery

"THERE WILL ALWAYS BE A DEMAND FOR LAND THAT WILL RAISE GOOD STOCK."

Price County, Wis., Feb. 16th, 1904.

Mr. Wm. H. Killen,
Land Commissioner, W. C. Ry.,
Milwaukee, Wis.

Dear Sir: In answer to your recent inquiry, would say that we have raised from our farm in the last six years seventy-two head of stock; sold and butchered thirty-one head and lost but one steer fifteen months old. We have forty head of stock on hand, which are always in the best of health, feeding on the grasses and clovers that grow here in abundance. We have a market here that is second to none. Farmers here make good money, but must hustle and figure the right way. Anyone interested should come up here and see for themselves how it is done.

Yours truly,

FRED PLINKE.



The Beginning

"WHAT ONE MAN HAS DONE ANOTHER CAN DO."

Taylor County, Wis., Jan. 6th, 1904.

Mr. W. H. Killen,
Land Commissioner, W. C. Ry.,
Milwaukee, Wis.

Dear Sir: In answer to your request as to the possibilities of Taylor county as a farming country, I would say I don't think there is a better country in the State for a man of small means.

I came to this country in 1896. At that time times was very close, and there was about ten men for every day's work, but I made up my mind that Taylor county was all right, and I got a job in the woods at \$14.00 per month. I worked until the next fall and bought eighty acres of land, making a small payment down, and at the present writing I have eighty acres, and I will get eighty more this coming spring. I have horses, cows and hogs. This next spring I intend to start up with sheep. This is the country for sheep. All kinds of grass, roots, oats, wheat, barley and peas. No man need be afraid of the cold or else he is too lazy to move, and that class of men we don't want here.

Any poor man that comes here, goes to work, tends to his own business, will find all the friends he can use, but woe to the lazy man, I don't believe he is wanted in heaven.

I am fifty-nine years old and when I arrived at Rib Lake I did not have money enough to pay for a month's board. Now if I want \$100.00 I can go to either bank and get it. If a man of my age can make a good home in seven years and be in shape to stay at home, what ought a young man to do? I have not had any outside means to work with, every dollar being made here.

Send on your sheep men, they can't make any mistake in coming to Taylor county. Yours very truly,

J. M. SMITHERS.

"IT IS NOT THE EASY ROAD THAT LEADS TO SUCCESS."

Taylor County, Wis., Jan. 12th, 1904.
Mr. Wm. H. Killen,
Land Department W. C. Ry. Co.,
Milwaukee, Wis.

Dear Sir: In the year 1886 I came to Rib Lake, from Vienna, Austria, with but very little money, nearly nothing in my pocket, but I had the good will to work and the necessary energy. I bought forty acres of land on installment, and started to clear the land, that is, when I was not bound to take up other work to make my living.



At the Taylor County Fair

During the first years there was only a very little movement toward improving my financial condition, but now I don't need to fear for the future.

Looking backward at my first start, I hardly can believe that a man can stand all the hardships we pioneers had to go through, and of which the man who begins now has no idea.

During the first four to five years, we had to carry all our provisions for miles on our back to the settlement, as there was, with the exception of a few logging roads, no other road. Today we have in our town about fifty-two miles first-class roads, which enable us to bring all our farm products to the market and sell them for good prices. At that time we hardly could sell anything, but now we cannot get enough stuff on the market.

In regard to climate and soil we can



be satisfied in every way. Our climate and soil are more adapted for dairy and stock farming, but still you can raise all and every kind of grain, vegetables, potatoes, etc.

Red clover is first-class and I doubt whether there is any place in the Northwest where clover grows in so rich abundance, or brings better crops than in Central Wisconsin.

Next spring there will be opened here a new cheese factory, and when once a start is made there will be more in a very few years. In the southern part of Taylor county four years ago, they could keep hardly one cheese factory up, now you find one every two or three miles apart, besides many butter factories, which work with good success. That all the farmers are prosperous you can see by the fine farm buildings they erect on their farms, since dairy farming goes ahead.

With the raising of apples I have also had good success, and I hope to earn in a very few years a good deal of money from my fruit trees. With best regards,

Yours truly,

JOHN SCHREIBER.

[Translated from German.]

Chicago, March 9th, 1904.

W. H. Killen,

Milwaukee, Wis.

Dear Sir: In answer to your inquiry as to my opinion of Ashland county, Wis., will say, last fall I bought four hundred (400) acres nine miles south of Ashland, at \$10 an acre. I am going to clear at least forty acres this summer and at least as much more each

year until the farm is cleared and in grass or some other crop. I know the quality of the soil warrants this. One thing I am sure of and that is that I can raise as much clover and timothy hay on an acre as I could raise on the same amount of land that would cost from \$75 to \$100 per acre.

Yours respectfully,

J. W. EMMETT.



Wisconsin Central Depot at Ashland

Chicago, March 9th, 1904.

W. H. Killen,

Milwaukee, Wis.

Dear Sir: Replying to your inquiry I may say that I bought five hundred (500) acres of land five miles south of Ashland, from the Wisconsin Central two years ago, and one hundred and twenty (120) acres more one month ago, joining the first.

I have cleared only forty acres so far, but will try to do more in that line the coming summer. I think the land in question will raise first-class crops, and am very well pleased with the country. The growth of clovers and grasses is wonderful, the district being especially adapted to stock raising.

Yours very truly,

W. W. WILSON.

[Note—Mr. W. W. Wilson is a brother of Hon. James Wilson, Secretary of Agriculture. Both he and Mr. J. W. Bennett were at one time well known Iowa farmers and are both well and favorably known in the live-stock commission business as cattle salesmen in the Union Stock Yards, Chicago.]



Yields Per Acre

In order to make our estimates of yields per acre in accordance with the practical experience of actual settlers, we obtained statements from fourteen farmers covering the yields per acre of various crops, together with the average price obtained for the same. In many instances we have felt that the farmer has given us the best yield, and not the average. Such facts would be misleading to the new settler, and we therefore give below a conservative statement based upon the reports of these actual settlers. It does not show

misconception, we would mention the fact that large crops of onions are grown only on very rich soils. The swamp soils of Northern Wisconsin produce enormous yields, some being reported as high as 800 bushels to the acre.

Turnips and rutabagas are especially adapted to new soils, but up to the present time the market is limited as compared with onions or potatoes.

The yields of potatoes often go as high as 400 bushels to the acre.

	YIELD PER ACRE	AVERAGE PRICE
Timothy	2 tons	\$10.00 per ton
Clover	2½ tons	9.00 per ton
Oats	60 bus.	.35 per bu.
Barley	40 bus.	.50 per bu.
Rye	30 bus.	.70 per bu.
Wheat	25 bus.	.90 per bu.
Peas	30 bus.	1.00 per bu.
Potatoes	200 bus.	.40 per bu.
Onions	300 bus.	.90 per bu.
Turnips	500 bus.	.30 per bu.
Rutabagas	500 bus.	.30 per bu.
Sugar Beets	9 tons	4.50 per ton

the highest yields, but a fair estimate of what a good farmer might expect from well prepared land:

In order that there should be no

Sugar beets are purchased on our Ashland Division by the factory operating at Chippewa Falls, and the demand is therefore permanent.



**The Steam Log Hauler with Seven Sleights Carrying 40,000 Feet of Logs.
The Latest Invention in Logging**

How Land Is Divided

The method of dividing lands in Northern Wisconsin is by the regular government survey, and is very simple, enabling persons unacquainted with the country to locate a farm of any size with great ease. The arrangement also greatly facilitates the description and transfer of real estate. From north to south through the middle of the State there is a fixed line called the "Principal Meridian." Every six miles east and every six miles west from this principal meridian parallel lines have been drawn which are called "Range Lines." Beginning at the southern boundary of the State, parallel lines have been drawn at a distance of six miles from each other, running east and west. In this way the whole State has been divided into squares six miles on a side, these squares being called "Townships," and are numbered according to their dis-

to the diagram here given, and are called "Sections," each section containing 36 acres.

A section is further subdivided into four equal squares, and each square is again divided into four equal squares, each quarter of a quarter containing 40 acres, which is the smallest subdivision according to government survey. A close examination of the following diagram will explain more definitely what is meant:

TOWNSHIP
NORTH

	6	5	4	3	2	1	
	7	8	9	10	11	12	
	18	17	16	15	14	13	
WEST	19	20	21	22	23	24	EAST
	30	29	28	27	26	25	
	31	32	33	34	35	36	
	SOUTH						

tance north from the south line and east or west from the Principal Meridian. The township itself has been divided by lines running north and south and east and west, so that each town contains 36 squares, measuring one mile on each side. These squares are numbered from 1 to 36, according

SECTION

N. W. QUARTER.	N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ of N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$	N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ of N. E. $\frac{1}{4}$
	N. E. QUARTER.	
S. W. QUARTER.	S. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ of S. E. $\frac{1}{4}$	S. E. $\frac{1}{4}$ of S. E. $\frac{1}{4}$
	S. E. QUARTER.	

Marks made on trees and posts placed in the ground by the men making the surveys for the government give the necessary information by which land can be located by one familiar with the country.



Home Products

Prices and Terms

Lands of the Wisconsin Central Railway are sold from \$5 to \$7.50 per acre. Lands bordering on lakes and lands near the city of Ashland are held at special prices. All lands sold have had the heavy timber removed, and are generally termed "cut over" lands. Parties purchasing are required to build a substantial dwelling house, and to clear a stipulated amount of land within two years from date of purchase. The amount of clearing required is not intended to be a hardship on any settler, about two acres for every 40 acres purchased. Our lands are being sold at prices somewhat lower than similar lands of private owners, and improvement of the property is considered a part of the consideration paid by the purchaser. This plan is following the policy recently adopted by the United States government when opening up the Rosebud reservation to settlement. Here the government asked \$4 an acre and actual settlement of all purchases.

The Railway Company issues a contract on payment of one-quarter down, balance in three or four annual installments at 6 per cent interest.

For example, in a case of a contract covering 80 acres purchased at \$5 an acre, issued Sept. 15, 1905, the payments would be as follows:

Payment to obtain contract, \$100.

	When Due.	Principal.	Interest	Total
First deferred payment—September 15th, 1906	.	\$100.00	\$18.00	\$118.00
Second deferred payment—September 15th, 1907	.	100.00	12.00	112.00
Third deferred payment—September 15th, 1908	.	100.00	6.00	106.00
		\$300.00	\$36.00	\$336.00

When more than three deferred payments are desired, that fact should be stated when applying for contract.

After the requirements as to improvements have been complied with the privilege of paying up a contract

in full is given, thereby interest can be saved.

When full payment is completed a deed for the land is given.



TITLE.

Lands of the Wisconsin Central Railway were acquired by land grant direct from the United States government, or State of Wisconsin, according to act of congress approved May 5, 1864. We guarantee that all taxes levied have been paid up to the date of the contract, and title is therefore without the usual complications, and the expense of an abstract is unnecessary.

According to a custom of long standing, mineral rights are reserved in our deeds to the settler. This reservation applies to all districts within our land

grant, whether or not near the present known iron deposits. That such reservation should not act to the detriment of the farmer, we agree in our deeds to pay \$100 an acre for any land occupied under such reservation.

LANDS OF OUTSIDE PARTIES.

We have from time to time listed with us for sale lands owned by lumber companies and others. These lands are sold at the prices and terms designated by the owners. Among them we sometimes have partially cleared lands with some improvements.

PERSONAL EXAMINATION.

We strongly urge every man who thinks that Northern Wisconsin offers such opportunities as he is looking for to take a trip and make a personal examination of the country. To enable him to do so with the greatest ease and the least expense possible, we grant reduced fare over the line of the Wisconsin Central Railway, and either send with him an agent from

one of our regular offices or arrange with one of our local agents to have him taken over some of our lands.

GIVE DETAILS.

Men desiring to take a trip to examine the condition of this country should first write, stating the amount of land they expect to need, how far from a town they are willing to go, whether they prefer to locate at any special point, or in a community where any particular nationality predominates; in fact, any detail should be stated which will help to give us a correct impression of their present condition and what they desire. When these facts are definitely stated we can usually be of great aid to the homeseeker in helping him to decide which locality had best be visited.

WM. H. KILLEN,

LAND COMMISSIONER

WISCONSIN CENTRAL RAILWAY

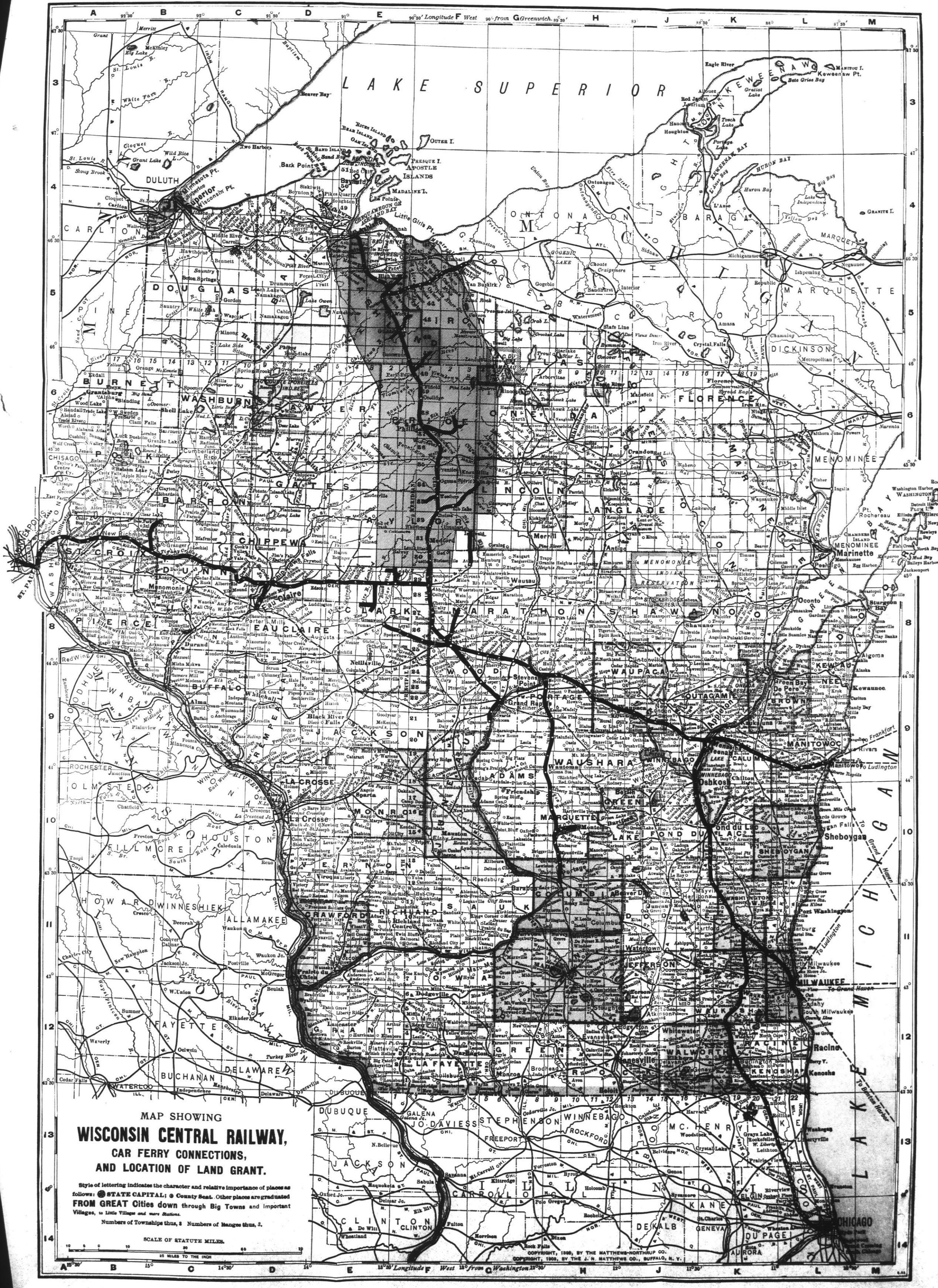
MILWAUKEE, WIS.

V. H. MAY

ASS'T LAND COMM'R.







**MAP SHOWING
WISCONSIN CENTRAL RAILWAY,
CAR FERRY CONNECTIONS,
AND LOCATION OF LAND GRANT.**

Style of lettering indicates the character and relative importance of places as follows: ● STATE CAPITAL; ○ County Seat. Other places are graduated FROM GREAT CITIES down through Big Towns and important Villages, to Little Villages and mere Stations.
Numbers of Townships thus, 8 Numbers of Manges thus, 3.

SCALE OF STATUTE MILES.
0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
MILES TO THE INCH

GENERAL MAP OF THE SOILS OF NORTHERN WISCONSIN.

STATE GEOLOGICAL REPORT.

- 1. 1. 1. SANDY SOIL.
- 2. 2. 2. SANDY LOAM.
- 3. 3. 3. PRAIRIE LOAM.
- 4. 4. 4. CLAYEY LOAM.
- 5. 5. 5. LOAMY CLAY.
- 6. 6. 6. HEAVY RED CLAY.
- 7. 7. 7. SWAMP SOIL.

The Line of the Wisconsin
Central is shown in Red

