

FLOUR

24 lb. Bag \$1.30

98 lb. Bags

5 CROWN \$4.75

SNOW WHITE .. \$4.80

5 ROSES \$4.80

PURITY \$4.85

Oatmeal

20 lb Bag 90c.

90 lb. Bag \$3.35

Matches

5 BOXES FOR 50c.

Corn

2 TINS FOR 25c.

Corn Syrup

10 lb. Pail 75c.

5 lb. Tin 40c.

2 lb. Tin 19c.

Cake and

Biscuits

5—6 lb. Box

CREAM SODAS

13c lb.

5—8 lb. Box

MARITIME MIXED

18c lb.

5—8 lb. Box

PICTOU MIXED

18c lb.

VILLAGE CAKE

2 lbs for 25 cents.

20 lb. Box, 11c lb.

Starch

Laundry Mixed .. 10c lb

Corn Starch ... 10c pkg.

Linit 9c pkg.

Acme Gloss

13c, 2 for 25c.

Celluloid Starch

13c, 2 for 25c.

Perfect Seal

Jars

1 DOZ. PINTS \$1.50

1 DOZ. QUARTS .. \$1.85

1 DOZ. ½ GAL. ... \$2.60

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BRITAIN IS NOW SEEKING WORLD'S COTTON SUPREMACY; DIXIE BEING CHALLENGED

An American business man who recently returned from a world tour, which had taken him to many of the far-flung parts of the British Empire, was asked what struck him as being the most significant feature in the development of Britain's dominions and colonies, writes Joseph Leeming in the Review of Reviews.

"Well," he replied, "the British Empire seemed to me to be a great deal like the lion's den into which they threw Daniel. When King Darius asked him how he liked it, Daniel said it was pretty comfortable, but the place was simply infested with lions. Wherever I went in the British possessions, from Africa and India to Australia and the West Indies, I was impressed by the attention being given to cotton raising and by the tremendous expenditure undertaken in order to increase the output of British-grown cotton. The principal idea of the Empire that I have in mind is that it is simply infested with cotton plantations which are increasing in number and in size every year."

Monopoly Held Long.

American cotton has been the controlling factor in the world's markets for so many years that most of us take our practical monopoly of this commodity very much for granted, and would ridicule the idea that foreign competition could ever endanger our dominant position. Yet those who can read the handwriting on the wall believe that the widespread activities of the British Empire Cotton-Growing Association will, in a comparatively few years, bring about such a vast development of the cotton-producing areas in the British Empire that the American industry will be seriously, if not vitally, affected.

To be sure, Britain will not be able to grow sufficient cotton to meet her needs over-night, but the preparatory work has been going on for nearly a quarter of a century and every year now sees an increase in the amount of cotton contributed to her mills by her tropical dependencies.

The first body organized for the furthering of cotton-growing within the Empire was formed in 1902, and was known as the British Cotton-Growing Association. Its members made a thorough survey of cotton possibilities in all the tropical and sub-tropical possessions of Great Britain, studied the questions of proper seeds, suitable soils, and best methods of cultivation, and the problem of an adequate labor supply, and then called in American experts to get the work under way.

Seed Cotton in Africa.

Their first experiments were conducted in the West African countries of Nigeria, Sierra Leone, and the Gold Coast. The results were not wholly satisfactory, later experience proving that the method of exploitation was at fault.

Gradually the Association extended its activities from West Africa to other parts of the Dark Continent, principally Uganda, Kenya Colony, and Tanganyika, and they also undertook the growing of cotton in Queensland, Australia. The total output of these new sources of supply, however, was only a fraction of the amount consumed by the British mills and the high price of American cotton continued to aggravate the British spinning industry. Accordingly, in 1915, new body, known as the Empire Cotton-Growing Committee, was formed to investigate the situation thoroughly and recommend steps necessary to increase effectively the cultivation of cotton within the Empire.

When the report was presented, in October, 1919, the united cotton interests of Great Britain established the British Empire Cotton-Growing Corporation, empowered to further empire production by every conceivable means. The new corporation was given a government contribution of nearly one million pounds sterling and, furthermore it obtains an income from a levy of six pence a bale on cotton imported into and spun in the United Kingdom.

While the old association continues its work unabated, the corporation is increasing its effectiveness and building a powerful structure on the foundations laid by its predecessor during twenty years of effort. It is sending experts to the different cotton regions, establishing experimental stations, supplanting the sharpened sticks of the natives with modern agricultural implements, and it is succeeding, by these means and many others, in increasing the output of areas already under development of irrigation and transportation projects in regions suitable for cotton growing.

What Cotton Means to Britain.

To understand the driving force and determination that is back of the Cor-

poration's activities, one must realize the all important role that cotton spinning plays in the industrial life of Great Britain. Nearly one-fifth of Britain's entire working population is engaged in one or another of the various branches of the cotton spinning industry. Lancashire sells about five billion yards of cotton cloth to foreign countries every year. The exports of cotton textiles amount in value to nearly £200,000,000, or one-third of Britain's total exports of manufactured goods. About 80 per cent. of all cotton goods produced in England are sold abroad, principally in India, China and Africa, from which countries Britain draws immense supplies of raw materials, such as jute, rubber, oil seeds and wheat.

The export of cotton piece goods is, consequently, one of the greatest balancing factors in Britain's trade with those countries, and without the revenue obtained from steady foreign sales of cotton goods the "balance" of her Eastern trade would be distinctly unfavorable.

Now, here is where the rub comes in. The people of India and China are among the poorest in the world, and they can pay only a very modest price for their scanty clothing. If the price of American cotton climbs to what Lancashire terms an unreasonable height, it is manifestly impossible for the English mills to turn out piece goods that are within reach of their Eastern customers' pocketbooks. A rise of one cent a pound in the price of American cotton costs the British spinners approximately \$20,000,000, for they require 4,000,000 bales of 500 pounds each to keep their 60,000,000 spindles and 800,000 looms humming for a year.

Nineteen British Cotton Regions.

The deduction is obvious. English spinners must export on a large scale to keep on their feet; they cannot export their finished product if the price of the raw material is too high. In recent years the price of American cotton has been so high that British business with the East has been curtailed to an unprecedented extent; and the depredations of the boll weevil seem to indicate that short crops and high prices will be the rule in regard to the American crops of the near future.

To overcome these conditions, the British spinners see only one method that is dependable and which has a fair chance of success—namely, to grow their own long-staple cotton wherever there is a plot of suitable ground within the confines of the Empire. To that end they are bending every last ounce of their energy.

At present cotton is being grown in nineteen different countries within the Empire or under British control; and in several of these the area under cultivation will be increased by millions of acres with the completion of irrigation projects now under way. The nineteen cotton producing countries are: India, Egypt, the Sudan, Australia, Uganda, Tanganyika, Nyasaland, Rhodesia, Nigeria, South Africa, Iraq, Kenya Colony, Malta, Cyprus, Palestine, St. Kitts, Mauritius, British Guiana and the Fiji Islands.

India as a Large Producer.

In India, which ranks second only to the United States as a cotton producer there are a number of great irrigation and development projects. In fact, every province has plans for increasing the acreage under cotton. The 1925 cotton area was 26,461,000 acres, an increase of nearly 300,000 acres over the preceding year. This is only 12,000,000 acres less than the area under cotton in the United States, and when the projects in hand are completed there will be considerably less disparity between the figures for the two countries.

The Nira Valley project, which was completed in 1924, converted 100,000 acres of medium land into first-rate cotton soil. The Sukkur project in the Bombay Presidency will give irrigation to 6,000,000 acres when completed. In Sind it is now possible to grow the highest grade American and Egyptian cotton, as new irrigation developments have overcome former difficulties.

In the Punjab, the great Sutlej Valley project, which will bring 2,500,000 acres under cultivation, is expected to be completed within three years. The Upper Chenab Canal has, up to the present, irrigated 1,750,000 acres; and in the United Provinces the Sarda Canal, which will be completed in three years, will irrigate an additional 1,750,000 acres.

One of the largest irrigation projects ever undertaken in Madras which will require nearly ten years to complete, and which will insure a permanent water supply to more than 1,000,000 acres that now have an un-

reliable supply, and further make possible the cultivation of 300,000 acres now barren.

Work on the Sangor irrigation project, in Hyderabad, was begun in October, 1923, and will bring 275,000 acres under cultivation when completed. The Tandula Canal, in the Central Provinces, and the Wainganga Canal, both of which were recently completed, opened up 155,000 acres and 64,200 acres respectively. The Manjari project, together with two others now under investigation, will bring 300,000 acres under cultivation.

Egyptian Cotton.

In the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan, Britain has much at stake, and her prompt and decisive suppression of the disturbances of recent years is a clear indication that she will not relax her grasp on this region which is so necessary to her domestic prosperity.

The Gezira irrigation scheme, which is already well under way, provides for the irrigation of 300,000 acres that will yield 100,000 bales of the finest grade Egyptian cotton annually. In the Blue Nile and Kassala districts the British plans call for the opening up of 500,000 acres and the recently constructed railway from Kassala to Thamiyam, a junction point on the E Obied Pt. Sudan Railway—made possible by the Trade Facilities Committee, which guaranteed a loan of £1,500,000—affords economical transportation to the sea board. The dam at Sennar, which makes the Gezira project possible, is 128 feet high, or sixteen feet higher than the Assuan dam, and one and a half times as long, making it the longest dam in the world. It creates a reservoir in the form of a lake fifty miles long.

So highly is this region regarded, on account of its suitability for growing the best grade of cotton, that the British Government has concluded an agreement with Abyssinia providing for the acquisition of 5,000,000 acres along the border of the Sudan, which will shortly be producing.

Egypt, of course, has long been a staple source of supply for both European and American spinning mills, and her annual exports will maintain their normal level of 1,500,000 bales.

Beginning of British Independence.

From these four principal sources—India, the Sudan, Africa and Australia—Great Britain expects to draw her future supplies of raw cotton. In addition to the concentrated efforts being put forth in these regions, there is a steady output of cotton being maintained by the many lesser countries within the Empire. In Iraq, for instance, the exports of cotton have increased so rapidly that the Peninsula and Orient Steamship Line is planning to inaugurate a service to Basra, on the Persian Gulf, to assist in the movement of the crop to Lancashire.

There is still a long road to travel before the combined exports of these numerous and widely scattered territories will be sufficient to supply the English mills with the 4,000,000 bales that they require each year; but a determined beginning has been made, and total dependence on the American crop is a thing of the past.

Peach in Bran, A Novel Dessert.

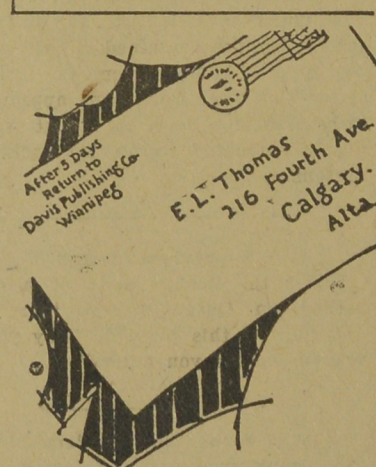
Skin mellow peaches, then roll in bran. Serve in saucedish which has been covered with bran, sprinkle with a little sugar and serve with whipped cream; then sprinkle top with one half teaspoon bran.

This makes a very wholesome dish.

Judge (to convicted burglar)—Have you anything to say before sentence is passed?

Burglar—The only thing I'm kicking about is being identified by a man that kept his head under the bedclothes the whole time!

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