



MONTANA



ISSUED BY THE

**CHICAGO
MILWAUKEE & ST. PAUL
RAILWAY**

MONTANA.

The state of Montana contains 146,572 square miles and is as large as the combined area of New York, Pennsylvania, Indiana, Maryland, and Connecticut. It has one county, Custer, that contains 13,600 square miles, and is larger than the state of Maryland. Fergus County contains 6,762 square miles, and is as large as Delaware and Connecticut combined.

The population of Montana is only 400,000. It will support in comfort forty times that many.

Montana is the third state in size in the Union and is richer in natural wealth than Pennsylvania. All it needs to make it one of the greatest states is more capital and more people of the right kind. The tide of immigration has now reached it and its undeveloped riches are attracting capital.

In the next few years Montana will show the most rapid development ever known in any state. Its mines, its forests, its rich agricultural and grazing lands, its water power, will all contribute to make its settlers independent. Wealth awaits those who, properly equipped, will join fortunes with the state of Montana, and now is the time.

To those unfamiliar with Montana the name perhaps conveys a vague idea of mountains, mines, stock ranches, cowboys, and Indians. The average man is wholly unprepared for the surprising facts uncovered by an examination of its wonderful agricultural resources.

The increase in population of the United States and the phenomenal increase in value of developed farm lands during the past ten years have demonstrated that the end of the era of cheap agricultural land in this country is in sight, and that it behooves the man without a farm to secure one as soon as possible or altogether to lose his chance.

The construction of the Chicago, Milwaukee & Puget Sound Railway, through the state of Montana from east to west, has opened to settlement thousands of acres of farm land that can now be homesteaded or purchased at low prices. These lands in a few years will double or treble in value. The object of this pamphlet is to describe these lands and the many opportunities offered to farmers, in their development.

The Kind of Settlers Desired.

The ideal settler for Montana and the one we are trying to reach is the man who has made a moderate success in the East, but who is too ambitious to be satisfied with slow progress and too wise to overlook the great opportunities in the West. A trip of investigation will convince the most skeptical that \$3.00 may be made in Montana in the time it takes to make \$1.00 in the East.

The man with several thousand dollars capital will, as a rule, do much better in Montana (or anywhere else) than the poor man, but it is a fact, nevertheless, that the majority of the many rich men of Montana entered that state practically penniless. What is perhaps more important than money, is brains, enterprise and grit.

The man with a family, however, should not go to Montana unless he has some capital. The amount necessary to get a start at farming, even on homestead land, is not less than a thousand dollars.

The young man especially should go to Montana. That state, while rich in natural resources, is just beginning to be developed, making it an ideal place to get a start. Montana is the last of the good states to be developed, and will be settled with a rush. Land values will quickly increase and make large profits for those who go early.

Climate.

The climate of Montana is excellent and is usually a great surprise to visitors, who sometimes expect Canadian weather. The clear, dry air is extremely invigorating and, combined with the large percentage of bright days, makes the climate one of the most healthful and pleasant in the world. There are few days during the entire year in which outdoor work cannot be done in comfort. No one need fear the winters of Montana. They are tempered by the warm Chinook winds and by the mountains, and are not as severe as the winters farther east. Stock of all kinds winters in the open with no protection, depending for food upon the nutritious range grasses with the addition of a little hay at times. If Montana experienced much stormy or cold weather, the live stock business would cease to be profitable through winter losses. On the contrary, the stockmen of Montana have made millions.

The summer days are long and, although at midday the sun is quite hot, sunstrokes are unknown. The nights are always cool and pleasant.

Montana has never known a tornado or cyclone.

According to the records of the U. S. Weather Office at Miles City, the average temperature for February (the coldest month) for the past thirteen years has been 18½ degrees above zero, and the thermometer has during that month registered as high as 68 degrees above zero.



HARVESTING OATS IN THE MUSSELSHELL COUNTRY.

In western Montana the winters are even milder than in the eastern part of the state. The average temperature for February, as given by the United States Weather Office at Missoula for the past nineteen years, has been 24.4 degrees above zero, and temperature much below zero lasts but a few days at a time. The heat of summer is never oppressive, owing to the altitude.

Montana has no diseases peculiar to the country and its dry atmosphere will cure affections of the nose, throat, and lungs. The state has a number of hot springs that are noted. The waters of White Sulphur Springs, Meagher County, are a cure for rheumatism and stomach troubles.

The summers of Montana are noted for the long days, giving many hours of sunlight for the growing crops.

Plowing begins in March and ends usually in November.

The climate of central and southern Montana, through which passes the Chicago, Milwaukee & Puget Sound Railway, being protected by the mountains, is milder than that of northern Montana.

Rainfall.

The annual normal precipitation for the state of Montana is 15.34 inches. The largest average for the

eastern portion is 18.75 inches, and the smallest is 12.80 inches. For the western division of the state, the largest annual average is 22.63 inches, and the least is 12.56 inches. The average precipitation for the state for 1908, as given by the U. S. Weather Bureau, was 20.09 inches. For 1909 it was 19.57 inches. The normal annual precipitation for Utah is 12.29 inches, and for North Dakota 7.79 inches. The latter includes the heavy rainfall in the Red River Valley.

One important fact will be noted: In Montana more than TWO-THIRDS OF THE MOISTURE FALLS DURING THE GROWING SEASON.

It seems to be a matter of common observation that rainfall in a new country increases with settlement, cultivation and tree planting. For instance, northwestern Iowa and southwestern Minnesota, before settlement, were considered dry and fit only for grazing. Today it is found necessary to dig drainage ditches in these sections. South Dakota, Kansas and Nebraska also prove the same theory.

Professor Agassiz in 1867 predicted that this increase in moisture would come by the disturbance of electrical currents caused by the building of the railroads and the settlement of the country.

Prof. F. N. Meyer, Foreign Exploration Agent, U. S. Department of Agriculture, in a lecture delivered before the Third Dry Farming Congress at Cheyenne, stated that the scientific reason why trees and cultivation cause increased precipitation is that these agents cool the air at the earth's surface, attracting the rain clouds, whereas when there is no cultivation, trees or shrubs, the surface becomes baked and the heated air repels and dissipates the clouds.

Soil.

The soil of Montana varies with the different districts, but generally it is an alluvial deposit, a gray loam of extreme fertility, from two to forty feet in depth. In some parts the soil is a sandy loam with clay subsoil. In other parts it is a dark loam with gravelly subsoil. No question has ever been raised regarding the fertility of Montana soils. The richness of these soils is in fact difficult of belief, but is explained by Professor Atkinson, of the Montana State Agriculture College, as follows:

"The Montana soils, not having been subjected to the leaching of heavy rains through the years and not having been reduced by having forests removed, are rich in all the elements of plant food. Nitrogen, phosphorus and potash, those elements, the lack of which prevent crop returns in other sections, are present in abundance in Montana soils."

In many sections of Montana the continued cropping of wheat has apparently had no effect whatever on the yield. It seems probable that owing to all the elements of plant life being retained in the soil, without loss from leaching, products of nitrification received from the air during a fallow year are quite sufficient to overcome any tendency toward the exhaustion of the soil.

Another important property of Montana soil is that it is of a proper consistency for a country of light rainfall. It works and pulverizes readily, making the task easy of keeping a dust mulch on top for conservation of moisture. The soil is heavy enough that this dust blanket does not blow away. Besides these advantages, it is a soil that readily absorbs and holds moisture.

Crops and Yields.

SPRING WHEAT—Montana produced in 1909, according to the figures of the United States Department of Agriculture, 4,752,000 bushels on 165,000 acres, an average of 28.8 bushels per acre, which sold at an average of 87 cents per bushel, worth at the farm \$4,132,000. This is a return of \$25.05 per acre. Kansas, in 1909, produced 11.5 bushels to the acre and Minnesota 16.8 bushels per acre.

WINTER WHEAT—6,012,000 bushels on 185,000 acres, an average of 32.5 bushels per acre, which sold at an average of 87 cents per bushel, worth at the farm \$5,230,000, an average of \$28.29 per acre. Kansas, in 1909, produced 14.5 bushels per acre.

OATS—Montana produced in 1909 a total of 15,390,000 bushels on 300,000 acres, an average yield of 51.3 bushels per acre, which sold for an average of 42 cents a bushel, a total value of \$6,464,000, a return value of \$21.54 per acre. Iowa produced 27 bushels per acre and sold them at 35 cents a bushel, making a value of \$9.45 per acre. Illinois, 36.6 bushels per acre and sold at 38 cents per bushel, a value of \$13.65 per acre.

FLAXSEED—Montana produced 120,000 bushels in 1909 which sold for \$1.60 per bushel. The yield was 12 bushels per acre, the highest of any state except one.

POTATOES—Montana produced, in 1909, 2,295,000 bushels on 25,000 acres, an average of 180 bushels per

acre and they sold at an average of 51 cents per bushel. The value was \$91.80 per acre. Iowa, as an average Mississippi Valley state, produced 12,905,000 bushels, an average of 89 bushels per acre, which sold for 55 cents per bushel, a return value of \$46.75 per acre.

The figures given by the Secretary of Agriculture refer only to eight of the crops of Montana. No account is taken of the immense crops of alfalfa. To these crops great sections of the state are now given over, the production running into enormous values. The best informed authorities in the state put the land products of Montana in 1909 in excess of \$60,000,000.

In 1908, the entire district between Lewistown and Moore, Montana, averaged 25 bushels of winter wheat per acre. In 1909 the average yield was increased to 34 bushels. Turkey red winter wheat and Scotch fife are the two leading varieties and grade 1 Northern.

Montana's main crops are wheat, barley, alfalfa, clover, oats, rye, hay, flax, speltz and potatoes. Onions, beans, peas, pumpkins, squashes, tomatoes, cabbage, celery, sugar beets, apples, plums, currants, and berries also produce well.

The following are average crop values for the last ten years according to the U. S. Department of Agriculture:

CROP.	Average for Montana. Value at farm per acre:	Average for Minnesota, Illinois Iowa, Missouri, Nebraska Value at farm per acre
Wheat	\$17.71	\$ 9.68
Barley	19.61	9.52
Oats	15.98	7.68
Corn	14.77	9.74
Rye	13.72	9.02
Potatoes	78.46	35.68
Hay	27.50	8.90

MONTANA EXCEEDS THE OTHER STATES NAMED BY

Wheat, \$ 8.03 per acre or	83%
Barley, 10.09 per acre or	105%
Oats, 8.30 per acre or	108%
Corn, 5.03 per acre or	51%
Rye, 4.70 per acre or	52%
Potatoes, 32.78 per acre or	91%
Hay, 18.60 per acre or	208%

According to the same authority, Montana oats made an average yield of 41.2 bushels per acre for the ten year period, 1897 to 1906, inclusive.

For the same period, oats in Illinois made an average of 32.6 bushels per acre, Iowa 31.6, Minnesota 33.2, Missouri 22.9, Nebraska 29.



RED APPLES, MISSOULA VALLEY.

judges. They sell in the home market for from \$1 to \$1.75 per bushel.

The Jefferson Valley is noted for its fruits of all kinds. Mr. T. T. Black, of Whitehall, raised 27,000 quarts of strawberries on three acres and after shipping them to a commission house in Vermont received a net return of \$900 per acre.

The Missoula and Flat-head Valleys are famous for their commercial orchards which bring large returns to their owners.

Fuel.

Montana is well supplied with coal, and timber is found upon the mountains and along the streams. In Custer and Yellowstone Counties, lignite coal outcrops in numberless places and may be had for

the digging. Bituminous coal is found along the Musselshell river and is extensively mined at Roundup. Bituminous coal is also mined at various points in the Judith Basin, particularly at Lewistown, and is of excellent quality. Montana is one of the great coal producing states of the West.

Schools.

Like all western states, Montana takes great pride in its system of public education. The institutions of higher learning include the State University at Missoula, the Agricultural College at Bozeman, the School of Mines at Butte, the Normal School at Dillon, besides many private and religious schools and colleges.

The primary schools are numerous and good. The state law provides that a school and teacher shall be furnished any district having ten children of school age.

Montana has 6,082,480 acres of school lands and this enormous total will be increased when the state surveys are completed. Public money available for school purposes amounts to about \$2,500,000. No state has

more liberal school laws or more money per capita available for educational purposes.

Wages.

Wages in Montana are higher than in eastern or central western states. In the towns all classes of unskilled labor receive from 20% to 50% more than in the East. In the country, sheep herders, ranchmen and farm hands receive \$35 per month and board; as a rule, there is plenty of work. It is not advisable, however, for even an unmarried man to go to Montana without sufficient money for several months sustenance.

New Book Regarding Montana.

A new illustrated book on Montana, much larger and more complete than this folder, giving detailed information regarding the different districts traversed by the Chicago, Milwaukee & Puget Sound Railway, land values, and much other valuable information regarding Montana, will be mailed free to any address upon request.

Homeseekers' Excursions.

On the first and third Tuesdays of each month, up to December, 1910, inclusive, round-trip homeseekers' tickets will be on sale, at greatly reduced rates, to stations on the CHICAGO, MILWAUKEE & PUGET SOUND RAILWAY in Montana. These tickets are good twenty-five (25) days from date of sale and stopovers are allowed. These low-fare tickets afford the homeseeker an opportunity to inspect the country along this new line at small cost. Information as to cost of these tickets will be gladly furnished by any passenger representative of the CHICAGO, MILWAUKEE & ST. PAUL RAILWAY.

Correspondence is solicited with intending settlers. Specific questions will be cheerfully answered in detail.

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CORNFIELD NEAR LAVINA.

(CROPS—Continued)

As to the value of the oat crop per acre, the United States Department of Agriculture gives the following figures as average for the ten years, 1897 to 1906, inclusive: Montana, \$15.98; Minnesota, \$8.47; Illinois, \$8.85; Iowa, \$7.68; Missouri, \$6.47; Nebraska, \$6.96.

Montana produces more wheat per acre than any other state in the Union. The statistics of the United States Department of Agriculture show that in the ten year period, 1897 to 1906, inclusive, Montana raised an average of 26.7 bushels of wheat per acre, as compared with 13.9 bushels for Minnesota, 14.1 bushels for Iowa, 13.5 bushels for Illinois, and 16.2 bushels for Nebraska. The general average for the United States for the same period was 13.8 bushels per acre.

The average value of this crop per acre for the same period in the states named, as given by the same authority, was as follows: Montana, \$17.71, Minnesota, \$8.54, Illinois, \$9.76, Iowa, \$8.98, Nebraska, \$9.42.

The average value of all crops per acre in the states named for the same period is as follows: Montana, \$19.61, Minnesota, \$9.08, Illinois, \$12.06, Iowa, \$8.91, Nebraska, \$7.69.

Markets.

Montana furnishes that best of all markets—the home market. So large a percentage of the population is engaged in mining, lumbering, stockraising, etc., that her farmers can not supply the food for the state.

Farm products (pounds) imported into Montana annually as shown by freight bills at leading stations:

Onions	1,475,609	Potatoes	10,374,387
Cabbage	1,645,039	Mixed Vegetables...	2,997,801
Celery	74,871	Asparagus	19,678
Green Beans	12,036	Green Peas	13,133
Green Corn	15,774	Tomatoes	463,660
Cucumbers	42,395	Lettuce	3,393
Spinach	5,849	Rhubarb	42,085
Squash	4,726	Carrots	4,715
Beets	2,670	Horse Radish	4,430
Turnips	13,276	Dried Peas	2,024
Dried Beans	1,189,654	Clover Seed	105,114
Flax Seed	6,060	Millet	25,010
Alfalfa Seed	83,446	Barley	145,200
Oats	332,340	Wheat	18,239,150
Malt	1,269,540	Mixed Pickles	1,429,878
Ham	7,222,021	Bacon	3,617,177
Cured Meats	552,467	Fresh Pork	2,597,577
Other fresh meats...	3,139,421	Condensed Milk ...	899,985
Butter	4,350,956	Oleo and Butterine..	700,065
Cheese	751,366	Poultry	3,024,837
Lard	1,888,620	Eggs (Dozen).....	4,056,360

Millions of pounds of flour are also imported and the price is the Minneapolis price, plus the freight rate.

As the enormous mineral and timber resources of the state have only begun to be developed and will develop as rapidly as agriculture, big prices for all agricultural products are assured for many years.

The city of Butte alone with a population of 80,000 consumes annually:

Beef	11,600,000 lbs.	Beans	750,000 lbs.
Mutton	2,400,000 lbs.	Vegetables	26,270,000 lbs.
Pork	11,800,000 lbs.	Poultry	1,040,000 lbs.
Flour	18,816,000 lbs.	Butter	1,047,000 lbs.
Eggs	1,872,000 lbs.		

Butte buys more fruit than any other city of its size in the United States. Its population is well paid and spends liberally.

Topography.

Eastern Montana is a prairie country covered with rich grasses and sage brush. The valleys of the rivers and streams are usually narrow, but in the aggregate contain much rich and level land, usually irrigated. Next to the valleys there is encountered rough land before the table or bench lands are reached, but once well up on the bench there may be seen thousands of acres of rolling lands which lay excellently for farming. *Passengers on trains should remember that railroads generally follow the water courses and in looking out of the car windows they see only the valley land and the rough land between the valley and the true bench. In order to see the bench lands it is necessary to leave the railroad.*

Western Montana is occupied by the Rocky Mountains, and the farming and fruit growing is carried on in the valleys, some of which are very large.

Altitudes.

Fallon, Custer County	2231 feet
Miles City, Custer County	2361 "
Forsyth, Rosebud County	2536 "
Ft. Logan, Meagher County	4750 "
Lewistown, Fergus County	3924 "
Roundup, Fergus County	3180 "
Lavina, Fergus County	3440 "
Missoula, Missoula County	3190 "
Saltese, Missoula County	3386 "
Three Forks, Gallatin County	4066 "



TURKEY RED WHEAT, YIELD 58 BUSHELS PER ACRE, FORSYTH EXPERIMENTAL FARM.

Homestead Lands.

There are millions of acres of Government land in Montana open to entry under the Homestead Act. A large proportion of these lands is tributary to the Chicago, Milwaukee & Puget Sound Railway, and is suitable for farming. The lands near the railway are being rapidly homesteaded and haste is necessary in order to get a farm near a town. During the year of 1909 four thousand, four hundred and thirty-four (4,434) filings were registered at the government land offices at Miles City and Lewistown.

Under the provisions of the Mondell Homestead Law, recently signed by the President, large tracts of land in Custer and Dawson counties, Montana, are designated by the Secretary of the Interior, on which the size of the homestead filing is increased from 160 to 320 acres.

The law contains a specific requirement with regard to cultivation and requires residence for five years.

For details regarding these lands see our pamphlet "Government Homesteads and How to Secure Them." It will be mailed free on application.

Dairying.

No state offers better inducements to the dairyman than Montana. Good water, nutritious grasses, grains and forage plants, excellent climate, and cheap grazing are found everywhere.

The demand for dairy products is large and is principally filled from outside states, making the market always good. It is estimated that Montana imports annually more than 4,000,000 pounds of butter, 900,000 pounds of condensed milk, and 700,000 pounds of butterine.

Prices for butter fat range from 3 to 7 cents higher than in the eastern markets.

Five years ago there were only two creameries in the State; now there are over forty.

"Properly handled there is money in the dairy business. We can take every pound of hay and grain we produce and can double the market price on it with good cows. That is my experience in this western country; it is two dollars for one."—Prof. F. B. Linfield, in *Montana Farmers' Bulletin*.

Poultry.

Poultry can be raised at a good profit in Montana. There is nothing about the climate that is unfavorable if proper chicken houses are constructed, while the many days of sunshine have a tendency to make the hens lay.

Grain for feed can be raised cheaper than in almost any other place in the United States. Alfalfa is relished by fowls as a green food, and it keeps them healthy. The cost of maintaining a hen in Montana does not average \$1.00 per year.

The market for eggs and poultry is always good—eggs bring 30 to 60 cents per dozen. Montana imports yearly about 4,000,000 dozen eggs and over 3,000,000 fowls.

Fruit.

The hardier varieties of fruit grow very well in eastern Montana and, during the season, the stores of Miles City and other towns make attractive displays of home grown apples, plums and cherries, which are of good size, flavor and color. All kinds of small fruits do exceptionally well, producing large yields of the highest quality, and are in demand at good prices.

Western Montana produces fruit that attracts attention wherever shown, and brings high prices in the eastern markets. The St. Louis World's Fair proved that the state of Montana has three varieties of apples that cannot be excelled in any fruit region: The Transcendent Crab, the Alexander and McIntosh Red. These apples produced the greatest astonishment among the