

This September cotton report of the Department of Agriculture, at Washington, shows a decline from the August condition of the crop, which was 77.00 to 70.8 per cent.

The Japanese Government has offered the California Cotton Mills Co., located at Oakland, Cal., immunity from taxation for 20 years, and furnish male labor at 18 cents a day, if it will remove its entire plant to Japan.

In Spain more men are employed in the cotton industry than in any other, except agriculture. This fact is brought out in a report on the Spanish cotton industry recently made to the State Department at Washington by Consul Bowen, of Barcelona. It appears that in thread alone there are 3,000,000 spindles, \$40,000,000 of capital invested, and 34,800 workmen. In white woven cotton goods there are large exports from Barcelona. Ten thousand workmen are employed in cotton thread lace manufactures near Barcelona,

and 38,000 are at work in other parts of Spain. In dyed and printed cotton factories there are 10,634 looms and 32,000 workmen employed, producing 48,800,000 metres of cloth. Cuba and Puerto Rico received the most of this. The total number of spindles in Spain employed in cotton works is 2,614,500, and the number of looms is 68,300, with a total capital of \$60,000,000. Cotton thread workmen are paid by the piece, as are also the weavers. The average wages paid per week are as follows:—Directors and superintendents, \$12 to \$25, major-domos, \$8 to \$10, machinists, \$4 to \$16, firemen, \$3 to \$6, thread workers and weavers, \$4.75 to \$6, carpenters, \$4.75 to \$6, ordinary workmen, \$3 to \$4. The average workman's wages in Barcelona and vicinity are less than 70c a day. The most of the cotton that comes to Spain is from the United States, and amounts to about \$15,000,000 each year. Considerable cotton, however, also comes from Egypt. While Spain is poor, the consul says, the province of Barcelona is rich.

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