CASH CROPS — RICE

The soil and climate are particularly adapted to the production of rice and hence rice is the chief money crop with an average acreage of about 100,000 to 135,000 acres planted by 2000 rice producers.

COTTON

Cotton ranks second in importance and money value with more than 4000 cotton producers in the parish planting under the Agricultural Adjustment program, approximately 27,000 acres of cotton. The production of cotton in 1938 and in 1939 averaged over 20,000 bales.

SWEET POTATOES

Sweet potatoes rank third in money value, and has during the past few years rapidly increased, particularly in the Church Point section and is becoming more and more important in this and other communities in the parish. The acreage is estimated to be approximately 15,000 to 20,000 acres and there has been shipped annually for the past several years 400 to 500 acres of sweet potatoes.

CORN

Corn is not grown extensively as a money crop, but is grown rather extensively by cotton producers in the eastern and northeastern parts of the parish as a feed and food crop. The total acreage planted annually amounts to 25,000 to 26,000 acres. Practically all of this corn is interplanted with soy beans or other summer legumes and farmers are planting more and more winter legumes on cotton and rice lands as a source of feed and soil building crops.

LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY

The soil, climate, pasture, and feed possibilities, together with local supply of a large volume of rice by-products, make the possibilities of beef, dairy, swine, and poultry production very fine side line incomes to the farmers of the parish and these products are being produced more and more each year. There are many pure bred flocks of poultry and the parish ranks third in the parishes of the state in poultry and egg production, with beef cattle ranking third with a total of approximately 50,000 head.

RICE ROTATION WITH PERMANENT PASTURES

It has been the custom for a great many years for rice producers to plant rice on about half or more of the cropland each year and this prac-
practice has partially maintained soil fertility, but rice farmers are gradually learning the value of increased fertility which can be brought about by permanent pasture improvement practices and the growing of other legume crops in rotation with rice.

Experiment station results and demonstration by farmers indicate that by leaving the land two years or more seeded to winter and summer clovers with an application of superphosphate or basic slag to stimulate increased growth of clovers and grasses that it increases the yields of rice from three to four barrels per acre, hence during the last three to four years rice farmers have cooperated with the county agent and the Agricultural Adjustment Administration in the establishment of several thousand acres of these permanent pasture projects which have greatly increased the grazing capacity for cattle and are proving profitable both as a soil building practice and increased production of beef cattle.

There is left idle or fallow each year in rotation with rice approximately 90,000 to 100,000 acres which if seeded to clovers and other legume crops would greatly improve the soil fertility and add much to the income from beef cattle.

**PURE BRED CATTLE RAISING**

There are a number of pure bred herds of beef cattle which includes Hereford, Angus, Shorthorns, and other types of beef cattle in the parish owned by leading and progressive farmers. In recent years by introducing better sires throughout the parish, there has been brought about much improvement in type of cattle and a greater number of cattle owners are using pure bred sires and are giving more and more attention to the production of feed, better pasture, and better care of cattle.

**THE FOLLOWING IS AN ESTIMATE OF THE ANNUAL FARM INCOME REVENUE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Revenue</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100,000 to 120,000 acres rice—yield 1,400,000 barrels</td>
<td>$3,800,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21,000 bales of cotton</td>
<td>1,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sale of surplus beef cattle</td>
<td>500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dairy products</td>
<td>30,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Truck and vegetables</td>
<td>30,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweet potatoes</td>
<td>250,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surplus poultry and eggs</td>
<td>100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural Adjustment Payments</td>
<td>650,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It can be seen that Acadia parish is a highly developed agricultural parish and the potential possibilities hold out much promise for increased revenue as farmers give more attention, as many of them are now doing, to new crops, soil conservation, and better care and attention to livestock and poultry.
Over 30,000 Barrels Of Oil Per Day Pumped From Acadia Parish Fields

Acadia parish has long been noted for its rice production alone, but in the last few years this territory has become important from the standpoint of oil production. At the present time the farmlands of Acadia are dotted with the derricks and structures of eight separate fields, which have a combined daily production of 30,508 barrels of oil. The location of these various fields can be seen on the accompanying map, and it will be noted that the city of Crowley is more or less centrally located to them.

By far the greater part of the production of oil in the parish has resulted from development within the last seven years. This fact denotes that the peak of exploration and exploitation has not yet been reached. The Ritchie and South Crowley fields were discovered in 1940 and substantial development is expected in these new areas.

A tabulation of the parish oil fields with their daily production in barrels shows Bayou Mallet, 225; Bosco, 4,379; Evangeline, 15,164; North Crowley, 5,545; North Tepetate, 75; Ritchie, 210; South Crowley, 510; and Tepetate, 4,400.
Crowley Equipped With Vast Bulk Oil And Gasoline Facilities

Nine bulk oil and gasoline stations supply the service stations and industries of Crowley. Representatives of all the major gasoline and oil companies in the United States have dealerships conveniently located along railroad sidings in the city. Several independent concerns are included in this group. Bulk oil and gasoline has always been a major business in this community because of the large demand from agricultural sources, the fuel being needed to operate the many machines used in the cultivation of rice, along with the operation of diesel pumping plants in irrigating the fields.

One of the largest oil depots in the country is located only a few miles south of Crowley on the Intracoastal canal where bulk products are barged to other points in the Gulf South. Further still, the bulk dealers of Crowley are within a 100 mile radius of the world's largest refineries. Gas and oil shortages in this city and surrounding territory never have and probably never will be known.
The Pelican Bag Company Illustrates What Can Be Done
By Investing In Crowley's Resources
And Facilities

In 1935 a new firm was to be established somewhere in the state of Louisiana. The officers of this organization, although rich in years of managerial experience, were limited by the amount they could invest. Much careful deliberation had to be made as to the location of this small enterprise in order to make it a promising business. Crowley, because of its outstanding facilities, was finally chosen. The Pelican Bag Company, Inc., was set up in one of the many warehouses of Crowley. Today, this same bag company has a plant of its own, several acres of land with railroad sidings and motor freight docks, and several warehouses of its own. And according to the statement of the firm's executive, this Pelican Bag Company is running close to a million dollar a year business. As a result, Crowley refers to this company as an outstanding example of what can be done by using sound business tactics and proper location.

The Pelican Bag Company is primarily concerned with the business of furnishing new, reconditioned, and reprocessed bags to many Louisiana industries such as the rice, sugar, cotton, fertilizer, salt, and farm industry. In all, the annual requirement of these industries alone comes to the sum of 37,500,000 bags of various sizes and requirements. Besides furnishing Louisiana, the company now services Mississippi, Alabama, Arkansas, and Texas.

In order to fill their ever-increasing volume of sales, the plant has from time to time been added to. From practically nothing in 1935, the appraised valuation of the firm is now placed at $100,000. Employed as laborers and executives are 37 women and 39 men, who make up an annual payroll of $84,000. These people are employed on a full-time basis, for this industry knows no seasonal employment. It is a consistent twelve months a year job.

Five modern trucks and trailers are owned by the Pelican Bag Company for servicing its sales area.

Because the Pelican Bag Company is one of the outstanding of its kind in the United States, and also because its officers have had experience in the World war with the handling of government contracts, the organization stands ready to add to its already large plant in the way of buildings and machinery should it be needed in the line of national defense.

The city of Crowley is proud of the activity and growth of this manufacturer, and presents it as a measuring stick to be used by industrialists when considering the vast facilities of the Rice City of America, center of the Gulf South.