

Some comments on Russia's experiments in cotton cultivation (based on materials from the Turkestan collection)

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Abstract: These articles report that the success of cotton cultivation in the south of Russia has so far been proven by experiments in the above regions without the use of artificial irrigation.

Keywords: "Turon" newspaper, cotton committee, stock exchange committees, landowners, zemstvos, plantations

In the second half of the 19th century, as a result of industrial development in Europe and Russia, it can be seen that the demand for raw materials increased regularly. Although the Russian Empire conquered Turkestan and pursued a policy of turning these regions into a market for its industrial products and raw material supply, in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, cotton raw materials were still semi-manufactured or raw materials grown mainly in America and Egypt. would do Therefore, the ruling circles of Russia, first of all, factory owners, cotton-growing committees, stock exchange committees, zemstvos in the south of Russia, agricultural society, large landowners, in order to develop cotton-growing in the territory of the vast Russian Empire, in various ways, to increase the areas of cotton cultivation, to get abundant harvests from cotton-growing. began to carry out works and experiments. [1.101-118]

In Russia, a number of practical steps were taken in order to get rid of the dependence of raw materials on the foreign market. There is information about this in a number of issues of the Turkestan collection. In particular, K. on pages 135-138 of volume 575 of the Turkestan collection. A. Timaev's "Opty razvedeniya hlopka na yuge Rossii (Turk. cur., 1909, No. 61)", volume 522 of this collection, page 142, "Kultura hlopchatnika na yuge Rossii. (Nov. Vremya, 1909, No. 12128)" and a number of other articles provide some information about cotton cultivation in the south of Russia, that is, in the Black Sea and North Caucasus regions.

In the process of analyzing the data provided by Novogo vremeni newspaper, it is known that the Russian ruling circles and large landowners, as well as the owners of factories specializing in raw cotton raw materials, have the main goal of delivering cotton raw materials to the south of Russia for American and Egyptian cotton every year for 10 In addition, the increase in dependence on the foreign market, the constant increase in the price of cotton raw materials on the Liverpool and New York exchanges caused concern. We can also see that the American market, which has an important place in supplying Russian industrialists with cotton raw materials, is changing in different political and natural conditions. The first press organ of the Bukhara Emirate, "Bukharai Sharif", dated April 19, 1912, contained information about American cotton. For example, in the "Telegraph messages" column of the 19th issue of Bukharai Sharif: "We reported on the increase in the price of cotton on the New York Stock Exchange. The reason for this is that the Mississippi River overflowed and destroyed a large part of the cotton fields... [3]". Due to a number of reasons given above, Russian industrial and financial circles tried to establish cotton cultivation in the

south of the empire. According to "Novogo vremeni" newspaper, not being satisfied with private individuals and experiments conducted in some regions for several years, Russian ruling circles, large stock market managers and landowners, factory - factory owners, for a three-year experiment in the Black Sea and the North Caucasus, which are considered to be the southern regions of Russia. informs that they are targeting regions and districts [4.142].

The domestic market of the empire could not be fully covered by raw cotton imported from Turkestan. According to the data of 1908, the Russian Empire imported 6,762,736 pounds of raw cotton from the Fergana region, 768,714 pounds from the Transcasian region, 505,758 pounds from the Syrdarya region, 510,879 pounds from the Samarkand region, 2,023,504 pounds from the Bukhara and Khiva regions, and 10 million 571 thousand 591 pounds from the entire Central Asian region. - the item has been transported. At this time, only 1 million 147 thousand 390 pounds of wood were grown in the Trans-Caucasus region, which is considered dependent on Russia. According to the data of 1908, only 11 million 718 thousand 98 pounds of raw cotton were grown in the territories dependent on the Russian Empire [5.190-191].

Due to the fact that the raw materials imported from Central Asia did not fully satisfy the needs of the Russian Empire, the business circles of the empire started to establish cotton plantations in the areas close to the industrial enterprises, chasing after the big profit. That's why the aforementioned "Novogo vremeni" press organ, with the intervention of the government, for the first time seriously planned to establish large cotton plantations in the Odessa region and test them for 5 years. that he financed the establishment of cotton plantations in various regions of southern Russia and the northern Caucasus, that last year's results were successful, which led to increased interest in large landowners and manufacturers, and that it proved possible to establish cotton plantations on 6 million tens of acres of land in southern Russia and the northern Caucasus, if this that if cotton is planted in the regions, it will prevent the entry of foreign products into the Russian markets and save 100 million rubles in the country's domestic market, and for this, factory owners, cotton-growing committees, stock exchange committees, landowners, zemstvos and agricultural society will work together it is stated that it is necessary to do so, only then can we get rid of dependence on the foreign market. [5.190-191]

We can learn from the information of the Turkestan collection that the Russian ruling circles established a "cotton committee" in order to end dependence on cotton raw materials in the foreign market, and carried out a number of activities through this committee. In particular, M. Bushuev's "Trudy khlopkovogo komiteta. (Turk. sel. kholz-vo, 1908, No. 4)", his article, in addition, "Zasedanie khlopkovogo komiteta. (Usloviya sdachi and concession regiment. Voeykovu oroshenia Dalverzinskoy steppe). (Turk. kur., 1908, No. 85 and Torg.-promyshl. gaz., 1908, No. 85)", "Deyatelnost khlopkovogo komiteta. (Turk. kur., 1909, No. 233)", "Deyatelnost khlopkovogo komiteta. (Golos Moskvy, 1909, No. 234)", "Zasedanie khlopkovogo komiteta. (Torg.-promyshl. gaz., 1909, No. 13 and Spb. Bed., 1909, No. 13)", N. I. Malakhovsky's "Zasedanie khlopkovogo komiteta. (Torg.-promyshl. gaz., 1909, No. 50)" and others can be given as an example [6.131-139]. As can be seen from the above points, meeting the demand for cotton raw materials of the Russian Empire at the level of domestic capabilities was one of the main issues on the agenda of Russian economic policy in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. For this purpose, measures were taken to establish cotton plantations in the regions near the industrial centers of Russia mentioned above. Apart from Odessa, cotton plantations were increasingly expanded along the Black Sea and the North Caucasus. In number 518 of the collection of Turkestan, the cotton harvesting season in Tbilisi province in 1909 began on September 18-20, cotton was paid from 30-70 tithes per bushel, cotton cultivation was developing in this area, while

only 2 years ago, cotton was planted in areas that did not exceed 20-30 dozen in Tbilisi province, now it is a large - it was noted that cotton planting has been started in large plantations. In addition, in Kutaisi province in 1909, cotton was planted on 700 tens of acres of land, cotton was planted 10-15 days earlier than last year, due to the natural and climatic conditions of Kutaisi, it is possible to grow high-grade cotton raw material, but there is a lack of labor, the population of the area is not enough for cotton cultivation. opinions are expressed about lack of incentives, the lack of instructors promoting cotton farming among the population [7.155-160]. Information about experiments and their results can be found in the information of the Turkestan collection. From this information, we can see that growing cotton in this area is very expensive, and the local situation has not shown interest in cotton cultivation. Historical sources confirm that the price of labor in Turkestan region satisfied most of the Russian industrialists, if 30-70 tymans were spent for one pound of cotton crop in Tbilisi province mentioned above. In 1912, one of the first press organizations published in the Emirate of Bukhara, "Turon", published some information about the price of raw cotton, and we can see information about the increase in the cultivation and transportation of this strategic raw material in Turkestan in the last three years. possible In the 44th issue of "Turon" newspaper, published on December 19, 1912: The price of cotton in Ferghana was 13 soums, from 30 tiyani, to 13 soum 50 tiyani, and in Andijan, cotton was priced at 13 soum 50 tiyani. One poud of Hoqand high grade cotton is 13 soums 60 tiyens, first grade cotton is 13 soums, 15 tiyens, one poud of Margilon cotton is 13 soums 40 tiyens, [8.] This is another evidence of cheap labor. As can be seen from the above points, the attempts of the artists and financiers of the Russian ruling circles to satisfy Russia's need for raw materials by establishing large cotton plantations in the Black Sea region and the Caucasus, considered the southern regions of the empire, did not achieve positive results for a number of reasons. Firstly, it was caused by the non-positive attitude of the population to cotton cultivation in these areas, and secondly, we can see the high cost of labor in this region through the above evidence. Therefore, the empire's administrators tried to grow this raw material in the Turkestan region and increase it every year.

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