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Small Measure of Omaha's Wickedness

Omaha's location in the middle west has given the unenlightened citizens of many eastern states the impression that this city is still in the "wild and woolly" class. Residents of Omaha, of course, know better and they might with advantage use the statistics, just furnished by the United States census bureau, for the purpose of calling attention to the fact that Omaha stands at the top of the lists of American cities in respect for the law and in the absence of crime and punishable offenses. Here is a table giving for the year 1905, the number of arrests, per 1,000 of the population, for all offenses, for drunkenness and the number of policemen per 1,000 of the population:

City	All Offenses	Drunkenness	Police
Boston	81.2	54.3	1.8
Baltimore	63.1	6.8	1.8
Philadelphia	57.1	17.9	1.7
New York	49.5	13.7	1.7
St. Louis	41.6	7.3	1.6
Chicago	41.4	23.3	1.7
Kansas City	16.2	4.6	1.8
Denver	11.1	3.5	1.8
Omaha	9.1	3.1	1.9

In other words, while eighty-one persons of every 1,000 were arrested in Boston in 1905, and fifty-four of every 1,000 were arrested for drunkenness, in Omaha but nine persons of every 1,000 were arrested on any charge and but three in every 1,000 for drunk-

ness. The record also shows that Omaha has a smaller police force in ratio to population, than any other large city in the country.

Here are some interesting figures, too, relating to arrest for causes other than drunkenness. The figures given show the arrests for homicide, larceny, and the arrests of children, in cities about the size of Omaha:

Cities	Homicide	Larceny	Children
Kansas City	26	899	360
Toledo	4	426	360
St. Paul	5	460	582
Denver	8	702	582
Columbus, O.	8	392	459
Worcester	3	298	7459
Los Angeles	14	296	103
Omaha	3	317	67

The cities not reporting the separate arrests of juvenile offenders are not included in the above list.

Further investigation of the returns show that the total number of arrests for violations of city ordinances was larger in Omaha than in any other city in the list presented, which thus reducing the crime element from the city's ratio of arrests to the population.

It is well to let the east know that Omaha, in addition to offering greater inducements to the homeseeker and investor than in any other city in the west, is also by comparison the safest place in which to live.

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