### OMAHA ILLUSTRATED BEE.

# 1874-1899 25th Business Anniversary Rise and Progress of A. Hospe's Great Music and Art Establishment.

## Phenomenal Growth Displayed in its Present Mammoth Proportions.

Doors of the establishment at 1513-1515 Douglas street to be thrown open to the public Monday afternoon and

evening, October 23, to celebrate the event with a grand promenade concert, with souvenir distribution.

# Souvenir Distribution

On Monday afternoon and evening, October 23, the doors of the immense establishment which will be beautifully decorated throughout, will be thrown open to the public for a general good time. Music will be discoursed by Kaufman's band on the store floor, the Smith Fam-Hy will play on the Audit rium stage while the organ room will be enlivened with automatic orchestral music.



A. Hospe's Picture Frame Factory, 1614 Izard Street.

Lady visitors will each receive a copy of the Silver Anniversary March, composed for the occasion by Wm. S. Baxter, and a handsome souvenir will be distributed to their gentlemen escorts. The evening promenade will begin at 7 o'clock. Over \$,009 souvenirs will also be distributed by mail to patrons now on the books of this house.

# A Remarkable Career.

To few young men who embark in a business career ever comes the opportunity to look backward over a quarter century's record of uninterrupted success, yet such has been the wonderful career of Mr. A. Hospe who, coming to Omaha in 1874, just out of his teens, endowed with an abundance of pluck and energy, and gifted with that rarer qualification known as business judgment has succeeded in building up what is now universally conceded the largest music and art emporium in the Transmississippi region.

Mr. Hospe, who is still a young man, has indeed reason to be proud of his achievement-for what greater or higher tribute could a business man receive than that written in the immense growth of his establishment, testifying to the continuous and unstinted patronage of the public through so many years. What better testim nial of his ability and fitness to meet the domands of the public than this marvelous growth in the midst of so long a period of business vicissitudes that has wrecked and buried hosts of rivals and left the few survivors in comparative obscurity.

The fact of an institution's growth is the strongest argument and highest evidence of its merit-a compliment far superior to all praise composed merely of words, and this fact cannot be more emphatically impressed



PIANOS SORGANS KNABE PIANOS ARTISTS MATERIALS PICTURE ARTA HOSPE-MUSIC

A. Hospe's Music and Art Emporium, 1513-1515 Douglas



#### A. Hospe's Piano Room.

than through a visit to Mr. Hospe's establishment or in lieu thereof by a glance at the accompanying illustration, taken from photographs which give at least a hint of the magnitude of Mr. Hospe's famous music and art emporium.

Mr. Hospe located in Omaha October 23, 1874, on the east side of Fiftcenth street, between Dauglas and Dodge streets, removing a year later to the north side of Dodge, between Fifteenth and Sixteenth streets. In 1879 he removed to the south side of Dodge, between Fiftcenth and Sixteenth streets, and in 1885 to the present location, 1513-1515 Douglas street, where he occupies three floors and a basement, the latter containing organ rooms, sheet musistock rooms, plano tuner's material, picture frame orders and the China firing kilns.

#### A. Hospe's Organ Room.

of the well-known Kimball manufacture and those of his own make. This room is made very accessible by a broad stair case leading from the main floor, and is lighted by gas and electricity.

The retail art department is on the east side of the building and is crammed with fine gold and natural wood frames, manufactured in the establishment, and others imported from all parts of the world. The manufacture of frames is a specialty in which Mr. Hospe has been engaged for twenty-five years.

The plano room on the main floor contains upwards of eighty planos, representing the leading makes, such as Kimball, Kranich & Bach, Knabe, Hallet & Davis and Hospe pianos. Here also are the cases for scarfs and stools in great variety. In connection with this subject it will be of interest to note that the Kienball instru-

October 22, 1899.

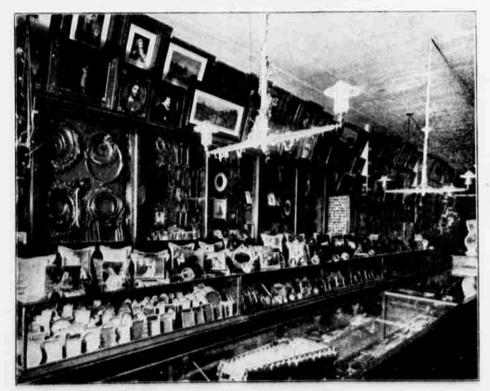


A Hospe.

The first floor contains the retail art, retail musical instruments. plano room, sheet music department and the office. The second floor contains the auditorium, art and music studios, and the wholesale musical instrument stock. The third floor contains the retail picture frame shop, the art institute and musical instrument manufactory, together with art studios.

The auditorium, on the second floor is lighted by electricity and contains one hundred and fifty oak folding opera chairs. Its stage in the south end is fitted with grand planos and it is provided with a dressing room for the accommodation of its visitors. The walls are hung with fine paintings and water colors, making it a pretty room for recitals, musicals and lectures.

The organ room in the basement contains over fifty instruments



A. Hospe's Retail Art Department.

### A. Hospe's Fitting Department-Factory.

platforms to facilitate loading and unloading carload shipments. The building is 33x82 feet, containing a basement and two floors in which is carried the largest stock of plcture moulding, picture backing, picture glass, picture matting, picture frame machinery and all picture frame hardware used by the picture frame dealer. Not only are frames manufactured here, but also mouldings, supplying the west, east, north and south

An idea of the growth of this business can be better conveyed when it is stated that as many as 40 people are engaged in its service. Six as traveling sal smen. Over 600 instruments were sold in 1898, the volume of its art and music busines for that year reaching the sum of \$170,000.

Considering this enormous growth of business Mr. Hospe has much indeed to celebrate and his plans for celebration contemplate doing this in a becoming way. Already congratulations are pouring in from all sides -over five hundred having been received from his eastern correspondents alone.

### At the Exposition

At the expositi n auditorium the Belistedt band will play the Silver Anniversary March both afternoon and evening of Monday. October 23, the ladies in attendance receiving copies of this lovely march, bound in an elegantly designed cover.

ments have been represented by this house for twenty-five years.

The retail musical department on the west side of the building on the ground floor, is filled-every inch of space-with instruments of every description, including music boxes, sheet music and books-a stock con eded one of the most complete in the west. Many of the instruments here alluded to come direct to the port of Omaha in bond.

The art institute on the third floor is used for art students who work from casts, still life and living models, under the supervision of Prof. Albert Rothery, where painting in oil, water color, crayon and pastel is taught.

To such an extent and magnitude had the picture frame busines of this house grown that six years ago, when the whole country w? stricken with business depression, Mr. Hospe was obliged to er a separate picture frame factory at 1614 Izard street. The fact is built on the railroad tracks, latter being connected to the buildin



A. Hospe's Retail Musical Department