

RAILROADS HAVE BUSY YEAR

Extensions and Improvements the Order on All Omaha Lines

MANY CHANGES MADE IN TWELVE MONTHS

Development of Territory Served Requires Expenditure of Much Money to Keep Roads Up to Demands.

The year 1902 leaves it an unprecedented record of railroad activity. The acme of achievement in this line of industry was reached, and yet the phenomenal developments promise to go on and even surpass those of the past.

Burlington's Improvements.

The Burlington has done a great deal this year toward completing its double track from Chicago to Omaha. The western terminus is at Nodaway, fifty-five miles east of Pacific Junction.

Northwestern's Double Track.

The year 1902 forms an era in the history and development of the Chicago & Northwestern railroads, for it marks the consummation of one of the largest and most important tasks ever undertaken by this pioneer line to Omaha since its entrance into the Gate City via Council Bluffs.

Missouri Pacific's Move.

Among the more important steps taken by the Missouri Pacific during the year were the acquisition of the Denver & Rio Grande and the Rio Grande & Western.

Achievement of the Wabash.

At a cost of \$25,000,000, which involves the outfit for its new Pittsburg depot, the Wabash has gained a victory over the Vanderbilt.

Rock Island's Great Growth.

The Rock Island has grown from a system of 4,000 to a system of 8,000 miles this year. This is the largest per cent of growth in mileage made by any railway in the United States.

Illinois Central's Double Track.

The chief work of the Illinois Central has been its extensive system of double tracking, although it has bought and built some minor lines.

Milwaukee's Traffic Alliance.

The most notable achievement of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul during the year is its traffic alliance with the Union Pacific.

Brookfield to Cross and half of the work completed this year. The balance will be done in 1903. A very important piece of work was the building of the Kansas City cutoff, which materially shortens the line from Chicago to Kansas City.

What the 'Prisco' Has Done.

The St. Louis & San Francisco has been busy acquiring new properties. It has increased its mileage from 4,824 to 5,581, and gone a long way, therefore, toward the realization of President Young's dream of being president of the longest railroad in the country.

Elkhorn's Important Extensions.

The Fremont, Elkhorn & Missouri Valley has confirmed its construction work almost entirely to the completion of the branch from Verdigris, Neb., to Bonesteel, S. D., a distance of 69 1/2 miles.

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Uncommon Records of 1902

Features of Life Lifted Above the Routine.

In diverse and curious fields the record-breakers were busy during the year 1902. Equally busy was the freak editor of the New York Sun, who compiled the record and kept tab on the record-breakers.

The low-si-first-night record was ruthlessly shattered in the early springtime when Madison Ormsby, aged 59, went down to Kansas City from Omaha and met Miss Jessie Turner, who evidently still retained irresistible charms, notwithstanding that her forty-fifth birthday was wound up on Time's relentless reel.

It was in the early weeks of the year that the romance of Miss Mildred Deuel of Richmond, Va., set a new mark for those important stages of life which most women reckon by years.

In a San Francisco hospital she became Mrs. Richard Miles Stanton while her husband was dying, a victim of fever contracted in the service of his country in the Philippines.

The thirteenth bride of the year appeared in St. Louis in April, when Miss Bertha Clark, scarce 15 years of age, was united to a seventy-five year old, and attired in short skirts, eloped with Frank McCoy, nearly twice her age, and became his wife.

Mr. Lane is the oldest active traveling man in the United States, being still in the harness at 56. He represents Armour & Co. in Mississippi, making towns by day and night trains, and covering an average of 2,500 miles a month.

Who was the record-smashing drummer? So many reveling men boast of mighty exploits on the road that this may seem a hard question to answer.

The largest child ever born in Illinois saw the light of day in Waukegan in July, when Mrs. George Catlin gave birth to a daughter weighing twenty-one and a half pounds.

St. Louis factories eclipsed all competitors in the production of the dainty known as sauerkraut, using for this purpose 7,000 barrels of cabbage.

Fifty persons committed suicide in Chicago during the month of May, the greatest number ever recorded in a single month, according to the health department.

The largest gun in the world, a 16-inch weapon, requiring years in construction, was completed at the Watervliet arsenal in June, this being the most powerful engine of destruction yet devised by man.

May was the record month for immigration, the total number of steerage passengers from foreign countries passing through Ellis Island being 85,500.

The one-day record was broken on May 8, when 8,700 passengers were carried from Omaha to almost every country in Europe as well as a few from Asia and Africa.

Turning to great achievements in live stock, Shamrock the champion steer of the third International Live Stock exposition, won the prize in his class.

During the year a story went the rounds of the press about a man who pretended to be the champion smoker of the world.

A remarkable record, truly, but it must give way to that of the champion smoker of the British army, a private in the Third battalion, Royal Warwickshire regiment.

The principal of a school at Manchester, Conn., holds the record as a spanker. Armed with an ordinary ruler, he administered forty-seven spankings in thirteen minutes one day, thus turning fearful boys and girls away from him at the rate of three and eight-tenths boys struck every minute.

In the month of September William Crandell of Deep Hollow, near Sikeston, Pa., declared his independence, which he regards as the corner stone of marriage in the United States.

The largest enter to establish a new record was a Wisconsin farmer named William Kimball. The committee has lots in mind for the year.

Churches have good year in the religious and charitable work of the city and to those educational institutions connected with the churches.

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Work on the hospital will be commenced in the early spring on the plans of Architect Kimball. The committee has lots in mind for the year.

The Roman Catholic Church of the Sacred Heart at Twenty-second and S streets was completed, furnished and dedicated during the month of June, after two years' work.

The new Roman Catholic Church of St. Mary Magdalene at the corner of Ninth and Dodge streets is nearing completion. The cornerstone was laid in June and the dedication will probably take place in February.

The Roman Catholic cathedral project is still in a rather tentative condition and will probably not be completed until the year 1903.

The official board of the First Baptist church has purchased the lot at Ninth and Farnam streets as the location of the new church.

The present First Baptist church will be sold and a new house erected on the same site.

The Bohemian Brethren of the Presbyterian church dedicated their building at Fifteenth and Hickory streets in February after practically rebuilding it.

Brownell hall was much improved during the summer, the north wing being furnished with seventeen study, reading rooms and library being fitted out and fire escapes added.

The Clifton Hill Presbyterian church was moved from the center of the block to new lots at the corner of Forty-fourth and Grant streets, raised another story and practically rebuilt, at a cost of several thousand dollars.

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father, Edgar Williams of Indianapolis, aged 39, who belongs to a family noted for early marriages.

Among the novel records of the period must be included that held by James Stewart of Leyden, N. Y., who announces that he has lived on this earth 104 years without ever having told a lie.

Washington one better by saying that he can lie, but won't. This remarkable centenarian used alcoholic beverages and tobacco freely until he was 90, when he took a new chute and swore off.

The most extraordinary old person of the year was Ignacia Sabina Flores of Pasadena, Cal., who peacefully passed away at the age of 117, having continued her usual round of work until the day of her death.

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OVER ONE MILLION CATTLE

South Omaha Live Stock Market Shows Rapid Growth for the Year.

HIGH PRICES ONE OF LEADING FEATURES

Local Demand from Packers Sufficient to Handle Receipts of Fat Stock, Almost Nothing Being Forwarded to Eastern Points.

South Omaha's growth as a live stock center has been something phenomenal during the year 1902, and may safely be said that not since the stock yards were established has the development been more pronounced than during the last year.

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RECEIPTS AND SHIPMENTS.

Table with columns: Receipts, Shipments, Cattle, Hogs, Sheep, Mules, Cars. Data for various months and years.

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