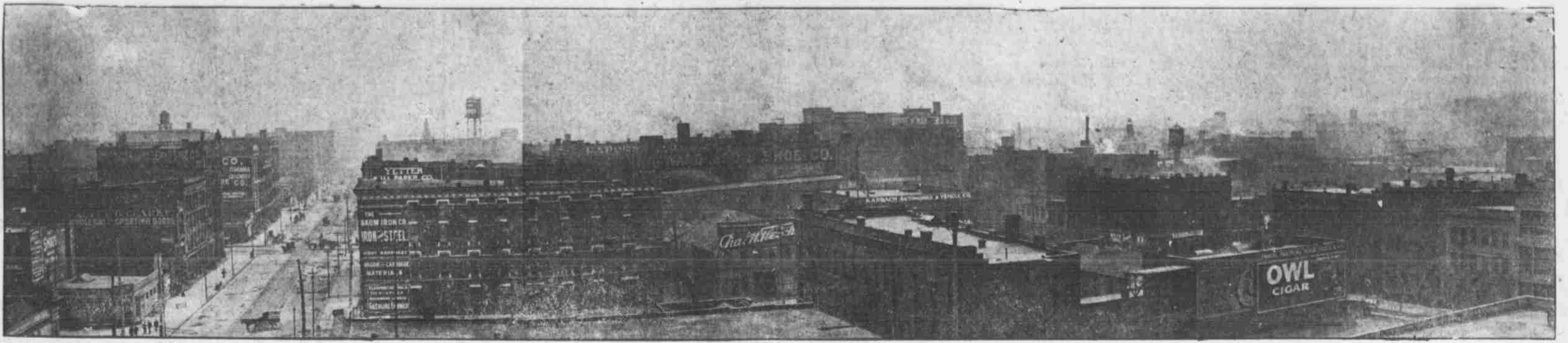


Omaha's Busy Wholesale District, Where Trade Runs Into Hundreds of Millions Annually



VIEW LOOKING EAST FROM THE ROOF OF THE PACIFIC EXPRESS BUILDING, AT THE CORNER OF FOURTEENTH AND HARNEY STREETS.

BEAUTY SPOTS ABOUT HOMES

What May Be Done to Make the Surroundings Attractive.

PLEASURES OF AMATEUR GARDENING

Delights in the Ever-Changing Work of Nature's Alchemy—Decorative Effect of Shrubbery and Vines.

Many and varied are the ways of beautifying home surroundings. Equally varied are the ways in which the householder may derive pleasure as well as profit from small gardens. "It is the joy and despair of the gardener that his work is never done, his materials are growing, changing, ever-varying things," exclaims a writer in the Century magazine, work that affords pleasure is not exacting work and no one who undertakes gardening even on a small scale cannot fail to derive satisfying pleasure from watching nature's alchemy produce results under life-giving sunshine. This is the delight of the man or woman who works skillfully and watches the seeds develop.

How and When to Plant. "Tell me what I shall plant in a little garden," said a novice to a seed dealer the other day. "I know something about gardening, but I want you to advise me what time to begin, what things I should plant first, and what I should leave until later on."

"Just as soon as the sun begins to shine and the ground to get warm, it is time to plant garden seed," said the seed dealer. "And so the time for many things begins."

"First we will talk about peas. You should plant some of two varieties now, one an extra-early kind and the other for a second early or medium crop. While the smooth peas are the earlier, the wrinkled ones are sweeter, you know. A standard early wrinkled pea is the Gradus or prosperity pea. There are numerous varieties of second early peas; Horsford's Market Garden and Pride of the Market are standards. When the early peas are gone use the same ground for a late variety.

"Then you should have some beans in your garden, too. Better plant a couple of varieties of early dwarf beans and later varieties of bush limas and wax beans. I don't think much of pole beans for small gardeners. The lima pods have just as much meat to them. All of these seeds should be planted two or three inches below the surface in well pulverized ground in rows probably a foot or so apart, according to the room you have.

"Other things planted now are lettuce, radishes, onion sets, asparagus roots, cucumbers, beets and carrots. Use onion sets and roots of asparagus. Plant cucumbers in hills, three or four feet apart, with four or five seeds in a hill. Plant the other seeds in narrow rows or beds. Put in some mustard and spinach. They make fine greens. A little lettuce may be planted for plate decoration. Might as well put on a little style, you know.

"Parsnips may be planted pretty soon. I would wait about ten days before planting sweet corn or setting out cabbage plants. Set out your tomato plants about May 1. I would recommend one or two early varieties and some later ones. Set them out about two feet apart.

"It is wonderful how much stuff can be grown on a small piece of ground. But gardening doesn't consist of early enthusiasm in planting seed and later neglect. A gardener must have attention to give results."

Shrubs and Vines. An important factor in securing pleasant results in planting shrubs and vines for the town yard is to plant in the right place. The most usual mistake is to place the shrub first planted, which is generally the most beautiful shrub, in the center of the lawn. Others are planted in the larger openings left, so that when the scheme is complete the shrubs are scattered, each standing out alone. If this plan is carried out it shows each individual shrub as a specimen, rather than as an ornament. Each one is a thing on exhibit in a museum. So far from contributing to the beauty of the whole home, the lawn becomes merely a place to display individual shrubs. The more the planter is attracted by the beauty of a particular shrub, the more likely he is to isolate it.

A much better effect may be secured by maintaining an open lawn in front and by massing the shrubs in groups in the corners of the yard, along the sides and rear, in front of outbuildings, in corners of the building or in the angles formed by the steps and the porch. Grouped in this way the shrubby plantings form a truly decorative frame to the home grounds. The open lawn in front admits the yellow sunlight, gives air and roominess and a suggestion of expanse to the grounds.

Sharp angles of the yard may be softened into graceful lines by massing shrubbery in the corners. Low growing shrubs can be planted close in to fill the angles between the steps and the porch. The bare, formal outlines of the basement wall may be neutralized by a mass of espirea or other low forms of shrubbery planted a few feet in width against the corners. Any bold and striking stone surface of a basement wall may be so improved in appearance by disposing shrubbery in this way. In massing shrubs the tallest should be placed in the rear and the lowest in front.

to form a continuous bank from the green grass to the top of the rear shrubs.

Shrubs should be planted early in spring before they start their leaves. It is usually best to space up the entire area to be occupied by the roots of a shrubby mass. In this area plant the shrubs close enough together so that in a year or two their branches will touch and mingle together. If this is done the observer loses the identity of each individual shrub and thinks only of the mass as a whole.

Shrubs blend in a neighborly fashion and give variety in their different styles of leaf, color and habit of growth. The variations in such a mass, from the soft, plumlike, drooping espirea to the rugged, stiff-twined mock orange, are never tiresome to the eye as the formal outlines of a single shrub. The variations in color will be particularly noticeable when the branches play together in the wind, giving all the changes in color of a cloud effect.

A Method in Planting Flowers, Too. Among the most suitable flowers for the lawn are the phlox, narcissus, jonquil, iris, peony, pinks and hollyhock among the perennial variety, and the nasturtium, marigold, pansy and candy tuft among the annual flowers. They should not be planted after the usual method, in formal beds of geometrical design, the center of the lawn, but about a border of shrubby masses. The openings between the branches of the shrubs can be filled in with these bright flowering plants. Each species of flower should be massed by itself in the shade of the shrubby branches. If the flower groups blossoming from early spring to late in autumn are interspersed among the shrubs, the shrubby masses will be brightened by their bloom during the entire summer.

The best care that can be given vines, shrubs or flowers is to keep the soil broken so that it will not form a crust. An ordinary garden rake or hoe will answer this purpose. If the soil is kept loose and fine for one inch in depth between the plants, it will hold moisture as well as keep away intruding weeds.

Vines for the Veranda. Every possessor of a house with a porch, whether in city suburb or country, should realize the opportunity he has, with the help of nature, to make it a delicious and beautiful, cool, green, shady retreat in summer. In winter it matters little what it is. Vines will transform any porch into a bower. To have vigorous vines plants of rich soil is needed, and it is best to insure this by adding plenty of cow manure or bonemeal to the soil. Good drainage, as in any flower garden, is also essential.

In the woods and fields vines may be found. There are the Dutchman's pipe, the wild grape, the moonseed vine, the trumpet vine and others. The wild grape vine is especially useful and easily obtained. Its luxuriant foliage, rapid growth and delightful fragrance make it useful for summerhouses and similar structures. The trumpet vine, with its scarlet orange flowers, is easily grown, not at all sensitive to rough treatment. It is found in many parts of the country and these vines may be obtained from dealers.

The silk vine is fine, with dark green, luxuriant foliage of neat habit. It belongs to the milkweed family of plants, and derives its name from the silky contents of its seed pods. It is excellent for the veranda, and is used to cover many famous old ruins.

A number of the clematises are well worthy of a place on the most beautiful verandas, especially the flowering varieties, such as Clematis Jackmanni, which has purple flowers, and Clematis Henri, which has not white flowers, both producing a mass of rich color when in bloom.

The Lawn Beautiful. While some kind of grass will grow on almost any soil, the best results come only from rich, light loam. If, therefore, the soil is thin and gravelly, work into it at the start plenty of fertilizers—digging it in extra deep. Then each year give the grass more nutriment than would be necessary to get the earth better.

This foundation work cannot be too carefully done. If available, use plenty of very dry manure and dig it in thoroughly. Just scattering on the top is not enough. You want to get down so the roots will get the benefit. For, remember, the better grass is rooted the better it stands dry weather.

Some of the commercial fertilizers, however, form an excellent substitute, if thoroughly mixed. Nor is there danger of weeds from use of them.

Except for banks or terraces, the sowing of a lawn with seed is found to be more satisfactory than sodding. Before the sowing see that the lawn is well graded.

The amateur who must prepare his own land can do this grading by going over the ground a number of times with hoe and rake to pulverize all the lumps, then evening it with a roller.

Get good seed and plenty of it. It will be found cheaper in the end to go to some reliable dealer, even if his grass mixture cost more.

The thicker it is sown the less danger there will be of weeds. Five bushels to the acre or a quart to 300 square feet is none too much.

Sow evenly and always on a still day, or the seed, which is very light, is apt to be blown where one does not wish it to go. It is a good thing to go over the ground immediately afterwards with a roller to press the seed in.

Until the sod becomes firm be careful to keep off animals or anything that will track it. Do not mow a new lawn until the grass has grown three or four inches, and then do not shave it. Too close clip-

ping the first season is a mistake. In a damp summer it might be cut twice a week, less often if the weather is very dry. Every lawn is improved by a top dressing of bone at least once a year, though twice is better. This may be put on in the fall for the snow to work in and again in the spring. Five hundred to 1,000 pounds to the acre is a good proportion. Wood ashes are also beneficial, and a little nitrate of soda, say several hundred pounds to the acre, is excellent to give grass a healthy color and rapid start.

Each spring, as early as possible, all bare places should be sown thickly. During the summer, if at all convenient, lawns should be given a thorough drenching every even-

ing. A little water often does more harm than good by baking the surface. Keep weeds well pulled out. The following tools should be in every garden, as their use will give the garden the very finest appearance. A gardener cannot work without good tools and plenty of them any more than can a carpenter. These tools are cheap and durable and can be had of any seedman or plantman—bill-book for cutting briars and coarse weeds, iron-point dibble for setting plants, a scythe-bladed grass hook for trimming grass where the mower will not go, a dock or weed lifter for cleaning the lawn of weeds, grass edger for edging the walks, hand-weeding fork, half a dozen hose men-

ders for bursted hose, a spray nozzle for the hose, five shapes of hoes, the scuffle, the setting, the weeding, the flower garden, the scrubbing, a half dozen of wire pot hangers, a wooden lawn rake, a garden rake, pruning shears, grass shears, an angle trowel, a common garden trowel, three shovels, with different sizes of meshes; a long-handled shovel, a spade, three dozen green stakes for tying up flowers, several banks of rafia, a large and a small watering pot, an atomizer spray syringe, a hard powder gun, a rotating lawn sprinkling nozzle, a supply of pots from two and a half inches to eight inches in diameter. In a large garden add a cultivator, with a full set of fixtures.

manhood of these men of toil-unbending that went straight to the heart of the beholder. The men painted as they spoke, with certainty. In this club were no amateurs spilling canvases, because they fancied they could handle oils without knowledge of shadows and anatomy—no gentlemen of leisure, ruining the temper of publishers and an already ruined market with attempts to write "because everybody writes something these days."

Kipling's winds up his impression of San Francisco by telling of the cosmopolitanism of the city. "Men of world-wide experience, graduates from every university, laborers evolved into millionaire senators, soldiers of fortune, and a reckless conglomeration of types besides which Calcutta and Bombay rank into insignificance," brought forth a reluctant acknowledgment.

Mark Twain in a Shakes.

Mark Twain tells of an earthquake he witnessed in San Francisco many years ago. He describes the affair in "Roughing It": "It was just after noon on a bright October day, I was coming down Third street. The only objects in motion anywhere in sight in that thickly built and populous quarter were a man in a buggy behind me and a street car wending slowly up a cross street. Otherwise all was stilled and a sabbath stillness. As I turned a corner around a frame house there was a rattle and jar, and it occurred to me that here was an 'item'—no doubt a fight in that house. Before I could turn and seek the door there came a really terrific shock; the ground seemed to roll under me in waves, interrupted by a violent joggling up and down, and there was a heavy grinding noise, as if brick houses rubbing together. I fell up against a frame house and hurt my elbow. I knew what it was now, and from mere reportorial instinct, nothing else, took out my watch and noted the time of day; at that moment a third story stair passage shook came, and as I relied about on the pavement trying to keep my footing I saw a sight.

"The entire front of a tall, four-story brick building in Third street sprung outward like a door and fell sprawling across the street, raising a dust like a great volume of smoke. And here came the buggy—overboard went the man, and in less time than I can tell it the vehicle was distributed in small fragments along 300 yards of street. One fellow had fancied that somebody had fired a charge of chair rounds and rags down the thoroughfare. Trust the Amos estate, Brandeis & Sons, Browns, Polson, Hayden, Neville, United States government, the Masonic lodge, Balcomb, Vlascher, Wright, Myers, Callahan, Estabrook and others, still there are a few pieces which men of wisdom and cash will look up and purchase as investments."

"Though some of the leases on Herman Cohn's new purchase on North Sixteenth street have yet six months longer to run, Mr. Cohn is beginning to consider the nature of the improvements he will put on the property. A local architect is sketching plans for a four-story building, which will cover the entire property, the ground floor to be used for stores and the upper floors for rooms and apartments. Mr. Cohn does not believe in speculation, but in permanent investment and improvement.

Strange as it may seem, real estate business has been practically neglected during the last three or four days for the majority of the really good having held themselves ready to sacrifice their business in order to get in some good work for Mr. Benson, who is one of their number. They feel that the election of Mr. Benson, who is a home and town builder, will do much to give the city a good reputation in the state at large and they feel that their business, along with that of others, will be more flourishing if he is successful next Tuesday. The loan and rental business has received its full share of attention, but as far as new deals are concerned they have been allowed to languish for the cause of politics.

The Real Estate exchange has outdone itself in politics this spring. Acting on the advice of "Pa" Tukey, who always "kicks" when anything of a political nature is brought into the meetings, the exchange has not gone into politics as a body. But that did not prevent the majority of the members from organizing to further the interests of Mr. Benson. Meetings were held at the Commercial club Thursday, Friday and Saturday and plans for work Saturday and Monday made. Saturday the real estate men furnished twenty rigs and they were out in force bringing the voters to the registration booths. The realty men were also responsible for 10,000 Benson tags, which are so noticeable on lapels all over the city.

Other sales reported by Thomas Brennan are: Two houses at 115 and 114 South Twenty-second street to A. A. Gibson for \$5,500; house and lot at 2308 North Sixteenth street to T. C. Clancy for \$3,500; house and lot at 1911 South Fifteenth street to Joseph Novak for \$1,100.

Many of the men who sold their homes near the Webster street depot to the Northwestern are meeting with much difficulty in finding suitable new locations. Houses for sale are not especially plentiful and houses for rent are scarce, indeed. The renters who will be left without homes by the operation of the railroad are placed in worse condition than those who owned

at last among the drifting sands beside Lone Mountain cemetery, or die out among the sheds and lumber of the north. Thus you may be struck with a spot, set it down for the most romantic of the city, and, glancing at the same plate, find it on the same street that you yourself inhabit in another quarter of the town.

Hills and Hollows. "The great net of straight thoroughfares lying in the angles, east and west, north and south, over the shoulders of North hill, the hill of palaces, must certainly be counted the best part of San Francisco. It is there that the millionaires are gathered together, vying with each other in display. Far away down you may pick out a building with a little belfry; and that is the stock exchange, the heart of San Francisco; a great pump we might call it, continually pumping up the saving of the lower quarters into the pockets of the millionaires upon the hill.

"On both there are a world of old wooden houses snuggling together all forgotten. Some are of the quaintest design, others only romantic by neglect and age. Some have been almost undermined by new thoroughfares, and sit high upon the margin of the sandy cutting, only to be reached by stairs. Some are curiously painted, and I have seen one at least with ancient carvings paneled in the wall. Surely they are not of California building, but far voyagers from round the stormy Horn, like those who sent for them and dwelt in them at first. Brought to be the favorites of the wealthy, they have sunk into these poor, forgotten districts where, like old town toasts, they keep each other silent countenance.

Telegraph hill and Rincon hill, these are the two dining quarters that I recommend to the city dilettante. There stand these forgotten houses, enjoying the unbroken sun and quiet. There, if there were such an author, would the San Francisco Fortune de Boisgobey pick the first chapter of his mystery. But the first is the quarter of the two. Telegraph hill commands a noble view; and as it stands at the turn of the bay, its skirts are all water-side, and round from North Beach to the bay front you can follow doubtful paths from one quaint corner to another. Everywhere the same tumbledown decay and sloppy progress, new things yet unmade, old things tottering to their fall; everywhere the same out-of-silence, many-nationed loungers at dim, irregular grog shops; everywhere the same sea air and lashed sea prospect; and, for a last and more romantic note, you have on the one hand Tamalpais standing high in the blue air, and on the other the tall of that long alignment of three-masted, full-rigged, deep-sea ships that make a forest of spars along the eastern front of San Francisco. In no other port is such a navy congregated. For the coast trade is so trifling, and the ocean trade round the Horn so large, that the smaller ships are swallowed up and can do nothing to confuse the majestic order of these merchant princes. In an age when the ship-of-

the-line is already a thing of the past, and we can never again hope to go coasting in a cock-boat between the "wooden walls" of a squadron at anchor, there is, perhaps, no place on earth where the power and beauty of sea architecture can be so perfectly enjoyed as in this bay.

How It Looked to Kipling. "San Francisco has been pitched down from the sea. The remainder in the Bikaner desert," was the sententious comment of Rudyard Kipling when he first saw the city of the Golden Gate on his introduction to the American continent a decade ago. His views are contained in his "American Notes."

"About one-fourth of it is reclaimed from the sea. The remainder in just jagged, unthrifty sand hills, today pegged down by houses," was an afterthought. The author of the "Recessional" spent two weeks in the metropolis of the world's greatest El Dorado, and left it with a bitter taste in his mouth, a taste which he placed upon vellum for posterity to read.

"Why did he write it?" he inquired of Bret Harte's gem: "Serene, indifferent to fate. Thou stitest at the western gate; Thou choosest a spot of thine tents, Oh, warden of two continents; Thou dost all things, small and great, To thee, beside the western gate."

"There is neither severity nor indifference to be found in these parts," caustically comments Kipling, "and evil would it be for the continents whose wardship were intrusted to so reckless a guardian."

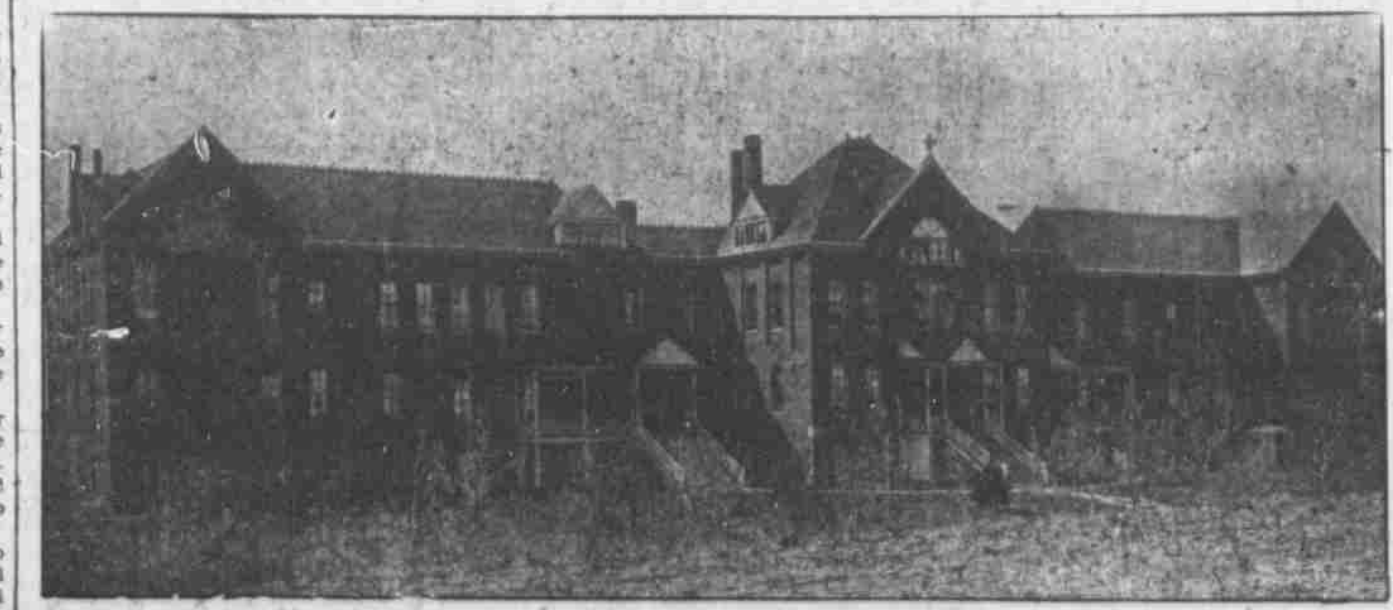
"Think of it. Three hundred white men are crowded in one spot, walking upon real pavements in front of plateglass windows and talking what at first hearing was not very far different from English," is a comment.

Caustic to the verge of bitterness were other impressions. "I found a mighty street," he said, "full of sumptuous buildings four and five stories high, but paved with cobble stones, after the fashion of the year one. Here a tram car, without any visible means of support, slid stealthily behind me and nearly struck me in the back. That was the famous cable car of San Francisco, which runs by gripping an endless wire rope sunk in the ground."

"And the Palace hotel, a seven-story warren of humanity, with a thousand rooms in it. In a vast, marble-paved hall, under the glare of an electric light, sat forty or fifty men, and for their use and amusement were provided, spittoons of infinite capacity and generous shape. They all spat on principle. The spittoons were on the staircases and in the bedrooms; yea, and in chambers even, more sacred than these. They chased one into retirement, but they blossomed in greatest splendor around the bar, and they were all used, every nook and corner without exception. Never was a more orderly and then shut together again with such force as to ridge up the meeting earth like a slender grave. A woman sitting in her rocking and quaking parlor saw the wall part at the ceiling, open and shut twice, like a moth, and then drop down a brick on the floor, like a tooth. She was suspended pictures were thrown down, but officers still they were whirled completely around with their faces to the wall. Thousands of people were made so seak by the rolling and pitching of floors and streets that they were weak and bed ridden for hours and some few even for days afterward."

Golden Instruments for Surgeons. A steel hypodermic needle is never inserted without leaving a permanent blue speck in the skin of the patient, probably because of the, perhaps, very small quantity of impurity—rust or otherwise—which it contains. The gold needle invariably leaves no mark whatever. Appreciating these facts efforts, in which surgeons particularly have been interested, have been made for years to contrive a process for hardening gold so that it could be used for the blades of the instruments of surgery of all kinds. This is just what Dr. Vaughn has accomplished after eighteen years of experimenting and research. His method consists of the employment of heat and chemicals; but the tempering process does not make an alloy of the precious metal. Pure gold tempered by this process remains pure; but the surgical instruments which Dr. Vaughn is now manufacturing and which are beginning to be used extensively in hospitals and by practicing physicians and surgeons, are of fourteen karats fineness, these being as efficient, but not as costly as instruments of the purest grade of the metal.—Leslie's Weekly.

Evidence of E. A. Benson's Philanthropy



ST. JAMES ORPHANAGE AT BENSON. SITE WAS DONATED BY MR. BENSON.

TIMELY REAL ESTATE TALK

Cohn's Purchase on North Sixteenth the Feature of the Week.

HOW ORIGINAL INVESTMENT HAS INCREASED

Fifteen Hundred Times First Purchase Price Is Given for Property in the Last Transfer of Its Title.

"Speaking of the sale of the Parmelee and Redick properties on North Sixteenth street to Herman Cohn of the Nebraska Clothing company for \$15,000," said Alexander G. Charlton of the McCague investment company, "this marks a new era for Sixteenth street, the Broadway of Omaha. This property comprises the entire frontage on the east side of Sixteenth street from Capitol avenue to Davenport, being 21,120 square feet. Upon this whole property Mr. Cohn contemplates the erection of substantial improvements as soon as his plans are materialized.

"The Parmelee family came into possession of this property forty-four years ago, or six years after the founding of the city, paying \$20 for the two lots. Presumably that the income from the property has been sufficient to pay for all buildings, taxes and betterments, the land has increased 1,500 times in forty-four years, which reads like a romance, but it is not an isolated case—simply Omaha truth.

"Mr. Parmelee and Mr. Redick are Omaha-born boys, who have seen the development and growth of the city, and are progressive young business men. Mr. Cohn is a keen observer of the growth of cities, who has been doing business in Omaha for a number of years and knows what to buy for investment. With the erection of this building, the Brandeis building, Hayden Bros' annex, the Hoagland, the Sunderland-Webster, the Wright building and other contemplated improvements no street in Omaha shows greater improvement. Other important streets on North Sixteenth street during this month were the sale of the Holla block and the Northwestern hotel, both purchased for investment.

"While a great amount of the property on North Sixteenth street is held strongly by such holders as the Boston Ground Rent Trust, the Ames estate, Brandeis & Sons, Browns, Polson, Hayden, Neville, United States government, the Masonic lodge, Balcomb, Vlascher, Wright, Myers, Callahan, Estabrook and others, still there are a few pieces which men of wisdom and cash will look up and purchase as investments."

"Though some of the leases on Herman Cohn's new purchase on North Sixteenth street have yet six months longer to run, Mr. Cohn is beginning to consider the nature of the improvements he will put on the property. A local architect is sketching plans for a four-story building, which will cover the entire property, the ground floor to be used for stores and the upper floors for rooms and apartments. Mr. Cohn does not believe in speculation, but in permanent investment and improvement.

Strange as it may seem, real estate business has been practically neglected during the last three or four days for the majority of the really good having held themselves ready to sacrifice their business in order to get in some good work for Mr. Benson, who is one of their number. They feel that the election of Mr. Benson, who is a home and town builder, will do much to give the city a good reputation in the state at large and they feel that their business, along with that of others, will be more flourishing if he is successful next Tuesday. The loan and rental business has received its full share of attention, but as far as new deals are concerned they have been allowed to languish for the cause of politics.

The Real Estate exchange has outdone itself in politics this spring. Acting on the advice of "Pa" Tukey, who always "kicks" when anything of a political nature is brought into the meetings, the exchange has not gone into politics as a body. But that did not prevent the majority of the members from organizing to further the interests of Mr. Benson. Meetings were held at the Commercial club Thursday, Friday and Saturday and plans for work Saturday and Monday made. Saturday the real estate men furnished twenty rigs and they were out in force bringing the voters to the registration booths. The realty men were also responsible for 10,000 Benson tags, which are so noticeable on lapels all over the city.

Other sales reported by Thomas Brennan are: Two houses at 115 and 114 South Twenty-second street to A. A. Gibson for \$5,500; house and lot at 2308 North Sixteenth street to T. C. Clancy for \$3,500; house and lot at 1911 South Fifteenth street to Joseph Novak for \$1,100.

Many of the men who sold their homes near the Webster street depot to the Northwestern are meeting with much difficulty in finding suitable new locations. Houses for sale are not especially plentiful and houses for rent are scarce, indeed. The renters who will be left without homes by the operation of the railroad are placed in worse condition than those who owned

(Continued on Second Page.)