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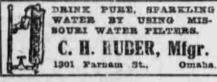
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Time is an essential element of all trade contracts. Every merchant in the nation realizes that fact and Omaha profits by it. The patron of an Omaha jobber knows, by experience or by a glance at the map, that Omaha occupies a commanding position as a distributing point for the vast and growing empire west of the Mississippi. The traffic and transportation interests of Omaha are of gigantic proportions, involving a system of facilities superior to that of most American cities and affording Omaha and its varied industrial and commercial enterprises superior advantages in both freight shipment and passenger travel.

It requires but a glance at any railroad map to furnish proof that Omaha stands as the hub of a region boundless in its resources and girdled with a system of railroads that makes it possible for every resident of the country tributary to feel like a next door neighbor. The territory covering Nebraska, the western half of Iowa, the northern half of Kansas and the Northern half of Missouri, all directly local and tributary to Omaha, is supplied with 19,500 miles of railroad, every train of which is operated on a schedule with Omaha as an originating point for passenger travel and freight traffic.

But the jobbing business of Omaha is not confined to local territory. Enterprising merchants and manufacturers have extended Omaha's trade until Omaha salesmen are now making regular calls upon merchants in all the territory between the Mississippi and the Pacific. In this region is Colorado with 5,162 miles of railways; Utah with 1,935 miles; Idaho,

1,654 miles: Montana, 3,325 miles; Oregon, 1,865 miles; Washington, 3,511 miles; Nevada, 1,541 miles; California, 3,515 miles; North Dakota, 3,462; South Dakota, 3,456 miles, making a total of 32,529 miles, and every merchant in that territory knows and appreclates the fact that he has more direct communication with the jobbing and manufacturing establishment concerns in Omaha than it is possible for him to secure with like concerns in any other city.

The importance of this commanding position, as a distributing center, can not be overestimated. Nearly thirty railroads, with their branches and subsidiary lines, have obliterated distances and the lever and the throttle of the modern locomotive have made Omaha the close neighbor of every community in the west where commercial and industrial activities thrive. These railroads furnish the arteries of trade through which the life blood of commercial and industrial Omaha flows to fields in which the opportunities for development are practically boundless. A year's freight traffic in and out of Omaha multiplies into a volume almost beyond conception and the tonnage is increasing from year to year.

This remarkable development of the distributing and transportation facilities of Omaha is the work of but a few years and is only a hint of the greater development that must come with the assured growth of the territory tributary to this city. The manufacturer or jobber looking for a location has only to make even a cursory investigation to convince him that Omaha offers advantages which are not approached by any other city west of the Alleghenies.

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