



Greater Omaha

OMAHA---A CITY OF BEAUTIFUL HOMES

The special edition of The Sunday Bee yesterday emphasized in a most convincing manner the truth of the claim that Omaha has more beautiful homes than any city of like size in the country. Some cities have special boulevards or special districts in which, perhaps, a greater proportion of the residences are of the expensive class and thus attract unusual attention, but in no other city in the west can there be found so many beautiful and attractive homes, in different sections, as in Omaha.

This condition is not the result of accident or chance. It is a part of the Omaha spirit. The city was settled originally by home lovers and no accessions to the population, large as they have been, have changed the prevailing sentiment of the citizens. It would be impossible to establish a distinct tenement district in Omaha, just as it has been impossible to produce a congested condition in the residential districts. The Omahan, native or adopted, demands room and breathing space. He has the spirit of ownership strong within him and is not content until he has a home of his own and is not then content until it is kept just a little neater, if possible, than that of his neighbor. This pride of ownership has resulted in a most desirable condition, that of having an exceptionally large percentage of the population in the ranks of freeholders.

The importance of a preponderance of home owners in any city can not be overestimated. It means a civic interest and a civic pride that can not be found among tenants or tenement dwellers and it means a keen and constant interest in everything that makes for the development and betterment of a city. It means special interest in parks, schools, street improvements, and all of the elements of advancement that make a city a good place in which to live and that spelt permanency in the matter of investment and development.

Perhaps in no other city in the country are so many advantages and opportunities offered to prospective home owners. In most cities, owing to peculiarities of location, choice residence sites are confined to one or two localities, where the greed of owners of available property makes the owning of a home a luxury. In Omaha no such restriction exists. The city has grown rapidly in the last few years and yet the growth has been uniform, extending north, south and west, so that in any of these directions available and desirable home sites may be secured at reasonable outlay. This fact has been of special advantage to persons of limited incomes and it is a safe assertion that a larger proportion of Omaha wage earners own their own homes than can be found in any other large city.

In this connection, it is timely to call attention to another opportunity that Omaha offers for investors. There is a dearth of houses for rent. Real estate firms and rental agents admit that they are unable to supply the demand and state that they are having great difficulty in securing living accommodations for the growing population. There is a persistent demand for modern houses, from 6 to 8 rooms and prospective tenants are willing to pay rather high rents for them. Builders and investors need labor under no apprehension as to their ability to rent, there is not a real estate firm in the city that will hesitate to assure the landlord on this point. They can also assure the investor of another fact, that the tenant soon becomes the home owner and that a house built for rent is easily and readily sold. This is just another of those elements that make Omaha rank above all other cities in the west.

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