

Interesting Information Concerning Omaha's Social and Business Life

PEOPLE VOTE LARGER DEBT

Confident of Future, Improvements Are Demanded.

COURT HOUSE TAKES MILLION
This expenditure, with those for paving and betterment, shows up in annual statements of city and county.

While the bonded debt of the city of Omaha has been increased \$300,000 and that of the county by \$1,000,000 during the last year, the increased debt was incurred by the people willingly who wished for better city and county improvements, and the year has been a prosperous one. City bonds were voted for paving and public improvements and county bonds were voted for the new court house, all within the year. No school bonds were voted during the last twelve month period, but during that time \$250,000 of these bonds were sold.

According to the statement of the city and county treasurer, Frank A. Furey, there was in the city treasury at the close of business on December 31, 1908, a balance amounting to \$1,643,700.87. Opposed to this on the other side of the ledger is the bonded debt, totaling to \$6,213,303.90. There is no outstanding warrant indebtedness. The school district has a bonded debt of \$1,250,000.

Tax collections during the year were much better than usual, over 35 per cent of all real and personal taxes being collected. In some other years it has been a struggle to get in 90 per cent of the taxes.

The report of the city treasurer for 1908 up to and including December 24, is as follows:

Balance Jan. 1, 1908	\$1,096,612.05
Rec'd, incl'd Dec. 24, 1908	4,668,553.96
Disbursements, including Dec. 24, 1908	4,229,865.14
Balance	\$1,535,300.87

BONDED DEBT.

General	\$5,700,000.00
Special	384,500.00
Life sinking fund	290,996.01
School district bonded	1,250,000.00

DISBURSEMENTS.

State Treasurer	\$23,465.42
County warrants	607,130.43
City of Omaha	109,886.46
City of South Omaha	12,629.23
School districts	182,783.77
Redemptions, etc.	181,821.29
Sinking fund	46,447.76
County warrants	327,754.53

EASY LIFE FOR THE FIREMAN

In the Blisful City of Cartagena—Two Fires in About Seventy Years.

The city of Cartagena, in the republic of Colombia, is one spot where the business of being a fireman is no great drain on the nervous system. If information tell the truth there have been two fires in Cartagena in the last seventy years.

One man who now is growing old says his father remembers as a small boy when a house in the town was burned. That was an accident. The other fire, which happened recently, say about a dozen years ago, was believed to have been of incendiary origin. But these fires did not destroy the houses in which they happened, because the houses are built of stone. All that can burn is what is inside.

LIBRARY MAKES BIG GAIN

Circulates Over Twenty-Four Thousand Books More Than 1907.

ALL DEPARTMENTS GO FORWARD
Museum Also Makes Big Strides and is Visited During the Year by Nearly Thirty Thousand Persons.

An increase in circulation of 24,815 books was made by the Omaha Public Library and Museum in 1908 over the year 1907. Other departments of the library also show big gains, but these may be regarded as due chiefly to the growth of the city, according to the view of Miss Edith Zohlt, librarian. The increase in circulation is, however, far larger in total and in ratio than increases of past years.

Cement, tile and brick	2,900,000
Cigars and tobacco	4,900,000
Coal and coke	2,000,000
Creamery packages	200,000
Dairy products	5,000,000
Electrical supplies	1,300,000
Fruit and vegetables	2,200,000
Furniture and carpets	1,200,000
Groceries	15,000,000
Hardware (self and light)	3,800,000
Hats and caps	1,500,000
Harness and saddlery	1,000,000
Liquors	3,600,000
Meats	2,800,000
Oil, lubricants and illuminants	1,800,000
Poultry, eggs, celery, oysters	1,800,000
Printed matter	2,000,000
Shoes	300,000
Soap	1,200,000
Sisal and other fibers	500,000
Stoves	300,000
Textiles	2,000,000
Woolen goods	500,000
Yarns	200,000
Woolen goods, etc.	600,000
Woolen supplies	200,000
Woolen paper	600,000
Stoves	300,000

FIRES FEWER AND LOSS LESS

Good Showing for Omaha and the Department in Protecting Life and Property.

With a fire loss of only \$183,403, as against \$398,121 for the year 1907, or a reduction of about 12 per cent, the year just closed has been both fortunate and exceptional in that line. There also have been fewer large fires and only one with a loss of more than \$10,000, that of the Moline Plow company, in which the loss was \$35,704. More-over, this has been accomplished by the fire department with a force of men only slightly larger than that of 1907, the discipline and efficiency ranking high.

During the year a steam engine for No. 2 engine house and a hose wagon for the new fire company at Twenty-seventh and Jones streets have been added to the equipment of the department. The latter fire barn was the only one occupied during the year.

Four persons met death from fire during the year, and in every case it was the clothes of the person catching fire in some manner, not the burning of a surrounding building or room, that resulted in death. Twenty-three citizens were injured or burned by fires and twenty-four persons met death from fire. No firemen were killed or burned to death during the year. Twenty-seven horses were burned to death in various fires.

LARGER MAILS, MORE CLERKS

Increase in Railway Service Calls for Greater Number of Postmen.

POSTOFFICE RECORDS GAIN
Big Increase in Business Over Total of Last Year.

BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT SHOWN
Three Hundred Clerks and Carriers Show Perfect Record for Honesty and Sobriety During Twelve Months Just Over.

The work of the Omaha postoffice during the year 1908 shows a remarkable increase over that of preceding years and is given herewith in detail.

Postmaster B. P. Thomas said in reference to the increase of the work of the community. It comes into daily contact with the homes, places of business and offices of the people.

Official Record of Year.
A statement of business transacted at the postoffice in all departments during the year is as below:

No.	Amount	No.	Amount
Issued	\$1,025,922.14	94,811	\$1,027,840.47
Returned	2,001,945.19	347,558	2,042,975.83
Receipts	4,829,865.82	31,902	4,829,273.84

RECRUITING FOR THE ARMY

Less Than One-Third of Applicants for Service Pass the Examination.

There were 675 applications for enlistment in the regular army of the United States at the Omaha recruiting station and substations during the year. Of this number 222 were accepted and formally enlisted and 454 rejected. The rejections were for general unfitness, ill health, imperfect knowledge of the English language, deformity, mental and moral deficiencies, minors and over age.

MARITAL CONDITIONS BETTER

Fewer Divorced and More Married in Nebraska During Last Year Than in 1907.

Sensitive Nebraskans who blush whenever the so-called law Nebraska divorce law is mentioned can find some comfort in a comparison of the divorce and marriage licenses during the last two years. Five fewer divorce suits were filed last year than there were the year before and sixty-eight more marriage licenses were issued in 1908 than there were in 1907. The ratio of one divorce to three and a half marriages is thus maintained within a small fraction.

FEDERAL OFFICES ARE ADDED

Special Inspector Treasury Department and Pure Food Laboratory Gained Through Uncle Sam.

Two new departments have been installed in the federal building during the year 1908. The first was the establishment of the headquarters of special inspector for Treasury department covering several western states. The inspector in charge is N. R. Stansel. The Omaha office is one of the three recently established in the west, the others being at Kansas City and Denver. Mr. Stansel has been transferred to Washington and will be succeeded in Omaha by George D. Rice. Mr. Rice will take charge January 4.

OUTPUT OF THE SMELTER

Total for the Year Reaches the Value of Thirty-Four Million Dollars.

LIGHTER CITY THAN EVER
Omaha Was Brilliant During the Year and Will Keep on Being.

While Omaha is not as large as some cities, it is as well lighted as most of them and is getting lighter every day—night.

During the year 1908 more street arc lights were installed than in any one year since the street lighting system was inaugurated and in the year just closed over one-eighth of all the street arc lights in the city were placed. There are now in the city of Omaha 550 arc lights maintained on the streets by the city and 119 of these were installed during 1908.

1908	1907	
Gold	\$ 9,909,475	\$15,453,823
Silver	11,561,645	14,864,224
Lead	5,757,056	12,674,759
Copper	5,143,676	2,362,756
Nickel	29,879	445,218
Totals	\$34,662,281	\$47,970,571

AMERICAN & IDEAL RADIATORS & BOILERS

The art of flying is not new to coal-bills. Surprising, isn't it, how often they alight in a winter if you are suffering the ills and paying the bills of old-fashioned heating? If coal-bills could reason, they would wonder why you permit them to keep on increasing their number so fast when the whole heating question is so easily and economically settled for once and all by

With these outfits for Hot-Water, Low-Pressure Steam, or Vacuum Heating you can make one lump of coal do the work of two—give off double the volume of heat. Besides, you can burn the cheapest kind of soft coal or screenings—also hard coal, coke, wood, gas, or oil.

IDEAL Boilers and AMERICAN Radiators soon pay for themselves in savings of fuel, absence of repairs, and in keeping the carpets and furnishings clean. They save an immense amount of housework for the women (caused by soot, ashes, and coal-gases), save lugging coal and ashes up and down stairs, and make the home healthful and happy. We have figures and testimonials to show that these outfits are the best investment feature of the building. In fact, you can make many coal-bills fly away by investigating now!

Five cold months still ahead! These outfits can be put in without any tearing up, annoyance to occupants, or disturbing old heating methods until ready to start fire in the new. They are the kind of building you wish to heat. Prices now most favorable, and you get the services of the most skillful fitters. Ask for our free book, "Heating Investments Successful."

AMERICAN Radiators are made in tall, narrow, broad, low, small, and other shapes, forms, and sizes to fit every space that can be spared for them.

ASSESSMENT ROLL LARGER

Increase of Two Million Dollars in Real Estate.

PERSONAL SHOWS FALLING OFF
Influence of Distribution of Counting Estate Still Felt in This Connection by the County.

An increase of a little less than \$2,000,000 has been added to the assessment rolls of Douglas county during the last year. The added assessment is all in the real estate column, the personal assessment showing a decrease of \$201,000.

1908	1907	
Real Estate	\$12,048,629	\$14,448,629
Personal	20,842,275	22,842,275
Totals	\$32,890,904	\$37,290,904

This decrease is held to be due partly to the disappearance from the rolls of the bulk of the estate of the late Count Crighton, which was distributed early last year. The figures for real estate show an increase of \$2,100,000.

The amount to be raised for county purposes has increased over \$90,000, while the amount for state purposes has decreased \$12,000. The following table shows the assessment valuation of Douglas county property for the last ten years at one-fifth of the value:

1908	1907	1906	1905	1904	1903	1902	1901	1900
\$11,302,431	\$12,048,629	\$12,842,275	\$13,686,904	\$14,531,533	\$15,376,162	\$16,220,791	\$17,065,420	\$17,910,049

There is no case on record of a cough, cold or a gripe developing into pneumonia after Foley's Honey and Tar has been taken, as it cures the most obstinate deep seated coughs and colds. Why take anything else. For sale by all druggists.

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Write to Dept. N-80
413-417 South Tenth Street, Omaha, Nebraska

MAKE COAL-BILLS MIGRATE!

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