

300,000

## Building and Construction

OMAHA

GIANT TRADE IN  
IRON AND STEELIndustry is Moving Forward by  
Leaps and Bounds in  
Omaha.

## STRUCTURAL IRON CONCERNS

Many Firms Confine Attention to This  
Industry.

## ICE MACHINES ARE BUILT HERE

Omaha Makes Refrigeration Plants  
for All Sections of World.

## IS HEADQUARTERS FOR BOILERS

Gate City is Distributing Center for  
All Kinds of Heating Appliances,  
Including Radiators—Many  
Dealers in Junk.

So marked has Omaha's supremacy always been in those lines of industry which its happy location in the heart of the greatest agricultural and stock raising district of the world, led it, early, to take up that, until comparatively recent years, its citizens have confined their attention largely to such work and have not pushed forward to any considerable extent into the field of manufacturing until recent years.

The last few years, however, have seen Omaha taking mammoth strides forward in the development of its manufactures and, if the output of its factories continues to increase at the present rate, it will be but a few years until Omaha will move from the comparatively obscure place which it has occupied until the recent past and take its place, as it has long since done in other lines of industry, among the leading cities of the world in point of yearly output of manufactured goods.

In no line of manufacturing is this growth more noticeable than among those firms which make their business the manufacture of articles from steel and iron. Radiator and boiler factories, structural iron works, manufacturers of milling machinery, manufacturers of ice making machinery, smelters; Omaha has them all and from every one of them comes reports of business un-

paralleled and prophecies that the output for 1910 will show a total far in advance of that of previous years.

One of the largest industries which Omaha boasts along this line is that carried on by the American Smelting and Refining company at its mammoth plant at the corner of Fifth and Dodge streets. This company, which is alone in its field as far as Omaha is concerned, reported the immense output of \$90,000,000 for last year. At the same time it reported that this was a bit under figures of the year before, and explained the decrease by the lower price of lead, which had lowered the total, although a larger amount of metal had been handled. It was predicted at that time that during the current year the total would rise at least to the old mark, and the business which the company has so far done has more than made good the prophecy. At the present time this looks to be the banner year for the smelting industry in Omaha.

## Structural Iron Concerns.

Omaha has many concerns which confine their attention exclusively to the manufacture of structural and bridge iron and steel. Of these large companies, probably the greatest volume of business is handled by the Paxton & Vieling iron works, which are located at the intersection of Seventeenth street and the Union Pacific railway tracks. Mr. Vieling of the company is authority for the statement that the value of last year's output for the city totaled about \$12,000,000 worth of structural iron and steel and about \$300,000 worth of foundry products. When asked for a prediction as to this year's business, Mr. Vieling was loath to guess at the total output of the city's concerns, but stated that, as far as his own company is concerned, he expects an increase of almost 30 per cent in the year's production.

Conditions locally in the steel and iron business are peculiar, however. For some reason, almost unaccountable, the greater part of the year's business always comes in during August and September. The year's results so far have been above that for the same period of last year, but whether the volume of business increases proportionately during the remainder of the year depends largely upon where several large local contracts go, and if they be let to foreign parties the expected increase may not materialize. The local iron men think that they hardly get an even break with out-of-town steel concerns on local work, local contractors invariably demanding a lower rate from local men than from outside bidders. But, despite this handicap, they are sanguine of the large growth of their industry in Omaha in the next few years.

The Central Machine works at 604-612 South Tenth street, the Champion Iron and Wire works at the corner of Sixteenth and

Jackson streets, the Omaha Safe and Iron works at 102 South Tenth street, the American Structural Steel works at 122 South Nineteenth street and the Western Iron and Wire works at 1113 Jackson street are other iron and steel manufacturers in the city. In addition the Erie City Iron works and the Minneapolis Steel and Machinery works, having offices here, maintain offices here. There are also several bridge contracting firms having offices here and plants in other cities nearby.

Many Selling Depots. There are a number of out of town boiler and radiator manufacturing concerns which have selling depots in Omaha. Indeed, the local sales of this product during the last year was enormous, totaling over one million dollars, but unfortunately only a small part of this money goes to Omaha concerns. The local concerns which engage in the manufacture of this line of goods are but three in number. The Drake-Williams-Mount company located at 215 Hickory street, the Omaha Boiler works at the corner of Twelfth and Iard streets and the Wilson Steam Boiler company at the corner of Nineteenth and Pierce streets. The output of these companies forms, however, but a small part of the amount of that product used annually in the city. Their business shows a nice increase so far over the amount done in a similar period in last year, however, and it seems but a matter of a few years until these smaller local companies will be handling the greater part of Omaha's business along these lines and reaching out into foreign fields.

The larger radiators and boiler manufacturers have consistently passed up the advantages of Omaha as a location for their western plants. Manager Williams of the American Radiator company explains this as being largely due to the fact that until recent years Omaha has not held out any very attractive inducements to such companies to locate here and the distance of Omaha from steel and iron fields. The experience of the company which he represents is typical. Only last year they located a large manufacturing plant at Kansas City, the choice of that city over Omaha being made in that instance largely because of the advantages which Kansas City offered in the way of railroad facilities for reaching the southern iron fields.

Among the foreign boiler manufacturers having established plants in the American Radiator company at 413-417 South Tenth street, the Koenig-Vincent company at 414 McCague building and the United States Supply company at the corner of Ninth and Farnam streets. These concerns all report a healthy increase in their business over that of last year.

Ice Machines Built Here. In the manufacture of machinery for ice-making and refrigerating Omaha stands at the head of the cities of the west. Indeed, the Baker Manufacturing company, which is the only concern in the city engaged in this line of work, is acknowledged to have the largest output of any manufacturing plant in the world, which confines its attention solely to the manufacture of the smaller sort of machines for ice-making and refrigerating. This company, which was established but three years ago, has advanced by leaps and bounds until today it has an annual output of approximately \$600,000 per year and its large factory at Twentieth and Iard streets is kept running overtime to supply the demand.

The company is also the product in all parts of the United States and North America, and there are now only three states in the union where Baker machines are not installed. The mechanics which the company employs are all skilled and highly-paid men, and as a result about 99 per cent of the vast income which this company receives from other states remains in Omaha. Mr. Baker of the company is confident of the future and states that the usefulness of refrigerating machinery is only beginning to be appreciated.

No Omaha concern manufactures scales. The business along that line in the city goes to the larger scale manufacturers of other cities, who maintain wholesale selling depots here. Among these are the Fairbanks Morse company and the Moneyweight Scale company, both of which report business as moving along at a rapid rate and predict an increase over last year's sales. Nor is Omaha any more fortunately fixed as regards the manufacture of milling machinery. There is no factory in the city devoted to that line of work. The Alsop Process company of St. Louis maintains a selling depot in Omaha. Omaha, unfortunately, has no steel mills to handle its large yearly discard of scrap iron, that work falling to the several wholesale scrap iron dealers scattered about the city, who buy the iron from the railroads and other firms which discard it, as well as from the city's smaller dealers. Omaha's largest dealer in scrap iron is A. B. Alprin, 901 Farnam street, who annually ships from the city about 1,500 cars of old steel and iron, valued at about \$750,000. When it is remembered that the firm mentioned is but one of a number of firms which deal in the same sort of material, it will be realized that the amount of money brought into Omaha yearly from this source is something enormous.

Why the Dog Fled. He was only a bulldog, but when he heard the word "police" he knew it was time to run. And some dog owner—probably of Canton, O.—stands small chances of seeing him again, while several of the officers at police headquarters are wondering at what they regard as a demonstration of canine intelligence. Deck Sergeant Weaver of Indianapolis, answered the telephone and listened to the following report:

"This is Miss Bowman talking, at 129 West Maryland street. I want to report finding a bulldog that is evidently very valuable. He followed me to work this morning—evidently adopted me—is sitting here looking up at me and wagging his tail now. Yes—yes, he has a collar—a fine one and it has engraved on it F. Halbert, Canton, O.—yes, he has a license tag. You send a policeman to get—here, doggie, come here—what—what do you think of that?" Here the report ended abruptly for the moment and Sergeant Weaver wondered what had happened until the voice suddenly came back:

"Hello—hello—you needn't send that officer—be's gone. He was sitting here just as quiet when all at once he bounded to the door and was two squares down the street in a jiffy. He went like a shot when I said 'police'."—Chicago Inter-Ocean.

## OMAHA OWES LOT TO STATE

Growth of City is Due to Bounteous  
Crops of Nebraska.

## ONCE DESERT IS NOW FERTILE

Wealth Given Up by Soil of State is  
Greater Than that of Precious  
Metals Mined All Over  
Country.

While Omaha has shown marvelous growth during the last decade, it does not claim all the credit to itself, but gladly gives credit to the great state of Nebraska, whose bounteous crops in a large measure have been responsible for the wonderful increase in all sorts of industries and the general growth.

The story of the transition of the Great American desert from the home of the buffalo to the abiding place of beautiful cities and towns and prosperous farmers has been coincident with the history of Nebraska. Where once roamed the buffalo by the million now grows waving fields of grain. The transition had been of short duration, but it has been swift and sure. What was once thought to be practically worthless desert is now entirely cultivated and is producing some of the finest crops on earth.

Nebraska produces each year crops of a greater value than all the precious metals dug out of the ground in the entire country. The great difference in the two is that when once precious metals are taken from the ground they are gone, whereas when one of the great crops of Nebraska is taken from the soil, the country is not injured in the least, provided, of course, that common sense methods are employed in crop rotation and fertilization.

Farmers are yearly turning their attention to better methods of farming and as a consequence they are able to make more money. One of the chief revenues now is to buy grass-fed stuff from the South Omaha market and produce higher priced stock and feeding the grain which grows in Nebraska.

Nebraska's Prosperity. Nebraska enjoyed in 1909 what was by far the most prosperous year in its history.

Nebraska farmers produced from the soil more than \$400,000,000 in crops and live stock. There have been years when more wheat, corn, cattle, hogs and other products were raised, but never a year in which the money value of the output was so large.

The largest item in the list is corn, with a total value of \$23,045,400.

Next comes hay, with a total value of \$9,258,812.

Then comes wheat, with a total value of \$4,939,174.

The Nebraska dairy cow is responsible for \$3,745,000 of the year's total.

The Nebraska hog accounts for \$3,179,177 of the grand total.

The Nebraska horse represents a total value of \$2,513,530.

The oats crop is valued at \$2,941,351.

The alfalfa crop is next with a total value of \$2,901,140.

Cattle represent a total of \$2,975,812.

Wheat Was Busy. The Nebraska hen did her duty to the tune of \$18,722,495.

Minor crops, such as sugar beets, fruit, millet, forage and vegetables represent a total for the year of \$10,650,000.

The potato crop was worth \$5,000,608.

Barley, rye and cane make up a total of \$3,756,977.

Grand total value of agricultural products for 1909 was \$402,579,000. This is an increase of \$41,123,075 over 1908's record of \$361,455,925, and an increase of \$120,300,354 over 1907's total of \$281,275,725.

Nebraska agricultural production of 1908 was valued at approximately three times the value of the gold and silver production of the United States in that year; the total of the latter being \$12,610,000.

The total deposits in Nebraska banks in 1909 were \$192,544,888. This is an increase of \$24,628,498 over the total of \$167,916,390 and an increase of \$14,284,141 over 1907's record of \$173,262,247.

Figures could be still further multiplied to show Nebraska's prosperity during 1909, but this seems unnecessary. Every Nebraska city and town can show tangible evidences of prosperity in the form of public improvements of all kinds, new buildings, both public and private, and increased trade with surrounding territory.

Other States, Too. Other states than Nebraska also helped upbuild Omaha the market town during the last year, for Omaha's trade territory is not bounded by state lines. The prosperity of all these states has been unexampled and there is every reason to believe that expansion along all lines in this last year of the first decade of the twentieth century.

DOUGLAS COUNTY WELL PAVED

Many Good Roads Lead from Omaha  
in All Directions to the  
Country.

Douglas county is becoming splendidly equipped with roads leading into Omaha for well paved arteries for traffic lead in every direction from the city. The first start was made many years ago, when Dodge street was paved with macadam a distance of eight miles from the city limits. This pavement has now been extended nearly to Elkhorn, and besides this macadam roads have been built in every direction.

Four years ago the state had a law enacted that gives the county quite a revenue from inheritance taxes, and this is used by Douglas county in road building. Suburbs of Omaha are not not all at backward in the matter of paving. Dundee is to do a very large amount of paving and the question of material to be used was recently quite a bone of contention in the little village. It was finally decided by a vote of the property owners to use asphalt.

Florence has paved its main thoroughfare with brick, and South Omaha does a large amount of paving each year.

## ENGINEERS OF HIGH RANK

Omaha Has Consulting Engineers  
Who Are Called All Over for  
Special Work.

Omaha consulting engineers, although perhaps they are few in number compared with other cities of similar size in the United States, find that they are called upon to work out engineering matters for practically the entire state of Nebraska. When the towns and cities of Nebraska decide upon the erection of any structure requiring the services of a consulting engineer they do not need to send to the great cities in the east for their men; they are to be found right here in Omaha.

The work of the consulting engineer is becoming more and more important every year. As civilization advances, and the growing industry of the country, and particularly that of Nebraska and this part of the middle west, increases, the demands become greater for more public works, more huge buildings, more difficult great engineering tasks. With all this growth the work of the consulting engineer becomes more complex and he must be a man of both brain and brawn to meet and overcome the problems which come before him. And, with all these things in view, Omaha's engineers are holding their own and are keeping abreast of the times.

When a municipality votes to construct a new water works system, build a drainage or sanitary sewerage system in which reliable advice and technical skill is needed Omaha furnishes the consulting engineers, with the possible exception of a contract being let directly to some construction company which maintains its own engineers. When a large power plant needs remodeling or enlarging it is Omaha which produces the consulting engineer.

When a consulting engineer is called to a city to inspect a plant he determines whether or not it can be practically rebuilt with a larger capacity, or whether an entirely new system is necessary. The engineer looks over the ground, submits his report, and if chosen as consulting engineer for the project he becomes responsible for the work which is done in accordance with the report he has made. At other times when merely technical advice is needed he acts as a counsel in the same capacity as would an attorney or physician. This is frequently done in the instances when some public work is being planned or constructed and the opinion of a prominent engineer is deemed advisable.

The Omaha directory shows that this city has three consulting engineers, A. C. Koenig, G. J. S. Collins and A. C. Arndt. Mr. Koenig is known over the state as one of the most prominent engineers in the west. He is chief engineer for the Nebraska Power company, and in his private work makes a specialty of designing water and sewerage systems. He is thoroughly familiar with Nebraska conditions and is one of the best authorities procurable on Nebraska rivers, of which he has made a special study.

Recently Mr. Koenig was honored by having his preliminary report accepted for the proposed \$5,000,000 power plant at Columbus, Neb., which it is planned will supply a great part of Nebraska consumers with electricity. This report was submitted after fifteen other engineers, the most prominent in the United States and Europe, had prepared similar reports. Following the acceptance of Mr. Koenig's report he was procured by the backers, who are Swiss bankers, as consulting engineer, and he is now working in that capacity. If constructed, this will be the greatest engineering feat which has been accomplished in Nebraska since the building of the railroads, and in the end will be of less importance in the business future of the state.

In spite of the fact that Omaha is in strictly an agricultural state, the engineering talent found here is in the first rank. Omaha engineers have built the city and are building the state.

## BUILDERS' SUPPLIES DIVERSE

Business Reaches Enormous Proportions  
in Omaha and is Growing  
Larger Steadily.

The contractors' supply business in Omaha is a large one and is of course, spread over many and diverse fields. This fact makes it almost impossible to secure any figures on the business which will even approach accuracy, or to make any statements which are not subject to several exceptions.

The extent of the contractors' supply business in Omaha in a year will just about equal the amount of material which is put into the construction of Omaha buildings, bridges and roads in the same time. A considerable portion of the supplies for Omaha building operations are imported from other places, but they, in almost every case, pass through the hands of Omaha retailers and the small amount which does not is more than compensated for by the amount of business which Omaha concerns do in foreign fields. The extent of such operations in a city growing as Omaha is, is immense, and the business will run well into the millions every year.

All the Omaha firms engaged in this business predict a reasonable increase in business for the year and expect this increase to come mostly from within the city. The many additions to Omaha which are being projected, as well as the amount of building going on in the business district, are responsible for the present healthy condition of the business.

A great many materials which are used by contractors are manufactured here. This is true of structural iron and steel, rails and doors, brick, grading machinery, tile and a number of other articles. The greater part of the material which is re-tailed here, however, comes from the manufacturing or finishing establishments, or wholesalers of other cities.

Not Effective, However. One of the briefest and no doubt one of the most sincere addresses ever delivered on the subject of capital punishment was made in Worcester County, Mass., more than two generations ago.

A notorious character by the name of Charley James, standing on the gallows with the noose properly adjusted, was asked before the cap was drawn over his face if he would like to say a few words.

"Ladies and gentlemen—beg pardon, gentlemen," he said, "standing where I do, I am unalterably opposed to capital punishment."—Everybody's Magazine.

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Tile and Gravel  
Roofing

Omaha

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Benson, 715 Main St. Tel. Benson 102.LUMBER, COAL, BUILDING MATERIAL  
BUILDER'S HARDWARELowest price, quality considered. All Coal Automatically Screened  
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GIVE US YOUR ORDERS.

## R. H. Morehouse Co.

WHOLESALE and RETAIL

Coal and Builder's Supplies

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Main Office—New Location 1111-12 New City National Bank Bldg.,  
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YARDS 28th AVENUE AND TAYLOR STREETS.

Best Grades of Hard and Soft Coal

RETAIL ORDERS PROMPTLY FILLED

## Bradford-Kennedy Co.

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MANUFACTURERS AND WHOLESALERS  
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Our Omaha Yard Is the Largest and Finest in the West.  
General Offices—Suite 416 Brandeis Bldg., Omaha.

## McShane Lumber Company

MANUFACTURERS

YELLOW PINE

Annual Production 150,000,000 Feet

The only manufacturers of Yellow Pine having general offices in Omaha.



PLANT OF C. HAYES LUMBER COMPANY, Council Bluffs, Iowa.  
Sellers of LUMBER, HARDWARE, PAINTS, OILS and all other kinds of BUILDING MATERIAL at wholesale prices.  
Send us your bills to figure on and we will prove that we can save you money and give you better quality than you can get elsewhere.

## Allen P. Ely &amp; Company

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## MACHINERY

Smith Concrete Mixers Chicago Concrete Mixers  
CORRUGATED RAR FOR REINFORCING CONCRETE  
The Only Stock of Reinforcing Steel Carried in Omaha.

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Manufacturers of  
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KANSAS CITY OMAHA SIOUX FALLS

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Dealers in all kind of SECOND HAND BARRELS AND  
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