

OMAHA BUSINESS SHOWS GAINS IN SPITE OF TIMES

Nearly Every Line of Endeavor Shows an Increase Over Last Year's Big Showing.

MANUFACTURING IS BEST

Figures Indicate Three Million More Products Made Here Than Last Year.

PACKERS ALSO SHOW GAIN

Eight Million More is Received for Finished Products Than in 1913.

GRAIN SHIPMENTS ARE UP

Seven Million Bushels More is Sent Out from Omaha Market.

BUILDING PERMITS GREATER

Losses Are Small and All Omaha Is Looking Forward to a Most Prosperous Season During the Coming Year.

Table with 2 columns: Category and Value. Includes Manufacturing, Jobbing, Meat, Pack, Smelter, Grain, Bank, and Live Stock Receipts.

Notable increases in business in Omaha over last year are noted in figures in the manufacturing output, in the packing house output, in the shipments of grain and in building operations.

In round numbers the manufactured output of Omaha's factories during 1914 ran \$3,000,000 ahead of the output of 1913.

The jobbing business, on the other hand, showed a decrease of some \$3,000,000. Building permits issued during the year were for buildings aggregating practically \$60,000 more than in 1913.

Lumber Business Gains. A notable gain was shown in the lumber jobbing business out of Omaha for the year. Nearly \$1,000,000 increase is shown here, or something over 12 per cent above last year.

The jobbing of clothing and wearing apparel shows an increase of \$15,000, which, although it is not large, is considered significant of Nebraska's prosperity in the face of business adversity in some sections of the country.

Real estate transfers, according to the figures obtainable in the office of the register of deeds, show a slight decrease. This, however, is no longer considered significant, as the custom is steadily growing of filing deeds with the more nominal consideration of \$1 given to make the record legal, often, as a matter of fact, the transfer often involves \$100,000 or more.

Bank Loss is Small. Decreases were shown in the bank clearings for the year, due, bankers say, (Continued on Page Five, Column One.)

The Weather

Forecast till 7 p. m. Friday: For Nebraska—Fair, colder by tonight. Temperature at Omaha yesterday:

Table showing temperature forecasts for various times of the day (12 a.m., 1 p.m., etc.) and comparative local records for 1914, 1912, and 1911.

Table showing reports from various stations (Cheyenne, Denver, Dodge City, etc.) with temperature, wind, and precipitation data.

The New Mileage Book



Drawn for The Bee by Hal Coffman.

SENATORS APPROVE THE LITERACY TEST

Upper Chamber Refuses to Strike Mooted Clause from Immigration Measure.

VOICE FORTY-SEVEN TO TWELVE

Anti-Mormon Amendment to Bill Adopted Overwhelmingly, Hughes and Utah Members Only Ones Against It.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—By a vote of 47 to 12, the senate today refused to strike from the immigration bill the literacy test for admission of aliens.

Senator Reed then proposed an amendment to exclude "all aliens not of the Caucasian race." Senator Reed's amendment immediately aroused considerable opposition.

Heated discussion was aroused when Senator Reed offered a further amendment to substitute in the exclusion provision for the words "those who admit their belief in the practices of polygamy" the words "those who believe in, advocate or practice polygamy."

The amendment to the polygamy section was adopted by overwhelming vote. Senators Smoot and Sutherland of Utah and Hughes of New Jersey voted against it.

Morant Thinks Russ Will Soon Evacuate the Polish Capital

BERLIN (Via The Hague and London), Dec. 31.—Major Morant, the military expert, discussing in the Tatler the eastern war situation, says: "All military authorities are agreed that the Polish capital must soon be evacuated. Its value as a fortress, as is well known, is slight, but the strongly fortified position in front of the forts, it must be expected, will be well defended. Nevertheless it would require strong forces to hold them."

Six French Sailors Make Victory Sure by Sacrificing Themselves

PARIS, Dec. 31.—How the heroic self-sacrifice of six French bluejackets made possible the capture of St. Georges, a town less than two miles from Neuport, is described by the Matin's war correspondent in Flanders. He says: "The attackers had driven the Germans from the advance trenches, but taking refuge in the houses in the village, the Germans soon placed their assailants in a difficult position. The situation of a force of Belgians isolated on a strip of land surrounded by a flood became critical and the artillery alone was able to effect anything against the enemy."

NEW INDUSTRIES LOCATE IN OMAHA

Over Three Hundred Men Given Employment by New Concerns Which Come to City.

TWO MILLION OF CAPITAL

List Does Not Include Some Firms Which Have Just Incorporated, but Which Have Not Built Their Plants Here.

New industries located in Omaha during the year outside of retailers show an investment of capital aggregating \$1,796,500. They employ a total of 315 employees.

PAGE HAS LONG TALK WITH GREY

Ambassador and Foreign Minister Have Extended Conference on Wilson's Note.

VIEW OF CABINET IS EXPLAINED

British Diplomat is Able to Give Opinion of Himself and Colleagues as Developed at Wednesday's Council.

LONDON, Dec. 31.—Walter Hines Page, the American ambassador, held an extended conversation this afternoon with Sir Edward Grey, the British secretary of foreign affairs, on the subject of President Wilson's note of protest against the detention of American shipping by British warships.

Kaiser Wishes Us All A Happy New Year

BERLIN (By Wireless to London), Dec. 31.—Emperor William has sent from the army headquarters a message to President Wilson, conveying his wishes for a happy New Year.

JAPANESE TROOPS NOT ON WAY WEST

Tokio Denies Report that Army Has Started for Europe by Way of Siberia.

NOT APPROACHED ON SUBJECT

France and Russia Are Said to Be Favorable to the Project, but England Hesitates to Ask for Help.

TOKIO, Dec. 31.—In its denial of reports that Japanese troops had been landed at Vladivostok or any other place, en route to Europe, the foreign office included this statement: "Japan has not been approached by Great Britain or any other country to send an army to Europe."

Asks Stadt Musikant for American Cities

PITTSBURGH, Dec. 31.—The creation of the office of official musician in the nation, state and municipality was advocated by Peter W. Dykema, professor of music in the University of Wisconsin, at the convention of the Music Teachers' National association here today.

STATISTICAL REVIEW, showing progress of Omaha for the year 1914 along Social, Political, Industrial and Commercial Lines, will be found on Pages 22 and 23 of this number. Necrological Data for the year will be found on Page 21.

The Day's War News

The views of Great Britain concerning the detention of American vessels by British warships were made known to Ambassador Page by Foreign Secretary Grey in London. Although the formal reply to President Wilson's note has not been drafted, Sir Edward Grey outlined the position taken by himself and his colleagues.

FRENCH MEASURE ADVANCE BY YARDS

Report of War Office Reads Much Like the Account of a Foot P-I-I Game.

HOUSE TO HOUSE FIGHTING

One Village in Alsace Held Half by German Troops and Half by French Troops—More Artillery Exchanges.

PARIS, Dec. 31.—The French official announcement given out in Paris this afternoon relates a continuance of artillery exchanges with the enemy and further advances measured by yards, of French soldiers at various points on the line of battle.

"From the sea as far as the Alsace yesterday passed with relative calm. There were artillery exchanges on some points of the front. In Champagne, to the west of the Alger farm, which is north of Sillery, in the section of Rheims, the enemy during the night blew up two of our trenches and then delivered against these positions an attack which our men repulsed."

"To the north of Meunil-Les-Hurlus we occupied certain positions on the enemy's second line of defense. In this same region, at a point to the north of the farm of N. Beaunejour, we also occupied some trenches. The enemy delivered a counter attack, but was driven back. We then resumed the offensive and we were successful in gaining some ground."

"In the same zone, and further to the east, certain German forces, which were advancing to deliver a counter attack against us, were brought under the fire of our artillery and dispersed."

"In the Argonne and in the vicinity of Fontaine Madame, we exploded a mine and occupied the resultant excavation; this gave us a slight advance."

"Between the Meuse and the Moselle, in the region of the forest of Mortemart, about 150 yards of German trenches fell into our hands."

"In the upper Alsace, French troops have entered the village of Steinbach and have occupied with house-to-house fighting one half of the community."

BIG OFFENSIVE MOVE OF ALLIES WAITS BRITONS

General Advance on Germans in West Will Be Postponed Till Arrival of More English Troops.

TENTATIVE THRUSTS FAIL

Leaders Think Move Now Would Entail Losses Out of Proportion to Advantages Gained.

RUSSIA IS HOLDING ITS LINES

Some Activity in West Necessary to Prevent Germans from Sending Troops to East.

NEW FACTORS IN SITUATION

Two or Three Smaller Nations Probably Will Enter the War.

RACIAL UNREST IN AUSTRIA

Roumanian Subjects of Francis Joseph Said to Be at Point of Rebellion—More Air Raids Are Probable.

LONDON, Dec. 31.—There are increasing indications in the opinion of British observers of events on the continent that a serious allied offensive movement against the whole German line in the western arena of the war will be postponed until such time as larger contingents of Lord Kitchener's new army take the field.

The losses of the allies sustained up to the present time in the tentative thrusts forward here and there have been heavy in proportion to the gains achieved, and it is understood that the various leaders unite in the opinion that the sacrifices entailed by a general advance at this time would be too great.

The turn of events in the eastern theater of hostilities, where Russia appears to be more than holding its own, necessitates, nevertheless, continued hard pressure against the German lines in the west to prevent them from moving any more of their troops to the eastern field.

Germania Fortify La Bassée. "In the west the town of La Bassée, still held by the Germans, is proving to be one of the hardest problems the allied forces have to solve. The invaders have thrown up exceptionally strong earthworks around La Bassée, and have two army corps quartered in the city. To take this stronghold by direct assault would mean a terrible loss of life, but its taking is essential to any concerted move forward in order to afford protection to the communication of the allies."

All the news reaching London from the eastern field leads to confirm the rout of the forces of Austria, which now appear to be endeavoring to make their way laboriously over the Carpathians.

Smaller Nations May Enter War. There are indications in London that the entire continental political situation, which involves Greece, Italy, Roumania and Portugal, is developing day by day. Even the participation in the war of at least some of these states soon will become a reality, according to the view of certain British commentators on the situation. Among the factors contributing to this situation is Italy's occupation of Avionia and the reported racial unrest in Austria-Hungary, where the Roumanian subjects of Emperor Francis Joseph are said to be on the point of rebellion, as well as German's continued aggression in Angola, the Portuguese possession in western Africa.

More Air Raids Probable. The German air raid on the channel port of Dunkirk in France gives basis for the belief that visits of this kind will be more frequent from now on. It would appear that the British raid on Cuxhaven aroused in the Germans a spirit of retaliation. England, judging from the expressions appearing in the newspapers, is just as anxious to deliver blow for blow in this respect.

ALBION, Neb., Dec. 31.—(Special Telegram)—Martin Louden, living ten miles south of Albion, killed his niece, Anna Herney, with a shotgun last evening. He then went out in the pasture, stuck the gun under his chin and killed himself.

Level of Live Stock Prices is Reduced

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—Although the European war has enormously increased the volume of food products exported by the United States in the last few months, the level of prices of meat animals in this country has declined as compared with prices a year ago.

An official tabulation of prices issued today by the Department of Agriculture showed that on November 15 the average price of meat animals, including hogs, cattle, sheep and chickens, was \$39 per hundred pounds, a decrease of just 14 cents per hundred below the prices which prevailed November 15 last year.

The list showed that during the month October 15 to November 15, 1914, the prices paid producers for meat animals decreased 4.9 per cent, against an average decline for the same period for the last four years of 4 per cent.

Looking Forward

We are wiser today than we were a year ago.

We have encountered new problems and learned how to meet them.

We believe the new year will be a busy and prosperous one.

We are going to push for every dollar's worth of business there is.

We are going to advertise as we never did before.

At the end of 1915 we are going to say, "It's the best business year we have ever known."

Telephone Tyler 1000

The Omaha Bee