

CONSOLIDATED SKINNER CO. IS HUGE CONCERN

Great Independent Industry Is Owned by 5,000 Stockholders—One Big National Sales Organization.

The Skinner pure food plants will begin the new year under the management of a consolidated company known as "The Skinner company," operating a new and modern packing plant, South Side, the world's largest macaroni plant, a wholesale baking plant at Council Bluffs, and a poultry, butter, egg and cold storage plant now being constructed at Twelfth and Douglas streets.

This is a notable event in Omaha's business life and it may be stated that this great independent company is owned by 5,000 stockholders, among whom are some of the prominent live stock producers of the west.

Officers of the company state that the consolidation will mean only one national sales organization and a material reduction of overhead operating expenses carried by the three companies. The policy of the consolidated company will be, insofar as possible, to distribute its products through the regular channels of the wholesale grocery business.

The present officers of the company are: R. C. Howe, vice president and general manager; Lloyd M. Skinner, president; Robert Gilmore, vice president; Paul F. Skinner, chairman of board; D. C. Robertson, secretary and treasurer.

The company reports that all departments are doing a capacity business. The produce department will soon occupy the new plant at Twelfth and Douglas streets, which will increase the business of this department materially. Larger plants are being considered for the macaroni and baking departments to meet the demands of increasing business. The company intends to spare no expense to become a growing and important factor in the food production of this nation and at the same time insure a safe and profitable return for the capital invested. All products are being marketed under the trade name of "Skinner's."

The Skinner company announces that it will open its new packing plant in the South Side within a few weeks. This plant has been constructed according to the most approved ideas known in the engineering science as applied to an establishment of this kind. It will be one of the business show places of Omaha. It is an imposing structure and is considered by experts as a masterpiece of builder's skill. This plant will be under the personal management of R. C. Howe, vice president and general manager of the company.

Omahans Read Nearly Half Million Books From Library

Edith Tobitt, public librarian, reports that Omahans read 424,961 books last year.

The total is distributed as follows: Main library, 228,883; South side branch, 49,939; Central High school branch, 22,369; High School of Commerce, 20,357; South High school, 10,106; stations, including schools, drug stores, etc., 68,299; classroom libraries, 25,030. Books added during 1919, 12,983; visitors to reading and reference rooms, 66,633; total number of registered borrowers, 9,541. Miss Tobitt estimates that 10,000 public school children take advantage of the school libraries and do not have cards registered at the main library.

At the main and South Side libraries last year 120,641 volumes of fiction and 55,339 of non-fiction were read by adults.

For splitting cylinders or cutting sheets of glass an Ohio man has patented a tool featured by a metal ribbon of high electrical resistance, which becomes intensely hot when current passes through it.

Figures on Nebraska Crops for the Year 1919

Figures of the final estimates for 1919 of the yield, production, and value of Nebraska crops have been issued in the official report of the co-operative crop reporting service by the Department of Agriculture, bureau of crop estimates, of the United States, and the Nebraska department of agriculture bureau of markets and marketing.

A. E. Anderson is field agent for the federal department of agriculture in this section, and George A. Williams, chief of the markets bureau in Nebraska.

The figures follow:

Crop	Acres	Av. Yield (bu.)	Production	Value per Unit	Total Value
Barley	217,174	25.7	5,584,944	\$ 1.00	\$ 5,584,944
Beans (edible)	1,810	4.6	8,326	5.00	41,630
Broom corn	890	x400.0	356,000	x.05	17,800
Buckwheat	983	16.0	15,728	1.80	28,310
Corn	7,029,811	26.2	184,362,094	1.25	230,452,617
Flaxseed	2,848	5.0	14,240	4.00	56,960
Grain sorghum	20,435	19.0	388,265	1.25	485,331
Hay (tame)—Alfalfa	1,180,324	x2.7	3,214,999	x20.00	64,299,980
Clover	60,213	x2.0	120,426	x20.00	2,408,520
Timothy	46,724	x1.6	74,758	x18.00	1,345,644
Timothy and clover	138,233	x1.8	248,819	x18.00	4,478,742
Other tame	138,994	x1.6	222,390	x17.00	3,780,630
Millet	114,406	x1.9	217,371	x15.00	3,260,565
Hay (wild)	2,771,234	x1.02	2,824,304	x16.00	45,476,804
Oats	2,133,475	32.8	70,133,995	.63	44,184,416
Onions	374	104.0	28,496	2.00	56,992
Pop corn	7,397	x100.00	11,835,200	x.04	473,408
Potatoes (Irish)	103,977	55.1	5,737,312	1.50	8,605,968
Rye	408,169	16.3	6,656,629	1.20	7,987,955
Sorghum	26,716	23.0	614,468	1.10	675,914
Speltz	667,572	8.5	5,699,458	1.95	11,113,943
Spring wheat	277,151	x3.1	878,335	x10.00	8,783,350
Sweet sorghum forage	60,191	x9.6	577,333	x2.00	11,546,666
Sugar beets	3,716,159	14.8	55,280,969	10.00	110,561,938
Winter wheat					

Growth of Omaha Schools During Year 1919 Marked By Huge Building Program

New High School to Be Erected at Cost of \$1,700,000—Many Additions Planned for Grade Schools—Teachers' Salaries Increased—Medical Scope Broadened—New Courses of Study Inaugurated—Average Daily Attendance Now More Than 25,000.

The growth of Omaha's public school system may be expressed in terms of figures by stating that the present enrollment is nearly 35,000; average daily attendance, more than 25,000; budget for the current school year, \$2,500,000; number of teachers, 1,200; outstanding bonded indebtedness, \$3,683,000.

The recent authorization for the sale of \$5,000,000 school district bonds, for the carrying out of an extensive building program, was the most important event affecting the school district during 1919.

New High School.

An important feature of the building program will be the erection of a modern commercial-technical high school, on a site between Cumings and Burt streets, from Thirtieth to Thirty-third streets, and to take the place of the High School of Commerce plant located on Leavenworth street from Seventeenth to Nineteenth streets.

Another New Building.

Next in importance on the building program which will be started this year is the proposed North High school, for which a 10-acre site was purchased last year at Ames avenue and Thirty-first street. It is estimated that this school will cost \$1,000,000.

Other features of the building program follow: Thirty-four-room junior high school, Twenty-second and Chicago streets; 32-room junior high school, Twenty-fourth and Corby streets; 12-room junior high school, west of stock yards; 22-room addition to South High school, four-room additions to Mason and Lake schools, 16-room buildings and auditoriums for Saratoga and Walnut Hill districts, new 12-room school to

staff of the schools, for the year ending June 30, 1919, was \$1,172,309, and the estimated payroll for the school year which will be closed June 30, 1920, has been fixed at \$1,464,700.

New Courses of Study.

The budget which was fixed for current expenses of this school year amounts to \$2,452,203, added to which is an item of \$273,922, to which on deficit, thus making in fact a total expense of \$2,726,125 for this school year, June 30, 1919, to June 30, 1920. The total expenditures of the school year ending June 30, 1919, was \$2,020,212.

The last tabulation shows a total enrollment of 32,784, as against 31,221 in 1918. The average daily attendance during the last complete school year was 25,067, as against 24,392 during the previous year. The school census for 1919 was 43,074; 1918, 41,467.

Branch public libraries have been extended in the schools and motor bus transportation has been provided for children attending schools in Florence and Benson.

New courses of study, embodying

ideas of "better English," and simplified arithmetic, were prepared last year for adoption about February 1.

Many Improvements to Roads and Bridges in Douglas County

A vast amount of work on the county roads was done during 1919 under direction of County Engineer Louis E. Adams.

Seventeen steel and concrete bridges were built, a total of 672 feet in length at a cost of \$61,896. Two new wooden bridges, 62 feet in length, were built at a cost of \$1,100. Eight wooden bridges were rebuilt and repaired, a total of 400 feet in length, at a cost of \$4,308. Three steel bridges were reinforced, a total of 930 feet, at a cost of \$3,427.

Three reinforced concrete pipes, 92 feet in length, were placed at a cost of \$1,151. Seven reinforced concrete arches were built, 414 feet in length, costing \$15,827. Reinforced concrete retaining wall, 125 feet long, was built at a cost of \$3,875.

Grading to the extent of 29,573 cubic yards was done. It cost \$11,295, or 38 cents per cubic yard. Sixty-three miles of road were turnpiked under contract at a cost of \$6,103, an average cost of \$96.50 per mile. Two eight-foot and one 12-foot grader were used, drawn by tractors. Twenty-eight miles of road were turnpiked with county machines at a cost of \$964 for labor and \$310 for oil.

The engineer's office has maintained 244 miles of road with road maintenance at a cost of \$871 for labor and \$419 for oil.

Eighty-five road drags were working under contract at a cost of \$1 per mile and 10,725 miles of road were dragged.

A large amount of work has been done also in preparation for the big county road paving project. Three million dollars were voted for this work and \$1,000,000 is available for work during 1920. Work will start as soon as the weather permits.

Thousands in Omaha Entertained in City Recreation Centers

The activities which came within the jurisdiction of the recreation department of the city park system last year included swimming, skating, base ball, foot ball, golf, hand ball, tennis, supervised dancing, organized hikes, community centers in schools and many features of the public playground.

The new public bath house in Jefferson square was turned over to this department for management. A new playground was established in the Mason school grounds. Fourteen playgrounds were maintained, the total attendance being 163,436.

The recreation department supervised 43 amateur base ball teams whose games during the season were attended by 250,000 fans. Luxx and Holmes ball parks were leased to accommodate the teams.

The first municipal hand ball court was opened at Morton park. Two thousand golfers registered during the season at Miller and Elmwood park links.

Owing to the coal situation community centers were not opened last November, but they will be resumed as soon as the Board of Education gives approval. Activities at these centers include athletic classes, dramatic and choral clubs, movies, community singing, programs, lectures and social dancing.

At Hanscom park pavilion, where free use of the dance floor is given for non-commercialized dances, properly organized, 153 permits were issued during the year. The total attendance was 8,386.

The recreation department went through the year on its budget allowance of \$20,000 which is allowed by the city council.

To Awaken a Sleeper.

With an alarm wrist watch supplied an electric battery to awaken a sleeper at a designated time by sending a current through and warming a strip of metal on his arm.



Looking Backward Over the Past Year -- 1919

We, the Burgess-Nash Company, believe that this business has been a worthy one, one that has played a useful and distinct part in the retail storekeeping of this city, for we have resolutely and increasingly given the best in us, and have endeavored to be at all times of the "greatest service to the greatest number."

We are delighted and marvel at our wonderful growth in so short a time as six years, and, especially during the past year, which has been our greatest and most successful year—but all that we have done in the past seems like little compared to our future plans, and it is with pleasure that we start

Looking Forward Into Coming Year -- 1920

It is very gratifying for us to be able to announce on this, the first day of 1920, that all contracts have been let, and that the erection of our new nine-story building will be started on the first of February.

It pleases and encourages us to realize that the people, through their trust and confidence in us, have made it possible for us to build this handsome building, which will be the largest and most magnificent retail establishment in the middle west.

To give to the people, a store that will not only fill their every need, but a store that will contain every convenience for their comfort, will be our greatest ambition.

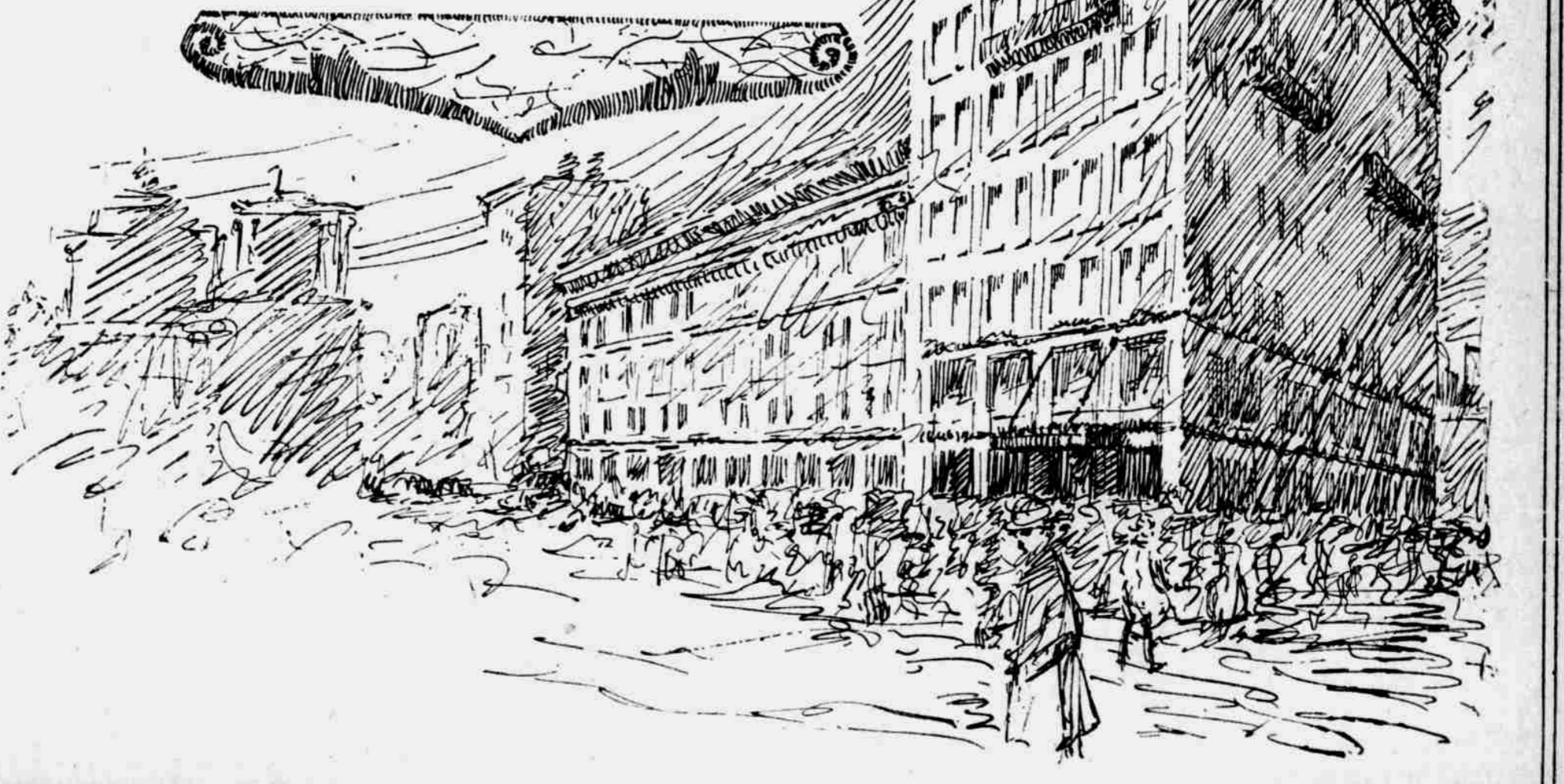
The new Burgess-Nash building will contain beautifully appointed lounging rooms, one entire floor will be devoted to a cafe, still another floor will contain a large auditorium with a seating capacity of several hundred, which will be used for the entertainment of the public. Every other convenience, such as check rooms, telephone booths, post office, etc., are to be installed on an elaborate scale.

The ninth floor will be devoted to the exclusive use of the employees, with cafeteria, club, hospital and educational rooms, as well as a recreation roof garden.

It will be our inspiration to continue the development of our store—to make greater progress every day and every month of the year—to bring together the best and most trustworthy merchandise procurable—to give our customers the benefit of the lowest prices possible, consistent with high quality—to train everyone in our employ to the highest degree of efficiency that they may continue to serve the public in the most skillful manner—to build up a store that will grow and keep on growing, becoming more useful every day to our patrons and to the people employed therein.

We sincerely wish that 1920 will be
A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS
NEW YEAR TO EVERYONE.

Burgess-Nash Co.



Start the New Year Right

Get rid of the badly broken down abscessed teeth that spoil your appearance and run down your health.

Let us fix up your mouth with attractive, serviceable, health-promoting teeth.

You can greatly increase your earning capacity, business success and material happiness.

Our Modern Dentistry

We make a careful, critical examination of your teeth and mouth, using as an aid, when necessary, the X-RAY, which shows clearly the true condition of the roots of the teeth and other deep tissues.

The knowledge thus gained enables us to eliminate much unsatisfactory work and produce better dentistry in every way.

Reasonable prices prevail all the time, and you receive the protection of a responsible guarantee.

Come in and see us during your holiday vacation.

McKenney Dentists

1324 Farnam St.—Corner 14th and Farnam
Phone Douglas 2872

Have your teeth ready for your New Year's dinner.