

DISTRICT COURT RECORDS SHOW "BANNER" YEAR

Enormous Increase in Petitions for Divorce—Civil Cases Filed Totalled More Than 3,200.

An enormous increase in petitions for divorce in 1919 over 1918 is a feature of the report of the business of the clerk of the district court's office. In 1919 there were 1,397 applications for divorce filed while in 1918 there were only 933.

The total number of civil cases of all kinds filed was 3,251 in 1919, compared with 2,378 in 1918.

There was an increase of nearly 100 per cent in the number of criminal cases which were 1,064 in 1919 and 563 in 1918. Juvenile cases decreased from 400 in 1918 to 365 in 1919.

The grand total of cases in district court in 1919 was 4,680 compared with 3,341 in 1918.

Total amount of damages asked for in personal injury suits filed in 1919 was \$4,204,635.50.

Total amount asked for in 1919 in other suits was \$243,900.77. This astounding sum is due to filing of two suits against 47 of the great corporation individuals of the world, for alleged infringement of their patents.

Divorces granted in 1919 was 1,397.

Produce Results.

M. E. Smith & Co. Close Year As One of Unusual Activity

With the announcement last week of awarding of contracts for a new factory building at Tenth and Douglas streets, to cost more than \$500,000, M. E. Smith & Co. have closed a year of most unusual activity.

The firm began business 52 years ago, with a force of four salesmen. Today the business is practically nationwide, with 125 salesmen on the road.

The new factory building is being erected for the purpose of consolidating all manufacturing operations of the main plant in one specially designed building. Architect Frederick S. Scott, who drew the plans, stated that the new structure will be one of the most complete in the United States.

The company's plant now consists of twin buildings, eight stories high which occupy the east half of the block bounded by Farnam, Ninth, Douglas and Tenth streets. Last July the company purchased the entire west half of this block. The new building, soon to be erected will occupy the northwest corner of this block.

Many Save Through Medium Of Loan Association In Year

The Conservative Savings and Loan association reports total assets of \$16,650,000, and a reserve of \$600,000, the latter having been substantially increased during the last year.

"During the year more than 5,000 new members have availed themselves of the advantages of saving through the opportunities offered by this association," said Paul W. Kuhns, president.

"The new year is most promising," he added, "as many have learned the gain and independence acquired through habits of regular and systematic saving."

SAY YEAR 1919 WAS PROSPEROUS FOR WHOLE CITY

Substantial Gains Made in Every Line—Some Figures Prove to Be Astonishing.

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of \$1,500,000. The Board of Education has a large building program. During the year the Dodge street hill will be graded and repaved at an expenditure of \$500,000. The county will spend at least \$1,000,000 on an extensive road-building program. The Ak-Sar-Ben Exposition company will start its \$1,000,000 project and other large improvements are in prospect. The City Planning commission expects to get under way with some of its projects, including the widening of Twenty-fourth street, Pacific to Cuming streets.

Stock Market Flourishes.

This live stock market held its own as the second world's general market and the first feeder market of the world. More than 8,750,000 head of live stock were received at the yards during the year.

"Omaha, the Convention City," is a designation that contains more truth than poetry. Last year there were 117 conventions, in spite of the fact that some had to be postponed on account of the coal situation.

The city and county treasurer reported that on December 1, he had \$1,500,000 more funds than on the corresponding date of last year. The year was a record one for marriage licenses.

CHIEF GOMPERS ASSURES LABOR'S PLACE FOR 1920

Pledges American Workers Will Do Their Full Share In Working Out Problems.

Washington, Dec. 31.—Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, in a New Year's statement, pledged America's workers to do their full share in working out the country's problems in 1920. Mr. Gompers said: "America's workers stand ready in the new year as in the past to do their duty as American citizens. We have always placed our obligations as citizens above all else. As citizens we are true to the American ideal of equal opportunity for all."

"In the past we have found it necessary to fight for that ideal against special privileges. Those fights have not been in defense of class advantages, but to assure to wage earners the rights and opportunities that all should possess. Our struggles may have brought discomfort to others, but they prevented a greater evil—deterioration of the virility of a part of the nation."

Great Struggle in Past.

"The great struggle of labor in the past has been to assure to workers in their industrial relations the rights of free citizens. We have fought to give the ideal of America dominating influence in shops and factories. Our militant struggle has won general recognition for our demands. But our work is not all militant. We are in a position to contribute to the improvement of production processes and organization. The immediate problem of the world is to develop a production organization that will benefit directly

those who are the real producers and will also serve the needs of starving nations. When assured of just dealings, America's workers are able to co-operate in freeing production from the preventing grasp of speculators and influences that manipulate

industry to enrich a few, who gain unfair advantage, thus preventing production for the ruin of all. "This is a big job, but it is essential for well-grounded development in the years to come. It is essential to that ideal which is American—

equal opportunity for all. America's workers will do their full share in working out all our country's problems. "Hail to the new year 1920; may it bring freedom, glory and happiness to all our people."

Owner of "Life" Dead. New York, Dec. 31.—Andrew Miller, 62, one of the owners of Life and among the foremost of American sportsmen, died of heart disease at his home here.



Season's Greetings and Best Wishes for the New Year

GUY L. SMITH



Happy New Year

W. R. Nichols Motor Co.

We Announce

The Annual January Clearance Sale

Starts Friday, January 2---9 A.M.

Same Values in Merchandise at Forceful Reductions Offers Unparalleled Money Saving Opportunities in

Women's

Hats, Suits, Dresses, Furs, Blouses, Silk Lingerie, Undermuslins, Silk Petticoats, Negligees, Sweaters, Scarfs, Brassieres and Corsets.

Entire Stock of Women's Boots, 20% Off

Girls'

Coats, Dresses, Middies, Skirts,

Boys'

Suits, Overcoats, Mackinaws, Blouses, Sweaters One special lot of 150 Corduroy Suits.

Children's

Dresses, Coats, Furs, Hats, Sweaters, Wash Suits, Rompers, Toques

Infants'

Dresses, Coats, Skirts, Booties, Flannel Petticoats, Bands, Blankets, Creepers.

The Annual January Clearance Sale of Men's Furnishings

Includes

Men's Shirts, Neckwear, Hosiery, Handkerchiefs, Mufflers, Gloves, Sweaters.

The Eldredge-Reynolds Jewelry Shop

Feature in This

Annual January Clearance Sale

Wrist Watches, Silverware, Gold Jewelry, Gold Filled Jewelry, Novelties, Etc.

The Eldredge-Reynolds Annex Shop

(Located in the Basement of Benson & Thorne)

Features in This Annual January Clearance Sale

Women's Shoes, Men's Shoes, Children's Shoes, Boys' Shoes

Women's Coats and Dresses

Women's Housedresses, Lingerie Camisoles, Hosiery.

Benson & Thorne

ELDRIDGE-REYNOLDS CO.

Specialty Shops

A Record We Are Proud of

Three years ago the Nebraska Oldsmobile Co. was organized. Then we were distributors in a small territory in Nebraska. Now we are the Oldsmobile distributors in Nebraska and the west half of Iowa.

Three years ago we were quartered in a comparatively small building at Lincoln. It was a good building, but we soon outgrew it. Today we occupy two large locations in Omaha. One at 2559 Farnam street, and one at 31st and Harney. We also maintain a branch at Des Moines, Ia., have a full dealer organization and employ 45 men and women.


1919

1920

Next spring we will move into our new building at 18th and Howard streets. A four-story building built especially for us and including all modern automobile equipment as well as a storage capacity to accommodate our stock.

All this has been possible because we are handling Oldsmobile Cars and Trucks—"Strong Products built by a Strong Company"—and we are surrounding ourselves with men capable of handling big things in a big way.

We hope the coming year will be as prosperous for you, as we feel that it will be for us. We want prosperity to be universal.

Nebraska  Company

920 Locust St., Des Moines, Ia. Chas. A. Tucker, Gen. Mgr. 2555 Farnam St., Omaha,