

1921 Is Banner Year for Postal Business Here

Receipts Larger—Motor Vehicle Service, Merchants' Delivery System Among Features Inaugurated.

Besides a general increase in all classes of postal business in 1921, as compared to the preceding year, 1921 stands out as a banner year because of improvements made in the Omaha postoffice, Herbert Daniel, acting postmaster, announced on the eve of his retirement in favor of Charles E. Black, republican appointee.

Daniel enumerated the motor vehicle service, the merchants' delivery system, the depot to exchange movie film service, the Harney station, the extension of city delivery limits and improved parcel equipment as the outstanding features of the last year.

The largest increase in business, he said, was in fourth class mail matter, to a certain extent due to the delivery of parcels for local merchants. Only one other city in the United States, St. Paul, has the same system in use. It is a most successful experiment, Daniel believes.

Postal receipts of the Omaha postoffice for the years 1921 and 1920 follow:

Year	Stamps and Postage	Internal Revenue	Other	Total
1921	\$2,423,135.81	\$2,311,521.76	\$111,634.05	\$4,846,291.62
1920	\$2,308,842.96	\$2,127,961.48	\$82,716.89	\$4,519,521.33

In addition to the above amounts, this office has handled the accounts of 900 district postmasters in Nebraska, totaling \$1,309,767.91.

Money order business was as follows:

Year	No.	Amount
1921	217,234	\$2,308,842.96
1920	216,999	\$2,127,961.48

7,087 Dogs in Omaha; Wheel Tax, \$51,398.50

The annual report of C. F. Bossie, city clerk, shows that 7,087 dogs were licensed during 1921, as against 5,973 during 1920.

The total collections of the office during the year was \$120,741.82; in 1920 the total was \$104,274.37.

Wheel tax collections were \$51,398.50, compared with \$42,839.67 during 1920.

The collections of the office are derived from the following sources: Miscellaneous occupation taxes, milk occupation tax, soft drink parlors, operators of motor vehicles, bakers, junk dealers' permits, small fees, tobacco licenses, dog tags.

The administration expense of the office during the year was \$20,265.28. The city clerk will ask for \$20,605 for 1922.

War Finance Body Solves Farmers' Deflation Problem

Omaha Made One of Sixteen Important Agricultural Centers for Disbursing Government Funds in Stabilizing Grain and Cattle Markets—\$8,000,000 Already Loaned Here.

By F. W. THOMAS, Regional Chairman War Finance Corporation.

When the emergency confronted the nation of extending financial aid to the agricultural sections, congress amended the War Finance corporation act to meet the situation, the title of the amendment being, "An Act to Provide Relief for Producers of and Dealers in Agricultural Products and for Other Purposes—Including Livestock."

The paid-in capital of the War Finance corporation is \$500,000,000, all of which has been subscribed to and paid in by the government.

The act further provides for short-term notes or bonds for at least \$1,500,000,000. Of this amount \$1,000,000,000 is directly available for agricultural purposes. There is no amount allotted to any one locality. In fact, there is no limitation to the amount of financial relief that may be extended in any one locality.

The corporation is governed by a board of six directors, which includes the secretary of the treasury, Mr. Mellon; the secretary of agriculture, Mr. Wallace, and Mr. Eugene Meyer, jr., managing director of the War Finance corporation, a man of great vision, who has singularly distinguished himself during the war in an executive capacity.

Establish 16 Centers.

There have been established 16 agricultural centers, known as agricultural loan agencies, of which an important one has been located in Omaha. The Omaha agency is under the direction of F. W. Thomas, chairman; R. P. Morsman and A. W. Pratt of Omaha, Carl Weil of Lincoln and State Senator C. H. Randall of Randolph. The secretary is J. M. Flannigan of Stuart.

In order to extend the needed relief immediately it was deemed advisable to use the present credit banking facilities, as it would result in a great delay to build up an entirely new credit system.

Under the terms of the act advances can be made to dealers engaged in the exporting of agricultural products; to banks, cattle loan companies, or other corporations; financing concerns, or to the farmers' co-operative organizations.

Those administering the affairs of the War Finance corporation are charged, under the act, to obtain adequate security. The Nebraska committee has been functioning actively since November 1, during which time it has passed favorably on applications for nearly 500 banks for an aggregate of over \$8,000,000 in eight weeks' time.

The Omaha agency is at present on a systematic basis of production. They are passing favorably on about \$1,250,000 a week, or \$200,000 a day. In other words the local office is passing favorably on an output of

farmers' notes at the rate of about \$25,000 an hour.

A strong effort is being made to bring a total of not less than \$25,000,000 into Nebraska by next July, in order to rebuild our resources. This can be done by the co-operation of the banks and farmers of this state.

Three Problems Here.

Of the entire amount recommended to Washington, over one-half, or approximately \$4,000,000 has been actually approved and payment ordered by Washington, such payment to be made under the direction of the Omaha committee.

The state of Nebraska, in a general way, presents three distinct problems or methods of functioning. The first, what is termed strictly "corn belt," which includes practically the entire eastern half of Nebraska; then there is the cattle or range country, which includes, generally speaking, the western half of Nebraska; the third division is the extreme western part of the state, which includes the irrigated valleys of the Platte and the wheat country immediately adjacent.

The first great efforts of the Nebraska committee were put forth to continue and maintain on the farms and ranches all live stock, particularly the breeding stock and immature stock which, under the stringency of the past year, has been forced on an unfavorable market. The committee is also lending itself to the great movement toward storing corn, wheat and other grain on the farm for orderly marketing at a more favorable time.

As the committee gets deeper into the work it is impressed with the fact that each community does not live by itself alone, but is very largely dependent on the prosperity of other communities. For instance, the corn belt farmer is largely dependent on the stock grower of the ranch country, who produces his feeder cattle for him.

The next great effort of the committee, after assisting wherever possible to keep on the farm what is already there, and should be kept there, is to build up or restock those communities which had previously been forced to market more live stock and grain than was for their good. In such instances the financing of cattle and stock hogs, as well as sheep, is encouraged. It is quite evident that while the prosperity of the state is largely dependent on good crops, it is also dependent on the cow, the hog and the chicken.

Cattle Situation Serious. The cattle situation in Nebraska is especially serious, as during the year 1920 the number of cattle in this state decreased 186,000 head or 7 per cent. The total number of all classes of cattle in Nebraska at this time is 2,411,000 head. The importance of increased dairying in this

state cannot be over emphasized. The corn situation is another important problem for the agricultural producer today. Approximately 82 per cent of all the corn produced is consumed on or near the farm on which it is produced, while but 18 per cent of the corn finds its way to the grain terminals. It is the surplus, even though exceedingly small, that has such a serious effect on the market. If the surplus be only 2 per cent, that is equivalent to over per cent of the entire crop, that is equivalent to over 10 per cent surplus at terminals. Strong efforts are being made to reduce this surplus by various means and thus stabilize the corn market. The farmers should get 45 cents a bushel for corn to fully cover their cost of production. The three methods advocated for reducing the surplus crop are through excessing of more or less doubtful values being taken in payment, by more extensive feeding of cattle, hogs and sheep, as under present conditions corn can be much more favorably marketed on the hoof than as corn, and our great wealth producer being the hog; and by reducing the acreage planted and thus diversify the crops more than has been the custom in the past. It is essential to stabilize the market on corn that the surplus either be consumed or disposed with.

Wheat Growers Lose. The situation in the wheat growing sections of the west is not entirely satisfactory at this time, as the wheat growers produced this year's crop at the peak of prices and are compelled to dispose of the wheat on a falling market. The reports of the present conditions of wheat do not indicate that next year's crop will be as large as this year. This should have the effect of strengthening the wheat market.

The outlook on the price of sugar beets for the coming year is not entirely reassuring. The market on cattle and sheep has strengthened materially during the past 60 days and indications are that their value should continue strong.

The market on hogs is continuing more favorable than anticipated, due to reports of the increasing amount of pigs to which would be fed cheap corn. Under present conditions hogs can be produced and marketed at 5 cents per pound. While the outlook in some localities is not entirely reassuring, yet conditions generally throughout the state should show a gradual improvement in agricultural conditions, and resulting from this should follow the improvement in general business conditions.

Through the operation of the War Finance corporation the Omaha committee has been enabled to learn the internal conditions of approximately one-half of the banks of the State of Nebraska and the conditions revealed are even better than expected. The banks for the most part are in very strong condition. Their principal assets are notes of good farmers, practically all of whom will eventually, though gradually, meet their obligations. The conditions of the farmers is that while they are quite extended financially, yet they own or occupy excellent farm lands which, in most instances, is quite well stocked and will therefore be able to work out the losses that they have incurred

during the past two years of farm operations.

In comparing the agricultural business situation in Nebraska to that of other agricultural regions, it is seen that we are fortunate and that the ultimate outcome will be satisfactory.

18,000 Loads of Sweepings Hauled Off Streets in 1921

The department of street cleaning and maintenance, in charge of John Hopkins, city commissioner, reports the following activities for 1921:

- 60,319 sq. yds. of asphalt laid in the repaving of paved streets.
- 1,556 lineal ft. of culverts constructed.
- 2,224 blocks of dirt streets repaved.
- 2,224 blocks of dirt streets repaved and rounded up.
- \$2,542 blocks of paved streets dry cleaned by "white wings."
- 24,200 blocks of paved streets dry cleaned by trucks and laborers.
- 18,000 loads of sweepings hauled off paved streets.
- 24,999 blocks of paved streets flushed.
- 7,106 loads of weeds cut.
- 7,200 loads of snow hauled.
- 4,342 loads of cinders hauled for repair of unpaved streets and alleys.
- 2,500 cements and washouts repaired.
- This department reports 685 miles of unpaved streets and 265 miles of paved streets. Material used in repairing these streets:
- 5,400 tons of sand.
- 1,000 tons of stone dust.
- 2,520 tons of asphalt.

All Records for Warmth Broken By Year of 1921

Mean Temperature of 55.3 Degrees in Omaha—1913, With 52.9 Degrees, Next Highest.

All weather records for warmth for nearly half a century are shattered here by the year 1921, according to M. V. Robins, local meteorologist. The mean temperature recorded, 55.3 degrees, is the highest achieved in the 49 years since the local weather bureau office was instituted.

The year 1913, with 52.9 degrees, held the previous honors, and before that, 1878 and 1918, with a record of 52.8 degrees each.

Monthly Records Unbroken.

No individual monthly records were broken, but the year as a whole was consistently warm, every month

except November being above normal. No excessively high temperatures were experienced, the highest for the year being 98 degrees, on June 28, and no zero temperatures were experienced during the year until December 24, when 5 degrees below zero was reached.

Below is a table showing the mean temperature and departure for each month in 1921, and also showing the mean and departure for warmest individual months on record.

Month	Temp.	Dep.	Year
January	32.0	11.5	1879
February	35.8	12.1	1879
March	45.6	2.5	1879
April	54.2	2.7	1880
May	61.9	2.4	1879
June	71.4	8.8	1879
July	79.6	2.1	1879
August	75.6	1.2	1879
September	71.4	5.6	1879
October	58.5	4.4	1879
November	48.9	0.8	1879
December	31.6	4.5	1879

Greatest Excess in Winter.

From the table it will be observed that the greatest excess of temperature occurred during the cold months, and while it caused a shortage of ice, Omahans were able to

save enough on coal to pay the advanced rate on ice.

The total precipitation was 25.29 inches, which is 5.37 inches less than normal. All months had less than normal except September. The greatest amount of rainfall in 24 hours was 2.81 inches on September 19-20. There was about the usual number of rainy days, 95, but more than the usual number of days with thunderstorms, 59.

Omaha School Enrollment Increases 1,563 in 1921

The total enrollment of the public schools on November 25, 1921, was 32,901; on the corresponding day of 1920, the total was 31,338, an increase of 1,563.

The enrollment of the high schools increased from 4,809 to 5,672 between the dates mentioned.

The night school enrollment was increased from 1,723 to 3,111, the separation of figures being as follows:

High School of Commerce, from 590 to 935; South High, 492 to 676; elementary night school, 641 to 1,500.

We wish to thank our patrons for their co-operation in the year past—and extend best wishes for the New Year.

JOHN A. RYLEN

1709 Douglas St.

Douglas 7234

We wish to extend to our friends and customers a HAPPY and PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.

Barnhart Bros. & Spindler

1114 Howard Street

To all our Friends and Patrons we sincerely wish a Happy and Prosperous New Year

Baker Ice Machine Co., Inc.

By J. L. Baker, Pres.

New Year's Greetings and Best Wishes to All Our Friends and Patrons.

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