

The Business History of Minneapolis in Prospects

MILLIONS of indebtedness due Minneapolis from merchants and other business men of the northwest, obligations carried over from last year, have been wiped off the books. This is the greatest "clean-up" in collections recorded in the history of Minneapolis wholesaling, and is the most striking feature in the business history of the closing year, 1901.

On Jan. 1 of the present year Minneapolis wholesalers were carrying the biggest financial burden in the business history of the city. The short crop in the northwest had not only greatly limited the trade volume for the year, but made it necessary for the wholesaler to extend the date of settlement with the country trade until this fall. The northwest has so completely recovered from the set back of last year that 90 per cent of the total obligations carried over from 1900 are paid and the trade is in a position to settle for all of this year's purchases when due. Failures have been rare and northwestern business men generally are able to show a good profit on the year's business. All things considered, the northwest is closing a very satisfactory business year.

WEATHER VANES OF PROSPERITY

Ninety per cent of the millions of indebtedness due Minneapolis from the northwest, carried over from last year, has been paid.

This has been the banner year in Minneapolis jobbing. General results show an increase over any previous year. Collections are the best in the history of local wholesaling.

Good crops and good prices have enabled the northwest to recover quickly from the effect of the short crop of 1900.

The coast states have been added to Minneapolis' jobbing territory.

Most successful year in the history of the lumber industry. While the season's cut is not as large as the record cut in 1899 the entire product of the mills for 1901 has been sold.

Minneapolis fruit trade shows a wonderful gain. The city is now fourth in the receipts of California summer fruits.

The flour shipments and the flour output will reach the largest figures in the history of Minneapolis flour manufacturing. All markets of Minneapolis flour have been held against the competition of the world.

Bank clearings total \$626,020,457.42, an increase of \$46,000,000 over last year. It is a close race between Minneapolis and Kansas City for the record of the middle west.

Northwestern railroads have shown the best results since rails were laid in the northwest.

Every branch of industry expects to make a big record in 1902.

Rains Were Timely.

This has been the banner year in Minneapolis trade. The adverse conditions during the first five months were an obstacle to making this a year of sensational results. The effect of the short crop of 1901 was felt until the early part of June, when buying was given a wonderful impetus by improved prospects due to the timely arrival of rain. Since that time the pace has been fast. The general results show a material increase over the best previous year. Some lines were so affected in the early part of the year that the best they have been able to do

Trade Lines Advanced.

The first systematic effort to add the north coast states to the jobbing territory of Minneapolis was made this year. Various houses have placed representatives on the coast before, but this year a majority of the lines jobbed from here had representatives in that territory. This has given Minneapolis a chance at the Alaska trade, much of the purchasing for which is done in Seattle and other coast towns.

Gains in the Fruit Trade.

Minneapolis' fruit trade has traveled at a faster pace this year than the traffic in any other line. Minneapolis is now fourth among the large centers of the country in receipts and distribution of California fruits. The country tributary to Minneapolis will always be a large consumer of coast fruits. The aggressive policy of the big fruit handlers here has given Minneapolis a big prestige in the trade. A conservative estimate of the increase this year over the business of 1900, which was the best in the history of Minneapolis fruit jobbing, is placed at 15 per cent. Several of the larger concerns are able to show an increase over 1900 of 25 per cent. A feature of the fruit trade from this point is the large amount of goods supplied by Minneapolis houses to interior wholesalers. This is due to the fact that the local handlers have connections in every fruit district in the country which places them at a great advantage.

Imposing Grocery Figures.

Minneapolis grocery houses have sold in

THE NEIGHBORHOOD OF \$5,000,000 of groceries in 1901. The local houses confine themselves strictly to groceries and these figures should not be compared with sales by grocery houses in other centers where fruit and in some instances hardware is combined with the grocery line. In dollars the sales of this year are no larger than in 1892 when prices ruled much higher than now, but the tonnage has been about 15 per cent greater than in 1892. There are fifty-six houses in the territory in which Minneapolis grocery houses are competing for business. The territory of the grocery houses will not be extended. There is a good future for Minneapolis

Still Better in Prospect.

With normal crop conditions in the northwest next summer general jobbing and manufacturing expect a big year. The business in the past four months has brought stocks in retailers' hands down to the minimum, and the spring trade is sure to be brisk. Implement men after long a steady increase in the volume of business in prospect next year. Merchants generally are in good condition financially. There are three times as many merchants in the northwest who discount their bills as five years ago. More traveling salesmen are being added to the staffs of the various houses. Minneapolis feels confident that she can hold her own in all lines can extend her trade.

Railway Extensions.

Railway extension in the northwestern states has assisted in making 1901 a successful year. The Great Northern has made two branch extensions in North Dakota. The Soo has built in the Dakotas and in Wisconsin. The Northern Pacific extended farther into western North Dakota. The Omaha opened a valuable line for trade in Wisconsin. Improvements of this kind have been made in Minneapolis territory by the Milwaukee. One of the most valuable extensions of recent years was the extension of the Milwaukee to Minneapolis & St. Louis completed in 1900. It has greatly assisted Minne-



LARGEST YEAR'S SALES AND MOST SATISFACTORY CONDITIONS IN THE LUMBER TRADE.

Minneapolis jobbers in making a complete invasion of that section of Iowa.

The Best Year for Lumber.

The lumber industry is closing its greatest year since the first board was manufactured in Minneapolis. While the mills are unable to equal their big cut of 1899, trade in lumber has been better than ever before. Practically all of the cut, \$59,000,000 feet, was sold. The demand for pine lumber has been so brisk that the mills were short of some grades throughout the entire season. The southwest is Minneapolis' best customer in lumber. Orders from the Missouri river country came in large numbers until late in the year. The big demand and the condition of stocks made a gradually advancing market. Lumber prices have been the best in the history of the industry, and the showing made by the trade generally will be a big improvement over last year. All things considered, this has been the most satisfactory year's business Minneapolis lumbermen have ever had.

The opinion among Minneapolis lumbermen is general that Minneapolis mills made their biggest season's cut when they made a score of 598,000,000 in 1899. The cut this year is about 58,000,000 feet better than that of 1900. Conditions were favorable this year for a big run and the lumbermen hoped to equal at least the cut of '99, but the log supply with some

England and Holland have been exceedingly good.

Bank Clearings Have Been Busy.

The total bank clearings for 1901 are \$626,020,457.42. The 1900 clearings were \$579,954,076.28. Those for the year previous were \$533,705,249. This shows a 16 per cent increase over last year. Single months during 1901 have shown increases over the same month of last year as high as 38 per cent. Minneapolis on this year's record will rank high among the cities of the United States. Between Minneapolis and Kansas City, it is a close race for the 1901 record of the middle west.

The car shortage was a feature of Minneapolis shipping this year more pronounced than at any time in its history. From the time that the wheat crop was ready for market in September the inability of all classes of shippers to always secure cars when needed had an effect upon trade figures. The implement and machinery men suffered principally on account of inability to secure goods from the factory as rapidly as needed. Many orders for lumber had to be passed over on the same account. General merchandise jobbing was fairly well taken care of. The flour trade was also seriously affected.

A Good Railroad Year.

Northwestern railroads have had a very successful year. The favorable crop results and general prosperity have contributed to large increases in earnings. The earnings of the Soo have shown such a wonderful increase that the road may be on the dividend list next year. The Minneapolis & St. Louis is now regarded one of the best prospects from a dividend standpoint in the country. With the Soo

Bank Clearings.

Year	Clearings (\$)
1899	540,000,000
1900	579,954,076
1901	626,020,457

Answers for Minneapolis at Kansas City Baseball Meeting.

A. B. BEALL NOT HEARD FROM

The American Association May Get Into Cleveland-Players in Various Teams.

Nothing was heard from A. B. Beall at the Kansas City baseball meeting, but Walter Wilmot was on deck every time Minneapolis was called so the local patrons of the game may accept as a settled fact that the only Wilmot will be at the head of baseball in this city. The American association meeting revealed a great deal of aggressiveness and enthusiasm in the league and the success ought to be assured from the start. If a league with such men as W. H. Watkins, C. J. Strobel, Harry Quinn, George Tebeau and Walter Wilmot can't produce fast ball and a successful circuit, the game is dead.

It has been reported that the Omaha franchise will be awarded to Frank Bantle, formerly of Minneapolis, but now a business man in Omaha. Bantle has some money of his own, but will be backed by a Milwaukee syndicate.

William Roussell maintains that he holds the Omaha franchise in the American association as well as that in the Western league. He has not posted his guaranty fee of \$500, however, and his last day of grace is said to have expired. There is a possibility that Cleveland may be taken into the association. Should the American league transfer the Cleveland franchise to Cincinnati a splendid bit of territory will be opened for the American association. There is a report to the effect that Ban Johnson wants to get Cincinnati, but in view of his many public protestations of friendship for the American league, it would be a wise right in, either with the Omaha or Columbus holdings.

Chicago was adopted as the official meeting place of the league in the future. President Hickey was empowered to make a schedule to be adopted without changes. Home clubs will be compelled to wear white uniforms at home, with the exception of Kansas City, which will be permitted to wear blue. It was agreed to have umpires uniformed, and force them to stand behind the catcher except when men are on bases.

President Hickey appointed the playing rules committee as follows: Watkins, Wilmot and Tebeau.

The make-up of the different teams for next season was announced as follows: Kansas City-Pitchers, Wolfe, Gibson, Welmer, Gear, Oscar Jones; catchers, Beville, Messitt; first base, Brashear; shortstops, Dundon and Lewis; third base, Robinson; outfielders, Miller and Hartman.

Indianapolis-Pitchers, Kellum, Sudhoff, Ralph Miller; first base, B. Myers; second base, Fox; fielders, Woodruff and possibly Hogreifer.

Columbus-Pitchers, Dally, Cogswell, Dunham, McMicken, Walker, Wagner; first base, Jack Grim; second base, Evans; third base, Griffin.

Toledo-Pitchers, Eddie Jess, Al Pardee; catcher, Gramus; third base, Garzo; shortstops, Crossart, Woodcock; fielders, Miller, Bobby Gillie.

Minneapolis-Walter Wilmot, manager and captain.

Milwaukee-William Chingman, manager and captain; first base, Jack O'Connell; catchers, probably Kiehnaw and "Kid" Spier; fielders, probably Sam Dungan, Thiel and Hemphill.

St. Paul-Pitchers, Cogan, Cheek, Cook, Evans, Glade; catchers, Hurley, Phelps, Wilson; infield, Kelly, Brain, Schaefer, Shay, Higgins and the others; Holly, Dillard, Goksy, Mills,

MR. SAVAGE BUYS ONLINE

HE HOLDS A PACING RECORD

Another Valuable Addition to Mr. Savage's Stables-Price Not Announced.

M. W. Savage, Minneapolis' foremost horse fancier, who recently purchased the record, has secured a valuable addition to his stable in Online, who holds the 4-year-old pacing record for the world. The famous stallion was bought yesterday at South Bend, Ind., by H. C. Hervey of this city. Online is 11 years old, and his perfect condition warrants the assumption that he has a long life ahead of him. For two years Online held the 2-year-old record of 2:11.

GOING TO BUFFALO

Minneapolis Bowlers Will Attend the Bowling Congress.

President Fowler of the Minneapolis Bowling League has practically succeeded in enlisting the financial assistance which will enable a team of Minneapolis bowlers to attend the annual tournament of the American Bowling Congress at Buffalo, Jan. 20-25. It will take \$300 to send the team east. The Brunswick-Balke-Collender company and the Koehler & Hinrichs company are interested in the proposition, and Mr. Fowler yesterday succeeded in interesting the Commercial Club. Wallace G. Nye of the convention committee of the club will suggest that the club contribute to the expense of the trip to Buffalo, promising that the club will do all in its power to secure the next convention of the Bowling Congress for Minneapolis.

READY FOR AFFRAY

"U" Basketball Team's Fierce Practice for Yale Game.

Crack high school basketball players have been assisting the university team to get in shape for their big game with Yale. Last night's practice games take place daily between the "U" and team picked from Brooks, Bidlake, Browne and Mullin of Central; Kane, Dalrymple and Mitchell of East Side; McDermott, Hobart and Harry McMullin of the Y. M. C. A.

These are all swift men, and the practice has been of material benefit to the older boys.

To-night the Ram's Horns, composed of Central graduates, will play with the university team, and expect to make things interesting.

Owing to a change in schedule, the Yale team will meet with two teams before the brush with Minneapolis-the Central "Y" of Chicago, and the Wisconsin "U" team at Milwaukee. The outcome of the latter game will be carefully watched by Minneapolis supporters. Last year the maroon and gold walloped the crimson crowd to the tune of 45 to 15. A much closer game may be expected this year, as Wisconsin has been greatly strengthened by the addition of several Milwaukee "Y" players. Potter, whose star work at forward here last year will be remembered by basketball enthusiasts, is still with the Wisconsin team. An order for tickets of admission to the game sufficient to accommodate the Foresters' team of Red Wing, Minn., was received this morning.

HEMNAPIN BOWLERS BENT.

The Doris bowling team of St. Paul took three straight games from the Hennepin team of Minneapolis at the Doris alleys last evening. High score and high average were won by W. S. Medford of the Doris team. His high score was 212; average, 194. The scores:

Schaller	179	172	198
Wendrock	158	166	167
Edwards	158	183	183
Moulton	152	179	201
Dausser	200	159	163
Totals	907	859	913

Hennepin-

Parke	144	134	148
Pardis	144	137	129
Mastley	127	148	143
Wright	127	135	175
Powder	210	125	160
Totals	701	701	746

NOTED BILLIARDIST DYING.

Chicago, Dec. 31.-Eugene Carter, the noted billiardist, and at one time the champion three-cushion player of the world, is dying at his home in this city. He cannot live many more hours, as the attending physicians have given up all hope.

A CLEAN SLATE

NINE-TENTHS OF NORTHWEST'S INDEBTEDNESS IS WIPED OUT.

mines was irregular and the extreme cold weather at the last end of the season eliminated about ten days' run. Some of the manufacturers contend that with favorable conditions the cut of 1902 will equal that of this year, but the estimates made by a majority of the manufacturers give next year a cut of between 475,000,000 and 500,000,000 feet. Minneapolis will continue to be the principal lumber market of the country for many years, but its lumber cut in the future will probably be

NEW YORK ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION. Entrance money will be wired Saturday.

AFTER SKATING HONORS

John Nilsson Goes East to Meet Foreign Racers.

John Nilsson of Minneapolis, the fastest skater in the United States, has gone east, where he will skate several races with well-known Norwegian and Canadian skaters. In January Peter Ostlund and Gunderson, Norway's best skaters, will arrive in New York, and they are planning to meet Nilsson. Last winter Gunderson won the amateur championship of Europe, and he is still in the non-professional class. Ostlund lived in Minneapolis eight years ago and was seen here in skating and bicycle races. Before returning to Minneapolis, Nilsson will skate at the international championship meeting at Montreal.

Out of every three persons struck by lightning two recover.

WHEAT AND FLOUR.

This has been the best year in the wheat and flour trade of Minneapolis. The aggregate receipts of wheat for the year amount to 90,543,590 bushels. The total receipts for 1900 were about 83,000,000 bushels, which was 4,500,000 bushels less than the receipts for 1899.

This has been the record year in the flour trade. Output and shipments have increased. The total shipments are 15,234,110, or practically 16,000,000 barrels. The output last year was 15,082,725 barrels, against 14,291,780 barrels in 1899. The annual output of the Minneapolis mills has grown from 3,000,000 barrels in 1894 to the magnificent figures of this year. The shipments for 1900 were 14,954,800 barrels, which exceeded by 700,000 barrels the shipments of any previous year.

Receipts of flax and coarse grains have shown a big increase. The year's receipts of flax are 6,987,490 bushels, or practically 7,000,000. Shipments were 3,228,770 bushels. Receipts in 1900 were 6,092,410 bushels, the best record of that time. Shipments last year were 4,065,750 bushels. Minneapolis is now the largest manufacturing point for flax seed products in the United States.

Various conditions have operated in the corn market to affect Minneapolis trade in that grain in the past few months, but at that Minneapolis shows a good increase. Corn receipts for 1901 are 7,813,340 bushels; shipments, 2,009,860. This makes a new record in receipts. The figures for 1899 were 7,277,380 bushels; for 1900, 6,502,410. On other coarse grains, the figures for this year are:

Oats, receipts, 9,642,270 bushels; shipments, 2,228,770; receipts, 4,980,680; shipments, 2,627,190.

Wheat shipments for 1901 are 1,458,130 bushels, as against 1,037,000 in 1900, and 1,473,000 in 1899.

Minneapolis flour has conquered no new markets during 1901. It has held its own in all of its old markets. Shipments to South America, South Africa,

SPORTS

WILMOT WAS THERE

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