

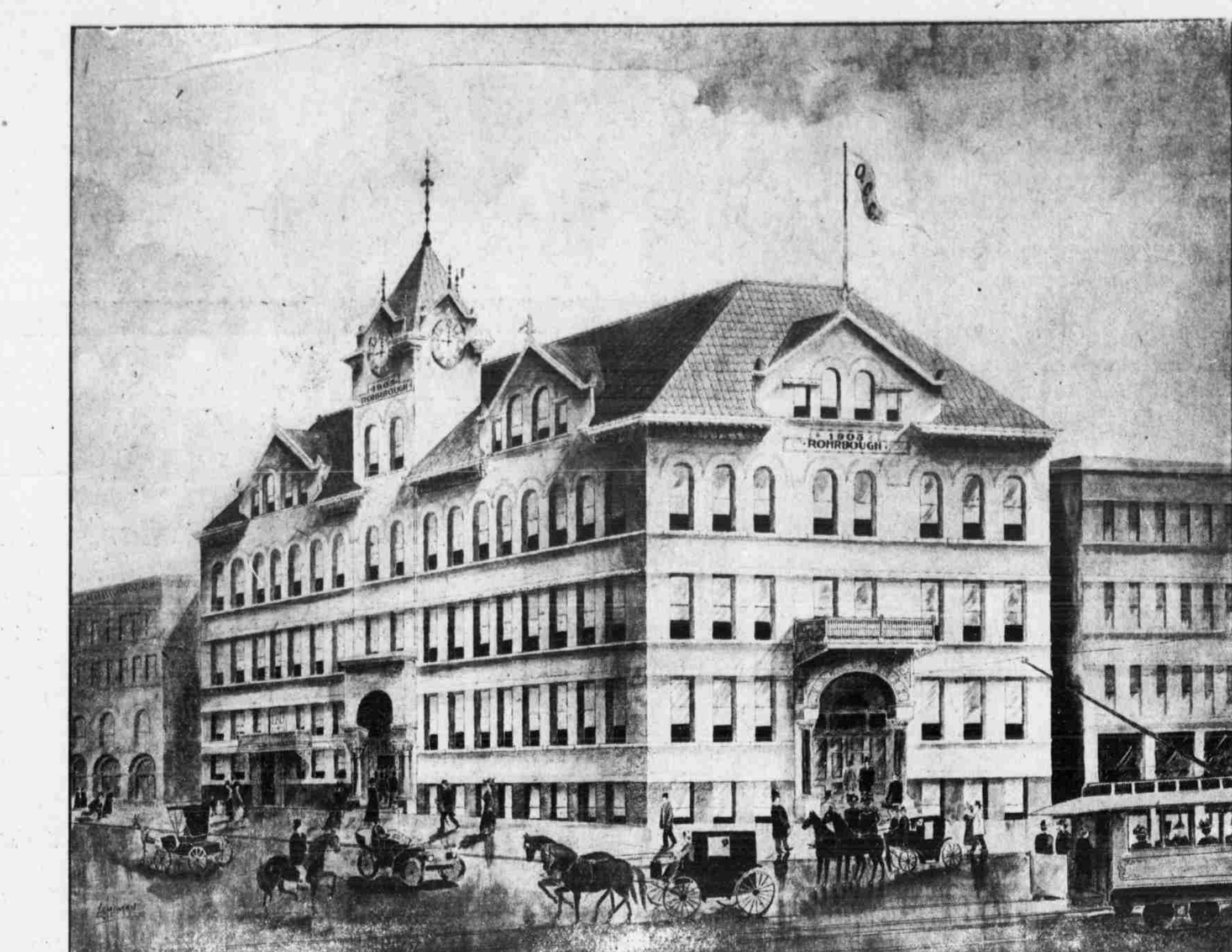
New Home of a Progressive Institution--Omaha Commercial College

AS PREVIOUSLY announced by The Bee, Omaha is to have one of the most handsome and well equipped commercial school buildings to be found in the country. It is now in course of construction at the northeast corner of Nineteenth and Farnam streets. Rohrbough Bros., proprietors of the Omaha Commercial college, deserve credit for having been instrumental in making Omaha one of the chief centers of commercial education, and in order to provide for the rapidly increasing number of students who annually enroll in the various departments they found it necessary to purchase a lot and erect a building suited to their purposes. The location at Nineteenth and Farnam streets is ideal in every respect, being in close proximity to the business center of the city, and then the fact that the moral atmosphere will not be tainted by saloons or other evil agencies enhances the desirability of its location. This corner has long been regarded by many as one upon which the new contemplated Y. M. C. A. building should be erected, and many regret that this lot was not purchased by the association rather than the one at Seventeenth and Howard streets. The college will be accessible to all parts of the city and South Omaha by street car lines.

The building, you will observe, in architectural features has the appearance of a modern college building, and certainly reflects great credit upon Mr. J. B. Mason, the architect, who designed it for commercial college purposes. It will be built of gray pressed brick, with light stone trimmings, heated by steam and modern in every particular. It is 62x122 feet in size, practically four stories high, and is thoroughly ventilated and lighted throughout. In addition to ample provision for the numerous departments of the institution the architect has planned a college auditorium, 52x65 feet, with seating capacity of over 700. This auditorium is designed to provide a suitable place for entertainments of the college, which in years gone by have left their impression upon the Omaha public. Concerts, lectures, literary, athletic and social entertainments will be provided for in this auditorium.

It may be of interest to the public to know that this institution was founded twenty years ago, its first location being at 11th and 11th Farnam streets. It soon outgrew its quarters there and moved to Fifteenth and Dodge streets, and after a brief stay in those quarters moved to the upper story of the Boston store, where it was located for several years. For the past two years it has occupied the two upper floors of the Patterson block, at Seventeenth and Douglas streets.

The growth of the school has been steady and substantial. The fact that the Omaha Commercial college alone attracts representative students from more than twenty-five different states and territories every year indicates not only the popularity and efficiency of the institution, but emphasizes the fact that Omaha and Nebraska are keeping abreast of the times in matters of an educational character. One thing which ought not to be overlooked is the fact that our commercial schools attract desirable citizens to Omaha. Scores of men and women have been induced to come to Omaha to prepare for mercantile life. Upon completion of their courses of study many of them remain in the city and take rank among our best citizens. For instance, many names found upon the roll of the Omaha Commercial college may now be found upon the roll of the prominent and progressive business men of our city. Such men as John P. Flack, president of the City Savings bank; E. F. Bratley, coroner of Douglas county; Frank Kousky, mayor of South Omaha; Lawrence Spaulding and E. A. Dvorak, expert accountants; Dr. A. S. Piatto, physician; Henry Ris, cashier for Lee-Glass-Arnold; A. H. Workman, general agent for the Underwood Typewriter company; Arthur Baldwin, general agent for the Glen Falls



THE SHIMER & CHASE REAL ESTATE COMPANY, 1000 FARNAM STREET, IS SUPERINTENDING THE ERECTION OF THIS BUILDING FOR ROHRBOUGH BROS.

insurance company; E. M. Rohrbough, assistant engineer for the Union Stock Yard company, South Omaha; John J. Martin, chief office manager for Adams & Kelly; Gustava Knabe, attorney; James C. Weathere Spaulding and E. A. Dvorak, expert accountants; Dr. A. S. Piatto, physician; Henry Ris, cashier for Lee-Glass-Arnold; A. H. Workman, general agent for the Underwood Typewriter company; Arthur Baldwin, general agent for the Glen Falls

addition to this sum, many of their friends and relatives are induced to come to Omaha for the purpose of doing their trading. So it is impossible even to approximately estimate the amount of money spent among our merchants through the instrumentality of such an institution as the Omaha Commercial college. If the commercial schools of this city were closed and others were not permitted to take their place, it would be a misfortune to

the commercial interests of surprising proportions. "The support and encouragement given the Omaha Commercial college by the business men of the city justify its management in erecting a college building suitable for commercial college purposes," says President Rohrbough. "One of the chief motives which actuates us in the erection of a new college building is to raise the standard of commercial

education so that those coming to us from high schools, normals and literary institutions will find an atmosphere just as uplifting and inspiring as that to which they have been accustomed. "I do not know of any other private commercial school in any city in the United States having a better building for school purposes than we are now erecting at Nineteenth and Farnam streets, and I believe that the business men of this city

fully appreciate and understand the spirit that actuates us in this move. I feel that we are making a splendid investment in purchasing a lot and erecting a building on upper Farnam street. Real estate in that neighborhood is bound to increase in value. "Coincident with moving into the new building, we plan the enlargement and bettering of our present courses of study and the addition of a number of others. Particular attention will be paid from now on to the creating and maintaining of a strong normal department. An English department will be established, as also a school of oratory and a school of dramatic art. Mr. John Edgar Owens, who for eleven years supervised Edw. Smith and who is known as an eminent Shakespearean actor and scholar, will have charge of the school of dramatic art. Prof. Norman W. Kent, who sang for many years in grand opera, will have charge of the school of music, voice culture and fencing. The business department will not only be greatly enlarged, but greatly improved. We are providing the largest and best business room of any school in the country. The main reading hall will be forty feet wide by seventy-two feet long, and will be free from posts. Adjacent to it will be located an actual business department, twenty-six feet by fifty-six feet in size and provided with office furniture throughout. In addition to these there will be recitation rooms of ample proportions. Rooms have been set apart for the English training and normal departments, with all necessary equipments. The shorthand and typewriting departments will also be greatly enlarged and will provide a room for 200 students at one time and will have nearly 100 typewriters. The telegraph department will double its capacity and will be provided with every necessary equipment for the most practical school of telegraphy in the country. In all probability wireless telegraphy will be added to the course next year. A room has been set apart for special classes in penmanship, pen art, drawing, etc. We estimate that we can take care of 1,000 students at one time. "On the top floor of the building will be located a gymnasium, which will be one of the finest and perhaps the largest in the state. In addition, there will be upon this floor other rooms to be used as lockers, dressing rooms, bath rooms, etc. As usual, we shall encourage basket ball, foot ball and all indoor and outdoor college athletic exercises. We believe in providing for the social and physical enjoyment and well-being of the students as well as for their mental welfare and preparation for business life. The faculty of the Omaha college, heretofore consisting of eight members, will be enlarged the coming year. The reporter learned that Rohrbough Bros. have always insisted upon employing the very best instructors to be had in their line of work. As an evidence of this fact it is only necessary to mention Prof. Mosher, who is the author of Mosher shorthand and the system of touch typewriting, now so universally used throughout the country, and Prof. J. W. Lammiman, who has long been regarded as one of the leading penmen in the United States. The cost of this building, appearing upon this page, is from the pen of this expert penman. With such men as these in charge of such prominent departments of a school it cannot fail to prove efficient in all its work. This fact probably accounts for the enrollment in this institution alone of more than 15,000 students during its twenty years of history. Omaha should feel proud of its commercial schools and at all times encourage such enterprise as is now evident upon the part of Rohrbough Bros. in the erection of a college building dedicated to the mercantile interests of this city.

Great Forest Problems to Be Solved by Uncle Sam's Experts

FOR a third of a century now a campaign has been carried on in this country for a more rational treatment of our forests. As a result a general interest in this matter has been awakened and the importance of our native woods as a source of national wealth and the practical necessity for their preservation seems at length to have come to our people. The old conception was that forests were an embarrassment to the land and were, therefore, to be gotten rid of in the easiest possible manner. Now, with Baron von Muller, the great German, we are coming to "regard the forests as a heritage given us by nature, not for spoil or to devastate, but to be wisely used and carefully maintained."

The attitude of the American people toward the forests hitherto finds a ready explanation in the conditions that obtained on the continent when it was first settled. Then the entire eastern portion was an almost unbroken forest, extending to the western slope of the Alleghenies in the north and swinging in the south as far

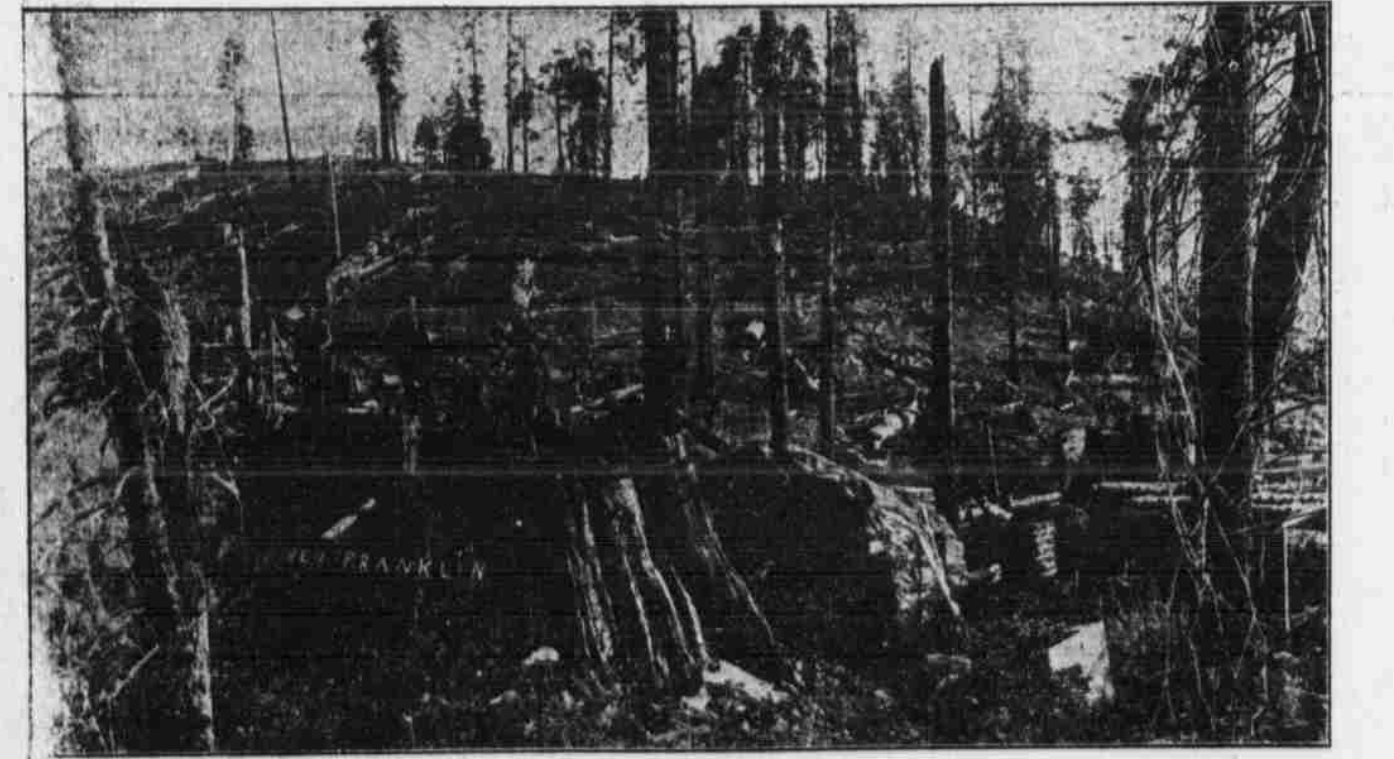
of the attitude of the whole country toward the forests. The war for their extermination has been a long and desperate fight, it being over two centuries before they had retreated more than a few miles from the Atlantic shore. So far as clearings have been made on lands that are better adapted for agriculture than for timber the fight to subdue the forest has been a perfectly legitimate one. The best interests of agriculture required the clearing of a large part of the forest lands. To illustrate what I mean, I may refer to Ohio and Indiana, both once heavily wooded, bearing magnificent hardwood forests. Today these states import 82 per cent of their lumber supplies, yet to one questions the wisdom of clearing these lands; for rich as they were in timber they are even more valuable for agricultural purposes. But the work of destruction has gone too far. Great stretches of land in different parts of the country that never were agricultural in character have been denuded of their timber till but a beggerly portion remains, with the result that not only these lands have become wholly non-

productive, but the damage to neighboring lands from snows and floods have greatly increased. Millions of Acres Made Barren. In northern Michigan, for example, millions of acres which originally bore valuable timber are now scarcely more than desolate sand barrens. These Michigan forests have served the purposes of one generation, while they could have been made to yield a continuous harvest and handed down to posterity unimpaired. The situation in Michigan is typical of conditions prevailing through the lake states, as well as in many others. In Mississippi 10 per cent of the forest areas are now converted into bad lands, and the sands washing to the valleys below have turned them into sandy wastes. Besides the vast clearings that have been made for agricultural purposes, the

demands of trade yearly make vast inroads on the timber supply. 800,000,000 of the industries depending on the forests have only begun to develop. Even the lumber trade has sprung up in comparatively recent years. The population of the country when the federal government was organized was all in a heavily wooded area, and here the land required for other purposes supplied the demands for lumber. With the building of railroads came the development of the west. The lumber trade increased. Distributing centers were established, and the lumber industry in the past fifty years has grown into a business of marvellous magnitude. With this development have come various factories, converting the raw material into the innumerable articles of commerce which are inseparably associated with the comforts and necessities of life.

Annual Consumption of Wood. Our annual consumption of wood per capita is nine times that of Germany and twenty-five times that of Great Britain. A few statistics showing the amount of wood used in some of the industries may be of interest. Fifty thousand acres are consumed every year in the manufacture of crates and boxes. The railroads of the country use annually about 120,000,000 feet. Seven hundred and fifty thousand telegraph poles must be renewed yearly, not to mention the telephone poles used and the telegraph poles required in the construction of new lines, making the total annual consumption for poles and ties 255,000,000 feet. The match industry clears up yearly 80 acres of pine. The Diamond Match company has recently purchased 40,000 acres of California timber, the whole to be manufactured into matches. Three thousand five hundred acres are needed yearly in the manufacture of shoe pegs. Shoe lasts and boot-trees take 4,000 acres more. One mill converts yearly 30,000 cords of wood into toothpicks. Another manufactures 7,000 clothepins every day.

Each of several of our largest newspapers uses daily from 100 to 150 tons of paper pulp, or 10,000 to 15,000 acres of timber per year. These figures have not yet included the amount of timber converted into lumber, lath, shingles, fence posts, farm implements, etc. Seventy-five million dollars' worth of lumber is annually manufactured into wagons and carriages. The lumber and paper trade consumes every year a total of 4,000,000 acres of forest, while the amount used for fuel alone is greater than that required for all other purposes combined. I have mentioned only some of the direct products of the forests. Many of the minor products are quite as important. The woodlands yield over 17 per cent of the granulated sugar made in the United States, not to mention the many other indirect products, such as tanning materials and naval stores.



LUMBERED BIG TREE FOREST AT MILLWOOD, CAL.—Bureau of Forestry Photo.

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But the woodlands are of immense value to the country in other ways. They are the source of our forests, and they yield to us not only the lumber and paper, but also the products of the soil. The forests are the source of our food, and they yield to us not only the lumber and paper, but also the products of the soil. The forests are the source of our food, and they yield to us not only the lumber and paper, but also the products of the soil. The forests are the source of our food, and they yield to us not only the lumber and paper, but also the products of the soil.

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Banquet for Promotion of Good Fellowship



HAYWARD BROS.' SHOE SALESMEN AT DINNER AT THE COMMERCIAL CLUB.—From a Flashlight Photo.

FOR THE promotion of good fellowship and for the discussion of subjects of mutual interest, the members of the firm of the Hayward Bros. Shoe company gave an "employee" dinner last Monday evening in the Commercial club rooms. It was a novelty to all concerned and so successful in its purpose that plans are being made for other similar occasions. Twenty-three employees were present from the retail shipping department and office, including two young women. Clerks were there who have been with the firm since its establishment twelve years ago, in October of 1892. Most of the salesmen and men in other departments have been in the service from five to sixteen years.

C. S. E. and J. W. Hayward, the latter present from his home in Iowa, made talks on the value of the proper spirit in the relations of employer and employee. Their remarks were followed by short speeches on the part of the members of the various departments. They expressed themselves as pleased with the occasion, and gratified at the interest shown by their employers in their welfare.

C. S. Hayward, in his talk, reviewed the business condition of the firm and its growth. The Hayward brothers are F. C. J. W. C. S. and E. E. the president being E. C. who lives in Massachusetts. J. W. Hayward lives at Vinton, Ia., where he is the active representative of the company for the state. The other two members are residents of Omaha. The establishment has doubled the volume of its business in the last five years. In the last year there has been an especially gratifying increase, the business of the firm from the beginning of 1905 to the present time being 51 per cent greater than for the corresponding period of last year. And this has been accomplished with the addition of but one man to the force on the road. The territory covered by the traveling salesmen includes Nebraska and parts of Iowa, South Dakota, Missouri, Kansas, Colorado and Wyoming. Prof. A. H. Gamble of the Sheldon School of Scientific Management was present and told how computer and employed could best work together for their mutual interests. He also explained the methods of instruction of his institution. A flashlight picture of the group was taken for The Bee. A fine dinner served under the supervision of the Commercial club chef was enjoyed. The spirit of the whole affair was such that Mr. C. S. Hayward is immensely pleased with his venture. He now intends to give such dinners twice a year, preferably when all the salesmen are in the city for their new lines of samples.