

known, this plant is the largest of the several great packing institutions located in Kansas City, Kan., which now stands second to Chicago alone in volume of live stock slaughtered. The most important feature of the location of this new enterprise in this city is that relating to the supreme cause of Armour's decision to build it here, instead of at Omaha—the accessibility of Kansas City, Kan., to the entire live stock belt of the country.

Reasoning upon the same argument other large packing interests are headed this way which, when finally completed and placed in running order, will strip from Chicago the proud plumage of first place in the live stock world.

Notwithstanding the immensity of the new Armour plant, its construction was not begun until June of the year just passed away. Four months later it was in full operation, employing nearly 3,000 men. Eight new buildings were erected and fitted out with the necessary machinery, at a total cost of about \$1,000,000. The new buildings cover an area of eighteen acres and all are eighty-four feet in height. In the work of construction 7,000,000 brick were used and over 26,000 perch of stone and 550 cars of lumber found place in the new building. Of these new buildings the cooling room is the largest, being 500 feet long by 175 feet wide. The slaughter house is 150 x 120 feet and the oleomargarine building is 100 x 175 feet. In addition there are the usual boiler rooms, tank houses, engine rooms and cattle yards. The combined plant has thirty boilers, with a total of 6,000 horse power. Fourteen ice machines are in operation, with a freezing capacity of 1,600 tons.

Following closely upon the heels of the enterprise just described came vast improvements at Swift's, Fowler's and Kingan's. Heretofore the Kingan company has dealt almost exclusively in pork, killing only enough cattle to supply the local market, but now it is its intention to branch out in the dressed beef industry. To this end large improvements were necessary.

The killing capacity in the beef department will be 500 per day to begin with and this will be increased as the trade grows. The new addition will be 50 x 195 feet in dimensions and three stories high and made of brick. It will join the present plant on the south side. The first floor will be utilized as a killing room, while the second and third floors will be used as coolers. In addition to this another large cooler, 100 feet square, will be built. A big ice house is also another improvement that will be added to this plant.

Work has just been commenced on the improvements at Fowler's plant, which upon completion will render that enterprise more capable than ever of supplying its foreign and domestic constituency. One of the buildings to be erected is a large four-story brick cold storage building, 200 x 100 feet in dimensions. The office building will also be enlarged and a new stable erected.

Altogether, the packing houses of Kansas City, Kan., furnish employment to about 10,000 men and women, to say nothing of the large number of meat inspectors employed by the government at this point. The monthly payroll of these packing houses combined foots up the enormous sum of \$7,000,000 a year, while the capital employed in carrying on the business is practically without limit.

#### THE KANSAS CITY STOCK YARDS.

Something About One of the Largest Institutions in the City.

Vying in importance with the packing houses of this city are the stock yards. With a single exception—the Chicago yards