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Springfield offers unusual inducements for merchants and manufacturers, and liberal encouragement in the way of building sites. The Citizen's Association will assist manufacturers in securing financial aid. An abundance of capital is available for manufacturing and other business enterprises, as Springfield has five National, one State and one Savings Bank, with capital and surplus of two million dollars, and deposits exceeding five million dollars. A number of large and important manufacturing and wholesale jobbing houses have been recently established in this city, and there is trade for many more.

Railroads diverge in eleven directions from Springfield, extending through the famous "Corn Belt," to the great centers of trade, thus providing the best of transportation facilities for manufactured articles, and making a good local market for the never failing crops produced in such abundance and variety in the territory tributary to Springfield. New railroads are now being constructed to and from this city.

The Railroad, Iron Mills, Foundries, Factories, Boiler Works, Machine Shops, Watch Factories, Engine Works, Furniture Factory, Woollen Mills, Boot and Shoe Factory, Elevators, Flour Mills, Hominy Mills, Plow Works, and other extensive manufacturing establishments at this point, are in a prosperous condition. The manufacturers located at Springfield have demonstrated the fact that the price of fuel, cost of manufacture, transportation facilities, food supply, to say nothing of the superior educational advantages and the moral surroundings that insure good homes for workmen, freedom from influences calculated to impair the spirit of content and industry among operatives, make this city one of the most desirable points for the successful and permanent establishment of factories.

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Springfield has the most complete system of sewerage and paved streets of any city of its size in the world. The high character of the public schools, seminaries and colleges of this city is unchallenged. The climate engenders health and energy. The city is lighted by gas and electricity, and has a first-class fire department, a complete system of electric police and fire alarm in successful operation, and is well provided with the best of hotel accommodations. Street car lines (with electric motors) diverge in eight directions from the center of the city, furnishing easy and rapid communication with all parts of the city.

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