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EDITORIAL NOTES.

THERE are few movements of immediate moment which more deeply concern the people of these western states than the general transportation question—with us the problem of railway control and management. The University has recognized the great importance of this question by making among the elective studies, ample provision for a short but excellent study of this problem. The management of our railways has been so flagrantly unjust toward our farmers and shippers that the legislature has felt it necessary to look into the matter. Now as a training school for citizens this move on the part of the University is much to be commended. We have furnished our share of the legislators so far and they have proven themselves worthy their Alma Mater. We can soon promise even better trained and more widely informed men to fill the responsible positions of state.

It is no small task for a college paper to undertake to voice the sentiment, the life, the needs of the students, yet that is undoubtedly its province. The HES-

PERIAN claims for itself the honor of representing the students of the University of Nebraska, and is therefore obliged to cry out once more against our courses of study as at present arranged. These courses without exception require of our students too many hours of work. Professor and student alike are convinced of that fact. But this is especially true of the Freshman year in the scientific course. The excuse would seem to be that there are so many distinct sciences of which the student must have some knowledge, however imperfect, before he may possibly be accepted as a fit candidate for a degree; that, under the circumstances, it seems necessary to crowd him through this desultory work, allowing him afterward the privilege of electing and specializing. The opinion of a student is that it is little short of exposing a man of studious habits and somewhat trained faculties to the danger on the one hand of destroying forever the really extraordinary powers with which he is endowed, or on the other hand, forcing him to give up the true student habit. It is, in short, setting a premium on dullness and unscholarly methods of study. The only way out of the difficulty is, of course, to outline some three or four courses either of which completed would entitle the candidate to the degree of B. S. Each of these courses would then, as one must see at a glance, offer a specialty of either Chemistry, or Geology, or other science as the case may be, providing only such elementary work in other lines as would be necessary to make the aspirant to a college degree a fit candidate in general culture—providing always great freedom and large opportunity in the choice of electives. The fact that this particular course is very heavy in number of hours required, is moreover the reason for over-taxing students in the other courses of study. Unless it can show an equal number of hours, of required work, with the heaviest course outlined in the catalogue, any course must appear light to the student who comes here to make the most of himself and get the most that his opportunities and his circumstances will allow. There is, then, the most urgent need of action in this matter, and we hope that in the interests of our University and therefore of our students, that such a revision may soon come.

AT best newspaper work is unsatisfying. The forced effort constantly demanded precludes the at-