

A VOLUNTARY INCREASE.

The Lincoln Traction Co. has voluntarily increased the pay of the car men in its service. The minimum now is 20 cents an hour for new men, with a gradual increase to 27 cents an hour. In the last seven or eight years the company has increased wages, step by step, practically

Last week Will Maupin's Weekly called attention to what it believes to be an injustice or two practiced upon the Traction Co. Here are a few more facts worthy of attention: The board of railway commissioners has said that the company is entitled to derive 8 per cent revenue, based upon a physical valuation made by the board. It also fixes certain items. For instance, it provided for an allowance of \$18,000 for the settlement of damage claims. Last year this item cost the company \$23,000. The board allows \$81,000 for depreciation and repairs. Last year this item amounted to \$113,000. This compelled the company to take \$37,000 from the earnings over and above what was allowed by the railway commissioners. As a result, instead of paying 8 per cent on the physical valuation the company could pay but 5 1-2 per cent, or one-half per cent less than the prevailing rate for money on security that gives a basis for fear. Last week the company suffered a fire loss of \$25,000. Deducting the insurance leaves the company with a loss of approximately \$10,000, which must be made good from a depreciation fund already too low by one-third. There is not a mechanical plant of any size in the country that allows less than 5 per cent for depreciation. The physical valuation of the Traction Co. is \$2,200,000. Allowing 5 per cent for depreciation—a ridiculously small sum in the case of a transportation company—means a total depreciation of \$110,000. This is \$29,000 less than allowed by the railway commissioners.

As before stated, Will Maupin's Weekly holds no brief for the defense of the Lincoln Traction Co. It has had its difference with the corporation and has not minced its words of condemnation when it believed condemnation was deserved. But while we believe the company is not doing all that it might to improve the service, it also believes that under present conditions the company is utterly unable to give the people the service they are entitled to, no matter how hard the company may try. Some months ago this paper suggested a plan looking towards a better understanding between the Traction Co. and the public. It renews that suggestion now.

Let representatives be selected by various organizations of the city, the Commercial Club, the Central Labor Union, the Real Estate Exchange, the Retail Grocers' and other bodies, these representatives to make an exhaustive examination into the facts, free from prejudice or bias. Let both the Traction Co. and protesting citizens have full say before this committee, then let the committee make its findings of fact. With that be-

fore us may we not hope to arrive at an intelligent and workable conclusion?

Conditions are such as to imperatively demand a speedy solution of the traction problems of this municipality.

THINK THIS OVER.

Any reason why Nebraska money should be sent outside the state for goods that could be manufactured within the state?

Any reason why Nebraska housewives should buy flour milled in other states when flour ground in Nebraska mills is as good or better, not forgetting that the outside mills buy Nebraska wheat in order to grade up their flour?

Why ship the hides taken from Nebraska steers to Massachusetts to be tanned and made into shoes, then buy the shoes back to the amount of millions of dollars a year? Why not tan the leather and make the shoes in Nebraska, thus employing thousands of Nebraskans who will build happy homes and make the state richer and greater?

If it's made in Nebraska why not give it the preference, price and quality being equal? And we'll back the Nebraska-made goods against the same kind of goods manufactured anywhere else on earth.

The Good Book says something to the effect that the man who fails to take care of his own household is worse than a sheep killing dog. We haven't got the exact words, but we have given the sentiment. Nebraska is a great household, and we are all members thereof. It is our bounden duty as Nebraskans to stand by one another. The time has come to make the label, "Made in Nebraska," not only a guarantee of quality but a sign by which Nebraskans may prosper and make the state grow richer and greater.

A GREAT OPPORTUNITY.

The enterprising gentlemen who have made the Knights of Ak-Sar-Ben organization famous the world over, and at the same time made the names of Omaha and Nebraska equally famous, have hit upon the best plan of all. It is announced that one parade will be devoted to the manufacturers of Nebraska, in which parade they make display of the goods manufactured in Nebraska shops and mills.

That ought to be, and doubtless will be, the biggest attraction of the forthcoming Ak-Sar-Ben festivities. If everything manufactured in Nebraska is represented properly in that parade it will be so long passing the "given post" that the spectator who sees it all should take a lunch along. Such a parade will be an eye-opener to the average Nebraskan who has so long been saying that "Nebraska is purely an agricultural state." It will show the world that Nebraska is making marvelous strides in the development of manufacturing—even more marvelous than her development of agriculture,

which is already a world marvel. It will show that Nebraska is making everything that man wears and eats, most of the things that he uses in his business, and many of the things catalogued as luxuries. We are making automobiles and atomizers, brooms, baskets, butter, brooms and bacon; cereal products, candy, and cars; dental supplies, doors, dusters, dressers and divans; engines—steam and electric—electrical supplies and envelopes; fire escapes, flour and foundry goods; garments, gloves, gas machines and garden tools; harness, hats and hardware novelties; incubators, ice and ice machines; jellies, jewelry and "jumpers"; kalsomine and knit goods; leather goods, loose leaf ledgers, lighting rods and liquors; machinery, marble goods, mattresses and mineral waters; neckwear and novelties of all kinds; overalls and optical goods; pickles, paints, paper and patent medicines; quinine preserves—out of real quinces; rugs, roofing and rubber stamps; stoves, tags and tools; underwear and umbrellas; valises and vinegar; whisky, washing machines, wagons, whips and wire goods; excellent ice cream by the train load; yacht engines and yeast and zweibach.

We are employing more people off the farms than are engaged in farming, and the wage earners of Nebraska, apart from farm labor, are drawing upwards of \$32,000,000 a year. Our manufacturers total in value upwards of \$200,000,000 a year, and the volume is increasing at a greater ratio than any other state can truthfully boast. Uncle Sam's figures show that a dollar invested in manufacturing in Nebraska brings better returns than a dollar similarly invested in any other state west of the Allegheny mountains.

That "manufacturers' parade" during the Ak-Sar-Ben festivities ought to be made the greatest thing ever pulled off by that wonderful organization of enterprising Nebraska boosters. It should be witnessed by a half-million Nebraskans who are in need of enlightenment as to the wonderful growth of Nebraska. And the Nebraska manufacturer who does not take advantage of this great opportunity is indeed shortsighted.

ALBERT J. CORNISH.

Judge Cornish of the district court is a candidate for re-nomination, subject to the republican primaries. We speak by the card when we say that were it possible to vote in any old column Judge Cornish would get practically all the votes cast at the primary. A republican by affiliation, Judge Cornish is above partisanship all the time. He is a student of affairs as well as of the law. He keeps in close touch with current events, therefore keeps in close touch with the people. His record upon the bench is an enviable one, and his rank in judicial circles is an earnest of his ability and integrity. There should not be any opposition to the re-nomination and re-elec-