BEE TELEPHONES Private Branch Exchange. Ask for the Department or Person Wanted. For Night Calls After 10 P. M.:
Editorial Department. AT lantic 1021 or 1042.

OFFICES

Main Office—17th and Farnam

Co. Bluffs - - 15 Scott St. So. Side, N. W. Cor. 24th and N

New York—286 Fifth Avenue

Washington - 422 Star Bldg. Chicago - - 1720 Steger Bldg. OFFICES

GREECE PROUD: ITALY AGGRESSIVE.

Greece did what might have been expected, assuming that it had a shred of national self-respect left, and declined to assent to all the terms of the Italian ultimatum. Following this, Mussolini has declared the Grecian reply to be highly unsatisfactory to Italy. Thus are the progressive preliminary steps to war being taken in order.

England and France, bound to Italy by terms of the alliance formed during the great war, and not yet fully discharged, must openly side against Greece. However, underneath it is understood they have made it very plain to Mussolini that war at present is highly undesirable. A diplomatic remonstrance has been forwarded from Paris to Rome. and it may have some influence in retarding action.

What the tone of the next notes will be depends on whether the Italian government really wants war. Announcement that a fleet had been dispatched from Toranto to occupy Corfu is significant, for that will give Italy command of the entrance to the Adriatic from both sides, and practically turns the classic sea into an Italian lake. This will have effect on Jugo-Slavia, and might turn the Little Entente to the side of Greece. In such event, the conflict will be more worthy of note than a war between Greece and Italy alone.

Italy still holds islands off the Syrian coast, occupied during the war for convenience, from which it was supposed to have retired, but which are yet neld under one or another pretext. A belief is current that Italy has no intention of retiring from hese islands, and Greece is impotent in its proests. Italy is seeking an outlet for excess population, and any little island lying around loose, especially those adjacent to a mainland that might some day be taken over, will not be overlooked by he statesmen at Rome.

Greece is in a most deplorable situation, its only hope at present being that influence can be brought to bear on Italy, sufficient to compel it to desist. Whether this influence will come from Italy's allies, or from the league of nations, it probably will be exerted, for Europe does not want a war of the scope that surely will follow actual fighting between Italy and Greece.

BOB WALLACE, APOSTLE OF HOPE.

A lot of sermons may, and probably will, be written about Bob Wallace and the circumstances surrounding his death. His friends may know some reason not disclosed in the newspaper stories, but it seems mighty queer that a man of his disposition should yield to such an impulse as led to his death.

Bob Wallace has spoken before every luncheon or dining club in Omaha and Council Bluffs; he had addressed Boy Scouts and Y. M. C. A. assemblies; from the pulpit and from the platform he radiated optimism, a healthy, genial philosophy of life. He taught a gospel of love, of hope, courage in presence of adversity, and trust that brighter days would follow the dark ones. He was industrious, energetic, seemingly a success, and he had the love of a wide circle of friends and generally the respect of the community.

What happened then to curdle his life so that it was no longer to be borne? Idle gossip will be busy with his name until some new sensation comes, for it is one of man's sorriest traits to uncharitably dissect the reputation of the one who has passed on. Bob Wallace is not the first good fellow who has taken refuge in death to end his worries, his heart aches and his disappointments. Others have yielded as he did, and have torn great gaps in man's faith in man, for it is doubly a tragedy when one who has been a leader in the world seeks admission into the great beyond and opens the door with his

Bob Wallace knows some things better now. One thing he must know is that his life was not a failure. No life could be a failure that was devoted as his was, to the sowing of the seed he scattered broadcast. It may be written of him, as was of another teacher of the law of love long ago: "Others he saved, himself he could not save."

CHILDREN AND CITY PLAYGROUNDS.

This week will end the season at the Omaha public playgrounds, so far as supervised play is concerned. All through the long fall months the parks will be opened, and will be used as they always have been. But the principal play activities will be transferred to the public school grounds, where the youngsters will be congregated until the long summer vacation opens again next June. Ira Jones, recreation director, gives some very interesting information concerning the park playgrounds, in a few figures.

During May, June, July and August up to now, attendance at the playgrounds has reached a total of 170,652, or for the hundred days, an average of more than 1,700 children daily playing under conditions that make for safety. In the three months of the swimming season, 114,280 persons entered the pools in the parks. This comes to about 1,600 a day, and that is just about all the park pools wifl accommodate. One girl and two boys were injured at the playgrounds, and one girl was drowned, the result of a most deplorable accident, she having been pushed into the water by a playmate. These figures are a most creditable showing.

One thing has been demonstrated by the summer's experience, that there is need for an extension of this work, particularly of the swimming pools. Every park in Omaha should have a commodious pool. Only a few exist, and these are kept constantly crowded by the residents in the vicinity. Filler park, Elmwood, Fontenelle, Kountze, Hanscom and the other city parks that now lack facilities for swimming should be looked after in this regard.

Supervised play at the parks is an established institution, and is justified by experience. It should be continued as one of the chief features of the service, but bathing ought go right along with play.

John Drew's old vaudeville joke has come true. A Rhode Island miss shot and killed a man, and then discovered her victim was not the party she was looking for. "The joke's on us," declared Alkali Ike to the widow, "We've lynched the wrong man!"

One interesting fact is that it took less than one day to cast the vote in Ireland, and four or five to count the ballots. This is due to preferential voting, which makes allowance for second and third choice.

WHAT CAN STOP A COAL STRIKE?

Issues involved in the anthracite coal industry have come down to a single point, that of closed or open shop. John Lewis, for the mine workers, insists on full recognition of the union. Samuel D. Warriner, for the mine operators, declines to recognize the union.

On this point the strike is called. Governor Pinchot's efforts at conciliation have failed, just as have all other attempts to reach a settlement come to naught, because of the inflexibility of the leaders of the contenders. We have no purpose here in arguing the merits of open or closed shop. Enough already has been said on this point. Just now the rights of a large element of our country's population are set at naught because men who have power and authority over an essential industry persist in pursuing a policy that is opposed to public good.

Under our government there is no way to comnel either side to take a different course. Governor Pinchot advised that the operators give recognition to the union, and that the union abandon its demand for the check off system. This the miners, it is understood, have accepted, while the operators have refused. Now they are engaged in a test of strength, the end of which depends on the future.

In 1902 a great strike occurred in the anthracite fields, wherein the recognition of the union was involved, but was not the main question. It was then that Mr. Baer uttered his famous words with regard to the divine trust imposed on the owners of the coal mines and railroads. His position brought on him the ridicule of the entire country, and made the work of the Roosevelt commission that much easier. The settlement was on the open shop basis, although the report of the commission strongly advised the recognition of the union.

Whether a similar commission can attain such a result this time is yet to be disclosed. The great difference in the situation is that the coal miners are much better organized and equipped to carry on such a struggle now than they were in 1902. Unless something not yet in sight turns up, users of anthracitè coal may as well turn to substitutes now as a little later on.

TIME WORKS WITH THE FARMER.

As the population of the United States continues to grow, the position of the farmer will become more secure. When it is considered that there are each year a million more mouths to be fed, right here in this country, it becomes apparent that sooner or later supply will have a difficult time keeping up with the demand for food. Instead of the farmer seeking buyers for his products, the buyers will seek him out, and even go so far as to take the expense of shipment off his hands.

In an address before joint stock land bankers in Chicago, Dr. L. C. Gray, economist in the United States Department of Agriculture, drew attention to the way the silent force of population is working to aid agricuture.

He estimated that the increase in world population is about 20,000,000 a year. The continuance of this rate of increase even for four or five years might exert a marked influence toward restoring cereal prices to a normal level.

Our own population, increasing at the rate of at least 1,000,000 a year, would require an additional area of crop land equal to that now employed in producing for export to provide for the increase of domestic consumption in about 16 years. Although we probably shall not divert all of our export acreage to domestic uses, the next three decades are likely to result in the rapid diversion of our export surplus of cereals to domestic uses and it is not improbable that within that period we shall find ourselves on an import basis or at least forced to protect our producers against the exports of other surplus-producing nations.

This stage, Dr. Gray believes, will mark a notable change in the position of a large proportion of American farmers. Instead of having to subtract the cost of transportation to the world market they may enjoy a differential advantage amounting to the cost of bringing grain or its derivative products from distant markets to our own centers of consumption. Farm land values are likely to increase gradually, and the growing scarcity of farm land will compel important modifications in methods of production and in national standards of consumption.

In spite of the reverses of agriculture, faith in the land and its productiveness has never been lost. While it may be doubted if an increase in the value of farm lands would be of any possible benefit, at least no apparent good would result from their cheapening. For the time being, the farmers are wise in their resolve to plant less wheat and hold back that which they have on hand. But time works with the tiller of the soil, and as America becomes more thickly settled, there will be no interest so firmly entrenched as agriculture.

Peace with Mexico was not hard to establish after the Obregon government found out that a lot of big property holders did not speak for the United States,

"Do your spooning at Sixteenth and Farnam," says Police Superintendent Butler. Gosh, Dan, have

Staid and sober ladies still are scolding the flapper. Were these s. and s. ladies always that way?

If President Coolidge ever comes to Omaha, late September or early October is the time.

King Corn is doing his stuff right now.

Homespun Verse -By Omaha's Own Poet-

Robert Worthington Davie

RETROSPECTION.

Oft as in the bygone while I return to erstwhile cot: Up the steps I tread, a smile seems to bring my rapture And I knock upon the door, list'ning for my Mother's

But it welcomes me no mere-nothing stirs within the So I lift the latch and go through the cozy home of yore,

Pausing now and then to know that it is a home no Here and there a trace I see of the old exquisite joy-

Relics truly dear to me when I was a little boy-Scattered lie about the floor, left to rust in dust away. While dust-covered on the door finger marks of childhood stay.

Rambler roses upward wend o'er veranda where I For this priv'lege to extend fragrance, quietness and

There is something that reveals sadness tinted with When one travels back and feels in his dreams' the While his Mother watched him glide through the haven

in that while. And was ever by his side with a kindly, cheerful smile. We are always glad to go back and view what yet re. Thy care and love. For Jesus Christ's

Even though we can not know youth's ineffable refrains.

"The People's Voice"

The Omaha Morning Bee: Saturday, September 1, 1923-

"AND STILL IT MOVES."

zation by the promulgation of a con-

stitution-almost as liberal as that of

Great Britain. Under the new funda-

mental law under which Turkey is

subjects are to be citizens, protected

or Mohammedanism will still be pre-dominant as the religion of the great

body of the Turkish people, and will, as heretofore, continue to be the re-ligion of the state, those professing

deputies. Laws submitted by the

the senate will require the imperial sanction. A court of accounts, which

broadest basis of decentralization

stitution is only to be modified by a vote of both chambers and the sanc-

fundamental law of the Turkish en

pire as transmitted by cable. If the

government than the boasted French

speech are still throttled at the pea

does not have to be considered in

content to allow the value of the rail

road property to remain the same as fixed by the board of 1922. That was

easy enough.

The state taxes charged to th

county of Douglas in 1921, was \$1, 180,981, the state taxes charged in

1922 under republican administration. \$816,883, which is representative of

30 8-10 per cent reduction, whereas i

1923 there was charged against Doug

las county for state taxes the sum of

If the state of Oregon cannot de

any better than this, surely it should not throw bouquets at the state of

H. G. COUNSMAN. County Assessor.

Douglas County, Nebraska.

Accounting for All of Us.

Some of us are anxious to earr

money and more of us are merely anxious to get it.—Maryville (Mo.

NO CURE NO PAY

DR. FRED B. PHELPS

212 KARBACH BLK.

Phone AT 6781 15th, Near Dougla

NET AVERAGE

CIRCULATION

for July, 1923, of

THE OMAHA BEE

Daily72,472

Sunday75,703

Does not include returns, left-

overs, samples or papers spoiled in printing and includes no special

B. BREWER, Gen. Mgr.

V. A. BRIDGE, Cir. Mgr.

Subscribed and sworn to before me

this 4th day of August, 1923. W. H. QUIVEY, (Seal) Notary Public.

The present state board was

sure of the ministry.

that of 1922.

Nebraska

These are the outlines of the new

Political_Parties.

Omaha-To the Editor of The Oma ha Bee: Some months ago we con tributed a few letters to the people's column of The Bee, on this important subject. We would like to return to it again as the time is opportune. Our parties exert a profound influence on the public welfare. It is sometimes said that parties are simply political machines to promote personal interests, rather than the public good. Un fortunately there is more truth than poetry in this charge. We have heard some good citizens say that the only justification for a party is to bring about some vital reform, or to remove some corrupt or wrongful condition. Having accomplished this purpose the party should cease to exist, because if continued it would soon degenerate into a political ma

There is a good deal of truth in this sary under our system of government They are presumed, no matter how much they may differ, to guide their public welfare. It is also said that there is no difference between existing parties. There is no truth in this statement; it is all and altogether false. Since the foundation of our government, there has always been a vital difference between the differ-ent political parties. There was such a difference between the policies and principles of Hamilton and Jefferson, So on down through all The debates between Webdays of the last century, reveal a Mays of the last century, retailed henceforth to be governed, the wide difference between the parties is to be a constitutional sovereign. they represented.

There is a vital difference between exercising limited prerogatives. the party led by Woodrow Wilson and the party led by Senator Lodge. The duty of the voters is to examine the policies and principles of the parties and to vote, not under the spell of candidates' personalities, nor on account of emotional feeling, not because of racial or religious sentiment, but rather because of the principles involved. Each voter should decide for himself whether in his judgment the appeal made for his support would be for or against the public wel-fare. Voters should therefore sepamaking up their minds which party

changes in the constitution of the country to improve the political procountry to improve the political procedure concerning the time for convening new congresses and the inauguration of the president. There is an important change that should be made in our local procedure. It is this, state conventions should be held in advance of the primary elections for the sole purpose of adopting platforms of principles. Having made the platof principles. Having made the platform, the voters will be better able at form, the voters will be better able at the primary election to decide which the primary election to decide which sultan, as chief executive, is to apof the candidates, on the score of point a responsible cabinet. The min-character and availability, should be istry are made impeachable by the To really love Ame

pered now so much as in the past by ignorant opposition based on old-time exploded theories. The one supreme folly and sin of the voter is to be neglectful and indifferent toward important matters of government. Less than one-half of the voters interest themselves in the affairs of government. The proout laws, and there can be no laws der our system except through po-cal parties. D. F. DOLAN. General and municipal councils are to be formed by election. Finally, the con-

Who Cut the Tax Levy?

Omaha—To the Editor of The Oma-ha Bee: I have sent the following letter to Governor Walter M. Pierce,

Dear Sir: The following statement appeared in the Omaha World-Her-ald of August 26, 1923: the national prejudices of the Turkish people by a practical enforcement of LIKES BRYAN'S TAX REDUCING. this new constitution, Turkey will i

pecial Dispatch to the World-Herald. "Lincoln, Neb., Aug. 25.—Gövernor Walter M. Pierce of Oregon thinks that the way Nebraska has been able to cut taxes under Covernor Bryan's administration is just about the proer thing, according to a letter re-ceived from the Oregon executive to day by the state tax commissioner, 1923 levy. W. H. Smith.

"I wish to congratulate you as state commissioner and the people of Nebraska on the fine showing made in your tax statement for this

Governor Pierce wrote. "It is far better than we can do Oregon." The above extract would seem to

warrant a statement from someone as to just how it was accomplished. The state board was able to reduce state tax levy 3-10 of 1 mill for ollowing reasons:

The valuation of the state upon only 10 1-10 per cent reduction over the following reasons:

which the tax was levied was increased over that of 1922, \$11,500,000; this amount was obtained in Douglas ity of Omaha is located. The legislature of 1921 made

provisions for the amount of \$2,000,000 to be set aside for the relief of world war veterans. This amount was raised in the levy of 1922 and

Daily Prayer

O God, kneeling at this family alta we hall Thee trustfully as our Fath er. As a family we worship Thee and pray Thee to look upon us in love, and as we approach Thee for guidance and strength for the day with its unknown problems, grant that we may have no fear of Thee,

Let perfect love cast out fear. We acknowledge Thee to be our Lord. Help us to obey Thy law, and to do Thy will. Forbid that we should stumble, through ignorance, or errithrough forgetfulness, or falter through fearfulness. Let us not lose our way, or our joy, or our souls. We humbly confess our sins, and wait Thy word of forgiveness. Have mercy upon us, O God, have mercy Make us pure, and kind, and unself-ish. Grant us the blessedness promised to those who hunger and thirst after righteousness. From selfishnes and indolence, from pride and hard-

ness, from envy and vengefulness o Thou in mercy deliver us, O Lord Make Thou this day a good day fo Be Thou our shield, a refuge and our strong fortress. help us to be eager to work-glad t be alive, glad to be the children of

sake. Amen.
O. C. S. WALLACE, D. D., LL. D.,
Montreal, Quebec, Causda,

"From State and Nation"

> Editorials from other newspapers.

The Nation and Mr. Coolidge.

rom the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, The Nation, published in New York, the Nation, published in New Lork. Iton of Ideas to grating their personal declares that a "Coolidge myth," to the effect that Governor Coolidge was the person who put down the Boston police strike, landed him in the vice police strike, landed him in the vice made known. House. It says the strike was really ry the heroine of "Grey Towers put down by the mayor and the press, and that the governor took no part until the crisis was over. The Nation made its own small con-

Ration read a fecture, not to the mayor and press of Boston, but to President Wilson and Governor Coolidge, on the merits of the police strikers' case. Wilson and Coolidge were crisicase. Wilson and Coolidge were book can accomplish. It is rather than received when the Nation then Once in a while Mr. Rosewater left off writing about the Nebraska and Omaha' political situation, and devoted his attention to affairs of other lands. In 1875 a considerable war cloud was hovering over eastern Europe, to come to a head in the war the persons whom the Nation then brilliant in places, rather absorbing saw fit to blame for their narrow and Strangely enough, sentiment has no one-sided view that a policeman should small part in it. Anyone who has the loyal to the public rather than to his own organization. Now, the same periodical, under the same editorial periodical, under the same editorial cultar interest, and it is serious this mornin's, as she wuz simonizin rope, to come to a head in the war 1877 between Russia and Turkey. Tuesday evening. December 26, 5, the governmental reforms in key were discussed. direction, discovers that its blame, and the accompanying credit generally bestowed, were wrongly placed, and the book is assured. But it is not (Copyright, 1922.) scolds Mr. Coolidge for having ob-tained political advancement under plans of the "ruling body;" plans to "And still the world moves. This act is again forcibly illustrated by may as well make up his mind that than an undergraduate school. the radical though peaceable revoluthe Nation simply is not going to like publishers of "Grey Towers" are Conhim. Its sketch of Mr. Coolidge in its vici & McGee. tion that has just taken place in Turkey. After centuries of the most article on the death of Mr. Harding rresponsibe absolutism, the Turkish exhibited a deep-seated hostility. It on business cares. The music of the sultan has been compelled to yield to found no virtue in him. the progressive force of modern civili-

An electrial expert named Stein henceforth to be governed, the sultan ised and so efficiently employed that braska sunset is a glorious sight in the enjoyment of life and liberty by judicial tribunals. While Islamism

other creed. The liberty of the press good.

and freedom of education are granted, and primary education, the funda-mental basis of popular government, electricity is. Some call it "energy" is made compulsory. Henceforth all and some call it a "fluid" and others men, regardless of rade, color, or predo not call it at all for they have no hey will support.

There is talk of some important vious condition, are to be equal before name for it but it is a powerful ele

The ish the world. Let the astonishment confiscation statute, labor torture, and come.

character and availability, should be selected for the platform. The main requirement should be to capitalize character. He who seeks office as his chief ambition will put availability first, because he wants to win. The voter who does not seek office and only thinks of the public good should steer clear of the self-seeking candidate.

Two requirements are necessary: First, character, and then availability. Character alone, no matter how high, when it is connected with erroneous ideas of government, would exert great power to lead people astray. Political science has taken possession of the field of inquiry. It is not hampered now so much as in the past by ignorant opposition based on old-time.

Don't a responsible cabinet. The ministry are made impeachable by the chambers do be tried by the chambers, and they are to be tried by the chambers, and they are to be tried by the chambers, and they are to be tried by the national supreme court. The civil service is to be for life, depending on competency and fidelity. No public official can be dismissed without legitimate and they can not be released from it by the fact of having received orders from a superior if those orders are contrary to law. The legislative branch of the government is to consist of a chamber of deputies and a senate. They will receive messages from the sultan and have the freedom of voting and expressing opinions. The initiative of framing laws belongs to the ministry and the period now so much as in the past by ignorant opposition based on old-time.

"Grey Towers" attacks the "ruling body" of a great university. It seems more effective than many of the attacking books which now are in

A faculty of drab persons who are convinced that except for experidergraduates is quite a waste of er-fort; who would discourage the inception of ideas to gratify their penchant

There are petty politics, too, to wor politics played in a suave but deadly manner by the educators. And when the order is given to grade students so low that they must leave the unitribution to the "Coolidge myth," it versity, regardless of the quality appears. In its issue of September appears. In its issue of September 20, 1919, in its only reference at the time to the Boston occurrences, the Nation read a lecture, not to the School with high hopes, are being malest the school with their work, the heroine, a teacher of

make the university a graduate rather

JEERS AND JIBES.

This is a colorful age, between the

and ourselves green with envy, and

"My daughter's music," sighed the

Senior-How do you like your new oom? Soph-Rotten. There aren't

"What is it, Emily?" "Cook!" "She

of Omaha Inn

Rates \$150 to \$3.00

half enough chairs to hold my clothes

-Oregon Lemon Punch.

any organ, any human choir. Watch a sunset or the moon rising over the yellow banks and see if you don't agree with us that God is wondermetz is reported to be confident that fully good to Nebraskans and espe electricity will become so generally cially to Madison county folk. A Ne

men will do the world's work in much less time than it is done now and that each worker will get five months vacation annually.

Taska sunset is a giorious significant with its myriad of colors that turn all the world to beauty. And there is a later hour in these summer evenings wonderfully bewitching. It is nonths vacation annually.

There are thousands of toilers in just before dark—a deep, velvety twishop, office and on farms who hope light that seems to turn everything Steinmetz has the right dope though to a magic softness words can't picture. And there is none so poor that Islamism will have no special privi- who fear the blessed condition will he can't enjoy these pleges over citizens professing any not develop in time to do them any twilghts and few who can't enjoy these purple pansy themselves long a gripping thrill at

ton Traveler.

whites and blacks, the reds and pinks, the other fellow being yellow

all of us singing the blues.-Lansing State Journal. mother, "has been a great expense."
"Indeed?" returned the guest, "some neighbor sued you, I suppose?"—Bos-

Beautiful Nebraska.

A Book of Today

Abe Martin

Folks that travel on their looks "We can't laugh allus walk back.

if I don't put her up for the tennis

When a young couple bragged abouwas a sewing machine.-Altoona Mir

"Is this an exclusive hotel?" "The last word in exclusiveness. However I believe it's permissible to address the head clerk without the formality of an introduction,"-Birmingham introduction."-Birminghan

English Author (on location)-It makes one think of Goldsmith's "De serted Village," does it not? Director
—Goldsmith? Goldsmith? What com-

pany's he with?-Life. "Goodness, daughter, your husband ooks to me as if he were in a very ad humor." "It's all right, mamma.

for dinner."-Paris Sans-Gene.

CUT RATE Kodak Finishing

Printing
No. 127, 120 and 116 sizes...
No. 118, 122 and 130 sizes...
Post cards from any film....
Roll films developed...... There is no FREE film develop-ing, you pay for it in high prices printing: compare our prices with what you have been paying Write for Handy Mailing Package

Olson Photograph Co. Plattsmouth, Neb. The largest finishing plant in the west.

HAVE The Omaha Morning Bee or The Evening Bee mailed to you when on your vacation. Phone AT lantic 1000,

Illinois Central System Discusses Taxation

and Government Ownership

Taxes constitute one of the large single items of expense in providing railway transportation service. Federal, state, county and municipal taxes paid by Class I railroads for 1922 amounted to \$300,620,358, an increase of nearly 205 per cent over their 1911 taxes, which were \$98,626,848.

The rate at which railway taxes have increased in recent years exceeds the rate of increase in any other item of the cost of providing railway service. If freight and passenger rates had increased on the same scale as taxes from 1911 to 1922, the average passenger fare in 1922 would have been about 6 cents a mile and the average charge for carrying one ton of freight one mile in 1922 would have been about 21/4 cents. Instead, the average passenger fare in 1922 was 3.028 cents a mile, an increase since 1911 of only 54 per cent, and the average charge for carrying one ton of freight one mile in 1922 was 1.176 cents, an increase since 1911 of only 58 per cent.

In the analysis of the Illinois Central System dollar for 1922, recently published, it was shown that 6.89 cents of every dollar received were required to pay the system's taxes last year, as compared with only 4.44 cents devoted to dividends. The various governments collecting taxes--federal, state, county and municipal--received about 55 per cent more revenue from the operations of the Illinois Central System in 1922 than its owners did.

Comparatively few of our citizens openly favor government ownership of the railroads. However, many of them are advocating a substantial reduction in freight and passenger rates. Some are espousing the cause of restoring the right of the forty-eight states to make rates in conflict with interstate rates. Others favor confiscating railway property by scaling down values unreasonably. Those who seek thus to hamper the railroads are simply playing into the hands of the advocates of government ownership. Making it more and more difficult for the railroads to exist under private ownership is recognized as the only method through which government ownership of the railroads is likely to be brought about.

The federal government does not tax its own property. The states do not tax the property of the federal government. They could not do so in the case of government-owned railroads, just as they cannot tax the property of government-owned postoffices or forts or arsengls. If the railroads should become the property of the federal government, there would be destroyed a source of tax revenue which in 1922 amounted to more than \$300,000,000. From what source would the federal government, states, counties and municipalities make up this lost revenue? .

It is not reasonable to expect that lower railway rates would compensate the people for their governments' loss of tax revenue. In the light of our own experience during federal control and the experience which foreign countries have had, there is every reason to believe that gove ment ownership of the railroads would result in large deficits, which would also have to be made up by increased taxation. There can be no reasonable doubt that the effect of government ownership would be higher freight and passenger rates, poorer service and increased taxation.

Constructive criticism and suggestions are invited.

C. H. MARKHAM.

President, Illinois Central System.