

C. of C. Report on Trolley Fare Hike Taps Hornest Nest

Improvement Club Officials Charge Chamber Recommendations Designed to Warp Public Opinion.

The street railway rate war is on. The question, brought to the fore Tuesday by the Chamber of Commerce, which put out a recommendation for an increase in fare and reduction of taxes so as to get the Omaha & Council Bluffs Street Railway company a 7 per cent profit on its valuation, was the storm center in Omaha Wednesday.

Protests against the action of the chamber's executive committee came within a few hours after the report had been made public. The first organization to take official cognizance of the recommendations was the United Improvement club, which adopted a resolution asking the Chamber of Commerce to withdraw its report until a full hearing could be held.

All Objections Welcomed.

Clarke G. Powell, commissioner of the Chamber of Commerce, said the organization welcomed all objections. It was brought to his attention that many persons objected to the recommendation that the chamber's traffic manager appear before the state railway commission "representing the Omaha Chamber of Commerce and the people of the city of Omaha."

Powell contended that the phrase had been misinterpreted.

"The committee which made the recommendations after a most thorough investigation," he said, "had the interests of the city as a whole at heart, and not any group of interests. The Chamber of Commerce recognizes the fact that if Omaha is to be adequately served and if the street railway company is to make extensions necessary for the building up of the city, the company must have an adequate return on capital invested. We must have that service at the lowest possible expense to the public."

Warp Public Opinion, Claim.

The United Improvement club charged that the Chamber of Commerce was attempting to "warp public opinion for one of its leading members."

Ralph G. Coad, newly elected president of the club, said:

"The report of the chamber was premature. When a recent meeting called by state railway commission was held at the city hall to discuss the street car situation, members of the chamber were present. When asked whether they had anything to say, not one of them cared to talk.

"The chamber is only trying to prejudice the public mind without a hearing or getting the proper evidence."

Commissioner Powell took exception to Coad's statement that the report was premature.

Committee Studied Report.

"Realizing the importance of the question," he said, "the executive committee spent a week thoroughly digesting the report submitted by the special tramway committee after weeks of intensive investigation.

"We feel that in a matter of this kind public opinion should be united. We believe that any group or individual who cares to investigate the recommendations of the committee, and analyzes the facts from which these findings were made, will concur absolutely in this report.

"The reason why no members of the chamber took the liberty to speak for the organization at the hearing is that we would not care to go on record without a careful inquiry into the facts of the case. The special tramway committee was composed of unbiased and unprejudiced men. They had no interest in the matter other than to serve Omaha."

Council to Discuss Matter.

The mayor and city commissioners Wednesday morning informally agreed to discuss the traction situation next Tuesday morning, when an answer will be prepared to the street railway company with reference to its request for relief.

"We will direct our corporation counsel to represent the city before the state railway commission when the street railway company asks for increased rate of fare," said Mayor Dahlman. "This has been our policy in these cases."

Commissioner Dan B. Butler stated that an impression has come out that the city council has been dormant and has allowed a committee of the Chamber of Commerce to do its business.

"If it is necessary to make a recommendation for higher street car fare, it seems to me such recommendation should come from the city council rather than from a private body whose record is in favor of the corporations," Butler said.

Koutsky for Tax Removal.

City Commissioner Joseph Koutsky believes the city council should remove the occupation tax obligation from the street railway company, beginning January 1, and meet this \$100,000 by reducing the appropriations for the fire and police departments. Koutsky stated that he favored submission of a comprehensive franchise ordinance to the voters during 1925.

"We had a bill before the legislature two years ago, to enable Omaha to vote on a street railway franchise," Koutsky said. "That bill passed the house, but was defeated in the senate. We should have a bill passed in the legislature this winter and when we come to vote on a new traction franchise next year there should be a definite understanding as to service and extensions. We need extensions as much as the company needs a new franchise. We should co-operate."

"As to the proposed increase of fare, it is my opinion that a flat rate of 7 cents for every ride would meet the financial needs of the company."

Dahlman Is Silent.

"I anticipate that the report of the Chamber of Commerce will come before us at council meeting next Tuesday morning," Mayor Dahlman said. "So I do not want to indicate what the council may do in advance of that report. We have received a communication from the street railway company, asking for relief from

occupation tax and paving requirements, and indicating that if that relief cannot be granted by the city the company will go before the state railway commission for an increase of fare."

During recent conferences with the state railway commission the mayor and several city commissioners stated that the council could not grant occupation tax relief to the traction company for 1925 because the levy for next year had been determined.

Hummel Against Tax Removal.

"On the whole the Chamber of Commerce report is good," said Commissioner J. B. Hummel. "I am against the removal of occupation tax from the street railway company unless this tax is removed from all corporations, and in that event I would want the reduction reflected in a reduction of rates."

"These corporations use the streets and they should pay for this privilege. It is my opinion that the street railway company should not be required to pay for paving between the rails. When we meet next July to fix the city levy the Chamber of Commerce and other organizations will be in to ask us to reduce taxes, and 24 hours later they will be in to ask for more service. You can't give service without money. If the occupation tax is removed, we will have to increase the tax levy to meet the deficiency."

The improvement club also discussed the proposed sale of the county poor farm site and the removal of the farm to an outlying district. After recommendation of the plan had been given by several members the club voted to appoint a committee to investigate and report back for final action.

Farm Sale Plan Praised.

Robert Johnson of the Unity club declared himself satisfied with the action of the West Leavenworth club, which endorsed the plan at a meeting Monday night. He urged the United club to follow suit.

President Coad, a member of the West Leavenworth club, added his recommendations to those of Johnson. Karl Kohn told the meeting that the Pontenelle club committee on the poor farm sale approved the sale and would report at the meeting of the club next week.

A committee consisting of Kohn as chairman, Coad and Frank Johnson was named to report on the matter to the club.

Two Men With Moonshine Cargo Nabbed at Strangers

Cambridge, Dec. 3.—Two strangers carrying a can of intoxicating liquor and revolvers were arrested by State Deputy Albert in a local restaurant. A search of their car revealed more moonshine and burglar tools. They were taken to Beaver City and lodged in the county jail. They gave the names of William Bowen, Edison, Neb., and E. D. Fletcher, Julesburg, Colo.

Gifts of Fine Glassware

No gift will be more sincerely appreciated than one of china, glassware or electrical goods. A woman's heart warms to the gift that beautifies and dignifies her table service.

IMPORTED BOHEMIAN GLASSWARE—Including vases, candy jars, jam jars, and jugs. Very beautiful in coloring and attractively designed. 98c to 10.00.

IMPORTED JAPANESE NOVELTIES—Give something from Japan—quant land of beauty and romance. Hand plated plates, ash trays, smoking sets, etc. Up from 50c to 2.98.

MAH JONG SETS—Plate and sherry, in amber and green amethyst. 1.50.

HANDLED SANDWICH TRAYS—In light cut and plain, green and amber and canary. A pleasure to have for the luncheon. 2.25 and 2.75.

HIGH CUT FLOWER BASKETS—A gift that will please a woman. Several different sizes, for violets, sweet peas, and larger flowers. 40c to 2.50.

BEAUTIFUL BOUDOIR LAMPS—In ivory metal bases, with rose, blue, gold, silk shades. Just the thing for the vanity dresser. Up from 4.50.

IMPORTED TEA SETS—In beautifully colored luster ware, in tan or blue shades; also tan with roses or blue border. 6.00 to 20.00.

THERMEX ELECTRIC HEATERS—A real comfort for the small apartment. These heaters make nice gifts for the aged or invalid. 5.98.

PYREX CASSEROLES AND PIE SERVERS—Fine, practical glass for oven use, attractive enough for the table. In pretty decorated metal frames. 1.98 to 10.00.

6-50 CARVING SETS—Three pieces: knife, fork, and steel of stainless steel—stagn handles—4.98 to 10.00.

ELECTRIC GRILLS—Universal. Hot Point and Armstrong makes. Will broil, fry, stew and toast; cook a meal for two or three persons, right at the table. 12.50 and 14.75.

ELECTRIC STOVE AND TOASTER—A convenient little toaster, complete with six-foot cord. A welcome yet inexpensive gift. 98c.

ELECTRIC WAFFLE IRONS—Heats from above as well as below; complete with six-foot cord and attachments. This is a very special price. 5.98 to 15.00.

UNIVERSAL AND ROYAL ROASTER COFFEE PERCOLATORS—The distinctive features which characterize these two famous brands make them a joy to the housekeeper who receives one. Priced, 3.75 to 10.00.

Bowl of Holland Lilies

Three Holland lily bulbs, all in a pretty pottery bowl with the moss ready to moisten and set in the sun. In a gift box with an appropriate verse. 50c

Gifts of Oriental Incense

Six different odors, in individual boxes, all packed in one large box. Regularly 60c. 25c

Imported Pottery Bowls

Beautiful bowls of various sizes to 12 inches. Softly colored in browns and greens. Complete with inset— 50c, 60c, 95c

Children's KNITTED Headwear

In dainty colors, delicate pink and blue trimmed with tassels; others in darker shades of blue, tan, in helmet styles, trimmed with tassels and pull-down styles. Sizes 6 to 6 years. These garments usually sell for 85c to 1.25. 79c

Universal and Royal Roaster Coffee Percolators

The distinctive features which characterize these two famous brands make them a joy to the housekeeper who receives one. Priced, 3.75 to 10.00.

Esmond Baby Blankets

You couldn't give a more welcome gift, for there's a dozen uses for these lovely warm blankets of pink or blue wool, with cunning animals for borders. 98c

Grenoble Kid Gloves

A delightful selection of one-clasp Grisetette novelties, or Modane strap wrist, with hand-crochet backs. In the four most desirable shades of beaver, brown, gray and black.

Give a Hat Box

and You Give Service and Pleasure

With Hat Ball 4.45

This box is more than a hat box; it will carry a complete change of garments, from head to toe, besides the necessary overnight clothing.

With Hold—All Feature 5.50 to 13.50

Lovers-Form Corset

A Useful and Practical Gift

A Newer Corset 5.00 to 16.50

This new idea is especially well adapted to achieve the season's mode of the youthful figure. Its slenderness flattens into straight, unbroken lines and gives the poise attained by perfect corseting. Easily laundered.

Christmas Gifts From All the World

THE BRANDEIS STORE

Choose Leisurely Now Your Christmas Kerchiefs

Thousands of beautiful new Christmas handkerchiefs ready now for your choosing offering you a wonderful and leisurely selection.

Later, not only is choosing less satisfactory, but many of the "imports," without duplication, will be gone.

Women's Hand Made Kerchiefs—Fine Irish linen, white or colored, hand hemstitched and with hand embroidered corners. For Thursday, each, 50c

Women's Colored Linen Kerchiefs—Pink, blue, honeydew, orchid, and white as well. Attractively embroidered at the corners. Three in a box for 1.25

Women's Pure Linen Kerchiefs—White and in the light colors; hemstitched borders and with pretty embroidered corners. For Thursday, each, 25c

Men's Hand Drawn Pongee Kerchiefs—All silk pongee with narrow and wide hemstitched borders. Hand-drawn colored threads. Regularly 1.25. Thursday, each, 75c

Men's Imported Initialed Kerchiefs—Hand embroidered initials on demi-linen. Full size and a soft, lovely quality. Three in a box, for 1.00

Gifts of Fine Glassware

No gift will be more sincerely appreciated than one of china, glassware or electrical goods. A woman's heart warms to the gift that beautifies and dignifies her table service.

Very Feminine Boudoir Pillows

Dainty little pillows—12x14 inches—cased in white nainsook, with beautiful fillet set-ins. The pillows themselves are covered in pink or jewel. 1.25

Plisse Colored Bedspreads

A handsome set—spread and scarf—makes a delightful gift. Spread is 98x98 inches. Edged in blue. Set— 9.98

7-Jewel Elgin Watch

Of the 12 size, white gold filled, engraved case, with a guaranteed movement. Easily read figures. Beautiful and a real time-keeper. 13.50

Men's 15-Jewel Elgin Watch

Beautifully engraved white or green gold filled case. Clear figures dial. Guaranteed movement. In a Christmas box. 19.50

Men's 17-Jewel Elgin Watch

A handsome green or white gold filled case, engine turned and beautifully engraved. Attractive dial and a guaranteed movement. 28.50

Engraving Free

All jewelry and watches will be engraved free of any charges.

Give Her an Imported Tapestry Scarf

Table scarfs of beautiful tinsel tapestry, made in Belgium with all of the artistry of skilled workers. All over tapestry patterns with matching borders.

'We're Ready With Hundreds of Gifts for Infants' Xmas'

Babies' Silk Stockings at 98c

Imported Ribb. at 98c and 1.95

INFANTS' ALL WOOL SACKS—The ideal bit of warmth for a cold morning and a gift for the bath. Of pink or blue wool knit. 1.00.

INFANTS' KNIT LEGGINGS—Knitted of fine, soft yarn, with draw-string at top, and reinforced seams. White, red, and buff. 1.50.

HAND MADE DRESSES—Of finest nainsook, with hand drawn work and hand embroidery. Sizes 6 months to 2 years. 1.89, 2.98 to 10.00.

Give Allen A Fine Silk Hose

For Gifts 1.85

Chiffon, semi-chiffon and heavy weights, in shades of gun metal rose—taupe, black, rose, blonde, Antec, Russian, calf, tan bark, airdale.

Bowl of Holland Lilies

Three Holland lily bulbs, all in a pretty pottery bowl with the moss ready to moisten and set in the sun. In a gift box with an appropriate verse. 50c

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Table Lamps

Beautiful bases in mirror black with shades of parchment, silk, or chintz, in bright or somber colorings. Various styles and shapes, all with two-light clusters. A handsome lamp for living room, hall, or bedroom.

No Two Shades Alike

Complete with cord and plug. Third Floor—West

