THE OMAHA BEE

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HOW ABOUT OPERATING COSTS ?

The state railway commission has set the value of the Omaha traction system-for rate-making purposes—at \$14,100,000. The commission has also declared 7 per cent to be a fair rate of return upon this valuation. For the year 1924, it is estimated by the street railway company, the earnings of the company will amount to about \$561,000. This is about 4 per cent on the rate-making valuation of \$14,100,000. Therefore the earnings are \$389,000, or about 3 per cent below what has been set as

In approaching a consideration of the problem thus presented, it is probably in due order to take these valuations as being proper. None will deny the fairness of the proposition that the company is of right entitled to earn an adequate return.

Merely because the company's books show that a fair return requires larger net earnings, does not mean, however, that the solution is confined to the matter of more revenue. Probably the answer lies in more efficient management-in the cutting of costs rather than an increase in income.

The Omaha Chamber of Commerce has made an inquiry into the situation, and through its executive committee it urges that three steps be taken to relieve the situation.

First, lift from the street railway company the necessity of paying for paving between and alongside the tracks. Second, repeal the ordinances requiring of the company an occupation tax. Third, increase the fares. The first two items of relief must be postponed, the first until the vote of the people can authorize it at a general election, the second until next year, for the reason that the money thus collected has already been included in the city's budget of expenses for the year 1925.

The savings to the company from the first two these two propositions are agreed to, there still remains a balance of \$233,000 to which the company is entitled as a "fair return." This, it is proposed, is to be made up by hiking street car fares.

The proposition which the city of Omaha thus faces is an increase in general taxes to the amount of \$156,000 a year, and in addition a street car fare increase from the present six and a quarter cents to seven and three-quarters cents.

Until such time as the paving expenses and the occupation tax can be lifted, the users of the street cars must pay it all. To do this street car fares must go to 9 cents, probably 10 cents.

In its report the Chamber of Commerce committee stated that it had confined its work "largely to a consideration of the company's financial condition." Nothing in the report indicates that any consideration has been given to the question of operation. Until costs of operation are looked into-until the people of Omaha are assured that no savings can be made in operating costs, the burden of proof will be upon those who seek to solve the traction question by hiking taxes and raising street car fares.

Before either of these things is done there should be an operating audit of the street railway

The state railway commission can insist upon such an audit. If it hikes street car fares without such an audit it will not have given proper consideration to the public interest.

THE THINGS WE MIGHT HEAR.

The New York Times opines that there is little to be gained by American radio fans who try to tune in on European nations. About all the satisfaction they get, according to the Times, is the knowledge that their sets enabled them to catch the sounds borne on the ether waves for that long dis-

tance. Says the Times: "Ability to get distant points is next to no real d intrinsic value to metropolitan listeners, the wew York stations, or some of them, providing entertainment and edification of far higher class than those in our dear hinterland. It is the dwellers in that hinterland that have true need to hear from

afar-from New York, that is." The hinterland, according to the estimate of the average New Yorker, is any section north of Albany and west of Paterson and Jersey City. Dwellers therein should by all means tune in on New York, and get the very latest. How young Rhinelander fell for the blandishments of a girl he now seeks to get rid of; how Mrs. Von Astorbilt De-Puyster-Knickerbocker is wearing an anklet under her chiffon hose; how New York sassiety is flocking to basement cabarets where the color line is not drawn; how Chinese tong men are running amook; how bootleggers are advertising their wares as boldly as the department stores advertise bargains in shoes and silks; how bandits hold up payroll trucks on the busiest corners; how wood alcohol claims its thousands of victims in Gotham, and how the scions of the oldest families

Hinterlanders are missing an awful lot of ennobling and instructive things by not tuning in on New York, the arbiter and director of our destinies, social, political and moral. If we really want to know how to secure the best in municipal governernment for our hinterland villages and hamlets, we hinterlanders should tune in on Tammany and get the real dope on political purity and municipal morality. We should have done this a long time ago,

disport themselves at private homes on Long Island.

but being poor hinterlanders we really didn't know about it until the New York Times came to our rescue with the prized information. Now XQB at London, and ZXG at Berlin, and all the other alphabetical broadcasting stations of Europe, may as well shut up shop so far as the hinterland of America is concerned. From Paterson and Jersey City westward to the Pacific coast we hinterlanders are going to position the loud speaker or clamp the head pieces to our ears and tune in on the one and only foun-

tain of all good things, New York City. Keep off the air, there, you poor European fish!

WHAT ABOUT WHEELER?

Is Senator Wheeler, running mate of Senator La Follette in the third party's presidential ticket, to be disciplined? Somehow or other democratic newspapers that have professed to have so much fun taunting the republican newspapers about La Follette and Ladd and Brookhart, have overlooked the opportunity to have fun with themselves over Wheeler. There is little danger that Wheeler will be disciplined by his democratic colleagues. If all the warring elements of the democratic party were to be segregated there would be about as many warring elements as there are democrats.

There has not been a real democratic party in the United States since 1896. The semi-organization that has been milling around under a democratic banner since that time resembles the democratic party of Jefferson and Jackson about as much as a groundhog resembles a purebred Berkshire. It has banished fundamental democratic principles in order to make room for fads and isms that held temporary promise of successful appeal to the discontented and disgruntled. If the party leaders were to undertake today the task of disciplining refractory members they would soon find that each one of them was flocking singly and alone. Opportunism, not principle, has been the party's watchword ever since the party cast off its moorings at Chicago in response to glittering generalities oratorically voiced, and sailed out to sea with no other compass and guide than a mere hope to win at no matter what cost.

Democratic comment upon the disciplining of refractory republican senators provides one of the best opportunities for genuine amusement offered for many a day. One can almost hear the laughter of Senator Wheeler as he glances through the editorials of his party's newspapers.

THE PAPER IN BOOKS.

A correspondent of the New York Sun points to an old book in his possession. It is more than a century old, but the paper is unspotted, is as firm as it was when first made, and only slightly yellowed by age. Whereupon he wonders where some modern books, printed on wood pulp paper, will be a hundred years from now. We use all this as a basic for a plea to manufacturers of paper to produce a paper as good or better than that in his old book.

While we might urge better book paper in case we were permitted to designate the books to be printed thereon, we shall insist that the kind of paper most of the present day output of books is printed on does not matter in the least. In fact, the poorer the paper the greater the benefit to posterity. It would be better for the present generation if some of the modern books were printed on paper that disintegrated before the ink dried. It will be time enough to worry about good paper to print books on when we are assured of books worth being printed on paper that will stand up for a few generations. Quantity book production does not require paper that will stand the test of time. When quality book production is the goal of publishers the need for good book paper will quickly be filled.

THE BEE SHOE FUND.

The Omaha Bee's "Shoe Fund" is not a new thing. Every winter for several years hundreds of poor little children have been well shod because of the kindly hearted folk who generously donated to the fund. Last winter approximately \$2,500 was donated and more than a thousand children of the very poor had warm, comfortable shoes during the cold weather.

There is no expense of administration. The Omaha Bee acts as the intermediary between those who have and those who are in need. The money collected is turned over to those who are well acquainted with the children who are in need. The shoes are bought at a reduced rate. No expensive machinery; no extended investigation; just quick service for those in need. Every donation is acknowledged by The Omaha Bee. Every penny is advantageously invested.

It is one of those opportunities to do something for the unfortunate little fellows; a chance to get the kick of real joy through the knowledge that you have made some little one happy and comfortable. Making a child happy costs so little, and the returns are so great, it is a wonder so many folks overlook the opportunity to invest.

President Coolidge not only talks economy but practices it. Just think of the composition bills he enabled the newspapers to prune down by making his message brief and to the point.

Animosa, a sensitive shrub, develops nervous prostration when touched too often. There seems to be something human about animosa. We've felt the same way, many times.

The new prohibition enforcement officer at Minneapolis is named Stone. It is with extreme difficulty that we refrain from saying that he expects to make it hard for the bootleggers.

It is suggested that three women be appointed on the California boxing commission. It would be a relief to have less free puff even if we had to accept more powder puff.

The democratic campaign committee reports a deficit of \$260,000. Piling up deficits is a chronic habit of the democratic party.

Homespun Verse

-By Omaha's Own Poet-Robert Worthington Davie

THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT THE OLD FARM. There's something about the old farm in the vale

That calls me, and thenceward I go To answer the calling and follow the trail That never will fail me, I know.

There's beauty in woodland and promise in glade, There's freedom wherever I tread; There's truth and fidelity meekly displayed Where leaves in the autumn lie dead

The peacefulness seems to suggest something more Than just a mere picture to me-There's something about the old farm I adore, Forsaken it never will be!

The humble old house that was home in the past. And was as Love only can tell,-The place where my Mother lived longest and last,-The cottage that favored me well.

A Little From You Will Help Many



Letters From Our Readers All letters must be signed, but name will be withheld upon request. Communications of 200 words and less, will be given preference.

A Christian Science Correction.

Omaha.—To the Editor of The Omaha Bee: An evangelist, contributing to your paper, assumes Mary Baker Eddy must be wrong because her book, "Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures," is not recognized by some as an authority on the subject of Christianity. The question Christian Science has met with resubject of Christianity. The question of whether this book is a divinely inspired work, and spiritually in accord with Christian Science has met with response from the rich and poor, the spired work, and spiritually in accord with Christ control of the spiritual of the spiritua spired work, and spiritually in accord with Christ, cannot be disposed of by creed, argument or human opinion. When religionists of his time attempted to discredit Christ Jesus' preaching and works, and even some of the apostles were much in doubt regarding his divine commission, the Master appealed to them in these words: "believe me for the very works' sake." He further said, "He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also." Mrs. Eddy's works are being tried on their merits, according to tried on their merits, according to Jesus' conclusive test of spiritual regeneration and healing, and they are standing today on the sure basis of undeniable proofs. Those who grasp the spiritual signification of her writings are well satisfied the message therein proceeds from the same God,

or Mind, who gave us the divine truths the Bible contains. Christian Scientists understand that Christ is the one through whom Christ is the one through whom Christianity was revealed to the world. They also understand the full import of the Master's commands was lost sight of not more than 300 years after the crucifixion, and was to be unfolded again. On page 147 of "Science and Health" Mrs. Eddy has written "Our Master healed the sick ten, "Our Master healed the sick, practised Christian healing, and taught the generalities of its divine Principle to his students; but he left no definite rule for demonstrating this Principle of healing and preventing disease. This rule remained to be discovered in Christian Science." Mrs. Eddy not only discovered the rule, but also the spirit of Truth and Love in which the rule, or divine law, could be demonstrated. She proved her way, established her Church, its form of government, its literature and of government, its literature and other authorized activities. Christian Scientists rightfully regard her as the Discoverer and Founder of Christian Science, and the giving of proper credit to her does not in any manner detract from, or pretend to usurp, the peculiar position which Christ

alone occupies as the Son of God and Christian Scientists are not claim-ing that Biblical statements are con tradictory. They understand the Bi-ble proclaims the reality of a wholly good God and His spiritual creation on the one hand, and the unreality and powerlessness of false gods, in-cluding matter and evil, on the other. This may not conform to some other religious views, but it is precisely

Abe Martin



Sen. Magnus Johnson kin now milk without a photographer. Some o' these fine days th' Chicago poprominent beer king, or a well-t'lice are goin' to interfere with do gunman by mistake, an' lose (Copyright, 1924.) ,

feel they may honorably accept com pensation from those who voluntarily partake of their time and attention, to eare for their present needs. As followers of Christ, they give gener-ously of their time and means for effective charity. LESTER B. M'COUN.

Christian Science Committee on Pub-lication for Nebraska.

CENTER SHOTS.

Poison liquor took 17 lives in Min-eapolis in November and all the victims aren't dead yet.-Minneapolis

Such assurance would b great. We could go right on putting

When milkmen can deliver milk in sieves the Hon. Sam Gompers will be

Why, we make bold to ask, is the name of the author of the book on which the motion picture is based always printed in fine type, while the name of the producer, the photographer, the director and the art title writer printed in 124-pica? WILL M. MAUPIN.

When in Omaha **Hotel Conant**

Jake Comfort nor forget.
That Sunrise never failed us yet

THE LOOKOUT MAN.

(Dedicated to the Little Folk of America.)

Now listen, little children, and I'll tell a story true—
And better you remember, for it means a lot to you—
For if you heed the lesson, and when Christmas time is here
You'll get a lot of presents and a lot of Christmas cheer.
The Lookout Man is walking when the stars begin to peep
Fo see if little children are in bed and fast asleep:
And all who act up naughty and don't mind their Ma's and Pa's,
The Lookout Man is watching, and he'll tell Old Santa Claus.

And said he didn't have to mind—O he was awfai bad,
And didn't seem to care a mite 'bout making folks feel sad.
But when it came to Christmas he didn't get a thing,
For Santa Claus had heard of him and not a thing he'd bring.
He knew that bad boy's record—better mind your Ma's and Pa's;
The Lookout Man is watching, and he'll tell Old Santa Claus.

She wouldn't learn her lessons, and she always got so mad if anybody told her to be still and hush her noise—

But when 'twas Christmas morning to her wonder and surprise An empty stocking hanging in the corner met her eyes.

The Lookout Man is peeping through the windows ev'ry night,

And when he writes a bad one, O he looks just awful sad. For he knows they won't get nothing—better mind your Ma's

sociation and district manager for Nebraska of the Great West-ern Sugar company. While a lot of folk were pooh-poohing the idea of producing sugar in Nebraska, Mr. Simmons was taking the lead in producing it. What he don't know about

making beet sugar is scarcely worth knowing. That's why he holds the mighty important position he does. There isn't a busier man in Nebraska than he, and that's one of the reasons

why the manufacturers elected him to manage their association

affairs. If he wasn't awfully busy he wouldn't be fitted for

the position. Out in his country they don't believe in letting George do it. They just ask Edmond Simmons to lay the plans

and take the lead, and then they all hop to it. Some idea of the magnitude of the Nebraska business he manages may be

had when you know that the four sugar factories under his charge will turn out more than 220,000,000 pounds of sugar this

year. That's some sugar. A big man, doing big business in a big way, you'll like Edmond Simmons when you get real well acquainted with him. And, after all, that is the real test.

We know a thing or two about making beet sugar, by the way, having seen thousands of tons of it made. It always

tickles us to hear some housewife declare that she simply can

not make jelly or preserves and such things with beet sugar.

That's a worse superstition than planting potatoes in the full moon. Even the best chemists can not tell the difference be-

tween beet and cane sugar. Candymakers used to have the same notion as some housewives, but the war knocked it

higher'n a kite. If all Nebraskans would insist upon Ne-braska-made sugar they would save a half-million dollars a

year, promote one of the state's greatest industries and de-

velop a greatly increased beet raising territory.

Members of the We Knew Him When Club kindly shove along and make room on the bench for Edmond Simmons of Scottsbluff, new president of the Nebraska Manufacturers' as-

and Pa's; The Lookout Man is watching, and he'll tell Old Santa Claus!

You see, she acted naughty—better mind your Ma's and Pa's; The Lookout Man is watching, and he'll tell Old Santa Claus.

And counting up the children who are always acting right.

And going off to bed at once when told it's time to go.

And never pouting, not a bit, nor taking clothes off slow.

He puts them in his Good Book, but the bad ones in the Bad

Well, she was always wishing for a lot of Christmas toys.

I knew a little fellow once who got rea! bad, and said He didn't care for Santa Claus, and wouldn't go to bed; And said he didn't have to mind—O he was awfal bad,

I also knew a little girl who was just awful bad;

Now listen, little children, and I'll tell a story true-



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If you have pimples or red, rough skin you can rely on Cuticura to help you. Gently smear the affected part with Cuticura Ointment; after five minutes, wash off with Cuticura Soap and hot water. Dry without irritation.



"The men who were most exha-were those whose blood sh-the greatest need of sugar. I who came out of the race it condition were found to have amount of sugar in the bloo-the recentination of the race.

"On the practical side. Artic explor-ers and mountain climbers learned by rule of thumb, a long time ago, the advantage of carrying some sweet stuff in their pack and eating a little occasionally."

Why those tired little bodies crave sugar

Home from school and an afternoon of hard play, little muscles are tired out . . . fatigued . . . and an insistent demand goes up for sweets of

one kind or another. Any wise mother is careful to warn growing youngsters against overeating of any food . . . but here is a demand coming from fatigued muscles that need re-energizing. "Fuel

Foods containing sugar supply new energy quickly. Sugar builds up en-durance against the exhaustion of hard work or hard play. It relieves fatigue. It sustains energy, it creates new energy. Sugar has its place in the diet of children and grown-ups as important as that of any other foodstuff.

Lack of the proper amount of sugar in a child's diet is to be avoided as carefully as over-indulgence. The amount varies, according to what a child can assimilate without detracting from his appetite for other necessary foods—something to be determined individually for each child.

Sugar is an important part of the diet; sugar purity is an important consideration for every housewife.

Purity in sugar is all-important. Perhaps you have never made even the simplest test of sugar in your kitchen. Here is one way you can

determine something of its purity, with little trouble: Place a little sugar on a piece of cardboard under a good light.

With a strip of white writing paper laid beside it, compare the sugar fc. color. Look carefully for a slight yellowish shade, a certain indication of impurities.

With the tip of a finger, spread the sugar thinly on the cardboard. Examine it carefully for evenness of grain. The grains should be of uniform size; if several grains cling together in a ball, it is probable the sugar was not thoroughly cleansed of

Great Western Sugar, because of its uniform high purity, meets this test satisfactorily in every respect.

Great Western Sugar is sparkling white in comparison with any sugar, the best assurance a housewife can have of the utmost purity.

The grains are uniform in size, without that "coarseness" to which so many women naturally object. The crystals have been thoroughly washed of all juices, so that in any such test the grains are found to be individual units-not masses of grains bound together by impurities.

Safeguards all through production in Great Western plants assure maximum purity: and at final inspection, any sugar failing to meet the high-est standard of color and uniform-ity known in the industry is rejected.

Make the sugar test in your own kitchen today. Your own judgment will approve Great Western Sugar. Order it by name from your groces.

The Great Western Sugar Company Sugar Building Denver, Colorado

Great Western Beet Sugar