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The Great Railway Magnate of Wall Street Having Combined His Enterprises

MAKES OMAHA A LARGE RAILWAY CENTER

OF HIS Magnificent System of Transportation Lines and Nebraska a Factor in the Railway World.

Do Nebraskans fully appreciate the immense importance of this particular state in the gigantic combinations of railways now being formed by the warring financial factions of Wall street?

Take a map of the union. Put a pin at Omaha, the metropolis of Nebraska. Note the Harriman-Gould lines radiating from Omaha. Observe that even Chicago does not.

Occupies So Strategic a Position. Then examine the map with the same pin having in mind the relative importance of Omaha to the Hill-Morgan lines and observe that Omaha is again strategic and necessary to the success of that system of transportation. Take now a general survey of Nebraska and trace the several railways to the fountain heads of their financial support and you will find that Nebraska is the key to the entire railway situation as developed on Wall Street.

Combines and manipulations cannot possibly oust the state from her pivotal position. No other state is so favorably situated. Competition cannot be stifled in Nebraska so long as the railways of the country have divergent ownership and divergent interests. All Nebraska people need do to profit by these remarkable commercial movements is to

Build Up Her Own Institutions. The financiers of America will be compelled to do the rest. Nebraska never before so thoroughly controlled her own future. We can build up here great financial institutions and the time is especially ripe and the occasion especially opportune to press forward to permanent prosperity. No public institutions in America collect, conserve and disperse larger benefits to the country and the people at large than the life insurance companies and the

Bankers Reserve Life Association. Nebraska's most promising and most progressive life company, is demonstrating to the people of this state and the west what the times expect and promise in this particular. With up-to-date policies, liberal options, unequivocal contracts and business energy and abundant assets to meet obligations.

B. H. Robinson, President of the Bankers Reserve, has won the support of the people and the gratitude of the commercial interests of the state. At the same time he has built up his company to the point where success is certain and growth rapid. His efficient corps of co-workers is writing \$200,000 a month and everywhere the people are learning that their money in home financial institutions is safer than when placed with alien companies to be used in bracing against Wall street speculative panics.

Please remember 100 first-class men can secure most lucrative positions as special or general agents by writing him. Why be a sub-agent for a large company when there is a chance for a profitable special or general agency in the west?

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Library Commission

(Continued from Second Page.)

States seems to have shown conclusively that rural and village communities can be provided with reading under the control and management of a central bureau competently administered, with much more economy and effectiveness than the same amount of work done by the various communities with local initiative.

When the traveling library shall have finished its pioneer work and blazed the way for the permanent public library by educating the people to desire and support one, then the state can resign active administration to the local authorities.

Field Work of the Commission. The law provides that the commission shall obtain each year from all libraries in the state reports showing the conditions, growth, development and manner of conducting said libraries, together with such other facts and statistics as may be deemed of public interest.

The commission shall, when asked, give advice and instruction to all libraries or individuals and to all communities which may propose to establish libraries, as to the best means for establishing and organizing and administering such libraries, selecting and cataloguing books, and other duties of library management.

The commission shall, so far as possible, promote and assist by counsel and encouragement the formation of libraries where none exist and may send at its expense members of officers to aid in organizing new libraries or improving those already established.

It will be seen from this that the commission is intended to be a central clearing house for all kinds of library information; a fountain from which library inspiration and counsel shall flow; an expert administrative agent which shall be charged with the founding of new libraries, the upbuilding of weak libraries, the improvement of strong libraries, to the end that all the library interests of the state may be rendered increasingly efficient and welded into an harmonious system.

Among the many duties which are classed under this head of field work would be the printing of the library laws of the state; the commission should be ready with exact information as to how to start a library; be zealous in interesting people in the work and securing donations of money and books. The Wisconsin commission spends most of its money in field work and finds its gifts of money and books numerous.

How broad in scope and how important is this phase of the commission's activity will not be fully appreciated, save by those who know the wealth of infinite detail connected with library administration and can appreciate how a bit of sound advice here, a word of counsel there, will often prevent serious mistakes in starting, which can only be corrected by great expense and trouble later.

Building for the Future. If a stitch in time saves nine ordinarily, in library matters it often saves nine hundred, and a good person in charge of this field of work can save the various library interests in the state more in the aggregate during a term of years than the entire cost of the commission. The time is coming, and soon, too, when the fair state of Nebraska will be dotted over with public libraries. It is a phase in the evolution of the educational foundations upon which this republic must rest, which will ultimately include Nebraska, as it is now spreading so rapidly over all the eastern and central states.

Our library commission has come none too soon. It should be early on the field to guide aright the work from its inception.

You may ask who is to do this great work. The members of the commission are busy men, who cannot give more of their time and strength than will be needed to direct and supervise.

The law provides that the commission may employ a secretary, and, if Nebraska follows the example of other states, upon that person devolves the carrying out of this work under the direct guidance of the commission. And naturally, therefore, upon the personality of this secretary much of the success of the work will depend. She (for the feminine pronoun takes precedence in library matters, and the best workers in this field are women) must be thoroughly familiar, both by training and experience, with library work, and especially with this particular phase of it. She must know the history of traveling library work in the various states that have undertaken it, and should be familiar, at least in a general way, with Nebraska conditions. She should be "persona grata" everywhere, one who can win a welcome anywhere by pleasing personality and tactful courtesy. Add to this the crusaders' fire and faith in her cause, a charity as broad as the race, and you approximate the person who should be charged with the executive work of the new commission.

Whether such an one, in justice to the traveling library work, can and should be secured at once with the limited funds at hand is of course a matter for the commission to decide. At any rate, such is the ideal which should constantly be in the minds of its members of the person who should be brought to the work in this state as soon as possible, and under such guidance undreamed-of possibilities for good along library lines can be developed in Nebraska. J. I. WYER, University of Nebraska Library.



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