

EXPERIENCE PROVES JITNEYS NON-PAYING

Few Men Stay in the Business Longer
Than a Month or
Two

CANNOT BROOK TAXES

Whenever These Are Imposed Jitneys Go Out of
Business—Revenue Is Subtracted From Electric
Railways Who Help to Keep
Pavement.

New York, March 30.—The special committee of the American Electric Railway Association, appointed to investigate and report on the competition of jitneys with street railways, has completed its investigation and in part its report says:

The committee's investigations have been such as to convince it that the operation of the "jitney" is not profitable to operators. This is shown conclusively by the constant change in the personnel of the operators of these machines in the cities where the "jitney" has been established.

The experience in all of these places is that few men stay in the business longer than a month or two, and the conclusion is inevitable that such owners find the business unprofitable, but that their places are supplied by others, who are led to take up the work because of the advertising that has been given to the "jitney" proposition and to a certain extent because of the representations of automobile dealers anxious to secure a market for their second-hand cars.

It is, however, evident that when even the simplest and the least onerous burdens of regulation, such as the demand for a proper license fee, and the giving of an accident bond, are required that the jitney cannot exist.

This is shown by the experience of the City of Oakland, Calif., where, upon the passage of an ordinance requiring only a slight return from the jitney for the privilege of using the streets, the number of jitneys was reduced from 500 to 50.

In the meantime, however, it must be borne in mind by those communities which are encouraging "jitney" operation, that the revenue received by their proprietors is taken from the revenue of the electric railways, and that, because the ability of these railways to furnish adequate service depends entirely upon the moneys received in fares, such diminution in income lessens the ability of the companies to furnish the service demanded.

Communities are apt to forget the benefits which are received from electric railway operation, and which are not received from jitney bus operation. Included in these are: The payment of a very large amount in taxes and other public charges, extensive contributions toward the cost of paving, the maintenance of unprofitable lines necessary to civic development, the maintenance of fixed routes and fixed schedules and service uninterrupted as far as possible by weather conditions, the investment of a large sum of money in the equipment necessary to take care of the demand during the time of extraordinary travel, the provision of comfortable and safe cars, properly lighted and suited to the varying conditions and the seasons, the system of transfers whereby the revenues of the company are largely reduced in order that transportation may be furnished to all parts of the city, its financial responsibility for the damage resulting from accidents, its submission to the control of the regulatory bodies as to capitalization, rates and service, and, above all, the fact that a very heavy percentage of its income is returned to the community, in the shape of taxes, public charges, wages, payment for supplies and other items.

Contrasted with the benefits to be derived from the operation of "jitneys" the committee believes that the advantage to the community is all with the electric railways and that it is, therefore, for the communities to decide whether in their own interest, the jitney, being a common carrier and seeking the privileges granted to common carriers, should not be obliged to assume the obligations of a common carrier.

LIMITING THE DRUG EVIL

Washington, March 30.—In a circular issued by the Public Health Service special attention is called to the new anti-narcotic law which was recently passed by Congress and which is now being put in force. The circular says:

"In New York and several other States drug addiction is regarded as a disease, and these States have provided a systematic treatment for those addicted to the use of drugs, while in Michigan such a person may be adjudged incompetent and a guardian appointed.

"A law recently enacted in Tennessee permits the sale of narcotics to drug addicts registered according to the law. Similar laws exist in other States, but the New York law for treatment of drug addicts is considered the better measure.

"In order to bring about a uniformity in the enactment and enforcement of anti-narcotic laws, those who are interested in the subject, should make a careful comparative study of the existing laws to determine the reasons for the inadequacy of these laws.

"Statistics should be compiled showing the nature and extent of the use of habit forming drugs and earnest efforts should be made to secure uniform legislation which will prevent the misuse of such drugs."

NEW ATCHISON ACQUISITION.

New York, March 30.—By acquisition of the St. Louis, Rocky Mountain and Pacific Railway, Atchison will have control of traffic originating from Raton Coalfields of Colfax County, New Mexico, and the road is also assured of big supply of fuel for its own uses.

In putting through the transactions, St. Louis Rocky Mountain and Pacific Co., owners of the railway, obtained through Robinson and Co., the consent of holders of its \$7,550,000 first mortgage five per cent. gold bonds to the extent of 99.83 per cent. of outstanding bonds. Holders of these bonds are scattered over the world being residents of Alaska, Japan, China, India, thirty-five cities in Europe, together with more than 600 owners in the United States.

LONDON WOOL AUCTION.

London, March 30.—Offerings totalled 7,500 bales of wool at the wool auction yesterday, composed mainly of crossbreds. The demand was brisk and principally from the home trade at firm prices. New Zealand grey was sold at 1s 8d. Americans purchased a few lots of the best merinos.

FIRST TIME SHOWED SURPLUS OVER CHARGES FOR THREE WINTER MONTHS

Philadelphia, Pa., March 30.—Philadelphia Rapid Transit for February, 1915, had a deficit after all charges of \$69,290, against a deficit of \$120,113 in February, 1914; \$96,887 in February, 1913, and \$138,589 in February, 1912.

As a result of the comparatively small deficit in February, 1915, this is the first time that the company has been able to show a surplus over all charges for the three winter months. This year the surplus was \$7,787, while for the preceding year there was a deficit of \$34,325, for 1912-13 a deficit of \$10,292, and for 1912-11 a deficit of \$178,755.

Gross earnings of the company for February, 1915, were \$1,833,777, as compared with \$1,779,009 for February, 1914. Part of this gain is attributed to the Sunday revival meetings, but it is evident that other causes contributed, as the Sunday meetings were going on all during January, 1915, and that month's gross was \$6,000 short of January, 1914. Gross for February, 1915, was \$58,000 ahead of February, 1914, and \$105,300 ahead of the corresponding month of 1913.

Only one month of the current fiscal year previous to February showed a gain over the corresponding month of the preceding year. This was September, 1914. Gross earnings for December, 1914, and January and February, 1915, were \$5,906,694, as compared with \$5,927,058 for the corresponding three months of the preceding fiscal year, a decrease of \$20,364.

HOLDERS OF OIL STOCKS MAY LOOK

FORWARD TO HIGHER DIVIDENDS.

New York, March 30.—The Standard Oil Co. of Kansas balance sheet, as filed with the Kansas Secretary of State, clearly indicates net earnings of 15.88 per cent. on the \$2,000,000 capital stock.

The reduction in inventories explains the drop in earnings last year. Had it not been for the decline in the value of the company's oil, surplus earnings for the year would have been more than double the amount indicated.

There is a growing opinion in the oil trade that business will show an improvement and that an advance in refined oil prices will follow, in which event Standard Oil of Kansas stockholders can look forward to larger dividends.

PROPOSAL TO INCREASE SENATE'S

REPRESENTATION WAS HELD UP

Ottawa, March 30.—The Senate by a vote of 27 to 16, when the Government's proposal to increase the Senate membership to 104 by bringing up the Western group to 24 members, adopted Senator Bostock's amendment that the increase in membership shall not take place until after the next general election, or at the same time as the Commons redistribution comes into effect.

TO HOLD DIRECTORS LIABLE.

Vancouver, B.C., March 30.—The hearing in the action brought by Andrew Stewart, liquidator of the Dominion Trust Company, to compel the directors of the defunct institution to make good losses up to the limit of their liability, has commenced before Chief Justice Hunter.

Joseph Martin, K.C., is to furnish the exact particulars upon which the liquidator bases his charges against each particular defendant.

CANADA'S \$25,000,000 LOAN IN LONDON WAS OVER-SUBSCRIBED

Sir Frederick Williams-Taylor, general manager of the Bank of Montreal, has received a London cable to the effect that the £5,000,000 Dominion Government note issue list has closed. The issue has been over-subscribed.

This speaks extremely well for the general economic sentiment in London and the anxiety of the investing public there to place their money in reputable gilt-edged securities, rather than hoarding it. Public sentiment of an extremely optimistic strain is reflected.

The lists were opened on Friday last and the number of applications are understood to have been the heaviest ever accorded a Canadian Government issue. That the note will be a pronounced success, there is little room to doubt, as private cable advices stated that bankers, brokers, and in fact the market as a whole, looked most favorably upon the issue.

Seldom has such marked success been attained by any one Canadian note issue. Out of all the colonial government loans that have been issued in the London money market during the past ten years or so, only a scattered few have met with such a favorable reception as has been accorded the Canadian loan in this instance.

The loan, as announced last week, took the form of 4½ per cent. bonds maturing in ten years but redeemable, in whole or in part, on three months' notice at any time after May 1st, 1920. The issue price was 99½.

NEW YORK BROKERS WORKING FOR HOLIDAY ON GOOD FRIDAY

New York, March 30.—Opinion among stock exchange members regarding the closing of the exchange on Good Friday this year is by no means unanimous.

The advocates of a holiday put a petition in circulation on Monday which at the close of the day had many signatures.

A sufficient number of names has not yet been obtained to the petition to warrant the governors calling a meeting.

A special meeting of governors could be called without a majority of the members requesting and a governor late Monday afternoon stated that some official action would be taken probably on Wednesday.

HOLD INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION.

Niagara Falls, N.Y., March 30.—Plans are being perfected to hold an industrial exhibition which will serve to educate residents in regard to the products of the various factories of Niagara Falls.

If possible, it will be held in the Cataract House the week commencing May 3rd.

If permitted some business men might make an exhibit of outside products they handle.

BETHLEHEM STEEL OPENING.

New York, March 30.—Bethlehem Steel common opened 600 shares at 89, up 2, now 92½.



COL. W. A. LOGIE,
Officer Commanding second military Division at
Toronto.

OTIS ELEVATOR CO. LOST MUCH BUSINESS

Building Operations Last Year Were
Materially Reduced Throughout
Canada and States

PLANTS WERE IMPROVED

Sales Showed Decline Before the War But After That
Event Company Operated as Low as
60 Per Cent. of Capacity.

New York, March 30.—The marked diminution of building operations during 1914, especially in New York and Chicago, materially curtailed the volume of business of Otis Elevator which reports the smallest net earnings in six years.

The net earnings for 1914 were \$76,425, a decrease from 1913 of \$280,000 and from 1912 of over \$400,000, out they were sufficient to show a balance of 7.63 per cent. for the common stock after paying 6 per cent. on the preferred and even after the payment of 5 per cent. on the common and the deduction of \$120,000 for depreciation and \$25,000 for pension fund, here was a balance of \$22,660.

The balance sheet shows that \$318,765 has been set aside for the payment of 5 per cent. on the common stock for the ensuing year.

Percentage Earned on Stock.

The following table shows net earnings with percentage earned on both classes of stock and dividends paid on the common for 10 years:

	Net.	% on	% on Pd. on
	Earnings.	pd.	com.
1905	\$1,912,828	16.30	9.03
1906	855,167	14.92	7.96
1907	996,194	16.07	9.79
1908	832,773	13.21	7.13
1909	1,048,689	16.62	10.51
1910	1,157,371	18.22	12.19
1911	1,082,116	16.74	10.91
1912	1,282,195	17.73	14.00
1913	1,157,395	17.80	12.04
1914	76,425	13.48	7.63

The following table shows working capital and depreciation charges by years for the 10 years:

	Working Capital.	Depreciation.
1905	\$3,188,657	\$246,235
1906	3,165,868	216,116
1907	3,636,882	271,116
1908	3,821,826	213,138
1909	3,466,682	362,845
1910	6,151,160	391,124
1911	5,937,675	331,019
1912	6,696,794	298,568
1913	5,967,092	321,247
1914	5,265,942	120,000

The results of the year's operations were better than they would have been, because of the substantial volume of unfinished work carried over from 1913; important advantages gained by concentration of its manufacturing into fewer units; increased efficiency following the reorganization of various departments and the standardization of most of its apparatus.

During the year additions and improvements to the plants at Harrison, N.J., and Buffalo, N.Y., commenced in the latter part of 1913 and involving the expenditure of over \$500,000, were completed and the results from the operation of the same have been most gratifying. No important extension of the various plants will be needed in the near future.

Up to August 1, sales were less than for the corresponding period of 1913 by about 20 per cent. but the recession was much greater after the war began, the company operating as low as 60 per cent. of capacity.

Several Large Contracts.

The company had several large contracts during the year, among the largest of which were 50 elevators for the new Equitable building in New York and 25 elevators in the Adams building in the same city. But Otis Elevator is not entirely dependent upon new construction for business. Many take advantage of dull times to effect improvements which they have not time to attend to when business is good. The company has profited by considerable of this business during the past few months.

While orders for the first two months of 1915 did not show any gain over the average sales of the last few months of 1914, yet there are indications in various sections of the country of a gradual increase in building construction, which should insure an improved demand for the products of the company.

MR. TAYLOR IS PROMOTED.

Toronto, Ont., March 30.—Alex. Taylor, of this city, formerly assistant secretary, has been appointed secretary of the Lake Superior Corporation, the Algoma Steel Corporation's subsidiary.

He succeeds Thos. Gibson, who recently resigned, and is now president of the Lake Superior Corporation, succeeding J. Fraser Taylor, of the Soo.

Mr. Alex. Taylor has also been added to the board of the Lake Superior Corporation.

PRACTICALLY NO HYDRO-ELECTRIC POWER DEVELOPMENT IN CHINA

Such Electrical Plants As Have Been Installed Are
Driven Almost Altogether by Steam.

At the present time there is practically no hydro-electric power development in China. Such electric plants as have been installed are driven almost altogether by steam. The immense delta plains of the Yangtze and Yellow rivers are not, in a general sense, suitable for hydro-electric plants, but in Fukien, Yunnan and parts of Shantung provinces, as well as the Yangtze gorges, power stations of this type may ultimately be installed.

While it may be stated broadly that no hydro-electric plants are in operation in China, stations for supplying current to the cities of Yunnanfu and Chengtu have been partially arranged for through together taken up by the Germans with the Chinese government. Inquiries made through German sources, however, fail to disclose any pertinent details regarding this undertaking.

In other instances native Chinese companies have agitated the development of water powers in connection with Chinese chambers of commerce, and have endeavored to arrange with the Chinese provincial authorities for permission to build such plants; as a general rule, however, the Chinese have not been successful in organizing companies with that degree of financial backing and standing such as would warrant provincial or central government support, which support, in turn, would enable foreign engineering firms to enter into contracts for supplying materials and installing plants.

MINING BOOM REFLECTED

ON TORONTO EXCHANGE.

Toronto, Ont., March 30.—The effect of the boom in mining stocks on the Toronto Stock Exchange is seen in a decision of the latter Exchange to open for business in mining stocks at 10 a.m. on and after March 30th.

Since the re-opening the Exchange has not been opening until 10.30, but the big market in mines on the Standard has forced a change.

MINES RESUME WORK.

Butte, Mont., March 30.—The High Ore and the Diamond, the two largest mines of the Anaconda Copper Company, employing 1,500 men and producing 1,200 tons daily, resume work to-day. Anaconda is now operating 85 per cent. of normal.

ELMIRA CITY WATER BONDS.

Elmira, N.Y., March 30.—Clark Dodge & Co. were highest bidders for \$1,500,000 city water 4½ per cent. bonds for which bids were opened Monday night. They offered a premium of \$41,850 for the entire issue. This was equivalent to a price of 102.79 for the bonds, or approximately a 4½ per cent. basis.

MARCONI WIRELESS TELEGRAPH.

New York, March 30.—Preliminary report for the year ended December 31, 1914: Gross earnings from operations 756,572; operating and administration expenses 634,955; net earnings \$121,615. Other income \$150,274. Total income \$271,889. Reserve for contingencies and depreciation \$122,011. Surplus \$149,877.

TORONTO BROKERS ARE INTERESTED IN MONTREAL EXCHANGE MEETING

Toronto, Ont., March 30.—Members of the Toronto Stock Exchange are awaiting with a good deal of interest the result of the meeting of members of the Montreal Exchange scheduled for this morning to talk over the situation with a view to the possibilities of a re-opening.

It goes without saying that most of the members of the local exchange would hail with delight a resumption of open trading, but as against this very natural desire to do business and make a few commissions there is the under interest of the community to be considered.

In that respect there has, of course, been a great improvement. Margins have been strengthened and added to, weak accounts have been sold out and strong accounts have been made stronger, but on the other hand dividends have been passed or reduced and the value of some stocks consequently seriously impaired.

It is understood that the two exchanges are still working together and that both will eventually resume at the same time.

This re-opening will be preceded by a readjustment of minimum prices, many of which are regarded as absurdly out of line with values.

After the reopening minimum prices will be further altered from time to time as the situation develops, the procedure of the New York Exchange being followed in this respect.

Officials of the Exchange, however, refuse to make any definite prediction as to the possible date of resumption.

MODEL POSTAL OFFICIAL IS GRANTED IMPERIAL SERVICE MEDAL BY KING

Mr. Alphonse Cadotte, a post office employee, has just been awarded the Imperial Service Medal by His Majesty the King, in recognition of his long and faithful services.

Mr. Cadotte, who was born in Montreal on the 10th of November, 1851, entered the service of the post office as letter carrier, on the 13th of October, 1887.

For twenty-eight years he has discharged his duties to the utmost satisfaction of his chiefs and of the public with whom he has come in contact.

Mr. Cadotte has ever been recognized by all as a model civil servant.

FARMERS DOING THEIR "LITTLE BIT."

St. John, N.B., March 30.—Farmers and dairymen of New Brunswick have just completed a most profitable convention at Fredericton. The chief keynote of the convention was greater production and better quality of product. If these two points can be carried out and the danger avoided of a specialization on any particular product, which may cause a greater surplus than the markets can absorb, our farmers will be doing their "little bit" for the Empire's cause.

DEVELOP INFUSORIAL EARTH.

St. John, N.B., March 30.—An American syndicate is preparing to develop deposits of infusorial earth near this city.

DUTCH FEEL BRITAIN CANNOT BE BEATEN

But Also Look to See Germany, Strategically at Least, Hold Out
for Long Time

THEORY OF "EXHAUSTION"

Great Prosperity of Germany During the Past Few
Decades Has Assured to Her Industries a
Very Large Home Market.

Amsterdam, March 6 (by mail).—It cannot be truly said that the neutral Dutch market—much as it may wish for returning peace, and gravely as its own financial and commercial interests are prejudiced by continued war—is looking for an early end of the great conflict. The feeling in experienced financial circles is that England cannot be beaten; that she could continue to fight indefinitely. But we also feel that strategically, at any rate, Germany will be able to hold out very long, Russia, too, is looked upon as capable of going on for any length of time. Her resources are ample to feed her population and her armies from one year's end to another; and after all, the produce that sustains man and beast counts heavily in a struggle carried to the bitter end. As regards France, the same feeling does not apparently exist. While the gallantry of its troops is admired, its economic situation is unfavorably regarded.

Looking at the other side in the contest, Turkey's chances are not counted for much; and Austria, it is thought, would have asked long ago for terms, if it were not for Germany. It is Germany whose position, in the matter of endurance of the prolonged economic strain, is the question most discussed. As I have said, the strategic considerations, taken by themselves, do not point to anything like exhaustion. But what equally strikes us is the fact that Germany, so to speak, is consuming itself, in order to maintain its army and population. The process, it is true, is systematic and scientific; but at the same time it is continuous and very far-reaching.

Blockade Carries Weight.

Under the new restrictions imposed by the Allies, which, by the way, carry far more weight in the councils of the neutral shipping world of Holland than did Germany's "war zone" declarations—the process of living in all senses on capital must apparently be emphasized. This will certainly happen if the interchange of commodities, still being carried on to a certain extent by Germany through neutral countries, were in future to be entirely stopped, so far as sea-borne trade is concerned. That would leave Germany, on the one hand, with large quantities of products of which it has a surplus, and would deprive it, on the other, of fresh supplies of raw materials essential if production is to be kept going. The economic process can never be completely stopped; but it can be hampered to such an extent as to seriously affect the stability of the whole economic fabric.

It should be remembered that the whole of German industry has been built up with a view to working largely for export, and that the great prosperity of Germany during the past few decades had assured to these industries a very large home market in addition. The question now is, whether or not the greater part of the capital placed in these undertakings will become unproductive through cessation of exports, and whether or not the purchasing power of the home community will decrease.

Testimony of Berlin Exchange.

The views of Amsterdam financiers, in relation to this matter, have undoubtedly been influenced by the course of German exchange. The abnormal depreciation of the rate is watched with the deepest interest, and if it were not for such considerations as I have referred to, the movement would be difficult to explain. It must be assumed that, under present conditions, the rate of exchange reflects the actual balance of payments.

This balance against Germany is not corrected through credits opened in its favor by any foreign bank or Government, such as England established for Russia. It is not, impossible that private credits may have been granted, either through subscriptions by Germans abroad to the Berlin war bond, or in other ways; but if so, there is only one market in a position to do it, and that is New York, the one community in the world where financial conditions appear to be as nearly as possible normal.

But this possibility would merely emphasize the conclusions from the depreciation in exchange. It must be remembered that the depreciation has occurred in the face, first, of substantial gold shipments from Germany to Holland; second, of large merchandise exports by Germany, especially to America and Italy, and third, of extensive sales by German holders of their foreign securities—chiefly American. Unless some powerful economic influence, or expectation of some new economic condition, is counteracting these factors, the continued fall of Berlin exchange in the face of these considerations would be unexplainable.

New York and Amsterdam.

One significant aspect of the situation is that the only market where restraints have of late displayed a certain degree of firmness and stability has been New York—which seems to point to the counterbalancing influences against depreciation having been most effective at that centre. In normal times the American rate would, of course, have been automatically brought into harmony with the German exchange at other centres; but at present, strange to say, it has been in New York from 1 to 2 per cent. above Amsterdam, without arbitrage being able or willing to remove the discrepancy.

What I have said of economic conditions looks to the longer future. As Amsterdam sees it, the first two months of the present year have not, so far at least as can be judged outwardly, brought any marked change, either in the strategic or the economic situation of the two groups of belligerent Powers.

COPPER OUTLOOK BETTER.

Butte, Mont., March 30.—A message from the office of the Anaconda Copper Co. in New York says the copper situation is improving so rapidly that the output is not meeting the demand and that the outlook is exceptionally good. In a few weeks it is expected that all mines of the company will be operating at normal capacity.

ENGLISH MANAGER ON VISIT.

Mr. Alexander Macdormott, manager of the accident department of the London and Lancashire Fire Insurance Co., has arrived at New York from Liverpool. He will spend some time in the United States and Canada.

COTTON OFF THIR

New York, March 30.—At the cotton prices were off approximately 10¢ from the high and southern offer. Foreign selling, chiefly from India, was undoubtedly a cause for reaction, but it was comparatively little. It looks like part day with 39,499 bales reported.

DISTRIBUTING THE COST OF PRODUCING TON

New York, March 30.—In the of the railroads in the Interstate Commerce Commission's investigation of rates and the transportation of anthracite, the distribution to show the distribution of the cost of the ultimate consumer for the distribution is given as follows:

Consumer			
Size.	pays.	Retailer.	T.
Grate	\$7.28		\$2.68
Egs	7.28		2.43
Stove	7.28		2.43
Chestnut	7.56		2.46
Pea	5.88		2.33
Buckwheat			
No. 1	4.37		1.57
Buckwheat			
No. 2	3.53		1.23
peach			