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 I sketch your world exactly as it goes."
 —BYRON

The Railroads Win

Many years of labor by the Interstate Commerce Commission in placing a valuation upon railroads to be used as a basis for rate-making have been nullified by the decision of the Supreme Court in the case of the St. Louis and O'Fallon railroad, a nine mile coal line in southern Illinois. This line was selected to make a test case upon the methods employed by the Commission in arriving at a valuation.

In determining valuations, the Commission apparently refused to consider the present cost of duplication under modern costs, including the unearned increment in land values accumulated since the original investment. These values must be considered, the Supreme Court rules "as an element of value recognized by the law for rate-making purposes," under the provisions prescribed by Congress.

The act requiring the valuation of railroad property was the chief legislative accomplishment of the late Robert M. LaFollette and fifteen years of time and \$34,000,000 have been spent in the appraisal. Refusal of Congress, after ordering the appraisal, to appropriate sufficient money to conclude it, has delayed the work and hampered the commission. Now they will have to revise their figures to include present valuations, a gigantic task in itself and requiring many years more of expert appraisals—all of which will probably be similarly contested by litigation.

It was LaFollette's idea to get at the real investment in the railroads and squeeze out the water so as to secure a base upon which to fix rates to return a reasonable profit to the railroads. But the Supreme Court in effect holds that the railroads are entitled to interest upon what reproduction would now cost as well as investment costs.

As a result, the public will probably be called upon to pay higher freight rates based upon the increased value of the railroads caused by growth and development of the country, which will probably run into the billions. The question of what the traffic will bear, will probably prevent much increase in rates for higher rates will divert more traffic to highways and waterways, and so defeat their purpose.

The decision was a five to three one, Justices Holmes, Brandies and Stone dissenting and Justice Butler not participating. Justice Brandies stating:

"The commission believed it could act only on proof . . . and that to assign, under the circumstances, any weight to the evidence of reconstruction cost would be mere conjecture."

Control of the Press

In speaking in the Senate yesterday on the attempt of power interests to purchase newspapers throughout the country, and the success that has attended a few of these attempts as established by the investigation of the Federal Trades Relations Commission, Senator Norris of Nebraska declared that "if the time comes when all the press is controlled by the power trust or by big business, there is no other position for free people to have than to have the government take over the press."

Senator Norris is a Progressive, and a Progressive is one who believes that the government can cure all ills and abuses and all that is needed to establish Utopia is to enlarge the scope and regulating powers of the bureaucracy. All the regulation needed for the press, to nullify power and other propaganda, is a requirement that the ownership, control and affiliations of the newspaper, be printed daily, and an informed public will duly discount the utterances, and nullify its influence.

The proposed remedy is worse than the threatened affliction. Government ownership or control would be about the worst thing that could happen, for the government is neither fair nor impartial, is intensely partisan and plays favorites. In addition it is inefficient, extravagant, wasteful and incompetent. If politics does not dominate, red-tape bureaucracy, which is worse, does.

If Government controlled the newspapers, we would have a partisan Republican press, or a partisan Democratic press, dependent upon which party was in power and a rigid censorship to discipline, regiment and standardize journalism to conform to the dominant party. The newspapers would be of no more intellectual value to the people than the gagged press of Italy under Mussolini or that of Russia under the Communists.

Of all the many foolish things the power interests have done, the most futile is the effort to buy up the newspapers of the country. Following the effort to propagandize the public school children, and service clubs and its lobby activities, no possible program could be promulgated so calculated to outrage public opinion and defeat the purpose in view. The attempt lends color to the repeated charges that an unscrupulous combination is engaged in ruthlessly attempting a monopoly of the power resources of the nation for personal enrichment at public cost.

Junior High Schools Here Will Graduate 342 Boys And Girls

Three hundred and forty-two Salem ninth graders will complete their junior high school work June 7 and will be ready to enter senior high school in the fall according to the check-up made by Principal H. F. Durham of Parrish junior high school and Mrs. LaMoine R. Clark, principal of Leslie junior high school. Salem school children do not "graduate" from the eighth grade, the first definite break from the elementary division coming when junior high work is completed and promotion to the senior high school earned.

No formal graduation exercises will be held at the junior high schools but special attention will be given the Leslie graduates at closing exercises, Tuesday, June 4, and at Parrish junior high at a closing assembly on the last day of school, June 7.

Boys outnumber the girls in the graduating classes at both junior

ael Burger Orval Cameron, Raymond Gates, George Causey, Daniel Church, Kenneth Clark, Kenneth Coffey, Donald Collins, Edwin Coomber, Roy Crabb, Troy Crabb, Albert Cribbens, Claude Cross, Wendell Cross, Edwin Cutler, Donald Doerfler, Wayne Daughton, John Dunlavy, Billy Dyer, Howard Elliott, John Evans, Harry Eyerly, Fred Fager, Gilbert Faxon, Kenneth Filinger, Norman Fletcher, George Fordard, Glenn Fox, Arthur Franke, Ewald Franz, Glenn Gallaher, Paul Gibson, Leonard Gilbert, Walter Gruenfelder, Darrell Guthrie, Richard Hall, Ingvar Hansen, Donald Hatch, Marvin Hettick, Emory Hobson, Edwin Hoffniss, Robert Hulst, Tugge How, Win Jenks, Eldon Kinton, Virgil Kinton, Virgil Kubin, Bradford Lee, Daniel McCarthy, James McKenney, Donald Magee.

Lewis Melson, Ralph Myers, Ridgeley Miller, Howard Mills, Waldo Mills, George Miltonberger, Gerald Minton, Donald Moore, Kenneth Morgan, Ray Morrow, Harold Muhs, Earl Mulkey, Ralph Nelson, Fred Noelski, Harold Norton, Wilbur Olsen, Macario Padilla, Gordon Peters, Jack Poulin, Delta Powell, Dionisio Ramos, Delmer Ramsell, Thern Randall, Elwood Raymond, Gerald Reed, Fred Reidy, Emory Reitz, Albert Richardson, Charles Roberts, Francis Roddy, Roy Rutschman, Edward Ryan, Stewart Sawyer, Edward Schunke, Mason Shult, Bill Skewis, Glen Smith, Lawrence Smith, Gordon Sternberg, Kenneth Stuart, Roy Sturdevant, Donald Sugai, James Summers, George Tandy, Frank Terusaki, Gordon Tonkin, Wallace Tower, Melvin Travis, Robert Tweed, Melvin Van Cleave, Reginald Voeburg, Theodore Walberg, Raymond Wallace, Homer Welty, Charles West, Elsworth Wetherby, Gordon Whittington, Clyde Wiegand, Robert Wiens, Lyle Wilbur, David Williams, Fred Williams, George Williamson, Earl Wintermute, Donald Woody, Robert Wygant, William Yarnell, Max Morgan, Bernard Thompson, Walter Wiens.

99 LEAVING LESLIE
 Leslie junior high graduates include the following: Edward Anderson, Bertie Atkins, Carl Barnett, Grover Bellinger, Jay Bertelson, Perry Brown, Willis Caldwell, Everett Clark, Thad Clayton, Frank Cross, Dwayne Duncan, Glenn Fischer, Willis Gochel, Glenn Goff, Delbert Graber, Kendall Grover, Millard Groves, Bertrum Halseth, Rodney Hardman, Paul Hauser, Billy Hemenway, Robert Johnson, Boyd Lynn, Claude Martin, John Maxwell, Karl Neuschwander, Lorenzo Otjen, Harold Pearce, Leo Purvine, James Reed, George Rucker, John Saul, Jimmie Schon, Paul Shafer, Sidney Shaw, Conrad Stewart, Lloyd Steinke, Donald Stockwell, Robert Stuegg, Raymond Turnidge, George Usul, Clinton Vincent, Floyd Waltz, Stanley Wilkinson, Victor Williams and Rex Morris.

Lucille Bingenheimer, Marie Bone, Constance Cartmill, Laurel Clayton, Jessie Cooper, Ruth Dake, Carol Dasch, Aileen Day, Ruth Falk, Laura Flagg, Leora Gerig, Echo Hall, Helen Hansen, Betty Mae Hartung, Vilhelmina Hjalmonson, Eupha Humphrey, Katherine Hutcheon, Alice Hysler, Josephine Jaeger, Helen Keudell, Dorothy Krebs, Beth Bennell, Dorothy Bowen, Lily Burch, Margaret Burdette, Beatrice Burton, Nadine Cameron, Charlotte Carrau, Ethel Chapman, Amanda Clark, Marguerite Clark, Josephine Cornoyer, Louise Cramer, Susie Vries, Olivia DeVries, Eva Doner Lapp, Gertrude DeVoe, Evelyn Dred Hill, Albert Hobbie, Doris Arlie Dorrance, Emily Downey, Vera Faulkner, Gretchen Camer, Ella Garrison, Esther Glibbard, Thelma Gillette, Estella Golden, Helen Gosser, Zora Greene, Marion Gregg, Phyllis Gunsey, Florence Gunston, Rosa Lee Hadnot, Cella Halliwell, Esther Hansen, Clara Harms, Phyllis Hauge, Suanna Hawkins, Mildred Hill, Alberta Hobbie, Doris Hogg, Dorothy Holly, Naomi Hornschuch, Miriam Jewett, Loretta Kahler, Lillian Kayser, Ruth Ken-

Arvilla Kubin, Jane Kuhnke, Charworthy, Evelyn King, Violet Kruger, Lottie LaDae, Lucile Lee, Anna May Lewis, Kathleen Lindbeck, Pearl Loken, Madolyn McKillop, Margaret Magee, Esther Martena, Hazel Mason, Faith Matison, Eida Medler, Leona Orey, Marie Patton, Alice Peters, Lillian Peters.

Lois Pickens, Delma Poulin, Marguerite Raymon, Leora Redfern, Karlene Rice, Edna Riffey, Lucille Rolow, Elsie Rose, Dorothy Ruecker, Garnett Rundel, Marjorie Sanders, Virginia Schmidt, Mary Schorn, Marion Stewart, Grace Skinner, Mary Slick, Alvina Smith, Wilmette Snider, Jean Snyder, Erna Thompson, Helen Thompson, Theresa Ulrich, Doris Unruh, Jeryme Upston, Doris VanPelt, Elizabeth Vaughan, Lillian Vincent, Virginia Wassam, Eunice Wenlock, Ruth West, Marjorie Wilson, Velma Woelk, Clara Wyatt, and Margaret Zielinski.

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ODOM BIDS LOW FOR CONTRACT ON 15TH STREET

F. L. Odom, contractor who is now building the South Church street bridge, was the successful bidder at the council meeting Monday night for construction of the North 15th street bridge. His bid was \$7912.92. There were two other bids. Ridgan Brother of Woodburn bid \$7645 and P. L. Frazier of Salem, \$8080.

On motion of Alderman Dancy, chairman of the committee on fire and water, the city recorder was instructed to advertise for bids for the construction of a fire house at the North Salem sub-station. Dancy stated that no progress could be made at present on the South Salem station because of lack of funds.

The recorder was authorized to

advertise for bids on another \$100,000 block of city sewer bonds. With \$300,000 of the total authorized \$500,000 already sold, expenditures to date total \$318,382.94. This expenditure covers the actual construction of sewers and purchase of sewer materials, and in addition to that numerous incidental items, including hardware and tools, machinery, repairs, freight and legal services. The question came up in connection with the situation on South Rural avenue. Alderman Vandevort, chairman of the sewer committee, said that the city was all ready to pave the street, but that it has no sewers, that there was no money to put in the sewers and that it was necessary that the sewers be built before the street is paved.

The street committee reported favorably on petitions for the paving of Royal street, Kearney street from Liberty to High, and Ford street from Mill to Simpson.

Relative to a protest against the assessment for the improvement of Willson street the committee re-

ported that the protest came in too late.

The police committee reported favorably on the proposed establishment of a two-hour parking limit on Liberty street between Trade and Ferry and City Attorney Williams was instructed to bring in the necessary ordinance.

A resolution came in from the planning commission providing for a "no reverse turn" sign at Front and Center streets and for four "slow" signs at the intersection of Market and Broadway. Alderman Kowitz and Townsend said ordinances would be necessary to make these regulations enforceable, but the council was of contrary opinion.

A petition was received for the paving of Oxford street from 12th to 13th and another for the vacation of Pine street from Front to the Willamette river. Petitions were received from T. M. Hicks and the Oregon Gravel company for the vacation of several parts of streets.

City Engineer Rogers was auth-

orized to level High street at the new High street bridge.

An ordinance was introduced to change the name of Waller street in Brooklyn addition to Adams street.

Mayor Lively announced the appointment of Alderman Wilkinson on the band, public buildings and ordinance committees, Alderman O'Hara as chairman of the ordinance committee, and Alderman Simral on the committee on bridges and approaches, all fill places held by former Councilman Wendroth.



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