The Telephone Situation

Last week a meeting of the subscribers to the rural telephone lines, resolved to disconnect from the Estacada telephone exchange on account of the increase in rates, which had been authorized by the Public Service Commission, but which they considered exhorbitant. A mass meeting was called by Estacada citizens last Monday, at the city hall, to consider the situation, and endeavor to adjust the difficulty. About a hundred were present from country and town. After considerable debate, a committee consisting of Messrs. E. Kilgore, C. R. Lovell and M. Pederson, was appointed to go over the books of the Estacada Telephone Co., and ascertain its exact financial status, and report at a meeting at Estacada Hotel, Saturday afternoon at 2 o'clock,

It is to be hoped that the matter will be amicably adjusted. It should be remembered, that in order to render efficient service, it is necessary to have good equipment and good operators. In order to do this, a company must be able to save enough to pay for competent help and maintain and equip its lines in a thorough manner. It should be a simple matter to decide whether the Estacada company can do this at the old rates, and earn besides a fair interest on its investment. It is poor policy to starve a public utility. And if the rural lines cut themselves off, it will hurt both them and the town. Their interests are mutual. This shou be borne in mind, and if both sides go into meeting in a spirit of fairness and with a sense of mutual interest, there is no doubt a satisfacory solution will be reached to all concerned. Let the discussion be fuil and temperate, so as to ascertain just why and where the service falls down, and then see how this can be remedied. The local company has every reason to improve its service, but this easier said than done, and the connecting lines should be willing to give their hearty co-operation.

Old Safe Gives Up Treasure. For years at Lufkin, Tex., a rusty old safe has decorated one of the side streets, a seat for loafers and a hitching place for horses. The combination lost years ago finally rusted off and the other day some of the town kids pried the safe open, finding 12 \$5 gold pieces \$10 silver dollars, and a block of stock in one of the town's leading corporations. The boys gave up the stock, but ker . he cash. F Somebody some day must have. known there was money in that safe. Why didn't they get it out?- Exchange.

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