

TRANSPORTATION IS COMPARATIVELY LOW RATES NOT HIGH IS CLAIM They Are Lower Than Any Other Facility Of Modern Life

"The fact that transportation rates today are relatively lower than the prices we pay for almost any other commodity entering into our living expenses is a complete refutation of the statement sometimes made that freight and passenger rates are unreasonably high," said C. D. Morris, of the Western Railways' committee on public relations, in an address before the Englewood Business Men's association. "The truth is," continued the speaker, "that the prices of all commodities have increased much more in the past fifteen years than has the price charged for transportation service, either freight or passenger. Indeed, since 1911, transportation charges have increased about 48 per cent, while the wholesale prices of commodities in general have increased an average of 60 per cent. "The cost of operating a railroad has increased in the past fifteen years, just as has the cost of living, and from similar causes. This is what made an increase in freight and passenger rates necessary. Without this increase every railroad in the country would have been bankrupt, while the people would have been forced to depend upon an inferior and unsatisfactory service.

Chief Item

"The chief item in increased operating costs, making higher rates necessary, has been the increased railway labor bill. In 1911 the average annual wages paid railway employees was \$729.98, while last year the average wage was \$1,675.52. The total labor bill in 1911 was \$1,167,855,894 while last year it was \$2,910,944,914. Certainly no intelligent person would expect freight or passenger rates in 1927 to be as low as they were in 1911, when taking into consideration the increased size of the railway wage bill. "And what happened with respect to wages in the past fifteen years also happened with respect to taxes. In 1911 the Class I railroad paid \$270,211 a day in taxes, while in 1926, the last year for which we have official figures, they paid \$1,064,883 per day, an increase of about 300 per cent. Other operating expenses have likewise increased during the same period, the result being that, notwithstanding the increase in rates, our railroads had a smaller return per dollar of investment last year than they did in 1911.

Increased Cost

"These facts show conclusively that the higher transportation charges of today were made necessary solely by the increased cost of operation and not by the larger net revenues of the railroads. "It costs you more to live and to do business today than it did in 1911, in consequence of which you are charging a higher price for your services and merchandise today than you did then. The railroads are charging higher rates today than fifteen years ago for exactly the same reasons that you are charging higher prices than then, although the rate of increase in charges made by the railroads is not nearly so high as is the rate of increase in other lines of commercial and industrial endeavor.

"One of the difficulties under which the railroad labors is a tendency among the people to look upon the railroad as an abstract political proposition rather than as a concrete business one. I submit that if we still consider the transportation question entirely aside from the glamour of politics, just as we consider merchandising, manufacturing and farming, we shall have no difficulty whatever in arriving at the conclusion that instead of freight and passenger rates being too high they are, as a rule, too low.

MODERN DECORATION FOR HOME INTERIORS Increased Beauty in Both Design and Materials Seems to Be Trend

Modern art and its sources and its influences in all phases of modern life from portraits to bathroom fixtures is found in the progress of the present age of industry, according to R. E. T. Haff, who finds in this movement "the expression of life as it is lived today." Mr. Haff relates that Lord and Taylor have completed five rooms in their great New York store, which has been designed by their own decorating staff in the modern spirit. These are a bedroom, a dining room, a smoking room and two living rooms. Some of the furniture was imported but in three of the rooms, the furniture was designed by the firm, and made in New York. Rayon stands out in this practical display. In the dining room, for instance, a beautiful room with lemon colored walls and black and silver furniture, the chairs are covered with orange fabric of which the gleaming threads leave no doubt of its origin. In several of the rooms, the glass curtains are of what is known as rayon and cotton Rodier fabrics. They

are hung like this in conjunction with a complete ensemble, walls, rugs, furniture and accessories, and they serve to emphasize sharply a distinct place in the new school of the art of home decoration. And now comes the question "What's to be done about it?" Here, merchant princes of the world, have made a most successful effort to show America a comprehensive outline of this really serious movement, and they have brought together a magnificent collection of beautiful objects. France is by no means the only nation producing this new art, but France to quote Miss Dorothy Shaver, who selected the exhibits, has put "a unity of effort behind this movement. To emphasize the work of French artists is sufficiently logical when one realizes the vigor and power behind the work that is being executed in France." The New York merchants believe this exhibit will serve to show the American manufacturers that American people are genuinely interested in beauty and that there is a market for fine work only made possible by cooperation between artists and maker.

SUMMER CAMPS VARY IN STATUS O. K. ORGANIZED GROUPS State Health Authorities Say Scouts, Y. W. and Y. M. Arrangements Are Good; Some are Abominable

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Summer camps, which will open in Illinois soon for the season range from the ideal to the Abominable as regards to sanitation, according to State health authorities' statement to the International News.

This was the statement today of Dr. I. D. Rawlings, state health director, who stated that permanent camps operated by Boy Scouts and the Y. M. C. A. and like organizations usually rank high, while privately owned rural tourist camps generally are inferior and a blot on modern sanitary conditions.

"Inspections show," he said, "that the 24 permanent Boy Scout camps in Illinois are operated upon an excellent sanitary basis. Youngsters are as safe in them, from a health point of view, as at home. In general the 75 permanent camps operated by other responsible agencies maintain satisfactory sanitary conditions. The situation regarding temporary camps is always problematical, changing from time to time.

"At many of the privately owned tourist camps, of which hundreds bedeck the leading highways of the state, disgraceful sanitary conditions that are a menace to the people who use them have been found by the state sanitary engineers who made the inspection. Lack of police power prevents state officials from issuing mandatory recommendations for improvement. Tourists may be guided, however, by the state safe water seals which appear imprinted upon all satisfactory private sources of water supply available to tourists along auto trunk lines."

STUDENT DOES NOT NEED TO THINK NOW PROFESSOR TELLS REASON Mental Comprehension Is More Highly Prized Than Initiative, He Says; Creative Work Lacking

It is doubtful whether it pays an undergraduate in an American university to think, in the opinion of Dr. Delton Thomas Howard, professor of psychology and director of personnel at Northwestern university, who believes that under the present educational system a student may be more successful by the process of listening, agreeing, recording, memorizing, and reproducing. In the main, Dr. Howard believes that the American undergraduate is required to

accept solutions rather than to make them. "Mental comprehension is more highly prized than mental initiative in the American university," said Dr. Howard, "and the student's tendency is to learn rather than to think. Under such a system how is it possible for a student to develop a sane and healthy skepticism and a tendency to evaluate and criticize? "The student has not been asked to do good, competent, hardheaded and conscientious thinking. Those who do think do it under their own steam. Consequently most undergraduates are content to conform and obey. They mouth their lessons like Moslems in their schools, understanding very little."

Much To Forget

Dr. Howard believes that mental muscle can be developed only if the university forgets much of its present organization, which lays emphasis upon the amount of credits earned and not upon the amount of real thought done, and stresses the ability to assemble and marshal facts, put them in order, and then make them

yield their proper inferences. Creative work, he says, is sadly lacking in the curriculum of the average undergraduate and this is what the student needs. "Under such a system," said Dr. Howard, "the student's attitude, social orientation, and mental initiative will be developed and will result in effective social functioning and in really intelligent graduates."

NEAR EAST ORPHAN IS CREDIT TO SPONSORS

Apraham Delenian, an Armenian orphan, who is being sponsored by a fund raised in memory of Amelia B. Horton of New York, has a special claim on the interest of all who are interested in Near East Relief. For ten years Mrs. Horton, as head of

the service department of the organization, devoted her life to the interests of the Near East orphans, and her premature death a year ago is attributed to her hard work on their behalf.

Young Apraham is a credit to her memory. He is one of the most intelligent scholars in the Antilyas Trade School, has excellent standing in his grade, which is the fourth, his deportment rates A and he is in glowing health. He plays on both the football and the basketball teams.

There is quite a difference in Mexican and American politics. The American politicians sling mud, while the Mexican politicians have a habit of slinging lead.—Jacksonville Times-Union.

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