

**A TWENTY PER CENT LOSS.**

**ESTIMATED DECREASE IN RAILWAY EARNINGS FOR THIS YEAR.**

**The Alarming Decline in Railway Stocks—The Rock Island Line to Fort Worth—Union Pacific Directors Meet in Boston To-Day—Other Railway News.**

The decline in railway stocks still worries stockholders. The low western stocks are Wabash, Monon and Santa Fe. A year ago Wabash stock was worth about 12 and now it is nearer 6. Santa Fe a year ago was worth 40 and it is now 12. Louisville, New Albany & Chicago, Monon, was worth 25, and it is a drug now at 9. Chicago, Burlington & Quincy has declined from 102 to 69, Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul from 84 to 48, Rock Island from 80 to 50, Missouri Pacific from 60 to 16, Union Pacific from 40 to 16, Northwestern from 168 to 87, Rio Grande from 49 to 27, Reading from 60 to 12, Northern Pacific from 21 to 7, and so on.

The average dividend on American railway stocks is 1.68 per cent and that narrow margin of earnings stands between the owners and the receivers. Railroads can pass dividends, but when interest on bonds is defaulted, mortgage holders foreclose.

The general manager of a Western road said the other day: "It is estimated that the railways of America will have to meet a reduction of 20 per cent in gross earnings this year. This means an average decrease in net earnings of about 7 per cent if the operating expenses remain the same. It means in other words, a decrease in revenues sufficient to eat up all money formerly used for dividends and interest. The only thing to do is to reduce operating expenses. It is a hard state of things to face, but the railways are doing it because that is the only thing they can do to save themselves. General officers are no more than representatives of stockholders. Interest must be paid so that stockholders can retain possession of their property."

**The Union Avenue Ticket Offices.**

The proposition to close the railway ticket offices on Union avenue, which was voted upon favorably by the local branch of the Western Passenger association a few days ago, has been taken up by the general managers of Kansas City lines, and will probably not be accepted after all. It would be a great saving in expense, it is admitted, but it is considered impossible to get the consent of all lines, and without that no action can be taken. The Memphis railway and the Missouri, Kansas & Texas railway, for instance, are not members of the association and are opposed to closing their Union avenue offices. The Santa Fe railway and the Rock Island, which are more or less in competition with these two lines on Southern business, will not abandon the Union avenue held and leave the Memphis and Katy to reap the harvest there. The Santa Fe company is most forcibly opposed to closing its Union avenue office. The railways have long time leases on the quarters they occupy on Union avenue, and they could not give up the offices there without a loss, as it would be next to impossible to dispose of leases at this time.

**Union Pacific Directors' Meeting.**

The directors of the Union Pacific railway, like the congress of the United States, is meeting today in extraordinary session. The meeting is held in Boston. Oliver W. Mink, comptroller and financial head of the company, will make a report which will be of the greatest importance. Every employee of the company from the Pacific coast to the Missouri river is interested in this meeting. Mr. Mink has denied that the company will go into

**PUBLIC WORK NOT INACTIVE**

**Mr. Donnelly's Report Shows More Than 1-3 Million Dollars' Worth Is Under Way.**

City Engineer Donnelly completed and filed with the board of public works to-day his report for the second quarter of the calendar year ending June 30. The report shows the amount and kind of public work completed in the quarter and it gives also estimated figures of the amount under contract at the close of the quarter. It shows an encouraging condition of affairs, for the figures indicate that the laboring men have been busy nearly the entire season with good prospects for plenty of work until the coming of cold weather.

During the quarter closing June 30 street paving had been constructed as follows: Vitrified brick, 54,378.40 square yards, cost \$89,578.33; asphalt, 21,029.10 square yards, cost \$53,087.83; macadam, 5,428.20 square yards, cost \$4,135.78. Curbing to the amount of \$13,446.43 was constructed by public contract, while property owners put down \$4,372.69 worth. First class sidewalks put down, \$1,723.56 of stone and \$12,068.79 of artificial stone. Sewers cost \$27,901.37, while sprinkling and cleaning of streets cost \$544.88.

The report shows in addition that on June 30 there was under contract public work aggregating \$575,989.28. More than \$100,000 of work has been added to this since the report was compiled, so that it may be seen that public improvements amounting to nearly \$700,000 are under way.

The public work under contract June 30 was divided as herewith given:

Macadam paving.....	\$ 60,025 82
Vitrified brick.....	79,943 30
Asphalt on concrete.....	236,292 95
Miscellaneous.....	159,817 21

For the expenses of the different departments under the city engineer for the quarter \$15,852.23 was required.

**BOLD EAST SIDE THIEVES.**

**Money Snatched From Three Women on the Streets Last Night.**

Three women on the East side notified the police last night that their pocketbooks had been snatched by negroes. About 8:30 o'clock Miss Mary Clayton, who lives at 1232 Harrison street, was robbed of a small amount of money and her pocketbook by a negro who met her almost in front of her door. Soon after Mrs. E. Richard, who lives at 1425 Campbell street was robbed of her pocketbook while on Campbell street near Thirteenth street. Miss C. Tyson, who lives at 1327 East Ninth street, was robbed of her pocketbook and \$15 while within a block of her home.

Policeman Vanwinkle arrested Siss Lewis, a negro, on suspicion of robbing Miss Clayton and Mrs. Richards.

**GARBAGE COLLECTORS SCARCE.**

**Their Collections Have Become Few and Far Between on Many Streets.**

There is much complaint about the collection of garbage these days by citizens who have gone to the expense of buying garbage cans and are trying to do their part toward keeping their premises free from garbage. People in the neighborhood of Twenty-fourth and Lydia and Ninth and Brooklyn report that the garbage collectors have not visited those sections for over a week, and that their garbage cans are full and are becoming offensive.

**GOOD NEWS FROM ITALY.**

**The Cholera Extinct in One Place and Decreasing Steadily in Naples.**

ROME, Aug 8. In accordance with the provisions of the Dresden cholera convention,

**BAITS FOR THE VERDANT.**

**"FAKE" LOTTERIES IN KANSAS ADOPT GREEN GOODS METHODS.**

**One of Them With "Financial Standing of 1 Million" Has an Original Plan of Advertising—Winning Tickets Not Paid.**

A fraudulent lottery concern in Kansas City, Kas., controlled by "C. C. Mills & Co.," has lately sent out a circular letter which in appearance is a clever imitation of the notorious "green goods" circulars sent from New York or Hoboken to catch countrymen. The circular, printed in imitation of a typewriter, is on a letter head of the Little Louisiana Lottery company. "Financial standing, 1 million dollars," it boldly asserts. The letter begins with the words "Private Letter and in Confidence." It says: "We have been referred to you as a gentleman in good standing and one with a large circle of friends and acquaintances throughout your state. We send you one \$20 ticket free of charge and fifty \$1 tickets which you are to sell for us."

The letter tells how "Mills" is desirous of building up "the largest lottery business in the world," and knows this can only be done by advertising. In the wording of the circular: "The only way left for us to advertise is by those who draw our prizes. \* \* \* Now, if some one like yourself should draw a prize of \$15,000, \$5,000 or even \$500, the sale of our tickets in your state would be very large, and our success for the future would be assured. We guarantee the \$20 ticket will draw you a good prize, and all we ask in return is that you shall sell all of the fifty \$1 tickets. Take out a commission of thirty cents on each ticket sold."

The circular, on its face, shows the concern a fraud in that a specified ticket is guaranteed in advance to draw "a good prize." It is simply bait thrown out to catch the person to whom the circular and "\$20 ticket" are sent, who may be tempted to invest in the fifty \$1 tickets himself, in the expectation of the "good prize" from the other one.

The fake lottery business across the state line was still further exposed to-day by a letter received in this city from J. B. Reabold of Magnolia, Miss. Reabold held a ticket which drew a prize of \$40. He forwarded it and got no money, but in return got ten tickets for a later drawing. That drawing has taken place and one of the ten won \$80. Reabold has sent it here in the hope that it will be collected.

J. M. Brady of divorce court notoriety once ran a Little Louisiana Lottery company in Kansas City, Kas. Since then the name has become the common property of fraudulent concerns. Beside the one operated by "C. C. Mills & Co." there is a "Little Louisiana" run by "Eli Little & Co.," hence the name "Little." It was in Little's lottery that Reabold held a ticket which failed to get money. This concern says its financial standing is only \$4 million dollars.

**THE VEGETARIAN CREED.**

**Why Its Professors Believe in a Bill of Fare Without Meat.**

Dr. De Neville in the Review of Reviews. One of the causes which have led people to reject the doctrine of vegetarianism is the idea that it is inspired by pietism, religious convictions and monastic mortification. But this is a grave error, for the rational vegetarianism of to-day is entirely scientific and dictated by the sole desire to follow a system conforming to the laws of nature. It has science on its side, and only the force of habit is opposed to it.