

VAN WAGENEN ON RAILROADS

United States District Attorney, Recently Removed, Talks Upon Government Ownership of Railroads.

SEES GREAT ADVANTAGE

Not Afraid of Uncle Sam Going Hopelessly in Debt if He Buys Out All the Companies.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 22.—With the Wilson administration on the verge of backing a bill in congress to take over the telegraph and telephone lines as recommended by Postmaster General Burleson, and plans perfected for a conference in Des Moines to start a movement for government ownership of railroads the United Press asked Judge A. Van Wageningen, United States district attorney for northern Iowa, to write an article upon "Government Ownership of Railroads," the title of his text book issued three years ago.

Judge Van Wageningen is an authority upon the subject and expects that at the Des Moines conference many prominent men will be present, among them, Colonel Smith Brookhart of Washington, Clifford Thorne, chairman of the state railroad commission, and H. W. Byers, former attorney general. The promoters of the movement hope that it will become nation-wide in scope and perhaps become the backbone of the main issue in the next presidential campaign. Judge Van Wageningen's article follows:

(By A. Van Wageningen, Author of "Government Ownership of Railroads.")

Yes, I think the time has arrived which was predicted by me in the preface and opening chapter of my book, "Government Ownership of Railroads." I said that, notwithstanding the renewed hopes of adequate regulation, the question of the nation's ownership and operation of our railroads could not be kept long in the background, and that when government ownership comes, it will come suddenly.

I said (that was three years ago) that the inability of the private railroads to meet the multiplying demands of such a highly civilized and progressive people as ours would soon be generally recognized. That is the situation now. The people demand strict regulation. The private companies will not, and apparently cannot stand for it.

Adequate regulation is practically ownership without any of its economic. I note the scare headlines in dispatches and editorials commenting on Senator Kenyon's proposal to purchase all of the railroads, announce that such a policy would plunge us in nineteen billions of dollars. That is the nominal value of the railroads. Their real or market value is not over fourteen billions. How could we ever bear up under such an enormous burden of debt? To one who takes a reasonable view of the situation, this question is humorous. It reminds me of the farmer whom once I knew, who had a farm worth nine thousand dollars. A series of losses put him four thousand dollars in debt. His wife objected to putting a mortgage on the farm. Interest rates were high in northwestern Iowa at that time and he was paying ten per cent on this money borrowed at the bank. This condition existed for several years and although he was importuned by the loan agents who were willing and anxious to place mortgages on the farm at a reduced rate of interest, his wife steadfastly refused to sign the papers. A rich friend one day offered to make him a loan at 5 per cent. So he got his good wife to go to the bank and the combined influence of the husband, the banker and the rich friend induced the good lady to sign the papers. With tears in her eyes she took the pen in her trembling hand, and signed what she regarded as the fatal mortgage. The next year when the farmer went to the bank with the

same four hundred dollars which had been required every year to pay the interest, he found that it was only \$200 and that he could not only pay the interest but could pay as well \$200 on the principal of the note. He kept this policy up and in a few years he had paid the whole mortgage off by savings in the interest rate alone.

This is the present day railroad problem in a nut shell. Uncle Sam wants us to do the same thing which the farmer wanted his wife to do. He wants us to let him take up all the obligations in which the private railway companies owe at the banks and the trust companies and all the stock which is held for still larger dividends and he wants to pay these all off with a long time, low rate obligation of the whole people. The people are acting just like the farmer's wife. Instead of letting Uncle Sam make arrangements by which we will have to pay such freight and passenger rates only as will be necessary to keep up the interest and pay the 2 per cent bonds which he can issue, we insist upon paying to the private railway companies other and much higher freight and passenger rates which are now necessary to enable the private railway owners to distribute exorbitant dividends and pay high rates of interest to say nothing about the graft, the watered stocks, the wasteful methods and useless expense of private ownership.

Another argument which is put forth in scare crowd style is the assertion that the taking over of the railroads will dangerously increase the patronage of the party in power. That argument was worked threadbare in Germany, especially when that country first commenced to buy railroads many years ago. It was mildly urged in Australia, but the railroads were bankrupt, the receivers could not pay running expenses and the government had to take them at any risk. It was worked to its best advantage in an attempt to scare the voters in the referendum governed republic of Switzerland when that little country was about to buy in one deal all but ten of the railways in the country. The predicted calamity of political abuse has never developed in the slightest degree; in any country out of over forty engaged in owning and operating the greater part of their railroads. But what if it did? Could any government, however corrupt, marshal the forces of railroad employees more effectively and solidly against good government than the private railway now does? Could any political party send out such threatening letters and circulars as the railway managers do now when their interests are at stake without inviting immediate ruin? Could any party send word how to vote down the line any more effectively than the private managers do now? This whole argument is a joke. Government ownership would purify our politics by removing the evil political influence of the railroads which is the worst that has ever permeated any nation. The administration using the political patronage would be working for the people. To say the least there would be an even chance that the administration would be right, but to use a street phrase it "is a cinch" that the railroads will always be working for themselves and against the interests of the people. It is the same power of patronage now wielded by a few millionaires and who would not prefer under any conditions to transfer this enormous power from Wall street to the white house and take our chances that it would be an improvement over present conditions.

Did you ever stop to think of this vital consideration? On an average, more than half of the cost of living is found in the cost of distribution. Coal costing less than \$2 at the mines costs the consumer six to ten dollars when delivered. Cost of production cannot be materially lowered. Cost of distribution can be. Ownership of railroads will be a practical and enormous reduction of the cost of distribution and will be the mighty weapon with which the government can control the trust situation and effectively remedy the other evils affecting the cost of living.

Sentiment is rapidly changing and the situation is brightening like a new day when the sun rises into a clear sky. Whereas three years ago among the men you met who knew anything about the subject, a majority vigorously opposed government ownership, though most of them did not know why. The man who states his opposition positively now is hard to find anywhere but among those directly interested in the private railroads. Advocates of government ownership

The Warsaw Gate City

Warsaw, Ill., Dec. 21, 1913.

The deputy state fire marshal made Warsaw a visit last week and was gratified at the fire protection afforded at the public school buildings, but he noted that the public is ignoring the law which requires that all gasoline cans shall be painted red, and that the cans must have the word "gasoline" painted on them.

At last, "finally, my brethren," some money is actually to be spent by the county, aided by the state on the public road between Hamilton and Warsaw. Already, through the efforts of Messrs. Giller and Patterson, a private fund has been raised and though small, it has been put to good use in improving the dangerous narrow strip near the distillery and in other places.

A good road, with culverts and bridges between here and Hamilton would prove a great blessing to us and a temptation to auto tourists to make us a visit, and spend some money here. There has not been a cent spent on the Warsaw end of the road for years and there is not a bridge, or culvert between the two cities. It may take some time to make the proposed improvements, but they will be welcomed even if but little is done each year.

All of the churches are planning for their Christmas entertainments, either Dec. 24 or 25, and four out of the seven will hold services Christmas morning.

The city hall will be open Tuesday and Wednesday for Good Fellow donations. Warsaw has the true Christmas spirit along with the rest of the country. There is no greater honor than to be a Good Fellow.

The supervisors of Hancock county on invitation of A. W. O'Hara took a trip over the beautiful new boulevard skirting Lake Cooper from Hamilton to Nauvoo. The trip was made in autos and the gentlemen were entertained at the expense of the Mississippi River Power company who con-

structed this beautiful highway at great expense. All were delighted with the trip and were loud in praises of its hardness and smoothness. It is a great boon to this side of the river and the next thing to a trolley for our Nauvoo friends.

Saturday was a wonderful trading day in spite of the bad roads and all of our merchants were busy as bees. Farmers were in, also their families in great numbers. It was better than the average Saturday.

The German M. E. church Epworth League has arranged for a series of three lectures to be given, one each in January, February and March. The first and third in English and the second in German. Speakers, subjects and dates will hereafter be announced.

Warsaw camp No. 340, M. W. A., at a special meeting Saturday, Dec. 20, at 7:30 p. m., elected the following officers for the year 1914:

- Consul—G. R. Stuckwisch. Adviser—Wm. Stuckwisch. Banker—Earl A. Wallace. Clerk—Dr. J. Eaton Johnston. Escort—George Klebert. Watchman—Warren Elaina. Sentry—Wm. Clappert. Physician—S. E. Matze, M. D. Manager—C. E. Wallace, two years. Manager—John D. Hopkins, three years.

Nearly all the former officers were re-elected. There was a special Christmas service at the Presbyterian church Sunday night with appropriate music.

There will be several balls during this week, public and private. The Eagles give one, New Years eve in Saenger hall. On Dec. 24, Christmas eve, the Iowa Wesleyan Glee club, with reader and pianist give an entertainment for the benefit of the Eagles. The holiday home coming of the absent ones promises to be larger than usual, and Christmas cheer seems to be more abundant.

The ladies of the Outlook club started the Good Fellow movement in La Harpe and a free dinner and Christmas tree for all the children of the place will be given at the Christian church on Christmas day. Everyone in the city should lend a hand in this good work and assist the ladies in every way possible.

Our schools will close December 24 for a vacation extending until January 5. Many of the teachers will go to their homes for the holidays. Superintendent Everitt will probably attend the state teachers' conference at Springfield during vacation.

Mr. Joseph R. Booth recently attended a conference of the boards of education of this section of the state which met in Quincy. Mr. Booth has served as a member of the board of education of La Harpe for a number of years.

Mrs. F. F. Vedder went to Peoria Friday to meet her son and daughter who were enroute home from school for the holidays. Miss Vedder attends the Southern Seminary at Bunn Vista, Va., and Sidney is studying pharmacy at Ann Arbor, Mich.

All of the choirs of the various churches, under the leadership of Jno. M. Lyon united in giving a Christmas cantata at the Congregational church Sunday evening.

Mr. W. Ed Miller of Carthage was visiting relatives here the past week. While engaged in playing basket ball with the team of the La Harpe high school vs. Macomb, Lyell Miller sustained a broken bone in one leg, which will lay him up for some time. He was one of the best players on the team and will be greatly missed in the game.

Boyd Lyon and Miss Ethyl Todd are home from the state university for the holiday vacation.

C. A. Moon who has been laid up for some weeks with rheumatism is slowly improving and able to sit up a part of the time. Mr. Moon's sons Will and Charles are conducting the grocery store during their father's enforced absence from business.

Mr. and Mrs. Oliver P. Lovett are visiting their children in Iowa, and a family reunion was on the program the past week, at which time the entire family were together.

Mr. and Mrs. George Claycomb, of Geneseo, Ill., are home for the holidays. Mr. Claycomb is one of the many LaHarpe boys who is making good in the world. He has been an

instructor in the Geneseo schools for several years.

Mrs. Ollie Wayland of Peakeville, Mo., came over and spent last Wednesday with her aunt Mrs. Henry Fichtmaster.

Miss Dortha Kelsey came home Monday from a visit at Keokuk with friends.

Mrs. Mary Knapp left Thursday to spend the winter with her sister Mrs. Vina Bell at Villisca, Ia.

T. W. Grimm made a business trip to Keokuk Tuesday.

Mrs. Fred Boreman and daughter left Monday night to spend their Christmas at Des Moines.

The Baptists gathered together Thursday evening and went to Rev. Alexander's and surprised them. They enjoyed the evening splendidly.

Mrs. Van McGuln from this country spent the day with Mrs. Allie Wright last Wednesday.

Mrs. Elmer Bridges and little daughter Lucile from Keokuk visited last week with her sister Mrs. Wm. Vanzant.

Mrs. Ida Sumerville went to Fort Madison for a visit with relatives through the holidays.

Pearl Wilsey and wife of Hannibal, Mo., visited with Mrs. Frank Rider and Mrs. Fred Boreman.

Mrs. Dr. Klien of St. Louis is here visiting her parents Mr. and Mrs. O. I. Ponte and friends.

Miss Gene Chapman left for her home in Ottumwa to spend the holidays with her parents.

Miss Tressa Taylor is home to spend her Christmas.

Miss Allie Wright and three girls Florence, Lorena and Dortha spent over Sunday at Donnellson visiting Dr. and Mrs. Tompson at that place.



The Flour With a Guarantee

Every sack of PILLSBURY'S BEST Flour is guaranteed to please you in every respect or your money refunded.

You take **no** risk of having poor bread if you use Pillsbury's Best.

You take a **big** risk if you use the "just as good" kind.

The FLOUR YOUR GROCER HAS IT. ORDER A SACK TODAY

A Neatly Framed Picture

Makes a very acceptable CHRISTMAS GIFT

We have an attractive line at very reasonable cost

FRAMES MADE TO ORDER

FOULKES & SONS

Wall Paper Store Fourth and Blondeau Streets

LA HARPE, ILL.

There was a special Christmas service at the Presbyterian church Sunday night with appropriate music.

There will be several balls during this week, public and private. The Eagles give one, New Years eve in Saenger hall. On Dec. 24, Christmas eve, the Iowa Wesleyan Glee club, with reader and pianist give an entertainment for the benefit of the Eagles.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Schlicher and son of Centerville were over Sunday visitors in our city.

Misses Esther and Myra Goebel are attending school at Grinnell, are spending their vacation at home.

Misses Lillian and Rose Taeroff visited in Port Madison the fore part of the week.

La C. S. Barnes and son Earl of near O'Crewe were business visitors in our city Wednesday.

Frank Le Maty of Montrose was calling on friends in our city Tuesday.

Miss Marie Pfister of Cottonwood, visited in our city between train Wednesday enroute to her home from a several weeks visit in Farmington.

Cruises to the WEST INDIES and the Panama Canal

including SIDE TRIP ON THE CANAL By Palatial Cruising Steamer

"VICTORIA LUISE" From NEW YORK

January 14 February 7
March 11 April 11

Duration, 16 to 27 Days

Cost \$145 \$175 and up

Also Cruises to the Orient, India, Around the World through the Panama Canal, and Mediterranean trips.

Send for Booklet, stating cruise

HAMBURG-AMERICAN LINE

150 W. Randolph St., Chicago, Ill., or Local Agents.

ARE YOU A WOMAN

Baltimore, Md.—Mrs. W. H. Ison, at 1419 East Madison street, writes, "For several years, I suffered, off and on, from female troubles, until finally I was taken down and could do nothing. The pains I experienced, I shall never forget. I lost weight till I was only skin and bones. I believe I would have been in my grave, if I had not tried Cardui. I shall praise it as long as I live." Many women, like Mrs. Ison, are weak and discouraged, on account of some painful ailment. Are you one of these sufferers? Cardui will help you. Try it today. Any druggist.—Adv.

FARMINGTON.

Mrs. Ollie Wayland of Peakeville, Mo., came over and spent last Wednesday with her aunt Mrs. Henry Fichtmaster.

Miss Dortha Kelsey came home Monday from a visit at Keokuk with friends.

Mrs. Mary Knapp left Thursday to spend the winter with her sister Mrs. Vina Bell at Villisca, Ia.

T. W. Grimm made a business trip to Keokuk Tuesday.

Mrs. Fred Boreman and daughter left Monday night to spend their Christmas at Des Moines.

FRATERNAL CARDS

MASONIC. Meet in K. of P. building, corner of Fifth and Blondeau. Eagle Lodge No. 12 holds its regular meeting the first Monday evening of each month.

Hardin Lodge No. 29, holds its regular monthly meeting the second Monday evening of each month.

INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS. Hall Seventh and Main streets. Keokuk Lodge No. 13, meets regularly Monday evening at 7:30 o'clock. A. J. Engler, N. G.; E. L. Boud, recording secretary.

Pucketchuck Lodge No. 32, meets every Friday evening at 8 o'clock. A. B. Hughes, N. G.; George W. Lamgart, permanent secretary.

Pucketchuck Encampment, No. 7, meets first and third Thursday evenings of each month. Wm. C. Kummer, scribe.

MODERN WOODMEN OF AMERICA, GIBBONS HALL. Keokuk Camp No. 622, meets every Wednesday evening at 7:30 p. m. Our latch string is out to neighbors. John C. Wustrow, V. C.; J. A. Pollard, clerk.

B. P. O. ELKS. Keokuk Lodge No. 106, meets first and third Thursday nights at Elks hall, Sixth and Blondeau streets. Club rooms open daily. Visiting brethren cordially invited. W. B. Woolley, E. N.; Leroy J. Wolf, secretary.

FRATERNAL ORDER OF EAGLES. Keokuk Aerie, No. 683, meets first and third Wednesday of each month at Eagle's hall, 523 Main street. Visiting brethren cordially invited. James Fickle, W. Preside; C. A. Noakes, secretary.

A. O. U. W. Keokuk lodge, No. 256, meets every Thursday night at 8:00 o'clock at Hawkes hall, Eighth and Main street. Visiting brethren cordially invited. C. H. Griffith, M. W.; J. A. Branson, recorder.

K. OF P. Morning Star Lodge, No. 5, meets at Fifth and Blondeau, K. of P. building, Tuesday at 7:30. John P. Hornish, chancellor commander; J. A. Burges, K. of R. and S. Visiting knights fraternally invited.

KNIGHTS AND LADIES OF SECURITY KEOKUK COUNCIL NO. 1049 meets the first and third Monday of each month at A. O. U. W. hall, at 8 o'clock. Dr. C. A. Jenkins, president; Ernest Best, financier; Mrs. Ralph Muse, secretary.

ROYAL ARCANUM Keokuk Council No. 536 meets third Friday each month, Hawkes hall, Eighth and Main. Visiting brethren fraternally invited to attend. J. M. Fulton, regent; J. I. Annable, secretary.

LOYAL ORDER OF MOOSE Keokuk Lodge, No. 704, meets every Tuesday night at 8 p. m. in Moose hall, corner of Sixth and Main. Visiting brethren cordially invited. L. L. Laubersheimer, dictator. Ed. S. Lofton, secretary.

WOODMEN OF THE WORLD. Gate City Camp No. 81, Woodmen of the World, meets second and fourth Mondays of each month at Hawkes hall, corner Eighth and Main. Visiting sovereigns cordially invited. Albert Klefer, consul commander; Jos. M. Skinner, clerk.

—The Daily Gate City, 10c per week

and are everywhere now and are open and loud in their advocacy and the opposition has now dwindled to those who do not know where they stand, and listen and want knowledge. There is a national organization being formed which will disseminate that knowledge. All that is needed to bring government ownership to quick fruition is to feed the people in the language of Carl Vroman "a generous diet of thoroughly authenticated facts."

California Woman Seriously Alarmed. "A short time ago I contracted a severe cold which settled on my lungs and caused me a great deal of annoyance. I would have had coughing spells and my lungs were so sore and inflamed, I began to be seriously alarmed. A friend recommended Chamberlain's Cough Remedy, saying she had used it for years. I bought a bottle and it relieved my cough the first night, and in a week, I was rid of the cold and soreness of my lungs." writes Miss Marie Gerber, Sawtelle, Calif. For sale by all dealers.—Adv.

WOMEN VOTERS OF CALIFORNIA

Defended by New Commissioner who Says They Have Whole Lot of Common Sense.

[United Press Leased Wire Service.] SACRAMENTO, Calif., Dec. 24.—"There is a whole lot of good sound common sense stored away in the heads of even 'fluffy ruffies' type of girls and they vote with a much clearer idea of what they are voting about than the majority of men," was the statement made today by Miss Margaret Schallenberger, who has been appointed elementary commissioner, one of three new educational offices created by the present administration. She gave the United Press today a general interview regarding her views.

"I want it distinctly understood that I am no anti-man woman," continued Miss Schallenberger. "In fact, I have gone on record time and again for more men teachers in public schools of the state. We women do not wish to usurp the places of men because they are needed. It is not my policy to discourage marriages. In fact it is not the girls educated however, so that they can feel independent. Science has shown that 'rocking of the cradle' has got to be abandoned, but we do not mean by that that motherhood has to be abandoned.

"I emphatically do not believe that home has been neglected because the women of California got the ballot in fact I think the conditions are just the reverse."

Electric Advertising. PARIS, Dec. 23.—Illuminated advertising doesn't make a bit with the French and the art has just received a severe blow here. A judgment has just been rendered forcing a landlord to pay damages and to order electric signs removed from his premises, the case being brought by his own tenants. The ground floor tenant operated a movie show, the owner of the building authorizing him to advertise in a Broadway. Upper floor tenants thereupon took action. The Paris newspaper are complaining because the "boulevards are getting to be as

hideous as the electric sign-lighted streets of American cities."

DONNELSON.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Schlicher and son of Centerville were over Sunday visitors in our city.

Misses Esther and Myra Goebel are attending school at Grinnell, are spending their vacation at home.

Misses Lillian and Rose Taeroff visited in Port Madison the fore part of the week.

La C. S. Barnes and son Earl of near O'Crewe were business visitors in our city Wednesday.

Frank Le Maty of Montrose was calling on friends in our city Tuesday.

Miss Marie Pfister of Cottonwood, visited in our city between train Wednesday enroute to her home from a several weeks visit in Farmington.

Mrs. Wright and daughters of Farmington visited at the Dr. Thompson home Friday.

Miss Margaret Sollars left for Majcitta, Florida Saturday to spend the winter with her sister, Mrs. Inez McRadden.

Misses Anna Tempel and Alma Bank of Keokuk are spending their vacation at home.

Donald Kast of Fairfield is visiting in our city.

Walter Lee and F. C. Taber were in Farmington Friday.

Quite a few from our city were Keokuk shoppers Wednesday.

The program of the G. E. Sunday school will be held as usual on December 24, Christmas eve, at 7:30 o'clock. All are cordially invited.

Mrs. P. A. Wiegner and daughter Mary Dorothea and Miss Anna Wegner visited in Farmington several days last week.

Robert Lowenberg who is attending school at St. Joseph, Mo., is home for the holidays.

Mrs. Chas. Magerkorth of La Creu visited in our city Monday.

Here's wishing all The Gate City readers a very Merry Christmas.

Taught Dog, to Steal.

PARIS, Dec. 23.—Convicted last week of a series of thefts which he inspired his dog to commit, Wilhelm Volkamps, a German baker, today began serving a sentence of thirty days. At Volkamps' trial it was shown that he has subsisted for eight months on choice cuts of beef, poultry, fish and sausages which he had taught his dog to steal from neighboring shops. The dog has been adopted by the gendarme who arrested its master. An effort will be made to reform it.

The Fly with spongy feet collects the invisible germs of disease—spreads them over our food and poisons us with typhoid.

The Mosquito with its bill injects into our veins MALARIA.

WE ARE all exposed to such dangers—our only armor is good red blood! Let your stomach be of good digestion, your liver active and your lungs full of good pure air and you don't surrender to any of the disease-bearing germs. The best known, tonic and alterative, that corrects a torpid liver, and helps digestion so that good blood is manufactured and the system nourished, is

Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery

This famous medicine has been sold by medicine dealers in its liquid form for over forty years, giving great satisfaction. If you prefer you can now obtain Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery tablets of your druggist at \$1.00, also in 50c size boxes or by mail—send 50 one-cent stamps, R. V. Pierce, M. D., Buffalo, N.Y., for trial box.

Questions of Life are fully and properly answered in the People's Medical Ad- vising by R. V. Pierce, M. D. All the knowledge a young man or woman, wife or daughter should have is contained in this Big Home Doctor Book containing 1008 pages with engravings bound in cloth, sent free to anyone sending 50 one-cent stamps to prepay cost of wrapping and postage.

GIVE IT A TRIAL

NO DUST SHINE STAYS

USED AND SOLD BY HARDWARE DEALERS

GET A CAN TODAY

Heartburn Flatulency Giddiness Nausea

Always Yield to

Purely Vegetable Absolutely Harmless

SCHENCK'S MANDRAKE PILLS

They are a good remedy for any of these affections, and Biliousness, Indigestion, Constipation, Sick Head ache, Jaundice, Malaria, etc.

Seventy Years' use in American homes prove their absolute reliability, and entire safety.

Purely Vegetable—Absolutely Harmless For Sale Everywhere. Plain or Sugar Coated. 25 cents a box, or by mail.

Dr. J. H. Schenck & Son, Philadelphia, Pa.