

STREET RAILWAY

FACTS!

Several months ago President Wilson appointed a Commission to investigate conditions which were threatening to break down the electric railway industry in the United States. After prolonged hearings, this Federal Electric Railways Commission has made its report to the President, and extracts from this report will be given in succeeding advertisements.

That your local street railway company is in a serious financial condition and that the report has therefore a strong bearing on the local street railway situation is shown by the fact that for the month of August, during which the present wage scale and rate of fare were in effect, the company has earned on a conservative estimate of the value of its property less than 1½ per cent.

It is thus perfectly clear that the company cannot continue to give its present standard of service with a rate of fare of three tickets for twenty-five cents, which it has requested, unless the riding increases greatly or unless the expense of operation be greatly reduced.

You would not, nor would any other investor, put additional money into a business unless a reasonable return was expected. Please bear in mind that the return to which this company is entitled has no connection whatever with the amount of stock which it has issued, and consequently the talk of "watered stock" has absolutely no bearing upon this matter. The rate of fare is based entirely upon the value of the property used in serving the public, and does not include some valuable real estate which the company owns which is not devoted to the public service, and consequently it would make no difference in the rate of fare to be allowed were the amount of stock doubled tomorrow, without a corresponding investment in the property.

The report to President Wilson above referred to indicated how the receipts could be increased and the expenses greatly decreased and in this and succeeding advertisements we will give extracts from this report and show how the recommendations can be followed in this community, and we respectfully request that these advertisements be read very carefully, so that you may be fully informed in regard to the street railway problem in your community.

Tri-City Railway Company