

had shrunk on the 31st day of August to \$506,877. This rate of decrease, if maintained, would automatically cause an increase of fares some time in November, for the "interest fund" would then be reduced to less than \$500,000 by as much as \$200,000. But the increased fare would not be 5 cents. It would be the rate specified in the ordinance schedule as next above the present rate. As the present rate is 3 cents *with* "rebate" of the transfer charge, the higher rate would be 3 cents *without* rebate of transfer charge. It would be, that is, the same as the rate for the first fifteen months of operation under this ordinance, namely 3 cents without transfer and 4 cents with transfer. This rate, as shown above, was so profitable during the period it was in use as to raise the "interest fund" above \$500,000 by more than \$200,000, a fact which makes it altogether improbable that any rate higher than 3 cents, plus 1 cent for transfer, will be necessary. At all events, no higher rate than that is anywhere in sight yet.

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It should be explained, too, that economical management of the company is very gravely questioned in Cleveland. The company tried hard, prior to June 1, 1911, to prevent an accumulation in the "interest fund" of \$200,000 in excess of \$500,000; and it is believed to have reduced that fund to \$500,000 again by purposely extravagant management. More will be known about the company's management in this respect when Newton D. Baker becomes Mayor of Cleveland, which will probably be on the 1st of next January.

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#### Accounting for "Oregonian" Editorials.

Newspaper readers inclined to yield to the pertinacious attacks by The Oregonian upon the Singletax movement in Oregon may learn some things pertinent and worth knowing if they read this paragraph from the Portland Labor Press: "The 'heir apparent' of The Oregonian has standing in his name 40,000 acres of the railroad timber lands, and worth not less than two million dollars. No wonder the organ of plutocracy is worried over the prospects of being made to use or let others use that idle land."

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#### Education.

The man of an earlier time who was proud of his inability to write his name was probably a stronger man, other things being equal, than the man of our day who is proud of his ability to do it. In this thought there is a moral for educators. To

have a modern education strengthens one by giving him larger equipment; but if one exalts his education, its advantages as a mental equipment are thereby probably more than offset by consequent deterioration in mental power. To make a more general application, peoples of the past who had no book learning and were proud of it were probably, man for man, more capable intellectually (even with their limited but for their own time and place sufficient mental equipment) than peoples of the present who boast of their education. For education is a mental tool, not a mental quality; and the prouder we are of our possession of the tool the more deficient are we likely to be in the quality for using it. So our boasted era of education may be expected to remain inferior in true intellectual power until we take education off its pedestal as a fetish and practice using it more as an implement. This is doubtless the essential truth in the movement for vocational education. It is education *for use* instead of polish. But that truth is not limited, as sordid minds try to limit it, to the specialties of production and trade. It applies to all education.

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#### SIGNING A BLANK CHECK.

"And a Great Country with its Wealth and Splendor Stood Before It, and the Life of its Deluded People Made the Hills and Valleys ring with Their Demented Laughter."

Press dispatches from New York inform us from time to time that the reorganization of the Tobacco Trust is being proceeded with and that the ambassadors of the Trust are in almost daily conference with the equally potent representatives of the Government, looking to a carrying into effect of the judgment of the Supreme Court of the United States which not only dissolved the Trust but ordered it to "re-create out of the elements now composing it a new condition which shall be honestly in harmony with the law."

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The order of the Supreme Court of the United States in the case of the American Tobacco Company, commonly referred to as the Tobacco Trust, was the most unheard of order that ever emanated from any court of justice in the history of the Anglo-Saxon race. The court exhausted its jurisdiction when it rendered a judgment dissolving the Trust, as prayed for in the bill of complaint; but to exceed that jurisdiction and to order it to re-organize in harmony with the law, is quite in keeping with the friendly attitude of the court to the Princes of Privilege.