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PROF. JACKSON SPEAKS.
(Continued from page 1.)
posed in its best and most advanced form. However the universal discussion of rate fixing entailed on of late with public utilities which the subject led him to lay down a few laws, especially as it relates to explanation. While the intermediate and state commissions had made a deep study of this subject they had added no new methods, only piling up unexplained statements. These problems in public service rates Prof. Jackson said would be relieved by men from engineering schools and with engineering education, for the very problem is the same whether to do in great part with engineering projects, and the very character of the problems makes the scientific training necessary before criticism. The complexity of the problem in many cases needs just that sort of training that scientific schools give, the ability to simplify and devise the problem into its component parts, and give true value to these facts.

That plunger, corruptamists and adventurers were in control of the public service corporations was no surprise when the history of these organizations is to be considered. The telephone, telegraph, street railway and even the railroad and gas works were all young industries, and all of more or less speculative character. This sort of enterprise attracts the adventurer. In the recent economic depression it is not surprising that corruptionists but the people must recognize that most of the officials are honest.

In discussing capital for such corporations Prof. Jackson said that it was quite a shock to many individuals to find that the capital was represented by more than the cars, tracks, and power houses, as in the case of a street railway. Besides the tangible property, there was a large expenditure before operation that could legitimately be charged to the capital account. In the first consideration these expenses were seldom thought of by the ordinary person, but they really constituted a good part of the capital that many believe is "stolen." As an instance Prof. Jackson cited the great criticism that the N. E. Tel. & Tel. Co. is undergoing for its extensive placing of its wires in underground conduits. Prof. Jackson regarded this as a very good insurance for the telephone service through the buried cables in cities and continued because of no place for renewals.

The legitimate expenditures that Prof. Jackson said should be charged to capital stock were expenses for lawyers in organization, bringing employees up to the point of price, the amount of salary, interest for investor until returns come in, commission for selling stock, taxes and repairs on machinery while preparing property for operation. There were two ways to get rid of these expenditures, one by the right, as charged to the capital account, the other, wrong, to charge to a subsidizing debt and take it out of the early returns.

After the address Professor Allen of the civil engineering department at the Institute gave a talk on railroads.

The attendance was fifty.

CHEMISTS DINE TOMORROW.
Six-thirty tomorrow night will see the Chemical Society gather at the Union to hold its annual dinner and election of officers. J. E. Norton is to be the toast master. The committee has arranged an interesting program and a dinner that is sure to attract the interest of the Union. The speakers are Professors Talbot, Gill, Thompson, Pay, and Walker, and Mr. C. Field.

As this is the last meeting of the year and the time of the election of officers every member is expected to be present. All who intend to go are asked to make the first known to the executive committee by tomorrow morning. Tickets admitting to both dinner and entertainment are 75 cents.

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