

PHONE TROUBLE TO BE SETTLED

RAILWAY COMMISSION HEAR.
TESTIMONY IN BINFORD
LAST FRIDAY.

The telephone hearing held in Binford last Friday, by Commissioner Milholan and Expert Smart, and interested parties in this and the Jessie community, was well attended at both afternoon and evening sessions.

The telephone "squabble," as it is commonly expressed, dates back several years. Now and then it breaks out fresh again, and was more recently revived when the telephone company applied to the railway commissioners for an increase in rates. At that time, in mass meeting, in Binford, delegates were sent from here and Jessie to Bismarck, to intervene. Following that hearing the commissioners granted the company a slight temporary increase to offset an evident confiscation. To get a better understanding of the situation, the commissioners were asked to continue their hearing in Binford.

Numerous witnesses were called to testify in the case and it developed that there were some real and some imaginary grievances. The evidence will make a voluminous transcript, containing sufficient material testimony to warrant a complete study of the situation, and enable the commission to render a fair decision.

Sentiment among patrons and prospective patrons, seems to favor one of two things—either purchase rural lines radiating from Binford and Jessie or the rural lines with the Binford exchange, connecting Jessie on this exchange. Sentiment for either proposition has not cry-

stalized to such an extent that a definite move has been made, as yet. It is very probable that the matter will be disposed of soon, and then we hope peace will reign forever.

Difference in Towns

As you travel through the state you pass thru many small towns, all of about the same size, and all more or less alike. And yet, as you look at them through the train window, they make different impressions upon you. As you pass thru one town you will think, "What an attractive town. I should like to live here." And yet a town only a few miles distant will create in you a feeling of aversion.

What is the difference in the two places? The answer can usually be found in the fact that one gives the appearance of prosperity and "pep" while the other does not. The streets of the first will be clean, usually paved, the lawns will be well kept, the houses painted, and the people you can see from the train will be bustling about as though they had plenty to do and were glad to do it. The second town, on the other hand, will appear slovenly and ill-kept. Tumble-down houses set in weed-choked lawns, board walks, streets strewn with paper, will meet your gaze, and the people on the station platform stand hanging around the unswept steps of the village stores will give you the impression that they do nothing and are nothing.

If we want to attract people to our city we must be careful of the impression we make upon them. We must try not to let slide the little things which, added together make up the appearance of the town. We want strangers to know that we are up and doing, that we have a "live" town in which it is a pleasure to live.