

Railroads - Finance

See

Duluth and Winnipeg Railway Co. Oct. 1,
1896

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To Gaspard Farrer, Oct. 16, 1896

Explains in some detail why annual report cannot reveal a 19 % profit on our stock. "Had we shown this balance l.. we would have acknowledged the point which we have steadily denied and contested, i.e., all sums derived from sources outside of traffic revenues should not be considered in fixing the reasonableness of traffic rates, while the State has contended that all income of every kind should be considered alike, We are trying to avoid a reduction in rates in Minnesota ~~and~~ Dakota on account for instance of a profit-derived from coal mines in Montana." It could result in compelling us to abandon these outside enterprises en-

lively... Our shareholders want to know how well we have done, whi' the state wants to limit our earnings to a reasonable return on our capital without any guarantee that we will have the traffic to make such returns. One paragraph is aimed at "the Grangers." Election matters. This is an unusual pres. election. For the first time the U.S. is having to deal with Socialism and "imported" Socialism at that, in a national election. Sound money Democrats will restrain McKinley's high tariff views for 2 yrs or more.

JJH Letter Book, 10/11/95 - 3/13/99, p. 138