RATES IN BAD SHAPE

EAST-BOUND LINE AGENTS SAID TO BE SHADING THE TARIFF.

The Evansville & Richmond Road Now Likely to Escape Being Placed in Receiver's Control.

If reports are true, east-bound line agents are not waiting for Feb. 4 to make contracts on the basis of 20 cents per 100 pounds, Chicago to New York, and from Indianapolis to New York 18½ cents, but are already taking grain at that rate. A general freight agent, yesterday, in speaking of the matter, said he thought east-bound rates would never again be more than on the basis of 20 cents per 100 pounds on grain, as, to get business at any time away from the part lake and rail routes, no higher rate than that can be named. Shippers will wait until navigation opens if a higher rate is demanded. As predicted, shippers of other freights are protesting because the reduction is only on grain rates; the produce, provision and lumber dealers are clamoring for a reduction, and when the provision men move the roads usually pay some attention, as they furnish a large amount of business. Oscar Murray, vice president and freight traffic manager of the Big Four, and J. G. Grammar, general freight agent of the Lake Shore road, were in the city last night en route to Chicago. Mr. Grammar is quoted as saying that he thinks with a rate based on 20 cents per 100 pounds, Chicago to New York, everybody will behave themselves and live up to such a tariff. Freight men who passed through here last night look for lively times at the meeting in Chicago to-day.

Will Avoid Receiverships.

The claims of the bondholders of the Evansville & Richmond against the Evansville & Terre Haute company are in a fair way of being settled without a receiver for either road. The owners of $701,000 of the bonds of the Evansville & Richmond have accepted the proposition, representing a majority, but the remaining holders of bonds can avail themselves of the advantages the adjustment offers up to Feb. 15. This is believed to be the wisest and speediest way out of the financial entanglement, as it has been stated by those who can force a receivership that if a settlement is not reached it means that the suits now pending will result in receiverships not only for the Evansville & Richmond, but also for the Evansville & Terre Haute, which guaranteed the interest on the E. & R. bonds. The proposal in question provides that the bondholders of the Evansville & Richmond surrender their bonds with coupons maturing March 1, 1894, and all subsequent coupons attached, and that they accept in lieu thereof noncumulative and nonvoting 5-percent. preferred stock of the Evansville & Terre Haute Railroad Company at the rate of 85 per cent. for the principal of their bonds, and par for the interest accrued and unpaid to Jan. 1, 1895. That is, the bondholders will receive for each $1,000 bond $850 in preferred stock, and for accrued interest to Jan. 1 on each bond $66.66, making a total of $916.66 in preferred stock for each $1,000 bond. The issue of such preferred stock is to be limited to the amount required to take up the outstanding Evansville & Richmond bonds, amounting to $1,000,000, and no further issue can be made without the consent of a majority of the issue now proposed. All Evansville & Richmond bonds surrendered in exchange for stock are to be canceled.

Boycott to Be Lifted.

There is a strong probability that the differences of the Union Pacific and the Western trunk lines will be adjusted at the meeting in Chicago to-day. It is expected that the Union Pacific will abandon its claim for the long haul of business passing through the Denver and Ogden gateways, and that, as a consequence, the boycott against it will be lifted. Neither side to the controversy is prepared to say in advance of the meeting what action will be taken concerning the Puget sound business. The Union Pacific, however, has strong hopes that it will be allowed to insert its rates to Puget sound points in the rate sheets. It is difficult to see how the other roads can allow this, as they are bound to the Northern Pacific in the strongest manner to allow that line the Puget sound business. If the trunk-line committee takes in the Union Pacific as a member by allowing it a share of Puget sound business it will certainly force the Northern Pacific out. The Alton and the Northwestern are standing stoutly by the Union Pacific, and all three have strong hopes of a victory, or at least of receiving very material concessions in to-morrow's meeting.

Passenger Traffic Agreement.

The committee of the Western trunk lines appointed to formulate a passenger agreement for the control of California business has completed its task, and the plan will be considered at a meeting of all lines interested, which will be held next Tuesday. The agreement denies to local agents authority to meet outside competition, unless through public notices of intention to meet such rates, the notices to be issued by the general passenger agents. Commissions are forbidden, as in all dealings with brokers. Provision for free sleeping-car berths, free meals and the carrying of excess baggage are to be considered as cut rate. The penalty for any infraction of the agreement is not less than $10 nor more than $30. Thirty days' notice is required of any road seeking to withdraw from the agreement.

Victory for the American.

A Findlay dispatch says: The war between the American and United States Express companies for the possession of the business of the Findlay, Fort Wayne & Western railroad, which led to acts of violence on Jan. 1, when the agents of the former company were forcibly ejected from the trains and their goods thrown out in the snow, has been settled. The United States company withdraws its claim to the road, and the American company will resume business over it on Feb. 1.

The Ohio Southern Showing.

As several Indianapolis gentlemen and numerous Ohio capitalists are interested in the Ohio Southern, the statement of the company for the first six months of its fiscal year, which ended with Dec. 31, will be read with interest, as the showing is decidedly satisfactory, the surplus over all expenses and charges having been $34,865, as follows: Gross earnings, $455,199; expenses, $213,399; net earnings, $241,800; fixed charges, $156,934.

Personal, Local and General Notes.

C. Sheehy, of Detroit, representing the Canadian Pacific, is in the city.

The American Express Company will today resume service on the Findlay, Fort Wayne & Western, their position having been upheld by the courts.

Cincinnati parties are storing on the White Water road, at Metamora, 20,000 tons of ice, which will be quite a lift to the White Water in transporting it to Cincinnati.

The Southern Pacific has posted a notice to the effect that beginning with March 1 locomotive firemen will be paid $50 per month instead of $2.50 a day, the present scale.

David Felt, one of the Union Depot force, who has been quite prominent of late, has been relieved by Superintendent Zion, and Frank Stevenson appointed to the vacancy.

An elegant new parlor car has been placed on the run between St. Louis and Cincinnati over the Vandalia and the Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton in place of the one crushed in the recent wreck on the Vandalia.

On the 1st of February the Eureka division of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen, Indianapolis, will remove its headquarters from the Griffith Block to the Iron Hall Block. The division has 180 members.

The Monon is credited with having brought its through trains into Indianapolis fewer times late in 1894 than any other of the lines handling through trains, when the proportionate number is considered.

It is nineteen months since B. F. Sipp was appointed superintendent of the White Water road, and during that time there has been but one wreck, that of two freight cars, in which $50 would cover all damages.

J. R. Barnard, general manager of the Peoria & Eastern, is much encouraged over the business the road is doing. For this month it will show an increase in gross earnings over January, 1894, of at least $10,000.

Judge Foulk, in the Circuit Court of Montgomery county, Illinois, decided against the Big Four in the mandamus proceedings to compel the company to stop its Knickerbocker fast express running from St. Louis to New York, at Hillsboro, Ill.

Monday is dicipline day with Superintendent Darlington, of the Indianapolis division of the Panhandle lines, and usually from fifteen to thirty men are arraigned. The employes call it the scolding day, but say that Superintendent Darlington is seldom severe in his decisions, the man as well as the official usually seeing that they are just.

Wm. Garstang, superintendent of motive power of the Big Four, yesterday completed the plans for the new shops of the company, at Wabash, Ind., to take the place of those burned a few weeks ago. As now designed, they will cost $95,000.

The last official railway guide gives George Bradbury the title of first vice president of the Lake Erie & Western, as well as its general manager. Mr. Bradbury is also vice president of the Cincinnati, Jackson & Mackinaw, which now includes the Cincinnati, Lebanon & Northern.

A number of freight men left for Chicago last night to attend a meeting of the Central Traffic Association, which will be held there to-day. Of the number from here were H. C. Parker, traffic manager of the Lake Erie & Western, and Ford Wood, general freight agent of the Peoria & Eastern.

The last half of the year 1894, which is the first half of the fiscal year with the Peoria & Eastern, the road earned its fixed charges, which are $220,810.48, for the six months. This is the more gratifying as this is the first time the road has earned its fixed charges since the present management came in control.

For four months past the freight traffic over the Louisville division of the Pennsylvania lines has been the lightest in the history of the road, but the situation is improving. The cement mills, of which there are a number on their line, are ordering cars and the improvement with car works is increasing the lumber traffic with the line.

A roadmaster, well informed as regards the Vandalia, says that the Vandalia has nothing lighter than a sixty-pound-to-the yard-rail between Indianapolis and St. Louis and but twenty-one miles of that. The remainder of the distance is laid with rail weighing sixty-seven to seventy pounds to the yard, and of the best makes. At the point the recent accident occurred the rails weigh sixty-seven pounds to the yard; had it been laid with an eighty pound rail he says the same accident, under similar switch conditions, would have occurred.

The fast limited of the Vandalia and the Pennsylvania, recently put on, is drawing some of the through business from train No. 20, as is the case with the Knickerbocker drawing from train No. 18 over the Big Four lines. Still trains No. 20 on the Vandalia and No. 18 over the Big Four (St. Louis division) are so fast between large towns and stop so few times that both will always be good paying trains. These two trains are drawing from competing lines, which have not as yet put on noon trains east out of St. Louis.

Vice President and General Manager Bradbury, of the Lake Erie & Western, contemplates extensive improvements to the roadbed of the more important divisions this year. He yesterday purchased one of the largest steam shovels manufactured and will now have two of these appliances. He intends to fill this year three miles of trestles and spend a large sum of money in renewing bridges. During the dull time the equipment of the road was fully maintained and but few roads are better provided with power and cars, consequently no money will need be expended in that direction.

Mr. O. G. Murray, second vice president of the Big Four, can be credited with getting out one of the handiest books for employes and use of shippers. It consists of an official directory of the Big Four and C. & O.; a freight shippers' guide, alphabetical list of stations, with population, agents, freight, ticket, night or day telegraph offices, names of shippers of all kinds, showing commodities handled, location of stock yards, track scales and junction points with connecting lines, State maps of all the States through which the Big Four, C. & O. and Vanderbilt lines run and maps of all the principal cities reached by those lines.

With each year the Travelers' Official Railroad Guide, the organ of the General Ticket and Passenger Agents' Association, introduces new features which make it a more valuable encyclopedia of information. It now contains over 700 pages, and is a complete directory of the railway and steam navigation lines of the United States, Canada and Mexico. Hereafter several pages will be devoted to editorial comment, proceedings of meetings of importance, and a full list of official changes, appointments, etc. In addition to the time cards of each railroad being given in detail, it contains an alphabetical list of the railroad and steamship lines, names of the general passenger and ticket agents, purchasing agents, general baggage agents and lists of traffic and car service associations. An important feature is the list of railway stations, with name of road touching each point and where are two or more depots at the same place, a key is used designating their location whether together or in different parts of the town or city. Another valuable addition is the list of old and new names of roads.

DAILY VITAL STATISTICS—JAN. 31.

Deaths.

Infant McGlass, three months, Indianapolis Orphans' Home, pneumonia.
Infant Morgan, premature birth.
Isaac M. White, fifty-four, No. 96 Lexington avenue, consumption.
Infant McKee, No. 88 South Noble, stillborn.
H. Krampuer, thirty-one years, No. 283 South Capitol avenue, chronic nephritis.
Sophie Lesemann, sixty-nine years, No. 52 Beatty street, peritonitis.
Minnie Hoffmann, six years, No. 462 Charles street, pneumonia.

Births.

George and Mary Sausburg, No. 100 Drake street, boy.
Anderson and Mary Emery, No. 37 Drake street, girl.
Foster and Florence Cunningham, No. 100 East Twenty-second street, girl.
Walter and Clara McKee, No. 88 South Noble street, girls.
Patrick W. and Mamie Kennedy, No. 209 South Pine street, boy.
Frank and Mattie Smith, South street, girl.
George and Margaret Venn, No. 372 North Meridian street, girl.
Thomas and Bessie Bowser, No. 715 East Washington street, girl.
Albert and Mrs. Schroder, No. 83 Arizona street, boy.
William and Ella Duke, No. 143 Virginia avenue, boy.

High-School Commencement.

Following is the programme of the High School commencement, which is to be held at Plymouth Church to-night: "Nature as an Educator of Children," Linda H. Jose; "Grandmother and I," Kate P. Smith; "The Question of Athletics," Glenn Morgan; "Writing to Order," Amelia DeMotte; "Aerial Navigation," Ralph H. Helm; "We, Who Are About to Begin Life, Salute You," Catherine A. Pearce; vocal solo, "Good-Bye, Sweet Day," Mattie Myers; "Legends of Gems," Helen Todd; "The Navy in the Wars of Our Country," Frank W. Heiskeil; essay, "Women's Clubs," Bertha L. Walker.

At High School No. 1 the pupils ranking the highest are Bertha Walker, Kate Smith and Glenn Morgan, in the order named. The pupil ranking highest at High School No. 2 is Linda H. Jose. The commencement this year is to be held at Plymouth Church, and is to be invitational. Tomlinson Hall, where the preceding commencements have taken place, was too large for the young lady graduates.

G. A. R. Encampment.

General order No. 11, issued by Department Commander Marsh, announces that the State encampment will be held in Muncie, Wednesday and Thursday, March 27 and 28. Headquarters will be at the Kirby House. Hotel rates ranging from $1 to $2 a day and lodgings in private houses will be furnished for 25 cents a night and meals at the same price. Half-fare rates or one fare for the round trip have been secured from all points in the State, good for March 25, 26 and 27, inclusive, and returning not later than March 28. Persons intending to go to the encampment must inform the local ticket agent at once of their purpose to attend and request him to provide himself with the proper tickets. Those desiring quarters should address J. F. Ross, citizens' committee, Muncie. It is understood that Muncie is going to show what old-fashioned hospitality means.

School Board Investigation.

Members of the School Board say they hope the legislative investigating committee will commence upon them at once and make a thorough investigation. They are anxious, so they say, to have the matter over with and the doubt of some people cleared away. Henry Russe, one member of the board, wants the investigation to be made for the reason that he thinks it will put the board in a better light with the public.

Incorporated Yesterday.

The following articles of association were filed yesterday with the Secretary of State: McDonald & Pitman Company, of Franklin, capital stock, $25,000; the Columbian Relief Fund Society, Indianapolis; Fort Wayne and Harrison Telephone Company, of Fort Wayne, capital stock, $100,000.

Salt Rheum often appears in cold weather, attacking the palms of the hands and other parts of the body. Hood's Sarsaparilla, the great blood purifier, cures salt rheum.

Hood's Pills are the best after-dinner pills; assist digestion, cure headache. 25c.

COUNTY OFFICERS' PAY

ARGUMENT FOR THE OFFICIALS BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE.

President G. M. Fountain and Secretary A. R. Tucker Discuss the Question of Compensation.

The House committee on fees and salaries of county officers granted a hearing on Wednesday evening. Mr. J. M. Fountain, president of the county officers' organization, appeared in behalf of that body, and said:

I am present by invitation to talk with you in regard to compensation for county officers. It is a question that has agitated legislative session for years, and should now be settled for a long time to come. I come to you as president of the County Officers' Association, which has been so vilified by the press, but which I hope will soon be recognized for its true worth as an association that benefits the people as well as its members. I wish to say to you, gentlemen, that I have been a newspaper publisher for fifteen years, and am now, and have myself, perhaps, been guilty of attacks on associations and societies, but I can say, with all candor, I have never known a more senseless crusade, and without cause, than that which has been practiced by the press of this city against the County Officers' Association. This crusade has begun, as I have said, without the shadow of an excuse. Then some one handed a reporter a circular sent out by my friend Mr. Workman, and from it held up a skeleton streaked with gold. The circular may have been unfortunate in its wording, but its intentions were all right, and I believe it is so taken by all members of the association, which includes, I believe, every county officer in the State (and if not I will be glad to have you name one who is not a member). One of the papers of this city has stated that Marion county was not in the association, but such is not the case, for Marion county was represented at our meeting for organization and said they were with us and would do all they could to see that a just and equitable law was enacted, and I firmly believe that they have been misquoted in saying they were not in sympathy with and not members of the association. The circular alluded to called for an assessment of 1 per cent., which would be a large sum if all sent in, but let me say the vast majority threw the notices in the waste basket. The assessments have been made for years. At the biennial meeting held in this city, Dec. 19, for the election of officers for the ensuing two years the question of expense of officials came up, and members of the older committee said it was usual to assess 2 per cent., and some insisted on this rate, as we are to hold a meeting of five days at some point in the State in June, and they said that there was only $750 raised two years ago at the 2 per cent. rate. I objected, and said that I believed the same amount could be raised at 1 per cent., and it would be ample to defray all expenses of official attendance, hall rent and other necessary expense, and if not we could collect enough in June to make up the deficiency, and then, also, the salary law of 1891 had been held to be unconstitutional, and I believed it necessary to have officers look after bills introduced, call on members of the committee and point out inequalities, and if possible have a new law passed that would be just to all, and the officers graded on a basis where compensation would justify good and efficient work. My point was carried.

NO APOLOGIES TO OFFER.

Now gentlemen, I do not offer this as an apology for the circular, which I never saw until I read it in the papers; the officers not being expected to pay any expenses. I have no apology to offer for the association; we court investigation from legitimate sources, but my experience as a newspaper man has led me to avoid newspaper controversy. Newspapers can do many things which individuals cannot, for they speak to thousands while we address each other, and they are feared for their power. They can do much good in the world, yet they often do incalculable harm unless held in check by prudent publishers, not so enterprising as to publish things to the world and investigate them afterwards. Now, I wish to read a circular, which it seems the press don't care to publish. We had intended to give to your consideration a bill which the association thought fair and equitable, and to let the subcommittee and members of our association know what we thought of doing. Meetings were called in each congressional district as follows:

"INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Jan. 18, 1895.

"To.....

"Dear Sir—The executive committee of the County Officers' Association has been actively at work looking to the enactment of a just and equitable law to govern the compensation of county officers, and now, on the eve of some legislation, it is considered desirable that a member of the executive committee visit each congressional district in the State, to give a synopsis of what has been accomplished, and advise as to further action. We would urgently request you to attend, but if it is absolutely impossible for you to do so, will you confer with your brother officials and see that all who can attend this meeting. We want you to know what we are doing, and advise as to how we can act in unison for the benefit of ourselves and for the people we serve.

"The meeting for the.....District will be held at.....Jan....., 1895, at .....o'clock...m. The County Auditor will advise you at what rooms the meeting will be held.

"Yours respectfully,
"J. B. WORKMAN, Secretary."

But enough of this matter, in which men of intelligence take no more stock than you do when representatives of other associations, societies and business interests come before you with their expenses bill. You are not here to be bought and sold. You represent the people of your localities for the State, as we do for the counties. No more, no less.

This association is not an "Organization," for by organization would imply that we are interested in pushing forward measures entirely for our benefit, which we are not. I do not want you to understand that we are entirely unselfish, for we do want fair and equitable compensation for services rendered. I am a firm believer in honesty in State and county affairs, and you will find me ready at all times to denounce any corrupt methods practiced in favor of the association or of any one county, or methods that will benefit one county to the detriment of others. I am here to look after fairness to all at the expense of none.

I believe that in the larger counties, where responsibilities are great, and risks to run in caring for funds, and improving bonds, the salaries, above expenses, should be from $3,000 to $5,000, and men of equal intelligence, after taking into consideration responsibilities, should command somewhere near equal salaries. For instance, in Allen county (the second largest in the State), the clerk's entire compensation is $6,500 and the the expense of deputies $3,800, leaving him a salary of $2,700. The compensation in Marion is $19,500 and expenses of deputies $9,000, leaving him $10,500 salary. This latter sum is probably none too large, but Allen does not get a fair compensation for equal intelligence.

WANTS AN HONEST LAW.

To be honest with you, gentlemen, I have another reason for wanting a fair law, and one that will stand the test of the courts. I am a partisan of partisans, and I want a law passed that will show to the people of the State of Indiana that a Republican Legislature can enact a constitutional law and one that will be just to all—the small as well as the large. This view may not meet the approval of my Democratic friends, but it is my view, and, whatever law may be passed, let honesty be the watchword. Enact a law that will be looked upon with favor by the people, and let us all bear in mind that the people do not want either an extravagant or a niggardly law. We must take into consideration the business of the county and expense incurred by deputy hire, to properly dispose of business in a manner pleasing to the people, and also the fact that in a great number of counties the people are of the opinion that an official is the servant of the people, to answer all questions, and without charge to look up any point that may be requested about their office, and in the larger counties this alone, in addition to looking after details and financial matter, takes all the time of the officials elected. I am sure you, is the pleasure of the people in my county, and in others, and should be respected.

Could a law be enacted providing a penalty for any person soliciting aid in charity or otherwise from a public official our salaries could be several hundred dollars less, without injuring us in the least, but it would deprive us of the pleasure of giving. Then, again, comes the question so familiar to all who have passed through a campaign, the question of "legitimate campaign expenses." The official does, and should cheerfully, contribute for the liquidating of these expenses every two years and the keeping up of the county political organization at all times. It is buncombe to say, "don't do it," for you, the press and the people expect it, and where a partisan business man gives a dollar he rightfully expects the county official to contribute a hundred. And if he don't do it he is "unpopular," and off comes his head. In preparing a nonpartisan law this must be taken into consideration. It is well enough to say, "don't run for office," but gentlemen, you know we will all do so if the opportunity offers.

I do not come here to tell you what kind of a law to pass, but as president of our association to give you any facts in general for all the offices. I am confident I know what is the best law, so far as clerks, recorders and sheriffs are concerned, but the people have been led to believe otherwise, and so long as this is so, from a partisan standpoint I would not have a re-enactment of a fee law exclusively at this time. It is the just and equitable law, however, as the parties incurring expense pay it and no others. The law of 1891 was unfair in every way. It was neither based on population, service required, or equity. It seemed to be a "go as you please" measure without investigation, as salaries were given as Representatives interested enough to go over the bill saw fit to apply them.

ILLUSTRATING THE POINT.

As to a bill on population purely let us see: We will take Ohio county, with the least population of any county in the State, and say the clerk should have $1,000 salary. Ohio county, with an approximate population of 6,000 would take a per capita of almost 17 cents. This rate would give Marion county a salary of $35,700 and St. Joseph $9,850, or more than the fees collected, and in either case will not do as to the larger counties. To show further the fallacies of the law of 1891 we will make a few comparisons. Let us take:

Allen county, with a Superior Court and separate circuit; population, 75,000; vote, 15,000; fees collected, $10,000; four deputies and five in term at a cost of $3,750; bond, $50,000; 953 civil and 162 probate cases; salary, $6,500.

Madison county, soon to have a Superior Court and with a separate circuit; population, 65,000; vote, 13,000; fees collected, $10,000; four deputies and five in term, at a cost of $3,200; bond, $40,000; 1,525 civil and 391 probate cases; salary, $3,300.

Vanderburg county, with a Superior Court and a circuit with Posey; population, 64,000; vote, 12,800; fees collected, $9,400; two deputies; 1,300 civil and 184 probate cases docketed in 1894; bond, $12,000; salary, $5,400.

St. Joseph county, soon to have a Superior or separate court and a circuit with LaPorte; population, 68,000; vote, 11,900; fees collected, $8,500; three deputies; 1,037 civil and 237 probate cases docketed in 1894; bond, $50,000; salary, $3,850.

Martin county, in a circuit with Daviess; population, 14,000; vote, 2,950; fees collected, $1,000; no deputy; bond, $15,000; salary, $1,100.

Starke county, in a circuit with Pulaski; population, 11,000; vote, 2,181; fees collected, $1,500; one deputy, $450; bond, $5,000; salary, $1,000.

Gibson county, in a circuit with Pike and Dubois; population, 31,000; vote, 6,200; fees collected, $5,200; one deputy and two in term at a cost of $1,200; bond, $10,000; salary, $2,400.

Clinton county, in a circuit by itself; population, 35,000; vote, 7,000; fees collected, $6,000; three deputies at a cost of $1,700; bond, $10,000; salary, $2,500.

These comparisons are given, not to show any county in a bad light, but to show the inequalities of the old law and to warn you against a repetition of them. I have these statistics from a large number of counties, and the manner in which they were gathered was as follows:

We have subcommittees of five members from each class of officers, that is, five auditors, five treasurers, etc. The chairmen of these committees constitute the executive committee. Each member of the executive committee sent a question blank to every officer of his kind in the State. For instance the clerk sent the following questions to clerks:

"What was the population of your county in 1890? Population of your county 1894? Vote of your county in 1890? Vote of your county in 1894? Days court sessions in 1890? Days court sessions in 1894? Probate cases docketed in 1890? Probate cases docketed in 1894? Civil and criminal cases docketed in 1890? Civil and criminal cases docketed in 1894? What was your bond in 1890? What was your bond in 1894? What did your office pay in 1890? What is your present salary in 1894? When did your term of office begin? When does your term expire? Give name of ex-clerk? What counties in your judicial district? Have you a Superior Court? What is the expense to you for deputies? How many deputies do you employ? Do you prefer fees or salary? What should be your salary, if so paid?"

The same comparison will hold true as to auditor, treasurer, recorder and sheriff. I give this to show the nature of the statistics gathered from the officers of the various counties, each officer having been sent a blank similar to that given. My knowledge of the people in the various counties teaches me, and probably does you, that locally the people want their officials to have good salaries, while they would keep salaries down in neighboring counties. Of course, this is selfish, but humanity is prone to selfishness.

SYSTEM IS NEEDED.

A haphazard law, such as the one of 1891, will never be satisfactory. A permanent law must have some systematic rule to grade the offices as to business of the county. Under this law, also, I will say I am satisfied there are numerous larger counties where the salaries are much less than the fees, where, when the salary is collected, the official never issues a fee bill, and the county is no better off than before the law was enacted. I speak from a business and political standpoint when I ask, would you, gentlemen, issue a fee bill against a friend and personal acquaintance unless there was some incentive for so doing? There should be some incentive for the clerk, sheriff and recorder to collect fees, for the auditor to loan the school funds and for the treasurer to collect delinquent taxes. The official cannot be placed on a per cent. of the collections more than on population alone, for in some counties the fees are barely enough to cause good service as it is. County officers are not a set of rascals, as has been all but charged. They are generally from the best men in the community. It takes an energetic, reliable man to command a nomination in most of the counties and to give the required bonds. Then, I believe, statistics will bear me out in the statement that the per cent. of the defalcations is fully as small as in other offices or in any other responsible positions. If salaries are placed too low then this class of men will not accept office. I am free to confess I would not be the clerk of St. Joseph county had I not expected a decided increase in salary. I could clearly see that fees turned in to the amount of $8,500 entitled the clerk to a larger salary if he employed competent deputies and enough of them to give the people good service.

Let me again repeat that we are not here to influence legislation in the ways implied by the press. We have no lobby, and, in fact, I have in every way possible taken pains to advise county officers to remain away from Indianapolis for fear the charge of lobbying might be preferred. Our association is not for "revenue" alone. The exchange of ideas has been of great aid in simplifying books of record and causing less expense to the counties. The association should be encouraged, and it would be economy for each county to appropriate sums to defray the expense of every official in the courthouse to our convention in June.

To make a law satisfactory to the people at this time is my wish, but to be too lavish or too niggardly is to be avoided. We hope this committee will take into consideration what the people expect of the officials; be honest with all, and I believe that you will not only formulate a bill that will stand the test of the law, but merit the confidence of your constituents. We do not want a partisan law, or retaliation will come, but see that all officers of the same grade are treated alike. Give compensation enough, so that the officer can give proper care to his duties and do justice to himself and the people.

I will say, in conclusion, that if, in the preparation of a bill, you can use any of the statistics we have they are at your service, or if any member of our association can give you desired information we will be glad to have you call on us.

Now, gentlemen, I make the same request of you that I did of the Senate committee last Wednesday evening—that you put me on oath and ask any question that you wish. Mr. Workman, secretary of the association, and others of the committee are present, and will be glad to answer under oath any questions, they having made themselves thoroughly acquainted with the statistics of not only the auditors' and treasurers' offices, but of the sheriffs' and recorders' as well.

MR. TUCKER'S REMARK.

Mr. A. R. Tucker, secretary of the county officers' organization, was present, and spoke as follows:

In being permitted to appear before you as one of the representatives of the County Officers' Aassociation, I take it for granted that you only wish such statistics or data of information as may assist you in formulating a fair and just fee and salary bill, and one which will not be only just and fair to the county officers, but equitable and fair to the taxpayers of Indiana, and one, which through the increase in population and labor required, may so adjust itself to the increase of population and labor required.

I have been for the past two years an active member of this association, and having visited nearly every county in the State, in the interest of said association, I can say that no officer with whom I have talked in the past asked for an increase in his salary, except from just and honorable motives. The law of 1891 was not based upon an equitable basis, neither do I believe that a salary law based upon population alone can be made just to the officers and tax payers. A straight fee bill would be much better for the taxpayer than a straight salary law, from a fact. If strictly a fee bill, then the parties who have use of the county officers pay the bill, and the taxpayer, or one who has no business to transact, is relieved of that burden of taxation. A straight salary bill compels at least two-thirds of the population to pay the expense of the number for litigation in our courts.

I believe the proper course to pursue in this matter would be to combine the two measures to some extent. By such act the litigant and the taxpayer would each bear their proper portion of the necessary expense of carrying on the business of their respective counties, paying each officer a certain salary equal to the demands made upon him to attend to the legitimate duties in behalf of the interest of the county, and then to establish certain fees for each officer, and requiring said officer to collect the fees, and in consideration of said collection of fees giving the officer a certain per cent. of said fees for collecting the same, turning all the receipts over, less a certain per cent., into the county treasury, to reimburse the county for the salaries paid to said officers, and to enforce said collection of fees and the proper accounting for said fees. Make it the duty of the County Commissioners of the several counties, on the first day of their regular term in March, June, September and December of each year, to require said officers to file a complete report of all fees collected and uncollected to date, said boards of commissioners to issue their receipt or order for the immediate collection of all unpaid fees, and upon the neglect of said officer to enforce said collections, deduct the same from his salary by order of the board. By such proceeding you will remove the office from the political pandering of the county official and the political deadbeat, which each county and political party has to contend with.

Different sections of the State require almost different grades of salaries, if based only on population, while, if based on the business transacted, they would be equalized. To illustrate, taking the auditor's office, over one-third of the counties of the State have no either free gravel roads nor ditches; taking the central and northern part of the State, there is a great number of free gravel roads and ditches, which makes a great deal of extra work for the auditors. Tax duplicates have to be made for each road, and the proper distribution of the same, sometimes requiring from one to two extra men in the office, and to receive and file ditch petitions, and make the proper entries, and advertising and sale of the same, and superintending their construction. If it becomes necessary to advertise and sell the same. To do justice to the office and taxpayers, a bill should be passed based upon population and business done in each office. Each office can be so regulated that all extra work can be paid from its own fund, without distressing other funds.

To secure the proper efforts in managing the school funds belonging to the State some compensation should be allowed for the proper care of such funds. The law giving a per cent. for the handling and management of the same is a good one, I think.

The greatest objection to the law of 1891 is the irregular and partial rating between counties of about the same population, taking into consideration the business done in their respective counties. Take into consideration counties lying along the Ohio river, which are hilly, rocky and rough; there are no free gravel roads or public drains; in the southeastern tier of counties we find the roads and ditches do not require the work that is present in the rest of the State, more especially the central part of the State; also, in some counties of large population there is comparatively a small amount of litigation, while in some counties where population is comparatively small there is considerable litigation. These are facts which I think should be taken into consideration in framing a just and equitable bill, which I believe you will.

Held for Grand Jury Action.

George Harrington was held for grand jury action in Police Court yesterday. Monday Mrs. Lulu Grady lost her pocketbook, containing about $150, on Washington street, near Illinois. She gave the alarm. A colored man said he saw a man pick up something and start west at a lively pace. Tuesday patrolman Lyons arrested Harrington in a saloon, where he was spending money with a lavish hand. In his pockets was found $77, regarding which he could give no satisfactory account. Mrs. Grady testified that the pocketbook had contained a gold dollar which was dearly prized by her.

"That's a little too rough," said Harrington, taking something from his pocket, "here's your dollar and I a'int spent it."

Dr. Price's Cream Baking Powder
World's Fair Highest Award.

Cures Rising Breast

"MOTHERS' FRIEND"

. . . Is the greatest blessing ever offered child-bearing woman. I have been a midwife for many years, and in each case where "MOTHERS' FRIEND" was used it accomplished wonders and relieved much suffering. It is the best remedy for rising of the Breast known, and worth the price for that alone.

MRS. M. M. BREWSTER,
Montgomery, Ala.

Sent by Express or mail, on receipt of price, $1 per bottle. Sold by all Druggists. Book "To Mothers" mailed free.

BRADFIELD REGULATOR CO., ATLANTA, GA.

"HELP!"

A WOMAN'S DESPAIRING CRY.

It is Heard. A Prominent Actress Escapes Great Danger.

[SPECIAL TO OUR LADY READERS.]

How startling is a woman's cry for help!

"What can I do? Where shall I go?" She knows not. This cry goes out today from every city, town, and hamlet in this country.

It comes from women who are suffering tortures of body and mind from some form of female complaint. Many, through natural modesty, do not consult physicians, for many dread their examinations. They know not where to seek for help.

This alarming condition of things is simply wrong. The peculiar ailments of women are curable, and in most cases very speedily. Lydia E. Pinkham's genius and liberality have given to every woman a sure and consistent means of relief.

No woman should suffer when she can obtain free advice. She can state her case fully to Mrs. Pinkham, woman to woman, without reserve, and the answer will come from one of her own sex. Be one of the vast army of women who write to Mrs. Pinkham, at Lynn, Mass., and preserve your health. "Only a woman can understand a woman's ills."

A prominent actress, in a letter to Mrs. Pinkham, says:—

". . . You cannot imagine the fearful condition I was in when I first wrote to you. I was simply of no use to myself or any one else. I had worked hard, and my nervous system was shattered from womb trouble and travelling constantly. I ran the gauntlet of doctors' theories, till my health and money were rapidly vanishing. . . . I'm all right now, and am gaining flesh daily. I follow your advice faithfully in everything. Thank you ten thousand times for what your knowledge and *Lydia E. Pinkham's* Vegetable Compound have done for me."

Fragrant, Exhilarating and Delightful Smoke!

HOOSIER POET

The Public Favorite. . . . . Try It

Manufactured by JOHN RAUCH.

COPY OF STATEMENT OF THE CONDITION
OF THE

ORIENT INSURANCE COMPANY

On the 31st day of December, 1894.

Located at No. 5 Haynes (corner Pearl) street, Hartford, Conn.

CHARLES B. WHITING, President. JAMES U. TAINTOR, Secretary.

The amount of its capital is	$500,000
The amount of its capital paid up is	500,000

THE ASSETS OF THE COMPANY ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Bonds and stocks owned by the company, bearing interest at the rate of — per cent., as per schedule filed, market value	$1,465,090.47
Cash on hand, and in bank	126,568.25
Cash in hands of agents	201,013.83
Real estate owned by the company, unincumbered	38,852.15
Interest accrued	22,085.36
Loans on mortgages, first liens	190,714.30
Loans secured by pledge of stocks and bonds	7,530.00
Total assets	$2,051,884.36

LIABILITIES.

Losses adjusted and due; Losses adjusted and not due; Losses unadjusted; Amount necessary to reinsure outstanding risks	$191,366.18; 906,919.42
Total liabilities	$1,098,285.60

The greatest amount in any one risk, $10,000.

State of Indiana, Office of Auditor of State:

I, the undersigned, Auditor of State of the State of Indiana, hereby certify that the above is a correct copy of the statement of the condition of the above-mentioned company on the 31st day of December, 1894, as shown by the original statement, and that the said original statement is now on file in this office.

[SEAL.] In testimony whereof, I hereunto subscribe my name and affix my official seal, this 18th day of January, 1895.
J. O. HENDERSON, Auditor of State.

COPY OF STATEMENT OF THE CONDITION
OF THE UNITED STATES BRANCH OF THE

SUN INSURANCE OFFICE

On the 31st day of December, 1894.

Located at No. 54 Pine street, New York city, N. Y.

J. J. GUILE, Manager. Home Office: London, England.

THE ASSETS OF THE COMPANY IN THE U. S. ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Cash on hand and in the hands of agents or other persons	$144,883.05
Real estate unincumbered	240,000.00
Bonds and stocks owned by the company, bearing interest at the rate of 4, 4½, 5, 6 and 7 per cent., as per schedule filed, market value	1,271,730.00
Loans on bonds and mortgages of real estate, worth double the amount for which the same is mortgaged, and free from any prior incumbrance	422,000.00
Debts for premiums	317,012.10
All other securities	37,509.96
Total assets	$2,433,135.11

LIABILITIES.

Losses adjusted and due	$15,615.05
Losses adjusted and not due	97,000.00
Losses unadjusted	116,378.82
Losses in suspense, waiting for further proof	15,884.00
All other claims against the company	63,482.78
Amount necessary to reinsure outstanding risks	1,434,694.72
Total liabilities	$1,713,055.37

The greatest amount in any one risk, $50,000.

State of Indiana, Office of Auditor of State:

I, the undersigned, Auditor of State of the State of Indiana, hereby certify that the above is a correct copy of the statement of the condition of the above-mentioned company on the 31st day of December, 1894, as shown by the original statement, and that the said original statement is now on file in this office.

[SEAL.] In testimony whereof, I hereunto subscribe my name and affix my official seal, this 19th day of January, 1895.
J. O. HENDERSON, Auditor of State.

COPY OF STATEMENT OF THE CONDITION
OF THE UNITED STATES BRANCH OF THE

North British and Mercantile Ins. Com'y

Of London and Edinburgh,

On