

# RAILROADS QUOTE TWO VALUATIONS

### HIGH ONE TO BASE RATES ON AND LOW ONE FOR TAXATION.

## MUST CHOOSE ONE OR OTHER

Rate Increase Application Depends on Clearing Up Discrepancies—Hearing Will Come Up April 13.

Jefferson City. The final determination of the application by the railroads to increase rates depends upon whether attorneys for the roads will be able in the final hearing, April 13, to convince the public service commission that it should reject certain sworn statements of the roads as to the value of their property in Missouri and adopt other statements, also made under oath.

Shippers who are opposing the increased rates brought out the fact, in the early hearing, that the estimated value of the roads, filed with the commission for rate making purposes, was from 2 to 10 times greater than the value given to the state board of equalization as a basis for taxation.

The statements are not made up in the same way, and the same items are not totaled, but a comparison of the total value of the properties, based upon the relative value per mile, shows a great disparity.

### Wheat Outlook Good.

The condition of Missouri wheat is 11 points below that of one year ago, according to reports made to the state board of agriculture.

The spring season in Missouri is opening late. Much cold, cloudy weather during March held back farm work. Despite a deficiency in moisture for the month, the soil is well filled with water.

Condition of wheat for the state is 88.8 per cent as compared with 99.8 one year ago. Hessian fly and very late seeding, together with unfavorable weather during March are given as the causes for present wheat condition. However, on the whole, the prospect is promising. The 10-year April 4 average condition on wheat is 86.4. The lowest condition for the decade was 67.5, in 1910.

### Missouri Property.

The total taxable property of the state as returned by the county clerks from the books of the county assessors is \$1,587,602,179. As finally passed upon by the board the total of the taxable wealth of the state, as represented by the assessment of real and personal property, is \$1,558,587,414. This is a reduction of \$29,014,765 from the returns of the county clerks, but is an increase of \$34,765,457 over the total valuation of the same classes of property for taxation last year.

### Mothers' Pension Will Be Vetoed.

Gov. Major announced he would veto the mothers' pension bill. He had been convinced, he said, that the existing arrangement in St. Louis in charge of the board of children's guardians covers the situation better than the legislative enactment.

Senator Kinney, the author of the measure, urged the governor to kill the bill.

The pension bill provided \$10 a month for one child and \$5 for each additional child to mothers whose husbands are unable to support their families through physical incapacity or presence in a prison or hospital. It was amended to apply to St. Louis only.

The proposed law met vigorous opposition in St. Louis. The board of children's guardians tries to handle just such cases in a manner that will keep families together as far as possible.

### Bank Deposits Gain.

A statement issued by the banking department shows an increase of \$20,000,000 in the resources of the banks and trust companies of Missouri since Oct. 31, 1914.

The total amount of cash and sight exchange has increased \$25,000,000 since the October statement; capital stock increased \$1,490,825; surplus and undivided profits, \$2,196,998.23; and deposits \$16,446,060.47. The statement seems to indicate that Missourians are saving their money, but are not borrowing for purposes of investments as the loans, which are considered the investment barometer, have decreased \$3,746,303.27. Bills payable also show a loss of \$3,018,823.76.

### Tent Picture Shows Win.

The building commissioner of St. Louis has held in a ruling that picture shows operated in a tent were unsafe and has ordered them closed. The supreme court has just decided against the commissioner.

### Drinking Cup Doomed.

Rules and regulations adopted by the state board of health prohibiting the use of the common drinking cup and the roller towel on railroad trains have been promulgated by Dr. J. A. A. Adcock, secretary.

## HON. A. E. L. GARDNER



St. Louis county's capable representative in the upper house of the Missouri assembly.

### Experts' Figures.

The public service commission is considering statistics filed by C. H. Bee, rate expert, who testified in the railroad rate hearings, that the roads which were asking largely increased rates were now exacting higher rates and paying less taxes in Missouri than in any neighboring state.

Freight rates are divided by the railroads into class rates and commodity rates.

Class rates apply on all articles which have not a special commodity rate.

Approximately 75 per cent of freight tonnage handled by the railroads is commodity business, though the class and commodity business are about equal in point of gross revenue produced.

The principal articles on which commodity rates apply are grain, flour, hay, fruit and vegetables, livestock, coal, coke, ores, stone, lumber, oils, cement agricultural implements and wagons.

A complete table on all rates, comparing the proposed tariffs for Missouri with those in use in Iowa, shows that of 298 rates quoted only three are higher in Iowa than the proposed rate. Six are the same and 199 of the proposed rates will exceed the Iowa rates.

The proposed rate on wheat is an increase of 23 per cent over the present rate and exceeds the rates in Minnesota, Illinois, Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma and Arkansas.

The present rate of 5 cents on corn for short hauls is 40 per cent greater than in Minnesota and 25 per cent greater in all of the other states mentioned.

A car of cattle shipped 300 miles under the proposed rates would cost \$49.50, an increase of \$14.80 over the present rate and an increase of 17.14 over the Illinois rate, \$15.62 over the Iowa rate and \$14.50 over the Arkansas rate.

A carload of hogs on a 300-mile haul, under the proposed rates would cost \$43.78, an increase over present Missouri rates of \$8.58, exceeding the Minnesota rate by \$10.12, the Illinois rate by \$10.24, Iowa by \$13.38 and Arkansas by \$8.78.

The rate applied for on horses and mules is \$67.85 for 200 miles, an increase of \$22.65 over the rate now in use, and exceeds the Minnesota rate \$23.19, Illinois \$32.41 and Iowa \$28.41.

The increase on long and short hauls of livestock is practically the same.

The present and proposed Missouri rate on lumber is 65 per cent greater than in Minnesota, 60 per cent greater in Nebraska and exceeds the lumber rate in Kansas, Oklahoma and Arkansas.

### Contingent Bill Signed.

Gov. Major has signed the last appropriation bill. It was the general contingent budget, out of which he eliminated \$348,600 by veto and held up \$1,142,825. Of the amount vetoed, \$248,600 was appropriated out of the revenue fund and the other \$100,000 out of the general road fund.

This makes a total of \$678,118 vetoed out of the appropriations bills and a total held up of \$1,508,995.

The largest item held up in the general contingent bill is the item of \$875,000 for an emergency fund for the penitentiary.

All the departments suffered reductions in the appropriations made for them by the general assembly.

### Insurance Inspectors.

Insurance Superintendent Revell appointed E. W. Watson and Means Ray of Cassville as inspectors under the state fire insurance rating law. The salary is \$2,400 a year.

### Murderous Campaign.

What might be an indication that Gov. Major would be a candidate for the United States senate in 1916 was the governor's prophecy that his race against former Gov. Hadley would be a "murderous campaign."

### No Corn Planted.

The state board of agriculture estimates that but 32 per cent of the corn land has been plowed. This is 9 per cent less than one year ago. No corn has been planted. There is a scarcity of seed.

## IN RIGHT DIRECTION

### Federal Trade Commission Has Started Well.

Long-Prevalent Form of Business Hypocrisy Discouraged—Plain Notice That the Law is Henceforth to Be Obeyed.

One form of business hypocrisy has been discouraged at the start by the new federal trade commission. It will not make rulings in advance on knotty questions submitted to it by corporations. It will not open a consultation room for those who are reluctant to obey the antitrust laws. It will issue no certificates of character based on hypothetical conditions.

Business that is mixed with more or less politics has industriously cultivated the idea that public regulation has left it in hopeless doubt as to right and wrong. In this frame of mind it has asked the assistance of the commission, probably not so much for the purpose of learning what it should do as to find out how far it can go without getting into trouble.

The antitrust laws condemning conspiracy, monopoly and coercion are as plain as any other laws. They run against evils universally recognized. Men who are tempted to commit the offenses thus forbidden are not ignorant and they do not fail to weigh the responsibility. It is no more possible in good morals to maintain a public agency for the guidance of such people than it is to expect the district attorney's office to instruct the populace generally upon the loopholes of the criminal law.

The claim that the Sherman and Clayton acts are ambiguous as to their main purpose is a pretense designed to encourage and excuse their non-enforcement. It is made plain almost every day that jurors, prosecutors and even judges are not keen in support of these statutes, but nobody who reads and knows enough to do business can rightfully plead misunderstanding or doubt as to their meaning. If there were no law at all on the subject, most men would know in their hearts that the things prohibited are wrong.

A disposition to get as close as possible to the line between law and lawlessness, perhaps to overstep it, has characterized too many of our business activities. There are many lawyers in private practice who do not hesitate to give advice in such cases, and some of them have been made rich if not famous thereby.

The trade commission avoided a serious pitfall when at the beginning of its career it refused to enter into competition with the professors of the art of skating on thin ice.

### Frick Has No Need to Worry.

Captains of industry like Mr. Frick can never forget that noble period of private prosperity when Wall street had an underground wire running into the White House, and a practical man needed no letter of introduction. Yet even Mr. Frick is a long way from the broad line in spite of the Wilson regime. Unless the public prints are mistaken, he has managed to hold out enough money to buy a \$1,400,000 collection of Fraagonards from J. P. Morgan. There have been American millionaires who thought they were prosperous when they had that much ready cash.

### Two Great Democrats.

In the speaker's chair in the house sits Champ Clark, who was the greater, more than any other man, of the "fighting minority" which made history in the Sixty-first congress, and, becoming the majority in the Sixty-second, did away with the Cannon despotism and democratized the house. And in the senate, the chairmanship of the foreign relations committee, in an hour of world war is held by another great Missourian, William Joel Stone, whose leadership in the tariff struggle has had such important results in other fields.

### President Wilson's Sagacity.

The masterful presidents who have failed in their relations with congress—Roosevelt is at once the nearest and the most conspicuous example—have failed because they were unable to perceive how far a president's rights in directing legislation extend, and where they stop. This jumping-off place is not mapped nor charted—and Roosevelt jumped off. He drew upon him the bitter wrath of the congressional leaders, and upon them the displeasure of the country. But nothing came of it. President Wilson is wiser than his predecessors.

### Doesn't Count for Much.

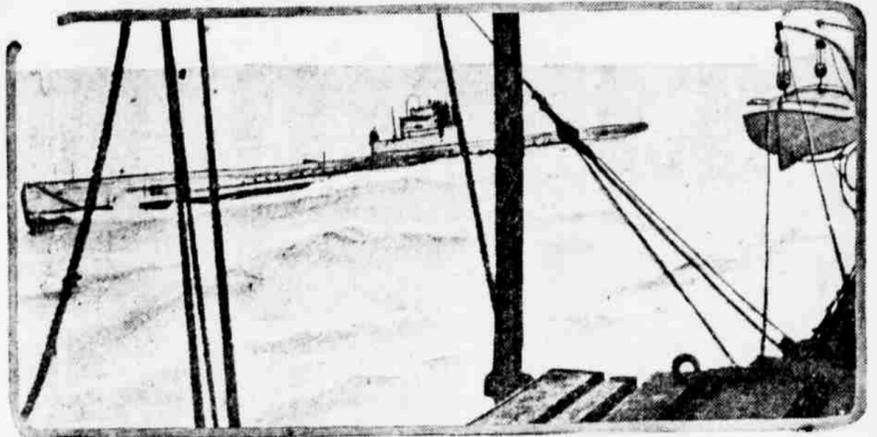
A revolt against Democratic rule is predicted in Louisiana. If we except primary and regular election days, you can get up a good antidemocratic revolt in Louisiana almost any time.

### "Ifs" and "Might Have Been."

If the Republican policy of protection were only in force now—Philadelphia Inquirer.

With this "if" as its inspiration, an alluring picture of what American enterprise would be able to do to meet the analine dye problem is drawn for the delectation of the Inquirer's readers. Perhaps it may occur to some of these to ask why American enterprise did nothing to meet this problem during the long period of time when "the Republican policy of protection" was very much in force.

## JUST AS THE TORPEDO WAS FIRED



Remarkable photograph of the German submarine U-29 made from the deck of the British steamship Headlands just as the submarine fired the torpedo that destroyed the merchant vessel off the Scilly islands. This is one of the photographs that won the \$500 prize offered weekly by two London papers for the best war pictures.

## THE HORRORS OF THE WAR IN SERBIA



Scene in a Serbian village showing peasants slain by the Austrians as they retreated from the soil of Serbia.

## LOST SUBMARINE AND ITS COMMANDER

## BOB GORDON AND THE MACE

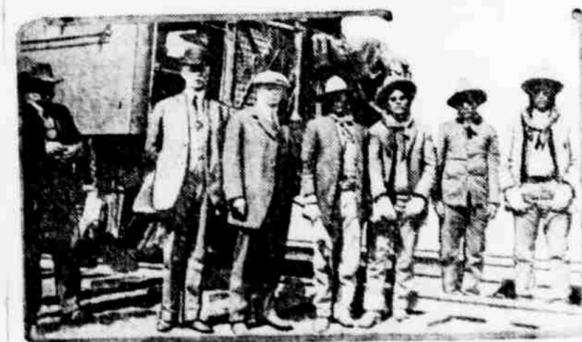


United States submarine F-4, which was lost in Honolulu harbor with its entire crew, and Lieut. Alfred J. Ede, the commander of the vessel.



Bob Gordon, co-sponsor of arms of the house of Representatives is here shown holding the mace of the house, which has been sent to New York to be repaired. The job must be done quickly for congress could not assemble if the mace were not in its place.

## GEN. SCOTT CAPTURES OUTLAW PIUTES



The capture of the outlaw Piutes who had started an Indian uprising in Utah, by Brig. Gen. Hugh L. Scott was a feat characteristic of the chief of staff of the army. Unarmed and with only his aid, Lieut. Col. R. E. L. Michie, and one private, he met the rebellious Indians and persuaded the ringleaders to surrender. In the photograph, left to right, are U. S. Marshal Nebeker, Lieutenant Colonel Michie, General Scott, Chief Old Poik, his son, Hatch (Tae-Ne-Gat), Chief Posey and Posey's son.

### The Future Man.

When one goes way back to the cave man or beyond him to the time when man walked on all fours and slept in a tree, and then reflects upon what man is now, he is wont to imagine what sort of a creature he will be hundreds of centuries hence. Some of us who believe in the ascent of man are inclined to accord to him an angelic form and grace as far ahead of the present man as he is ahead of his prehistoric progenitors.

But now comes a scientist who suggests that the future evolution of the human race may develop lips like the bill of a pelican. A circumstance that suggests this change is the use of these bubbling fountains by the children, which has a tendency to produce protruding lips. What else goes with these protruding lips the scientist does not say, but if they add to his fishing efficiency he must have wings for that, and wings we would all like to have.—Ohio State Journal

### Get Them Mixed.

It happens that my stories are read in the family of a well-known probate judge up in Danbury, Conn., writes Irvin S. Cobb. Otherwise the judge's household is always reproach. Not the least important member of the family is the queen of the kitchen, the old colored cook, and she has her fling at the magnanimous week as soon as the new one arrives.

The judge is a born follower of all the war stories by different writers in the magazine and he knew that the old money had been looking over some of the stuff herself, as she had expressed her opinions about the Germans and "dolls" on several occasions.

"One day soon after the story of my interview with Lord Kitchener was published, the judge casually asked me how the war was going along, and if she thought they'd ever stop fighting."

"Judge," she said, "dat wiah gonna last yet three years?"

"How'd you find that out?" asked the judge.

"De king o' Europe done told Ty Cobb."

### Making It Right.

"I am going to sell kisses at the church fair."

"Are you?"

"Yes, you should have said you'd buy some."

"I could not well say that until I know if they are to be your own kisses or are to be furnished by your cook. I don't care for counterfeit."

quality