

ROCK ISLAND OUT

WITH ATTENTION IT HAS WITHDRAWN FROM THE WESTERN FREIGHT ASSOCIATION.

TEN DAY NOTICE GIVEN.

BAD FAITH ON THE PART OF THE OTHER ROADS CHARGED.

PACKING HOUSE PRODUCT RATE

Cut by the Two Roads to Meet Alleged Secret Schedules Already in Effect.

CHICAGO, Sept. 24.—The Rock Island and the Atchafalaya roads today sent Commissioner Midgley, of the Western Freight association, notice of their intention to withdraw from the organization at the expiration of ten days. The Rock Island in giving the notice says that the chief feature of the association agreement that has ever been of any substantial benefit to its members is the one which requires all lines, before making any reductions in rates, other than those to meet outside competition, to present the proposed reductions for consideration at the regular meeting of the association, whereupon if they were not acted upon favorably, the line desiring to make the reductions was required to give ten days' notice at the meeting at which the proposed reductions were considered, of its intention to put in the rates, notwithstanding the action of the meeting to the contrary. The Rock Island says that some of the members of the association have pursued tactics that are a virtual abandonment of the agreement and it can see no cause for remaining a member of an agreement that is an agreement in name only, and has no binding force upon its members. The notice of the Atchafalaya gives similar action for its withdrawal. Both roads will cease to be members of the association after Oct. 5.

The Rock Island road today also gave notice of its intention to reduce the rate on fresh meats from Kansas City, St. Joseph, and from the Mississippi river to 10 cents and the rate on packing house products from the same points to the Mississippi river to 8 cents per hundred. This is a reduction of 5 cents on fresh meats and 5 cents on packing house products from the rates in effect heretofore. These rates become effective Sept. 28. The same rates will be given to Omaha, South Omaha and Council Bluffs as from the lower Missouri river points.

In sending notice to Commissioner Midgley the Rock Island says that since the reduced rates of Aug. 1 have been in effect on fresh meats and packing house products similar action for the Mississippi river, it has been unable to obtain freight at the agreed rates, being told by shippers that its rates were too high. It says that it is compelled to reduce the rates by the action of its competitors and that the rates will remain in effect until satisfactory assurances are received that its competitors will observe the low rate contracts. The action of the Rock Island was met by the Atchafalaya today and it is expected that the other railroad tariff sheets to correspond tomorrow.

IN LINE OF PROMOTION.

Great Northern to Institute a New System.

Attention has been attracted to the Great Northern through the adoption by the latter of a new system of filling vacancies by promotion. The ordinary system employed by nearly all railroads has been to select outsiders to fill vacancies, and the filling of the same by the Great Northern has established what virtually amounts to a bona fide civil service system. The new system of filling vacancies through death, disability, removal for cause, resignation, or another reason, by direct promotion to the position of the vacant position, is a merit system. A circular covering the new system has been issued, and governs the engagement, transfer, suspension and discharge of employees in all departments. The circular says that all employees other than laborers in regular positions shall be promoted to the position of the vacant position on a form prescribed for that purpose, a personal record, which form will be promptly forwarded to the assistant to the president through the head of the department in which the employee may be effectively engaged. No engagements, transfers or promotions of any employee will be effective without the approval of the president, and the department in which the employee was engaged is to be promptly notified in writing. The heads of all departments are required to notify the assistant to the president whenever, through the exercise of skill or judgment, an employee's action is meritorious, and such meritorious action is to be made a part of the personal record. Any employee who is removed from the road in good standing will be entitled to receive a certificate showing time and character of his service with the company, and the reason for his discharge, such certificates to be signed only by assistant general superintendents, or their assistants, or by machinery, superintendent of telegraph, or the general officer at the head of the department in which the person interested may be engaged. Copies of these certificates are to be forwarded to the assistant to the president.

STILLWATER NEWS.

Republican County Nominations Not in Demand Among the Faithful.

A. E. Doe, who has been mentioned in connection with the Republican nomination for county attorney, has declined to enter the fight, his statement being made to political friends yesterday. It is also reported that the residence of Maj. A. G. Wilson, who was mentioned as a candidate for superintendent of schools, has declined to permit his name to be brought before the voters. Mrs. Thos. J. Yorks and son have been arrested on warrants charging them with assault with a dangerous weapon. The complainant is R. M. Coles, who has been at law for many years over some property, and Coles claims that they assaulted him while he was removing a fence from the property. The case will be tried in the municipal court Oct. 1.

The "free silverites" opened the campaign in this city last night with a rally at Music hall. The speakers were Francis H. Clarke, of St. Paul, and J. A. Keyes, of Duluth. The residence of Maj. A. G. Wilson, who was mentioned as a candidate for superintendent of schools, has declined to permit his name to be brought before the voters. Mrs. Thos. J. Yorks and son have been arrested on warrants charging them with assault with a dangerous weapon. The complainant is R. M. Coles, who has been at law for many years over some property, and Coles claims that they assaulted him while he was removing a fence from the property. The case will be tried in the municipal court Oct. 1.

Forwarded to the assistant to the president.

The system will very likely be popular among the employees of the road who will be stimulated to doing their best. The reform or change in system is supposed to be one of the first to come from Second Vice President Newman, and it will establish him firmly in the good will of the employees. When Mr. Newman was connected

with the Northwestern, he was called one of the most popular traffic men in the service of any western road.

GOLD FIELDS OF KOOTENAI.

Alex McMillen Says They Are Booming Nowadays.

Alex McMillen, of Winnipeg, brother of H. G. McMillen, formerly general freight agent of the Eastern Minnesota, was in the city yesterday on his way East. Mr. McMillen has just returned from a very extensive trip through the Kootenai region in Montana and British Columbia, a large portion of the trip being in territory which is very new and unexplored. Mr. McMillen is very enthusiastic over the country, and believes that with the return of prosperity, there will be a great rush of prospectors to the gold and silver fields of the Kootenai district. Concerning his trip, Mr. McMillen said: "It seems but yesterday that Eastern British Columbia was but an interminable wilderness of mountains with here and there a trail from one distant settlement to another. But there has been a great influx of settlers during the past year or two, and a corresponding increase of transportation facilities. Now the foot of the locomotive and the puff of the river steamboat is heard in territory which has been known for strange sounds. The old time journey of a week has been condensed into a day. When I was out there the last of the season, the trail from Spokane to Trail, Roseland or Nelson, but now you can make the trip in less than a day. The Spokane Falls & Northern is building a line from Roseland to Roseland, and when completed in the course of a few weeks, you can go from Spokane to Roseland in 66 hours. There is also a corresponding increase in the Kootenai district, and great numbers of prospectors are passing up from Kallispell to the Fort Steele gold fields, and from there to the stage from Kallispell. The boats running on the Kootenai have contracts to carry 40,000 tons of ore from the mining country to the coast during the season. As soon as the question of quick transportation is settled, the development of the mining country will be rapid and the amount of ore that is no doubt about the existence of great quantities of precious metals. The Roseland and Trail mines are now being worked, and the amount of ore that is being reduced, of which there is an immense amount, that will add largely to the profits. The amount of ore that is being constantly increasing, and if development continues the next few years as rapidly as it has in the past, every ounce of gold that is produced will be sent to the smelters before long. The smoke of the smelters will be seen from Fort Steele west to the valley of the Okanogan, and from there to the coast. The railroad's running from Kallispell to Spokane and Cody has opened up a large field, and will bring thousands of dollars out of that country."

OMAHA MEETING HANGS.

Yesterday Failed to Finish Its Deliberations.

The meeting of general freight agents of Northwestern lines, held at the Omaha yesterday, to consider the grain rate situation, made considerable progress, but failed to finish its deliberations. The Burlington, Cedar Rapids & Northern put in an appearance and it is likely an amicable adjustment of the rates will be reached. The representatives applied from Dakota, Minnesota and Iowa points to Minneapolis, Duluth and Chicago. An effort was made to complete the meeting, but a general advance of rates and this object may be successful before the session finally adjourns.

WHEEL PUT TO GOOD USE.

Prevented the Abduction of a Small Boy.

BENSONVILLE, N. Y., Sept. 24.—The bicycle was utilized successfully today to prevent the abduction of a five-year-old boy by his father. Randolph Mosher and his wife separated several months ago, their only child being with the mother. The father has made several attempts to kidnap the boy since the mother refused to surrender him. Ralph Wheeler, a neighbor of the boy's, started in search of him on his bicycle. He was riding along the house the boy was in, and picked up flowers by the roadside, but before Miss Wheeler had reached him she saw the father approaching in a carriage. The girl knew at once that Mosher would capture the boy if possible, and hurriedly fled to her mother's house. Mosher and his friend pursued at a desperate pace, but the horse was distanced by the bicycle, and Ralph was soon detected by his mother.

STEEL BRIDGE AT DULUTH.

Eastern Minnesota Is Replacing the Duluth Trestle.

The Eastern Minnesota is replacing its wooden trestle between Rice's Point and the depot at Duluth with a steel structure, which when finished will be 1,000 feet long. The bridge is now about one-third completed. The work will be fully half completed before the winter sets in and stops operations. The bridge is so constructed as to allow the placing of a double track when needed. The work is of the highest order. The foundations of the bridge are constructed of Kettle river sandstone.

CLAIMS AGAINST N. P.

They Must Be Filled With Care to Be Allowed.

MILWAUKEE, Wis., Sept. 24.—Judge Jenks has issued an order, in the United States court, requiring all parties having claims against the Northern Pacific railroad company to file copies and proofs with Master A. L. Cary, within six months from Dec. 1, 1896. Claims not filed within the time specified, will not be considered, if allowed, will be paid by the new company.

WHEAT PIT WARM

TRANSFER ORDERS MODIFIED.

Troops Will Not Change as at First Indicated.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 24.—Secretary Lamont has made an important modification of his order in regard to the transfer of troops. As now provided the Fifth artillery, at present distributed along the Pacific coast, will relieve the First artillery, distributed among Northern troops in the department of the East and the department of the Missouri, instead of relieving the Third artillery, stationed at South Atlantic. The First artillery will remain at their present stations for transfer organizations ordered there. The object of this modification of the original order is to keep the complete rotation of the stations of the troops by sending the northern troops south, the southern troops west and the western troops to the northeast coast.

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