

RATES ARE UNJUST

GRAND ISLAND AND HASTINGS FILE COMPLAINT.

FORTY RAILROADS DEFENDANTS

Cauc Goes to Interstate Commerce Commission—Business Men Behind Move.

Lincoln.—The attorneys for the cities of Hastings and Grand Island have filed a complaint with the interstate commerce commission alleging that railroad rates on goods shipped from the east into Hastings and Grand Island are higher in proportion on the Nebraska haul of 145 miles than on the haul from Chicago or Chicago points to Omaha or other Missouri river crossing points, a distance of 482 miles, in violation of sections 1 and 2 of the interstate commerce act.

It is alleged the rates charged to Grand Island and Hastings are unreasonably high, unjust and unlawful, prejudicially discriminatory and in violation of sections one and two, interstate commerce. The complaint is backed by the Grand Island Commercial club and the chamber of commerce of Hastings. The list of roads made defendants, nearly forty railroad companies, commencing with the New York Central and including the Northwestern, Missouri Pacific, Union Pacific, Burlington, M. & O. St. Joe & Grand Island and the Rock Island.

Loan Companies Make Gain.

Lincoln.—Assets of building and loan associations of Nebraska have increased the last year \$4,391,686.97, according to the report of Secretary Royse of the State Banking Board, made to the members of the board, Governor Morehead, State Treasurer George and Auditor Howard. Secretary Royse believes that the law regarding these associations will soon need amending and in speaking of this matter says: "I will refer you in particular to one provision of the law, that, in my opinion, should receive attention." As the law now stands the amount of stock held by any one person is limited to \$5,000 per value. Inasmuch as the law provides that a loan shall not exceed the par value of the stock held by the borrower, the maximum loan that can be made is \$5,000. This was a wise provision at the time the law was enacted, but conditions have changed and what appeared to be an ample loan provision at the time the law was passed is now found to be entirely inadequate and absurdly restrictive as applied to some of the large institutions. I will not attempt to recommend a basis for enlarged privileges in the matter of loans, except to state that care should be taken in extending the limit to which a stockholder may invest, and to call attention to the fact that enlarging the loan limit will be exceedingly dangerous to consider full paid or matured stock as any part of the basis upon which the limit of loans might be predicated. There are many minor amendments that might be made to the law that would enable it to work more smoothly, but the amendment referred to above stands out clearly as an important one.

May Share in Estate.

Mrs. Minnie June Boggs, former Omaha girl, now employed as a stenographer at the democratic state headquarters here, may share in the \$2,000,000 estate left by the Calverts, the original lords of Baltimore. Mrs. Boggs' mother is one of the seventh lineal descendants of Cecil Calvert, the first Lord Baltimore, now living. The distribution of the estate will come up in federal court in Maryland early in January.

To Commemorate Motor.

On October 31 the state historical society will unveil a monument at Nebraska City marking the initial starting point of the old steam wagon road. The steam wagon made its first and last trip on a certain day in August, 1862. The advent of the steam wagon was chronicled as an important event in railroad engineering as it was one of the first attempts at steam transportation in this part of the country.

State Board to Test Law.

Chairman Holcomb of the state board of control says the board has decided to test the law authorizing the board to transfer funds of a state institution to another fund of the same institution. Acting on an opinion of the attorney general's department State Auditor Howard has refused to permit the board to transfer \$11,000 of the penitentiary salary funds to the penitentiary maintenance fund.

To Form New Battery.

Adjutant General Phil Hall has returned from Hastings, where he conferred with business men of that city regarding the establishment of a battery of artillery. The War department has signified its intention to place a battery in this state as a part of the national guard, but demands that it be given a good substantial place to be housed, as the equipment costs in the neighborhood of \$100,000. The business men of the city made General Hall several propositions.

Plan of Apple Growers.

Fancy Nebraska apples, said to be the equal of any in the country, are now being packed and placed in cold storage for use during the winter after the cheaper and short keeping varieties have been marketed. Secretary J. R. Duncan of the state board of horticulture says the best grades will be sold direct by the grower to the retailer, and that all middlemen's expenses will be saved and that this will mean more money for the grower and less cost to the consumer.

CONDENSED NEWS

OF INTEREST TO ALL.

Lincoln banks will send \$50,000 in gold to New York.

E. M. Saas has purchased the Ideal theater at West Point.

Corn prospects in the vicinity of West Point are good.

Blair and Holdrege have each organized a troop of cavalry.

An automobile accident near Pilger Fred Barr was instantly killed.

Rev. C. W. Heady has preached his farewell sermon at the Tecumseh Baptist church.

Jane Addams, in her speech at Lincoln says Nebraska will be the next suffrage state.

Business men of Beatrice have endorsed exemption of municipal bonds from taxation.

Over 400 delegates attended the Degree of Honor convention at Fremont last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Sylvanus Lamb of Geneva celebrated their sixtieth wedding anniversary.

State Manufacturers' association will hold its annual meeting at Omaha November 18 and 19.

One man was killed and eight injured by explosion of an asphalt mixer boiler at Beatrice.

Nearly 2,000,000 bricks have gone into the construction of the new Fontaine hotel at Omaha.

Four Italian laborers were injured when they fell from a twenty-five foot trestle near DeWitt.

The fifteen orphan children who have arrived at Tecumseh from New York, have all found homes.

Grand Island schools will be closed the entire three days during the state teachers' convention at Omaha.

State Degree of Honor in its session at Fremont last week, selected Lincoln as the next meeting place.

Omaha is to be headquarters of the Underwriters Securities company, a new \$2,500,000 insurance concern.

Members of the Fremont Country club have decided to hold a fair at the Masonic hall, starting November 16.

Bonds to the amount of \$9,500 were voted at Talmage for the construction of an electric light and power plant.

The question of abolishing the office of county assessor will be voted on by Gage county voters at the fall election.

While trying to drive a vicious mare, Sam Keister of Broken Bow was thrown from the buggy and badly injured.

The Bell Telephone company is rebuilding its lines west of Falls City. The lines were in bad shape and many poles rotted.

Oscar Wambarger of Norfolk, was instantly killed when his automobile missed a culvert and turned turtle north of town.

The first annual Howard county fair was considered very successful. The total attendance for the three days was about 7,500.

J. R. Duncan of the State Horticultural society reports that apples in the southeastern part of Nebraska were never better.

The citizens of Alliance have adopted resolutions looking toward the securing of a farm demonstrator for Box Butte county.

Nance county and men of Fullerton joined in forming the Fullerton Commercial club with farmers' and business mens divisions.

The Methodist parsonage at Inman is being rebuilt. Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Watson, formerly of Hartington, will occupy the new parsonage.

The city of Omaha cannot for the present have dollar gas, according to a decision handed down by Federal Judge T. C. Munger at Lincoln.

More than 2,000 people participated in the Columbus day parade at Omaha in commemoration of the discovery of America, 422 years ago.

Preliminary plans and programs are being prepared for the annual meeting of the Nebraska Farmers' Congress in Omaha, December 8 to 10.

Charles Balduff, sr., of Fremont, a pioneer business man and head of the Balduff Marke and Ice company for many years, is critically ill at his home.

Two hundred cars of piled hay has been shipped from Inman during the first half of October. Much of this shipment goes to the western market and is made up of No. 1 hay.

Dr. Day of the state veterinarian's field force inspected more than 100 horses at Hecla and found some showing symptoms of dourine, an infectious disease of breeding animals.

If Omaha can guarantee the necessary tonnage to make a steam barge line pay, the Mississippi River Transportation company will send a barge to Omaha on the Missouri river.

Prof. F. W. Jesse of Thorndale, Tex., has been elected director of the Seward Lutheran seminary. The trustees have let a contract for the erection of a new dwelling to be used by Prof. Jesse.

The Red Willow county teachers' association will meet in Lebanon, Saturday, October 24.

Beginning November 1, 1914, the pulpit of the First Presbyterian church of Winnebago will be filled by Dr. W. W. Tait, now of Randolph, and formerly of Minden. He received an unanimous call.

Fifty-six Webster county farmers appeared in United States district court at Hastings, demanding pay for a total of more than 40,000 bushels of wheat which they had stored in the Bladen elevator of William Rundberg, now a bankrupt.

The Bethpage inner mission association dedicated its third cottage to the use of unfortunate epileptics at Axtell.

The 200 delegates to the state federation of women's clubs at Pawnee City adopted resolutions endorsing woman suffrage.

A reduction has been made in the working hours of the Rock Island locomotive shops and car yards at Fairbury. The men go to work at 7 a. m. and cease work at 4 p. m., making an eight-hour schedule. It is expected that a reduction in employees will be made in the near future.

BATTLE OF SOISSONS AS SEEN BY WRITER ON FIRING LINE

By JOHN ASHTON. Special Correspondent of the Chicago Tribune.

Paris.—I have just returned to Paris to rest up a day or two and get a few necessities after a week at the front of the left wing of the allied armies who are facing General von Kluck's army.

Farther to the east in a line extending from Reims to near Verdun the French are holding their ground against a fierce onslaught of the Germans under the prince of Wurtemberg.

I will recount what I have witnessed during the last few days.

Leaving Meaux, we made our way through Varennes and Lizy, the scene of fierce fighting during the battle of the Marne, some details of which I gave in my first letter. All the dead have now been interred and the wounded removed from the several deserted villages through which we passed.

Find Wrecked German Plane.

Before arriving at Leerte Milon we came across a German aeroplane which had been brought down by the British. The English flying squad have been doing grand work in the air not only as scouts but in attacking hostile air craft. It is reported that no less than seventeen German aviators have fallen victims to the English flying men.

On approaching Villers-Cotterets, in the middle of the forest of that name, we came across several military automobiles, lying by the side of the route, which the Germans had abandoned in their hurried flight to the north. Two of these were marked "Feld Post" (field or military post). A little farther on we encountered six large German motor trucks which had evidently been destroyed by the Germans; everything was burnt up except the iron work. These wagons had been left in the road to delay pursuit, but the French had overturned them into the ditch on each side of the road.

Meet German Prisoners.

It was dark when we arrived at Villers-Cotterets. Before we had time to get out of our auto I heard a cry: "Voile les Allemands!" (here come the Germans!) and, indeed, a moving gray mass soon came into sight, surrounded by a cavalry escort. There were about 100 of them, prisoners, marching in the cold rain. Many of them wore Red Cross arm bands, and I noticed a few officers among the bunch. Their expressions were sour and sullen, but considering their privations, they looked fit enough physically.

These were men that had got lost in the forest and failed to catch up with their columns. Many prisoners are taken in a similar way on both sides. Sometimes they come struggling in half starved to death.

Pass Night in a Chateau.

We passed the night in an old chateau. The town was full of troops, and the hotels packed with officers, so we were very lucky to get under cover at all. A few days previously the Germans had occupied the town, the staff having made their headquarters at this same chateau. The chamber maid left in charge of the house (the owner and his wife having fled) told us that the Germans had taken away some valuable Gobelin tapestries; the smaller tapestries had been left. They had also taken away some silver plate, but had left behind many pieces of considerable value.

We slept on the floor in the library, in a separate building, one of the finest private libraries I have ever seen, containing several thousand volumes. A very elegant secretary in the library had been forced up, the contents ransacked, and the top wrenched off and thrown on the floor. I had nothing to cover me with, and as it was cold I slept very little.

We could hear the guns booming the greater part of the night.

Approach the Firing Line.

Starting out early in the direction of Soissons, we came upon the Thirtieth regiment of French artillery, at but five miles from the latter town. We could hardly believe we were so close to the firing line, but there they were, twelve guns (known as the Seventy-five), pounding away across the valley to where the Germans were entrenched.

We stopped our auto at a respectable distance and approached the batteries on foot. The ammunition wagons and extra horses and men were all drawn up silent and motionless behind a hedge a short distance from the guns. There was no danger then, as the Germans were replying only to other French batteries lower down the valley.

Very soon the men not busy at the guns began to surround us, begging tobacco and cigarettes. It is an awful thing for these poor soldiers to be deprived of the comforting weed. I saw a great deal of this later, on the field and at hospitals.

We had intended to go directly into Soissons by the main road, but the French officers dissuaded us, saying that the Germans would certainly shell our autos. So we went by another route, to go by Vauxbain, a village lying in the bottom of the valley, two and one-half miles from Soissons.

Under German Shell Fire.

We stopped at an ancient, picturesque chateau, turned into a hospital, to inquire about the wounded. Hard-

ly had we arrived in front of the gates when German shells began screeching over our heads. We scarcely knew where to go for safety. A fearful crash on our right just behind the hospital showed that the German range was getting nearer. Some of our party naturally became alarmed. Then we all crouched down behind our autos as another shell whistled close to us and dropped in a garden. Two of the spent pieces actually fell at our feet and a few seconds afterwards another spent piece of shell, still hot, struck one of our party on the leg.

It was evident that we were in great danger. Some one said, "stand by the cars."

It was a good job we did not take this advice; but we might have done it if at that moment a woman at the door of the village wine shop across the street had not shouted: "Come inside, for God's sake!"

Fee into a Cellar.

We did not need twice asking. Hardly had we got across the threshold when a tremendous noise like a million rawhide whips cracking at the same moment, followed by the noise of falling masonry, showed that we were in for a regular bombardment. Everybody rushed for the cellar.

As soon as the dust and smoke had cleared away someone crept up the steps to look out and returned saying one of the turrets on each side of the entrance gates to the castle had been completely demolished by the last shell. And still they came, and there we huddled looking into each other's eyes, as well as the dim light would admit, in that little wine cellar with its solid vaulted roof that we prayed might not give way should the house be struck. I shall never forget the time spent in that cellar. There were twenty-three of us, including about seven women of the village and a little boy. We were there from 10:30 a. m. until a little after noon, with shells dropping all around us. One dropped five yards from the door, the shock breaking every pane of glass in the house and making an enormous hole in the road. Another shell struck the ground about twelve feet in front of our cars, just grazing and mashing a portion of the village cross.

Everything has an end, and we could hear the shells bursting farther and farther away. Still it was deemed prudent to lie low for a bit.

Eat as Shells Scream.

After a time one of the villagers went out at a rear door and brought back a big dish of fried chipped potatoes and bread, so that with the wine in the cellar we made a hearty lunch under the circumstances. We were very hungry, as we had eaten nothing since the previous evening.

When it was safe to get out we found that the shell that dropped near the cars had burst two tires on the car I rode in, had smashed all three of the wind shields, and filled the car bodies and covers full of holes. The cars looked as if they had been peppered with machine guns. Luckily the engines were not damaged in the least.

The Germans, being deeply entrenched in old chalk quarries, a sort of natural fortress in the hillsides overlooking Soissons, continued to reply to the numerous French guns with impunity and occasionally to bombard Soissons and Vauxbain. Up to the time of my leaving this same thing had been going on for over a week.

Soissons is in a pitiable state. The Germans have not spared its old cathedral with its two Gothic spires.

From the rear of the hospital at Vauxbain we had a fine view of this grand old landmark. One of the steeples is broken off about half way, and the other has a big hole in the side, plainly seen three miles off.

I passed about four days here. The artillery firing was terrific from morning to night. The battle rages over an enormously extended front.

I saw some shockingly wounded men while at Vauxbain. The night before I left five men were brought in with fearful injuries in different parts of the body. A German shell had dropped among eight artillerymen serving one of the French guns. The other three men were killed on the spot. This is just an incident among hundreds that are happening every day.

At one village I passed through, where the Germans had left 160 wounded, most of whom were brought in under cover two days after the battle by the French, the doctors asked me, implored me, to try and get some milk for the wounded. Nearly all the cattle have been driven out of the country to safer places or have been requisitioned either by the German or the French forces. Many lives are lost on both sides through exposure and lack of attention after being wounded. Cases of gangrene and tetanus are not infrequent. The doctors and nurses are doing heroic work, but it often happens that they are very much overcrowded before they have a chance to remove those wounded who are able to be sent to other hospitals. At Vauxbain the hospital was crowded. There were 400 people there, and the house had only accommodations for 100.

Huge Jewish Army.

Petrograd.—A quarter of a million Jews are with the Russian forces. This is the largest Jewish army ever gathered since the fall of Jerusalem.

LEARN HOW TO BEST GERMAN MONSTER GUNS

London.—A wounded artillery officer who has returned from the front, gives the following interesting details concerning the working and the effects of the fire of the German 17-inch howitzers.

"If well served and employed under proper conditions," the officer said, "these guns are very effective, but their handling and transport is so

difficult that this is rarely the case. "Again, while effective at distances, the big howitzers are comparatively harmless at close range.

"The troops quickly grasped the best method for dealing with these monsters. Once having passed the zone commanded by their fire the French, being handy with the 75-millimeter guns, sweep away the German artillerymen and then charge. Already a fair number of the guns have been captured in this way."

SENEGALESE CAVALRYMEN TAKING REFRESHMENT



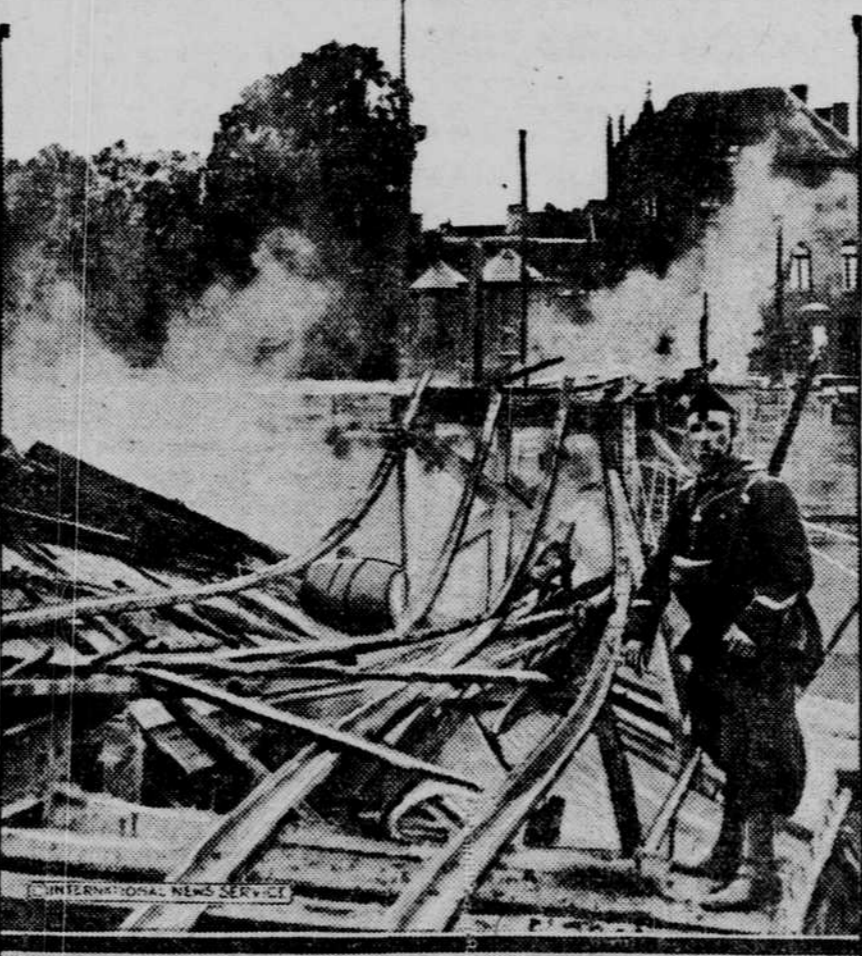
INTERNATIONAL NEWS SERVICE

BERLIN WOMEN FEEDING CHILDREN OF SOLDIERS



Scene in Berlin showing the children of men who are fighting for the fatherland, being fed by the Berliner Frauen Unterstuetzungs Verein (Berlin Ladies' Relief society).

HAMPERING THE GERMAN OPERATIONS



This is the way the Belgians destroyed the railway which was the German line of communication between the army in France and Brussels.

RUSSIAN GUN INTERESTS GERMANS



German soldiers and others in Berlin examining a peculiar machine gun captured from the Russians.

BERLIN SHOWS GREAT ENTHUSIASM FOR THE WAR

In a letter from Berlin which has been sent to the New York Sun some interesting facts are given about the situation in Germany. Excerpts from the letter follow:

"There is not a soul who is not glad this war is on, and every one does all he can for the fatherland. Young people travel by the hour, even days at a time, through entire Germany, visiting one regiment after another, begging to enlist. When turned away because the regiments are full, they try secretly to enter the barracks and so get to the front. Very old men in large numbers entreat officers to accept them, and if too old or weak, they put on their old uniforms of 1870 and drill the recruits, teaching marching and shooting. Every day we see over a hundred such volunteers, commanded by an aged captain, going through drills and all sorts of evolutions, lasting the whole day.

WOUNDED ALGERIAN FIGHTER



This Algerian, who was wounded in the battle of the Aine, is a type of the soldiers which France brought over from her possessions in Africa.

Camera Carried by Pigeon.

A miniature camera is in existence which can be attached to the body of a pigeon, carried by the bird to a considerable height above fortified and other positions, and used to photograph the positions. The possibilities of its use in war were recognized in Germany before the present conflict, and experiments made. To what extent the camera-pigeon has been employed by "alien enemies" in England is another matter. At any rate, aliens in this country are now prohibited by law from owning carrier pigeons, and all carrier pigeons flying near the coast are shot by police watchers. The camera is, of course, automatic in its action, and takes photographs at regular intervals. The apparatus is made in two forms, as a single camera and as a double camera.—London News.

The Moscow hospital, the largest in Europe, employs over 900 nurses.

"There is no increase in the cost of living here; nearly everything remains at the former prices; the police watch that no dealer asks more than the regular prices set by law. Coal is not dear. The railroads, subway, elevated omnibus, all are running on schedule time, and everywhere there is the greatest quiet and order. Theaters are open, mansions are building houses, the trees and parks and flower gardens are all cared for as usual, and if one did not know there was war he would not realize it."