T. A. GRIFFIN REPLIES TO DAILY NEWS EDITORIAL ON FREIGHT RATE ADVANCES

(From Chicago Daily News.)

Mr. Griffin Replies.

I desire to call attention to an editorial printed in The Daily News, May 21, headed "Back Fire on the Shippers," in which you make the following statements: First, that my representation of the case is not candid; second, that what I did have to say was based upon the action of the shippers' conference, and, third, that I had no right to pose as a business man having interests in common with the shippers.

The circulation for signatures of a statement relating to freight rates was, as far as I was concerned, confined to fellow members of the Railway Business association, and no reference was made to the shippers' conference. I personally attended this conference and have no criticism to make on anything that was done there and none was made or intended by me, but what I "deprecated" was contained in an article sent out by the Illinois Manufacturers' Association, dated May 7, and, as a member of that Association, I personally wrote a letter to each of its individual members, dated May 17. In this I referred to the misleading and unfair statements contained in the circular of May 7 mentioned above, and in doing so I was "candid." I said that the statement "that railroads are rapidly increasing their net earnings" was not true and as to the correctness of my statement I beg to refer to the following:

The latest interstate-commerce commission reports show that during the month of March eleven systems, representing every railroad north and west on a line drawn through Chicago and St. Louis, show an increase in gross earnings for the month of March, of nearly $7,000,000 compared with March, 1909, while the net earnings for the same roads in the same period show a decrease of $965,000; and the interstate commerce commission figures for the ten months, July to March 31, in 1910, as compared with 1909, show an increase in gross of over $50,000,000, while the net earnings of these same systems in the same period of comparison, show a falling off of over $3,500,000. And, as comparatively little of the increases in wages had even gone into effect during March, the railroads must provide some means to increase a revenue that is already decreasing on an increased amount of business, and there is no way for railroads to provide this except by increasing their rates, and surely there is "reason for the need of it."

In the third paragraph on the second page of this Illinois Manufacturers' Association circular of May 7 it is stated that 7.99 per cent. was earned on the dividend-paying stock, making no allowance for the 34 per cent. of stock on which no dividends were paid. I might, with equal propriety, make the statement that there was no dividend paid on the non-dividend paying stock. For a clearer definition, the average earnings should be based upon the entire stock, and not upon the best paying portion of it, unless there is some reason why the $2,500,000,000 representing the 34 per cent should not have received any dividends at all.

In the final paragraph of the editorial it is stated that I should not be allowed to pose as a business man, "having no interest in common with the shippers." Inasmuch as my concern shipped an average of 350,000 tons of finished product during 1906 and 1907, and we were obliged to receive more than 350,000 tons of iron to furnish this, plus enormous quantities of coke, coal and other supplies, I can safely claim to have shipped in and out 750,000 tons a year, and as there are no railroads who can afford to haul this material, or any part of it, without having a revenue from it, an increase of 10 cents a ton on my hauling charge would amount to $75,000 and, therefore, I have "business" interests in common with other shippers." The 350,000 tons of finished product shipped represented in the neighborhood of $10,000,000. This $10,000,000 represented mostly labor, with the exception of the cost of the ore and coal in the mines. All the balance was made up of wages and profit on the different conditions of the raw material until it was finished product.

My Illinois plants produced 60 per cent of this amount, or $6,000,000 a year. For three years our Chicago plants have not run more than half capacity. Therefore, there was $3,000,000 a year less in distribution because of a corresponding shrinkage in sales. As most of our iron and coal comes from Illinois, this $3,000,000 a year was not distributed in Chicago, as would have been the case had we worked on the same output that we did in 1906 and 1907. And a great deal of that $3,000,000 which was not paid was taken out of the business firms situated in or near Chicago by the non-purchases from their varied business on the part of the community that would have received the $3,000,000 a year for three years. That is the reason why I have a right, as a business man, to deprecate any unfair or uncalled-for obstacles that are placed in the way of my business and the hundred other varieties of business in this country that are affected by the money put into circulation by the railroads. When it is further considered that my business constitutes but 10 per cent of the cost of a car and that there were nine other units similarly affected, most of which would have been tributary to Chicago, anyone can see how important it is to his individual interests that the railroad companies should have ample funds to make these improvements and purchases, and will realize how comparatively easy it will be to stand a reasonable advance on the freight for any material he will need, if he is receiving increased orders.

Chicago. T. A. GRIFFIN.

(Advertisement.)

BOYS TAKE A BACK SEAT

Spelling Contests Held in New Orleans Prove Girls Superior to Their Brothers.

The result of the spelling contests in the New Orleans public schools again demonstrates the superior proficiency of the girls, practically all of the victors being members of the gentler sex. Last year the same thing was true and the matter was quite generally commented on in the press and at gatherings where educational subjects were discussed.

So far as our information goes there have been no contests to determine the pupils in other branches of study, but it would be interesting to know if this feminine superiority is found to exist in all studies, or if they are confined only to particular branches. Doubtless this result is due in part to the fact that the female mind ripens at an earlier age than is the case with the masculine mind, although there is little doubt that the feminine intellect along certain lines is more acute than the masculine, which would seem to justify the conclusion that certain branches of study are more readily mastered by girls and women.

In view of the growing number of young women that are going into positions as stenographers, typewritists and other positions requiring an accurate knowledge of spelling, this demonstrated proficiency is most gratifying. The public school administration is to be commended upon the efforts it has made to improve the spelling of the public school pupils and the triumphant girls to be congratulated upon their easy victory over the boys.

Long Wait.

"Why don't you wait on a sport like me?" demanded the patron who had made the tenth unsuccessful attempt to give his order for "ham and—"

"Sport!" laughed the sarcastic waiter, "you look like a sport. Why, you need a shave!"

"Well, that's your fault if I do. I didn't need it when I came in."

Invitation Accepted.

It is told that a certain lady of a western Kansas town desired to show kindness to the captain of the local state militia company and wrote the the following invitation: "Mrs. —— requests the pleasure of Captain ——'s company at a reception on Friday evening."

A prompt reply came: "With the exception of three men who are sick with measles, Captain ——'s company accepts your kind invitation and will come with pleasure to your reception Friday evening."

The Outing Spirit.

If you want to have a good time on your outings you must make up your mind to help along by acquiring the outing spirit. This means:

Learn to put up with whatever turns up.

Don't grumble, fidget or expect impossibilities.

Don't pose. That is, pretend you like roughing it and outdoor life when all you crave is a crowded board walk and the glitter of a summer hotel.

Don't attempt more than you have strength for.

Be a good sport without being reckless.

Look after your health. Remember the worker's outing must have rest and strength building for the underlying motive. Therefore, don't overtire yourself or trifle with bad water and messy foods.

Make your outing come well within your means. It is foolish to "blow in" in two weeks the savings of months.

Season all with a determination to have a good time, keep happy and never let your temper run away with you.

Pocket Wireless.

The Italian savant, Mgr. Cerebotani, papal nuncio at Munich, is the inventor of an instrument like a large watch, which enables a person to receive messages transmitted from "wireless" stations. The apparatus is merely a pocket receiver, and the only accessories are a bobbin of wire and a metallic encased cane. A person thus equipped can at a given moment receive communications from a station within a radius of twenty to thirty miles.

Midas.

Midas had come to that point in his career where everything he touched turned to gold.

"What shall you ever do with the stuff?" asked his entourage in visible alarm.

Midas affected not to be uneasy. "Just wait till the boys begin to touch me!" quoth he, displaying an acquaintance with economic tendencies far in advance of his age.—Puck.

Truly Wonderful Climate.

Hyperbole Gassaway went from here to a little town in southern California for his health. In two weeks he wrote home that he felt ten years younger. Some days later he wrote again that he felt 20 years younger. Then his family heard no more from him. They telegraphed the mayor of the California town for information about their Hyperbole Gassaway and got this answer: "I regret to inform you that your beloved husband and father, after a month's residence here, died from cholera infantum."

The KITCHEN CABINET

RESOLVED. That I won't hurry myself, nor try to make other people hurry, nor let other people hurry me.'

"It is not the years that age us, it is how we live them."

Combinations for Meals.

There are no fixed laws regarding the choice of certain vegetables to serve with certain meats, but custom has arranged certain combinations because they undoubtedly harmonize.

The composition of foods should be studied by all intelligent housekeepers as we all want to serve well balanced meals. We would not want at one meal, potatoes, rice, macaroni, tapioca or cornstarch, because any two is plenty of starch for a meal, and one is enough.

When fish takes the place of meat we feel the need of rich sauces and a dessert of more nutriment, as fish does not contain as much as meat

In the simple, everyday life of most homes, the dinner comes at noon, and the majority of homes are satisfied with two courses.

If a rich soup is served, one needs a very little for the main course, and a heavy dessert of pudding steamed or baked with a sauce, makes a good meal.

During the summer months the heavy puddings give way to fruits, salads, gelatine desserts, and ices of all kinds, which may or not, be large in food value. A salad with an oil dressing with sandwiches, and a cup of tea or cocoa, is a good meal.

When one is serving a heavy roast like pork with accompanying vegetables, a very light dessert should be provided.

When rich cream or hard sauce is served with a light dessert, it adds greatly to the food value of the dish

Raisins and nuts are an ideal dessert, and one that may always be ready in an emergency.

Delicious Fruit Dessert.

This is a dessert which may be made at any season for we find the fruit always in the market. Take a slice of pineapple, either fresh or canned, and heap on it a banana that has been put through a potato ricer. Add a half teaspoonful of lemon juice, and sprinkle with powdered sugar. This is a simple dessert quickly prepared.

THE beautiful is just as useful as the useful, and sometimes more so.—Victor Hugo.

"Let appetite wear reason's golden chain,
And find in due restraint its luxury."

Ways of Serving Ham.

Ham is such a good meat to add flavor to dishes that a scrap of it should never be thrown away. It gives character to croquettes, hash and other made dishes.

Ham toast is made by using half a cupful of cooked ham finely minced, half a teaspoonful of anchovy paste, a bit of cayenne and mace. Add half a cupful of milk, an egg, well beaten. Stir over the fire until thick, then spread on buttered toast. A poached egg may be placed on each slice.

Ham Balls.—Take one cupful of cooked ham, finely chopped, one cupful of bread crumbs, two cupfuls of cooked potatoes, mashed, two tablespoonfuls of butter, two eggs, beaten, mix all together, shape in small balls, dip in egg and crumbs and fry brown.

Pineapple Mousse.

To one cup of pineapple sirup, heated, add one tablespoon of gelatin softened in one-fourth cup of cold water, a cup of sugar and two tablespoons of lemon juice. Strain and cool. As the mixture thickens, fold in a quart of whipped cream. Mold, pack in ice and salt, and stand four hours. A cornstarch pudding with the whites of three eggs and half a can of pineapple, makes a fine dessert.

In a salad this delicate flavored fruit is always enjoyed.

Hashed Brown Potatoes.

Here is a potato dish that the boy from school will enjoy:

Chop cold boiled new potatoes into pieces the size of a bean. Season with salt and pepper, and put into a hot dish with three tablespoonfuls of butter to a quart of potatoes. Toss until well browned then add half a cup of cream and place in the oven to finish. Serve in the baking dish.

Brain Pates.

Brown a tablespoon of butter and one of flour. Add one pint of hot water, one teaspoon of worcestershire sauce and half a teaspoon of onion juice. Cut the brains in dice shaped pieces and let simmer for 15 minutes in the sauce. Serve in pate shells.

Russian Tea.

Prepare tea in a hot pot and pour over two lumps of sugar and a slice of lemon in each cup. This is a delightful way to serve afternoon tea

The addition of a few cloves to the tea gives a spiciness liked by many.

LET'S look up and smile as we journey a while."

"If you would have the fruit, pluck not the blossom."

Hints for the Laundry.

Clothes carefully folded and sprinkled are half ironed.

An apron worn while hanging the clothes helps keep them clean.

Black cotton hose should be dried and ironed (if at all), on the wrong side, to prevent fading. Black and white calicoes are benefited by having a handful of salt added to the rinsing water

Dish towels can be ironed just as well in half the time if folded together once as if ironed singly.

Iron clothing lengthwise, not across, and keep the garment or linen without skewing.

Clothes when brought in, should be separated and folded at once; if allowed to lie in a heap many wrinkles are made.

Scorch Stains.—Wet the scorched place, rub with soap and bleach in the sun. If only slightly scorched, just hang in the sun and the spot will soon disappear.

Grass Stains.—Rub with lard and leave an hour before washing.

Ink Stains.—Soak in sour milk for some time. When fresh stain can be treated at once, dip in hot tallow which will absorb the stain.

Mildew.—Soak in a weak solution of chloride of lime; after several hours rinse in cold water.

Summer Hints.

During the warm weather, corns become very troublesome. Try rubbing them with a piece of dandelion root, when full of milk. Apply twice a day. This is a remedy which will be easily procured, and will also benefit the appearance of the lawn.

The linings of shoes so soon become soiled. If pieces of white cambric are pasted into the shoes they are cooler and cleaner, and are easily removed.

Summer Dishes.

Every housewife who has the three meals a day to prepare is glad to learn of new dishes, especially if they are economical and easy of preparation. Economy always should come first in most homes.

IDLENESS, standing in the midst of unattempted tasks is always proud. Work is always tending to humility.—Phillips Brooks.

Household Hints.

A convenient strainer or jelly bag is made by cutting a circular piece of cheesecloth the desired size and sewing it upon an embroidery hoop. Fasten a stout cord at two opposite points of the hoop. When straining jelly, attach these cords in such a way that the bag will hang free from any convenient place.

The best of ways to remove grease spots from carpets is to dissolve a little soap in a gallon of water, then add half an ounce of borax; wash the spot with a clean cloth, and the grease will disappear.

All canned vegetables should be opened and aired well before using.

To give a stove a brilliant polish, add a teaspoonful of powdered alum to the stove polish.

A little lemon juice added to rice while cooking, will keep the grains separate and makes it whiter.

Test a good nutmeg by piercing it with a needle; if fresh the oil will follow the needle.

Little Economies.

Did you ever use an old tennis racket to beat rugs? It is as good and easy to handle, as the regulation beater.

Old rackets may be restrung with catgut when the frame is in good condition, at little expense.

Grease the cream pitcher around the spout with a little butter, and avoid the drops of cream that will run down on the cloth without this precaution.

Household Hints.

One of the most satisfactory ways of dry cleaning net curtains is to rub and fill them with dry cornmeal. Let them lie in it for a day or two, then put out to air. After pressing they will look so well that one feels repaid for the effort. If the curtains are white use white cornmeal; if ecru, use the yellow. Either cleans nicely.

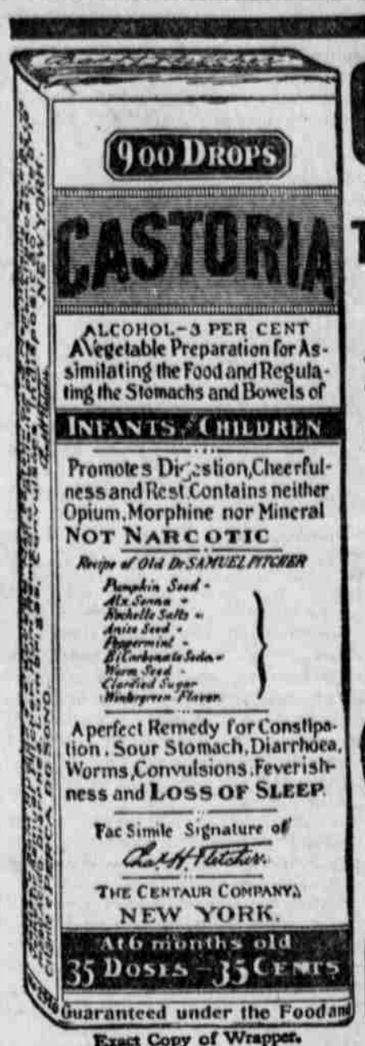
Raisin and Celery Salad.

Cut two cupfuls of celery, fine. Seed and halve two-thirds of a cupful of large raisins, add one cupful of grated apple, two oranges cut fine and one-fourth of a cupful of mayonnaise.

Veal Relish.

Slice oranges and place half a teaspoonful of preserved pear chips in the center of each slice.

Nellie Maxwell.



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