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NEBRASKA.

THE REBATE CONTEMPT CASES

Proceedings Begun in Kansas City Against Western Railways

Kansas City, Sept. 2.—Contempt proceedings, charging violation of the order of District Judge John F. Phillips issued in March, 1902, restraining the defendants from giving rebates in violation of the interstate commerce law were filed in the United States district court against the Chicago and Alton, the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy, the Missouri Pacific, the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific, and the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe railway companies. These

companies are charged with giving rebates in violation of the restraining order and the court is asked to cite them for contempt.

The contempt proceedings allege specifically in the case of the Chicago and Alton, that that company granted rebates amounting to many thousands of dollars on the shipments of agricultural and farming machinery of the International Harvester company, "which owns and controls the Deering Harvester company, the McCormick Harvester company, the Plano Harvester company, the South Chicago Furnace company and the Illinois Northern Railroad company."

It is alleged that the Chicago and Alton agreed with the Illinois North-

ern Railroad company to file with the interstate commerce commission pretended joint tariffs of freight rates effective from Chicago to Missouri river points, for the express purpose of evading the restraining order, and that the Alton agreed and did in fact give to the International Harvester company, twenty-five per cent of said pretended joint tariff rates.

The proceedings against the Burlington railroad are practically identical with those against the Alton.

The proceedings against the Missouri Pacific, the Rock Island and the Santa Fe railroads allege that in like manner these companies violated the restraining order by giving rebates to the Hutchinson-Kansas Salt

company, in collusion with the Hutchinson and Arkansas River railroad, which latter company is controlled and operated by the salt company. These railroad companies are alleged to have given the salt company twenty-five per cent of a pretended joint tariff rate on salt routed to points on the Missouri river.

The proceedings were filed by A. S. Van Valkenburgh, United States district attorney for the western district of Missouri, at the instigation of M. D. Purdy, assistant attorney general of the United States.

Judge Phillips today set September 18 as the date open which the different companies are ordered to make their plea to the charges of contempt.