

HANDLING THE CHICAGO MAIL

General Manderson Gives His Views on Competition Between Roads.

DON'T EXPECT A DIVISION OF BUSINESS

Two Fast Trains Per Day Likely to Be Continued, as Government Never Takes a Step Backward.

General Charles F. Manderson, general attorney for the Burlington, has returned from the east after an absence of two months, most of which time was spent in Washington looking after railroad business.

"The government," he said, "is in the same position as a heavy shifter. It does not support any competing road and the chances are in favor of its being continued as the means for transporting the mail to the west."

"Up to the first of the present year the highest amount our road received in one year for carrying this mail was \$480,000. To obtain this sum we operated a mail train from Chicago to Omaha and return at a fast rate of speed, making 1,000 miles a day, or 265,000 miles a year. At that figure there was probably a small amount of profit to the company. But shortly before an improved service. It said arrangements had been made for shortening the time between New York City and Chicago, and between Omaha and the Pacific coast, and it wanted us to shorten the time between Chicago and Omaha."

"We said we would do it, and were told that the train which we were then operating should remain as it was, but that another train ought to be put on leaving Chicago at night, and making the run to Omaha in about ten hours. The old train was fast, but this one was to be phenomenally fast. We complied with the order, and instead of covering 265,000 miles a year, as we did previous to 1898, we now cover 730,000 miles a year, and the rate remains the same. All this extra service the company actually loses money, but the business will be carried for the advertising it gives the road."

"The quadrilateral weighing of the mail was begun within a few weeks after the inauguration of that new apportionment of money will be made to the roads carrying the mail. The rate per ton, \$21.37 1/2, is fixed by law and cannot be changed, and the extra income to the road, if there shall be one, will be entirely upon the increase in the quantity of mail handled. Two mail trains a day will probably be continued, as the government never takes a backward step."

"Now one of the roads into Omaha has gone before the Postoffice department and asked that the mail be divided. If it has its request granted the other roads will step in and demand a share of the business on the same grounds. There are four roads reaching this city from Chicago now, and before long there will be two more. A division of the mail will not allow any road enough of it to warrant the special service which the government demands, and where would your fast mail be? The mail must be transported over one line, and so long as we meet the requirements of the Postoffice department and give satisfaction in all branches of our service we have reason to believe there will be no change in the present arrangements."

While in Washington Mr. Manderson attended a meeting of the Interstate Commerce commission with the president of the western roads. The meeting was held for some means to prevent rebates and cutting of rates. Roads which indulge in these practices violate the interstate commerce law, and the commission wanted the roads to report such violations that the commission might punish the transgressor. This the roads refused to do. They said it would place them in the position of informers, which was not desired. On the other hand the roads demanded that the commission undertake this work. All of the larger roads, Mr. Manderson said, were willing to enter any kind of an agreement to maintain rates, but the smaller ones, with insufficient equipment, or abbreviated mileage, were disturbers. The latter were the ones which ought to be watched. But nothing was agreed upon at this meeting, and Mr. Manderson said there would be another meeting for the same purpose next Thursday.

GOOD DEMAND FOR NEBRASKA LAND

Union Pacific Disposes of Large Quantities of Real Estate. As a pointer showing how the tide of immigration is setting in to the west the record of the books in the Union Pacific land department is believed to be reasonably reliable. The sales of land along the Kansas division in the month of March for the last few years were as follows: 1893, 12,309 acres; 1894, 2,068 acres; 1895, 2,151 acres; 1896, 1,715 acres; 1897, 2,730 acres. In 1898 the lands were sold in the same manner in Nebraska and there were no sales. So far in March this year, with nearly two weeks remaining of the month, 15,000 acres have been sold, with a promise that by the end of the month a new record will have been established. Another encouraging feature of these sales at present is the great number of buyers who pay cash for the land they want.

Land Commissioner McAllister is taking steps to have a record made in the future showing where the settlers come from. In a general way this fact is known, but no data has been obtained giving the definite information. Mr. McAllister thinks this knowledge will be of interest, although, of course, it will in no way affect the business of the department.

The Nebraska lands which were recently sold will not be placed on the market until the deeds for the same pass to the new company. This will probably take place within thirty days. A large number of applications for portions of these lands have been received at the office and will be awarded when the property is put on the market. This will make the first month's sales of Nebraska land run up into big figures.

Many Going to Port Arthur. From the number of tickets sold and the number who express a determination to go, there will be a heavy exodus of Omaha people to the south today. It is predicted that at least seventy-five people will start from this city, and many men will be accompanied by their wives. The excursionists may leave on either the morning or afternoon train, and the special train carrying them from Kansas City to Port Arthur, arriving at its destination on Thursday. This will allow Friday in which to visit the town of Port Arthur, the celebration of the opening of the canal not being until Saturday.

Dining Car Service. Dining car is now run on "Twin City Limited" for Sioux City, St. Paul and Minneapolis. Train leaves Webster street depot 5:55 p. m. daily via C., St. P., M. & O. Ry.

Briefs from Government Building. Anna Van Shaack of New York has brought foreclosure proceedings in United States court on a mortgage on lot 23 in Terrace addition to the city of Omaha. The mortgage was given to secure a promissory note for \$2,500, given by Sarah M. Foster and others.

The report of Howard S. Abbott, who was appointed as special master to pass on the final reports of E. H. Clark and the other receivers of the Union Pacific system, has been filed in United States court. It is accompanied by the order of Judge Sanborn by which it asks that the appointment be confirmed.

The Manhattan Trust company of New York has filed a motion before Judge Munger in which it asks that the appointment of railroad property made some years ago in the suit of the trust company against the Sioux City, O'Neil Western Railroad company be vacated. It is alleged that the appointment was made more than four years ago, and consequently is not a fair valuation of the property at this time.

BOSTON STORE NEW YORK SALE

Selling M. O. Spencer Co.'s New York Dry Goods Stock—Bought From

UNITED STATES MARSHAL'S AUCTIONEERS

Today's Great Crows Fall—Indorse the Immensity of This Sale—Everybody Says They're the Biggest Dry Goods Bargains Ever

GIVEN IN OMAHA. The quantities in this purchase were so large that there is plenty left of everything we advertised in Sunday's papers.

ADDITIONAL BARGAINS TODAY. SILK AND DRESS GOODS. 29c Persian silk, 9c a yard. 75c striped taffeta silk, 25c a yard. 1.50 checked, plaid and Persian silks, 49c a yard.

Short Line Plans. President Cornish of the Oregon Short Line, who is now in the west looking over the property of the road to learn its condition and needs, gives encouragement to the belief that many improvements will be made on the line during the year. He has consulted with the heads of the various departments relative to these improvements, part of which are plans for the St. Anthony line, and after securing all the information possible will make his decision as to what shall be done.

Passenger Men in Session. CHICAGO, March 20.—A general meeting of the western passenger men is in session here today considering reductions in second-class rates westbound from St. Paul. Trans-missouri roads will not meet these reductions locally in their territory, but a number of agents of the Northwestern, Milwaukee and Burlington roads will be directly affected.

Railroads Must Be Independent. AUSTIN, Tex., March 20.—Governor Sayer today vetoed the enactment authorizing the consolidation of the Memphis, Kansas and Texas and the Sherman, Shreveport & Southern Railway companies, on the ground that they were parallel and competing.

Railway Notes and Personal. J. E. Jenkins of Chicago, traveling agent for the Oregon Railway and Navigation company, is in the city. W. C. Barnes, traveling passenger agent for the Missouri Pacific, has returned from a trip to Hot Springs, Ark.

Traveling Engineer Frank Torrey has been made master mechanic of the Burlington road at Ottumwa, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of J. E. Button. E. O. McCormick has been appointed passenger traffic manager for the Southern Pacific, with headquarters at San Francisco. This is a new position on that road, and was created specially for Mr. McCormick, who held similar position on the Big Four for six years.

S. A. Hutchison and A. B. Smith, assistant general passenger agents, respectively, for the Oregon Pacific and the Burlington have gone to Chicago to attend a meeting of the passenger men of the western roads. E. Buchanan, general passenger agent for the Elkhorn, goes to Chicago for the same purpose.

WATER COMPANY FRANCHISE

Real Estate Exchange Asks that Case Now in Court Be Not Advanced. F. L. Weaver addressed the members of the Real Estate exchange at some length in regard to the water works injunction case, which is now pending in the supreme court on appeal. This is the case which was brought by W. S. Poppleton to restrain the mayor and council from entering into the agreement which was alleged to be a practical extension of the franchise of the plan of connecting the country with France by railway. Engineers say a roadbed on which to lay the bottom of the English channel, and by mounting trestlework on wheels, so that it projects above the water, the railway can be operated. This seems beyond belief, but it is perhaps no more remarkable than the success accomplished by Hostetter's Stomach Bitters in had cases of dyspepsia, indigestion and constipation. This is an age of wonderful achievements.

Announcements. In order to obtain the American rights to her dances Papina once had an exciting race through the streets of New York with Lot Fuller, and Papina was won. Papina grows quite animated in telling of the sensation that famous ride through the populous city created. Since that time she has won new dances and embellished the old, so that now she presents a series of terpsichorean dances all her own. La Petite Lind, the pliant and self-possessed lot, who has won all hearts, displays all the graces of an older actress. The bill this week includes specialty artists who are well known in the vaudeville realm. The Harpers, from Blackville, have become favorites.

The advance sale of the best seats at Boyd's has been so brisk already that subscribers who have not secured their reserved seats will be obliged to do so at once by exchanging their coupon or theater tickets at the box office, if they wish to be pleased with their view of the stage. There seems to be a magic charm about the name Godovsky, and at present there is every reason to predict that his artistic temperament, backed up by his astounding technique, will secure for him here, as it has everywhere else, the hearty appreciation of all critics. Godovsky plays at Boyd's Wednesday night of this week at prices ranging from \$1 down.

Arrangements have been made for Madame Blanche Marchesi in a concert at Boyd's April 12.

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HAYDEN BROS.

Overhead in Our Silk Aisle. "This window display," said a remarker, "is the finest I have ever seen in a store. It is so arranged that you can get 10 yards, but I thought that all taffeta was narrow. I will only need 7 yards of the Window taffeta. It does not cost quite as much and is much better quality." We are having a special sale on stripes for the Window taffeta. It is the most fashionable lining for high-grade suits since the new "drop skirt" has been adopted; sublime, all shades, we are selling at 50c and 55c per yard. Priestley's black goods are known the world over as the standard, they cost no more than other goods, they last twice as long, never change color and never fade. It does not cost quite as much and is much better quality. We are having a special sale on stripes for the Window taffeta. It is the most fashionable lining for high-grade suits since the new "drop skirt" has been adopted; sublime, all shades, we are selling at 50c and 55c per yard. 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