

the sum total amounting to over \$4,000,000. In the same year it also decreased its operating expense accounts by crediting thereto more than \$500,000 on account of salvage from cars destroyed previous to the year 1917.

"By means of these entries the income of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul railroad company for the year 1910 was overstated by more than \$5,000,000.

Apparent Loss in Revenue.

"As the result of this overstatement of income for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1910, the report of the St. Paul company for the succeeding year showed an apparent falling off in revenue and income as compared with the previous year of over \$2,000,000.

"In its report to its stockholders for the latter year the explanation offered by the officers of the company was that 'the large decrease in the net operating revenue is accounted for by the inability to obtain increased rates and the great increase in the cost of labor.'

"This statement was not in accordance with the facts in the case. Had the income for the year 1910 been properly reported the net income for the following year, instead of showing a decrease, would have shown an increase of about \$2,000,000 over the net income for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1910.

Give False Labor Statistics.

"The reference to 'the great increase in the cost of labor' was no less at variance with the real facts. In its report to this commission for the year ending June 30, 1910, the St. Paul company, under the heading 'Employees and salaries,' shows the following:

Number of employes June 30, 1910, excluding general officers	66,658
Total yearly compensation	\$30,998,418.73
Average daily compensation	\$2.23

"The report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1911, gives the corresponding statistics for that year, as follows:

Number of employes June 30, 1911, excluding general officers	48,083
Total yearly compensation	\$30,942,724.10
Average daily compensation	2.27

"So far, then, from being an increase in the expenditures for labor during the fiscal year 1911, the expenses on that account were about \$50,000 less than in the previous year, according to the company's own reports to the commission.

Merits Serious Condemnation.

"These departures from what were the actual facts are sufficiently serious to merit the strongest condemnation. The delinquencies in the accounting of the Puget Sound company are, however, of even greater significance.

"A large traffic was offered to the Puget Sound line as soon as it was opened, and the evidence before us leads us to think that a correct showing of operating results for the first year would have been most satisfactory. Not content, however, with a statement of the facts, the income of the Puget Sound was greatly overstated, a variety of expedients having been resorted to for this purpose.

"Large amounts were included in the cost of construction that should have been entered up as expense of operation. This course resulted in an inflation of the property account and at the same time made an unwarrantably good showing of the returns from operation.

"The net income was also overstated by including in the cost of construction certain interest items according to Reg. 1, 1906, when the road was opened for public service.

"Under our rules and regulations this interest should have been charged to income, and this departure from our regulations alone involved nearly \$500,000 of error in the report of the Puget Sound company for that year. Moreover, revenues were overstated by including charges for the transportation of construction material at rates higher than those exacted under its published tariffs by the Northern Pacific.

No Note of Depreciation.

"The result of this course was to augment both the revenues and the cost of property accounts. While overstating those accounts the Puget Sound company on the other hand included in its operating expenses no charges whatever for depreciation of its equipment.

"Had these different items been carried to its books in accordance with the rules and regulations of the commission and in conformity with correct accounting practices, the income for the Puget Sound company for that year, reported at \$2,355,440.18, would have been practically eliminated.

"The unlawful practices just described were continued after June 30, 1910, and the fictitious showing of income for that period was used by the officers of the Puget Sound company to aid in the sale of its bonds.

"Another violation of proper accounting and of the commission's accounting regulations by the Puget Sound company has occurred in its report of property investment.

"In its first report to the commission the Puget Sound company reported its investment in road and equipment at \$236,533,088, and this amount was carried in our official statistics of railways for the year 1910. Our subsequent investigations of the accounts of this carrier shows, as it now admits, that the statement was about \$100,000,000 in excess of the cash investment of the company at that date."

EARLING REPLIES TO BOARD CHARGE

Puget Sound Accounting Due to Washington Law, St. Paul President Says.

TRIED TO FOLLOW RULES.

Asserts When Discrepancies Were Cited Immediate Work to Rectify Them Began.

A. J. Earling, president of the St. Paul railroad, and Burton Hanson, its general counsel, returned to Chicago during the afternoon, summoned the chief accountant and other officials, and went into a long conference. During the evening the following official statement was given out by Mr. Earling:

"Referring to the Washington dispatches in the afternoon papers concerning the accounts of the Puget Sound railway company:

"In respect to the \$100,000,000 overvaluation. This has reference solely to the amount of the capital stock of the Puget Sound company. The original stock was \$3,000,000.

"When the construction of the railway was nearing completion, and the time had arrived for financing the property, it was determined to create a mortgage covering the entire property of the company in order to provide for funding its then indebtedness, and for the necessary capital to complete the construction and equipment of the main line and branches, and to provide for future extensions. It was estimated that this would require approximately \$200,000,000. Accordingly a mortgage was made by the company for an aggregate principal amount of \$200,000,000.

To Meet Laws of Washington.

"In order to have a mortgage for this amount it was necessary, under the laws of Washington, the state under which the Puget Sound company was incorporated, to have an issue of capital stock of \$100,000,000, as the laws of that state provided that bonds issued by railway companies should at no time exceed double the amount of capital stock. Accordingly the capital stock of that company was increased from \$3,000,000, the original capitalization, to \$100,000,000.

"Certificates representing this amount of stock were issued and delivered to the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul railway company Jan. 2, 1900. This company has ever since held these certificates in its possession. It has never offered for sale nor parted with a single share of this stock and never will.

Carried as Muniment of Title.

"This stock was carried on the books of the St. Paul company at \$10,000,000 until Jan. 1, 1913, when it purchased the railway and property of the Puget Sound company; and since then it has been treated by the St. Paul company and carried on its books as a muniment of title. It was carried on the books of the Puget Sound company at \$100,000,000 in order to make it valid stock under the constitution and laws of the state of Washington.

"While this was not in strict compliance with the accounting rules of the interstate commerce commission, it was necessary under the constitution and laws of Washington in order to make it valid stock, and it was necessary that this stock be valid in order to give validity to the bonds.

Say Accounting Was Revised.

"As to the proper distribution of the construction and operating accounts:

"About a year ago the commission called attention to the accounts of the Puget Sound company in connection with its construction and early operation. An investigation was made and it was found that in certain instances the accounts were not in line with the rules of the commission, and, after several conferences with the member of the commission having the matter in charge, it was arranged that the accounts which had been questioned should be revised and proper entries made in the books of the company so that they would harmonize with the rules of the commission.

"The work of revising the accounts for the period in question was immediately entered upon by the accounting department of the company in conjunction with the commission's accounts, and practically all the accounts questioned have been revised and proper entries made in conformity with the requirements of the commission.

"These differences in accounting occurred during the transition of the Puget Sound

lines from a construction to an operating condition, covering three years or more, and the many diversified conditions under which construction and operating work was carried on simultaneously necessarily led to accounting discrepancies in auditing and revising the reports of large numbers of new men who were not familiar with the classification of accounts as prescribed by the commission.

Financial Status Sound.

"The Washington dispatches state that no reflection is made by the report of the commission upon the financial position of either the St. Paul or Puget Sound companies, and that their operations 'must be regarded as very favorable.'

"The allusion to the sale of Puget Sound bonds has reference to the sale of \$25,000,000 of the first mortgage bonds of that company in the spring of 1911. Nothing in connection with the revision of these accounts can have any effect upon the assets of either company, or the value of the Puget Sound bonds or the security behind them, or upon any other securities of that company or the St. Paul company.

"At no time has there been any intention or disposition on the part of the company to make other than a correct statement of its operating or financial condition for the purpose of promoting the sale of its securities, or for any other purpose; and whatever may have occurred in the revision of these accounts can have no effect upon the value of the company's securities."

CANNOT BELIEVE IT TRUE.

Milwaukee, Wis., March 6.—[Special.]—E. W. Adams, general secretary of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad company, tonight labeled as "ridiculous" the charges of irregularities in the accounts of the St. Paul road and its subsidiary, the Chicago, Milwaukee and Puget Sound companies.

"I can't believe such an irregularity in the accounting of the road's reports possible. It is utterly foolish to think that men like L. J. Pettit, J. Ogden Armour, and other directors of the road would allow such misrepresentations."

OBITUARY.

A. H. FAIRBANKS, 60 years old, president of the Du Page County Farmers' Institute and former county treasurer, died at his summer residence in Stuart, Fla., yesterday. Mr. Fairbanks was born in West Chicago and had lived there practically all his life. He was active in politics in his county and served several terms as president of the county board. He is survived by a widow and three children. Mrs. Grace Daniels, wife of Dr. Charles L. Daniels of Chicago, is a daughter. The body will be brought to West Chicago for burial.

CAPT. COMMODORE SPAIDS, veteran of the civil war and for many years a clerk in the postoffice, died yesterday at his residence, 6550 South Sangamon street. He served in some of the most stubbornly contested battles of the war and was with Gen. Grant at the fall of Vicksburg. His widow and two children survive. Funeral services will be held at the residence at 2 o'clock tomorrow. Interment will be at Rosehill.

EDWARD O'BRYAN, western counsel for the New York Life Insurance company since 1896, died yesterday at Miami, Fla. Mr. O'Bryan was born at Fairfield, Ia., in 1855. He graduated from Iowa State university in 1884, and was a member of the Chicago Bar association, the Exmoor Country club, and the Chicago Athletic association. Mr. O'Bryan is survived by his wife and one son, Edward. Funeral notice later.

JUDSON H. HOLCOMB, aged 84 years and one of the last survivors of the famous "Iron Brigade," died at the residence of his daughter, Mrs. Thomas Barden, in Kenosha, Wis., yesterday after an illness of many months. He is survived by two sons, Neb., and George W. Holcomb of Kenosha, and one daughter, Mrs. Thomas Barden, Kenosha. Interment will be at Plattville.

MICHAEL R. LEYDEN, in the commission business at 10 and 12 Fulton street for the last twenty-five years, died yesterday at his home, 3947 Vernon avenue. He is survived by a widow and seven children. Funeral services will be held Monday from Holy Angels' church, and interment will be at Calvary.

FRANK LEHMANN, 69 years old, well known politician, and for eighteen years a justice of the peace, died at his residence, 7722 Twelfth street, Forest Park, yesterday. Funeral services will be held from his late home Monday morning. Interment at Forest home.

MRS. ALMA BAKER WALLACE, widow of the late John Gibson Wallace, and for eighteen years a resident of Chicago, died suddenly yesterday at the residence of her son, 3865 Grand boulevard. Mrs. Wallace was 74 years old.

WILLIAM G. CONRAD, a wealthy Montana man and formerly a political opponent of Senator Clark of that state, died yesterday at Winchester, Va.

COST OF LIVING HIGHEST NOV. 15

Food Prices, According to Average Consumption, Set Mark for 24 Years.

DROP SINCE THAT DATE.

Values Still Above a Year Ago; Department of Labor Presents Figures.

Washington, D. C., March 6.—Food prices in the United States, weighed according to a report showing the retail prices of the principal articles of food as observed by the government's agents in forty of the most important industrial cities of the country.

Advance in Prices Shown.

For three of the articles—eggs, cornmeal, and milk—the highest price was reached in November. For the remaining twelve articles—sugar, butter, hens, flour, sirloin steak, round steak, rib roast, bacon, ham, lard, pork chops, and potatoes—prices were below the maximum quoted earlier in the year.

Comparison of retail prices in the whole country on Dec. 15, 1913, with those on the same date a year previous: Potatoes had advanced 43.7 per cent; fresh eggs, 21.9 per cent; pork chops, 18.8 per cent; round steak, 13.1 per cent; rib roast, 10 per cent; sirloin steak, 8.9 per cent; ham, 7.9 per cent; hens, 6.7 per cent; corn meal, 6.6 per cent; bacon, 4.5 per cent; milk, 1.9 per cent; and lard, 0.7 per cent. Sugar, however, declined 8.6 per cent; butter, 2.9 per cent; and flour, 0.6 per cent.

Chicago and New York Prices.

Prices in Chicago and New York on Dec. 15, 1913, were:

	Chicago	New York
Sirloin steak	22	28
Round steak	22	28
Chuck roast	24	25
Rib roast	18	18
Pork chops	20	24
Bacon	30	30
Ham	32	32
Lard	16	18
Lamb	22	28
Hens	18	26
Flour, one-eighth barrel	70	85
Cornmeal	45	64 1/2
Eggs, fresh	45	65
Eggs, stored	32	45
Butter	42	42
Potatoes	30	30
Butter	63 1/2	63 1/2
Milk	08	08 1/2

POST BEATS CLOCK TO KNIFE.

Battle Creek, Mich., Millionaire Arrives at Rochester, Minn., to Be Operated On for Appendicitis.

Rochester, Minn., March 6.—C. W. Post, the Battle Creek, Mich., millionaire, arrived in his special train, from Santa Barbara, Cal., today, three hours and one-half ahead of schedule. Mr. Post is to undergo an operation for appendicitis.

WELLS CLOTHES SHOP

A. J. UNGER, President

21-25 West Jackson Boulevard

Branch Store: 110 West Randolph Street, Hotel Sherman

BUY A BLUE SUIT
(WORTH REGULARLY UP TO \$40.00)
For \$18.00 Today

Blue Serges — Unfinished Worsteds — Finest Tailoring

Also choice of any fancy heavy weight suit or overcoat in the house sold up to \$40, now \$18

If you're looking for style, see the Stein-Bloch models for Spring

WELLS CLOTHES SHOP

21-25 West Jackson Boulevard

Branch Store: 110 West Randolph Street, Hotel Sherman

"LOOSCARF" COLLARS

"It's all in the pocket"—a new idea in collar construction found exclusively in the "Looscarf." Pocket in band holds button away from tie. Always clear space to slide and adjust tie without tugging or pulling.

"Looscarf" Collars are perfectly fashioned of finest materials; in all popular styles. 1/4 sizes—2 for 25c. They're sure to please you.

Recommended and sold by shops all over town, including:

THOS. LEONARD, 133 W. Washington St.
L. P. SHANE, 516 E. 64th St.
O. FINEMAN, 444 S. State St.
A. BLOCK & SONS, 445 Rush St.
PHILIP RUBENSTEIN, 419 W. Division St.
THE K. C. STORE, 2933 Milwaukee Ave.
W. A. WIEBOLDT & CO., Milwaukee Ave. & Paulina
J. C. SPRINGER, 3310 Lincoln Ave.

MAX H. BLATT, 753 W. North Ave.
CHAS. ARMIN, 1549 W. 69th St.
ZIDE DEPT. STORE, 1233 W. Madison St.
WM. KOLACK JR., 2147 Milwaukee Ave.
M. IDZIKOWSKI, 1009 Milwaukee Ave.
RICHARD NEUNUEBEL, 8135-35 Broadway
LUNDELL & CO., 1901 Wells St.
JOS. BERLOW, 6039 S. Halsted St.

A. SMITH, 1038 W. Madison St.
H. GERSHENSAN, 8940 Commercial Ave.
A. ARMIN, 3624 W. Division St.
STOCKDALE & FOX, 304 E. 55th St.
THE J. & L. STORE, 1143 Milwaukee Ave.
A. KARASH, 700 Main Street, Evanston.
MADGAN BROS., 4127 W. Madison St.

National Motor Boat Show

COLISEUM

TODAY IS THE LAST DAY

ADMISSION 50 CENTS

Open 10:00 A. M. to 10:30 P. M.

'HOLMES CASTLE' SECRETS DIE

Man Who Built 'House of Tragedies' Suicide in Michigan.

COULDN'T SLEEP NIGHTS.

Might Have Explained Traps and False Partitions.

Patrick Quinlan, probably the one man who might have explained the mysteries of "Holmes castle" at Sixty-third and Wallace streets, which was famous in the annals of Chicago crime, has killed himself on his farm near Portland, Mich., according to dispatches. He told the doctor who attended him he had taken strychnine.

Quinlan, whose trade was carpentry, was employed by Herman W. Mudgett, then known as Dr. J. J. Holmes, to build the structure later known as the castle. He became agent for the building after erecting it and was in Holmes' employ until the latter was hanged for murder.

Held as Possible Accomplice.

As a possible accomplice in the five or six murders of which his employer was convicted he was held by the police during the search of the castle.

Traps doors and false partitions were discovered and a number of wires which seemed to lead nowhere. Quinlan might have told the reason for these, but he did not. Except for a number of bones not proved to be human which were found in the furnace at the castle there was no evidence that any of Holmes' crimes were committed there.

It was considered certain at the time that Quinlan had no hand in the death of Benjamin Pitzel, murdered by Holmes for his insurance. Pitzel was killed in Philadelphia. His three children were found murdered near Toronto, Canada. Their bodies were buried under the kitchen of a house rented there by Holmes.

Relatives Say "He Couldn't Sleep."

"He couldn't sleep" was the reason given by relatives for Quinlan's suicide. He had no worry over finances.

Quinlan had been a tactician man since his boyhood, when a fire which killed all of his family but him profoundly shocked him. His secretiveness was probably one of the reasons why Holmes employed him.

ASKS INQUIRY ON WIFE'S DEATH

Laurence Simpson of Lexington, Ky., Husband of Former Chicago Woman Found Dead, Urges Action.

Lexington, Ky., March 6.—Laurence Simpson, a wealthy stock raiser, addressed an open letter today to Circuit Judge Charles Kerr asking that a special grand jury be impaneled at once to investigate the rumors circulated that Simpson is in some way responsible for the death of his wife, Mrs. Laura Wilder Simpson, here last week.

Mrs. Simpson was a daughter of Dr. William H. Wilder of Chicago and was found dead with a bullet wound in her head. She died without regaining consciousness.

Simpson in his letter declared that the rumors are injurious to him and requests that all facts in connection with the death of his wife be investigated. The coroner's jury which investigated the case returned a non-committal verdict.

Im Rosen Zeit

One would think it was June by the heavy product of roses. Our growers are bringing us roses in all colors and lengths of stem and we are offering these fine fresh flowers at summer prices.

American Beauty, Pink, White, Red and Yellow Roses, 50c per dozen and up. Other roses proportionately priced.

We continue to receive the extraordinary little square one rose vase from Italy. Hand wrought and made in various sizes. Patrons who have been unable to have their orders filled will be glad of this announcement.

Square Vases, including one rose, 35c each and up.

American Made Round Vase, including one rose, 25c each.

Original and beautiful in their colorings and outline are the Zinc Lined Baskets for roses and other flowers. Made in many sizes for every size and kind of a bouquet. From 25c to \$25 each.

Every kind of floral arrangement by thoroughly experienced florists.

Telegraph, telephone and mail orders given prompt attention.

A. LANGE, Florist

25 E. MADISON ST.

Tel. Central 3777-3778
Automatic 42072

BEACHEY & LAWLOR

Announce

INITIAL EXHIBIT OF SPRING HATS

\$3—\$4—\$5

CORRECT headwear is the assurance of all who purchase at *Beachey & Lawlor's*. Our reputation in this regard is well established. Spring styles were never more attractive, and we invite your early consideration.

See Our Windows

BEACHEY & LAWLOR

CLOTHIERS HATTERS FURNISHERS
Dearborn and Monroe Streets

MARSHALL FIELD & CO

The STORE for MEN

EXCELLENT VALUES IN

Men's Cravats at 75c

Several hundred Cravats from small and broken lots of higher grade lines—better values than seventy-five cents could ever buy in the usual run of merchandise. A large range of shapes and colors, all with the time-saving slip band.

75c—special value in Silk Knitted Four-in-hand Ties, accordion and crocheted weave.
First Floor.

HERE'S a new model in a Crofut & Knapp derby; the "Dorchester" has smart refinement; not freakish, but different; exclusive. It's the biggest seller in the store today; \$3.

Other very smart C & K styles:

Crofut Special, \$3
Knapp-Felt, \$4
De Luxe, \$6

Maurice L Rothschild
Southwest Cor. Jackson and State



Tribune want ads are the VOICE of the PEOPLE

BREAKS STOCK MARKET.

New York, March 6.—[Special.]—The shock of the interstate commerce commission's report from Washington on the St. Paul railroad broke the entire stock market today. It came about a half hour before closing, after the market had just begun to show some tendency to improve from the unsettlement of the heavy selling that had converged during the day on Chesapeake and Ohio and Baltimore and Ohio.

Crowds of traders immediately gathered about the St. Paul report and large blocks of the stock were offered at rapidly declining prices. From 102 1/2 the price speedily slipped to 98, the closing price and the lowest of the day, a loss of 3 1/2 points. The price fell in jumps of 1/4 of a point at times and the excitement was intense.

The method of announcement by the commission of its findings was severely condemned in Wall street. It was declared by financial men in and out of the stock exchange that the commission was greatly to blame for subjecting thousands of security holders to the losses that the sudden and "one-sided" announcement immediately produced in the market.

BARES HUGE MORTGAGE PLAN.

The disturbance caused by the interstate commerce commission's report yesterday has interrupted the progress of a remarkable plan which it is known the St. Paul administration was about to broach, a distinct novelty in the way of permanent railroad financing. It is understood this program was the main object of the recent trip to New York of Mr. Earling and Mr. Hanson.

In brief, the road proposed to make out a blanket mortgage of a term so long that it might as well be indefinite for the purposes of the present generation are concerned. The mortgage was to be for no stipulated amount, but was to provide that at no time should the bonds issued against it be for an amount greater than 75 per cent of the property mortgaged. Thus the road would be enabled to make indefinite extensions, and at the same time have 75 per cent of the cost for these extensions already provided for.

Further, this blanket mortgage would not specify a particular rate of interest to be paid. Accordingly, if the road's money needs should come in a period of low money the bonds could be put out at a low rate of interest. If in a period of high money they could be issued at a high rate, but for a comparatively short term.

THAR ain't but two perfect comforts that I knows of—a good wife an' good tobacco. An' even the best wives git a little tryin' at times.



Walter Joe

Mr. Home Lover:
There is nothing that the home folks will appreciate more in your home coming than a box of

Martha Washington Candies

So, don't forget, today, this afternoon, when your business cares are laid on the shelf over the week end, stop in any of our convenient stores on your way home and take with you a pound of these "family candies."

The simplicity of Martha Washington Candies, their absolute purity and the freshness that everybody ought to know about—and the dainty, simple boxes—all these things and more make them just what the home folks enjoy.

50c the lb.

31 W. Washington St.
51 E. Adams St.

THE QUALITY IS INSIDE THE BOX—NOT OUTSIDE

71-73 Hubbard Road
Phone Harrison 4482

50c the lb.

180 W. Jackson Blvd.
1016 Wilson Ave.

WE MAKE DELIVERIES IN THE LOOP DISTRICT