

NEWS OF THE RAILROADS.

Chicago, Minneapolis and St. Paul Inaugurates a Drastic Rate War in the Northwest.

CHICAGO, Aug. 5. — A passenger rate war that will affect directly every fare in the West, and, indirectly, half of the tariffs of the Eastern and Southern lines, has been declared.

Next Monday the rate between Chicago, Minneapolis and St. Paul will be \$8. The tariff is now \$11.50. On the same day and thereafter, until peace is declared, the rate between Chicago and Omaha will be \$9.25. The normal rate is \$12.75. Tickets may now be purchased between Chicago and Kansas City for \$10.50. The normal is \$12.50. It is expected that the rate will go down to \$9.25 within a few days.

The Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul took the initiative in the fight. Other lines have declared their intention of following its lead. Blame for the necessity for these reductions is placed by the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul upon the Canadian Pacific. That line, the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul declares, brought about a war of rates to Alaska points.

The application of these low rates—about 60 per cent. below authorized tariffs—affected the Chicago-St. Paul situation to such an extent that brokers had no difficulty in selling tickets for either St. Paul or Minneapolis for \$8 and \$8.50. The same rates have been made by brokers for weeks from St. Paul to Chicago.

The reductions made will affect not only St. Paul, Omaha, and Kansas City traffic, but all beyond those cities, the new fares being tendered as basing rates to connecting lines.

BIG SALES OF ROLLING STOCK.

Railroads Are Making Many Contracts for Cars and Locomotives.

This is the season for railroad rolling stock equipment on a large scale. The Central Railroad of New Jersey is asking bids on from three to ten heavy engines for freight service. Six will probably be bought. The Baltimore and Ohio Southwestern has ordered ten heavy consolidation freight locomotives. The Missouri, Kansas and Texas has ordered five Mogul engines, with an option on five more. Lake Erie and Western will need twenty or thirty engines of the Mogul type for use in connection with the Cleveland and Newcastle Railroad, which will probably be operated as an extension of the Lake Erie and Western. The company will need 2,000 more coal cars. The Plant System has asked prices on twenty ten-wheel engines, part for freight and part for passenger service. The Mobile and Ohio has placed an order for ten freight and ten passenger engines. The Buffalo, Rochester and Pittsburg is asking prices on from 300 to 500 freight cars. The Baltimore and Ohio has placed an order with Pullman's Palace Car Company for 1,000 gondola and 1,000 box cars. The St. Louis Southwestern is in the market for six chair, four parlor, and two combination baggage and passenger cars. The St. Joseph and Grand Island has placed an order for 100 box cars, 50 stock cars, and 25 coal cars, all for September delivery. The Terre Haute and Indianapolis is building 35 gondola cars. The Union Pacific has placed an order for 1,000 box cars, 150 furniture cars, and 250 ballast cars.

To Build a Railway in Haiti.

A special Wall Street dispatch from Washington yesterday said: "Lemuel W. Livingston, United States Consul at Cape Haitien, reports to the State Department that plans are being perfected for beginning, within the next two months, the construction of a line of narrow gauge railway from Cape Haitien to La Grande Riviere du Nord, eighteen miles northeast. The capital stock is \$450,000 and the estimated cost \$250,000. The syndicate projecting the enterprise has already subscribed \$25,000, while 675 shares, at \$500 a share, are open to general subscription, with a guaranteed interest by the Government of 8 per cent. The material will be purchased wholly in the United States. H. Thomasseh will direct the work."