

DEAL WITH J. J. HILL IS OFF.

Roswell Miller Says Negotiations for the Purchase of the St. Paul Road Will Not Be Renewed.

CHICAGO, April 15.—Roswell Miller, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad Company, asserted to-day that the negotiations looking to the purchase of his company by James J. Hill were off and would not be renewed, and that there was no doubt Hill had obtained control of the Burlington. When asked about the St. Paul deal, Mr. Miller said:

“There was a time when it looked as if Mr. Hill and the interests associated with him might obtain the St. Paul Road, but that time is past and negotiations will not be renewed. While I am not officially acquainted with the facts, there is no doubt in my mind that Mr. Morgan and Mr. Hill have acquired the Burlington. With the Burlington deal E. H. Harriman, contrary to the general opinion, has nothing to do. It is distinctively a Morgan-Hill deal, and not a Harriman-Hill deal, and that is why the Erie figures so prominently in it.”

“Do you apprehend any ill effects for the St. Paul by reason of the new alliance?” was asked.

“Certainly not. What has the St. Paul to fear from a combination of the Northern lines and the Burlington? The Great Northern and Northern Pacific deliver considerable business to the St. Paul and get a good deal from us. In my judgment it would simply be idiotic for Northern lines to make any discrimination between their connections. As a business proposition it would be foolish, and Mr. Hill is too wise to attempt such a move. In any event, the St. Paul would be in a position to protect its interests and would undoubtedly do so.”

Questioned regarding St. Paul plans, Mr. Miller said:

“There is no foundation for the rumor that the St. Paul is going to capitalize its surplus and extend into Northwest territory.”

“Is it true that James J. Hill owns one-sixth of the St. Paul stock and is using it to block extension moves by the St. Paul?”

“There is not a word of truth in the statement. So far as I know, Mr. Hill does not own a dollar of St. Paul stock.”

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