
BIG RAILROAD DEAL ON ?

**Chicago and Northwestern, St. Paul, and
Rock Island Involved.**

Special to The New York Times.

CHICAGO, March 8.—In La Salle Street the belief obtains that the buying of Chicago and Northwestern Railway stock in the last three days has been with the view of securing control of that property. The ultimate object is largely speculative, but it is taken to point toward a possible combination between Chicago and Northwestern, Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul, and Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific. The formation of such combinations would be of extraordinary importance, and embrace 16,250 miles of road, spreading like a palm over the territory west of Chicago. It would mean, too, a combined stock capitalization of \$223,085,998.

Each of these great properties is without special affiliations with roads on somewhat parallel lines. With Chicago and Northwestern fully controlled by a powerful interest in Wall Street, the possibilities of a combination with the roads named would form a coup worthy of those whom La Salle Street is figuring to be engaged in the deal. The buying, which has advanced the price of Northwestern common from 218 to 233, has been characterized as "good."

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