

proportionate reduction in other classes. Yesterday the Wisconsin Central fell into line and met the rate of the former roads. The Wisconsin Central's action has been anticipated by railroad men for several days, and is looked upon as an open defiance of the entire inter-State commerce law, as well as of its long and short haul clause. Considerable speculation is manifested in railroad circles as to the probable outcome of the action taken by these roads, and the action of the Inter-State Commerce Commission is awaited with interest. It is said that the railroads will, if necessary, expend a large amount of money to defeat any adverse action which might be taken by the commission.

DEFYING THE INTER-STATE LAW.

Some time ago the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul and the St. Paul and Kansas City Railroads openly defied the long and short haul clause of the inter-State commerce law and reduced their local rates from Chicago to St. Paul and Minneapolis from 60 cents to 51 cents per hundred pounds on first-class freights, with a