American
Legion News


They couldint be built now for twice ${ }^{5} 71,000$

When the talk turns from politics to railroads, and the traveler with the cocksure air breaks in with, "There's an awful lot of 'water' in the railroads," here are some hard-pan facts to give him:

American railroads have cost $\$ 80,900$ a mile -roadbed, structures, stations, yards, terminals, freight and passenger trains-everything from the great city terminals to the last spike.

A good concrete-and-asphalt highway costs $\$ 36,000$ a mile-just a bare road, not counting the cost of culverts, bridges, etc.

Our railroads couldn't be duplicated today for $\$ 150,000$ a mile.

They are capitalized for only $\$ 71,000$ a mile much less than their actual value. Seventy-one housand dollars today will buy one locomotive,

English railways are capitalized at $\$ 274,000$ a mile; the French at $\$ 155,000$; Gérman $\$ 132,000$; even in Canada (still in pioneer development) hey are capitalized at $\$ 67,000$ a mile. The average for all foreign countries is $\$ 100,000$.

Low capitalization and high operating efficiency have enabled American Railroads to pay the highest wages while charging the lowest rates.

This advertisement is published by the Gssociation of Railway Executives

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