

IS ANOTHER GRAFT

Drummers Required to Pay Excess on Mileage Books.

\$ 20,000,000 IS COLLECTED

Railroads Compel Drummers to Deposit \$10 to Insure Return of Mileage Books—Amounts to \$20,000,000 on Which no Interest is Paid.

CHICAGO, Jan. 11.—The Tribune today says:

Twenty million dollars of money belonging to the jobbing and wholesale houses and manufacturers is constantly tied up in the treasuries of the railroads from one year's end to another, and the railroads, which have the use of this money, pay no interest for the use of it. This enormous amount of money represents the excess that is paid by the traveling men for their mileage books and is not returned until after the 1000-mile book has been used.

The railroads contend that their only safeguard in selling these thousand-mile books at reduced rates, two cents a mile, is the fare, is to collect this extra one cent a mile, of \$10, at the time the book is sold, to be returned when the empty cover is turned in. This business of redemption of mileage book covers is conducted by mileage bureaus connected with the various passenger associations.

The claim is made by passenger men is that if a mileage book was sold at a flat rate of two cents a mile, which would require no refund or extra expenditure on the part of the purchaser, it would result in wholesale scalping of these books and few persons would purchase regular tickets, even for short journeys, because of the comparative ease with which they could get mileage books from scampers.

There is, however, a growing movement of revolt on the part of the traveling men to this form of mileage book and in all states the railroads are beginning to hear complaints. One of the results of this agitation is a demand for legislation for a straight two-cent mileage, without reservation, and on all tickets, which has taken definite form in several of the states and is spreading throughout the Middle West and the East. The railroad and warehouse commission of Illinois, has promised to take the matter up within a few months, when a full hearing upon the subject will be had.

BIG REWARD.

BUTTE, Mont., Jan. 11.—The D. J. Hennessey Mercantile Company's store which was robbed of \$3000 by two robbers Tuesday night has authorized an offer of a reward of \$5000 for the capture of the bandits.

HOLDS UP TWENTY MEN.

BUTTE, Mont., Jan. 11.—Twenty men in the Thompson saloon were held up early this morning by a bandit while the bartender was compelled at the point of a gun to turn over the contents of the cash register to the robber, about \$20. The highwayman escaped.

LOCKOUT DECLARED OFF.

BUTTE, Mont., Jan. 11.—The ore-haulers locked out was declared off last night, the hauling contractors yielding to the demands of the teamsters for an increase of fifty cents per day and today the work of hauling ore will resume. About 350 men have been idle for ten days as a result of the trouble. The action of the miners' union in taking a hand in the controversy caused a speedy settlement.

The Morning Astorian, 65c a month.

Postage Stamp Gum.

When you lick a postage stamp you need not fear that the gum is something unclean. Postal gum is the best quality on the face of the earth. It is derived from dextrin, a product secured in the process of making starch from potatoes, corn and the cassava root. The starch from these vegetables is treated by roasting at a temperature of about 80 degrees at the first stage, causing it to turn into dextrin. Further changes make postal gum, and if the changes were carried to the limit the result would be grape sugar or glucose. The best postal gum is that which contains the least unconverted starch and little glucose. When the material for making gum reaches the bureau of engraving and printing it looks much like flour except in color. It comes in sacks of 200 pounds each, and every consignment from the contractors is carefully inspected before using. It is subjected to microscopical examination and to chemical analysis, and all this is followed by a practical test.—Kansas City Star.

A Tragic Capture.

One of the most industrious of the man thieves who recruited the famous regiment of giants for King Frederick William of Prussia was Baron Hompench, whose many successes led him once to cast covetous eyes upon a very lengthy joiner. He ordered of the joiner a chest or cupboard which should be as long and broad as the worker himself. In due course the baron called round. The cupboard had been finished, but he protested that it was too small. This the carpenter denied and laid himself within it as proof of its dimensions. No sooner had he done so than servants of the baron clapped down the lid and had the giant prisoner. They carted him off to the court, but when the lid was opened instead of a giant there rolled out a corpse. The man had been stifled. In his anger the king sentenced the baron to death, but relieved him when he wanted more giants.

News Speed in South Africa.

When Lord Wolseley during the Ashanti war crossed the Pruh he found a white cord stretched from tree to tree along his route. It was a native fetich, copied from the British telegraph wire, which was believed to possess some sovereign magic virtue. But the native has his mysteries of his own, which the white man often proves unable to fathom. It is said that no one can understand how it happens that with such marvelous celerity news has traveled across the whole of South Africa. During the South African war, except where the telegraph was in operation, native news was always days ahead of official. The relief of Mafeking is said

to have been known next day in Zululand and also 700 miles away in the heart of Cape Colony. Signals by fire and drum, messages conveyed by runners or cried from hilltop to hilltop, do not explain speed such as this.

ITCHING PAINFUL SORES ON HANDS

Suffered for a Long Time Without Relief—Had Three Doctors and Derived No Benefit—One Doctor Was Afraid to Touch Them—Soreness Disappeared and Hands Now Smooth After Application of

CUTICURA SOAP AND CUTICURA OINTMENT

"For a long time I suffered with sores on the hands which were itching, painful, and disagreeable. I had three doctors and derived no benefit from any of them. One doctor said he was afraid to touch my hands, so you must know how bad they were; another said I never could be cured; and the third said the sores were caused by the dipping of my hands in water in the dye-house where I work. I saw in the papers about the wonderful cures of the Cuticura Remedies and procured some of the Cuticura Soap and Cuticura Ointment. In three days after the application of the Cuticura Ointment my hands began to peel and were better. The soreness disappeared, and they are now smooth and clean, and I am still working in the dye-house. "I strongly recommend Cuticura Soap and Cuticura Ointment to any one with sore hands, and I hope that this letter will be the means of helping other sufferers. Very truly yours, Mrs. A. E. Maurer, 2340 State St., Chicago, Ill., July 1, 1905."

MOTHERS! MOTHERS!

To know that a warm bath with Cuticura Soap and a single anointing with Cuticura, the great Skin Cure, and purest and sweetest of emollients, will afford instant relief and refreshing sleep to skin-tortured babies, and rest for tired and worn-out mothers. Sold throughout the world. Cuticura Soap, 50c. Ointment, 25c. (in form of Chocolate Coated Pills, 50c. per tin of 50). Foster Drug & Chem. Corp., Sole Mfrs., Boston, Mass. 50¢ Mail Free, "How to Cure Eczema" and "All About the Skin, Scalp, Hair, and Hands."

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