

Nº 35 WALL STREET,
NEW YORK.

May 15th, 1897.

JAMES J. HILL, Esq.,

St. Paul, Minn.

My dear Mr. Hill:-

Herewith I send you a statement that I have had prepared in my office from the Great Northern and Northern Pacific Annual Reports and the reports made to the Railroad and Warehouse Commission of the State of Minnesota.

I fully recognize that unless there is a uniformity in the basis upon which train mileage is made up, there cannot be reliable deductions drawn from the train mileage statistics used in this tabulation.

As you will observe from the letter that I have addressed you yesterday, which is similar to a letter that I have sent to the Presidents of the other Companies, I am endeavoring to ascertain the necessary facts to arrange a basis for uniformity in comparisons. Any suggestions you can give in the matter I shall be thankful for.

This subject is attracting more than ordinary attention because of the results shown on the Great Northern System, which certainly, notwithstanding the slight differences that there may be in the comparative basis of statistical report, prove that a higher degree of railway operative skill has been attained on your system than on any other.

This result is finding lodgment in the minds of investors

[See Farrington to Hill, May 22, 1897]

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but, of course, is strenuously resisted by all those officials who are responsible for less scientific methods.

I am seeking the basis upon which I can take a position, with all the necessary facts to sustain the same, regarding the operation of the Great Northern and the improvement we expect to make upon the Northern Pacific System under "sympathetic management."

Sincerely yours,

Edward D. Adams.

James J. Hill Papers
Minnesota Historical Society

	Northern Pacific, All Lines.	Great Northern Railway.	Eastern Railway of Minnesota.	Total Great Northern Lines.				
AVERAGE NUMBER OF FREIGHT CARS IN TRAIN:-								
Loaded,	18.12	21.00	28.56	19.58				
Empty,	6.82	7.03	7.76	6.89				
Total,	24.94	28.03	36.32	26.47 ✓				
AVERAGE TONS OF FREIGHT PER TRAIN,								
" " " " " CAR,	193.52	235.98	601.20	256.20 ✓				
	10.68	11.24	20.94	13.087				
REVENUE:-								
Per Passenger Train Mile,	1.34	1.12	.75	1.16 36				
Per Freight Train Mile,	2.199	2.48	4.58	2.55 ✓				
Per Ton Per Mile,	.0113	.0102	.0076	.00976 ✓				
EARNINGS & EXPENSES PER MILE OF ROAD:-								
EARNINGS;								
Freight,	3,398.	3,235.	8,867.	3,619.				
Passenger,	1,058.	760.	996.	750.				
Other,	96.	85.	195.	114.				
Total,	4,552.	4,075.	10,058.	4,483.				
EXPENSES,	2,772.	2,098.	4,628.	2,339.				
NET EARNINGS,	1,780.	1,977.	5,430.	2,144.				
PER TRAIN MILE, (Freight & Passenger):								
Earnings,	1.95	2.06	3.09	2.10				
Expenses,	1.18	1.06	1.42	1.10				
Net Earnings,	.77	1.00	1.67	1.00				
SOME SPECIAL COMPARISONS:								
	Expenses	Per Train Mile	Expenses	Per Train Mile	Expenses	Per Train Mile	Expenses	Per Train Mile
Conducting Transportation,	6,130,838	.596	4,536,441	.609	594,372	.96	5,475,095	.588
Maintainance of Way and Structures,	3,255,499	.316	1,777,034	.239	161,807	.26	2,324,294	.25
Maintainance of equipment,	1,787,563	.174	1,214,719	.163	81,706	.13	1,478,315	.16
General Expenses,	1,033,507	.10	370,786	.049	43,831	.07	953,004	.102
Total,	12,207,407	1.186	7,898,980	1.061	881,716	1.42	10,230,708	1.10
Maintainance of Way Expenses Per Mile of Road Operated,	\$ 739.		\$ 475.		\$ 849.		\$ 536.	

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF INCOME and TRAFFIC STATISTICS,

FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30th, 1896.

	Report to Minnesota State Warehouse Commission	Report to Minnesota State Warehouse Commission	Report to Minnesota State Warehouse Commission	Report to Minnesota State Warehouse Commission	
	Northern Pacific All Lines.	Great Northern Railway.	Eastern Railway of Minnesota.	Total Great Northern Lines.	
INCOME:					
Freight,	14,966,474 ✓	12,180,801	1,689,270	15,833,090 ✓	Passenger
Passenger,	4,658,642	2,863,421	189,863	3,281,424	Mail
Total,	19,625,116	15,044,222	1,879,133	19,114,514	Express
Other Operating Income,	424,870	301,052	37,188	498,050 ✓	Miscellaneous Income
Total Operating Income,	20,049,986	15,345,274	1,916,321	19,612,564 ✓	
EXPENSES,	12,207,407 ✓	7,898,981	881,716	10,230,708 ✓	
NET INCOME FROM OPERATION,	7,842,579	7,446,293	1,034,605	9,381,856 ✓	
MILES OPERATED,	4,404.34	3,765.62	190.53 & 185.80	4,374.19 ✓	Superintendent S.H.
Tons Hauled, Commercial,	4,287,524	3,537,824	2,592,598	7,521,159	C. & P. Ry.
" " one mile (add 000)	1,315,958	1,194,222	221,300	1,622,877	
" " " " " per mile of road,	299,013	317,132	1,191,069	371,012	
Average Haul (miles),	307.1	337.5	85.4	215.7	Working for above
TRAIN MILEAGE:					
Passenger,	3,258,752	2,385,804	251,751	2,971,338	
Freight,	6,363,464	4,455,834	368,098	5,680,711	
Mixed,	662,151	604,930		653,468	
\$ Total,	10,284,367	7,446,568	619,849	9,305,517	
Construction and Other Trains,	504,128	330,783	29,958	+ 372,101	+ Not including Mont. Cent. or D. W. & P.
Switching,		958,620	207,710	* 1,166,330	
Total,	10,788,495	8,735,971	857,517	10,843,948	* Not including Mont. Central.
TRAIN MILEAGE USED FOR STATISTICS:					
Passenger,	3,479,013	2,537,032	251,751	2,971,338	
Freight,	6,805,354	4,909,536	368,098	6,334,179 ✓	Not included
\$ Total,	10,284,367	7,446,568	619,849	9,305,517	

On difference
between
8/6- 7,020,615.