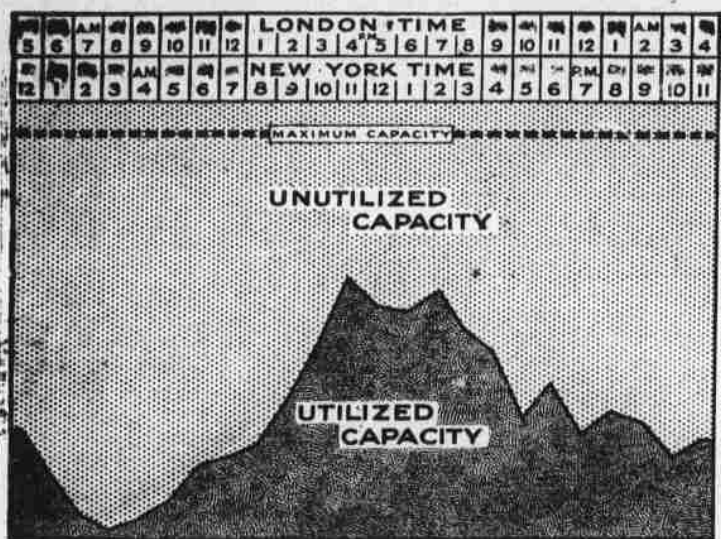


## Trans-Atlantic Cable Business



Traffic Chart of Western Union, Anglo-American and Direct U. S. Cable Business, Showing Capacity of the Cables and the Proportion Now Utilized.

### Proposed Modification of Existing Arrangements

A provisional modification of an arrangement which has existed for many years has been reached between the Western Union Telegraph Company, The Anglo-American Cable Company and the Direct U. S. Cable Company, under which the cable systems of these companies now worked exclusively in business connection with each other, but operated and maintained separately, will be operated in direct physical connection with each other and with the Western Union land system.

Two objects are to be attained by this arrangement:  
 First, more efficient and economical operation.  
 Second, the introduction of new forms of service to the advantage of the public.

#### The Trans-Atlantic Cable Situation and Competition

The trans-Atlantic cable situation is as follows:  
 The Mackay group of seven cables, including the German cables, owned by or worked in physical connection with the telegraph lines of that company form one system.  
 The French cables comprise an independent system, using both the Western Union and the Mackay land lines for their United States connection.

In competition with these is the Western Union group of cables, eight in all, owned by three separate companies, two of which are British companies owning five of the eight cables.

Two only of the British owned cables terminate in the United States and all of them are entirely dependent on the Western Union for their connection with any telegraph system, or for their reaching any centre of business, and are now worked exclusively, so far as business is concerned, with the Western Union.

#### Efficiency Increased, Waste Prevented

The proposed arrangement between the Western Union, the Anglo-American and the Direct U. S. companies will bring the eight cables of the three companies under one operating control. The consequent increase in effectiveness and economy will place the Western Union in a position to offer certain advantages in cable service not now enjoyed by the public.

#### Limited Business Hours and Idle Facilities

As at present carried on, the trans-Atlantic cable business is practically all flash service, i. e. instantaneous. Owing to the difference in time, there are only a few business hours of the day common to both sides and during these hours at least 75% of the cable business is done. This is demonstrated by the accompanying chart.

The interests of international business nothing should be done to interfere in any way with the so-called flash or instantaneous service, and the lines should be kept clear to accommodate such messages during the few business hours common to both countries; but to continue to confine the cables to this class of service, as at present, will utilize only about 25% of the existing capacity of millions of property and places on that limited service all the capital, maintenance and operating charges.

#### THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY

New York, Sept. 1st, 1911.

Theo. N. Vail, President

## ASSESSMENTS MUST STAND

State Tax Commission Overrules Exceptions and Dismisses Petitions of Railroads

### THE ORDER ISSUED TODAY

Opinion and Order Deny Hopes of Seaboard Air Line, Atlantic Coast Line and Southern of Reduction in Assessment of Property—Commissioner Knew What It Was Doing Because Facts Were Before It—Order is Result of Application by Railroads for Equalization of Property in State—What the Commission Says.

The state tax commission or board of equalization, today overruled the petitions and dismissed the petitions of the Seaboard Air Line Railroad, Southern Railway and Atlantic Coast Line Railroad in the matter of lower assessment of their property for taxation, the commission holding that the assessments are fair and uniform. The opinion and order, which were written by Commissioner Travis, is a thorough answer to the petition of the Seaboard in particular but as the other two roads took practically the same position as the Seaboard the opinion and order was made to include them.

The opinion is the result of petitions and affidavits on the part of the railroad companies that their property was assessed at its fair value—in some cases more—while other property, especially real, was assessed at much below its true value in money. In the case of the railroads the commission was able to get at their exact value, because the reports of the roads were available, and it was not speculation on the part of the commission.

#### The Matter in Question.

In this matter the Seaboard Air Line Railroad, the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad and Southern Railway filed exceptions to the assessment of their property for taxation heretofore made by this board, and also filed petitions addressed to the board as a state board of equalization.

The petitions and exceptions are based upon the same ground and we have considered them together, and after careful consideration of the whole matter, we feel it our duty to overrule the exceptions and dismiss the petition.

#### No Ground for Contention.

The standard for the assessment of property as fixed by the constitution and by the statute, under which this board acts, is the "true value in money" of property assessed. It is not contended either in the petitions or the arguments that the property of the petitioners is assessed at more than its true value in money. On the contrary it seems to be conceded that there is no ground for such contention. The sole ground of the exceptions and the petitions, and the only one pressed in the argument, is that other property in the State, particularly lands, have been assessed by the boards of county assessors of the several counties below their real value. Because of this alleged fact the petitioners ask this board to reduce its proper assessment of railroad property to such an amount as will put it on an equal basis with these improper assessments of land. In order to establish the fact that lands in the various counties are much under-valued the petitioners introduced many unsworn statements, and some affidavits, from citizens of different counties expressing, in a very general and indefinite way their opinions of the percentage of its actual value at which lands were assessed in the different counties. Like all matters of mere opinion, these statements vary greatly. In one county in particular one citizen states that in his opinion property is assessed at twenty-five per cent. of its real value; another that property is assessed at fifty per cent. of its real value, and still another that it is assessed at seventy-five per cent. of its real value. It is not disclosed that any of these parties made any particular inspection of property, or examined into the assessments in order to qualify themselves to give well considered opinions in respect to the relation of assessments to the real value. But aside from all this, we feel that it is unnecessary for us to determine to what extent evidence of this character should be effective in discreditting the assessments made by sworn officers, who actually viewed each piece of property assessed, and the boards of equalization in these counties, all of whom were selected with reference to their fitness for this particular duty. Even if it were proved that the assessment of property in certain counties of the State

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No Odds How Sick Your Stomach, How Hard Your Head Aches or How Bilious—Cascarets Make you Feel Great.

You men and women who somehow can't get feeling right—who have an almost daily headache, coated tongue, foul taste and foul breath, dizziness, can't sleep, are bilious, nervous and upset, bothered with a sick, gassy, disordered stomach, or have backache and feel all worn out.

Are you keeping clean inside with Cascarets, or merely forcing a passage every few days with salts, cathartic pills or castor oil? This is important.

Cascarets work while you sleep; cleanse and regulate the stomach, remove the sour, undigested and fermenting food and foul gases; take the excess bile from the liver and carry out of the system all the decomposed waste matter and poison in the intestines and bowels.

A Cascaret tonight will straighten you out by morning—a 10-cent box from any drug store will keep your entire family feeling good for months. Don't forget the children. They love Cascarets because they taste good—do good—never gripe or sicken.

was made below its actual value in money, we are of the opinion that the contention of petitioners that its property should be reduced accordingly cannot be sustained.

#### Statute and Constitution.

The petitioners invoke the statute (section 3, machinery act), which imposes upon us the duty of making all assessments of property relatively just and uniform, and insists that the way to secure this is by a reduction of the assessment of its property, rather than by raising the assessments which are made below the standard fixed by law. It is true that the statute referred to and the constitution impose on us the duty to make the assessment of all property uniform as near as it is practicable to do, but the statute and the constitution do not stop there. They go further and say how this equality shall be secured, namely: by assessing all property at its true value in money. It, therefore, seems clear to us, that it is our duty both under the statute, from which we derive our authority, and the constitution, which we are sworn to support, that in the performance of our duty as a board of equalization, we must raise the property assessed below the legal standard towards that standard, and that we could not be justified in reducing property assessed according to the lawful standard to a lower basis. If local assessments are wrong we cannot correct that wrong by the commission of another like it; we cannot move from the right standard towards the wrong. If this board should abandon the standard of assessments adopted by it in accordance with law, and adopt the standards of the local boards, it would be a practical surrender of our authority as a state board of equalization to the local boards. This board has been constituted the head of the taxing system of the State, under a law designed ultimately to bring the assessment of property throughout the State up to its true value in money. We have been given power as a state board of equalization, which will enable us, if we perform our duty faithfully, to accomplish the purpose and policy of this law in time. We should set a right example and lead the local boards towards the right and lawful standard, and not follow them towards a wrong one.

#### Some Affidavits.

Col. Fred A. Olds, in an affidavit says that he met Mrs. Fleming on several occasions, singing at several churches where services were being conducted by Rev. R. S. Stephenson at Pilot Mills church, also concerning the affair at the Elk's Club and he considered her character good and heard nothing against it until these proceedings began.

Rev. R. S. Stephenson, in an affidavit, told of Mrs. Fleming singing in several of his choirs and considers her general character good.

Mrs. Wiley M. Rogers, in an affidavit, said that Mrs. Fleming was a good and kind woman and was the proper person to have the children.

Mrs. W. A. Moser, who used to live next door to the Flemings, said in an affidavit that she had never heard anything against the character of Mrs. Fleming, and she was the proper person to have the children.

Mrs. R. O. Burton, in an affidavit said that she knew Mrs. Fleming well and considered her a lady of good character, a kind and loving mother.

Miss Caro O. Gray, said in her affidavit she had often seen Mrs. Fleming with her children and declared she was a devoted and loving mother and should have the custody of the children.

Miss Frances Renfrow, a stenographer for the firm of Aycock & Winston, said in her affidavit that she had been at a party given at a Mrs. Parker's and knew Mrs. Fleming well who was at Mrs. Parker's and her general character was good. That she was also at an entertainment given at the Elk's Club with Mrs. Fleming and heard her say that she had to go home to her children. Considered her a fit person for the custody of the children.

There were a great many affidavits along this same line, each swearing that Mrs. Fleming's general character is good, that she went with the best of people, sang in the leading choir of the city and was a kind and loving mother and the proper person to take care of the children.

Mary Ashe, being duly sworn says that about February, 1909, she was employed by Mrs. Nellie Claire Fleming as a nurse and remained in her

earnings for the past three years. We felt confident that our assessment of this property is fully sustained by the general condition of this company, and particularly by its net earnings, whether the measure by the earnings of 1910, or by the earnings of 1909, or by the average earnings for the past three years. The net earnings of this company apportioned to North Carolina taken in either of the three ways above mentioned would pay a percentage of profit on its assessments that would be more than satisfactory to any railroad system. While this board in making the assessment of railroad property has followed the standard fixed by law, it has been careful to keep well within the same, and we feel confident that the assessments we have made are below rather than strictly up to their true value in money.

#### Overruled and Denied.

There was no contention on the part of the Seaboard Air Line Railroad, or any other railroad, that there was any inequality of assessment as between the several railroads of the State, and it seems to be conceded, that as between them, and as to all other property of that class, the assessments are fair and uniform; it is therefore

Ordered, that the exceptions filed by the said Seaboard Air Line Railroad, Atlantic Coast Line Railroad, and Southern Railway, be, and they are hereby overruled; and that their petitions filed be denied.

### Vindication Is Complete.

(Continued From Page One.)

divorce, was a most sensational and fierce affair. Lawyers on both sides fought every inch of ground, but the second night's battle was won by Mrs. Fleming. During the day an affidavit was secured from N. L. Sandly, a telegram being received later by Solicitor Norris that Sandy was a convict and had served four months for larceny. Time and time again Lawyers Douglas and Norris "hung up" in disputes.

S. C. Ham, in affidavit, declares that Mrs. Bertha Crone is bad in character.

There were several affidavits from citizens of the Pilot Cotton Mills stating that the general character of Mrs. Bertha Crone and Mrs. Myrtle Eddins are bad and that their word could not be believed. It will be remembered that Mrs. Crone and Mrs. Eddins are the women who on Wednesday night swore that they saw Mrs. Fleming out driving one evening with John Winder.

It was every evident from the beginning that it was the duty of Percy B. Fleming to prove beyond a shadow of a doubt that Mrs. Fleming is an unfit person to take care of the children. It was stated by Judge Peebles that it must be proved to him that Mrs. Fleming is an unchaste person. Attorney Hinsdale read an affidavit of Mrs. Fleming in which she stated that she had sung in the choir of the First Baptist church, Edenton street Methodist church, and Christ church, at public entertainments, at Elk's Club and other places.

Col. Fred A. Olds, in an affidavit says that he met Mrs. Fleming on several occasions, singing at several churches where services were being conducted by Rev. R. S. Stephenson at Pilot Mills church, also concerning the affair at the Elk's Club and he considered her character good and heard nothing against it until these proceedings began.

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#### NOTICE TO CREDITORS.

Having qualified as Executors of the last will and testament of Job P. Wyatt, deceased, late of Wake County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of the said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned at Raleigh, North Carolina, on or before the 27th day of August, 1911, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please

make immediate payment to the undersigned.

This August 25, 1911.  
 WILLIAM L. WYATT,  
 ROBERT J. WYATT,  
 ROBERT N. SIMMS,  
 Executors of Job P. Wyatt.  
 Once a week for six weeks.

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