MILWAUKEE, Wis., Jan. 9.—The Wisconsin prints an interview with a "rallway authority." in which it is stated that legal obstacles are in the way of the Great Northern-Northern Pacific-Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul deal. The Wisconsin's informant says there are laws in Minnesota and the Dakotas which forbid combinations, leases, or other traffic arrangements between and among parallel, competing lines, which the named railways are. JAMES J. HILL IN NEW YORK.

James J. Hill, President of the Great

Northern Railroad, is in this city, and his advent has given rise to many rumors, none of which he will take the trouble to either verify or deny, The importance of Mr. Hill just now is due to the belief that he is at present en-

gaged in an attempt to consolidate, combine, or connect in some other way the controlling interests in the Great Northern, the Northern Pacific, the St. Paul, the Erie, the Baltimore and Ohio, and two or three other railroads so as to create one grand transcontinental railway system. Mr. Hill has repeatedly denied that he has any such scheme on hand, but Wall Street has so far refused to believe him, and is daily expecting the announcement that some such great "deal has been completed. After leaving the Hotel Netherlands early yesterday morning. Mr. Hill went to his office, on Pine Street. Immediately the report was circulated that the "deal" was being settled in his office. Then he dropped into Mr. Morgan's office, and rumors be-

came current that he would be Mr. Morgan's chief assistant in the anthracite coal combination. Mr. Hill then went over to the Chase National Bank, the President of which, H. W. Cannon, is a close friend of his. Mr. Cannon is a Director in the Ontario and Western, and the report spread that Mr. Hill's influence would be used to bring that road into harmony with the other anthracite lines. This report was strengthened when Thomas P. Fowler, President of the Ontario and Western, called to see Mr. Hill. Mr. Hill was busy and Mr. Fowler said he would call again. James Stillman, President of the City Bank; Jacob H. Schiff, and E. H. Harriman. Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Union Pacific, were the next callers, and there were more rumors. Mr. Hill finally met the reporters and told them that he had come to New York,

accompanied by M. D. Grover, the road's general solicitor, and D. Miller, the Vice President, as well as by his private secretary and two or three others whom he does not generally bring with him on his frequent visits, simply to "clean up some small matters, none of them as important as the papers would have the public believe," and also to consult with shipbuilders in regard to some ships for his lake lines. It was noticed, however, that he did not see any shipbuilders yesterday. Asked about the reports of large railroad combinations. Mr. Hill said that these reports were exaggerations of a few facts. Beyond this he would say nothing except that he had been misrepresented in the public prints and he had decided that the best policy was silence concerning his own affairs, it being better for his own interests. Mr. Hill left the Chase National Bank about 1:30 to take luncheon. Later he re-

One of the Directors of the St. Paul Road said yesterday that one reason why no change would be made in the status of the St. Paul was because any "deal" between the Great Northern and the St. Paul could be effectively opposed by the Chicago and Northwestern and the other Chicago-St. Paul roads who interchange much traffic with the Great Northern. NEW COAST LINE.

turned to his office and then went up town earlier than usual. He did not attend the meeting of the Northern Pacific Directors.

An important enterprise in the ratiroad

world is the construction of the new coast line of the Southern Pacific Company between Los Angeles and San Francisco, which, it is expected, will be ready for service within a short time. The line has been under construction for many years, progress being rendered slow by the heavy work required, The passenger schedule, so far as completed, provides for a night and a day express. The night trains will carry through sleepers and bag-gage. The day trains will be fully vesti-buled and will have a dining or grill car, which will be provided with a large kitchen suitable for preparing any kind of meals, excepting possibly roasts. A Pullman parlor car will also be attached to each train. The morning trains from San Francisco will have a connection through to Monterey. The new route runs through the principal coast resorts of California and will bring

the passenger into San Francisco without any water transfers. The last rail connection on the line was recently made near Cementeria Cañon. IN THE REAL ESTATE FIELD

D. H. McAlpin Sells Broadway and Fifty-fifth Street Corner.

David H. McAlpin has sold the plot now covered by old buildings, at the southeast corner of Broadway and Fifty-fifth Street, 77.9 feet on Broadway by 105.11 feet on the A. L. Mordecai & Son have sold for Felt &

Livingston to I. Macy for about \$300,000 the new seven-story apartment house at the on a plot 100 by 100,11.

northwest corner of Manhattan Avenue and One Hundred and Eighteenth Street. It is reported that the Columbia Bank has bought the old three-story dwelling 495 Fifth Avenue, 16.9 by 100, between Forty-first and Forty-second Streets. Joseph Fox, President of the bank, would not dis-

cuss the report yesterday. The Columbia Bank already owns 497 and 499 Fifth Avenue, adjoining, and occupies No. 501; at the southeast corner of Forty-second Street, making, with its purchase of No. 495, a plot 73.3 by 100. The Lee estate's property at the southeast corner of Fifth Avenue and Sixtieth Street, was again the subject of rumor yesterday, although William C. Orr, attorney

for the estate, said that he had heard of no recent negotiations for its sale. It is said that a project is on foot for the erection of an apartment house on the plot, which will be owned and conducted on a co-operative plan by the present tenants of the Bolkenhayn apartment house, at the northeast corner of Fifth Avenue and Fifty-eighth Street. The latter structure was leased last

Summer to the Hotel Savoy, which it ad-

joins. B. C. & F. T. Barry have sold for Mrs.

story brownstone-front dwelling 43 East Sixty-fourth Street, 20 by 55 by 100. The buyer will convert the dwelling into a house of the American basement type. Miles & Helfer have sold for Lucy Kean to Leopold Kaufman 157 Second Avenue,

H. T. Cutting, for about \$38,000, the four-

southwest corner of Tenth Street, 26.7 by 100, and an adjoining lot on Stuyvesant Street, 25 by 80, the two forming an "L"shaped plot, on which the buyer will erect an apartment house. Miles & Helfer have also sold for the Union Real Estate Company to M. J. New-

man three lots on the west side of Eleventh Avenue, between One Hundred and Sev-

enty-ninth and One Hundred and Eightleth Streets, Charles W. Ogden is the buyer of the 55-foot frontage on the south side of Seventy-ninth Street, just east of Fifth Avenue, sold recently by H. H. Cook. William J. Roome has sold for the estate of Cornelia A. Munson, for about \$11,000, the four-story dwelling 305 West Fifty-second Street, 16.8 by 100.

Hall J. How & Co. have sold for H. W. Droge the lot, 25 by 79.11, on the north side of One Hundred and Eighty-second Street, 75 feet west of Audubon Avenue. Max Hart has sold to Alfred Hexter the five-story tenement at the southwest cor-ner of Second Avenue and Sixty-third

Street, 25 by 80. D. Kempner & Sons have sold, for about \$50,000, the four-story front and rear brick buildings 321 and 323 West Forty-second Street, 50 by 100. Lowenfeld & Prager have bought the northeast corner of Grand and Forsyth

Deeds transferring the plot, 61.9 by 100. at the northwest corner of Fifth Avenue and Thirty-fourth Street to the Knicker-

bocker Trust Company were recorded yes-terday. By one instrument Horace Russell and another, as executors of the estate of Charles J. Clinch, convey a thirty-

Streets, 20 by 87.6.

ninety-fifths interest in the parcel for \$197,368, while by the other deed Prescott H. Butler and others transfer the remaining sixty-five-ninety-fifths for \$427,631-a total consideration of \$644,999. F. Kramer has sold for \$15,000 the fourstory brownstone single flat, 25x100, at 8 East One Hundred and Thirty-third Street. He has also sold the northeast corner of Hoe Avenue and Freeman Street, for \$12,-

Bell & Houpt, in connection with John Byrne, have sold for the owner, the Hamilton Fish leasehold property, three-story brick building, 163 Third Avenue, on a lot 19 by 60. Also, for George Brelser, the three-story brick building at 202 East Sixteenth Street, on a lot 20 by 103.