

AFFAIRS OF RAILROADS

CONFERENCE IN CHICAGO ABOUT THE OMAHA BRIDGE TROUBLE.

IT IS BELIEVED THAT THE ST. PAUL AND THE ROCK ISLAND HAVE ENLISTED THE SUPPORT OF THE ATCHISON AND ILLINOIS CENTRAL.

President Miller of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul, President Cable of the Rock Island; President Manvel, and Judge Springer of the Atchison, and Assistant General Traffic Manager Markham of the Illinois Central had a conference in President Miller's office in Chicago yesterday. The object was to agree upon a course of action at the meeting of Presidents in this city on the 8th inst., and by a united stand to carry certain points advocated by these roads in the formation of the Presidents' agreement.

It is suspected that the St. Paul and the Rock Island have enlisted the support of the Atchison and Illinois Central in the fight they propose to make on Jay Gould because of the latter's refusal to carry out the Union Pacific bridge contract at Omaha. Whether this means that they will withdraw from the proposed agreement unless the Union Pacific people come to terms is a question which none of the interested parties will answer. Mr. Miller was asked: "If the Union Pacific can repudiate a contract of this kind, what is the use of going into another agreement with that road?" With a significant smile, Mr. Miller replied: "That is a very difficult question to answer."

Nothing new developed here to-day in regard to the Union Pacific fight. The Rock Island has taken no action as yet, as it has not begun to operate under the contract. It was learned, however, that the Union Pacific is using the Rock Island's track between Hutchinson and McPherson, Kan., in accordance with the terms of this same contract.