

St. Paul & Duluth Road      March 14, 1884

Hill to W. H. Rhawn, Philadelphia

Reasons for falling off in earning on the railroad are: general depression in the lumber business throughout the Northwest; low prices of grain and the consequent retention of grain by the farmers; and "to some extent, the division of the business between St. Paul and Lake Superior growing out of the construction of the Omaha Co's line to that point." Chiefly, however, due to "the unsettled rates between Chicago, St. Paul and Minneapolis. The competition between the Chicago lines has been very close for the p 2 or 3 months, and while there is no open outbreak there are

practically no rates maintained."

JJH LetterBook, 1/11/84 - 5/30/84, p. 162