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RAILROADS A JOKE.

The first piece of practical legislation which the Home Rule Parliament will have to tackle will be the nationalization of the Irish railroads.

Business men throughout the country are agreed that anything like a real industrial development of Ireland is impossible under the present system of railroad management and control. Serious men regard the Irish railroads more in the nature of a joke than a live, practical proposition.

Recent investigations show that there is in Ireland a manager and a director for every ten miles of track and each receiving a salary anything from \$2,500 to \$5,000 a year, while the ordinary workmen employed on the same roads are receiving

\$3 a week for 60 to 70 hours' work. There is a case of a board of directors drawing as much as \$85,000 annually in fees and salary out of a 70-mile track, and to add to the humor of the situation they do not own a single locomotive, a freight car, or indeed a dollar's worth of rolling stock.

TIRE PRICE CUTTING.

It is announced in New York this week that the Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co. has followed the lead of the B. F. Goodrich Co., in cutting the prices of auto tires. It is expected that a similar announcement will be made by the U. S. Rubber Co. The decline in Para rubber this year seems to fully explain why there should be a corresponding reduction to users of tires.

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