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EDITORIALS

THE LAKE CARGO RATE CASE OF FEBRUARY 1928.—In the last issue of this quarterly we published a note summarizing the Lake Cargo Rate Case of August 1925.¹ Since that publication another decision in the lake cargo rate controversy has been handed down,² in which the voluntary reduction of lake cargo rates on coal offered by the Norfolk and Western and Chesapeake and Ohio and other southern railroads, was denied. From this last decision the southern coal operators are appealing. It is, therefore, not timely to discuss either the constitutionality of this decision or the legality of the Commission's interpretation. The economic effect of this decision in West Virginia is disastrous. The decision puts a handicap on West Virginia coal mines of from forty-five to sixty-three cents a ton, and there are grounds for believing that this handicap will cut away a part of the economic foundation on which the industries of the state rest. Comment, therefore, upon the policy of

¹ 34 W. VA. L. QUAR. 202 (1928).

² Lake Cargo Coal Rates, 127 I. C. C., Docket No. 2967 (Feb. 1928).