

IMPROVEMENT IN SOUTH IS SHOWN

Increases in Employment in Railroads and Textiles Are Gratifying.

Washington, Sept. 5.—Some improvement in industrial conditions in the South is shown in the monthly survey of employment service of the Department of Labor for August. The general spot in the South appears to be brightening, which reports practically no unemployment and a state-wide increase of labor. Of the six cities mentioned, four show increases in employment for August over July while two show decreases. They are Chattanooga, increase 6 per cent; Birmingham, increase 5.2 per cent; Memphis, increase 5 per cent; Richmond, increase 4 per cent; Atlanta, decrease 8.27 per cent; and New Orleans, decrease 1.6 per cent.

South Atlantic district, including North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Florida, gratifyingly shows an increase in railroad occupations. Fifteen companies report a total employment of 225,912, an increase of 20,000 over the corresponding month of last year. The 319 textile mills report total employment of 89,065, an increase of 1,000 over the corresponding month of last year. Lumber products plants, numbering 1,000, report employing 8,191, a decrease of 1,000 over the corresponding month of last year. Although operators generally are optimistic, the outlook is not encouraging. Twenty-two operators generally are discouraged as to the outlook, while 28 express confidence that conditions will improve in the near future. Unemployment continues in iron and steel and among unskilled labor, the outlook for the latter class being extremely discouraging. Farm labor is abundant, and the outlook is active in spots.

NEW CHAIR FACTORY ORGANIZED AT LENOIR. Lenoir, Sept. 5.—The Fairfield Chair Company which will take over the old plant of the Ethel Chair Company, has been organized among local business men, and will begin operations within the next few weeks. A crew of workers is now cleaning up around the plant and getting everything in shape to begin operations. V. D. Gure has accepted the secretaryship of the company, and has taken over the management of the Hudson Veneer Company. The office of the Hudson Veneer Company has been moved to the office of the Fairfield Chair Company on West Harper avenue.

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S'MATTER POP?



TEN TO ONE IT'S THE CAN.

By C. M. PAYNE

History's Mysteries No. 38--The Arms Of Venus Di Milo

That the Venus di Milo, undoubtedly the most beautiful statue in the world, once had arms is apparent from the most superficial glance, but in what position they were sculptured and what became of them are mysteries which rank among the secrets of the art world. Some experts, basing their statements upon accurate measurements of the stumps of the missing arms and the manner in which the muscles appear along the back of the statue, claim that the right arm was gracefully posed and attached to the drapery around the waist, while the left arm was raised at the shoulder and bent at the elbow—suppositions which are supported by the meager reports concerning the statue when it was first discovered on the Island of Melos in the Mediterranean.

But the first of the mysteries concerning the Venus is connected with the origin of the statue. Who was the sculptor? It is doubtful if this will ever be revealed, for, while it has evidently been buried for some 2,000 years and it bears traces of the characteristic handwriting of any one of several famous Greek sculptors, the identity of the man who made it will remain forever a secret unless some unsuspected evidence is discovered, throwing light upon this question. The modern history of the Venus goes back about a century when Yorgos Bottonia, a peasant living on the Island of Melos, was working in a field on the side of a mountain. Bottonia was quarrying some stone and accidentally came across a species of vault. Excavating further, he was amazed to discover the figure of a woman, larger than nature and radiant with the beauty of the immortals. Who had sealed her there? Why, for some 20 centuries, had that marvellous form been a captive of the dark, standing motionless and unhonored? Had the statue been stolen and secreted or had it been hidden in order to save it from the hands of vandals? These questions, like the others which concern the Venus of Melos, must also remain unanswered. When old Yorgos found the statue—or so the story goes—it was complete and unharmed. What was more, it was made of two super-imposed blocks, joined at the waist, however, a French vessel stopped at the Island of Melos and a young ensign started on a tour of discovery for something out of the ordinary. He heard of the Venus and at once sought out Yorgos. A bargain was struck and the statue was to pass into the hands of the ensign as soon as he could produce the purchase price agreed upon—a sum absurdly small when the real value of the statue is considered. The French vessel then sailed for Constantinople where the French ambassador was informed of the treasure and, in a few days, the secretary of the embassy was sent to Melos to complete the transaction. When he arrived he found that the primates of the island had arranged to present the statue to a certain Greek prince, whom they desired to please. A French warship had been dispatched to Melos to bring the statue away with it but, when she anchored in the harbor on May 23, 1829, a Greek ship flying the Turkish flag was already at the dock and a party of Greek and Turkish sailors were preparing to load the statue on the Greek boat.

RESUMPTION OF OIL OPERATIONS RESULT

Mexico City, Sept. 5.—(By the Associated Press)—Immediate resumption of oil operations in the Tampico region by American petroleum companies and the payment of postponed taxes, with the lifting of the Government embargo upon the companies' funds and oil in storage, will result from the agreement reached by Government officials and the heads of five American oil concerns, which was reported Saturday night. There will be an immediate movement of oil from Mexico and, after minor details have been adjusted, a settlement will be reached of all the great petroleum problems which have vexed the Mexican Government and American development companies for years.

SEVERAL BODIES FOUND.

Hull, England, Sept. 5.—The body of William Julius, of Los Angeles, Calif., one of the members of the American contingent on board the dirigible, ZR 2, was found Sunday. The bodies of several of the British sailors who lost their lives in the disaster also were found.

Both French and Turkish sailors were landed and fight ensued for possession of the treasure, the French being victorious. When the melee was over and the French vessel sailed for Piræens, it is said that the Venus bore irreparable wounds. But this part of the secret which surrounds the statue for, as the story of the affair did not come to light until nearly a half century later the details could never be substantiated and there is more than a suspicion that the statue was broken during its trip on the warship and that the story of the fight was concocted in order to explain the mishap. In fact, the only undisputed points about this famous statue are that it was discovered on the Island of Melos and that it now stands, broken but magnificent, in the place of honor in theouvre at Paris. All the rest is conjecture, rumor and mystery.

Next—"The Death of Lord Bentinck"

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