LITTLE MESSENGERS
They Get
Business

THE DUNN DISPATCH

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NO HOPE FOR EARLY RELIEF FROM POOR RAILROAD SERVICE

Increasing Passenger Business Responsible For Conditions, Report Says.

DIRECTOR CHAMBERS SUMMARIZES WORK

Tourist Travel and Development In Southwest Demand Much Of Equipment—9,216,206 Train Miles Added During Year—Dining Car Service Shows Improvement.

Washington, Feb. 11.—The striking increase in passenger travel during the last two years which has been largely responsible for the difficulty of supplying sufficient passenger equipment was indicated in the annual report of Edward Chambers, director division of traffic of the Railroad Administration, to Walter D. Hines, director general of railroads, for the year 1919 made public to-day. Mr. Chambers showed that a total of approximately 46,202,827,365 passengers were carried 1 mile in 1919, or an increase of 17.3 per cent over 1917 and an increase of 33.6 per cent over 1916.

"With constantly increasing volume of passenger business and little hope of early additions to passenger train equipment," said Mr. Chambers, "it is important from the viewpoint of public convenience that there be no abandonment of the present plans for the conservation of service."

Director Chambers pointed out that as soon as possible after the ending of the war former train service has been restored to such extent as seemed justified by the public need without, however, the reinstatement of expensive duplicate service and without disturbing the arrangements instituted during the early months of the Railroad Administration under which the arriving and leaving time of trains of the different railroads between common points was adjusted to serve best the public convenience. He added that certain train schedules have been shortened to permit of faster service between the larger commercial centers, some of the limited trains have been restored to their former schedules, a number of observation cars have been put back into service, and new sleeping car lines have [illegible]

He pointed out that train service added in the western part of the United States alone in excess of train mileage canceled during the war was represented by 9,216,206 additional train miles per year. This being necessitated by tourist travel, development of commerce generally, and especially the new oil developments in the Southwest. Mr. Chambers also pointed out that a consistent effort has been made to effect desirable and convenient connections between passenger trains at interior junctions, and a competitive campaign has been conducted with very successful results, having for its object an increase in the number of trains on time.

Mr. Chambers pointed out that it was impossible to make many of these changes to bring about better service to the public until well along in 1919, because of the very heavy soldier travel due to the return of the army from France, which continued until well along into the summer.

Consolidated ticket offices have now been established in 108 centers, according to Mr. Chambers. "These offices receive seemingly the universal commendation of the public." He said that the saving in rental alone resulting from these consolidations amounts approximately to $1,846,976 annually, and the saving in salaries and miscellaneous expenses amounts to even more, in spite of the material increase in wages granted to the employees. He added that should the consolidated offices continue throughout 1920 there would be a still further reduction in the cost of operation.

Better Dining Service.

Among other improvements in service mentioned by Mr. Chambers was the bettering of meals on dining cars, unification of terminal facilities, uniformity in service and prices for meals at railroad stations, standard table d'hote meal checks, standard size menu cards, and also uniform prices for tonsorial and clothes-pressing service. He also pointed out that baggage equipment has been pooled so as to reduce to a minimum the congestion of baggage and the incidental delays resulting therefrom.

Further progress has also been made in the matter of simplification of time-tables, folders, etc., and provisions have been made for the issuing of additional consolidated time-tables showing the schedules by different railroads between common points, thus adding materially to the convenience of the public. The travel bureaus have been created with headquarters in New York, Chicago, and Atlanta for the accommodation of the public and the dissemination of information. As a result, reports from the Interior Department show that during the summer of 1919 the national parks enjoyed the greatest patronage in their history.

Director Chambers pointed out many simplifications which have been brought about under unified control in the preparation and publication of tariffs, the handling of rate questions, routing of freight, etc.

"The conditions during the reconstruction period," the report said, "have made it necessary to establish more new commodity rates to move newly developed traffic than at any other time in railroad history."

ROAD MOVEMENT GROWS IN SOUTH

The movement to build hard surfaced highways continues on the upward swing and reports from all sections of the South indicate that the people are taking up the fight in earnest for good roads. The economic necessity of permanent highways is becoming more and more apparent in all communities and there is an ever growing sentiment that in building roads, those of the permanent type, suitable for service 365 days in the year are really the cheapest in the end, despite the higher first cost, as compared with dirt roads.

The maintenance cost of paved roads, coupled with the service they render is the best argument for that type of construction. No other surface will give as universally satisfactory haulage to all types of vehicles. The tremendous number of automobiles in use and the constantly increasing use of the motor truck are clearly demonstrating the importance of real highways.

Motor transportation, especially at a time when railway facilities are uncertain and inadequate, is proving of immense benefit in helping solve the transportation problem, and the extent to which motor vehicles can be efficiently used is limited only by the number of miles of good roads.—Industrial and Engineering News.

KNITTING COMPANY STARTS HERE SOON

Operations Expected To Start Within Thirty Days, Riddle Says.

Dunn's branch of the Durham Knitting Mills will begin operation within thirty days, according to an announcement made yesterday by T. L. Riddle, secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, after a final conference with T. C. Harrel, field representative of the mill company.

S. B. Parrell, who is to be local manager of the plant, will move his offices to Dunn early next week. He will superintend the work of remodelling the Duffy Tobacco Warehouse, on the northern end of Wilbon avenue, which will be started to work on this probably Monday morning.

The warehouse is to be ceiled and cut into several rooms, but it is not probable that it will be enlarged for several months to come. Eventually, however, the company will add two or three floors to the building if sufficient labor can be gotten to operate a plant so large. Mr. Harrell stated that the company would use all the female labor the town and surrounding country could supply.

Applications for employment have poured into the offices of the Chamber of Commerce during the last week. Nearly all applicants will be taken, although it is improbable that more than 100 will be given places in the initial training school. New classes will be started each Monday morning after the first is trained. Learners will be paid $9 a week while learning. When they become proficient they will be paid on a "piece-work" basis and will be able to earn as high as $35 a week. There are few in the company's employ, said Mr. Harrell, who earn less than $20 a week.

Mr. Riddle will notify all applicants when to report for duty.

AMERICAN EXPORTS IN 1919 MAKE NEW HIGH RECORD

Washington, D. C.—American exports in 1919 exceed by $4,017,000,000 the total of imports in the same period, establishing a new record, the Department of Commerce, reports. Exports for 1919 were valued at $7,922,000,000, compared with $6,149,000,000 for 1918. Imports in 1919 were valued at $3,904,000,000, an excess of $878,000,000 over those for 1918.

While greater than in December, 1918, there was a decline both in exports and imports last December. The decrease in imports in December, compared with the previous month, was $61,000,000.

RETURN OF SOLDIER DEAD LEFT TO DECISION OF KIN

Washington, D. C.—To obtain from relatives of American soldiers buried in France a definite understanding of their wishes regarding the return of the bodies, the War Department has mailed 74,770 cards to the next of kin of these men. Thus far 74,770 replies have been received from the relatives. In this number were 43,909 answers from persons who requested the return of the bodies.

The War Department repeats its former assurance that upon request of the next of kin the body of a deceased soldier will be returned to the United States, but again calls attention to the fact that the French Government has ruled that for the present no bodies may be removed from the zone of the armies.

Postpone Meeting.

Although there is no influenza in Red Springs the committee having charge of the arrangements for the meeting of the Fayetteville presbytery scheduled to be held there February 12 after consultation with the moderator, Rev. J. J. Murray, have decided to postpone the conference. A quorum of members residing in Red Springs will meet and adjourn.

COTTON GAMBLERS FORCE DOWN PRICE

Head American Cotton Association Says Most Bullish Outlook In 60 Years.

Columbia, S. C., Feb. 7.—In a statement issued here today, J. Skottowe Wannamaker, president of the American Cotton Association, charges that a combine has been formed by certain European and American gamblers, manipulators and speculators to beat down the prices of cotton and to affect the direct sale of off-grade cotton. He declared that reports received by the association from Europe and from this country show the absolute certainty that demand far exceeds the supply.

"Investigation made throughout Europe and America," said Mr. Wannamaker, "by representatives standing at the head of the cotton industry brings to light beyond the shadow of a doubt the fact that has ever existed in cotton in the last 60 years. There is every indication that combines of manipulators and manufacturers in England and America, who were caught short on the cotton market, have been formed for the purpose of beating down prices and primarily for the specific purpose of defeating the direct sale of the low grade cotton by the American Cotton Association, realizing that the success of this sale means the certainty of far higher prices which would in turn, cause them fabulous losses."

Mr. Wannamaker made public a report from a representative of the American Cotton Association in England which says in part, "following a complete research throughout Europe we are convinced that the English manufacturer is reaping huge profits. He is selling his manufactured product practically without competition. A tremendous proportion of the manufacturers of Europe are unable to secure the raw product and the field is entirely open to the English spinners. Interviews and investigations bring to light the fact that Europe will import the largest amount of American cotton ever imported at any similar period within the last sixty years.

"Certain [illegible] are being caught on short sales, [illegible] combined with [illegible] and European speculators in a desperate effort to beat prices down, realizing that once the true cotton [illegible] soaring to far higher prices. Alarming reports that are being sent out from European countries are pure fabrications manufactured for the purpose of enabling the spinner to turn his production still more fabulous earnings by forcing the south to sacrifice raw cotton. With the information in our possession we strongly urge the south to refuse to sacrifice a bale of cotton at present prices.

"We find that the law of supply and demand when it once becomes operative will require every bale of raw cotton at prices far higher than the highest price being paid today.

SENATOR BROWN IS NOT MAKING ANNOUNCEMENT

Chadbourn Man Questioned As To Reported Candidacy For State Commissioner Of Agriculture.

Before returning to his home at Chadbourn yesterday, Senator J. A. Brown, who on Tuesday night attended the Americanization meeting at the O. Henry, was questioned in regard to the report that he would be a candidate for state commissioner of agriculture in the Democratic primary this year, but he declined to make a definite statement in this connection.

However, Senator Brown did state that there is a remarkably broad field for service in the commissionership and he indicated that he had been giving some thought to the question. The Chadbourn man, who is one of the ablest members of the state senate, has been given assurance of enthusiastic support from many quarters in the event he decides to enter the race and it is generally believed that he would prove a very formidable candidate.

That Maj. W. A. Graham, the present state commissioner of agriculture, will be a candidate to succeed himself is regarded as certain, although several months ago it was rumored that he expected to retire from public office at the close of the present term.

In view of the continued reports to the effect that Senator Brown will probably be a candidate for the office, it is likely that he will issue a definite statement concerning the matter in the early future.

GOVERNMENT SAVED MILLIONS CANCELLING WAR CONTRACTS

Washington, D. C.—In a formal statement to a conference of division commanders, Major General Burr reported that in the adjustment of 28,000 of the 27,000 contracts and obligations by which the War Department was bound at the time of the armistice, the Government had been saved $1,924,739,000. The settlements thus far made, he said, involved more than two thousand million dollars.

Bryan Not On "Dry" Pay Roll.

New York.—Reports that William Jennings Bryan was on the payroll of the Anti-Saloon League were denied Sunday by Wayne Wheeler, general counsel for the league, who said that his organization had paid Mr. Bryan for making a few speeches, but for nothing else.

INFLUENZA CLOSES GATHERING PLACES

Churches, schools, motion picture shows in [illegible] and other parts of Harnett County affected by the [illegible] epidemic must close [illegible] March 1, or until such time [illegible] danger of continued spread is over, according to an order issued today by the County Board of Health. The order [illegible]

"All churches, schools, motion picture shows and other places of public gathering will be closed until March [illegible] until such time thereafter [illegible] health conditions will permit the opening of same.

"Schools in the [illegible] not infected by the disease [illegible] communities where the [illegible] has not appeared, and where it appears that there is no reason for closing, the above order does not apply until such time [illegible] the influenza may appear in the communities."

The County Physician and Byrd P. Gentry, superintendent of schools, have been delegated to put this order into effect.

FINANCIAL CRISIS [illegible] SAYS SPEAKER GILLETT

Only Thrift and Industry Will Prevent Worst Times In American History, He Declares.

Springfield, Mass.—The United States is facing the [illegible] financial crisis in its history, declared Speaker Frederick H. Gillette, [illegible] national house of representatives, in an address here before 5,000 persons.

The present high cost of living, he said, is due largely [illegible] the greatly inflated condition [illegible] the floating debt of $4,000,000,000 in treasury certificates, [illegible] principal means of bringing down, is by thrift on the part of [illegible] public with the alternative that the country will face a panic similar to that of 1893. It is up to the public, said, to practice due care and [illegible] luxuries so that the present conditions [illegible]

[illegible] bination of the employer and employee are not more threatening to our business life than that of the employer!"

FARM WAGES FOR 1919 HIGHEST EVER RECORDED

Farm Products Do Not Show As Great Increase As Cost Of Production.

At no time have the wage rates of farm labor been as high in this country as they were in 1919, certainly as far back as 1884, when the first investigation of this subject was made by the Bureau of Crop Estimates, United States Department of Agriculture. Averages for the United States are in mind, and not local rates. For labor hired by the month with board, the average rate was $39.82, and among the geographic divisions the average was as low as $30.54 in the South Atlantic and as high as $62.96 in the Western, including the Mountains and Pacific States. Without board, the average for the United States was $56.29, and the lowest was $44.08 in the South Atlantic States and the highest $87.12 in the Western. Extras, such as firewood, milk, etc., are not included.

Average for United States $3.15

Harvest wages per day with board reached the top figure of 4.48 in the North Central States west of the Mississippi river and the lowest figure of $2.28 in the South Atlantic, and the United States average was $3.15. Without board, the United States average of $2.83 was most exceeded by $5.23 in the former states, while the latter states had the lowest average, $2.32.

Statements in similar form for day wages for work outside of harvest with board make the United States average $2.45, that of the North Central States west of the Mississippi river $2.22, and of the South Atlantic States $1.85; the rates without board, in the same order, were $3.12, $4.03, and $2.39.

While the lowest farm wage rates are in the South Atlantic States and next to the lowest in the South Central States, it is interesting to note that the greatest percentage of gain in rates in 1919 over 1918 among all the groups of states was in the latter group, and that next to the greatest increase in harvest day wages was in the North Central States west of the Mississippi river. The lowest percentages of gain in all classes of hiring are found in the North Atlantic States, a region in which the rates for all but one of the classes of hiring are above the averages for the United States.

Farming Operations Also Increase.

In the farming operations of 1919 in this country, crops were produced that had a value at the farm that was 11.8 per cent above the value of the crops of 1918, and animal products 9.9 per cent above, but the gain in the rates of wages of farm labor from 1918 to 1919 were relatively greater than these. In hiring by the month, the gain was 14 per cent when with board and 15.3 per cent when without board; day wages in harvest gained 18.9 per cent, whether with or without board, and day wages for work other than in harvest gained 13.4 per cent when with board and 13.6 per cent when without board.

REVALUATION ACT DECREASES TAXES

So Says Governor Bickett In Reviewing Action Of 1919 Legislature.

By GOV. T. W. BICKETT.

Every one who studies the Revaluation Act should at the outset give the act credit for a saving of forty-five per cent. In the years 1919 and 1920 every property owner pays forty-five per cent less taxes than he would have paid if the General Assembly of 1919 had not touched the subject of valuation. This is not an argument, it is a statement of a fact.

Under the old law there was a reassessment every four years, and if the General Assembly of 1919 had done nothing with respect to valuation the reassessment would have been made in 1919, and the taxes for 1919 and 1920 would have been paid on this reassessment. This law has been in force for about twenty years, and every four years there has been a substantial increase in values. The average increase has been 26 1-4 per cent. There is not a man in the state outside of an institution for the insane or the feeble-minded who does not know that the actual increase in property values during the last four years has been greater than in any four-year period since the reassessment law has been on the books. No mortal man will deny that if the old law had been allowed to stand without the dotting of an "i" or the crossing of a "t," the values in 1919 would have been increased as much as they have in any four-year period. Just knock off the 1 1-4 per cent and say that property values would have been increased 25 per cent. Then in 1919, the property owners would have paid 25 per cent more taxes on the same property than they paid in 1918. Under the Revaluation Act they did not pay a cent more. A similar amount would have to be paid in 1920, but under my recommendation to the General Assembly this 25 per cent increase in 1920 will be reduced to 5 per cent, this for public schools. This makes a net saving to property owners in 1920 of 20 per cent, and this added to the 25 per cent saved in 1919 makes a total saving to the property owners on account of the Revaluation Act of 45 per cent.

Pure mathematics requires the [illegible] of the Revaluation Act to enter this credit of 45 per cent in the first item in every calculation in regard to the [illegible] because of but in spite of the Revaluation Act. The increased taxes for the year 1919 are due to two things:

1. The public school term was by a practically unanimous vote of the people of North Carolina increased from four to six months. Of course, when the people voted for this increase of 50 per cent in the length of the school term they understood that it would cost 50 per cent more money, and no fair-minded man can complain on account of this increase in his taxes. He voted it on himself.

2. The General Assembly of 1919 increased the salaries of teachers in the public schools 50 per cent. This was done because the General Assembly reached the conclusion that it was not only unwise, but positively indecent to starve the young women of the State who were devoting their lives to teach our children. Before this increase the average teacher in the public schools got $45 a month for teaching four months, her year's work netting her $180. Under the Constitution the term was lengthened to six months and the Legislature increased her salary to $67.50, which makes her earnings for the year $405, an increase of more than 100 per cent. If a man is opposed to this increased tax to give to the children a longer school term and pay the teachers wages that will keep them off the outside pauper list, let him come out boldly and say so. Please do not charge up these increases to the Revaluation Act which, as heretofore stated, reduced the taxes paid in 1919 and 1920 45 per cent.

GINNING REPORT ISSUED

State Slightly Ahead Of 1918 Total —Surrounding Counties Show Increases.

North Carolina ginned 811,622 bales of 1919 cotton prior to January 16, according to the latest report of Director Sam L. Rogers, of the bureau of the census, department of commerce. For the same period last year, the report shows, 810,486 bales had been ginned. Totals for this district are shown to be as follows:

Harnett	27,474	25,576
Sampson	28,873	25,706
Cumberland	20,928	18,847
Johnston	47,196	45,979

TO CHOOSE PLACE FOR STATE LIVESTOCK MEETING

West Raleigh.—Officers of local livestock associations of the State will meet in the office of Dan T. Gray, at the State College of Agriculture, about the first of March to decide on the time and place for holding the next meeting of the State Livestock Associations.

Several towns have already extended invitations for the next meeting, according to Mr. Gray. The meeting last year was held at Goldsboro, and officers of the association expressed themselves as highly pleased with the co-operative spirit shown by Goldsboro people at that meeting.

FILLERS

The Pacific end of the Panama Canal is farther east than the Atlantic end?

HOOVER DECLINES TO DECLARE PARTY AFFILIATION NOW

Says Will Not Pledge Vote Blinded; Asks Where Party Managers Stand.

WILL STAND BY LEAGUE IF THAT BECOMES ISSUE

Says He Is Not Candidate and Has No Organization; Hopes That One or Both Great Parties Will Approach Vital Issues Clearly In the Campaign.

New York, Feb. 8.—Herbert Hoover tonight issues a statement defining his attitude toward the Presidency. He announced that he is not a candidate for the nomination and that no one is authorized to speak for him politically. If the league of nations is made an issue in the election he says he will vote for the party that stands for the league. In response to requests that he declare allegiance to either one or the other of the great political parties, Mr. Hoover says he will wait until it more definitely appears what the party managers stand for, and will "exercise a prerogative of American citizenship and decline to pledge my vote blindfolded."

His statement follows:

"In order to answer a large number of questions all at once. Let me emphasize that I have taken a day off from the industrial conference in Washington to come to New York solely to attend pressing matters in connection with the Childrens' Relief. I want to say again: I have not sought and am not seeking the Presidency. I am not a candidate. I have no 'organization.' No one is authorized to speak for me politically.

"As an American citizen in the present critical situation. My sincere and only political desire is that one or both of the great political parties will approach the vital issues, which have grown out of the war and are now, with a clear purpose looking to the welfare of our people and that candidates capable of carrying out this work should be nominated.

Stands With League.

"If the treaty goes over to the [illegible] election [illegible] any [illegible] [illegible] long the fundamental [illegible] before the [illegible]

With it there is hope not only of the prevention of war, but also that we can safely economize in military policies.

There is hope of earlier return of confidence and the economic reconstruction of the world. I could not vote with a party if it were dominated by groups who seek to set aside our Constitutional guarantees for free speech or free representation, who hope to re-establish control of the government for profit and privilege. I could not vote with a party if it were dominated by groups who hope for any form of Socialism, whether it be nationalization of industry or other destruction of individual initiative. Both these extremes, camouflaged or open, are active enough in the country today.

Neither of these dominations would enable those constructive economic policies that will get us down from the unsound economic practices which of necessity grew out of the war, nor would they secure the good will to production in our farmers and workers or maintain the initiative of our business men. The issues look forward, not back.

Hope of People Is Positive Stand.

"I do not believe in more than two great parties. Otherwise, combinations of groups could, as in Europe, create a danger of minority rule. I do believe in party organization to support great ideals and to carry great issues and consistent policies. Nor can any one man dictate the issues of great parties. It appears to me that the hope of a great majority of our citizens in confronting this new period in American life is that the great parties will take positive stands on the many issues that confront us, and will select men whose character and associations will guarantee their pledges.

"I am being urged by people in both parties to declare my allegiance to either one or the other. Those who know me, know that I am able to make up my mind when a subject is clearly defined. Consequently until it more definitely appears what the party managers stand for, I must exercise a prerogative of American citizenship and decline to pledge my vote blindfolded.

"I am not unappreciative of the many kind things that my friends have advanced on my behalf. Yet I hope they will realize my sincerity in not tying myself to undefined partisanship."

NORTH CAROLINA RANKS FOURTH IN CROP VALUES

Only three states surpass North Carolina in the value of crops for 1919, and Commissioner Graham points out in his annual report that North Carolina has jumped from twenty-second to fourth place in crop values since 1916. Figures on last year's crops from the Bureau of Crop Estimates show a total value of $683,168,000 for North Carolina, which does not include gains made after December, nor is cotton seed counted in the total.

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS WAS NOT KILLED BY LIGHTING CONCERNS

Senate Makes Discovery In Post Mortem On Discarded Law.

MEREDITH STARTS OUT TO HELP THE FARMER

Wants To Abolish Needless Jobs and Place Employees Where They Will Do Most Good—War Work Schedules Cut Into Per Capita Production.

By J. E. JONES

Washington.—In the Senate recently there was a sort of post mortem on the "Daylight Saving Law," and through statements that were introduced into the Congressional Record it is plain that the commonly repeated charges against the "lighting interests" that they were actively opposed to the daylight saving law, cannot be sustained. Senator William M. Calder of New York, stated that he had investigated and found no evidence to warrant the accusation that the gas companies of the country had been spreading propaganda among the farmers. More directly bearing upon the subject is the letter of Oscar H. Fogg, secretary-manager of the American Gas association, to Senator Calder, in which he says that "the effect of the daylight saving law upon gas companies has been so negligible as to be unworthy of consideration, and in several large situations which the writer personally examined, the difference in sale of gas, due to daylight saving, was so small that it could not even be definitely established."

Incident to this subject an electric light man at Denver has produced a classic that should be framed and hung in the office of every mayor, on the walls of all city council chambers, and everywhere about the operating establishments of public utilities, since the sentence in a few words defines with absolute correctness the ideal relations that should exist in every locality. Says the Illuminating Board of Denver.

"An electric light company may lose a little temporary revenue, but the prosperity of any utility corporation is dependent upon the prosperity [illegible] long the fundamental [illegible] before the [illegible]

his portfolio in the agricultural department, Mr. Edwin T. Meredith, the Iowa farm paper editor, has expounded some very good philosophy to the effect that "business men must look to the operation of their establishments, no matter in what line they may be engaged, and see that no useless employe is retained to add to the cost of distributing what the farmer now produces."

Mr. Meredith starts well, and if he continues he may prune down the "useless employes" of the department of agriculture, of which he is the head. He is likely, if he investigates, to find that the common talk in Washington that there are 40,000 too many government clerks in the capital, is an entirely conservative estimate, and it would be very strange if some of these were not loafing in his department. Thousands of war workers have become mere parasites upon the government, and attempts to get rid of them usually result in their transfer from one branch of the public business to another. The "political pull" is working overtime.

Overhead costs in distributing "what the farmer now produces" might likely be cut in the matter of transportation itself, since General W. W. Atterbury, who operated the American railroads in France put his finger on one of the sources of trouble in the Pennsylvania shops, when he told the employes that "prior to our entrance into the war you were on a piece-work basis as well as working on a ten-hour day. When the government took over the railroads, piecework was stopped. The output per man per hour fell 25 per cent. The shops were put on an eight-hour schedule. This cut the output an additional 15 per cent, so that the output per man per hour in our shops is but 60 per cent of what it was before the war."

Can Help Farmers.

This is a concrete case, and it seems to verify the statement that the railroads with immensely increased numbers of employes have not been carrying on a larger volume of business than under the days of privately controlled railroads. Mr. Meredith can do no better work in Washington than to help deflate things in the interest of the farmers. For he knows that the men who till the soil, and who have stuck by their jobs while farm help has been flocking to the city, lured, as a farmer has put it to the government, by "the promise of short hours, high wages, and the promise of a good time," deserves every consideration than the United States can extend to the basic industry which raises the food for humanity. But Mr. Meredith is apt to be shocked at the number of men in his own department who are not unlike other government employes, since they are eager champions of the policy that Mr. Gompers and others have attempted to popularize to the detriment of industry, since "short hours, high wages and a good time" do not furnish the remedy for the ills and evils in social and industrial life that are crying for a cure.

Venice, Italy, and Montreal, Canada, are in about the same latitude?