

CAR SHORTAGE RELIEF

MR. HANSBROUGH'S PLANS

Conferences with President—A. B. Stickney Gives Views.

(From The Tribune Bureau.) Washington, Dec. 19.—The President, the Interstate Commerce Commission, various members of the Senate and House, and big railroad authorities are all getting their heads together to fix the blame for the shortage of cars which is causing suffering in the Dakotas and other Northwest states, and to devise a remedy.

A. B. Stickney, president of the Chicago & Great Western Railway, who is in Washington, sent a letter to the Interstate Commerce Commission in which he accuses the business men who ship and receive freight of being in large part responsible for the distress in the Northwest.

"Until the merchants of the country build adequate warehouses to take care of the freight that comes to them," said Mr. Stickney, in explaining his views to a representative of The Tribune, "there will be a shortage of cars. No matter how many cars the railroads buy and put into service, if they are sidetracked and held for days and weeks at the terminal points there will never be enough of them to satisfy the demand.

Both the railroad and the shipper should be held responsible under whatever new legislation is to be enacted to cure the evil. "Of course, some railroads are to blame for not moving the cars as rapidly as they ought to move them, but the business interests are not keeping pace with the improvements in transportation. It takes shippers days to unload the cars when they ought to do the work in the same number of hours. There ought to be a law which would give the consignee a reasonable time within which to free the cars, and upon their failure to attend to the business, turn the freight over to public warehouses."

TERMINAL FACILITIES POOR. In Mr. Stickney's letter to the Interstate Commerce Commission he mentioned "light loading" as one of the important causes of the shortage. In the flour trade it was once the custom to regard 24,000 pounds as a car load, and, although the average capacity has since been increased to 30,000, many shippers refuse to place more than 24,000 pounds of flour in a car. Mr. Stickney wrote that there are at Galveston 6,000 cars awaiting the pleasure of the consignees. It requires forty-four miles of track to hold these cars, and the process of getting them out is difficult. The time required for sorting and unloading a car in Galveston is from thirty to fifty days. In Chicago, Mr. Stickney says, it requires from ten to twenty days for a car to be transferred from an incoming to an outgoing train, "so grossly inadequate are the transfer facilities there."

Mr. Stickney says that several years ago a man in Chicago acquired several thousand acres of land, then favorably located, for transfer facilities, "and expended several millions of dollars in improvements, under the direction and advice of the committee appointed by the officials of the various railways centered in Chicago. Having gone so far, he offered the property to the railroad companies at actual cost, absolutely without profit to himself or his associates, other than 5 per cent interest on the money which they had expended. About one-half of the roads have accepted the proposition and paid in their proportion of the money, and the other half, for various petty reasons applying to details, refuse to join, and so the old methods are continued, at great expense to the railroad companies and with enormous delays in traffic."

Mr. Stickney figures out that the effectiveness of the present supply of cars can be doubled by "reasonable diligence on the part of shippers and consignees." To purchase an equal number of cars would cost \$1,330,000,000, "and that at 4 per cent would add to their fixed charges the enormous sum of \$54,400,000 annually to be collected from the people in additional rates."

MR. HANSBROUGH'S PLAN. After visiting the President to-day Senator Hansbrough said: "One reason for the car shortage is that there are too many big railroad men strutting about the hotels in dress suits instead of attending to business. If the Interstate Commerce Commission had power to order cars from one part of the country to another where, in its judgment the cars are needed, the shortage would very soon disappear."

Senator Hansbrough showed to the President a tentative bill which would give the Interstate Commerce Commission the necessary authority to investigate, order and enforce its orders along those lines. He also suggested that a penalty be fixed to compel compliance to free cars received within a reasonable time. Governor Cummins of Iowa agreed with Senator Hansbrough's plan, and urged the President to use his influence to secure the passage of a measure incorporating the Senator's ideas.

Mr. Hansbrough's plan provides legislation along the following lines: Giving the Interstate Commerce Commission power to inquire into the equipment capacity under existing requirements of all interstate railroads, so as to judge as to their ability to move traffic under extraordinary conditions. Giving the commission authority to require shippers loading cars in demurrage to unload and repair such cars within twenty-four hours after the cars have been placed in a position to be unloaded. Making it a misdemeanor for common carriers to compel trainmen to attempt to move trains containing tonnage in excess of the registered tonnage capacity of the engines hauling such trains. Authorizing the commission to require the temporary use of idle equipment of one railroad line to supplement the overtaxed equipment of the other. Senator Kittredge expressed the opinion to-day that the coal famine was the result of the

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The CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETY asks your help to make a Merry Christmas for the children of the poor. Sheltered in our Lodging Houses and Temporary Homes are hundreds of homeless boys and girls, and some 15,000 children of the tenements attend our Industrial Schools. We wish to make Christmas bright and happy for these children with gifts of toys, clothing, shoes, etc., and Christmas dinners. We also especially wish to provide good homes in the country for the orphans, the cost of which is \$30 for each child. We ask for gifts, large or small, to help along this work. Checks may be made payable to Mr. A. B. HEPBURN, Treasurer, 105 East 22d Street, N. Y. WM. CHURCH OSBORN, President. C. LORING BRACE, Secretary.

CHRISTMAS TREE Lighting Outfits. Use electric lights, no danger from fire, useful afterward for every corner. Catalogue. Electric Toy Railroads. Headquarters for Electric Toys of all descriptions, motors, dynamo, books, etc. SIBLEY & PITMAN, 26 Warren St.

English "Heetorboil" Dish Warmers TEA AND COFFEE SETS in Copper and Brass. LEWIS & CONGER, 130 & 132 West 124 Street, and 135 West 118th St., New York.

SHORTAGE OF FOOD. Famine Threatened in Northwest Unless Relief Comes at Once. Minneapolis, Dec. 19.—Following reports of fuel famine in the Northwest come reports of a shortage of food supplies. Railway service has been interrupted by the cold and blizzards on the Western prairies. A telegram to-day from a citizens' committee of Ambrose, N. D., to "The Journal" is as follows: Ambrose is without coal and provisions. Twenty cars of fuel and food in the hands of the railway company must be brought here by special train at once in order to relieve the situation, or great suffering will result. Have tried the general manager of the "Soo" line, but no assurance of relieving present needs has been secured. Telegrams are still pouring in upon the Interstate Commerce Commission, covering the shortage of fuel in Northwestern towns.

Wanamaker's Closes Daily at 6 o'clock. Only THREE More Shopping Days-- After Today--Till Christmas. PERHAPS you hadn't realized it. There isn't an hour to lose. This has been the greatest Christmas season we ever knew—largest selling, and yet the most comfortable service, because we have TWO buildings instead of one. The tremendous selling has been a matter of course, with such vastly increased stocks, magnificent varieties, and comfortable opportunity for selection. There is no unpleasant Christmas hurly-burly at Wanamaker's; but, naturally, the early hours will be best for the next few days. REMEMBER that the STORE CLOSSES DAILY at 6 o'clock. Have you secured your set of "SUBSTITUTE GOLF" yet? Be sure to have it in the house on Christmas—either as a gift, or for your own pleasure. Golfers want it as quick as they see it, and others are fascinated by a few minutes of play. Nine handsomely lithographed Boards, size 10x22 inches, forming the nine-holes indoor course, with club-disks, ball-markers, score cards, etc., complete for \$3. Come and see the Demonstrations in charge of expert golfers. Basement, Stewart Building, and Main floor, Wanamaker Building.

CONCERTS In the Auditorium Morning and Afternoon

Delightful Christmas music by artists well known to musical New Yorkers. Today's program follows: Morning Concert 10:30 o'clock. Mr. ARTHUR DEPEW, Organist. Mr. P. K. VAN YORX, at the Angelus. Mr. F. HMMELREICH, Pianist. Mrs. CECILIA NILES, Soprano. Eugene Boegner, Violinist. Hans Kroetz, Cellist. Mrs. Herzberg, Violinist. Trio—F. Major. Soprano—Aria from "Herodias".....Mozart. Violin—Fantasia Caprice.....Vieuxtemps. Organ—Improvisation on the Hymn, "Lead, Kindly Light." Trio—"Elegie".....Tchaikowski. Angelus—Concerto in E Flat.....Liszt. Piano Solo, with the aid of the Angelus, by Mr. P. K. Van Yox, and orchestra parts played by Mr. Depew on the organ. Soprano Solo—"I Love and the World Is Mine".....Spross (Written for Mrs. Niles.) Violoncello—Nocturne.....Chopin. b—Rondo.....Boccherini. Organ Solo—(with roll) Introduction to Third Act of "Tristan and Isolde".....Wagner. Mr. Van Yox. Afternoon Concert 1:30 to 4:30 o'clock. THE WANAMAKER ORCHESTRA. Mr. ARTHUR DEPEW, Organist and Conductor. Mr. F. HMMELREICH, Pianist. Mr. P. K. VAN YORX, at the Angelus. Mrs. Wilson Young, Soprano.

Have You Seen the New GOLF Game? DIAMONDS Purest Stones—Most Artistic Settings Very Positive Price-Advantages. THE NEW WANAMAKER JEWELRY STORE is building its reputation. It couldn't afford to bolster up an off-color stone with a clever setting—for the eyes of the world are on us. Wanamaker standards recognize no superiors in the jewelry craft; neither do we countenance in ourselves the selling of such stones as might safely be sold by stores whose jewelry reputation has been longer established. The highest expert diamond skill passes upon the purity of every stone that we sell. Nowhere else will there be found more drastic criticism than our own. The DIAMOND that comes from Wanamaker's is a PURE Gem. Mountings are in the newest and most artistic styles. Prices are not only based on our lowest margin of profit, but they do not bear the cost of the recent market advances. Wanamaker Diamonds are especially fine investments. Women's Solitaire Diamond Rings, from \$16 to \$525. Women's Two-stone Diamond Rings, from \$85 to \$750. Women's Three-stone Diamond Rings, from \$27 to \$475. Women's Cluster Diamond Rings, from \$70 to \$300. Women's Princess Diamond Rings, from \$125 to \$215. Women's Ruby and Diamond Rings, from \$17.75 to \$625. Women's Emerald and Diamond Rings, from \$50 to \$525. Women's Pearl and Diamond Rings, from \$27 to \$500. Women's Turquoise and Diamond Rings, from \$17.50 to \$150. Women's Opal and Diamond Rings, from \$12.75 to \$190. Women's Banquet or Diamond Rings, from \$110 to \$410. Men's Single stone Diamond Rings, from \$75 to \$360. Men's Emerald and Two-diamond Rings, at \$95. Men's Sapphire and Two-diamond Rings, at \$185. Men's Diamond Rings, with hand-carved mountings, \$60 to \$360. Jewelry Store, Broadway, Tenth street, Stewart Building.

"Substitute GOLF"—The New Society Game Beautiful Imported Suits For Women. This announcement concerns some of the handsomest tailor-made suits brought from abroad this season. They were made after models designed by Bernard, Dailly, Mamby, Ernest, David Beckoff and Franca, and sold previously at \$70 to \$150. There are about sixty-five suits in the collection, made of beautiful broadcloth, in black, blue and soft shades of dahlia. Jackets are in hip-length and Eton styles, elegantly trimmed with velvet, braid and Hungarian embroidery, some with vest of lace, others with shoulder cape; three-quarter length and coat sleeves. Skirts are in dressy lengths, trimmed with bias cloth or braided to correspond with coat. Today prices are reduced as follows: \$70 to \$80 Suits, at \$50 \$90 to \$150 Suits, at \$75 Third floor, Stewart Building.

Best Gift for a Man—"Substitute GOLF" A Stirring Sale Of Fine Gift UMBRELLAS For Men and Women. This is one of the best pieces of news that we could announce for the week before Christmas. The umbrellas in this offering are mounted with the most artistic and beautiful handles that have been produced for the present season. The larger part of the collection has been newly made up from the fine handles which remained as the surplus stock of one of the foremost manufacturers of the country who was discontinuing business. Many of exactly the same patterns were in our stocks at the regular prices we name, and they have necessarily been reduced and placed in this offering. There are about 1150 Umbrellas in the entire collection, all of fine, pure silk, splendidly made and with the most beautiful handles that could be selected anywhere at their regular prices. There is enormous variety for both men and women in each of the following five groups: \$5 Umbrellas at \$3.75 \$15 Umbrellas at \$10 \$8 Umbrellas at \$4.75 \$25 Umbrellas at \$15 \$10 Umbrellas at \$7 It is a rare opportunity to save a large proportion of the cost of an unusually fine Christmas gift. Main floor, Both Buildings.

JOHN WANAMAKER Formerly A. T. Stewart & Co., Broadway, Fourth Avenue, Eighth to Tenth Streets. SAYS TUBE BORING WAS NUISANCE. Property Owner in Joralemon Street, Brooklyn, Sues City and Contracting Company. Charles H. Otis, a lawyer of Brooklyn, has brought suit in the Supreme Court, in that borough, to recover \$25,000 from the city and the contracting firm which is constructing the section of the East River tunnel under Joralemon street, Brooklyn. Mr. Otis alleges that a shaft was sunk in front of his home and a derrick erected, shutting out his light. Trip hammers and a power house for hoisting elevators were built in front of the house and were operated day and night, he says. The Otis suit is the first of its kind, most of the other property owners in Joralemon street having settled their claims out of court. Mr. Otis thinks the city has shown bad faith in permitting a public nuisance to exist for three years. The Corporation Counsel will defend the city's end of the suit. FINELITE TO BE TRIED AGAIN. The case of Joseph Finalite, who was arrested a year ago for the abandonment of Lena Stark, a thirteen-year-old girl, which interested the courts, was again brought before Magistrate Whitman, in the Harlem court, yesterday, by counsel for the girl, who sought to have the case reopened. It was alleged that in January of last year Finalite, with the girl and her mother, went to Jersey City, where he and Lena were married by a rabbi. Magistrate Finn threw the case out of court. Magistrate Whitman was told that the rabbi had been found in Jersey City, but had refused to come here, as he had been paid \$300 to keep away. Thereupon Magistrate Whitman decided to hear the case, and set it down for next Friday afternoon, when counsel for Finalite agreed to produce his client. PLANS IN SIMPLIFIED SPELLING. Plans have been filed with Buildings Superintendent Murphy for remodeling the basement and ground floor of the Seaman's Bank for Savings, at Nos. 74 and 76 Wall street. A new vault will be built, new ornamental doorways and staircases and new plumbing installed. The improvements are to cost \$100,000. Ernest Green, architect, acting for the bank, has lettered his drawings in simplified spelling.

Underberg BOONEKAMP Bitters. Before the Christmas Dinner. A "nip" will make it doubly good. Any meal sandwiched in between two small glasses of "Underberg Bitters" is eaten with relish and digested with comfort. For the family. Enjoyable as a cocktail and better for you. The tastiest of all bitters for mixed drinks is "UNDERBERG." At all Hotels, Clubs and Restaurants, or by the bottle at Wine Merchants and Grocers. Bottled only by H. Underberg Albrecht, Rheinfelden, Germany, since 1846. LAYTON BROTHERS, 204 William street, New York, Agts.