

TENANT FARM CO-OPERATION.

PRACTICAL OPERATION OF SYSTEM ON ITALIAN ESTATE.

Share Croppers by Conducting Business on Cooperative Principles Make a Living and Realize a Profit Under Conditions That in America Would Entail Failure.

Milan, Italy, June 24.—Members of the American Commission on Agricultural Co-operation visited one of the model farms of northern Italy today. It is the property of the Count di Ponti.

The estate comprises about 1,000 acres which is an unusually large holding for Italy, although a member of the Commission was able to inform the Count di Ponti that he owned a farm of 4,000 acres in Texas, without considering himself a curiosity. The farm is divided into two parts, an irrigated portion which the proprietor reserves for his own use for dairy farming, and a dry portion rented on the share basis, known in Italy as the "mezzadri" system.

The visit of the Americans was made a holiday for the laborers and farm hands although enough men were kept at work to demonstrate the co-operative enterprises on the farm. Automobiles of the American party swept into a farm yard enclosed by a brick house, the porches of which gave a vivid scene of drying clothes, bandanas, wrinkled old peasant women, smiling men and a swarm of curious children. Fourteen families are hired by the proprietor to farm his part of the estate. Nothing of interest from the co-operative standpoint was learned on this part of the farm. The Commission was therefore taken to the "dry" part where live the tenants.

The score of families which are engaged in farming this portion of the estate live in a little village and here the members of the Commission were given their first view of the many possible phases of agricultural co-operation. Men, women and children were lined up along the little street; hats and bandanas were waved in welcome, and the little children murmured their half frightened "Graei" when coppers were slipped into their hands. This part of the estate is divided into holdings of about 30 acres each.

The principal money products of the little farms are cheese and silk worms. Each farmer raises enough of general farm crops to support his family, but most of his attention is given to dairying and to raising silk-worms. The cheese is made in a plant co-operatively owned by the farmers and built with their own money. Three men were at work making Swiss cheese at the time. The farmers bring their milk to the dairy where it is weighed and marked to their credit. According to the amount of milk given to the dairy the farmers receive a percentage of the profits derived from the sale of the cheese. The waste from the milk used in the cheese making is fed to hogs co-operatively owned, which when fattened, are killed in an abattoir likewise co-operatively owned, for nothing is lost on an Italian farm. There is also a sausage factory. Everything these farmers buy comes from a co-operatively owned store. The warehouse held familiar types of American agricultural machinery. The silk worms are turned over to the proprietor who takes a certain portion of the cocoons as his share. All of the farming is done on a share basis, the proprietor putting up the buildings, the farmers contributing the labor and the farm products being divided between them. It was plainly evident that the Count di Ponti was very popular with his tenants. Some years ago when his tenants were required to strike because of a general strike of all tenant farmers in that vicinity, he was elected by his tenants president of the strike committee, so that to him fell the odd task of settling a strike against himself.

Undoubtedly the paternalism which exists in the co-operatively conducted enterprises of this type prevents Americans from receiving many impressions of practical value from them. But it made a great impression upon the delegates, that farmers of this class could be brought to such comparative economic independence through the medium of co-operation. Above all the extreme utilization of everything impressed the Americans. No trees are cut down for fuel, for instance. Each year as many branches are cut off as are necessary and the next year the same process is followed with other trees. This gives the country a curiously fantastic appearance when viewed from a car window. The land is mostly cultivated in long, narrow strips and altogether there is an aspect of artificiality to the garden farms of north Italy.

The visit could not fail to impress Americans. Here were peasant farmers, swarms of them, producing crops on a scale so small that it apparently would have been impossible to market them and yet through the great force of co-operation these farmers

were given a far greater control over the manufacture and marketing of their produce than is possessed by most American farmers.

ANGRY WOMAN DRAWS GUN.

Louisa Taylor, Colored, Threatened Another Woman with "Fixing" but Loses Her Nerve when Time comes for Gun Play.

Louisa Taylor, colored, who lives on West Oakland Avenue extension, allowed her feelings to run away with her when she became angry with one of her "friends" Thursday and threatened to "fix" the said friend, according to the police. Her friend, "Phoebe," whose last name could not be ascertained, didn't think much of the threat until Louisa came back on the job with a vicious looking double-barreled shot gun, and poking it through the window of the room where Phoebe was entertaining two friends, stated that trouble was brewing, so it is said. At any rate, at the moment for action Louisa's nerve deserted her, and instead of ringing in the gun play she pointed the deadly weapon long enough to secure the proper dramatic effect, and then calmly betook herself to other climes. One of the women who had the pleasure of examining the "inside" of the gun barrels mentioned above, thought it best to report the near tragedy to the police, and as a result the careless Louisa rests in jail to await the action of a higher court in dealing with her near desecration of an otherwise peaceful summer day.

SCORES UNION LABOR.

Little Joe Devotes Part of Message to Subject.

Atlanta, Ga., June 25.—A caustic arraignment of labor unions in which it is charged that they form the "most widespread and aggressively exacting trust in America" is contained in the farewell message of Gov. Joseph M. Brown, presented to the Georgia legislature at its opening session here today.

Gov. Brown's criticism of organized labor is made in connection with his argument for the enactment of laws requiring compulsory arbitration of differences between employes and employers. He predicates this recommendation upon the strikes of employes of the Georgia railroad and the Augusta Street Railway company last fall. Both these strikes, the governor declares, were "manifestly indefensible and condemnable" and "the strikers placed themselves in a state of open rebellion to the laws of Georgia."

COTTON MEN CHARGE REBATING. File Complaint Against Coast Line with I. C. C.

Washington, June 24.—An important complaint was filed today with the interstate commerce commission against the Atlantic Coast Line Railway Company by Inman, Akers and Inman, of Atlanta, and five other Georgia cotton firms. Complaints say that the railroad transports uncompressed cotton from points in Georgia to Norfolk, Wilmington, Charleston and Savannah, where it is compressed at the alleged expense of the Atlantic Coast Line.

The gravamen of the complaint is that the owners of these coast compresses are also cotton merchants; "that the cotton is not compressed until it has passed beyond the lines and out of the possession of the A. C. L. Railway Company, and that payment of compress charges by the company is, therefore, practically a rebate and said A. C. L. company secures no legal quid pro quo for payment of compress charges on said cotton."

It is claimed that this alleged practice is not only a violation of the Elkins Act against rebating, but is also a discrimination against interior cotton merchants. Appeal is made to the commission to order the practice stopped. A big contest is expected, as the firms involved are among the most important in the cotton trade in the South.

WAR ON CATTLE TICK. Two Government Inspectors are Working in Florence County.

Florence, June 26.—The war on the cattle tick merrily wages in Florence county now. There are two government inspectors going over every farm and pasture and putting up quarantine signs where the pest is found and giving clean bills of health where deserved. When the inspection is over the same gentlemen will go over the county again teaching the quarantined farmers how to get rid of the tick. They find the farmers very ready and willing to aid in every way, and several dipping vats have already been built. Florence will be out of the quarantine area in a short time.

Our share of the Philippines is for sale, provided we don't have to guarantee anything anywhere in the archipelago.—Wilmington Star.

BANK IN ITS NEW HOME.

IMPOSING STRUCTURE OF BUSINESS SECTION.

The Largest and Handsomest Banking House and Office Building East of Columbia. Has Been Completed and is Now Occupied.

On Monday morning the City National Bank opened up for business in its handsome new quarters in the ground floor of Sumter's one and only skyscraper.

This prosperous bank demonstrated its faith in the future growth of Sumter by erecting a seven-story structure of pressed brick, granite and reinforced concrete of which any city might be proud. The building complete, with fixtures and furniture, has cost the bank, \$72,000, which with the addition of \$25,000, paid for the site, makes a total of \$97,000 worth of faith in a substantial shape which the bank has in the city.

The bank in its new quarters will find the room which was lacking in the quarters which the bank has occupied since its organization eleven years ago. The new offices are fitted out complete in the most modern style for banking purposes and the

plenty of light, smaller windows being placed in the prism glass transoms above the plate glass for ventilation. The floor is of tile and the walls are decorated in white and amber. The building is entered from Main street, a marquee with green glass being placed over the entrance. The spacious lobby is separated from the working space by a partition of Listerena marble, upon which is erected a grille work of Frontera mahogany. The fixtures are of marble or mahogany and all of the furniture is of beautiful Frontera mahogany.

In the lobby is a large stationary mahogany table and two wall tables. In the space back of the office and in the walls of the building are two big vaults. One of these is supplied with a 12,500 pound Mosler door, controlled by twenty-two two-inch bolts worked by triple time locks. In this will be kept the specie of the bank. The other vault is arranged to hold one hundred safety boxes, which will be rented to patrons of the bank who have valuables or private papers to stow away.

Entered from the lobby and adjoining the teller's cage is the ladies' alcove, exclusively for ladies. This is supplied with mahogany writing desk, mirrors and other conveniences



furniture and fixtures are of an elegance and beauty which few banks in the State possess.

The contract for the erection of the building was awarded W. Lee Harbin of Lexington, N. C., and Sumter, and under the direction of the architects, Wheeler and Stern of Charlotte, N. C., a handsome structure has been completed. Situated on the Northeast corner of Main and Liberty streets, the bank is one of the most imposing and attractive buildings in the city, as it is the loftiest. The foundation is of concrete reinforced with steel and is from three to five feet thick. The base and the first story of grey sandstone. Above the first story the walls of the building are of speckled gray pressed brick and the floors are of reinforced concrete. The outside trimmings of the building are of copper, which present an attractive appearance. Inside the windows and doors are of stained oak with baseboards of the same material, while the floors are of hardwood in all the rooms, save the lavatories, which have tile flooring. All of the rooms are provided with large windows, affording plenty of light. Transoms and inside windows for air are also placed in the rooms in order that they may at all times be comfortable for the occupants.

The building throughout is provided with steam heat, electricity, gas, telephones and call bells. On each floor there is a lavatory, near the center of the building, and easily accessible from any room. The elevator shaft is placed in the northeast corner of the building, an electric elevator of modern make being installed for the use of tenants. Around the elevator is the stairway, of steel and terrazzo floored which ascends in a spiral to the top of the building. The elevator and stairway are both absolutely fire proof.

The ground floor is the one which will be used by the bank for its quarters. This is furnished in tasteful style in mahogany and marble and is decidedly handsome and attractive. Large plate glass windows in front and in the side of the building afford

for the use of the women patrons of the bank.

Back of the banking office are the officers' and directors' rooms. These may be entered from the lobby or from the main office. The cashiers' office comes first and next to his is the president's office while in the rear of this is the directors' room. All of these offices are furnished with mahogany furniture. The lobby extends from the front to the back of the building to the entrance to the elevator, there being a side entrance from Liberty street, as well as a front entrance. In the basement is the heating plant and the motor for operating the elevator is situated there.

The building has seven floors in addition to the basement, which extends the full length of the building. The bank offices and elevator lobby occupy the first floor. The seventh floor has been fitted up for the Sumter Club and the other five floors are divided into offices, there being eight on each floor, making forty offices in all for rent. Of this number all save fifteen have been leased and there is no doubt that all will be occupied within a short time. When all the offices are rented the income from rent will be sufficient to pay interest, taxes and all other expenses of the building, thus relieving the bank of all expenses for rent of its banking house. The seventh floor, which was planned and fitted up to meet the particular needs of the Sumter Club, has been leased to that organization for a term of years. The club will furnish its quarters as soon as the building is completed and will have as handsome and desirable club rooms as any commercial club in the State. The club will also have control of the roof garden and this will be one of the coolest resorts for summer evenings to be found this side of the mountains and no doubt will be popular with club members and their friends. From the roof garden an extended and beautiful view of Sumter and the surrounding country can be obtained.

The Sumter Savings Bank was organized eleven years ago with a capital of \$25,000, and during the ten

CURRENCY BILL INTRODUCED.

ADMINISTRATION MEASURE NOW BEFORE CONGRESS FOR CONSIDERATION.

Introduced in Both Senate and House and Referred to Proper Committees—Several Changes Have Been Made Since the Original Draft of Measure Was Published a Few Days Ago.

Washington, June 27.—The administration currency bill was launched on the troubled seas of legislative consideration today when it was introduced in the senate by Senator Owen and in the house by Representative Glass, the banking and currency committee chairmen. The house immediately referred the measure to the banking and currency committee and preparations were made for the committee to begin its deliberations tomorrow.

Several changes had been made in the bill as the result of the numerous conferences in which President Wilson, Democrats of the house and senate committees, treasury department officials and committees of bankers took part, following the publication of the proposed measure several days ago. The changes embody some of the suggestions made by those interested in the legislation.

However, despite earnest appeals that the federal reserve board to control the proposed new currency shall be increased and that the bankers be given representation, no change in this provision was made. The board will consist of seven members, to be appointed by the president.

In the senate Senator Cummins contemplates proposing an amendment which would make the board an elective body.

Chairman Glass made preparations for the speedy consideration of the bill by the house committee. He secured the passage through the house of two resolutions to facilitate the work. One provided for the printing and distribution of 25,000 copies of the new bill. The other, which was passed after a partisan discussion, provided \$5,000 for the payment of experts to be employed by the committee.

Republican Leader Mann declared the latter resolution probably would lead to "more Democratic waste."

Mr. Mann attacked the methods used in preparing the bill. He objected to the statement of President Wilson that the members of the banking and currency committee had been consulted in framing the bill.

"The president," he said, "was a little loose as to his facts or a little careless as to his language. The members of the committee were not consulted. The Democratic members were."

At tomorrow's meeting the house committee will take up the question of holding public hearings on the bill and will consider a resolution proposed by a subcommittee providing that all sessions of the committee during the consideration of the bill should be open to the public.

Senator Weeks of Massachusetts, a Republican member of the senate committee and former member of the national monetary commission, issued a statement today in which he urged immediate action toward currency reform, but criticized certain features of the new administration bill.

Parcel Post Stamp for All Mail.

Washington, June 26.—Parcelpost stamps will be valid on all classes of mail on and after July 1, and ordinary stamps, including commemorative issues, will be good for postage on parcel post packages, under an order issued today by Postmaster General Burleson.

years intervening until the reorganization as the City National Bank with a capital of \$150,000, it paid to stockholders \$65,000 in dividends and profits and never suffered a loss on a loan. At the re-organization the stock offered the public was over-subscribed many thousand dollars. Mr. Horace Harby was the first president and he continued in that position until his death, Mr. G. A. Lemmon succeeding him. Mr. Geo. L. Ricker has been cashier since the organization of the bank.

The officers and directors of the bank at present are:
G. A. Lemmon, President.
I. C. Strauss, Vice-president.
Geo. L. Ricker, Cashier.
J. G. R. Wilder, Assistant Cashier
R. A. Bradham and R. C. Williams, Bookkeepers.

Directors:
E. L. Witherspoon,
G. A. Lemmon,
Perry Moses, Jr.,
Geo. L. Ricker,
C. E. Hurst,
R. C. Williams,
H. M. Stuckey,
H. J. Harby,
C. L. Stubbs,
I. C. Strauss,
W. W. Sibert,
Geo. D. Levy,
W. B. Wilson.

HOGS FOR THE SOUTH.

Southern Railway Issues Valuable Booklet on Hog Raising in This Section.

Atlanta, Ga., June 26.—In the effort to encourage Southern farmers to raise more hogs, the Southern Railway, through its Live Stock Department, has issued a booklet entitled "Hog Production and Conditions for Success in the South," a copy of which will be furnished on request by F. L. Word, Live Stock Agent, Atlanta, Ga.

The booklet contains much practical and valuable information as to the care and feeding of hogs, selection of breeds, treatment of diseases, and cutting and curing meat. Chapters on each subject have been supplied by experts.

That the South consumes more pork and raises less than any other part of the United States despite the fact that pork can be produced more cheaply in the South than in the North or West, is a well known fact and a condition that greatly impedes the progress of the section. The long open season and the great variety of food crops at his command give the Southern farmer the opportunity to make more money raising hogs than is possible in any other territory.

The Live Stock Department of the Southern Railway devotes its efforts entirely to stimulating interest in live stock raising in the territory along the Southern Railway and the services of its experts are available without charge of any kind to any farmer or other person interested in live stock.

THE SOUTHERN PACIFIC FOILED

Arizona Refuses Permission to Issue \$30,000 in Trust Notes.

Phoenix, Ariz., June 26.—Although the California State railroad commission has acquiesced in the proposal, the corporation commission of Arizona has denied permission to the Southern Pacific Company to issue \$30,000,000 in trust notes. Notice of the refusal was given today on the ground that the company had not sufficiently explained its purpose. It also was feared the company would soon ask for permission to issue bonds to retire the notes.

It was understood the Southern Pacific already had arranged to place the notes in New York at 97 1/2 and needed only the permission of the commission of California and Arizona.

Seven and a half millions were desired by the company to reimburse the treasurer for moneys advanced to the subsidiary lines. Part of the balance was needed for improvement of the lines to the East.

MOORE-BLEASE ROW.

Governor Refuses to Muster Out Naval Militia in Accordance With Law.

Columbia, June 27.—Governor Blease today addressed a letter to Adjutant General W. W. Moore, declining to muster out of service the 4th division, naval militia of South Carolina, of Georgetown, and the 2nd division of Mt. Pleasant, S. C.

The adjutant general had recommended that the two companies be mustered out of service because "the companies had less than 75 per cent of their officers and enlisted men at such inspection and said companies are not in good condition for service."

The equipment of the naval militia is costly. They have speedy motor boats and machine guns. There are four companies of naval militia in the State.

DIGGS AND CAMINETTI HELD.

Caminetti Gives Bond — Charged with Violating Mann Act.

Berkeley, Cal. June 26.—Maury I. Diggs, former State architect, the postponement of whose joint trial with F. Drew Caminetti on an indictment charging violation of the Mann White Slave Act, was one of the causes of the resignation of United States Attorney John L. McNab, was arrested here tonight on a bench warrant issued in Sacramento. Diggs and Caminetti were charged in an indictment returned by the Sacramento County grand jury yesterday with child desertion. Caminetti was arrested in Sacramento today and released on \$2,500 bail.

LITTLE GIRL VERY SICK.

Granddaughter of E. B. Turner Has Narrow Escape. Poisoned by Matches.

The little 2-year-old daughter of Mrs. J. V. Turner was quite ill at the Sumter Hospital for a few hours yesterday morning, caused from eating the heads of ten matches. She is much improved and it is thought she will recover.

Mrs. Turner is here from Del Rio, Texas, on a visit to her parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. P. Phillips.