

'HELP' NEEDED SOUTH

Servant Girls Are Now Sought by Matrons in North.

'NEW' NEGRO WILL NOT WORK

Employers So Declare in Appeal to New York—One Society Leader Brings Five French Employes From Abroad—Old "Uncles" and "Mammys" Gone. Others Too Prosperous.

From the New York World.

Southern mothers as well as matrons have a servant problem. They have plenty of household servants down there, but they won't work. Up here we have a few who will, but those few have either gone South or are being tempted to go, according to local employment bureaus. The climate is very restful below the Mason and Dixon line, they are told, and certainly any "puffect cullud lady" will testify to that.

Reginald M. Bryan, a governor of the Georgia Society, said at his office, 29 Broadway, that he had been receiving appeals from his Southern friends for servants for the last three months. He has just had one from R. M. Martin, managing director of the board of commerce of Dublin, one of the smaller Georgian cities. In part, it read as follows:

Negroes Won't Work.

"Our people all through the South are being sorely put to it for servants, as the negroes either won't work or are constitutionally disinclined to anything of so strenuous a nature. It has occurred to us that Swedish, Norwegian, or Scandinavian girls would answer the purpose, and I have been asked to investigate. We realize that we would have to pay them more and that they would have to be taken care of in the house."

Mr. Martin goes on to suggest that Mr. Bryan round up 50 or so and then let him know. He says he will come on at once to take them to Dublin.

According to Mr. Bryan, this letter is a sample of a good many he has received and attended to, more or less successfully. Mr. Martin, at least, is in danger of being disappointed. Employment agencies say they have no more servants to send South; that all who will go have gone in the last three months, and that they have gone in such numbers, lured by tales of eternal summer, as to constitute a serious drain on the reasonable-priced domestic help heretofore available in this city. The employment agencies are unable to fill the domestic demand this year with white help, and many a housewife, dependent on a modest income, will have to go without help this winter or depend on the somewhat undependable colored labor for her kitchen.

Hires French Servants.

A Southern hostess who entertains frequently at her home in Peachtree avenue in Atlanta is at the Hotel Gotham preliminary to returning South.

"I have just come from Paris," she said, "and things have become so bad with us down South that I just brought five French servants with me. In the long run it will pay me. The colored girls are getting too prosperous, and we can do nothing with them. They can always make more and work less time by fitting themselves for industrial labor, and none of them appreciates a good home. Then, too, all our chauffeurs are colored, and the girls are averse to refuse invitations to joy rides just because we are giving a dinner party or some entertainment. The old style negro is rapidly disappearing; but then the negro and work never did get on well together."

Told that the South was robbing us of all our white help and making us, in turn, dependent on the negro, this Southern woman laughed and said if that were so the South was paying well for the privilege, but that anything was better than the present Southern negro girl.