

U.S.-Railroads-Terminals March 26, 1910

Carbon. J.J.Hill to William H. Taft
(Pres. of the U.S.)

Business prospects for the coming year look especially bright, particularly in the area between Chicago and the West Coast. Because of some Indians reservations being opened up, and some public lands formerly used as cattle ranges being surveyed, great numbers of people are emigrating to northern Montana and to Oregon. Many American farmers, from older states, are selling and moving out to these regions in the U.S. where formerly, they

would have gone on to the Canadian Northwest.

Feels that an emergency exists in the railroad terminals of the United States-- especially in the larger ones where most of the transfers are made between eastern and western lines. Grain and livestock often cannot be moved quickly, because of the inadequacy of most of the terminals.

States that "the terminals have during the past twenty years been improved but not enlarged to any extent. The situation during the past winter was very bad. Lines between the Twin Cities and Chicago were unable to make deliveries in Chicago and delays of from ten to sixty days were not uncommon, while
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the usual time is from thirty-six to forty-eight hours."

Believes it is the President's duty to himself "as well as to the country at large, to call attention to a condition which is so rapidly concentrating its force on the business of the nation, and one which will very soon limit the business of the whole country."

General correspondence by date

