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INTERNATIONAL UNION OF AMERICAN REPUBLICS.

MARCH, 1900.

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1900.

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202.	Sportman's, esmalte extra; para los Clubs de diversión		24.00
303.	Army and Navy, todos de lino; para los Clubs		28.80
89.	Treasury, el lino más fino; para los Clubs		36.00
39.	Trophy Whist, tamaño francés; índices grandes, marca nueva		24.00
93.	Ivory Whist, extra tamaño de naifila		24.00
155.	Tourists, para las tiendas en general		8.50
45.	Texan, para las tiendas en general		10.80
22.	Rambler, pulimento de fábrica dura		8.40
33.	Apollo, esmaltados, la superficie aluminosa		10.20
133.	Columbia, tamaño español, esmaltados		12.00
144.	Tennis, tamaño español, esmaltados		21.60
75.	National Club, los naipes más finos de Club		30.00

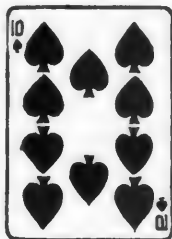
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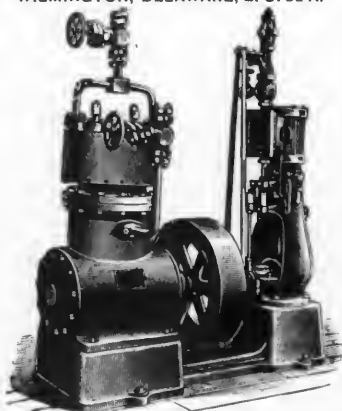
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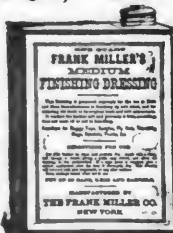
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UNITED STATES CONSULATES.

Frequent application is made to the Bureau for the address of United States Consuls in the South and Central American Republics. Those desiring to correspond with any Consul can do so by addressing "The United States Consulate" at the point named. Letters thus addressed must be delivered to the proper person. It must be understood, however, that it is not the duty of Consuls to devote their time to private business, and that all such letters may properly be treated as personal, and any labor involved may be subject to charge therefor.

The following is a list of United States Consulates in the different Republics:

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC—

Buenos Ayres.
Cordoba.
Rosario.

BOLIVIA—

La Paz.

BRAZIL—

Bahia.
Para.
Pernambuco.
Rio de Janeiro.
Santos.

CHILE—

Antofagasta.
Arica.
Coquimbo.
Iquique.
Valparaiso.

COLOMBIA—

Barranquilla.
Bogotá.
Cartagena.
Colón (Aspinwall).
Medellin.
Panama.

COSTA RICA—

San José.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC—

Puerto Plata.
Samana.
Santo Domingo.

ECUADOR—

Guayaquil.

GUATEMALA—

Guatemala.

HAITI—

Cape Haitien.
Port au Prince.

HONDURAS—

Tegucigalpa.
Utilla.

MEXICO—

Acapulco.
Chihuahua.
Ciudad Juarez.
Ciudad Porfirio Diaz.
Durango.
Ensenada.
La Paz.
Matamoros.
Mazatlan.
Mexico.
Monterey.
Nogales.
Nuevo Laredo.
Progreso.
Saltillo.
Tampico.
Tuxpan.
Vera Cruz.

NICARAGUA—

Managua.
San Juan del Norte.

PARAGUAY—

Asunción.

PERU—

Callao.

SALVADOR—

San Salvador.

URUGUAY—

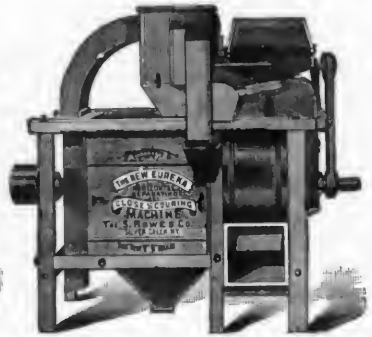
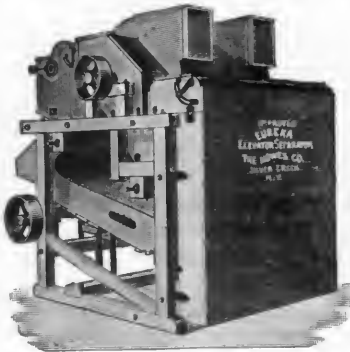
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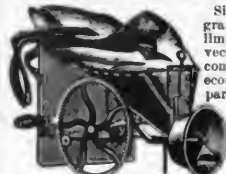


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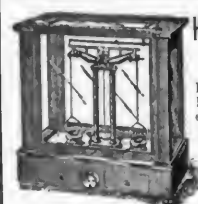
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MONTHLY BULLETIN

OF THE

BUREAU OF THE AMERICAN REPUBLICS,

International Union of American Republics.

VOL. VIII.

MARCH, 1900.

No. 3

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

THE GOLD CURRENCY LAWS.

The Chambers of Congress of the Nation sanction the following laws (which were promulgated on November 4, 1899):

ARTICLE I. The nation shall convert the entire amount of the notes in circulation into national gold dollars at the rate of 44 cents gold per dollar paper.

ART. II. The Executive shall hereafter decree with three months' anticipation the date of such conversion and the manner in which it is to be carried into effect.

ART. III. The Executive shall begin to form a metallic reserve fund under the name of "conversion fund," which is to serve exclusively as a guaranty for the said conversion.

ART. IV. For the formation of this conversion fund the following amounts are to be reserved:

1. Five per cent additional duties on imports.
2. The profits of the Bank of the Nation.
3. The annual net proceeds of the liquidation of the National Bank after payment of the costs of liquidation, the debts of the bank, and the service of the bonds.
4. The proceeds of the sale of the Andine and Toma railways.
5. The \$6,967,650 gold in national *cédulas* belonging to the nation.
6. Whatever may be voted annually for this object by the Budget of the nation.

ART. V. The before-mentioned amounts are to be deposited in the Bank of the Nation in the following form and at the respective dates mentioned:

1. The proceeds of the 5 per cent additional duty on imports shall be

deposited daily in the Bank of the Nation or its branches from the date of the present bill.

2. The profits of the Bank of the Nation shall be ascertained half-yearly by the bank itself, be converted into gold, and credited to the conversion fund.

3. The surplus resulting from the annual liquidation of the National Bank shall be paid to the Bank of the Nation, be converted into gold, and similarly credited.

4. The \$6,967,650 gold in national *cédulas* shall be negotiated by the Executive with the National Hypothecary Bank and the proceeds paid to the Bank of the Nation on the dates which may be deemed most convenient.

5. The proceeds of the sale of the Andine and Toma railways shall be paid when received to the Bank of the Nation.

ART. VI. The Bank of the Nation shall employ the conversion fund exclusively for the negotiation of drafts on foreign countries. The Executive shall make special regulations for this office.

ART. VII. Until the decree has been issued which is referred to in Article II, fixing the date and manner of effecting the conversion of the currency, the Caja de Conversión shall deliver to everyone who may solicit notes of the legal currency in exchange for gold coin in the proportion before mentioned, and shall deliver the gold received in this manner to those who solicit it in exchange for paper money at the same rate. A special account of the paper thus issued in exchange for gold is to be kept.

ART. VIII. The gold which the Caja de Conversión receives by this conversion of paper may not be, under any circumstances or by virtue of any order, used for any other purpose save that of converting notes at the fixed rates, under the personal responsibility of the members of the Caja or its employees who may consent to such act.

ART. IX. The taxes payable to the nation in gold or paper money may be paid in either, indiscriminately, at the fixed rate.

The Chambers of Congress of the Nation also sanction the following law:

ART. I. The Executive shall acquire from the Bank of the Nation the \$15,873,700 in bonds of the internal loan of 1891, law 2782, which the bank withdrew from circulation in fulfillment of article 30 of its organic law. These bonds shall be paid for in gold or in bills of exchange at ninety days on foreign countries, at the rate of 75 per cent of their nominal value and at the current rate of exchange.

ART. II. Out of the proceeds of these bonds, the Bank of the Nation shall use \$4,000,000, gold, as metallic capital.

ART. III. The Executive is authorized to negotiate, at home or abroad, the sale of the bonds acquired from the bank in fulfillment of this law.

BRITISH REVIEW OF THE FINANCES.

Mr. F. S. CLARKE, Secretary of the British Legation at Buenos Ayres, reporting on the finances of the Republic for 1898-99 (Annual Series No. 2381, Diplomatic and Consular Reports of Great Britain), states that by special laws passed in 1882 and 1890, the Executive Power intrusted MADERO & SONS with the construction of the ports and docks, and empowered them to issue bonds up to \$20,000,000, gold. Subsequently the firm went into liquidation, the Government buying back for £785,616 bonds of the nominal value of £1,169,400—70 per cent of their nominal value. To effect this a loan of £800,000 was obtained in London for two years at 6 per cent, guaranteed by the Buenos Ayres port bonds.

The liquidation of the National Bank is proceeding unattended with difficulties. Its debt has been diminished by \$7,874,032, paper, and \$1,818,185, gold. The profit of the National Mortgage Bank in 1898 came to \$1,665,528, paper, and \$34,771, gold; a sum that has been placed to its reserve fund.

The ordinary revenue of the State during 1898, the last financial year, amounted to \$33,878,267, gold, and \$49,744,214, paper (about £10,755,000 in all), and the extraordinary resources brought the total up to \$48,887,130, gold, and \$116,222,112, paper (about £19,075,000 in all). The expenditures, according to Mr. CLARKE, reached a total of £24,497,000; exceeding the revenues by £5,422,000.

REPORT OF THE CONSULATE-GENERAL AT NEW YORK.

The Bureau of the American Republics is indebted to the courtesy of Señor CARLOS RÖHL, Consul-General of the Argentine Republic at New York, for the following notes from his annual report to his Government. The Consul-General very kindly offers to furnish detailed particulars to such persons as are desirous to secure fuller information with respect to any items. Señor RÖHL writes as follows:

“According to the statistics kept in this office the sailings from the United States to Argentine ports in 1899 were: Steamers 65, 110,516 tons; other vessels 193, 170,365 tons; total, 258 vessels, 280,881 tons. In 1898, 254 vessels, 237,672 tons.

“The sailings from Argentine ports for United States ports in 1899 were 24 steamers of 23,384 tonnage and 50 sailing vessels of 35,495 tonnage, or a total of 64 vessels of 58,879 tons burden. The sailings in 1898 were 70 vessels of 59,572 tons burden.

“Owing to the high duty on wool, forbidding large shipments from the Argentine Republic to the United States, the return tonnage is considerably below the quantity cleared from the United States to Argentine ports. Most of the steamers dispatched from New York

take grain and wool cargoes from the Argentine Republic for European ports before returning to the United States.

The shipment of merchandise from the United States to Argentine ports was much larger in 1899 than in 1898, according to the statistics kept at this consulate-general, which show the following amounts:

From—	To—	
New York	Buenos Ayres	\$9,452,139
Do.	Rosario	1,210,391
Do.	Bahía Blanca	13,766
Boston	Buenos Ayres	492,240
Do.	Rosario	33,957
Portland	Buenos Ayres	140,260
Do.	Rosario	32,250
Do.	Bahía Blanca	7,000
Pensacola	Buenos Ayres	414,351
Do.	Rosario	12,862
Do.	Bahía Blanca	21,230
Philadelphia	Buenos Ayres	43,477
Do.	Bahía Blanca	4,846
Do.	La Plata	8,050
Pascagoula	Buenos Ayres	38,331
Do.	Rosario	6,762
Mobile	Buenos Ayres	178,509
Do.	Rosario	71,590
Apalachicola	Buenos Ayres	35,161
Do.	Rosario	8,536
Brunswick	Buenos Ayres	18,109
Do.	Rosario	4,943
Savannah	Buenos Ayres	92,022
Baltimore	do.	18,004
Puget Sound	do.	9,580
Norfolk	La Plata	10,000
Total exports		12,378,866
In 1898		\$8,066,573
In 1897		5,942,902

“The importations from the Argentine Republic to the United States in 1899, according to the statistics of this Consulate-General, were:

Articles.	Port.	Quantities.	Value.
Wool (Class I)	New York	628,510 pounds	\$84,279
Do.	Boston	2,775,843 pounds	373,349
Wool (III)	New York	560,112 pounds	43,088
Do.	Boston	6,072,725 pounds	461,537
Hides	New York	437,000 hides	1,602,608
Do.	Boston	483,000 hides	1,733,817
Goatskins	New York	2,810,303 pounds	616,493
Do.	Boston	574 bales	174,620
Sundry skins	New York		313,225
Do.	Boston		34,409
Do.	Philadelphia		41,035
Horsehair	New York		195,786
Do.	Boston		75,714
Feathers	New York	42 cases	31,025
Bones	do.	2,535 tons	48,909
Do.	Philadelphia	8,206 tons	143,612
Quebracho	New York		75,348
Tripe	do.		66,716
Articles returned	do.		9,914
Rags	do.	135,332 pounds	3,331
Personal effects	do.		5,228
Books	do.		10,383
Chemicals	do.		23,789
Various	do.		2,772
Total Importations			6,161,961
In 1898			\$5,723,969
In 1897			14,750,730

"It is pleasing to note that American manufacturers and commission merchants are paying more attention to Argentine markets and their needs, resulting in a gradual increase of trade and better acquaintance with their requirements and general mode of transacting business. This is largely due to the increased influx of American traveling salesmen and representatives, who thus place themselves on an equal footing with the Europeans, this being practically the only successful way of cementing the commercial relations between the two countries."

DIMINUTION OF THE DEATH RATE IN BUENOS AYRES.

The following is a translation of part of an article published by "El Pais" of Buenos Ayres, in its issue for January 5, 1900, relative to the death rate of that city:

"In the year 1899 the total number of deaths within the city and municipality of Buenos Ayres was 14,908; but deducting 1,342, which was the number of stillbirths, and not taken into account in universal statistics, it will be seen the real number of deaths was 13,566.

"The population of Buenos Ayres on December 31, 1898, was 765,744, according to the estimates published in the 'Monthly Bulletin of Municipal Statistics.' This same Bulletin, under date of November 30, estimated the population then at 792,013, and, adding the difference between birth and death rate for December and the probable immigration of that month, it is estimated that on December 31, 1899, Buenos Ayres possessed a population of 795,000.

"The number of houses supplied with drainage was 24,805, November 30, and in round numbers 24,900 were supplied therewith on December 31, 1899.

"With these estimates, the table is complete showing the population and death rate of this capital during the last ten years, as follows:

Population and death rate in the city of Buenos Ayres.

Year.	Population.	Deaths.		Houses with drainage.
		Total.	Per 1,000 Inhabitants.	
1890	547,144	16,417	30.0	2,287
1891	535,060	13,014	24.0	4,349
1892	554,713	13,341	24.1	10,309
1893	580,371	13,000	22.4	15,002
1894	603,012	13,702	22.7	18,096
1895	663,854	14,947	22.5	20,148
1896	712,095	13,645	19.2	22,099
1897	738,481	14,216	19.2	23,424
1898	765,744	13,533	17.7	24,120
1899	795,000	13,566	17.1	24,900

"Since 1890, when the drainage system was commenced, the death rate has diminished in proportion as the number of houses provided with this system increased. In the last few years, Buenos Ayres,

which before 1890 was one of the most unhealthy cities, with an annual death rate of from 25 to 30 persons for each 1,000 inhabitants, has improved to the point where it may be classed among the healthiest of cities. In a list of 90 chief cities of the world, Buenos Ayres occupies the fourteenth or fifteenth place, with a death rate of not more than 17 per thousand, while cities as important as Rome, London, Philadelphia, New York, Vienna, Budapest, and Liverpool have a death rate of from 18 to 25 per thousand. The diminution in Buenos Ayres in 1899, with respect to the previous year, is six-tenths per thousand, a proportion which should be considered great, as it was calculated upon figures which were already very low."

MINING DEVELOPMENT.

The mining industry of the northwestern Provinces of the Republic is being developed to a greater extent than ever before, under the supervision of syndicates composed of Belgian capitalists. In the Province of Rioja, near Famatina, a valuable concession of land has been obtained by a Belgian company which will mine for silver and lead that exist in large quantities. The company working in Nonogasta reports a very successful year in 1899, and that it has purchased more property, some of which contained veins of silver. According to the report of a mining engineer, in Famatina, that region incloses immense mineral riches, very little of which has yet been exploited.

A syndicate has been formed in Brussels with a capital of \$2,000,000, gold, for the purpose of exploiting the borax deposits in Jujuy and Salta. The product will be exported to Europe, where it has a very good market.

During the past few months the export of minerals from Rioja has included 42,323 kilos of copper. One Belgian company has expended 300,000 *francs* in the acquisition of machinery, which has been ordered from Europe. In the Province of Jujuy, borate fields are being worked, several concessions having been granted recently, but up to January 1, only 120 tons had been marketed. The copper mines in Tileara, the silver mines of Santa Rosa, and the coal and petroleum mines in San Pedro are all being developed. In Mendoza and Córdoba, some very fine marble quarries have been discovered; in Salta there are good borax and also copper mines; in Catamarca gold and silver have been discovered; in the Cuyo Provinces in the north various mining interests are being developed, and in San Juan the old mines, with new and modern machinery, are giving good results, especially the gold mine of Morada.

THE DESTRUCTION OF LOCUSTS.

A recent number of "La Agricultura," of Buenos Ayres, contains cuts and a description of a novel device which may be termed a

"locust harvester." "La Agricultura" says: "The locust constitutes the nightmare of our farmers and ranchmen, who see disappear in a few hours the labor of years, due to the ravenous action of this terrible insect." In commending the machine in question, the invention of a local firm, the journal referred to does so because of the fact that besides accomplishing the work for which it is designed the invention is low priced.

The apparatus is constructed mainly of wood. A large, oblong, covered box, upon supports 10 or 12 feet high, presents a wide aperture in front through which the insects are to enter. Leading to this is an inclined plane (termed a *trampolin*) wide at the end resting upon the ground and gradually narrowing toward the upper end, protected on each side by zinc sheets about 12 inches high, over which it is impossible for the young locusts to escape. From these side pieces are extended other barriers of the same height and about 160 feet long, each of which is set up edgewise and when in use so secured at such distances apart at the outer extremities as to afford a wide entrance to the locusts. The swarms of insects are driven toward this inclosure and readily ascend the *trampolin*, which is painted green (the color of the foliage), into the box, which is then closed until another swarm is collected and driven in, two men being required for this work.

The apparatus for destroying the locusts is described as a roller sustaining a cylinder of iron similar in form to a coffee mill or roaster. The cylinder is covered with knives extended obliquely and revolves between high side pieces which almost touch it at their lower extremities and is revolved by a crank. This machine is attached to the back of the box containing the imprisoned locusts, which are allowed to drop into it, when they are cut to pieces. After this the remains of the insects are sold for fertilizing purposes, "there being a constant demand in Europe." Thus an alarming pest is converted into an article of commerce.

An easier method of destroying locusts has, however, been discovered, according to reports which come from Cape Colony, South Africa. In 1895 the locusts in that part of the world appear to have been almost destroyed by an epidemic, and investigations carried on by Mr. M. S. EVANS seemed to prove conclusively that the disease was the result of feeding upon a fungus growth now known as "locust fungus," and that a few insects affected with the malady might communicate it to millions of others. After repeated experiments in the Bacteriological Institute at Grahamstown, Cape Colony, a pure culture is said to have been obtained from the locust fungus and the insects died that were brought in contact with it at the Institute.

In 1897 experiments were carried on in a large scale. Immense swarms of locusts perished after the infection of a number of individuals in each group. It was also found that the best results were

obtained during the periods of rain, when the locusts remain longer in one place and the spread of the infection was thus facilitated. In dry weather the flight of the insects is more rapid, and the sick ones being left behind there is less chance for the spread of the disease. It is reported that the Bacteriological Institute now sends out the culture from the locust fungus with directions for its use in tubes which may be conveyed a thousand miles or more.

A few years ago, when the ravages of locusts threatened agriculture in the Argentine Republic with general destruction, a national commission was appointed by the Government with authority to take such steps as seemed advisable for arresting this plague. After fully investigating the habits and movements of these insects, the commission determined to offer bounties to those who would destroy them; or rather they agreed to buy at a fixed price per pound all locusts killed and eggs gathered. During the six months that ended December 31, 1899, the national commission, through its many local subdivisions, paid out sums aggregating \$350,000, paper currency, for about 27,000,000 pounds of locusts and locust eggs. In commenting upon this, "La Agricultura" says that though the quantity of these insects and their eggs destroyed appears to be enormous, it is small compared with the immense swarms and prodigious quantities of eggs that are still to be seen; and that at the rate the money is being paid out, for this cause, the cost of the destruction of locusts will amount, perhaps, to more than the money value of the damages they might commit.

Regarding the use of the organic matter of which the locust is composed as a fertilizer, the Department of Agriculture of the Argentine Republic has published a report on the subject by Mr. J. KÜCKEL DE HERCULAIS, of which the following is a part:

These insects may be turned to advantageous account by being previously dried and prepared. From the point of view of richness in nitrogen, the writer says, the locust may be compared with the best guano. Before the insect can be utilized it is necessary to dry it, because decomposition is very speedy. The drying process is carried on by means of large cylindrical boilers, similar to those employed in the washing of rags for paper. The insects are thrown into these cylinders and submitted to a steam pressure of from 75 to 120 pounds per square inch. This transforms the organic matter into a blackish, nitrogenous substance, which passes from a liquid, when hot, to a solid state when cold. An analysis of this latter substance shows 11.25 per cent of nitrogen, and it has the advantage of preserving its qualities when stored away for any length of time. By adding from 1 to 2 per cent of lime and one-half of one per cent of phosphate of soda to the mass of insect matter in the boiler a still more convenient form of manure is obtained.

STATISTICS OF THE WINE INDUSTRY.

The "Boletín de la Unión Industrial Argentina," of Buenos Ayres, for January 20, 1900, contains an interesting article on the vinicultural industry in the Provinces of Mendoza and San Juan. The article states that the wineries in the Provinces named are divided into five classes, based upon the amount of production of each. To the first class belong the establishments that produce more than 5,000 *bordalesas* (cask of 200 liters) each season. Of these there are 18 in Mendoza and 7 in San Juan. To the second class belong all the wineries whose annual production does not exceed 5,000 but is beyond 2,500 *bordalesas*. Of these there are 24 in Mendoza and 10 in San Juan.

The third class is composed of wineries producing from 500 to 2,500 *bordalesas*, there being 100 in Mendoza and 39 in San Juan. The fourth category is made up of wineries making between 200 and 500 *bordalesas*. There are 120 of these in Mendoza and 70 in San Juan. The fifth and last class is composed of wineries producing less than 200 *bordalesas* a year. Of these Mendoza has 838 and San Juan 440. The total capital invested in the Mendoza wineries is \$23,987,648, national currency, and in the San Juan wineries, \$5,837,829, national currency, which shows a total capital of \$29,825,477. In 1883 there were only 3,290 hectares in vineyards in the Provinces of Cuyo; at the present time it is estimated that there are 36,000 hectares under cultivation.

In 1895 there were exported from San Juan and Mendoza, for the consumption of the Republic, 55,000,000 liters of wine, and in 1898 the exports rose to 89,000,000 liters. In 1899 the yield in Mendoza alone was 102,400,000 liters. There exist in Mendoza and San Juan at this time 1,666 registered wineries, with stock on hand of over 15,000,000 liters. It must be borne in mind that this increase in quantity has been characterized by a greater advance in quality, owing to the progress made in the methods of manufacture and greater knowledge and ability on the part of the wine makers. The importation of foreign wines, which in 1890 amounted to 60,000,000 liters, in 1899 had fallen off to 36,000 liters. In 1890 the cask of 200 liters of ordinary wine was worth from \$70 to \$80 national currency, while at present it can be bought for from \$50 to \$60 national currency, with the premium on gold higher. The native wines paid, in 1898, internal-revenue taxes to the amount of \$2,000,000 national currency and in 1899 to the amount of \$2,500,000.

The "Boletín" adds that protection to this industry has shown the following results: It has increased the national capital to a sum greater than 30,000,000 *pesos* per annum, which is yearly increasing; the country has saved the value of 300,000 *bordalesas* of ordinary wine, which were formerly imported annually; it has increased the consumption, it has reduced the price, and there is collected in the way of

internal-revenue taxes what the Treasury fails to receive in the way of customs duties. This industry gives life to three Provinces and is the principal source of revenue to two great railway lines—the Great Western and the Pacific.

THE AUTOMOBILE IN BUENOS AYRES.

As has been noted by the "Scientific American," the use of the automobile in Buenos Ayres is rapidly increasing, and vehicles of the electric and petroleum types are now frequently met with. These include not only private carriages and bicycles, but also heavy delivery wagons. The fact that facilities for making repairs is lacking has been a drawback hitherto in the use of these vehicles, but as a result of their adoption this will soon be remedied, and besides, the condition of the roads is beginning to improve. A factor in the increase of these vehicles has been the formation of a touring club, founded by commercial men and influential amateurs. The new society will devote itself to the question of automobile interests, and one of the first steps has been the establishment in all the Provinces of the Republic of roads which are specially reserved for bicycles and light automobiles. These roads have already commenced to radiate from Buenos Ayres to a distance of 60 or 70 miles, and it is intended to continue the work until a good system of roads is established throughout the country.

CONSTRUCTION OF THE PORT OF ROSARIO.

The December, 1899, number of the "Bulletin of the French Chamber of Commerce" at Buenos Ayres publishes the following:

"The bill submitted by the Argentine Government authorizing the call for proposals for the construction of a port at Rosario de Santa Fé was voted by Congress and promulgated the 30th of last December.

"The only modification introduced by the Argentine Congress is the suppression of the paragraph providing that vessels destined to the port of Rosario be admitted without paying any duty or special tax.

"The Minister of Public Works is now occupied in preparing, in accord with the Engineering Department, the plans and specifications, in view of submitting the construction works of the port of Rosario to public bids.

"This work is of great importance and is certainly destined to a great future; for the port of Rosario, which is actually the second one of the Republic, is at the same time, by its geographical situation, the key to all the import and export trade with the north of the Republic."

TARIFF ON ELECTRICAL MATERIAL.

The following are the customs dues for electrical material imported during the current year:

Machinery, in general, 10 per cent ad valorem; iron or steel gal-

vanized wire, up to No. 14, 10 per cent; wire or cables, over 5 millimeters in diameter, for electrical purposes and the necessary articles for laying submarine cables, 10 per cent; plants for public electric-lighting stations, 10 per cent; automobiles, 10 per cent.

Rails, tiebars, wedges, chairs, and all material necessary for electric traction purposes are admitted duty free.

WEAVING AND HAT FACTORIES.

The "Review of the River Plate" states that there are 16 weaving factories in the Republic, with a capital of \$10,000,000 paper, which give employment to 6,200 people, of whom 5,200 are women and 600 children under 14 years of age. All the raw material for these factories is imported from Europe. In some instances, the raw material, such as wool, is exported from the Argentine Republic and, after being prepared in Europe, is returned in the form of yarn.

The hat factories are represented by a capital of \$10,000,000. There are 227 factories, giving employment to 6,700 hands, of whom 2,300 are women and children. Only 30 of the factories employ steam power. Of the material used in manufacturing, wool is the only home product, and of those made of hair only 30 per cent are manufactured from the home product, the remainder of the material being imported. A Belgian company is preparing to establish a factory in Buenos Ayres for preparing all the hair required in the hat factories of the River Plate region.

HOME AND FOREIGN DEBT.

The "Pais," a new daily paper started in Buenos Ayres, under the auspices of Dr. PELLEGRINI, furnishes the following statement respecting the indebtedness of the Republic, both as regards the internal and foreign debts:

Various loans issued since 1824, up to and inclusive of the Santa Fé foreign debt, \$344,500,000; the other liabilities now contracted for other Provinces, \$33,500,000; internal debt in gold, \$32,000,000; internal debt in paper (gold valuation), \$43,000,000; floating debt, treasury bills, etc., \$16,700,000, or a grand total of \$469,700,000.

Against this total the writer in the "Pais" makes sundry deductions and reservations, with the result that the total net indebtedness is shown to be \$440,000,000 gold.

IMMIGRANTS IN DECEMBER.

During the month of December, 1899, 14,490 persons immigrated to the Argentine Republic. Of these 12,032 came direct to Argentine ports and 2,458 came by way of Montevideo, Uruguay. Besides these

there were 3,509 passengers; in all, 17,999 persons to arrive in Buenos Ayres during that month from abroad. Of the 12,032 immigrants 48 were German, 103 Austrian, 36 Swiss, 8 Danes, 4 Swedes, 2 Dutch, 52 English, 308 French, 7,691 Italians, 2,627 Spaniards, 16 Belgians, 7 North Americans, 541 Russians, 5 Portuguese, and 584 from various other countries.

NEW GOVERNMENT TELEGRAPH STATIONS.

As a result of the recent trip of inspection of the Inspector-General of Telegraphs through the Province of Buenos Ayres for the purpose of ascertaining the cities and towns whose trade, population, etc., required the establishment of national telegraph offices, the Bureau of Posts and Telegraphs has determined to furnish the following localities with such offices: Mar del Plata, Balearce, Ayacucho, Chivilcoy, Bragado, Nueve de Julio, Chascomús, Dolores, and Maipú. The work on these lines will be begun immediately.

ITALIAN IN THE SCHOOL CURRICULUM.

The Marquis de MALASPINA, Diplomatic Representative of Italy accredited to the Government of the Argentine Republic, recently called upon the Minister of Public Instruction of the latter country for the purpose of furthering a request made by the Italian Government relative to the teaching of the Italian language in the national educational institutions. The Marquis was informed that President ROCA had already included in the budget for the present year estimates of salaries for such teachers, and that this language would be included in the curriculum of the national and commercial colleges on the same footing as other foreign languages, the students being permitted to select such as they desire to learn.

RIO NEGRO STEAMERS.

The Government has ordered from Europe three steamers for the navigation of the Rio Negro. Two of these vessels will measure 125 feet in length and 25 feet beam, with a capacity of 40 tons each. The third will be smaller, and measure about 110 feet, with 20-foot beam and a capacity of 125 tons. Each will be provided with two triple-expansion engines, Yarrow tubular boilers, and will have an average speed of nine knots, with a draft not to exceed 2 feet 9 inches. Two of the vessels will cost £8,115 each and the smaller £6,600, or a grand total of £22,830.

LIVE STOCK IN ENTRE RIOS.

The following statistics are given in regard to the number of animals in the Province of Entre Rios at the end of the year 1899:

	Cattle.	Horses.	Sheep.
Colón.....	130,482	18,050	286,320
Concordia.....	320,842	45,227	698,960
Dramante.....	27,633	16,308	55,380
Federación.....	150,878	18,835	376,740
Feliciano.....	111,846	27,746	261,645
Guaiguay.....	160,763	25,262	593,516
Guaiguaychú.....	248,352	46,130	750,361
La Paz.....	227,860	26,634	345,293
Nogoya.....	149,837	28,212	370,208
Parana.....	110,995	29,581	256,890
Rosario del Tala.....	70,949	17,334	263,050
Uruguay.....	195,333	19,226	895,228
Victoria.....	96,724	16,375	319,416
Villaguay.....	220,419	87,090	441,137
Total.....	2,222,764	327,050	5,417,120

FOREIGN CAPITAL IN THE REPUBLIC.

According to a statement in the "Brazilian Review," the foreign capital in the Argentine Republic amounts to \$614,322,712, gold. This is divided as follows: Railways, \$475,122,085; banks, \$35,335,701; tramways, \$29,970,017; land companies, \$24,232,974; lighting companies, \$11,656,060; miscellaneous companies, etc., \$35,009,675.

MANUFACTURING ESTABLISHMENTS IN BUENOS AYRES.

The "Brazilian Review" says that there are 1,165 factories of various descriptions in the city of Buenos Ayres. Among them are to be found 184 establishments for making liquors, 122 furniture manufacturers, 69 carriage factories, 85 mechanical workshops, 25 tanneries, 11 distilleries, 19 boot factories, 47 hat factories, 23 tobacco factories, 21 weaving factories, 23 artificial-stone factories, 23 alpergata factories, 7 chocolate factories, 34 mills, 59 foundries, 8 surgical-instrument manufacturers, and 13 musical-instrument manufacturers. The number of work people employed in these factories is over 130,000, and the capital invested in them amounts, in paper currency value, to \$108,000,000. The same paper estimates that in the factories throughout the entire country there are 300,000 employees, and the capital invested is believed to amount to \$400,000,000, paper.

NEW ENTERPRISES.

The "Review of the River Plate" announces that the municipality of Buenos Ayres is inviting bids for the erection and equipment of electrical works for supplying the whole of that city with electric current for lighting and power for both public and private uses. One of the con-

ditions permits the contractors to tender bids for the erection of a municipal station equipped with a three-phase high-pressure plant. The mains will be laid throughout the entire city and suburbs. Preference will be given to those offers which agree to the transfer of the entire undertaking to the city at a fixed period. Already four supply companies are at work in a portion of the city, the district being a very extensive one. Owing to the capital required in the undertaking, it is doubtful if many bids will be sent. The latest date at which bids may be received is not mentioned by the "Review," nor is the date of awarding the contracts named.

The Buenos Ayres and Belgrano Electric Tramways Company has, according to advices from London, England, placed a large portion of its \$1,000,000 second debenture stock. The proceeds of this issue are required to complete the electric equipment of the company's system, to provide for expenditures on new lines, and increase its rolling stock. This, it is believed, will bring many new orders to the United States for the required material.

It is stated that a company is being formed in Paris with a capital of 25,000,000 *francs* for the purpose of utilizing the Iguazú waterfalls for several industrial purposes. The plans proposed are somewhat similar to those in use at Niagara Falls, New York.

A concession has been granted to Mr. CARLOS BRIGHT for underground electric railways, which will consist of two different lines running through a number of streets in the city of Buenos Ayres.

The Central-Chubut Railroad Company has been authorized by the Government to prolong its line from its present terminus at Trelew to a point 50 miles inland in the valley of the Chubut River.

A new hydraulic machine has been put into place in the harbor of Buenos Ayres. It is capable of working ten large cranes, and was purchased in Holland at a cost of \$54,000.

A telephone line between Buenos Ayres and Rosario is to be completed within the next eight months.

PRESIDENTIAL CONFERENCES.

It is stated in Buenos Ayres that there will be a meeting sometime during the month of March between President ROCA and President ERRÁZURIS, of Chile. This meeting will take place in the city of Mendoza.

"La Plata Post" states that President CAMPOS SALLES, of Brazil, will arrive in Buenos Ayres in May on the *Riachuelo*, which will be escorted by the cruiser *Almirante Barroso* and the torpedo boat *Tamayo*.

Among the members of the commission appointed by the Argentine Government to receive the President of the Brazilian Republic is Dr.

E. ZEBALLOS, formerly Minister from the Argentine Republic to the United States and now honorary correspondent of the International Bureau of the American Republics.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.

The Argentine Government is increasing its stock of war material. One of its naval transports, the *Pampa*, arrived at Buenos Ayres recently with a cargo of 60,000 projectiles for artillery and Maxim guns, together with 39,000 Mauser rifles. The total value of the war implements amounts to \$6,813,100.

Three German officers, Major VON KORNATZKI, Captain VON FELGENHAUER, and Captain SCHUNK, have been detailed as teachers to the military academy which is about to be organized.

The stamp tax for commercial books required by wholesale dealers has been fixed at 2 *centavos* per page; for retailers the tax is placed at 1 *centavo* per page from January 1, 1900.

Through a Presidential decree, the University of La Plata has been accorded the right to confer diplomas throughout the Republic.

The number of cattle in the Department of Villa Concepción is placed at 300,000, distributed among 58 different owners.

Colastine, the port of Santa Fé, during 1899 shipped 14,000 tons of wheat, 50,000 tons of linseed, 2,700 tons of maize, 56 tons of barley, 737 tons of peanuts, 752 tons of hay, 315 tons of birdseed, and 15,286 tons of flour, besides lumber and a number of miscellaneous items.

BOLIVIA.

PRODUCTION OF QUININE.

The quinine plantations of Bolivia, according to a commercial exchange, were started by German immigrants having some knowledge of chemistry and chemical products. The groves known as "quinine quinales" are usually found on rough and broken mountain sides, at altitudes of from 3,000 to 6,000 feet above the sea. Most of the trees have been raised from the seed, which is gathered in the early summer months and sprouted in hothouses.

In five or six years the trees which have been transplanted will have reached a height of 12 or 14 feet and the trunks will be straight and slender and about 6 inches in diameter. In size and shape and the peculiar gloss of its leaves the tree resembles the orange. Two or

three times a year three or four strips of bark about 2 inches wide and from 2 to 8 feet long are cut from the trunk and thrown upon a paved yard to dry, where, as the moisture evaporates, they curl up like cinnamon bark. Within a year or two nature replaces the bark that has thus been stripped off, and the tree is stripped again in other places. As the tree grows older smaller strips are taken from the stronger branches, and the mature tree will produce an annual average of about 4 pounds of bark. For shipment, the bark, after it has dried for a few days, is packed in rawhide bales and exported from Arica and Mollendo.

EXPORTS OF RUBBER.

The Consul of the Argentine Republic at La Paz has sent to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs at Buenos Ayres a table giving the quantities of rubber exported from Bolivia during the year 1898, according to which the exports were as follows:

From Acre, 2,000,000 kilos, representing a value of \$8,695,600; from Villa Bella, 757,444 kilos, valued at \$3,293,000; from Puerto Perez, 256,542 kilos, valued at \$1,115,400; from Puerto Suarez, 27,556 kilos, valued at \$119,300; or a total amount exported of 3,041,542 kilos, valued at \$13,223,300 in the currency of the Republic.

COMPOSITION OF THE CABINET.

Since the publication in the MONTHLY BULLETIN for November last of the new Cabinet of Bolivia, by Supreme Decree of December 28, 1899, the different branches of the public administration were somewhat changed in title, as follows: Ministry of Foreign Relations and Worship, Ministry of the Interior and Public Works, Ministry of the Treasury and Industry, Ministry of Justice and Public Instruction, Ministry of War and Colonization. The heads of these departments are named, respectively: FERNANDO E. GUACHALLA, CÁRLOS V. ROMERO, DEMETRIO CALBIMONTE, CÉSAR OROPEZA, and ISMAEL MONTES.

WATER SERVICE IN LA PAZ.

The National Convention has enacted a law appropriating 50,000 *bolivianos* per annum for the establishment of a water service for the city of La Paz.

BRAZIL.

CONSULAR INVOICES.

The Secretary of the Treasury, Senhor JOAQUIN MARTINHO, sent the following notice on January 27, 1900, to the Secretary of Foreign Relations:

“Act No. 651 of November 22, 1899, requiring foreign merchandise imported into the country after the 1st of January of the present year to be accompanied by a consular invoice, has come to furnish new elements for the Bureau of Statistics which the Government is authorized to establish by the provisions of act No. 560, of December 31, 1898.

“In order that this service, of the importance of which you are aware, may be fully carried out and constitute a basis of exact information for the study of our customs tariff, it becomes necessary to have the efficacious cooperation of our consular agents, who should for this purpose adopt a uniform system.

“This Department believes that there should be a book of registry in the consulates, after the annexed model, the leaves of which shall be numbered on one side only, and on these shall be transcribed the declarations of the invoices presented by the shipper or exporter, prepared in conformity with the Forms A and B.

“When one of these books has been completed, the first page of the book following should bear the number next higher than that of the last page of the preceding book.

“The invoices shall be numbered in the same way, thus avoiding the enumeration of the books of registry and the repetition of the numbers of the leaves of these and of the invoices.

“It is understood that the number of the leaves of the book of registry is independent of the number of those of the original invoice, since the latter, on account of its length and details, may occupy many pages of the book of registry.

“The book of registry thus prepared will constitute a faithful record from which may be taken certificates or duplicates of invoices in case of loss or destruction of the first invoices.

“The Forms A and B, of which there should be copies in the consulates at the service of interested parties, shall be filled out with the respective declarations. Both forms shall bear the same words, and the only difference between them shall be that the Form A shall have a perforated coupon attached to it.

“It is of vital importance that the Consuls observe the utmost accuracy in the words specified in the respective forms with reference to the origin, destination, value, etc., of merchandise.

"To the declared value, which shall be that which approximately corresponds to the current prices of merchandise in the country from which they are shipped, shall be added the freight and other expenses incident to placing the same in the port of destination, so that the sum resulting from these additions shall constitute the price of the merchandise placed in Brazil.

"As the value of the merchandise shall be expressed in the currency of the country from whence exported, and is subject to variations of exchange, in order to make the reduction to currency values of Brazil it will be necessary to know the exchange rate at the time of export.

"Document A, after all the legal formalities in the consulates have been complied with by the shipper or exporter, shall be annexed to the manifest and sent to the port of destination, pursuant to the act of November 22, already cited.

"The perforated coupon attached to this document, after it has been properly filled out by the custom-house officials in charge of this service in the ports of shipment, shall be detached and sent without delay to the Chief of the Bureau of Statistics, accompanied by such remarks as may be necessary.

"Form B, after having been entered on the consular book, shall be sent as soon as possible to the said chief, accompanied by such remarks as the consular officers may deem useful for such an important branch of the public service. * * *

"I beg you will recommend to the Consuls that they send at their convenience lists of the current prices in the respective markets of goods exported to Brazil and also official statistics of the countries where they exercise their consular functions."

The "London Times" says: The enactment of the new law prohibiting the importation of foreign goods bearing Portuguese labels, which was to go into effect the 1st of March, has been postponed until July 1, 1900, at which date it is hoped that the measure will be repealed by the Brazilian Congress.

According to the "Commercial Intelligence" of London, the Foreign Office has received a telegram from the British Legation at Rio de Janeiro announcing that a ministerial circular has suspended, until further order, the collection of fines incurred for the nonpresentation of consular invoices.

BUREAU OF COMMERCIAL STATISTICS.

The following decree was promulgated by the President of Brazil on January 8, 1900:

"The President of the Republic of the United States of Brazil, in the exercise of the authority granted him by Article 54, No. 4, of Act No. 560, of December 31, 1898, decrees:

"ARTICLE 1. There shall be established at the custom-house at Rio de Janeiro a special service of commercial statistics.

"ART. 2. This service shall be established in one of the buildings of the Federal Treasury, or in any other public or private building hired for this purpose.

"ART. 3. The Secretary of the Treasury may admit as many employees for this work as he deems necessary, and may increase or reduce the number, according to the exigencies of the service; it being understood, however, that these employees shall not have the character of public officials nor enjoy any other advantage except their monthly pecuniary compensation.

"ART. 4. The expenses of the service, including personnel and material, shall be defrayed from the product of the statistical tax, in conformity with Art. 54, above cited.

"ART. 5. In order to facilitate the service, its respective head shall correspond directly with the various consulates, custom-houses, and fiscal departments on statistical work.

"ART. 6. All dispositions to the contrary are hereby revoked."

The Minister of Finance has selected Mr. J. P. WILEMAN, editor of the *Brazilian Review*, to serve as the Director of the new Department of Commercial Statistics. Mr. WILEMAN will have a staff of eight persons, and is authorized to rent a building for the service at a cost of 300\$000 per month.

PROPOSED PURCHASE OF STEAMSHIP LINE.

In its issue of February 1, "*O Pais*" of Rio says that an American syndicate has offered to the Brazilian Minister at Washington to purchase the property and material of the Lloyd Brasileiro Steamship Company for the sum of \$4,500,000. An interview between the Minister of Finance of Brazil and the President of the Banco de Republica (the company's principal creditor) has been held, it is said, at which the price was fixed at \$6,000,000. "*O Pais*" says the negotiation has made good progress and will soon be realized.

RECENT GOVERNMENTAL DECREES.

Recent decrees promulgated by the Brazilian Government are in substance as follows:

Decree No. 3539, of December 29, 1899, regulates the introduction of immigrants into Brazil by the "*Companhia Norte Mineira*." For these immigrants the Government will pay £5 15s. each for those over 12 years of age, £3 8s. each for those from 7 to 12 years of age, and £1 4s. each for those from 2 to 7 years of age.

By Decree No. 3569, of January 23, the Government renews its contract with the "*Companhia Internacional de Docas e Melhoramentos*" for port improvements at Bahia. The work must commence within one year from the date of the decree.

Decree No. 3571, dated January 23, 1900, modifies certain provisions of the grant for cutting down the hill of Santo Antonio. The drawing must be presented within six months from the date of the decree, and work must commence within two years.

The Government having accepted the proposal of the State of Bahia for the lease of the Bahia and São Francisco Railway in that State, and the State of Bahia having transferred its rights to the engineer MIGUEL de TEIVE E ARGOLLO, the President signed a decree on January 23, 1900, approving the contract of this gentleman on the following terms: Sixty years' lease, an initial payment of 150,000 *milreis*, the payment of 35,000 *milreis* per year in two half-yearly installments, and an annuity, payable half-yearly, of 5 per cent on the gross receipts for the first five years, of ten per cent for the second five years, of 15 per cent the second ten years, of 20 per cent the third ten years, 25 per cent the fourth, 30 per cent the fifth, and 40 per cent the sixth ten years, besides 20 per cent of the net revenue exceeding 12 per cent on the capital respectively employed.

TRADE AND TRADE POLICY.

As is the case in most of the South American Republics, so in Brazil the tariff on imports is subject to continuous changes. The customs receipts form, in a certain degree, the elastic factor in the estimates for the yearly budget. The policy of Brazil is a protective one. The most important element in the economic conditions of the country is the cultivation of tropical products, especially coffee, caoutchouc, cotton, and tobacco. The leading article of export is coffee, 60 per cent of the total world's product being raised in Brazil. The next article of consequence is rubber. On an average, fully 70 per cent of the total importations are paid by coffee exports. The "Brazilian Review" of Rio de Janeiro gives the following comparative table:

Year.	Coffee exports.	Importations.	Proportion of coffee exports to imports in general.
			<i>Per cent.</i>
1894.....	£24,000,000	£33,677,000	71.3
1895.....	23,000,000	33,325,000	69.0
1896.....	19,000,000	31,508,000	60.3
1897.....	19,000,000	25,775,000	73.7
1898.....	14,000,000	23,000,000	60.9

The interdependence of coffee exports and imports of foreign merchandise is therefore most marked. The falling off of the one causes a relative decrease in the other. In 1893, the year of greatest depression, England's exports to Brazil showed a loss of 18.5 per cent; those of France, 28.6 per cent; of Germany, 21.2 per cent, and of Belgium, 53 per cent. The United States alone had a slight increase to record, this being largely on account of the fact that the United States is the largest consumer of coffee and rubber.

AMAZON TELEGRAPH COMPANY.

The fifth ordinary general meeting of the Amazon Telegraph Company, Limited, was held March 2, 1900, at the offices, Moorgate Station Chambers, London, Mr. D. H. GOODSALL presiding. The chairman, in moving the adoption of the company's report, stated that it showed the result of the year's working, and, owing to the difficulties which had been experienced in maintaining the cables, a debit balance of £29,000. The traffic existed, and if the cables could have been kept working the accounts would have presented a very different appearance. An excellent captain was now engaged in repairing the cables, and had met with considerable success. In three places the lines had been diverted, and it was hoped that this change would lead to the permanent maintenance of these parts of the system. Similar diversions would be made wherever it was seen that the cable would not last in its present position.

The directors had succeeded in obtaining from the Government of the State of Amazonas a concession for a land line, which they hoped shortly to be able to erect. The Government had nearly completed the road which they undertook to make for this line, and the directors had already dispatched more than one-third of the requisite material, while the remainder had been ordered. A further subsidy of £10,000 a year would be received by the company when the land line had been put up so long as it was kept in working order, and the line would also duplicate a part of the system. In answer to questions, Mr. GOODSALL stated that if the undertaking could be kept at work—and the directors felt that the only course for them was to do their utmost to insure this—the company would earn £27,000 a year in subsidies, in addition to which a good traffic existed. Part of the system, although, unfortunately, not a very profitable part, had remained in working order throughout nearly the whole period of four years during which the cable had been in operation, and on this portion an increase of about 85 per cent in the traffic had been shown.

SÃO PAULO AND RIO GRANDE RAILWAY.

The first section of the São Paulo and Rio Grande Railway, destined to connect the capitals of these two States, was formally inaugurated the 17th of last December. This line starts from Sorocobana, the last station of the Pauliste Company, situated on the Itararé River, which divides the States of São Paulo and Paraná. It will have its terminating point on the Uruguay River at the frontier of the States of Santa Catharina and Rio Grande, there connecting with the Uruguay-Passo-Fundo line now under construction by a Belgian Company.

The road passes through or near the cities of Castro and Ponta

Grassa, where it meets the line of the French Company of Brazilian Railways, passing through Curitiba to the port of Paranaguá. This section, constructed by Brazilian engineers, extends north of Ponta Grassa to Pirahy (96 kilometers) and south to Rebouças (133 kilometers). The principal station is established at Ponta Grassa. The gauge of the road is 1 meter.

LARGE CARGO OF COFFEE.

Advices from Rio Janeiro state that the British bark *Somali*, Captain RICHARDSON, which sailed from that port on February 2 for New York, carried a cargo of 82,169 bags of coffee, the largest cargo of coffee, with but one exception, that has ever left Rio. The cargo was entirely made up at Rio Janeiro, and was shipped by one firm—probably the largest single shipment on record from that port.

EXPORTATION OF MATÉ.

The quantity of maté exported last year from Parana was 21,912,899 kilos, which is nearly equal to the average for the three previous years. The export tax on that article in Parana was farmed last year for 556,000 *milreis* by the State Government to contractors, whose profit is estimated at 100,000 *milreis*, from which must be deducted the cost of collection.

FIBER FROM BANANA PLANTS.

A recent issue of "Minas Geraes" publishes a letter written by Mr. ERNESTO AUGUSTO LAGES, in which he claims to have discovered delicate fibers in the trunks of the banana plant. These fibers are claimed to be superior to those of the henequén, which is so much prized in the United States. These fibers are called *fibras lagesinas*, and are well adapted to the manufacture of ropes, cloths, laces, etc., their extraction being very simple.

NEW RUBBER TREE.

According to the "Diario de Noticias," of Bahia, a new rubber tree has been discovered, which appears to be superior to all other trees of this class. It is known by the name of *Pecambira*, and is remarkable for the abundance and superior quality of its sap.

NEW COFFEE ASSOCIATION.

"Associação Central Paulista" is the name of a new company organized in São Paulo for the purpose of developing a new national industry and at the same time spreading abroad a knowledge of the coffee of this State, which is not fully appreciated in foreign markets.

The company proposes to erect in the city of São Paulo a large establishment with numerous divisions where the coffee will undergo the various processes of preparation, such as separating of the grains, roasting, grinding, etc., and finally will be packed ready for shipment. The tin boxes, paper sacks, and large wooden cases used in the packing of the coffee will be manufactured within the establishment.

Ground coffee of the best quality will be shipped in tin boxes containing either one-half or 1 kilo each. Coffee in grain will be put in paper sacks, and these in turn will be placed in cases, each one containing 48 sacks. The tin boxes will also be inclosed in cases. These cases will be manufactured exclusively of the wood of Brazil.

Dr. HENRIQUE BOCCOLINI, the manager of the company, at a recent meeting of the "Centro da Lavoura do Café do Brazil," held at Rio de Janeiro, stated that the roasting and separating machines were ready and that the company was only awaiting the arrival of the special machinery from Germany for the manufacture of the tin boxes.

The company will have representatives in various parts of the world through whom the coffee will be offered for sale.

CULTIVATION OF MANIÇOBA RUBBER.

Mr. C. E. AMOROSO LIMA, in a communication to the "Jornal do Commercio," gives the results of an experiment made in the cultivation of the maniçoba plant. There has been a great deal written in Brazil, as well as in other tropical countries, recently, in regard to the importance of cultivating this plant, owing to the increasing demand for rubber, and these suggestions may be useful to others undertaking its cultivation.

The planting of the maniçoba seeds was begun on the 20th of November, 1898, on a plantation situated on the slope of the Orgãos Mountains, Rio de Janeiro. The land was of excellent quality and the region mountainous. The planting was effected during the rainy season. Shallow holes, 10 centimeters apart, were made, in which was placed one seed. The result was most satisfactory. Eight months after the planting the plants had attained a height of 1 meter. On the 8th of January, 1900, they had attained a height of 2 meters and 20 centimeters, and a diameter of 3 centimeters at a height of 1 meter from the ground, showing all the vigor and luxuriance of plants growing wild. Seven of these plants, when they had reached a height of 1 meter, were transplanted, and while they suffered a little from the change, they all took root in the new soil. On the 4th of October, 1899, another planting was made on cleared ground. From this planting have sprung up 240 young plants, all of which seem vigorous. This last planting was made just before the rainy season.

BAHIA CENTRAL SUGAR FACTORIES.

The report of the Bahia Central Sugar Factories Company for the year ending June 30, 1899, was read and approved at the regular annual meeting of the company held in London on the 7th of December, 1899. According to the report there has been considerable reduction in the amount of sugar produced by the two mills of the company. The mill at Rio Fundo crushed 17,262 tons of sugar cane in 1898, compared with 43,908 tons in 1897, and the mill at Iguape 6,563 tons, against 17,000 tons in 1897. The reason given for this small crop was the wretched weather conditions that prevailed in 1898. This loss, however, is partly compensated by the increase in the price of sugar. In 1897-98 the company received only £19 16s. 3d. per ton for sugar, while in 1898-99 the price per ton rose to £30 8s. 7d.

In regard to the machinery, railways, rolling stock, etc., of the company, the report states that they are in much better condition this year than they were last. Reports from Bahia on the present crop indicate that at least 35,000 tons of sugar cane will be ground at Rio Fundo and 15,000 tons at Iguape. The price of sugar is high, and there is every reason to hope that affairs will improve at both places.

As regards the future crop, the prospects are excellent, as the plantations of sugar cane in the districts of the mills are larger this year than they have been for many years.

EXPORTS AND IMPORTS OF PARÁ.

The following is a summary of the export trade of Belem, State of Pará, during the year 1898, taken from official reports:

Rubber.—To New York, 7,474,324 kilos; to Liverpool, 6,430,882 kilos; to Havre, 527,123 kilos; to other ports, 59,895 kilos; total, 14,492,224 kilos.

Cacao.—To Havre, 853,688 kilos; to New York, 63,233 kilos; to Liverpool, 42,830 kilos; to other ports, 114,832 kilos; total, 1,074,583 kilos.

Chestnuts.—To New York, 52,401 kilos; to Liverpool, 41,144 kilos; total, 93,545 kilos.

The official value of these products was as follows: Rubber, 126,103,397 *milreis*; cacao, 2,383,913 *milreis*; chestnuts, 2,032,686 *milreis*; total, 130,519,998 *milreis*.

The official value of other products exported from Pará, such as cumarú, guarana, ox and deer hides, glue, copaiba oil, piassava, and cinchona, was as follows:

To New York, 336,729 *milreis*; to Liverpool, 484,568 *milreis*; to Havre, 506,356 *milreis*; total, 1,327,653 *milreis*.

Thus it will be seen that the total value of the exports from Pará during 1898 amounted to 131,847,653 *milreis*. Comparing this sum

with the value of the exports during the last five years, it will be discovered that there has been a constant increase, and that the valuation has almost doubled in that time.

While the export trade of Pará is extraordinarily large, the importation of alimentary products of prime necessity is no less remarkable. In 1898 Pará imported 26,961,473 kilos of mandioca flour and 3,337,265 kilos of maize, both of which products grow to perfection in this State.

The Governor of the State is making every effort to increase the production, establishing agricultural centers throughout the commonwealth. The small farmers are engaged in the cultivation of mandioca, corn, and tobacco, a very high price being paid in the State for the latter. Rice is also cultivated extensively, there having been a decrease in the imports of this product in 1898 amounting to 157,071 kilos.

THE STANDING ARMY.

According to the "Rio News," there are now 14,658 noncommissioned officers and privates in the Brazilian army, forming 40 battalions of infantry, 6 battalions of siege artillery, 6 regiments of field artillery, and 14 regiments of cavalry. If the views of the Minister of War are adopted, the infantry will be reorganized into 20 regiments of 2 battalions each with 3 companies to each battalion. The regimental officers will be 1 colonel, 1 lieutenant-colonel, 2 majors, and a quartermaster with the rank of captain. The company commissioned officers will be 1 captain, 1 lieutenant, and 1 ensign. This will give 23 commissioned officers to each regiment. Unemployed officers will be attached to the general staff.

NOTES ON INDUSTRIAL ENTERPRISES.

The São Paulo Light and Power Company has recently contracted for the following material in the United States: 50,000 feet of weather-proof cable, 6,000 Brookfield insulators, and 7,000 other insulators. Contracts for these goods, together with others which have been awarded to United States firms, show an aggregate value of over \$100,000.

The receipts of the Central Railway of Brazil amounted in 1899 to 32,800 *contos*, and the expenditures to 27,800 *contos*, leaving a surplus of 5,000 *contos*. The substitution of electricity for steam is contemplated, if not throughout the entire line, at least in that part which extends through the suburbs of Rio.

The population of the City of Pará is reported by the United States Consul to have doubled within the last five years. The trade of this port with Iquitos, Peru, has so increased that steamers engaged in the traffic have taken steps to double their service.

The construction of water and drainage works for the town of São

Simão, in the State of São Paulo, was begun on the 1st of March, 1900. The dam in Jahu River, designed to furnish power for the waterworks, was recently swept away by a flood.

Mr. RHEINGANTZ, a well-known resident of Rio Grande do Sul, has just organized in Germany a syndicate for the purpose of cultivating wheat on a large scale in that State.

A German bank has been established in Manãos, capital of the State of Amazonas, with a capital of 20,000,000 *milreis*.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.

A dispatch, dated February 17, 1900, from Rio de Janeiro says that, in an effort to gain a greater foothold for German manufactures, Consuls for that country have been named for every city and large town in Bolivia, Brazil, Argentine Republic, Uruguay, and Paraguay. The same dispatch says that Germany, Italy, and Spain have accepted the minimum tariffs, reducing the duty on coffees, and that France refuses to continue the negotiations; also that the other commercial treaties are progressing favorably.

The issue of new postage stamps of denominations of 200, 100, and 50 *reis*, on February 1, 1900, was in accord with the decision of the Postal Union to adopt uniform colors for stamps, corresponding to 25, 10, and 5 *centimes*, used for international letter, postal card, newspaper and parcel postage.

On December 31, 1899, the cash balances of the five foreign banks in the City of Rio de Janeiro amounted to 42,631,000\$000, as compared with 69,802,000\$000 on December 31, 1898. The deposits were 87,934,523\$459, against 92,704,098\$082 on December 31, 1898.

On January 31, official advice was sent to the foreign representatives in Rio de Janeiro, declaring that the ports of Rio and Santos were free from the bubonic plague.

There entered at the port of Rio de Janeiro in 1898, 27,650 immigrants, of whom 27,531 came from Europe, 43 from the River Plate country, and 76 from the United States.

The law reducing the export duty on coffee from the State of Minas Geraes from 11 to 9 per cent became effective on February 1, 1900.

Senhor RODRIGUEZ ALVEZ has been elected Governor of the State of São Paulo without opposition.

The Brazilian Consulate at Naples, Italy has been abolished by Presidential decree.

Receipts of Brazilian salt in the Rio market in 1899 amounted to 23,788 tons.

CHILE.

SUGAR BOUNTY LAW.

The sugar bounty law of Chile authorizes the President of the Republic to pay 2 *centavos* per kilogram on all raw beet sugar produced in the country for six years dating from January 1, 1899.

The annual grant for the first year is not to exceed \$25,000, currency, and increases at the rate of \$25,000 yearly until 1902, for which year, and for 1903 and 1904, it is fixed at a maximum of \$100,000. Should the amount not be sufficient to pay the bounty of 2 *centavos* per kilogram, it is to be divided proportionately between the producers of the sugar.

For a term of ten years the tariff for the transport of beets on the State railways is not to be raised to a rate higher than that obtaining on December 31, 1898.

During the same period the tariff on molasses and raw sugar, on first leaving the agricultural establishments and manufactories in full trucks, is not to exceed that now charged on articles of the fifth class of the tariff schedule.

To obtain the bounties the producers must furnish proof of the quantity of sugar produced; they must establish that they are legal residents of Chile, and furnish any information which the President of the Republic may desire respecting the industry, as well as other data which may be conducive to the object aimed at by the law.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE NITRATE TRADE.

The development of the trade in nitrate of soda continued steadily throughout the year 1899, but in the spring months, owing to the absence of sufficient supplies, a temporary check was experienced, and, as a consequence, wide fluctuations in prices resulted. The visible supply at the first of the year 1900 amounted to 730,000 tons, against 703,000 tons at the beginning of the year 1899.

The world's consumption of nitrate of soda for the past three years was as follows, in tons: 1897, 1,100,000; 1898, 1,186,000; 1899, 1,330,000; while the shipments for the same periods have been, respectively, 1,000,000, 1,265,000, and 1,360,000 tons.

The annual circular issued by Mr. THOMSON AIKMAN puts the shipments of nitrate of soda in the past year as is given above, or at 95,000 tons more than in 1898, while the world's consumption increased 144,000 tons.

The official statistics of the exportation of nitrate of soda and iodine from all the nitrate ports in Chile have just been published. According to these, the number of metric quintals of nitrate exported was 11,061,895, or, reduced to tons, 1,106,190 tons; the number of kilo-

grams of iodine exported between the 1st of January and the 1st of November, 1899, was 249,718, or 249.781 tons.

A dispatch from San Francisco, under date of February 24, 1900, says that the demand for tonnage at the nitrate ports of South America is so great as to seriously embarrass shippers of wheat in that part of the United States. It is also reported that a British ship has been chartered to proceed in ballast from Shanghai, China, to Iquique, to load nitrate for Europe at 30s.

CHILEAN CLAIMS COMMISSION.

The ratifications of the treaty providing for a revival of the United States and Chilean Claims Commission of 1893 were exchanged at the Department of State of the United States on March 12, 1900. The Chilean Minister, Señor C. MORLA VICUÑA, will be the Chilean member of the Commission and Señor DON ANIBAL CRUZ will be the Counsel for Chile. Señor CRUZ was formerly Secretary of the Chilean Legation at Washington. The officers to represent the United States Government on the Commission have not yet been designated. It is stated that the two Governments interested will unite in a note to the Government of Switzerland requesting that it authorize Mr. J. A. PIODA, its Minister here, to act as President of the Commission.

TREATY WITH JAPAN.

"El Comercio Ilustrado," of San Francisco, Cal., referring to the recent return from Japan of Señor C. MORLA VICUÑA, Chilean Minister to the United States, avers that this gentleman, during his recent visit to the Japanese Empire, concluded a treaty of amity, navigation, and commerce between it and Chile, and that he is preparing an exhaustive and voluminous report upon the terms of the treaty and the great influence for good it will have between the two countries.

EXPENDITURES FOR TELEGRAPH AND RAILWAY SERVICE.

An act of Congress has been promulgated empowering the Executive to expend \$97,834.15 in the reconstruction of telegraph lines from Taltal to Tocopilla and a further sum of \$17,000 in special lines across rivers.

An act of Congress has been promulgated empowering the Executive to expend \$190,000 in surveys of the following railway lines:

From Inca (Chañaral), to a point on the Copiapó line to Puquios or to Caldera; from Pueblo Hundido northward passing along the eastern side of the coast range; from Serena to Ballenar with a branch to Sarcó Bay; from Ovalle to Trapiche (Tongoi line); from Combarbalá to Puerto Oseuro, or to an adjacent bay; from Ligua to Papudo; from

Melipilla to San Antonio; from Rancagua to Doñihue; from San Clemente to Panimávida; from Panimávida to a point on the Southern Railway; from Cauquenes to Coelemu; from Angeles to Antuco; from Traiguén to Galvarino, and from Puerto Montt to Maullín, with prolongation to Calbuco y Carelmapu.

DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR CHANGES.

Señor Don DOMINGO A. RIVERA has been appointed Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Uruguay and Paraguay.

Señor Don ANJEL CUSTODIO VICUÑA has been named as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Peru, and Don JOAQUIN GODOY Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Bolivia.

Señor LUIS ENRIQUE IZQUIERDO has been appointed attaché of the Chilean Legation to the Holy See, and Lieut. Col. JOAQUIN LARRAIN ALCALDE has been appointed Military Attaché to the Chilean Legations at Rome and Berlin.

The following new consular changes are also announced: Señor PRO PUELMA BESA goes as Consul-General to Vienna, Austria; Señor ENRIQUE ROECKLE goes to Munich, Germany, as Consul; Señor MATÍAS RÍAS GONZALES goes as clerk to the Chilean Legations in Germany and Italy.

The Chilean Consulates, in Birmingham and Manchester, England, have been abolished by a Presidential decree.

Señor ALFREDO VERA has been recognized as Nicaraguan Consul, Señor GERMAN A. LARREA as Bolivian Consul, and Señor ALFRED WAUGH ALDUNATE as Paraguayan Consul in Santiago.

The German Consulate in Valparaiso is to be raised to a Consulate-General.

PATENT FOR A COPYING PRESS.

Mr. ALBERTO POBLETE Y GARIN, of Salamanca, Chile, has been awarded a patent in the United States for a copying press. According to the "Scientific American," this invention provides a contrivance which will enable the operator to exert a uniform pressure so as to procure a perfect copy. The inventor inserts a wedge-shaped pneumatic cushion between the leaves of a book, which cushion receives and transmits the applied pressure. An increase in the size of the surface to which the pressure is to be applied will necessitate an increase in the dimensions of the cushion, but will not necessitate an increase in the pressure to be applied, since the pressure is transmitted undiminished to all parts of the cushion, whatever its size.

THE CUSTOMS TARIFF.

Messrs. LUIS DE FERRARI and RAFAEL MOLINARE have been commissioned by the Government to revise the customs tariff, so as to bring

the values assigned to the different kinds of merchandise into relation with their true value. The labors of the appointees are to be completed by July 1, 1900, and they are to receive as remuneration \$5,000 each. The labors of this commission will be considered by the next Congress.

The customs tariff in force during 1899 will, by decree of the Government, remain in force during the whole of 1900.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.

Vice-Admiral MANUEL CENORET, who commanded the maneuvers of the Chilean navy, died recently. This officer was one of those who in 1878 captured the Peruvian gunboat *Huascar*. He had seen much other service, and, besides several medals, had received decorations from the French Government and the King of Sweden.

The Council of State has approved the estimates for the current year, amounting to \$76,500,000 currency.

During the year 1899 the value of horses exported from Chile was estimated at \$300,000.

COSTA RICA.

DEMAND FOR COFFEE IN CALIFORNIA.

In 1898 the exports of coffee from Central America to California amounted to 15,425,526 pounds, and in 1897 to 16,576,567 pounds. In San Francisco there is a great demand for Costa Rican coffee; in 1898 2,261,645 pounds being exported, worth \$271,441. Coffee, with cattle skins, are, generally speaking, the only imports from Central America, which occupies fourth place in the trade with California.

ADDITION TO THE COSTA RICA RAILWAY.

The Costa Rica Railroad, with principal offices at San José, and controlled by British capital, is to add 28 miles of road to its system and, according to information received, the purchases for the extension will be made in the United States. The Railway Track Supply and Equipment Company of New York has secured the order for 25,000 steel ties from this company. Other orders are to follow.

EQUIPMENT FOR GOLD STANDARD.

Messrs. H. B. HOLLINS & Co., the New York bankers, recently shipped to the Government of Costa Rica 500,000 gold *colones*, in 5, 10, and 20 denominations. The gold was coined at the United States mint at Philadelphia, and is a part of the new coins ordered when

Costa Rica determined to go upon a gold basis. The equivalent of the *colones* in American gold is about \$250,000.

The "Prensa Libre" is authority for the statement that the Government has deposited in the Banco de Costa Rica 1,500,000 *colones*, and will shortly issue 121,500 gold certificates in representation of the said deposit.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.

According to the report of the Bureau of Statistics the consumption of beef cattle in the Republic for the year 1899 in the seven largest centers of population was 39,194 head. The imports of cattle numbered 15,918.

There were recently shipped from Puerto Limón in one cargo 40,000 bunches of bananas. The banana crop on the Atlantic Coast is said to be abnormally large this season.

There was recently formed in San José an "Asociación Obrera" (Labor Union) for the purpose of bettering the conditions of the laboring classes.

Within six months the city of Santo Domingo will be added to the list of Costa Rican municipalities with electric lighting.

COLOMBIA.

UNFOUNDED RUMOR.

"La Nación," of Montevideo, Uruguay, in a recent number stated that the President of Colombia, Señor Dr. Don MANUEL A. SANCLEMENTE had died at Bogotá at the advanced age of 86 years. Señor Don Clímaco Calderón, diplomatic representative of Colombia in Washington, informs the MONTHLY BULLETIN of the falsity of this statement. The aged President is still occupying the Chief Executive's chair and enjoying fairly good health.

ABOLITION OF THE CIGARETTE MONOPOLY.

The cigarette monopoly, which was established in Colombia in 1897, has, through the decree of November 20, 1899, been abolished. This decree becomes effective on May 13, 1900, or earlier if the supply of cigarettes becomes exhausted before that time. After that date the importation and manufacture of these articles will be permitted, the tariff governing the trade being as prescribed in the customs tariff law of November 22, 1894, by which cigars are taxed at 4 *pesos* per kilogram, cigarettes 3 *pesos* per kilogram, and other cut tobacco in any form whatever 2 *pesos* with the customary additions.

ECUADOR.

SCHOOL TEACHERS FROM THE UNITED STATES.

Mr. THOMAS B. WOOD, a citizen of the United States, late in December, 1899, entered into a contract with the Government of Ecuador, binding himself to secure in Chile or in the United States teachers for the national normal schools. These teachers must be familiar with the Castillian tongue and have the necessary acquirements to instruct the students in the institutions where they are to act, and must be in Ecuador before September 1, 1900. Mr. WOOD must secure the services of at least six teachers, and at the most twelve. The teachers are to receive \$150, \$125, \$100, \$85, and \$80 United States money, or its equivalent in Ecuadorian currency, payable in advance on the 1st of each month, beginning with September, 1900, and continuing uninterruptedly for sixty months, when the contract shall terminate. The Government also undertakes to transport the teachers and their families to Quito, Cuenca, or Guayaquil, as the case may be, and upon the conclusion of the contract they will be sent back to their own countries. Mr. WOOD has also been appointed a special commissioner to contract in the United States or in Chile for the services of the teachers needed.

The number of students registered in the advanced schools of Ecuador indicates progress in educational matters since the advent of the liberal Government of President ALFARO. Under the clerical party the number of such students was given as only 600, but upon the present list of scholars are 6,478 names, divided as follows: Theology, 379; medicine, 1,346; law, 2,334; philosophy, 2,419. This does not include the number of scholars in the primary schools, regarding which reliable statistics are not available.

ECONOMIC SITUATION IN THE YEAR 1899.

Mr. FRANDIN, French Consul-General and Chargé d'Affaires at Quito, writes that from the commercial point of view the year which has just passed has been most satisfactory for the Republic of Ecuador. The exports have considerably increased, owing to the fact that the agricultural products, cacao especially, have yielded better crops.

President ALFARO'S Government has given special attention to the development of the ways of communication. Work is being actively pursued on the Pailón and Manabí roadways, which are to connect the capital with the coast, and the Chimbo railway employs 1,000 workmen. It will, however, be several years before this latter road is in condition to be of practical use.

THE CITY OF GUAYAQUIL.

The Bureau of the American Republics is indebted to the courtesy of Consul-General DE LEON, at Guayaquil, for several items of interest regarding that progressive city. The city tramway company during the last year earned 24 per cent upon its stock. This splendid showing prevents the stockholders from changing the present motive power into electric traction, which is much to be desired. A contract was recently let to Señores ALVARADO and BEJARANO for the installation of an electric plant for lighting, which could easily be extended to embrace motive power. It has been suggested that when this has been once introduced the "Peñas Heights," which encircle the city, could be graded and adorned with comfortable homes above the malarial zone. Street paving in the city is progressing slowly, but active steps are being taken to furnish a sewage system. If this work were to be followed by filling up the mud flats and devoting them to parks and courts for drying cacao, Guayaquil would become as healthy a city as one would care to live in, immigration from Europe and America would begin to flow in, and a valuable commercial as well as socially attractive element would be added to the population. Guayaquil is now a most important business emporium, and does more business with the United States than any city in the western part of South America. The population, which was 50,000 in 1895, is now estimated to be nearly 60,000. This city is situated on the Guayas River, about 60 miles from the sea, and its harbor is deep enough for good-sized vessels.

NEW COPPER AND SILVER DEPOSITS.

It is reported that some large deposits of copper and silver have recently been discovered in Ecuador by European metallurgists of experience and ability. Consul-General DE LEON, writing from Guayaquil, says that he has examined some specimens of the ore taken from the newly-discovered mine, and that they appear to be very rich. The specimens were found in the Province of Ahuay at an altitude of about 5,000 feet and at a distance of about 35 miles from the coast.

DEMAND FOR COAL.

The press at Guayaquil reports that in 1898 the Republic of Ecuador did not import any Australian coal, while in 1899 the receipts were 1,844 tons, with a prospect of a much larger importation in 1900. In his report to the Minister of Foreign Relations at Quito, Mr. JORGE F. WILLIAMSON, Consul-General of Ecuador, at Sydney, Australia, requests the appointment of an assistant to aid him in procuring coal for the Ecuadorian market. He says that he had once before made

such a request of his Government and that the necessity for such an officer is greater now than ever. Previous to 1898 Ecuador's coal supply was received direct from the United Kingdom. Possibly coal from the United States could find a market in this country.

LOAN TO THE GOVERNMENT.

The "Sociedad de Crédito Público," a strong banking institution, during 1899 made a loan to the Government of 2,000,000 *suces*. It enjoys the great salt monopoly.

PROPOSED SERIES OF PUBLICATIONS.

"La Estrella de Panamá," is authority for the statement that a French citizen, M. GASTON DONNET, recently wrote the Minister of Foreign Relation to the effect that early in the present year several of his countrymen would go to Ecuador to make investigations in its libraries and archives, and to consult freely with its public men, savants, artists, and business men for the purpose of publishing a series of volumes on a great scale relating to the South American Republics, and especially Ecuador, of which but little is known in France. The said volumes will contain picturesque descriptions, archaeological, ethnographic, historical, political, commercial, industrial, and agricultural studies regarding the several countries.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.

On March 10, 1900, there was opened at Quito, under the name of the "Academy of War," the first military institution ever founded in the Republic. The President has issued a decree prescribing the general rules for the conduct of the establishment, which is under the immediate supervision of the Minister of War. The pupils will receive a regular pay of 50 *suces* monthly.

The History of Ecuador and the Geography of Ecuador, recent works of DON ROBERTO ANDRADE, have been declared official text-books by the Government.

GUATEMALA.

PATENT COFFEE OR MALT DRYER.

As has been noted in the MONTHLY BULLETIN, MR. FRITZ E. R. OKRASSA, of Antigua, Guatemala, has been granted a patent in the United States for a coffee or malt dryer. The "Scientific American" describes this invention as a drying machine consisting of a rotary drum provided with means for the admission and escape of the drying

agent. Stirrers are held to rotate with the drum, and are provided with apertures for the introduction of the material, these apertures being closed by slides or doors. By the improved construction of drying compartments, and particularly by the specific arrangement of the stirrers, these compartments can be filled about four-fifths, thus securing an exceedingly thorough utilization of the available space.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.

Work will very shortly be commenced on the construction of the tramway line to run from the Jocotenango Plazuela to the Hipódromo, and it is stated that the line will be in operation by the end of the month of May. The residents of Guatemala City are looking forward to this improvement with marked interest.

FRANCISCO L. DE VILLA, of Guatemala City, on February 27 last, was granted a patent by the United States Patent Office on a device for preventing ships from sinking.

HAITI.

GOLD BONDS FOR CREDITORS.

The Government of Haiti, according to Minister POWELL's report, has consolidated the debt of the Republic, giving the creditors in return for obligations a gold bond, augmented 10 per cent in value, and bearing interest at the rate of 1 per cent gold per month, payable in fourteen years. This has released to the Government certain duties on coffee, logwood, and cocoa which were formally mortgaged, and provides for the expense of the budget.

THE TRADE IN DRUGS.

In the Republic of Haiti the practice of medicine and surgery follows the French system. Most of the physicians of reputation and lucrative practice have been to school in Paris, and have brought back with them the French methods and a decided preference for French products. Hence they are grounded in the belief that there are no pharmaceutical preparations of merit made elsewhere. The surgical supplies are the same as are used in Paris. The goods are packed in rolls of parchment paper or in carton boxes, and are put up very elegantly, with handsome labels in French text. Beyond question the quality is superior throughout.

In medicinal soaps the German manufactures compete strongly with the French. Hardly any of the soaps made in the United States are

disposed of, though they may be as good, because they have not the label in the French language. Except in the case of large orders, the manufacturers in the United States will not put on French labels nor issue French catalogues and prospectuses. The Germans are good imitators of the French in packing and in the manner of doing business. Without the adoption of French usage in Haiti, it is exceedingly hard to do business in that country. American patent medicines of a number of firms in Philadelphia and elsewhere have gained a sale in the country because they were put up according to the manner in which the French medicines are offered for sale. The people are very susceptible to advertisements of all kinds, an effective introductory necessity for any remedy or preparation. They never refuse an article put up artistically with the directions and descriptions printed in the French language.

HONDURAS.

EXTRACTS FROM PRESIDENT SIERRA'S MESSAGE.

At the opening of Congress on the 1st of January, the President of Honduras, General SIERRA, delivered his customary address, from which the following extracts relating to the economical development of this Republic are taken:

"Agriculture and trade have greatly developed in Honduras, and comfort has extended to all classes of society. The activity which is manifested in all branches of national industry and the very low rate of exchange abroad give ample proof of the favorable situation of the country.

"The imports for the year 1899 amounted to about \$2,000,000 while the exports exceeded \$5,000,000. These figures, unimportant in themselves, when the great natural wealth and the limited population are taken into account, are flattering from an economical point of view and explain why the monetary crisis and the fall in the price of coffee have not sensibly affected Honduras.

"Agriculture is constantly developing; the cultivation of bananas, the most productive of the agricultural products, comes first in importance in consequence of the increasing exportation of this fruit to the United States. Tobacco comes next; its cultivation which was formerly limited to the Department of Copán has extended to all the rest of the Republic. The quality of the product is excellent and brings remunerative prices in the foreign markets. Cattle raising is also increasing and finds an assured market in the Antilles.

"The products of the mining industry occupy the first place among the exports. New mining enterprises have recently been undertaken and others are being organized.

"The financial situation is excellent, the internal debt on the 31st of July, 1899, amounted to only \$309,000, and the surplus of the fiscal year at this same date amounted to \$827,000.

"The relations between Honduras and the neighboring States of Central America are most friendly, and its internal policy, which is one of peace, conciliation, and liberty, is a pledge of progress and prosperity."

MERCANTILE COMMISSION FIRM.

The MONTHLY BULLETIN is informed, under date of February 4, 1900, that Messrs. LÓPEZ and ZAMBRANO, of Tegucigalpa, on the date mentioned, formed a copartnership for the period of six years to carry on the business of buying and selling foreign and domestic articles. The firm will execute any mercantile commission that may be confided to them.

MEXICO.

BANKING LAW OF THE REPUBLIC.

An interesting report on banking in Mexico has recently come from the pen of the acting British acting Consul there, Mr. BJORKLAND. The following condensed notes are taken from the report:

The banking law of Mexico now in force was promulgated by the Federal Government in 1897, pursuant to which all new institutions must be classified under three distinct heads: (1) Banks of issue; (2) mortgage banks; (3) *bancos refaccionarios*, including mining, agricultural, and industrial banks. Of the 16 banks established in the Republic since 1888 (two of which have been amalgamated with others), 7 have been started within the last two years, showing that business operations are now much more extended than formerly and that commerce in general has a circulating medium far safer and quicker than the old-fashioned wagon train formerly used to convey specie and merchandise from one large center to another, and always liable to be held up on the road, either by the bad condition of the same during the rainy season or by the bands of robbers which infested the country.

Mexico is the largest commercial city of the Republic, as well as the greatest distributing center. The merchants from several of the more important towns in the interior, though importing some of their merchandise direct from abroad, still make periodical visits to the capital to examine the stocks held in the city. Many of these country merchants are wealthy and of good standing, and can easily obtain credit for the purchase of the merchandise they secure at periods ranging from three to nine months. Failures are almost unknown, and the few that there have been recently were of foreign houses.

Mexicans as a rule are careful and prudent in their commercial

undertakings, and when failures do occur among them they are generally attributable to a sudden and unforeseen depreciation of assets. Most of the banking operations at the beginning of the century were transacted by British houses then established in the capital. These gradually withdrew, and were succeeded by the Bank of London, Mexico and South America, which was started in Mexico about the year 1864, in compliance with a charter granted by the Mexican Government. The principal shareholders were British, but it was considered in the light of a private banking house with the right to issue bank notes, and it was not until the year 1884 that it began to acquire an official status. Then it received a new charter, putting it on the same basis as the Mexican National Bank, which has always been recognized as an official institution. Under this charter it changed its name to the "Bank of London and Mexico," incorporated with a capital of \$1,500,000, which has been successively increased to \$10,000,000. On January 1, 1900, the capital was further increased to \$15,000,000. The shareholders of this institution represent three-quarters Mexican and one-quarter British capital.

The National Bank of Mexico is the result of the fusion of two establishments that were known as the "Mexican National" and "Mexican Mercantile" banks in the year 1884, and also holds a charter from the Government dated 1897. The capital of this bank is \$20,000,000, subscribed three-fifths by Mexican and two-fifths by foreign capitalists, and is exempt from the Federal tax. These two banks are allowed to establish branch houses throughout the Republic, and to issue bank notes—in the case of the London Bank twice, and the National Bank three times, the amount of coin they may have in their vaults. The amount of notes each had in circulation on March 31, 1899, was: Bank of London and Mexico, \$19,310,704; National Bank of Mexico, \$23,689,413.

By a franchise granted to the foregoing establishments no other bank having the note-issuing right can be organized in the Federal District until the lapse in 1927 of the present law, but deposit banks or any banks of a similar nature may be formed. The present rate of interest charged by the bank is from 8 to 9 per cent per annum.

There is but one mortgage bank in the Republic, and that is in the City of Mexico, being known as the "International and Mortgage Bank of Mexico." Under the name of the "Banco Hipotecario Mexicano" this bank originally started in 1883, but did not receive its present charter until 1891. Its capital, \$5,000,000, is subscribed principally by Mexican capitalists. Although it is not authorized to circulate bank notes, it has the privilege of issuing two kinds of paper credit, namely, mortgage bonds amortizable in half-yearly drawings and bearing interest not exceeding 7 per cent per annum, and interest-bearing certificates repayable at dates varying from three months to five years.

By the regulations established by the banking law referred to the mortgage bank is only allowed to loan money on mortgages, but the Bank of London and Mexico and the National Bank can loan out at interest with the following restrictions: The document must be indorsed by two signatures at least or by a collateral security, and the loan must not be for a term exceeding six months.

Many of the larger business firms are now constituted as limited companies, in whose articles of copartnership a clause is inserted by which none of the partners is allowed to give either his own name individually or that of the firm as a guaranty. These conditions preclude the smaller houses from applying to them. If, however, they by chance do obtain such assistance, at the end of six months comes the question of renewal. The previous indorser may refuse the signature or the bank may object to renewing the document, leaving them at the mercy of one or the other. This is a question of vital importance to commerce in general, but more especially to new houses starting in business that have to compete with larger firms already established, and is one that might be solved by the many private banking firms in the city, but as these have to a certain extent adapted the privileges of the banking law to their respective operations, the result has been that commercial transactions are very much hampered.

In October, 1898, an agreement was made with the Mexican Government for the establishment of a new bank to be considered as coming under the provisions affecting the *bancos refaccionarios*, and in the original contract the institution was called the "Banco Refaccionario." The name was shortly afterwards changed to the present one, "Banco Central Mexicano," and it was opened for business on February 15, 1899. Like the mortgage bank, it is not permitted to put bank notes in circulation. Its principal operations are to discount paper, advance money, carry current accounts, issue drafts, and collect bills in all parts of the Republic, as well as abroad, and to do a general banking business. It may also facilitate money to mining, industrial, and agricultural enterprises for a term not exceeding two years; it may issue cash bonds (*bonos de caja*), bearing interest for periods varying from three months to two years. The \$6,000,000 capital is subscribed half by a syndicate composed of European and American capitalists and the remainder by those of the country.

As all the banks in the several States of the Republic must be shareholders, the Banco Central, acting as their agent in the City of Mexico, receives their notes at face value. This in itself is a great step toward facilitating commercial operations, as formerly merchants often refused to accept a bank note issued outside the City of Mexico, as the rate of exchange from one town to another varied from one-fourth to as much as 10 per cent. There are also several firms, mostly merchants, who undertake banking operations, but their chief business is importing foreign and exporting native goods.

WATER SUPPLY OF THE CITY OF MEXICO.

"El Imparcial," of the City of Mexico, of February 24, 1900, contains an article regarding the distribution of water in the capital, showing what the city council has done and will do in the future. The article states that the capital, like many other European and American cities, has experienced great difficulty in securing a water supply and has undertaken works of great importance to obtain the proper amount. When the city of Mexico was known during the time of the Aztecs as the "Nueva Tenochtitlán," its drinking water was supplied by the spring called "Alberca Chica de Chapultepec." During the colonial period, in 1576, the Santa Fe springs were purchased, which now produce 6,000 liters of water per minute, and in 1786 water was furnished by the Desierto and Leones springs, which now yield 8,000 liters per minute. From that time down to 1888 the city council did not secure any other properties; but in that year it purchased the "Alberca Grande de Chapultepec," which gives 7,000 liters of water per minute. All these acquisitions, however, did not suffice to furnish this necessary element to the city.

In 1896 the city council, fearing a water famine, acquired a water supply from the Hacienda de los Morales, which gives 9,000 liters per minute, and also a supply of 800 liters per minute from the Concesión Chousal. Lastly, in 1899-1900, a supply has been secured from Río Hondo, which, united to that from Morales, produces 30,000 liters per minute. When advantage can be taken of all these, the city will have a supply of 55,000 liters per minute, representing a total of 79,200 cubic meters in twenty-four hours, which, distributed among 400,000 inhabitants, will give each individual 198 liters in that time. This, as may be seen, will give a larger supply to the inhabitants of Mexico than is enjoyed by the population of London, Berlin, Brussels, and even some cities of the United States, like New Orleans, where each inhabitant only has 140 liters per day. And if to the said amount of 55,000 liters there be added 14,000 liters per minute, flowing from the 1,039 artesian wells recorded in the proper office, there will result a total distribution of about 250 liters per day per inhabitant.

"El Imparcial" asserts, however, that the present difficulty consists in that the distribution of the precious liquid is poor, and proves its assertion by showing that in the eight wards of the capital the distribution is by no means uniform; for instance, in the first ward, with 41,000 inhabitants, each one receives but 77 liters per day, while in the eighth ward, with a population of 9,000, each resident receives 219 liters per day. There are at present 6,630 houses, according to official statistics, supplied with water, and the city has 100 kilometers of pipes of different dimensions to carry it. The estimates for supplying water to the city for the present year amount to \$495,780, including the \$200,000

expended in acquiring the Morales deposit. The water tax yields \$250,000 annually to the city coffers.

The present director of the city waterworks has presented a new plan to the city council, embracing the following points: Equitable distribution of water; uniformity of pressure throughout the city, so that it may reach the highest stories of houses; making distinctions in the uses to which the liquid is put; the purifying of the water by means of filters, and the construction of new aqueducts. Under the new plan the 12,000 houses in the city can receive water, and by unifying the tax for the service (at present \$30 per year for soft water and \$48 for hard) can secure a revenue of over \$500,000.

GENERAL BERNARDO REYES.

The following biographical notes of Gen. BERNARDO REYES, last month appointed Secretary of War and the Navy of Mexico, are taken from "Modern Mexico" for the current month: "General REYES is a soldier and statesman of unblemished record. He is 50 years old, having been born at Guadalajara in 1850. At an early age he entered a private college, and during the French invasion left his books and, with a few comrades, organized an expedition to fight the intruders, reporting for service to the Republican leader, General ORNELAS." He was taken prisoner in the State of Michoacán, but the commander of the opposing forces, becoming interested in the young soldier, set him free. He organized a second expedition in 1866, joining the Republican forces in the northern part of Jalisco. In October of the year named, after taking part in several engagements, young REYES was promoted to First Lieutenant for gallantry. In December, 1871, he was promoted to Captain of Cavalry.

While acting under this commission, as a member of the staff of General CORONA, he took part in the memorable campaign against the formidable Indian robber and chieftain, LOZADA. For extraordinary bravery in an engagement with the Indian rebels near Guadalajara Captain REYES was advanced to the grade of Major. In March, 1876, he was promoted to a Lieutenant-Colonelcy, and the following year was made a Colonel of Cavalry.

When the Government of President LERDO DE TEJADA succumbed in 1876, the forces under the command of Colonel REYES revolted and deserted him. He reported himself as a prisoner to the new President, Gen. PORFIRIO DÍAZ, who, recognizing his patriotism, gallantry, and loyalty, appointed him Commander of the Sixth Regiment of Cavalry, an organization noted in Mexico for its distinguished gallantry.

Thereafter he was almost continuously engaged in quieting outbreaks in various parts of the country. He received three dangerous wounds in the bloody engagement at Villa Unión in 1880, where his distin-

guished bravery secured him advancement to the grade of General. Shortly after that he was elected Governor of the State of Nuevo León, and was at once recognized as a leader in the progressive movement of that section of Mexico, contributing largely to the cause of education. "He is an educated soldier, an intelligent scholar, a distinguished diplomat, and a true gentleman. He has always been a staunch Liberal, and at all times an earnest supporter and loyal friend and admirer of the greatest statesman of Mexico, Gen. PORFIRIO DÍAZ."

RECENT TARIFF CLASSIFICATIONS.

Under the Mexican customs tariff the following recent classifications have been made on imported goods:

"Silk ruffles or pleated silk trimmings, even when containing rubber, cotton, or linen threads for the purpose of preserving the shape, are to be assessed for duty under No. 605 of the tariff; duty per legal kilogram, 16 *pesos*."

"Feather trimmings, with foundation of cotton, wool, or linen, are to be dutiable under No. 78 of the Tariff Act; duty per legal kilogram, 4 *pesos*."

"Hats not otherwise specified, not made up, with binding or ornament around the edges, are to be dutiable under No. 916; duty, 1 *peso* each."

"Strips of rubber cloth for hats are to pay duty under No. 79; duty per legal kilogram, 1.50 *pesos*."

HIGH ART POTTERY.

The "Jewelers Circular" says that for many centuries the people of Mexico have achieved a world-wide reputation in the art of pottery making, and the clay workers of to-day in that country are as proficient in the production of high art pottery as any people in the world. The natives' ingenuity in handling and developing clay has secured for Aguas Calientes, Encarnación, and Guadalajara wares an enviable reputation among the tourists. This one branch of the pottery business in Mexico only serves to show the possibilities of that country and what might be accomplished if native skill were combined with a little capital and a scientific knowledge of the business.

Despite the vast pottery products of Mexico, there is not a complete plant in the country. The consumption of pottery in that country is considerable, but the greater part of the cheaper grades are imported, and therefore very expensive, while the art products are not used by the natives to any extent, but are exported. The high rate of duty, the almost excessive freight rates, and the losses incurred by breakage offer a combination of circumstances that would seem to insure great profits to the home producers. There are many points in favor of

Mexico as a probable location for Americans desirous of establishing potteries on a profitable basis. Clay of great variety and of exceptionally good quality is found in large and rich deposits in many parts of the country. Every line of goods made of clay, including bricks, tile, sewer pipe, as well as all the branches of pottery, could easily be turned out there. The natural ability of the native workers in clay, the cheapness of labor, the abundance of raw material, all combine to offer exceptional inducements to intending investors who have in mind the establishment of plants in Mexico.

UNIQUE SAVINGS BANK.

The "Two Republics" says that the clerks of the Treasury Department, some few years since, and at the suggestion of Secretary LIMANTOUR, established a savings bank in which each one might deposit what he pleased and obtain a moderate interest thereon. The bank is open to all employees under the Treasury Department, and hence employees in the custom-houses all over the Republic are admitted. The balance sheet for December 31, 1900, showed a movement of \$841,504 and a balance of cash on hand of \$133,193. The bank now makes loans to clerks at moderate interest.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF BUSINESS OPERATIONS.

The business movement in Mexico for the year 1899, as shown by the books of the Recorder of Public Instruments, is as follows:

January	\$7,387,398.07
February	9,742,443.52
March.....	9,686,092.51
April.....	4,799,262.61
May.....	6,713,275.43
June.....	8,224,135.71
July.....	4,829,384.68
August.....	6,296,571.45
September.....	15,650,549.65
October.....	5,267,844.08
November.....	8,918,626.18
December.....	6,857,401.60
Total.....	94,372,985.49

The month of September, it will be noticed, was the most prolific in operations. Among the companies incorporated during the month, and which contributed to its great showing, were: The Mexican Motive Power Company, incorporated with a capital of \$10,000,000; the United States Banking Company, incorporated with a capital of \$100,000; the Petroleum and Liquid Fuel Company, capital \$502,500; reorganization of the Veraacruzana Industrial Company, capital \$1,735,000; sale of the

dry goods establishment El Puerto de Tampico, the amount involved being \$186,814.95. The most notable operation during the month of February was the incorporation of the Banco Central Mexicano, with a capital of \$6,000,000. The leading operation in March was the incorporation of the cigarette manufacturing company known as El Buen Tono, with a capital of \$2,500,000. The largest operation in July was the incorporation of the Parral-Durango Railroad Company, with a capital of \$1,000,000.

LEGISLATIVE PALACE.

Active work is now progressing upon the fine new legislative palace in the City of Mexico. Architecturally this structure will be a magnificent addition to the city. Great credit is due the architect, Señor EMILIO DONDÉ, who was awarded the contract over many competitors from all parts of the world. The building is to become the home of the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate of the Mexican Republic. Its proportions are to be on a magnificent scale. The frontage of the edifice will be 550 feet and the depth 400. The general height will be 100 feet, with a cupola rising 70 feet higher with a diameter of 70 feet. The basement of the building is 8 feet above the street level, and is to be handsomely set off by parks, while a new street is to be cut through toward the south to connect it with the great driveway leading to the Castle of Chapultepec, known as the "Paseo de la Reforma." The cost of the building will exceed one million dollars.

A MUNICIPAL THEATER.

The Mexican Government has purchased the old National Theater and purposes remodelling and greatly improving it at an expense of \$200,000. It will be converted into a modern playhouse in every sense of the word. After the repairs and improvements are completed it is said that the theater will be turned over to the municipality of Mexico, and will be conducted thereafter in the same manner as are the great theaters in the European capitals.

NOTES ON INDUSTRIAL ENTERPRISES.

The stockholders of the Mexican International Railroad have determined that so soon as the branch line from the city of Durango to Santiago Papasquiaro is completed an extension of the same is to be built to Guanaceví, in the State of Durango. This extension will be completed during this year, over 35 kilometers of grading having been finished and over half of the rails laid. The International road was led to construct this branch line owing to the determination of the Mexican Central Railway to prolong its line from the city of Jiménez

to Parral as far as the Guanaceví mineral region. The work on this line is far advanced. By the beginning of 1901 two of the most important railway lines of Mexico will meet at the rich mineral region of Guanaceví, where preparations are already on foot to lay out a town which is to have two large smelting establishments, after the style of those at the city of Monterey.

According to information sent by Mr. LEWIS KINGMAN, engineer of the Mexican Central at Mexico City, work is to be started early this year on the line from Guadalajara to Colima. Some 162 miles are to be constructed. Mr. SHELDON T. BENT, general superintendent of the Vera Cruz and Pacific road at Orizaba, Mexico, also has sent out a report that an extension of the main line from the Papoloapam to Santa Lucrecia, 128 miles, is proposed, and there will be two branches, one, 71 miles long, to Vera Cruz, and the other, 62 miles long, to Oaxaca. Surveys have been completed for both branches and construction is to begin early this year. Other reports from Mexico show that railroad construction for the current year will be even greater than that of last year. In many instances, however, the work to be started will not commence until early in the summer, but those above mentioned are the exception.

On February 20, 1900, about 100 of the prominent citizens of Chihuahua met in the Betancourt Theater, in the city of Chihuahua, for the purpose of organizing a mining exchange. The meeting was presided over by Col. Don MIGUEL AHUMADA, Governor of the State, in his private capacity. Much enthusiasm prevailed throughout the meeting, leaving no doubt that this important city in the northern States of Mexico will have in a very short time a mining exchange second to none in the Republic in importance.

The Secretary of Promotion having learned that in Germany the manufacture of straw goods, such as baskets, hampers, hats, boxes, etc., is very highly developed, and bearing in mind the natural skill displayed by the Mexicans in this kind of work, by instructions from the President of the Republic, has contracted for the services of a professor in one of the schools where this art is taught in Germany to come to Mexico to instruct those engaged in a similar line of business in that country.

Dr. GEORGE M. TUCKER, for many years in charge of the United States experimental horticultural station in Rhode Island, in February, 1900, assumed the management of the plantation of La Estrella Coffee Company, in the Usila Valley, Tuxtepec District of Oaxaca. The plantation, which is three years old, consists of 4,000 acres. Up to this time the company has planted only coffee, but it is the intention to set out rubber trees on the lowlands adjoining the river. Before the end of the year a modern coffee-cleaning plant will be installed by the company.

An agriculturist of San Felipe, State of Guanajuato, has invested \$12,000 in a new industry, which consists in extracting by distillation alcohol from the species of prickly pear known by the local name of *tuna cardona* and the honey mesquite (*Prosopis juliflora*). By the system employed double the quantity of alcohol is obtained than by any other known system, and besides the residuum is a splendid food for animals.

A large consignment of machinery has been received for the soap factory at Gomez Palacio, Durango, which is to be conducted by the newly organized company styled "La Compañia Jabonera de la Laguna," which has also obtained a concession for the manufacture of glycerine. The company intends expending at least \$200,000 upon this new undertaking, and will have the establishment in running order within two years.

On February 26 the new electric-light plant established in Irapuato, Guanajuato, was utilized for the first time in lighting the city. The occasion was one of great rejoicing, being celebrated with a kirmess, bullfight, and a grand ball in honor of Señor OBREGÓN GONZÁLES, Governor of the district, to whom was accorded the honor of turning on the electric current at the plant in the evening.

"La Gaceta Commercial" states that it is estimated that about 500 buildings are in the process of construction in the City of Mexico, which fact has largely increased the demands on establishments where building materials are sold, and has caused a considerable rise in the wages of bricklayers, carpenters, etc.

The company recently formed at Albany, N. Y., and mentioned in the February BULLETIN as intending to build the Mexican Mineral Railroad, was organized to take this road over, it having been in existence for some years.

The British Consul at Tampico, Mexico, informs his Government that the recent fire in that city has caused a demand for fire equipments. The engines will necessarily have to be light but strongly built. Particulars doubtless may be obtained of the United States Consul in Tampico.

The English Mining Syndicate, at the head of which are the Messrs. ROTHSCHILDS, has just obtained possession of the Somara mine, formerly owned by Mr. CHARLES LANE. One million five hundred thousand dollars was the price paid for this mine.

The gold production of Mexico last year was in the neighborhood of 50,000 ounces more than the previous year, while the production of silver was about 3,000,000 ounces more than in the year 1898, in which production it is the leading nation in the world.

Owing to the seismic disturbances at Colima during the latter part of February, the work on the tramway which was being constructed

to connect the port of Manzanillo with the copper mines in the vicinity was entirely suspended.

The Conquista Coal Railway Company of Mexico has been incorporated, with a capital stock of \$80,000, by J. T. GARNER, J. L. ELLIOTT, and C. J. PEABODY, of New York.

The proprietors of "La Garita" coffee plantation, situated between Pochutla and Puerto Angel, have discovered several oil deposits on their land, and purpose forming a company for the exploitation of the discovery.

The Boleo copper mine, belonging to the ROTHSCHILDS, is said to have produced \$4,200,000 last year, the net profits being over \$2,000,000.

Morelia, in the State of Michoacán, is the latest edition to the constantly increasing number of cities being lighted by electricity.

The Mexican International Railroad has begun work on a branch line between Monclova and Sierra Mojada.

Reports from Tecamatlán, in the State of Puebla, and southward from the city, are to the effect that the English company which has been working the Le Royal coal property have found the real article in quantity and of a good quality.

HONORS TO PRESIDENT DÍAZ.

Early in February the Mexican people expressed at the polls their choice for a Presidential candidate for the term from 1900 to 1904. On the 6th of March a convention met to canvass the result of the election, and found that 1,456,482 citizens had cast their votes in favor of the present incumbent of the Presidential chair, General PORFIRIO DÍAZ. This insures the induction into office of the President on December 1 next, for a fifth term of four years.

The University of Pennsylvania, on February 22, 1900, conferred upon General PORFIRIO DÍAZ, President of the Republic of Mexico, the honorary degree of doctor of laws. The President was represented by Señor Don MANUEL ASPÍROZ, Ambassador of Mexico.

GENERAL CUSTOMS BUREAU.

On February 19, 1900, the President promulgated a law establishing a General Customs Bureau under the Department of the Treasury, which is to have full charge of all matters relating to the custom-houses and tariff duties.

NEW FREIGHT RATES.

Representatives of the Mexican Central held a meeting in New York City, recently, with officials of other Mexican lines, for the purpose of discussing the freight rate situation under the new law regulating rates, which went into effect on January 1, 1900. One provision

of the law prohibits the making of higher rates to any point between the place of origin and destination, when a rate is made for a long haul. Another is, that nothing which can be and is produced or manufactured in Mexico can be hauled from the frontier to any Mexican point at a less rate than is given on freight brought into the country from the United States.

SALES OF PUBLIC LANDS.

During the six months from July to December 31, 1899, the Government disposed of 268,037 hectares of lands, in different parts of the Republic; this is equal to about 662,320 acres, for which the sum of \$190,320 was paid by the various purchasers. The titles for these lands numbered 250, and were given under the terms of the laws, July 22, 1863, and March 26, 1894. The foregoing are distinct from the minor operations, in which lots were sold to settlers, divisions made of community lands among Indians, etc.

PEACE MONUMENT IN PUEBLA.

A group, cast in bronze in Paris, representing a Mexican soldier and a French zouave clasping hands and an angel standing behind holding over them the olive branch of peace, has been placed upon its pedestal in the center of the French cemetery in the city of Puebla. It is notable work of art; the two soldiers are perfectly natural in attitude and expression. This monument has been raised by the French colony in Puebla, where the soldiers of both nations engaged in sanguinary conflict on several occasions. Its purpose is to show that the implements of war have been laid aside forever, and that former animosities have been forgotten, and that to-day the French citizen is the close friend of the Mexican citizen, and trade and commerce reign supreme.

ABOLISHMENT OF THE FREE ZONE.

A dispatch states that the business men of Juárez, Mexico, held a mass meeting on March 4, 1900, to petition President PORFIRIO DÍAZ to abolish the free zone of Mexico, in which Juárez is situated, and which is 60 miles in width south of the Rio Grande. The merchants contend that the free zone is detrimental to them, as well as to manufacturing interests, and that the industries in the free zone are stagnated, for the reason that the products of this territory can not be shipped either to the interior of Mexico or to the United States without paying duty. A committee was appointed to draw up a petition and reported the same at another meeting on March 11th.

INDIAN IMMIGRANTS FROM THE UNITED STATES.

Secretary DICK, of the Ketowah Society, and ex-chief clerk of the Cherokee Council, says that there will be at least 35,000 or 40,000 Indians who will eventually locate in Mexico after the United States Government has settled with them for their tribal property; the value of the land of the Cherokees and the Creeks being about \$100,000,000. The Indians do not approve of the allotment plans, and prefer to sell outright to the Government. The Mexican Government has granted 8,000,000 acres of land for the settlement, it is said.

THE GROCERY TRADE.

The grocery trade of Mexico, which formerly was almost exclusively in the hands of Spaniards, is now controlled in great part by citizens of the United States. Several large grocery houses have lately been established in the business centers of Mexico City by them, and the houses seem to prosper, if one can judge by the enlargements which are constantly being made, says a French consular report. On the other hand, their number is also increasing quite rapidly, which proves that the trade is large enough to support competition.

TREATMENT FOR YELLOW FEVER.

A correspondent in Mérida, Yucatán, writing to "El Mundo" says that injections of a simple solution of marine salt and pure water have given good results in the treatment of yellow fever. All the patients who have been subjected to this treatment, even those who had already reached the black-vomit stage, recovered.

This news is very important if subsequent experiments confirm it.

All the persons treated at Mérida by this method had contracted the yellow fever at Vera Cruz.

INCREASED RAILWAY EARNINGS.

"El Mundo," of the City of Mexico, for March 7, 1900, states that year by year an increase is noted in the earnings of the Mexican railroads. In 1898 these earnings reached the sum of \$30,930,333 and in the year just past they rose to \$35,791,493, showing an increase of \$5,861,160 in favor of 1899. In January of this year the earnings were \$2,701,000, while in the same month of 1899 they were \$2,318,000. The figures for February are not yet at hand. The increase in the railroad earnings necessarily indicates an increase in traffic, since the transportation rates have suffered but slight modifications. In the year

1899 there were more orders for rolling stock and other railway material for the Mexican railroads than for any other year within a decade.

COLONIZATION AND IMMIGRATION LAWS.

For the benefit of numerous inquirers who have addressed this Bureau on the subject of the special privileges allowed settlers in Mexico, it is proper to say that the colonization and immigration laws of the country have no reference whatever to individuals; that special rights and privileges are granted only to organized colonies operating under a concession. The duties imposed upon household furniture, etc., which has been in use, are as a general rule 50 per cent off the rates of the custom tariff on new goods of the same class.

MILITARY AFFAIRS.

The Mexican army to-day consists of 8 generals of division, 53 generals of brigade, 944 field officers, 2,481 officers, 27,247 soldiers in rank and file, 6,533 horses, and 2,875 train mules.

The "Two Republics" states that President DIAZ, the Secretary of War, General REYES, and Secretary of the Treasury LIMANTOUR are studying and discussing a project for increasing the pay of the Mexican soldier from 38 and 50 cents per day, which he now gets, to 75 cents and \$1. The *rurales* and the mounted *gendarmes* are already getting \$1 per day, and their pay will probably be increased also.

The Government is quietly importing large, heavy mules from Texas for the artillery service, and has lately renewed the orders for a large lot of horses for the cavalry. The recent experience of the Secretary of War on the frontier has shown him what these animals can do in the way of military service.

The government of the State of Puebla has purchased 200 Texas horses for the State *rurales*. At the coming 5th of May celebration the Puebla *rurales* will parade with their new mounts and uniforms of buckskin.

EXHIBITS AT PARIS.

The Mexican Government is making the Paris-Mexican exhibit the most extensive of the great resources of this country ever given. The Department of Agriculture, up to March 10, 1900, has sent 2,100 packages of all kinds.

EUROPEAN COLONISTS.

The Minister of Fomento has signed a contract with Messrs. ENRIQUE SARDANETA and ALEXANDER LEGLER, giving to them the concession of the Government's lands situated in the State of Chiapas. These

agents bind themselves to establish 200 families of European nationality on these lands.

Lots of ground are being distributed at Palenpa, Chiapas, among the colonists recently brought there by the gentlemen named above, pursuant to their contract with the Department of Promotion. Up to March 1, 382 individuals, comprised in 193 families, all of German nationality, have arrived at this colony.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.

The Bureau of the American Republics is indebted to the courtesy of Gen. FRANCISCO CANTÓN, Governor of the State of Yucatán, to Gen. ABRAHAM BANDALA, Governor of the State of Tabasco, and to Señor Don RAFAEL GARCÍA MARTÍNEZ, Governor of the Territory of Baja California, for exhaustive manuscript and printed data concerning the respective Commonwealths over which they so worthily preside. The data thus furnished is most full and complete, giving a description of the two States and Territory named and full details regarding the population, industries, agricultural interests, etc., and will be used in the forthcoming Handbook of Mexico, now in preparation.

According to the "Lucifer," a newspaper published in Tepic, Territory of the same name, during the year 1899, in the town of Jalisco, in the said Territory, there died 11 people who were over 89 years of age, as follows: One aged 89, one aged 90, one aged 95, three aged 98, two aged 99, one aged 101, one aged 102, and one aged 104. The individual who died at the ripe age of 102 was a soldier under the famous curate HIDALGO, and fought at the historic battle of Puente de Calderón.

The total revenues of the City of Mexico for January, 1900, were \$571,125.77, and the total disbursements were \$432,296.44, leaving a balance of \$138,829.33 to the account of February. Of the disbursements the sum of \$25,000 went to the National Bank of Mexico toward interest and redemption of the London municipal loan.

The United States is Mexico's best buyer. During the first half of the present fiscal year three-fourths of Mexico's export commodities have found their way into the former country. The United States is in fact the only country dealing with Mexico which does not hold the balance of trade in its favor.

The Governor of the State of Mexico has approved the plan for the installation of more meteorological stations throughout the State. The station at Sultepec will be under the charge of FRANCISCO FERREIRA; Chautitlán, under AGUSTÍN FERADO, while ANGEL PONS will look after Texcoco.

According to the official data of the Secretary of War and Marine the Mexican merchant marine consists of 266 vessels, with a united tonnage of 17,046. Of these vessels, 41 are steamers, representing 10,314 tons, and 225 are sailing vessels, with 6,732 tons, measurement capacity.

The work of revising the penal code and the code of criminal procedure of the State of Campeche is being actively prosecuted by the four lawyers appointed to that end by the Governor of the State.

On February 22, 1900, the forty-sixth anniversary of the opening of the National Agricultural School was celebrated in the City of Mexico by a literary-artistic function.

NICARAGUA.

MINERAL AND FOREST PRODUCTIONS.

Gold and silver, says the "Nouveau Monde" of January 27, 1900, are found in abundance in certain mountains and in the placers which enrich the banks of many of the rivers in Nicaragua. The mining region is in the chain of mountains extending toward the coast of the Caribbean Sea, and as yet have been scarcely explored. At present only the gold mines are worked, and the famous silver mines, whose production was so great in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, are now abandoned owing to lack of working capital.

The Departments of Nueva Segovia and of Chontales are renowned for the wealth of their mines and furnish almost all of the gold exported from the country. It is in the district of La Libertad, in the Department of Chontales, where the mining industry has been developed for the greatest length of time. The yield of these mines varies from one-half to two ounces per ton and the fineness of the gold is from 14 to 20 carats. The deposits in the Department of Nueva Segovia are richer, their yield being from one-half to three ounces per ton, but the bad condition of the roads makes the introduction of machinery very difficult, and to this is due the fact that mines which produce less than one ounce of gold per ton are not profitable to the owners. All the mountains, hills, and almost all the rivers of the department contain gold, silver, copper, tin, antimony, lead, and other metals, specimens of which were shown at the Paris Exposition in 1889, where they attracted much attention; nevertheless almost all of this region remains unexploited. The Macuelizo and Dipilto mines, which under Spanish rule produced large quantities of silver, are to-day abandoned, gold mining yielding larger profits.

Gold is mined in the districts of Jicaro, Murra, Los Encinos, and Las Vueltas. In other districts there are also mines of great value,

but they yield very little, either through lack of working capital or meagerness of water supply. In the Department of León the gold and silver mines of San Luis are worked on a large scale by an English company (San Francisco Mining Syndicate) with considerable success. An American consular report estimates the value of the output at \$750,000.

The Department of Matagalpa is equally rich in precious metals, needing only capital and better means of communication to transform this region into a mining center of great importance. The district of El Viejo, in the same department, contains gold deposits yielding eight ounces per ton. The richest placers are found on the banks of the Prinzapulca and the Wava, on the coast of the Caribbean Sea. In 1893 their monthly production was estimated at from 500 to 800 ounces. Mr. GAMEZ calculated the annual production of gold of the Nicaraguan mines the same year to be 22,754 ounces.

The territory between the lakes and the Pacific Ocean contains iron deposits which yield 48 $\frac{3}{4}$ per cent of pure iron. Copper, lead, etc., are found in quite large quantities in the Departments of Nueva Segovia, Matagalpa, León, Jinotega, and in the district of Prinzapulea. Lime is found near Tipitapa, in the volcano Las Oilas, and near Chinandega. Coal, plaster, salt, sulphur, and kaolin are found everywhere in the country. There are hot springs at the Momotombo volcano and sulphur springs near Tipitapa.

The Nicaraguan mining code, published in 1897, which is very liberal in its provisions, is based upon the old Spanish mining law. All machinery is admitted free of duty and no local tax is imposed on the mines. Foreigners can obtain concessions to exploit mines under the same conditions as the natives.

THE CITY OF CORINTO SINKING.

A writer in the "New York Tribune" says the continued subsidence of the town of Corinto is causing alarm in Nicaragua, it being the principal port of the country on the Pacific Ocean. The Government has again sent engineers to study the situation. The town is situated on the southwestern end of the island of Corinto, cut off from the mainland by an estuary, through which, until about two years ago, the tides freely ebbed and flowed, the high-water mark being about 8 feet. Then a rock and dirt dam was constructed across the estuary, causing the water to overflow a large part of the lower or swampy portions of the island, and to this fact is attributed the present condition of affairs. The subsidence was noted and reported to the American Association for the Advancement of Science, in 1890 or 1891, by Mr. JOHN CRAWFORD, a member of that body, who was engaged in exploring Nicaragua and studying the natural history of that country.

DEMAND FOR RAILWAY SERVICE.

"El Comercio," a leading newspaper of Managua, in a recent editorial urged upon the Government of the Republic the building of a railroad from Granada to the port of Bluefields, calling attention to the great advantages to the country which the said lines would afford. "El Comercio" states that "the resources of the coast, now almost unexploited, owing to the at times insuperable difficulties with which communication contends, would powerfully contribute to the prosperity of Nicaragua, and cities which are now almost forgotten, buried in a profound lethargy, would awaken upon hearing the hoarse voice of the locomotive crossing through the depths of the forest. * * * Our trade with the Atlantic coast, now so small, would be multiplied marvelously; our communication with the United States would be infinitely easier and more frequent; immigrants would unceasingly flow toward our shores, and even the work of reincorporation would be definitively sealed, since we should no longer look upon that territory as a locality foreign to our customs."

TRIBUNAL OF ACCOUNTS.

The National Assembly of the Republic is reported to have recently amended several articles of the Code of Civil Procedure and it is discussing a new tariff relative to shipping duties. At the same time, the Government of Gen. ZELAYA, in order to follow its wise retrenchment of public expenditures, and especially official sinecures, has decreed that the Bureau of Great Accounts (*Contaduría Mayor*) and that of Ordinary Accounts shall be merged in a single bureau, to be called the "Inferior Tribunal of the Republic's Accounts."

RECENT TARIFF DECREE.

The President of the Republic, on January 8, 1900, promulgated a decree to the effect that in the desire to stimulate the introduction of fine liquors, from and after the 1st of May next the sale of strong foreign liquors will be free, thus repealing from said date the decrees of March 8 and October 26, 1898.

PARAGUAY.**ARBITRATION WITH THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.**

A general treaty of arbitration has been signed at Asunción by Señor JOSÉ S. DECOUD, the Minister of Foreign Affairs for Paraguay, and Dr. LAURO CABAL, representing the Argentine Government. The

contracting Governments bind themselves in the first article to submit to arbitration all disputes of any character which may arise between the two countries so long as they do not affect the mandates of the Constitution of either country, whenever these disputes can not be settled by prompt and direct negotiations. The other articles are in conformity with the usual line of such treaties.

Thus, it is declared that the questions already settled can not be opened, but that the arbitrator, if an attempt should be made to reopen them, shall limit himself exclusively to the interpretation and execution of the arrangement already concluded. The arbitral tribunal is to be composed of three judges, each country appointing one and the two agreeing upon the third. If these three can not succeed in settling the question, they are to agree upon the head of a third country, as a supreme arbitrator; but if they can not agree upon the choice of that arbitrator, the President of the Swiss Republic is to be respectfully requested to appoint the third judge, who shall be the president of the tribunal.

CHANGE OF POSTAL RATES.

According to a report of Consul RUFFIN, of Asunción, a change in the postal rates occurred in Paraguay on November 1, 1899. By this the rate for letters destined for the United States and European countries is doubled, or, instead of 20 cents (4.8 cents United States currency) per one-half ounce, as formerly, the amount now required is 40 cents Paraguayan money (9.6 cents United States currency).

INCREASED ISSUE OF PAPER MONEY.

At the special session of Congress, recently adjourned, a bill was passed providing for the emission of \$5,000,000 in paper currency. At the same time a call was made for bids for printing 2,933,000 bills, amounting to \$15,000,000.

CENTRO AGRICOLA BANK.

The "Paraguay Rundschau" states that a banking company has been formed in Villa Concepción under the title of "Centro Agrícola" for the purpose of assisting agricultural interests in that district. It is to have a capital of \$200,000 in shares of \$100 each.

PURCHASES PAYABLE IN GOLD.

The "Südanerikanische Rundschau" states that the majority of the largest importers and exporters of the country have come to an understanding through which they have bound themselves to accept in future only gold payments or the equivalent thereof for purchases made on time. Only cash sales are to be hereafter made with paper currency.

PERU.

TARIFF ON HATS AND HAT MATERIAL.

On November 28, 1899, a law which is to go into effect on May 1, 1900, was enacted by the Peruvian Government. This law changed the tariff rates on imported felt hats and fur for the manufacture of hats, with a view to the protection of the recently established native hat industry. By this enactment the valuation of the following items was increased, the duty on each being 45 per cent except where otherwise specified:

No. 544. Shapes of hats, of felt, cloth, or beaver, with or without brim or crown, for men and boys, per dozen, 7.50 *sols*, increased from 5 *sols* per dozen.

No. 892. Hats of beaver or felt, with stiff brim, not trimmed, low crown, for men and boys, valuation 2.50 *sols* each, increased from 2 *sols* each.

No. 893. The same, soft, for men and boys, valuation 1.875 *sols* each, increased from 1.50 *sols* each.

No. 894. Hats of fulled wool, common, stiff, for men and boys, per dozen, 18.75 *sols*, increased from 15 *sols* per dozen.

No. 895. The same, soft, for men and boys, per dozen, 15 *sols*, increased from 12 *sols*.

No. 896. Hats of felt of woolen waste, with lining of cotton, for men and boys, per dozen, 10 *sols*, increased from 8 *sols* per dozen.

No. 896a. (New section.) Ordinary hats of felt of woolen waste, with lining and band of silk or "mixture" or with any other ornament, per dozen, 12 *sols*; rate of duty, 40 per cent.

No. 1032. Shapes of fulled wool for hats and caps, for women, per dozen, 7.50 *sols*, increased from 5 *sols* per dozen; rate of duty, 40 per cent.

No. 2425. Fur, rabbit, and hare, for hats, per kilogram gross weight, 1.25 *sols*, reduced from 3 *sols* per kilogram gross weight; duty, 40 per cent.

RECTIFICATION OF MANIFESTS.

In virtue of a decision of the Peruvian Minister of Finance, of November 29, 1899, the rectification of detailed manifests should take place within thirty days from the presentation of the said manifests. After this time the rectification will only be permitted upon written proof presented before the customs authorities, giving the cause or causes of the errors. In this case the written statement of rectification will be appended to the corrected manifest.

SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVES AT PARIS.

The Government has appointed as special representatives of the Republic at the Paris Exposition the following gentlemen: ALFRED AYULO, Consul at Paris; EDWARD LEMBECKE, Consul at London; DALMACE MONER TOLMOS, Consul at Antwerp; Senator ANTERO ASPILAGA, and Mr. GEORGE HART.

THE RAINLESS REGION.

The country where it rains the least in Peru and known as the rainless region, is found in the neighboring region of the city of Payta. In February, 1899, it is true, it rained for twenty-four hours, but this was the first rainfall in eight years, the average duration between showers being seven years.

Payta is situated in 5° south latitude, on the coast. Fogs are quite frequent and the flora is very poor, only nine kinds being found here, seven of which are annual. The seeds of these latter often remain seven years in the soil, awaiting the beneficent rain which is to make them germinate. In spite of the absence of rain, the inhabitants subsist, thanks to the growth of the Peruvian cotton, which, with its long roots, can go without water for seven years, and which furnishes abundant and profitable crops.

DEMAND FOR COTTON.

The demand for cotton in Peru is said to be very strong and prices have advanced rapidly in sympathy with the cotton of the United States. The incoming crop is estimated at about 2,500 bales, but it must be remembered that a large part of the crop is composed of low qualities and that the weather conditions easily affect the supply. A large stock, therefore, can not be accumulated in that country.

THE YIELD OF ALPACA WOOL.

The alpaca-wool product of Peru is estimated at about 2,000 tons per annum, although the yield for the present year is believed to be somewhat greater. That country is the original home of the alpaca, and no other region can produce such fine wool of this class. The export of the alpaca alive is strictly prohibited by the Government, although an Englishman succeeded many years ago in smuggling some specimens to Australia, where their descendants now exist in considerable numbers. The Australian alpaca wool, however, is of a much lower quality than that produced in Peru.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.

A dispatch, dated Lima, March 7, 1900, states that recent inundations in the Department of Muquogua have caused losses to property estimated at \$1,500,000. The inhabitants of this section of the country are petitioning the Government to exempt them from the payment of taxes because of this flood.

The shipments of Peruvian guano during the year 1898 aggregated 21,826 tons, which was increased to 30,795 tons in 1899. According to the "American Fertilizer," there are now afloat, or ordered, 52,375 tons of this guano.

Mr. HENRY GUYER, of Casapalca, on February 27, 1900, was granted a patent on a furnace for desulfurizing ores by the United States Patent Office.

SALVADOR.**MINING ACTIVITY.**

The "Diario del Salvador" states that there is great activity in the mining districts of the eastern Departments of the Republic; that the number of mines being worked is larger than ever before, and that the operations are being conducted very largely by foreign capital. The salaries paid the native workmen are reported to be high, and general satisfaction seems to reign throughout the region. The Government has taken steps to encourage mining, and the newspaper asserts that the authorities intend to renew their efforts to build the railroad to the east during the present year.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.

Don AURELIO ARIAS has just finished a relief map of the Department of San Salvador, which is said to present a fairly good perspective of the topography of the Department, with its volcanoes, mountains and hills, and rivers, and the situation of the cities, towns, etc.

The International Telephone line between Guatemala and Salvador has been completed as far as the Salvador frontier to a point called Jalpatuaga. The construction of the line from San Salvador toward the Guatemalan border is progressing rapidly.

UNITED STATES.

TRADE WITH LATIN AMERICA.

STATEMENT OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The following is the latest statement from figures compiled by the Bureau of Statistics, United States Treasury Department, showing the value of the trade between the United States and the Latin American countries. The report is for the month of January, 1900, with a comparative statement for the corresponding month of the previous year; also for the seven months ending January, 1900, compared with the corresponding period of the fiscal year 1899. It should be explained that the figures from the various custom-houses, showing imports and exports for any one month, are not received at the Treasury Department until about the 20th of the following month, and some time is necessarily consumed in compilation and printing, so that the complete returns for January, for example, are not published until some time in March:

IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE.

Articles and countries.	January—		Seven months ending January—	
	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.
Chemicals:				
Logwood (<i>Palo campeche; Pau campeche; Campeche</i>)—				
Mexico	\$1,578	\$327	\$12,886	\$2,453
Coal, bituminous (<i>Carbón bituminoso; Carvão bituminoso; Charbon de terre</i>):				
Mexico	22,823	6,161	147,512	88,811
Cocoa (<i>Cacao; Coco ou Cacao erú; Cacao</i>):				
Central America	803	3,899	8,591	4,711
Brazil	27,109	507,088	469,490	810,899
Other South America	86,016	15,598	740,925	876,719
Coffee (<i>Café; Cafè; Cafè</i>):				
Central America	329,317	397,575	1,129,029	1,073,373
Mexico	261,399	484,804	733,447	1,297,236
Brazil	3,992,851	3,838,113	18,404,359	19,282,598
Other South America	506,999		3,559,025	2,088,345
Cotton, unmanufactured (<i>Algodón en rama; Algodão em rama; Coton, non manufacturé</i>):				
South America	17,630	25,404	69,102	99,729
Fibers:				
Sisal grass (<i>Henequén; Henequen; Hennequen</i>)—				
Mexico	769,582	1,387,798	5,197,964	5,641,193
Philippine Islands	230,281	144,734	1,378,042	1,853,462
Fruits:				
Bananas (<i>Plátanos; Bananas; Bananes</i>)—				
Central America	116,651	146,194	974,986	1,246,096
South America	40,692	68,562	239,402	559,783
Oranges (<i>Naranjas; Laranjas; Oranges</i>)—				
Mexico	370	305	136,088	183,805
Fur skins (<i>Pielés finas; Pelles; Fourrures</i>):				
South America		6,561	63,978	110,101

IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	January—		Seven months ending January—	
	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.
Hides and skins (<i>Cueros y pieles; Couros e peles; Cuirs et peaux</i>):				
Central America.....	\$17,305	\$41,899	\$160,933	\$265,303
Mexico.....	240,825	267,513	983,114	1,232,246
South America.....	681,963	1,529,830	5,348,534	6,421,167
India rubber, crude (<i>Goma elástica; Borracha crua; Caoutchouc brut</i>):				
Central America.....	124,504	91,398	473,457	438,300
Mexico.....	6,963	19,683	48,483	104,958
Brazil.....	2,218,189	3,380,457	7,724,556	10,315,337
Other South America.....	86,239	1,943	554,485	614,567
Lead, in pigs, bars, etc. (<i>Plomo en galápagos, barras, etc.; Chumbo en lingüados, barras, etc.; Plombs en saumons, en barres, etc.</i>):				
Mexico.....	230,481	141,143	1,127,554	1,381,228
Sugar, not above No. 16 Dutch standard (<i>Aziñar, no superior de la escala holandesa; Açúcar não superior ao No.16 de padrão holandês; Sucre, pas au-dessus du type hollandais No. 16</i>):				
Central America.....	16,032	5,584	38,705	46,315
Mexico.....	1,703	834	8,019	30,830
Cuba.....	180,490	368,315	3,331,148	5,053,851
Brazil.....	81,525	298,589	209,936	298,589
Other South America.....	783,850	615,719	3,701,543	3,740,873
Hawaiian Islands.....	922,527	278,567	7,725,448	11,511,285
Philippine Islands.....	110,573	107,063	969,323	906,801
Tobacco, leaf (<i>Tabaco en rama; Tabaco en folha; Tabac en feuilles</i>):				
Mexico.....	443	3,029	205,251	49,418
Cuba.....	528,212	1,217,943	1,752,231	4,496,083
Wood, mahogany (<i>Caoba; Mogno; Acajou</i>):				
Central America.....	50,000	24,429	256,880	195,663
Mexico.....	37,930	57,826	208,882	232,971
Cuba.....		27,847	7,200	82,129
South America.....	1,482	1,980	8,691	15,110
Wool (<i>Lana; Lã; Laine</i>):				
South America—				
Class 1 (clothing).....	13,985	445,301	35,235	528,221
Class 2 (combing).....			106	132
Class 3 (carpet).....	60,832	7,450	230,010	293,076

EXPORTS OF DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE.

Agricultural implements (<i>Instrumentos de agricultura; Instrumentos de agricultura; Machines agricoles</i>):				
Central America.....	\$69	\$254	\$5,245	\$5,577
Mexico.....	14,639	29,903	92,205	151,724
Santo Domingo.....	57	160	223	2,881
Cuba.....	1,484	10,441	7,595	87,772
Puerto Rico.....	455	217	876	3,994
Argentina.....	161,315	142,888	1,158,674	1,480,451
Brazil.....	6,609	1,241	18,906	15,364
Colombia.....	41	4	1,271	708
Other South America.....	27,738	21,033	208,501	230,615
Animals:				
Cattle (<i>Ganado vacuno; Gado; Bétail</i>)—				
Central America.....			3,320	450
Mexico.....	20,695	13,801	59,538	91,947
South America.....	130		2,943	490
Hogs (<i>Cerdos; Porcos; Cochons</i>)—				
Mexico.....	1,285	6,942	32,751	58,107
Horses (<i>Caballos; Cavallos; Chevaux</i>)—				
Central America.....			4,470	250
Mexico.....	5,880	9,107	52,254	71,697
South America.....			2,439	1,830
Sheep (<i>Carneros; Carneiros; Moutons</i>)—				
Mexico.....	975	1,232	9,365	9,209
South America.....	655	750	5,255	4,982

EXPORTS OF DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	January—		Seven months ending January—	
	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.
Books, maps, engravings, etc. (<i>Libros, mapas, grabados, etc.; Livros, mappas, gravuras, etc.; Livres, cartes de géographie, gravures, etc.</i>):				
Central America.....	\$2,330	\$3,318	\$20,570	\$39,126
Mexico.....	3,446	10,786	30,248	71,931
Santo Domingo.....	181	174	5,011	603
Cuba.....	3,286	10,175	12,954	35,198
Puerto Rico.....	895	1,714	6,877	8,165
Argentina.....	1,761	2,810	10,619	19,422
Brazil.....	6,158	1,041	32,285	44,132
Colombia.....	8,871	826	24,675	42,495
Other South America.....	19,461	10,239	105,085	32,736
Breadstuffs:				
<i>Corn (Maiz; Milho; Maïs)—</i>				
Central America.....	2,225	3,857	19,000	28,583
Mexico.....	2,794	6,170	18,569	137,252
Santo Domingo.....			2	51
Cuba.....	38,776	69,474	99,698	314,439
Puerto Rico.....		249		2,109
South America.....	2,360	1,281	13,173	61,979
<i>Wheat flour (Harina de trigo; Farinha de trigo; Farine de blé)—</i>				
Central America.....	93,271	69,950	574,744	455,946
Mexico.....	16,745	16,078	76,877	91,493
Santo Domingo.....	12,821	16,335	66,597	66,538
Cuba.....	182,257	292,075	910,262	1,264,260
Puerto Rico.....	24,106	70,642	210,724	407,292
Argentina.....	336,320	244,937	2,161,893	1,252,725
Colombia.....	33,871	13,245	199,615	178,995
Other South America.....	127,198	103,684	781,403	922,003
<i>Wheat (Trigo; Trigo; Blé)—</i>				
Central America.....	3,868		24,247	5,200
South America.....	17,027	719	140,719	20,431
<i>Carriages, cars, etc., and parts of (Carruages, carros y sus accesorios; Carriages, carros e partes de carros; Voitures, wagons et leurs parties):</i>				
Central America.....	3,764	3,146	29,519	13,415
Mexico.....	45,396	109,098	237,389	665,104
Santo Domingo.....	7,518	11,609	18,338	16,751
Cuba.....	16,253	19,170	71,531	146,514
Puerto Rico.....	571	1,852	1,384	19,718
Argentina.....	13,920	14,826	417,540	226,219
Brazil.....	20,389	4,980	60,985	154,617
Colombia.....	1,003	355	19,144	15,782
Other South America.....	2,641	4,258	36,659	33,892
<i>Cycles and parts of (Biciclos y sus accesorios; Bicycles e accesorios; Bicyclettes et leurs parties):</i>				
Central America.....	275	176	3,764	2,155
Mexico.....	3,335	1,600	25,735	17,596
Santo Domingo.....	96		221	202
Cuba.....	425	25,428	2,366	116,457
Puerto Rico.....	190	327	1,615	1,611
Argentina.....	28,584	9,080	100,337	115,040
Brazil.....	2,538	1,499	40,750	19,730
Colombia.....	152	2,771	4,734	5,859
Other South America.....	5,402	6,101	33,084	44,707
<i>Clocks and watches (Relojes de pared y de bolsillo; Relogios de parede e de bolso; Pendules et montres):</i>				
Central America.....	82	453	1,593	1,782
Mexico.....	2,032	1,459	15,284	17,322
Argentina.....	625	3,655	13,340	15,776
Brazil.....	4,668	5,311	46,658	42,117
Other South America.....	7,985	6,739	62,507	41,665
<i>Coal (Carbón; Carvão; Charbon):</i>				
Central America.....	1,586	1,065	7,662	13,491
Mexico.....	115,350	105,027	624,086	802,601
Santo Domingo.....	1,203	4,039	8,150	8,917
Cuba.....	86,112	71,13	354,893	291,723
Puerto Rico.....	6,723	7,453	21,237	22,509
Brazil.....	19,278	17,201	106,650	54,104
Colombia.....	8,940		12,365	20,157
Other South America.....	8,006	8,190	137,006	45,555

EXPORTS OF DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	January—		Seven months ending January—	
	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.
Copper (Cobre; Cobre; Cuïere):				
Mexico	\$17,364	\$56,574	\$144,899	\$218,374
Cotton, unmanufactured (Algodón no manufacturado; Algodão não manufacturado; Coton, non manufacturé):				
Mexico	150,747	117,886	783,251	396,639
Cotton cloths (Tejidos de algodón; Fazendas de algodão; Coton manufacturé):				
Central America	29,801	62,657	303,741	418,783
Mexico	48,392	32,922	264,600	314,014
Santo Domingo	14,547	8,664	92,694	34,078
Cuba	40,535	18,968	99,325	337,892
Puerto Rico	5,323	12,005	11,068	101,129
Argentina	15,170	13,381	138,892	78,091
Brazil	16,073	12,327	353,410	271,320
Colombia	36,394	16,469	220,042	169,805
Other South America	134,251	173,825	874,528	570,243
Wearing apparel, cotton (Ropa de algodón; Roupa de algodão; Vêtements en coton):				
Central America	21,435	31,831	110,081	219,317
Mexico	38,230	53,606	212,819	258,483
Santo Domingo	6,351	2,711	20,191	8,485
Cuba	12,482	8,965	30,054	107,090
Puerto Rico	1,144	1,994	4,531	21,244
Argentina	11,722	1,287	49,660	12,972
Brazil	1,335	2,451	27,837	28,564
Colombia	2,068	1,650	29,449	26,774
Other South America	6,204	6,375	28,976	45,698
Fruits and nuts (Frutas y nueces; Frutas e nozes; Fruits et noixettes):				
Central America	2,431	3,002	16,378	22,303
Mexico	7,705	5,924	48,985	50,970
Santo Domingo	140	304	1,590	2,019
Cuba	4,565	4,685	44,114	65,260
Puerto Rico	555	1,920	2,710	9,562
Argentina	1,298	389	5,499	2,576
Brazil	1,018	819	13,166	16,407
Colombia	590	748	4,252	5,562
Other South America	1,654	1,217	14,945	13,762
Instruments:				
Electric and scientific apparatus (Aparatos eléctricos y científicos; Aparelhos eléctricos e científicos; Appareils électriques et scientifiques)—				
Central America	11,100	5,997	59,432	33,976
Mexico	60,155	32,675	243,500	283,763
Argentina	15,142	17,653	127,228	189,982
Brazil	10,333	13,249	71,038	115,063
Other South America	9,747	20,953	63,139	91,110
Iron and steel, manufactures of:				
Steel rails (Carriles de acero; Trilhos de aço; Rails d'acier)—				
Central America	3,548	210	26,140	13,157
Mexico	27,120	65,511	331,974	282,476
South America	28,642	430	193,825	150,439
Builders' hardware, and saws and tools (Materiales de metal para construcción, sierras y herramientas; Ferragens, serras e ferramentas; Matériaux de construction en fer et acier, scies et outils)—				
Central America	7,405	7,338	46,978	58,480
Mexico	28,493	37,369	171,725	278,945
Santo Domingo	1,055	1,786	6,925	5,763
Cuba	40,252	25,291	104,221	221,049
Puerto Rico	572	3,482	3,493	18,263
Argentina	16,805	23,478	141,655	184,783
Brazil	15,093	14,901	127,665	165,055
Colombia	15,028	2,230	65,905	66,048
Other South America	14,785	34,170	120,364	179,147

EXPORTS OF DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	January—		Seven months ending January—	
	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.
Iron and steel, manufactures of—Continued.				
Sewing machines and parts of (<i>Máquinas de coser y accesorios; Máquinas de coser e accesorios; Machines à coudre et leurs parties</i>)—				
Central America.....	\$1,760	\$6,596	\$13,604	\$13,666
Mexico.....	24,777	24,391	117,859	141,001
Santo Domingo.....	95	698	1,177	1,064
Cuba.....	1,916	10,315	2,738	46,934
Puerto Rico.....	368	145	1,181	1,408
Argentina.....	8,006	15,378	69,194	105,922
Brazil.....	7,504	5,650	49,168	78,805
Colombia.....	4,090	703	40,412	9,507
Other South America.....	8,374	16,279	76,923	98,130
Typewriting machines and parts of (<i>Máquinas de escribir y accesorios; Máquinas de escribir e accesorios; Machines à écrire et leurs parties</i>)—				
Central America.....	149	65	1,597	1,718
Mexico.....	3,786	6,631	16,982	31,211
Santo Domingo.....	50	5	130	109
Cuba.....	1,687	1,248	6,534	15,154
Puerto Rico.....	370	171	2,331	1,559
Argentina.....	3,339	2,681	16,289	25,085
Brazil.....	191	270	2,510	7,097
Colombia.....	190	164	2,284	1,400
Other South America.....	768	7,241	9,293	15,148
Leather, other than sole (<i>Cuero, distinto del de suela; Couro não para solas; Cuir, autres que pour semelles</i>):				
Central America.....	2,156	5,744	7,172	14,007
Mexico.....	12	3,385	5,059	23,849
Santo Domingo.....	190	92	1,157	374
Cuba.....	2,135	3,601	3,206	21,641
Puerto Rico.....	314	541	2,872	2,459
Argentina.....	272	9,465	14,830	41,297
Brazil.....	4,935	7,613	24,196	51,400
Colombia.....	26	107	1,126	1,390
Other South America.....	3,287	3,682	16,602	23,541
Boots and shoes (<i>Calzado; Calçados; Chaussures</i>):				
Central America.....	8,144	9,440	54,293	92,437
Mexico.....	11,313	30,353	74,771	206,831
Colombia.....	4,024	4,317	19,724	32,446
Other South America.....	1,411	3,098	27,100	24,040
Naval stores:				
Rosin, tar, etc. (<i>Resina y alquitrán; Resina e alcatrán; Résine et goudron</i>)—				
Central America.....	1,212	1,307	8,838	8,422
Mexico.....	2,128	355	5,752	4,460
Santo Domingo.....	773	389	1,926	1,733
Cuba.....	953	2,483	3,831	10,242
Puerto Rico.....	74	195	788	1,318
Argentina.....	31,435	34,426	69,055	121,984
Brazil.....	22,634	4,083	117,892	101,777
Colombia.....	1,447	635	7,594	5,974
Other South America.....	4,045	7,344	55,423	68,075
Turpentine, spirits of (<i>Aguarrás; Agua-raz; Térébenthine</i>)—				
Central America.....	232	839	1,875	3,618
Mexico.....	331	470	2,232	2,410
Santo Domingo.....	73	87	325	248
Cuba.....	5,267	3,509	12,348	29,495
Puerto Rico.....	356	402	1,408	2,089
Argentina.....	1,837	21,026	24,967	89,978
Brazil.....	3,830	6,455	30,951	41,545
Colombia.....	461	91	3,417	2,323
Other South America.....	3,999	9,684	20,650	39,579
Oils, mineral, crude (<i>Aceites minerales, crudos; Oleos minerales, crús; Huiles minérales, brutes</i>):				
Mexico.....	32,944	41,547	187,900	234,920
Cuba.....	27,493	49,157	111,293	209,097
Puerto Rico.....				9,333

EXPORTS OF DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	January--		Seven months ending January--	
	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.
Oils, mineral, refined or manufactured (<i>Aceites minerales refinados ó manufacturados; Huiles minérales, raffinées ou manufacturées</i>):				
Central America.....	\$13,463	\$13,518	\$74,568	\$78,935
Mexico.....	14,899	15,310	87,066	110,210
Santo Domingo.....	569	6,127	23,084	27,061
Cuba.....	15,104	8,575	63,205	45,800
Puerto Rico.....	15,633	2,734	42,715	21,193
Argentina.....	33,849	147,081	396,687	933,012
Brazil.....	119,241	154,113	937,963	1,111,201
Colombia.....	8,366	7,725	69,115	73,317
Other South America.....	98,328	148,185	389,123	682,051
Oils, vegetable (<i>Aceites vegetales; Oleos vegetales; Huiles végétales</i>):				
Central America.....	508	548	2,347	4,108
Mexico.....	39,019	107,903	267,196	546,125
Santo Domingo.....	1,552	3,737	13,117	17,565
Cuba.....	1,671	2,123	4,876	27,898
Argentina.....	6,669	6,164	13,986	20,413
Brazil.....	8,978	10,264	117,274	115,902
Other South America.....	11,648	12,380	45,801	71,860
Paraffin and paraffin wax (<i>Parafina y cera de parafina; Parafina e cera de parafina; Paraffine et cire de cette substance</i>):				
Central America.....	773	7,598	16,299	19,507
Mexico.....	18,871	32,428	123,871	209,944
Brazil.....	994	1,317	8,208	10,068
Other South America.....	76	4,507	3,755	12,986
Provisions, comprising meat and dairy products:				
Beef, canned (<i>Carne de vaca en latas; Carne de vacca em latas; Bœuf conservé</i>)—				
Central America.....	1,542	1,841	11,073	17,843
Mexico.....	1,543	1,412	9,316	12,415
Santo Domingo.....	11	33	43	66
Cuba.....	3,092	335	7,639	4,068
Argentina.....	.....	.....	326	365
Brazil.....	834	4,094	9,925	24,804
Colombia.....	520	709	2,413	5,826
Other South America.....	1,129	1,572	6,274	14,453
Beef, salted or pickled (<i>Carne de vaca salada ó en salmuera; Carne de vacca salgada ou em salmoura; Bœuf, salé ou en saumure</i>)—				
Central America.....	2,260	4,083	18,835	24,171
Mexico.....	231	72	338	1,705
Santo Domingo.....	550	170	2,131	2,676
Cuba.....	2,997	579	16,261	6,328
Puerto Rico.....	64	224	576	1,464
Brazil.....	398	66	1,874	3,422
Colombia.....	1,638	1,341	7,182	11,618
Other South America.....	16,423	13,422	119,113	108,068
Tallow (<i>Sebo; Sebo; Suif</i>)—				
Central America.....	8,740	7,290	51,709	44,660
Mexico.....	1,966	1,738	21,149	15,042
Santo Domingo.....	1,116	1,009	5,454	7,232
Cuba.....	782	179	18,362	1,939
Puerto Rico.....	75	84	303	467
Brazil.....	5,681	.....	30,331	11,719
Colombia.....	1,284	.....	4,707	7,441
Other South America.....	373	2,765	12,071	30,610
Bacon (<i>Tocino; Toucinho; Lard fumé</i>)—				
Central America.....	1,108	1,968	10,884	15,730
Mexico.....	739	1,506	8,399	13,632
Santo Domingo.....	146	223	945	1,309
Cuba.....	51,618	48,035	251,641	506,768
Puerto Rico.....	6,412	6,088	36,755	40,604
Brazil.....	28,403	11,600	331,221	90,632
Colombia.....	59	103	849	1,187
Other South America.....	1,573	626	9,332	4,009
Hams (<i>Jamones; Presunto; Jambons</i>)—				
Central America.....	1,659	2,701	13,213	18,814
Mexico.....	2,449	3,705	18,512	29,393

EXPORTS OF DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	January—		Seven months ending January—	
	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.
Provisions, comprising meat and dairy products—				
Continued.				
Hams (<i>Jamones; Presunto; Jambons</i>)—Cont'd.				
Santo Domingo	\$987	\$990	\$4,225	\$3,452
Cuba	68,741	64,307	269,718	428,014
Puerto Rico	356	5,159	5,739	25,422
Brazil	427	372	2,555	2,809
Colombia	1,037	1,839	7,621	10,504
Other South America	5,937	5,333	49,807	49,296
Pork (<i>Carne de puerco; Carne de porco; Porc</i>)—				
Central America	5,911	7,749	37,116	44,245
Santo Domingo	502	391	3,018	4,506
Cuba	4,410	53,141	15,579	207,393
Puerto Rico	8,121	26,858	77,175	128,367
Brazil	165	1,300	5,709	2,549
Colombia	866	1,152	4,196	27,001
Other South America	17,645	11,328	143,483	100,554
Lard (<i>Mantea; Banha; Saindoux</i>)—				
Central America	9,980	19,506	80,939	103,889
Mexico	27,225	51,419	96,938	280,923
Santo Domingo	2,056	2,508	15,394	12,293
Cuba	183,200	248,957	722,071	1,135,023
Puerto Rico	9,873	30,541	135,025	150,897
Argentina	527	750	1,421	2,909
Brazil	80,380	32,643	768,292	493,098
Colombia	6,026	9,665	46,098	82,759
Other South America	47,681	68,769	338,223	442,934
Oleo and oleomargarine (<i>Grasa y oleomargarina; Oleo é oleomargarina; Oléo et oléomargarine</i>)—				
Central America	384	1,271	1,012	4,130
Mexico	116	156	449	742
Puerto Rico	3,541	981	9,219	13,169
Colombia	804	413	5,053	5,362
Other South America	2,044	1,408	10,484	9,941
Butter (<i>Mantequilla; Manteiga; Beurre</i>)—				
Central America	3,589	5,895	27,142	33,241
Mexico	5,736	4,194	27,385	26,208
Santo Domingo	683	1,982	6,561	4,911
Cuba	16,638	5,120	42,072	30,177
Puerto Rico	565	246	4,834	1,396
Brazil	22,126	11,205	95,001	132,675
Colombia	901	1,730	7,746	9,454
Other South America	11,134	4,975	67,982	4,074
Cheese (<i>Queso; Queijo; Fromage</i>)—				
Central America	1,057	2,699	9,770	14,255
Mexico	2,062	988	9,844	14,857
Santo Domingo	529	1,321	2,682	3,850
Cuba	8,848	2,574	43,212	22,644
Puerto Rico	1,562	3,758	5,927	17,661
Brazil	122	9	568	69
Colombia	694	584	4,602	4,985
Other South America	1,581	250	9,010	8,042
Sugar, refined (<i>Azúcar refinado; Assucar refinado; Sucre raffiné</i>):				
Central America	942	3,250	10,623	20,443
Mexico	2,751	5,241	7,757	16,673
Santo Domingo	144	86	838	408
Colombia	1,922	750	7,872	6,940
Other South America	114	480	1,383	1,549
Tobacco, unmanufactured (<i>Tabaco no manufacturado; Tabaco não manufacturado; Tabac non manufacturé</i>):				
Central America	434	6,144	10,598	18,019
Mexico	3,412	12,899	80,800	112,509
Argentina	5,150	850	12,455	5,903
Colombia	816	640	3,501	4,637
Other South America	5,878	7,552	55,338	57,336

EXPORTS OF DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	January—		Seven months ending January—	
	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.
Tobacco, manufactures of (<i>Manufacturas de tabaco; Manufacturas de tabaco; Tabac fabriqué</i>):				
Central America.....	\$4,890	\$3,160	\$31,603	\$32,508
Mexico.....	755	597	7,832	3,141
Cuba.....	14,583	15,135	59,453	88,841
Argentina.....	1,275	1,077	3,986	18,572
Brazil.....			500	352
Colombia.....	121	851	2,868	4,363
Other South America.....	5,037	10,272	50,471	28,520
Wood, unmanufactured (<i>Madera no manufacturado; Madeira não manufacturado; Bois brut</i>):				
Central America.....	0,061	1,698	20,684	8,863
Mexico.....	19,995	61,428	202,417	127,388
Cuba.....	1,848	5,961	18,263	31,664
Argentina.....	1,328	3,679	12,306	13,602
Brazil.....			4,284	
Colombia.....	6,461		20,026	6,704
Other South America.....	240		14,100	58,544
Lumber (<i>Maderas; Madeiras; Bois de construction</i>):				
Central America.....	2,673	2,826	33,486	28,834
Mexico.....	79,629	101,371	405,432	591,533
Santo Domingo.....	3,030	990	14,076	14,566
Cuba.....	83,270	95,483	312,548	510,208
Puerto Rico.....	6,445	17,067	12,946	107,619
Argentina.....	93,514	104,323	612,487	647,964
Brazil.....	30,329	27,871	258,777	295,732
Colombia.....	3,880	7,069	25,006	46,843
Other South America.....	58,592	36,603	291,435	347,206
Furniture (<i>Muebles; Mobilia; Meubles</i>):				
Central America.....	3,506	3,602	23,980	25,971
Mexico.....	21,479	39,709	130,931	222,362
Santo Domingo.....	767	1,760	3,784	3,852
Cuba.....	7,289	35,278	18,366	172,328
Puerto Rico.....	2,111	2,128	5,937	22,784
Argentina.....	3,962	5,733	34,619	76,888
Brazil.....	1,716	1,127	18,241	26,395
Colombia.....	3,212	1,404	15,463	10,907
Other South America.....	6,184	6,245	40,762	40,772

SALTBUSHES FOR ARID LANDS.

The saltbush as a herbaceous perennial plant is particularly adapted to arid or alkali-impregnated soil where no other vegetation can exist. It constitutes an excellent food for sheep, horses, hogs, and chickens. It has almost the same nutritive value as alfalfa, and it would seem that it is destined to become a rival of this well-known plant. The saltbushes are rich in protein compounds and therefore form an excellent food for fattening purposes, the digestibility being about the same as that of oat straw.

There are many species of this plant now in cultivation in the United States, both native and foreign, but those which have given the best results in the various experimental stations are the Australian saltbushes which were introduced into California in 1881, by VON MUELLER. Owing to its thin flexible stems, it can be handled like alfalfa, while most of the other saltbushes are only fit for browsing. Sheep are especially fond of it, and in the opinion of VON MUELLER many of the valuable qualities of the Australian wools are due to the

abundance of this and other saltbushes in the regions where the sheep graze. A crop of Australian saltbushes will produce from 15 to 20 tons of green food per acre, or from 3 to 5 tons of dry forage.

There are extensive areas of land in the United States so strongly alkaline that none of the cereals, grasses, or clovers will grow on them. Saltbushes will grow on many of these lands and produce a considerable amount of excellent forage. Many lands impregnated with black alkali may be reclaimed and made to produce ordinary crops by planting and cropping saltbush, which removes large amounts of the alkali from the soil. Soils which, in a slight degree, are too alkaline for the growth of cereals may be relieved in a few years by this method.

REVIVAL OF SHIPPING TO BRAZIL.

A report from Baltimore states that the increased demand for sailing ships, owing to the scarcity of coal abroad and the withdrawal of British steamers for war service, is causing a great revival in charters of "square riggers" and the old Baltimore clippers; and the Brazilian trade out of that port, which was almost extinct, has revived with a wonderful rapidity. Where a few months ago barks of the Rio fleet were being withdrawn and sent to the West Indies with coal, additional vessels are now being chartered for the Brazilian trade. The British steamers formerly carried good-sized general cargoes to Brazil and other South American countries and brought back coffee to the United States at rates far below those which would afford a living for the United States sailing vessels. Mr. C. MORTON STEWART, the owner of the Stewart fleet of barkentines out of the port of Baltimore to Brazil, says that all of his vessels are now back in the Rio trade, which has greatly improved, with strong indications of a still greater increase.

NEGRO LABOR FOR BOLIVIA.

A dispatch from New Orleans, dated February 20, 1900, stated that Capt. FRANK MORITZ, of Pennsylvania, and ROBERT SKIFFINGTON, of Chicago, Illinois, had arrived in that city from Bolivia, after having explored the Upper Amazon country and purchasing 4,700 square miles of rubber land in that section from the Republic of Bolivia. This tract of country will be cultivated in rubber orchards by the "Chicago and Bolivia Rubber Company," and the gentlemen named were in New Orleans for the purpose of arranging for United States labor. On their trip to Bolivia, after a thorough investigation, they were convinced that the native labor, which is altogether Indian, is entirely unsatisfactory, and they propose to substitute for it negro workmen from the United States.

TRADE BETWEEN SEATTLE AND CULIACAN.

Mr. F. E. BUTTERFIELD, of Culiacán, Mexico, representative of the Occidental Railway Company, recently visited Seattle, Washington, and completed arrangements for the purchase and shipment of coal and lumber for the use of that corporation. He stated that heretofore the coal supply had been received from the Territory of New Mexico, but that the supply had been very irregular and the freight rates over two railway lines made it expensive. At least 5,000 tons of coal are required, and a vessel is to be chartered to make not less than five trips a year between the two ports. Besides coal, a considerable quantity of lumber has been contracted for, and on the return trips of the vessels Mexican ore is to be transported to the United States. It is believed that the value of the coal and lumber purchased in the State of Washington for this company during the present year will amount to \$50,000, exclusive of the cost of carriage.

PUERTO RICAN TOBACCO CROP.

The annual production of Puerto Rican tobacco is said to be about 60,000 bales of 100 pounds each, or in the neighborhood of 6,000,000 pounds. The acreage of the crop of 1899 was reported at 4,225 acres. A normal crop is anywhere from 5,000 to 10,000 bales suitable for use in the United States. The crop for 1900, which is about ready to cut, is reported as extraordinary and may amount to 30,000 bales.

TRADE WITH THE LATIN-AMERICAN REPUBLICS.

The trade between the United States and the Latin-American Republics, says the "Nouveau Monde," of Paris, in its issue of February 17, 1900, shows a remarkable increase for 1899, and although it has not yet reached its full development it is increasing daily. A great number of products coming from American factories, which were formerly almost unknown in the Central and South American markets, now compete advantageously with the European products. Among these products it is noticed that articles of manufactured leather which formerly came from Europe are to-day imported in large quantities from the United States.

INCORPORATION OF CUBAN ELECTRIC COMPANIES.

The "Puerto Principe Tramway Company" was recently incorporated in Trenton, New Jersey, with a capital of \$200,000. This company proposes to build a street railroad and electric, water, gas, and lighting plants in Puerto Principe, Cuba, for which it claims to have secured the necessary franchise. The Puerto Principe Electric Company has also

been incorporated by the same parties. The city named is the oldest town in the island, and there are no modern improvements whatever except an electric-light plant. A very large number of its inhabitants are employed in agricultural pursuits and cattle raising. The fact that the city is 54 miles from its nearest seaport, Nuevitas, has had much to do with its lack of progressive development, notwithstanding that the railroad which connects the two cities was the first constructed on the island. This road is a single track, with extra wide gauge, of antiquated construction and equipment, and the entire day is required to make the round trip.

URUGUAY.

FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC SITUATION.

The Uruguayan Congress convened in ordinary session on February 15, 1900. The President's message, which is very long, recapitulates the labors of the Government during the past year, and shows a very satisfactory financial and economic situation. The revenue last year, according to a cabled message, was \$15,750,000, an increase of over \$500,000 on the previous year. The year closes with an insignificant deficit. The imports last year amounted to \$24,000,000, and the exports to \$37,000,000, against \$30,000,000 in the previous year.

The Government promises to continue its policy of economy, order, and attention to economic interests. Several important decisions await the decision of the Chambers.

CUSTOMS RECEIPTS OF FOUR YEARS.

The "Montevideo Times" publishes the following regarding the customs receipts of Uruguay for the past four years: In 1896, \$10,261,829; in 1897, \$8,550,573; in 1898, \$9,872,977; in 1899, \$10,004,937. This would show that the foreign trade of the Republic had made a considerable recovery over the years 1897 and 1898, and that the returns for the present year may equal, if not surpass, the year 1896 and the average of the three years 1894-1896, which were notable periods of activity in commercial affairs.

SPANISH COMMERCIAL MUSEUM IN MONTEVIDEO.

Much importance is attached in the Spanish commercial world to the creation of commercial museums in the principal cities of South America. An institution of this kind already exists in Buenos Ayres, and the Spanish colony of Montevideo is organizing a commercial museum on one of the most frequented streets of that city, which will

at the same time be a depot for samples of Spanish articles. The MONTHLY BULLETIN for November, 1899 (pp. 674-675), contained an account of the establishment of a French commercial museum in Montevideo. From this and from other significant movements it would seem that the European countries are making strenuous efforts to increase their commerce with the South American countries. Is the United States to be less active in pursuit of trade in this part of the world?

ESTIMATED POPULATION.

It is the custom in the Bureau of Statistics at Montevideo to make an official estimate of the population of the whole Republic every year. According to a late publication of the said bureau the population of the Republic on January 1, 1899, was estimated at 860,000 inhabitants.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.

The commercial and navigation treaty between Germany and Uruguay, which was ratified by the Government of the latter country in December last, as noted in the January number of the MONTHLY BULLETIN, was also ratified by the Berlin Government on January 24 of this year.

Proposals will be received up to July 31, 1900, for the \$12,500,000 harbor improvements at Montevideo, reference to which has been made in several recent numbers of the MONTHLY BULLETIN.

AGRICULTURE IN THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

The principal sources of the wealth of the Argentine Republic are its agricultural and pastoral industries. Up to the year 1870 the Republic imported nearly all the flour it used from Chile and many other of its agricultural commodities from the neighboring countries, notwithstanding the extreme richness of its own soil and the varieties of climate which it enjoyed. During the Paraguayan war, however, agriculture was given such an impetus it was discovered that, with comparatively slight effort, wheat and maize could be raised in quantities sufficient for the supply of the whole of the River Plate region. It was also found that the soil was so bountifully intermingled with natural phosphates that (except in seasons where there was either a lack of rain or, as it sometimes happens, an excessive precipitation of moisture) it would yield crops unsurpassed in abundance.

The dates for seeding and harvesting vary in the different Prov-

inces and Territories owing to their geographical situation and physical configuration. In Buenos Ayres, Entre Rios, and Santa Fé, wheat, barley, and oats are sown from May to July. Maize is planted from September to November, and hicern is sown in April and May and in September and October. Wheat, oats, and barley are harvested in December and January, and maize is gathered in February and in April. Previous to 1888 the exports of wheat and maize to Europe were comparatively insignificant, but since then the shipments have grown to great proportions and are climbing upward. Especially is this true of wheat.

It must be remembered that this Republic is comparatively a new country, with only 4,092,990 inhabitants (Indians included) in 1895; that it has 270,000,000 acres of land, of which only 12,088,144 acres (most of which have been continuously devoted to the same kinds of crops) were under cultivation in 1895; that many branches of agriculture are but now in their incipiency; that the methods of cultivation of the soil are comparatively primitive in their character, but that, naturally, it is one of the greatest grazing countries in the world.

Yet, in spite of its youth, its primitiveness, and the sparseness of its population (3.64 per square mile), the Argentine Republic plays an important part in the commerce of the world in wheat, maize, wool, and hides, and is destined to assume almost or quite as commanding a position in linseed, flax, and meat products. Recently this country has become a great purchaser of improved agricultural machinery the greater part of which is supplied by United States manufacturers.

RESULTS OF THE CENSUS OF 1895.

The results of the national census of 1895, relative to the agricultural industries of the country, were not published by the Argentine Government until recently, but now that the statistics have appeared they furnish much interesting information. However, the figures are not as complete as they doubtless will be hereafter, since such matters have been placed under the direct supervision of the Minister of Agriculture, a cabinet position created within the past two years and now filled by Dr. MARTÍN GARCÍA MÉROU, but recently Minister from his country to the United States.

The area of the cultivated land, as ascertained by this census, including that devoted to the cultivation of trees and plants, aggregated 12,088,144 acres, as compared with 6,076,486 acres according to the census of 1888, showing a remarkable increase of 98 per cent in seven years. The number of cultivated acres, exclusive of those devoted to trees, etc., was 11,583,504 in 1895 and 5,987,221 in 1888. The area devoted to tree culture was 89,265 acres in 1888 and 504,640 in 1895.

The great increase in the acreage devoted to crops in the years occurring between the dates of the two censuses was due almost entirely to the culture of cereals, especially to wheat and maize, and more particularly to the former. In 1888 wheat was grown on 2,014,947 acres and in 1895 on 5,064,767 acres, an increase of more than 151 per cent.

In 1888 maize was grown on 1,980,724 acres, while in 1895 it was produced on 3,074,374 acres. The area devoted to barley in 1895 was 134,852 acres, as against 70,848 acres in 1888.

Linseed is classed as a cereal in the Argentine returns, and in the cultivation of this plant the increase has been rapid, the area devoted to it being 299,245 acres in 1888 and 957,078 in 1895.

The area given up to minor products, such as potatoes, sweet potatoes, beans, pease, turnips, lentils, chicory, mandioca, etc., was 101,130 acres in 1888 and 222,244 in 1895. Industrial plants were produced on 308,581 acres in 1895, against 140,214 acres in 1888. In 1895 these included the following: 82,677 acres in vines; 151,406 acres in sugar cane; 33,297 acres in peanuts, etc.; 39,029 acres in tobacco, and 2,172 acres in cotton. There were no returns for cotton in 1888, and each of the other products classed as industrial shows an increase of from 35 to 200 per cent over that year.

The principal forage crop of the country is lucerne or alfalfa, of which there were 1,762,295 acres in 1895, as against 963,712 acres in 1888. The other forage crops occupied but 59,556 acres in 1895.

Regarding live stock, it is stated that owners are believed to have generally underestimated the dimensions of their herds and flocks in 1895 for fear of increased taxation. The "Reporter of the Census Commission" therefore thinks that, to approximate the truth, the returns should be increased by about 20 per cent. The statistics relative to cattle were as follows for both 1895 and 1888:

	1895.	1888.	Difference.
Native cattle	14,197,159	17,574,572	3,377,413
Cross bred	4,672,348	3,388,801	1,289,547
Pure bred	72,216	37,858	34,358
Dairy cows	1,800,799	.....	1,800,799
Draft oxen	953,004	960,426	7,422
Total	21,701,526	21,960,657	260,131

In 1888 the dairy cows were not separately returned; these are generally cross-breeds as the native cow is a poor "milker." According to the total given above it would appear that there was a diminution of 260,131 in the total number of cattle, but it will be noticed that there was a great increase in the number of pure bred and cross-bred cattle. Relative to the population, there were 5.14 head of cattle to each inhabitant.

The number of sheep in 1895, as compared with the number in 1888, was as follows:

	1895.	1888.	Difference.
Native breeds	17,938,061	21,322,214	6,384,153
Cross breeds	56,106,187	42,002,871	14,103,316
Pure bred	335,314	381,012	45,698
Total	74,379,562	66,706,097	7,673,465

The Argentine Republic is second only to Australia, which has 100,000,000 sheep, with regard to the number of sheep for each inhabitant, as it had 18.50 sheep to each man, woman, and child in 1895. It will be noticed that the increase in the number of sheep was wholly in the cross-breeds.

The other live stock figuring in the returns (which, aside from ostriches and poultry, represents an increase of 1,392,184 head) included the following:

	1895.	1888.	Difference.
Horses.....	4,446,859	4,231,032	202,827
Asses and mules.....	483,309	417,494	65,875
Goats.....	2,748,860	1,894,386	854,474
Hogs.....	692,766	393,758	299,008
Ostriches.....	82,497	176,125	93,628
Poultry.....	9,111,322	5,299,877	3,811,445
Total	17,525,673	12,415,672	5,110,001

The total value of all the live stock in the Republic in 1895 was estimated at \$1,144,423,466 Argentine currency, or, calculated at 33½ cents on the dollar, about \$381,475,000 in United States currency. Of this latter amount, cattle represented \$222,842,000 and sheep \$122,625,000.

RELATIVE RANK IN GRAIN PRODUCTION.

In the years 1888 and 1895 the Argentine Republic occupied the twelfth place in the list of wheat-producing countries, its product representing 1.69 per cent of the total yield. In 1898 it was estimated that the crop of this country was 2.8 per cent of the grand total of the world, and in 1899 that it was about 4 per cent, and that the Republic now ranks in the eighth place. It is also believed that within the next ten years, if the present rate of development continues, the Argentine Republic will occupy a position as a wheat-producing country second only to the United States.

With respect to maize, in the opinion of BROOMHALL, the statistician, the Argentine Republic ranks third in the list of the producing countries of the world, but the Hungarian Minister of Agriculture only accords it the sixth place in his estimates of the maize producers.

AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS FOR 1898-99.

Mr. E. LAHITTE, Chief of the Statistical Department of the Ministry of Agriculture, has published a report relative to the crops of the Argentine Republic for the year 1899. He says that when the Ministry of Agriculture was formed, the 1898-99 crops were then in stack, and there was nothing to enable the area sown with wheat, etc., to be ascertained by the Department, and there were no proven means at hand to obtain an immediate estimate of the extent of the crop. But, remembering that wheat, linseed, and other cereals passed through the hands of the threshers, it was evident that to obtain an intelligent idea it was only necessary to find out what the threshers were doing throughout the country.

The number of threshers was ascertained to be 3,253, and appropriate books were furnished them for collecting data. By July 15 the returns from 32,626 farms had been received. Thus, for the first time, was the Government enabled to secure anything like reliable statistics of the agricultural products of the country in any year other than that in which the national census was taken.

PRODUCTS OF THE FOUR PRINCIPAL PROVINCES.

The four principal agricultural Provinces are Santa Fé, Buenos Ayres, Córdoba, and Entre Ríos, and it was from these that the statistics were obtained in 1899. The statistics as compiled by Mr. LAHITTE were in hectares, kilograms, and metric tons, as the metric system is employed in the Argentine Republic, but for convenience the first two are reduced to acres and pounds, the terms used in the United States. The hectare is 2.471 acres; the kilogram is 2.2046 pounds; the ton, representing 1,000 kilograms, or 2,204.6 pounds. For the Provinces named the products were as follows:

Province.	Wheat.		Linseed.		Oats.		Barley.	
	Area.	Yield.	Area.	Yield.	Area.	Yield.	Area.	Yield.
	<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Tons.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Tons.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Tons.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Tons.</i>
Santa Fé.....	2,783,020	868,188	321,551	92,483	2,172	799	6,254	2,133
Buenos Ayres.....	1,651,564	801,354	118,264	45,956	27,450	14,578	15,522	7,107
Córdoba.....	1,194,286	447,821	128,578	32,898	558	105	1,109	408
Entre Ríos.....	535,110	199,444	46,524	11,739	615	307	2,649	1,377
Total.....	6,163,980	2,316,807	617,917	183,076	30,795	15,789	25,534	11,025

Province.	Canary seed.		Rye.		Clover seed.	
	Area.	Yield.	Area.	Yield.	Area.	Yield.
	<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Tons.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Tons.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Tons.</i>
Santa Fé.....	5,213	850	235	52	5	1
Buenos Ayres.....	3,983	1,287	1,997	871	10,274	591
Córdoba.....	74	13	111	33	339	17
Entre Ríos.....	86	32	346	157	0	0
Total.....	9,386	2,182	2,689	1,113	10,618	609

These totals were made prior to receiving the complete reports of 678 threshers, which, it is believed, will increase the total area to about 7,413,000 acres and the total yield to 2,900,000 tons.

AVERAGES IN THE PROVINCES AND DEPARTMENTS.

Of the four Provinces, Buenos Ayres shows the highest state of cultivation. Santa Fé, which is the oldest agricultural Province of the Republic, has relatively the smallest yield. The average yield in each was as follows:

	Buenos Ayres.	Santa Fé.
	<i>Kilograms per acre.</i>	<i>Kilograms per acre.</i>
Wheat	484	314
Flaxseed.....	388	237
Oats.....	533	400
Barley.....	456	345
Canary seed.....	328	163
Rye.....	463	226
Clover seed.....	57	41

Of the 83 wheat-growing departments of the Province of Buenos Ayres, only 23 show an average yield of less than 15 bushels per acre, while in the 17 departments of the Province of Santa Fé not one had as great an average yield.

In Santa Fé, the departments of Castellanos and San Martin show an average yield of wheat of 14.12 and 14.10 bushels per acre, respectively. In Buenos Ayres, the departments of Pehuajo and Tres Arroyos had an average yield of 24.08 and 23.11 bushels per acre, respectively. The smallest yields in Santa Fé, in the departments of La Capital and Garay, were only about 3 and 4 bushels per acre, while in Buenos Ayres, in the departments of Alfina and Guamini, the smallest yields were 5 and 8 bushels per acre.

A similar situation exists in regard to linseed. In Santa Fé, the highest yield was 10.39 bushels per acre, or less than that of Buenos Ayres, while in the several departments the average was 17.9 bushels per acre, while the maximum yield was in the department of Florencio Varela, about 26 bushels per acre.

The average yield in the other agricultural Provinces was as follows:

	Córdoba.	Entre Ríos.
	<i>Bushels per acre.</i>	<i>Bushels per acre.</i>
Wheat	13.37	13.40
Flaxseed.....	9.43	9.22
Oats.....	6.94	16.70
Barley.....	13.35	17.42
Canary seed.....	6.44	13.81
Rye.....	10.20	16.72
Clover seed.....	2.15	0

The highest average yield of wheat in Cordoba was in the departments of Colon and Totoral, with 31.31 bushels and 27.80 bushels per

acre, respectively. In Entre Rios the departments of Nogoya and Diamante showed 16.22 and 16.19 bushels per acre, while the minimum in the Province of Córdoba was in the department General Roca, with 4.57 bushels. In Entre Rios, in the department of Villaguay, the average was 7.54 bushels per acre.

Linseed, in the Province of Córdoba, showed the greatest yield in the department of Marcos Juárez, with 15 bushels per acre. The smallest was in the department of Tercero Arriba, with 7.27 hushels per acre, while in Entre Rios the highest was in the department of Gualaguey, with 16.19 bushels, but in the department of La Paz there were only 4.45 bushels per acre. The oldest and most extensively cultivated of the agricultural part of the Argentine Republic is the Province of Santa Fé, which, however, is behind those where agriculture has been established later but on a greater scale, as is the case in Buenos Ayres, Córdoba, and Entre Rios, since in these latter the products, especially those of wheat and linseed, show much higher yields than in Santa Fé. The number of farms or *estancias* in the year 1898-99 were: in Buenos Ayres, 12,411; Santa Fé, 13,752; Córdoba, 4,350, and Entre Rios, 4,875. The sizes of these, according to the number of hectares (which are here reduced to acres), in each of the four principal Provinces, were as follows:

Hectares.	Acres.	Buenos Ayres.	Santa Fé.	Córdoba.	Entre Rios.
1-25	2.47- 61.78	4,537	2,962	630	3,284
26-50	64.25- 123.55	2,976			
51-100	125.92- 247.10	2,563	4,314	1,035	1,078
101-200	249.57- 494.20	1,624	5,012	1,861	445
201-300	496.67- 741.30	440	1,105	617	33
301-400	743.77- 988.40	138	211	129	12
401-500	990.87-1,235.50	47	95	43	4
501-600	1,237.97-1,482.60	31	39	17	4
601-700	1,485.07-1,729.70	16	10	8	4
701-800	1,732.17-1,976.80	10	2	2	2
801-900	1,979.27-2,223.90	9	1	4	2
901-1,000	2,226.37-2,471	2	-----	1	2
Over 1,000	Over 2,741	18	1	4	5

The cultivation of these *estancias* was carried on as follows:

	By owners.		By leaseholders.		On shares.	
	Number.	Per cent.	Number.	Per cent.	Number.	Per cent.
Buenos Ayres.....	3,291	26.5	7,639	61.5	1,481	11.9
Santa Fé.....	5,352	38.9	5,422	39.4	2,978	21.6
Córdoba.....	1,832	42.1	1,395	32.0	1,124	25.8
Entre Rios.....	2,940	60.3	1,234	25.3	701	14.4

PRODUCTION OF TOBACCO AND SUGAR CANE.

The tobacco industry in this Republic is said to be progressing steadily. The annual consumption is calculated at 14,000,000 kilos, of which 12,000,000 kilos is of home production. With regard to the distribution of tobacco plantations, it is found that Corrientes and

Misiones rank first, with a production of about 8,000,000 or 8,500,000 kilos per annum. Following these, the rank is Salta, Tucumán, and Córdoba. The import duties on tobacco produce about \$1,500,000. The capital invested in the manufacture of tobacco is estimated at \$32,600,000.

The capital employed in the sugar-cane plantations of the Republic amounts to \$3,959,500, gold, and \$30,388,000, paper. Four Provinces, Tucumán, Salta, Jujuy, and Santiago, and two Territories—Chaco and Formosa—are devoted to sugar-cane culture, more than 60,000 hands being employed in the industry.

EXPORTS IN 1899.

According to the tables prepared by the "Review of the River Plate" and published January 12, 1900, the exports of agricultural and pastoral products from the Argentine Republic during the year 1899—a bale of wool, sheepskins, or hair, being 450 kilos (992.07 pounds); a bale of goatskins, 370 kilos (816.70 pounds); a bale of hay, 50 kilos (110.23 pounds); a hogshead of tallow, 200 kilos (440.92 pounds); a case of butter, 25 kilos (55.12 pounds)—were as follows:

Wheat, 1,791,668 tons (65,831,854 bushels); wheat flour, 54,044 tons; wheat bran, 64,186 tons; maize, 1,122,720 tons (42,663,360 bushels); linseed, 216,426 tons; sugar, 29,110 tons; oilseed, 90,284 bags; birdseed, 2,436 bags; quebracho, 163,687 tons; tobacco, 11,659 bales; hay, 885,163 bales; butter, 49,399 cases; wool, 513,863 bales (509,789,066 pounds); sheepskins, 72,310 bales; goatskins, 3,423 bales; hair, 6,230 bales; frozen wethers, 1,959,564; tallow, 71,293 hogsheads; dry ox-hides, 2,031,482; salt oxhides, 1,180,275; dry horsehides, 88,557; salt horsehides, 83,825; live steers, 107,916; live sheep, 521,467.

According to the same authority the exports of the principal products from all ports for the year 1898 were as follows: Wheat, 682,242 tons (25,067,845 bushels of 60 pounds); wheat flour, 26,626 tons; maize, 758,236 tons (28,816,768 bushels of 58 pounds); linseed, 154,590 tons; wool, 514,230 bales (510,152,156 pounds); hides, 3,631,273 (all kinds); frozen wethers, 2,500,757; live steers, 140,073; live sheep, 562,114; hay, 771,134 bales.

GERMAN INTERESTS IN GUATEMALA.

The "Berichte über Handel und Industrie," volume 1, No. 2, published in Berlin by the German Government, contains some interesting facts in regard to German interests in Guatemala, of which the following is a translation in part:

The German plantations in Guatemala cover in all 2,725 square kilometers, or 2.14 per cent of the area of the Republic (including the

undeveloped Department of Petén, or 3.07 per cent without this). The percentage would be much higher if all the territory capable of cultivation, or where it has just been commenced, were taken into consideration. In fact, the most fertile and best parts of Guatemala are in German hands.

“The best districts for the cultivation of coffee and sugar—the most important products of Guatemala—are first on the Pacific side of the volcanic mountains which run parallel to the coast, from Salvador to Mexico, and which wall in the highlands of the interior of the country; and secondly on the Atlantic slope of these highlands, both having an altitude of from 400 to 1,500 meters above the sea. The hot districts along the coast are admirably adapted to the culture of caoutchouc, cacao, other tropical products, and timber; the high plateaus of the interior to the raising of grain, potatoes, fruit, and other European staples, but these districts, especially the first mentioned, have been but sparingly used for the purpose, and the above-mentioned products are not raised in sufficient quantities to supply the demands. The Atlantic and Pacific slopes are covered with German plantations. On the latter they form a continuous narrow chain almost throughout the length of the country. This region is the most flourishing in Guatemala.

“The four western Departments surpass the eastern in the intensity and age of their culture, and also in regard to roads and other evidences of advancement. The western districts of Costa Grande, Xolhnitz, Costa Eueca, Costa Cuchco, and Tumbador contain the best coffee and sugar plantations in Guatemala, many of which belong to Germans. Incidentally it may be stated that these plantations continue into the adjoining Mexican States, where analogous conditions exist, and which, economically speaking, belong to Guatemala, with which that region has better connections than with the other Mexican Commonwealths. Germans from Guatemala have, in late years, secured large tracts of land in this district. Near the boundary there are, at present, 15 German plantations valued at 15,000,000 *marks*, with an area of 65 square kilometers, producing 6,700 *centners* of coffee, valued at 400,000 *marks*. The port of this district is San Benito, where the steamships of the German “Kosmos” line make regular calls.

“On the Atlantic side, the picture of the German plantations presents a different aspect from that of the Pacific. While the mountain slopes on the Atlantic coast are adaptable to the working of plantations, it is only in later years that it has been undertaken to any great extent. In a relatively short time Germans have obtained large tracts of land. Nearly all the plantations lie in the Department of Verapaz, about a third of them being in German hands. The area of land owned by Germans on the Atlantic side of this Department is about

three-fifths of the total area of all the German plantations. On the other hand, the value of these plantations—about ten million *marks*—represents only 15 per cent of the total value of plantations owned by Germans in Guatemala; also the number of coffee trees in this district (3,700,000), and the yearly production of coffee (29,000 *centners*) equals only 15 per cent of the total crop. The explanation is that in this eastern district—which is indeed extensive, but obtained cheaply—only a small part is under cultivation.

“In the next few years the cultivation, production, and value of these plantations will materially increase, while the possibilities of those on the Pacific Coast are limited in this regard. At present, however, properties of 100 to 500 hectares on the Pacific side are valued at ten times as much as those in the district of Coban. The Coban coffee, on the other hand, commands as a rule better prices. Sugar is grown only in limited quantities. The total value of the German agricultural properties is estimated at 64,000,000 *marks*. As regards area, the district of Coban with 1,420 square kilometers is most important, but from the point of value the district of Guatemala holds the first place, the German properties here being worth, in round figures, 27,000,000 *marks*.

“With a good average harvest the German plantations will produce about 200,000 *centners* of hulled coffee—that is, about one-third of the total production of Guatemala and 1.3 per cent of the world's production. The number of coffee trees on the German properties is 17,700,000. Both of these figures will show an important increase during the next few years, on account of the rapidity with which the Verapaz district is being opened up. The quality of the coffee is good, the prices varying in 1897 between 50 and 118 *marks* per *centner*, according to grade. The average price for Coban coffee was about 80 *marks*, for other Guatemalan coffee 60 *marks*, while Santos (Brazil) coffee brought only 35 *marks* per *centner*.

“The sugar production on the German plantations was in all 125,000 *centners*—74,000 white and 51,000 brown. The latter, called *panela*, is of a lower grade, and is used by the Indians. Formerly all the sugar was consumed in the country itself, and it was only in 1898 that about 20 per cent of the crop was exported to San Francisco. In connection with the production of sugar a brandy is made, which is used chiefly by the Indians. In consequence of increased production in the past few years, the price of sugar fell from 25 to 12 *pesos* per *centner*. The crop from the German plantations was valued at 1,500,000 *pesos*, of which about 250,000 *pesos* represented brown sugar (*panela*), a total, in round figures, of 3,000,000 *marks*.

“Cattle are raised on a small number of the plantations, but only for market, dairies being rarely found. In the lowlands caoutchouc and cacao are planted, and wheat is grown in the highlands; timber is also

brought to market. Several plantations have gristmills, which are quite profitable. Every plantation has enough corn, bananas, and live stock (cattle, horses, mules, hogs, and poultry) to supply its own necessities. The total value of all productions on the German plantations is estimated at about 15,000,000 *marks*. The parcels of land not under cultivation are generally covered by dense tropical forest growths, most of which are virgin. On the Atlantic side these forests occupy by far the greater part of the plantation, and on the Pacific side often more than one-half is wooded. Only in the intensely cultivated western district have the forests become perceptibly smaller.

“The profits during the past ten years have been generally good. For instance, one plantation, owned by a stock company, has paid a dividend of 20 per cent until recently, when the profits have decreased somewhat. The reason for this has been the general depression throughout the country on account of the silver question, the financial and political situation, and the general decline in the prices of sugar and coffee. Notwithstanding this, however, sugar, at the price of 12 *pesos* per *centner*, yields a clear profit of 6 *pesos*, and Guatemala coffee, on account of its superior quality, has not suffered such a decline in value as has been the case with the middle grades of the Brazilian article. It may be expected, therefore, that the plantations, with rational management, will continue to be profitable. Perhaps later it will be necessary to look to the production of other articles, among which, in addition to caoutchouc and cacao, tobacco may be considered as the most likely to be successful.

“There are 167 German agricultural properties. They each belong either to one or a combination of several individuals, and in some instances a number of plantations together form a common property. In all, 150 persons are interested as owners. The area belonging to one owner or group of owners varies from 537 square kilometers to one-half a square kilometer, the values ranging between 10,000 and 5,000,000 *marks*. The yearly production of coffee varies from almost nothing to 19,000 *centners*, of and sugar from 1,000 to 22,000 *centners*.

“The size of the various properties gives to nearly all of them the character of agricultural undertakings of magnitude. There are only ten which have an area less than 200 hectares. Everywhere the work is carried on on a large scale, while elsewhere, especially in Brazil, the German colonists till the farm, assisted only by the members of their families, and where many of such settlements exist together, it becomes entirely a German community. In Guatemala, on the other hand, the German proprietor, or his representative, directs the work only. There are often two or more, and on the greatest of them six or eight, German employees, according to the size of the plantation. These

people, who later themselves often become owners, are managers, bookkeepers, physicians, machinists, and other technical assistants. Only the personnel engaged in the direction of the work is German. Spanish and Indian laborers do the work in the fields.

“There are two distinct kinds of Indian laborers. One class may be called day laborers, who live continuously in their primitive bamboo huts on the plantation. Their wants as to corn, wood, and bananas are supplied from the plantation, and they receive small wages. The other class, which may be designated ‘hired help,’ are temporarily employed for several months during the gathering of the crops, and come chiefly from the villages in the highlands. The planters secure these through agents, by advancing money to them. The Indian binds himself to work off the debt during the harvest time, and may be compelled by police regulations to do so. In the meanwhile he obtains further advances, and thus becomes bound for the next season. The Indian is subjected to further coercion, in that if he does not show that he lives for a certain time each year upon a plantation, the Government drafts him for work on the public highways. This is necessary in order to compel the indolent and the paupers to do something for their own existence. Once on a plantation, the Indian is not a bad worker. With the increase in the number of the plantations, there is already a complaint of lack of labor. Machinery of primitive as well as the most improved patterns is found on nearly all of the plantations.

“The climate, on account of the high altitude of most of the plantations, is quite endurable. The country has varied mountain formations, and rich vegetation of great scenic beauty. The roads are bad. With the exception of mule paths, they are simply primitive country roads, passable for two-wheeled vehicles only. High grades and rivers offer serious barriers to transportation. Many plantations, however, enjoy railroad facilities, through the Central Railway from San José to Guatemala City, and its branches, as well as through other lines. The residences of the owners are nearly always located near the buildings which contain the machinery and drying apparatus, and are for the most part modest frame houses. The public safety is, generally speaking, well guarded. It is of course important to live in harmony with the local authorities, upon whom the planter is dependent in many ways.

“The trade and industry of Germany enjoys great advantages owing to the fact that so many of the plantations are in the hands of Germans. The German planter buys what he needs in Germany. German manufactures thus become staple in the country, and articles such as agricultural implements and machinery, electric-lighting apparatus, bridge material, medicines, sacks, etc., all come from Germany. For example, one of the largest plantations in one year imported 64,500

marks' worth of German goods, and 20,000 *marks*' worth of goods made elsewhere, but all purchased through a German house in Hamburg. Another plantation recently bought sugar machinery in Germany to the value of 360,000 *marks*. These importations were generally made direct, the local German merchants having no connection with the transactions.

"The same is the case with the export of coffee from the German plantations, which is mainly sent to Germany. In 1896 the coffee export was as follows: To Germany, 46,268,078 pounds; United States, 11,926,467 pounds; Great Britain, 10,332,847 pounds. German railroads and German steamships reap considerable benefit from this business.

CAPITAL AND TRADE.

"The German trade in Guatemala is carried on principally through German houses established here. Much, however, as has been stated, is done by the owners of plantations with Germany direct. The number of German firms is 50; several have branches in different towns, which brings the total number up to 68, distributed throughout the country. In Guatemala City there are 28; Quezaltenango, 12; Retalhulen, 5, and Coban, 4. The other 19 are located in 16 different towns. The united capital of the 50 firms amounts to about 25,000,000 *marks*. Further, they enjoy open credit amounting to 30,000,000 *marks*. Only a few of the firms own their own business houses, the others using rented buildings, so that the value of city property owned by Germans is small.

"A majority of the firms, viz, 32, nearly all small, do an import business solely. The others both import and export. It is safe to say that there is no house but what imports at least one-half of its goods, some from two-thirds to three-fourths, and others their total supply, from Germany. Every endeavor is now made to introduce articles from the old home, which may be had there just as cheaply, and are frequently better and cheaper than those procured elsewhere. In many instances the effort goes further, and goods are brought from Germany which, in some cases, are more expensive and of higher grade. German goods are often thus preferred as against those which might be obtained in other countries more advantageously as far as quality and price are concerned. The principal imports from Germany are ironware, woolens, cottons, silks, beverages, drugs, luxuries, leather goods, clocks and watches, preserves, etc. The total value of imports in 1896 amounted to over nine million *pesos*, as follows:

"From the United States, 3,172,896; Great Britain, 2,164,491; Germany, 2,012,269; France, 1,196,849.

"Of the articles imported from Germany the values in *pesos* of the following may be mentioned: Cotton, 416,845; beer, 51,285; glass and

porcelain, 58,137; iron goods, 116,908; woollens, 186,810; railroad and telegraph material, 163,960; manufactured goods, 152,102; silks, 32,104; drugs and medicines, 34,107; leather goods, 34,216, and preserves, 43,208.

"The purchase of goods is generally effected through commission houses at Hamburg and Bremen. Several of the larger firms have their own establishments in Germany as well as in Guatemala. In time the same system, which has been carried on so successfully in Brazil, will probably be inaugurated, so that the partners of many firms will, after having reached a certain age, return to Germany to use their experience and knowledge as buyers for their houses in Guatemala, and they will in turn be succeeded there by younger men, thus forming a continuous link between Germany and her interests abroad.

"With the exception of a few of the smaller concerns, the German houses do both a wholesale and retail business, having as customers the local stores. The latter until recently were accorded extensive credits, a practice which resulted in considerable loss. It has already been stated that in most instances the planters supply their wants direct, and in like manner, even to a greater degree, the coffee is exported direct. Only twelve German firms are engaged in exporting, and each carries on an import, commission, and banking business.

"The initiatory steps toward establishing German trade with Guatemala were taken some forty years ago by Hamburg and Bremen merchants, and they are to-day largely interested in it. The trade assumed large dimensions some fifteen or twenty years ago, so that now the Germans hold relatively as important a place in trade as in planting in Guatemala. In agricultural undertakings the only competition which the Germans have comes from the natives. In trade, on the other hand, they have to meet foreigners, and especially North Americans, in the race for business.

"In the imports to Guatemala, Germany and Great Britain hold second place as against the United States, which, however, sends principally articles of nutriment, such as cereals, flour, potatoes, and corn. The preponderance of the exports is to Germany.

Fifteen German mercantile firms are at the same time owners of plantations. The employees of all the houses are German subjects.

TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES.

"German capital is largely interested in three transportation companies, whose stockholders and managers are almost entirely German.

The 'Campania de Agencias del Norte y Ferrocarril Verapaz' is a corporation which was created about three years ago through the consolidation of the newly formed Verapaz Railway Company with the river transportation company 'Agencias del Norte.' The latter

has for a long period carried on a regular service of towboats from Livingston, on the Atlantic coast, where it has many warehouses and docks, through the 'Golfo Dulce' and the adjacent lake, and the Rio Polochic as far as Panzos and return. This is the only access to the extensive territory of Northern Guatemala, especially to the Department of Verapaz and its plantations. It is intended that in connection herewith the Verapaz Railway shall facilitate the communication with the district. The narrow-gauge (915 mm.) Verapaz Railroad appears to be well built. The steel rails, ties, bridges, and other material came from Germany; the rolling stock from the United States. The road for the most part skirts the properties of the Germans. The extension to Coban is very much desired, but a grade of 1,000 meters presents a great difficulty. It seems possible, however, to construct an electric road with ease.

"The substitution of a railway for the bad roads, which in the rainy season are almost impassable even for mules, especially through the Polochic Valley, above all would serve German interests. All the imported goods are consigned either to the four German houses in Coban, to their agencies, or direct to the planters. The exported coffee comes almost solely from the latter, since they raise 75 per cent of the 60,000 *centners*, the estimated crop of the Verapaz district. In 1897 the company carried 55,000 *centners* of coffee and 26,000 *centners* of imported goods, all of which belonged to Germans. The continually increasing cultivation of the plantations will proportionately enlarge this business. That the undertaking will also be advantageous to German shipping has already been referred to.

"The Hamburg-American line has by contract obligated itself for a period of three years to have one of its steamers call monthly at Livingston, and during the coffee harvest two steamers each month, in all eighteen steamers per year. This apparently displaces the Atlas line (English), and the total coffee export from the Verapaz district to Germany and England will henceforth be carried in German bottoms. The company is registered in Guatemala, and the stockholders are almost all Germans—chiefly planters and merchants of Verapaz—and the management is also in German hands. The Government pays a subsidy, guaranteed from the customs receipts, on goods imported via Livingston, to the amount of three *pesos* per *centner*. In 1896 a dividend of 8 per cent was declared, but in 1897 the results, owing to the economical and political crisis, were unsatisfactory.

"The management of the 'Compania Anonima del Ferrocarril de Ocos' is German, and the road itself was built of material imported from Germany. It serves for the exportation of coffee from the extreme western districts, and passes along the forest-covered coast line to the foot of the mountains, which are dotted with German plantations. The company has ample facilities for loading and unloading

at Ocos. During the first harvest it handled 100,000 *centners* of coffee, and its prosperity seems assured.

“Only one of the principal stockholders of the ‘Ferrocarril del Occidente’ is German, who is at the same time general director. The company owns the road between Champerico, San Felipe, and Molo, as well as the harbor facilities at the former place. The road transports goods chiefly for the German plantations and business houses of the western district, and obtains its supplies, such as rails, bridges, etc., from Germany.

OTHER GERMAN INTERESTS.

“Industrial enterprises in Guatemala are not numerous. Of German undertakings of this character, except the gristmills before referred to, there is only one of great importance, namely, the ‘Empresa Electrica de Guatemala,’ which is, however, registered as a Guatemalan institution. This company exploits the water power of the falls of Palin, lighting by electricity the streets and houses of Guatemala City and its neighborhood within a distance of 40 kilometers, furnishing also power for small industries. The great length of transmission of the power, the climatic conditions, and other circumstances were at first somewhat unfavorable. The machinery was obtained in Germany, and the technical employees are Germans. The company’s 4-per-cent bond issue of nominally £1,500,000 is mostly held in Frankfort-on-the-Main and in Hamburg and Bremen.

“The participation of German capital in the six banking institutions of Guatemala was at the beginning of 1898 as follows: Value of shares owned by Germans—10 per cent of the total nominal value of all shares—1,600,000 *pesos*; nominal value of shares owned by nonresident Germans 670,000 *pesos*; market value on January 1, 1898, 800,000 *marks*. One-third of all the stock (one-third of a million *pesos*) of the ‘Banco Americano de Guatemala’ is owned by Germans, at the head of which is a German director. An important item is the enormous credit, which is conceded, almost solely by Hamburg and Bremen houses, to German as well as to native merchants and agriculturists. The extent of this credit is hard to determine. They are, as a rule, open credits, which vary in amounts at different times. As far as has been possible to ascertain, the credit to German merchants is 20,000,000 *marks*, to German planters 18,000,000 *marks*, and to native and other merchants and agriculturists 40,000,000 *marks*. The commercial credit is given partly in cash, partly in goods. The credit to agriculturists is given in the form of advances on crops, and the money thus obtained is really the working capital. The planter executes a mortgage for the security of his creditors.

“It is to be regretted that in late years the granting of credits on the part of Germans to natives, especially to agriculturists, has been too

extensive and without the exercise of due care. In the hope of obtaining good interest, credits have been almost forced upon them. The natives have been spoiled by this, and many led into undertakings for which they did not possess the requisite ability, so that the great crisis of 1897 brought to them financial disaster. The German creditors suffered losses, and in many instances were compelled to take over properties. This unwilling increase of German landed interests will, however, be valuable in the future, since by a rational working of the same satisfactory results may be expected. The amount of German capital invested in Guatemala is 183,500,000 *marks*.

“In the beginning of 1898 there were 900 German subjects residing in the Republic, who were for the most part merchants, clerks, agents, planters, overseers, a number of civil engineers, doctors, a few mechanics, machinists, and servants. There were no industrial nor agricultural laborers. Nearly all the German residents belong to the educated class, which fact increases their importance in the country. From what has been stated, the value of Guatemala as a market for German goods and as a field for investment of German capital will be well understood.”

The Bureau of the American Republics reproduces the above extracts from the German report in conformity with its plan of presenting to manufacturers of the United States all obtainable facts in relation to trade possibilities in the countries of this hemisphere. It will be observed that the United States exports more to Guatemala than does either Great Britain or Germany, but chiefly agricultural products, which apparently find markets there without any appreciable effort. It would seem, therefore, reasonable to assume that with the adoption of practical methods, as outlined above, the manufacturers of the United States might also compete successfully for a goodly share of the trade.

MEXICAN TRADE WITH THE UNITED STATES.

In a recent number of “*La Gaceta Comercial*,” of the city of Mexico, appears an editorial on the trade between Mexico and the United States, which is in part as follows:

“Many years ago, since the triumph of the Republic over the Empire, our neighbors on the north began to think of the development of their trade with us until they worked up a veritable agitation through the idea. The newspapers published theses and articles upon the subject; distinguished orators * * * referred to it upon the lecture platform, and even from the Protestant pulpit * * * called

attention toward 'the door that Mexico opened to Anglo-American producers.'

"But the truth is that, while our neighbors were *talking*, our country *acted*. They had the idea, but it seems that they did not know how to realize upon it. Once in a while a small excursion would come and visit Chapultepec, the museum, etc., and nothing further was heard of it. On one occasion a rachitic exhibition of American articles of mining was even made without any result whatever. The Government of the United States shared in the good wishes of its citizens, but took no step toward converting them into realities. Mexico, in the meantime, did what should have been done. From the time of JUÁREZ and LERDO she subsidized steamship lines, which at once began to increase trade between the two Republics on the Pacific and on the Gulf, as is evidenced by the Treasury reports of Señor ROMERO and the statistics issued by Señor GARCÍA CUBAS up to 1875.

"Subsequently, during the first administration of General DÍAZ, 'the railroad era' was inaugurated. This Republic, in order to attract the enterprising spirit of American and European capital to the construction of the great lines uniting our country with that of the North, granted liberal subsidies to the concessionaires of these lines, and of several others, almost all of whom were citizens of the United States. Our railroad system, which could not avoid seeking the markets of the North, necessarily came to be an extension of the railroad systems of that country, and our markets for this very reason were open to American commerce as our seaports have always been to that of Europe.

"It is the true 'policy of the open door,' and to it, put not only into practice but into *activity* by the Government of General DÍAZ, is due the development of trade between the United States and Mexico. The steamship lines supported by Mexico from New York, New Orleans, and Morgan City on the Atlantic, and some ports on the Pacific, commenced to open markets, and these opened, the railroads subsequently constructed through the action and the very liberal cooperation of this Republic completed the necessary work to the end that, our trade increasing, the northern industry could compete with the European in a fair struggle on our soil. All this *was our work*—that of the present Mexican Government.

"Clearly the intention of our Government was the development of *Mexico*, and the thought of the Americans who desired the increase of their trade with us, was *for their own benefit*; but this was a good business for both peoples, who, being neighbors, should have trade between them. Each while working for its own benefit of necessity labored likewise for the benefit of the other. What ought to be noted, however, is that the country which acted more *practically*, or in a more business-like way, in this connection was Mexico.

“We have gained an export trade to the United States which in the last fiscal year exceeded \$100,000,000 (\$103,553,000) and the United States, which thirty-three years ago did not export to Mexico more than a million dollars worth of products, now divides *in half* our total imports. During the last seven years the total imports of Mexico amounted to \$286,631,000, in round numbers, as follows: From Europe, \$142,518,000, and from the United States, \$144,113,000. The average for the seven years was: United States, in round numbers, \$20,573,000 per annum; Europe, \$20,259,000.

“As their determining cause, it is evident that these facts are due to the policy of our Government toward all nations, but with results particularly favorable to the United States owing to our immediate proximity.

“This, in our judgment, is one of the principal if not the foremost reason for the cordiality and even mutual affection which is noticeable in the relations of the two Governments. If we have in the United States our best market—our best consumer—the United States has in the resolutely progressive and liberal political economy of our Government an efficient collaborator of its own political economy, which necessarily leads to the great end of giving outlet to an alarming excess of production. Mr. THURBER stated before the Industrial Commission of the United States that that country has ‘a consuming power of 75,000,000 (of population) and a productive power of 150,000,000!’

“The great problem, then, the *problem of problems*, for the United States is to find an outlet to that excess of production which might otherwise overwhelm the economic forces of the country. So that wherever a considerable part of this excess of production shall find a consumptive demand, in that country the United States must see a true friend.

“But Mexico, which, in the service of its own interests, in fact also aids the United States and is of greater service as each day passes, owing to their unexampled development, is to the United States more than a friend. By reason of its situation, in the very nature of things, Mexico is in reality an associate of the United States, aiding that country at a cost to it of neither money nor care, since, as a cultured nation, jealous of its independence, Mexico can take care of herself and make progress without aid.

“But that which facts have revealed ought not to be forgotten: While our neighbors, who call themselves so *practical*, were *thinking* how to increase their trade with us, our Government furnished the means of increasing our own trade with them, and the consequent result is what we are contemplating * * .”

FRENCH VIEW OF UNITED STATES-MEXICAN
COMMERCE.

A recent French publication regarding the rapid growth of the trade between the United States and Mexico, is in part as follows:

“One is immediately struck on glancing at the import statistics of Mexico by the enormous preponderancy which the United States has in this commerce. While the sales of the three principal European nations, Germany, France, and England, amounted in 1897-98 to \$5,667,925 (silver), \$5,917,167, and \$9,211,221, respectively, the United States boasts of the colossal figure of \$24,164,687; more than the combined total of these three countries mentioned or 47.6 per cent of the total import trade for the fiscal year 1898-99, which reached \$50,759,421.

“The predominance of the United States is due not only to its immediate neighborhood, which allows the rapid filling of orders, decreasing the expenses and risks, affording a greater facility in exchange, nor to the production by the United States of special articles or products, such as cotton, mineral oils, timber, etc. It is especially due to the enterprising spirit of the Anglo-Saxon race, in the unprecedented efforts which it makes to conquer the Mexican markets, and to the keen, speculative qualities which Americans possess. For them no expense is superfluous when it is a question of business, and it is a common saying with them that it is necessary to know how to spend in order to know how to gain. They use newspaper advertisements, prospectuses, catalogues, as well as traveling men, and let nothing stand in the way of their success, and therefore they succeed.

“The principal article of importation of American origin is coal. The United States and England supply the coal used in Mexico. During the fiscal year 1897-98 they sold coal to the value of \$963,626, and in 1898-99 for \$1,258,297, representing about 500,000 tons. Colorado and Pennsylvania coal are principally exported here, this latter being considered of better quality. The Colorado coal is worth from \$12 to \$15 (silver) a ton and Pennsylvania coal from \$18 to \$20, according to quality. The demand, relatively very large, is still susceptible of being increased, in view of the intense industrial development of the country. However, the recent discoveries of coal deposits give rise to the belief that before long the importation of this article will decrease. The agents of the Southern Pacific Railway have found quite abundant anthracite deposits in the State of Sonora, about 100 miles west of the station of Ortez, not far from Hermosillo, which the company intends to develop.

“The ‘Coal Trade Journal’ of August 23, 1899, reports that a syndicate of capitalists, headed by WILLIAM H. INGHAM, of Philadelphia,

has obtained a very important railroad concession on the Pacific coast, the first one to profit by the new railroad law of April 29, 1899. This railroad has for its object the exploitation of the deposits of Val San Marcial, about 100 miles from Guaymas. The Philadelphia syndicate is called 'Pacific Coast Coal Company,' and has purchased 30,000 acres of land.

"An English company has been formed, with a capital of £600,000, for working the deposits of the district of Acatlan, in the State of Puebla. Important deposits have also been found on the extension of the Gran Pacifico Railway from Mexico to Cuernavaca. It is probable that if the production of these mines, together with that of the mines of Coahuilo, meets the expectations of the engineers, it will deal a very heavy blow to the English and American importers. However, as the exploitation of these mines necessitates the construction of numerous railroads, the field will remain open for quite a while.

"Cotton is the next most important article in the American-Mexican trade, the demand being very great. However, in view of the possibility of establishing mills in the neighborhood of the waterfalls of the temperate regions, and the cheapness of hand labor, the time is not far distant when Mexico will change from importing to exporting cotton fabrics. In 1898 there were in Mexico 125 factories engaged in the cotton industry—spinning, weaving, and dyeing. These factories had 491,443 spindles, 14,759 looms, and 29 stamping machines; employed 23,731 workmen; consumed 13,797,130 kilograms of cotton; produced 965,711 kilograms of flax, 5,376,882 pieces of *varas* (32 *varas* equal 26.82 meters), valued at \$14,963,284. However, up to the present time these factories have only produced a coarse grade of goods, the ordinary 'Manta' cotton cloth, indianas, and some ordinary calicoes; not yet having attempted muslins, colored stuffs, and fine calicoes. The prosperous state of the country demands these articles, and this explains the increased demand for better qualities.

"The inaccessibility of the forests which cover the slopes of the Sierra Madre, the impossibility of transporting the heavy pieces over roads which are in reality only mule tracks, the absence of navigable rivers, explain the important place which the importation of lumber holds in the trade between these two countries. In 1898-99 the imports arose to \$775,367. The mines use large quantities of lumber, besides what is required for a great number of bridges, railroad culverts, stations, and houses, Texas pine being used chiefly.

"The rails sold to Mexico by the United States amounted to \$539,154 last year. The railroad companies are mostly in the hands of Americans, and therefore the contractors send their orders to the United States. It is true that there are already foundries in the Republic at Agnascalientes and Chihuahua. A company with a capital of \$10,000,000 is to erect at Monterey a foundry for working the ores

of the Milmo mines, four miles from Las Golondrinas station, 100 miles north of Monterey, on the line of the Mexican Central Railroad. But it will be a considerable time yet before this foundry will be able to meet the demands of the country, and a vast field will still remain open to the foreign producers.

"The imports of carriages, wagons, and their parts amount to the sum of \$450,709. The greater part of these are light carriages, buggies, tilburies, and phaetons of American make. These are built very high on the wheels, to permit the fording of streams in a country where bridges are almost completely unknown. A good carriage for two horses costs from \$900 to \$1,000, Mexican currency, while victorias, French coupés, and landaus are scarce and sell for much more. The vehicles for transportation are also of American make, the Studebakers and Peter Schutter & Co., of Chicago, doing a good business. Their wagons are sold according to the capacity, varying from \$500 to \$1,200, and are generally very strong and satisfactory. Competition on railway coaches is almost impossible. The American car starts from the Pullman factories at Chicago, going away to Oaxaca without a change.

"Electric apparatus is imported to a value of \$438,829, mostly from the United States, which even sends its manufactures to France.

"The imports of sewing machines increased \$197,797 in 1898, and in 1899 the sales amounted to \$301,671. The principal house represented is the Singer Manufacturing Company, the principal agency of the Republic being at Mexico City, but the house is also represented in all the capitals of the States. The machines are mostly sold on monthly payments of \$5 each. If two months' payments remain unpaid the machine is retaken by the company. The price of these machines varies from \$50 to \$225.

"The imports of agricultural machinery rose from \$130,883 in 1898 to \$230,236 in 1899. The principal machines imported are harrows, reapers, 'scarifiers,' plows, hoes, seeders, and threshers. These were almost entirely from the United States.

"The importation of shoes from the United States has grown to enormous proportions, and threatens to reduce the local industry to almost nothing, and this in spite of the heavy duties which are levied on these articles. Americans are making unprecedented efforts in all parts of the world to conquer the markets, and mean to become the leaders for elegance, quality, and price. They already make very fine and good shoes, and are very proud of exporting large quantities of these articles to Europe. Even at Paris they last year sold shoes to the value of \$30,000. It can be said that here they are the masters, and the houses of Cahn, Nichlesburg & Co., of San Francisco; Flarsheim & Co., of Chicago; Douglas & Son, of Chicago; Wertheimer, Brown & Co., of St. Louis, do an enormous business. In 1898-99 \$223,000 worth

of shoes were imported. They are worth from \$18 to \$60, Mexican currency, per dozen. A good pair of men's shoes retail for from \$8 to \$12, women's from \$6 to \$10, and children's from \$2 to \$5."

THE BANANA PLANT.

The following article, from the pen of M. J. DE LOVERDO, is taken from "El Progress de Mexico," of February 28, 1900:

"Before the arrival of the Spaniards the Mexicans and Peruvians in great part lived on the fruit of the banana tree. In the climate of those countries the reproductive power of that tree is such that were authoritative testimony wanting it would be declared fabulous. Even to-day the banana, or plantain, constitutes in some parts of Mexico and Peru an article of prime importance for the subsistence of man. The reason for this is that one hectare of banana trees can feed more than 150 men, while the same area planted in wheat would barely provide food for 6 individuals. The rapid growth of this tree is no less notable. In the same space and under similar conditions of cultivation its production is forty times greater than that of potatoes and one hundred times more than that of wheat. Thus, says HUMBOLDT in his New Spain, nothing claims the attention of a European recently arrived in the torrid zone more than the lands cultivated around a hut.

"It is sugar above all that gives to the fruit of the banana its nutritive quality. It contains 72 per cent of water, 2.14 per cent of nitrogenous matter, and almost 22 per cent of saccharine substances. Were the crystallization of this sugar practically possible, the banana would furnish the sugar factories a raw material superior to that of the sugar cane or to that of the beet.

"The physiognomy of the tree producing this vegetable 'manna' is well known to all those who have traveled in hot lands. In those regions the banana tree is cultivated in the open air. Because of its singular aspect and its immense leaves this tree no less claims the attention of those who visit the great European hot houses. Its immense fruit, sprouting from the upper part of the stem, is used as a sign by the big grocers of Europe.

"The banana only has true agricultural importance in the regions near the equator which have a fertile and fresh soil, and a hot, uniform, and moist climate where there are neither great droughts nor strong winds. Here the banana is reproduced by suckers which are taken from the mother plant and are set out carefully at a distance of 3 or 4 meters from each other. Moreover, as it grows it is the center of radiation for new suckers, each of which will yield a smaller bunch than the principal tree.

"In countries where there are sufficient rains the preservation of the banana plantations does not demand more than some weeding and the suppression of a part of its suckers. As the silkworm dies after spinning its cocoon, so the banana tree dies after producing its fruit. Because of this peculiarity the custom is to cut down the stem of the banana to gather its product. This is done when the fruit which is ripened in the house, and, above all, in the dark, is still green and hard. In its green state the fruit is much employed, as its flavor harmonizes very well with that of cooked meat. With respect to ripe plantains, one of the best methods of preparing them is to fry them in a pan with melted grease. According to experts this process should be followed to prepare plantains for shipment to Europe.

"For the export trade prepared bananas are subjected to two methods. One consists in slicing the green bananas, drying them by a fire, and making a meal which the English call *coquintay*. The other method somewhat resembles the manner of drying figs. The ripe bananas are collected, peeled, cut lengthwise, cooked and first dried by a fire and afterwards by the sun. The outside thus becomes black and assumes a peculiar odor which is like that of smoked ham. The dry banana—*plátano pasado* of the Mexicans, *piere* of the French colonies—is a very wholesome food of an agreeable taste. The Tubāi *piere* has a well-established world-wide reputation.

"It is a remarkable fact that the banana, whose study is so easy, is among the least-analyzed plants, and is above all among the least known. The species has innumerable varieties, but they are much dispersed and have a uniform appearance to a superficial observer.

"For such as seek quality in the product there is but one banana plant—the *radjah*—the fruit of which differs from all others, as the *montreuil* peach differs from the fruit of the mulberry tree. When one only cares for quantity or a large harvest is desired, recourse may be had (in hot lands naturally) either to the Pernambuco banana or to a Tahitian variety, the *Purohini*. The bunch of this variety acquires such a size that, according to a military authority, two men can hardly carry it. In Malasia are to be found varieties of an extraordinary precocity, the fruit ripening at the end of four or five months. Such are the *Kanaya Sussu*, the *Kanaya Kilsjil*, etc. In England, where it is endeavored to raise bananas, as well as pine apples, in hot houses, recourse is had to the Chinese variety (*Musa Sinensis*), which, low and squatty, yields exquisite fruit.

"Banana trees, because of their appearance and the spread of their leaves, are much employed as ornamental plants in parks and gardens; but they should be placed in localities unexposed to the wind, which would destroy their leaves and thus cause them to lose all their beauty. The species which lend themselves most to decoration in cold climates come either from Abyssinia, like the 'Bruce banana,' from Coch-

China, the *Zebrodo* banana from Java, the leaves of which are speckled with gray spots, or the red (*Musa coccinea*) and the rose bananas (*Musa rosacea*).

"In gardens the banana plant is multiplied from the seed. Plants appearing in the month of January are sometimes fit for ornamental purposes in June; nevertheless they will not develop all their beautiful appearance until the second year. In winter the plants in pots are kept in a cool or temperately warm greenhouse.

"The banana plant, which feeds man, which decorates his garden, and whose leaves at times cover the roof of his dwelling, may also clothe him. Everybody has heard speak of the Manila hemp, or *abaca*, which is simply the textile product of a variety of banana tree whose height reaches seven meters. The leaf stalks sheathing the trunk, by means of a soaking process, produce fiber that at times has the luster of silk. Of this fiber a solid, light, and dry cloth is made which absorbs humidity but little and is a poor heat conductor. With the outer fibers, which are harsher, cloths are made which in Africa are known by the name of *koffo*. One foot of this stock produces 12 ounces of this class of fiber, and one workman can prepare 25 kilos a day.

"The textile banana plant, differing from the other varieties, does not seek moist places, but needs a cold climate. Ignorance of these conditions has caused the failure of many attempts to acclimate it in some of the French colonies; hence I have thought it useful to write this article. I trust that the advice it contains will serve colonists undertaking the culture of the banana or plantain to secure better results than their predecessors."

HONORARY CORRESPONDING MEMBERS.

The Bureau of the American Republics is pleased to announce that since the last issue of the MONTHLY BULLETIN, four new honorary corresponding members have been added to the list.

Señor DON MANUEL ARAGÓN will represent the Republic of Costa Rica at the capital, San José. Señor ARAGÓN is particularly well qualified to perform the duties which he has so kindly undertaken. During the International American Conference of 1889-1890, this gentleman represented Costa Rica as its delegate, and won the esteem of all of his colleagues for the admirable and earnest manner in which he espoused the cause of his country, and the many important questions discussed before that body. He is at present the director of the National Bureau of Statistics at San José.

In the person of Señor DON ALEJANDRO GARLAND, who has consented to act as the correspondent for the Bureau at Lima, Peru, is to

he found a gentleman of eminent ability as a statistician and writer. He was a delegate to the International Commercial Congress at Philadelphia in 1899, and is thoroughly equipped to perform the duties of a correspondent.

Señor Dr. DON ESTANISLAO S. ZEBALLOS, who will represent the Bureau at Buenos Ayres, Argentine Republic, will need barely any introduction to the readers of the MONTHLY BULLETIN, as he will be remembered as the Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of his Government to the United States in 1892-93. This gentleman was born on July 27, 1854, at El Rosario, being descended from a prominent family figuring among the founders of the city. He received his degree of doctor of laws in 1874. He has been Minister of Foreign Relations on two occasions, twice president of the Chamber of Deputies, for ten years a National Deputy for the Provinces of Buenos Ayres, Santa Fé, and the Federal capital. He was the founder of the "Sociedad Científica Argentina," and of the "Instituta Geográfico Argentino," and a member of the Royal Academy of the Language and of History of Madrid, of the Academy of Sciences of Philadelphia, of various European societies, and officer of the French Academy, etc.

Señor ZEBALLOS, besides being an able lawyer and distinguished statesman, is a journalist and litterateur of merit. He has written three small novels depicting the life of the native tribes, in imitation of J. FENIMORE COOPER. He has also published a work entitled "Descripción Amena de la República Argentina" (Interesting Description of the Argentine Republic). During his residence in Washington as a diplomat he wrote "La Concurrencia Universal y la Agricultura en Ambas Americas" (Universal Competition and Agriculture in both Americas). His books of travel "Conquista de Quince Mil Leguas" (Conquest of Fifteen Thousand Leagues) and "Viaje al País de los Auracanes" (Trip to the Country of the Auracanos). Señor ZEBALLOS is also a professor of private international law in the University of Buenos Ayres, and in April, 1898, presided over the Latin American Scientific Congress which was held in Buenos Ayres.

Señor General Don M. V. BALLIVIÁN, who will act as Correspondent in La Paz, Bolivia, is one of the most distinguished men in South America, at present occupying the position of Director of the National Bureau of Immigration, Statistics, and Geographical Propaganda. He is a writer of great merit, having published a number of works upon geography, history, and cognate subjects, and is an Honorary Corresponding Member of the Royal Geographical Society of Great Britain. He is an indefatigable worker in the field of statistics, and is deeply interested in the purposes for which the Bureau of the American Republics was founded. He will from time to time honor the Bureau with contributions from his pen.

TRADE WITH SPANISH AMERICA.

The United States collector of customs at Eagle Pass is authority for the statement that the exports to Mexico from the former country for 1899 were 450 per cent greater than for the previous year. The increase has been mainly in agricultural implements and machinery, with dry goods, clothing, and textile fabrics following. The imports from Mexico show an increase of 10 per cent over 1898. The average business per month in the last-named year was \$100,000, while in 1899 the value of exports ran as high as \$850,000 for the same length of time, and for no month did business drop lower than \$400,000.

The Mexican Consul at Pascagoula, Mississippi, reports the exports to Mexico during the month of February as follows: To Laguna, lumber valued at \$1,046; to Progreso, lumber valued at \$3,495; to Veracruz, lumber valued at \$3,631; making a total of \$8,172.

The Mexican Consul at Nogales, Arizona, says the exports through that port to Mexico during the month of January, 1900, were valued at \$143,255, and that the imports from Mexico to the United States were valued at \$495,208.

The Consul-General of Mexico in San Francisco reports that during the month of January, 1900, the exports of United States merchandise shipped to Mexico through the port of San Francisco were valued at \$147,979, and that the foreign merchandise so shipped was valued at \$2,466. There were also shipped to Salvador 5,300, to Mexico 500, and to Hongkong 71,640 Mexican silver dollars, making a total of 77,440. The imports from Mexico during the same month were: Metals, \$331,732; merchandise, \$55,555; a total of \$387,287.

The Mexican Consul at San Diego, California, announces the exports to Mexico through his station during the month of January last to have been 6,136 packages; valued at \$8,888.75. The imports through this port destined for the United States for the same month were valued at \$18,467.

The Consul-General of Mexico at New York reports the imports from Mexico during the month of January, 1900, to have been the following: Henequén, 8,147 bales; coffee, 19,304 bags; hides, 2,382 bundles; loose hides, 5,947; ixtle, 2,337 bales; goatskins, 1,386 bales; deerskins, 296 bales; rubber, 171 packages; leaf tobacco, 185 bales; cigars, 117 boxes; broom root, 792 bales; chicle gum, 1,295 packages; fustic dyewood, 20,370 logs; Puebla onyx, 171 blocks; hair, 43 bales; lead, 74,770 bars; metals, 205 cases; ores, 39,602 packages; sarsaparilla, 295 bales; vanilla, 1 box; alligator skins, 48; heron plumes, 1 box; bones, 2,065 packages; honey, 138 barrels; cedar, 645 logs; mahogany, 2,538 logs; jalap, 3 bags; copper, 5,801 bars; horns, 25; emery stones, 1,191; licorice, 9,725 packages; cloth, 6,029 packages; opium, 140 packages.

During the month of January there were entered at the port of New York from Mexico 15 steamers carrying 206,174 packages, and during the same month there were cleared for Mexican ports 14 steamships carrying 109,074 packages.

The Consul of Nicaragua in Boston writes that during the month of January, 1900, only one vessel, a steamer of 2,287 tons burden, sailed from Boston for Nicaragua; this carried iron castings of the value of \$69.37 and shoes to the value of \$270.

The Consular Agent of Nicaragua at Mobile, Alabama, says that during the month of February, 1900, the exports to Nicaragua from Mobile consisted entirely of dry goods, valued at \$1,778.89.

The Consul-General of Bolivia at New York reports the exports to Bolivia during the month of February, 1900, as follows: Via Antofagasta, 748 packages, valued at \$13,713.60; via Tacna, 26 packages, valued at \$634.90; via Mollendo, 302 packages, valued at \$6,966.01; via Villa Bella, 299 packages, valued at \$4,451.85; via Puerto Suarez, 12 packages, valued at \$1,008; via Tarija, 252 packages, valued at \$7,466.71; a grand total of \$1,639 packages, valued at \$34,242.63.

The Consul-General of the Dominican Republic reports the imports of products of Santo Domingo into New York during the month of December, 1899, as valued at \$77,680, against \$32,062 for the same month of 1898. The imports of Dominican products into New York during the month of January, 1900, were valued at \$121,680, as against \$154,106 for the same month of 1899. During the year 1899 there were cleared for Santo Domingan ports from New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Wilmington, and Baltimore 46 steamship and 29 sailing vessels, of a total tonnage of 48,448 tons, carrying merchandise to the value of \$1,812,348.27.

The Consul-General of Venezuela at New York reports the exports to Venezuela for the month of January, 1900, as follows: Packages, 31,827, weighing 1,781,921.85 kilos and valued at \$205,105.04, as against 43,502 packages weighing 2,383,266.05 kilos, valued at \$249,680.68, for the month of January, 1899, showing a decrease of \$44,575.64 in January, 1900. The exports to Venezuela for the month of February, 1900, were as follows: Packages, 35,655, weighing 2,151,436.61 kilos, valued at \$562,904.36, as against 39,537 packages, weighing 2,359,329.22 kilos, valued at \$226,907.69, for the same month of 1899, showing \$335,996.67 net increase for February, 1900.

METEOROLOGICAL WORK AT AREQUIPA, PERU.

A short time ago, Professor SOLON J. BAILEY, M. A., director of the Arequipa station of Harvard University, delivered a lecture, under the auspices of the Brooklyn (New York) Institute of Arts and Bull. No. 3—7

Sciences, on the Meteorological Work of the Harvard College Observatory at Arequipa, Peru, and at the chain of meteorological stations crossing the Andes.

The lecturer said in part that Harvard College Observatory was founded in 1840 and received its first endowment of importance in 1843. In 1887 the "Boyden fund" of more than \$200,000 was received for the special purpose of carrying on astronomical research at such an altitude as to be free, as far as possible, from the atmospheric difficulties encountered at low elevations. In carrying out the terms of this bequest Professor BAILEY was himself sent in 1889 to make a study of the conditions in Peru which should lead to the selection of the best site for a permanent station. Two years were passed in this study and at the same time a large amount of astronomical and meteorological work was accomplished.

For more than a year a provisional station was occupied on a mountain at an altitude of 6,500 feet and about 25 miles east of Lima. This mountain became known as Mount Harvard. Here Professor BAILEY, with his wife, child, and two assistants, lived, with no neighbors nearer than 8 miles. Later various other localities were visited in Peru, and some in Chile. As a result of these investigations Arequipa was selected as the site of the permanent station.

The chief astronomical instruments now in use there are described as the great "Bruce" photographic telescope, and the "Boyden" refractor, with other smaller but valuable apparatus. The main lines of work are photometric and photographic, although much has been done in visual observation of the planets and the double and variable stars. Auxiliary meteorological stations have been maintained for several years in a line extending from Mollendo, on the Pacific, across the Andes to Santa Ana, on the Upper Amazon.

In 1893 the meteorological station was established on the summit of the nearly extinct volcano "El Misti," at an elevation of 19,200 feet, and is by far the highest scientific station in the world. Professor BAILEY said that it is hoped that the discussions of the observations made at this unique system of stations may lead to very important results. Among the interesting new discoveries, he mentioned several spectroscopic binaries by Professor PICKERING and other members of the observatory, from an examination of the photographs taken. One of the other direct results of the establishment of this station was the discovery, by Mrs. FLEMING, of a large number of new variable stars, their finding being due, in some part, to peculiarities of the spectrum at this height. The great height and clearness of atmosphere assisted Professor BAILEY greatly in the discovery of about 500 new variable stars in dense globular clusters.

Publication has been made of part of the discoveries and the results of the work at Arequipa station in an article entitled "Peruvian

Meteorology, 1888-1890," in the "Annual of the Astronomical Observatory of Harvard College," 1899, but necessarily some time must elapse before all are ready for the public.

BOOK NOTICES.

Books and pamphlets sent to the Bureau of the American Republics, and containing subject-matter bearing upon the countries of the International Union of American Republics, will be treated under this caption in the Monthly Bulletin.

The "Century" for March, 1900, contains an article by Dr. FREDERICK A. COOK, of the Belgian Antarctic Expedition, entitled "The Giant Indians of Tierra del Fuego," the text being illustrated with pictures drawn from photographs taken by himself. The Fuegians have been reported from time to time since the country was first sighted and named by MAGELLAN in 1520, but to-day they remain still almost unknown, says the writer. In connection with the voyage of the *Belgica*, the members of this expedition had unusual opportunities for studying their wild life and their weather-beaten land. "They are not, as is generally supposed, a homogeneous tribe, but three distinct races, with different languages, different appearances, different habits and homes. * * * The Onas have thus far evaded all efforts at civilization, have refused missionaries, and have to the present time, with good reason, distrusted white men. In consequence they have remained absolutely unknown. * * * As a tribe they have never been united in a common interest, nor have they ever been led by any one great chief. They have always been divided into small clans under leaders with limited powers, who have waged constant warfare among themselves. To the present they have their worst enemies among their own people, but now that sheep farmers and gold diggers want their country they are uniting to fight their common enemy."

Physically the Onas are giants. They are not, however, 7 or 8 feet in height, as the early explorers reported their neighbors and nearest relatives, the Patagonians, to be. Their average height is close to 6 feet, a few attain 6 feet 6 inches, and a few are under 6 feet. The women are not so tall, but they are more corpulent. There is, perhaps, no race in the world with a more perfect physical development. This is partly due to the topography of their country and to the distribution of game, which makes long marches constantly necessary.

It is observed that the mental equipment of the Ona is by no means equal to his splendid physical development. He understands very well the few arts of the chase which he finds necessary to maintain a

food supply. "His game in the past has been easily gotten; his needs have been few, which fact accounts for the lack of inventive skill portrayed in the instruments of the chase. The home life, the house, the clothing—everything portrays this lack of progressive skill. Instead of the children being well dressed and well cared for, as is the rule among savage races, they are mostly naked, poorly fed, badly trained, and altogether neglected, not because of a lack of parental love, but because of the mental lethargy of the people. It is the same as to shelter and garments. They have abundant material to make good tents and warm, storm-proof houses, but they simply bunch up a few branches and throw to the windward a few skins, and then shiver, complaining of their miserable existence."

"México: Su Evolución Social" (Mexico: Its Social Evolution) is the title of a great work which is now being issued in parts by the publishing firm of J. Ballezá y Compañía, Sucesores, of the City of Mexico. The publishers state in their announcement that the work will not be a treatise on Mexican sociology, in the strict sense of the word, but will present such facts as should be utilized in a proper study of the whole Mexican fabric, political, social, industrial, etc. It is intended to give a full knowledge of the Mexico of to-day in foreign countries, and to do this there will be three editions of the work—Spanish, English, and French.

There will be two volumes, each divided into several parts (to be issued separately), in this publication, which will be sold by subscription. The contents will be as follows:

Vol. I—Part 1: The Territory of Mexico and its Inhabitants, by the engineer Don AUGUSTÍN ARAGÓN. Part 2: Political History, by the Licentiate Don JUSTO SIERRA. Part 3: National Constitution; The States of the Federation; International Relations, by Judge Don JULIO ZÁRATE. Part 4: The Municipalities; Penal Establishments, by the Licentiate Don MIGUEL MACEDO. Part 5: Legal Evolution, by the Licentiate Don EMILIO PARDO, Jr. Part 6: The National Army, by General Don BERNARDO REYES. Part 7: National Education; Educational Legislation and Statistics; State Instruction in all its Branches; Private Schools; Educational Congresses; Scholastic Publications; Libraries; Museums; The Press as an Educator, by the Licentiate EXEQUIEL A. CHÁVEZ. Part 8: Science in Mexico; The Savants; Elements of Scientific Works; Protection of the State and of Private Parties; Mexico's Contribution to Scientific Advancement; Academies; Institutes; Reviews; Scientific Bodies, by Dr. Don PORFIRIO PARRA. Part 9: National Literature, by the Licentiate Don MANUEL SÁNCHEZ MARMOL.

Vol. II—Part 1: Agricultural Evolution, by the Licentiate Don GENARO RAIGOSA. Part 2: Mining Evolution, by the Licentiate Don GILBERTO CRESPO MARTÍNEZ. Part 3: Industrial Evolution, by the

Licentiate DON EDUARDO ZÁRATE. Parts 4 and 5: Public Works and National and International Communications, by the Licentiate DON PABLO MACEDO. Parts 6 and 7: Commerce and Public Resources, by the Licentiate DON PABLO MACEDO. Part 8: History of the Public Treasury, by the Licentiate DON PABLO MACEDO. Conclusion, by the Licentiate DON JUSTO SERRA.

The MONTHLY BULLETIN is indebted to Mr. D. BANKHARDT, editor of the "Hacendado Mexicano" for a copy of "The Hacendado Mexicano's Mexican Sugar Report, 1899-1900." The pamphlet is a most useful and interesting work on the sugar industry of Mexico. The text is in Spanish and English, and is replete with statistics showing the quantity of tons of sugar cane raised to the acre in different States of the Republic, the amount of juice expressed from a ton of cane, and the quantity of refined sugar in the same. A valuable and important feature, never heretofore published, is an official list of all the sugar-cane planters in Mexico and of the leading planters in Central America. There is also a list of all those engaged in the making of sugar, with the name, district, State, and distance of said plantation from the city of Mexico, with a description of the class of machinery used and the amount of sugar and molasses made on each plantation. According to the work, the total amount of refined sugar produced in the Republic during the year 1898-99 was 50,670,576 kilograms. The number of sugar plantations, according to the official list in the different States, is as follows: Morelos, 30; Michoacán, 31; Colima, 4; Puebla, 19, exclusive of many small properties where only *panela* (common brown sugar) is made; Veracruz, 144; Tamaulipas, 132; Nuevo León, 21; Oaxaca, 126; Guerrero, 66; México, 13; Campeche, 37; Yucatán, 18; Tabasco, 47; Sinaloa, 6 (besides 329 small properties where *panela* is made for local consumption or for making *aguardiente*); Jalisco, 232; and Queretaro, 1. The pamphlet further states that the total production of sugar, including the *piloncillo* (raw or unrefined sugar), was about 150,000 tons; but at least one-half of the latter and of the molasses is distilled into spirits. The book will be found of great value to those interested in sugar, whether as planters or handlers of sugar machinery.

"Alfabetos Adornados, Aplicaciones Decorativas del Arte Antiguo" (Ornamented Alphabets, Decorative Applications of Ancient Art) is the title of the second edition of a fine album of 82 finely reproduced plates which has just been issued in the City of Mexico, and which is the compilation of the intelligent and industrious Mexican archaeologist, Dr. ANTONIO PEÑAFIEL. The plates have been reproduced by the photogravure and phototype processes, the first twenty of which are reproductions of alphabets fancifully decorated with Grecian fret-work copied from native monuments.

The 50 plates following are reproductions of two beautiful alphabets, tastefully and elegantly decorated, the first with human figures, which give a complete idea of the different articles composing the ancient raiment of the Mexican and Tlaxcalteca warriors, priests, kings, and noble dames; the second alphabet being decorated with panoplies of escutcheons, arms, flags, musical instruments, and religious emblems. The two alphabets thus give a very complete idea of the native costumes, arms, etc., prior to the Spanish conquest. The last 12 plates faithfully reproduce the characteristic fretwork used decoratively by the Aztecs, or Mexicans, copied from their own monuments, and that employed by the Zapotecas in the secular mosaic at Mitla, in Oaxaca. As an exposition of the beautiful and exquisite combination of the ancient Mexican and Zapotecas art this work stands unrivaled.

The Department of Agriculture has issued a comprehensive pamphlet on the distribution of the agricultural exports of the United States for the five years 1894 to 1898. The value of the annual average for this period was \$663,536,201, or 69.58 per cent of all the domestic exports of the country. Of the annual average, 54.62 per cent went to the United Kingdom of Great Britain; 13.01 per cent to Germany; 6.63 per cent to France; 4.34 per cent to the Netherlands; 3.58 per cent to Belgium; 3.47 per cent to Canada; 2.15 per cent to Italy, and 1.47 per cent to Spain. No other country took as much as 1 per cent of the total. During the five years in comparison the agricultural exports of the United States increased to Great Britain, Germany, France, Belgium, Canada, the Netherlands, Japan, Italy, Denmark, and British Africa.

The gain was the greatest to the United Kingdom, but the gains to Belgium and Holland were very marked, and were important in the cases of France and Germany. Canada took an average of \$23,000,000 worth of agricultural products each year for the period named, the West Indies a little less than \$17,000,000 worth a year, while South America's annual average was \$11,389,761, of which more than one-half went to Brazil.

"El Correo de la Tarde," a newspaper of Mazatlán, Mexico, has published some interesting particulars about the last two letters written by Archduke MAXIMILIAN, the late Emperor of Mexico. These documents are now in the hands of Señor MANUEL C. ROMERO, a resident of Medaña. They were written by the unfortunate sovereign just previous to his execution at Querétaro, June 19, 1867. They are dated June 18, 1867, and were addressed to FRANCIS JOSEPH, the Emperor of Austria-Hungary. MAXIMILIAN advised the Emperor not to pay the drafts for 200,000 *pesos*, drawn in favor of Colonels MIGUEL PALACIO and RICARDO VILLANUEVA, to each of whom 100,000 *pesos* had been offered, provided they would facilitate the flight of

MAXIMILIAN, but they had not fulfilled their promises. The letters were extracted from the portfolio of the Emperor after his execution by Captain TORRES, who was then second sergeant in the Twenty-fifth Battalion, and who was charged to shoot the *coup de grace* into the ear of MAXIMILIAN. Señor ROMERO kept for a time a small establishment at Guaymas and became the friend of TORRES, who presented the letters to him.

Through the courtesy of Messrs. SILVER, BURDETTE & Co., of New York, Boston, and Chicago, the library of this Bureau has received a valuable accession in the form of a set of forty volumes of school text-books. They embrace the complete course in normal instruction, including series of supplementary readers, normal course in reading, advanced arithmetic, studies in English grammar, first steps in the study of United States history, and a complete history of the country by WILLIAM A. MOWRY, and further geographical readers in seven volumes. There are also text-books on chemistry, physiology, and hygiene. A most interesting compilation is the "Songs of the Nation," which is a complete collection of the patriotic and national songs (edited by CHARLES W. JOHNSON). There are also some Spanish text-books for primary instruction. The whole collection is an index to the present methods of teaching in the United States, and it is understood that text-books on the same lines are to be issued by the house in the Spanish language for use in the island possessions of this country.

"Education in the United States" is the title of a two-volume work which has been planned and edited by Professor NICHOLAS MURRAY BUTLER as an important feature of the educational exhibit at the Paris Exposition. The work consists of 19 monographs, each prepared by a leading specialist, which, taken together, give a complete view of the present educational activity of the United States. It is proposed to present an edition of handsomely bound and numbered copies of the work to the leading Governments, public libraries, and educational institutions of the world. The public generally will have an opportunity to purchase copies at a moderate price. Among the contributors to this work are Dr. WILLIAM T. HARRIS, United States Commissioner of Education; ANDREW FLEMING WEST, professor of Latin in Princeton University; Dr. ANDREW SLOAN DRAPER, president of the University of Illinois; T. C. MENDENHALL, president of the Technological Institute of Worcester, Massachusetts, and BOOKER T. WASHINGTON, principal of the Tuskegee Institute.

The "Nouveau Monde," in its issue of March 3, 1900, states that a new book on modern Mexico and on the work accomplished by the administration of General DIAZ, entitled "El Progreso de Mexico," is to appear shortly. The collaboration is expected of Messrs. PORFIRIO PARRA, PEÑA IDIAQUEZ, LARA HARDO, CARLOS DÍAZ DUFOO, LUIZ G.

URBINA, AMADO NERVO, CARLOS PEREIRA, JUAN SÁNCHEZ AZCONA, EUGENIO SÁNCHEZ, and many others whose names are sufficient to guarantee its success.

The work is dedicated to the President of the Republic. It will be published at Paris in the French and Spanish languages and will contain numerous articles relating to the financial, commercial, industrial, and mining institutions, etc., of the country, which will render it of interest to the business man and the public official, as well as to the writer or publicist.

The curriculum of the Commercial High School at Leipsic, Germany, for the six months' term commencing on April 18, 1900, contains a large number of lectures upon most important subjects. Among others, Professor HASSE will speak upon the "German Colonial Policy;" Doctor SALOMAN upon the "Comparative History of the Colonial Policies of the Several European States." The students of the Commercial High School are also admitted to the University in that city. Here practical work will be done, under the supervision of competent teachers; besides this, there will be a course in languages, with special reference to mercantile correspondence in French, English, Spanish, Italian, and Russian; as well as in stenography and type-writing. The libraries of the University and the Municipal Chamber of Commerce will be placed at the disposal of the students.

Mr. A. R. SPOFFORD, Assistant Librarian of the Congressional Library of the United States, has prefaced a new work to be issued by Putnam's Sons, entitled "A Book for All Readers." The subject-matter will be devoted principally to the selection, care, and management of public and private libraries. A part of the volume is given to library science proper, and the remainder to such topics as the choice of books, the art of reading, rare books, periodical and pamphlet literature, book buying in America and Europe, the art of book-binding, the history of libraries, the enemies of books, the humors of the library, the faculty of memory—in short, to subjects of commanding interest, not only to all literary persons and lovers of good books, but also to the general reader.

The diamond trade, or rather the production of diamonds in Brazil, which has decreased considerably since the discovery of the great diamond mines in Kimberly, is beginning to be revived since the opening of the Transvaal War. Regarding these mines, Mr. A. DE JAEGHER has recently published in Europe an interesting monograph. In this he shows that as early as 1880, the State of Minas Geraes, the principal producer of the precious stones in that country, yielded only 5,000 carats. That amount decreased, in 1883, to only a few hundred carats. Since 1727, the first year in which Brazilian diamonds were to be found on the market, they have continued on sale up to the present time, the

total value of these stones being estimated by the writer at 500,000,000 *francs*. That sum represents about 12,000,000 carats of diamonds, or a weight of about 2½ tons.

The "Standard Guide to the City of Mexico and Vicinity," compiled by ROBERT S. BARRETT, Modern Mexico Publishing Company, City of Mexico, 1900. This book of about 100 pages has been prepared for the purpose of providing the tourist with practical information concerning and intelligent description of the country. The author makes little claim to originality, and has gathered his material from various sources. The illustrations are remarkably good, among them being portraits of President DIAZ, General POWELL CLAYTON, United States Ambassador, and others, and are taken from "Modern Mexico," of St. Louis, Mo.

"La Guia Ilustrada de Nicaragua" (Illustrated Guide to Nicaragua) is the title of a handsome volume of 226 pages, which has just seen the light in the Republic of Nicaragua, and is the work of Señor Don H. FALCHINELLI GRAZIOSI. The volume will serve as a *vade mecum* for foreigners who are unacquainted with Nicaragua, its immense resources, its government, laws, inhabitants, and other features. The illustrations are all excellent, and convey a most exact idea of the leading men and institutions and picturesque scenery.

The Advance Sheets of the United States Consular Reports, issued February 27, 1900, are mainly devoted to the cassareep in Latin America. This product is obtained from the mandioca. There are two plants of this kind known, one bitter and the other sweet. The natives of Guatemala make bread and starch from the uandioea. In Honduras they employ it only to extract starch. It is indubitable that the food extracted from this root is highly nutritive, and may well compete with potatoes as an alimentary substance.

The geographical work upon which Professors GREGORIO M. SOLIS and MANUEL E. ROSAS have been engaged for some time past, under instructions from the Governor of the State of Chihuahua, Mexico, and data for which has been furnished by the Department of Interior of the State, is now nearing completion. All that remains to be done is to incorporate into the work the details relative to the Districts of Iturbide and Guerrero.

The "Successful American" is a magazine which began its career with the January, 1900, number. It is published at the Press Biographical Company, 13 Park Row, New York, and consists of pictures and sketches of men who have achieved distinction in the political and business world.

"El Iris del Hogar," of Matamoros, State of Tamaulipas, Mexico, is the latest addition to the journals of that progressive town.

LIBRARY ACCESSIONS DURING FEBRUARY, 1900.

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- "El Comercio." (Perú) Almanaque de "El Comercio" para 1900. Lima, Imp. de "El Comercio" [1900]. 216 pp. 8°.
- Field Columbian Museum. Annual report of the Director, Chicago. Field Col. Museum, 1899. 425 pp. 8°.
- Ireland, Alleyne. The Anglo-Boer Conflict . . . Boston, Small, Maynard & Co., 1900. 134 pp. 12°.
- Kramer, Pedro. La Industria en Bolivia, 1ª Parte. La Paz, Taller Tipo-Litográfico, 1899. Map. 306 pp. 8°.
- Manzano, Theodomiro. Geografía del Estado de Hidalgo. México, Eduardo Dublan, 1897. 77 pp. 12°.
- Peraza, D. Joaquín Castillo. Artículos Sueltos de D. Joaquín Castillo Peraza. Mérida, Tip. de G. Canto, 1899. 276 pp. 12°.
- Ponce, Ricardo Mendez. Geografía del Estado de Puebla. Méjico, Antonio V. Arroyo, 1891. 82 pp. 12°.

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ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

- Anuario de la dirección general de estadística. Buenos Ayres, Compañía Sud Americana, 1899. 428 pp. 8°.

BELGIUM.

- Recueil consulaire. . . . Vol. 105. Bruxelles, P. Weissenbuch, 1899. 473 pp. 8°.

BRAZIL.

- Tarifas das Alfandegas. Rio de Janeiro, Imp. Nacional, 1897. 130 pp. 4°.

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- Oficina de Estadística. Sinopsis estadística y geográfica de Chile, 1898. Valparaiso, Gmo. Helfman, 1899. 218 pp. 8°.

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- Accounts relating to trade and navigation. January, 1900. London, Wyman & Sons, 1900. 103 pp. 8°.
- Canada. Geological Survey, annual report (new series), 1897. Ottawa, S. E. Dawson, 1899. 232, xxii, pp. 8°.

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- Informe de la Corte Suprema de Justicia. . . . Tegucigalpa, Tip. Nacional, 1900. 24 pp. 4°.

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- Boletín de Estadística Fiscal. Mexico, Imp. del Timbre, 1899. 965, 108 pp. 8°.
- Reseña del Estado de Hidalgo, . . . 1884-1885. Pachuca, Gobierno del Estado, 1884. 110 pp. 8°.
- Reseña económica del Estado de Tabasco. México, Tip. Secretaría de Fomento 1899. 168 pp. 8°.

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- Department of Agriculture. Irrigation in Rocky Mountain States. J. C. Ulrich. Washington, Government Printing Office, 1899. 64 pp. 8°.
- . Our trade with Japan, China, and Hongkong. J. H. Hitchcock. Washington, Government Printing Office, 1900. 168 pp. 8°.
- . Results of work of Division of Entomology. L. O. Howard. Washington, Government Printing Office, 1900. 109 pp. 8°.
- . Rice culture in the United States. S. A. Knapp. Washington, Government Printing Office, 1900. 28 pp. 8°.
- . Russian cereals. M. A. Carleton. Washington, Government Printing Office, 1900. 42 pp. 8°.
- Department of Justice. Annual report of the Attorney-General. Washington, Government Printing Office, 1899. 431 pp. 8°.
- Navy Department. Notes on naval progress. Washington, Government Printing Office, 1899. 326 pp. 8°.
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- Philadelphia Commercial Museum. Asphaltum. Scientific Department. Bulletin No. 2. Philadelphia, Commercial Museums, 1900. 19 pp. 8°.
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- . Exports declared for the United States. . . . 1899. Washington, Government Printing Office, 1900. 61 pp. 8°.
- . Foreign trade in coal tar and by-products. Washington, Government Printing Office, 1899. 226 pp. 8°.

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- Leyes sobre construcción del Puerto de Montevideo. Montevideo: Imp. de "La Nación," 1899. 84 pp. 8°.

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- Bulnes, Francisco: El porvenir de los Naciones Hispano-Americanas. México: Imp. de Mariano Nava, 1899. 282 pp. 8°.
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PERIODICALS AND NEWSPAPERS PERMANENTLY FILED IN THE LIBRARY.

Persons interested in the commercial and general news of foreign countries will find the following among the official and periodical publications on the permanent files in the Library of the Bureau of the American Republics:

- American Review of Reviews. New York. Monthly.
 Anales del Departamento de Ganadería y Agricultura. Montevideo. Monthly.
 Anglo (The) American Magazine. New York and London. Monthly.
 Argentinisches Wochenblatt. Buenos Ayres, Argentine Republic. Weekly.
 Board of Trade Journal. London, England. Monthly.
 Boletín de Agricultura, Minería é Industrias. City of Mexico. Monthly.
 Boletín Postal de la Administración General de Correos de los Estados Unidos Mexicanos. City of Mexico. Monthly.
 Boletín de la Sociedad Geográfica de Lima. Lima, Pern.
 Boletín de la Unión Industrial Argentina. Buenos Ayres, Argentine Republic. Monthly.
 Boletín Demográfico Argentino. Buenos Ayres. Monthly.
 Boletín del Instituto Científico y Literario. Toluca, Mexico.
 Boletín de la Red Meteorológica y Revista Científica. Toluca, Mexico.
 Boletín Telegráfico. City of Mexico, Mexico.
 Bollettino del Ministro degli Affari Esteri. Rome, Italy.
 British Trade Journal. London, England. Monthly.
 Bulletin of American Geographical Society. New York City.
 Bulletin of the Commercial Museum. Brussels, Belgium. Weekly.
 Bulletin of the Free Museum of Science and Arts. Philadelphia. Quarterly.
 Century Magazine. New York City. Monthly.
 Chilean Times. Santiago de Chile. Semiweekly.
 Coal Trade Journal. New York City. Weekly.
 Deutsche Kolonialzeitung. Berlin. Weekly.
 Diario Oficial. Bogotá, Colombia. Daily.
 Diario Oficial. Managua, Nicaragua. Daily.
 Diario Oficial. City of Mexico. Daily.
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 Diplomatic and Consular Reports. London, England.
 El Agricultor Mexicano. City of Mexico. Monthly.
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 El Correo Nacional. Bogotá, Colombia.
 El Economista. Lima, Pern. Weekly.
 El Economista Mexicano. City of Mexico, Mexico. Weekly.
 El Estado de Colima. Colima, Mexico. Weekly.
 El Gnatemalteco. Guatemala, Guatemala. Weekly.
 El Mensajero. Santo Domingo. Three times a month.
 El Progreso de México. City of Mexico, Mexico. Weekly.
 El Republicano. Aguascalientes, Mexico. Weekly.
 El Siglo. Montevideo, Uruguay. Daily.

- Export Implement Age. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Monthly.
- Feilden's Magazine. London, England. Monthly.
- Field Columbian Museum Publications. Chicago, Illinois.
- Freir's Colonial and Foreign Register. London. Quarterly.
- Gaceta Municipal. Guayaquil, Ecuador. Weekly.
- Gaceta Oficial. Caracas, Venezuela. Daily.
- Gaceta Oficial. Santo Domingo. Weekly.
- Geographical Journal. London, England. Monthly.
- Handel's Kammer zur Hanover. Hanover, Germany.
- Japan-American Commercial Journal. Tokio, Japan. Monthly.
- Jornal do Commercio. Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Daily.
- Journal of the Board of Agriculture. London, England. Quarterly.
- La Escuela Cubana. Habana, Cuba. Weekly.
- La Enseñanza. Asunción, Paraguay. Semimonthly.
- La Gaceta. (Official.) Costa Rica. Daily.
- La Gaceta. Tegucigalpa, Honduras. Weekly.
- La Gaceta Commercial. City of Mexico, Mexico. Daily.
- La Patria. León, Nicaragua.
- La Plata Post. Buenos Ayres, Argentine Republic. Weekly.
- La Plata Zeitung. Buenos Ayres, Argentine Republic.
- La Producción Argentina. Buenos Ayres, Argentine Republic.
- La Producción Nacional. Buenos Ayres, Argentine Republic. Semimonthly.
- Lavoura (A). Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Monthly.
- Le Commerce Extérieur Argentin. Buenos Ayres, Argentine Republic.
- Le Nouveau Monde. Paris, France. Weekly.
- Modern Machinery. Chicago, Illinois. Monthly.
- Modern Mexico. St. Louis, Missouri, and City of Mexico, Mexico. Monthly.
- Moniteur Officiel. Paris, France. Weekly.
- Novelades (Las). New York City. Weekly.
- Pan-American Magazine. Buffalo, New York. Monthly.
- Petermann's Mitteilungen. Gotha, Germany. Monthly.
- Rapports Commerciaux. Paris, France.
- Resumen de la Importación y de la Exportación. City of Mexico, Mexico. Monthly.
- Revista Brasileira. Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Monthly.
- Revista de Ciencias. Lima, Peru.
- Revista de la Instrucción Pública de Colombia. Bogotá, Colombia. Monthly.
- Revista Económica y Financiera. La Paz, Bolivia. Monthly.
- Revista del Faro. Habana, Cuba. Quarterly.
- Revista del Instituto Paraguayo. Asunción, Paraguay. Monthly.
- Revista Marítima Brasileira. Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Monthly.
- Revue du Commerce Extérieur. Paris. Semimonthly.
- Revue générale des Sciences. Paris, France. Semimonthly.
- Revue Politique et Parlementaire. Paris. Monthly.
- Semana Mercantil. City of Mexico, Mexico. Weekly.
- Südamerikanische Rundschau. Berlin, Germany. Monthly.
- Tableaux Mensuels de Statistique Municipale de la Ville de Paris. Paris. Monthly.
- Tenders and Contracts. London, England.
- Thonindustrie Zeitung. Berlin, Germany.
- Times (The). London, England. Daily.
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- United States Consular Reports. Daily and monthly.
- Venezuelan Herald. Caracas, Venezuela.

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- Boletín de Estadística. Mérida, Estado de Yucatán, México. Semimonthly.
Chicago Record. Chicago, Ill. Daily.
Commercial Intelligence. London, England. Weekly.
India Rubber World. New York, N. Y. Monthly.
La Nación. Buenos Ayres, Argentine Republic. Daily.
Registro Oficial de la República del Ecuador. Quito, Ecuador. (Daily.)
Review (The) of the River Plate. Buenos Ayres, Argentine Republic. Weekly.

BOLETÍN MENSUAL

DE LA

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No. 3.

EXPORTACIÓN DE LOCOMOTORAS AMERICANAS.

Según "El Economista," de Lima, Perú, correspondiente al 20 de enero, y el hecho parece comprobado, la exportación de locomotoras americanas aumenta á pasos satisfactorios y su popularidad en el exterior se comprueba por el número creciente que de ellas se envía de este país. Durante los últimos doce años las exportaciones anuales han aumentada de 52 á 338. En las cifras á continuación aparece el número de locomotoras y su valor en cada uno de los años citados:

Año.	Número.	Valor.
1876.....	52	\$333, 393
1878.....	58	337, 245
1888.....	56	401, 014
1889.....	144	1, 227, 146
1890.....	161	1, 280, 060
1891.....	275	2, 424, 363
1892.....	197	1, 717, 715
1893.....	195	1, 794, 709
1894.....	142	1, 028, 330
1895.....	252	2, 397, 519
1896.....	261	2, 512, 270
1897.....	338	3, 220, 831

Á juzgar por las exportaciones del mes de enero próximo pasado, es de esperarse que la mayor cifra se obtendrá en el año económico de 1899-1900. Hasta el presente se han enviado ya cosa de 270 locomotoras al exterior.

LA PRODUCCIÓN DE NARANJAS EN EL ESTADO DE CALIFORNIA.

En un artículo muy interesante sobre las naranjas de California, dice el "San Francisco Argonaut" que la producción llega á su mayor altura en el mes de enero. En dicho mes centenares de personas se

ocupan en recoger la cosecha, que millares de carros llevan á los mercados del este. Se dice que la producción de este año es la mayor de que hay recuerdo y la demanda y los precios los más altos. Se calcula que en la estación de 1899 á 1900 la producción será de 14,000 á 14,500 vagones de carga, contra 13,000 en el año anterior.

En 1890 toda la producción del estado ascendió á 4,016 vagones de carga, pero el aumento ha continuado de día en día casi sin interrupción. Se calcula el valor de la cosecha de este año en \$4,600,000, de los cuales \$2,600,000 irán á las cajas de las compañías de transportación.

Aunque las naranjas fueron primitivamente cultivadas desde 1804 por los monjes de la Misión de San Gabriel, los naranjales actuales son de origen reciente. Los terrenos que se adaptan para este cultivo han aumentado en valor, y de \$30 por acre que costaban antes, han alcanzado un precio de \$600 por acre.

El periódico "Southern California Fruit Growers' Exchange" asegura que se va á hacer gran uso de un nuevo sistema de preparar las naranjas para el mercado. Se trata de fumigarlas por medio de ciertas clases de gases á fin de matar el *fungus* que produce la descomposición de la fruta. El método que se emplea para este fin no es conocido del público.

El inventor del sistema dice que la descomposición de las naranjas se debe á un *fungus* verde, mientras que en el caso de los limones hay dos, el verde y el negro. Este último no se destruye con el tratamiento indicado. Como ensayo, se enviaron algunos cargamentos en julio de 1899, de Los Angeles, California, á Kansas City, Missouri, y el resultado fué el siguiente: descomposición de la fruta no refrigerada ni sometida al tratamiento, 8.9 por ciento; refrigerada, 2 por ciento; fumigada, 1.8 por ciento. Se asegura que el costo del nuevo tratamiento es mucho menor que el de la refrigeración en tránsito, y se cree que este último método será abandonado casi por completo. Si el nuevo procedimiento da buenos resultados, el ahorro en los gastos que ocasionan los cargamentos de naranjas será enorme. En la actualidad cuesta de \$80 á \$90 por la refrigeración de cada carro del punto de embarque á los mercados del este.

NUEVOS BUQUES DE VAPOR EN CONSTRUCCIÓN.

Como dice muy bien el "Scientific American" correspondiente á este mes, ha comenzado una nueva era en la construcción de buques de vapor, tanto en este país como en el extranjero, y el hecho de haberse retirado del tráfico una gran flota de vapores con el objeto de llevar soldados ingleses al Sur de África, parece demostrar que la cantidad de buques de vapor en el tráfico marítimo es insuficiente, cuando se presentan emergencias que pueden sobrevenir en cualquier época. No

solamente el tráfico de la costa del Pacífico sufrió por haberse tomado como trasportes un número considerable de vapores á fin de conducir tropas y pertrechos de guerra á las islas Filipinas, sino que el servicio de pasajeros para la Exposición de París el verano próximo sufrirá más ó menos por falta de vapores.

Serán muy pocos, si es que hay algunos, los que se podrán fletar para llevar el extraordinario número de pasajeros, y algunos de los grandes transatlánticos estarán fuera de servicio. Seis de los vapores de la línea de Cunard y tres de la White Star, incluyendo el gran Majestic, están actualmente empleados por el Gobierno británico, y todos ellos figuran entre los más cómodos y espléndidos de los que navegan á través del Atlántico. Es dudoso que estos vapores puedan ser devueltos á las respectivas compañías en tiempo de tomar parte en el inmenso tráfico que ocasionará la Exposición de París.

Cuando llegue la primavera habrá varios transatlánticos nuevos terminados, lo que en parte compensará por la pérdida de los grandes vapores de las líneas inglesas. La Holland-American Line espera tener listo para entonces el Potsdam, soberbio buque de inmensas dimensiones. La línea francesa botará al agua tres nuevos vapores, iguales en todo á los mejores que la compañía tiene en el servicio transatlántico. Estos buques, que llevarán los nombres de La Savoie, La Lorraine y l'Aquitaine, formarán por sí solos una flota considerable.

Se están construyendo en este país muchos vapores, que estarán concluidos dentro de uno ó dos años. Varios de ellos serán para el tráfico de la costa del Pacífico, lo cual prueba que las relaciones comerciales entre aquella parte de los Estados Unidos y los países orientales toman de día en día mayor incremento. Se cree que en el curso de cinco años habrá veinticinco vapores nuevos de gran porte haciendo la carrera entre la costa del Pacífico, la China, el Japón y las Filipinas.

Se asegura que todos los astilleros de los Estados Unidos, incluyendo los de los Grandes Lagos, tienen cuantos pedidos pueden llenar dentro de un año. El tráfico del mundo ha aumentado de tal suerte en los últimos tiempos, que los vapores que se dedican á él no son suficientes para satisfacer la inmensidad de ese comercio, y este hecho ha venido á hacerse más palpable por las condiciones que acarrea la guerra. Es claro que en la nueva era que ha comenzado, los Estados Unidos van á tomar una parte activa y que el por tan largo tiempo esperado renacimiento de las construcciones navales americanas ha llegado ya.

USO DE PETRÓLEO EN LAS LOCOMOTORAS.

Dice el Profesor T. G. MENDENHALL que la invención de la máquina de vapor ha hecho del carbón tal fuente de poder que ha colocado á la disposición del hombre una cantidad de fuerza motriz 50 por ciento

mayor que la que produce la fuerza muscular de la población entera de la tierra; pero que la producción de carbón no es ya suficiente; de donde resulta que es necesario buscar otra clase de combustible económico, ya sea natural ó artificial. En algunas partes de los Estados Unidos se emplea el petróleo crudo, pero su uso, tanto en este país como en Europa, no puede generalizarse por ser un artículo más costoso que el carbón.

El petróleo se emplea en las locomotoras en la parte meridional de California. El periódico "Modern Machinery," correspondiente á enero de 1900, describe el método empleado para quemar el petróleo en las cajas de fuego de las locomotoras. El combustible penetra en la forma de rocío, acompañado de cierta cantidad de aire ó vapor, y así se le quema. Generalmente es necesario proteger con ladrillos refractarios la superficie de las cajas de fuego junto al conducto por donde entra el aire ó el vapor, á causa del intenso calor que se produce quemando el petróleo de la manera indicada.

El Fitchburg Railroad ha adoptado una modificación de este sistema en orden á evitar, en cuanto sea posible, la acumulación de humo y gas en el túnel de Hoosac, que mide cerca de 5 millas de largo. Se ha pedido á los talleres de Baldwin un aparato en que se queme petróleo y que se pueda enganchar á cualquier locomotora. Dichos talleres construyeron uno que se ha ensayado con excelentes resultados.

CONDICIÓN DEL ALGODÓN EN LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS.

Por muchos años la producción de algodón en los Estados Unidos ha sido enorme, y, en consecuencia, los precios han estado muy deprimidos, habiendo llegado á su más bajo nivel en 1897 y 1898. Ésto desalentó á los cultivadores, y el año pasado se redujo mucho la extensión de terreno dedicado á este cultivo. Tampoco la estación fué favorable para la cosecha. Además de esto, el aumento en la fabricación de géneros de algodón en este país, y especialmente el establecimiento de grandes fábricas en el sur, exigen que sea mayor la oferta de la materia prima para la industria nacional.

Mientras que por una parte la oferta es escasa, por otra el consumo de algodón en rama continúa en aumento, á medida que el tráfico en los productos de esta materia textil sigue prosperando. En vista de estos hechos, no es de sorprender que el algodón se venda actualmente á precios altos, y mientras no haya cambiado este estado de cosas, nada hay que pueda impedir que dichos precios se eleven más todavía. Esto no es obra de especuladores, sino de las condiciones que necesariamente acarrea la ley de oferta y la demanda.

Al comenzar la estación en que se exporta el algodón de este país, se creía en el extranjero que la cosecha había sido muy grande, á pesar del hecho de que el Departamento de Agricultura de los Estados Unidos había dado un informe en que se manifestaba otra cosa. Dicha creencia dió por resultado que los extranjeros no quisieran comprar á los precios existentes, mientras que los fabricantes de los Estados Unidos, teniendo fe en lo expuesto por el mencionado Departamento, tomaron la mayor parte del algodón, lo cual colocó á estos últimos en una posición ventajosa sobre sus competidores.

El 1° de marzo de este año la cantidad de algodón en los depósitos de Liverpool era aproximadamente de 1,000,000 pacas menos que el 1° de marzo de 1899, mientras que la cantidad disponible en los Estados Unidos era solamente como de 150,000 pacas más que en el mismo período del año pasado. Se cree generalmente que dicho artículo está prácticamente agotado en las plantaciones y en los pequeños pueblos del interior del país. La cantidad de algodón disponible en el mundo entero el 1° de marzo de 1900 muestra una disminución de 1,457,000 pacas, comparada con la que existía el 1° de marzo de 1899.

INTRODUCCIÓN DE IPECACUANA DE COLOMBIA.

Como antes se ha manifestado en el BOLETÍN MENSUAL, la ipecacuana de Cartagena ha sido considerada como no oficial por las autoridades aduaneras de los Estados Unidos. Según una resolución reciente del Subsecretario SPAULDING, del Departamento de Hacienda, este producto debe ser juzgado en adelante según sus méritos solamente, es decir, como cualquier otra droga, y debe ser admitido.

Las secciones 2933 y 2935 de los Estatutos Revisados de los Estados Unidos disponen que las drogas importadas sean examinadas en cuanto á su calidad, pureza, etc., de conformidad con lo que establecen las farmacopeas y dispensatorios de los Estados Unidos, Edinburgo, Londres, Francia y Alemania; y las leyes y reglamentos dan al dueño ó consignatario el derecho de apelación cuando no esté satisfecho con lo que resuelva el aforador. Al presentarse la apelación se someterá la cuestión á un químico analítico competente, habiéndose depositado en poder de la administrador de aduana una suma suficiente para hacer frente á los gastos de reexamen y análisis. La disminución en la cosecha de ipecacuana del Brasil ha sido motivo para que se preste más atención al producto de Cartagena, que se ha encontrado ser de mejor calidad de lo que se suponía.

EL EDIFICIO DEL GOBIERNO DE LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS EN LA EXPOSICIÓN DE PARÍS.

En el periódico "Magazine of Art" correspondiente al mes de febrero próximo pasado, Mr. CHARLES DE KAY describe el pabellón erigido por el Gobierno de los Estados Unidos en la Exposición de París.

El edificio es uno de tantos construidos por los varios gobiernos que van á tomar parte en aquel certamen, y está situado sobre una de las riberas del Sena, lo mismo que los otros. El problema que tuvieron que resolver los arquitectos americanos fué utilizar de la mejor manera posible el espacio que les fué otorgado. Además, tenían que dar al pabellón cierto aspecto que indicara claramente que pertenecía á los Estados Unidos y no á otra nación.

En primer lugar, los arquitectos tomaron en consideración el hecho de que la invención del ascensor para pasajeros ha modificado por completo la arquitectura en las grandes ciudades de la Unión, y desde luego se comprendió que el edificio debía ser de gran altura. Ya la Exposición Universal de Chicago de 1893 había establecido á este respecto cierto estilo de construcciones que no podía estar fuera del lugar en una ciudad como París, donde aun se siente la influencia de la época napoleónica. El resultado de todo esto ha sido un edificio que, aunque remotamente, recuerda por una parte al capitolio de Wáshington y por la otra á los Inválidos de París. En lo general el pabellón de los Estados Unidos se parece un tanto á los edificios erigidos por varios estados de la Unión en la Exposición Universal de Chicago.

DESTRUCCIÓN DE LAS RATAS.

El Marine-Hospital Service del Gobierno de los Estados Unidos ha dirigido una circular á los capitanes de buque, directores de dique, etc., recomendándoles que tengan cuidado con las ratas, muertas ó vivas, en los buques que lleguen del Portugal, el Brasil, la República Argentina y especialmente Honolulu y los puertos asiáticos. Se recomienda particularmente que se haga un examen científico de los cuerpos de las ratas muertas, á fin de determinar si murieron de peste bubónica. Se advierte á toda clase de personas que no toquen con las manos desnudas los cuerpos de las ratas muertas, sino que hagan uso de tenazas ó instrumentos parecidos, y se recomienda que los lugares donde se encuentren estos animales sean desinfectados con una solución de ácido fénico ó cloruro de mercurio, y á falta de éstos, con agua herviendo. Los cuerpos de estos animales han de ser quemados.

Ha motivado esta circular el hecho reconocido de que las ratas son

en gran parte responsables por la propagación de la peste bubónica, y que la llevan á grandes distancias. No solamente la peste bubónica ha sido llevada por las ratas de un puerto á otro, sino también el cólera y otras enfermedades contagiosas. Los Gobiernos de la India, de la China y del Japón ofrecen un premio por los cuerpos de ratas que hayan sido tomadas á bordo de buques que arriben á sus puertos. En la página 818 del BOLETÍN MENSUAL, correspondiente al mes de diciembre, se da cuenta de una cruzada contra las ratas que se verificó en la ciudad de Santos, estado de São Paulo, Brasil.

CAMBIO DE GIROS POSTALES CON MÉXICO.

El primer informe relativo al cambio de giros postales internacionales entre los Estados Unidos y México fué recibido en el Departamento de Correos. Al referirse á la nueva convención, el Superintendente METCALF, de la División de Giros Postales, dijo lo siguiente: "El primer informe es satisfactorio é indica los grandes beneficios que los comerciantes de los Estados Unidos recibirán de este sistema." El primer día se vendieron como 30 giros postales. Desde hace diez años estamos interesados en esta convención, y es un asunto que debe llamar la atención de una gran parte de los hombres de negocios de las grandes ciudades. He mantenido una correspondencia considerable con una de las principales casas de Chicago sobre este particular, y se me ha pedido permiso para imprimir 5,000 formas en blanco de giros postales para ser usadas en el tráfico con México. Espero recibir solicitudes semejantes de otras grandes casas del oeste. Todo indica que nuestros comerciantes se aprovecharán del nuevo sistema y que dará los mejores resultados para ambos países."

"SALTBUSH" PARA LOS TERRENOS ÁRIDOS.

Esta planta pertenece á la familia de las salsoláceas y se adopta muy bien á los terrenos áridos y alcalinos, donde no puede existir otra vegetación. Es un excelente alimento para carneros, caballos, cerdos, etc., y contiene casi las mismas propiedades nutritivas que la alfalfa, de la cual parece destinada á ser rival. El "saltbush" es una planta muy adecuada para engordar animales.

Muchas variedades de esta planta se cultivan actualmente en los Estados Unidos, pero las que han dado mejores resultados son las de Australia, que fueron introducidas en California por VON MUELLER en 1881. Debido á la flexibilidad del tallo, el "saltbush" de Australia puede manejarse como la alfalfa. Las otras clases solo son propias

para paecer. Los carneros gustan mucho del "saltbush," y en opinión de VON MUELLER muchas de las buenas cualidades de la lana de Australia se debe á la abundancia de dicha planta en aquel país. Una cosecha de "saltbush" de Australia produce de 15 á 20 toneladas de forraje verde por acre, ó sean de 3 á 5 toneladas de forraje seco.

Hay en los Estados Unidos grandes extensiones de tierra alcalina donde no pueden cultivarse cereales ó hierbas de ninguna clase. El "saltbush" crece bien en algunas de estas tierras y produce cantidades considerables de excelente forraje. Terrenos impregnados de substancias alcalinas pueden hacerse adaptables á las cosechas ordinarias sembrando en ellos "saltbush," que remueve una gran cantidad de dichas substancias.

CUBA.

MOVIMIENTO DE POBLACIÓN EN LA HABANA.

El Comandante JOHN G. DAVIS, jefe de sanidad de la Habana, ha remitido al Departamento de la Guerra algunos datos interesantes sobre el movimiento de población en la ciudad de la Habana, comprendiendo los nacimientos, matrimonios y defunciones ocurridos en los diez años terminados en 31 de diciembre próximo pasado. Hubo en dicho período 40,509 nacimientos, 9,596 matrimonios y 101,932 defunciones, ó sea un exceso de éstas sobre los nacimientos de 61,423.

Los años de mayor mortalidad fueron los de 1898, 1897 y 1896 en el orden mencionado. Del número total de defunciones, 5,413 fueron de fiebre amarilla y el resto de otras enfermedades. De los 40,509 nacimientos, 34,498 fueron blancos, 3,763 mulatos y 2,248 negros. Fueron legítimos 26,489 é ilegítimos 14,020. Los matrimonios contraídos en igual período fueron 9,068 entre blancos, 394 entre mulatos y 134 entre negros. El número de matrimonios incluye 146 americanos. Durante el año de 1899, no incluyendo tropas, entraron por el puerto de la Habana 46,082 personas, de las cuales 22,301 procedían de los Estados Unidos, 16,260 de España y 7,521 de otros países. En el mismo período y con las mismas excepciones, salieron del puerto de la Habana 37,226 personas: 21,090 para los Estados Unidos, 12,352 para España y 3,784 para otros países, dejando un excedente de 8,856.

VALOR DE LAS IMPORTACIONES EN LA HABANA.

Según un informe del Departamento de la Guerra de los Estados Unidos que lleva la fecha de 1° de marzo de 1900, el valor total de las mercancías importadas en la Habana durante el año civil de 1899 fué de \$48,920,774, de cuya cantidad \$20,687,140 vinieron de los Estados Unidos, \$7,005,419 de la Gran Bretaña, \$1,576,639 de Alemania, \$9,377,095 de España, y \$10,274,481 de otros países.

ENTRADAS DE ADUANAS EN ENERO DE 1900.

Según el informe recibido por el Departamento de la Guerra de los Estados Unidos, las entradas totales de la isla de Cuba en el mes de enero de este año ascendieron á \$1,511,094.37. Las entradas de aduana fueron de \$1,062,622.64, ó sea un aumento, en comparación con enero de 1899, de \$448,471.73. La recaudación por puertos fué como sigue: Baracoa, \$1,724.59; Batabanó, \$533.79; Cienfuegos, \$109,330.74; Cárdenas, \$35,350.28; Caibarién, \$14,069.46; Guantánamo, \$12,310.89; Gibara, \$10,774.31; Habana, \$1,152,313.43; Manzanillo, \$14,380.84; Matanzas, \$32,336.54; Nuevitas, \$12,526.70; Sagua la Grande, \$8,111.42; Santa Cruz, \$1,269.21; Santiago, \$98,291.38; Trinidad, \$3,389.14; Tunas, \$201.65.

ORGANIZACIÓN DE COMPAÑÍAS ELÉCTRICAS.

La Puerto Príncipe Tramway Company fué organizada últimamente en Trenton, New Jersey, con un capital de \$200,000. Esta compañía se propone construir un ferrocarril urbano en Puerto Príncipe, así como también obras hidráulicas y establecimientos eléctricos, de gas y de alumbrado, para todo lo cual dice que ha obtenido las concesiones necesarias. También ha sido organizada la Puerto Príncipe Electric Company. La mencionada ciudad es la más antigua de la isla, pero carece de todas las mejoras modernas, con excepción de un establecimiento de luz eléctrica. Una gran parte de los habitantes se dedica á la agricultura y á la cría de ganado vacuno. El hecho de que la ciudad queda á 54 millas del puerto más inmediato, Nuevitas, ha impedido en gran parte su desarrollo, á pesar de que el ferrocarril que une á las dos ciudades fué el primero que se construyó en la isla.

SOLICITUD PARA EL AUMENTO DE LOS DERECHOS DE IMPORTACIÓN.

La Society of Planters de Cuba ha resuelto presentar una solicitud al Gobierno de los Estados Unidos para que eleve los derechos de importación, con pocas excepciones, en orden á aumentar las rentas de la isla sin recurrir á los impuestos directos. Desea la sociedad que el dinero que de esta manera se obtenga se gaste en dar incremento á la inmigración y en mejorar las obras públicas, incluyendo los puertos. Se cree que imponiendo mayores derechos de importación se podría con más facilidad celebrar convenios de reciprocidad comercial con aquellos países que estuviesen dispuestos á otorgar á Cuba condiciones ventajosas.

Opina la Sociedad que los derechos deberían ser especialmente elevados sobre todos los productos tropicales en orden á estimular la producción de los mismos en la isla.

LA CUBAN BAKING COMPANY.

La Cuban Baking Company, con un capital social de \$1,000,000, se ha organizado en los Estados Unidos, de conformidad con las leyes del estado de New Jersey. El objeto de esta compañía es poner en operación varios establecimientos de mercaderías, provisiones, etc., en las ciudades de la Habana, Regla, Guanabacoa, Mariano y otras partes de Cuba y las Antillas.

ESTADOS UNIDOS.**COMERCIO CON LA AMÉRICA LATINA.****IMPORTACIONES Y EXPORTACIONES.**

En la página 447 aparece la última relación del comercio entre los Estados Unidos y la América latina, tomada de la compilación hecha por la Oficina de Estadística del Departamento de Hacienda de los Estados Unidos. Estos datos se refieren al valor del comercio arriba mencionado. La estadística corresponde al mes de enero de 1900, comparada con la del mes correspondiente del año anterior, y también comprende los datos referentes á los siete meses que terminaron en enero de 1900, comparados con igual período de 1899. Debe explicarse que las estadísticas de las importaciones y exportaciones de las diversas aduanas referentes á un mes cualquiera, no se reciben en el Departamento de Hacienda hasta el 20 del próximo mes, necesitándose algún tiempo para su compilación é impresión, de suerte que los datos estadísticos correspondientes al mes de enero, por ejemplo, no se publican sino en marzo.

INGRESOS Y EGRESOS EN FEBRERO DE 1900.

Un estado comparativo de los ingresos y egresos para el mes de febrero muestra que los ingresos totales ascendieron á \$45,631,265 y los egresos á \$37,738,472, dejando un superávit para el mes de \$7,892,793. Las entradas de aduanas fueron por valor de \$19,882,252, lo cual es un aumento, en comparación con el mes de febrero de 1899, de cerca de \$3,000,000; la renta interior produjo \$20,767,437, ó sea un aumento de cerca de \$1,500,000; otros ingresos ascendieron á \$4,981,574, lo que significa un aumento de cerca de \$3,000,000. Los gastos del Departamento de la Guerra montaron á \$9,436,083, ó sea una disminución de cerca de \$6,000,000 en comparación con el mes de febrero de 1899; el Departamento de Marina gastó \$4,045,724, ó sea una disminución de \$350,000. En los últimos ocho meses los ingresos han excedido á los egresos en \$37,763,000.

CONDICIÓN DE LA COSECHA DE TRIGO.

La Oficina Meteorológica de los Estados Unidos, en su informe mensual sobre la cosecha de trigo correspondiente al 1° de marzo de 1900, dice lo siguiente: "La falta de nieve para proteger las sementeras en los principales estados donde se produce el trigo de invierno durante la mayor parte del mes, y las frecuentes heladas alternando con los deshielos, han dejado al trigo, al terminarse el mes de febrero, en condiciones más desfavorables que á fines del mes anterior.

"Sin embargo, la condición de la cosecha á fines de febrero es satisfactoria en casi todas las secciones, fuera de los estados de Ohio y Michigan y partes de Indiana, Missouri y Kansas. De Michigan y Ohio se han recibido informes que indican condiciones más desfavorables que en qualquiera época durante el invierno. En cuanto á la costa del Pacífico, informes favorables han llegado de Washington, Oregon y la parte central y septentrional de California, aunque en la parte oriental del estado de Washington la cosecha sufrió algo como resultado del frío á fines del mes. En la parte meridional de California, donde casi no ha llovido, las sementeras han sufrido mucho á causa de la sequía."

INFORME OFICIAL SOBRE LAS COSECHAS.

El informe de la Oficina de Estadística del Departamento de Agricultura muestra que la cantidad de trigo que aun permanecía en las heredades el 1° de marzo era como de 158,700,000 *bushels*, ó sea el 29 por ciento de la cosecha del año pasado, contra 198,000,000 *bushels*, ó sea 29.3 por ciento de la cosecha de 1898 que aun quedaba en manos de los agricultores el 1° de marzo de 1899.

Se calcula que la cantidad de maíz que todavía permanece en poder de los agricultores es de 773,700,000 *bushels*, ó sea el 37.2 por ciento de la cosecha del año anterior, contra 800,500,000 *bushels*, ó sea 41.6 por ciento de la cosecha de 1898 que aun se hallaba en las heredades el 1° de marzo de 1899. La cantidad de la cosecha total del año pasado enviada fuera del lugar donde fué producida se calcula en 16.8 por ciento ó cosa de 348,000,000 *bushels*. La cantidad de la cosecha del mismo año que reunía las condiciones necesarias para el mercado se calculaba en 86.9 por ciento.

En cuanto á la avena, se asegura que como 290,900,000 *bushels*, ó sea 36.5 por ciento de la cosecha del año pasado, está todavía en poder de los agricultores, contra 283,000,000 *bushels*, ó sea 38.7 por ciento de la cosecha de 1898 que aun permanecía en las heredades el 1° de marzo de 1899.

OFICINA INTERNACIONAL DE COSECHAS.

Mr. J. J. S. BROOMHALL, de la redacción del "Corn Trade News" de Liverpool, llegó á los Estados Unidos el 3 de marzo de este año. La misión de Mr. BROOMHALL es arreglar lo necesario para el establecimiento de una oficina agrícola internacional. Es reconocido este señor como una autoridad en cuanto se relaciona con el mercado de granos. En una entrevista que tuvo con un miembro de la prensa se expresó así: "Alemania y Austria están tratando de organizar una oficina agrícola internacional, y he venido á conferenciar con miembros de la National Board of Trade á fin de ver si los Estados Unidos quieren cooperar en este importante trabajo.

"Abrigo la esperanza de interesar á todos las principales países agrícolas del mundo, á fin de que la recolección de informes y estadísticas referentes á las cosechas se haga de una manera científica y perfecta."

DERECHOS DE IMPORTACIÓN SOBRE CUEROS Y PIELES.

El Departamento de Hacienda de los Estados Unidos emitió últimamente una resolución relativa á los derechos de importación sobre cueros y pieles que vienen mezclados, y la cual merece llamar la atención de los exportadores de la América latina. Dice así: "Siempre que artículos gravados con derechos de importación vengun mezclados con otros que entran libres de todo derecho, el administrador de la aduana está autorizado para suponer desde luego que dichos efectos han sido mezclados intencionalmente y con el objeto de eludir el cumplimiento de las leyes fiscales. No está él obligado á separar dichos artículos á fin de establecer cuáles deben pagar derechos y cuáles no, y estará perfectamente justificado en imponérselos á todo el cargamento.

"Cuando los efectos han sido mezclados accidentalmente y no de una manera fraudulenta, al importador corresponde probar que éste es el hecho, y debe mostrar cual es la parte del cargamento que no debe estar comprendida en la clasificación del administrador. Las pruebas á este respecto pueden presentarse á la Junta General de Aforadores, cuando el asunto haya sido puesto debidamente en su conocimiento. En el caso que se presente un cargamento de cueros que pagan derechos mezclados con pieles que no los pagan, y toda la cantidad sea aforada como cueros para el pago de derechos, debe suponerse que aquellos artículos cuya condición de pieles no fué demostrada son cueros y que la clasificación del administrador de aduana fué correcta."

Otra resolución emitida por el mismo Departamento fué con referencia á cabezas disecadas de animales, en la cual se declara que deben pagar derechos al 20 por ciento *ad valorem* como artículos manufacturados no clasificados, de conformidad con la sección sexta del arancel de aduanas de 24 julio de 1897.

EXPORTACIÓN DE CÁÑAMO DE LAS ISLAS FILIPINAS.

Según las cifras que suministra el Departamento de la Guerra de los Estados Unidos, la exportación total de cáñamo de las islas Filipinas, desde la época en que fueron ocupadas por los Estados Unidos hasta el 31 de diciembre de 1899, ascendió á 95,370 toneladas, valoradas en \$10,998,509. La distribución del producto fué como sigue: á los Estados Unidos, 39,206 toneladas; al Reino Unido, 27,790 toneladas; á China, 21,302 toneladas; á España, 3,814 toneladas; al Japón, 195 toneladas; á India británica, 1,501 toneladas; á Australia, 1,016 toneladas; á Francia, 42 toneladas. Éstas son todas las cantidades que se han recibido, pues acerca de las de Manila durante el mes de diciembre de 1899, y de las de Iloilo en los meses de octubre y diciembre aun no hay informes.

CONSTRUCCIONES NAVALES EN LOS LAGOS.

Según el periódico "Iron Age," la industria de construcciones navales en los lagos se ha desarrollado de una manera fenomenal. En la actualidad se están construyendo 37 buques de vapor que tienen un porte total de 185,500 toneladas, y una potencia de 45,950 caballos de fuerza. El costo total de estas embarcaciones será de \$9,000,000. Casi todos estos barcos son de acero, y la mayor parte de ellos podrá llevar de 6,000 á 9,000 toneladas de cargo.

EXHIBICIÓN POSTAL EN LA EXPOSICIÓN DE PARÍS.

Como parte de la exhibición de los Estados Unidos figurará en la Exposición de París una oficina de correos americana, que será colocada en un punto muy central, y se ha invitado á los inventores y fabricantes de máquinas especiales y de aparatos de ahorrar trabajo en el servicio postal de los Estados Unidos, para que manden modelos funcionando de sus respectivas invenciones. La Administración General de Correos exhibirá la máquina de cancelar, modelos de tubos neumáticos, los carros para llevar el correo y otras cosas que se usan exclusivamente en el servicio postal de este país. Una media docena de empleados experimentados irá de Washington á hacerse cargo de la oficina.

MANUFACTURA DE MADERA ARTIFICIAL.

La Artificial Lumber Company comenzó últimamente á erigir un inmenso establecimiento en Berberton, Iowa. Esta compañía tiene un capital de \$11,000,000 y va á emplear 300 operarios. Según el periódico "Paper Trade," el establecimiento podrá producir 60,000 pies de madera por día. Esta madera será hecha principalmente de pulpa de paja y se empleará en decoraciones interiores de edificios y vagones y para la manufactura de cajas y muchos otros artículos.

EXHIBICIÓN DE MANUFACTURAS DE "WIRE GRASS."

Desde hace como dos años un establecimiento de una ciudad de Minnesota ha estado fabricando varios artículos hechos de una hierba extraña conocida con el nombre de "wire grass," que crece en algunos pantanos de los Estados Unidos. Dicho establecimiento va á hacer una exhibición de sus productos en la Exposición de París. Los artículos que se exhibirán serán muebles, en que la citada hierba toma el lugar de junco, rota ó sauce, mamparas, coches para niños, cestas y esteras. Se dice que el "wire grass" es ligero, hermoso, elástico y duradero. Según el periódico "Manufacturer," es tan grande la demanda por las manufacturas del mencionado artículo que van á fundarse dos nuevas fábricas. En el establecimiento primitivo hay como 500 personas empleadas constantemente, pero en la estación, cuando se recoge la materia prima, el número de empleados asciende hasta 3,000.

TRÁFICO ENTRE SEATTLE Y CULIACÁN.

Mr. F. E. BUTTERFIELD, de Culiacán, México, representante de la Occidental Railway Company, estuvo últimamente en Seattle, é hizo arreglos para comprar y embarcar carbón y madera para el uso de dicha corporación. Manifestó que hasta hoy el carbón se había llevado de Nuevo México, pero que siempre había alguna irregularidad en obtener las cantidades necesarias y que los fletes que había que pagar á dos líneas de ferrocarril hacían muy caro dicho carbón. Se necesitan por lo menos 5,000 toneladas de carbón, y se va á fletar un buque que haga cosa de cinco viajes al año entre los dos puertos. Además del carbón, se ha contratado una cantidad considerable de madera. En los viajes de regreso, los buques vendrán cargados de minerales de México. Se calcula que la compañía en referencia comprará durante este año en el estado de Wáshington por valor de \$50,000 en carbón y madera.

LA COSECHA DE TABACO DE PUERTO RICO.

Se dice que la producción anual de tabaco en Puerto Rico asciende á 60,000 fardos de 100 libras cada uno, ó sean 6,000,000 de libras aproximadamente. La extensión de terreno sembrado de tabaco en 1899 fué, según se asegura, de 4,225 acres. Una cosecha normal varía de 5,000 á 10,000 fardos. Se cree que la cosecha de 1900, que ya está casi lista, será extraordinaria y que subirá á 30,000 fardos.

PRODUCCIÓN DE CÁÑAMO EN LAS FILIPINAS.

Según informes recibidos de Manila por el cable con fecha 5 de marzo, la cantidad de cáñamo recibida en todos los puertos de las islas durante la semana anterior ascendía á 60,000 pacas, que es la más grande de que hay recuerdo en una sola semana. Los corredores de cáñamo en los

Estados Unidos declaran que esta gran cantidad no puede ejercer gran efecto sobre el precio, porque, según los informes anteriores, la cantidad de cañamo en las islas, al abrirse los puertos, no era menos de 250,000 pacas. De esta cantidad, 135,000 pacas han entrado ya en el mercado, dejando de 65,000 á 115,000 pacas para entrar en lo futuro. Se anuncia que el precio del cañamo no bajará mucho de diez centavos por libra durante este año.

SUPRESIÓN DE REGLAMENTOS ESTRICTOS PARA LOS BUQUES QUE TRAEN CAFÉ.

El 4 de marzo de 1900 el oficial de sanidad del puerto de Nueva York notificó á los agentes y dueños de buques provenientes de Santos, Brasil, que del 5 de marzo en adelante las estrictas regulaciones referentes á navíos procedentes de dicho puerto serían abolidas. En adelante todas las embarcaciones que vienen de Santos podrán pasar á sus respectivos muelles después de la inspección y desinfección de costumbre. Según noticias recibidas de Santos, no ha habido un solo caso de peste bubónica en aquella ciudad durante treinta días antes del 4 de marzo.

LA INDUSTRIA DE SEDA.

En la reunión anual de la Asociación de Sedería de los Estados Unidos, que se verificó en la ciudad de Nueva York el 8 de febrero del año en curso, se dieron al público estadísticas relativas á esta industria. Por ellas se ve que la producción de seda en los Estados Unidos ha hecho progresos notables y que aumentó mucho durante el año de 1899 sobre 1898. También se observa que el precio de la seda en rama había aumentado mucho, y que mientras que las importaciones en 1899 no fueron mucho mayores, en cuanto á su volumen, que en 1897, la diferencia en el valor de las facturas fué muy grande. En 1899 las importaciones ascendieron á 73,667 pacas, contra 72,496 pacas en 1897. El valor, sin embargo, había aumentado de \$30,636,009 en 1897 á \$41,195,209 en 1899, y el promedio del precio por libra durante los años mencionados fué respectivamente de \$3 y \$4.15.

Hay en 19 de los estados fábricas de sederías, y las principales se encuentran en New Jersey y Pennsylvania, donde hay empleados 47,000 operarios.

Se ha demostrado que la seda en rama puede producirse en los Estados Unidos, pero también se ha visto que, debido á que el trabajo manual es mucho más caro aquí que en los otros países de donde generalmente viene este producto, difícilmente podría hacerse una industria herativa entre nosotros. La mayor parte de la seda en rama viene de la China, el Japón é Italia. Una vez devanada, la seda se pone en forma de ovillos y medejas en paquetes que pesan como cinco libras cada uno. La seda italiana tiene un color amarillento, pero la que viene de China y el Japón es blanca.

DIQUES SECOS DEL GOBIERNO.

Dos grandes diques de piedra están en vía de construcción en Boston, Massachusetts, y en Portsmouth, New Hampshire, y uno de madera en Mare Island, California. Además, el 21 de octubre de 1899 se recibieron propuestas para la construcción de otro dique en el arsenal de League Island, Philadelphia. Esto ofrecerá á casi todos los puertos importantes del litoral del Atlántico y del golfo de México las facilidades necesarias para poner en diques los más poderosos barcos de guerra. Los diques del Gobierno se encontrarán en Portsmouth, Boston, Nueva York, League Island, Norfolk, Newport News, Port Royal, South Carolina, Key West, Florida y Algiers, Louisiana. Antes de la guerra con España no existían diques adecuados en el país para los grandes acorazados, y la necesidad de estas construcciones se hacía sentir más y más cada día.

REVISIÓN DE LA LEY DE IMPUESTOS DE PUERTO RICO.

El Secretario de la Guerra de los Estados Unidos ha pedido al Dr. J. H. HOLLAND, profesor de economía política de la Universidad de Johns Hopkins, de Baltimore, que pase á Puerto Rico como comisionado especial, á fin de revisar las leyes de la isla que versan sobre los impuestos. El Profesor HOLLAND ha obtenido el debido permiso para aceptar este cargo, y tan luego haya terminado el curso académico, visitará la mencionada isla. El Dr. HOLLAND fué secretario de la Conferencia Monetaria de Bruselas de 1897, y es considerado como una autoridad en materias económicas.

COLECCIONES ETNOLÓGICAS EN LAS FILIPINAS.

El Coronel F. F. HILDER, de la Oficina de Etnología Americana, fué nombrado últimamente agente especial de la Exposición Panamericana para visitar las Filipinas con el objeto de hacer colecciones científicas, especialmente etnológicas. El Coronel HILDER se propone visitar cuantas islas le sea posible antes de que empiece la estación de las lluvias, en orden á obtener datos relativos á la industria, modo de vida y condiciones sociales de los naturales del país.

ACERO AMERICANO PARA NORUEGA.

La noticia que se ha publicado de haber sido recibido en Baltimore un pedido de 2,000 toneladas de rieles de acero para la construcción de ferrocarriles en Noruega, cosa que por primera vez acontece, ha llamado la atención al hecho de que pedidos de la misma clase han sido recibidos en otras ciudades. Noruega importa al año mercancías y productos por valor de \$60,000,000, siendo los principales de estos artículos

harina, materias textiles, maquinaria, aceite, etc. Hasta el día la exportación de rieles de acero americanos á los países europeos había sido insignificante.

Durante los doce meses que terminaron el 1° de enero de 1898 solamente 4,600 toneladas de acero americano en barras para uso en los ferrocarriles fueron enviadas á Europa. Durante los doce meses que terminaron el 1° de enero de 1899 la exportación se elevó á 34,000 toneladas, pero este aumento no se mantuvo, porque durante los últimos seis meses que terminaron el 1° de enero de 1900 la cantidad exportada fué solamente de 21,150 toneladas, con un valor de \$460,000. La Inglaterra ha suplido por largo tiempo de acero á los países escandinavos, no teniendo otro competidor serio que la Alemania. La aparición del acero americano en los citados países sería una sorpresa, si no se reconociera ya el hecho de que los productos de los Estados Unidos van constantemente entrando aun á mercados donde no se les esperaba antes. Aunque Noruega no es uno de los países con que las relaciones comerciales con los Estados Unidos han sido íntimas, toda indica que en lo futuro se desarrollarán considerablemente.

AUMENTO EN LA PRODUCCIÓN DE CACAHUETES.

La producción de cacahuets en los Estados Unidos forma solamente una pequeña parte de la cosecha del mundo, pues la cantidad que anualmente se trae á Europa de Africa é India asciende á cerca de 400,000,000 libras, la mitad de la cual va á Marsella para dedicarla á la extracción de aceite.

La cosecha de cacahuets en los Estados Unidos en 1899 excedió á la de 1898 en casi 1,000,000 *bushels*. La mayor parte de esta cantidad fué producida en los estados de Carolina del Norte, Tennessee y Virginia.

Hace solamente veinte años que se dió principio al uso de maquinaria para descascarar los cacahuets, y la experiencia ha demostrado que á medida que han aumentado los medios de suplir el mercado de este producto, ha crecido también el consumo.

CONVENCIÓN DE LA ASOCIACIÓN DE MANUFACTUREROS.

La quinta convención anual de la Asociación Nacional de Manufactureros se verificará en la ciudad de Boston durante los días 24, 25 y 26 de abril del año corriente. Se cree que ésta será la asamblea más grande de manufactureros que jamás se ha visto en parte alguna del mundo. El programa, que se parecerá mucho á los de las convenciones anteriores, dispone que haya sesiones dedicadas á los negocios en cada uno de los días mencionados, en la mañana y en la tarde. La primera noche será consagrada á distracciones, pero en la segunda se discutirán asuntos referentes á la educación particularmente aquéllos que se rozan con los intereses industriales y comerciales. La última noche la

reunión tomará la forma de una inmensa convención pública, y se espera que el Presidente McKINLEY y varios oradores populares pronunciarán discursos en esa ocasión.

La New England Cotton Manufacturers' Association también piensa verificar su reunión semestral en Boston los días 25 y 26 de abril y por esto se ha sugerido el pensamiento de que la National Association of Wool Manufacturers, la New England Shoe and Leather Association y quizá otras corporaciones que tienen su centro en aquella ciudad, celebren reuniones en las mismas fechas á fin de dar por resultado una gran convención de los varios intereses industriales del país.

LA LOCOMOTORA MÁS GRANDE DEL MUNDO.

La locomotora más poderosa del mundo fué construida en los talleres de la compañía conocida con el nombre de Brooks Locomotive Works, y va á correr en lo que se llama la sección del Cairo del Ferrocarril Central de Illinois. El peso total de la máquina es de 232,000 libras, ó sea como 103 toneladas. La base total de la locomotora, que corresponde á las ruedas, es de 26 pies 6 pulgadas, de los cuales tocan á la base de la rueda motriz 15 pies 9 pulgadas. La base de toda la máquina correspondiente á la rueda y al tender mide 55 pies 2½ pulgadas, y el largo total de la máquina y tender es de 65 pies 7½ pulgadas. El centro de la caldera queda á 9 pies 8 pulgadas sobre los rieles, y la chimenea tiene 15 pies 5 pulgadas de alto. La presión es de 210 libras por pulgada cuadrada. El tender puede llevar 7,000 galones de agua y 12 toneladas de carbón.

MODELOS DE BARCOS DE GUERRA.

En el arsenal de WASHINGTON se preparan los modelos de los barcos de guerra de los Estados Unidos. Dichos modelos son una reproducción exacta de los buques de guerra de los Estados Unidos. El Gobierno tiene modelos de un gran número de sus navíos de guerra, y algunos de los más grandes son bastante costosos, como, por ejemplo, los del *New York* y del *Columbia* que costaron \$7,000 cada uno. Como \$75,000 se han gastado en estos modelos, varios de los cuales serán exhibidos en la Exposición de París.

UN NUEVO ARTÍCULO DE EXPORTACIÓN Á HAWAI.

Un nuevo artículo de exportación de San Francisco á las islas de Hawai es el arroz, que últimamente se ha enviado en grandes cantidades á Honolulu, Hilo y otros puertos. Este arroz se cultiva en el estado de Louisiana. Los primeros cargamentos fueron enviados cuando la peste bubónica apareció en las islas, y hasta el 1° de marzo de este año se habían enviado 28,000 sacos de 162 libras cada uno. Antes de esta fecha todo el arroz que se consumía en Hawai, con excepción del que las islas producían, venía del Japón.

PLANTAS QUE CONTIENEN JOYAS.

Uno de los directores de los Kew Gardens, de Londres, en una conferencia que dió últimamente en un instituto de aquella ciudad sobre algunas de las curiosidades que presentan las plantas tropicales, dijo que entre éstas era de notar el hecho de que á veces se encuentran perlas en los cocos de las islas Filipinas, las cuales, como las de el océano, son formadas de carbonato de cal. También el bambú rinde otro producto precioso en la forma de ópalos legítimos que se encuentran en los nudos de la planta.

INMIGRACIÓN DE TRABAJADORES EN HAWAI.

La inmigración de trabajadores en Hawai durante el año de 1899 fué de 21,571 hombres, 5,077 mujeres y 794 niños, lo cual arroja un total de 27,442. De este número 20,561 llegaron bajo contrato y 6,881 libres de compromisos. El número total de los japoneses fué de 26,093, el de los chinos de 983, y el de los portugueses de 343. Además de éstos, hubo cuatro coreanos, 8 italianos y 11 mujeres italianas. Los chinos fueron admitidos en virtud de permisos expedidos hacía más de un año, algunos de los cuales habían sido otorgados á individuos que habían ido á visitar su país con la intención de regresar á Hawai.

INGRESOS DE LAS ISLAS FILIPINAS.

El 3 de marzo del año en curso el Departamento de la Guerra recibió un informe cablegráfico en el que se manifiesta que los ingresos totales de las islas Filipinas, en el mes de febrero, ascendieron á \$426,423. De esta cantidad \$357,000 fueron producidos por las aduanas.

LA EXPOSICIÓN PANAMERICANA DE BÚFALO.

Los reglamentos generales de la Exposición Panamericana de Búfalo de 1901 han sido publicados ya. La junta creada por el Congreso de los Estados Unidos ha tomado las debidas disposiciones á fin de incluir en la sección del Gobierno en la Exposición exhibiciones de Puerto Rico, Hawai y las islas Filipinas. También se adoptarán las medidas necesarias para hacer una exhibición espléndida de los productos de Cuba y las islas adyacentes. El interés que las naciones de América han manifestado en esta Exposición y su intención de estar representadas en ella prueban que contribuirá poderosamente al desarrollo de las relaciones comerciales en todo el hemisferio occidental.

PRODUCCIÓN DE PAPEL.

La cantidad de papel producida anualmente en los Estados Unidos representa un valor de \$100,000,000. Como la tercera parte del papel

producido se consume en periódicos, y una cantidad igual á dos terceras partes de ésta se usa como papel de envolver. Como la mitad de lo que se dedica á los periódicos se emplea para libros. Para cartón se emplean 300,000 toneladas al año, y los constructores consumen 60,000 toneladas anualmente. De papel de entapizar se producen al año 45,000 toneladas.

BIBLIOGRAFÍA.

En esta sección del Boletín Mensual se tratará de los libros y folletos enviados á la Oficina de las Repúblicas Americanas, que se refieren á asuntos relacionados con los países de la Unión Internacional de Repúblicas Americanas.

El canje de publicaciones de Centro y Sud América puede efectuarse por conducto de la "Smithsonian Institution," Wáshington, D. C., por medio de las agencias de distribución que tiene en aquellos países, y que son las siguientes:

Argentina: Museo Nacional, Buenos Aires.

Bolivia: Oficina Nacional de Inmigración, Estadística y Propaganda Geográfica, La Paz.

Chile: Universidad de Chile, Santiago.

Colombia: Biblioteca Nacional, Bogotá.

Costa Rica: Oficina de Depósito, Reparto y Canje Internacional, San José.

Guatemala: Instituto Nacional de Guatemala, Guatemala.

Honduras: Biblioteca Nacional, Tegucigalpa.

México: Todos los envíos gozan de la franquicia del correo.

Nicaragua: Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores, Managua.

Paraguay: Oficina General de Informaciones y Canje y Comisaría General de Inmigración, Asunción.

Perú: Biblioteca Nacional, Lima.

El Salvador: Museo Nacional, San Salvador.

Uruguay: Oficina de Depósito, Reparto y Canje Internacional, Montevideo.

Venezuela: Museo Nacional, Caracas.

Uno de los informes más importantes que han sido enviados al Congreso por el Secretario de Agricultura de los Estados Unidos versa sobre investigaciones agrícolas hechas en Alaska. Dichas investigaciones revelan acerca de aquella vasta región septentrional hechos sorprendentes para los que tienen la costumbre de mirarla como un país cubierto casi siempre de hielo y que no tiene más mérito que el de producir oro, pieles y pescado. Esta publicación demuestra que Alaska encierra grandes recursos, los que, una vez desarrollados,

podrían sostener una población más grande que la de Finlandia y hacer de aquella península un estado muy próspero. El autor del informe, el Profesor C. C. GEORGESON, á cuyo cargo estaba la investigación, trajo á Wáshington 11 muestras diferentes de trigo de primavera, 11 diferentes clases de cebado y avena, así como muestras de centeno, trigo sarraceno y lino.

Dice también el informe que el trébol rojo florece durante todo el invierno en Sitka y que se desarrolla admirablemente, y que otro tanto sucede con varias plantas útiles para forraje. Todas las legumbres de uso más común se dan perfectamente. La relación que el Superintendente de la Alaska Commercial Company hace relativamente á su experiencia en la cría de ganados en Kadiak revela que esa industria será de gran importancia en lo futuro para el desarrollo del territorio. El Gobierno de los Estados Unidos ha reservado terrenos para estaciones agrícolas experimentales en Sitka, Kadiak y Cook Inlet. Una oficina central, conteniendo un laboratorio, biblioteca, etc., fué erigida en Sitka, donde se hace la mayor parte de trabajo científico. Por falta de suficientes fondos, nada se ha emprendido todavía en el interior de Alaska, pero se trata de establecer, por lo menos, una estación experimental en algún punto del río Yukon.

“The Grain Trade of the United States” (El tráfico de grano de los Estados Unidos) es el título de una monografía que acaba de publicar la Oficina de Estadística del Departamento de Hacienda, y es el primero de una serie de estudios sobre la producción y transportación de granos y sobre el comercio interior del país. Se pone de manifiesto en esa obra el gran aumento que ha habido en el desarrollo agrícola de los Estados Unidos, la rapidez con que el cultivo de granos se encamina hacia el oeste y los cambios en las rutas por las cuales dichos artículos son enviados de aquella parte del país á los mercados del este y á los de Europa.

Las estadísticas contenidas en esta obra arrojan mucha luz sobre la condición actual del negocio de granos en los Estados Unidos, especialmente el trigo, y muestran que la exportación ha aumentado con inmensa rapidez. Durante los último treinta y dos años la cantidad de maíz producida ha subido de 868,000,000 *bushels* á 1,924,000,000, lo cual es un aumento de 122 por ciento, mientras que la exportación de este cereal se ha elevado de 16,000,000 *bushels* á 177,000,000, ó sea más de 1,000 por ciento. Durante el mismo período la producción de trigo aumentó de 152,000,000 *bushels* á 675,000,000, ó sea un aumento de 344 por ciento, mientras que la exportación subió de 12,600,000 *bushels* á 222,600,000.

Según la obra en referencia, se ve que desde 1875, y especialmente desde 1880, ha ido en aumento la cantidad de trigo que se exporta en la forma de harina, y que los fabricantes americanos pueden competir

muy bien con los europeos, á pesar de ciertas medidas adversas á los marineros de los Estados Unidos adoptadas en países extranjeros.

"Education in Cuba, Puerto Rico and the Philippines," por R. L. PACKARD. (*United States Bureau of Education, Washington, 1899.*) Este folleto, que es realmente el capítulo XX del informe del Comisionado de Educación de los Estados Unidos para el año económico de 1897-98, trata de este importante asunto en el desarrollo de dichas islas, y contiene estadísticas relativas á las escuelas de Cuba y Puerto Rico. Contiene también una relación histórica sobre las relaciones de España y sus colonias y una noticia sobre el origen y desarrollo de la tendencia separatista, tomada de una autoridad alemana. Asimismo habla de la historia del movimiento literario y científico de Cuba, desde un punto de vista cubano, y hace referencia á los cursos en la Universidad de la Habana y otras instituciones. Se cita la opinión de autoridades competentes sobre el estado de la educación en diferentes épocas hasta 1890.

Los habitantes de las Filipinas son muy diferentes de los de Cuba y Puerto Rico. En aquel archipiélago se hablan como 30 lenguas y dialectos y la población se compone principalmente de naturales del país. En la obra en referencia, al mencionar lo que se ha hecho en materia de educación, se hace justicia al trabajo de los frailes, refiriéndose á los cuales, el escritor se expresa así: "Las quejas que ahora se presentan contra ellos no deberían hacernos olvidar los servicios que en tiempos primitivos prestaron á los naturales y á la civilización." La lista de libros consultados para la preparación del informe de Mr. PACKARD es una excelente bibliografía de las diferentes islas.

Desde hace casi un año la atención de los buscadores de oro ha estado fija en la región de Cabo Nome. En el periódico "National Geographic Magazine" correspondiente al mes de enero próximo pasado, se dan algunos informes acerca de aquel distrito.

El distrito de Cabo Nome está situado en la costa noroeste de Alaska, á la entrada de Norton Sound. No fué sino en 1899 que se descubrió la existencia de oro en el Cabo Nome. En su mayor parte este metal se encuentra bajo una capa de cascajo de dos ó tres pies de espesor.

La producción de dicha región en 1899 fué calculada en \$2,000,000. Entre el verano y el otoño de 1899 se fundó en aquellas costas desiertas una ciudad de más de 5,000 habitantes, que llegaron de Dawson City y otros puntos en el Yukon, de los distritos meridionales de Alaska y de la costa del Pacífico de los Estados Unidos. Hay, probablemente, en la actualidad 3,000 personas pasando el invierno en Nome, y se cree que en el verano próximo la población no bajará de 25,000 habitantes.

El Cabo Nome no es puerto de mar. Las bahías más inmediatas donde pueden anclar buques de alto bordo son Port Clarence, que está

60 millas al noroeste, y Golofnin Bay, como á la misma distancia al sudeste. Es probable que una de estas bahías sea unida por medio de un ferrocarril con el distrito de Nome.

Con el título de "Historia Geográfica Natural y Civil del Reino de Chile," ha publicado el Señor Don J. T. MEDINA una obra escrita en la última mitad del siglo XVIII por el Padre FELIPE GÓMEZ DE VIDAURRE. Refiriéndose á este trabajo, dice el Señor MEDINA, en una nota que aparece al fin de la introducción escrita por él mismo, lo que sigue:

"El manuscrito que nos ha servido para la presente publicación fué copiado bajo nuestra dirección y por encargo del Gobierno de Chile, del manuscrito del autor, que se guarda en la Real Academia de la Historia en Madrid."

El trabajo del Padre VIDAURRE consta de dos partes esencialmente diversas, que corresponden á cada uno de los tomos en que ha sido publicado. La primera comprende propiamente la historia natural de Chile, y la segunda su historia civil y política. Respecto á la primera parte, he aquí como se expresa un sabio escritor, el Dr. Don R. A. PHILIPPI:

"El leído con mucha atención la obra de Padre GÓMEZ DE VIDAURRE en la parte que trata de las plantas y animales de Chile. Como no era naturalista, ha incurrido en los mismos errores de la obra de MOLINA, añadiendo algunos otros, por que le faltaban los conocimientos científicos que se los abrían hecho evitar."

Otro juez no menos competente aprecia la parte del libro relativa á la historia civil, en estas palabras:

"La obra de VIDAURRE hasta los sucesos de 1655 es una especie de compendio de la obra de OLIVARES, en que se percibe, junto con la falta de informaciones luminosas y seguras, la carencia del sentido histórico para encadenar los hechos y para darles sus verdaderas proporciones."

Con todo y á pesar de la severa crítica de que ha sido objeto por parte de los dos mencionados escritores el trabajo del Padre VIDAURRE, es indudable que merece ser considerado como un estudio muy importante de la época sobre que versa y que es digno de ser leído por todos aquéllos que se interesen en la historia colonial de Chile.

Debido á una atención de los Señores Silver, Burdett & Co., de New York, Boston y Chicago, la biblioteca de esta Oficina ha recibido una valiosa adquisición en forma de 40 libros de texto para escuela. Comprenden un curso completo de instrucción normal, incluyendo series de libros de lectura suplementarios, cursos normales de lectura, aritmética superior, estudios de gramática inglesa, los primeros pasos en el estudio de la historia de los Estados Unidos, una historia completa del país por WILLIAM A. MOWRY, y siete volúmenes de lectura sobre geo-

grafía. Hay también libros de texto de química, fisiología é higiene. Una colección muy interesante es la de los cantos nacionales, publicada por CHARLES W. JOHNSTON. Hay también libros de texto en español para instrucción primaria. Toda la colección muestra cuáles son los métodos de enseñanza en los Estados Unidos, y se cree que la misma casa publicará libros de texto en lengua española para uso en las nuevas posesiones insulares de este país.

El periódico "The Railway Gazette" da en su último número, correspondiente al mes de febrero de este año, una relación interesante sobre los ferrocarriles que había en construcción en los Estados Unidos, Canadá y México el año de 1899. Según los cálculos que hace dicho periódico, 284 compañías construyeron en los Estados Unidos 4,569 millas, 19 compañías construyeron en el Canadá 656 millas, y 10 compañías construyeron en México 267 millas. Esto fué un aumento considerable sobre el año precedente en cada uno de los países, pues en 1898 el aumento en los Estados Unidos fué de 3,265 millas, en el Canadá de 507 millas y en México de 495. Durante los últimos cuatro años el promedio de construcción en los Estados Unidos fué solamente como de 2,000 millas al año, y el cómputo para 1899 excede á la construcción en cualquier otro año desde 1890, pues entonces se construyeron 5,329 millas de vías férreas. El máximo de construcción en la historia de los Estados Unidos fué en 1887, cuando ascendió á 12,878 millas.

El Departamento de Agricultura de los Estados Unidos ha publicado últimamente un folleto, que es el cuarto número de una nueva serie en la Sección de Eutomología. Dicho folleto contiene varios artículos cortos y notas, y se titula "Some Miscellaneous Results of the Work of the Division of Entomology." Entre los asuntos de que trata figuran el *kissing bug* (*Melanolestes picipes* y *Reduvius personatus*), que infundió tanto miedo en los Estados Unidos en 1899; el insecto conocido con el nombre de "bronze apple tree weevil" (*Magdalis aenescin* Lec.); insectos con escamas llevados en las frutas que van de América á Alemania; noticias sobre una colección de insectos con escama que se encuentran en la isla de Puerto Rico; el denominado "cotton stainer" del Perú, y notas relativas á la langosta en la República Argentina y en Lorenzo Márquez.

"La Educación en los Estados Unidos" es el título de una obra en dos tomos por el Profesor NICOLÁS MURRAY BUTLER, la cual figurará en la sección de artículos de educación en la Exposición de París. La obra consta de 19 monografías, preparada cada una por un especialista notable, y las cuales, tomadas en conjunto, dan una idea exacta de la actividad que se ha desarrollado en los Estados Unidos en materia de enseñanza. Se trata de presentar un ejemplar de dicha

obra, lujosamente encuadernado, á los principales gobiernos del mundo, así como á las bibliotecas públicas é instituciones de educación más notables. El público en general tendrá ocasión de comprar esta obra á precios moderados.

El Departamento de Agricultura ha publicado un folleto relativo á la distribución de los productos agrícolas que se han exportado de los Estados Unidos de 1894 á 1898. El valor del promedio anual durante este período fué de \$663,536,201, ó sea 69.58 por ciento de todos los productos del país. Durante los cinco años en referencia la exportación de productos agrícolas de los Estados Unidos á la Gran Bretaña, Alemania, Francia, Bélgica, Canadá, Holanda, Japón, Italia, Dinamarca y las posesiones inglesas en África, aumentó. El aumento principal se verificó con relación al Reino Unido, pero también lo hubo en cuanto á Bélgica, Holanda, Francia y Alemania.

Mr. A. R. SPOFFORD, de la Biblioteca Nacional de los Estados Unidos, ha escrito el prólogo de una nueva obra que va á ser publicada por Putnam, con este título: "A Book for All Readers." Trata de la manera de fundar y conservar bibliotecas públicas y privadas. Una parte de la obra está dedicada á la ciencia de la bibliografía, propiamente hablando, y el resto se refiere á la manera de escoger los libros, al arte de leer, al de encuadernar, á la historia de las bibliotecas, y, en una palabra, á asuntos de interés, no solamente para las personas amantes de la literatura, sino para el público en general.

Otro factor importante figura actualmente en el sistema de educación agrícola de los Estados Unidos. Es la obra titulada "Farmers' Reading Courses," que ocupa un puesto importante entre otros trabajos de esta misma clase. Dicha publicación es un compendio de un artículo escrito por el Profesor L. H. BAILEY. Contiene el folleto una lista de publicaciones sobre agricultura muy recomendadas para el uso de los agricultores. El Departamento de Agricultura ha publicado un número de boletines que tratan de manera clara y concisa sobre materias agrícolas, y los cuales se distribuyen gratis.

"The Anglo-Boer Conflict, Its History and Its Cost," es el título de un libro por ALLEYNE IRELAND (Sull, Maynard & Co., Boston, 1900). "El objeto que me he propuesto," dice Mr. IRELAND en el prólogo de su obra, "es dar una relación breve y exacta de los acontecimientos que han sido causa de la guerra, para el uso de aquellas personas que, á pesar de que sienten gran interés en la situación, no pueden leer todo lo que se ha dicho por muchos escritores sobre el particular y por extensos documentos oficiales." La prensa ha hablado favorablemente del trabajo del Mr. IRELAND.

Las páginas adelantadas de los informes consulares de los Estados Unidos, publicadas el 27 de febrero de 1900, están dedicadas principalmente á la industria de cazabe en la América latina. Este producto se obtiene de la mandioca. Se conocen dos plantas de esta clase, una amarga y la otra dulce. Los naturales de Guatemala hacen de la mandioca pan y almidón. En Honduras solamente la emplean para sacar de ella almidón. Es indudable que el alimento que se saca de este raíz es altamente nutritivo y bien puede competir con las patatas como substancia alimenticia.

BOLETIM MENSAL

DA

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EXPORTAÇÃO DE LOCOMOTIVAS AMERICANAS.

Segundo "El Economista," de Lima, Peru, correspondente ao 20 de Janeiro, a exportação de locomotivas americanas augmenta satisfactoriamente e sua popularidade no exterior se comprova pelo numero crescente que d'ellas se enviam deste paiz. Durante os ultimos doze annos as exportações annuaes tem augmentado de 52 a 338. Os allegarismos em seguida mostram o numero de locomotivas e seu valor em cada um dos annos citados:

Anno.	Numero.	Valor.
1876	52	\$333,393
1878	58	337,245
1888	56	401,014
1889	144	1,227,146
1890	161	1,280,060
1891	275	2,424,363
1892	197	1,717,715
1893	195	1,794,709
1894	142	1,028,330
1895	252	2,397,519
1896	261	2,542,270
1897	338	3,220,831

A julgar pelas exportações do mez de Janeiro proximo passado, é de esperar-se que a maior cifra se obterá no anno economico de 1899-1900. Até o presente tem-se enviado já umas 270 locomotivas para o exterior.

INDUSTRIA DE CARROS DE AÇO DOS ESTADOS UNIDOS.

Anteriormente ao anno de 1896 não existia praticamente nos Estados Unidos a industria de carros de aço. No principio do anno de 1900, porem, houve empregado nesta industria 10,000 homens e rapa-

zes, e se espera que este numero receberá grande augmento no correr do anno. Carros de aço de fabricação americana encontram-se em diversas partes do Hemispherio Occidental, na Europa e até na Africa e em outras regiões em que, por razões evidentes, são preferidos aos carros ordinarios feitos de madeira. Uma carga que esmagaria um carro de madeira é levada facilmente pelo carro de aço. Sua capacidade ordinaria é de 100,000 libras.

A "Pressed Steel Car Co." de Pittsburg, recebeu recentemente encomendas de tres das principaes companhias de estradas de ferro dos Estados Unidos para a construção de 2,500 carros, da capacidade de 100,000 libras cada um. O valor destes será de \$2,750,000. No mez de Dezembro de 1899 o Governo francez encomendou á dita companhia a construção de 100 carros de carga de aço para a estrada de ferro que vai de Pariz a Lyão e ao Mediterraneo. Estão-se construindo 70 carros de carga para ser empregados na "Egyptian Railroad," que é um caminho de ferro de bitola estreita do Egypto. Estes carros serão embarcados em secções e peritos dos Estados Unidos serão enviados para juntal-as depois de chegadas.

A maior que é a capacidade do carro de aço a menor é a proporção do seu peso para a carga levada. O carro de aço levando uma carga de 100,000 libras pesa 35,000 libras, peso identico com o do carro de madeira que tem a capacidade de só 70,000 libras. O carro de madeira dura, pela media, quinze annos, e para conservar-se em bom estado custa, pela media, \$35 por anno, enquanto que o carro de aço dura para cincoenta annos e o custo dos concertos é de só \$10 ou \$15 por anno.

USO DE PETROLEO NAS LOCOMOTIVAS DOS ESTADOS UNIDOS.

Diz o Professor T. G. MENDENHALL que a invenção da machina de vapor tem feito do carvão tal fonte de poder que tem collocado á disposição do homem uma quantidade de força motora 50 por cento maior que a que produz a força muscular da população inteira da terra, mas que a producção de carvão não é já sufficiente, de onde resulta que é necessario buscar outra classe de combustivel economico, já seja natural ou artificial. Em algumas partes dos Estados Unidos se emprega o petroleo crú, mas seu uso tanto neste paiz como na Europa não pode generalizar-se por ser um artigo mais custoso que o carvão.

O petroleo se emprega nas locomotivas na California do Sul, onde é muito custoso o carvão. O periodico "Modern Machinery," correspondente a Janeiro de 1900, descreve o methodo empregado para queimar o petroleo nas caixas de fogo das locomotivas. O combustivel penetra na forma de rocio, acompanhado de certa quantidade de ar ou

vapor, e assim é queimado. Geralmente é necessario proteger com tijolos refractarios a superficie das caixas de fogo junto ao conducto por onde entra o ar ou o vapor, por causa do intenso calor que se produz queimando o petroleo da maneira indicada.

A Estrada de Ferro de Fitchburg tem adoptado uma modificação deste systema afim de evitar, em quanto seja possível, a accumulção de fumo e gaz no tunnel de Hoosac, que tem cerca de 5 milhas de comprimento. Pediu-se ás officinas de Baldwin um apparelho em que se queime petroleo e que se possa ligar a qualquer locomotiva. As ditas officinas construíram um que se tem ensaiado com excellentes resultados.

NOVOS NAVIOS DE VAPOR EM CONSTRUÇÃO.

Como diz muito bem o periodico "Scientific American" correspondente a este mez, tem começado uma nova era na construcção de navios de vapor, tanto neste paiz como no estrangeiro, e o facto de haver-se retirado do trafico uma grande frota de vapores com o objecto de levar soldados inglezes ao Sul da Africa, parece demonstrar que o numero de navios de vapor no trafico maritimo é insufficiente quando se apresentam emergencias que podem succeder em qualquer epocha. Não sómente o commercio da costa do Pacifico soffreu por ter-se tomado como transportes um numero consideravel de vapores afim de conduzir tropas e munições de guerra ás ilhas Philippinas, mas que o serviço de passageiros para a Exposição de Pariz o verão proximo soffrerá mais ou menos por falta de vapores. Serão muito poucos, si é que ha alguns, os que se poderão fretar para levar o extraordinario numero de passageiros, e alguns dos grandes transatlanticos estarão fóra de serviço. Seis vapores da linha de Cunard e tres da White Star, incluindo o grande *Majestic*, estão actualmente empregados pelo Governo britannico, e todos elles figuram entre os mais commodos e esplendidos dos que navegam atravez do Atlantico. É duvidoso que estes vapores possam ser devoltos ás respectivas companhias em tempo de tomar parte no immenso commercio que occasionará a Exposição de Pariz.

Quando chegar a primavera haverá varios transatlanticos novos terminados, o que em parte compensará pela perda dos grandes vapores das linhas inglezas. A Holland-American Line espera ter prompto para então, o *Potsdam*, esplendido navio de grandes dimensões. A linha franceza lançará ao mar tres novos vapores, iguaes em todo aos melhores que a companhia tem no serviço transatlantico. Estes navios, que trarão os nomes de *La Savoie*, *La Lorraine* e *L'Aquitaine*, formarão por si só uma frota consideravel.

Estão-se construindo neste paiz muitos vapores, que estarão concluidos dentro de um ou dous annos. Varios d'elles serão para o commercio da costa do Pacifico, o qual prova que as relações commerciaes entre

aquella parte dos Estados Unidos e os paizes orientaes tomam de dia em dia maior incremento. Crê-se que no curso de cinco annos haverá vinte e cinco vapores novos de grande tonelagem fazendo a carreira entre a costa do Pacifico, a China, o Japão e as Philippinas.

Assegura-se que todos os estaleiros dos Estados Unidos, incluindo os dos Grandes Lagos, têm quantas ordens que podem satisfazer dentro de um anno. O commercio do mundo tem augmentado de tal sorte nos ultimos tempos, que os vapores que se dedicam a elle não são sufficientes para satisfazer a immensidade deste commercio, e este facto tem vindo a fazer-se mais palpavel pelas condições que acarreta a guerra. É claro que na nova era que tem começado os Estados Unidos vão a tomar uma parte activa e que o renascimento das construcções navaes americanas, por tão largo tempo esperado, já tem chegado.

EXPORTAÇÃO DE PRODUCTOS AGRICOLAS DOS ESTADOS UNIDOS.

O Ministerio da Agricultura tem publicado um folheto comprehensivo sobre a distribuição dos productos agricolas exportados dos Estados Unidos no quinquennio de 1894 a 1898. O valor médio annual da exportação nesse periodo foi de \$663,536,201, ou 69.58 por cento do total da exportação de productos nacionaes. Desta quantia, 54.62 por cento corresponde ao valor da exportação para o Reino Unido; Allemanha, 13.01 por cento; França, 6.63 por cento; Paizes baixos, 4.34 por cento; Belgica, 3.58 por cento; Canadá, 3.47 por cento; Italia, 2.15 por cento, e Hespanha, 1.47 por cento. Os outros paizes tomaram menos que 1 por cento do total.

Durante esse periodo houve um augmento na exportação de productos agricolas para a Grã Bretanha, Allemanha, França, Belgica, Canadá, os Paizes baixos, Japão, Italia, Dinamarca e Africa Inglesa. O maior augmento na exportação foi para o Reino Unido, mas tambem foi notavel o augmento havido na exportação para a Belgica e Hollanda e importante no caso da França e Allemanha. A exportação annual para o Canadá durante todo esse periodo foi, pela média, de \$23,000,000. As Antilhas receberam productos agricolas no valor annual de \$17,000,000, enquanto que a America do Sul importou, pela média, no valor de \$11,389,761, quantia da qual mais que metade corresponde ao Brazil.

DESTRUIÇÃO DOS RATOS.

O Marine-Hospital Service do Governo dos Estados Unidos tem dirigido uma circular aos capitães de navios, directores de dique, etc., recom-mendando-lhes que tenham cuidado com os ratos, mortos ou vivos, nas

embarcações que cheguem de Portugal, o Brazil, a Republica Argentina e especialmente Honolulu e os portos asiaticos. Recommenda-se particularmente que se faça um exame scientifico dos corpos dos ratos mortos, afim de determinar si morreram de peste bubonica. Se previene a todas as pessoas que não toquem com as mãos descobertas os corpos dos ratos mortos, mas que façam uso de tenazes, e se recommenda que os lugares onde se encontrem estes animaes sejam desinfectados com uma solução de acido carbólico ou chlorureto de mercurio, ou na falta destes, com agua fervendo. Os corpos destes animaes hão de ser queimados.

Tem motivado esta circular o facto reconhecido de que os ratos são em grande parte responsaveis pela propagação da peste bubonica, e que a levam a grandes distancias. Não sómente a peste bubonica tem sido levada pelos ratos de um porto a outro, mas tambem a colera e outras enfermidades contagiosas. Os Governos da India, da China e do Japão offercem um premio pelos corpos de ratos que tenham sido tomados a bordo de navios que cheguem a seus portos. Na pagina 818 do *BOLETIM MENSAL*, correspondente ao mez de Dezembro, se dá conta de uma cruzada contra os ratos que se verificou na cidade de Santos, estado de São Paulo, Brazil.

BOLIVIA.

NEGROS COMO TRABALHADORES.

Um telegramma de Nova Orleans, com data de 20 de Fevereiro, 1900, annuncia que tem chegado áquella cidade de Bolivia, o Sr. Capitão FRANK MORITZ, do estado de Pennsylvania, e ROBERT SKIFFINGTON, de Chicago, Illinois, os quaes tem explorado o territorio do Alto Amazonas e comprado da Republica da Bolivia 4,700 milhas quadradas de terras nesta seção adaptadas ao cultivo da borracha. Esta area será plantada em arvores de borracha pela "Chicago and Bolivia Rubber Company," e os senhores mencionados foram a Nova Orleans com o objecto de contratar trabalho americano. Depois de uma completa investigação das condições de trabalho na Bolivia, ficaram convencidos de que o trabalho indigeno não é satisfactorio e propoem-se substitui-lo pelos negros dos Estados Unidos.

BRAZIL.

RESTABELECIMENTO DO COMMERCIO ENTRE OS ESTADOS UNIDOS E O BRAZIL.

Noticias recebidas de Baltimore dizem que a crescente demanda de navios de vela, devido á falta de carvão no estrangeiro e á retirada de vapores britannicos para o serviço de guerra, tem dado em resultado

grande augmento nos contratos de navios denominados "square riggers" e "clippers" de Baltimore, e que o commercio do Brazil daquelle porto, que estava quasi extincto, tem sido restabelecido com assombrosa rapidez. Ha poucos mezes, embarcações da frota do Rio foram retiradas e enviadas para as Antilhas, encarregadas de carvão, mas agora estão-se contratando novos vapores para este commercio. Anteriormente os vapores britannicos levavam cargas avultadas para o Brazil e outros paizes da America do Sul, regressando com carregamentos de café, por preços tão baixos que os navios de vela dos Estados Unidos não podiam competir com elles. O Sr. C. MORTON STEWART, proprietario da frota de barcos de Stewart que fazem a carreira de Baltimore ao Brazil, diz que todos os barcos de sua frota estão empregados no commercio do Rio, o qual tem augmentado consideravelmente e dá indicações de maior augmento ainda.

REVOGAÇÃO DOS REGULAMENTOS RESTRICTIVOS PARA AS EMBARCAÇÕES DE CAFÉ.

No dia 4 de Março de 1900, o inspector de saude do porto de Nova York avisou aos donos e agentes de navios chegando de Santos, Brazil, que do dia 5 de Março em diante ficariam revogados os regulamentos restrictivos impostos nas embarcações que chegassem daquelle porto. Depois desta data todas as embarcações vindas de Santos serão permittidas a proseguir aos trapiches depois de feitas a inspecção e desinfecção ordinarias. Os commerciantes e consignatarios manifestaram grande satisfação pela abolição destes regulamentos que eram motivo de grandes demoras e despesas. Telegramma recebido de Santos, datado de 4 de Março, annuncia que não existe um caso da peste bubonica naquelle cidade desde ha trinta dias.

ESTADOS UNIDOS.

RECEITA E DESPEZA NO MEZ DE FEVEREIRO, 1900.

A relação mensal da receita e despesa do Governo mostra que a receita total para o mez de Fevereiro foi de \$45,631,265 e de \$37,738,472 a despesa, deixando um saldo durante o mez na importancia de \$7,892,793. As receitas das alfandegas montaram a \$19,882,252, as quaes, comparadas com as de Fevereiro de 1899, mostram um augmento de cerca de \$1,500,000; a renda interna montou a \$20,767,437, o qual mostra um augmento de \$1,500,000 sobre a renda do anno anterior; receitas miscellaneas, \$4,981,574, ou um augmento de cerca de \$3,000,000. As despesas por conta da Secretaria de Guerra montaram a \$9,436,083, o qual mostra uma diminuição de \$6,000,000, comparado com as des-

pezas do mez de Fevereiro de 1899; as despezas correspondentes á Secretaria da marinha foram de \$4,045,724, o qual mostra uma diminuição de \$350,000. Durante os ultimos oito mezes, o total das receitas excedeu o total das despezas por \$37,763,000.

CONDIÇÃO DA COLHEITA DE TRIGO.

A Repartição Meteorologica dos Estados Unidos em seu relatório mensal sobre a colheita de trigo, correspondente ao 1º de Março de 1900, diz o seguinte: "A falta de neve para proteger as sementeiras nos principaes estados onde se produz o trigo de inverno, durante a maior parte do mez, e as frequentes geladas alternando com os degelos, tem deixado o trigo, ao terminar-se o mez de Fevereiro, em condições mais desfavoraveis que em fins do mez anterior. Porém, a condição da colheita a fins de Fevereiro é satisfactoria em quasi todas as secções, fóra dos estados de Ohio e Michigan e partes de Indiana, Missouri e Kansas. De Michigan e Ohio se tem recebido informações que indicam condições mais desfavoraveis que em qualquer epocha durante o inverno. Em quanto á costa do Pacifico, informações favoraveis tem chegado de Washington, Oregon e a parte central e septentrional da California, ainda que na parte oriental do estado de Washington a colheita soffreu algo como resultado do frio a fins do mez. Na parte meridional de California onde quasi não têm cahido chuvas, as sementeiras tem soffrido muito por causa da secca."

RELATORIO OFFICIAL SOBRE AS COLHEITAS.

O relatório da Repartição de Estatistica da Secretaria de Agricultura mostra que a quantidade de trigo que ainda permanecia em mãos dos agricultores o 1º de Março de 1899 foi de 158,700,000 *bushels*, ou seja 29 por cento da colheita do anno passado, contra 198,000,000 *bushels*, ou seja 29.3 por cento da colheita de 1898, que ainda ficava em mãos dos agricultores o 1º de Março de 1899.

Calcula-se que a quantidade de milho que todavia permanece em poder dos agricultores é de 773,700,000 *bushels*, ou seja 37.2 por cento da colheita do anno anterior, contra 800,500,000 *bushels*, ou seja 41.6 por cento da colheita de 1898, que ainda se achava em poder dos cultivadores o 1º de Março de 1899. A quantidade da colheita total do anno passado enviada fora do lugar onde foi produzida é calculada em 16.8 por cento, ou cerca de 348,000,000 *bushels*. A quantidade da colheita do mesmo anno que reunia as condições necessarias para o mercado se calculava em 86.9 por cento.

Quanto á aveia, se calcula que uns 290,900,000 *bushels*, ou seja 36.5 por cento da colheita do anno passado, está todavia em poder dos agricultores, contra 283,000,000 *bushels*, ou seja 38.7 por cento da colheita de 1898, que ainda permanecia em mãos dos cultivadores no dia 1º de Março de 1899.

CONGRESSO DA ASSOCIAÇÃO NACIONAL DE FABRICANTES.

O quinto congresso annual da Associação Nacional de Fabricantes realizar-se-ha em Boston nos dias 24, 25 e 26 de Abril. Espera-se que essa reunião de fabricantes será a maior que se tem realizado em parte qualquer do mundo. Segundo o programma do Congresso, haverá duas sessões, uma pela manhã e outra pela tarde, para tratar de assumptos de interesse á assemblea. Na noite do primeiro dia da reunião, os membros divertir-se-hão e na do segundo dia occupar-se-hão na discussão de assumptos de educação, especialmente os que ligam-se a interesses manufactureiros e commerciaes. Na noite do ultimo dia do Congresso, realizar-se-há uma grande sessão publica, a qual assistirá o Presidente MCKINLEY e muitos oradores de grande popularidade os quaes pronunciarão curtos discursos.

Tambem a Associação de Fabricantes de Tecidos de Algodão de Nova Inglaterra tenciona realizar sua reunião semi-annual em Boston, a 25 e 26 de Abril, e isto tem suggerido a idea de que a Associação Nacional de Fabricantes de Generos de Lã e a Associação de Couros e Calçado de Nova Inglaterra, assim como outras associações, sejam persuadidas de reunirem-se nas datas mencionadas afim de fazer uma grande reunião dos varios interesses manufactureiros do paiz.

ESTALEIROS DO GOVERNO.

Dous grandes estaleiros de pedra estão em via de construcção em Boston e em Portsmouth, e um de madeira em Mare Island. Além destes, no dia 21 de Outubro, 1899, ficou aberta concorrência publica para a construcção de outro dique no arsenal de League Island. Isto offerecerá a quasi todos os portos importantes do littoral do Atlantico e do Golpho de Mexico as facilidades necessarias para pôr em diques os mais poderosos navios de guerra. Os estaleiros do Governo se encontrarão em Portsmouth, Boston, Nova York, League Island, Norfolk, Newport News, Port Royal, Key West e Algiers. Antes da guerra com a Hespanha não existiam diques adequados no paiz para os grandes encouaçados e a necessidade destas construcções se fazia sentir mais e mais cada dia.

A LOCOMOTIVA MAIS GRANDE DO MUNDO.

A locomotiva mais poderosa do mundo foi construida nas officinas da companhia conhecida com o nome de Brooks Locomotive Works e será empregado no ramal de Cairo da Estrada de Ferro Central de Illinois. O peso total da machina é de 232,000 libras ou cerca de 103 toneladas. A base total da locomotiva, que corresponde ás rodas, é de 26 pés 6 pollegadas, dos quaes tocam á base da roda motora 15 pés 9 pollegadas. A base de toda a machina correspondente á roda e ao

wagon mede 55 pés 2½ pollegadas e o comprimento total da machina e wagon é de 65 pés 7½ pollegadas. O centro da caldeira fica a 9 pés 8 pollegadas sobre os trilhos, e a chaminé tem 15 pés 5 pollegadas de altura. A pressão é de 210 libras por pollegada quadrada. O wagon pode levar 7,000 gallões de agua e 12 toneladas de carvão.

EMPREGO DE AUTOMOVEIS NO SERVIÇO DE COLLECTA DAS MALAS.

A "Electric Vehicle Co." está actualmente negociando com a Repartição do Correio dos Estados Unidos para a manufactura de automoveis para o serviço de collecta e distribuição das malas nas principais cidades do paiz. Diz-se que os funcionarios do Correio estão muito interessados no assumpto e que acaba de fazer-se na cidade de Washington um ensaio do automovel, o qual tem demonstrado que para a collecta das malas de sub-agencias o automovel é mais rapido e sua operação menos custosa que o systema presentemente em uso. Outros ensaios vão ser feitos na cidade de Nova York, e, si tiverem exito, o emprego de automoveis será recommendado ao Congresso e uma verba será pedida para a compra de automoveis para ser empregados nas cidades de Nova York, Philadelphia, Boston, Washington, Chicago, e St. Louis.

GRANDE CONTRACTO PARA A CONSTRUÇÃO DE NAVIOS A VAPOR.

A "William Cramp and Sons Shipbuilding Co.," de Philadelphia, tem recebido uma encomenda para a construção de dous vapores para a firma Spreckels, de San Francisco, California. Esses navios serão empregados no commercio do Pacifico. A "Cramp Co." tambem tem contractos para construção de dez navios para o transporte das malas, os quaes, em caso de guerra, poderão ser convertidos em cruzadores auxiliares. Tres destes navios estão destinados ao serviço da "New York and Cuba Mail Steamship Co.," dous destes ao da "Oceanic Steamship Co.," dous a "International Navigation Co.," e dous a "Clyde Line."

MODELOS DE NAVIOS DE GUERRA.

No arsenal de Washington se preparam os modelos dos navios de guerra dos Estados Unidos. Os ditos modelos são uma reprodução exacta dos navios de guerra dos Estados Unidos. O Governo tem modelos de um grande numero de seus navios de guerra, e alguns dos mais grandes são bastante custosos, como, por exemplo, os do *New York* e do *Columbia*, que custaram \$7,000 cada um. A quantia de \$75,000 tem-se gasto nestes modelos, varios dos quaes serão exhibidos na Exposição de Pariz.

CONSTRUCÇÕES NAVAES NOS LAGOS.

Segundo o periodico "Iron Age," ha grande actividade na industria de construcções navaes nos Grandes Lagos. Na actualidade estão em via de construcção nos arsenaes dos lagos, 37 vapores, que representam um dispendio de \$9,000,000. A tonelagem total desses vapores é de 185,500 toneladas e sua potencia total 45,950 cavallos de força. Quasi todos estes vapores são construidos de aço e alguns delles podem levar de 6,000 a 9,000 toneladas de mineral.

EXHIBIÇÃO POSTAL NA EXPOSIÇÃO DE PARIZ.

Uma divisão do correio americano fará parte da exhibição dos Estados Unidos na Exposição de Pariz. Essa divisão postal occupará um lugar importante na Exposição. Tem-se pedido aos inventores e manufactureiros de machinas especiaes e apparatus para economisar trabalho para uso no systema postal dos Estados Unidos que façam modelos dessas machinas para ser exhibidas na Exposição. Tambem serão exhibidos machinas de inutilizar, tubos pneumaticos de correio, carros de correio e outros apparatus que se usam exclusivamente no serviço postal deste paiz. Empregados da Repartição Postal em Washington serão enviados a Pariz, a cujo cargo será essa exhibição.

**MANUFACTURAS DE UMA ESPECIE DE HERVA DENOMINADA
"WIRE GRASS."**

Da "wire grass" (*Poa compressa*), que se encontra nos pantanos dos Estados Unidos, se manufacturam diversos artigos. Uma fabrica estabelecida em Minnesota, ha dous annos, enviará á Exposição de Pariz amostras desses productos. Os artigos abrangerão moveis, biombos, carrinhos de criança, cestos, jardineiras e esteiras. Essa herva é ligeira, elastica e dura por muito tempo. Segundo o periodico "The Manufacturer," ha grande procura deste producto e estão-se construindo duas novas fabricas. Na fabrica de Minnesota ha regularmente empregado 500 pessoas, enquanto que na epocha em que se recolhe a materia prima se empregam como 3,000 pessoas.

GUATEMALA.**MOVIMENTO DA NAVEGAÇÃO.**

Entraram nos portos de Guatemala, no anno de 1893, embarcações das seguintes nacionalidades:

Americanas	378
Allemaes	55
Britannicas	47
Noruegas	20

Desde este anno tem havido augmento consideravel no numero de embarcações entradas. Antes da conclusão da Estrada de Ferro do Norte que estende-se da cidade de Guatemala a Puerto Barrios quasi todo o commercio de importação e exportação no lado do Atlantico foi effectuado pelo Departamento de Verapaz. Por consequente o trafego neste lado é pouco desenvolvido.

Não obstante isso a "Hamburg-American Line" tem deixado atraz a "English Atlas Line" devido ao estado prospero do Departamento de Verapaz que foi obtido pelos esforços dos allemães. Enquanto que em 1896 sómente 4 embarcações allemãs tocaram em Livingston, perto de Puerto Barrios, o numero agora tem subido a 18 annualmente como resultado de contratos feitos com compauias de transportes fluviaes allemãs. Esse numero augmentar-se-ha com a conclusão da Estrada de Ferro do Norte e o desenvolvimento ainda do Departamento de Verapaz que naturalmente seguirá á conclusão desta obra. Por muitos annos os portos de São José, Champerico e Ocós no Pacifico tem sido visitados pelos vapores das linhas "Kosmos" e "Hamburg-Pacific," chamada Kirsten, os quaes tocam nos principaes portos da America do Sul e America Central e até no porto de São Benito, Mexico.

A linha Kirsten recebeu do Governo de Guatemala, até ha pouco tempo, uma subvenção de 1,000 pesos por vapor. Identica subvenção foi offerecida, ha muito tempo, á linha Kosmos, mas essa companhia, não querendo estar em obrigações, recusou a subvenção e não perdeu privilegios como resultado dessa acção. Essas duas linhas foram consolidadas em 1898 e agora funcionam sob o titulo de "Kosmos Line." Ha grande numero de navios no serviço desta linha. No anno de 1896, 23 vapores pertencentes ás duas linhas tocaram nos tres portos do Pacifico de Guatemala. Esses vapores levam cargas de mercadorias estrangeiras e sahem com carregamentos de café, as quaes chegam a Hamburgo mais tarde por umas semanas do que chegariam por via de Panama.

Por isso é que os carregamentos transportados pela linha allemã não tem sido tão grandes como deveriam ser. Ultimamente tem-se feito esforços por meio da nomeação de novos agentes e por mudanças nas datas de sahida de vapores e modificações na tarifa dos fretes, afim de obter maior porção deste commercio. No anno de 1898, 120,000 *centners* de café foram levados nos vapores da linha Kosmos—isto é, 20 por cento da exportação total. O transporte de passageiros e navegação costeira são insignificantes.

BIBLIOGRAPHIA.

Nesta secção do Boletim Mensal se tratará dos livros e folhetos enviados á Secretaria das Republicas Americanas que se referem a assumptos de interesse aos paizes da União Internacional das Republicas Americanas.

Um dos relatorios mais importantes que tem sido enviado ao Congresso pelo Secretario da Agricultura dos Estados Unidos versa sobre investigações agricolas feitas na Alaska. Essas investigações revelam acerca daquella vasta região septentrional factos sorprendentes para os que tem o costume de consideral-a como um pais cuberto quasi sempre de gelo e que não tem mais merito que o de produzir ouro, pelles e pescado. Esta publicação demonstra que Alaska encerra grandes recursos, os que, uma vez desenvolvidos, poderiam suster uma população mais grande que a de Finlandia e fazer daquella peninsula um estado muito prospero. O autor do relatorio, o Professor C. C. GEORGESON, a cujo cargo estava a investigação, trouxe a Washington 11 amostras diferentes de trigo de primavera, 11 diferentes classes de cevada e aveia, assim como de centeio, trigo mourisco e linho.

Diz tambem o relatorio que trifolio vermelho floresce durante todo o inverno em Sitka e que se desenvolve admiravelmente e que ontro tanto succede com varias plantas uteis para forragem. Todos os legumes de uso mais commum se dão perfeitamente. A relação que o superintendente da Alaska Commercial Company faz relativamente a sua experiencia na criação de gado em Kadiak revela que essa industria será de grande importancia no futuro para o desenvolvimento do territorio. O Governo dos Estados Unidos tem reservado terrenos para estações agricolas experimentaes em Sitka, Kadiak e Cook Inlet. Uma repartição central, contendo um laboratorio, bibliotheca, etc., foi erigida em Sitka, onde se faz a maior parte do trabalho scientifico. Por falta de sufficientes fundos, nada se tem apprehendido todavia no interior de Alaska, mas se trata de estabelecer, pelo menos, uma estação de experiencia em algum ponto do rio Yukon.

"Education in Cuba, Puerto Rico, and the Philippines," por R. L. PACKARD (United States Bureau of Education, Washington, 1899). Este folheto, que é realmente o capitulo XX do relatorio do Commissario de Educação dos Estados Unidos para 1897-98, trata deste importante assumpto no desenvolvimento das ditas ilhas e contem estatisticas relativas ás escolas de Cuba e Porto Rico. Contem tambem uma relação historica sobre as relações de Hespanha e suas colonias e uma noticia sobre a origem e desenvolvimento da tendencia separatista, tomada de uma autoridade allemã. Assim mesmo da historia do movimento litterario e scientifico de Cuba, desde um ponto de vista cubano, e falla dos cursos na Universidade de Habana e outras instituições.

Cita-se a opinião de autoridades competentes sobre o estado da educação em diferentes epochas até 1890.

Os habitantes das Philippinas são muito diferentes dos de Cuba e Porto Rico. Naquelle archipelago se fallam como 30 linguas e dialectos e a população compõe-se principalmente de naturaes do paiz. Na obra em referencia, ao mencionar o que se tem feito em materia de educação, se faz justiça ao trabalho dos frades, referindo-se aos quaes, o escriptor se exprime assim: "As queixas que agora se apresentam contra elles não deveriam fazer-nos esquecer os serviços que em tempos primitivos prestaram aos naturaes e á civilização." A lista de livros consultados para a preparação do relatório de Mr. PACKARD é uma excellente bibliographia das diferentes ilhas.

"Education in the United States" (Instrução nos Estados Unidos) é o titulo de uma obra em dois volumes que tem sido compilada e publicada pelo Professor NICHOLAS MURRAY BUTLER para ser exhibida na secção de educação na Exposição de Paris. A obra contem 19 monographias preparadas por especialistas eminentes, as quaes no seu conjunto, dão uma idea completa do desenvolvimento da educação nos Estados Unidos. Propõe-se apresentar exemplares desta obra elegantemente encadernados aos governos das principaes nações, ás bibliothecas publicas e instituições de instrução do mundo. O publico terá oppor-tunidade para comprar exemplares desta obra por um preço modico. Entre os collaboradores desta obra figuram o Sr. Dr. WILLIAM T. HARRIS, Commissario americano de Instrução; o Sr. ANDREW FLEMING, professor de latim na Universidade de Princeton; o Dr. ANDREW SLOAN DRAPER, presidente da Universidade de Illinois; o Sr. T. C. MENDENHALL, presidente do Instituto Technologico de Worcester, Massachusetts, e o Sr. BOOKER T. WASHINGTON, director do Instituto de Tuskegee.

A "Railway Gazette," em seu numero correspondente ao mez de Fevereiro, 1900, dá um resumo interessante de vias ferreas construidas nos Estados Unidos, Canadá, e Mexico, no anno de 1899. Segundo as estatisticas da "Gazette," foram construidas, no anno passado, nos Estados Unidos, 4,569 milhas de vias ferreas por 284 companhias; no Canadá, 656 milhas por 19 companhias, e no Mexico, 267 milhas por 10 companhias. Esses algarismos accusam um augmento consideravel sobre os de 1898, em cada um desses paizes. Em 1898, foram construidas nos Estados Unidos, 3,265 milhas; no Canadá, 507 milhas, e no Mexico, 495 milhas. Nos quatro annos anteriores, foram construidas nos Estados Unidos, na média, sómente 2,000 milhas de estradas de ferro por anno. O numero de milhas de linhas construidas em 1899 é superior ao de qualquer anno anterior desde o de 1890, anno em que attingia 5,329 milhas. O maior numero de milhas construidas foi no anno de 1887, quando subiu a 12,878 milhas.

A Secretaria da Agricultura dos Estados Unidos publicou ultimamente um folheto, que é o quarto numero de uma nova serie na Secção de Entomologia. Este folheto contem varios artigos curtos e notas, e é intitulado "Some Miscellaneous Results of the Work of the Division of Entomology." Entre os assumptos de que trata figuram o "kissing bug" (*Melanolestes picipes* e *Reduvires personatus*), que causou tanto medo nos Estados Unidos em 1899; o insecto conhecido com o nome de "bronze apple tree weevil" (*Magdalis anesein* Lec.); insectos com escamas levados nas fructas que se exportam para a Allemauia; noticias sobre uma collecção de insectos com escama que se encontram na ilha de Porto Rico; o denominado "cotton stainer" do Peru, e notas relativas ao gafanhoto na Republica Argentina e em Lourenço Marquez.

Outro factor figura no systema de educação agricola dos Estados Unidos. Cursos de leitura sobre assumptos agricolas constituem um factor importante na divulgação de conhecimentos agricolas entre os cultivadores. De um folheto publicado pela Secretaria da Agricultura em Washington, parece que esta Secretaria dá seu apoio a esse novo factor. Essa publicação, intitulada "Farmers' Reading Courses," é um compendio de um artigo escripto pelo Professor L. H. BAILEY e dá uma descripção dos principaes pontos do plano a ser seguido nos diversos estados. O folheto contem uma lista de publicações sobre agricultura recommendadas para o uso dos agricultores. A Secretaria da Agricultura tem publicado um numero de boletins que tratam de maneira clara e concisa sobre materias agricolas e os quaes se distribuem gratis.

"The Anglo-Boer Conflict, its History and its Cost," é o titulo de um livro por ALLEYNE IRELAND (Small, Maynard & Co., Boston, 1900). "O objecto que me tenho proposto," diz Mr. IRELAND no prefacio de sua obra, "é dar uma relação breve e exacta dos acontecimentos que tem sido causa da guerra, para o uso daquelles que, apesar de que sentem grande interesse na situação, não podem ler todo o que se tem dito por muitos escriptores sobre este assumpto e por extensos documentos officiaes." A imprensa tem fallado favoravelmente do trabalho de Mr. IRELAND.

As paginas avulsas dos relatorios consulares dos Estados Unidos, publicadas a 27 de Fevereiro de 1900, estão dedicadas principalmente á industria de cassave na America latina. Este producto é obtido da mandioca. Conhecem-se duas plantas desta classe, uma amarga e a outra doce. Os naturaes de Guatemala fazem da mandioca pão e amido. Em Honduras sómente a empregam para sacar della amido. O alimento que se saca deste raiz é altamente nutritivo e bem pode competir com as batatas como substancia alimenticia.

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L'INDUSTRIE DU TISSAGE DE LA SOIE AUX ÉTATS-UNIS.

A la réunion de l'Association des Fabricants de Soiries qui a eu lieu dans la ville de New-York, le 8 février 1900, lecture a été faite des statistiques de l'année relatives à cette industrie. Elles révèlent que l'industrie de la soie aux États-Unis a fait des progrès remarquables et que les affaires de 1899 ont surpassé celles de 1898. Le rapport de l'année montre aussi que le prix de la soie éeue a augmenté, et quoique la quantité importée en 1899 ait été seulement un petit peu plus grande que celle de 1897, la différence dans la valeur portée sur les factures a été plus considérable. En 1899, 73,667 balles ont été importées au lieu de 72,496 balles en 1897; la valeur cependant a augmenté en 1899 de \$30,636,009 à \$41,195,209; le prix moyen par livre pour les deux années sus-nommées étant respectivement \$3 et \$4.15. Afin de convertir le matériel éeue en articles différents qui sont envoyés sur les marchés, les manufactures de soieries opèrent dans 19 États, ayant chacun une ou plusieurs fabriques.

Les principales manufactures sont situées dans les États de New-Jersey et Pennsylvanie, où 47,000 ouvriers sont employés. En 1899, les salaires que le premier État a payé aux ouvriers se sont montés à \$10,650,789, tandis que le dernier État a payé, pendant la même année, \$4,866,851. Les personnes employées comprennent depuis les journaliers ordinaires jusqu'aux experts en soieries. La proportion des femmes employées comme ouvrières est de 45 pour cent dans le New-Jersey et de 73 pour cent dans la Pennsylvanie.

Pendant l'année 1899 de nouvelles soieries ont été établies dans les États suivant: New-Jersey, 21; Pennsylvanie, 21; New-York, 7;

Rhode Island et Connecticut, 3 chacun; la Caroline du Nord, 2; Delaware, Michigan, Virginie et Wisconsin, 1 chacun.

On a démontré que les Etats-Unis pouvaient produire la soie éeue, mais on a aussi prouvé que, étant donné le prix du travail qui est plus élevé aux Etats-Unis que dans les pays d'où vient la plus grande quantité de ce produit, cette industrie ne pouvait pas devenir profitable. La plus grande partie de la soie éeue importée, vient de Chine, du Japon et d'Italie. La soie dévidée est mise en écheveau ou en peloton, et alors en paquets pesant environ cinq livres chacun dont on fait ensuite des ballots pour l'expédition. Les balles que l'on reçoit de Chine et du Japon pèsent environ 150 livres chacune, tandis que celles provenant d'Italie ont un poids moyen de 250 livres. Une classe spéciale de soie vient de Canton en bulles, chacune pesant environ 100 livres. La soie italienne a généralement une couleur jaunâtre, tandis que celle de la Chine et du Japon est ordinairement blanche. La qualité de la soie dépend de la fabrique ou de la filature d'où elle provient. Quand le matériel arrive aux Etats-Unis, les fabriques n'ont rien à faire qu'à organsiner la soie, c'est-à-dire tordre ensemble plusieurs brins de soie pour en faire de l'organsin et le traiter ensuite comme n'importe quel tissu fait au métier.

PRODUCTION DES ORANGES EN CALIFORNIE.

Dans un article intéressant au sujet de la production des oranges dans l'Etat de la Californie, le "San Francisco Argonaut" fait remarquer que les orangeries sont en plein rapport en janvier. Pendant ce mois une grande animation règne dans les vergers du sud de la Californie qui sont remplis de cueilleurs, et le fruit est entassé dans des milliers de wagons qui sont dirigés sur les marchés de l'est. On dit que le rendement cette année a été le plus grand qui ait jamais été constaté dans l'histoire de cette industrie, qu'il y a eu une plus grande quantité de demandes, et que les oranges se sont vendues à un prix beaucoup plus élevé. L'estimation pour la saison de 1899-1900 est de 14,000 à 14,500 charges de wagons, au lieu de 13,000 pour l'année précédente. Ces chiffres ne comprennent pas la production des régions du nord qui augmenterait aisément le rendement de 500 wagons. En 1890 la production entière de l'Etat était 4,016 wagons et les chiffres ont augmenté tous les ans presque sans exception. On estime que la récolte de cette année vaut, en compte rond, \$4,600,000 dont \$2,000,000 iront aux compagnies de transport.

Il n'est pas rare pour les orangistes de réaliser un bénéfice net de \$150 par acre, tandis que les vieux vergers rapportent souvent un profit de \$350 à \$375 par acre. Dans les principales régions de l'Etat

qui produisent des oranges il y a actuellement 48,000 acres d'orangeries. Dans le sud de la Californie il y a 2,072,400 orangers qui produisent des fruits; quant à ceux qui n'en ont pas encore donné, ils se chiffrent à 1,227,300; mais comme ces derniers en produiront bientôt, on prédit que le rendement se montera à 27,000 wagons valant \$10,000,000. Le capital qui a déjà été placé dans les orangeries, dans cet Etat, est d'environ \$44,000,000. Quoique ce soit les moines de la Mission Saint-Gabriel qui, en 1804, plantèrent les premières orangeries, l'industrie actuelle est nouvelle. John Wolfskill planta la première orangerie en Californie en 1870. La valeur des terres propres à la culture des orangers a augmenté de \$30 à \$600 l'acre, et un seul arbre que l'on pouvait jadis se procurer pour 10 cents coûte aujourd'hui \$1.60. On a dû faire des expériences très coûteuses pour arriver à donner à cette industrie son développement actuel. Des fortunes ont été englouties, mais d'un autre côté, d'autres ont été faites et, par suite de l'expérience acquise, l'industrie a été établie sur des bases solides, conséquemment elle se développera rapidement.

Le journal "Southern California Fruit Growers' Exchange" annonce qu'on emploiera une nouvelle méthode pour préparer les oranges pour le marché, système qui a déjà été expérimenté l'année dernière. L'idée est de fumiger les oranges au moyen de certains gaz, avant de les expédier, afin de tuer les fungus qui causent un déchet. La méthode employée n'est pas, bien entendu, connue du public, mais il est probable que les oranges subiront l'opération, en bloc, avant d'être emballées. La composition des gaz employés est aussi un secret.

L'inventeur dit que le déchet des oranges est dû à un fungus vert, tandis que celui des citrons est occasionné par deux fungus, le noir et le vert. L'invention ne détruit pas le fungus noir, conséquemment le système est considéré comme imparfait en ce qui concerne les citrons. Les expéditions tentatives qui ont été faites de Los Angeles, Californie, à la ville de Kansas, Missouri, au mois de juillet 1899, en deux wagons envoyés ensemble, ont donné les résultats suivants: déchet du fruit naturel, non rafraîchi, ou qui n'a subi aucun traitement, 8.9 pour cent; fruit rafraîchi, 2 pour cent; fruit fumigé, 1.8 pour cent.

On rapporte que les frais du nouveau traitement sont bien moindres que ceux de la réfrigération pendant le voyage, et on croit que le dernier système sera presque complètement abandonné, quant aux oranges. Si le nouveau procédé réussit, l'économie réalisée dans les expéditions d'oranges sera énorme. Actuellement, les frais pour la réfrigération, du point d'embarquement aux marchés de l'est, se montent à 80 ou 90 dollars pour chaque wagon.

RÉPUBLIQUE ARGENTINE.

EXPOSITION DE LAITERIE À BUENOS AYRES.

Une exposition de vaches laitières, de produits de la laiterie et de machines et appareils employés pour l'élaboration de ces produits, aura lieu à Buenos Ayres dans le courant du mois de mai prochain.

Les machines, appareils, etc., venant de l'étranger et destinés à l'exposition, entreront en franchise de douanes et n'auront pas à acquitter les frais de transport du port aux bâtiments de l'exposition.

La laiterie prend un développement rapide dans la République Argentine, et les fabricants de machines et appareils employés dans cette industrie auraient, semble-t-il, intérêt à participer à l'exposition dont il s'agit.

Les récompenses consisteront en primes, diplômes et médailles.

EXPORTATION DES GRAINS ET GRAINES.

La presse de Buenos Ayres publie le relevé suivant de l'exportation de blé, de maïs et de graine de lin pendant l'année 1899:

	Tonnes.
Blé.....	1,780,000
Maïs.....	1,222,000
Graine de lin.....	212,000

Le prix moyen payé pour les produits de la récolte 1898-99 a été, pour le blé, de 5 piastres-papier les 100 kilogrammes; pour le maïs de 22.25 piastres et pour la graine de lin, de 9 piastres les 100 kilogrammes.

Sur la base de ces prix, l'exportation de ces grains représente les valeurs suivantes:

	Piastres-papier.
Blé.....	89,000,000
Maïs.....	28,050,000
Graine de lin.....	19,080,000
Total.....	136,130,000

Le cours de l'or calculé à 227.27, la somme ci-dessus représente 60,000,000 piastres-or, ou 300,000,000 francs.

BRÉSIL.

NOUVELLE FIBRE TEXTILE.

Un correspondant du "Jornal do Commercio," de Rio de Janeiro, attire l'attention sur la fibre de la "guaxima" qui croît partout à l'état sauvage, mais qu'on trouve en plus grandes quantités dans les terres basses près de la mer. On croit que cette fibre pourrait par-

faitement remplacer le jute et former la base d'une importante industrie. Les fils sont longs et très forts; ils peuvent résister à l'action de l'eau, les pêcheurs de la côte s'en servent pour leurs filets qui durent pendant des années si on les trempe dans une teinture d'écorce de pistachier (arouira). Le traitement de la fibre de la guaxima n'exige pas une longue macération comme le jute, il suffit de l'immerger pendant quelques jours dans l'eau courante pour pouvoir enlever à la main l'écorce verte; on expose ensuite les tiges au soleil pour faire sécher la partie ligneuse; celle-ci se contracte et on sépare alors facilement l'écorce fibreuse.

NOUVEL ARBRE À CAOUTCHOUC.

D'après le "Diario de Noticias de Bahía," on vient de découvrir un nouvel arbre à caoutchouc qui paraît être supérieur à tous ceux de cette classe. Il est connu sous le nom de "pecambira" et se fait remarquer par l'abondance et la qualité supérieure de sa gomme.

EXPORTATIONS DE "HERBA MATÉ."

L'Etat de Paraná exporte annuellement aux Républiques de l'Amérique du Sud 20,000,000 kilogrammes d'"herba maté," dont la valeur se monte à 6,000,000 milreis, ou environ \$960,000 au cours actuel de la Bourse.

ÉQUATEUR.

SITUATION ÉCONOMIQUE PENDANT L'ANNÉE 1899.

Le commerce de la République de l'Équateur pendant l'année 1899 s'est développé d'une manière prodigieuse; les exportations ont augmenté dans des proportions considérables, et cela est dû spécialement à l'agriculture dont les produits, le cacao principalement, ont eu un meilleur rendement. Le Gouvernement du Général ALFARO a donné une grande impulsion aux voies de communication. On travaille activement au chemin du Pailon et au chemin de Manabí, afin de relier la capitale avec la côte, et le chemin de fer de Chimbo à Quito occupe actuellement un millier de travailleurs.

ÉTATS-UNIS.

RECETTES ET DÉPENSES POUR LE MOIS DE FÉVRIER 1900.

Le rapport comparatif des recettes et des dépenses du Gouvernement montre que le total des recettes pendant le mois de février s'est élevé à \$45,631,265, et que celui des dépenses s'est monté à \$37,738,472, laissant

un excédent de recettes pour le mois de \$7,892,793. Les recettes douanières se sont montées à \$19,882,252, soit un gain sur le mois de février 1889 de près de \$3,000,000; les impôts de l'intérieur se sont élevés à \$20,767,43, soit une augmentation d'environ \$1,500,000; les recettes diverses ont produit \$4,981,574, soit une augmentation de \$3,000,000 environ. Les dépenses imputées au Ministère de la Guerre se sont montées à \$9,436,083, soit une diminution de près de \$6,000,000 comparées avec celles du mois de février 1899; les dépenses imputées au Ministère de la Marine se sont chiffrées à la somme de \$4,045,724, soit une diminution de \$350,000. Pendant les 8 mois passés, les recettes ont excédé les dépenses de \$37,763,000.

RAPPORT OFFICIEL SUR LA RÉCOLTE.

Le rapport du mois de mars du statisticien du Ministère de l'Agriculture montre que la quantité de blé qui restait entre les mains des agriculteurs le 1^{er} mars 1900 se montait à 158,700,000 boisseaux environ, ou 29 pour cent de la récolte de l'année dernière, contre 198,000,000 boisseaux, ou 29.3 pour cent de la récolte de 1898 en main le 1^{er} mars 1899.

Le maïs qui se trouve entre les mains des fermiers est estimé à 773,700,000 boisseaux, ou 37.2 pour cent de la récolte de l'année dernière, contre 800,500,000 boisseaux, ou 41.6 pour cent de la récolte de 1898 en main le 1^{er} mars 1899. La proportion de la récolte totale de l'année dernière exportée des Etats-Unis aux pays étrangers est estimée à 16.8 pour cent, ou environ 348,000,000 boisseaux. La proportion de la récolte totale de l'année dernière pouvant être vendue est estimée à 86.9 pour cent. La quantité d'avoine est estimée être de 290,900,000 boisseaux environ, ou 36.5 pour cent de la récolte de l'année dernière qui est encore entre les mains des fermiers, contre 283,000,000 boisseaux, ou 38.7 pour cent de la récolte de 1898 en main le 1^{er} mars 1899.

CONDITION DE LA RÉCOLTE DU BLÉ.

Le 1^{er} mars 1900, le Bureau météorologique des Etats-Unis, dans son rapport mensuel sur la condition du temps, fait remarquer, en ce qui concerne la récolte, que l'absence de neige, pendant la plus grande partie du mois dans les Etats qui produisent la plus grande quantité du blé d'hiver, ainsi que l'alternative de gelée et de dégel, ont laissé le blé à la fin de février dans des conditions moins favorables qu'à la fin du mois précédent. La condition de la récolte à la fin du mois de février est cependant généralement satisfaisante dans la plupart des sections, à l'exception des Etats du centre, l'Ohio, le Michigan et quelques parties de l'Indiana, du Missouri et du Kansas. D'après les rapports reçus du Michigan et de l'Ohio, le froid rigoureux de l'hiver aurait endommagé

le blé, indiquant que la condition est plus défavorable qu'elle ne l'a été pendant la saison. Sur la côte nord du Pacifique, des rapports favorables sont reçus de Washington, de l'Orégon et du nord et du centre de la Californie, quoique cependant la récolte dans l'est de Washington ait souffert à cause du froid intense de la fin du mois. Dans le sud de la Californie, où il y a eu une absence presque complète de pluie, la récolte, spécialement celle du blé semé de bonne heure, souffre beaucoup de la sécheresse.

BASSINS DE RADoub DU GOUVERNEMENT.

On est en train de construire à Boston et à Portsmouth, New-Hampshire, deux bassins immenses en pierre et à Mare Island, Californie, un bassin en bois. En dehors de ces travaux des soumissions ont été décachées le 21 octobre 1899 pour la construction d'un quatrième bassin pour l'arsenal de la marine à League Island, Philadelphie. Ce dernier bassin permettra à tous les navires, même aux plus grands vaisseaux de guerre, venant de l'Atlantique ou du golfe du Mexique, depuis le Maine jusqu'au Texas, d'être radoubés avec facilité. Les bassins du Gouvernement sont ou seront à Portsmouth, Boston, New-York (3), League Island (3), Norfolk, Newport News (2, commerciaux), Port Royal, Key West, Floride (bassin à flot), et Algiers, Louisiana). Antérieurement à la guerre avec l'Espagne, les Etats-Unis n'avaient pas de facilités de ce genre, et jusqu'à la fin de ce conflit il n'existait aucun bassin où les plus grands vaisseaux de guerre pussent entrer. Il n'y a que deux bassins où ces vaisseaux puissent entrer avec sécurité, mais ils sont très éloignés l'un de l'autre et situés dans des stations différentes; l'un à New-York et l'autre à Puget Sound, Oregon. Le bassin de Port Royal, Caroline du Sud, fut construit et achevé avant ces deux derniers, mais le manque d'eau ne permettait pas d'y loger les grands vaisseaux jusqu'au mois de février 1900, quand les travaux de dragage furent terminés.

AUGMENTATION DE LA PRODUCTION DE LA PISTACHE DE TERRE OU CACAHUATE (ARACHIDE HYPOGÉE).

Le rendement des cacahuates aux Etats-Unis constitue seulement une petite portion de la récolte du monde, l'exportation annuelle de ce produit de l'Afrique et de l'Inde en Europe étant de 400,000,000 livres environ, dont la moitié va à Marseille, où on en fait de l'huile. En 1898 les Etats-Unis ont importé de l'Afrique du Sud une petite quantité de cacahuates, mais d'un autre côté en ont exporté des quantités considérables en Europe, au Mexique et ailleurs. Les cacahuates consommées par le peuple des Etats-Unis ne sont pas classées parmi les principaux produits alimentaires, mais sont considérées comme un luxe. On estime que la récolte de 1899 a dépassé celle de 1898

d'environ 1,000,000 de boisseaux. Les experts croient que le rendement total était 4,500,000 boisseaux de 22 livres chacun, montant à \$5,000,000.

Les États de la Caroline du Nord, de Tennessee et de Virginie ont produit la majeure partie de la récolte. La cacahuate typique des États-Unis provient d'une espèce de plante grimpanche. Ces plantes sont grandes et ont des branches qui s'étendent à plate terre, et tout le long desquelles poussent des amandes renfermés dans de larges gousses blanches. On en cultive d'autres variétés dont les branches poussent verticalement comme des buissons. Sur les marchés se trouve des pistaches de terre connues sous le nom de cacahuates espagnoles, dont font principalement usage les confiseurs. Ces dernières originaires d'Espagne sont maintenant cultivées dans le Tennessee et la Virginie, où elles sont produites en très grandes quantités. La récolte de cette variété produit annuellement 150,000 sacs de 110 livres chacun.

C'est seulement depuis les 20 dernières années que les cacahuates ont été écalées au moyen de machines. Par suite de l'augmentation dans la production, on a dû inventer des machines pour remplacer les méthodes anciennes qui étaient trop lentes, et l'expérience a démontré que la consommation a toujours été en rapport avec l'augmentation de l'approvisionnement occasionné par les machines perfectionnées. Il existe actuellement dans le pays 20 manufactures pour les cacahuates, qui sont situées principalement dans les sections où ce fruit est cultivé. Le capital requis pour l'établissement d'une de ces fabriques est comparativement petit. Il existe à Waverley, Tennessee, une fabrique où il passe journellement 5 tonnes de cacahuates. Cette fabrique produit chaque jour 235 gallons d'huile raffinée, vendus au prix de \$1 le gallon; 175 gallons d'huile brute à 50 cents le gallon; 3,680 livres de farine raffinée et grossière à deux cents et 3,300 livres de fourrage à 60 cents les 100 livres, ce qui fait que le total général des recettes dépasse journellement la somme de \$415.

Un grand cultivateur de cacahuates ne se donne pas la peine de séparer les gousses de la tige et de la terre quand il a déterré sa récolte, mais envoie le tout à la manufacture. Là elles sont mises dans un trémie et passent ensuite dans un cylindre tournant qui les nettoie par le frottement, les débarrassant ainsi des feuilles et des tiges qui disparaissent par un tuyau d'aspiration. Les amandes restent dans le cylindre et passent ensuite sur une table à jour tournante dont les planchettes reposent sur un canevas où les nègresses recueillent celles de première qualité appelées "fancy." Le restant passe alors sur une autre table tournante du même genre où on recueille la seconde qualité que l'on enferme dans des sacs marqués "extra." Deux autres qualités sont alors assorties, l'une qui est vendue aux marchands, l'autre aux confiseurs.

CONVENTION DE L'ASSOCIATION NATIONALE DES MANUFACTURIERS.

La cinquième convention annuelle de l'Association nationale des manufacturiers aura lieu dans la ville de Boston les 24, 25 et 26 avril 1900. On espère que cette réunion sera la plus grande qui ait jamais eu lieu dans aucune partie du monde. Des programmes qui ressemblent exactement à ceux des conventions précédentes ont été préparés pour les sessions du matin et de l'après-midi pour chacun des jours sus-nommés. Le premier soir sera consacré à l'amusement tandis que pendant le deuxième on discutera les nombreux sujets qui intéressent l'éducation et particulièrement ceux qui touchent de près aux manufactures et aux intérêts commerciaux. Le soir de la clôture, les exercices prendront la forme d'une immense convention publique, à laquelle assisteront, on l'espère, le Président MCKINLEY et quelques orateurs distingués qui prononceront de courtes allocutions.

L'Association des manufacturiers de cotonnades de la Nouvelle Angleterre espère aussi se rendre à Boston pour sa réunion semi-annuelle qui aura lieu les 25 et 26 avril, et ce fait a suggéré l'idée d'assembler aux mêmes dates l'Association nationale des manufactures de laine, celle des manufactures de chaussures et de cuirs ainsi que d'autres organisations qui ont leurs intérêts dans cette ville, afin de faire une grande convention des différents intérêts manufacturiers du pays.

SUPPRESSION DES RÈGLEMENTS SÉVÈRES POUR LES NAVIRES CHARGÉS DE CAFÉ.

Le 4 mars 1900, le Directeur de la santé du port de New York a notifié les agents et les armateurs de vaisseaux arrivant de Santos, qu'à partir du 5 mars les règles sévères imposées aux vaisseaux de ce port seraient supprimées. A l'avenir, tous les navires arrivant de Santos pourront se rendre directement à leurs quais de débarquement, immédiatement après l'inspection et la désinfection ordinaires. L'annulation de ces règlements qui causaient un délai et des dépenses considérables dans les frais d'allège de la cargaison a été accueillie avec une très grande satisfaction par les marchands et les consignataires. On mande de Santos qu'aucun cas de peste n'a existé dans cette ville pendant les trente jours qui ont précédé le 4 mars.

PRODUCTION DU CHANVRE DES ILES PHILIPPINES.

D'après les rapports télégraphiques reçus de Manille le 5 mars, la quantité totale de chanvre reçue de l'intérieur dans les ports des Iles Philippines, pendant la semaine précédente, s'est montée à 60,000 balles, la plus grande qui ait jamais été constatée pour une seule semaine. Les courtiers en chanvre des États-Unis déclarent que ces grandes

quantités ne peuvent avoir que peu d'influence sur le prix; car, d'après les rapports précédents, le montant total du chanvre dans les Iles, à l'époque de l'ouverture des ports, ne s'élevait pas à plus de 250,000 balles. De cette quantité, 135,000 balles ont déjà été envoyées sur les marchés, laissant une quantité disponible de 65,000 à 115,000 balles. On prédit que le prix du chanvre cette année ne tombera pas au dessous de 10 cents la livre.

L'INDUSTRIE DE LA CONSTRUCTION DES NAVIRES SUR LES BORDS DES GRANDS LACS.

D'après le "Iron Age," une activité sans exemple règne dans l'industrie de la construction des navires, sur les bords des Grands Lacs. Trente-sept bateaux à vapeur ayant une capacité de 185,000 tonnes et une force de 45,950 chevaux sont actuellement en voie de construction dans les chantiers de constructions navales des lacs, représentant une dépense estimée à \$9,000,000. Presque tous ces vaisseaux sont en acier et destinés au trafic des marchandises, et la plupart d'entre eux pourront transporter de 6,000 à 9,000 tonnes.

NOUVEL ARTICLE D'EXPORTATION AUX ILES SANDWICH.

Un nouvel article que San Francisco a exporté récemment en très grande quantité à Honolulu, Hilo et autres ports des Iles Sandwich, est le riz. Cette céréale est cultivée dans l'Etat de la Louisiane. Les premières expéditions eurent lieu quand la peste sévissait dans les Iles et jusqu'au 1^{er} mars 1900 on a expédié 28,000 sacs de 162 livres chacun. Jadis, tout le riz qui se consommait à Hawaï autre que celui du pays, provenait du Japon.

PLANTES QUI PRODUISENT DES PIERRES PRÉCIEUSES.

Un des directeurs du Kew Gardens, Londres, dans une conférence qu'il fit récemment dans un institut de cette ville sur quelques curiosités de la vie des plantes tropicales, fit remarquer que l'on trouvait occasionnellement dans les cocotiers des Iles Philippines des perles qui, comme celles de l'océan, se composaient de carbonate de chaux. Le bambou aussi produit dans ses nœuds une autre pierre précieuse qui a la forme d'une véritable opale.

L'EXPOSITION "PAN AMERICAN" À BUFFALO.

Les règlements qui régissent les exhibitions à l'Exposition "Pan American," à Buffalo, en 1901, ont été publiés. Les Commissaires du Gouvernement nommés par le Congrès des Etats-Unis ont déjà pris les mesures nécessaires pour comprendre dans l'exposition du pays, celles de Puerto Rico, de Hawaï, et des Iles Philippines. Des mesures sem-

blables seront prises pour faire une magnifique exposition des produits cubains et de ceux des îles voisines. Les unes après les autres, les Colonies Américaines et les nations ont déclaré leur intention d'y être représentées, ce qui donnera aux manufacturiers et aux producteurs les occasions les plus favorables pour resserrer leurs liens d'amitié avec leurs frères des Républiques Américaines et développer ainsi leurs relations commerciales dans toutes les parties de l'hémisphère occidental.

PRODUCTION DU PAPIER.

Les États-Unis produisent annuellement une valeur de plus de \$100,000,000 de papier. Environ un tiers de ce papier est employé pour les journaux, la proportion pour le papier d'emballage et les livres étant respectivement deux tiers et environ une moitié autant que pour les journaux. Le carton se monte annuellement à 300,000 tonnes. Les constructeurs emploient 60,000 tonnes de papier, et 45,000 tonnes de papier à tapisser les murs sont produites annuellement.

RÉVISION DES LOIS SUR LES IMPÔTS DE PUERTO-RICO.

Le Ministre de la Guerre des États-Unis a prié Mr. le Dr. J. H. HOLLAND, professeur d'économie politique à l'Université Johns Hopkins, à Baltimore, de se rendre à Puerto-Rico, en qualité de commissaire spécial, dans le but de réviser les lois de cette île, relatives aux impôts. Les Directeurs de l'Université ont accordé un congé à Mr. le Professeur HOLLAND, qui entrera en fonctions aussitôt que les conférences qu'il est en train de faire à l'Université seront terminées. En 1887, le Dr. HOLLAND était Secrétaire de la Conférence Monétaire de Bruxelles et a la réputation d'être très versé dans les questions financières.

PROSPÉRITÉ INDUSTRIELLE AU MICHIGAN.

Le Rapport du Directeur des Travaux Publics du Michigan montre que sur 4,438 fabriques qui ont été inspectées, 301 seulement chômaient. Ces fabriques emploient 154,553 ouvriers, dont les salaires se montent journallement à \$213,904. Près de 75 pour cent de ces fabriques rapportent une augmentation dans les affaires, la moyenne étant 18 pour cent sur l'année 1898. Pendant l'année 1899 on a construit 201 nouvelles fabriques qui ont coûté la somme totale de \$5,000,000.

BUREAU INTERNATIONAL D'AGRICULTURE.

Mr. J. J. S. BROOMHALL du "Corn Trade News," de Liverpool, Angleterre, est arrivé aux États-Unis le 3 mars 1900 avec la mission d'organiser un Bureau International d'Agriculture. Mr. BROOMHALL

est reconnu comme un des principaux experts des marchés aux grains du monde. Dans une entrevue donnée à la presse, il s'exprima comme suit au sujet de son projet: "l'Allemagne et l'Autriche se proposent d'organiser un Bureau International d'Agriculture et de Récoltes, et je viens pour disenter avec les membres de la Chambre Nationale de Commerce les moyens pour obtenir la coopération des Etats-Unis dans cette affaire importante. J'espère pouvoir intéresser tous les principaux pays agricoles afin que les statistiques et les renseignements sur les ressources agricoles et commerciales soient fournis exactement et à un point de vue scientifique. J'ai l'intention de visiter les principales bourses commerciales des Etats-Unis, je me rendrai ensuite en France et dans les autres pays européens, et probablement dans toutes les parties du monde dans l'intérêt du bureau projeté."

COLLECTIONS ETHNOLOGIQUES DANS LES PHILIPPINES.

Mr. le Col. F. F. HILDER du Bureau d'Ethnologie Américaine a été délégué récemment comme agent spécial de la commission chargée de diriger l'Exposition "Pan American" de Buffalo pour visiter les Iles Philippines et y faire des collections scientifiques et principalement ethnologiques. Le Colonel HILDER a l'intention de parcourir le plus d'îles possible avant le commencement de la saison pluvieuse et de faire des collections illustrant les industries, les mœurs, les coutumes et les conditions sociales des tribus sauvages et autres qui s'y sont colonisées.

MEXIQUE.

STATION MÉTÉOROLOGIQUE DES ÉTATS-UNIS AU MEXIQUE.

Un télégramme de Coatzacoalcos, Mexique, dit que M. le Docteur L. M. CLINE de l'Observatoire des Etats-Unis, qui a établi des stations météorologiques à Tampico, Vera-Cruz et Coatzacoalcos, terminera ses travaux à Progresso, où une autre station sera installée. Ce nouvel observatoire permettra de prévenir les navires tout le long de l'Atlantique, longtemps avant leur arrivée, de l'approche des orages qui se forment dans le golfe et protégera ainsi la navigation côtière du Mexique et des Etats-Unis.

PLACERS DANS L'ÉTAT DE CHIHUAHUA.

Les placers d'or de la vallée du Concho (Etat de Chihuahua) attirent en ce moment l'attention des capitalistes. De nombreux lots ont été récemment dénoncés. Une nouvelle compagnie s'organise à Chihuahua pour travailler sur la haute rivière. Les placers de Santo Domingo, considérés comme les plus riches de cette région, sont situés à 120 kilomètres de Chihuahua.

QUELQUES CHIFFRES.

On évalue à cinquante millions de piastres le chiffre total des capitaux américains engagés dans des entreprises minières au Mexique durant l'année 1899.

D'après le "Chihuahua Enterprise," un des plus longs chemins de fer du monde sera celui que l'on s'apprête à construire au Mexique et qui doit relier les Etats de Yucatan, Chiapas, Tabasco, et Campêche. Cette voie aura 409 milles de long et coûtera approximativement \$15,000,000.

NOUVELLE LIGNE DE VAPEURS.

Une compagnie de navigation Anglo-Chilienne vient d'inaugurer une nouvelle ligne de bateaux à vapeurs. Les vapeurs toucheront aux ports mexicains de la côte du Pacifique et à ceux des autres Républiques du centre et du sud de l'Amérique.

ACHAT D'UNE MINE.

Le syndicat minier anglais, à la tête duquel se trouve MM. ROTHSCHILD, vient de se rendre acquéreur de la mine Somara, précédemment propriété de Mr. CHARLES LANE. Cette mine a été payée \$1,500,000.

TRAITEMENT SÉROTHÉRAPIQUE DE LA FIÈVRE JAUNE.

D'après une correspondance de Merida (Yucatan) au "Mundo," il paraît que les injections d'une simple solution de sel marin dans l'eau pure ont donné de bons résultats dans le traitement de la fièvre jaune. Tous les malades auxquels ces injections ont été appliquées, même ceux qui se trouvaient déjà dans la période des vomissements noirs, se sont rétablis. Cette nouvelle est très importante, et il est à souhaiter que des expériences ultérieures viennent la confirmer.

CONTRAT DE COLONISATION.

Le Ministère de Fomento vient de signer, avec MM. ENRIQUE SARDONETA et ALEXANDRE LEGLER, un contrat donnant à ces derniers la concession de terrains nationaux situés dans l'Etat de Chiapas. Les concessionnaires devront installer dans ces terrains deux cents familles de nationalités européennes.

NOUVEAU CHEMIN DE FER.

Une compagnie vient de se former à Albany (capitale de l'Etat de New-York) pour construire au Mexique un chemin de fer qui portera le nom de "Ferrocarril Mineral Mexicano" et reliera Monterrey à la région minière de San Pedro (Nuevo-Leon) où sont situées les mines appartenant à un capitaliste de Monterrey, M. MAIZ.

PEROU.

MANIFESTES DE DOUANE.

En vertu d'une décision du Ministre des Finances du Pérou en date du 29 novembre 1899, la rectification des manifestes détaillés devra avoir lieu dans le délai de trente jours, à partir de la présentation desdits manifestes. Passé ce délai, la rectification ne sera admise que sur la preuve donnée par écrit devant la douane des causes d'erreur. Dans ce cas, le procès-verbal de rectification sera annexé au manifeste rectifié.

RÉGION NON PLUVIEUSE.

C'est dans la région où se trouve la ville de Payta qu'il pleut le moins. En février dernier, il y a plu durant vingt-quatre heures, il est vrai, mais c'était la première pluie observée depuis huit ans, la durée moyenne entre deux averses étant de sept ans.

Payta est située par 5 degrés de latitude sud sur la côte. Les brouillards y sont fréquents et la flore est très pauvre; on n'y rencontre que neuf espèces, dont sept sont annuelles. Les graines de ces dernières séjournent souvent sept années dans le sol en attendant la pluie bienfaisante qui doit les faire germer. Malgré l'absence de pluies, les habitants subsistent, grâce à la croissance du coton péruvien à longues racines, qui est lui-même capable de rester sans eau pendant sept ans et qui fournit des récoltes abondantes et avantageuses.

URUGUAY.

RECETTES DOUANIÈRES DE L'URUGUAY.

Les recettes douanières de l'Uruguay ont donné, pour le mois de décembre 1899, les résultats ci-après:

	Pesos.
Importation	733, 840. 66
Exportation	121, 441. 17
Départements: estimation.....	87, 000. 00
Total.....	942, 281. 83

Les recettes de la douane pendant les années 1896, 1897, 1898 et 1899 étaient respectivement: 10,261,829 pesos; 8,548,291 pesos; 9,847,731 pesos et 10,260,098 pesos.

CRÉATION D'UN MUSÉE COMMERCIAL À MONTÉVIDÉO.

On attache beaucoup d'importance dans le monde commercial espagnol à la création de musées commerciaux dans les principales villes de l'Amérique du Sud. Une institution de ce genre existe déjà à Buenos-Ayres, et la colonie espagnole de Montévidéo est en train d'organiser dans une des rues les plus fréquentées de cette ville un musée commercial qui sera en même temps un dépôt d'échantillons d'articles espagnols.

BIBLIOGRAPHIE.

Les livres et les brochures qui seront envoyées au Bureau des Républiques Américaines et qui contiendront des sujets ou matières traitant des pays de l'Union internationale des Républiques Américaines, seront mentionnés dans le Bulletin Mensuel sous le titre "Bibliographie."

Un des rapports les plus importants soumis au Congrès par le Ministre de l'Agriculture des Etats Unis traite des investigations agricoles qui ont été faites dans le territoire d'Alaska. Les faits concernant ce vaste territoire du Nord étonnent ceux qui l'ont considéré comme un pays couvert presque entièrement de glace et précieux seulement par l'or, les fourrures et le poisson qu'il produit. Cette publication prouve que Alaska a des moyens latents qui, une fois développés, peuvent soutenir une population plus grande que celle de la Finlande et devenir un Etat prospère. L'auteur du rapport, Mr. le Professeur C. C. GEORGESON, qui était chargé de faire les investigations, a apporté à Washington 11 variétés de blé de mars, 12 variétés d'orge et d'avoine et aussi des variétés de seigle, de blé sarrasin et de lin, des fermes modèles de Sitka et de Kenai.

Le rapport dit que le trèfle est en vie tout le long de l'hiver à Sitka, croît avec abondance et produit des graines qui mûrissent, que les vesces et les autres plantes fourragères sont également d'une belle venue. Tous les légumes ordinaires pouvant supporter le froid poussent à la perfection. En ce qui concerne son expérience avec les bestiaux à Kadiak, le surintendant de la Compagnie Commerciale d'Alaska déclare, dans son rapport, qu'il y a des possibilités dans cette industrie qui seront d'une très grande importance dans le développement futur du territoire. La Compagnie d'Alaska, pendant de nombreuses années, s'est occupée de l'élevage du bétail, des moutons, des chèvres Angora dans quelques-unes des petites îles près de Kadiak, et a trouvé que dans l'une d'elles il n'était pas nécessaire, l'hiver ou l'été, de nourrir ou de mettre à l'abri le bétail dans des étables. Les troupeaux vivent en plein air, broutent seulement l'herbe du pays et augmentent tous les ans.

Un troupeau de chèvres Angora a augmenté de 60 pour cent annuellement et a donné des résultats magnifiques en molair. Pendant les 16 années qui viennent de s'écouler, on a toujours laissé les moutons pâturer, l'augmentation étant de plus de 60 pour cent et la tonte s'étant montée annuellement à environ cinq livres de laine par tête. Les Etats-Unis ont réservé à Sitka, Kadiak et Cook Inlet des terres pour y établir des fermes modèles. On est en train de construire à Sitka un bâtiment qui, une fois terminé, contiendra des bureaux, un laboratoire, une bibliothèque et des logements, et dans lequel la plus grande partie des travaux scientifiques seront faits. Les fermes modèles seront pourvues

de bœufs pour les attelages et de tous les instruments agricoles nécessaires. Faut de fonds suffisants, rien n'a encore été entrepris dans l'intérieur d'Alaska, mais on a déjà formé le projet d'établir au moins une ferme modèle quelque part sur la rivière Yukon.

“L'Éducation à Cuba, Puerto-Rico et dans les Iles Philippines,” par R. L. PACKARD (Bureau de l'Éducation des États-Unis, Washington, 1899).

Cette brochure qui est le Chapitre XX du Rapport du Directeur de l'Éducation des États-Unis pour l'année 1897-1898, traite du sujet le plus important pour le développement de ces îles et donne les statistiques des écoles à Cuba et à Puerto-Rico. La revue statistique est suivie d'une esquisse historique des relations entre l'Espagne et ses colonies ainsi que de l'origine et du progrès de la tendance séparatiste d'après une autorité allemande. L'auteur décrit aussi l'histoire de l'éducation, le mouvement littéraire et scientifique à Cuba au point de vue Cubain, ainsi que les cours d'études suivis dans l'Université de Havana et autres maisons d'éducation. Il cite aussi les témoignages de juges compétents quant aux conditions de l'éducation à des époques différentes jusque vers 1890.

Le caractère de la population de l'archipel des Philippines est excessivement différent de celui de la population de Cuba et de Puerto-Rico. Dans les Philippines on parle plus de 30 langues et dialectes différents et la plus grande partie des habitants est composée des races indigènes. L'auteur passe aussi en revue tout ce qui été accompli dans ce pays au point de vue éducatif et rend honneur aux travaux des moines. En ce qui concerne ces derniers, il s'exprime ainsi: “Les plaintes que l'on porte apparemment avec justice contre eux ne devraient pas nous faire oublier les premiers services qu'ils ont rendus aux indigènes et à la civilisation.” Une liste des ouvrages que Mr. PACKARD a consulté pour préparer son rapport forme une bibliographie excellente des diverses îles.

Le Ministère de l'agriculture des États-Unis vient de publier une brochure compréhensive sur la distribution des exportations des produits agricoles des États-Unis pendant cinq années, de 1894 à 1898. La valeur de la moyenne annuelle pendant cette période s'est montée à \$663,526,201, ou 69.58 pour cent de toutes les exportations des produits du pays. Dans cette moyenne annuelle, le Royaume-Uni de la Grande-Bretagne est compris pour 54.62 pour cent; l'Allemagne, pour 13.01 pour cent; la France, pour 6.63 pour cent; les Pays-Bas, pour 4.34 pour cent; la Belgique, pour 3.58 pour cent; le Canada, pour 3.47 pour cent; l'Italie, pour 2.15 pour cent, et l'Espagne, pour 1.47 pour cent. Tous les autres pays ont pris moins de 1 pour cent du total.

Pendant les cinq années en comparaison, les exportations à la Grande-Bretagne, en Allemagne, en France, en Belgique, au Canada,

aux Pays-Bas, au Japon, en Italie, au Danemark et dans l'Afrique Anglaise des produits agricoles des Etats-Unis ont augmenté. En ce qui concerne la Grande-Bretagne, l'augmentation a été la plus considérable, quoique cependant pour la Belgique et la Hollande elle est digne d'être notée; quant à la France et l'Allemagne, elle a été très importante. Pendant la période ci-dessus nommée, la quantité de produits agricoles prise chaque année par le Canada s'est élevée, en moyenne, à \$23,000,000; les Indes Occidentales prirent un peu moins de \$17,000,000 annuellement, tandis que la moyenne annuelle de l'Amérique du Sud fut \$11,389,761, dont plus de la moitié alla au Brésil.

Un nouveau facteur est entré dans le système d'éducation agricole des Etats-Unis. En dehors de l'Institut des agriculteurs, des Ecoles d'agriculture, des Fermes modèles, on vient de créer des cours qui propageront les connaissances agricoles et développeront l'enthousiasme chez les agriculteurs. D'après une brochure publiée par le Ministère de l'Agriculture à Washington, ce Département aurait approuvé entièrement cette innovation. Cette brochure intitulée "Cours de lecture pour les agriculteurs" est un abrégé d'un article de Mr. le Prof. L. H. BAILEY et décrit les principales méthodes employées dans plusieurs Etats. On est en train d'organiser dans quelques universités des Etats de l'Est, et aussi loin dans l'Ouest que le Sud Dakota, des cours semblables. Ces cours sont dirigés d'après le système Chautauqua et comprennent des conférences sur des sujets tels que "Terrains et récoltes, Elevage et pâturage des bestiaux, Laiterie, Culture des Fruits, Economie des fermiers et Economie domestique." Encadrée dans cette brochure se trouve une liste de publications sur l'agriculture recommandées ou employées dans ces cours. Le Département de l'Agriculture a publié un nombre de "Bulletins pour les agriculteurs" qui traitent clairement et avec concision des sujets intéressant l'agriculture. Ils sont distribués gratis et on y trouve des matières particulièrement bien appropriées à ce genre de lectures.

L'Education aux Etats-Unis (Education in the United States) est le titre d'un ouvrage en 2 volumes qui a été écrit et publié par M. le Professeur NICHOLAS MURRAY BUTLER. Cette œuvre sera une des plus importantes de celles qui seront exposées à l'Exposition Universelle de Paris. Le travail consiste en 19 monographies, chacune préparée par un monographe spécial, et toutes prises ensemble donnent une idée exacte de l'activité déployée actuellement dans le système d'éducation des Etats-Unis. On a l'intention d'offrir de nombreux exemplaires de cet ouvrage magnifiquement relié aux principaux Gouvernements, aux bibliothèques publiques et aux maisons d'éducation du monde. Le public pourra s'en procurer des copies à des prix

modérés. Parmi les collaborateurs de ce travail on cite: M. le Dr. WILLIAM T. HARRIS, Directeur de l'Éducation aux États-Unis; M. ANDREW FLEMING WEST, Professeur de Latin à l'Université Princeton; M. le Dr. ANDREW SLOAN DRAPER, Président de l'Université de l'Illinois; M. I. C. MENDENHALL, Président de l'Institut Technologique de Worcester, Massachusetts, et Mr. BOOKER T. WASHINGTON, Principal de l'Institut Tuskegee.

Mr. A. R. SPOFFORD, Bibliothécaire Adjoint de la Bibliothèque du Congrès des États-Unis, a écrit la préface d'un nouvel ouvrage qui doit être publié par Putnam et C^{ie}. et dont le titre est: Un livre pour tous les lecteurs (A Book for all Readers). L'auteur traite principalement dans ce livre du soin que l'on doit apporter dans le choix des livres et de la manière de diriger les bibliothèques privées ou publiques. Une partie de cet ouvrage traite de la bibliothèque au point de vue scientifique, l'autre partie s'occupe de sujets tels que: le choix des livres, l'art de lire, les ouvrages rares, la littérature des publications périodiques et des brochures, l'achat des livres en Amérique et en Europe, l'art de relier, l'histoire des bibliothèques, les ennemis des livres, le côté amusant dans les bibliothèques, la faculté de la mémoire, en un mot, tous les sujets qui commandent l'intérêt non seulement de tous les gens de lettres, des personnes qui aiment les bons livres, mais encore des lecteurs en général.

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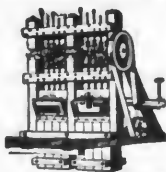
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VALUE OF AMERICAN COINS.

The following table shows the value, in United States gold, of coins representing the monetary units of the Central and South American Republics and Mexico, estimated quarterly by the Director of the United States Mint, in pursuance of act of Congress:

ESTIMATE JANUARY 1, 1900.

Countries.	Standard.	Unit.	Value in U. S. gold or silver.	Coins.
ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.	Gold and silver.	Peso.....	\$0.965	{ Gold—Argentine (\$4.824) and ½ Argentine. Silver—Peso and divisions.
BOLIVIA.....	Silver.....	Boliviano..	.427	Silver—Boliviano and divisions.
BRAZIL.....	Gold.....	Milreis....	.546	{ Gold—5, 10, and 20 milreis. Silver—½, 1, and 2 milreis.
CENTRAL AMERICAN STATES—				{ Gold—2, 5, 10, and 20 colons (\$9.307). Silver—5, 10, 25, and 50 centimos.
Costa Rica.....	Gold.....	Colon.....	.465	
British Honduras.	Gold.....	Dollar....	1.000	
Guatemala.....	Silver.....	Peso.....	.427	Silver—Peso and divisions.
Honduras.....				
Nicaragua.....				
Salvador.....				
CHILE.....	Gold.....	Peso.....	.365	{ Gold—Escudo (\$1.825), doub- loon (\$3.650), and condor (\$7.300). Silver—Peso and divisions.
COLOMBIA.....	Silver.....	Peso.....	.427	{ Gold—Condor (\$9.647) and double condor. Silver—Peso and divisions.
CUBA.....	Gold and silver.	Peso.....	.926	{ Gold—Centen (\$5.017). Silver—Peso.
ECUADOR.....	Silver.....	Sucre.....	.427	{ Gold—Condor (\$9.647) and divisions. Silver—Sucre and divisions.
HAITI.....	Gold and silver.	Gourde...	.965	Silver—Gourde.
MEXICO.....	Silver.....	Dollar....	.464	{ Gold Dollar (\$0.983), 2½, 5, 10, and 20 dollars. Silver—Dollar (or peso) and divisions.
PERU.....	Silver.....	Sol.....	.427	Silver—Sol and divisions.
URUGUAY.....	Gold.....	Peso.....	1.034	{ Gold—Peso. Silver—Peso and divisions.
VENEZUELA.....	Gold and silver.	Bolivar...	.193	{ Gold—5, 10, 20, 50, and 100 bolivars. Silver—5 bolivars.

Paraguay has no gold or silver coins of its own stamping. The silver peso of other South American Republics circulates there, and has the same value as in the countries that issue it.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

The following table gives the chief weights and measures in commercial use in Mexico and the Republics of Central and South America, and their equivalents in the United States.

Denomination.	Where used.	United States equivalents.
Are	Metric	0.02471 acre.
Arrobe	Paraguay	25 pounds.
Arroba (dry)	Argentine Republic	25.3175 pounds.
Do	Brazil	32.38 pounds.
Do	Cuba	25.3664 pounds.
Do	Venezuela	25.4024 pounds.
Arroba (liquid)	Cuba and Venezuela	4.263 gallons.
Barril	Argentine Republic and Mexico	20.0787 gallons.
Carga	Mexico and Salvador	300 pounds.
Centavo	Central America	4.2631 gallons.
Cuadra	Argentine Republic	4.2 acres.
Do	Paraguay	78.9 yards.
Do	Paraguay (square)	8.077 square feet.
Do	Uruguay	2 acres (nearly).
Cubic meter	Metric	35.3 cubic feet.
Fanega (dry)	Central America	1.5745 bushels.
Do	Chile	2.575 bushels.
Do	Cuba	1.599 bushels.
Do	Mexico	1.54728 bushels.
Do	Uruguay (double)	7.776 bushels.
Do	Uruguay (single)	3.888 bushels.
Do	Venezuela	1.599 bushels.
Frasco	Argentine Republic	2.5096 quarts.
Do	Mexico	2.5 quarts.
Gram	Metric	15.432 grains.
Hectare	do	2.471 acres.
Hectoliter (dry)	do	2.838 bushels.
Hectoliter (liquid)	do	26.417 gallons.
Kilogram (kilo)	do	2.2046 pounds.
Kilometer	do	0.621376 mile.
League (land)	Paraguay	4,633 acres.
Libra	Argentine Republic	1.0127 pounds.
Do	Central America	1.043 pounds.
Do	Chile	1.014 pounds.
Do	Cuba	1.0161 pounds.
Do	Mexico	1.01465 pounds.
Do	Peru	1.0143 pounds.
Do	Uruguay	1.0143 pounds.
Do	Venezuela	1.0161 pounds.
Liter	Metric	1.0567 quarts.
Livre	Guiana	1.0791 pounds.
Manzana	Costa Rica	1.5-6 acres.
Marc	Bolivia	0.507 pound.
Meter	Metric	39.37 inches.
Pie	Argentine Republic	0.9478 foot.
Quintal	do	101.42 pounds.
Do	Brazil	130.06 pounds.
Do	Chile, Mexico, and Peru	101.61 pounds.
Do	Paraguay	100 pounds.
Do. (metric)	Metric	220.46 pounds.
Suerte	Uruguay	2,700 cuadras (<i>see</i> Cuadra).
Vara	Argentine Republic	34.1208 inches.
Do	Central America	38.874 inches.
Do	Chile and Peru	33.367 inches.
Do	Cuba	33.384 inches.
Do	Mexico	33 inches.
Do	Paraguay	34 inches.
Do	Venezuela	33.384 inches.

METRIC WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

METRIC WEIGHTS.

Milligram (1/1000 gram) equals 0.0154 grain.
 Centigram (1/100 gram) equals 0.1543 grain.
 Decigram (1/10 gram) equals 1.5432 grains.
 Gram equals 15.432 grains.
 Decagram (10 grams) equals 0.3527 ounce.
 Hectogram (100 grams) equals 3.5274 ounces.
 Kilogram (1,000 grams) equals 2.2046 pounds.
 Myriagram (10,000 grams) equals 22.046 pounds.
 Quintal (100,000 grams) equals 220.46 pounds.
 Millier or tonneau—ton (1,000,000 grams) equals 2,204.6 pounds.

METRIC DRY MEASURE.

Milliliter (1/1000 liter) equals 0.061 cubic inch.
 Centiliter (1/100 liter) equals 0.6102 cubic inch.
 Deciliter (1/10 liter) equals 6.1022 cubic inches.
 Liter equals 0.908 quart.
 Decaliter (10 liters) equals 9.08 quarts.
 Hectoliter (100 liters) equals 2.838 bushels.
 Kiloliter (1,000 liters) equals 1.308 cubic yards.

METRIC LIQUID MEASURE.

Milliliter (1/1000 liter) equals 0.0388 fluid ounce.
 Centiliter (1/100 liter) equals 0.388 fluid ounce.
 Deciliter (1/10 liter) equals 0.845 gill.
 Liter equals 1.0567 quarts.
 Decaliter (10 liters) equals 2.6418 gallons.
 Hectoliter (100 liters) equals 26.418 gallons.
 Kiloliter (1,000 liters) equals 264.18 gallons.

METRIC MEASURES OF LENGTH.

Millimeter (1/1000 meter) equals 0.0394 inch.
 Centimeter (1/100 meter) equals 0.3937 inch.
 Decimeter (1/10 meter) equals 3.937 inches.
 Meter equals 39.37 inches.
 Decameter (10 meters) equals 393.7 inches.
 Hectometer (100 meters) equals 328 feet 1 inch.
 Kilometer (1,000 meters) equals 0.62137 mile (3,280 feet 10 inches).
 Myriameter (10,000 meters) equals 6.2137 miles.

METRIC SURFACE MEASURE.

Centare (1 square meter) equals 1,550 square inches.
 Are (100 square meters) equals 119.6 square yards.
 Hectare (10,000 square meters) equals 2.471 acres.

The metric system has been adopted by the following-named countries: Argentine Republic, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Mexico, United States of America, and Venezuela.

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