

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF AMERICAN REPUBLICS

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OF THE INTERNATIONAL BUREAU OF THE
AMERICAN
REPUBLICS

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International Bureau
— of the —
American Republics

JOHN BARRETT - Director

FRANCISCO J. YÁNES - Secretary

WASHINGTON, D. C.

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*With all good wishes for the
success of the movement for
Pan-American Peace and Friendship,
Theodore Roosevelt
April 29th 1905*

**THEODORE
ROOSEVELT**
PRESIDENT OF THE
UNITED STATES

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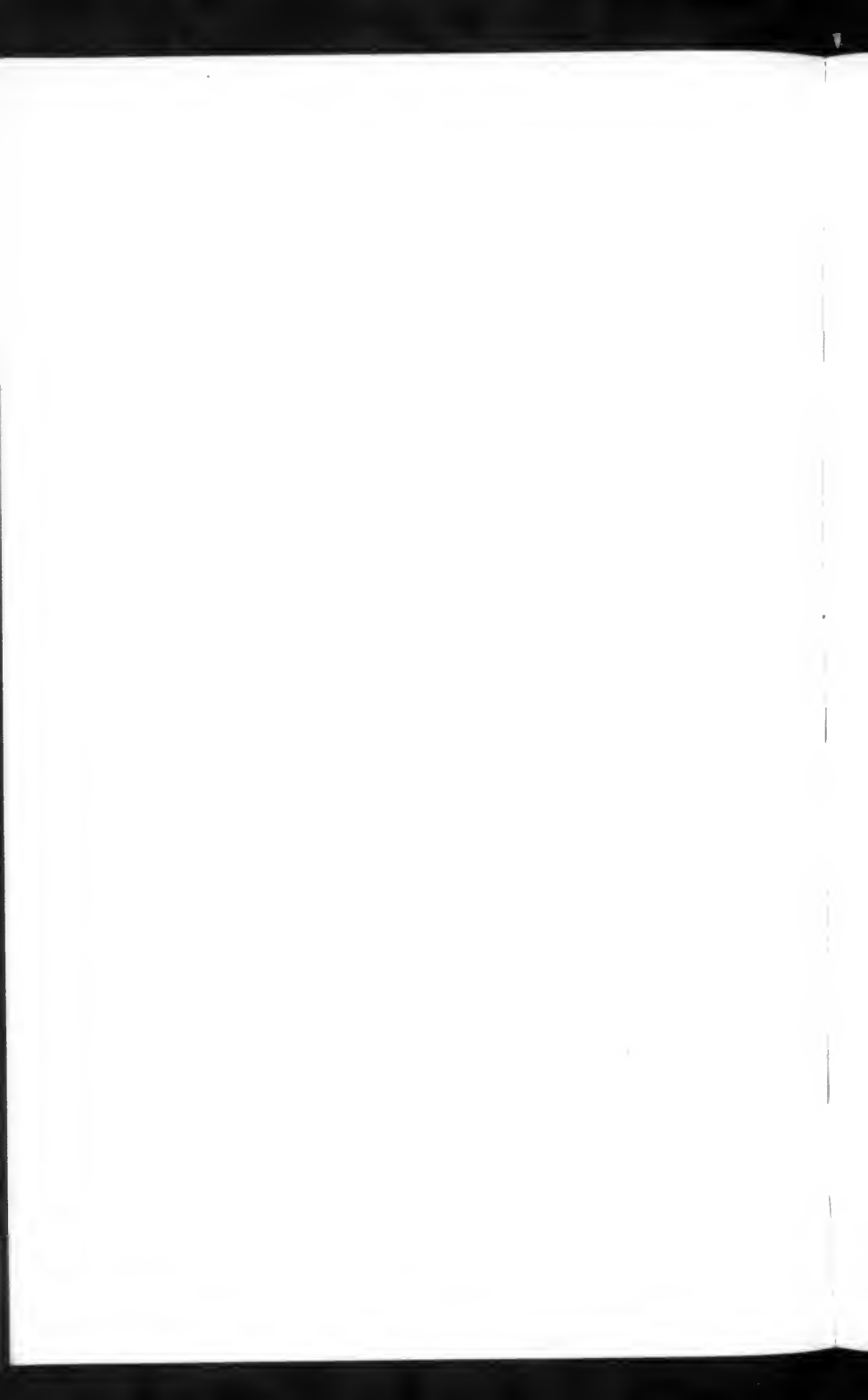
LAYING OF CORNER STONE OF
THE INTERNATIONAL BUREAU
OF THE AMERICAN REPUBLICS

WASHINGTON, MAY 11, 1908

Addresses by

SECRETARY ROOT
PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT
SEÑOR NABUCO
ANDREW CARNEGIE

MESSAGES FROM PRESIDENTS OF AMERICAN REPUBLICS



Programme of Ceremonies.

On account of the brief time elapsing between the ceremonies in connection with the laying of the corner stone of the new building of the International Bureau and the going to press of the MONTHLY BULLETIN for May, it is not possible to discuss in detail the programme of the occasion.

Below, however, are given the principal addresses, commencing with that of the Secretary of State of the United States and Chairman ex-officio of the Governing Board of the Bureau; followed by the President of the United States; the Ambassador from Brazil, Mr. JOAQUIM NABUCCO, and Mr. ANDREW CARNEGIE.

The exercises were opened by the Director of the Bureau, Mr. JOHN BARRETT, who introduced the Secretary of State of the United States as presiding officer. The invocation was delivered by His Eminence CARDINAL GIBBONS and the benediction pronounced by Bishop CRANSTON.

One of the principal features was the reading of the congratulatory messages received from the Presidents of the various Republics of America expressing the interest and enthusiasm awakened by the event. These are published below.

Near the close of the programme the corner stone was impressively laid by the President of the United States, assisted by the other distinguished guests.

Over 3,000 people were in attendance, including the Members of the Cabinet, the Diplomatic Corps, the Supreme Court, the leading Senators and Representatives, officers of the Army and Navy, other high officials, distinguished citizens, and representative newspaper men.

The musical programme rendered by the Marine Band of the United States under direction of W. H. Santelmann consisted of an effective rendition of the national and characteristic airs of the various Republics of the Western Hemisphere. The decorations were elaborate and appropriate, combining a fitting use of the flags and colors of the American nations. In short, it may be said without exaggeration that this corner-stone laying was one of the most successful ever conducted in the history of Washington.



Speech of Secretary Root.

Mr. President and Gentlemen:

We are here to lay the corner stone of the building which is to be the home of the International Union of American Republics.

The wise liberality of the Congress of the United States has provided the means for the purchase of this tract of land—five acres in extent—near the White House and the great Executive Departments, bounded on every side by public streets and facing to the east and south upon public parks which it will always be the care of the National Government to render continually more beautiful, in execution of its design to make the national capital an object of national pride and a source of that pleasure which comes to rich and poor alike from the education of taste.

The public spirit and enthusiasm for the good of humanity which have inspired an American citizen, Mr. ANDREW CARNEGIE, in his administration of a great fortune, have led him to devote the adequate and ample sum of three-quarters of a million dollars to the construction of the building.

Into the appropriate adornment and fitting of the edifice will go the contributions of every American Republic, already pledged and, in a great measure, already paid into the fund of the Union.

The International Union for which the building is erected is a voluntary association, the members of which are all the American nations from Cape Horn to the Great Lakes. It had its origin in the first Pan-American Conference held at Washington in 1889, and it has been developed and improved in efficiency under the resolutions of the succeeding conferences in Mexico and Brazil. Its primary object is to break down the barriers of mutual ignorance between the nations of America by collecting and making accessible, furnishing and spreading, information about every country among the people of every other country in the Union, to facilitate and stimulate intercourse, trade, acquaintance, good understanding, fellowship, and sympathy. For this purpose it has established in Washington a Bureau or Office under the direction of a Governing Board composed of the official representatives in Washington of all the Republics, and having a Director and Secretary, with a force of assistants and translators and clerks.

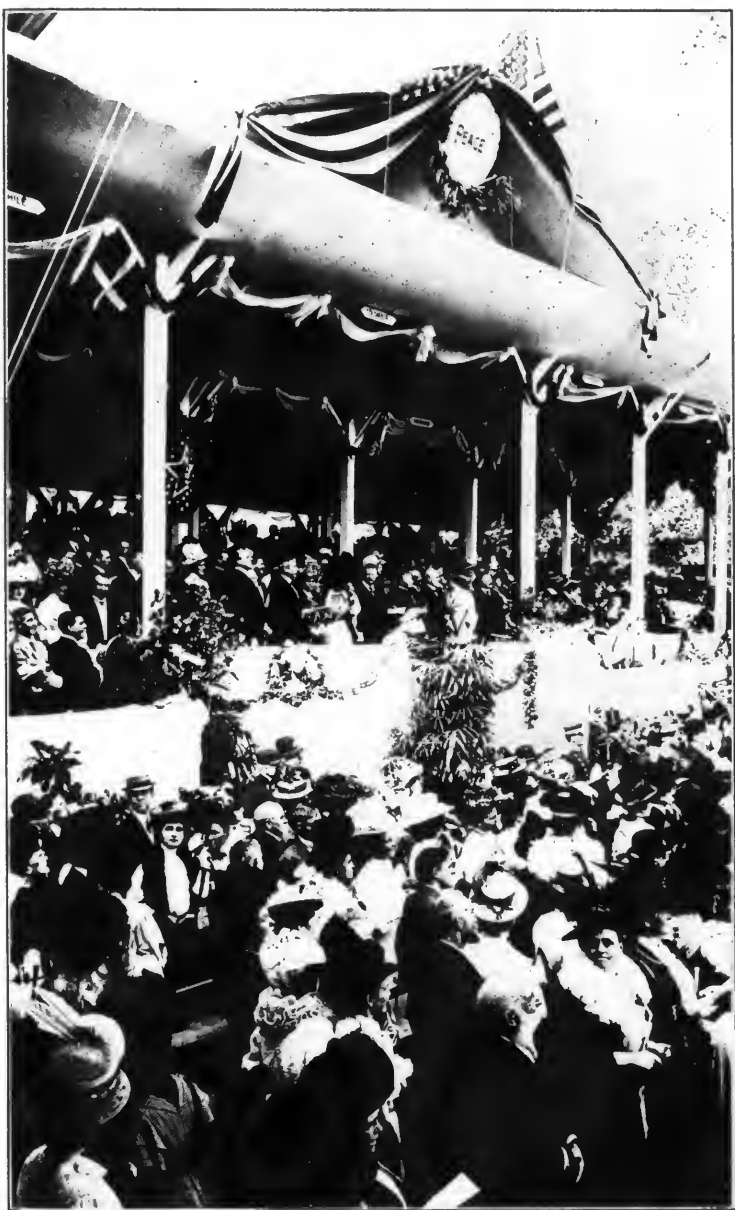
The Bureau has established a rapidly increasing library of history, travel, description, statistics, and literature of the American nations. It publishes a Monthly Bulletin of current public events and existing conditions in all the united countries, which is circulated in every country. It carries on an enormous correspondence with every part of both continents, answering the questions of seekers for information about the laws, customs, conditions, opportunities, and personnel of the different countries; and it has become a medium of introduction and guidance for international intercourse.

The Governing Board is also a permanent committee charged with the duty of seeing that the resolutions of each Pan-American Conference are carried out and that suitable preparation is made for the next succeeding conference.

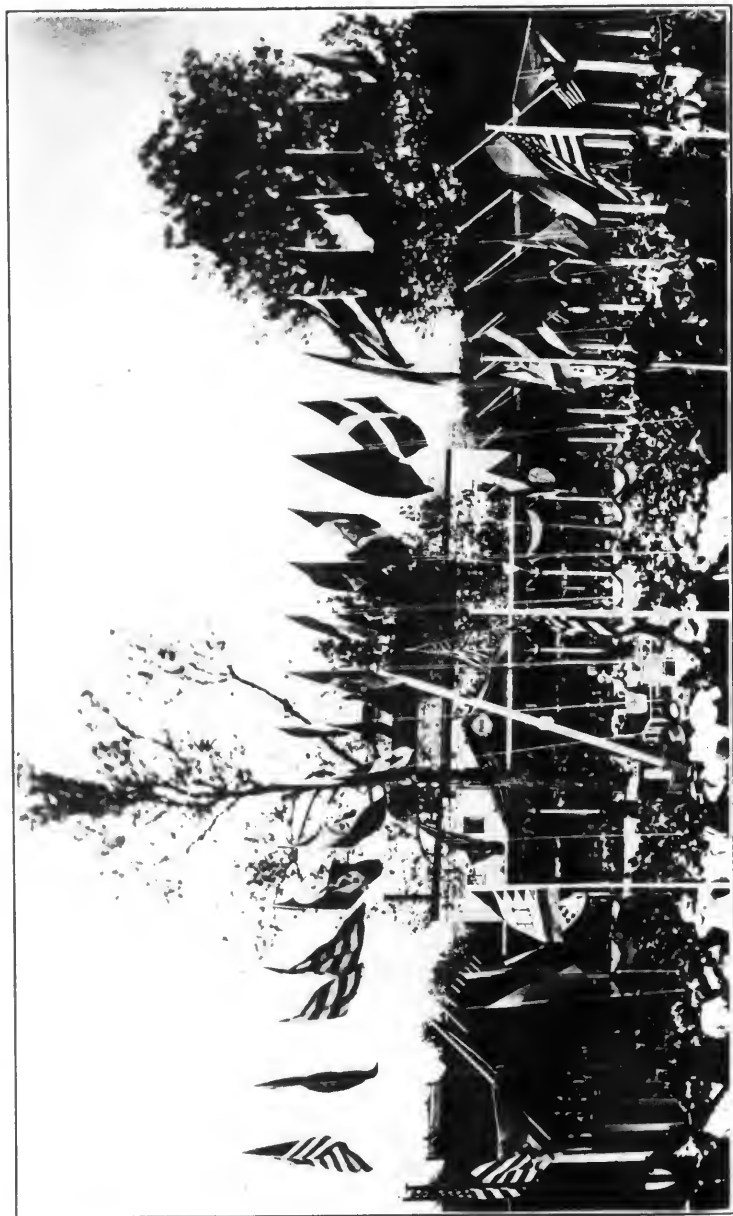
The increasing work of the Bureau has greatly outgrown the facilities of its cramped quarters on Pennsylvania avenue, and now at the close of its second decade and under the influence of the great movement of awakened sympathy between the American Republics, the Union stands upon the threshold of more ample opportunity for the prosecution of its beneficent activity.

Many noble and beautiful public buildings record the achievements and illustrate the impulses of modern civilization. Temples of religion, of patriotism, of learning, of art, of justice abound; but this structure will stand alone, the first of its kind—a temple dedicated to international friendship. It will be devoted to the diffusion of that international knowledge which dispels national prejudice and liberalizes national judgment. Here will be fostered the growth of that sympathy born of similarity in good impulses and noble purposes, which draws men of different races and countries together into a community of nations, and counteracts the tendency of selfish instincts to array nations against each other as enemies. From this source shall spring mutual helpfulness between all the American Republics, so that the best knowledge and experience and courage and hope of every Republic shall lend moral power to sustain and strengthen every other in its struggle to work out its problems and to advance the standard of liberty and peace with justice within itself, so that no people in all of these continents, however oppressed and discouraged, however impoverished and torn by disorder, shall fail to feel that they are not alone in the world, or shall fail to see that for them a better day may dawn, as for others the sun has already risen.

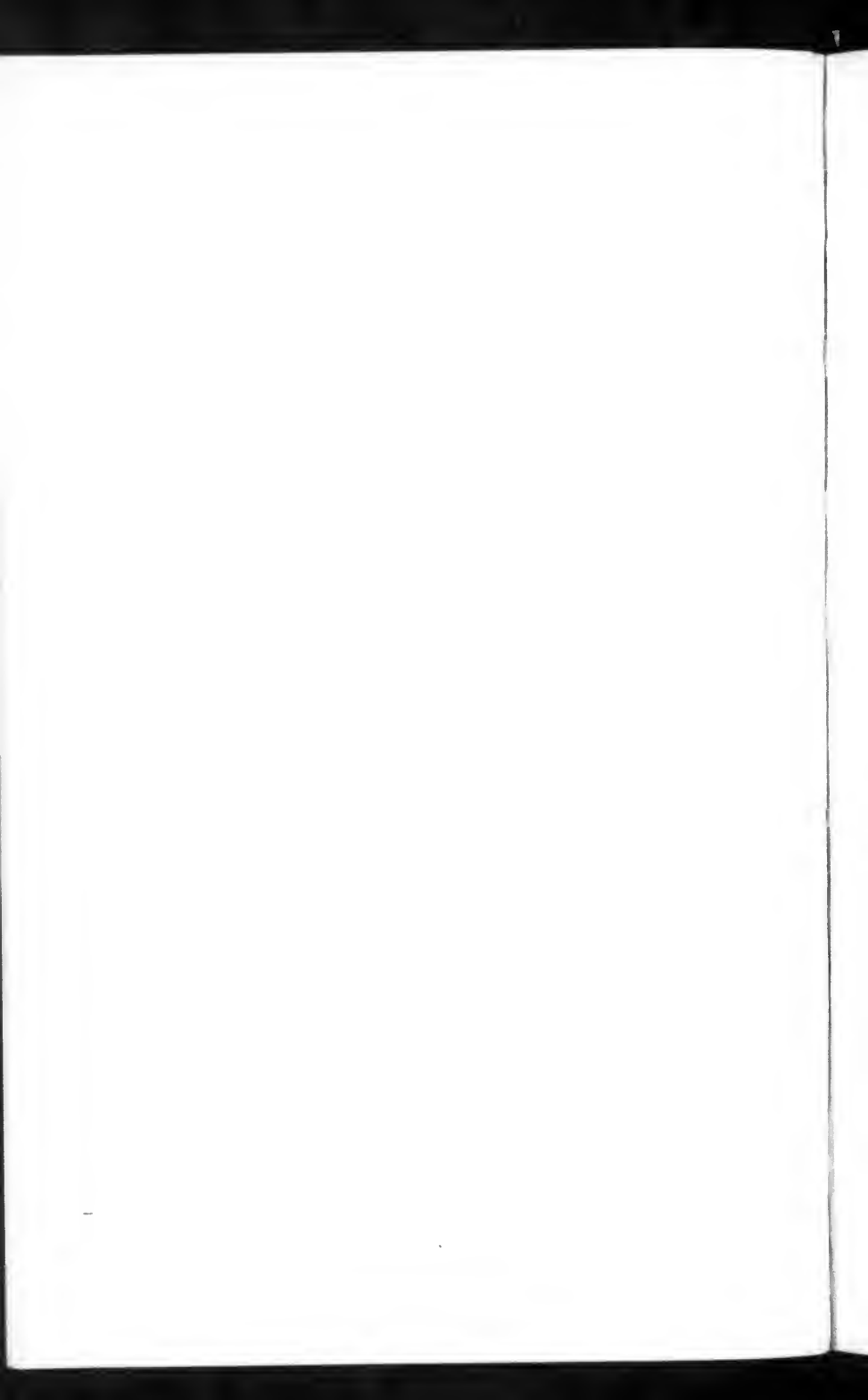
It is too much to expect that there will not be controversies between American nations, to whose desire for harmony we now bear witness; but to every controversy will apply the truth that there are no international controversies so serious that they can not be settled peaceably if both parties really desire peaceable settlement, while there are few causes of dispute so trifling that they can not be made the occa-



THE AUDIENCE STANDING DURING THE PLAYING OF THE PAN-AMERICAN HYMN.
EL PUBLICO, DE PIE MIENTRAS SE TOCABA EL HIMNO PANAMERICANO.



THE RAISING OF THE FLAGS OF THE AMERICAN REPUBLICS.
ENARBOLANDO LAS BANDERAS DE LAS REPUBLICAS AMERICANAS.



sion of war if either party really desires war. The matters in dispute between nations are nothing; the spirit which deals with them is everything.

The graceful courtesy of the twenty Republics who have agreed upon the capital of the United States for the home of this International Union, the deep appreciation of that courtesy shown by the American Government and this representative American citizen, and the work to be done within the walls that are to rise on this site, can not fail to be powerful influences toward the creation of a spirit that will solve all disputed questions of the future and preserve the peace of the Western World.

May the structure now begun stand for many generations to come as the visible evidence of mutual respect, esteem, appreciation, and kindly feeling between the peoples of all the Republics; may pleasant memories of hospitality and friendship gather about it, and may all the Americas come to feel that for them this place is home, for it is theirs, the product of a common effort and the instrument of a common purpose.

Speech of President Roosevelt.

This is a memorable occasion for all the peoples of the Western Hemisphere. The building, the corner stone of which we lay to-day, emphasizes by its existence the growing sense of solidarity of interest and aspiration among all the peoples of the New World. It marks our recognition of the need to knit ever closer together all the republics of the Western Hemisphere, through the kindly bonds of mutual justice, good will, and sympathetic comprehension.

At the outset, on behalf of all of us, I wish to thank Mr. CARNEGIE for his generous gift—a gift to all the nations of the New World, and therefore preeminently fitting as coming from one who has so sincerely striven for the cause of peace among nations; for while we have yet a long path to tread before we can speak with any certainty of the day when wars shall cease from the earth, we of this Western Hemisphere, by movements such as that symbolized by this building, have taken great strides toward securing permanent peace among ourselves.

In the next place, as President of this Republic, I greet the representatives of all our sister Republics to the south of us. In a sense, you are our elder sisters and we the younger people, for you represent a more ancient civilization on this continent than we do. Your fathers, the Spanish and Portuguese explorers, conquerors, lawgivers, and commonwealth builders, had founded a flourishing civilization in the Tropics and the South Temperate Zone while all America north of the Rio Grande was still unmapped wilderness. Your people had founded American universities, were building beautiful cities, were laying deep the foundations of future national life, at many different points in the vast territory stretching from the Colorado to the Plata, before the ships of the Frenchman and the Englishman, the Swede and the Hollander, had found permanent havens on the North Atlantic seacoast. For centuries our several civilizations grew each in its own way, but each sundered from the others. Now we are growing together.

More and more in the future we shall each give to and get from the others, not merely things of material value, but things that are of worth for the intellectual and spiritual welfare of all of us. In

the century that has passed, the development of North America has, on the whole, proceeded faster than the development of South America; but in the century that has now opened I believe that no other part of the world will see such extraordinary development in wealth, in population, in all that makes for progress, as will be seen from the northern boundary of Mexico through all Central and South America; and I can assure you that the people of this nation look with the most profound satisfaction upon the great growth that has already taken place in the countries which you represent—a growth alike in political stability and in the material well-being which can only come when there is political stability.

Our battle fleet has just finished its trip around South America, and I wish to thank the rulers and the peoples of South America and of Mexico for the generous and courteous hospitality which has been shown this fleet on every possible occasion throughout the trip.

In conclusion, let me speak of another trip, made a couple of years ago by the Secretary of State, **ELIOT ROOR**—the first time in our history the American Secretary of State, during his term of office, left the country to visit certain other nations. Mr. Roor made the complete tour of South America, traversed Central America, and afterwards visited Mexico. He was everywhere received with the heartiest greeting, a greeting which deeply touched our people, and I wish to say once more how appreciative we are of the reception tendered him.

His voyage was unique in character and in value. It was undertaken only because we citizens of this Republic recognize that our interests are more closely intertwined with the interests of the other peoples of this continent than with those of any other nations. I believe that history will say that though we have had other great Secretaries of State, we have had none greater than **ELIOT ROOR**; and that though in his high office he has done much for the good of his nation and of mankind, yet that his greatest achievement has been the success which has come as the result of his devoted labor to bring closer together all the republics of the New World, and to unite them in the effort to work valiantly for our common betterment, for the material and moral welfare of all who dwell in the Western Hemisphere.

Address of the Brazilian Ambassador, Senhor Nabuco

You have spoken, Mr. President, of the other States of this continent in a manner that shall cause intense satisfaction among them, and for which they certainly will feel greatly indebted to you and to your nation. With their admiration for your mighty country and the pace of its progress, never equalled before, they all bring into this Union their pride in their Latin inheritance, of which there is no higher testimonial than the English language itself. Only when future comes to each of them and they will be able to develop, as this nation has done with hers, the portion each received on her cradle, shall the world realize the greatness of the Columbus estate. May your happy auguries meet with your usual good fortune! Together with those generous greetings, your address breathes the soul of a people that never allows a difference in its treatment of powerful and of weak nations.

We were glad to acclaim the high praise you bestowed on the present Secretary of State, while conferring on him the *laurea insignis* in this, the day of his triumph. His visit to South and Central America was one of those inspirations that characterize the statesman who will live in the hearts of many peoples. By the loftiness of his ideals, his fairness, his broad sympathies, his ability to weigh the inponderables of international sensibility, he won the hearts of all our nations, and could send you one of the most brilliant *veni, vidi, vici* of diplomacy. In their turn they captured him and will ever keep his image as a friendly hostage of peace and good will from this great Republic.

You can well afford to be generous, Mr. President. No President of the United States will leave in the history of Pan-Americanism a deeper mark than the one you are cutting from ocean to ocean, to change the sea routes of the world so as to bring nearer together the peoples and cities on the two fronts of our continent.

We give you our thanks, Mr. CARNEGIE, for your munificent donation. In selecting this city for the permanent seat of our union, the Latin Republics of America have shown in the most striking way their pride in the nation that has been the leader of our continent, and which made it one of the leaders of civilization. You recollected that your country, while our associate, was also our host, and that

never had a higher tribute than ours been paid to that American democracy, which your book has so much endeared to our present generations. You may, also, have been moved by the thought, which caused already so many of your works, that of contributing throughout posterity to the cause of peace. You rightly believe that peace is universal charity. Ours, indeed, is a wholly peaceful alliance, and it shines outside the American orbit only to show that this continent can already be called the hemisphere of peace.

Gentlemen, there has never been a parallel for the sight which this ceremony presents—that of twenty-one nations, of different languages, building together a house for their common deliberations. The more impressive is the scene as these countries, with all possible differences between them in size and population, have established their union on the basis of the most absolute equality. Here the vote of the smallest balances the vote of the greatest. So many sovereign States would not have been drawn so spontaneously and so strongly together, as if by an irresistible force, if there did not exist throughout them, at the bottom or at the top of each national conscience, the feeling of a destiny common to all America. It seems, indeed, that a decree of Providence made the western shore of the Atlantic appear late in history as the chosen land for a great renewal of mankind. From the early days of its colonization the sentiment sprung in the hearts of all its children that this is really a new world. That is the sentiment which unites us together on this auspicious day. We feel we are all sons of Columbus. And if we meet here, it is because we feel also that we all are sons of Washington. Rising on the plain of the Potomac, in the sight of the Capitol, the new house of the American Republics shall be another monument to the founder of modern liberty. That one is his national, this his continental, memorial.

Gentlemen, hearing still the voice of His Eminence Cardinal Gibbons invoking upon this union the blessings of Heaven, our one prayer is that our mutual pledges will grow ever and ever stronger so that we all come to feel the full inspiration of the indissolvable partnership of the two Americas.

Speech of Mr. Carnegie.

To-day my thoughts revert to the first Pan-American conference, of which I was a member, called by my friend Mr. BLAINE, then Secretary of State, worthy pioneer in the great work in which we are now engaged, which is, I believe, to culminate in the banishment of war from the American continents and the dedication of the Western Hemisphere to internal peace.

The ceremony which the President has just performed is cheering proof that the great work goes forward, knowing neither pause nor obstacle. He embraces every opportunity to hasten to completion, by word and deed, the work begun by Mr. BLAINE under President HARRISON and so ably conducted by Secretary ROOT under the present Administration. It is during his tenure of office the greatest progress has been made. Both hearts and heads of President, Secretary, and Cabinet, and, I may add, of the whole people of the United States, are in this beneficent work.

The Western Hemisphere has already achieved these unequalled triumphs of peace.

First, the simple agreement made between Britain and the United States that upon the inland seas in the North only two tiny vessels, each with one 18-pounder gun, should patrol these waters, which they have done for nearly a century, the one craft flying the Union Jack and the other the Stars and Stripes. The only shots ever fired have been salutes expressive of amity and friendship. These have proved the most powerful vessels of war, the true *Dreadnoughts*, since they have kept the peace by discharging salvos of good will.

A nation has everything to dread from gigantic armed *Dreadnoughts*, nothing to dread from these true agents of peace.

That is the first lesson this continent gives to the world, and especially to Europe, which is the vortex of militarism, armed not against outside enemies, for the enemies of Europe are they of its own household.

The second lesson comes from the South, our friends of Argentina and Chile. Following the pernicious example of nations hitherto, these Republics struggled with each other until the better way was revealed. They then met and both conquered—by making peace, by

offering the olive branch, not the sword. On the highest peak of the Andes upon the new boundary line agreed upon, these once warring powers have erected a statue of Christ, the Prince of Peace, cast out of molten bronze cannon, its pedestal bearing this inscription:

Sooner shall these mountains crumble to dust than Argentines and Chileans break the peace which, at the feet of Christ the Redeemer, they have sworn to maintain.

The third great lesson which this continent has just given to the world coming from the center, is that of the five small Central American nations whose representatives met in Washington recently and agreed upon the establishment of a supreme court, to which all differences which may arise between them shall be referred. All of these nations have promptly ratified the action of their representatives.

Perhaps this is the most encouraging step forward that has yet been taken, for it promises to lead to the union of these five nations, following the example of our own Republic, converting a number of separate States into one nation with internal peace secured, and perhaps pointing the way to the larger merger of all South American States into the counterpart of our own Union.

These instances furnish the answer to the contention that nations, differing from individuals, can not settle all differences without resorting to war.

It remains for this hemisphere to maintain its lead in the adoption of arbitration as the only Christian means of settling international disputes. We hope that all of the Republics in the South American continent will soon follow the example of Argentina and Chile and of the five Central American Republics with their one supreme tribunal.

Judging from the progress made in this direction during the lives of those of us who have been in this work from the beginning, we can look with hope to the early realization of our dream, which is to secure to the American continents the reign of internal peace by substituting peaceful arbitration for war. We are justified in indulging the fond hope that the good work is to go on, and that before long a conference of all the Republics will be held which shall provide that all disputes arising between them are to be thus peacefully settled. At such conference we might even expect to see a representative from Canada, which I have no doubt her motherland would warmly approve. In our first American conference I remember we began with sixteen Republics and one Monarchy—Brazil. There is a precedent therefore for Canada being represented in the next.

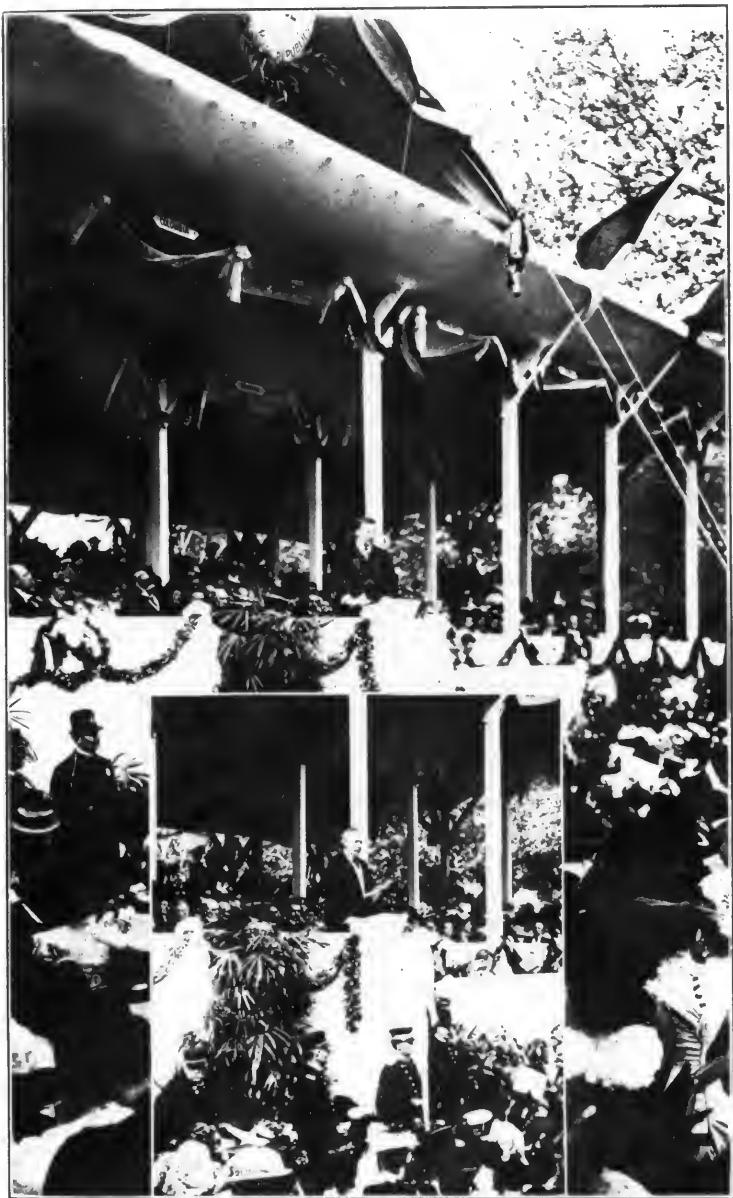
We failed to obtain a judicial world court at The Hague, but we should not fail in creating one for this Western Hemisphere. I may not live to see that day, but I shall die convinced that it is to

come and thanking the kind fates that at least I was privileged to be one who sat at the first conference at which the effort was made. The reasons for its failure have passed away and there are those to-day who hear my voice who will live to see this Western Hemisphere, following the illustrious example of Argentina and Chile, dedicated to internal peace.

There is no work going forward in the world to-day which good men everywhere should regard with deeper interest and warmer approval than that in which the American Republics are now engaged. Hold fast to your great ideal—the American continents dedicated to internal peace. In this sublime labor it thrills me to feel and to repeat that there is no people whose heads and hearts are more fully enlisted than the people of the United States; no ruler who will labor more zealously than the President; no Secretary of State who will study more deeply or advise more wisely than he who holds that office to-day. This work accomplished, to everyone who has contributed to it in the smallest degree there will come the assurance he has not lived his life in vain.

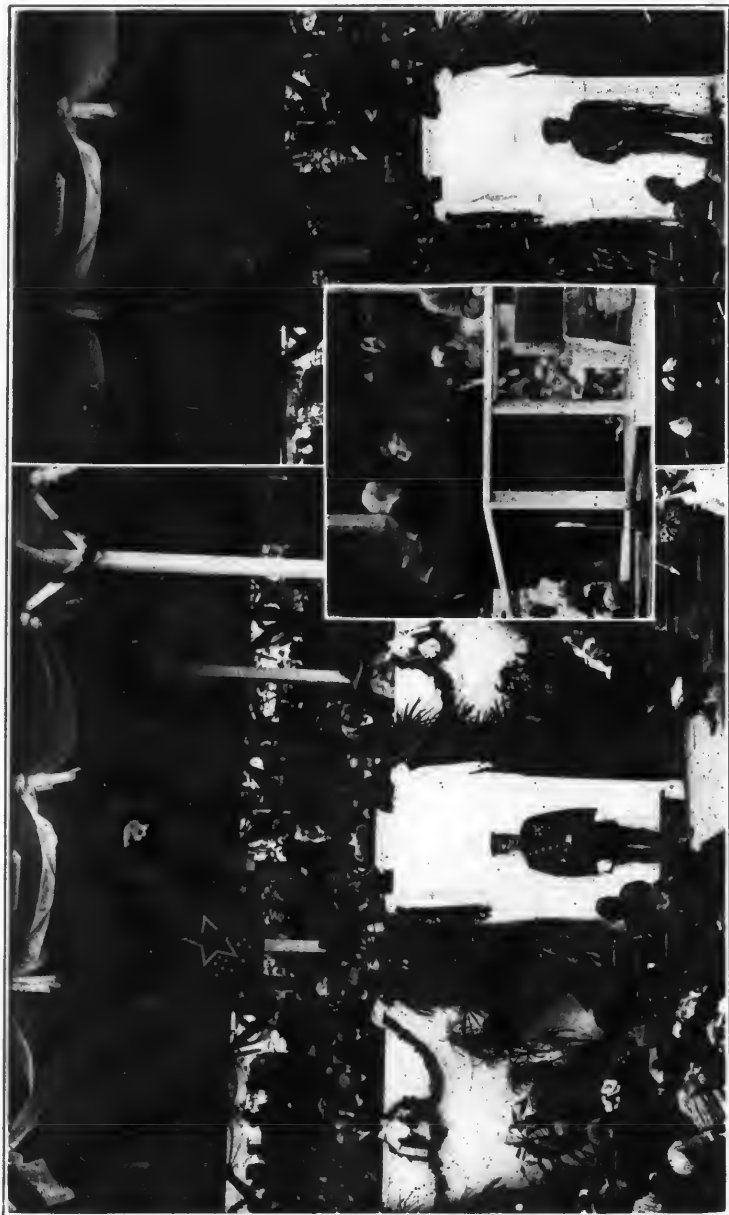
"The building the corner-stone of which we lay today emphasizes by its existence the growing sense of solidarity of interest and aspiration among all the peoples of the New World."—PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT.

El edificio cuya piedra angular colocamos hoy singulariza con su existencia el creciente sentimiento de solidaridad de interés y aspiración entre todos los pueblos del Nuevo Mundo."—PRESIDENTE ROOSEVELT.



" * * * there are no international controversies so serious that they can not be settled peaceably if both parties really desire peaceable settlement."—SECRETARY ROOT.

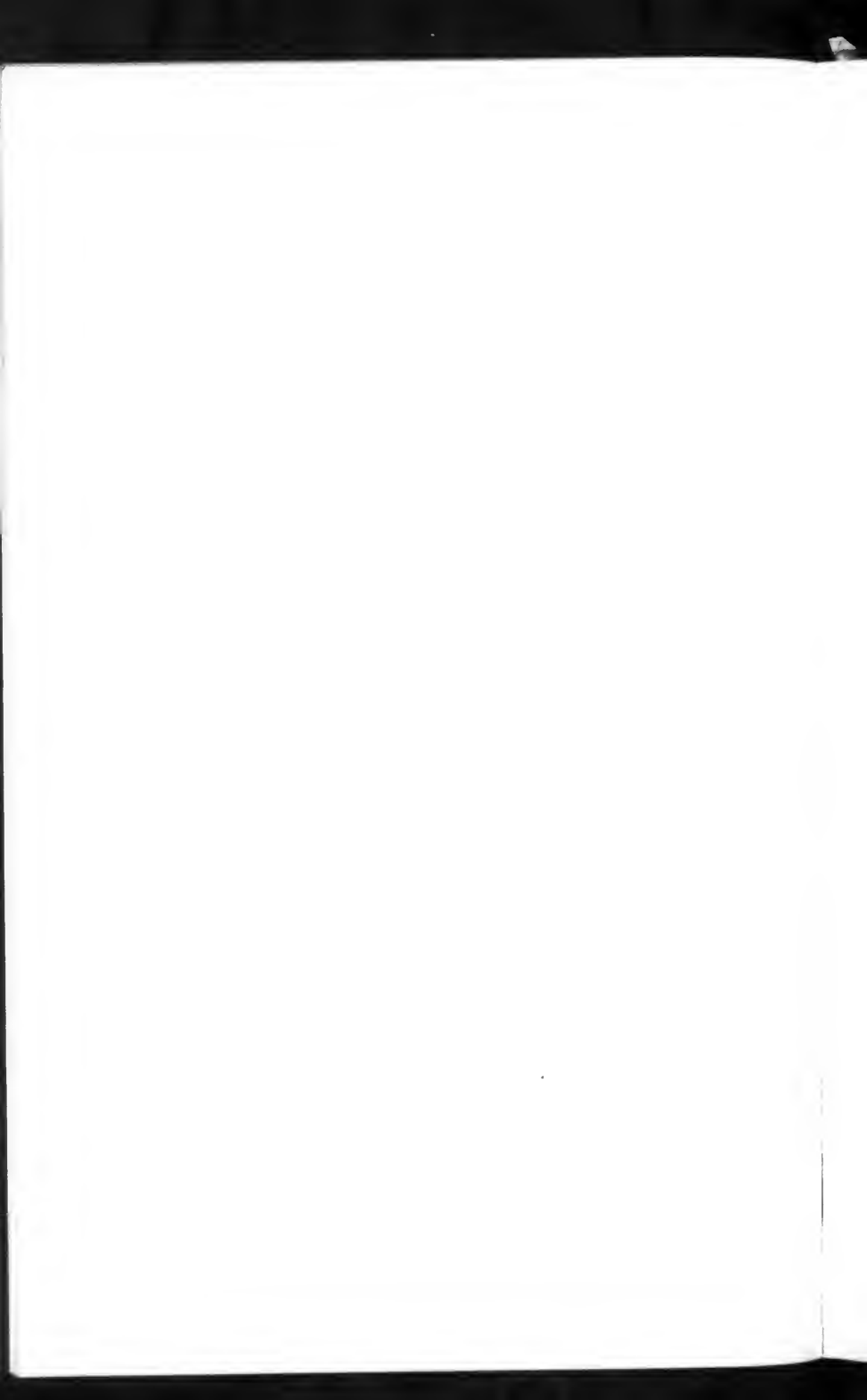
" * * * no existen controversias internacionales tan graves que no puedan ser ajustadas si ambas partes desean en realidad un arreglo pacífico."—SECRETARIO ROOT.



JOHN BARRETT, ANDREW CARNEGIE, SECRETARY ROOT, MRS. CARNEGIE, MRS. ROOSEVELT,
 PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT DELIVERING HIS ADDRESS
 (EL PRESIDENTE PRONUNCIANDO SU DISCURSO.)
 ATTORNEY-GENERAL BONAPARTE,
 BISHOP CRANSTON,
 CARDINAL GIBBONS,
 AMBASSADOR NABUCO,
 MRS. ROOSEVELT.

BISHOP CRANSTON,
 CARDINAL GIBBONS.

JOHN BARRETT READING THE MESSAGES
 FROM THE AMERICAN PRESIDENTS.
 JOHN BARRETT LEYENDO LOS MENSAJES DE
 LOS PRESIDENTES AMERICANOS.



Messages from American Presidents upon the Laying of the Corner Stone Building of the International Union.

FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC:

The event so auspiciously celebrated in Washington is the erection of a monument to the international solidarity of the States of the New World. The Argentine Republic on this occasion sends greetings to the United States of America and to all the nations represented in the Bureau of the American Republics, and best wishes for the happiness of President ROOSEVELT and the Presidents of all the sister Republics.—J. FIGUEROA ALCORTA.

FROM THE PRESIDENT OF BOLIVIA:

The President directs me to inform you that, as he can not be present at the laying of the corner stone of the new building of the Bureau, he desires to express the gratification with which he takes part in that great event which represents the sincere union of the American Republics.—PINILLA, *Minister of Foreign Relations*.

FROM THE PRESIDENT OF BRAZIL:

Brazil rejoices at the laying of the corner stone of the new seat of the Union of the American Republics in Washington; she gives to the generous donator, Mr. ANDREW CARNEGIE, her sincere thanks, and, full of confidence in the future of that Union, sends the assurances of her ancient and unalterable attachment to the great Republic of the North, which offers it such noble hospitality.—ALFONSO PENNA.

FROM THE PRESIDENT OF CHILE:

The President of the Republic says: "The progress of Latin-America is assured in following the example of the great Republic created by GEORGE WASHINGTON."—PUGA, *Minister of Foreign Relations*.

FROM THE PRESIDENT OF COLOMBIA:

I send my cordial greetings to the Governing Board of the International Bureau of American Republics on the occasion of the historic ceremonies to take place on May 11, when the corner stone of the building which will house it shall be laid. This monument, very fittingly erected on the land of GEORGE WASHINGTON'S birth, shall stand for the fraternal and permanent union of all the American Republics.

The people and the Government of Colombia send through me, on this solemn occasion, the expression of their gratitude to His Excellency the President of the United States; to the eminent statesman, ELIHU ROOT; to the distinguished and generous philanthropist, ANDREW CARNEGIE, and to the staunch Americanist, JOHN BARRETT, for their efforts and cooperation in the erection of this temple of American Union.—EUCLIDES DE ANCULO, *Acting President*.

XXVI INTERNATIONAL BUREAU OF THE AMERICAN REPUBLICS.

FROM THE PRESIDENT OF COSTA RICA:

The erection of the building of the American Republics, which by the nature of the international institution which it represents, and the munificence of Mr. CARNEGIE, is on a plane with the Temple of Peace at The Hague, is a further important step toward the mitigation of the happily existing fraternal relations which must bind more closely the nations on the continent of COLUMBIA.—VIQUEZ.

FROM THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNOR OF CUBA:

On the occasion of the laying of the corner stone of the new building of the International Bureau of the American Republics, the Provisional Governor of the Republic of Cuba has directed me to express to the Governing Board of the institution, on behalf of the Cuban people, his gratification at this new bond between the Republics of America, which will contribute to the furtherance of the cordial solidarity of the Continent.—GARCIA VELEZ, *Acting Secretary of State*.

FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC:

The same ideal of liberty and right should be the corner stone of the International Union of the American Republics. He who unites and harmonizes in America is a true American.—CACERES.

FROM THE PRESIDENT OF ECUADOR:

The President of Ecuador sends greetings on this solemn occasion to all the Republics of America, and more especially to the United States, on whose soil the building of the International Bureau is to be erected as a permanent center of union and fraternity among the countries of the new world.—ELOY ALFARO.

FROM THE PRESIDENT OF GUATEMALA:

I am greatly pleased to send you, on behalf of the people and the Government of Guatemala, as well as personally, expressions of cordiality and sincere congratulations on the occasion of the laying of the corner stone of the building of the American Republics, which represents the consolidation of the fraternal relations of the American family.—M. ESTRADA, C.

FROM THE PRESIDENT OF HAITI:

The Haitian Government takes cordial part in the ceremonies of the cornerstone laying of the building of the Bureau of American Republics, and sends you sympathetic expressions and wishes for fraternal union among American nations.—LOUIS BORN, *Minister of Foreign Affairs*.

FROM THE PRESIDENT OF HONDURAS:

On the occasion of the laying of the corner stone of the Pan-American building, I sincerely wish that the fraternal bonds uniting the nations of the Western Hemisphere may be drawn closer together on a basis of justice and right.—DÁVILA.

FROM THE PRESIDENT OF MEXICO:

The President of Mexico sincerely wishes that the ceremony of the laying of the corner stone of the building of the International Bureau of the American Republics may be, as is the Bureau, symbolical of an era of unalterable peace as the characteristic feature of all the countries in our continent.—MARISCAL, *Secretary of Foreign Relations*.

FROM THE PRESIDENT OF NICARAGUA:

My sincere and enthusiastic congratulations to the International Bureau of the American Republics on this solemn occasion of the laying of the corner stone of the building to the erection of which Mr. CARNEGIE has most nobly and heartily contributed. I doubt not that this work will be a powerful and efficacious aid in effecting the fraternal rapprochement of all the nations in the continent.—J. S. ZELAYA.

FROM THE PRESIDENT OF PANAMA:

On the occasion of the laying of the corner stone of the building which will represent in Washington the Union of the American Republics, I am happy to send to Your Excellency most sincere congratulations.—M. AMADOR GUERRERO.

FROM THE PRESIDENT OF PERU:

On the occasion of the ceremonies to be held on the 11th instant, I desire to express the best wishes of the Peruvian Nation that the great building to be erected may always commemorate Peace, Union, and Fraternal Friendship among the Republics of America. JOSÉ PARDO.

FROM THE PRESIDENT OF SALVADOR:

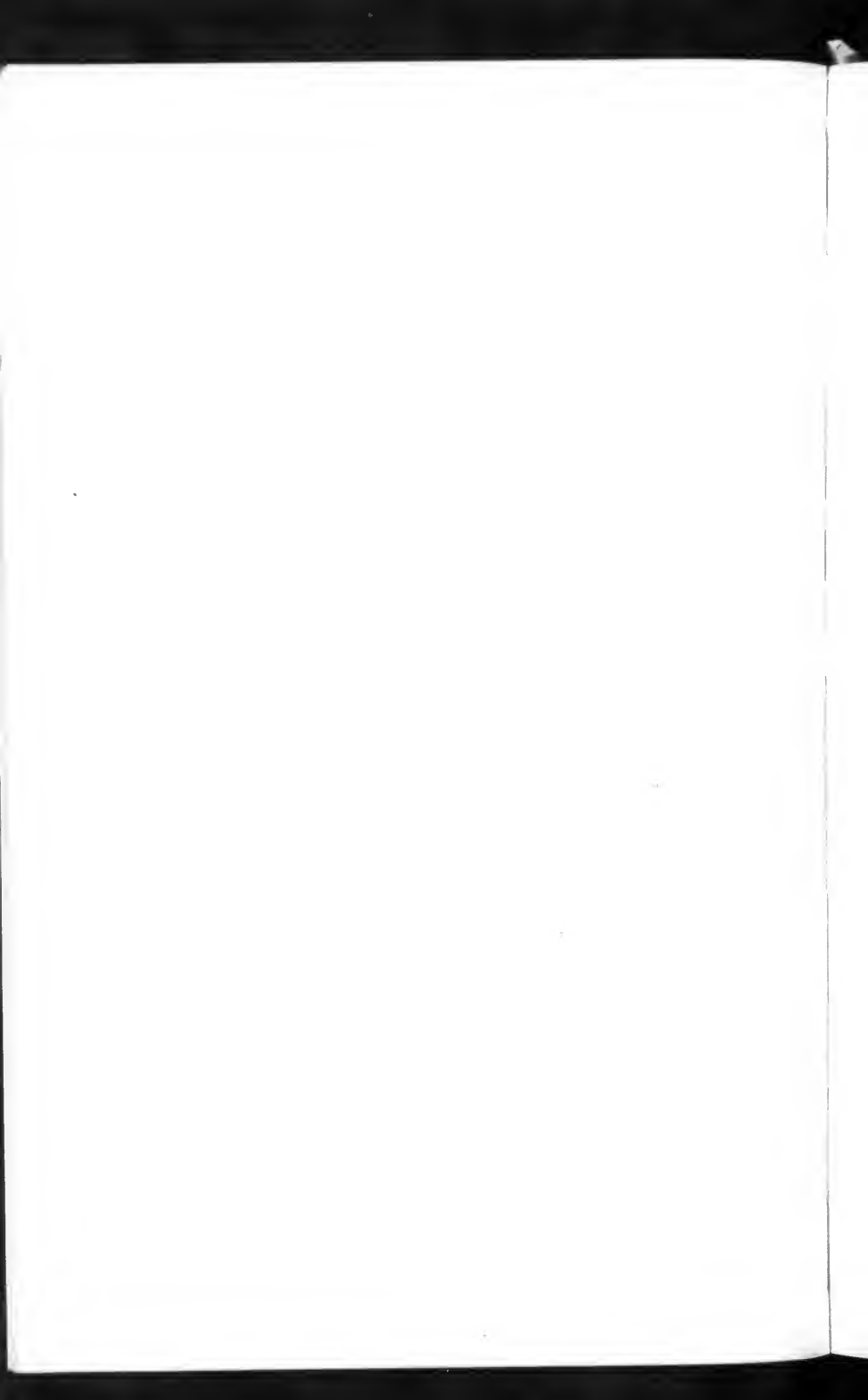
I sincerely trust that the building, the corner stone of which is laid to-day, will contribute to further develop the Pan-American fraternal sentiments existing among the sons of the new continent, in harmony with the philanthropic generosity of Mr. Carnegie. FERNANDO FIGUEROA.

FROM THE PRESIDENT OF URUGUAY:

On the occasion of the laying of the corner stone of the building of the American Republics, please convey to the Government of the great Republic of America my congratulations on the materialization of an act which means the establishment of a new pledge of the moral solidarity of the nations of America. —WILLIMAN.

FROM THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN RELATIONS OF NICARAGUA:

Congratulations on laying corner stone of the building of the International Bureau of American Republics. I predict that it will contribute toward the fraternity of the continent. J. D. GÁMEZ.



Colocación de la piedra angular del nuevo edificio de la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas en Washington, el día 11 de mayo de 1908.

Á causa del corto tiempo que hay del día de las ceremonias con motivo de la colocación de la piedra angular del nuevo edificio de la Oficina Internacional al de la publicación del BOLETÍN MENSUAL correspondiente al mes de mayo, no es posible describir detalladamente el programa del acto de que se trata.

Sin embargo, á continuación se encontrarán los principales discursos, á saber: Primero, el discurso del Secretario de Estado de los Estados Unidos, Presidente nato del Consejo Directivo de la Oficina; después el del Presidente de los Estados Unidos, el del Señor JOAQUIM NABUCCO, Embajador del Brasil, y el del Señor ANDREW CARNEGIE.

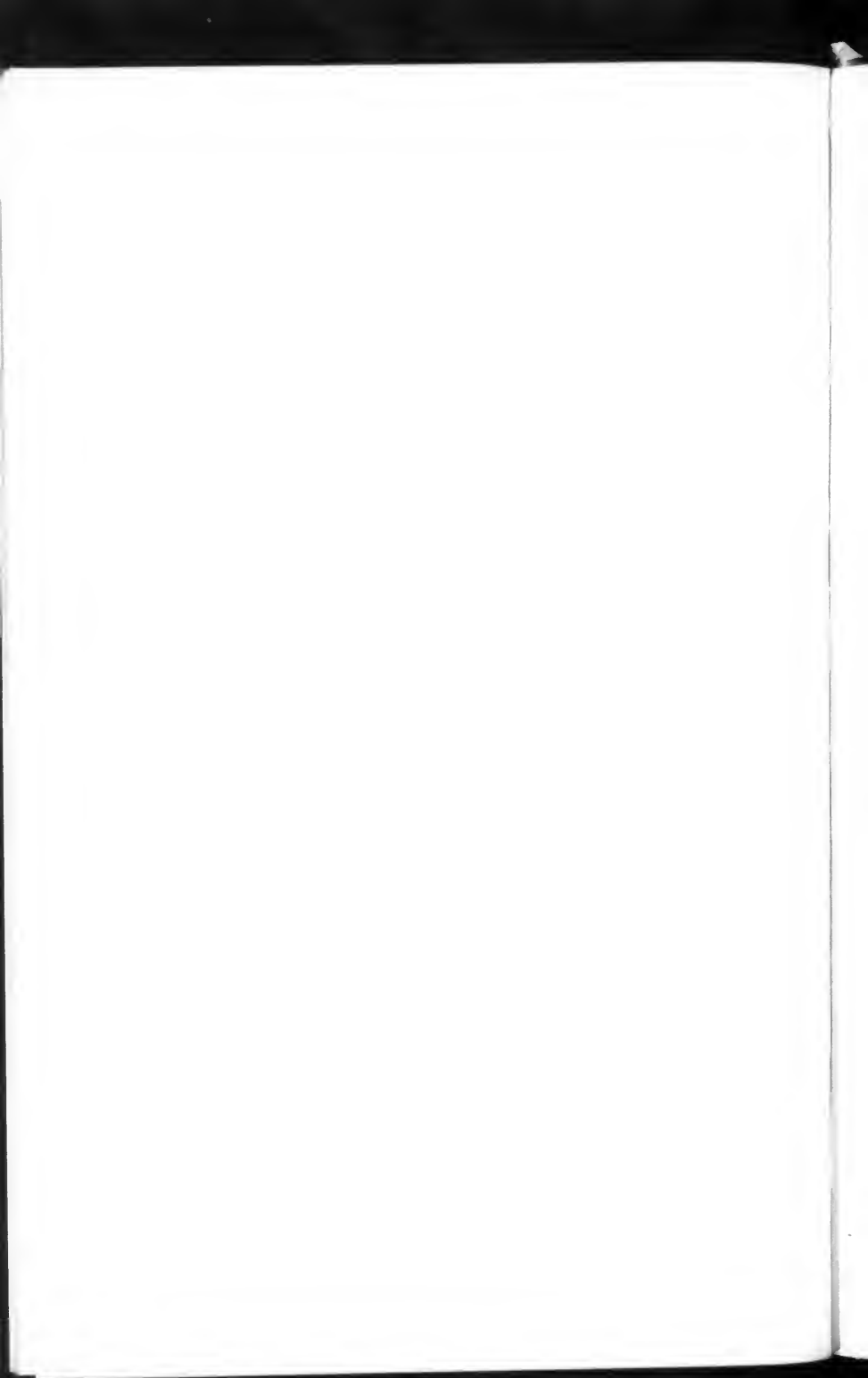
El Señor JOHN BARRETT, Director de la Oficina, abrió el acto, y presentó al Secretario de Estado de los Estados Unidos como el funcionario que había de presidir las ceremonias del día. La invocación la hizo Su Eminencia el Cardenal GIBBONS, y la bendición la pronunció el Obispo CRANSTON.

Uno de los rasgos principales del acto fué la lectura de los mensajes de felicitación que se recibieron de los Presidentes de las varias Repúblicas de América, expresando el interés y entusiasmo que dicho acontecimiento les inspiraba.

Á la terminación del programa, la piedra angular fué colocada, de una manera muy imponente, por el Presidente de los Estados Unidos, auxiliado por otros huéspedes distinguidos.

Al acto de referencia concurrieron más de 3,000 personas, incluso miembros del Gabinete, el Cuerpo Diplomático, el Tribunal Supremo, prominentes Senadores y Representantes, oficiales del Ejército y la Marina, y otros altos funcionarios, así como distinguidos ciudadanos y representantes caracterizados de la prensa.

La renombrada Banda de Marina de los Estados Unidos tocó con admirable maestría los aires nacionales y característicos de las varias Repúblicas del Hemisferio Occidental. Las decoraciones fueron sumamente apropiadas al acto, y representaban una combiuación muy artística y feliz de las banderas y enseñas de las naciones americanas. En una palabra; puede decirse, sin exageración, que la colocación de la piedra angular del precitado edificio fué uno de los acontecimientos más brillantes, de su índole, que registra la historia de la ciudad de Washington.



Discurso del Secretario Root.

Señor Presidente y Señores:

Hemos venido á colocar la piedra angular del edificio que ha de servir de hogar á la Unión Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas.

La prudente liberalidad del Congreso de los Estados Unidos ha facilitado los medios de comprar este terreno, que cubre 5 acres, cerca de la Casa Blanca y de los grandes Departamentos del Ejecutivo, rodeado por todas partes de calles públicas, mirando al oriente y al sur hacia parques públicos que el Gobierno Nacional cuidará continuamente de hacer más bellos, en obediencia al proyecto de hacer de la capital de la nación un objeto de orgullo patrio, y motivo del placer que la educación del gusto proporciona al rico al igual del pobre.

Ese espíritu público y ese entusiasmo por el bien de la humanidad que han inspirado á un ciudadano americano, al Señor ANDREW CARNEGIE, en la administración de una gran fortuna, son los que le animaron á destinar para la construcción del edificio la generosa y respetable suma de tres cuartos de millón de dólares.

Para la ornamentación y el decorado dignos del edificio se emplearán las cantidades que todas las Repúblicas Americanas se han comprometido á contribuir, y en la mayor parte de los casos han contribuido ya, al fondo común de la Unión.

La Unión Internacional, para la cual se levantará el edificio, es una asociación voluntaria, cuyos miembros son todas las naciones de América, desde el Cabo de Hornos hasta los Grandes Lagos. Tuvo su origen en la Primera Conferencia Panamericana que se reunió en Wáshington en 1889, y ha ido creciendo en importancia y desarrollándose en cumplimiento de las resoluciones dictadas por las conferencias de México y del Brasil, que sucedieron á la primera. El objeto primordial es el de destruir las barreras de la ignorancia que hay entre las naciones de la América, recogiendo, facilitando y diseminando informes de cada uno de estos países, entre todos los otros de la Unión, con el fin de estimular el fomento de las relaciones mutuas de comercio, amistad, buena inteligencia, fraternidad y simpatía. Al efecto se estableció en Wáshington una oficina que gobierna un Consejo Directivo compuesto de todos los representantes

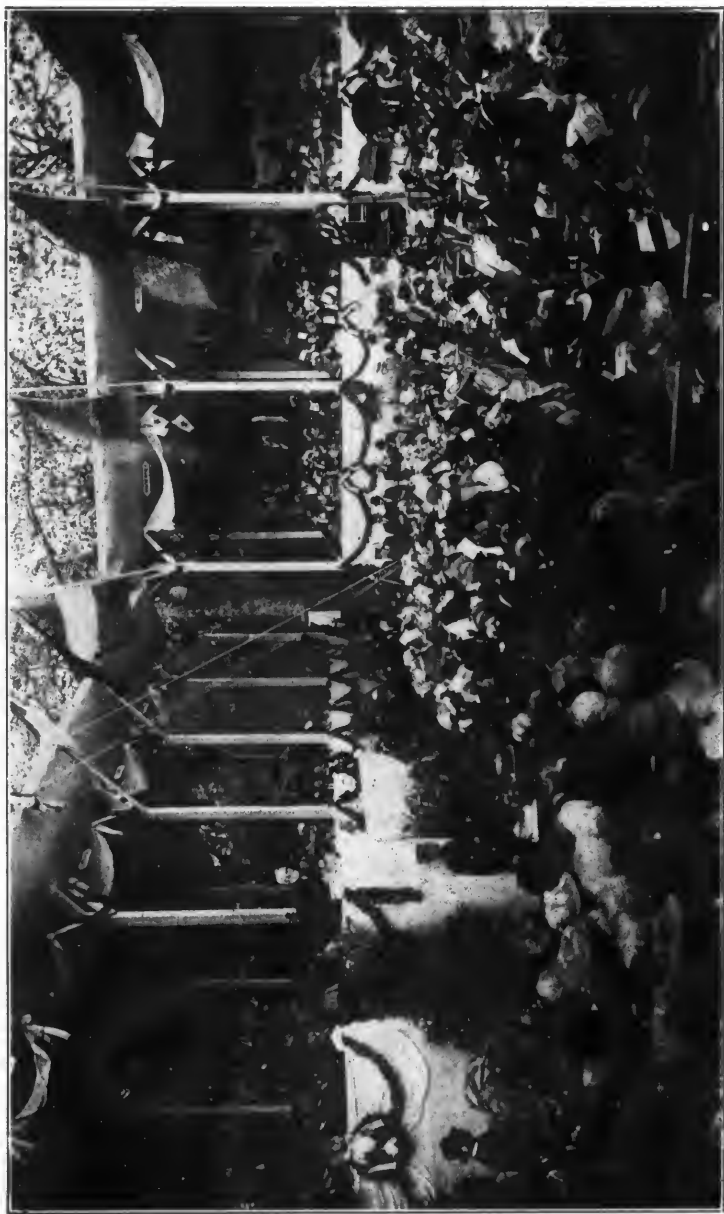
oficiales en Washington de todas las Repúblicas, y que tiene además un Director, un Secretario y un personal de empleados, traductores y dependientes.

La Oficina ha establecido una biblioteca, cuyo desarrollo es rápido, compuesta de obras de historia, viajes, descripción, estadística y literatura de las naciones americanas. Publica además un BOLETÍN MENSUAL que circula por todos los países y que se ocupa de materias de interés general y de las condiciones que existen en todos los países de la Unión. También mantiene la Oficina una enorme correspondencia con todos los países de ambos continentes, en la cual se dan informaciones acerca de las leyes, costumbres, condiciones y oportunidad de los diferentes Estados, habiendo llegado á ser el medio de establecer y dirigir las relaciones comerciales internacionales.

El Consejo Directivo es una como Comisión Permanente encargada de vigilar por qué se lleven las efecto resoluciones dictadas por las Conferencias Panamericanas, y que se hagan los preparativos convenientes para las futuras conferencias.

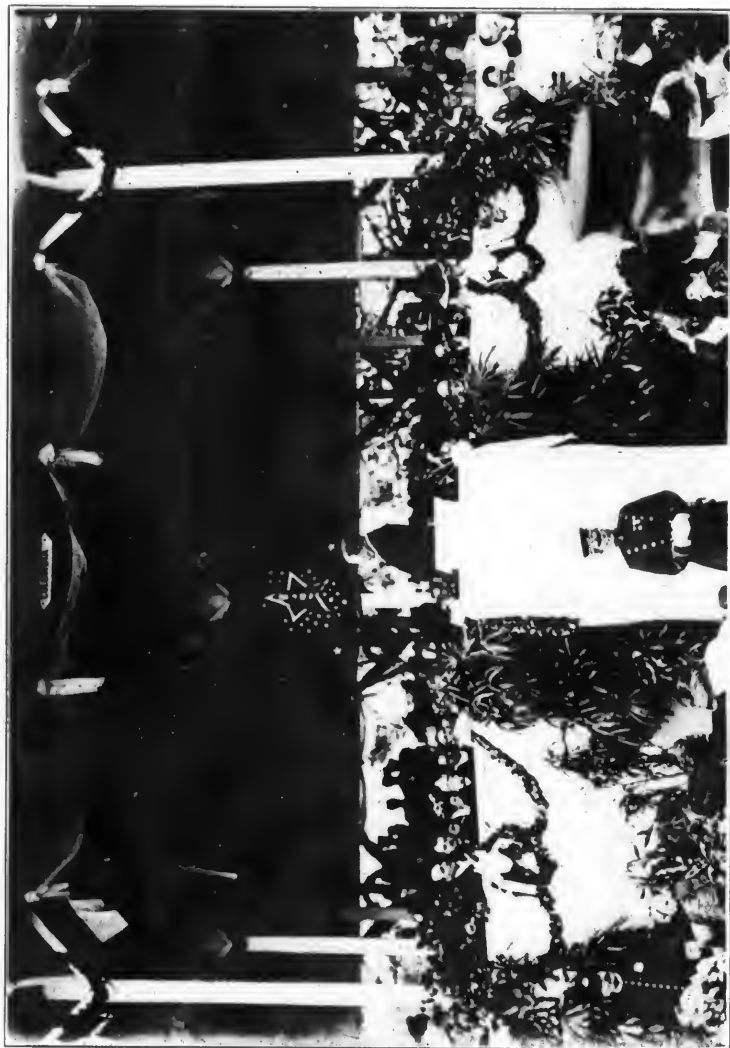
El aumento de trabajo de la Oficina es tal, que ya no cabe ésta en el local reducido que hoy ocupa en la avenida de Pensilvania, y ahora que se acerca á su término la segunda década de su existencia, y bajo la influencia del gran movimiento que ha despertado las simpatías que existen entre todas las Repúblicas Americanas, la Unión entrará en una nueva era con más amplias oportunidades para continuar su labor en bien de todos.

Muchos son los edificios públicos, bellos é importantes, que marcan las victorias é ilustran los impulsos de la civilización moderna. Abundan los templos alzados á la religión, al patriotismo, á la sabiduría, al arte, á la justicia; pero este edificio será en su género, el primero de su clase, un templo levantado á la amistad internacional. Se le dedicará á la difusión de ese conocimiento internacional que disipa prejuicios nacionales y liberaliza la conciencia nacional. Aquí se dará aliento al desarrollo de esa simpatía, hija de la semejanza de impulsos buenos y de nobles propósitos, que lleva á hombres de diferentes razas y pueblos á formar una comunidad de naciones, y que destruye la tendencia del instinto egoísta que arrastra á las naciones á hacerse frente unas á otras como enemigos. De aquí brotará para todas las Repúblicas Americanas una fuente de auxilios mutuos, de suerte que el consejo maduro, la experiencia, el ánimo y la esperanza de unas dará á las otras el valor moral necesario para mantenerse y confortarse en la lucha por resolver los problemas que les interesan, y para aquilatar el ideal de libertad y paz, fundadas en la justicia. Entonces no habrá pueblo en este continente por oprimido y desalentado que se halle, por pobre que se encuentre, por víctima que sea del desorden, que no sienta que no está sólo en el mundo, que no vea que para él nacerá un nuevo día, como para otros ya ha salido el sol.



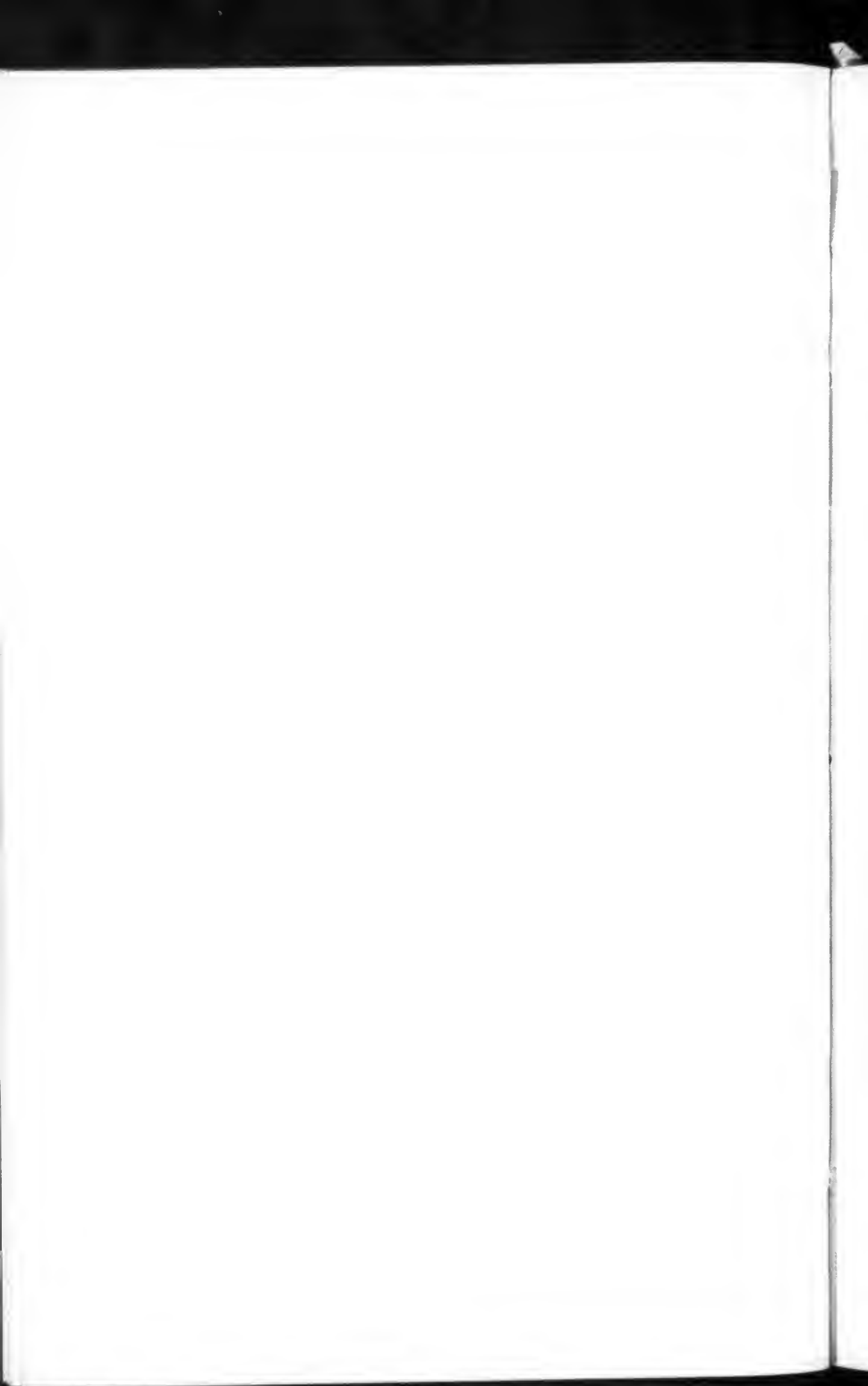
"There is no work going forward in the world today which good men everywhere should regard with deeper interest and warmer approval than that in which the American Republics are now engaged."—ANDREW CARNEGIE.

"Actualmente no se lleva á cabo en el mundo obra alguna que pueda ser mirada con mas interés ni que reciba aprobación más calurosa que la que están realizando las Republicas Americanas."—ANDREW CARNEGIE.



"At the outset, on behalf of all of us, I wish to thank Mr. Carnegie for his generous gift—a gift to all the Nations of the New World."
—PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT.

"Para principiar, quiero dar las gracias, en nombre de todos nosotros, á Mr. Carnegie por su generoso donativo—un donativo para todas las naciones del Nuevo Mundo."
—PRESIDENTE ROOSEVELT.



Sería demasiado esperar que entre las naciones americanas cuyo deseo por la armonía todos presenciamos hoy no haya controversias, pero cada vez que surja una se recordará la verdad establecida de que no hay controversia internacional, por seria que sea, que no se pueda arreglar pacíficamente, si ambas partes desean en realidad alcanzar una solución pacífica. Por otra parte, pocas son las causas de disputas por triviales que sean que no puedan convertirse en causa de guerra, si en realidad lo que se desea es llegar á la guerra. Los puntos sobre que disienten las naciones son nada en sí, es el espíritu que dirige la disputa lo que hace todo.

La galante cortesía de las veinte Repúblicas que han escogido á la capital de los Estados Unidos para establecer el centro de la Unión Internacional, el profundo aprecio de esa cortesía que ha demostrado el Gobierno Americano, á la par que este noble americano, y la labor que se hará dentro de los muros que se levantarán en este sitio, tienen que ser influencias poderosas que engendrarán el espíritu encargado de resolver todas las cuestiones en disputa en el porvenir, y de conservar la paz del Hemisferio Occidental.

Que el edificio que hoy se comienza se conserve por muchas generaciones como una prueba palpable de mutuo respeto, estimación, aprecio, y sentimientos de afecto entre los pueblos de todas las Repúblicas. Que siempre le rodeen gratos recuerdos de hospitalidad y amistad, y que todas las Américas lleguen á sentir que éste es un hogar común, porque á todas les pertenece, como resultado de un común esfuerzo y como instrumento de un objeto común á todas.

Discurso del Presidente Roosevelt.

Memorable ocasión ésta para todos los pueblos del Hemisferio Occidental. El edificio cuya piedra angular colocamos hoy, comprueba con su sola existencia que entre las naciones del Nuevo Mundo hay un sentimiento creciente de solidaridad de intereses y de aspiraciones. Marca así mismo nuestro reconocimiento de la necesidad en que estamos de estrechar más aún los nexos que unen á todas las Repúblicas del Hemisferio Occidental, por medio de actos benévolos de justicia mutua, de buena voluntad y de simpática inteligencia.

Antes que todo, y en nombre de todos, desco dar las gracias al Señor CARNEGIE por su generoso donativo para todas las naciones del Nuevo Mundo, donativo que desde luego es eminentemente digno de quien ha trabajado tanto por la causa de la paz entre las naciones. Aunque tengamos que esperar mucho antes de que se pueda hablar con certeza del día en que hayan cesado las guerras en el mundo, nosotros los del Hemisferio Occidental, con actos como el que simboliza este edificio, avanzamos á grandes pasos hacia el establecimiento de una paz permanente entre nosotros.

En segundo lugar, en mi carácter de Presidente de ésta República, saludo á los representantes de todas hermanas del Sur. En cierto modo vosotras sois las hermanas mayores y nosotros la menor, por que representais en este continente una civilización más antigua que la que nosotros representamos. Vuestros padres, españoles y portugueses, exploradores, conquistadores, legisladores y creadores de naciones, habían ya fundado en los trópicos y al sur de la Zona Templada una civilización floreciente, cuando toda la América, que se extiende al norte del Río Grande, era todavía desconocida. Vosotros habíais fundado ya universidades en América, construíais hermosas ciudades, estabais echando las raíces profundas de vuestra futura vida nacional en distintos puntos del vasto territorio entre el Colorado y el Plata, cuando todavía los barcos del francés y el inglés, del suco y el holandés no habían hallado puertos donde anclar en la costa del Atlántico. Durante siglos nuestras civilizaciones han crecido á su modo, separada una de la otra, pero hoy vamos á la par.

En el porvenir aumentará día por día el cambio mutuo, no ya de cosas materiales, sino de otro orden, cosas dignas del bienestar intelectual y moral de todos. En el siglo que terminó, el desarrollo

de la América del Norte fué más rápido que el de la América del Sur. Pero abrigo la creencia de que en el siglo que ha entrado, no habrá porción alguna del mundo donde sea tan extraordinario el desenvolvimiento de la riqueza, población y de todo cuanto tiende al progreso, como lo será desde el límite norte de México, pasando por la América Central y extendiéndose á toda la del Sur. Puedo aseguraros que el pueblo de esta nación ve con la satisfacción más íntima el inmenso desarrollo que se nota en los países que representáis, progreso que se traduce no sólo en estabilidad de las instituciones políticas, sino en el bienestar material que únicamente puede existir al amparo de ellas.

Nuestra marina de guerra acaba de hacer un viaje alrededor de Sud América, y deseo dar las gracias á los jefes de las naciones de la América del Sur y de México por la hospitalidad, tan generosa como cortés, con que han festejado la flota durante el viaje, y á todo momento.

Para terminar, quiero referirme á otro viaje que hizo hace dos años el Secretario de Estado, ELIHU ROOT, cuando por la primera vez en nuestra historia el Secretario de Estado, durante su gestión, salió del país para ir á visitar á otros. El Señor ROOT dió la vuelta completa á la América del Sur, atravesó la del Centro y luego visitó á México, y por todas partes fué recibido con la más cordial bienvenida— recibimiento que ha afectado profundamente á nuestro pueblo. Deseo manifestar una vez más, cuanto sabemos apreciar los agasajos que se le hicieron.

Ese viaje único, tanto por su naturaleza como por su importancia, fué hecho solamente porque nosotros, los ciudadanos de esta República, reconocemos que nuestros intereses están más íntimamente ligados con los de los pueblos de este continente que con los de otras naciones. Estoy convencido de que la historia ha de decir que, aunque hemos tenido Secretarios de Estado que han sido grandes, ninguno más que ELIHU ROOT, y que aunque en el desempeño de su importante cargo ha hecho mucho por el bien de su patria y de la humanidad, su mayor obra ha sido esa que el éxito ha coronado: la consagración de sus desvelos por acercar más á todas las Repúblicas del Nuevo Mundo, uniéndolas en el esfuerzo de trabajar con valor por nuestro adelanto común y por el bienestar moral y material de todos los habitantes del Hemisferio Occidental.

Discurso del Embajador del Brasil.

Habéis hablado, Señor Presidente, de tal manera de los otros Estados americanos, que se han de sentir llenos de vivo placer y agradecimiento. Teniendo por vuestro gran país y por la marcha de vuestro progreso, no igualada por ninguno, la más sincera admiración, esas naciones han entrado á formar parte de la Unión con todo el orgullo de su herencia latina, de la cual no existe mejor prueba que en la misma lengua inglesa. Cuando en el porvenir cada uno de esos países haya podido desarrollar, como lo habéis hecho vosotros, la porción que le tocara en la cuna, el mundo podrá avaluar la grandeza del patrimonio de Colón. Ojalá que vuestros felices augurios tengan la buena fortuna que siempre os ha acompañado! Con esos sentimientos de simpatía, en vuestras palabras palpita la nobleza de una nación que no permite que existan diferencias en su manera de tratar á los pueblos débiles y los poderosos.

Aclamamos con alegría el bello elogio que habéis hecho de vuestro Secretario de Estado, al conferirle el *laurea insignis* en este día de su triunfo. Su visita á la América Latina fué una de esas inspiraciones que caracterizan al hombre de Estado que ha de vivir en el corazón de muchos pueblos. Por la elevación de sus ideales, su espíritu recto, su grande alma y el don que posee de poder pesar los imponderables de la sensibilidad internacional, se ha ganado el corazón de todos nuestros pueblos, y puede enviaros uno de los más bellos *vini, vidi, vici* que cuenta la historia de la diplomacia. Á su vez ellos también le capturaron y siempre conservarán su imagen como prenda simpática de paz y de buena voluntad de esta gran República.

Bien podeis ser generoso, Señor Presidente. Ningún Presidente de los Estados Unidos dejará en la historia del panamericanismo una huella más profunda que la que estáis cortando de uno á otro océano, para encauzar por allí las vías marítimas del mundo, acercando así los pueblos, las ciudades y las dos costas de nuestro continente.

Permitid, Señor CARNEGIE, que imamos las expresiones de nuestra gratitud á las del Presidente de los Estados Unidos para con nuestro munificente donador. Al escoger á esta ciudad como asiento permanente de nuestra Unión, las Repúblicas Latinas de América han demostrado de la manera más palpable el orgullo que sienten por la

Nación que no sólo ha ido siempre á la vanguardia de nuestro continente, sino que también marcha á la vanguardia de la civilización.

Habeis recordado que vuestra patria, á la par que es nuestra compañera, también nos recibe en su seno como huéspedes, y que nunca se ha rendido mayor tributo que el nuestro á esa democracia americana que vuestro libro ha hecho tan querida entre nuestra generación presente. Fuisteis ciertamente inspirado por el mismo pensamiento al cual se deben tantas de vuestras fundaciones, el deseo de contribuir á través de los tiempos á la causa de la paz. Pensáis bien que la paz es caridad universal. Nuestra alianza lo es exclusivamente de paz, y sólo brilla fuera de la órbita americana para comprobar que éste puede llamarse ya el Hemisferio de la Paz.

Señores, el espectáculo que ofrece este acto no ha tenido jamás paralelo, el de que veintuna naciones que hablan lenguas diferentes construyan de consuno un recinto para sus deliberaciones en común. Y se hace más notable la escena cuando se piensa que estos países, entre los cuales existen las mayores diferencias de extensión y población, han establecido la Unión sobre la base de la más absoluta igualdad. Aquí el voto de la más pequeña hace peso al de la más grande. Tantos Estados soberanos no se hubieran sentido atraídos tan espontáneamente para asociarse, si ya en el fondo, ya en la superficie de la conciencia nacional, no hubiera existido el sentimiento de un destino común para toda la América. Diríase que por un decreto de la Providencia la costa occidental del Atlántico surge tarde en la historia como la tierra prometida para una gran renovación de la humanidad. Desde los primeros días de la colonia brotó en el corazón de todos sus hijos la idea de que éste es en verdad un mundo nuevo. Este es el sentimiento que nos reúne en este día venturoso. Todos nos sentimos hijos de Colón. Si aquí nos reunimos es por que sentimos que también somos hijos de Washington. La nueva casa de las Repúblicas Americanas alzándose en el valle del Potomac, frente al Capitolio que la mira, será monumento en honor del fundador de la libertad moderna. Aquél es un monumento nacional, éste un monumento continental.

Señores, recordando todavía el eco de la voz de Su Eminencia el Cardenal GIBBONS, al invocar las bendiciones del cielo, el voto que hacemos es que nuestras mutuas promesas se hagan cada vez más sólidas, de suerte que un día podamos sentir toda la inspiración de esta unión indisoluble de las dos Américas.

Discurso del Señor Carnegie.

En este momento me viene una vez más á la mente el grato recuerdo de la Primera Conferencia Panamericana, de la cual fuí miembro, convocada por mi amigo, el Señor BLAINE, que á la sazón era Secretario de Estado, y que fué digno iniciador de la gran obra en que ahora estamos empeñados, obra que, en mi sentir, dará por resultado que la guerra desaparezca para siempre de los continentes americanos y que el Hemisferio Occidental se consagre á mantener la paz interior.

La ceremonia que el Señor Presidente acaba de verificar es una prueba alentadora de que la gran obra avanza y de que en su realización no habrá ni pausa ni obstáculos. Él aprovecha toda oportunidad para acelerar la terminación—por medio de la palabra y de los hechos—de la obra que comenzó el Señor BLAINE bajo la administración del Presidente HARRISON, y que con tanta habilidad dirige el Secretario Root, bajo la presente administración, que es cuando más ha progresado. Cumple añadir que en esta benemérita obra están interesados de todo corazón tanto el Presidente como el Secretario, el Gabinete y el pueblo entero de los Estados Unidos.

El Hemisferio Occidental ya ha obtenido estos incomparables triunfos pacíficos.

Fué el primero, el simple convenio celebrado entre la Gran Bretaña y los Estados Unidos, de que en los Grandes Lagos del norte solo dos minúsculos buques—cada uno de los cuales lleva un cañón de 18 libras—bastarán para rondar dichas aguas, servicio que hace ya cerca de un siglo que vienen prestando. En uno de ellos ondea la bandera de Inglaterra y en el otro la de las franjas y estrellas, pudiendo agregarse que los únicos cañonazos que hasta ahora han disparado han sido para hacer saludos de amistad y cordialidad internacionales. He aquí los más poderosos buques de guerra, los que realmente no temen á nada, puesto que han conservado la paz haciendo salvas de cordialidad internacional.

Las naciones tienen mucho que temer de los *Dreadnoughts* armados, pero nada tienen que temer de los precitados agentes de paz.

He aquí la primera lección que este continente le da al mundo, y especialmente á Europa, que en la actualidad se encuentra en el

vértice del militarismo, y que está armada, no contra sus enemigos del exterior—porque no los tiene—sino contra los habitantes de su propio territorio.

La segunda lección procede del Sur; es decir, de nuestros amigos de la Argentina y de Chile. Siguiendo el pernicioso ejemplo que hasta ahora han dado las naciones, estas Repúblicas combatieron entre sí hasta que vieron la luz y descubrieron un medio más propio y humanitario de dirimir sus disputas. Entonces se reunieron y ambas triunfaron y lograron la paz mediante el ramo de olivo y no por medio de la espada. Sobre el pico más elevado de los Andes, en la nueva línea divisoria que se ha convenido, estas potencias—un tiempo belicosas—han erigido, hecha del bronce de un cañón fundido, una estatua de Cristo, el príncipe de la paz, en cuyo pedestal se lee la siguiente inscripción:

Se desplomarán primero estas montañas antes que argentinos y chilenos rompan la paz jurada á los pies del Cristo Redentor.

La tercera gran lección que este continente acaba de darle al mundo procede del centro del Hemisferio Occidental; es decir, de las cinco pequeñas naciones centroamericanas, cuyos representantes se reunieron recientemente en Wáshington y convinieron en llevar á cabo el establecimiento de un Tribunal Supremo al cual han de someterse todas las controversias que surjan entre ellas. Todas estas naciones han ratificado prontamente la acción de sus representantes.

Acaso sea éste al paso de avance más alentador que hasta ahora se ha dado, por cuanto promete dar por resultado la unión de estas cinco Repúblicas, siguiendo el ejemplo que les ha proporcionado la nuestra, de convertir en una sola nación cierto número de estados que permanecían separados, asegurándose de esta manera la paz interior é indicándose tal vez la senda que conduce á una mayor unificación de todos los Estados sudamericanos, como lo hicieron los Estados Unidos.

Estos ejemplos sirven para refutar el argumento de que las naciones, á diferencia de los individuos, no pueden ajustar todas sus disputas sin apelar á la fuerza armada.

Á este hemisferio le toca mantenerse á la cabeza de las naciones en cuanto á la adopción del arbitraje como el único medio verdaderamente cristiano de ajustar las disputas internacionales. Esperamos que todas las Repúblicas del continente sudamericano sigan sin tardanza el ejemplo de la Argentina y de Chile y de las cinco Repúblicas Centroamericanas, que han establecido un Tribunal Supremo al cual han de someterse todas las disputas que surjan entre ellas.

Á juzgar por lo que ya se ha adelantado en este sentido, durante la existencia de aquellos de nosotros que hemos estado consagrados á esta obra desde el principio, podemos esperar, con fundamento, la

pronta realización de nuestro sueño, que es obtener para los continentes americanos el reino de la paz interior sustituyendo la guerra con el arbitraje pacífico. Tenemos motivos para abrigar la esperanza de que la buena obra ha de continuar, y que antes de mucho tiempo se ha de celebrar una conferencia de todas las Repúblicas en la cual se prescribirá que todas las disputas que surjan entre ellas se arreglarán pacíficamente. Acaso nos sea dable esperar que á dicha conferencia concurre un representante del Canadá, pues no abrigo la menor duda de que la madre patria de este último país aprobaría calurosamente el envío de tal representante. Recuerdo que en nuestra Primera Conferencia comenzamos con dieciséis Repúblicas y una monarquía, la del Brasil. Por consiguiente, éste constituye un precedente en el cual puede apoyarse el Canadá para ser representado en la próxima conferencia.

No pudimos lograr el establecimiento de un Tribunal Judicial Universal en La Haya, pero no debemos dejar de crear uno para el Hemisferio Occidental. Acaso no llegue yo á verlo realizado durante mis días, pero moriré convencido de que esto tiene que suceder, y doy gracias al Destino generoso por el hecho de que al menos me cupo el privilegio de ser uno de los que tomaron parte en la Primera Conferencia, en la cual se hicieron los primeros esfuerzos—por fortuna ya han desaparecido las razones que existían para su fracaso—y algunos de los que en este momento me oyen han de ver á este Hemisferio Occidental seguir el noble ejemplo de la Argentina y de Chile, que se han consagrado al mantenimiento de la paz interior. En la actualidad no se está llevando á cabo obra alguna en el mundo que los hombres honrados y humanitarios en todas partes deban considerar más transcendental ni acoger con mayor entusiasmo que la obra en la cual están sinceramente empeñadas las Repúblicas Americanas. Insistid tenazmente en llevar á cabo vuestro gran ideal: la consagración de los continentes americanos al mantenimiento de la paz interior. En cuanto á esta obra sublime, siento una vivísima emoción al repetir que ningún pueblo está más profunda y sinceramente interesado en ella que el pueblo de los Estados Unidos; que no habrá ningún soberano que trabaje con mayor celo que el Presidente ni ningún Secretario de Estado que estudie con mayor detenimiento ni aconseje con más sabiduría que el que hoy desempeña tan elevado puesto. Cuando esta obra se termine, todos los que á ella hayan contribuido, siquiera sea en el menor grado, podrán estar seguros de que no han vivido en vano.

"There has never been a parallel for the sight which this ceremony presents—that of twenty-one Nations, of different languages, building together a house for their common deliberations."—AMBASSADOR NABUCO.

"Nunca ha habido un paralelo para al espectáculo que esta ceremonia presenta—el de veintiuna Repúblicas Americanas de idiomas distintos construyendo juntamente un edificio para sus deliberaciones comunes."—EMBAJADOR NABUCO.



CARDINAL GIBBONS AND BISHOP CRANSTON.

"This work accomplished, to everyone who has contributed to it in the smallest degree there will come the assurance that he has not lived his life in vain."—MR. CARNEGIE.

"Una vez terminada esta obra, todos los que han contribuido á ella en el más mínimo grado sentirán la satisfacción de no haber vivido en vano."—MR. CARNEGIE.



John Barrett
Secretary Root
Andrew Carnegie
Cardinal Gibbons

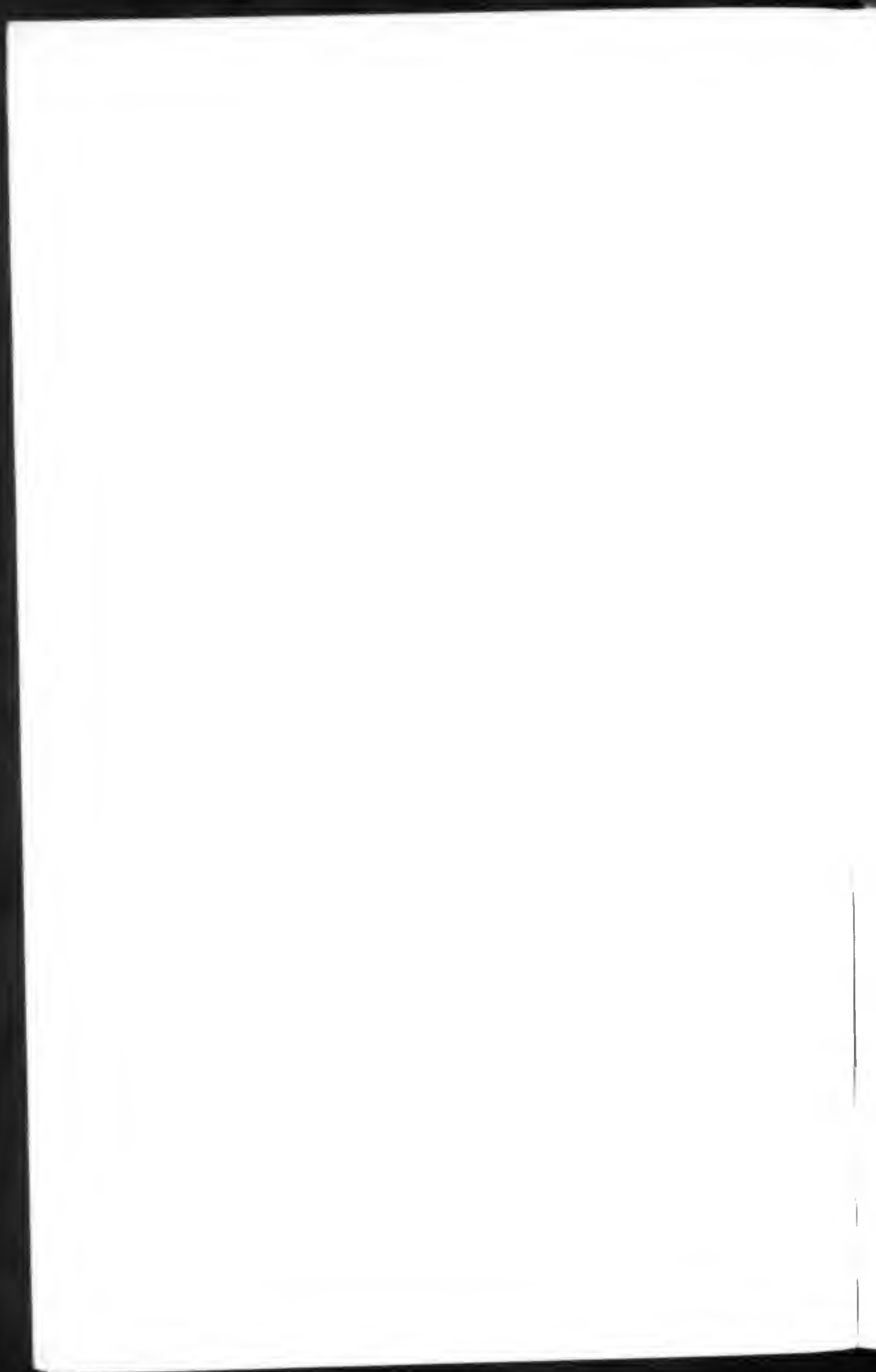
LAYING THE CORNER-STONE.
(LA COLOCACION DE LA PIEDRA ANGULAR.)

President Roosevelt

Ambassador Nabuco



CARDINAL GIBBONS MAKING THE INVOCATION.
EL CARDENAL GIBBONS HACIENDO LA INVOCACION.



Cerimonia da collocação da pedra inaugural do edificio para a Secretaria Internacional das Republicas Americanas, realizada em Washington, 11 de maio de 1908.

Devido ao curto espaço de tempo que ha do dia das cerimoniaes com motivo da collocação da pedra inaugural do novo edificio da Secretaria Internacional e a publicação deste numero do BOLETIM MEXICAL, não nos é possível descrever detalhadamente o programma desse acto.

Publicamos, porém, em seguida, os principaes discursos pronunciados, a saber: Primeiro, o discurso do Secretario de Estado dos Estados Unidos e Presidente *ex-officio* do Conselho Director da Secretaria; depois o do Presidente dos Estados Unidos, o do Sr. JOAQUIM NABUCO, Embaixador do Brasil, e o do Sr. ANDREW CARNEGIE.

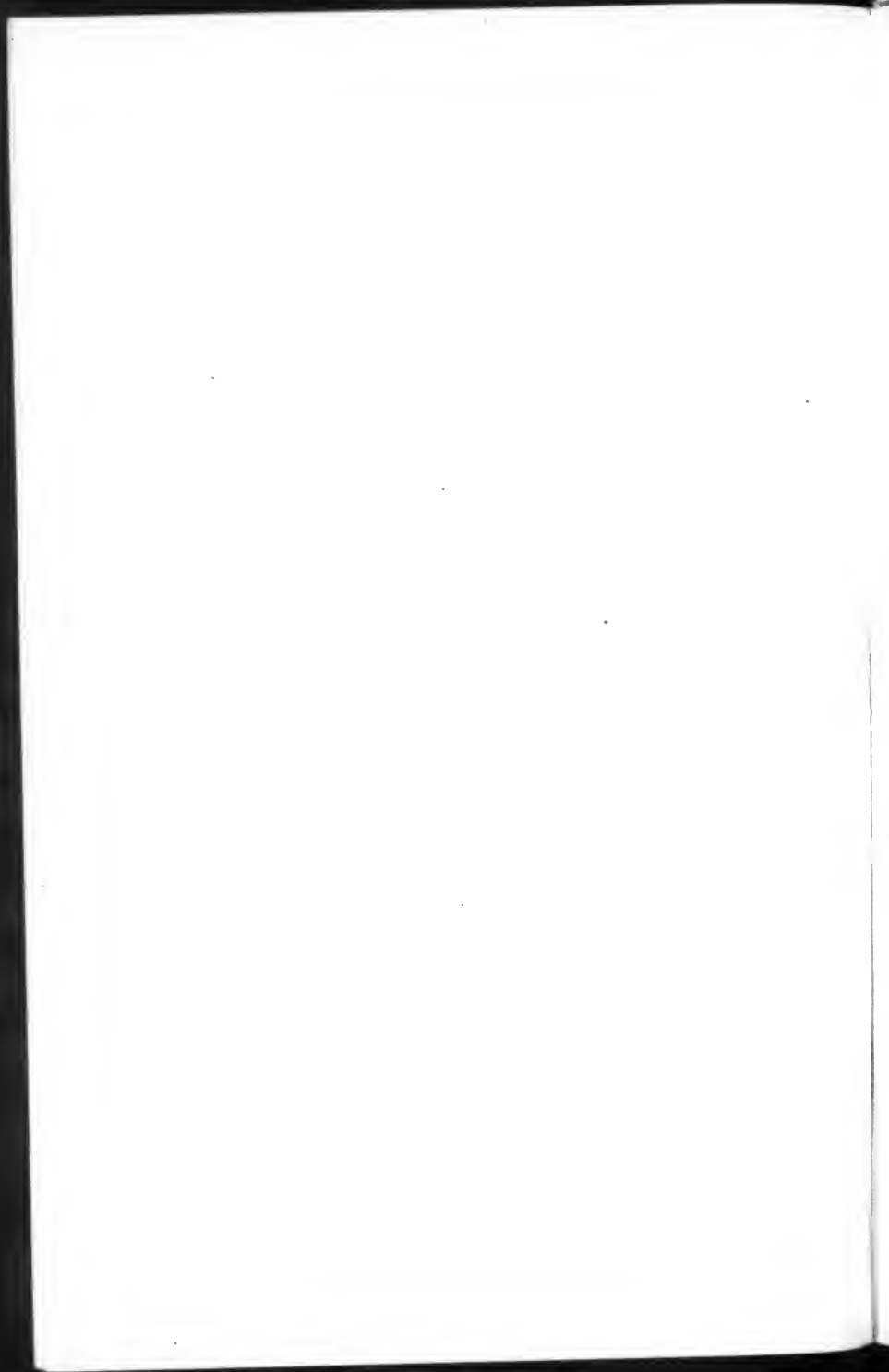
O Sr. JOHN BARRETT, Director da Secretaria, abriu o acto, e convidou o Secretario de Estado dos Estados Unidos para dirigir as cerimoniaes. A invocação foi feita por Sua Eminencia, o Cardeal GIBBONS, e a benção foi pronunciada pelo Bispo CRANSTON.

Uma nota interessante da occasião foi a leitura dos telegrammas de felicitações que se receberam dos Presidentes das differentes Republicas da America, exprimindo o interesse e enthusiasmo que este acontecimento lhes inspirava.

Á conclusão do programma, a pedra fundamental foi assentada, com a devida cerimonia, pelo Presidente dos Estados Unidos, auxiliado por outros hospedes distinctos.

Compareceram ao acto mais de 3,000 pessoas, figurando entre ellas os membros do Gabinete, do Corpo Diplomático, do Supremo Tribunal, Senadores e Representantes, officiaes do Exercito e da Armada, altos funcionarios publicos, cidadãos distinctos e representantes da imprensa.

A Banda de Musica da Marinha dos Estados Unidos tocou durante o programma os hymnos nacionaes e caracteristicos das varias Republicas do Hemispherio Occidental. As decorações foram sumptuosas e apropriadas ao acto, e representavam uma combinação artistica das bandeiras e estandartes das nações americanas. Em uma palavra, pode dizer-se, sem exaggeração, que a collocação da pedra inaugural do edificio foi um dos acontecimentos mais brilhantes desta natureza que registra a historia da cidade de Washington.



Discurso do Secretario Root.

Senhor Presidente e Senhores:

Aqui estamos hoje para lançar a pedra inaugural do edificio destinado a ser a moradia da União Internacional das Republicas Americanas.

A liberalidade acertada do Congresso dos Estados Unidos facilitou os meios de comprar este terreno, que cobre cinco geiras, ao lado da Casa Branca e dos grandes Departamentos do Executivo, rodeado por todos os lados de ruas, olhando a leste e ao sul para parques publicos que o Governo Nacional irá melhorando dia a dia, em cumprimento ao seu plano de tornar a capital da nação um objecto de orgulho patrio e motivo de prazer que a educação do gosto proporciona tanto ao rico, como ao pobre.

O espirito publico e o enthusiasmo pelo bem estar da humanidade que tem inspirado um cidadão americano, o Sr. ANDREW CARNEGIE, na administração de uma grande fortuna, fizeram-n'o contribuir com a avultada somma de tres quartos de um milhão de dollares, para a construcção do edificio.

Para a ornamentação e mobiliamento condignos do edificio, serão empregadas as quotas com que todas as Republicas Americanas devem contribuir, estando já quasi todas em deposito.

A União Internacional a quem se destina o edificio, é uma associação voluntaria, cujos membros são todas as nações da America desde o Cabo Horn até os Grandes Lagos. Teve a sua origem na Primeira Conferencia Pan-Americana que se reuniu em Washington em 1889, e tem augmentado em importancia e se desenvolvido de accordo com as resoluções adoptadas pelas Conferencias do Mexico e do Brazil. Tem como principal fim destruir as barreiras da ignorancia que ha entre as nações da America, recolhendo, facilitando e disseminando informações acerca de cada um destes paizes, entre todos os outros da União, com o fim de estimular o fomento das relações mutuas de commercio, amizade, boa intelligencia, fraternidade e sympathia. Para isso, estabeleceu-se em Washington uma Repartição gerida por um Conselho Director, constituído pelos representantes diplomaticos em Washington de todas as Republicas, havendo além destes um Director, um Secretario e um pessoal de empregados, traductores e amanuenses.

A Secretaria tem estabelecido uma bibliotheca que augmenta rapidamente, contendo obras de historia, viagens, descripção, estatistica e litteratura das nações americanas. Publica um BOLETIM MENSAL que circula por todos os paizes e que se occupa de materias de interesse geral e das condições que existem em todos os paizes da União. Também mantem uma enorme correspondencia com todos os paizes de ambos os continentes, respondendo a pedidos de informação acerca das leis, costumes, condições e opportunidades nos diferentes Estados, chegando mesmo a ser um dos meios de estabelecer relações commerciaes internacionaes.

O Conselho Director accumula o cargo de Commissão Permanente das Conferencias Pan-Americanas, encarregada de cumprir as resoluções adoptadas pelas mesmas, e de promover os necessarios preparativos para as futuras conferencias.

Tal tem sido o augmento dos trabalhos da Secretaria, que a acanhada sede da avenida de Pennsylvania já não os comporta, e agora no fim da segunda decada de sua existencia e sob a influencia da grande sympathia despertada entre todas as Republicas Americanas, a União entra em uma nova era de progresso com mais amplas opportunidades para continuar sua obra benefica.

Muitos são os edificios publicos, bellos e importantes, que marcam as victorias e denotam os impulsos da civilização moderna. Abundam os templos erigidos á religião, ao patriotismo, á sabedoria, á arte, á justiça; mas este edificio será unico em seu genero, o primeiro de sua classe, um templo dedicado á amizade internacional. Dedicar-se-ha á divulgação dos conhecimentos internacionaes que dirimam preconceitos nacionaes e tornem mais liberal a opiuição publica. Aqui se animará o desenvolvimento dessa sympathia que resulta de semelhança de impulsos bons e de nobres propositos, e que induz homens de diferentes raças e povos a formarem uma communiidade de nações, destruindo as tendencias egoistas que muitas vezes levam as nações ao campo de batalha. Desta fonte brotarão auxilios mutuos para todas as Republicas Americanas, de modo que os conhecimentos, a experiencia, e esperanza de cada Republica, darão ás outras a força moral bastante para manter e animarem-se na solução dos seus problemas e no aperfeçoamento dos padrões de liberdade e de paz. Então não haverá povo neste continente, por mais opprimido e desalentado que seja, por mais pobre que se ache, arrastado por desordens, que não sinta que não está isolado no mundo, que não veja que para elle nascerá um novo dia, como para outros já tem rompido a aurora.

Seria demasiado esperar que entre as nações americanas cujo desejo pela harmonia nós todos presenciavmos hoje, não haja controversias; mas cada vez que una surgir deve-se lembrar que não ha controversia internacional por seria que seja, que se não possa resolver pacificamente, si ambas as partes desejam sinceramente alcançar

uma solução amigavel. Por outro lado, poucas são as causas de contendas, por triviaes que sejam, que não possam converter-se em causa de guerra, si uma ou outra parte realmente deseja a guerra. Entre nações os assumptos das disputas nada dizem, é, porém, de capital importancia o modo pelos quaes se os eucara.

A delicada cortezia das vinte Republicas que escolheram a capital dos Estados Unidos para ser a sede da União Internacional, o profundo reconhecimento dessa cortezia que tem manifestado o Governo dos Estados Unidos e este nobre cidadão norte-americano, e os trabalhos que serão feitos entre as paredes que se levantarão neste local, tem que ser influencias poderosas para desenvolver uma opinião publica que resolva todas as questões que surgirem no porvir e que mantenha a paz do Hemispherio Occidental.

Que o edificio que hoje se inicia seja por muitas gerações o testemunho eloquente de mutuo respeito, estima, apreço e sympathia entre os povos de todas as Republicas: que sempre o rodeiem gratas recordações de hospitalidade e amizade, e que todas as Americas sintam que este é um lar commun, porque pertence a todos, como resultado de um esforço commun, e como instrumento de um objecto commun.

Discurso do Presidente Roosevelt.

É esta uma data memoravel para todos os povos do Hemispherio Occidental. O edificio, cuja pedra inaugural lançamos hoje, é prova evidente da solidariedade crescente de interesses e de aspirações entre os povos do Novo Mundo. Demonstra nosso reconhecimento da necessidade que temos de estreitar cada vez mais as relações entre todas as Republicas do Hemispherio Occidental, por meio dos delicados laços da justiça, boa vontade e conhecimento mutuo.

Em primeiro lugar, e em nome de nós todos, desejo agradecer ao Sr. CARNEGIE por seu generoso donativo, donativo esse feito a todas as nações do Novo Mundo, e que é eminentemente digno de quem tem trabalhado tão sinceramente pela causa da paz entre as nações. Si é verdade que estamos ainda muito longe do dia em que tenham cessado as guerras no mundo, todavia, nós, o povo do Hemispherio Occidental, com movimentos taes como o que symboliza este edificio, temos dado grandes passos na direcção do estabelecimento de uma paz permanente entre nós.

Em segundo lugar, na minha qualidade de Presidente desta Republica, saúdo os representantes das Republicas nossas irmãs do Sul. Por assim dizer, vós sois nossas irmãs mais velhas e nós a nação mais nova, pois representais neste continente uma civilização mais antiga que a nossa. Vossos antepassados, hespanhóes e portuguezes, exploradores, conquistadores, legisladores e organizadores de nações, já tinham fundado nos tropicos e na Zona Temperada do Sul, uma civilização florescente, quando toda a America que fica ao Norte do Rio Grande, era ainda desconhecida. Vós já tinheis fundado universidades americanas, estaveis construindo lindas cidades e estabelecendo as bases da vossa futura vida nacional em differentes pontos do vasto territorio que se estende do Colorado ao Prata, quando ainda os barcos dos Francezes e dos Inglezes, dos Suecos e dos Hollandezes, não tinham encontrado portos de abrigo na costa do Atlantico. Durante seculos nossas civilizações tem desenvolvido, cada uma a seu modo, separada uma da outra, mas agora avançamos juntos.

No porvir augmentará dia a dia o intercambio, não só de cousas materiaes, mas cousas de valor moral e intellectual para todos nós. No seculo que terminou, o desenvolvimento da America do Norte foi máis rapido que o da America do Sul. Mas no seculo que entrou,

creio que em parte alguma do mundo será tão grande o desenvolvimento da riqueza, população e de tudo quanto tende para o progresso, como no Mexico, na America Central e do Sul. Posso assegurar-vos que o povo desta nação vê com a mais viva satisfação o grande progresso que se fez nos paizes que representais, progresso que traduz não só a estabilidade das instituições politicas, mas tambem o bem estar material que é o resultado dessa estabilidade.

Nossa esquadra acaba de fazer uma viagem ao redor da America do Sul e desejo agradecer aos seus chefes e ao do Mexico pelas calorosas manifestações de sympathia com que foi recebida por toda a parte.

Ao terminar, quero referir-me a outra viagem que fez ha dous annos o Secretario de Estado, ELIOT ROOR, quando pela primeira vez em nossa historia um Secretario de Estado, durante seu mandato, ausentou-se do paiz para visitar outras nações. O Senhor Roor fez a volta completa ao redor da America do Sul, atravessou a America Central e depois visitou o Mexico, e por toda a parte teve o mais caloroso acolhimento, acolhimento que profundamente penhorou nosso povo, e desejo ainda uma vez manifestar nosso profundo reconhecimento pela cordial recepção que lhe foi feita.

Essa viagem unica, tanto por sua natureza como por sua importancia, foi feita sómente porque nós, os cidadãos desta Republica, reconhecemos que nossos interesses estão mais intimamente ligados com os dos povos deste continente, que com os das outras nações. Estou convencido de que a historia dirá um dia que, apesar de termos tido eminentes Secretarios de Estado, nenhum ultrapassou ELIOT ROOR, e ainda que no desempenho do seu importante cargo tenha feito muito em beneficio da sua patria e da humanidade, sua maior obra tem sido o exito que corou os esforços que tem feito para conseguir a maior aproximação das Republicas do Novo Mundo, unindo-as para que trabalhem esforçadamente pelo nosso adiantamento e pelo bem estar moral e material de todos os habitantes do Hemispherio Occidental.

Discurso do Embaixador do Brazil.

O modo por que falastes, Senhor Presidente, dos outros Estados Americanos causará entre elles o mais vivo prazer e reconhecimento. Com a mais sincera admiração pelo vosso grande paiz e pela marcha do vosso progresso jamais egualada por nenhum, elles entraram nesta união tambem com todo o desvanecimento de sua herança latina, da qual não ha mais alto testemunho do que a propria lingua ingleza. Sómte quando o futuro chegar para elles, e cada um puder desenvolver, como vós o fizestes, a porção que lhe coube no berço, poderá o mundo avaliar a grandeza do espolio de Colombo. Possam os vossos felizes vaticínios encontrar com a vossa costumada bôa fortuna. Com esses sentimentos de sympathia, a vossa lingua-gem respira a nobreza de um povo que não consente differenças no seu modo de tratar as nações fracas e as poderosas.

Nós aclamámos com alegria o bello elogio que fizestes do vosso actual Secretario de Estado, ao conferir-lhe a *laurea insignis* n'este dia de seu triumpho. Sua visita á America Latina foi uma d'essas inspirações que caracterisam o estadista que ha de viver no coração de muitos povos. Pela elevação dos seus ideaes, seu espirito de justiça, suas largas sympathias, seu dom de pesar os imponderaveis da sensibilidade internacional, elle conquistou o coração de todos os nossos paizes e pôde mandar-vos um dos mais bellos *veni, vidi, vici* da historia da diplomacia. Por sua vez elles tambem o capturaram e conservarão sempre a sua imagem como um refem amigo de paz e bôa vontade desta grande Republica.

Podeis ser generoso, Senhor Presidente. Nenhum Presidente dos Estados Unidos deixará na historia do Panamericanismo sulco mais fundo do que esse que estaes cortando de oceano a oceano para mudar as estradas do mar e approximar os povos e cidades das duas frentes do continente.

Consenti, Senhor CARNEGIE, que juntemos os nossos agradecimentos aos do Presidente dos Estados-Unidos pela munificencia do vosso donativo. Escolhendo esta cidade para sêde permanente de nossa União, as Republicas Latinas da America mostraram do modo o mais expressivo todo o seu orgulho pela nação que tem sido o guia do nosso continente e que fez d'elle um dos guias da civilisação. Com ser nosso associado, o vosso paiz é quem nos hospeda, e como norte-

americano mostrastes lembrar-vos disso, e de que nunca foi prestado mais alto tributo do que o nosso a essa democracia americana, que o vosso livro tornou ainda mais querida das nossas gerações actuaes. Fostes, de certo, tambem movido pelo pensamento, ao qual se devem já tantas de vossas fundações, de contribuir, atravez da posteridade, para a causa da paz. Pensaes bem que a paz é a caridade universal. A nossa alliança é exclusivamente de paz e ella só brilha fóra da orbita americana para mostrar que este continente pode já ser chamado o hemispherio da paz.

Senhores, não ha paralelo para o espectáculo que esta cerimonia offerece: o de vinte e uma nações, de diversas linguas, lançando juntas os alicerces de um edificio onde deliberem em commum. E ainda mais notavel é a scena, porque esses paizes, com todas as possíveis differenças entre elles de tamanho e população, firmaram a sua união sobre a base da mais absoluta egualdade. Aquí o voto do menor de todos vale tanto como o do maior. Tantos Estados soberanos não teriam sido attrahidos tão espontaneamente uns para os outros, se não existisse nelles, no fundo ou no apice de cada consciencia nacional, o sentimento de um destino commum a toda a America. Dir-se-hia que um decreto da Providencia fez a praia occidental do Atlantico surgir tarde na historia como a terra prometida para uma grande renovação da humanidade. Desde os primeiros dias da colonização brotou no coração de todos os seus filhos a idéa de que ella é realmente um mundo novo. Esse é o sentimento que nos reune neste dia auspicioso. Sentimos todos que somos filhos de Colombo. E se nos reunimos aqui, é porque sentimos tambem que somos todos filhos de Washington. Levantando-se na planície do Potomac, á vista do Capitolio, a nova casa das Republicas Americanas será outro monumento dedicado ao fundador da liberdade moderna. Aquelle é o seu monumento nacional, este será o continental.

Senhores, guardando ainda o écho da voz de Sua Eminencia o Cardeal GIBBOXS ao invocar a benção dos Céos, o voto que fazemos é que os nossos penhores reciprocos se tornem cada vez mais fortes de modo que um dia venhamos a sentir toda a inspiração desta união indissolvel das duas Americas.

Discurso do Senhor Carnegie.

Neste momento meus pensamentos voltam á Primeira Conferencia Pan-Americana, de que fui membro, convocada por meu amigo, o Senhor BLAINE, que era então Secretario de Estado e que foi o digno iniciador da grandiosa obra em que estamos empenhados, a qual, a meu juízo, dará por resultado que a guerra desapareça para sempre dos continentes americanos e que o Hemispherio Occidental se consagre a manter a paz interior.

A cerimonia que o Presidente acaba de effectuar é prova evidente de que a grande obra avança e de que em sua realisação não haverá nem pausa nem obstaculos. Elle aproveita todas as oportunidades que se lhe offerecem para accelerar a terminação, por meio de palavras e actos, da obra que iniciou o Senhor BLAINE sob o governo do Presidente HARRISON, e que com tanta habilidade dirige o Secretario Root, sob a actual administração. Tem sido durante sua incumbencia que se tem feito o maior progresso neste sentido. O Presidente, o Secretario, e os membros do seu Gabinete, e posso accrescentar o povo inteiro dos Estados Unidos, estão empenhados, de todo o coração, nesta benefica obra.

O Hemispherio Occidental já conseguiu obter tres incomparaveis triumphos pacificos.

Primeiro, o simples accordo concluido entre a Grã Bretanha e os Estados Unidos, estabelecendo que nos Grandes Lagos sómente dois pequenos navios, tendo cada um um canhão de 18 libras, deverão fazer a patrulha dessas aguas, o que tem effectivamente feito durante quasi um seculo, içando respectivamente a bandeira ingleza e a das estrellas e listas. Os micos tiros jamais disparados têm sido salvas em signal de amizade. Esses navios têm-se mostrado os mais poderosos navios de guerra, verdadeiros *Dreadnoughts*, pois tem mantido a paz, disparando apenas salvas de boa vontade.

Uma nação tem tudo que receiar dos gigantes *Dreadnoughts* armados, porém, nada que temer desses verdadeiros agentes da paz.

Eis aqui a primeira lição que este continente dá ao mundo, e especialmente á Europa, que na actualidade se encontra no vortice do militarismo, e que está armada, não contra inimigos alheios, pois os seus inimigos estão mesmo em casa.

A segunda lição é fornecida pelo Sul, isto é, por nossos amigos da Argentina e do Chile. Seguindo o pernicioso exemplo que até agora têm dado as nações, estas Republicas luctaram entre si até que finalmente descobriram um meio mais commodo de resolver suas contendas. Então reuniram-se e ambas venceram, porque conseguiram obter a paz mediante o ramo de oliveira, e não por meio da espada. No cume mais elevado dos Andes, na nova linha divisoria que se estabeleceu, estas potencias, outr'ora bellicosas, erigiram, feita do bronze de um canhão fundido, uma estatua de Christo, o Principe da Paz, cujo pedestal traz a seguinte inscrição:

Antes reduzir-se-hão estas montanhas a pó que argentinos e chilenos quebrem a paz que aos pés do Christo o Redemptor juraram manter.

A terceira grande lição que este continente acaba de dar ao mundo, procede do centro do Hemispherio Occidental, isto é, das cinco pequenas nações da America Central cujos Representantes reuniram-se ha pouco em Washington e concordaram em estabelecer um Supremo Tribunal, ao qual hão de submeter-se todas as controversias que surgirem entre ellas. Todas estas nações têm ratificado promptamente a acção dos seus Representantes.

Talvez seja este o passo mais importante dado até agora, pois promette conduzir á união destas cinco Republicas, seguindo assim o exemplo que tem dado a nossa, isto é, converter em uma só nação certo numero de Estados separados, assegurando-se a paz interior, e talvez abrindo o caminho para uma maior unificação de todos os Estados da America do Sul.

Estes exemplos fallam bem alto aos que dizem que nações, ao contrario do que se passa entre individuos, não podem resolver todas as difficuldades sem recorrerem á força armada.

Compete a este hemispherio manter-se na vanguarda da civilização, adoptando o arbitramento como o unico meio humanitario de ajustar as controyersias internacionaes. Esperamos que breve todas as Republicas do continente meridional sigam o exemplo da Argentina e Chile, e das cinco Republicas da America Central, que têm estabelecido um Supremo Tribunal de Arbitramento.

A julgar-se pelo progresso feito neste sentido durante a vida dos que têm-se consagrado a esta obra desde o principio, podemos esperar, com segurança, a proxima realização de nosso sonho, que é obter para os continentes americanos o reino da paz interna, substituindo a guerra com o arbitramento pacifico. Temos motivos para alimentar a esperança de que a grandiosa obra ha de continuar, e que antes de muito tempo ha de realizar-se uma conferencia de todas as Republicas, na qual se estabelecerá que todas as questões que surgirem entre ellas serão resolvidas pacificamente. Com razão esperamos ver nessa conferencia um representante do Canadá, acto esse que sem duvida

será calorosamente approvado pela mãe patria. Recordo-me que em nossa Primeira Conferencia começamos com dezeseis Republicas e uma monarchia, a do Brasil. Ha, por consequinte, um precedente para que o Canadá se faça representar na proxima conferencia.

Não conseguimos crear uma corte judicial universal em Haya, mas não devemos deixar de estabelecer uma no Hemispherio Occidental. Talvez não viva mais nesse dia, mas morrerei convencido de que está para vir, e agradecendo os bons fados pela dita de haver sido um dos membros da Primeira Conferencia, na qual se fizeram os primeiros esforços. As razões do insuccesso desapareceram, e certamente muitos dos que me ouvem hoje viverão para ver o Hemispherio Occidental imitando o bel exemplo da Argentina e Chile, que se têm consagrado á manutenção da paz interna.

Não ha hoje no mundo um movimento de progresso que deve ser por todos observado com mais interesse e justa approvação do que aquelle de que as Republicas Americanas se occupam agora. Sustenta com ardor vosso grande ideal, a paz interna nos continentes americanos. Sinto grande satisfação em repetir que nenhum povo está mais profunda e sinceramente interessado nesta sublime obra que o povo dos Estados Unidos, que não ha nenhum soberano que labute com maior zelo que o Presidente, nem nenhum Secretario de Estado que estude mais profundamente nem aconselhe com mais sabedoria que aquelle que dirige esta pasta hoje. Realizada esta obra, todo aquelle que de algum modo contribuiu para isso estará certo que não viveu inutilmente.

Pose de la Première Pierre du Bureau International des
Républiques Américaines, à Washington le 11 mai
1908.

Par suite du peu de temps qui s'est écoulé depuis les cérémonies qui ont eu lieu à l'occasion de la pose de la première pierre du nouveau bâtiment du Bureau International et la publication du BULLETIN MENSUEL du mois de mai, il est impossible de donner en détail le programme de cet événement.

Toutefois, on reproduit les principaux discours prononcés à cette occasion; d'abord celui du Secrétaire d'État et président *ex-officio* du Conseil d'Administration du Bureau, et ensuite ceux du Président des États-Unis, de M. NABUCCO, Ambassadeur du Brésil et de M. ANDREW CARNEGIE.

M. JOHN BARRETT, Directeur du Bureau, qui a ouvert la cérémonie, a présenté le Secrétaire d'État comme président de la fête. Son Eminence le Cardinal GIBBONS a fait la prière et l'Evêque CRANSTON a donné la bénédiction.

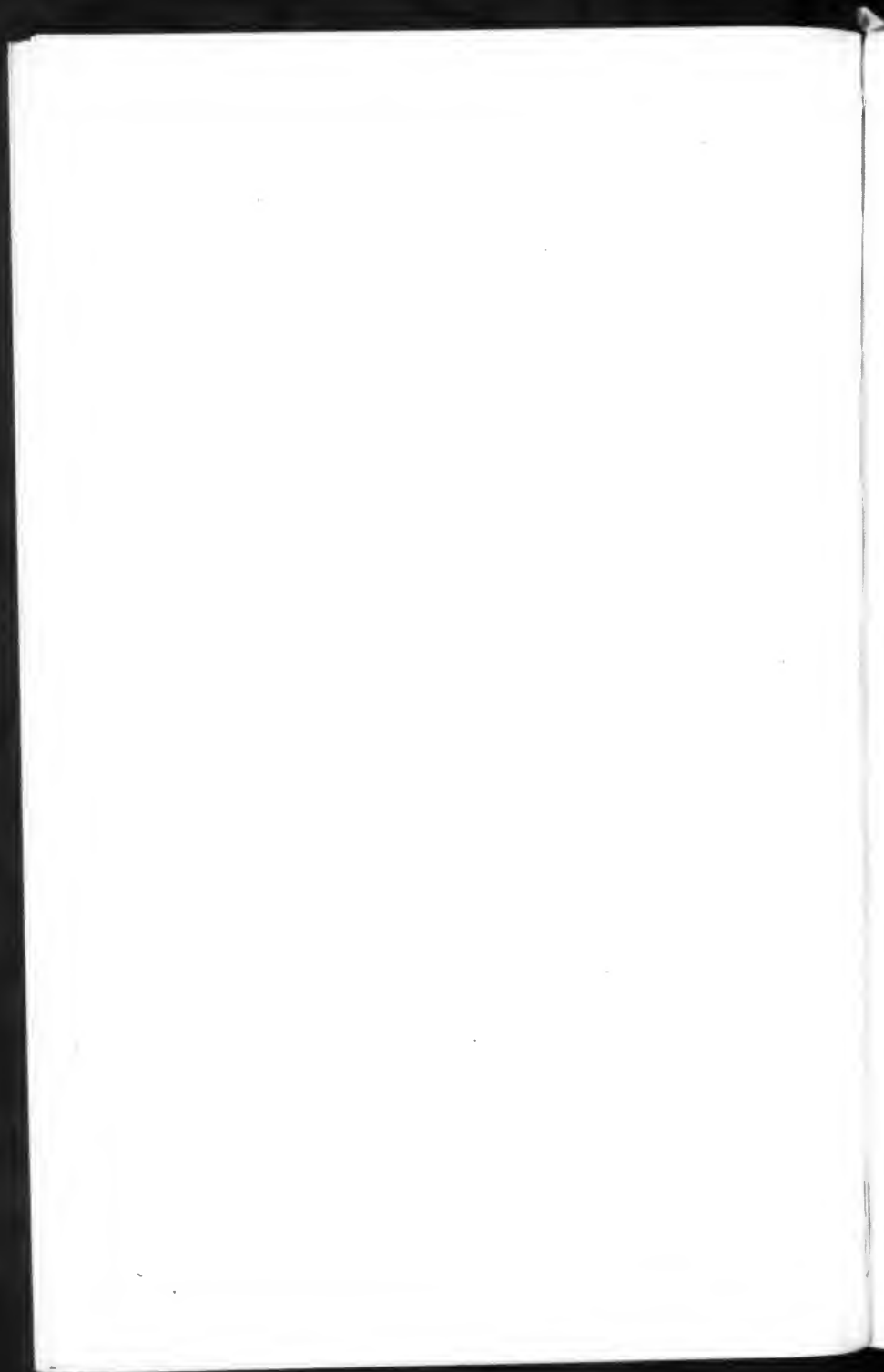
Un des principaux faits a été la lecture des messages de félicitation reçus des Présidents des différentes Républiques de l'Amérique pour exprimer leur intérêt et leur enthousiasme à cette occasion.

Vers la fin du programme, le Président des États-Unis, assisté d'autres personnages distingués, a posé solennellement la première pierre.

Plus de 3,000 personnes ont assisté à cette cérémonie, parmi lesquelles on remarquait les Ministres, les membres du Corps Diplomatique, la Cour Suprême, les principaux Sénateurs et Députés, des officiers de l'Armée et de la Marine et d'autres hauts fonctionnaires, ainsi que les principaux journalistes.

La musique de la Marine des États-Unis a fait entendre les plus beaux morceaux des répertoires des différentes Républiques de l'Hémisphère Occidental. Les tribunes ont été décorées de drapeaux de toutes les nations américaines et aussi de banderolles aux couleurs de ces dernières.

Enfin, on peut dire sans exagérer, que cette cérémonie de la pose de la première pierre a été l'une des plus belles qui aient jamais eu lieu à Washington.



BULLETIN
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INTERNATIONAL BUREAU OF THE AMERICAN REPUBLICS,
INTERNATIONAL UNION OF AMERICAN REPUBLICS.

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The programme of the exercises for the laying of the corner stone of the new building of the International Bureau of the American Republics, which take place to-day, May 11, 1908, the date of the issue of this special edition of the MONTHLY BULLETIN, is one which confirms the importance of the occasion as an international event. Addresses will be delivered by the President of the United States, Hon. THEODORE ROOSEVELT, who has taken the deepest interest during his Administration in the promotion of Pan-American commerce and comity; Hon. ELIHU ROOT, Secretary of State of the United States, who not only by his special visits to South America and Mexico, but by his attention to everything concerning the relations of the United States with Latin America, has given an impetus and importance to the Pan-American movement which otherwise could not have been realized; Senhor JOAQUIM NABUCO, the Ambassador of Brazil, who is the Dean of the Latin-American Diplomatic Corps in Washington, and who presided at the Third Pan-American Conference held in Rio Janeiro in 1906; and Mr. ANDREW CARNEGIE who, by singular coincidence, not only was a delegate of the United States to the First Pan-American Conference, which took place in Washington during the winter of 1889-90 and organized the International Bureau, but now has generously donated \$750,000 for the construction of this new home for the institution. The invocation will be delivered by His Eminence JAMES CARDINAL GIBBONS, who is the head of the Roman Catholic Church in the United States, and the benediction will be pronounced by Bishop CRANSTON, who is the Dean of the Protestant clergy of the District of Columbia. The exercises will be opened by the Director of the International Bureau, Mr. JOHN BARRETT, who will present the Secretary of State and Chairman of the Governing Board as the presiding officer of

While the utmost care is taken to insure accuracy in the publications of the International Bureau of the American Republics, no responsibility is assumed on account of errors or inaccuracies which may occur therein.

the day. The programme will be preceded and interspersed by appropriate Pan-American music provided by the famous Marine Band, which has been specially directed by the Secretary of the Navy to participate in the exercises. The copper box placed within the corner stone will contain the official reports of the three Pan-American Conferences, held respectively at Washington, D. C., in 1889-90; Mexico City, 1901-2, and Rio Janeiro, 1906; copies of the correspondence between the President of the United States, the Secretary of State, and Mr. ANDREW CARNEGIE in regard to the latter's gift for the new building; photographs of the Presidents of the American Republics and their cable messages congratulatory of the occasion; photographs of the Governing Board and officers, past and present, of the Bureau; small flags and imprints of the seals of the respective countries belonging to the International Union; copies of the MONTHLY BULLETIN and other publications of the International Bureau; representative coins and postage stamps of the different Republics; representative newspapers, etc. The scheme of decoration of the grand stand and the court surrounding the corner stone will include the abundant use of the flags, colors, and coats of arms of all the American nations. Invitations have been extended to the President, Vice-President, the Cabinet, the members of the Diplomatic Corps, the Supreme Court and other high judicial officers, Governors of States and Territories, the Senate and House of Representatives, army and navy officers stationed in Washington, the District Commissioners, the principal officers of the different Departments, members of the clergy, the heads of representative educational and commercial institutions, and others.

INTERNATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE OF THE CORNER-STONE LAYING.

The laying of the corner stone of the new building of the International Bureau of the American Republics has a significance which should appeal to everyone who is interested in the development of peace, friendship, and commerce among nations. Although the International Union, of which the Bureau is the office, is made up of the 21 American Republics, there is nothing in its organization or purpose that is hostile to the idea of the most friendly relations between the same Republics and the countries of Europe, Asia, and the rest of the world. While the primary and principal benefits of the Pan-American Union may result to the nations which constitute it, yet whatever adds to their welfare, prosperity, and progress tends also to make their relations with the Old World more important and intimate. All the world, therefore, can join with America on this occasion in the expression of satisfaction that there is to be erected in Washington a magnificent building which shall be not only an international temple of peace and good will, but, as it were, an international chamber of commerce and a congenial headquarters in one capital

for the official representatives and the people of all American nations who may be interested in anything that tends to bring those countries into closer sympathy and to advance their prosperity.

SPECIAL ARTICLES FOR THIS ISSUE OF THE BULLETIN.

In order to make this issue of the BULLETIN particularly timely and interesting to all those who may be watching the development of the Pan-American idea and who may wish to know more about the scope and work of the International Bureau, an exceptional number of special articles are printed, aside from the regular record of Pan-American commerce and development. These include two papers by the Director of the Bureau, Mr. JOHN BARRETT, which recently appeared in "The World To Day" and "System," respectively, entitled "Latin America: a Great Commercial Opportunity," and "A Ready Aid to Foreign Trade;" a sketch of the personnel of the Governing Board of the International Bureau, prepared by the Secretary of the Bureau, Mr. FRANCISCO J. YÁNES; a brief account of the Pan-American Committee recently appointed by the Secretary of State of the United States; a description of the new building from an architectural standpoint, by Mr. PAUL P. CRET, of the firm of KELSEY & CRET, who designed the structure and has charge of its construction; a discussion of travel conditions in South America, by Prof. WILLIAM R. SHEPHERD, of Columbia University, who recently made a tour of that continent; a schedule of steamer routes to Latin America, with map, prepared by Dr. ALBERT HALE, who has only lately visited Latin America and written a notable book entitled "The South Americans;" extracts from a speech which Hon. JAMES L. SLAYDEN, Member of Congress from Texas, recently delivered in the House of Representatives on the subject of "Latin America and the Orient in the United States Trade;" and a consideration of "Latin America in Current Literature," as exemplified in leading periodicals.

A WORD OF APPRECIATION FOR ASSISTANCE.

The Director and the staff of the Bureau wish to take advantage of this opportunity to express their thanks to all those who have cooperated with them in perfecting the numerous details for the laying of the corner stone. They feel particularly grateful to Mr. FREDERICK D. OWEN, of the office of public buildings and grounds, who has materially assisted in arranging the court and decorations; the architects of the building, Mr. ALBERT KELSEY and Mr. PAUL V. CRET; the consulting engineer, Mr. W. COPELAND FURBER, the superintendent of construction, Mr. JAMES BERRALL; the contractors, The NORCROSS BROTHERS COMPANY, of Worcester, Mass., and their agents in Washington, and to Capt. WILLIAM JENKINS, who designed the programme.

THE INTERNATIONAL BUREAU BRIEFLY DESCRIBED.

As the laying of the corner stone will naturally cause everybody not familiar with the International Union and the Bureau to ask questions as to its organization and purpose, there is given below a brief summary of its history, its object and purpose, and its administration, which should answer most of the questions that might be asked and explain clearly its reason for existence:

Introductory.—The International Bureau of the American Republics (for short it is often called "the Pan-American Bureau") was established in the year 1890, in accordance with resolutions passed at the First International Conference of American Republics, held in Washington from October, 1889, to April, 1890, and presided over by Hon. JAMES G. BLAINE, Secretary of State of the United States. It was continued by resolutions of the Second Conference, at Mexico, in 1901, and again, with enlarged scope and sphere, by the Third Conference, at Rio de Janeiro, in 1906, which was attended by Hon. ELIUR ROOT, present Secretary of State.

The list of Directors who have administered the affairs of the Bureau since it was organized is as follows: William E. Curtis, 1890-1893; Clinton Furbish, 1893-1897; Joseph P. Smith, 1897-1898; Frederic Emory, 1898-1899; W. W. Rockhill, 1899-1905; Williams C. Fox, 1905-1907; John Barrett, 1907.

WILLIAM E. CURTIS is the distinguished correspondent of the Chicago Record-Herald, and was executive officer of the First Pan-American Conference, Special Commissioner of the United States to Latin America, and chief of the Latin-American Department of the Chicago Exposition. CLINTON FURBISH and JOSEPH P. SMITH, who are dead, were eminent publicists. FREDERIC EMORY is a prominent writer on commercial and statistical subjects, and was chief of the Bureau of Commerce of the Department of State. W. W. ROCKHILL is now Minister to China; was Minister to Greece, Roumania, and Servia, and Assistant Secretary of State. WILLIAMS C. FOX is now Minister to Ecuador, and was Consul at Brunswick, Germany. JOHN BARRETT, present Director, has been Minister to Siam, Argentina, Panama, and Colombia, respectively; Delegate of the United States to the Second Pan-American Conference, in Mexico, and Commissioner-General to Foreign Nations of the St. Louis World's Fair.

Administration.—The International Bureau is supported by the annual contributions, varying in amount according to population, of the 21 Republics of the Western Hemisphere, and its Governing Board comprises the diplomatic representatives of these Republics in Washington, presided over by the Secretary of State of the United States as Chairman *ex officio*.

The chief administrative official is the Director, who is chosen by the vote of the Governing Board, and is therefore the joint officer of the 21 American Republics. He is responsible to the Governing Board for the conduct of the affairs of the Bureau, and is assisted by a Secretary of the Bureau, Chief Clerk, editorial staff of the MONTHLY BULLETIN, statistical experts, translators, stenographers, clerks, etc.

Its office for nearly sixteen years has been at the corner of Pennsylvania avenue and Lafayette square, or No. 2 Jackson place, directly north of the State, War and Navy building and diagonally northwest from the White House. The green cars on Pennsylvania avenue pass by the corner, and it is easily accessible to everybody. Over the building floats a distinguishing pennant carrying the colors of the different American Republics.

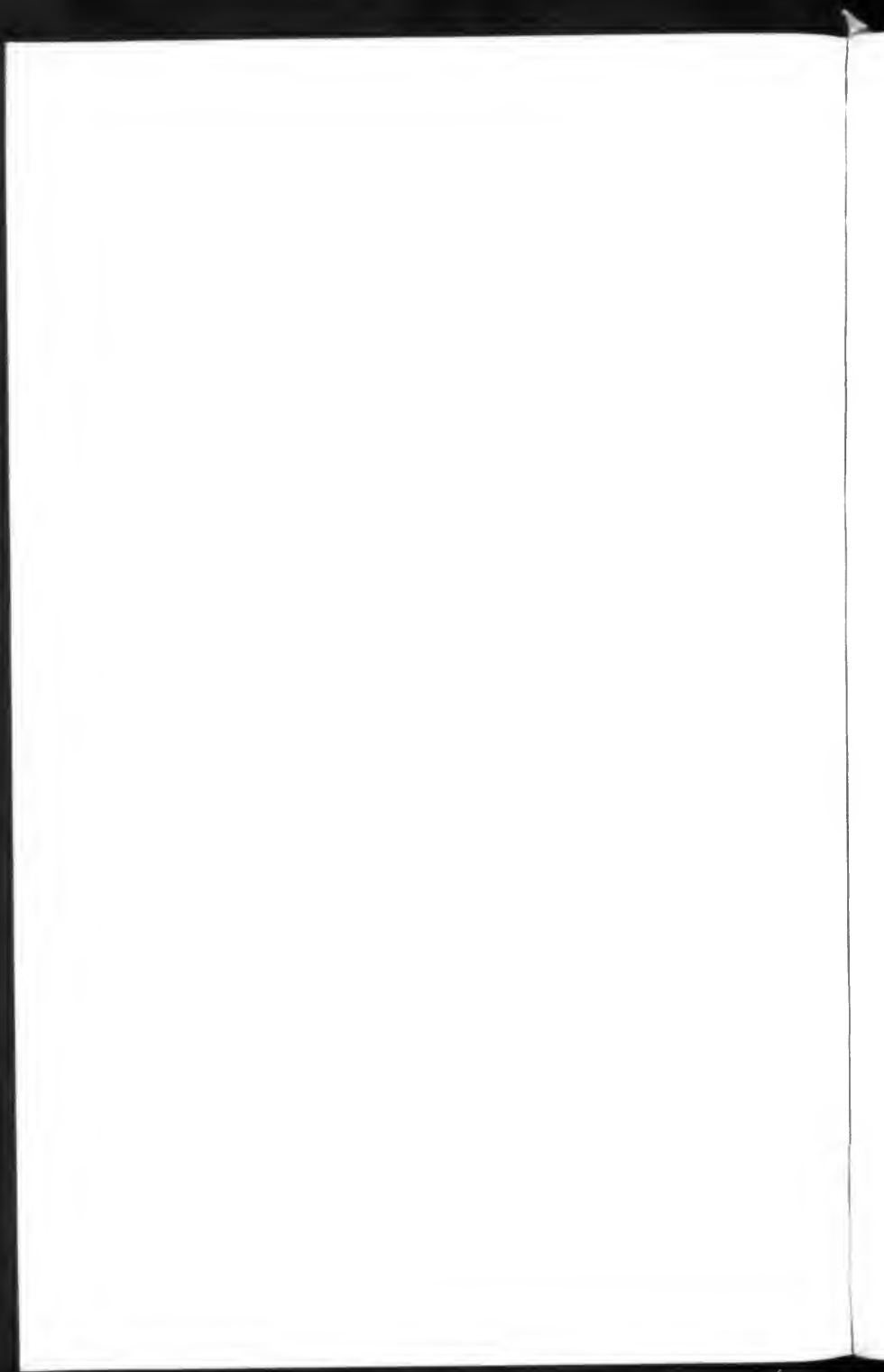
The Columbus Memorial Library, under the direction of the Bureau, possesses a large collection of books, historical, travel, narrative, descriptive, statistical, governmental, relating to all the American nations, and can be consulted without charge by any responsible person. There are now nearly 14,000 volumes on its shelves.

Work has now commenced on the new building to be located on the Van Ness Park site, Seventeenth and B streets, for which Mr. ANDREW CARNEGIE has generously



JAMES G. BLAINE, SECRETARY OF STATE AND PRESIDING OFFICER DURING THE FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF AMERICAN STATES.

MR. JAMES G. BLAINE, SECRETARIO DE ESTADO, PRESIDENTE DE LA PRIMERA CONFERENCIA INTERNACIONAL DE REPUBLICAS AMERICANAS.



given \$750,000 and the different Republics \$250,000, making a total of \$1,000,000 available for the new home and grounds of the Bureau.

Object and purpose.—The general object of the International Bureau is not only to develop friendship, commerce, and trade, but to promote close relations, better acquaintance, and more intimate association along economic, intellectual, educational, and social, as well as political and material lines among the American Republics.

The Bureau for commercial purposes is in touch, in both North and South America, on the one hand with manufacturers, merchants, exporters, and importers, doing all it can to facilitate the exchange and building up of trade among the American nations, and on the other hand with university and college presidents, professors, and students, writers, newspaper men, scientists, and travelers, providing them with a large variety of information that will increase their interest in the different American nations.

It publishes numerous handbooks, pamphlets, and maps, a list of which will be forwarded upon application.

The Bureau is also the office or agency and custodian of archives of the International American conferences. It has charge of the correspondence relating thereto, the ratification of their resolutions, the issuance of calls, and the preparation of the programme for new conferences.

The correspondence of the Bureau with all parts of the Western Hemisphere is in excess of 2,000 letters of legitimate inquiry per month, which is nearly 300 per cent increase over two years ago. This remarkable growth of interest is largely due to Secretary ROOT, and is one of the results of his visit to South America in 1906.

It sends out on an average nearly 15,000 pieces of printed matter per month. Its MONTHLY BULLETIN gives all the latest information in regard to commerce, laws, new enterprises, and general development of each Republic.

ARGENTINE TRADE VALUES.

The status of the Argentine Republic in the economic world is accurately demonstrated by the fact that a gain of over \$16,000,000 is reported for the value of wheat shipments in 1907 as compared with the preceding year, the total exports of this commodity figuring for nearly \$83,000,000. In flax or linseed a gain of \$10,165,360 is scheduled, and in oats an advance of \$3,593,397, so that while the comparative failure of the maize crop in the Republic caused a decrease of more than \$23,000,000 in regard to this item, yet a total of \$164,091,621 is reported for exports of agricultural products alone, which represents a gain for the year of \$6,436,929.

BRAZILIAN RUBBER IN THE WORLD'S MARKETS.

The growing application of rubber and allied products in industrial manufactures renders of peculiar interest the recently published statements as to the Brazilian output in 1907. The total world's supply of this article is estimated for the year at nearly 69,000 tons and consumption at 66,000 tons. The bulk, or 40,000 tons, is of Brazilian origin, and though plantations are reported under production in various quarters of the globe, it is still from the Amazon region and its wild growth of rubber trees that the trade centers receive their raw material. Over \$70,000,000 represents the value of Brazil's shipments of rubber during the year, nearly one-half of which is sent to the United States.

THE PURCHASING POWER OF CHILE.

If the exports of a country indicate the extent of its natural resources, so the import values demonstrate the financial prosperity or the reverse of the inhabitants. Significance is therefore to be attached to the fact that in 1907 Chilean importations from abroad were \$20,000,000 greater than in the preceding year. While exports declined by \$3,000,000, the cause is attributable to the holding back of the country's great staple, nitrate, from shipment to foreign markets. Up to the close of the nitrate year ending April, 1907, total exports under the Nitrate Association of Chile aggregated 400,000 tons, and at a recent meeting of the Association it was decided to limit the shipments of the present year to the same amount.

ECONOMIC CONDITIONS IN COSTA RICA.

Important contracts are at present under consideration by the Costa Rican Government, several of which have direct bearing upon the supply of a native fruit (the banana) which has become a recognized food staple in the United States. The outcome of the legislation covering the enterprises is a matter of moment therefore. Through the initiative of the Minister of Costa Rica in Washington, the inspection of slaughter houses is to be placed under the care of a veterinary surgeon of the United States, whose services have been specially secured for the purpose. The same personal activity has resulted in the acquisition of several female graduates from a United States university for the Costa Rican schools for instruction in the English language and in school management.

CUBAN INDUSTRIES IN 1907.

Cuba's sugar crop in 1907 aggregated about a million and a half tons, which, though somewhat less than the original estimate, is greater than the anticipated output for 1908. Tobacco production was 440,000 bales, or nearly double that of the preceding year, with a total value of \$42,343,548. Public improvements of great value are being inaugurated and carried into execution, while the nationalization of the health service of the island has been attended with satisfactory results.

PUBLIC WORKS IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.

The report issued in February of this year by the Secretary of Promotion and Public Works of the Dominican Republic shows a gratifying development of the internal conditions of the country. The Exposition of native products held at the capital in August of last year was participated in by all the provinces and attended with satisfactory results, and

the Dominican exhibit at the Jamestown Exposition was recognized by the awarding of gold, silver, and copper medals. Railroad connection between the coast and interior sections is progressing, and irrigation works are being carried out under the supervision of a United States engineer, while highways and wharfage accommodations are being constructed in response to commercial needs. The public debt agreement with a New York firm has been favorably acted upon by the Government and publication made in the official gazette of the country.

ECUADOR'S HEALTH SERVICE.

Measures are being actively taken by the Government of Ecuador for the enforcement of such sanitary regulations as may provide against the spread of contagious diseases throughout the Republic, and a special sanitary commission has been created for the work in Guayaquil under the direction of an officer of the Public Health and Marine-Hospital Service of the United States. A modern water and sewerage system is to be installed, for which bids are to be invited in the United States and Europe.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE RESOURCES OF HONDURAS.

That the Honduras Government is desirous of advancing the development of national industries is evidenced by the creation, under a recent Executive decree, of a Department of Agriculture charged with the promotion of such matters as logically appertain to its work. Another step in this direction is taken by the preliminary contracts for railroad building between the banana plantations of the interior and the ports of shipment, while the project of colonizing certain sections of the Republic with natives of central or northern Europe is under consideration.

COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL STATUS OF MEXICO.

The solidity of Mexican banking institutions has been made the subject of a report furnished to his Government by the United States Consul at Aguascalientes, who states the recent stringency in the money markets of the world did not prevent the banks of the Republic from meeting their obligations in cash. The proposed establishment of a national chamber of commerce, charged with the promotion of trade and the management of commercial affairs will, it is anticipated, further solidify the national credit, while the conference called by Minister LIMANTOUR for the discussion of economic measures by delegates from the various banks of the Republic has met with favorable response.

NICARAGUA'S MINERAL AND FOREST PRODUCTS.

Of the more than 500 mines registered in the Bureau of Statistics of Nicaragua, 494 are producers of gold, while silver, copper, and quarries of valuable stone are scattered throughout the Republic. These resources are being exploited as rapidly as possible under various concessions held by natives and foreigners. While rubber is the main forest product whose exploitation is being successfully carried out, the country abounds with valuable medicinal plants and gums and resins having vast commercial possibilities.

PARAGUAY'S EDUCATIONAL INTERESTS.

A half million dollars represents the amount of money appropriated by Paraguay for the Department of Justice and Public Instruction in 1907. Five colleges are maintained by the Government and a National University founded in 1890 at Asunción covers in its curriculum law and social science, medicine, pharmacy, and notarial training. Special attention is given in the national schools to such scientific branches as may influence the development of national resources and industries, and an agricultural college with an experimental farm is maintained at Government expense. Scholarship funds provide for the foreign education of young men in Europe and the United States and a normal training school for teachers has a faculty of 58 professors.

EXHIBIT OF PERUVIAN PRODUCTS IN NEW YORK.

The Consul-General of Peru at New York has advised the International Bureau of the American Republics that an office has been opened in the consulate as a library and exhibit of samples of Peruvian products. A section has been set aside in which will be kept catalogues of goods and machinery which could be advantageously introduced into Peru. It is purposed that this section shall be at the service of Peruvian visitors to the Consulate, many of whom are desirous of obtaining more information about United States manufactures with a view to applying them to their business enterprises at home. Mr. HIGGINSON invites the manufacturers of the United States to send their trade catalogues to be placed in this division, and further advises that they should be printed in Spanish, as that is the language best understood by the prospective purchasers.

PUBLIC INSTRUCTION IN SALVADOR.

Mixed primary schools in Salvador number 132, with a total number of pupils registered amounting to 34,752. In 1907, the expenditures for this branch of education were nearly \$400,000, and in addition there



ANDREW CARNEGIE, DELEGATE TO THE FIRST PAN-AMERICAN CONFERENCE, TO WHOSE PUBLIC SPIRIT IS DUE IN A GREAT DEGREE THE ERECTION OF THE NEW BUILDING.

MR. ANDREW CARNEGIE, DELEGADO DE LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS A LA PRIMERA CONFERENCIA PANAMERICANA, A CUYO ALTRUISMO SE DEBE EN GRAN PARTE LA CONSTRUCCIÓN DE LA NUEVA OFICINA.

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are many private institutions throughout the Republic where primary instruction alone is covered. Academic instruction is in charge of the National University of San Salvador, which embraces schools of law, medicine, pharmacy, dentistry, civil engineering, etc.

PROMOTION OF URUGUAYAN COMMERCE.

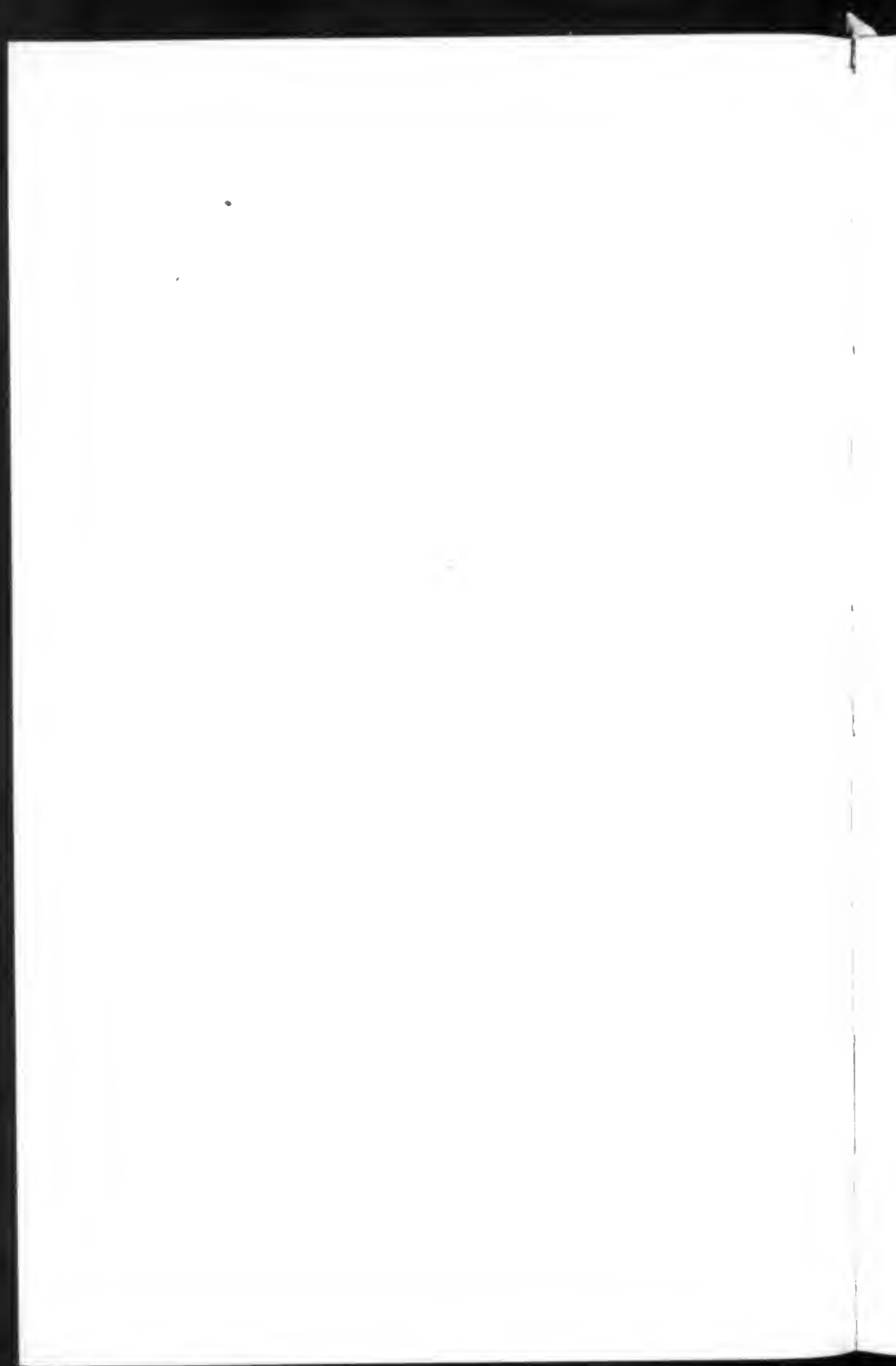
A bill has been introduced in the Uruguayan Chamber of Representatives providing for the establishment of a free zone on the fiscal lands reclaimed from the sea in the eastern part of the Bay of Montevideo. The merchandise introduced and articles made in this zone are to be free of customs duties unless they are destined to importation into the interior of the country, in which case they must pass the customs authorities as if coming directly from abroad. The advocates of the bill consider that its passage will make Montevideo take front rank among South American ports. It is through Montevideo that the bulk of the commerce of the Republic passes, 82.32 per cent, or \$57,268,967 out of a total of \$69,576,143, being credited to it. In the eight months of the fiscal year 1907-8 ending with February, the total receipts at Uruguayan custom-houses were nearly \$500,000 in excess of those reported for the corresponding period of the preceding year.

TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE LINES IN VENEZUELA.

In order to prevent possible misinterpretation of the regulations published in the MONTHLY BULLETIN for February, 1908, in regard to the telegraph and telephone lines of Venezuela, it may be stated that the provisions in reference apply solely to the establishment of national and official systems and do not limit or preclude in any manner the inauguration of private enterprises in accordance with the laws of the country.

SANITARY PRECAUTIONS.

An executive decree closing the port of La Guayra for the dispatch of merchandise for fifteen days was issued April 18, 1908.



LATIN AMERICA: A GREAT COMMERCIAL OPPORTUNITY.^a

There is no field for the study of the American manufacturer more important than that of Latin America. At this very moment, conditions demand the attention of all American business men who are interested in the expansion of the foreign commerce of the United States. The whole world is suddenly awakening to the vastness and variety of the resources and possibilities of the twenty republics which reach from Mexico and Cuba on the north to Argentina and Chile on the south, a section of the western hemisphere which includes every kind of climate, product, and people.

Commercial countries of Europe, like England, Germany, France, Spain, Italy, and Austria are devoting far more attention to South America than is the United States. Further than this, Japan, far away across the Pacific, is exerting herself more than is this country to get into close touch with the west coast of South America. That statement may seem surprising, but proof of it is found in the establishment of a steamship line, aided by the Japanese Government, which runs from Japan to Chile, and by the arrangement of postal money-order exchange between the two countries, effective from January 1, 1908. The United States has done absolutely nothing toward improving its shipping relations with any portion of South America. The European countries already mentioned are favored in the development of their trade by numerous first-class mail, express and passenger steamers, which connect their leading ports with those of South America, and even with Mexico and Central America, within the very limits of our own front yard, as it were. What a sad and depressing acknowledgment it is for us enterprising North Americans that there is not one single fast-mail steamer flying the American flag and running between the chief ports of the United States and those of South America proper. I am not making any argument for subsidy, but simply stating a fact.

SURPRISING FACTS AND FIGURES OF TRADE.

Before we go any further let us consider carefully some remarkable and convincing figures which show beyond any question or doubt the

^a In deference to the demand for the information therein contained, the accompanying article prepared by Mr. JOHN BARRERT, Director of the International Bureau of the American Republics, is reprinted from "The World To-Day" for April, 1908.

value of the Latin-American commercial opportunity. The average manufacturer, merchant, and farmer of the United States has been so occupied on the one hand with home trade conditions, or, on the other, with the possibilities of commercial expansion in Europe and Asia, that he has almost overlooked the prosperous, progressive, and wealthy countries in our neighborhood to the south of us. He has not comprehended the essential truth that on the Western Hemisphere, aside from the United States, there are other great nations which have remarkable resources, and which are making unusual progress. "He has assumed too readily that the United States was the "whole thing," and that what was not going on in this country was hardly worthy of respect. Now he must rub his eyes and wake to see Latin America forge ahead, appreciated by the rest of the world while the average North American has been asleep.

He who has not familiarized himself with Latin America does not stop to think that it conducted one-third of the total foreign commerce of the 21 republics of the Western Hemisphere, including the United States, during the year of 1906. It is hard for him to believe that these lands to the south of us bought from and sold to the rest of the world products valued at \$2,000,000,000, and that of this there was a balance of trade in favor of Latin America amounting to approximately \$228,000,000.

For comprehensive and reliable discussion I have taken the average foreign trade of Latin America, covering Mexico, Central and South America, and the West Indies, for the last two or three years, and have drawn the following conclusions:

LATIN-AMERICAN EXPORTS AND IMPORTS ANALYZED.

The total exports and imports of Latin America amount annually to \$2,052,355,000; of this great sum, Latin America exports \$1,140,260,000, and imports \$912,095,000, giving, as indicated above, a remarkable balance of trade in its favor.

Noting next what is the average share of the United States in this total with all Latin America, we find it to be \$519,202,700, which, subdivided, gives exports to the United States as \$296,932,200, and imports from the United States \$222,270,500, or a balance of trade in favor of Latin America and against the United States of approximately \$74,000,000.

It is interesting to notice the character and the amount of exports and imports between the United States and Latin America that run above the million mark:

The United States exported to Latin America during the year 1907:

Agricultural implements, about.....	\$5,000,000
Locomotives and cars, about.....	11,000,000
Electric and scientific instruments.....	4,500,000
Steel rails.....	4,000,000

Steel wire.....	\$4,500,000
Steel tools.....	4,000,000
Sewing machines.....	2,500,000
Pipes and fittings.....	3,500,000
Copper (ores and bars).....	1,500,000
Wheat.....	2,000,000
Wheat flour.....	13,500,000
Cotton, cloth, wearing apparel, etc.....	7,250,000
Twine (manufactured fiber).....	2,000,000
Leather, with boots and shoes.....	3,000,000
Lard.....	7,000,000
Oil: Crude, illuminating, lubricating.....	10,750,000
Vegetable oils and paraffin.....	3,750,000
Timber.....	2,500,000
Lumber.....	15,500,000
Furniture.....	3,000,000

The United States imported from Latin America during 1907, of—

Cocoa (cacao).....	\$7,000,000
Coffee.....	70,000,000
Copper.....	20,000,000
Bananas and fruits.....	12,000,000
Furs and hides.....	15,000,000
Rubber.....	33,000,000
Iron.....	2,500,000
Lead.....	3,000,000
Sugar.....	70,000,000
Tobacco and cigars.....	16,000,000
Woods.....	11,500,000
Wool.....	6,000,000

Other articles, such as typewriters, and various grades of manufactured goods, show high figures, but they do not touch the million mark.

These figures for all Latin America are more encouraging than for the subdivision of South America proper, which comprises the ten Republics of Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay, Paraguay, Chile, Bolivia, Peru, Ecuador, Colombia, Venezuela, and the British, Dutch, and French Guianas. Let us see what there is here unsatisfactory to the United States.

South America proper conducted an average foreign trade amounting to \$1,513,415,000, of which the share of the United States in 1907 was only \$233,293,300, including both exports and imports, barely one-seventh. Analyzing further these figures for the United States, we discover that South America sold to us products to the value of \$147,680,000 and bought from us only \$85,612,400. This gives a balance against us of practically \$60,000,000.

Another comparison shows how far behind we are in the race with the rest of the world. South America purchased from other nations products valued at \$660,930,000, of which the United States furnished \$85,612,400, or barely one-eighth, and yet the more we study the

South American field the more we appreciate that the United States could supply the greater portion of its imports. Correspondingly, we do not give South America as great a market for her products as we ought, for, of her total exports, amounting to \$852,485,000, the United States purchased only \$147,680,900, or approximately one-sixth.

ENCOURAGING FEATURES OF THE SITUATION.

Having given these average figures covering a period of several years, I now desire to point out through additional figures another feature of the situation which is most encouraging, and which should inspire our manufacturers and exporters to take advantage of the Latin-American commercial opportunity. With the aid of the Bureau of Statistics of the Department of Commerce and Labor, the International Bureau of the American Republics has worked out the following totals showing the growth of the trade of the United States with her sister Republics:

The entire commerce, exports and imports, between the United States and the countries to the south of her, amounted in 1897, ten years ago, to \$252,427,798. Three years later, in 1900, this had grown to \$324,680,368. Five years more, in 1905, it had expanded to \$517,477,368; while two years later, 1907, we are gratified to note that it has reached the splendid total of \$587,194,945. It is thus seen that in ten years our trade with Latin America has increased by the vast sum of \$335,000,000, or has more than doubled. Certainly this is a record of which our country can be proud, and yet it is only a beginning of possibilities.

Inasmuch as the total foreign commerce of Latin America for 1907 was over \$2,000,000,000, it can be seen that the United States is far from having her share. The great point is that if the United States under present conditions, and with the present lack of interest, can conduct a trade with Latin America of nearly \$600,000,000 per annum, it is sure to do a business of \$1,000,000,000 in the near future, after our manufacturing and agricultural interests fully realize the value of the opportunity and put forth their best energies to control it.

THE GREATNESS OF THE LATIN-AMERICAN OPPORTUNITY.

Having taken up these measurements of commerce and trade, it is logical that we should consider some descriptive facts which shall prove to everybody the greatness and importance of the Latin-American countries. There is not space in a brief article like this to describe carefully what has been done by Mexico, Central America, Cuba, Haiti, and Santo Domingo, which border on the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean Sea, and therefore particular attention will be given only to South America proper. In passing, however, we should bear in mind that over \$800,000,000 of American capital has been invested

in Mexico, and that last year that country conducted a trade with the United States valued at nearly \$125,000,000, of which \$67,000,000 represented imports from the United States.

Central America, comprising Guatemala, Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Costa Rica, is entering upon a new era of prosperity and progress as a result of the treaties and conventions signed at the Central American Peace Conference recently held in Washington. If these international agreements are approved by all these countries, there is no reason why they should not have a growth and development like that of Mexico, because they possess a remarkable variety of resources and a favorable climate in most sections. In 1906 Central America conducted a foreign trade valued at over \$56,000,000, of which the imports from the United States amounted to nearly \$30,000,000.

The republics and islands of the West Indies are forging ahead, and last year boasted of a foreign trade amounting to \$184,000,000, of which \$73,000,000 were imports by these islands from the United States.

Coming, then, to South America proper, and noting some salient facts, we are impressed first with Colombia, the nearest to the United States of the South American republics, having an area as large as Germany and France put together, and entering upon an era of rapid progress as the result of the enlightened administration of Gen. RAFAEL REYES. Having traveled extensively over the interior of Colombia, I can vouch for its richness. As soon as it is opened up by railroads and by improved navigation of its rivers, it should have a development not unlike that of Mexico.

Venezuela greatly resembles Colombia, with an unusual mingling of rich plateaus and river valleys, which offer an inviting field of legitimate exploitation. The mighty valley of the Orinoco alone is a section in which millions and millions of capital may be safely invested.

The British, Dutch, and French Guianas have only been barely touched by the hand of capital, and yet they will soon experience a progress surpassing any past development.

BRAZIL'S VAST AREAS AND POSSIBILITIES.

Brazil is indeed an interesting subject to discuss. It is so large, so resourceful, and so vast in potentialities that it is difficult to confine oneself to conservative language. When we remember that the entire connected area of the United States could be placed inside the limits of Brazil and that there would still be room for the German Empire; that out of the Amazon River flows every day three times as much water as from the Mississippi; that Rio de Janeiro, its capital, is already a city of 900,000 inhabitants and growing with rapidity; that the Government and people of Brazil gave our battle-ship fleet a

more magnificent welcome than was ever given to a visiting fleet from a foreign nation in the history of the world, then we shall have before us some facts that show how worthy of our special attention is this great Republic of South America.

All over Brazil there is evidence of the new era of material progress. Railroads are being built into the interior, rivers and harbors are being improved, the cities are being modernized, the school systems are being elaborated, and the native richness of the soil and forests is being exploited, with the result that a large amount of European and American capital is being invested there, with absolute surety of good returns. In no country of South America has the manufacturer and exporter a better chance to build up his trade than in Brazil. To-day the balance of commerce exchanged is greatly against us. Brazil buys from the United States only about one-fifth in value of what she sells there. This country is Brazil's chief market for coffee, but our merchants have made so little effort to supply what Brazil demands from foreign countries that Europe practically controls the import situation.

Uruguay, just below Brazil, and Paraguay, between Brazil and Argentina, are small in area but rich in agricultural possibilities. The city of Montevideo, the capital of Uruguay, has a population of 300,000 and is an important port at the mouth of the Rio Plata. The peoples of both countries are enterprising and progressive and believe that their nations will see remarkable progress during the next decade. Montevideo is spending nearly \$10,000,000 in the improvement of its harbor facilities, while Asuncion, the capital of Paraguay, is looking forward to the improvement of the River Parana and to the extension of the railroad system, so that it will be in communication on the one hand with Argentina and Uruguay, and on the other with Brazil.

In this connection, it must be remembered that southern Brazil, Uruguay, Paraguay, all of Argentina and Chile are practically in the South Temperate Zone, and possess climatic conditions not unlike those of the United States far north of the Equator. Such a location means much for their future development as the homes of ambitious peoples.

ARGENTINA A WONDERLAND OF MATERIAL PROGRESS.

Argentina is a country of peculiar interest. It has gone ahead with such rapidity during the last ten years that it is difficult to predict what another decade will show. It has such a large area suitable for the growth of products which are needed in Europe that it is always sure to have an enormous foreign trade. With a present population of nearly 6,000,000 people, it conducted in 1907 a foreign commerce valued at nearly \$600,000,000, a total greater than that of



ELIHU ROOT, SECRETARY OF STATE OF THE UNITED STATES, AND CHAIRMAN EX OFFICIO
OF THE BUREAU GOVERNING BOARD.

(Copyright photo. Harris-Ewing.)

MR. ELIHU ROOT, SECRETARIO DE ESTADO DE LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS Y PRESIDENTE
EX OFFICIO DEL CONSEJO DIRECTIVO DE LA OFICINA.

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Japan or of China. This gives an average of nearly \$100 a head, which is larger than that of any other important country in the world.

Argentina is gridironed with a system of railroads which enables one to cross the continent from Buenos Aires to Santiago in less than forty-eight hours, including a short trip by coach over the top of the Andes, and to go in a Pullman train from the borders of Bolivia on the north into the heart of Patagonia on the south.

Buenos Aires, its capital, is one of the wonderful cities of the world. It has a population of nearly 1,200,000, and is growing more rapidly than any city in the United States with the exception of New York. It has a finer system of docks and wharves, a more costly and beautiful opera house, a larger club, and a more extensive newspaper plant than any city of our own progressive land. It is about to build an intricate system of underground railways, and it is made beautiful by numerous boulevards, parks, and squares. The commerce of all Argentina centers in Buenos Aires, and it is not an uncommon thing to see scores and scores of merchant vessels, flying the flag of every important country except the United States, loading and unloading along its water front. The people are decidedly progressive, and represent a new race, inasmuch as they are a combination of Spanish and Italian, with a sprinkling of English and German blood, and they are developing a class of men and women who insure the future strength and quality of the country.

CHILE AND THE WEST COAST OF SOUTH AMERICA.

The size and importance of Chile can be best appreciated by remembering, first, that it runs up and down the west coast of South America in the Temperate Zone just as our own west coast borders on the Pacific Ocean, and, second, that if the southern end of Chile were placed at San Diego, the southern end of California, the northern line of Chile would be located in the middle of Alaska. In other words, it extends north 2,600 miles from the Straits of Magellan to the Peruvian border, while its average width is that of California with a corresponding variety of climate and products. Its capital city, Santiago, has a population of 400,000, and is classed as one of the most attractive cities of the southern continent. At its principal port, Valparaiso, the Chilean Government is preparing to spend \$10,000,000 for harbor and dockage facilities, thus making it the most complete port on the Pacific Ocean.

Although Chile is well provided with railroads, the Government is now at work on a scheme for a longitudinal road to run the entire length of the country, and to connect the capital with every section. The enormous wealth of the nitrate fields of Chile brings to the country a vast revenue which makes it almost independent of other sources for the maintenance of the Government. Chile is anxious for the com-

pletion of the Panama Canal so that it can get into closer touch with the United States. When that waterway is completed, it should be possible to go from New York to Valparaiso easily in fifteen days, while now it takes on an average of thirty days. The foreign commerce of Chile last year amounted to \$180,000,000.

BOLIVIA, PERU, AND ECUADOR.

Although Bolivia has no seacoast, it covers an immense territory, in which could be placed the State of Texas twice over and still leave room for Arkansas and Kansas. A large portion of it is located at a high altitude so that it has favorable climatic conditions. It possesses a remarkable variety of mineral and agricultural riches, and is entering now upon a period of real progress. An American syndicate is building a system of railroads upon which will be expended more than \$100,000,000. Its interesting capital, La Paz, can be reached by a combination journey of rail and water up from the Pacific Ocean and across Lake Titicaca, the most elevated and navigable body of water in the world. The value of the foreign trade of Bolivia is approximately \$33,500,000, but it is growing with rapidity and bids fair to double itself in the near future.

North of Bolivia extends Peru over an area in which could be placed all of the Atlantic coast States from Maine to Georgia. It has a mingling of low country along the Pacific and again in the upper valleys of the Amazon, so that, with the great plateaus and mountainous districts of the Andes, Peru possesses a wide variety of climate, products, and resources. Many millions of American capital have already been invested there in the development of its mines.

Lima, the capital city of Peru, is one of the oldest and most aristocratic capitals of Latin America. Here was established a university one hundred years before Harvard was founded. Here was the seat of one of the Spanish vice-royalties in the days of the old régime. To-day it is a prosperous, busy, and well-built metropolis. The port of Lima is Callao, only a few miles away, where the American fleet under Admiral Evans made its fourth stop in its journey around South America. It has an excellent harbor, and through it passes the greater part of the foreign trade of Peru, amounting to \$49,150,000.

Ecuador, in which the State of Illinois could be placed many times, is rejoicing now in the prospect of the early completion of the railroad which connects its principal port, Guayaquil, on the coast, with the famous old capital of the republic, Quito, a city of about 80,000 people, located at an elevation of 10,000 feet above sea-level, upon the plateaus of the Andes. When this road with its branches is completed, the interior of Ecuador will experience a development that will add much to the wealth of the country.

In 1909 Ecuador will hold an exposition to celebrate the one hundredth anniversary of the declaration of independence from Spain,

and it is expected that there will be a great display of the natural resources and products of the country, which will be sure to attract universal attention and prove the value of this region as a field for the investment of foreign capital. The United States has been invited to participate, and President Roosevelt has recommended to Congress that an appropriation be voted for a building and exhibit.

A VISIT TO SOUTH AMERICA RECOMMENDED.

While what I have written about these countries may awaken interest among those who have paid no attention to South America, I am prompted to advise strongly that every person who has the time and money should make a visit to the principal countries and cities of South America and see with his own eyes the possibilities of that part of the world. The average American business man when he wants a vacation goes to Europe; some few go to the Far East, but practically no one proceeds to South America. If the conditions could be changed, and travel to the southern continent popularized, the beneficial effects upon the development of our commerce would soon be evident.

This prepares the way for pointing out the vital importance of improving our shipping facilities with South America. In contrast to the possibility of reaching the chief cities of Brazil, Argentina, Chile, and other countries by fast and commodious steamers running from Europe in considerable numbers, is the fact that there is not one first-class mail, express, and passenger steamer flying the American flag and running between any one of the ports of the United States and those of South America below the equator. It is most depressing for a citizen of the United States to make the grand tour of these southern cities and see nowhere the Stars and Stripes unless it be floating from an occasional man-of-war or pleasure yacht. Perhaps he may run across a sailing vessel with the United States flag, but even these are few in number compared to what they were in the olden days.

I give here suggestions about travel to Latin America, because I wish to show to business men, investigators, and others how such a trip can be made.

To reach Brazil, Argentina and Uruguay, one of several lines of semicargo but comfortable steamers may be taken from New York, the journey to Rio consuming eighteen days, and to Montevideo and Buenos Aires, on the through steamers, four to seven days longer. For Asuncion, the capital of Paraguay, there are numerous first-class steamers up the River Parana from Buenos Aires. A more popular and fashionable route is to go first to Europe, where, at Southampton and Havre, English, French, and German steamers of the most modern and luxurious type provide accommodation for pas-

sengers to Rio in sixteen days and to Montevideo and Buenos Aires in four to six days more.

To reach Venezuela, there are two lines of steamers from New York; the journey to La Guayra taking six to seven days direct, or twelve days indirect service.

The Caribbean ports of Colombia, Cartagena and Baranquilla are visited by steamers from New York, which stop also at Colon on the Isthmus of Panama and at Kingston in Jamaica.

All Pacific ports are reached from Panama after crossing the Isthmus from Colon, or by taking a steamer from San Francisco which touches all intermediate points between San Francisco and Panama. Panama is the northern terminus of the steamers touching the Pacific ports of Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, and Chile.

Steamers can be taken in New York to reach Costa Rica, Nicaragua, and, since the opening of the railway from Puerto Barrios, even Guatemala. For Salvador, Honduras, and the west coast of Guatemala and Nicaragua, the steamers from San Francisco or Panama are the more available.

NEED OF FIRST-CLASS STEAMSHIP FACILITIES.

The commerce of the United States with South America proper has already been shown to be only \$233,000,000 out of the total foreign trade of these countries amounting to \$1,500,000,000. That this condition is coincident with the lack of first-class steamship facilities is at least a justifiable conclusion, if it is not entire proof that one is responsible for the other. Despite the fact that there are a large number of freight vessels, all of them flying foreign flags, running between the chief ports of the United States and those of South America, it is just as necessary for us to have fast mail, express, and passenger steamers on the high seas to conduct commerce, to carry letters, and to take care of passenger traffic and express freight requiring early delivery, as it is to have the corresponding kind of railroad trains upon land.

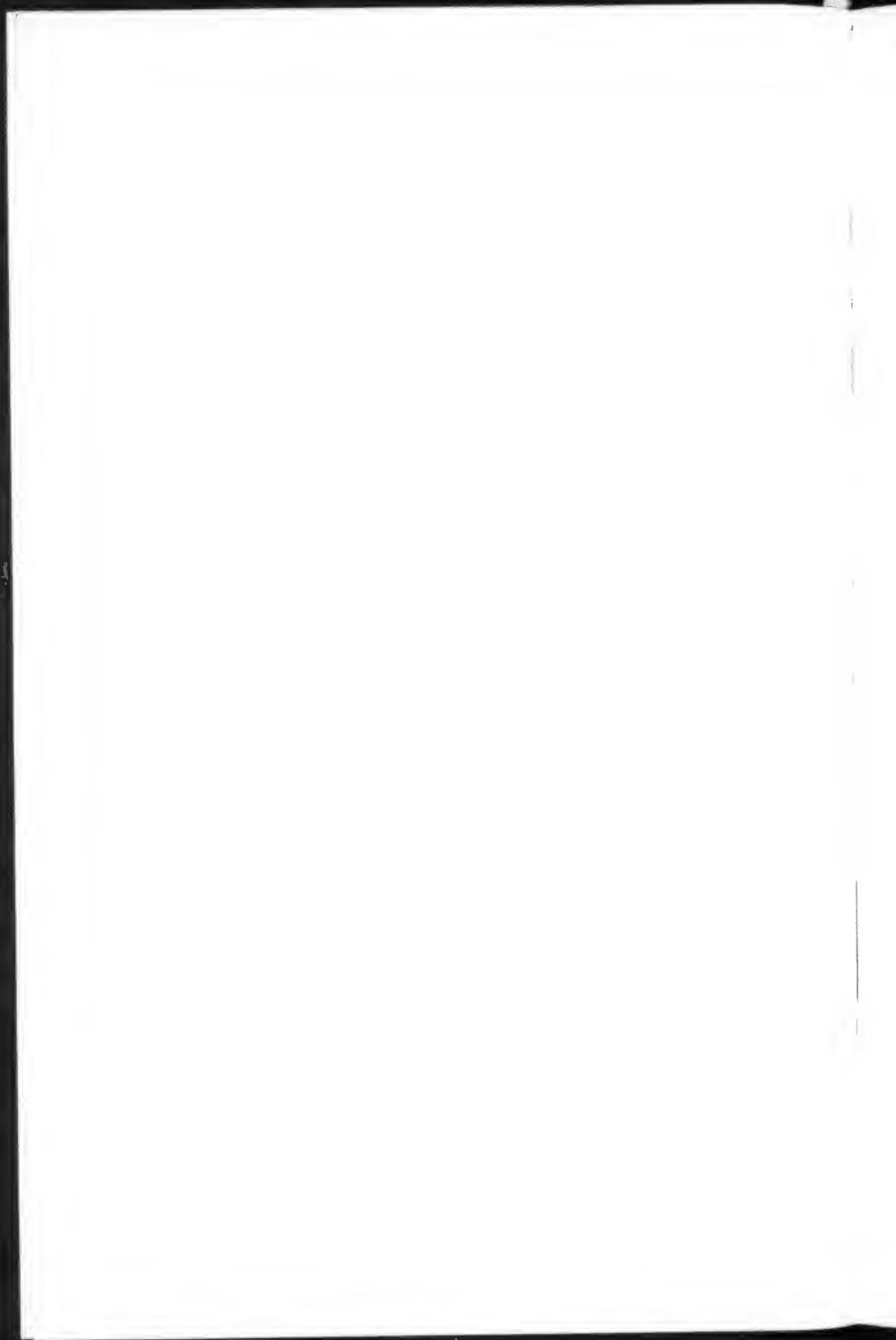
Can anyone imagine Chicago holding its present position if it were reached only by freight trains? The fast mail, express, and passenger railroad service is an absolute, if not the principal, essential to the development of the exchange of trade. It is folly, therefore, to expect that the United States can ever hold an important position in the commerce of South America unless the facilities for going back and forth, and for mail communication, are improved.

There could be no better evidence of the unfortunate state of affairs than the fact that more business men from the progressive Republic of Argentina left Buenos Aires in one week, aboard the fast and elegant European steamers, either to visit Europe on business or to enjoy travel, than proceeded to the United States in a whole year on



JOAQUIM NABUCO, BRAZILIAN AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED STATES AND PRESIDENT OF
THE THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE.

JOAQUIM NABUCO, EMBAJADOR DEL BRASIL EN LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS Y PRESIDENTE DE
LA TERCERA CONFERENCIA INTERNACIONAL DE REPUBLICAS AMERICANAS.



the slow-going vessels that connect Buenos Aires with New York. The records of Rio de Janeiro, the great capital of Brazil, show that the European boats in one week carried away more Brazilians to Europe than all the vessels running to the United States in a whole year.

The solution of this problem is not in a so-called "subsidy," which is an unfortunate term and often misleading. The whole question boils itself down into the necessity of paying a good wage for work well done. That is, the United States Government must be ready to pay steamship companies flying the American flag such a reasonable sum for carrying the mails on vessels of, say, seventeen knots' speed and first-class passenger accommodations, that they can deliver mails and passengers in competition with the vessels of Europe, and so provide the same kind of facilities on sea that we get from the mail trains on land throughout the United States, and to which the United States Government pays a regular sum for the quality of service rendered.

THE INTERNATIONAL BUREAU OF THE AMERICAN REPUBLICS.

In conclusion, advantage is taken of this opportunity to call the attention of business men to the International Bureau of the American Republics. This institution was founded eighteen years ago at the first Pan-American Conference for the purpose of disseminating information throughout the different American Republics concerning mutual progress and development. As a result of the third Pan-American Conference held at Rio de Janeiro and through the efforts of Secretary Roor, who has done more than any other man in the history of American diplomacy to advance the prestige and influence of the United States in Latin America, it has been reorganized and enlarged so that it may become a world-recognized and practical agency for the development of Pan-American commerce and comity. It is intended to be not only a bureau of information, supplying all varieties of data regarding different American countries to manufacturers, educators, travelers, students, etc., but the means through which all the resolutions of the different Pan-American Conferences shall be put into force.

Everything possible is done by the Bureau to bring about better relations and more intimate acquaintance and intercourse among all the nations of the western hemisphere. It publishes a *MONTHLY BULLETIN* which is a careful record of the commercial and business conditions of all the Republics, and distributes a large number of publications descriptive of the American republics, their conditions, resources, and potentialities. Connected with it is the Columbus Memorial Library, which is the largest single collection in the United States of books relating to the history, progress and present status of all the countries under discussion.

Through the beneficence of Mr. ANDREW CARNEGIE and the contributions of the different governments, the International Bureau is shortly to be housed in a magnificent new building which will cost approximately \$750,000, and provide in Washington a temple of friendship and commerce which will be, in a sense, a meeting place for all the American republics.

The Bureau is supported by the joint contributions of the 21 American republics, and its affairs are controlled by a Governing Board composed of the diplomatic representatives in Washington of 21 republics, with the Secretary of State of the United States as Chairman ex-officio. Its chief executive officer is the Director, who is chosen by this Governing Board. He, in turn, is assisted by the Secretary of the Bureau and other officials and experts.

In the event that any one desires information, he may address the Director, Pan-American Bureau (as it is commonly described), 2 Jackson Place, Washington, D. C. It will be a special pleasure to consider carefully any inquiries regarding Latin America which may come from the large and representative constituency of "The World To-Day."

In order that this article may be complete, and the scope and importance of this institution thoroughly understood, I desire to quote from the resolutions passed at the last Pan-American Conference held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, during 1906, and made memorable by the presence of Secretary Root. They read:

The Third International Pan-American Conference resolves to continue the International Union of the American Republics created by the first conference and confirmed by the second.

The purposes of the International Bureau of the American Republics, which represent said Union, are the following:

1. To compile and distribute commercial information and prepare commercial reports.
2. To compile and classify information respecting the treaties and conventions between the American Republics and between the latter and non-American States.
3. To supply information on educational matters.
4. To prepare reports on questions assigned to it by Resolutions of the International American Conferences.
5. To carry into effect all resolutions the execution of which may have been assigned or may hereafter be assigned to it by the International American Conferences.
6. To act as a permanent committee of the International American Conferences, recommending topics to be included in the programme of the next conference; these plans must be communicated to the various governments forming the Union at least six months before the meeting of the next conference.
7. To submit within the same period a report to the various governments on the work of the Bureau during the term covered since the meeting of the last conference, and also special reports on any matter which may have been referred to it for report.

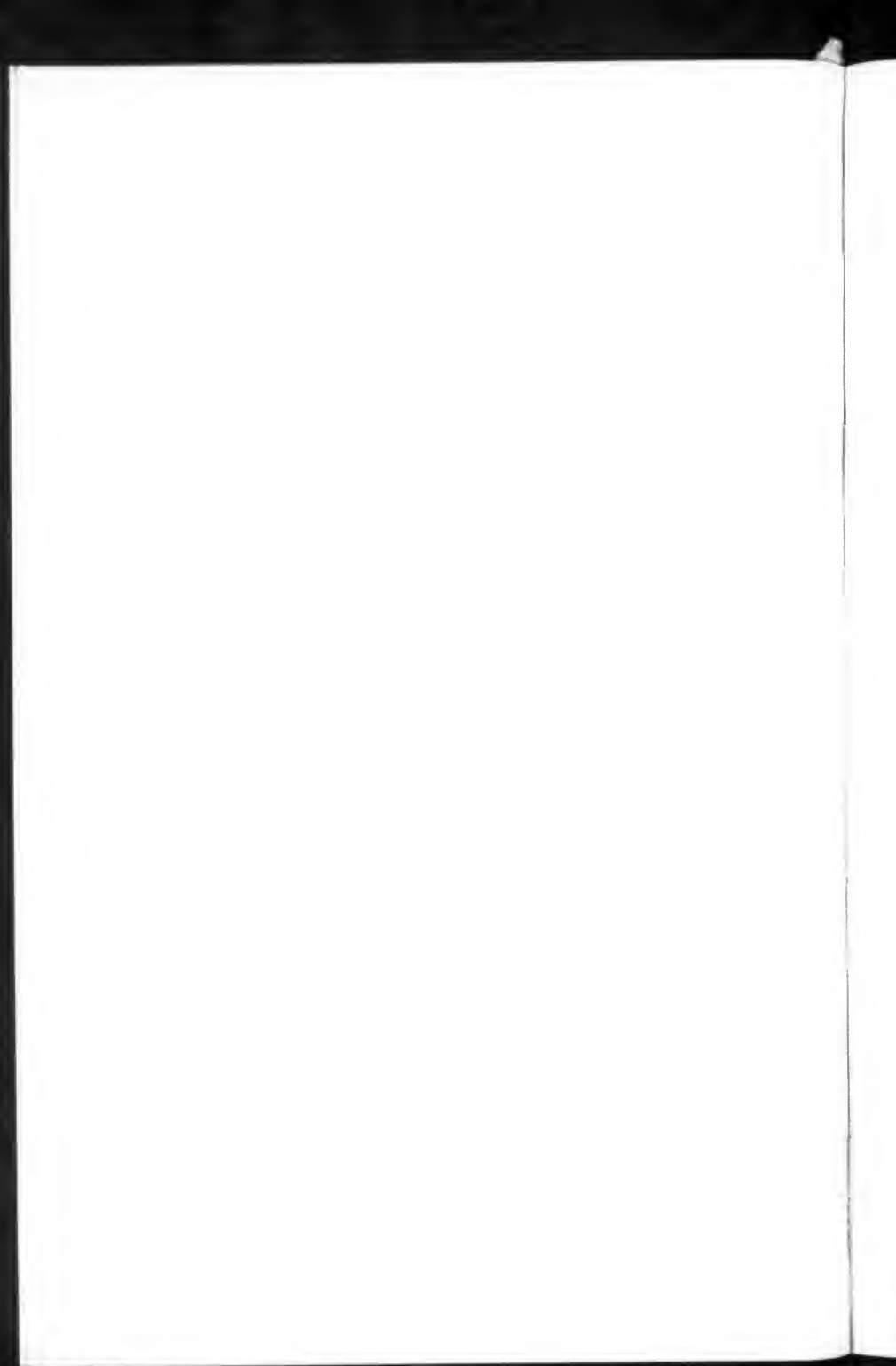
But this is not all by any means. In a report on the Bureau recently prepared I say:

Further resolutions, which placed new responsibilities on the Bureau, provided that steps should be taken for housing the institution "in such a way as shall properly



JOHN BARRETT, DIRECTOR OF THE INTERNATIONAL BUREAU AND FORMER MINISTER TO SIAM, THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC, PANAMA, AND COLOMBIA.

MR. JOHN BARRETT, DIRECTOR DE LA OFICINA INTERNACIONAL, Y MINISTRO QUE FUE DE LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS EN SIAM, LA REPUBLICA ARGENTINA, PANAMÁ, Y COLOMBIA.



permit it to fulfill the important functions assigned to it by this conference;" that a committee should be appointed in each Republic to assist the Bureau in carrying out its work; that there should be established, as subordinate to it, a special section for commercial statistics; that the Bureau should elaborate the project for providing better steamship facilities between the principal ports of the American Republics for the purpose of facilitating trade, travel, commerce, and general communication; that it should investigate the question of the Inter-Continental Railway and confer with the different governments with a view to determining as soon as possible what concessions of land, subventions, interest guaranties, exemptions or duty on material for construction and rolling stock, and any other concessions they may deem it advisable to grant in connection therewith; that it should make a study of the monetary systems of the American governments for the purpose of submitting to the next conference a report on the systems in force in each of the governments, the history, fluctuations, and type of exchange which have taken place within the last twenty years, including the preparation of tables showing the influence of said fluctuations on commerce and industrial development; that it should study the laws that regulate public concessions in the various republics of America, with a view to obtaining information that might be useful to it; and that, finally, it should prepare a programme for the Fourth International Conference, which is to be held within the next five years.

A READY AID IN FOREIGN TRADE.^a

Every business man, every professional man, every man interested in our foreign relations should become acquainted with the International Bureau of the American Republics. Its great practical value to the business man, its possibilities for good in the development of both commerce and comity among the American nations, the vast field it represents—these facts bring a realization of its importance.

To understand what the International Bureau can do for business, it is essential to know its history.

Although it has led a dignified and honorable existence for seventeen years and has had excellent and able men at its head, there has never been until now any popular interest in our sister American nations. It required the statesmanship of an ELIHU ROOT and an unprecedented journey on his part all around the South American continent to make the people of the United States realize the vast importance of our relations with the nations to the south of us.

The International Bureau was organized as a result of the first Pan-American Conference held at Washington in 1889-1890. The delegates from Latin America found such ignorance here of the peoples, institutions, and resources of their countries, and, on the other hand, such ignorance on their part of the real characteristics of the United States that the conference authorized the opening of what might be called an international bureau of information. Subsequent conferences enlarged its functions until it bids fair to become one of

^a As explanatory of the practical working of the International Bureau of the American Republics, the accompanying paper written by Mr. BARRETT, Director of the Bureau, is reprinted from "System" for March, 1908.

the most important international institutions of the world. The early directors exerted their best efforts for the welfare of the Bureau, but they labored under the handicap of lack of general interest. Now a new era is dawning and the present director, no more capable than his predecessors, finds a far more sympathetic constituency to aid his programme of reorganization and upbuilding.

THE PECULIAR ORGANIZATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL BUREAU.

The International Bureau of American Republics is indeed unique. It is the only office of its kind in the world. It is the headquarters in the capital of one American nation of 21 American Republics. Its Director is the only international officer of America chosen by the vote of all the American Governments.

The Bureau is not in any sense subordinate to a Department of the United States, as are all the other bureaus of Washington. It is strictly independent and its chief officer is responsible to the 21 diplomatic representatives of the American Governments who constitute its Governing Board and guide its policies. This board has as its Chairman the Secretary of State of the United States, inasmuch as the Bureau is located in Washington and its relations with the United States Government are through the Department of State.

The contributions of all the American Republics, based on population, give it financial support. Although the United States consequently pays more than the other 20 combined, the Minister of the smallest nation in population has a vote in its Governing Board equal to that of the Secretary of State of the United States. It is this feature of equal, mutual interest and authority that keeps up the pride of all Latin America in its work and advancement. The diplomat, business man, or traveler from Central America or distant Argentina and Chile who walks into the Bureau or writes to its staff for information is just as much at home as the corresponding man from the United States. Out of the total 12,000,000 square miles occupied by the American countries, those of Latin America include nearly 9,000,000 against 3,000,000 of the United States proper. Brazil alone exceeds the connected area of the United States by nearly 200,000 square miles. We could put all of the United States, without Alaska, within Brazil and still have room for the major portion of the German Empire. Of the 150,000,000 people living in the American Republics, 65,000,000 reside in the Latin-American countries—certainly enough to be worthy of our close study and of our sincere friendship. That number of millions can also buy a considerable quantity of products of other countries, as further figures will demonstrate.

The total foreign commerce, exports and imports, of the 21 American Republics, including the United States, last year exceeded \$5,000,000,000. Of this huge total, Latin America, too often despised

by our business men, bought and sold products valued at the vast sum of over \$2,000,000,000, or more than one-third. That we are getting a share of this, which proves its value, is admitted when it is shown that our portion of these \$2,000,000,000 was \$600,000,000 for the past year.

This immediately suggests the question to the manufacturer and exporting or importing reader of this article: "Am I getting my part of this?" If the answer is "No," then he should write to the International Bureau of American Republics and find out why not—and how he may!

THE PERSONNEL AND ORGANIZATION OF THE BUREAU.

The source of this information will be the working staff of the Bureau, which is composed of about 25 persons. These are divided into administrative, editorial, translating, statistical, compiling, and service sections.

So far as the business man is concerned, the Bureau stands ready to aid him by giving facts and advice regarding any subject of American commerce.

To supply every kind of information within its scope, the International Bureau depends, first, on its library, known as the Columbus Memorial Library, of some 12,000 volumes, covering every American nation and containing the best individual collection of Americana in the United States; second, on the official reports of all American Governments, which are sent to it in accordance with the resolution of the Pan-American conference; third, on the official gazette and private newspapers, trade journals and similar publications of the different capitals; fourth, on reports of American consular officers, in the form of duplicate copies of the originals sent to the Department of State; fifth, on handbooks and pamphlets, carefully prepared from time to time, describing the resources, progress, conditions, and development of the different countries; and, sixth, on maps and geographic data as prepared by official and private agencies and persons.

All this material is thoroughly classified and can be consulted without delay. The library is open to responsible people from 9.30 a. m. until 4 p. m., every day, and books are loaned for brief periods to those who are properly accredited. If a business man, student, or traveler addresses any inquiry to the Bureau, the qualified members of its staff compile from the data just described the necessary reply; if he calls in person he is immediately placed in touch with the member of the staff who can best assist him and provided with any books, pamphlets, reports, maps, or other matter he should consult.

THE PRACTICAL RESULTS ATTAINED BY THE BUREAU.

One or two illustrations will serve to show the business man how the machinery of the Bureau works in his interest. A manufacturer

of automobiles writes or calls and says that he knows nothing concerning the Latin-American market, but that he is contemplating entering it and wants to ascertain all about it.

The Director or Secretary acknowledges his letter at once, giving some comprehensive ideas and forwarding pamphlets describing general conditions in Latin America, so far that the manufacturer may gain preliminary information on the field he is studying.

Then one of the statistical or trade experts of the Bureau compiles a memorandum showing present imports of automobiles to Latin America, country of origin, conditions of demand and competition, character of roads and streets, freight charges, shipping facilities, tariff or customs rates, methods of payment, climatic effects on material, and any other practical data that would be useful and helpful.

A traveler who has never visited South America wants information. He is immediately provided with handbooks, followed by a memorandum describing steamship and railway lines, cost of transportation, hotels, principal points of interest, kind of money used, clothing required for climate, and time needed for different journeys. The university professor, student, lecturer, or writer seeks the best material for acquiring information on Latin America. He is given a practical list of books to read and maps to secure, with names of publishers and authors.

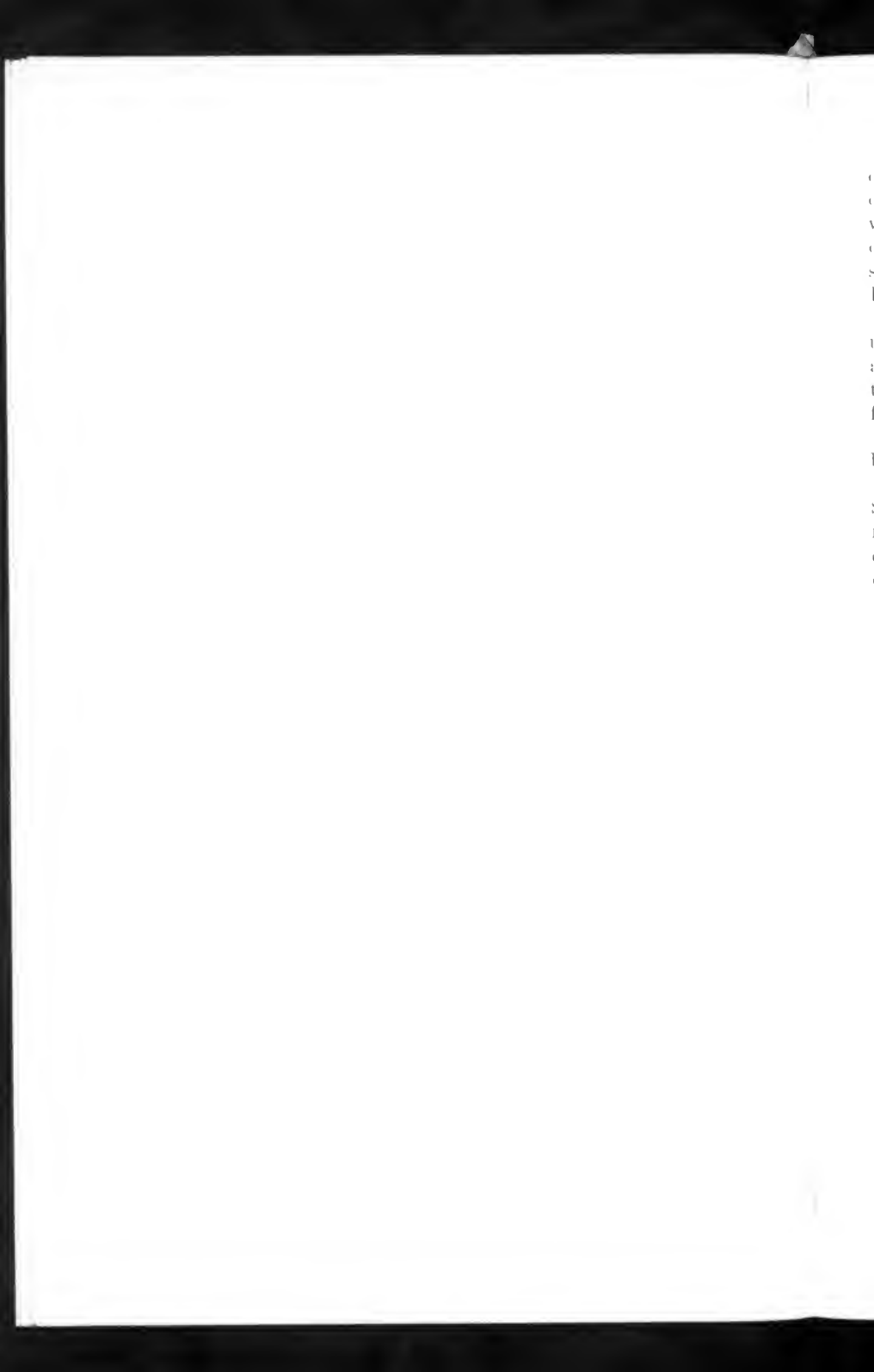
And so I might go on giving examples of the constant and increasing evidences of the good work the Bureau is doing not only along material, commercial, and economic lines, but in educational, social, and intellectual directions. Perhaps it suffices to add here that the correspondence of the Bureau has quadrupled during the last eight months, and the demand for its printed matter has grown in proportion. It now averages nearly 2,000 letters of legitimate inquiry from all parts of the world received and answered each month, together with 15,000 bulletins, handbooks, pamphlets, and circulars distributed for the same period.

The most important connection between the Bureau and the great commercial interests of Pan-America is its "MONTHLY BULLETIN." This is issued in magazine form at the end of each month and contains the latest official data from all the American Republics, covering imports and exports, trade conditions, tariff changes, public improvements and enterprises, industrial opportunities, new laws affecting commerce, immigration, and mining concessions, and other kindred information. Any person or firm can be placed on the regular mailing list to receive this bulletin free by making his request through a United States Senator, Member of Congress, or, if a foreigner, through his diplomatic representative in Washington. It has been found necessary to establish this regulation because (1) the demand is greater than the supply, (2) the appropriations of the United States and



FRANCISCO J. YANES, SECRETARY OF THE GOVERNING BOARD AND OF THE INTERNATIONAL BUREAU.

DON FRANCISCO J. YANES, SECRETARIO DEL CONSEJO DIRECTIVO Y DE LA OFICINA INTERNACIONAL.



other Governments have been inadequate, and (3) free distribution is dependent upon such appropriations. On the other hand, all those who wish the bulletin without going to the trouble of asking the recommendation of a Senator, Congressman, or diplomatic officer can secure it by paying the annual subscription of \$2 in the American Republics or \$2.50 in non-American countries.

Aside from the MONTHLY BULLETIN the Bureau has for sale many useful handbooks, books, and pamphlets, together with others which are sent free upon application. There is a printed list of all publications that will be immediately forwarded to those expressing a desire for it.

In conclusion I desire to point out a few brief, salient facts to the business man:

I. Over 100 manufacturers, exporters, and importers of the United States have decided, during the last eight months, through the recommendations of the International Bureau of American Republics, to enter the Latin-American field. This does not include scores of others of whom we have no tangible record.

II. Correspondingly a large element of Latin-American business men have commenced transactions with the United States, who before knew nothing of the opportunities here.

III. The number of North Americans visiting Latin America and of Latin-Americans visiting North America has been greatly increased by the Bureau.

IV. The study of the Spanish language and of Latin-American history, development, and present conditions has been inaugurated in various North American institutions of learning, which before gave little attention to those subjects, while the number of Latin-American young men coming to attend schools in the United States has been notably augmented.

V. Chambers of commerce, boards of trade, social and literary clubs and circles, in all parts of the United States, have taken steps, under the initiative and with the cooperation of the Bureau, to familiarize their members with Latin America, as they have in the past with Europe and Asia.

VI. The spirit of international friendship and mutual confidence among all the American Republics has been fostered through the closer touch one with another, which the Bureau affords as an institution supported by all and in whose welfare each has an equal interest and responsibility. It must, moreover, not only oversee the acceptance of the resolutions of the last Pan-American Conference, but draw up the programme for the one which will assemble three years later.

VII. As Director, or chief administrative officer, of the Bureau I can honestly say that, while it has many shortcomings and the task

of building it up has only just begun, it is always ready to give what information and assistance it legitimately can for the promotion of Pan-American trade, accord, and intercourse, and it hopes the readers of "System" will avail themselves of its facilities.

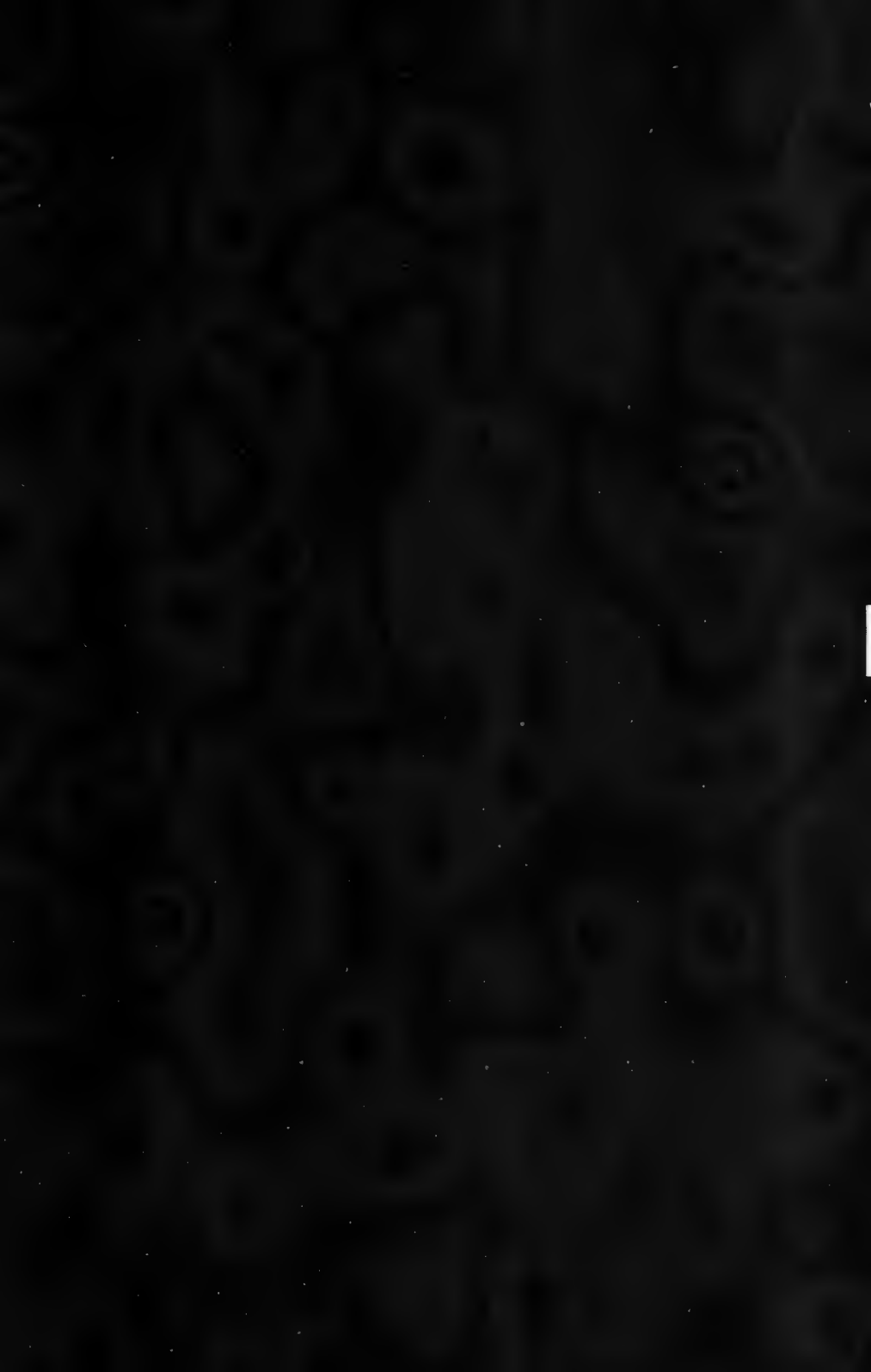
THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE INTERNATIONAL BUREAU OF THE AMERICAN REPUBLICS.

The International Union of the American Republics, of which the International Bureau is the official organ, is an institution of such a peculiar character, its aims are so lofty and its scope is so wide that it could not exist unless under the direction and control of an executive board consisting of men who are the real and true representatives of a noble ideal, a moral force tending to the development of the material and the sentimental ties which must perforce bind together the nations of the American Hemisphere.

The institution now called the International Bureau of the American Republics is the direct and living outcome of the First Pan-American Conference, held in the city of Washington from October, 1889, to April, 1890. This conference created, on the 29th of March, 1890, a "Commercial Bureau of the American Republics" by the unanimous vote of the delegates of the 18 countries of America which responded to the invitation of the United States to meet in conference. The countries represented at the First Pan-American Congress were the following: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, Salvador, United States, Uruguay, and Venezuela. At the time of its creation the Bureau was placed under the direct supervision of the Secretary of State of the United States, who was requested to organize the Bureau, to the support of which all the countries of the Pan-American Union were to contribute every year a certain amount in proportion to their respective population. Pursuant to the provisions of the resolution creating the Union and the Bureau, the latter was organized under the State Department on August 26, 1890.

On April 1, 1896, the diplomatic representatives of the countries of the International Union met again in the city of Washington, upon the call of the Secretary of State, to consider the manner in which the Bureau should be conducted thereafter, and a permanent committee of five members, called the "Executive Committee," was appointed, the Secretary of State being the Chairman *ex-officio*, to supervise and enlarge the institution which was then named "Bureau of the American Republics."

This growing institution, which was the representative in Washington of the first concerted movement in favor of a new commercial



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policy, was again reorganized in 1899 by the members of the Latin-American diplomatic corps and the Secretary of State of the United States, establishing new rules and regulations under which the Bureau continued to exist, always endeavoring to expand into a larger and more useful organization.

The Second Pan-American Conference, which met in the city of Mexico in 1901-2, again reorganized the "International Bureau of the American Republics," as it was then called, further enlarging its scope and placing it under the control of a governing board composed of the diplomatic representatives of all the Governments of the Union accredited to the United States, with the Secretary of State as Chairman *ex-officio*.

New regulations in keeping with the development of the Bureau were again adopted by the Governing Board in 1902, and later, in 1906, at the Third Pan-American or Rio Conference, the work of the Bureau was vastly increased, new duties imposed upon it, a wider field opened to its possibilities, and the institution galvanized into a new life to meet the increasing demands for a steady development of commerce and comity among the nations of the International Union of the American Republics. The resolution on reorganization determines the duties of the Governing Board, which is to hold a regular meeting on the first Wednesday of each month, excepting during June, July, and August. Upon the initiative of the Chairman, or at the request of any two members, special meetings may be called. The attendance of five members at a special or at a regular meeting is sufficient to constitute a quorum. In the absence of the Secretary or the Acting Secretary of State, the senior or ranking member of the Latin-American diplomatic corps shall act as Chairman.

This resolution also provides for the selection by lot from among the members of the Board of a supervisory committee, consisting of four members and the Chairman, who shall also preside over this committee.

At the present moment the supervisory committee is composed of the Ministers of Ecuador, Panama, Peru, and Bolivia, the Minister of Haiti having served his term of office. The other members of the Board will serve their turn on the supervisory committee in the order following, as drawn by lot: Costa Rica, Brazil, Honduras, Cuba, Guatemala, Dominican Republic, Nicaragua, Venezuela, Paraguay, Colombia, Chile, Mexico, Salvador, Uruguay, and Argentina. While the resolution in question determines the term of office of the members of the supervisory committee, a change in the length of service has been thought of, as more expedient than the one now in force. The matter has been referred to the consideration of a special committee, which has not yet reported. The supervisory committee is to hold regular meetings once a month, the presence of three members being

sufficient to proceed with the regular business. The duties of this committee, as its name implies, are a general supervision of the work of the International Bureau, reporting to the Board, in case of need, any suggestions or modifications that they may think expedient for the good of the Bureau.

The immediate supervision and control of the affairs of the Bureau, however, is in charge of the Director, who is appointed by the Governing Board. The secretary of the Governing Board is also Secretary of the Bureau.

The strictly international character of this institution is secured by the constant and active participation of the diplomatic representatives of the countries of the Union in the control, management, and policies of the Bureau. All the republics of the Union, whether their territory or population be large or small, have the same rights, the same duties to perform, and the same share in the success of the International Bureau, which is the official agent of propaganda of each and every one of the free nations of America.

Nothing could show to better advantage the importance that the Pan-American world has attained commercially, politically, and socially than the new duties imposed upon the Bureau. From the day the First International Conference met in the city of Washington to the present time, when the corner stone of the Pan-American "Temple of Peace" is laid with solemn ceremonies, in the presence of the highest dignitaries of the land and the representatives of the Latin-American countries, the Western Hemisphere has made great strides toward the goal which the International Union has ever since its creation striven to reach—a closer intercourse among the countries of America, a unity of purpose in forging ahead and the attainment of the ideal policy of which the Chairman of the Governing Board is the champion, the noble policy of a better understanding.

For the first time in the history of the organization, the MONTHLY BULLETIN, the recognized organ of the Bureau, publishes a picture of the Governing Board and officials of the International Bureau. This has a twofold purpose—to commemorate in a fitting manner the great event of the laying of the corner stone of the new and true home of the Bureau, and to make the readers of the BULLETIN all over this hemisphere and in the Old World better acquainted with the men who represent all America in Washington and take pride and interest in the success of the International Union.

With the exception of Paraguay, which at the present moment has no diplomatic representative in Washington, all of the countries present at the First Pan-American Conference, the Dominican Republic, which came later into the Union, and lastly the young Republics of Cuba and Panama, are represented in the Governing Board of the International Bureau.

As already stated, the Chairman of the Governing Board is the Secretary of State of the United States. While his name is to-day a household word in the countries of the Union, where the greatest welcome ever given to a public man has been extended to him, it is a pleasant duty to mention **ELIHU ROOR**, as the Chairman of the Governing Board, the true friend of the International Union. His public career has been a remarkable one, embracing positions of great trust, where his calm judicial mind and his quick comprehension of the most difficult situations and intricate problems have served him in good stead. Since 1867, when he graduated at the University Law School of New York, Mr. Roor has received the degree of doctor of laws from six universities in the United States and from the University of Buenos Aires and that of San Marcos, in Lima, Peru, in 1906, during his memorable trip to South America, at the time of the meeting of the Third Pan-American Conference in Rio de Janeiro. During the **MCKINLEY** Administration, Mr. Roor was twice Secretary of War, and has been Secretary of State of the United States since July, 1905.

Next, in order of precedence, because of the ambassadorial rank of the mission, comes Brazil, represented by one of the ablest diplomats and scholars the country has ever produced, Mr. **JOAQUIM NABUCCO**. The Ambassador of Brazil, while a member of the Brazilian parliament during the Empire took a most active and successful part in the movement for the abolition of slavery. The services he has rendered his country as a diplomat and a statesman have been rewarded by Brazil by his appointment as the first Ambassador the country has ever had. Ambassador **NABUCCO** was Vice-Chairman of the Committee on Programme and later President of the Third Pan-American Conference. As a writer, Mr. **NABUCCO**'s works are highly appreciated by scholars and literary men, because of his versatility and the profound philosophy of his conceptions.

Mexico is also represented in the Governing Board of the Bureau by an Ambassador, Mr. **ENRIQUE C. CREEL**, now absent from Washington in his country, where he is filling the position of Governor of the State of Chihuahua. Mr. **CREEL**'s public career in Mexico has been varied, his services in Congress and knowledge of economic and financial matters having gained for him a place among the foremost Mexican statesmen. He has shown his broad and generous views toward the brotherhood of the American nations by the creation of the "Central American Fraternity," an association for peace, progress, and the welfare of the Central American Republics, specifically, but from which all Latin countries of the hemisphere will derive some benefit.

In the absence of Ambassador **CREEL**, the Mexican Minister to Cuba, Mr. **JOSÉ F. GODOY**, is acting as *Chargé d'Affaires ad interim*. Mr. **GODOY**'s services to Mexico in a consular and diplomatic capacity

not only in the United States but in Central America and in Cuba have been long and meritorious. Mr. GODOY is a lawyer, having made a specialty of international law, and is a man of scholarly attainments. He was secretary of the Second Pan-American Conference, held in Mexico City in 1902.

The other countries of the International Union are represented in Washington by legations. Alphabetically, the first in the list is the Argentine Republic, represented by Mr. ÉPIFANIO PORTELA, a statesman of renown, who has served his country in a diplomatic capacity, both in Europe and in South America, before coming to the United States. He served as a member of the Argentine Federal Congress for six years and has filled many other important public offices. As a writer on political topics, Mr. PORTELA has made a name for himself, editing several of the Buenos Aires prominent dailies. He was a member of the Committee on Programme for the Third Pan-American Conference, one of the delegates from Argentina to that congress, and a member of the Committee on the Reorganization of the Bureau.

Bolivia follows next in order. Mr. IGNACIO CALDERÓN, her diplomatic representative in the United States for several years, has served his country with a true patriotic spirit, either as a promoter of public education or in a consular and diplomatic capacity. Mr. CALDERÓN is considered one of the best authorities in financial matters Bolivia has ever had, having filled among other positions of trust that of Secretary of the Bolivian Treasury. He has always shown great interest in all the affairs of the Bureau and at the time of the Third Pan-American Conference was one of the members of the Committee on Regulations, and at the present moment is one of the supervisory committee.

Chile is represented on the Governing Board by Mr. ANIBAL CRUZ, a lawyer of prominence and a recognized authority on international law. Mr. CRUZ has always served with zeal the interests of his country in the several public offices he has held. He is not a stranger to Washington, as he has already served Chile in the United States as Secretary of Legation and Chargé d'Affaires, and as the Chilean representative on the United States-Chilean Claim Commission, where he distinguished himself as an international lawyer. He has also been professor of administrative law in the University of Santiago, Secretary of War, and twice a member of Congress.

The Colombian representative is Mr. ENRIQUE CORRÉS, a diplomatist and a scholar of renown. Mr. CORRÉS has been the foremost advocate of public education in Colombia, and it was due to his efforts while Supervisor of Public Instruction that his branch of the service developed to the extent of bringing foreign teachers into the country in order to establish modern methods and to spread public instruction. Mr. CORRÉS has also filled the office of Secretary of

State, or Minister of Foreign Relations in Bogotá. His diplomatic career began with his appointment to Washington as Secretary of Legation several years ago.

Costa Rica's representative, Mr. JOAQUIN BERNARDO CALVO, has been a constant and faithful friend of the Bureau and of the International Union ever since its creation by the First Pan-American Congress, where Mr. CALVO served in the capacity of secretary to the Costa Rican delegation. At the second Pan-American Conference he represented Costa Rica and was a member of the Committee on the Reorganization of the Bureau and also a member of the Committee on Programme of the Third Pan-American Conference. Mr. CALVO's career as a diplomat and a public writer has been long and useful, not only to his own country, but also to the interests of the Pan-American Union and progress.

Cuba's representative on the Governing Board is Mr. GONZALO DE QUESADA, a lawyer, orator, and writer of note. Mr. QUESADA has also been identified with the Pan-American movement since the First International Conference, with which he was connected in his capacity of secretary to Mr. SAEZ PEÑA, one of the Delegates from Argentina. At the time of the Third Pan-American Conference he was the Secretary of the Committee on Programme, and a member of the Cuban delegation to Rio, where he served as chairman of the Committee on Reorganization of the International Bureau, having always shown great interest in its progress. Mr. QUESADA has held most important offices in the service of his country, which he represented at the last Hague conference.

The Dominican Republic is represented on the Board by Mr. EMILIO C. JOUBERT, a lawyer of renown, who has served his country with great devotion. Under the Dominican Government Mr. JOUBERT has held, among other offices, those of Minister of Foreign Relations, Mails and Telegraphs, and the Treasury. He has always been an advocate of public education and has endeavored to perfect this branch of the national service, as well as the development of modern agricultural methods. Mr. JOUBERT was the representative of the Dominican Republic at the Third Pan-American Conference, and as such a member on the Committee on the Reorganization of the Bureau.

The Republic of Ecuador is represented on the Governing Board by one of the leading men of the country, Mr. LUIS FELIPE CARBO, a writer and a statesman. Mr. CARBO has held many positions of importance in his country, either in a diplomatic or a political capacity. Among other offices he has filled those of Secretary of State, or Minister of Foreign Affairs, of the Interior, Public Education, and Justice, and that of Senator. Mr. CARBO was also the representative of Ecuador at the Second Pan-American Conference held in Mexico,

and has always shown a great interest in Pan-American affairs. He is a member of the supervisory committee.

The Guatemalan Minister accredited to Washington, Dr. LUIS TOLEDO HERRARTE, is at present absent from his post, his place on the Governing Board being taken by Dr. RAMÓN BENGOCHEA, Consul-General of Guatemala in New York, and Chargé d'Affaires ad interim. Dr. TOLEDO HERRARTE is a scientific writer of ability, particularly on medicine and education. He began his diplomatic service in Madrid, and after having attended the Third Pan-American Conference as a secretary to the Guatemalan delegation, was appointed Minister to Washington, where he invariably showed great interest in the Bureau. Doctor BENGOCHEA, is a physician of note, holding the rank of surgeon-general in the Guatemalan Army. After having filled important offices of political influence he was appointed Consul-General in New York, and subsequently Chargé d'Affaires ad interim on two occasions.

The representative of the Haitian Republic on the Governing Board is Mr. J. N. LÉGER, the senior representative of the Latin-American countries in Washington. Mr. LÉGER is a lawyer of repute and a writer of law and history. He has held offices of great importance in his country, among others that of Assistant Secretary of State, chairman of the Committee of Foreign Affairs, and member of the House of Representatives. He began his diplomatic service in Paris, and has represented Haiti in the United States since 1896. Mr. LÉGER was a delegate of Haiti to the Second Pan-American Congress, and vice-chairman of the Committee on Regulations for the Third International Conference. Mr. LÉGER has always had the best interests of the Bureau at heart.

The Minister of Honduras, and her representative on the Board, Dr. ANGEL UGARTE, is one of the foremost lawyers and diplomats of his country. Doctor UGARTE is a man of scholarly attainments and considered one of the best orators of Honduras and a writer of note. His public services have been many and valuable, having served many terms in Congress and represented Honduras on various diplomatic and financial missions to Europe and the United States. From the first time he attended the meetings of the Governing Board, Doctor UGARTE has shown great interest in the work of the Bureau and the welfare of the Pan-American interests.

The Minister of Nicaragua to Washington, Dr. LUIS FELIPE COREA, has always shown his friendship for the Bureau, and his interest in the International Union at the meetings of the Governing Board, and in the Second and Third International Conferences where he represented his country as a delegate. He was the secretary of the Committee on Programme for the Third Pan-American Conference and formed part, at the conference, of the committee for the reorganiza-

tion of the Bureau. Doctor COREA is a distinguished lawyer and has served his country with zeal and devotion. Doctor COREA at one time filled with great honor the chair of history, philosophy, and international law in some of the principal institutions of learning in Guatemala. In his diplomatic capacity he has represented Nicaragua in several countries.

Panama is represented on the Board by Mr. J. DOMINGO DE OBALDIA, now absent in his country, where he occupies a position similar to that of vice-president. Mr. OBALDIA has filled many important political positions. He was a member of the committee appointed by the Governing Board previous to the Third Pan-American Congress to report a plan for the reorganization of the Bureau. He also represented Panama at the Rio Conference, where he served as member of the committee on reorganization. Mr. JOSÉ AGUSTÍN ARANGO, Minister of Panama accredited to Washington, has been representing his country on the Board during Mr. OBALDIA'S absence. Mr. ARANGO was one of the leaders in the movement for separation and independence of Panama, and the chairman of the Provisional Board of Government of the new republic. Mr. ARANGO is a member of the supervisory committee.

The representative of Peru on the board is Mr. FELIPE PARDO, a soldier and a statesman. Mr. PARDO studied law and political sciences in the University of San Marcos, in Lima, and has served as lieutenant of cavalry during the Chilean war, and as colonel of the militia of Lima. Mr. PARDO is a man of scholarly attainments, well read in financial topics, progressive, and has always shown decided interest in the welfare of the International Union and the Bureau. He was a member of the committee on regulations for the Third Pan-American Conference, and is at the present moment one of the members of the supervisory committee.

The Minister of Salvador to the United States, Mr. FEDERICO MEJÍA, is absent in his country. Mr. MEJÍA has devoted his life and energies to the study of economic and financial questions, having acquired experience as manager of the Commercial Bank of Salvador. He has served his country in politics, having been Speaker of the House of Representatives and Secretary of the Treasury. Salvador is now represented on the Governing Board by Dr. J. GUSTAVO GUERRERO, Chargé d'Affaires ad interim, a lawyer of promise, a graduate from the University of Salvador, a writer on legal and literary subjects, and the founder of an association called "Sociedad Jurídica Salvadoreña," devoted to the study and discussion of legal topics. Doctor GUERRERO, has filled positions of importance in Salvador, and in the consular service of his country.

Uruguay's representative on the board is Dr. LUIS MELLÁN LAFINUR, one of the prominent lawyers of his country and a man of the highest

scholarly attainments. He has served Uruguay both as a soldier and a statesman. Mr. MELIÁN LAFINUR has always been a staunch advocate of public instruction, a member of the board of governors of the University of Montevideo, an author and lecturer of renown. He was one of the members of the Uruguayan delegation to the Third Pan-American Conference, and while he did not serve on the Committee on the Reorganization of the International Bureau, he took particular interest in its work, because of the importance of this organization.

Venezuela is represented by Dr. RAFAEL GARBIRAS GUZMÁN, now absent in Caracas, where he is discharging the important duties of Secretary-General to the President. Dr. GARBIRAS GUZMÁN has rendered many valuable services to Venezuela, having filled during his public career the offices of President of the State of Tacira and Minister of Promotion or "Fomento." He has also served as Senator for several terms. Dr. GARBIRAS GUZMÁN is a man of scientific attainments and a writer and orator of note. Mr. NICOLÁS VELOZ GOITICÓY, who is now acting as Chargé d'Affaires and therefore takes Dr. GARBIRAS GUZMÁN's place on the Governing Board, has held many important official positions in his country, in Europe, and in the United States.

THE PAN-AMERICAN COMMITTEE.

The Pan-American committee appointed by the Hon. ELIOT ROOT, Secretary of State, upon the recommendation of the Third International Conference of American Republics at Rio de Janeiro in 1906, is composed of the following gentlemen:

ANDREW CARNEGIE, delegate to the First International Conference of American Republics, donator of the buildings for The Hague conferences and for the Bureau of American Republics.

STEPHEN B. ELKINS, Senator from the State of West Virginia, chairman of the Senate Committee on Interstate Commerce.

JAMES B. MCCREARY, Senator from the State of Kentucky, member of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations.

CHARLES B. LANDIS, Representative in Congress from the State of Indiana, chairman of the Committee on Printing and member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

JAMES L. SLAYDEN, Representative in Congress from the State of Texas, member of the Committee on Military Affairs.

ROBERT BACON, Assistant Secretary of State.

ALFRED E. BATES, major-general United States Army, retired.

WILLIAM I. BUCHANAN, formerly United States Minister to the Argentine Republic, delegate to the Second and Third International Conferences of American Republics and to the Second Hague Conference.

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FRONT AND SIDE VIEW OF THE NEW BUILDING OF THE INTERNATIONAL BUREAU, MADE FROM A PHOTOGRAPH OF THE ARCHITECTS' MODEL.
VISTA DE FRENTE Y LATERAL DEL NUEVO EDIFICIO DE LA OFICINA INTERNACIONAL, DE UNA FOTOGRAFÍA TOMADA DEL MODELO DE LOS ARQUITECTOS.

BENJAMIN IDE WHEELER, president of the University of California.
EDMUND J. JAMES, president of the University of Illinois.

L. S. ROWE, professor of the University of Pennsylvania, delegate to the Third International Conference of American Republics.

PAUL S. REINSCH, professor of the University of Wisconsin, delegate to Third International Conference of American Republics.

WILLIAM E. CURTIS, executive officer of the First International Conference of American Republics, and first Director of Bureau of American Republics.

JOHN BARRETT, formerly United States Minister to Siam, to the Argentine Republic, to Panama and to Colombia, delegate to the Second International Conference of American Republics, Director of Bureau of American Republics.

The officers of the committee are:

Honorary President, The Secretary of State.

Chairman, Mr. BUCHANAN.

Vice Chairman, Mr. CARNEGIE.

Secretary, Mr. BARRETT.

Executive Committee, Professor ROWE, Chairman; Mr. LANDIS, General BATES, and Mr. CURTIS.

Since the appointment of the committee in March, 1908, there has been a meeting of the General Committee and two meetings of the Executive Committee.

In addition to the committee from the United States whose names are given above, a number of the other Republics have acted upon the recommendation of the resolution and appointed their Pan-American committees. It is now evident that within a very short while all, or nearly all, of the committees will be named and in operation.

DESCRIPTION OF THE NEW PAN-AMERICAN BUILDING.

In order to indicate the standpoint of the architect the following article has been prepared by the architects of the new building, Messrs. KELSEY and CRET.

When the programme of the competition for the building of the International Bureau of the American Republics was given out the first difficulty which confronted the numerous competitors was the selection of a proper character for the building. The programme gave a very minute description of all the rooms needed and their approximate dimensions, but it was left to the ingenuity of the architects to find the spirit which was to direct the study of the ensemble.

There was one library with all its dependences, a large number of offices, an assembly room, and several committee rooms; but which was to dominate the whole? In most competitions there is no doubt

as to this primary purpose of the new building, which so greatly influences a design. Everyone knows what a post-office must look like, or a museum, or an office building, but in the present case the difficulty consisted in the absence of precedents which, whether good or bad, might serve as a basis for the development of the special requirements. This uncertainty was very apparent when the seventy sets of drawings were exhibited to the jury in Washington, all kinds of interpretations being given, from the Greek temple to the private villa, passing through the Spanish palace and the American Government office building.

The design which received the unanimous approval of the jury and which was therefore selected for execution and will presently begin to rise from the ground, had taken a decided stand and offered a new solution to this entirely new problem. The directing idea which had impressed its mark on the design was this: although the building is to house under one roof a very active office work and a library which will grow constantly, and though these two parts are almost all that is needed to do the work of the Bureau as defined by the Conference of Rio de Janeiro, namely:

To be a permanent center of information and of interchange of ideas among the Republics of this continent as well as a building suitable for the library in memory of Columbus;

There is another important function for the Bureau: this building shall be in Washington, the home of the American Republics in the highest sense of this word, Home.

Every one of these Republics has its private home, the residence of the Ambassador or Minister, but the International Bureau is to be the home of all of them, where their representatives may meet as children in the house of their father, to discuss all questions which may arise, to celebrate happy events or to commemorate glorious days.

The building therefore should be nearer the type of the private residence than the impersonal public building, although as dignified as the subject demands. It is the hope of the Director of the Bureau and its architects that when the representatives of the various many countries pass the threshold they will have the impression of entering their own house. It is their hope, too, that when the vestibules, staircases, and the large assembly room shine with thousands of electric lights, as a brilliant gathering throngs its rooms to honor a distinguished visitor, the representatives of the 21 Republics may have the impression of receiving guests in their own residence and not in a commonplace meeting room.

In accordance with these principles, the exterior will retain the restrained and quiet effect of the habitation of a man of taste. The monumental character of the surroundings, the vicinity of the Mall and the Washington Monument, the White House, the building

of the War Department, impose also the dignity of lines which characterizes the best production of the classic period. The material of the two façades has been selected with these ends in view, and only white marble will be used. The design combines republican simplicity with those refinements of form which the Latin race gave to architecture. The decorative finish, the care of detail, and some characteristic touches will typify the origin of the majority of the 21 countries. The mission tiles on the entrance portico, the allegorical ornaments, the two monumental marble figures at the entrance and the bas-reliefs of the pylons—all this will tell the passer-by of the originality of the monument and invite him to make a closer inspection.

At the court of entrance the front is composed of a portico between two pylons and seems to invite the visitor; the two sides and the rear show, respectively, the working and festive purposes of the building. Gardens surround it, and from the Assembly Hall on the rear two flights of steps lead to a terrace facing the lawn. There is no elevation sacrificed; the four of them are varied and monumental.

If we return to the entrance, crowned with an inscription in bronze letters on a background of Breche Violette marble, we find three large bronze grilles, giving access to the main vestibule, vaulted and decorated with columns of grand antique marble with bronze caps and bases. Here start the two stairways and the elevator, and through the three arches corresponding to those of the entrance one gets the view of the patio. It is like passing into a new atmosphere, far from Washington—in one of those picturesque courtyards of the South, protected from the sun by an overhanging roof and cooled by the waters falling from a marble fountain. All around tropical plants grow: a quaint old pavement, white stucco walls, low doors with their ornamental coat of arms, give the impression of the long ancestry of the southern Republics. At first there was an objection to the placing of such scenery in a city like Washington, where the winter is long and the snow apt to remind one that he is far from the equator. This objection has been overcome by the placing of a sliding roof which can not be seen during the spring and summer months and which in winter will make of the patio a delightful winter garden with a temperature always equable. An entirely new device will allow it to be closed by an electric motor.

The upper part of the court is surrounded by a loggia opening on the staircases and on the foyer. A frieze runs below the roof and supports the shields and the name plates of the Republics. Through this patio or by the lateral corridors one may reach the library and the offices.

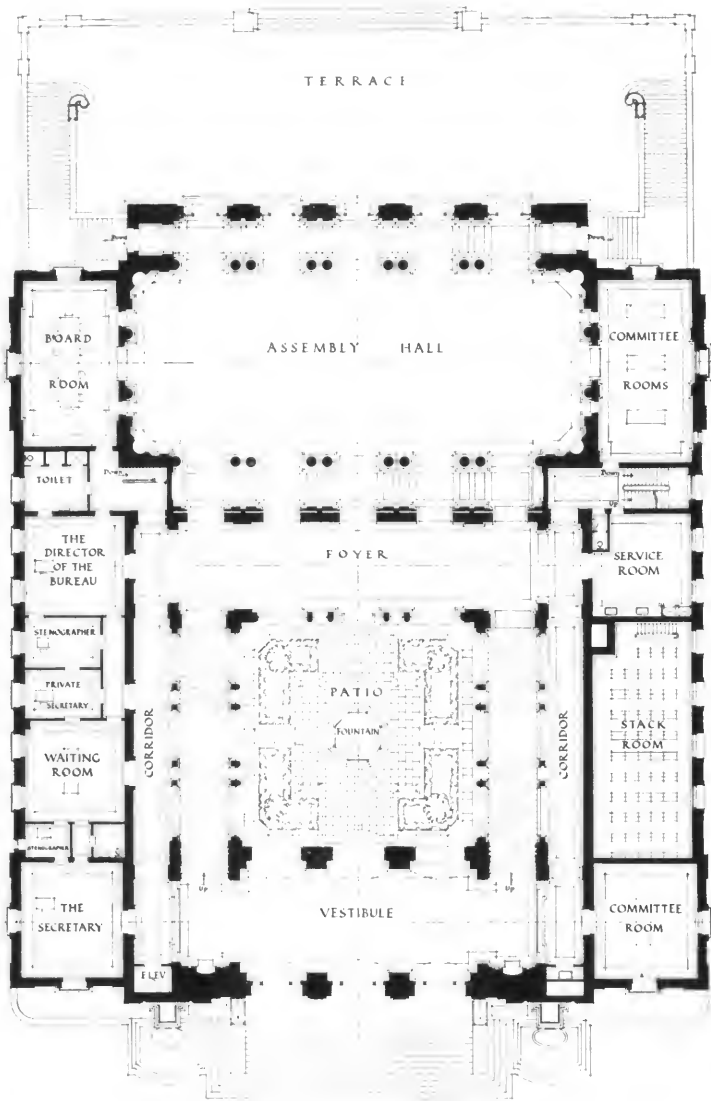
The Columbus Library is entered through a hall with coat rooms and an office for delivery of books for home reading. The main read-

ing room is 100 feet long, 40 feet wide, lighted by five large windows overlooking the terrace and the garden to the rear of the building. Two private studies will facilitate special researches. A large fire-proof vault will insure the safe-keeping of valuable documents.

Close at hand are the offices of the Librarian and his staff, ready to give all information to the public. The large stack room will provide at once for 120,000 volumes and may have its facilities extended for 80,000 more. All its fixtures are to be of steel according to the most modern arrangements. An electric elevator will bring the books rapidly from the five tiers to the level of the reading room. There will be a large collection of maps, prints, and statistics ready for use. These stacks are located on the north side of the building. On the south side one will find the large offices for the translators and editors of the bulletins, accountants, clerks, and stenographers. All these offices, as well as the rest of the building, are heated by indirect steam, the most approved scheme, which provides at the same time for heating and ventilating all parts of the structure. Large accommodations are provided for coats for the days of receptions.

Before going to the second floor we may briefly describe the basement. It can be reached through a stairway from the first floor or from the outside by a driveway which permits the delivery of mail, supplies, coal, etc., without entering the public part of the building. It contains a very large mail-sorting room where all mail is classified, the bulletins addressed and sent to all parts of the world. The basement will provide also for the numerous needs of the service section, such as coat rooms for employees, janitor's quarters, lunch room, storage, the boiler room, room for the engines, fuel, etc.

From the entrance vestibule two monumental stairways go in a straight line to the second floor like the stately stairways of the Roman palace of the Renaissance. The steps are of Tennessee marble and the ceiling is of woodwork. In addition to these stairs an elevator is provided. We reach the second floor of the building, the most important one; the piano nobile, of the classic buildings. The center is a foyer on which open, by large doors, the Assembly Hall and the office of the Director of the Bureau. This foyer overlooks, like a loggia, the patio, and side galleries run alongside the two large stairways, providing thus on the days of large gatherings a beautiful vista, extending from the entrance vestibule to the Assembly Hall. The office of the Director of the Bureau is in direct communication with the room of the Governing Board which will be decorated with woodwork and marble given by one of the Republics. From the other side the Director is in direct communication with his private secretary and stenographer. The waiting room will accommodate the persons waiting for the Director or the Secretary



SECOND FLOOR PLAN OF THE NEW BUILDING OF THE INTERNATIONAL BUREAU, ACCORDING TO THE ARCHITECTS' DRAWINGS.

FLANO DEL SEGUNDO PISO DEL NUEVO EDIFICIO DE LA OFICINA INTERNACIONAL, SEGÚN LOS DIBUJOS DE LOS ARQUITECTOS.

of the Bureau; and the Secretary of the Bureau has his office beyond this room.

On the north side of the building corresponding to these offices will be found four committee rooms suited for diplomatic conferences, and the upper part of the stack room. The offices of the Governing Board, of the Director and Secretary overlook the Mall and the Washington Monument garden, as planned in the city of Washington improvements.

From the foyer, one enters the large Assembly Hall, which is over 100 feet long by 65 feet wide; 24 columns support its vaulted ceiling, which rises to 45 feet above the floor. Five large bay windows, with balconies, overlook the garden, and stained glass with allegorical emblems will decorate these stately openings. The room of the Governing Board and the committee room are in direct communication with this dignified hall.

One may readily imagine what a beautiful setting this room will give when an international convention, a reception to a distinguished guest, or a brilliant diplomatic reception shall assemble within its walls. There is no other building in Washington, either private residence, embassy, or public government building, which can offer such accommodations for important functions. It is in keeping with the importance of the Bureau and a fitting memorial of the most important gathering of world powers.

TOURS IN LATIN AMERICA.

The main-traveled routes for the pleasure seeker have been so largely either trans-Atlantic or trans-Pacific that it was distinctly a pioneer set of tourists which visited South America in 1907 under the auspices of an established touring company. The success of the enterprise and the enthusiasm of the travelers has made a Latin-American tour one of the features of the company's annual itineraries.

To quote from one of the many letters received commending the trip:

The tour was a wonderful one in many respects. Whether we judge it from the standpoint of "God-made country" or "man-made town," it was so full of variety that it continually challenged our admiration. Towns ranging in beauty, splendor, and interest, from Buenos Aires, * * * and Rio de Janeiro to the Indian village of Checaupe, command our attention and awaken our interest in lovely scenery. It would take volumes to write of the natural wonders of the Cordilleras, the Andes, the Straits of Magellan, the historic scenes associated with the various capitals, as well as the ethnological interest aroused in the "past peoples" of the various countries of the southern portion of the South American Continent. It matters not what may be the primary motive of the traveler in undertaking such a tour, he will not be disappointed, for South America can satisfy "all sorts and conditions of men."

Another traveler states that in his opinion but a small portion of the people of the United States have more than a vague idea of the

countries south of Mexico, of their great extent, their vast natural and partially developed resources, their Spanish and Portuguese speaking people, their fine cities, lofty mountains, wide pampas, barren deserts, ancient ruins, and rich mines.

TRAVEL CONDITIONS IN SOUTH AMERICA.

Prof. WILLIAM R. SHEPHERD, of Columbia University, New York, whose extensive travels in South America render him peculiarly conversant with conditions attendant upon such a journey, has furnished the International Bureau of the American Republics with a complete statement of expenditures, routes, and accommodations as he found them, for the convenience of intending travelers in the regions visited by him.

As complementary to Professor SHEPHERD's paper, an exhaustive schedule of steamship routes, rates, and sailings from the United States to the ports of Latin America, as well as a map of the countries traversed by the network of railways making inland connection, has been prepared under the auspices of the Bureau for the furtherance of international interests as served by the traveling public.

INTRODUCTORY NOTE.

The lack of any formal description, however brief, of the ways and means to make a journey to the countries of South America is one of the reasons perhaps why they have been so little visited, at least by travelers from the United States. In the hints and suggestions contained in this paper no pretense at completeness or detail has been attempted. The compiler has had in mind the needs of the traveler in general and not specifically those of the "tourist" as that word is commonly understood.

Contrary to the impression so prevalent in the United States, great differences exist among the eleven Republics found on the continent of South America. The preparation of anything like a guide to all or to a particular group of them, therefore, is a task, not only difficult in itself, but one that must be undertaken always with a fear lest its general statements tend to confirm the mistaken idea in question.

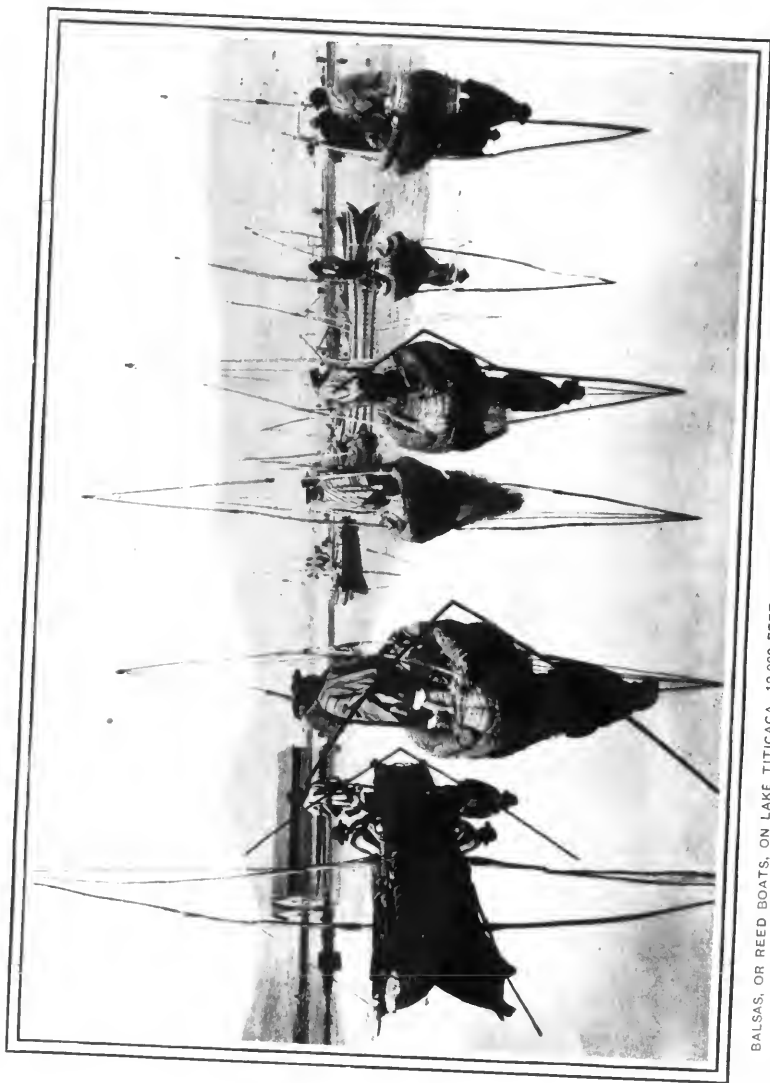
Should the brief description given serve directly or indirectly to dispel this notion, and should it facilitate in some measure the progress of the traveler in countries of much charm and interest, the compiler will feel that his labor has been well spent.

EXPENSE.

Taking into consideration the facilities and accommodations offered, the cost of a journey in South America is higher than it is either in Europe or in the United States. The average daily expenditure may be estimated at from \$10 to \$15. Travelers familiar with the various countries and with the languages used may be able to lessen this amount somewhat. It should be said, also, that the expense per day is apt to be greater in the southern countries than in those of the north.

MONEY.

The traveler should be provided with a letter of credit made out in pounds sterling. Outside of the banking institutions, \$5 in American gold or paper are commonly regarded as equivalent to an English sovereign. Rarely, if ever, is American silver



BALSAS, OR REED BOATS, ON LAKE TITICACA, 12,000 FEET ABOVE SEA LEVEL, THE HIGHEST NAVIGATED LAKE IN THE WORLD.
BALSAS EN EL LAGO TITICACA, SITUADO A 12,000 PIES SOBRE EL NIVEL DEL MAR, EL LAGO NAVEGADO DE MAYOR ELEVACION EN EL MUNDO.



THE FALLS OF IGUAZU ON THE BRAZILIAN-ARGENTINE BORDER.
Fifty feet higher, and with a lateral extent 1,250 feet greater, than Niagara.

LAS CATARATAS DEL IGUAZÚ EN LA FRONTERA ARGENTINO-BRASILEÑA.
Cincuenta pies más altas que las del Niágara, y cuya extensión lateral es de 1,250 pies más.

accepted, and even in reputable banking houses the rates of exchange on American currency in general are apt to be unfavorable.

The difference in the units of value between the money of one country and that of another is often very marked. The rates of exchange, also, especially on paper currency, are subject to considerable fluctuation. In some States the circulating medium is almost wholly paper, and that at a very low rate of discount. The traveler, therefore, should take with him a supply of English gold coin. This can be used to advantage on the steamers and in places where the money of the country to be visited is not readily obtainable. Exchange offices should be avoided as much as possible.

If the national bank of any Republic issues notes, they may ordinarily be taken without reserve. Before accepting notes issued by other banks, and sometimes even those proceeding from the national bank itself, the traveler should obtain accurate information as to whether the notes in question have merely a local circulation or whether they are in general use throughout the country.

A table of the value of Latin-American coins in United States gold may be found in quarterly numbers of the MONTHLY BULLETIN of the International Bureau of the American Republics.

PASSPORTS.

Except in time of serious civic disturbance, a passport is not an absolute necessity. The possession of one, however, is advisable, both to establish the identity of the traveler and to insure the delivery of registered mail. Before leaving the United States it would be well to inquire in each case whether the countries to be visited require passports, and if so, to have the latter viséd at the consulates of such countries. The information desired is usually obtainable at the steamship offices.

BAGGAGE AND TRAVELING NECESSITIES.

In view of the expense and inconvenience connected with the transportation of a considerable amount of baggage, the traveler should take with him as little of it as possible. The rates for carrying baggage on the railroads and stage coaches are usually very high, boatmen's and porter's fees are often excessive, and the steamship lines along the west coast in particular are none too considerate of passengers' effects. Among the absolute necessities for the traveler may be mentioned a good supply of clothing adapted to the varying climates, and also of linen and toilet articles, since all of these, whenever actually procurable, are apt to be very expensive.

Small trunks are always to be preferred to large ones, and they, as well as all suit cases, satchels, and the like, should be strong and serviceable, and whenever possible should be provided with stout canvas covers. The traveler who thinks of making a journey into those parts of the continent where there are no railways should have his belongings put into strong wooden boxes of a size and shape suitable for transportation on the backs of pack animals, and fitted with good locks and handles. Since also the food along the route may be unsavory, if not scanty, canned goods and other forms of provisions should be included in the baggage.

CLIMATE AND HEALTH.

It must be remembered that in general the seasons in South America are just the reverse of those in North America. As a rule, therefore, the best time in which to visit the countries of the southern continent is that of the cool season, corresponding to our spring and summer months.

In the tropical regions of the north and center the temperature is apt to be uncomfortably warm at all times, although it usually cools off enough at night to permit sleep. With the advent of the rainy season, furthermore, the warmth is accentuated by humidity. Along the coasts of Peru and northern Chile rainfalls are rare even in

winter, but in some places within these countries a soaking mist may fill the air for days at a time.

On the other hand, in most of the areas occupied by the southern Republics, and in most of the mountainous sections of the interior of the continent, the climate is quite similar to our own. The atmospheric changes, however, are somewhat more pronounced. During the winter months the temperature at night, and even during the day, is often damp and chilly, when not positively cold. Except in the higher levels snow is not common.

It is particularly in the mountainous areas that one must guard against sudden changes in temperature and against the effects produced by the rarefaction of the atmosphere. The air in the sunlight may be fairly warm and in the shadow quite chilly. The difference in temperature between night and day, also, is apt to be very marked. The traveler unaccustomed to higher altitudes is liable to an attack of "soroche," or mountain sickness. This appears in the form of palpitation of the heart, fainting spells, vomiting, and bleeding at the nose, mouth, and ears. Except, however, in the cases of a weak heart or of a constitution otherwise impaired, an attack of "soroche" is not likely to be serious in its results.

In the tropical areas a light clothing should be worn that will freely admit the air. For the colder regions, naturally, the clothing should be warmer, but here attention should be given rather to the outer garments than to the nether ones. In places where it may be customary to wear the "poncho," a sort of blanket with an opening in the center, through which the head is thrust, this kind of outer covering will be found comfortable, although it does not protect the throat very adequately. A "sweater" would be more useful. The traveler in the colder sections of the continent also should provide himself with gaiters as a preventative of chilblains.

So far as the larger cities of South America and many of the smaller ones are concerned, as a rule, the sanitary arrangements are fairly good, the plumbing and sewerage apparatus is constructed along modern lines, and the streets are kept clean. Elsewhere the situation is not so satisfactory. Still, with reasonable precautions against infection of any sort, the traveler ought to be able to keep well. In the tropical regions yellow fever, plague, and other diseases are occasionally to be encountered. Where mosquitos abound, great care should be taken to exclude them from the bedrooms. The traveler, therefore, who may desire to visit unfrequented places ought to make careful inquiry about the sanitary conditions before he goes there. Outside of the large cities, and in the tropical areas of the continent more especially, poisonous insects and reptiles, as well as fleas and other vermin, are not uncommon.

The drinking water furnished outside of the largest cities in South America should be avoided. Its place may be taken by the mineral waters or by the wines of the various countries which will be found quite palatable and at times excellent. Foreign wines and mineral waters also are generally procurable in all of the cities and in many of the smaller towns. Spirituous and malt liquors, particularly in the tropical areas, should be drunk with great moderation. Milk ought never to be taken unless boiled. Tropical fruits, similarly, should be eaten in small quantities, and then only after they have been thoroughly cleansed.

So as to be prepared in case of an emergency, the traveler should be provided with such medicaments as the following: Permanganate of potash for use on poisonous wounds and as a disinfectant; calomel, quinine, a good purge, chlorodyne or some other corrective of dysentery, codeine for quieting coughs and pain, smelling salts, court plaster, and spirits, preferably brandy. Many persons who visit South America insist upon the wisdom of frequent doses of quinine, usually accompanied with a stimulant, in order to fortify the system against fever. Due attention, however, to the normal requirements of health is usually quite sufficient to ward off dangers from this direction. Should a physician be needed, full confidence may be placed in the best medical talent obtainable in any of the larger cities.

LANGUAGE.

In all of the Republics, except Brazil, where Portuguese is the language of the country, Spanish is the prevailing speech. While it is quite possible to travel in the more frequented areas with a knowledge merely of English, he who wishes to make the most of his journey, and to safeguard himself against extortion, should be familiar in some measure with the language of the country that he is to visit. Besides their native tongue, the educated classes very commonly speak French. In many of the large cities, also, English and German are often understood. Should the traveler visit the remote interior of some of the countries, however, he is likely to meet with Indians who speak only their native dialects.

INTERCOURSE WITH THE PEOPLE.

One of the traits that mark the typical South American, regardless of the country from which he may come, is his unflinching courtesy of manner. Such a thing, also, as positive incivility on the part of any member of the lower classes in the more populous districts is quite rare.

Definite information concerning the means of communication, the postal service, the hours at which places of interest are open, etc., is rather difficult to obtain in many of the hotel offices, to say nothing of the servants of all grades, who are usually ignorant of any matter lying outside of their particular spheres of duty. Inquiries on the street, unless of a very simple nature, should be directed to well-dressed persons only. Beggars and would-be guides, however, are seldom to be seen in the larger cities.

In the more remote sections of several of the countries, of course, the traveler must expect to rough it. The inhabitants of colored origin found in these areas are often very suspicious of strangers and are disinclined to afford any information or assistance. Even when they understand Spanish or Portuguese, they may pretend not to do so. Occasions may arise when the traveler will be forced to avail himself of food or lodging in some native hut. Should the sullen owner decline to furnish either of these necessities, the wayfarer may simply take the food and appropriate the lodging without further ado and on his departure pay what he regards as a fair price for his accommodations. In such cases, to be sure, his courage and his discretion must be his only guides of action.

PUBLIC SECURITY.

In the more thickly populated areas of the South American countries the personal safety of travelers is quite as well assured as it is in similar parts of the United States, and the carrying of weapons in the one case is no more needful than it is in the other.

The occasional disturbances of public order, which are commonly called "revolutions," whether or not they amount to anything more than a local riot of some sort, are by no means so frequent as is generally supposed. Should such a commotion arise, the traveler who takes no part in it by word or deed is not likely to be harmed. As in the case of a street row at home, he should simply avoid the lot that often befalls the "innocent bystander," and hence leave the particular scene of the disturbance at his earliest opportunity. Even in those extremely rare instances when a "revolution" affects the entire country, it may be quite possible to travel about unmolested if the requisite permission so to do be obtained from the proper authorities, civil or military.

If the traveler chooses to venture into those parts of the continent where the white population may be relatively very small or nonexistent, he should ascertain, before he starts his journey, what the conditions are that he is likely to encounter and provide himself accordingly with the means of defense.

STEAMERS.

Though none of the steamships that ply between the United States and the countries of South America are equal in tonnage or appointments to the great European liners, very fair accommodations may be secured on most of them. For the chief ports on the north and west coasts the best connections are made from New York to Colon and thence eastward, or across the isthmus from Colon by railway to Panama, and thence southward. The trip to Colon can also be made from New Orleans, and to Panama from San Francisco. To the chief ports on the east coast the traveler may take a steamer from New York direct.

On the steamships engaged exclusively in the coastwise service along the continent of South America, travel is apt to be somewhat disagreeable. While those plying along the west coast from Panama to Valparaiso are superior to the vessels touching at the minor ports along the coasts of the Argentine Republic and Brazil, their accommodations are rather poor. Two lines, namely the Pacific Steam Navigation Company and the Compañía Sud Americana de Vapores (South American Steamship Company) practically control the west-coast traffic between the points mentioned. The former is a British concern, and the latter a Chilean corporation. Occasionally it is possible to take passage on a vessel of the Kosmos Line, which is owned by a German company, or on a tramp steamer of some sort; but, aside from the advantage of not being obliged to await the arrival of a boat belonging to either of the principal lines, the passenger has little or nothing to gain.

On the steamers of both the Pacific Steam Navigation Company and the Compañía Sud Americana de Vapores freight is the all-important consideration. To it regularity, speed, and comfort are altogether subordinated. Though the time-table, as it may be seen, for example, in the Handbook of Information issued by The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, would indicate that the vessels of the two lines have weekly and semiweekly sailings between Panama and Valparaiso, there is absolutely no guarantee of the date for either a departure or an arrival. Through service between these ports is unknown. The speed of the boats is as slow as the delays are vexatious. A few hours or a week or more may be spent in a single port. The length of the stay depends upon the amount of cargo to be shipped or discharged, and sometimes upon quarantine regulations as well.

Often the freight is composed largely of cattle, and the fact soon becomes known in an unmistakable fashion. Nor is it uncommon to find the decks stacked up with cargo of a more or less perishable nature. Other discomforts on board are the fumigation to which the vessel and its burden may be occasionally subjected, the process of coaling, and the omnipresent flea. Should the passenger, furthermore, be detained on board by reason of the quarantine, he is supposed to pay 10 shillings extra a day for his maintenance.

The steamers belonging to the two lines mentioned, though comparatively small in tonnage, are well built and steady. They are commanded by British officers, usually Scotchmen, and manned by Chilean sailors. As a rule the members of the crew are a noisy, filthy, and thievish lot of fellows, over whom the officers seem to have less control than might be desired. The vessels carry only two classes of passengers—namely, first and third. The latter are called deck passengers, and accordingly are given accommodations for themselves and their belongings somewhere on the open deck. The first-class passengers are provided with staterooms having a doorway and a window that open directly on the deck. Though spacious enough and kept fairly clean, the staterooms are not well ventilated. Each of them is supplied with two sets of doors and window shutters, one set to be used during the day and the other, a sort of lattice-work arrangement, to be used at night. At both times, however, the pilfering propensities of many of the crew and the deck passengers make it frequently needful to keep the respective door and shutter closed and locked.

The food and the service on these boats range from passable to very poor. For the provision of fresh meat live cattle and fowls are kept on board and slaughtered as the necessity arises. The cooking is Chilean, with an occasional admixture of English, and though the dishes are plentiful, they are seldom appetizing. Few of the stewards speak English, and fewer still understand the proper performance of their duties. All orders for drinks should be written on the blanks ("vales") furnished for the purpose, and the price carefully noted on them as well.

Since the cost of passage on either of the main lines of west coast steamers is the same, the tickets are interchangeable. The passenger delayed in port, furthermore, is permitted to continue his journey by the next vessel available. On the other hand, the rates of fare are apt to be as variable as the times of departure and arrival are uncertain, and often depend, it would seem, less upon the distance to be traversed than upon the inclination of the ticket agent to raise or lower his charges. Stop-overs commonly are not allowed. Rarely do the tickets themselves indicate the number of the stateroom, and practically nothing is done by the companies to have the baggage hoisted on board or placed in the hold. The passenger, therefore, must seek out a steward and secure from him a stateroom and a key to it. For the latter accommodation a deposit equal to \$1 must be paid in advance, which the steward expects to retain as a partial tip. The passenger, also, must see to it personally that his baggage is brought on board and put into the hold. As soon as this is done, and before he pays the porter or boatman, he should secure from the purser, or from the man in charge of the baggage section of the hold, a number of leaden checks called "fichas" corresponding to the pieces of baggage there deposited. Exasperating delays, also, frequently occur when the baggage has to be taken out of the hold after the vessel has arrived in port. For this purpose in any case the "fichas" must be given to the boatman or porter. During the process of shifting the baggage at all times it is wise to keep an eye on the various articles so as to insure their gentle handling as well as their security.

BOATMEN AND PORTERS.

With but few exceptions, in the seaports of South America the steamers anchor some distance from the landing stage and the passengers and baggage are put ashore or taken on board in small boats. In engaging boatmen or porters the traveler should make it a general rule to employ only those who have numbers on their hats, and to remember the numbers as a means of identification. A thorough understanding, also, as to the inclusive price should be reached before either person or property is intrusted to their care. In no case should the boatman be paid until he has deposited both passengers and baggage in the place agreed upon. If he makes some extra demand, as often happens, or should the passenger be dissatisfied with the service rendered, complaint may be directed to the captain of the port. Ordinarily, however, a quiet but firm refusal to pay more than the amount stipulated is sufficient. Angry altercations with the boatmen or porters are never wise.

So far as the sum to be paid for the landing or embarkation of passengers and baggage is concerned, this must depend upon the number of persons, the number, weight, and size of the pieces of baggage, the distance to be covered, the condition of the tide or of the weather, etc. While nothing like a fixed rule can be laid down, it may be said that under ordinary circumstances the average price demanded on the west coast for landing or embarking passengers ranges from what would be equivalent of 50 to 75 cents per person; trunks, from 50 cents to \$1; and suit cases and smaller articles, from 25 to 50 cents. Judicious bargaining, however, may reduce these figures. For carrying baggage from the landing stage to the hotels and elsewhere the porters are accustomed to charge from 25 cents to \$1. In the ports along the east coast the rates demanded are apt to be considerably higher, often amounting to several dollars for a slight amount of labor. The most convenient, though not always the least expensive,

way of paying these porters and boatmen is to let the hotel do it, and put the charge on the bill.

At the railway stations small pieces of baggage are commonly handed to the porters through the car windows. To them also should be given the receipts for trunks and other heavy articles. As a rule the porters will carry the baggage only from the station to the cabs. For their services a fee of from 25 to 50 cents is usually sufficient.

At times it will be found possible to leave the heavy baggage at the landing stage or at the railway station and to intrust the hotel porter with the duty of obtaining it. Only in a very few of the large cities are representatives of hotels accustomed to meet the traveler on his arrival.

CUSTOMS DUTIES.

In general it may be said that the custom-house examination of the ordinary personal effects of travelers is fairly lenient in all of the countries of South America. Unused articles, however, are liable to duty.

Occasionally small sums in the shape of fees for the landing of baggage and the enforcement of sanitary regulations and charges for the passing of baggage, according to the weight and the number of the packages, may be levied. The hours of the custom-house officials, however, are not always certain; hence, if the traveler wishes to have his baggage stored in the custom-house until it can be examined, he may have to pay a small fee in addition for so doing. While it is preferable to be present at the examination of baggage in the custom-house, the keys may be left with the boatman or porter who is to bring it to the hotel. Bribery of the customs officials should not be attempted.

RAILWAYS.

There are no transcontinental railways in South America, and but two international lines, namely, those from Peru and Chile into Bolivia. Only in Chile, the Argentine Republic, Uruguay, and southern Brazil do anything like modern railway systems exist. Here the roadbeds are fairly well made, the rolling stock is of good European or American manufacture, and dining cars, sleeping cars, and parlor cars, as well as vestibule trains, all constructed somewhat on the American model, are provided. The speed and service of the trains also are satisfactory.

Along the north coast and a considerable portion of the west coast the majority of the railway lines are freight roads that run back from the seaports a few miles into the interior. Outside of the Chilean lines, none of the railways in these sections of the continent offers accommodations that can compare at all in speed, safety, comfort, or convenience with those of the other three countries of the south. As a rule also the trains on such lines run during the daytime only; and the traveler may find it needful to take along his own provisions, since the railway restaurants are none too certain or too tempting.

Though the European compartment system is not in use, the cars themselves, on practically all of the railways on the continent, are arranged according to classes. On the lines in the northern States first class is quite indispensable, whereas on some of the railways in the southern countries second class will be found fairly acceptable. Heavy baggage is seldom, if ever, carried free. In checking it the traveler has to show his ticket, and he should see that the correct number of articles, as well as the precise destination, are entered on his receipt. Suit cases and other pieces of fair size may be placed between the seats or on the racks of the cars.

EXPRESS AGENCIES.

Only in a few of the largest cities of South America can the traveler find agencies for the special transportation of baggage and other commodities. Along the seaboard arrangements for this purpose may be made at the steamship offices and with the

various shipping and commission houses. In those parts of the continent where no railways exist the traveler will have to negotiate with the owners of such pack animals as may be procurable.

HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS.

Except in cities like Buenos Aires, Rio de Janeiro, Santiago, and Montevideo, first-class hotels approximating those of Europe are unknown in South America. Even these can hardly be compared in the comfort and luxury of their appointments with the standard set for such establishments in the United States. Still, as a rule, the proprietors, who are usually Italians, Frenchmen, or Germans, do all in their power to satisfy the reasonable requirements of their foreign guests.

The average hotel in the South American countries is built around a large court. This may insure coolness in summer, but during the brief winter season the traveler will find the house chilly and drafty. Stoves heated with oil, gas, or electricity are sometimes procurable, but their use is expensive and is always charged extra. Noises in the court are apt to be heard in other parts of the house, and particularly in those rooms which receive their light and ventilation from the court itself. Nor is the traveler in his own apartment always assured of quiet, because the rooms commonly have connecting doors and are divided by thin partitions. Reading, writing, and reception rooms are extremely rare. Baths also are not always obtainable. As a rule the living rooms are cared for by men servants who are not over punctilious in the performance of their duties.

In the smaller towns and in the country districts the traveler has to content himself with inns and taverns of an unpretending cast. Here the food, the furnishing and cleanliness of the bedrooms, the sanitary conditions, and the service are often inadequate, even for moderate requirements.

Boarding houses, of course, are fairly numerous, but except for some of those to be found in the larger cities they can not be recommended to the American traveler. Their comparative inexpensiveness, indeed, and the opportunity that they give to study native customs are about the only advantages they offer.

The first-class hotels in general are conducted on both the European and the American plan. In the second-class houses and in those of less pretension the American plan is customary. The first breakfast in both cases is often charged extra. So far as the larger hotels are concerned, the rates for fair accommodations by the European plan range from the equivalent of \$1.50 a day and by the American plan from \$3 a day upward, but the upward tendency is decidedly marked. The traveler content with a cheap room or possessing the ability to bargain may reduce these figures to some extent. On the whole, however, the hotel prices are much higher than those demanded for a similar class of accommodations in the United States. The charge, of course, varies according to the situation and furnishing of the rooms, those on the upper floors or facing the court being usually less expensive. In all cases the guest should come to a precise understanding with the landlord or his representative in regard to the daily rate and all extra charges, such as those for heating. Light and service are commonly reckoned in the price of the room. The departure of the guest, furthermore, should be notified at the hotel office before 10 o'clock in the morning, otherwise a charge for the entire day of departure may be included in the bill. Absence from meals is rarely allowed for. In the less pretentious houses and in those of the smaller towns and the country districts, to be sure, the charges are much lower than the ones above mentioned. Their amount will depend not only upon the traveler's conception of his needs, but also upon his power to lessen it by bargaining.

The first breakfast is regularly taken in the guest's own room. The lunch, or second breakfast, is to be had usually from 11.30 to 1.30, and sometimes as early as 10. Dinner is served between 6.30 and 8.30, the intermediate hour being the favorite one. Ordi-

narily the food is abundant and well cooked. The peculiarities of the Spanish or Portuguese cuisine, to which the American traveler may not be able to adapt himself readily, are never obtrusive in the better sort of hotels and restaurants, and are often absent altogether. In some cases however, the names of the dishes may be unfamiliar to the guest acquainted with either Spanish or Portuguese, because not a few of them are of local or native origin. Good restaurants and cafés are uncommon outside of the large cities.

STAGECOACHES STREET CARS CABS.

In the sparsely settled regions of the interior the usual mode of transit is by horse or mule, but stagecoaches are occasionally to be found. Within such vehicles the space allotted to the traveler for his hand baggage is apt to be very limited. Trunks and other heavy pieces it is customary to send on by pack animals, and they are likely to arrive long after the owner needs them. Places for passengers and baggage should be secured considerably in advance of the hour scheduled for starting. To anyone with weak nerves a ride in one of these stagecoaches in the mountainous portions of the countries may prove to be a decidedly strenuous experience.

Almost all of the large cities are supplied with electric street-car service. The fares, as a rule, vary according to the distance to be covered. On receipt of the fare the conductors give to the passengers a slip which must be preserved and shown on demand.

Cabs, also, are common in the larger cities. The fares are presumed to be fixed by tariff, but it is always well to come to a clear understanding with the cabman in regard to the fare per trip or per hour before engaging the vehicle, especially if the trip is to extend beyond the ordinary zone of traffic. A small gratuity is expected at the end of the journey.

POST-OFFICE—TELEGRAPH—TELEPHONE.

In the smaller towns the post-office may be open for a few hours only during the day, and may be closed about noon time when the employeés are at breakfast. Special branches of the postal service, such as the distribution of poste restante letters or the dispatch of registered letters, are apt to be carried on at different and variable parts of the day. Time and trouble may be spared, therefore, by having all letters addressed to some hotel or in care of a diplomatic or consular office of the United States. The addresses should be short and simple, and the affix "Esquire" should never be written. In claiming letters at the post-office the showing of one's visiting card is much more effective than a verbal utterance of the name.

In addition to the post-office proper, stamps are often sold in tobacco shops, but the practice varies from country to country. The rate for foreign letters is substantially that fixed by the International Postal Union, except in Uruguay, where it is doubled. Letter boxes in the streets are far from common in South American cities. Often they are to be found only at the post-office, in the larger hotels, and in some of the tobacco shops. Important letters should be posted by the writer in person, and at times it is advisable to have the stamps canceled in his presence, since theft of the stamps is not unknown. Money orders, also, are not always to be obtained in the several countries.

Telegrams may be written in English, French, German, Spanish, Portuguese, or Italian. The charges for foreign telegrams or for cablegrams vary according to the rates of exchange. All of the larger cities are equipped with a fairly adequate telephone service.

PLACES OF INTEREST—GRATUITIES—SHOPS.

Guidebooks of any sort to the places of interest in the South American countries are not common, even when printed in Spanish or Portuguese. If obtainable, they

may be found in the larger bookstores. Sometimes the city directories are useful in this respect, but they seldom contain just the information sought. Since the hours at which churches, museums, picture galleries and the like may be seen vary so much in the different States, it is necessary to ascertain them on the spot. Accordingly the traveler will often have to depend upon what he may be able to learn from chance acquaintances, or upon such aids as may be furnished by the American consular or diplomatic representatives, the addresses of whom can usually be obtained at the leading hotels.

In addition to the amount stipulated for any service, drivers, guides, porters, etc., expect some small gratuity (Spanish, "*propina*;" Portuguese, "*matabicho*"). At the larger hotels the tips may be reckoned at about the equivalent of 25 to 50 cents per day for each person. The waiter expects from 5 to 10 per cent of the amount of the bill.

Prices in the shops of many cities in South America are apt to depend upon the circumstance whether the purchaser is a native or a foreigner. It is often possible to obtain articles at less than the first price asked. The assistance of guides and of hotel employees should not be invoked, for they usually receive a commission that is drawn ultimately from the traveler's own pocket. Purchases, indeed, are best made in the company of some native acquaintance.

In many parts of South America the traveler will encounter slowness and delay in the filling of orders, particularly when articles are to be repaired. Promises for the morrow that is long in coming are not infrequent. During the middle of the day the stores may be closed for an hour and a half or more while the clerks are at breakfast.

Even the commonest of articles may not be kept in the stock of the establishment where a reasonable expectation would place them. Photographers, in particular, seldom have at hand copies of the samples that they show to their customers.

BOOKS.

In the absence of a good general description of the republics of South America, the following books are recommended as the most useful for the traveler who may wish to have some idea of the geographical situation, history, institutions, and characteristics of the people whom he is about to visit:

- A. H. Keane, Central and South America (London, Stanford).
- A. Hale, The South Americans (Indianapolis, The Bobbs Merrill Co.).
- C. E. Akers, History of South America (New York, Dutton).
- T. C. Dawson, The South American Republics (New York, Putnam).
- C. M. Pepper, Panama to Patagonia (Chicago, McClurg).
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PRINCIPAL STEAMSHIP LINES TO SOUTH AMERICA.

Since the addresses in New York of the agencies of some of the steamship lines plying either from the United States or from Europe, to South America are occasionally difficult to ascertain, it seems advisable at the outset to furnish a fairly complete list of such agencies, from which further information may be obtained about the various sailing routes to the southern continent, viz: Atlas Line (37 Broadway); Booth Line (17 Battery Place); Compagnia Lloyd Italiano (50 Wall street); Compagnie des Messageries Maritimes (27 Whitehall street); Compagnie Générale Transatlantique (19 State street); Compañía Transatlántica (128 Pearl street); Hamburg South American Steamship Company and Hamburg-American Line (37 Broadway); Houston Line (Produce Exchange); Kosmos Line (37 Broadway); La Italia; Società di Navigazione & Vapore (50 Wall street); La Ligure Brasiliana (50 Wall street); Launport & Holt Line (Produce Exchange); La Veloce; Navigazione Italiana & Vapore (50

Wall street); Leyland Line (17 Battery Place); Lloyd Brasileiro (Produce Exchange); Navigazione Generale Italiana (50 Wall street); Pacific Mail Steamship Company (349 Broadway); Panama Railroad Steamship Line (24 State street); Prince Line (31 Broadway); Quebec Steamship Company (29 Broadway); Red D Line (88 Wall street); Royal Dutch West India Mail Service (17 State street); Royal Mail Steam Packet Company (22 State street); Trinidad Line (29 Broadway).

I. FROM THE UNITED STATES.

The three chief ports of the United States from which passage may be taken by steamer to South America are New York, New Orleans, and San Francisco. From New Orleans the steamers of the Leyland Line, the Harrison Line, the Prince Line, and occasionally also of the Hamburg South American Steamship Company and the Hamburg-American Line, run to Colon and to other ports along the northern coast of the continent. From San Francisco the vessels of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company and those of the Kosmos Line, the service of which is not so regular, cover the distance to Panama (Ancon) in upwards of three weeks. At this point in turn connections may be made, southward along the west coast, or by rail to Colon, and thence eastward along the north coast.

As New York is the usual port of departure for South America, most of the steamship lines mentioned below start from there. The few exceptions will be noted at the proper place. The approximate duration of the voyage from New York to some of the principal ports of the southern continent is indicated after their respective names, but the actual number of days required for the journey is often greater.

(1) TO THE NORTH COAST (SPANISH MAIN).

(A) *To Panama.*

Colon (seven days).—Royal Mail Steam Packet Company; Atlas Line; Panama Railroad Steamship Line. In addition to the service furnished by the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, connections for the ports of Colombia, Venezuela, the Guianas, and the islands adjacent to the north coast, may be made by such lines as the following: Hamburg South American Steamship Company and Hamburg-American Line; Leyland Line; Harrison Line; Compagnie Générale Transatlantique; La Veloce; Navigazione Italiana á Vapore; and the Compañía Transatlántica. The steamers belonging to these lines come either from New Orleans or from a European port.

(B) *To Colombia.*

Cartagena: Royal Mail Steam Packet Company; Atlas Line.

Puerto Colombia (Savanilla): Royal Mail Steam Packet Company; Atlas Line. From this port connections may be made for Barranquilla and the journey thence by steamer up the Magdalena River to Las Yeguas; thence by rail to Honda; and thence by rail, coach, and on mule back to Bogotá. The trip from Barranquilla to Bogotá occupies from two to three weeks.

(C) *To Venezuela.*

Carúpano: Royal Dutch West India Mail Service.

Ciudad Bolívar (Angostura): Trinidad Line.

Cumaná: Royal Dutch West India Mail Service.

Guanta: Royal Dutch West India Mail Service.

La Guayra: Red D Line; Royal Mail Steam Packet Company; Royal Dutch West India Mail Service. From La Guayra the journey by rail to Caracas consumes about two hours.

Maracaibo: Red D Line.

Puerto Cabello: Red D Line; Royal Dutch West India Mail Service.

(D) To British Guiana, Trinidad, and Tobago.

Demerara (Georgetown): Royal Mail Steam Packet Company; Quebec Steamship Company. The town is also reached from Barbados by the Pickford and Black Line.

Port of Spain: Royal Mail Steam Packet Company; Royal Dutch West India Mail Service; Trinidad Line.

Tobago: Royal Mail Steam Packet Company; Trinidad Line.

(E) To Dutch Guiana and Curaçao.

Paramaribo: Royal Dutch West India Mail Service.

Curaçao: Red D Line; Royal Dutch West India Mail Service.

(2) TO THE WEST COAST.

From New York or New Orleans to Colon, and thence by the Panama Railroad (three hours) to Panama, is the customary way of making connections for a trip down the west coast of South America; though, as above observed, it is possible to go to Panama directly from San Francisco. When starting from New York the passenger will save himself much annoyance, and some expense as well, if he buys his ticket and checks his baggage through to the west coast port of destination.

The vessels of the Pacific Steam Navigation Company and of the *Compañía Sud-Americana de Vapores*, the two principal lines plying along the west coast, and those belonging to the *Kosmos Line* and others not pretending to any regularity of service, start from the port called "La Boca," a short distance by rail from Panama. The train thither is taken at the station of the Panama Railway. On his arrival at the dock the passenger should see to it personally that his baggage is put aboard the steamer, and in its proper place.

From Panama to Valparaiso the distance is 3,145 miles, and the duration of the voyage is, usually, between three and four weeks. At most of the ports the steamer remains from a few hours to a day or two, whereas at Callao, Peru, it may stay sometimes as long as a week. The first regular stop south of Panama is Guayaquil, Ecuador. Should the passenger wish to visit any port lying between these two, he must go on certain vessels of the Pacific Steam Navigation Company only; and should he then wish to proceed southward from Guayaquil, he has to transship in that port to a steamer belonging to either line. If he is bound to some small port south of Guayaquil he should be careful to ascertain beforehand whether the vessel selected calls there. Owing to the unhealthy condition of Guayaquil, furthermore, a passenger who has gone ashore in that city can not land at any port in Peru, unless he has been at least six days at sea, or unless he submits to detention in quarantine for the period that may be lacking. A similar regulation is enforced at Guayaquil against the vessels from Peruvian ports. At Panama, however, no one can land who has been ashore at Guayaquil.

Both the Pacific Steam Navigation Company and the *Compañía Sud-Americana de Vapores* maintain a special service between Eten, Peru, and Valparaiso. In this case the vessels are known as "caleteros." Passengers desiring to go to Chilean ports, such as Coronel, Lota, Talcahuano (for Concepción), Corral (for Valdivia), Puerto Montt, and Aneud, which lie to the south of Valparaiso, must transship in Valparaiso itself. Only the boats of the Pacific Steam Navigation Company ply southward as far as Punta Arenas.

Following is a list of the ports southward from Panama to Valparaiso:

In Colombia: Buenaventura, Tumaco.

In Ecuador: Esmeraldas, Bahía, Manta, Cayo, Machalilla, Manglar Alto, Ballenita, Puerto Bolívar, Guayaquil (four days from Panama direct, and eleven days, if the intermediate ports be visited).

In Peru: Tumbes, Payta, Eten, Pacasmayo, Huanchaco, Salaverry (for Trujillo), Chimbote, Saunaco, Casma, Supe, Huacho, Callao (ten days from Panama), Cerro

Azul, Tambo de Mora, Pisco, Lomas, Chala, Quilca, Mollendo (sixteen days from Panama), Ilo.

In Chile: Arica, Pisagua, Caleta Buena, Iquique (eighteen days from Panama), Tocopilla, Gatico, Antofagasta (nineteen days from Panama), Taltal, Chañaral, Caldera, Carrizal, Huasco, Coquimbo, Valparaiso (twenty-three days from Panama).

(3) TO THE EAST COAST.

(A) To Brazil.

Bahia (sixteen days from New York): Lamport & Holt Line, Hamburg South American Steamship Company, and Hamburg-American Line, Prince Line, Lloyd Brasileiro.

Cabedello: Hamburg South American Steamship Company and Hamburg-American Line, Lloyd Brasileiro.

Ceara: Booth Line, Lloyd Brasileiro.

Desterro: Hamburg South American Steamship Company and Hamburg-American Line.

Maceio: Hamburg South American Steamship Company and Hamburg-American Line.

Manaos (sixteen days, and thence up the Amazon to Iquitos, Peru): Booth Line.

Maranhã: Booth Line, Lloyd Brasileiro.

Pará (eleven days): Booth Line, Lloyd Brasileiro.

Paranagua: Hamburg South American Steamship Company and Hamburg-American Line.

Pernambuco (Recife): Lamport & Holt Line, Hamburg South American Steamship Company and Hamburg-American Line, Lloyd Brasileiro.

Rio de Janeiro (eighteen days): Lamport & Holt Line, Hamburg South American Steamship Company and Hamburg-American Line, Prince Line, Lloyd Brasileiro.

Rio Grande do Sul: Hamburg South American Steamship Company and Hamburg-American Line.

Santos (nineteen days): Lamport & Holt Line, Hamburg South American Steamship Company and Hamburg-American Line, Prince Line, Lloyd Brasileiro.

São Francisco do Sul: Hamburg South American Steamship Company and Hamburg-American Line.

Victoria: Hamburg South American Steamship Company and Hamburg-American Line, Lloyd Brasileiro.

(B) To Uruguay.

Montevideo (twenty days): Lamport & Holt Line, Prince Line.

(C) To the Argentine Republic.

Buenos Aires (twenty-one days): Lamport & Holt Line, Prince Line.

Other lines of steamships plying between New York and several of the ports above mentioned are the Lynzan & Barber, the Honston, and the Norton.

II. FROM EUROPE.

To the east coast and via the Straits of Magellan to the southern portion of the west coast of South America, passengers may go with more comfort and convenience by way of Europe than by any of the steamship lines from the United States. The better class of European steamer, indeed, is larger, its accommodations are more satisfactory, and its speed is greater than those of a similar type of vessel from this country. The ports along the north coast, also, can be reached from Europe by such lines as the following: Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, Hamburg South American Steamship Company and Hamburg-American Line, Compagnie Générale Transatlantique, La Veloce, Navigazione Italiana á Vapore, and Compañía Transatlántica. On the

principal lines the tickets are usually interchangeable, but precise information on this point must be sought at the offices of the companies concerned.

The names of the steamship lines now to be mentioned in connection with the several European countries apply, in general, to the service between Europe and the ports of the east coast of South America. On their way thither the steamers touch at various European ports, embarkation at which may mean a saving of time. Some of the lines also have special services to and from countries outside of their place of origin.

English lines.—Royal Mail Steam Packet Company (from Southampton). Pacific Steam Navigation Company (from Liverpool). Lamport & Holt Line (from Liverpool), Booth Line (from Liverpool to the Amazon ports as far as Iquitos, Peru), Prince Line (from London), Anglo-Argentine Shipping Line (from London and Liverpool), New Zealand Shipping Company (from London and Plymouth), Shaw Savill White Star Line (from London and Plymouth), Houlder Line, MacIver Line, Houston Line, and Nelson Line (all from Liverpool).

French lines.—Compagnie des Messageries Maritimes (from Bordeaux), Compagnie des Transports Maritimes à Vapeur (from Marseille).

German lines.—Hamburg South American Steamship Company and Hamburg-American Line, and the Kosmos Line (from Hamburg), North German Lloyd Steamship Company (from Bremen).

Italian lines.—Navigazione Generale Italiana, La Veloce, Navigazione Italiana & Vapore, La Italia, Società di Navigazione & Vapore, Compagnia Lloyd Italiano, La Ligure Brasiliana (all from Genoa and Naples).

Spanish lines.—Compañía Transatlántica, and Sociedad Anónima de Navegación Transatlántica (from Barcelona and other Spanish ports).

III. LOCAL SERVICE ALONG THE EAST COAST, AND TRANSCONTINENTAL ROUTES.

Direct connection between the northern and eastern ports of South America, and between the minor ports along the east coast or along the Amazon and its affluents, is possible only in local coasting steamers, of which, as a rule, the speed, accommodations, and regularity in departure and arrival can not be recommended. Information about the service of this sort may be obtained at the New York or at the European offices of any of the steamship lines plying to the east coast; but the information of course is apt to be more specific if ascertained at the local offices of the coasting companies concerned in the principal cities of Brazil and the Argentine Republic. The Brazilian lines engaged in such traffic are the Lloyd Brasileiro; Empresa Esperança Martima, Companhia Nacional de Navegação Costeira, Empresa de Navegação Rio de Janeiro, Serviço Marítimo A. C. Moreira, and Companhia Cruzeiro do Sul. In the Argentine Republic the coasting lines are those of the Compañía Hamburgo Sud-Americana, and the Pacific Steam Navigation Company.

There are two regular and convenient ways of reaching the west coast from the east and vice versa. One is the transcontinental route connecting the Argentine Republic with Chile, and the other is the sea route through the Strait of Magellan. During seven months in the year, namely, from October to May, it is possible to make the journey between Buenos Aires and Santiago mostly by rail, and for a comparatively short distance by carriage or on mule-back over the passes of the Andes. The trip consumes anywhere from forty to forty-eight hours. Arrangements for the purpose may be made in Buenos Aires at the offices of the Buenos Aires and Pacific Railway Company (No. 281, 25 de Mayo), of the Expreso Villalonga (No. 236 Balcarce), or of the Expreso La Confianza (No. 313 Cuyo); or in Santiago at the corresponding offices of the Andean Railway and of the express agencies mentioned. During the winter months, however, from May to October, when the passes over the Andes are usually not open to traffic, or are in such a condition as to render traveling over them somewhat perilous, the route via the Strait of Magellan has to be chosen. The ves-

sels belonging to the Pacific Steam Navigation Company make the voyage between Montevideo and Valparaiso in from ten to twelve days, depending upon whether or not they touch at the Falkland Islands. A more picturesque, though somewhat longer, route is that taken by the small German steamers of the Kosmos Line and others, which thread their way through the Smyths Channel instead of through the wider waterways of the Straits. Practically all of the vessels, both English and German, touch at Punta Arenas, Chile.

THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

Guidebooks.—Handy Guide to the Argentine Republic. 140 pp. (Buenos Aires, Robert Grant & Co., 510 Cangallo.) Martinez, Baedeker de la République Argentine. 700 pp. The latter may be purchased also at the book store of Grant & Co. Both volumes contain information, not only about the Argentine Republic itself, but about the routes from that country to the adjacent Republics of Brazil, Uruguay, Paraguay, Bolivia, and Chile as well. That of Martinez, of course, is more detailed in its statements.

Money.—The so-called "national money" ("moneda nacional," often abbreviated thus: m/n) of the Argentine Republic is a paper currency. The unit of value is the peso. In its paper form it is worth about 44 centavos in Argentine gold, or 43 cents in American money. The English sovereign is accepted at the value of 5 pesos in Argentine gold, or about 11 pesos, 40 centavos in paper; and the American eagle at that of 10 pesos, 36 centavos in Argentine gold, or about 23 pesos, 55 centavos in paper. The fractional currency is of silver and nickel.

Buenos Aires.

Arrival and departure.—Most of the steamers from the United States and Europe proceed directly up the La Plata River and land their passengers at the docks in Buenos Aires. A few, like those of the Pacific Steam Navigation Company, discharge their passengers at Montevideo, whence the voyage to the Argentine capital has to be continued by a European liner, or by a vessel of the local Mihanovich Line. In this case a supplementary ticket, or an order for such, should be obtained from the purser before the arrival of the boat at Montevideo. A Mihanovich steamer leaves Montevideo daily at 6 p. m., and makes the trip to Buenos Aires in about ten or twelve hours. Both stateroom and meals are included in the price of the ticket, which is a fraction over \$6 in American money.

From Buenos Aires a network of railways branches out to the northern and western parts of the Republic. Various local steamers, belonging chiefly to the Mihanovich Line, ply up the Uruguay, La Plata, Paraná, and Paraguay rivers to a number of cities and towns in Uruguay and Paraguay, as well as in the Argentine Republic itself.

Hotels.—There are many hotels in Buenos Aires, ranging from first-class to fair. Those like the Palace Hotel, the Grand Hotel, and the Paris Hotel are strictly first-class, and their prices are correspondingly high. The Phoenix Hotel is frequented chiefly by English people, and its rates are more reasonable. Among the other hotels may be mentioned the Royal Hotel, Caviezel's New Hotel, Metropole Hotel, Grand Hotel Frascati (splendid hotel), Imperial Hotel, Grand Hotel Eslava, Albion Hotel.

Cabs.—The fare for an ordinary drive in a cab drawn by one horse or two is 80 centavos, and per hour, \$1.50 m/n. Automobiles, also, are available, but at much higher rates.

Objects of interests.—The docks and harbor works, the water-supply building (Aguas Corrientes), the Museum of Natural History, the Museum of Fine Arts, the National Historical Museum, the Museum of National Products, the Botanical and Zoological Gardens, the Congressional Palace, the Government Palace, the Stock Exchange (La Bolsa); the city hall, or "cabildo," an old colonial building; the National Library

and the Museum-Library of General Mitre; the offices of La Prensa; in some respects the most remarkable newspaper enterprise in the world; the Jockey Club house; the opera house; the Cathedral, within which is the tomb of the famous Gen. San Martín; the Church of Santo Domingo, which contains some English battle flags captured by the Argentines in the early part of the last century, and the Recoleta Cemetery. Drives should be taken, also, in some of the parks like those of Palermo, Lezama, and 9 de Julio, and along some of the principal streets and avenues like Florida, the Avenida de Mayo, and the Avenida Alvear. Further points of interest are the rural exposition grounds and the race track at Palermo; the wool market, the largest of its kind in the world; the Riachuelo, with its crowded shipping; and the suburb of Belgrano.

A number of agreeable excursions can be made from Buenos Aires. During the months from November to March the summer resort of Mar del Plata and that of El Tigre, with its noted boat clubs, are worth visiting. A short journey by rail to the city of La Plata gives an opportunity to see its famous Museum of Natural History and its national observatory. Another trip by rail to the city of Rosario, the great wheat center of the Republic, affords a glimpse of the agricultural areas where harvesting is conducted on a gigantic scale, and of the "estancias" or stock farms, with their thousands of horses, cattle, and sheep. If the traveler can obtain permission so to do, he should not fail to visit one of these establishments. The return journey from Rosario may be made advantageously by steamer down the Paraná. An interesting trip of longer duration is that by steamer to the Falls of the Iguazú, which are more imposing than those of Niagara, and at the same time to the picturesque ruins of the Jesuit missions. The necessary information and tickets may be secured at the office of the Mihanovich Line, corner of Cangallo and 25 de Mayo.

Photographs.—These may be purchased in many of the bookstores and also at the studio of ENRIQUE C. MOODY, who has one of the best assortments in the city.

BOLIVIA.

Money.—The unit of value is the boliviano. In silver it is worth about 40 cents and in paper about 32 cents. Other silver coins are the 50, 20, 10, and 5 centavo pieces, called, respectively, the "medio boliviano," the "peseta," the "real," and the "medio real." There are also small coins of nickel and copper. The English sovereign passes current at 12½ bolivianos.

LA PAZ.

Arrival and departure.—There are two customary routes over the Andes to La Paz, one from Mollendo, Peru, by rail and steamer, the other from Antofagasta, Chile, by rail and coach. The former is decidedly preferable. A train leaves Mollendo daily and makes the ascent to Arequipa in about six hours. From Arequipa trains run on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday up to Puno on the Peruvian side of Lake Titicaca (twelve hours). Here a steamer is taken in the evening for a trip of fifteen hours to Guaqui on the Bolivian shore of the lake. From this point the traveler has a journey of about four hours by rail to Tiahuanaco and Alta La Paz, where he boards an electric train for the descent into La Paz proper. If the route from Antofagasta, Chile, be adopted, one must proceed by rail via Calama and Uyuni to Oruro. From that point the journey has to be continued by coach to Sicasica, and thence to La Paz.

Hotels.—The Grand Hotel Guibert and its annexes.

Objects of interest.—The buildings and streets of the city itself; the native Indians, in their many-hued garments and with their odd customs; the bull-ring; the market; the old churches and the park. An interesting drive may be taken down the picturesque valley to Orajés.

BRAZIL.

Money.—The circulating medium in Brazil is chiefly paper. The paper milreis is worth about 30 cents, though its value fluctuates considerably. The English sovereign is a legal tender at the equivalent of 16 milreis. There are also silver pieces of 500 reis and of 1 and 2 milreis; nickel pieces of 100, 200, and 400 reis, and copper pieces of less than 100 reis. As the nickel coins vary in size, regardless of the value that they represent, each one has to be examined separately.

RIO DE JANEIRO.

Arrival and departure.—Passengers coming by sea are landed in rowboats or in steam launches, and this will continue to be the case until the docks now in construction are finished. Rio de Janeiro, also, may be entered by means of the railway from São Paulo. Passengers leaving the capital city by sea are presumed to secure from the custom-house a release for their baggage, for the stamping of which a small fee is charged; and in addition they must pay a tax, usually included in the price of the steamer ticket, for the privilege of departure. The fees demanded on all occasions by boatmen, porters, and cabmen, he it said, here and in the other large cities of Brazil, are apt to be extortionate to a degree. To most of these cities the journey from Rio de Janeiro has to be made by sea. Information about the special shipment of baggage may be had at the office of the Expreso Pan-Americano (No. 2 Avenida Central).

Hotels.—The best hotels in Rio de Janeiro are the Grande Hotel Internacional and the Hotel dos Estrangeiros. The former is situated at some distance from the city, and commands a fine view of the harbor. Other hotels are the following: Hotel Alexandra, Hotel Santa Thereza, White's Hotel, Hotel dos Estados, Hotel Bello Horizonte, and Hotel Vista Alegre.

Cabs.—The fare for a single trip ranges from 2 milreis upward, depending partly upon the length of the ride and partly upon the ability of the passenger to bargain. The rate per hour is ordinarily 8 milreis, subject, however, to the latter limitation.

Objects of interest.—Museum of Fine Arts; National Museum; the Cathedral and the churches of the Candelaria and La Gloria; the famous Botanical Gardens, with their avenues of imperial palms; the Government buildings; the National Library; the Monroe Palace; the Opera House; the market; and the race course. Nor should the traveler fail to visit the narrow Rua do Ouvidor, the great business street and center of social and political life in the capital; the Avenida Central, a new avenue cut straight through the center of the city; the Cattete, the street on which the Executive Mansion of the Republic is situated; the handsome Avenida A-Beira Mar, a new driveway skirting the harbor; and the beaches or "praias" of Botafogo and Flamengo. The city also has a number of fine parks, of which the "Passeio Publico" and the "Parque da Praça da Republica" are the best.

From Rio de Janeiro many charming excursions are at the disposal of the traveler. Those by trolley to Ipãneima, Sumaré, Tijuca, the Vista Chinea, and Santa Thereza, and by rack railway to the summit of Corcovado, for example, afford magnificent views of the harbor from the hills and mountains with which the Brazilian capital is surrounded. Closer views of the harbor are obtainable by a special trip to Paqueta, the most beautiful of the many islands with which it is studded; or by the regular boat from the Prainha wharf across the harbor to Maná. Here the train may be taken to the pleasant mountain resort of Petropolis, the seat of most of the foreign legations accredited to Brazil. Several of the suburban districts of Rio de Janeiro, also, may be reached by rail, and are well worth visiting.

Photographs.—These may be purchased at the studios of Marc Ferrez and Th. M. de Campos.

SÃO PAULO.

Arrival and departure.—The traveler who wishes to see São Paulo, the leading city of southern Brazil, has a choice of routes—either by sea to Santos, and thence by rail, or directly by rail from Rio de Janeiro. Practically all of the ocean liners stop at the great coffee port of Santos, where the passengers are landed at the docks. Should it be necessary to remain any length of time in Santos, accommodations may be had at the Rotisserie Sportsman or at the Grande Hotel Internacional, which are situated in the city proper, or better, at the Guarujá or at the Balneario José Menino, located at some distance from the city.

The trip by railway from Rio de Janeiro takes about twelve hours. If made by day a good chance is afforded to see the intervening country, but the ride is apt to be rather hot and dusty. Many will find a night journey preferable, although, owing to a difference in the gauge, the traveler has to change cars at Jocaré very early in the morning. For all these reasons the trip to São Paulo is more agreeably made from Santos, and over the fine São Paulo Railway. Aside from the scenic attractions that it offers, the journey is so short (three hours) as to enable the traveler, who may be pressed for time, to go and return on the same day.

Hotels.—For a city of the size of São Paulo the hotels are very poor. The best is that called, like its counterpart in Santos, Rotisserie Sportsman. Others are the Roma, the Grande, the Bella Vista, and the Francia.

Cabs.—The fares range from 2 to 10 milreis, according to the distance and to the faculty of the passenger for bargaining.

Objects of interest.—In the city proper the museum and national monument of Ypiranga, and Mackenzie College, an American institution of learning, may be visited to advantage. Beyond the city trips may be taken by rail to the great coffee "fazendas" or plantations. The extensive works also of the São Paulo Light and Power Company, a Canadian-American corporation, on the Tieté River, deserve a visit.

Photographs may be procured at the studio of Guilherme Gaensly.

CHILE.

Money.—The unit of value is the peso. In its paper form it is worth about 20 cents, but the rate of exchange fluctuates greatly. The fractional currency is of silver. Coins of a denomination greater than 50 centavos are not common. In some places, indeed, small currency is so scarce that token money (fichas), made of lead or of rubber, and even postage stamps, are used for the purpose.

If foreign money has to be exchanged, the traveler entering Chile from the east will find a more favorable rate at Juncal; from the south, at Punta Arenas; or from the north, at Arica, than is apt to be the case at Santiago or Valparaiso. Similarly, on leaving the country he would do well to dispose of his Chilean paper at any one of the three frontier towns above named before proceeding farther. Failure to do so means a heavy discount. Incidentally, also it might be remarked that the pelts of the vicuña, alpaca, and other animals, which are usually offered for sale at Punta Arenas, can be obtained more cheaply and in better quality at Arica or La Paz.

SANTIAGO.

Arrival and departure.—Santiago can be reached by rail from three directions, viz, eastward from Juncal, southward from Talcahuano, and westward from Valparaiso (five to seven hours). To the traveler coming from the southward the all-day journey from Talcahuano to Santiago is preferable to the route by sea to Valparaiso and thence to the Chilean capital. Similarly, if the cities between Santiago and Valdivia are to be visited, the trip by rail (twenty-four hours to Valdivia, with a change of cars at San Rosendo) will be found more convenient and otherwise agreeable than the one by sea. Though the steamers bound northward regularly stop at Talcahuano, those

bound southward do not; hence, ordinarily, the vessel has to be boarded at Valparaiso.

Hotels.—Grand Hotel, Hotel Oddo (with its annexes A and B, in the latter of which only rooms may be had), Hotel Royal, and Hotel de Francia.

Cabs.—The fare is 1 to 3 pesos per drive, and 2 pesos per hour. Bargaining is advisable.

Objects of interest.—Quinta Normal (a model farm and agricultural school), the National Museum and the Museum of Fine Arts (both of which are within the precincts of the Quinta Normal), military museum, Military School, Houses of Congress, La Moneda (the mint, and the official residence of the President of the Republic), the printing office of "El Mercurio," the National Library; the Cathedral, and the churches of San Francisco, Santo Domingo, La Merced, las Sacramentinas, and La Recoleta Dominica, Cousiño Park, the Alameda, the race course, and the hill of Santa Lucia, from the summit of which a fine view of Santiago and its surrounding mountains is obtainable. Outside of the city, drives may be taken to the famous Cousiño "estancia" and to the estate called "Peñalolen."

Photographs are procurable at the respective studios of Spencer and Heffer.

VALPARAISO.

Arrival and departure.—As already observed, Valparaiso is reached by rail from Santiago, or by the steamers that ply along the west coast. Passengers by sea are sent ashore in small boats. In case of a heavy storm, however, passengers can not be landed or taken aboard until it subsides.

Hotels.—Except for the Royal Hotel, there are no hotels in Valparaiso which offer satisfactory accommodations.

Objects of interest.—In the city itself the naval school and the view of the harbor from the heights, which are reached by elevators, constitute the principal attractions for visitors. From Valparaiso a pleasant trip may be taken to Viña del Mar, a noted summer resort.

ECUADOR.

Money.—The unit of value is the sucre, worth about 50 cents. The money in common use consists of paper and a fractional currency of silver. In business dealings one often hears the term "real" applied to the 10-centavo piece.

GUAYAQUIL.

Arrival and departure.—After a sail of a few hours up the Guayas River, the steamers anchor a mile or two below the city. The passengers are landed or taken aboard in small boats. Should the tide be unfavorable, vexatious delays are apt to result.

Hotels.—There is no good hotel in Guayaquil, and only those well protected with wire netting against mosquitoes should be patronized at all. Fair accommodations may be found at the Hotel Guayaquil, the Hotel de Paris, and the Gran Hotel Victoria.

Objects of interest.—There is little about Guayaquil to attract the traveler. A few of the churches are worth a visit. The street scenes, also, especially those along the water front, are rather curious, and the processes of drying and packing cacao beans offer some degree of interest. The latter, however, may be observed to greater advantage on the cacao plantations themselves, which lie at some distance from the city.

Photographs may be purchased at the studio of Julio Timm.

QUITO.

Arrival and departure.—Since the railway from Guayaquil up the mountains to Quito has not yet been completed, the trip to the capital city has to be made partly by rail, and partly by diligence, carriage, or automobile. The entire journey occupies from two to three days. Although interesting beyond measure alike in scenery and

in picturesqueness, it is attended with many discomforts, of which the service on the railway itself is not the least. The train for Ambato, the present terminus of the line so far as passenger traffic is concerned, leaves Duran on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday upon the arrival of the ferryboat, that in turn leaves Guayaquil at about 6 a. m. As the train does not reach Riobamba until quite late at night, the traveler has to remain there until the next morning (Hotel Ferrocarril; Hotel California). From this point the train for Ambato leaves about 6.40. At Ambato (Hotel Guayas) places may be secured in an uncomfortable diligence that starts for Quito about 1 p. m.; in an automobile, provided that a supply of gasoline happens to be procurable, or in a private carriage, should such be available. In any case the fare for the transportation of persons and baggage is expensive, and as a rule, also, nothing heavier than hand baggage will be carried on any of these conveyances. The trip by automobile from Ambato to Quito can be made in a few hours, whereas that by diligence or carriage compels the traveler to stay over night at Latacunga (Hotel Siglo XX; Hotel Italia). In the latter case the diligence or carriage starts from Latacunga very early in the morning of the third day, and after a stop for breakfast at Muchachi, arrives at Quito at about 4 p. m. Both at Quito and at Ambato the accommodations on any of the three modes of conveyance should be engaged at the earliest possible opportunity. The train for Duran and Guayaquil, furthermore, leaves Ambato on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays about 2 p. m., and, as before, the traveler must spend the night at Riobamba.

Hotels.—Hotel de Paris (Charpentier's); Royal Palace Hotel.

Objects of interest.—Though many of the streets and buildings of Quito have undergone a certain amount of modern reconstruction, the city itself has preserved a quaintly colonial aspect. The cathedral and other churches, the government buildings, the public square, the park, the market, and the observatory, all merit some inspection. With so large a population of native Indians, a visit to Quito affords an unusual opportunity to observe their interesting characteristics and customs. A stroll, also, along the narrow and hilly, but picturesque streets and out into the beautiful country beyond is well worth the traveler's while.

Photographs are obtainable in the shops around the public square.

PANAMA.

Money.—The unit of value is the balboa, worth about 50 cents. American money also circulates freely in the Republic.

PANAMA AND COLON.

Arrival and departure.—The routes to and from these cities have been described above in the account of the principal steamship lines. The American town of Ancon, in the Canal Zone, lies but a few minutes' walk from Panama.

Hotels.—In Ancon, the Tivoli; in Panama, the Hotel Central; in Colon, the Hotel Imperial.

Objects of interests.—In Panama the Cathedral, and in Ancon the hospital grounds and the American settlement in general should be visited. From Panama trips may be made to the ruins of the former Spanish town of that name, and to the island of Toboga. The canal works at Culebra Cut, Gatun Dam, Bas Obispo, and elsewhere, may be inspected from the direction of either Panama or Colon. The latter city in itself offers no special interest to the traveler; but from it excursions may be taken along the Chagres River and to the old Spanish fort of San Lorenzo.

Photographs may be purchased at several of the shops in Panama.

PERU.

Money.—Paper currency is not used in Peru. The gold coin known as the "libra" is the precise equivalent of the English sovereign, and the one circulates as freely as

the other. The fractional currency is made up of silver coins called "soles," 10 of which equal a libra, the subdivisions of the sol, and copper pieces of 1 centavo and 2 centavos. In business dealings the 20-centavo piece is commonly termed a "peseta," and the 10-centavo piece a "real." No person entering the country is allowed to bring with him more than 50 soles in silver.

LIMA.

Arrival and departure.—Passengers arriving at Callao, the seaport of Lima, are sent ashore in small boats. Before leaving the steamer arrangements should be made with the runner from the Gran Hotel Maury, in case that hotel in Lima be selected by the traveler, or with a boatman for the transference of the baggage direct to the Maury or to any other hotel in the capital. Then, after the customs examination has been completed, the trolley or the train may be taken for the half hour's trip to Lima. On the return journey similar arrangements can be made at the hotel for the dispatch of the baggage aboard the steamer at Callao.

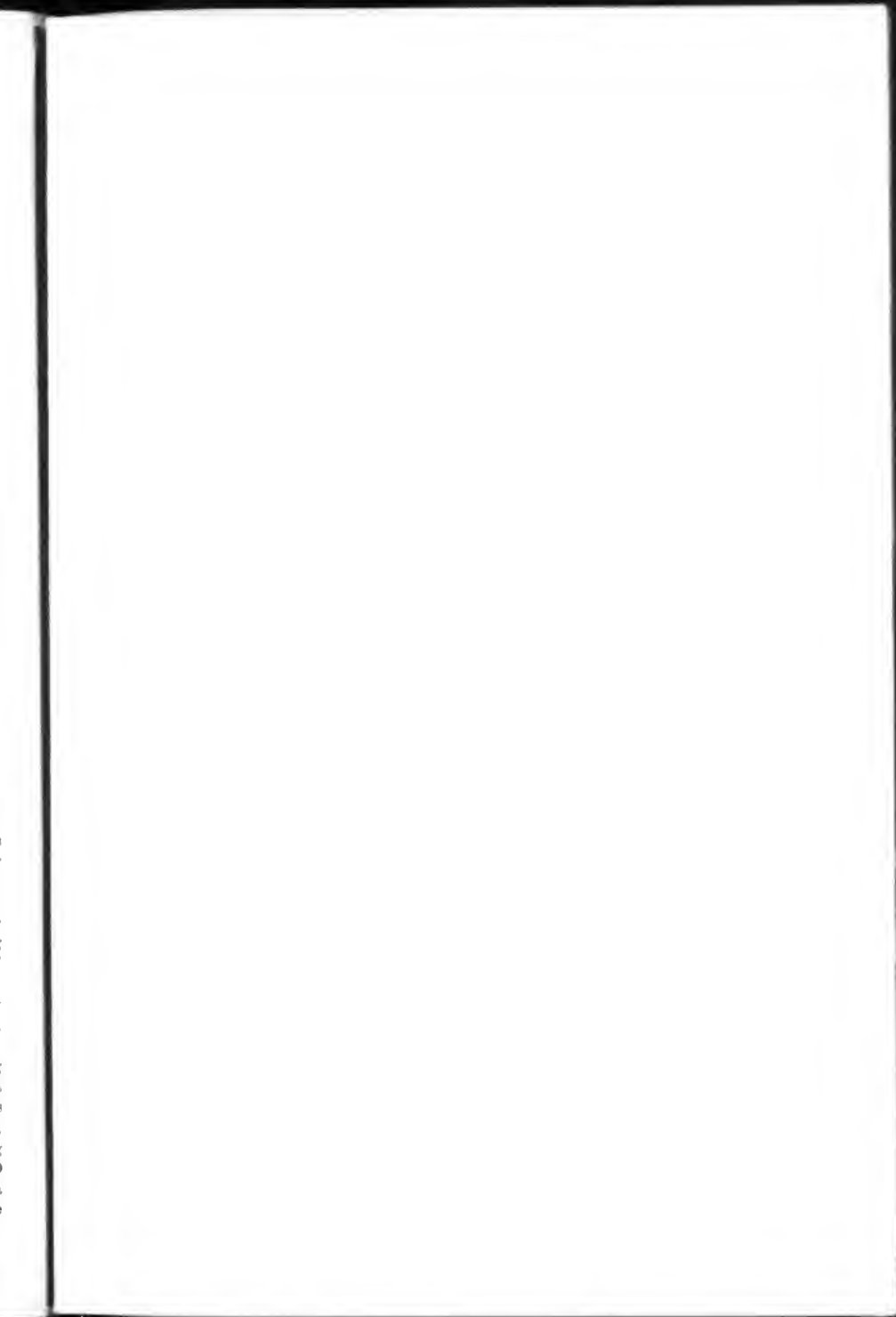
Hotels.—Gran Hotel Maury and its various dependencies, like the Hotel de Francia é Inglaterra, Grand Hotel, Hotel Cardinal, Hotel Nuevo Mundo, Hotel Internacional.

Cabs.—The fare is 30 centavos a trip and 1 sol per hour.

Objects of interest.—In spite of its population of considerably over 100,000, Lima has kept much of the aspect of a Spanish colonial town. The houses are usually but one story or two in height, and the architecture of many of them, with their inclosed balconies and their open "patio" or court, is decidedly quaint. Though the streets have undergone a process of renaming, the people often cling to the old designations by blocks (cuadras). While strolling through these streets the traveler will have a chance to observe quite a number of curious scenes and types that the course of modernization has not affected to any great extent. Such scenes and types, however, may be seen to more advantage in other Peruvian towns, like Arequipa and Cuzco.

Among the interesting buildings that should be visited is the cathedral, with its imposing façade and its finely carved wooden stalls. Within the cathedral, also, in a glass coffin, preserved in one of the chapels at the left of the entrance, repose the mummified remains of Francisco Pizarro, the old Spanish "conquistador" of Peru. They are shown by a custodian for a small gratuity. Other churches of interest are those of San Agostin, Santo Domingo, the original seat of the University of St. Mark, and containing a beautiful recumbent statue of Santa Rosa, the patron saint of Lima; San Francisco, and particularly its cloisters with their remarkable collection of tiles dating from the early part of the seventeenth century, and San Carlos. The traveler should see also the Casa Verde or "Green House," formerly the palace of the Spanish viceroys of Peru and now the executive mansion of the Republic; the Senate House, once the abode of the Inquisition; the building of the Chamber of Deputies, in the session hall of which, as well as in that of the Senate, the ingenious system of voting by electricity should be inspected; the "Cabildo" or city hall; the "Plaza de Armas," the great public square; the University of St. Mark, the oldest in both the Americas, its charter dating from 1551; the National Library; the Museum of National History and the Exposition Grounds; the panteon or cemetery; the market; the bull-ring, and the race course.

From Lima via Callao short excursions may be taken by trolley to the neighboring towns of Barrancos and Chorillos. A very interesting trip is the one up the Oroya Railway. Not only is this railway the highest in the world, but it rivals, if it does not surpass, in scenery that afforded by the journey to Quito, Ecuador, and to La Paz, Bolivia, already described. The train leaves Callao and Lima early in the morning on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. The highest point on the line, some 15,600 feet above sea level, lies between the stations of Casapalca and Ticlio. At Oroya connection may be made, late in the afternoon, with the train for Cerro de Pasco, one



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of the noted mining regions of Peru. From Cerro de Pasco the train for Lima and Callao leaves on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday.

Photographs may be obtained at the studios of GARREAU, COURRET, and MORAL.

AREQUIPA AND CUZCO.

The traveler in Peru should not fail to visit these two towns, the one so reminiscent of Spanish colonial days and the other so closely associated with the period of Inca rule and the feats of the "conquistadores." As above stated in the account of the route to La Paz, Bolivia, a train leaves Mollendo daily for Arequipa. At Mollendo may be found fair hotels, like the Ferrocarril, the Buena Vista, and the 4 de Julio; and at Arequipa, the Don Pedro, the Europa, the Royal, Pablo's, the Gran Central, and Bernardi's. From Arequipa trips may be taken to the Harvard Observatory and to the summit of El Misti. The best way of reaching Cuzco at present is to go by train from Arequipa, or from Puno in case that the traveler is returning from La Paz, to Juliaca and thence to Checacupe. From the point last named the journey to Cuzco has to be continued by diligence.

URUGUAY.

Money.—The peso is the unit of value, and in both of its forms, gold and paper, is worth about \$1.02 in American money. The American eagle passes current at 9 pesos, 66 centésimos, and the English sovereign at 4 pesos, 70 centésimos. Silver and nickel pieces constitute the fractional currency.

MONTEVIDEO.

Arrival and departure.—As indicated above in the description of the steamship routes to South America, most of the European liners, and one or two of the liners from New York and New Orleans, touch at Montevideo. Until the harbor works are completed the vessels have to lie some distance offshore, and in case of a storm or of unusually shallow water in the harbor this distance may be several miles. The passengers are landed or taken aboard in steam launches or in rowboats.

Hotels.—Grand Hotel Lanata, Hotel Oriental, Hotel Pirámides, Hotel Barcelona, Hotel Central y de la Paz, Hotel Español, Hotel de Paris. In the immediate neighborhood of the city there are hotels like the Pardo and the Pocitos in the localities of the same name.

Cabs.—The fare per drive ranges from 50 centésimos upward, depending on the distance, and from 1 peso upward per hour. Bargaining is advisable.

Objects of interest.—For its location and general attractiveness Montevideo is one of the most charming cities in South America. While there the traveler should visit the harbor works the National Museum, the Solis Theater, the Cathedral, and the churches of the Redentoristas and of the Seminario, and the Capilla Jackson. Near the city are two rather pretty parks, namely, the Prado and the Parque Urbano: the zoological garden, known as Villa Dolores, and the summer resorts of Los Pocitos and Villa Colon. For the sake of the fine view that it affords, a trip should be made to the top of the Cerro or hill from which Montevideo is said to have derived its name in Latinized form (*montem video*).

The country districts of Uruguay, also, are very pleasing. Though the "estancias" do not rank in size with those of the Argentine Republic, they are quite worth visiting, and many of them can be reached by rail. Another point of interest lying at some distance from Montevideo is the famous works of the Liebig Extract of Meat Company at Fray Bentos on the Uruguay River. Information about the trip, which is made most conveniently by way of Buenos Aires, can be obtained at the offices of the Milanovich Line in Montevideo.

Photographs may be purchased at several of the studios or bookstores, such as those of Fitzpatrick, Galli, and Maveroff.

STEAMER CONNECTIONS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND LATIN AMERICA.

The International Bureau of the American Republics has made every effort to secure correctness in these tables, but requests that attention be called to errors and omissions. Two tables are given: (1) The names of all seaports in Latin America having direct communication with seaports in the United States. Ports not mentioned can be reached by coastwise vessels from these ports set in *italic*. The national capital is directly under the name of each Republic, even where this Republic has no port. The distances are chiefly from the chart of the Hydrographic Office, Navy Department, and do not always correspond to distances allowed for commercial measurements. (2) The names, so far as could be ascertained, of each steamship line having a transportation route to any seaport in Latin America. A traveler to any country in Latin America should find the seaport he wishes in Table 1, then turn to Table 2, and under the guide numbers he can trace out the route he wishes to follow.

AUTHOR'S NOTE.—It must be clearly understood that these tables, prepared by Albert Hale, give only the direct connections between ports in the United States and those in Latin America. This does not imply that the latter ports can not be reached in other ways. For example, the traveler wishing to land at any port on the west coast of Central America may more easily go from New York or New Orleans to Panama and from there take a north-bound steamer to his destination. To reach Buenos Aires he may go first to Valparaiso and thence across the Andes. To reach many of the West India Islands it is possible to make connections at Jamaica, Porto Rico, Barbados, Trinidad, and Curaçao with steamers to and from Europe, or with a so-called intercolonial service; but these steamers do not touch at United States ports, and therefore no mention is made of them. Finally, the traveler who prefers to do so, may go from the United States by any steamer to Europe, where steamers of English, German, French, Spanish, Italian, and Austrian lines will carry him to ports in Latin America. These steamship lines have no direct ports of call in the United States, and therefore specific mention of them has been omitted.

South of Panama the steamers touching at Colombian and Ecuadorian ports north of Guayaquil do not proceed south of that port, but transfer passengers here. To the southern ports of Chile it is usual for passengers to transfer at Talcahuano, although occasionally a steamer may go beyond that port as far as Punta Arenas and Montevideo on its way to Europe. Such details can be obtained from the agents of the lines touching these ports.

TABLE 1.

To reach ports in—	Number in Table 2.	Approximate distance (miles).	Days en route.	Fare.*
ARGENTINA (Spanish spoken):				
Buenos Aires.....	1, 2, 5, direct	From New York.....	27	\$155.00
	3, transfer at Rio.	5,868		
	4, transfer at Montevideo and			
	6, freight only			210.00
	7, passengers north bound only			
Bahia Grande.....	8, 9, chiefly freight			
Bahia Blanca.....	Railway from Buenos Aires.....		28	
La Plata.....	Railway from Buenos Aires, 40 miles.....		27	
Rosario.....	Railway from Buenos Aires, 200 miles and 5, 6, 7, 9.....		28	140.00
BOLIVIA (has no seaport Spanish spoken):				
Sucre.....	Stage from La Paz.....			
La Paz.....	35, 36, from Panama to Mollendo, rail to Puno, 330 miles, across Lake Titicaca, and rail to La Paz.....			
	35, 36, to Arica, rail to Taena, mule and 60 miles of stage to La Paz.....			
	35, 36, to Antofagasta, thence 55 miles to Oruro, and by stage 160 miles to La Paz, 235 miles.....			
	To Buenos Aires, rail to Jujuy, 1,000 miles, and 233 miles mule, across the Andes, to La Paz.....			

	1,	2,	3a,	4b,	5,		From New York.
Brazil (Portuguese spoken):							4, 178
○Rio de Janeiro.....	11						3,915
Manaos.....	11						18
Pará (Belém).....	11						100.00
Maranhão (Maranhã, São Luiz).....	11						3,740
Paranápolis.....	11						80.00
Ceará (Fortaleza).....	11						3,422
11.....	11						19
11.....	11						3,046
11.....	11						17
Natal (Colôndelo).....	3a						3,846
11.....	3a						3,640
Recife (Pernambuco).....	2a	3b,	4b,				3,696
Macailo.....	3a						3,890
Bahia (São Salvador).....	1,	2,	3a,	4b,	5,		4,176
Victoria.....	1,	2,	3a,	4b,	5,		5,005
Santos.....	1,	2,	3a,	4b,	5,		21
Paranáguá.....	3a						145.00
São Francisco.....	3a						23
Rio de Janeiro (Niterói).....	3a						24
Recife (Pernambuco).....	3a						150.00
Recife (Pernambuco) Sul.....	3a						25
Porto Alegre.....	3a						5,178
Porto Alegre.....	3a						25
Porto Alegre.....	3a						170.00
Colombia (Spanish spoken):							28
○Santiago.....							1,932
Arica.....	23,	24,	44,	45			167.50
11.....	23,	24,	44,	45			1,900
11.....	23,	24,	44,	45			2,000
11.....	23,	24,	44,	45			18
11.....	23,	24,	44,	45			170.00
11.....	23,	24,	44,	45			19
11.....	23,	24,	44,	45			177.50
11.....	23,	24,	44,	45			2,128
11.....	23,	24,	44,	45			59
11.....	23,	24,	44,	45			182.50
11.....	23,	24,	44,	45			2,335
11.....	23,	24,	44,	45			21
11.....	23,	24,	44,	45			187.50
11.....	23,	24,	44,	45			2,460
11.....	23,	24,	44,	45			2,500
11.....	23,	24,	44,	45			23
11.....	23,	24,	44,	45			106.00
11.....	23,	24,	44,	45			2,008
11.....	23,	24,	44,	45			23
11.....	23,	24,	44,	45			204.00
11.....	23,	24,	44,	45			2,801
11.....	23,	24,	44,	45			24
11.....	23,	24,	44,	45			214.00
11.....	23,	24,	44,	45			2,894
11.....	23,	24,	44,	45			24
11.....	23,	24,	44,	45			214.00
11.....	23,	24,	44,	45			2,816
11.....	23,	24,	44,	45			24
11.....	23,	24,	44,	45			215.00
11.....	23,	24,	44,	45			2,979
11.....	23,	24,	44,	45			25
11.....	23,	24,	44,	45			3,468
11.....	23,	24,	44,	45			29
11.....	23,	24,	44,	45			250.00
Colombia (Spanish spoken):							From New York.
○Bogotá.....							2,223
○Bogotá.....							10
○Bogotá.....							50.00
Barranquilla.....	3b,	4a,					2,223
11.....	3b,	4a,					10
11.....	3b,	4a,					50.00
Cartagena.....	3b,	4a,					2,283
11.....	3b,	4a,					11
11.....	3b,	4a,					50.00
11.....	3b,	4a,					2,307
11.....	3b,	4a,					From Panama.
11.....	3b,	4a,					355
11.....	3b,	4a,					2
11.....	3b,	4a,					32.00
Buenaventura.....	44,	45					433
11.....	44,	45					4
11.....	44,	45					40.00

Steamer connections between the United States and Latin America—Continued.

TABLE 1—Continued.

To reach ports in—	Number in Table 2.	Approximate distance (miles).	Days on route.	Fare.
EQUADOR (Spanish spoken):				
Quito.....				
C. Guayaquil.....				
Esmeraldas.....				
Tumbuco.....				
Manta.....				
Guayaquil.....				
PARAGUAY (Spanish spoken):				
Asuncion.....				
PERU (Spanish spoken):				
Lima.....				
Paita.....				
La Guaya.....				
Eten.....				
Pirashayo.....				
Salaverry.....				
Chimbote.....				
Ahuacho.....				
Arequipa.....				
Cuzco.....				
Pisco.....				
Mollendo.....				
Ilo.....				
Iquitos.....				
URUGUAY (Spanish spoken):				
Montevideo.....				
VENEZUELA (Spanish spoken):				
Caracas.....				
Puerto Cabello.....				
Maracaibo.....				
Cora.....				
Guanta (Barcelona).....				
Cumaná.....				

Number in Table 2.

Rail from Guayaquil.

Steamer from Buenos Aires, or from Montevideo.

Trolley, train, or carriage, 10 miles from Cuzco.

11, via River Amazon.

1, 2, 4b, 5, 6, 7, 9, 44, 45.

Train, 22 miles from La Guayra.

Approximate distance (miles).

Days on route.

Fare.

From Buenos Aires.

From Panama.

From New York.

Steamer connections between the United States and Latin America—Continued.

TABLE 1—Continued.

To reach ports in—	Number in Table 2.	Approximate distance (miles).	Days en route.	Fare.
NICARAGUA (Spanish spoken)—Con.		<i>From San Francisco.</i>		
Pacific side:		2,671	23	\$110.00
Corinto.....	42, 44	2,779	24	100.00
San Juan del Sur.....	42, 44			
BAYSA (Spanish spoken)—Con.				
San Salvador.....	42, 44			
Acajutla.....	42, 44			
La Libertad.....	42, 44	2,461	19	100.00
La Union.....	12, 44	2,497	20	100.00
MEXICO (Spanish spoken):		2,601	21	100.00
Mexico City.....				
Atlantic side:		<i>From New Orleans.</i>		
Veracruz.....	26b, 39a, 39b	710	4	34.55
Progreso.....	13, 29b, 39a, 41	790	4	34.55
Frontera (Tabasco).....	31	870		
Laguna.....	31	870		
Campeche.....	31, 26b	960		
Progreso.....	26b	960		
Coahuacalcos (Puerto Mexico)	25, 41	542	6	
		2,036		<i>From New York.</i>
		812		<i>From New Orleans.</i>
				<i>From San Francisco.</i>
Pacific side:		507		20.00
Ensenada.....	31, 43	1,040		50.00
Magdalena Bay.....	31, 43	1,253		50.00
San Juan del Cabo.....	42, 43, 44	1,344	6	45.00
Mazatlan.....	42, 43, 44	1,424		50.00
Altares.....	43	1,461		50.00
Topolobampo.....	43	1,461		50.00
Santa Rosalia.....	43			50.00
San Blas.....	42, 44		7	65.00
Guaymas.....	43	1,470		50.00
Manzanillo.....	42, 44	1,544	8	75.00
Acapulco.....	42, 44	1,836	9	80.00
Salina Cruz.....	42, 44	2,170	11	50.00
San Jemito.....	42, 44	2,280	13	100.00
Cuba (Spanish spoken)		<i>From New York.</i>		
Habana.....	13, 14e, 14f, 26a, 27, 38, 40	1,227	5	30.00
Matanzas.....	14a, 14d	1,597		

Steamer connections between the United States and Latin America—Continued.

TABLE 2.

No.	Steamship line.	Flag.	Port of departure.	Ports of direct call.	Sailings.	Transportation.
1	LAMPORT & HOLT LINE..... Liverpool, Brazil, and River Plate Steam Navigation Company (Limited). Bosk & Jémons, general agents, 30 Broadway, Exchange, New York, N. Y.	British and Belgian..	New York. (See also No. 27).	BRAZIL: Bahia, Rio de Janeiro, and Santos. URUGUAY: Montevideo. ARGENTINA: Buenos Aires.	4th and 10th or 20th of each month. do. do.	Passenger and freight. Do. Do.
2	LLOYD BRAZILEIRO (Brazilian Steamship Line). John C. Seager Company, agents, Produce Exchange, New York, N. Y.	Brazilian, British, and Norwegian.	New York.....	BRAZIL: Pernambuco, Bahia, Rio de Janeiro, Santos. All ports in Brazil. URUGUAY: Montevideo. ARGENTINA: Buenos Aires. See route (II) on map.	Three departures monthly. do. do.	Do. Do. Do.
3	HAMBURG-AMERICAN LINE (Atlas Service), 35 and 37 Broadway, New York, N. Y. Funch, Edey & Co., freight agents, 8-10 Bridge street, New York, N. Y.	German.....	do.....	3a BRAZIL: Cabedello, Pernambuco, Maculo, Bahia, Rio de Janeiro, Santos, Paranaguá, Sao Francisco do Sul, Florianopolis (Desferro), Rio Grande do Sul. 3b COLOMBIA: Savannah, Cartagena, PANAMA: Colon. COSTA RICA: Limon. NICARAGUA: Greytown. HAITI: Port-au-Prince. HAITI: Cape Haiti, Port-de-Paix, Gonaves, St. Marc, Petit-Goave, Miragoane, Jeremie, Aux Cayes, Jacmel. 3c VENEZUELA: La Guaira, Puerto Cabello.	1st and 15th of each month. Once a week..... do. do.	Do. Do. Do. Do. Do. Do.
4	THE ROYAL MAIL STEAM PACKET CO. (Royal Mail steam packet Maria Reef, R. M. S. P.). Sanderson & Son, 22 State street, New York, N. Y.	British.....	New York.....	4a. COLOMBIA: Cartagena, Savannah (Puerto Colombia), PANAMA: Colon. These steamers continue to Rio de Janeiro, where they connect with R. M. S. P. steamers bound for ports in—	Excursions during the winter. Every alternate Saturday.	Do. Do.

5	PRINCE LINE (LIMITED) Paul F. Gorhard & Co., 361 Produce Exchange, New York, N. Y.	do.	do.	do.	do.	10th and 25th of each month. 15th of each month.	Do.
6	BARBER & CO. (INCORPORATED) Produce Exchange, New York, N. Y.	Foreign	New York Baltimore.	New York Baltimore.	URGUEAY: Montevideo. ARGENTINA: Buenos Aires, Rosario.	Twice a month.	Freight only.
7	NORTON LINE OF STEAMERS. Norton & Son, general agents, Produce Exchange, New York, N. Y.	British.	New York Other ports occa- sionally for freight; on the return voyage call at Buenos Aires, Montevideo, Philadelphia and Baltimore.	URGUEAY: Montevideo. ARGENTINA: Buenos Aires, Rosario. On the return voyage steamers touch at various ports in South America with call ports in Central America and Mexico on sufficient inducements.	URGUEAY: Montevideo. ARGENTINA: Buenos Aires, Rosario.	Fortnightly, from New York.	Freight only, from New York. Both passengers and freight to New York.
8	THE TWEEDIE TRADING Co. 97 Broad street, New York, N. Y.	Foreign	New York. Occasionally Fer- nandina and Guil ports.	BRAZIL: Any port. URGUEAY: Any port. ARGENTINA: Any port.	BRAZIL: Any port. URGUEAY: Any port. ARGENTINA: Any port.	Once a month.	Freight only.
9	AMERICAN RIO PLATA LINE. Howard Houbler & Partners, 24 State street, New York, N. Y.	British.	New York. Loads also at Baltimore and Savannah.	URGUEAY: Montevideo. ARGENTINA: Buenos Aires, Rosario, Bahia Grande, Bahia Blanca.	URGUEAY: Montevideo. ARGENTINA: Buenos Aires, Rosario, Bahia Grande, Bahia Blanca.	About the 25th of each month.	Chiefly freight, but will carry a few pas- sengers.
10	WEST INDIA STEAMSHIP Co. 30 Produce Exchange, New York, N. Y.	British and foreign.	New York.	Accepts freight for all ports in Atlan- tic, Gulf, and Caribbean waters.	Accepts freight for all ports in Atlan- tic, Gulf, and Caribbean waters.	Irregular.	Freight only.
11	THE BOOTH STEAMSHIP Co. Booth & Co., 88 Gold street, New York, N. Y.	British.	New York.	BRAZIL: Para, Maranhao, Ceara, Par- nabyia, Manaus. PERU: Iquitos.	BRAZIL: Para, Maranhao, Ceara, Par- nabyia, Manaus. PERU: Iquitos.	5th, 11th, 25th of each month. For Iquitos, every 40 days.	Passengers and freight.
				WEST INDIES: Barbados.			

				Every second week	Passengers and freight.
18	CLYDE STEAMSHIP Co. (West India Line). 12 Broadway, New York, N. Y.	do.	do.	do.	do.
19	BOSTON LINE. 111 Produce Exchange Building, New York, N. Y.	British.	do.	do.	do.
20	QUEBEC STEAMSHIP Co. (LIMITED). A. E. Orlonides & Co., 29 Broadway, New York, N. Y.	do.	do.	About every ten days	Do.
21	NEW YORK AND DEMERARA STEAMSHIP LINE. L. W. & P. Armstrong, agents, 106 Wall street, New York, N. Y.	do.	do.	About twice a month.	Do.
22	RED "D" LINE OF STEAMSHIPS. 82 Wall street, New York, N. Y.	American.	do.	Every Saturday	Do.
23	NEW YORK AND PACIFIC STEAMSHIP CO. (LIMITED). W. G. Grace & Co., Hanover Square, New York, N. Y.	British.	do.	Every two or three weeks.	Freight only.
24	THE WEST COAST LINE. Operated by Wessol, Divid & Co., 25 Broad street, New York, N. Y.	British, usually	New York, occasionally Norfolk and Philadelphia.	About once a month.	Do.
25	AMERICAN-HAWAIIAN STEAMSHIP Co. Boardman & Lapthorn, general agents, 10 Bridge street, New York, N. Y.	American.	New York	Weekly	Do.
26	NEW YORK AND CUBAN MAIL STEAMSHIP Co. (formerly Ward Line). 110 West River, New York, N. Y.	do.	do.	Weekly, left every Thursdays and Saturdays for Havana, Monday for Matanzas, Wednesday for Vera Cruz, Tampico.	Passengers and freight.
27	PENINSULAR AND OCCIDENTAL STEAMSHIP Co. Jacksonville, Fla.; also 71 Broadway, New York, N. Y.	do.	Port Tampa and Key West, Fla. Knight's Key, Fla.	Thursdays, Thursdays.	Do.

SANTO DOMINGO (DOMINICAN REPUBLIC): Santo Domingo, CAYMANA: Cayman, Puerto Plata, San Pedro de Macoris, Azua.
Brazil and Argentine ports.

WEST INDIES: Windward Islands: St. Thomas, St. Croix, St. Kitts, Antigua, Barbuda, St. John, Barbados, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Grenada, British GUIANA: Demerara.

FRENCH GUIANA: Cayenne, steamers connect with above at Demerara.

PUERTO RICO: San Juan.
VENEZUELA: La Guaira, Puerto Cabello, Maracaibo.
CURACAO: Dutch West Indies.

CHILE: Principal ports.
PERU: Principal ports.
ECUADOR: Principal ports.

CHILE: All ports.
PERU: All ports.

MEXICO: Coatzacoalcas (Puerto Mexico).
CUBA: Habana, Santiago, Cienfuegos, Guantamano, Manzanillo, Matanzas, Progreso, Camaguey, Vera Cruz, Tampico.
CUBA: Habana.

Steamer connections between the United States and Latin America—Continued.

TABLE 2—Continued.

No.	Steamship line.	Flag.	Port of departure.	Ports of direct call.	Sailings.	Transportation.
28	HUBBARD-ZEMURRAY STEAMSHIP Co., Mobile, Ala.	Norwegian.	Mobile, Ala.	SPANISH HONDURAS: Puerto Cortez.	Weekly.	Passengers and freight.
29	UNITED FRUIT Co., (Main office) 131 State street, Boston, Mass.; 321 Charles street, New Orleans, La.	American, English, Norwegian.	Boston.	29a COSTA RICA: Limon.	Every Saturday.	Do.
				29b PANAMA: Beas del Toro.	Twice a month.	Freight only.
				29c GUATEMALA: Puerto Barrios.	Once a month.	Do.
				29d COLOMBIA: Santa Marta.	Do.	Do.
30	ATLANTIC AND MEXICAN GULF STEAM- SHIP Co., 82-92 Beavor street, New York, N. Y., also James Anthony & Company, 141 W. 7th Street, New York, N. Y.; J. H. Harland & Co., Ltd., New Orleans, La.	Foreign.	New Orleans.	29f BRITISH HONDURAS: Belize.	Every Thursday.	Do.
				29g PANAMA: Beas del Toro.	Every Thursday.	Do.
				29h GUATEMALA: Livingston. Puerto Barrios.	Stops at Livingston every second week.	Passengers and freight.
				29i SPANISH HONDURAS: Puerto Cortez.	Every Thursday.	Do.
31	MARBLEY MILLER & Co., Mobile, Ala.	Foreign.	New Orleans.	30a MEXICO: Progreso (Yucatan).	Every other Satur- day.	Do.
				30b MEXICO: Progreso (Yucatan).	Every other Friday.	Freight only.
				MEXICO: Frontera, Tabasco, La- gruna, Campeche.	Monthly.	Do.
				BRITISH HONDURAS: Belize.	Every Thursday.	Do.
32	ORR LAUBENHEIMER Co., J. B. Datch, Mobile, Ala.		Mobile.	GUATEMALA: Livingston. Puerto Barrios.	Every Thursday.	Passengers and freight.
33	CENTRAL AMERICAN STEAMSHIP Co., Mobile.	Norwegian.	New Orleans.	HONDURAS: Puerto Cortez, occasionally.	Once a week.	Freight only.
34	LAMPOR & Holt (see also No. 1).	British and Belgian.	New Orleans.	WEST INDIES: St. Lucia, Barbados.		Passengers and freight.

LATIN AMERICA AND THE ORIENT IN UNITED STATES TRADE.

The potentialities of Latin America in comparison with the Orient as a field for commercial development were discussed with clarity and vigor in the Congress of the United States on April 17, 1908, by Representative J. L. SLAYDEN, of Texas, in connection with the diplomatic and consular appropriation bill.

In treating Mexico, South and Central America, and the Orient as allied subjects, Mr. SLAYDEN stated:

We are appropriating a considerable sum this year for consular and court buildings in the Orient, and so far nothing has been recommended for the American countries.

I shall invite your attention to a brief analysis of the trade of the Orient in comparison with that of Central and South America, both actual and potential. The remarkable journey made by the Secretary of State, Mr. Root, was a recognition of the vast and growing importance in commerce and politics of the South American countries. No better missioner could have been sent afield. A broadly intellectual man with large training in business affairs and a protracted experience in high and responsible office, he was quick to comprehend the people of the American Republics and the possibilities of their development. It will amply reward any Member of this body to read his addresses, and with maps and statistics follow him through that great tour.

The average citizen of our country no more understands the facts about South America than he does the languages of those countries. It is news to most of them to learn that Brazil is as large as the United States and will then have a remnant of territory as big as California and South Carolina left over. The Argentine Republic is as large as all the United States east of the Mississippi and with Texas added, Mexico, with which we are more familiar, is equal in area to nearly all the States east of the Mississippi River. It is nearly three times as big as Texas.

I wish I had time, Mr. Chairman, to give a lot of these interesting facts about South and Central American countries or I wish I had the power to compel every man who has the right to vote on these appropriation bills to read the data that I shall insert in the Record. Better still, if Members will only avail themselves of the facilities offered by the International Bureau of American Republics, they have open to them sources of information that will delight and instruct them. That useful Bureau is actually introducing the citizens of the North American Republic to their neighbors in the south.

In Latin America are 20 governments that have a population of about 50,000,000 people who do a total annual business of nearly \$2,000,000,000. They import \$897,128,563; they export \$1,070,660,724, making a total of \$1,967,789,287, to be exact.

What particularly interests us is to know what share of that vast trade we control in the United States and how to increase it. Our merchants sell to Latin America \$237,810,679 worth of stuff each year and buy to the value of \$316,496,576, a total trade with the United States of \$554,337,255. How many of our people know that we do a business of more than half a billion dollars each year with Mexico, Central and South America, and the West Indies? For that matter, how many Members of Congress know it? Mr. BARRETT, the head of the International Bureau of American Republics, in an article that appeared in "Munsey's Magazine" last June, called attention to the fact that the total foreign trade, exports and imports, of the ten South American Republics for the year 1905, plus that of the British, French, and Dutch Guianas, exceeded \$1,200,000,000. He directed attention to the deplorable fact that notwithstanding our favorable geographical situation, the United States had less than \$250,000,000 worth

of that trade. Then, this magnificent business is not at a standstill. It has not reached its full growth. In fact, it is just beginning to grow. All that vast area to the south of the United States, so many times larger than our own country, has a population of only about 50,000,000. It covers nearly all habitable latitudes. It extends nearly as far to the south of the equator as we do to the north of it. Everything that the soil yields that man requires can be produced somewhere in Central or South America or Mexico. It is a land of magnificent possibilities near home that we overlook for things of smaller value farther away.

Let me invite your attention to a few of the interesting facts disclosed by a study of the commercial and financial statistics of the principal countries of the world.

The people of the Argentine Republic import \$31.86 worth of foreign merchandise for each person in that country. The people of China import 78 cents' worth of stuff per head. In other words, each citizen of the Argentine Republic is worth forty-five times as much as a Chinaman as a customer. Brazilians are worth twelve times as much and Mexicans ten times as much, measured by imports. Little Uruguay, which is larger than New York and West Virginia, by the way, imports for each man, woman, and child in the country to the extent of \$21.13, or more than twenty-seven times as much as China.

Now, I am going to ask your attention for a few minutes while I make a brief comparison of two or three of these neglected South American countries with one in the Orient that is much in the public eye.

The Argentine Republic, as I have stated, consumes foreign imports to the value of \$31.86 per head. Japan imports to the value of \$5.07 per head. It is perfectly plain that in the present development of trade each citizen of the Argentine Republic is worth, approximately, seven times as much as a Japanese. The people of far-away New Zealand are worth nearly fourteen times as much per head as customers as are the people of Japan, but they are not so much in the limelight and we almost forget them. Down in Central America one citizen of Costa Rica buys as much foreign stuff as three Japanese, and the latter are of less value to our exporters, man for man, than the inhabitants of Ecuador and Paraguay, two countries of minor importance in the south.

While I am on this subject, I will also call attention to the fact that even with a vast amount of stores brought into the Philippines for the American Army, the inhabitants of that archipelago only take imports to the value of \$3.38 per head. They are surpassed in commercial importance by the inhabitants of Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Salvador, Cuba, Ecuador, Haiti, even Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, Santo Domingo, Uruguay, and Venezuela, as to their value per head as customers.

I am firmly impressed with the idea, Mr. Chairman, that if we were to quit squandering such vast sums on the less important trade of the Far East and devote a tithe of it to the cultivation of business with other American countries we would be doing a wiser thing.

Mr. BARRETT, in his article to which I have referred, very felicitously speaks of South and Central America as the "Land of to-morrow." Now, that can not be said of the East Indies, of China, or even of Japan. At best they are "the lands of the day after to-morrow." All the American countries have vast unoccupied areas of fertile soil. The Orient is already crowded to suffocation.

The marvelously rapid development of our own country, the high standard of wages, and the prosperity and independence of the people of the United States have been very clearly due to the fact that we had an undeveloped continent overflowing with opportunity. The fertility of the soil, the wealth of the mines and of the forest, and the small population, when contrasted with resources, have kept our people from industrial slavery. Although opportunities are lessening with the increase of population, we still have such outlets for their energies and talents that no American workman

need yet apprehend the hard conditions of overpopulated Europe or the intolerable condition of congested China or Japan.

In Japan, China, and the East Indies men work for a few cents a day because they can do no better. In South America they do not have to, because they can go to the land and be independent. There is no emigration to the countries of the Orient. The people of Europe who emigrate will not go to a country like Japan, where 2½ acres is the average size of a farm. They prefer America, in the North or the South, and they are going in increasing numbers to the South. There they find conditions that would look like paradise to an oriental.

Because I do not want to see my own country settled too rapidly, as I have sometimes feared it was doing, I have rejoiced to see the tide of European emigration turning toward South America. It means comfort for the industrially oppressed of Europe and it means a tremendous expansion of trade possibilities in neighboring countries for the business men of the United States. Let us show our appreciation of it and go after it.

If our characteristic American energy is exercised in the development of the possibilities in South and Central America, there is scarcely any limit to the volume of business that may be done between countries on the same continent and ourselves, having the same political institutions and aspiring along the same lines, political, social, and commercial.

LATIN AMERICA IN CURRENT LITERATURE.

The universality of the interest in Latin-American affairs throughout the United States is in no way more forcibly emphasized than by the increased space given to their discussion in the current magazines of the country. Commercial interests are served by trade papers and consular reports; educational stimulus is supplied through the medium of scholarships which furnish opportunities for foreign students to follow the curriculum of universities and colleges, but the periodicals of the country aim to meet the popular demand for reading matter of general interest; therefore, when month after month, the resources and conditions of Mexico, the West Indies, or the Republics of Central and South America are featured in the magazines, plain evidence is given of the trend of public thought.

It is claimed, and with truth, that the journals and monthlies of Latin America devote a great deal of consideration to intellectual and artistic development in the capitals of Europe while comparatively little attention is bestowed upon United States interests. At the same time, a decided change is taking place in this respect. A constant reader of the exchanges will have noted that within the past two years more and more space is given, both in the scientific and economic publications as well as in the daily newspapers of Latin America, to a reproduction of the views and opinions of United States writers, while political and commercial happenings are recorded with dispatch and accuracy.

Proof of the existence of a literary reciprocity between the republics of America is amply furnished by an inspection of a few of the

recent standard periodicals received by the Columbus Memorial Library.

"The Review of Reviews" for May publishes a critique of South American education by Professor WILLIAM R. SHEPHERD, who while conceding the intellectual domination of the French in Latin America, overlaying Spanish and Portuguese substance, states that German and United States teachers have lately made their influence felt both by precept and example. He finds in the assembling of the Fourth International Scientific Congress, called for December 25, 1908, in Santiago, Chile, an event of significance to the intellectual history of the entire Western Hemisphere.

The May "Century" devotes several pages to exquisite reproductions of some Mexican churches from photographs made by HENRY RAVELL, the gilded carvings and decorative tile work which embellish them being described by LOCKWOOD DE FOREST.

In "Scribner's Magazine" for May is one of ARTHUR RUIB's fascinating descriptions of the "city of good airs," as he terms the capital of the Argentine Republic with charming didacticism. A kaleidoscopic impression is conveyed of the street throngs and the general gaiety and prosperity which characterize this, the second Latin city in the world.

The "Taylor-Trotwood Magazine" for the same month publishes as its principal feature the romance and tragedy of the Isthmus, in which the history of civilization from the time of Columbus to the cutting of the Panama Canal is outlined in its impress on this narrow strip of land.

"The World To-Day," for May in an article by Mrs. PETER M. MYERS, is interested in the awakening of Guanajuato, Mexico, the "city of dreams" and one of the richest mining centers of the world, from a century's sleep in the glare of electric lighting and amid the turmoil of modern improvements. Boasting the finest theater building in all North America and placed in an atmosphere charged with discussions of gold, silver, dividends, assays, and reduction processes, the spirit of the times is making itself felt here as in other parts of this progressive country.

"The American Historical Review" for April prints a scholarly paper by HERBERT E. BOLTON concerning the material for south-western history in the central archives of Mexico, and the writer marvels, not that they contain so much data on the subject, but rather that this material has been so little used. The Californias, Texas, Louisiana, and interior provinces occupy a prominent place in the indices. The article is a preliminary report only, as the whole field is to be covered in volume form by the Department of Historical Research of the Carnegie Institution of Washington.

In the "North American Review" for April, F. D. MCKENNEY considers the present attitude of the United States Government



toward arbitration as evidenced in the pending questions with Venezuela, while in the "Independent" for the 23d of the same month HERBERT WOLCOTT BOWEN, former United States Minister to Venezuela, publishes a critique of President ROOSEVELT's report to the Senate on the Venezuela matter.

"The World To-day" for April prints the latest of the valuable papers prepared by JOHN BARRETT, Director of the International Bureau of the American Republics, in which the United States is urged to greater efforts to seize its "commercial opportunity" in Latin America. A careful analysis is made of the bases of this opportunity and statistical evidence furnished of the results of endeavor on the part of other nations.

A glimpse of BUENOS AIRES from its picturesque and social side is furnished by FREEMAN TILDEN in the "Van Norden Magazine" for April. He finds in this great capital not so much the Parisian atmosphere which has been claimed for it, but the distinctively Spanish-American character which gives it a charm all its own.

The bulk of "Tropical America" for April is devoted to Latin America and covers such a range of subjects as the famous Cauca Valley of Colombia; Guatemala's interoceanic route; a vacation trip through the same Republic; the business centenary of Rio de Janeiro, and the growing of bananas in Mexico.

"The National Geographic Magazine," in its issues for March and April, devotes considerable space to Latin American topics; in the former being a comprehensive article on the past and present of Haiti, by Rear-Admiral COLBY M. CHESTER, and in the latter a series of remarkable views taken along the old Inca highway and published with appropriate comment, by HARRIET CHALMERS ADAMS.

"The Sunset Magazine" for March makes a feature of the story of Magdalena Bay, by ARTHUR WALLBRIDGE NORTH, a writer who seems to have made his own the province of Lower California and whose recently issued book on "The Mother of California" has attracted widespread attention by reason of its timeliness and value.

"The American Journal of Sociology" in its last quarterly issue—January to March, 1908—has a paper on municipal progress in Brazil, in which the enormous strides taken in the direction of improvement and sanitation by the cities of the State of São Paulo are treated by Professor L. S. ROWE, of the University of Pennsylvania.

In the "Outlook" for March 14, SYLVESTER BAXTER, in discussing South American railways, states that the first half of the twentieth century promises to be for the southern continent the great railway-building era that the second half of the nineteenth century was for the northern. This article is the result of personal observation and study of the subject during the writer's journeys in South America in 1906 as a special correspondent of the "Outlook."

"The Popular Science Monthly" for February publishes the comment of ALFRED F. SEARS on German influence in Latin America, in which the writer limits that influence to mental and commercial processes and finds the French characteristics most evident in customs and manner of living.

ESTABLISHMENT OF A LATIN AMERICAN INFORMATION BUREAU.

The Bureau of the American Republics is in receipt of the information that there has been established in New York City a center for the distribution of complete and accurate information relative to civil, commercial, fiscal, and administrative legislation and general statistics of each of the American Republics, as well as data concerning their mercantile development.

The circular of the enterprise states that it is established in deference to the increasing commercial relations between the United States and Latin America and is designed for the benefit of lawyers, bankers, merchants, manufacturers, investors, and industrial men of both continents.

It is known as "The Dependable Information Bureau," and may be addressed at 42 Broadway, New York.

THE RUBBER MARKET IN 1907.

In reviewing the rubber market in 1907 it will be seen that the production of plantation rubber in Ceylon and British Malay has increased more rapidly than it was expected.

The supply of Ceylon in 1907 was 230 tons against 160 tons in 1906, and that of Malay 780 tons in 1907 against 350 tons in 1906.

Brazil does not show any signs of reducing her rubber production, although it is likely that the next crop may suffer a decrease. The amount of rubber exported from Brazil, which includes that of Bolivia and Peru shipped through the Amazon, was 41,500 tons in 1907 against 38,000 tons in 1906. The world's supply in 1907 amounted to nearly 69,000 tons against 65,000 in the previous year; on the other hand, consumption was almost the same in both years—that is to say, 66,000 tons. The supply of rubber in Bolivia and Bolas del Caucho increased considerably; the production of Mollendo rubber was almost the same as in 1906.

The demand for fine rubber from Para, Bolivia, and Peru was excellent until the last two months of the year on account of the serious financial crisis in the United States of America, the closing of

factories, the money stringency, several bankruptcies, and the increased production of the article, all of which factors caused a reaction from the exceedingly high prices of the last four years to the rapid decrease at the close of the year.

The business in England was excellent; in France, good; in Germany, fair; in Russia, rather poor, and in America, good until November.

The shipments of Venezuelan rubber through the Orinoco had a slight increase; Ecuador exported the usual amount, and there were small shipments from Colombia. A decrease was noted in production of Mexico and Nicaragua.

The total exports of rubber from the western coast of Africa amounted to 17,000 tons in 1907 as compared with 17,200 in 1906. The Congo State, French Congo, and Sudan had an output of 6,000 tons.

The qualities of rubber from Niger, Gold Coast, Accra, and Lagos improved, but the prices were low. The rubber shipped from Cameroons, Sierra Leone, Baboon, and Conakey was of good quality and commanded comparatively high prices.

It is estimated that the rubber plantations in the East occupy an area of 350,000 acres, as follows:

	Acres.
Ceylon.....	150,000
Malaya, Malacca, etc. (containing about 14,000,000 trees, of which not even 1,000,000 were tapped in 1907).....	100,000
Borneo.....	11,000
Dutch East Indies, Java, and Sumatra.....	70,000
British India.....	25,000

There are also plantations in the Philippines, Samoa, Hawaii, New Guinea, Queensland, and Seychelles.

On the west coast of Africa the plantations are worked with great activity, and much progress has been accomplished in German West Africa, British East Africa, Uganda, and West Indies, the increase in the cultivated area being about 2,000 acres.

Plantations have been established in Mexico, Nicaragua, and Honduras, and their number is continuously increasing; up to the present date about 2,000 acres of land have been planted.

In Bolivia, Peru, Ecuador, and Colombia there are also some plantations, but their area is unknown and probably not extensive.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

DETAILS OF FOREIGN COMMERCE IN 1907.

The Statistical Office of the Argentine Government in its regular bulletin covering the foreign trade of the Republic during 1907 shows

a total value of \$582,065,052, gold, covering imports worth \$285,860,683 and exports \$296,204,369.

In the distribution of imports by countries of origin the United Kingdom heads the list, followed by Germany, the United States, France, Italy, and Belgium in the order named.

As a receiver of exports the United Kingdom again leads, followed by France, Germany, Belgium, Brazil, and the United States.

The trade with the various countries was as follows, with comparisons with 1906:

IMPORTS.

Country.	1907.	Compara- son 1906.	Country.	1907.
Africa.....	857,599	+ 25,240	Greece.....	\$46,976
Germany.....	48,811,470	+7,894,911	Guatemala.....	2,947
Austria.....	2,304,660	+ 670,899	Japan.....	205,226
Belgium.....	15,896,850	+3,908,810	Morocco.....	542
Bolivia.....	126,877	- 7,235	Mexico.....	4,972
Brazil.....	7,849,355	+1,208,330	Norway.....	429,984
Chile.....	554,824	+ 26,109	Nicaragua.....	1,166
Spain.....	7,294,469	- 73,800	Persia.....	1,154
United States.....	38,842,277	- 632,647	Peru.....	533,303
France.....	25,488,026	-1,276,849	Portugal.....	289,964
Italy.....	24,193,241	+ 120,395	French possessions.....	8,428
Holland.....	1,752,006	+ 250,292	Dutch possessions.....	32,818
Paraguay.....	114,337	+ 105,365	British possessions.....	6,048,139
United Kingdom.....	97,045,743	+3,165,805	American possessions.....	21,163
Uruguay.....	2,472,754	+ 639,513	Roumania.....	1,675
Australia.....	69,166	.....	Russia.....	429,736
Canada.....	1,101,526	.....	San Salvador.....	708
Colombia.....	2,493	.....	Dominican Republic.....	287
Cuba.....	576,982	.....	Sweden.....	511,119
China.....	439,162	.....	Switzerland.....	2,137,748
Denmark.....	28,733	.....	Turkey.....	36,854
Ecuador.....	49,661	.....	Venezuela.....	13,790
Egypt.....	4,747	.....	

As compared with the preceding year, imports from Germany are thus shown to have increased 19.2 per cent; from Belgium, 30 per cent; from the United Kingdom, 3.2 per cent, and from Holland, 16.5 per cent, while those from France decreased 4.7 per cent, and from the United States, 1.6 per cent.

EXPORTS.

Country.	1907.	Compara- son, 1906.	Country.	1907.	Compara- son, 1906.
Africa.....	\$1,445,590	- 2,542,441	United Kingdom.....	\$83,716,132	+10,492,114
Germany.....	36,423,056	- 2,994,140	Uruguay.....	1,376,638	- 3,657,802
Austria.....	751,974	+ 705,646	Cuba.....	724,480	.....
Belgium.....	29,592,133	+3,970,738	Denmark.....	120,888	.....
Bolivia.....	108,052	+ 279,454	Egypt.....	51,500	.....
Brazil.....	14,018,431	+2,127,116	Norway.....	106,114	.....
Chile.....	1,850,697	+ 465,120	Peru.....	110,175	.....
Spain.....	1,935,605	- 636,971	Portugal.....	29,731	.....
United States.....	10,940,436	-2,394,676	French possessions.....	661	.....
France.....	37,762,046	+1,998,092	British possessions.....	49,877	.....
Italy.....	3,219,466	1,686,658	Swedish possessions.....	657,149	.....
Holland.....	4,174,430	+1,199,252	Orders.....	93,270,767	- 2,343,981
Paraguay.....	182,670	- 22,344			

As regards exports, shipments to France increased 5.5 per cent; to Holland, 40.3 per cent, and the United Kingdom, 24 per cent, as compared with 1906, while to Africa there was a decline of 64.2

per cent; to Germany, 7.5 per cent; to the United States, 17.9 per cent; to Italy, 24.4 per cent, and "orders" decreased by 2.5 per cent.

The classification of imports for 1907, their valuations, and their relative values in 1906 were as follows:

Articles.	1907.	Comparison 1906.
Live stock.....	\$2,035,913	- 490,698
Foodstuffs.....	20,915,396	+ 3,253,388
Tobacco.....	5,010,491	+ 99,412
Wines, spirits, etc.....	12,633,739	+ 839,700
Textiles.....	47,333,191	- 6,796,848
Oil.....	8,081,771	+ 203,798
Chemicals and drugs.....	8,188,495	+ 605,636
Colors and dyes.....	1,557,043	- 83,392
Timber and appliances.....	6,909,093	+ 747,821
Paper and appliances.....	5,792,294	+ 787,527
Leather and appliances.....	2,014,811	- 293,740
Hardware.....	33,161,139	- 1,781,169
Metals and appliances.....	7,593,106	- 1,049,024
Agricultural implements.....	18,541,599	+ 1,383,024
Locomotion.....	52,320,750	+ 17,265,386
Ceramic products.....	20,634,552	- 276,248
Building materials.....	23,029,393	+ 1,018,695
Electrical appliances.....	3,373,375	- 56,636
Various manufactures.....	7,399,102	+ 489,541

The principal increase in import values is under the head of "locomotion" and includes automobiles, steel sleepers, railway material in general, locomotives, tramway cars, etc.

The value of automobiles imported was \$782,520, an increase of \$295,974; of steel sleepers, \$7,972,111, an increase of \$3,680,165; of railway materials, \$10,058,564, an increase of \$4,187,779; of locomotives, \$8,067,454, an increase of \$3,675,084, and of tramway cars, \$775,162, an increase of \$132,087.

Of the more than \$3,000,000 increase reported for foodstuffs, \$2,701,468 is credited to sugar imports, the total value for the year being \$2,838,254, less than half being refined sugar.

The decline of \$6,796,848 noted for textile imports is attributable to the advance of native manufactures.

Exports show the following valuations and comparisons with 1906:

Articles.	1907.	Comparison 1906.
Pastoral products.....	\$123,820,205	- 316,234
Agricultural products.....	164,091,621	+ 6,436,629
Forest products.....	5,342,357	- 579,592
Mineral products.....	565,039	+ 291,223
Game products.....	829,559	- 268,941
Various.....	1,155,388	- 1,612,935

With the exception of a slight gain in mineral exports, the only classification showing an increase is that of agricultural products, under which head wheat figures for \$82,727,747, a gain of \$16,166,566 over the preceding year, the total shipments aggregating 2,680,802 tons, or 432,814 tons more than in 1906.

Next to wheat the ranking place belongs to linseed, of which 763,736 tons, valued at \$36,081,221, were exported, a gain of 225,240 tons and \$10,165,360 being indicated for the year.

The gain in oats is represented by 91,905 tons and \$2,476,213, the year's exports being 143,566 tons, valued at \$3,593,397.

A decline of 1,417,007 tons and \$23,711,708 is scheduled for maize exports, the figures for the year being 1,276,732 tons and \$29,653,979.

While pastoral products declined as a whole in quantity and value exported, it is noted that a gain of \$88,882 is reported for live stock, the total shipments being valued at \$3,158,856, two-thirds of which is to be credited to cattle.

Articles manufactured from pastoral products also show a gain of \$2,344,492, the aggregate export valuation being \$10,802,634, in which tallow figures for \$4,806,835, or \$1,324,309 more than in 1906.

The condition of the flour trade is indicated by the fact that shipments for the three years 1905, 1906, and 1907 were covered by 145,000, 129,000, and 127,500 tons, respectively.

As regards quebracho, the exportation of logs in 1907 amounted to 246,500 tons, of which the United Kingdom received 175,000, while extract was shipped to the amount of 28,000 tons, of which the United Kingdom took 17,700 tons. There were also exported 38,800 sleepers, of which 34,100 went to Chile and 4,700 to Uruguay.

THE MINING INDUSTRY OF THE REPUBLIC.

The development of the mineral possibilities of the Argentine Republic is demonstrated by the fact that in the export returns for the year 1907 the only classification other than agricultural products showing an increased valuation was under the head of minerals.

The total shipments aggregated \$565,039, representing a gain of \$291,223 over those of the preceding year. The specific item accounting largely for this increase is copper, bar copper figuring for \$292,495 and ore for \$170,207, the gain over 1906 being \$212,367 and \$86,484, respectively.

Tin was exported to the amount of 33,350 kilograms, valued at \$6,670, against none in 1906, and iron ore shipments increased to the extent of 127,528 kilograms, with an increased valuation of \$8,927, the total value being \$29,669.

Silver exports of 3,443 kilograms, worth \$1,722, are also reported, against none in the preceding year; and another item of shipment, borate of lime, figures for 990,000 kilograms, valued at \$49,500, a gain over 1906 of \$2,956.

The report of the Division of Mines, recently issued, shows that the actual production of minerals throughout the Republic is still small, though concessions have been granted and surveys made which indicate the beginning of a thorough exploitation of the resources. Among the mining enterprises under development on a sound economic basis are the Bora deposits and mines at Salta and Jujuy. The mineral extracted from these mines is for the most part calcareous borate of

soda, which is extracted by quarrying. The mineral is very pure and is shipped in a crude state without any treatment. Difficulty in transporting the product to the railroad hinders the exploitation under present conditions.

Among other noteworthy properties, the Concordia mine at Jujuy claims special attention, for it possesses very rich lodes and shows excellent results. This mine belongs to an Anglo-German syndicate and the shares are quoted at 150 to 200 per cent. The syndicate has recently made large purchases of mining machinery in Europe, from which it is evident that work on a large scale is to be started. The Fatatima mine, in the same district, is also being worked.

Gold is found in Tierra del Fuego, and gold washing has been carried on for some time in a primitive manner. Recently, however, an English company has been formed for the purpose of extracting gold in a more systematic and up-to-date manner, and a modern plant with dredging and washing machinery is to be installed. Regular work at Neuquen is in the hands of a Buenos Aires company.

In addition to the above-mentioned enterprises, copper, silver, and lead are exploited and wolfram and tin have been discovered embedded in granite layers at Mazon and exploration work inaugurated.

Petroleum has been discovered in the northern part of the Republic, chiefly at the foot of the eastern slope of the Cordilleras toward Chaco, in the provinces of Salta and Jujuy. It is found between layers of red-colored formation of a kind of chalk, called "*formación petrolifera*." The petroleum wells situated in the southern part of Mendoza and Neuquen are of considerable importance and the product has been extracted in appreciable quantities. It exists in the Rhatian layers of lime, carrying bituminous coal.

LIVE STOCK STATISTICS, 1907.

The bureau of statistics and rural economy of the Department of Agriculture of the Argentine Republic has published recently figures showing the live stock in the Republic during the year 1907, as follows:

Cattle.....	25,814,800
Sheep.....	77,581,100
Horses.....	5,462,170
Mules and donkeys.....	545,870
Goats.....	2,566,800
Swine.....	2,811,700

The province of Buenos Aires is credited with the possession of 7,000,000 head of cattle and 48,000,000 sheep; Corrientes has 6,000,000 of the former and 1,400,000 of the latter; Entre Rios has 3,000,000 and 5,340,000, respectively; Cordoba, 2,500,000 and 2,800,000; Santa Fe, 2,500,000 and 1,800,000. Of horses, Buenos Aires has

1,700,000; Salta, 725,000; Entre Rios, 590,000; Corrientes, Cordoba, and Santa Fe about 425,000 each. Cordoba has 120,000 of the mules and asses, and Jujuy, 57,000. The goats are most numerous in Cordoba (850,000); San Luis has 420,000; Santiago del Estero, 340,000; Salta, Rioja, and Catamarca about 200,000 each. Santa Fe has 2,000,000 pigs, and Mendoza, Santiago del Estero, and Entre Rios about 40,000 each.

Cattle and sheep in the southern territories are increasing in numbers. The Pampa has 550,000 head of cattle and 7,000,000 sheep; the Rio Negro, 177,600 of the former and 3,620,000 of the latter; Chubut, 200,000 and 1,200,000; Santa Cruz, 100,000 and 3,000,000; Neuquen, 200,000 and 600,000, and Tierra del Fuego, 350,000 sheep.

FORECAST OF CROPS FOR 1907-8.

Taking as basis for its calculations the data received from all agricultural centers, the division of statistics and rural economy of the Argentine Department of Agriculture has published the forecast of the cereal and flax crops of 1907-8, estimates of the cereal exports, etc. The results of the crops of wheat, flax, and oats are thus estimated:

	1907-8.	1906-7.
	<i>Tons.</i>	<i>Tons.</i>
Wheat.....	5,484,000	4,245,000
Flax.....	1,085,000	856,000
Oats.....	443,000	180,000

The above comparison shows that the production of wheat in 1907-8 will have an increase of 1,239,000 tons (29 per cent) over that of 1906-7; that of flax, 259,000 tons (31 per cent), and that of oats, 263,000 tons (146 per cent).

Calculating on the above figures, the exportation may be estimated as follows: Wheat and flour, 4,250,000 tons; flax, 1,000,000 tons, and oats, 420,000 tons.

In regard to the maize crop, the division of statistics says that it has not been able to obtain definite information, but that the production for 1907-8 may be estimated at 3,456,000 tons. The area of lands cultivated with maize during 1907 was 2,730,500 hectares.

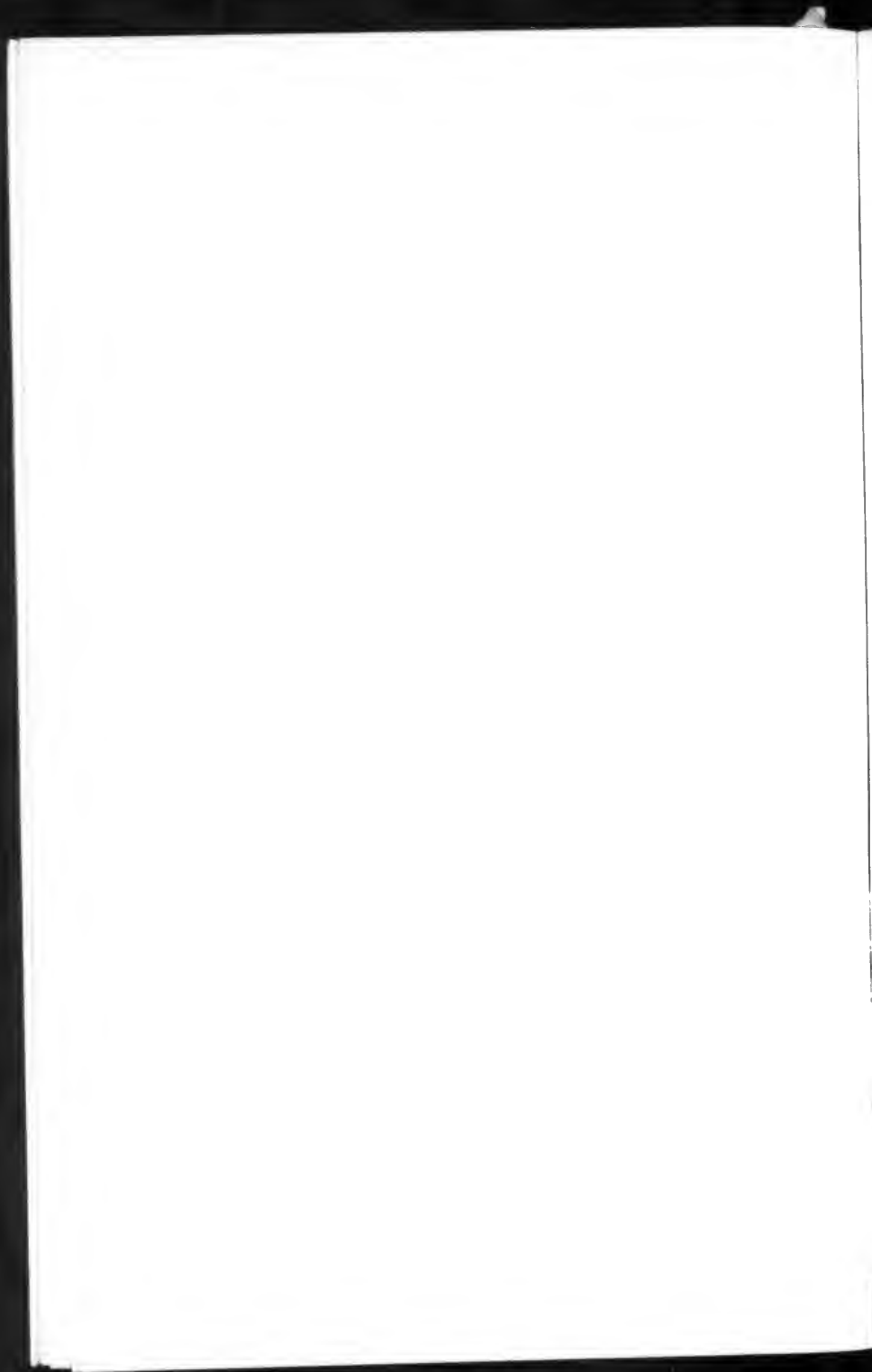
CONSTRUCTION OF BRIDGES AND ROADS IN 1908.

The general bureau of bridges and roads of the Argentine Republic submitted to the Minister of Public Works a bill providing for the investment of 1,200,000 *pesos*, national currency, in the construction of bridges and roads throughout the Republic during 1908. Besides this amount, there have been appropriated already, in several items of the budget law of 1908, 1,558,000 *pesos*, national currency, for the same purpose.



FIRST MEETING OF THE PAN-AMERICAN COMMITTEE OF THE UNITED STATES, MARCH 17, 1908.

1. John Barrett, Director of the International Bureau of the American Republics, Secretary of the Committee.
2. Andrew Carnegie, Delegate to the United States to the First Pan-American Conference, Vice-Chairman of the Committee.
3. Congressman James L. Slayden, of Texas.
4. Congressman Charles B. Landis, of Indiana.
5. Robert Bacon, Assistant Secretary of State.
6. Elihu Root, Secretary of State, Honorary President of the Committee.
7. William J. Buchanan, Delegate to the United States to the Second and Third Pan-American Conferences, Chairman of the Committee.
8. Senator Stephen B. Elkins, of West Virginia.
9. William E. Curtis, Executive Officer of the First Pan-American Conference.
10. L. S. Riwe, Chairman of the Executive Committee, Delegate to the Second Pan-American Conference.
11. Edmund J. James, President of the University of Illinois.



Provision has also been made for the paving of streets of Buenos Aires, 1,000,000 *pesos*; construction of the road from Buenos Aires to Tigre and Campo de Mayo, 60,000 *pesos*, and of the road from Cruz del Eje to Candelaria, 25,000 *pesos*.

A total of 3,843,000 *pesos* (about \$1,281,000) to be invested during 1908 in the construction of roads and bridges is thus shown.

INCREASE IN VALUE OF FARMING LANDS.

The Department of Agriculture of the Argentine Republic has published recently interesting statistics relating to the increase in value of farming lands from 1903 to 1907.

In the year 1903 there were sold 8,279,329 hectares of land for the amount of 116,592,556 *pesos* paper; four years after, in 1907, only 6,616,885 hectares were sold, valued at 162,041,358 *pesos* paper. This comparison shows that the increase of the price of lands has been considerable, as in 1907, while nearly 1,700,000 hectares less than in 1903 were sold, there was an excess in value of almost 50,000,000 *pesos*.

A larger proportion of increase is noted comparing the statistics regarding mortgages on farming lands in the two years in reference. In 1903 there were mortgaged 6,376,702 hectares of land for 69,139,748 *pesos* paper, and in 1907, 6,527,711 hectares for 118,918,079 *pesos* paper.

RAILROAD CONSTRUCTION.

A decree of the President of the Argentine Republic, dated February 29, 1908, appropriates the sums of \$386,772 and \$256,210.58 gold to be applied during the month of May, 1908, to the construction of the lines to Bolivia, and from Serrezuela to San Juan, respectively.

BOLIVIA.

ELECTION OF A NEW PRESIDENT.

The International Bureau of the American Republics has been informed by the Bolivian Minister in the United States that on May 4, 1908, Señor FERNANDO E. GUACHALLA was elected President of Bolivia by a majority of 20,934 votes, in succession to Señor ISRAEL MONTES.

The two vice-presidents chosen to serve with President GUACHALLA are Señores EUFRONIO VIZCARRA and FIDEL VALDÉS.

The new president will be inaugurated on August 6, 1908, for a period of four years.

Señor GUACHALLA was formerly Minister from Bolivia to the United States and has served his country in various diplomatic and official capacities.

CUSTOMS CONVENTION WITH PERU.

On January 31, 1908, the representatives of Bolivia and Peru signed at La Paz a convention to regulate, in accordance with the treaty of commerce and customs of November 27, 1905, the free transit of merchandise imported or exported through Mollendo, or any other port that the Peruvian Government may designate for the commerce of Bolivia. This convention shall be in force until July 1, 1911, but at the expiration of this period it shall be continued indefinitely unless one of the contracting parties shall have denounced it after one year's notice.

The President of Peru approved this convention on February 8, 1908.

BRAZIL.

EXPORTS OF RUBBER IN 1907.

Figures covering the exports of rubber from Brazil during 1907 give the total quantity as 36,489,772 kilograms (40,000 tons) valued at 217,504,288 *milreis* (\$71,775,323.84) as compared with 34,960,184 kilograms (37,000 tons) in 1906, valued at 210,284,551 *milreis* (\$69,393,901.83).

The *seringa* variety formed the bulk of the shipments, aggregating 33,382,681 kilograms, of which what is known as "fine" formed half of the total or 16,938,294 kilograms, worth over \$40,000,000. Other varieties were *manicoba*, 2,428,678 kilograms; *mangabeira*, 678,238 kilograms and balata gum, valued at \$9,800,000, \$700,000, and \$230, respectively.

The countries to which shipment was made and the quantities and values recorded for each in the two years, 1906 and 1907, were as follows:

	1906.		1907.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	<i>Kilos.</i>		<i>Kilos.</i>	
Germany.....	2,282,305	\$4,341,874	2,331,243	\$4,617,095
Argentine Republic.....	4,705	11,493	11,191	27,373
Belgium.....	120,995	241,809	17,816	30,883
United States.....	16,743,449	33,500,696	16,811,251	33,223,250
France.....	3,083,309	6,820,565	2,596,161	5,544,069
Great Britain.....	12,422,609	23,962,602	14,353,614	27,461,262
Uruguay.....	296,812	574,870	457,809	871,359

PORT WORKS AT BAHIA.

In accordance with the plans and estimates approved by the President of Brazil, the work on the port improvements at Bahia is to be completed at the end of 1912, work having been begun in November, 1906.

The port of Bahia ranks third in importance in the Republic, coming after Rio de Janeiro and Santos as regards the importance of its movement, but the city is second only to Rio in size and population. It is the principal outlet for the States of Minas Geraes and Bahia, the latter containing one-third of the whole population of the Republic. The value of the trade movement is over \$35,000,000 annually.

The construction work, which is in the hands of a French company, with headquarters at Rio de Janeiro and agencies at Bahia and Para, is to cost \$8,000,000, and the company is to operate the port until 1972, at which time the undertaking will revert to the Brazilian Government. The Federal Government, however, reserves to itself the right to redeem the concession commencing from the year 1922.

The work undertaken is very extensive, and includes the building of quays, piers or breakwaters, carriage roads along the quays, warehouses, depots, etc. The protecting works consist of a rectilinear breakwater 325 meters in length, starting from the southern extremity of the Marine Arsenal and completed by another breakwater 915 meters long. These external protections are backed by a pier 1,295 meters long, and between the two piers there will be a channel 358 meters long, through which ships will have to pass to come alongside the quays.

The works of the quays will consist of: one, to start from the southern end of the custom-house, extending 658 meters in length and 6.50 meters wide, for the use of coasting vessels; another, 1,342 meters long and 9.50 meters wide to be used by Trans-Atlantic liners. A temporary quay, 1,400 meters long, will be constructed close to the latter, and rails will be laid in connection with the Bahia and San Francisco Railway.

Additional works will include a repair dry dock, a dock for small craft, 15 warehouses, two coal depots, and two magazines for inflammable goods.

At present there are no quays, properly so-called, which can be used for shipping, vessels drawing more than 5 meters being obliged to anchor 5 miles from shore.

The actual and material guaranties provided by the undertaking are provided by the port dues, which in 1905 would have produced \$500,000; the assets of the company and the product of a 2 per cent gold tax on all imports at Bahia, which latter is collected by the Government and applied to the guaranty of the payment of 6 per cent annually on all moneys expended by the company. The sources of revenue for the necessary service total \$873,600, according to estimates made in the act of concession, and improvement in port conditions will naturally cause a vast advance in receipts.

INDUSTRIAL ESTABLISHMENTS.

According to statistics published in the "*Revista Commercial e Financiera*," there are 2,400 industrial establishments in Brazil, with a total capital of 575,000,000 *milreis* (approximately \$189,750,000). These are distributed among the different States as follows:

State.	Number of factories.	Capital.	State.	Number of factories.	Capital.
		<i>Milreis.</i>			<i>Milreis.</i>
Federal District.....	600	145,000,000	Santa Catharina.....	140	8,500,000
São Paulo.....	184	121,000,000	Alagoas.....	30	6,800,000
Rio de Janeiro.....	188	65,000,000	Paralyba do Norte.....	23	4,300,000
Rio Grande do Sul.....	215	37,000,000	Ceará.....	25	3,700,000
Pernambuco.....	100	44,000,000	Amazonas.....	13	2,500,000
Bahia.....	120	30,000,000	Sergipe.....	26	5,700,000
Maranhão.....	25	12,000,000	Piahy.....	7	2,300,000
Paraná.....	126	11,800,000	Rio Grande do Norte.....	15	900,000
Para.....	30	8,000,000	Espirito Santo.....	5	200,000
Minas Geraes.....	533	27,000,000			

A NEW FIBER PLANT.

A recent number of the "*A Larouca*," of Rio de Janeiro, contains an article on the fiber plant known as Gravatá, which abounds along the coast region of the States of Rio de Janeiro and Espirito Santo. This is a plant of the genus *Bromelia* and produces an excellent, strong, white, and silky fiber. By many the fiber of the Gravatá is considered superior to the heniquen of Mexico. In the northern part of the State of Rio de Janeiro the extraction of this fiber has been carried on on a small scale for many years, but recently there has been given a new impulse to this industry, and companies have been formed for the cultivation and extraction on a large scale.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.

The exposition grounds at *Praia Vermelha* are at present the scene of great activity. About 2,000 workmen are employed in the preparation of the grounds and construction of buildings, and present indications are that everything will be ready for the opening day, which is fixed for June 16. The grounds have been laid out, and the streets are being paved. The wharf extending along the side of the grounds which faces the bay is already finished, and the various State and Federal pavilions are well under way.

The Secretary of the Treasury of the State of São Paulo signed a contract on March 17 last with the firms E. JOHNSTON & Co. and JOSEPH TRAVERS & SONS, of London, for the purpose of increasing the consumption of São Paulo coffee in England. By the terms of the contract these companies will organize a company for this purpose with a capital of £50,000, and for the term of five years. The company is to receive an annual subsidy from the State of São Paulo of £12,000 during the first three years, and of £10,000 during the

remaining two years. The subsidy will be applied to the establishment of a large coffee depot in London, and in carrying on the propaganda throughout Great Britain.

The Brazilian Government has appointed as its delegates to the Conference on Maritime Law, which meets at Brussels in May, 1908, Dr. RODRIGO OCTAVIO DE LANGAARD MENEZES, Professor of international law in the Faculty of Social and Juridical Science of Rio de Janeiro, and Lieut. Capt. ARMANDO BURLAMAQUI.

The Department of Industry, Communications, and Public Works has extended to July 1, 1908, the time for submitting proposals for the construction of the railway from São Luiz to Caxias and branch line from São Luiz to Itaqui, in the State of Maranhão.

A decree of March 7, 1908, authorizes a credit of 2,000,000 *milreis* for the extension of the main line of the Brazilian Central and branch line from Sabara to Ferros.

The Minister of Industry has appointed Dr. LOURENÇO BAETA NEVES to represent Brazil at the International Congress on Irrigation and Forests, which meets at Albuquerque, New Mexico, in May, 1908.

A decree of July 11, 1907, definitely approves the plans and estimates for the port works at Victoria, State of Espírito Santo.

A decree of February 27, 1908, permits the importation into Brazil of wines containing not more than 350 milligrams of sulphurous anhydrid per liter.

CHILE.

FOREIGN COMMERCE IN 1907.

Figures issued by the statistical office of the Chilean custom-house report the total trade values for 1907 at 573,762,585 *pesos*, equivalent, at the rate of \$0.365, to \$209,423,343 United States currency. In this total, imports figure for 293,681,855 *pesos* (\$107,193,877) and exports for 280,080,730 *pesos* (\$102,229,466).

Revised figures of the commercial values for 1906 indicate a somewhat larger total than was originally reported, imports and exports combined aggregating 527,319,039 *pesos* (\$192,471,448), the former estimated at 237,697,642 *pesos* (\$86,759,639) and the latter at 289,621,397 *pesos* (\$105,711,809).

A comparison of these figures for the two years shows an increased trade value for the Republic in 1907 of \$16,951,895. This increase is entirely on the side of imports, for which a gain of \$20,434,238 is noted, advancing from \$86,759,639 to \$107,193,877, while exports decreased by \$3,482,333, declining from \$105,711,809 to \$102,229,466.

The falling off in export values is attributable to the smaller shipments of nitrate, the aggregate value for the year being given as 206,202,950 *pesos* (\$75,264,076) against \$79,320,710 in 1906.

The total customs revenue for 1907 reached the sum of 120,305,348 gold *pesos* (\$43,309,925) against 113,316,239 gold *pesos* (\$40,793,846) in 1906, an increase of 6,989,109 gold *pesos* (\$2,516,079).

All the duties in the Chilean tariff are fixed in *pesos* of 18 pence (36 cents American), but, according to the financial law passed in August, 1907, the importer or exporter may pay the customs duties in paper money valued according to the international rate of exchange.

The principal receipts of the Chilean treasury are derived from the duties levied on nitrate exports. These duties, which have varied, are at the present time \$1.13 per 100 kilograms and \$0.42 per kilogram of iodine.

In order to limit the overproduction of nitrate and thus avoid a heavy fall in price a "combination" or trust was formed for five years dating from April 1, 1901, in virtue of which all the owners of nitrate lands or of nitrate manufactories agreed to limit their production in proportion to the producing capacity of their establishments. It is owing to this trust that the price of nitrate, which in 1900 fell to \$1.50, has been raised. The trust having expired in 1906, it was renewed for a period of three years with a membership of about eighty establishments.

According to customs statistics, the exportation of nitrate and iodine has increased from 22,090,313 kilograms of nitrate and 83,863 kilograms of iodine in 1880 to 1,768,050,000 kilograms of nitrate and 351,220 kilograms of iodine in 1906.

The exports were shipped to the following countries:

	Metric quintals.
England.....	7, 988, 100
Germany.....	3, 484, 320
France.....	1, 043, 900
Italy.....	262, 180
Spain.....	244, 920
Holland.....	1, 018, 640
Belgium.....	395, 850
Austria.....	15, 130
Sweden.....	22, 000
United States.....	3, 063, 490
Costa Rica.....	520
Ecuador.....	370
Uruguay.....	1, 010
Peru.....	790
Japan.....	34, 790
Honolulu.....	92, 030

Most of the nitrate industries of Chile have been organized with English capital and under English management. The railroads in the north of the country were in part established for the use of this

enterprise. The two most important lines belong to the English Nitrate Railway Company, whose shares are quoted on the Paris bourse, and to the Antofagasta and Bolivian Railway Company. A French company in Dunkirk maintains a fleet of sailing vessels, which carry coal from Europe and return laden with nitrate. Other exports comprise animal, vegetable, and mineral products, beverages and liquors, spices, and various products.

The total copper production of Chile amounted in 1906, to 19,310 tons, worth \$8,330,914, which were shipped to Great Britain, United States, France, and Germany. The exportation of this metal has decreased in spite of the high prices which it has commanded in recent years, falling from 39,000 tons in 1879 to 19,310 tons in 1906.

In his message of June 1, 1907, President Montt stated that the development in the cattle-raising industry is shown by the great increase in wool exports, whose value in 1906 amounted to \$3,266,666, an increase of more than \$866,666 over the exports of the preceding year.

According to the Chilean customs statistics, the value and countries of destination of these exports were as follows:

<i>Ordinary wool.</i>	
Great Britain.....	\$132, 738
Germany.....	63, 948
France.....	74, 734
Italy.....	646
Belgium.....	85
United States.....	17, 876
Argentine Republic.....	86
	290, 113
<i>Merino wool.</i>	
Great Britain.....	\$308, 015
Germany.....	54, 405
France.....	30, 315
Italy.....	7, 125
United States.....	5, 500
	405, 360

Imports consist principally of animal, vegetable, and mineral products, textiles and their manufactures, industrial oils, blacking, combustibles, and paint, paper, cardboard and their manufactures, beverages and liquors, perfumery, drugs and chemical products, machines, instruments, arms, ammunition and explosives, and various products.

According to the presidential message, 51 per cent of the total imports represent articles for use in native industries and only 8½ per cent articles of luxury. In this first category enter machinery and other articles in iron, the imports of which in 1906 exceeded \$13,000,000, an increase of \$4,666,666 over 1905.

Among the most important of these are mining, agricultural, industrial, and railway machinery, imported principally from Great Britain, Germany, United States, Belgium, and France.

The imports of combustibles are quite large, representing \$8,614,700, furnished almost entirely by England and Australia.

The total imports of coal amounted to \$6,789,526, of which England furnished \$4,950,373 and Australia \$1,566,186. The total imports of coke reached \$126,806, of which England furnished \$104,366. Peru furnishes charcoal, the United States petroleum, and England the greater part of the candles.

Metal products form an important chapter, the total imports reaching \$15,016,002. The United States occupies fourth place in this commerce, having furnished products for a value of \$806,977. Under this heading are included fine metals, jewelry, iron and steel (corset steels, wire, knives, metallic covering, nails, etc.). Among the articles listed under the caption "Stone and earthenware" figure glass, mirrors, cut glass, and porcelain, furnished principally by France.

The total imports of textiles and their manufactures reached \$14,293,009, supplied by England, Germany, and France.

The total imports of straw, fibers, hemp, and jute amounted to \$2,038,153.

Almost all the raw cotton imported into Chile comes from France, this country having furnished for \$2,685 out of a total importation of \$3,661. The imports of raw material are and will remain insignificant owing to the lack of cotton mills. Cotton could be raised in the Province of Arica, but the experiments made have not yet given practical results.

The imports of the following articles exceeded \$300,000: Cotton for suiting, drawers, chemises, etc., plain or corded white material; cotton cloth for suiting or lining, coarse cotton cloth (United States imports of this article amount to \$231,810), and other cotton goods. Great Britain and Germany supply almost all of these articles.

The imports of raw or manufactured linen are not very large, only reaching a value of \$249,891, sewing thread being the only important article. The total imports amounted to \$12,311, supplied principally by Germany, France, and Great Britain.

The imports of wool (raw material and manufactured articles) amounted to \$4,455,831. Germany imports almost all the raw material, having supplied \$163,747 out of a total importation of \$287,777.

The total imports of silk and articles in silk reached \$1,122,000 gold. Sewing silk and embroidery silks are the only forms of raw material imported into Chile, and these amount to a value of \$48,916. Great Britain, France, and Germany are the principal importers of silk goods into Chile, France occupying first place in this commerce.

The customs tariff in force in Chile has for basis the customs regulation of December 26, 1872, and the law of December 23, 1897. Article 1 of this law levies a duty of 25 per cent ad valorem on the importation of all articles, with the exception of the following: Merchandise paying a specific duty (per kilogram), merchandise paying 60, 35, 15, and 5 per cent, and merchandise exempt from import duties (as books). The value of merchandise has been fixed by the tariff of valuation, dating from 1903. Among the articles which pay a duty of 60 per cent may be mentioned printed, lithographed, or engraved articles (with the exception of books and magazines), tin articles, carriages, canned goods, preserves, cravats, corsets, furniture, ready-made clothing. Chile is under an extremely high protection tariff; and if some articles are exempt from duty on their importation into Chile, the greater part pay a high import rate; nevertheless, the introduction of foreign merchandise is constantly developing.

RAILROADS IN 1907.

The question of railroad construction in Chile is as important as that of its maritime communications. The first railroad was built in 1851 by an American engineer, WHEELWRIGHT, to whom is due also the establishment of the Pacific Steam Navigation Company and the idea of the Transandine railroad, connecting Cladera with Copiapo. The first lines were built in the north, owing to the nitrate industry and the necessity of transporting the product to the sea.

According to the table prepared by the Ministry of Public Works in March, 1907, the different railroad lines in exploitation at that time aggregated 2,810 kilometers, or 1,746 miles, belonging to the Government, and 2,484 kilometers (1,543 miles) to private enterprises; 1,000 kilometers (621 miles) were under construction, of which 393 kilometers (244 miles) were for private companies and 558 kilometers (346 miles) for the Government.

The operation of railroads does not correspond in Chile to the population and the area of the country. However, the country is developing its lines very rapidly owing to the initiative of the Government. In 1893 the Government only owned 1,106 kilometers (687 miles). The lines built by private enterprise have not increased as rapidly during the period mentioned. Most of the private lines are found in the industrial region in the north.

The Chilean railway system is very unequally distributed. In the longitudinal line great distances are not connected and the Government is endeavoring to overcome these disadvantages by extending its existing roads to the north as well as to the south and by connecting all the local or private lines. By a treaty of peace and amity concluded October 20, 1904, Chile contracted with Bolivia to connect

Arica with the high plateaus of La Paz by rail, so that its territory from Puerto Montt will some day be connected with the Pan-American system.

COLOMBIA.

BANANA CULTURE IN MAGDALENA.

The International Bureau of the American Republics is in receipt of an interesting report from Señor JUAN CAMPELO, of Santa Marta, Department of Magdalena, Republic of Colombia, relating to the cultivation of bananas in that department, where production is constantly increasing.

Señor CAMPELO says that Colombian and foreign capital is being invested in this profitable industry, which, it is hoped, will soon be one of the sources of wealth of the country. The soil is excellent, but requiring irrigation a part of the year, as the dry season is very protracted. A railroad connecting Santa Marta with the banana district transports the fruit to the port, where the bunches are carried directly from the cars to the ships. The port of Santa Marta has, according to the report, excellent navigation facilities and the steamers can anchor at a distance of four or five meters from the landing place without requiring a wharf.

Exportation of bananas commenced in 1892, when 171,891 bunches were exported, and has increased considerably. In 1906 the exports amounted to 1,397,388 bunches, valued at \$491,124.39 gold, and in 1907 to 1,858,970 bunches, valued at \$711,574.23 gold.

In 1906 the number of vessels entering the port of Santa Marta to take banana cargoes was 63, and in 1907, 88 were recorded, an advance of 25 steamers.

REGULATION OF THE MANUFACTURE OF CIGARETTES.

The "*Diario Oficial*," of Colombia, dated February 19, 1908, publishes a decree of President REYES regulating the production of cigarettes in the country, which is declared free, but subject to the provisions and regulations in force. Each factory must have its special name, different from that of any foreign factory whose products are imported into the Republic. The design of the packages must also be different, not only from those of the other factories in the country, but also from those of foreign factories, in order to prevent imitations. The repacking or rewrapping of cigarettes of one brand to make them appear as being of another brand is prohibited.

EXPLOITATION OF IVORY NUTS.

United States Consul ISAAC A. MANNING, of Cartagena, reports that the Colombian Government has issued a decree making the

exploitation of ivory nuts free after April 1, 1908, in the Atrato River Basin, the basin of the River Leon, and in the region adjoining the Gulf of Uraba. An export duty of \$2 per ton American gold will be collected on all the nuts exported. There had been granted a concession to various local parties for the monopoly of the ivory nuts of the district, and this new decree was issued to rescind it. Most of the ivory nuts exported are from this territory.

IMPORTANT DECREES.

At a meeting of the Council of Ministers of Colombia on March 23, 1908, President REYES announced the issuance of three important decrees, to wit: One abolishing the monopoly on hides and substituting therefor the tax on slaughter of cattle; one reducing from 15 *centavos* to 10 *centavos* per kilogram the tax on tobacco, the reduction to be made at the rate of 1 *centavo* every two months; and one abolishing the fluvial tax on articles of export. Further decrees of the same date provide for a reorganization of the diplomatic and consular service of the Republic.

COSTA RICA.

POPULATION OF THE REPUBLIC, 1907.

According to figures issued by the National Statistical Bureau of Costa Rica, the population of the Republic on December 31, 1907, was 351,176, distributed among the various provinces, as follows:

San Jose.....	111,003
Alajuela.....	82,809
Cartago.....	55,373
Heredia.....	39,921
Guanacaste.....	29,093
District of Puntarenas.....	18,052
District of Limon.....	14,925

GOVERNMENT INSPECTION OF SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

By virtue of a contract celebrated on February 29, 1908, between the Minister from Costa Rica in Washington, Señor Don JOAQUIN BERNARDO CALVO and Dr. JOSÉ R. GRIME, veterinary surgeon of the United States, and approved by the Executive on March 28, following, Doctor GRIME has been chosen to serve as an auxiliary to the Sanitary Bureau of the capital and in such other sections of the Republic as may require his official services.

He is especially charged with the inspection of slaughterhouses and their products offered for public sale with the purpose of adequately providing against any menace from this quarter to the health of the community.

COFFEE EXPORTS, SIX MONTHS OF 1907-8.

According to official statistics, the coffee exports from Costa Rica from September 30, 1907, to March 31, 1908, amounted to 7,903,056 kilograms, of which 7,754,291 kilograms were shipped through Puerto Limon, and 148,765 kilograms through Puntarenas. Great Britain alone received 6,848,564 kilograms of the total above mentioned.

DISCUSSION OF IMPORTANT CONTRACTS.

The President of Costa Rica, in a decree dated March 20, 1908, convoked an extraordinary session of the Constitutional Congress on April 6, 1908, for the discussion of the following contracts, entered into between the Secretary of Promotion and the companies mentioned: Contract with the Costa Rican Railroad Company, amending the Astua-Pirie contract; contract between the same company and the Northern Railway Company in regard to the management agreement made by both in London on June 15, 1905, and contract with the United Fruit Company in regard to the acceptance and ratification of the one signed on the 15th of July, 1907, and approved by law of September 11, 1907.

CUBA.

STATUS OF THE SUGAR INDUSTRY.

A preliminary estimate of the Cuban sugar crop of 1907 as made by the Statistical Office of the Republic fixed the total output at 10,979,517 sacks (320 pounds each), which amount was stated to be a possible overestimate. The figures for the year recently issued show a total of 9,976,960 sacks, or about 1,000,000 less than the estimate.

For 1908 the estimated production is placed at 8,508,500 sacks.

The output of each Province in 1907 and the estimate for 1908 are given as follows by the "Cuba Review" for March, 1908.

Province.	1907.	1908 (estimated).
	<i>Sacks.</i>	<i>Sacks.</i>
Havana.....	1,346,880	1,056,000
Pinar del Rio.....	236,248	184,000
Matanzas.....	2,687,673	2,164,500
Santa Clara.....	3,678,646	2,925,000
Puerto Principe.....	270,087	405,000
Santiago.....	1,767,426	1,774,000

TOBACCO PRODUCTION AND EXPORT, 1907.

Figures compiled for the "Cuba Review" covering the output of Cuban tobacco during the years 1904, 1905, 1906, and 1907 show totals of production as follows:

	Bales.			Bales.	
1904.....	428,108	1906.....	286,288		
1905.....	473,617	1907.....	440,745		

The various producing provinces are credited with the following quantities in 1906 and 1907:

	1906.		1907.		1906.		1907.	
	<i>Bales.</i>		<i>Bales.</i>		<i>Bales.</i>		<i>Bales.</i>	
Vuelta Abajo.....	139,346	234,012	Remedios.....	87,851	93,950			
Semi Vuelta.....	11,886	21,885	Puerto Principe.....	1,028	1,009			
Partidos.....	37,711	75,344	Santiago de Cuba.....	7,832	13,641			
Matanzas.....	614	904						

The exports of tobacco and manufactures are valued, for 1907, at \$28,645,908.60 as compared with \$36,702,585.75 in the preceding year, while the native consumption is estimated at \$13,697,640.04 and \$12,334,154.72 during the two years, making the total crop value aggregate \$42,343,548.64 in 1907 and \$49,036,740.47 in 1906.

Out of a total of 200,672 bales of leaf tobacco exported in 1907 and valued at \$14,960,933, the United States took 180,274; of the 186,428,607 cigars sent abroad, worth \$13,112,226, out of a total production of 364,400,997, that country received 61,869,131; while the cigarette production is placed at 227,299,494 packages, of which 16,505,104, valued at \$449,928, were shipped abroad and 210,794,390 consumed locally.

SANITARY CONDITIONS IN 1907.

The report of the National Sanitation Department of the Cuban Government for 1907 states that the year was signalized by a prevalence of satisfactory conditions as a result of the nationalization of the health service of the Republic in accordance with the decree of August 26 of that year.

Only 7 cases of yellow fever are reported for the city of Havana and 161 in the rest of the island and the 1906 record was 71 cases in the capital and 41 in the interior.

The department gave special attention to the extermination of mosquitoes, to proper regulation of the milk supply, and adequate inspection was made of such establishments as are devoted to the preparation of food products, including ice, mineral waters, confectionery, etc. Chemical analyses of beers and other liquors were enforced and in all private and public schools medical inspection was made at regular intervals, the number of scholars vaccinated as a precaution against infection numbering 5,520.

The capital's total mortuary list for the year aggregated 6,708, the greater number of deaths being due to tuberculosis, of which 1,176 fatal cases were reported.

ADHERENCE TO THE GENEVA CONVENTION.

On March 17, 1908, the Republic of Cuba officially declared its adherence to the convention signed in Geneva on July 6, 1906, for the amelioration of the condition of soldiers wounded on the field of battle and to the final protocol of said convention signed on the same date.

The convention in reference was the result of a conference held for the purpose of revising the convention of Geneva signed in 1864.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.

PUBLIC WORKS IN 1907.

Pursuant to his constitutional duties, the Secretary of Promotion and Public Works of the Dominican Republic submitted to the President, on February 27, 1908, his report covering the administration and transactions of his department during the calendar year 1907.

The report begins with an account of the National Exposition held at the capital in commemoration of the 43d anniversary of the restoration of the Republic, and inaugurated on August 16, 1907. All the provinces were represented, and each had an exhibit of its products, agricultural as well as industrial; according to the report, the outcome of this exposition was highly satisfactory.

The Republic was invited by the Government of the United States to participate in the Jamestown Exposition held at Norfolk, Va., in the summer of 1907. A building made of native woods was constructed in the exposition grounds, in which were elaborately exhibited the various products of the Republic. The Dominican exhibit was awarded gold, silver, and copper medals, and its success was extremely gratifying.

Speaking of the railroads of the country, the Minister states that there are at present under process of construction four lines which will connect with the coast important centers of production that up to the present day have not been exploited on account of the lack of transportation facilities. One of these lines, which is being built by the Government and will soon be completed, is the railroad from Santiago de los Caballeros to Moca, and its trains are operated as far as the town of Peña, near the latter city; this line connects with the Dominican Central Railroad, and it will give great facilities to the exportation of the products of Moca and Salcedo, important cacao regions.

The Government is also building the railroad that will connect the port of La Romana with the city of Seybo, the work of construction on which was commenced in January, 1907; this line, according to the report, will give a great impulse and stimulus to the production of cacao in the Seybo region, converting it into the principal center of the cacao production of the country. At present, the Province of Seybo, without communication facilities and distant from a port, has more than 2,000,000 cacao trees in state of production.

The other two lines referred to are being constructed by virtue of concessions obtained from the Government; one of them will connect the capital with the city of San Cristobal, with a branch line to the copper mines of San Francisco, and the other will unite the port of Barahona with the town of San Juan.

In regard to agriculture, the principal native source of wealth, the Minister makes several recommendations concerning its promotion and development, such as the establishment of new communication facilities throughout the Republic and the demarcation of public lands. The cattle-breeding law that went into effect during the year has proven greatly beneficial to the cattle industry.

Public works progressed considerably during the period covered by the report. In Santo Domingo, the dredging of the mouth of the River Ozama is prosecuted with activity; it is estimated that this work will cost a considerable amount of money, but at the same time it will be highly beneficial to the commerce of the country. In the Province of Monte Cristy the following works were completed: A bridge over the Chacuey River; two dams in the Maguaca Stream; and the dredging and canalization of the River Chacuey. The irrigation works in that province are being carried out with rapidity under the supervision of an American engineer engaged by the Government for this purpose. In September, 1907, the wharf and warehouses built by the Habanero Lumber Company were formally opened; the same company established during the year several plantations in Paradis, Province of Barahona. In the capital, the work of turning into a park the Plaza de la Independencia was commenced. The construction of the highway from Santo Domingo to San Cristobal was prosecuted with activity, and the Minister requests the appropriation of an additional sum for its completion. Several municipalities of the Republic carried out at their own expense some important improvements.

THE ADJUSTMENT OF THE PUBLIC DEBT.

The "*Gaceta Oficial*" of the Dominican Republic for April 4, 1908, publishes the text of three agreements for the adjustment of the public debt of the Nation. The first agreement, signed at New York on the 27th of January, 1908, between the Government and

Messrs. KUHN, LOEB & COMPANY, relates to the issue of bonds of the Republic, at 5 per cent, with a sinking fund, and guaranteed with the customs revenues of the country, to the amount of \$20,000,000 in gold currency of the United States. The second contract was entered into in the city of New York on January 24, 1908, between the Republic and the Samana and Santiago Railroad Company, whereby the latter abandons from the 1st of February, 1908, all the rights which, in accordance with the resolution of Congress of February 13, 1887, it had to collect for the period of thirty-five years, 7 per cent of the import duties at the custom-house of Sanchez, in exchange for bonds of the Republic of the face value of \$195,000 gold with interest at 5 per cent from February 1, 1908. The third agreement referred to was signed at the city of New York on February 13, 1908, between the Government and the San Domingo Improvement Company, of New York, the San Domingo Finance Company, of New York, the Dominican Central Railroad Company, the National Bank of Santo Domingo, by the terms of which the sum to be paid by the Government to said companies for the transfer to the latter of all rights and interests owned or represented by the former in the National Bank of Santo Domingo (including 6,338 shares of the capital of said bank), the transfer of the Dominican Central Railroad (including 15,000 shares thereof), for the surrender to the Government of old bonds of the Republic to the amount of £830,654, and as full settlement of all debts and claims of any kind that said companies had against the Republic, is fixed at \$4,312,242.76 gold.

ECUADOR.

THE SPECIAL SANITATION COMMISSION OF GUAYAQUIL.

President ALFARO, of the Republic of Ecuador, issued a decree, under date of March 24, 1908, providing for the establishment in the city of Guayaquil of a special sanitation commission to be composed of four members, one of whom shall be designated as its chairman. The principal object of the commission shall be the eradication of bubonic plague, yellow fever, and smallpox in the city of Guayaquil and its suburbs and the establishment of hygiene in all homes by means of the methods of modern sanitary practice. The decree gives the commission full powers for the execution of its duties and provides that the work of sanitation of Guayaquil must be carried out within two years, in accordance with the report presented by Dr. JOHN C. PERRY and Dr. BOLIVAR J. LLOYD, of the Public Health and Marine-Hospital Service of the United States. Doctor LLOYD has been appointed chairman of the commission.



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A modern water and sewerage system is to be installed, for which bids are to be invited in the United States and Europe.

HONDURAS.

RAILROAD CONTRACTS WITH THE UNITED FRUIT COMPANY.

"*La Gaceta*," the official publication of the Honduran Government, in its issues for March 14 and 18, 1907, publishes two proposed contracts to be entered into between the Republic and the United Fruit Company. One of the contracts stipulates the lease to said company, for a period of sixty-five years, of the National Railroad from Puerto Cortes to La Pimienta, with the privilege of rebuilding the same and of constructing branch lines from the main line to the neighboring banana plantations; the extension of said branch lines to be not less than 30 miles. The other contract relates to the construction and exploitation of a line from La Pimienta to the Gulf of Fonseca, with branch lines to the neighboring plantations; the life of the contract will be seventy-five years.

CREATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

Considering that agriculture is the basis of the development of national industries, and that the creation of a special department will contribute efficiently to its promotion, the President of the Republic, in a decree dated March 2, 1908, has ordered the organization of the Department of Agriculture, by virtue of the powers vested in him by articles 108 and 111 of the political constitution of the Republic.

COLONIZATION OF LANDS IN THE MOSQUITIA TERRITORY.

The official publication of the Republic of Honduras publishes a proposed contract presented to the Minister of Promotion and Public Works by the representative of the European-American and Development Company, in regard to the colonization of public lands situated in the Mosquitia Territory, for which purpose the company agrees to introduce in the country 10,000 colonists within the period of ten years from the date of the approval of the contract. The immigrants must be natives of central or northern Europe and under 40 years of age.

MEXICO.

FOREIGN COMMERCE, FIRST SEVEN MONTHS OF 1907-8.

According to figures published by the statistical division of the Department of Finance and Public Credit of the Mexican Republic, the total value of imports received during the first seven months of

the fiscal year 1907-8 (July, 1907, to January, 1908) was 142,657,112.04 *pesos* (\$71,328,700), as compared with 128,513,030.70 *pesos* (\$64,256,500) in the same months of the previous year, an increase of 14,144,381.34 *pesos* (\$7,072,000). In the month of January, 1908, the value of imports was 19,679,713.34 *pesos* (\$9,839,800), which, in comparison with 20,766,322.19 *pesos* (\$10,383,000), the receipts in January, 1907, represents a decrease of 1,086,608 *pesos* (\$543,000).

The exports were valued at 146,904,949.68 *pesos* (\$73,452,400), in comparison with 140,184,883.20 *pesos* (\$70,092,400) during the same period of the fiscal year 1906-7, an increase of 6,720,066.48 *pesos* (\$3,360,000). The value of products exported during the month of January, 1908, was 19,118,438.05 *pesos* (\$9,559,000), showing a decrease of 3,182,507.97 *pesos* (\$1,591,000) when compared with the amount of 22,300,946.02 *pesos* (\$11,150,400) for the same month of 1907.

NATIONAL CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE.

Señor LIMANTOUR, the Secretary of Finance of the Republic of Mexico, submitted to the Congress of the Union, under date of April 3, 1908, a bill for the incorporation of chambers of commerce. It is divided in seven titles, wherein are specified the functions of said institutions; the privileges and rights that they are to enjoy; the manner in which they shall be constituted and incorporated; the procedure to be followed in arbitral hearings and extrajudicial liquidations before them; and, finally, provisions regarding their dissolution. Chambers of commerce organized in accordance with this bill, after its passage, shall be called "National Chambers of Commerce," and have for object, in general, the promotion of the national commerce, and, in particular, the discharge of the duties specified in the bill.

EXPLOITATION OF PETROLEUM DEPOSITS.

Under date of December 4, 1907, President DIAZ, of Mexico, promulgated a contract entered into on the 14th of August, 1907, between the Government and Messrs. LUIS DE LA BARRA and JUAN BRUNGAS for the exploration and exploitation of petroleum deposits located in private lands, with the authorization of the respective owners, in the Department of Pichucalco, State of Chiapas. The concessionaires must invest in said explorations and exploitation the sum of 100,000 *pesos* (\$50,000) within the period of seven years from the date of the contract.

RAW HENEQUEN EXEMPTED FROM EXPORT DUTIES.

The "*Diario Oficial*" of Mexico, dated April 4, 1908, publishes the text of a proposed law exempting raw henequen from the payment

of export duties, and repealing paragraph A of section IV of article 1 of the law of May 22, 1907. This bill contains, besides, a provision for the refund to the producers of henequen of the amount of export duties paid by them on the fiber exported since the 16th of February, 1908.

The bill in reference was presented by Secretary LIMANTOUR to the Chamber of Deputies on April 4, 1908, and became a law on April 23.

RAILROAD LINE IN LOWER CALIFORNIA.

The "*Diario Oficial*," of the Mexican Republic, for April 4, 1908, contains the text of a contract entered into between the Government and Mr. JOHN D. SPRECKLES for the construction and exploitation of a railroad line in the Territory of Lower California, starting from a point of the boundary line between Mexico and the United States near monument No. 255 thereof, and terminating at the ranch of Jacumba, near monument No. 232 of said boundary line. The line must be completed within the period of six years, and its total length shall be 85 kilometers.

BANKING LAW OF THE REPUBLIC.

The reforms that are to be made in the method of operating banks in Mexico have been agreed upon by the representatives of the chartered banks of the country and will be enacted into law by the national Congress. These proposed reforms were suggested by Minister of Finance JOSÉ Y. LIMANTOUR. Some of the provisions are radical and of far-reaching importance.

At present charters or concessions are granted in Mexico for the establishment of three distinct kinds of banks, viz: Banks of issue, mortgage banks, and loan banks known as *Bancos refaccionarios*.

In the first class are such as are permitted to issue notes of the various denominations which are redeemable at par and at sight to bearer. The minimum capital is fixed at \$500,000 and at least 50 per cent of the total subscribed capital must be held in cash before operations are commenced. Bank notes do not constitute legal tender and can not be issued for lesser denominations than \$5. Cash in hand must at no time represent less than one-half of the amount of its circulation plus its sight deposits and deposits at three days' sight. Circulation is limited to three times the amount of paid-up capital.

Banks of issue are prohibited from discounting paper of any running nature, from negotiating in paper running over six months, and from accepting notes of other documents for discount which do not bear two responsible signatures or are guaranteed by mortgage security. They can not secure loans or contract any compromise on notes of their own circulation, and are forbidden to mortgage their properties or surrender their discounts for collateral security to any third party.

They can not accept mortgages on properties except under special circumstances and with the approval of the Department of Finance, as follows: When a client's credit decreases and it becomes necessary to protect the note discounted. Authorization is granted by the department only on condition that the total amount of the mortgage in favor of the bank does not exceed one-fourth of the paid-up capital, and only when this security is given to protect a credit which will mature within two years from the date of transaction.

Mortgage banks are those which make loans on rural and urban properties and issue bonds which accrue interest and are amortizable through special conditions and at specified date, being protected by the mortgage paper. The minimum capital must be \$500,000 and 50 per cent of the total subscribed stock in cash.

Banks of loans are authorized or organized with the express object of facilitating mining, agricultural, and industrial enterprises by means of privileged loans without mortgage security. These banks issue short-time credit bonds which accrue interest and are payable at specified times or dates. The minimum capital stock is \$200,000.

Special concessions are granted for the classes of banks named, and in no case can one concession cover the working of any two, nor can any one class of bank transact such business as pertains to or is covered by the concession of another of a different order. Such concessions are granted by Congress, by Executive decree, and for banks of issue are limited to thirty years and to fifty years for loan and mortgage banks.

Concessions can not be secured by less than three persons, who are required to prove within four months the constitution of the stock company which proposes working the same, as well as the transfer of the concession to said company. The stock companies are composed of at least seven persons, the stock being considered as registered bonds until the total value of the same has been paid in. It is obligatory before the concession can be obtained that the concessionaires shall deposit bonds of the national public debt with a nominal value, at par, or at least 20 per cent of the amount of cash which the bank is required to have in its vaults for the commencement of operations. This deposit is returned as soon as business commences.

Charters for the establishment of institutions of credit are granted to private individuals or corporations, but the exploitation thereof can only be carried on through the medium of corporations or stock companies legally organized in the Republic. The domicile of the institution is considered to be where the head office is located and the capital stock can not be increased without the approval of the Minister of Finance.

Exemptions and reductions in taxation are only granted to the first bank established in each State or Federal territory, all others

being required to pay all taxes established by law as well as a special Federal tax of 2 per cent per annum on the total paid-up capital of the institution.

State banks can not organize or open branches out of their own territory or cancel or manipulate their circulation except by special authorization of the National Executive. This special authorization is never granted except when sufficient proof is furnished to show that the requisite commercial relations exist between various States. On no account can branches be established in the city of Mexico or the Federal District.

All banks are subject to Government intervention, the inspector being named by the Chief Executive of the nation.

A monthly cash balance is published in which is shown, apart from the balances of those accounts required by law, the total cash on hand, total notes in circulation, and the amount of sight or three days' sight deposits.

Should the bank's circulation at any time exceed the amount required by law, the same must be communicated immediately in writing to the Government inspector and the bank is required to suspend all further operations of loans until its note circulation is again within the legal limit. If this be not attained within fifteen days, the Department of Finance will fix a convenient time, which in no case may exceed one month, so that the bank's circulation may be adjusted. Failure to comply with this is penalized by forfeiture of concession and the liquidation of the affairs of the bank.

All banks are obliged to redeem all notes placed in circulation by them. Branches are only required to redeem these notes placed in circulation bearing a countermark showing that same have been issued. The denominations are limited to notes of 5, 10, 20, 50, 100, 500, and 1,000 *pesos*, which are stamped by the Government upon authorization of the Department of Finance. This authorization is only given when proof is shown that the notes represent an amount in accordance with the bank's concession.

All notes presented by the public are redeemable even though torn or impaired if the number, series, denomination, and signature are legibly shown. Those withdrawn from circulation are destroyed by fire according to law.

Foreign institutions of credit which make a practice of issuing credit paper can not establish branches or agencies in the Republic for the handling or negotiation of their paper.

STATUS OF THE BANKS OF THE REPUBLIC.

The United States Consul at Aguascalientes, W. D. SHAUGHNESSY, in reporting on Mexican banking methods and the financial situation, states that the banks of the Republic rank among the foremost

in the world as regards solidity. The recent stringency both in the United States and Europe has not prevented Mexican banks from paying their obligations in cash, but it has been the cause of an advance of interest rates to 12 per cent, an increase of 2½ per cent since July, 1907.

The circular issued by the Minister of Finance inviting delegates from the banks of the Republic to assemble for the discussion of financial matters has been favorably received and practical results are expected from the conference.

SILVER BASIS OF THE STAMP AND CUSTOMS TAXES, MAY, 1908.

The monthly circular issued by the Department of Finance of the Mexican Republic announces that the legal price per kilogram of pure silver during the month of May, 1908, is \$36.05 Mexican currency, according to calculations provided in the decree of March 25, 1905. This price will be the basis for the payment of the stamp tax and customs duties when silver is used throughout the Republic.

NICARAGUA.

THE PERMANENT COURT OF ARBITRATION AT THE HAGUE.

According to information received from the Nicaraguan Legation at Washington, the President of the Republic, in a decree dated March 3, 1908, has appointed Señor CRISANTO MEDINA and Señor DÉSIKÉ PECTOR, Minister Plenipotentiary and Consul-General, respectively, of Nicaragua in France as members of the Permanent Court of Arbitration, in accordance with Article 23 of The Hague convention of 1899.

THE MINING INDUSTRY.

The Minister of the Republic of Nicaragua in Washington, Señor LUIS F. CORREA, has furnished the International Bureau of the American Republics with the following data on the mining industry of the country:

The mines registered in the Bureau of Statistics of Nicaragua are: Nueva Segovia, 112 gold, 9 gold and silver, and 5 silver; Chinandega, 1 gold, 1 gold and silver, 1 silver, and 1 copper; Carazo, 1 gold and silver; Jinotega, 20 gold; Esteli, 12 gold and 2 silver; Leon, 36 gold; Jerez, 132 gold; Atlantic Littoral, 171 gold.

There are lime mines throughout the country, principally in Chinandega, Carazo, Rivas, and Nueva Segovia; in the Department of Jinotega is situated a jasper deposit, and a grindstone quarry in the Department of Managua. In all parts of the Republic stone quarries may be found, but the principal ones are located in Posin-

tepe, Department of Granada, and in Miramar, jurisdiction of Tola, Department of Rivas. There are, besides, innumerable marble and other valuable quarries located in private lands.

FOREST PRODUCTS OF THE REPUBLIC.

Among the various forest products of the Republic of Nicaragua which have been successfully exploited elsewhere none are more plentiful than the balsam plants. Copaiba, tolú, and the Peruvian balsam are found everywhere along the coast section, none of which are at present collected for exportation. Sarsaparilla, ipecacuanha, China root, serpentarin, and other medicinal roots abound, and cou-durango is found in some places in immense quantities.

Gums and resins of various kinds are abundant, and the native camphor tree is said to yield a variety equal to if not superior to that produced in the Far East. Vanilla of an excellent quality grows freely, and senna grows wild in Chontales.

Many of the sections producing these plants are covered by concessions providing for rubber exploitation, and as that is the main forest industry of the country, the development of the commercial possibilities involved is at present restricted.

PANAMA.

TRADE OF BOCAS DEL TORO IN 1907.

The United States Consular Agent at Bocas del Toro, L. F. RYAN reports that out of a total value of \$794,451.33 representing exports from his consular district to the United States in 1907, \$790,737.50 were on account of banana shipments numbering 3,163,050 bunches, destined to New Orleans or Mobile.

Hides, rubber, cocoanuts, limes, native curios, quaqua bark, and Mahogua wood formed the other items of export with an aggregate value of \$3,613.93.

To Europe were sent rubber, sarsaparilla, turtle shell, hides, turtle meat, and cacao, valued at \$32,275.

Imports from the United States are valued for the year at \$873,188.96 and cover large quantities of lumber and codfish, besides various articles of food and clothing as well as locomotives, bridge and railroad material, tools, gasoline, etc. Among the goods returned to the United States, valued at \$33,757.27, the principal articles were empty gasoline cans for refilling.

Steel for railway and bridge construction and for the completion of the new wharf at Almirante is also an important item of import, and the development of the transport and shipping facilities of the

district will greatly enhance the value of the banana lands. It is anticipated that during 1908 at least 4,000,000 bunches of this fruit will be shipped from the port.

THE PORT OF COLON IN 1907.

A decline in both imports and exports is noted for the year 1907, as compared with 1906, according to the report of the trade movement of the port by United States Consul JAMES C. KELLOGG. Total imports are stated to have been \$2,039,352, a decrease of \$735,083, while exports are quoted as \$100,792, or \$55,862 less than in the preceding year.

From the United States imports were received to the value of \$1,275,333, a decline of \$662,050, while Great Britain, Germany, France, Spain, Italy, and other countries all figure for smaller shipments.

Dry goods, including boots and shoes, form the leading item of import, while on the export list, coconuts, worth \$37,838, rank first, followed by ivory nuts, \$23,958; tortoise shell, \$12,361, hides, \$6,442; coffee, \$4,458, and bananas, \$4,000.

Many improvements have been effected, notably a complete sewerage system and water supply, while paving and grading of streets and the construction and renovation of both public and private buildings have engaged the municipal authorities.

PARAGUAY.

PUBLIC INSTRUCTION IN THE REPUBLIC.

The public school and college system of Paraguay is made the subject of an interesting report by United States Consul EDWARD J. NORRIS, at Asuncion, who states that in 1907 the appropriations made for the Department of Justice and Public Instruction exceeded \$500,000. The Government is giving special attention to practical science and has selected such lines of study as will have future bearing on the development and progress of the country.

The primary schools of Paraguay are under the direction of the national board of education. In 1907, at the close of the scholastic year, there were 383 primary schools in the Republic, divided into four grades. During the year 698 teachers attended to the instruction of 39,749 pupils. The number of pupils in the primary schools during the past year shows the surprising increase of 10,000 over the year 1906.

The Government maintains five colleges throughout the Republic, corresponding in grade to the high schools of the United States. The

teaching staff and number of students attending these colleges are shown in the following table:

College.	Profes- sors.	Stu- dents.	College.	Profes- sors.	Stu- dents.
Asuncion	37	417	Encarnacion	6	37
Villarrica	8	77	Total	62	615
Concepcion	6	37			
Villa Pilar	5	47			

With the exception of Asuncion, the cities in which these colleges are located are small, and only one of them--Villarrica—is connected with the capital by rail. Concepcion and Villa Pilar are situated on the Paraguay River and Encarnacion on the river Parana.

The Normal Training School for teachers is a well-directed institution. The faculty numbers 58 professors, and during the past year was attended by 119 candidates.

The National University at Asuncion was founded in 1890. Its principal divisions are:

Division.	Profes- sors.	Stu- dents.	Division.	Profes- sors.	Stu- dents.
Law and social science.....	12	61	Special college of obstetrics.....	6	37
Medicine	21	30	Total.....	52	194
Pharmacy	7	14			
Notarial training.....	6	52			

The National University, as well as the National colleges, are directed by the superior board of education, composed of seven members, who serve for four years. The university is well equipped with laboratories and scientific instruments of the most modern type. The library attached to the university consists of 2,500 well-chosen volumes, and, in addition, the students have the privileges of the National Library of the Republic, founded in 1871, with over 6,000 volumes.

The National College of Agriculture and experimental farm are located a short distance from Asuncion.

Four large private schools are conducted in Asuncion, two of them under the direction of the Sisters of Charity.

Through scholarship funds the Paraguayan Government maintains about twenty young men in Europe and the United States. These young men, upon concluding their studies, are under an agreement to return to Paraguay and assist in the spread of education. Among these special students are civil and mechanical engineers, electric and hydraulic engineers, electricians, chemists, and veterinary surgeons, and those taking courses in agricultural science, arts and manufactures and commerce.

PERU.

COMMERCIAL AND MARITIME MOVEMENT OF IQUITOS, 1907.

The last official statistics received from Peru, relating to the commercial and maritime movement of Iquitos during 1907, indicate the progress of this important port, second in the Republic only to Callao.

The total customs revenues amounted to £249,038.7s 01c, in 1907, as against £181,846.8s 52c, in 1906, and the exports of rubber during 1907 had a total weight of 2,358,839 kilograms, distributed among the ports of destination, as follows:

	Kilograms.
Havre.....	1,037,789
Liverpool.....	1,211,992
Hamburg.....	100,534
New York.....	8,524
Total.....	2,358,839

In 1906 the rubber exports amounted to 2,152,421 kilograms, the increase in favor of 1907 being, therefore, 415,923 kilograms. For the first half of 1907 Iquitos rubber shipments, aggregating 1,714,100 kilograms, were valued at £601,000.

The maritime movement of the port during the year in reference was as follows: Entries—Vessels, 549; tons, 41,580; crew, 7,721 members, and passengers, 7,056. Clearances—Vessels, 547; tons, 41,938; crew, 7,753 members, and passengers, 7,172.

THE HUANCAYO-AYACUCHO RAILROAD.

On February 13, 1908, the Minister of Promotion of Peru inaugurated officially the work of construction on the railroad line from Huancayo to Ayacucho. The total length of the line will be 260 kilometers and its cost is estimated at £910,000. The construction of this railroad was authorized by Law No. 667 of November 20, 1907.

COCA, THE COCAINE OF COMMERCE.

The shrub from which the coca leaves are obtained, grows under favorable conditions to a height of about 4 meters. It is cultivated only in Peru and Bolivia, and flourishes in a temperature not in excess of 22° C, but dies if subjected to a freezing temperature. There are many valleys both in Peru and Bolivia in which it could be grown to advantage.

At the time the crop is gathered, the seeds are sown in beds where they germinate and grow, and in two months the young plants attain a height of about a foot, and are then ready to be transplanted. They should be planted in rows, with yucca or banana plants for shade, 1 meter apart and 1 meter between the furrows. The plants

must have shade in order to quickly and properly develop. The necessary permanent shade is provided by planting with the coca plants the shrubs known as *paltos* or *guavos*, to take the place of the yucca and banana plants, which are short lived. Some sunlight is necessary to induce the proper development and thickening of the leaves from which cocaine is extracted, and coca leaves cultivated in too much shade are deficient in this valuable alkaloid.

The leaves grown in the proper sunlight and shade are yellowish, small, and thick, and contain the largest percentage of cocaine. This is the kind of leaf that is preferred for chewing purposes by persons using the leaves as a stimulant, fortifier, and preventative of sleep and fatigue in the performance of arduous work, inasmuch as they prevent rheumatism, from which miners suffer when employed in mines that contain much water. Indians who masticate the leaves of this plant can work twenty-four hours without eating or sleeping. Coca leaves are used by the natives when engaged in long and fatiguing journeys and by soldiers when subject to hardships and privations. They may be used with all kinds of food, and are said to cure dyspepsia, either taken as an infusion in the shape of tea or by masticating the leaves, the latter method being the most efficacious.

At harvesting time the leaves are gathered, dried for a few hours, pressed into bales 60 centimeters long by 50 centimeters high, weighing 140 pounds, and are then ready for export. Domestic cocaine contains from 85 to 88 per cent of the alkaloid, and is worth in Hamburg about 320 marks per kilo. This price is so low that some of the Peruvian factories have had to close, since it does not pay to extract the cocaine in the country at a lower price than about 450 marks per kilo.

At an altitude of 1,000 feet the cultivation of the plant costs 20 *soles* per thousand trees per annum. Four crops are gathered during the year, and 100 pounds of leaves (the yield at each gathering of 1,000 four-year-old plants) sell in Trujillo for 25 *soles*. The life of the plant is very long, some plantations, with the plants in perfect condition, being 80 years old. The plants begin to produce leaves suitable for harvesting three months after transplanting. The fresh seeds of the plants only live about eight days, and will not germinate if sown after that time.

SALVADOR.

PAN-AMERICAN COMMITTEE.

The President of Salvador, on March 23, 1908, decreed the appointment of a committee to serve, in connection with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in carrying out the provisions of the fourth resolution of the Third International Conference of Rio de Janeiro.

The Assistant Secretary of Foreign Affairs is to serve as President of the Committee, which includes three other members, and the duties are specifically designated in the "*Diario Oficial*" of March 25, 1908.

PUBLIC INSTRUCTION IN 1907.

The report in regard to public instruction during 1907 was submitted to the National Assembly of Salvador on the 24th of February, 1908, of which the following is an extract:

Several schools of boys and of girls were consolidated into mixed schools; 103 new mixed schools were created during year, which, added to the 29 already existing, make a total of 132 mixed primary schools in the Republic. During the year the schools of primary instruction were served by 691 principals (313 men and 278 women), 235 assistant principals (125 men and 110 women), and 260 assistant teachers (155 men and 105 women). The total number of registered pupils was 34,752, and the average attendance 24,713. The total amount of expenditures for primary instruction was 645,766 *pesos* (\$322,883); therefore, each registered pupil cost the Government 18.38 *pesos* (\$9.19), and each pupil of actual attendance, 26.13 *pesos* (\$13.06). There are in the Republic several private schools, in some of which primary instruction exclusively is taught, while in others both primary and secondary instructions are given. Some of these schools are very efficient and important. The academic instruction of the Republic is in charge of the National University of San Salvador, which embraces schools of law, medicine, pharmacy, dentistry, civil engineering, commerce, etc.

During eight months of 1907, from March to October, there were registered in the National Library 7,748 readers, who used 5,037 books and 2,184 periodicals.

CITIZENSHIP CONVENTION WITH THE UNITED STATES.

On March 14, 1908, the representatives of Salvador and the United States signed at San Salvador a convention determining the status of the citizens of either Republic who renew their residence in the country of their origin. This convention was approved by the President of Salvador on the same day that it was concluded, and has been published in the "*Diario Oficial*" of the 17th of March, 1908.

UNITED STATES.

TRADE WITH LATIN AMERICA.

STATEMENT OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

Following is the latest statement, from figures compiled by the Bureau of Statistics, United States Department of Commerce and

Labor, showing the value of the trade between the United States and the Latin American countries. The report is for the month of March, 1908, with a comparative statement for the corresponding month of the previous year; also for the nine months ending March, 1908, as compared with the same period of the preceding year. It should be explained that the figures from the various custom-houses, showing imports and exports for any one month, are not received until about the 20th of the following month, and some time is necessarily consumed in compilation and printing, so that the returns for March, for example, are not published until some time in May.

IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE.

Articles and countries.	March—		Nine months ending March—	
	1907.	1908.	1907.	1908.
<i>Cocoa (Cacao; cacao; cacáo):</i>	<i>Dollars.</i>	<i>Dollars.</i>	<i>Dollars.</i>	<i>Dollars.</i>
Central America.....	11,354	2,196	39,625	24,741
Brazil.....	211,018	236,846	2,169,397	2,253,018
Other South America.....	99,890	58,427	1,311,352	1,569,781
<i>Coffee (Café; café; café):</i>				
Central America.....	1,081,928	824,855	3,555,142	2,940,430
Mexico.....	217,031	753,193	808,708	1,697,974
Brazil.....	1,534,557	4,383,731	45,661,057	36,975,852
Other South America.....	1,046,221	689,622	7,077,894	6,532,846
<i>Copper (Cobre; cobre; cuivre):</i>				
<i>Ore (Mineral; mineral; minerio)—</i>				
Mexico.....	464,736	100,956	3,153,519	2,249,232
South America.....	314,530	29,840	796,657	1,180,483
<i>Figs, bars, etc. (Figotes, barras, etc.; em lingui-das, barras, etc.; en lingots, seu nous, e'c.)</i>				
Mexico.....	1,304,653	240,341	10,806,297	6,320,137
Cuba.....	19,015	1,840	70,781	52,492
Peru.....	159,082	520,866	898,522	3,407,103
Other South America.....	385,800	46,791	1,357,891	831,684
<i>Cotton, unmanufactured (algodón en rama; algodao em rama; coton non manufacturé):</i>				
South America.....	68,742	10,756	538,599	366,760
<i>Fibers (Fibras; fibras; fibres):</i>				
<i>Ittle or Tampico fiber (Ittle; Ittle; Ittle)—</i>				
Mexico.....	106,534	55,611	1,070,408	736,823
<i>Sisal grass (Henequen; henequen; henequen)—</i>				
Mexico.....	1,468,055	1,024,739	11,481,330	10,474,554
<i>Fruits (Frutas; fructas; fruits):</i>				
<i>Bananas (Plátanos; bananas; bananes)—</i>				
Central America.....	432,137	404,174	3,717,145	4,225,262
Cuba.....	66,041	41,250	599,915	393,181
South America.....	49,347	37,621	123,990	309,297
<i>Oranges (Naranjas; naranjas; oranges)—</i>				
Mexico.....	1,454	869	37,041	54,226
Cuba.....	492	657	7,846	3,915
<i>Furs and skins (Pieles finas; pelles finas; peaux):</i>				
South America.....	3,016	2,430	277,022	130,978
<i>Goatskins (Pieles de cabra; pelles de cabra; peaux de chèvres):</i>				
Mexico.....	325,875	201,931	2,374,784	1,432,519
Brazil.....	99,243	156,032	1,272,210	1,001,279
Other South America.....	176,152	54,807	1,728,546	736,364
<i>Hides of cattle (Cueros vacunos; cueros de gado; cuirs de bétail):</i>				
Mexico.....	152,098	156,522	1,316,866	734,659
Cuba.....	21,722	5,188	227,625	72,507
Brazil.....	85,735	3,349	212,803	81,264
Other South America.....	522,759	411,307	6,701,734	4,286,846
<i>India rubber, crude (Goma cruda; barracha em bruto; caoutchouc):</i>				
Central America.....	73,954	44,920	606,000	484,588
Mexico.....	377,257	455,432	1,655,699	2,803,916
Brazil.....	4,389,249	2,054,531	25,764,383	14,175,650
Other South America.....	79,990	58,287	1,081,516	895,535

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IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	March—		Nine months ending March—	
	1907.	1908.	1907.	1908.
Iron ore (<i>Míneral de hierro; minería de hierro; minerais de fer</i>):	<i>Dollars.</i>	<i>Dollars.</i>	<i>Dollars.</i>	<i>Dollars.</i>
Cuba.....	145,385	143,298	1,552,216	1,893,920
Lead ore (<i>Míneral de plomo; minería de chumbo; minerais de plumb</i>):				
Mexico.....	213,068	370,553	1,950,666	2,897,609
Sugar, not above No. 16 Dutch standard (<i>Azúcar inferior al No. 16 del modelo holandés; assucar não superior ao No. 16 de padrão holandês; pis au-dessus du type hollandais No. 16</i>):				
Mexico.....	1,598	729	165,319	885,561
Cuba.....	8,793,949	8,717,436	40,524,967	32,409,777
Brazil.....			912,381	
Other South America.....	64,395	16,377	1,879,732	489,027
Tobacco (<i>Tobaco; fumo; tabac</i>):				
Leaf (<i>En rama; em rama; en ravello</i>):				
Cuba.....	973,236	1,469,913	10,992,829	9,895,385
Cigars, cigarettes, etc. (<i>Cigarros, cigarrillos, etc.; charutos, cigarros, etc.; cigares, cigarettes, etc.</i>)—				
Cuba.....	266,749	157,984	3,456,280	3,351,964
Wood, mahogany (<i>Caoba; mague; acoujou</i>):				
Central America.....	38,318	51,786	378,372	530,816
Mexico.....	57,858	43,805	503,317	464,025
Cuba.....	18,151	6,617	130,713	127,012
Wool (<i>Lana; la; laine</i>):				
South America—				
Class 1 (clothing).....	1,171,333	325,427	2,737,416	1,341,221
Class 2 (combing).....	21,799	39,790	319,901	318,088
Class 3 (carpet).....	71,180	23,756	537,799	79,714

EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE.

Agricultural implements (<i>Herramientas agrícolas; instrumentos de agricultura; instruments agricoles</i>):				
Mexico.....	47,447	41,741	329,462	352,638
Cuba.....	8,807	4,580	49,110	94,531
Argentine Republic.....	157,362	155,537	3,314,407	3,132,739
Brazil.....	15,262	35,475	93,393	274,806
Chile.....	6,258	1,828	328,888	324,238
Other South America.....	16,475	17,171	174,319	210,048
Animals (<i>Animales; animais; animaux</i>):				
Cattle (<i>Ganado vacuno; gado vacum; betail</i>)—				
Mexico.....	53,577	26,422	668,879	627,951
Cuba.....	11,283	10,400	328,540	128,631
South America.....	10,763	3,882	47,992	41,372
Hogs (<i>Cerdos; porcos; pores</i>)				
Mexico.....	9,471	19,765	160,925	163,316
South America.....	300	6,698	1,076	7,713
Horses (<i>Caballos; cavallos; chevaux</i>)—				
Mexico.....	22,535	5,085	349,579	112,772
Sheep (<i>Ovejas; ovelhas; moutons</i>)—				
Mexico.....	2,784	224	61,052	46,209
Books, maps, etc. (<i>Libros, mapas, etc.; livres, cartes, etc.</i>):				
Central America.....	3,820	5,771	38,279	64,832
Mexico.....	36,613	16,299	225,646	255,920
Cuba.....	12,349	7,641	244,923	216,194
Argentine Republic.....	3,451	8,471	70,023	51,688
Brazil.....	3,967	25,011	67,495	213,857
Chile.....	3,700	9,032	228,190	90,796
Other South America.....	10,712	13,065	90,867	111,595
Breadstuffs (<i>Cereales; cereas; cereales</i>):				
Corn (<i>Mai; milho; maïs</i>)—				
Central America.....	2,902	2,290	22,515	59,641
Mexico.....	105,790	23,460	868,739	439,442
Cuba.....	119,878	95,028	1,060,733	886,033
South America.....	626	2,453	7,546	24,241

EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	March —		Nine months ending March	
	1907.	1908.	1907.	1908.
Breadstuffs (<i>Cereales; cereas; cériales</i>)—Cont'd.				
Oats (<i>Avena; avéa; avoine</i>)—	<i>Dollars.</i>	<i>Dollars.</i>	<i>Dollars.</i>	<i>Dollars.</i>
Central America.....	6,025	1,768	22,171	49,742
Mexico.....	4,595	1,838	42,935	23,175
Cuba.....	13,337	4,343	298,936	171,703
South America.....	475	453	10,042	8,796
Wheat (<i>Trigo; trigo; blé</i>)—				
Central America.....	2,250	.....	25,453	14,043
Mexico.....	144,892	29,036	704,689	75,575
South America.....	19,986	38,080	337,193	698,665
Wheat flour (<i>Harina de trigo; farinha de trigo; farine de blé</i>)—				
Central America.....	111,019	130,954	1,252,478	1,403,084
Mexico.....	17,508	12,872	99,369	114,357
Cuba.....	323,120	296,470	2,269,877	2,773,144
Brazil.....	134,122	121,578	1,000,797	1,251,013
Colombia.....	13,597	11,484	122,581	150,297
Other South America.....	117,993	161,170	1,536,558	1,330,958
Cars, carriages, etc. (<i>Carros, carruajes y otros vehículos; carros, carruagens, etc.; wagons, voitures, etc.</i>)				
Automobiles (<i>Automóviles; automociles; automobíles</i>)—				
Mexico.....	66,908	39,430	628,243	327,091
South America.....	21,415	4,293	159,056	177,892
Cars, passenger and freight (<i>Wagones para pasaje y carga; carros de pasajeros o carga; wagons de voyageurs et de marchandise</i>)—				
Central America.....	252,222	43,370	1,235,769	738,939
Mexico.....	204,435	91,343	1,725,376	1,104,692
Cuba.....	91,322	4,316	636,754	616,494
Argentine Republic.....	149,040	277,068	1,660,773	918,893
Chile.....	40,334	.....	121,157	646,550
Other South America.....	122,204	100,028	519,378	973,579
Cycles and parts of (<i>Bicicletas y accesorios; bicyclos e parties; bicyclettes et leurs parties</i>)—				
Mexico.....	7,922	7,974	72,884	70,436
Cuba.....	4,376	3,046	27,442	31,878
Argentine Republic.....	1,879	110	14,434	10,187
Brazil.....	2,318	76	8,731	6,189
Other South America.....	1,881	422	15,967	10,035
Clocks and watches (<i>Relojes de pared y bolsillo; relojos de parede e de bolso; horloges et montres</i>):				
Central America.....	2,232	2,302	12,967	15,567
Mexico.....	4,762	2,568	37,160	38,825
Argentine Republic.....	7,681	5,367	47,199	70,539
Brazil.....	8,251	12,085	70,445	90,847
Chile.....	3,762	2,404	35,379	37,396
Other South America.....	1,465	3,217	30,264	34,978
Coal (<i>Carbón; carvão; charbon</i>):				
Anthracite (<i>Antracita; anthracite; anthracite</i>)—				
Mexico.....	785	68	5,522	17,068
Cuba.....	5,255	3,649	77,069	126,475
Bituminous (<i>Bituminoso; bituminoso; bitumineuz</i>)—				
Mexico.....	335,246	155,715	2,375,639	2,181,196
Cuba.....	222,061	142,481	1,465,046	1,019,348
Copper (<i>Cobre, cobre; cuirre</i>):				
Ore (<i>Mineral; minerio; mineral</i>)—				
Mexico.....	105,653	37,777	677,881	886,333
Ingots, bars, etc. (<i>Lingotes, barras, etc.; en lingados, barras, etc.; en lingots, saumons, etc.</i>)—				
Mexico.....	.....	268	28,500	34,272
Cotton (<i>Algodón; algodão; coton</i>):				
Unmanufactured (<i>En rama; em rama; non manufacturé</i>)—				
Mexico.....	.....	23,935	36,413	264,631
Cloths (<i>Tejidos; fazendas; tissus de coton</i>)—				
Central America.....	149,470	92,093	1,287,762	1,081,462
Mexico.....	21,101	18,431	193,851	142,937
Cuba.....	84,080	88,296	798,197	827,722
Argentine Republic.....	10,640	2,177	203,785	70,395
Brazil.....	43,215	11,033	324,934	259,661
Chile.....	51,437	47,895	812,764	486,909
Colombia.....	68,787	24,280	634,518	453,983
Venezuela.....	25,491	22,367	348,849	202,203
Other South America.....	32,244	35,301	397,717	385,920

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EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	March—		Nine months ending March	
	1907.	1908.	1907.	1908.
Cotton (<i>Algodón; algodón; coton</i>)—Continued				
Wearing apparel (<i>Ropa; roupa; vêtements de coton</i>)	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.
Central America.....	17,198	25,341	274,395	413,841
Mexico.....	14,437	55,861	213,572	342,797
Cuba.....	41,859	32,473	260,325	244,180
South America.....	5,080	5,643	80,936	93,750
Fibers (<i>Fibras; fibras; fibres</i>)				
Yarns (<i>Bramante; barbaute; novillo</i>)				
Argentine Republic.....	9,055	31,945	1,109,175	1,732,590
South America.....	11,587	7,546	205,032	221,784
Fish (<i>Pescado; peixe; poisson</i>)				
Salmon (<i>Salmón; salmón; saumon</i>)				
Colombia.....	273	595	2,391	3,961
Other South America.....	27,741	9,532	328,627	385,891
Fruits and nuts (<i>Frutas y nueces; fructus e nucis; fruits et noix</i>)				
Central America.....	8,436	11,123	99,412	155,062
Mexico.....	22,075	21,079	223,527	192,421
Cuba.....	11,594	9,417	172,413	186,977
South America.....	11,029	12,807	119,263	135,008
Glucose and grape sugar (<i>Glucosas, alucosas; glucoses</i>)				
Argentine Republic.....	4,743	16,684	71,213	89,036
Other South America.....			10,428	8,582
Instruments and apparatus for scientific purposes (<i>Instrumentos y aparatos para fines científicos; instrumentos e aparelhos científicos; instruments et appareils scientifiques</i>)				
Electrical appliances including telegraph and telephone instruments (<i>Applados eléctricos inclusa instrumentos telegráficos y telefónicos; instrumens elétricos y compriso los aparelhos telegráficos e telefônicos</i>)				
Central America.....	16,149	4,748	159,366	155,666
Mexico.....	52,729	33,359	681,547	456,149
Cuba.....	23,452	24,337	400,654	336,922
Argentine Republic.....	8,871	19,147	219,008	186,393
Brazil.....	87,964	86,881	476,892	960,283
Other South America.....	52,492	13,521	430,012	457,787
All other (<i>Otros instrumentos; todos os demais instrumentos; instruments divers</i>)				
Central America.....	6,164	2,992	45,542	64,226
Mexico.....	37,742	13,612	325,815	181,300
Cuba.....	14,820	13,786	110,511	110,246
Argentine Republic.....	18,425	20,674	113,058	158,800
Brazil.....	7,066	4,475	51,221	95,328
Other South America.....	8,074	4,104	131,685	111,918
Iron and steel, and manufactures of (<i>Hierro y acero, y sus fabricaciones; ferro e aço e suas manufaturas; ferros, ferrões e produtos manufaturados; produits de fer</i>)				
Steel rails (<i>Rieles de acero; trilhos de aço; rails d'acier</i>)				
Central America.....	702	7,060	169,719	608,357
Mexico.....	126,981	32,873	866,838	475,528
South America.....	317,482	41,346	2,280,205	1,187,277
Structural iron and steel (<i>Hierro y acero para construcción; ferro e aço para construção; fer et acier pour la construction</i>)				
Mexico.....	99,393	30,771	696,717	619,747
Cuba.....	21,088	56,072	209,306	519,699
South America.....	81,467	42,125	392,884	729,644
Wires (<i>Alambres; arames; fil de fer</i>)				
Central America.....	17,066	16,648	158,378	193,868
Mexico.....	64,612	49,646	437,976	835,209
Cuba.....	38,866	31,740	325,235	475,914
Argentine Republic.....	119,081	43,474	1,040,414	1,147,074
Brazil.....	20,776	21,963	183,040	343,455
Other South America.....	28,852	22,955	423,229	514,974
Builders' hardware (<i>Materiales de construcción; ferragens; materiais de construção en fer et acier</i>)				
Central America.....	26,976	26,218	264,353	273,534
Mexico.....	102,344	68,561	810,936	745,822
Cuba.....	45,687	29,847	418,203	403,111

IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE.

Articles and countries.	March—		Nine months ending March—	
	1907.	1908.	1907.	1908.
Iron and steel, and manufactures of, etc.—Cont'd.				
Bulbors' hardware, etc. Continued.				
Argentine Republic.....	51,791	42,716	611,852	525,852
Brazil.....	51,132	45,000	377,072	489,577
Colombia.....	29,078	5,376	245,776	251,812
Venezuela.....	5,346	5,497	33,706	82,706
Other South America.....	4,418	5,626	46,770	35,946
Electrical machinery (<i>Maquinaria electrica; machi- nas electricas; machines electriques</i>)—	32,190	43,308	241,930	320,164
Central America.....	7,776	15,200	45,376	105,788
Mexico.....	163,656	76,465	945,320	1,137,412
Cuba.....	4,882	7,453	79,399	69,399
Metal-working machinery (<i>Maquinaria para labrar metales; mecanismos para trabajar en metal; machines pour travailler les metaux</i>)—				
Mexico.....	5,300	889	67,243	66,964
South America.....	16,771	27,656	101,355	186,000
Sewing machines (<i>Maquinas de coser; machines de coser; machines à coudre</i>)—				
Central America.....	7,591	5,745	96,774	97,991
Mexico.....	63,746	40,396	504,628	546,786
Cuba.....	33,205	17,672	247,481	181,317
Argentine Republic.....	29,960	33,378	359,161	282,156
Brazil.....	35,337	19,300	331,713	378,171
Colombia.....	4,467	4,764	51,047	67,282
Other South America.....	31,613	15,047	300,613	396,582
Steam engines and parts of (<i>Locomotoras y sus ac- cesorios; locomotivas e accesorios; locomotifs et leurs parties</i>)—				
Central America.....	229,800		1,104,365	92,480
Mexico.....	31,181	88,705	1,019,877	660,147
Cuba.....	18,500	42,746	702,595	570,323
Argentine Republic.....			404,948	160,315
Brazil.....	97,850	21,630	233,420	547,255
Other South America.....	25,085	75,679	574,732	904,181
Typewriting machines and parts of (<i>Mecanografos y sus partes; machines de ecrire e accesorios; machines à ecrire et leurs parties</i>)—				
Central America.....	4,630	2,300	33,718	46,350
Mexico.....	38,333	25,205	284,186	246,923
Cuba.....	5,201	16,398	56,584	77,297
Argentine Republic.....	256	10,247	81,271	109,326
Brazil.....	5,022	4,248	46,594	76,000
Colombia.....	1,228	1,315	13,011	12,146
Other South America.....	12,011	5,990	147,866	153,642
Pipes and fittings (<i>Caueria; tubos; tuyaux</i>)—				
Central America.....	25,692	39,882	454,782	409,998
Mexico.....	84,361	63,306	930,402	1,296,235
Cuba.....	35,543	45,703	432,805	812,896
Argentine Republic.....	2,694	20,969	83,193	126,646
Other South America.....	21,367	27,573	185,229	256,312
Leather and manufactures of (<i>Cuero y sus fabricacio- nes; couro e suas manufacturas; cuirs et ses manufactures</i>)—				
Sole leather (<i>Suela; sola; cuir pour semelles</i>)—				
South America.....	91		629	208
Upper leather (<i>Cuero de pala; couro de gaspea; cuirs pour tiges de chaussures</i>)—				
Central America.....	16,676	15,238	160,149	198,017
Cuba.....	7,068	13,711	93,109	96,226
Argentine Republic.....	16,930	29,149	179,948	198,942
Brazil.....	13,571	8,229	97,373	123,588
Other South America.....	9,310	14,161	191,013	196,363
Boots and shoes (<i>Calzado; calçaria; chaussures</i>)—				
Central America.....	59,500	29,545	425,256	569,160
Mexico.....	131,350	114,246	1,134,133	1,244,256
Colombia.....	1,224	2,371	31,413	47,669
Other South America.....	32,987	31,552	296,073	396,000
Meat and dairy products (<i>Productos de la ganaderia; productos animales e lacticos; viandes et pro- duits de laiteries</i>)—				
Beef, canned (<i>Carne de vaca en latas; carne de vaca en latas; bœuf conserve</i>)—				
Central America.....	3,967	1,407	49,981	49,479
Mexico.....	1,618	1,121	21,159	11,599
Cuba.....	1,747	940	14,563	18,272
South America.....	2,709	932	32,397	30,445

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EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	March—		Nine months ending March—	
	1907.	1908.	1907.	1908.
Meat and dairy products, etc.—Continued.				
Beef, salted or pickled (<i>Carne de vaca, salada o adobada; carne de vacca, salgada; banf salé</i>)—	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.
Central America.....	15,944	8,159	105,860	128,051
South America.....	13,413	17,655	189,294	188,259
Tallow (<i>Sebo; sebo; suif</i>)—				
Central America.....	6,659	15,232	100,352	104,881
Mexico.....	2,294	3,345	19,072	43,072
Cuba.....	9,305	2,014	21,753	36,805
Chile.....		2,200	54,172	38,126
Other South America.....	3,599	3,401	41,687	38,821
Bacon (<i>Tocino; toucinho; lard fumé</i>)—				
Central America.....	3,598	639	25,215	28,367
Mexico.....	7,813	6,152	45,702	40,032
Cuba.....	55,209	39,275	448,215	330,275
Brazil.....	19,368	14,537	143,330	162,025
Other South America.....	3,063	1,678	11,615	17,066
Hams (<i>Jamones; presuntos; jambons</i>)—				
Central America.....	9,961	8,256	109,249	138,374
Mexico.....	13,153	10,089	88,914	101,823
Cuba.....	46,527	35,640	440,066	450,086
Venezuela.....	3,948	2,406	35,494	33,688
Other South America.....	6,335	3,670	46,157	55,744
Pork (<i>Carne de puerco; carne de porco; porc</i>)—				
Cuba.....	60,083	63,400	539,109	606,906
South America.....	27,424	21,048	197,700	192,359
Lard (<i>Manteca; banha; saindour</i>)—				
Central America.....	50,907	12,810	499,745	343,972
Mexico.....	63,558	77,382	505,332	734,342
Cuba.....	226,239	169,493	2,189,500	2,072,416
Brazil.....	192,015	49,461	835,147	710,209
Chile.....	3,940	2,663	132,382	115,308
Colombia.....	4,750	7,635	36,937	84,488
Venezuela.....	15,282	4,426	175,462	58,774
Other South America.....	32,852	18,294	416,286	472,866
Lard compounds (<i>Compuestos de manteca; compuestos de banha; composés de saindour</i>)—				
Mexico.....	37,380	21,638	570,139	399,059
Cuba.....	224,777	168,977	1,321,511	1,344,176
Oleomargarine (<i>Oleomargarina; oleomargarina; oleomargarine</i>)—				
Central America.....	3,100	1,965	26,150	36,198
Mexico.....	1,255	1,942	21,718	16,593
Butter (<i>Mantequilla; manteiga; beurre</i>)—				
Central America.....	16,173	12,996	125,865	150,235
Mexico.....	16,507	10,624	113,259	100,404
Cuba.....	7,308	1,512	55,584	27,313
Brazil.....	1,332	746	60,000	27,561
Venezuela.....	4,149		42,809	36,874
Other South America.....	3,668	4,234	40,550	39,381
Cheese (<i>Queso; queijo; fromage</i>)—				
Central America.....	7,243	5,205	61,308	61,339
Mexico.....	5,813	5,338	33,236	42,888
Cuba.....	2,932	2,701	16,634	18,855
Naval stores (<i>Provisiones navales; pertrechos navales; fournitures navales</i>):				
Rosin, tar etc. (<i>Resina alquitran, etc.; résine alcatrão, etc.; résine, goudron, etc.</i>)—				
Cuba.....	6,259	4,191	64,170	70,641
Argentine Republic.....	4,240	22,218	338,583	350,178
Brazil.....	129,809	53,893	496,128	541,525
Other South America.....	16,324	10,066	189,412	184,430
Turpentine (<i>Aguarrás; aguara; térébenthine</i>)—				
Central America.....	968	1,693	27,960	26,745
Cuba.....	7,664	4,353	66,404	59,060
Argentine Republic.....	12,661	16,311	146,968	310,664
Brazil.....	15,075	9,928	119,089	109,132
Chile.....	2,971	6,926	78,513	84,007
Other South America.....	5,393	4,906	56,486	67,944
Oils, mineral (<i>Aceites minerales; acites minerales; huiles minerales</i>):				
Crude (<i>Crudos; crús; brutes</i>)—				
Mexico.....	88,598	1,500	867,876	701,102
Cuba.....	63,131	87,423	344,452	412,175
Illuminating refined (<i>Refinados para alumbrado; para iluminación; éclairage</i>)—				
Central America.....	25,503	26,051	199,273	265,662
Cuba.....	8,201	2,878	141,979	97,456
Argentine Republic.....	104,759	195,371	1,355,553	1,603,932
Brazil.....	278,567	186,768	2,028,458	2,180,447
Chile.....	91,983	57,555	462,805	439,604
Other South America.....	130,439	87,842	919,044	962,647

EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE—Continued.

Articles and countries.	March—		Nine months ending March—	
	1907.	1908.	1907.	1908.
Oils—Continued.				
Lubricating, refined (<i>Refinados para la lubricación; para lubricacao; à graisser</i>)—	<i>Dollars.</i>	<i>Dollars.</i>	<i>Dollars.</i>	<i>Dollars.</i>
Mexico.....	19,206	17,251	205,903	131,466
Cuba.....	33,992	26,578	260,456	212,679
Argentine Republic.....	20,888	14,656	310,415	375,399
Brazil.....	23,801	36,043	267,199	267,360
Chile.....	14,831	31,538	163,508	192,380
Vegetable (<i>Aceites vegetales; alcos vegetales; huiles vegetales</i>):				
Central America.....	5,717	5,586	37,468	38,498
Mexico.....	78,223	132,153	757,422	939,236
Cuba.....	55,180	13,291	185,383	116,724
Argentine Republic.....	5,862	19,630	53,680	140,468
Brazil.....	15,963	107,124	276,956	288,227
Chile.....	17,296	199	61,462	79,075
Other South America.....	19,324	27,488	119,172	159,397
Paper (<i>Papel; papel; papier</i>):				
Mexico.....	2,236	2,612	39,637	66,981
Cuba.....	14,594	25,351	146,565	203,516
Argentine Republic.....	6,557	15,611	213,584	113,457
Brazil.....	4,033	1,776	13,688	7,760
Chile.....	7,433	13,803	120,304	135,288
Other South America.....	9,074	7,110	75,582	74,804
Paraffin (<i>Parafina; paraffina; paraffine</i>):				
Central America.....	5,904	4,318	50,239	62,746
Mexico.....	42,322	25,814	471,529	462,964
South America.....	5,814	1,835	45,711	30,252
Tobacco (<i>Tabaco; fumo; tabac</i>):				
Unmanufactured (<i>En rama; en rama; non manufacturé</i>)—				
Central America.....	2,556	3,618	40,576	44,497
Mexico.....	7,659	5,114	97,531	100,547
Argentine Republic.....	1,572	4,735	37,285	161,941
Colombia.....	866	1,038	11,291	11,284
Other South America.....	6,163	8,342	72,342	73,688
Manufactured (<i>Elaborado; manufacturado; manufacturé</i>)—				
Central America.....	4,348	6,884	58,993	72,732
Wood, unmanufactured (<i>Madera sin labrar; madeira nao manufacturada; bois brut</i>):				
Central America.....	31,559	66,582	467,523	504,431
Mexico.....	115,557	61,295	993,670	1,225,836
Cuba.....	3,743	.....	102,604	18,350
Argentine Republic.....	17,423	28,332	129,593	163,938
Other South America.....	10,553	1,754	273,447	25,376
Lumber (<i>Madera de construcción; madeira de construccao; bois de construction</i>):				
Central America.....	168,822	107,659	989,637	1,128,744
Mexico.....	204,963	103,563	1,645,799	1,745,254
Cuba.....	307,362	233,057	1,789,102	1,420,270
Argentine Republic.....	407,868	494,668	4,931,543	2,822,032
Brazil.....	97,517	31,725	935,031	331,255
Chile.....	122,588	.....	823,039	798,599
Other South America.....	158,038	122,431	1,026,460	1,375,691
Furniture (<i>Muebles; mobiliá; meubles</i>):				
Central America.....	22,553	18,277	219,813	261,964
Mexico.....	83,553	57,859	686,169	774,938
Cuba.....	53,902	46,641	407,337	533,149
Argentine Republic.....	48,370	30,022	315,920	446,416
Brazil.....	3,469	17,921	54,176	96,290
Chile.....	5,438	1,167	60,627	75,050
Colombia.....	798	1,488	11,434	11,319
Venezuela.....	205	1,267	15,813	11,984
Other South America.....	13,978	14,801	93,567	128,632

FOREIGN TRADE, NINE MONTHS OF 1907-8.

Figures issued by the Bureau of Statistics of the United States for the month of March and the nine months of the fiscal year 1907-8, ending with March, 1908, show the following classifications of imports and exports and their respective valuations, as well as the principal countries of origin and destination as compared with the preceding year:

IMPORTS.

	Nine months ending March—	
	1907.	1908.
Foodstuffs, in crude condition and food animals.....	\$112,418,200	\$110,048,881
Foodstuffs, partly or wholly manufactured.....	110,629,289	98,296,000
Crude materials for use in manufacturing.....	353,237,854	283,383,702
Manufactures for further use in manufacturing.....	203,945,163	157,614,319
Manufactures ready for consumption.....	274,712,372	272,476,194
Miscellaneous.....	8,902,151	9,027,577
Total imports.....	1,065,845,029	930,846,682

EXPORTS.

Foodstuffs, in crude condition and food animals.....	\$126,834,892	\$163,211,480
Foodstuffs, partly or wholly manufactured.....	279,362,768	261,617,923
Crude materials for use in manufacturing.....	397,903,743	478,051,008
Manufactures for further use in manufacturing.....	191,627,881	199,195,778
Manufactures ready for consumption.....	351,953,659	371,028,682
Miscellaneous.....	4,738,732	5,668,308
Total domestic exports.....	1,432,623,635	1,478,643,779
Foreign merchandise exported.....	18,276,464	19,464,057
Total exports.....	1,450,900,099	1,498,107,836

IMPORTS FROM GRAND DIVISIONS.

Europe.....	\$565,598,906	\$487,000,103
North America.....	178,557,269	168,486,597
Central America.....	9,081,124	9,050,063
South America.....	121,626,124	94,404,094
Asia and Oceania.....	184,330,514	168,371,383
Africa.....	13,742,156	12,584,505

EXPORTS TO GRAND DIVISIONS.

Europe.....	\$1,026,019,640	\$1,052,048,270
North America.....	250,930,480	248,960,701
Central America.....	18,972,845	20,473,036
South America.....	62,579,141	65,805,107
Asia and Oceania.....	98,394,450	114,579,842
Africa.....	12,066,388	16,713,916

The countries of Latin America participating in the above trade and the share taken and received by each was as follows:

Countries.	Imports.		Exports.	
	1907.	1908.	1907.	1908.
Central American States:				
Costa Rica.....	\$3,223,149	\$3,236,264	\$1,755,417	\$2,122,155
Guatemala.....	1,670,529	1,726,500	2,192,052	1,301,992
Honduras.....	1,577,888	1,670,261	1,390,293	1,298,918
Nicaragua.....	793,955	934,963	1,519,918	1,297,106
Panama.....	1,259,137	1,128,018	11,010,145	13,470,007
Salvador.....	556,466	354,057	1,065,020	982,858
Total Central American States.....	9,081,124	9,050,063	18,972,845	20,473,036

Countries.	Imports.		Exports.	
	1907.	1908.	1907.	1908.
Mexico.....	\$11,529,001	\$35,758,281	\$47,997,142	\$44,319,605
Cuba.....	60,887,146	50,482,592	36,482,905	36,831,996
Haiti.....	829,572	585,924	2,275,161	2,826,424
Santo Domingo.....	1,767,338	2,340,708	1,948,849	2,072,860
SOUTH AMERICA.				
Argentina.....	11,487,869	8,136,853	25,682,787	24,324,188
Bolivia.....		384	590,600	1,048,922
Brazil.....	77,008,276	55,741,624	13,318,648	15,541,726
Chile.....	13,238,875	11,499,286	7,437,654	7,930,437
Colombia.....	4,300,080	4,772,643	2,306,383	2,532,417
Ecuador.....	2,274,841	1,753,114	1,249,213	1,489,448
Paraguay.....	1,171	10,141	122,810	84,103
Peru.....	3,053,391	5,830,979	4,694,559	5,599,920
Uruguay.....	2,164,316	1,622,097	2,525,184	3,027,615
Venezuela.....	5,751,162	4,958,573	2,332,901	1,995,425

URUGUAY.

TRADE DISTRIBUTION BY CUSTOM-HOUSES.

At the custom-house of Montevideo is received the bulk of the commercial movement of the Uruguayan Republic, the total for 1907 figuring for \$57,268,967, or 82.32 per cent out of an aggregate of \$69,576,143, representing the country's imports and exports.

Out of \$34,425,205 reported as import valuations for the whole Republic, \$31,930,324, or 92.78 per cent, represent the Montevideo custom-house, while the share of export values was covered by \$25,338,643, or 72.08 per cent of a total \$35,150,937.

The distribution of the remaining trade values was as follows:

Custom-houses.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
Paysandú.....	\$736,503	\$2,265,077	\$3,001,580
Pray Brentos.....	279,317	2,410,740	2,690,057
Salto.....	691,286	1,778,107	2,469,393
Colonia.....	372,232	1,932,507	2,304,739
Mercedes.....	234,572	1,111,870	1,346,442
Cerro Largo.....	80,735	124,775	205,511
San Eugenio.....	3,599	102,523	106,032
Santa Rosa.....	15,537	54,982	70,518
Cobellati.....	21,715	13,984	35,696
Macdonado.....	29,129		29,129
Rivera.....	10,170	17,732	27,903
Rocha.....	20,176		20,175

GOLD OUTPUT OF THE CUÑAPIRU MINES IN 1907.

The report made to the Minister of Public Works of the Uruguayan Republic for the year 1907 shows that the French Mining Company at Cuñapiru treated 18,028 metric tons of ore from which gold to the amount of 117 kilograms, 917 grams was obtained. The proceeds from gold sales were \$51,883.48 and the taxes paid amounted to \$259.41.

The mean value of the ore treated was 6½ grams per ton, equal to 4 pennyweights 4.308 grains. The most productive mines are the San Gregorio and the Ernestinita in Corrales.

DISTRIBUTION OF TREASURY SURPLUS.

The Uruguayan Treasury surplus for 1906-7, reckoned at \$2,149,934 is covered by the following assignments of capital in addition to the \$1,800,000 already employed: to first quota of purchase of the University building, \$100,000; to partial renewal of armaments, \$100,000; to sanitation measures in towns, \$50,000; to animal sanitary police, \$50,000; to repairs, furniture, etc., for custom-house, \$49,986.

FREE IMPORTATION OF FLAX-STRAW MACHINERY.

The Uruguayan Government has decreed that machinery for dealing with flax straw shall be admitted into the Republic free of duty.

CUSTOMS REVENUE, EIGHT MONTHS OF 1907-8.

The customs revenue of Uruguay for the eight months of the fiscal year 1907-8, from July to February, inclusive, amounted to \$8,785,503, an increase over the same period of the preceding year of \$409,783.

VENEZUELA.
DECREES RELATING TO TOBACCO.

The "*Gaceta Oficial*" of Venezuela, in its issue for March 20, 1908, published two decrees of President CASTRO, dated on the same day, relating to tobacco. One of them prohibits the importation of cut tobacco for the manufacture of cigarettes, and also forbids the use of the imported article in the factories of the country; this decree went into effect on March 30, 1908, but its provisions do not affect the National Cigarette Factory operating by virtue of a concession from the Government.

The other decree referred to prescribes the form in which the payment of the tax on tobacco for consumption shall be made, and provides that said tax shall be collected precisely at the time when the last sale is made, defining as the last sale that which is made by the merchant to the manufacturer for the transformation of the article into a new product, or to a retail dealer.

ABOLITION OF THE MATCH MONOPOLY.

United States Consul E. H. PLUMACHER, of Maracaibo, transmits a presidential decree abolishing the contract made between the Government and MANUE V. TEJERA in 1904, whereby the latter was granted the exclusive right to manufacture matches in Venezuela, and whereby the importation of matches was prohibited. The monopoly was based upon a law promulgated in 1899, which provided that the match industry should be a source of Government revenue. The customs classification relative to the import of matches will be fixed by a special decree.

COMMERCE AND INDUSTRIES AT PUERTO CABELLO, 1907.

In reporting on the trade of Venezuela through Puerto Cabello in 1907, United States Consul JAMES W. JOHNSON states that a marked falling off in the movement of the port is noted, a decline of nearly \$1,000,000 for exports and several hundred thousand dollars for imports being reported. This is due to a partial failure of the coffee crop and also to the shrinkage of the trade in cattle with Cuba.

The total value of exports is given as \$2,470,773, the leading item being coffee, of which 26,053,808 pounds were shipped, valued at \$1,794,904. Cattle shipments fell to \$489,391 from almost \$1,500,000 in 1906.

Import values totaled \$1,380,860, the leading place being occupied by Great Britain with \$592,567, followed by the United States, \$272,524; Germany, \$264,975, and Holland, \$102,803.

From the United States flour was the principal article received, figuring for \$49,363, cotton goods coming next, worth \$29,348.

NAVIGATION OF THE BOCA DE MANGLE AND CAPADARE RIVERS.

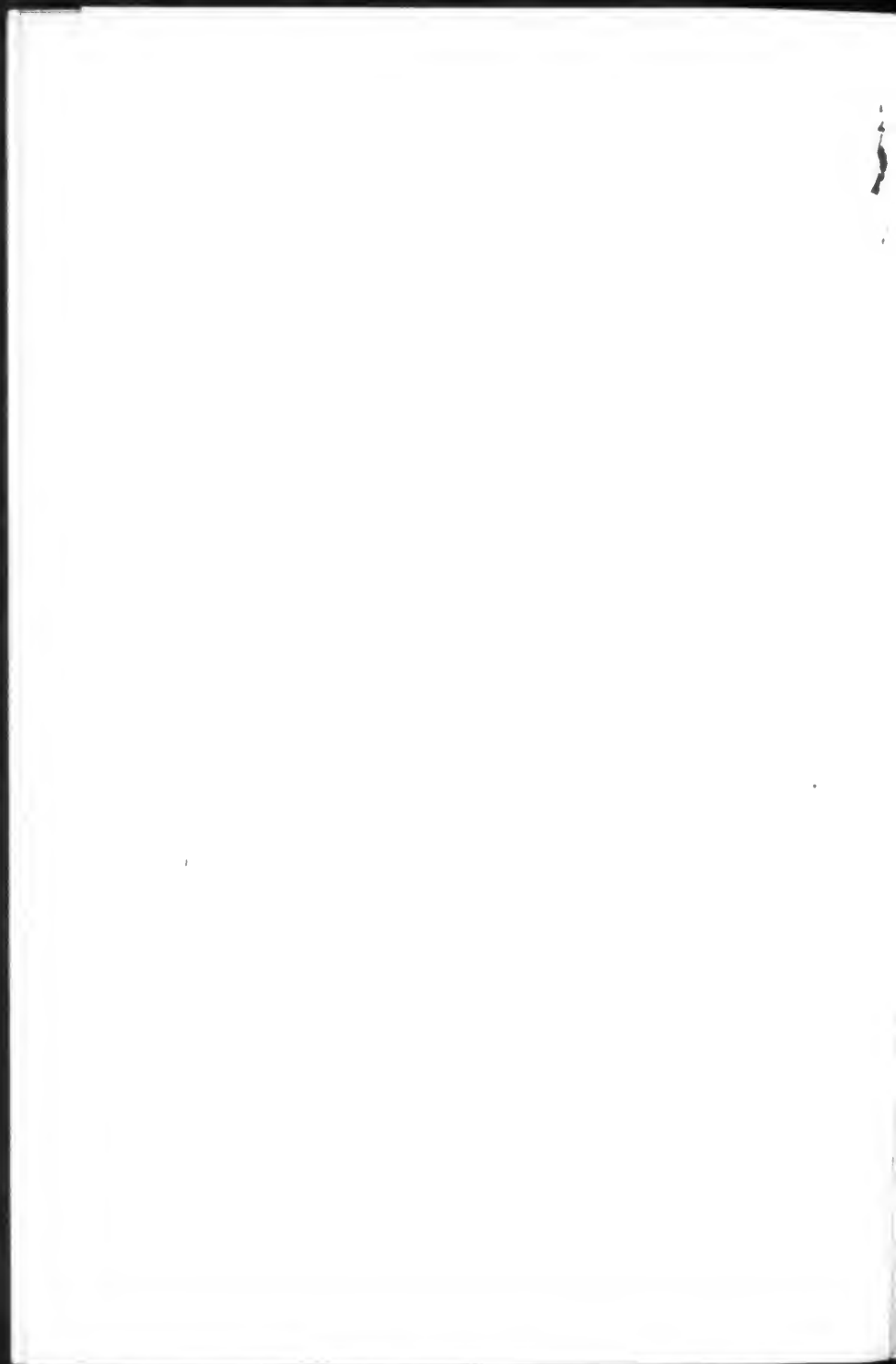
On March 11, 1908, the Venezuelan Government entered into a contract with Señor MANUEL R. AZPÚRUA, by the terms of which the latter agrees to render navigable the Boca de Mangle and Capadare rivers from Paso Real de Jacura, a point near the town of Capadare, to the mouth of the Boca de Mangle and San Juan rivers. The extension to be made navigable shall be from 20 to 25 kilometers. The concessionaire shall establish a line of vessels for the service of transportation in said rivers, and also a line of steam launches. The term of the contract shall be fifty years, during which no other person or company may establish or operate a navigation line. At the expiration of this period the enterprise, with all its properties except the steamers, shall become the property of the National Government.

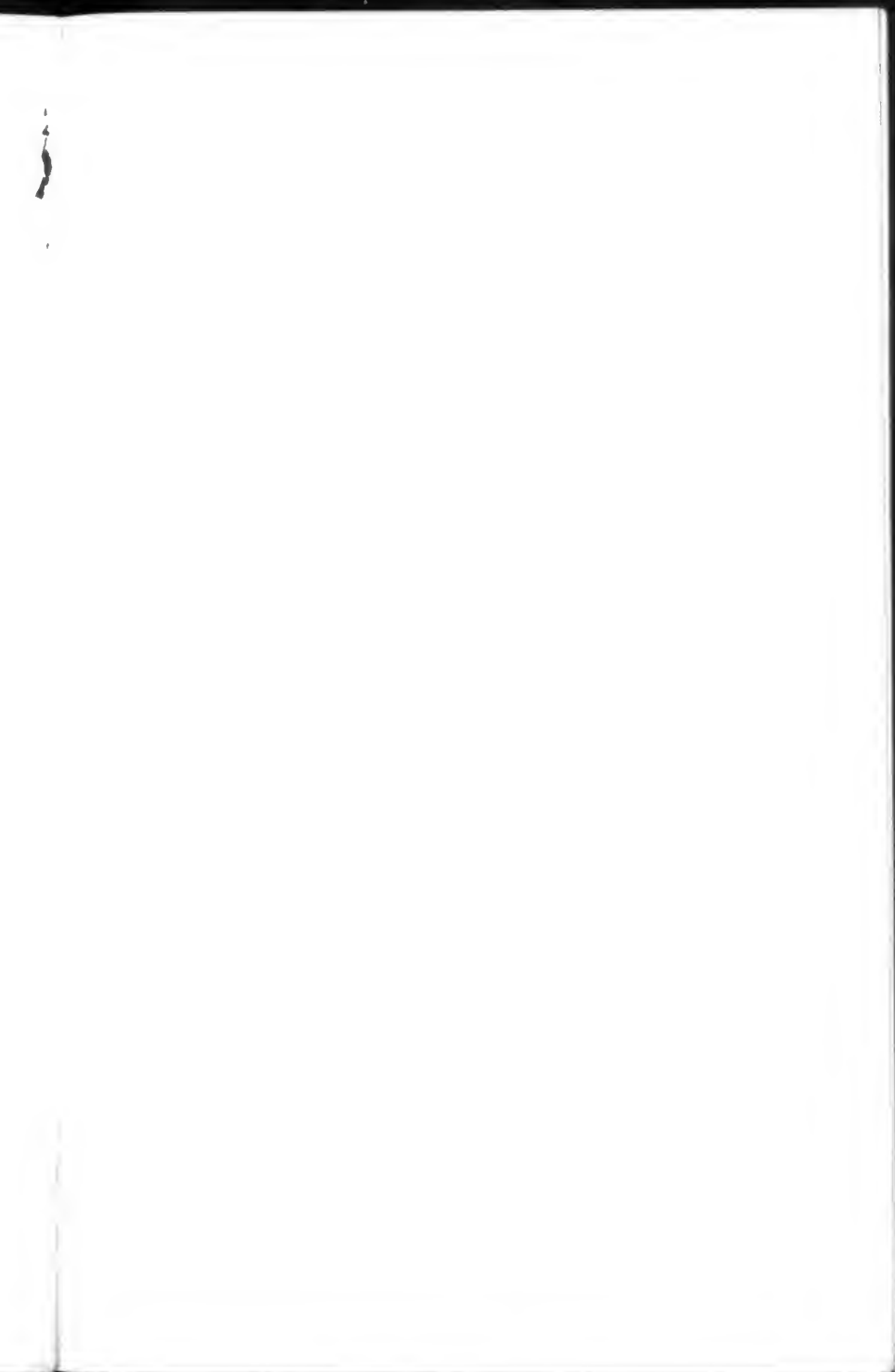
RUBBER SHIPMENTS FROM CIUDAD BOLIVAR.

Exports of balata rubber from Ciudad Bolivar are reported to have reached the highest total ever known in 1907. The consequences of the fatal system of felling the trees to extract the gum are, however, now beginning to be felt by the more accessible forests becoming exhausted. The season for 1908 has also set in very dry, and it is therefore probable that the Balata shipments during the year will show a decline.

The following figures show the exports of rubber from Ciudad Bolivar for the year 1907, as compared with the preceding year:

Kind.	1906.		1907.	
	Kilos.	£	Kilos.	£
Para and Cauca.....	179,234	47,456	258,404	71,607
Balata.....	1,232,148	176,039	1,455,973	224,414







SEÑOR DON FERNANDO E. GUACHALLA, ELEGIDO PRESIDENTE DE LA REPÚBLICA DE BOLIVIA, EL 4 DE MAYO DE 1908.

SEÑOR FERNANDO E. GUACHALLA ELECTED ON MAY 4, 1908, PRESIDENT OF BOLIVIA.

BOLETÍN

DE LA

OFICINA INTERNACIONAL DE LAS REPÚBLICAS AMERICANAS,

UNIÓN INTERNACIONAL DE REPÚBLICAS AMERICANAS.

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El programa de las ceremonias de la colocación de la piedra angular del nuevo edificio de la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas que se lleva á cabo hoy, día 11 de mayo de 1908, fecha en que se publica esta edición especial del BOLETÍN MENSUAL, viene á confirmar la importancia del acto como un acontecimiento internacional. Pronunciarán discursos el Hon. THEODORE ROOSEVELT, Presidente de los Estados Unidos, que ha demostrado el más profundo interés durante su administración en el incremento del comercio y la cordialidad panamericanos., el Hon. ELIHU ROOT, Secretario de Estado de los Estados Unidos, que no sólo mediante sus viajes especiales á la América del Sur y á México, sino también por la solícita atención que le ha consagrado á todo cuanto concierne á las relaciones de los Estados Unidos con la América Latina, le ha dado un impulso é importancia al movimiento latinoamericano que no hubiera podido dársele de otra manera; el Señor JOAQUIM NABUCCO, Embajador del Brasil, que es el Decano del Cuerpo Diplomático de la América Latina en Washington, y que presidió la Tercera Conferencia Panamericana que se celebró en Río de Janeiro en 1906, y el Señor ANDREW CARNEGIE que, por una singular coincidencia, no sólo fué delegado de los Estados Unidos á la Primera Conferencia Panamericana que se celebró en Washington en el invierno de 1889-90, y la cual organizó la Oficina Internacional, sino que ahora ha contribuído generosamente con \$750,000 para la construcción de este nuevo edificio en el cual se ha de alojar la expresada Oficina.

La invocación la hará su Eminencia el Cardenal JAMES GIBBONS, que es la cabeza de la Iglesia Católica Romana en los Estados Unidos, y la bendición la pronunciará el Obispo CRANSTON, Decano del clero

Por más que la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas pone escrupuloso cuidado para obtener el mayor grado de corrección en sus publicaciones, no asume responsabilidad alguna por los errores ó inexactitudes que pudieran deslizarso.

protestante del Distrito de Columbia. Abrirá el acto el Señor JOHN BARRETT, Director de la Oficina Internacional, que presentará al Secretario de Estado y Presidente del Consejo Directivo como el funcionario que ha de presidir las ceremonias del día. Antes del programa, y mientras ésta se lleva á cabo, la famosa Banda de Marina—que por orden especial del Secretario de Marina tomará parte en las ceremonias—tocará piezas de música hispanoamericana apropiadas al acto. La caja de cobre dentro de la piedra angular contendrá los informes oficiales de las tres Conferencias Panamericanas que se celebraron respectivamente en Washington en 1889-90; en la ciudad de México en 1901-2, y en Río de Janeiro en 1906; copias de la correspondencia que ocurrió entre el Presidente de los Estados Unidos, el Secretario de Estado y el Señor ANDREW CARNEGIE, acerca de la dádiva que este último caballero hizo para la construcción del nuevo edificio; fotografías de los Presidentes de las Repúblicas Americanas y sus mensajes de felicitación por el cable con motivo del acontecimiento de que se trata; fotografías de los miembros del Consejo Directivo y los funcionarios pretéritos y presentes de la Oficina Internacional; pequeñas banderas y copias de los sellos de los respectivos países pertenecientes á la Unión Internacional; ejemplares del BOLETÍN MENSUAL y otras publicaciones de la Oficina Internacional; monedas y sellos de correo de las diferentes Repúblicas, y periódicos representativos, etc. Las decoraciones del pabellón y los terrenos que circundan la piedra angular han de comprender una profusión de banderas, estandartes y escudos de armas de todas las naciones americanas. Se han enviado invitaciones al Presidente, Vice-Presidente, Gabinete, los miembros del Cuerpo Diplomático, los miembros del Tribunal Supremo y otros altos funcionarios judiciales, Gobernadores de Estados y Territorios, el Senado y Cámara de Representantes, oficiales del Ejército y Marina destinados en Washington, los Comisionados del Distrito, los principales funcionarios de los diferentes Departamentos, los representantes del clero, los jefes de las instituciones docentes y comerciales, y otras personas.

LA IMPORTANCIA INTERNACIONAL DE LA COLOCACIÓN DE LA PIEDRA ANGULAR.

La colocación de la piedra angular del nuevo edificio de la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas tiene tal importancia, que debe llamar la atención de todos los que estén interesados en el desarrollo de la paz, la amistad y el comercio entre las naciones. Por más que la Unión Internacional, de la cual la Oficina es el centro, se compone de las veintiuna Repúblicas Americanas, nada hay en su organización ni en los fines que se propone lograr, que sea hostil á la

idea de mantener las más cordiales relaciones entre dichas Repúblicas y los países europeos, Asia y el resto del mundo. Por más que los primeros y principales beneficios de la Unión panamericana los recibirán las naciones que la constituyen, sin embargo, todo lo que contribuya al bienestar, prosperidad y progreso de éstas también propende á que sus relaciones con el Antiguo Mundo sean más importantes é íntimas. Por consiguiente, el mundo entero puede unirse á la América en esta ocasión para expresar la satisfacción por el hecho de que en Wáshington se ha de erigir un magnífico edificio que ha de ser no sólo un templo de paz y cordialidad internacionales, sino también, por decirlo así, una cámara internacional de comercio y un centro simpático en una capital, para los representantes oficiales y el pueblo de todas las naciones americanas que se interesen en todo aquello que pueda propender á aumentar la simpatía entre estos países y su mutua prosperidad.

ARTÍCULOS ESPECIALES PARA ESTA EDICIÓN DEL "BOLETÍN."

Á fin de que esta edición del BOLETÍN MENSUAL resulte especialmente oportuna é interesante para todos los que observen el desarrollo del panamericanismo, y que deseen conocer la esfera de acción y los trabajos de la Oficina Internacional, se publica un número excepcional de artículos especiales, además de la relación detallada y regular acerca del comercio y desarrollo panamericanos. Dichos artículos comprenden dos escritos por el Director de la Oficina que se publicaron recientemente en la revista denominada "The World To-day" y "System," intitulados, respectivamente, "La América Latina: Una gran oportunidad comercial," y "Un poderoso auxilio para el comercio extranjero;" una reseña del personal del Consejo Directivo de la Oficina Internacional, preparada por el Señor FRANCISCO J. YÁNES, Secretario de la Oficina; una breve relación de la Comisión Panamericana que fué nombrada recientemente por el Secretario de Estado de los Estados Unidos; una descripción del nuevo edificio, desde el punto de vista arquitectónico, escrita por el Señor PAUL P. CRET, miembro de la razón social de KELSEY y CRET, que hizo el diseño del edificio y está encargada de su construcción; una discusión de las condiciones de los viajes en la América del Sur, escrita por el Señor WILLIAM R. SHEPHERD, Catedrático de la Universidad de Colombia, que recientemente hizo un viaje á dicho continente; un itinerario de líneas de vapores que van á la América Latina, junto con un mapa preparado por el Doctor ALBERT HALE, que estuvo recientemente en la América Latina y que escribió un libro notable intitulado "Los Sudamericanos;" extractos de un discurso que el Honorable JAMES L. SLAYDEN, Representante de Tejas en el Congreso, pronunció en la Cámara de

Representantes sobre el tema de "La América Latina y las naciones Orientales en el comercio de los Estados Unidos," y un artículo intitulado "La América Latina en la literatura contemporánea."

EL COMERCIO ARGENTINO.

El estado de la República Argentina en el mundo comercial está exactamente definido por el aumento que se ha registrado en el valor de las exportaciones de trigo en 1907 sobre las del año anterior, cuyo total fué de \$83,000,000 aproximadamente. Las exportaciones de lino tuvieron un incremento de \$10,165,360, y las de avena aumentaron en \$3,593,397; así es que, si bien las exportaciones de maíz tuvieron una disminución de más de \$23,000,000, el total de las exportaciones de productos agrícolas solamente fué de \$164,091,621, que representa un aumento de \$6,136,929 á favor de 1907.

LA GOMA BRASILEÑA EN EL MERCADO MUNDIAL.

El uso creciente de la goma y sus productos derivados en diversas industrias da un interés especial á los estados que se han publicado recientemente sobre la producción del artículo en el Brasil en 1907. La existencia total de este producto en el mundo durante 1907 está calculada en 69,000 toneladas, y su consumo en 66,000 toneladas. La mayor parte, ó sea, 40,000 toneladas, es de origen brasileño, y si bien se hallan en estado de producción varias plantaciones en distintas partes del mundo, el mercado mundial sigue surtiéndose principalmente de los árboles silvestres de la región del Amazonas. El valor total de las exportaciones de goma del Brasil en 1907 excedió de \$70,000,000, recibiendo los Estados Unidos casi la mitad de esta cantidad.

CONDICIONES ECONÓMICAS EN COSTA RICA.

El Gobierno Costarricense tiene actualmente en estudio contratos de importancia, varios de los cuales tienen relación directa con la producción del banano, una de las frutas que más se importan en los Estados Unidos. Es por lo tanto de vital importancia el resultado de las deliberaciones legislativas sobre esos contratos. A iniciativa del Ministro de Costa Rica en Washington, la inspección de los mataderos de la República estará encomendada á un veterinario de los Estados Unidos, cuyos servicios han sido contratados para este fin. También se han contratado, por mediación del mismo Ministro, varias señoritas graduadas de la Universidad de Harvard para que enseñen en las escuelas de la República el idioma inglés y el manejo de instituciones docentes.

INDUSTRIAS CUBANAS EN 1907.

La zafra cubana de 1907 ascendió aproximadamente á 1,500,000 de toneladas, y, aunque fué menor que el cálculo hecho previamente, es mayor que la producción que se ha calculado para 1908. La cosecha de tabaco produjo 440,000 tercios, avaluados en \$42,343,548, es decir, el doble de lo producido en el año anterior. Se han iniciado y se construyen con actividad obras públicas de gran importancia. La medida de poner la sanidad pública bajo el Gobierno de la República ha dado resultados muy satisfactorios.

LA POTENCIA COMPRADORA DE CHILE.

Si las exportaciones de un país demuestran la extensión de sus riquezas naturales, así también las importaciones son prueba de la prosperidad ó depresión económica de una nación. Por consiguiente, es un hecho de grande significación el de que en 1907 las importaciones que recibió Chile del extranjero tuvieron un aumento de \$20,000,000 sobre las del año anterior. Si bien las exportaciones sufrieron una disminución de \$3,000,000, la causa es atribuida á la retención de las consignaciones del producto principal del país, el salitre. Al finalizar el año salitrero en abril de 1907, las exportaciones totales del artículo, reguladas por la Asociación Salitrera de Propaganda, ascendieron á 400,000 toneladas, y en una sesión reciente de dicha institución se ha decidido limitar las exportaciones del presente año á la misma cantidad.

OBRAS PÚBLICAS EN LA REPÚBLICA DOMINICANA.

La memoria del Secretario de Fomento y Obras Públicas de la República Dominicana, correspondiente á 1907, demuestra que las condiciones interiores del país se han desarrollado muy satisfactoriamente. La Exposición Nacional celebrada en la capital en agosto del año pasado tuvo un gran éxito, y en ella estuvieron representadas todas las Provincias de la República. La exhibición de productos dominicanos en la Exposición de Jamestown fué recompensada con medallas de oro, plata y cobre. Se están construyendo líneas ferroviarias que conectarán el interior con la costa, y se llevan á cabo importantes obras de irrigación bajo la dirección de un ingeniero americano. También se prosigue con actividad la construcción de caminos y muelles. El empréstito para la unificación de la deuda pública fué levantado en Nueva York y ha merecido la aprobación del Gobierno; la "Gaceta Oficial" ha publicado los contratos relativos al arreglo de la deuda pública.

EL SERVICIO SANITARIO DEL ECUADOR.

El Gobierno ha puesto en vigor medidas enérgicas para combatir las enfermedades contagiosas en la República, y se ha creado una comisión especial de saneamiento para la ciudad de Guayaquil, bajo la dirección de un oficial del Servicio de Sanidad Pública y Hospitales Marítimos de los Estados Unidos. Se instalará un sistema moderno de aguas y alcantarillado, para la construcción del cual se publicarán licitaciones en los Estados Unidos y Europa.

EXPLOTACIÓN DE LAS RIQUEZAS DE HONDURAS.

El Gobierno de Honduras, en su deseo de fomentar por todos los medios á su alcance el desarrollo de las industrias nacionales, acaba de crear, en virtud de un decreto ejecutivo, el Departamento de Agricultura que estará encargado del fomento de este ramo, considerado como una de las fuentes de riqueza más principales del país. Otro paso hacia el progreso han sido los contratos sobre ferrocarriles que se construirán á través de las regiones bananeras, y para la colonización de los terrenos de la Mosquitia.

EL ESTADO COMERCIAL Y ECONÓMICO DE MÉXICO.

La solidaridad de las instituciones bancarias de México es la materia de que trata un informe presentado á su Gobierno por el Cónsul de los Estados Unidos en Aguascalientes, en el que manifiesta que la crisis monetaria que prevaleció en el mundo no impidió que los bancos de la República hicieran frente á sus obligaciones con dinero al contado. El proyectado establecimiento de cámaras de comercio nacionales, cuyo objeto principal será fomentar el comercio y dirigir los asuntos mercantiles de la República, contribuirá á consolidar el crédito nacional, y la conferencia que el Ministro Limantour ha convocado para la discusión de medidas económicas por delegados de los diferentes bancos del país ha merecido la aprobación unánime del pueblo.

LOS PRODUCTOS MINERALES Y FORESTALES DE NICARAGUA.

De las minas registradas en la Oficina de Estadística de Nicaragua, que son más de 500, 494 son de oro, al par que existen por toda la República varias de cobre y plata, y numerosas canteras de piedras valiosas. Estas riquezas son explotadas, con grande actividad, en virtud de concesiones otorgadas á ciudadanos y extranjeros. La goma es producto forestal principal cuya explotación se lleva á cabo con éxito, y el país abunda en plantas medicinales, resinas, etc., de gran valor comercial.

LA INSTRUCCIÓN PÚBLICA EN EL PARAGUAY.

Medio millón de dólares es la cantidad asignada en el peresupuesto del Paraguay para su Departamento de Justicia é Instrucción Pública en 1907. El Gobierno sostiene cinco colegios y la Universidad Nacional de Asunción, fundada en 1890, que cuenta con facultades de derecho, ciencias sociales, medicina, farmacia y derecho notarial. En las escuelas nacionales se dedica atención especial á los ramos científicos cuyo estudio puede servir para desarrollar las riquezas é industrias nacionales; el Gobierno sostiene también una escuela de agricultura con una granja modelo. La Nación tiene pensionados en varios colegios de los Estados Unidos y Europa, y una escuela normal de maestros con un claustro de 58 profesores.

EXHIBICIÓN DE PRODUCTOS PERUANOS EN NUEVA YORK.

El Cónsul General del Perú en Nueva York ha anunciado á la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas que en el consulado se ha abierto una oficina como biblioteca y para exhibir muestras de productos del Perú. Se ha destinado una sección en la cual se conservarán catálogos de mercancías y maquinaria que podrían introducirse con provecho en el Perú. Esta sección estará al servicio ó disposición de los peruanos que visiten el consulado, muchos de los cuales desean obtener informes acerca de los artículos fabricados en los Estados Unidos con el fin de emplearlos en sus negocios y empresas en el Perú. El Señor HIGGINSON invita á los fabricantes de los Estados Unidos á que envíen sus catálogos comerciales al consulado para conservarlos en esta división, y además aconseja que dichos catálogos sean publicados en castellano, por ser éste el idioma que mejor entienden los compradores.

LA INSTRUCCIÓN PÚBLICA EN EL SALVADOR.

La cantidad gastada en 1907 por la República del Salvador en la instrucción primaria fué de \$400,000 aproximadamente. Además de las escuelas públicas existen en la República muchos colegios particulares en donde se enseña la instrucción primaria y la superior. La instrucción facultativa está á cargo de la Universidad Nacional de San Salvador con facultades de derecho, medicina, farmacia, cirugía dental, ingeniería, etc.

FOMENTO DEL COMERCIO DEL URUGUAY.

Se ha presentado á la Cámara de Representantes de la República del Uruguay un proyecto de ley que prescribe el establecimiento de una zona libre en los terrenos públicos quitados al mar en la parte oriental de la Bahía de Montevideo. Tanto las mercancías que se introduzcan como los artículos que se fabriquen en la zona libre estarán exentos de derechos de aduana, á menos que se importen al interior del país, en cuyo caso deberán pasar por las aduanas del mismo modo que si vinieran del extranjero. Los que abogan por la aprobación de este proyecto consideran que hará de Montevideo uno de los primeros puertos de la América del Sur, por el cual pasa la mayoría del comercio del Uruguay, estando acreditado con un 82.32 por ciento, ó \$57,268,967 de un total de \$69,576,143. Durante los primeros ocho meses del año económico de 1907-8 las rentas aduaneras de la República excedieron en más de \$500,000 á las del mismo período del ejercicio anterior.

LAS LÍNEAS TELEGRÁFICAS Y TELEFÓNICAS DE VENEZUELA.

Á fin de impedir cualquiera mala interpretación del reglamento que se publicó en el BOLETÍN MENSUAL correspondiente al mes de febrero de 1908, acerca de las líneas telegráficas y telefónicas de Venezuela, cumple hacer constar que los preceptos que en aquél se estatuyen son aplicables únicamente al establecimiento de sistemas nacionales y oficiales, y no limitan ni excluyen, en manera alguna, el establecimiento de empresas particulares de conformidad con las leyes del país.

PRECAUCIONES SANITARIAS EN VENEZUELA.

El 18 de Abril de 1908 el Jefe Ejecutivo expidió un Decreto ordenando el cierre—durante quince días—del Puerto de La Guaira para el despacho de mercancías.

LA AMÉRICA LATINA: UNA GRAN OPORTUNIDAD COMERCIAL.^a

Para el fabricante americano no hay ningún campo más importante que el que ofrece la América Latina. En este mismo instante, las circunstancias exigen la atención de todos los hombres de negocios

^aDel número de la revista intitulada "The World To-Day," correspondiente al mes de abril de 1908, se reproduce el adjunto artículo escrito por el Señor JOHN BARRETT, Director de la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas, accediendo á la demanda que existe de los datos contenidos en el mismo.

norteamericanos que están interesados en el ensanche del comercio extranjero de los Estados Unidos. El mundo entero está reconociendo la inmensidad y variedad de los grandes recursos naturales y de las oportunidades que ofrecen las veinte Repúblicas que se extienden desde México y Cuba, por el norte, hasta la Argentina y Chile, por el sur; es decir, una sección del hemisferio occidental que comprende toda clase de climas, productos y razas.

Los países comerciales de Europa, tales como Inglaterra, Alemania, Francia, España, Italia y Austria, consagran infinitamente más atención á la América del Sur que los Estados Unidos. Hay más; el Japón, situado muy distante á través del Pacífico, hace más esfuerzos que este país por ponerse en íntima comunicación con la costa occidental de la América del Sur. Este aserto acaso parezca sorprendente, pero la prueba de ello se encuentra en el hecho de haberse establecido una línea de vapores con el apoyo del Gobierno Japonés, que hacen la travesía desde el Japón hasta Chile, y por el hecho de haberse efectuado un convenio para llevar á cabo el canje de giros postales entre los dos países, convenio que se declaró vigente desde el 1° de enero de 1908. Los Estados Unidos no han hecho absolutamente nada por mejorar su comunicación por medio de líneas de vapores con ninguna parte de la América del Sur. Los precitados países europeos han aumentado su comercio gracias á los numerosos vapores correos y de pasajeros, de primera clase, que ponen en comunicación sus puertos principales con los de la América del Sur, y aun con México y la América Central, dentro de los mismísimos límites de nuestro patio, por decirlo así. Para los emprendedores norteamericanos es muy triste y humillante tener que confesar en la actualidad no existe un solo vapor rápido que ondee la bandera americana y haga la travesía entre los puertos principales de los Estados Unidos y los de la América del Sur, propiamente dicha. Conste que no estoy haciendo propaganda en pro de la subvención de líneas de vapores, sino simplemente relatando un hecho.

SORPRENDENTES HECHOS Y CIFRAS COMERCIALES.

Antes de ir más adelante, tomemos detenidamente en consideración algunas cifras notables y convincentes que demuestran, hasta la más profunda evidencia, el gran valor de la oportunidad comercial que ofrece la América Latina. La generalidad de los fabricantes, comerciantes y agricultores de los Estados Unidos ha estado tan ocupada, por una parte, en las condiciones comerciales domésticas, ó por otra parte con las oportunidades del ensanche comercial en Europa y en Asia, que casi ha pasado por alto los prósperos, progresistas y ricos países que son nuestros vecinos del Sur. No ha comprendido el hecho de que en el hemisferio occidental además de los Estados Unidos hay otras grandes naciones que cuentan con

notables recursos naturales y que progresan mucho. Ha creído con demasiada facilidad que los Estados Unidos lo eran todo, y que lo que no se hacía en este país apenas era digno de hacerse. Ahora se hace necesario que la mayoría de los norteamericanos abra los ojos y vea que la América Latina avanza y que el resto del mundo sabe apreciar su progreso, en tanto que la mayoría de los norteamericanos dormía.

El que no está al corriente de lo que pasa en la América Latina no tiene en cuenta el hecho de que en el año de 1906 ésta representó la tercera parte del valor total del comercio extranjero de las veintuna Repúblicas del hemisferio occidental, incluso los Estados Unidos. Al que no conozca estos datos se le hace difícil creer que estos países, situados al sur de nosotros, le compraron y vendieron al resto del mundo productos por valor de \$2,000,000,000, y que de esta suma el valor de las exportaciones de la América Latina excedió en cerca de \$228,000,000 al de las importaciones.

Para poder discutir de una manera amplia y segura, he tomado como ejemplo el promedio del comercio extranjero de la América Latina, incluso México, la América Central y del Sur, y las Antillas, en los dos ó tres últimos años, y he llegado á las siguientes conclusiones.

ANÁLISIS DE LAS EXPORTACIONES É IMPORTACIONES DE LA AMÉRICA LATINA.

El valor total de las exportaciones é importaciones de la América Latina asciende anualmente á \$2,052,355,000; de esta gran suma la América Latina exporta productos por valor de \$1,140,260,000 é importa mercancías por valor de \$912,095,000, resultando así, tal como antes se ha indicado, un aumento notable en el valor de sus exportaciones respecto de sus importaciones.

Al examinar en seguida el promedio de la proporción que corresponde á los Estados Unidos de este valor total del comercio con toda la América Latina, encontramos que dicha proporción asciende á \$519,202,700, suma que, al subdividirse, resulta que el valor de las exportaciones á los Estados Unidos ascendió á \$296,932,200, en tanto que el valor de las importaciones que se hicieron de los Estados Unidos asciende á \$222,270,500: esto es, el valor de las exportaciones de la América Latina á los Estados Unidos excedió en \$74,000,000 al de las importaciones que se hicieron de este último país.

Es importante notar la índole y la cantidad de las exportaciones é importaciones entre los Estados Unidos y la América Latina, que exceden de 1,000,000 de pesos:

Valor de las exportaciones de los Estados Unidos á la América Latina en 1907.

Instrumentos de agricultura.....	\$5,000,000
Locomotoras y carros.....	11,000,000
Instrumentos eléctricos y científicos.....	4,500,000
Rieles de acero.....	4,000,000
Alambre de acero.....	4,500,000
Herramientas de acero.....	4,000,000
Máquinas de coser.....	2,500,000
Tubos y sus accesorios.....	3,500,000
Míneral de cobre y cobre en lingotes.....	1,500,000
Trigo.....	2,000,000
Harina de trigo.....	13,500,000
Algodón, géneros y ropa hecha de algodón, etc.....	7,250,000
Ililo de acarreto.....	2,000,000
Cueros y calzado de todas clases.....	3,000,000
Manteca.....	7,000,000
Aceite, petróleo para el alumbrado y aceite para lubricar.....	10,750,000
Aceites vegetales y parafina.....	3,750,000
Madera de construcción.....	2,500,000
Tablazón.....	15,500,000
Muebles.....	3,000,000

Valor de las importaciones que los Estados Unidos hicieron de la América Latina en 1907.

Cacao.....	7,000,000
Café.....	70,000,000
Cobre.....	20,000,000
Bananos y otras frutas.....	12,000,000
Pielés y cueros.....	15,000,000
Goma elástica.....	33,000,000
Hierro.....	2,500,000
Plomo.....	3,000,000
Azúcar.....	70,000,000
Tabaco en rama y elaborado.....	16,000,000
Maderas.....	11,500,000
Lana.....	6,000,000

Hay otros artículos, tales como máquinas de escribir y varias clases de artefactos, que muestran cifras muy altas, pero que no llegan á 1,000,000 de pesos.

Éstas cifras relativas á toda la América son más alentadoras que las que se refieren á la subdivisión de la América del Sur propiamente dicha, que comprende las diez Repúblicas siguientes: El Brasil, la Argentina, Uruguay, Paraguay, Chile, Bolivia, Perú, Ecuador, Colombia, Venezuela, y las Guianas Inglesas, Holandesas y Francesas. Veamos ahora cuál es el detalle que resulta poco satisfactorio para los Estados Unidos en este particular.

El promedio del valor del comercio extranjero de la América del Sur propiamente dicha ascendió á \$1,513,415,000, de los cuales la proporción que le correspondió á los Estados Unidos en 1907 sólo ascendió á \$233,293,300, incluyendo tanto el valor de las exportaciones como el de las importaciones, ó sea apenas una séptima parte. Volviendo á analizar estas cifras en cuanto á los Estados Unidos, encontramos que la América del Sur le vendió á este país productos por valor de \$147,680,000 y le compró mercancías únicamente por valor de \$85,612,400, lo cual muestra que el valor de los productos que los Estados Unidos importaron de la América del Sur excedió en \$60,000,000 al valor de los productos que exportaron á la América del Sur.

Otra comparación muestra cuán atrasados estamos en cuanto á la competencia con el resto de las naciones del mundo. La América del Sur le compró mercancías á otras naciones por valor de \$660,930,000, de las cuales los Estados Unidos suministraron mercancías valuadas en \$85,612,400, ó sea apenas una octava parte, y sin embargo, mientras más estudiamos el campo sudamericano, más convencidos estamos de que los Estados Unidos podrían suministrar la mayor parte de las importaciones que hace la América del Sur. Queda demostrado, pues, que no le proporcionamos á la América del Sur un mercado tan grande para sus productos como debiéramos proporcionárselo, pues del valor total de sus exportaciones, que asciende á \$852,485,000, los Estados Unidos le compraron únicamente \$147,680,900, ó sea aproximadamente una octava parte del valor total.

RASGOS ALENTADORES DE LA SITUACIÓN.

Habiendo citado ya estas cifras que comprenden un período de varios años, deseo ahora indicar, mediante cifras adicionales, otro rasgo de la situación que por cierto es sumamente alentador, y que debiera incitar á nuestros fabricantes y exportadores á aprovechar la oportunidad comercial que la América Latina les proporciona. Con la ayuda de la Oficina de Estadística del Departamento de Comercio y Trabajo, la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas ha compilado las siguientes sumas totales, que muestran el incremento del comercio de los Estados Unidos con sus Repúblicas hermanas:

En 1897—es decir, hace diez años—el valor total del comercio de exportación é importación entre los Estados Unidos y los países situados al sur de ellos ascendió á \$252,427,798. Tres años más tarde—esto es, en 1900—esta cantidad había ascendido á \$324,680,368. Cinco años después, en 1905, la expresada suma había subido á \$517,477,368; al paso que dos años más tarde—es decir, en 1907—es grato notar que la expresada suma se había elevado á \$587,194,945.

Así pues, se ve que en una década nuestro comercio con la América Latina muestra un aumento de \$335,000,000, suma que representa más del doble de lo que antes era. No cabe duda de que éste es un precedente del cual debe enorgullecerse nuestro país y, sin embargo, esto no es más que el principio de las grandes oportunidades que tenemos.

Como quiera que en 1907 el valor total del comercio extranjero de la América Latina ascendió á más de \$2,000,000,000, es evidente que los Estados Unidos distan mucho de representar la proporción que les corresponde en la precitada suma. El punto vital es que si en las circunstancias actuales y con la falta de entusiasmo é interés que en la actualidad se echa de ver, los Estados Unidos pueden hacer un negocio de cerca de \$600,000,000 anuales con la América Latina, no cabe duda de que harán un negocio de \$1,000,000,000 en el inmediato porvenir, una vez que nuestros fabricantes y agricultores se den cuenta cabal de la importancia y el valor de la oportunidad que se les presenta y pongan en práctica toda su energía á fin de aprovecharla.

LA GRAN IMPORTANCIA DE LA OPORTUNIDAD QUE OFRECE LA AMÉRICA LATINA.

Habiéndonos referido ya á estas cifras relativas al comercio y tráfico, es lógico que tengamos en consideración algunos hechos descriptivos que demostrarán á todo el mundo la grandeza é importancia de los países latinoamericanos. En un breve artículo como este no hay espacio suficiente para describir con detenimiento lo que se ha hecho en México, en la América Central, Cuba, Haití y la República Dominicana, situadas en el Golfo de México y el Mar Caribe, y por consiguiente, sólo se consagrará especial atención á la América del Sur, propiamente dicha. Sin embargo, de pasada debemos tener en cuenta que en México se han invertido más de \$800,000,000 de capital americano, y que este último país el año pasado hizo un comercio con los Estados Unidos que representó cerca de \$125,000,000, de los cuales \$67,000,000 representaron importaciones hechas de los Estados Unidos.

La América Central—es decir, Guatemala, Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua y Costa Rica—está entrando en una nueva era de prosperidad y progreso como resultado de los tratados y convenciones firmados en la Conferencia de Paz Centroamericana que se celebró recientemente en Washington. Si todos estos acuerdos internacionales llegan á ser aprobados por todos estos países, no existe ninguna razón para que dejen de progresar y desarrollarse como la ha hecho México, puesto que poseen una gran variedad de recursos naturales y un clima muy benigno en la mayor parte de sus regiones. En 1906 el valor del comercio de la América Central excedió de \$56,000,000, de los cuales el valor de las importaciones que se hicieron de los Estados Unidos ascendió á cerca de \$30,000,000.

Las Repúblicas é islas de las Antillas también avanzan notablemente y pueden jactarse de que el valor de su comercio extranjero el año pasado ascendió á \$184,000,000, de los cuales \$73,000,000 representaron el valor de las importaciones que dichas Antillas hicieron de los Estados Unidos.

Volviendo á tomar en consideración la América del Sur propiamente dicha, y anotando algunos hechos culminantes, primero nos llama la atención Colombia, que es la República sudamericana que está situada más cerca de los Estados Unidos y que tiene un área tan grande como Alemania y Francia juntas, habiendo ya ha entrado en una era de rápido progreso como resultado de la hábil administración del General RAFAEL REYES. Puedo dar fe de la riqueza de Colombia, porque he viajado mucho en ella. Tan luego como la atraviesen ferrocarriles y se mejore la navegación de sus ríos, Colombia podrá llegar á obtener un desarrollo semejante al de México.

Venezuela se asemeja mucho á Colombia, y en ella se encuentra una combinación descomunal de ricas planicies y valles de los ríos que proporcionan un campo propicio de legítima explotación. El poderoso valle del Orinoco constituye por sí solo una región en la cual pueden invertirse con provecho millones de millones de pesos.

El capital apenas se ha hecho sentir en las Guianas Inglesas, Holandesas y Francesas, y sin embargo, pronto llevarán á cabo un progreso que ha de superar al desarrollo que hasta ahora han alcanzado.

LA GRAN EXTENSIÓN DEL ÁREA DEL BRASIL Y LAS OPORTUNIDADES QUE OFRECE.

El Brasil es en realidad un país muy interesante sobre el cual resulta muy grato disentir. Esta República cuenta con tan inmensos recursos naturales y son tan vastas las oportunidades que ofrece que es difícil dejar de mostrarse uno optimista al hablar de ella. Si se tiene en cuenta que el área completa de los Estados Unidos podría colocarse dentro de los límites del Brasil, y que todavía quedaría espacio para incluir al Imperio Alemán; que del Amazonas corre diariamente tres veces más agua que del Misisipí; que Río de Janeiro, capital del Brasil, ya tiene 900,000 habitantes, y que sigue ensanchándose con rapidez; que el Gobierno y pueblo del Brasil le dieron á nuestro escuadrón la recepción más espléndida que jamás se le dió á una armada de una nación extranjera en la historia del mundo, entonces tendríamos una idea de algunos hechos que demuestran cuán digna de nuestra especial atención es esta grandiosa República de la América del Sur.

En todos los ámbitos del Brasil se advierten los indicios seguros de una nueva era de progreso material. En la parte interior del país se están construyendo ferrocarriles; se introducen mejoras en los ríos y puertos; las ciudades se están modernizando; en las escuelas

se introducen grandes mejoras y se explota la riqueza nativa del suelo y los bosques, obteniéndose por resultado que en la actualidad los capitalistas europeos y americanos están invirtiendo gruesas sumas con seguridad y provecho. En ningún país de la América del Sur tiene el fabricante y el exportador mejor oportunidad para crear un buen negocio que en el Brasil. Actualmente el valor de las exportaciones á los Estados Unidos procedentes del Brasil excede con mucho al valor de las importaciones que dicha República hace de los Estados Unidos; es decir, el Brasil le compra á los Estados Unidos únicamente como una quinta parte del valor de lo que le vende. Este país es el mercado principal que el Brasil tiene para su café, pero son tan pocos los esfuerzos que nuestros comerciantes han hecho por suministrarle al Brasil lo que éste compra en países extranjeros, que Europa en este momento domina prácticamente el comercio de importación con dicho país.

El Uruguay está justamente más abajo del Brasil, y la República de Paraguay, que está situada entre el Brasil y la Argentina, tienen áreas pequeñas, pero poseen grandes recursos agrícolas. La ciudad de Montevideo, capital del Uruguay, tiene 300,000 habitantes y es un puerto muy importante en la boca del Río de la Plata. Los pueblos de ambos países son muy emprendedores y progresistas, y creen que sus países han de realizar un notable progreso en la próxima década. Montevideo está gastando cerca de \$10,000,000 en las mejoras que está introduciendo en su puerto, al paso que Asunción, capital del Paraguay, se propone introducir mejoras en el Río Paraná y efectuar la prolongación de sus sistemas de ferrocarriles, de manera que se pondrá en comunicación por una parte con la Argentina y el Uruguay, y por la otra con el Brasil.

Á propósito de lo que queda expuesto, cumple recordar que la parte sur del Brasil, el Uruguay, Paraguay, toda la Argentina y Chile, están situados prácticamente en la zona templada del Sur, y sus condiciones climatológicas son semejantes á las de los Estados Unidos, á una gran distancia al norte del Ecuador. Esta situación reviste gran importancia para el futuro desarrollo de dichos países como el hogar de pueblos progresistas.

LA ARGENTINA ES UNA MARAVILLA DE PROGRESO MATERIAL.

La República Argentina es un país sumamente interesante. Ha progresado con tal rapidez en la última década, que se hace difícil predecir cuánto no hará en otra década. Tiene un área tan extensa y propicia para el cultivo de productos que tienen gran demanda en Europa, que siempre está segura de tener un enorme comercio extranjero, y con una población de cerca de 6,000,000 de habitantes, en 1907 el valor de su comercio extranjero ascendió á cerca de \$600,000,000, ó

sea un valor total mayor que el del comercio de Japón ó de China. Estas cifras arrojan un promedio de cerca de \$100 por cabeza, promedio mayor que el de cualquier otro país importante del mundo.

Tiene un sinnúmero de líneas de ferrocarriles que hacen que uno pueda atravesar el continente, desde Buenos Aires hasta Santiago, en menos de cuarenta y ocho horas, incluso una corta excursión en coche por la cima de los Andes, y luego se puede ir en un tren Pullman desde los linderos de Bolivia, por el norte, hasta el mismo corazón de Patagonia, por el sur.

Buenos Aires, capital de esta gran República, es una de las ciudades maravillosas del mundo. En la actualidad tiene cerca de 1,200,000 habitantes, y crece con mayor rapidez que cualquiera ciudad de los Estados Unidos, con excepción de Nueva York. Tiene un sistema de muelles, diques, y desembarcaderos mejor, una Casa de Opera más costosa y hermosa, un club más grande y un edificio y empresa de periódico más extensa que cualquiera ciudad de nuestro propio progresista país. Dicha capital está á punto de construir un gran sistema de ferrocarriles subterráneos, y á la ciudad la embellecen extraordinariamente sus numerosos bulevares, parques y plazas. Buenos Aires es el centro de todo el comercio de la República Argentina, y es una escena muy común contemplar veintenas y más veintenas de buques mercantes en los cuales ondea la bandera de todo país importante, excepto la de los Estados Unidos, cargando y descargando en toda la extensión de sus muelles. El pueblo argentino es sin disputa muy progresista y representa una nueva raza, puesto que constituye una combinación de sangre española, italiana, con cierta parte de sangre inglesa y alemana, y está produciendo cierta clase de hombres y mujeres que constituyen una garantía de la futura potencia y calidad del país.

CHILE Y LA COSTA OCCIDENTAL DE LA AMÉRICA DEL SUR.

La extensión é importancia de Chile puede apreciarse mejor si se tiene en cuenta, primero, que se extiende hacia arriba y hacia abajo de la costa occidental de la América del Sur en la zona templada, lo mismo justamente que nuestros límites de la costa occidental se extienden por el Pacífico, y segundo, que si la extremidad sur de Chile estuviese situada en San Diego, extremidad sur de California, la línea del norte de Chile quedaría situada en el medio de Alaska. Ó, lo que es lo mismo, hacia el norte se extiende 2,600 millas del estrecho de Magallanes hasta los límites del Perú, en tanto que el promedio de su ancho es igual al de California con la correspondiente variedad de climas y productos. Santiago, que es la capital, tiene 400,000 habitantes, y se considera como una de las ciudades más interesantes del Continente del Sur. En Valparaíso, que es su puerto principal, el Gobierno Chileno se propone gastar \$10,000,000 para

obtener todos los elementos necesarios en el puerto, muelles, etc., lo cual dará por resultado que Valparaíso sea el puerto más completo del Pacífico.

Por más que Chile tiene ferrocarriles, el Gobierno en la actualidad está preparando un proyecto para la construcción de un ferrocarril longitudinal que se extienda por toda la longitud del país, y que conecte la capital con todas las regiones del mismo. La enorme riqueza de los depósitos de salitre de Chile le proporcionan al país una gran renta, que casi lo ponen en condiciones independientes de otras fuentes de renta para el mantenimiento del Gobierno. Chile está ansiosa de que se termine el Canal de Panamá, á fin de que pueda ponerse en más íntima comunicacéion con los Estados Unidos. Una vez que dicho Canal quede terminado, será posible ir con facilidad de Nueva York á Valparaíso en quince días, al paso que en la actualidad se invierten treinta días más ó menos. El año pasado el valor del comercio extranjero de Chile ascendió á \$180,000,000.

BOLIVIA, PERÚ Y ECUADOR.

Aunque Bolivia no tiene ninguna costa, comprende un inmenso territorio dentro del cual cabe dos veces el Estado de Tejas, y todavía queda espacio para Arkansas y Kansas. Una gran parte del territorio de dicha República está situado en una gran altura, y por tanto, tiene condiciones climatológicas muy ventajosas. Dicho país posee una notable variedad de riqueza mineral y agrícola, y en la actualidad está entrando en un verdadero período de progreso. Un sindicato americano está construyendo un sistema de ferrocarriles en el cual se han de gastar más de \$100,000,000. Á La Paz, que es su interesante capital, puede irse mediante una combinación de viajes por ferrocarril y por mar desde el Pacífico y á través del Lago Titicaca, que es sin disputa el volumen de agua navegable más alto del mundo. El valor del comercio extranjero de Bolivia asciende aproximadamente á \$33,500,000, pero esta suma se aumenta con rapidez y promete duplicarse en al inmediato porvenir.

Al norte de Bolivia se extiende el Perú, en cuya área pueden incluirse todos los Estados de la Costa del Atlántico desde Maine hasta Georgia. Tiene una combinación de tierra baja á lo largo del Pacífico y otra vez en los valles más altos del Amazonas, de manera que junto con las grandes planicies y distritos montañosos de los Andes, el Perú posee una gran variedad de climas, productos y recursos naturales. Ya se han invertido en dicho país muchos millones de capital americano en la explotación y desarrollo de sus minas.

Lima, capital del Perú, es una de las ciudades más antiguas y aristocráticas de la América Latina, y en ella se estableció una universidad cien años antes de fundarse la Universidad Harvard. Lima fué el asiento de uno de los virreínatos españoles en la época del

antiguo régimen, y en la actualidad es una metrópoli próspera, activa y bien construída. El puerto de Lima es El Callao, que queda á unas cuantas millas, donde el escuadrón americano, al mando del Almirante EVANS, hizo su cuarta escala en su viaje alrededor de la América del Sur. El Callao tiene un excelente puerto por el cual se hace la mayor parte del comercio extranjero del Perú, cuyo valor asciende á \$19,150,000.

El Ecuador, dentro del cual cabe varias veces el Estado de Illinois, en este momento espera con verdadero júbilo la terminación del ferrocarril que le pone en comunicaci3n con Guayaquil, que es su puerto principal por la costa, y con Quito, famosa capital de la República, que tiene como 80,000 habitantes, y que está situada á una altura de 10,000 pies sobre el nivel del mar, en las planicies de los Andes. Una vez que se termine este ferrocarril y sus ramales, la parte interior del Ecuador obtendrá un desarrollo que ha de contribuir mucho á la riqueza del país.

En 1909 el Ecuador celebrará una exposici3n para conmemorar el centenario de la declaraci3n de su independencia de España, y se espera que se haga una gran ostentaci3n de los recursos y productos naturales del país, que sin duda han de llamar la atenci3n universal, demostrando así todo el valor de esta rica regi3n como un campo propicio por la inversi3n de capital extranjero. Los Estados Unidos han sido invitados á dicha exposici3n, y el Presidente ROOSEVELT le ha recomendado al Congreso que dicte una asignaci3n de dinero para la obtenci3n de un edificio apropiado y para la exhibici3n norteamericana.

SE RECOMIENDA UN VIAJE Á LA AMÉRICA DEL SUR.

Por más que lo que ya he escrito acerca de estos países acaso despierte cierto interés entre las personas que hasta ahora no han consagrado ninguna atenci3n á la América del Sur, me siento impulsado á aconsejar vehementemente que todo el que tenga tiempo y dinero visite los principales países y ciudades de la América del Sur, y ver por sus propios ojos las oportunidades que ofrece esa parte del mundo. Por lo general, el hombre de negocios norteamericano cuando desea hacer un viaje de recreo va á Europa; unos cuantos van al remoto Oriente, pero prácticamente ninguno va á la América del Sur. Si pudiese invertirse este orden y se popularizaran los viajes al Continente del Sur, no tardaría mucho en sentirse influencia benéfica tales excursiones ejercerían sobre el desarrollo de nuestro comercio.

Esto prepara el camino para indicar la vital importancia de que se mejoren nuestras vías de comunicaci3n marítima con la América del Sur. El hecho de que no existe un vapor correo y de pasajeros de primera clase en el cual ondee la bandera americana, y que haga la travesía entre cualquiera de los puertos de los Estados Unidos y los

de la América del Sur más abajo del Ecuador, ofrece un contraste con el hecho de que es posible ir á las principales ciudades del Brasil, la Argentina, Chile, y otros países en muchos vapores rápidos y cómodos que hacen la travesía de Europa á dichos países. Es sumamente desconsolador para un ciudadano de los Estados Unidos hacer el gran viaje de estas ciudades del Sur y no poder contemplar en ningún punto la bandera de las estrellas y franjas, á menos que no flote en algún buque de guerra ó yate de recreo. Es probable que el viajero norteamericano encuentre algún buque de vela que ostente la bandera de los Estados Unidos, pero aun éstos son muy contados en comparación con los que se encontraban antaño.

Hago estas indicaciones acerca de los viajes de la América del Sur, porque desco demostrarles á los hombres de negocios, á los que se proponen hacer investigaciones y á otros, la manera de hacer dicho viaje.

Para ir al Brasil, la Argentina y el Uruguay, puede tomarse uno de los vapores de las varias líneas de carga y pasajeros, pero que son cómodos y hacen la travesía desde Nueva York, invirtiéndose dieciocho días en el viaje á Río de Janeiro, y siete días más á Montevideo y Buenos Aires, también por vapor. Para ir á Asunción, capital del Paraguay, hay varios vapores de primera clase que viajan hacia arriba del Río Paraná, desde Buenos Aires. Una ruta todavía más popular y de moda consiste en ir primero á Europa, habiendo en Southampton y en el Havre varios vapores ingleses, franceses y alemanes, muy modernos y lujosos, que ofrecen todas las comodidades á los pasajeros, y que van á Río de Janeiro en dieciseis días, y á Montevideo y Buenos Aires en cuatro ó seis días adicionales.

Para ir á Venezuela hay dos líneas de vapores que salen de Nueva York, pudiendo irse directamente de este puerto al de La Guaira en seis ó siete días, ó en doce días haciendo escalas.

Hay vapores que salen de Nueva York que hacen escalas en los puertos del Mar Caribe, de Colombia, Cartagena y Barranquilla, y también hacen escala en Colón, en el Istmo de Panamá y en Kingston, Jamaica.

A todos los puertos del Pacífico puede irse desde Panamá, después de atravesar el Istmo desde Colón, ó tomando un vapor que sale de San Francisco y que hace escala en todos los puertos que hay entre San Francisco y Panamá. Este último puerto constituye la estación terminal del norte, de los vapores que hacen escala en los puertos del Pacífico de Colombia, Ecuador, Perú y Chile.

En Nueva York pueden tomarse vapores para ir á Costa Rica, Nicaragua y, desde que se llevó á cabo la inauguración del ferrocarril que va de Puerto Barrios, pueda irse hasta Guatemala. Los mejores vapores para ir al Salvador, Honduras y la costa occidental de Guatemala y Nicaragua son los que salen de San Francisco ó de Panamá.

SE NECESITAN VAPORES DE PRIMERA CLASE.

Ya se ha indicado que el valor del comercio de los Estados Unidos con la América del Sur propiamente dicha, sólo asciende á \$233,000,000 de un valor total de \$1,500,000,000 á que ascendió del comercio extranjero de estos países. Es por lo menos una conclusión lógica que este estado de cosas coincide con la falta de vapores de primera clase, si en realidad no constituye una prueba absoluta de que un hecho puede atribuirse al otro. A pesar del hecho de que hay muchos buques de carga en los cuales ondean banderas extranjeras y que hacen la travesía entre los puertos principales de los Estados Unidos y la América del Sur, sin embargo, es tan necesario que en los altos mares tengamos vapores correos y de pasajeros rápidos para el transporte de mercancías y de correspondencia, y que al mismo tiempo puedan conducir carga especial que exija una pronta entrega, como lo es el que tengamos las correspondientes líneas de ferrocarril en el país que presten servicios análogos.

¿Por ventura puede alguien concebir que Chicago podría ser lo que en la actualidad es si á ella sólo pudiese irse en trenes de carga? Los rápidos trenes expresos de correspondencia y de pasajeros constituyen una absoluta necesidad para el debido desarrollo del canje comercial. Por consiguiente, es una necesidad esperar que los Estados Unidos puedan jamás ocupar una posición importante en el comercio de la América del Sur á no ser que se mejoren grandemente las vías de comunicación con dichos países.

La mejor prueba del lamentable estado de cosas en este particular la constituye el hecho de que de Buenos Aires, capital de la progresista República Argentina, en una semana salieron más hombres de negocios á bordo de rápidos y elegantes vapores europeos para visitar á Europa con fines comerciales ó en viajes de recreo, que los que van á los Estados Unidos en un año en los lentos buques que ponen en comunicación á Buenos Aires con Nueva York. Los datos que sobre este particular proporciona Río de Janeiro, la gran capital del Brasil, demuestran que los vapores europeos en una semana condujeron más brasileños á Europa que todos los que llevaron los buques que van á los Estados Unidos en un año.

La denominada subvención, vocablo que con frecuencia da lugar á erróneas interpretaciones, no es la solución de este problema. Toda la cuestión se reduce á la necesidad de pagar buenos sueldos por el trabajo que se hace bien; es decir, los Estados Unidos tienen que estar dispuestos á pagarles á las compañías de vapores que ondean la bandera americana por la conducción de la correspondencia en vapores que anden á una velocidad de 17 nudos y que proporcionen comodidades á los pasajeros de primera clase, un precio tan equitativo que les sea posible llevar la correspondencia y los pasajeros en competencia con los vapores europeos, y suministrar así los mismos medios

de comunicación marítima que se obtienen en los ferrocarriles por todos los ámbitos de los Estados Unidos, á los cuales este Gobierno paga una suma regular en proporción con los servicios prestados.

LA OFICINA INTERNACIONAL DE LAS REPÚBLICAS AMERICANAS.

En suma, se aprovecha esta oportunidad para llamar la atención de los hombres de negocios hacia la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas. Esta institución fué fundada hace dieciocho años en la Primera Conferencia Panamericana, con el fin de propagar informes— por todos los ámbitos de las diferentes Repúblicas Americanas— relativos á su mutuo progreso y desarrollo. Como resultado de la Tercera Conferencia Panamericana que se celebró en Río de Janeiro, y gracias á los esfuerzos que ha hecho el Señor Root, Secretario de Estado, que ha hecho más que ningún otro hombre en la historia de la diplomacia americana por aumentar el prestigio y la influencia de los Estados Unidos en la América latina, dicha institución ha sido reorganizada y ensanchada, de manera que pueda convertirse en una agencia práctica, reconocida por el mundo entero, para lograr el desarrollo del comercio y la cordialidad panamericanos. Dicha institución ha de ser no sólo una Oficina de información que suministre á los fabricantes, educadores, viajeros, estudiantes, etc., toda clase de datos relativos á los diferentes países americanos, sino el medio por el cual se han de poner en práctica todas las resoluciones de las varias conferencias panamericanas.

La Oficina hace todo lo posible para crear más íntimas relaciones y un conocimiento y trato más cabales entre todas las naciones del hemisferio occidental. Publica un BOLETÍN MENSUAL que constituye un registro detallado de las condiciones comerciales de todas las Repúblicas, y distribuye un gran número de impresos en los cuales se describen las Repúblicas Americanas, sus condiciones, recursos naturales y las grandes oportunidades que ofrecen. A ella está agregada la Biblioteca de Colón, que contiene la colección más grande que existe en los Estados Unidos, de libros que se refieren á la historia, progreso, y estado actual de los países de que se trata.

Gracias á la generosidad del Señor ANDREW CARNEGIE y á las cuotas con que han contribuído los diferentes Gobiernos, la Oficina Internacional pronto se alojará en un magnífico nuevo edificio que costará aproximadamente \$750,000, proporcionándose así en Washington un templo en el cual se ha de cultivar la amistad y ensanchar el comercio y que, en cierto sentido, será el punto de reunión de todas las Repúblicas Americanas.

La Oficina Internacional se sostiene con las cuotas conjuntas de las veintiuna Repúblicas Americanas, y sus asuntos los rige un Consejo Directivo compuesto de los Representantes Diplomáticos en Washington de veinte Repúblicas, siendo Presidente nato de dicho Consejo

Directivo el Secretario de Estado de los Estados Unidos. El jefe ejecutivo de dicha Oficina es el Director, elegido por el Consejo Directivo. El Director á su vez es auxiliado por el Secretario de la Oficina y por otros funcionarios y peritos.

Siempre que cualquiera persona desee obtener informes, puede dirigirse al Director de la Oficina Panamericana (tal como comúnmente se le conoce), núm. 2 Jackson Place, Washington, D. C. Se tendrá el mayor gusto en tomar en consideración detenidamente cualesquiera preguntas acerca de la América Latina que procedan de los numerosos y caracterizados suscritores de la revista denominada "The World To-Day."

A fin de que este artículo resulte completo, y de que se entiendan perfectamente la esfera de acción é importancia de esta institución, deseo citar las resoluciones que fueron aprobadas en la última Conferencia Panamericana que se celebró en Río de Janeiro, Brasil, en 1906, Conferencia que ha venido á ser memorable por haber concurrido á ella el Señor Root, Secretario de Estado. En dichas resoluciones se dice lo siguiente:

La Tercera Conferencia Internacional Panamericana resuelve continuar la Unión Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas, creada por la Primera Conferencia y confirmada por la Segunda.

Los fines de la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas, que representa dicha Unión, son las siguientes:

1. Compilar y distribuir datos comerciales y proporcionar informes al respecto.
2. Compilar y clasificar todo lo referente á los tratados y convenciones entre las Repúblicas Americanas y entre éstas y otros Estados no americanos.
3. Informar sobre asuntos de educación.
4. Informar sobre las cuestiones de las Conferencias Internacionales Americanas.
6. Dar cumplimiento á todas las resoluciones que le hayan impuesto ó le impongan las Conferencias Internacionales Americanas.
7. Funcionar como Comisión Permanente de las Conferencias Internacionales Americanas, proponiendo proyectos que pudieran ser incluidos entre los temas de la próxima Conferencia; estos proyectos deberán ponerse en conocimiento de los diferentes Gobiernos que forman la Unión seis meses, por lo menos, antes de la fecha en que deba reunirse la próxima Conferencia.
8. Presentar con la misma anticipación, á los diferentes Gobiernos, una memoria acerca de las labores de la Oficina en el período comprendido desde la última Conferencia, y también informes especiales sobre cada uno de los asuntos cuyo estudio se le hubiere encomendado.

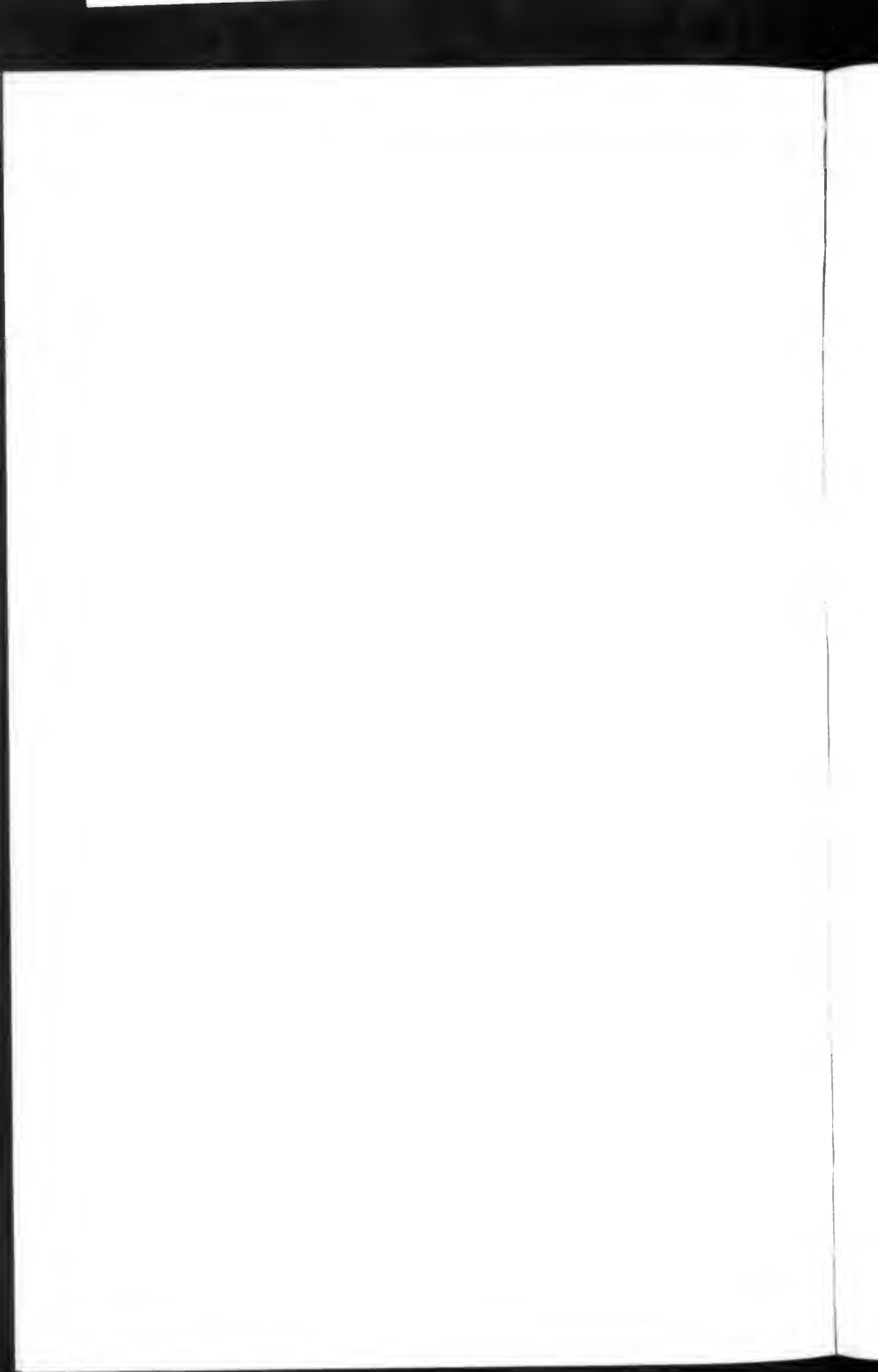
Pero esto no es todo de ninguna manera. En un informe sobre la Oficina que preparé recientemente, dije lo que sigue:

Otras resoluciones, por virtud de las cuales la Oficina asume nuevos deberes, prescriben que se tomen las medidas conducentes para alojar dicha institución de tal manera que pueda desempeñar debidamente las importantes funciones que esta Conferencia le ha asignado; que se nombre una comisión en cada República para que ayude á la Oficina á llevar á cabo sus trabajos; que, como una dependencia de ella, debe establecerse una sección especial de estadística comercial; que la Oficina debe preparar un proyecto á fin de obtener mejores medios de comunicación por vapor entre los principales puertos de las Repúblicas Americanas, con el fin de facilitar el tráfico, los



SEÑOR DON GENARO RAIGOSA, PRESIDENTE DE LA SEGUNDA CONFERENCIA INTERNACIONAL DE LAS REPÚBLICAS AMERICANAS, CELEBRADA EN MEXICO EN 1901-1902.

SEÑOR GENERO RAIGOSA, PRESIDENT OF THE SECOND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF AMERICAN STATES AT MEXICO IN 1901-1902.



viajes, el comercio y la comunicación en general; que debe investigar la cuestión del Ferrocarril Intercontinental y celebrar conferencias con los diferentes Gobiernos encaminadas á determinar, tan luego como sea posible, las concesiones de terreno, subvenciones, garantías de intereses, exenciones de derechos sobre los materiales necesarios para la construcción y el material rodante de aquí, y cualesquiera otras concesiones que juzguen convenientes hacer en relación con dicha empresa; que debe estudiar los sistemas monetarios de los gobiernos americanos con el fin de someter á la consideración de la próxima Conferencia un informe acerca de los sistemas vigentes en cada uno de los Gobiernos, así como la historia, fluctuaciones y tipo de cambio que han ocurrido dentro de los veinte últimos años, junto con la preparación de tablas que muestren la influencia que dichas fluctuaciones han ejercido en el desarrollo comercial é industrial de dichos países; que debe estudiar las leyes que rigen las concesiones públicas en las varias Repúblicas de América, con el fin de obtener los informes que pudieran ser útiles para ello, y, finalmente, que prepare un programa para la Cuarta Conferencia Internacional que se celebrará dentro del próximo quinquenio.

UN AUXILIAR PODEROSO DEL COMERCIO EXTRANJERO.^a

Los comerciantes, los profesionales, en fin, todas las personas que se interesan por nuestras relaciones extranjeras, deben conocer la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas. Su valor práctico para el comerciante, su eficaz auxilio para el desarrollo de las relaciones comerciales y amistosas entre las naciones americanas, su inmensa esfera de acción, son hechos que patentizan la realidad de su importancia.

Para tener una idea de lo que la Oficina Internacional puede hacer por el comercio, es necesario conocer su historia.

Si bien ha tenido una existencia digna y honrosa por espacio de diecisiete años, y por más que han estado al frente de ella hombres de mérito y competentes, no ha habido hasta el presente interés popular alguno por nuestras hermanas del continente americano. Fueron necesarias las dotes de un hombre de estado como ELIHU ROOT, y el viaje sin precedente que hizo por toda la América del Sur, para que el pueblo de los Estados Unidos se diera cuenta de la grande importancia de nuestras relaciones con los países de allende el Río Bravo.

La Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas fué creada por la Primera Conferencia Panamericana, celebrada en Washington en 1889-90. Los delegados latinoamericanos encontraron aquí tal ignorancia sobre los pueblos, instituciones y recursos de sus respectivos países, y, por otro lado, la misma ignorancia por parte de ellos con respecto á las verdaderas condiciones de los Estados Unidos, que

^a Para demostrar el trabajo práctico que lleva á cabo la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas, se reproduce este artículo, escrito por el Director, Señor JOHN BARRETT, y publicado en "System" del mes de marzo de 1908.

la Conferencia autorizó el establecimiento de lo que podía llamarse una oficina internacional de información. Conferencias posteriores ensancharon sus funciones hasta tal punto que hoy promete llegar á ser una de las instituciones internacionales más importantes del mundo. Los primeros directores hicieron todo lo posible por el progreso de la Oficina, pero sus esfuerzos eran obstruidos por la falta de interés general. Ahora alborea una nueva era, y el actual Director, no más competente que sus predecesores, encuentra un terreno más propicio para llevar á cabo el programa de reorganización y reconstitución de la Oficina.

LA ORGANIZACIÓN SINGULAR DE LA OFICINA INTERNACIONAL.

En verdad, la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas es única en su género, no habiendo otra igual á ella en el mundo. Es la oficina central, en la capital de una nación americana, de las veintiuna Repúblicas del hemisferio occidental. Su Director es el único funcionario internacional de la América elegido por votación de todos los Gobiernos americanos.

La Oficina no está en sentido alguno subordinada á un Departamento ó Secretaría de los Estados Unidos como lo están las demás oficinas de Wáshington. Es absolutamente independiente, y su jefe es responsable á los veintidós Representantes Diplomáticos de los Gobiernos americanos quienes forman el Consejo Directivo que rige las funciones de la institución. El presidente del consejo es el Secretario de Estado de los Estados Unidos, por el hecho de que la Oficina se halla en Wáshington y de que sus relaciones con el Gobierno de los Estados Unidos se tramitan por el Departamento de Estado.

Las veintiuna Repúblicas que forman la Unión contribuyen, en proporción con sus poblaciones respectivas, al sostenimiento de la institución. Por más que los Estados Unidos pagan, como es consiguiente, más que las otras veinte Repúblicas combinadas, el Ministro de la nación más pequeña en población tiene un voto en el Consejo Directivo igual al del Secretario de Estado de los Estados Unidos. Esta circunstancia de interés y de autoridad iguales y mutuos mantiene el interés de toda la América Latina por el trabajo y el adelanto de la Oficina. El diplomático, el comerciante ó el viajero de la América Central ó de países tan lejanos como la Argentina ó Chile, que viene á la Oficina ó que la escribe en demanda de información tiene tanto derecho como el que está en los Estados Unidos.

Del total de 12,000,000 de millas cuadradas que abarcan los países americanos, los de la América Latina ocupan aproximadamente 9,000,000, contra 3,000,000 de los Estados Unidos propiamente dichos. El territorio del Brasil solamente es mayor que el de los Estados Unidos por unas 200,000 millas. Todos los Estados Unidos,

sin incluir Alaska, podrían ser puestos dentro del Brasil dejando todavía sitio para la mayor parte del Imperio Alemán. De los 150,000,000 de habitantes que viven en las Repúblicas Americanas, 65,000,000 residen en los países latinoamericanos—número que en verdad es más que suficiente para que esas naciones sean dignas de nuestra estudio y de nuestra sincera amistad. Ese número de millones puede también comprar una cantidad considerable de productos de otros países, como las cifras que se dan más adelante lo demostrarán.

El comercio exterior total (exportaciones é importaciones) de las veintina Repúblicas Americanas, incluyendo los Estados Unidos, excedió el año pasado de \$5,000,000,000. De esta enorme suma, la América Latina—con demasiada frecuencia despreciada por nuestros comerciantes—compró y vendió productos avañados en la considerable cantidad de más de \$2,000,000,000; es decir, más de una tercera parte del total general. Que nosotros tenemos nuestra participación en el comercio exterior de la América Latina está probado al verse que nuestra proporción en estos dos mil millones fué de \$600,000,000.

Estas cifras sugieren inmediatamente al lector, sea comerciante ó fabricante, la siguiente pregunta: “¿Tengo yo participación en esta suma?” Si la respuesta es negativa, debe dirigirse á la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas para averiguar el por qué y la manera cómo podría adquirir la participación que desea.

EL PERSONAL Y LA ORGANIZACIÓN DE LA OFICINA.

La información que se solicita de la Oficina es compilada y preparada por su personal, compuesto de unas veinticinco personas, y dividido en secciones—administrativa, editorial, de traducciones, de compilación y de servicio. Por lo que respecta al comerciante, la Oficina está dispuesta á ayudarle facilitándole datos y consejos acerca de cualquier punto relativo al comercio americano.

Para dar toda clase de información, dentro de su esfera de acción, la Oficina Internacional depende (1) de su biblioteca, conocida por Biblioteca de Colón, consistente de 12,000 volúmenes, que abarca todas las naciones americanas y que cuenta con la mejor colección individual de obras americanas en los Estados Unidos; (2) de los informes oficiales de los Gobiernos americanos que se la envían de conformidad con la resolución de la Tercera Conferencia Panamericana; (3) de las gacetas oficiales, periódicos particulares, revistas comerciales y otras publicaciones de las distintas capitales; (4) de los informes de los funcionarios consulares americanos que se reciben en forma de duplicados de los originales que envían al Departamento de Estado; (5) de los manuales y folletos que se preparan cuidadosamente de vez en cuando, en los que se describen las riquezas, progreso, condiciones y desarrollo de los diferentes países de la Unión, y

(6) de los mapas y otros datos geográficos preparados por personas y agencias particulares.

Todo este material está minuciosamente clasificado y puede ser consultado sin demora. Toda persona de responsabilidad tiene acceso á la biblioteca desde las 9.30 de la mañana hasta las 4 de la tarde de cada día, y los que están debidamente recomendados pueden llevarse libros por un corto espacio de tiempo. Si un comerciante, viajero ó estudiante dirige á la Oficina una pregunta, sus empleados competentes obtienen de las fuentes arriba descritas los datos necesarios para la respuesta. Si esas personas visitan personalmente á la Oficina, se les pone á su disposición el empleado que mejor puede ayudarles, y se les facilitan los libros, folletos, informes, mapas y otros documentos que desearan consultar.

LOS RESULTADOS PRACTICOS QUE OBTIENE LA OFICINA.

Uno ó dos ejemplos servirán para demostrar al comerciante cómo opera la maquinaria de la Oficina por sus intereses. Un fabricante de automóviles escribe, ó visita á la Oficina, diciendo que no conoce nada relativo al mercado latinoamericano, pero que desea introducir sus productos en él para lo cual desea obtener datos sobre el mismo. El Director ó el Secretario acusan inmediatamente recibo de su carta dándole amplia información y mandándole folletos que describen las condiciones generales del mercado latinoamericano con el fin de que pueda obtener la información preliminar sobre el asunto. Después, uno de los peritos estadistas ó mercantiles de la Oficina prepara un memorandum que demuestra las importaciones de automóviles en la América Latina, los países de donde originaron, las condiciones de la demanda y competencia, la calidad de los caminos y calles, precios de flete, facilidades de transporte, derechos arancelarios ó de aduanas, métodos de pago y otros datos prácticos que pudieran ser útiles y de provecho.

Otro ejemplo: Un viajero que nunca ha estado en la América Latina desea datos sobre ella; pues, inmediatamente se le facilitan manuales y un memorandum sobre las líneas de navegación y ferrocarril, el costo del viaje, los hoteles, los principales, puntos de interés la clase de moneda en circulación, la clase de ropa que requiere el clima y el tiempo que se emplea en hacer el viaje. El catedrático, el estudiante, el conferenciante, el escritor, todos buscan las mejores fuentes de información sobre la América Latina. Para este objeto la Oficina les facilita una lista de los libros que deben leer y de los mapas que deben consultar, con los nombres de los editores y de los autores.

Y así, sucesivamente, podría ir citando ejemplos de las continuas y crecientes pruebas del buen trabajo que la Oficina está llevando á cabo, no sólo en asuntos materiales, comerciales y económicos, sino también en materias docentes, sociales é intelectuales. Tal vez será

bastante hacer constar en este punto que la correspondencia de la Oficina ha cuadruplicado durante los últimos ocho meses y que la demanda de sus publicaciones ha aumentado en proporción. El promedio de la correspondencia de la Oficina es de 2,000 cartas al mes, recibidas y contestadas, juntamente con 15,000 boletines, manuales, folletos y circulares que se distribuyen durante el mismo período.

El medio de comunicación más importante entre la Oficina y los grandes intereses comerciales de Pan-América es su BOLETÍN MENSUAL, publicado en forma de revista y que ve la luz al final de cada mes. Contiene los datos oficiales más recientes de todas las Repúblicas Americanas, tales como importaciones y exportaciones, modificaciones arancelarias, condiciones comerciales, mejoras y obras públicas, oportunidades industriales, nuevas leyes sobre comercio, inmigración, minería, etc., concesiones mineras é información variada. Cualquier persona ó compañía puede hacer que su nombre se inscriba en la lista de los que reciben gratis este BOLETÍN, siempre que esté recomendada por un Senador ó un Representante de los Estados Unidos, ó, si el solicitante es extranjero, por el representante diplomático de su país en Washington. Ha sido necesario establecer esta regla porque (1) la demanda es mayor que la existencia, (2) las cantidades asignadas por los Estados Unidos y los otros Gobiernos eran insuficientes, y (3) por la razón de que la distribución gratis depende de dichas asignaciones. Por otro lado, todos los que desearan recibir el BOLETÍN sin tener que pedirlo por medio de un Senador, Representante, ó funcionario diplomático, pueden pasar por alto ese requisito pagando la suscripción anual de \$2 en las Repúblicas Americanas, ó de \$2.50 en otros países.

Además del BOLETÍN MENSUAL, la Oficina tiene en venta muchos manuales, libros y folletos de gran utilidad, así como también varias publicaciones cuya distribución es gratuita. Hay una lista de todas esas publicaciones que se enviará inmediatamente á las personas que la pidan.

En conclusión, apuntaré brevemente, para conocimiento de los comerciantes, varios hechos dignos de nota:

I. Durante los últimos ocho meses, más de cien fabricantes, exportadores é importadores han decidido, gracias á los consejos de la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas, entrar en el mercado latinoamericano, aparte de otros muchos de cuyos nombres no tenemos relación disponible.

II. Recíprocamente, un gran número de comerciantes latinoamericanos, que antes no conocían nada de las oportunidades que existen en este país, han entablado relaciones con los Estados Unidos.

III. El número de norteamericanos que visitan la América Latina y el de latinoamericanos que vienen á la América del Norte han sido considerablemente aumentados por la Oficina.

IV. En varios centros docentes de la América del Norte, que antes dedicaban poca atención á estas materias, se ha establecido el estudio de la lengua española y de historia, progreso y condiciones actuales de la América Latina, en tanto que el número de jóvenes latinoamericanos que vienen á los colegios de los Estados Unidos ha aumentado notablemente.

V. Á iniciativa de la oficina y con su cooperación, varias cámaras y juntas de comercio, y clubs y círculos sociales y literarios han dado los pasos necesarios para dar á conocer á sus socios la América Latina, como hacían antes con respecto á Europa y Asia.

VI. El espíritu de amistad internacional y de confianza mutua entre las Repúblicas Americanas ha sido fomentado por las relaciones más estrechas que la Oficina ha procurado como institución sostenida por todas ellas, por cuyo adelanto todas tienen igual interés y responsabilidad. La Oficina está encomendada, no solamente con la misión de recabar la aprobación de las resoluciones de la última Conferencia Panamericana, sino también con la preparación del programa de la que se reunirá dentro de tres años.

VII. Como Director, ó funcionario administrativo en jefe de la Oficina, puedo decir con verdad que, si bien adolece de muchos defectos, y sólo acaba de empezarse el trabajo de reconstituirla, está siempre dispuesta á facilitar toda información y todo el auxilio que pueda para el fomento del comercio, de la buena inteligencia, y del intercambio panamericanos, esperando que los lectores de "System" se aprovecharán de las facilidades que ofrece.

EL CONSEJO DIRECTIVO DE LA OFICINA INTERNACIONAL DE LAS REPÚBLICAS AMERICANAS.

La Unión Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas, de la cual es órgano oficial la Oficina Internacional, es una institución de tal naturaleza, de miras tan elevadas y de tan amplio radio de acción, que no podría existir sino bajo la dirección y administración de un consejo de gobierno compuesto de representantes genuinos de un noble ideal, de una fuerza moral que tiende á fomentar los lazos materiales y de simpatía que deben unir por fuerza á las naciones del hemisferio americano.

La institución que hoy se conoce con el nombre de Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas, es el resultado directo y palpable del Primer Congreso Panamericano que se reunió en Washington de octubre de 1889 á abril de 1890, y que creó el día 29 de marzo de 1890 una "Oficina Comercial de las Repúblicas Americanas" por el voto unánime de los delegados de los dieciocho países de América que concurrieron á la invitación de los Estados Unidos.

Los países representados en esta Primera Conferencia Panamericana fueron los siguientes: Argentina, Bolivia, Brasil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Estados Unidos, Guatemala, Haití, Honduras, México, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Perú, Salvador, Uruguay y Venezuela. Cuando se creó la Oficina se la colocó bajo la vigilancia del Secretario de Estado de los Estados Unidos, á quien se le pidió que tomara á su cargo la organización de dicha agencia, para el mantenimiento de la cual contribuyen cierta suma anual todos los países de la Unión Panamericana, en proporción á la población de cada uno. De acuerdo con la resolución respectiva, la Oficina se estableció bajo la dirección del Departamento de Estado el día 26 de agosto de 1890.

El día 1º de abril de 1896 se reunieron otra vez en Washington, á invitación del Secretario de Estado, los representantes de los países de la Unión Internacional, con el objeto de reorganizar la Oficina. Obedeciendo á este plan se creó una Comisión Ejecutiva compuesta de cinco miembros, de la cual el Secretario de Estado de los Estados Unidos era presidente nato, y desde entonces se dió á esta agencia panamericana el nombre de "Oficina de las Repúblicas Americanas."

La creciente institución, representante en Washington del primer movimiento concertado á favor de una nueva política comercial, fué reorganizada otra vez en 1899 por los miembros del Cuerpo Diplomático latinoamericano y el Secretario de Estado de los Estados Unidos, dictándose entonces nuevas reglas para su administración, bajo las cuales continuó prosperando y haciéndose cada vez más útil la Oficina.

La Segunda Conferencia Panamericana que se reunió en la ciudad de México en 1901-2, se ocupó de reorganizar de nuevo la Oficina que se llama desde entonces "Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas." El nuevo plan hizo más extensa su esfera de acción, y creó el Consejo Directivo, compuesto de los representantes diplomáticos de todos los Gobiernos de la Unión acreditados cerca del Gobierno de los Estados Unidos, teniendo siempre por presidente nato al Secretario de Estado de dicho país.

Otros reglamentos, dictados de acuerdo con la importancia que cada vez iba adquiriendo la Oficina, fueron aprobados en 1902, y en 1906, este último por la Tercera Conferencia Internacional Americana que se celebró en Río Janeiro. Esta última reorganización aumenta grandemente el trabajo de la Oficina, le impone nuevos deberes, le abre nuevos campos de actividad, y por último le da nueva vida, nuevas fuerzas para atender al creciente desarrollo de las relaciones comerciales y de simpatía que hoy existen entre las naciones que componen la Unión Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas. La resolución respectiva de la Tercera Conferencia determina los deberes del Consejo Directivo, que son entre otros el de celebrar una sesión ordinaria el primer miércoles de cada mes,

excepto junio, julio y agosto, pudiéndose reunir en sesión extraordinaria á iniciativa del presidente del Consejo, ó á petición de dos miembros. Para que haya quorum es necesaria la asistencia de cinco miembros. En ausencia del Secretario de Estado presidirá las sesiones el que desempeñe el cargo interinamente, y á falta de éste el miembro más antiguo del Cuerpo Diplomático latinoamericano.

También se dispone que se nombre una Comisión de Vigilancia compuesta de cuatro miembros del Consejo y presidida por el presidente de dicho cuerpo, escogiendo por la suerte el orden en que han de servir. Hoy la Comisión de Vigilancia se compone de los Ministros del Ecuador, Panamá, Perú y Bolivia, habiendo ya expirado el año que correspondía al Ministro de Haití. Los otros miembros del Consejo servirán en la Comisión de Vigilancia en el orden siguiente: Costa Rica, Brasil, Honduras, Cuba, Guatemala, República Dominicana, Nicaragua, Venezuela, Paraguay, Colombia, Chile, México, Salvador, Uruguay y la República Argentina.

Aun cuando el nuevo reglamento determina el tiempo que debe servir cada uno de los miembros de la Comisión de Vigilancia, se ha pensado hacer una modificación, por juzgarlo así más conveniente el Consejo. La materia se ha sometido á una comisión que todavía no ha informado. La Comisión de Vigilancia debe reunirse en sesión ordinaria una vez por mes, siendo tres el número necesario para que haya quorum. Los deberes de esta comisión, como su nombre lo indica, son de vigilar por la buena marcha de la Oficina, informando al Consejo del resultado de sus gestiones, y recomendando las modificaciones ó mejoras que se puedan hacer en beneficio de la institución. La administración y dirección inmediata de la Oficina está á cargo de un Director, que nombra el Consejo Directivo. El Secretario del Consejo lo es también de la Oficina.

Esta participación constante y activa de los representantes diplomáticos de los países de la Unión en la dirección y gobierno de la Oficina, es lo que le da el carácter estrictamente internacional que la distingue, porque todas las Repúblicas de la Unión, sea cual fuese su extensión territorial ó su población tienen los mismos derechos, los mismos deberes que desempeñar y la misma participación en el éxito que pueda alcanzar la Oficina Internacional, que es el agente oficial de propaganda de todas y cada una de las naciones libres de América.

Nada demuestra la importancia que, desde el punto de vista comercial, político y social, ha adquirido el mundo panamericano, como los nuevos deberes que le han sido impuestos á la Oficina. Desde el día en que se reunió la Primera Conferencia Internacional Americana en Wáshington, hasta éste en que con solemnes ceremonias se coloca la piedra angular del Templo Panamericano de la Paz, en presencia de los más altos dignatarios de los Estados Unidos y de

la América latina, el hemisferio occidental ha adelantado á pasos de gigante hacia la meta que desde su principio ha tratado de alcanzar la Unión Internacional, es decir, á estrechar las relaciones de los países de la América entera, á unificar sus esfuerzos por alcanzar el más alto grado de progreso, latente en todos, y por último á fijar sobre bases sólidas el credo político del cual es apóstol esforzado el Presidente del Consejo Directivo, la noble doctrina de la mejor inteligencia.

Por la primera vez en la historia de esta institución, el BOLETÍN MENSUAL, que es el órgano reconocido de la Unión, publica un cuadro del Consejo Directivo y de los funcionarios principales de la Oficina. Esto obedece al doble propósito de conmemorar de manera apropiada el acto importante de la colocación de la piedra angular del nuevo local de la Oficina, así como de hacer conocidos de los lectores del BOLETÍN en este país, en Europa y en Latino-América á los hombres que representan en Wáshington los países de la Unión Internacional.

Exceptuando al Paraguay, que en estos momentos no tiene representante diplomático en Wáshington, todos los países que asistieron á la Primera Conferencia, la República Dominicana, que se adhirió después y las jóvenes Repúblicas de Cuba y Panamá que luego entraron á formar parte de la Unión, están todas representadas en el Consejo Directivo de la Oficina.

Ya se ha dicho que el Presidente del Consejo Directivo es el Secretario de Estado de los Estados Unidos. Aun cuando el nombre del que hoy ocupa tan elevada posición es perfectamente bien conocido en todos los países de la Unión, que le han dado la más espléndida bienvenida que jamás recibiera hombre público alguno, es siempre un grato deber consignar aquí el nombre de ELIHU ROOT, Presidente del Consejo Directivo y amigo verdadero de la Unión Internacional. La carrera pública de este alto personaje ha sido notabilísima y llena de servicios meritorios. Durante su vida ha tenido cargos de la mayor responsabilidad, en el desempeño de los cuales ha alcanzado un éxito brillante, no tan sólo por los frutos de su erudición, sino por su juicio sereno y recto, y la facultad asombrosa que posee de dominar las situaciones más difíciles y los problemas más arduos. Desde el año de 1867, cuando se graduó en la Universidad de Nueva York, ha recibido el grado de doctor en leyes en seis de las universidades de los Estados Unidos, así como en la de Buenos Aires y en la de San Marcos de Lima, en 1906, durante el viaje memorable que hizo en la época en que estaba reunida en Rio Janeiro la Tercera Conferencia Internacional. Durante la administración de MCKINLEY el Señor ROOT desempeñó la cartera de la Guerra y ha venido desempeñando la de Relaciones Exteriores ó Secretaría de Estado, desde el 1º de julio de 1905.

Sigue en orden gerárquico, por tener el rango de Embajada, la del Brasil que representa uno de los diplomáticos y hombres de letras más notables que ha producido el país. El Señor JOAQUIM NABUCCO, Embajador del Brasil, se distinguió desde muy joven en el Parlamento Brasileño, en tiempo del Imperio, defendiendo con calor y con éxito la abolición de la esclavitud. Los servicios que en la vida pública ha prestado á su patria el Señor NABUCCO, ya como diplomático, ya como hombre de estado, son de tal importancia que el Brasil ha querido premiarle escogiéndole para encomendarle la primera Embajada que creó el país. El Señor NABUCCO fué vice-presidente de la Comisión de Reglamento para la Tercera Conferencia, y luego presidente de dicha conferencia. Como escritor, las obras del Señor NABUCCO son recibidas con grande aplauso por los hombres de letras, á causa de la versatilidad del autor y de sus concepciones altamente filosóficas.

México está también representado en el Consejo Directivo por un Embajador, el Señor Don ENRIQUE C. CREEL, hoy ausente de Washington. El Señor CREEL se halla actualmente en Chihuahua, donde desempeña la Gobernación del Estado. Su carrera pública ha sido tan variada como distinguida, ya en el Congreso, ya como autoridad en cuestiones económicas y financieras, al grado que se le cuenta entre los estadistas más notables de México. El Embajador CREEL ha demostrado su espíritu de anchas miras y generosos ideales para la hermandad de las Repúblicas Americanas como fundador de la asociación llamada "Fraternidad Centro-Americana," destinada al fomento de la paz, el progreso y el bienestar de la América Central, particularmente, y en términos generales de todo el continente latinoamericano.

En ausencia del Embajador CREEL, está al frente de la Embajada con el cargo de Encargado de Negocios interino el Señor Don JOSÉ F. GODOY, Ministro de México acreditado en Cuba. Los servicios que ha prestado á su patria el Señor GODOY, ya en la carrera consular como en la diplomática, han sido tan largos cómo valiosos, no solamente en Cuba sino en los Estados Unidos y en Centro América. El Señor GODOY como abogado ha hecho un estudio especial del derecho internacional, y se ha distinguido además por sus conocimientos literarios. Fué Secretario del Segundo Congreso Panamericano que se reunió en la ciudad de México en 1901.

Los otros países de la Unión Internacional están representados en Washington por legaciones. Corresponde el primer puesto, en el orden alfabético, á la Argentina, que se halla representada por el Señor Don EPIFANIO PORTELA, hombre de estado que ha servido á su país como diplomático en Europa y Sud América, antes de venir á los Estados Unidos, en el Congreso Federal por seis años y en el desempeño de muchos puestos públicos. El Señor PORTELA se ha distin-

guido también como escritor público, habiendo redactado varios de los periódicos más importantes de Buenos Aires. Fué miembro de la Comisión de Programa de la Tercera Conferencia, delegado de la Argentina á dicho Congreso Panamericano, y también formó parte de la Comisión encargada de la reorganización de la Oficina en Río Janeiro.

Es el representante de Bolivia el Señor DON IGNACIO CALDERÓN, que hace algunos años está acreditado ante el Gobierno de los Estados Unidos. El Señor CALDERÓN ha servido á su país animado siempre del más noble celo patriótico, distinguiéndose como partidario entusiasta de la instrucción pública, así como en la carrera consular y diplomática. El Señor CALDERÓN es considerado una de las autoridades más notables de Bolivia en materias económicas, habiendo desempeñado entre otros cargos de importancia la Cartera de Hacienda. El Señor CALDERÓN ha demostrado siempre el mayor interés en todo lo que se relaciona con la Oficina, fué miembro de la Comisión de Reglamento de la Tercera Conferencia, y en la actualidad lo es de la Comisión de Vigilancia.

Representa á Chile en el Consejo Directivo el Señor DON ANIBAL CRUZ, abogado eminente y autoridad reconocida en derecho de gentes. El Señor CRUZ ha prestado importantísimos servicios á Chile en el desempeño de los varios puestos públicos que le han sido encomendados. No es un desconocido en Washington, pues antes había representado aquí á su país ya como Secretario de Legación, Encargado de Negocios y como comisionado de Chile en la Comisión de Reclamaciones Chileno-Americana, en la cual lució sus dotes de abogado internacional. El Señor CRUZ ha sido profesor de Derecho Administrativo en la Universidad de Santiago, Ministro de la Guerra, y ha servido también en los congresos de su patria.

Es el representante de Colombia el Señor DON ENRIQUE CORTÉS, diplomático y hombre de letras de reconocida fama. No son pocos los servicios que ha prestado á su país, ya como Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores, ya como Inspector de Instrucción Pública. Puede decirse que fué el fundador del ramo de instrucción, ó por lo menos que lo levantó á una altura notable. Sus esfuerzos en pró de la instrucción le indujeron á llevar al país profesores extranjeros para fomentar así tan importante ramo de la administración. Hace muchos años que el Señor CORTÉS comenzó su carrera diplomática en Washington.

Costa Rica está representada por el Señor DON JOAQUÍN BERNARDO CALVO, amigo constante y fiel de la Oficina de las Repúblicas Americanas, desde que la creó el Primer Congreso Panamericano, en el cual tomó parte el Señor CALVO como secretario de la delegación de Costa Rica. En la Segunda Conferencia Internacional representó á Costa Rica y en su calidad de delegado fué uno de los miembros de la

Comisión encargada de reorganizar la Oficina. Más luego sirvió en la Comisión de Programa para la Tercera Conferencia de Río de Janeiro. El Señor CALVO ha prestado muchos é importantes servicios, ya como diplomático y como escritor público, no sólo á su país sino á los intereses de la Unión y del progreso panamericanos.

Sigue en orden Cuba, representada por el Señor DON GONZALO DE QUESADA, diplomático, orador y escritor de fama. El Señor QUESADA también viene identificado con el movimiento panamericano, desde el Primer Congreso Internacional, en el cual sirvió como secretario del Doctor SÁEZ PEÑA, uno de los delegados de la República Argentina. Fué secretario de la Comisión de Programa para la Tercera Conferencia, delegado de Cuba á la misma, y presidente de la Comisión de Reorganización de la Oficina, por la cual ha demostrado siempre el mayor interés y buena voluntad. El Señor QUESADA ha prestado á su país importantísimos servicios, en el desempeño de cargos de responsabilidad, entre otros la representación en el Congreso de Paz de la Haya.

La República del Ecuador tiene por representante al Señor DON LUÍS FELIPE CARBO, uno de los hombres de estado más notables de su país y de sus más distinguidos escritores públicos. El Señor CARBO ha desempeñado cargos de la mayor importancia, no sólo en el Ecuador sino en el extranjero, ya como diplomático, ya otros de alta significación política, tales como las carteras de Relaciones Exteriores, del Interior, de Instrucción Pública y de Justicia y como Senador. También representó el Señor CARBO al Ecuador en la Segunda Conferencia Panamericana de México, ha demostrado siempre el mayor interés por el progreso de la Unión y es hoy uno de los miembros de la Comisión de Vigilancia.

El Ministro de Guatemala acreditado en Wáshington, Doctor LUIS TOLEDO HERRARTE, se halla ausente actualmente en su país, ocupando su lugar en el Consejo Directivo el Doctor RAMÓN BENGOCHEA, Consul General de Guatemala en Nueva York, y Encargado de Negocios interinamente. El Doctor TOLEDO HERRARTE es un escritor notable, particularmente de materias científicas. Comenzó su carrera diplomática en Madrid y después de haber asistido al Tercer Congreso Panamericano de Río en calidad de Secretario de la Delegación de Guatemala, fué nombrado Ministro en Wáshington, habiendo demostrado siempre grande interés en todo lo relativo á la Oficina. El Doctor BENGOCHEA es médico de gran fama, y ocupa el grado más alto en el Cuerpo de Sanidad Militar. Después de haber desempeñado en su país puestos de la mayor importancia y de influencia política, fué nombrado Cónsul General en Nueva York, y por dos veces ha sido Encargado de Negocios en Wáshington.

Representa á la República de Haití en el Consejo Directivo el Señor DON J. N. LÉGER, que es el representante más antiguo de la

América Latina en Washington. El Señor LÉGER es abogado de fama merecida y un notable escritor en materias de jurisprudencia y de historia. Ha desempeñado en su país y en el extranjero puestos de la mayor importancia, entre otros el de Subsecretario de Relaciones Exteriores, Presidente de la Comisión de Relaciones Exteriores y miembro de la Cámara de Representantes. Comenzó su carrera diplomática en París, y desde 1896 está acreditado á Washington. El Señor LÉGER fué el delegado de Haití al Segundo Congreso Panamericano, y Vicepresidente de la Comisión de Reglamento para la Tercera Conferencia. El Señor LÉGER ha demostrado invariablemente el mayor interés por la Oficina, por los cuales ha velado siempre.

Honduras está representada en el Consejo Directivo por el Doctor Don ÁNGEL UGARTE, uno de los abogados y diplomáticos más notables de su país. El Doctor UGARTE es hombre de letras, y se le considera como uno de los mejores oradores de Honduras y escritor público aventajadísimo. Muchos son los servicios que ha prestado á su patria, ya en el Congreso, ya representándola con carácter diplomático en varios países de Europa y en los Estados Unidos, ó encargado de las más delicadas misiones financieras. El Doctor UGARTE también ha demostrado siempre gran interés por la Oficina.

El Ministro de Nicaragua, Doctor Don LUIS FELIPE COREA, ha probado siempre su verdadera simpatía por la Oficina y el grande interés que le inspira la Unión Internacional, tanto en las reuniones del Consejo Directivo como en la Segunda y Tercera Conferencias Panamericanas, en las cuales representó á Nicaragua con el carácter de delegado. Fué Secretario de la Comisión de Reglamento para la Tercera Conferencia y miembro en ésta de la Comisión de Reorganización de la Oficina. El Doctor COREA es abogado de nota, ha servido á su país con toda contracción y éxito. Como educador, ha desempeñado las cátedras de historia, filosofía y derecho internacional en los principales institutos docentes de Guatemala.

Representa á Panamá en el Consejo el Señor Don J. DOMINGO DE OBALDÍA, hoy ausente en su país, donde ha estado ejerciendo las funciones de Primer Designado. El Señor OBALDÍA ha desempeñado cargos políticos de la mayor importancia. Fué miembro de la comisión nombrada por el Consejo Directivo antes de la Tercera Conferencia con el objeto de presentar un plan para la reorganización de la Oficina, más tarde asistió á dicha Conferencia con el carácter de delegado, y en ella sirvió en la Comisión de Reorganización de la Oficina.

Durante la ausencia del Señor OBALDÍA, el Señor Don JOSÉ AGUSTÍN ARANGO, Ministro de Panamá en Washington, ha venido representando á su patria en el Consejo Directivo. El Señor ARANGO fué uno de los directores del movimiento separatista de Panamá y trabajó con ahínco por su independencia, desempeñando luego las funciones

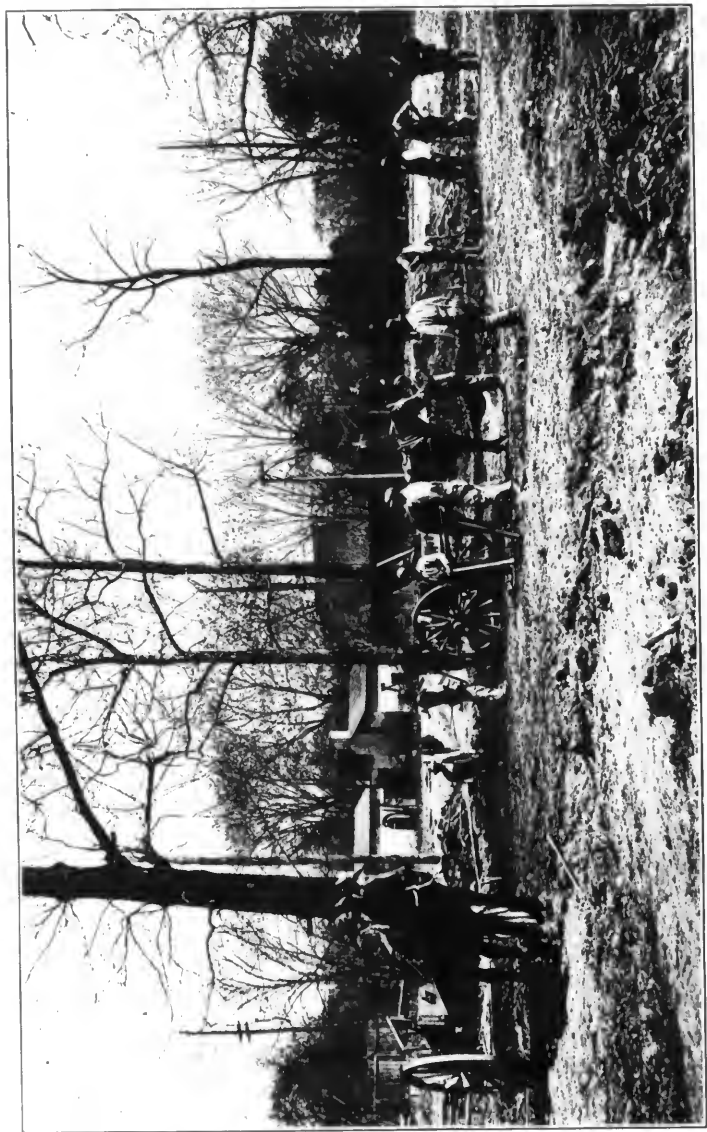
de Presidente de la Junta Provisional de Gobierno de la nueva República. El Señor ARANGO es miembro de la Comisión de Vigilancia.

Representa al Perú en el Consejo el Señor Don FELIPE PARDO, soldado y estadista. Estudió jurisprudencia en la Universidad de San Marcos, y en el servicio activo de su patria alcanzó el grado de teniente de caballería en la guerra con Chile. Es también coronel de la Milicia de Lima. Es el Señor PARDO hombre de erudición, versado especialmente en asuntos económicos, y gran amante del progreso. Siempre ha demostrado el mayor interés por la Unión Internacional y la Oficina. Fué miembro de la Comisión de Reglamento para la Tercera Conferencia, y hoy forma parte de la Comisión de Vigilancia.

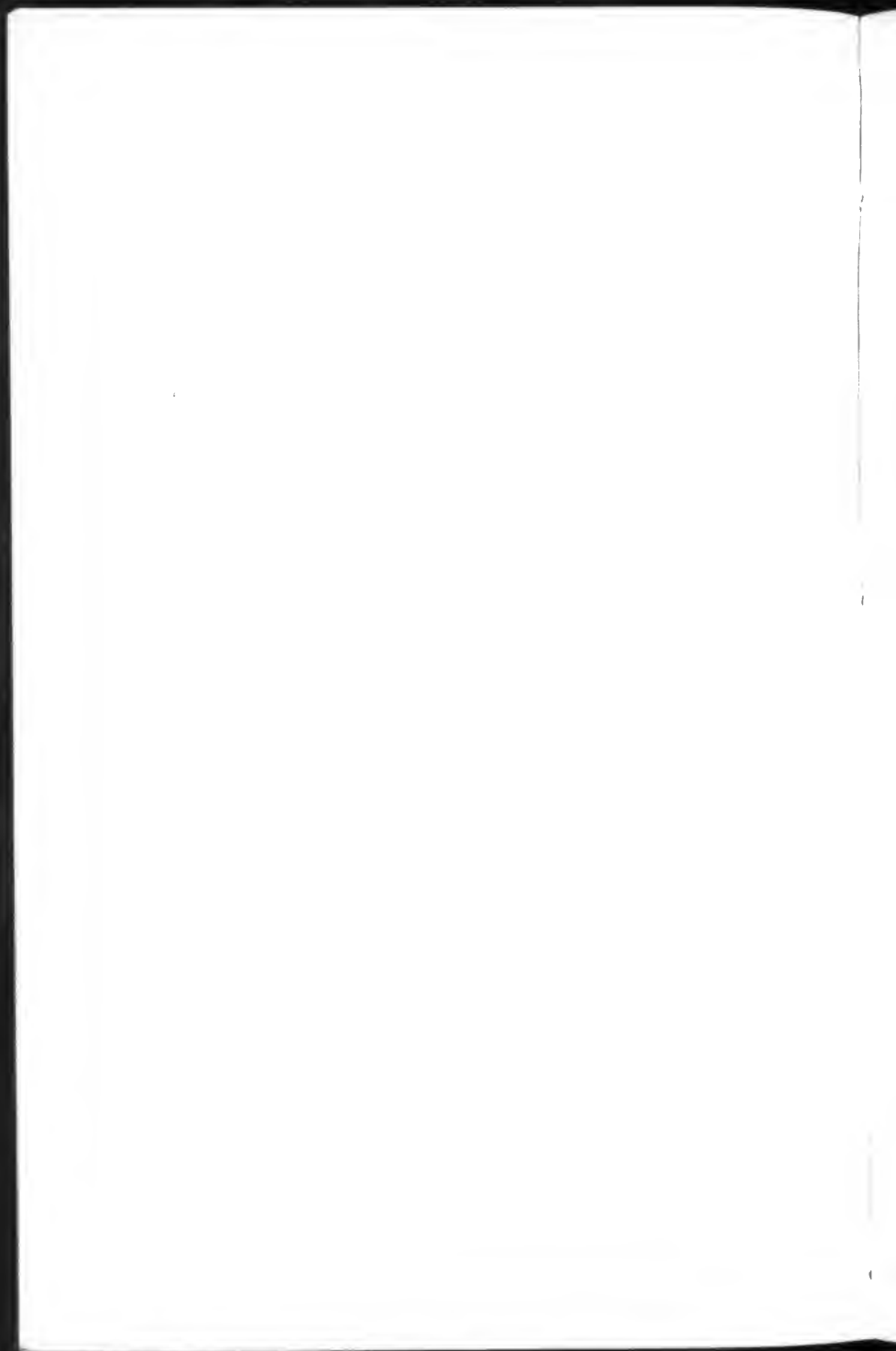
La República Dominicana está representada por el Señor Don EMILIO C. JOUBERT, abogado de reconocidas luces y un servidor abnegado de su país. Varios son los cargos públicos que ha desempeñado el Señor JOUBERT en su patria, entre otros las carteras de Relaciones Exteriores, de Correos y Telégrafos y la de Hacienda. Siempre ha abogado por la instrucción pública tratando de perfeccionarla, así como también de mejorar la agricultura. El Señor JOUBERT fué miembro de la comisión nombrada por el Consejo Directivo antes de la Tercera Conferencia, para informar acerca de la reorganización de la Oficina. Asistió á dicha Conferencia con el carácter de Delegado de la República Dominicana, y como tal sirvió en la Comisión de Reorganización.

El Ministro del Salvador es el Señor Don FEDERICO MEJÍA, que hoy se halla ausente. El Señor MEJÍA ha dedicado su vida y sus esfuerzos al estudio de cuestiones económicas, habiendo desempeñado por varios años la gerencia del Banco Comercial del Salvador. Como político, ha servido con amor á su país, ya en el Congreso, ya como Ministro de Hacienda. El Doctor J. GUSTAVO GUERRERO, Encargado de Negocios interino, representa al Salvador en el Consejo. Es el Doctor GUERRERO abogado de nota, graduado en la Universidad del Salvador, autor de muchos trabajos científicos y literarios, fundador de la Sociedad Jurídica Salvadoreña y redactor del "Foro Salvadoreña," órgano de dicha sociedad. El Doctor GUERRERO ha desempeñado cargos públicos de importancia, tanto en su país como en el extranjero, en la carrera consular.

El Uruguay tiene como representante en el Consejo al Doctor Don LUIS MELIAN LAFINUR, uno de los juriseconsultos y eruditos más notables de su país. El Doctor MELIAN LAFINUR ha servido á su patria como soldado y como hombre de estado. Ha sido también campeón esforzado de la instrucción pública, habiendo desempeñado el cargo de miembro del Consejo Universitario de Montevideo. Es autor de reconocido mérito y conferencista político y literario. Fué uno de los delegados del Uruguay á la Tercera Conferencia, y aun cuando no perteneció á la Comisión de Reorganización de la Oficina, tomó



BREAKING THE GROUND FOR THE NEW BUILDING.
ROTURANDO EL TERRENO PARA EL NUEVO EDIFICIO.



el mayor interés en sus trabajos, á causa de la importancia de esta institución.

El representante de Venezuela, el Doctor RAFAEL GARBIRAS GUZMÁN se encuentra hoy ausente en Caracas, donde desempeña el importante cargo de Secretario General del Presidente de la República. El Doctor GARBIRAS GUZMÁN ha prestado grandes servicios á su país en el desempeño de varios puestos públicos, particularmente la Presidencia del Estado del Tachira, y en la cartera de Fomento y por varios períodos ha desempeñado también el cargo de Senador. El Doctor GARBIRAS GUZMÁN es orador de mérito y grande erudición. El Señor Don NICOLÁS VELOZ GOITICOA, que interinamente ejerce las funciones de Encargado de Negocios y por consiguiente ocupa el lugar del Doctor GARBIRAS GUZMÁN en el Consejo Directivo, ha desempeñado muchos cargos oficiales de importancia en su país, así como en Europa y en los Estados Unidos.

DESCRIPCIÓN DE LA NUEVA OFICINA PAN-AMERICANA.

A fin de demostrar el punto de vista arquitectónico, los Señores Kelsey y Cret, arquitectos del nuevo edificio, han tenido la bondad de preparar el siguiente artículo.

Cuando se publicó el programa del concurso para la construcción del edificio de la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas, la primera dificultad con que tropezaron los numerosos opositores fué la elección de la índole del edificio. En el programa se hizo una minuciosa descripción de todos los salones que se necesitaban, así como de sus dimensiones aproximadas, pero se dejó á juicio de la pericia de los arquitectos el determinar el espíritu que había de guiar el estudio del conjunto.

Había una biblioteca con todas sus dependencias; un gran número de despachos ú oficinas; un salón de recepciones y varios salones para comisiones, pero ¿cuál de ellos debía predominar en todo el conjunto? En la mayor parte de los concursos no hay ninguna duda en cuanto á este fin primordial del nuevo edificio que tanta influencia ejerce en un diseño. Todo el mundo sabe cuál debe ser la apariencia de una oficina de correos, de un museo ó de un edificio de oficinas, pero en el presente caso la dificultad consistía en el hecho de que no había precedentes ni buenos ni malos que pudieran servir de norma ó base para la obtención de las exigencias especiales del caso. Esta incertidumbre era clarividente cuando se sometieron los 70 juegos de dibujos al jurado en Washington, á los cuales se les dieron un sinnúmero de interpretaciones; es decir, desde el templo griego hasta la quinta

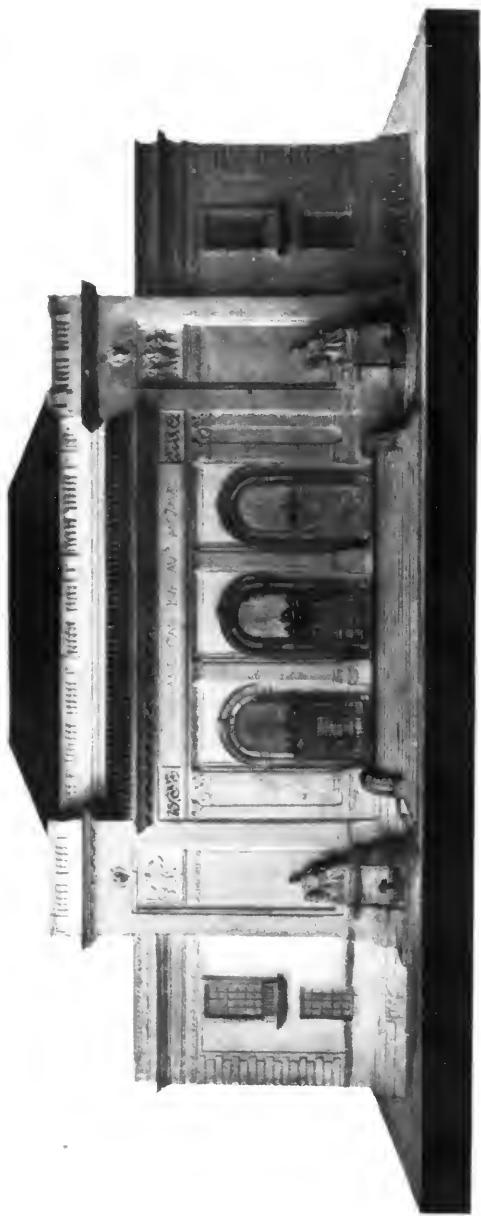
particular, el palacio español y el edificio de oficinas del Gobierno Americano.

El diseño que mereció la aprobación unánime del jurado y que, por consiguiente, fué el que se eligió, y el que pronto se empezará á construir en el sitio escogido, era sin duda el más adecuado, por cuanto ofrecía una solución de este problema enteramente nuevo. La idea predominante que había impreso su sello, por decirlo así, en el diseño, fué la siguiente: Por más que el edificio ha de proporcionar albergue bajo un solo techo á una oficina de gran actividad y á una biblioteca que ha de crecer constantemente, y aunque estas dos partes son casi todas las que se necesitan para hacer los trabajos de la Oficina, tal como lo expresó la Conferencia de Río de Janeiro, á saber: Establecer un centro permanente de información y de intercambio de ideas entre las Repúblicas de este continente, y proveer un local adecuado para la biblioteca en memoria de Colón, hay otra función importante que la Oficina tiene que desempeñar: este edificio será en Wáshington, en el sentido más absoluto de la palabra, el hogar de las Repúblicas Americanas, su verdadero hogar.

Sabido es que cada una de estas Repúblicas tiene su hogar particular—la residencia del Embajador ó del Ministro—pero la Oficina Internacional será el hogar de todas ellas, donde sus representantes podrán reunirse como se reúnen los hijos en el hogar de su padre, para discutir todas las cuestiones que surjan, así como celebrar grandes acontecimientos ó conmemorar fechas gloriosas.

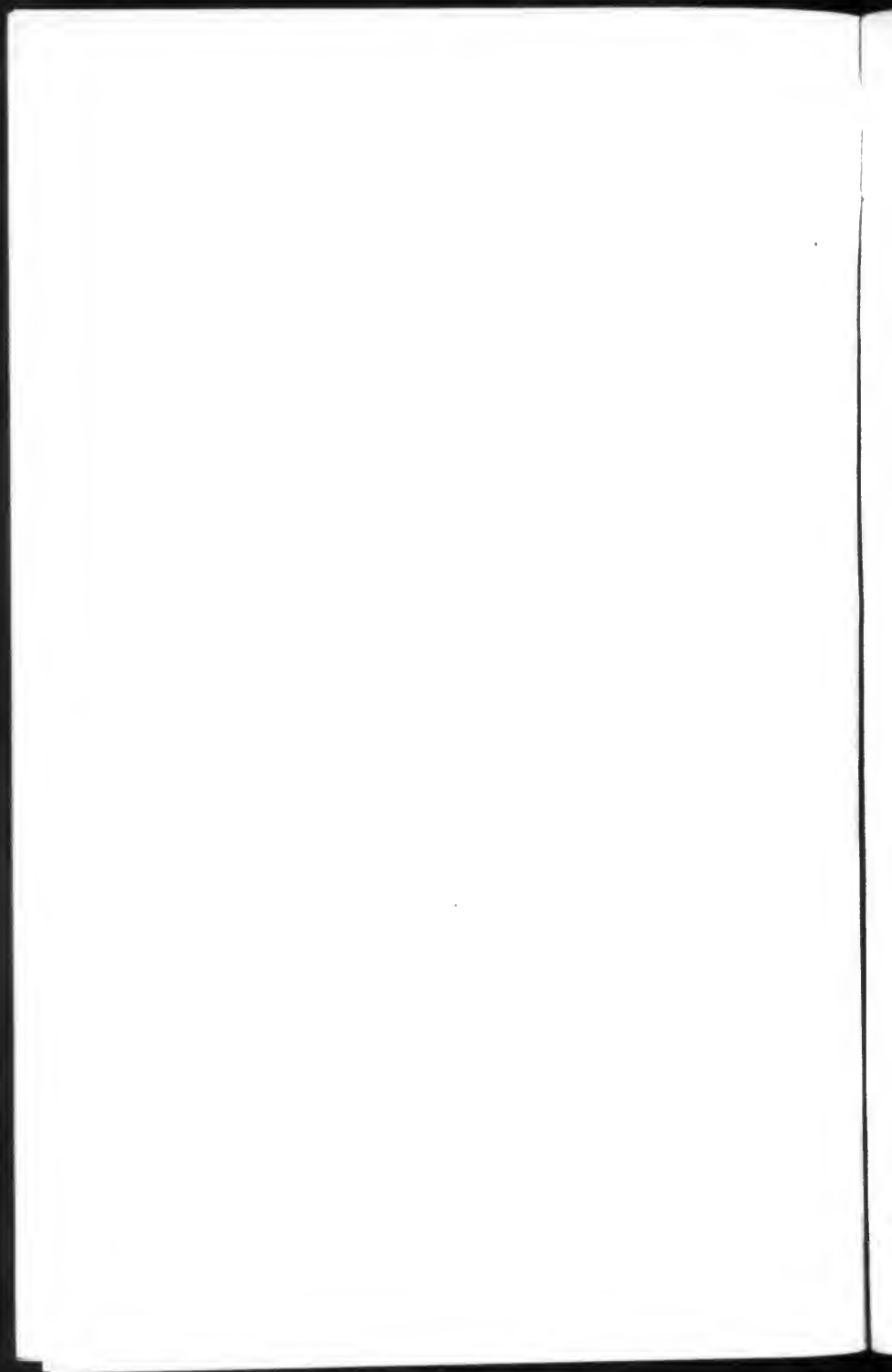
Por consiguiente, el edificio debe asemejarse más al modelo de una residencia particular que al de una oficina pública, por más que debe ser tan serio y majestuoso como el caso lo requiere. El director de la oficina y los arquitectos abrigan la esperanza de que cuando los representantes de los varios países penetren en dicho palacio han de sentir que entran en su propia casa. Esperan, además, que cuando los vestíbulos, escaleras y el Gran Salón de Recepciones, estén iluminados por millares de luces eléctricas, y una brillante concurrencia acuda á sus salones para rendir homenaje á un visitante distinguido, en el ánimo de los representantes de veintiuna Repúblicas se produzca la impresión de que reciben sus huéspedes en su propia casa, y no en un salón de reunión común.

En conformidad con los principios expuestos, la parte exterior conservará el efecto retraído y tranquilo de la morada de un hombre de gusto. La índole monumental de los alrededores, la proximidad á la Alameda y al famoso Monumento de Wáshington, la Casa Blanca, y el Palacio del Departamento de Guerra, también exigen la majestad de líneas que caracterizan las mejores producciones arquitectónicas del período clásico. El material de las dos fachadas se ha escogido teniendo en cuenta estos fines, y sólo se ha de usar mármol blanco en dichas fachadas. El diseño reúne la sencillez



FRONT VIEW OF THE NEW BUILDING OF THE INTERNATIONAL BUREAU, MADE FROM A PHOTOGRAPH OF THE ARCHITECTS' MODEL.

VISTA DE LA FACHADA DEL NUEVO EDIFICIO DE LA OFICINA INTERNACIONAL, DE UNA FOTOGRAFIA TOMADA DEL MODELO DE LOS ARQUITECTOS.



republicana y todos los refinamientos de forma que la raza latina le dió á la arquitectura. El acabamiento decorativo, el esmero en los detalles y algunos rasgos característicos, han de representar el origen de la mayoría de las veintiuna Repúblicas. Las tejas españolas en el pórtico de entrada, los adornos alegóricos, las dos figuras de mármol monumentales dispuestas á la entrada, y el bajo relieve de las torrecillas truncadas, todo ello le dará una idea al transeunte de la originalidad del monumento y le incitará á hacer un examen más detenido.

En el atrio de entrada, el frente se compone de un pórtico entre dos torrecillas truncadas, y tal parece invitar al visitante; ambos lados y la parte posterior muestran respectivamente la obra y los fines recreativos del edificio. Le rodean jardines, y desde el Salón de Reuniones, en la fachada posterior, se extienden dos escaleras que conducen á la azotea que mira al terrado. No se desperdicia ningún costado, y los cuatro que hay están decorados de una manera distinta y son monumentales.

Volviendo á la entrada, coronada con una inscripción en letras de bronce sobre un fondo de mármol de Brèche Violette, contemplamos tres grandes rejas de bronce que dan entrada al vestíbulo principal abovedado y decorado con columnas de mármol antiguo, provistas de casquetes y bases de bronce. Aquí comienzan las dos escaleras y el elevador, y por los tres arcos que corresponden á los de la entrada se obtiene la vista del patio. Tal parece entonces que entra uno en una nueva atmósfera distante de Washington, y que se ha trasladado á uno de esos patios pintorescos del Sur, resguardados del sol por una techumbre y refrescados por las aguas que brotan de una fuente de mármol. En todos los alrededores crecen y se contemplan plantas tropicales: un pavimento antiguo y raro, paredes de estuco blanco, puertas bajas cuyos escudos de ornamentación dan una idea y hacen recordar la dilatada alcurnia de las Repúblicas del Sur. Al principio se hizo objeción á que se colocase un paisaje semejante en una ciudad como Washington, donde el invierno es largo y la nieve suele recordarle á uno que se halla muy lejos del ecuador. Se ha vencido esta oposición colocando un techo deslizante que queda invisible durante la primavera y el estío, y que en el invierno contribuirá á que el patio resulte un jardín invernal delicioso donde siempre habrá una temperatura uniforme. Un mecanismo completamente nuevo permitirá cerrarlo mediante la acción de un motor eléctrico.

La parte superior del patio queda rodeada de una galería que desemboca en las escaleras y en el salón de descanso. Un friso corre por debajo del techo y sirve de apoyo á los escudos y á las planchas que llevan los nombres de las Repúblicas. Por este patio

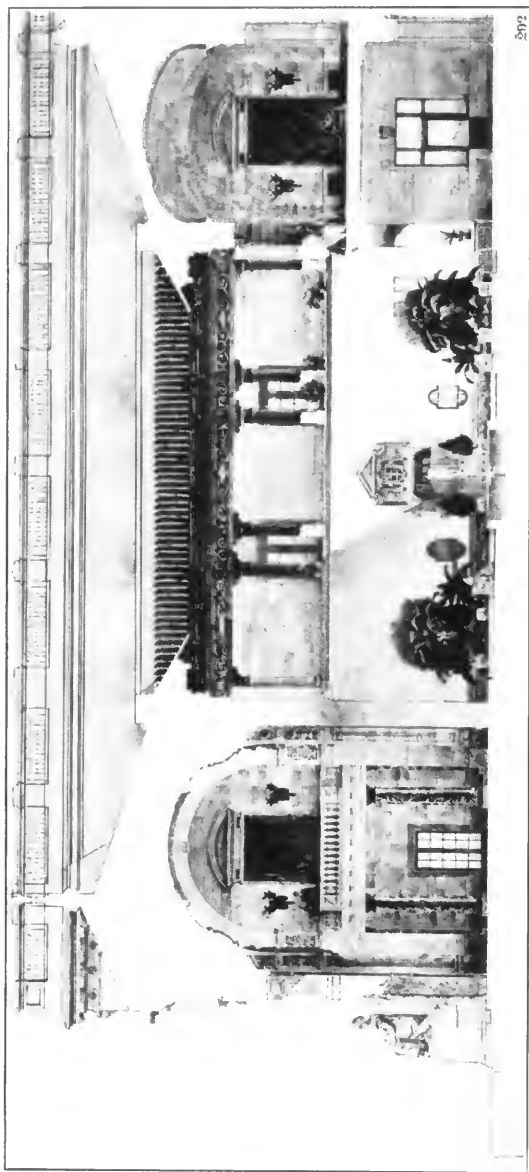
ó por los corredores laterales, puede ir uno á la Biblioteca y á las Oficinas.

En la Biblioteca de Colón se entrará por un salón donde hay guardarropías y una oficina para la entrega de libros para la lectura á domicilio. El salón de lectura principal tiene 100 pies de longitud por 40 de ancho, y está provisto de la luz necesaria que penetra por cinco grandes ventanas que dan al terrado y al jardín que está en la parte posterior del edificio. Dos estudios particulares facilitarán las investigaciones especiales, y habrá una gran bóveda á prueba de fuego, donde podrán guardarse con seguridad los documentos valiosos.

Muy próximos se hallan las Oficinas del Bibliotecario y su personal, que siempre estarán dispuestos á facilitar los informes que el público pida. El amplio salón de estantería tiene espacio suficiente para 120,000 volúmenes, pudiendo extenderse á fin de que sea posible colocar 80,000 volúmenes más. Todas las instalaciones de dicho salón serán de acero, construidas con arreglo á las disposiciones más modernas. Un elevador eléctrico traerá rápidamente los libros de los cinco estantes hasta el nivel del salón de lectura. En dicha biblioteca habrá una gran colección de mapas, impresos, y datos estadísticos, que podrán usarse en seguida. Estas estanterías estarán situadas en el lado del norte del edificio, y en el lado del sur se encontrarán las espaciosas oficinas de los traductores y directores del BOLETÍN MENSUAL, los tenedores de libros, dependientes y taquígrafos. Todas estas oficinas, así como el resto del edificio, se calentarán por medio de un sistema de calefacción de vapor indirecta que en la actualidad se considera el mejor, por cuanto suministra á la vez el calor y la ventilación de todas las partes del edificio. Hay espacio muy amplio para guardar abrigos, etc., en los días de recepciones.

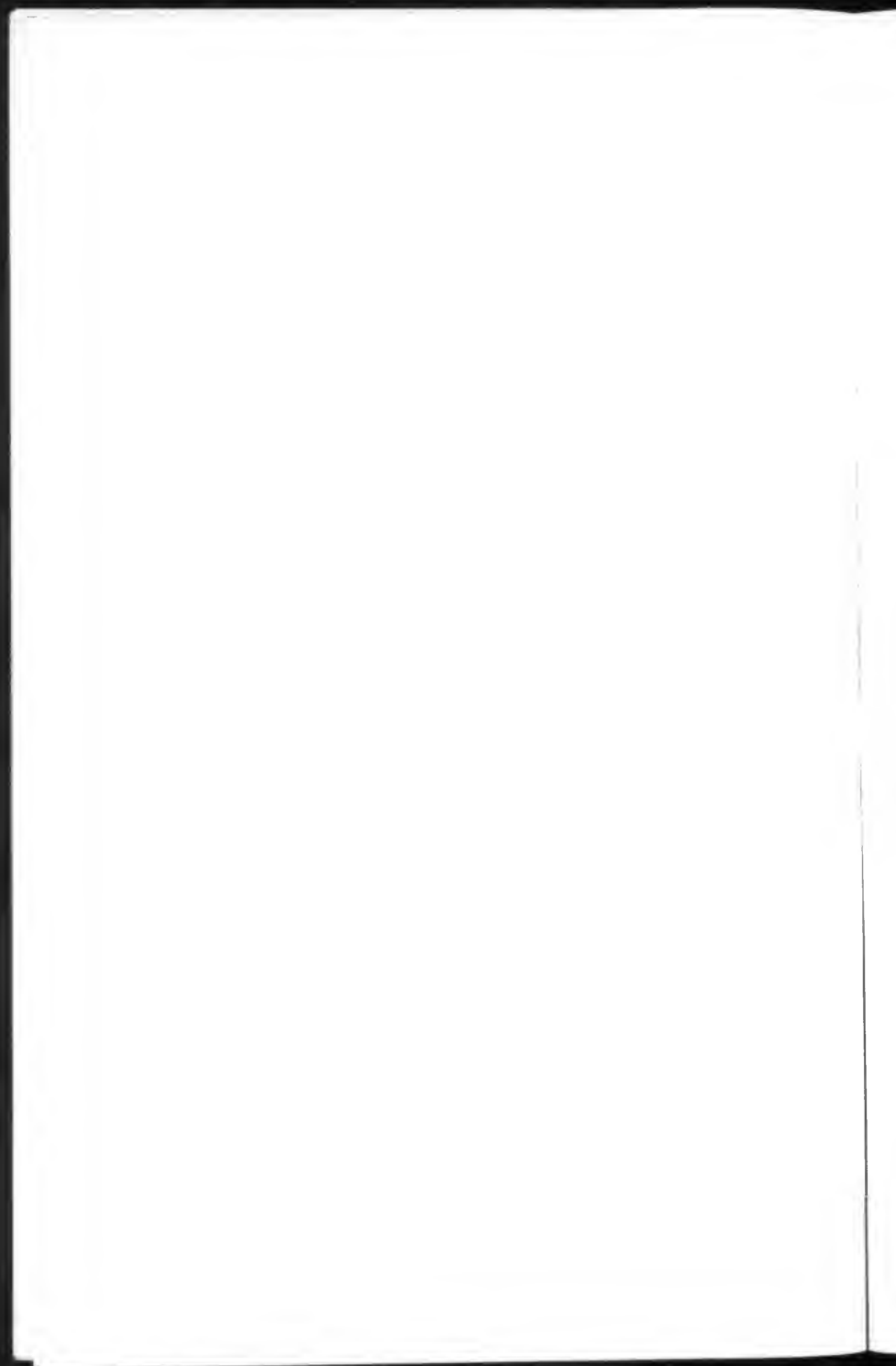
Antes de pasar al segundo piso, cumple describir brevemente el basamento ó sótano. Puede entrarse en él por una escalera desde el primer piso, ó desde la parte exterior, por un paso ó calzada que permite entregar la correspondencia, provisiones, carbón de piedra, etc., sin entrar por la parte pública del edificio. También hay un salón muy espacioso para clasificar y distribuir la correspondencia, y dirigir los boletines que se envían á todas las partes del mundo. Dicho basamento también ha de satisfacer las numerosas necesidades de la sección de servicio, tales como guardarropías para los empleados, habitaciones para los porteros ó conserjes, salón de merienda, almacenes, el cuarto de la caldera, el de las máquinas, combustible, etc.

Desde el vestíbulo de entrada, dos escaleras monumentales conducen en línea recta al segundo piso, lo mismo que las majestuosas escaleras del Palacio Romano del Renacimiento. Los escalones son de mármol de Tennessee, y el cielo raso es de obra de carpintería.



FRONT VIEW OF THE PATIO OR COURTYARD SECTION OF THE NEW BUILDING OF THE INTERNATIONAL BUREAU, MADE FROM THE ARCHITECTS' DRAWINGS.

VISTA DE FRENTE DEL PATIO DEL NUEVO EDIFICIO DE LA OFICINA INTERNACIONAL, TOMADA DE LOS DIBUJOS DE LOS ARQUITECTOS.



Además de estas escaleras hay un elevador. Llegamos al segundo piso del edificio, que es el más importante, el *piano nobile* de los edificios clásicos. El centro lo constituye un salón de descanso en el cual desemboca, por anchas puertas, el Salón de Recepciones y el despacho del Director de la Oficina. El salón de descanso, así como la galería, dan al patio, y á lo largo de las dos grandes escaleras se extienden galerías laterales, proporcionando así, en los días de grandes reuniones, una hermosa vista que se extiende desde el vestíbulo de entrada hasta el Salón de Recepciones. El despacho del Director de la Oficina está en directa comunicación con el Salón del Consejo Directivo, y tendrá decoraciones de obra de madera y mármol facilitados por una de las Repúblicas. Desde el otro lado el Director estará en directa comunicación con su secretario privado y su taquígrafo. El salón de espera ó antesala lo usarán las personas que deseen ver al Director ó al Secretario de la Oficina, y este último tendrá su Oficina más allá de este salón.

En el lado del norte del edificio, que corresponde á estas oficinas, habrá cuatro salones para comisiones muy apropiados para celebrar conferencias diplomáticas, y la parte superior del salón de estantería. Las oficinas del Consejo Directivo, del Director y del Secretario dan á la Alameda y al parque del Monumento de Wáshington, en conformidad con el plan de mejoras introducidas en la ciudad de Wáshington.

Desde el salón de descanso se penetra en el hermoso Salón de Recepciones que tiene más de 100 pies de longitud por 65 de ancho. Veinticuatro columnas sirven de apoyo á su cielo raso abovedado, que se destaca hasta una altura de 45 pies sobre el piso. Cinco espaciosas ventanas con balcones que dan al jardín y que tienen vidrios coloreados con emblemas alegóricos, decorarán estas majestuosas ventanas. El Salón del Consejo Directivo y el Salón de Comisiones, están en directa comunicación con este serio salón.

Desde luego puede imaginarse el hermoso efecto que hará esta sala cuando dentro de sus paredes se reúna una Convención Internacional ó cuando se dé una recepción á un huésped distinguido, ó una brillante recepción diplomática. No hay ningún otro edificio en Wáshington, ya sea residencia particular, embajada ó de oficinas del Gobierno, que pueda ofrecer semejantes comodidades en los casos de funciones importantes. Está en armonía con la importancia de la Oficina y constituye un monumento apropiado de la reunión más importante de las potencias del mundo.

COMPARACIÓN DEL COMERCIO QUE LA AMÉRICA LATINA Y LOS PAÍSES ORIENTALES TIENEN CON LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS.

Al propósito del proyecto de ley relativo á las asignaciones de fondos para la construcción de edificios para consulados y legaciones en el Oriente, el Señor J. L. SLAYDEN, Representante de Tejas, discutió con gran claridad y energía en el Congreso de los Estados Unidos, el 17 de abril de 1908, las posibilidades que existen en la América Latina en comparación con el Oriente, como un campo propicio para lograr un gran desarrollo comercial.

Al referirse á México, á la América del Sur y Central y á los países orientales, como temas que tienen muchos puntos de contacto, el Señor SLAYDEN dijo lo siguiente:

EL COMERCIO AMERICANO Y ORIENTAL.

Este año estamos asignando una suma considerable para la construcción de edificios para consulados y legaciones en el Oriente, y hasta ahora nada se ha recomendado en cuanto á los países americanos.

He de llamar vuestra atención hacia un breve análisis del comercio oriental en comparación con el de la América Central y del Sur, tanto al que realmente se hace como al que puede hacerse en vista de los recursos naturales de dichos países. El notable viaje que hizo el Señor Root, Secretario de Estado de los Estados Unidos, constituye el reconocimiento de la vasta y creciente importancia de los países sudamericanos, tanto desde el punto de vista comercial como político. No pudo haberse enviado á ese campo un misionero más hábil. Hombre de ancha visión y capacidad intelectual, de gran práctica en asuntos importantísimos y de larga experiencia en elevados puestos oficiales, el Señor Root desde luego comprendió la índole de los pueblos de las Repúblicas Americanas y la posibilidad de su desarrollo. Muy provechosa le sería á cualquier miembro de este cuerpo la lectura de dichos discursos y que siguiere al orador con mapas y datos estadísticos en aquella gran excursión.

La mayoría de nuestros conciudadanos ignora tanto los hechos que se relacionan con la América del Sur como el idioma de los pueblos que la habitan. Para la mayoría de ellos es una novedad el hecho de que el Brasil es tan grande como los Estados Unidos con un sobrante de territorio tan extenso como California y la Carolina del Sur. Por ejemplo, la República Argentina es tan grande como toda la parte de los Estados Unidos situada al este del Misisipí, incluso Tejas. México, al cual conocemos mejor, tiene un área casi igual á todos los Estados que están al este del Río Misisipí, y es casi tres veces tan grande como Tejas.

Desearía tener tiempo, Señor Presidente, para citar muchos datos interesantes acerca de los países de la América del Sur y Central, ó desearía obligar á todo ciudadano que tenga derecho á votar sobre estos proyectos de asignaciones de fondos, á leer los datos que me propongo publicar en el Diario del Congreso. Sería aún mucho mejor que los Miembros del Congreso utilizaran los medios que les ofrece la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas, donde encontrarán fuentes de información que los ha de deleitar é instruir. Esa útil Oficina está realmente presentando los ciudadanos de la República Norteamericana á sus vecinos del Sur.

En la América Latina hay veinte Gobiernos que tienen como 50,000,000 de habitantes que hacen un comercio anual cuyo valor asciende á cerca de \$2,000,000,000. El valor de sus importaciones asciende á \$897,128,563 y el de sus exportaciones asciende á \$1,070,660,724, ó sea un total de \$1,967,789,287, para citar las cifras exactas.

Lo que nos interesa especialmente es saber qué proporción de ese vasto comercio corresponde á los Estados Unidos y la manera de aumentarla. Nuestros comerciantes le venden anualmente á la América Latina mercancías por valor de \$237,840,679, y le compran productos por valor de \$316,496,576, ó sea un comercio total con los Estados Unidos que representa \$554,337,255. ¿Cuántos ciudadanos de nuestro país saben que hacemos un negocio de más de \$500,000,000 al año con México, la América Central y del Sur y las Antillas? Y, hablando en plata, ¿cuántos miembros del Congreso lo saben? El Señor BARRETT, Jefe de la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas, en un artículo que salió á luz en la "Revista de Munsey" correspondiente al pasado mes de junio, llamó la atención hacia el hecho de que en 1905 el valor total del comercio extranjero—es decir, de las exportaciones é importaciones de las diez Repúblicas sudamericanas y las Guianas Inglesas, Francesas y Holandesas—excedió de \$1,200,000,000. El Señor BARRETT llamó también la atención hacia el hecho lamentable de que, á pesar de nuestra ventajosa situación geográfica, los Estados Unidos representaban menos de \$250,000,000 del valor de dicho comercio. Además, este espléndido negocio no está paralizado ni se ha desarrollado por completo, sino que en realidad de verdad está empezando á desarrollarse. Toda la inmensa área que se extiende al sur de los Estados Unidos y que es muchas veces mayor que nuestro país, sólo tiene 50,000,000 de habitantes. Debe agregarse que comprende casi todas las latitudes habitables, puesto que se extiende casi tanto hacia el sur del ecuador como los Estados Unidos se extienden hacia el norte. Casi todo lo que el hombre necesita lo puede producir el suelo de la América Central ó del Sur ó México. Es una región que ofrece magníficas oportunidades, que está próxima á nuestro país y cuyo importante comercio hemos descuidado por atender á otro menor y mucho más distante.

Permitidme que os llame la atención hacia unos cuantos hechos interesantes que son resultado del estudio de la estadística comercial y financiera de los principales países del mundo.

El pueblo de la República Argentina importa á razón de \$34.86 de mercancías extranjeras *per capita*, en tanto que el pueblo de la China importa á razón de 78 centavos de mercancías *per capita*. O, lo que es lo mismo, desde el punto de vista comercial, cada ciudadano de la Argentina vale por cuarenticinco chinos; cada ciudadano del Brasil comercialmente por doce chinos, y cada mexicano vale por diez chinos, en cuanto á las importaciones. La pequeña República del Uruguay que, dicho sea de paso, es mayor que el Estado de Nueva York y que la Virginia Occidental, importa mercancías á razón de \$21.13 por cabeza, ó sea más de veintisiete veces tanto como China.

Ahora me propongo llamar vuestra atención por unos cuantos minutos, mientras establezco una comparación de dos ó tres de estos países sudamericanos—cuyo comercio hemos descuidado—con un país oriental acerca del cual se discute mucho en la actualidad.

Como antes se ha indicado, el pueblo argentino importa mercancías á razón de \$34.86 por cabeza, al paso que el Japón, por ejemplo, importa á razón de \$5.07 por cabeza. Por consecuencia, es evidente que en el presente estado de desarrollo del comercio cada ciudadano argentino vale, aproximadamente, por siete japoneses. Cada habitante de la remota Nueva Zelandia vale, como importador, casi por catorce japoneses, y, sin embargo, muy poco es lo que se habla de la Nueva Zelandia. En la América Central un ciudadano de Costa Rica compra tantas mercancías extranjeras como tres japoneses, y estos últimos valen menos para nuestros exportadores, hombre por hombre, que los habitantes del Ecuador y del Paraguay, que son países de menor importación en el Sur.

Ya que me ocupo en este importante asunto, también voy á llamar vuestra atención hacia el hecho de que á pesar de la inmensa cantidad de provisiones que se llevan á Filipinas para el consumo del Ejército Americano, los habitantes de dicho archipiélago sólo compran á razón de \$3.38 por cabeza. En cuanto á la importancia comercial

los superan los habitantes de la Argentina, Bolivia, Brasil, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Salvador, Cuba, Ecuador, Haití y hasta México, Paraguay, Perú, Santo Domingo, Uruguay y Venezuela, cuyos habitantes compran más por cabeza.

Señor Presidente, creo firmemente que si cesásemos de malgastar gruesas sumas en el comercio del remoto Oriente, que es realmente de menor importancia, y consagrásemos una pizca de dicha suma al fomento del comercio con los países americanos, andaríamos más acertados.

LA TIERRA DEL PORVENIR.

En el artículo al cual ya me he referido, el Señor BARRETT habla con mucha oportunidad de la América del Sur y Central como la tierra del porvenir. Ahora bien, no puede decirse otro tanto de la India Oriental, China ni aun del Japón. Cuando más, éstos pueden denominarse los países de pasado mañana. Todos los países americanos tienen vastas extensiones de terrenos fértiles que aun están inhabitados, al paso que los países orientales ya están densamente poblados.

El desarrollo maravillosamente rápido de nuestro propio país, los subidos sueldos, la prosperidad y la independencia del pueblo de los Estados Unidos, se deben evidentemente al hecho de que hemos tenido á nuestra disposición un continente virgen que ofrecía las mayores oportunidades. La fertilidad del suelo, la riqueza de las minas y de los bosques, y la pequeña población en comparación con los recursos naturales, han salvado á nuestro pueblo de la esclavitud industrial. Por más que es un hecho que estas oportunidades se disminuyen á medida que se aumenta la población del país, sin embargo, tenemos tantos empleos para la energía y el talento de nuestro pueblo, que ningún obrero americano siente aún los rigores que necesariamente sufren los obreros de la apiñada Europa ni el insostenible estado de amontonamiento de población que se advierte en la China ó el Japón.

En el Japón, la China y la India Oriental, los obreros trabajan por unos cuantos centavos al día porque no les queda otro remedio. En la América del Sur no están obligados á hacer otro tanto, porque pueden irse al campo y ser independientes. Los inmigrantes no acuden á los países orientales. El pueblo de Europa que tiene que inmigrar no va á un país como el Japón, donde el promedio de extensión de una finca de labor viene á ser como 2½ acres de terreno. Prefieren á la América del Norte ó del Sur, y en la actualidad van en números cada vez mayores al Sur, donde encuentran condiciones que á un hombre de los países orientales le parecen un paraíso.

Me ha sido muy grato ver que la corriente de inmigración europea se dirija hacia la América del Sur, porque no deseo que mi propio país se pueble con excesiva rapidez, como algunas veces temía que estuviese sucediendo. Esta inmigración significa desahogo para los habitantes de Europa que están oprimidos desde el punto de vista industrial, y significa una enorme expansión de las posibilidades del comercio en países vecinos para los hombres de negocios de los Estados Unidos. Demostremosle al mundo entero que así lo entendemos y apreciamos y que hemos de solicitarlo.

Si se pone en práctica nuestra característica energía americana en el desarrollo de los grandes recursos naturales que existen en la América del Sur y Central, á penas tendrán límites los negocios que podrán hacerse entre nosotros y los países situados en el mismo continente, que tienen idénticas instituciones políticas y cuyas aspiraciones son también idénticas y se encaminan hacia el logro de los mismos fines políticos, sociales y comerciales.

LA AMÉRICA LATINA EN LA LITERATURA CONTEMPORÁNEA.

La universalidad del interés que se ha despertado acerca de los asuntos latinoamericanos en todos los ámbitos de los Estados Unidos, lo demuestra de la manera más terminante y enfática el espacio cada vez mayor que en las revistas de este país se le concede á la discusión de dichos asuntos. Los periódicos comerciales y los informes consulares contribuyen al desarrollo del comercio; mediante los fondos que se dedican á las becas, que proporcionan oportunidades á los estudiantes extranjeros para estudiar el programa de cualquiera universidad ó colegio determinado, se estimula la enseñanza, pero se ve claro que el fin que las revistas del país se proponen obtener es satisfacer la demanda popular que existe de artículos que proporcionen en una lectura de interés general, y por tanto, el hecho de que un mes tras otro se discuten en las revistas norteamericanas los recursos naturales y las condiciones de México, las Antillas ó las Repúblicas de Sur y Centro América, constituye una prueba evidente de la tendencia del sentimiento público.

Dícese con verdad, que los periódicos y revistas de la América Latina consagran mucha atención al desarrollo intelectual y artístico de las capitales europeas, al paso que se consagra relativamente poca atención á los asuntos americanos. Cumple agregar, sin embargo, que se ha efectuado un notable cambio en este particular. Quien haya leído asidua y constantemente los canjes de revistas y periódicos, habrá tenido ocasión de notar que, durante los dos últimos años, tanto en las revistas económicas y científicas como en la prensa diaria de la América Latina, cada vez se ha venido consagrando mayor espacio á la reproducción de las opiniones y pareceres de los escritores norteamericanos, en tanto que los acontecimientos políticos y comerciales se anotan con notable rapidez y exactitud.

Al examinar las ediciones recientes de las revistas más conocidas, que ha recibido la Biblioteca de Colón, se encuentra la prueba práctica y completa de la existencia de una reciprocidad literaria entre las Repúblicas de América.

El número correspondiente al mes de mayo de la revista intitulada "The Century" consagra varias páginas á magníficas reproducciones de algunas iglesias mexicanas, tomadas de fotografías hechas por HENRY RAVELL, habiendo el Señor LOCKWOOD DE FOREST descrito las doradas entalladuras y las obras decorativas de azulejos que tanto embellecen dichos templos.

El número correspondiente al mes de mayo de la revista intitulada "Scribner's Magazine" contiene una de las encantadoras descripciones que ARTHUR Ruhl hace de la ciudad de Buenos Aires, capital de la República Argentina. En ella se transmite una impresión

paludoscópica de las multitudes de personas que se ven en las calles y de la general alegría y prosperidad que caracterizan á esta capital, que es la segunda ciudad de los países latinos del mundo.

El número correspondiente al precitado mes de la revista intitulada "Taylor-Trotwood Magazine" publica, como artículo principal, el romance y tragedia del Istmo, por ERNEST CAWCROFT, en el cual se hace un bosquejo de la historia de la civilización, tal como se demuestra en esta tirilla de terreno, desde la época de Colón hasta la excavación del Canal de Panamá.

En un artículo escrito por la Señora PETER M. MYERS, la revista intitulada "The World To-day," correspondiente al mes de mayo llama la atención hacia el despertar de Guanajuato, México—"la ciudad de los sueños" y uno de los centros mineros más ricos del mundo—del sueño de un siglo en los resplandores de la luz eléctrica y en medio del estruendo de todos los adelantos modernos. Dicha ciudad puede jactarse de tener el teatro más hermoso de la América del Norte, y está situada en una atmósfera saturada de las discusiones sobre el oro, la plata, los dividendos, los ensayos y los procedimientos de reducción, y en ella se echa de ver el espíritu progresista de estos tiempos lo mismo que en otros lugares de este progresista país.

En su número correspondiente al mes de abril de 1908, la revista intitulada "The World To-Day" publica el último de los interesantes artículos escritos por el Señor JOHN BARRETT, Director de la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas, en el cual se exhorta á los Estados Unidos para que hagan mayores esfuerzos por aprovechar la oportunidad comercial que la América Latina les ofrece. El articulista hace un detenido análisis de las bases de esta oportunidad y suministra datos estadísticos acerca de los resultados que han obtenido otras naciones que han hecho los debidos esfuerzos en este sentido.

En el número correspondiente al mes de abril de la revista denominada "The Van Norden Magazine," el Señor FREEMAN TILDEN publica un artículo que viene á ser una ojeada de Buenos Aires en su aspecto pintoresco y social. El escritor no encuentra en esta gran capital la atmósfera parisién que tanto se le atribuye, sino más bien un rasgo característicamente panamericano, que en verdad constituye su verdadero encanto.

La mayor parte del espacio del número correspondiente al mes de abril de la revista intitulada "Tropical America," se consagra á la América Española, y comprende los siguientes temas: El famoso Valle del Cauca, de Colombia; la vía Interoceánica de Guatemala; un Viaje de Recreo á Través de dicha República; el Centenario Comercial de Río de Janeiro y el Cultivo de los bananos en México.



EL EDIFICIO DE "LA PRENSA," EL FAMOSO DIARIO ARGENTINO.

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SALÓN DE CONCIERTOS Y CONFERENCIAS DEL EDIFICIO DE "LA PRENSA" EN BUENOS AIRES.
En donde se celebran muchas notables funciones artísticas y literarias.

CONCERT AND LECTURE ROOM IN "LA PRENSA" BUILDING, BUENOS AIRES.
The scene of many noted artistic and literary performances.

En su edición correspondiente al mes de abril, la "American Historical Review" publica un artículo muy erudito debido á la pluma del Señor HERBERT E. BOLTON, acerca del material que los archivos de México proporcionan para escribir la historia del Suroeste, y en el cual el escritor no se maravilla del hecho de que dichos archivos contengan tanto sobre la materia, sino del poco uso que se ha hecho de este valiosísimo material. Ambas Californias, Tejas, la Luisiana y las provincias interiores, ocupan un lugar prominente en los índices. Este artículo es simplemente un informe preliminar, puesto que este campo se ha de comprender en un tomo que publicará el Departamento de Investigaciones Históricas del Instituto de Carnegie, establecido en Washington.

En el número correspondiente al mes abril de la "North American Review," el Señor F. D. McKENNEY trata de la actual actitud del Gobierno de los Estados Unidos hacia el arbitraje, tal como lo demuestra en la cuestión pendiente con Venezuela, en tanto que en la edición correspondiente al mismo mes de la revista intitulada "The Independent," el Señor HERBERT WALCOTT BOWEN, ex-Ministro de los Estados Unidos en Venezuela, publica una crítica del informe que el Presidente ROOSEVELT envió al Senado sobre la cuestión de Venezuela.

En sus números correspondientes á los meses de marzo y abril, la "National Geographic Magazine" consagra un espacio considerable á los asuntos latinoamericanos. En el número del mes de marzo publica un extenso artículo sobre el pasado y el presente de Haití, escrito por el Rear-Admiral COLBY M. CHESTER, y en el número de marzo aparece una serie de vistas muy notables tomadas en toda la extensión del antiguo camino de Inca, acompañada de comentarios muy apropiados hechos por HARRIET CHALMERS ADAMS.

En su edición de marzo, la revista denominada "The Sunset Magazine" publica, como artículo de preferencia, la novela de Magdalena Bay, escrita por ARTHUR WALLBRIDGE NORTH, escritor que parece tener un conocimiento especial acerca de la Baja California y cuya obra reciente, intitulada "The Mother of California" (La Madre de California), ha llamado grandemente la atención por su notable oportunidad y valor literario.

En su última edición trimestral correspondiente á los meses de enero hasta marzo de 1908, inclusive, la revista intitulada "The American Journal of Sociology" publica un artículo sobre el progreso municipal del Brasil, en el cual trabajo el Señor L. S. ROWE, catedrático de la Universidad de Pensilvania, trata de los grandes adelantos que ya se han hecho y del saneamiento de las ciudades del Estado de São Paulo.

En el número correspondiente al 14 de marzo de 1908 de la revista intitulada "The Outlook," el Señor SYLVESTER BAXTER, al discutir sobre los ferrocarriles sudamericanos, dice que la primera mitad del

siglo XX promete ser la gran era de construcción de ferrocarriles en el Continente Sur, así como la primera mitad del siglo XIX lo fué para el Continente del Norte. Este artículo es resultado de la observación personal y el detenido estudio del asunto durante los viajes que dicho escritor hizo en la América del Sur en 1906, como corresponsal especial de la precitada revista.

En su número correspondiente al mes de febrero, la revista intitulada "Popular Science Monthly" publica el comentario que hace ALFRED F. SEARS sobre la influencia que Alemania ejerce en la América Latina, en el cual el articulista limita dicha influencia á los procedimientos mentales y comerciales, y encuentra que los rasgos característicos franceses se echan de ver tanto en las costumbres como en la manera de vivir.

ESTABLECIMIENTO DE UNA OFICINA DE INFORMACIÓN LATINO AMERICANA.

Á la Oficina de las Repúblicas Americanas se le ha anunciado que en la ciudad Nueva York se ha establecido un centro que tiene por objeto distribuir informes completos y exactos relativos á la legislación civil, fiscal y administrativa, y á la estadística en general de cada una de las Repúblicas Americanas, así como toda clase de datos acerca de su desarrollo mercantil.

En la circular de dicha empresa se hace constar que ésta se ha establecido por virtud de las crecientes relaciones comerciales entre los Estados Unidos y la América Latina, y en obsequio de los abogados, banqueros, comerciantes, fabricantes, capitalistas é industriales de ambos continentes.

Dicha institución se denomina "The Dependable Information Bureau," y tiene sus oficinas en el Núm. 42 Broadway, Nueva York, N. Y.

REPÚBLICA ARGENTINA.

DATOS ACERCA DEL COMERCIO EXTRANJERO EN 1907.

La Oficina de Estadística del Gobierno Argentino, en su Boletín regular que comprende el comercio extranjero de la República en 1907, muestra que el valor total de dicho comercio ascendió á \$582,065,052 en oro; es decir, \$285,860,683 valor de importaciones y \$296,204,369 de exportaciones.

En la lista de países exportadores, el Reino Unido ocupa el primer puesto, y luego le siguen Alemania, los Estados Unidos, Francia, Italia y Bélgica, en el orden mencionado.

Como país importador, el Reino Unido también va á la cabeza de la lista, seguido de Francia, Alemania, Bélgica, el Brasil y los Estados Unidos.

El comercio con los diferentes países fué como sigue, en comparación con 1906:

IMPORTACIONES.

Pais.	1907.	Compara- ción, 1906.	Pais.	1907.	Compara- ción, 1906.
África.....	\$37,509	+ \$25,240	Grecia.....	\$46,676	.....
Alemania.....	45,811,170	+ 7,394,911	Guatemala.....	2,917	.....
Austria.....	2,394,660	+ 670,899	Japón.....	205,226	.....
Bélgica.....	15,896,850	+ 3,668,810	Marruecos.....	522	.....
Bolivia.....	126,877	- 7,235	México.....	4,972	.....
Brasil.....	7,849,355	+ 1,208,330	Noruega.....	429,984	.....
Chile.....	554,824	+ 26,609	Nicaragua.....	1,166	.....
España.....	7,294,469	- 73,800	Persia.....	1,154	.....
Estados Unidos.....	38,842,277	- 632,617	Perú.....	533,303	.....
Francia.....	25,468,026	- 1,276,849	Portugal.....	289,964	.....
Italia.....	24,003,241	- 129,385	Colonias Francesas.....	8,428	.....
Holanda.....	1,762,006	+ 250,262	Colonias Holandesas.....	32,818	.....
Paraguay.....	1,414,337	+ 105,365	Colonias Inglesas.....	6,048,139	.....
Reino Unido.....	67,935,743	+ 3,105,805	Colonias Americanas.....	21,163	.....
Uruguay.....	2,472,754	+ 689,513	Rumania.....	1,675	.....
Australia.....	69,166	.....	Rusia.....	429,736	.....
Canadá.....	1,601,526	.....	Salvador.....	708	.....
Colombia.....	2,493	.....	República Dominicana.....	787	.....
Cuba.....	576,982	.....	Suecia.....	511,119	.....
China.....	479,162	.....	Suiza.....	2,137,748	.....
Dinamarca.....	38,763	.....	Turquía.....	36,859	.....
Ecuador.....	49,061	.....	Venezuela.....	13,790	.....
Egipto.....	4,747	.....		

En comparación con el año anterior, el valor de las importaciones que se hicieron de Alemania muestran un aumento de 19.2 por ciento; las de Bélgica, 30 por ciento; las del Reino Unido, 3.2 por ciento, y las de Holanda, 16.5 por ciento, en tanto que el valor de las importaciones que se hicieron de Francia disminuyó un 4.7 por ciento y las de los Estados Unidos un 1.6 por ciento.

EXPORTACIONES.

	1907.	Compara- ción, 1906.		1907.	Compara- ción, 1906.
África.....	\$1,415,590	-\$2,542,441	Reino Unido.....	53,716,152	+10,492,114
Alemania.....	36,423,056	- 2,994,140	Uruguay.....	1,376,638	- 3,657,822
Austria.....	751,974	+ 705,636	Cuba.....	724,460	.....
Bélgica.....	29,592,133	+ 3,970,738	Dinamarca.....	120,888	.....
Bolivia.....	608,052	+ 279,454	Egipto.....	51,500	.....
Brasil.....	14,018,431	+ 2,127,116	Noruega.....	106,134	.....
Chile.....	1,850,667	+ 465,120	Perú.....	110,675	.....
España.....	1,935,605	- 636,971	Portugal.....	29,731	.....
Estados Unidos.....	10,940,436	- 2,391,676	Colonias Francesas.....	49,664	.....
Francia.....	37,762,046	+ 1,398,692	Colonias Inglesas.....	49,877	.....
Italia.....	5,219,466	- 1,686,658	Suecia.....	665,149	.....
Holanda.....	4,174,490	+ 1,199,252	Ordenes.....	93,270,767	- 2,346,981
Paraguay.....	182,670	-22,344			

En cuanto á las exportaciones, el valor de las que se hicieron á Francia aumentó un 5.5 por ciento; el de las que se hicieron á Holanda aumentó un 40.3 por ciento, y el de las que se hicieron al Reino Unido aumentó un 24 por ciento en comparación con 1906, en tanto que el valor de las exportaciones á África sufrió una baja de 64.2 por ciento; el de las que se hicieron á Alemania bajó un 7.5 por ciento; á los

Estados Unidos un 17.9 por ciento y á Italia un 24.4 por ciento, al paso que el valor de las "órdenes" disminuyó un 2.5 por ciento.

En la siguiente tabla se muestra la clasificación de las importaciones que se hicieron en 1907, su valor y las disminuciones y aumentos en 1906.

Artículos.	1907.	Compara- ción. 1906.
Ganado vivo.....	\$2,035,913	- \$490,698
Substancias alimenticias.....	20,915,396	+ 3,253,388
Tabaco.....	5,010,491	+ 99,412
Vinos, licores, etc.....	12,633,739	+ 839,700
Materias textiles.....	47,333,191	- 6,796,848
Acetile.....	8,084,771	+ 203,738
Substancias químicas y drogas.....	8,183,493	+ 605,636
Colores y tintos.....	1,557,043	- 83,392
Maderas y sus artefactos.....	6,360,043	+ 747,821
Papel y sus artefactos.....	5,702,264	+ 787,527
Cuero y sus artefactos.....	2,044,811	- 269,740
Artículos de ferretería.....	33,161,139	- 1,781,169
Metales y sus artefactos.....	7,543,106	- 1,049,024
Instrumentos de agricultura.....	18,541,569	+ 1,383,024
Maquinarias de locomoción.....	52,320,750	+17,265,386
Productos cerámicos.....	20,034,552	- 276,248
Materiales para edificios.....	23,020,393	+ 1,018,695
Aparatos eléctricos.....	3,373,375	+ 56,636
Artículos diversos.....	7,399,102	+ 489,541

El aumento principal en el valor de las importaciones aparece bajo la denominación de maquinaria de locomoción, y comprende automóviles, durmientes de acero, material para ferrocarriles en general, locomotoras, carros de tranvías, etc.

El valor de los automóviles que se importaron ascendió á \$782,520, ó sea un aumento de \$295,974; el valor de los durmientes de acero importados ascendió á \$7,972,111, ó sea un aumento de \$3,680,165; el de los materiales para ferrocarriles ascendió á \$10,058,564, ó sea un aumento de \$4,187,779; el de las locomotoras ascendió á \$8,067,454, ó sea un aumento de \$3,675,084, y el de los carros de tranvía ascendió á \$775,162, ó sea un aumento de \$132,087.

Del aumento de más de \$3,000,000 en el valor de las substancias alimenticias, las importaciones de azúcar representaron \$2,701,468, habiendo ascendido el valor total en el año de referencia á \$2,838,254, y representando el azúcar de refino menos de la mitad de dicha suma.

El valor de las exportaciones en el año de referencia, así como los aumentos y disminuciones en 1906, fueron como sigue:

	1907.	Compara- ción. 1906.
Productos de la ganadería.....	\$123,820,205	- \$316,234
Productos agrícolas.....	164,091,621	+6,436,929
Productos de los bosques.....	5,342,357	- 579,502
Productos de la minería.....	565,039	+ 291,223
Productos de la caza.....	829,559	- 268,941
Productos diversos.....	1,155,388	-1,612,935

Con excepción de un pequeño aumento en el valor de las exportaciones de productos de las minas, la única clasificación que muestra un aumento es la de productos agrícolas, bajo cuya denominación el trigo representa \$82,727,747, ó sea un aumento de \$16,166,566 respecto del año anterior, habiendo ascendido todas las exportaciones á 2,680,802 de toneladas, ó sea un aumento de 432,814 toneladas sobre 1906.

Después del trigo sigue la linaza, de la cual se exportaron 763,736 toneladas, valuadas en \$36,081,221, ó sea un aumento de 225,240 toneladas, valuadas en \$10,165,360 en el año de referencia.

En avenas hubo un aumento de 91,905 toneladas, valuadas en \$2,476,213, habiendo ascendido las exportaciones que se hicieron en el año de referencia á 143,566 toneladas, valuadas en \$3,593,397.

Las cifras correspondientes á 1907 muestran que en dicho año se exportaron 1,276,732 toneladas de maíz, valuadas en \$29,653,979, ó sea una merma de 1,417,007 de toneladas, valuadas en \$23,711,708 en comparación con 1906.

Por más que los productos de la ganadería sufrieron una merma tanto en la cantidad como en el valor de las exportaciones, se advierte un aumento de \$88,822, en el valor del ganado vivo, habiéndose valuado todas las exportaciones en \$3,158,856, de cuya cantidad el ganado vacuno representa dos terceras partes.

Los artefactos fabricados de los productos de la ganadería también muestran un aumento de \$2,344,492, habiendo ascendido el valor total de las exportaciones á \$10,802,634, en la cual cantidad el cebo representa \$4,806,835, ó sea un aumento de más de \$1,324,309, respecto de 1906.

PRONÓSTICO DE LA COSECHA DE CEREALES Y LINO DE 1907-8.

La división de estadística y economía rural del Departamento de Agricultura de la República Argentina ha publicado un interesante trabajo que contiene los pronósticos de la cosecha de trigo, lino, avena y maíz, calculo de exportación, etc., para 1907-8.

Con la base de minuciosos apuntes tomados en todos los centros agrícolas, la división de estadística pronostica los siguientes resultados para la cosecha, en toneladas:

	1907-8.	1906-7.
Trigo.....	5,484,000	4,245,000
Lino.....	1,085,000	826,000
Avena.....	443,000	180,000

De la comparación de estas cifras resulta que la cosecha de trigo de 1907-8 excede en 1,239,000 toneladas (29 por ciento) á la del año anterior; la de lino en 259,000 toneladas (31 por ciento), y en 263,000 toneladas (146 por ciento) la de avena.

Sobre esta base la exportación podría calcularse en 4,250,000 toneladas de trigo y harina, 1,000,000 toneladas de lino y 420,000 toneladas de avena.

Con respecto á la cosecha de maíz, la oficina de estadística dice que no ha podido hacer cálculos definitivos, pero con las apreciaciones de los datos de que dispone, supone que la producción total de 1907 ascenderá á 3,456,000 toneladas. La extensión cultivada de maíz durante 1907 era de 2,730,500 hectáreas.

LA INDUSTRIA MINERA DE LA REPÚBLICA.

El desarrollo de la industria minera de la República Argentina lo demuestra el hecho de que en las cifras relativas á las exportaciones que se hicieron en 1907, el único producto, con excepción de los productos agrícolas, que muestra un aumento en el valor de las exportaciones, aparece bajo la denominación de productos de las minas.

El valor total de los embarques que se hicieron ascendió á \$565,039, ó sea un aumento de \$291,223, en comparación con el año anterior. El producto especial al cual se atribuye este aumento es el cobre, por cuanto el cobre en lingotes representó \$292,495 y los minerales de cobre que representaron \$170,207, ó sea un aumento de \$212,367 y \$86,484, respectivamente, sobre 1906.

Las exportaciones de estaño ascendieron á 33,350 kilogramos, valuados en \$6,670, en tanto que en 1906 no hubo exportaciones, y los embarques de mineral de hierro ascendieron á 127,528 kilogramos, con un aumento de \$8,927 en el valor, habiendo ascendido el valor total á \$29,669.

También se anuncian las exportaciones de 3,443 kilogramos de plata, que representaron un valor de \$1,722, en tanto que en el año anterior no hubo exportaciones de esta metal. Otro producto de exportación fué el borato de cal, del cual se exportaron 990,000 kilogramos, valuados en \$49,500, ó sea un aumento de \$2,956 en comparación con 1906.

El informe que publicó recientemente la división de minas muestra que la producción total de productos de las minas en toda la República todavía es pequeña, por más que se han hecho concesiones y efectuado mediciones de terrenos mineros que indican el comienzo de una completa explotación de sus recursos. Entre las empresas de minas que están en vías de desarrollo sobre una base sólida pueden citarse los depósitos de bora y las minas de Salta y Jujuy. Los productos minerales extraídos de estas minas son, en su mayor parte, borato calcáreo de sosa, que se extrae mediante operaciones de cantería. Dicho mineral es muy puro y se embarea en bruto sin someterlo á ningún tratamiento. En las circunstancias actuales la dificultad que existe para efectuar el transporte de ese producto hasta el ferrocarril atrasa mucho la explotación de estas minas y de los depósitos.

Entre otras propiedades mineras, la mina denominada "Concordia," situada en Jujuy, merece especial mención, porque posee filones muy ricos y da excelentes resultados. Esta mina pertenece á un sindicato anglo-alemán, y sus acciones se cotizan de 150 á 200 por ciento. Dicho sindicato compró recientemente en Europa maquinaria de minas moderna, lo cual demuestra que pronto se propone comenzar una explotación en gran escala. También se está explotando la mina denominada "Famatina," situada en el mismo distrito.

En Tierra del Fuego se encuentra el oro en abundancia, y hace algún tiempo que se hacen los lavados correspondientes para recoger el oro, aunque de una manera muy anticuada. Sin embargo, hace poco tiempo que se organizó una compañía inglesa con el fin de extraer el oro de una manera más sistemática y moderna, y con tal motivo se ha de instalar una planta provista de todos los elementos modernos, tales como dragas y lavaderos, etc. Los trabajos en Neuquen están á cargo de una compañía de Buenos Aires.

Además de las empresas que se acaban de mencionar, se explotan el cobre, la plata y el plomo, y en Mazón se han descubierto el wolfram y el estaño incrustado en depósitos de granate, habiéndose comenzado ya los trabajos de exploración.

El petróleo se ha descubierto en el norte de la República, mayormente al pie de la falda oriental de las Cordilleras, hacia Chaco, en las Provincias de Salta y Jujuy. Encuéntrase entre depósitos ó capas de una formación de color rojo de una especie de yeso, que se denomina "formación petrolífera." Los pozos de petróleo, situados en la parte sur de Mendoza y Neuquen, son muy importantes, habiéndose extraído el producto en cantidades considerables. También existe en los depósitos de cal de Rhatian que contienen carbón bituminoso.

CONSTRUCCIÓN DE FERROCARRILES.

Por decreto de 29 de febrero de 1908, el Presidente de la República Argentina ha destinado la suma de 386,772 pesos oro sellado para atender hasta el mes de mayo próximo á la construcción del ferrocarril á Bolivia, y la de 256,210.58 pesos oro sellado para la línea de Serreziela á San Juan, también hasta dicho mes.

CRECIMIENTO DEL VALOR DE LA PROPIEDAD RURAL.

El Ministerio de Agricultura de la República Argentina ha publicado interesantes estadísticas relativas al crecimiento del valor de la propiedad rural desde el año 1903 hasta el de 1907. En el primero de los años citados se vendieron en el país 8,279,329 hectáreas de tierra, por las cuales se obtuvieron 116,592,556 pesos papel; cuatro años después, en 1907, se vendieron solamente 6,616,885 hectáreas por valor de 162,041,358 pesos papel. Por esta comparación se podrá ver que la

subida de los precios de terrenos ha sido considerable, puesto que en 1907, habiéndose vendido alrededor de 1,700,000 hectáreas menos que en 1903, se realizaron casi 50,000,000 de pesos más.

Mayor proporción de aumento se nota si se comparan las estadísticas de las hipotecas sobre propiedades rurales realizadas en 1903 y 1907. En el primero fueron hipotecadas 6,376,702 hectáreas por 69,139,748 pesos, y en 1907 fueron aceptadas 6,527,711 hectáreas por un valor de 118,918,079 pesos.

ESTADÍSTICA GANADERA DE 1907.

La dirección de estadística y economía rural del Ministerio de Agricultura de la República Argentina ha publicado datos relativos a la existencia ganadera de la nación durante el año de 1907, de los cuales han sido tomadas las cifras que se dan á continuación:

Clase de ganado.	Número de cabezas.	Clase de ganado.	Número de cabezas.
Bovino.....	25,844,800	Mular y asnal.....	545,870
Ovejuno.....	77,281,100	Caballo.....	2,766,800
Equino.....	5,462,170	Porcino.....	2,841,700

CONSTRUCCIÓN DE PUENTES Y CAMINOS.

La inspección general de puentes y caminos elevó al Ministerio de Obras Públicas un proyecto para la inversión de 1,200,000, moneda nacional, para la construcción de puentes y caminos en el territorio de la República, durante el año de 1908. Á estas obras hay que agregar la construcción de puentes y caminos con partidas de leyes especiales del presupuesto vigente, que importan 1,558,000 pesos, moneda nacional.

Además, figuran las siguientes obras incluídas en otras partidas del presupuesto: Pavimentación de las calles del puerto de la capital, 1,000,000 de pesos; camino de Buenos Aires al Tigre y Campo de Mayo, 60,000 pesos, y camino de Cruz del Eje á Candelaria, 25,000 pesos.

Sumando todas las cifras que preceden, resulta un total de 3,843,000 pesos en moneda nacional que se invertirán en la construcción de puentes y caminos durante 1908.

BOLIVIA.

ELECCIÓN DEL NUEYO PRESIDENTE.

La Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas ha sido informado por el Ministro de Bolivia en los Estados Unidos que en el día 4 de Mayo de 1908, el Señor Don Fernando E. Guachalla fué elegido Presidente de la República por una mayoría de 20,934 votos, para suceder al Señor Don Israel Montes:

Fueron elegidos vice-presidentes los señores Don Eufronio Vizcarra y Don Fidel Valdés.

La inauguración del nuevo Jefe Ejecutivo tendrá lugar el 6 de agosto próximo. El período presidencial será de 1908 á 1912.

El Señor Guachalla fue Ministro de Bolivia en los Estados Unidos y ha desempeñado varios cargos de importancia.

CONVENCIÓN ADUANERA CON EL PERÚ.

El día 30 de enero de 1908 se firmó en la ciudad de La Paz, por los representantes de Bolivia y el Perú, una convención para reglamentar, conforme al tratado de comercio y aduanas de 27 de noviembre de 1905, el libre tránsito de mercaderías importadas ó exportadas por Mollendo ú otro puerto que el Gobierno Peruano habilite para el comercio de Bolivia. Esta convención regirá hasta el 1º de julio de 1911, pero vencido este plazo será prorrogado indefinidamente, mientras no se desahucie con un año de anticipación.

El Presidente del Perú aprobó esta convención el 8 de febrero de 1908.

BRASIL.

LAS EXPORTACIONES DE GOMA EN 1907.

Las cifras relativas á las exportaciones de goma del Brasil en 1907, demuestran que la cantidad total exportada ascendió á 36,489,772 kilogramos, valuados en 217,504,288 milreis (\$71,775,323.84), en comparación con 34,960,184 kilogramos en 1906, valuados en 210,284,551 milreis (\$69,393,901.83).

La mayor parte de los embarques consistió de la goma denominada de seringa, de la cual se exportaron 33,383,681 kilogramos, de los cuales la goma que se conoce por "superior" representó la mitad de la cantidad total, ó sean 16,938,294 kilogramos, valuados en más de \$40,000,000. Se exportaron otras clases de goma, á saber: 2,428,678 kilogramos de la manicoba, 678,238 kilogramos de la maugabeira y balata, valuados en \$9,800,000, \$700,000 y \$230, respectivamente.

Los países á los cuales se hicieron los embarques, así como las cantidades y el valor anotado en cada uno de los dos años; es decir, en 1906 y 1907, fueron los siguientes:

País.	1906.		1907.	
	Cantidad.	Valor.	Cantidad.	Valor.
	<i>Kilogramos.</i>		<i>Kilogramos.</i>	
Alemania.....	2,282,305	\$4,341,874	2,331,248	\$4,617,095
República Argentina.....	4,705	11,483	11,191	27,373
Bélgica.....	120,995	241,809	17,816	30,883
Estados Unidos.....	16,749,449	33,500,696	16,811,251	33,223,250
Francia.....	3,083,309	6,820,565	2,506,161	5,544,099
Gran Bretaña.....	12,422,609	23,962,602	14,353,634	27,461,262
Uruguay.....	296,812	574,870	457,809	871,399

LAS OBRAS DE PUERTO EN BAHÍA.

En conformidad con los planos y presupuestos aprobados por el Presidente del Brasil, las obras para mejorar las condiciones del puerto de Bahía se terminarán á fines de 1912, habiéndose comenzado en noviembre de 1906.

El puerto de Bahía es el tercero de la República por la importancia de su movimiento, pero la Ciudad de Bahía es la segunda por su extensión y población, siendo superada únicamente por la de Río de Janeiro, que es la primera del país. Por dicho puerto salen los productos de los Estados de Minas Geraes y Bahía, el último de los cuales contiene la tercera parte de todos los habitantes de la República. El valor de su comercio excede de \$35,000,000 anualmente.

La construcción de dichas obras que está á cargo de una compañía francesa, que tiene su oficina principal en Río de Janeiro y agencias en Bahía y en Pará, ha de costar \$8,000,000,000, y la compañía hará por su cuenta las operaciones del puerto hasta 1972, y entonces la empresa vendrá á ser propiedad del Gobierno Brasileño. Sin embargo, el Gobierno Federal se reserva el derecho de redimir la concesión á contar del año de 1922.

La obra emprendida es muy extensa, y comprende la construcción de desembaraderos, muelles, malecones, carreteras á lo largo de los muelles, almacenes, estaciones, etc. Las obras ó muros de contención consisten de un malecón rectilíneo, de 325 metros de longitud, que se extiende desde la extremidad sur del Arsenal de Marina hasta empalmar con un malecón que tiene 915 metros de longitud. Estos muros de contención exteriores están apoyados por un muelle de 1,295 metros de largo, y entre los dos muelles habrá un canal de 358 metros de longitud, por lo cual tendrán que pasar los buques para atraear á los muelles.

Las obras que se llevarán á cabo en los desembaraderos consistirán de un muelle que se extenderá desde la extremidad sur de la aduana hasta una longitud de 658 metros, y 6.50 metros de ancho, para los buques costeros; otro que medirá 1,342 metros de largo por 9.50 de ancho, y que se usará para los vapores transatlánticos. Contiguo al interior se construirá un desembaradero ó muelle provisional que tendrá 1,400 metros de longitud, y se construirá una vía que empalmará con el Ferrocarril de Bahía y San Francisco.

Las obras adicionales comprenderán un dique seco de reparaciones, otro para embarcaciones menores, 15 almacenes, 2 depósitos de carbón de piedra, y 2 polvorines para substancias inflamables.

En la actualidad no hay muelles propiamente dichos que puedan usarse para los fines del embarque, por cuanto los buques que tienen un calado mayor de 5 metros están obligados á anclar á 5 millas de la ribera.

Las garantías así verdaderas como materiales con que se cuenta para llevar á cabo dicha empresa la suministrarán los derechos de puerto, que en 1905 se calcula que habrían producido \$500,000. los haberes de la compañía, y el producto de un 2 por ciento en oro que se imponen á todas las importaciones que pasan por Bahía, contribución que recauda el Gobierno y se destina á la garantía del pago de un 6 por ciento anual sobre todas las sumas de dinero gastadas por la compañía. Según los presupuestos expresados en el acta de concesión, las fuentes de renta para hacer frente al servicio necesario asciende á un total de \$873,600. y, como es natural, las mejoras que el Gobierno se propone introducir en las condiciones del puerto aumentarán considerablemente los ingresos.

COLOMBIA

DECRETOS IMPORTANTES.

En sesión del Consejo de Ministros de Colombia, del 23 de marzo de 1908, el Presidente REYES dió cuenta de la expedición de tres decretos, uno por el cual se elimina el monopolio de las pieles sustituyéndolo por la renta de degüello en la forma legal; otro por el cual se rebaja á 10 centavos por kilogramo el impuesto sobre el tabaco, que era de 15 centavos por kilogramo, haciéndose la reducción á razón de 1 centavo cada dos meses; y otro sobre eliminación del impuesto fluvial que grava los artículos de exportación.

EL CULTIVO DEL BANANO EN MAGDALENA.

La Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas ha recibido un interesante informe del Señor Don JUAN CAMPELO, de Santa Marta, Departamento de Magdalena, República de Colombia, relativo al cultivo del banano en dicho Departamento, en donde está tomando ingente desarrollo la producción de esta fruta.

Dice el Señor CAMPELO que los capitales de dentro y fuera del país están fijando la atención en esta lucrativa especulación y se espera que muy pronto será una de las fuentes de riqueza del país. Las tierras son de primera calidad, pero necesitan de riego en una parte del año, porque la estación seca es muy prolongada en esta región. Un ferrocarril que parte de Santa Marta hacia el sur atraviesa la zona bananera y sirve para conducir los racimos hasta el puerto, donde son transportados desde los wagones del ferrocarril hasta las bodegas del buque directamente. Este puerto, dice el informe, reúne condiciones inmejorables para la navegación, y los vapores pueden atracar á una distancia de 4 ó 5 metros del embarcadero, sin necesidad de muelle.

La exportación del banano principió en 1892, en cuyo año ascendió á 171,891 racimos, y ha crecido paulatinamente hasta llegar en 1906 á 1,397,388 racimos, por valor de \$491,124.39 oro, y en 1907 á 1,858,970 racimos, avaluados en \$711,574.23 oro.

En el año de 1906 vinieron á Santa Marta 63 vapores á tomar carga de bananos, y, en 1907, 88 vapores, lo que muestra un aumento de 25 vapores.

REGLAMENTACIÓN DE LA FABRICACIÓN DE CIGARRILLOS.

El "Diario Oficial" de Colombia del 19 de febrero de 1908, publica un decreto del Presidente REYES por el cual se reglamenta la producción de cigarrillos en el país. La fabricación del artículo queda declarada libre, pero con sujeción á las disposiciones y reglamentos sobre la materia. Cada fábrica tendrá denominación especial, pero en ningún caso será la misma de alguna extranjera cuyos productos se importen en el país. El diseño de las cajetillas deberá ser diferente tanto de las fábricas nacionales entre sí como de las extranjeras, de manera que no se pueda considerar como imitación. Se prohíbe reempacar ó reenvolver cigarrillos de una marca para hacerlos figurar como de otra.

COSTA RICA.

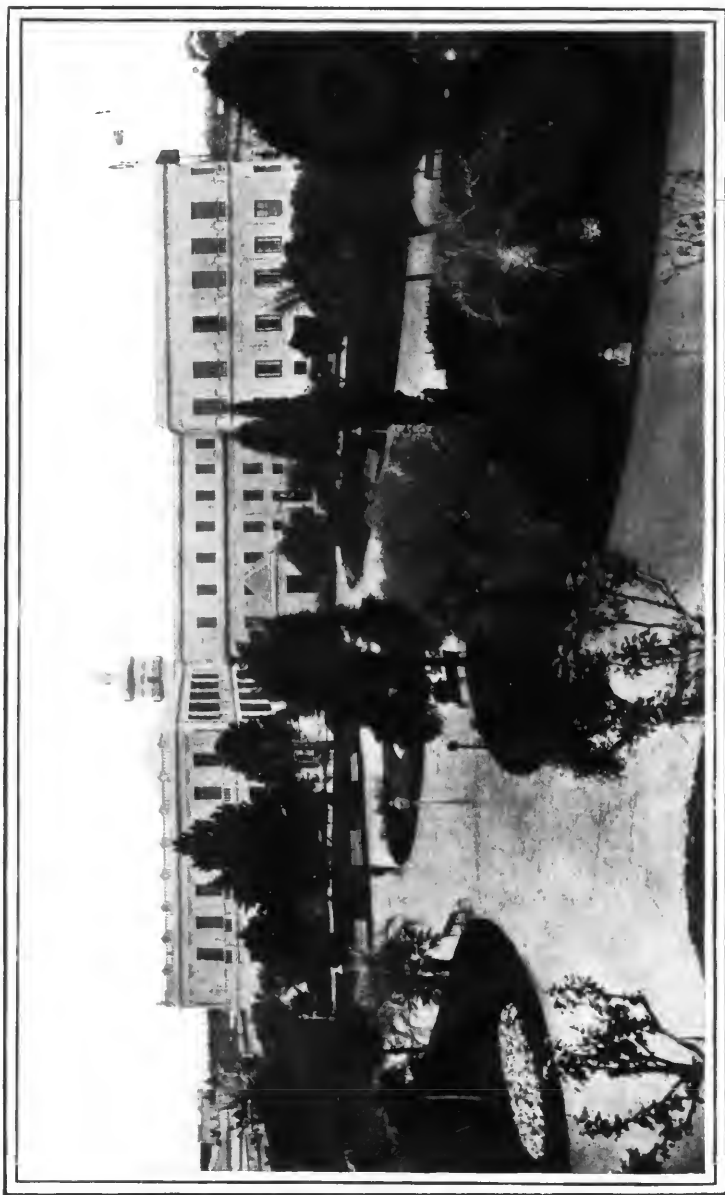
POBLACIÓN DE LA REPÚBLICA EN 1907.

Según las cifras publicadas por la Oficina de Estadística Nacional de Costa Rica el 13 de diciembre de 1907, en la República había 351,176 habitantes, distribuidos entre las varias provincias de la manera siguiente:

San José.....	111,003	Guanacaste.....	29,093
Alajuela.....	82,809	Distrito de Puntarenas.....	18,052
Cartago.....	55,373	Distrito de Limón.....	14,925
Heredia.....	39,921		

DEBATE DE CONTRATOS IMPORTANTES.

El Presidente GONZÁLEZ VÍQUEZ, de la República, en decreto de fecha 20 de marzo de 1908, convocó al Congreso Constitucional á sesiones extraordinarias que empezaron el 6 de abril de 1908, para conocer de los siguientes convenios celebrados por el Secretario de Fomento y las compañías indicadas el 16 de marzo: Contrato con la Compañía del Ferrocarril de Costa Rica sobre modificaciones, al que lleva el título Astúa-Piric; contrato con la misma compañía y la *Northern Railway Company* acerca del arreglo de administración habido entre ambas el 15 de junio de 1905, en la ciudad de Londres, y contrato con la *United Fruit Company* relativo á la aceptación y ratificación del que fué firmado el día 15 de julio de 1907 y aprobado por ley de 11 de septiembre del mismo año.



EL ASILO DE MENDIGOS DE MONTEVIDEO, UNA INSTITUCIÓN MODERNA EN DONDE LOS POBRES DE LA CAPITAL URUGUAYA SON ASISTIDOS CON TODO GÉNERO DE RECURSOS.

THE MONTEVIDEO ALMSHOUSE, A MODERN INSTITUTION FOR THE CARE OF THE CITY'S POOR.



EL MALECÓN DE SAN LÁZARO, UNO DE LOS PASEOS MÁS ELEGANTES DE LA HABANA. Á LA IZQUIERDA ESTÁ EL CASTILLO DEL MORRO.
SAN LAZARO DRIVEWAY, ONE OF THE FASHIONABLE CENTERS OF HAVANA LIFE, WITH MORRO CASTLE AS ONE OF ITS TERMINALS.

INSPECCIÓN DE LOS MATADEROS POR PARTE DEL GOBIERNO.

Por virtud de un contrato que se celebró el 29 de febrero de 1908 entre el Señor Don JOAQUÍN BERNARDO CALVO, Ministro de Costa Rica en Wáshington, y el Dr. JOSÉ R. GRIME, veterinario del Gobierno de los Estados Unidos, y que fué aprobado por el Jefe Ejecutivo el 28 de marzo siguiente, el Doctor GRIME fué nombrado para que preste servicios como un auxiliar de la Oficina de Sanidad de la Capital, y en otros lugares de la República donde puedan necesitarse sus servicios.

Al expresado doctor se le ha confiado especialmente la inspección de los mataderos y los productos de éstos que se ponen á la venta pública, con el fin de tomar las medidas conducentes contra toda amenaza á la salud de la comunidad procedente de dichos establecimientos.

EXPORTACIONES DE CAFÉ, EN SEIS MESES DE 1907 8.

Según estadísticas oficiales recientemente recibidas, las exportaciones de café durante el período del 30 de septiembre de 1907 al 31 de marzo de 1908 ascendieron á 7,903,056 kilogramos, de los cuales 7,754,291 kilogramos se exportaron por Puerto Limón y 148,765 kilogramos por Puntarenas. Solamente á la Gran Bretaña se enviaron 6,848,594 kilogramos.

CUBA.**ESTADO DE LA INDUSTRIA AZUCARERA.**

Según el cálculo preliminar que ha hecho la Oficina de Estadística de la República, la zafra de 1907 ascendió á 10,979,517 sacos de 320 libras cada uno, cantidad que acaso sea exagerada. Las cifras correspondientes al año de referencia, y que se publicaron recientemente, muestran un total de 9,976,960 sacos, ó sea como 1,000,000 de sacos menos del precitado cálculo.

La zafra de 1908 se calcula en 8,508,500 de sacos.

La "Revista Cubana" correspondiente al mes de marzo de 1908 publica el resultado de la zafra de cada provincia en 1907, y el cálculo de la de 1908, de la manera siguiente:

Provincia.	1907.	1908 (calculada).
	<i>Sacos.</i>	<i>Sacos.</i>
Habana.....	1,346,880	1,036,000
Pinar del Río.....	226,248	184,000
Matanzas.....	2,687,673	2,164,500
Santa Clara.....	3,678,646	2,925,000
Puerto Príncipe.....	270,087	405,000
Santiago.....	1,767,426	1,774,000

PRODUCCIÓN Y EXPORTACIÓN DE TABACO EN 1907.

Los datos recopilados para la "Cuban Review," que comprenden la producción de tabaco cubano en los años de 1904-1907, muestran la siguiente producción total de cada año:

	Tercios.		Tercios.
1904.....	428, 108	1906.....	286, 288
1905.....	473, 617	1907.....	440, 745

Dícese que varias provincias, en las cuales se cultiva el tabaco, en 1906 y 1907 produjeron las siguientes cantidades:

	1906.	1907.
	Tercios.	Tercios.
Vuelta Abajo.....	139,346	234,012
Semi Vuelta.....	11,886	21,885
Partidos.....	37,711	75,344
Matanzas.....	614	904
Remedios.....	87,851	93,950
Puerto Príncipe.....	1,028	1,009
Santiago de Cuba.....	7,852	13,641

El valor del tabaco en rama y elaborado en 1907 ascendió á \$28,-645,908.60, en comparación con \$36,702,585.75, en el año anterior, al paso que el valor del tabaco que se consumió en la Isla se calculó en \$13,697,640.04 y \$12,334,154.72, en los dos años de referencia, lo cual demuestra que el valor total de toda la cosecha en 1907 ascendió á \$42,343,548.64, y en 1906 á \$49,036,740.47.

De un total de 200,672 tercios de tabaco en rama que se exportaron in 1907 y cuyo valor ascendió á \$14,960,933, los Estados Unidos compraron 180,274; de los 186,428,607 puros ó tabacos enviados al extranjero, cuyo valor ascendió á \$13,112,226, de una producción total de 364,400,997, los Estados Unidos compraron 61,869,131 de tercios, al paso que se fabricaron 227,299,494 cajetillas de cigarros ó cigarillos, de las cuales se exportaron 16,505,104, cuyo valor ascendió á \$449,928, habiéndose consumido 210,794,390 cajetillas en el país.

LAS CONDICIONES SANITARIAS EN 1907.

En el informe que ha hecho el Departamento de Sanidad Nacional del Gobierno de Cuba correspondiente á 1907, se hace constar que en dicho año prevalecieron condiciones sanitarias muy satisfactorias como resultado de haberse hecho cargo el Gobierno Nacional del servicio de sanidad de toda la República, de acuerdo con el decreto de 26 de agosto del expresado año.

En el año de referencia en la Habana sólo ocurrieron 7 casos de fiebre amarilla, y 161 en el resto de la Isla, en tanto que en 1906 hubo 71 casos en la capital y 41 en el interior de la Isla.

El expresado Departamento consagró especial atención al exterminio de los mosquitos, así como á la reglamentación del abaste-

cimiento de leche, habiéndose inspeccionado debidamente los establecimientos que se consagran á la preparación de substancias alimenticias, incluso el hielo, aguas minerales, confiterías, etc. Se impuso el análisis químico de las cervezas y otros licores, y los debidos profesores de medicina inspeccionaron á intervalos regulares las escuelas particulares y públicas, debiendo agregarse que se vacunaron, como una medida de precaución, 5,520 alumnos.

En el año de referencia el número de defunciones en la capital ascendió á 6,708, la mayor parte de ellas causadas por la tuberculosis, de la cual hubo 1,176 casos fatales.

ADHESIÓN Á LA CONVENCION DE GINEBRA.

El 17 de marzo de 1908, la República de Cuba declaró oficialmente su adhesión á la convención que fué firmada en Ginebra el día 6 de julio de 1906, para el alivio de los soldados heridos en el campo de batalla, así como al protocolo final de dicha convención que fué firmado en esa misma fecha.

La convención de referencia fué resultado de una conferencia que se celebró con el fin de revisar la convención de Ginebra que fué firmada en 1864.

CHILE.

VALOR DEL COMERCIO EXTRANJERO EN 1907.

Las cifras publicadas por la Oficina de Estadística de las Aduanas de Chile muestran que en 1907 el valor total del comercio extranjero ascendió á 573,762,585 de pesos, que al tipo de \$0.365 equivalen á \$209,423,343 en oro americano. En esta cantidad total las importaciones representan 293,681,855 de pesos, ó sean \$107,193,877, en tanto que las exportaciones representan 280,080,730 de pesos, ó sean \$102,129,466.

Las cifras revisadas del valor del comercio extranjero in 1906 indican una suma total un tanto mayor que la que se anunció originalmente, por cuanto el valor de las importaciones y exportaciones combinadas ascendió á 527,319,039 de pesos, ó sean \$192,471,448; es decir, 237,697,642 de pesos, valor de importaciones, ó sean \$86,759,639 y 289,621,397 de pesos, ó sean \$105,711,809, valor de las exportaciones.

Comparando las cifras correspondientes á estos dos años, se advierte un aumento de \$16,951,895 en el valor del comercio de la República en 1907. Este aumento en el valor lo representan enteramente las importaciones, que arrojan un aumento de \$20,434,238, pues de \$86,759,639 subió á \$107,193,877, en tanto que en el valor de las exportaciones ocurrió una baja de \$3,482,333, puesto que de \$105,711,809 bajó á \$102,229,466.

La merma en el valor de las exportaciones se atribuye á la disminución que hubo en los embarques de salitre, cuyo valor en el año de referencia ascendió á 206,202,950 de pesos, ó sean \$75,264,076, contra \$79,320,710, en 1906.

REPÚBLICA DOMINICANA.

MEMORIA DEL SECRETARIO DE FOMENTO Y OBRAS PÚBLICAS, 1907.

En cumplimiento de sus deberes constitucionales, el Secretario de Fomento y Obras Públicas de la República Dominicana presentó al Presidente, con fecha 27 de febrero de 1908, su memoria anual correspondiente á 1908, en la que da cuenta detallada de la gestión realizada por su Secretaría.

Comienza la memoria hablando de la Exposición Nacional celebrada en la capital para conmemorar el cuadragésimo aniversario de la Restauración, é inaugurada el 16 de agosto de 1907. Todas las provincias de la República estuvieron representadas en ella y expusieron las riquezas y productos, ya agrícolas, ya industriales, de cada una de ellas; el éxito de la exposición fué altamente satisfactorio.

Invitada la República por el Gobierno de los Estados Unidos para que participara en la Exposición Tercentenaria de Jamestown, que se celebró en Norfolk, Estado de Virginia, en el verano de 1907, y aceptada por el Gobierno dicha invitación, se dispuso la construcción en los terrenos de la exposición de un edificio de maderas del país para exhibir en él los productos de la República. La exhibición dominicana recibió medallas de oro, de plata y de cobre, y, en general, el éxito que alcanzó fué muy halagüeño.

Hablando de los ferrocarriles, el Secretario dice que hay actualmente en construcción cuatro líneas que serán de grandes y beneficiosos resultados para el país porque pondrán en comunicación con la costa importantes centros productores y abrirán regiones inmensamente ricas que hasta ahora no han sido explotadas por la falta de medios de comunicación. Una de estas líneas, que se construye por cuenta del Estado y que muy pronto quedará terminada, es la que unirá la ciudad de Santiago de los Caballeros con la de Moca, y sus trenes circulan ya hasta el poblado de Peña; esta línea, que empalma con el Ferrocarril Central Dominicano, prestará ventajosas facilidades á la exportación de los productos de Moca y Salcedo, grandes centros productores de cacao, el principal artículo de exportación. También se construye por cuenta del Gobierno la línea que unirá el Puerto de la Romana con la ciudad del Seybo, cuyos trabajos fueron comenzados á

primeros de enero de 1907; este ferrocarril, según la opinión del Ministro, será un incentivo poderoso para que los habitantes de la región del Seybo den grande empuje á sus siembras de cacao y conviertan aquella provincia en el centro de mayor producción de ese grano. La Provincia del Seybo, sin tener vía de comunicación ni puerto cercano por donde dar salida á sus productos, cuenta en la actualidad con más de 2,000,000 de árboles de cacao en estado de producción.

Las otras dos líneas á que se refiere la memoria se están construyendo en virtud de concesiones otorgadas por el Gobierno; una de ellas unirá la capital con San Cristóbal, con prolongación hasta las minas de cobre de San Francisco, y la otra conectará el Puerto de Barahona con la población de San Juan.

Refiriéndose á la agricultura, fuente principal de riqueza pública, la memoria hace varias recomendaciones tendentes á fomentarla y desarrollarla, tales como la apertura de nuevas vías de comunicación y la delimitación de terrenos comuneros. La ley de crianza, que se puso en vigor durante el año, ha dado muy buenos resultados para la industria pecuaria.

Las obras públicas adelantaron mucho durante el período de que trata la memoria. En Santo Domingo se procede á la desobstrucción de la embocadura del Ozama, obra que será muy costosa pero que rendirá grandes beneficios al comercio del país. En la Provincia de Monte Cristi se terminaron las siguientes obras: El puente sobre el Río Chacuey; un camino que atraviesa los terrenos de la Judea y parte del potrero llamado de Miguel Rivas; la represa y dique del arroyo Maguaca; limpieza y canalización del Río Chacuey, y otro dique en el arroyo Maguaca. Llévanse á cabo con rapidez las obras de irrigación en dicha provincia, bajo la dirección de un ingeniero norteamericano contratado al efecto por el Gobierno. En el mes de septiembre de 1907 quedaron terminados el muelle y los depósitos construídos en Barahona por la *Habanero Lumber Company*; esta misma compañía estableció durante el año plantaciones en la Sección de Paradis en la Provincia de Barahona. En la capital se comenzaron los trabajos para convertir la Plaza de la Independencia en magnífico parque público. Las obras de la carretera de Santo Domingo á San Cristóbal se prosiguieron con actividad, y el Ministro pide en la memoria una nueva suma para poder continuarlas. Varios ayuntamientos de la República llevaron á cabo por su cuenta obras de importancia.

CONTRATOS PARA EL AJUSTE DE LA DEUDA PÚBLICA.

La "Gaceta Oficial" de la República Dominicana, de fecha 4 de abril de 1908, contiene tres convenios relativos al ajuste de la deuda pública de la nación. El primero, celebrado en la ciudad de Nueva York entre el Gobierno y los Señores KUHNS, LOEB & Co., el 27 de enero de 1908, es sobre la creación y emisión de bonos de la

República, del 5 por ciento, con fondo de amortización, garantizados por los derechos de aduanas, hasta la suma de \$20,000,000 en moneda de oro de los Estados Unidos. El segundo convenio fué celebrado en Nueva York el 24 de enero de 1908, entre la República y la Compañía del Ferrocarril de Samaná y Santiago, en virtud del cual la compañía abandona desde el primero de dicho mes todo derecho que de acuerdo con la resolución del Congreso de 13 de agosto de 1887 tenía por el término de treinta y cinco años al cobro del 7 por ciento de los derechos de importación que se causaren por la Aduana de Sánchez, en cambio de la entrega por parte del Gobierno de la suma de \$195,000 en bonos de la República del 5 por ciento á la par, con interés desde el 1° de febrero de 1908. El tercer contrato fué celebrado también en Nueva York el 13 de febrero de 1908 con la *San Domingo Improvement Company*, de Nueva York, la *San Domingo Finance Company*, de Nueva York, la Compañía del Ferrocarril Central Dominicano, y la Compañía del Banco Nacional de Santo Domingo, por el cual se fija en \$4,312,242.76 oro la cantidad que debe pagar el Gobierno á dichas compañías por el traspaso de todos los derechos é intereses poseídos ó representados por las mismas en el Banco Nacional de Santo Domingo (incluyendo 6,338 acciones del capital del referido banco), por el traspaso del Ferrocarril Central Dominicano (incluyendo 15,000 acciones del capital de dicho ferrocarril), por la entrega de los antiguos bonos de la República hasta el montante total de £830,654, y en completo arreglo de todas las deudas y reclamaciones de cualquiera clase que tengan las mencionadas compañías contra el Gobierno.

ECUADOR.

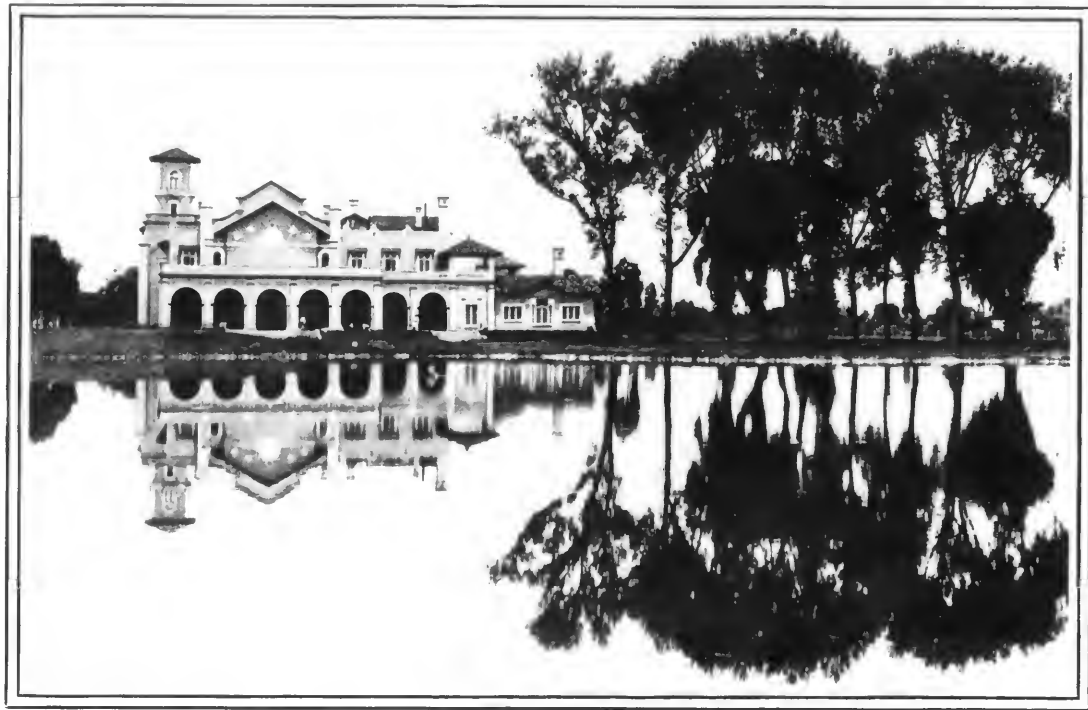
COMISIÒN ESPECIAL DE SANEAMIENTO EN GUAYAQUIL.

El Presidente ALFARO de la República del Ecuador ha dictado un decreto, con fecha 24 de marzo de 1908, que dispone el establecimiento en la ciudad de Guayaquil de una comisión especial de saneamiento, la cual constará de cuatro miembros. Su objeto especial será la extirpación de la peste bubónica, la fiebre amarilla y la viruela en toda la extensión de la ciudad de Guayaquil y sus alrededores, y el establecimiento de la higiene doméstica en los hogares, por medio de los métodos de la práctica sanitaria moderna, á cuyo efecto ha quedado investida con amplias facultades. La comisión deberá llevar á cabo su obra dentro del plazo máximo de dos años, de conformidad con el memorandum de saneamiento presentado al Presidente de la República por los médicos oficiales de sanidad americana, Doctores J. F. PERRY y BOLIVAR J. LLOYD. Este último ha sido nombrado presidente de la comisión.



Situada en el corazón de los Andes, y accesible por medio del Ferrocarril de Guayaquil y Quito, recientemente inaugurado.

PANORAMIC VIEW OF QUITO, THE CAPITAL OF ECUADOR.
In the heart of the Andes, and accessible by means of the recently completed Guayaquil and Quito Railway.



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Recientemente inaugurado, y uno de los centros de sports más aristocráticos de la República Mexicana.

THE COUNTRY CLUB, MEXICO CITY

Recently inaugurated, and one of the fashionable centers of Mexican sports.

ESTADOS UNIDOS.

COMERCIO CON LA AMÉRICA LATINA.

IMPORTACIONES Y EXPORTACIONES.

En la página 1078 aparece la última relación en detalle del comercio entre los Estados Unidos y la América Latina, tomada de la compilación hecha por la Oficina de Estadística del Departamento de Comercio y Trabajo de los Estados Unidos. Estos datos se refieren al valor del comercio arriba mencionado. La estadística corresponde al mes de marzo de 1908, comparada con la del mes correspondiente del año anterior, y también comprende los datos referentes á los nueve meses que terminaron en marzo de 1908, comparados con igual período de 1907. Debe explicarse que las estadísticas de las importaciones y exportaciones de las diversas aduanas referentes á un mes cualquiera no se reciben hasta el 20 del mes siguiente, necesitándose algún tiempo para su compilación é impresión; de suerte que los datos estadísticos correspondientes al mes de marzo, por ejemplo, no se publican hasta mayo.

COMERCIO EXTRANJERO EN LOS NUEVE MESES DEL AÑO ECONÓMICO DE 1907-8.

Las cifras publicadas por la Oficina de Estadística de los Estados Unidos, correspondientes al mes de marzo y los nueve meses del año económico de 1907-8, que terminó en marzo de 1908, muestran la siguiente clasificación de importaciones y exportaciones y su valor respectivo, así como los principales países de donde procedieron las mercancías y los países á los cuales fueron exportadas, en comparación con el año anterior:

IMPORTACIONES.

	Nueve meses que terminaron en marzo—	
	1907.	1908.
Substancias alimenticias en bruto y animales para el consumo.....	\$112,418,200	\$110,048,881
Substancias alimenticias parcial ó enteramente elaboradas.....	110,629,289	98,296,009
Materia prima para usarse en las fábricas.....	355,237,854	283,383,702
Artefactos para usarse otra vez en las fábricas.....	203,945,163	157,614,319
Artículos manufacturados listos para el consumo.....	274,712,372	272,476,194
Artículos diversos.....	8,902,131	9,027,557
Total de importaciones.....	1,065,845,029	930,846,682

EXPORTACIONES.

Substancias alimenticias en bruto y animales para el consumo.....	\$126,834,832	\$163,211,480
Substancias alimenticias parcial ó enteramente elaboradas.....	259,562,768	261,617,923
Materia prima para usarse en las fábricas.....	497,905,743	478,051,608
Artefactos para usarse otra vez en las fábricas.....	191,627,881	199,695,778
Artículos manufacturados listos para el consumo.....	351,953,659	371,028,682
Artículos diversos.....	4,738,732	5,038,308
Total de exportaciones de artículos domésticos.....	1,432,623,635	1,478,643,779
Mercancías extranjeras exportadas.....	18,276,464	19,464,037
Total de exportaciones.....	1,450,900,099	1,498,107,836

Los países de la América Latina representados en el comercio que antecede, así como la proporción que á cada uno de ellos corresponde en las importaciones y exportaciones, fueron los siguientes:

IMPORTACIONES DE LAS GRANDES REGIONES DEL MUNDO.

Europa.....	\$565,598,966	\$487,000,103
América del Norte.....	178,557,209	168,486,597
América Central.....	9,081,124	9,050,063
América del Sur.....	121,626,124	94,404,094
Asia y Oceanía.....	184,330,514	168,371,383
Africa.....	15,742,156	12,584,505

EXPORTACIONES A LAS GRANDES REGIONES DEL MUNDO.

Europa.....	\$1,026,019,640	\$1,052,048,270
América del Norte.....	250,940,480	238,960,701
América Central.....	18,972,845	20,473,036
América del Sur.....	62,579,141	65,805,107
Asia y Oceanía.....	98,394,450	114,579,842
Africa.....	12,966,388	16,713,916

Países.	Importaciones.		Exportaciones.	
	1907.	1908.	1907.	1908.
Estados Centroamericanos:				
Costa Rica.....	3,223,149	3,236,264	1,795,417	2,122,155
Guatemala.....	1,670,529	1,726,500	2,192,052	1,501,992
Honduras.....	1,577,888	1,670,261	1,390,293	1,298,918
Nicaragua.....	793,955	934,963	1,319,918	1,297,106
Panamá.....	1,234,137	1,128,018	11,010,145	13,470,007
Salvador.....	556,466	354,057	1,065,020	982,838
Total de los Estados Centroamericanos.....	9,081,124	9,050,063	18,972,854	20,473,036
México.....	41,529,001	35,758,281	49,997,142	44,319,605
Cuba.....	60,887,446	50,812,592	36,482,905	36,831,996
Haití.....	829,572	585,924	2,275,164	2,826,424
República Dominicana.....	1,767,338	2,340,708	1,948,849	2,072,860
AMERICA DEL SUR.				
Argentina.....	11,487,869	8,136,853	25,682,787	24,324,188
Bolivia.....	.....	384	590,600	1,048,922
Brasil.....	77,068,276	55,741,624	13,348,908	15,541,726
Chile.....	13,238,865	11,409,286	7,637,634	7,930,437
Colombia.....	4,969,080	4,772,643	2,306,584	2,532,417
Ecuador.....	2,274,841	1,753,114	1,249,213	1,480,408
Paraguay.....	1,174	10,144	122,810	84,403
Perú.....	3,053,391	5,830,979	4,694,559	5,590,920
Uruguay.....	2,164,316	1,022,097	2,525,184	3,027,615
Venezuela.....	5,751,162	4,958,573	2,332,901	1,995,425

HONDURAS.

CREACIÓN DE LA SECRETARÍA DE AGRICULTURA.

Considerando que la agricultura es la base del mejoramiento de las demás industrias del país, y que la creación de una cartera especial contribuirá eficazmente á su desenvolvimiento, el Presidente de la República de Honduras, en decreto fechado el 2 de marzo de 1908, ha dispuesto la creación de la Secretaría de Agricultura, haciendo uso de las facultades que le dan los artículos 108 y 111 de la Constitución Política.

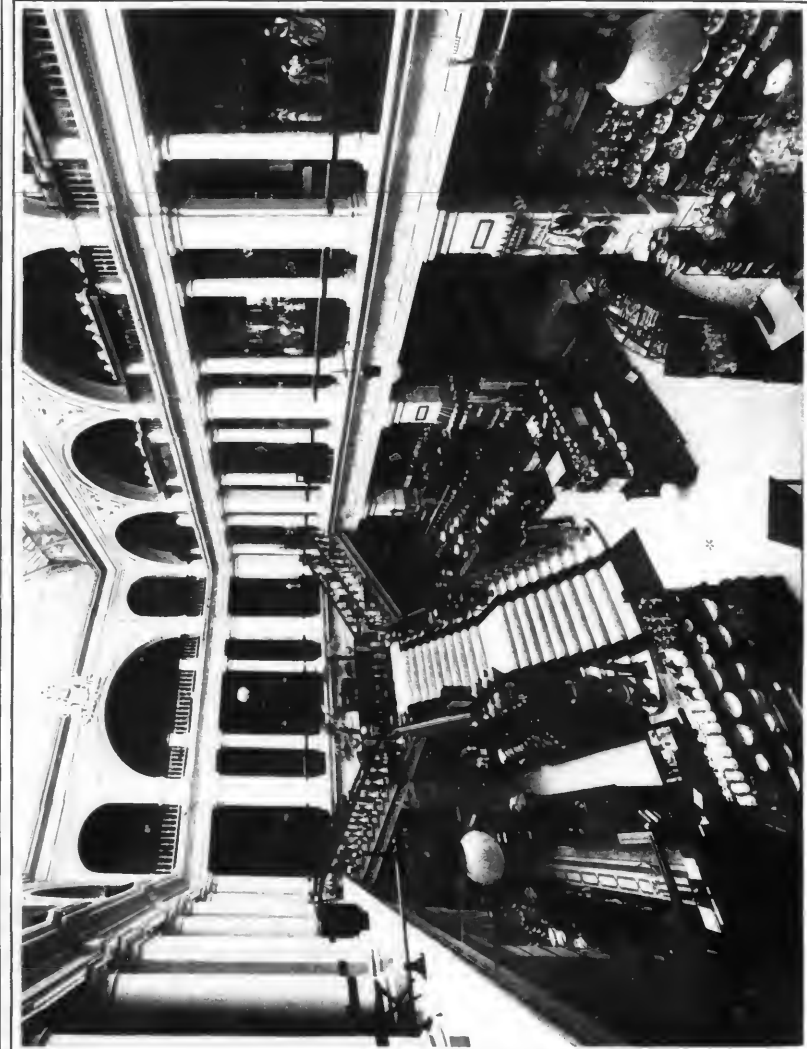


REPRESA DE IRRIGACION CERCA DE IRAPUATO, ESTADO DE GUANAJUATO.

El otorgamiento de concesiones de aguas para la irrigación y otros fines industriales es uno de los factores del desarrollo de México.

IRRIGATION DAM NEAR IRAPUATO, STATE OF GUANAJUATO.

The granting of water concessions for irrigation and industrial purposes is a feature of the present conditions of Mexican development.



INTERIOR DE UNO DE LOS ESTABLECIMIENTOS COMERCIALES MODERNOS DE LA CAPITAL MEXICANA.
INTERIOR VIEW OF ONE OF THE UP-TO-DATE COMMERCIAL ESTABLISHMENTS IN THE MEXICAN CAPITAL.

CONTRATOS FERROVIARIOS CON LA "UNITED FRUIT COMPANY."

"La Gaceta" de la República de Honduras, en sus números del 14 y 18 de marzo de 1908, publica dos proyectos de contrato que se celebrarán entre el Gobierno y la *United Fruit Company*. En el primero se estipula el arrendamiento por espacio de sesenta y cinco años á la compañía mencionada del Ferrocarril Nacional existente de Puerto Cortés á La Pimienta, con privilegio para reconstruirla, y la obligación de construir ramales de la línea principal á las plantaciones de bananos existentes y otras que se vayan formando; la extensión de esas ramificaciones no deberá ser menor de 30 millas. El otro proyecto es relativo á la construcción y explotación de una vía férrea desde La Pimienta hasta el Golfo de Fonseca, con ramales á las plantaciones de bananos vecinas; el término del privilegio será de setenta y cinco años.

COLONIZACIÓN DE LOS TERRENOS DE LA MOSQUITIA.

El periódico oficial de la República de Honduras, "La Gaceta," publica en su número del 16 de marzo de 1908 un proyecto de contrata sobre colonización de los terrenos nacionales de la Mosquitia presentado al Ministro de Fomento y Obras Públicas por el representante de la *European American and Development Company*. En virtud de los términos del contrato, la compañía se compromete á traer al país, para el fin mencionado, 10,000 colonos durante diez años, á partir desde la aprobación del contrato. Los inmigrantes que introduzca la compañía deberán ser naturales de la Europa Central ó del Norte, y no deberán ser mayores de 40 años.

MÉXICO.**COMERCIO EXTERIOR EN LOS SIETE PRIMEROS MESES DE 1907-8.**

Según datos publicados por la sección de estadística del Departamento de Hacienda de la República de México, el valor de las importaciones durante los siete primeros meses de 1907-8 (julio de 1907 á enero de 1908), ascendió á 142,657,412.04 pesos en moneda mexicana, suma que, comparada con la de 128,513,030.70 en que estuvieron valuadas las del mismo período del año anterior, demuestra un aumento de 14,144,381.34 pesos á favor del corriente ejercicio. El valor de las importaciones que se hicieron durante el mes de enero de 1908 fué de 19,679,713.34 pesos, que en comparación con 20,766,322.19 pesos del mismo mes de 1907 representa una disminución de 1,086,608.85 pesos.

Las exportaciones estuvieron valuadas en la cantidad de 146,904,949.68 pesos, que arroja un aumento de 6,720,066.48 pesos

al ser comparada con la de 140,184,883.20 pesos á que ascendió el valor de las mercancías exportadas durante los mismos meses de 1906-7. Los productos que se exportaron durante el mes de enero de 1908 representaron un valor de 19,118,438.05 pesos, comparado con el de 22,300,946.02 pesos de las exportaciones hechas en el mismo mes de 1907, es decir, una disminución de 3,182,507.97 pesos.

ESTADO DE LOS BANCOS MEXICANOS.

El Señor W. D. SHAUGHNESSY, Cónsul de los Estados Unidos en Aguascalientes, en un informe sobre los métodos que se emplean en las operaciones bancarias mexicanas y el estado financiero, dice que los bancos de la República son de los mejores del mundo en cuanto á su solidez y seguridad. La reciente escasez de dinero que se sufrió tanto en los Estados Unidos como en Europa, no ha impedido que los bancos mexicanos paguen sus obligaciones al contado, pero ha sido causa de un alza en el tipo de interés que ha llegado al 12 por ciento, ó sea un aumento de 2½ por ciento desde julio de 1907.

La circular que ha expedido el Ministro de Hacienda invitando á los delegados de los bancos de la República para que se reúnan con el fin de discutir los asuntos financieros, ha sido acogida favorablemente, y se espera que la expresada conferencia dé resultados prácticos.

EXPLOTACIÓN DE CRIADEROS DE PETRÓLEO EN CHIAPAS.

Con fecha 4 de diciembre de 1907, el Presidente de la República de México promulgó un contrato celebrado el 14 de agosto de 1907 entre el Gobierno y los señores LUÍS DE LA BARRA y JUAN BRINGAS para la exploración y explotación de los criaderos de petróleo existentes en los terrenos de la propiedad particular, con la autorización de los respectivos dueños, en el Departamento de Pichmaleo, del Estado de Chiapas. Los concesionarios deberán invertir la suma de 100,000, por lo menos, en las exploraciones y explotación, objeto del contrato, dentro de los siete años siguientes á la fecha del mismo.

FERROCARRIL EN EL TERRITORIO DE LA BAJA CALIFORNIA.

El "Diario Oficial" de la República de México, del 14 de abril de 1908, contiene el texto de un contrato celebrado el 3 del mismo mes, entre el Gobierno y Mr. JOHN D. SPRECKLES, para la construcción de un ferrocarril en el Territorio de la Baja California, que partiendo de un punto de la línea divisoria de México y los Estados Unidos de América, situado á inmediaciones del monumento 255 de dicha línea, y siguiendo hacia el oriente paralelo á la misma á una distancia no menor de 50 metros, termine en el rancho de Jaenmba, cerca del monumento 232. Toda la línea deberá quedar terminada dentro del plazo de seis años, siendo su longitud total de 85 kilómetros.

CÁMARAS NACIONALES DE COMERCIO.

El Señor LIMANTOUR, Secretario de Hacienda de la República de México, presentó al Congreso, con fecha 3 de abril de 1908, una importante ley iniciativa sobre las cámaras de comercio. Ella comprende siete títulos, en los cuales se determinan las funciones de dichas instituciones—la manera como habrán de constituirse; su personalidad civil y sus recursos pecuniarios; las franquicias y derechos de que gozarán; los procedimientos que habrán de seguirse en los juicios arbitrales y en las liquidaciones extrajudiciales que se les encomienden, y, finalmente, las reglas relativas á la disolución de las propias cámaras. Las cámaras de comercio que se organicen de acuerdo con dicho proyecto de ley, una vez aprobado, se denominarán "Cámaras Nacionales de Comercio," y tendrán por objeto, en términos generales, trabajar por los intereses del comercio nacional, y, especialmente, el desempeño de las funciones que les encomienda el expresado proyecto.

EXENCIÓN DE DERECHOS DE EXPORTACIÓN AL HENEQUÉN EN RAMA.

El "Diario Oficial" de la República Mexicana de fecha 4 de abril de 1908, publica el texto de un proyecto de ley que declara exento del derecho de exportación al henequén en rama, derogando el Inciso A de la Fracción IV del artículo 1 de la ley de 22 de mayo de 1907. El proyecto mencionado tiene, además, disposición al efecto de que se devuelvan á los productores de la fibra el importe de los derechos correspondientes al helequén, rama exportado desde el día 16 de febrero de 1908.

Este proyecto fué presentado á la Cámara de Diputados el día 4 de abril de 1908, y fué aprobado como ley el 23 de abril.

BASE DE LOS IMPUESTOS DE TIMBRE Y ADUANAS, MAYO DE 1907.

La circular mensual publicada por el Departamento de Hacienda y Crédito Público de la República Mexicana anuncia que el precio legal por kilogramo de plata pura durante el mes de mayo de 1908 será \$36.05, con arreglo á los cálculos prescritos en el decreto de 25 de marzo de 1905. Este precio servirá de base para el pago del impuesto de timbre y los derechos de aduanas en toda la República cuando se use la moneda de plata mexicana.

NICARAGUA.

MIEMBROS DE LA CORTE PERMANENTE DE ARBITRAJE EN LA HAYA.

Según comunicación recibida de la Legación de Nicaragua en Washington, el Presidente de la República, en decreto de fecha 3 de marzo de 1908, ha nombrado á los Señores Don CRISANTO MEDINA y Don DÉSIÉRE PECTOR, Ministro Plenipotenciario y Cónsul General, respectivamente, de Nicaragua en Francia, como miembros de la Corte Permanente de Arbitraje, por parte de Nicaragua, de conformidad con lo dispuesto en el artículo 23 de la Convención de La Haya de 1899.

LA INDUSTRIA MINERA.

El Señor Ministro de la República de Nicaragua en Washington se ha servido facilitar á la Oficina Internacional de las Repúblicas Americanas interesantes datos sobre la industria minera del país, los cuales se publican á continuación.

Las minas existentes y registradas en la Oficina de Estadística son: Nueva Segovia, 112 de oro, 9 de oro y plata y 5 de plata; Chinandega, 1 de oro, 1 de oro y plata, 1 de plata y 1 de cobre; Carazo, 1 de oro y plata; Jinotega, 20 de oro; Estelí, 12 de oro y 2 de plata; León, 36 de oro; Jerez, 132 de oro; Litoral Atlántico, 171 de oro.

En casi todo el país existen minas de cal, principalmente en Chinandega, Carazo, Rivas y Nueva Segovia. En el Departamento de Jinotega hay un depósito de jaspe, y uno de mollejos en el de Managua. Las canteras de piedra de construcción existen por toda la República, pero las principales son las de Posintepe en Granada, y la de Miramar en la jurisdicción de Tola, Departamento de Rivas. Hay un sinnúmero de minas de mármol y otras piedras de ornamentación, no denunciadas por encontrarse en terrenos particulares.

PANAMÁ.

COMERCIO DE BOCAS DEL TORO EN 1907.

El Señor L. F. RYAN, Agente Consular de los Estados Unidos en Bocas del Toro, anuncia que en 1907 de un valor total de \$794,451.33, de las exportaciones que se hicieron de aquel distrito consular á los Estados Unidos, \$790,737.50 representaron los embarques de 3,163,050 de racimos de bananos con destino á Nueva Orleans ó Mobile.

Los cueros, la goma, cocos, limas, artículos curiosos del país, corteza de quaqua y majagua, constituyeron los otros productos de exportación, cuyo valor ascendió á \$3,613.93.

Á Europa se exportaron goma, zarzaparrilla, carey, cueros, carno de tortuga y cacao por valor de \$32,275.

El valor de las mercancías que se importaron de los Estados Unidos en el año de referencia, ascendió á \$873,188.96, y dichas importaciones comprenden grandes cantidades de madera y bacalao, además de diversas substancias alimenticias ó víveres, así como ropa, locomotoras, material para puentes y ferrocarriles, herramientas, gasolina, etc. Entre las mercancías devueltas á los Estados Unidos y valuadas en \$33,757.27, los principales artículos consistieron de latas de gasolina vacías para volverlas á llenar.

Otro artículo de importación importante fué el acero para construcciones de ferrocarriles y puentes y para la terminación del nuevo muelle que se está construyendo en Almirante, y se espera que el desarrollo de los medios de transporte y de embarque del expresado distrito aumente mucho el valor de los terrenos productores de bananos. Se espera que en 1908 por este puerto se embarcarán por lo menos 4,000,000 de racimos de esta fruta.

EL PUERTO DE COLÓN EN 1907.

Según el informe que ha hecho el Señor JAMES C. KELLOGG, Cónsul de los Estados Unidos en Colón, en el año de 1907 hubo una disminución tanto en el valor de las importaciones como en el de las exportaciones, en comparación con 1906. Dícese que el valor total de las importaciones ascendió á \$2,039,352, ó sea una disminución de \$735,083, al paso que el valor de las exportaciones ascendió á \$100,792, ó sea una disminución de \$55,862, en comparación con el año anterior.

El valor de las importaciones que se hicieron de los Estados Unidos ascendió á \$1,275,333, ó sea una baja de \$662,052, en tanto que de la Gran Bretaña, Alemania, Francia, España, Italia, y otros países se hicieron menos importaciones.

El principal artículo de importación fué la lencería, incluso calzado de todas clases, al paso que en la lista de los artículos de exportación los cocos ocupan el primer puesto, representando un valor de \$37,838, seguidos del marfil vegetal por valor de \$23,958; carey, \$12,361; cueros, \$6,442; café, \$4,458, y bananos por valor de \$4,000.

Se han introducido muchas mejoras, entre las cuales merece especial mención un completo sistema de cloaca y de abastecimiento de agua, habiéndose ocupado también las autoridades municipales en el pavimento y nivelación de las calles, así como en la construcción y renovación, tanto de los edificios públicos como de los particulares.

PERÚ.

EL FERROCARRIL DE HUANCAYO Á AYACUCHO.

El día 13 de febrero de 1908 se inauguraron oficialmente los trabajos de la importante línea ferroviaria de Huancayo á Ayacucho. El Congreso de la República autorizó la construcción de este ferrocarril por ley No. 667 de 20 de noviembre de 1907. La longitud total de línea será de unos 260 kilómetros, y su costo ha sido calculado en £910,000.

MOVIMIENTO COMERCIAL Y MARÍTIMO DE IQUITOS EN 1907.

Las últimas estadísticas oficiales recibidas del Perú, relativas al movimiento comercial y marítimo de Iquitos durante el año de 1907, ponen en realce el progreso de este importante puerto, que, en categoría, movimiento y rentas, viene después del Callao, el primero de la República.

Los productos líquidos de la Aduana ascendieron á £249,038.7.01, en comparación con £181,846.8.52, renta recaudada en 1906.

La exportación de goma elástica de Iquitos durante 1907 fué como sigue, con arreglo á los puertos de destino:

	Kilogramos.
Havre.....	1,037,789
Liverpool.....	1,211,992
Hamburgo.....	100,534
Nueva York.....	8,524
Total.....	2,358,839

En 1906 las exportaciones de goma tuvieron un peso total de 2,152,421 kilogramos, por lo que la diferencia á favor de 1907 es de 415,923 kilogramos.

El movimiento marítimo del puerto durante el año de que se trata fué como sigue: Entradas—Buques, 549; toneladas, 41,580; tripulantes, 7,721, y pasajeros, 7,056. Salidas—Buques, 547; toneladas, 41,938; tripulantes, 7,753, y pasajeros, 7,172.

SALVADOR.

COMISIÓN PANAMERICANA.

El día 23 de marzo de 1908 el Presidente del Salvador decretó el nombramiento de una comisión para que preste servicios en relación con el Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores, á fin de cumplir los preceptos de la cuarta resolución de la Tercera Conferencia Internacional que se celebró en Río de Janeiro.

El Subsecretario de Relaciones Exteriores hará de presidente de la comisión, la cual comprende tres miembros más, y cuyos deberes se expresan terminantemente en el "Diario Oficial" del 25 de marzo de 1908.

CONVENCIÓN DE CIUDADANÍA CON LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS.

El día 14 de marzo de 1908 los representantes del Salvador y de los Estados Unidos firmaron en la ciudad de San Salvador la convención para fijar la condición de los ciudadanos naturalizados de uno ú otro país que renuevan su residencia en el país de su origen. Esta convención fué aprobada por el Presidente del Salvador el mismo día en que fué firmada, y ha sido publicada en el "Diario Oficial" del 17 de marzo de 1908.

LA INSTRUCCIÓN PÚBLICA EN 1907.

El 24 de febrero de 1908 fué presentada á la Asamblea Nacional de la República del Salvador la memoria de instrucción pública, correspondiente al año de 1907. Según la memoria, se dispuso la conversión en mixtas de varias escuelas de ambos sexos, y se crearon 103 nuevas que agregadas á las 29 ya existentes hacen un total de 132 escuelas mixtas para toda la República. Durante el año á que se refiere la memoria, sirvieron en las escuelas 313 directores, 125 subdirectores y 155 profesores auxiliares; 278 directoras, 110 subdirectoras y 105 profesoras auxiliares. El total de alumnos matriculados fué de 34,752 y la asistencia media 24,713. El total de gastos ocasionados por la instrucción primaria en 1907 fué de 645,766 pesos; según este dato, el Gobierno ha invertido en cada alumno matriculado 18.38 pesos, y en cada alumno de asistencia media 26.13 pesos. Existen, además, en la República muchos colegios particulares, algunos de los cuales son muy importantes; los hay exclusivamente destinados á la enseñanza primaria y otros á la primaria y secundaria á la vez. La enseñanza facultativa está á cargo de la Universidad Nacional de San Salvador, que comprende las escuelas de jurisprudencia, medicina, farmacia, cirugía dental, ingeniería, comercio, etc.

En ocho meses de 1907, de marzo á octubre, concurrieron á la Biblioteca Nacional 7,748 lectores, los cuales leyeron 5,037 obras y 2,184 revistas.

URUGUAY.

DISTRIBUCIÓN DEL COMERCIO POR ADUANAS.

La mayor parte del comercio del Uruguay se hace por la Aduana de Montevideo, habiendo ascendido el valor total del comercio extranjero por dicho puerto en 1907 á \$57,268,927, ó sea un 82.32 por ciento de un valor total de \$69,576,143 de las importaciones y exportaciones del país.

De los \$34,425,205, valor de importaciones en toda la República, \$31,930,324, ó sea un 92.76 por ciento, se hicieron por la Aduana de Montevideo, en tanto que el valor de las exportaciones ascendió á \$25,338,643, ó sea un 72.08 por ciento de un valor total de \$35,150,937.

La distribución del valor restante de las importaciones y exportaciones fué como sigue:

Aduanas.	Impor- taciones.	Exporta- ciones.	Total.
Paysandú	\$736,563	\$2,265,077	\$3,001,520
Fray Bentos	272,317	2,410,740	2,680,057
Salto	621,286	1,778,107	2,400,393
Colonia	372,232	1,932,507	2,304,739
Mercedes	234,572	1,111,870	1,346,442
Cerro Largo	20,735	124,775	205,511
San Eugenio	3,509	102,523	106,032
Santa Rosa	15,537	54,982	70,512
Cebollati	21,715	13,981	35,696
Maldonado	22,129	.....	22,129
Rivera	10,170	17,732	27,905
Rocha	20,176	.....	20,176

DISTRIBUCIÓN DEL SUPERÁVIT DEL TESORO.

El superávit del Tesoro del Uruguay correspondiente al año de 1906-7, que se calculó en \$2,149,934, queda comprendido en las siguientes asignaciones de capital, además de la suma de \$1,800,000 que ya se ha empleado: Para la primera cuota de la compra del edificio de la Universidad, \$100,000; para la renovación parcial de armamentos, \$100,000; para medidas sanitarias en las poblaciones, \$50,000; para la inspección sanitaria de toda clase ganado, \$50,000; para reparaciones, muebles, etc., de la Aduana, \$49,986.

PRODUCCIÓN DE ORO DE LAS MINAS DE CUÑAPIRU EN 1907.

El informe que se le hizo al Ministro de Obras Públicas de la República del Uruguay, correspondiente á 1907, muestra que la Compañía Minera Francesa establecida en Cuñapiru sometió á tratamiento 18,028 toneladas métricas de mineral, de las cuales se extrajeron 117 kilogramos 917 gramos de oro. El producto de las ventas de oro ascendió á \$51,883.48, habiéndose pagado \$259.41 por concepto de contribuciones.

El promedio del valor del mineral que se sometió á tratamiento fué 6½ gramos por tonelada, ó sean 4 escrúpulos, 4.308 gramos. Las minas más productivas son la de San Gregorio y la Ernestinita, en Corrales.

VENEZUELA.

DECRETOS DELATIVOS AL TABACO.

La "Gaceta Oficial" de la República de Venezuela, del 20 marzo de 1908, publica dos decretos del Presidente CASTRO relativos al tabaco, ambos fechados en el mencionado día. Uno de ellos declara artículo de prohibida importación la picadura de grano que se emplea en la elaboración de cigarrillos, y prohíbe asimismo la elaboración en el país de la mencionada picadura de grano; las disposiciones de este decreto entraron en vigor el 30 de marzo de 1908, pero no surtirán efecto para con la Fábrica Nacional de Cigarrillos por virtud del contrato que tiene celebrado con el Gobierno.

El otro decreto es relativo á la forma en que debe efectuarse el pago del impuesto que grava el tabaco destinado al consumo, y dispone que dicho impuesto ha de cobrarse precisamente al efectuarse la última venta del artículo, entendiéndose por última venta la que se hace por el comerciante ó tenedor de la especie al industrial que ha de transformarla en un nuevo artículo ó al que expendá la hoja al detal.

EL COMERCIO Y LA INDUSTRIA EN PUERTO CABELLO EN 1907.

El Señor JAMES W. JOHNSON, Cónsul de los Estados Unidos en Puerto Cabello, en su informe sobre el comercio de Venezuela que se hizo por Puerto Cabello en 1907, dice que se advierte una merma notable en el movimiento de dicho puerto: es decir, una disminución de cerca de \$1,000,000 en el valor de las exportaciones y varios centenares de miles de pesos en oro en el valor de las importaciones, debido al fracaso parcial de la cosecha de café, así como á la merma en el comercio de ganado vacuno con Cuba.

El valor total de las exportaciones se calcula en \$2,470,773 y el principal artículo fué el café del cual se exportaron 26,053,808 libras, valuadas en \$1,794,904. Los embarques de ganado vacuno, cuyo valor en 1906 ascendió casi á \$1,500,000, en 1907 sólo se valieron en \$489,391.

El valor total de las importaciones ascendió á \$1,380,860, y entre las naciones de las cuales procedieron las importaciones la Gran Bretaña ocupa el primer puesto y representó \$592,567, seguida de los Estados Unidos que representaron \$272,524; Alemania, \$264,975, y Holanda que representó \$102,803.

El principal artículo que se importó de los Estados Unidos fué la harina, cuyo valor ascendió á \$49,363, y después los géneros de algodón, que representaron un valor de \$29,348.

NAVEGACIÓN DE LOS RÍOS BOCA DE MANGLE Y CAPADARE.

El Ministro de Relaciones Interiores de Venezuela, autorizado por el Presidente de la República, celebró el 11 de marzo de 1908 un contrato con Don MANUEL R. AZPÚRUA, en virtud del cual éste se

compromete á hacer navegables los Ríos Boca de Mangle y Capadare, tributario del anterior, desde el paso Real de Jacura á un punto cerca de la población de Capadare, hasta la desembocadura al mar del Río Boca de Mangle y San Juan, en un trayecto de 20 á 25 kilómetros que tienen dichos ríos accesibles á la navegación. El contratista se compromete á establecer una línea de embarcaciones para el servicio de trasportes por dichos ríos, y también las lanchas de vapor que el tráfico requiera. La duración del contrato es de cincuenta años, durante los cuales el Gobierno no podrá conceder á ninguna otra persona ó compañía el derecho de navegar los ríos objeto del contrato; terminado este plazo, la empresa con todas sus pertenencias pasará á ser propiedad de la Nación, excepción hecha de los buques de vapor.

El texto del contrato de referencia fué publicado en la "Gaceta Oficial" del 11 de marzo de 1908.



A AVENIDA DO MANGUE.

que faz parte das obras de melhoramento da cidade do Rio de Janeiro. Este boulevard está construído ao longo do Canal do Mangue, que dá visão ás águas pluviais e propicias ris mullta parte da cidade.

AVENIDA DO MANGUE.

Part of the municipal improvements undertaken in Rio de Janeiro. The boulevard paralleling a canal which acts as an outlet for the rain water and small rivulets of the section.



VISTA DE UMA SECÇÃO DA PLAZA DE ARMAS, EM SANTIAGO, CHILE.
No fundo está o histórico Morro de Santa Lucía, hoje um passeio público.

VIEW OF A SECTION OF THE PLAZA DE ARMAS, AT SANTIAGO, CHILE.
In the background is the historic Santa Lucía Hill, now a public promenade.

BOLETIM

DA

SECRETARIA INTERNACIONAL DAS REPUBLICAS AMERICANAS,

UNIÓN INTERNACIONAL DAS REPUBLICAS AMERICANAS.

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O programma das cerimoniaes do lançamento da pedra angular do novo edificio da União Internacional das Republicas Americanas que se realiza hoje, 11 de maio de 1908, data em que sahe á luz esta edição especial do BOLETIM MENSAL, vem confirmar a importancia da occasião como um acontecimento internacional. Pronunciarão discursos o Exmo. SR. THEODORE ROOSEVELT, Presidente dos Estados Unidos, que tem mostrado o mais profundo interesse durante a sua administração no desenvolvimento das relações commerciaes e de amizade entre as Republicas Americanas; o Hon. ELIHU ROOT, Secretario de Estado dos Estados Unidos, que não só por suas visitas especiaes á America do Sul e ao Mexico, mas tambem pela solícita attenção que tem consagrado a tudo quanto concerne ás relações dos Estados Unidos com a America Latina, tem dado um impulso e importancia ao movimento Pan-Americano que de outro modo não poderia ter; o Sr. JOAQUIM NABUCO, Embaixador do Brasil, que é o decano do Corpo Diplomatico da America Latina em Washington e que presidiu á Terceira Conferencia Pan-Americana, que se reuniu no Rio de Janeiro em 1906; e o Sr. ANDREW CARNEGIE que, por uma singular coincidência, não só foi delegado dos Estados Unidos á Primeira Conferencia Pan-Americana, que se reuniu em Washington no inverno de 1889-90, e que organizou a Secretaria Internacional, mas que agora tem contribuido generosamente com \$750,000 para a construcção deste novo edificio da instituição. A invocação será pronunciada pela Sua Eminencia o Cardeal JAMES GIBBONS, que é o Chefe da Igreja Catholica nos Estados Unidos, e

Apezar de se tomar o maior cuidado para se assegurar correcção nas publicações da Secretaria Internacional das Republicas Americanas, esta não se responsabiliza pelos erros ou inexactidões que nellas occorrerem.

a benção será dada pelo Bispo CRANSTON que é o decano do clero protestante do Districto de Columbia.

O acto será presidido pelo Sr. JOHN BARRETT, Director da Secretaria Internacional, que convidará o Secretario de Estado e Presidente do Conselho Director para dirigir as cerimoniaes.

Durante o programma serão executadas peças de musica hispano-americanas apropriadas pela famosa Banda de Marinha, que por ordem especial do Secretario da Marinha tomará parte nas cerimoniaes. A caixa de cobre que se depositará dentro da pedra angular conterá os relatorios officiaes das tres Conferencias Pan-Americanas, realizadas respectivamente em Washington, em 1889-90; na cidade de Mexico, em 1901-2; e no Rio de Janeiro em 1906; copias das cartas trocadas entre o Presidente dos Estados Unidos, o Secretario de Estado e o Sr. ANDREW CARNEGIE, acerca do donativo que este ultimo cavalleiro fez para o novo edificio; photographias dos Presidentes das Republicas Americanas e seus telegrammas de congratulações pelo motivo desse acontecimento; photographias dos membros do Conselho Director e dos Directores da Secretaria desde sua fundação; pequenas bandeiras e copias dos sellos dos respectivos paizes que fazem parte da União Internacional; exemplares do BOLETIM MENSAL e outras publicações da Secretaria Internacional; moedas e sellos postaes das differentes Republicas; jornaes representativos, etc. A archibancada e o lugar onde será assentada a pedra inaugural serão decorados com grande profusão de bandeiras, estandartes, e escudos de armas de todas as nações americanas. Convites foram dirigidos ao Presidente, Vice-Presidente, os membros do Gabinete, os membros do Corpo Diplomatico, Supremo Tribunal e outros altos funcionarios judiciaes, Governadores dos Estados e Territorios, membros do Senado e Casa dos Representantes, officiaes do Exercito e da Marinha estacionados em Washington, os Commissionados do Districto, os chefes dos differentes Departamentos, membros do Clero, os chefes de instituições docentes e commerciaes e outras pessoas.

IMPORTANCIA INTERNACIONAL DA COLLOCAÇÃO DA PEDRA INAUGURAL.

O assentamento da pedra inaugural do novo edificio da Secretaria Internacional das Republicas Americanas tem tal importancia que deve attrahir a attenção de todos os que se interessarem pelo desenvolvimento da paz, a amizade e o commercio entre as nações. Ainda que a União Internacional, da qual a Secretaria é o centro, seja composta das vinte e una Republicas Americanas, nada ha em sua organização ou fins que seja hostil á idea de manter as mais cordiaes relações entre estas Republicas e os paizes da Europa, Asia e o resto do mundo. Ainda que as nações que constituem a União Pan-Americana receberão

os principaes beneficios della, sem embargo, tudo que contribuir para o bem estar, prosperidade e progresso destas, tambem ha de estreitar mais suas relações com o Velho Mundo. Por consequente, o mundo inteiro pode unir-se á America nesta occasião para exprimir a satisfação pelo facto de que em Washington vai ser erigido um magnifico edificio que será não só um templo de paz e cordialidade internacional, mas que ha de ser, por assim dizer, uma camara internacional de commercio e um centro sympathico em uma capital para os representantes officiaes e o povo de todas as nações americanas que se interessem em desenvolver relações mais estreitas entre estes paizes e sua mutua prosperidade.

ARTIGOS ESPECIAES PARA ESTE NUMERO DO "BOLETIM."

Com o intuito de fazer este numero do BOLETIM MENSAL especialmente opportuno e interessante para todos os que se interessam pelo desenvolvimento do Panamericanismo e que desejam conhecer a esphera de acção e os trabalhos da Secretaria Internacional, publicamos um numero excepcional de artigos especiaes, além da relação regular do commercio e desenvolvimento pan-americanos. Estes comprehendem dous artigos pelo Director que se publicaram recentemente nas revistas "The World To-Day" e "System," intitulados respectivamente "A America Latina: Uma Grande Opportunidade Commercial" e "Um Poderoso Auxilio ao Commercio Exterior;" um esboço do pessoal do Conselho Director da Secretaria Internacional, preparado pelo Sr. FRANCISCO J. JANES, Secretario da Repartição; uma breve relação da Commissão Pan-Americana que foi nomeada recentemente pelo Secretario de Estado dos Estados Unidos; uma descripção do novo edificio sob o ponto de vista architectonico, pelo Sr. PAUL P. GRET, membro da firma de KELSEY E CRET que fez o desenho do edificio e está encarregada de sua construcção; uma discussão das condições para viajar na America do Sul, pelo Prof. WILLIAM R. SHEPHERD, da Universidade de Columbia, que fez recentemente uma viagem a este continente; um itinerario de linhas de vapores que vão á America Latina, juntamente com um mappa preparado pelo Dr. ALBERT HALE que esteve recentemente na America Latina e que escreveu um notavel livro intitulado "Os Sul-Americanos;" extractos de um discurso que o Honorable JAMES L. SLAYDEN, Representante do Texas, pronunciou na Casa dos Representantes sobre o thema "A America Latina e os Paizes Orientaes no Commercio dos Estados Unidos" e um artigo intitulado "A America Latina nas Revistas Norte-Americanas."

O COMMERCIO ARGENTINO.

A situação lisonjeira da Republica Argentina sob o ponto de vista commercial é evidenciada pelo facto de ter havido um augmento de \$16,000,000 no valor das exportações de trigo realizadas em 1907, sobre as do anno anterior, as quaes attingiram ao valor total de \$83,000,000. As exportações de linho tiveram um augmento de \$10,165,360, e as de aveia augmentaram em \$3,593,397. Não obstante ter havido uma diminuição de mais de \$23,000,000 nas exportações de milho, o valor total dos productos agricolas exportados ascendeu a \$164,091,621, o que mostra um augmento sobre o anno anterior de \$6,436,929.

A BORRACHA BRASILEIRA NOS MERCADOS DO MUNDO.

O uso crescente da borracha e seus productos em diversas industrias, faz de interesse especial os dados estatisticos recentemente publicados sobre a produção do artigo no Brasil em 1907. A produção mundial de borracha em 1907 está calculada em 69,000 toneladas e seu consumo em 66,000 toneladas. A maior parte desta quantidade, ou seja 40,000 toneladas, é de origem brasileira, e não obstante que existem varias plantações deste producto em diferentes partes do mundo, o mercado mundial continua a ser supprido principalmente das arvores silvestres da região do Amazonas. O valor total das exportações de borracha do Brasil em 1907 excedeu de \$70,000,000, recebendo os Estados Unidos quasi a metade desta quantidade.

A CAPACIDADE COMPRADORA DO CHILE.

Si as exportações de um paiz demonstram a importancia de suas riquezas naturaes, assim tambem as importações são indicio da prosperidade ou da depressão economica de uma nação. Por conseguinte, é muito significativo o facto de que em 1907 as importações do Chile excederam em \$20,000,000 ás do anno anterior. As exportações soffreram uma diminuição de \$3,000,000, sendo essa diminuição devida ao retralimento da exportação do principal producto do paiz, o salitre. Durante o anno salitreiro que terminou em abril de 1908, foram exportadas 400,000 toneladas de salitre, e a Associação de Propaganda Salitreira, em uma sessão recente, resolveu limitar as exportações do presente anno á mesma quantidade.

CONDIÇÕES ECONOMICAS DA COSTA RICA.

O Governo da Costa Rica tem actualmente em estudo diversos contractos de importancia, alguns dos quaes têm relação directa com a produção da banana, um producto que se consome em

grande quantidade nos Estados Unidos. É, portanto, de vital importancia o resultado das deliberações legislativas sobre os contractos. Devido á iniciativa do Ministro de Costa Rica em Washington, a inspecção dos matadouros da Republica será feita por um veterinario dos Estados Unidos, cujos serviços já foram contractados para este fim. Tambem foram contractadas por intermedio do mesmo Ministro varias moças graduadas pela Universidade de Harvard para que ensinem nas escolas da Republica o inglez e a organização das mesmas.

INDUSTRIAS CUBANAS EM 1907.

A produção de assucar cubano em 1907 foi de cerca de 1,500,000 toneladas, e, ainda que seja menor que a estimativa, é maior que o calculo da colheita de 1908. A colheita de fumo foi de 440,000 fardos, isto é, o dobro da produção do anno anterior. Foram iniciadas importantes obras publicas e o serviço de saude publica, que está a cargo do Governo, tem dado excellentes resultados.

OBRAS PUBLICAS NA REPUBLICA DOMINICANA.

O relatório do Secretario de Fomento e Obras Publicas da Republica Dominicana, correspondente ao anno de 1907, mostra que as condições internas do paiz são muito satisfactorias. A Exposição de Productos Nacionaes realizada na capital no mez de agosto de 1907, teve grande exito, e nella estiveram representadas todas as provincias da Republica. A exhibição de productos dominicanos na Exposição de Jamestown foi recompensada com medalhas de ouro, prata e cobre. Estão-se construindo vias ferreas que porão o interior em communicação com a costa, e importantes obras de irrigação estão sendo iniciadas sob a direcção de um engenheiro norte-americano. Prosegue com actividade a construcção de caminhos publicos e docas. O emprestimo para a unificação da divida publica foi levantado em New York e tem recebido a approvação do Governo. Os contractos relativos ao arranjo da divida publica foram officialmente publicados.

O SERVIÇO SANITARIO DO EQUADOR.

O Governo tem adoptado medidas energicas para combater as enfermidades contagiosas na Republica e foi creada uma commissão especial de saneamento para a cidade de Guayaquil sob a direcção de um official do Serviço de Saude Publica e Hospitais Maritimos dos Estados Unidos. Será installado um systema moderno de aguas e exgottos, para cuja construcção serão solicitadas propostas nos Estados Unidos e Europa.

EXPLORAÇÃO DAS RIQUEZAS DE HONDURAS.

O decreto recentemente promulgado, creando um Departamento de Agricultura, é prova de que o Governo de Honduras está-se esforçando para promover o desenvolvimento das industrias nacionaes. Outro passo dado neste sentido foi os contractos para a construcção de vias ferreas que porão as plantações de bananas do interior em communicação com os portos da costa, e para a colonização de certas regiões do interior.

SITUAÇÃO COMMERCIAL E FINANCEIRA DO MEXICO.

A solidariedade das instituições bancarias do Mexico é o assumpto de um relatorio que o Consul dos Estados Unidos em Aguascalientes dirigiu ao seu Governo, no qual diz que a crise monetaria mundial não impediu que os bancos da Republica fizessem pontualmente os seus pagamentos. A projectada criação de uma camara commercial nacional, cujo objecto principal será promover o commercio e dirigir os assumptos mercantis da Republica, contribuirá para consolidar o credito nacional, e a conferencia que o Ministro LIMANTOUR convocou para a discussão de medidas economicas por delegados dos differentes bancos do paiz tem merecido a approvação unanime do povo.

OS PRODUCTOS MINERAES E FLORESTAES DE NICARAGUA.

Das 500 minas registradas na Repartição de Estatistica de Nicaragua, 494 são de ouro, ao passo que existem na Republica minas de prata e cobre e numerosas pedreiras de pedras valiosas. Estas riquezas estão sendo exploradas com grande actividade em virtude de concessões feitas a nacionaes e estrangeiros. Ainda que a borraça seja o principal producto florestal explorado, abundam no paiz plantas medicinaes, resinas, etc., de grande valor commercial.

INTERESSES EDUCADORES DO PARAGUAY.

No orçamento do Paraguay para 1907, está consignada a verba de \$500,000 para as despesas do Ministerio de Justiça e Instrução Publica. O Governo mantem cinco collegios e a Universidade Nacional de Assumpção, fundada em 1890, e que conta com faculdades de direito, sciencias soeias, medicina, pharmacia e curso especial para tabelliães. Nas escolas nacionaes se dá attenção especial aos ramos scientificos cujo estudo pode servir para desenvolver as riquezas e industrias nacionaes. O Governo taubem mantem uma escola de agricultura com um campo de demonstração. A nação sustenta estudantes em varios collegios dos Estados Unidos e Europa, e uma escola normal com 58 professores.

A INSTRUÇÃO PUBLICA NO SALVADOR.

A quantia despendida em 1907 pela Republica do Salvador na instrução primaria foi de \$400,000, approximadamente. Além destas escolas, existem na Republica muitos collegios particulares em que se ministra o ensino primario e secundario. O ensino superior está a cargo da Universidade Nacional de São Salvador com faculdades de direito, medicina, pharmacia, cirurgia dentaria, engenharia, etc.

FOMENTO DO COMMERCIO DO URUGUAY.

Foi apresentado á Camara dos Deputados do Uruguay um projecto de lei, que autoriza o estabelecimento de uma zona livre nos terrenos publicos ganhos do mar na parte oriental da Bahía de Montevideo. Tanto as mercadorias que se introduzirem como os artigos que se fabricarem na zona livre estarão isentos de direitos aduaneiros, a menos que se importem no interior do paiz, devendo neste caso pagar os mesmos direitos que se cobram sobre identicos productos estrangeiros. Os partidarios da medida declaram que fará de Montevideo um dos primeiros portos da America do Sul, por onde passa a maioria do commercio do Uruguay, estando acreditado com 82.32 por cento, ou \$57,268,967, de um total de \$69,578,143. As rendas aduaneiras arrecadadas nos primeiros oito mezes do exercicio de 1907-8, foram de \$500,000 em excesso das do mesmo periodo do exercicio anterior.

AS LINHAS TELEGRAPHICAS E TELEPHONICAS DA VENEZUELA.

Afim de impedir a má interpretação do regulamento que se publicou no BOLETIM MENSAL correspondente ao mez de fevereiro de 1908, acerca das linhas telegraphicas e telephonicas da Venezuela, cumpre fazer constar que suas disposições são applicaveis sómente ao estabelecimento de linhas nacionaes e officiaes, e não limitam, nem excluem, de modo algum, o estabelecimento de empresas particulares de conformidade com as leis do paiz.

MEDIDAS SANITARIAS.

No dia 16 de abril de 1908, foi promulgado um decreto declarando o porto de La Guayra fechado para o despacho de mercadorias pelo prazo de 15 dias.

DESCRIPÇÃO DO NOVO EDIFÍCIO PAN-AMERICANO.

No seguinte artigo, os Srs. Kelsey e Cret, os architectos do novo edificio, o descrevem sob o ponto de vista architectonico.

Quando foi publicado o edital de concorrência para a construção do edificio da Secretaria Internacional das Republicas Americanas, a primeira difficuldade que encontraram os concorrentes foi a escolha do typo do edificio. No edital fez-se uma minuciosa descripção de todos os quartos que se necessitavam, assim como de suas dimensões approximadas, mas se deixou ao juizo dos architectos determinar o espirito que havia de guiar o estudo do conjuncto.

Havia uma bibliotheca com todas as suas dependências; um grande numero de quartos para o pessoal; um salão de recepções e varios salões para comissões, mas qual delles devia predominar em todo o conjuncto? Na maior parte dos concursos não ha duvida quanto ao fim primordial do edificio, o que exerce grande influencia no desenho. Todo o mundo sabe qual deve ser a apparencia de um edificio para uma Repartição de Correio, um museu ou qualquer outro edificio publico, mas no presente caso a difficuldade consistia no facto de que não havia precedentes que pudessem guiar a elaboração do projecto conforme ás especificações. Esta falta de orientação tornou-se evidente quando foram submettidos os setenta desenhos ao Jury em Washington, pois havia grande diversidade de inter-pretações, desde o templo grego até a quinta particular, o palacio hespanhol e o edificio publico norte-americano.

O desenho que recebeu o voto unanime do Jury e, por conseguinte, foi escolhido para a construção do edificio, tinha uma feição todo original, e offerecia uma solução nova para este novo problema. A idea predominante deste desenho foi a seguinte: Por mais que o edificio ha de dar abrigo sob um só tecto a uma repartição de grande actividade e a uma bibliotheca que ha de crescer constantemente, e por mais que estas duas partes são quasi todas as que se necessitam para fazer os trabalhos da Secretaria, tal como o exprimiu a Conferencia do Rio de Janeiro, a saber: Estabelecer um centro permanente de informações e de troca de ideas entre as Republicas deste continente, bem como uma installação adequada para a bibliotheca em memoria de Colombo. Ha outra funcção importante que a Secretaria tem que desempenhar: Este edificio será em Washington, no sentido mais absoluto da palavra, o lar das Republicas Americanas.

Cada uma destas Republicas tem seu lar particular, a residencia do Embaixador ou do Ministro, mas a Secretaria Internacional será o lar de todas ellas, onde seus representantes poderão reunir-se como se reunem os filhos no lar de seus paes, para discutirem todas as questões que surgirem, assim como celebrar grandes acontecimentos ou commemorar datas gloriosas.

Por conseguinte, o edificio deve parecer-se mais com o typo de uma residencia particular do que com o de uma repartição publica, por mais que deva ser tão serio e majestoso como o caso exige. É o desejo do Director da Secretaria e dos architectos que quando os representantes dos varios paizes transpuzerem o limiar do palacio, hão de sentir que entram em sua propria casa. Esperam, outrossim, que quando os vestibulos, escadarias e o grande salão de recepções estejam illuminados por milhares de luzes electricas, e uma brilhante concorrencia afflúa a seus salões para prestar homenagem a um visitante illustre, os representantes das vinte e uma Republicas tenham a impressão de que recebem seus hospedes em sua propria casa, e não em um salão de reunião commum.

De conformidade com os principios expostos, a parte exterior conservará o effeito singelo e modesto da residencia de um homem de gosto. A indole monumental dos arredores, a proximidade do Parque (*Mall*) e do famoso monumento de Washington, da Casa Branca e do Palacio do Departamento da Guerra, tambem obrigam a severidade de linhas que caracterizam as melhores produções architectonicas do periodo classico. O material das duas fachadas foi escolhido, levando em conta estas razões, e só será empregado o marmore branco. O desenho reúne á simplicidade republicana todos os requintes de forma que a raça latina deu á architectura. O acabamentoo decorativo, o esmero nos detalhes e traços caracteristicos, hão de representar a origem da maioria das vinte e uma Republicas. As telhas hespanholas no portico de entrada, os adornos allegoricos, as duas figuras de marmore monumentaes á entrada e o baixo relevo das torrinhas truncadas, tudo isto dará uma idea aos transeuntes da originalidade do monmento e lhes incitará a fazer um exame mais demorado.

A fachada de frente compõe-se de um portico entre duas torrinhas truncadas e parece attrahir o visitante—os dous lados e a fachada posterior mostram respectivamente as feições do edificio, quer como uma casa de trabalho, quer como um ponto de reuniões. Rodeiam-n'o jardins e desde o salão de reuniões, na fachada posterior, se estendem duas escadarias que conduzem ao terraço que olha para o jardim. Não se despreza nenhuma das quatro fachadas, estando todas decoradas de uma maneira distincta.

Voltando á entrada, onde ha uma inscripção em lettras de bronze sobre um fundo de marmore de *Brèche Violette*, contemplamos tres grandes grades de bronze que dão entrada ao vestibulo principal abobadado e decorado com columnas de marmore com capiteis e bases de bronze. Aqui começam as duas escadarias e o elevador, e pelos tres arcos que correspondem aos da entrada se descortina a vista do pateo. Ao entrar aqui o visitante tem a impressão de que está longe de Washington, em um desses pateos pittorescos do Sul.

É protegido do sol por um telhado e refrescado pelas aguas de uma fonte de marmore. Ao redor greseem plantas tropicaes: o pavimento á imitação dos antigos tempos, as paredes de estuque branco, as portas baixas ornadas com escudos dão uma idea da antiguidade das Republicas do Sul. A principio se fez objecção a que se collocasse uma paizagem desta natureza em uma cidade como Washington onde o inverno dura tanto tempo. Esta objecção, porém, foi vencida, collocando um telhado movel de forma que se possa conservar aberto durante o verão e fechado no inverno, assim tornando o pateo um jardim invernal delicioso, onde sempre haverá uma temperatura uniforme. Um mechanismo completamente novo permittirá fechalo por um motor electrico.

A parte superior do pateo fica rodeada de uma galeria que communica com as escadas e o foyer. Um friso corre por debaixo do tecto e serve de apoio aos escudos e ás chapas que trazem os nomes das Republicas. Por este pateo ou pelos corredores lateraes pode-se ir á Bibliotheca e aos escriptorios.

O ingresso para a Bibliotheca de Colombo será por um foyer onde ha guardaroupas e um compartimento para a entrega de livros para a leitura em casa. A sala de leitura principal tem 100 pés de comprido por 40 de largo e será provida da luz necessaria que entra por cinco grandes janellas que dão para o terraço e o jardim na parte posterior do edificio. Duas salas particulares de estudo facilitarão as investigações especiaes e haverá uma grande abobada á prova de fogo onde poderão ser guardados os documentos valiosos.

Muito proximos se acham os escriptorios do bibliothecario e seus auxiliares, que sempre estarão dispostos a facilitar todas as informações que o publico exigir. O grande salão reservado para as estantes tem espaço sufficiente para 120,000 volumes, podendo ampliar-se para accomodar 80,000 volumes mais. Todas as installações deste salão serão de aço e construidas de accordo com as disposições mais modernas. Um elevador electrico trará rapidamente os livros das cinco estantes até o nivel da sala de leitura. Haverá uma grande collecção de mappas, impressos e dados estatisticos. Estas estantes estarão situadas no lado do norte do edificio, e no lado do sul estarão salas espaçosas para os traductores e directores do BOLETIM, os guardalivros, estenographos e amanuenses. Todas estas salas, assim como o resto do edificio serão aquecidas por um systema de aquecimento por vapor indirecto, que hoje se considera o melhor systema de aquecimento, pois subministra ao mesmo tempo calor e ventilação de todas as partes do edificio. Ha grande espaço para guardar o fato nos dias de recepções.

Antes de passar ao segundo andar, cumpre descrever brevemente o porão do edificio. Pode-se ir lá por uma escada do primeiro andar, ou da parte exterior por um passeio que permite entregar a correspondencia, provisões, carvão de pedra, etc., sem entrar pela

parte publica do edificio. Haverá um compartimento muito espaçoso para classificar e distribuir a correspondencia, e dirigir os boletins que se enviam a todas as partes do mundo. Haverá tambem dependências para a secção de serviço, taes como guardaroupas para os empregados, aposentos para os bedéis, sala de refeição, arnuazens, o quarto da caldeira, o das machinas, combustivel, etc.

Do vestibulo da entrada, estender-se-ão, em linha recta, duas escadarias monumentaes que communicarão com o segundo andar, imitando as majestosas escadarias de um Palacio Romano da Renascença. Os degraos são de marmore de Tennessee e o tecto é de obra de carpintaria. Além destas escadarias ha um elevador. Chegamos ao segundo andar do edificio, que é o mais importante, o *piano nobile* dos edificios classicos. As escadarias terminarão em um foyer que communica por largas portas, com o salão de recepções e os escriptorios do Director da Secretaria. Este foyer, como uma arcada, dá para o pateo e ao lado das duas grandes escadarias se estendem corredores, proporcionando assim, nos dias de grandes reuniões, uma lindissima vista que se estende desde o vestibulo da entrada até o salão de recepções. Os escriptorios do Director da Secretaria estão em directa communicação com a sala do Conselho Director, e terá decorações de obra de carpintaria e marmore, offerecidos por uma das Republicas. Do outro lado o Director estará em communicação com o seu Secretario particular e estenographos. Ha uma sala de espera ou antesala que será usada pelas pessoas que desejam ver o Director. Mais além estará a sala do Secretario da Repartição.

Do lado do norte do edificio que corresponde a estas salas haverá quatro salas para comissões muito apropriadas para celebrar conferencias diplomaticas e a parte superior do salão que conterá as estantes. Os escriptorios do Conselho Director, do Director e do Secretario dão para o parque, e o jardim do Monumento de Washington, de conformidade com o plano do embelezamento da cidade de Washington.

O foyer communica com o espaçoso salão de recepções que tem mais de 100 pés de extensão por 65 de largura. Vinte e quatro columnas sustentam á ábobada que se eleva á altura de 45 pés acima do pavimento. Cinco grandes janellas com sacadas dão para o jardim e serão decoradas com vidros coloridos com emblemas allegoricos. A sala do Conselho Director e a sala destinada ás comissões estão em directa communicação com este nobre salão.

Pode-se inaginar o deslumbrante effeito que terá este salão quando dentro de suas paredes se reunir uma Convenção Internacional, ou quando houver uma recepção á um hospede illustre, ou uma brilhante recepção diplomatica. Não ha nenhum outro edificio em Washington, já seja residencia particular, embaixada ou edificio publico, que

possa oferecer semelhantes commodidades para funções importantes. Está em harmonia com a importancia da Secretaria e constitue um monumento apropriado da reunião mais importante das potencias do mundo.

COMPARAÇÃO DO COMMERCIO QUE A AMERICA LATINA E OS PAIZES DO ORIENTE TÊM COM OS ESTADOS UNIDOS.

Por occasião da discussão no Congresso dos Estados Unidos a 17 de abril de 1908, do projecto fixando a verba para o serviço diplomatico e consular, o Sr. J. L. SLAYDEN, Representante pelo Estado do Texas, discutiu com clareza e energia as possibilidades da America Latina em comparação com o Oriente, como um campo para o emprego de actividades commerciaes.

Ao tratar do Mexico, da America Central e do Sul, e dos paizes do Oriente, o Senhor SLAYDEN disse o seguinte:

Este anno estamos votando uma somma consideravel para a construcção de edificios para consulados e legações no Oriente, mas até agora nada se tem feito quanto aos paizes americanos.

Desejo chamar vossa attenção para uma breve analyse do commercio do Oriente em comparação com o da America Central e do Sul, tanto para o que realmente se faz como para o que se poderá attingir. A notavel viagem que fez o Secretario de Estado dos Estados Unidos, Senhor Root, foi o reconhecimento da vasta e crescente importancia dos paizes sul-americanos, tanto sob o ponto de vista commercial como politico. Não se poderia ter enviado a esse campo um missionario mais habil. Homem de vistas largas e grande capacidade intellectual, de grande pratica em assumptos importantissimos e de larga experiencia em elevados postos officiaes, o Senhor Root desde logo comprehendeu a indole do povo das Republicas sul americanas e as possibilidades do seu desenvolvimento. Seria muito proveitosa para qualquer membro deste corpo a leitura de seus discursos, de accordo com mappas e dados estatisticos daquella grande excursão.

Os nossos cidadãos em geral ignoram tanto os factos que se relacionam com a America do Sul como o idioma dos povos que a habitam. Para a maioria delles é uma novidade o facto de que o Brasil é tão grande como os Estados Unidos, com um restante de territorio tão extenso como California e a Carolina do Sul. A Republica Argentina é tão grande como toda a parte dos Estados Unidos que fica a leste do Mississippi, inclusive o Texas. Mexico, que conhecemos melhor, tem uma area quasi igual á de todos os Estados que estão situados a leste do rio Mississippi, e é quasi tres vezes a area do Texas.

Desejaria ter tempo, Senhor Presidente, para citar muitos dados interessantes acerca dos paizes da America Central e do Sul, ou desejaria ter o poder de obrigar todos os cidadãos que tenham o direito de votar sobre este projecto, a ler os dados que vou publicar no "Diario do Congresso." Seria ainda melhor que os membros do Congresso utilisassem os meios que lhes offerece a Secretaria Internacional das Republicas Americanas, onde encontrarão fontes de informações que os hão de deleitar e instruir. Esta util instituição está realmente apresentando os cidadãos da Republica Norteamericana a seus vizinhos do sul.

Na America Latina ha vinte Republicas que têm 50,000,000 de habitantes, e que fazem um commercio annual no valor de cerca de \$2.000,000,000. O valor das suas importações eleva-se a \$897,129,563, e o das suas exportações attinge a \$1.070.660.724, ou seja um total de \$1,967,789,287.

O que nos interessa especialmente é saber que parte têm os Estados Unidos neste vasto commercio e a maneira de augmental-o. Nossos commerciantes vendem annualmente á America Latina mercadorias no valor de \$237,840,679, e lhe compram productos no valor de \$316,496,576, ou seja um commercio total com os Estados Unidos no valor de \$554,337,255. Quantos cidadãos do nosso paiz sabem que nossas transacções commerciaes com o Mexico, a America Central e do Sul e as Antilhas representam o valor de mais de \$500,000,000 por anno? Quantos membros do Congresso o sabem? O Senhor BARRETT, Chefe da Secretaria Internacional das Republicas Americanas, em um artigo que publicou no "Magazine de Munsey" em sua edição de junho, chamou a attenção para o facto de que em 1905, o valor total do commercio exterior das dez Republicas Sul-Americanas e as Guyanas inglezas, francezas e hollandezas, excedeu de \$1,200,000,000. O Senhor BARRETT chamou tambem a attenção para o lamentavel facto de que apezar da nossa vantajosa situação geographica, a parte que tiveram os Estados Unidos neste commercio representava apenas o valor de menos de \$250,000,000. Este grande commercio ainda não attingiu ao seu completo desenvolvimento. Apenas começa a desenvolver-se. Toda a immensa area que se estende ao sul dos Estados Unidos e que é muitas vezes maior que nosso paiz, tem uma população de apenas 50,000,000 habitantes. Comprehende quasi todas as latitudes habitaveis, posto que se estende quasi tanto para o sul do equador como os Estados Unidos se estendem para o norte. Tudo o que o homem necessita pode produzir o solo da America Central ou do Sul ou Mexico. É uma região que offerece magnificas oportunidades, que está proxima ao nosso paiz e cujo commercio temos descuidado para attender a outro menor e muito mais distante.

Permitti que vos chame a attenção para alguns factos interessantes que são resultado do estudo da estatistica commercial e financeira dos principaes paizes do mundo

A Republica Argentina iuporta \$34.86 de mercadorias estrangeiras por habitante, ao passo que a China importa 78 centavos de mercadorias por habitante. Isto quer dizer que, sob o ponto de vista commercial, cada cidadão da Argentina vale por quarenta e cinco chins; cada cidadão do Brasil por doze chins, e cada mexicano vale por dez chins, quanto ás importações. A pequena Republica do Uruguay, que, seja dito de passagem, é maior que o Estado de Novo York e a Virginia Occidental, importa \$21.13 por habitante, ou seja mais de vinte e sete vezes que China.

Agora vou chamar vossa attenção por alguns momentos, enquanto estabelecço uma comparação de dous ou tres destes paizes sul-americanos, cujo commercio temos descuidado, com um paiz oriental que é muito discutido na actualidade.

Como já tenho dito, a Republica Argentina importa mercadorias na proporção de \$34.86 por habitante, ao passo que o Japão importa na proporção de \$5.07 por habitante. Por consequente, é evidente que no actual estado de desenvolvimento do commercio, cada cidadão argentino vale, approximadamente, por sete japonezes. Cada habitante da remota Nova Zelandia vale, como importador, quasi por quatorze japonezes, mas não obstante, pouco se falla deste paiz. Na America Central um cidadão de Costa Rica compra tantas mercadorias como tres japonezes, e estes ultimos valem menos para nossos exportadores, homem por homem, que os habitantes do Equador e do Paraguay, que são paizes de menor importancia commercial no sul.

Já que estou tratando deste assumpto, tambem desejo chamar vossa attenção para o facto de que apezar da grande quantidade de provisões enviadas ás Philippinas para o consumo do Exercito dos Estados Unidos, os habitantes daquelle archipelago só compram na proporção de \$3.38 por habitante. Em importancia commercial os excedem os habitantes da Argentina, Bolivia, Brasil, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Salvador, Cuba, Equador, Haiti, e até Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, São Domingos, Uruguay e Venezuela.

Senhor Presidente, creio firmemente que si deixassemos de despender avultadas sommas no commercio do remoto Oriente, que é realmente de menor importancia. e consagrassemos a decima parte desta somma ao fomento do commercio com os paizes americanos, andariamos mais acertados.

A TERRA DE AMANHÃ.

No artigo a que já fiz referencia, o Senhor BARRETT falla com muita oportunidade da America Central e do Sul como a terra de amanhã. Pois bem, não pode dizer-se o mesmo da India Oriental, China, nem do Japão. Quando mais, estes são os paizes de depois de amanhã. Todos os paizes americanos têm vastas areas de terrenos férteis, que ainda estão despovoados, ao passo que os paizes do Oriente já estão densamente povoados.

O desenvolvimento maravilhosamente rapido de nosso proprio paiz, os elevados salarios, a prosperidade e a independencia do povo dos Estados Unidos, devem-se evidentemente ao facto de que temos tido á nossa disposição um continente virgem que offerecia as melhores oportunidades. A fertilidade do solo, a riqueza das minas e das florestas, e a pequena população em comparação com os recursos naturaes, tem salvado o nosso povo da escravidão industrial. Ainda que nossas oportunidades se diminuam á medida que augmenta a população do paiz, temos tantos empregos para a energia e o talento do nosso povo que nenhum operario americano sente ainda os rigores que necessariamente soffrem os operarios da apinhada Europa, nem o insupportavel estado congestionado da China ou do Japão.

No Japão, na China e na India Oriental, os operarios trabalham por poucos centavos por dia porque não tem outro remedio. Na America do Sul não são obrigados a isso, porque podem procurar o campo e ser assim independentes. Os immigrants não alluem aos paizes do Oriente. Os emigrantes da Europa não se dirigirão a um paiz como o Japão, onde a extensão media de uma fazenda é de 2½ geiras. Preferem a America do Norte ou do Sul, e na actualidade vão em numero crescente para o Sul, onde encontram condições que a um homem dos paizes orientaes lhe parecem um paraíso.

Foi para mim motivo de satisfação ver que a corrente de immigração europea se dirigia para a America do Sul, porque não desejo que meu paiz se povoe com excessiva rapidez, como algumas vezes temia que estivesse succedendo. Esta immigração trará conforto e bem estar para os habitantes opprimidos da Europa, e significa uma enorme expansão das possibilidades do commercio em paizes vizinhos para os commerciantes dos Estados Unidos. Evidenciemos ao mundo inteiro que apreciamos estas oportunidades.

Si se põe em actividade nossa caracteristica energia americana no desenvolvimento dos grandes recursos naturaes da America Central e do Sul, quasi não ha limites ao volume de negocios que se poderão fazer entre nos e os paizes situados no mesmo continente, que têm identicas instituições politicas e com identicas aspirações politicas, sociaes e commerciaes.

AMERICA LATINA NAS REVISTAS NORTE-AMERICANAS.

Não ha melhor prova da universalidade do interesse despertado em assumptos latino-americanos por todos os Estados Unidos do que o largo espaço que se consagra á sua discussão nas revistas e periodicos do paiz. Os jornaes commerciaes e relatorios consulares cuidam dos interesses commerciaes; a educação é estimulada pelos cursos gratuitos offerecidos a estudantes estrangeiros nas univer-

sidades e collegios norte-americanos, mas a imprensa periodica do paiz procura satisfazer as exigencias do publico, publicando artigos de interesse geral, e, por consequente, quando as revistas trazem todos os mezes artigos sobre os recursos e condições do Mexico, das Antilhas, ou dos paizes da America Central e do Sul, é um indicio evidente da tendencia do sentimento popular.

Affirma-se, e com razão, que os jornaes e revistas da America Latina consagram consideravel espaço á discussão do progresso intellectual e artistico nas capitães da Europa, ao passo que se dá relativamente pouco espaço aos interesses dos Estados Unidos. Entretanto, vai-se operando uma mudança a este respeito. O leitor que folhea constantemente as revistas do mundo, deverá ter notado que nos ultimos dous annos, está-se consagrando maior espaço, tanto nas publicações economicas e scientificas, como nos diarios da America Latina, á reprodução de opiniões de jornalistas norte-americanos, ao passo que estas acompanham com vivo interesse a situação politica nos Estados Unidos, noticiando com exactidão os principaes incidentes.

O exame dos ultimos numeros das principaes revistas confirma plenamente que a reciprocidade litteraria entre as Republicas da America já é uma realidade.

O "*Century*," de maio, reproduz varias photographias de egrejas mexicanas tiradas por HENRY RAVELL, sendo as esculpturas douradas e as obras de ladrilhos que as adornam descriptas por LOCKWOOD DE FOREST.

No "*Scribner's Magazine*," de maio 1908, ARTHUR RUHL dá uma descripção attrahente da "cidade de bons ares," que com muito acerto é chamada a capital da Republica Argentina. Dá-se uma impressão microscopica da multidão nas ruas e da alegria e prosperidade que caracterizam esta, a segunda cidade latina do mundo.

O "*The World To-Day*," de maio, em um artigo pela Sra. PETER M. MYERS, descreve a cidade de Guanajuato, Mexico, a "cidade de sonhos" e um dos mais ricos centros mineiros do mundo, que despertou do seu sonho secular para entrar no deslumbramento da luz electrica e em uma grande actividade industrial. Possuindo um dos mais lindos theatros em toda a America do Norte e situada em um centro mineiro onde ha diariamente disenssões sobre ouro, prata, dividendos, etc., a grande energia moderna manifesta-se aqui como em outras partes deste progressivo paiz.

O "*Taylor-Trotwood Magazine*" do mesmo mez, publica como o seu principal artigo o romance e a tragedia do Isthmo, por ERNEST CAWROFT, no qual está esboçada a historia da civilização nesta pequena faixa de terra, desde o tempo de Colombo até o presente.

O "*The World To-Day*," de abril, publica o mais recente dos valiosos artigos preparados pelo Sr. JOHN BARRETT, Director da Secretaria

Internacional das Republicas Americanas, no qual incita os Estados Unidos a aproveitarem-se das oportunidades que se lhes offerecem na America Latina para o desenvolvimento do seu commercio. Faz uma analyse cuidadosa das bases dessas oportunidades e cita dados estatisticos para mostrar o resultado dos esforços feitos neste sentido por outras nações.

Uma ligeira descripção de Buenos Aires pelo lado pittoresco e social é-nos fornecida pelo Sr. FREEMAN TILDEN no "*Van Nörden Magazine*" de abril. Diz o autor que esta grande capital não tem a atmosphera parisiense que dizem ter, mas sim um cumho distintivamente hispano-americano, que lhe dá um encanto todo seu.

A "*Tropical America*," de abril, consagra a maior parte do seu espaço á America Latina, publicando artigos sobre diversos assumptos taes como o famoso valle do Cauca da Colombia; o caminho inter-oceanico de Guatemala; uma viagem de recreio pela mesma Republica; a Exposição do Rio de Janeiro, e a cultura de bananas no Mexico.

A "*American Historical Review*," de abril, contem um artigo excellente por HERBERT E. BOLTON, sobre o material que existe nos archivos do Mexico para uma historia da região do sudoeste dos Estados Unidos, e o autor extranha, não porque contem tão grande copia de informações sobre a materia, mas porque até agora se fez tão pouco uso deste material. Os Estados da California, Texas, Louisiana e provincias interiores tomam grande parte dos indices. Este artigo é apenas um relatorio provisorio, pois em breve a Secção de Pesquisas Historicas do Instituto de Carnegie, de Washington, publicará um volume sobre o assumpto.

Em um artigo publicado na "*North American Review*," de abril, o Sr. F. D. McKENNEY julga que a attitude do Governo dos Estados Unidos no que diz respeito á arbitragem é evidenciada nas questões pendentes com a Venezuela, ao passo que o "*Independent*," em sua edição de 23 de abril, traz um artigo escripto por HERBERT WOLCOTT BOWEN, ex-Ministro dos Estados Unidos na Venezuela, criticando a mensagem que o Presidente ROOSEVELT apresentou ao Senado sobre a questão com a Venezuela.

O "*The National Geographic Magazine*," em seus numeros de março e abril, consagra consideravel espaço a assumptos referentes á America Latina, trazendo o numero de março um estudo minucioso sobre Haiti, antiga e actual, escripto pelo Sr. Contra-Almirante COLBY M. CHESTER, e o numero de abril, uma serie de vistas photographicas tiradas do velho caminho de Inca, e acompanhadas por commentarios apropriados pela Sra. HARRIETT CHALMERS ADAMS.

O "*The Sunset Magazine*," de março, dá lugar proeminente a um artigo sobre a Bahia de Magdalena, por ARTHUR WALLBRIDGE NORTH, um escriptor que parece ter feito a provincia da Baixa California sua propria, e cujo livro intitulado "*The Mother of California*" (A Mãe

da California), que ha pouco sahio á luz, tem attrahido a attenção geral por causa de sua opportunidade e merito.

O "*The American Journal of Sociology*," em seu numero de janeiro a março, 1908, contem um artigo sobre o desenvolvimento das municipalidades no Brasil, escripto pelo Prof. L. S. ROWE, da Universidade de Pennsylvania, no qual o autor trata dos grandes progressos realizados no embelezamento e saneamento das cidades do Estado de São Paulo.

O "*Outlook*," de 14 de março, discute as estradas de ferro da America do Sul, por SYLVESTER BAXTER, que affirma que a primeira metade do seculo vigesimo promette ser a grande era para a construção de vias ferreas no continente meridional, como a segunda metade do seculo decimo-nono foi para o continente septentrional. Este artigo é o resultado de estudos que o autor fez no curso de suas viagens pela America do Sul em 1906, como correspondente especial do "*Outlook*."

A "*The Popular Science Monthly*," de fevereiro, reproduz os comentarios do Sr. ALFRED F. SEARS, sobre a influencia dos allemães na America Latina, que diz que esta influencia restringe-se aos processos intellectuaes e commerciaes e que a influencia franceza é a que é mais evidente nos costumes e habitos.

REPUBLICA ARGENTINA.

COMMERCIO EXTERIOR EM 1907.

As cifras publicadas pela Repartição de Estatistica da Republica Argentina correspondentes ao anno de 1907, mostram que o commercio exterior do paiz ascendeu a um total de \$582,065,052, ouro, compostos de \$285,860,683 de importações, e \$296,204,369 de exportações.

Os paizes que maior parte tiveram no commercio de importação foram, por ordem de importancia, o Reino Unido, Allemanha, Estados Unidos, França, Italia e Belgica.

No commercio de exportação o Reino Unido occupa o primeiro lugar, seguindo-se-lhe a França, Allemanha, Belgica, Brazil e os Estados Unidos.

O seguinte quadro mostra o commercio exterior em 1907, em confronto com o de 1906.

IMPORTAÇÃO.

	1907.	Diferença para mais ou para menos.		1907.	Diferença para mais ou para menos.
Africa.....	\$57,599	+ \$25,240	Grécia.....	46,976	
Allemanha.....	45,811,170	+7,394,811	Guatemala.....	2,817	
Austria.....	2,394,660	+ 670,899	Japão.....	205,226	
Belgica.....	15,896,850	+3,668,820	Marrôcos.....	542	
Bolivia.....	126,877	- 7,235	México.....	4,972	
Brasil.....	7,849,355	+1,208,330	Noruega.....	429,984	
Chile.....	554,824	+ 26,609	Nicaragua.....	1,106	
Hespanha.....	7,294,469	- 73,800	Persia.....	1,154	
Estados Unidos.....	38,842,277	- 632,617	Peru.....	533,303	
França.....	25,468,026	-1,276,849	Portugal.....	289,964	
Italia.....	24,003,241	- 120,395	Possessões francezas.....	8,428	
Hollanda.....	1,702,006	+ 250,262	Possessões hollandezas.....	32,818	
Paraguay.....	1,414,337	+ 105,365	Possessões inglezas.....	6,048,130	
Reino Unido.....	97,935,743	+3,105,805	Possessões norte-ameri- canas.....	21,163	
Uruguay.....	2,472,754	+639,513	Roumania.....	1,675	
Australia.....	69,166		Russia.....	429,736	
Canadá.....	1,601,526		São Salvador.....	708	
Colombia.....	2,493		República dominicana.....	787	
Cuba.....	576,982		Suecia.....	511,119	
China.....	479,162		Suissa.....	2,137,748	
Dinamarca.....	38,753		Turquia.....	36,854	
Equador.....	49,061		Venezuela.....	13,790	
Egypto.....	4,747				

Comparadas com as cifras do anno anterior, vê-se que as importações provenientes da Allemanha augmentaram em 19.2 por cento; as da Belgica, em 30 por cento; as do Reino Unido, 3.2 por cento, e as da Hollanda, 16.5 por cento, ao passo que as importações provenientes da França abaixaram em 4.7 por cento, e as dos Estados Unidos, em 1.6 por cento.

EXPORTAÇÃO.

	1907.	Diferença para mais ou para menos.		1907.	Diferença para mais ou para menos.
Africa.....	\$1,415,590	-\$2,542,441	Reino Unido.....	\$3,716,152	+ \$10,492,114
Allemanha.....	30,423,056	- 2,394,140	Uruguay.....	1,376,638	- 3,657,802
Austria.....	751,974	+ 705,646	Cuba.....	724,480	
Belgica.....	29,592,133	+ 3,970,738	Dinamarca.....	120,888	
Bolivia.....	608,052	+ 279,454	Egypto.....	51,500	
Brasil.....	14,018,431	+ 2,127,116	Noruega.....	106,144	
Chile.....	1,850,667	+ 465,120	Peru.....	110,675	
Hespanha.....	1,935,605	- 636,971	Portugal.....	29,731	
Estados Unidos.....	10,940,436	- 2,391,676	Possessões francezas.....	664	
França.....	37,742,046	+ 1,998,692	Possessões inglezas.....	49,877	
Italia.....	5,219,466	+ 1,686,658	Suecia.....	665,149	
Hollanda.....	4,174,490	+ 1,199,252	A ordem.....	93,270,767	- 2,343,981
Paraguay.....	182,670	- 22,344			

Por estes algarismos vê-se que as exportações para França, confrontadas com as de 1906, augmentaram em 5.5 por cento; para Hollanda, em 40.3 por cento, e para o Reino Unido, em 24 por cento, ao passo que as exportações para a Africa apresentam uma diminuição de 64.2 por cento; para a Allemanha, 7.5 por cento; para os Estados Unidos, 17.9 por cento; para Italia, 24.4 por cento, e os embarques feitos á ordem diminuíram em 2.5 por cento.

O seguinte quadro demonstra a classe e o valor dos generos importados durante o anno de 1907, e o augmento ou diminuição sobre o anno de 1906:

Generos.	1907.	Diferença para mais ou para menos.	Generos.	1907.	Diferença para mais ou para menos.
Animaes vivos.....	\$2,035,913	- \$490,698	Couro e suas applica- ções.....	\$2,044,811	- \$269,740
Productos alimenticios	20,915,396	+3,253,388	Ferragens.....	33,161,139	- 1,781,169
Fumo.....	5,010,491	+ 99,412	Metaes.....	7,543,106	- 1,049,024
Vinhos, bebidas alcooli- cas, etc.....	12,633,739	+ 839,700	Instrumentos agricolas	18,541,569	+ 1,383,024
Tecidos.....	47,333,191	-6,796,848	Locomoção.....	52,320,750	+17,265,386
Oleos.....	8,084,771	+ 203,798	Objectos de ceramica...	20,634,552	- 276,248
Productos chimicos e pharmaceuticos.....	8,188,495	+ 605,636	Materiaes de construc- ção.....	23,020,393	+ 1,018,695
Substancias de tintu- raria e de pintura....	1,557,043	- 83,392	Apparelios electricos ..	3,373,375	- 56,656
Madeiras.....	6,360,043	+ 747,821	Manufacturas diversas	7,399,102	+ 489,541
Papel e suas applica- ções.....	5,702,264	+ 787,527			

No movimento da importação, a classe de artigos em que se realizou o maior augmento foi a de locomoção que comprehende automoveis, dormentes de aço, material para vias ferreas em geral, locomotivas, carros para tramways, etc.

O valor dos automoveis importados em 1907 foi de \$782,520, o que mostra um augmento de \$295,974; dormentes de aço, \$7,972,111, ou mais \$3,680,165 do que no anno anterior; material para vias ferreas, \$10,058,564, augmento, \$4,187,779; locomotivas, \$8,067,454, augmento, \$3,675,584; carros para tramways, \$775,162, augmento, \$132,087.

Dos \$3,000,000 que representam o augmento verificado na importação de productos alimenticios, \$2,701,468 foram realizados na importação de assucar, sendo no valor total de \$2,838,254 a importação deste producto em 1907.

Os generos exportados, com os seus respectivos valores, foram os seguintes:

Generos.	1907.	Diferença para mais ou para menos.
Productos pastoris.....	\$123,820,205	- \$316,234
Productos agricolas.....	164,091,621	+ 6,436,929
Productos florestaes.....	5,342,357	- 579,502
Productos mineraes.....	565,039	+ 291,223
Productos de caça.....	829,559	- 268,941
Productos varios.....	1,155,588	- 1,612,935

Com a excepção dos mineraes cuja exportação mostra um pequeno augmento, a unica classe de generos em que se nota um augmento sobre o anno anterior foi a de productos agricolas, tendo as exportações de trigo attingido ao valor total de \$82,727,747, ou mais \$16,166,566 do que no anno anterior. A quantidade de trigo exportado em 1907 foi de 2,680,802 toneladas, ou 432,814 toneladas mais

do que em 1906. A quantidade de aveia exportada em 1907 foi de 143,566 toneladas, ou 91,905 toneladas mais do que no anno anterior, sendo no valor de \$3,593,397, ou \$2,476,213 mais que no anno de 1906. Depois do trigo vem o linho, cuja exportação elevou-se a 763,736 toneladas no valor de \$36,081,221, o que mostra um augmento de 225,240 toneladas e \$10,165,360 sobre o anno anterior. As exportações de milho mostram uma diminuição de 1,417,007 toneladas na quantidade e de \$23,711,708 no valor, sendo as cifras registradas para o anno de 1,276,732 toneladas, no valor de \$29,653,979.

Ainda que o total dos productos pastoris apresente una diminuição em quantidade e valor, comparados com os do anno anterior, houve um augmento de \$88,882 na exportação de animaes vivos, sendo os embarques totaes no valor de \$3,158,856, dos quaes dous terços representam o valor das exportações de gado vaccum.

Os productos animaes tambem apresentam um augmento de \$2,344,492, sendo a exportação total desses productos no valor de \$10,802,634. As exportações de sebo foram no valor de \$4,806,835, ou sejam \$1,324,309 mais do que em 1906.

ESTIMATIVA DA COLHEITA DE TRIGO E LINHO NO ANNO AGRICOLA DE 1907-8.

Tomando por base os dados recebidos dos districtos agricolas, a Divisão de Estatistica e Economia Rural do Departamento da Agricultura da Republica Argentina fez a seguinte estimativa da colheita de trigo, linho e aveia no anno agricola de 1907-8:

	1907-8.	1906-7.
	<i>Toneladas.</i>	<i>Toneladas.</i>
Trigo.....	5,484,000	4,245,000
Linho.....	1,085,000	826,000
Aveia.....	443,000	180,000

Da comparação destas cifras resulta que a colheita de trigo de 1907-8 excede a do anno anterior em 1,239,000 toneladas, ou seja 29 por cento; a de linho, em 259,000 toneladas, ou seja 31 por cento, e a de aveia, em 263,000 toneladas, isto é 146 por cento.

Tomando por base essas cifras, pode-se calcular a exportação assim: Trigo e farinha de trigo, 4,250,000 toneladas; linho, 1,000,000 toneladas, e aveia, 420,000 toneladas.

Diz a Divisão de Estatistica que foram incompletos os dados sobre a colheita do milho, mas que esta pode ser calculada em 3,456,000 toneladas.



UMA VISTA PITTORESCA DE UM DOS RIOS DE GUATEMALA.
Mostrando a exuberância da vegetação que foi tão apreciada por Humboldt.

A PICTURESQUE RIVER SCENE IN GUATEMALA.
An illustration of the country's exuberant vegetation so much admired by Humboldt.



INSTALAÇÃO DA COMPANHIA MINEIRA DE ROSARIO EM SAN JUANCITO, HONDURAS.
Esta companhia emprega 900 operarios, e a produçáo annual das minas sobe a \$1,500,000.

ROSARIO MINING COMPANY'S PLANT AT SAN JUANCITO, HONDURAS.
This company employs 900 men, and the annual output of the mines represents \$1,500,000.

COSTA RICA.

POPULAÇÃO DA REPUBLICA EM 1907.

Segundo os algarismos publicados pela Repartição de Estatística da Costa Rica, a população da Republica em 31 de dezembro de 1907 foi de 351,176 habitantes, distribuidos entre as varias provincias assim:

San José.....	111,003	Guanacaste.....	29,093
Alajuela.....	82,809	Districto de Puntarenas.....	18,052
Cartago.....	55,373	Districto de Limon.....	14,925
Heredia.....	39,921		

INSPECÇÃO GOVERNAMENTAL DE MATADOUROS.

Em virtude de um contracto firmado em 29 de fevereiro de 1908 entre o Ministro da Costa Rica em Washington, Sr. JOAQUÍN BERNARDO CALVO, e o Dr. JOSÉ R. GRIME, cirurgião veterinario norte-americano, o qual foi approved pelo Poder Executivo em 28 de março ultimo, o Dr. GRIME servirá como ajudante da Repartição Sanitaria na capital e em outros pontos do paiz que exigirem seus serviços.

O Dr. GRIME terá a seu cargo a inspecção dos matadouros e seus productos, recommendando as medidas que forem necessarias para salvaguardar a saude publica.

CUBA.

SITUAÇÃO DA INDUSTRIA ASSUCAREIRA.

A estimativa da produção do assucar cubano no anno de 1907, feita pela Repartição de Estatística da Republica, calculou em 10,979,517 saccos a produção total, sendo este calculo considerado um pouco excessivo. As cifras da safra, ultimamente publicadas, mostram um total de 9,976,960 saccos, ou 1,000,000 saccos menos que a quantidade estimada.

A colheita de 1908 é calculada em 8,598,500 saccos.

A "*Cuba Review*," de março de 1908, contem o seguinte quadro mostrando a produção por provincias e a estimativa da colheita de 1908:

Provincias.	1907.	1908 (produção calculada).
	<i>Saccos.</i>	<i>Saccos.</i>
Havana.....	1,346,880	1,056,000
Pinar del Rio.....	226,248	184,000
Matanzas.....	2,687,673	2,164,500
Santa Clara.....	3,678,646	2,925,000
Puerto Principe.....	270,087	405,000
Santiago.....	1,767,420	1,774,000

PRODUÇÃO E EXPORTAÇÃO DO FUMO EM 1907.

Conforme os dados publicados pela "*Cuba Review*," a produção de fumo em Cuba nos annos de 1904-1907, foi a seguinte:

	<i>Fardos.</i>		<i>Fardos.</i>
1904.....	428, 108	1906.....	286, 288
1905.....	473, 617	1907.....	440, 745

A produção das diversas provincias em 1906 e 1907 foi a seguinte:

Provincias.	1906.	1907.	Provincias.	1906.	1907.
	<i>Fardos.</i>	<i>Fardos.</i>		<i>Fardos.</i>	<i>Fardos.</i>
Vuelta Abajo.....	139,346	234,012	Remedios.....	87,851	93,950
Semi Vuelta.....	11,886	21,885	Puerto Principe.....	1,028	1,009
Partidos.....	37,711	75,344	Santiago de Cuba.....	7,852	13,641
Matanzas.....	614	904			

As exportações de fumo e suas manufacturas realizadas no anno de 1907, foram do valor de \$28,645,908.60, contra \$36,702,585.75, no anno anterior, ao passo que o consumo nacional deste producto foi no valor de \$13,697,640.04 e \$12,334,154.72, respectivamente, nos dous annos em comparação, o que perfaz uma produção total no valor de \$42,343,548.64 em 1907, contra \$49,036,740.47 em 1906.

Dos 200,672 fardos de fumo em folha, no valor de \$14,960,933, que se exportaram no anno de 1907, 180,274 fardos foram com destino aos Estados Unidos. Dos 364,400,997 charutos fabricados no anno de 1907, foram exportados 186,428,607, no valor de \$13,-112,226, recebendo os Estados Unidos 61,869,131. A produção de cigarros em 1907 é calculada em 227,299,494 caixas, das quaes 16,505,104 caixas no valor de \$449,928, foram exportadas e 210,794,390 caixas foram consumidas no paiz.

CONDIÇÕES SANITARIAS EM 1907.

O relatório da Repartição de Saude Publica de Cuba correspondente ao anno de 1907, evidencia a situação bastante satisfactoria da Republica, sob o ponto de vista sanitario, como resultado de haver ficado o serviço sanitario a cargo do Governo Nacional, de conformidade com o decreto de 26 de agosto de 1907.

Na cidade de Havana registraram-se durante o anno apenas 7 casos de febre amarella, e 161 casos no resto da illa, ao passo que em 1906, houve 71 casos de febre amarella na capital, e 41 casos no interior.

A Repartição de Saude Publica cuidou especialmente do exterminio dos mosquitos, do regulamento do supprimento do leite e foi feita a devida inspecção dos estabelecimentos destinados ao fabrico de productos alimenticios, taes como gelo, aguas mineraes, doces, etc. Foi cumprido o regulamento estabelecendo a analyse chimica da

cerveja e outras bebidas alcoolicas e a inspecção medica de todas as escolas, tanto particulares como publicas, foi feita em intervallos regulares, sendo vaccinados 5,520 alumnos.

Na capital o numero total de obitos occorridos durante o anno foi de 6,708, dos quaes a maior parte, ou seja 1,176, victimas da tuberculose.

ADHESÃO Á CONVENÇÃO DE GENEBRA.

No dia 17 de março de 1908 o Governo de Cuba fez publica a adhesão da Republica á Convenção firmada em Genebra a 6 de julho de 1906, para melhorar a condição dos soldados feridos no campo de batalha, e ao protocollo definitivo desta Convenção firmado na mesma data.

Esta Convenção foi o resultado de uma conferencia que se reuniu com o fim de reformar a Convenção de Genebra firmada em 1864.

ESTADOS UNIDOS.

COMMERCIO COM OS PAIZES LATINO-AMERICANOS.

RELAÇÃO MENSAL DA IMPORTAÇÃO E EXPORTAÇÃO.

O quadro apresentado na pagina 1078 é extrahido dos dados compilados pelo Chefe da Repartição de Estatistica do Departamento do Commercio e Trabalho, mostrando o movimento commercial entre os Estados Unidos e os paizes latino-americanos. A relação corresponde ao mez de março de 1908, com uma identica comparativa para o mez correspondente do anno anterior, assim como para os nove mezes findos em março de 1908, comparados com o periodo correspondente do anno precedente. Deve-se explicar que os algarismos das diversas alfandegas, mostrando as importações e exportações de um só mez, são recebidos no Departamento do Thesouro até quasi o dia 20 do mez seguinte, e perde-se algum tempo necessariamente em sua compilação e impressão. Por conseguinte, as estatisticas para o mez de março, por exemplo, não são publicadas até os primeiros dias de maio.

MEXICO.

EXPLORAÇÃO DE JAZIDAS DE PETROLEO.

No dia 4 de dezembro de 1907, o Presidente Díaz promulgou o contracto assignado em 14 de agosto de 1907 entre o Governo e os Srs. LUIS DE LA BARRA e JUAN BRINGAS, para a exploração de jazidas de petroleo situadas em terrenos particulares, com a prévia permissão

dos seus donos, no Departamento de Pichualco, Estado de Chiapas. Pelos termos do contracto o concessionario deverá empregar na dita exploração a somma de 100,000 pesos, dentro do prazo de sete annos a contar da data do contracto.

NICARAGUA.

A INDUSTRIA MINEIRA.

O Ministro da Republica de Nicaragua em Washington, Sr. LUIS F. COREA, forneceu á Secretaria Internacional das Republicas Americanas os seguintes dados sobre a industria mineira do seu paiz.

As minas registradas na Repartição de Estatistica de Nicaragua são as seguintes: No Departamento de Nueva Segovia, 112 minas de ouro, 9 minas de ouro e de prata, e 5 minas de prata; Chinandega, 1 mina de ouro, 1 de ouro e prata, 1 de prata e 1 de cobre; Carazo, 1 mina de ouro e de prata; Jinotega, 20 minas de ouro; Estelí, 12 minas de ouro e 2 de prata; Leon, 36 minas de ouro; Jerez, 132 de ouro; Littoral do Atlantico, 171 minas de ouro.

Existem depositos de cal em differentes partes do paiz, sendo os principaes situados em Chinandega, Carazo, Rivas e Nueva Segovia. No Departamento de Jinotega encontra-se uma mina de jaspe, e no Departamento de Managua, uma pedreira de rebolo. Encontram-se pedreiras em toda a parte da Republica, sendo as principaes situadas em Posintepe, Departamento de Granada, e em Miramar, Departamento de Rivas. Além destes, existe um grande numero de depositos de marmore e outras pedras valiosas em terrenos particulares.

SALVADOR.

COMISSÃO PAN-AMERICANA.

Em 23 de março de 1908, o Presidente do Salvador promulgou um decreto autorizando a nomeação da Comissão Pan-Americana, dependente do Ministerio das Relações Exteriores, em cumprimento da quarta resolução da Terceira Conferencia Pan-Americana do Rio de Janeiro. A Comissão será composta de quatro membros, devendo o Sub-Secretario das Relações Exteriores servir como presidente da mesma. O decreto especificando as funções da Comissão foi publicado no "*Diario Oficial*," de 25 de março de 1908.

CONVENÇÃO CELEBRADA COM OS ESTADOS UNIDOS, FIXANDO A CONDIÇÃO DOS CIDADÃOS NATURALIZADOS.

No dia 14 de março de 1908, os Plenipotenciarios de Salvador e dos Estados Unidos assignaram uma convenção na cidade de Salvador, fixando a condição dos cidadãos naturalizados que renovam a sua

residencia no paiz de origem. A convenção foi approvada pelo Presidente de Salvador na mesma data, e publicada no "*Diario Oficial*" de 17 de março de 1908.

URUGUAY.

MOVIMENTO COMMERCIAL POR ALFANDEGAS.

A maior parte dos generos importados e exportados da Republica do Uruguay, passam pela Alfandega de Montevideo, representando o valor de \$57,268,967 as importações e exportações effectuadas por esta alfandega durante o anno de 1907, ou seja 82.32 por cento do total, que ascendeu a \$69,576,143.

Dos \$34,425,205 que representam o valor total da importação, \$31,930,324, ou seja 92.78 por cento do total, representam os generos que entraram no paiz pela alfandega de Montevideo, ao passo que foram exportados por esta alfandega generos no valor de \$25,338,643, ou seja 72.08 por cento do total, que foi de \$35,150,937.

A parte que as outras alfandegas tiveram neste commercio foi a seguinte:

Alfandegas.	Impor- tação.	Expor- tação.	Total.
Paysandú.....	\$736,503	\$2,265,077	\$3,001,580
Fray Bentos.....	279,317	2,410,740	2,690,057
Salto.....	691,286	1,778,107	2,469,393
Colonia.....	372,232	1,932,507	2,304,739
Mercedes.....	234,572	1,111,870	1,346,442
Cerro Largo.....	80,735	124,775	205,511
San Eugenio.....	3,509	102,523	106,032
Santa Rosa.....	15,537	54,982	70,518
Cebollati.....	21,715	13,981	35,696
Maldonado.....	29,129		29,129
Rivera.....	10,170	17,732	27,903
Rocha.....	20,176		20,175

PRODUÇÃO DE OURO DAS MINAS DE CUÑAPIRU EM 1907.

Segundo os dados fornecidos ao Ministro das Obras Publicas da Republica do Uruguay pela companhia de mineração franceza que explora as minas de Cuñapiru, foram extrahidas desta mina durante o anno de 1907, 18,028 toneladas metricas de minerio que produziram 117 kilogrammas e 917 grammas de ouro. O producto das vendas de ouro realizadas durante o anno foi de \$51,883.48, e os impostos foram na importancia de \$259.41.

O minerio deu na média 6½ grammas de ouro por tonelada. As mais ricas minas são as de San Gregorio e de Ernestinita, em Corrales

DISTRIBUIÇÃO DO SALDO DO THESOURO.

O balanço do Thesouro do Uruguay para o exercicio de 1906-7 apresenta um saldo de \$2,149,934, que terá a seguinte applicação: \$1,800,000, já aproveitados; \$100,000, a primeira quota em paga-

mento do edificio da Universidade; \$100,000, para reforma dos armamentos; \$50,000, saneamento das villas; \$50,000, policia sanitaria dos animaes, e \$49,986, concertos, moveis, etc., das alfandegas.

PROPOSIÇÃO ESTABELECENDO UMA ZONA LIVRE.

Acaba de ser apresentado á Camara dos Deputados da Republica do Uruguay um projecto estabelecendo uma zona livre nos terrenos publicos ganhos do mar na parte oriental da bahia de Montevidéo. Pelos termos do projecto as mercadorias que forem introduzidas ou fabricadas na zona livre estarão isentas do pagamento de direitos aduaneiros, contanto que não sejam destinadas a serem importadas no paiz, devendo neste caso pagar os mesmos direitos que se cobram sobre mercadorias identicas importadas directamente do estrangeiro. Os partidarios do projecto affirmam que esta medida, si for votada, fará que o porto de Montevidéo se torne o mais importante da America do Sul.



Le débourché pour les produits des mines renommées de Cerro de Pasco, centre des intérêts des Etats-Unis dans la République.

SCENE ON THE OROYA RAILROAD OF PERU.
The outlet for the products of the famous Cerro de Pasco mines. The center of United States interests in the Republic.



LA PLAZA MAYOR, OU PLACE PRINCIPALE DE LIME.

Ornée de colonnes et d'arcades qui forment un superbe portique, construit en 1693. Le grand bâtiment est le Palais du Gouvernement, construit par Pizarro

THE PLAZA MAYOR, OR MAIN SQUARE, OF LIMA.

ornamented with columns and arcades, forming a superb portico, built in 1693. The large building is the Government Palace, built by Pizarro.

BULLETIN

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No. 5.

On trouvera dans ce numéro du BULLETIN que l'on publie spécialement à cette occasion, le programme des cérémonies qui vont avoir lieu aujourd'hui, 11 mai 1908, pour la pose de la première pierre du nouveau bâtiment de l'Union Internationale des Républiques Américaines. Le programme, comme on le voit, montre l'importance de cet événement international. Des discours vont y être prononcés par M. THEODORE ROOSEVELT, Président des Etats-Unis, qui, depuis le commencement de son administration, n'a jamais cessé de porter le plus grand intérêt à l'accroissement du commerce pan-américain et à l'entretien de relations amicales avec les nations de cette Union; par M. ELIHU ROOT, Secrétaire d'Etat des Etats-Unis, qui, non seulement par ses voyages spéciaux dans l'Amérique du Sud et le Mexique, mais par suite de l'attention qu'il a toujours prêtée à tout ce qui touche aux rapports des Etats-Unis avec l'Amérique Latine, a donné au mouvement pan-américain un essor et une importance qui autrement n'auraient jamais existé; par M. JOAQUIM NABUCO, ambassadeur du Brésil, doyen des diplomates sud-américains à Washington, qui a présidé la Troisième Conférence Pan-américaine tenue à Rio de Janeiro en 1906; et par M. ANDREW CARNEGIE, qui, par une coïncidence toute particulière, n'a pas été seulement délégué des Etats-Unis à la Première Conférence Pan-américaine qui a eu lieu à Washington pendant l'hiver de 1889-90, et a organisé le Bureau International, mais encore dernièrement a été le donateur généreux de la somme de \$750,000 pour la construction de ce nouveau bâtiment. La prière va être faite par Son Eminence le Cardinal JAMES GIBBONS, qui est à la tête de l'Eglise catholique romaine aux Etats-Unis; et la bénédiction

Bien que le Bureau International des Républiques Américaines exerce le plus grand soin pour assurer l'exactitude de ses publications, il n'assumera aucune responsabilité des erreurs ou inexactitudes qui pourraient s'y glisser.

va être donnée par l'évêque Cranston, doyen du clergé protestant du District de Colombie. M. John Barrett, Directeur du Bureau International, ouvrira les cérémonies et présentera le Secrétaire d'Etat, président du Conseil d'Administration, comme Président de la fête. La musique de la Marine, qui a été désignée spécialement par le Ministre de la Marine pour rehausser l'éclat de la fête, va faire entendre les plus beaux morceaux de son répertoire pan-américain avant et pendant la cérémonie.

Le coffret en cuivre qu'on va sceller dans la première pierre renferme les rapports officiels des trois conférences pan-américaines tenues respectivement à Washington en 1889-90, à Mexico en 1901 et à Rio de Janeiro en 1906; des copies de la correspondance entre le Président des Etats-Unis, le Secrétaire d'Etat, et M. ANDREW CARNEGIE au sujet du don de ce dernier pour le nouveau bâtiment; des photographies des Présidents des Républiques Américaines et les câblegrammes de félicitation envoyés à cette occasion; des photographies des membres du Conseil d'Administration et des anciens fonctionnaires du Bureau, ainsi que des fonctionnaires actuels; de petits drapeaux et la reproduction des sceaux des pays appartenant à l'Union Internationale; des exemplaires du BULLETIN MENSUEL et d'autres publications du Bureau International; des pièces de monnaie et des timbres-poste de différentes Républiques; des exemplaires des principaux journaux, etc. La tribune d'honneur et l'espace réservé qui entoure la première pierre sont décorés d'un grand nombre de drapeaux et d'écussons de toutes les nations américaines et aussi de banderolles aux couleurs de ces dernières. On a invité le Président et le vice-Président des Etats-Unis, les Ministres, les membres du Corps Diplomatique, la Cour Suprême, et autres hauts fonctionnaires de la magistrature, les gouverneurs des Etats et des Territoires, le Sénat et la Chambre des Députés, les officiers de l'Armée et de la Marine se trouvant à Washington, les commissaires du District, les principaux fonctionnaires des différents ministères, les membres du clergé, les chefs des principales maisons d'instruction ordinaire et commerciale.

IMPORTANCE INTERNATIONALE DE LA POSE DE LA PREMIÈRE PIERRE.

La pose de la première pierre du nouveau bâtiment du Bureau International des Républiques Américaines a une importance de premier ordre pour tous ceux qui s'intéressent à l'encouragement de la paix, de l'amitié et du commerce parmi les nations. Quoique l'Union Internationale, dont le Bureau est l'organe, se compose des vingt-et-une républiques, il n'y a rien dans son organisation, ou dans le but qu'elle se propose, qui soit hostile à l'idée de relations des plus amicales entre ces mêmes Républiques et les pays de l'Europe, de

l'Asie et du reste du monde, et bien que les pays qui composent l'union pan-américaine soient appelés à profiter en première ligne de ses principaux avantages, il n'en est pas moins vrai que tout ce qui augmente leur bien-être, leur prospérité et leur progrès contribue aussi à rendre plus suivies et plus intimes leurs relations avec le Vieux Monde. A l'occasion de cette cérémonie, le monde entier peut donc se joindre à l'Amérique pour exprimer sa satisfaction en voyant que l'on va construire à Washington un édifice magnifique qui sera non seulement un temple international de paix et de bonne entente, mais pour ainsi dire une chambre de commerce internationale et un lieu de réunion convenable dans une capitale pour les représentants officiels de toutes les nations américaines et aussi pour tous les citoyens de ces dernières qui s'intéressent au rapprochement de ces pays et à l'accroissement de leur prospérité.

ARTICLES SPÉCIAUX PRÉPARÉS POUR CE NUMÉRO DU BULLETIN.

Pour que ce numéro du BULLETIN puisse être en rapport avec les événements qui se passent et aussi être intéressant pour tous ceux qui suivent de près le développement de l'idée pan-américaine et qui désirent se renseigner davantage sur le but et le travail du Bureau International, on publie, en plus des statistiques ordinaires sur le commerce et le développement pan-américains, plusieurs articles spéciaux. Ceux-ci comprennent deux articles du Directeur du Bureau qui ont paru récemment dans le "World To-Day" et le "System," le premier intitulé "Grands avantages commerciaux de l'Amérique Latine," et le second "Moyens disponibles pour augmenter le commerce étranger." Ensuite un article rédigé par M. FRANCISCO J. YÁNES, secrétaire du Bureau, sur les membres du Conseil d'Administration du Bureau International; quelques renseignements sur le comité pan-américain qui a été nommé récemment par le Secrétaire d'Etat des États-Unis; une description du nouveau bâtiment au point de vue de l'architecture, par M. PAUL P. CRET de la compagnie KELSEY & CRET, qui ont fait les plans du bâtiment et qui sont chargés de sa construction; une discussion sur les conditions dans lesquelles on peut voyager dans l'Amérique du Sud, par un professeur à l'Université de Colombie, M. WILLIAM R. SHEPHERD, qui a récemment fait le tour de ce continent; un horaire des routes maritimes allant dans l'Amérique Latine, avec carte à l'appui, par le Dr. ALBERT HALE, qui a voyagé dernièrement dans l'Amérique Latine et a écrit un livre intéressant intitulé "Les Américains du Sud;" des extraits du discours que l'Hon. JAMES L. SLAYDEN, Député du Texas, a prononcé dernièrement à la Chambre des Députés au sujet du commerce de "l'Amérique Latine et de l'Orient avec les États-Unis;" enfin des considérations sur "l'Amérique Latine dans la presse du jour" et en particulier dans les principales revues.

COMMERCE ARGENTIN PENDANT L'ANNÉE 1907.

Le rang qu'occupe la République Argentine dans le monde économique se fait voir par l'augmentation de plus de \$16,000,000 dans les envois de blé en 1907 sur ceux de l'année précédente, les exportations totales de ce produit s'élevant à environ \$83,000,000. On remarque aussi une augmentation de \$10,165,360 dans les expéditions de lin et une de \$3,593,397 dans celles d'avoine, ce qui fait que, malgré la perte de la récolte du maïs qui a causé une diminution de plus de \$23,000,000, les produits agricoles seuls se sont élevés à la somme de \$164,091,621, ce qui représente pour l'année une augmentation de \$6,436,929.

EXPORTATIONS DE CAOUTCHOUC DU BRÉSIL.

Les chiffres ayant trait aux exportations de caoutchouc du Brésil pendant l'année 1907 font voir un total de 36,489,772 kilogrammes, évalués à 217,504,238 *milreis* (\$71,775,323.84), contre 34,960,184 kilogrammes en 1906, évalués à 210 284,551 *milreis* (\$69,393,901.83).

EXPORTATIONS ET IMPORTATIONS DU CHILI.

Si les exportations d'un pays indiquent l'étendue de ses ressources naturelles, les importations démontrent la prospérité ou la pauvreté de ses habitants. On attache donc une certaine importance au fait qu'en 1907 les importations chiliennes ont dépassé de \$20,000,000 celles de l'année précédente. Quant à la diminution que l'on remarque dans les exportations, on l'attribue à la restriction des exportations du nitrate, produit principal du pays. Jusqu'au mois d'avril 1907, fin de l'année nitratière, les exportations totales de nitrate par l'Association Nitratière du Chili se sont élevées à 400,000 tonnes. Dans une réunion récente de l'association, on a décidé de limiter les expéditions de l'année courante à la même quantité.

INDUSTRIE SUCRIÈRE DE CUBA.

Les prévisions de la récolte du sucre dans le territoire cubain en 1907, préparées par le Bureau des Statistiques du pays, donnaient le chiffre total de 10,979,517 sacs (de 320 livres chacun); mais ces chiffres ont été un peu trop élevés, car, d'après les données définitives publiées récemment, la production totale s'est élevée à 9,976,960 sacs, soit environ 1,000,000 de sacs au-dessous des prévisions. On estime à 8,508,500 sacs la production pour l'année 1908.

TRAVAUX PUBLICS DANS LA RÉPUBLIQUE DOMINICAINE.

Le rapport publié au mois de février dernier par le Ministre des Travaux Publics de la République Dominicaine fait voir un développement satisfaisant dans les conditions intérieures du pays.

Toutes les provinces ont pris part à l'exposition de produits indigènes qui a eu lieu dans la capitale au mois d'août de l'année dernière et des médailles d'or, d'argent et de cuivre ont été décernées aux exposants dominicains à Jamestown. On construit des chemins de fer entre la côte et l'intérieur, et les travaux d'irrigation se poursuivent sous la direction d'un ingénieur des Etats-Unis; on fait aussi de grandes routes et des quais pour faire face aux besoins du commerce. Le Gouvernement a donné son approbation à l'arrangement conclu avec une compagnie de New-York au sujet de la dette publique et l'on en a publié les conditions dans la "Gazette Officielle" du pays.

COMMISSION SPÉCIALE SANITAIRE DE L'ÉQUATEUR.

M. ALFARO, Président de la République de l'Équateur, a promulgué un décret en date du 24 mars 1908, pour l'établissement dans la ville de Guayaquil d'une commission sanitaire spéciale qui se composera de quatre membres, dont un devra être président. Le but principal de cette commission est de faire disparaître la peste, la fièvre jaune et la petite vérole dans la ville de Guayaquil et ses environs et d'installer toutes les maisons d'après les principes de l'hygiène par l'emploi de méthodes modernes sanitaires. Le décret donne à la commission pleins pouvoirs pour l'exercice de ses fonctions, et dit que les travaux sanitaires de la ville de Guayaquil devront être terminés dans le délai de deux ans suivant le rapport présenté par le Dr. JOHN C. PERRY et le Dr. BOLIVAR J. LLOYD, du Service de la Santé Publique et des Hôpitaux de la Marine des Etats-Unis. On a nommé le Docteur LLOYD président de la commission.

DÉVELOPPEMENT DES RESSOURCES DU HONDURAS.

En vertu d'un récent décret présidentiel on a créé un Ministère de l'Agriculture, ce qui prouve parfaitement bien que le Gouvernement du Honduras désire encourager le développement de ses ressources nationales. On a déjà pris les dispositions préliminaires pour mettre en adjudication les travaux de construction d'un chemin de fer qui mettra en communication avec les ports d'expédition les plantations de bananes de l'intérieur. Il y a aussi un projet à l'étude pour coloniser certaines parties du pays en y faisant venir des Européens du Nord et du Centre. Tous ces efforts et toutes ces démarches de la part du Gouvernement du Honduras sont autant de pas dans la voie du progrès.

CONDITION COMMERCIALE ET FINANCIÈRE DU MEXIQUE.

Le consul des Etats-Unis à Aguascalientes a fait un rapport à son Gouvernement au sujet de la stabilité des institutions de banque du Mexique. Il dit que la crise monétaire qui a affecté récemment les marchés financiers du monde entier n'a pas empêché les banques du Mexique de faire face à leurs obligations et d'effectuer leurs paiements en espèces. On compte que l'établissement projeté d'une chambre de commerce nationale, chargée de l'encouragement du commerce et de la direction d'affaires commerciales, raffermira davantage le crédit de la nation. D'un autre côté on a accueilli favorablement la convocation faite par M. LIMANTOUR, Ministre des Finances, aux différentes banques qui vont s'empresse d'envoyer des délégués à cette conférence dans le but d'y étudier des mesures économiques.

PRODUITS MINÉRAUX ET FORESTIERS DU NICARAGUA.

Sur plus de 500 mines enregistrées au Bureau des Statistiques du Nicaragua il y a 494 mines d'or. On trouve aussi de l'argent, du cuivre et des carrières de pierre dans différents endroits du pays. Les indigènes et les étrangers ont obtenu différentes concessions qu'ils s'empressent d'exploiter aussi rapidement que possible. Bien que le caoutchouc soit le principal produit des forêts dont l'exploitation se poursuit avec succès, il y a dans le pays une grande quantité de plantes médicinales très utiles, aussi des gommés et résines ayant une grande valeur commerciale.

L'ENSEIGNEMENT AU PARAGUAY.

Les allocations votées par le Congrès du Paraguay pour le Ministère de la Justice et de l'Instruction Publique s'élèvent à plus de \$500,000. Le Gouvernement a cinq collèges et une Université Nationale, cette dernière comprenant dans ses cours l'étude du droit, de la sociologie, de la médecine, de la pharmacie. On y donne aussi l'Instruction nécessaire en notariat. Dans les écoles nationales on consacre une attention toute particulière aux études scientifiques qui pourraient influer sur le développement des ressources et industries du pays, et le Gouvernement a un collège agricole avec une ferme modèle et un champs d'expérience. Des bourses permettent aux jeunes gens de poursuivre leurs études en Europe et aux Etats-Unis. En outre, il y a une école normale pratique dont le corps enseignant qui se compose de 58 professeurs.

INSTRUCTION PUBLIQUE AU SALVADOR.

En 1907 les dépenses pour l'enseignement primaire au Salvador se sont élevées à \$400,000, et de plus il y a beaucoup d'institutions particulières dans le pays qui ne s'occupent que de l'enseignement primaire. L'Université Nationale de San Salvador se charge de l'enseignement académique qui embrasse les écoles de droit, de médecine, de pharmacie, de l'art dentaire, du génie civil, etc.

ZONE LIBRE DE L'URUGUAY.

La Chambre des Députés de l'Uruguay a été saisie d'un projet de loi pour l'établissement d'une zone libre sur les terres fiscales réclâmées de la mer à l'est de la baie de Montévidéo. Les marchandises introduites et les articles fabriqués dans la zone libre seront exempts de droits de douane à moins qu'ils ne soient destinés à l'importation, et dans ce cas ils doivent passer par les autorités douanières tout comme s'ils venaient directement de l'étranger. Ceux qui appuient ce projet de loi pensent qu'il fera de Montévidéo le premier port de l'Amérique du Sud.

LIGNES TÉLÉGRAPHIQUES ET TÉLÉPHONIQUES AU VÉNÉZUÉLA.

Afin d'éviter toute mauvaise interprétation des réglemens qui ont été publiés dans le BULLETIN MENSUEL du mois de février dernier au sujet des lignes télégraphiques et téléphoniques du Venezuela, on fait savoir que les décisions ne s'appliquent qu'à l'établissement de systèmes nationaux et officiels et n'affectent en aucune façon les entreprises particulières existant d'après les lois du pays.

MESURES SANITAIRES.

Par un décret du Président de la République du Venezuela, en date du 18 avril 1908, on a mis pendant quinze jours l'embargo sur les marchandises expédiées du port de La Guaira.

COMPARAISON DU COMMERCE FAIT PAR LES
ÉTATS-UNIS AVEC L'AMÉRIQUE LATINE ET
L'ORIENT.

Le 17 avril 1908, au moment où on a soumis au Congrès des Etats-Unis le projet de loi sur le budget diplomatique et consulaire, M. J. L. SLAYDEN, député du Texas, a discuté clairement et chaleureusement la comparaison des avantages que peuvent offrir l'Amérique Latine et l'Orient au point de vue du développement commercial.

En parlant du Mexique, de l'Amérique du Sud et du Centre et de l'Orient, M. SLAYDEN a dit :

Nous votons cette année une somme importante pour construire des consulats et des tribunaux en Orient, mais jusqu'ici on n'a rien fait pour les pays américains.

J'appelle toute votre attention sur un compte-rendu très court du commerce actuel comparé à celui de l'Amérique du Centre et du Sud, ainsi que sur celui qui pourra s'y faire à l'avenir. Le remarquable voyage fait par M. ROOR, Secrétaire d'Etat, a montré la grande importance toujours croissante du commerce et de la politique dans les pays de l'Amérique du Sud. Il eût été impossible de choisir un homme plus compétent pour accomplir cette mission. Homme de haute intelligence, versé dans les affaires, ayant une grande expérience acquise dans des postes élevés demandant une grande responsabilité, M. ROOR a compris très vite les habitants des différentes Républiques Américaines et aussi ce qui pouvait être fait au point de vue du développement de ces différents pays. Ceux d'entre vous qui voudront bien lire ses discours et le suivre pas à pas dans son grand voyage à l'aide de cartes et de renseignements en seront grandement récompensés.

En général, les citoyens des Etats-Unis ne comprennent pas plus ce qui se passe dans l'Amérique du Sud qu'ils ne connaissent les langues qui s'y parlent. La plupart d'entre eux apprendraient avec étonnement que le Brésil est plus grand que les Etats-Unis, car il a en plus un territoire égal aux Etats de la Californie et de la Caroline du Sud réunies. La République Argentine est aussi grande que les Etats situés à l'est du Mississipi auxquels on ajouterait le Texas. Le Mexique, que nous connaissons mieux, a une superficie presque égale à celle de tous les Etats situés à l'est du Mississipi. Il est presque trois fois grand comme le Texas.

Je désirerais vivement, M. le Président, d'avoir le temps suffisant pour vous donner beaucoup de ces renseignements si intéressants sur les pays de l'Amérique du Sud et du Centre, ou bien encore, je voudrais être à même de forcer tout membre ayant voix délibérative sur ces projets de loi budgétaires de lire les données qui seront publiées dans le "Record". Mieux encore, si les représentants profitaient des facilités que leur offre le Bureau International des Républiques Américaines, ils auraient à leur disposition des sources de renseignements satisfaisants et instructifs. En ce moment, ce Bureau, dont on ne saurait nier la grande utilité, fait tous ses efforts pour mettre en rapport les habitants de la République de l'Amérique du Nord avec leurs voisins de l'Amérique du Sud.

Il y a dans l'Amérique Latine vingt pays ayant ensemble environ 50,000,000 d'habitants faisant un commerce annuel d'à peu près \$2,000,000,000. Leurs importations s'élèvent à \$897,128,563 et leurs exportations à \$1,070,660,724, ce qui fait un total de \$1,967,789,287.

Ce qui nous intéresse le plus c'est de savoir quelle est la part des Etats-Unis dans cet immense commerce et comment nous pourrions l'augmenter. Nos importations s'élèvent par an au chiffre de \$237,840,679 et nos exportations à \$316,496,576, ce qui fait un commerce total avec les Etats-Unis de \$554,337,255. Combien n'y en a-t-il pas dans les Etats-Unis, et même parmi nous, qui ignorent que notre commerce annuel avec le Mexique, l'Amérique du Centre et du Sud et les Indes Occidentales s'élève à plus de 500,000,000 de dollars? Dans un article publié dans le "Munsey" du mois de juin dernier, M. BARNETT, Directeur de Bureau International des Républiques Américaines, a attiré l'attention sur le fait que le total du commerce extérieur, importations et exportations des dix Républiques sud-américaines pour l'année 1905, en y ajoutant celui des Guyanes anglaise, française et hollandaise, a dépassé \$1,200,000,000. Il a de plus fait remarquer combien il est à regretter de voir que, malgré notre situation géographique favorable, la part des Etats-Unis dans ce commerce n'atteignait pas \$250,000,000. L'énorme chiffre d'affaires dont nous avons parlé plus haut n'est pas pour rester stationnaire. Il n'a pas encore atteint son plus haut point. En effet, ce

n'est qu'un commencement. Toute cette vaste superficie au sud des Etats-Unis, bien des fois plus grande que notre propre pays n'a qu'environ 50,000,000 d'habitants. Elle comprend toutes les latitudes habitables s'étendant vers le sud de l'équateur à peu près à la même distance que les Etats-Unis s'en éloignent vers le nord. Tout ce que le sol produit d'utile à l'homme peut se cultiver dans quelques parties du Mexique ou de l'Amérique du Centre ou du Sud. C'est un immense territoire offrant de grands avantages; il est situé dans notre voisinage et nous négligeons de nous occuper de ce qu'on peut trouver pour chercher des débouchés qui sont beaucoup plus éloignés.

Permettez-moi d'attirer votre attention sur quelques-uns des faits intéressants que nous font voir les statistiques commerciales et financières des principaux pays du monde. Si nous comparons, par habitant, le chiffre des importations de la République Argentine et de la Chine, nous trouvons \$34.86 pour le premier pays et 78 cents pour le deuxième. Il résulte donc que chaque habitant de la République Argentine vaut pour nous, au point de vue commercial, quarante-cinq fois autant qu'un Chinois, les Brésiliens valent douze fois autant et les Mexicains dix fois. La petite République de l'Uruguay, qui est plus grande que les Etats de New York et de la Virginie de l'Ouest réunis, soit dit en passant, importe par chaque habitant — homme, femme ou enfant — des marchandises pour une valeur de \$21.13, soit vingtsept fois autant que la Chine.

Je vous demande encore quelques minutes d'attention pendant que je vais faire la comparaison entre deux ou trois de ces pays de l'Amérique Latine dont personne ne s'occupe et un de ces pays de l'Orient très en vue aujourd'hui.

La République Argentine, comme je vous l'ai déjà dit, consomme par habitant des marchandises étrangères pour une valeur de \$34.86 et le Japon en consomme pour \$5.07. Il est donc évident que dans le développement actuel du commerce, un Argentin vaut approximativement sept fois autant qu'un Japonais. Les habitants de la Nouvelle Zélande, pays si éloigné, valent au point de vue commercial près de quatorze fois autant que les Japonais, mais on ne s'en occupe pas autant et nous les oublions presque complètement. Maintenant, si nous examinons les conditions de l'Amérique du Centre, nous voyons qu'un habitant de Costa Rica achète autant de marchandises étrangères que trois Japonais, et aux yeux de nos exportateurs ces derniers ont une valeur bien moindre que les habitants de l'Equateur et du Paraguay, pays de peu d'importance situés dans l'Amérique du Sud.

Pendant que je discute ce sujet j'attire votre attention sur le fait que malgré l'énorme quantité d'approvisionnements importés aux Philippines pour l'armée américaine, la consommation de marchandises étrangères par les habitants de cet archipel ne s'élève qu'à \$3.38 par tête. Ce chiffre est bien dépassé par les habitants de l'Argentine, de la Bolivie, du Brésil, de Costa-Rica, du Guatemala, du Nicaragua, du Salvador, de Cuba, de l'Equateur, d'Haïti, du Mexique, du Paraguay, du Pérou, de Saint-Domingue, de l'Uruguay et du Venezuela.

Je suis fermement convaincu, M. le Président, qu'au lieu de gaspiller de si grosses sommes d'argent dans le commerce si peu important de l'extrême Orient, il serait beaucoup plus sage de notre part d'en consacrer la dixième partie au développement de notre commerce avec d'autres pays américains.

M. BARRETT, dans un article dont j'ai déjà parlé, donne à l'Amérique du Sud et du Centre le nom flatteur de "Le pays de demain." On ne peut certainement pas en dire autant des Indes Occidentales, de la Chine, ou même du Japon. C'est tout au plus si on peut leur donner le nom de "Pays d'après-demain." Tous ces pays américains ont d'immenses superficies de terres fertiles qui n'attendent que leur mise en culture, tandis que l'Orient est déjà complètement encombré. Le développement rapide et merveilleux de notre pays, les gages élevés et la prospérité et l'indépendance des habitants des Etats-Unis sont dus à ce que nous possédions un continent inculte, plein de ressources. La fertilité du sol, la richesse des mines et des forêts et le peu d'habitants en comparaison de ses ressources, nous ont empêché de tomber dans l'esclavage

industriel. Bien que les occasions diminuent à mesure que la population augmente, il nous reste encore assez de débouchés à l'énergie et au talent de l'ouvrier américain pour que d'ici longtemps il n'ait pas lieu de craindre les conditions difficiles qui existent en Europe à cause de la trop grande population, ou encore les conditions intolérables qui existent en Chine et au Japon à cause de la densité de la population.

Au Japon, en Chine et dans les Indes Occidentales les hommes travaillent pour quelques sous par jour parce qu'ils ne peuvent gagner davantage. Dans l'Amérique du Sud ils ne sont pas obligés de le faire parce qu'ils peuvent cultiver la terre pour leur propre compte. Il n'y a aucun mouvement d'émigration dans les pays de l'Orient. Les Européens qui émigrent ne vont pas dans un pays comme le Japon, où la moyenne des fermes est de 2½ acres. Ils préfèrent l'Amérique du Nord ou du Sud, et le nombre d'émigrants qui vont dans l'Amérique du Sud est toujours croissant. Ils y trouvent des avantages qui, pour l'Orient, pourraient faire considérer ce pays comme un paradis terrestre.

C'est avec plaisir que j'ai vu le courant de l'émigration se porter du côté de l'Amérique du Sud, car à une certaine époque je craignais de voir les Etats-Unis se peupler trop rapidement. L'Amérique du Sud offre le confort aux malheureux ouvriers de l'Europe, ainsi qu'un champ d'énorme expansion commerciale dans les pays voisins pour le commerçant des Etats-Unis. Montrons que nous savons l'apprécier et sachons en profiter.

Si notre énergie américaine caractéristique se porte vers le développement des ressources offertes par l'Amérique du Sud et du Centre, il n'y a pour ainsi dire pas de limites au chiffre de transactions commerciales qui peuvent se faire entre les pays de l'Amérique du Sud et du Centre et des Etats-Unis, ayant tous les mêmes institutions politiques et les mêmes aspirations au point de vue politique, social et commercial.

L'AMÉRIQUE LATINE DANS LA PRESSE D'AUJOURD'HUI.

On peut se rendre compte de l'intérêt général qui s'est éveillé dans toutes les parties des Etats-Unis au sujet de tout ce qui regarde l'Amérique Latine, en voyant le grand nombre de pages que lui consacrent les revues de notre pays.

Les feuilles commerciales et les rapports consulaires sont les principaux agents des intérêts commerciaux. Les Bourses qui aident aux étudiants étrangers à suivre les cours d'une université ou d'un collège sont les moyens les plus en usage pour stimuler les goûts de l'étude, mais c'est dans les revues du pays dont le but est de plaire aux lecteurs que l'on trouve des articles d'intérêt général répondant aux exigences du public; donc, quand on voit ces revues publier de mois en mois des articles très intéressants sur les ressources et les conditions existant dans les Indes Occidentales ou dans les Républiques de l'Amérique du Centre et du Sud, il est facile de voir l'idée qui est en vogue.

On a dit avec raison que les journaux et revues mensuelles de l'Amérique du Sud s'occupent beaucoup du développement intellectuel et artistique dans les capitales de l'Europe, quand ils ne consacrent

crent comparativement que très peu d'attention à ce qui se passe aux États-Unis. En même temps, on remarque qu'un changement sensible a lieu sous ce rapport. Le lecteur assidu de ces feuilles doit s'être rendu compte que depuis deux ans on consacre plus d'espace dans les publications économiques et scientifiques, aussi bien que dans les journaux quotidiens de l'Amérique Latine, à reproduire les vues et idées des écrivains des États-Unis. De même on y relate avec la plus grande promptitude et la plus scrupuleuse exactitude tous nos incidents politiques et commerciaux.

En parcourant les revues principales de date récente qu'on reçoit à la Bibliothèque de Christophe Colomb, il est facile de se rendre compte qu'il existe entre les Républiques de l'Amérique ce qu'on pourrait appeler une réciprocité d'échange d'idées.

Dans le "*Scribner's Magazine*" du mois de mai on trouve un article écrit par M. ARTHUR RUEL, dans lequel il fait avec un style des mieux choisis, des descriptions charmantes de la ville du "Bon Air," ainsi qu'il se plaît à nommer la capitale de la République Argentine. Au moyen de vues kaléidoscopiques il donne une idée de la foule qui se presse dans les rues et de la gaieté en même temps que de la prospérité qui caractérisent cette capitale, la seconde ville latine du monde entier.

Le "*Century*" du mois de mai consacre plusieurs pages à des reproductions soignées de quelques églises mexicaines d'après des photographies de HENRY RAVELL, accompagnées de descriptions par LOCKWOOD DE FOREST sur les sculptures dorées et les tuiles à effet décoratif qui les embellissent.

Le "*Taylor-Trotwood Magazine*" publie comme article principal "Le roman et la tragédie de l'Isthme," par ERNEST CAWCREFT. Dans cet article il suit les traces que l'histoire de la civilisation a laissées sur cette étroite langue de terre, depuis l'époque de Christophe Colomb jusq'au percement de l'Isthme de Panama.

Le "*World of Today*," dans son numéro du mois de mai, publie un article très intéressant de Madame PETER M. MYERS, sur le réveil de Guanajuato, Mexique, la "Ville des rêves," l'un des centres miniers les plus riches du monde entier qui, après un sommeil d'un siècle, se réveille dans l'éclat éblouissant de la lumière électrique et au milieu du bruit causé par les travaux d'amélioration qu'on y fait. Cette ville peut se vanter d'avoir le plus beau théâtre de toute l'Amérique du Nord. Elle est le centre de conversations qui roulent sur l'or, l'argent, les dividendes et les épreuves auxquelles on soumet les différentes minerais pour s'assurer de leur nature. On voit donc que cette ville subit l'influence du siècle comme toutes les autres parties de ce pays qui marche en avant dans la voie du progrès.

L' "*American Historical Review*" du mois d'avril publie un article très savant de M. HERBERT E. BOLTEN, au sujet des matières recueil-

lies dans les archives centrales du Mexique pour servir à l'histoire du Sud-Ouest, et l'auteur s'étonne non pas autant du grand nombre de renseignements comme du peu d'usage qu'on en a fait. Les Californies, le Texas, la Louisiane et les provinces de l'intérieur y occupent une place prééminente. L'article en question n'est qu'un rapport préliminaire, le Département des Recherches Historiques de l'Institut Carnegie à Washington devant publier un travail étendu à ce sujet.

Dans la "*North American Review*" du mois d'avril, M. F.-D. McKENNEY discute l'attitude actuelle du Gouvernement des États-Unis au sujet de l'arbitrage, telle qu'on l'a vue dans les questions en litige avec le Venezuela.

Dans l'"*Independent*" du 23 du même mois, HERBERT WOLCOTT BOWEN, ancien Ministre de États-Unis au Venezuela, publie un critique du rapport présenté par le Président ROOSEVELT au Sénat au sujet des affaires vénézuéliennes.

Le "*National Geographic Magazine*," dans ses numéros des mois de mars et d'avril, consacre beaucoup de place aux sujets latino-américains: le premier numéro contient un article sur le passé et l'avenir d'Haïti, par le contre-Amiral COLBY M. CHESTER, et dans le dernier on donne une série de vues remarquables prises le long de l'ancienne grande route des Incas et publiées avec des commentaires à l'appui par HARRIET CHALMERS ADAMS.

Le "*World of Today*" reproduit dans son numéro du mois d'avril le plus récent des articles de M. JOHN BARRETT, Directeur du Bureau International des Républiques Américaines. Il y engage fortement les États-Unis à faire tout leur possible pour profiter de toutes les occasions commerciales qui peuvent se présenter dans l'Amérique Latine. Il discute avec soin les bases sur lesquelles il s'appuie pour s'exprimer ainsi et il donne des preuves statistiques montrant les résultats des efforts faits par d'autres nations.

Dans la "*Van Norden Magazine*" du mois d'avril 1908, M. FREEMAN TILDEN donne une idée de Buenos-Aires au point de vue pittoresque et social. Il trouve que dans cette grande capitale il n'y a pas, comme on l'a dit si souvent, autant de cette atmosphère parisienne que de ce caractère distinctif espagnol-américain qui lui prête un charme tout particulier.

La plus grande partie de "*Tropical America*" est consacrée à l'Amérique Latine et parle de la fameuse vallée de Cauca en Colombie, du chemin de fer interocéanique du Guatemala, d'un voyage de vacances en Colombie, du centenaire commercial de Rio de Janeiro et de la culture des bananes au Mexique.

Le "*Sunset Magazine*" du mois de mars publie comme article principal le récit de la Baie de Magdalène par ARTHUR WALLBRIDGE NORTH, qui écrit de la province de la Basse-Californie, où il semble

avoir établi sa demeure. Le livre qu'il a publié récemment et intitulé "The Mother of California" (La Mère de la Californie), a attiré beaucoup d'attention à cause de sa valeur et du moment propice de sa publication.

L'"*American Journal of Sociology*," dans son dernier numéro trimestriel, janvier à mars 1908, publie un article de M. L. S. ROWE, professeur à l'Université de Pensylvanie, sur les progrès faits dans l'administration municipale du Brésil. Il parle surtout des grands travaux qui ont été faits par les villes de l'Etat de Saint-Paul au point de vue de l'hygiène et de la sanitation.

Dans l'"*Outlook*" du 14 mars 1908, SYLVESTER BAXTER, en parlant des chemins de fer de l'Amérique du Sud, dit que la première moitié du vingtième siècle fait prévoir pour le continent du sud une époque de grande construction de chemins de fer, comme la seconde moitié du dix-neuvième siècle en a été une pour le continent du nord.

Cet article est le résultat d'observations personnelles et d'étude sur le sujet faite par l'auteur pendant ses voyages dans l'Amérique du Sud en qualité de correspondant spécial de l'"*Outlook*."

Le "*Popular Science*" contient, dans son numéro du mois de février, les commentaires de M. ALFRED F. SEARS sur l'influence allemande dans l'Amérique Latine, mais cette influence se borne, dit-il, aux idées intellectuelles et commerciales, car c'est le genre français qui domine dans les coutumes et la manière de vivre.

RÉPUBLIQUE ARGENTINE.

BÉTAIL SUR PIED.

Le Bureau des Statistiques et de l'Economie rurale du Ministère de l'Agriculture de la République Argentine a publié dernièrement les chiffres ayant trait au bétail sur pied existant dans le pays en 1907. On en a extrait les chiffres suivants:

Bestiaux.....	25, 844, 800
Moutons.....	77, 581, 100
Chevaux.....	5, 462, 170
Ânes et mulets.....	515, 870
Chèvres.....	2, 566, 800
Porcs.....	2, 841, 700

COSTA-RICA.

POPULATION EN 1907.

D'après les chiffres publiés par le Bureau des Statistiques de Costa-Rica, la population du pays, au 31 décembre 1907, s'élevait à 351,176 habitants.

INSPECTION DES ABATTOIRS.

En vertu d'un arrangement conclu le 29 février 1908, entre Señor Don JOAQUÍN BERNARDO CALVO, Ministre de Costa-Rica à Washington, et le Dr. JOSÉ R. GRIME, chirurgien vétérinaire de l'Armée des Etats-Unis, et approuvé par le Président le 28 mars suivant, on a nommé le Dr. GRIME pour servir comme auxiliaire au Bureau Sanitaire de la capitale et dans d'autres endroits du pays qui pourraient avoir besoin de ses services.

Il est surtout chargé de l'inspection des abattoirs et de leurs produits, afin qu'il n'y ait aucun danger sous ce rapport pour la santé publique.

CUBA.

CONDITIONS SANITAIRES EN 1907.

Le rapport du Service de la Santé Publique du Gouvernement cubain pour l'année 1907, montre les conditions satisfaisantes qui existent par suite de la remise de ce service entre les mains du Gouvernement suivant le décret en date du 26 août 1907.

Il n'y a eu que sept cas de fièvre jaune dans la ville de La Havane et 161 dans le reste de l'île, et en 1906 il y en a eu 71 dans la capitale et 41 dans l'intérieur.

Le service a apporté une attention toute spéciale à l'extermination des moustiques, à l'établissement des règlements convenables à l'approvisionnement du lait, et il a fait l'inspection soigneuse des établissements consacrés à la préparation des produits alimentaires, comprenant la glace, les eaux minérales, les confiseries, etc. On a exigé des analyses chimiques des bières et d'autres liqueurs, et à des intervalles réguliers on a fait une inspection médicale de toutes les écoles particulières et publiques; on a vacciné 5,520 élèves comme mesures de précaution contre l'inféction.

Les décès dans la capitale se sont élevés pendant l'année au nombre de 6,708. La plus grande partie de ces morts sont due à la tuberculose, dont il y a eu 1,176 cas ayant occasionné la mort.

TABAC EN 1907.

La production du tabac en 1906 et 1907, s'est élevée respectivement, à 286,288 et à 440,745 balles, distribuées de la manière suivante entre les différentes provinces:

	1906.	1907.
	<i>Balles.</i>	<i>Balles.</i>
Vuelta Abajo.....	139,346	234,012
Semi Vuelta.....	11,886	21,885
Partidos.....	37,711	75,344
Matanzas.....	614	964
Benedicos.....	87,853	93,950
Puerto Principe.....	1,028	4,009
Santiago de Cuba.....	7,852	13,641

Les exportations de tabac, cigares, cigarettes et autres se sont élevées à \$28,645,908.60 en 1907, contre \$36,702,585.75 en 1906; d'un autre côté, la quantité de tabac consommé dans l'île s'est élevée à \$13,697,640.04 en 1908, contre \$12,334,154.72 en 1906, ce qui donne un total de \$42,343,548.64 pour l'année 1907, contre \$49,036,740.47 pour l'année 1906.

Sur une exportation totale de 200,672 balles de tabac en feuilles, évaluées à \$14,960,933, les États-Unis en ont reçu 180,274 balles, et sur les 186,428,607 cigares exportés, évalués à \$13,112,226, ils en ont reçu 61,869,131 sur une production totale de 364,400,997. La production de cigarettes s'est élevée à 227,299,494 paquets, dont 16,505,104, évalués à \$449,928, ont été expédiés à l'étranger et 210,794,390 ont été consommés dans le pays.

ADHÉSION À LA CONVENTION DE GENÈVE.

Le 17 mars 1908, la République de Cuba a déclaré officiellement son adhésion à la convention signée à Genève le 6 juillet 1906, pour l'amélioration de la condition des soldats blessés sur le champ de bataille ainsi qu'au protocole définitif de ladite convention signé le même jour.

La convention en question est le résultat d'une conférence tenue dans le but de reviser la Convention de Genève signée en 1864.

ÉTATS-UNIS.

COMMERCE AVEC L'AMÉRIQUE LATINE.

On trouvera à la page 1078 le dernier rapport du commerce entre les États-Unis et l'Amérique Latine, extrait de la compilation faite par le Bureau des Statistiques du Ministère du Commerce et du Travail. Le rapport a trait au mois de mars 1908, et donne un tableau comparatif de ce mois avec le mois correspondant de l'année 1907. Il donne aussi un tableau des neuf mois finissant au mois de mars 1908, en les comparant avec la période correspondante de l'année précédente. On sait que les chiffres des différents bureaux de douane montrant les importations et les exportations pour un mois quelconque ne sont reçus au Ministère des Finances que le 20 du mois suivant, et qu'il faut un certain temps pour les compiler et les faire imprimer, de sorte que les résultats pour le mois de mars ne peuvent être publiés avant le mois de mai.

NICARAGUA.

MEMBRES DU TRIBUNAL D'ARBITRAGE À LA HAYE.

On mande de la légation du Nicaragua à Washington que, par suite d'un décret en date du 3 mars 1908, le Président du pays a nommé Señor CRISANTO MEDINA et Señor DÉsirÉ PECTOR, respectivement ministre plénipotentiaire et consul-général du Nicaragua près du Gouvernement français, membres du Tribunal permanent d'arbitrage en conformité de l'article 23 de la Convention de La Haye de 1889.

PANAMA.

PORT DE COLON EN 1907.

D'après le rapport sur le mouvement commercial de Colon en 1907, préparé par M. JAMES C. KELLOGG, consul des États-Unis, on constate une diminution dans les importations et les exportations en les comparant à celles de l'année 1906. Les importations se sont élevées à \$2,039,352, d'où il ressort une diminution de \$735,083, et les exportations à \$100,792, soit une diminution de \$55,862 sur l'année précédente. On a importé des États-Unis des marchandises pour une valeur de \$1,275,333, soit une diminution de \$662,050; on constate aussi une diminution dans les expéditions faites par la Grande-Bretagne, l'Allemagne, la France, l'Espagne, l'Italie et les autres pays.

Les principaux articles d'importation sont les nouveautés, les bottines et souliers. Les noix de coco figurent à la tête des articles d'exportation pour une valeur de \$37,838. Viennent ensuite par ordre d'importance les noix d'ivoire pour \$23,958, l'écaille de tortue pour \$12,361, les cuirs pour \$6,442, le café pour \$4,458 et les bananes pour \$4,000.

Parmi les nombreuses améliorations qu'on a faites, on remarque un système complet d'égouts et d'eau potable.

SALVADOR.

NOMINATION D'UN COMITÉ PAN-AMÉRICAIN.

Par décret en date du 23 mars 1908, le Président de la République du Salvador a nommé un comité pour agir de concert avec le ministère des Affaires étrangères, afin de mettre à exécution ce qui est mentionné dans la quatrième décision de la Troisième Conférence Internationale de Rio de Janeiro.

Le sous-Secrétaire d'Etat au ministère des Affaires étrangères est le président dudit comité qui se compose de trois autres membres dont les attributions sont données en détail dans le "Journal Officiel" du 25 mars 1908.

URUGUAY.

RÉPARTITION DU COMMERCE.

La douane de Montévidéo a reçu le volume du mouvement commercial de l'Uruguay, le total pour l'année 1907 s'étant élevé à \$57,268,927, soit 82.32 pour cent sur un total de \$69,576,143, valeur des importations et exportations du pays.

Sur une évaluation totale de \$34,425,205, représentant les importations de la République, la douane de Montévidéo y figure pour \$31,930,324, soit 92.78 pour cent, et la part des exportations s'y est chiffrée par \$25,338,643, soit 72.08 pour cent sur un total de \$35,150,937.

Le reste du commerce s'est réparti de la manière suivante :

Douanes.	Importations.	Exportations.	Total.
Paysandú	\$736,503	\$2,265,077	\$3,001,580
Fray Bentos	279,317	2,410,749	2,690,067
Salto	661,286	1,778,107	2,439,393
Colonia	372,232	1,932,507	2,304,739
Mercedes	234,552	1,111,870	1,346,422
Cerro Largo	80,735	124,775	205,511
San Eugenio	3,509	102,523	106,032
Santa Rosa	15,537	54,982	70,518
Cebollati	21,715	13,981	35,696
Maldonado	29,129	.....	29,129
Rivera	10,170	17,732	27,903
Rocha	20,176	.....	20,176

PRODUCTION AURIFÈRE DES MINES DE CUÑAPIRU.

Le rapport fait au ministère des Travaux publics de l'Uruguay pour l'année 1907, montre que la compagnie minière française à Cuñapiru a traité 18,022 tonnes métriques de minerai, dont on a extrait 117,917 kilogrammes d'or. Les ventes de cet or ont rapporté \$51,883.42 et les impôts qu'on a payés se sont élevés à \$259.14.

La valeur moyenne du minerai traité était de 6½ grammes par tonne. Les plus productives des mines sont celles de San Gregorio et de l'Ernestinita, à Corrales.

VENEZUELA.

DÉCRETS RELATIFS AU TABAC.

La "Gaceta Oficial" du Venezuela publie, dans son numéro du 20 mars 1908, deux décrets du Président CASTRO, en date du même jour, au sujet du tabac. Le premier prohibe l'importation du tabac coupé et employé dans la fabrication des cigarettes, et défend aussi que l'on travaille dans le pays l'article importé. Ce décret est entré en vigueur le 30 mars 1908, mais il n'a aucun effet sur la Fabrique Nationale de Cigarettes établie en vertu d'une concession du Gouvernement.

L'autre décret dont il est question, explique sous quelle forme doit s'effectuer le paiement de l'impôt sur le tabac pour la consommation.

UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVES IN THE LATIN-AMERICAN REPUBLICS.

AMBASSADORS EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY.

Brazil	IRVING B. DUDLEY, Rio de Janeiro.
Mexico	DAVID E. THOMPSON, Mexico.

ENVOYS EXTRAORDINARY AND MINISTERS PLENIPOTENTIARY.

Argentine Republic	^a SPENCER EDDY, Buenos Aires.
Bolivia	WILLIAM B. SORSBY, La Paz.
Chile	JOHN HICKS, Santiago.
Colombia	THOMAS C. DAWSON, Bogotá.
Costa Rica	WILLIAM L. MERRY, San José.
Cuba	EDWIN V. MORGAN, Havana.
Ecuador	WILLIAMS C. FOX, Quito.
Guatemala	WILLIAM HEIMKÉ, Guatemala City.
Haiti	HENRY W. FURNESS, Port au Prince.
Honduras	(See Salvador.)
Nicaragua	(See Costa Rica.)
Panama	HERBERT G. SQUIERS, Panama.
Paraguay	(See Uruguay.)
Peru	LESLIE COMBS, Lima.
Salvador	H. PERCIVAL DODGE, San Salvador.
Uruguay	EDWARD C. O'BRIEN, Montevideo.
Venezuela	W. W. RUSSELL, Caracas.

MINISTER RESIDENT AND CONSUL-GENERAL.

Dominican Republic.....	FENTON R. MCCREERY, Santo Domingo.
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^aFrom June 1, 1903.

VALUE OF LATIN-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 APRIL 1, 1908.

Countries.	Standard.	Unit.	Value in U. S. gold or silver.	Coins.
ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.	Gold	Peso	\$0.965	Gold—Argentine (\$4.824) and $\frac{1}{2}$ Argentine. Silver—Peso and divisions.
BOLIVIA	Silver	Boliviano	.408		Silver—Boliviano and divisions.
BRAZIL	Gold	Milreis	.546	Gold—5, 10, and 20 milreis. Silver— $\frac{1}{2}$, 1, and 2 milreis.
CENTRAL AMERICAN STATES—				
Costa Rica	Gold	Colon	.465	Gold—2, 5, 10, and 20 colons (\$9.307). Silver—5, 10, 25, and 50 centimos.
Guatemala	Silver	Peso	.408		Silver—Peso and divisions.
Honduras				
Nicaragua				
Salvador				
CHILE	Gold	Peso	.365	Gold—Escudo (\$1.825), doubloon (\$3.650), and condor (\$7.300). Silver—Peso and divisions.
COLOMBIA	Gold	Dollar	1.000		Gold—Condor ($9.647) and double condor. Silver—Peso.
ECUADOR	Gold	Sucre	.487	Gold—10 sucres (\$4.8665). Silver—Sucre and divisions.
HAITI	Gold	Gourde	.965	Gold—1, 2, 5, and 10 gourdes. Silver—Gourde and divisions.
MEXICO	Gold	Peso ^a	.498	Gold—5 and 10 pesos. Silver—Dollar ^b (or peso) and divisions.
PANAMA	Gold	Balboa	1.000	Gold—1, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$, 5, 10, and 20 balboas. Silver—Peso and divisions.
PERU	Gold	Libra	4.866 $\frac{1}{2}$	Gold— $\frac{1}{2}$ and 1 libra. Silver—Sol and divisions.
URUGUAY	Gold	Peso	1.034	Gold—Peso. Silver—Peso and divisions.
VENEZUELA	Gold	Bolivar	.193	Gold—5, 10, 20, 50, and 100 bolivars. Silver—5 bolivars.

^a75 centigrams fine gold.

^bValue in Mexico, 0.198.

(b)

